

# Business...

- **Presentation:**
  - Signup!
  - Email goes out this afternoon with a link!
- **Submit manuscript** on or before the last day of exams
- **Abstract** returned with comments today
- **Figure and caption...**

**SNOW**

**DAY!**

# Figure and caption assignment

- Figure and caption assignment:
  - Prepare pdf figure
  - Prepare caption using text or word.
  - Submit both on canvas

# Paul's tips for plots

Physics 495

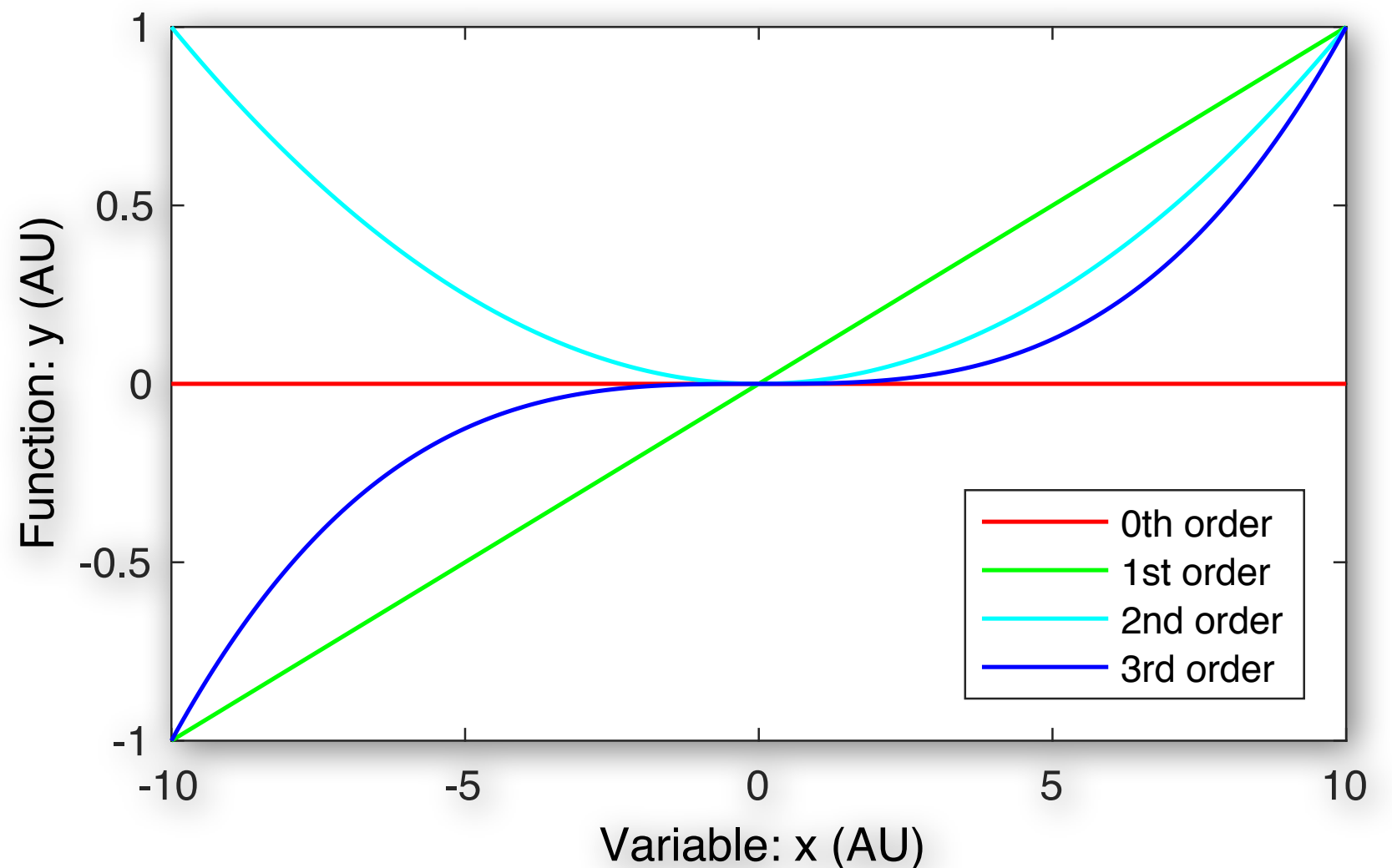
# What I recommend...

- **Make a script** to build each figure from scratch.
  - Save data in files...
  - Code everything you need to make the figure
  - Expect to go through  $> 5$  iterations
- MATLAB: **save as fig** and export format
  - Fig allows you to modify many things
- **Do not use Illustrator** until the figures are close to final.
- **Print** at the correct size and see how it looks on paper
- **Show** your figures to others for feedback
- Some people will **just look at the figures**



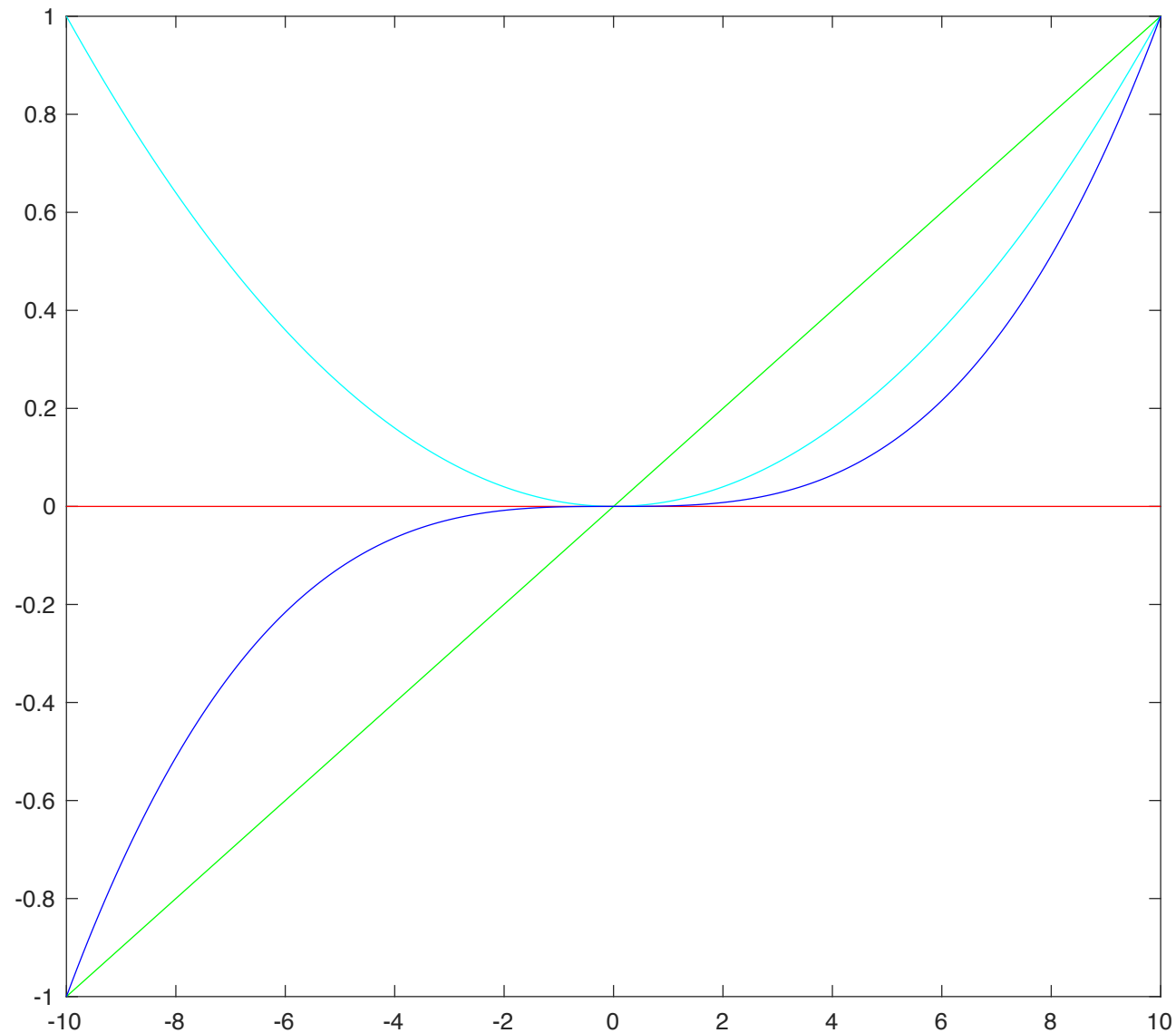
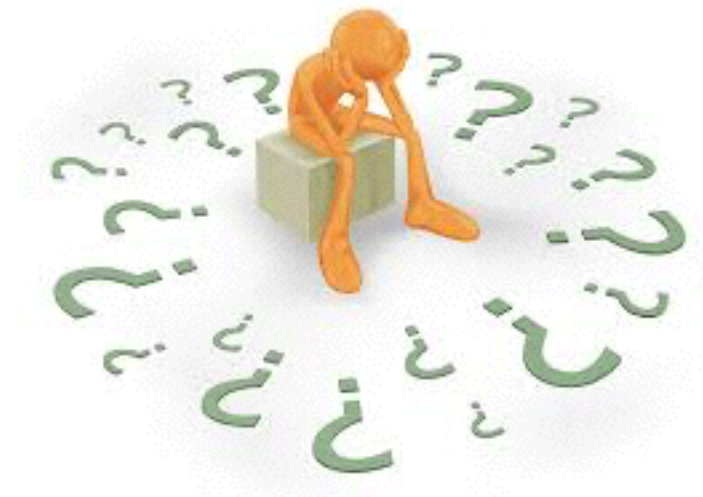
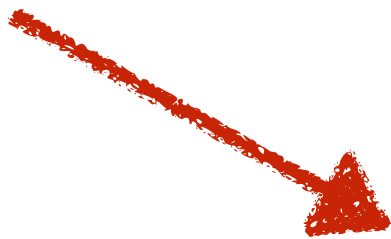
# Partial checklist:

- **Vector not raster ( pdf, eps, ...)**
- **Axis labels**
- **Legend**
- **Right Size**



# 1: Studying polynomials!

What is this?

