

Guo-liang Tao, Ce Shang, De-yuan MENG, Chao-chao zhou, 2017. Posture control of a 3-RPS pneumatic parallel platform with parameter initialization and an adaptive robust method. *Frontiers of Information Technology & Electronic Engineering*, **18**(3):303-316. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1631/FITEE.1500353>

# Posture control of a 3-RPS pneumatic parallel platform with parameter initialization and an adaptive robust method

**Key words:** Parameter initialization; Adaptive robust control; Parallel mechanism; Pneumatic cylinders

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# Motivation

- Due to the compressibility of air and nonlinear characteristics of pneumatic elements, pneumatic servo control is very difficult.
- For the parallel platform used in virtual reality entertainment equipment (a four-dimensional (4D) movie chair), posture condition and load forces vary heavily during ordinary operation.

# Main idea

1. A direct part is integrated into the robust controller design to raise the transient performance.
2. A new method integrated with parameter initialization (ARCPI) is proposed for posture control for the parallel pneumatic manipulator to overcome the disadvantages caused by the variation of the initial estimation value.

# 1. Modeling of a 3-RPS pneumatic platform- Kinematics

$${}^A_B T = \begin{bmatrix} c\beta c\gamma & -c\beta s\gamma & s\beta & X_{bo} \\ cas\gamma + sas\beta c\gamma & cac\gamma - sas\beta s\gamma & -sac\beta & Y_{bo} \\ sas\gamma - cas\beta c\gamma & c\gamma sa + cas\beta s\gamma & cac\beta & Z_{bo} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Transition matrix

$${}^A Y_{bo} = r_b (\cos \beta \sin \gamma)$$

$${}^A X_{bo} = \frac{r_b}{2} (\cos \beta \cos \gamma + \sin \alpha \sin \beta \sin \gamma - \cos \alpha \cos \gamma)$$

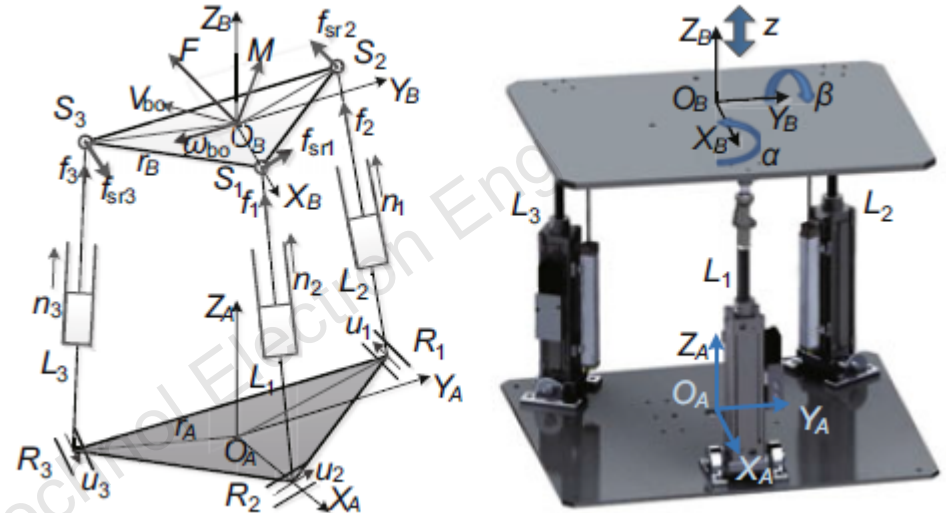
$$\gamma = -\arctan \frac{\sin \alpha \sin \beta}{\cos \alpha + \cos \beta}$$

constraint equations

$$\bar{L}_i = {}^A_B T {}^B P'_{si} - {}^A P_{Ri} = {}^A_B R_{xyz} {}^B P_{si} + {}^A P_{bo} - {}^A P_{Ri}$$

$$\bar{L}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} r_b c\beta c\gamma + {}^A X_{bo} - r_a \\ r_b (cas\gamma + sas\beta c\gamma) + {}^A Y_{bo} \\ r_b (sas\gamma - cas\beta c\gamma) + {}^A Z_{bo} \end{bmatrix}$$

