



Medical robot design and control

MICCAI'09 Tutorial on Medical Robotics and Computer Assisted Intervention

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LIRMM : Laboratoire d'Informatique, de Robotique et de Microélectronique de Montpellier

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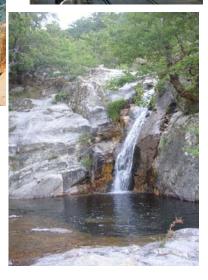








- Staff (01/01/2009): 366
 - 156 Faculty members (112 from University, 37 CNRS*, 7 INRIA**)
 - 14 Post-docs
 - 35 Technical and Administrative staffs (8 from University, 21 CNRS)
 - 161 PhD students



Outline

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- Future directions and technical challenges
 - Intra-body robotics
 - Beating heart surgery
- Some control issues in assisted MIS and cardiac surgery



Future directions of R&D and technical challenges

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Specifications

- lightweight, smaller, simpler, cheaper,
- integration in the OR: plug-and-play systems
- setup and skin-to-skin times as in conventional procedure
- sensors: sterilizable or disposable
- MMI: easy and friendly cooperation between Surgeon and Robot ("Hands-on" / Co-manipulation concept: the surgeon operates the device)...

Trends:

- Dedicated robotized instruments ("smart" insrument)
- Autonomy

→ Towards intra-body robotics

- Tele-operated mini-manipulators / instrument holders / surgical end-effectors
- Robotized colonoscopes and autonomous pills
- Active catheters

→ Towards beating heart surgery



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Mini-manipulators "inside the body"

- could be a device fixed on the trocar or distal part of an instrument
- high dexterity: they should compensate at most for the loss of mobility due to the trocar
- size requirements : Ø < 10mm, L = a few cm, small radius of curvature
- Force capabilities: a few Newtons (penetration force in a coronary artery = 1N), up to 50 N to grasp a needle



ISIR, Paris



Da Vinci (Intuitive Surgical)

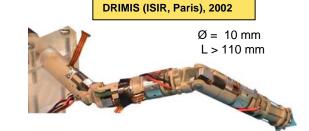


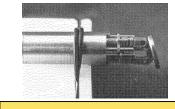
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Mini-manipulators "inside the body"2 design approaches:

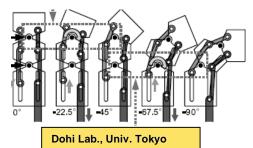
Embedded actuators: mini-serial (or parallel) manipulators made of rigid bodies and discrete joints

bulky, power limitation,
low reliability of actuators





MIPS (INRIA-Sophia), 2002





Remote actuators:

- → Two approaches :
 - Rigid-linkage mechanisms: bulky, complexity
 - Wire-driven mechanisms:

high dexterity but

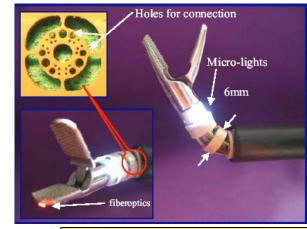
if cable-drives: backlash, limited reliability if SMA wires (NiTi): large stroke length / weight ratio but limited bandwidth

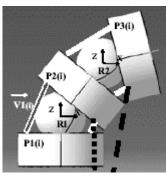
4-dof forceps (da Vinci, Intuitive Surgical)



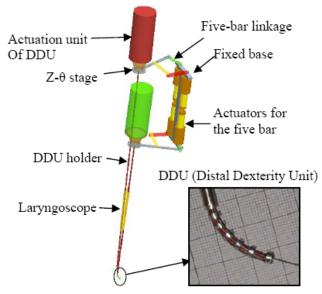
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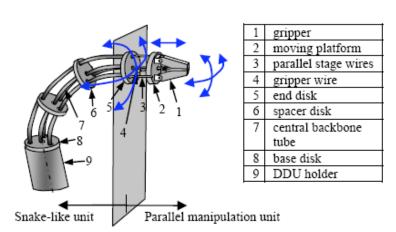
- discrete architecture (e.g. with ball joints)
- or "continuous" backbone ("snake-like")





Disposable plastic compact wrist (LAAS, Sinters 2004): plastic vertebra+balls and NiTi super-elastic wires





Ø=4.2 L=26 3 NiTi superelastic cables + 1 steel wire for rigidity

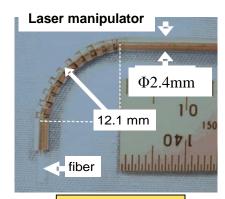
Telerobotic assistant for MIS of the upper airways (JHU & ARMA lab., Columbia Univ.), 2004



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Hydraulic // manipulator (KUL, Leuven), 2000

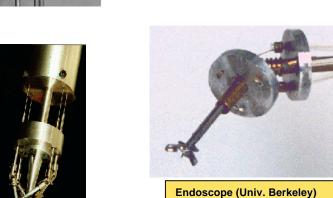




Fujie lab. (Waseda University, Tokyo)



Bending forceps based on rigid linkage mechanism (Univ. Tokyo), 2003



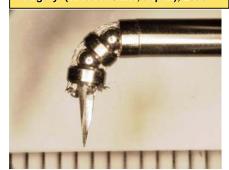
Bending US coagulator/cutter (Women's Medical Univ. Tokyo), 2004



HARP (Robotics Institute, CMU, Pittsburg), 2006



Micro-manipulator for Intrauterine fetal surgery (Wasesa Univ., Japan), 2005





HyperFinger (Nagoya Univ., Japan), 2003

Reboulet's redundant wrist (CERT / ONERA, Toulouse), 1999



Brain retractor

Toward intra-body robotics

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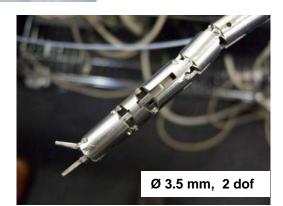
Rigid-linkage mechanisms



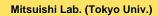




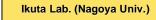
Sakuma Lab. (Tokyo Univ.)



Dohi Lab. (Tokyo Univ.)





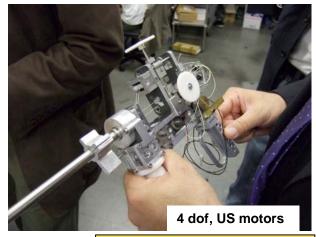






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Hand-held motorized instruments



Sakuma Lab. (Tokyo University)



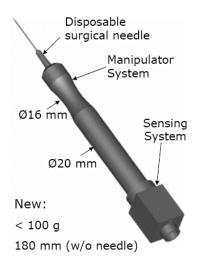


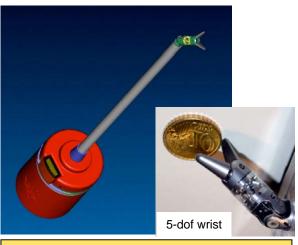
Fujie lab. (Waseda University, Tokyo)



Ikuta Lab. (Nagoya University)

MICRON tremor cancelling instrument (CMU, Pittsburgh): eye surgery





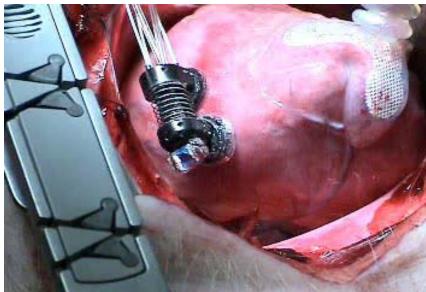
Forceps (German Aerospace center, DLR, Germany)

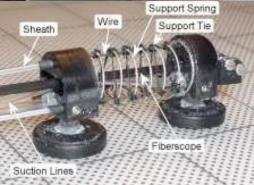


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HeartLander (The Robotics Institute, CMU, Pittsburgh)

... an inchworm-like mobile robot for minimally-invasive beating-heart cardiac surgery







In vivo mobile robot (Robotics & Mechatronics Lab., Univ. Nebraska)

... a wheeled-driven mobile robot to be placed in the abdominal cavity





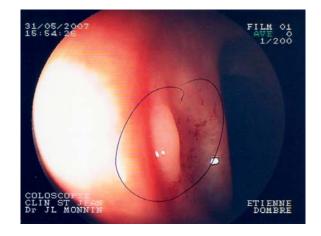


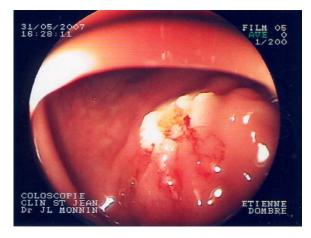
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Robotized colonoscopes / autonomous pills

- Goal: Inspection of the gastrointestinal tract (small intestine, colon).
- Colon cancer: one of the main causes of death in the industrialized countries
- Detection and resection of polypus
- Currently, manual colonoscopy: push-type flexible endoscope (up to Ø 2cm) with CCD camera, optical fiber for illumination, working channels (air, water, wireactuated instruments for biopsy...)
- Technically demandind for the coloscopiste, unpleasant for the patient





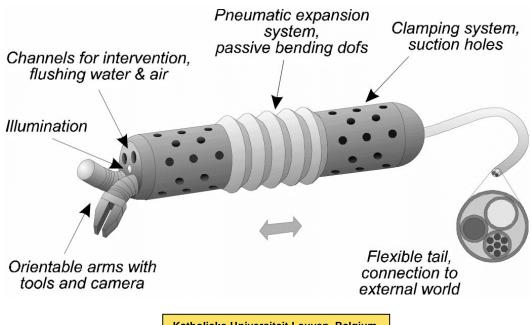




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→ Solutions

Semi-autonomous colonoscope: self propelling robot with a tether to transport fluids and energy



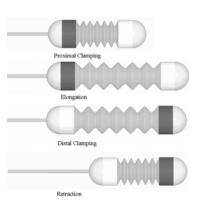
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium



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Solutions

- Semi-autonomous colonoscope: self propelling robot with a tether to transport fluids and energy
- Autonomous untethered pill swallowed by the patient (thus, the whole tract may be inspected)

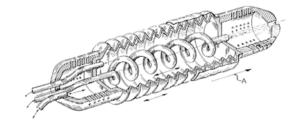


Propulsion based on inchworm locomotion

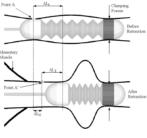




EMIL (SSSA, ARTS Lab., Pise)



... but colon is collapsible, slippery, has acute bends, which limit traveling capabilities of semi-automatic colonoscopes



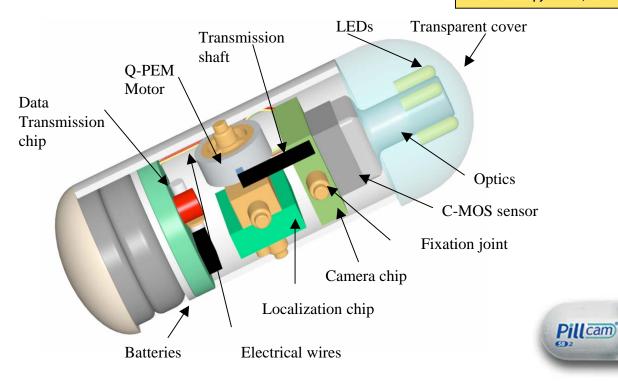
Accordeon effect

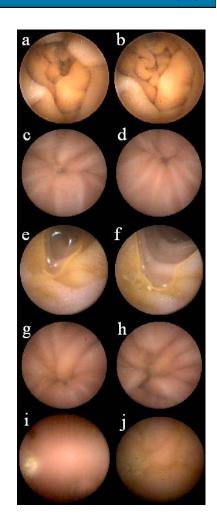


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Autonomous untethered pill swallowed by the patient

The Endoscopy « Pill », Given Imaging – M2A





Intracorporeal Video Probe

L = 20 mm, \emptyset = 8 mm **CMOS** technology RF trasmission data **With steerable camera** PillCam SB2:

 $L = 26 \text{ mm}, \emptyset = 11 \text{ mm} P = 3.7 g$

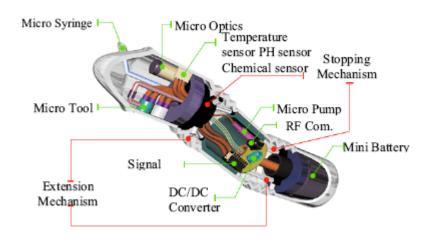
Autonomy: 6h à 8h

2 images / sec. (240x240 pixels)→> 50000 images to process!



