

### Overview

In this chapter we take a look at the main functions of Igor Pro by stepping through some typical operations. Our goal is to orient you so that you can comfortably read the rest of the manual or explore the program on your own. You will benefit most from this tour if you actually do the instructed operations on your computer as you read this chapter. Screen shots are provided to keep you synchronized with the tour.

### Terminology

If you have read Chapter I-1, **Introduction to Igor Pro**, you already know these terms.

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>Experiment</b> | The entire collection of data, graphs and other windows, program text and other data that make up the current Igor environment or workspace. |
| <b>Wave</b>       | Short for waveform, this is basically a named array of data with optional extra information.   |
| <b>Name</b>       | Because Igor contains a built-in programming and data transformation language, each object must have a unique name.                          |
| <b>Command</b>    | This is a line of text that performs some task. Igor is command-driven so that it can be easily programmed.                                  |

### About the Tour

This tour consists of three sections: **Guided Tour 1 - General Tour** on page I-13, **Guided Tour 2 - Data Analysis** on page I-46, and **Guided Tour 3 - Histograms and Curve Fitting** on page I-53.

The General Tour is a rambling exploration intended to introduce you to the way things work in Igor and give you a general orientation.

The second and third tours guide you through Igor's data analysis facilities including simple curve fitting. When you've completed the first tour you may prefer to explore freely on your own before starting the second tour.