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**GENERIC DNA ENCODING DESIGN SCHEME
TO SOLVE COMBINATORIAL PROBLEMS**

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**Thesis submitted in fulfillment of requirements
for the award of the degree of
Master of Computer Science**

**Faculty of Computer System and Software Engineering
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

DNA	Deoxyribonucleic Acid
A	Adenine
C	Cytosine
G	Guanine
T	Thymine
TSP	Traveling Salesman Problem
SRCP	Scheduling in Robotic Cell
FMS	Flexible Manufacturing System
VCP	Vertex Coloring Problem
DCLP	Distribution Center Location Problem
NP	Nondeterministic Polynomial
HPP	Hamiltonian Path Problem
SAT	Satisfiability or SATISFIABILITY
ssDNA	Single Strand DNA

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ABSTRACT

Combinatorial problems arise in many areas of computer science and application domains. It involves finding groupings, ordering, or assignment of a discrete, finite set of objects that satisfy given conditions. The complexity of combinatorial problems is classified as NP meaning that algorithms are yet to exist to efficiently solve the problem. However, DNA computing can solve the problem in linear time since the parallel processing power of DNA computing is able to generate a solution in a single process. DNA encoding is the first important step in DNA computing phases. Currently, data encoding in DNA computing is tightly coupled with an algorithm that solves an instance of the problem. Solving another problem requires developing specific encoding and computations anew to prove DNA encoding and form the algorithm which is costly. This study proposes a generic DNA encoding schema capable of representing different combinatorial problems. To render the generic encoding scheme capable of solving the different problems, we introduce graph modelling to describe all possible solutions for the problem, where the parameters are converted into vertices and edges before encoding it into DNA sequences. From graph modelling, we construct the encoding scheme consisting of three parts: (1) vertex that links to another vertex, (2) edges that contain information and (3) vertex that links to another vertex. To prove the concept, we employ four different combinatorial problems: Traveling Salesman Problem, Distribution Centre Location Problem, Scheduling Robotic Cell Problem, and Vertex Colouring Problem. Computer simulations show that the proposed generic encoding can generate the desired solution and biological operations could produce solutions for each problem. This approach was applied successfully to solve four hard combinatorial problems. Using this encoding scheme would enable researchers to solve other hard problems whilst also improving the algorithm.

ABSTRAK

Masalah kombinasi timbul dalam banyak bidang sains komputer dan pemakaian lainnya. Ia melibatkan mencari kumpulan, susunan, atau penyerahan hak diskret, set objek sehingga yang sesuai dengan syarat yang diberikan. Kerumitan masalah kombinasi dikelaskan sebagai NP dimana tidak ada algoritma boleh menyelesaikannya dengan cekap. Namun, dengan menggunakan DNA computing boleh menyelesaikan dalam masa linear sebab ianya mempunyai kuasa yang mampu penyelesaian dalam pemprosesan tunggal. Pengekoden DNA adalah fase yang pertama dan satu langkah yang penting pada DNA computing. Pada masa ini, pengekoden data dalam DNA computing sangat berkaitan erat dengan algoritma yang menyelesaikan satu contoh masalah dan menyelesaikan masalah lain harus merangka pengekoden tertentu dan pengiraan menjalankan dari awal untuk membuktikan pengekoden DNA dan algoritma yang mana ianya mahal. Kajian ini mencadangkan skema pengekoden DNA generik yang membolehkan untuk mewakili masalah kombinasi yang berbeza. Untuk membuat skim pengekoden generik boleh digunakan untuk menyelesaikan masalah yang berbeza, kami memperkenalkan model graf untuk menjelaskan semua kemungkinan penyelesaian bagi masalah ini, di mana parameter diubah menjadi vertices dan edges sebelum pengekoden kepada jujukan DNA. Dari pemodelan Graf, kita buat skim pengekoden yang dibina graf, bahawa skim pengekoden yang terdiri daripada tiga bahagian: (1) vertex yang mengandungi pautan ke vertex yang lain, (2) edge yang mengandungi maklumat dan (3) vertex yang mengandungi pautan ke vertex lain. Untuk membuktikan konsep, kita bekerja empat masalah kombinasi yang berbeza: *Traveling Salesman Problem*, *Distribution Center Location Problem*, *Scheduling in Robotic Cell*, dan *Vertex Coloring Problem*. Menggunakan simulasi komputer menunjukkan bahawa pengekoden generik yang dicadangkan boleh menjana penyelesaian yang dikehendaki dan melalui operasi biologi menghasilkan penyelesaian bagi setiap masalah. Pendekatan ini berjaya digunakan untuk menyelesaikan empat masalah kombinasi yang dianggap masalah yang rumit dan dengan menggunakan skim pengekoden ini membolehkan penyelidik untuk menyelesaikan satu lagi masalah yang sukar serta meningkatkan algoritma.

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APPENDIX A1

LIST OF PUBLICATION

1. Rofilde Hasudungan, Rohani Abu Bakar, Rozlina Mohamed, 2013. *DNA Computing and Its Applications on NP-Completeness Problem*. International Conference on Software Engineering & Computer System.
2. Rofilde Hasudungan, Rohani Abu Bakar, 2013. *DNA Computing for Solving Distribution Center Location Problem*. IEEE International Conference on Control System Computing and Engineering.
3. Rofilde Hasudungan, Rohani Abu Bakar, 2013. *DNA Computing to Solve Vertex Coloring Problem*.
4. Rofilde Hasudungan, Rohani Abu Bakar. 2015. *Generic DNA Computing Design Schema to Solve Combinatorial Problem*