# THE APPLICATION OF GIS BASED MULTI-CRITERIA ANALYSIS FOR SELECTING AN OPTIMUM WATER RESERVOIR SITE

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This work is dedicated to my beloved parents, my father **ALI AHMAD** and my mother **TUBA TAHA** for their resilience in insisting to educate me amidst the absolute poverty in which they raised me.

To **PESHMARGA**, Kurdish forces who devote their entire life to defending the holy land of Kurdistan.

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Malaysia is well endowed with abundance of natural water resources, which has significantly contributed to the socio-economic development of the country. However, the situation has somewhat changed over the last decade. The water demand was 174.22 M/l/d in year 2010 and it is projected to be 270.77 M/l/d in 2050. In such scenario, a reliable and safe supply of water for future generations, more and more reservoirs will be required. The aim of this study is to apply GIS in identifying the most suitable location for water reservoir for area of Batu Pahat, Johor, West Malaysia. Methodology is designed in such a way to achieve the objectives of this study as to identify the important criteria for locating water reservoir, to model the location of reservoir using Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) and to analyze and evaluate the most potential sites for water reservoir using ArcGIS 10.1 software. Based on the criteria chosen, the data are processed and analyzed the existing 52 reservoir locations and their capacities. Based on the projected number of population for the year 2050, as a result, 5 new reservoir locations have been identified to fulfill the future demands of water for the study area. Thus, it can be concluded that the weights derived from AHP integrated in ArcGIS can be a useful tool in GIS analysis for the determination of suitable locations for water reservoir in the study area.

#### **ABSTRAK**

Malaysia dikurniakan dengan banyak sumber-sumber air semula jadi yang telah banyak menyumbang kepada pembangunan sosio-ekonomi negara. Walau bagaimanapun, keadaan agak berubah dalam beberapa dekad mutakhir. Permintaan air adalah sebanyak 174.22 M/l/d pada tahun 2010 dan ia dijangka akan meningkat kepada 270.77 M/l/d pada tahun 2050. Dalam senario sebegini, bekalan air yang boleh digunakan dan selamat untuk generasi akan datang, memerlukan lebih banyak takungan air untuk masa hadapan. Kajian ini bertujuan untuk mengaplikasi GIS dalam mengenal pasti lokasi yang paling sesuai untuk takungan air bagi kawasan Batu Pahat, Johor, Malaysia Barat. Metodologi kajian ini direka sedemikian rupa untuk mencapai objektif-objektif kajian ini yakni untuk mengenalpasti kriteria penting untuk mengesan takungan air, untuk pemodelan lokasi takungan menggunakan proses analisis hiraki (AHP) dan untuk menganalisis dan menilai kawasan yang berpotensi untuk takungan air menggunakan perisian ArcGIS 10.1. Berdasarkan kriteria-kriteria yang dipilih, data diproses dan dianalisis berasaskan 52 lokasi takungan yang sedia ada termasuklah keupayaan masakini. Berdasarkan unjuran bilangan penduduk pada tahun 2050, hasilnya, 5 lokasi takungan baru telah dikenalpasti untuk memenuhi permintaan masa hadapan air bagi kawasan kajian. Oleh itu, ianya dapat disimpulkan bahawa pemberat yang diperolehi daripada AHP yang diintegrasikan dengan ArcGIS boleh menjadi alat yang berguna dalam analisis GIS bagi menentukan lokasi yang sesuai untuk takungan air di kawasan kajian.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER		TITLE	PAGE	
	DECI	LARATION	ii	
	DEDI	CATION	iii	
	ACK	NOWLEDGMENT	iv	
	ABST	TRACT	v	
	ABST	ΓRAK	vi	
	TABI	vii		
	LIST OF TABLES			
	LIST	OF FIGURES	xii	
	LIST	OF ACRONYMS	xiv	
1 INTR	ODUC	CTION		
	1.1	Introduction	1	
	1.2	Problem Statement	2	
	1.3	Study Area	3	
	1.4	Main Research Question	4	
	1.5	Aim of Study	4	
	1.6	Objectives of Study	4	
	1.7	Specific Research Questions	4	
	1.8	Scope of Study	5	
	1.9	Need of Study	5	
	1.10	Summary	6	
2 LITE	RATU	RE REVIEW		
	2.1	Introduction	7	

