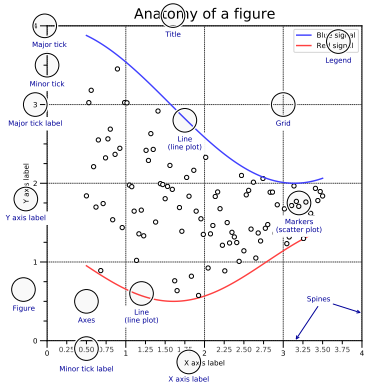
matplotlib

Cheat sheet — Version 3.2

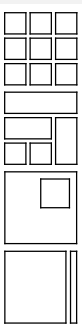
Quick start

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib as mpl
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt


X = np.linspace(0, 2*np.pi, 100)
Y = np.cos(X)

fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.plot(X,Y,color='C1')

fig.savefig("figure.pdf")
fig.show()
```

Anatomy of a figure



Subplots layout



```
subplot[s](cols,rows,…)
fig, axs = plt.subplots(3,3)

G = gridspec(cols,rows,…)
ax = G[0,:]

ax.inset_axes(extent)

d=make_axes_locatable(ax)
ax=d.new_horizontal('10%')
```

Getting help

- matplotlib.org
- github.com/matplotlib/matplotlib/issues
- discourse.matplotlib.org
- stackoverflow.com/matplotlib
- gitter.im/matplotlib
- twitter.com/matplotlib
- Matplotlib users mailing list

Basic plots

```
plot([X],Y,[fmt],…)
```
X, **Y**, fmt, color, marker, linestyle

```
scatter(X,Y,…)
```
X, **Y**, [s]izes, [c]olors, markers, cmap

```
bar[h](x,height,…)
```
x, **height**, width, bottom, align, color

```
imshow(Z,[cmap],…)
```
Z, cmap, interpolation, extent, origin

```
contour[f]([X],[Y],Z,…)
```
X, Y, **Z**, levels, colors, extent, origin

```
quiver([X],[Y],U,V,…)
```
X, Y, **U**, **V**, C, units, angles

```
pie(X,[explode],…)
```
Z, explode, labels, colors, radius


```
text(x,y,text,…)
```
x, **y**, **text**, va, ha, size, weight, transform

```
fill[_between][x]( … )
```
X, Y1, Y2, color, where

Advanced plots

```
step(X,Y,[fmt],…)
```
X, **Y**, fmt, color, marker, where

```
boxplot(X,…)
```
X, notch, sym, bootstrap, widths

```
errorbar(X,Y,xerr,yerr,…)
```
X, **Y**, xerr, yerr, fmt

```
hist(X, bins, …)
```
X, bins, range, density, weights

```
violinplot(D,…)
```
D, positions, widths, vert

```
barbs([X],[Y], U, V, …)
```
X, Y, **U**, **V**, C, length, pivot, sizes

```
eventplot(positions,…)
```
positions, orientation, lineoffsets

```
hexbin(X,Y,C,…)
```
X, **Y**, C, gridsize, bins

```
xcorr(X,Y,…)
```
X, **Y**, normed, detrend

Scales

```
ax.set_[xy]scale(scale,…)
```

linear any values

log values > 0

symlog any values

logit 0 < values < 1

Projections

```
subplot(…,projection=p)
```

p='polar'

p='3d'