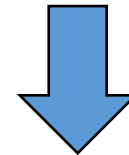
Inverse kinematics



Mechanical structure of the 3-RPS pneumatic platform

$\mathbf{x}_d(\alpha(t), \beta(t), z(t))$

Workspace



$\mathbf{x}_d(L1(t), L2(t), L3(t))$

Joint space

# 2. Modeling of a 3-RPS pneumatic platform-Dynamics

Pressure diff

friction

Load

$$M_e \ddot{x} = A_a p_L - b \dot{x} - A_f S_f(\dot{x}) - F_L + f_n + \tilde{f}_0,$$

$$\dot{p}_L = q_L + F_p + d_n + \tilde{d}_0,$$

disturbance

Modeling error

$$M_e = \text{diag}(m_1, m_2, m_3)$$

$$p_L = [p_{L1}, p_{L2}, p_{L3}]^T \quad q_L = [q_{L1}, q_{L2}, q_{L3}]^T$$

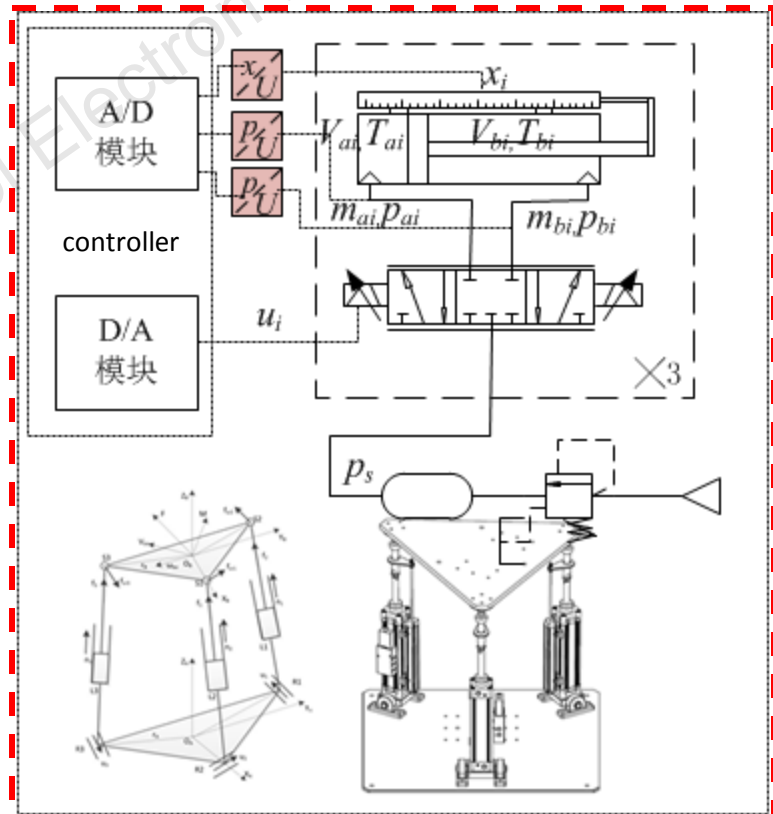
$$F_p = [F_{p1}, F_{p2}, F_{p3}]^T \quad p_{Li} = p_{ia} - k_{i\text{area}} p_{ib}$$

$$q_{Li} = \frac{\gamma_a R}{H_p V_{ia}} (\dot{m}_{ia\text{in}} T_s - \dot{m}_{ia\text{out}} T_{ia}) - \frac{\gamma_a R}{H_p V_{ib}} (\dot{m}_{ib\text{in}} T_s - \dot{m}_{ib\text{out}} T_{ib}),$$

Mass part

$$F_{pi} = -\frac{\gamma_a A_{ia}}{V_{ia}} \dot{x}_i p_{ia} - \frac{\gamma_a A_{ib}}{V_{ib}} \dot{x}_i p_{ib} + \frac{\gamma_a - 1}{H_p V_{ia}} \dot{Q}_{ia} - \frac{\gamma_a - 1}{H_p V_{ib}} \dot{Q}_{ib}.$$

Energy part



# 3. Load parameters initialization/estimation

Determination of the parameters' initial values can help the system status converge into a specific stable condition faster, compared with nonchangeable initial factors. To estimate these numbers, identification of the dynamic parameters of the 3-RPS system can be helpful.

Atkeson, Christopher G, An, Chae H, Hollerbach, John M, 1985. Rigid body load identification for manipulators. Decision and Control, 1985 24th IEEE Conference on, p.996–1002.

