

Data Visualization

Turning Data into Insights

matpl tlib

Dated: 30 July 2025

Instructor: Fawad Bahadur



Introduction to Data

What is Data?

Data is raw facts and figures collected for analysis and decision-making.

Types of Data:

1. Structured Data

Organized in rows and columns

Example: Excel sheets, SQL databases













2. Unstructured Data

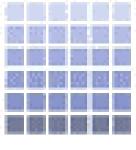
No predefined format

Example: Images, videos, emails, social media posts

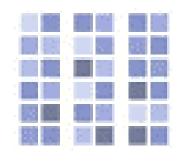


Partially organized

Example: JSON, XML files



Structured Data



Semi-Structured Data



Unstructured Data

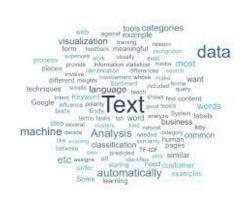


Instructor: Fawad Bahadur



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Common Data Format	Example		
Text	Tweets, Documents		
Numerical	Sales Figures, Temperature		
Catagorical	Candan Cauntmy		
Categorical	Gender, Country		
Time Series	Stock Prices over time		
Multimedia	Photo, Audio Recordings		

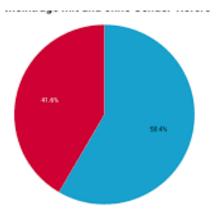
















Where Does Data Come From?

1. Internal Sources

- Company databases
- Transaction records
- CRM systems
- Employee feedback



3. Sensors and IoT Devices

- Smart devices
- Wearables
- Environmental sensors



2. External Sources

- Social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter)
- Public datasets (government, research organizations)
- Web scraping
- Third-party data providers



4. Surveys and Questionnaires

- Customer feedback
- Market research

5. Multimedia Sources

- Images, videos, audio recordings
- Satellite imagery







Why is Data Important?

1. Informed Decision-Making

- Supports business, healthcare, education & policy decisions
- Enables data
- Driven strategies

2. Improved Efficiency

- Identifies patterns to optimize processes
- Reduces cost & time through automation

3. Personalization

- Powers recommendation systems (e.g., Netflix, Amazon)
- Enhances user experience

4. Innovation & Growth

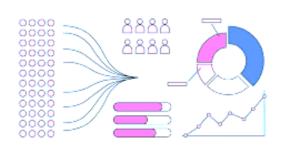
- Drives AI, machine learning, and product development
- Enables predictive analytics

5. Competitive Advantage

- Companies leveraging data outperform competitors
- Helps in trend prediction and market insights



Data Visualization and Its Importance



What is Data Visualization?

The graphical representation of information a data using charts, graphs, maps, and dashboard



Data Visualization Important













Common Data Visualization Tools

1. Matplotlib (Python)

- Basic plotting library
- Highly customizable
- Great for line, bar, scatter plots

2. Seaborn (Python)

- Built on top of Matplotlib
- Beautiful statistical plots
- Works well with pandas DataFrames



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matpl tlib

3. Plotly (Python/JS)

- Interactive and web-ready plots
- 3D, animated and dashboard capabilities

4. Tableau



- Ideal for business dashboards and reports

5. Power BI

- Microsoft's BI platform

Integrates well with Excel and Azure

6. Excel

- Basic visualizations for quick analysis
- Widely used in business settings









Types of Data Visualizations

1. Bar Chart

Compare values across categories **Example:** Sales by region

2. Line Chart

Show trends over time

Example: Monthly temperature

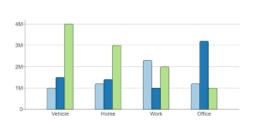
3. Pie Chart

Show parts of a whole

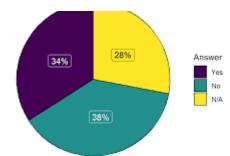
Example: Market share by company

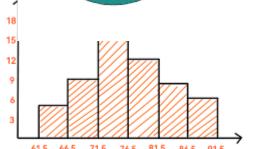
4. Histogram

Distribution of numeric data **Example:** Exam score frequency









5. Scatter Plot

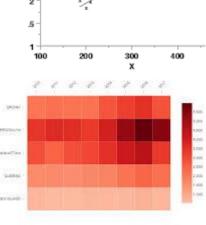
Show relationships between two variables ⁵