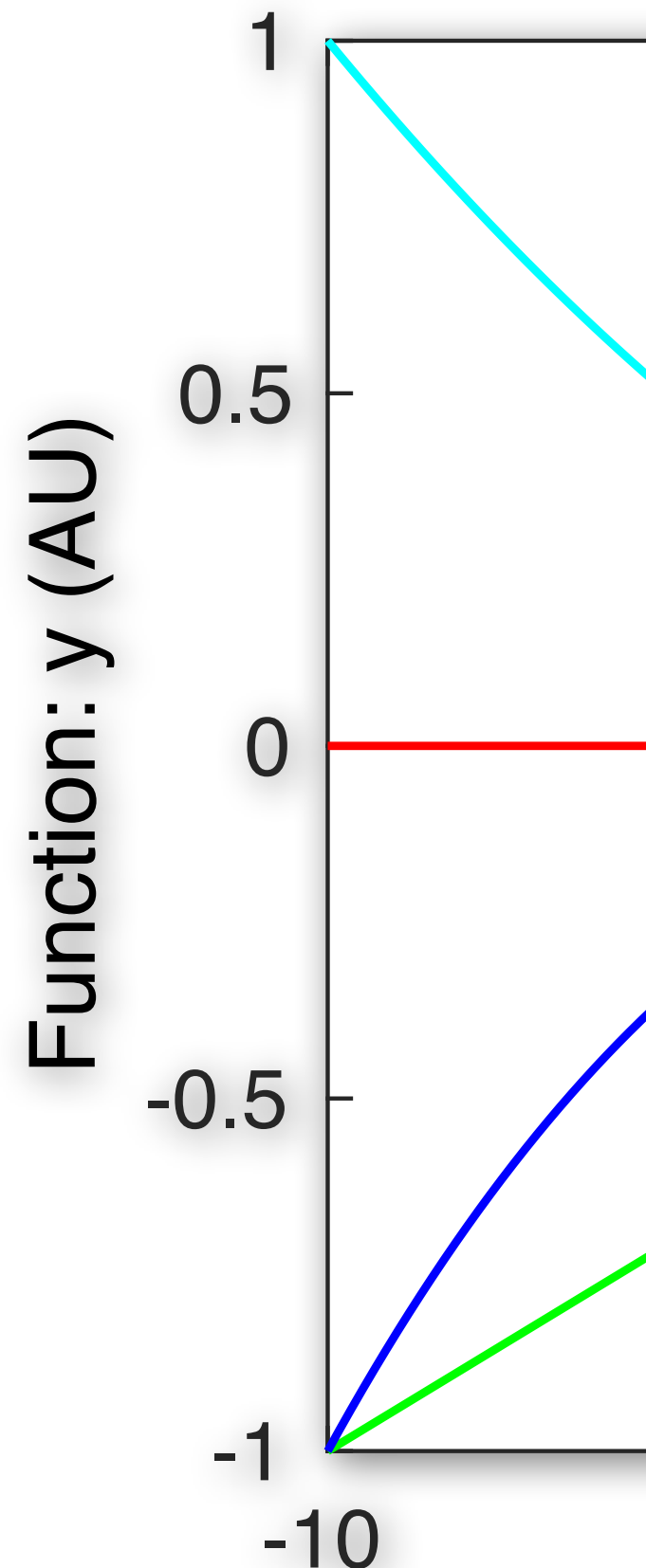


- Problem: No labels or legend!

# Labeling axes:

My own style:

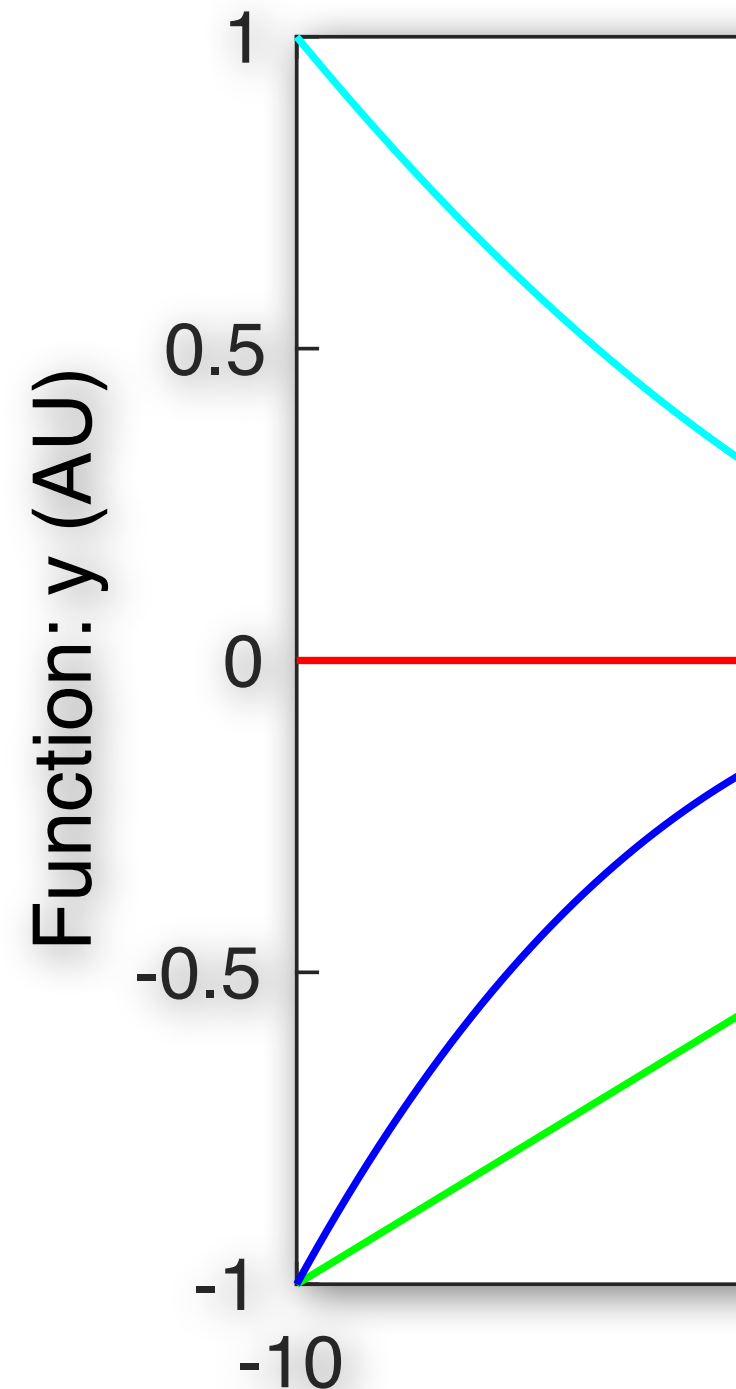
- Name: Symbol (Units)
- Why name: people read only the figures
- Why Symbol: Be precise.
- Units: \_ if unit-less, AU if arbitrary



