## DNA-based Computing

- Adleman - Hamiltonian Path (7 node)
- Biochemical manipulation
- Sticker model, RNA, Whiplash PCR
- Surface-based computation
- Algorithmic self-assembly
- Autonomous systems

Molecular Computation of Solutions to Combinatorial Problems
Leonard M. Adleman
Science, New Series, Volume 266, Issue 5187 (Nov. 11, 1994), 1021-1024.
The tools of molecular biology were used to solve an instance of the directed Hamiltonian path problem. A small graph was encoded in molecules of DNA, and the "operations" of the computation were performed with standard protocols and enzymes. This experiment demonstrates the feasibility of carrying out computations at the molecular level.

- Hamiltonian path problem (HPP). Is there a path through the graph which visits each node exactly once? [Relation to TSP].
- NP problem (requires non-polynomial time to solve). Solution space increases exponentially as problem size increases linearly.
- Hard to solve. Easy to check.
- Oracle. Heuristic.
- Combinatorial optimization problems.


## Molecular Computation of Solutions to Combinatorial Problems

Leonard M. Adleman

Science, New Series, Volume 266, Issue 5187 (Nov. 11, 1994), 1021-1024.
$O_{2}$ tatcogatcogtatatccan
$O_{3}$ астатTCGACCTTANAGCTA
оя gоставотасслосатостт
$O_{2 \rightarrow,}$ отататссаластаттсала
$O_{3 \rightarrow 1}$ CTTANAGCTAGGCTAGGTAC
$\bar{o}$,
салтласстсамлттталт


Fig. 2. Encoding a graph in DNA. For each vertex $i$ in the graph, a random 20 -mer oligonucleotide $O_{;}$is generated (shown are $\mathrm{O}_{2}, \mathrm{O}_{3}$, and $\mathrm{O}_{4}$, for vertices 2,3 , and 4 , respectively). For edge $i \rightarrow j$ in the graph, an oligonucleotide $O_{i \rightarrow j}$ is derived from the $3^{\prime} 10-$ mer of $O_{i}$ and from the $5^{\prime} 10$-mer of $O_{j}$ (shown are $\mathrm{O}_{2 \rightarrow 3}$ for edge $2 \rightarrow 3$ and $\mathrm{O}_{3 \rightarrow 4}$ for edge $3 \rightarrow 4$ ). For each vertex $i$ in the graph, $\bar{O}_{i}$ is the Watson-Crick complement of $O_{i}$ (shown is $\bar{O}_{3}$, the complement of $\left.\mathrm{O}_{3}\right) \cdot \overline{\mathrm{O}}_{3}$ serves as a splint to bind $\mathrm{O}_{2 \rightarrow 3}$ and $\mathrm{O}_{3 \rightarrow 4}$ in preparation for ligation. All oligonucleotides are written $5^{\prime}$ to $3^{\prime}$, except $\bar{O}_{3}$.

## Adleman's Experiment


$\mathrm{O}_{3}$
GCTATTCGAGCTTAAAGCTA $\mathrm{O}_{2 \rightarrow 3}$
GTATATCCGAGCTATTCGAG $\mathrm{O}_{3 \rightarrow 4}$
CTTAAAGCTAGGCTAGGTAC

## $\mathrm{O}_{2 \rightarrow 3} \quad \mathrm{O}_{3>4}$ GTATATCCGAGCTATTCGAGCTTAAAGCTAGGCTAGGTAC

1). Generate all possible paths.
2). Separate and discard incorrect paths.

Science 266, 1021 (1994)


Fig. 3. Agarose gel electrophoresis of various products of the experiment. (A) Product of the ligation reaction (lane 1), PCR amplification of the product of the ligation reaction (lanes 2 through 5), and molecular weight marker in base pairs (lane 6). (B) Graduated PCR of the product from Step 3 (lanes 1 through 6); the molecular weight marker is in lane 7. (C) Graduated PCR of the final product of the experiment, revealing the Hamiltonian path (lanes 1 through 6); the molecular weight marker is in lane 7.

- Step 1: Form paths by annealing \& ligating node strands and edge strands.
- Step 2: Amplify using $v_{\text {in }}$ and $v_{\text {out }}$ PCR primers.
- Step 3: Gel separate correct size (140 bp); amplify.
- Step 4: Discard paths missing any node (biotin-DNA, streptavidin-magnetic bead selections).
- Step 5: HP path exists if path molecules remain.


## Adleman

- SPEED:
- Desktop computer (1994) $10^{6}$ operations/sec.
- Supercomputer $10^{12} \mathrm{ops} / \mathrm{sec}$.
- Adleman $10^{14} \mathrm{ops} / \mathrm{sec}$ (Ligation = operation).
- Could push to $10^{20} \mathrm{ops} / \mathrm{sec}$.
- ENERGY CONSUMPTION:
- Ligation: ATP ==> ADP + pP. DG = $-8 \mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$
- 1 joule provides $2 \times 10^{19}$ ligations. $2 \times 10^{19} \mathrm{ops} / \mathrm{joule}$.
- Theoretical maximum $=34 \times 10^{19} \mathrm{ops} / \mathrm{joule}$.
- Electronic computer $=10^{9} \mathrm{ops} / \mathrm{joule}$.
- STORAGE SPACE:
- DNA = 1 bit/nm³
- Video tape $=1$ bit per $10^{12} \mathrm{~nm}^{3}$
- DNA is 12 orders of magnitude more compact.
- COST:
- DNA molecule costs 100 femtocents...


