

Lab 3

- There is a sample program called plot.py on the class website. There are also two sample .txt files. You will need all three for this lab.
- Begin by discussing the program among yourselves line by line. Make sure you all understand what the program is doing. Add print statements if necessary to understand the data at each step.
- There are three exercises below. Each person should select one, as before, and your group should turn in a single aggregate program. Decide together whether you will use argv[] or raw_input() for user options.:
 1. The first sample file has two columns of numbers. The second file has 9 columns. Modify the program so the user can select which column should be the X-axis and which should be the Y-axis in the plot.
 2. Instead of displaying the plot on the screen interactively, have the plot saved to a .pdf or .png file (user's choice) instead. Allow the user to select between lines and points when the plot is displayed.
 3. Allow the user to enter labels for the X and Y axes and an overall title for the plot.

Note: if you need to pass strings with spaces into a program with argv[], you must have " around the string on the command-line when you run the program (exercise 3), or each word will be treated as a separate argument in argv[].

Homework 4

- Starting with the program from lab (either the original, or the final version after your group's modifications). Modify the program:
 - Display the data points as points rather than a line (one of the lab problems)
 - Compute a linear fit (least squares) through the x/y data points
 - Draw the fit line (as a line) on the plot, and label it in some fashion with the $y=mx+b$ from the fit.