

Formatting Plots

About the Data

In this notebook, we will be working with Facebook's stock price throughout 2018 (obtained using the [stock_analysis package](#))

Setup

```
In [1]: %matplotlib inline
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
import seaborn as sns

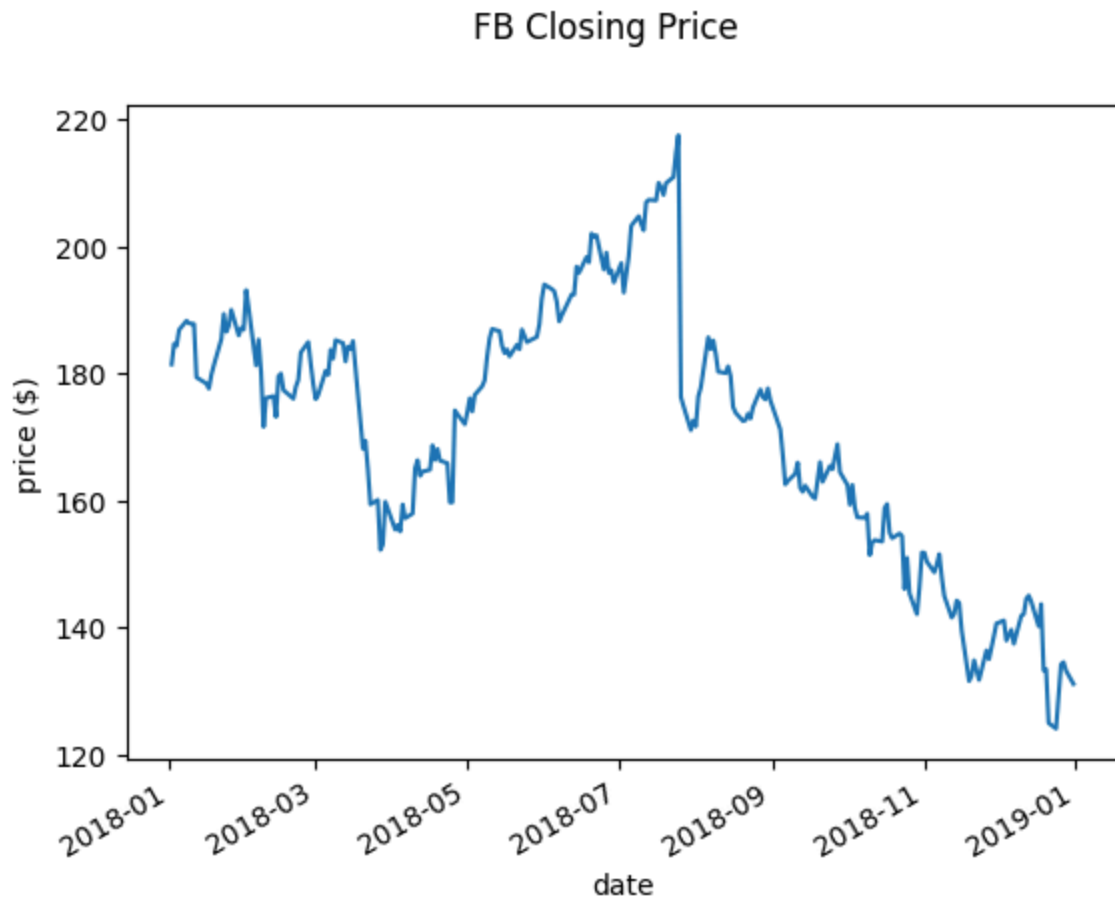
fb = pd.read_csv(
    'data/fb_stock_prices_2018.csv', index_col='date', parse_dates=True
)
```

Titles and Axis Labels

- `plt.suptitle()` adds a title to plots and subplots
- `plt.title()` adds a title to a single plot. Note if you use subplots, it will only put the title on the last subplot, so you will need to use `plt.suptitle()`
- `plt.xlabel()` labels the x-axis
- `plt.ylabel()` labels the y-axis

```
In [2]: fb.close.plot()
plt.suptitle('FB Closing Price')
plt.xlabel('date')
plt.ylabel('price ($)')
```

```
Out[2]: Text(0, 0.5, 'price ($)')
```

