

Loading files (Colab, Google Drive), loading data (readlines, numpy), and an intro to plotting (matplotlib)

ESS 116 | Fall 2024

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(Modified from Ethan Campbell and Katy Christensen's materials for UW's Ocean 215)

# Importing matplotlib

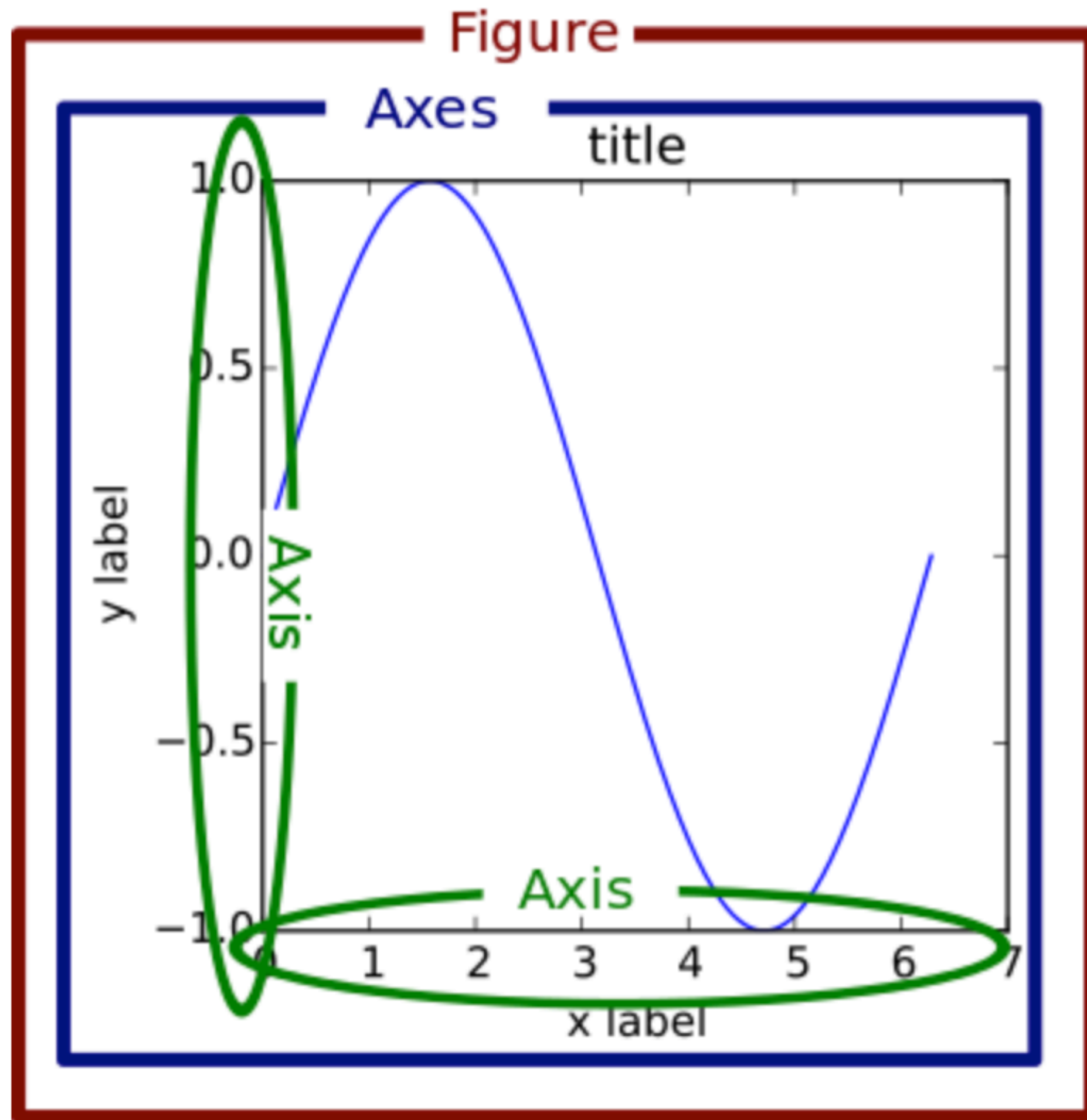
---

This is a shortcut;  
you can choose any name  
but `plt` is most common

`import matplotlib.pyplot` `as plt`

This part is  
technically optional

# Matplotlib objects



## Main matplotlib objects:

- 1) Figure: this is outer container for plotting
- 2) Axes: this is an individual graph
- 3) Axis (and smaller...): these are the small formatting to refine your plot

