Programming for Business Computing Graphical User Interface

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Outline

- Basic concepts
- Example 1A: A simple square root calculator
- Example 1B: A cool square root calculator
- Example 2: A scatter plot plotter

User interface

- Our program interact with users through a **user interface** (UI).
- User interface design is important.
 - Intuitiveness.
 - Fail-safe.
 - User experience (UX).
- So far we worked with **text-based interfaces**.
 - Command lines/consoles/terminals.
- Let's try to build a graphical user interface (GUI) now.
 - Also called "front-end development".

Developing a GUI

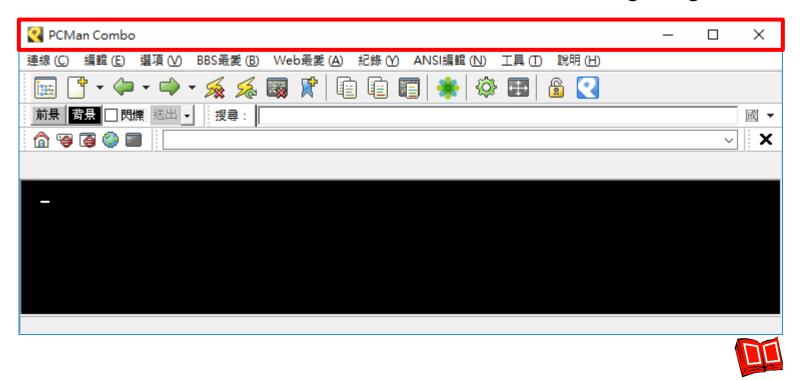
- Easier to use than a text-based user interface.
 - Better user experience.
- Easier to do **fail safe**.
 - Checkbox vs. entering Y/N.
 - Dropdown list vs. entering 1/2/3/4/5.
- Worse **performance**.
 - Compared to a text-based user interface.

Learning to develop a GUI

- Using Python to develop a GUI is not hard.
 - Easier than using C, C++, Java, etc.
 - However, still harder than web development.
- Today, you develop a GUI only if you want to make desktop software or smartphone app to sell.
 - If you just want to implement an algorithm, use a text-based UI.
 - If you want to develop an application, write a web page.
- Still, (slightly) learning how to write a GUI in Python is good.
 - Getting the fundamental ideas of GUI.
 - Getting more ideas about **classes**.
 - Getting more ideas about software development and online search.
- And getting something to demonstrate to your parents and friends.

Basic structure of a GUI: window

- A desktop application is typically presented in a window (or multiple windows).
- A window has a header:
 - An icon, a title, and three buttons (minimize, maximize/getting back, close).



Basic structure of a GUI: widgets

- There are widgets (components, elements).
 - Many of them are called icons.

dropdown lists checkboxes labels textboxes buttons a menu canvases PCMan Combo Х Web最愛 (A) 紀錄(Y) ANSI編輯(N) 說明 (H) BBS最愛(B) 搜尋: 或

Our GUI development

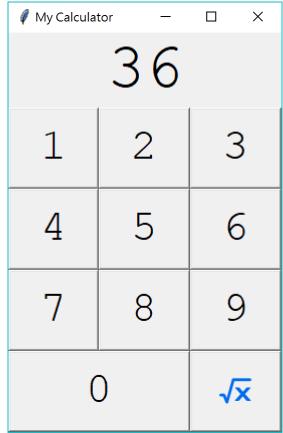
- To develop a GUI, we first create a window.
 - We will write a **class** by "inheriting" an existing window class in a library.
- We then create components by creating **objects** (using existing classes)
 - Button objects, label objects, etc.
 - They are member variables of our window class.
 - We specify their looks and locations by modifying their member variables.
- Finally, we determine their behaviors.
 - We define **member functions** of our window class.
 - We specify the function to invoke upon an event (e.g., when a button is clicked).
- The example programs are for Windows.
 - For Mac, please refer to the supplemental handout.

