

Python Matplotlib Cheat Sheet - myTechMint

Matplotlib

Matplotlib is a Python 2D plotting library which produces publication-quality figures in a variety of hardcopy formats and interactive environments across platforms.

> Prepare The Data

1D Data

```
>>> import numpy as np
>>> x = np.linspace(0, 10, 100)
>>> y = np.cos(x)
>>> z = np.sin(x)
```

2D Data or Images

```
>>> data = 2 * np.random.random((10, 10))
>>> data2 = 3 * np.random.random((10, 10))
>>> Y, X = np.mgrid[-3:3:100j, -3:3:100j]
>>> U = -1 - X**2 + Y
>>> V = 1 + X - Y**2
>>> from matplotlib.cbook import get_sample_data
>>> img = np.load(get_sample_data('axes_grid/bivariate_normal.npy'))
```

> Create Plot

```
>>> import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

Figure

```
>>> fig = plt.figure()
>>> fig2 = plt.figure(figsize=plt.figaspect(2.0))
```

Axes

All plotting is done with respect to an Axes. In most cases, a subplot will fit your needs. A subplot is an axes on a grid system.

```
>>> fig.add_axes()
>>> ax1 = fig.add_subplot(221) #row-col-num
>>> ax3 = fig.add_subplot(212)
>>> fig3, axes = plt.subplots(nrows=2,ncols=2)
>>> fig4, axes2 = plt.subplots(ncols=3)
```

> Save Plot

```
>>> plt.savefig('foo.png') #Save figures
>>> plt.savefig('foo.png', transparent=True) #Save transparent figures
```

> Show Plot

```
>>> plt.show()
```

> Plotting Routines

1D Data

```
>>> fig, ax = plt.subplots()
>>> lines = ax.plot(x,y) #Draw points with lines or markers connecting them
>>> ax.scatter(x,y) #Draw unconnected points, scaled or colored
>>> axes[0,0].bar([1,2,3],[3,4,5]) #Plot vertical rectangles (constant width)
>>> axes[1,0].barh([0.5,1,2.5],[0,1,2]) #Plot horizontal rectangles (constant height)
>>> axes[1,1].axhline(0.45) #Draw a horizontal line across axes
>>> axes[0,1].axvline(0.65) #Draw a vertical line across axes
>>> ax.fill(x,y,color='blue') #Draw filled polygons
>>> ax.fill_between(x,y,color='yellow') #Fill between y-values and 0
```

2D Data

```
>>> fig, ax = plt.subplots()
>>> im = ax.imshow(img, #Colormapped or RGB arrays
                  cmap='gist_earth',
                  interpolation='nearest',
                  vmin=-2,
                  vmax=2)
>>> axes2[0].pcolor(data2) #Pseudocolor plot of 2D array
>>> axes2[0].pcolormesh(data) #Pseudocolor plot of 2D array
>>> CS = plt.contour(Y,X,U) #Plot contours
>>> axes2[2].contourf(data1) #Plot filled contours
>>> axes2[2].ax = ax.clabel(CS) #Label a contour plot
```

Vector Fields

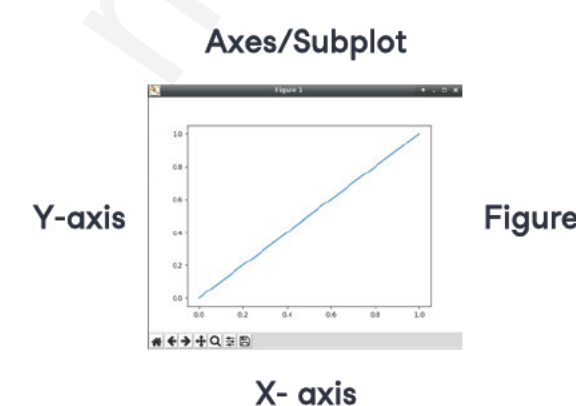
```
>>> axes[0,1].arrow(0,0,0.5,0.5) #Add an arrow to the axes
>>> axes[1,1].quiver(Y,X,U,V) #Plot a 2D field of arrows
>>> axes[0,1].streamplot(X,Y,U,V) #Plot a 2D field of arrows
```

Data Distributions

