BqPlot

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Is it just a fancy matplotlib or is there more?

BqPlot Explained

- This is an interactive 2D visualization library based off the book the Grammar of Graphics. It uses JS as a base.
- There are two APIs that can be used in bqplot. The pyplot API, and the Objects API. The pyplot API is extremely similar to matplotlib.
- Upon tinkering, we discovered that code from the Objects API is not as interactive as pyplot.

BqPlot Strengths

- Interactive Features
  - Zooming/Panning
  - Hover tools
- Able to embed plots within jupyter notebooks
  - Small chunks of code are able to create rich plots
- Able to create a variety of plots
  - Line, scatter, heatmap, etc

BqPlot Weaknesses

- Performance issues with large datasets: While bqplot is useful for smaller datasets, it may face performance challenges when visualizing large datasets, particularly when working with real-time data updates.
- Limited chart types: While it covers most common use cases, it does not have as extensive a range of chart types as some other libraries including interactive modules such as `plotly` or static modules like `matplotlib`.
- There are much more versatile packages like `bokeh` and `holoviews` that are similar.
- Less popularity compared to Matplotlib and Plotly which can make it difficult to receive community support when debugging or fixing errors.

Recommendations for BqPlot Use

- BqPlot is ideal for interactive data visualization within Jupyter notebooks.
- It integrates seamlessly with Jupyter widgets, making it great for interactive dashboards and applications.
- Best suited for projects that benefit from dynamic, interactive plots.
- A compelling choice if you are working within the Jupyter environment.
- Suitable for making reports (sales report, for example).

A GitHub with everything you need

https://github.com/bqplot/bqplot/blob/master/examples/Basic%20Plotting/Basic%20Plotting.ipynb

Live Demo