GENETIC ALGORITHM BASED NETWORK CODING IN WIRELESS AD HOC NETWORKS

TAN SHEE ENG



UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SABAH

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SABAH 2013

PUMS 99:1

UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SABAH

BORANG PENGESAHAN TESIS	
JUDUL :	
IJAZAH :	
SAYA :	SESI PENGAJIAN :
(HURUF BESAR)	
Mengaku membenarkan tesis *(LPSM/Sarjana/Dokto Sabah dengan syarat-syarat kegunaan seperti berikut:	r Falsafah) ini disimpan di Perpustakaan Universiti Malaysia -
 Tesis adalah hak milik Universiti Malaysia Saba Perpustakaan Universiti Malaysia Sabah diben Perpustakaan dibenarkan membuat salinan t tinggi. 	ah. Jarkan membuat salinan untuk tujuan pengajian sahaja. esis ini sebagai bahan pertukaran antara institusi pengajian
4. Sila tandakan (/)	mat yang berdarjah keselamatan atau kepentingan Malaysia
seperti yang termaktu TERHAD (Mengandungi maklu mana penyelidikan di	ıb di AKTA RAHSIA RASMI 1972) mat TERHAD yang telah ditentukan oleh organisasi/badan di jalankan)
TIDAK TERHAD	Disahkan oleh:
 (TANDATANGAN PENULIS) Alamat Tetap:	(TANDATANGAN PUSTAKAWAN)
 TARIKH:	(NAMA PENYELIA) TARIKH:
Catatan: *Potong yang tidak berkenaan. *Jika tesis ini SULIT dan TERHAD, sila lampirkan sur menyatakan sekali sebab dan tempoh tesis ini perlu *Tesis dimaksudkan sebagai tesis bagi Ijazah Dokto bagi pengajian secara kerja kursus dan Laporan Pro	at daripada pihak berkuasa/organisasi berkenaan dengan u dikelaskan sebagai SULIT dan TERHAD. r Falsafah dan Sarjana Secara Penyelidikan atau disertai ıjek Sarjana Muda (LPSM).

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the work in this thesis is my own except for quotations and summaries which have been duly acknowledged.

3 January 2013

Tan Shee Eng PK2010-8100



CERTIFICATION

- NAME : TAN SHEE ENG
- MATRIC NO. : **PK2010-8100**
- TITLE : GENETIC ALGORITHM BASED NETWORK CODING IN WIRELESS AD HOC NETWORKS
- DEGREE : MASTER OF ENGINEERING (ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING)
- VIVA DATE : 8 JULY 2013



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation to my supervisor, Mr. Kenneth Teo Tze Kin, for his excellent guidance, caring, patience, and providing me with an excellent atmosphere for doing research. His advice, encouragement, motivation and valuable suggestions have provided me the necessary impetus to complete this research.

I would also like to thank Dr. Mohammad Sigit Arifianto and Mr. Liau Chung Fan for numerous discussions on related topics that helped me improve my knowledge in the area. Their recommendations and instructions have enabled me to start the research effectively.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to my friends especially all my colleagues in modelling, simulation & computing laboratory for their cooperation and assistance. Thanks for their willingness in spending time to have wonderful discussion on my work.

My deep sense of gratitude goes to my family for their mental and financial support throughout these years.