# Solution of a 20-Variable 3-SAT Problem on a DNA Computer 



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A 20-variable instance of the NP-complete three-satisfiability (3-SAT) problem was solved on a simple DNA computer. The unique answer was found after an exhaustive search of more than 1 million $\left(2^{20}\right)$ possibilities. This computational problem may be the largest yet solved by nonelectronic means. Problems of this size appear to be beyond the normal range of unaided human computation.

SCIENCE VOL 29619 APRIL 2002

Satisfiability Problem (SAT):
Given a Boolean fomula find a truth assignment for all variables such that the entire formula is satisfied
(Answer = 1).
3-SAT. 3-CNF
(conjunctive normal form).

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{A} \\
& \Phi=\left(\sim \mathrm{x}_{3} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{16} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{18}\right) \text { and }\left(\mathrm{x}_{5} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{12} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{9}\right) \text { and }\left(\sim \mathrm{x}_{13} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{2}\right. \\
& \text { or } \left.\mathrm{x}_{20}\right) \text { and }\left(\mathrm{x}_{12} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{9} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{5}\right) \text { and }\left(\mathrm{x}_{19} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{4} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{6}\right) \text { and }\left(\mathrm{x}_{9}\right. \text { or } \\
& \left.\mathrm{x}_{12} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{5}\right) \text { and }\left(\sim \mathrm{x}_{1} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{4} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{11}\right) \text { and }\left(\mathrm{x}_{13} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{2} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{19}\right) \text { and } \\
& \left(\mathrm{x}_{5} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{17} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{9}\right) \text { and }\left(\mathrm{x}_{15} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{9} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{17}\right) \text { and }\left(\sim \mathrm{x}_{5} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{9} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{12}\right) \\
& \text { and }\left(\mathrm{x}_{6} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{11} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{4}\right) \text { and }\left(\sim \mathrm{x}_{15} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{17} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{7}\right) \text { and }\left(\sim \mathrm{x}_{6} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{19}\right. \text { or } \\
& \left.\mathrm{x}_{13}\right) \text { and }\left(\sim \mathrm{x}_{12} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{9} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{5}\right) \text { and }\left(\mathrm{x}_{12} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{1} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{14}\right) \text { and }\left(\mathrm{x}_{20} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{3}\right. \\
& \text { or } \left.\mathrm{x}_{2}\right) \text { and }\left(\mathrm{x}_{10} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{7} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{8}\right) \text { and }\left(\sim \mathrm{x}_{5} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{9} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{12}\right) \text { and }\left(\mathrm{x}_{18}\right. \\
& \text { or } \left.\sim \mathrm{x}_{20} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{3}\right) \text { and }\left(\sim \mathrm{x}_{10} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{18} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{16}\right) \text { and }\left(\mathrm{x}_{1} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{11}\right. \text { or } \\
& \left.\sim \mathrm{x}_{14}\right) \text { and }\left(\mathrm{x}_{3} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{7} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{15}\right) \text { and }\left(\sim \mathrm{x}_{8} \text { or } \mathrm{x}_{16} \text { or } \sim \mathrm{x}_{10}\right) \\
& \mathrm{B} \\
& \mathrm{x}_{1}=\mathrm{F}, \mathrm{x}_{2}=\mathrm{T}, \mathrm{x}_{3}=\mathrm{F}, \mathrm{x}_{4}=\mathrm{F}, \mathrm{x}_{5}=\mathrm{F}, \mathrm{x}_{6}=\mathrm{F}, \mathrm{x}_{7}=\mathrm{T}, \mathrm{x}_{8}=\mathrm{T}, \mathrm{x}_{9}=\mathrm{F}, \mathrm{x}_{10}=\mathrm{T}, \\
& \mathrm{x}_{11}=\mathrm{T}, \mathrm{x}_{12}=\mathrm{T}, \mathrm{x}_{13}=\mathrm{F}, \mathrm{x}_{14}=\mathrm{F}, \mathrm{x}_{15}=\mathrm{T}, \mathrm{x}_{16}=\mathrm{T}, \mathrm{x}_{17}=\mathrm{T}, \mathrm{x}_{19}=\mathrm{F}, \mathrm{x}_{19}=\mathrm{F}, \\
& \mathrm{x}_{20}=\mathrm{F}
\end{aligned}
$$



- Required new experimental setup.
- Acrydite-modified oligonucleotides, immobilization of library strands by acrylamide bound probe strands.
- 1,048,576 possible truth assignments.
- Half-length library strands synthesized by mix-and-split solid phase phosphoramidite methods.


## Mix-and-split Synthesis



Resulting sequence library.

## Adleman 20 variable SAT

- STEP 1: Synthesize/ligate assignment strands.
- STEP 2: Electrophoresis in hot module to unbind and cool module to bind correct assignments to immobilized probes.
- STEP 3: Switch cool module to hot chamber and repeat unbind/bind step for next clause. (24 cycles)
- STEP 4: Extract answer; amplify; read out by PCR.


Fig. 5. Readout of the answer: 1- $\mu \mathrm{l}$ aliquots of a 50 -fold dilution of the answer stock were PCR-amplified under standard conditions for 25 cycles. PCR products were analyzed on $4 \%$ agarose gels. Lanes 1 and 2 correspond to primer pair $\left\langle X^{\top}{ }_{1}, \bar{X}^{\top}{ }_{k}\right\rangle$, lanes 3 and 4 correspond to primer pair $<X^{\top}{ }_{1}$, $\bar{X}_{\mathrm{K}}{ }_{\mathrm{K}}>$, lanes 5 and 6 correspond to primer pair $\left\langle X^{\mathrm{F}}{ }_{1}, \bar{X}_{\mathrm{K}}{ }_{\mathrm{K}}\right\rangle$, lanes 7 and 8 correspond to primer pair $\left\langle X^{\mathrm{F}}{ }_{1}, \bar{X}_{\mathrm{K}}{ }_{\mathrm{K}}\right\rangle$, where (A) $k=2$, (B) $k=5$, (C) $k=$ 8, (D) $k=11$, ( $\mathbf{E}$ ) $k=14$, ( $\mathbf{F}$ ) $k=17$, ( G$) k=20$. Molecular weight markers (as in Fig. 2) are on the leftmost and rightmost lanes of each gel.
S. Roweis et al., J. Comp. Biol. 5, 615 (1998).

Sticker Model


Figure 1: A memory strand and associated stickers (together called a memory complex) represent a bit string. The top complex on the left has all three bits off; the bottom complex has two annealed stickers and thus two bits on.

- All sequences always present.
- Values in bit string represent by presence or absence of an annealed sticker oligo.
S. Roweis et al., J. Comp. Biol. 5, 615 (1998).


## Sticker Model



- 4 basic operations.
- Combine by pipetting.
- Separate by annealing to probe.
- Set by adding stickers.
- Clear by adding PNA.


LaBean COMPSCI 296.5
S. Roweis et al., J. Comp. Biol. 5, 615 (1998).

## Sticker Model



Figure 3: Data and Operator Tubes in the stickers machine.


Figure 4: Setup for a generic operation in the stickers machine.

# Molecular computation: RNA solutions to chess problems 

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PNAS | February 15, 2000 | vol. 97 | no.4 | 1385-1389
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Figure 4 | Five correct solutions to the Knight Problem and one incorrect solution. In the last solution, the white knight in square $i$ (see FIG. 3 for key) threatens the knights in squares b and d .

- RNA molecular encodings
or " 1 " variable represents the presence of a knight at positions $a-i$ whereas a "false" or " 0 " variable represents the absence of a knight at that position. This is a particular instance of a class of NP-complete SAT problems. For a $3 \times 3$ board

| $a$ | $b$ | $c$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $d$ | $e$ | $f$ |
| $g$ | $h$ | $i$ |

we represent the problem as follows ( $\wedge$, "and"; $\vee$, "or"): $((\neg h \wedge \neg f) \vee \neg a) \wedge((-g \wedge \neg i) \vee \neg b) \wedge((-d \wedge \neg h) \vee \neg c) \wedge$ $((\neg c \wedge \neg i) \vee \neg d) \wedge((\neg a \wedge \neg g) \vee \neg f) \wedge((\neg b \wedge \neg f) \vee \neg g) \wedge$ $((-a \wedge-c) \vee \neg h) \wedge((\neg d \wedge-b) \vee \neg i)$.

In this particular example, this simplifies to
$((\neg h \wedge \neg f) \vee \neg a) \wedge((\neg g \wedge \neg i) \vee \neg b) \wedge((\neg d \wedge \neg h) \vee \neg c) \wedge$ $((\neg c \wedge \neg i) \vee \neg d) \wedge((\neg a \wedge \neg g) \vee \neg f)$.

This reduces the number of operations that one has to perform.

- Mark sequence with DNA primer and digest with Rnase H
- Readout by multiplex linear PCR

- DNA synthesis.
- 10 bits available.
- 25 cycles of PCR resulted in "bit shuffled" answer strands. 15 cycles no bit shuffling seen. 5 cycles used in experiments.



| $a$ | $b$ | $c$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $d$ | $e$ | $f$ |
| $g$ | $h$ | $i$ |



$$
((\neg h \wedge \neg f) \vee \neg a)
$$



$$
((\neg g \wedge \neg i) \vee \neg b)
$$

| Bit | Knight absent <br> code, bit set to 0 | Knight present <br> code, bit set to 1 | Spacer code |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| $a$ | CTCTTACTCAATTCT | TCCTCACATTACTTA | TCTAC |
| $b$ | CATATCAACATCTTA | ACTTCCTTTATATCC | ATAAC |
| $c$ | ATCCTCCACTTCACA | TTATAACAAACATCC | CTTAA |
| $d$ | TTAAAATCTTCCCTC | ACATAACCCTCTTCA | TTTAC |
| e | CTATTTATCCACACC | ACCTTACTTTCCATA | TACAA |
| $f$ | GCTTCAAACAATTCC | GTACATTCTCCCTAC | TCCTT |
| $g$ | AACTCTCAAATTCAA | CATAATCTTATATTC | TCAAT |
| $h$ | CTAACCTTTACTTCA | ATAATCACATACTTC | TCCAA |
| $i$ | CATTCCTTATCCCAC | TCCACCAACTACCTA | ACACA |
| $j$ | CACCCTTTCTCCTCT | TTTTAAATTTCACAA | SUFFIX |

## RNA Computer



- RNA molecular encodings
- Mark sequence with DNA primer and digest with Rnase H
- Readout by multiplex linear PCR


Figure 3 | Solving the Knight Problem. Multiplex linear PCR produces a 'bar-code' representing two

## Whiplash PCR for $O(1)$ Computing

Erik Winfree


# Molecular Computation by DNA Hairpin Formation 

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Hairpin formation by single-stranded DNA molecules was exploited in a DNAbased computation in order to explore the feasibility of autonomous molecular computing. An instance of the satisfiability problem, a famous hard combinatorial problem, was solved by using molecular biology techniques. The satisfiability of a given Boolean formula was examined autonomously, on the basis of hairpin formation by the molecules that represent the formula. This computation algorithm can test several clauses in the given formula simultaneously, which could reduce the number of laboratory steps required for computation.

> The Boolean formula is $F=(a \vee b \vee \neg c)$ $\wedge(a \vee c \vee d) \wedge(a \vee \neg c \vee \neg d) \wedge(\neg a \vee \neg c$ $\vee d) \wedge(a \vee \neg c \vee e) \wedge(a \vee d \vee \neg f) \wedge(\neg a$ $\vee c \vee d) \wedge(a \vee c \vee \neg d) \wedge(\neg a \vee \neg c \vee \neg d)$ $\wedge(\neg a \vee c \vee \neg d)$. There exists the unique solution $(a, b, c, d, e, f)=(0,1,1,0,1,0)$, which is identified with 24 satisfying literal strings out of $3^{10}(59,049)$ possible literal strings.

## Hairpin formation

strings" were introduced to encode the given formula; they are conjunctions of the literals selected from each clause (one literal per clause). For example, the formula $(a \vee b) \wedge$ $(\neg a \vee \neg c)$ can be represented by the set of four literal strings, $a-\neg a, a-\neg c, b-\neg a$, and $b-\neg c$. A formula is satisfiable if there is such a literal string that does not involve any variable together with its negation (we refer to such strings as "satisfying"), because the literal string gives a value assignment that makes every clause take the value 1 simultaneously, so that the value of the entire formula will become 1 . If each variable is encoded with a sequence complementary to that encoding its negation, then the literal strings containing one or more pairs of complementary literals can form hairpins, and the satisfying strings stay in the form without such hairpins ("nonhairpin" form) (Fig. 1).


Fig. 1. Illustration of the computation based on DNA hairpin formation. (A) The ssDNA representing a satisfying literal string, $b-c-\neg d-e-\neg a-\neg f-$ $\neg a-c-\neg d-\neg d$, stays in the nonhairpin form. (B) A literal string, $b-\neg c-a-c-e-\neg f-\neg d-c-a-d$, has pairs of the complementary literals ( $c-\neg c$ and $\neg d-d$ ), and the ssDNA representing it forms hairpins.

## Hairpin formation

## Generation of "literal" strands.

Fig. 2. Illustration of "literal units" in the course of the assembly into a 10 -clause or full-length literal string. The arrows represent ssDNA molecules; their
 direction is from the $5^{\prime}$ to $3^{\prime}$ ends. $L_{k}$ indicates the literal from clause $k(1 \leq k \leq 10)$, and the numbers at both ends of each literal indicate the linker numbers. The circles in the middle of the literals represent the Bst NI sites, and pbs1 and pbs2 indicate the primer binding sites for PCR.

Hairpin removal step substitutes:
Destroy hairpin strands with restriction enzyme. Amplify non-hairpin strands to dilute hairpins.

## DNA computing on surfaces

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```

- SAT problem.
- 16 NT words 5'-FFFFvvvvvvvvFFFF-3'
- Operations: Mark, destroy, unmark.

$(w \vee x \vee y) \wedge(w \vee \bar{y} \vee z) \wedge(\bar{x} \vee y) \wedge(\bar{w} \vee \bar{y})$


## Surface Computing


( $w$ or $x$ or $y$ ) and ( $w$ or $\bar{y}$ or $z$ ) and ( $\bar{x}$ or $y$ ) and ( $\bar{w}$ or $\bar{y}$ )
$\begin{array}{cllll}\text { Cycle: } & 1 & 2 & 3\end{array}$


Strands destroyed $=2$
Strands remaining $=14$
Strands destroyed in the cycle $\square$ Strands remaining at end of cycle

## Surface Computing



Readout: PCR amplify results using primers above; Separate/remove biotinylated strands; anneal fluorescent strands back onto chip; read fluorescence.

The Arrayed Primer Extension Method for DNA Microchip Analysis.
Molecular Computation of Satisfaction Problems

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Michael P. Montague-Smith, ${ }^{\dagger}$ Nathan G. Walcott, ${ }^{\dagger}$ and Jeff J. Tollett ${ }^{*}$

## Sequencing-by-Hybridization (SBH)



## Arrayed Primer Extension (APEX)



Figure 1. Hybridization on DNA chips is simply mass action driven, and the target must bear a label. APEX involves a preequilibrium followed by an irreversible enzymatic reaction, both steps of which are sensitive to mismatches.

## Surface computer II



Figure 5. Experiment addressing the fidelity of primer extension. Primers differing only at the X position and templates differing only at the Y position were prepared, and the primers were arrayed in columns. The templates were applied to those primers in rows. Thus, at each priming site, a different combination of X and Y (of the 16 possible) is formed. Only when complementary base pairs are formed is extension signal observed. The sequences of the primers are given Table 1.


Figure 6. Encoding scheme for primers and templates used in APEX computation. A complementary 18-24-nt constant region in each provides a perfect duplex in the primer-template complex. A 5-nt coding region is located at the $3^{\prime}$ end of the primer, where polymerases show high discrimination against mismatches. Complements to this coding region are at the $5^{\prime}$ end of the template. Ts follow this region, leading to the addition of ddATP to the primer strand. Each query or clause requires one to several of these templates.

## Surface computer II



Figure 9. Four-bit SAT. An array of DNA primers was prepared in quadruplicate from eight oligonucleotides, 1-4 and 9-12. The key on the left shows the distribution of primers for each variable (grey $=1$, black $=0$ ). Four primers were pooled for each array element, yielding 16 sites with unique combinations of the TRUE and FALSE state primers for four variables. Approximately 10 nL of $100 \mu \mathrm{M}$ oligonucleotides solution was deposited per spot, with spot diameters of $300 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ spaced on $1-\mathrm{mm}$ centers. After one APEX for each clause of the SAT, using two templates (as shown to the right of the images) selected from among $5-8$ and $13-16$, measurements of $\mathrm{S} / \mathrm{N}$ ratio were made at each spot in the array. The numbers given represent the ratios of the signal at TRUE primer extension sites to FALSE sites. The average $\mathrm{S} / \mathrm{N}$ ratio (\#:1) observed on all four arrays and the minimum $\mathrm{S} / \mathrm{N}$ ratio on one array are given. The unique solution, boxed in red, is $(w=0, x=1, y=0, z=0)$.


Figure 10. Three-bit 3SAT. Following a protocol similar to that in Figure 9, six slides were incubated using three templates specific for each clause, as shown to the right of the images. Each clause eliminates two spots from the set of 16 , so that the commonly labeled elements represent the solution boxed in red ( $w=1, x=1, y=0 \cup 1, z=0 \cup 1$ ). In this 3SAT, there are no constraints on $z$, so both values satisfy the expression. The $\mathrm{S} / \mathrm{N}$ data are tabulated to the right of each image, as in Figure 9 . The lower minimum $\mathrm{S} / \mathrm{N}$ numbers on several of the conditions are likely due to carry-over during the array printing process. The minimum value of 68 for the first clause is more representative of usual APEX data because, in this case, the FALSE (unlabeled) spots are the first to be printed.

## DNA-based Computing

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- Algorithmic self-assembly
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## Construction with "Smart Bricks"



## Algorithmic Self-Assembly of DNA:

## Theoretical Motivations and 2D Assembly Experiments

## Erik Winfree

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Conversation 11, Issue \#2 (2000) 0-940030-81-0


- Annealing alone is capable of universal computation.
- Combine Wang tiling problems with Seeman DNA structures.
- Wang tiling: Given a set of polygons, cover the entire plane without gaps. Given colored tile edges, match neighboring edge colors.
- Tiling patterns have been shown which simulate a singletape Turing machine.


# Algorithmic SA 



- Simple tile sets.
- Simple rule sets.
- Simple periodic structures produced.

Figure 1: A system of 2 tiles that form a periodic striped lattice.


Figure 2: A system of 4 tiles that form a periodic striped lattice.


- Small tile sets.
- Encoded rules on edge symbols.
- Aperiodic structure produced. Algorithmic construction of subsequent binding sites.


Figure 3: A system of 3 input tiles and 4 rule tiles that form an aperiodic tiling. The rows in the tiling are the consecutive integers, represented in binary.

Algorithmic SA


## Computation with "Smart Bricks"



## Contingency Table and <br> Tiling Solution for

Boolean xOr


Output string


# Logical computation using algorithmic self-assembly of DNA triple-crossover molecules 

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a

b




## Locally Serial, Globally Parallel 2D Assembly



Step 1: Assembly of
Step 2: Serial Assembly of Output

## Advantages of Biomolecular Computation

- Ultra Scale: each "processor" is a molecule.
- Massively Parallel: number of elements could be $10^{18}$ to $10^{20}$
- High Speed: perhaps $10^{15}$ operations per second.
- Low Energy: example calculation $\sim 10^{-19}$ Joules/op. electronic computers $\sim 10^{-9}$ Joules/op.
- Existing Biotechnology: well tested recombinant DNA techniques.


## Input Frame and Output

 Assembly for Parallel Addition

## Locally Serial, Globally Parallel 2D Assembly




TA035


TAE 44

## Global and Local Parallelism by Linear Assembly



Simultaneous, parallel assembly of input and output strands.