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- Example 1B: A cool square root calculator
- Example 2: A scatter plot plotter

A square root calculator

- Our first example is a square root calculator.
 - A simpler version of a calculator.
 - A user may click on the number pad to enter a number (as a nonnegative integer).
 - She may then click on the square root icon to get the square root of the input number (as a float number rounded to the second digit after the decimal point).
- We need to:
 - Create a window.
 - Create one label and eleven buttons.
 - Implement event-triggered functions.
 - Arrange them nicely.





Calculator 0.1: Creating a window

- First, we import **tkinter** the standard Python library for creating GUI, and give it an alias **tk**.
- We then write a class Calculator by inheriting from a class Frame.
 - Frame is a class defining an "empty" window frame.
 - To inherit from a class, put the class name inside the pair of parentheses.
 - Inheriting an existing class allows our own class having everything defined in the "parent class".

```
import tkinter as tk

class Calculator(tk.Frame):

    def __init__(self):
        tk.Frame.__init__(self)
        self.grid()

cal = Calculator()
cal.master.title("My Calculator")
cal.mainloop()
```

Calculator 0.1: Creating a window

- We then define our **constructor**:
 - Invoking the parent's constructor.
 - Invoking a member function (defined in **Frame**) to prepare "grids" to place widgets.

```
import tkinter as tk

class Calculator(tk.Frame):

    def __init__(self):
        tk.Frame.__init__(self)
        self.grid()

cal = Calculator()
cal.master.title("My Calculator")
cal.mainloop()
```

Calculator 0.1: Creating a window

- Now we use the class to create a Calculator object.
 - First, create the object.
 - Second, use a member function (defined in **Frame**) to set up the title.
 - Lastly, invoke mainloop () to let it keep listening to events (like invoking input () and waiting for user input).
- The result:

```
import tkinter as tk

class Calculator(tk.Frame):

    def __init__(self):
        tk.Frame.__init__(self)
        self.grid()

cal = Calculator()
cal.master.title("My Calculator")
cal.mainloop()
```

Calculator 0.2: Adding widgets

- Let's add a **label** and a **button**.
- To add widgets into a window, we need to decide where to place them.
 - A window is divided into grids,
 intersections of rows and columns.
 - Here we have 5 rows and 3 columns.
 - A widget may span for multiple rows or columns.
- Later we will put the label at (row = 0, column = 0) and the button at (row = 1, column = 0).

column 0 1 2					
My Calculat	tor —				
36					
1	2	3			
4	5	6			
7	8	9			
0		√x			

row 0

row 1

row 2

row 3

row 4

Calculator 0.2: Adding widgets

- We define a member function createWidgets().
- We use the class **Label** to create a member label object.
 - The first argument says that this label belongs to this window.
 - The second argument sets the initial text to "0".
 - The label object is a member of this window.
- The class **Button** works similarly.

```
import tkinter as tk
class Calculator(tk.Frame):
 def
       init (self):
               init (self)
    tk.Frame.
    self.grid()
    self.createWidgets()
 def createWidgets(self):
    self.lblNum = tk.Label(self, text = "0")
    self.btnNum1 = tk.Button(self, text = "1")
    self.lblNum.grid(row = 0, column = 0)
    self.btnNum1.grid(row = 1, column = 0)
cal = Calculator()
cal.master.title("My Calculator")
cal.mainloop()
```

Calculator 0.2: Adding widgets

- Each of the two widgets need to invoke **grid()** to set up its location.
 - We specify the row and column indices of each widget.
- The result:

```
import tkinter as tk
class Calculator(tk.Frame):
       init (self):
 def
               init (self)
    tk.Frame.
    self.grid()
    self.createWidgets()
 def createWidgets(self):
    self.lblNum = tk.Label(self, text = "0")
    self.btnNum1 = tk.Button(self, text = "1")
    self.lblNum.grid(row = 0, column = 0)
    self.btnNum1.grid(row = 1, column = 0)
cal = Calculator()
cal.master.title("My Calculator")
cal.mainloop()
```

