Tourism itinerary recommendation using vehicle routing problem time windows and analytics hierarchy process

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ABSTRACT

Bandung and Lembang are cities that are chosen by tourists as their destinations. Even though these cities are located side-by-side, each city has different characteristics. Bandung has many hotels and culinary spots, meanwhile, Lembang has many scenery spots. Tourists usually have limited time to visit all the destinations on holiday, which makes them choose several destinations. This paper proposes a tourism itinerary recommendation system based on the calculation of the most optimal route between destinations using the vehicle routing problem with time windows (VRPTW). Later, the optimal route is defined using the shortest path algorithm (Dijkstra). Data for the algorithm came from the collaboration between the several road information and criteria weights that are determined using the analytics hierarchy process (AHP). According to the simulation, the criteria weights are 6.9%, 62.7%, 18.6%, and 11.9% for route length, traffic condition, travel time, and weather condition, respectively. Moreover, the optimal number of tourism itinerary plans is 4 destinations. As the usage of computational resources, it takes 31.8% and 61.9% of CPU and memory usage. The time processing increases exponentially as the increment of the number of requested stops. The output of this research is expected to be a solution to the tourist itinerary plan.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Bandung is one of the favorite destinations for tourists in Indonesia, which commonly comes from nearby big cities, such as Jakarta and Bekasi. Along with the rise of the tourist's number that come to Bandung city, the traffic rose especially in the weekend and holiday seasons. It is proven based on Nasution *et al.* [1], who stated that the traffic condition gets worse on weekends. The things that are getting worse are not only the traffic on the road, but also the tourism spot is getting more crowded than before. The destination of tourism in Bandung is not limited to the central of Bandung, but also the other sister city that is located near Bandung, called Lembang which has various kinds of tourism, such as culinary, scenery, and playground. According to the information from the West Bandung regency government, which is the government of Lembang, they claimed that Lembang had more than 50 destinations for tourists in all categories mentioned earlier.

As previously mentioned, the rise in the number of tourists, which comes from local and other cities, made the traffic in Bandung and Lembang get worse and made the queues in the tourism spots longer than usual. This condition makes some tourists only able to visit one or two spots in Lembang before they come back to their Hotel in Bandung. This situation made the tourists waste their time and money when visiting

Bandung and Lembang. Until now, there is no proper recommendation system for providing visitation to multiple tourism spots that consider the preferences of the tourists. According to this problem, we proposed a recommendation system for tourists in the cities of Bandung and Lembang that considers the preferences of the user in order to make the trip more effective in terms of visiting time and traveling experience.

The tourist recommendation system has been developed by many researchers since a long time ago. It tries to calculate the shortest path or decides the tourist destinations, in the process of finding the destinations it can be measured based on the point of interest (POI) such as scenic aspects [2] and historical aspects [3] on its routes, or specific activities on the destinations [4]. As an example, Zakariya *et al.* [5], count the landscape character of the area in defining the travel routes in order to enrich the travel experience. In addition, Fitriansyah *et al.* [6], try to determine the shortest route as the best path to destinations for the tourist in Bali. Overall, the research in finding the best route in tourism commonly uses Dijkstra as its approach by measuring the least route length or the shortest time travel [6]–[8].

The tourism guidance recommender system is an innovation to improve the tourism experience effectively by recommending several tourism spots to be visited by considering several factors, including the preferences of the tourist [9]. The recommender system calculates the best route for visiting tourism spots by using any shortest path finder algorithms, such as the A* algorithm to find the best route for tourism spots in the Philippines [10]. Along with the shortest path technique development, a process of finding the best path to destinations is implemented using the travel salesman problem (TSP) approach [11]. In this method, the route that calculated by trying to find the list that can be reached easily by the salesmen (or tourists). As for an adjustment, the TSP concept is used in vehicle routing problems (VRP) for an approach to distribution and logistics [12]. There are several variations of VRP with different types of characteristics and constraints, such as a constraint on vehicle's capacity (which is called a capacitated vehicle routing problem; CVRP) and a constraint on time window (vehicle routing problem with time windows; (VRPTW). Since CVRP and VRPTW are non-deterministic polynomial-time hard (NP-hard) optimization problems, it is a common practice to use metaheuristic algorithms in an attempt to find solutions to CVRP and VRPTW, such as ant colony algorithm [12], [13] and particle swarm optimization [14], [15]. Another novel stochastic method is also proposed to solve VRP by using the so-called discrete differential evolution (DDE) algorithm [16]. To optimize the process of finding the solution, a preprocessing technique can also be implemented in the VRP [17]. It can be implemented in deciding the tourist itinerary based on several parameters such as time, capacity, and other parameters that could be related to tourism [11].

The tourist preferences aspects must be considered in order to define best routes to the destinations. It can be measured based on traffic conditions. These values can combined with the measurement of best routes by using the analytics hierarchy process (AHP) approach [18], especially in defining the weight in the criteria of traffic conditions by measuring the priority between the calculation of criteria.

In this paper, a recommendation system for a tourist itinerary plan is proposed by finding the best routes between tourism spots which will be collaborated with the VRPs based on time windows. The route is defined not only by the minimum length between origin and destination, but also considering other road information, such as time travel, traffic, and weather conditions. The collaboration between these criteria can be used as a new definition for finding the best route from an origin to a destination [19]–[21]. Each criterion's weight is defined by using the AHP calculation based on a user preference [22].

The development of tourism route recommendations is commonly done by implementing machine learning, which uses a convolutional neural network in the recommendation system [23]. Moreover, several factors are considered in tourism route recommendations besides the shortest travel time, such as scenery [24], and landscape character [5]. In general, the route recommendation systems in tourism areas only have one destination for their itinerary [25], [26]. On the other hand, this paper provides a route recommendation system based on multiple road criteria to determine the pairs of tourism spots at the designated time.

The structure of this paper is as follows: section 1 discusses the problems that arise from real situations in tourism, especially in Bandung and Lembang. As in section 2, the discussion is on the research methods that support this research. The simulation result and the discussion will be shown in section 3. Finally, in section 4 the conclusion and future works for the recommendation for tourist itineraries are defined.

2.   METHOD

This paper proposes a recommendation system for tourist itineraries based on the rating of the tourism spots and considering the optimal route between destinations. The itinerary plan will suggest the tourists visit several tourism spots. The selection of tourism spots can be done by implementing the VRP which tries to find the optimal number of tourist destinations that might be visited by tourists by considering some aspects, such as visiting time, and number of visitors [27].

