## **Decimal sign in SigmaPlot**

Data in the SigmaPlot worksheet can be text, numbers, or dates. Text is <u>left-justified</u> in the cell, numbers are <u>right-justified</u>.

SigmaPlot works with decimal point or decimal comma, depending on the settings in Windows Control Panel > Regional and Language Options. Once a file has been imported, SigmaPlot "knows" the data format and displays it correctly. For importing however, the decimal sign format of the text file and of SigmaPlot must match.

If they do not, there are two options:

a) Set SigmaPlot to the settings which match those of the import file: close SigmaPlot, change the decimal settings in Windows, reopen SigmaPlot.

b) Change the decimal sign in the text file to be imported.

- You can do this in Notepad or any other editor (select all, replace).

- Or you use one of the small utilities we have on our website (see below: 3. Utilities for decimal sign conversion).

## **Background:**

SigmaPlot reads and applies the settings for decimal and list separators each time when it starts. There are two valid combinations: "point decimal" and "comma decimal".

Either

decimal separator = point list separator = comma

or

decimal separator = comma list separator = semicolon

In Windows 2000, you find it under Control Panel > Regional Settings > Numbers.

In Windows XP, you find it under Control Panel > Regional and Language Options > Regional Options > Customize > Numbers.

In Windows 7, you find it under Control Panel > Region and Language > Formats > Additional settings > Numbers.

This affects typing data into the worksheet, importing from text files, transforms language, and fit equation syntax.