# **Visualization (Matplotlib)**

#### Introduction

- · Matplotlib is the oldest library for data visualization in Python.
- It was created to replicate MatLab's plotting capabilities.
- It is an excellent 2D and 3D graphics library for generating scientific figures.

Some of the major Pros of Matplotlib are:

- · Generally easy to get started for simple plots
- · Support for custom labels and texts
- · Great control of every element in a figure
- · High-quality output in many formats

Before continuing explore the official Matplotlib web page: http://matplotlib.org/ (http://matplotlib.org/)

### Installation

You'll need to install matplotlib first with either:

```
conda install matplotlib
or
pip install matplotlib
```

## **Importing**

Import the matplotlib.pyplot module as plt

```
In [1]: import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

Let's tell jupyter we want to see the plots as outputs of the cells

```
In [2]: %matplotlib inline
```

If you are using another editor, use: plt.show() to display your figure in another window.

## **Example**

```
In [3]: import numpy as np
    x = np.linspace(0, 5, 11)
    y = x ** 2

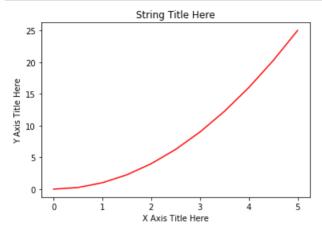
In [4]: x
Out[4]: array([0. , 0.5, 1. , 1.5, 2. , 2.5, 3. , 3.5, 4. , 4.5, 5. ])

In [5]: y
Out[5]: array([ 0. , 0.25,  1. , 2.25,  4. , 6.25,  9. , 12.25, 16. , 20.25, 25. ])
```

## **Basic Matplotlib Commands**

Use plot to generate a line plot.

```
In [6]: plt.plot(x, y, 'r') # 'r' is the color red
    plt.xlabel('X Axis Title Here')
    plt.ylabel('Y Axis Title Here')
    plt.title('String Title Here')
    plt.show()
```



# **Creating Multiplots on Same Canvas**

```
In [7]: # plt.subplot(nrows, ncols, plot_number)
         plt.subplot(1, 2, 1)
         plt.plot(x, y, 'r--')
                                 # More on color options later
         plt.subplot(1, 2, 2)
         plt.plot(y, x, 'g*-');
         25
         20
         15
                                 3
         10
                                 2
          5
                                 1
          0
                                                 20
```

# **Matplotlib Object Oriented Method**

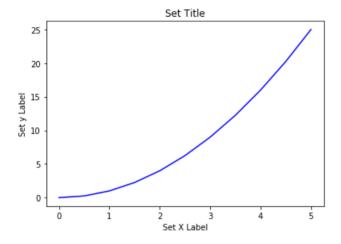
The main idea is to create figure objects and then call methods or attributes off of that object.

```
In [8]: # Create Figure (empty canvas)
fig = plt.figure()

# Add set of axes to figure
axes = fig.add_axes([0.1, 0.1, 0.8, 0.8]) # left, bottom, width, height (range 0 to 1)

# Plot on that set of axes
axes.plot(x, y, 'b')
axes.set_xlabel('Set X Label') # Notice the use of set_ to begin methods
axes.set_ylabel('Set y Label')
axes.set_title('Set Title')
```

Out[8]: Text(0.5, 1.0, 'Set Title')



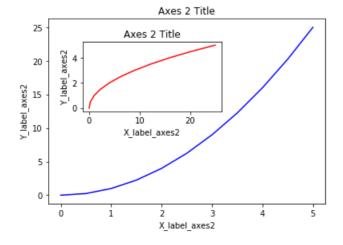
We now have full control of where the plot axes are placed:

```
In [9]: # Creates blank canvas
fig = plt.figure()

axes1 = fig.add_axes([0.1, 0.1, 0.8, 0.8]) # main axes
axes2 = fig.add_axes([0.2, 0.5, 0.4, 0.3]) # inset axes

# Larger Figure Axes 1
axes1.plot(x, y, 'b')
axes1.set_xlabel('X_label_axes2')
axes1.set_ylabel('Y_label_axes2')
axes1.set_title('Axes 2 Title')

# Insert Figure Axes 2
axes2.plot(y, x, 'r')
axes2.set_xlabel('X_label_axes2')
axes2.set_ylabel('Y_label_axes2')
axes2.set_ylabel('Y_label_axes2')
axes2.set_title('Axes 2 Title');
```

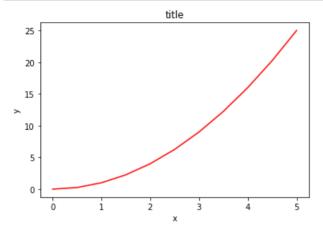


## subplots()

The plt.subplots() object acts as an automatic axis manager.