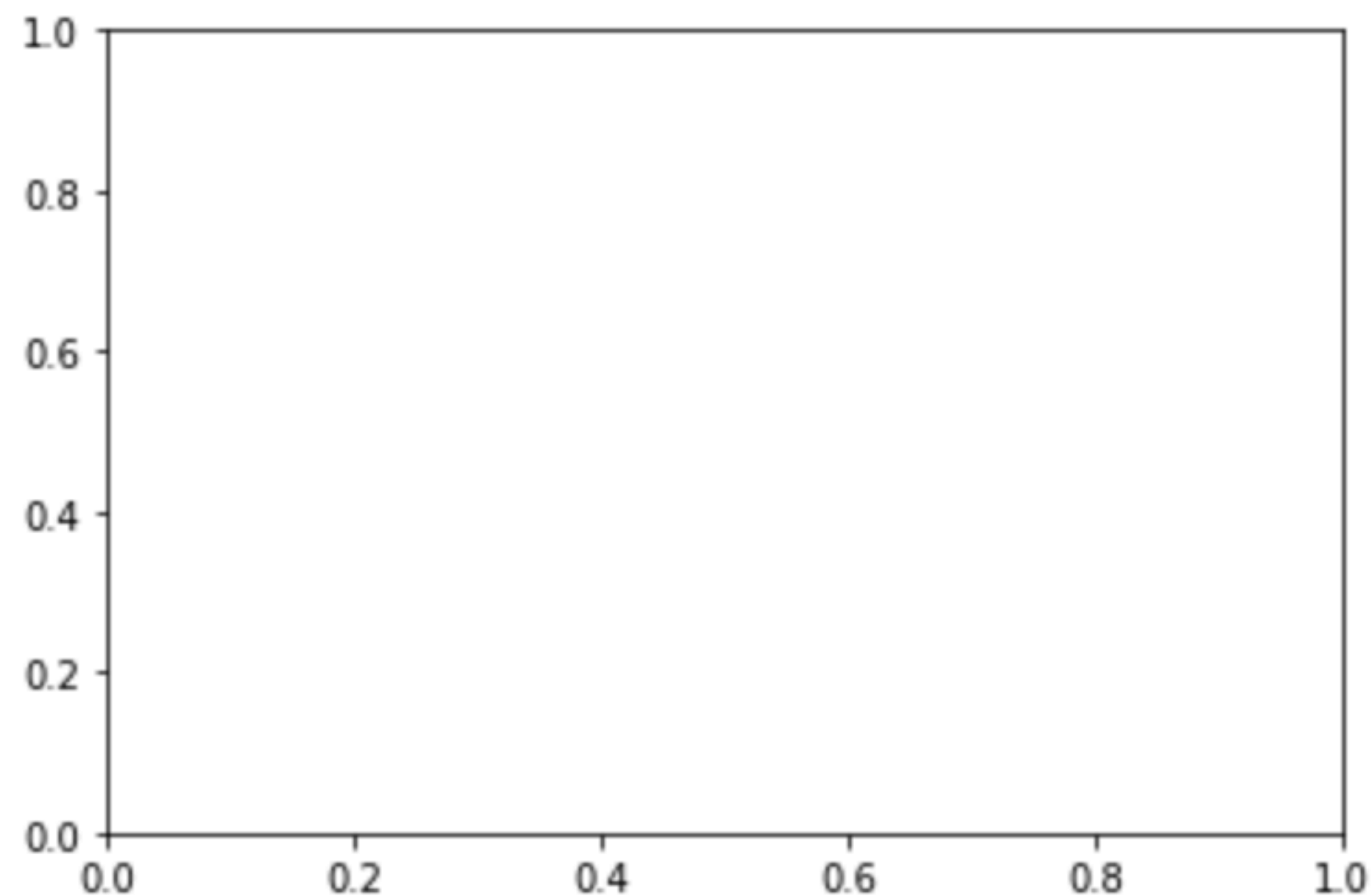
# Creating figures

---

## Creating a figure with a blank axes object:

```
1 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
2 fig, ax = plt.subplots()
```

These become the variable names for the figure and axes objects, respectively.



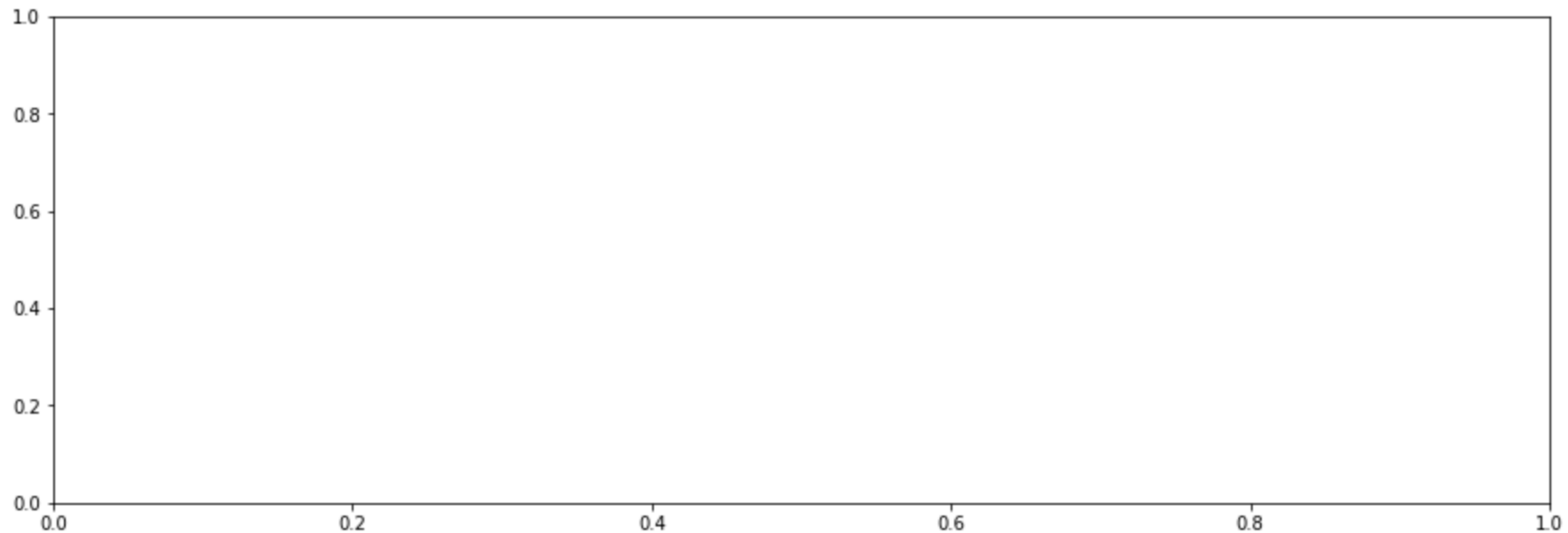
# Creating figures

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**Creating a figure with a blank axes object of custom size:**

```
1 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt  
2 fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(15, 5))
```