## Load compensation

Gibbs-Appell equation  $W(q, \dot{q}, \ddot{q}) \cdot \Phi = \tau_L$

Load paras vector  $\Phi = [ [M_\Phi] \quad [I_\Phi] \quad [\Phi_{fri}] ]^T$

Observation matrix  $W_r^I \cdot \Phi_b^I + (F_{fi} - Z^T F_{fe}) = \tau_L$

reducing  $[F_{Bd}^T, \tau_B^T]^T = W_c^T \Phi_c$

$$\hat{\Phi}_c = \frac{W_c U_c^T}{W_c^T W_c}$$

## Load paras estimation

## Definitions and calculation

$$W_c^T = \begin{bmatrix} P_W & C_{W1} & 0 & N \cdot B \\ 0 & C_{W2} & C_{WP} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C_{W1} = C(\dot{\omega}_{OB}) + C(\omega_{OB})C(\omega_{OB}), \quad C_{W2} = C(\ddot{P}_{OB} - g), \quad C_{WP} = D(\dot{\omega}_{OB}) + C(\omega_{OB})D(\omega_{OB}).$$

$$N = [ n_1 \quad n_2 \quad n_3 ]$$

$$B = [ \text{diag}(\dot{x}_1, \dot{x}_2, \dot{x}_3) \quad \text{diag}(S_{c1}, S_{c2}, S_{c3}) ]_{3 \times 6}$$

$$F_{Be} = F_{Bd} - F_{fs} =$$

$$m\ddot{P}_{OB} - mg + \dot{\omega}_{OB} \times mc + \omega_{OB} \times (\omega_{OB} \times mc)$$

$$\tau_B = I_{OB} \dot{\omega}_{OB} + \dot{\omega}_{OB} \times (I_{OB} \omega_{OB})$$

$$+ mc \times (\dot{\omega}_{OB} \times c) + mc \times (\omega_{OB} \times (\omega_{OB} \times c))$$

$$+ mc \times \ddot{P}_{OB} - mc \times g$$

$$C(a) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -a_z & a_y \\ a_z & 0 & -a_x \\ -a_y & a_x & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$D(a) = \begin{bmatrix} a_x & a_y & a_z & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a_x & 0 & a_y & a_z & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_x & 0 & a_y & a_z \end{bmatrix}$$

$$I_{OB} = I_{OB}^T = \begin{bmatrix} I_{11} & I_{12} & I_{13} \\ I_{21} & I_{22} & I_{23} \\ I_{31} & I_{32} & I_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

# 4. Controller design – fast compensators

To compensate for the uncertainty and the influence caused by estimations, a fast dynamic compensator is integrated in the controller design.

Meng, Deyuan, Tao, Guoliang, Zhu, Xiaocong, 2013. Integrated direct/indirect adaptive robust motion trajectory tracking control of pneumatic cylinders. *International Journal of Control*, 86(9):1620–1633

## 1<sup>st</sup> level calculation

$p_{ed}$

$$e_s = \dot{e} + K_x e$$

$$e_p = p_L - p_{Ld}$$

$$\dot{e}_s = \ddot{e} + K_x(\dot{x} - \dot{x}_d)$$

$$p_{Ld} = p_{Lda1} + p_{Lda2} + p_{Lds1} + p_{Lds2}$$

$$p_{Lda1} = \frac{1}{A_a} [-\varphi_a^T \hat{\theta}_a + M_e \ddot{x}_d - M_e K_x e]$$

$$p_{Lds1} = -\frac{1}{A_a} K_p e_s$$

$$p_{Lds2} = -\frac{1}{A_a} \frac{H_1^2(t)}{4\eta_1} e_s$$

$$d_{c1} + R_1(t) = -\varphi_a^T \tilde{\theta}_a + \tilde{f}_0$$

$$p_{Lda2} = -\frac{1}{A_a} \hat{d}_{c1}$$

## 2<sup>nd</sup> level calculation

$q_{ed}$

$$\dot{e}_p = q_L + F_p + \varphi_b^T \hat{\theta}_b + \tilde{d}_0 - \dot{p}_{Ld}$$