ABSTRACT

GENETIC ALGORITHM BASED NETWORK CODING IN WIRELESS AD HOC NETWORKS

The main objective of this research is to maximize the throughput and minimize the energy consumption in wireless ad hoc networks with network coding by selecting a suitable route to destination. Packet's forwarding of the conventional store-andforward in an intermediate node is just storing the received packets and then forwarding the same packet without doing any additional processing to the packets. In the intermediate node of network coding (NC), instead of store then forward data packets, the nodes in NC can perform additional function by encoding several packets into a single coded packet, and then transmit the coded packet to respective destinations simultaneously. Wireless network simulation is used to demonstrate and assess the implementation of network coding in wireless ad hoc networks. Every destination node will decode the coded packet to get the intended packet. Results show that the network coding transfers the packets 13.64% faster than store-and-forward method. However, the chances to perform network coding in wireless ad hoc networks are limited if the path of packet does not flow through potential network coding nodes. Therefore, coding-aware routing is important to explore the data traffic flows with more network coding opportunities. Genetic algorithm based coding-aware routing (GACAR) is embedded in the wireless ad hoc network with network coding capabilities to search for coding opportunities for unicast sessions. In this work, an adaptive genetic algorithm based coding-aware routing (AGACAR) is also proposed to improve the solution on the GACAR. Evaluation and assessments have been carried out through various simulations under different network topologies, and it shows that AGACAR provides better coding opportunities and reduces energy consumption in the network. The expected transmissions count metric (ETX) for AGACAR is 22.27% fewer than store-and-forward and 16.33% fewer than network coding in wireless network transmission and forwarding structure (COPE).

ABSTRAK

Objektif utama kajian ini adalah untuk memaksimumkan daya pemprosesan dan mengurangkan penggunaan tenaga dalam rangkaian ad hoc tanpa wayar dengan "network coding" (NC) dengan memilih laluan yang sesuai ke destinasi. Paket penghantaran konvensional simpan-dan-hantar dalam nod perantaraan hanya sekadar menyimpan paket yang diterima dan kemudian memghantar paket yang sama tanpa melakukan apa-apa proses tambahan kepada paket. Simulasi rangkaian tanpa wayar diwujudkan untuk mengaji NC dalam rangkaian ad hoc tanpa wayar. ia bukannya sekadar paket data simpan-dan-hantar tetapi nod dalam NC boleh membuat proses tambahan dengan beberapa paket dikodkan ke dalam satu paket kod tunggal, dan paket berkod dihantar ke destinasi seterusnya. Setiap nod destinasi akan dinyahkod paket berkod untuk mendapatkan paket asal. Hasil kajian menunjukkan bahawa rangkaian kod menhantar paket 13,64% lebih cepat daripada simpan-dan-hantar. Walau bagaimanapun, peluang untuk melaksanakan rangkaian kod dalam rangkaian ad hoc tanpa wayar adalah terhad jika jalan aliran trafik data tidak mengalir melalui ke nod kod yang berpotensi. Oleh itu, laluan kod sedar adalah penting untuk meneroka aliran trafik data dengan lebih banyak peluang NC. Algoritma genetik berdasarkan kod sedar laluan (GACAR) terbenam dalam rangkaian ad hoc tanpa wayar dengan rangkaian kod keupayaan dapat mencari data laluan trafik yang lebih baik untuk sesi unicast. Dalam kajian ini, peningkatan GACAR (AGACAR) juga dicadangkan untuk memperbaiki penyelesaian bagi GACAR. Penilaian telah dijalankan melalui simulasi di bawah rangkaian topologi berbeza yang menunjukkan bahawa peningkatan AGACAR menyediakan peluang pengkodan yang lebih baik dan mengurangkan penggunaan tenaga. Penghantaran dijangka mengira metrik (ETX) untuk AGACAR adalah 22.27% kurang daripada simpan-dan-hantar serta 16.33% kurang daripada rangkaian kod dalam penghantaran rangkaian wayarles dan struktur penghantaran (COPE).

and

UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SABAH

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	i
DECLARATION	ii
CERTIFICATION	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iv
ABSTRACT	v
ABSTRAK	vi
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vii
LIST OF TABLES	xi
LIST OF FIGURES	xiii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xvi
LIST OF SYMBOLS	xviii
 CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION 1.1 Wireless Networks 1.2 Routing in Wireless Ad Hoc Networks 1.3 Scope of Work 1.4 Research Objectives 1.4.1 To Model and Simulate the Wireless Ad Hoc Networks with Network Coding 1.4.2 To Design and Compute the Genetic Algorithm Based Coding-Aware Routing in Wireless Network Coding Networks 1.4.3 To Evaluate and Assess the Adaptive Genetic Algorithm Based Coding-Aware Routing in Wireless Network Coding Networks 1.5 Thesis Outline 	1 2 4 5 5 5 5
CHAPTER 2: REVIEW OF NETWORK CODING IN WIRELESS	8
 2.1 An Overview of Network Coding 2.2 Wireless Network Coding System 2.2.1 Network Coding Theory 2.2.2 Development of Network Coding in Wireless Networks 2.3 Routing and Network coding in Multi-Hop Wireless Ad Hoc Networks 	8 9 10 12 14

	2.3.1 Various Types of COPE	14
	2.3.2 Various Types of Network Coding Aware Routing	16
2.4	Artificial Intelligence Methods in Network Coding	21
2.5	Chapter Summary	29
CHAI	PTER 3: COMPUTATIONAL INTELLIGENCE IN WIRELESS AD	30
2.1	HOC NETWORKS WITH NETWORK CODING	20
3.1 2.2	Introduction Open Systems Interconnection Model	20
J.Z 3 3	Network Coding and Wireless Ad Hoc Network	34
5.5	3 3 1 Network Coding Protocol	35
	3.3.2 Ad Hoc on Demand Distance Vector Routing Protocol	41
3.4	Basic Components of Genetic Algorithm	42
3.5	Chapter Summary	45
CHAI	PTER 4: MODELLING AND SIMULATION OF NETWORK	46
•	CODING IN WIRELESS AD HOC NETWORKS	
4.1	Introduction	46
4.2	Modelling of Wireless Ad Hoc Networks	46
	4.2.1 Structure of Simulation	48
	4.2.2 Transmit Protocol	52
4.2	4.2.3 Receive Protocol	5/
4.3	Network Coding Protocol	60
1/4	4.3.1 Encode Operation	60
11	Simulation of Wireless Ad Hoc Network Model	62
T. 172	4 4 1 Performance Metrics	64
6	4.4.2 Evaluation and Assessment of Network Coding	65
4.5	Chapter Summary	71
	UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SABAH	
CHAI	PTER 5: IMPLEMEMTATION OF GENATIC ALGORITHM IN	72
F 1	WIRELESS NETWORK CODING NETWORKS	70
5.1	Introduction	/2 72
5.2	E 2.1 Effect of Packet Pouto	/ 3 72
	5.2.1 Effect of Packet Route	75
53	Development of Genetic Algorithm in Wireless Networks with	70
5.5	Network Coding	70
	5.3.1 Chromosome Representation	80
	5.3.2 Chromosome Evaluation	86
	5.3.3 Selection Process	89
	5.3.4 Crossover Process	91
	5.3.5 Mutation Process	92
5.4	Evaluation and Assessment of Developed Genetic Algorithm	93
	5.4.1 Selection Pressure of Next Hop Selection	94
	5.4.2 Verification of the Developed Genetic Algorithm of Unicast	97
_ =	Route Selection System	
5.5	Chapter Summary	101

СНАР	TER 6: ENHANCEMENT OF GENETIC ALGORITHM BASED	102
6.1	Introduction	102
6.2	Impact of Next Hop Selection Probability	102
6.3	Development of Adaptive Genetic Algorithm based Coding-Aware	105
	Routing	
	6.3.1 Dynamic Mutation Rate in GACAR	105
	6.3.2 Chromosome Regeneration on GACAR	107
6.4	Simulation of the Adaptive Genetic Algorithm Based Coding-	108
	Aware Routing	
	6.4.1 Evaluation of the Adaptive GACAR	108
	6.4.2 Evaluation of the Developed Adaptive GACAR under	110
	Different Network Topologies	
6.5	Chapter Summary	119
CHAP	TER 7: CONCLUSIONS	121
7.1	Summary	121
7.2	Achievements	122
7.3	Future Works	123
REFE	RENCES	125
APPE	NDIX A: MATLAB SOURCE CODE OF APPLICATION LAYER	131
APPE	NDIX B: MATLAB SOURCE CODE OF NETWORK LAYER FOR TRANSMISSION	132
APPE	NDIX C: MATLAB SOURCE CODE OF DATA LINK LAYER FOR TRANSMISSION	133
APPE	NDIX D: MATLAB SOURCE CODE FOR CHANNEL CHECKING PROTOCOL	134
APPE	NDIX E: MATLAB SOURCE CODE OF PHYSICAL LAYER FOR TRANSMISSION	136
APPE	NDIX F: MATLAB SOURCE CODE OF PHYSICAL LAYER FOR RECEIVING	137
APPE	NDIX G: MATLAB SOURCE CODE OF DATA LINK LAYER FOR RECEIVING	138
APPE	NDIX H: MATLAB SOURCE CODE OF NETWORK LAYER FOR RECEIVING	140
APPE	NDIX I: MATLAB SOURCE CODE FOR ENCODING OF NETWORK CODING	140

APPENDIX J: MATLAB SOURCE CODE FOR GACAR	142
APPENDIX K: ROUTE OF DIFFERENT PROTOCOL	144
APPENDIX L: PUBLICATIONS	146



LIST OF TABLES

		Page
Table 2.1	Literature comparison of various types of COPE protocols	16
Table 2.2	Literature comparison of various types of CAR protocols	20
Table 2.3	Equation of random process in the network	23
Table 2.4	The system transfer matrix of the network	23
Table 3.1	Logical operators of XOR	35
Table 4.1	Event structure for simulation	48
Table 4.2	Pseudo code of application layer for transmission	52
Table 4.3	Pseudo code of network layer for transmission	53
Table 4.4	Pseudo code of data link layer for transmission	54
Table 4.5	Pseudo code of physical layer for transmission	57
Table 4.6	Pseudo code of physical layer for receiving	58
Table 4.7	Pseudo code of data link layer for receiving	59
Table 4.8	Pseudo code of network layer for receiving	60
Table 4.9	Pseudo code of network coding encode processes	61
Table 4.10	Pseudo code of network coding decode processes at receiver	62
Table 4.11	Parameter settings for simulation	64
Table 5.1	Link table that represent node to node relationship	82
Table 5.2	Converted link table	83
Table 5.3	Route establish on link table	87
Table 5.4	Pseudo code of calculate route from chromosome	88
Table 5.5	Parameter settings for simulation	94
Table 5.6	Number of hop from the source to the destination for different selection pressure	96

Table 5.7	Route selection of genetic algorithm	97
Table 6.1	Parameter settings for GA	109
Table 6.2	Route selected of AGACAR	110
Table 6.3	Parameter settings of wireless ad hoc networks	111
Table 6.4	Parameter settings for AGACAR	112
Table 6.5	Average throughput and energy consumption under various topologies	117
Table 6.6	Average throughput and energy consumption improvement under various network topologies	118
Table 6.7	ETX for store-and-forward, COPE, and AGACAR under various network topologies	118

Table 6.8Improvement of route selection under various network119topologies



LIST OF FIGURES

		Page
Figure 2.1	Illustrations of NC in butterfly topology	10
Figure 2.2	Illustrations of conventional protocol in butterfly topology	11
Figure 2.3	Illustrations of COPE in coding decision	13
Figure 2.4	Packet flow between node <i>i</i> to node <i>j</i>	17
Figure 2.5	Flow chart of AODV based CAR	19
Figure 2.6	Topology with one source and one sink	22
Figure 2.7	Chromosome representative for node V_2	24
Figure 2.8	Chromosome structure of permutation representation	26
Figure 2.9	Chromosome structure of GCAR	28
Figure 3.1	Research flow chart	31
Figure 3.2	Process of communication between nodes	32
Figure 3.3	Model of Open Systems Interconnection	33
Figure 3.4	Encode and decode of XOR operator	36
Figure 3.5	Conversation of store-and-forward	37
Figure 3.6	Conversation of network coding	37
Figure 3.7	Conversation in 'X' topology	39
Figure 3.8	Topologies of performing network coding	40
Figure 3.9	Queue flow in buffer	41
Figure 3.10	The route request process of AODV protocol	41
Figure 3.11	The route reply process of AODV protocol	42
Figure 3.12	Flow chart of genetic algorithm	43
Figure 4.1	Transmission and receiving in Open Systems Interconnection	47

Figure 4.2	Broadcast nature of wireless node	49
Figure 4.3	Flow chart of event queue process for simulation	51
Figure 4.4	Timeline of simulation event	51
Figure 4.5	The flow chart of check channel availability process	55
Figure 4.6	Topology of simulation network	63
Figure 4.7	Simulation results of data transmission over time	66
Figure 4.8	Simulation results of average throughput over time	67
Figure 4.9	Buffer in the intermediate node over time	68
Figure 4.10	Simulation results of end-to-end delay for each packet	69
Figure 4.11	Simulation results of energy consumption over packet delivered	70
Figure 5.1	Multicast and unicast transmission	74
Figure 5.2	Effect of packet route toward network coding networks	76
Figure 5.3	Flow chart of GACAR in wireless ad hoc networks	79
Figure 5.4	Example of topology for node to node relationship	81
Figure 5.5	Component of vector equation MALAYSIA SABAH	83
Figure 5.6	Routing motion of GACAR	84
Figure 5.7	Example of selection sort algorithm	85
Figure 5.8	Chromosome string representation	86
Figure 5.9	Random chromosome and the source to the destination node	87
Figure 5.10	Next hop selection criterion	89
Figure 5.11	Maximum search in an array	90
Figure 5.12	Crossover point in parent	92
Figure 5.13	Mutation in chromosome	93
Figure 5.14	5x6 grid topology	95

Figure 5.15	Comparison of data transmitted over time for GACAR and COPE	98
Figure 5.16	Average throughput for GACAR and COPE	99
Figure 5.17	Simulation results of energy consumption over time	100
Figure 6.1	Coding opportunities in path	103
Figure 6.2	Change link selection probability in path	103
Figure 6.3	Block diagram of methods comparison	111
Figure 6.4	Shortest path for topology with state value one	113
Figure 6.5	Optimal path for topology with state value one	114
Figure 6.6	Packets transmitted of ten routes for topology with state value one	115

Figure 6.7 Throughputs of store-and-forward, COPE, and AGACAR 116



LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AI	Artificial Intelligent
ANCHOR	Active NC high-throughput optimizing routing
AODV	Ad Hoc On Demand Distance Vector Routing
CAR	Coding-Aware Routing
COPE	Network Coding in Wireless Network Transmission and Forwarding Structure
CRM	Coding-Aware Routing Metric
CTS	Clear-to-Send
DCAR	Distributed Coding-Aware Routing
EA	Evolutionary Algorithm
ECX	Expected Number of Coded Transmissions
ER	Efficient retransmission
ETX	Expected Transmissions Count Metric
GA	Genetic Algoritm
GACAR	Genetic Algorithm Based Coding-Aware Routing A SABAH
GCAR	Genetic Algorithm Based Coding-Aware Routing In Wireless Mesh Network
ID	Identity
LPF	Linear Programming Based Formulations
NC	Network Coding
NCAR	Network Coding Aware Routing
NCP	Network Coding Problem
NCQEA	Network Coding For Quantum-Inspired Evolutionary Algorithm
NJCAR	Network Joint Coding-Aware Routing
noCoCo	Near-Optimal Co-Ordinated Coding

- **QEA** Quantum-Inspired Evolutionary Algorithm
- **OSI** Open Systems Interconnection
- **ROCX** Opportunistically Coded Exchanges
- **RREP** Route Reply
- **RREQ** Route Request
- **RTS** Request-to-Send



LIST OF SYMBOLS

- ΔBS Best solution that continual appearance
- $|F_i|$ Magnitude of vector *i*
- $|F_d|$ Magnitude of vector destination
- α weighting factor of crossover
- $\alpha_{ei,ej}$ Packet flow from source to next link
- $\beta_{ei,ej}$ Packet flow from intermediate node's link to next node's link
- $c_{k,i,j}$ Amount of traffic between k and i through intermediate node j
- $\varepsilon_{ei,ej}$ Packet flow from intermediate node's link to destination node's link
- η^+ Best individual
- η^- Worst individual
- θ_{ji} Angle between node *i* and *j*
- e_i Link i
- *Euclidean distance*
- E_{Tx} Transmission energy VERSITI MALAYSIA SABAH
- E_{Rx} Receiving energy
- *ETX_{wnc}* Expected transmissions count metric with network coding
- *ETX*_{wonc} Expected transmissions count metric without network coding
 - *F_d* Vector node destination
 - F_{d_x} Position vector x for node destination
 - $F_{d_{y}}$ Position vector y for node destination
 - *F_i* Vector node *i*
 - F_{i_x} Position vector x for node i
 - F_{i_y} Position vector y for node i

- F_x Position vector x
- F_y Position vector y
- F(z) Fitness function of genetic algorithm based coding-aware routing
- G_k Number of current generation

G_{max} Maximum generation

- *i* Number of node
- *j* Number of node
- k Total bits of packet
- k_{ji} Connection between node *i* and *j*
- *l* Ranking of chromosome
- *m*_d mutation rate

m_{max} Maximum mutation rate

- MIQ(l) Modified interference queue
 - *n* Number of node

Ν

- Total of chromosome VERSITI MALAYSIA SABAH
- p_i Probability of link i
- $p_{i_{new}}$ New probability of the link *i*
- $p_{i_{old}}$ previous probability of the link *i*
- p_l Linear selection probability
- *P*_{link} Packet loss probability
- p_{max} Maximum of probability of the link
- *R* Regenerate quantity
- *R_{max}* Maximum quantity of regenerate chromosome
- $r_{i,j}$ probability of two-way successful transmission between *i* and *j*

- T Trigger value to regenerate
- *x* Node x-axis position
- $x_{i,j}$ Link quantity require between *i* and *j*
- y Node y-axis position



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Wireless Networks

Wireless technology for data transmission is introduced since World War II. Instead of being a tool for destruction during the war, wireless technologies today increase the human productivity and simplify the daily work. Wireless networks are widely used in industries and at home due to the mobility, wide signal coverage, robustness, reliable connectivity, easily deployed at low cost without relying on the existing infrastructure. Different names have been specified for wireless networks according to their application types, such as wireless mesh networks, wireless sensor networks, vehicular networks, and mobile ad hoc networks (Akyildiz *et al.,* 2002; Akyildiz and Xudong, 2005; Hartenstein and Laberteaux, 2008; Tracy *et al.,* 2002).

In general, a wireless network has multiple wireless nodes to form a network. Every node in a wireless network will communicate with each other by transmitting packets between the nodes. A source node is referring to a starting point for the information packet to be transmitted whereas the destination node is the end point to receive the information packet. In the wireless network, if source node and destination node are too far away from each other, the information packet will be transmitted to intermediate node(s) before forwarding to the destination. The communications protocols between the nodes are standardised by open system interconnection (OSI), which is a conceptual model of communication. In the physical layers of OSI model, a set of physical layer standard which is known as IEEE 802.11 standard is used to standardise the communication frequency band of wireless networks. In the conventional wireless network, merely receive, transmit, and forward information is referred to as store-and-forward method, where no additional information processing happens at the intermediate nodes. The throughput provided by conventional wireless networks using store-and-forward method is limited. The throughput means the successful information transmitted

through a second, with the unit bit per second (*bps*). Therefore, a new protocol to improve the throughput of the conventional store-and-forward method is introduced, which is network coding (NC) (Ahlswede *et al.*, 2000). Unlike store-and-forward, NC can process the information packet in the intermediate node before forwarding the packet to the destination node.