Commonly, the limitation in tourist itineraries is about the visiting time in the destinations. The tourism plan must be arranged carefully by observing the time aspects. The extension of VRP, which considers the time aspect is called VRP time windows (VRPTW) [28]. This method is suitable to be used in tourism since there are several time constraints, such as opening, closing, visiting, travel time between the previous spot to the next tourism spot, and other time aspects that might affect the tourist's itinerary plan [29], [30]. In determining tourism spots that might be visited by the tourists, the system calculates the best route between the destinations based on several road conditions or criteria. It is calculated based on the road infrastructure (road length), and road traffic (traffic conditions, travel time, and weather conditions). These criteria will be compiled into new road weights and could be used as a parameter to define the optimal route to the destinations. Nasution *et al.* [21] proposed the concept of the measurement of road weight based on criteria and driver's preference in 2022. Figure 1 shows the system proposed in this paper. According to Figure 1, there are several steps namely, (i) the collection of road infrastructure; (ii) the collection of road information for each criterion in every road segment; (iii) the best route calculation based on preferences; and (iv) the creation of tourism itinerary plan using VRPTW approach. The proposed system's output will recommend a tourist's itinerary plan.
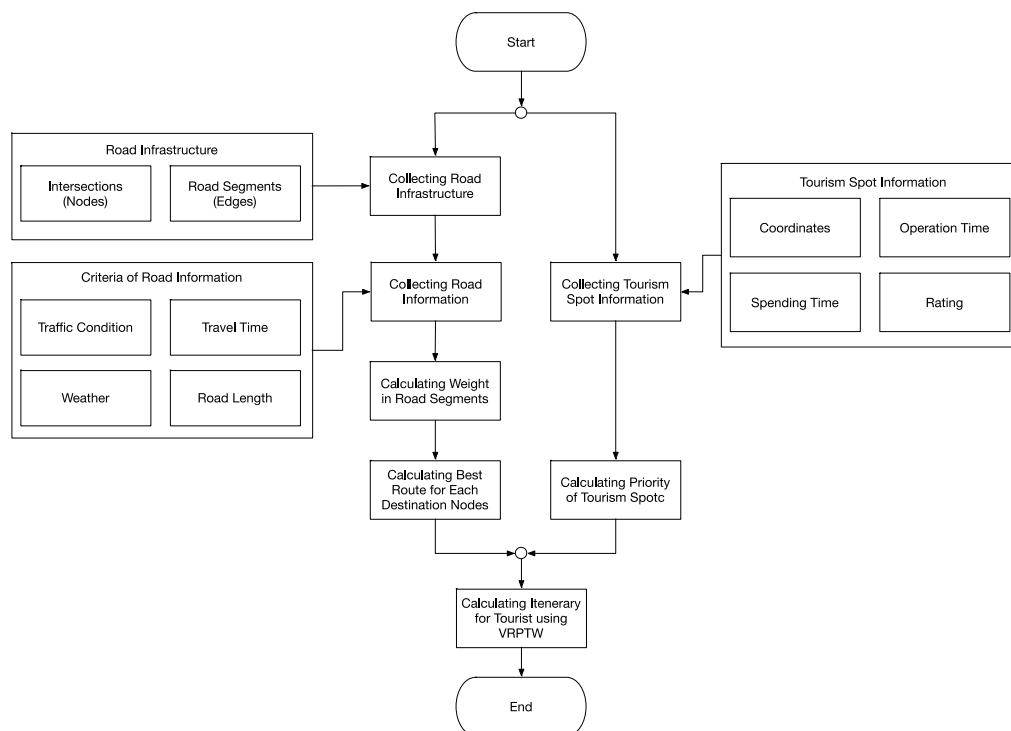

Figure 1. The illustration of the process in the proposed system

2.1. Gathering road information

The road information is gathered from various sources. As previously explained, the road information collected includes road length, traffic conditions, travel time, and weather conditions. From this information, the road length is the only criterion that will not change dynamically. On the other hand, the rest of the criteria can be dynamically changed.

In this paper, the information on road length is taken from open-source digital maps called OpenStreetMaps [31]. The information that can be collected from this source is the length of the road segment, the type of the road, the location of intersections, the connectivity between intersections (road segments). This information will not be changed in a short time, so it is categorized as static information.

The other information is gathered from various services, such as (i) TomTom digital maps that are used in an advanced driving assistance system (ADAS) or a map application in apple devices [32]; and (ii) openWeather which delivers the weather information in a specific coordinate [33]. TomTom will cover several basic information about traffic situations, such as vehicle speed and travel time which both also cover the current and free traffic information. Meanwhile, openWeather collects the weather information in the observation areas. This information is categorized as dynamic information since it can be changed every time.

2.1.1. Road infrastructure

The infrastructure of the road is illustrated as a road network which generally has at least two nodes that are connected using an edge. According to George and Kim [34], the mathematical model of road infrastructure is shown in (1). It shows that a graph G is built from a set of nodes N and edges E. In each edge, there is a set of weights w that could be any road criterion mentioned earlier. Moreover, the variation of weight w could be the number of incoming and outgoing lanes in the intersection [35], travel time [14], [36]–[38], route length [39], or the collaboration of several weights [21], [40].

$$G = (N, E, w) \tag{1}$$

OpenStreetMap is a digital map system that provides basic information about the observation area. As mentioned at the beginning of this paper, the observation area is in Bandung and Lembang city, Indonesia. The size of these two cities is 167.3 and 95.56 km^2 geographically located in the range of coordinates (-6.83693, 107.54499) to (-6.96987, 107. 73983) and (-6.75604, 107.57134) to (-6.86499, 107.6610) for Bandung and Lembang respectively. Based on the prior result of collecting road information, Bandung has 28,879 nodes which are connected to 68,029 edges. Meanwhile, in Lembang, there are 5,336 nodes and 12,070 edges that cover the city. This information for the observed area is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. The information of the observation area

Area	Latitude	Longitude	No. of nodes	No. of edges
Bandung	Min: -6.83693	Min: 107.54499	28,879	68,029
	Max: -6.96987	Max: 107.73983		
Lembang	Min: -6.75604	Min: 107.57134	5,336	12,070
	Max: -6.86499	Max: 107.6610		

These two cities are located side-by-side. Lembang is located in the north-west of Bandung. Figure 2 shows the observation area, which located in Bandung and Lembang city. In detail, Figure 2(a) shows the observed area in Bandung city, and Figure 2(b) shows the area in Lembang city that was observed in this study. As the function of these cities, Lembang has more tourism spots than Bandung, since Lembang has lots of hills it makes this city unique, and it is able to attract more tourists. On the other hand, Bandung has comfier places to stay and a better place to eat. Based on this condition, this paper arranged Lembang as the destination in the tourism itinerary and Bandung as the origin and the last destination. Later in this paper, these cities will be combined into one area.

The collection of road information is done by using OpenStreetMaps which provides the infrastructure information for each intersection and road segment. In this paper, the information from OpenStreetMaps gathered using the OSMNX library in Python. According to the OSMNX, these two cities have 34,215 intersections and 80,099 road segments.

The number of road segments must be pruned by its type, since there is a road segment that is categorized as private roads, such as residential, and living street. It must be done in order to reduce the computational cost because it only needs less road segment (edge) to be calculated in finding the best route. Furthermore, the unused intersections are also pruned automatically if there is no road segment connected to the intersections.

