Subplots

INTRODUCTION TO DATA VISUALIZATION WITH PLOTLY IN PYTHON



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What are subplots?

- Subplots: 'mini-plots' positioned in a grid arrangement
- Display different plot types (same data) or different data subsets
- Many are possible but more will make each plot smaller!

For example:

Wily Flots	
Subplot 1	Subplot 2
Subplot 3	Subplot 4

My Plots

A reminder of traces

Remember discussing 'traces' earlier?

- Each set of data + graph type is a trace.
- You can build a plot by using fig.add_trace(X) where X is a graph_objects object (such as go.Scatter() or go.Bar())
 - So far we haven't needed to do this.

To add data to each subplot, we will use .add_trace().



graph_objects (go) vs plotly.express (px)

```
graph_objects and plotly.express often similar but have slight differences:
```

add_trace() takes px plots but the code is complex and not best-practice so we will use

Check equivalent documentation for more help (px histogram vs go histogram)

```
# With graph_objects
go.Histogram(x=revenues['Revenue'],
    nbinsx=5, name='Histogram')

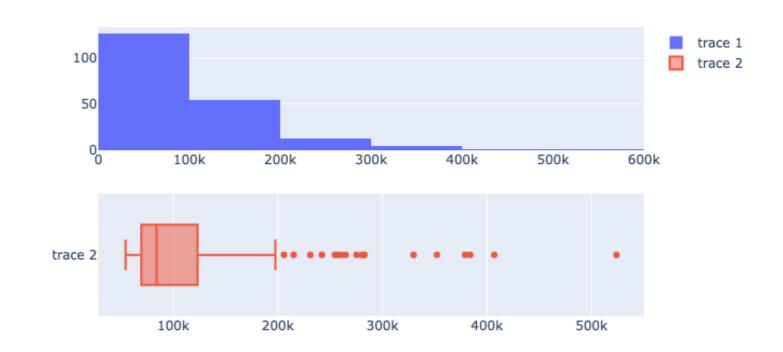
# With plotly.express
px.histogram(data_frame=revenues,
    x='Revenue', nbins=5,
    title='Histogram')
```

Creating a 1x2 subplot

Let's build a 1x2 subplot (histogram + box plot) from the revenues DataFrame:

```
from plotly.subplots import make_subplots
fig = make_subplots(rows=2, cols=1)
fig.add_trace(
  go.Histogram(x=revenues['Revenue'], nbinsx=5),
  row=1, col=1)
fig.add_trace(
  go.Box(x=revenues['Revenue'],
  hovertext=revenues['Company']),
  row=2, col=1)
fig.show()
```

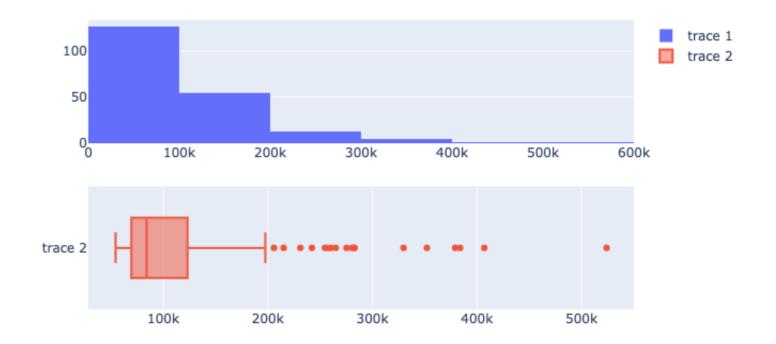
Our plots:



Customizing subplots

Some stylistic elements that need attention:

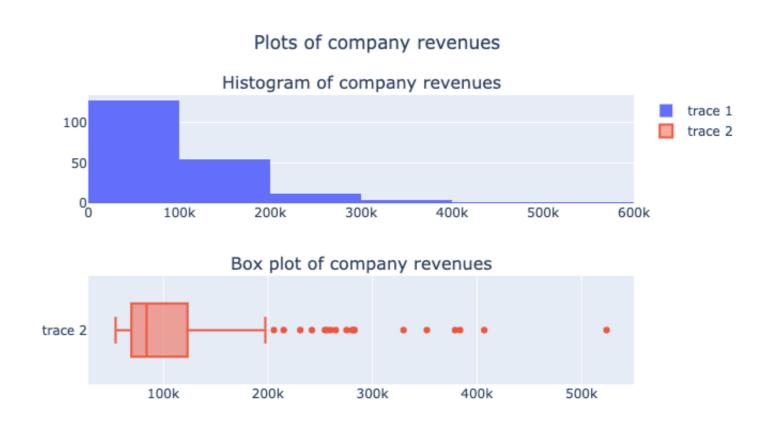
- 1. No overall plot title
- 2. No subplot titles
- 3. The legend says 'trace 1'/ 'trace 2'
- 4. Other customization skills!



