

ソフトロボティクス Soft Robotics

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集積機械知能研究室では、ソフトロボティクス、柔軟指操作、柔軟物ハンドリング等、
力学を基礎とする機械システムの知能化に関する研究を幅広く推進しています。

CMOS+FPGA ビジョン
高速(1msec)で高精度
(1000x1000画素)のビジュアル
フィードバックを実現



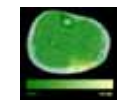
柔軟指操作
柔軟な指先を持つハンドに
より物体を安定かつ穏やかに
操作



移動制御ソフトロボット
柔らかいボディの変形
により移動し跳躍する
ロボット



生体組織モデリング
MR画像を基に非一様な
特性を示す生体組織の
力学モデルを構築



マイクロ部品輸送
非対称な振動と対称な運動により
マイクロパーツの一方向の輸送を
実現



マイクロ流体弁
無拘束弁という新しい構造
を有する小規模な空気弁



布地操作
布地の広げ操作を実行する
機械システムを構築



テンセグリティロボット
テンセグリティ構造の变形
により移動するロボット



Lab. for Integrated Machine Intelligence

Directed by Professor Shinichi Hirai

<http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/se/~hirai/index-e.html>

We are investigating machine intelligence based on mechanics
and its related technologies including sensors and actuators.

CMOS+FPGA vision
Fast (1,000fps) and high-
resolution (1,000x1,000
pixels) visual feedback



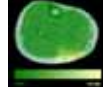
Soft-fingered Manipulation
Dexterous and stable object
manipulation using soft-
fingered mechanism



**Crawling and Jumping
Soft Robots**
Locomotion by the
deformation of robot body



**Non-Uniform Biological
Object Modelling**
Deformation model of non-
uniform biological objects
based on MR imaging



Micro Parts Feeding
Vibration drive of micro parts
along asymmetric surface
with symmetric vibration



Micro Pneumatic Valve
Unconstrained poppet
valves for small-sized
pneumatic drive



Cloth Unfolding
Manipulation of clothes and
flexible boards by robots



Tensegrity Robots
Rolling via the deformation
of tensegrity structures



Motivation to Soft Robotics



Robots
rigid materials
rigid actuators

Creatures
soft materials
soft muscles

Challenge: Soft Robots?

Does softness yield advantages?

Researches on Soft Robotics

Soft-fingered Manipulation



Crawling and Jumping via Deformation



Researches on Soft Robotics

Soft-fingered Manipulation



Crawling and Jumping via Deformation



Why human dexterity



Humans exhibit outstanding dexterity

Science
source of dexterity

Engineering
dexterous hands

Why human dexterity



Background (1/2)



Humans exhibit outstanding dexterity

What's the sources of dexterity

brain-nerve system
binocular eyes
tactile receptors
else?

Background (2/2)



Human finger
soft fingertip
hard fingernail on
the reverse side

Differs from animals

Does this structure contribute to dexterity?



Soft fingertips reduce DOFs



rigid fingertips

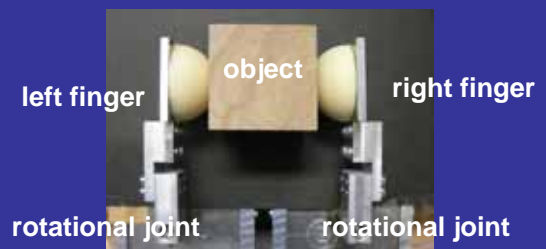


soft fingertips

grasping force	A pair of 1-DOF fingers (2DOF)	A single 1-DOF finger (1DOF)
grasping force & object orientation	1 DOF and 2-DOF fingers (3DOF)	A pair of 1-DOF fingers (2DOF)

Observations (1/3)

Ability of a pair of 1-DOF fingers with hemispherical soft tips and hard back plates



Observations (2/3)

move two fingertips inward



small deformation (grasping force)



large deformation (grasping force)

Can control grasping force

Observations (3/3)

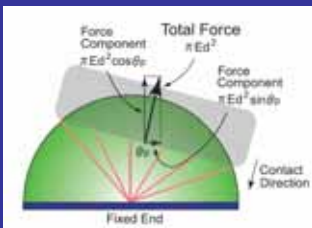
rotate two fingertips in the same direction



Can control object orientation

Modeling (1/3)