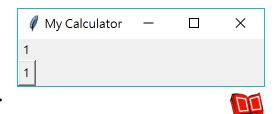
Calculator 0.3: Event-triggered functions

• We now implement an event-triggered function for the button.

```
def createWidgets(self):
    self.lblNum = tk.Label(self, text = "0")
    self.btnNum1 = tk.Button(self, text = "1", command = self.clickBtnNum1)
    self.lblNum.grid(row = 0, column = 0)
    self.btnNum1.grid(row = 1, column = 0)

def clickBtnNum1(self):
    self.lblNum.configure(text = "1")
```

• The member function **clickBtnNum1** () sets the label's text to be "1".



- By invoking the **configure** () member function.
- command = self.clickBtnNum1 adds an event listener to the button.
 - When one clicks the button, a "click" event triggers clickBtnNum1 ().
 - Without **Calculator**, this would become a (weird) global function.

Calculator 0.4: Event-triggered functions

We now implement an event-triggered function for the button.

```
def createWidgets(self):
  self.lblNum = tk.Label(self, text = "0")
  self.btnNum1 = tk.Button(self, text = "1", command = self.clickBtnNum1)
  self.lblNum.grid(row = 0, column = 0)
  self.btnNuml.grid(row = 1, column = 0)
def clickBtnNum1 (self):
  self.lblNum.configure(text = self.lblNum.cget("text") + "1")
```

- What does this implementation do?
 - self.lblNum.cget("text") returns the current text of a label object.





Clicking the button appends one more "1" to the current text.

Calculator 0.5: heights, widths, fonts

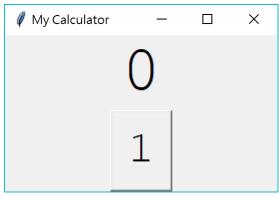
- Let's adjust the look of our widgets.
- All widgets have attributes height and width.
 - For a label or button of texts, height is the number of lines and width is the number of characters.
 - For a label or button of images, height and width are pixels.
- Most widgets have the attribute font.
 - We may use the class **font** in **tkinter** to define a font object.
 - Assigning a font object to font sets the font family/type/size of the widget.
 - To import the class, add

import tkinter.font as tkFont

into your Python program.

Calculator 1.0: heights, widths, fonts

- **f1** and **f2** are two font objects.
- The label contains one line of seven 48-point Courier New characters.
- The button contains one line of two 32-point Courier New characters.
- Calculator 1.0 (which is just 0.5) is in "Calculator1.py".





Calculator 1.1: all widgets

• Let's put all eleven buttons into the window.

```
def createWidgets(self):
  f1 = tkFont.Font(size = 48, family = "Courier New")
  f2 = tkFont.Font(size = 32, family = "Courier New")
  self.lblNum = tk.Label(self, text = "0", height = 1, width = 7, font = f1)
  self.btnNum1 = tk.Button(self, text = "1", height = 1, width = 2,
                           command = self.clickBtnNum1, font = f2)
  self.btnNum2 = tk.Button(self, text = "2", height = 1, width = 2,
                           command = self.clickBtnNum1, font = f2)
  # let all buttons' trigger clickBtnNum1() for a while
  # btnNum3 to btnNum9 omitted
  self.btnNum0 = tk.Button(self, text = "0", height = 1, width = 2,
                           command = self.clickBtnNum1, font = f2)
  self.btnSgrt = tk.Button(self, text = "s", height = 1, width = 2,
                           command = self.clickBtnNum1, font = f2)
```

