

# Matplotlib Detailed Notes (Beginner to Intermediate)



import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

import numpy as np

import pandas as pd



#### ➤ Basic Line Plot

Plots a line between x and y coordinates.

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

y = [2, 4, 1, 3]

plt.plot(x, y)

plt.show()

#### ➤ Line Plot from Pandas DataFrame

```
df = pd.DataFrame({'year': [2010, 2011, 2012], 'sales': [100, 120, 130]})
plt.plot(df['year'], df['sales'])
```

## ➤ Plot Multiple Lines

```
plt.plot(x, y, label="Line 1")
plt.plot(x, [i+1 for i in y], label="Line 2")
```

#### ➤ Add Title and Axis Labels

```
plt.title("Sales Over Years")
plt.xlabel("Year")
plt.ylabel("Sales")
```

#### ➤ Customize Line Style, Color, and Marker

plt.plot(x, y, color='green', linestyle='--', linewidth=2, marker='o', markersize=8)

color: color name or hex code (e.g., '#ff5733')

- linestyle: solid ('-'), dashed ('--'), dotted (':')
- marker: 'o', '\*', 's' (circle, star, square)
- markersize: size of the marker in points

#### ➤ Add Legend

plt.legend(loc='upper left') # locations: best, upper right, lower left, etc.

#### ➤ Set Axis Limits

plt.xlim(0, 10)

plt.ylim(0, 20)

#### ➤ Enable Grid

plt.grid(True)

### Scatter Plot

#### ➤ Basic Scatter Plot

x = [1, 2, 3, 4]

y = [10, 20, 25, 30]

plt.scatter(x, y)

#### ➤ Scatter from DataFrame

plt.scatter(df["feature1"], df["feature2"])

## ➤ Customize Marker, Size, Color

plt.scatter(x, y, color='red', marker='^', s=100, label="Data Points")

- s: size of marker
- marker: symbol
- · color: color of points

#### Scatter using plt.plot()

plt.plot(x, y, 'o') # same as scatter with circles

#### ➤ Difference: plt.plot() vs plt.scatter()

- plot(): Connects points with lines, default for time-series or trends.
- scatter(): Plots unconnected dots; good for correlation/relationships.

## Bar Chart

#### ➤ Vertical Bar Chart

plt.bar(labels, values)

#### ➤ Horizontal Bar Chart

plt.barh(labels, values)

### ➤ Multiple Bars (Grouped Bar Chart)

x = np.arange(len(labels))

plt.xticks(x, labels)

plt.legend()

## ➤ Fix Overlapping Labels

plt.xticks(rotation=45)

#### ➤ Stacked Bar Chart

bottom vals = [5, 3, 4]

$$top_vals = [2, 4, 1]$$

plt.bar(labels, bottom\_vals, label='Base')

plt.bar(labels, top vals, bottom=bottom vals, label='Stacked')

## **Histogram**

#### ➤ Create a Histogram

data = [1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4, 5]

plt.hist(data, bins=5)

- bins: number of intervals or groups
- Good for showing frequency distribution

## ➤ Histogram with Log Scale

plt.hist(data, log=True)

## Pie Chart

#### ➤ Basic Pie Chart

```
labels = ['Python', 'Java', 'C++']
sizes = [50, 30, 20]
plt.pie(sizes, labels=labels)
```

#### ➤ Add Percentages and Colors

```
colors = ['#ff9999', '#66b3ff', '#99ff99']
plt.pie(sizes, labels=labels, colors=colors, autopct='%1.1f%%')
```

autopct: format to display percentage values

## ➤ Add Explode and Shadow

```
explode = [0, 0.1, 0] # Explode second slice
plt.pie(sizes, labels=labels, explode=explode, shadow=True, autopct='%1.1f%%')
```

## Styling and Customization

## ➤ Change Plot Style

Use predefined styles:

```
plt.style.use('ggplot') # 'seaborn', 'classic', 'bmh', 'fivethirtyeight', etc.
```

## ➤ Save Figure

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