



# Computer Methods (MAE 3403)

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## Visualization



# Visualization

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- A necessary component to develop, validate code and work with data
- module (similar to MATLAB plotting): `matplotlib.pyplot`
  - `import matplotlib.pyplot as plt`
  - Need to install separately

# 2D plot

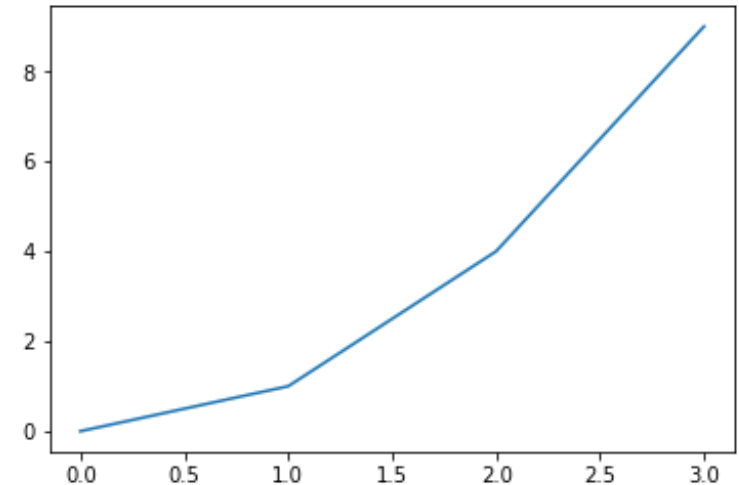
- Simplest plot: `plot(x,y)`

```
x = [0, 1, 2, 3]
```

```
y = [0, 1, 4, 9]
```

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

```
plt.show()
```



- Change marker or line or color: `plot(x,y,'ro')`

- color: b, g, r, c, m, y, k, w

- marker: ., o, x, +, \*, s, d

- line style: -, -., :, -,

```
x = np.linspace(-5,5,20)
```

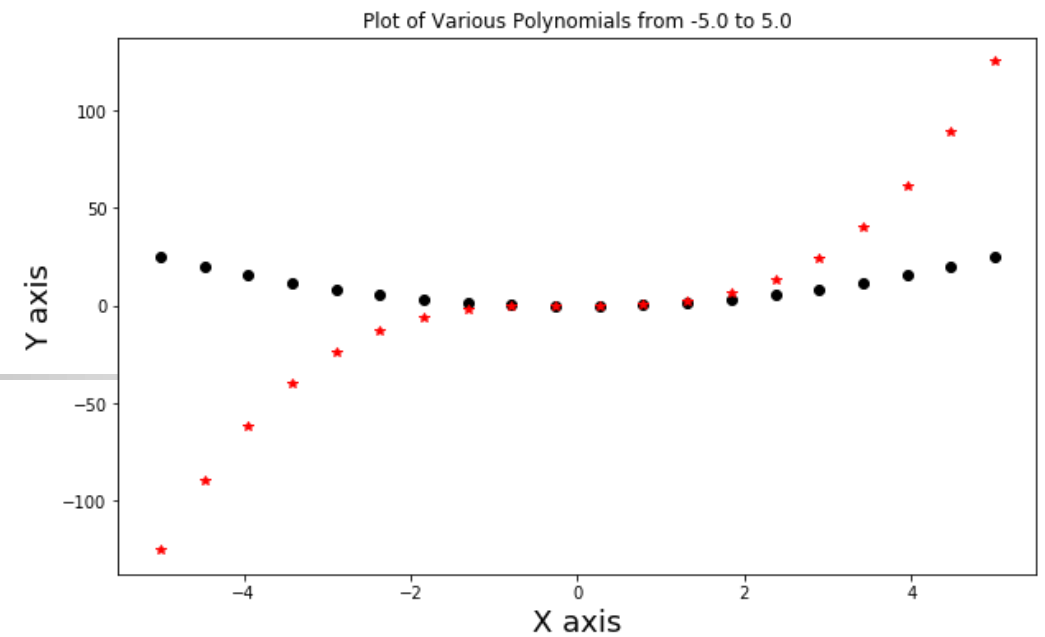
```
plt.plot(x, x**2, 'ko')
```

```
plt.plot(x, x**3, 'r*')
```

```
plt.show()
```

