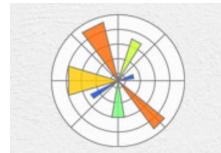




University of Sulaimani
College of Science
Computer Department
4th Stage

Data Science Management

Visualization and Matplotlib in Python

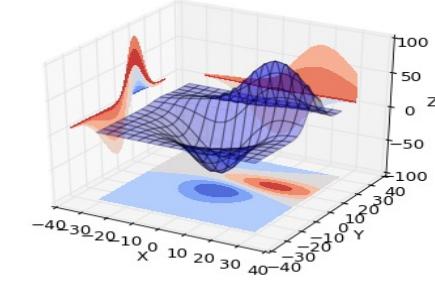
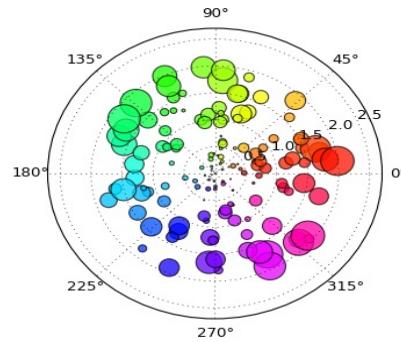
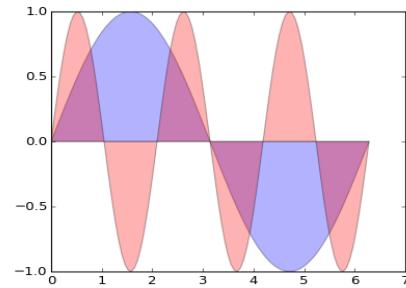


Class 6
Theoretical and practical lectures

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:

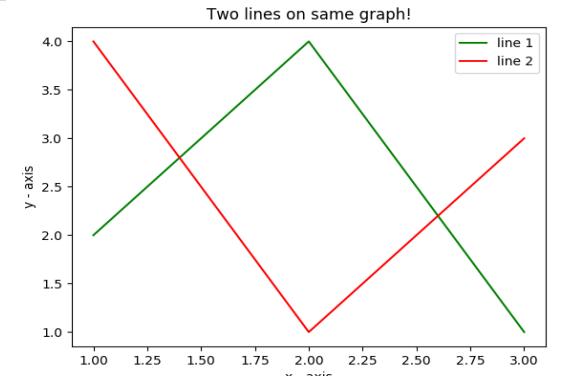
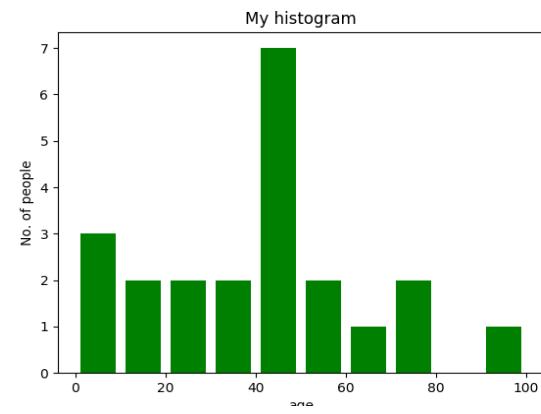
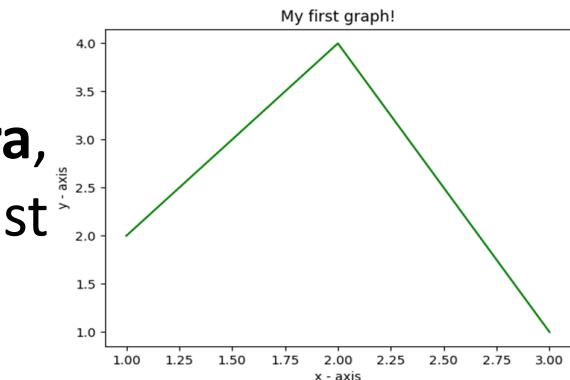
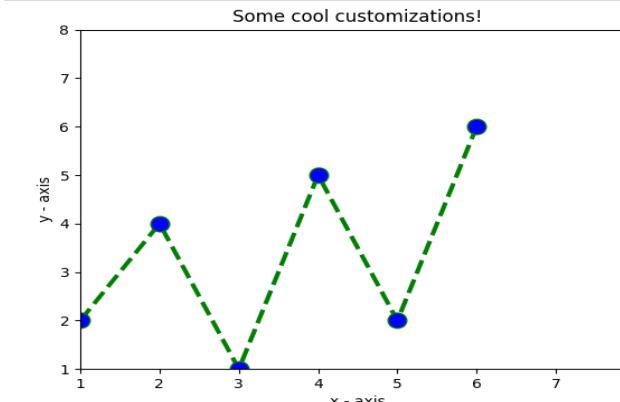
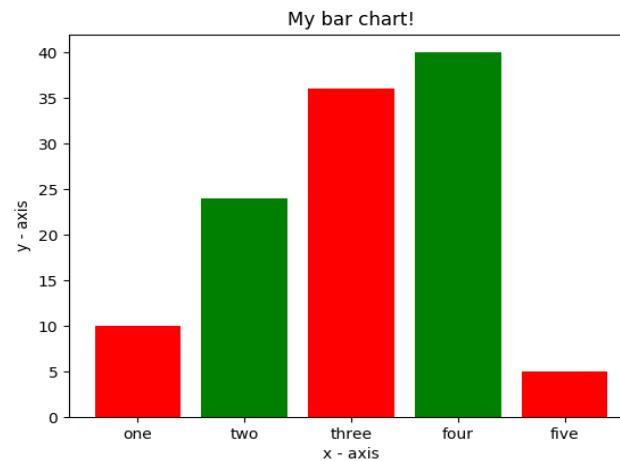
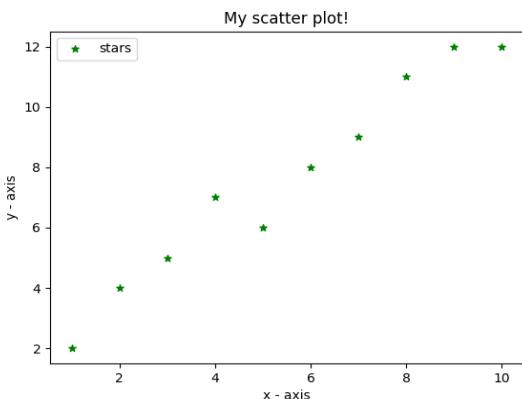
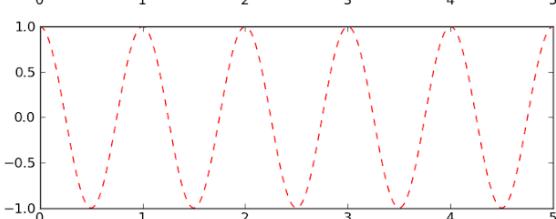
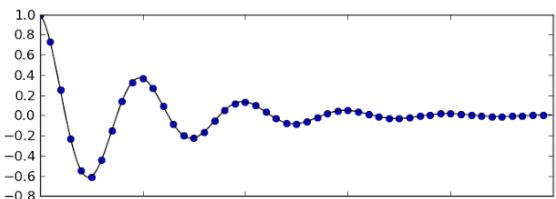
```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```
- However, if it is not installed, you may need to install it:
 - Easiest way to install **matplotlib** is using **pip**.
 - Type the following command in the command prompt (cmd) or your Linux shell;
 - **pip install matplotlib**
 - *Note that you may need to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

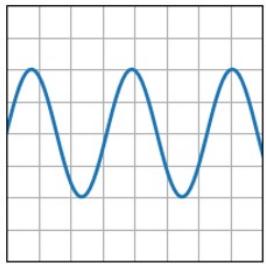
Matplotlib

- 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

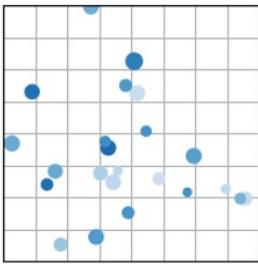
E.g. Matplotlib

- **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.

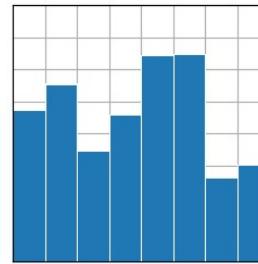




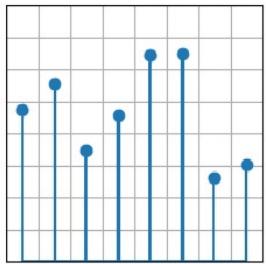
`plot(x, y)`



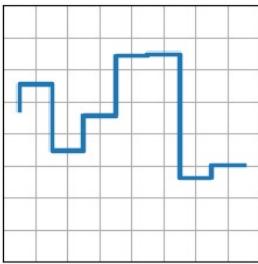
`scatter(x, y)`



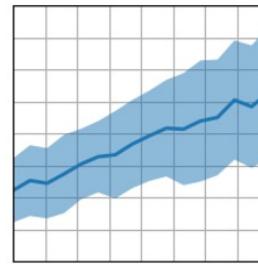
`bar(x, height)`



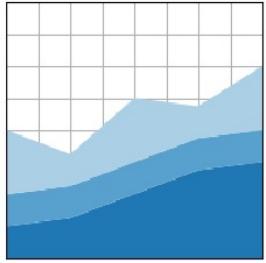
`stem(x, y)`



`step(x, y)`

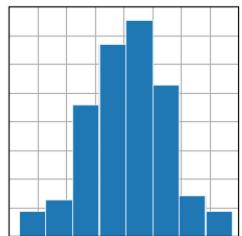


`fill_between(x, y1, y2)`

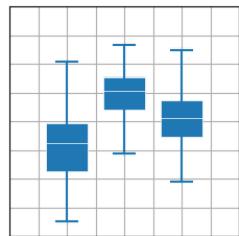


`stackplot(x, y)`

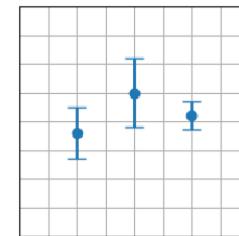
Basic Plots



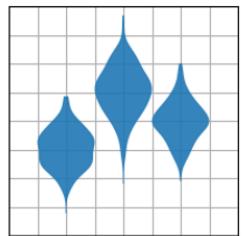
hist(x)



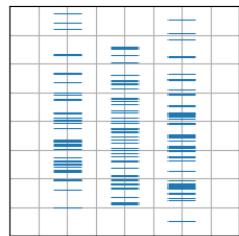
boxplot(X)



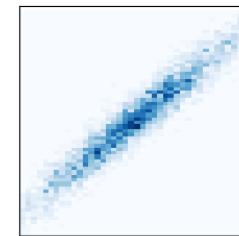
errorbar(x, y, yerr, xerr)



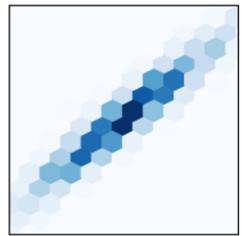
violinplot(D)



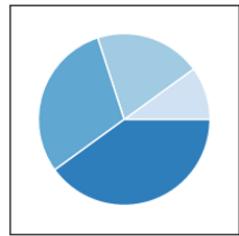
eventplot(D)



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.

`xlabel`

Set the label for the x-axis.

`xlim`

Get or set the x limits of the current axes.

`xscale`

Set the xaxis' scale.

`xticks`

Get or set the current tick locations and labels of the x-axis.

`ylabel`

Set the label for the y-axis.

`ylim`

Get or set the y-limits of the current axes.

`yscale`

Set the yaxis' scale.

`yticks`

Get or set the current tick locations and labels of the y-axis.

`grid`

Configure the grid lines.

`hexbin`

Make a 2D hexagonal binning plot of points x, y .

`hist`

Compute and plot a histogram.

`hist2d`

Make a 2D histogram plot.

`hlines`

Plot horizontal lines at each y from $xmin$ to $xmax$.

`imread`

Read an image from a file into an array.

`imsave`

Colormap and save an array as an image file.

`imshow`

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.

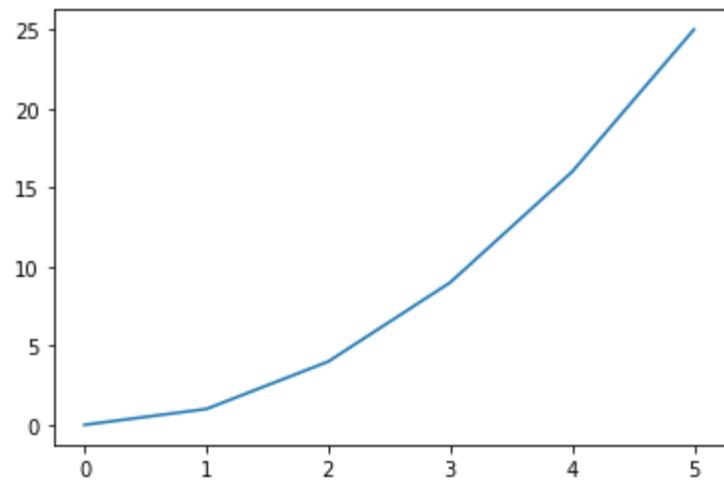
Line Graphs