## "String Tile" Addition

| tile | $\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{i}}$ | $\mathbf{I}_{\boldsymbol{A}_{\mathbf{i}}}$ | $\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{B}_{\mathrm{i}}}$ | $\mathbf{O}_{\mathbf{i}}$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{C l}_{\mathbf{i + 1}}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 6 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 7 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |



8 tile types needed, indexed according to each row in the truth table.

## "String Tile" Addition. Example. 든



- Anneal; Ligate
-Purify reporter strand


| tile | $\mathrm{C}_{i}$ | $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{i}}}$ | $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{B}_{\mathrm{i}}}$ | $\mathbf{o}_{\mathrm{i}}$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{c}_{\mathrm{i}+1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 6 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 7 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |



$\square 1$| 0 | $c_{0}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

## Parallel Molecular Computations of Pairwise Exclusive-Or (XOR) Using DNA "String Tile" Self-Assembly

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J. AM. CHEM. SOC. 2003, 125, 14246-14247
a)


| b) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| tile | $\mathrm{I}_{\mathbf{A i}}$ | $\mathrm{I}_{\mathbf{B i}}$ | $\mathbf{o}_{\mathbf{i}}$ |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

(C)
d)



Figure 2. Simplified representation of the sequencing readout for parallel computation of pairwise XOR of "string tile" self-assembly.

Figure 1. Parallel computing of pairwise XOR by self-assembly of DNA tiles.

## Algorithmic Self-Assembly of DNA Sierpinski Triangles <br> PLoS Biol 2(12): e424.

Paul W. K. Rothemund ${ }^{1,2}$, Nick Papadakis ${ }^{2}$, Erik Winfree ${ }^{1,2 *}$

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## Algorithmic Self-Assembly of DNA Sierpinski Triangles

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DAE-E


DAO-E

# Two Computational Primitives for Algorithmic Self-Assembly: Copying and Counting 

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CopyIng and counting are useful primitlve operatlons for computation and construction. We have made DNA crystals that copy and crystals that count as they grow. For counting, 16 ollgonucleotldes assemble Into four DNA Wang tlles that subsequently crystallize on a polymerlc nucleating scaffold strand, arranging themselves in a blnary counting pattern that could serve as a template for a molecular electronic demultiplexing clrcult. Although the yleld of counting crystals is low, and per-tlle error rates in such crystals is roughly $10 \%$, thls work demonstrates the potentlal of algorlthmic self-assembly to create complex nanoscale patterns of technologlcal Interest. A subset of the tlles for counting form Information-bearing DNA tubes that copy blt strings from layer to layer along thelr length.




## Duke Counting Lattice

Without ratio control:



With ratio control:

LaBean COMPSCI 296.5

## DNA-based Computing

- Adleman - Hamiltonian Path (7 node)
- Biochemical manipulation
- Sticker model, RNA, Whiplash PCR
- Surface-based computation
- Algorithmic self-assembly
- Autonomous systems


# Programmable and autonomous computing machine made of biomolecules 

```
Yaakov Benenson*\dagger, Tamar Paz-Elizur }\dagger\mathrm{ , Rivka Adar`, Ehud Keinan }\ddagger\leqslant\mathrm{ ,
Zvi Limeh }\dagger\mathrm{ & Ehud Shapiro* }
```

- Automata: devices which convert information in one form into another according to a definite procedure.
- Finite automaton: special case of a Turing machine which scans a tape for data and switches state according to some program.
- This DNA computer does not require manipulation by a technician or even thermal cycling.
- Hardware: restriction endonuclease, ligase.
- Software: dsDNA.
- Input data: dsDNA.
a


A1: even number of b's
b SO-abaaba (SO $\xrightarrow{\text { a }} \mathrm{SO}$ )
S0-baaba $(\mathrm{SO} \xrightarrow{\mathrm{b}} \mathrm{S} 1)$
S1-aaba $(S 1 \xrightarrow{\text { a }} \mathrm{S} 1$ )
S1-aba $(S 1 \xrightarrow{a} S 1)$
S1-ba $(\mathrm{S} 1 \xrightarrow{\mathrm{~b}} \mathrm{SO})$
SO-a $(\mathrm{SO} \xrightarrow{\mathrm{a}} \mathrm{SO}$ )
S0 (final state)
The input is accepted
c $\mathrm{T} 1: \mathrm{SO} \xrightarrow{\mathrm{a}} \mathrm{SO}$
T2: $\mathrm{SO} \xrightarrow{\mathrm{a}} \mathrm{S} 1$
T3: $\mathrm{SO} \xrightarrow{\mathrm{b}} \mathrm{SO}$
T4: $\mathrm{S} 0 \xrightarrow{\mathrm{~b}} \mathrm{~S} 1$
$\mathrm{T} 5: \mathrm{S} 1 \xrightarrow{\mathrm{a}} \mathrm{SO}$
T6: S1 $\xrightarrow{a} S 1$
$\mathrm{T} 7: \mathrm{S} 1 \xrightarrow{\mathrm{~b}} \mathrm{So}$
$\mathrm{T} 8: \mathrm{S} 1 \xrightarrow{\mathrm{~b}} \mathrm{~S} 1$


