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In [1]: %matplotlib notebook
        # to have interactive plots embedded within the notebook

        # %matplotlib inline
        # to have static images of your plot embedded in the notebook

In [2]: # Matplotlib API functions like plot and close are all in the matplotlib.pyplot module,
        # which is typically imported by convention as:
        import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

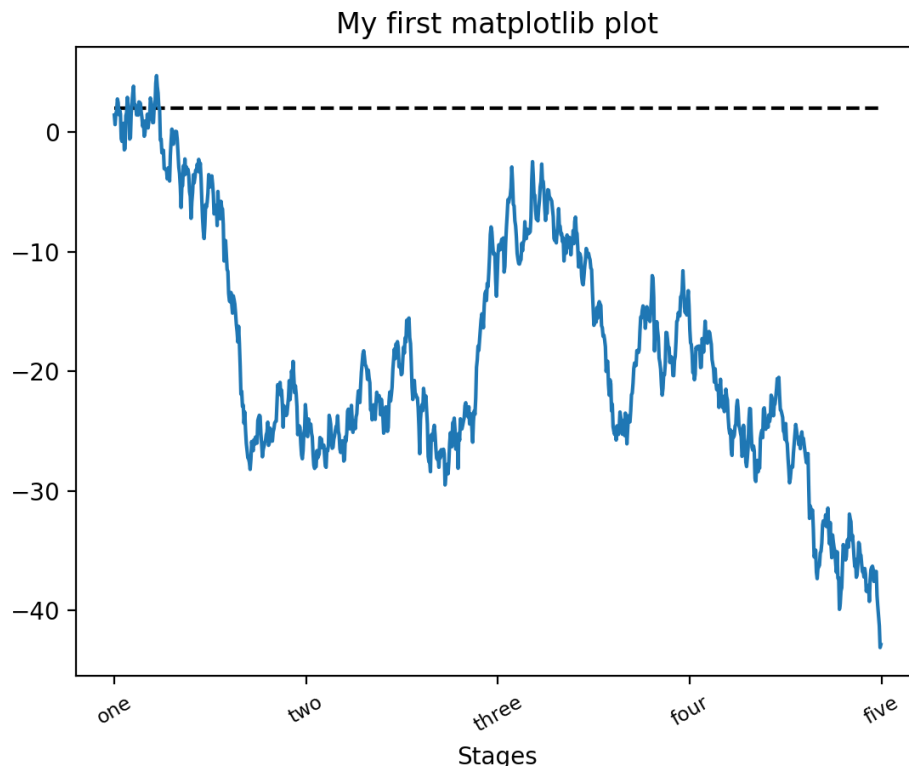
In [3]: from numpy.random import randn

In [4]: baseline = []
        for x in range(1000):
            baseline.append(2)

In [5]: # Plots in matplotlib reside within a Figure object.
        fig = plt.figure() # Creates a new figure object.

        # You can't make a plot with a blank figure. You have to create one or more subplots.
        ax = fig.add_subplot(1, 1, 1) # Creates a subplot that fills the figure and selects it.

        # The plot command draws on the last figure and subplot used, creating one if necessary.
        _ = ax.plot(baseline, 'k--') # Explicit version: _ = ax.plot(baseline, linestyle='--', color='k')
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In [6]: _ = ax.plot(randn(1000).cumsum())
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In [7]: x_ticks = ax.set_xticks([0, 250, 500, 750, 1000])  
labels = ax.set_xticklabels(['one', 'two', 'three', 'four', 'five'], rotation=30,  
                             fontsize='small')
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In [8]: _ = ax.set_title('My first matplotlib plot')
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In [9]: _ = ax.set_xlabel('Stages')
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