Human-Robot Cooperation with Mechanical Interaction Based on Rhythm Entrainment —Realization of Cooperative Rope Turning—

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1. Introduction

Robot Motion based on Rhythm Entrainment

- Bio-mimetic Approach
- for Flexible and Robust Motion Generation
  - Bipedal Locomotion [Taga 91] [Miyakoshi 98],
  - Quadruped Locomotion [Kimura 00]
  - Rhythmic Arm Movements [Williamson 98], …

Application to Cooperation

- Support of Human Walking [Miyake 94]
- Cooperative Transportation [Mukaiyama 99]
- Imitation of Human Movement [Kotosaka 00]

…only simulation results
or cooperation without mechanical interaction
Objective

Achieve a human-robot cooperative task with mechanical interaction based on rhythm entrainment

Example Task: Cooperative Rope Turning
Approach to Cooperative Rope Turning

Problems to be solved for human-robot cooperation

Frequency Synchronization

⇒ Rhythm Entrainment by LPLL
   (Linear Phase-Locked Loop)

Tuning of Phase Difference

⇒ Adaptation by Energy Transfer Control
2. Cooperative Rope Turning

Human-Robot Cooperative Rope Turning

Why rope turning?

1. It is a simple periodic task.
2. It requires mechanical coordination.
3. We can measure and control energy transfer with a force sensor.
Cooperative Rope Turning in This Research

The path of the endpoint of the robot is limited to a circle

Robot motion is described only by its frequency and phase
A Simple Model for Rope Turning

The robot can control energy transfer by adjusting its phase ($\theta_1$)

$r$ : radius of circular movement of arm = 30 [mm]
$F$ : magnitude of the force applied to rope by arm
$\Delta t$ : sampling time
$\theta_1$ : phase of robot motion
$\theta_2$ : phase of rope

Work by the robot to the rope:

$$\Delta W = Fr\dot{\theta}_1 \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \cdot \Delta t$$
3. Frequency Synchronization by Entrainment

Synchronization of Robot Frequency to Rope Frequency

- Phase of rope can be measured by Force Sensor
- Robot can follow rope motion by synchronization to force signal
- Synchronization to force signal by entrainment
  - Software LPLL (Linear Phase-Locked Loop)
    - Easy parameter tuning
LPLL for Frequency Synchronization

Input: Force Applied to Robot by Rope
Output: Phase of Robot Motion

If the input is ...

\[
\begin{align*}
& \text{in the lock range of LPLL} \\
& \quad \Rightarrow \text{Locked to the input frequency} \\
& \text{out of the lock range of LPLL} \\
& \quad \Rightarrow \text{Oscillation in its inherent frequency}
\end{align*}
\]

Robust Frequency Synchronization for Cooperative Rope Turning
4. Phase Tuning Based on Energy Transfer

Application of Adaptation Theory

Adaptation Theory [Ito 99]

Adaptation: “a process that decreases unnecessary subsystem interaction”

Cooperation by decreasing unnecessary subsystem interaction

Energy Transfer
Phase Tuning of Robot Motion

Feedback control of phase to achieve desired energy transfer

Forward phase shift

⇒ decrease energy transfer from robot to rope

Backward phase shift

⇒ increase energy transfer
Desired Energy Transfer

Teaching of Desired Energy Transfer by Human Demonstration

Robot: constant-speed circular movement

Human Partner: follow to the robot motion

Measured Energy Transfer $\Rightarrow$ Desired Energy Transfer
Results of Human Demonstration

Desired Energy Transfer:
Compensation of Energy Dissipation in Rope

Desired energy transfer depends on frequency of rope turning

(a) Measured Energy Transfer at 2.4Hz

(b) Desired Energy Transfer (Linear Approximation)
5. Experiments of Cooperative Rope Turning

Realization of Cooperative Rope Turning

- Frequency Synchronization using LPLL
- Phase Tuning based on Control of Energy Transfer
**Experimental Setup**

- **Sampling Time of Force Sensor** = 2 [ms]
- **Control Interval of Manipulator** = 16 [ms]
- **Sampling Interval of 3D measurement** = 16 [ms]
Movie: Successful Rope Turning
Experimental Results: Successful Case

The robot followed the motion of its human partner
Movie: Unsuccessful Rope Turning

Improper command of energy transfer
(+50% inflated)
Results of Comparison Experiments

Proper / Improper Command of Energy Transfer

Proper command of energy transfer

Imperfect command of energy transfer (+50% inflated)

Slackening of Rope
Energy Transfer by Man and Robot

- Stable Cooperative Rope Turning
- More load on human partner

![Energy Transfer Graph](image)
Study on Experimental Results

• Improper value of energy transfer leads to unstable rope turning

  Suggestion of the Importance of Control of Energy Transfer

• Not equal cooperation

  The human partner was “working harder” than the robot
6. Conclusion

We realized cooperative rope turning based on rhythm entrainment

• Frequency Synchronization using LPLL
• Phase Tuning based on Control of Energy Transfer

These approaches may be effective in general for human-robot cooperation with mechanical interaction