```
In [10]: # Use similar to plt.figure() except use tuple unpacking to grab fig and axes
fig, axes = plt.subplots()

# Now use the axes object to add stuff to plot
axes.plot(x, y, 'r')
axes.set_xlabel('x')
axes.set_ylabel('y')
axes.set_title('title');
```



We can specify the number of rows and columns in the subplots() object:

```
In [11]: # Empty canvas of 1 by 2 subplots
          fig, axes = plt.subplots(nrows=1, ncols=2)
                                  0.8
           0.8
           0.6
                                 0.6
           0.4
                                  0.4
           0.2
                                  0.2
          0.0
                                 0.0 +
                            0.8 1.0
                                       0.2 0.4
In [12]: # Axes is an array of axes to plot on
Out[12]: array([<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x11b879250>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x11b8903d0>],
```

We can iterate through this array:

dtype=object)

Out[13]: title<sub>0</sub> title<sub>1</sub> 25 25 20 20 15 15 10 10 5 5 0 4 4

To avoid overlapping subplots, we can use fig.tight\_layout() or plt.tight\_layout() which automatically adjusts the positions of the axes on the figure canvas so that there is no overlapping content:

```
In [14]: fig, axes = plt.subplots(nrows=1, ncols=2)
          axes[0].plot(x, y, 'g')
          axes[0].set_ylabel('y')
          axes[1].plot(y, x, 'r')
          axes[1].set_ylabel('y')
          plt.tight layout()
            25
                                        5
            20
            15
                                        3
            10
                                        2
                                        1
             0
                                        0
                                                          20
```

## Figure size, aspect ratio and DPI

Matplotlib allows the aspect ratio, DPI and figure size to be specified when the Figure object is created.

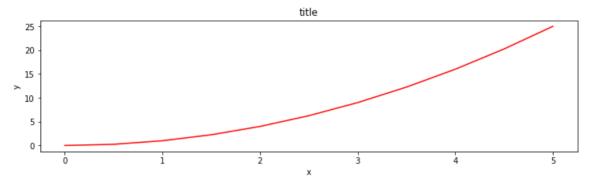
- figsize is a tuple of the width and height of the figure in inches
- dpi is the dots-per-inch (pixel per inch).

For example:

```
In [15]: fig = plt.figure(figsize=(8,4), dpi=100)
```

<Figure size 800x400 with 0 Axes>

The same arguments can also be passed to layout managers, such as the subplots function:



## Saving figures

Matplotlib can generate high-quality output in a number formats, including PNG, JPG, EPS, SVG, PGF and PDF.

To save a figure to a file we can use the savefig method in the Figure class:

```
In [17]: fig.savefig("filename.png")
```

We can also optionally specify the DPI and choose between different output formats:

```
In [18]: fig.savefig("filename.png", dpi=200)
```

## Legends, labels and titles

### Figure titles

A title can be added to each axis instance in a figure. To set the title, use the set\_title method in the axes instance:

```
In [19]: ax.set_title("title");
```

#### Axis labels

Similarly, with the methods  $\mathtt{set\_xlabel}$  and  $\mathtt{set\_ylabel}$ , we can set the labels of the X and Y axes:

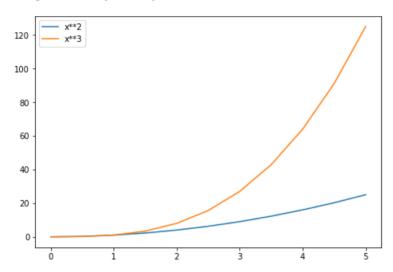
```
In [20]: ax.set_xlabel("x")
ax.set_ylabel("y");
```

#### Legends

You can use the label="label text" keyword argument when plots or other objects are added to the figure, and then using the **legend** method without arguments to add the legend to the figure:

```
In [21]: fig = plt.figure()
    ax = fig.add_axes([0,0,1,1])
    ax.plot(x, x**2, label="x**2")
    ax.plot(x, x**3, label="x**3")
    ax.legend()
```

Out[21]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x11b410fd0>



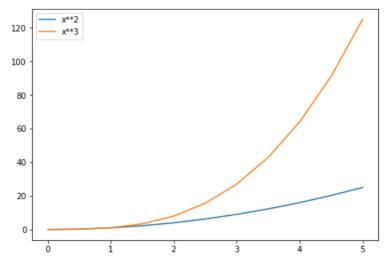
The **legend** function takes an optional keyword argument loc that can be used to specify where in the figure the legend is to be drawn. The allowed values of **loc** are numerical codes for the various places the legend can be drawn. See the <u>documentation page</u> (<a href="http://matplotlib.org/users/legend\_guide.html#legend-location">http://matplotlib.org/users/legend\_guide.html#legend-location</a>) for details. Some of the most common **loc** values are:

```
In [22]: # Lots of options....

ax.legend(loc="upper right") # upper right corner
ax.legend(loc="upper left") # upper left corner
ax.legend(loc="lower left") # lower left corner
ax.legend(loc="lower right") # lower right corner

# Most common to choose
ax.legend(loc="best") # let matplotlib decide the optimal location
fig
```





## Setting colors, linewidths, linetypes

Matplotlib gives you a lot of options for customizing colors, linewidths, and linetypes.

There is the basic MATLAB-like syntax and a more sane version.

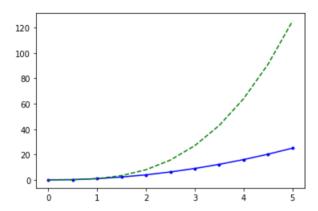
### Colors with MatLab like syntax

First of all, we can use the MATLAB-like syntax where 'b' means blue, 'g' means green, etc.

The MATLAB API for selecting line styles are also supported: where, for example, 'b.-' means a blue line with dots:

```
In [23]: # MATLAB style line color and style
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.plot(x, x**2, 'b.-') # blue line with dots
ax.plot(x, x**3, 'g--') # green dashed line
```

```
Out[23]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11ac791d0>]
```

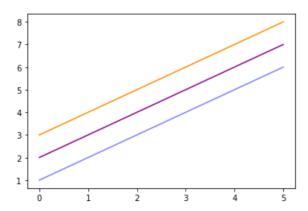


### Colors with the color= parameter

We can also define colors by their names or RGB hex codes in the color parameter. alpha indicates opacity.

```
In [24]: fig, ax = plt.subplots()
    ax.plot(x, x+1, color="blue", alpha=0.5) # half-transparant
    ax.plot(x, x+2, color="#8B008B") # RGB hex code
    ax.plot(x, x+3, color="#FF8C00") # RGB hex code
```

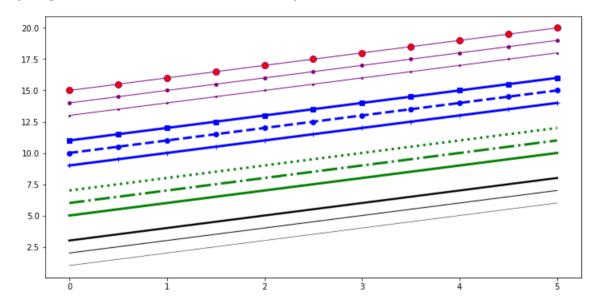
```
Out[24]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11b412650>]
```



#### Line and marker styles

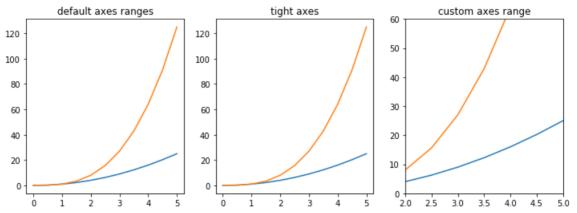
To change the line width, we can use the linewidth or lw keyword argument. The line style can be selected using the linestyle or ls keyword arguments:

Out[25]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11b4f6cd0>]



## Plot range

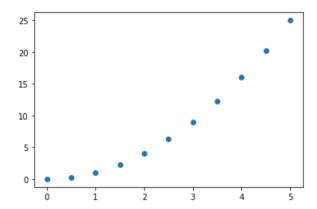
We can configure the ranges of the axes using the set\_ylim and set\_xlim methods in the axis object, or axis('tight') for automatically getting "tightly fitted" axes ranges:



# **Special Plot Types**

There are many specialized plots that we can create in matplotlib. For most of these we will use another similar library, but here a few examples:

```
In [27]: plt.scatter(x, y)
Out[27]: <matplotlib.collections.PathCollection at 0x11b4f6e50>
```



```
In [28]: from random import sample
         data = sample(range(1, 1000), 100)
         plt.hist(data)
Out[28]: (array([11., 6., 6., 17., 7., 8., 14., 9., 9., 13.]),
          array([ 2. , 100.3, 198.6, 296.9, 395.2, 493.5, 591.8, 690.1, 788.4, 886.7, 985. ]),
          <a list of 10 Patch objects>)
          16
          14
          12
          10
           8
           6
           2
           0
                     200
                                                   1000
In [29]: data = [np.random.normal(0, std, 100) for std in range(1, 4)]
         # rectangular box plot
         plt.boxplot(data)
Out[29]: {'whiskers': [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbb3450>,
           <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbb3a10>,
           <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbc38d0>,
           <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbbcf10>,
           <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbe5c10>,
           <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbe5c90>],
           'caps': [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbb3f10>,
           <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cba8810>,
           <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbbc950>,
           <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbca7d0>,
           <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbec690>,
           <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbecb90>],
           'boxes': [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cba87d0>,
           <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbb3f90>,
           <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbe5710>],
           'medians': [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbbc990>,
           <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbcacd0>,
           <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbecc50>],
           'fliers': [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbbce90>,
           <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbcad50>,
           <matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cbf7610>],
           'means': []}
           6
           4
           2
           0
          -2
          -4
          -6
          -8
```

## **Further reading**

- <a href="http://www.matplotlib.org">http://www.matplotlib.org</a> The project web page for matplotlib.
- https://github.com/matplotlib/matplotlib (https://github.com/matplotlib) The source code for matplotlib.
- <a href="http://matplotlib.org/gallery.html">http://matplotlib.org/gallery.html</a>) A large gallery showcaseing various types of plots matplotlib can create. Highly recommended!
- http://www.loria.fr/~rougier/teaching/matplotlib (http://www.loria.fr/~rougier/teaching/matplotlib) A good matplotlib tutorial.
- <a href="http://scipy-lectures.github.io/matplotlib/matplotlib/matplotlib.html">http://scipy-lectures.github.io/matplotlib/matplotlib/matplotlib.html</a>) Another good matplotlib reference.

# **Matplotlib Exercises - Solutions**

NOTE: ALL THE COMMANDS FOR PLOTTING A FIGURE SHOULD ALL GO IN THE SAME CELL. SEPARATING THEM OUT INTO MULTIPLE CELLS MAY CAUSE NOTHING TO SHOW UP.

## **Exercises**

Follow the instructions to recreate the plots using this data.

#### **Data**

```
In [1]: import numpy as np
    x = np.arange(0, 100)
    y = x * 2
    z = x ** 2
```

Import matplotlib.pyplot as plt and set %matplotlib inline if you are using the jupyter notebook.

```
In [2]: import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
%matplotlib inline
```

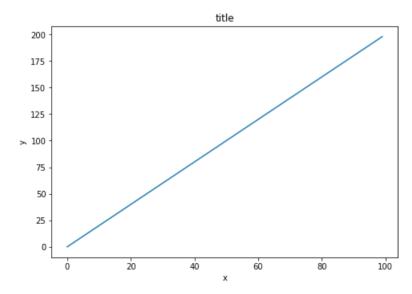
### **Exercise 1**

Follow along with these steps:

- Create a figure object called fig using plt.figure()
- Use add\_axes to add an axis to the figure canvas at [0,0,1,1]. Call this new axis ax.
- Plot (x,y) on that axes and set the labels and titles to match the plot below:

```
In [3]: fig = plt.figure()
    ax = fig.add_axes([0,0,1,1])
    ax.plot(x,y)
    ax.set_xlabel('x')
    ax.set_ylabel('y')
    ax.set_title('title')
```

