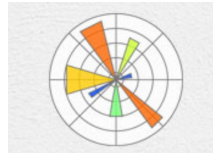




University of Sulaimani
College of Science
Computer Department
4th Stage

Data Science Management

Visualization and Matplotlib in Python



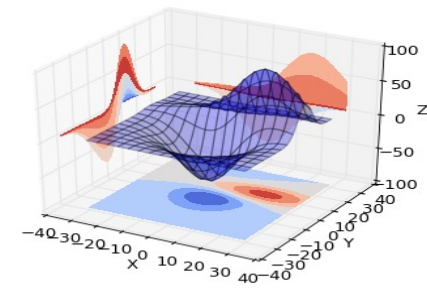
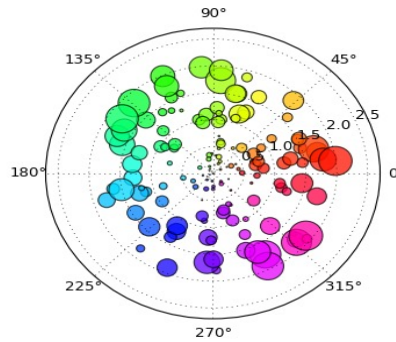
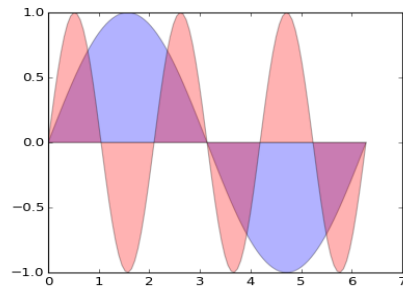
Class 6

Theoretical and practical lectures

Assist. Prof. Dr. Miran Taha Abdullah
2025-2026

What is data visualization?

- **Data visualization** is the **graphical representation** of information and data.
 - Can be achieved using visual elements like **figures, charts, graphs, maps**, and more.
- Data visualization **tools** provide a way to present these figures and graphs.
- Often, it is essential to **analyze massive amounts** of information and make **data-driven decisions**.
 - converting complex data into an easy to understand representation.



Matplotlib

- **Matplotlib** is one of the most powerful tools for data visualization in Python.
- **Matplotlib** is an incredibly powerful (and beautiful!) **2-D** plotting library.
 - It is easy to use and provides a huge number of examples for tackling unique problems
- In order to get **matplotlib** into your script,
 - first you need to import it, for example:

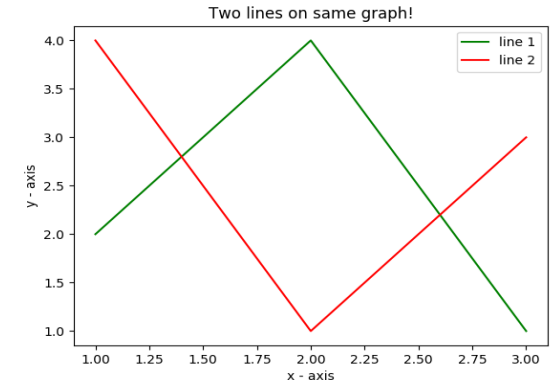
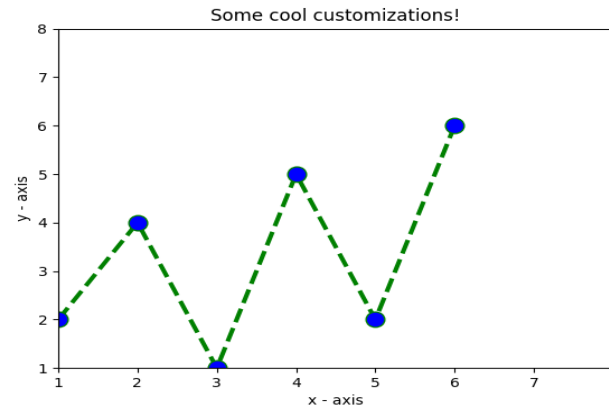
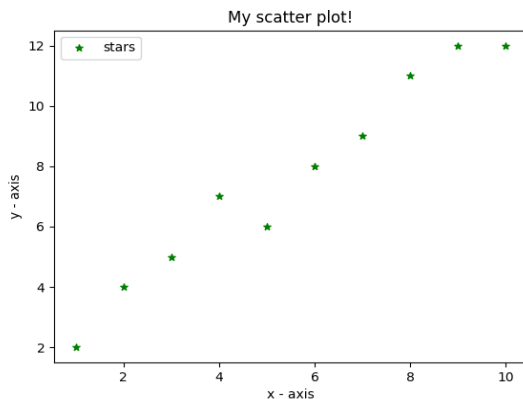
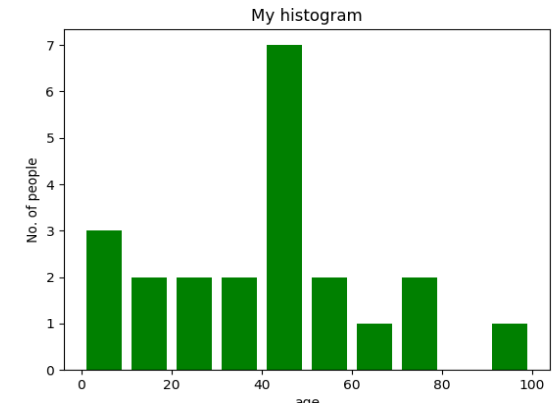
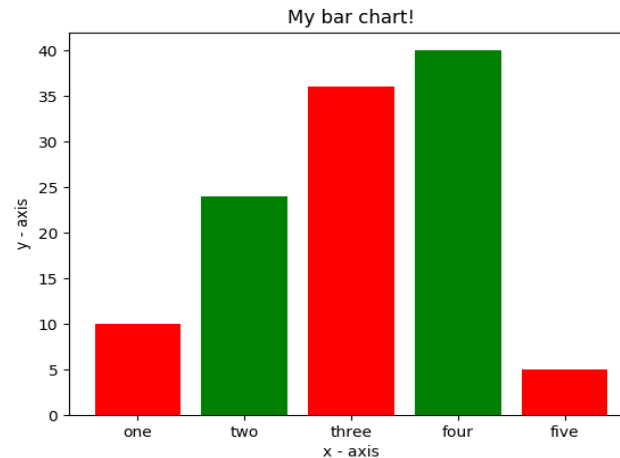
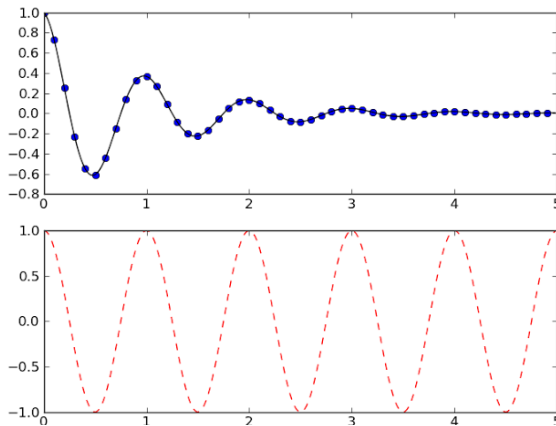
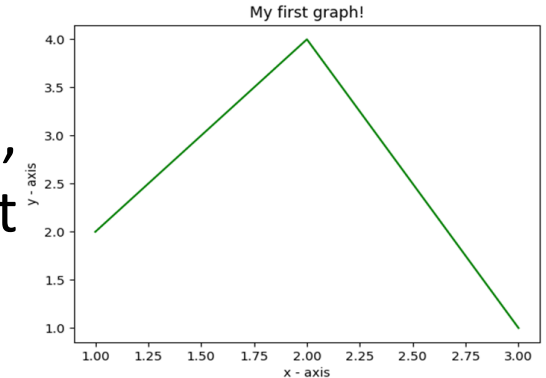
```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```
- However, if it is not installed, you may need to install it:
 - Easiest way to install **matplotlib** is using **pip**.
 - Type the following command in the command prompt (cmd) or your Linux shell;
 - **pip install matplotlib**
 - *Note that you may need to run the above cmd as an administrator*

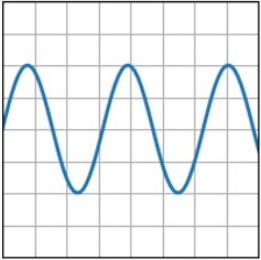
Matplotlib

- Strives to emulate MATLAB
 - `matplotlib.pyplot` is a collection of command style functions that make `matplotlib` work like **MATLAB**.
- Each `pyplot` function makes some change to the figure:
 - e.g.,
 - creates a figure,
 - creates a plotting area in the figure,
 - plots some lines in the plotting area,
 - decorates the plot with labels, etc.
- **Note** that various states are preserved across function calls
- Whenever you plot with `matplotlib`, the two main code lines should be considered:
 - Type of graph
 - this is where you **define** a **bar** chart, **line** chart, **etc**.
 - Show the graph
 - this is to **display** the graph

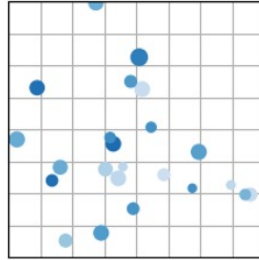
E.g. Matplotlib

- **Matplotlib** allows you to make easy things
- You can generate **plots, histograms, power spectra, bar charts, errorcharts, scatterplots**, etc., with just a few lines of code.

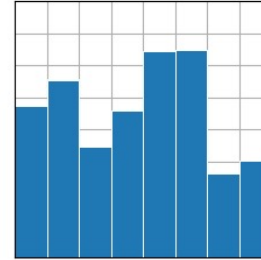




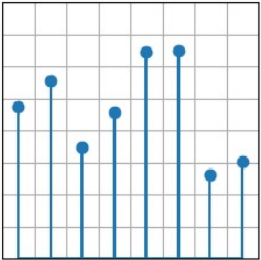
`plot(x, y)`



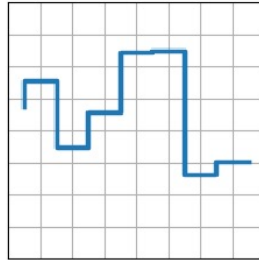
`scatter(x, y)`



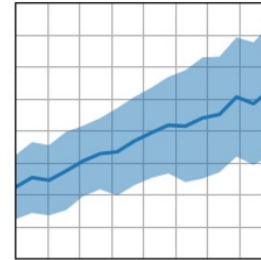
`bar(x, height)`



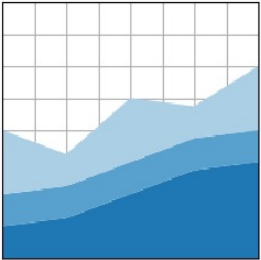
`stem(x, y)`



`step(x, y)`

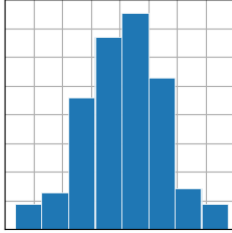


`fill_between(x, y1, y2)`

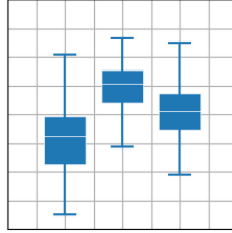


`stackplot(x, y)`

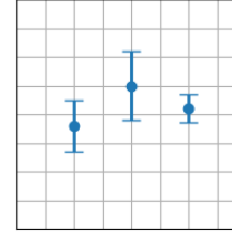
Basic Plots



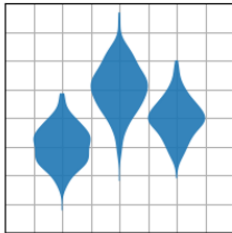
hist(x)



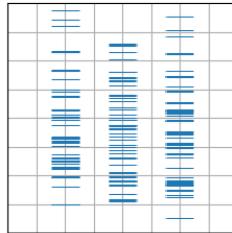
boxplot(X)



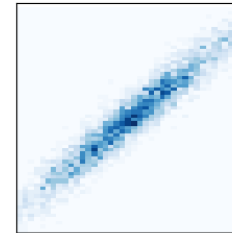
errorbar(x, y, yerr, xerr)



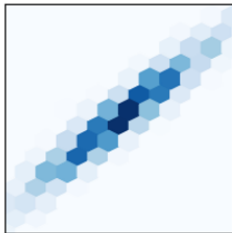
violinplot(D)



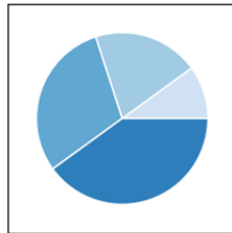
eventplot(D)



hist2d(x, y)



hexbin(x, y, C)



pie(x)

Statistics plots

Seaborn is a high-level **data visualization library** built on top of Matplotlib. It provides **beautiful, modern, and statistical visualizations** with very few lines of code.

Key Features

Automatically applies attractive styles

Built-in statistical plots (histograms, boxplots, heatmaps, etc.)

Works directly with **Pandas DataFrames**

Great for exploring datasets

import seaborn as sns

Comparison of Seaborn and Matplotlib for Data Visualization in Python

Feature / Criteria	Seaborn	Matplotlib
Level of Abstraction	High-level (simpler, fewer lines of code)	Low-level (more control, more coding)
Ease of Use	Very easy, beginner-friendly	Requires more coding and setup
Default Appearance / Style	Modern, attractive by default	Basic and it needs customization
Integration with Pandas	Excellent, it works directly with DataFrames	Good, but manual setup needed
Statistical Plotting	Built-in (heatmaps, boxplots, pairplots)	Limited, it requires manual coding
Customization / Flexibility	Medium	Very high
Performance	Good for medium datasets	Good, it supports large datasets
Complex Layouts / Subplots	Limited	Excellent
Best Use Cases	Data analysis, machine learning, quick plots	Scientific figures, research, full control

Types of Plots

Function	Description
Bar	Make a bar plot.
Barh	Make a horizontal bar plot.
Boxplot	Make a box and whisker plot.
Hist	Plot a histogram.
hist2d	Make a 2D histogram plot.
Pie	Plot a pie chart.
Plot	Plot lines and/or markers to the Axes.
Scatter	Make a scatter plot of x vs y.
Polar	Make a polar plot.
Stackplot	Draws a stacked area plot.
Stem	Create a stem plot
Step	Make a step plot.
Quiver	Plot a 2-D field of arrows.

Axis Functions

Function	Description
Axes	Add axes to the figure.
Text	Add text to the axes.
Title	Set a title of the current axes.
Xlabel	Set the x axis label of the current axis.
Xlim	Get or set the x limits of the current axes.
Xscale	Set the scaling of the x-axis.
Xticks	Get or set the x-limits of the current tick locations and labels.
Ylabel	Set the y axis label of the current axis.
Ylim	Get or set the y-limits of the current axes.
Yscale	Set the scaling of the y-axis.
Yticks	Get or set the y-limits of the current tick locations and labels.
Axes	Add axes to the figure.
Text	Add text to the axes.

Figure Functions

The **figure()** function in pyplot module of matplotlib library is used to create a new figure.

Syntax: *matplotlib.pyplot.figure(num=None, figsize=None, dpi=None, facecolor=None, edgecolor=None, frameon=True, FigureClass=, clear=False, **kwargs)*

Function	Description
Figtext	Add text to figure.
Figure	Creates a new figure.
Show	Display a figure.
Savefig	Save the current figure.
Close	Close a figure window.

Plotting commands: List of some commands which corresponding to Matplotlib

acorr

Plot the autocorrelation of x .

angle_spectrum

Plot the angle spectrum.

annotate

Annotate the point xy with text *text*.

arrow

Add an arrow to the Axes.

autoscale

Autoscale the axis view to the data (toggle).

axes

Add an Axes to the current figure and make it the current Axes.

axhline

Add a horizontal line across the Axes.

axhspan

Add a horizontal span (rectangle) across the Axes.

axis

Convenience method to get or set some axis properties.

axline

Add an infinitely long straight line.

axvline

Add a vertical line across the Axes.

axvspan

Add a vertical span (rectangle) across the Axes.

`bar`

Make a bar plot.

`bar_label`

Label a bar plot.

`barbs`

Plot a 2D field of barbs.

`barh`

Make a horizontal bar plot.

`box`

Turn the axes box on or off on the current axes.

`boxplot`

Draw a box and whisker plot.

`broken_barh`

Plot a horizontal sequence of rectangles.

`cla`

Clear the current axes.

`clabel`

Label a contour plot.

`clf`

Clear the current figure.

`clim`

Set the color limits of the current image.

`close`

Close a figure window.

<code>xlabel</code>	Set the label for the x-axis.
<code>xlim</code>	Get or set the x limits of the current axes.
<code>xscale</code>	Set the xaxis' scale.
<code>xticks</code>	Get or set the current tick locations and labels of the x-axis.
<code>ylabel</code>	Set the label for the y-axis.
<code>ylim</code>	Get or set the y-limits of the current axes.
<code>yscale</code>	Set the yaxis' scale.
<code>yticks</code>	Get or set the current tick locations and labels of the y-axis.
<code>grid</code>	Configure the grid lines.
<code>hexbin</code>	Make a 2D hexagonal binning plot of points x , y .
<code>hist</code>	Compute and plot a histogram.
<code>hist2d</code>	Make a 2D histogram plot.
<code>hlines</code>	Plot horizontal lines at each y from $xmin$ to $xmax$.
<code>imread</code>	Read an image from a file into an array.
<code>imsave</code>	Colormap and save an array as an image file.
<code>imshow</code>	Display data as an image, i.e., on a 2D regular raster.

pyplot

- `text()` : adds text in an arbitrary location
- `xlabel()` : adds text to the x-axis
- `ylabel()` : adds text to the y-axis
- `title()` : adds title to the plot
- `clear()` : removes all plots from the axes.
- `savefig()` : saves your figure to a file
- `legend()` : shows a legend on the plot

All methods are available on `pyplot` and on the axes instance generally.

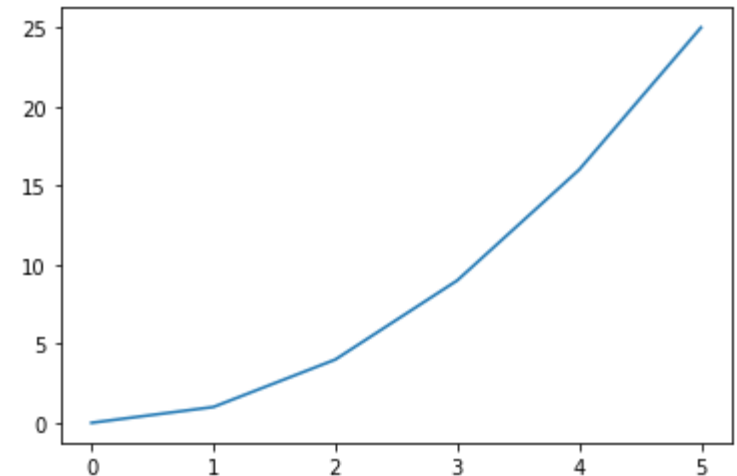
Line Graphs

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

#create data for plotting
x_values = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 ]
y_values = [0, 1, 4, 9, 16,25]

#the default graph style for plot is a line
plt.plot(x_values, y_values)

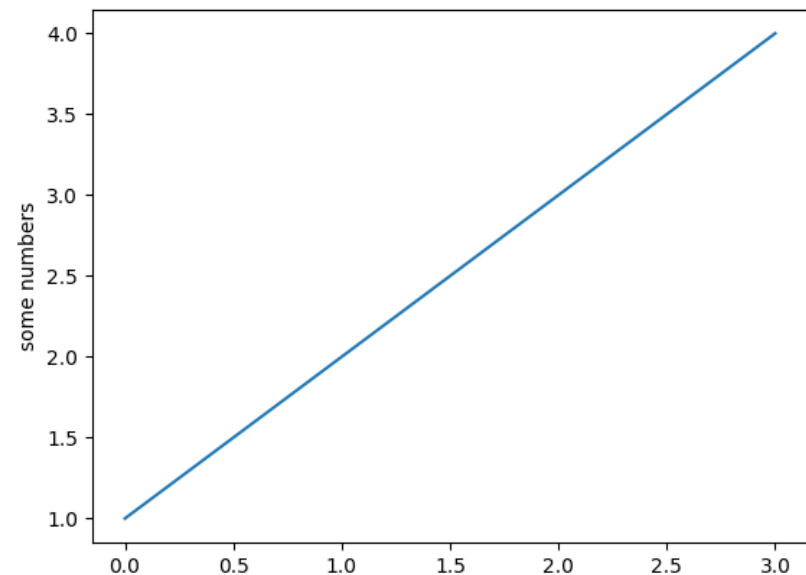
#display the graph
plt.show()
```



