

# Matplotlib

Deliverable 5: Feature Implementation

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# Feature 8283: Custom Ordering of Legend

## Section of Code Modified

- Class Artist (matplotlib/lib/matplotlib/artist.py)
  - Line 110
  - Line 915-933
  - Line 985
- Class Container (matplotlib/lib/matplotlib/container.py)
  - Line 21
  - Line 31
  - Line 70-87
- Class Axes (matplotlib/lib/matplotlib/axes/\_axes.py)
  - Line 259-266
  - Line 276

## Feature Documentation

### User Guide

Custom ordering of legend entries using `lorder` parameter in `plot()` method

**Legend label:** The text which describes the handle represented by the key.

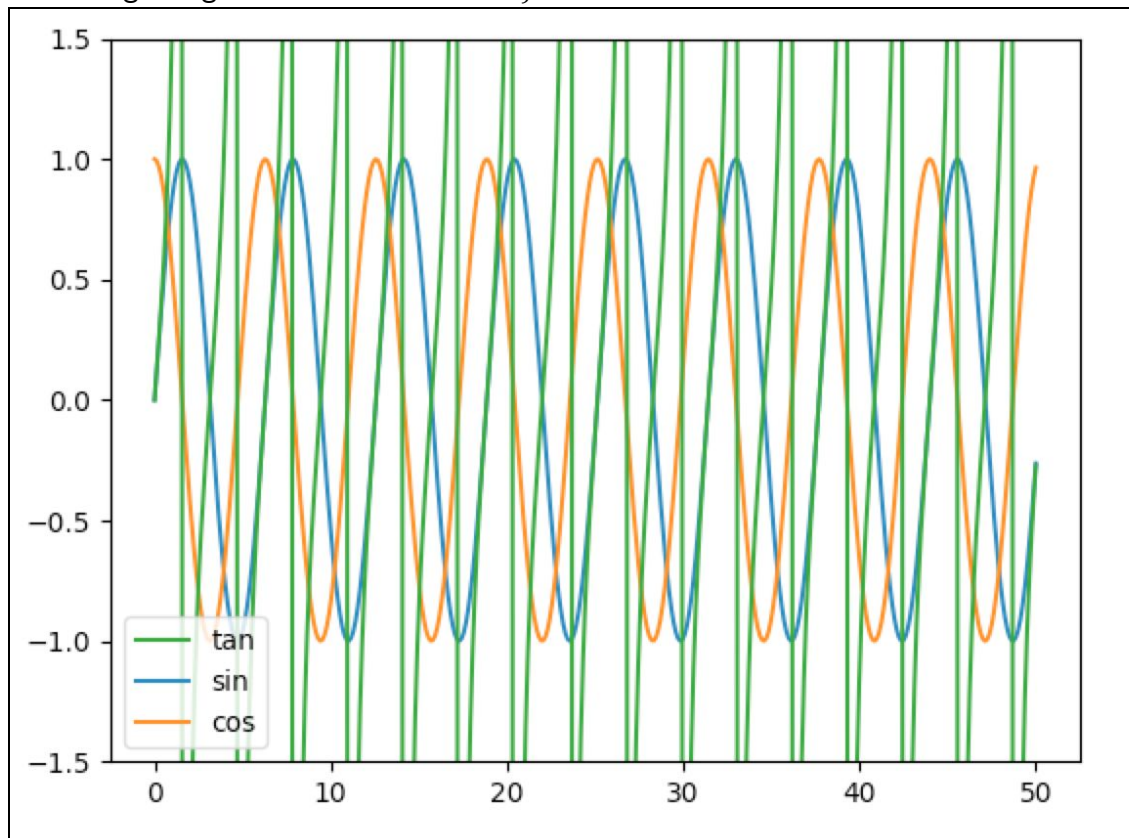
**Legend lorder:** A positive integer that is assigned as ordering priority to the legend entries

When plotting without using the `lorder` parameter the ordering of the legend entries will be random. However, by using `lorder` legend entries can be ordered manually. To do so assign the priority when initiating the figure as show in the example below.

```
x = np.linspace (0,50,400)
y1 = np.sin(x)
y2 = np.cos(x)
y3 = np.tan(x)

pyplot.plot(x, y1, lorder=2, label="sin")
pyplot.plot(x, y2, lorder=3, label="cos")
pyplot.plot(x, y3, lorder=1, label="tan")
pyplot.legend()
pyplot.ylim(-1.5, 1.5)
pyplot.show()
```

The resulting image has **tan** as first entry followed as **sin** and then **cos**.