(width, height) in inches



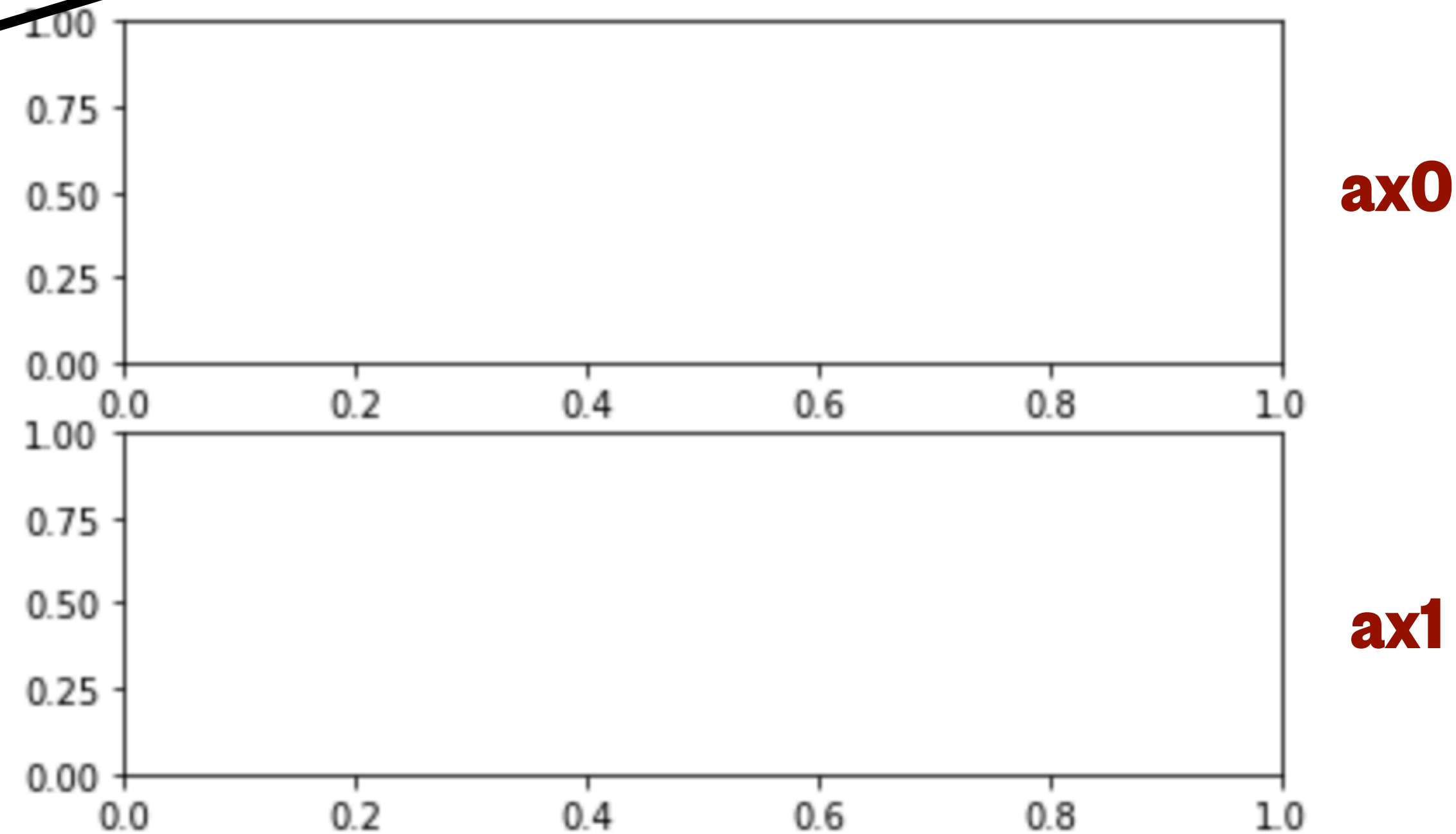
# Creating figures

---

## Creating a figure with multiple axes objects:

```
1 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
2 fig, (ax0, ax1) = plt.subplots(nrows=2, ncols=1)
```

