

# Computation of the Genetic Code: Full Version

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## Abstract

One of the problems in the development of mathematical theory of the genetic code (summary is presented in [1], the detailed—to [2]) is the problem of the calculation of the genetic code. Similar problem in the world is unknown and could be delivered only in the 21st century. One approach to solving this problem is devoted to this work. For the first time a detailed description of the method of calculation of the genetic code was provided, the idea of which was first published earlier [3]), and the choice of one of the most important sets for the calculation was based on an article [4]. Such a set of amino acid corresponds to a complete set of representation of the plurality of overlapping triple gene belonging to the same DNA strand. A separate issue was the initial point, triggering an iterative search process all codes submitted by the initial data. Mathematical analysis has shown that the said set contains some ambiguities, which have been founded because of our proposed compressed representation of the set. As a result, the developed method of calculation was reduced to two main stages of research, where at the first stage only single-valued domains were used in the calculations. The proposed approach made it possible to significantly reduce the amount of computation at each step in this complex discrete structure.

## Keywords

Genetic Code, Overlapping Genes Uniform Overlap, Computation Code

## 1. Introduction

The idea of calculating the genetic code arose after many years of research on mathematical genetics. The basic idea was that the code, apparently, today—half a century after its discovery, can be calculated on the basis of experimental data already known to date. The approach proposed below is not the main, or comprehensive, and it can only be considered as one of the attempts to find an approach to the solution of the task. After all, it's about finding a solution in a

complex structure that describes the main characteristics for almost all existing living organisms.

Each new century put forward ever new tasks of both theoretical and applied mathematics. In this paper, we consider the newest problem of discrete mathematics, which could be put only in the 21st century. This task belongs to the field of biomathematics, because biology and related tasks are key in the present century. In the world there is no such kind of publications on this topic; therefore this work can be considered as the world's first full version of the work on the calculation of the genetic code.

First of all, the question arose: What sets can be used in this case. Our approach was based on the search for all codes satisfying the set of amino acids that record overlapping genes. The author has studied the subject matter of the mathematical analysis of such genes for a number of years [2], and it was this analysis that led to the formulation of this problem. From the very beginning it was clear that the discussion would mainly focus on the iterative process. Since overlapping of genes contains two, three, etc., amino acids, right up to 6, the first task was to find those overlaps where the same amino acid participates (in overlaps, it participates with different encodings, according to the genetic code). On this occasion, a special study was conducted.

## 2. Theorem for Homogeneous Overlaps

We consider unusual ways of recording genetic information-overlapping genes, when the same DNA portion corresponds to more than one protein. We investigated all 5 possible cases of overlapping of genes resolved by DNA structure, which were studied earlier [5]. This study was based on a mathematical analysis of all 5 possible overlap cases and relied on sets of so-called elementary genetic overlaps-e.o., or overlaps corresponding to a pair of single amino acids. In [6] a brief analysis of such sets is presented, and the final version in [2]. In **Figure 1**. A description of the structure of the sets W1-W5 is presented, and are presented by the 4th e.o. In each of these sets.

The principal position of this research is indicated in [2], where it was shown that the presented list of elementary overlaps can cost any (!) Allowed by the structure of the genetic code, overlapping not only 2 but also all admissible overlap from 3 to 6 Genes. The urgency of the problems is due to the current situation: overlapping genes common in viruses, mitochondria, bacteria and plasmids were found in eukaryotic of large genomes, including humans, with the number of overlaps usually high, for the human genome it is about 1700 [7].

In the mathematical analysis of overlaps of more than two genes, we have investigated some problems. Of course, it would be possible to construct sets of all e.o. From 3 to 6 genes. It is not difficult to do this with the help of modern computer facilities. However, the main thing-what new conclusions-it can give. And that's why we are going the traditional way-from tasks. Let us first briefly discuss only some of them, solutions for which we have already published. The first of these concerns the analysis of ambiguities [8] [9] [10], this is when two

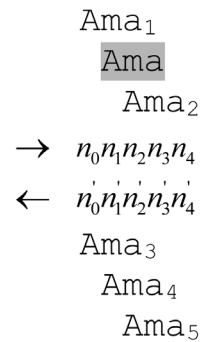
$W_1(80)$	Met	Met	Met	...	Arg
	Tyr	His	Asn		Ser
	TATG	CATG	AATG		TCGN
	1	2	3		80
$W_2(80)$	Met	Met	Trp	...	Arg
	Trp	Cys	Gly		Gly
	ATGG	ATGY	TGGN		ZGGN
	1	2	3		80
$W_3(35)$	Met	Met	Trp		Arg
	ATG	ATG	TGG	...	AGX
	GTA	MTA	YAC		NTC
	Met	Ile	His		Leu
	1	2	3		35
$W_4(52)$	Met	Trp	Phe		Arg
	ATG	TGG	TTT	...	CGC
	TAC	ACC	AAA		GCG
	His	Pro	Lys		Ala
	1	2	3		52
$W_5(196)$	Met	Met	Met		Arg
	ATG	ATG	ATG	...	AGG
	ACC	ACA	ACG		CCT
	Pro	Thr	Ala		Ser
	1	2	3		196

**Figure 1.** Description of the structure of sets  $W_1$ - $W_5$ . There are 4 e. In each of the sets. The total number of e.o. In the corresponding set.

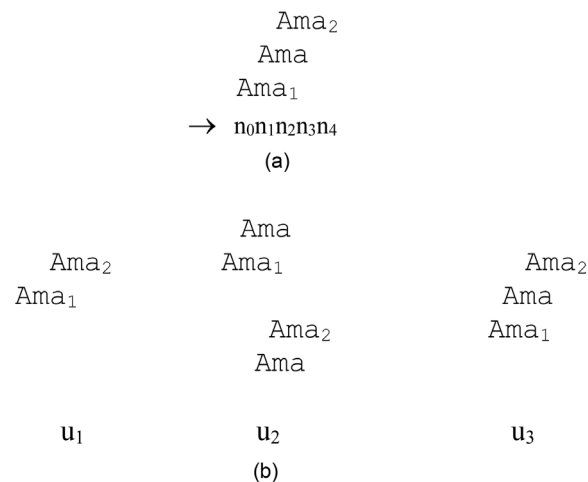
encodings correspond to the same pair of amino acids (see the example below). Another problem was connected with the construction and analysis of a set of elementary overlaps for 3 genes overlapping in the same DNA chain. It is established that there are only 307 such overlaps. On the basis of these overlaps, a new problem was posed, connected with the calculation of the genetic code by mathematical methods [11] [12]. The question of why exactly such a set was chosen to calculate the code was based on a theorem that was published relatively recently [4]. We are talking about the calculation and analysis of all homogeneous e.o.ochs. From 2 to 6 genes. Are e.o. which correspond to the same amino acid. Its solution is given by the following theorem.