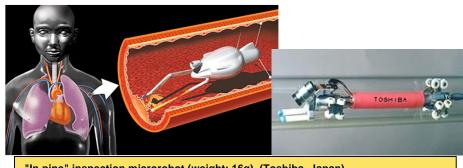
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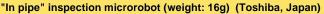
Microcapsule for gastrointestinal diagnosis and therapy (IMC, Korea)



Norika3 et (RFSystem Lab., Japan), 2001

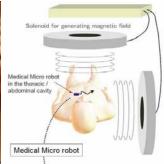








Life Support Mechatronics Lab. (Ritsumeikan Univ., Japan)i)













Smart capsule endoscope (Olympus Co., Japan)

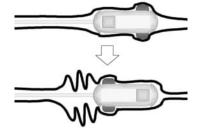


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→ Technical issues

- Energy storage for longer autonomy
- Active locomotion (wrt natural peristaltic waves of the tract):
 - biomimetic approaches: Inchworm, legs (SSSA), cilia, swimming (fins, tails)
 - sliding clampers
 - paddling
 - inertia impact

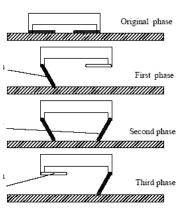


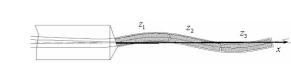
















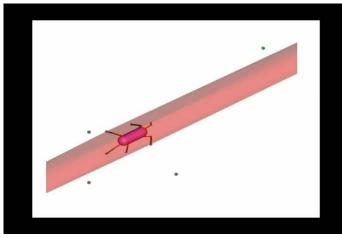


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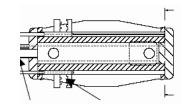




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→ Technical issues

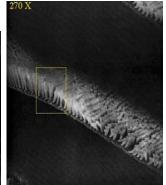
- Miniaturization, energy
- Active locomotion (wrt natural peristaltic waves of the tract):
 - biomimetic approaches: Inchworm, legs (SSSA), cilia, swimming (fins, tails)
 - sliding clampers
 - paddling
 - inertia impact
- Clamping capabilities
 - mechanical grippers
 - suction
 - biomimetic approaches: gecko, beetle, fly, cockroach pads...



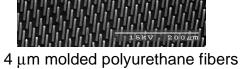












Lamellae → Setae (mm) → Nano-fibers (200 nm)



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Active catheters

- Catheter: a tube that can be inserted into a body cavity duct or vessel.
 Catheters thereby allow drainage or injection of fluids or access by surgical instruments (Wikipedia). Also used for angioplasty, blood pressure measurement...
- Typical sizes: Ø <2-3 mm, L > 1m
- Manually introduced by the surgeon, often at the level of the groin in the femoral artery, by pushing and rotating actions under X-ray control
- Difficulty: transmit force and motion to the catheter tip with no or poor tactile feedback while minimizing X-ray irradiation. Risks of perforation of the artery or vein

Solution

- Active bending of the tip
- Actuation: Hydraulic, SMA, conductive polymers...



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Sensei Robotic Catheter System (Hansen Medical, Mountain View, CA), 2002



Steerable catheter for percutaneous procedures:

- Remote accurate positioning, manipulation and stable control in 3D
- The doctor is then shielded from radiation exposure
- « Instinctive » control: the catheter immediately replicates the hand movement of the motion controller

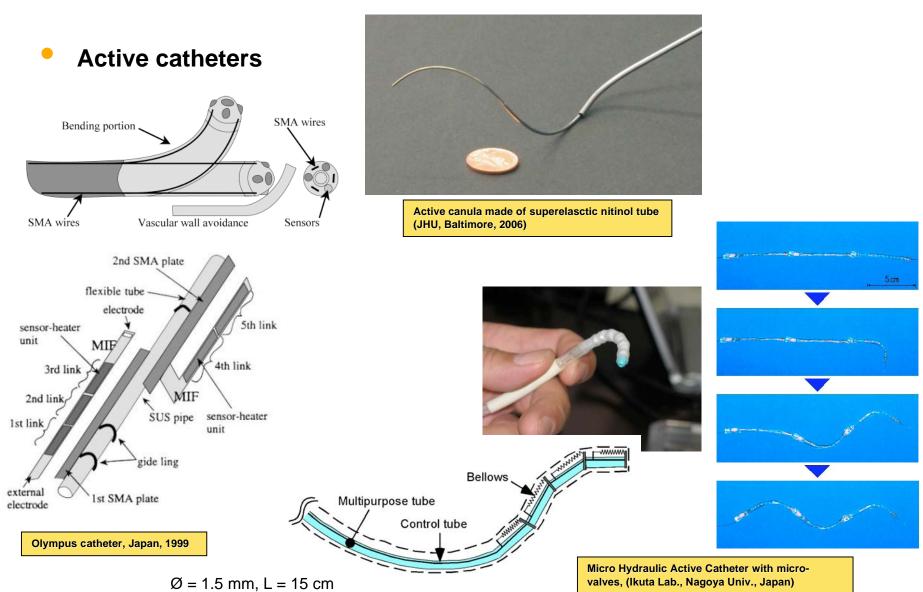








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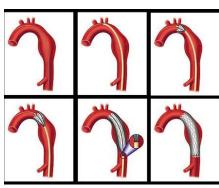


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Film..\Conf. Rob Méd\MALICA.avi

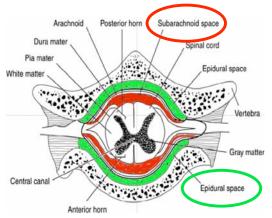
MALICA (LIIA, Paris XII): aneurysm repair

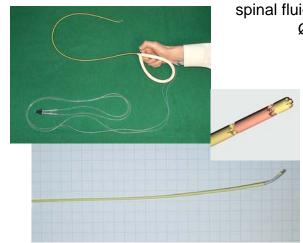
- Guidance of catheter to fix endoprothesis inside the artery (aortic aneurysm repair)
- Hydraulic « Snake like » robot: 2 ddl,
 Ø 5mm x 20mm



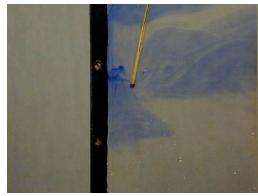


MINOSC (5th FP EU project coordinated by SSSA, Pisa): precise and early diagnosis of spinal cord lesions





Endoscopy of the spinal cord: navigation in the cerebrospinal fluid with micro-jets to avoid touching tissues Ø 2.7 mm





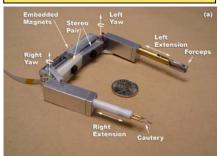
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Transluminal endoscopic surgery

- NOTES: Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery
- Incisionless surgery
- Through transgastric and transvaginal route
- Justification:
 - reduction or absence of postoperative pain
 - ease of access to some organs
 - absence of trauma to the abdominal wall
 - ideal cosmetic results

"Anubis operation" (transvaginal cholecystectomy using a flexible endoscope), Storz, IRCAD, LSIIT

Notes robot (Robotics & Mechatronics Lab., Univ. Nebraska)





Bending forceps (Hitachi, Japan), 2000

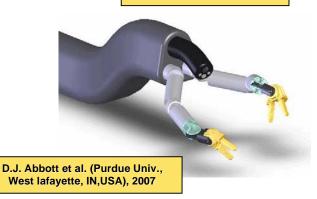




Endoscopy surgery system (Nagoya Univ.), 2004



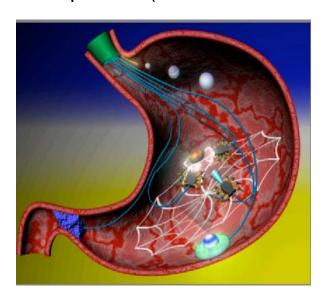


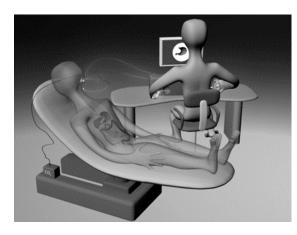


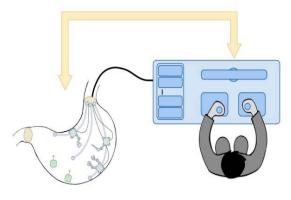


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- Projet ARAKNES: Array of Robots Augmenting the KiNematics of Endoluminal Surgery (2008-2011)
- SSSA (Pise), Univ. Pise, Imperial College (Londres), EPFL (Lausanne), LIRMM, Univ. Barcelone, Karl Storz, ST Microelectronics...
- Pathology: morbid obesity and gastro-oesophageal reflux
- Design of mini-robots with anchoring and locomotion capabilities; mounted on a deployable and collapsible platform; equipped with appropriate sensors; introduced in the stomach through oesophagus; all components will be teleoperated (thetered in a first step, then wireless)









Future directions of R&D and technical challenges

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Technical challenges

- lightweight, smaller, simpler, cheaper,
- integration in the OR: plug-and-play systems
- setup and skin-to-skin times as in conventional procedure
- sensors: sterilizable or disposable
- MMI: real cooperation between Surgeon and Robot ("Hands-on" / Comanipulation concept: the surgeon operates the device)...

Trends:

- Dedicated robotized / "smart" instruments
- Autonomy

→ Towards intra-body robotics

- Tele-operated mini-manipulators / instrument holders
- Robotized colonoscopes and autonomous pills
- Active catheters

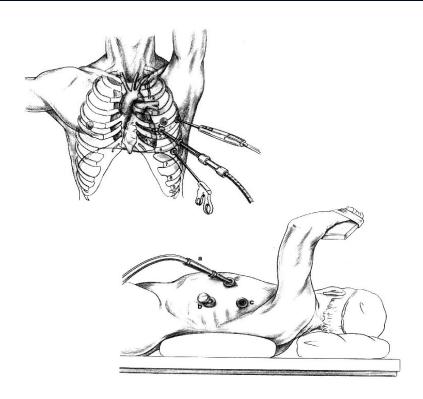
→ Towards beating heart surgery



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- open the chest (sternotomy)
- setup the heart-lung machine
- stop the heart
- execute the surgical gestures,
- restart the heart and close the chest
- many drawbacks: risk, pain...



Minimally invasive surgery:

- Off-pump surgery without stopping the heart
- execute the surgical gestures through trocars



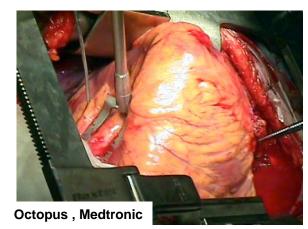
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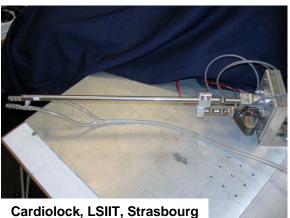
 Requirements: compensate for physiological motions (heart beats and respiratory motions)

→ Solutions:

make use of a mechanical stabilizer

make use of an active stabilizer

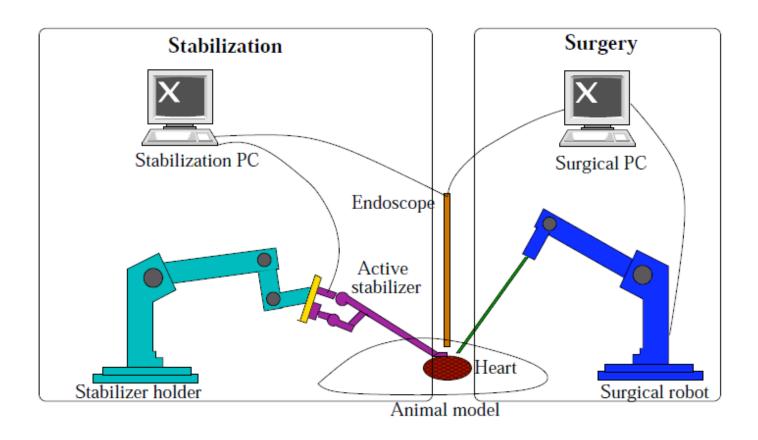






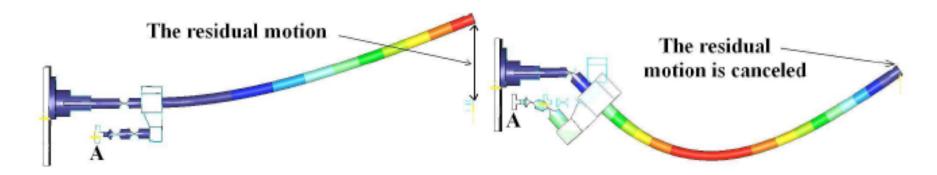
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Active stabilizer

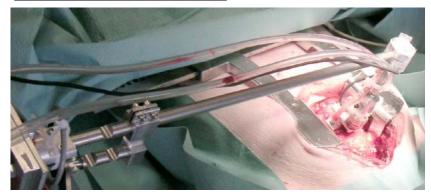




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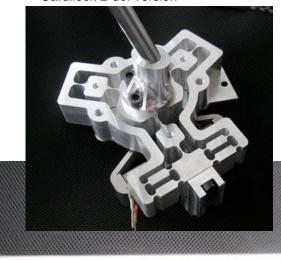


Cardiolock (LSIIT, Strasbourg), 2007



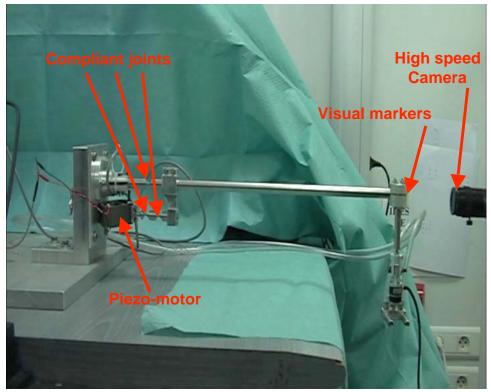
Cardilock 1-dof version

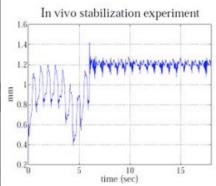
Cardilock 2-dof version

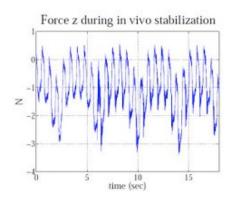




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Cardiolock (LSIIT, Strasbourg), 2007



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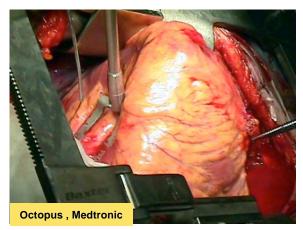
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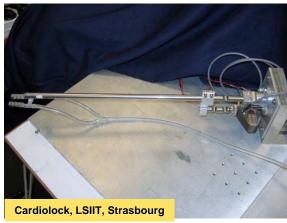
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make use of a mechanical stabilizer

make use of an active stabilizer

 or virtually stabilize the region of interest with a robot





develop appropriate visionbased (endoscopy or echography), force-based and model-based control algorithms

Outline

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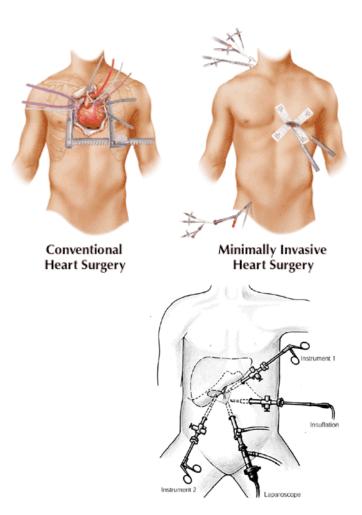
- Future directions and technical challenges
 - Intra-body robotics
 - Beating heart surgery
- Some control issues in assisted MIS and cardiac surgery



Some control issues in assisted MIS and cardiac surgery

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- From open to minimally invasive surgery ...
- ... to improve surgical operation conditions for the patient
 - With less risk and trauma
 - Quick return to daily life





Some control issues in assisted MIS and cardiac surgery

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MIS limitations

- Monocular vision depth information lost
- Decreased mobility
- Hand-eye coordination
- Three hands required
- No tactile feedback
- Surgeon position
- ...

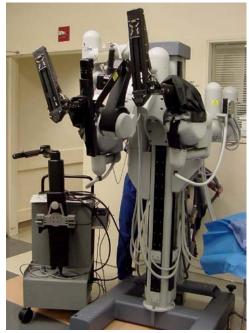


Some control issues in assisted MIS and cardiac surgery

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DaVinci (Intuitive Surgical)







Zeus (Computer Motion)

Robotized MIS



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Advantages of robotized MIS

- Increase dexterity of surgeon gestures
- Movement coordination
- Possibility of enhancing the visualization of the operating field through e.g. stereo view of the operating site

Main limitations

- Price
- Size

But also

- No actual solution to feedback interactions between organs and instrument to the surgeon
- No actual solution for compensating physiological motions or stabilizing the environment



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Three challenges ...

- Increasing the perceptual capabilities in MIS through force feedback teleoperation
- 3D reconstruction of the beating heart surface for assisted cardiac surgery
- Automatic guidance under ultrasound images



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Increasing the perceptual capabilities in MIS through force feedback teleoperation

[CDC'07] Zarrad W., Poignet P., Cortesão R., Company O., Stability and Transparency Analysis of a Haptic Feedback Controller for Medical Applications, CDC'07: International Conference on Decision and Control (2007)

[IROS'07] Zarrad W., Poignet P., Cortesão R., Company O., Towards Teleoperated Needle Insertion with Haptic Feedback Controller, IROS'07: International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (2007)



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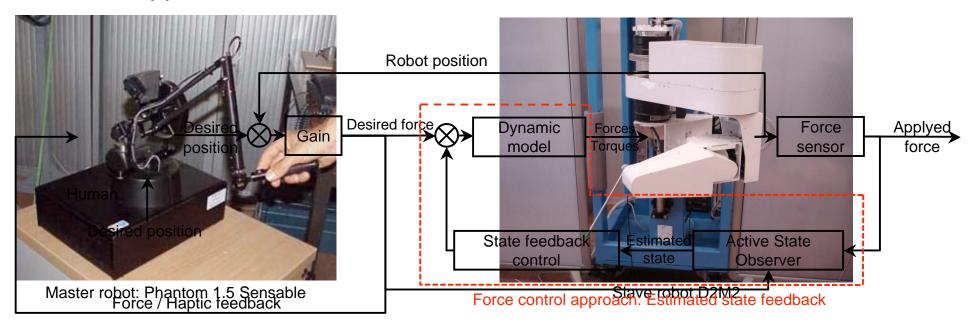
Force feedback teleoperation control

Objectives

- Remotely manipulate the robot
- Free space motion / Contact with different stiffness objects
- Force feedback
- Trade-off between stability and transparency



Control approach

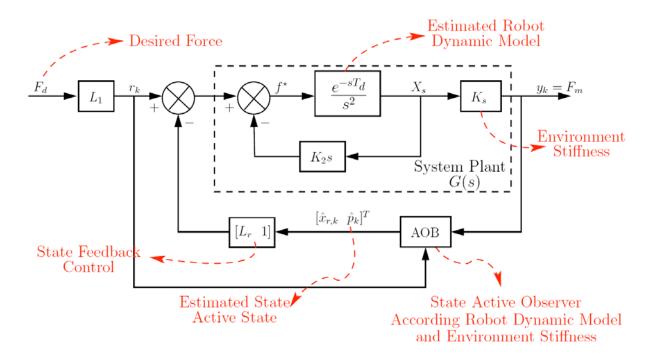




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Force active observer

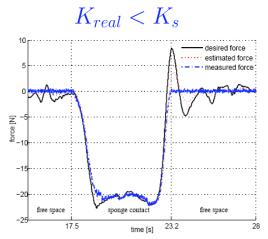
Compliant motion with force controlled robot and force active observer



- Principles
 - State estimation using Active Kalman Filtrering
 - Additional active state
 - Feedback gain tuned to limit under/overshoot



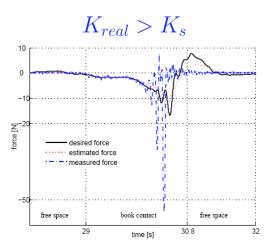
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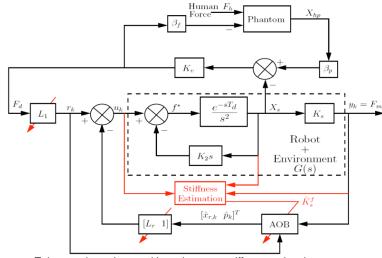
(a) Soft sponge contact "Stable"

Adaptive force control

Environment stiffness estimation



(b) Stiff book contact "Unstable"



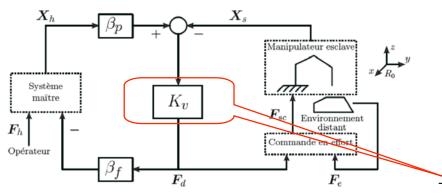
Teleoperation scheme with environment stiffness estimation strategy

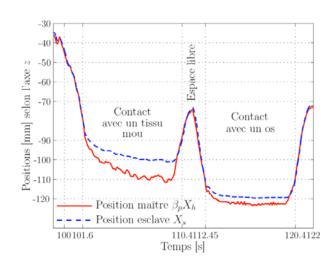


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Haptic Feedback Teleoperation System

LIRMM



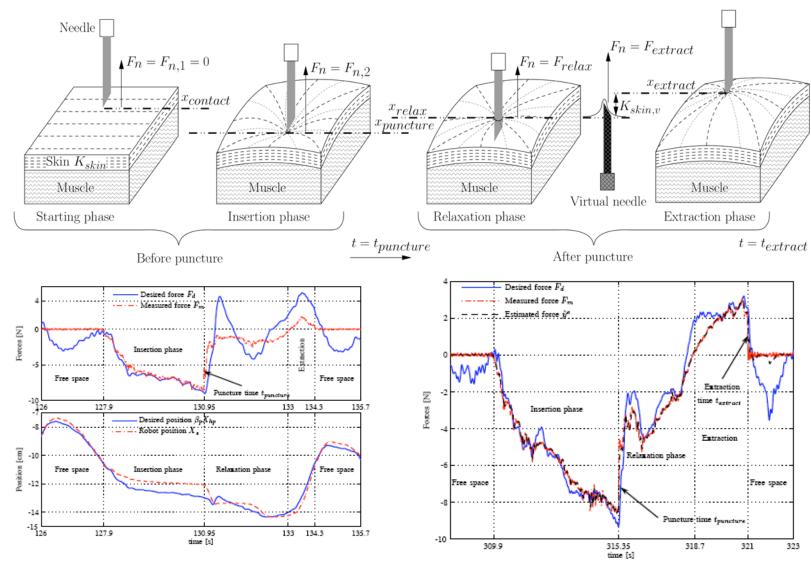


Transparency adaptation



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Needle insertion





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3D reconstruction of the beating heart for assisted cardiac surgery

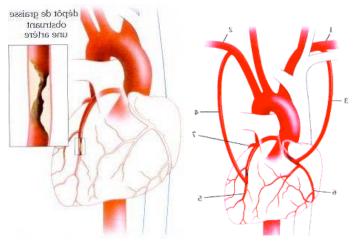
[MICCAI'08] Richa R., Poignet P., Liu C., Efficient 3D tracking for motion compensation in beating heart surgery 11th International Conference on Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention, (2008)

[IROS'08] Richa R., Poignet C., Liu C., Deformable motion tracking of the heart surface, IROS'08: IEEE/RSJ 2008 International Conference on Intelligent ROobots and Systems (2008)

AccuRobAs (Accurate Robot Assistant) European Project funded from the European Community Sixth Framework Program (FP6 / 2006-2009) under grant agreement num. 045201.



