# **Formatting Plots**

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#### **About data**

In this notebook, we will be working with Facebook's stock price throughout 2018 (obtained using the stock\_analysis package)

## Setup

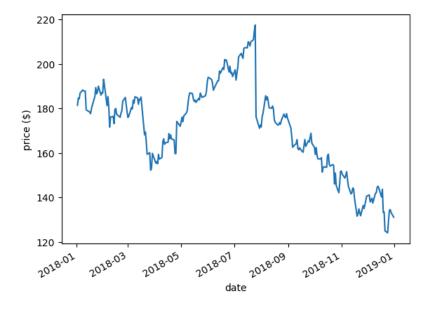
#### **Titles and Axis Labels**

- 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 [5]: fb.close.plot()
  plt.suptitle('Fb Closing Price')
  plt.xlabel('date')
  plt.ylabel('price ($)')
```

Out[5]: Text(0, 0.5, 'price (\$)')

## Fb Closing Price



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

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

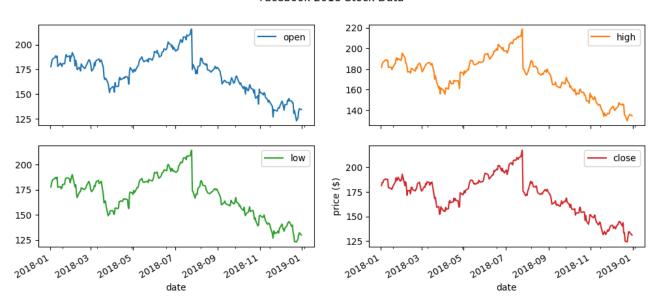
```
In [6]: fb.iloc[:,:4].plot(subplots=True, layout=(2, 2), figsize=(12, 5))
         plt.title('Facebook 2018 Stock Data')
        plt.xlabel('date')
        plt.ylabel('price ($)')
Out[6]: Text(0, 0.5, 'price ($)')
                                                                            220
                                                               open
                                                                                                                                   high
        200
                                                                            200
        175
                                                                            180
                                                                            160
        150
                                                                            140
        125
                                                                                              Facebook 2018 Stock Data
                                                                                                                                   close
        200
                                                                            200
                                                                        price ($)
        175
                                                                            175
        150
                                                                            150
        125
                                                                            125
               2018-03
                        2018-05
                                2018-07
                                         2018-09
                                                                                   2018-03
                                                                                            2018-05
                                                                                                     2018-07
       2018-01
                                                  2018-11
                                                                                                             2018-09
                                                                           2018-01
         Simply getting into the habit of using plt.suptitle() instead of plt.title() will save you this confusion:
In [7]: fb.iloc[:,:4].plot(subplots=True, layout=(2, 2), figsize=(12, 5))
```

```
plt.xlabel('date')
plt.ylabel('price ($)')

Out[7]: Text(0, 0.5, 'price ($)')
```

plt.suptitle('Facebook 2018 Stock Data')

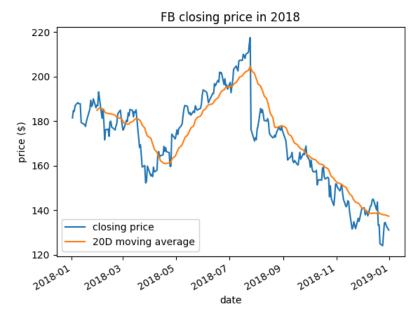
#### Facebook 2018 Stock Data



### Legends

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

Out[8]: Text(0, 0.5, 'price (\$)')



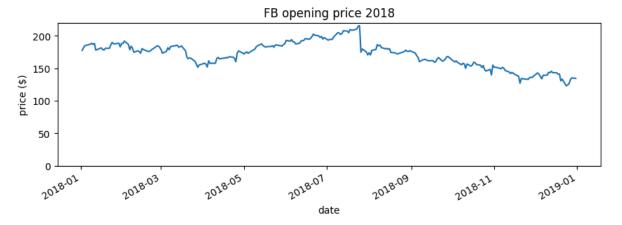
## **Formatting Axes**

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

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



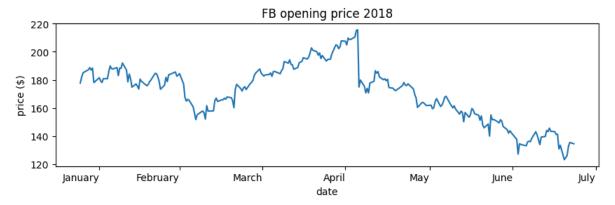
# **Formatting the Axis Ticks**

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 [41]: import calendar

fb.open.plot(figsize=(10, 3), rot=0, title='FB opening price 2018')
locs, labels = plt.xticks()
plt.xticks(locs + 15 , calendar.month_name[1:-5])
plt.ylabel('price ($)')
```

Out[41]: Text(0, 0.5, 'price (\$)')



# Using ticker

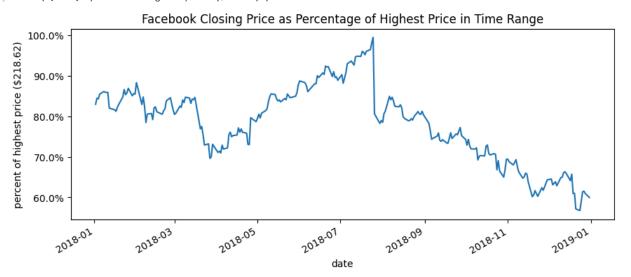
#### PercentFormatter

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 xaxis or yaxis on the Axes.

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

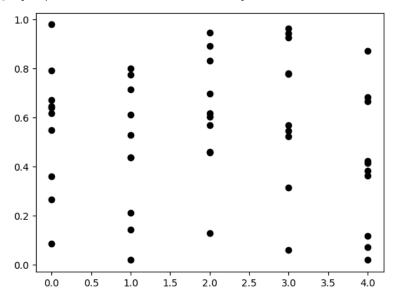


#### MultipleLocator

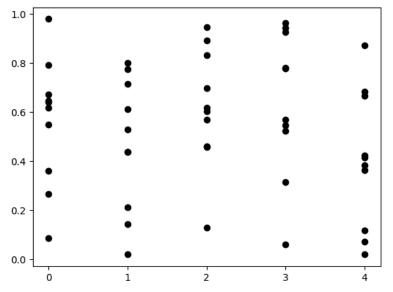
Say we have the following data. The points only take on integer values for x.

```
In [43]: 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[43]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x7c11905e08b0>]



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 [ ]: