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Multi-Contact Compliant Motion Control for Robotic Manipulators

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1. System Setup



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- PUMA560
- Two contacts with vertical board and horizontal table

2. Motivation



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Multi-Contact Formulation

- Our previous work¹ developed a general multi-contact model, which cannot be described by the Raibert-Craig model.²
- Extend the framework by modeling the stiffness of the environment.

2. Motivation



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Multi-Contact Formulation

- Our previous work¹ developed a general multi-contact model, which cannot be described by the Raibert-Craig model.²
- Extend the framework by modeling the stiffness of the environment.

Force Control

A modified Kalman estimation(AOB) is well suited for our system.

- Uncertain input torque additional input error state.
- Varying measurement noise on-line variance calculation.

 $^{^1\}mathrm{Roy}$ Featherstone, Stef Sonck Tiebaut, and Oussama Khatib. A general contact model for dynamically decoupled force/motion control, 1999.

²Raibert, M. H., and Craig, J. J. Hybrid Position/Force Control of Manipulators, ASME Jnl. Dynamic Systems, Measurement & Control, 1981



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3. Multi-Contact Formulation

Multi-Contact model

- $f_c = N\alpha$ $N = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{n} \\ \vec{n} \times \vec{l} \end{bmatrix}$
 - α : magnitude of contact force





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3. Multi-Contact Formulation

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 - α : magnitude of contact force



Projection Matrices



- ϑ velocity of the operational point
- f force at the operational point
- N spans contact normal space

4. Control





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Equations of Motion with Operational Space Formulation

$$\Lambda_o(x)\dot{\vartheta} + \mu_o(x,\vartheta) + p_o(x) + f_c = F,$$

$$F = f_{com}^{\star} + \hat{\mu}_o(x,\vartheta) + \hat{p}_o(x) + \hat{f}_o$$

$$f_{com}^{\star} = \Lambda_o \Omega_m f_t^{\star} + \Lambda_o \Omega_f f_c^{\star}.$$

Force control



With equations of motion in Contact Normal Space

$$\dot{\vartheta}_c = \Omega_f f_c^{\star}$$

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Force control



With equations of motion in Contact Normal Space

$$\dot{\vartheta}_c = \Omega_f f_c^\star$$

and a spring model

$$\dot{f}_{c,i} = k_{s,i}\vartheta_{c,i},$$

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With equations of motion in Contact Normal Space

$$\dot{\vartheta}_c = \Omega_f f_c^{\star}$$

and a spring model

$$\dot{f}_{c,i} = k_{s,i}\vartheta_{c,i},$$

The system transfer function can be derived as

1

$$G(s) = \frac{k_{s,i}e^{-sT_d}}{s(s+K_2)}.$$

 T_d system input delay K_2 additional damping

Force control Design



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- L_r a full state feedback gain obtained by Pole Placement Method
- L_1 a scaling factor to compute reference input
- f_c contact force
- $f_{c,d}$ desired contact force
- r_k reference input
- \hat{x}_k state estimate
- \hat{p}_k input error estimate

Noise Variance (R_k) Estimation



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• The discrete time first order high-pass filter

$$\alpha_f(z) = G_f(z)\alpha(z),$$

 $G_f(z)$ the filter with a zero at 3[Hz] and a pole at 60[Hz] $\alpha(z)$ the measured contact force for each contact force space

Noise Variance (R_k) Estimation



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• The discrete time first order high-pass filter

$$\alpha_f(z) = G_f(z)\alpha(z),$$

 $G_f(z)$ the filter with a zero at 3[Hz] and a pole at 60[Hz] $\alpha(z)$ the measured contact force for each contact force space

• The estimation of the measurement noise, $\hat{R}(t_i)$

$$\hat{R}(t_i) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=i-N+1}^{i} \{ [\alpha_f(t_j) - \bar{\alpha}_f] [\alpha_f(t_j) - \bar{\alpha}_f]^T \},\$$

where $\bar{\alpha}_f$ is the mean of the filtered force over a time window.

• 50 samples have been used in the experiments.



5. Results

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Experiment for Analysis

Measured and Estimated forces in contact with the table.



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(a) Measured force of the first contact. z direction.



(b) Estimated force of the first contact. z direction.

Measured and Estimated forces in contact with the vertical board.



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(a) Measured force of the second contact. y direction.



(b) Estimated force of the second contact. y direction.

Noise Variance Estimations.



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(a) Noise Covariance Estimation for the first contact force.



(b) Noise Covariance Estimation for the second contact force.

Wrist translational motion in \boldsymbol{x} direction.





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Linear/Angular Motion with Contacts (90/120 degree)



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Without/With online calculation of Noise Variance, R_k

7. Conclusion



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Multi-Contact Formulation

- Extend our previous work(multi-contact motion/force control for rigid contact) to deal with compliant contact.
- This new formulation sets up dynamic equation for contact force control.

Force Control

- Apply a modified Kalman filter estimator(AOBs).
- On-line noise Estimation.

8. Future Work



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Future Works

• More experiments with different stiffness environment.

- Implement on-line stiffness estimation strategy.
- Multi-contact with multi-link.