

# Medical Robots, Constrained Robot Motion Control, and “Virtual Fixtures”

(Part 3)

Russell H. Taylor  
601.455/655

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1

## Disclosures & Acknowledgments

- **This is the work of many people**
- Some of the work reported in this presentation was supported by fellowship grants from Intuitive Surgical and Philips Research North America to Johns Hopkins graduate students and by equipment loans from Intuitive Surgical, Think Surgical, Philips, Kuka, and Carl Zeiss Meditec.
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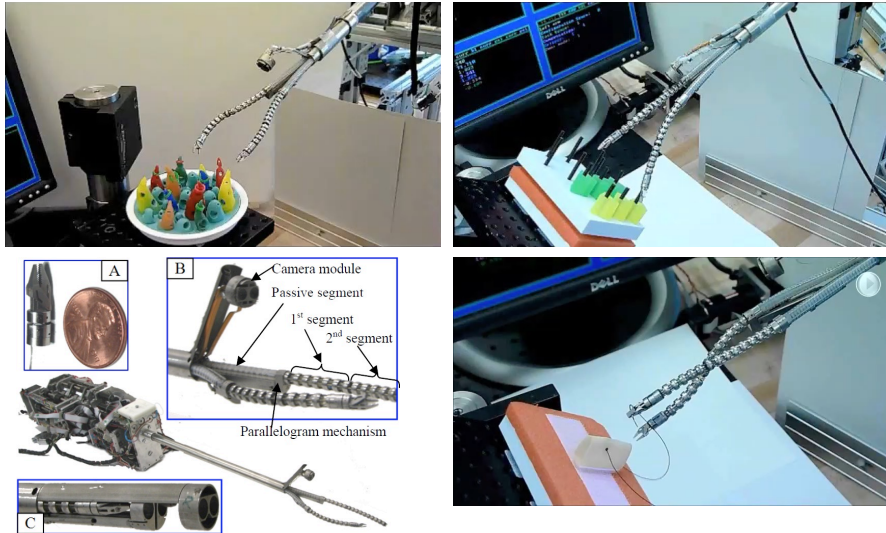
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2

## Single Port Access Surgery

Nabil Simaan (Vanderbilt, Columbia), with  
P. Allen (Columbia), D. Fowler (Columbia)



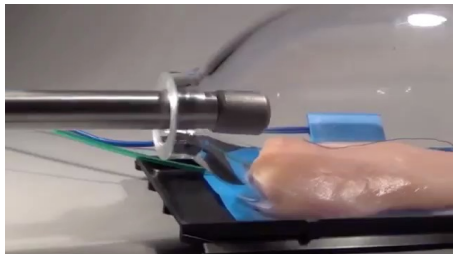
New technology finally allows true evaluation of the potential of single port access surgery. Systems raise new questions about control and telemanipulation infrastructure/cooperative control.

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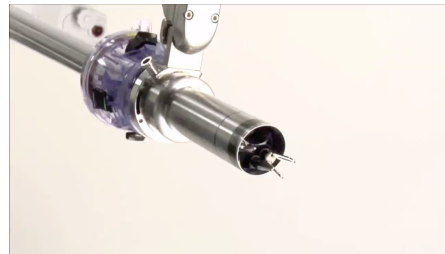
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## Single Port Access Robotic Surgery



Titan Medical Sport  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jlvjvckA6xQ>



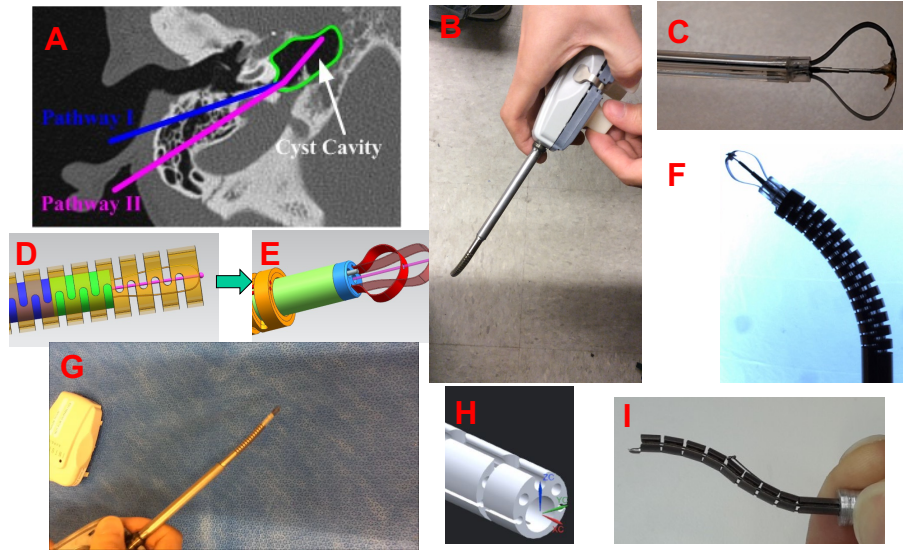
Intuitive Surgical Sp  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jm63JdTrp4>

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## Robot-Assisted Skull Base Surgery



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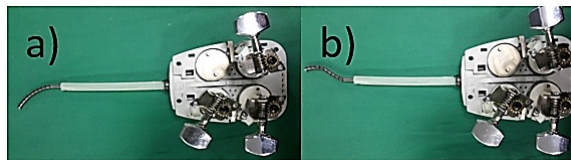
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## Integration of a Snake-like Dexterous Manipulator for Head and Neck Surgery with the da Vinci Research Kit

S. Coemert, F. Alambeigi, A. Deguet, J. P. Carey, M. Armand, T. C. Lueth, R. H. Taylor



Handheld actuation concept: a) C-shaped b) S-shaped



Overview of the DVRK system [5]

Video: Actuation of the SDM attached to DVRK



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S. Coemert, F. Alambeigi, A. Deguet, J. P. Carey, M. Armand, T. C. Lueth, and R. H. Taylor, "Integration of a Snake-like Dexterous Manipulator for Head and Neck Surgery with the da Vinci Research Kit", in *Hamlyn Symposium on Medical Robotics*, London, June 26-27, 2016. pp. 58-59.