# Labels

- Always give a title and axis labels
  - `title('Trajectory of the rocket')`
  - `xlabel('time (sec)')`
  - `ylabel('position (m)')`
- Change the size of a figure
  - `plt.figure(figsize = (10,6))`



```
plt.figure(figsize = (10,6))
x = np.linspace(-5,5,20)
plt.plot(x, x**2, 'ko')
plt.plot(x, x**3, 'r*')
plt.title(f'Plot of Various Polynomials from
{x[0]} to {x[-1]}')
plt.xlabel('X axis', fontsize = 18)
plt.ylabel('Y axis', fontsize = 18)
plt.show()
```



# Styles

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- Almost any part of the figure can be customized, e.g., change font size, color, etc.
- Use `xlim`, `ylim` to change the limits of the axis. Use `grid` to turn on the grid of the figure.

- `plt.xlim(-6, 6), plt.grid()`

- Predefined plotting style

```
print(plt.style.available)
```

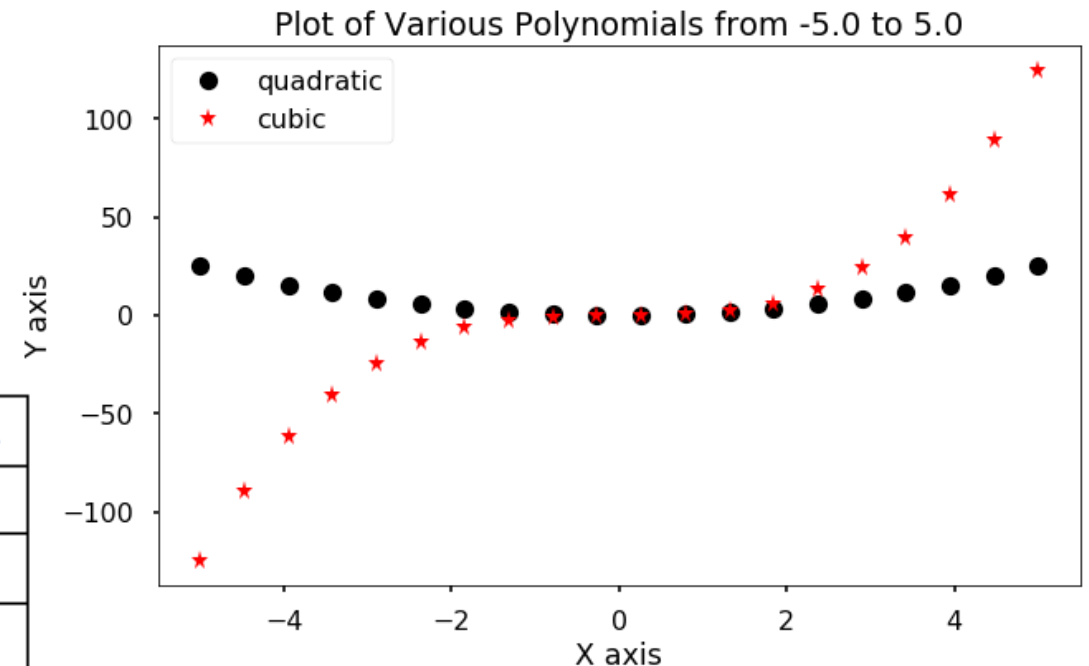
```
plt.style.use('seaborn-v0_8')
```

# Legend

- Add label in the plot function. Legend function specifies location of the legend (`loc = 0 – 10`)