A2: at most one b
■


A4: no two consecutive b's


A6: no a after b


A3: at least one b


A5: only a's


A7: starts with $a$ and ends with $b$

Figure 1 Finite automata with two states ( S 0 and S 1 ) and two symbols ( a and b ). $a$, Diagram representing the automaton A1 accepting inputs with an even number of $b$ symbols. Incoming unlabelled arrow represents the initial state, labelled arrows represent transition rules, and the double circle represents an accepting state. b, An example computation over abaaba. Each row represents an intermediate configuration, showing the current state of the automaton and the remaining symbols to be processed. The transition rule taking a configuration to its successor is shown on the right $\mathbf{c}$, A list of all eight possible transition rules of a two-state two-symbol automaton. d, Six other automata programs used to test the molecular implementation and the sets of inputs they accept. Non-deterministic automaton A7 has two transitions T7 and T8 applicable to the same configuration. A computation of A7 ending in an accepting state uses T8 for all b symbols except the last, and uses $\mathrm{T7}$ for the last b .
a Transition molecules

GGT 28 CCTACTGACCP
$\mathrm{T} 5: \mathrm{S} 1 \xrightarrow{\mathrm{a}} \mathrm{SO}$
$\operatorname{GGT}^{\mathrm{p}} 15$ CCTACTGCGACCp
T6: S1 $\xrightarrow{\mathrm{a}} \mathrm{S} 1$
GGT 21 CCTACCGCGTp
$\mathrm{T} 7: \mathrm{S} 1 \xrightarrow{\mathrm{~b}} \mathrm{SO}$
GGT 15 CCTACTGCTGGTCGp
$\mathrm{T} 4: \mathrm{S} 0 \xrightarrow{\mathrm{~b}} \mathrm{~S} 1$
GGT 30 CCTACTGCGCGTp
$\mathrm{T} 8: \mathrm{S} 1 \xrightarrow{\mathrm{~b}} \mathrm{~S} 1$
b Example input molecule
c Symbols and states encoding

| Symbol | a | b | terminator (t) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Encodings \& <state, symbol> sticky ends |  |  |  |



## Movie 1

a
Expected output: S0 S1 S0 S0 S1 $\times$ S0 S1 S1


Input
Automaton


d

b


Figure 3 Running automaton programs on inputs. a, Experimental testing of automaton programs A1-A6 (Fig. 1a and d). The molecules in each lane are the output-detection molecules S0-D and S1-D, molecules encoding intermediate configurations capped by yet-to-be-processed input molecules and followed by output-reporting molecules SO-R or S1-R, which are missing in case the computation suspends (for example, A2, 'at most one b', suspends on aabb). Expected locations of different species and a size marker of 200 bp are indicated by arrows to the left. Input molecules are specified below each lane, and expected outputs (S0, S1 or suspension (x)) are indicated above each lane. Reactions with the same software are grouped in triplets, the software indicated below. I\&IC, input and intermediate configurations. b, Computations with A1 software performed over 6-symbollong input molecules. All inputs are of the same size, shown on a reference lane. c, Parallel computation. Input mixture composition and the software used are indicated below the lanes. d, Demonstration of a non-deterministic computation.


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# DNA molecule provides a computing machine with both data and fuel 

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## Departments of *Computer Sclence and Applied Mathematics and ${ }^{\text {Biological Chemistry, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot 76100, Israel }}$



A1: even number of a's

| B |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| S0-abba | $(\mathrm{S} 0 \xrightarrow{\mathrm{a}} \mathrm{S} 1)$ |
| S1-bba | $(\mathrm{S} 1 \xrightarrow{\mathrm{~b}} \mathrm{~S} 1)$ |
| $\mathrm{S} 1-\mathrm{ba}$ | $(\mathrm{S} 1 \xrightarrow{\mathrm{~b}} \mathrm{~S} 1)$ |
| $\mathrm{S} 1-\mathrm{a}$ | $(\mathrm{S} 1 \xrightarrow{\mathrm{a}} \mathrm{S} 0)$ |
| S0 | (final state) |

The input is accepted


A2: even number of symbols


A3: ends with b
1.
2: abba
13: babbabb
14: babbabba
15: baaaabb
6: baaaabba
17: abbbbabbabb
8: abbbbaaaabba

Fig. 1. Finite automata and inputs for which we show molecular realizations. (A) Automaton A1. Incoming unlabeled arrow marks the initial state, and labeled arrows represent transition rules. A double circle represents an accepting state. (B) A computation of A1 scanning and digesting the input abba. Each row represents an intermediate configuration showing current state and remaining input. The transition rule applied is shown in brackets. (C) The two other automata for which we demonstrate molecular operation. (D) The set of inputs used as fuel.