```
Out[3]: Text(0.5, 1.0, 'title')
```



## **Exercise 2**

Create a figure object and put two axes on it, ax1 and ax2. Located at [0,0,1,1] and [0.2,0.5,.2,.2] respectively.

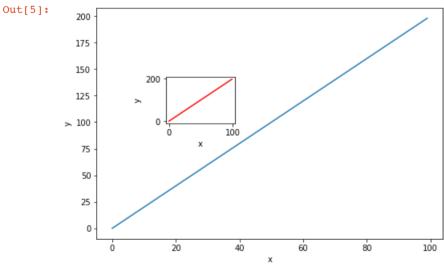
```
In [4]: fig = plt.figure()
          ax1 = fig.add_axes([0,0,1,1])
          ax2 = fig.add_axes([0.2,0.5,.2,.2])
          0.8
                      1.0
                      0.5
          0.6
                        0.0
          0.4
          0.2
          0.0
                         0.2
                                     0.4
                                                 0.6
                                                            0.8
                                                                        1.0
```

Now plot (x,y) on both axes. And call your figure object to show it.

```
In [5]: ax1.plot(x, y)
    ax1.set_xlabel('x')
    ax1.set_ylabel('y')

ax2.plot(x, y, color='red')
    ax2.set_xlabel('x')
    ax2.set_ylabel('y')

fig # Show figure object
Out[5]:
```



## **Exercise 3**

Create the plot below by adding two axes to a figure object at [0,0,1,1] and [0.2,0.5,.4,.4]

```
In [6]: fig = plt.figure()
          ax = fig.add_axes([0,0,1,1])
          ax2 = fig.add_axes([0.2,0.5,.4,.4])
           1.0
                       1.0
                       0.8
           0.8
                       0.6
                       0.4
           0.6
                       0.2
                       0.0
                         0.0
                               0.2
                                    0.4
                                         0.6
                                             0.8
                                                  1.0
           0.4
           0.2
```

0.8

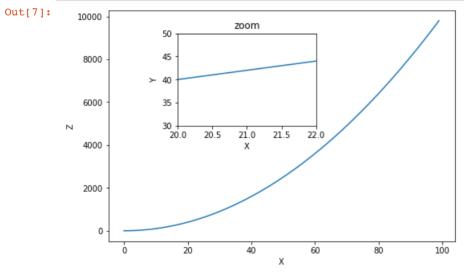
1.0

Now use x, y, and z arrays to recreate the plot below. Notice the x limits and y limits on the inserted plot:

0.6

0.4

```
In [7]: ax.plot(x,z)
    ax.set_xlabel('X')
    ax2.plot(x,y)
    ax2.set_xlabel('X')
    ax2.set_ylabel('Y')
    ax2.set_ylabel('Y')
    ax2.set_title('zoom')
    ax2.set_xlim(20, 22)
    ax2.set_ylim(30, 50)
```



## **Exercise 4**

0.0

0.2

Use plt.subplots(nrows=1, ncols=2) to create the plot below.

```
In [8]: # Empty canvas of 1 by 2 subplots
         fig, axes = plt.subplots(nrows=1, ncols=2)
          1.0
                                   1.0
                                   0.8
          0.8
          0.6
                                   0.6
                                   0.4
          0.2
                                   0.2
          0.0
                                   0.0 +
                        0.6
                             0.8 1.0
                                         0.2 0.4
```

#### Now plot (x,y) and (x,z) on the axes. Play around with the linewidth and style

```
axes[0].plot(x, y, color="blue", lw=3, ls='--')
          axes[1].plot(x, z, color="red", lw=3, ls='-')
         fig
Out[9]:
                                  10000
          200
          175
                                   8000
          150
          125
                                   5000
          100
                                   4000
           75
           50
                                   2000
           25
                                 100
```

See if you can resize the plot by adding the figsize() argument in plt.subplots() are copying and pasting your previous code.

