Introduction to Robotics

Summary

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Technical Aspects of Multimodal Systems

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Outline

Outline (cont.)

Summary – Control

- Industrial Robots:
  - position control with PID controllers
  - featuring gravity compensation
- Research:
  - model-based control
  - hybrid force-position control
  - `under-actuated control`
  - `backwards controllable` (`direct drive`, `artificial muscle`) structure
  - external-sensor based control
    → Intelligent Robots/Applied Sensor Technology

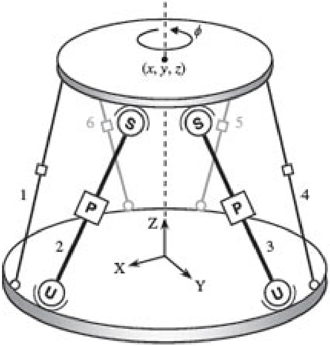
Summary – Mechanical Structures of Robots

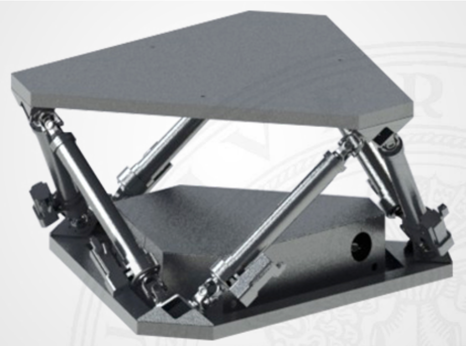
- Open chain of rotational joints
- Hybrid joints for rotational and translational motion (SCARA, Stanford)
- Mobile robots, running machines
- Closed chain, including Steward Mechanism [29, p. 279]
- Drive without motors

The Stewart-Platform

- Tool plate mounted to base plate with six translational joints (usually hydraulic) called `leg`
- Legs are connected to the plates with universal joints
- Mathematically 6-DOF configuration space without singularities
- Parallel mechanism provides high payload
  - Sequential manipulator applies forces and torques unequally

The Stewart-Platform (cont.)





Summary – Algorithms

- Transformations
- Trajectory generation (e.g. linear Cartesian trajectory)
- Approximated representation of robot joints and objects
- Graph generation (V-Graph, T-Graph, ...)
- Search algorithms
- Further path planning algorithms
- Sensor fusion
- Vision
  - detection (static, dynamic)
  - reconstruction of position and orientation
- Action planning
- Sensor guided motion

Overall Summary

Introduction

- Definition;
- Classification;
- Basic components;
- DOF

Coordinate Transformation

- Manipulator-coordinates;
- Homogeneous transformations;
- Rotation matrices, their inverse and their operations;
- Transformation equations [2, 29, 3, 1]

Overall Summary (cont.)

Robot Description

DH-conventions and their applications (classic and modified);
Universal Robot Description Formad (URDF)

Kinematics

Problems of forward and inverse kinematics;
Algebraic and geometric solution of inverse kinematics;
Differential homogeneous transformations;
Jacobi-matrices;
Singularities [2, 29, 3, 1]

Overall Summary (cont.)

Trajectory Generation

Tasks and constraints;
Polynomial solutions between two and four points;
Factors of an optimal motion;
Linear motion in cartesian space, realization and problems;
Concepts of B-Spline interpolation;
B-Spline basis functions [29, 3, 1, B-Spline Literature]

Overall Summary (cont.)

Programing

Task description, steps from the definition of frames to the implementation of programs;
Advantages and concepts of RCCL [2, RCCL-Guide];
Types of robot programming;
offline-programming [29, 3]

Control

Control systems of a PUMA robot;
Linear and model-based control;
PID controller;
Control concepts in Cartesian space [29, 3, 1]

Overall Summary (cont.)

Sensors

Classification;
Intrinsic sensors, principle and application in control;
extrinsic sensors [29, 3, 1]

Dynamics

Problems;
Newton-Euler equations and Lagrangian Equations;
Solution for arms with 1 or 2 joints, multiple joints as excercise;
Structure of a dynamical equation [29, 3, 1]

Overall Summary (cont.)