We call an e.o.-elementary overlap for  $i$  amino acids, where,  $i \in (2, 6)$ . Thus, the e.o. introduced earlier in [2]. Will be referred to as e.o.-2. **Figure 2** shows the general representation for e.o.-6.

For the amino acid Ama (isolated by hatching) encoded by the triplet  $n_1n_2n_3$ , there are 5 alternative amino acids  $Ama_1$ - $Ama_5$ , the encodings of which are formed by  $-1$ ,  $+1$  shifts in the same DNA chain ( $\rightarrow$ ) and  $-1$ ,  $0$ ,  $+1$  in the complementary DNA strand ( $\leftarrow$ ). The designations  $n_i$ ,  $i \in (0, 4)$  are the nucleotides from the set A, T, C, G;  $n'_i$   $i \in (0, 4)$ -complementary components: *i.e.* For  $n'_i$   $i = A$ ;  $n_i = T$ ;  $n_i = C$ ,  $n'_i = G$  for any  $i \in (0, 4)$  and vice versa. In order to sequentially isolate e.o.-2 for all 5 cases of pair overlaps from [2] [3], in **Figure 3** one should



**Figure 2.** General presentation for e.o.-6. (See the text). -5 e.o.-2 for overlaps from one DNA chain.



**Figure 3.** (a) For amino acid Ama, encoded by the triplet  $n_1 n_2 n_3$ , there are 2 alternative amino acids Ama1 and Ama2. Their encodings are formed by  $-1$ ,  $+1$  shifts in the same DNA (\*) chain. The codon  $n_0 n_1 n_2$  for Ama1 overlaps with codon  $n_1 n_2 n_3$  for Ama-the overlap contains two nucleotides  $n_1 n_2$ ; The codon  $n_2 n_3 n_4$  for Ama2 overlaps with codon  $n_1 n_2 n_3$  for Ama-the overlap contains two nucleotides  $n_2 n_3$ . As a result, the triple overlap contains only one common position  $n_2$ . (b) Elements of sets of combinations of amino acids, formed on the basis of elementary overlap from **Figure 3(a)**. On the left there is one element of the set U1, in the center there are two elements of the set U2 and to the right one element of the set U3.

consistently leave one of the 5 pairs of amino acids:  $(\text{Ama}, \text{Ama}_i)$ ,  $i \in (1, 5)$ . In order to sequentially isolate all overlap cases for e.o.-3 in **Figure 3**, it is necessary to leave Ama and a pair of amino acids out of 5 possible ones or we have 10 cases of triple overlap, etc. We turn to the search for a homogeneous subset for all possible e.o.-2-6, or subsets, in each e.o. Which is the same amino acid. We denote it by  $W_{2-6}$ . To represent homogeneous elementary overlaps, the following notation is used: Y: T, C; X: A, G; N: A, G, C, T.

Occurs

Theorem. The homogeneous subset e.o.-6 contains only 31 e.o. which belong only to the sets of e.o.-2-e.o.-3, of which:

-5 e.o.-2 for overlaps from one DNA chain:

Phe	Lys	Pro	Gly	Leu
Phe	Lys	Pro	Gly	Leu
TTTY	AAAX	CCCN	GGGN	CTTX
1	2	3	4	5

(1)

-19 e.o.-2 for overlaps from various DNA chains:

Met	Tyr	Ile	Ala	Arg
ATG	TAY	ATM	GCN	CGN
GTA	YAT	MTA	NCG	NGC
Met	Tyr	Ile	Ala	Arg
6	7	8	9	10

Tyr	His	Asn	Asp	Cys	Ile	Val
TAT	CAT	AAT	GAT	TGC	ATA	GTA
TAT	TAC	TAA	TAG	CGT	ATA	ATG
Tyr	His	Asn	Asp	Cys	Ile	Val
11	12	13	14	15	16	17

(2)

Pro	Thr	Ala	Gly	Ser	Ser	Leu	Arg
CCG	ACG	GCG	GGC	TCG	AGC	YTA	CGC
GCC	GCA	GCG	CGG	GCT	CGA	ATY	CGC
Pro	Thr	Ala	Gly	Ser	Ser	Leu	Arg
18	19	20	21	22.1	22.2	23	24

-4 e.o.-3 for overlaps for overlaps from one DNA chain.

Phe	Lys	Pro	Gly
Phe	Lys	Pro	Gly
Phe	Lys	Pro	Gly
TTTTY	AAAAX	CCCCN	GGGN
1	2	3	4

(3)

-3 e.o.-3 for overlaps from various DNA chain

Pro	Gly	Leu
Pro	Gly	Leu
CCCG	GGGC	CTTA
GGGCC	CCCGG	GAATY
Pro	Gly	Leu

(4)

We give a comment on the statement of the theorem. Cases 22.1 and 22.2 correspond to the same amino acid Ser-Ser; This is one of six ambiguities, which was established earlier [9]. It follows from the theorem that there are no homogeneous e.o.ic forms, more than the third order, or e.o.-4-e.o.-6. To prove this fact, we note that all the enumerated e. From (1)-(4) have one common property. It consists in that the amino acid encodings in each of these overlaps are present in the shifted phases-shifts by  $-1$  or  $+1$  nucleotide, and regardless of the DNA strand or not, there is not one e.o. where the pair of overlapping codons

would be in one and The same phase.

