

High Speed Grasping Using Visual and Force Feedback

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Abstract

In most conventional manipulation systems, changes in the environment cannot be observed in real time because the vision sensor is too slow. As a result the system is powerless under dynamic changes or sudden accidents. To solve this problem we have developed a grasping system using high-speed visual and force feedback. This is a multi-fingered hand-arm with a hierarchical parallel processing system and a high-speed vision system called SPE-256. The most important feature of the system is the ability to process sensory feedback at high speed, that is, in about 1ms. By using an algorithm with parallel sensory feedback in this system, grasping with high responsiveness and adaptiveness to dynamic changes in the environment is realized.

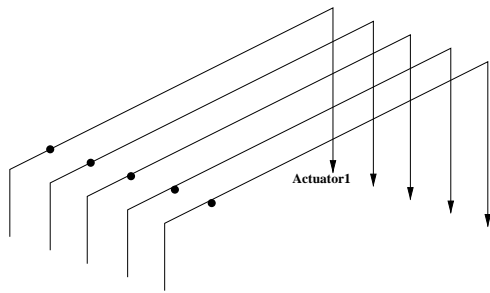
Key Words: *grasping, high-speed visual and force feedback, sensor fusion, hierarchical parallel architecture, multi-fingered hand-arm, active vision*

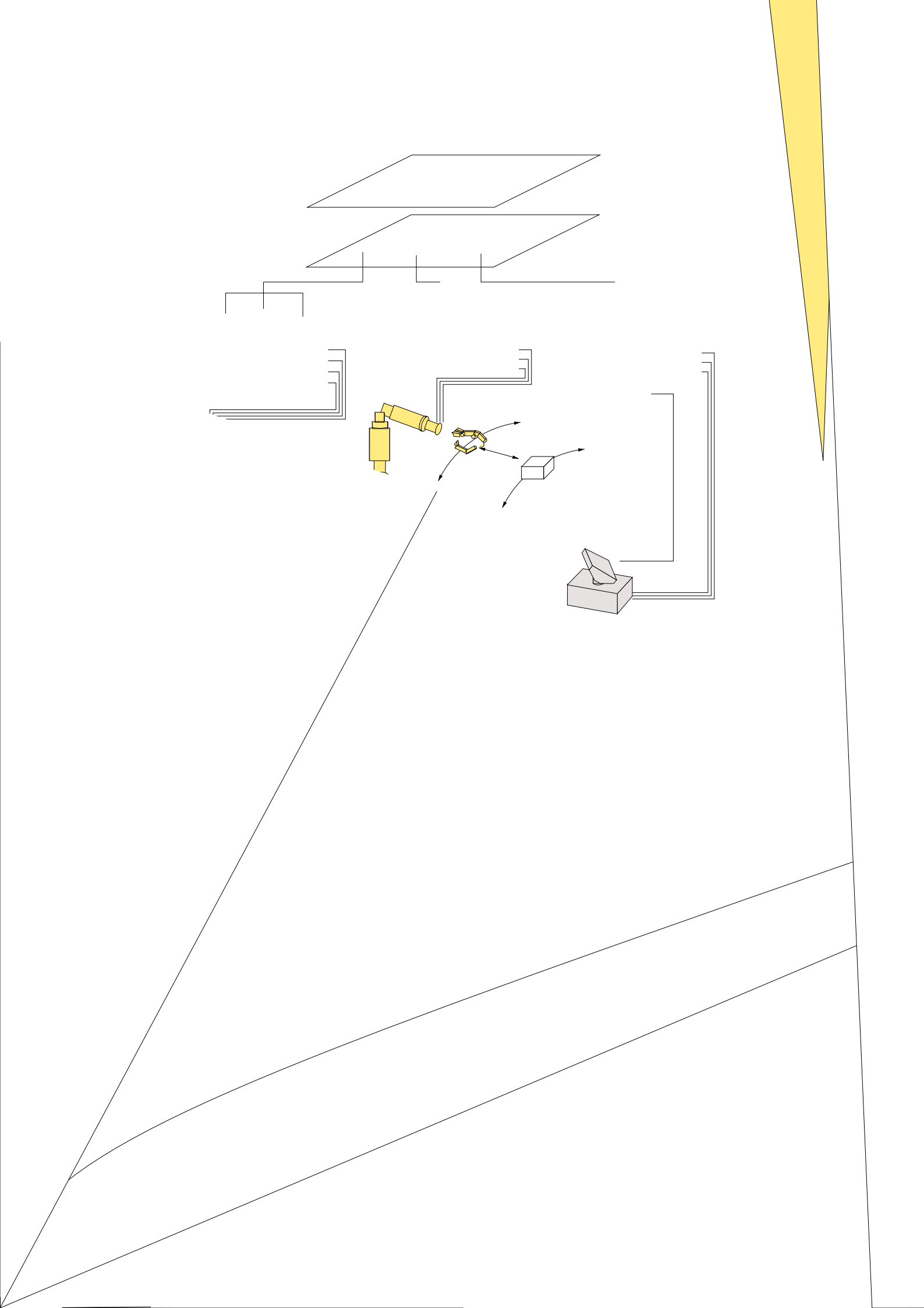
1 Introduction

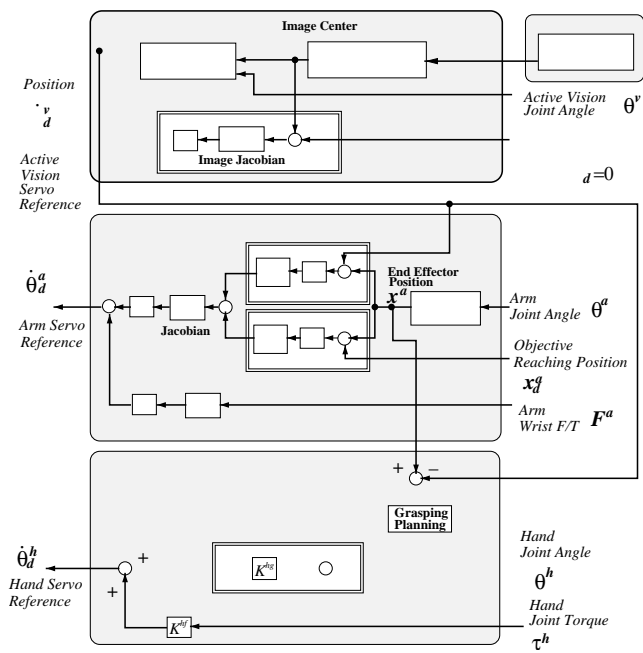
A grasping motion is one of the most important processes for control of multi-fingered hands. To complete the grasping process multiple types of sensor information are needed

information at a rate higher than the rate of control. Because the system can recognize an external environment in real time, responsiveness to dynamic changes in the grasping environment is realized.

We adopt an architecture in which both flexibility and responsiveness are realized. This is a hierarchical parallel architecture in which each element consists of high-speed sensory feedback within 1 ms as shown in Figure 1. Because each feedback process is completed within 1 ms, adjustment to various conditions is realized at high speed.







where $\dot{\theta}_d^a \in \mathbf{R}^6$ is the control input to the arm servo, $\theta^a \in \mathbf{R}^6$ is the joint angle vector of the arm, and $J^a \in \mathbf{R}^{6 \times 6}$ is the jacobian matrix of the arm. The vector $x^o \in \mathbf{R}^6$ is the position and the orientation of the object observed by vision, $x^a \in \mathbf{R}^6$ is the position and the orientation of the hand obtained by haptic sensors, and $x_d^a \in \mathbf{R}^6$ is the objective trajectory for reaching. The matrix K^{ap} , K^{a1} , K^{a2} , K^{av} , and $K^{af} \in \mathbf{R}^{6 \times 6}$ are diagonal gain matrices. The matrix $I \in \mathbf{R}^{6 \times 6}$ is the unit matrix and $S \equiv \text{diag}\{s_i\}$ ($i = x, y, z, \text{role}, \text{pitch}, \text{yaw}$) is a task partition matrix defined as,

$$s_i \equiv \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = y, z, \text{role} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

In Eqn.(2) tracking motion and reaching motion respectively correspond to the first term and the second term. Because reaching motion is orthogonal to the tracking motion, there is no interaction. Then the fourth term is force feedback of the wrist force/torque sensor for compliance control.

4.3 Processing for Hand

In this system the objective of grasping control is to fix the object with the hand for manipulation. Using the compliance control method the hand is controlled as follows:

$$\dot{\theta}_d^h = K^{hg}(\theta_d^h - \theta^h) - K^{hv}\dot{\theta}^h + K^{hf}\mathbf{F}^h \quad (4)$$

where $\dot{\theta}_d^h \in \mathbf{R}^{14}$ is the control input to the hand servo, and $\theta^h \in \mathbf{R}^{14}$ is the joint angle vector of the hand. Matrices K^{hg} , K^{hv} , and $K^{hf} \in \mathbf{R}^{14 \times 14}$ are diagonal gain matrices, and $\mathbf{F}^h \in \mathbf{R}^{14}$ is the joint torque vector. The vector $\theta_d^h \in \mathbf{R}^{14}$ is the objective trajectory for grasping and is planned according to reaching motion x_d^a .

Furthermore, according to the object shape, preshaping motion is executed to set the appropriate hand shape for grasping. In the present configuration the grasping shape is changed by distinguishing a circle and a rectangle in the 2D image-plane, as shown in Figure 5(b).

5 Experimental Results

We have performed experiments of grasping an object on the 1-s Sensory-Motor Fusion System.

The experimental result is shown in Figure 6 as a continuous sequence of pictures. All sensory feedback is executed in parallel according to the object motion at high speed: tracking motion of the active vision, tracking and reaching motion of the arm, and grasping motion of the hand. In Figure 7 a close-up view of the same

motion is shown. In this figure tracking is executed from 0.0 s to 0.5 s and both reaching and grasping motion start at 0.5 s and all motion is completed at 0.8 s. Then in Figure 8 a close-up view of the grasping motion of a spherical object is shown. It is shown that the shape of the hand is changed to a suitable shape for grasping of a sphere.

In Figure 9 the trajectory of the hand is shown when grasping and releasing are alternately executed. In *Inst. J. Robot. Automat.* 14(4)

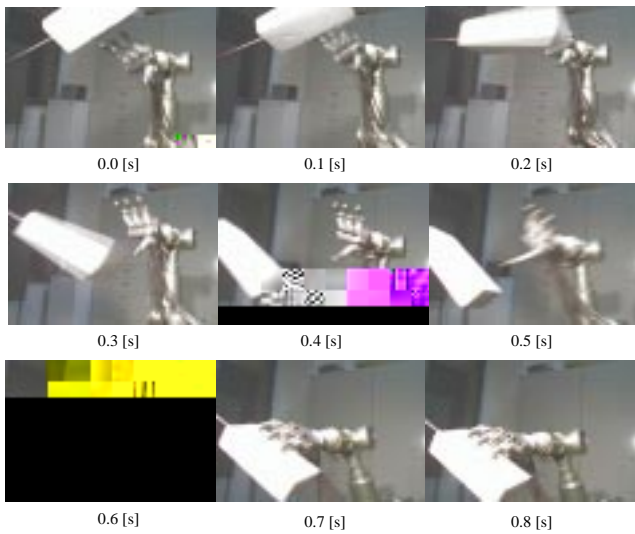


Figure 7. Experimental Result: Grasping of a Hexahedron

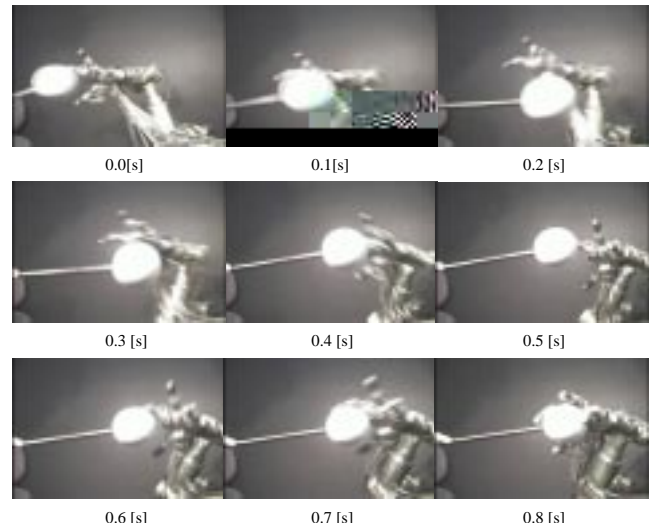


Figure 8. Experimental Result: Grasping of a Sphere

1. A Sensory-Motor Fusion System has been developed to process and fuse sensory information at high speed. This consists of a hierarchical parallel processing subsystem with DSPs, a high-speed active vision subsystem and a manipulator with a dextrous multi-fingered hand. As a result all sensory feedback can be realized in about 1 ms.
2. An algorithm for high-speed grasping is proposed. In this algorithm a grasping task is decomposed into some subtasks and each subtask is executed by high-speed sensory feedback in parallel.

As a result, grasping responsive to dynamic changes of object motion is realized.

Now we are developing various types of application on our system to realize responsive and flexible manipulation in the real world environment.

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