

Lab B: Plotting Graphs in Python  
2020 Summer — Calculus 1  
Dr Matthew H Sunderland

**B1.** If you are reading this as a PDF,  
open the live notebook remotely on Binder [here \(https://mybinder.org/v2/gh/mattsunderland/pycalclab/master\)](https://mybinder.org/v2/gh/mattsunderland/pycalclab/master).

## Plotting with `plot`

**B2 Example.** To graph  $f(x) = x^2$  over  $[-2, 2]$  by hand, make an  $xy$  table: choose some  $x$  values,

$x$	-2	-1	0	1	2
$y$					

and then use  $f$  to compute the corresponding  $y$  values.

Graphing in python is similar. **Run the following (SHIFT+ENTER), then run it again.**

```
In [ ]: %pylab inline

x = r_[-2, -1, 0, 1, 2]
y = r_[4, 1, 0, 1, 4]
plot(x,y)
```

**B3.** Run the code cell below. Notes:

- We make the  $x$  with `linspace(a,b,n)`, which gives  $n$  numbers evenly spaced  $a$  to  $b$  inclusive (see A30)
- We make the  $y$  by doing arithmetic on  $x$
- `plot(x,y)` makes the plot
- `title()` adds a title
- `grid()` add a grid
- `r_[[x,y]]` displays an  $xy$  table

```
In [ ]: x = linspace(-2,2,9)
y = x**2

plot(x,y)
title('$f(x) = x^2$ plotted with 9 points')
grid()

r_[[x,y]]
```

**B4 Example.** Run the following cells, which graph  $f(x) = e^x$  over the interval  $[0, 7]$ .

- `r_[a:b:stride]` gives you the numbers **from  $a$  up to but not including  $b$**  spaced `stride` apart (see A28)
- `exp(x)` is how you write  $e^x$  in python (see A21)

```
In [ ]: x = r_[ :7]
        y = exp(x)
        plot(x,y)
```

**B5.** Run the following.

When we change the  $x$  we must recompute the  $y$ ;  
there are two ways to do it (compare B4 to B3).

```
In [ ]: x = r_[ :10]
        plot(x, exp(x))
```

**B6 Exercise.** We want to graph  $y = \cos 4x$  over  $[0, \pi]$  with a step size of  $\pi/10$ .

- Which command gives the desired values for  $x$ ? (a)  $x = 0:\pi/10:\pi$  (b)  $x = 0:\pi:\pi/10$  (c)  $x = \text{linspace}(0,\pi)$
- Which gives the correct answer for  $y$ ? (a)  $y = \cos(4x)$  (b)  $y = \cos 4x$  (c)  $y = \cos(4x)$
- Plot the graph.
- Redo your plot from iii. using `x = linspace(0,pi)`
- Which plot looks more like the plot of a cosine curve?  
(a) The first one, (b) the second one, (c) both of them.

```
In [ ]: # i. Type your answer in this comment:
        # ii. Type your answer in this comment:

        # iii. Type and run your code here.
```

```
In [ ]: # iv. Type and run your code here.

        # ii. Type your answer in this comment:
```

## B7 Exercise.

- i. Plot the function  $f(x) = e^{\cos x}$  over the interval  $[0, 2\pi]$ .
- ii. What command generates a sufficient number of values for  $x$ ?  
(a) `linspace(0,2*pi)` (b) `linspace(0,100,2*pi)`  
(c) `r_[0:2*pi]` (d) `r_[0:0.01:2*pi]`
- iii. Which command will generate the corresponding yvalues?  
(a) `exp^cos(x)` (b) `e^cos(x)` (c) `exp(cos(x))` (d) `exp(x)cos(x)`

```
In [ ]: # i. Type and run your code here.  
  
# ii. Type your answer in this comment:  
# iii. Type your answer in this comment:
```

## Doing arithmetic on arrays

**B8.** Run the following.

We make numpy arrays with `r_` or `linspace`

Numpy arrays "know" how to do "elementwise" arithmetic.

Warning:  $x^2$  is written `x**2`.

```
In [ ]: x = r_[1:5]  
x, 10 - x, x + 10, 10*x, x**2, 12/x, x**x, 10**x
```

**B9.** Run the following.

```
In [ ]: # We can add arrays of the same shape (same length)  
  
x = r_[10, 20, 50, 100]  
y = r_[3, 0, 7, -1]  
x + y
```

```
In [ ]: # We can add an array (x) and a scalar (y)  
  
x = r_[10, 20, 50, 100]  
y = 100  
x + y
```

```
In [ ]: # We CANNOT add arrays of DIFFERENT shape  
  
x = r_[10, 20, 50, 100]  
y = r_[3, 0, 7]  
x + y
```

**B10 Examples.** Run the cells below, which plot the following.

- $y = \sin x + \cos 3x$  over the domain  $[0, 2\pi]$
- $y = e^{-x/2} \cos 6x$  over the domain  $[0, 10\pi]$
- $y = 1/(x^2 - 1)$  over the domain  $[2, 5]$

```
In [ ]: x = linspace(0,2*pi)
        y = sin(x) + cos(3*x)
        plot(x,y)
```

```
In [ ]: x = linspace(0, 10*pi, 300)
        y1 = exp(-x/2) # Here we break up the
        y2 = cos(6*x)  # computation into
        y = y1*y2       # bite-sized pieces
        plot(x,y)
```

```
In [ ]: x = r_[2:5.1:0.1]
        y = 1/(x**2 - 1)
        plot(x,y)
```

**B11 Exercise.** Define  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  by

```
a = r_[1:21:2]
b = r_[1:11]
c = r_[1:12:2]
```

Which of the following is/are defined?