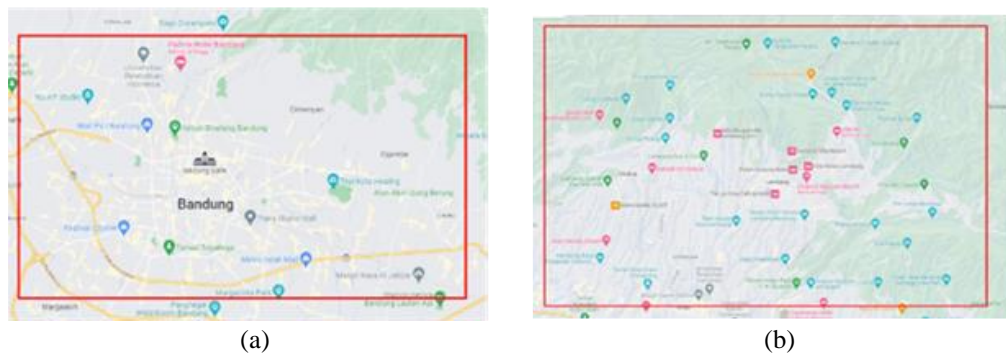(a)   (b)

Figure 2. The observation areas in this work cover (a) Bandung city and (b) Lembang city

2.1.2. Traffic condition

According to the road infrastructure in Bandung and Lembang, the number of lanes in these cities is dominated by the 2 lanes, 2 ways undivided (2/2UD), especially on the road that connects these two cities. Based on the Indonesian highway capacity manual (MKJI 1997) [41], the traffic condition on this type of road is already formulated by using the speed of the vehicle and the saturation degree for each road segment. In Figure 3, the relationship between the vehicle's speed and saturation degree (SD) is shown. As seen in the figure, a higher saturation degree will make the vehicle's speed lower. This connection between these two variables is linear until the saturation degree reaches 80%. Nasution *et al.* [1] formulated the relationship between a vehicle's speed and saturation degree for a 2/2UD road segment. By using (2), the value of saturation degree (SD) is calculated based on the current vehicle speed (V) and the average vehicle's speed when the traffic is free (V_{ff}).

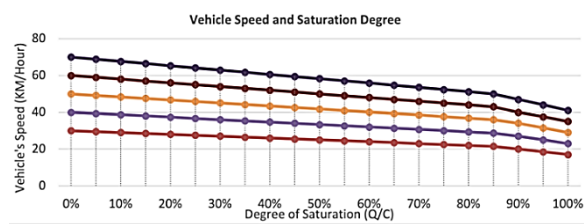$$SD = 3\left(1 - \frac{V}{V_{ff}}\right) \tag{2}$$

Figure 3. The graph that shows the relationship between the vehicle's speed and saturation degree

The value of the saturation degree that has been calculated will be categorized in order to find the traffic level. The level of traffic can be categorized into several levels, as Nasution *et al.* [1], tried to divide it into 4 levels. On the other hand, the transportation bureau in Indonesia categorized the level of traffic into 6 levels, where level A shows the lowest traffic (free flow) and F as the highest traffic (severe congestion) [42]. In the traffic level F, the congestion that occurs on the road can't be solved by using the common solution; the final solution for this level is more likely towards infrastructure improvement. In this paper, the traffic level will adopt the categorization from the transportation bureau with some adjustments, especially in the definition of lower and upper boundary in traffic congestion. In (3) is used to determine the traffic level based on the saturation degree.

$$TC = \begin{cases} A, & 0\ \%\leq SD<16.67\ \% \\ B, & 16.67\ \%\leq SD<33.33\ \% \\ C, & 33.33\ \%\leq SD<50\ \% \\ D, & 50\ \%\leq SD<66.67\ \% \\ E, & 66.67\ \%\leq SD<83.33\ \% \\ F, & 83.33\ \%\leq SD \end{cases} \tag{3}$$

The information needed in the traffic level calculation is gathered from TomTom digital maps. Figure 4 shows the response from TomTom digital maps for a specific location. As seen in the figure, the information given by TomTom includes vehicle speed and travel time in current conditions and when the traffic level is low. By using (2) and (3) the traffic condition for a specific road segment is determined. Furthermore, the value of traffic level will be used as an estimation of the real traffic situation for each road segment that is observed. This value is also used in the calculation of road weight in order to define the best route to the destinations with other criteria.

Figure 4. The example of TomTom traffic information response

2.1.3. Weather information

As an important additional criterion, the weather information is also being collected by using the openWeather service [33]. It delivers the information of the weather based on the designated coordinates when the request is sent to their server. As the server responds, it will give specific information related to the weather conditions, temperature, humidity, and the direction of wind.

The most important information related to the study is the weather conditions, whereas the rest of the information could be ignored. In the process of gathering the weather information, there will be an adjustment on the weather level, since Indonesia has two kinds of seasons, namely dry and rainy seasons. Meanwhile, according to openWeather's documentation, the weather condition is scattered into other variations, such as snow, and tornado. Based on this situation, the adjustment must be done in other to fit the server's responses and the real weather conditions in Indonesia. Table 2 shows the result of the adjustment in weather conditions used in this paper.

Table 2. Simplification of weather information

Detailed condition	Simplified weather condition
Clear sky, few, scatter, broken, and overcast clouds	Dry
Light, moderate, heavy intensity, and very heavy rain	Rain

2.2. Route planning

As an approach to model the travel route, the concept of finding the best route between nodes is applied by connecting all nodes that are used as the destinations. The full-mesh network is used as a concept in order to find the best scheme for designing the tourism itinerary. In a full-mesh network, nodes will be connected. In a road network, every node will have several alternative routes to connect each node that is used in the network. Based on this situation, route planning is used to define the optimal route between alternatives in each connected node.

As mentioned in the previous section, in the step of calculating the optimal route, the system requires several criteria that represent the situation on the road, namely road length, traffic conditions, travel time, and weather conditions. These criteria will be compiled into new road weights. The compilation will use the sum additive weight (SAW) which gives the priority or weight for each criterion [43]. The priority value will be defined by using the AHP approach [22]. AHP can determine the priority level for criteria by measuring the preference of the user [44].

2.2.1. Road weight calculations

The criteria weight calculation in the AHP method can be done based on personal or group preferences. AHP considers the decision maker's opinion in determining the criteria weight. In this study, the role of decision-makers is on the tourists. The criteria weight in AHP is formulated based on the comparison between two criteria and it must be compared for all criteria that are used in the measurement. As shown in Table 3, the sample criteria importance comparison between criteria is done.

Table 3. Comparison between criteria importance

Preferences	Criteria 1	Criteria 2	Criteria 3	Criteria 4
Criteria 1	1	3	3	5
Criteria 2	1/3	1	1/5	1/3
Criteria 3	1/3	5	1	7
Criteria 4	1/5	3	1/7	1

As the criteria weight calculation in AHP, the importance level has ranged from 1 to 9 [45], with each value describing its importance. The value 1 in the criteria comparison describes the importance level between two criteria as the same, meanwhile, value 9 describes one of the criteria as extremely stronger than the other one. That means the higher value illustrates that one criterion is more important than the other [46].

By the time, the comparison between criteria is collected, the calculation is continued in order to find the criteria weight (averaged value in the same row). At first, all the criteria's value in the same column is added, as shown in Table 4. All values in the criteria's comparison will be normalized by the summation value. Meanwhile, in Table 5, it shows the normalized value based on the summation value calculated in Table 4. On the right side of Table 5, the averaged value (initial criteria weight) for each criterion is shown.