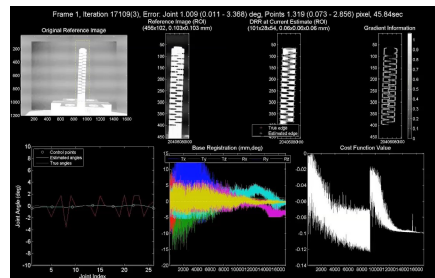
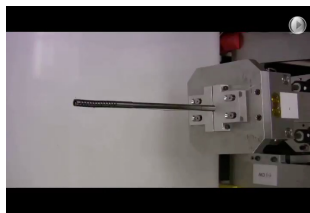
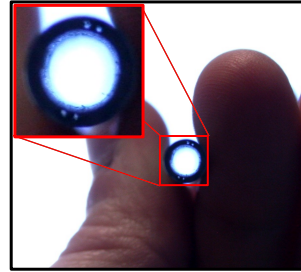
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## APL Large Lumen, Dexterous Snake for MIS

- Joint project with JHU APL
- Innovative fabrication process completely isolates drive cables
- Current prototypes
  - 2 DoF (C-bend) and 4DoF (S-bend)
  - Nitinol structure with high stiffness
  - 6 mm OD; Large 4 mm lumen allows insertion of surgical instruments
- Initial application: Minimally-invasive curettage of osteolytic lesions



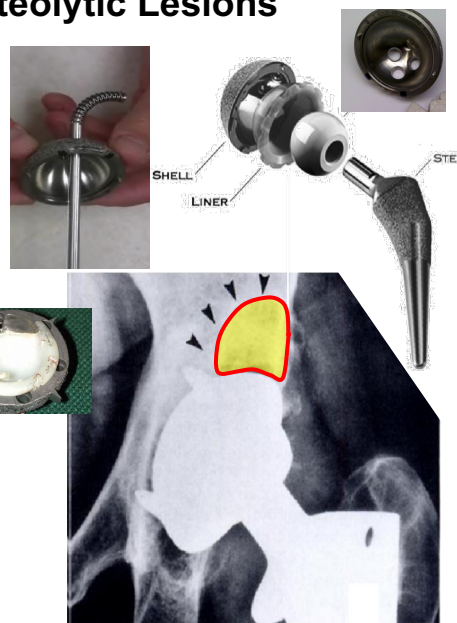
M. Armand, R. Taylor, M. Kutzer, R. Murphy, S. Segretti, F. Alambeigi, I. Iordachita, H. Liu, Y. Otake *et al.*  
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## Treatment of Osteolytic Lesions

- Indication: Osteolysis behind a well-fixed acetabular component
  - Leads to component loosening and failure of THA
- Surgical Goals
  - Minimally invasive removal of the osteolytic lesion
  - Treatment of the lysis without full replacement of the acetabular component
- Surgical Procedure
  - Access the lesion through the screw holes of the acetabular component (minimally invasive)
  - Remove and grafting the lesion
  - Replace the polyethylene liner



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**APL** **Minimally-Invasive Osteolysis Curettage** **BACS**  
 M. Armand, R. Taylor, M. Kutzer, R. Murphy, S. Segretti, F. Alambeigi, I. Iordachita, H. Liu, Y. Otake, P. Wilkening, et al.

UR5 Robot

LARS Robot

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**Novel Shape Sensor Array (SSA) for Large Curvature Detecting**

Using FBG sensors along with nitinol wires as the supporting substrates, we can prevent local stress concentration, therefore maximizing curvature detection range.

Neutral plane

FBG Optical Fiber

NiTi Wire

Driven cable channel

DCM

FBG sensors with 3 FBG arrays

Distal end

Bending Plane

I

II

NiTi wires

FBG optical fiber

35mm (DCM bending segment)

DCM

SS1

Distal end

N11 N12 N13

N21 N22 N23

SS2

8mm 10mm 10mm 7mm

$\lambda_1=1531\text{nm}$   $\lambda_2=1535\text{nm}$   $\lambda_3=1534\text{nm}$  (b)

2.38mm

Hao Liu, Amirhossein Farvardin, Sahba Aghajani Pedram, Iulian Iordachita, Russell H. Taylor, Mehran Armand  
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### Novel Shape Sensor Array (SSA) for Large Curvature Detecting

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### Curved Drilling of the Femoral Head

Alambeigi, *et al.*

- Osteonecrosis of the femoral head
  - More than 20,000 patients per year
  - To reduce the pressure in the femoral head, core decompression was developed more than three decades ago.
- Steerable “snake” with flexible drill provides better

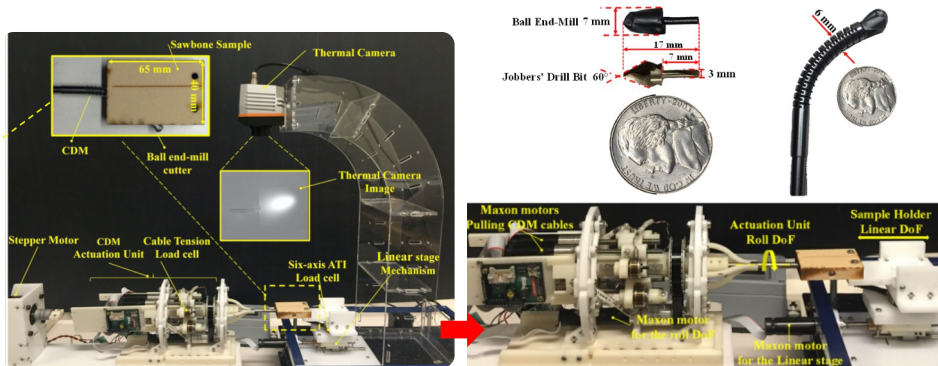
12 Farshid Alambeigi, Yu Wang, Shahrar Sefati, Ryan. J. Murphy, Iulian Iordachita, Russell H. Taylor, Harpal Khanuja, and Mehran Armand, “Curved-Drilling Approach in Core Decompression of the Femoral Head Osteonecrosis Using a Continuum Manipulator”, Proc. ICRA 2017, Engineering Research Center for Computer Integrated Surgical Systems and Technology

12

## Curved Drilling of the Femoral Head

Alambeigi, et al.

- Sample Holder Mechanism: feeding motion and 6DOF force sensing
- Thermal Camera: “Real-time” tracking of the cutter



Farshid Alambeigi, Yu Wang, Shahrar Sefati, Ryan. J. Murphy, Lulian Iordachita, Russell H. Taylor, Harpal Khanuja, and Mehran Armand, “Curved-Drilling Approach in Core Decompression of the Femoral Head Osteonecrosis Using a Continuum Manipulator”, *Proc. ICRA 2017*, Engineering Research Center for Computer Integrated Surgical Systems and Technology

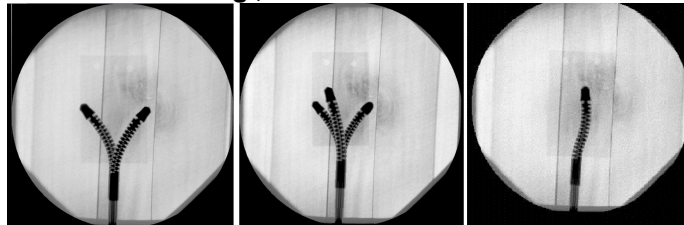
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## Curved Drilling of the Femoral Head

Alambeigi, et al.

S-Shape and multiple branch curved-drilling



Curved-Drilling Experiments on human cadaver specimens



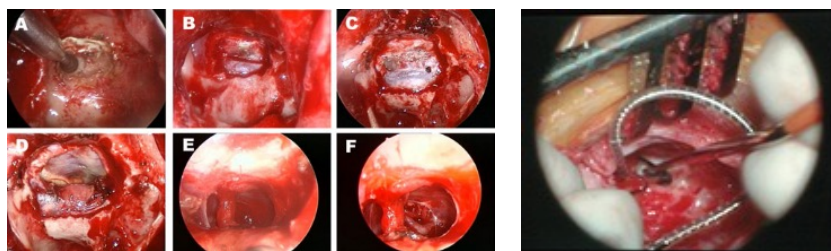
Farshid Alambeigi, Yu Wang, Shahrar Sefati, Ryan. J. Murphy, Lulian Iordachita, Russell H. Taylor, Harpal Khanuja, and Mehran Armand, “Curved-Drilling Approach in Core Decompression of the Femoral Head Osteonecrosis Using a Continuum Manipulator”, *Proc. ICRA 2017*, Engineering Research Center for Computer Integrated Surgical Systems and Technology

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## Challenges in Precise Minimally Invasive Head- and Neck Surgery

- Long (25cm) instruments
  - amplify hand tremor
  - reduce precision
- Tight spaces near sensitive anatomy
- Limited working area



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## The Robotic ENT Microsurgery System (REMS)

### User interface:

- Hands-on control, surgeon “in the game”
- Foot pedal-controlled gain

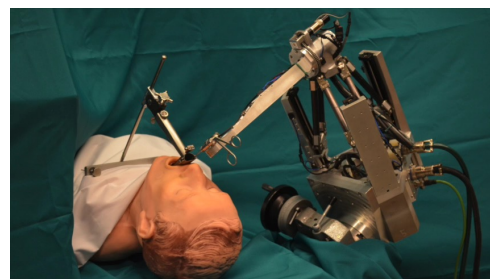


### Technical specs:

- Up to 0.025 mm precision on-demand
- 6 degrees of freedom
- 125x125x125mm work volume
- Calibrated accuracy ~50-150µm

### Control modes:

- Free hand
- Remote center of motion
- Virtual fixture avoidance
- Teleoperation



K. Olds, *Robotic Assistant Systems for Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery*, PhD thesis in Biomedical Engineering, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, March 2015.

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## Playing the "Operation Game" with Long Instruments

# Microlaryngeal Phonosurgery "Operation" Game Demo

K. Olds, *Robotic Assistant Systems for Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery*, PhD thesis in Biomedical Engineering, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, March 2015.

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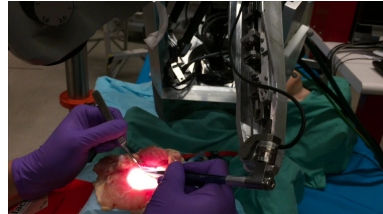


18

## REMS Typical Applications



Laryngeal / Vocal Cord



Open Microsurgery



Image-guided sinus surgery  
with virtual fixtures

### Other applications include:

- Otology
  - Stapes surgery
  - Mastoidectomy
  - Cochlear implant
- Craniotomy
- Spine
- Hand
- ...

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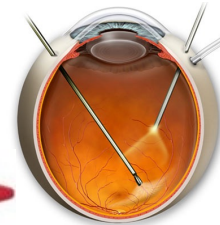
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# Vitreoretinal Microsurgery



British Journal of Ophthalmology 2004 - Akifumi Ueno et al



www.eyemdlink.com



Alcon Vitreosurgery Instrument

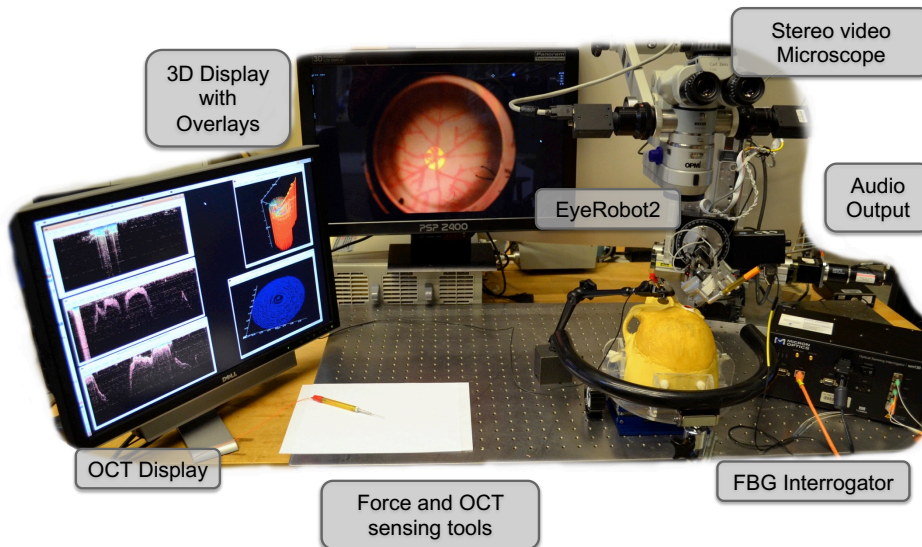
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# Microsurgery Assistant Workstation



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## Retina Mosaicking, Annotation, and Registration



R. Richa, B. Vagvolgyi, R. Taylor, G. Hager, *MICCAI 2012*,

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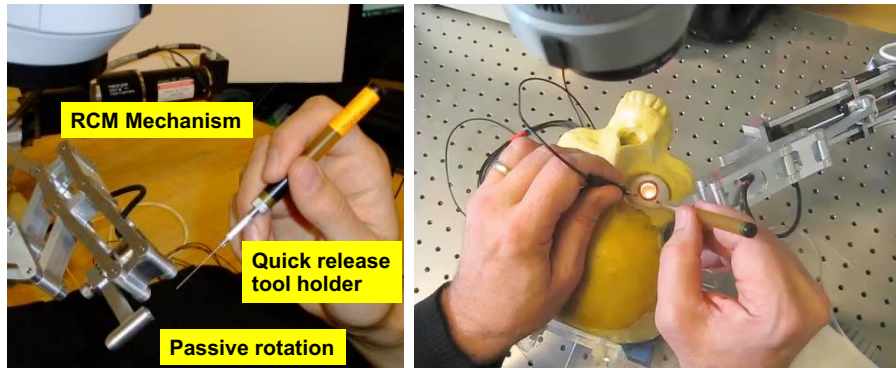
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## JHU Steady Hand “Eye Robot”

Russell Taylor, Iulian Iordachita, D. Gierlach, D. Roppenocker, *et al.*



- Highly precise robot
- Hands-on cooperative control or teleoperation
- Several generations in lab

- Precise, stable platform for developing “smart” surgical instruments and sensors
- Virtual fixtures and advanced control

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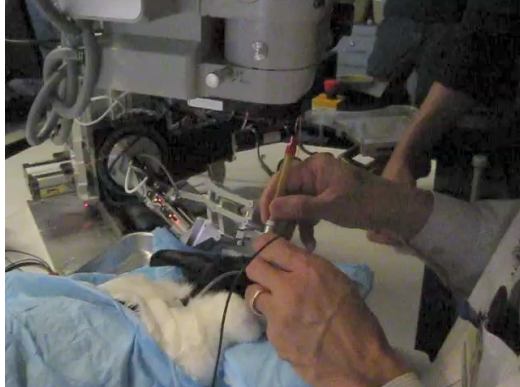
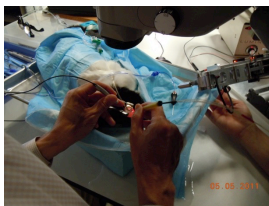
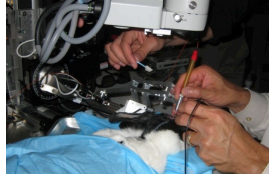
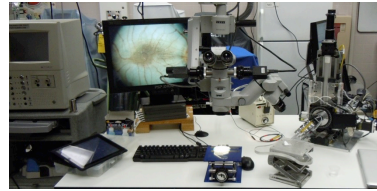
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## Retinal Microsurgery – *in vivo* experiments

- Overall System Performance
- System Ergonomics
- Collect Data
  - Robot / Force / OCT
  - Video / Audio



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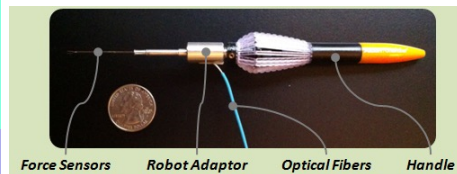
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## Force-Sensing Micro-Forceps Tools for Vitreoretinal Surgery

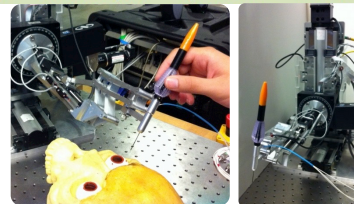
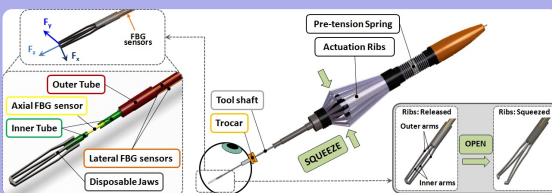
### 2-DOF Force-Sensing Micro-Forceps (Handheld)



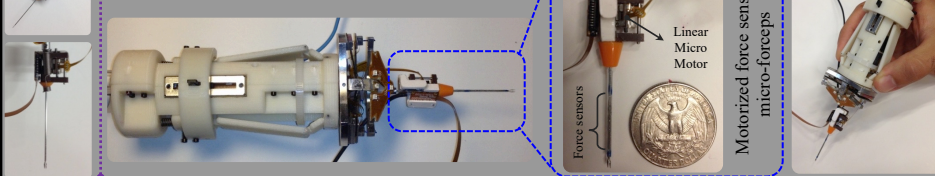
### 2-DOF Force-Sensing Micro-Forceps (Steady-Hand Robot Compatible)



### 3-DOF Force-Sensing Micro-Forceps (Steady-Hand Robot Compatible) - Concept Design



### Motorized 2-DOF Force-Sensing Micro-Forceps (Compatible with handheld manipulators)

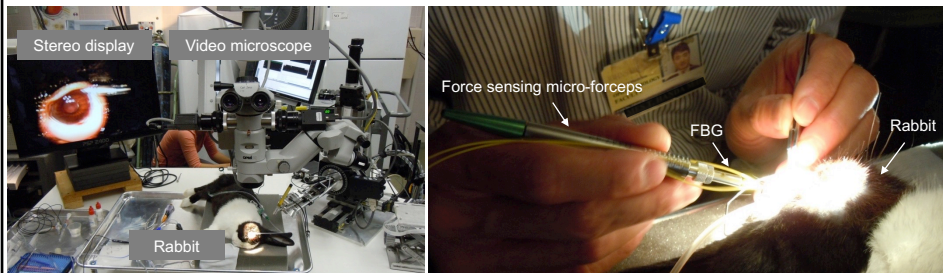


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## In-vivo experiments

- Test the force sensing micro-forceps in-vivo using rabbit in the operating room
- Force measurements, stereo microscopic video, and surgeon's voice annotation were recorded with timestamps for synchronization and analysis



Xingchi He, Marcin Balicki, Jin U. Kang, Peter Gehlbach, James Handa, Russell Taylor, Iulian Iordachita  
"Force sensing micro-forceps with integrated fiber Bragg grating for vitreoretinal surgery", SPIE 202

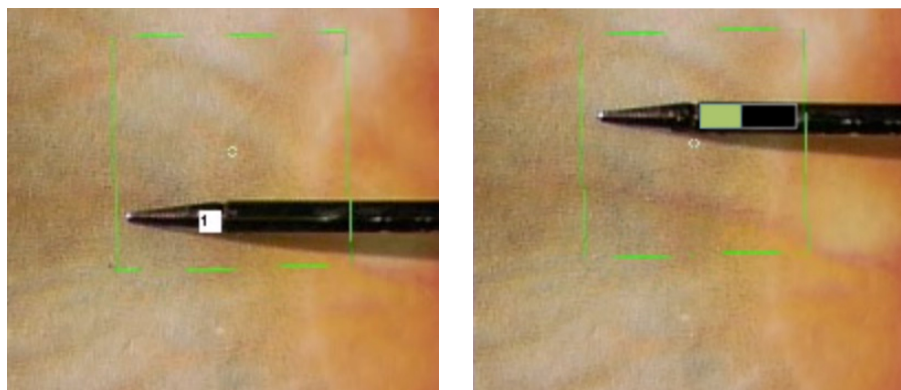
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## Video overlay of tool tip forces



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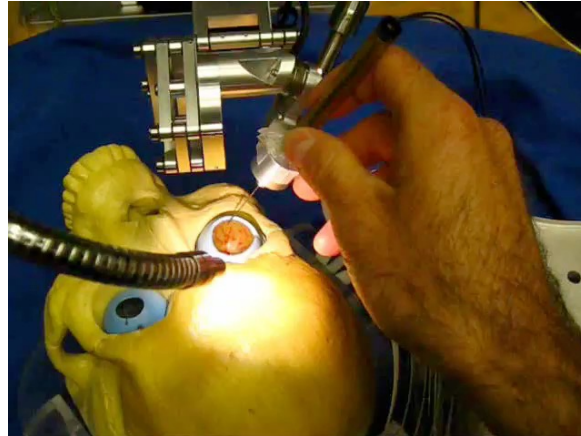


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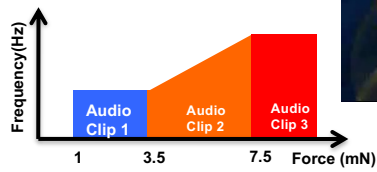
## Use of Audio and Voice



- Voice commands and annotation
- Auditory sensory substitution



Example Audio Response to Force Input



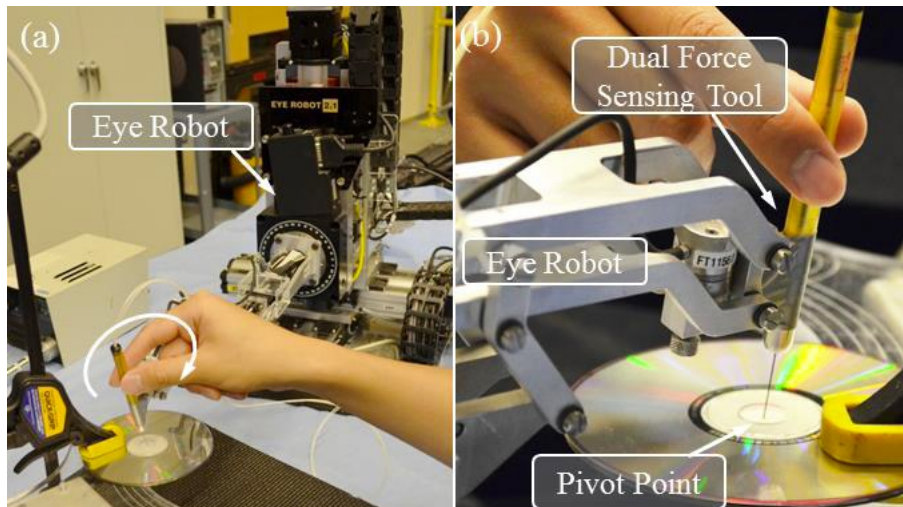
M. Balicki, et al.

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28

## Dual Force Sensor



X. He, Marcin Balicki, P. Gehlbach, J. Handa, R. Taylor, and I. Iordachita, "Variable Admittance Robot Control with A New Dual Force Sensing Instrument for Retinal Microsurgery", in *IEEE Int. Conf. Rob. Automat.*, Hong Kong, May 31-June 5, 2014..

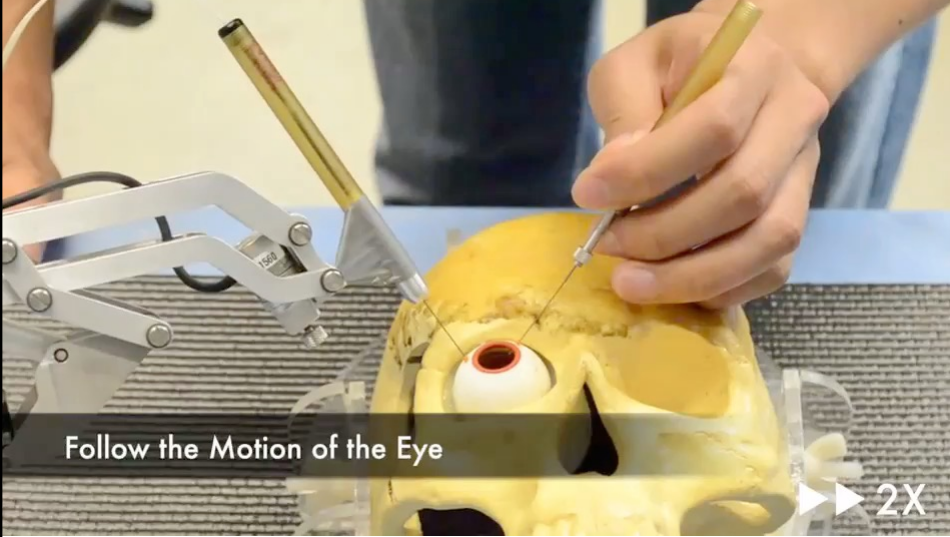
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## Dual Force Sensor



Follow the Motion of the Eye

2X

X. He, Marcin Balicki, P. Gehlbach, J. Handa, R. Taylo, and I. Iordachita, "Variable Admittance Robot Control with A New Dual Force Sensing Instrument for Retinal Microsurgery", in *IEEE Int. Conf. Rob. Automat*, Hong Kong, May 31-June 5, 2014..

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## $\mu$ Force Scaling Cooperative Control

### Cooperative Control

Velocity at the tool ( $V$ ) is proportional to ( $\alpha$  gain) the user's input force at the handle ( $F_h$ )

$$\dot{x} = \alpha F_h$$

### $\mu$ Force Scaling

Amplifies ( $\gamma$  gain) the human-imperceptible forces sensed at the tool tip ( $F_t$ ) to handle interaction forces ( $F_h$ ) by modulating robot velocity.

$$\dot{x} = \alpha (F_h - \gamma F_t), \quad \text{e.g., } \gamma = 500$$



Kumar et al (ICRA'00); Balicki et al. (MICCAI'10); Uneri et al., BioRob 2010

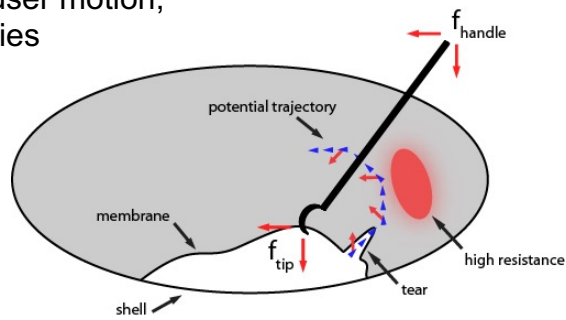
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## μForce Guided Cooperative Control

- ▣ User fights against ever increasing resistance
- ✓ Ensure safety tip force limits
- ▣ User interaction is limited at high-resistance regions
- ✓ Try to avoid those regions for later peeling
- ▣ User gets “stuck”, gives up, tries re-approach
- ✓ Ensure continuous user motion, even at the boundaries



Uneri *et al.*, BioRob 2010

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## μForce Guided Cooperative Control

- Global Limiting
  - Task-specific tip force limit
  - User controlled limit distribution
- Continuous motion at the constraint boundaries
- Virtual spring construct to ensure stability

$$f_{lim} = f_{max} \frac{|f_h|}{\|f_h\|}$$

$$\dot{x}_{lim} = \dot{x} \left( \frac{f_{lim} - |f_t|}{f_{spring}} \right)$$

### Local Force Minimization

- Guiding user towards direction of minimum resistance
- Sensitivity variable allows user override
- Haptically intuitive response
- Avoids / postpones reaching limits

$$\dot{x}_{min} = k_p \left( 1 - s \frac{|f_t|}{\|f_t\|} \right) f_h$$

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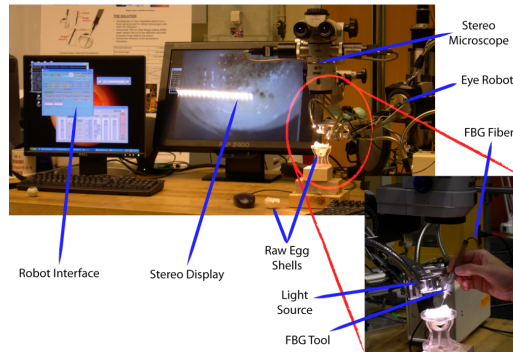
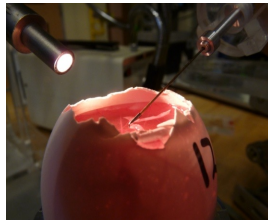
## Experimental Platform

Focusing on:

- Properties of the tissue we interact with
- The method of interaction, i.e. performance of our algorithms

Performed on:

- Inner shell membrane of raw eggs
- Surrogate tissue for epiretinal membrane peeling



Uneri *et al.*, BioRob 2010

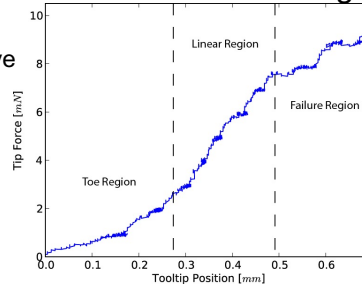
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## Experiment: Tissue Force Characterization

- A corrected position allows us to observe tissue strain
- Controlled constant force application
  - Incremented by 1mN, with 10s delay, over a range of 1-10mN
- Characteristic curve obtained reveals a similar pattern to those seen in fibrous tissue tearing
  - Toe region: Safe
  - Linear region: Predictive
  - Failure region: Peeling



Uneri *et al.*, BioRob 2010

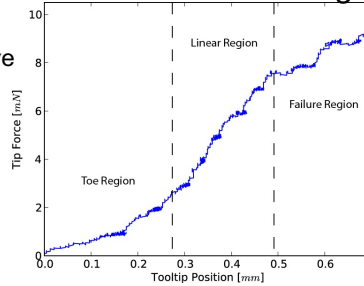
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## Experiment: Tissue Force Characterization

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Uneri *et al.*, BioRob 2010

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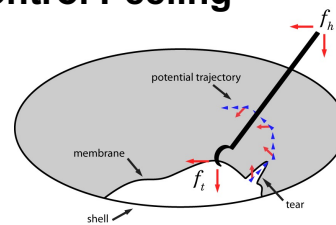
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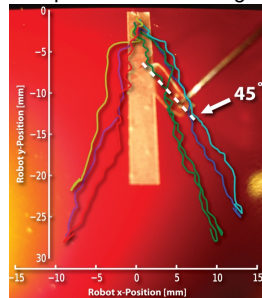
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## Enhanced Cooperative Control Peeling Algorithm

The algorithm biases operator-robot interaction towards the direction of least tissue resistance while limiting forces.

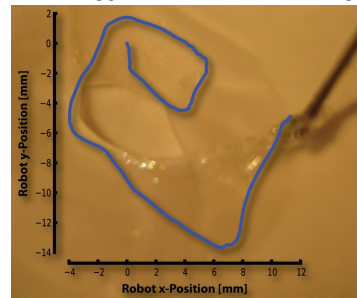


Tape Phantom Peeling



Peeling angles converge to 45°

Inner Egg Shell Membrane Peeling



Resulting motion pattern resembles commonly used capsulorhexis technique

Uneri *et al.*, BioRob 2010

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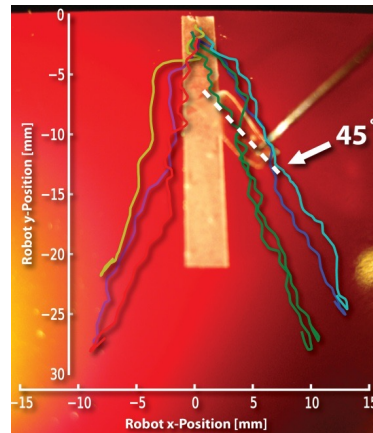
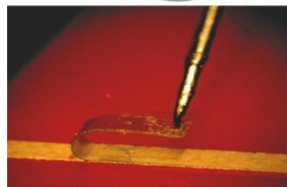
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37

## Experiment: μForce Guided Cooperative Control

- Task: delaminate PVC strip with acrylic adhesive from a wax surface.
- Strip is peeled at an average of 45°
- User was guided away from the centerline in the direction of lowest resistance



Uneri *et al.*, BioRob 2010

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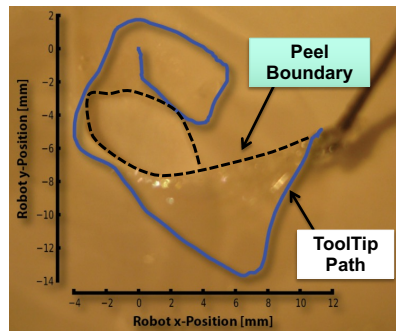
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38

## Experiment: μForce Guided Cooperative Control

- Goal: Remove a section of egg inner shell membrane
- Circular trajectory consistent with the results from the strip peeling experiment
- Magnify the perception of tip forces lateral to direction of desired motion
- Results in a peel pattern seen Capsulorhexis maneuver



Peeling Inner Egg Shell Membrane

Uneri *et al.*, BioRob 2010

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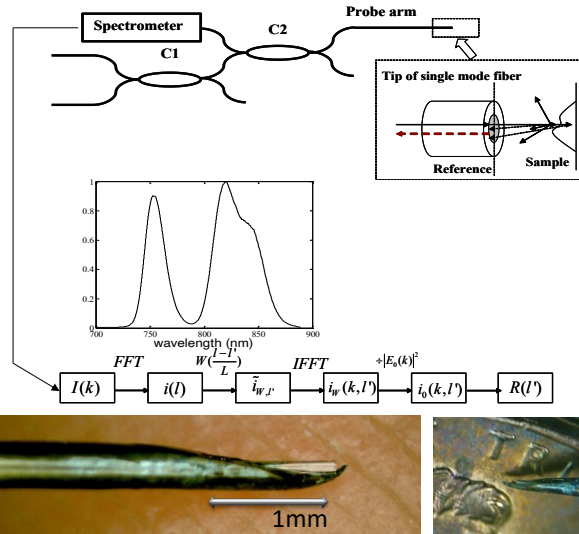
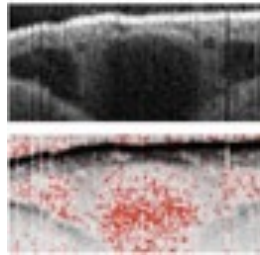
39



## Imaging (OCT) Built Into 0.5mm Surgical Tool

M. Balicki, J. Han, X. Liu, I. Iordachita, P. Gehlbach, J. Handa, R. Taylor, J. Kang.

- Fourier Domain Common Path OCT (FD CPOCT)
- Combined Superluminescent Diodes
- Functional and structural images



