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## Plot polynomial curve in ggplot using equation, not data points [duplicate]

This question already has an answer here:

[Equivalent of curve\(\) for ggplot](#) 2 answers

Is there a way to plot a polynomial function in ggplot without having to plot a dataframe that contains selected points along the curve of interest? Say the equation is  $x^3 + x^2 + x + 5$ . I thought this could be done much in the same way that `geom_abline` can be used to add a straight line to a plot but am so far having no luck finding a way to do this. I checked the [ggplot2 documentation](#) but didn't see anything there I thought would help. `geom_abline` doesn't seem to extend past straight lines.

My end goal is to plot data from an independent dataset and use this polynomial curve as a "reference standard". The code below effectively plots the curve of interest but does so by plotting values along the curve, not by using the equation directly.

```
x <- 1:100
y <- x^3+x^2+x+5
dat <- as.data.frame(x,y)
ggplot(dat, aes(x,y)) + geom_point()
```

r ggplot2

edited Apr 22 '15 at 19:48

asked Apr 22 '15 at 19:42



tsurudak

383 2 12

marked as duplicate by [Ben Bolker](#)  Apr 22 '15 at 20:27

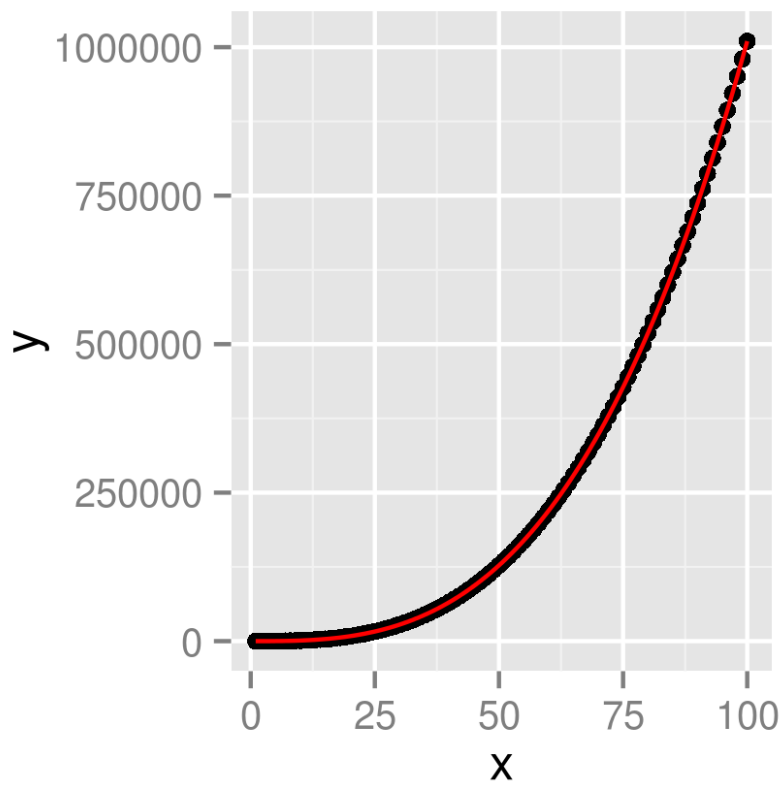
This question has been asked before and already has an answer. If those answers do not fully address your question, please [ask a new question](#).

Further details to Ben's answer can be found at this SO post. [stackoverflow.com/questions/5177846/...](http://stackoverflow.com/questions/5177846/...) – [r.bot](#) Apr 22 '15 at 20:05

## 1 Answer

You're looking for `stat_function()`, I think:

```
x <- 1:100
dat <- data.frame(x,y=x^3+x^2+x+5)
f <- function(x) x^3+x^2+x+5
ggplot(dat, aes(x,y)) +
  geom_point()+
  stat_function(fun=f, colour="red")
```



answered Apr 22 '15 at 20:03



[Ben Bolker](#)

100k 6 144 233

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Thank you! That's exactly what I was looking for :) – [tsurudak](#) Apr 22 '15 at 20:10

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