It follows from (2) that similar e. There are no overlaps from different DNA chains, so they are not possible in the structures of homogeneous e.o 4-e.o. 6

For amino acid Ama (highlighted by hatching), encoded by the triplet  $n_1n_2n_3$ , there are 5 alternative a

#### Introduction of basic sets

As follows from the previous section, homogeneous elementary overlaps occur only for overlaps with participation of not more than three amino acids. To select working sets, consider all such overlaps.

First of all, it is necessary to exclude from consideration all homogeneous overlaps in which two strands of DNA participate. Consideration of these overlaps requires the introduction of a double strand of DNA-this is an additional condition in the problem. Eliminating such homogeneous overlaps, we proceed from the principle of constructing an algorithm with a minimum number of conditions. Therefore, in our examination there remain only homogeneous overlaps belonging to the same DNA chain: for pairs of amino acids (1), there are only 5 of them and similar overlaps for three amino acids (3)-th total of 4. Thus, we selected the main working sets E.o., namely, those in which these homogeneous overlaps are present. The final version of these sets is presented on pages 312-319 in [2].

Let us consider the question in more detail. On sets with these overlaps. Earlier [2] we introduced the notion of elementary overlap with respect only to overlapping pairs of genes. Let's generalize this conce.o.t for three genes belonging to the same DNA chain. By the term elementary overlap, we mean the overlap for the codons of single amino acids by the maximum number of positions. **Figure 3(a)** for the amino acid Ama encoded by the triplet  $n_1n_2n_3$  indicates the alternative amino acids Ama1 and Ama2, the encodings of which are  $n_0n_1n_2$  and  $n_2n_3n_4$ , respectively, are formed by shifts of  $-1$  and  $+1$  nucleotides in the same DNA (\*) chain. It is assumed that all the values of  $n_0-n_4$  belong to the canonical set of four nucleotides. On the basis of **Figure 3(a)**, it is possible to construct three types of combinations of amino acids, re.o.represented in **Figure 3(b)** and designated respectively  $u_1$ ,  $u_2$ ,  $u_3$ : one  $u_1$  for overlapping one position, two  $u_2$  for overlapping in two positions, and one  $u_3$  for overlapping 3 Amino acids

In **Figure 4** and **Figure 5** only fragments of these sets are presented, and some of their characteristics are presented in **Table 1**.

Amino acids shown in **Table 1**. Elements are given in the view that is used in this task. Each of the elements consists of three lines: upper, middle and lower. The named amino acids Met and Arg are shown in the middle line.

Formulation of the problem. Introduction of a compressed set.

FORMULATION OF THE PROBLEM. Let's have a set of 4 letters:  $N: a, b, c, d$ , and also triplets-any triples of these letters, there are 64 in all. Moreover, each of the 20 canonical amino acids can be encoded by an arbitrary combination of such triplets. The task is to search for all the genetic codes that correspond to

1	Met	Met	Met	Met			
Met	Tyr	His	Asn	Asp			
(4+2)	1	2	3	4			
	Met	Met					
	Trp	Cys					
	5	6					
20	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg
Arg	Gln	Lys	Glu	Pro	Thr	Ala	Ser
(7+5)	149	150	151	152	153	154	155
	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg		
	Asp	Glu	Val	Ala	Gly		
	156	157	158	159	160		

**Figure 4.** A list of some elements of the set U2 is given. These are two sets of such elements corresponding to the first-Met and the last-Arg amino acids from the corresponding set, represented in the first column of **Table 1**. Each of the representation contains two lines: the first corresponds to a shift between codons equal to  $-1$ , and the second corresponds to a  $+1$ . Under the name of the amino acid, the number of elements corresponding to these shifts is indicated, and the lower numbers correspond to the numbers in the full list of these elements.

Trp	Trp	Trp	Trp	Cys	Cys	Cys	Cys
Met	Met	Met	Met	Met	Met	Met	Met
Tyr	His	Asn	Asp	Tyr	His	Asn	Asp
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Asp	Asp	Asp	Asp	Glu	Glu	Glu	Glu
Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg
Pro	Thr	Ala	Ser	Pro	Thr	Ala	Ser
279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286
Val	Val	Val	Val	Ala	Ala	Ala	Ala
Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg
Pro	Thr	Ala	Ser	Pro	Thr	Ala	Ser
287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294
Gly	Gly	Gly	Gly	Asp	Asp	Asp	
Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	
Pro	Thr	Ala	Ser	Gln	Lys	Glu	
295	296	297	298	299	300	301	
Glu	Glu	Glu	Gly	Gly	Gly		
Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg	Arg		
Gln	Lys	Glu	Gln	Lys	Glu		
302	303	304	305	306	307		

**Figure 5.** The elements with numbers 1-8 and 279-307 from the set U3, corresponding to the first (Met) and last (Arg) amino acids from the list.

all the elements designated above the three sets U1, U2, U3, corresponding to the genetic experiments.