Calculator 1.1: all widgets

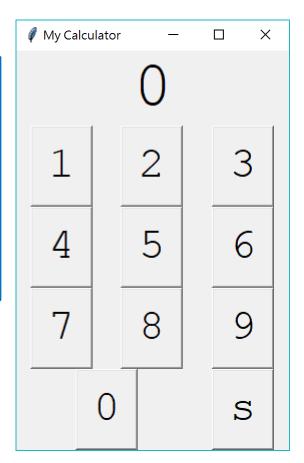
• Let's set up their locations.

```
def createWidgets(self):
    # font and widget creation omitted

self.lblNum.grid(row = 0, column = 0, columnspan = 3)

self.btnNuml.grid(row = 1, column = 0)
    self.btnNum2.grid(row = 1, column = 1)
    # btnNum3 to btnNum9 omitted
    self.btnNum0.grid(row = 4, column = 0, columnspan = 2)
    self.btnSqrt.grid(row = 4, column = 2)
```

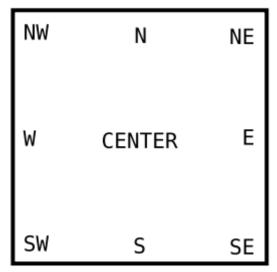
- The attribute **columnspan** specifies the number of columns spanned by the widget.
- The attribute rowspan specifies the number of columns spanned by the widget.





Calculator 1.2: expanding widgets

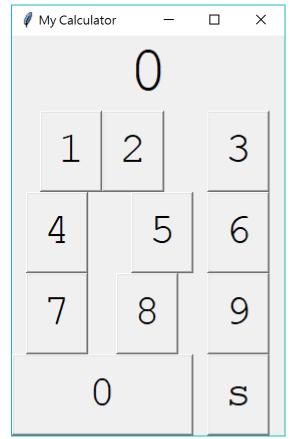
- How to take away the margins between widgets?
- The **grid()** function has a parameter **sticky** whose value decides how to **stick a widget** to a side (and remove the margin).
 - sticky = tk.E sticks the widget to the east (right).
 - sticky = tk.NE sticks the widget toward the north (top) and east (right).
 - To sticks the widget to multiple sides, write, e.g., sticky = tk.E + tk.NW





Calculator 1.2: expanding widgets

• Let's try it:





Calculator 1.2: expanding widgets

• Let's remove all margins:

My Calculat	tor —		×	
0				
1	2	3	3	
4	5	6	5	
7	8	Ç)	
0		5	5	



Calculator 1.3: adding functions

• Let's add a function for button 2:

• And then repeat this for all buttons (except square root).

Calculator 1.3: adding functions

• Let's add a function for the square root button:

- Take the current number, cast it to a float, find its square root, round it,
 convert it to a string, and then override the current number.
- This is good, but...
 - What happens if we then click a button of any number?

Calculator 1.3: adding functions

• Let's add a flag for whether we should reset the number:

```
class Calculator(tk.Frame): # all others omitted
  shouldReset = True # the flag
 def clickBtnNum1(self):
    if self.shouldReset = True:
      self.lblNum.configure(text = "1")
      self.shouldReset = False
    else:
      self.lblNum.configure(text = self.lblNum.cget("text") + "1")
 def clickBtnSqrt(self):
    curNum = float(self.lblNum.cget("text"))
    self.lblNum.configure(text = str(round(math.sqrt(curNum), 2)))
    self.shouldReset = True
```

• Should we modify the functions for other buttons in the same way?

Calculator 2.0: adding functions

• Let's use a more modularized way:

```
class Calculator(tk.Frame): # all others omitted

def setNumStr(self, content):
    if self.shouldReset == True:
        self.lblNum.configure(text = content)
        self.shouldReset = False
    else:
        self.lblNum.configure(text = self.lblNum.cget("text") + content)

def clickBtnNum1(self):
    self.setNumStr("1")

def clickBtnNum2(self):
    self.setNumStr("2")
```

• Calculator 2.0 (which is just 1.3) is in "Calculator 2.py"

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Calculator 2.1: the square root image

- The current version is good, but the label of the square root button is not good.
- Which one do you prefer?
- Let's use an image rather than a text as the label.