More on Line Graph

- **Note:** if you provide a single list or array to the `plot()` command,
 - then `matplotlib` assumes it is a sequence of **y values**, and
 - automatically generates the **x values** for you.
- Since python ranges start with **0**, the default **x** vector has the same length as **y** but starts with **0**.
 - Hence the **x** data are `[0, 1, 2, 3]`.

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
plt.plot([1, 2, 3, 4])
plt.ylabel('some numbers')
plt.show()
```



matplotlib.pyplot.text

Text() → `text(10, 20, "function", fontsize=12)`

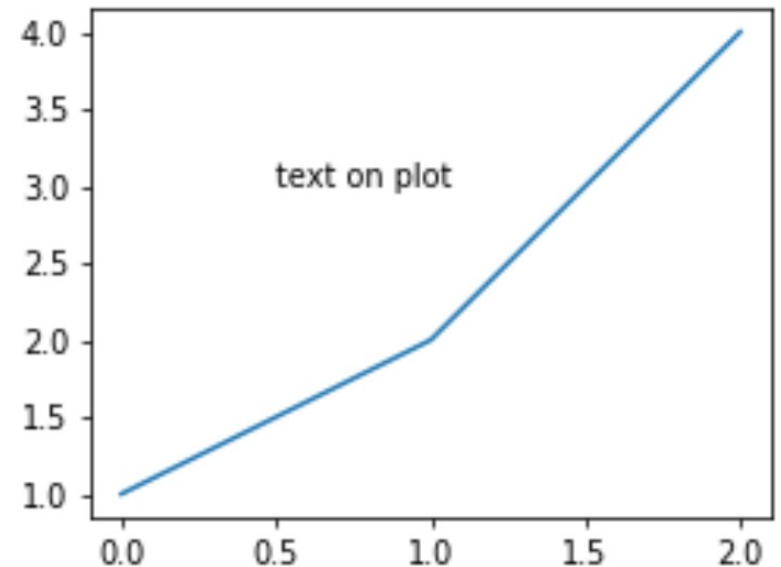
```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

```
w = 4  
h = 3  
d = 70
```

```
plt.figure(figsize=(w, h), dpi=d)
```

```
x = [1, 2, 4]  
x_pos = 0.5  
y_pos = 3
```

```
plt.text(x_pos, y_pos, "text on plot")  
plt.plot(x)  
plt.savefig("out.png")
```

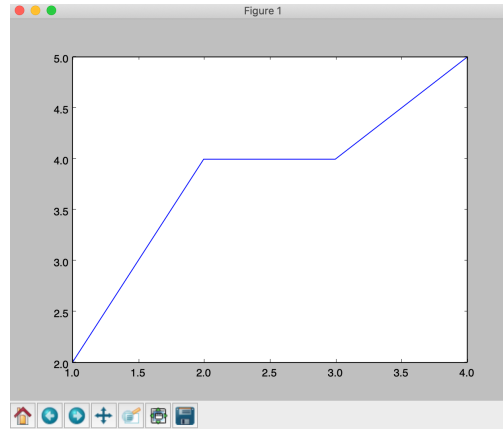


How To Clear A Plot In Python

clf() | **class: *matplotlib.pyplot.clf()***. Used to clear the current Figure's state without closing it.

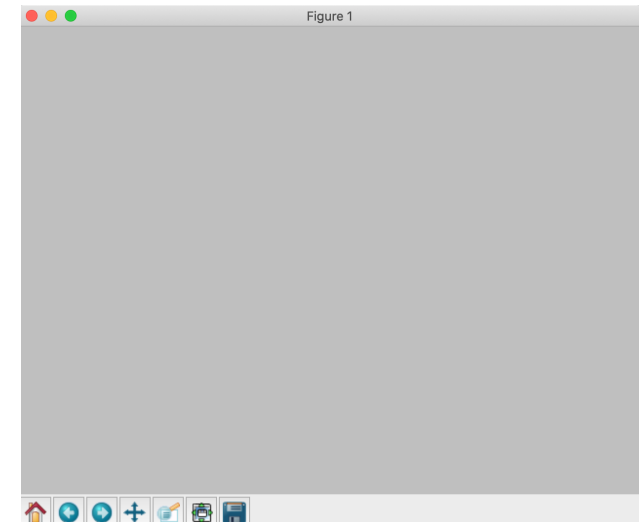
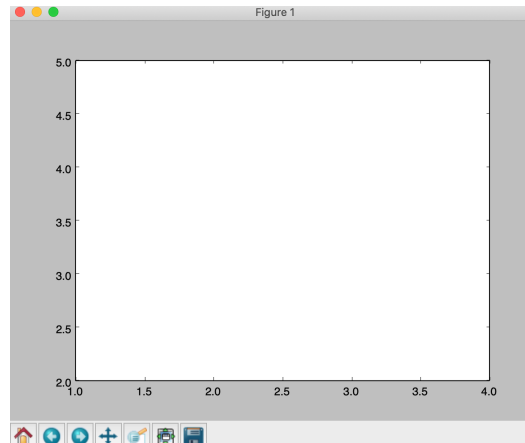
cla() | **class: *matplotlib.pyplot.cla()***. Used to clear the current Axes state without closing it.

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
f1 = plt.figure()
x = [1,2,3,4]
y = [2,4,4,5]
plt.plot(x,y)
plt.show()
```



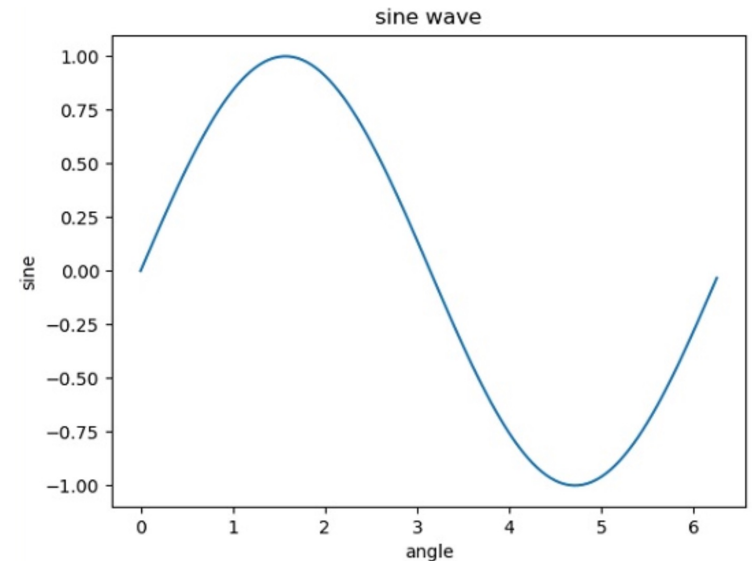
```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
f1 = plt.figure()
x = [1,2,3,4]
y = [2,4,4,5]
plt.plot(x,y)
plt.clf()
plt.show()
```

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
f1 = plt.figure()
x = [1,2,3,4]
y = [2,4,4,5]
plt.plot(x,y)
plt.cla()
plt.show()
```



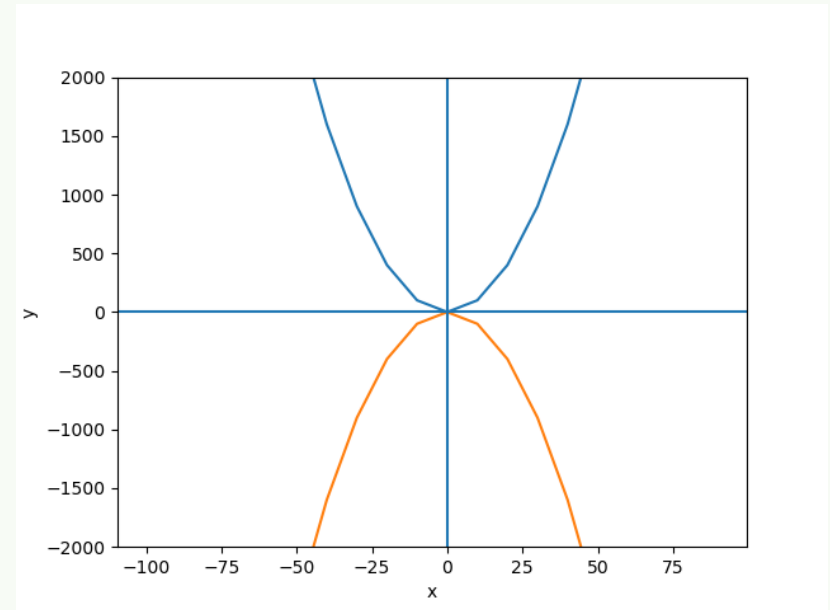
xlabel, ylabel example:

```
from matplotlib import pyplot as plt
import numpy as np
import math #needed for definition of pi
x = np.arange(0, math.pi*2, 0.05)
y = np.sin(x)
plt.plot(x,y)
plt.xlabel("angle")
plt.ylabel("sine")
plt.title('sine wave')
plt.show()
```



```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
y1 =[]
y2 =[]
x = range(-100,100,10)
for i in x: y1.append(i**2)
for i in x: y2.append(-i**2)

plt.plot(x, y1)
plt.plot(x, y2)
plt.xlabel("x")
plt.ylabel("y")
plt.ylim(-2000, 2000)
plt.axhline(0) # horizontal line
plt.axvline(0) # vertical line
plt.savefig("quad.png")
plt.show()
```



Save your figure to a file

Show it on the screen

Simple line

```
# importing the required module
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

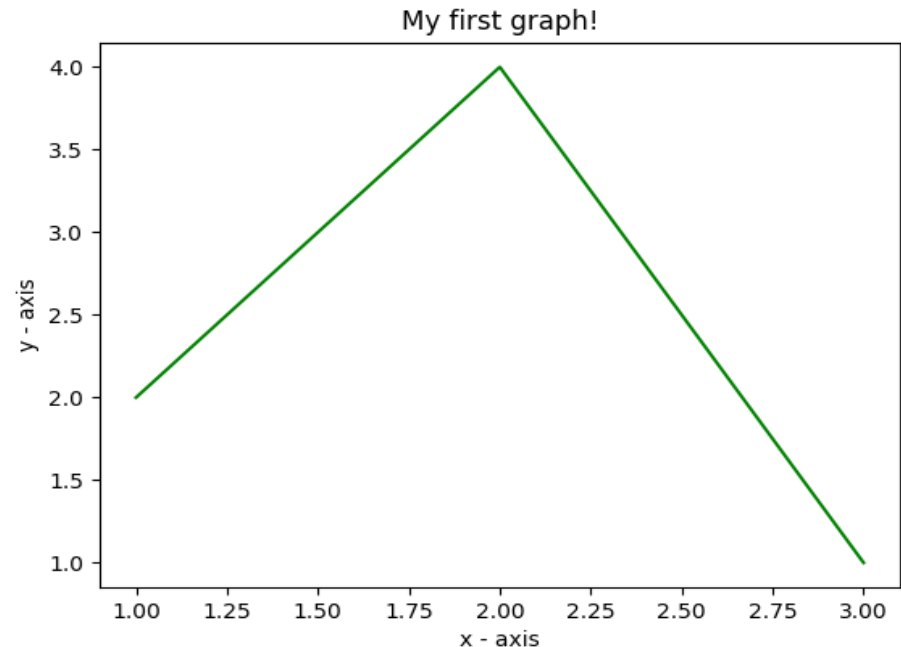
# x axis values
x = [1,2,3]
# corresponding y axis values
y = [2,4,1]

# plotting the points
plt.plot(x, y)

# naming the x axis
plt.xlabel('x - axis')
# naming the y axis
plt.ylabel('y - axis')

# giving a title to my graph
plt.title('My first graph!')

# function to show the plot
plt.show()
```



- Define the **x-axis** and corresponding **y-axis** values as lists.
- Plot them on canvas using **.plot()** function.
- Give a name to x-axis and y-axis using **.xlabel()** and **.ylabel()** functions.
- Give a title to your plot using **.title()** function.
- Finally, to view your plot, we use **.show()** function.

```

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# line 1 points
x1 = [1,2,3]
y1 = [2,4,1]
# plotting the line 1 points
plt.plot(x1, y1, label="line 1")

# line 2 points
x2 = [1,2,3]
y2 = [4,1,3]
# plotting the line 2 points
plt.plot(x2, y2, label = "line 2")

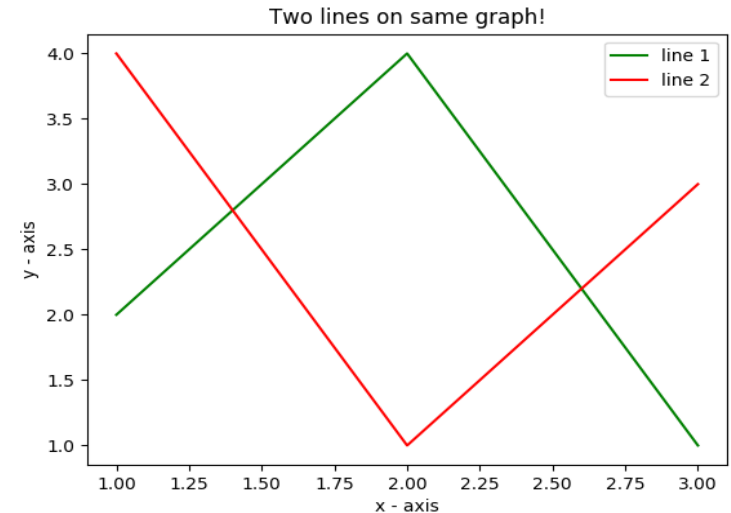
# naming the x axis
plt.xlabel('x - axis')
# naming the y axis
plt.ylabel('y - axis')
# giving a title to my graph
plt.title('Two lines on same graph!')

# show a legend on the plot
plt.legend()

# function to show the plot
plt.show()

```

Simple 2 lines



- Here, we plot two lines on same graph. We differentiate between them by giving them a name(label) which is passed as an argument of `.plot()` function.
- The small rectangular box giving information about type of line and its color is called legend. We can add a legend to our plot using `.legend()` function.

Customization of Plots

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# x axis values
x = [1,2,3,4,5,6]
# corresponding y axis values
y = [2,4,1,5,2,6]

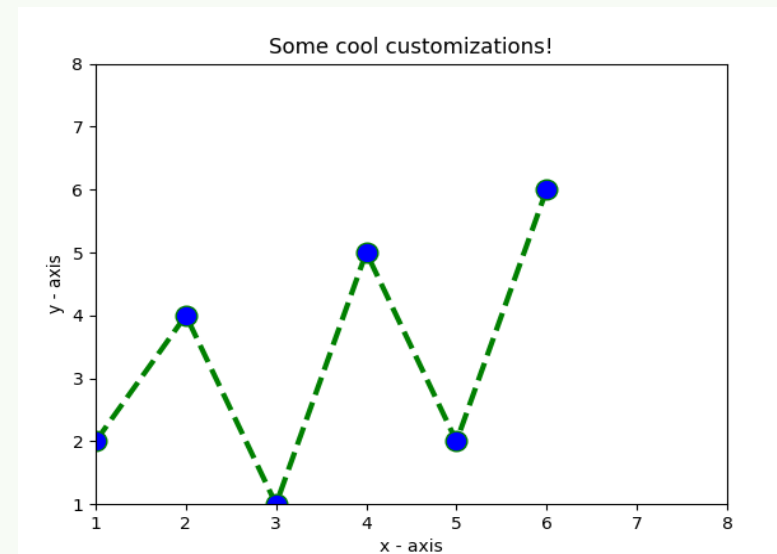
# plotting the points
plt.plot(x, y, color='green', linestyle='dashed', linewidth = 3,
         marker='o', markerfacecolor='blue', markersize=12)

# setting x and y axis range
plt.ylim(1,8)
plt.xlim(1,8)

# naming the x axis
plt.xlabel('x - axis')
# naming the y axis
plt.ylabel('y - axis')

# giving a title to my graph
plt.title('Some cool customizations!')

# function to show the plot
plt.show()
```

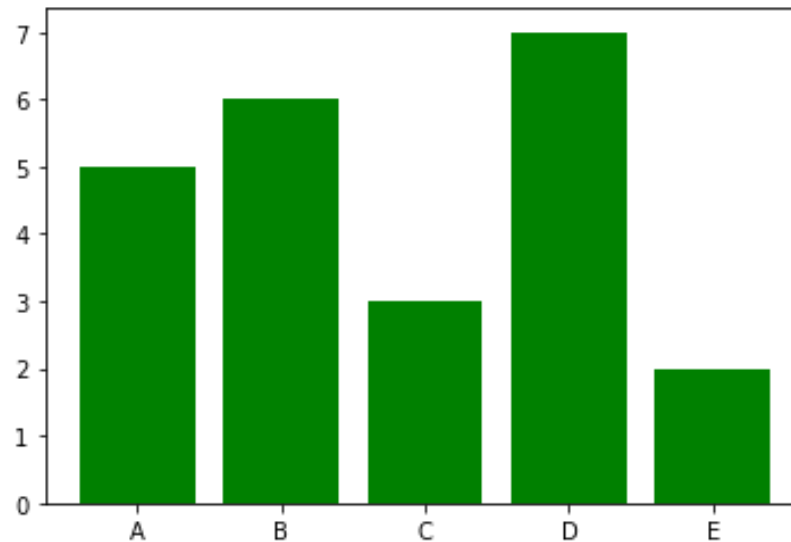


Bar graphs

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

#Create data for plotting
values = [5, 6, 3, 7, 2]
names = ["A", "B", "C", "D", "E"]

plt.bar(names, values, color="green")
plt.show()
```



- When using a bar graph, the change in code will be from `plt.plot()` to `plt.bar()` changes it into a bar chart.

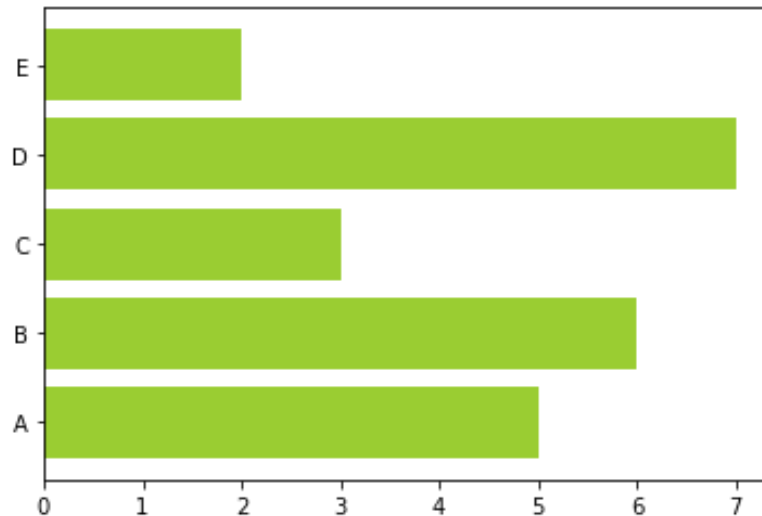
Bar graphs

We can also flip the bar graph horizontally with the following

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

#Create data for plotting
values = [5,6,3,7,2]
names  = ["A", "B", "C", "D", "E"]

# Adding an "h" after bar will flip the graph
plt.barh(names, values, color="yellowgreen")
plt.show()
```



Bar Chart

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

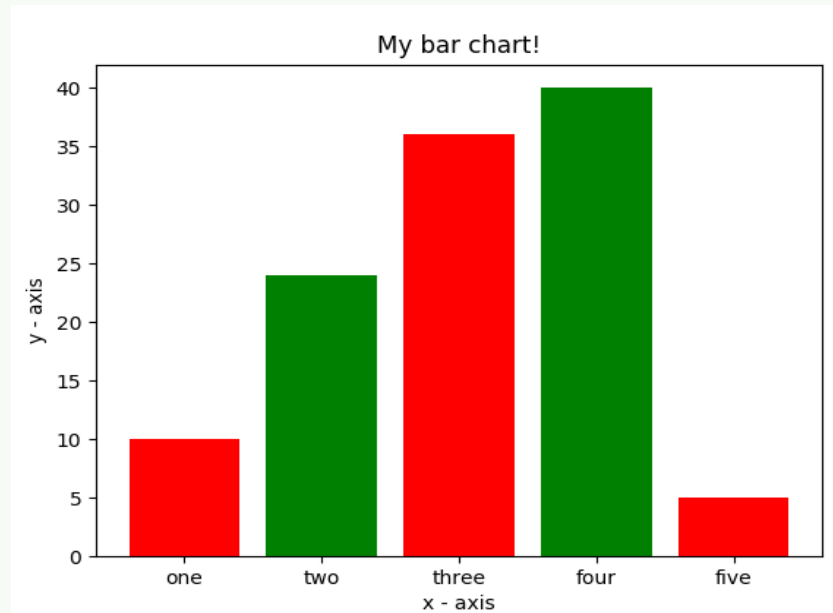
# heights of bars
height = [10, 24, 36, 40, 5]

# labels for bars
names = ['one', 'two', 'three', 'four', 'five']

# plotting a bar chart
c1 = ['red', 'green']
c2 = ['b', 'g'] # we can use this for color
plt.bar(left, height, width=0.8, color=c1)

# naming the x-axis
plt.xlabel('x - axis')
# naming the y-axis
plt.ylabel('y - axis')
# plot title
plt.title('My bar chart!')

# function to show the plot
plt.show()
```



- Here, we use `plt.bar()` function to plot a bar chart.
- you can also give some name to x-axis coordinates by defining `tick_labels`

Histogram

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

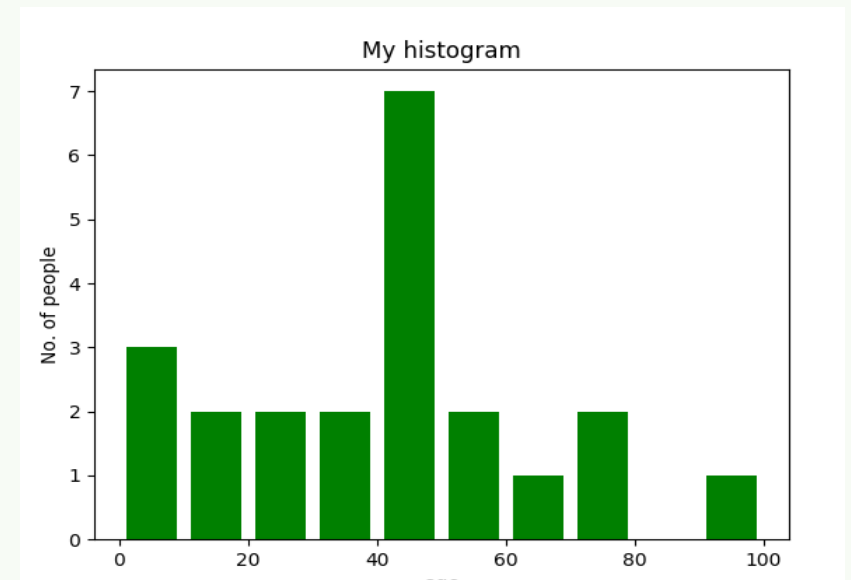
# frequencies
ages=[2,5,70,40,30,45,50,45,43,40,44,60,7,13,57,18,90,77,32,21,20,40]

# setting the ranges and no. of intervals
range = (0, 100)
bins = 10

# plotting a histogram
plt.hist(ages, bins, range, color='green',histtype='bar',rwidth=0.8)

# x-axis label
plt.xlabel('age')
# frequency label
plt.ylabel('No. of people')
# plot title
plt.title('My histogram')

# function to show the plot
plt.show()
```



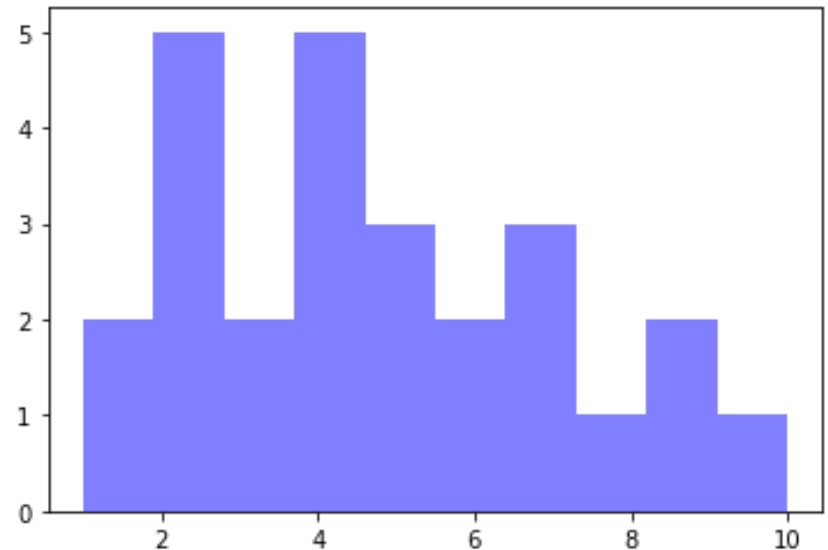
Histograms

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

#generate fake data
x = [2,1,6,4,2,4,8,9,4,2,4,10,6,4,5,7,7,3,2,7,5,3,5,9,2,1]

#plot for a histogram
plt.hist(x, bins = 10, color='blue', alpha=0.5)
plt.show()
```

- Looking at the code snippet, I added two new arguments:
 - **Bins** — is an argument specific to a histogram and allows the user to customize how many bins they want.
 - **Alpha** — is an argument that displays the level of transparency of the data points.



Scatter Plots

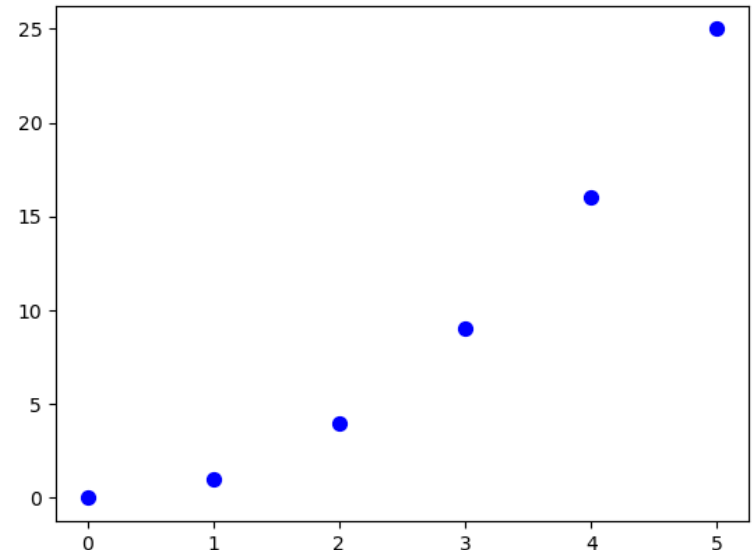
```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

#create data for plotting

x_values = [0,1,2,3,4,5]
y_values = [0,1,4,9,16,25]

plt.scatter(x_values, y_values, s=30, color="blue")
plt.show()
```

- Can you see the pattern? Now the code changed from `plt.bar()` to `plt.scatter()`.



Scatter plot

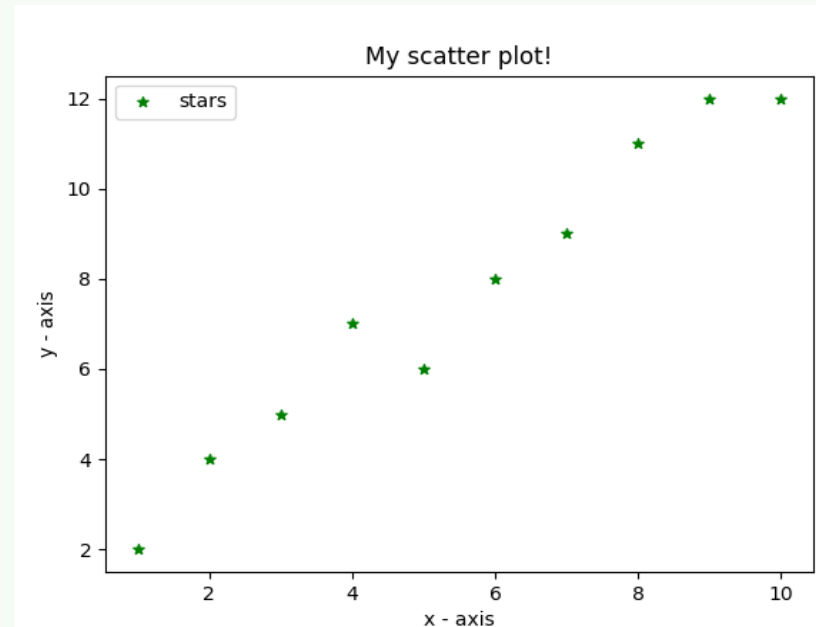
```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# x-axis values
x = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10]
# y-axis values
y = [2,4,5,7,6,8,9,11,12,12]

# plotting points as a scatter plot
plt.scatter(x, y, label= "stars", color="green", marker="*", s=30)

# x-axis label
plt.xlabel('x - axis')
# frequency label
plt.ylabel('y - axis')
# plot title
plt.title('My scatter plot!')
# showing legend
plt.legend()

# function to show the plot
plt.show()
```



Pie-chart

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# defining labels
activities = ['eat', 'sleep', 'work', 'play']

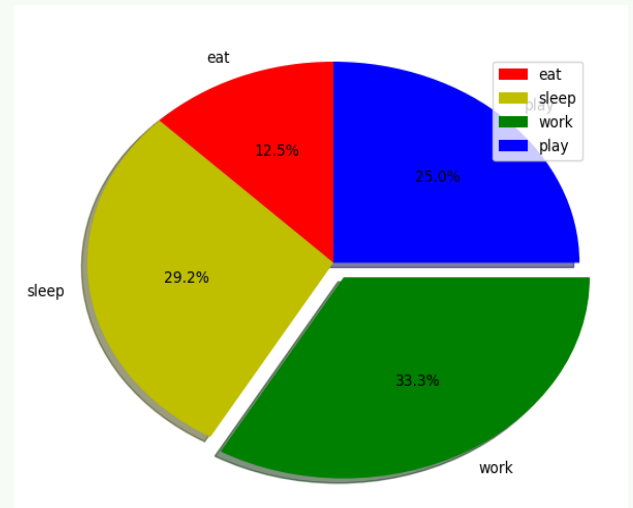
# portion covered by each label
slices = [3, 7, 8, 6]

# color for each label
colors = ['r', 'y', 'g', 'b']

# plotting the pie chart
plt.pie(slices, labels = activities, colors=colors,
        startangle=90, shadow = True, explode = (0, 0, 0.1, 0),
        radius = 1.2, autopct = '%1.1f%%')

# plotting legend
plt.legend()

# showing the plot
plt.show()
```



Plotting curves of given equation

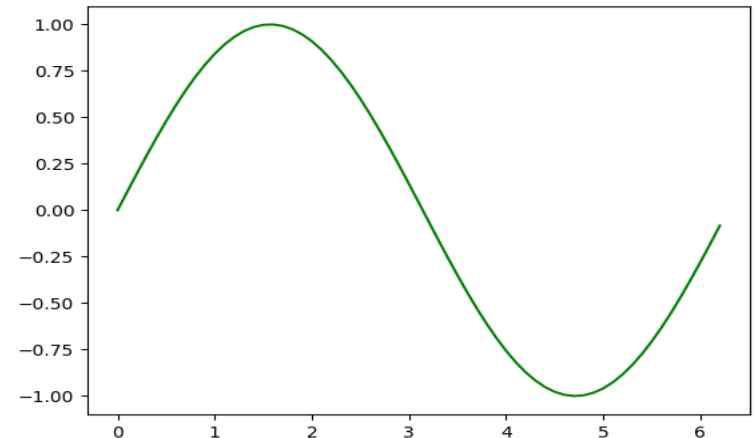
```
# importing the required modules
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np