Subplot titles

Let's fix the titles:

```
from plotly.subplots import make_subplots
fig = make_subplots(rows=2, cols=1,
    subplot_titles=[
    'Histogram of company revenues',
    'Box plot of company revenues'])
## Add in traces (fig.add_trace())
fig.update_layout({'title': {'text':
    'Plots of company revenues',
    'x': 0.5, 'y': 0.9}})
fig.show()
```

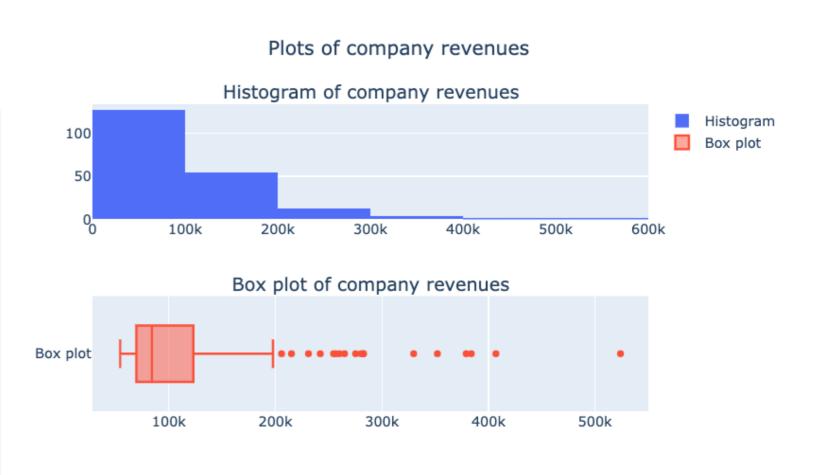


Note: More options available in the (documentation)

Subplot legends

Let's fix the legend names:

```
fig.add_trace(
  go.Histogram(x=revenues.Revenue,
  nbinsx=5, name='Histogram'),
  row=1, col=1)
fig.add_trace(
    go.Box(x=revenues.Revenue,
    hovertext=revenues['Company'],
    name='Box plot'),
    row=2, col=1)
```

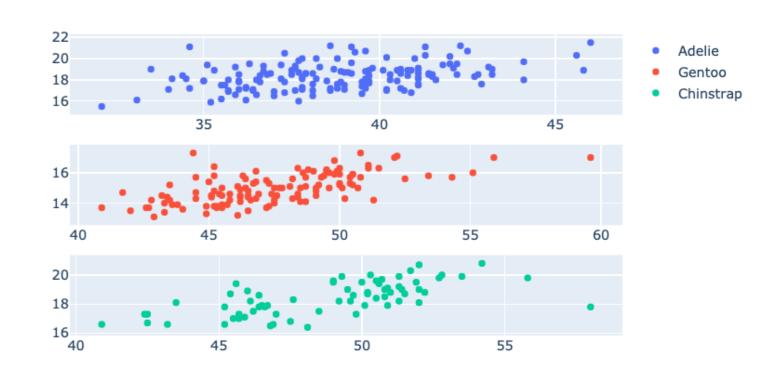


Stacked subplots

Let's redo our penguins scatterplot with subplots, splitting out the species:

```
fig = make_subplots(rows=3, cols=1)
row_num = 1
for species in ['Adelie', 'Gentoo', 'Chinstrap']:
 df = penguins[penguins['Species'] == species]
 fig.add_trace(
    go.Scatter(x=df['Culmen Length (mm)'],
               y=df['Culmen Depth (mm)'],
               name=species, mode='markers'),
   row=row_num, col=1)
 row_num +=1
fig.show()
```

Different x-axes?

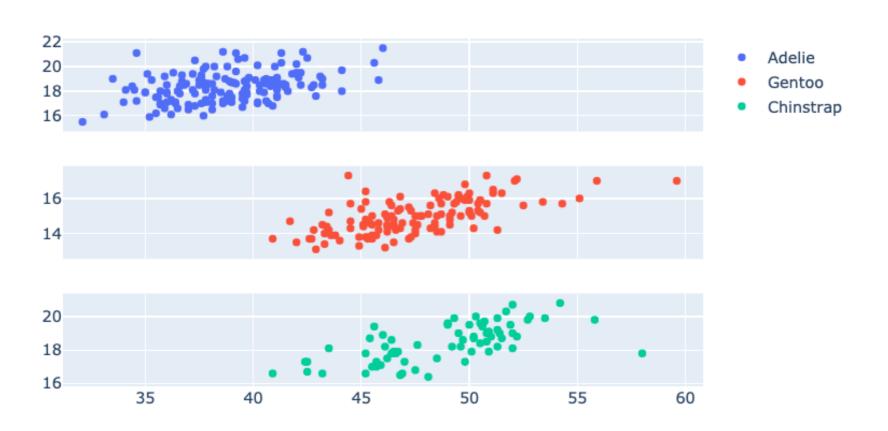


Subplots with shared axes

Let's fix this by making the x-axis 'shared':

```
fig = make_subplots(rows=3, cols=1, shared_xaxes=True)
```

That's better!





Let's practice!

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Layering multiple plots

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What is plot layering?

Layering plots = multiple plots on top of each other

- No separate grid location (or separate plot)
- We use add_trace()
- Some 'shortcut' functions exist:
 - o add_bar(), add_area(), add_box(), etc.
 - Search for 'add_' on the figure documentation for more

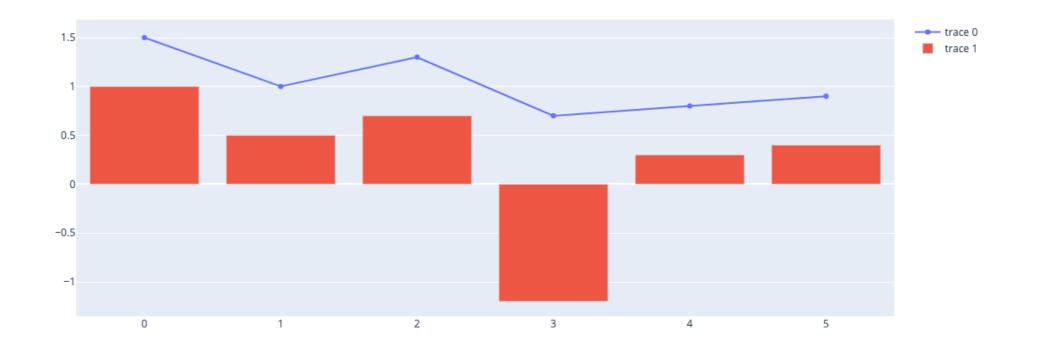
Why layer plots?

Layering plots is useful for:

- Accessing more customization (same type)
 - For example, layering multiple line charts
- Displaying complementary plot types
- Using different plot types to draw focus
- Keeping visualizations tight for close comparisons
 - Compared to split out subplots or separate plots

Bar + line layered plot

- A bar chart with a line-chart layered over the top is common
- Allows analyzing trends in multiple variables over time

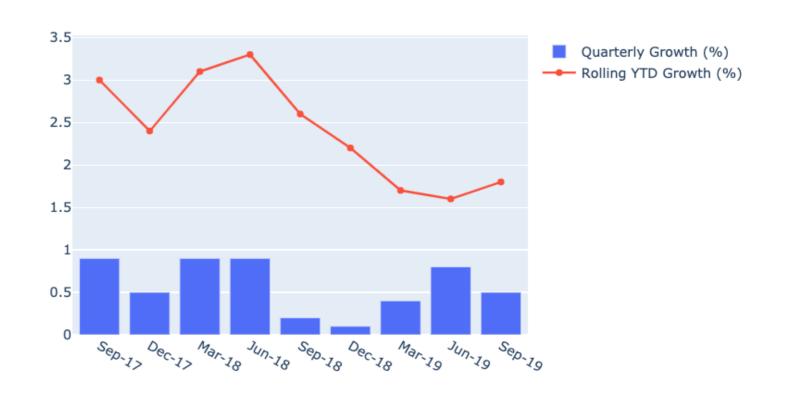


GDP growth layered plot

Consider the Australian GDP growth per quarter (and yearly rolling growth)

```
fig = go.Figure()
fig.add_trace(go.Bar(x=gdp['Date'],
    y=gdp['Quarterly growth (%)'],
    name='Quarterly Growth (%)'))
fig.add_trace(go.Scatter(x=gdp['Date'],
    y=gdp['Rolling YTD growth (%)'],
    name='Rolling YTD Growth (%)',
    mode='lines+markers'))
fig.show()
```

Here is our plot:



Nonsensical combinations

Layering many types of traces is possible, but stick to those that make sense:

- Line + another plot to show trend, such as
 - Line + bar plots
 - Line + scatterplots
- The same type (line + line, bar + bar)
- Make sure the x and y axes have the same units!

Let's practice!

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Time buttons

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What are time buttons?

Time buttons allow filter/zoom in line charts.