**Table 1.** Some data of sets U2 and U1 for amino acids Ama<sub>i</sub>, i (1,20).

i	Ama <sub>i</sub>	U <sub>2</sub>		U <sub>1</sub>	
		m <sub>12</sub>	m <sub>23</sub>	m <sub>1-3</sub>	m <sub>3-1</sub>
1	Met	4 (Tyr, His, Asn, Asp)	2 (Trp, Cys)	3 (Lys, Pro, Gly)	1 (Gly)
2	Trp	3 (Met, Val, Leu)	1 (Gly)	3 (Phe, Pro, Gly)	1 (Gly)
3	Phe	4 (Phe, Ile, Val, Leu)	3 (Phe, Ser, Leu)	3 (Phe, Pro, Gly)	2 (Phe, Pro)
4	Tyr	3 (Ile, Val, Leu)	3 (Met, Ile, Thr)	3 (Phe, Pro, Gly)	2 (Phe, Pro)
5	His	4 (Pro, Thr, Ala, Ser)	3 (Met, Ile, Thr)	3 (Phe, Pro, Gly)	2 (Phe, Pro)
6	Asn	3 (Gln, Lys, Glu)	3 (Met, Ile, Thr)	3 (Lys, Pro, Gly)	2 (Phe, Pro)
7	Asp	2 (Gly, Arg)	3 (Met, Ile, Thr)	3 (Lys, Pro, Gly)	2 (Phe, Pro)
8	Cys	3 (Met, Val, Leu)	2 (Val, Ala)	3 (Phe, Pro, Gly)	2 (Phe, Pro)
9	Gln	4 (Pro, Thr, Ala, Ser)	4 (Asn, Lys, Ser, Arg)	3 (Phe, Pro, Gly)	2 (Lys, Gly)
10	Lys	3 (Gln, Lys, Glu)	4 (Asn, Lys, Ser, Arg)	3 (Lys, Pro, Gly)	2 (Lys, Gly)
11	Glu	2 (Gly, Arg)	4 (Asn, Lys, Ser, Arg)	3 (Lys, Pro, Gly)	2 (Lys, Gly)
12	Ile	4 (Tyr, His, Asn, Asp)	4 (Phe, Tyr, Ser, Leu)	3 (Lys, Pro, Gly)	3 (Phe, Lys, Pro)
13	Val	4 (Cys, Gly, Ser, Arg)	6 (Trp, Phe, Tyr, Cys, Ser, Leu)	3 (Lys, Pro, Gly)	4
14	Pro	4 (Pro, Thr, Ala, Ser)	5 (His, Gln, Pro, Leu, Arg)	3 (Phe, Pro, Gly)	4
15	Thr	4 (Tyr, His, Asn, Asp)	5 (His, Gln, Pro, Leu, Arg)	3 (Lys, Pro, Gly)	4
16	Ala	4 (Cys, Gly, Ser, Arg)	5 (His, Gln, Pro, Leu, Arg)	3 (Lys, Pro, Gly)	4
17	Gly	3 (Trp, Gly, Arg)	5 (Asp, Glu, Val, Ala, Gly)	3 (Lys, Pro, Gly)	4
18	Ser	7 (Phe, Gln, Lys, Glu, Ile, Val, Leu)	7 (His, Gln, Val, Pro, Ala, Leu, Arg)	4	4
19	Leu	8 (Phe, Ile, Val, Pro, Thr, Ala, Ser, Leu)	6 (Trp, Phe, Tyr, Cys, Ser, Leu)	3 (Phe, Pro, Gly)	4
20	Arg	7 (Gln, Lys, Glu, Pro, Thr, Ala, Ser)	5 (Asp, Glu, Val, Ala, Gly)	4	4

Notation. The first 4 columns indicate the number of overlaps, and in parentheses the list of amino acids for overlaps: 1 and 2. Bases (m<sub>12</sub>), on 2 and 3 bases (m<sub>23</sub>) on 1 base with the third base (m<sub>1-3</sub>), on 3 bases with the first base. (M<sub>3-1</sub>). Columns 3 and 4 refer only to overlaps with Lys, Phe, Pro, Gly, so this number can not be more than 4; :: X: a, d; Y: b, c; M: a, b, c; N: a, b, c, d.

For the future, we use standard three-letter abbreviations for each of the 20 amino acids.

In [11] we talked about ste.o.s to calculate this problem, but did not say how the required elements were selected at the ste.o. For such a selection, a special representation of the basic working set was introduced. This result is published in detail for the first time.

We introduce one concise representation for 307 elements of the principal set-U3. In **Figure 6**, for each Ama of this set (it is indicated in the corresponding cell), the amino acid Ama<sub>1</sub> is plotted along the abscissa axis, and the ordinate is Ama<sub>2</sub> (see **Figure 3(a)**). It turned out that the resulting representation is not homogeneous, but contains multiple ambiguities: these are cases when more than one Ama value corresponds to the same Ama<sub>1</sub> and Ama<sub>2</sub> values. It turned out that the number of ambiguities in the range from 2 to 4. All these cases are shaded in **Figure 6** and they are denoted by A1-A13, and their decoding is given in the caption to this figure.

It should be noted that these ambiguities correspond to the values of Ser, Leu,



	Met	Trp	Phe	Tyr	His	Asn	Asp	Cys	Gln	Lys	Glu	Ile	Val	Pro	Thr	Ala	Gly	Ser	Leu	Arg
Met													Cys			Cys	Trp			
Trp							Gly				Gly		Gly			Gly	Gly			
Phe		Leu	Phe	Leu	Ser			Leu	Ser					Ser				Phe	A9	Ser
Tyr		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr				Ile	A6	Thr
His		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr				Ile	A6	Thr
Asn		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr				Ile	A6	Thr
Asp		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr				Ile	A6	Thr
Cys		Val	Val	Val	Ala			Val	Ala					Ala				Val	A8	Ala
Gln	Asn					Lys	Arg			Lys	Arg	Asn	Ser		Asn	Ser	Arg	Lys		Lys
Lys	Asn					Lys	Arg			Lys	Arg	Asn	Ser		Asn	Ser	Arg	Lys		Lys
Glu	Asn					Lys	Arg			Lys	Arg	Asn	Ser		Asn	Ser	Arg	Lys		Lys
Ile	Tyr	Leu	Phe	Leu	Ser			Leu	Ser			Tyr		Ser	Tyr			Phe	A9	Ser
Val	Tyr	Leu	Phe	Leu	Ser			Leu	Ser			Tyr	Cys	Ser	Tyr	Cys	Trp	Phe	A9	Ser
Pro	His	Leu	Leu	Leu	Pro	Gln	Arg	Leu	Pro	Gln	Arg	His	Arg	Pro	His	Arg	Arg	A1	A11	A5
Thr	His	Leu	Leu	Leu	Pro	Gln	Arg	Leu	Pro	Gln	Arg	His	Arg	Pro	His	Arg	Arg	A1	A11	A5
Ala	His	Leu	Leu	Leu	Pro	Gln	Arg	Leu	Pro	Gln	Arg	His	Arg	Pro	His	Arg	Arg	A1	A11	A5
Gly	Asp	Val	Val	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	Asp	Gly	Ala	Asp	Gly	Gly	A3	A8	A4
Ser	His	A10	A10	A10	A7	Gln	Arg	A10	A7	Gln	Arg	His	Arg	A7	His	Arg	Arg	A2	A12	A13
Leu	Tyr	Leu	Phe	Leu	Ser			Leu	Ser			Tyr	Cys	Ser	Tyr	Cys	Trp	Phe	A9	Ser
Arg	Asp	Val	Val	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	Asp	Gly	Ala	Asp	Gly	Gly	A3	A8	A4

