



Politecnico  
di Torino



# Machine Learning for Networking

Matplotlib

DataBase and Data Mining Group

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# Python libraries

- Main libraries used in this course:
  - **Numpy**: managing multidimensional vectors
  - **Pandas**: operations with tabular data
  - **Matplotlib**: plot functions
  - **Scikit learn**: machine learning models



- **Two of the most commonly used graphical libraries are:**
  - **Matplotlib**
    - We present here only a very **short introduction** as the library is fairly large and visualization is not the focus of this course
  - **Seaborn** (data visualization library based on Matplotlib)
    - **Will be covered later in this course**



## ■ Matplotlib

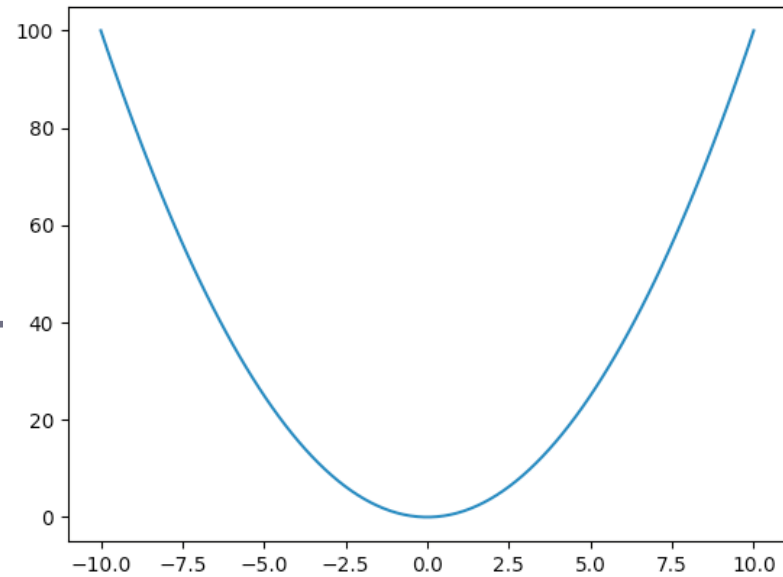
- Set of methods that make matplotlib work like **matlab**
- It has 2 **interfaces**:
  - **Stateful: Matlab style plotting**
    - Plotting methods are called from the **pyplot** package
    - They all work on the **current** Figure and Axes
  - **Stateless: Object oriented**
    - Plot functions are called as **methods** of a specific Figure and Axes
    - This allows modifying **many objects at a time** (the system does not keep a “current object” state)



- Example of stateless matplotlib:
  - plot the function  $y=x^2$

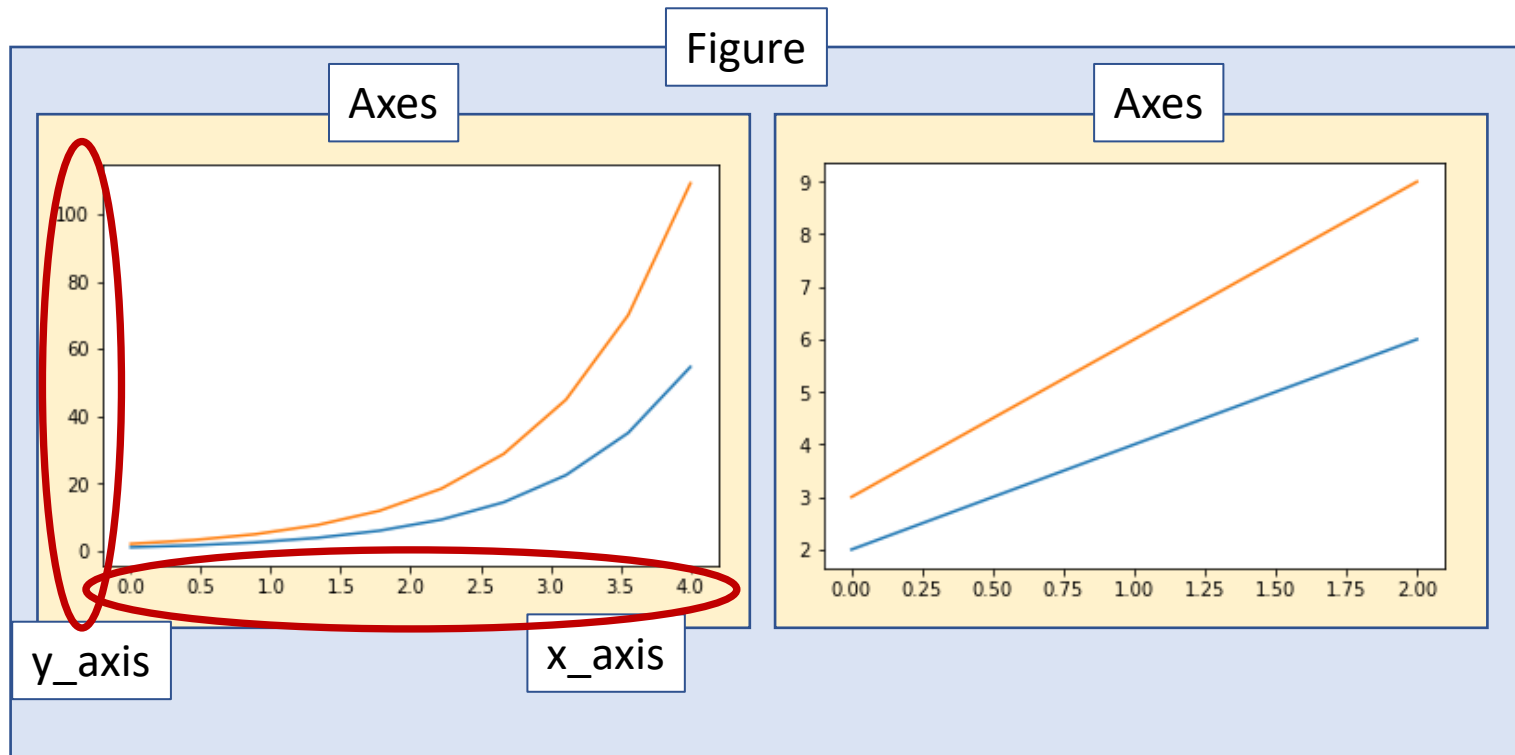
```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

x = np.linspace(-10, 10, 100)
y = x**2
plt.plot(x,y)
plt.show()
```