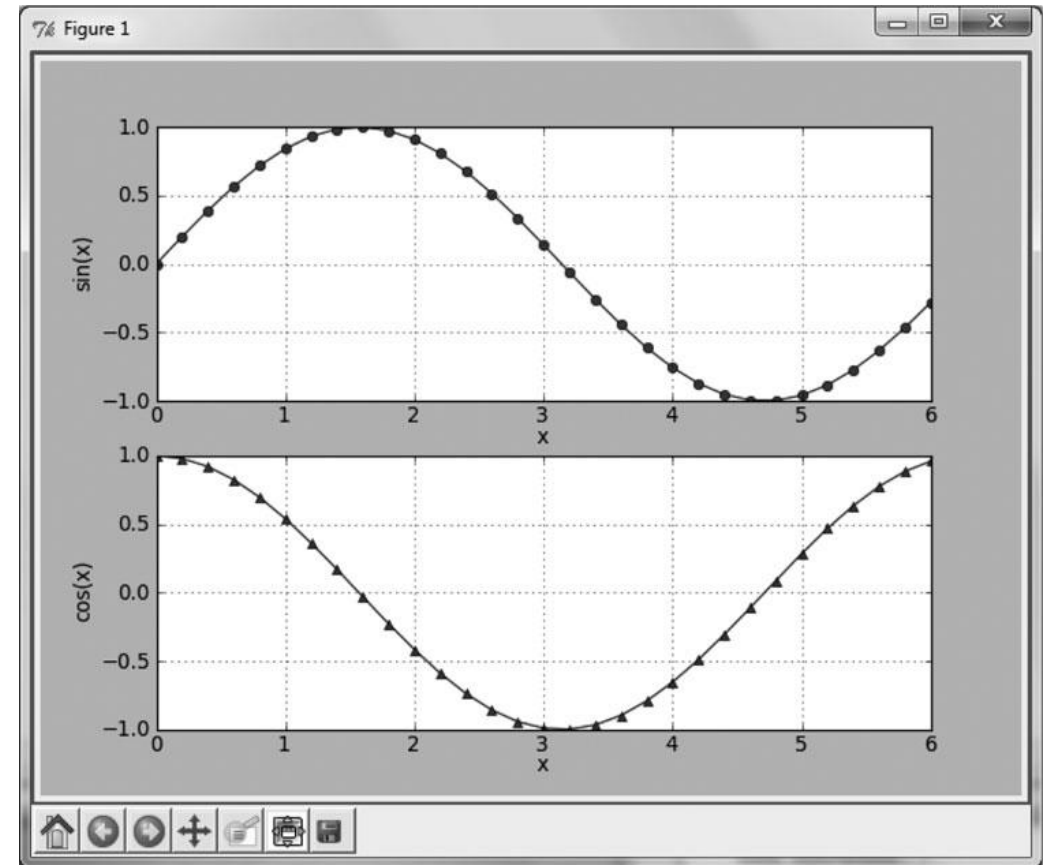
```
plt.figure(figsize = (10,6))
x = np.linspace(-5,5,20)
plt.plot(x, x**2, 'ko', label = 'quadratic')
plt.plot(x, x**3, 'r*', label = 'cubic')
plt.title(f'Plot of Various Polynomials from
{x[0]} to {x[-1]}')
plt.xlabel('X axis')
plt.ylabel('Y axis')
plt.legend(loc = 2)
plt.show()
```

0	"Best" location
1	Upper right
2	Upper left
3	Lower left
4	Lower right



# subplot

- `subplot(rows, cols, plot number)` creates a subplot window, dividing the figure into a row X col grid
- `subplot(2, 1, 1)`: divide the figure into a 2 X 1 grid, then plot on the first figure.





