



UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

**OPTIMIZING TREE PLANTING AREAS THROUGH INTEGER
PROGRAMMING AND IMPROVED GENETIC ALGORITHM**

ISMADI BIN MD BADARUDIN

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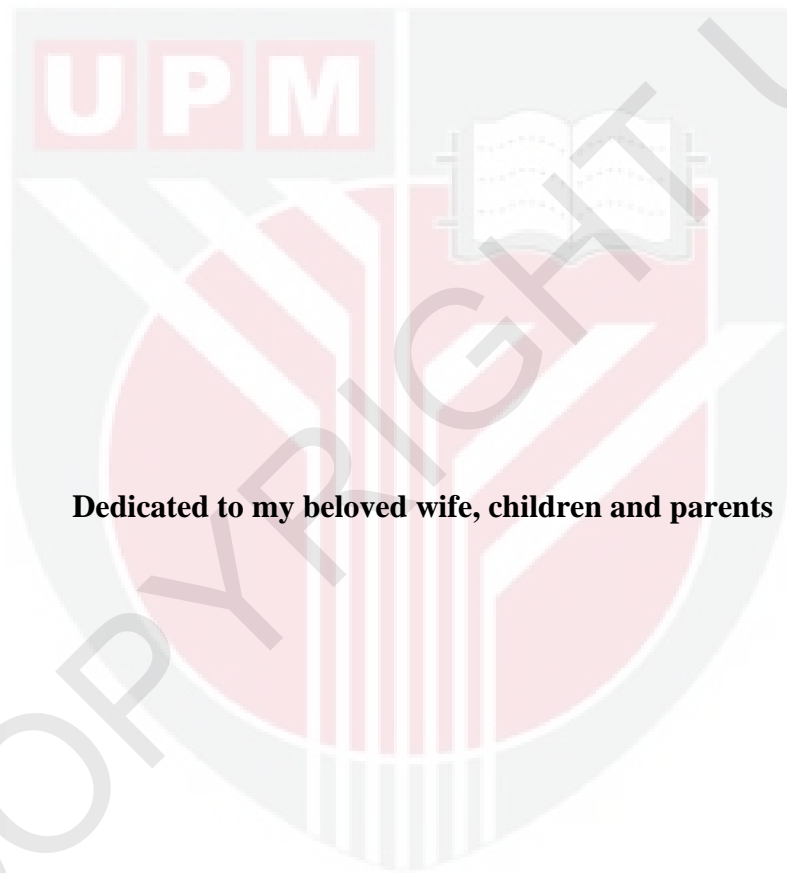
**OPTIMIZING TREE PLANTING AREAS THROUGH
INTEGER PROGRAMMING AND IMPROVED GENETIC ALGORITHM**

By

ISMADI BIN MD BADARUDIN

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia,
in Fulfilment of the Requirement for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

October 2012



Dedicated to my beloved wife, children and parents

Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

**OPTIMIZING TREE PLANTING AREAS THROUGH
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October 2012

Chairman: Associate Professor Abu Bakar bin Md Sultan, PhD

Faculty: Computer Science and Information Technology

The simulation of planting lining design relative to possible solutions of dividing an area to blocks (block division) and selecting planting lining direction towards optimizing tree planting areas is a complex problem. To analyze the huge number of possible solutions with uncertain results manually will lead to unanswered decision of the optimal result determination. Therefore, a hybrid algorithm through an incorporation of Integer Programming and Improved Genetic Algorithm was proposed for planting lining design. The algorithmic solution with some strategies mainly focuses on efficiency. Planting lining design selection in oil palm planting areas involves the comparison of the three techniques namely technique-1 which is to handle 60° planting direction from baseline, technique-2 which is to choose the best planting lining direction in an area and technique-3 which is to obtain optimal block division. Then the best planting lining directions are assigned into the blocks. The decision based on the highest number of trees is promoted among the three techniques.