My Calculat	tor —			
0				
1	2	3		
4	5	6		
7	8	9		
0		S		

My Calcula	tor —	□ ×			
36					
1	2	3			
4	5	6			
7	8	9			
0		√x			





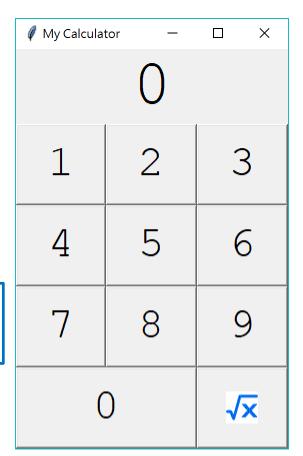
Calculator 2.1: the square root image

• First, we need to prepare an image of square root.



- While many images are in PNG, JPG, and BMP format, the default **tkinter** class **PhotoImage** only support GIF, PGM, PPM, and XBM formats.
- Suppose that we have a GIF image, we do:

- Don't forget to use cmd to run the program.
- Okay but not perfect.

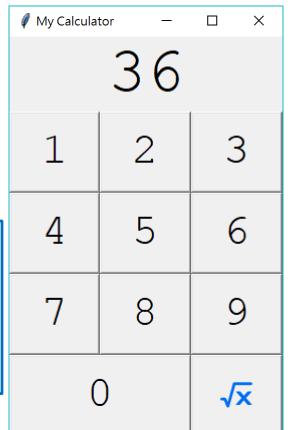




Calculator 3.0: using PIL

- To use a PNG format, we may install the library PIL (Python Image Library) by install Pillow.
 - https://python-pillow.org/.
 - To install Pillow, run "pip install Pillow"
 in cmd.
- We now write:

• Calculator 3.0 (which is just 2.2) is in "Calculator3.py".





Challenge

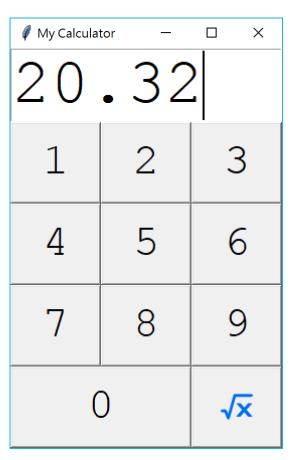
• If we write

the calculator works well, but the image disappears!

• Why?

Calculator 4.0: textbox

• Let's allow a user to type in numbers.





Calculator 4.0: textbox

• First, we change the label to a textbox, i.e., we change

```
self.lblNum = tk.Label(self, height = 1, width = 7, text = "0", font = f1)
```

to

```
self.txtNum = tk.Text(self, height = 1, width = 7, font = fl)
```

• We also change the code of setting its location, i.e., we change

```
self.lblNum.grid(row = 0, column = 0, columnspan = 3, sticky = tk.NE + tk.SW)
```

to

```
self.txtNum.grid(row = 0, column = 0, columnspan = 3, sticky = tk.NE + tk.SW)
```

Calculator 4.0: textbox

• When one clicks a number button, we change

```
def setNumStr(self, content):
    if self.shouldReset == True:
        self.lblNum.configure(text = content)
        self.shouldReset = False
    else:
        self.lblNum.configure(text = self.lblNum.cget("text") + content)
```

to

```
def setNumStr(self, content):
    if self.shouldReset == True:
        self.txtNum.delete("1.0", tk.END) # 1.0: the first line,
        self.txtNum.insert("1.0", content) # the 0th character
        self.shouldReset = False # tk.END: the last character

    else:
        self.txtNum.insert(tk.END, content)
```

• When one types a number, the textbox always gets that number inserted.