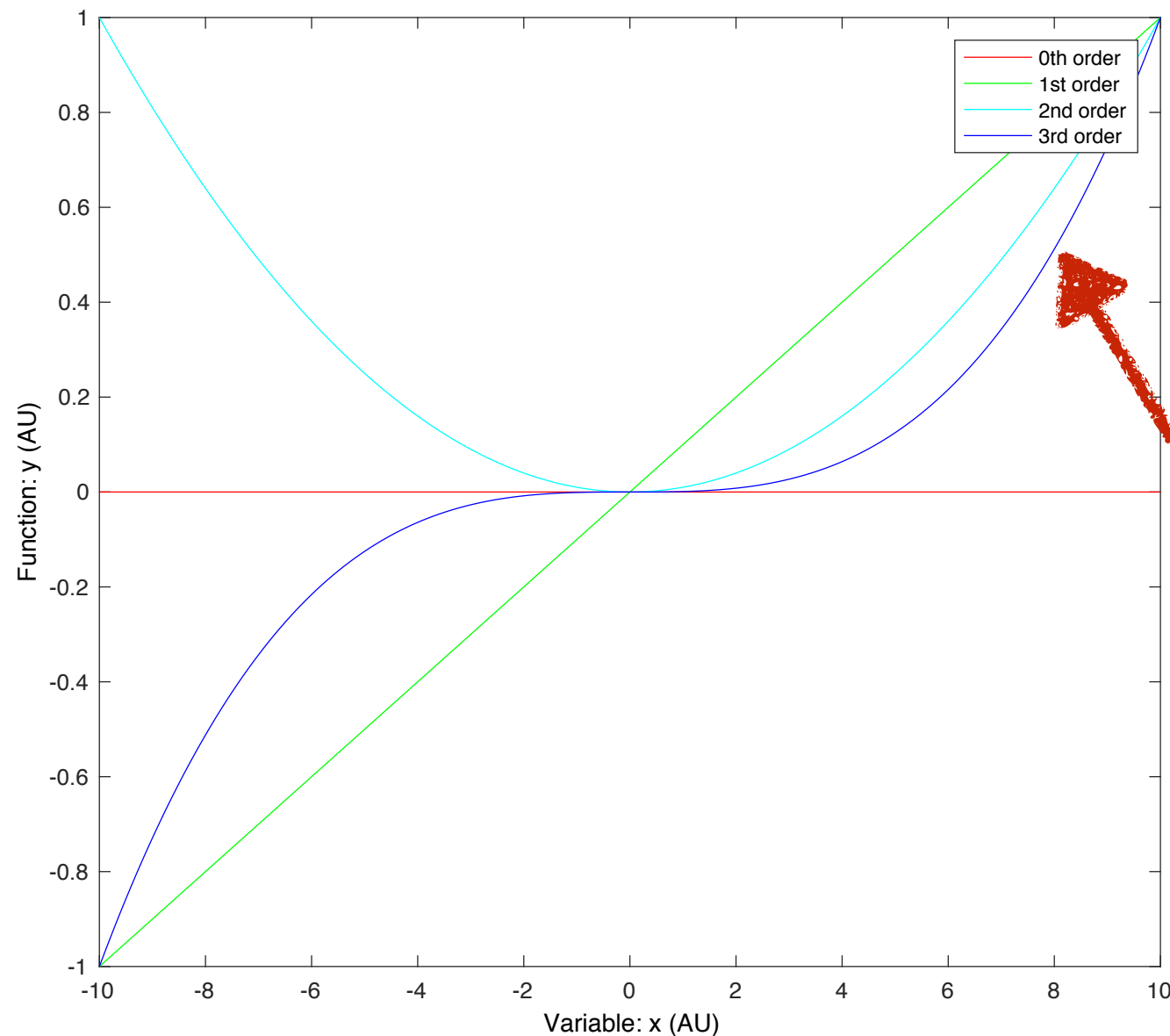


# Include 0 or plot $\Delta\Delta G$

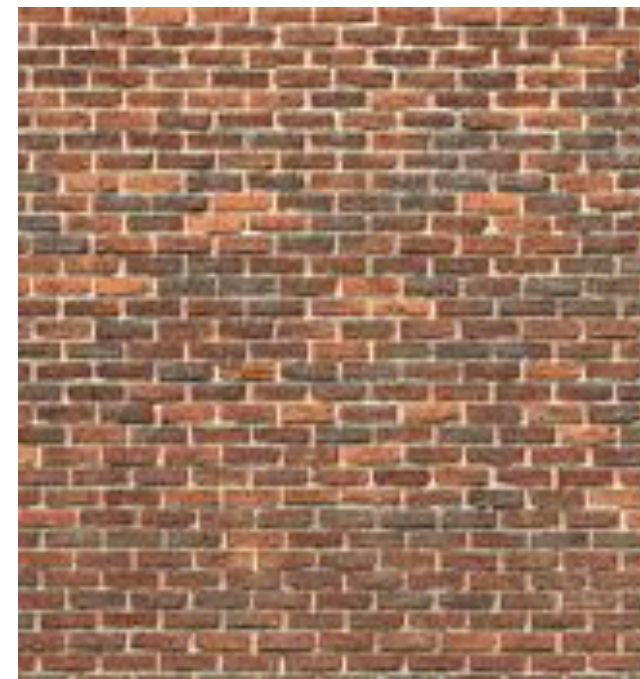
- People will intuitively assume that 0 is on the plot
- Won't understand variation if 0 isn't included
- If no 0, have a good reason...
- For instance:
  - Problem: Plot by year ( $t = 1990, 1991 \dots$ )
  - Solution: Plot by year relative to start... ( $\Delta t = 0, 1 \dots$ )



# 2: Studying polynomials!



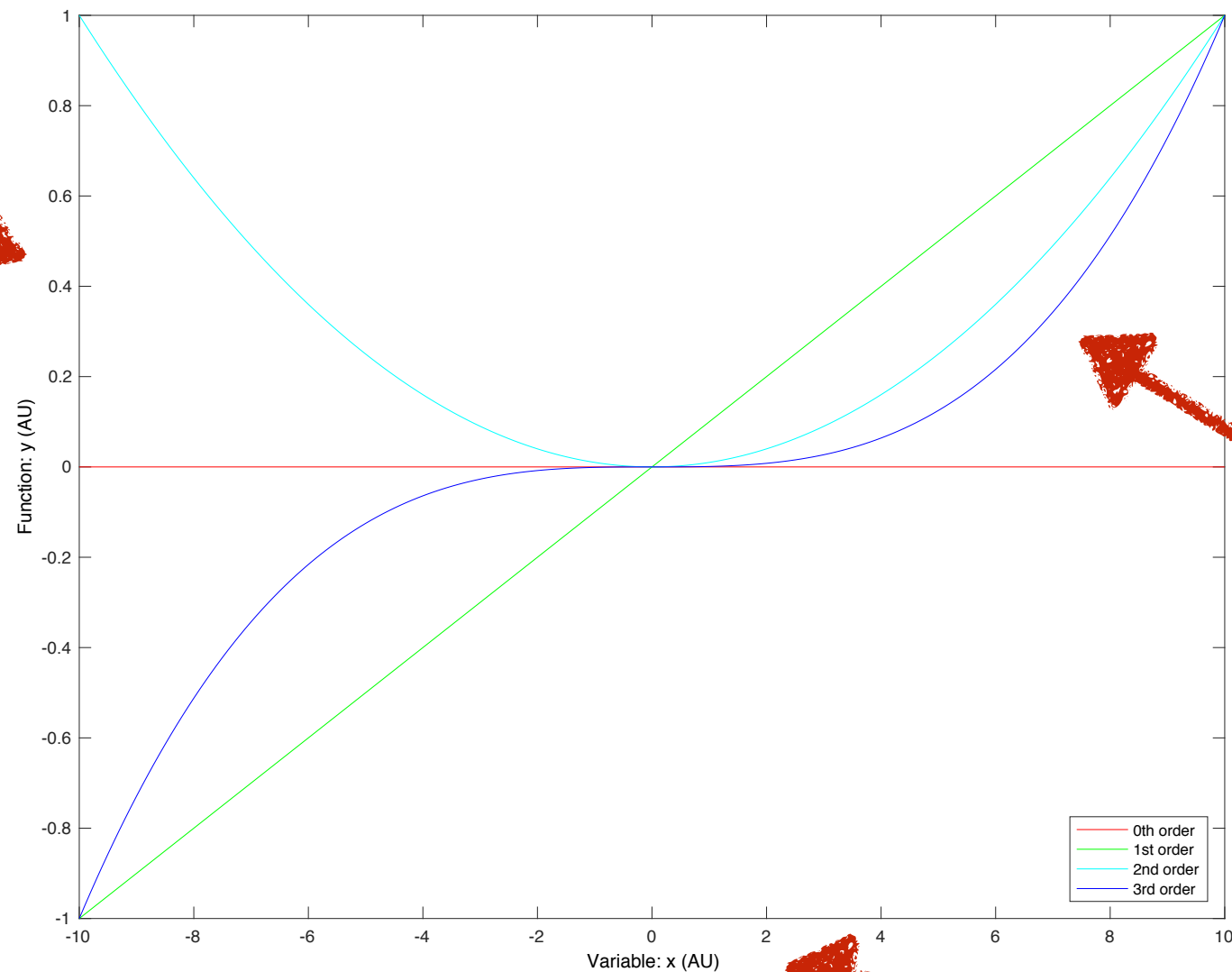
Can't see!



- Problem: Legend overlaps lines!

