

MATH 3341: Introduction to Scientific Computing Lab

Melissa Butler

University of Wyoming

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Lab 04: Plotting Data



Basic Plotting



Create a figure window

- `figure`: Creates a new figure window, and returns its handle.
Example:

```
figure
```

or

```
fig = figure
```

- `figure(handleNumber)`: Makes `handleNumber` the current figure, forces it to become visible, and raises it above all other figures on the screen. If Figure `handleNumber` does not exist, and `handleNumber` is an integer, a new figure is created with handle `handleNumber`. Example:

```
figure(3)
```

or

```
fig = figure(3)
```



Scatter plot

- `plot(x, y)`: Plot vector `y` versus vector `x`. Example 1:

```
x = linspace(0, 2 * pi, 100);  
y = sin(x);  
plot(x, y);
```

- `plot(y)`: Plot vector `y` versus its index. Example 2:

```
x = linspace(0, 2 * pi, 100);  
y = sin(x);  
plot(y) % same as plot(1:length(y), y);
```

- `plot(x, y, style)`: Plot vector `y` versus vector `x` with specified style options in `style`. Example 3:

```
x = linspace(0, 2 * pi, 100);  
y = sin(x);  
style = 'go-.';  
plot(x, y, style) % same as plot(x, y, 'go-.');
```



Scatter plot: color, marker, and linestyle

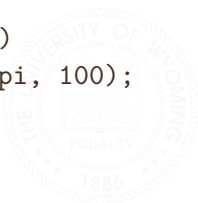
style is a character string made from one element from any or all the following 3 columns:

b blue	. point	- solid
g green	o circle	: dotted
r red	x x-mark	-. dashdot
c cyan	+ plus	-- dashed
m magenta	* star	(none) no line
y yellow	s square	
k black	d diamond	
w white	v triangle (down)	
	^ triangle (up)	
	< triangle (left)	
	> triangle (right)	
	p pentagram	
	h hexagram	



Scatter plot: Example 1

```
% Example: plot(x, y)
x = linspace(0, 2 * pi, 100);
y = sin(x);
figure(1);
plot(x, y);
```



Scatter plot: Example 1

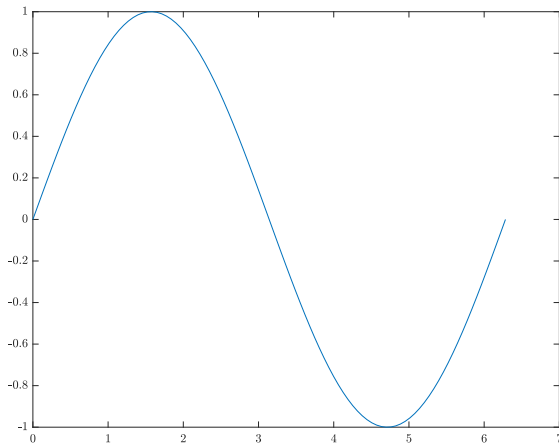
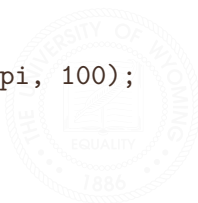


Figure 1: `plot(X,Y)`



Scatter plot: Example 2

```
% Example: plot(y)
x = linspace(0, 2 * pi, 100);
y = sin(x);
figure(2);
plot(y);
```



Scatter plot: Example 2

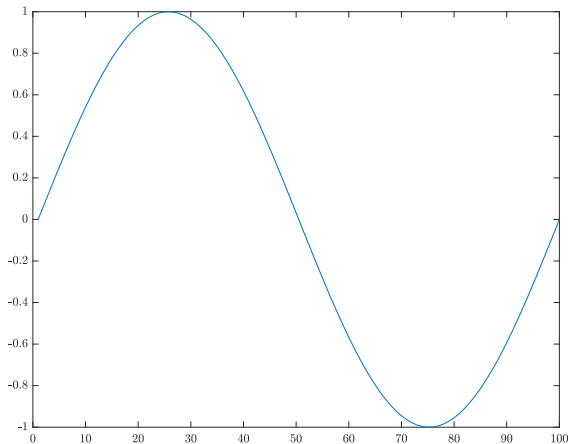


Figure 2: `plot(Y)`



Scatter plot: Example 3

```
% Example: plot(x, y, style)
x = linspace(0, 2 * pi, 100);
y = sin(x);
style1 = 'go-.'; % green, circle, dashdot
style2 = 'r+:'; % red, plus, dotted
style3 = 'm*--'; % magenta, star, dashed
figure(3);
plot(x, y, style1);
figure(4);
plot(x, y, style2);
figure(5);
plot(x, y, style3);
```