$$q_{Ld} = q_{Lda1} + q_{Lda2} + q_{Lds1} + q_{Lds2}$$

$$q_{Lda1} = -\bar{A}_a e_s - F_p - \varphi_b^T \hat{\theta}_b + \dot{p}_{Ld}$$

$$q_{Lds1} = -K_q e_p$$

$$q_{Lds2} = -\frac{H_2^2(t)}{4\eta_2} e_p$$

$$d_{c2} + R_2(t) = -\varphi_b^T \tilde{\theta}_b + \tilde{d}_0$$

$$q_{Lda2} = -\hat{d}_{c2}$$

Low  
freq

High  
freq

# 5. Results

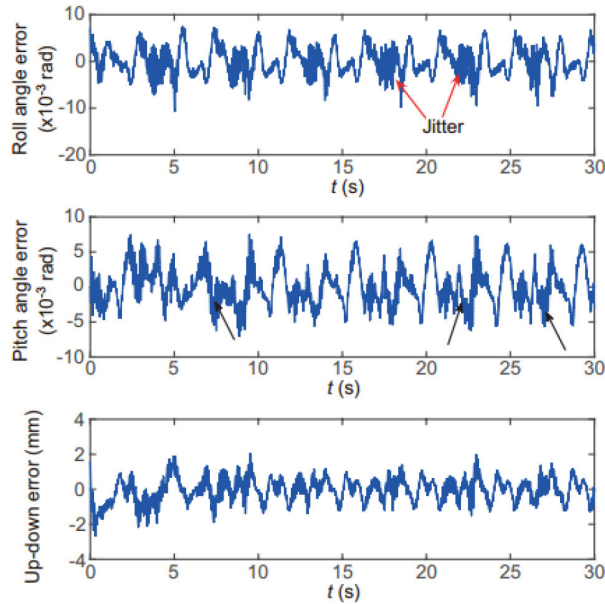


Fig. 7 Vibration caused by initial value difference and load change ( $m=75$  kg): roll angle, pitch angle, and up-down tracking errors of 3-RPS

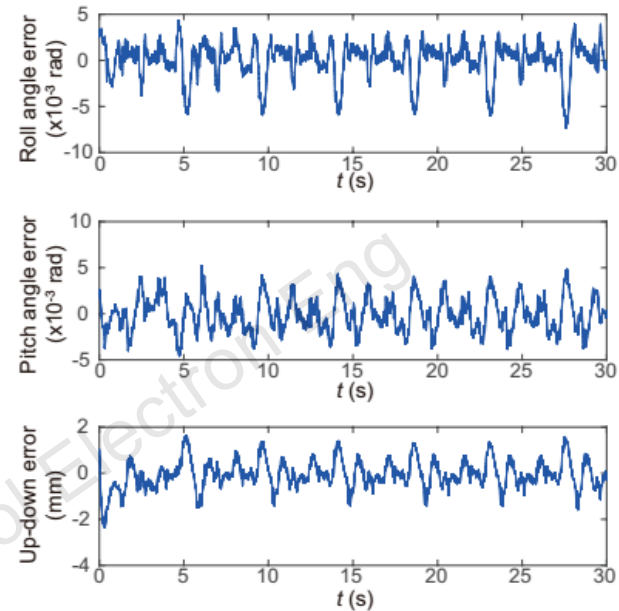


Fig. 8 Tracking with initialization ( $m=75$  kg): (a) roll angle, pitch angle, and up-down tracking errors of 3-RPS;

## Tracking error w/o ARCPI method

Table 3 Tracking error analysis  $e_F$  ( $m=50$  kg)

Parameter	SMC	ARC	ARCPI
Roll (rad)	0.011	0.0046	0.0032
Roll <sub>rel</sub>	3.9%	1.6%	1.1%
Pitch (rad)	0.013	0.0057	0.0037
Pitch <sub>rel</sub>	4.1%	1.8%	1.2%
Heave (mm)	3.6	2.0	1.4
Heave <sub>rel</sub>	4.0%	2.2%	1.6%

## Tracking error w ARCPI method

Table 4 Tracking error analysis  $e_{rms}$  ( $m=50$  kg)

Parameter	SMC	ARC	ARCPI
Roll (rad)	0.0070	0.0023	0.0016
Roll <sub>rel</sub>	2.70%	0.82%	0.57%
Pitch (rad)	0.074	0.0028	0.0020
Pitch <sub>rel</sub>	2.30%	0.88%	0.63%
Heave (mm)	2.1	0.85	0.54
Heave <sub>rel</sub>	2.30%	0.94%	0.60%

## Tracking error analysis

## 5. Conclusions

- Parameter uncertainty and nonlinear features can be estimated and inhibited by online estimation methods and robust parts of the controller.
- The experimental results indicated that the unknown parameters are indeed bounded and converge.
- The parameter identification not only prevents the vibration phenomenon but also decreases the estimation time when given a set of better initial parameter values.
- Compared to previous methods such as SMC and the basic ARC controller, the proposed method can improve the tracking performance by the integrated direct/indirect adaptive robust design.