**Figure 6.** The compressed representation for 307 elements of the main set-U3: for each Ama of this set (it is indicated in the corresponding cell) is given the Ama1 amino acid along the abscissa axis, and on the ordinate axis-Ama2 (see **Figure 1(a)**). It turned out that the resulting representation is not homogeneous, but contains multiple ambiguities: these are the cases when more than one Ama value corresponds to the same Ama1 and Ama2 values—from 2 to 4. These cases are shaded in this figure, they are denoted by A1-A13, *i.e.* there are only 13 of them, although the figure shows 34 hatchings. The fact is that in this figure A6, A9 and A10 are represented 4 times, A1, A5, A7, A8 and A11—three times, A3 and A4—2 times, and A2, A12 and A13—only by one time. We have A1 Gln, Leu; A2: Gln, Val, Leu; ...A13: Gln, Pro, Ala.

Arg, both along the abscissa axis and along the ordinate axis. However, the most significant area in **Figure 6**, which corresponds to the cases where on both axes there is none of the amino acids from the Ser, Leu, Arg. For our calculations, the last region is reduced, eliminating from it all cells containing Ser, Leu, Arg. In **Figure 7**, the shading corresponds to the three amino acids mentioned, and the non-zero elements of the unshaded region have the following property: each Ama value is unique for the corresponding pair Ama1 and Ama2.

The above property allowed us to refer to the first stage of the calculation, when the calculation of the encodings for all elements is made Ama value on the basis of the encodings for the corresponding pair Ama1 and Ama2. The results of the ste.o.-by-ste.o. solution of the problem are presented in **Table 2**, but the most important stage of the study was the question of finding the initial approximation.

The initial approximation

THE SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM. We use the standard three-letter abbreviations for each of the 20 amino acids listed in the first column of **Table 1**. We have a set

$$A^0: \text{Ama}_i, i \in (1, 20). \quad (5)$$

We introduce the definition. Let us turn to the previously introduced homogeneous overlaps. As before, we call a combination of amino acids, constructed on the basis of an elementary genetic overlap, homogeneous if the same amino acid participates in it. For homogeneous elements of the set we have.

Property. Let the encodings Ama for homogeneous u3 have one of the fol-

	Met	Trp	Phe	Tyr	His	Asn	Asp	Cys	Gln	Lys	Glu	Ile	Val	Pro	Thr	Ala	Gly
Met													Cys			Cys	Trp
Trp							Gly				Gly		Gly			Gly	Gly
Phe		Leu	Phe	Leu	Ser			Leu	Ser					Ser			
Tyr		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr			
His		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr			
Asn		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr			
Asp		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr			
Cys		Val	Val	Val	Ala			Val	Ala					Ala			
Gln	Asn					Lys	Arg			Lys	Arg	Asn	Ser		Asn	Ser	Arg
Lys	Asn					Lys	Arg			Lys	Arg	Asn	Ser		Asn	Ser	Arg
Glu	Asn					Lys	Arg			Lys	Arg	Asn	Ser		Asn	Ser	Arg
Ile	Tyr	Leu	Phe	Leu	Ser			Leu	Ser			Tyr		Ser	Tyr		
Val	Tyr	Leu	Phe	Leu	Ser			Leu	Ser			Tyr	Cys	Ser	Tyr	Cys	Trp
Pro	His	Leu	Leu	Leu	Pro	Gln	Arg	Leu	Pro	Gln	Arg	His	Arg	Pro	His	Arg	Arg
Thr	His	Leu	Leu	Leu	Pro	Gln	Arg	Leu	Pro	Gln	Arg	His	Arg	Pro	His	Arg	Arg
Ala	His	Leu	Leu	Leu	Pro	Gln	Arg	Leu	Pro	Gln	Arg	His	Arg	Pro	His	Arg	Arg
Gly	Asp	Val	Val	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	Asp	Gly	Ala	Asp	Gly	Gly

**Figure 7.** The reduced region of **Figure 6**: there are areas in which the code is calculated. All the shaded regions are cut off for the reasons indicated above, and the main area in the calculation is re.o.resented without shading.

**Table 2.** Steps 1-9 of the iterative process of calculating the genetic code. The last line indicates the number of calculated codons after this step. Notation: X: a,d; Y: b, c; M: a, b, c;N: a, b, c, d.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Met							abd		
Trp				bdd					
Phe	bbb	bbY							
Tyr						baY			
His						caY			
Asn						aaY			
Asp						daY			
Cys				bdY					
Gln			caX						
Lys	aaa	aaX							
Glu			daX						
Ile							abM		
Val			dbN						
Pro	ccc	ccN							
Thr					acN				
Ala			dcN						
Gly	ddd	ddN							
Ser								bca bcc ddY	bcd bcb
Leu								cbX cbb bbX	cbc
Arg								cdN adX	
Σ	4	12	24	27	31	35	43	58	61

lowing three representation:

$$n_1N_1N_2, N_3n_2N_4, N_5N_6n_3, \quad (6)$$

Where small letters denote the unit components of the set  $N$ , and large-some subsets of this set, up to  $N$ . Then homogeneous  $u_3$  can exist only if at least one base triplet or triplet with three identical letters is used.

For the proof we successively substitute each of the representation (6) in  $u_3$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Ama} & \text{Ama} & \text{Ama} \\ \text{Ama} & \text{Ama} & \text{Ama} \\ \text{Ama} & \text{Ama} & \text{Ama} \\ n_1n_1n_1n'_1n'_2 & n'_3n_2n_2n'_4 & n'_5n'_6n_3n_3 \end{array} \quad (7)$$

where  $n'_i$  is the single component of the set  $N_i$ , where  $i \in (1,6)$ , and the string  $na$ -nucleotide sequences that are formed after this substitution. In the first case, in (3), the base codon  $n_1n_1n_1$  was used for encoding amino acid Ama from the bottom position, in the second- $n_2n_2n_2$ -from the middle position, and in the third- $n_3n_3n_3$ -from the top position.

