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Applications of Mechanism Design Theories for Surgical Robotics

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ABOUT TAIWAN TECH





HEMAR LAB



TAGWAN TECH National Taiwan University of Science and Technology Feb. 2011 ~ present

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ROBOTIC SURGERY

Robotic surgery is a technology that employs robotics to assist surgical procedures.







WHY "SURGICAL ROBOTICS" ?

Precision & Dexterity





(from Intuitive Surgical Co., http://www.intuitivesurgical.com/)

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ENGINEERING FOR SURGICAL ROBOTICS

- Medical Imaging
- Registration
- Navigation
- Control
- Robot hardware design (mechanism design)
-





MECHANISM DESIGN

- Motion and force transmission
 - Surgical instruments
 - Surgical holders
 - Surgical robots



CLINICAL AREA OF ROBOTIC SURGERY

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- Minimally invasive surgery (major)
- Non-minimally invasive surgery







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MIS



MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGICAL ROBOTS

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MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY

 Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS) is a class of surgical procedures whereby the surgical operation is done through small incisions.

Advantages:

reduced risk of infection less pain and scarring less bleeding shorter hospitalization decreased recovery time



(from Albany IVF Fertility & Gynecology, http://www.albanyivf.com)





THE FIRST SPECIAL-PURPOSE MIS ROBOT



Robot Name: Probot Developer: Imperial College London, UK Clinical trail: **1991**



COMMERCIAL MIS ROBOTS

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AESOP (1991) Computer Motion

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Zeus (1995) Computer Motion

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da Vinci (1999) Intuitive Surgical







MIS ROBOTS WORLDWIDE

- Business: Intuitive Surgical (da Vinci)
- Research:
 - ✓ USA: JHU, MIT, Stanford, Harvard, UMD, CMU, UW-Seattle, etc.
 - ✓ UK: Imperial College London, King's College London, etc.
 - ✓ Europe: Karlsruhe Research Center (Germany), DLR (Germany), IIT (Italy), Scuola Superiore Sant' Anna (Italy), LIRMM (France), PPRIME (France), etc.
 - ✓ Asia: Tokyo Univ. (Japan), Tianjin Univ. (China), Natl. Central Univ. (Taiwan), Taiwan Tech (Taiwan), etc.

and many others....

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MECHANISM DESIGN

Special kinematic motion demand

- Limited transmission space
- Immersive human interaction
- Dextrous manipulation
- ✤ Safety issues



SPECIAL KINEMATICS: REMOTE CENTER-OF-MOTION

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LARS robot, Johns Hopkins Univ., 2009

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- 1. 4-DOF
- 2. Pivoting motion
- 3. Extracorporeal workspace
- 4. Decoupled motion



IMPLEMENTATION OF RCM MECHANISMS IN MIS ROBOTS



NON-MECHANICAL RCM



(Dombre et al., 2004, Proc. MICCAI)



• Require very fine control



A FULLY-DECOUPLED MIS ROBOT

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LIMITED TRANSMISSION SPACE



IMMERSIVE HUMAN INTERACTION

The surgical instruments need to interact (touch or insert into the body) with the patient immensely, so the mechanisms will have special requirements on **lubrication**, **sterilization**, **instrumentation**,..., etc.







DEXTEROUS MANIPULATION



SAFETY ISSUES

- Workspace (Small working space vs. large mobility)
- Collision avoidance (robot ⇔ surgeon > assistants, & patient)
- **Emergency control** (e.g., emergency stop)
- Back-drivability







Mechanism Design for Laparoscopic Holders

LAPAROSCOPE HOLDERS

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Active type

Passive type



da Vinci arm

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ASSISTO holder



ACTIVE VS. PASSIVE HOLDERS

Property	Active type	Passive type
Control Precision	Better	Not good
Control Institution	Not good	More intutive
Weight	Heavy	Light
Price	Costly	Budget
National Taiwan University of Science and Technology	31	ji H

THE PROBLEMS



- Bimanual operation
- Mechanical safety





DESIGN GOALS

- * Passive design: No actuation unit
- * Decoupled manipulation: Positioning and orientating
- * Gravity-free: No mechanical lock required
- * Safety: Remote center-of-motion provided



STATICALLY BALANCING DESIGN: FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPT





Statical balancing design for the orientating mechanism



Statical balancing: Design result

Positioning mechanism

Orientating mechanism



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Novel Passive Statically Balancing Laparoscope Holder

HeMaR Lab @ Taiwan tech



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Mechanism Design for Craniotomy Robots

CRANIOTOMY

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Frontal Craniotomy

Neurosurgery Education and Training School

All India Institute of Medical Sciences New Delhi, India.







EXISTING CRANIOTOMY ROBOTS

Karlsruhe Univ., Germany

Collision Protection (CP) Force-/Torque Sensor (FTS) Robot Rigid-Body Milling Cutter Patient Rigid-Body





KUKA LWR

Lung-Hwa Univ., Taiwan



LR Mate 200iB

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The problems

- All robots are industrial serial robot, i.e., not specifically designed for craniotomy application.
- Due to the serial structure, the rigidity is not convinced.
- The robots provide redundant DOFs—the craniotomy operation only requests 3 DOFs

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Healthcare Mechanisms and Robotics Lab



CONCLUSIONS

- Mechanism design is vital for surgical robots
- There are still many challenges of mechanism design in surgical applications
- Safety is the uppermost requirement
- Talk to the surgeons and understand their needs





ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



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Date : Oct. 25-30, 2015 / Venue: Taipei International Convention Center, Taiwan

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