Table 4. Summation for each criterion in the same column

	Criteria 1	Criteria 2	Criteria 3	Criteria 4
Criteria 1	1	3	3	5
Criteria 2	1/3	1	1/5	1/3
Criteria 3	1/3	5	1	7
Criteria 4	1/5	3	1/7	1
Total	1.867	12	4.343	13.333

At the time the initial criteria weights are calculated, it must be checked for consistency. In (4) to (6) are used as a consistency checking formula [47]. As seen in (4), the calculation of the total number of criteria in the same row (x) and the number of initial criteria weights (x') will measure the value of lambda (λ) which is shown as the eigenvalue. The maximum eigenvalue (λ_{max}) will be used in further calculation, as shown in (5). The consistency index (CI) is determined based on the λ_{max} and the number of criteria (n). In the end, the consistency ratio (CR) is determined by dividing the consistency index and a constant ratio index value (RI) as shown in (6). The consistency ratio must have a value less than or equal to 0.1 ($CR \leq 0.1$). If the value of CR is greater than the threshold, the criteria comparison must be recalculated until its value reaches the threshold.

Table 5. Normalization and initiation of criteria weight

	Criteria 1	Criteria 2	Criteria 3	Criteria 4	Criteria weight (averaged row)
Crit. 1	0.536	0.250	0.691	0.375	0.463
Crit. 2	0.179	0.083	0.046	0.025	0.083
Crit. 3	0.179	0.417	0.230	0.525	0.338
Crit. 4	0.107	0.250	0.033	0.075	0.116

$$\lambda = \frac{x'}{x} \tag{4}$$

$$CI = \frac{(\lambda_{max} - 1)}{(n - 1)} \tag{5}$$

$$CR = \frac{CI}{RI} \tag{6}$$

On the other hand, the initial criteria weight is changed into the final criteria weight at the time the CR is less or equal to 0.1. In (7) shows the measurement of the compilation of weight using the SAW method as previously mentioned. The value of weight (W_{pref}) is measured by all values of criteria weight (w_n) and the criteria value (C_n) as shown in (7). In this paper, the value of W_{pref} shows the new weight for every road segment and it will be used as a parameter in calculating the recommended optimal route for the tourists.

$$W_{pref} = w_1 C_1 + w_2 C_2 + w_3 C_3 + \cdots + w_n C_n \tag{7}$$

2.2.2. Shortest path calculations

There are lots of shortest-path calculation methods that can be applied to find the optimal route between destinations, such as Dijkstra [48], A* [49], and Floyd-Warshall [50], [51]. However, the most common algorithm used in calculating the shortest path is Dijkstra and A* [52]–[55]. In Dijkstra, the shortest route is determined by calculating the edge's weight in a graph [56], [57]. This method has vast improvements, such as the addition of a probabilistic feature in defining the route [58], and dynamic route optimization [48]. Dijkstra also could be implemented for single-source or all-pair shortest path cases. On the other hand, A* measures the shortest path based on the heuristic and cost calculation [52].

In this paper, the implementation of the shortest path algorithm aims to find the optimal path for all pairs of destinations in the observation area. It means the calculation result must deliver the most optimal route for each destination. By using the networkX library in Python, the k-best shortest path can be defined, as Nasution et al. did in 2022 [21]. As mentioned in the previous section, the determination of the shortest path will be using several criteria, such as road length, traffic conditions, travel time, and weather conditions. The shortest path will be focused on finding the route with the lowest cost among the other alternatives.

2.3. Tourism spot information

As explained in the earlier section, Lembang has lots of tourism spots for local and foreign tourists. According to the data from the Tourism Bureau of West Bandung Regency, there are more than 50 spots for

scenery, cuisine, and culture spread in the area of West Bandung Regency. In this paper, the simulation is done by using only 18 spots that are in Lembang. Table 6 shows the detailed tourism spots used in the simulation. The table shows the specific location of every spot (location name and coordinates), its opening and closing time, the common duration that is taken in every spot, and its rating.

Table 6. Information on several tourism spots

Name of tourism spots	Coordinates	Opening time	Closing time	Duration	Rating
Farmhouse Lembang	-6.832751, 107.605311	32,400	72,000	10,800	4.4
Dusun Bambu	-6.789715, 107.579163	36,000	72,000	10,800	4.5
Floating Market Lembang	-6.81979, 107.618408	32,400	68,400	10,800	4.5
Tebing Keraton	-6.834154, 107.663733	28,800	52,200	7,200	4.5
Gunung Batu Lembang	-6.830264, 107.636098	0	86,400	14,400	4.6
Curug Dago Pakar	-6.865551, 107.618148	28,800	61,200	7,200	4.1
Taman Begonia	-6.826042, 107.63835	25,200	61,200	7,200	4.4
Grafika Cikole	-6.785136, 107.651469	28,800	57,600	10,800	4.4
Kampung Gajah Wonderland	-6.829372, 107.595603	28,800	64,800	14,400	4.2

Meanwhile, there is only one node that is used as a departure point in this paper. It will function as a source and sink node in the VRPTW. It is placed in the middle of Bandung city since it has relatively similar distance to all destinations that are used in this paper. Table 7 shows the detailed location of the source and sink nodes. Commonly, a hotel is open 24 hours, but in this study, the opening time is set as the departure time. Since this location is used as the initial departure and destination, the duration in this location will be set as 0.

Table 7. Departure and arrival location

Location	Coordinates	Opening time	Closing time	Duration
Santika	-6.907670, 107.611769	25,200	72,000	0

2.4. VRP time windows

VRP is a method that tries to solve the vehicle's routing using constraints, such as time, capacity, and maximum stops. For example, the derivative methods of VRP are the CVRP [59], fleet size VRP [60], and VRPTW [30]. In CVRP, the main constraint used to solve the routing problem is the number of capacities that can be carried by vehicles at all stop points [61], [62]. Meanwhile, in fleet-size VRP find the number of vehicles to solve all the problems that arise from the demand (users) [63]. VRPTW which is the derivative version of VRP, solved the problem based on time constraints [15], such as travel time, operational time, interval time, and other time aspects [28].

$$T_c = T_{st} + T_{sv} + T_t \qquad (8)$$

VRPTW needs several pieces of information related to locations that must be visited, such as the earliest time arrived in the location, travel time between destinations, and common service time in each destination. In (8) illustrates the calculation of consumption time (T_c) based on the starting time (T_{st}), service time (T_{sv}), and travel time (T_t). VRPTW must be able to calculate the travel route based on the time windows that may appear differently for each destination.

3. SIMULATION RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The proposed system is simulated in a computer that has 2 GHz Quad-Core Intel Core i5 as its processor, and 16 GB 3733 MHz DDR4. The simulation is divided into several important steps, namely information collection, optimal travel route between tourism spots, and tourism itinerary recommendation system using VRPTW. The main output from the proposed system is the recommendation of a tourism itinerary that has the highest rating compared with other itineraries.