## ■ Figures and Axes





- Both stateful and stateless options allow to modify the attributes of figures and attributes
  - Create a figure
  - Set a title to the figure
  - Set axis label, limits, ticks
  - Set grid

## Stateful

```
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 5))
plt.ylabel('Y')
plt.xlim([0, 10])
plt.xticks([0, 1, 2, 5, 10],
           ["0", "1", "2", "5", "10"])
plt.grid()
plt.show()
```

## Stateless

```
fig, ax = plt.subplots(1, 1,
                       figsize=(10, 5))

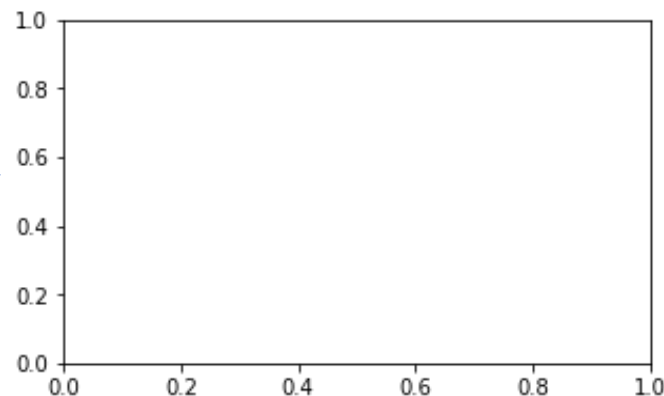
ax.set_ylabel('X1')
ax.set_xlim([0, 10])
ax.set_xticks([0, 1, 2, 5, 10],
              ["0", "1", "2", "5", "10"])

ax.grid()
plt.show()
```



## ■ Creation of a new figure:

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt  
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(5, 3))  
plt.show()
```



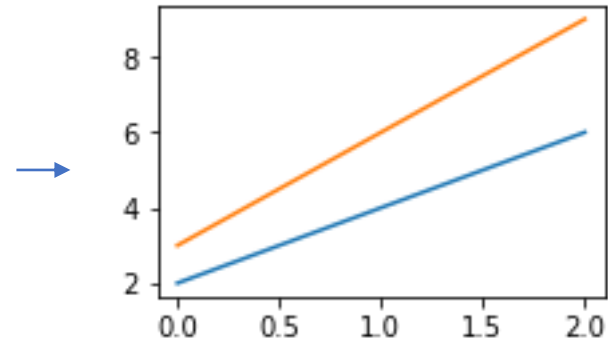
- Subplots returns a new **Figure** and its **Axes** object
- **figsize** specifies the figure size (width, height) in inches
- By default ax is a single Axes object (1 Figure with a single Axes)





## ■ Drawing a line plot (single Axes object)

