



DNAmaker: Automation of the construction of long DNA molecules

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arm

ABSTRACT

Today, the community consensus to store digital information on DNA is to use short-single strand DNA (ssDNA) molecules. This approach has some limitations: encoding constraints, DNA stability, recovering DNA, sequencing technology, etc. To overcome them, we chose to store information on long double-strand DNA (dsDNA) molecules. It was the dnarXiv project. As a proof of concept of this design methodology, we encoded the first articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (4.2 ko text document) on a single 24 Kbp DNA molecule. We sequenced this molecule using Nanopore technology and were able to retrieve the original text.

Currently, the construction of long dsDNA molecule is done by "hand". It's time-consuming, not parallelizable and tedious: 4 days to build 1 long DNA molecule. To be convincing, our DNA information storage solution must provide a experimental DNA storage platform with scale-up capacity. In this end, DNAmaker project aim to fully automated the DNA construction part of the dnarXiv pipeline with high flexibility in procotols.

DNAmaker AIM AND EXPERIMENT



Aim: automated the building of long dsDNA molecule

Biological operations: restriction endonuclease, DNA ligase and DNA polymerase

- --> On OT-2 which has different modules to perform multiple enzymatic operations.
- --> Assembly method was publied on Biotechniques:

Fully in vitro iterative construction of a 24 kb-long artificial DNA sequence to store digital information - J. Leblanc, O. Boulle, E. Roux, J. Nicolas, D. Lavenier, Y. Audic

Handling operations: move 96-well plates between the storage platform (fridge) and the OT-2 automaton with the DOBOT arm.

Experiment: automated build, store and read dsDNA molecules coding for the 30 articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (8.7 ko text document)

Computer operation

Automatic operation

Manual operation

MG400 Robotic Arm by DOBOT

Externalised

On computer

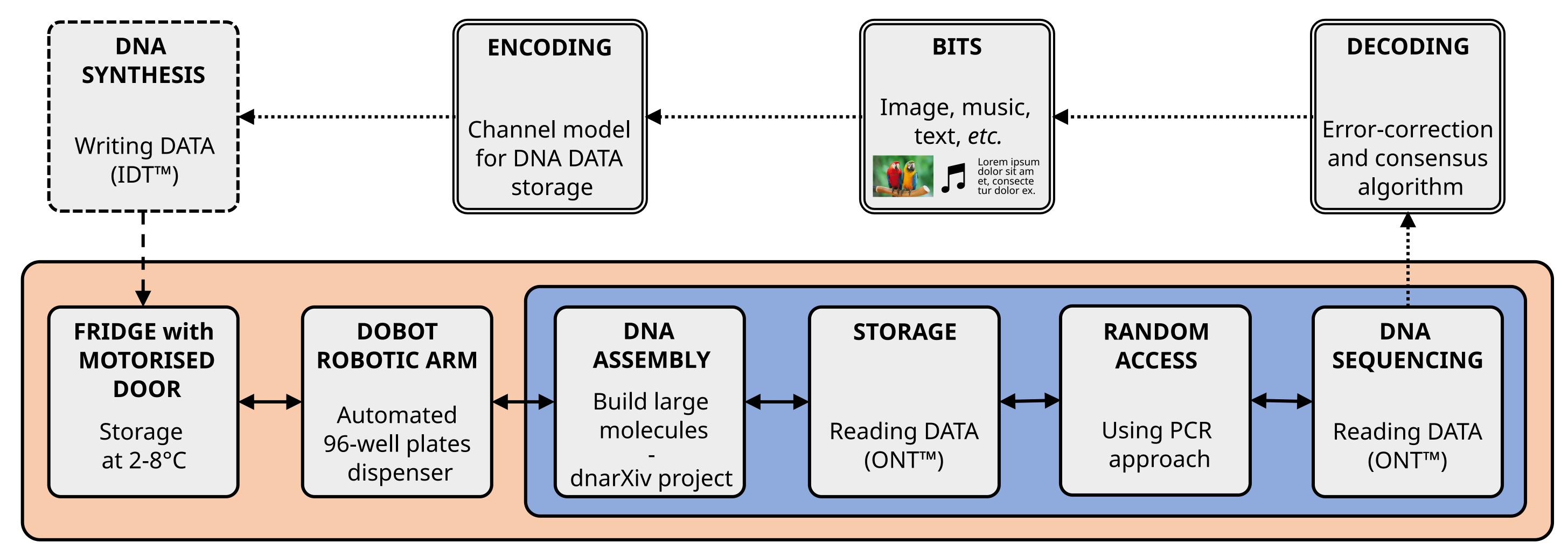
On DNAmaker platform

--> Developement: communication and coordination between OT-2 automaton, DOBOT robot and the motorized door refrigerator.

--> Programming: in Python language. Run on local server with Jupiter Notebook.

--> Protocol optimizing and validation by proof in real conditions.

DNAmaker WORKFLOW OVERVIEW



Watch it on YouTube!





Workflow module

OT-2 automaton

DNAmaker platform