

Matplotlib

[Introduction](#)

[Plot Basics](#)

[Simple](#)

[Title and Axis Labels](#)

[Legends](#)

[Colors](#)

[Plot Types](#)

[Line](#)

[Multi](#)

[Bar](#)

[Multi Stacked](#)

[Multi Spaced](#)

[Histogram](#)

[Cumulative \(add previous\)](#)

[Scatter](#)

[Multi](#)

[Stack](#)

[Pie Charts](#)

[Axis-aligned](#)

[Explode](#)

[3D Line](#)

[Increased Gaps](#)

[3D Scatter](#)

[Custom Markers](#)

[Groups / Clusters](#)

[3D Bar Chart](#)

[Scattered](#)

[Scattered with Height](#)

[Advanced Techniques](#)

[Plotting Dates](#)

[Adding Grids](#)

[Filling Plots](#)

[Drawing Arbitrary Lines](#)

[Drawing Arbitrary Text](#)

[Annotating](#)
[Using Styles](#)

Introduction

Matplotlib is a library for python that was created to support matlab-style plotting. To use matplotlib, download the matplotlib package and add the following to your code...

```
import matplotlib
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
%matplotlib inline # only required if you're using jupyter notebook + you want to output images
```

If you're using jupyter notebook, your plots should show up automatically. If you're using standalone python, you can use the show() method to open up a window to show your plot.

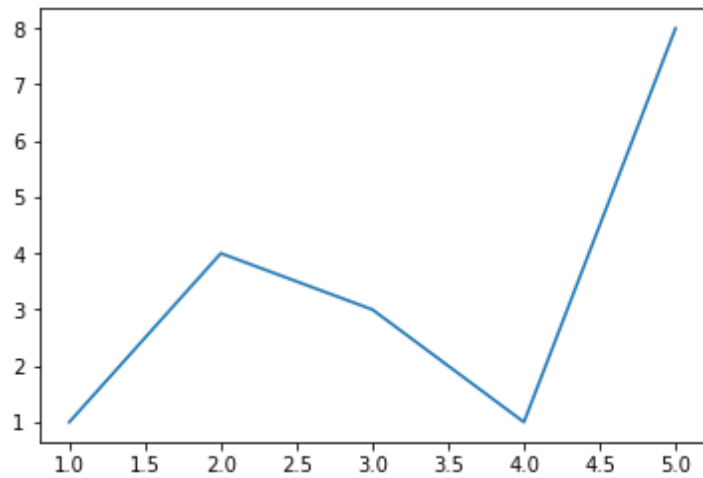
```
plt.plot([1,2,3,4,5], [1,4,3,1,8])
plt.show()
```

Note that once you show(), the data being plotted will be cleared. If you want to do it again, you need to re-plot your data.

Plot Basics

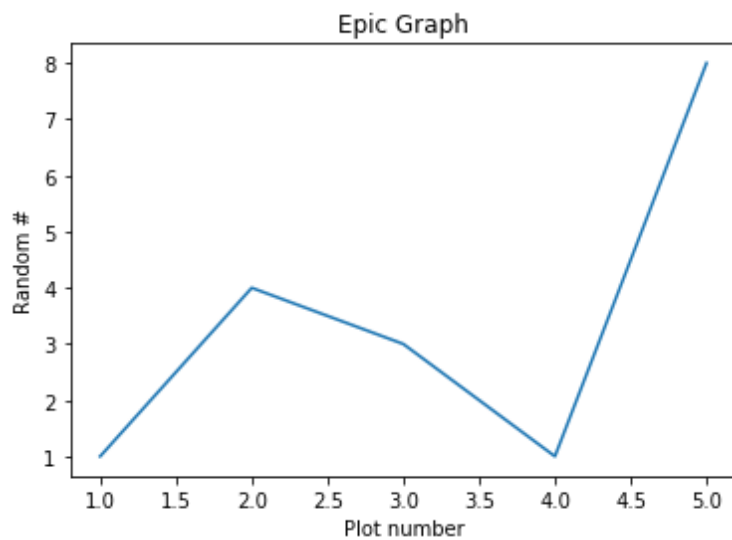
Simple

```
x = [1,2,3,4,5]
y = [1,4,3,1,8]
plt.plot(x, y)
plt
```



Title and Axis Labels

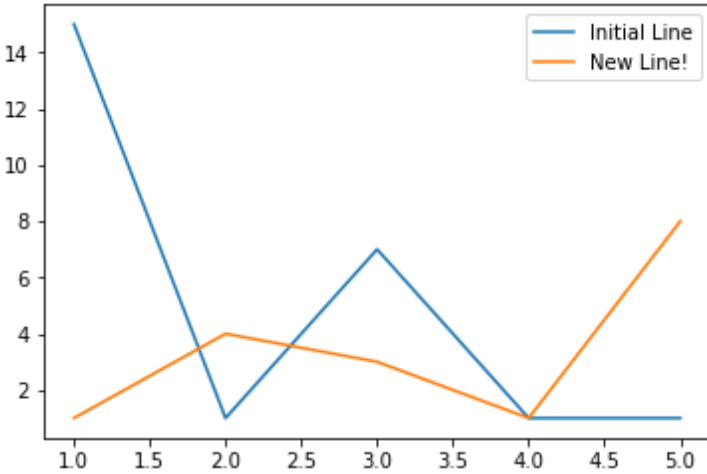
```
x = [1,2,3,4,5]
y = [1,4,3,1,8]
plt.plot(x, y)
plt.title('Epic Graph')
plt.xlabel('Plot number')
plt.ylabel('Random #')
plt
```



Legends

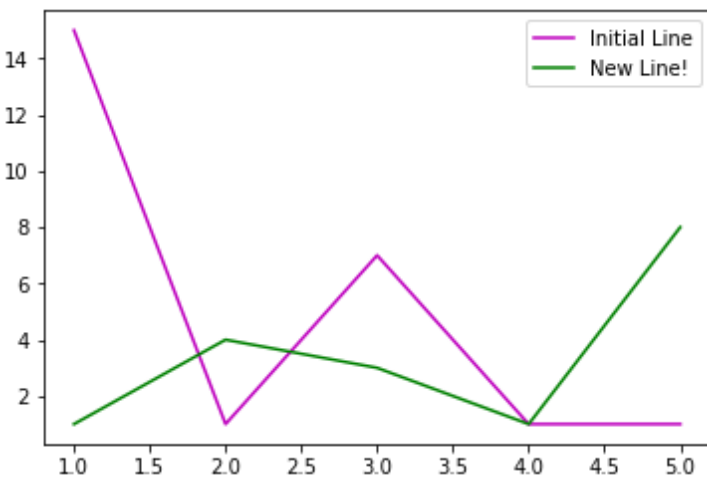
```
x = [1,2,3,4,5]
y = [15,1,7,1,1]
```

```
y2 = [1,4,3,1,8]
plt.plot(x, y, label='Initial Line')
plt.plot(x, y2, label='New Line!')
plt.legend()
plt
```