Often seen on most stock websites such as Yahoo Finance (TESLA stock);

- 1D = Show data for the last day, 1M = for the last month, 1Y = for the last year, etc.
- YTD = Show data for the 'year to date'



Time buttons in Plotly

Time buttons in Plotly are a dictionary specifying:

- label = Text to appear on the button
- count = How many step s to take when clicking the button
- step = What date period to move ('month', 'year', 'day', etc.)
- stepmode = Either 'todate' or 'backward'
 - 'todate' = From the beginning of the nearest whole time period denoted in step (after going backwards by count)
 - o 'backward' = Just go backwards by count

'todate' vs. 'backward'

To illustrate todate vs. backward, consider a dataset finishing on October 20th and a 6-month button (count=6, step='month') with each option.

- stepmode='backward' would zoom the plot to start on April 20th (6 months backward)
- stepmode='todate' would zoom the plot to start on **May 1st** (start of the nearest month to April 20th)

Sydney rainfall example

Let's chart the rainfall from a weather station in Sydney in 2020.

Create the buttons

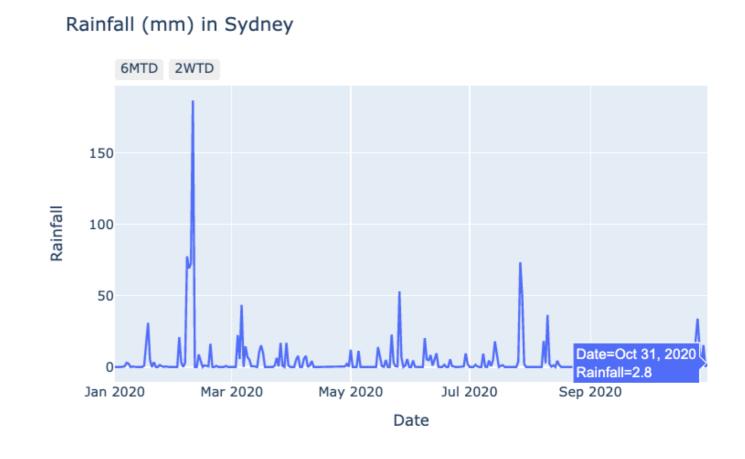
Buttons are specified as a list of dictionaries

```
date_buttons = [
{'count': 6, 'step': "month", 'stepmode': "todate", 'label': "6MTD"},
{'count': 14, 'step': "day", 'stepmode': "todate", 'label': "2WTD"}
]
```

Adding the time buttons

Now let's create the chart and add them;

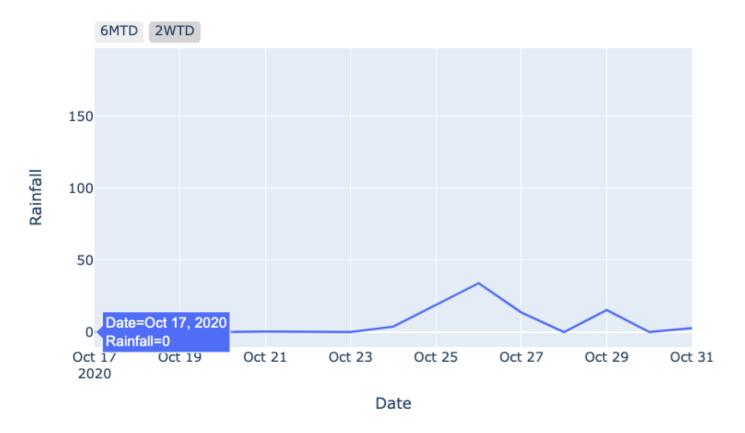
Our line chart has the buttons:



Clicking our time buttons

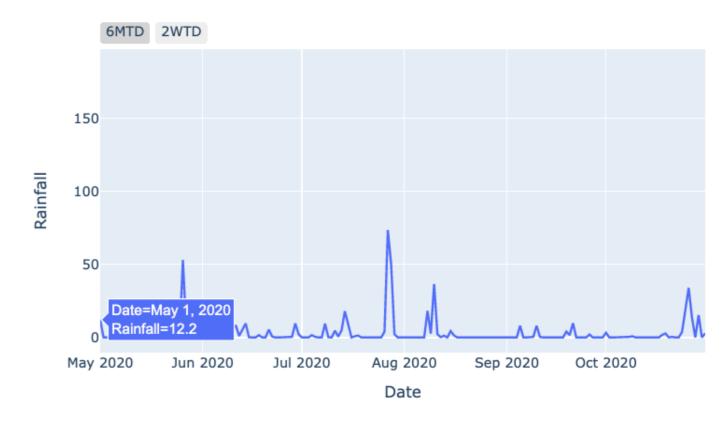
Clicking the **2WTD** button:

Rainfall (mm) in Sydney



Clicking the **6MTD** button:

Rainfall (mm) in Sydney





Let's practice!

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