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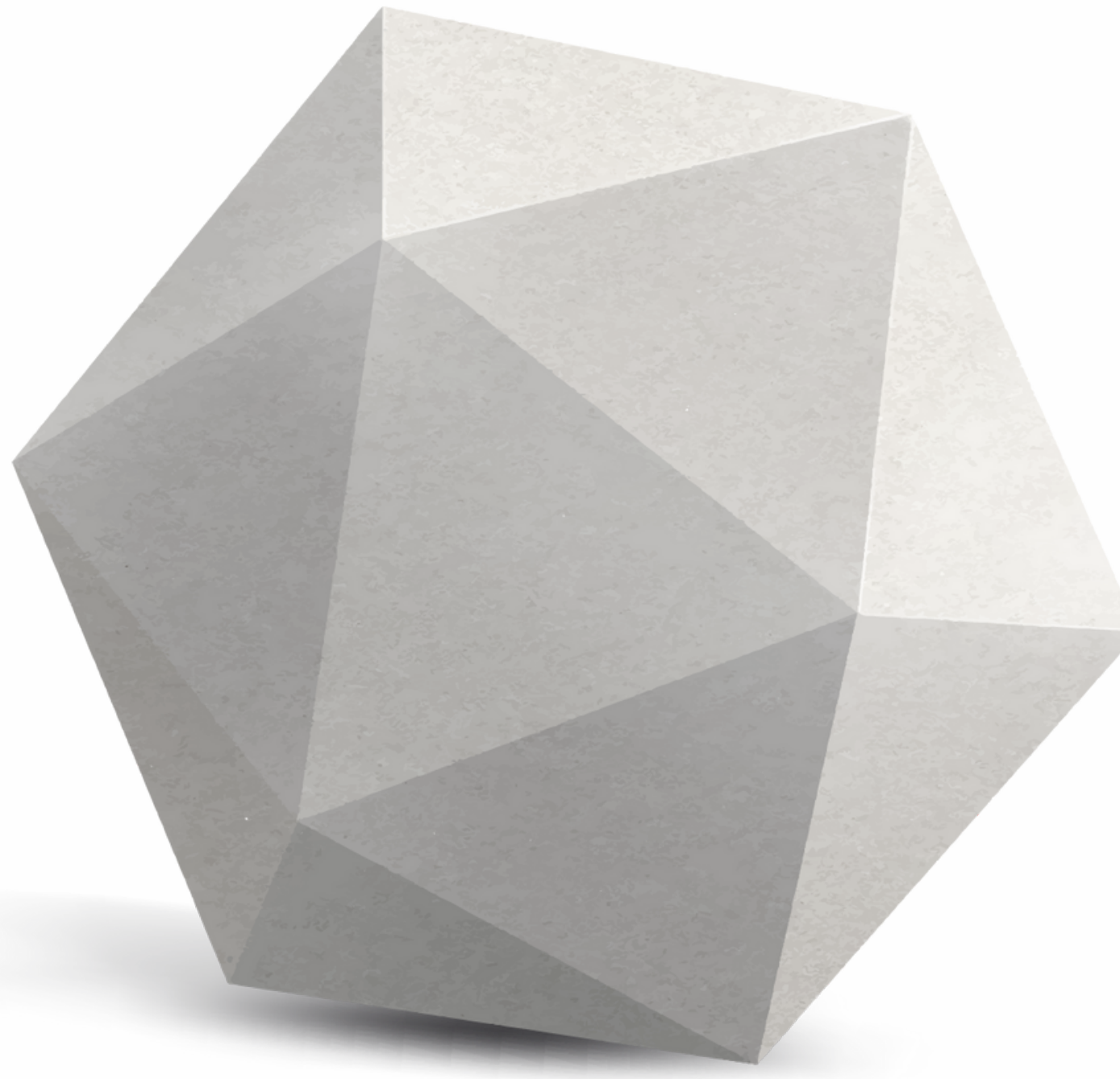
# matplotlib CHEAT SHEET for intermediate users

SWIPE



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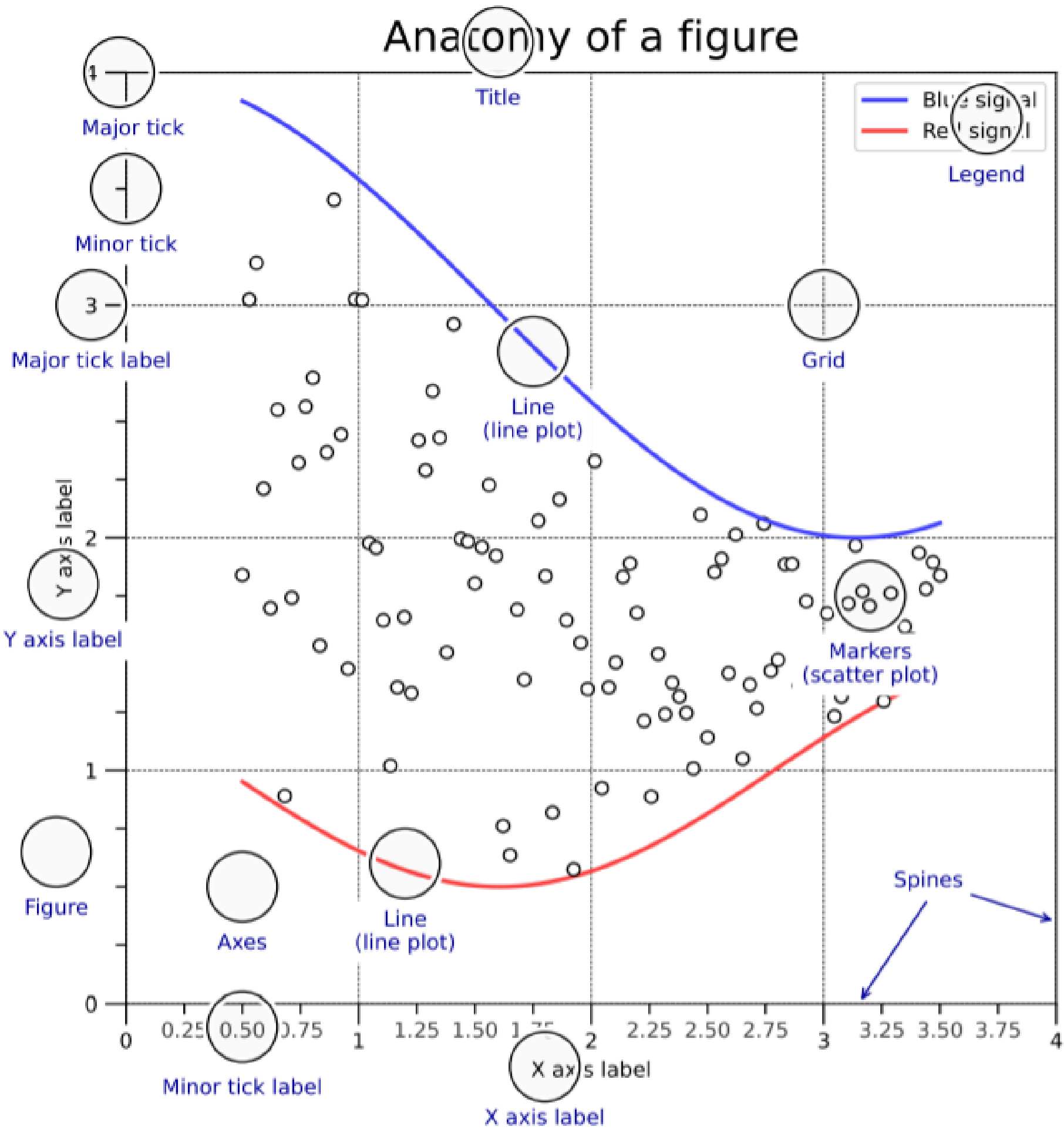
A matplotlib figure is composed of a hierarchy of elements that forms the actual figure. Each element can be modified.