Example: Height vs. weight

6. Heatmap

Visualize correlations or intensity

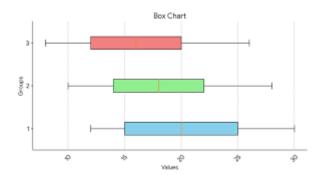
Example: Correlation matrix



7. Box Plot

Summary of distribution (median, quartiles, outliers)

Example: Salary distribution





Introduction to Matplotlib

What is Matplotlib?

Matplotlib is a popular Python library used for creating static, animated, and interactive visualizations.



Installation

pip install matplotlib conda install matplotlib

Key Features:

- 2D plotting library
- Supports line, bar, scatter, pie, histogram, and more
- Highly customizable (colors, labels, styles)
- Works well with NumPy and pandas

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Example

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

$$x = [1, 2, 3, 4]$$

 $y = [10, 20, 25, 30]$

Use Cases:

- Data exploration and reporting
- Visual summaries in machine learning
- Creating dashboards and reports





plt.plot(x, y)

plt.title("Simple Line Plot")

plt.xlabel("X-axis")

plt.ylabel("Y-axis")

plt.show()



Creating a Simple Line Plot

Key Elements of a Plot

- plt.plot() Draws the line graph
- plt.title() Adds a title
- plt.xlabel() / plt.ylabel() Labels axes
- plt.show() Displays the plot

Code

Python

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

$$x = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]$$

$$y = [10, 20, 15, 25, 30]$$

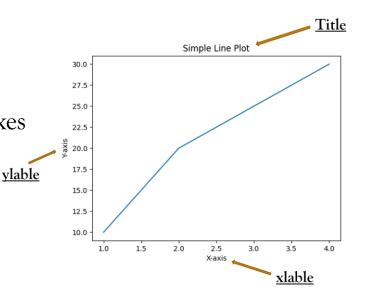
plt.plot(x, y)

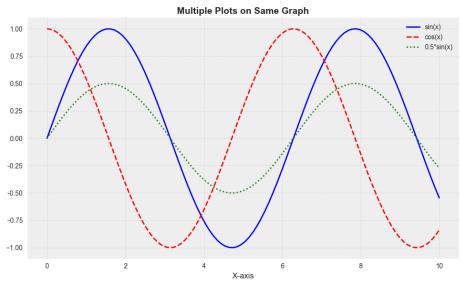
plt.title("Basic Line Plot")

plt.xlabel("X-axis")

plt.ylabel("Y-axis")

plt.show()





Tip

Matplotlib also supports multiple plots on the same graph using plt.plot() multiple times before plt.show().



Customizing Plots in Matplotlib

1. Changing Colors, Line Styles & Markers

Python

plt.plot(x, y, color='green', linestyle='--', marker='o')

- color = 'red', 'blue', 'green', etc.
- linestyle = '-', '--', '-.', ':'
- marker = 'o' (circle), 's' (square), '*' (star), etc.

Code

plt.plot(x, y, color='purple', linestyle='-.', marker='s')
plt.title("Customized Line Plot")

plt.xlabel("Time")

plt.ylabel("Value")

plt.grid(True)

plt.legend(["Trend"])

plt.show()

2. Adding Grid & Legend

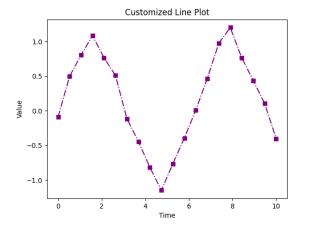
Python

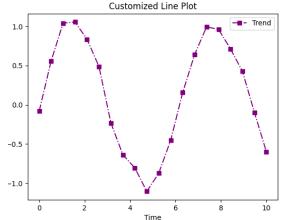
plt.grid(True)
plt.legend(["Sales"])

