Comparison of Cooperative Work between Humans and Robots in Remote Robot Systems with Force Feedback

Luozhang Li¹, Yutaka Ishibashi¹, Pingguo Huang², Yuichiro Tateiwa¹

¹Nagoya Institute of Technology ²Gifu Shotoku Gakuen University

IEICE General Conference March 9, 2021



- Background
- Previous Work
- Remote Robot Systems with Force Feedback
- Robot Position Control with Force Information
- Stabilization Control With Filters
- Experiment Method
- Experimental Results
- Conclusion and Future Work

Background (1/2)

• Remote robot systems with force feedback have been attracting attention

Users remotely operate robot arms having force sensors by using haptic interface devices.

• Various types of collaborative work are possible by using multiple systems

It is possible for users to perceive the shape, weight, and softness of a remote object with force feedback.

The efficiency and accuracy of work are expected to be improved largely.

Background (2/2)

When force information is transmitted over the Internet, which does not guarantee QoS (Quality of Service)



QoE (Quality of Experience) degradation

Instability phenomena-

- **♦** Stabilization control
- **♦** QoS control

Previous Work

*1 L. Li et al., ITE 70th Anniversary Convention, Dec. 2020.

The effects of the stabilization control and QoS control on cooperative work (carrying a wooden stick together) between two remote robot systems with force feedback were investigated.*1

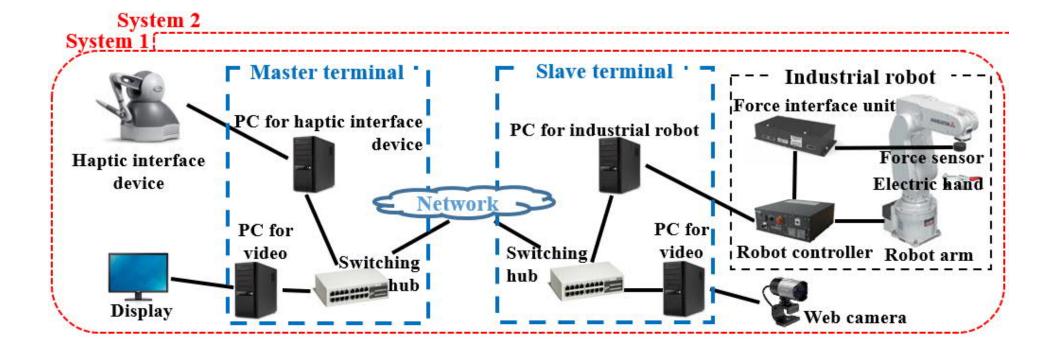
> Need to make a comparison of cooperative work not only between robot and robot, but also between human and robot.

This Work

We carry out hand delivery as cooperative work between human and robot in two remote robot systems with force feedback in the following two cases.

- **✓ Robot-robot case:** Two robot arms conduct the work.
- **✓ Human-robot case:** A human and a robot arm conduct the work.

Remote Robot Systems with Force Feedback



Calculation Method of Position

Position of robot

$$S_{t} = \begin{cases} M_{t-1} + V_{t-1} & (if|V_{t-1}| \leq V_{\text{max}}) \\ M_{t-1} + V_{\text{max}} \frac{V_{t-1}}{|V_{t-1}|} & (otherwise) \end{cases}$$

 S_t : Position vector of industrial robot at time t

 M_t : Position vector of haptic interface device at time t

 V_t : Velocity vector of industrial robot

 V_{max} : Maximum velocity of industrial robot (5mm/ms)



Robot Position Control Using Force Information (1/2)

*2 S. Ishikawa *et al.*, Proc.WSCE, Dec. 2019.

We move the robot arm in the direction where the force applied to the stick is reduced as follows:

$$\widehat{\boldsymbol{S}_t} = \boldsymbol{S}_t + P$$

 $\widehat{S_t}$: New position vector of robot arm at time t > 0

 S_t : Position vector of robot arm calculated by haptic interface device at time t > 0

P: Position adjustment vector



Robot Position Control Using Force Information (2/2)

*2 S. Ishikawa et al., Proc. WSCE, Dec. 2019.

*3 Q. Qian et al., Proc. ICCC, Dec. 2018.

When a wooden stick is held by two robot arms, we move the one robot arm by P, and measure the force applied to the stick.*3

$$P_{x} = a_{x}F_{x}$$

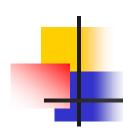
 P_x : Movement distance of the robot arm at x axis

 F_x : Force vector sensed by force sensor at x axis

 a_{χ} : Function of length l of the wooden stick *2

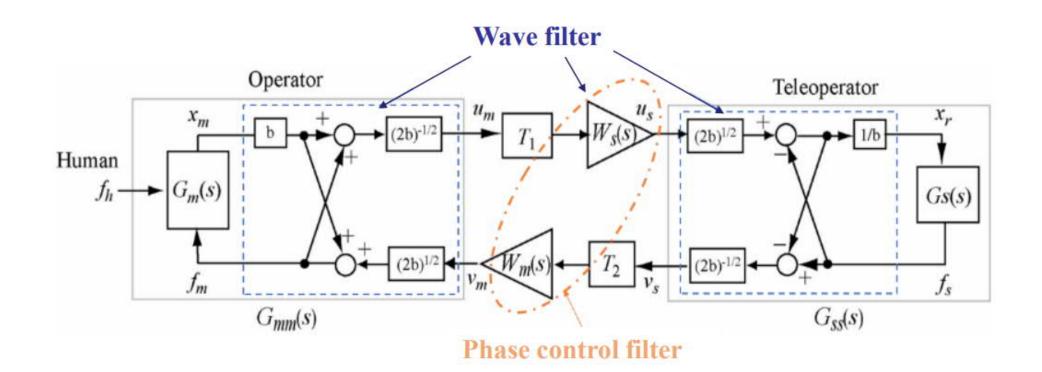
$$a_x = 4.82 \times 10^{-2}l - 1.16$$

We can calculate the difference in the position vector between the two robot arms from the force applied to the stick with length of l [cm].



Stabilization Control with Filters*3

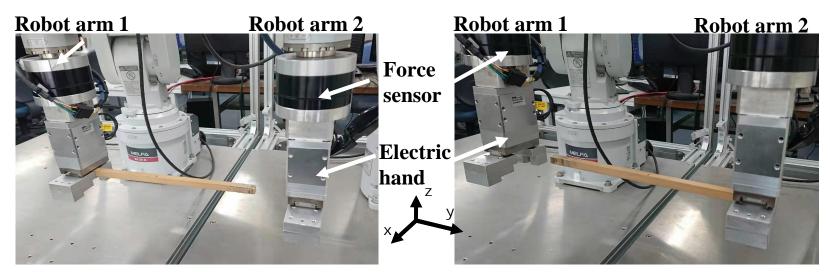
*3 P. Huang et al., IJCNS, vol. 12, no. 7, pp. 99-111, July 2019.





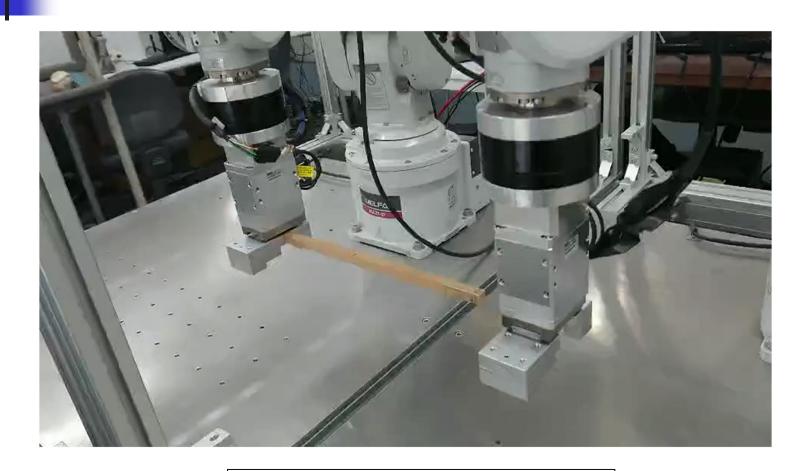
Experiment Method (1/5)

- Two types of cooperative work
 - ✓ Work A: Robot arm 1 passes a wooden stick to robot arm 2 or a reacher which is held by a human.
 - ✓ Work B: Robot arm 1 receives the stick from robot arm 2 or a reacher which is held by a human.
- Wooden stick: $1 \text{ cm} \times 1 \text{ cm} \times 30 \text{ cm}$ (height \times width \times length)



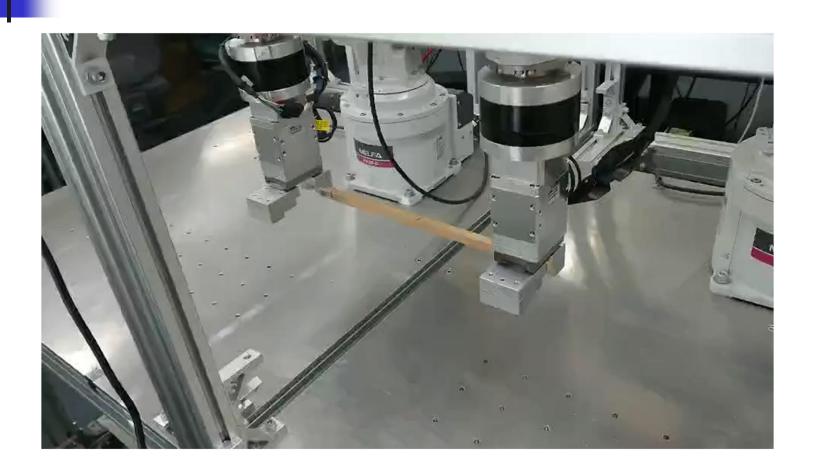
Work A Work B

Experiment Method (2/5)



Work A (robot-robot case)

Experiment Method (3/5)



Work B (robot-robot case)

Experiment Method (4/5)



Work A (human-robot case)

Experiment Method (5/5)

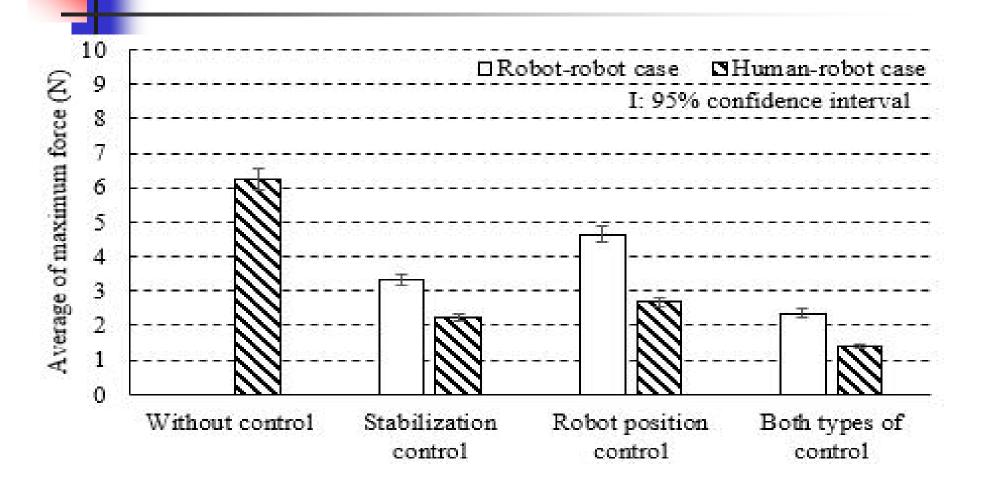


Work B (human-robot case)

Experiment Method

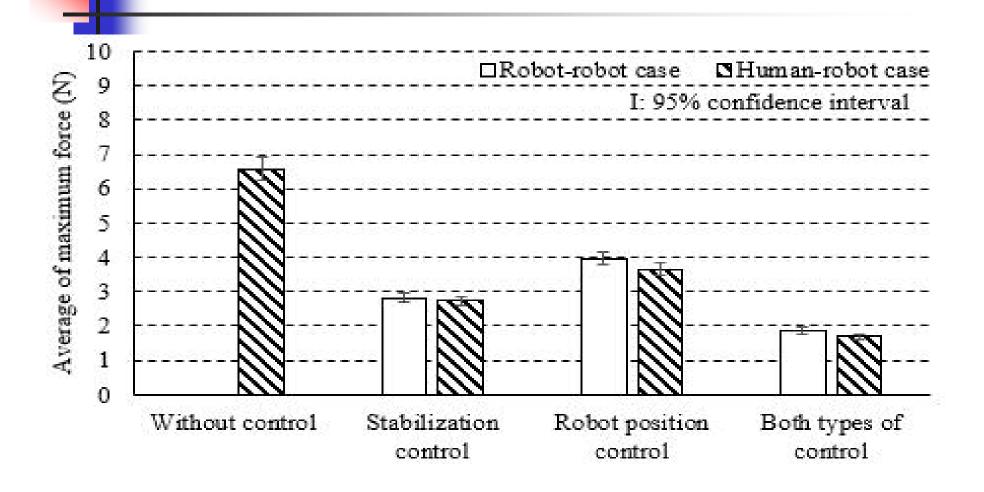
- The experiment was divided into the following four types according to which types of control were performed:
 - **1** Without control
 - 2 Only stabilization control
 - **3** Only robot position control
 - **4** Both types of control
- We measured the force applied to the wooden stick.

Experimental Results (1/4)



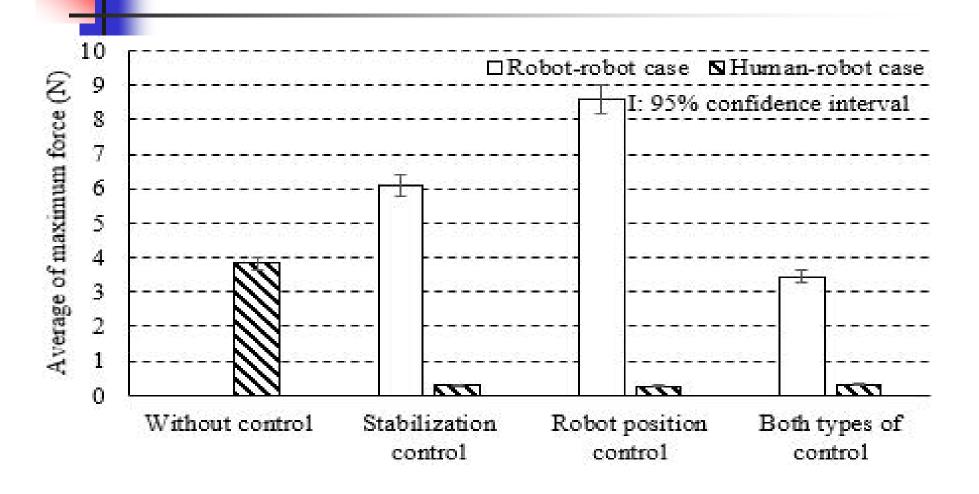
Work A (y-axis direction)

Experimental Results (2/4)



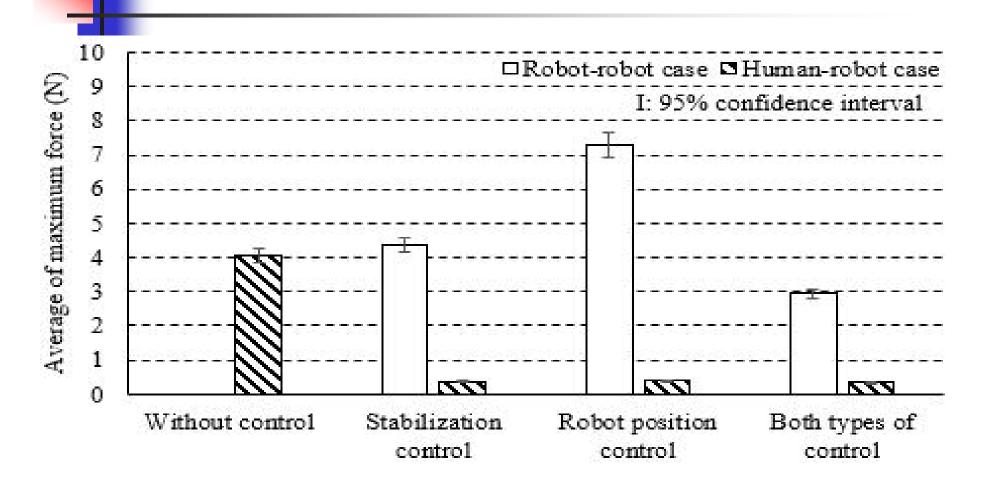
Work B (y-axis direction)

Experimental Results (3/4)



Work A (*x*-axis direction)

Experimental Results (4/4)



Work B (x-axis direction)



Conclusion

- We compared the efficiency of hand delivery between the human-robot and robot-robot cases in the remote robot systems with force feedback by experiment.
- We compared the effects of the stabilization control by filters and the robot position control using force information.

- **✓** Human-robot case is superior to the robot-robot case.
- **✓** Both types of control should be carried out together.



Future Work

- Reducing the average of maximum force in the robotrobot case to that in the human-robot case.
- Dealing with the cooperative work while the robot arms are moving.