

Quasi-static Stability Analysis of Frictionless Planar Enveloping Grasps (Analysis of curvature effects at contact points)

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Abstract

In this paper, we discuss grasp stability of frictionless planar enveloping grasps. The grasp stability is based on potential energy of the grasp system replaced with an elastic system. A stiffness matrix of the grasp system is derived. The grasp stability is evaluated by the eigenvalues of the matrix. We show that the matrix depends on grasp positions, grasp forces, local curvatures, etc., at contact points. Moreover, we analyze curvature effects on the grasp system by differentiating the matrix by the curvatures. We show that the derivative is negative semi definite.

Keywords: Grasp stability, Enveloping grasp, Grasp stiffness matrix, Curvature effects

1. Introduction

Humans can grasp and manipulate various types of objects dexterously. In various fields like as production lines including handling tasks, picking tasks, assembly tasks, etc., manual hand works are remained. Therefore, the human-like dexterous skills are required for mechanical functions of robots. In recent years, in order to obtain appropriate grasps roughly, deep learning methods are introduced. On the other hands, in traditional ways, grasp and manipulation are analyzed from the viewpoint of mechanics, kinematics and dynamics in detail. As one of the methods, grasp stability based on potential energy of the grasp system replaced with an elastic system is investigated in order to derive grasp evaluation. In grasp forms, pinching grasp by fingertips, enveloping grasp by finger link surfaces and so on can be considered.

Ref. [1] analyzed grasp stability of pinching grasps. Local curvature effects on the stability were also investigated. Ref. [2] investigated grasp position effects on the stability, proposed an automatic generation of optimal grasp. Ref. [3] analyzed frictionless enveloping grasps by replacing joint displacement and finger surface displacement with elastic model (Figure 1).

In this paper, we discuss grasp stability of frictionless planar enveloping grasps. The stiffness matrix of the

grasp system is derived. The grasp stability is evaluated by the eigenvalues of the matrix. We show that the matrix depends on grasp positions, grasp forces, local curvatures, etc., at contact points. Moreover, we analyze curvature effects on the grasp system by differentiating the matrix by the curvatures.

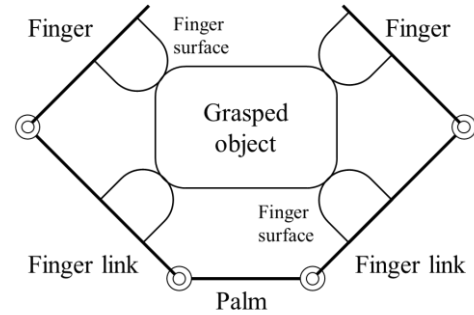


Figure 1: A planar enveloping grasp

2. Problem Formulation

2.1. Symbols

Symbol i is finger number, j is joint and link number. Some coordinates are defined as shown in Figure 2. Symbol Σ_b denotes a base coordinate frame on the system. Symbol Σ_o is an object coordinate frame, Σ_{bo} is its initial pose. Symbol Σ_{i0} is a i -th finger base coordinate

where parameter $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o$ represents position and orientation of the object. Parameters α_{oij} and α_{fij} represent surface displacement of the contact points on the object and the link.

$$\begin{aligned} {}^{Loij}A_{Coij}(\alpha_{oij}) &:= {}^{Loij}A_{Koij}A_r(\kappa_{oij}\alpha_{oij}){}^{Loij}A_{Koij}^{-1} \\ {}^{Lfij}A_{Cfij}(\alpha_{fij}) &:= {}^{Lfij}A_{Kfij}A_r(\kappa_{fij}\alpha_{fij}){}^{Lfij}A_{Kfij}^{-1} \\ {}^{Loij}A_{Koij} &:= A_t(-\kappa_{oij}^{-1}\mathbf{u}_1), \quad {}^{Lfij}A_{Kfij} := A_t(-\kappa_{fij}^{-1}\mathbf{u}_1) \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

Curvature κ is given as the following characteristics:

$$\begin{cases} \kappa > 0 & \text{convex surface} \\ \kappa = 0 & \text{flat surface} \\ \kappa < 0 & \text{concave surface} \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

Relation of the contact coordinate frame between the link and the object surfaces is set as the following condition:

$${}^{Cfij}A_{Coij} = A_r(\pi) \quad (17)$$

From (15), we have

$$\begin{aligned} A_{tr}(\mathbf{q}_{dijp}) &= {}^{ijp}A_{ij}{}^{i(j-1)}A_{ij}^{-1}(\mathbf{q}_{ija}) \times \dots \\ &\times {}^{i0}A_{i1}^{-1}(\mathbf{q}_{i1a}){}^{i0}A_{bo}{}^{bo}A_o(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o) {}^oA_{Loij} \\ &\times {}^{Loij}A_{Coij}(\alpha_{oij}){}^{Cfij}A_{Coij}^{-1}{}^{Lfij}A_{Cfij}^{-1}(\alpha_{fij}) \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

The displacement on the link surface, \mathbf{q}_{dijp} , is given by a function of the object displacement $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o$, joint position displacement $q_{di1a}, \dots, q_{dija}$, contact position displacement α_{ij} .

$$\mathbf{q}_{dijp}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o, \alpha_{ij}, q_{di1a}, \dots, q_{dija}), \quad (j = 1, 2, \dots, n) \quad (19)$$

where

$$\alpha_{ij} := \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_{oij} \\ \alpha_{fij} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \quad (20)$$

Consequently, the potential energy of the i -th finger is represented as the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} U_{iq}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o, \alpha_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_i) &:= U_i(q_{di1a}, \mathbf{q}_{di1p}^T(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o, \alpha_{i1}, q_{di1a}), \dots, \\ &\quad q_{dina}, \mathbf{q}_{dinp}^T(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o, \alpha_{in}, q_{di1a}, \dots, q_{dina})) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^n \{ U_{ija}(q_{dija}) \\ &\quad + U_{ijp}(\mathbf{q}_{dijp}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o, \alpha_{ij}, q_{di1a}, \dots, q_{dija})) \} \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

where

$$\alpha_i := \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_{i1} \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_{in} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{2n}, \quad \boldsymbol{\beta}_i := \begin{bmatrix} q_{di1a} \\ \vdots \\ q_{dina} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad (22)$$

3. Partial derivative of potential energy

3.1. The first derivative of the potential energy

The first partial derivative of the potential energy is derived and its initial condition is considered, then we have the followings:

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{\partial U_{iq}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o, \alpha_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_i)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o} \right|_0 &= \sum_{l=1}^n {}^{Lfij}B_o^T \boldsymbol{\tau}_{ilp} \\ \left. \frac{\partial U_{iq}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o, \alpha_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_i)}{\partial \alpha_{ij}} \right|_0 &= K_{ij}^T \boldsymbol{\tau}_{ijp}, \quad K_{ij} := \begin{bmatrix} -\mathbf{u}_2 & -\mathbf{u}_2 \\ \kappa_{oij} & -\kappa_{fij} \end{bmatrix} \\ \left. \frac{\partial U_{iq}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o, \alpha_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_i)}{\partial q_{dija}} \right|_0 &= \tau_{ija} - \mathbf{v}_\zeta^T \sum_{l=j}^n {}^{Lfij}B_{ij}^T \boldsymbol{\tau}_{ilp} \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

3.2. The second derivative of the potential energy

The second partial derivative of the potential energy is derived and its initial condition is considered, then we have the followings:

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{\partial^2 U_{iq}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o, \alpha_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_i)}{\partial \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o \partial \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o^T} \right|_0 &= \sum_{l=1}^n \{ {}^{Lfij}B_o^T S_{ilp} {}^{Lfij}B_o + \mathbf{v}_\zeta^T [\boldsymbol{\tau}_{ilp}^T I_{23}^T {}^{Lfij} \mathbf{p}_o] \mathbf{v}_\zeta^T \} \\ \left. \frac{\partial^2 U_{iq}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o, \alpha_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_i)}{\partial \alpha_{ij} \partial \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o^T} \right|_0 &= K_{ij}^T S_{ijp} {}^{Lfij}B_o + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} [\boldsymbol{\tau}_{ijp}^T \mathbf{v}_x] \mathbf{v}_\zeta^T \\ \left. \frac{\partial^2 U_{iq}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o, \alpha_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_i)}{\partial q_{dija} \partial \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o^T} \right|_0 &= - \sum_{l=j}^n [\mathbf{v}_\zeta^T {}^{Lfij}B_{ij}^T S_{ilp} {}^{Lfij}B_o + \boldsymbol{\tau}_{ilp}^T I_{23}^T \Omega_{23} {}^{Lfij}B_o] \\ \left. \frac{\partial^2 U_{iq}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o, \alpha_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_i)}{\partial \alpha_{ik} \partial \alpha_{ij}^T} \right|_0 &= \begin{cases} K_{ik}^T S_{ijp} K_{ij} + [\boldsymbol{\tau}_{ijp}^T \mathbf{v}_x] \begin{bmatrix} \kappa_{oij} & \kappa_{oij} \\ \kappa_{oij} & -\kappa_{fij} \end{bmatrix} & (1 \leq k = j \leq n) \\ 0_{2 \times 2} & (\text{otherwise}) \end{cases} \\ \left. \frac{\partial^2 U_{iq}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o, \alpha_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_i)}{\partial q_{dika} \partial \alpha_{ij}^T} \right|_0 &= \begin{cases} -\mathbf{v}_\zeta^T {}^{Lfij}B_{ik}^T S_{ijp} K_{ij} - \boldsymbol{\tau}_{ijp}^T \mathbf{v}_x \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & (1 \leq k \leq j \leq n) \\ 0_{1 \times 2} & (\text{otherwise}) \end{cases} \\ \left. \frac{\partial^2 U_{iq}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_o, \alpha_i, \boldsymbol{\beta}_i)}{\partial q_{dika} \partial q_{dija}} \right|_0 &= \begin{cases} s_{ija} + \sum_{l=j}^n [\mathbf{v}_\zeta^T {}^{Lfij}B_{ik}^T S_{ilp} {}^{Lfij}B_{ij} \mathbf{v}_\zeta + \boldsymbol{\tau}_{ilp}^T I_{23}^T {}^{Lfij} \mathbf{p}_{ij}] & (1 \leq l \leq k = j \leq n) \\ \sum_{l=j}^n [\mathbf{v}_\zeta^T {}^{Lfij}B_{ik}^T S_{ilp} {}^{Lfij}B_{ij} \mathbf{v}_\zeta + \boldsymbol{\tau}_{ilp}^T I_{23}^T {}^{Lfij} \mathbf{p}_{ij}] & (1 \leq l \leq k < j \leq n) \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

4. Frictionless enveloping grasp

4.1. Constraints of frictionless contact

In the case that the i -th finger surface contacts on the objects with frictionless condition, contact point displacement α_i and joint position displacement β_i shift to the position locally minimizing the energy. Consequently, we have the following constraint:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial U_{iq}(\epsilon_o, \alpha_i, \beta_i)}{\partial \alpha_i} \\ \frac{\partial U_{iq}(\epsilon_o, \alpha_i, \beta_i)}{\partial \beta_i} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0_{2n} \\ 0_n \end{bmatrix} \quad (25)$$

From this condition, we have $3n$ constraints, then the freedom of the system is given only as the parameter ϵ_o .

$$U_{iq}^{fs}(\epsilon_o) := U_{iq}(\epsilon_o, \alpha_i(\epsilon_o), \beta_i(\epsilon_o)) \quad (26)$$