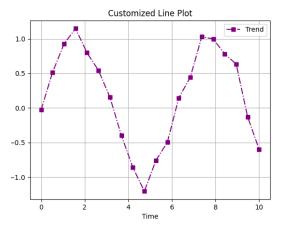
3. Adjusting Figure Size

Python

plt.figure(figsize=(8, 5))









Creating Bar Charts in Matplotlib

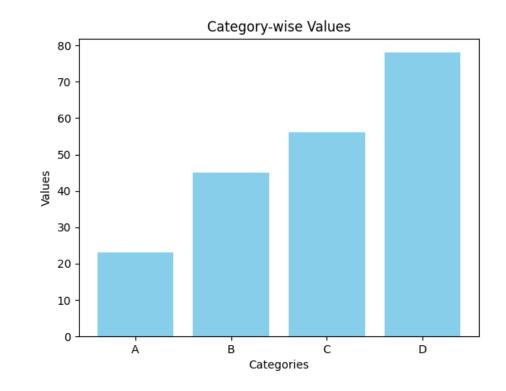
1. Vertical Bar Chart

Python import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

plt.bar(categories, values, color='skyblue')
plt.title("Category-wise Values")
plt.xlabel("Categories")

plt.ylabel("Values")

plt.show()



Use Case

Compare quantities across discrete categories (e.g., sales per product)



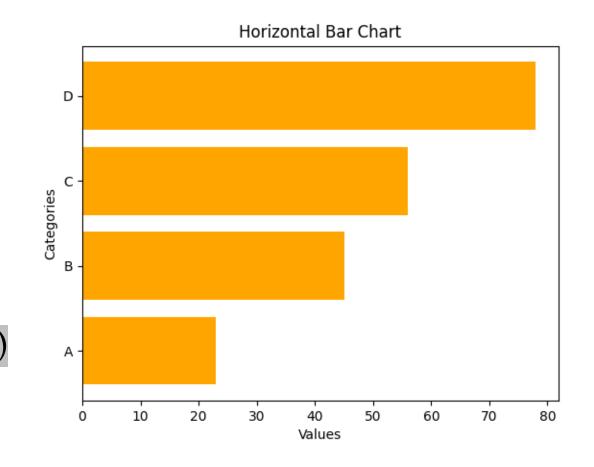
Contin...

2. Horizontal Bar Chart

Python

plt.show()

plt.barh(categories, values, color='orange')
plt.title("Horizontal Bar Chart")
plt.xlabel("Values")
plt.ylabel("Categories")

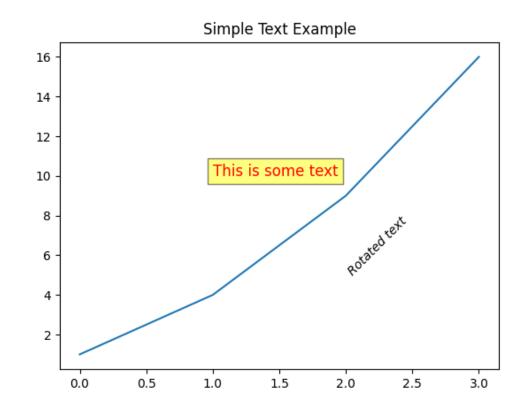




Creating Bar Charts in Matplotlib

3. Customization Options

Change bar color, width, and alignment Add value labels using plt.text()



Use Case

Compare quantities across discrete categories (e.g., sales per product)



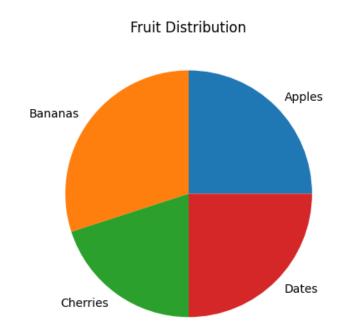
Creating Pie Charts in Matplotlib

1. Basic Pie Chart

Python

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

plt.pie(sizes, labels=labels)
plt.title("Fruit Distribution")
plt.show()



Use Cases

Represent part-to-whole relationships (percentages, shares)