Old model: Radially distributed model

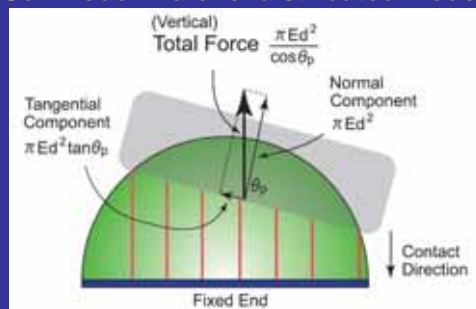


Contact force passes the center of hemisphere
Two fingertips cause non-zero moment around the object

The 3rd DOF to cancel out the moment

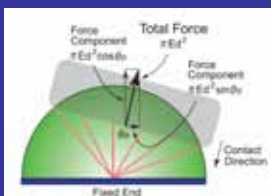
Modeling (2/3)

Our model: Parallel distributed model



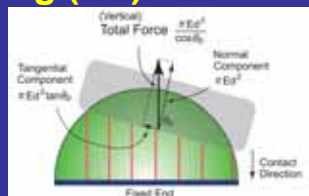
Inoue and Hirai, IEEE TRO, 22-6, 2006

Modeling (3/3)



radial

$$F_{\text{radial}} = \pi E d^2$$

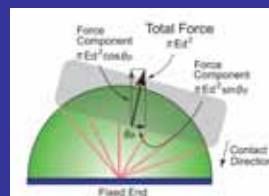


parallel

$$F_{\text{perp}} = \frac{\pi E d^2}{\cos \theta_p}$$

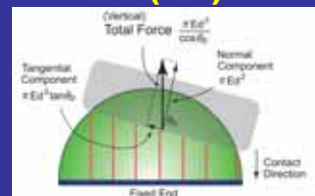
Force depends on object orientation

Model verification (1/2)



radial

$$F_{\text{radial}} = \pi E d^2$$



parallel

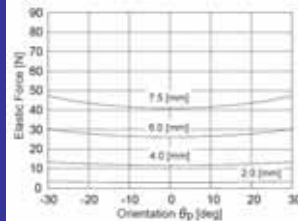
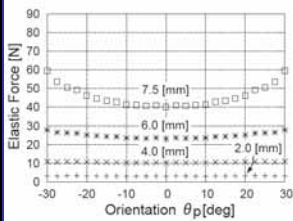
$$F_{\text{perp}} = \frac{\pi E d^2}{\cos \theta_p}$$

Examine if force depends on orientation

Model verification (2/2)

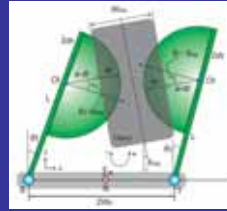


parallel model



Simulation (1/3)

Inoue and Hirai, Experimental Robotics X, Springer, 2008



dynamic simulation based on Lagrange formulation

object
left fingertip right fingertip

$$T = \frac{1}{2} m_{obj} (\dot{x}_{obj}^2 + \dot{y}_{obj}^2) + \frac{1}{2} I_{obj} \dot{\theta}_{obj}^2 + \frac{1}{2} I_{finger} \dot{\theta}_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} I_{finger} \dot{\theta}_2^2$$

$$U = U_{parallel}(d_{n1}, d_{t1}, \theta_1 - \theta_{obj}) + U_{parallel}(d_{n2}, d_{t2}, \theta_2 + \theta_{obj}) + m_{obj} g y_{obj}$$

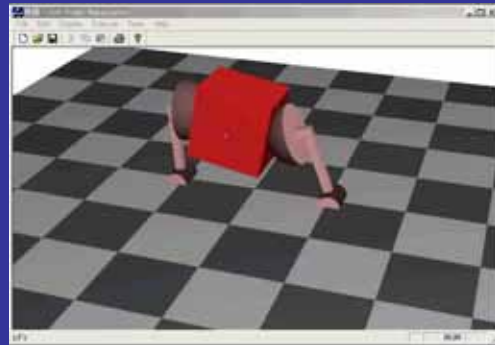
Simulation (2/3)

Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = T - U + \lambda_1^H C_1^H + \lambda_2^H C_2^H$$

object	}	$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{x}_{obj}} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x_{obj}} = 0$	}	holonomic
		$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{y}_{obj}} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial y_{obj}} = 0$		
fingers	}	$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\theta}_1} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta_1} = 0$	}	non-holonomic
		$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\theta}_2} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta_2} = 0$		
fingertips	}	$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{d}_{n1}} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial d_{n1}} = 0$	}	normal
		$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{d}_{t1}} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial d_{t1}} = 0$		
		$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{d}_{n2}} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial d_{n2}} = 0$		
		$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{d}_{t2}} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial d_{t2}} = 0$		
				tangential

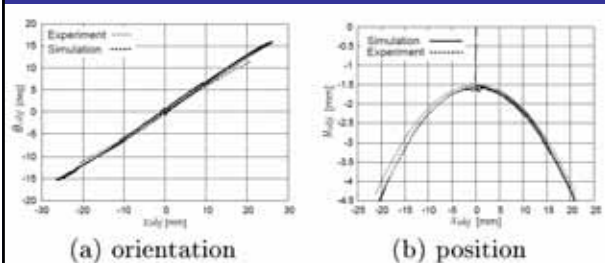
Simulation (3/3)



Experiment

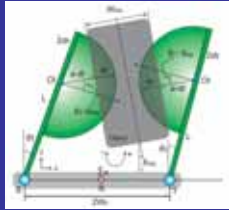


Comparison



simulation vs experiment

Radial vs parallel models



Sum of two fingertip potential energies around equilibrium point with two joints fixed

Radial model --- saddle point

Parallel model --- local minimum
no continuous feedback needed

Discussion

- Parallel distributed model with tangential deformation meets observations
- Experimental model verification force magnitude depends on object orientation
- Dynamics of manipulation process simulation and experiment validate parallel model

See for details

Mechanics and Control of Soft-fingered Manipulation



Takahiro Inoue and Shinichi Hirai
Springer-Verlag 978-1-84800-980-6

Position and Orientation Control



Simulation of Position and Orientation Control



Experiment of Position and Orientation Control

Yamazaki, Inoue, and Hirai, IEEE ROBOTICS 2009

Two-Phased Controller



Two-Phased Controller

Virtual Desired Value

$$x^d = \int (x_{dy} - x_{dy}^d) dt$$

Right Finger

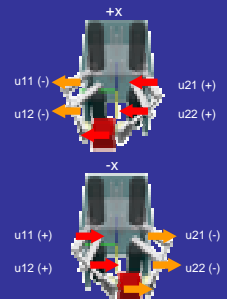
$$u_{r1} = -K_{r1} \{ \theta_{r1} - \theta_{r1(0)} - (+K_{r1} x^d) \} - K_{r1} \dot{\theta}_{r1}$$

$$u_{r2} = -K_{r2} \{ \theta_{r2} - \theta_{r2(0)} - (+K_{r2} x^d) \} - K_{r2} \dot{\theta}_{r2}$$

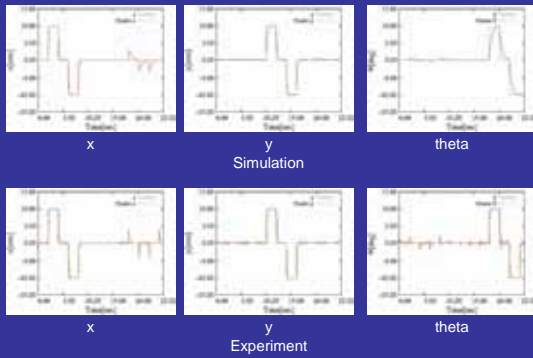
Left Finger

$$u_{l1} = -K_{l1} \{ \theta_{l1} - \theta_{l1(0)} - (-K_{l1} x^d) \} - K_{l1} \dot{\theta}_{l1}$$

$$u_{l2} = -K_{l2} \{ \theta_{l2} - \theta_{l2(0)} - (-K_{l2} x^d) \} - K_{l2} \dot{\theta}_{l2}$$



Result



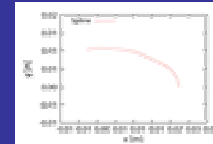
Anthropomorphic Soft Fingers

representing human fingertip shape by cubic spline



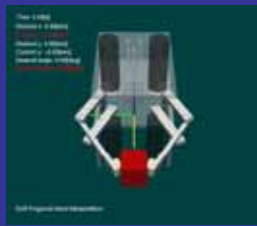
human fingertip

Extraction



contour of the fingertip

Simulation

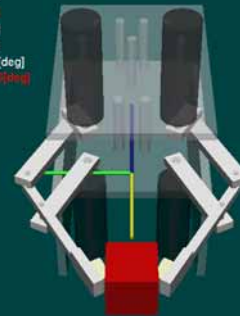


Front view



Top view

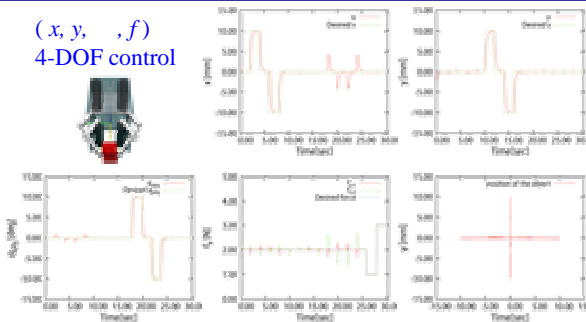
Time: 0.04[s]
 Desired x: 0.00[mm]
 Current x: 0.00[mm]
 Desired y: 2.52[mm]
 Current y: 0.37[mm]
 Desired angle: 0.00[deg]
 Current angle: 0.00[deg]



Soft Fingered Hand Manipulation

Simulation Result

(x, y, θ, f)
 4-DOF control



3D Grasping and Manipulation



A triplet of 1-DOF fingers with soft tips
 Two-phase controller works well

Inoue and Hirai, IEEE ICRA 2009

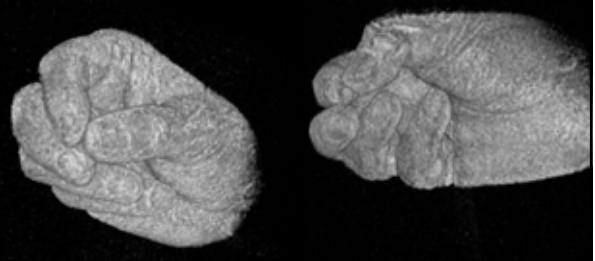
Fingertip model



Is our theory applicable to human manipulation?

Need to measure **inner deformation** of fingertips

Measuring human fingertips



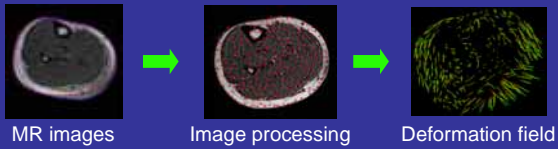
pinch motion

pen grasp

Inner deformation

Compute deformation field from MR images before and after deformation

Estimate non-uniform physical parameters from deformation field



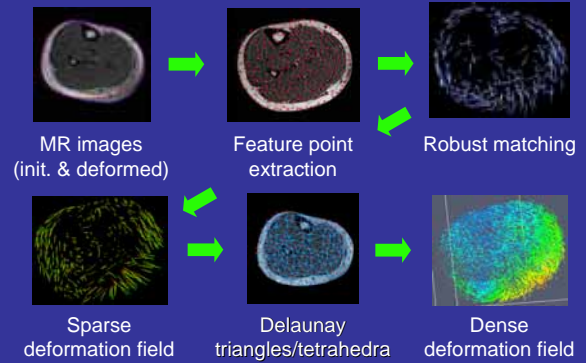
MR images

Image processing

Deformation field

Zhang, Hirai, and Endo, Int. J. ICIC, 2008

Deformation field computation



MR images (init. & deformed)

Feature point extraction

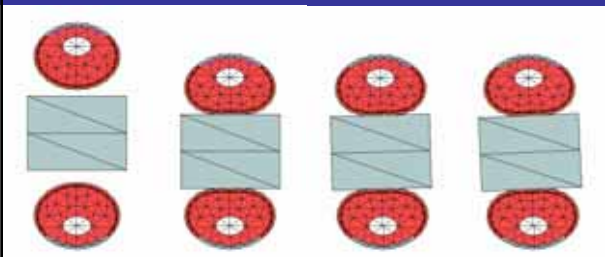
Robust matching

Sparse deformation field

Delaunay triangles/tetrahedra

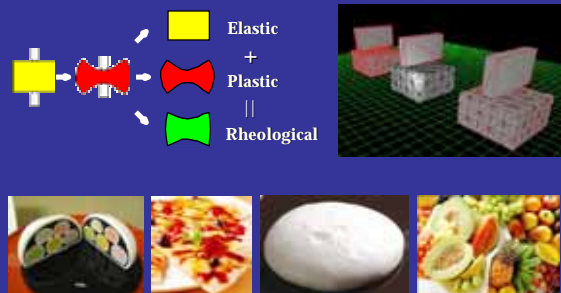
Dense deformation field

Simulating skin deformation



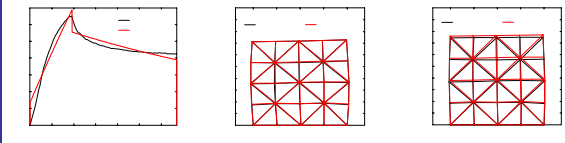
Namima, Wang, and Hirai, IEEE ROBOTICS, 2009

Rheological Deformation

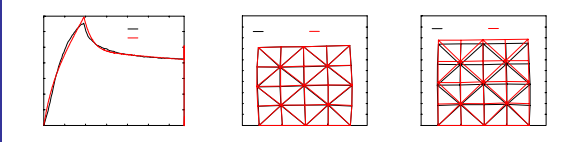


Rheological Deformation

Wang, Namima, and Hirai, TSMBE, 47-1, 2009



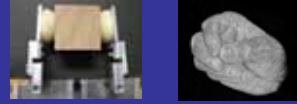
Identification of **three-element** physical model



Identification of **four-element** physical model

Researches on Soft Robotics

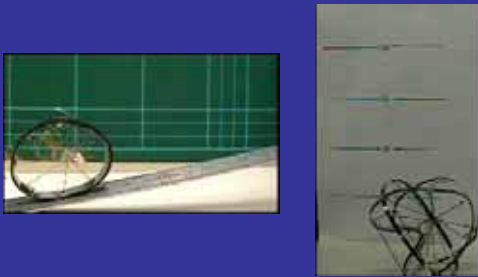
Soft-fingered Manipulation



Crawling and Jumping via Deformation



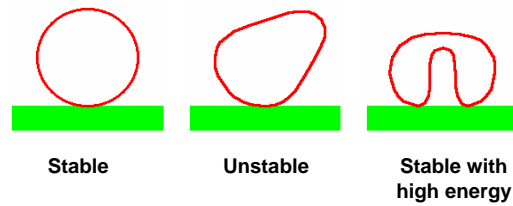
Deformable Soft Robot



Sugiyama and Hirai, IJRR, Vol.25, No.5-6, 2006

Principle

Charge/Discharge of Potential Energy



Simulation

Circular Robot (2D motion)

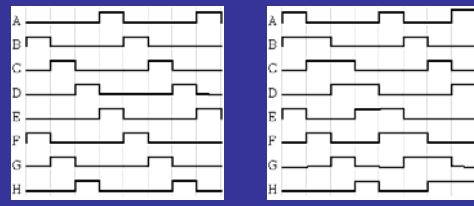
8 SMA coils for crawling
Toki corp. BMX-100



diameter 40mm weight 3g



Open loop PWM control of SMA coils



crawling

hill-climbing

Simulation

Crawling



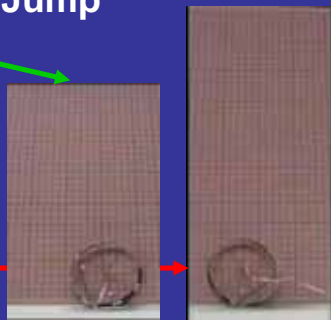
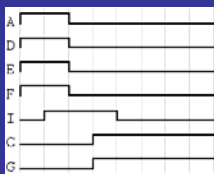
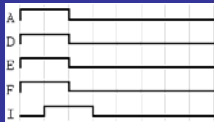
25mm/s (65% of diameter per second)

Slope Climbing



20 degrees

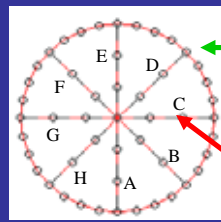
Jump



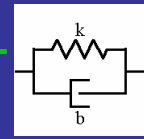
90mm

300mm
(3 times diameter)

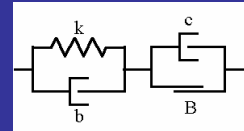
Simulation model



Particle-based model

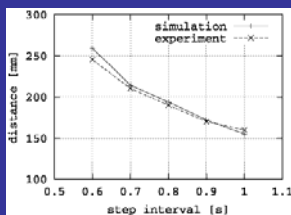


Voigt model

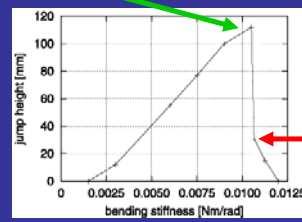


three-element model with slider

Simulation results



Simulation results



Spherical Robot (3D motion)

22 SMA coils
18 for crawling + 4 for jump

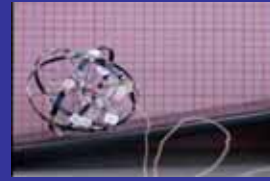


200mm 140g (core 75g)



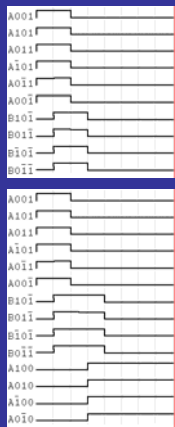
90mm 5g

Slope Climbing



Crawl on slope
of 10 degrees

Jump

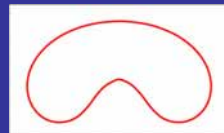


70mm



180mm
(twice diameter)

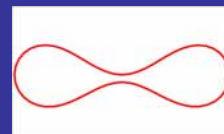
Initial shapes with same energy



(a) Cap shape



(b) Cup shape



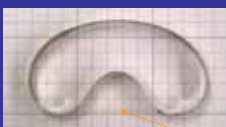
(c) Peanut shape



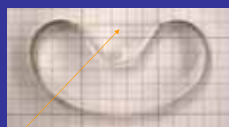
(d) Dish shape

$16.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{Nm}$

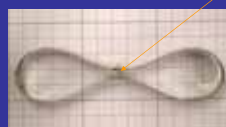
Initial shapes with same energy



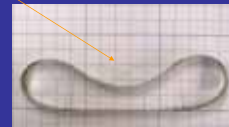
(a) Cap shape



(b) Cup shape



(c) Peanut shape



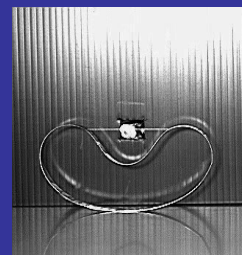
(d) Dish shape

$16.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{Nm}$

Experiments (1/2)



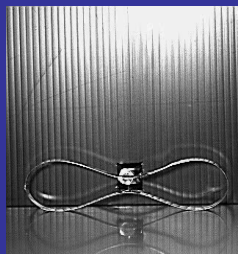
(a) Cap shape



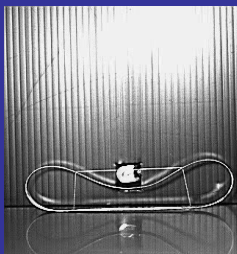
(b) Cup shape

frame rate: 1 KHz

Experiments (2/2)



(c) Peanut shape



(d) Dish shape

frame rate: 1 KHz

Effect of initial shapes



(a) Cap

(b) Cup

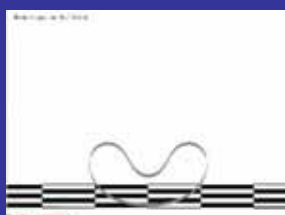
(c) Peanut

(d) Dish



Matsuyama and Hirai, IEEE ICRA, 2007

Simulation



(b) Cup shape

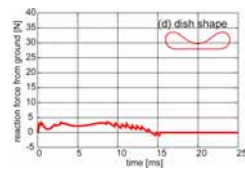
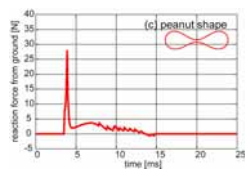
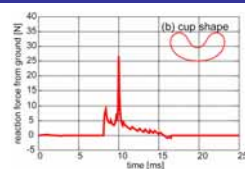
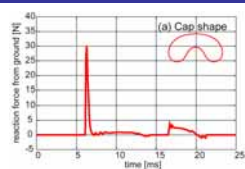