```
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(3, 2))
ax.plot([0,1,2],[2,4,6])
ax.plot([0,1,2],[3,6,9])
plt.show()
```



- The plot method of a specific Axes takes as input two lists (or NumPy arrays): **x**, **y** coordinates of the points
- The default style draws **segments** passing through the specified coordinates
- Subsequent calls of plot add new line to the same Axes



# Notebook Examples

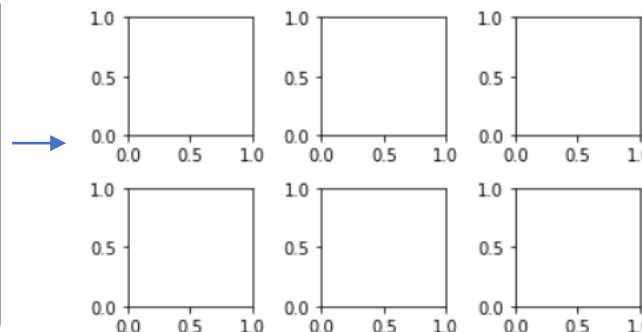
- **4.1 Matplotlib Figures and Axes.ipynb**





## ■ Creation of many subplots:

```
fig, ax = plt.subplots(2, 3, figsize=(5, 3))  
plt.tight_layout()  
plt.show()
```

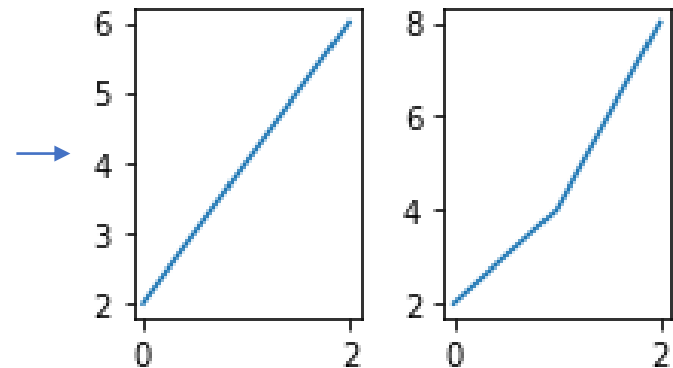


- The first two parameters of subplots specify to create a figure with **2 rows, 3 columns** (6 Axes objects)
- **tight\_layout()** is necessary at the end to let the subplots fit the frame size without blank spaces at the borders



## ■ Drawing a line plot (multiple Axes object)

```
fig, ax = plt.subplots(1, 2,  
                        figsize=(3, 2))  
ax[0].plot([0,1,2],[2,4,6])  
ax[1].plot([0,1,2],[3,6,9])  
plt.tight_layout()  
plt.show()
```

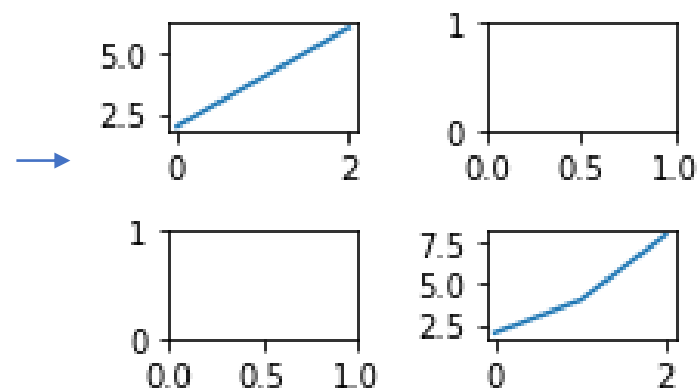


- The ax object is a **Numpy array** with the created Axes objects
- It has **shape = (n, )** if the figure has 1 row and n columns



## ■ Drawing a line plot (multiple Axes object)

```
fig, ax = plt.subplots(2, 2,  
                        figsize=(3, 2))  
ax[0, 0].plot([0,1,2],[2,4,6])  
ax[1, 1].plot([0,1,2],[3,6,9])  
plt.tight_layout()  
plt.show()
```



- It has **shape = (m, n)** if the figure has m rows and n columns



# Plot types

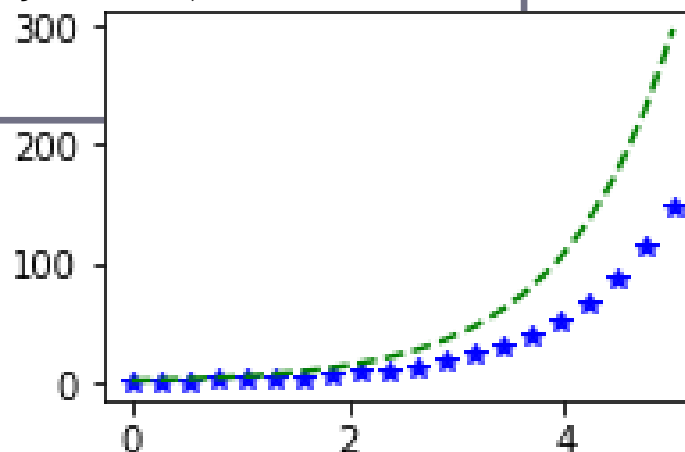
- With Matplotlib you can design different plot types
- **The most common are:**
  - Line plot
  - Scatter plot
  - Bar chart
  - Histograms
  - Box plot



# Line plot

- Allows displaying a sequence of points/segments that **share the same properties**
  - E.g. same size, color, width, ...