Creating Pie Charts in Matplotlib

2. Adding Customization

```
Python
```

```
plt.pie(
```

sizes,

labels=labels,

autopct='%1.1f%%', # Show percentages

startangle=90, # Start from top

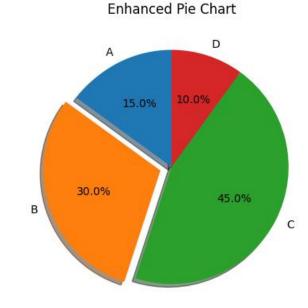
explode=[0, 0.1, 0, 0], # Emphasize one slice

shadow=True)

plt.title("Enhanced Pie Chart")

plt.show()

Use Cases



Represent part-to-whole relationships (percentages, shares)



Creating Histograms in Matplotlib

1. 1. What is a Histogram?

A histogram shows the distribution of a numeric variable by grouping data into bins.

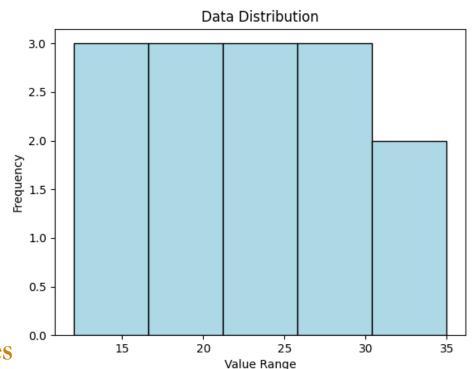
2. Basic Histogram

Python import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

```
data = [12, 15, 13, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28, 30, 32, 35] plt.hist(data, bins=5, color='skyblue', edgecolor='black') plt.title("Data Distribution") plt.xlabel("Value Range") plt.ylabel("Frequency") plt.show()
```

3. Customization Options

- bins: Number of intervals
- color & edgecolor: Visual styling
- Add grid, mean lines, etc. for clarity



Use Cases

Understand data spread, detect skewness, spot outliers



Creating Scatter Plots in Matplotlib

1. What is a Scatter Plot?

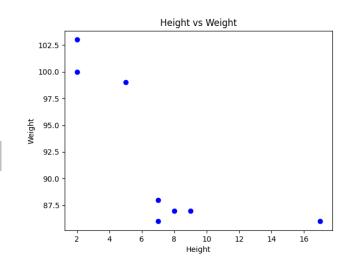
A scatter plot displays values for two variables as points on a 2D plane. It shows relationships, patterns, or correlations.

2. Basic Scatter Plot

Python

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

x = [5, 7, 8, 7, 2, 17, 2, 9] y = [99, 86, 87, 88, 100, 86, 103, 87] plt.scatter(x, y, color='blue') plt.title("Height vs Weight") plt.xlabel("Height") plt.ylabel("Weight") plt.show()

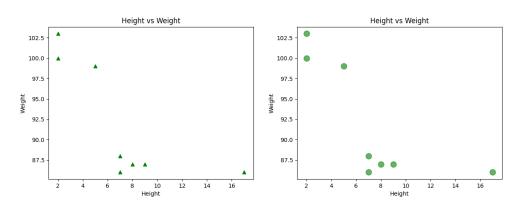


3. Customization Options

- color: e.g., 'red', 'green'
- marker: e.g., 'o', '^', 's'
- **size:** using s= parameter for point sizes
- alpha: for transparency

Python

plt.scatter(x, y, color='green', s=100, alpha=0.6)



Use Cases

Visualizing relationships between variables (e.g., age vs income)



Creating Subplots in Matplotlib

1. What are Subplots?

Subplots allow multiple plots to be displayed in a single figure.