A Explanation of state and symbol encoding

| Symbol | a | b | terminator <br> ( t ) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| encodings \& <state, symbol> sticky ends | $\overbrace{\overbrace{\text { TGGCT }}^{\langle\underbrace{G G 0, a>}}}^{\langle S 1, a>}$ | $\overbrace{\underbrace{\langle S 1, b>}_{\text {SABGG}}}^{\langle\underbrace{C A}, b}$ |  |

B Hardware


Fokl enzyme \& recognition site

C Software


D Input


## E Computation through symbol cleavage and scatter



Fig. 2. A molecular finite automaton that uses input as fuel. (A) Encoding of a, b, and terminator (sense strands) and the <state, symbol> Interpretation of exposed 4-nt sticky ends, the leftmost representing the current symbol and the state $\$ 1$, similarly the rightmost for S0. (B) Hardware: The Fokl restriction enzyme, which recognizes the sequence GGATG and cleaves 9 and 13 nt apart on the $5^{\prime} \rightarrow 3^{\prime}$ and $3^{\prime} \rightarrow 5^{\prime}$ strands, respectively. (C) Software: Each DNA molecule realizes a different transition rule by detecting a current state and symbol and determining a next state. It consists of a <state, symbol> detector (yellow), a Fokl recognition site (blue), and a spacer (gray) of variable length that determines the Fokl cleavage site inside the next symbol, which in turn defines the next state. Empty spacers effect S1 to 50 transition, 1-bp spacers maintain the current state, and 2-bp spacers transfer S0 to S1. (D) Input: The exposed sticky end at the $5^{\prime}$ terminus of the DNA molecule encodes the initial state and first symbol. Each symbol is encoded with 5 bp separated by 3 -bp spacers. (E) Suggested mechanism of operation of the automaton. The computation proceeds via a cascade of transition cycles, each cleaving and scattering one input symbol, exemplified with the input molecule bab in the initial state $S 0$ and the transition $S 0 \xrightarrow{b}$ S1. Both hardware and software molecules are recycled.

## Movie 2

PNAS | March 4, 2003


FIg. 3. Experimental results and mechanism analysis of the molecular automaton. (A) A demonstration that a computation does not require ligase. Different variants of the software molecule T 1 ( $\mathrm{T} 1_{a}$, nonphosphorylated, and $\mathrm{T} 1_{\mathrm{b}}$, phosphorylated) and the input ( $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{a}}$, nonphosphorylated and $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{b}}$, phosphorylated) were Incubated with the hardware (Fokl) at $8^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 10 min . Input, software, and hardware concentrations were all $1 \mu \mathrm{M}$. Reaction components are shown below the lanes, and the locations of software molecule ( $T$ ), input ( 1 ), and product ( P ) are indicated by arrows. ( $B$ ) Executing automata A1-A3 (Fig. 1 A and $C$ ) on inputs I1-I8 (FIg. 1D). Input, software, and hardware concentrations were 1, 4, and $4 \mu \mathrm{M}$, respectively. Reactions were set in $10 \mu$ and incubated at $8^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 20 min . Each lane contains inputs, intermediate configurations, and output bands at the indicated locations. The programs, inputs, and expected outputs are indicated below each lane. Location of unprocessed input is shown on the left. Size markers are indicated by arrows on the right. (C) Software reusability with the four-transition automaton A1 applied to input 18 with each software molecule taken at 0.075 molar ratio to the input. Input, software, and hardware concentrations were 1, $0.3(0.075 \mu \mathrm{M}$ each kind), and $1 \mu \mathrm{M}$, respectively. After 18 h , molecules $\mathrm{T} 2, \mathrm{~T} 5$, and T 8 performed on the average 29, 21, and 54 transitions each. Input and output locations are indicated on the left, and intermediates and software molecules applied at each step are on the right.

## Deoxyribozyme-Based Logic Gates

## Milan N. Stojanovic, ${ }^{\text {,,t }}$ Tiffany Elizabeth Mitchell, ${ }^{\dagger}$ and Darko Stefanovic ${ }^{\dagger, \S}$

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[^0]

Figure 1. Basic concept: input oligonucleotides $\mathbf{I}_{\mathrm{A}}$ and $\mathbf{I}_{\mathrm{B}}$ result in the presence or absence of output fluorescent product $\mathbf{O}_{\mathbf{F}}$, depending on the interactions with deoxyribozyme-based logic gates


Figure 2. Fluorogenic cleavage of double end-labeled substrate by deoxyribozymes E6 or $\mathbf{8 - 1 7}$ into products $\mathrm{O}_{\mathrm{F}}$ and $\mathrm{O}_{\mathrm{R}}$. Fluorescein ( $\mathbf{F}$ ) emission is quenched by distance-dependent fluorescence resonance energy transfer to tetramethylrhodamine (R), and upon cleavage fluorescence increases (larger font $\mathbf{F}$ ).

## DNA logic gates


(b)


Figure 3. (a) Single input sensor gate (A) is activated by the input
J. AM. CHEM. SOC. 2002, 124, 3555 - 3555
(a)

(b)


Figure 4. (a) Single-input NOT gate ( $\neg \mathrm{B})$ is constructed through

## DNA logic gates



Figure 5. (a) AND gate $(A \wedge B)$ is constructed through attachment of two
J. AM. CHEM. SOC. 2002, 124, 3555 - 3555
(a)

(b)


Figure 7. (a) XOR gate (AvB) as a combination of $A \wedge \neg B$ and $B \wedge \neg A$

## Deoxyribozyme-based tictactoe

Stojanovic \& Stefanovic, 2003 Nat. Biotechnol. 21, 1069


3/20/06
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[^0]:    5'G-A-T-TG-G-G-T-T-A-A-C-T-T 5'G-A-T-T-G-G-A-C-A-T-A-A-C-T-T