This is so that each axes has  
a variable name



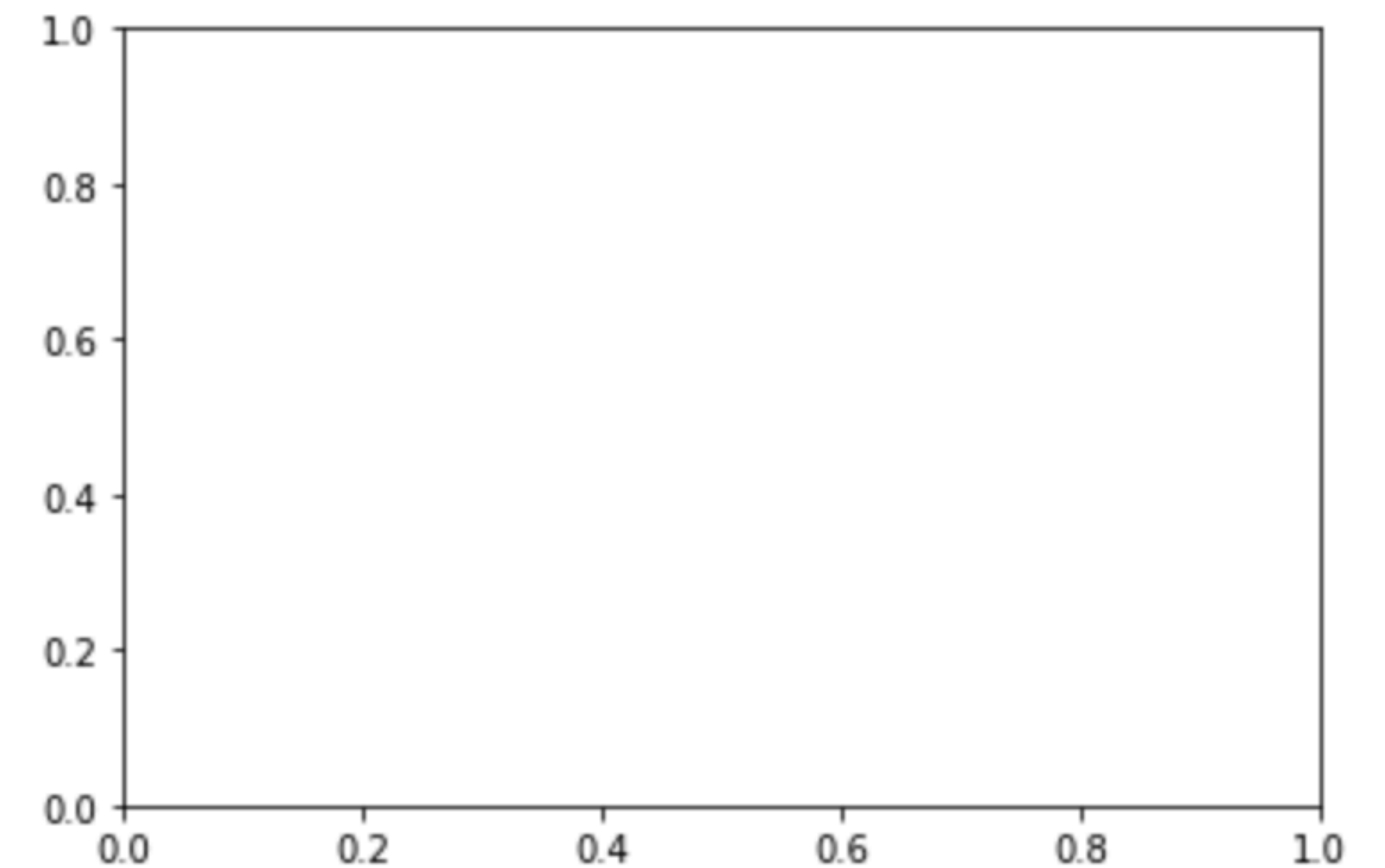
# Simple line plot

## Our data:

```
1 import numpy as np
2 filepath = 'drive/My Drive/Data_folder/Seattle_tides_predicted_20201001_20201024.txt'
3
4 data = np.genfromtxt(filepath, skip_header=14, dtype=float, usecols=3, delimiter=None)
5
6 time = np.linspace(0, len(data)/10, len(data)) # 6 min freq. so len(data)/10 = # of hours
7
```

## Start by creating a figure with an empty axes object:

```
1 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
2 fig, ax = plt.subplots()
3
```





# Simple line plot

## Our data:

```
1 import numpy as np
2 filepath = 'drive/My Drive/Data_folder/Seattle_tides_predicted_20201001_20201024.txt'
3
4 data = np.genfromtxt(filepath, skip_header=14, dtype=float, usecols=3, delimiter=None)
5
6 time = np.linspace(0, len(data)/10, len(data)) # 6 min freq. so len(data)/10 = # of hours
7
```

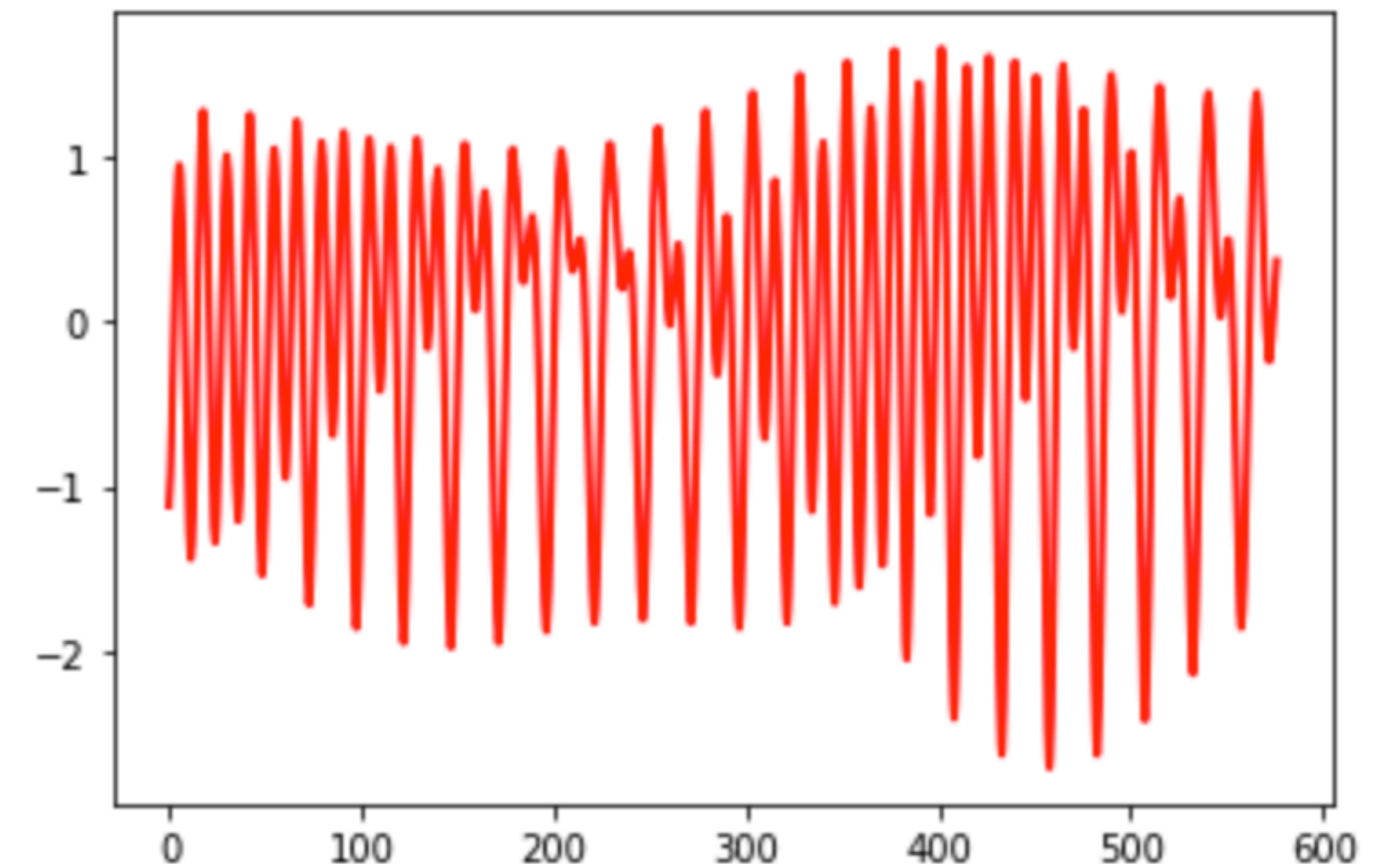
## Plot our data on the axis object:

```
1 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
2 fig, ax = plt.subplots()
3
4 ax.plot(time, data, c='r', linestyle='-', linewidth=2, marker=None)
```

↑  
x-axis, y-axis

(c=color)

These are optional arguments, but they make the figure more appealing.