```
In [10]: fig, axes = plt.subplots(nrows=1, ncols=2, figsize=(12,2))
          axes[0].plot(x, y, color="blue", lw=5)
          axes[0].set_xlabel('x')
          axes[0].set_ylabel('y')
          axes[1].plot(x, z, color="red", lw=3, ls='--')
          axes[1].set_xlabel('x')
          axes[1].set_ylabel('z')
Out[10]: Text(0, 0.5, 'z')
                                                         10000
            150
                                                          7500
           > 100
                                                          5000
             50
                                                          2500
                                                                      20
                                      60
                                                    100
                                                                                                  100
```

# **Advanced Matplotlib Concepts Lecture**

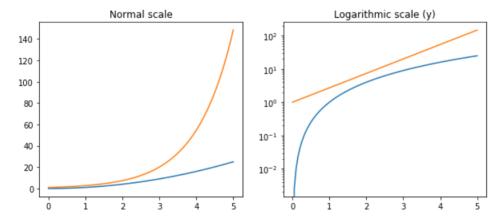
```
In [2]: import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import matplotlib
import numpy as np

%matplotlib inline

x = np.linspace(0, 5, 100)
y = x ** 2
```

#### Logarithmic scale

It is possible to set logarithmic scale for one or both axes using set\_xscale and set\_yscale methods which accept one parameter (with the value "log" in this case):

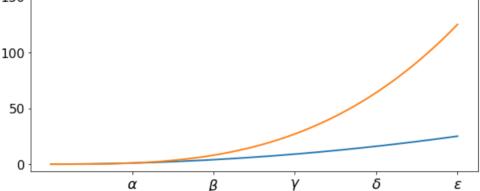


### Placement of ticks and custom tick labels

We can specify where to put the axis ticks with set\_xticks and set\_yticks, and the labels with set\_xticklabels and set yticklabels:

```
In [4]: fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(10, 4))
        ax.plot(x, x**2, x, x**3, lw=2)
        ax.set_xticks([1, 2, 3, 4, 5])
        ax.set_xticklabels([r'$\alpha$', r'$\beta$', r'$\gamma$', r'$\delta$', r'$\epsilon$'], font
        size=18)
        yticks = [0, 50, 100, 150]
        ax.set_yticks(yticks)
        ax.set yticklabels(yticks, fontsize=16)
Out[4]: [Text(0, 0, '0'), Text(0, 0, '50'), Text(0, 0, '100'), Text(0, 0, '150')]
```

150



### Axis grid

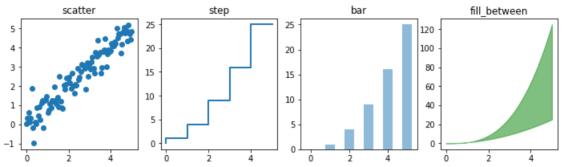
With the grid method in the axis object, we can turn on and off grid lines. We can also customize the appearance of the grid lines using the same keyword arguments as the plot function:

```
In [5]: fig, axes = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(10,3))
         # default grid appearance
         axes[0].plot(x, x**2, x, x**3, lw=2)
         axes[0].grid(True)
         # custom grid appearance
         axes[1].plot(x, x**2, x, x**3, lw=2)
         axes[1].grid(color='b', alpha=0.2, linestyle='dotted', linewidth=0.5)
         120
                                                120
          100
                                                100
          80
                                                 80
          60
                                                 60
          40
                                                 40
          20
                                                 20
```

## Other 2D plot styles

In addition to the regular plot method, there are a number of other functions for generating different kind of plots. See the matplotlib plot gallery for a complete list of available plot types: <a href="http://matplotlib.org/gallery.html">http://matplotlib.org/gallery.html</a>). Some of the more useful ones are show below:

```
In [6]: n = np.array([0,1,2,3,4,5])
```



#### **Colormap and contour figures**

Colormaps and contour figures are useful for plotting functions of two variables. In most of these functions we will use a colormap to encode one dimension of the data. There are a number of predefined colormaps. It is relatively straightforward to define custom colormaps. For a list of pre-defined colormaps, see: <a href="http://www.scipy.org/Cookbook/Matplotlib/Show\_colormaps">http://www.scipy.org/Cookbook/Matplotlib/Show\_colormaps</a> (<a href="http://www.scipy.org/Cookbook/Matplotlib/Show\_colormaps">http://www.scipy.org/Cookbook/Matplotlib/Show\_colormaps</a>)

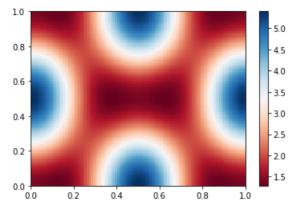
```
In [15]: alpha = 0.7
    phi_ext = 2 * np.pi * 0.5

def flux_qubit_potential(phi_m, phi_p):
        return 2 + alpha - 2 * np.cos(phi_p) * np.cos(phi_m) - alpha * np.cos(phi_ext - 2*phi_p)