```
x = np.linspace(0, 5, 20)
y = np.exp(x)
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(3, 2))
ax.plot(x, y, c='blue', linestyle='', marker='*')
ax.plot(x, 2*y, c='green', linestyle='--')
plt.show()
```

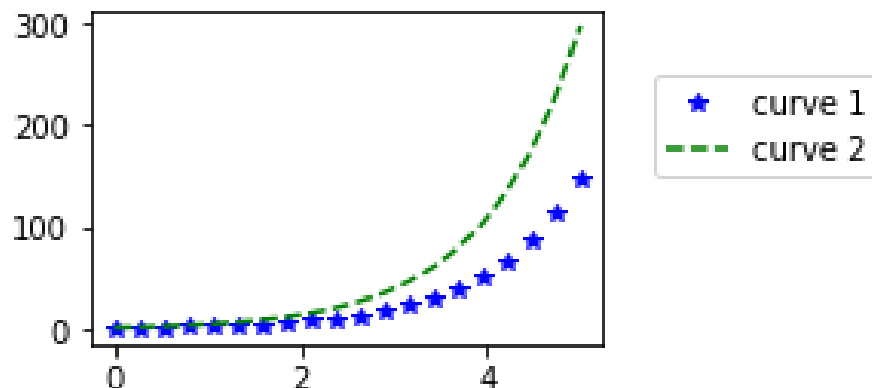




# Line plot

- Different plots can be associated to **labels** to be displayed in a **legend**

```
x = np.linspace(0, 5, 20)
y = np.exp(x)
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(3, 2))
ax.plot(x, y, c='blue', linestyle='', marker='*', label='curve 1')
ax.plot(x, 2*y, c='green', linestyle='--', label='curve 2')
ax.legend(loc=(1.1, 0.5))
plt.show()
```







# Line plot

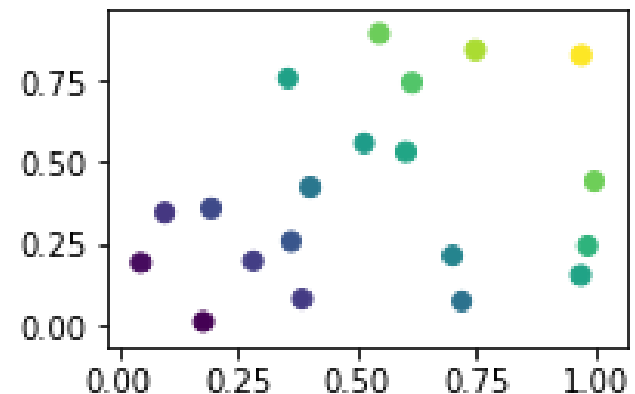
- **linestyle** specifies the type of line
  - Examples: '-', '--' (or 'dashed'), ':' (or 'dotted')
- **marker** specifies the type of points to be drawn
  - Examples: 'o', '\*', '+', '^'
- **c** specifies the color to be applied to markers and segments
  - Examples: 'red', 'orange', 'grey'
  - Examples: '#0F0F6B' (RGB)
  - Examples: (0.5, 1, 0.8, 0.8) (RGBA tuple)



# Scatter plot

- Allows displaying a set of points and assign them custom properties
  - E.g. different color, size

```
x = np.random.rand(20)
y = np.random.rand(20)
colors = x + y      # color as a function of x and y
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(3, 2))
ax.scatter(x, y, c=colors)
plt.show()
```

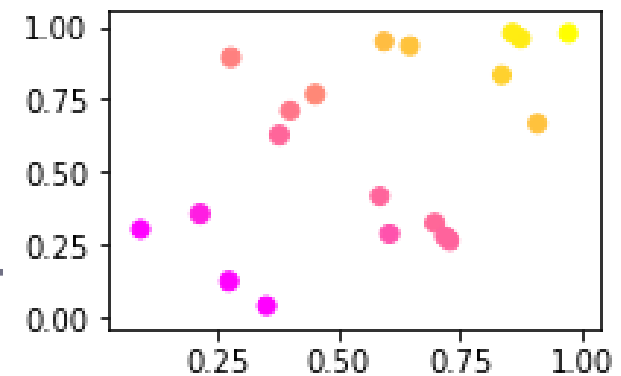




# Scatter plot

- **c=colors** associate a number (float or integer) to each point
  - In the same sequence as they appear in x, y
  - These numbers are used to select a color from a specific **colormap**
    - <https://matplotlib.org/users/colormaps.html>