The value of the **lorder** are relative therefore it can be assign any positive integer. For instance the below code will produce as result.

```
pyplot.plot(x, y1, lorder=200, label="sin")
pyplot.plot(x, y2, lorder=59999, label="cos")
pyplot.plot(x, y3, lorder=1, label="tan")
```

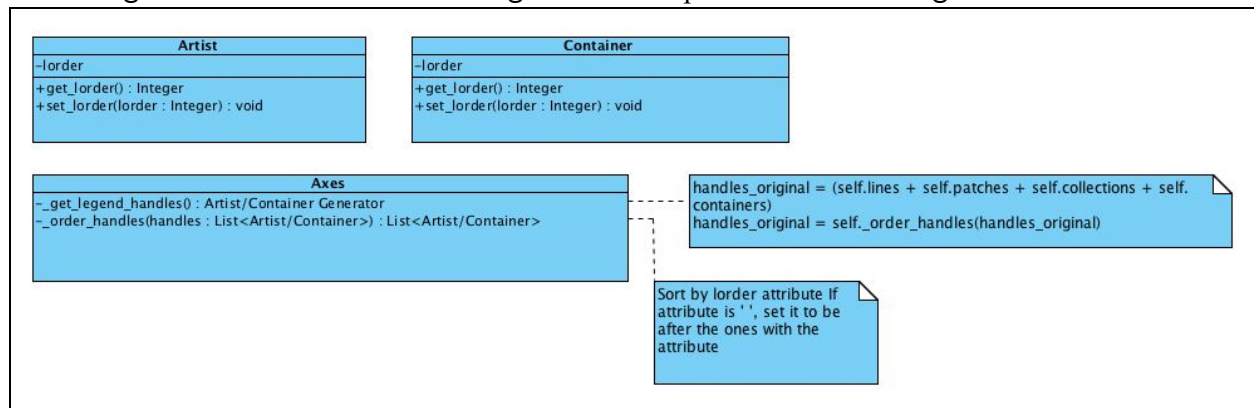
## Design Documentation

To implement Feature 8283, we have added an additional attribute **lorder** in both the Artist class (located in `artist.py`) and the Container class (located in `container.py`). This attribute is an Integer that represent the order of an Artist/Container object in the legend. In the Axes class (located in `_axes.py`), we have added a function `_order_handles(List <Artist/Container> handles)` that sorts a list of Artist/Container and then returns the list. We have modified function `_get_legend_handles()` to call `_order_handles` that sorts `handles_original` (a List <Artist/Container>) according to the value of **lorder** in each element. If the value of **lorder** in every element of `handles_original` is `'`, then `_order_handles` does not make any changes to `handles_original`.

With our feature implemented into the Matplotlib code base, users still have the option to create Artist/Container objects and to order entries in the legend the same way they did before. In other words, our feature would not break any previously written code. For the creation of an Artist/Container object, the user now have the choice to input a value for the `lorder` attribute. The modification we have made in function `_get_legend_handles` will modify the default entry order by sorting them according to the `lorder` attribute.

## UML Diagram

The diagram below is the UML diagram that represents our design.