```
p=Orthographic()
from cartopy.crs import Cartographic
```

Lines

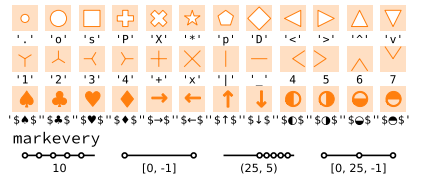
```
linestyle or ls
```

"-" ":" "--" "-." (0,(0.01,2))

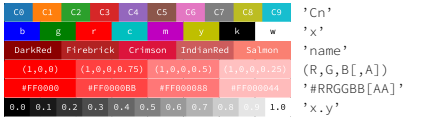
```
capstyle or dash_capstyle
```

"butt" "round" "projecting"

Markers

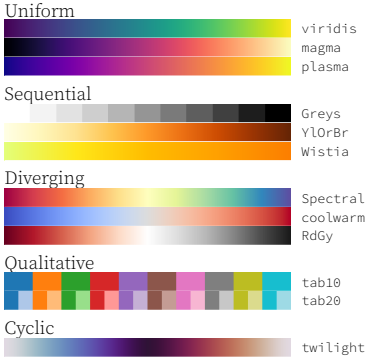


Colors



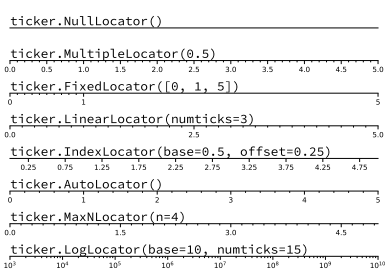
Colormaps

```
plt.get_cmap(name)
```



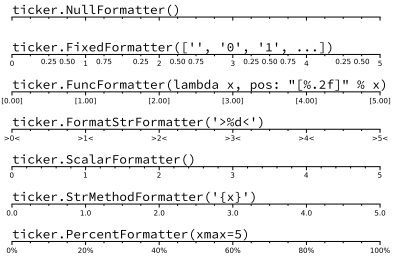
Tick locators

```
from matplotlib import ticker
ax.[xy]axis.set_[minor|major]_locator(locator)
```



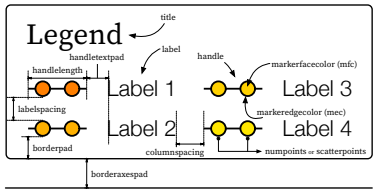
Tick formatters

```
from matplotlib import ticker
ax.[xy]axis.set_[minor|major]_formatter(formatter)
```

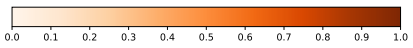


Ornaments

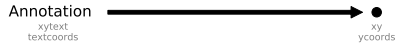
```
ax.legend(…)
```
handles, labels, loc, title, frameon




```
ax.colorbar(…)
```
mappable, ax, cax, orientation



```
ax.annotate(…)
```
text, **xy**, **xytext**, xycoords, textcoords, arrowprops



Event handling

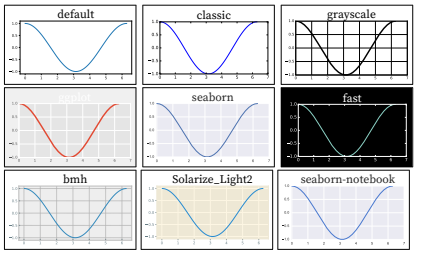
```
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
def on_click(event):
  print(event)
fig.canvas.mpl_connect(
  'button_press_event', on_click)
```

Animation

```
import matplotlib.animation as mpla

T = np.linspace(0,2*np.pi,100)
S = np.sin(T)
line, = plt.plot(T, S)
def animate(i):
  line.set_ydata(np.sin(T+i/50))
anim = mpla.FuncAnimation(
  plt.gcf(), animate, interval=5)
plt.show()
```

Styles

```
plt.style.use(style)
```



Quick reminder

```
ax.grid()
ax.patch.set_alpha(0)
ax.set_[xy]lim(vmin, vmax)
ax.set_[xy]label(label)
ax.set_[xy]ticks(list)
ax.set_[xy]ticklabels(list)
ax.set_[sup]title(title)
ax.tick_params(width=10, …)
ax.set_axis_[on|off]()