2. Using plt.subplot()

Python

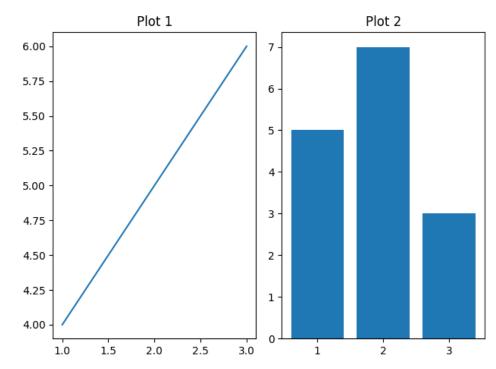
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
plt.subplot(1, 2, 1) # 1 row, 2 columns, 1st plot
plt.plot([1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6])
plt.title("Plot 1")
plt.subplot(1, 2, 2) # 2nd plot
plt.bar([1, 2, 3], [5, 7, 3])
plt.title("Plot 2")
plt.tight_layout() # Adjust spacing
plt.show()

Compare mu
```

3. Grid Structure

- plt.subplot(rows, columns, index)
- Index starts at 1



Use Cases

Compare multiple visualizations side by side



Plot Styling & Themes in Matplotlib

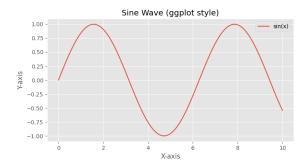
1. Built-in Styles

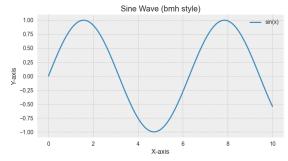
Apply a pre-defined style to your plots:

Python plt.style.use('ggplot')

Popular styles:-

- 'ggplot'
- 'seaborn'
- 'bmh'
- 'dark_background'
- 'fivethirtyeight'





2. Customize Fonts & Sizes

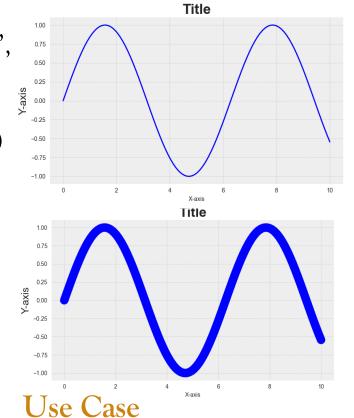
Python

- plt.title("Title", fontsize=14, fontweight='bold')
- plt.xlabel("X-axis", fontsize=12)
- plt.ylabel("Y-axis", fontsize=12)

3. Line and Marker Customization

Python plt.plot(x,

color='purple', linewidth=2, marker='o', markersize=8)



Enhance readability, match publication or brand styles.



Saving Plots to Files in Matplotlib-

1. Save a Plot as an Image File

Python

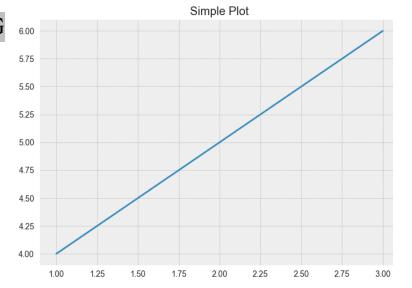
plt.plot([1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6])

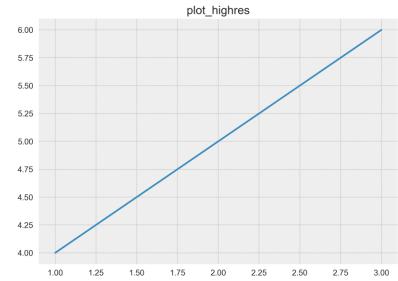
plt.title("Simple Plot")

plt.savefig("plot.png") # Save as PNG

2. Supported File Formats

- .png Most common
- .jpg, .jpeg Compressed image
- .pdf For high-quality printing
- svg Scalable vector graphics





3. Set Resolution (DPI)

Python

plt.savefig("plot_highres.png", dpi=300)

4. Save Without Displaying

- Call plt.savefig() before plt.show()
- Once plt.show() is used, the plot is cleared

Use Case

Include plots in reports, articles, or websites



Matplotlib Chart Comparison

Plot Type	Function	Use Case	Example Function
Line Plot	plot()	Trends over continuous data (e.g., time series)	plt.plot(x, y)
Scatter Plot	scatter()	Relationship between two variables	plt.scatter(x, y)
Bar Chart	bar()	Compare categories using rectangular bars	plt.bar(categories, values)
Pie Chart	pie()	Show proportion of categories as slices of a pie	plt.pie(sizes, labels=)
Histogram	hist()	Frequency distribution of continuous data	plt.hist(data, bins=)