The process of block division and determining the optimal number of trees require a series of analysis. The possible solutions rely on the number of blocks or the number of shapes that represent the blocks, where an increase in both numbers influences the rising time for analysis. Previous strategies by cell representation promote excessive time to generate solution for large areas, whereas two methods of best-fit called Bottom Left to Right first and Bottom Left to Top first promote result inconsistency and require more time in analyzing solution.

Therefore, the two strategies consisting line representation and combined best-fit methods were introduced to solve two issues respectively; the issues are to count tree number according to planting lining directions and to decide block division. Meanwhile, the improvement in Genetic Algorithm is focused on the strategies of specific random value, deterministic crossover and deterministic mutation. In addition, the strategy of control mechanism was applied in hybrid algorithm.

With the aim of evaluating the algorithm efficiency, comparisons between the proposed strategies and the previous strategies were conducted. The result of line representation promoting less iteration numbers indicates that time usage is more efficient. More number of optimal solutions in combined best-fit methods and the rejection of infeasible chromosomes in Genetic Algorithm are significant factors to be better efficiency. Moreover, the implementation of control mechanism in order to skip the expected same solution occurs, expedited the processing time. These proposed strategies were applied in an application named the Lining Layout Planning by Intelligent Computerized System. This application generates possible solutions for planting lining design. Analysis results from coordinate dataset shows that the selection of planting lining techniques for areas less than 10 hectare is difficult to predict but for the larger areas, results showed that the technique-3 is more consistent to produce the best tree density. While, the results of FELCRA dataset show

through technique-2 or technique-3 produces higher number than common practice which allows 143 trees/ha.

In conclusion, the hybrid algorithm based solution strategies improved efficiency with convincing results, therefore, this will assist planners for better decision making to optimize area to achieve more trees to be planted. The model solution and empirical result are important for the selection of planting lining design. The experimental results on the datasets within the actual coordinates of areas are not only confirmed as theoretical results but also prove that it can be applied in practice. In addition, the revealed results contribute to the new perspective of designing planting lining for area optimization by computerized system.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk Ijazah Doktor Falsafah

**MENGOPTIMUM KAWASAN PENANAMAN POKOK MELALUI
PENGATURCARAAN INTEGER DAN
PENAMBAHBAIKAN ALGORITMA GENETIK**

Oleh

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Simulasi reka bentuk baris tanaman berkaitan kepada kemungkinan penyelesaian dari pemecahan satu kawasan kepada blok (pembahagian blok) dan pemilihan arah baris tanaman untuk pengoptimuman kawasan penanaman pokok adalah satu masalah yang kompleks. Untuk menganalisa bilangan kemungkinan penyelesaian yang besar dengan ketidakpastian keputusan secara manual akan membawa kepada keputusan yang gagal dijawab dalam penentuan keputusan optimum. Oleh itu, satu algoritma hibrid melalui gabungan dari Pengaturcaraan Integer dan Penambahbaikan Algoritma Genetik dicadangkan untuk reka bentuk baris tanaman. Penyelesaian algoritma dengan beberapa strategi memfokuskan kepada kecekapan. Pemilihan reka bentuk baris tanaman dalam kawasan penanaman kelapa sawit melibatkan perbandingan dari tiga teknik dengan nama teknik-1 adalah untuk mengendalikan 60° arah perbarisan daripada garisan asas, teknik-2 adalah untuk memilih arah baris tanaman yang terbaik dan teknik-3 adalah untuk memperolehi pembahagian blok-blok yang optimum. Kemudian arah baris tanaman yang terbaik diaplikasikan di dalam blok-blok. Keputusan penyelesaian berdasarkan kepada bilangan pokok terbanyak dihasilkan di kalangan tiga teknik.