ax.tight_layout()
plt.gcf(), plt.gca()
mpl.rc('axes', linewidth=1, …)
fig.patch.set_alpha(0)
text=r'$\frac{-e^{i\pi}}{2^n}$'
```

Keyboard shortcuts

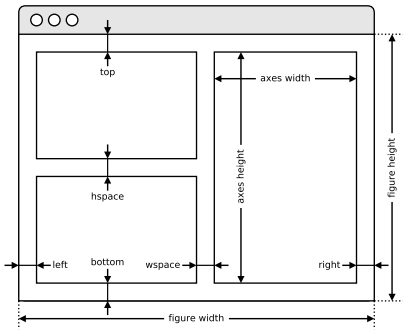
ctrl + s	Save	ctrl + w	Close plot
r	Reset view	f	Fullscreen 0/1
f	View forward	b	View back
p	Pan view	o	Zoom to rect
x	X pan/zoom	y	Y pan/zoom
g	Minor grid 0/1	G	Major grid 0/1
l	X axis log/linear	L	Y axis log/linear

Ten Simple Rules

1. Know Your Audience
2. Identify Your Message
3. Adapt the Figure
4. Captions Are Not Optional
5. Do Not Trust the Defaults
6. Use Color Effectively
7. Do Not Mislead the Reader
8. Avoid "Chartjunk"
9. Message Trumps Beauty
10. Get the Right Tool

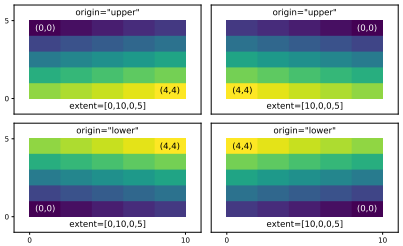
Axes adjustements API

plt.**subplot_adjust**(...)



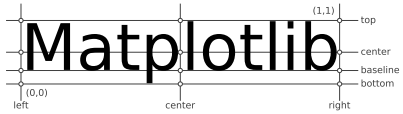
Extent & origin API

ax.**imshow**(extent=..., origin=...)



Text alignments API

ax.**text**(..., ha=... , va=..., ...)



Text parameters API

ax.**text**(..., family=... , size=..., weight = ...)
ax.**text**(..., fontproperties = ...)

The quick brown fox — xx-large (1.73)
The quick brown fox — x-large (1.44)
The quick brown fox — large (1.20)
The quick brown fox — medium (1.00)
The quick brown fox — small (0.83)
The quick brown fox — x-small (0.69)
The quick brown fox — xx-small (0.58)

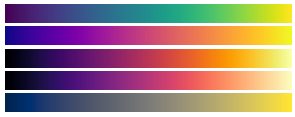
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog — black (900)
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog — bold (700)
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog — semibold (600)
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog — normal (400)
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog — ultralight (100)

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog — monospace
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog — serif
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog — sans
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog — cursive

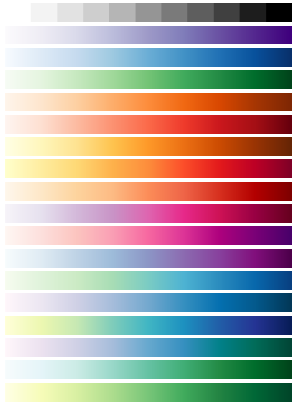
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog — italic
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog — normal

THE QUICK BROWN FOX JUMPS OVER THE LAZY DOG — small-caps