```
>>> ax1.hist(y) #Plot a histogram
>>> ax3.boxplot(y) #Make a box and whisker plot
>>> ax3.violinplot(z) #Make a violin plot
```

> Plot Anatomy & Workflow

Plot Anatomy



Workflow

The basic steps to creating plots with matplotlib are:

1 Prepare Data 2 Create Plot 3 Plot 4 Customized Plot 5 Save Plot 6 Show Plot

```
>>> import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
>>> x = [1,2,3,4] #Step 1
>>> y = [10,20,25,30]
>>> fig = plt.figure() #Step 2
>>> ax = fig.add_subplot(111) #Step 3
>>> ax.plot(x, y, color='lightblue', linewidth=3) #Step 3, 4
>>> ax.scatter([2,4,6],
              [5,15,25],
              color='darkgreen',
              marker='^')
>>> ax.set_xlim(1, 6.5)
>>> plt.savefig('foo.png') #Step 5
>>> plt.show() #Step 6
```

> Close and Clear

```
>>> plt.cla() #Clear an axis
>>> plt.clf() #Clear the entire figure
>>> plt.close() #Close a window
```

> Plotting Customize Plot

Colors, Color Bars & Color Maps

```
>>> plt.plot(x, x, x, x**2, x, x**3)
>>> ax.plot(x, y, alpha = 0.4)
>>> ax.plot(x, y, c='k')
>>> fig.colorbar(im, orientation='horizontal')
>>> im = ax.imshow(img,
                  cmap='seismic')
```

Markers

```
>>> fig, ax = plt.subplots()
>>> ax.scatter(x,y,marker=".")
>>> ax.plot(x,y,marker="o")
```

Linestyles

```
>>> plt.plot(x,y,linewidth=4.0)
>>> plt.plot(x,y,ls='solid')
>>> plt.plot(x,y,ls='--')
>>> plt.plot(x,y,'--',x**2,y**2,'-.')
>>> plt.setp(lines,color='r',linewidth=4.0)
```

Text & Annotations

```
>>> ax.text(1,
          -2.1,
          'Example Graph',
          style='italic')
>>> ax.annotate("Sine",
              xy=(8, 0),
              xycoords='data',
              xytext=(10.5, 0),
              textcoords='data',
              arrowprops=dict(arrowstyle="→",
                              connectionstyle="arc3"),)
```

Mathtext

```
>>> plt.title(r'$\sigma_i=15$', fontsize=20)
```

Limits, Legends and Layouts

Limits & Autoscaling

```
>>> ax.margins(x=0.0,y=0.1) #Add padding to a plot
>>> ax.axis('equal') #Set the aspect ratio of the plot to 1
>>> ax.set(xlim=[0,10.5],ylim=[-1.5,1.5]) #Set limits for x-and y-axis
>>> ax.set_xlim(0,10.5) #Set limits for x-axis
```

Legends

```
>>> ax.set(title='An Example Axes', #Set a title and x-and y-axis labels
          ylabel='Y-Axis',
          xlabel='X-Axis')
>>> ax.legend(loc='best') #No overlapping plot elements
```

Ticks

```
>>> ax.xaxis.set(ticks=range(1,5), #Manually set x-ticks
               tickLabels=[3,100,-12,"foo"])
>>> ax.tick_params(axis='y', #Make y-ticks longer and go in and out
                 direction='inout',
                 length=10)
```

Subplot Spacing

```
>>> fig3.subplots_adjust(wspace=0.5, #Adjust the spacing between subplots
                       hspace=0.3,
                       left=0.125,
                       right=0.9,
                       top=0.9,
                       bottom=0.1)
>>> fig.tight_layout() #Fit subplot(s) in to the figure area
```

Axis Spines

```
>>> ax1.spines['top'].set_visible(False) #Make the top axis line for a plot invisible
>>> ax1.spines['bottom'].set_position(('outward',10)) #Move the bottom axis line outward
```