

ソフトロボティクス Soft Robotics

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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



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

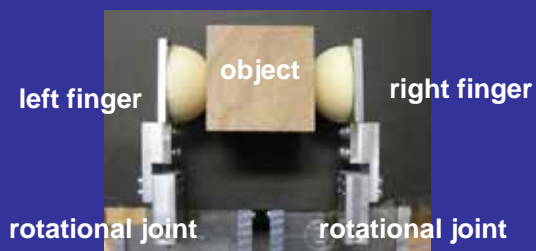


soft fingertips

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)

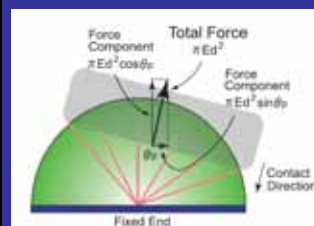
rotate two fingertips in the same direction



Can control object orientation

Modeling (1/3)

Old model: Radially distributed model



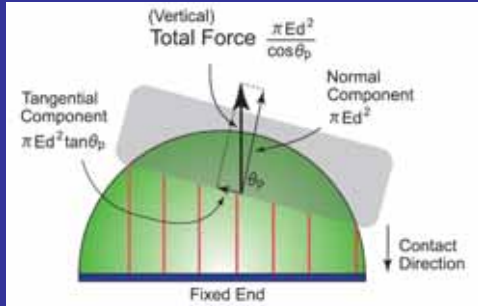
Contact force
passes the center
of hemisphere

Two fingertips
cause non-zero
moment around the
object

The 3rd DOF to cancel out the moment

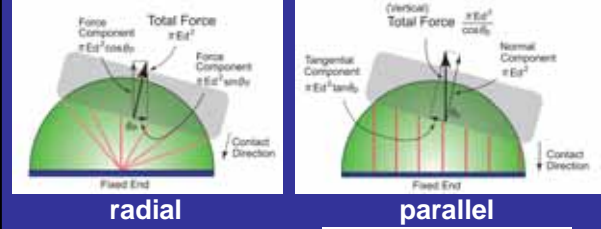
Modeling (2/3)

Our model: Parallel distributed model



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

Modeling (3/3)

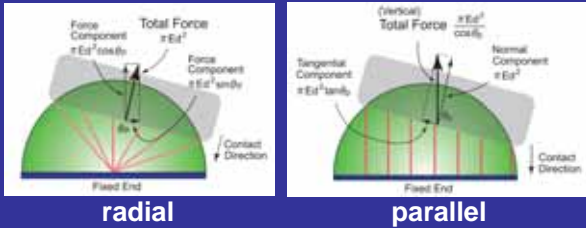


$$F_{\text{radial}} = \pi E d^2$$

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

Force depends on object orientation

Model verification (1/2)



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

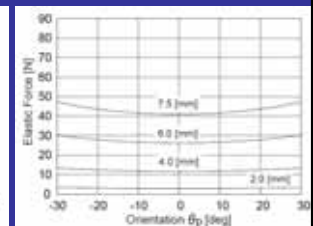
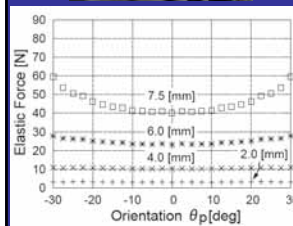
$$F_{\text{perp}} = \frac{\pi E d^2}{\cos \theta_p}$$

Examine if force depends on orientation

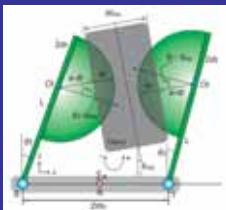
Model verification (2/2)



parallel model



Simulation (1/3)



Inoue and Hirai, Experimental Robotics X, Springer, 2008

dynamic simulation based on Lagrange formulation

object
left fingertip right fingertip

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

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

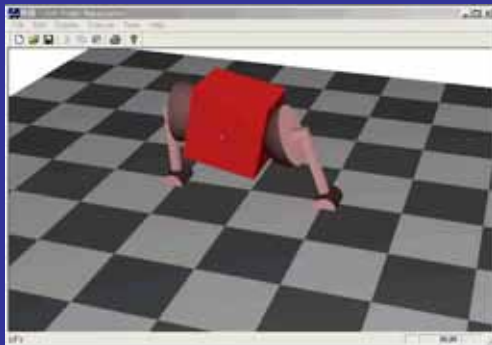
Simulation (2/3)

Lagrangian

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

object	{	$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{x}_{\text{obj}}} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x_{\text{obj}}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{\text{obj}}} (\lambda_1^H C_1^H + \lambda_2^H C_2^H)$	holonomic
		$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{y}_{\text{obj}}} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial y_{\text{obj}}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y_{\text{obj}}} (\lambda_1^H C_1^H + \lambda_2^H C_2^H)$	
fingers	{	$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\theta}_{\text{obj}}} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta_{\text{obj}}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{\text{obj}}} (\lambda_1^H C_1^H + \lambda_2^H C_2^H)$	
		$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\theta}_1} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta_1} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_1} (\lambda_1^H C_1^H + \lambda_2^H C_2^H)$	
fingertips	{	$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\theta}_2} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta_2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_2} (\lambda_1^H C_1^H + \lambda_2^H C_2^H)$	normal
		$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{d}_{n1}} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial d_{n1}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial d_{n1}} (\lambda_1^H C_1^H + \lambda_2^H C_2^H)$	
		$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{d}_{t1}} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial d_{t1}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial d_{t1}} (\lambda_1^H C_1^H + \lambda_2^H C_2^H)$	
		$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{d}_{n2}} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial d_{n2}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial d_{n2}} (\lambda_1^H C_1^H + \lambda_2^H C_2^H)$	
		$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{d}_{t2}} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial d_{t2}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial d_{t2}} (\lambda_1^H C_1^H + \lambda_2^H C_2^H)$	

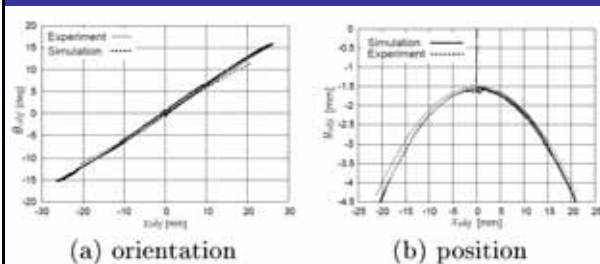
Simulation (3/3)



Experiment

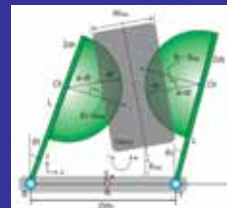


Comparison



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

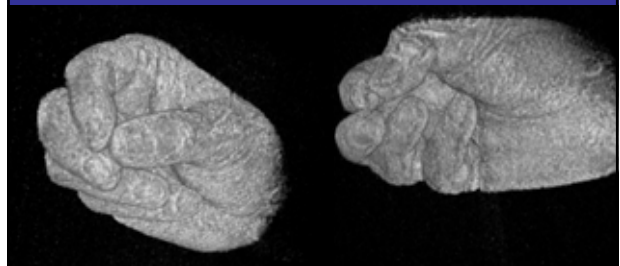
Human fingertip model



Is our theory applicable to human manipulation?

Need to measure **inner deformation** of fingertips

Measuring human fingertips



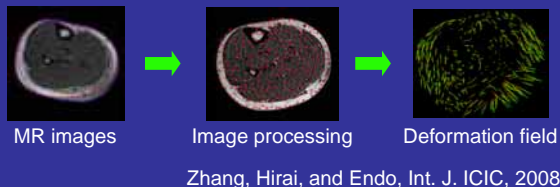
pinch motion

pen grasp

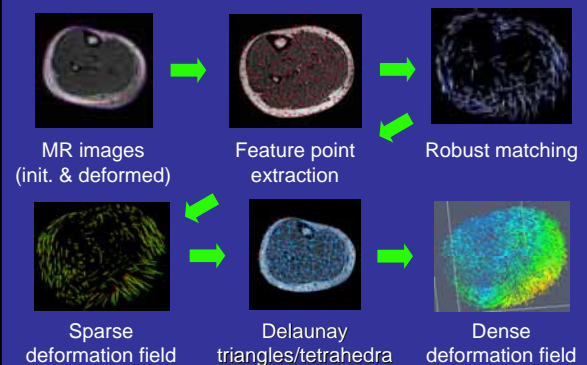
Inner deformation

Compute deformation field from MR images before and after deformation

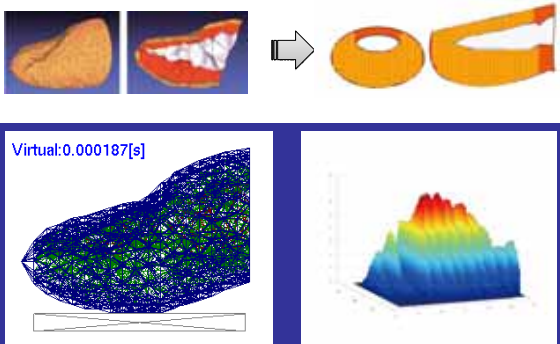
Estimate non-uniform physical parameters from deformation field



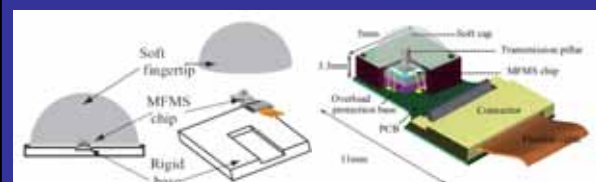
Deformation field computation



Simulating skin deformation



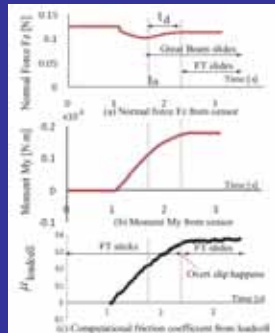
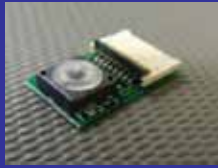
Micro force sensor



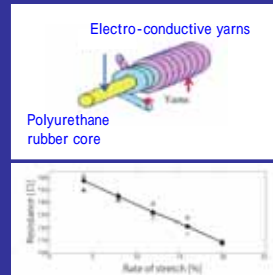
components F_z , M_x , M_y

Ho, Dao, Sugiyama, and Hirai,
IEEE Trans. on Robotics, 27-3, 2011

Micro force sensor

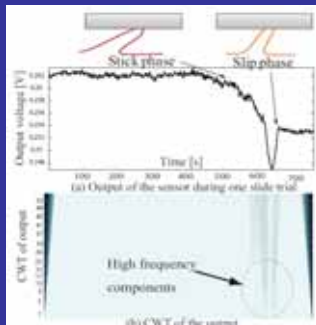
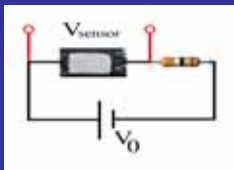


Slippage sensor

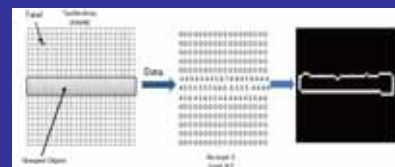


Ho, Kondo, Okada, Araki, Fujita, Makikawa, and Hirai, IEEE IROS, 2011

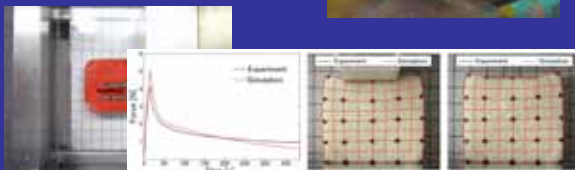
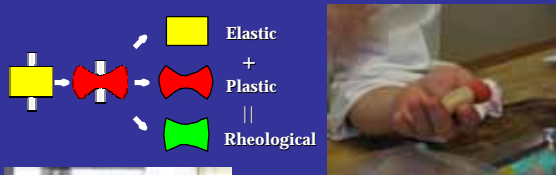
Slippage sensor



Tactile image processing

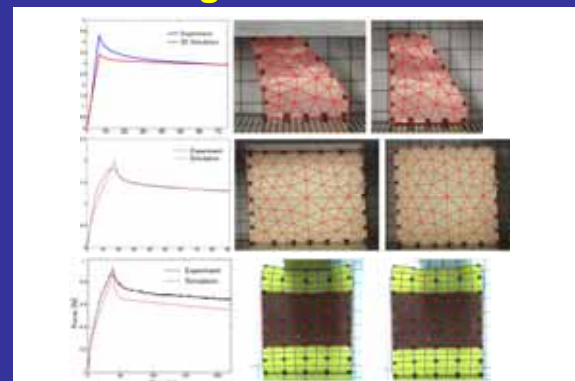


Rheological Deformation



Wang and Hirai, J. of Food Research, Vol.1, No.1, 2012

Rheological Deformation



Researches on Soft Robotics

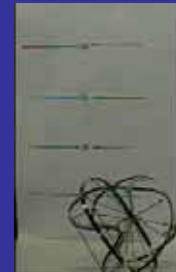
Soft-fingered Manipulation



Crawling and Jumping via Deformation



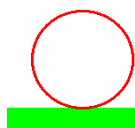
Deformable Soft Robot



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

Principle

Charge/Discharge of Potential Energy



Stable



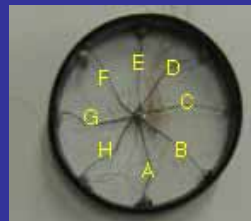
Unstable



Stable with
high energy

Circular Robot

8 SMA coils for crawling
Toki corp. BMX-100

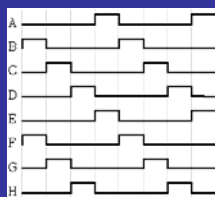


diameter 40mm weight 3g

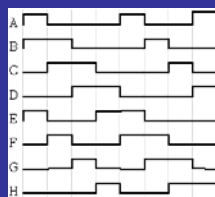


Control

Open loop PWM control of SMA coils

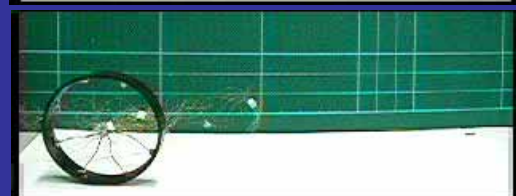


crawling



slope-climbing

Crawling



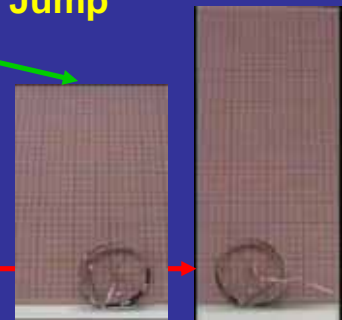
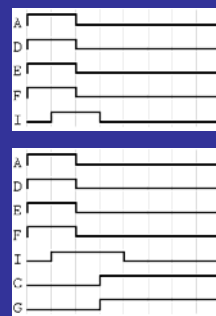
25mm/s (65% of diameter per second)

Slope Climbing



20 degrees

Jump



90mm

300mm
(3 times diameter)

Spherical Robot

22 SMA coils
18 for crawling + 4 for jump



200mm 140g (core 75g)



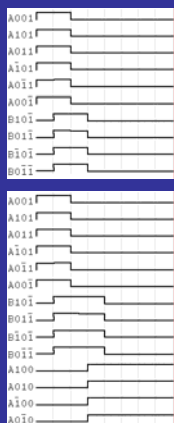
90mm 5g

Slope Climbing



Crawl on slope
of 10 degrees

Jump

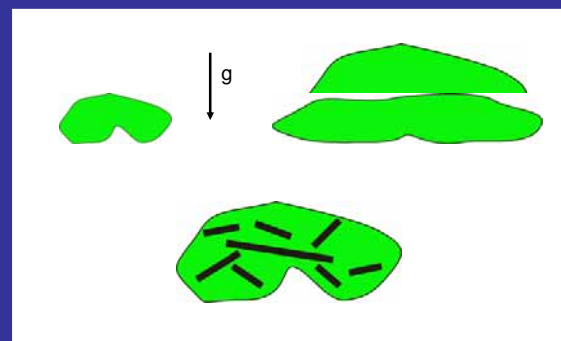


70mm



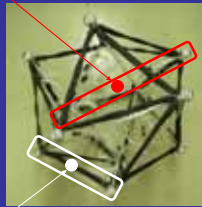
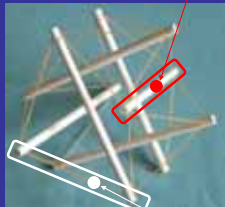
180mm
(twice diameter)

Size problem



Tensegrity

Strut (rigid bar)



Tensional element (elastic thread)

Tensegrity

Easy to deform



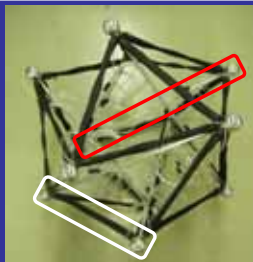
Shock absorbing



Tensegrity robots

Struts: pipes made of aluminum

Tensional elements: pneumatic McKibben actuators



6 struts
24 tensional elms.

strut: 570mm

height: 590mm
width : 780mm
weight: 3.3 kg

Koizumi, Shibata, and Hirai, IEEE ICRA, 2012

Tensegrity robots



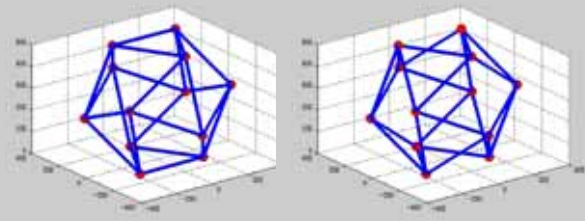
Tensegrity robots



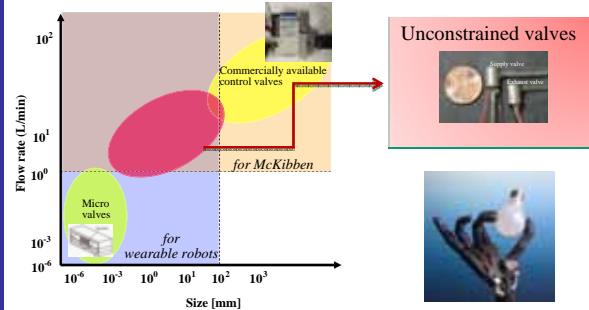
Tensegrity robots



Tensegrity robots

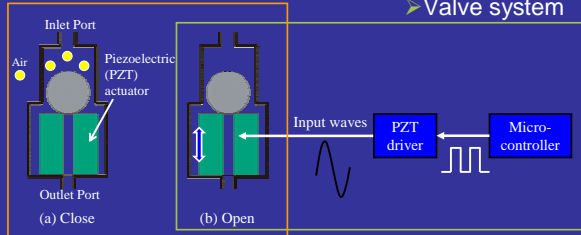


Micro pneumatic valves



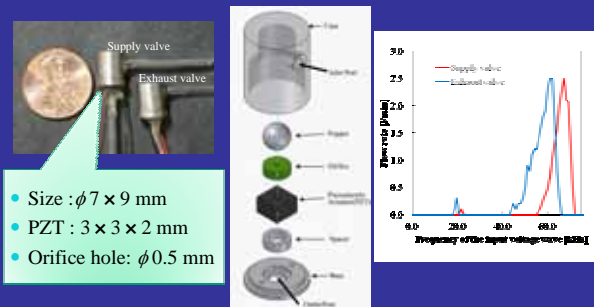
Micro pneumatic valves

Basic model

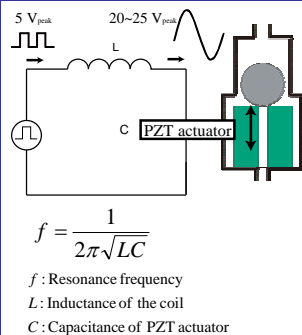


Sumadi, Hirai, and Honda,
IEEE/ASME Trans. on Mechatronics, 14-5, 2009

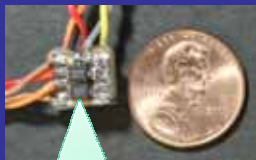
Micro pneumatic valves



Micro pneumatic valves



miniaturized driver



- Driving TWO valves
- Two coils and one gate-driver
- Supply voltage is only 10 V

Micro pneumatic valves



What learnt from 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

平井研究室



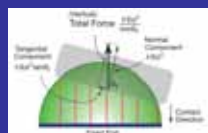
発想の基



転倒しても動く移動ロボット



これまでと違う構造の弁



現象を説明できるモデル

平井研究室

ポスドクフェロー	2名
博士後期課程	4名
博士前期課程	16名
学部生	8名

平井研究室

2012年
論文 2 国際会議 3 国内発表 12
J. Food Research
System Design & Dynamics

2011年度
論文 3 国際会議 13 国内発表 13
IEEE Trans. Robotics
Advanced Robotics

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.ritsumeai.ac.jp/se/~hirai/>
[講義] [2012年度] [特殊講義]