The first partial derivative is derived, its initial condition is considered. Considering the constraint of Eq. (25), we have the following gradient:

$$G_i^{fs} := \left. \frac{\partial U_{iq}^{fs}(\epsilon_o)}{\partial \epsilon_o} \right|_0 = \sum_{l=1}^n {}^{Lfil}B_o^T \tau_{ilp} = \sum_{l=1}^n {}^oW_{Lfil} {}^{Lfil}f \quad (27)$$

where the symbol τ_{ilp} is given by

$$\tau_{ilp} = I_{23}^T {}^{Lfil}f, \quad {}^{Lfil}f = \begin{bmatrix} {}^{Lfil}f_x \\ {}^{Lfil}f_y \end{bmatrix}, \quad (28)$$

$${}^{Lfil}f_x < 0, \quad {}^{Lfil}f_y = 0$$

The second partial derivative is given as

$$H_i^{fs} := \left. \frac{\partial^2 U_{iq}^{fs}(\epsilon_o)}{\partial \epsilon_o \partial \epsilon_o^T} \right|_0 = U_{iq,\epsilon\epsilon} + Q_i^{fs} \begin{bmatrix} U_{iq,\epsilon\alpha} \\ U_{iq,\epsilon\beta} \end{bmatrix} \quad (29)$$

where the symbol Q_i^{fs} express

$$Q_i^{fs} := \begin{bmatrix} \left. \frac{\partial \alpha_i^T}{\partial \epsilon_o} \right|_0 & \left. \frac{\partial \beta_i^T}{\partial \epsilon_o} \right|_0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (30)$$

$$= -[U_{iq,\alpha\epsilon} \quad U_{iq,\beta\epsilon}] \begin{bmatrix} U_{iq,\alpha\alpha} & U_{iq,\beta\alpha} \\ U_{iq,\alpha\beta} & U_{iq,\beta\beta} \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

For example, the symbol $U_{iq,\alpha\epsilon}$ means the second partial derivative of $U_{iq}(\epsilon_o, \alpha_i, \beta_i)$ by α_i and ϵ_o . The potential energy of the grasp system is given by the following formula:

$$U^{fs}(\epsilon_o) := \sum_{i=1}^m U_{iq}^{fs}(\epsilon_o) \quad (31)$$

Total grasp wrench (force and moment) of the grasp system and the grasp stiffness matrix are obtained by

$$G^{fs} := \left. \frac{\partial U^{fs}(\epsilon_o)}{\partial \epsilon_o} \right|_0 = \sum_{i=1}^m G_i^{fs} \quad (32)$$

$$H^{fs} := \left. \frac{\partial^2 U^{fs}(\epsilon_o)}{\partial \epsilon_o \partial \epsilon_o^T} \right|_0 = \sum_{i=1}^m H_i^{fs}$$

The matrix H^{fs} depends on contact position, contact direction, contact force, local curvature at contact points.

5. Effect of local curvatures at contact points

5.1. Partial derivative of the local curvatures

The grasp stiffness matrix is partially differentiated by the local curvature, then we have the following formula:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial H_i^{fs}}{\partial \kappa_{oij}} &= \frac{\partial U_{iq,\epsilon\epsilon}}{\partial \kappa_{oij}} + \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial \kappa_{oij}} [U_{iq,\epsilon\beta}] \right\}^T [Q_i^{fs}]^T \\ &\quad + Q_i^{fs} \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial \kappa_{oij}} [U_{iq,\epsilon\alpha}] \right\} \\ &\quad + Q_i^{fs} \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial \kappa_{oij}} \begin{bmatrix} U_{iq,\alpha\alpha} & U_{iq,\beta\alpha} \\ U_{iq,\alpha\beta} & U_{iq,\beta\beta} \end{bmatrix} \right\} [Q_i^{fs}]^T \\ &= \mathbf{a} \mathbf{b}_1^T + \mathbf{b}_1 \mathbf{a}^T + ({}^{Lfil}f^T \mathbf{u}_1) \mathbf{b}_1 \mathbf{b}_1^T \\ &= ({}^{Lfil}f^T \mathbf{u}_1) \mathbf{b}_1 \mathbf{b}_1^T \leq 0_{3 \times 3} \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial H_i^{fs}}{\partial \kappa_{fij}} &= -\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b}_2^T - \mathbf{b}_2 \mathbf{a}^T + ({}^{Lfil}f^T \mathbf{u}_1) \mathbf{b}_2 \mathbf{b}_2^T \\ &= ({}^{Lfil}f^T \mathbf{u}_1) \mathbf{b}_2 \mathbf{b}_2^T \leq 0_{3 \times 3} \end{aligned}$$