Scatter plot: Example 3

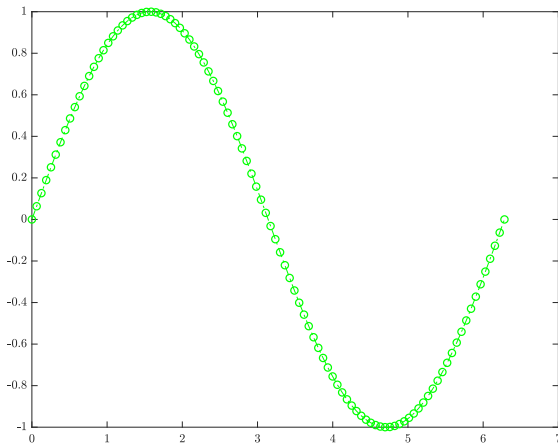


Figure 3: `plot(x, y, 'go-')`



Scatter plot: Example 3

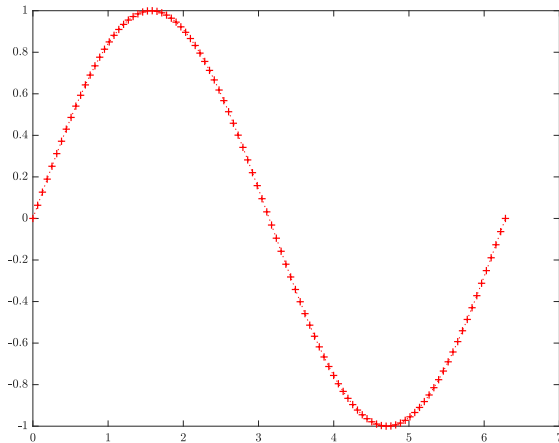


Figure 4: `plot(x, y, 'r+:')`



Scatter plot: Example 3

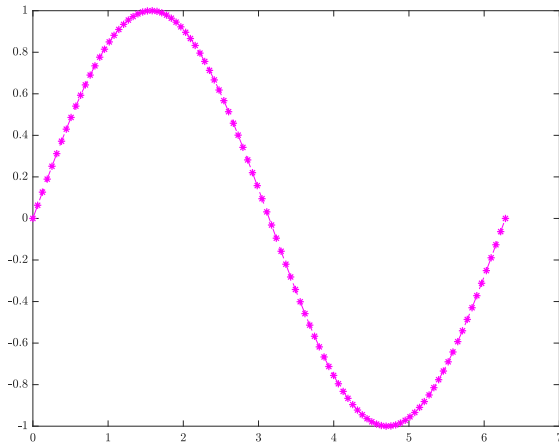


Figure 5: `plot(x, y, 'm*--')`



Scatter plot: Multiple Plots in a Single Figure

- `plot(x1, y1, style1, x2, y2, style2, ...)`:
Combines the plots defined by the (x, y, style) triples, where x's and y's are vectors and style's are strings. Example:

```
x = linspace(0, 2 * pi, 100)
```

```
y1 = sin(x)
```

```
y2 = cos(x)
```

```
y3 = sin(2 * x)
```

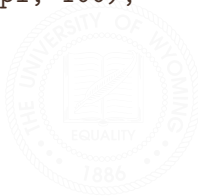
```
plot(x, y1, 'go-.', x, y2, 'r+:', x, y3, 'm*--')
```

- `hold on`: holds the current plot and all axis properties, including the current color and linestyle, so that subsequent graphing commands add to the existing graph without resetting the color and linestyle.
- `hold off`: returns to the default mode whereby `plot` commands erase the previous plots and reset all axis properties before drawing new plots.