Colors

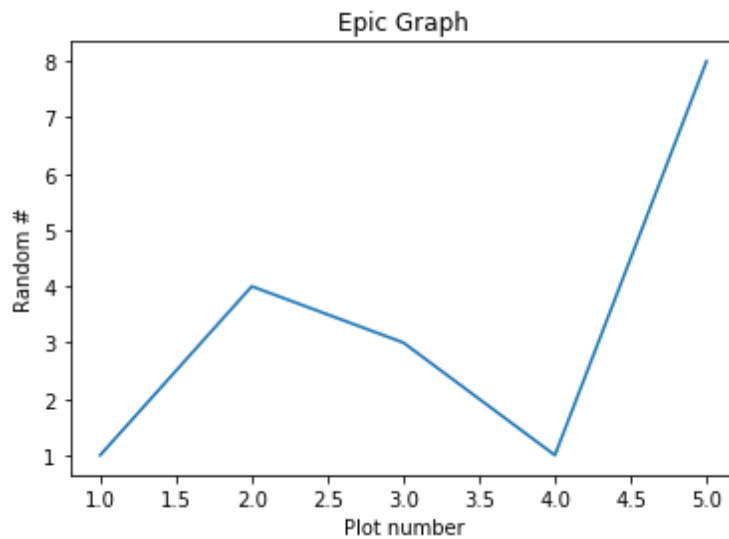
```
x = [1,2,3,4,5]
y = [15,1,7,1,1]
y2 = [1,4,3,1,8]
plt.plot(x, y, label='Initial Line', color='m')
plt.plot(x, y2, label='New Line!', color='g')
plt.legend()
plt
```



Plot Types

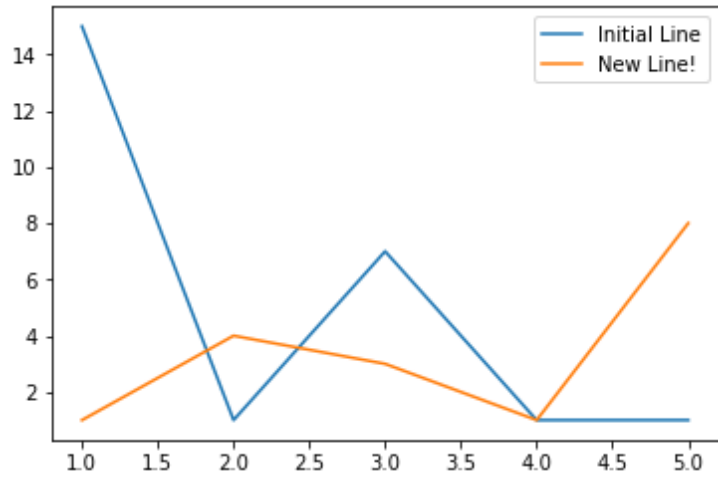
Line

```
x = [1,2,3,4,5]
y = [1,4,3,1,8]
plt.plot(x, y)
plt.title('Epic Graph')
plt.xlabel('Plot number')
plt.ylabel('Random #')
plt
```



Multi

```
x = [1,2,3,4,5]
y = [15,1,7,1,1]
y2 = [1,4,3,1,8]
plt.plot(x, y, label='Initial Line')
plt.plot(x, y2, label='New Line!')
plt.legend()
plt
```



Bar

x = [1,2,3,4,5]

y = [15,1,7,1,1]

```
plt.bar(x, y, label="One")
```

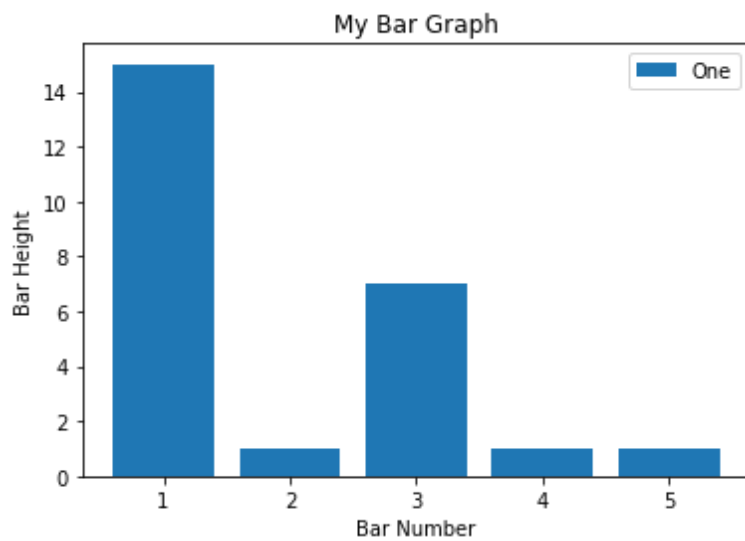
```
plt.title('My Bar Graph')
```

```
plt.xlabel('Bar Number')
```

```
plt.ylabel('Bar Height')
```

```
plt.legend()
```

```
plt
```

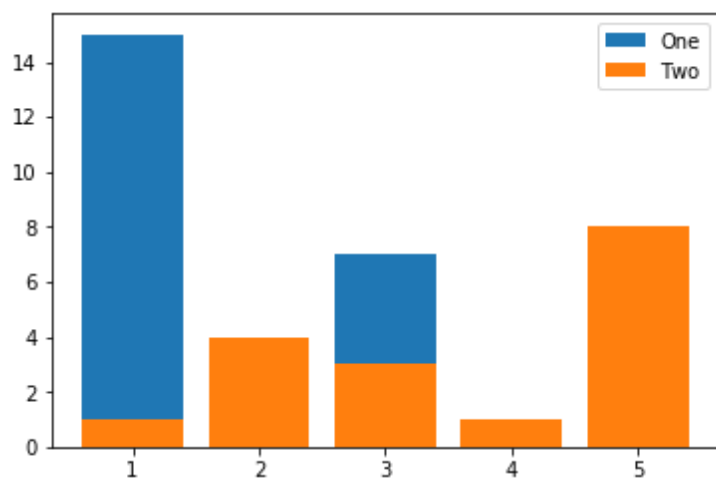


Multi Stacked

```
x = [1,2,3,4,5]
y = [15,1,7,1,1]
y2 = [1,4,3,1,8]
```

```
plt.bar(x, y, label="One")
plt.bar(x, y2, label="Two")
```

```
plt.legend()
plt
```



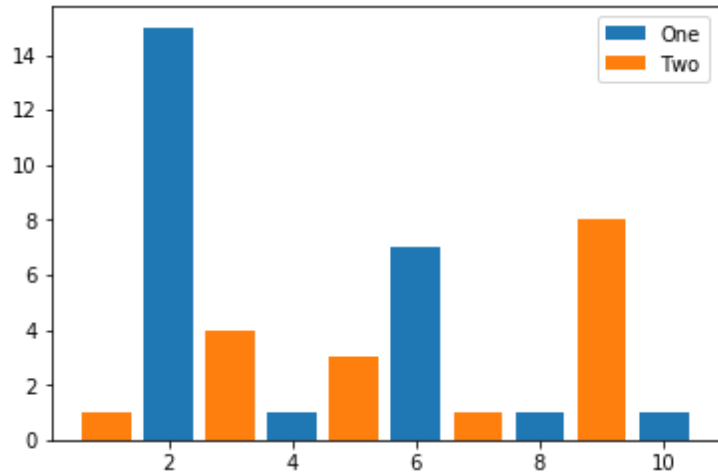
Multi Spaced

```
x = [2,4,6,8,10]
y = [15,1,7,1,1]
```

```
x2 = [1,3,5,7,9]
y2 = [1,4,3,1,8]
```

```
plt.bar(x, y, label="One")
plt.bar(x2, y2, label="Two")
```

```
plt.legend()
plt
```



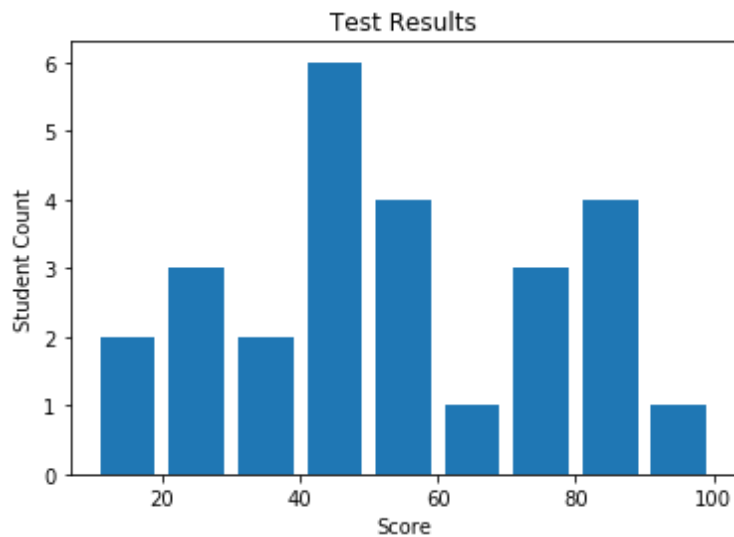
Histogram

```
test_scores = [55, 45, 88, 75, 43, 56, 89, 55, 46, 76, 41, 23, 45, 86, 88, 90, 11, 22, 33, 41, 11, 33, 56, 26, 66, 77]
```

```
bins = [10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100]
```

```
plt.title('Test Results')
plt.xlabel('Score')
plt.ylabel('Student Count')
```

```
plt.hist(test_scores, bins, histtype='bar', rwidth=0.8)
plt
```



Cumulative (add previous)

```
test_scores = [55, 45, 88, 75, 43, 56, 89, 55, 46, 76, 41, 23, 45, 86, 88, 90, 11, 22, 33, 41, 11, 33, 56, 26, 66, 77]
```

```
x = [x for x in range(len(test_scores))]
```

```
bins = [10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100]
```

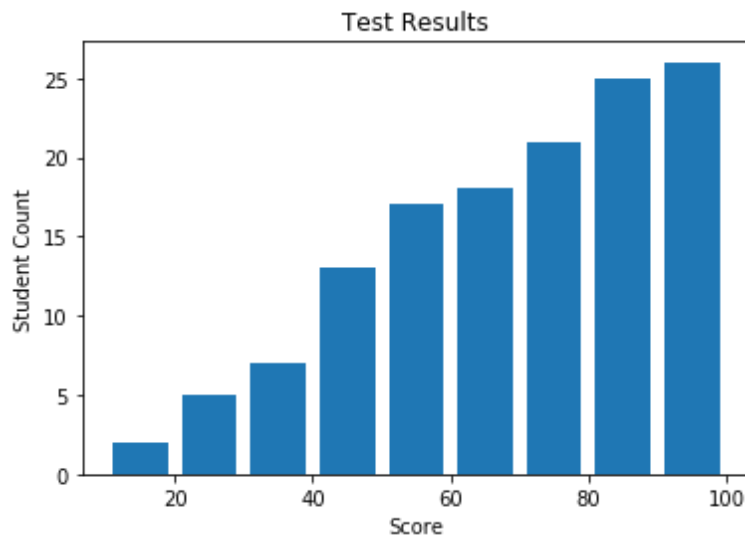
```
plt.title('Test Results')
```

```
plt.xlabel('Score')
```

```
plt.ylabel('Student Count')
```

```
plt.hist(test_scores, bins, histtype='bar', cumulative=True, rwidth=0.8)
```

```
plt
```



Scatter

```
test_scores = [55, 45, 88, 75, 43, 56, 89, 55, 46, 76, 41, 23, 45, 86, 88, 90, 11, 22, 33, 41, 11, 33, 56, 26, 66, 77]
```

```
time_spent = [11, 10, 44, 50, 5, 5, 50, 9, 12, 44, 15, 1, 2, 90, 70, 66, 4, 4, 11, 1, 1, 3, 16, 17, 5, 50]
```

```
x = [x for x in range(len(test_scores))]
```

```
bins = [10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100]
```

```
plt.title('Time Spent vs Test Score')
```

```
plt.xlabel('Time Spent')
```

```
plt.ylabel('Test Scores')
```

```
plt.scatter(time_spent, test_scores)
plt
```

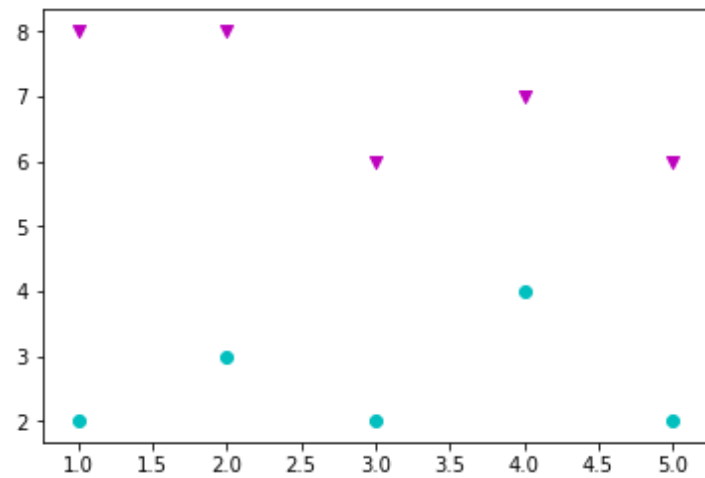


Multi

```
x = [1,2,3,4,5]
y1 = [2,3,2,4,2]
y2 = [8,8,6,7,6]
```

```
plt.scatter(x, y1, marker='o', color='c')
plt.scatter(x, y2, marker='v', color='m')
```

plt



Stack

```
year = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10]
```

```
# in thousands of dollars
```

```
taxes = [17,18,40,43,44,8,43,32,39,30]
```

```
overhead = [30,22,9,29,17,12,14,24,49,35]
```

```
entertainment = [41,32,27,13,19,12,22,18,28,20]
```

```
# there isn't an easy way to put a legend in a stack plot...
```

```
# we can fake it by passing in empty line plots
```

```
#
```

```
# anything that fills in polygons is not really legend-able
```

```
plt.plot([], [], color='m', label='Taxes')
```

```
plt.plot([], [], color='c', label='Overhead')
```

```
plt.plot([], [], color='b', label='Entertainment')
```

```
# notice this is different than previous graph types...
```

```
# the first arg is x, rest of them are y (before you start using keyword args)
```

```
# notice the colors being passed in are the same as the fake line plots
```

```
plt.stackplot(year, taxes, overhead, entertainment, colors=['m','c','b'])
```

```
plt.legend()
```

```
plt.title('Company expenses')
```

```
plt.xlabel('Year')
```

```
plt.ylabel('Cost x $1,000')
```

```
plt
```