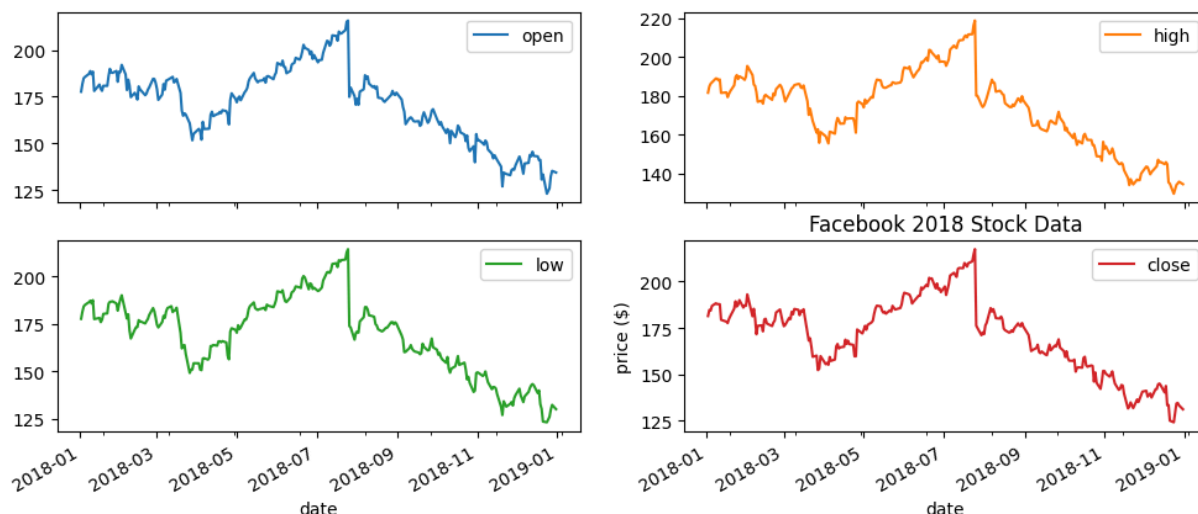


plt.suptitle() vs. plt.title()

Check out what happens when we call `plt.title()` with subplots:

```
In [3]: fb.iloc[:, :4].plot(subplots=True, layout=(2, 2), figsize=(12, 5))
plt.title('Facebook 2018 Stock Data')
plt.xlabel('date')
plt.ylabel('price ($)')
```

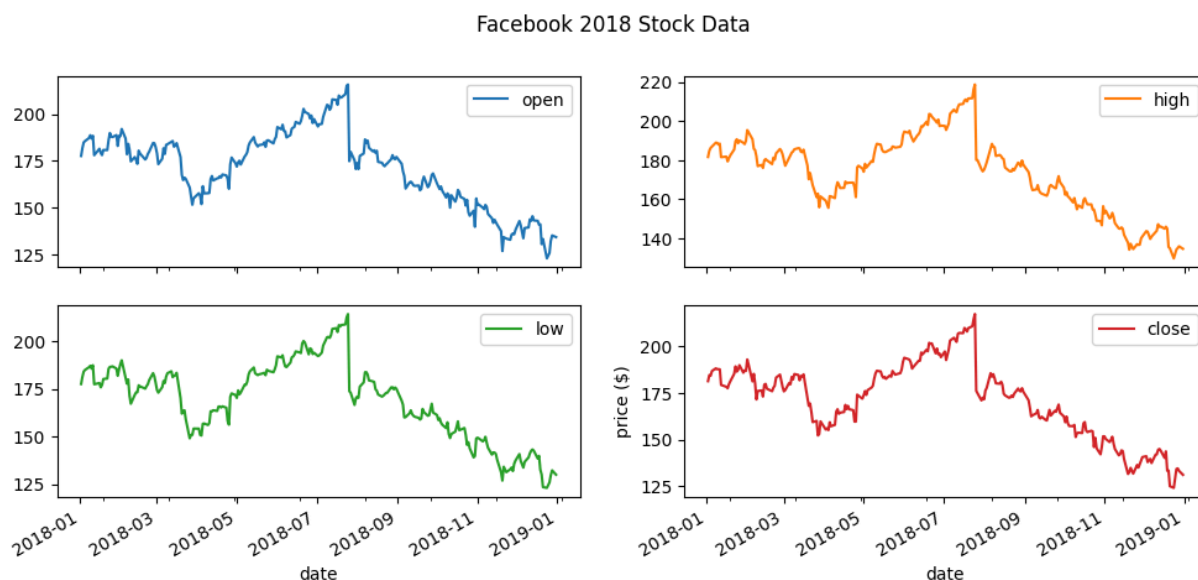
```
Out[3]: Text(0, 0.5, 'price ($)')
```