# 3: Studying polynomials!

Too many  
ticks



Line weight  
too small



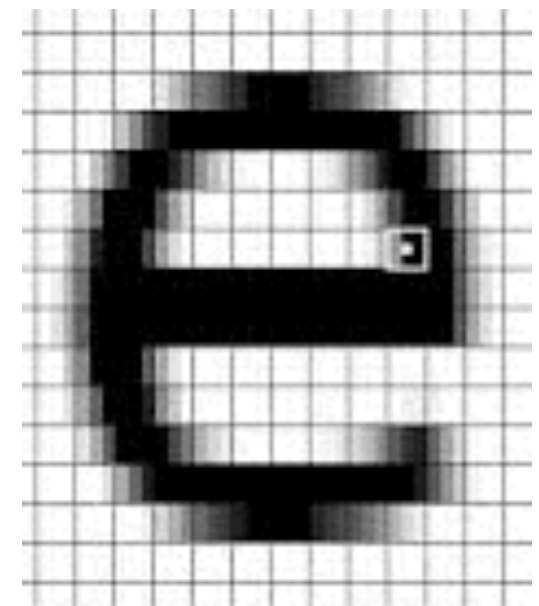
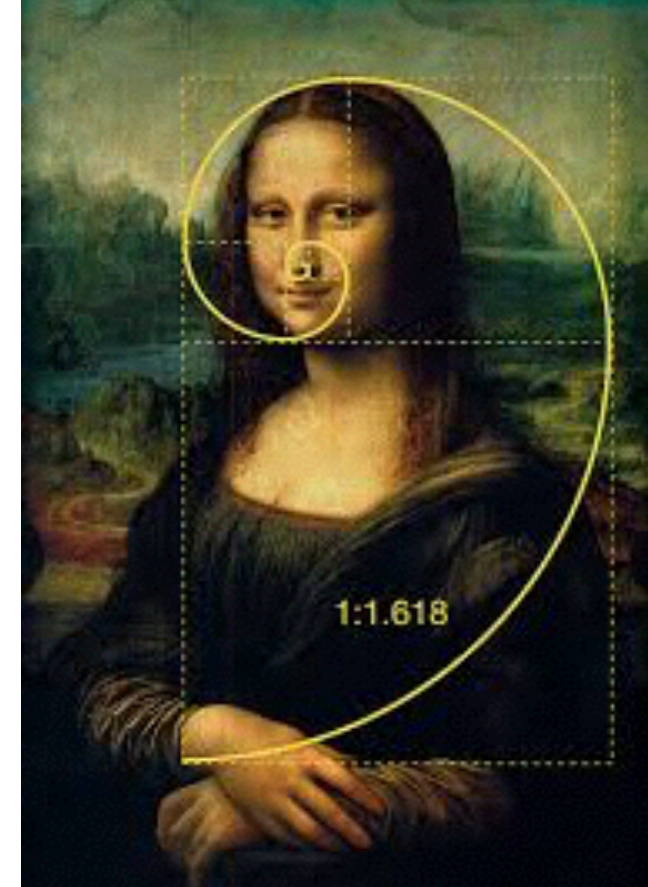
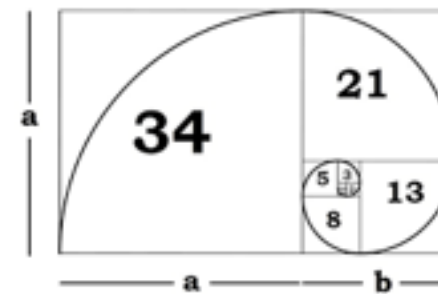
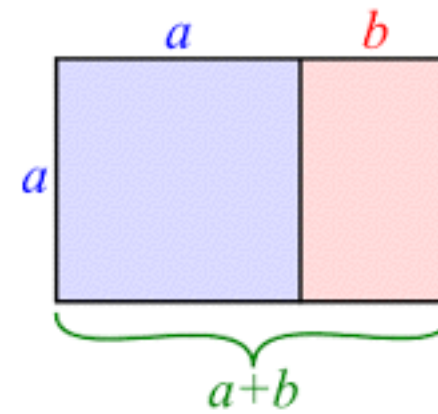
Can't see!



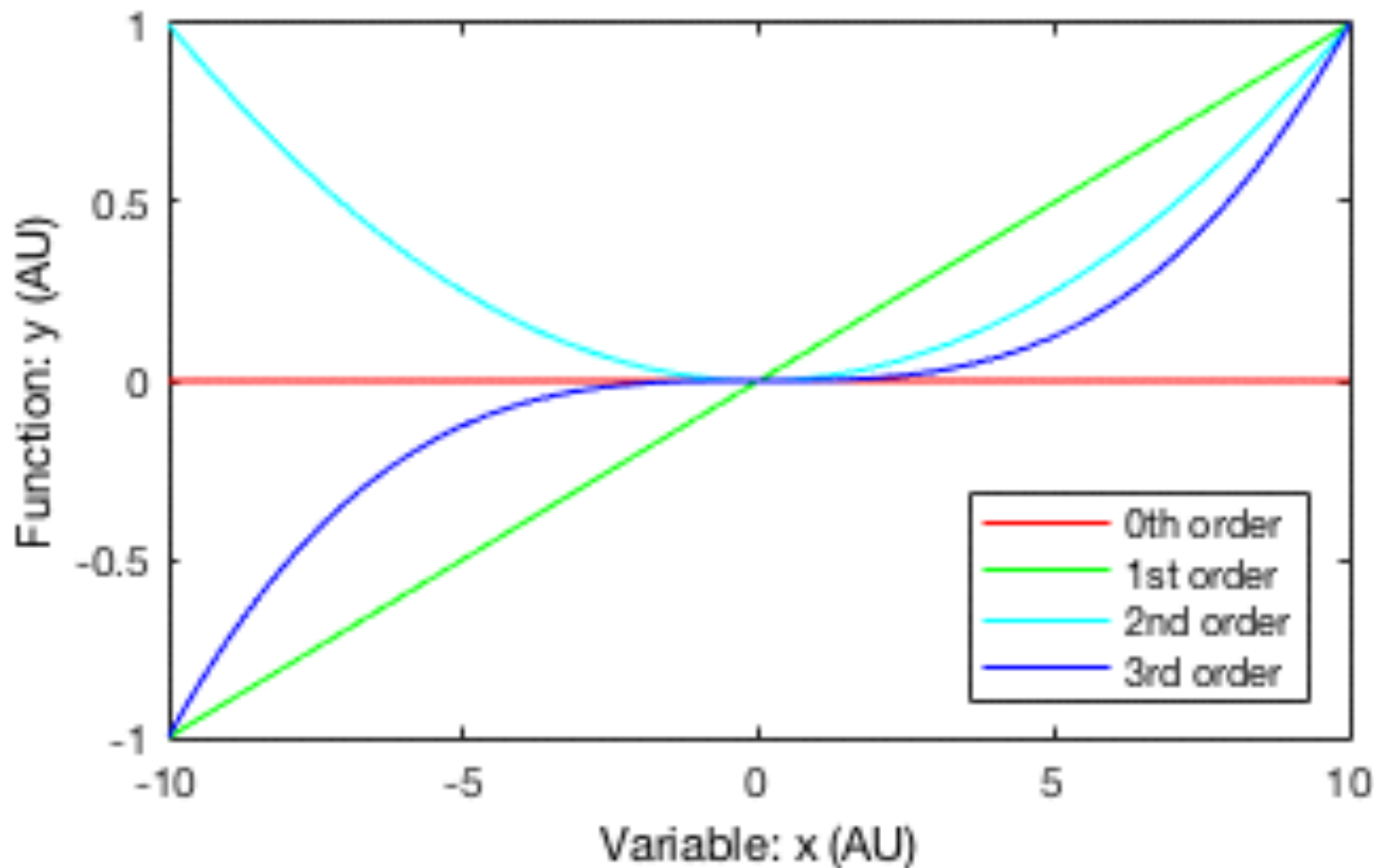
- Problem: Plot size!

# Right size:

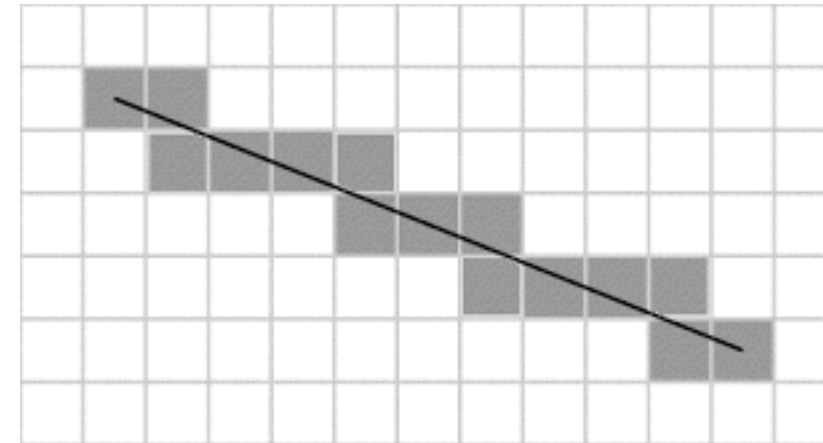
- Golden ratio: Use: 5 in x 3 in
- Font size: Use 10-12 pt, 8 pt for exponents
- Line weight (width): Use 0.5-1 pt
- Number of ticks: 3-10
- Legend: Good size, no overlap, clean



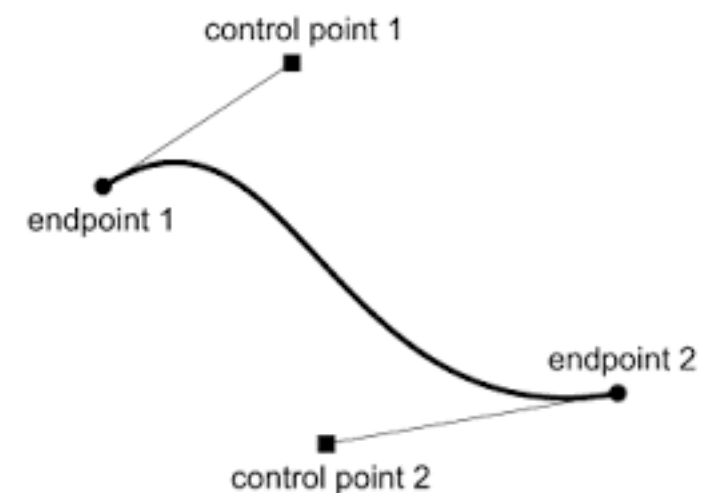
# 4: Studying polynomials!