Scatter plot: Multiple Plots in a Single Figure

```
% Example: plot(x1, y1, style1, x2, y2, style2,...)
x = linspace(0, 2 * pi, 100);
y1 = sin(x);
y2 = cos(x);
y3 = sin(2 * x);
style1 = 'go-.';
style2 = 'r+:';
style3 = 'm*--';
figure(6);
plot(x, y1, style1, x, y2, style2, x, y3, style3);
```



Scatter plot: Multiple Plots in a Single Figure

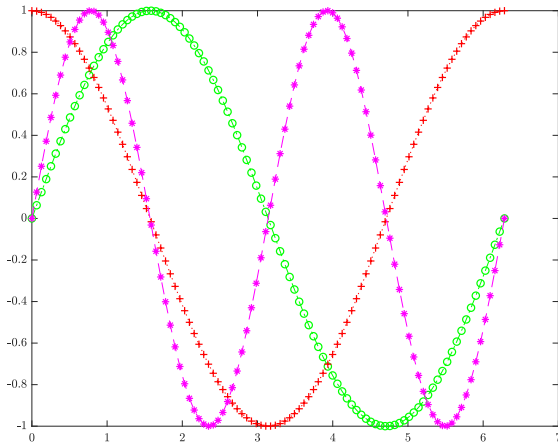


Figure 6: `plot(x, y1, style1, x, y2, style2, x, y3, style3)`



Scatter plot: Multiple Plots in a Single Figure

```
% Example: hold on
x = linspace(0, 2 * pi, 100);
y1 = sin(x);
y2 = cos(x);
y3 = sin(2 * x);
style1 = 'go-.';
style2 = 'r+:';
style3 = 'm*--';
figure(7);
hold on;
plot(x, y1, style1);
plot(x, y2, style2);
plot(x, y3, style3);
```



Scatter plot: Multiple Plots in a Single Figure

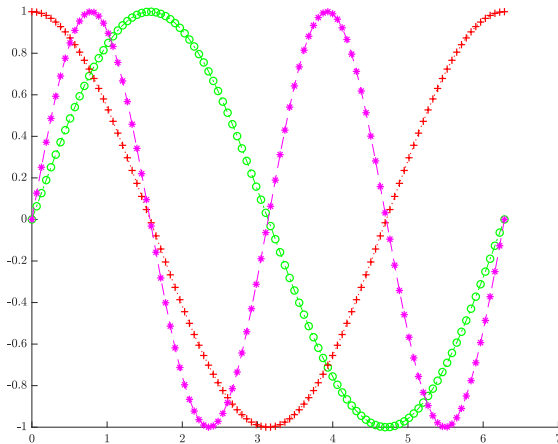


Figure 7:hold on



Scatter plot: title, grid, xlabel, ylabel, legend

- `grid on/minor/off`: Grid lines. Example:

```
grid on      % add grid lines
grid minor   % add fine grid lines
grid off     % Libao Jin lines
```
- `xlabel('labelText')`: x -axis label.
- `ylabel('labelText')`: y -axis label.
- `title('titleText')`: Graph title.
- `legend('legend1', 'legend2', ...)`: Display legend.
- `axis([xmin, xmax, ymin, ymax])`: Control axis scaling and appearance.



Scatter plot: title, grid, xlabel, ylabel, legend

```
% Libao Jint text interpreter to LaTeX
set(groot, 'defaultTextInterpreter','latex');
set(groot, 'defaultAxesTickLabelInterpreter','latex');
set(groot, 'defaultLegendInterpreter','latex')
```



Scatter plot: title, grid, xlabel, ylabel, legend

```
% Example: title, grid, xlabel, ylabel, legend
figure(8); hold on;
plot(x, y1, style1);
plot(x, y2, style2);
plot(x, y3, style3);
title('Trig functions');
grid on; % grid minor;
xlabel('$x$');
ylabel('$y$');
legend('$\sin(x)$', '$\cos(x)$', '$\sin(2x)$', ...
      'Location', 'best');
axis([0, 2 * pi, -1, 1]);
```