```
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)

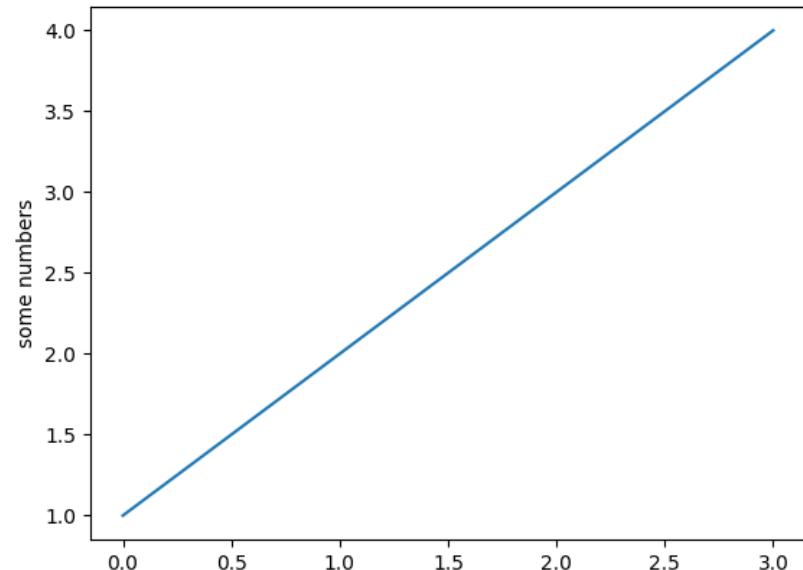
#display the graph
plt.show()
```



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)
```

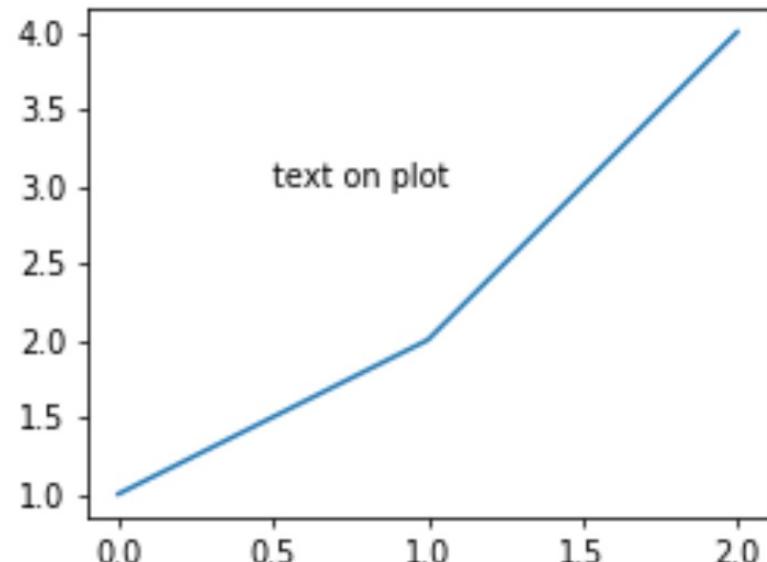
```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

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")
```

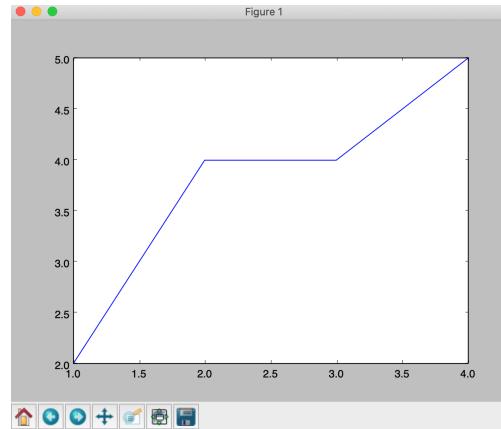


How To Clear A Plot In Python

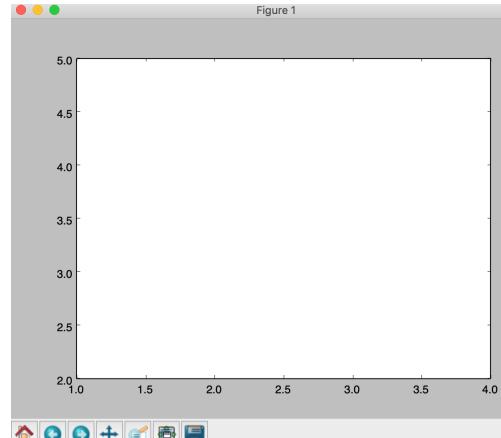
`clf()` | *class: matplotlib.pyplot.clf()*. Used to clear the current Figure's state without closing it.

