

## Programming Project 06

Edit 2/21: removed one line from Function Test 2 to improve clarity.

This assignment is worth 45 points and must be **completed and turned in before 11:59 on Monday, February 26, 2018.**

### Assignment Overview

This assignment will give you more experience on the use of:

1. Lists and tuples
2. function
3. File manipulation

The goal of this project is to extract gene lengths from a gene annotation file. With a gene annotation GFF file, you will need to extract the gene coordinates on each chromosome and calculate the average and standard deviation of gene lengths.

### Assignment Background

The eukaryotic genome is composed of multiple chromosomes. On each chromosome, there are multiple genes. In bioinformatics, the genome annotations can be saved in a file format called GFF. In NCBI genome database (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genome/>), there are many publically available annotated organisms. These annotated genomes can be downloaded in multiple file formats, including GFF format. For this project, we will focus on a relatively simple model species: *Caenorhabditis elegans*. This worm has a genome of six chromosomes named chrI, chrII, chrIII, chrIV, chrV, and chrX.

We provide two input files:

```
C.elegans_small.gff      # a small file for development
C.elegans.gff            # a real BIG data file
```

### Project Description

a) **open\_file()** prompts the user to enter a filename. The program will try to open a tab-separated GFF file (a text file). An error message should be shown if the file cannot be opened. This function will loop until it receives proper input and successfully opens the file. It returns a file pointer.

b) **read\_file(fp)** receives a file pointer of the data file and read all the genes information. For this project, we are only interested in the following columns: the **chromosome** name (string) is in column 0, the **gene\_start** is in column 3, and the **gene\_end** is in column 4. Convert number strings to int. No other values are needed for this project. If a value is missing, use 0 as the value. For each gene, save it in a tuple, (**chromosome, gene\_start, gene\_end**), and append each tuple to a list of genes. Sort the list and then return the sorted list of genes (sorting makes a canonical list for comparison testing on Mimir).

b) **extract\_chromosome(genes\_list, chromosome)** receives a list of genes (such as what was returned by the **read\_file()** function) and a chromosome name, extract the gene information for this chromosome and save in list **chrom\_gene\_list**. Sort and return the list (sorting makes a canonical list for comparison testing on Mimir).

c) **extract\_genome(genes\_list)** receives a list of genes and extract the gene information for each chromosome. In this function, use **extract\_chromosome(genes\_list, chromosome)** to extract

the genes for each chromosome (**chrom\_gene\_list**) then save the returned result in a list **genome\_list** (a list of six **chrom\_gene\_lists**). Sort and return the list (sorting makes a canonical list for comparison testing on Mimir).

d) **compute\_gene\_length(chrom\_gene\_list)** This function receives **chrom\_gene\_list**, the list of genes for a specific chromosome (such as returned from the **extract\_chromosome()** function). For each gene, compute the gene length and save the result in a list **gene\_length**. Given the gene length list, compute the average gene length and standard deviation for these genes. Save the results in a tuple with gene length first followed by gene standard deviation. Return that tuple.

The length of one gene, **gene\_len**, is calculated as: **gene\_len = gene\_end – gene\_start + 1** (Hint: make a list that has the lengths of the genes.)

The **gene\_mean** is the average length of all the genes (Hint: consider using list **sum()** and **len()** functions—something you can do if your lengths are in a list.)

The **gene\_number** is a count of all the genes.

The **gene\_stddev** is the standard deviation of all the gene lengths, calculated according to the following formula. The summation in the formula sums across all genes. That is, for each gene subtract the mean from the length and square the difference; then sum those values. Take that sum and divide by the number of genes (**gene\_number**); then take the square root (remember to **import math**). (Hint: “for each gene” can be done easily by walking through a list with a **for** loop, if your lengths are in a list.)

$$gene\_stddev = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (gene\_len - gene\_mean)^2}{gene\_number}}$$

e) **display\_data(chrom\_gene\_list, chrom)** This function receives **chrom\_gene\_list**, the list of genes for a specific chromosome as well as **chrom**, the string name. It displays the chromosome name, the average length of the gene and the standard deviation (from the **compute\_gene\_length()** function that gets called within this function). The chromosome name must be displayed with the first three characters ‘chr’ in lower case and the remaining characters in upper case, e.g. ‘chrIV’. (Hint: slicing is your friend.)

## Assignment Deliverable

The deliverable for this assignment is the following file:

proj06.py – the source code for your Python program

Be sure to use the specified file name and to submit it for grading via the **Mimir system** before the project deadline.

## Assignment Notes

1. The gff input files we provide have lines starting with '#' as file annotations; skip these lines when reading the gff file.
2. To parse the lines in gff file, use split() function. You can split by the tab.
3. Use this constant for chromosome names  
CHROMOSOMES = ['chri', 'chrii', 'chriii', 'chriv', 'chrv', 'chrX']
4. Items 1-9 of the Coding Standard will be enforced for this project.