3.1. Road information

The required information is gathered from several sources. In this subsection, the discussion is on the results of collecting information from its sources. The results in this step are the information on the road infrastructures, calculation of traffic conditions, and weather conditions. On the other hand, the travel time is only calculated based on the length of each road and the vehicle's speed.

3.1.1. Road infrastructure

In the initial stage of information collection of the road infrastructure in Bandung and Lembang, the number of intersections and road segments is 34,215 and 80,099 respectively. Figure 5 shows the road infrastructure in the observed areas. Specifically, Figure 5(a) shows the road infrastructure in Bandung city, and Figure 5(b) shows the connection between roads in Lembang city. This information is gathered from OpenStreetMaps using the OSMNX library in Python. Later, both infrastructures will be combined as one map.

(a)   (b)
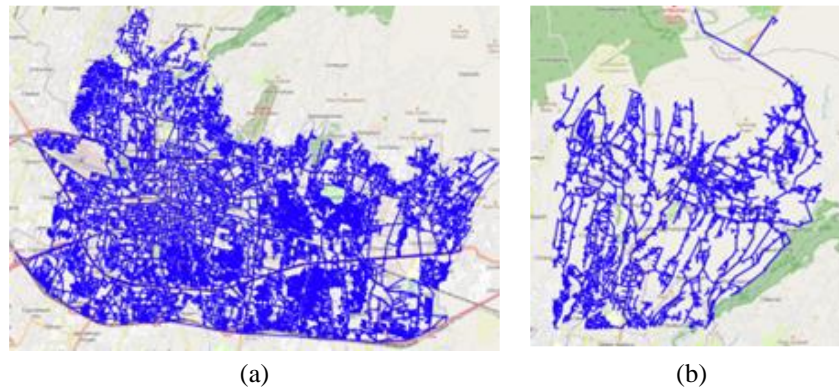
Figure 5. The visualization of nodes and edges on the observation area (a) Bandung and (b) Lembang

As shown in Figure 6, the result of combining the city of Bandung and Lembang succeeded. It also can be seen that both cities are connected based on their intersections and road segments. As mentioned in the previous section, there will be a pre-processing by eliminating several road types. In general, the road types that must be eliminated are roads with the residential access, and private roads. Figure 6(a) shows the observation areas with full road segments. As a result of the reduction process, Figure 6(b) shows that the number of road segments is reduced from 80,099 to 13,150. This means the pre-processing stage reduces the road segments by about 83.58%. This process aims to reduce the computational process, not only in the context of saving resources, but also in the time requirements.

(a)   (b)
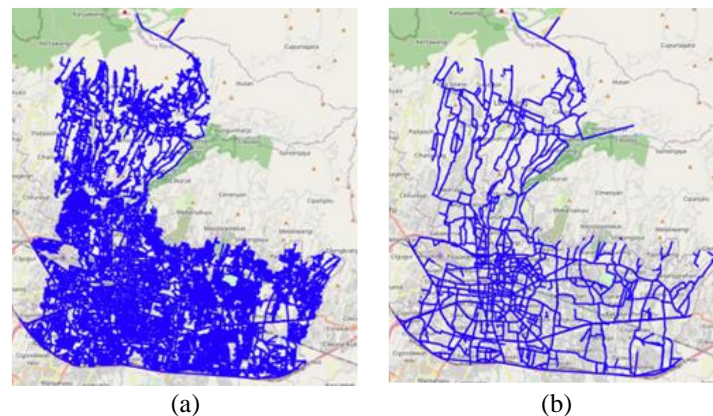
Figure 6. Combination of the observation areas with (a) full road segments and (b) reduced road segments

3.1.2. Traffic condition

In this step, the calculation of traffic conditions is realized based on the responses of TomTom digital maps. Table 8 shows some samples of calculation results from TomTom's responses from several locations. Traffic condition is determined by using vehicle speed both in current and traffic-free situations. Since, the road type in the observation area is 2/2UD, the (1) is used to determine the saturation degree.

The traffic information shown in Table 8, was gathered on October 25th, 2023, at 6 AM. As seen in the table, several road segments have traffic levels as follows: E, F, D, and A. These values are determined using (2), which is used to categorize the traffic condition according to its saturation degree. According to the calculation result, there is a saturation degree of more than 100%. Based on (2), this traffic level will be

defined as class F. Later, this value will be adjusted into numerical form, so the traffic levels A to F will be changed into levels 1 to 6 respectively and this number will be normalized to have 0 to 1 as it ranges. Meanwhile, the information on travel time will be recalculated by using vehicle speed and the road length. It must be done since TomTom takes it from several roads that are directly connected to the location's coordinates.

Table 8. The calculation of traffic conditions based on TomTom road information

Time	Location	Current speed (KpH)	Free flow speed (KpH)	Current travel time (s)	Free flow travel time (s)	Saturation degree (%)	Traffic condition (A-F)
06:07:38	-6.8815738, 107.5787958	47	61	531	409	68.852	E
06:07:49	-6.8698634, 107.5814747	45	61	554	409	78.689	E
06:09:00	-6.9077766, 107.5723946	42	60	594	416	90	F
06:12:26	-6.8656363, 107.5818828	39	69	649	416	130.435	F
06:12:26	-6.8641757, 107.5814459	58	71	306	250	54.930	D
06:43:43	-6.9348241, 107.6232444	77	77	1,222	1,222	0	A

3.1.3. Weather condition
In this step, the realization of the weather information is done. To reduce the computational cost, there will be a step of simplification of requested weather data. It is common, that several areas have similar weather. According to this condition, the observation area will be divided into several sectors.

Figure 7 shows the illustration of sectors that are used in gathering the weather information. In the observation area, there will be 16 sectors. If there is any data requested by the system, there are only 16 requests at one time. Whenever a road segment needs weather information, it will refer to the nearest sector.

Figure 7. Sectors for the collection of weather condition

3.2. Road weight compilation
This step needs at least two components, (i) road information that is gathered by using many sources, and (ii) the measurement of tourist preferences. In this paper, the criteria that will be compared are the road length, traffic conditions, travel time, and weather conditions. By the time, the road information and preferences are collected, the compilation of the road weight began.

3.2.1. Criteria weight compilation
In the approach of criteria weight compilation, the preference from a tourist is needed. They will be asked about the 4 criteria that mentioned before. The number of criteria comparisons can be determined by using (9), n is the number of criteria that tried to be compared. Indirectly, the number of comparisons will be increased along with the number of criteria.

$$Comparison = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} n - i \qquad (9)$$

In this paper, the number of criteria that are compared is 4. This means there will be 6 comparisons of criteria that will be asked to the tourists. Table 9 shows the pairwise comparison of the criteria from a tourist. It can be seen that the comparison value between similar criteria will be set as 1. Meanwhile, the compared criteria can have various importance levels, as shown in the table, route length has less importance level than traffic condition (1:7). On the other hand, the comparison between traffic condition and route length is the reciprocal value (7:1) of the comparison of the route length and traffic condition.