```
colors = x + y      # color as a function of x and y
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(3, 2))
ax.scatter(x, y, c=colors, cmap='spring')
plt.show()
```





# Scatter plot

- **c=colors** associate a number (float or integer) to each point
  - Matplotlib considers the range of values of  $c$  to fit the whole range of colors of a colormap
  - $c = [101, 120, 50, 60]$  -> range is 50-120

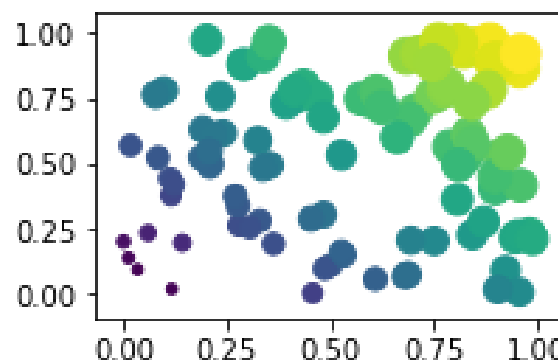




# Scatter plot

- The size of each point can be set with the parameter **s**
- Size is the area in **dpi** (dots per inch)

```
x = np.random.rand(20)
y = np.random.rand(20)
colors = x + y      # color as a function of x and y
area = 100*(x+y)    # size as a function of x, y
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(3, 2))
ax.scatter(x, y, c=colors, s=area)
plt.show()
```



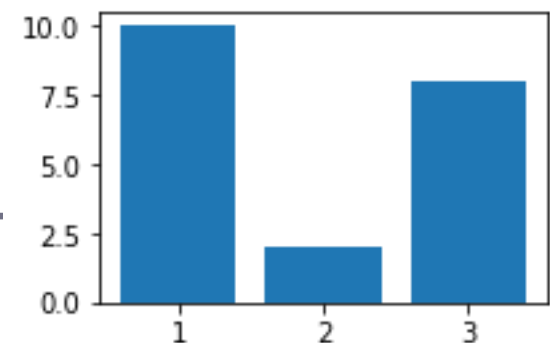


# Bar chart

- Allows displaying a sequence of numbers as vertical or horizontal bars

```
height = [10, 2, 8]
x = [1, 2, 3]      # position of the bars, x axis

fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(3, 2))
ax.bar(x, height)
plt.show()
```



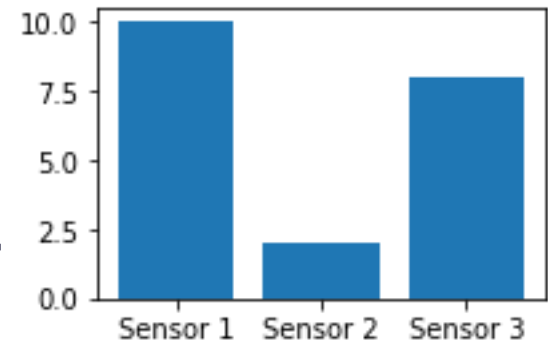


# Bar chart

- Ticks on the horizontal axis can be **labeled** with some text

```
height = [10, 2, 8]
x = [1, 2, 3]      # position of the bars, x axis
labels = ['Sensor 1', 'Sensor 2', 'Sensor 3']

fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(3, 2))
ax.bar(x, height, tick_label=labels)
plt.show()
```



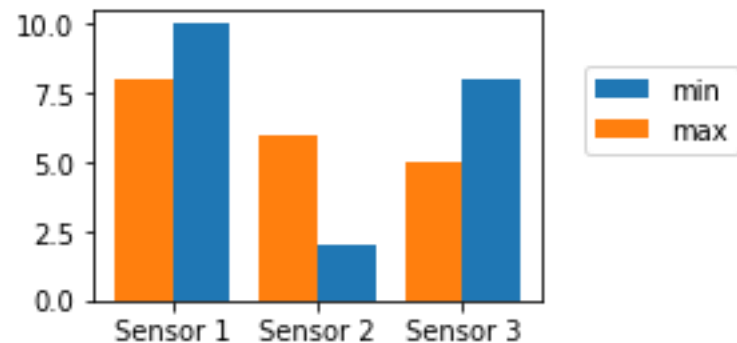


# Bar chart

## ■ Bars can be grouped