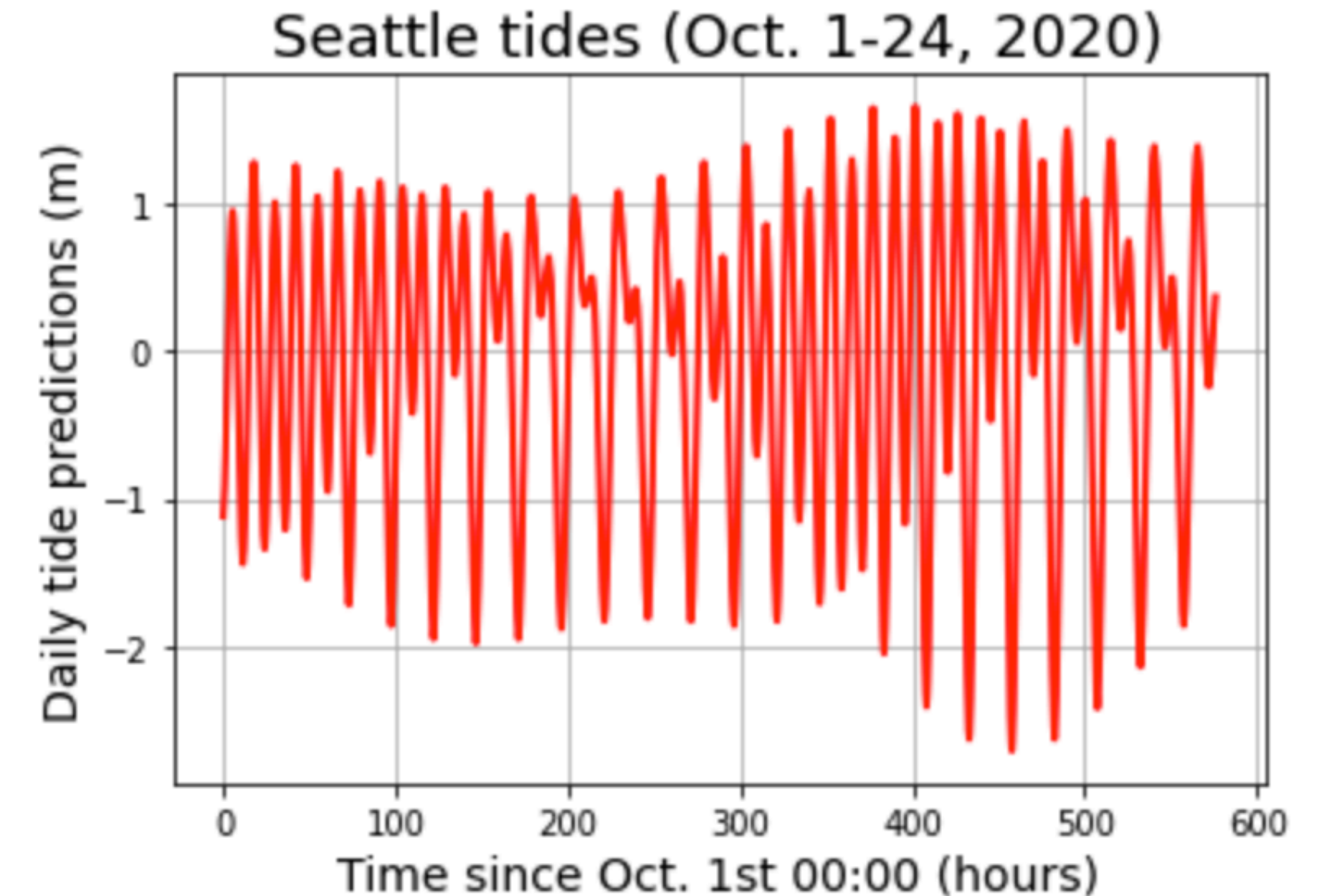
# Simple line plot

## Our data:

```
1 import numpy as np
2 filepath = 'drive/My Drive/Data_folder/Seattle_tides_predicted_20201001_20201024.txt'
3
4 data = np.genfromtxt(filepath, skip_header=14, dtype=float, usecols=3, delimiter=None)
5
6 time = np.linspace(0, len(data)/10, len(data)) # 6 min freq. so len(data)/10 = # of hours
7
```

## Create a title, labels, and figure formatting:

```
1 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
2 fig, ax = plt.subplots()
3
4 ax.plot(time, data, c='r', linestyle='-', linewidth=2, marker=None)
5
6
7 ax.grid()
8 ax.set_title('Seattle tides (Oct. 1-24, 2020)', fontsize=18)
9 ax.set_xlabel('Time since Oct. 1st 00:00 (hours)', fontsize=14)
10 ax.set_ylabel('Daily tide predictions (m)', fontsize=14)
11
```