Simply getting into the habit of using `plt.suptitle()` instead of `plt.title()` will save you this confusion:

```
In [4]: fb.iloc[:, :4].plot(subplots=True, layout=(2, 2), figsize=(12, 5))
plt.suptitle('Facebook 2018 Stock Data')
plt.xlabel('date')
plt.ylabel('price ($)')
```

```
Out[4]: Text(0, 0.5, 'price ($)')
```



Legends

`plt.legend()` adds a legend to the plot. We can specify where to place it with the `loc` parameter:

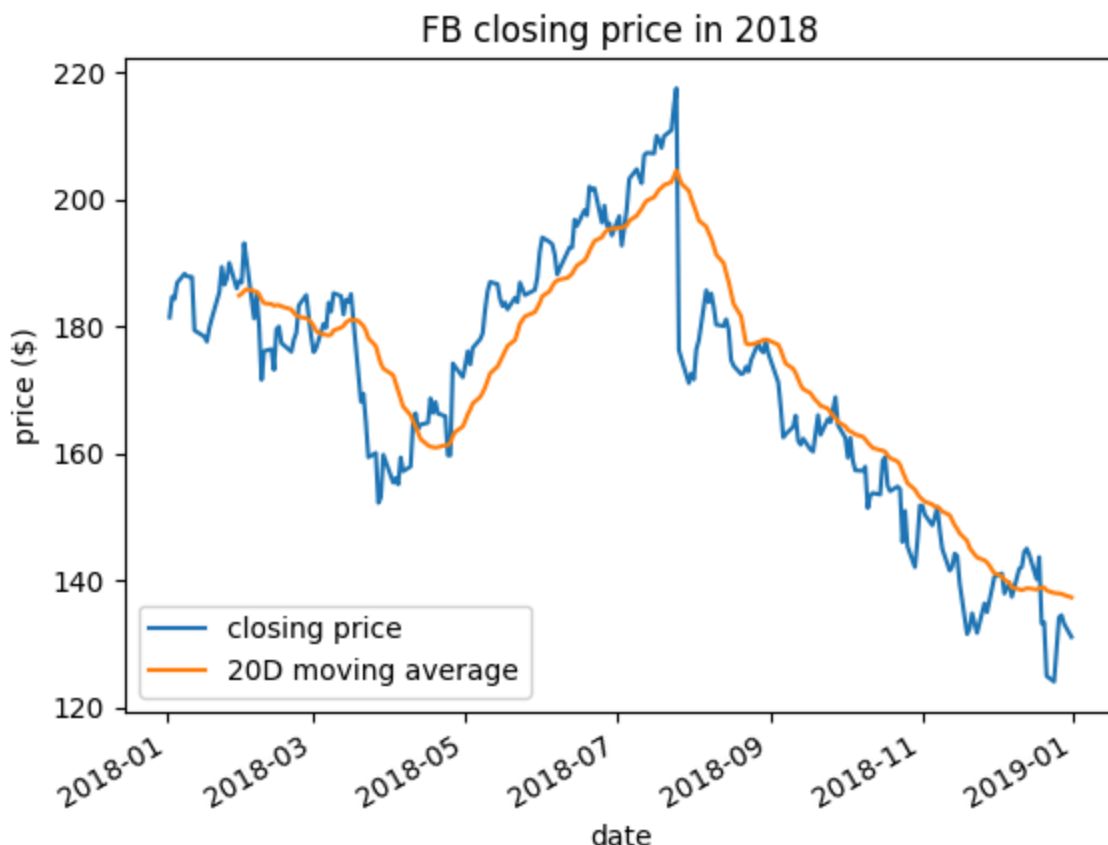
```
In [9]: fb.assign(
ma=lambda x: x.close.rolling(20).mean()
).plot()
```

```

y=['close', 'ma'],
title='FB closing price in 2018',
label=['closing price', '20D moving average']
)
plt.legend(loc='lower left')
plt.ylabel('price ($)')

```

Out[9]: Text(0, 0.5, 'price (\$)')



Formatting Axes

Specifying axis limits

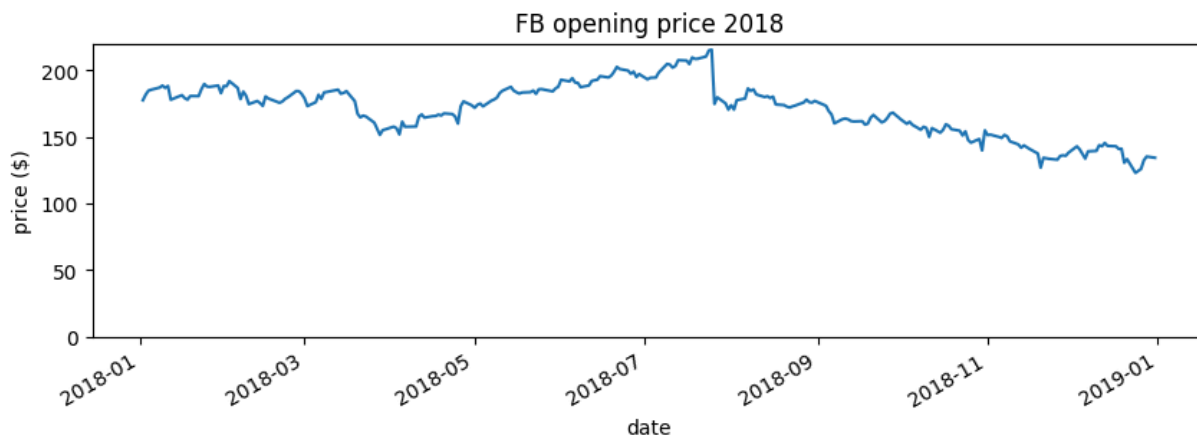
`plt.xlim()` and `plt.ylim()` can be used to specify the minimum and maximum values for the axis. Passing `None` will have matplotlib determine the limit.

```

In [10]: fb.open.plot(figsize=(10, 3), title='FB opening price 2018')
plt.ylim(0, None)
plt.ylabel('price ($)')

```

Out[10]: Text(0, 0.5, 'price (\$)')



Formatting the Axis Ticks

We can use `plt.xticks()` and `plt.yticks()` to provide tick labels and specify, which ticks to show. Here, we show every other month:

```
In [13]: import calendar

fb.open.plot(figsize=(10, 3), rot=0, title='FB opening price 2018')
locs, labels = plt.xticks()
plt.xticks(locs[:6], calendar.month_name[1::2])
plt.ylabel('price ($)')
```

```
Out[13]: Text(0, 0.5, 'price ($)')
```



Using ticker

PercentFormatter

We can use `ticker.PercentFormatter` and specify the denominator (`xmax`) to use when calculating the percentages. This gets passed to the `set_major_formatter()` method of the axis or yaxis on the Axes .

```
In [17]: import matplotlib.ticker as ticker
ax = fb.close.plot(
    figsize=(10, 4),
    title='Facebook Closing Price as Percentage of Highest Price in Time Range'
)
ax.yaxis.set_major_formatter(
    ticker.PercentFormatter(xmax=fb.high.max())
)
ax.set_yticks([
    fb.high.max()*pct for pct in np.linspace(0.6, 1, num=5)
]) # show round percentages only (60%, 80%, etc.)
ax.set_ylabel(f'percent of highest price (${fb.high.max()})')
```

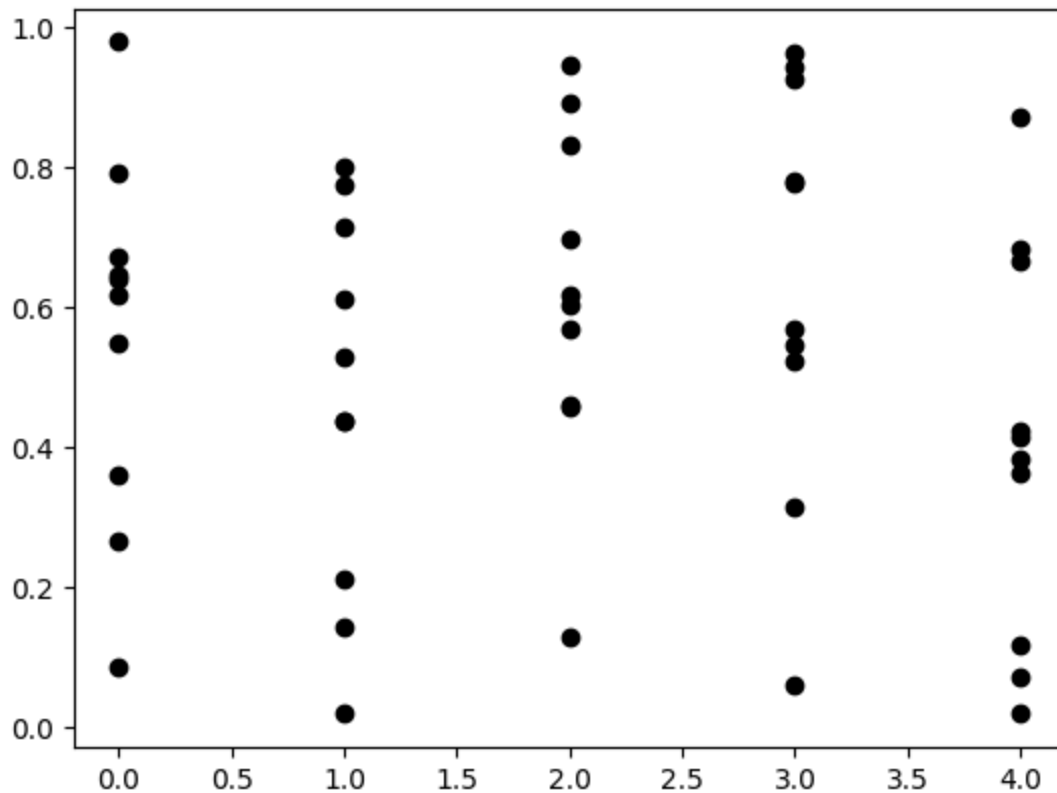
Out[17]: Text(0, 0.5, 'percent of highest price (\$218.62)')