Table 9. Criteria comparison based on tourist preferences

Preferences	Route length	Traffic condition	Travel time	Weather
Route length	1	1/7	1/3	1/2
Traffic condition	7	1	5	5
Travel time	3	1/5	1	2
Weather	2	1/5	1/2	1
Total	13,000	1,543	6,833	8,500

By the time the comparison of criteria is done, the process of criteria weight measurement begins with adding the values that appear in the same column. As seen in the last row of Table 9 shows the result of the addition of the criteria value in the same column which will be used in the normalization process. Meanwhile, Table 10 shows the normalization using the addition result as mentioned in Table 9. Each normalized value in the criteria comparison will be averaged for each row. As seen on the right side of Table 10, the initial criteria weight is determined. Later, these numbers can be used as the final weight if the process of consistency ratio calculation is done and its value is lower than 0.1.

Table 10. Normalization and criteria weight initialization

Preferences	Route length	Traffic condition	Travel time	Weather	Criteria weight (Avg)
Route length	0.077	0.093	0.049	0.059	0.069
Traffic condition	0.538	0.648	0.732	0.588	0.627
Travel time	0.231	0.130	0.146	0.235	0.186
Weather	0.154	0.130	0.073	0.118	0.119

When the consistency ratio is higher than 0.1, the criteria comparison is not consistent. There must be an adjustment in the criteria comparison. This process must be done repeatedly until the consistency ratio is under the threshold. Table 11 shows the results of the consistency ratio according to the criteria comparison in Table 9.

As seen in Table 11, if the calculation result of the consistency ratio is less than the threshold, the final weight is determined. It appears the initial weight shown in Table 9 is not only the initial weight but also the final criteria weight that can be used in the process of road weight calculation. The criteria weights are 6.9%, 18.6%, 62.7%, and 11.9% for route length, travel time, traffic, and weather condition respectively.

Table 11. The calculation of the consistency ratio

Preference	Route length	Traffic condition	Travel time	Weather	Total	Initialization criteria weight	Eigen value (λ)
Route length	0.069	0.090	0.062	0.059	0.280	0.069	4.040
Traffic condition	0.485	0.627	0.928	0.593	2.632	0.627	4.200
Travel time	0.208	0.125	0.186	0.237	0.756	0.186	4.074
Weather	0.139	0.125	0.093	0.119	0.475	0.119	4.008
						Maximum eigen value (λ_{max})	4.081
						Consistency index (CI)	0.027
						Consistency ratio (CR)	0.030

3.2.2. The best routes calculation

The best route calculation is trying to find the best path between the destinations. As an example, Table 12 shows the result of the best route calculation between the destinations. In the table, there are two simulation results from tourism spots called "*Farmhouse Lembang*" to "*Floating Market Lembang*" and "*Dusun Bambu*" to "*Taman Begonia*".

Table 12. The best route calculation (via nodes)

Origin	Destination	Path (via nodes)
Farmhouse Lembang	Floating market Lembang	[8761228379, 5400248699], [5400248699, 5400248696], [5400248696, 305869145], [305869145, 5400248865], [5400248865, 8760931390], [8760931390, 9852588117], [9852588117, 5397880241], [5397880241, 1013572351], [1013572351, 5416066120], [5416066120, 1947081886], [1947081886, 5397880795], [5397880795, 5397880798], [5397880798, 6056551911], [6056551911, 5397880800], [5397880800, 1013572350], [1013572350, 5864608126], [5864608126, 5397880801], [5397880801, 1013572346], [1013572346, 7284311010], [7284311010, 1942487012], [1942487012, 1942486992], [1942486992, 1942486971], [1942486971, 4705498029], [4705498029, 5416066056], [5416066056, 5394799134], [5394799134, 5394799129], [5394799129, 7284426093], [7284426093, 1837534382], [1837534382, 6056725416], [6056725416, 634441870], [634441870, 634442418], [634442418, 634441900], [634441900, 1942487002], [1942487002, 8879877402], [8879877402, 1942487004], [1942487004, 1942486995], [1942486995, 1942486981], [1942486981, 5394792893], [5394792893, 5394799137], [5394799137, 5394799139], [5394799139, 1942486977], [1942486977, 1942486984]
Dusun Bambu	Taman Begonia	[4119238397, 8410429741], [8410429741, 8759319125], [8759319125, 5852590915], [5852590915, 634454943], [634454943, 5852590936], [5852590936, 8408198279], [8408198279, 6386090342], [6386090342, 9854874644], [9854874644, 7353097673], [7353097673, 3671288846], [3671288846, 4247860639], [4247860639, 5287124277], [5287124277, 4247893016], [4247893016, 5356025600], [5356025600, 3470310971], [3470310971, 5356025393], [5356025393, 5356025390], [5356025390, 5356025620], [5356025620, 4247892991], [4247892991, 3987299360], [3987299360, 3987299361], [3987299361, 5287048116], [5287048116, 634455275], [634455275, 634455279], [634455279, 6385344985], [6385344985, 634455292], [634455292, 1947086762], [1947086762, 1947086761], [1947086761, 634455308], [634455308, 3976361389], [3976361389, 7480019079], [7480019079, 5426148707], [5426148707, 5864807973], [5864807973, 3110200349], [3110200349, 5369327473], [5369327473, 3110224312], [3110224312, 3110224316], [3110224316, 3110224319], [3110224319, 3110214291], [3110214291, 6021063501], [6021063501, 3110214304], [3110214304, 3110214932], [3110214932, 3110214949], [3110214949, 3110225041], [3110225041, 1931997172], [1931997172, 6054277318], [6054277318, 5397880753], [5397880753, 1933113076], [1933113076, 3110200563], [3110200563, 5153610086], [5153610086, 5153610098], [5153610098, 634455123], [634455123, 7483750023], [7483750023, 3987325773], [3987325773, 634455134], [634455134, 3987325783], [3987325783, 3987325785], [3987325785, 7301214730], [7301214730, 5397880490], [5397880490, 6142082192], [6142082192, 5416067430], [5416067430, 3987325788], [3987325788, 6142081882], [6142081882, 634455078], [634455078, 5400698452], [5400698452, 677319967], [677319967, 1788598488], [1788598488, 8414325936], [8414325936, 677319946], [677319946, 2852996472], [2852996472, 4119238445], [4119238445, 2852996458], [2852996458, 4551396728], [4551396728, 5862995481], [5862995481, 5287107596], [5287107596, 1013565370],
Dusun Bambu	Taman Begonia	[1013565370, 4119238427], [4119238427, 4119243597], [4119243597, 4119238424], [4119238424, 5397880507], [5397880507, 5397880511], [5397880511, 5287041492], [5287041492, 1013564791], [1013564791, 1107766030], [1107766030, 5287041144], [5287041144, 1933308819], [1933308819, 11171121457], [11171121457, 8086733976], [8086733976, 10166759113], [10166759113, 307949886], [307949886, 5416066397], [5416066397, 5394799158], [5394799158, 8410797345], [8410797345, 1781530227], [1781530227, 5394799171], [5394799171, 5394799173], [5394799173, 5394799159], [5394799159, 5397880499], [5397880499, 1107766302], [1107766302, 9855030754], [9855030754, 5391602954], [5391602954, 1107766141], [1107766141, 1107766071], [1107766071, 5416066209], [5416066209, 8410711531], [8410711531, 5416066207], [5416066207, 5864755177], [5864755177, 5864715427], [5864715427, 1933484679], [1933484679, 634455164], [634455164, 4852689606], [4852689606, 5397463235], [5397463235, 5287049056], [5287049056, 6380695258], [6380695258, 9859714946], [9859714946, 6707385662], [6707385662, 6707385660]

In the first simulation ("Farmhouse" to "Floating Market"), the best route has 42 road segments that must be passed. The nodes that are shown in the table are the node number according to the OpenStreetMaps. Another simulation shows the path that can be passed by the tourist who wants to visit "Taman Begonia" from a tourism spot called "Dusun Bambu". As in the second result, the route length is 12,869 m between the origin and the destination and it's the reason that the second has longer nodes to be passed.