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

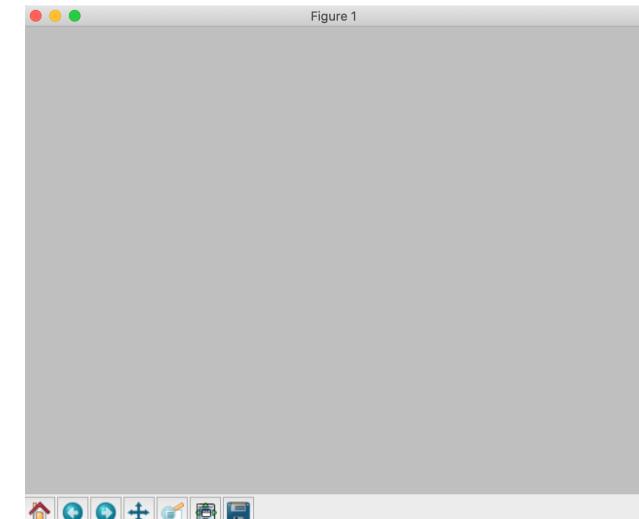
```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt  
f1 = plt.figure()  
x = [1,2,3,4]  
y = [2,4,4,5]  
plt.plot(x,y)  
plt.show()
```



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

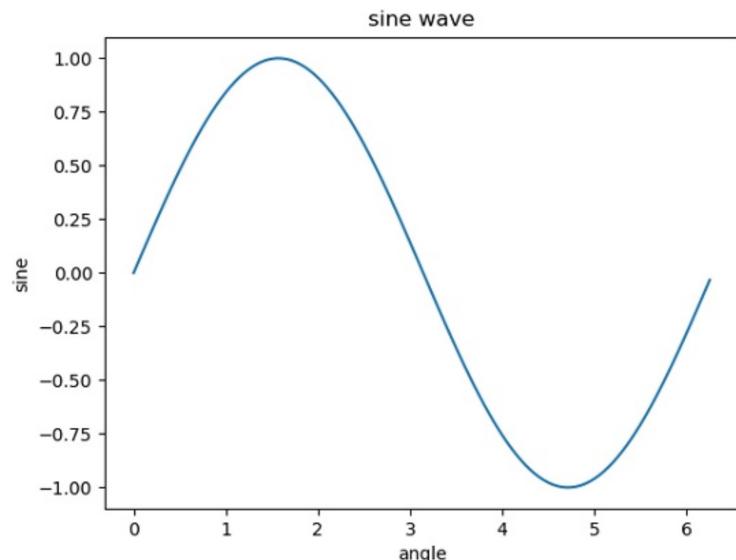


```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt  
f1 = plt.figure()  
x = [1,2,3,4]  
y = [2,4,4,5]  
plt.plot(x,y)  
plt.clf()  
plt.show()
```



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()
```

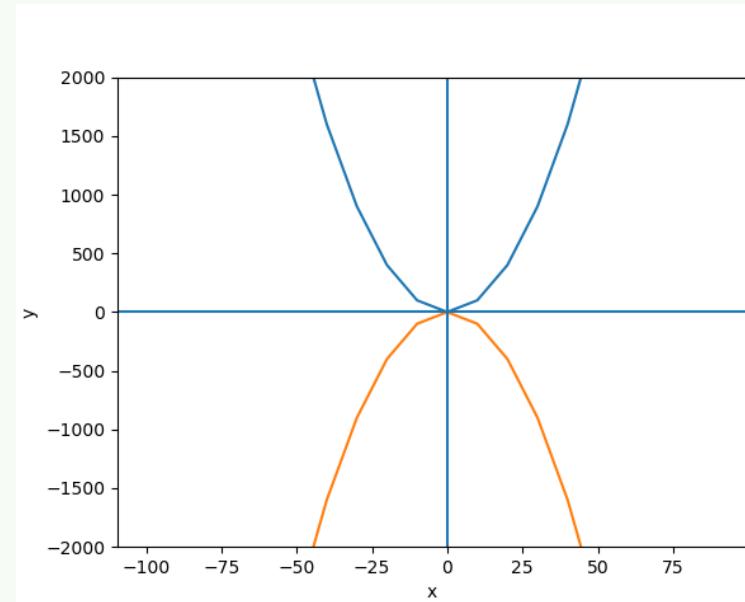