## Test Cases

### Function Test 1: read\_file

Input file: C.elegans\_small.gff

Returns:

```
[('chri', 3747, 3909), ('chri', 4221, 10148), ('chri', 11641, 16585),  
('chrii', 25, 175), ('chrii', 25, 175), ('chrii', 1867, 4663), ('chriii',  
1271, 2917), ('chriii', 4251, 11940), ('chriii', 12189, 14753), ('chriv',  
695, 14926), ('chriv', 8765, 11070), ('chriv', 15499, 20899), ('chrv', 180,  
329), ('chrv', 180, 329), ('chrv', 2851, 6511), ('chrX', 151, 263),  
('chrX', 151, 263), ('chrX', 13494, 13643)]
```

### Function Test 2: extract\_chromosome

```
genes_list = [('chri', 3747, 3909), ('chri', 4221, 10148), ('chri', 11641,  
16585), ('chrii', 25, 175), ('chrii', 25, 175), ('chrii', 1867, 4663),  
('chriii', 1271, 2917), ('chriii', 4251, 11940), ('chriii', 12189, 14753),  
('chriv', 695, 14926), ('chriv', 8765, 11070), ('chriv', 15499, 20899),  
('chrv', 180, 329), ('chrv', 180, 329), ('chrv', 2851, 6511), ('chrX', 151,  
263), ('chrX', 151, 263), ('chrX', 13494, 13643)]  
chromosome = 'chrv'
```

Returns:

```
[('chrv', 180, 329), ('chrv', 180, 329), ('chrv', 2851, 6511)]
```

### Function Test 3: extract\_genome

```
genes_list = [('chri', 3747, 3909), ('chri', 4221, 10148), ('chri', 11641,  
16585), ('chrii', 25, 175), ('chrii', 25, 175), ('chrii', 1867, 4663),  
('chriii', 1271, 2917), ('chriii', 4251, 11940), ('chriii', 12189, 14753),  
('chriv', 695, 14926), ('chriv', 8765, 11070), ('chriv', 15499, 20899),  
('chrv', 180, 329), ('chrv', 180, 329), ('chrv', 2851, 6511), ('chrX', 151,  
263), ('chrX', 151, 263), ('chrX', 13494, 13643)]
```

Returns:

```
[('chri', 3747, 3909), ('chri', 4221, 10148), ('chri', 11641, 16585)],  
[('chrii', 25, 175), ('chrii', 25, 175), ('chrii', 1867, 4663)],  
[('chriii', 1271, 2917), ('chriii', 4251, 11940), ('chriii', 12189,  
14753)], [('chriv', 695, 14926), ('chriv', 8765, 11070), ('chriv', 15499,  
20899)], [('chrv', 180, 329), ('chrv', 180, 329), ('chrv', 2851, 6511)],  
[('chrX', 151, 263), ('chrX', 151, 263), ('chrX', 13494, 13643)]
```

### Function Test 4: compute\_gene\_length

```
chrom_gene_list = [('chrii', 25, 175), ('chrii', 25, 175), ('chrii', 1867,  
4663)]
```

Returns:  
(1033.0, 1247.33636201307)

### Test Case 1

Gene length computation for C. elegans.

Input a file name: C.elegans\_small.gff

Enter chromosome or 'all' or 'quit': chri

Chromosome Length		
chromosome	mean	std-dev
chrI	3678.67	2518.14

Enter chromosome or 'all' or 'quit': chriv

Chromosome Length		
chromosome	mean	std-dev
chrIV	7313.00	5053.00

Enter chromosome or 'all' or 'quit': chrX

Chromosome Length		
chromosome	mean	std-dev
chrX	125.33	17.44

Enter chromosome or 'all' or 'quit': quit

### Test case 2

Gene length computation for C. elegans.

Input a file name: xxx  
Unable to open file.

Input a file name: C.elegans\_small.gff

Enter chromosome or 'all' or 'quit': xxx  
Error in chromosome. Please try again.

Enter chromosome or 'all' or 'quit': chrII

Chromosome Length		
chromosome	mean	std-dev
chrII	1033.00	1247.34

Enter chromosome or 'all' or 'quit': CHIII  
Error in chromosome. Please try again.

Enter chromosome or 'all' or 'quit': CHRIII

Chromosome Length

chromosome	mean	std-dev
chrIII	3967.33	2658.87

Enter chromosome or 'all' or 'quit': aLL

Chromosome Length

chromosome	mean	std-dev
chrI	3678.67	2518.14
chrII	1033.00	1247.34
chrIII	3967.33	2658.87
chrIV	7313.00	5053.00
chrV	1320.33	1655.10
chrX	125.33	17.44

Enter chromosome or 'all' or 'quit': qUiT

### Test Case 3

Gene length computation for C. elegans.

Input a file name: C.elegans.gff

Enter chromosome or 'all' or 'quit': all

Chromosome Length

chromosome	mean	std-dev
chrI	2542.65	4104.10
chrII	1879.71	2945.42
chrIII	2469.57	3761.81
chrIV	535.14	1949.55
chrV	1711.47	2687.29
chrX	1575.51	3110.69

Enter chromosome or 'all' or 'quit': quit

### Test Case 4

Blind test.

### Grading Rubric

General Requirements:

\_\_0\_\_ ( 5 pts) Coding Standard 1-9  
(descriptive comments, function headers, etc...)

Implementation:

\_\_0\_\_ ( 4 pts) open\_file function (no Mimir test)  
\_\_0\_\_ ( 4 pts) read\_file function  
\_\_0\_\_ ( 4 pts) extract\_chromosome function  
\_\_0\_\_ ( 4 pts) extract\_genome function  
\_\_0\_\_ ( 4 pts) computer\_gene\_length function  
  
\_\_0\_\_ ( 5 pts) Pass Test1  
\_\_0\_\_ ( 5 pts) Pass Test2  
\_\_0\_\_ ( 5 pts) Pass Test3  
\_\_0\_\_ ( 5 pts) Pass Test4 (Blind Test)