

matplotlib-introduction

December 26, 2025

1 Introduction to Matplotlib

```
[ ]: import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
```

```
[ ]: plt.plot() # create a empty box
```

```
[ ]: plt.plot(); # -> semicolon for the array
```

```
[ ]: plt.plot()
plt.show() # -> same action like a semicolon
```

```
[ ]: plt.plot([1,2,3]);
```

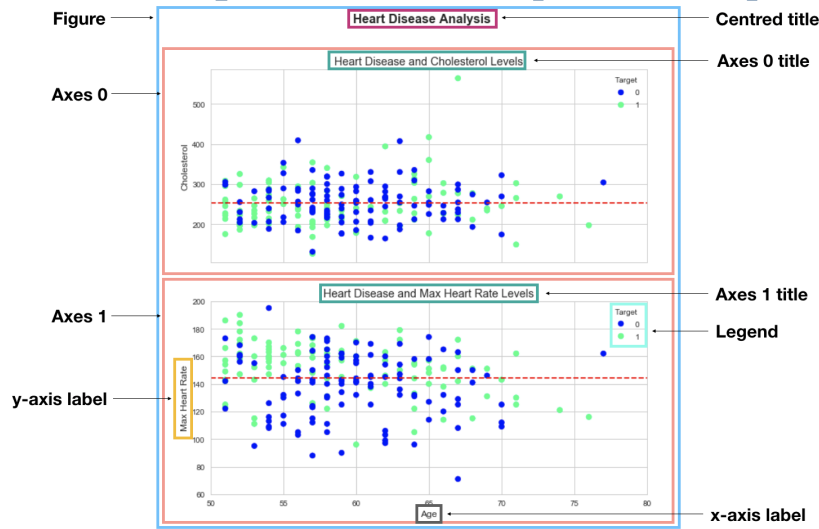
```
[ ]: x = [1,2,3,4]
y = [11,22,33,44]
plt.plot(x,y);
```

```
[ ]: # 1st method
fig = plt.figure(); # creates a figure
ax = fig.add_subplot() # adds some axes
plt.show();
```

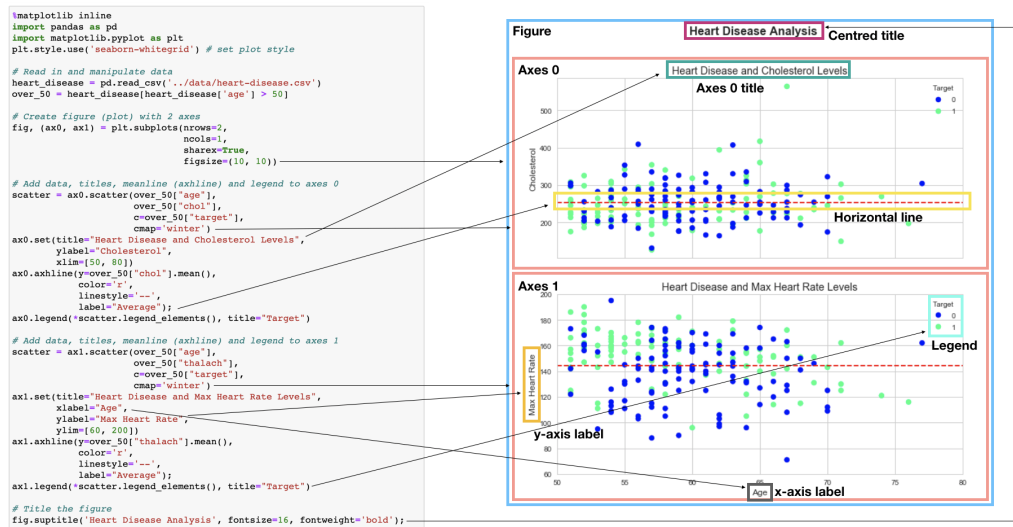
```
[ ]: #second method
fig = plt.figure()
ax = fig.add_axes([1,1,1,1])
ax.plot(x,y) # add some data
plt.show();
```

```
[ ]: # third method (recommended)
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.plot(x,y);
```

Anatomy of a Matplotlib plot



Anatomy of a Matplotlib plot



2 Matplotlib example Workflow

```

[ ]: # 0 import matplotlib
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# 1 prepare data
x=[1,2,3,4]
y=[11,22,33,44]

# 2 setup plot
    
```

```

fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize =(5,10)) # width and height

# 3 plot data
ax.plot(x,y)

# 4 Customize plot
ax.set(title="Simple Plot",
        xlabel="x-axis",
        ylabel="y-axis")

# 5 Save & show

fig.savefig("./export_plot.png")