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog — normal

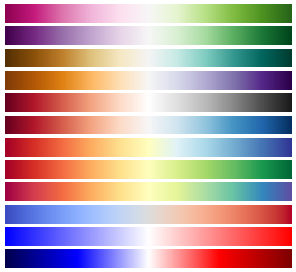
Uniform colormaps



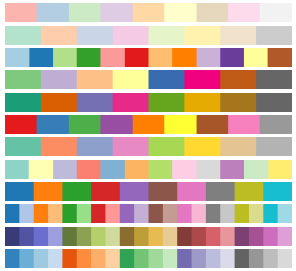
Sequential colormaps



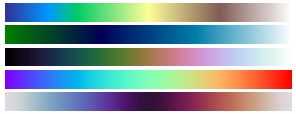
Diverging colormaps



Qualitative colormaps

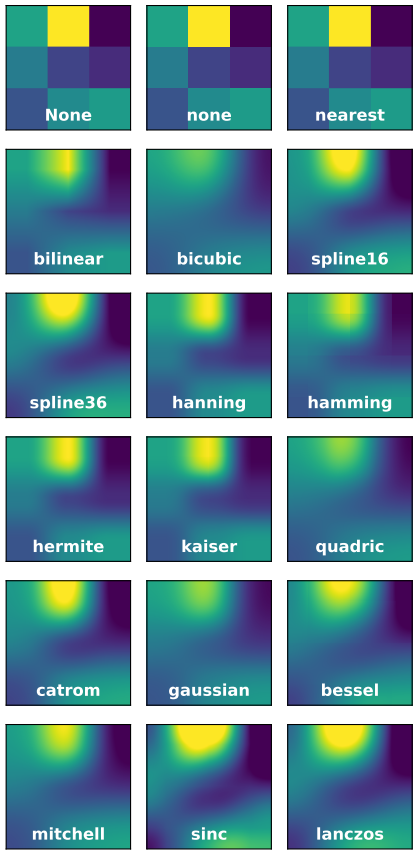


Miscellaneous colormaps

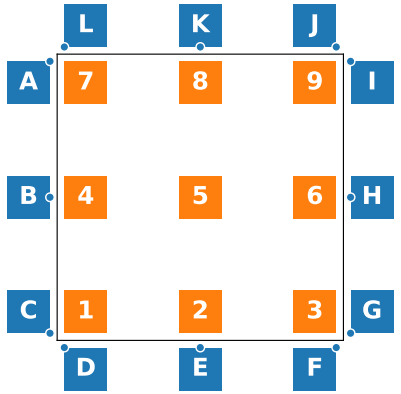


Color names API

Image interpolation API



Legend placement

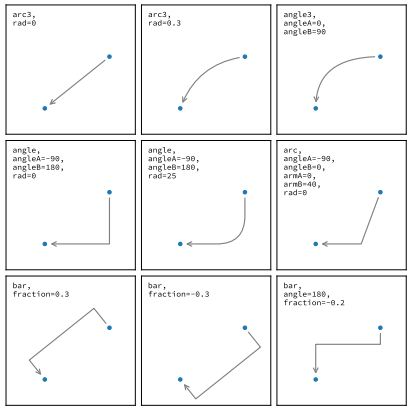


ax.**legend**(loc="string", bbox_to_anchor=(x,y))

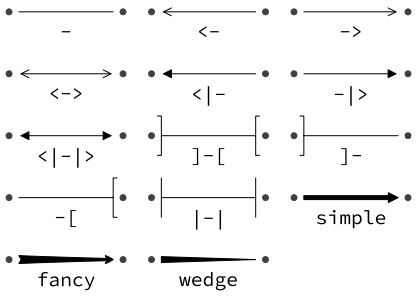
1: lower left — 2: lower center — 3: lower right
4: left — 5: center — 6: right
7: upper left — 8: upper center — 9: upper right

A: upper right / (-.1,.9) — B: right / (-.1,.5)
C: lower right / (-.1,.1) — D: upper left / (-.1,-.1)
E: upper center / (.5,-.1) — F: upper right / (.9,-.1)
G: lower left / (1.1,.1) — H: left / (1.1,.5)
I: upper left / (1.1,.9) — J: lower right / (.9,1.1)
K: lower center / (.5,1.1) — L: lower left / (.1,1.1)

Annotation connection styles API



Annotation arrow styles API



How do I ...

... resize a figure?
→ fig.set_size_inches(w,h)
... save a figure?
→ fig.savefig("figure.pdf")
... save a transparent figure?
→ fig.savefig("figure.pdf", transparent=True)
... clear a figure?
→ ax.clear()
... close all figures?
→ plt.close("all")
... remove ticks?
→ ax.set_xticks([])
... remove tick labels ?
→ ax.set_[xy]ticklabels([])
... rotate tick labels ?
→ ax.set_[xy]ticks(rotation=90)
... hide top spine?
→ ax.spines['top'].set_visible(False)
... hide legend border?
→ ax.legend(frameon=False)
... show error as shaded region?
→ ax.fill_between(X, Y+error, Y-error)
... draw a rectangle?
→ ax.add_patch(plt.Rectangle((0, 0),1,1)
... draw a vertical line?
→ ax.axvline(x=0.5)
... draw outside frame?
→ ax.plot(..., clip_on=False)
... use transparency?
→ ax.plot(..., alpha=0.25)
... convert an RGB image into a gray image?
→ gray = 0.2989*R+0.5870*G+0.1140*B
... set figure background color?
→ fig.patch.set_facecolor("grey")
... get a reversed colormap?
→ plt.get_cmap("viridis_r")
... get a discrete colormap?
→ plt.get_cmap("viridis", 10)
... show a figure for one second?
→ fig.show(block=False), time.sleep(1)

Performance tips