**Raster:** tif, bmp, jpeg



**Vector:** pdf, eps, ...

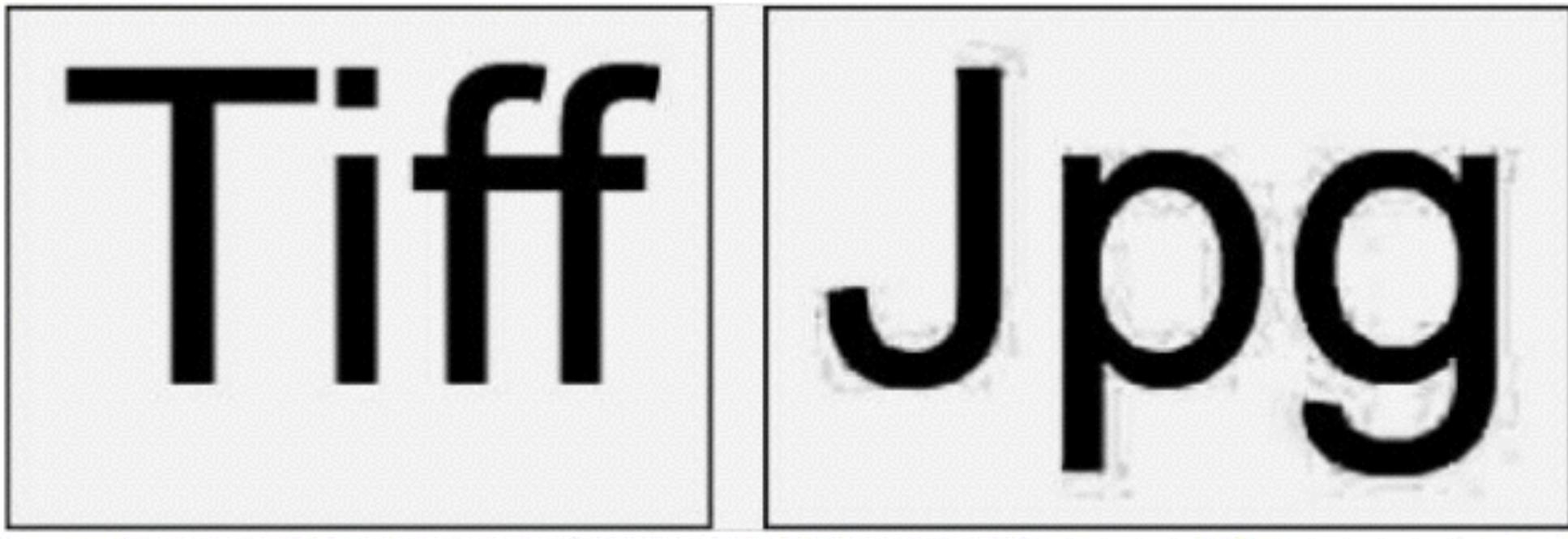


- Problem: Raster versus vector

Bézier curves



# Lossy, lossless, pixel depth



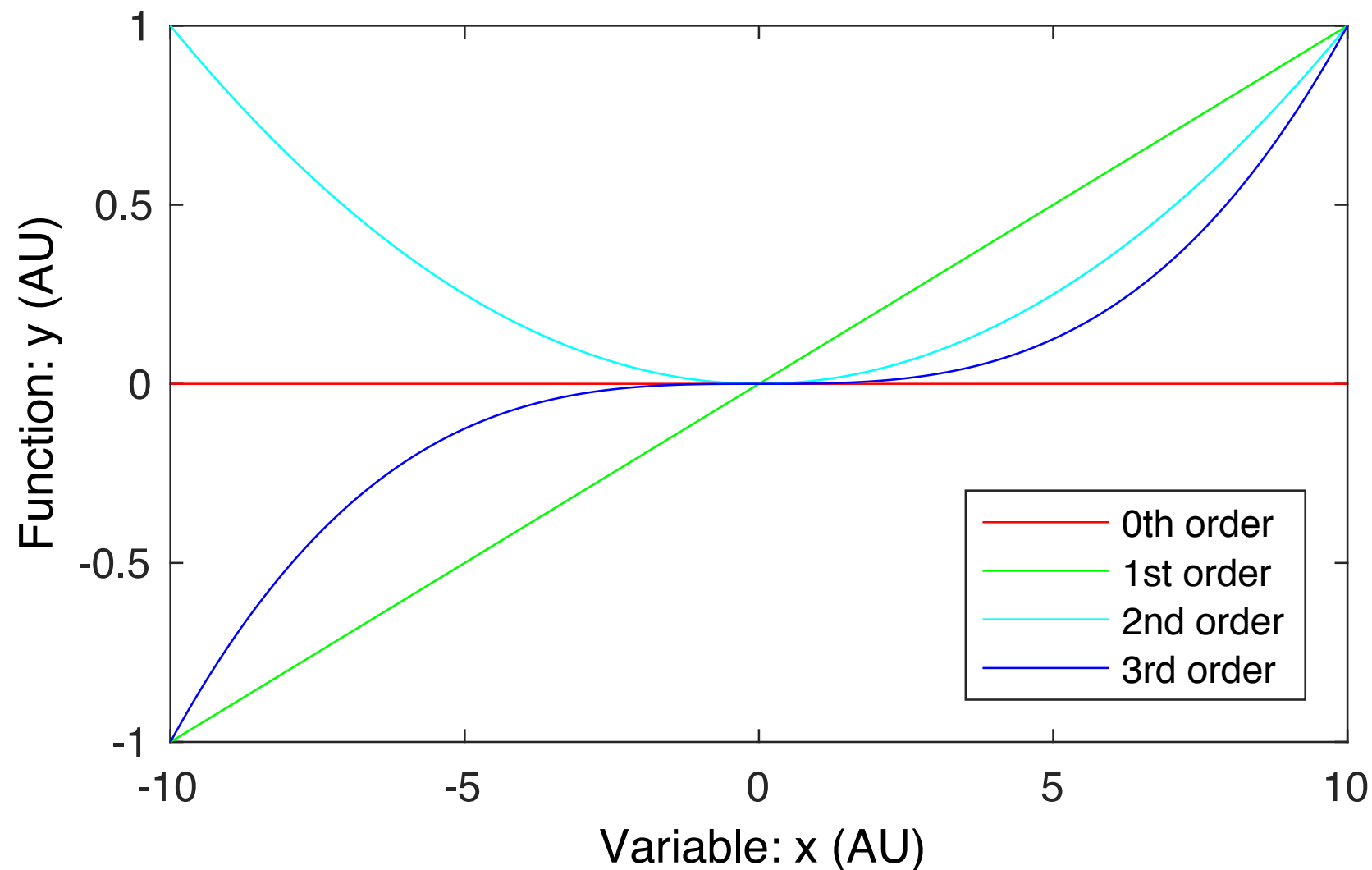
16.7 Million  
Colors

256  
Colors

16  
Colors



# 5: Studying polynomials!



- Great start!

# My code in MATLAB

```
close all;

figure(1);
clf;

x = -10:.1:10;
y0 = 0*x.^0;
y1 = x.^1/10;
y2 = x.^2/100;
y3 = x.^3/1000;

plot( x, y0, 'r' );
hold on;
plot( x, y1, 'g' );
plot( x, y2, 'c' );
plot( x, y3, 'b' );

% print first figure
print -dpdf ~/Desktop/print1.pdf

% Add labels and legend
```

```
ylabel( 'Function: y (AU)' );
xlabel( 'Variable: x (AU)' );
legend( {'0th order', '1st order', '2nd order', '3rd order'})

print -dpdf ~/Desktop/print2.pdf

% Put legend in the right place
legend( {'0th order', '1st order', '2nd order', '3rd order'}, 'Location', 'SouthEast' )
print -dpdf ~/Desktop/print3.pdf

doPageFormat( [5,3] );

% raster
print -dtiff -r72 ~/Desktop/print4.tif

% vector
print -dpdf ~/Desktop/print5.pdf
```

