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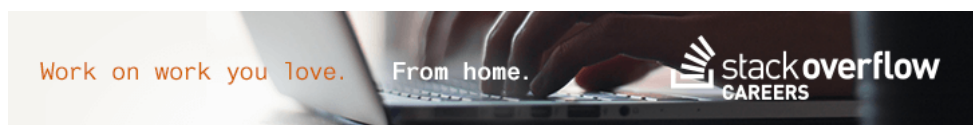
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Changing seaborn style in subplots



I'm trying to change the styles of two plots that are in the same figure:

```
import numpy as np
from numpy.random import randn
import matplotlib as mpl
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns

fig, (ax1, ax2) = plt.subplots(nrows=1, ncols=2, figsize=(15,6))
data = randn(7500);

sns.set_style("whitegrid");
ax1.hist(data, bins=8);

sns.set_style("darkgrid");
ax2.hist(data, bins=8);
```

This does not work, both plots end up having the "darkgrid" background. I have also trying tinkering with `axes_style()` with no success.

python matplotlib seaborn

asked Mar 24 '15 at 14:27

 theQman
52 1 10

1 Answer

The way matplotlib Axes work is that the style parameters become a property of the Axes object at the time it is created, not at the time something is drawn onto it. So while it's not possible to make a figure that has different subplot styles using `plt.subplots`, you can do it with one of the ways where you independently create the Axes:

```
fig = plt.figure()
with sns.axes_style("whitegrid"):
    ax1 = fig.add_subplot(121)
ax2 = fig.add_subplot(122)
```

Note also that I'm using a context manager to style the first Axes, so the second Axes will have the default style. It's possible to use `sns.set_style` before each `add_subplot` command like you do in the question, but using the context manager to create the non-default plot feels a little bit more Pythonic.

answered Mar 24 '15 at 15:57

 mwaskom
8,122 2 19 33