Applied Physics Lab -4

Importing

Python comes with lots of pre-made code baked in. These pieces of code are known as modules and packages. A module is a single importable Python file whereas a package is made up of two or more modules. A package can be imported the same way a module is. Whenever you save a Python script of your own, you have created a module. It may not be a very useful module, but that's what it is.

Import this

Python provides the **import** keyword for importing modules.

```
In [95]: import this
            The Zen of Python, by Tim Peters
            Beautiful is better than ugly.
            Explicit is better than implicit.
            Simple is better than complex.
            Complex is better than complicated.
            Flat is better than nested.
            Sparse is better than dense.
            Readability counts.
            Special cases aren't special enough to break the rules.
            Although practicality beats purity.
            Errors should never pass silently.
            Unless explicitly silenced.
            In the face of ambiguity, refuse the temptation to guess.
            There should be one-- and preferably only one --obvious way to do it.
            Although that way may not be obvious at first unless you're Dutch.
            Now is better than never.
            Although never is often better than *right* now.
            If the implementation is hard to explain, it's a bad idea.
            If the implementation is easy to explain, it may be a good idea.
            Namespaces are one honking great idea -- let's do more of those!
```

This module doesn't actually do anything, but it provided a fun little way to show how to import something. Let's actually import something we can use, like the math module:

```
In [96]: import math
    math.sqrt(4)

Out[96]: 2.0

In [31]: import math
    x= 45
    math.sin(x), math.cos(x), math.tan(x)

Out[31]: (0.8509035245341184, 0.5253219888177297, 1.6197751905438615)

In [52]: math.e , math.log(x) , math.exp(x)

Out[52]: (2.718281828459045, 3.8066624897703196, 3.4934271057485095e+19)

In [56]: math.pow(3,2) , math.pow(x,2)

Out[56]: (9.0, 2025.0)

In [58]: math.sqrt(x) , math.sqrt(2** + 3**2)
Out[58]: (6.708203932499369, 22.627416997969522)
```

Using from to import

Some people don't like having to preface everything they type with the module name. Python has a solution for that! You can actually import just the functions you want from a module. Let's pretend that we want to just import the **sqrt** function:

```
In [97]: from math import sqrt
    sqrt(16)
Out[97]: 4.0
In [98]: from math import pi, sqrt
    pi
Out[98]: 3.141592653589793
```

Import everything

Python provides a way to import **all** the functions and values from a module as well. This is actually a **bad** idea as it can contaminate your **namespace**. A namespace is where all your variables live during the life of the program.

Functions

A function is a structure that you define. You get to decide if they have arguments or not. You can add keyword arguments and default arguments too. A function is a block of code that starts with the def keyword, a name for the function and a colon. Here's a simple example:

Passing Arguments to a Function

Now we're ready to learn about how to create a function that can accept arguments and also learn how to pass said arguments to the function. Let's create a simple function that can add two numbers together:

```
In [109]: def add(a, b):
    return a + b

In [110]: add(4,7)
Out[110]: 11
```

You can also call the function by passing the name of the arguments:

```
In [111]: add(a=3, b=2)
Out[111]: 5
In [113]: Total = add(a=4, b=8)
    Total
Out[113]: 12
```

```
In [13]: def force(m,a):
    f=m*a
    return f
force(5,2)

Out[13]: 10

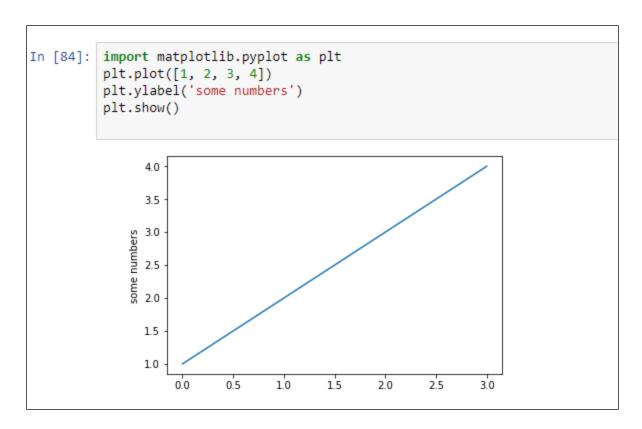
In [17]: import numpy as np
import math

def Magnitude(ax,ay):
    a = np.sqrt(ax**2 + ay**2)
    return a
    Magnitude(3, 3)
```

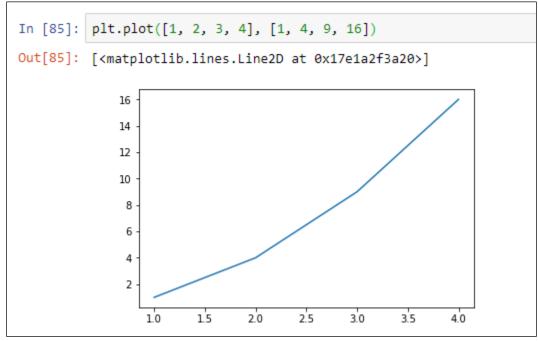
Plotting in Python using Matplotlib

Matplotlib is an excellent 2D and 3D graphics library for generating scientific figures based on NumPy. Some of the many advantages of this library include:

- Easy to get started
- Support for formatted labels and texts
- Great control of every element in a figure, including figure size and DPI.
- High-quality output in many formats, including PNG, PDF, SVG, EPS, and PGF.
- GUI for interactively exploring figures and support for headless generation of figure files (useful for batch jobs).