# doPageFormat.m

```
function doPageFormat( ss, inv_flag )

if ~exist( 'ss' ) || isempty( ss )
    ss = [5,3];
end

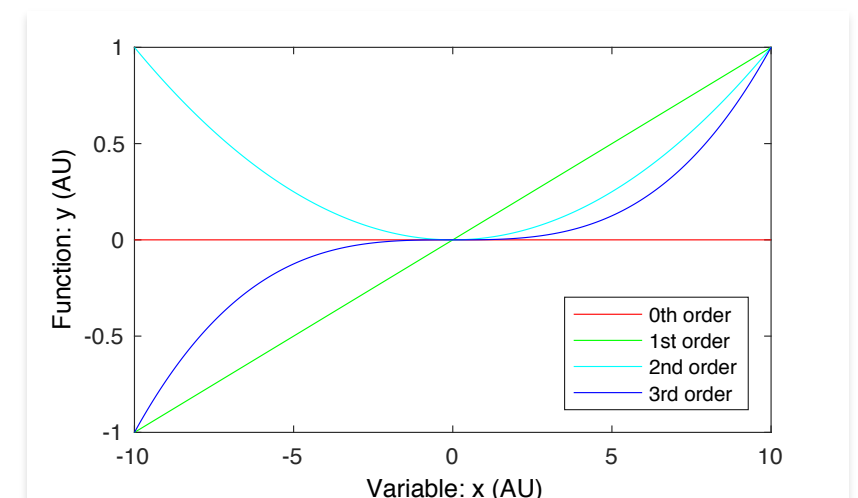
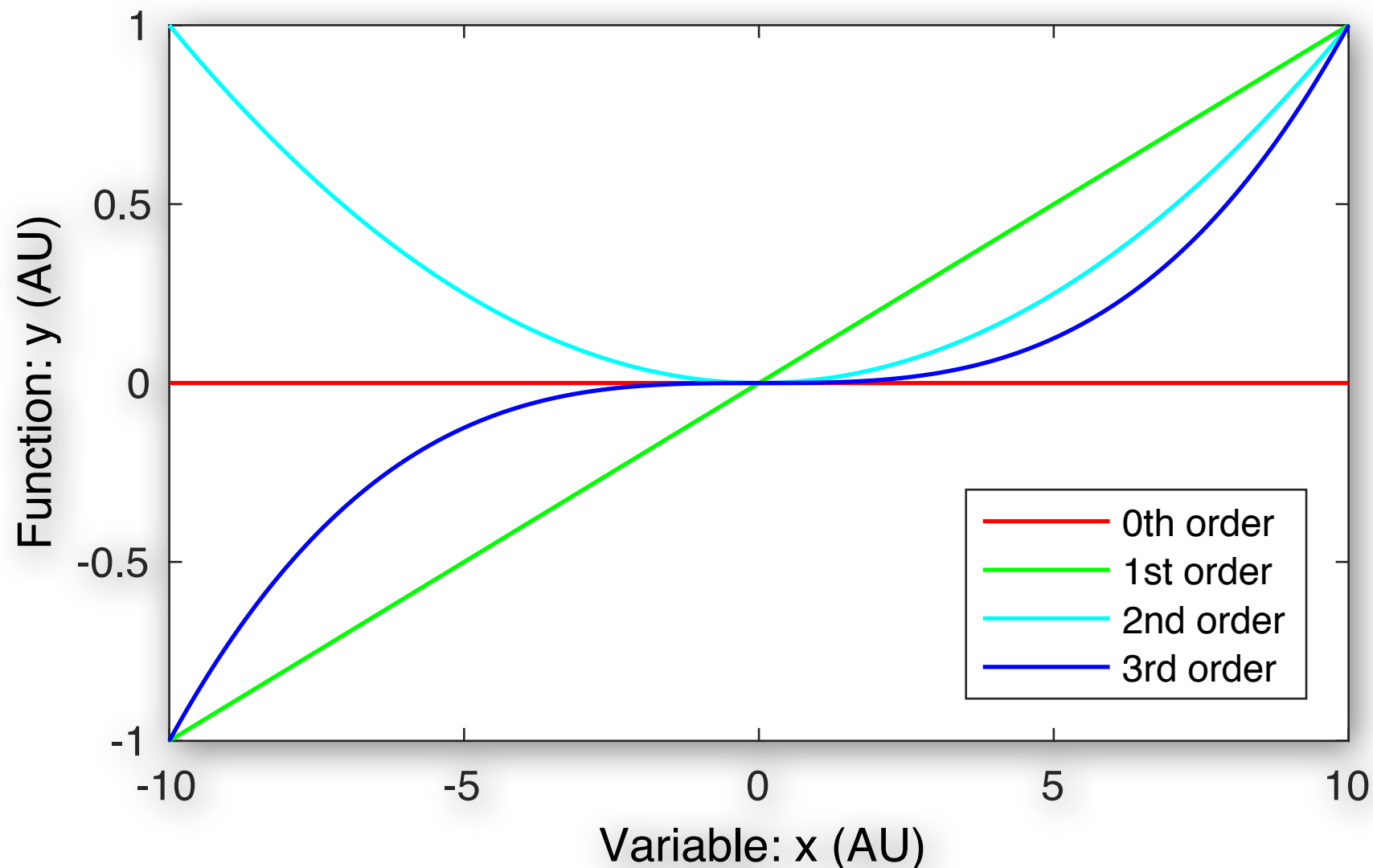
h = gcf;

if exist( 'inv_flag', 'var' ) && inv_flag
    set(h, 'InvertHardcopy', 'off' );
end

set(h, 'PaperPosition', [0, 0, ss]);
set(h, 'PaperSize', [ss]);

end
```

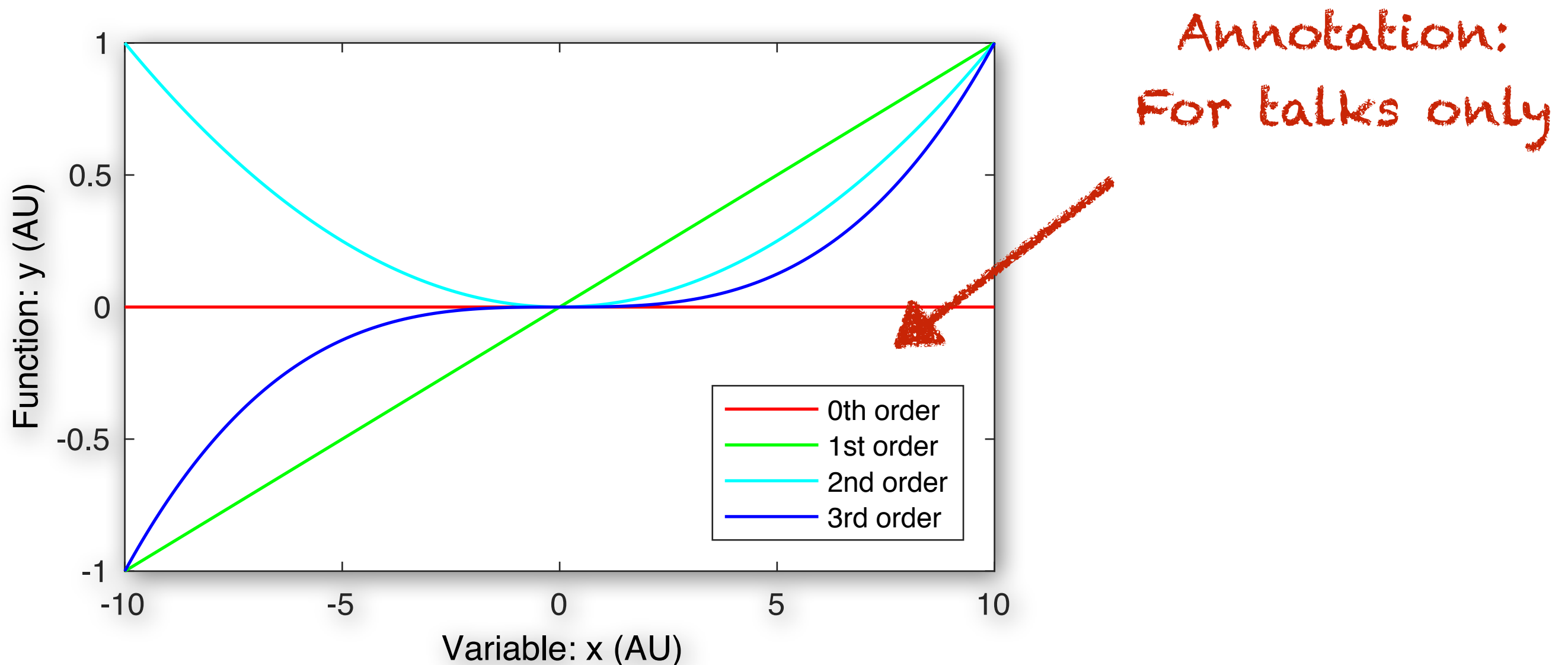
# 6: Studying polynomials!