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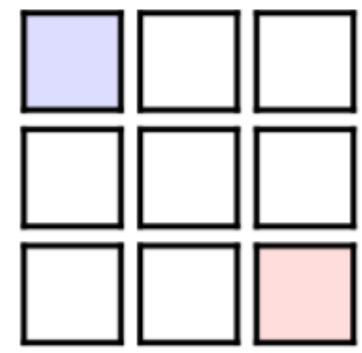
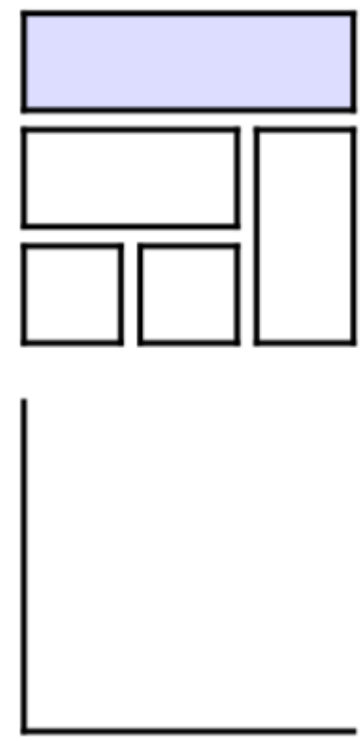
# Figure, axes & spines

```
fig, axs = plt.subplots(3,3)
axs[0,0].set_facecolor("#ddddff")
axs[2,2].set_facecolor("#ffffdd")
```



```
gs = fig.add_gridspec(3, 3)
ax = fig.add_subplot(gs[0, :])
ax.set_facecolor("#ddddff")
```



```
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.spines["top"].set_color("None")
ax.spines["right"].set_color("None")
```

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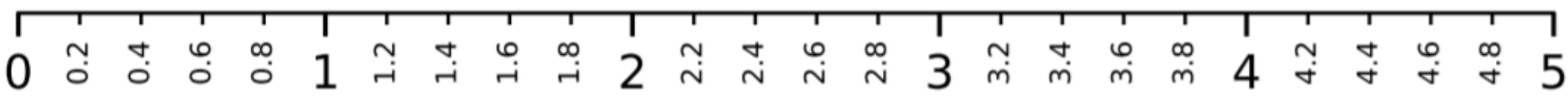
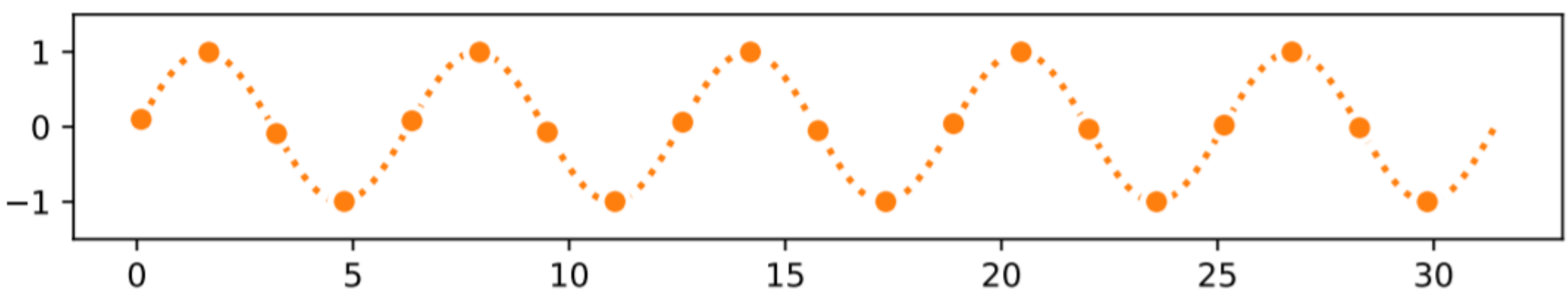
# Ticks & labels

```
from mpl.ticker import MultipleLocator as ML
from mpl.ticker import ScalarFormatter as SF
ax.xaxis.set_minor_locator(ML(0.2))
ax.xaxis.set_minor_formatter(SF())
ax.tick_params(axis='x',which='minor',rotation=90)
```




# Lines & markers

```
X = np.linspace(0.1, 10*np.pi, 1000)
Y = np.sin(X)
ax.plot(X, Y, "C1o:", markevery=25, mec="1.0")
```