```

3 Making figures with NumPy arrays

We want: * Line Plot * Scatter Plot * Bar Plot * Histogram * Subplots

```

[ ]: #Create some data
x = np.linspace(0,10,100) #Return evenly spaced numbers over a specified
    ↪ interval.
x

```

```

[ ]: #plot the data
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.plot(x,x**2); # default line plot

```

```

[ ]: # use the same data for a scatter plot

fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.scatter(x, np.exp(x));

```

```

[ ]: # Another scatter
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.scatter(x, np.sin(x));

```

```

[ ]: # Make a plot from dictionary
nut_butter_prices = {"almond butter":10,
                    "Peanut butter": 20,
                    "Cashew butter":22}

fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.bar(nut_butter_prices.keys(),nut_butter_prices.values()); # Bar diagram
ax.set(title="Romik's Butter Store",
        ylabel="Price €",
        xlabel="Name");

```

```
[ ]: fig, ax = plt.subplots()
      ax.barh(nut_butter_prices.keys(),nut_butter_prices.values()); #horizontal bar
```

```
[ ]: # Histogram
      x = np.random.randn(1000)
      fig, ax = plt.subplots();
      ax.hist(x);
```

4 two options for subplots

```
[ ]: #option 1
      fig, ((ax1,ax2),(ax3,ax4)) = plt.subplots(nrows=2,
                                                  ncols=2,
                                                  figsize=(10,5))

      ax1.plot(x,x/2)
      ax2.scatter(np.random.random(10),np.random.random(10))
      ax3.bar(nut_butter_prices.keys(),nut_butter_prices.values());
      ax4.hist(x);
```

```
[ ]: # option 2
      fig, ax = plt.subplots(nrows=2, ncols=2, figsize=(10,5))

      # Plot to each different index
      ax [0,0].plot(x,x/2)
      ax[0,1].scatter(x,x/2)
      ax[1,0].bar(x,x/2)
      ax[1,1].hist(x)
```

5 Plotting from DataFrame Pandas

```
[ ]: import pandas as pd
```

```
[ ]: # make a df
      car_sales = pd.read_csv("./car-sales.csv")
      car_sales
```

```
[ ]: ts = pd.Series (np.random.randn(1000), index = pd.date_range("1/1/2026",
      ↪periods=1000))
      ts
```

```
[ ]: ts = ts.cumsum() # sum all values
      ts.plot()
```

```
[ ]: car_sales
```

```
[ ]: car_sales["Price"] = car_sales["Price"].str.replace('[\$,\\.]', '', regex = True).
    ↳ astype(int) / 100

[ ]: car_sales

[ ]: car_sales["Sale Date"] = pd.date_range("1/1/2026", periods = len(car_sales))
    car_sales

[ ]: car_sales["Total Sales"] = car_sales["Price"].cumsum()

[ ]: car_sales

[ ]: # Let's plot the total sales
    car_sales.plot(x = "Sale Date", y = "Total Sales");

[ ]: car_sales.plot(x = "Odometer (KM)", y = "Price", kind = "scatter")

[ ]: # How about a bar graph?
    x = np.random.rand(10,4)
    x

    # turn into a df
    df = pd.DataFrame(x, columns = ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd'])
    df

[ ]: df.plot.bar()

[ ]: df.plot(kind = "bar");

[ ]: car_sales

[ ]: car_sales.plot(x="Make", y = "Odometer (KM)", kind = "bar");

[ ]: car_sales.groupby("Make")["Odometer (KM)"].mean().plot(kind="bar", figsize=(10,
    ↳ 5))

[ ]: # How about histograms?
    car_sales["Odometer (KM)"].plot.hist();

[ ]: car_sales["Odometer (KM)"].plot(kind = "hist")

[ ]: car_sales["Odometer (KM)"].plot.hist(bins = 20)

[ ]: # lets try on a another dataset
    heart_disease = pd.read_csv("heart-disease.csv")
    heart_disease[:10]
```

```
[ ]: # Create a histogram of age
heart_disease["age"].plot.hist(bins = 50)

[ ]: heart_disease.head()

[ ]: heart_disease.plot.hist(figsize=(10,50),subplots = True);
```