Calculator 4.0: textbox

• When one clicks the square root button, we change

```
def clickBtnSqrt(self):
    curNum = float(self.lblNum.cget("text"))
    self.lblNum.configure(text = str(round(math.sqrt(curNum), 2)))
    self.shouldReset = True
```

to

```
def clickBtnSqrt(self):
    curNum = float(self.txtNum.get("1.0", tk.END))
    self.txtNum.delete("1.0", tk.END)
    self.txtNum.insert("1.0", str(round(math.sqrt(curNum), 2)))
    self.shouldReset = True
```

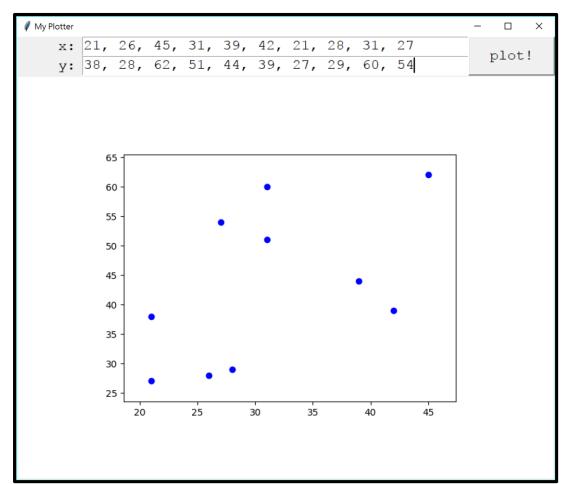
Calculator 4.0 is in "Calculator4.py".

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A scatter plot plotter

- In our second example, we will:
 - Use two textboxes to let users input commaseparated values.
 - Use a canvas to place a scatter plot based on the user input.





Plotter 1.0: window and widgets

```
import tkinter as tk
import tkinter.font as tkFont
class Plotter(tk.Frame):
 def init (self):
    tk.Frame. init (self)
    self.grid()
    self.createWidgets()
  def createWidgets(self):
    f = tkFont.Font(size = 16, family = "Courier New")
    self.lblX = tk.Label(self, text = "x:", height = 1, width = 3, font = f)
    self.lblY = tk.Label(self, text = "y:", height = 1, width = 3, font = f)
    self.txtX = tk.Text(self, height = 1, width = 40, font = f)
    self.txtY = tk.Text(self, height = 1, width = 40, font = f)
    self.btnLoad = tk.Button(self, text = "plot!", height = 1, width = 5, font = f)
    self.cvsMain = tk.Canvas(self, width = 800, height = 600, bg = "white")
```

Example 2: A scatter plot plotter

Plotter 1.0: window and widgets

```
self.lblX.grid(row = 0, column = 0, sticky = tk.E)
self.lblY.grid(row = 1, column = 0, sticky = tk.E)
self.txtX.grid(row = 0, column = 1, sticky = tk.NE + tk.SW)
self.txtY.grid(row = 1, column = 1, sticky = tk.NE + tk.SW)
self.btnLoad.grid(row = 0, rowspan = 2, column = 2, sticky = tk.NE + tk.SW)
self.cvsMain.grid(row = 2, column = 0, columnspan = 3, sticky = tk.NE + tk.SW)
pl = Plotter()
pl.master.title("My Plotter")
pl.mainloop()
```

- The sticky setting pushes the texts in the two labels to the right.
- Plotter 1.0 is in "Plotter1.py".

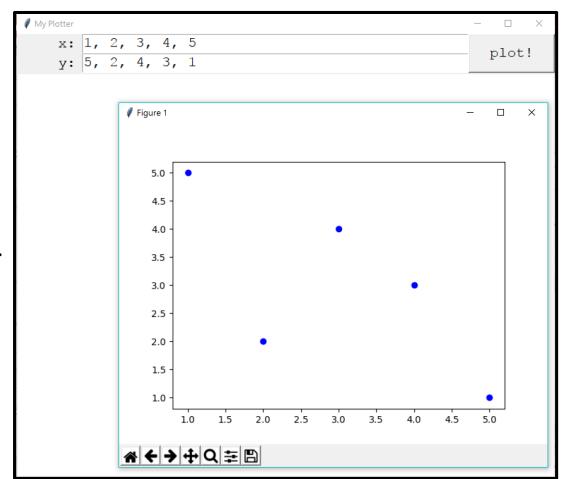
Plotter 2.0: drawing scatter plots

- To draw a scatter plot, we first:
 - Extract the texts in the two textboxes (and process them).
 - Draw a scatter plot by matplotlib.pyplot.