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Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting

Cardiac MIS

- The goal of cardiac MIS is to avoid stopping the heart and using the cardiopulmonary bypass
- Manual tracking is painfull, tiring and compromises the precision required for an anastomosis
- Use of mechanical stabilizers (e.g. Medtronic Octopus, ...) [Lemma 05]
- Residual motion of the heart is still high
- Toward assisted beating heart surgery



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One challenge

- Automatically compensate for physiological motion (beating heart and/or breathing)
 - Virtually stabilize the heart motion thanks to the use of external sensors (force, vision, ...)
 - In the following, we focus on vision sensor
- Challenge: accurate motion estimation of the heart deformable surface without the use of artificial landmarks i.e. tracking natural features
- Difficulties
 - High dynamics and non rigid object with complex motion
 - Illumination changes and specular reflection
 - Occlusions due to surgical instruments, blood, etc.



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Physiological motion compensation

- Y. Nakamura et al., Heartbeat synchronization for robotic cardiac surgery, ICRA 2001
 - First (impressive) high speed visual servoing experiment which uses a serial 4 dof robotic finger to track a marker attached to the heart
- R. Ginhoux et al. Active filtering of physiological motion in robotized surgery using predictive control, IEEE TRO 2005
 - Also high speed vision system and optical markers
 - Advanced control
- O. Bebek and M. C. Çavusoglu. Intelligent control algorithms for robotic assisted beating heart surgery, IEEE TRO 2007
 - Multi-sensors fusion including biological signals considering that some of them precedes heart motion



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Tracking heart surface motion using vision

Two classes of methods for motion estimation are used:

- Feature based tracking [Stoyanov 05a, Noce 06]
 - Detection and tracking of given structures on the heart surface (e.g. blood vessels)
- Region based tracking [Ortmaier 02, Lau 04, Stoyanov 05b, Richa 08]
 - Deformation of a whole region of interest is estimated based on a parametric model (e.g. FFD, Spline, TPS)



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- Region based tracking is rather well adapted to heart surface deformations
- Thin-Plate Splines transformations have been successfully applied to model non-rigid deformations for numerous applications (augmented reality, registration, etc.) [Malis 2007]
- Extension of the TPS transformations for 3D tracking in a stereo framework.
- Difference with the other region based approaches -> exact tracking of the surface

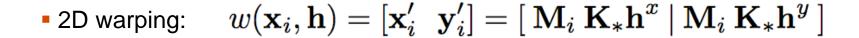
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Thin-Plate Spline mapping

■ The TPS is a radial basis function that specifies an approximation function f which minimizes the bending energy

$$m(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} f^x \\ f^y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r_2^x & r_3^x & r_1^x \\ r_2^y & r_3^y & r_1^y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \sum_{i=1}^n \begin{bmatrix} w_i^x \\ w_i^y \end{bmatrix} U(||\mathbf{c}_j - \mathbf{x}||)$$

where $U(s) = s^2 log(s^2)$ and $\{r, w\}$ are the TPS coefficients.



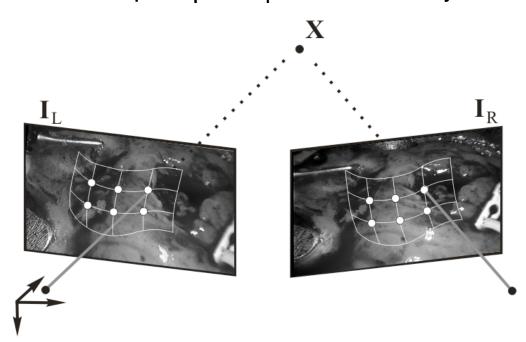
$$\min_{\mathbf{h}} \; \epsilon = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{A}} \left[\mathbf{I}(w(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h})) - \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{x}) \right]^{\mathbf{2}}$$



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Stereo tracking problem

Estimation of an optimal warping parameter vector \mathbf{h} that minimizes the alignment error between the reference image \mathbf{T} and both left and right images of the stereo pair $\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{I}}$ and $\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{r}}$ simultaneously.

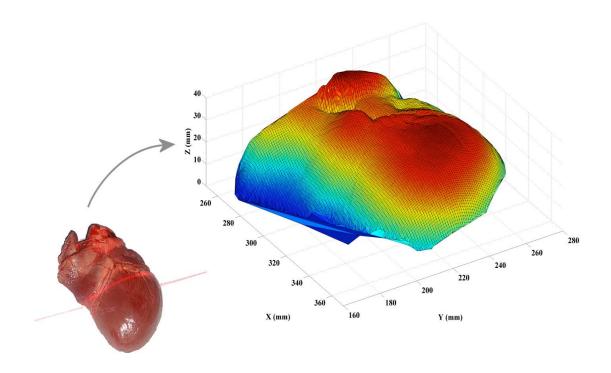


The control points are seen as the projections of 3D points onto the image plane

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Assessment of the model

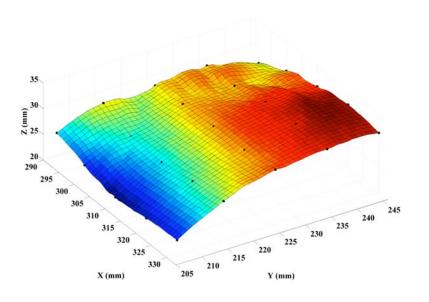
Comparison of the 3D surface shape of an *ex-vivo* heart from a pig approximated by a TPS surface and the ground truth provided by a laser profilometer (0.2mm depth precision)