(d) Dish shape

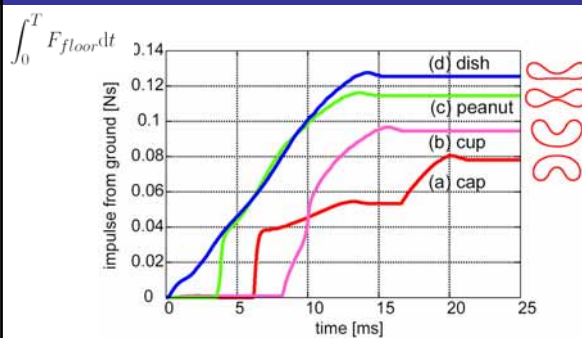
Jumping heights

	experiment [mm]	simulation[mm]
(a) cap	480	457
(b) cup	670	669
(c) peanut	970	980
(d) dish	1180	1171

Reaction force



Impulse



Impulse

High jumper vs long jumper

High jumper keeps contact between foot and the ground longer

One inch punch

Kung fu technique

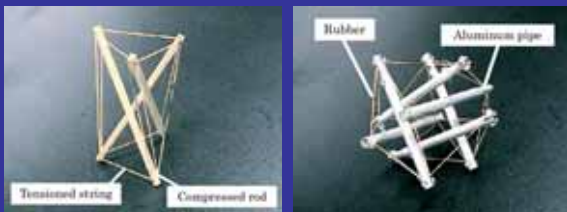
Became popular by Bruce Lee

Keeps contact between hand and target longer

Summary

- Proposal of locomotion by deformation
- 2D motion by circular robot
 - crawling : 65% of diameter / second
 - climbing : 20 degrees
 - jump : three times its diameter
- Simulation
 - particle-based modeling works well
- 3D motion by spherical robot
 - crawling : 9% of diameter / second
 - climbing : 10 degrees
 - jump : twice its diameter

Tensegrity robots



Consists of rigid rods and extensible strings
Can select body size and body stiffness independently

Shibata, Saijyo, and Hirai, IEEE ICRA, 2009

Rolling of tensegrity robot



Can roll by reducing distance between two rods

Pneumatic Valves: State-of-the-art

MEMS microvalves

- Low flow rate / pressure

Commercially available valves

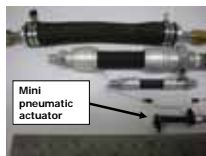
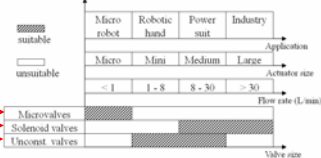
Solenoid valves

Piezo valves

- On-going miniaturization
- Complexity in assembly

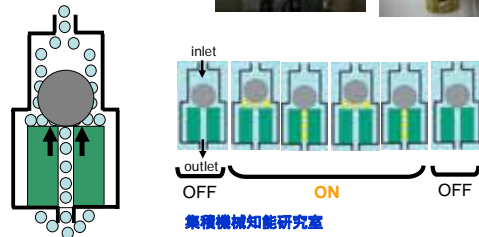
Unconstrained valves

- Ease of assembly
- Alleviate heat distortion problem
- Piezoelectric actuation



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Vibration-driven Unconstrained Valves

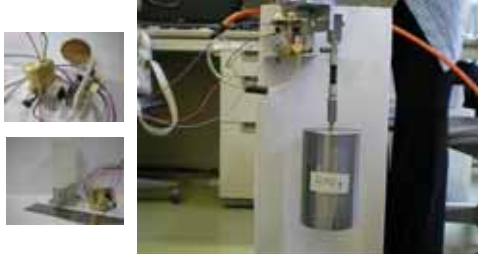


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Vibration-driven Unconstrained Valves



- Pressure control for PAM @ 1 Hz (0.1~0.4 MPa)



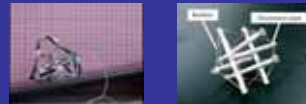
Sumadi, Hirai, and Honda, IEEE/ASME Trans. Mechatronics, 14-5, 2009
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What learned from researches on Soft Robotics

Soft-fingered Manipulation



Crawling and Jumping via Deformation



What learned from researches on Soft Robotics

Soft-fingered Manipulation

natural stability in grasping and manipulation, which originates from local minimum of **potential energy**

Crawling and Jumping via Deformation

store and release of **potential energy**, working as a mechanical capacitor

Contributors

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soft robot locomotion

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tensegrity robots

課題

自分で“ソフトロボット”を考案し,
その実現可能性について技術的に考察せよ.
(将来的にどのような技術が必要か)

<http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/se/~hirai/>

[講義] [2010年度] [特殊講義]