(a)  $b+c$  (b)  $a + b$  (c)  $a./ b$  (d)  $a * b$  (e)  $a ^ 2$

```
In [ ]: # Type your answer in this comment:
```

**B12 Example.** Let  $x$  be the array 1,2,3. Write Python commands to compute  $x^3$ .

The output you get should be `array([ 1, 8, 27])`.

```
In [ ]: x = r_[1,2,3]

        # Write out and run your code here.
        x**3
```

**B13 Exercise.** Let  $x$  be the array 1,2,3.

i. Write Python commands to compute  $\cos x \sin x$ .

You should get `array([ 0.45464871, -0.37840125, -0.13970775])`

ii. Write Python commands to compute  $\sin^2 x$ .

You should get `array([0.70807342, 0.82682181, 0.01991486])`

iii. Write Python commands to compute  $\sin x^2$ .

You should get `array([ 0.84147098, -0.7568025 , 0.41211849])`

iv. Write Python commands to compute  $7x^2 \sin \frac{1}{7x^2}$ .

You should get `array([0.99660211, 0.99978743, 0.99995801])`

v. Write Python commands to compute  $x - \frac{\cos x - \sin x}{\sin x + \cos x}$

You should get `array([1.2179581 , 4.68770694, 1.66751188])`

vi. Write Python commands to compute  $\frac{1}{10}(x - \frac{x^{3/2}}{10})^2$

You should get `array([0.081 , 0.29486292, 0.61523085])`

```
In [ ]: # i. Write out and run your code here.
```

```
In [ ]: # ii. Write out and run your code here.
```

```
In [ ]: # iii. Write out and run your code here.
```

```
In [ ]: # iv. Write out and run your code here.
```

```
In [ ]: # v. Write out and run your code here.
```

```
In [ ]: # vi. Write out and run your code here.
```

**B14 Exercise.**

i. Graph the function  $f(x) = \sin(\frac{\pi}{2}x) + \sin(\frac{2}{5}\pi x)$  over the interval  $[0, 40]$ .

ii. How many peaks (relative maxima) does your graph B21 have?

(a) 2 (b) 3 (c) 4 (d) 5 (e) none of the above

iii. The function in B21 is periodic; how many periods are graphed in  $[0, 40]$ ?

(a) 2 (b) 3 (c) 4 (d) 5 (e) none of the above

iv. Estimate from your graph B21 the value of  $f(10)$  to 1 decimal point.

```
In [ ]: # i. Make your graph here.  
  
# ii. Type your answer in this comment:  
  
# iii. Type your answer in this comment:  
  
# iv. Type your answer in this comment:
```

### B15 Exercise.

- i. Graph the function  $f(x) = \cos^2 x - \sin^2 x$  over the interval  $[-2\pi, 2\pi]$ . Use 50 points in the domain.
- ii. Does the graph B24 resemble any graph that you are familiar with?
- (a)  $\cos 2x$  (b)  $\cos x/2$  (c)  $\cos x$

```
In [ ]: # i. Make your graph here.  
  
# ii. Type your answer in this comment:
```

### B16 Exercise.

- i. Plot the polynomial function  $f(x) = x^3 - 20x^2 + 10x - 1$  over the interval  $[-10, 10]$ .
- ii. What is the approximate range for the  $y$ -axis?
- (a)  $[-10, 10]$  (b)  $(-10, 10)$  (c)  $[-3100, 0]$  (d)  $[0, 2\pi]$

```
In [ ]: # i. Make your graph here.  
  
# ii. Type your answer in this comment:
```

### B17 Exercise.

We wish to investigate when (if) the is positive.

We can't readily tell from our graph B27 so we will replot over a smaller domain.

- i. Which of these domains seems appropriate for this task?
- (a)  $[0, 500]$  (b)  $[0, 10]$  (c)  $[-1, 1]$  (d)  $[0, 2\pi]$
- ii. Replot the graph over the selected domain. Turn on the grid using `grid()`
- iii. From your graph, which of these  $x$  values have  $f(x) > 0$ ? Indicate all that apply:
- (a) 0 (b) 0.25 (c) 0.50 (d) 0.75

```
In [ ]: # i. Type your answer in this comment:  
  
# ii. Make your graph here.  
  
# iii. Type your answer in this comment:
```