```
scatter(X, Y)                          slow
plot(X, Y, marker="o", ls="")          fast

for i in range(n): plot(X[i])          slow
plot(sum([x+[None] for x in X],[]))    fast

cla(), imshow(…), canvas.draw()        slow
im.set_data(…), canvas.draw()          fast
```

Beyond Matplotlib

Seaborn: Statistical Data Visualization
Cartopy: Geospatial Data Processing
yt: Volumetric data Visualization
mpld3: Bringing Matplotlib to the browser
Datashader: Large data processing pipeline
plotnine: A Grammar of Graphics for Python

NUMFOCUS
OPEN CODE = BETTER SCIENCE

Matplotlib for beginners

Matplotlib is a library for making 2D plots in Python. It is designed with the philosophy that you should be able to create simple plots with just a few commands:

1 Initialize

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

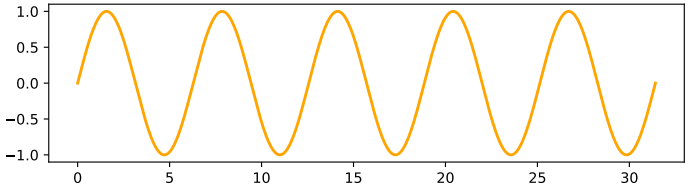
2 Prepare

```
X = np.linspace(0, 4*np.pi, 1000)
Y = np.sin(X)
```

3 Render

```
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.plot(X, Y)
fig.show()
```

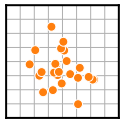
4 Observe



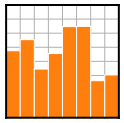
Choose

Matplotlib offers several kind of plots (see Gallery):

```
X = np.random.uniform(0, 1, 100)
Y = np.random.uniform(0, 1, 100)
ax.scatter(X, Y)
```



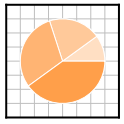
```
X = np.arange(10)
Y = np.random.uniform(1, 10, 10)
ax.bar(X, Y)
```



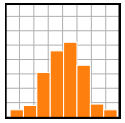
```
Z = np.random.uniform(0, 1, (8,8)

ax.imshow(Z)
```

```
Z = np.random.uniform(0, 1, (8,8)

ax.contourf(Z)
```

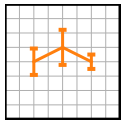
```
Z = np.random.uniform(0, 1, 4)

ax.pie(Z)
```



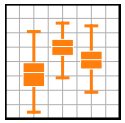
```
Z = np.random.normal(0, 1, 100)

ax.hist(Z)
```



```
X = np.arange(5)
Y = np.random.uniform(0,1,5)
ax.errorbar(X, Y, Y/4)
```



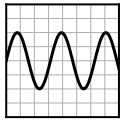
```
Z = np.random.normal(0,1,(100,3))

ax.boxplot(Z)
```



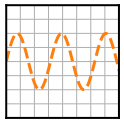
Tweak

You can modify pretty much anything in a plot, including limits, colors, markers, line width and styles, ticks and ticks labels, titles, etc.

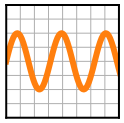
```
X = np.linspace(0,10,100)
Y = np.sin(X)
ax.plot(X, Y, color="black")
```



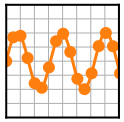
```
X = np.linspace(0,10,100)
Y = np.sin(X)
ax.plot(X, Y, linestyle="--")
```