```
height_min = [10, 2, 8]
height_max = [8, 6, 5]
x = np.arange(3)
width = 0.4
labels = ['Sensor 1', 'Sensor 2', 'Sensor 3']

fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(3, 2))
ax.bar(x+width/2, height_min, width=width, label='min')
ax.bar(x-width/2, height_max, width=width, label='max')
ax.set_xticks(x, labels)      # setup positions and names of x ticks
ax.legend(loc=(1.1, 0.5))    # x, y position, in percentage
plt.show()
```



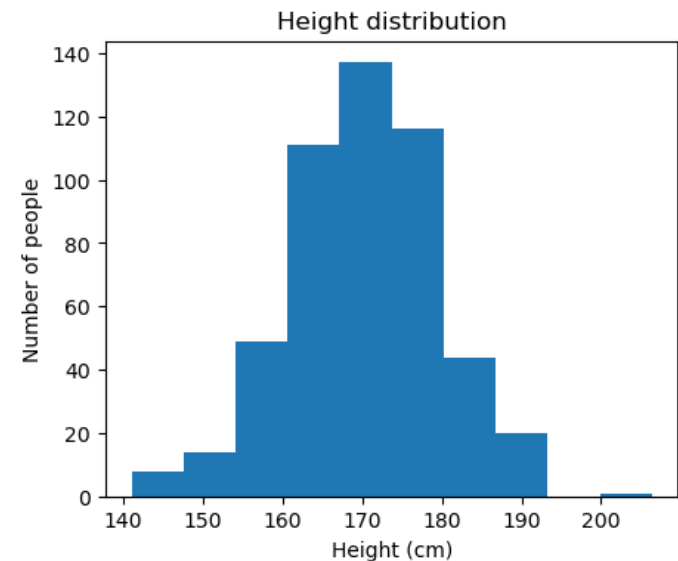




# Histograms

- A histogram is a graph showing **frequency** distributions.
- They show the **occurrences of values** in a distributions

```
x = np.random.normal(170, 10, 500)
plt.hist(x)
plt.xlabel('Height (cm)')
plt.ylabel('Number of people')
plt.title('Height distribution')
plt.show()
```

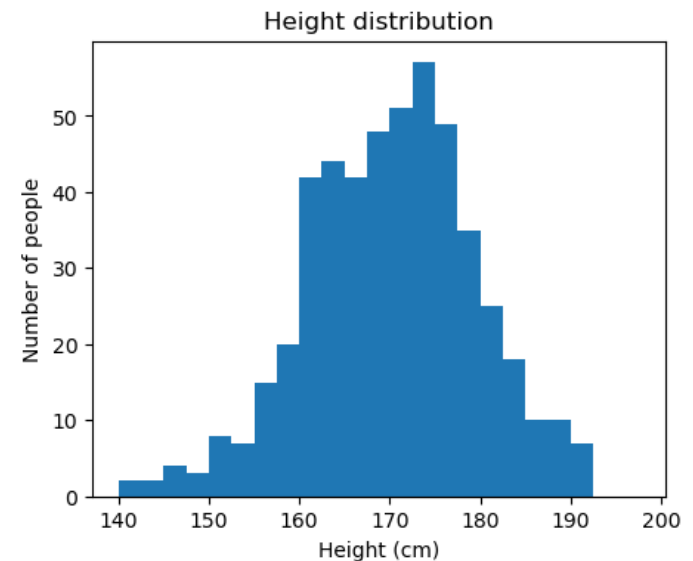




# Histograms

- **Bins** allows to determine the columns (or binning)
  - If **bins** is an integer it creates  $n$  equally divided bars (default,  $n = 10$ )
  - If **bins** is a vector its values are used to specify the columns starting points

```
bins = np.arange(140, 200, 2.5)
plt.hist(x, bins=bins)
plt.xlabel('Height (cm)')
plt.ylabel('Number of people')
plt.title('Height distribution')
plt.show()
```

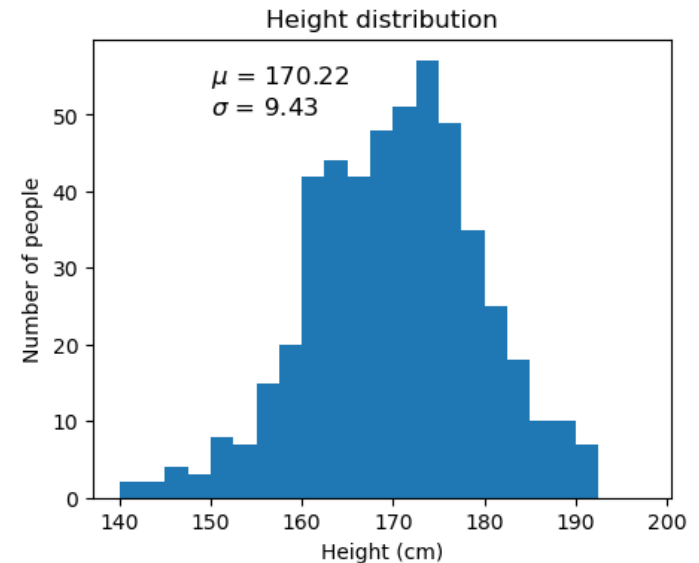




# Histograms

- **Text** allows you to display some information directly on a plot
  - In histograms, it can provide information about the distribution

```
plt.hist(x, bins=bins)
text = f'$\mu$ = {np.mean(x):.2f}'\
      '\n$\sigma$ = {np.std(x):.2f}'
plt.text(150, 50, text, fontsize=12)
plt.xlabel('Height (cm)')
plt.ylabel('Number of people')
plt.title('Height distribution')
plt.show()
```

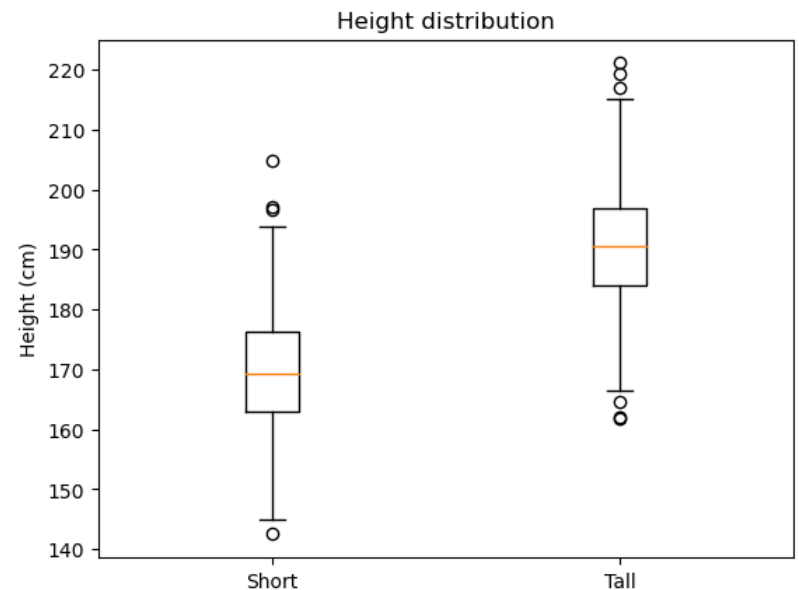




# Box Plots

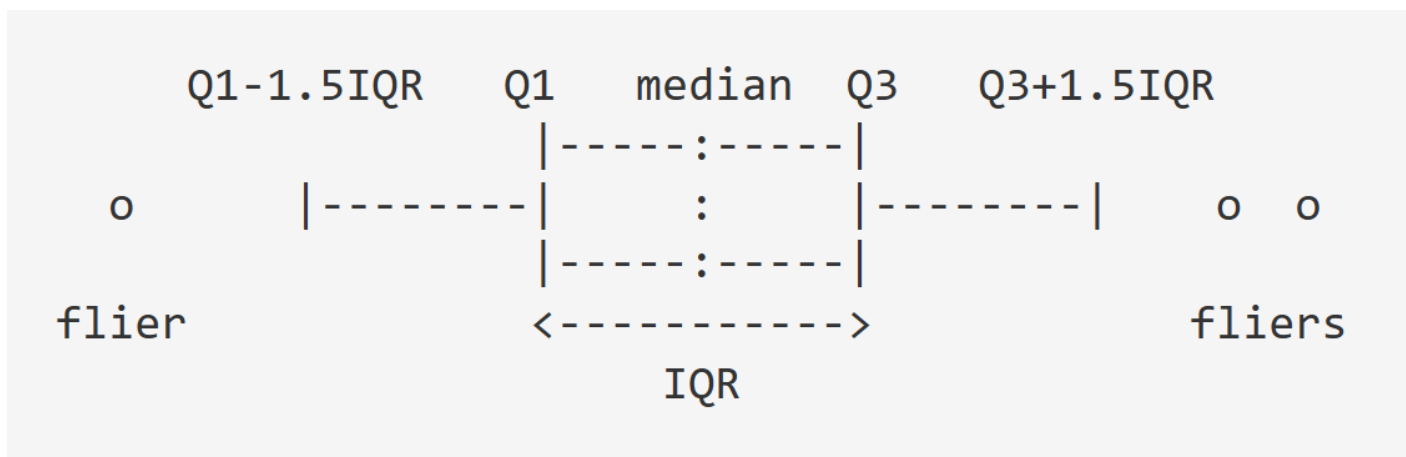
- Box plots are another way to show distribution of data
  - Box plots are drawn like bars but they also show median value and the confidence intervals
  - Boxplots receive a list of distributions to show