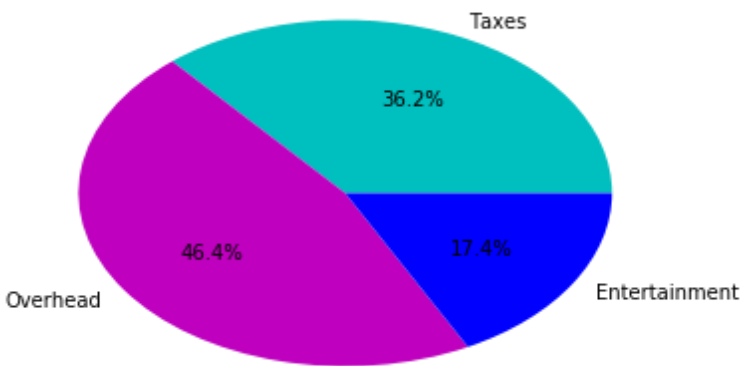
Pie Charts

```
labels = ('Taxes', 'Overhead', 'Entertainment')
```

```
sizes = [25, 32, 12]
```

```
colors = ['c', 'm', 'b']
```

```
plt.pie(sizes, labels=labels, colors=colors, autopct='%1.1f%%')  
plt
```



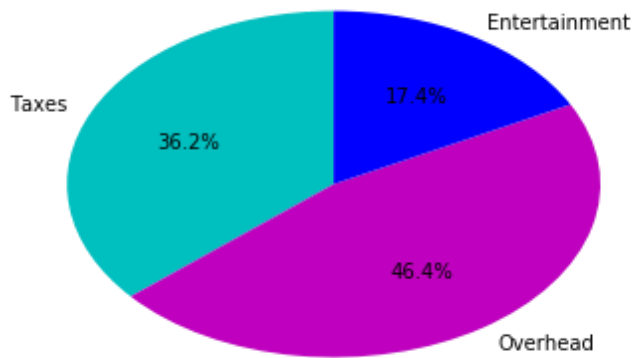
Axis-aligned

```
labels = ('Taxes', 'Overhead', 'Entertainment')
```

```
sizes = [25, 32, 12]
```

```
colors = ['c', 'm', 'b']
```

```
plt.pie(sizes, labels=labels, colors=colors, autopct='%1.1f%%', startangle=90)  
plt
```



Explode

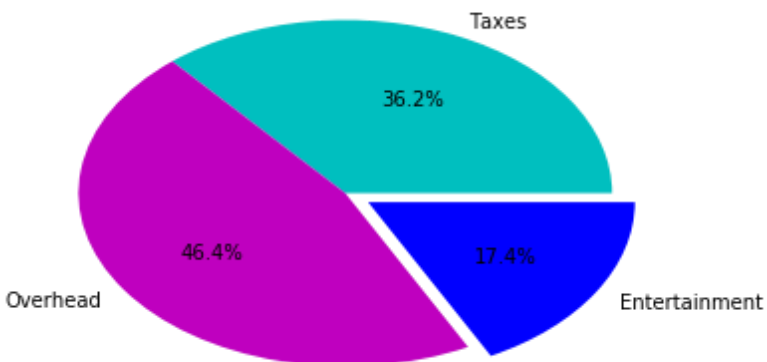
```
labels = ('Taxes', 'Overhead', 'Entertainment')
```

```
sizes = [25, 32, 12]
```

```
colors = ['c', 'm', 'b']
```

```
plt.pie(sizes, labels=labels, colors=colors, autopct='%1.1f%%', explode=(0,0,0.1))
```

```
plt
```



3D Line

```
from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import axes3d
```

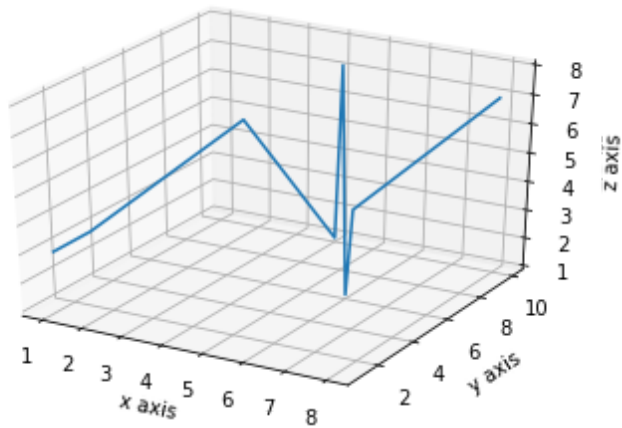
```
fig = plt.figure()
```

```
ax1 = fig.add_subplot(111, projection = '3d')
```

```
x = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8]
y = [1,1,7,10,8,6,4,10]
z = [3,4,6,1,8,1,5,7]
```

```
ax1.plot_wireframe(x,y,z)
ax1.set_xlabel('x axis')
ax1.set_ylabel('y axis')
ax1.set_zlabel('z axis')
```

```
plt
```



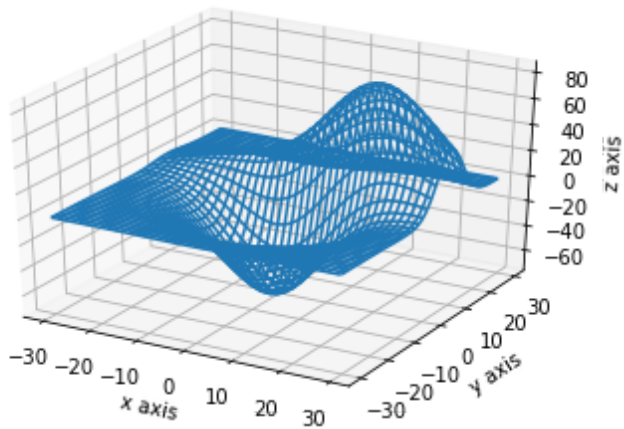
```
from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import axes3d
```

```
fig = plt.figure()
ax1 = fig.add_subplot(111, projection = '3d')
```

```
x, y, z = axes3d.get_test_data() # generated test data
```

```
ax1.plot_wireframe(x, y, z)
```

```
ax1.set_xlabel('x axis')
ax1.set_ylabel('y axis')
ax1.set_zlabel('z axis')
plt.legend()
plt
```



Increased Gaps

```
from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import axes3d
```

```
fig = plt.figure()
```

```
ax1 = fig.add_subplot(111, projection = '3d')
```

```
x, y, z = axes3d.get_test_data()
```

```
ax1.plot_wireframe(x, y, z, rstride=7, cstride=7)
```