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as pyplot
class Plotter(tk.Frame): # all others omitted
  def createWidgets(self):
    self.btnLoad = tk.Button(self, text = "plot!", height = 1, width = 5,
                             command = self.clickBtnLoad, font = f)
def clickBtnLoad(self):
   x = self.txtX.get("1.0", tk.END).split(",") # 1.0: the first line,
                                                        the 0th character
    for i in range (len(x)):
      x[i] = float(x[i])
                                                 # tk.END: until the last character
    y = self.txtY.qet("1.0", tk.END).split(",")
    for i in range (len(y)):
      y[i] = float(y[i])
   pyplot.plot(x, y, 'bo')
   pyplot.show()
```

Plotter 2.0: drawing scatter plots

- That was good, but:
 - The scatter plot is not on the canvas.
 - xlim and ylim of the scatter plot is not set properly.
- Plotter 2.0 is in "Plotter2.py".





Plotter 3.0: revision

- Let's write a function for making a "nice" scatter plot.
 - And save it as a file.

Plotter 3.0: revision

• Now we put the saved file onto the canvas.

```
from PIL import ImageTk
class Plotter(tk.Frame): # all others omitted
  def clickBtnLoad(self):
    x = self.txtX.qet("1.0", tk.END).split(",")
    for i in range (len(x)):
      x[i] = float(x[i])
    y = self.txtY.qet("1.0", tk.END).split(",")
    for i in range (len(y)):
      y[i] = float(y[i])
    self.makeScatter(x, y)
    self.imageMain = ImageTk.PhotoImage(file = "temp.png")
    self.cvsMain.create image(400, 300, image = self.imageMain, anchor = tk.CENTER)
```

Plotter 3.0: revision

• Let's delete the file after it is used.

```
import os

class Plotter(tk.Frame): # all others omitted

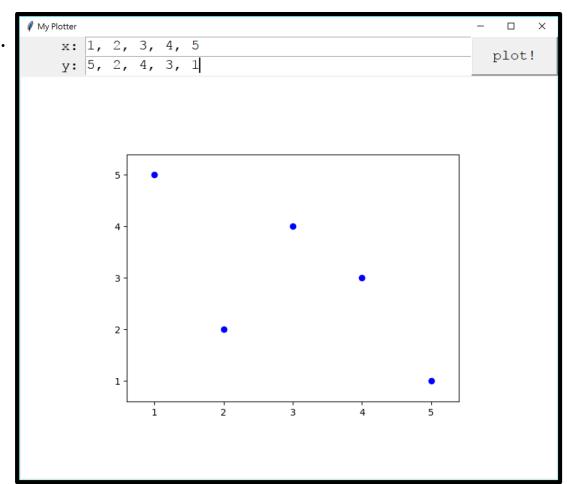
def clickBtnLoad(self):
    # string processing...