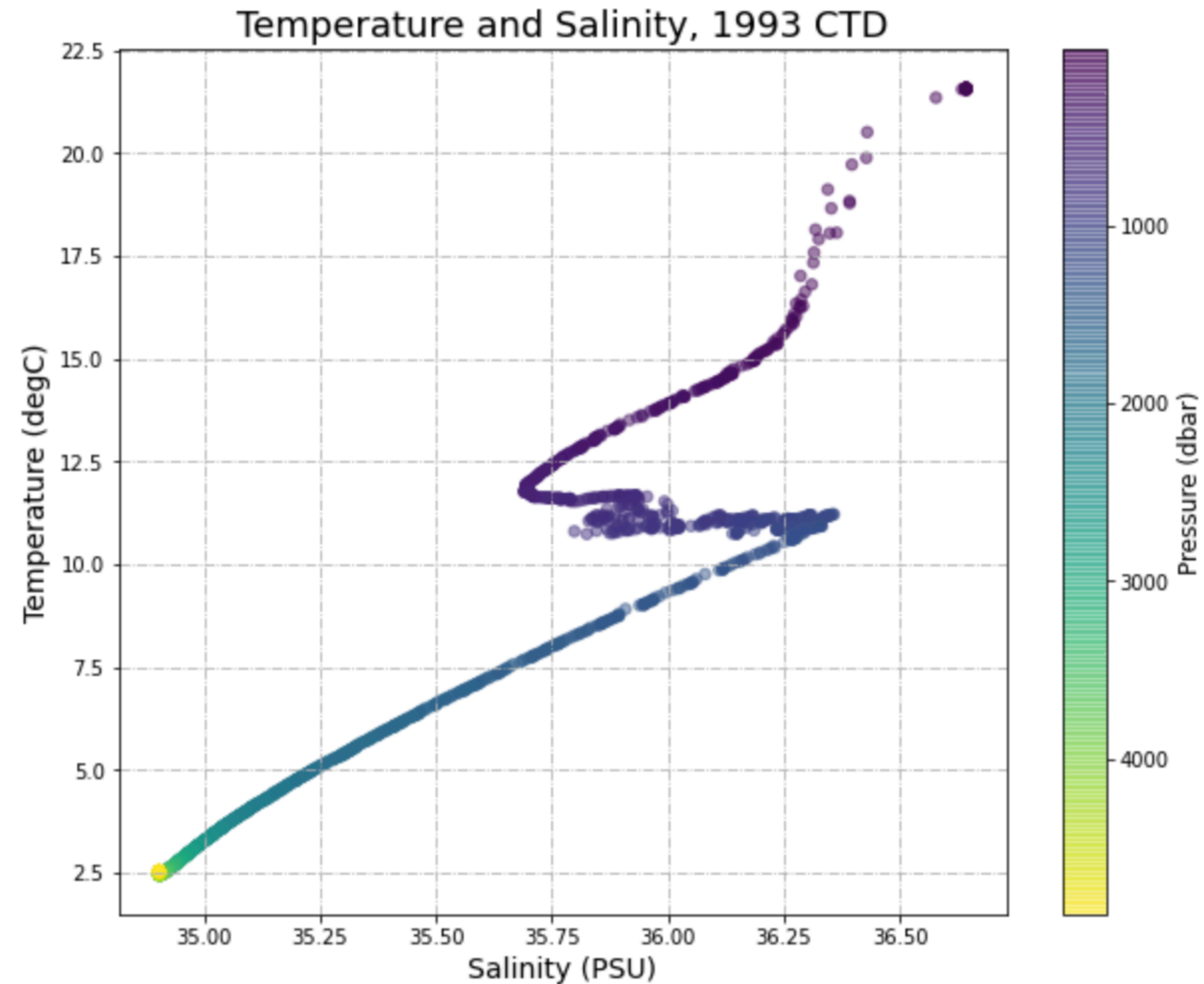


# Scatter plot

These are changeable, and won't affect where the dots are on the plot.

```
plt.scatter(x, y, size=, color=, alpha=)
```

Salinity      Temperature      Constant      Pressure      Transparency



# Scatter plot

## Example data: CTD data from 1993 WOCE



a03\_00011\_1993CTD\_data.csv

```
1 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
2 import numpy as np
3 from google.colab import drive
4
5 drive.mount('/content/drive')
```

```
1 filepath = 'drive/My Drive/Data_folder/a03_00011_1993CTD_data.csv'
2
3 file_obj = open(filepath, 'r')
4
5 for index in range(90):
6     line = file_obj.readline()
7     print(line)
8
9 file_obj.close()
10
```

#Software Version: CTD\_Exchange\_Encode\_v1.0g (Diggs)