Process pembahagian blok dan mengenalpasti bilangan optimum pokok memerlukan satu siri analisis. Kemungkinan penyelesaian bergantung kepada bilangan blok atau bilangan bentuk yang mewakili blok di mana penambahan bilangan dari kedua-dua mempengaruhi peningkatan masa untuk analisa. Strategi terdahulu dengan perwakilan sel (*cell representation*) menghasilkan masa yang berlebihan untuk menjana penyelesaian bagi kawasan yang besar, manakala dua kaedah dari *best-fit* dipanggil *Bottom Left to Right first* dan *Bottom Left to Top first* menghasilkan keputusan yang tidak konsisten dan memerlukan lebih masa dalam penganalisan keputusan.

Oleh itu, dua strategi terdiri dari perwakilan garisan (*line representation*) dan kombinasi kaedah *best-fit* telah diperkenalkan untuk menyelesaikan dua isu iaitu pengiraan bilangan pokok berdasarkan arah baris tanaman dan untuk menentukan pembahagian blok. Sementara itu, penambahbaikan dalam Algoritma Genetik difokuskan ke atas strategi-strategi dari nilai rawak yang spesifik, *deterministic crossover* dan *deterministic mutation*. Di samping itu, mekanisme kawalan dilaksanakan dalam algoritma hibrid.

Dengan matlamat menilai kecekapan algoritma, perbandingan antara strategi yang dicadangkan dengan strategi sebelumnya telah dijalankan. Keputusan dari perwakilan garisan telah menghasilkan bilangan iterasi yang lebih rendah untuk analisa menandakan penggunaan masa adalah lebih efisien. Lebih banyak bilangan untuk penyelesaian yang optima dalam kombinasi kaedah *best-fit* dan penghapusan kromosom yang tidak praktikal (*infeasible chromosomes*) dalam Algoritma Genetik merupakan faktor yang signifikan untuk kecekapan yang lebih baik. Tambahan, pelaksanaan mekanisme kawalan dengan mengabaikan kromosom yang dijangka memberi keputusan sama, telah mempercepatkan masa pemprosesan. Strategi yang dicadangkan ini digunakan dalam aplikasi yang dinamakan *Lining Layout Planning by Intelligent Computerized System*. Aplikasi ini menjana kemungkinan penyelesaian untuk pemilihan reka bentuk baris tanaman. Keputusan analisis

dari set data koordinat menunjukkan pemilihan teknik baris tanaman untuk kawasan yang kurang 10 hektar adalah sukar diramalkan tetapi untuk kawasan yang lebih luas, keputusan menunjukkan teknik-3 adalah lebih konsisten untuk menghasilkan kepadatan pokok yang terbaik. Sementara itu, keputusan dari set data FELCRA menunjukkan melalui teknik-2 atau teknik-3 menghasilkan bilangan yang lebih tinggi dari praktis biasa yang membenarkan 143 pokok per hektar.

Sebagai kesimpulan, algoritma hibrid berdasarkan strategi penyelesaian telah meningkatkan kecekapan dengan keputusan yang meyakinkan, oleh itu, ini membantu perancang dalam membuat keputusan yang lebih baik untuk mengoptimumkan kawasan dan mencapai lebih banyak pokok untuk ditanam. Model penyelesaian dan keputusan secara empirikal adalah penting untuk pemilihan reka bentuk baris tanaman. Hasil eksperimen ke atas set data untuk kawasan sebenar memberi indikator bahawa keputusan bukan sekadar teori tetapi membuktikan juga bahawa ia boleh digunakan secara praktikal. Tambahan lagi, keputusan yang didedahkan menyumbang kepada perspektif baru dalam mereka bentuk baris tanaman bagi pengoptimuman kawasan dengan sistem berkomputer.