MultipleLocator Say we have the following data. The points only take on integer values for x .

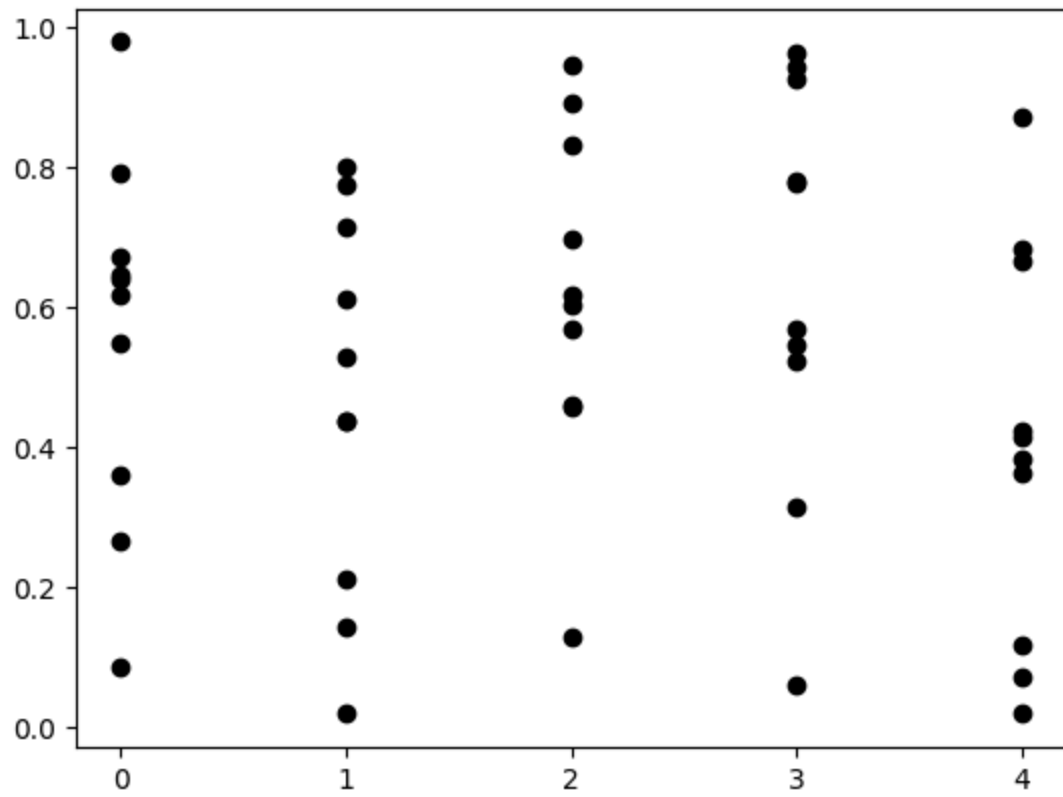
```
In [18]: fig, ax = plt.subplots(1, 1)
np.random.seed(0)
ax.plot(np.tile(np.arange(0, 5), 10), np.random.rand(50), 'ko')
```

Out[18]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x7f9f3faf6410>]



If we don't want to show decimal values on the x-axis, we can use the `MultipleLocator`. This will give ticks for all multiples of a number specified with the `base` parameter. To get integer values, we use `base=1`:

```
In [19]: fig, ax = plt.subplots(1, 1)
          np.random.seed(0)
          ax.plot(np.tile(np.arange(0, 5), 10), np.random.rand(50), 'ko')
          ax.get_xaxis().set_major_locator(
              ticker.MultipleLocator(base=1)
          )
```



In []: