# **CS 5630 / 6630 Project Peer Feedback**

We were reviewed by Kaelin Hoang and Sunny Siu.

Feedback was of good quality. They said that it was an interesting story to tell. They asked about how it was useful for the clinicians that will be viewing this. They were impressed that we were able to gather the data from ClinVar and LOVD.

The purpose of this exercise is to elicit feedback from your peers on your projects and to ultimately improve your project. This exercise is synchronized with the first project milestone and will be graded as part of it. Attendance is mandatory.

## **Introduction & Procedure**

To get started, as a team, [find your breakout room number in this spreadsheet](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1K7K8Ma0uya7qctuJ3eILn1EanyTxCFv_laT5U76SK70/edit#gid=0). Each group must complete a peer feedback cycle, but it is OK if individual members of the team can’t participate if they are excused.

Split your time into two sessions of 40 minutes. In the first 40 minutes one team is explaining their project and receiving feedback. In the second, the roles are exchanged.

The receiving team **must take notes on the comments**. Also, write down the names of the group members that gave the feedback. Either during the session, or afterwards when you meet with your team, **analyze the feedback and explain how you will address it.**

After the session, also briefly comment on the quality of the feedback you received. Was it fair? Was it helpful?

Submit this exercise by committing it to your project repository before the Milestone 1 deadline. Name your file “feedback\_exercise”. You can use Markdown, text, or submit a pdf.

## **Presentation Guidelines**

When presenting your project to the other group follow your proposal outline by addressing these points:

* Background and Motivation
* Project Objectives
* Dataset
* Data Processing
* Visualization
* Must-Have Features
* Optional Features
* Schedule

Show your sketches of the planned visualization. Continue to show your current state of the implementation. Comment on how well your plans match up with your proposal. Try to be brief and elaborate in the discussion if necessary.

## **Feedback Guidelines**

When giving feedback, focus on the objectives, the visualization and the features. Give your honest opinion but be constructive. Try to suggest improvements where possible. Here are some questions to guide your feedback process:

**General Questions**

* Are the objectives interesting to the target audience? Yes, objectives will be helpful to the target audience in communicating utility of either database.
* Is the scope of the project appropriate? If not, suggest improvements. Is the split between optional and must-have features appropriate? Why? Yes the scope is met, although this is a little too complicated to assume people in the class will understand without an explanation of genetic variants. The backend is very difficult, only a few things are must-have, but several things that are optional. The idea is good and it covers important info.
* Is the visualization innovative? Creative? Why? Visualization is innovative, particularly the gene diagram, because of the way we plan to use the gene structure with population frequency in a visualization. They said that we need to be able to zoom in to see only variants in part of the gene because there can be too many variants in one place.
* Does the visualization scale to the used dataset? Could it handle larger but similar datasets? They did not comment on this, but all of the figures can scale for all possibilities in the data we are using. We do not plan to add new diseases, but if new diseases were added they certainly would not have so many genes that it would make our visualizations no longer useful.
* Is the project plan detailed enough? Is a path to the final project clear?

Yes, the plan is sufficiently detailed, and the path to the final project is clear.

* Is an interesting story told? They asked how this information could be helpful to those interested in looking at gene variants.

**Visual Encoding**

* Does the visualization follow the principles used in class?

Yes, the basic principles for design of visualization and usability and interpretability are followed.

* What is the primary visual encoding? Does it match the most important aspect of the data? They specifically mentioned that they like how we have several different types of encodings. They said that they thought it was creative to have so many different ways of showing the information. They really liked that it starts off with a broad picture, then you can zoom in to look at genes within a specific disease, then you look at info about a single gene.
* What other visual variables are used? Are they effective? They noticed the different views we had designed and said they looked like they would effectively allow the user to investigate multiple aspects of the data.
* Is color sensibly used? If not, suggest improvements. Yes. Color scheme used was copied from python, which uses a color-blindness sensitive scheme. Any changes in color will still take into account colorblindness and make sure the colors are easily distinguishable.

**Interaction and Animation**

* Is the interaction meaningful? If not, suggest improvements.

Yes, they mentioned how they liked that each visualization allows us to drill down into each level of the data. They also thought adding a brush function would be helpful on the gene diagram.

* If multiple views, are they coordinated? If not, would it be meaningful?

We do not have multiple views, unless you consider the zoomed view on a gene. Multiple views wouldn’t be particularly meaningful in this case because each visualization is planned to be independent of all other visualizations.

* Is there any animation planned? Is it clear? Is it intuitive? We do not have any animation planned at the moment. We will incorporate transitions into the visualization when selecting different views.