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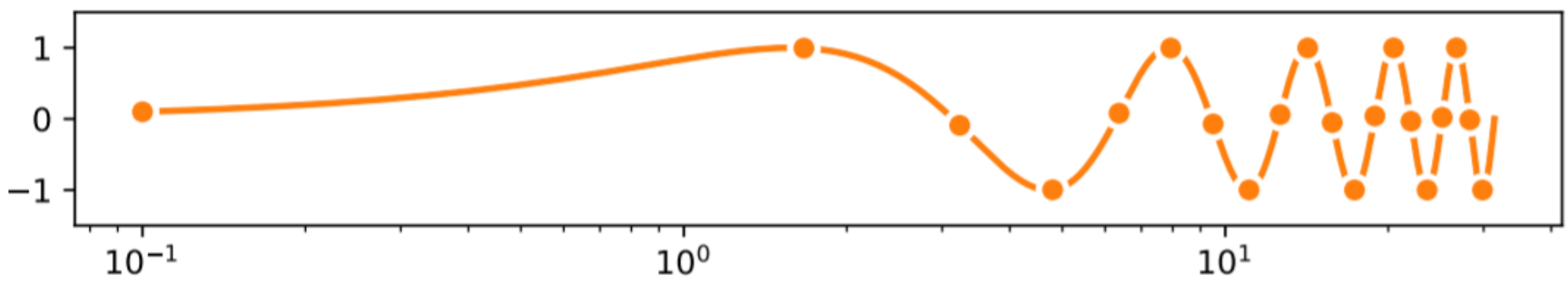
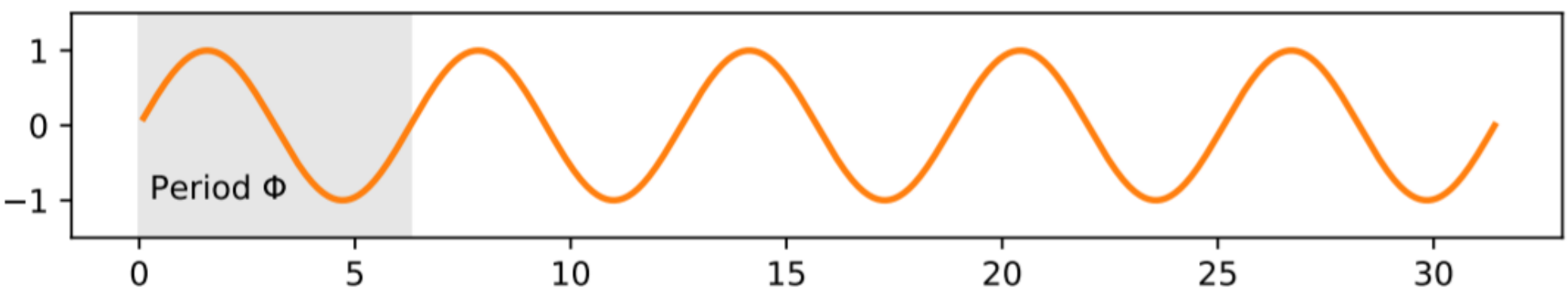
# Scales & projections

```
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.set_xscale("log")
ax.plot(X, Y, "C1o-", markevery=25, mec="1.0")
```