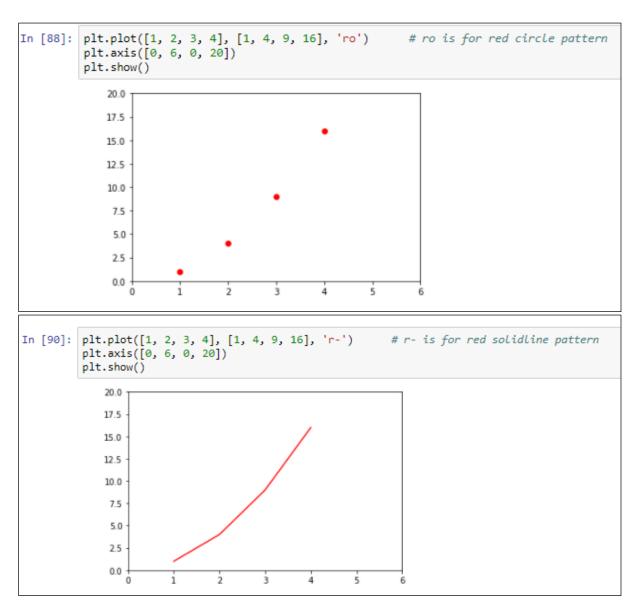


Plot is a versatile function, and will take an arbitrary number of arguments. For example, to plot x versus y, you can write:

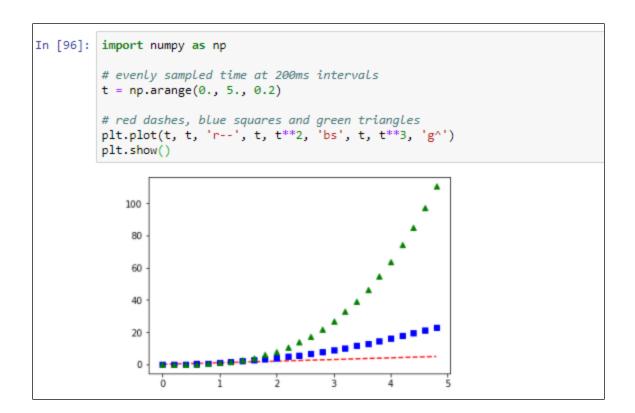


Formatting the style of your plot

For every x, y pair of arguments, there is an optional third argument which is the format string that indicates the color and line type of the plot. The letters and symbols of the format string are from MATLAB, and you concatenate a color string with a line style string. The default format string is 'b-', which is a solid blue line. For example, to plot the above with red circles, you would issue.

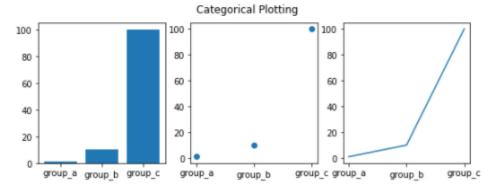


If matplotlib were limited to working with lists, it would be fairly useless for numeric processing. Generally, you will use numpy arrays. In fact, all sequences are converted to numpy arrays internally. The example below illustrates plotting several lines with different format styles in one function call using arrays.



Plotting with categorical variables

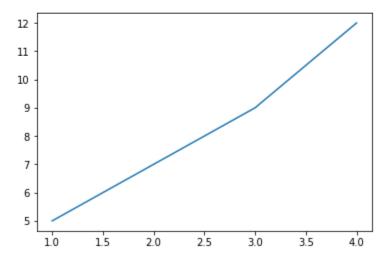
It is also possible to create a plot using categorical variables. Matplotlib allows you to pass categorical variables directly to many plotting functions. For example:



```
In [706]: import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

x = np.array([1,2,3,4])
y = np.array([5,7,9,12])

plt.plot(x,y)
plt.show()
```



Working with multiple figures and axes

Working with text

Text can be used to add text in an arbitrary location, and xlabel, ylabel and title are used to add text in the indicated locations.

```
In [131]: mu, sigma = 100, 15
    x = mu + sigma * np.random.randn(10000)

# the histogram of the data
    n, bins, patches = plt.hist(x, 50, density=1, facecolor='g', alpha=0.75)

plt.xlabel('Smarts')
    plt.ylabel('Probability')
    plt.title('Histogram of IQ')
    plt.text(60, .025, r'$\mu=100,\ \sigma=15$')
    plt.axis([40, 160, 0, 0.03])
    plt.grid(True)
    plt.show()
```