We turn to homogeneous  $u_3$  from the set  $U_3$ , which turned out to be 4:

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \text{Lys} & \text{Phe} & \text{Pro} & \text{Gly} \\ \text{Lys} & \text{Phe} & \text{Pro} & \text{Gly} \\ \text{Lys} & \text{Phe} & \text{Pro} & \text{Gly} \end{array} \quad (8)$$

Within the framework of the assumption specified in the Property, the following ste.o.-by-ste.o. process of searching for a genetic code is proposed; See **Table 2**. Ste.o. 1. Amino acids from (8) will assign the corresponding base codons. This assignment is not unique. However, in our approach, the set of letters  $N$ : a, b, c, d is not correlated with the canonical set of 4 nucleotides; This will be discussed at the end of the paper. Therefore, we will continue to operate with only one of the representation for the amino acids from (4), which we assign respectively the following basic triplets:

$$\text{Lys: aaa, Phe: bbb, Pro: ccc, Gly: ddd} \quad (9)$$

For further calculations, we turn to some generalized data on the sets  $U_2$  and  $U_1$ , which are given in **Table 1**.

Step. 2. From **Table 1** it follows that, as in column m12 (the number and the list of overlapping amino acids on 1 and 2 bases are indicated), and in column m23 (similar data for 2 and 3 bases) do not contain mutual overlap between amino acids from (8). Such overlaps take place only one position and belong to the set  $U_1$ . We have:

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \text{Lys} & \text{Phe} & \text{Pro} & \text{Gly} \\ \text{Lys} & \text{Phe} & \text{Lys} & \text{Lys} \\ (\text{Gly}) & (\text{Pro}) & (\text{Pro}) & (\text{Phe}) \\ & & (\text{Gly}) & (\text{Pro}) \\ & & (\text{Phe}) & (\text{Gly}) \end{array} \quad (10)$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \text{Lys} & \text{Phe} & \text{Pro} & \text{Gly} \\ \text{Lys} & \text{Phe} & \text{Pro} & \text{Gly} \\ (\text{Pro}) & (\text{Pro}) & (\text{Phe}) & (\text{Lys}) \\ (\text{Gly}) & (\text{Gly}) & (\text{Gly}) & (\text{Pro}) \end{array}$$

where the first 4 elements of  $u_1$  correspond to overlaps for 3 positions (in parentheses the alternative variants are indicated, see column m3-1 from **Table 1**), the next 4-overlaps for the first positions (see column m1-3). The formal substitution of the base codons from (9) into (10) leads the encodings of all 4 amino acids to the fact that they become ambiguous in the 1 st and 3 rd positions. For the sake of clarity, we present the derivation of just two amino acids from (9)-Lys and associated with it according to the first overlap of (10)-Gly. According to the above, we have: Lys should be encoded by a set of triplets  $X1aX$ , and Gly- $X1dN$ , where  $X1$ : a, d, c;  $X$ : a, d. Then there is an overlap of Lys with Gly in two positions, which is impossible according to **Table 1**. It also does not allow two other possibilities: Lys can not be encoded by a set of triplets  $X1aa$  if Gly is  $ddN$ , and also Lys can not be encoded by a set of triples  $aaX$  if Gly is  $X1dd$ . There are still two possibilities: both Lys and Gly are coded by ambiguous codons for the same positions. The case of Lys:  $X1aa$ , Gly:  $X1dd$  encoding is impossible, as the condition in **Table 1** can not be satisfied: the number  $m_{23}$  for Gly is 5 according to **Table 1**. (And for a similar encoding Gly there can be a maximum of  $-4$ ). Therefore, there remains the only possible option for the encodings in question, when there are ambiguities in the third position. Similarly, you can set the encoding for the remaining Phe and Pro pairs. In the end, we get:

$$\text{Lys: } aaX, \text{ Phe: } bbY, \text{ Pro: } ccN, \text{ Gly: } ddN, \quad (11)$$

From **Table 1** it follows that the value of  $m_{12}$  does not exceed the number 4 for the amino acids from (5) with the numbers from 1 to 17. The number 4 means that the first and second positions can be single-valued, which can not be said for  $m_{12}$  for Ser, Leu, Arg, for which these values are 7.8.7, respectively. Therefore, in the next step only amino acids from (5) with numbers up to 17 will be considered. Note that the calculation of the encodings for all amino acids from (5) is carried out according to the method published in [3]

### 3. Step 3-by-Step 7 Calculation in the Uniqueness Domain

The solution search in step 3 is illustrated in **Figure 8** (step. 3), where the reduced unambiguity region is presented. For each of the four amino acids from (9) we carry out two bands (gray hatching in Fig.) for Ama1 (horizontal strip, **Figure 3** outside the figure indicates the step. number) and Ama2 (vertical strip). As a result, at the intersections of these bands we find only 4 amino acids: Gln, Glu, Val, Ala, and taking into account the accepted standard record and the codings from (9)

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \text{Lys} & \text{Lys} & \text{Phe} & \text{Pro} \\ \text{Gln} & \text{Glu} & \text{Val} & \text{Ala} \\ \text{Pro} & \text{Gly} & \text{Gly} & \text{Gly} \\ ccaa & ddaa & ddbb & ddcc \end{array} \quad (12)$$

where n.s. is the nucleotide sequence. From (12) we have single-valued encodings for 4 amino acids: Gln, Glu, Val, Ala, and with (9) we find:

3										3				3				3	
	Met	Trp	Phe	Tyr	His	Asn	Asp	Cys	Gln	Lys	Glu	Ile	Val	Pro	Thr	Ala	Gly		
3	Met												Cys			Cys	Trp		
	Trp						Gly				Gly		Gly			Gly	Gly		
	Phe			Phe															
	Tyr		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr		Met	Thr					Thr					
	His		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr		Met	Thr					Thr					
	Asn		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr		Met	Thr					Thr					
	Asp		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr		Met	Thr					Thr					
	Cys		Val	Val	Val	Ala		Val	Ala					Ala					
3	Gln	Asn				Lys				Lys		Asn			Asn				
	Lys	Asn				Lys				Lys		Asn			Asn				
	Glu	Asn				Lys				Lys		Asn			Asn				
	Ile	Tyr		Phe								Tyr			Tyr				
	Val	Tyr		Phe								Tyr	Cys		Tyr	Cys	Trp		
3	Pro	His			Pro	Gln			Pro	Gln		His		Pro	His				
	Thr	His			Pro	Gln			Pro	Gln		His		Pro	His				
	Ala	His			Pro	Gln			Pro	Gln		His		Pro	His				
3	Gly	Asp	Val	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	Asp	Gly	Ala	Asp	Gly	Gly		