## Changes from Deliverable 4

In Deliverable 5, our team have generally followed the design of this feature in Deliverable 4. However there are two minor changes. Originally, we default value for attribute `lorder` was `None`. In Deliverable 5, we change changed `None` to the empty string `''`. Another minor change we made is in the method `_get_legend_handles()`, originally, we planned to add the line:

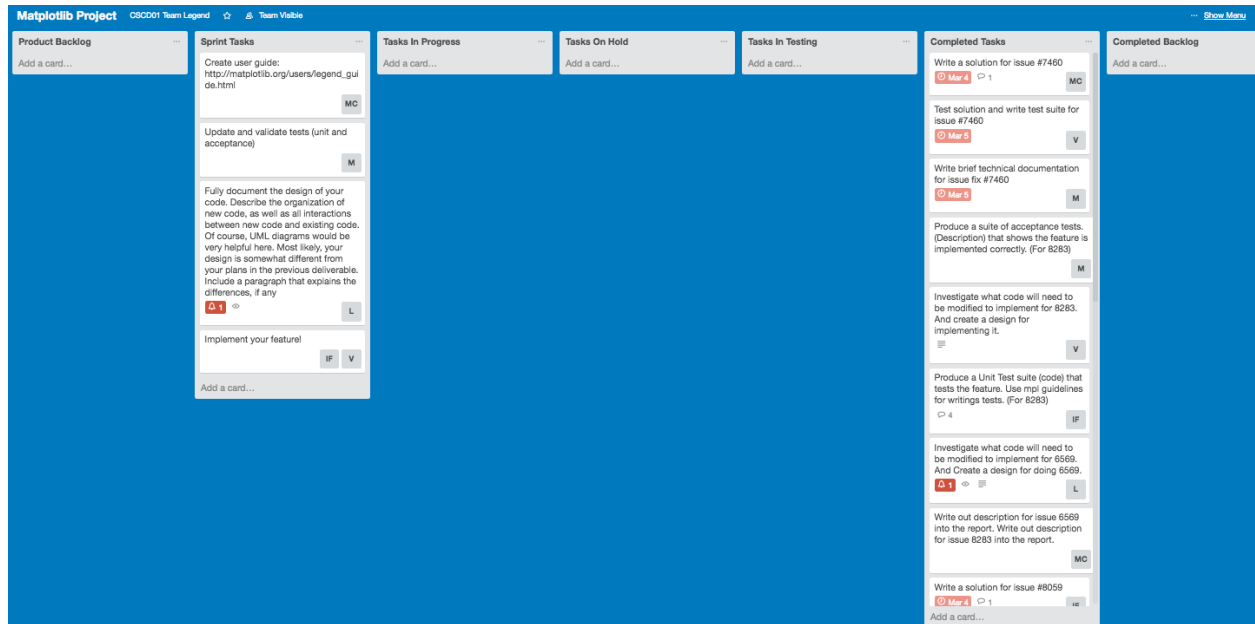
- `handles_origina l= _order_handles(handles_original)`

In Deliverable 5, this line was changed to

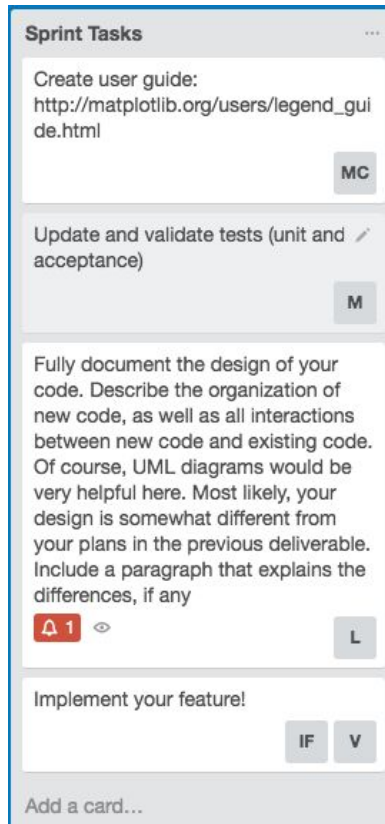
- `handles_origina l= self._order_handles(handles_original)`

## Development Process – Screenshots of Taskboard

The diagram below is the screenshot of our Trello Taskboard at the beginning of this sprint



Detailed diagram for Sprint Tasks:



The diagram below is the screenshot of our Trello Taskboard at the end of this sprint.