		2.2	Global	Water Source	7
		2.3	Water	Availability in Malaysia	8
		2.4	Popula	ation in Malaysia	10
		2.5	Water	Demand	10
		2.6	Water	Supply and Distribution	13
		2.7	Reserv	roir	14
			2.7.1	Factors Influencing Reservoir Site Selection	15
		2.8	Geogra	aphic Information Systems (GIS)	18
			2.8.1	GIS History and Development	18
			2.8.2	GIS Functions	20
				2.8.2.1 Data Capture	20
				2.8.2.2 Data Compilation	20
				2.8.2.3 Data Storage	21
				2.8.2.4 Manipulation	21
				2.8.2.5 Analysis	21
		2.9	Data M	Iodels	22
			2.9.1	Vector-based Data Model	22
			2.9.2	Raster-based Data Model	23
		2.10	GIS D	ata Source	24
		2.11	Multi-	Criteria Decision Analysis	24
			2.11.1	Framework of Spatial Multi Criteria	
				Decision Analysis	27
			2.11.2	Fuzzy Logic	28
			2.11.3	Weighted Linear Combination	29
			2.11.4	Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP)	30
				2.11.4.1 Strengths and Weaknesses	31
		2.12	Summ	ary	33
2	<b>3</b> #15/151	uobo.			
3	METI	HODOI		··	2.4
		3.1	Introdu		34
		3.2		Collection Technique	39
			3.2.1	Creation of the DEM Layer	40
			3.2.2	Creation of the Slope Layer from DEM	42
			3.2.3	Questionnaire	42

	3.3	The Distance of Maps (River, Road Network		
		and Pi	peline)	43
		3.3.1	The Euclidean Distance Algorithm	43
		3.3.2	The Euclidean Distance Output Raster	44
	3.4	Classi	fications of the Layers (DEM, River, Slope,	46
		Road	Network and Pipeline)	
		3.4.1	Reclassification and Define Priority for	
			DEM	47
		3.4.2	Reclassification and Define Priority for	
			Slope	47
		3.4.3	Reclassification and Define Priority for	
			River	48
		3.4.4	Reclassification and Define Priority for	
			Road Network	48
		3.4.5	Reclassification and Define Priority for	
			Pipeline	49
	3.5	AHP .	Approach	49
		3.5.1	Problem Solving and Decision Making	50
		3.5.2	Sitting Steps	50
		3.5.3	Factor Generation	50
		3.5.4	Factor Standardization	51
		3.5.5	Factor Weights Determination by AHP	51
		3.5.6	Making Comparison Matrix	53
	3.6	Weigh	nted Overlay	54
	3.7	Summ	nary	56
4	RESULTS A	AND Al	NALYSIS	
	4.1	Introd	uction	57
	4.2	Popul	ation in Batu Pahat	57
	4.3	Water	Supply in Batu Pahat	58
	4.4	Analy	sis of the Map Layers of	61
		(Digit	al Elevation Model, Slope and Land Use)	
		4.4.1	Digital Elevation Model (DEM) Map	61
		4.4.2	Analysis of Slope Map	62

		4.4.3	Analysis of Land Use Map	62		
	4.5	Analysis of the Results of Distance Maps (River,				
		Road	Network and Pipeline)	63		
		4.5.1	Distance from the River	64		
		4.5.2	Distance from the Pipelines	64		
		4.5.3	Distance from the Road Network	65		
	4.6	Analy	sis of Classifications the Layers (DEM, Ri	ver,		
		Slope,	Road Network and Pipeline)	66		
		4.6.1	Reclassification for DEM	67		
		4.6.2	Reclassification for Slope	68		
		4.6.3	Reclassification for River	69		
		4.6.4	Reclassification for Road Network	70		
		4.6.5	Reclassification for Pipeline	71		
	4.7	Comp	arative between Criteria	72		
	4.8	Weigh	Weighted Overlay			
	4.9	Summ	ary	77		
5	CONCLU	SION				
	5.1	Introd	uction	79		
	5.2	Discus		79		
	5.3	Sugge	stion and Recommendation	80		
	5.4	Concl		81		
	REFERENCES			82		
	APPENDI	X		86		

# LIST OF TABLES

TABLE NO.	TITLE	PAGE
2.1	Water Demand Projections for Johor M/l/d (DID, 2010)	11
2.2	Intakes and Capacity of Sungai Bekok and Sungai Sembrong M/l/d (DID, 2010)	12
3.1	Point Intensity of Relative Importance Scale	52
3.2	Number of Comparison (Do and Kim, 2012)	52
4.1	Future Growth Population of Batu Pahat (DID, 2010)	58
4.2	Existing Water Reservoir in Batu Pahat	59
	(SAJ Holdings Sdn Bhd)	
4.3	Comparative between Criteria	72
4.4	The Result of Weight of Criteria	74

# LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE NO	TITLE	PAGE
1.1	Study Area	3
2.1	Earth Water Percentages (Wright and Nebel, 2004)	8
2.2	Water Demand Projections and Planning Curve for	
	Batu Pahat District	12
2.3	Distribution of Major Lakes and Reservoir in Malaysia	14
2.4	Hierarchy Model for Water Reservoir Siting	17
2.5	Growth of Multi-criteria decision analysis	25
3.1	Research Methodology	35
3.2	Basemap of Study Area	39
3.3	Mosaic to New Raster	40
3.4	Projection of Dem (Geographic To Cassini)	41
3.5	Extracted DEM by Boundary	41
3.6	Created Slope Map from DEM	42
3.7	Shown Euclidean Distance is Calculate	44
	(Cerchiai, Fiore, and Madore, 2001)	
3.8	Distance Layer for River	45
3.9	Distance Layer for Road Network	45
3.10	Distance Layer for Pipeline	46
3.11	Reclassify of Dem	47
3.12	Reclassify of Slope	47
3.13	Reclassify River of Distance	48
3.14	Reclassify Road of Distance	48
3.15	Reclassify of Pipeline Distance	49
3.16	Weight Overlay for Site Selection (Optimal Site)	55
3.17	The Optimal Site with High Value According the Priority	56

4.1	Distribution of Existing Reservoir in Batu Pahat District	60
4.2	Digital Elevation Model	61
4.3	Slope Map	62
4.4	Land Use Map	63
4.5	Distance from River	64
4.6	Distance from Pipelines	65
4.7	Distance from the Road Network	66
4.8	Reclassify of Dem	67
4.9	Reclassify of Slope	68
4.10	Reclassify River of Distance	69
4.11	Reclassify of Road Distance	70
4.12	Reclassify of Pipeline Distance	71
4.13	The Optimal Site Selection Reservoir	75
4.14	Optimum Sites for New Reservoirs	76
4.15	Selection of Suitable Site for Reservoir	77

#### **CHAPTER 1**

#### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Introduction

Water is absolutely fundamental to life and luckily the earth is almost submerged in with water. An amount 325 mi<sup>3</sup> occupies 71% of the globe. Salt water of the oceans and sea accounts for about 97.5% of this volume. The remaining 2.5% is fresh water (Wright and Nebel, 2004) of the 2.5% though; two/third is stored in glaciers and polar ice caps. Thus, only 0.77% of all water is available in atmosphere, soil, groundwater, rivers, wetland and lakes (Wright and Nebel, 2004).

Malaysia is fully blessed with plentiful supply of water naturally; this has prominently assisted importantly to the socio-economic advancement of the country. However, in recent years the condition has transformed to that of shortage of water (Moorthy and Jeyabalan, 2011). In certain river basins, paucity of water is experienced in periods of prolong droughts while flooding and surplus of water is present in the rainy season (Husaini, 2007). The rapid increase in population, urbanization, industrialization and increased in irrigated agriculture imposing increasing water demand and inserting extra pressure on existing water resources. There is a need to construct new water reservoirs for meeting the future water demand effectively. The selection of suitable site for water reservoir is very important as many parameters need to be considered such as topographical and geological conditions, hydrological features, and availability of construction material, safety, environmental issues and economic evaluation (Arai and Hiros, 2003). It is necessary to identify and quantify

these factors for selecting a suitable area for water reservoir in a particular area. A Geographic Information System (GIS) can be used effectively for this purpose to combine different themes objectively and analyse those systematically for identifying suitable places (Shahid, Nath, and Roy, 2000)

The aim of this research is to identify the suitable sites for water reservoir. The evaluation system is based on number of multiple criteria indicators. The main criteria selected for this study are pipe line, elevation, rive, Land use, road network, water supply network and slope. The Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) proposed for use to derive weights. The Batu Pahat a district in Johor state is selected as the study area. The water demand was 174.22 M/l/d in year 2010 and it is projected to be 270.77 M/l/d in 2050 (DID, 2010). In such scenario, a reliable and safe supply of water for future generations, more and more reservoirs will be required.