(a)

(a)

	3							4			3	4		4		3	4		3
3		Met	Trp	Phe	Tyr	His	Asn	Asp	Cys	Gln	Lys	Glu	Ile	Val	Pro	Thr	Ala	Gly	
	Met													Cys			Cys	Trp	
	Trp							Gly				Gly		Gly			Gly	Gly	
	Phe			Phe															
	Tyr		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr				
	His		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr				
	Asn		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr				
	Asp		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr				
Cys		Val	Val	Val	Ala			Val	Ala					Ala					
4	Gln	Asn					Lys				Lys		Asn			Asn			
3	Lys	Asn					Lys				Lys		Asn			Asn			
4	Glu	Asn					Lys				Lys		Asn			Asn			
	Ile	Tyr		Phe									Tyr			Tyr			
4	Val	Tyr		Phe									Tyr	<b>Cys</b>		Tyr	<b>Cys</b>	<b>Trp</b>	
3	Pro	His				Pro	Gln			Pro	Gln		His		Pro	His			
	Thr	His				Pro	Gln			Pro	Gln		His		Pro	His			
4	Ala	His				Pro	Gln			Pro	Gln		His		Pro	His			
3	Gly	Asp	Val	Val	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	Asp	Gly	Ala	Asp	Gly	Gly	

(b)

		5		3		5					4		3		4		3	
		Met	Trp	Phe	Tyr	His	Asn	Asp	Cys	Gln	Lys	Glu	Ile	Val	Pro	Thr	Ala	Gly
5 3	Met													Cys			Cys	Trp
	Trp							Gly				Gly		Gly			Gly	Gly
	Phe			Phe														
	Tyr		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr			
	His		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr			
	Asn		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr			
	Asp		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr			
	Cys		Val	Val	Val	Ala			Val	Ala					Ala			
4	Gln	Asn					Lys				Lys		Asn			Asn		
3	Lys	Asn					Lys				Lys		Asn			Asn		
4	Glu	Asn					Lys				Lys		Asn			Asn		
	Ile	Tyr		Phe									Tyr			Tyr		
4	Val	Tyr		Phe									Tyr	Cys		Tyr	Cys	Trp
3	Pro	His				Pro	Gln			Pro	Gln		His	Arg	Pro	His		
	Thr	His				Pro	Gln			Pro	Gln		His	Arg	Pro	His		
4	Ala	His				Pro	Gln			Pro	Gln		His	Arg	Pro	His		
3	Gly	Asp	Val	Val	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	Asp	Gly	Ala	Asp	Gly	Gly

(c)

		5		3					5		4		3		4		4		3		6		4		3	
		Met	Trp	Phe	Tyr	His	Asn	Asp	Cys	Gln	Lys	Glu	Ile	Val	Pro	Thr	Ala	Gly								
5 3	Met													Cys			Cys	Trp								
	Trp							Gly				Gly		Gly			Gly	Gly								
	Phe			Phe											Ser											
	Tyr		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr											
	His		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr											
	Asn		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr				Thr												
	Asp		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr				Thr												
5	Cys		Val	Val	Val	Ala			Val	Ala					Ala											
4	Gln	Asn					Lys				Lys		Asn			<b>Asn</b>										
3	Lys	Asn					Lys				Lys		Asn			<b>Asn</b>										
4	Glu	Asn					Lys				Lys		Asn			<b>Asn</b>										
	Ile	Tyr		Phe									Tyr			Tyr										
4	Val	Tyr		Phe									Tyr	Cys		<b>Tyr</b>	Cys	Trp								
3	Pro	His				Pro	Gln			Pro	Gln		His		Pro	<b>His</b>										
6	Thr	His				Pro	Gln			Pro	Gln		His		Pro	<b>His</b>										
4	Ala	His				Pro	Gln			Pro	Gln		His		Pro	<b>His</b>										
3	Gly	Asp	Val	Val	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	Asp	Gly	Ala	<b>Asp</b>	Gly	Gly								

(d)

		5	3	7	7	7	7	5	4	3	4		4	3	6	4	3	
		Met	Trp	Phe	Tyr	His	Asn	Asp	Cys	Gln	Lys	Glu	Ile	Val	Pro	Thr	Ala	Gly
	Met													Cys			Cys	Trp
5	Trp							Gly				Gly		Gly			Gly	Gly
3	Phe			Phe														
7	Tyr		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr			
7	His		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr			
7	Asn		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr			
7	Asp		Met	Ile	Ile	Thr			Met	Thr					Thr			
5	Cys		Val	Val	Val	Ala			Val	Ala					Ala			
4	Gln	Asn					Lys				Lys		Asn	Ser		Asn		
3	Lys	Asn					Lys				Lys		Asn	Ser		Asn		
4	Glu	Asn					Lys				Lys		Asn	Ser		Asn		
	Ile	Tyr		Phe									Tyr			Tyr		
4	Val	Tyr		Phe									Tyr	Cys		Tyr	Cys	Trp
3	Pro	His				Pro	Gln			Pro	Gln		His		Pro	His		
6	Thr	His				Pro	Gln			Pro	Gln		His		Pro	His		
4	Ala	His				Pro	Gln			Pro	Gln		His		Pro	His		
3	Gly	Asp	Val	Val	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	Asp	Gly	Ala	Asp	Gly	Gly

(e)

**Figure 8.** (a) Step 3, (b) Step 4, (c) Step 5, (d) Step 6, (e) Step 7.

$$\text{Gln:caX, Glu:daX, Val:dbN, Ala:dcN,} \quad (13)$$

Thus, it is shown that the use of the introduced reduced set leads to minimal costs in the ste.o., compared to a direct search for 307 elements of the main set-U3.