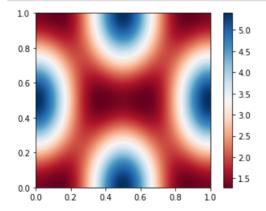
In [16]: phi m = np linspace(0, 2*np pi 100)
```

```
In [16]: phi_m = np.linspace(0, 2*np.pi, 100)
    phi_p = np.linspace(0, 2*np.pi, 100)
    X,Y = np.meshgrid(phi_p, phi_m)
    Z = flux_qubit_potential(X, Y).T
```

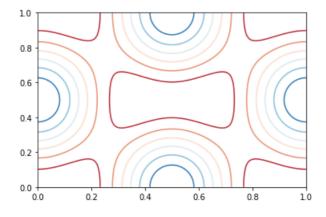
pcolor



#### imshow



#### contour



## 3D figures

To use 3D graphics in matplotlib, we first need to create an instance of the Axes3D class. 3D axes can be added to a matplotlib figure canvas in exactly the same way as 2D axes; or, more conveniently, by passing a projection='3d' keyword argument to the add axes or add subplot methods.

```
In [20]: from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d.axes3d import Axes3D
```

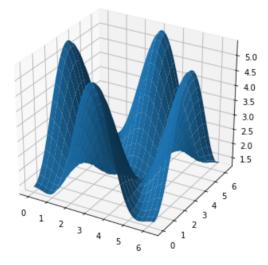
#### **Surface plots**

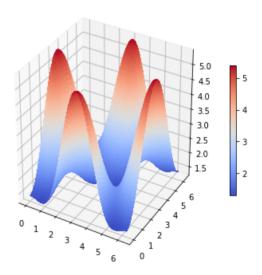
```
In [21]: fig = plt.figure(figsize=(14,6))

# `ax` is a 3D-aware axis instance because of the projection='3d' keyword argument to add_s
ubplot
ax = fig.add_subplot(1, 2, 1, projection='3d')

p = ax.plot_surface(X, Y, Z, rstride=4, cstride=4, linewidth=0)

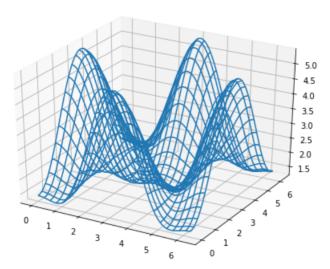
# surface_plot with color grading and color bar
ax = fig.add_subplot(1, 2, 2, projection='3d')
p = ax.plot_surface(X, Y, Z, rstride=1, cstride=1, cmap=matplotlib.cm.coolwarm, linewidth=0
, antialiased=False)
cb = fig.colorbar(p, shrink=0.5)
```





## Wire-frame plot

```
In [22]: fig = plt.figure(figsize=(8,6))
    ax = fig.add_subplot(1, 1, 1, projection='3d')
    p = ax.plot_wireframe(X, Y, Z, rstride=4, cstride=4)
```



#### Coutour plots with projections

```
In [23]: fig = plt.figure(figsize=(8,6))
    ax = fig.add_subplot(1,1,1, projection='3d')
    ax.plot_surface(X, Y, Z, rstride=4, cstride=4, alpha=0.25)
    cset = ax.contour(X, Y, Z, zdir='z', offset=-np.pi, cmap=matplotlib.cm.coolwarm)
    cset = ax.contour(X, Y, Z, zdir='x', offset=-np.pi, cmap=matplotlib.cm.coolwarm)
    cset = ax.contour(X, Y, Z, zdir='y', offset=3*np.pi, cmap=matplotlib.cm.coolwarm)
    ax.set_xlim3d(-np.pi, 2*np.pi);
    ax.set_ylim3d(0, 3*np.pi);
    ax.set_zlim3d(-np.pi, 2*np.pi);
```