Collision avoidance

- Configuration space;
- Concepts of transformation to configuration space;
- Object representation;
- Potential field method;
- Probabilistic approaches

Control architectures

- Subsumption;
- CMAC;
- Hierarchical

Additional references: [30, 31, 32, 33]

Outline

Outline (cont.)

Intelligent Robots

Underlying robot-technique as described, addtionally:

External Recognition

- Reliable measurements of the environment;
- Scene interpretation

Knowledge base

- About environment;
- Its own state;
- Everyday knowledge comparable to a human

Intelligent Robots (cont.)

Autonomous planning
- Action;
- Coarse motion;
- Grasping;
- Sensor data acquisition

Human friendly interface
- Understanding of naturally spoken commands;
- Generation of robot actions;
- Solving of disambiguity in context-aware situations

Adaptive Control
- Evolution instead of programming;
- Ability to learn

Autonomous Planning Systems

Action Planning

Task-Specification;
State representation;
Task-decomposition;
Action-sequence generation

Motion Planning

Representation of the robot and the environment;
Calculation and representation of configuration space;
Search algorithms

Autonomous Planning Systems (cont.)

Planning of Sensing

Which sensors;

Which time intervals;

Where to measure;

Internal and external parameters of the sensor

Sensor driven motion

Goal

Intelligent Control including the ability to adapt to different situations and to react to uncertainties

Control Architecture

Integration of perception, planning and actions

Tasks of sensor data processing

Position detection;
Proximity detection;
Slip detection;
Success confirmation;
Error detection;
Inspection

Sensor driven motion (cont.)

Applied sensors
- Tactile sensors;
- Vision systems;
- Force-torque measurement systems;
- Distance sensors

Strategies
- `calibrated` based on absolute reference values;
- `uncalibrated` based on relative information

Types of perception
- `passive` based on a certain sensor-actor configuration;
- `active` depending on the plan for sensing

Future Commercial Robots

will be:

- dexterous
- smaller
- faster
- lightweight
- powerful
- intelligent
- easier to operate
- cheaper

Challenges in the Field of Robotics

Methods

Symbolical understanding of the environment;
Integrated sensor-motor-coupling;
Self-learning

Systems

Synergetic multi-sensor;
Agile mobility;
Dexterous manipulation capabilities

Challenges in the Field of Robotics (cont.)

Technical

Sensor complexity similar to a human;
New drive types;
Nano-robots;
Multifinger hand;
Anthropomorphic robots;
Flying robots

Continuing Education at University of Hamburg

Intelligent Robots Project
: Build a complex robotic system from the available hardware at TAMS. Current Hardware includes PR2, TASER, 2 KUKA lightweight arms, 2 Mitsubishi PA10-6C, UR5 Arm, 4 Turtlebots, Shadow Hand C6, Shadow Hand C5, Robotiq adaptive gripper, SCHUNK gripper, 2 Barret Hands. . .

Intelligent Robots/Applied Sensor Technology Lecture
: Intrinsic and Extrinsic sensor technology and their application for intelligent robotic systems.

Machine Learning Lecture
: Machine learning techniques allow robots to learn from observation and experience

Continuing Education at University of Hamburg (cont.)

Neural Networks Lecture
: Neural Networks allow robots to learn and offer new approaches to planning and control

Image Processing I&II Lecture
: Image processing is required for robots to observe the environment and recognize/classify/detect objects and humans

Knowledge Processing Lecture
: The gained knowledge from observance and sensing has to be processed efficiently

Continuing Education at University of Hamburg (cont.)

Language Processing Lecture
: How to extract knowledge and information from human speech

Real-Time Systems Lecture at TUHH
: Robots have to process information and act in Real-Time environments

Fundamentals of Control Technology Lecture at TUHH
: Control Technology is required for the technical control of robotic systems. Advanced Lecture with large prerequisites.

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