```
X = np.linspace(0,10,100)
Y = np.sin(X)
ax.plot(X, Y, linewidth=5)
```



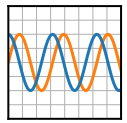
```
X = np.linspace(0,10,100)
Y = np.sin(X)
ax.plot(X, Y, marker="o")
```



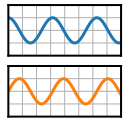
Organize

You can plot several data on the the same figure but you can also split a figure in several subplots (named *Axes*):

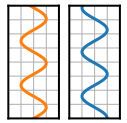
```
X = np.linspace(0,10,100)
Y1, Y1 = np.sin(X), np.cos(X)
ax.plot(X, Y1, Y2)
```



```
fig, (ax1, ax2) = plt.subplots((2,1))
ax1.plot(X, Y1, color="C1")
ax2.plot(X, Y2, color="C0")
```

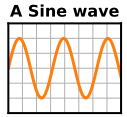


```
fig, (ax1, ax2) = plt.subplots((1,2))
ax1.plot(Y1, X, color="C1")
ax2.plot(Y2, X, color="C0")
```

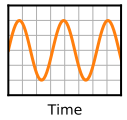


Label (everything)

```
ax.plot(X, Y)
fig.suptitle(None)
ax.set_title("A Sine wave")
```




```
ax.plot(X, Y)
ax.set_ylabel(None)
ax.set_xlabel("Time")
```



Explore

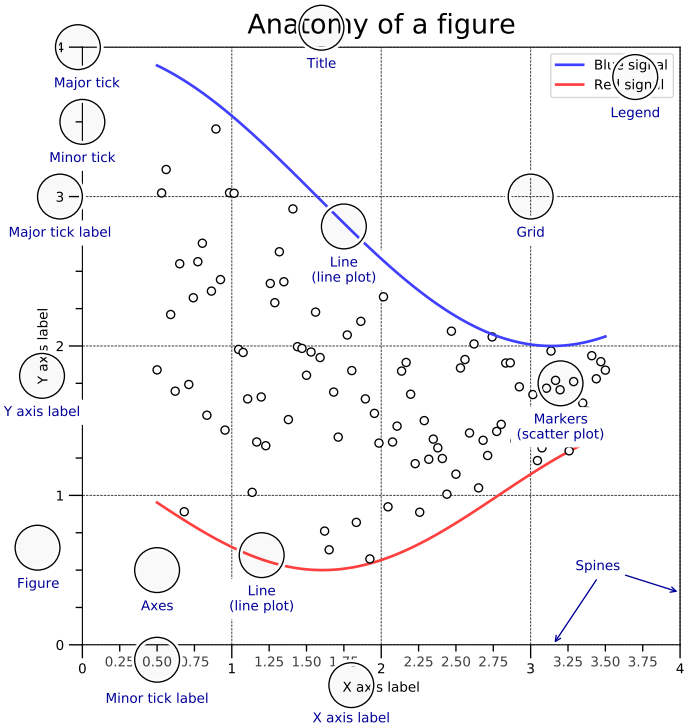
Figures are shown with a graphical user interface that allows to zoom and pan the figure, to navigate between the different views and to show the value under the mouse.

Save (bitmap or vector format)

```
fig.savefig("my-first-figure.png", dpi=300)
fig.savefig("my-first-figure.pdf")
```

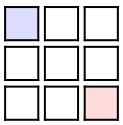
Matplotlib for intermediate users

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

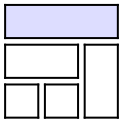


Figure, axes & spines

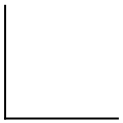
```
fig, axs = plt.subplots((3,3))
axs[0,0].set_facecolor("#ddddff")
axs[2,2].set_facecolor("#ffffdd")
```



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

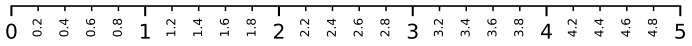