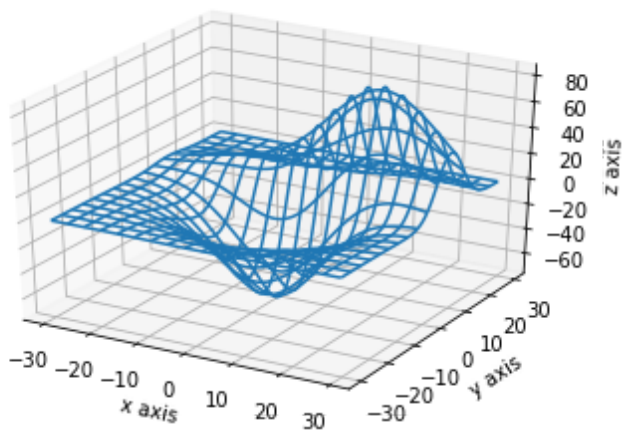
```
ax1.set_xlabel('x axis')
```

```
ax1.set_ylabel('y axis')
```

```
ax1.set_zlabel('z axis')
```

```
plt.legend()
```

```
plt
```



3D Scatter

```
from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import axes3d
```

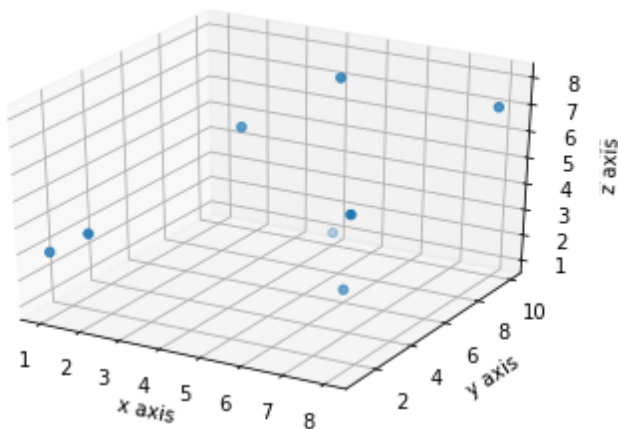
```
fig = plt.figure()  
ax1 = fig.add_subplot(111, projection = '3d')
```

```
x = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8]  
y = [1,1,7,10,8,6,4,10]  
z = [3,4,6,1,8,1,5,7]
```

```
ax1.scatter(x,y,z)  
ax1.set_xlabel('x axis')  
ax1.set_ylabel('y axis')  
ax1.set_zlabel('z axis')
```

```
# THE DOTS CLOSEST TO YOU ARE DARKER (more alpha applied farther away)
```

```
plt
```



Custom Markers

```
from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import axes3d
```

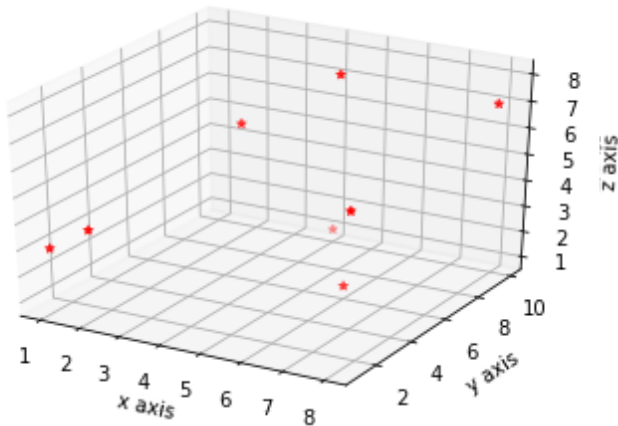
```
fig = plt.figure()  
ax1 = fig.add_subplot(111, projection = '3d')
```

```
x = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8]  
y = [1,1,7,10,8,6,4,10]  
z = [3,4,6,1,8,1,5,7]
```



```
ax1.scatter(x,y,z,c='r',marker='*')
ax1.set_xlabel('x axis')
ax1.set_ylabel('y axis')
ax1.set_zlabel('z axis')
```

```
plt
```



Groups / Clusters

```
from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import axes3d
```

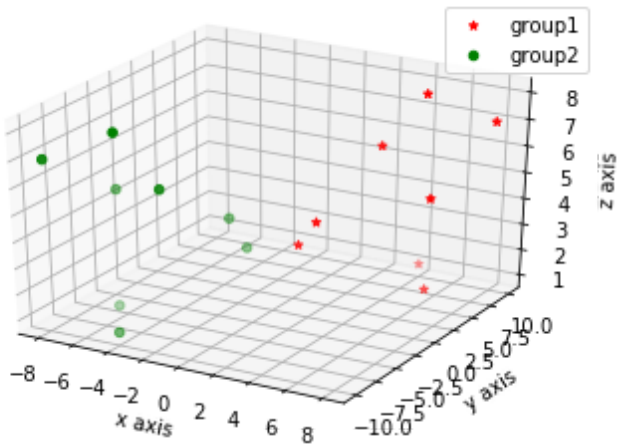
```
fig = plt.figure()
ax1 = fig.add_subplot(111, projection = '3d')
```

```
x = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8]
y = [1,1,7,10,8,6,4,10]
z = [3,4,6,1,8,1,5,7]
```

```
x2 = [-1,-2,-3,-4,-5,-6,-7,-8]
y2 = [-1,-1,-7,-10,-8,-6,-4,-10]
z2 = [3,4,6,1,8,1,5,7]
```

```
ax1.scatter(x,y,z,c='r',marker='*',label='group1')
ax1.scatter(x2,y2,z2,c='g',marker='o',label='group2')
ax1.set_xlabel('x axis')
ax1.set_ylabel('y axis')
ax1.set_zlabel('z axis')
```

```
plt.legend()
plt
```



3D Bar Chart

Scattered

```
from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import axes3d
```

```
fig = plt.figure()
```

```
ax1 = fig.add_subplot(111, projection = '3d')
```

```
x = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8]
```

```
y = [1,1,7,10,8,6,4,10]
```

```
z = [0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0]
```

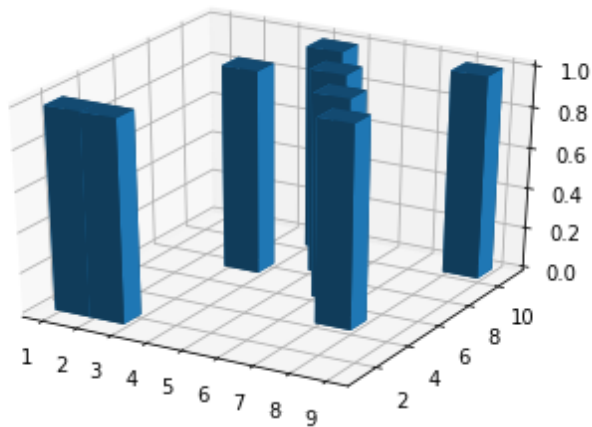
```
dx = 1
```

```
dy = 1
```

```
dz = 1
```

```
ax1.bar3d(x, y, z, dx, dy, dz)
```

```
plt
```