Scatter plot: title, grid, xlabel, ylabel, legend

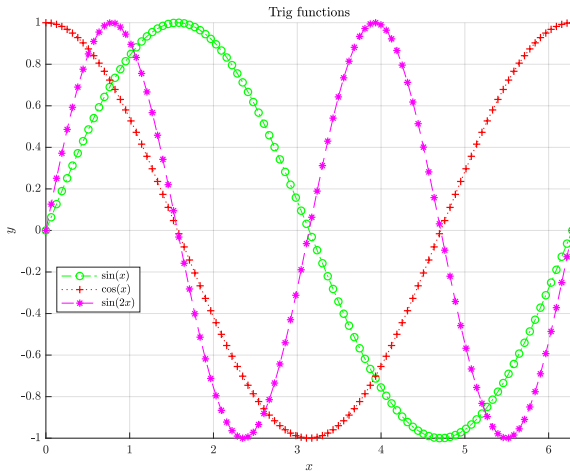


Figure 8: title, grid, xlabel, ylabel, legend



Advanced Plotting



Get/Set Properties: gcf, gca, get, set

- gcf: Get handle to current figure. Example:
`fig = gcf`
- gca: Get handle to current axis. Example:
`ax = gca`
- `get(handle, 'PropertyName')`: Get object properties. Example:
`get(gcf, 'PaperPositionMode')`
- `set(handle, 'PropertyName', PropertyValue)`: Set object properties. Example:
`set(gcf, 'PaperPositionMode', 'auto')`



Get/Set Properties: gcf, gca, get, set

```
% Example: gcf, gca, get, set
x = linspace(0, 2 * pi, 100); y = sin(x);
figure(9);
plot(x, y);
axis([0, 2 * pi, -1, 1]);
set(get(gca, 'Title'), 'String', '$\sin(x)$');
set(get(gca, 'Children'), 'LineWidth', 1.0, ...
    'LineStyle', ':', ...
    'Marker', 'd', ...
    'MarkerSize', 4, ...
    'MarkerEdgeColor', 'y', ...
    'MarkerFaceColor', 'r');
set(gca, 'XTick', [0, pi / 2, pi, 3 * pi / 2, 2 * pi]);
set(gca, 'XTickLabel', {'0', '$\pi/2$', '$\pi$', ...
    '$3 \pi / 2$', '$2\pi$'});
```



Get/Set Properties: gcf, gca, get, set

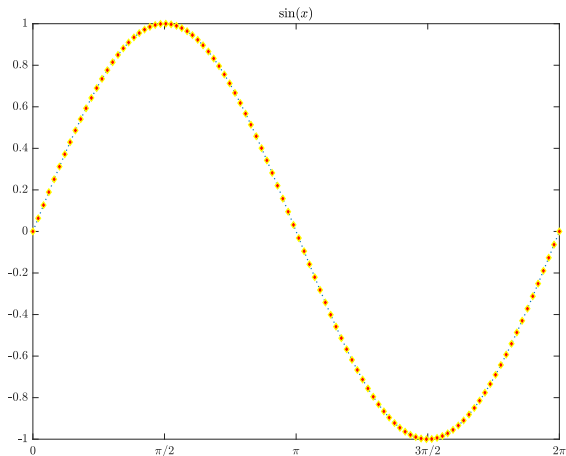


Figure 9: Example: gcf, gca, get, set



subplot: Create Tiled Axes

- `subplot(m,n,p)` or `subplot(mnp)`: Breaks the Figure window into an m -by- n matrix of small axes, selects the p -th axes for the current plot, and returns the axes handle. The axes are counted along the top row of the Figure window, then the second row, etc. Example:

```
figure(2)
subplot(1, 2, 1); plot(x1, y1);
subplot(1, 2, 2); plot(x2, y2);
```



subplot: Create Tiled Axes

```
% Example: subplot
x = linspace(0, 2 * pi, 100);
y1 = sin(x);
y2 = cos(x);
y3 = sin(2 * x);
y4 = cos(2 * x);
figure(10);
subplot(2, 2, 1);
plot(x, y1, 'gd-'); title('$\sin(x)$');
subplot(2, 2, 2);
plot(x, y2, 'ro:'); title('$\cos(x)$');
subplot(2, 2, 3);
plot(x, y3, 'ch-.'); title('$\sin(2x)$');
subplot(2, 2, 4);
plot(x, y4, 'b<--'); title('$\cos(2x)$');
```



