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Tips on Octave OS X

Try installing a later version of Octave than the one recommended on the course content (3.8.0).

http://wiki.octave.org/Octave_for_MacOS_X. Under "Installing a Mac OS X Bundle," you can click on "download Octave 4.0.3 with Graphical User Interface."

Error message "unknown or ambiguous terminal type"

A) Try changing the terminal type with this command, for any of "qt", "x11", or "aqua":

```
1 setenv("GNUTERM", "qt")
2
```

Alternatively you can install the AquaTerm backend from SourceForge: <http://sourceforge.net/projects/aquaterm/>

and then reinstalling GNUplot with Aqua terminal support:

```
1 brew uninstall gnuplot
2 brew install gnuplot ----with-aquaterm
3
```

B) You may also try this:

```
1 brew uninstall fontconfig
2 brew install fontconfig --universal
3 brew uninstall gnuplot
4 brew install gnuplot --with-qt
5
```

... then add this to ~/.octaverc

```
1 setenv("GNUTERM", "qt")
2
```

The hist() or plot () function hangs

It's not really hung - on some distributions of Octave, the first plotting function you call causes the font library to be generated. This can take a minute or so the first time, then after that the plotting functions will work much faster.

Alternatively if Octave still does not respond after some time, you may have to change your fontconfig. I also installed gnuplot with-x11 and changed the file octaverc. These are the terminal commands:

```
1 brew install fltk
2 brew install gnuplot --with-x11
3 brew uninstall fontconfig
4 brew install fontconfig --universal
5
6 then edit /usr/local/share/octave/site/m/startup/octaverc , put this in the file
7
```

----- (start copy) -----

```
1 setenv ("GNUTERM", "X11")
2 gnuplot_binary("/usr/local/bin/gnuplot")
3 graphics_toolkit('gnuplot')
4
```

----- (end copy) -----

save the file and start octave



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