#SUMFILE\_NAME: a03su.txt

#SUMFILE\_MOD\_DATE: Tue Feb 17 08:35:04 2004

#CTDFILE\_NAME: CT40D011.WCT

#CTDFILE\_MOD\_DATE: Tue Feb 17 07:55:02 2004

#DEPTH\_TYPE : COR

#EVENT\_CODE : BO

NUMBER\_HEADERS = 10

EXPOCODE = 90CT40\_1

SECT = A03

STNNBR = 11

CASTNO = 1

DATE = 19930925

TIME = 0312

LATITUDE = 36.2247

LONGITUDE = -10.4520

DEPTH = 4842

CTDPRS,CTDPRS\_FLAG\_W,CTDTMP,CTDTMP\_FLAG\_W,CTDSAL,CTDSAL

DBAR,,ITS-90,,PSS-78,,UMOL/KG,,

1.0,2, 21.5315,2, 36.6439,2, -999.0,9

3.0,2, 21.5861,2, 36.6421,2, -999.0,9

5.0,2, 21.5689,2, 36.6417,2, -999.0,9

7.0,2, 21.5673,2, 36.6426,2, -999.0,9

9.0,2, 21.5698,2, 36.6438,2, -999.0,9

11.0,2, 21.5761,2, 36.6436,2, -999.0,9

13.0,2, 21.5770,2, 36.6439,2, -999.0,9

15.0,2, 21.5773,2, 36.6443,2, -999.0,9

17.0,2, 21.5771,2, 36.6438,2, -999.0,9

19.0,2, 21.5771,2, 36.6436,2, -999.0,9

21.0,2, 21.5771,2, 36.6441,2, -999.0,9

23.0,2, 21.5776,2, 36.6436,2, -999.0,9

25.0,2, 21.5790,2, 36.6439,2, -999.0,9

27.0,2, 21.5793,2, 36.6435,2, -999.0,9

29.0,2, 21.5793,2, 36.6434,2, -999.0,9

31.0,2, 21.5784,2, 36.6432,2, -999.0,9

33.0,2, 21.5759,2, 36.6428,2, -999.0,9

■ ■ ■

4877.0,2, 2.5475,2, 34.9021,2, -999.0,9  
END\_DATA



# Scatter plot

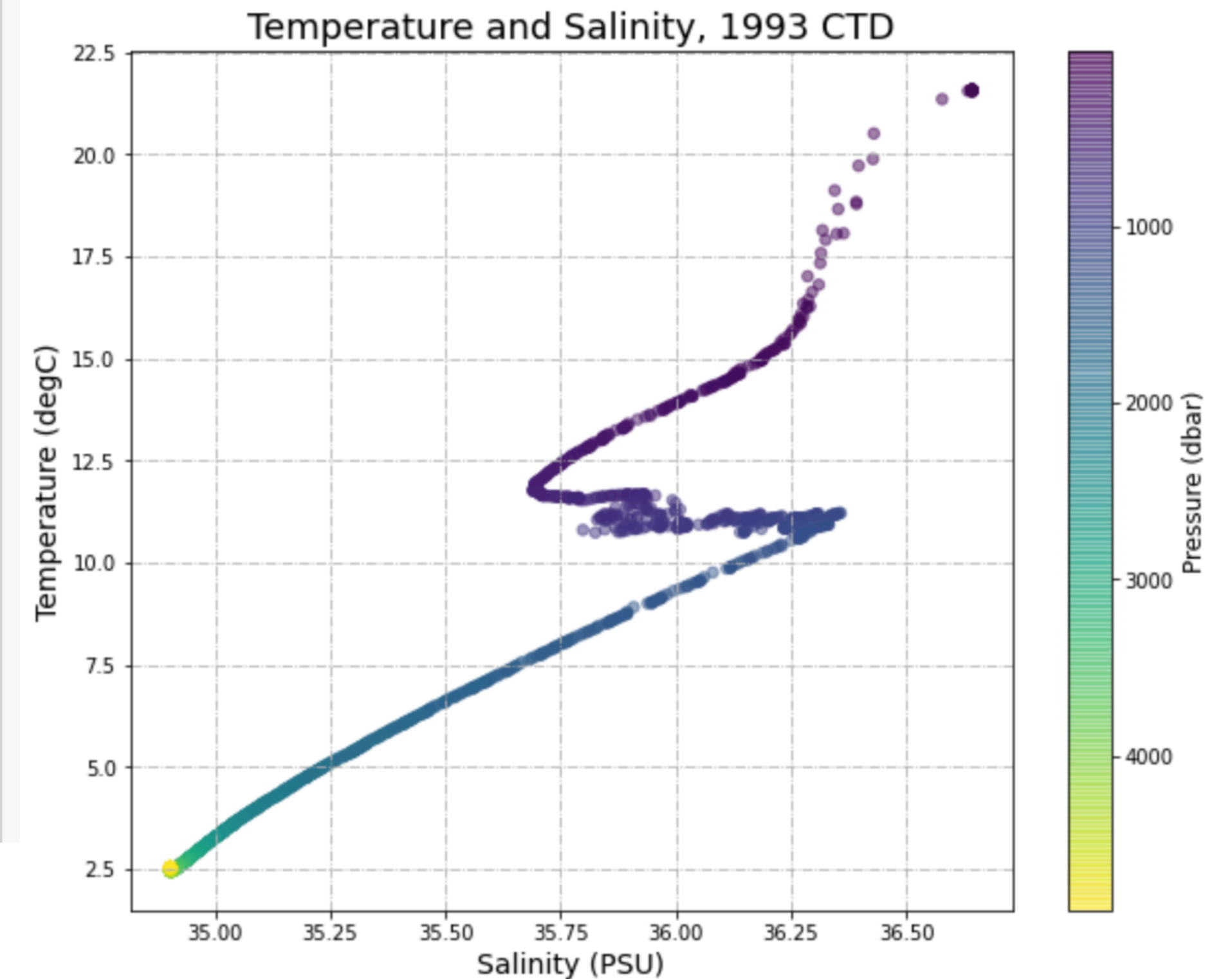
---

## Loading data:

```
1 filepath = 'drive/My Drive/Data_folder/a03_00011_1993CTD_data.csv'
2
3 # Load the data
4 data = np.genfromtxt(filepath, skip_header=20, skip_footer=1, delimiter=',', usecols=(0,2,4))
5
6 # Separate out the columns into individual variables
7 P = data[:,0]
8 T = data[:,1]
9 S = data[:,2]
10
```

# Plotting:

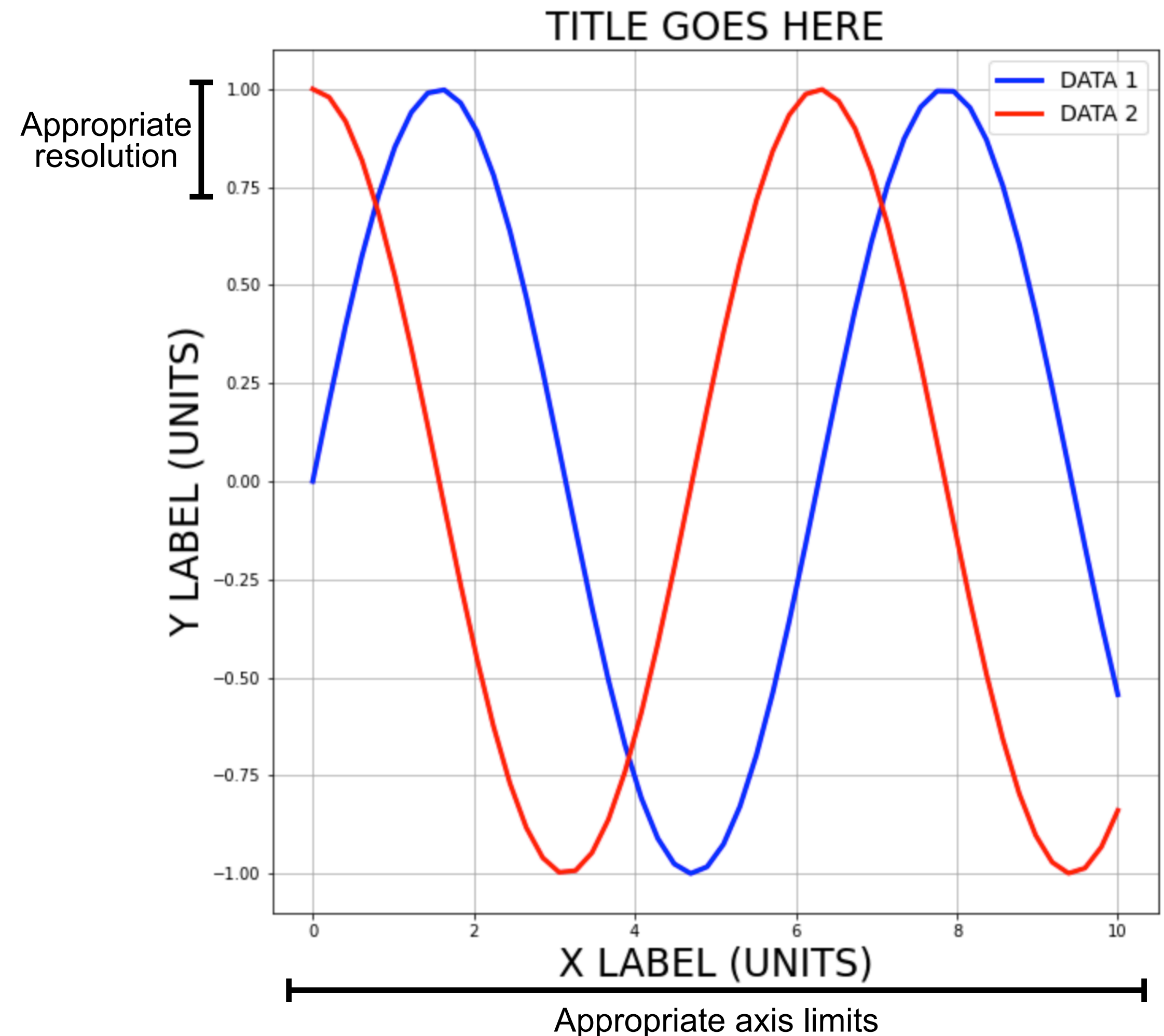
```
1 filepath = 'drive/My Drive/Data_folder/a03_00011_1993CTD_data.csv'
2
3 # Load the data
4 data = np.genfromtxt(filepath, skip_header=20, skip_footer=1, delimiter=',', usecols=(0, 2, 4))
5
6 # Separate out the columns into individual variables
7 P = data[:, 0]
8 T = data[:, 1]
9 S = data[:, 2]
10
11 # Create the figure and scatter the data
12 fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(10, 8))
13 scpl = ax.scatter(S, T, s=30, c=P, alpha=0.5)
14
15 # Format the figure
16 ax.set_title('Temperature and Salinity, 1993 CTD', fontsize=18)
17 ax.set_ylabel('Temperature (degC)', fontsize=14)
18 ax.set_xlabel('Salinity (PSU)', fontsize=14)
19 ax.grid(linestyle='-.')
20 c = fig.colorbar(scpl, ax=ax)
21 c.set_label('Pressure (dbar)', fontsize=12)
```