In the simulation, there are 1 hotel and 18 tourism destinations that will be used as sets of origin and destination. Thus, the measurement of the best path is done for all nodes. By applying the permutations for 19 places, there will be 342 sets of origin and destination in this paper. As the route calculation steps are done for each node used in this research, every node will act as the origin and destination, except the initial point. It will be used as the first departure and final arrival point. The initial point (source) is the hotel mentioned in Table 7, meanwhile, the destination point that is used is shown in Table 6. Later, the last destination point (sink) will be set to the same hotel that was used as the initial point.

Pairs of origin and destination are determined using the permutation from all nodes used in the study. Table 13 shows the sample result of the comparison between alternatives of the calculated routes according to the number of intersections and the estimated travel time from node 8761228379 to node 5864754682. The first row is the best route calculated that will be recommended to the tourist. Based on this result, the best route calculation determined in this study is the optimal route according to the road weight that was previously measured using tourist's preferences.

Table 13. Comparison of route calculation based on intersection and travel time

Route	Total intersections	Travel time (s)
8761228379, 5400248699, 5400248696, 305869145, 5400248865, 8760931390, 9852588117, 5397880241, 1013572351, 5416066120, 1947081886, 5397880795, 5397880798, 6056551911, 5397880800, 1013572350, 5864608126, 5397880801, 1013572346, 7284311010, 1942487012, 1942486992, 1942486971, 4705498029, 5416066056, 5394799134, 5394799129, 7284426093, 1837534382, 6056725416, 634441870, 634442418, 634441900, 634442426, 634442434, 5416065933, 1954824861, 5416066033, 5416065940, 5416065934, 1107504793, 5416066024, 5394792902, 5397880789, 5397880786, 1954824888, 634442384, 634442373, 5287106749, 6411818337, 634442401, 8413725290, 634442394, 634442392, 5394672214, 5409499524, 5409499529, 634442201, 5287068009, 5287068011, 634442111, 634442097, 634442096, 634442018, 634442011, 634442010, 634442004, 634441999, 5287067990, 5400248439, 5864754682	71	838.637
8761228379, 5400248699, 5400248696, 305869145, 5400248865, 8760931390, 9852588117, 5397880241, 1013572351, 5416066120, 1947081886, 5397880795, 5397880798, 6056551911, 5397880800, 1013572350, 5864608126, 5397880801, 1013572346, 7284311010, 1013565673, 1942487012, 1942486992, 1942486971, 4705498029, 5416066056, 5394799134, 5394799129, 7284426093, 1837534382, 6056725416, 634441870, 634442418, 634441900, 634442426, 634442434, 5416065933, 1954824861, 5416066033, 5416065940, 5416065934, 1107504793, 5416066024, 5394792902, 5397880789, 5397880786, 1954824888, 634442384, 634442373, 5287106749, 6411818337, 634442401, 8413725290, 634442394, 634442392, 5394672214, 5409499524, 5409499529, 634442201, 5287068009, 5287068011, 634442111, 634442097, 634442096, 634442018, 634442011, 634442010, 634442004, 634441999, 5287067990, 5400248439, 5864754682	72	839.646
8761228379, 5400248699, 5400248696, 305869145, 5400248865, 8760931390, 9852588117, 5397880241, 1013572351, 5416066120, 1947081886, 5397880795, 5397880798, 6056551911, 5397880800, 1013572350, 5864608126, 5397880801, 1013572346, 7284311010, 1942487012, 1942486992, 1942486971, 4705498029, 5416066056, 5394799134, 5394799129, 7284426093, 1837534382, 6056725416, 634441870, 634442418, 634441900, 634442426, 634442434, 5416065933, 1954824861, 5416066033, 5416065940, 5416065934, 1107504793, 5416066024, 5394792902, 5397880789, 5397880786, 1954824888, 634442384, 634442373, 5287106749, 6411818337, 634442401, 8413725290, 634442394, 7211858967, 5287039849, 5287039852, 5287039854, 5409499940, 5287039866, 1745879005, 10155083344, 5397463221, 1745878903, 1745879025, 1745878961, 5409491286, 6707385598, 5409491284, 1745878973, 1745878962, 634441999, 5287067990, 5400248439, 5864754682	74	924.920
8761228379, 5400248699, 5400248696, 305869145, 5400248865, 8760931390, 9852588117, 5397880241, 1013572351, 5416066120, 1947081886, 5397880795, 5397880798, 6056551911, 5397880800, 1013572350, 5864608126, 5397880801, 1013572346, 7284311010, 1013565673, 1942487012, 1942486992, 1942486971, 4705498029, 5416066056, 5394799134, 5394799129, 7284426093, 1837534382, 6056725416, 634441870, 634442418, 634441900, 634442426, 634442434, 5416065933, 1954824861, 5416066033, 5416065940, 5416065934, 1107504793, 5416066024, 5394792902, 5397880789, 5397880786, 1954824888, 634442384, 634442373, 5287106749, 6411818337, 634442401, 8413725290, 634442394, 7211858967, 5287039849, 5287039852, 5287039854, 5409499940, 5287039866, 1745879005, 10155083344, 5397463221, 1745878903, 1745879025, 1745878961, 5409491286, 6707385598, 5409491284, 1745878973, 1745878962, 634441999, 5287067990, 5400248439, 5864754682	75	925.929

3.3. The simulation of tourism itinerary plan using VRPTW

As explained in the earlier part of this paper, the tourism itinerary will be generated using VRPTW according to the best path from each tourism spot, including the initial departure node (hotel). In the simulation, experiments are using various stops in the tourism nodes. Figure 8 shows the simulation result using 5 tourism destinations with limited time windows.
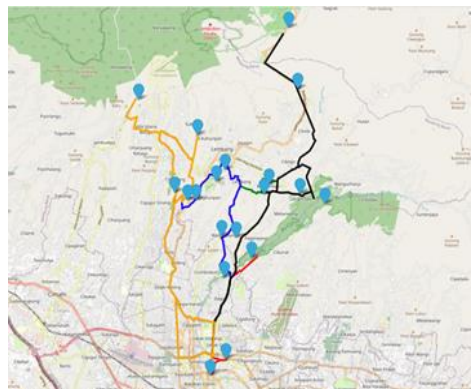

Figure 8. VRPTW simulation result for 5 stops

Table 14 shows the detailed simulation results that illustrated in Figure 8. Based on the simulation, an adjustment in the number of destinations is needed. According to the simulation, there are 5 alternatives to the tourist's itinerary which consists of 3-4 destinations in each itinerary. Along with the determination of the tourist's itinerary being calculated, there is also a measurement of average rating tourism destination.