Step 4. The solution is explained in **Figure 8** (step 4), where the **Figure 4** outside the figure indicates the new bands corresponding to the solution from (13), namely the bands for Gln, Glu, Val, Ala. As a result, we have three overlaps:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Gly} & \text{Val} & \text{Ala} \\ \text{Trp} & \text{Cys} & \text{Cys} \\ \text{Val} & \text{Val} & \text{Val} \end{array} \quad (14)$$

On the basis of which we obtain

$$\text{Trp: bdd, Cys: bdY} \quad (15)$$

Step 5. In the set U3 there are no elements that have two amino acids from the

sets (11), (13), (15): all the bands for the **Figure 5**, which are indicated outside the figure, do not have any required intersection. In connection with this feature, we turned to the set U2 and consider one of the admissible possibilities. This possibility was not accidental: it had the maximum number of overlaps in comparison with other cases. As a result, on the basis of two elements u2 we have:

$$\begin{array}{cc} \text{Thr} & \text{Thr} \\ \text{Gln} & \text{Pro} \end{array} \quad (16)$$

We get two encodings for Thr: xca, xcc, where x- is not yet known. To find all the encodings for Thr, let's look at its values m1-3 and m3-1. From equality  $m1-3 = 3$  (Lys, Pro, Gly) it follows that x can take no more than two values: a, d, since in the listed set there is no Phe. However, the value of d is impossible, because Dca and dcc are Ala encodings. In addition, from the equality  $m3-1 = 4$  (this means that the first positions of the 4 amino acid encodings: Lys, Phe, Pro, Gly overlap with the encodings of the third Thr position), the third position in the Thr encoding is equal to N. Thus, we have:

$$\text{Thr: acN.} \quad (17)$$

Step 6. In **Figure 8** (step. 6), after inserting the bands 6 corresponding to Thr along the vertical and horizontal lines, four amino acids were identified in bold: 3 times Asn, once Tyr, 3 times His and once Asp. These amino acids correspond to the overlap:

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \text{Thr} & \text{Thr} & \text{Thr} & \text{Thr} \\ \text{Tyr} & \text{Asn} & \text{His} & \text{Asp} \\ \text{Val} & \text{Gln} & \text{Pro} & \text{Gly} \\ & (\text{Lys}) & & (\text{Thr}) \\ & (\text{Glu}) & & (\text{Ala}) \end{array} \quad (18)$$

On the basis of which we calculate four encodings for Tyr: bac, Asn: aac His: cac, Asp: dac. Taking into account the data from column m3-1, we finally find:

$$\text{Tyr: baY, Asn: aaY, His: caY, Asp: daY} \quad (19)$$

Step 7. For these amino acids we conduct 4 bands horizontally and vertically, respectively. At the same time, only two amino acids-Met and Ile-were found in 8 positions, see the bold font in **Figure 8** (step 7).

Let us single out two overlaps,

$$\begin{array}{cc} \text{Trp} & \text{Phe} \\ \text{Met} & \text{Ile} \\ \text{Tyr} & \text{Tyr} \end{array} \quad (20)$$

Which were sufficient for calculation. Taking into account the data from column m3-1, we finally find:

$$\text{Met: abd, Ile: abM,} \quad (21)$$

where M: a, b, c

Step 7 finishes the search for encodings for the entered uniqueness domain-they turned out to be 43 for the first 17 amino acids; they are given in **Table 2**. The further calculation was reduced to the search for solutions for Ser, Leu, Arg present in the compressed set of Fig.

#### 4. Search for a Solution in the Field of Ambiguity

Step 8. Finding solutions in an area where the values of Ama1 and Ama2 belong not only to these 17 amino acids. On the basis of **Figure 7** we get

$$\begin{array}{cccccc}
 \text{Gln} & \text{Pro} & \text{Ala} & \text{Val} & & \\
 \text{Ser} & \text{Ser} & \text{Ser} & \text{Ser} & & \\
 \text{Phe} & \text{Ile} & \text{Gln} & \text{Gln} & & \\
 \\ 
 \text{Tyr} & \text{Phe} & \text{Trp} & \text{Tyr} & \text{Trp} & \\
 \text{Leu} & \text{Leu} & \text{Leu} & \text{Leu} & \text{Leu} & \\
 \text{Thr} & \text{Ala} & \text{Pro} & \text{Val} & \text{Val} & \\
 \\ 
 \text{Glu} & \text{Val} & \text{Ala} & \text{Gly} & \text{Gly} & \text{Gly} \\
 \text{Arg} & \text{Arg} & \text{Arg} & \text{Arg} & \text{Arg} & \text{Arg} \\
 \text{Lys} & \text{Ala} & \text{Ala} & \text{Pro} & \text{Thr} & \text{Lys}
 \end{array} \quad (22)$$

From these overlappings we find the following encodings:

$$\text{Ser: bca, bcc, adY; Leu: cbX, cbb, bbX; Arg: cdN, adX.} \quad (23)$$

Step 9. From the ambiguity region in **Figure 2**, we select cases containing two amino acids from the set Ser, Leu, Arg and giving solutions different from (23). We have:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{Arg} & \text{Leu} & \text{Ser} \\
 \text{Ser} & \text{Ser} & \text{Leu} \\
 \text{Val} & \text{Ile} & \text{Pro}
 \end{array} \quad (24)$$

From the first and second overlap we find: Ser: bcd, bcb, and from the third-Leu: cbc. The final encodings for Ser, Leu, Arg are presented in **Table 2**. And the total number of semantic triplets for all 20 amino acids from in this table is 61. An additional check shows that all elements of the ambiguity region do not contain any other solutions. Three triplets: baX, bda are not defined when using any elements of the sets U1, U2, U3; they supplement the total number of triplets to 64.

When passing from the set of letters a, b, c, d to the canonical nucleotides A, C, T, G, 24 similar genetic codes can be obtained. Only one of them is standard, with a = A, b = T, c = C, d = G, and triplets baX, bda become TAA, TAG, TGA; they play a role terminator codons-codons, stopping protein synthesis.

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