subplot: Create Tiled Axes

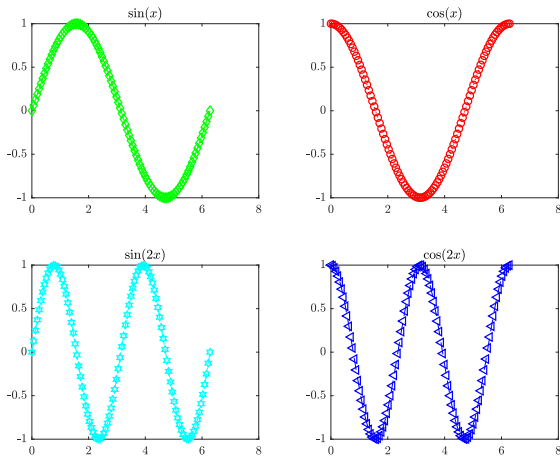


Figure 10:subplot



semilogy, semilogx, loglog, plotyy

- `semilogy`: `semilogy` Semi-log scale plot, same as `plot`, except a logarithmic (base 10) scale is used for the y -axis
- `semilogx`: `semilogx` Semi-log scale plot, same as `plot`, except a logarithmic (base 10) scale is used for the x -axis
- `loglog`: `loglog` Log-log scale plot, same as `plot`, except logarithmic scales are used for both the x - and y - axes.

- `plotyy(x1, y1, x2, y2, 'func1', 'func2')` uses `func1(x1, y1)` to plot the data for the left axes and `func2(x2, y2)` to plot the data for the right axes. Example:

```
plotyy(x1, y1, x2, y2, 'plot', 'semilogy')
```

similar to

```
figure(1); hold on;
```

```
plot(x1, y1)
```

```
semilogy(x2, y2)
```



semilogy, semilogx, loglog, plotyy

```
% Example: plotyy
x = 0:0.1:10;
y1 = 200 * exp(-0.05 * x) .* sin(x);
y2 = 0.8 * exp(-0.5 * x) .* sin(10 * x);
figure(11)
[hAx, hLine1, hLine2] = plotyy(x,y1,x,y2,'plot','stem');
set(hLine1, 'LineStyle', '--');
set(hLine2, 'LineStyle', ':');
grid minor;
xlabel('Time ($\mu s$)')
ylabel(hAx(1), 'Slow Decay')
ylabel(hAx(2), 'Fast Decay')
title('Multiple Decay Rates')
```



semilogy, semilogx, loglog, plotyy

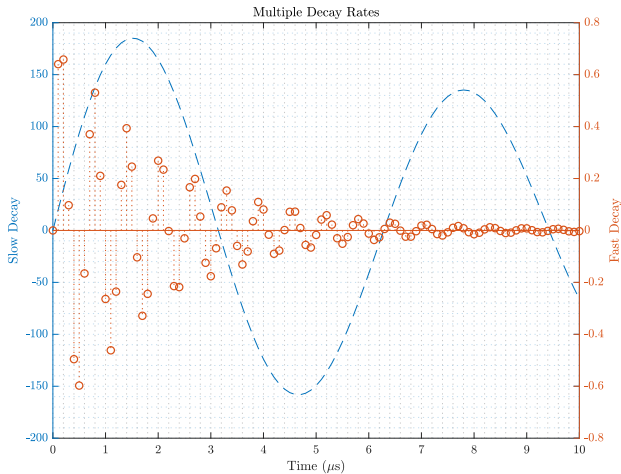


Figure 11: plotyy



print: Saving Figures

- `num2str(num)`: Convert numbers to character representation. Example:

```
num2str(57)    % returns '57'
```

- `strcat(str1, str2)`: Concatenate `str1` and `str2` into one single string. Example:

```
strcat('hello ', 'world') % returns 'hello world'
```

- `mkdir newDirName`: Make new directory. Example:

```
mkdir thisIsANewDirectory  
ls
```

- `print(handle, '-dformat', 'filename')`: Print or save a figure or model: Example:

```
print(gcf, '-dpng', 'plot1.png')  
print(gcf, '-dpdf', 'plot2.pdf')
```



print: Saving Figures

```
% Example: print
mkdir figures
prefix = './figures/figure_';
for i = 1:11
    name = strcat(prefix, num2str(i));
    fig = figure(i);
    set(fig, 'PaperPositionMode', 'auto');
    pos = get(fig, 'PaperPosition');
    set(fig, 'PaperSize', [pos(3) pos(4)]);
    print(fig, '-dpdf', name);
end
```



Summary

- `figure`
- `hold`
- `plot`, `semilogy`, `plotyy`
- `subplot`
- `title`, `xlabel`, `ylabel`, `legend`, `axis`, `grid`
- `gcf`, `gca`, `get`, `set`
- `print`
- `strcat`, `num2str`