# setting the x - coordinates
x = np.arange(0, 2*(np.pi), 0.1)
# setting the corresponding y - coordinates
y = np.sin(x)

# plotting the points
plt.plot(x, y)

# function to show the plot
plt.show()
```

Examples taken from:
[Graph Plotting in Python | Set 1](#)



How to add the legend inside the plot

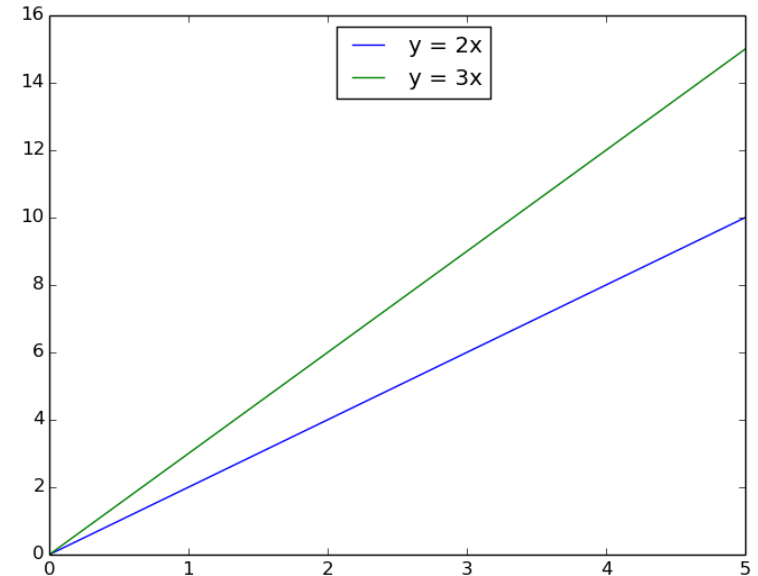
```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# Define Data
x = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
y1 = [0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10]
y2 = [0, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15]

# Plot graph
plt.plot(y1, label="y = 2x")
plt.plot(y2, label="y = 3x")

# Add legend
plt.legend(bbox_to_anchor=(0.65, 1))

# Show plot
plt.show()
```



How to add the legend outside the plot (basic method)

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

```
# Define Data
```

```
x = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
```

```
y1 = [0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10]
```

```
y2 = [0, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15]
```

```
# Plot graph
```

```
plt.plot(y1, label = "y = 2x")
```

```
plt.plot(y2, label = "y = 3x")
```

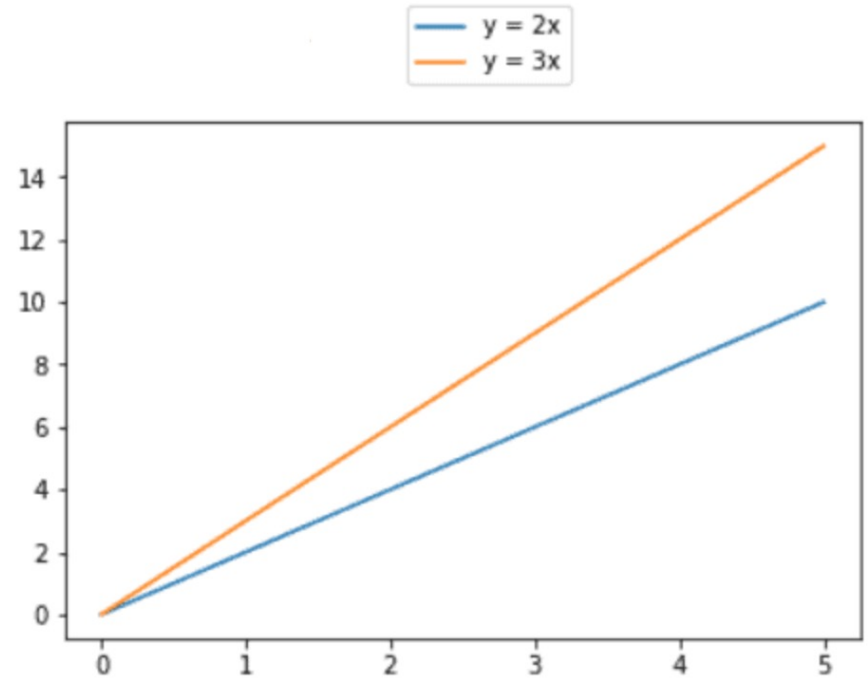
```
# Add legend
```

```
plt.legend(bbox_to_anchor=(0.65, 1, 20))
```

Modify this value

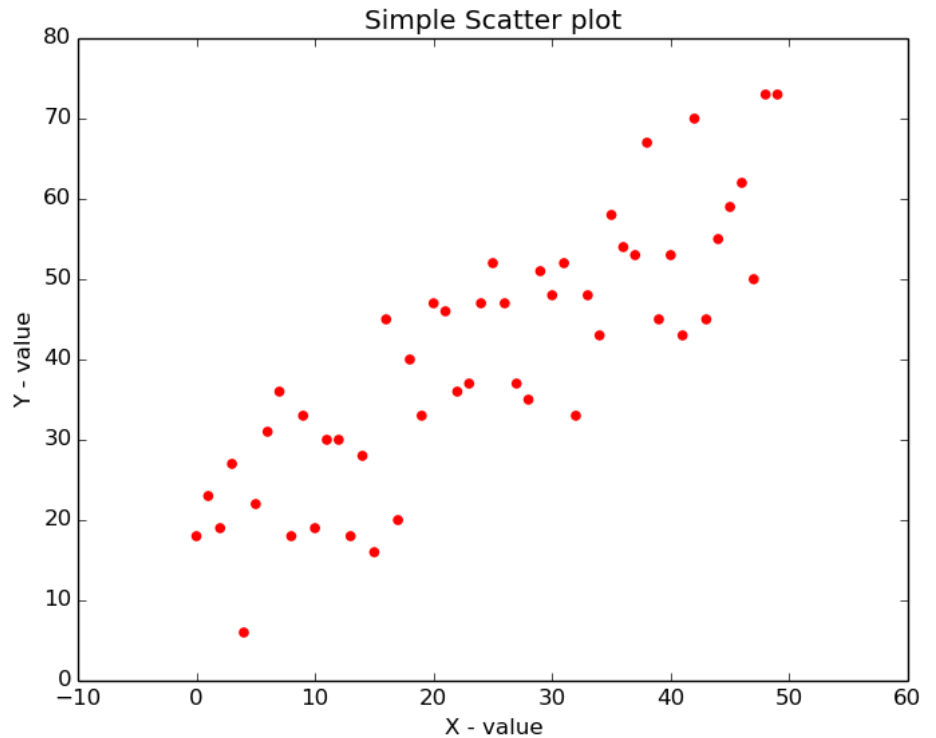
```
# Show plot
```

```
plt.show()
```



Assignment

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np
x = range(50)
y = range(50) + np.random.randint(0,30,50)
plt.scatter(x, y, color = 'red')
plt.title('Simple Scatter plot')
plt.xlabel('X - value')
plt.ylabel('Y - value')
plt.show()
```



Give green color to the scatter points when (x,y) values are greater than 35

References:

- 1- https://matplotlib.org/stable/api/pyplot_summary.html
- 2- <https://jakevdp.github.io/PythonDataScienceHandbook/index.html>
- 3- <https://www.oreilly.com/library/view/python-data-science/9781491912126/ch04.html>

End of Class 6