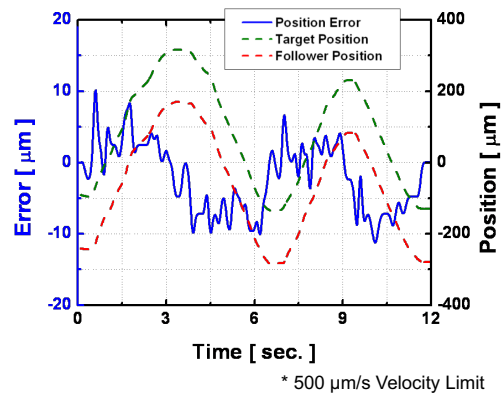
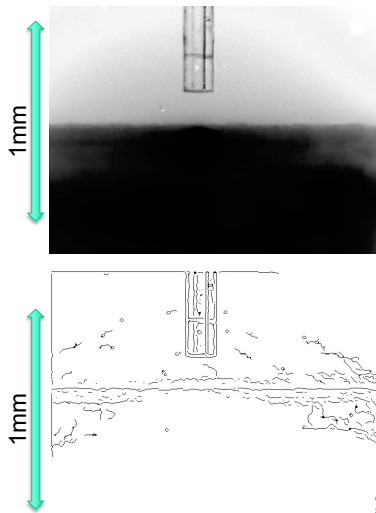
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## Autonomous Surface Following

M. Balicki, J.-H. Han, I. Iordachita, P. Gehlbach, J. Handa, R. H. Taylor, and J. Kang, *MICCAI 2010*



Noise Rem. /Thresholded/Canny

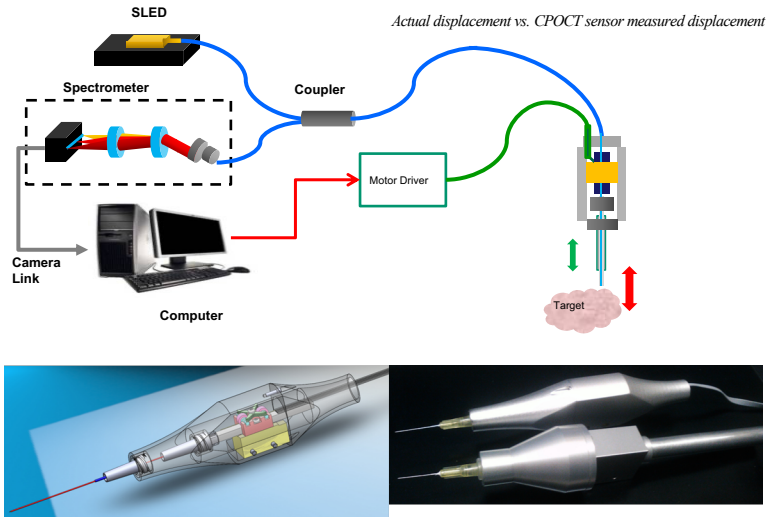
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## OCT-feedback in fast hand-held robot

J. Kang, P. Gehlbach, R. Taylor, *et al.*



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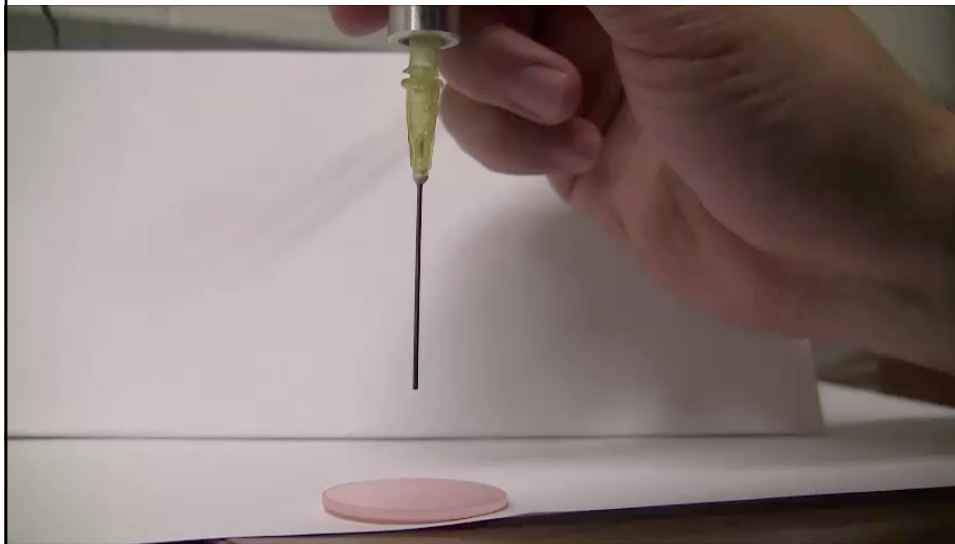
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## Safety Barrier

J. Kang, P. Gehlbach, R. Taylor, *et al.*



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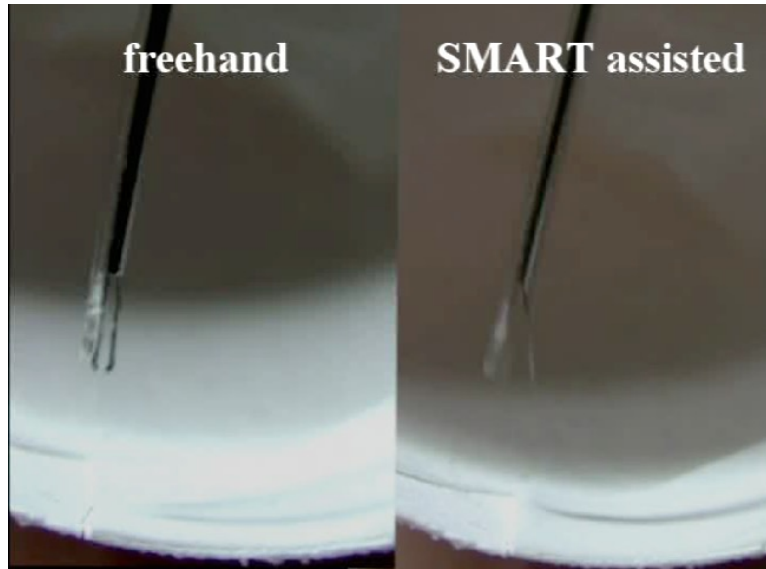
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## Smart Micro-Forceps

J. Kang, P. Gehlbach, R. Taylor, *et al.*



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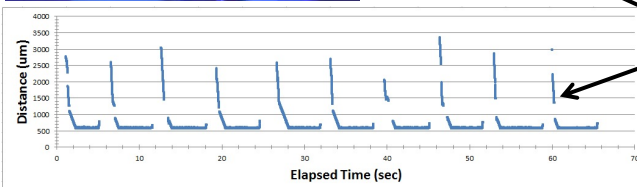
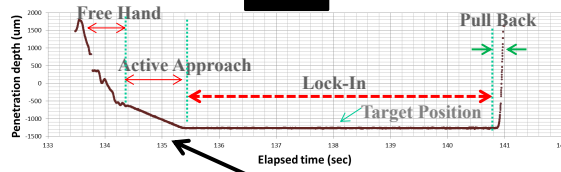
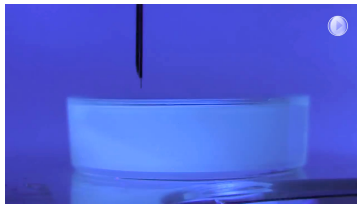
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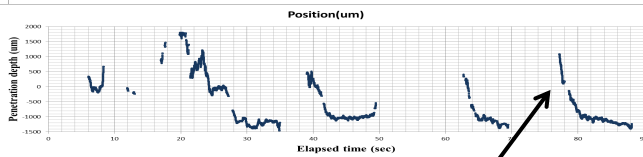
## OCT-servoed Injections

J. U. Kang, G.W. Cheon, and P. Gehlbach



### Robot+OCT

Gyeong Woo Cheon, Yong Huang, Hye Rin Kwag, Ki-Young Kim, Russell H. Taylor, Peter Gehlbach, Jin U. Kang, "Injection-depth-locking axial motion guided handheld micro-injector using CP-SSOCT," 36th Annual International IEEE EMBS Conference, 1753, August 2014



### Freehand

GW Cheon, Y Huang, JU Kang, "Active depth-locking handheld micro-injector based on common-path swept source optical coherence tomography," SPIE BIOS, 93170U-93170U-5, 2015.