# Existing plotting functions

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- `scatter(x,y)`: same as `plot(x,y,'ro')`
- `bar(x,y)`: plot bars centered at `x` with height `y`
- `errorbar`: plot `x` vs. `y` with error bars
- `polar`: plot in polar coordinates
- `loglog`, `semilogx`, and `semilogy` plot the data in `x` and `y` with the `x` and `y` axis on a log scale, the `x` axis on a log scale and the `y` axis on a log scale.
- `hist`: histogram of a dataset
- `boxplot`: statistical summary of a dataset
- `pie`: Pie chart





# Misc

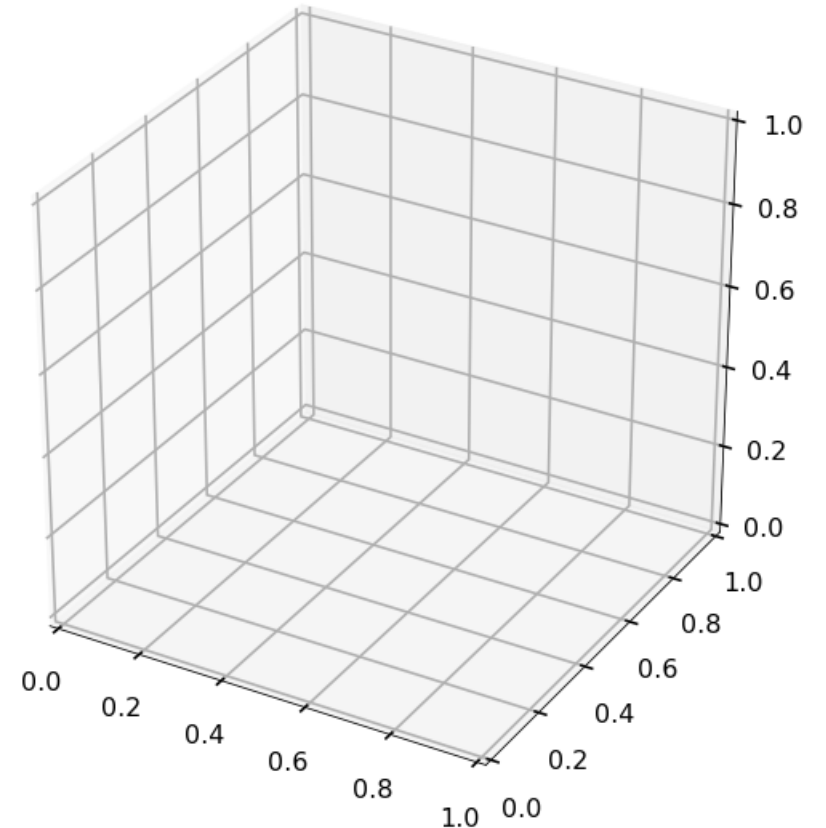
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- `plt.tight_layout()`: no overlapping between subfigures.
- `plt.savefig('image.pdf', format='pdf')`

# 3D plot

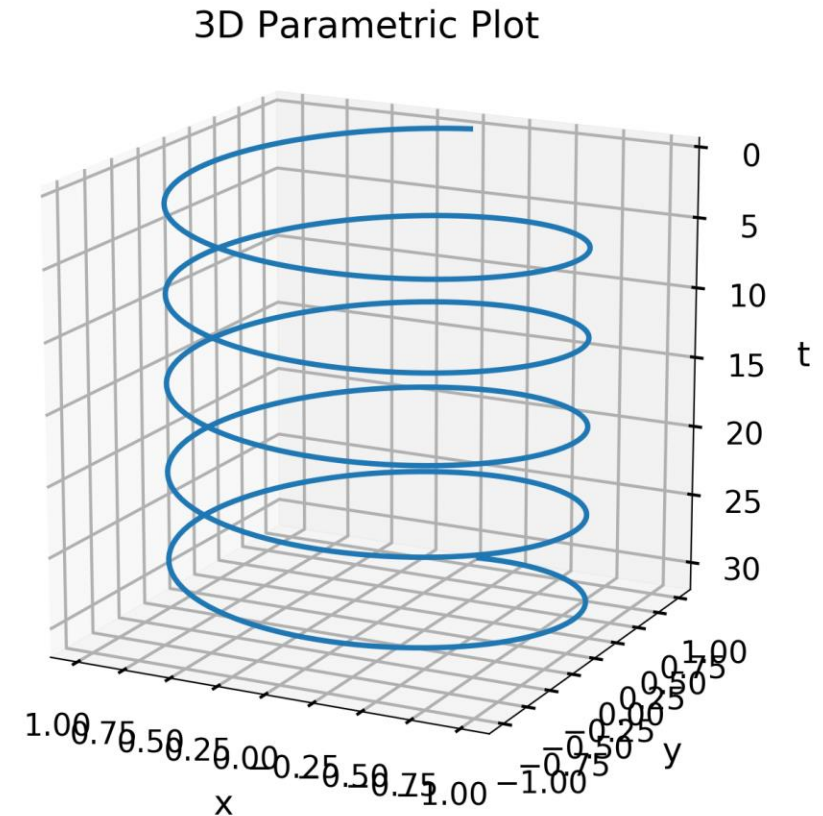
```
from mpl_toolkits import mplot3d
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