```
x1 = np.random.normal(170, 10, 500)
x2 = np.random.normal(190, 10, 500)
plt.boxplot([x1, x2])
plt.ylabel('Height (cm)')
plt.xticks([1,2], ["Short", "Tall"])
plt.title('Height distribution')
plt.show()
```





- The box extends from the **first quartile** (Q1) to the **third quartile** (Q3)
- The middle line is the **median**.
- The **whiskers** extend from the box to the farthest data point lying within 1.5x the inter-quartile range (IQR) from the box.
- **Flier** points are those past the end of the whiskers.



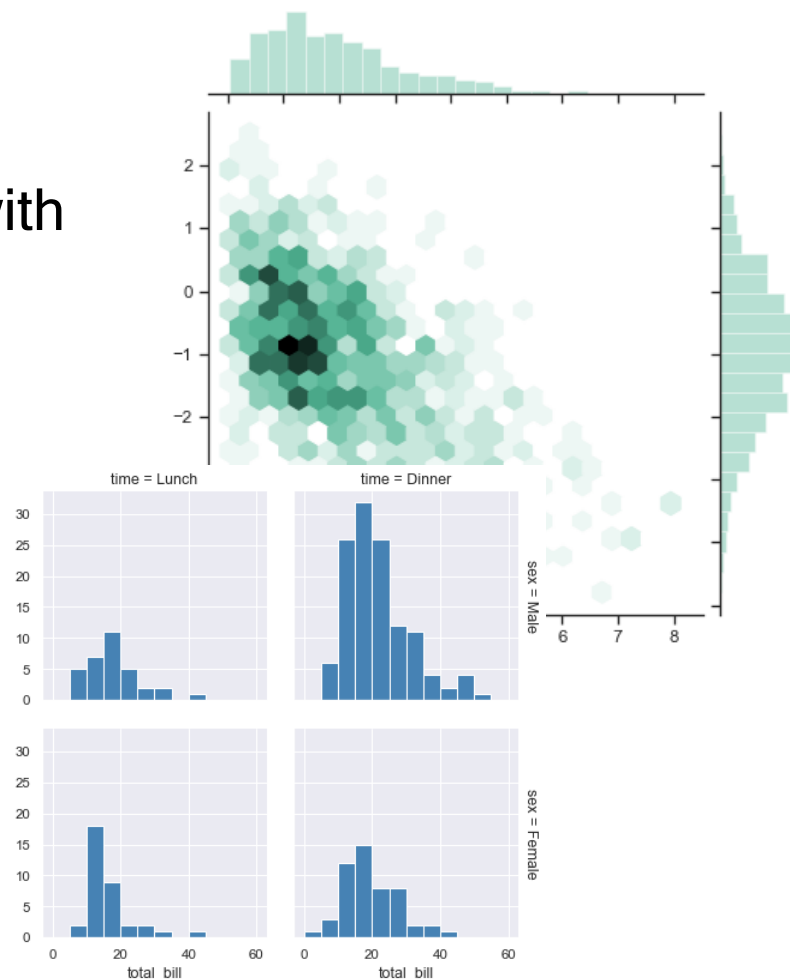
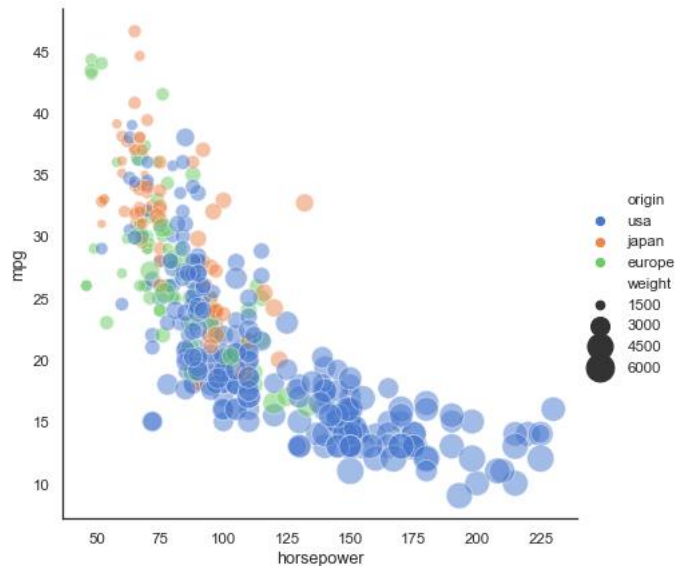


- Generated figures can be **saved** to file with different formats

```
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(3, 2))  
ax.plot([0,1,2],[2,4,6])  
ax.plot([0,1,2],[3,6,9])  
fig.savefig("./out/test.png") # or '.jpg', '.eps', '.pdf'
```



- Based on Matplotlib
  - High level **interface** for drawing complex chart with attractive visual impact





# References

- **Matplotlib website:**
  - <https://matplotlib.org/>
- **Seaborn website:**
  - <https://seaborn.pydata.org/>





# Notebook Examples

- **4.2 Matplotlib Advanced Plots.ipynb**

