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
```

... 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 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

verify by running:

```
1    available_graphics_toolkits        % this will show the available graphics
       toolkits that can be loaded
2    loaded_graphics_toolkits           % this will show the graphics toolkit that is
       currently loaded
3
```

other useful command examples:

```
1    register_graphics_toolkit("fltk") % this will add the fltk graphics toolkit to
       the available graphics toolkits list
2    graphics_toolkit("qt")            % this will load the qt graphics toolkit
3
```

Errors when editing ex1 "plotData.m"

If you get an error like:

```
1    error: invalid character '�' (ASCII 226) near line 14, column 14
2
```

Then try to uncheck the TextEdit Preference - Smart quotes and Smart dashes; then use double quotes(") instead of single quotes(')

Try Using Vagrant and Virtualbox

If you are using OS X (and some brands of Linux), you can have a lot of trouble getting the visualizations to work natively. One solution is to turn to virtualization; you can find a vagrant file that gets an ubuntu machine configured in virtual box, along with scripts to make this feel like a native OS X app here: http://deepneural.blogspot.fr/p/welcome.html Another script can be found here, but this one is just the Vagrant file and does not have all the nice OS X scripts bundled with it. https://gist.github.com/Starefossen/9353638

You'll additionally need virtualbox and vagrant to go down this route, which are thankfully both free. https://www.virtualbox.orghttps://www.vagrantup.com

You'll need an X server, which you almost certainly are using in Linux already, but does not come out of the box with OS X. OS X users can get it here: http://www.xquartz.org