Get rid of the box  
Fine-tune weight

- Fine-tuned in Adobe Illustrator (or Inkscape)

# 7: Studying polynomials!



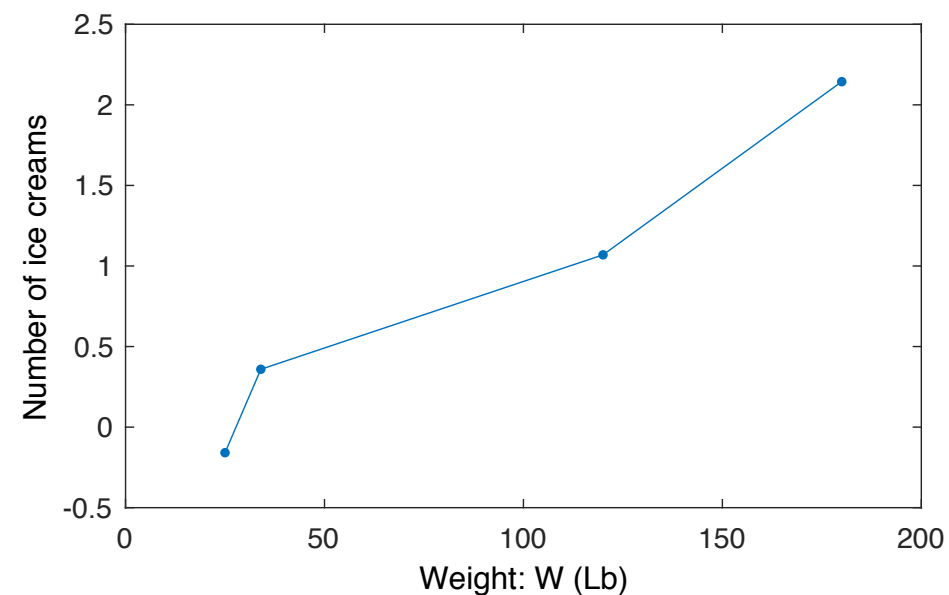
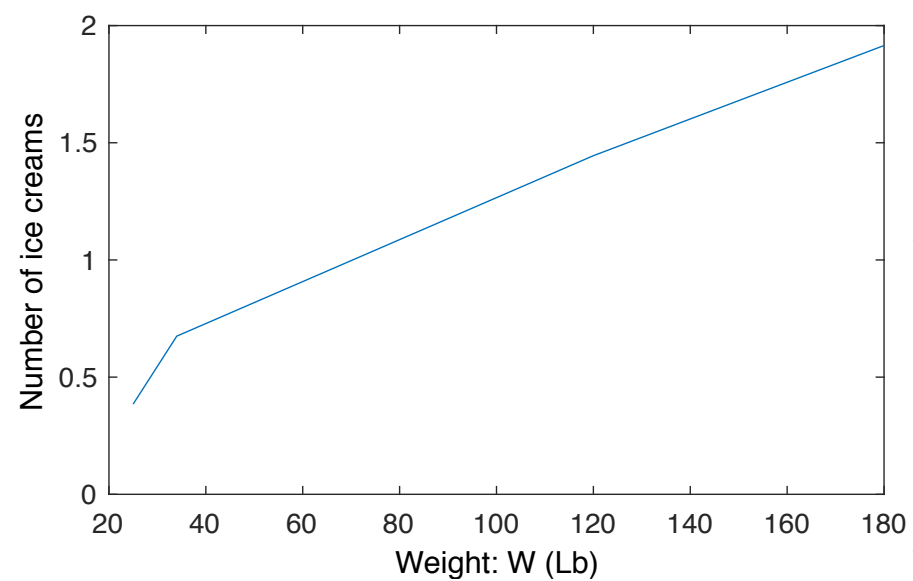
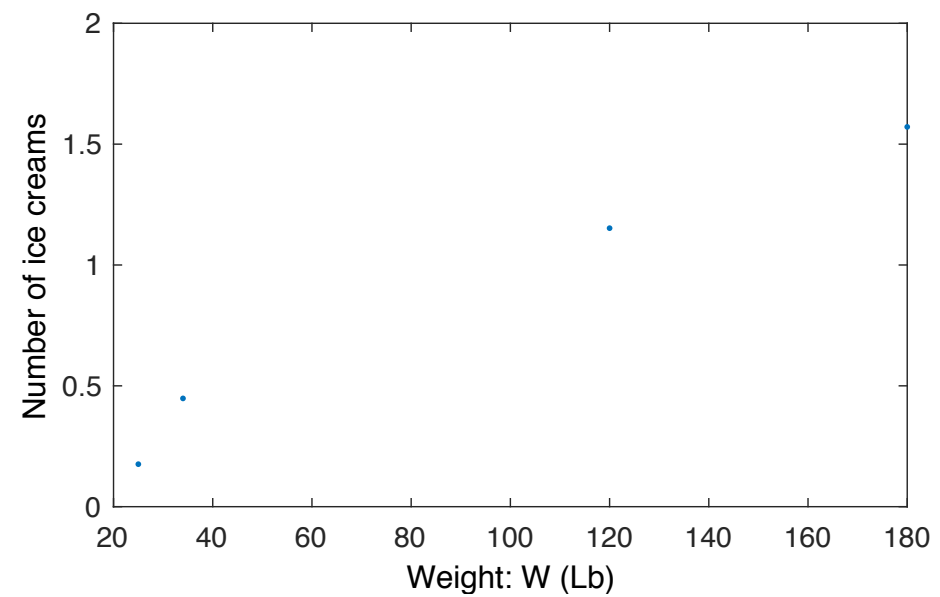
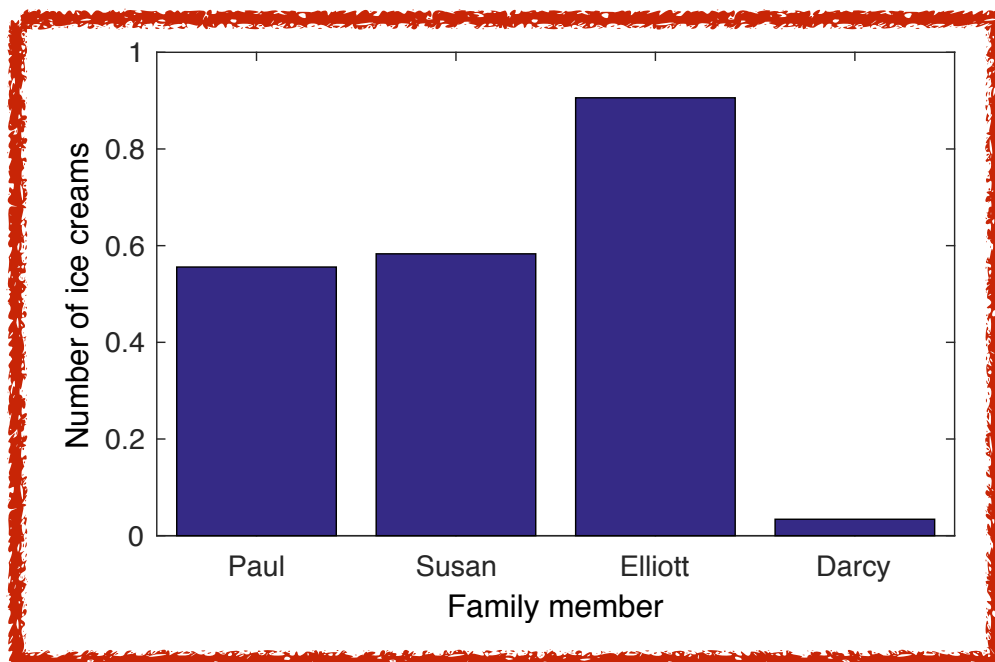
- Add other annotation elements to help in talks...

# Things to watch out for...

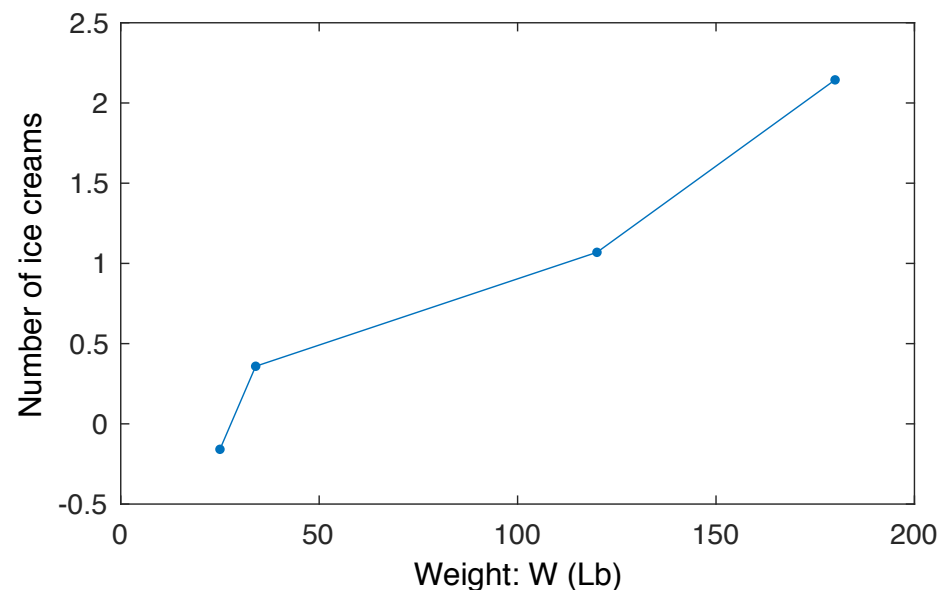
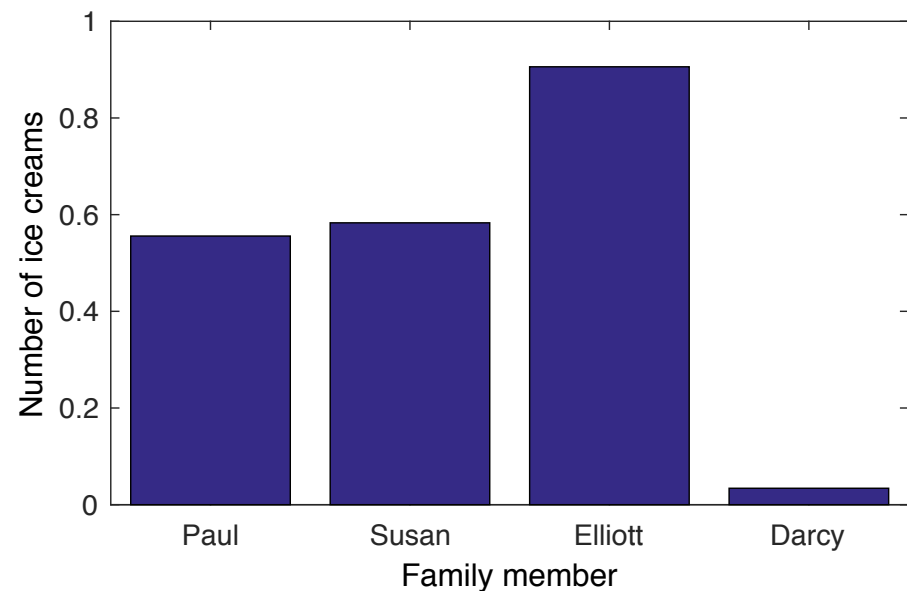
- Bounding box
- Powerpoint usually rasterizes pdf automatically (be careful with the size)
- Colors: CMYK vs RGB
- Beware light & dark colors
  - Yellow cannot be seen against white on screen
  - Dark colors ~ black for lines with small weight



# Bars versus lines versus point...

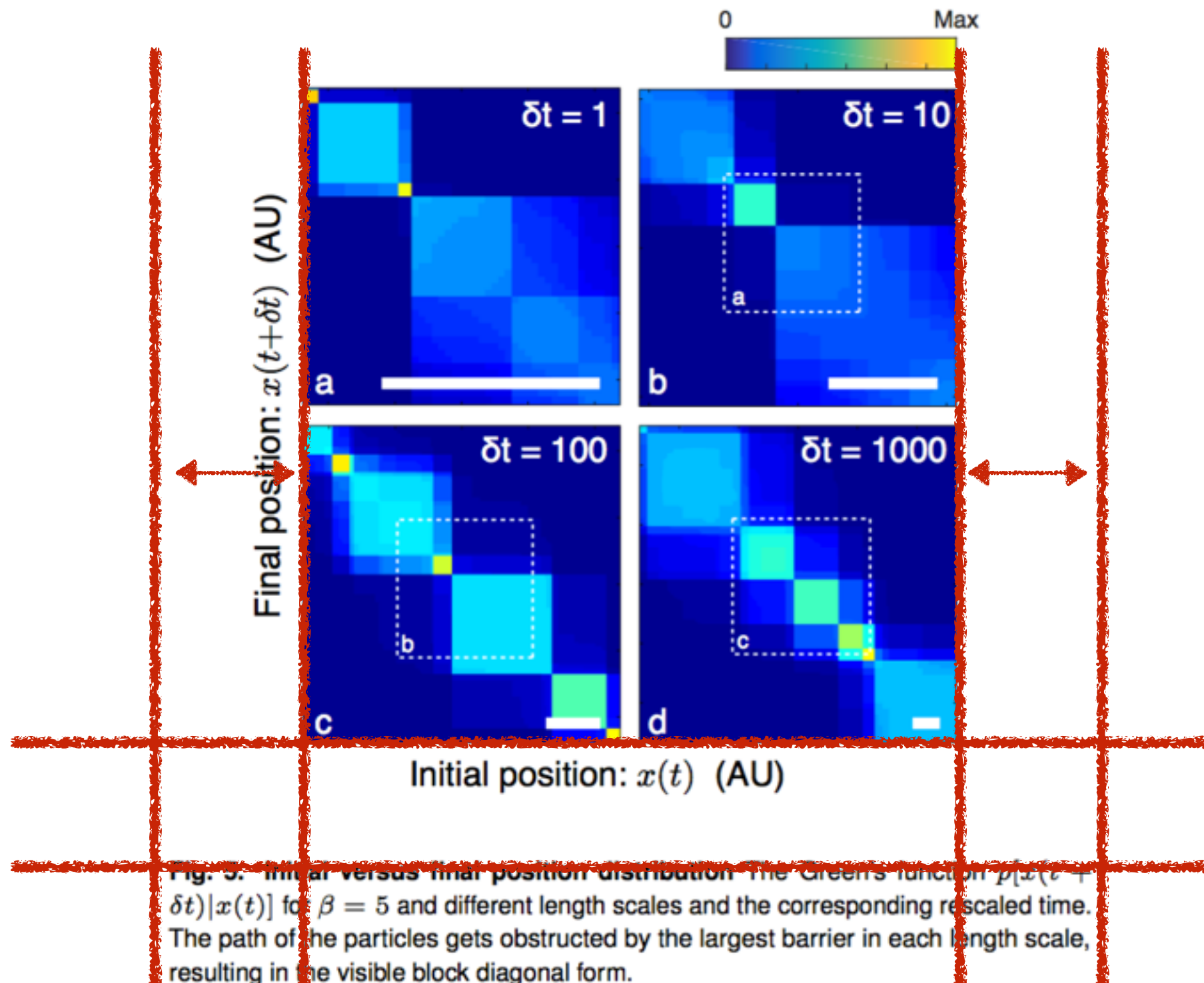


# Bars versus lines versus point...



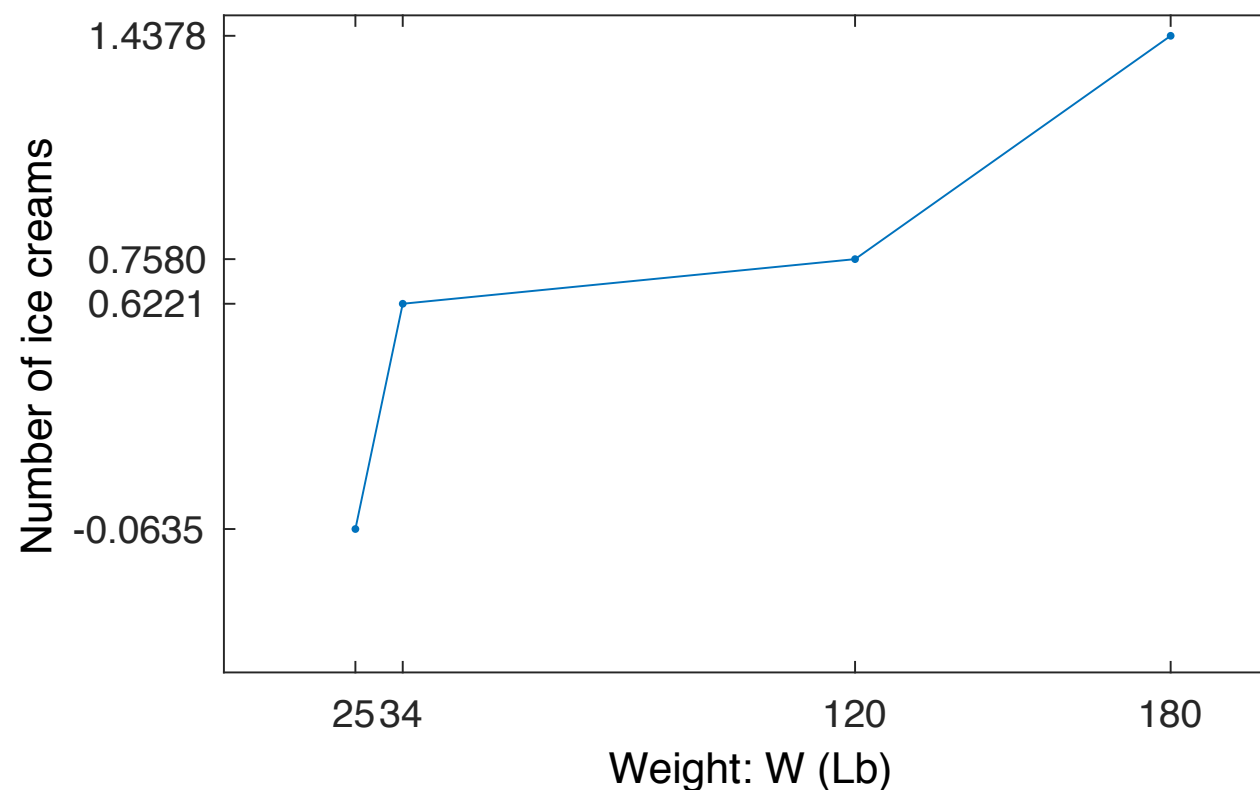
- Does it make sense to interpolate?
- No (Bar plot)
- Yes (Line plot)
- Exp data:
- Show values!

# Importance of white space...



# Too much Tufte-ness

- Some have argued that only measured values should be ticked and labeled on plots...



- Are you nuts?!?