self.makeScatter(x, y)

self.imageMain = ImageTk.PhotoImage(file = "temp.png")
    self.cvsMain.create_image(400, 300, image = self.imageMain, anchor = tk.CENTER)
    os.system("del temp.png")
```

Plotter 3.0: revision

• Plotter 3.0 is in "Plotter3.py".





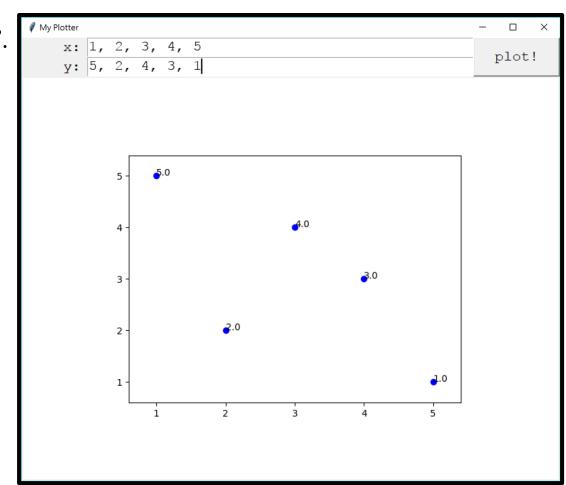
Plotter 4.0: coordinates

• May we add coordinate labels onto the plot? Yes!

```
class Plotter(tk.Frame): # all others omitted
  def makeScatter(self, x, y):
    fig = pyplot.figure()
    ax = fig.add subplot(111)
    rangeX = max(x) - min(x)
    ax.set xlim(min(x) - rangeX * 0.1, max(x) + rangeX * 0.1)
    rangeY = max(y) - min(y)
    ax.set ylim(min(y) - rangeY * 0.1, max(y) + rangeY * 0.1)
   pyplot.plot(x, y, 'bo')
    for i, j in zip(x, y):
      ax.annotate(str(j), xy = (i, j))
   pyplot.savefig("temp.png")
```

Plotter 4.0: coordinates

• Plotter 4.0 is in "Plotter 4.py".





Remarks

- GUI development motivated OOP.
- Most of us in the future will not write programs to build a GUI.
- However, the following concepts are good to know:
 - Objects, classes, and inheritance.
 - Modularization (e.g., each button is an object).
 - Event listeners.
- To add more widgets and make more powerful applications, search online!

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1	1-53	STATE OF THE STATE	© O S O ND	台灣大學 孔令傑, <u>CC BY-NC-ND 3.0</u>
2	6 7			2005–2017 PCMan BBS Project, 洪任諭 http://pcman.ptt.cc/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited
3	10 14 31 33	36 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 4x		Python Software Foundation, Guido van Rossum https://www.python.org/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited
4	13	# MyCalculator − □ X		Python Software Foundation, Guido van Rossum https://www.python.org/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited
5	16	# My Calculator - X		Python Software Foundation, Guido van Rossum https://www.python.org/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited
6	17	# My Calculator — X 1 1		Python Software Foundation, Guido van Rossum https://www.python.org/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited

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7	18	# My Calculator — X		Python Software Foundation, Guido van Rossum https://www.python.org/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited
8	19	Ø My Calculation − □ × O 1		Python Software Foundation, Guido van Rossum https://www.python.org/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited
9	22	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9		Python Software Foundation, Guido van Rossum https://www.python.org/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited
10	23	NW N NE W CENTER E SW S SE		Python Software Foundation, Guido van Rossum https://www.python.org/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited
11	24	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 s		Python Software Foundation, Guido van Rossum https://www.python.org/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited
12	25 31	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 s		Python Software Foundation, Guido van Rossum https://www.python.org/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited

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13	32	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 4x		Python Software Foundation, Guido van Rossum https://www.python.org/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited
14	35	20.32 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 58		Python Software Foundation, Guido van Rossum https://www.python.org/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited
15	40	ELEGERATE D		Python Software Foundation, Guido van Rossum https://www.python.org/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited
16	44	### ##################################		Python Software Foundation, Guido van Rossum https://www.python.org/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited
17	48			Python Software Foundation, Guido van Rossum https://www.python.org/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited
18	50			Python Software Foundation, Guido van Rossum https://www.python.org/ 依據著作權法第46、52、65條合理使用 2017/10/13 visited