```

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

```

# 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)

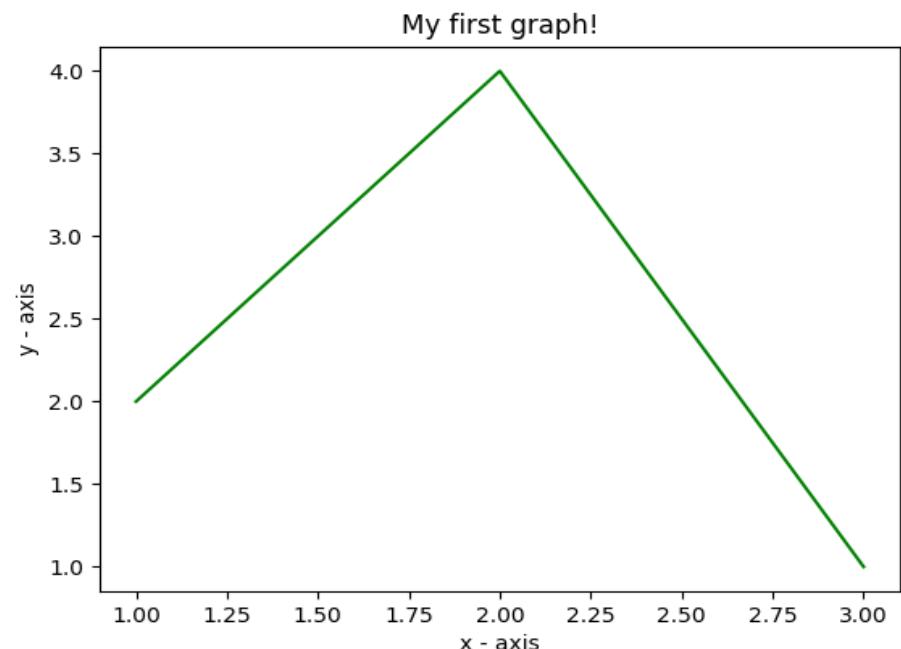
# naming the x axis
plt.xlabel('x - axis')
# naming the y axis
plt.ylabel('y - axis')

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

# function to show the plot
plt.show()

```

Simple line



- 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")

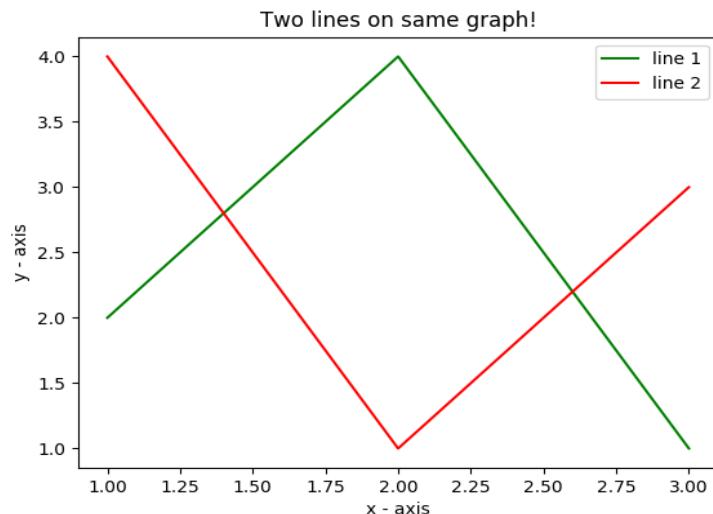
# naming the x axis
plt.xlabel('x - axis')
# naming the y axis
plt.ylabel('y - axis')
# giving a title to my graph
plt.title('Two lines on same graph!')

# 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.

```
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)

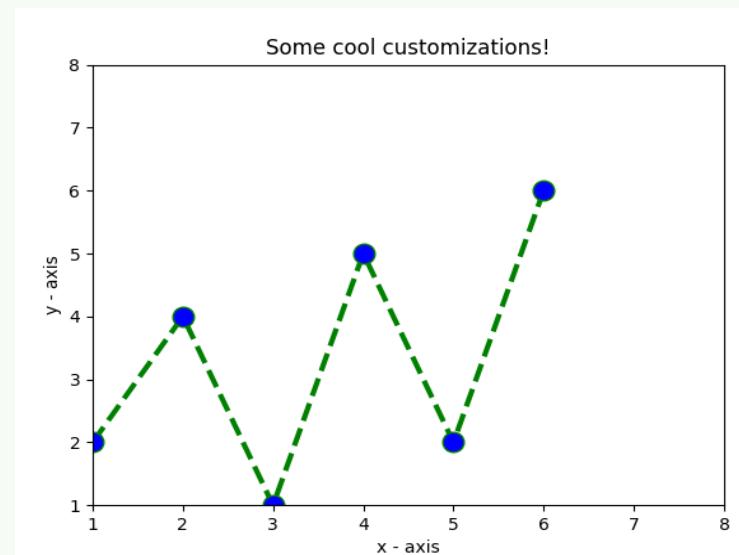
# setting x and y axis range
plt.ylim(1,8)
plt.xlim(1,8)

# 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()
```