```
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.spines["top"].set_color("None")
ax.spines["right"].set_color("None")
```



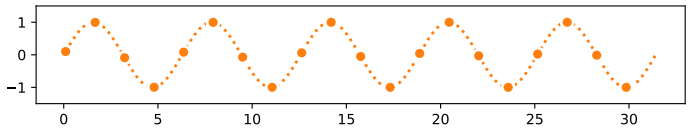
Ticks & labels

```
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)
```



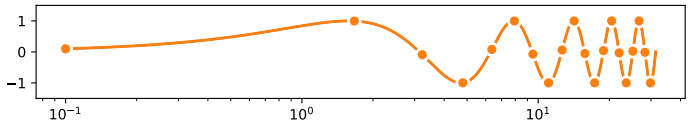
Lines & markers

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



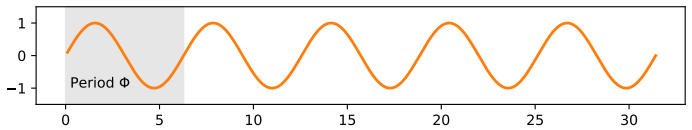
Scales & Projections

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



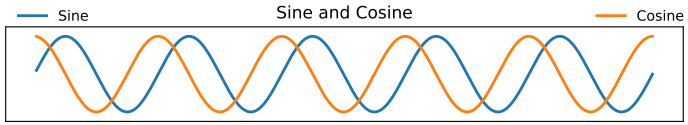
Text & Ornaments

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



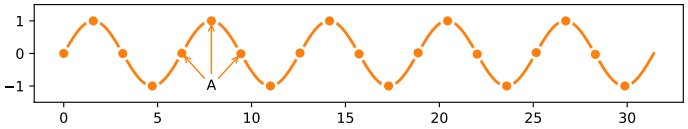
Legend