Scattered with Height

```
from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import axes3d
```

```
fig = plt.figure()
```

```
ax1 = fig.add_subplot(111, projection = '3d')
```

```
x = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8]
```

```
y = [1,1,7,10,8,6,4,10]
```

```
z = [0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0]
```

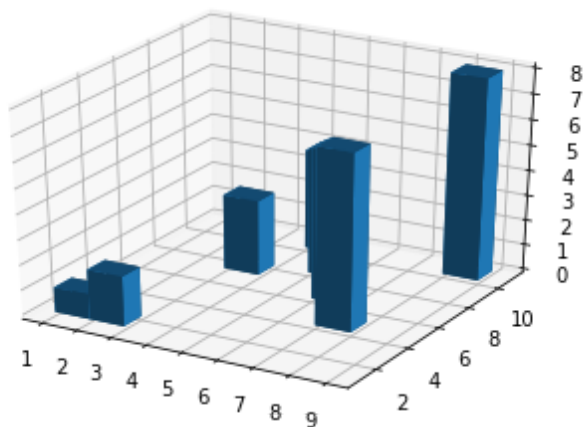
```
dx = [1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1] #length of bars
```

```
dy = [1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1] #width of bars
```

```
dz = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8] #height of bars
```

```
ax1.bar3d(x, y, z, dx, dy, dz)
```

```
plt
```



Advanced Techniques

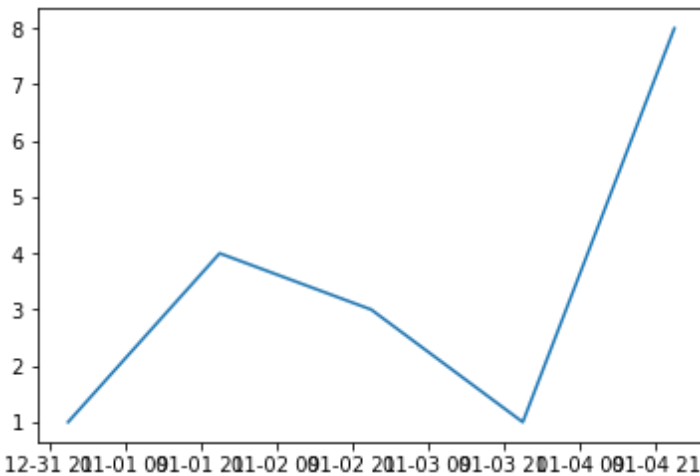
Plotting Dates

```
# You must first convert your timestamps to Python datetime objects (use datetime.strptime).  
# Then use date2num to convert the dates to matplotlib format.  
#  
# Plot the dates and values using plot\_date...  
# dates = matplotlib.dates.date2num(list_of_datetimes) matplotlib.pyplot.plot_date(dates,  
values)
```

```
from datetime import datetime
```

```
x = ['2001-01-01', '2001-01-02', '2001-01-03', '2001-01-04', '2001-01-05']  
x_datetimes = [datetime.strptime(date, '%Y-%m-%d') for date in x]  
x_matplotlib_datetimes = matplotlib.dates.date2num(x_datetimes)
```

```
y = [1,4,3,1,8]  
plt.plot_date(x_matplotlib_datetimes, y, '-')  
plt
```



```
from datetime import datetime
```

```
x = ['2001-01-01', '2001-01-02', '2001-01-03', '2001-01-04', '2001-01-05']  
x_datetimes = [datetime.strptime(date, '%Y-%m-%d') for date in x]  
x_matplotlib_datetimes = matplotlib.dates.date2num(x_datetimes)
```

```
# For whatever reason this must be above call to plot_date...
```

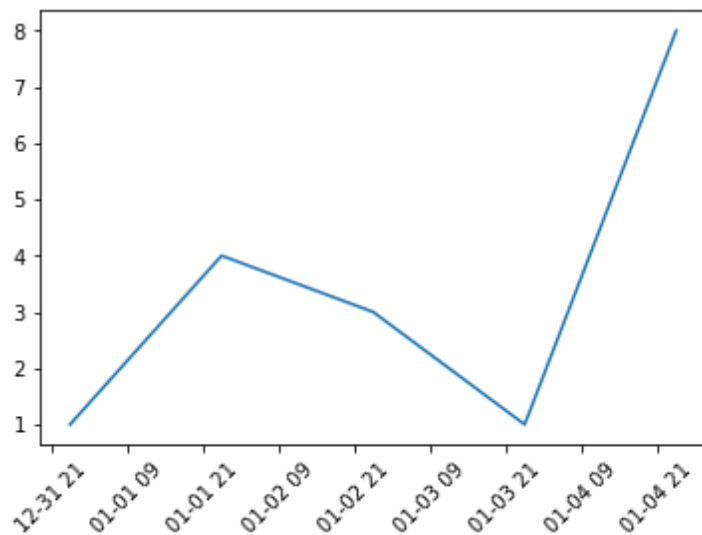
```

# Otherwise 2 graphs will show, the second one will be empty
# and have slanted x labels, but the first will have the data
# but horizontal labels.
fig = plt.figure()
ax1 = plt.subplot2grid((1,1), (0,0))
for label in ax1.xaxis.get_ticklabels():
    label.set_rotation(45)

y = [1,4,3,1,8]
plt.plot_date(x_matplotlib_datetimes, y, '-')

```

plt

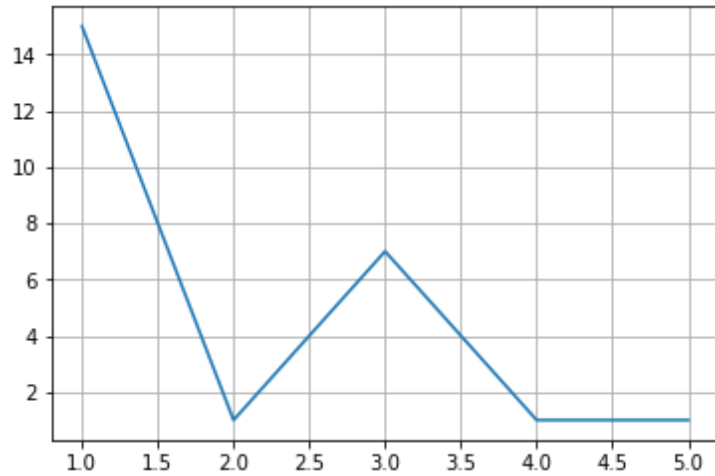


Adding Grids

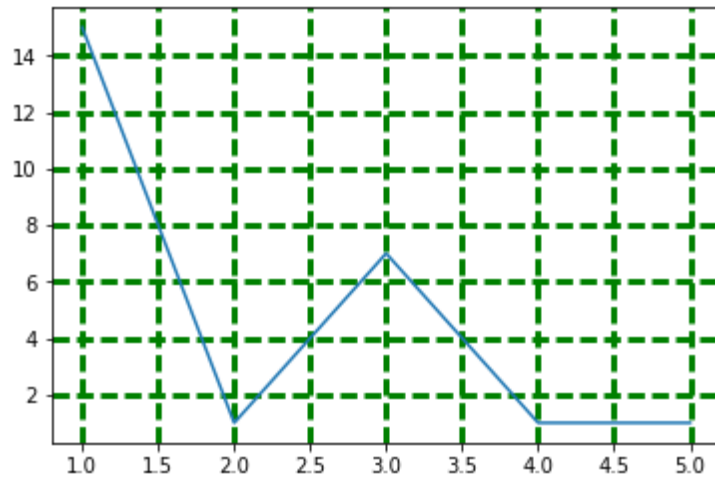
```

x = [1,2,3,4,5]
y = [15,1,7,1,1]
fig = plt.figure()
ax1 = plt.subplot2grid((1,1), (0,0))
ax1.grid(True)
plt.plot(x, y)
plt