```
fig = plt.figure(figsize = (10,10))
# create 3D axis object
ax = plt.axes(projection='3d')
plt.show()
```



# Example

```
fig = plt.figure(figsize = (8,8))
ax = plt.axes(projection='3d')
ax.grid()
t = np.arange(0, 10*np.pi, np.pi/50)
x = np.sin(t)
y = np.cos(t)
ax.plot3D(x, y, t)
ax.set_title('3D Parametric Plot')
# Set axes label
ax.set_xlabel('x', labelpad=20)
ax.set_ylabel('y', labelpad=20)
ax.set_zlabel('t', labelpad=20)
plt.show()
```





# Surface plot

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- Create a mesh given lists/arrays of  $x$  and  $y$ : listing all possible combinations of  $x, y$

- $X, Y = \text{np.meshgrid}(x, y)$

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

```
y = [3, 4, 5]
```

```
X, Y = np.meshgrid(x, y)
```

```
print(X)
```

```
print(Y)
```

```
[[1 2 3 4]
```

```
 [1 2 3 4]
```

```
 [1 2 3 4]]
```

```
[[3 3 3 3]
```

```
 [4 4 4 4]
```

```
 [5 5 5 5]]
```

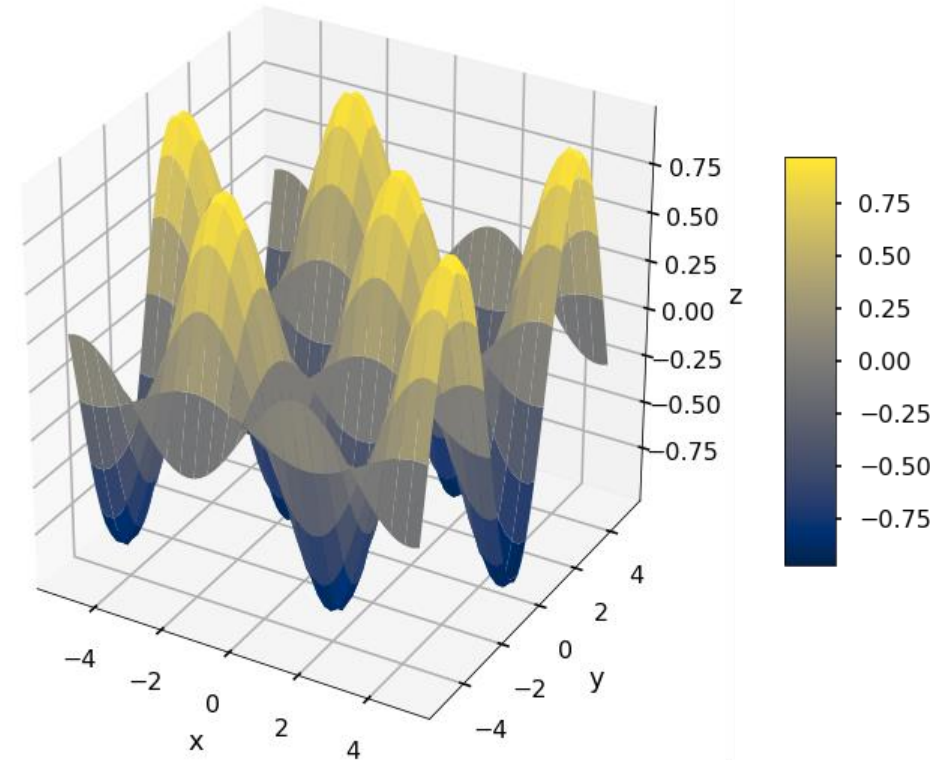
- Once the meshgrid is created, evaluate the function  $f$  at each grid point