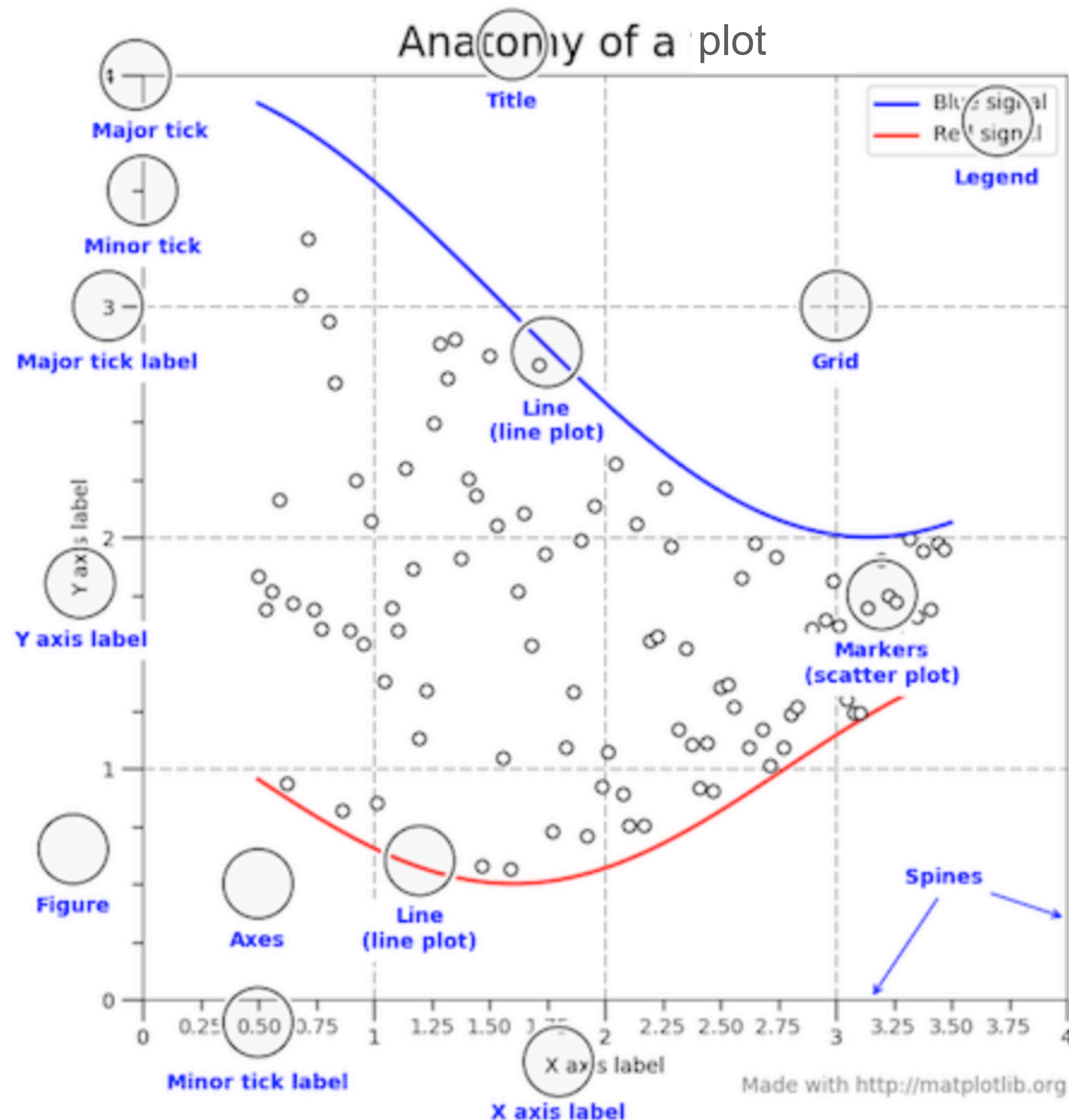
# Figure requirements for this course

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- 1) Title
- 2) Axis labels (with units, when possible)
- 3) Appropriate axis limits (e.g. max/min)
- 4) Appropriate tick resolution
- 5) Legend for different datasets, when applicable
- 6) Large enough font sizes



# Everything is customizable when plotting



**You can change anything in a plot if you know how.**

You can usually find how to do something by searching the documentation or searching the internet.

**Official matplotlib documentation:**

**<https://matplotlib.org/3.3.2/index.html>**



# Resources

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**Official matplotlib  
documentation:**

**[https://matplotlib.org/3.3.2/  
index.html](https://matplotlib.org/3.3.2/index.html)**