# 1.2 Problem Statement

The rising tendency in urbanization and population has increased the water demand. This rising tendency in urbanization and population has raised the demand for new water reservoirs to meet the growing need of water. To ensure a reliable and safe supply for future generations, more and more reservoirs will be required. The selection of suitable site for water reservoir is extremely difficult in recent years as the proper selection of suitable site considers many factors such as hydrological, geological and socio-economic parameters. The water demand was 174.22 M/l/d in year 2010 and it is projected to be 270.77 M/l/d in 2050 (DID, 2010). In such scenario, a reliable and safe supply of water for future generations, more and more reservoirs will be required.

# 1.3 Study Area

Batu Pahat is a town under Johor state of Malaysia. Geographically it is located between Longitudes 102°56′ and 102.933′E and Latitudes 1°51′N and 1.850°N. The town share borders with Pontian, Muar, Kluang to the southeast, west and east respectively and in the north Ledang and Segamat . The area of Batu Pahat is 1,999 km² with a population of 406,000 and is the second populous district in Johor state. The population density is 203 person/km² with a growth rate (DOS, 2010). The urbanization rate is related to population growth. It is projected that urbanization will be 95% in 2050. The long term mean monthly rainfall at Batu Pahat station is 2057 mm and mean potential evaporation rate is 1324 mm. The water demand was 174.22 Million litter per day (M/l/d) and it is projected to be 270.77 M/l/d in 2050 (DID, 2010) Figure1.1 shows the study area.

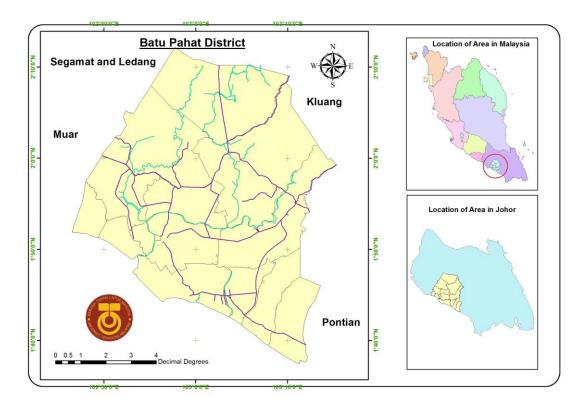


Figure 1.1 Study Area

# 1.4 Main Research Question

How to use a GIS based on Multi-criteria Analysis (MCA) for selecting the suitable location of water reservoir.

# 1.5 Aim of Study

The aim of study is to utilise GIS model analysis in identifying the suitable location for water reservoir in the area of Batu Pahat, Johor.

# 1.6 Objectives of Study

- 1. To identify the important criteria for locating water reservoir.
- 2. To model the location of Reservoir using Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP).
- 3. To analyse and evaluate the most potential sites for water reservoir.

# 1.7 Specific Research Questions

- 1. What are the important criteria for locating water reservoir in Batu Pahat?
- 2. What are the population and the water demand of the study?
- 3. What is Analytic Hierarchy Process and it uses?

- 4. How to use Analytic Hierarchy Process to analysis a suitable location for water reservoir?
- 5. How to apply GIS model and analysis to show the potential sites for water reservoir?

# 1.8 Scope of Study

The applications of GIS are numerous in different fields of Sciences and Engineering. In this study, GIS is used to identify the suitable sites for water reservoir to meet the future water demand. The selection of suitable site is challenging as it is based on multiple criteria. AHP is popular multiple criteria methods for deriving the importance of one criteria over the other. The proposed study area will be conducted for Batu Pahat covering an area of 1,999 km² located in Johor state of Malaysia.

#### 1.9 Need of the Study

The rapid increase in population, urbanization, industrialization and increased in irrigated agriculture imposing increasing water demand and inserting extra pressure on existing water resources. There is a need to construct new water reservoirs for meeting the future water demand effectively. The selection of suitable site for water reservoir is very important. The urban planners and decision makers take proper decision on allocation of land for future expansion.

# 1.10 Summary

This chapter highlights the importance of water to human lives. As the population increased the demands for water consumption also increased and becoming more critical and hard to manage. As a result, the needs for water supply also increased tremendously. Thus, the existing reservoir's capacity could not cope for future water demands. In relation to this, aim and objectives of this study are determined in this chapter. Similarly, the scope of study, methodology to be used, expected results and significance of the study have been identified and specified.

In relation to this chapter, Chapter 2 is dedicated to literature reviews and related studies whereas Chapter 3 is focused on the methodology used in this study. The results and analysis are discussed and presented in Chapter 4 and conclusion is drawn in Chapter 5.

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