Customization of Plots

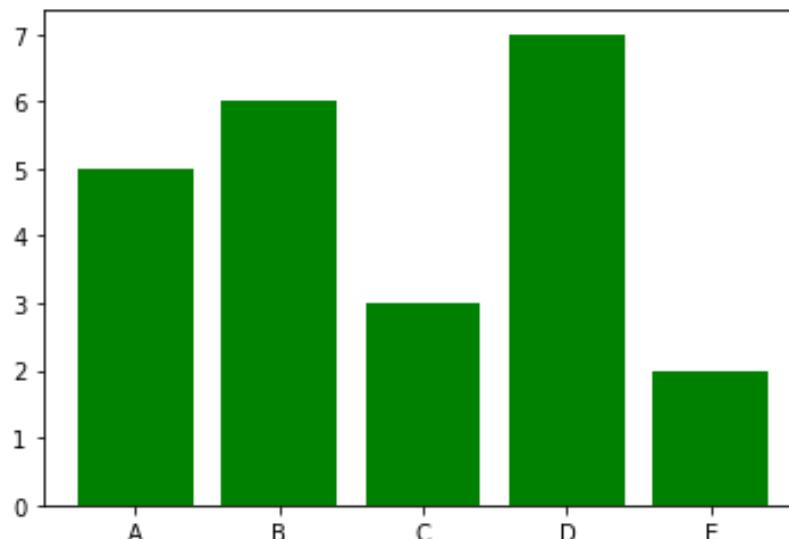


Bar graphs

```
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.

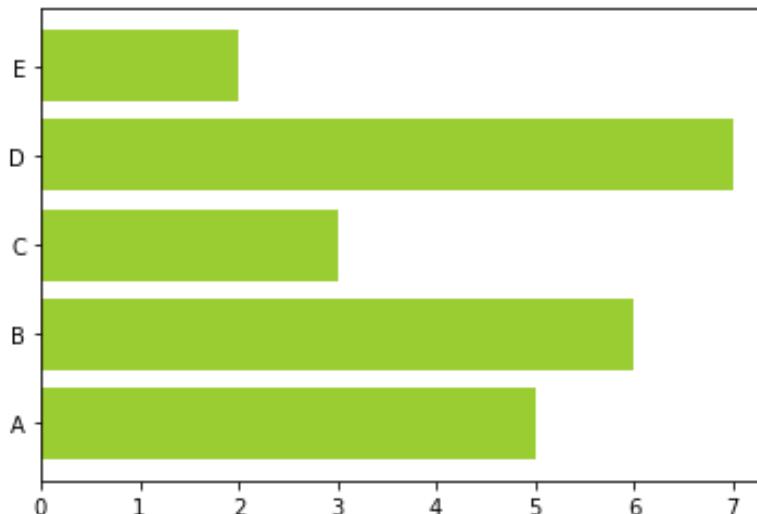
Bar graphs

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

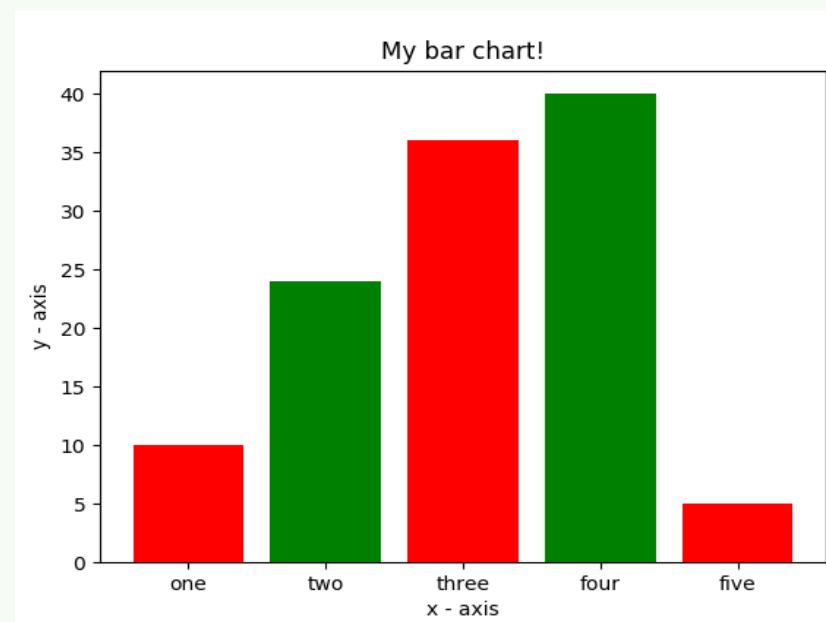
# heights of bars
height = [10, 24, 36, 40, 5]

# 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

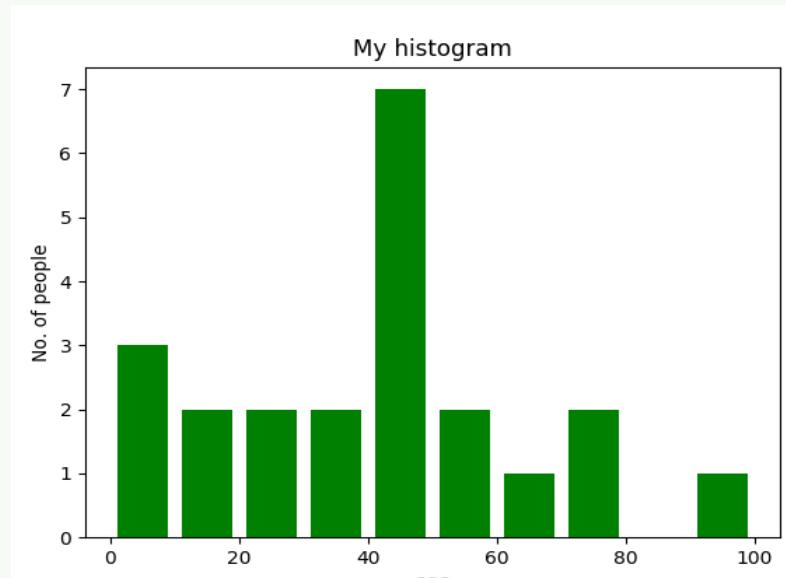
# frequencies
ages=[2,5,70,40,30,45,50,45,43,40,44,60,7,13,57,18,90,77,32,21,20,40]

# 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()
```