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**Ismadi Md Badarudin
2012**

APPROVAL

I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 3 October 2012 to conduct the final examination of Ismadi bin Md Badarudin on his Doctor of Philosophy thesis entitled “**Optimizing Tree Planting Areas Through Integer Programming And Improved Genetic Algorithm**” in accordance with the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U.(A) 106] 15 March 1998. The committee recommends that the student be awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

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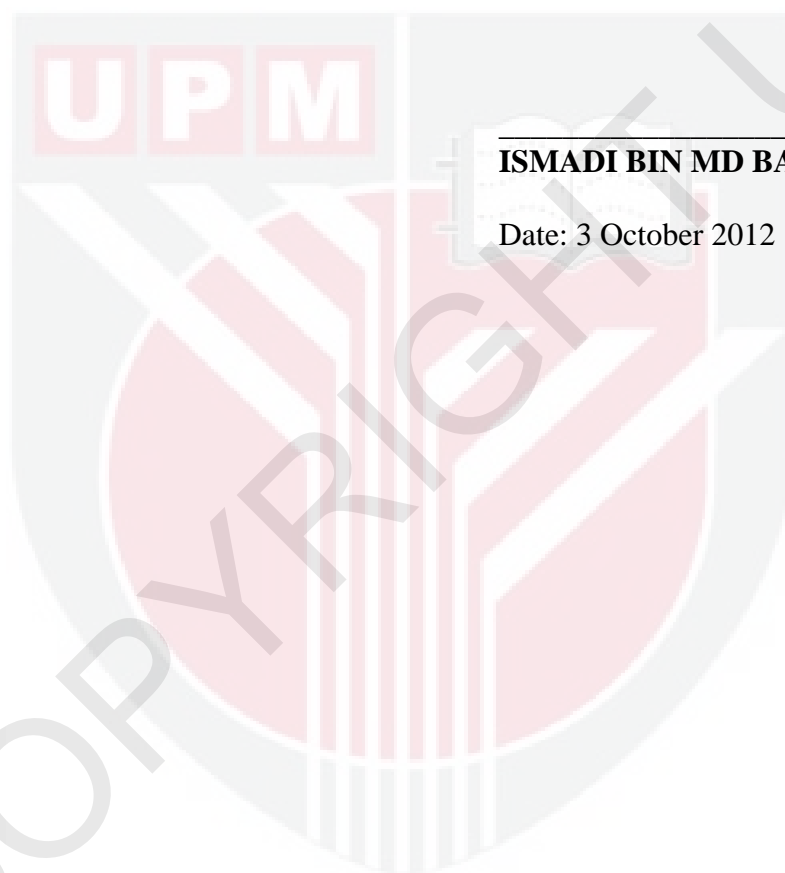
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DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis is my original work except for quotation and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously, and is not concurrently, for any other degree at Universiti Putra Malaysia or other institutions.



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Date: 3 October 2012

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
DEDICATION	ii
ABSTRACT	iii
ABSTRAK	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	ix
APPROVAL	x
DECLARATION	xii
LIST OF TABLES	xvi
LIST OF FIGURES	xviii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xxi
CHAPTER	
I INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Background and Motivations	1
1.2 Problem Statement	4
1.3 Objectives of the Research	6
1.4 Scope and Limitation of the Research	7
1.5 Contributions of the Research	8
1.6 Organization of the Thesis	9
2 ISSUES OF PLANTING LINING DESIGN IN OIL PALM PLANTING AREA	
2.1 Introduction	12
2.2 Planting Lining in Oil Palm Area	12
2.3 An Overview of Planting Lining Design	15
2.4 Procedure of the Planting Lining Preparation	21
2.5 Inconsistency of Planting Density	24
2.6 Techniques of Planting Lining Design	28
2.7 Summary	29
3 LITERATURE REVIEW	
3.1 Introduction	30
3.2 Space Allocation Problems (SAPs)	30
3.2.1 Complexity of SAPs by Packing Problems	31
3.2.2 Related Studies in SAPs by Packing Problem	33
3.2.3 Mathematics Formulation for Packing Rectangles Objects	36
3.3 Algorithmic Issues	39
3.3.1 Non-Deterministic Polynomial (NP)	39
3.3.2 Algorithm Classification for Combinatorial Optimizations	42
3.3.3 Approximate Algorithms by Metaheuristic	44
3.3.4 Genetic Algorithm (GA) and its Advantages	47
3.3.5 Classical Genetic Algorithm Works	49