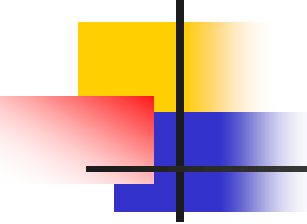
- $Z = f(X, Y)$

- Plot using `ax.plot_surface`

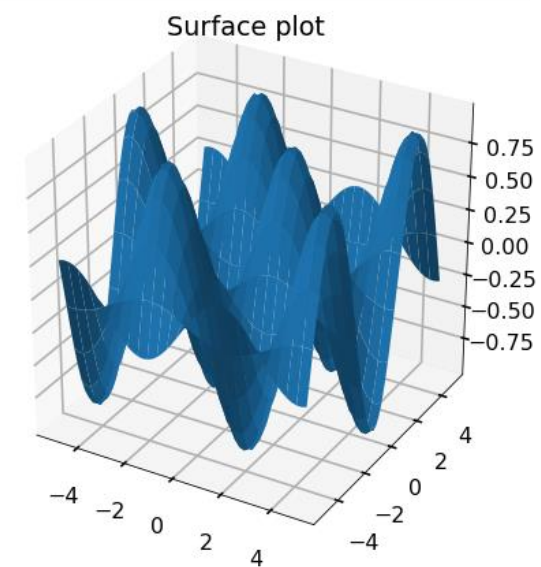
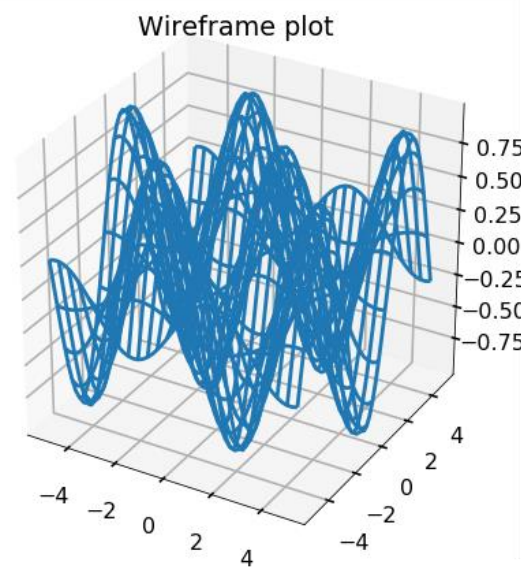
# Example: $f(x,y) = \sin(x)\cos(y)$

```
fig = plt.figure(figsize = (12,10))
ax = plt.axes(projection='3d')
x = np.arange(-5, 5.1, 0.2)
y = np.arange(-5, 5.1, 0.2)
X, Y = np.meshgrid(x, y)
Z = np.sin(X)*np.cos(Y)
surf = ax.plot_surface(X, Y, Z, cmap = plt.cm.cividis)
# Set axes label
ax.set_xlabel('x', labelpad=20)
ax.set_ylabel('y', labelpad=20)
ax.set_zlabel('z', labelpad=20)
fig.colorbar(surf, shrink=0.5, aspect=8)
plt.show()
```





```
fig = plt.figure(figsize=(12,6))
ax = fig.add_subplot(1, 2, 1, projection='3d')
ax.plot_wireframe(X,Y,Z)
ax.set_title('Wireframe plot')
ax = fig.add_subplot(1, 2, 2, projection='3d')
ax.plot_surface(X,Y,Z)
ax.set_title('Surface plot')
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```





# Some illustrations

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- Refer to uploaded [python files](#) and [Pyplot Plotting – Basics.pdf](#)