Matplotlib Styles: FiveThirtyEight Case Study: Takeaways

Syntax

- Using a specific Matplotlib style:

```
import matplotlib.style as style
style.use('fivethirtyeight')
plt.plot([1, 2, 3], [5, 2, 7])
plt.show()
```

- Checking Matplotlib's styles:

```
print(style.available)
```

- Moving the x-coordinate of the left sides of the bars by using the left parameter:

```
ax.barh(left)
```

- Adding a signature bar with name and data source:

```
ax.text(x, y, 'Creator' + ' ' * 90 + 'Source',
        color,
        backgroundcolor)
```

Concepts

- Matplotlib's pre-defined styles change the default visual properties of graphs.
- We must call the `style.use()` function before we create the graph.
- Once we use a certain style, all subsequent graphs will inherit that style.
- To return to the default settings, use `style.use('default')`.
- If you want to switch between different styles, use style.use('default') between each change — some of the styles can interfere with one another.

Resources

- [Blog Post: FiveThirtyEight Graphs Tutorial](#)