```
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")
```



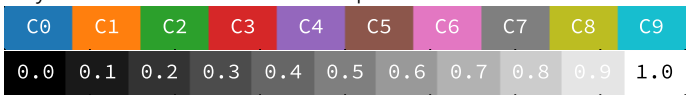
Annotation

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



Colors

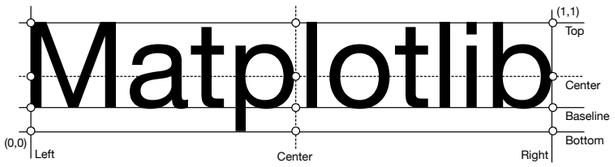
Any color can be used but Matplotlib offers sets of colors:



Size & DPI

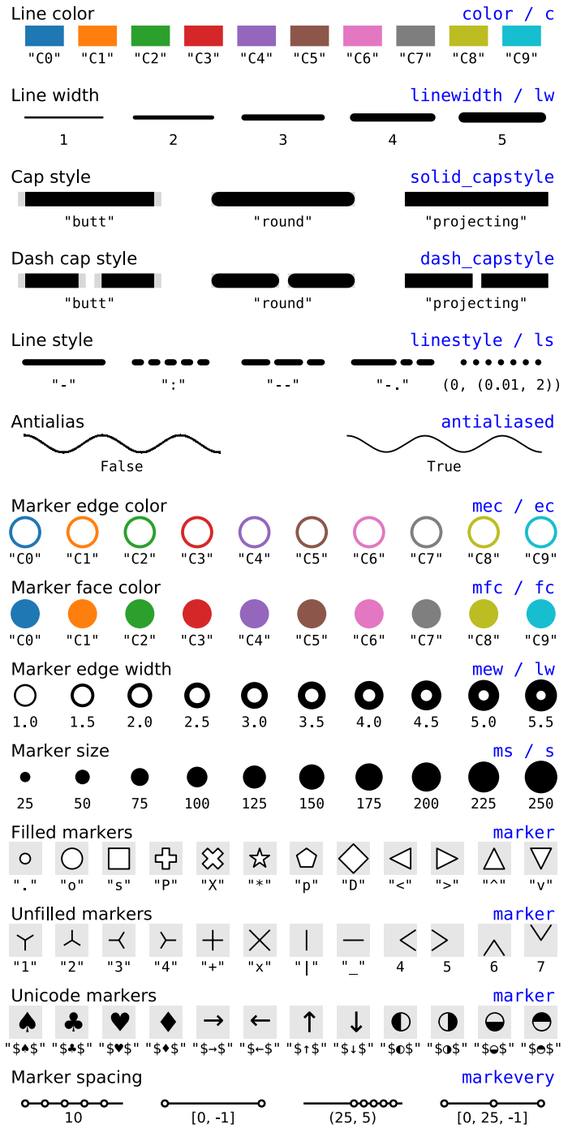
Consider a square figure to be included in a two-columns A4 paper with 2cm margins on each side and a column separation of 1cm. The width of a figure is (21 - 2*2 - 1)/2 = 8cm. One inch being 2.54cm, figure size should be 3.15×3.15 in.

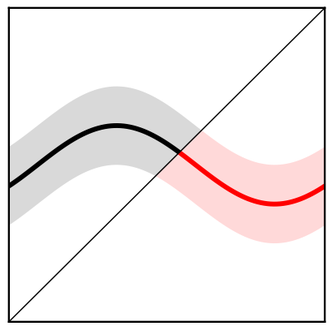
```
fig = plt.figure(figsize=(3.15,3.15), dpi=50)
plt.savefig("figure.pdf", dpi=600)
```

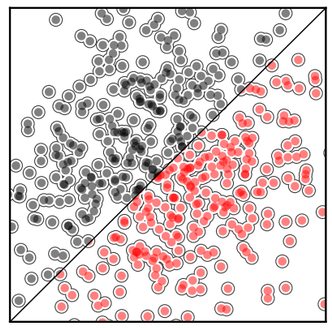


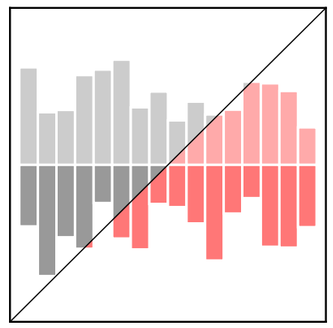
Matplotlib 3.1 cheatsheet

https://github.com/rougier/matplotlib-cheatsheet




Line plot


Scatter plot


Bar plot

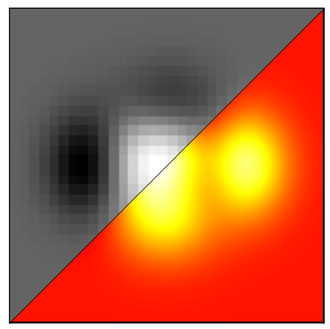
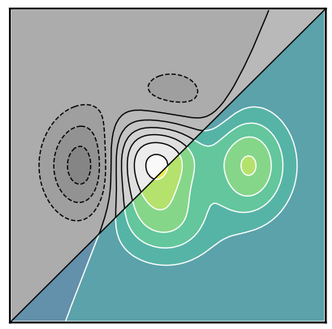
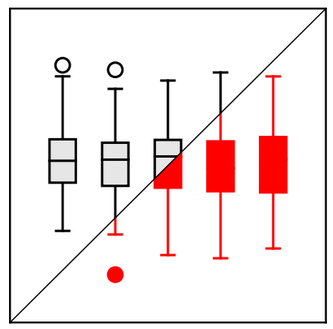
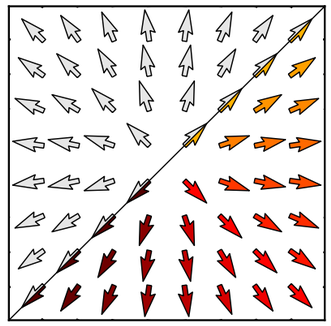


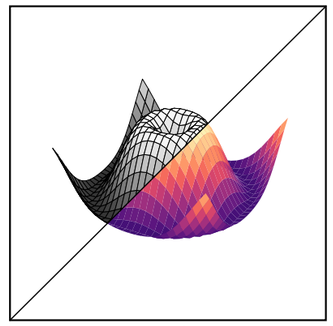
Image plot


Contour plot


Box plot


Quiver plot


Pie plot


3D plot