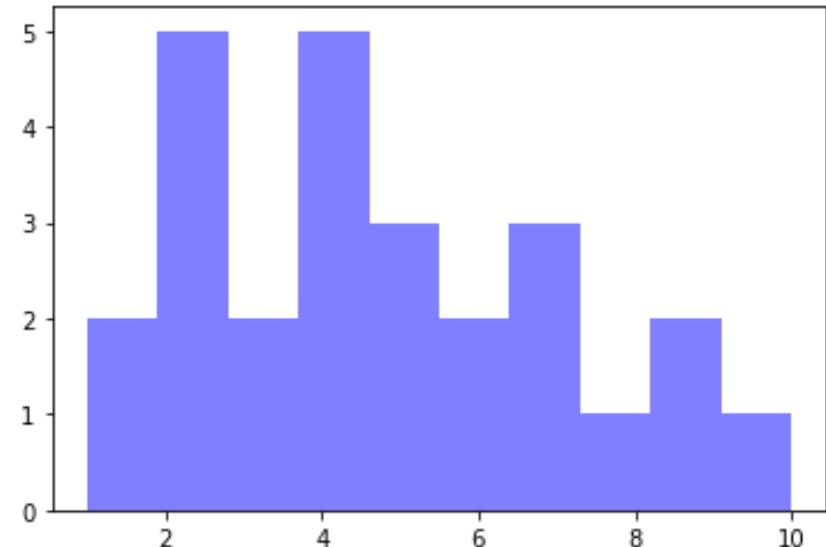
Histograms

```
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

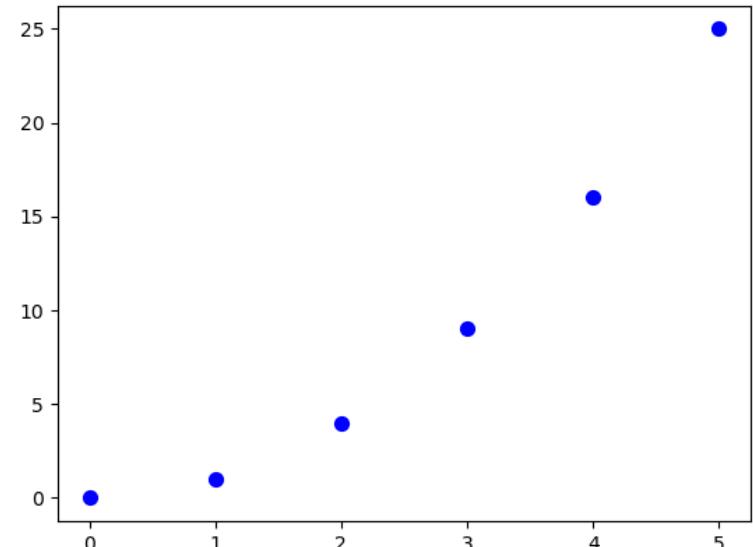
```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

#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

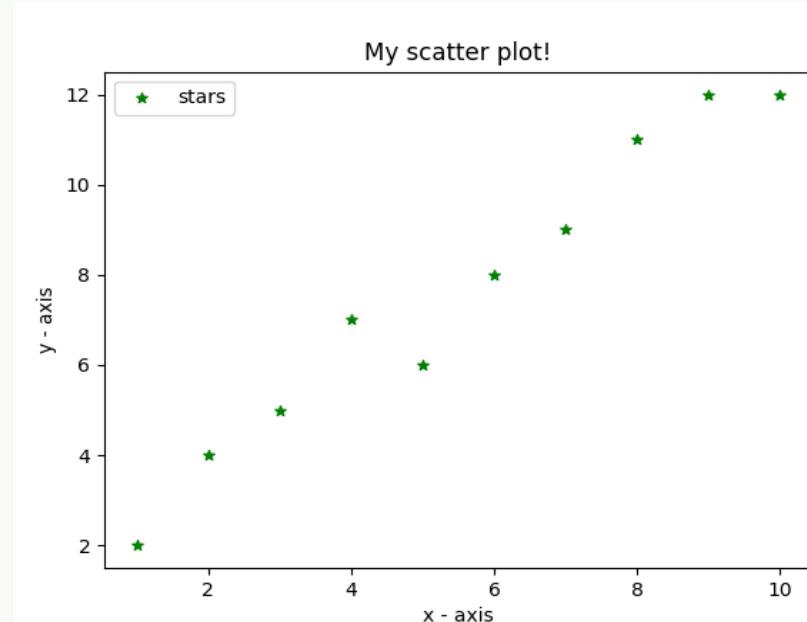
```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# 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']

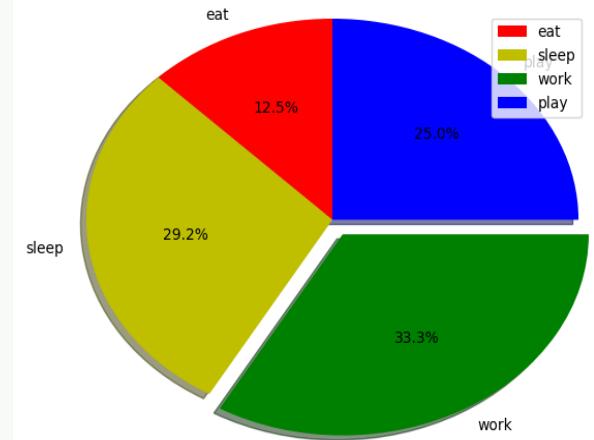
# portion covered by each label
slices = [3, 7, 8, 6]

# 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

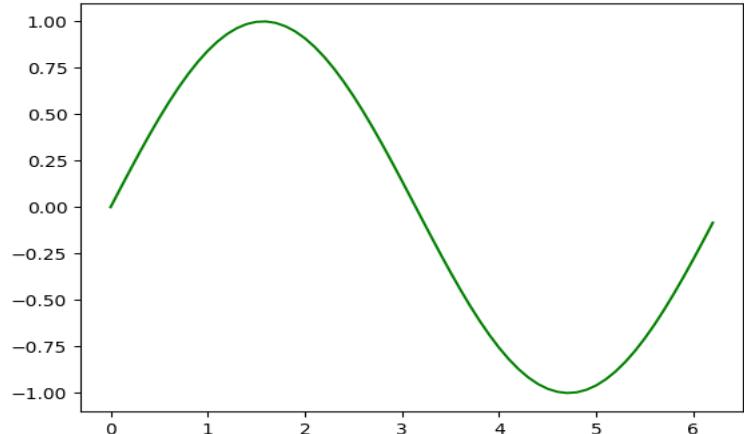
```
# importing the required modules
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np