# Text & ornaments

```
ax.fill_betweenx([-1,1],[0],[2*np.pi])
ax.text(0, -1, r" Period $\Phi$")
```



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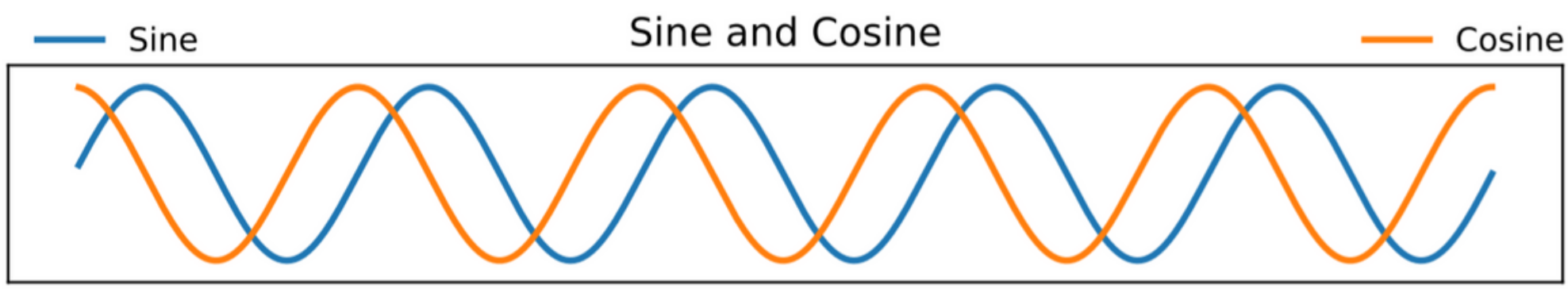
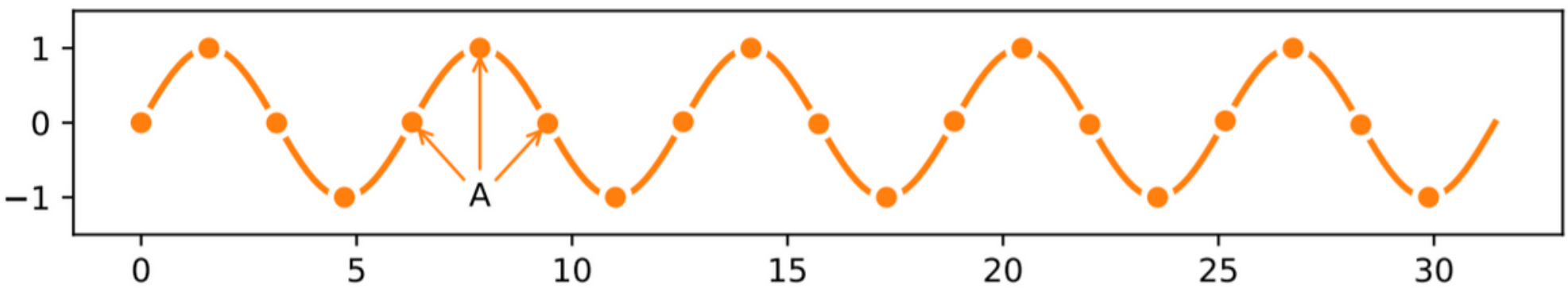
# Legend

```
ax.plot(X, np.sin(X), "C0", label="Sine")
ax.plot(X, np.cos(X), "C1", label="Cosine")
ax.legend(bbox_to_anchor=(0,1,1,.1),ncol=2,
          mode="expand",  loc="lower left")
```




# Annotation

```
ax.annotate("A", (X[250],Y[250]),(X[250],-1),
   ha="center", va="center",arrowprops =
   {"arrowstyle" : "->", "color": "C1"})
```



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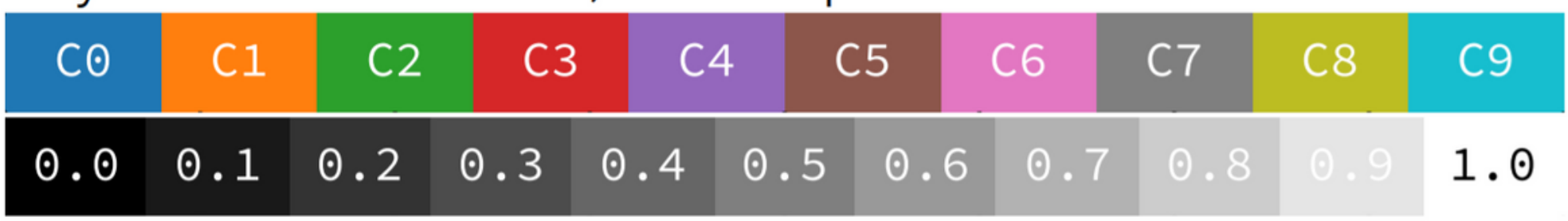
# Colors

Any color can be used, but Matplotlib offers sets of colors:




# Size & DPI

Consider a square figure to be included in a two-columns A4 paper with 2cm margins on each side and a column separation of 1cm. The width of a figure is (21 - 2*2 - 1)/2 = 8cm. One inch being 2.54cm, figure size should be 3.15×3.15 in.

```
fig = plt.figure(figsize=(3.15,3.15), dpi=50)
plt.savefig("figure.pdf", dpi=600)
```

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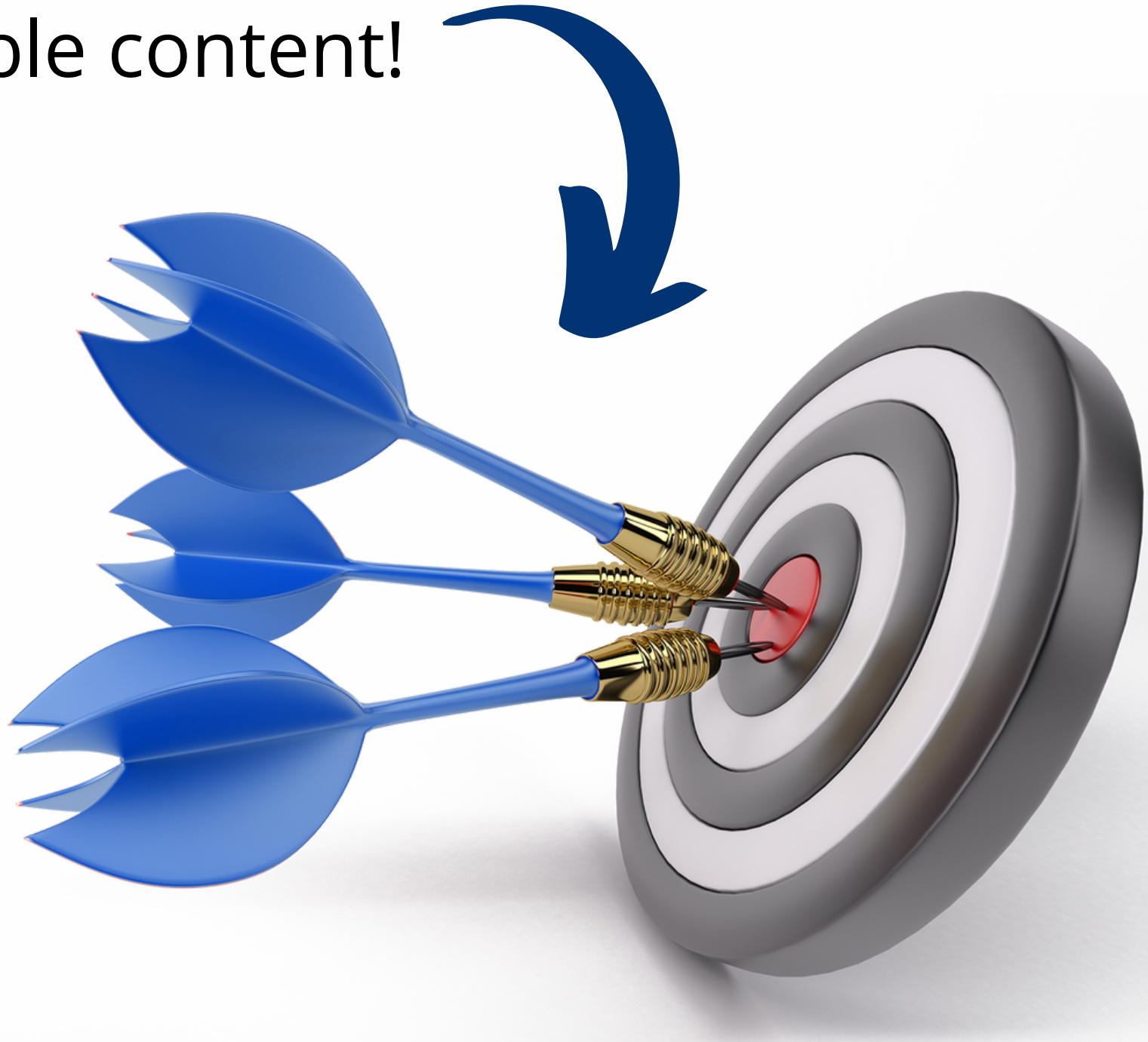

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