```



```
x = [1,2,3,4,5]
y = [15,1,7,1,1]
fig = plt.figure()
ax1 = plt.subplot2grid((1,1), (0,0))
ax1.grid(True, color='g', linestyle='--', linewidth=3)
plt.plot(x, y)
plt
```



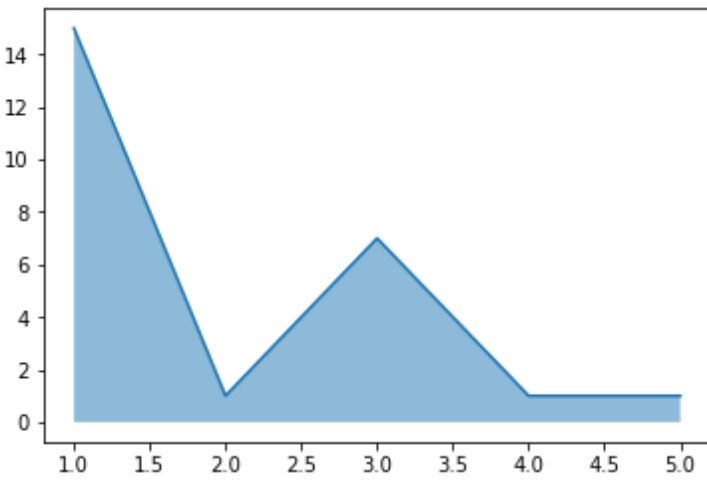
Filling Plots

```
x = [1,2,3,4,5]
y = [15,1,7,1,1]

fig = plt.figure()
ax1 = plt.subplot2grid((1,1), (0,0))
ax1.fill_between(x, y, 0, alpha=0.5)
```

```
plt.plot(x, y)
```

```
plt
```

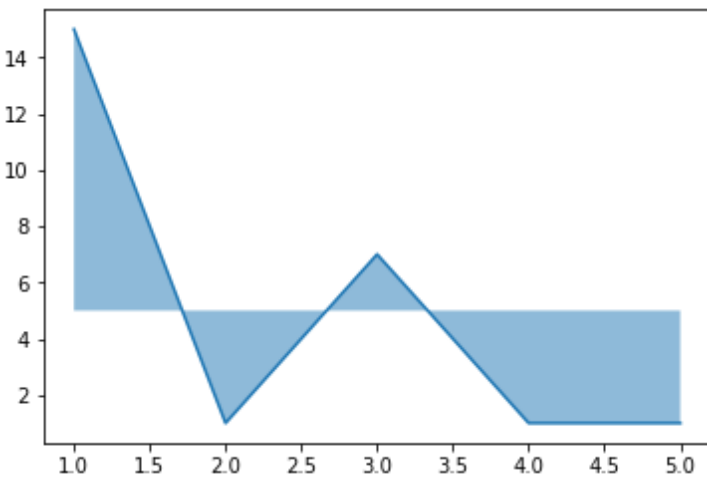


```
x = [1,2,3,4,5]  
y = [15,1,7,1,1]
```

```
fig = plt.figure()  
ax1 = plt.subplot2grid((1,1), (0,0))  
ax1.fill_between(x, y, 5, alpha=0.5)
```

```
plt.plot(x, y)
```

```
plt
```



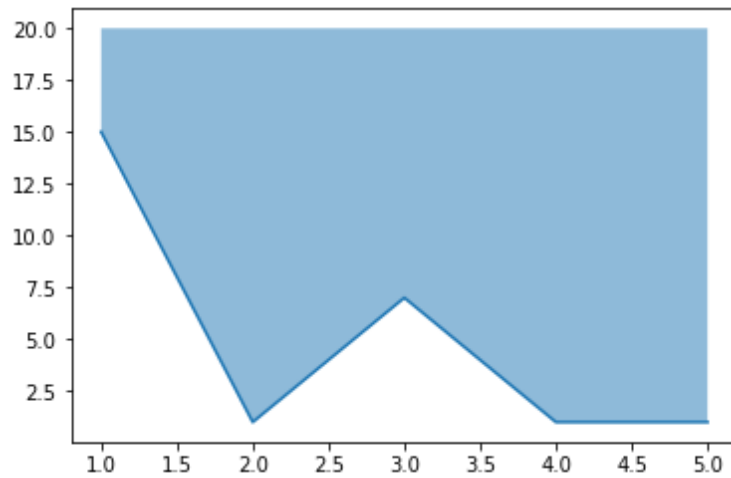
```
x = [1,2,3,4,5]  
y = [15,1,7,1,1]
```

```
fig = plt.figure()
```

```
ax1 = plt.subplot2grid((1,1), (0,0))
ax1.fill_between(x, y, 20, alpha=0.5)
```

```
plt.plot(x, y)
```

```
plt
```

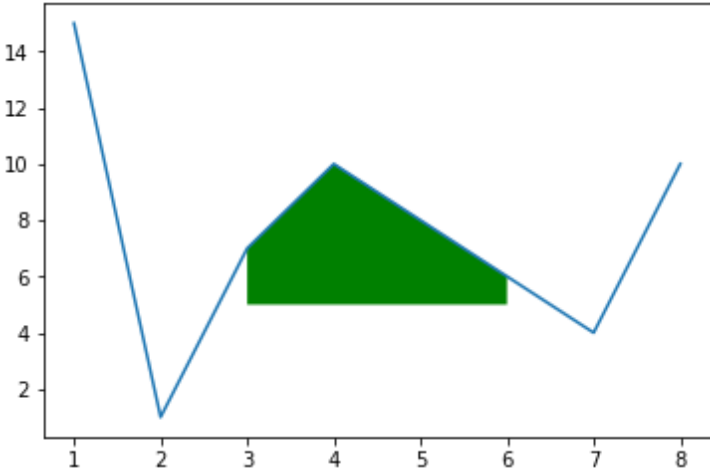


```
import numpy as np
```

```
x = np.array([1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8])
y = np.array([15,1,7,10,8,6,4,10])
```

```
fig = plt.figure()
ax1 = plt.subplot2grid((1,1), (0,0))
plt.plot(x, y)
ax1.fill_between(x, y, 5, where=(y >= 5), facecolor='g')
ax1.fill_between(x, y, 5, where=(y <= 5), facecolor='r')
```

```
plt
```

NOTE: This last one is totally broken. Not sure why. Everything above 5 should be green, everything below should be red.