# 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

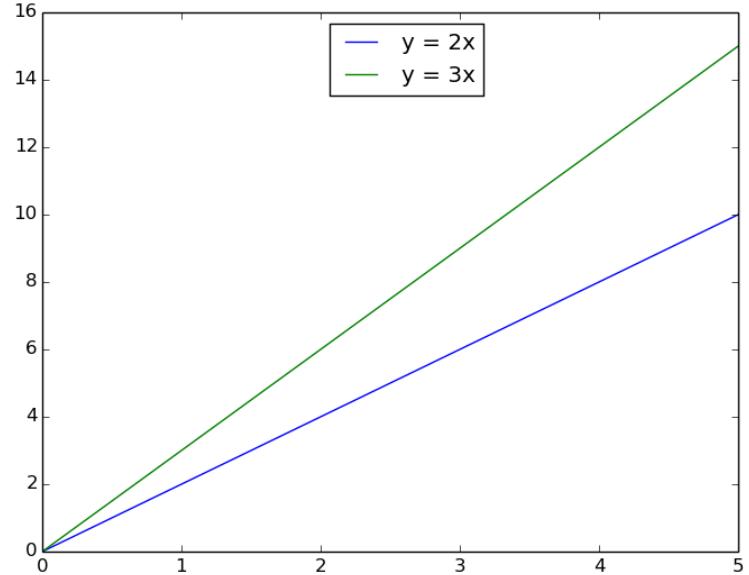
```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# 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)

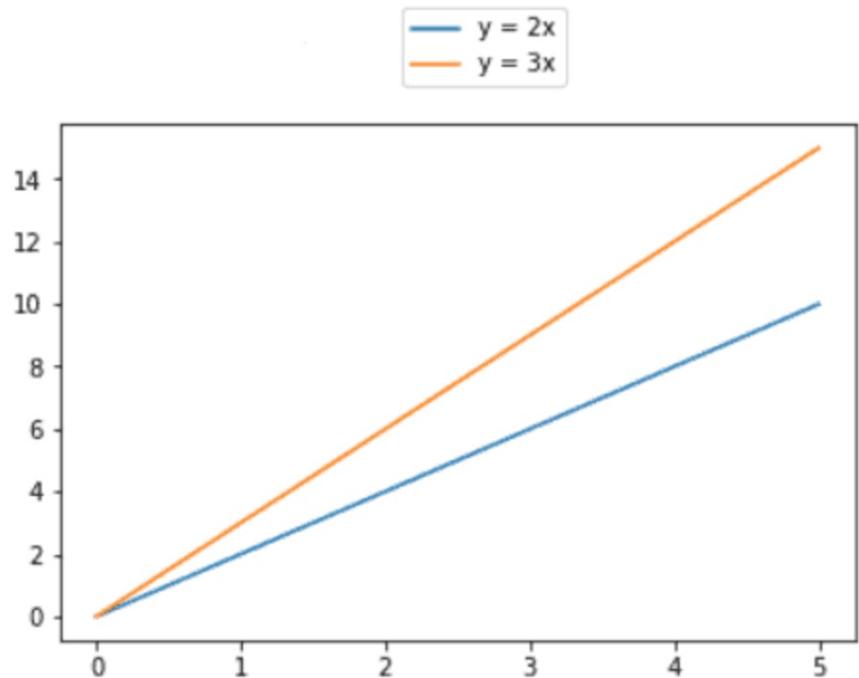
```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# 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))

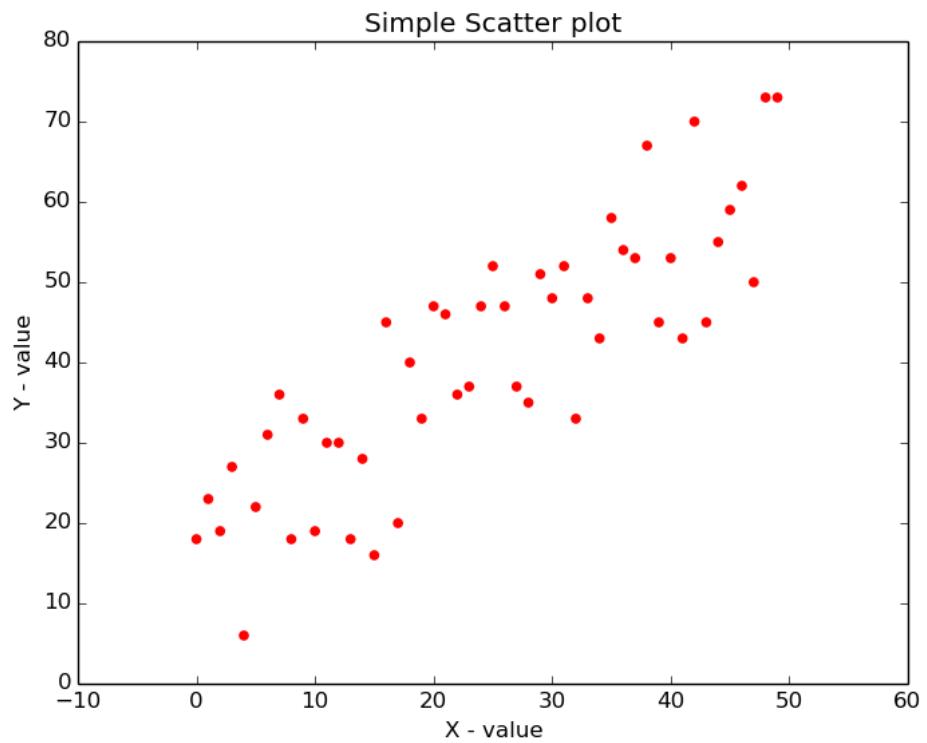
# Show plot
plt.show()
```



Modify this value

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