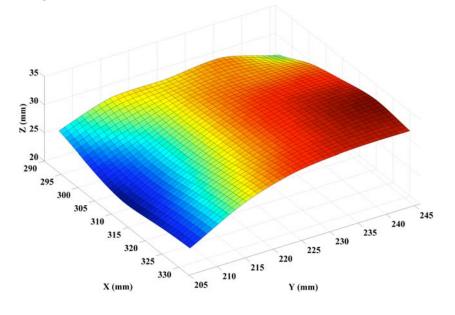


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Ex-vivo experiment



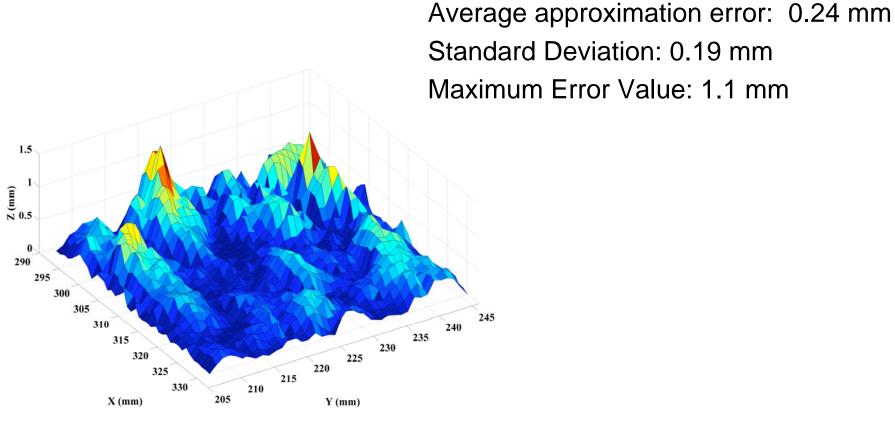
Detail of heart surface shape retrieved by the laser-profilometer



Surface approximation by the TPS model 4cm*4cm region 25 control points



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Experimental setup

- Stereo endoscope of the DaVinci system
- Image sequence 50 Hz
- 320*288 color images
- Calibration using a planar object [Zhang 00]
- Tracking: 80*80 pixels region using 6 control points



Courtesy of Intuitive Surgical, Inc., 2008



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3D Motion Tracking for Beating Heart Surgery using a Thin-Plate Spline Deformable Model

R. Richa, P. Poignet, C. Liu

LIRMM

UMR 5506 CNRS UM2

University of Montpellier, France



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Some other results on:

- Illumination modeling and specular detection
- Model prediction to improve the optimization convergence and the robustness

On going research:

- Real-time implementation (GPU NVIDIA GeForce GTX 280)
- Robustness improvement Not yet robust enough w.r.t. shadows, appearance changes, instrument occlusions -> motion prediction to tackle the occlusions
- In-vivo evaluation with high speed camera



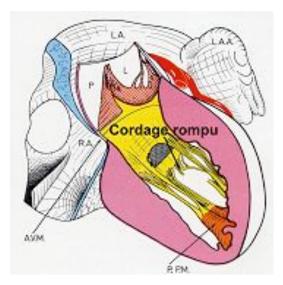
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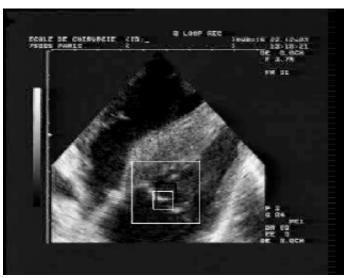
Automatic guidance under ultrasound images



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 Objective: to assist the surgeon to repair mitral valve broken cordages during beating heart surgery under US images



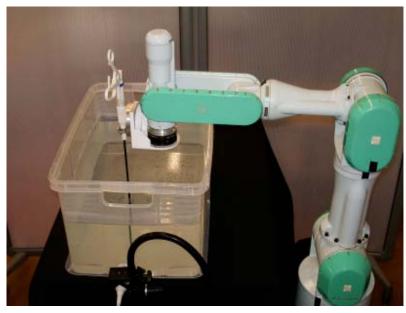


- Difficulties :
 - Valve motion observed with US probe
 - High dynamics
 - Large motion of leaflets
 - Possible motion of the heart

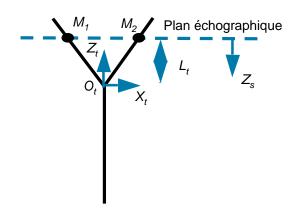


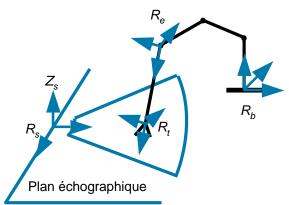
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Ultrasound images visual servoing







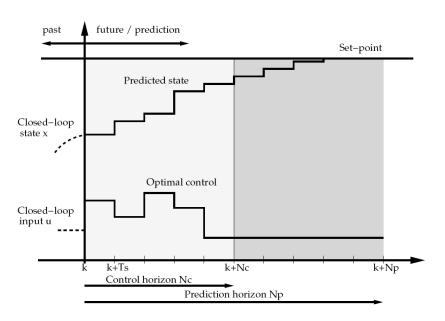


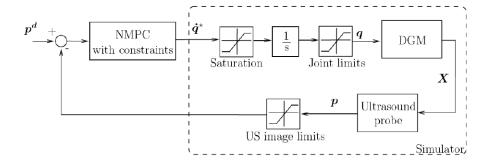


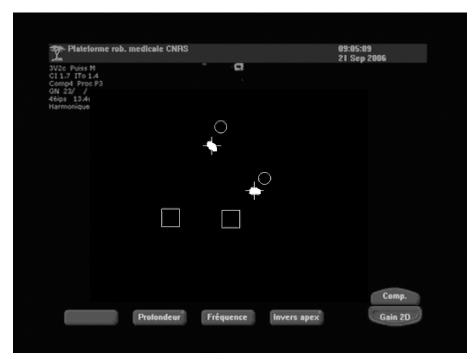
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Ultrasound images visual servoing

Predictive technique







Conclusion

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- Future directions and technical challenges
 - Intra-body robotics
 - Beating heart surgery
- Some control issues in assisted MIS and cardiac surgery