The vectors \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{b}_1 , $\mathbf{b}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^3$ are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{a} &:= {}^{Lfil}B_o^T S_{ijp} \mathbf{v}_\zeta \\ &\quad + Q_i^{fs} \begin{bmatrix} 0_{2(j-1) \times 1} \\ K_{ij}^T S_{ijp} \mathbf{v}_\zeta + \mathbf{u}_2 [{}^{Lfil}f^T \mathbf{u}_1] \\ 0_{2(n-j) \times 1} \\ \mathbf{v}_\zeta^T {}^{Lfil}B_{i1}^T S_{ijp} \mathbf{v}_\zeta \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{v}_\zeta^T {}^{Lfil}B_{in}^T S_{ijp} \mathbf{v}_\zeta \\ 0_{(n-j) \times 1} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}, \quad (34) \\ \mathbf{b}_1 &:= Q_i^{fs} \begin{bmatrix} 0_{2(j-1) \times 1} \\ \mathbf{u}_1 \\ 0_{2(n-j) \times 1} \\ 0_{n \times 1} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b}_2 := Q_i^{fs} \begin{bmatrix} 0_{2(j-1) \times 1} \\ \mathbf{u}_2 \\ 0_{2(n-j) \times 1} \\ 0_{n \times 1} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Because we have ${}^{Lfil}f^T \mathbf{u}_1 < 0$, the derivatives $\frac{\partial H_i^{fs}}{\partial \kappa_{oij}}$ and

$\frac{\partial H_i^{fs}}{\partial \kappa_{fij}}$ are negative semi definite. The value of the local curvature is smaller, the grasp stability is higher.

6. Conclusions

This paper analyzed frictionless planar enveloping grasps. Not only joint displacement but also link surface displacement is replaced with elastic feature. Contact constraints between the finger links and the grasped object were derived, and independent parameters were clarified. By using independent parameters, the potential

energy of the grasp system was derived. In the case of frictionless contact, the wrench vectors were obtained by the first partial derivative of the energy, the grasp stiffness matrix was obtained by the second partial derivative. By using partial derivative of the stiffness matrix by local curvature at contact points, the effect of the curvature on the grasp stability was clarified.

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Appendix A

In two dimensions, a homogeneous transformation matrix of a frame Σ_b with respect to a frame Σ_a is represented by the following form:

$${}^aA_b := \begin{bmatrix} {}^aR_b & {}^ap_b \\ 0_{1 \times 2} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3} \quad (35)$$

where ${}^ap_b \in \mathbb{R}^2$ is a position vector, ${}^aR_b \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ is a rotation matrix expressing relative orientation. The following symbols are also defined in this paper.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u}_1 &:= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{u}_2 := \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \\ \mathbf{v}_x &:= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_y := \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_z := \begin{bmatrix} 0_{2 \times 1} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{Rot}(\zeta) &:= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \zeta & -\sin \zeta \\ \sin \zeta & \cos \zeta \end{bmatrix}, \\ \Omega &:= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \text{Rot}\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) \\ A_t(\mathbf{x}) &:= \begin{bmatrix} I_2 & \mathbf{x} \\ 0_{1 \times 2} & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A_r(\zeta) := \begin{bmatrix} \text{Rot}(\zeta) & 0_{2 \times 1} \\ 0_{1 \times 2} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ A_{tr}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) &:= A_t(\mathbf{x})A_r(\zeta), \quad \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} := \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \zeta \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x} := \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \\ {}^aB_b &:= \begin{bmatrix} {}^aR_b & -\Omega {}^ap_b \\ 0_{1 \times 2} & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad I_{23} = [I_2 \quad 0_{2 \times 1}] \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 3} \\ {}^aW_b &:= \begin{bmatrix} {}^aR_b \\ {}^ap_b \times {}^aR_b \end{bmatrix} = [I_{23} \quad {}^bB_a]^T \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

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