Drawing Arbitrary Lines

```
x = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8]
```

```
y = [15,1,7,10,8,6,4,10]
```

```
fig = plt.figure()
```

```
ax1 = plt.subplot2grid((1,1), (0,0))
```

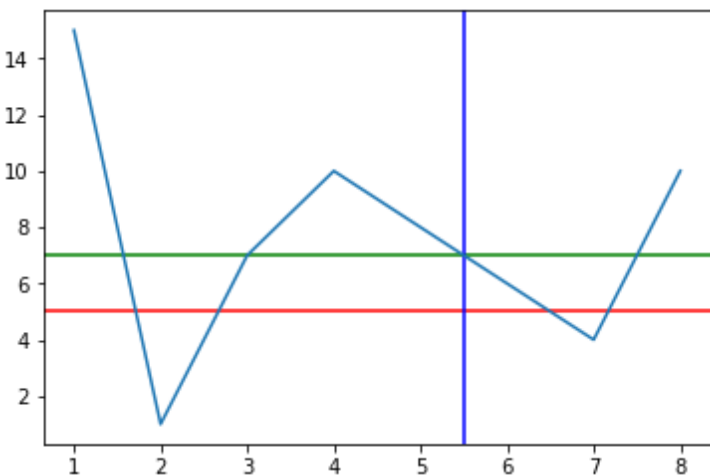
```
ax1.axhline(5, color='r')
```

```
ax1.axhline(7, color='g')
```

```
ax1.axvline(5.5, color='b')
```

```
plt.plot(x, y)
```

```
plt
```



Drawing Arbitrary Text

```
x=[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8]
```

```
y = [15,1,7,10,8,6,4,10]
```

```
fig = plt.figure()
```

```
ax1 = plt.subplot2grid((1,1), (0,0))
```

```
plt.plot(x, y)
```

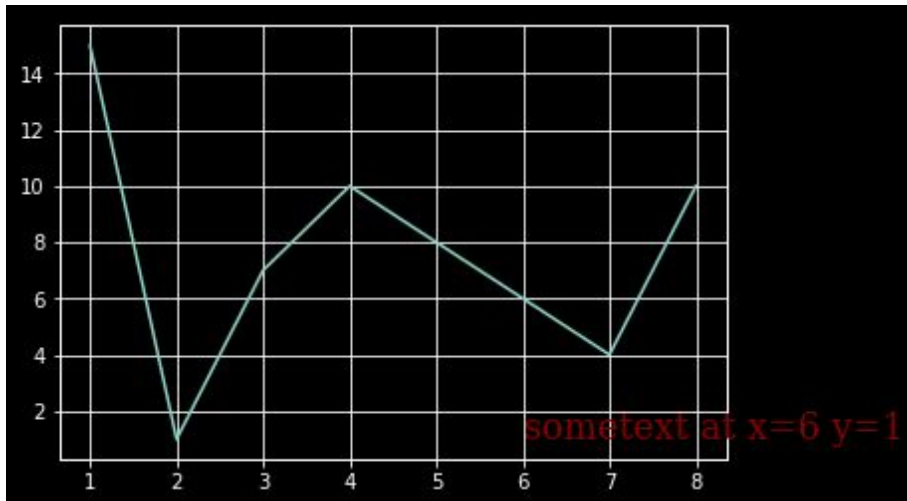
```
font = {'family' : 'serif',
```

```
       'color' : 'darkred',
```

```
       'size' : 18}
```

```
plt.text(6, 1, "sometext at x=6 y=1", fontdict=font)
```

plt



Annotating

```
import numpy as np
```

```
x = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8]
```

```
y = [1,1,7,10,8,6,4,10]
```

```
fig = plt.figure()
```

```
ax1 = plt.subplot2grid((1,1), (0,0))
```

```
ax1.annotate('My Note Here!',
```

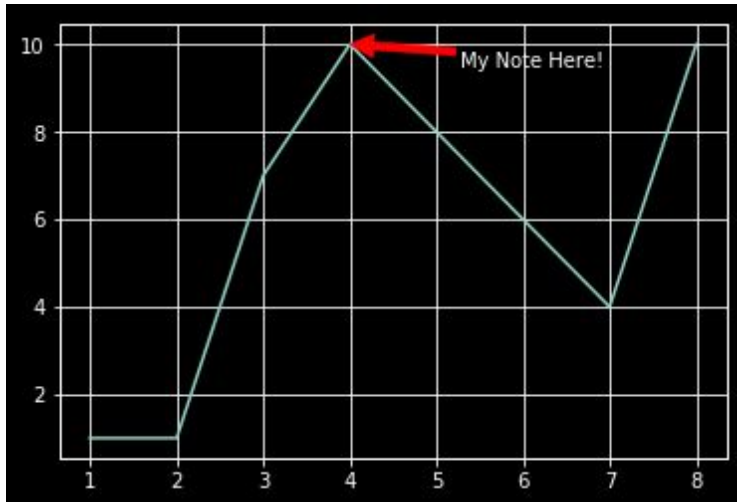
```
           (x[3], y[3]),
```

```
           xytext=(0.6, 0.9),
```

```
           textcoords='axes fraction',
```

```
arrowprops=dict(facecolor='r', color='r'))
plt.plot(x, y)
```

plt



Using Styles

```
from matplotlib import style
```

```
style.use('ggplot')
```

```
x = [1,2,3,4,5]
```

```
y = [15,1,7,1,1]
```

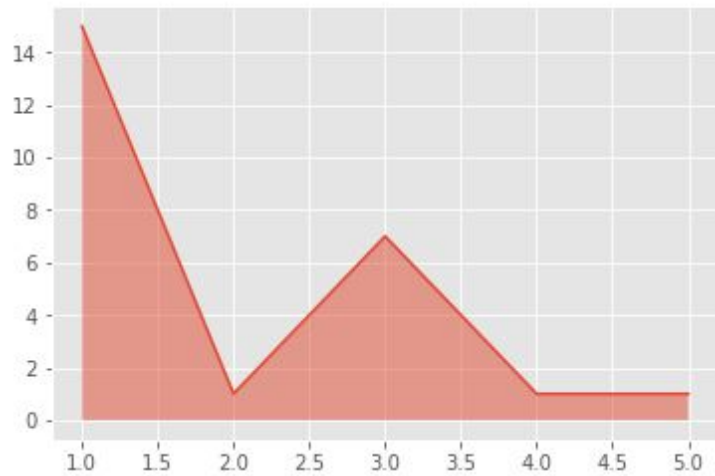
```
fig = plt.figure()
```

```
ax1 = plt.subplot2grid((1,1), (0,0))
```

```
ax1.fill_between(x, y, 0, alpha=0.5)
```

```
plt.plot(x, y)
```

plt



```
from matplotlib import style
```

```
style.use('dark_background')
```

```
x = [1,2,3,4,5]  
y = [15,1,7,1,1]
```

```
fig = plt.figure()  
ax1 = plt.subplot2grid((1,1), (0,0))  
ax1.fill_between(x, y, 0, alpha=0.5)
```

```
plt.plot(x, y)
```

```
plt
```