3.3.6	Issues in Genetic Algorithm	53
3.4	Summary	57
4	RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	
4.1	Introduction	58
4.2	Problem Complexity	60
4.3	Problem Formulation and Solution Strategies	67
4.3.1	Line Representation for Planting Lining Direction	69
4.3.2	Shape Assignment Strategy for Block Division	77
4.4	System Architecture	85
4.4.1	System Analysis and Design	86
4.4.2	System Implementation	87
4.5	Experimental Design	88
4.5.1	Analysis of Line Representation Strategy	89
4.5.2	Analysis of BL-Rf/BL-Tf Strategy	90
4.5.3	Analysis of Improved Genetic Algorithm	90
4.5.4	Analysis of Optimal Planting Lining Design	92
5	INTERGER PROGRAMMING AND IMPROVED GENETIC ALGORITHM FOR PLANTING LINING DESIGN	
5.1	Introduction	104
5.2	Integer Programming based Strategy	104
5.2.1	Integer Programming Formulation based Line Representation Strategy	104
5.2.2	Algorithm for the Count of Tree Number	107
5.3	BL-Rf/BL-Tf Strategy	108
5.3.1	Mathematics formulation for BL-Rf/BL-Tf	111
5.3.2	Algorithm for BL-Rf/BL-Tf	112
5.4	Classical Genetic Algorithm for Block Division	113
5.4.1	Genes Value by Unspecific Random Value	114
5.4.2	Crossover	116
5.4.3	Mutation	117
5.4.4	Theoretical Expectation of Classical Genetic Algorithm Performance	118
5.5	Framework of the Improved Genetic Algorithm Strategy for Block Division	119
5.5.1	Specific Random Value	122
5.5.2	Deterministic Crossover	123
5.5.3	Deterministic Mutation	125
5.6	Control Mechanism for Avoidance of Same Optimal Block Division Result	128
5.7	Hybrid Algorithm for Planting Lining Design	131
6	RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	
6.1	Introduction	135
6.2	Integer Programming based Line Representation Strategy	135
6.3	GA based BL-Rf/BL-Tf Strategy	137
6.4	Improved Genetic Algorithm	139

6.4.1	Result and Discussion of Specific Random Value	139
6.4.2	Result and Discussion of Deterministic Crossover	143
6.4.3	Result and Discussion of Deterministic Mutation	145
6.4.4	Result and Discussion of Improved GA	148
6.4.5	Improved GA with a Control Mechanism	149
6.5	Analysis of Optimal Planting Lining Design	152
6.5.1	Analysis 1 - Number of Trees by Areas Coordinates and Planting Directions	152
6.5.2	Analysis 2 - Planting Lining Design Techniques	156
6.5.3	Analysis 3 - MG2/03 Area	160
6.5.4	Analysis 4 - MG2/08 Area	161
6.6	Overall Discussion	164
7	CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORKS	
7.1	Introduction	166
7.2	Concluding Remarks	166
7.3	Future Works	170
	REFERENCES	173
	APPENDICES	
A	List of Detail Results	
A-1	Result of Deterministic Mutation by (4, 4) Coordinate	184
A-2	Relationship between Number of Trees and Unused Space	191
A-3	Detail Process of Optimal Result for (7, 7) Coordinate with Scale of X=50, Y=50	193
B	Manual of LLP-ICS Application	199
C	Shape Assignment Strategy by BL-Rf/BL-Tf	206
	BIODATA OF STUDENT	212
	LIST OF PUBLICATIONS, EXHIBITIONS & COPYRIGHTS	213