5.0.1 Which one you should use (pyplot or OO method)

- when plotting something quickly, okay to use the pyplot method
- when plotting something more advanced, use the OO method

```
[ ]: heart_disease[:10]

[ ]: over_50 = heart_disease[heart_disease["age"] > 50]
over_50
```

```
[ ]: len(over_50)
```

```
[ ]: #pyplot method
over_50.plot(kind = "scatter",
             x = "age",
             y= "chol",
             c = "target")
```

```
[ ]: #oo method mixed with pyplot method
fig, ax = plt.subplots (figsize=(10,6))
over_50.plot(kind = "scatter",
             x = "age",
             y= "chol",
             c = "target",
             ax=ax);
ax.set_xlim([45,100])
```

```
[ ]: # OO method from scratch
fig, ax = plt.subplots (figsize=(10,6))

# Plot the Data
scatter = ax.scatter ( x = over_50["age"],
                      y = over_50["chol"],
                      c = over_50["target"]);

# Customize
ax.set(title = "Heart Disease and Cholestrol Levels",
      xlabel = "Age",
      ylabel = "Cholesterol");

# add a legend
```

```
ax.legend(*scatter.legend_elements(), title = "Target");
```

```
#Add a h-line
```

```
ax.axhline(over_50["chol"].mean(),  
           linestyle = "--");
```

```
[ ]: over_50.head()
```

```
[ ]: # subplot of chol ,age, thalach
```

```
fig , (ax0,ax1) = plt.subplots (ncols=1,  
                                nrows =2,  
                                figsize = (10,10))
```

```
# Add data to ax0
```

```
scatter = ax0.scatter( x = over_50["age"],  
                       y = over_50["chol"],  
                       , c = over_50["target"],  
                       cmap ="winter") ## changes the colour scheme
```

```
# Customize
```

```
ax0.set(title = "Heart Disease and Cholestrol Levels",  
        xlabel ="Age",  
        ylabel = "Cholesterol");
```

```
# add a legend
```

```
ax0.legend(*scatter.legend_elements(), title = "Target");
```

```
#Add a h-line
```

```
ax0.axhline(over_50["chol"].mean(),  
           linestyle = "--");
```

```
# Add data to ax1
```

```
scatter = ax1.scatter( x = over_50["age"],  
                       y = over_50["thalach"],  
                       , c = over_50["target"],  
                       cmap ="winter")
```

```
# Customize
```

```
ax1.set(title = "Heart Disease and Max Heart Rate",  
        xlabel ="Age",  
        ylabel = "Max Heart Rate");
```

```
ax1.legend(*scatter.legend_elements(),title ="Target")
```

```
#Add a h-line
```

```
ax1.axhline(over_50["thalach"].mean(),  
           linestyle = "--");
```

```
# add a title to the figure
fig.suptitle("Heart Disease Analysis", fontsize = 16, fontweight = "bold")
```

5.1 Customizing Matplotlib

```
[ ]: # different styles
plt.style.available
```

```
[ ]: car_sales["Price"].plot();
```

```
[ ]: plt.style.use("seaborn-v0_8-whitegrid")
```

```
[ ]: car_sales["Price"].plot();
```

```
[ ]: plt.style.use("seaborn-v0_8")
```

```
[ ]: car_sales["Price"].plot();
```

```
[ ]: # Create some data
x = np.random.randn(10,4)
```

```
[ ]: df = pd.DataFrame(x, columns=["a","b","c","d"])
df
```

```
[ ]: ax = df.plot(kind = "bar")
ax
```

```
[ ]: # Customize our plot with the set method

ax = df.plot(kind = "bar")
# Add some labels and title
ax.set(title="Random Number Bar Graph from DataFrame",
        xlabel = "Row Number",
        ylabel = "Random Number")
# Make the legend visible
ax.legend().set_visible(True)
```

```
[ ]: # subplot of chol ,age, thalach
fig , (ax0,ax1) = plt.subplots (ncols=1,
                                nrows =2,
                                figsize = (10,10))

# Add data to ax0
scatter = ax0.scatter( x = over_50["age"],
                       y = over_50["chol"]
                       , c = over_50["target"],
                       cmap ="winter") ## changes the colour scheme
```



```

# Customize
ax0.set(title = "Heart Disease and Cholestrol Levels",
        xlabel = "Age",
        ylabel = "Cholesterol");

# add a legend
ax0.legend(*scatter.legend_elements(), title = "Target");

#Add a h-line
ax0.axhline(over_50["chol"].mean(),
            linestyle = "--");

# Add data to ax1

scatter = ax1.scatter( x = over_50["age"],
                      y = over_50["thalach"]
                      , c = over_50["target"],
                      cmap = "winter")

# Customize
ax1.set(title = "Heart Disease and Max Heart Rate",
        xlabel = "Age",
        ylabel = "Max Heart Rate");

ax1.legend(*scatter.legend_elements(), title = "Target")

#Add a h-line
ax1.axhline(over_50["thalach"].mean(),
            linestyle = "--");

# add a title to the figure
fig.suptitle("Heart Disease Analysis", fontsize = 16, fontweight = "bold");

```

```

[ ]: # Saving and sharing your Plot
fig.savefig("heart-disease-analysis-plot-saved-with-code.png")

```

```

[ ]:

```