

# Data Visualization with Python

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IBM Course Eight Week One



# Objectives

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- Make visualizations effective, attractive, and impactful
- Use Matplotlibs to create plots
- Explain Darkhorse Analytics and apply the approach to your own visualizations
- Identify the three layers of Matplotlibs, and understand the functions of each layer



# Intro to Data Visualization

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- A picture is worth 1000 words!
- Creating and transforming visuals that are effective, attractive, and impactful
- Graphical form □ easy to understand
- Good for when you need to get acquainted with the data
- Don't distract from the data – find a balance



# Why Build Visuals?

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Convey a clear description of the data to disclose findings to audience



# Darkhorse Analytics

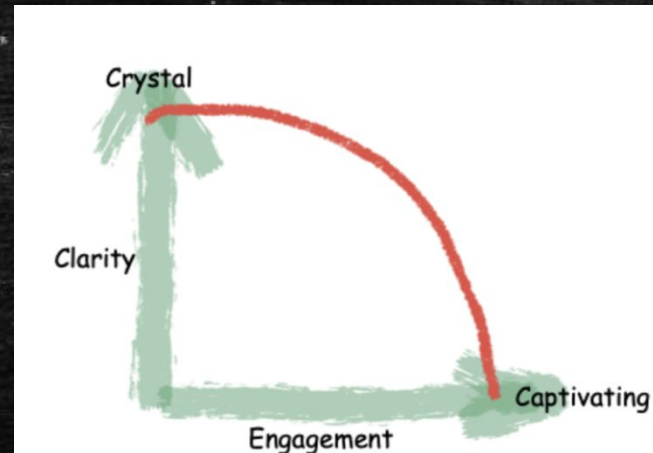
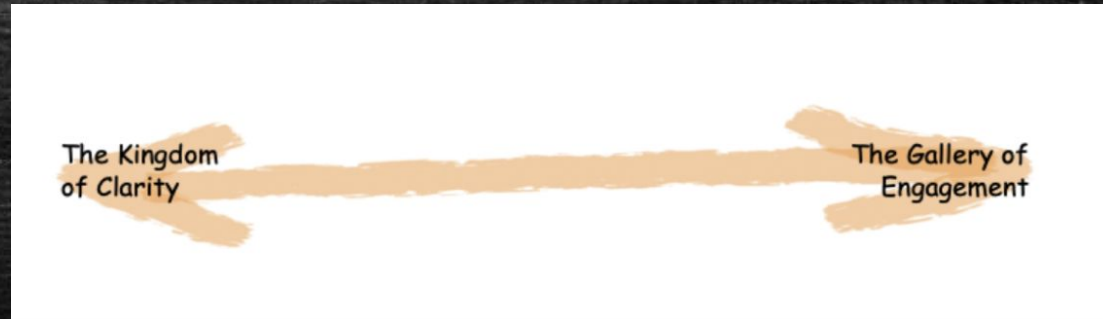
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"Less is more..."



# Darkhorse Analytics Approach

- Crystal
- Clarity
- Engagement
- Captivating





# Ask the Right Questions

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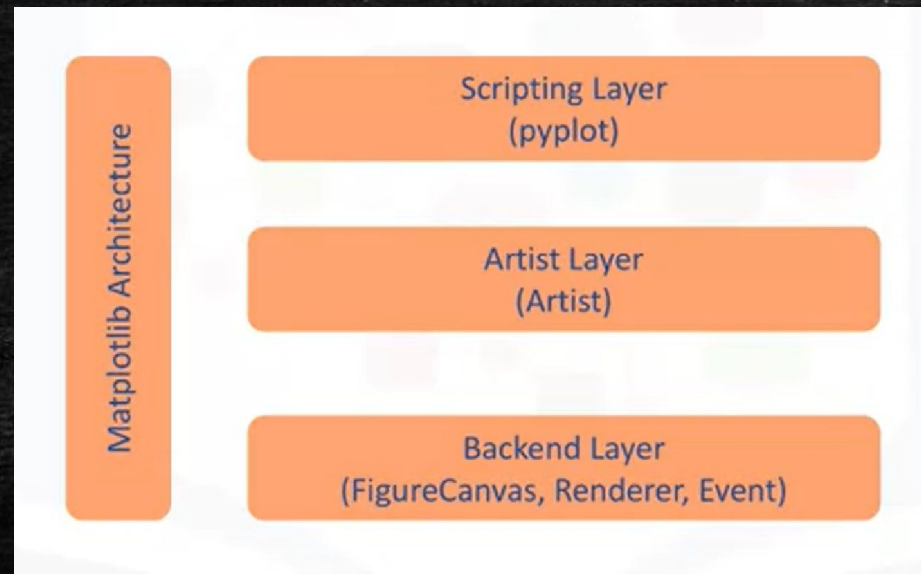
- Who is your target audience?
- What is the main message you're trying to convey?
- What do you want your audience to do about it?
- \*Be as specific as possible when exploring these questions.\*



# Matplotlib

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- Created by John Hunter , neurobiologist
- Most popular data visualization library in Python
- Three main layers: backend, artist, scripting layer





# Matplotlib's Layers

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## Backend

- 3 built-in abstract interface classes: FigureCanvas, Renderer, Event

## Artist

- One main object: the artist
- Two types of artist objects: primitive and composite

## Scripting

- Meant for individuals who are not professional programmers
- Automates processes



# Break it Down

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```
from matplotlib.backends.backend_agg import FigureCanvasAgg as FigureCanvas # import FigureCanvas
from matplotlib.figure import Figure # import Figure artist
fig = Figure()
canvas = FigureCanvas(fig)

# create 10000 random numbers using numpy
import numpy as np
x = np.random.randn(10000)

ax = fig.add_subplot(111) # create an axes artist

ax.hist(x, 100) # generate a histogram of the 10000 numbers

# add a title to the figure and save it
ax.set_title('Normal distribution with  $\mu=0$ ,  $\sigma=1$ ')
fig.savefig('matplotlib_histogram.png')
```



# Basic Plotting

- Jupyter Notebook
- Pandas ☐ built in
- Plot function
- Magic Function
- Notebook Backend

\*What is a limitation of the Magic function that the Notebook backend can be used to overcome?\*







What is a Line Plot?

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Take the next 1.5 hours to do  
the lab, quiz, and final  
reading.

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