Table 14. Simulation results of tourism itinerary

Route	Path (via tourism spot)	Rating (avg)
1	Source → Museum Geologi Bandung → Curug Dago Pakar → Taman Hutan Raya Ir. H. Djuanda → Sink	4.433
2	Source → Dago Dream Park → Taman Begonia → Floating Market Lembang → Kampung Daun → Sink	4.425
3	Source → Gn. Batu Lembang → Obs. Bosscha → The Great Asia Afrika → Farmhouse Lembang → Sink	4.500
4	Source → Grafika Cikole → De Ranch Lembang → Tebing Keraton → Curug Maribaya → Sink	4.375
5	Source → Curug Cimahi → DusunBambu → Kampung Gajah Wonderland → Sink	4,267

Based on the simulation results that recommend several itinerary lists, the system will recommend the itinerary list with the highest rating among others. As seen in Table 13, the first itinerary recommendation delivered to the tourist is "Route-1" which consists of nodes as follows: "Museum Geologi Bandung", "Curug Dago Pakar", and "Taman Hutan Raya Ir. H. Djuanda". The itinerary plan is arranged from the "Source" to the "Sink", which is in the same location, namely "Hotel Santika" as mentioned earlier in Table 7. The "Source" and "Sink" nodes are the one-way trip, which only can be used as the departure and arrival points respectively.

3.3.1. The computational usage for generating itinerary plan

There are several scenarios in testing the tourist's itinerary recommendation system, especially in the number of destinations. The scenario in calculating the number of visited tourism spots, from 1 to 7 nodes. Table 15 shows the result for the various number of stops that were requested for each simulation. As shown in the table, the maximum stops calculation, the number of itinerary recommendations, and the computational resources that were used (CPU and memory usage (%), and processing time (s)).

Table 15. The simulation result of various numbers of stops

Number of stops Request	Max. Stops calculation	Itinerary recommendations	CPU usage (%)	Memory usage (%)	Processing time (s)
1	1	18	24.9	65.0	4.881
2	2	9	32.1	64.4	6.621
3	3	6	34.2	64.1	16.549
4	4	5	35.6	63.6	50.855
5	4	5	34.7	64.2	160.412
6	4	5	30.3	59.7	347.895
7	4	5	30.8	52.9	583.106

According to the comparison results shown in Figure 9, in the various numbers of visited tourism spots, there are saturation values in the number of calculated. As shown in Figure 9(a), the saturated point for the visited tourism spots is in 4 nodes. Based on the simulation, if the requested spots are greater than 4 nodes, the system is only able to recommend 4 tourism spots. This saturated number of tourism spots is because of the limited time windows that are stated for each tourism spot.

Figure 9(b) shows the computational resource that used while calculating the itinerary plan for the tourist. As shown in this figure, the CPU usage is less than 35% for all scenarios conducted in the simulation, on average it takes 31.8% of CPU usage. On the other hand, memory usage is averaged at 61.9% for the simulation in determining the tourist's itinerary. Meanwhile, in Figure 9(c), the processing time that used in defining the itinerary plan for the tourists. As seen in the figure, the relationship between the number of requested stops and the processing time is exponential with the following linear: $y = 1.5274 \, e^{0.8766x}$.

According to our findings, the itinerary plan for tourists is determined by using VRPTW by considering traffic conditions in order to maximize the tourist visit in several spots in Bandung and Lembang City. Based on the simulation results, the recommendation system proposed in this paper provides several itinerary plans for tourists. In addition, the system automatically chooses the itinerary plan with the highest rating in order to enhance the travel experience. According to the simulation, the optimum number of stops is 4 according to the resources and time needed when calculating the itinerary. These results can be improved as additional parameters are added to the system, such as the prediction of traffic situations or the calculation of the best departure time.
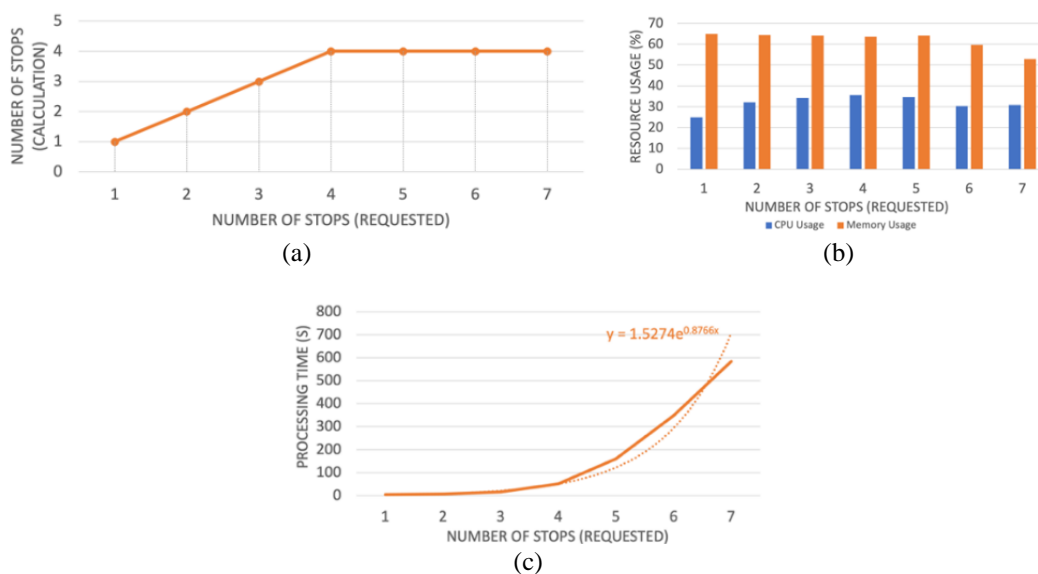
(a)

(b)

(c)

Figure 9. Calculation results; (a) comparison of the number requested and the calculation stops,
(b) the usage of computational resources, and (c) the processing time

4.   CONCLUSION

This paper proposed the recommender system for tourist itineraries by approaching the VRPTW. The result of this paper is the itinerary plan for tourists based on time aspects, such as opening, travel, closing time, and time spent in each tourism spot. Besides, the AHP-weighted condition of the roads also determined the calculation of optimal routes and itinerary lists. The simulation result shows that the optimal number of visited tourism stops is 4 destinations. For various numbers of requested stops, it takes 31.8% and 61.9% for average CPU and memory usage respectively. The time processing increases exponentially as the increment of the number of requested stops. According to the results, the proposed system is successfully generate the itinerary list based on tourist's preferences and road conditions.

For further research, the opportunity to use a prediction system for traffic congestion could be implemented to estimate the time travel between tourism spots. Lots of machine learning methods are suitable for predicting traffic conditions using several criteria. Even more, the optimal itinerary plan can be determined by calculating the best departure time to the destinations to the recommendation system proposed in this paper.

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