1.2 Routing in Wireless Ad Hoc Networks

In wireless ad hoc networks, every wireless node will transmit the packet to intermediate nodes if the packet cannot be directly transmitted to the destination. During receiving, the node will store the packet in a buffer (which acts as storage) before the packet is forwarded to the next hop. If the node is receiving more than transmitting, the packet quantity on the buffer will slowly increase. The conventional store-and-forward queues up and transmits the packet one by one until all packets in the buffer are transmitted. On the contrary, NC allows each node on the network to combine multiple packets before forwarding them. In other words, NC allows the buffer to queue multiple packets in a transmission.

For NC to take place in the wireless networks, the NC opportunities, whether a packet is transmitted with or without NC, is determined by the buffer's queue state at a given node (Wei *et al.*, 2007). The improvement on the buffer's queue state handling at a given node will be discussed in Chapter 3. Besides the buffer queue state, the instantaneous link conditions between nodes could also affect the chances of NC to happen. Hiroyuki and Peter (2007) tried to improve the NC by opportunistic scheduling the packets for transmission according to the on-the-spot link conditions. Moreover, apart from improving NC locally, NC opportunities can be increased by controlling the flow of the packet (i.e. routing) in terms of global view on the networks, which is controlling the flow of packet by considering the conditions of multiple nodes (Bin *et al.*, 2006; Sengupta *et al.*, 2007; Wei *et al.*, 2009).

Routing is important in NC as a selecting packet path across a network. Conventional routing protocols for wireless networks usually find the shortest path from the source to the destination nodes (Perkins and Royer, 1999). However, the existing of NC changes the conventional way of communication in a wireless network. The shortest path toward the destination is not longer the best way to route packets to destination because NC can reduce the number of transmissions required to deliver the packet to the destination. Some other longer paths may provide more coding opportunities that reduce transmissions while delivering packets. Therefore, routing protocol is important to adapt the NC in order to utilise the potential of NC in wireless networks.

The optimum path to transfer packet from the source to the destination helps improving the wireless NC networks, which is known as route discovery. Minkyu *et al.* (2007a) and Huanlai *et al.* (2008) proposed to use evolutionary approaches to search for the optimal packet transmission path in multicast wireless NC networks. There are two types of routing in wireless ad hoc networks, depending on the application, which are multicast and unicast. Multicast is the flow that transfers packets from a source to a destination. Apart from multicast, Xing *et al.* (2012) proposed to use genetic algorithm (GA) to search for the packet flow in unicast wireless NC networks. GA is a type of optimization technique that based on Darwin's biological evolution process (Kenneth, 2006). GA can iteratively search for optimal path that has more coding opportunities.

This thesis focuses on utilizing NC in the wireless ad hoc network by using GA to search for packet path for the unicast case. Searching the path for unicast packet in wireless NC networks with the awareness of NC is also called as coding-aware routing (CAR). GA proposed path searching for the packet in unicast case, which is developed for this work, is termed as genetic algorithm based coding aware routing (GACAR). GACAR is used to optimize the path of the packet and to increase the throughput of the wireless networks. It is challenging to define the proper parameter values for the solution of GACAR from being trapped at local optimum. To improve the solution of the GACAR, Adaptive GACAR (AGACAR) which considers the selection pressure of the link, the mutation rate, and the reselection rate to control the trade-off balance of exploration and exploitation, will be furthered discussed in Chapter 6.