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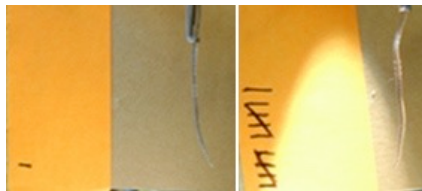
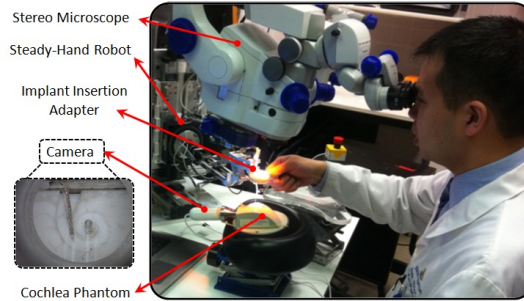
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45

## Robotically-Assisted Insertion of Cochlear Implants

- Setup
  - Phantom cochlea
  - Stiffer stylet
- Surgeon and novice inserted implants into phantom using three methods:
  - Manual insertion
  - Robot-assisted insertion
  - Robot-assisted insertion with virtual fixtures enacted



P. Wilkening, W. Chien, B. Gonenc, J. Niparko, J. U. Kang, I. Iordachita, and R. H. Taylor, "Evaluation of Virtual Fixtures for Robot-Assisted Cochlear Implant Insertion", in *IEEE Biomedical Robotics and Biomechanics (BioRob)*, Sao Paulo, 12-15 Aug, 2014, pp. 332-338.

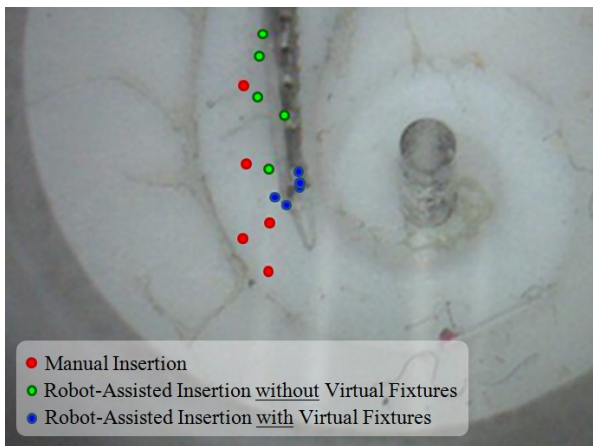
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46

## Robotically-Assisted Insertion of Cochlear Implants



### Novice's deployment points

- Each point represents the deployment point reached using one of the insertion methods
- Manual spread very far, not very accurate
- Robot-assisted also spread far, closer to center
- Robot-assisted with virtual fixtures closely clustered and highly accurate

P. Wilkening, W. Chien, B. Gonenc, J. Niparko, J. U. Kang, I. Iordachita, and R. H. Taylor, "Evaluation of Virtual Fixtures for Robot-Assisted Cochlear Implant Insertion", in *IEEE Biomedical Robotics and Biomechanics (BioRob)*, Sao Paulo, 12-15 Aug, 2014, pp. 332-338.

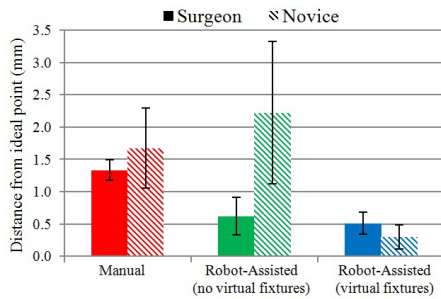
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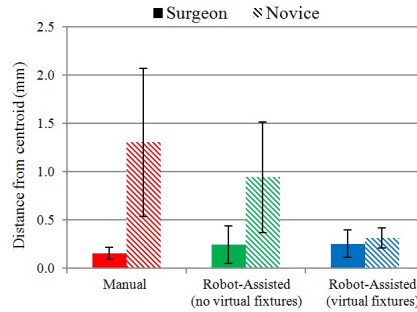
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## Robotically-Assisted Insertion of Cochlear Implants



### Accuracy Results

- Robot decreases surgeon's mean error by 0.7 mm
- Virtual fixture decreases novice's error by 1.4 mm
- 61.7% mean decrease in accuracy error using virtual fixtures



### Repeatability Results

- Robot increased surgeon's repeatability by 0.1 mm
- Novice's repeatability decreased by 0.36 mm, then by 0.63 mm

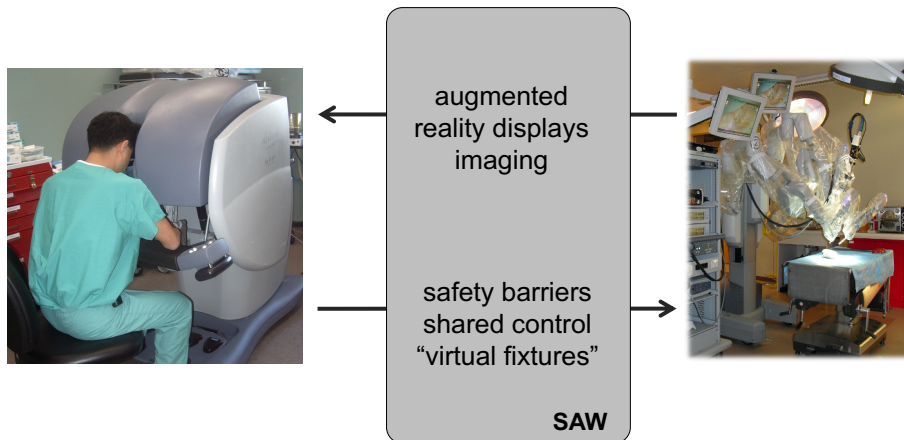
P. Wilkening, W. Chien, B. Gonenc, J. Niparko, J. U. Kang, I. Iordachita, and R. H. Taylor, "Evaluation of Virtual Fixtures for Robot-Assisted Cochlear Implant Insertion", in *IEEE Biomedical Robotics and Biomechanics (BioRob)*, Sao Paulo, 12-15 Aug, 2014. pp. 332-338.

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## Information-enhanced robotic surgery

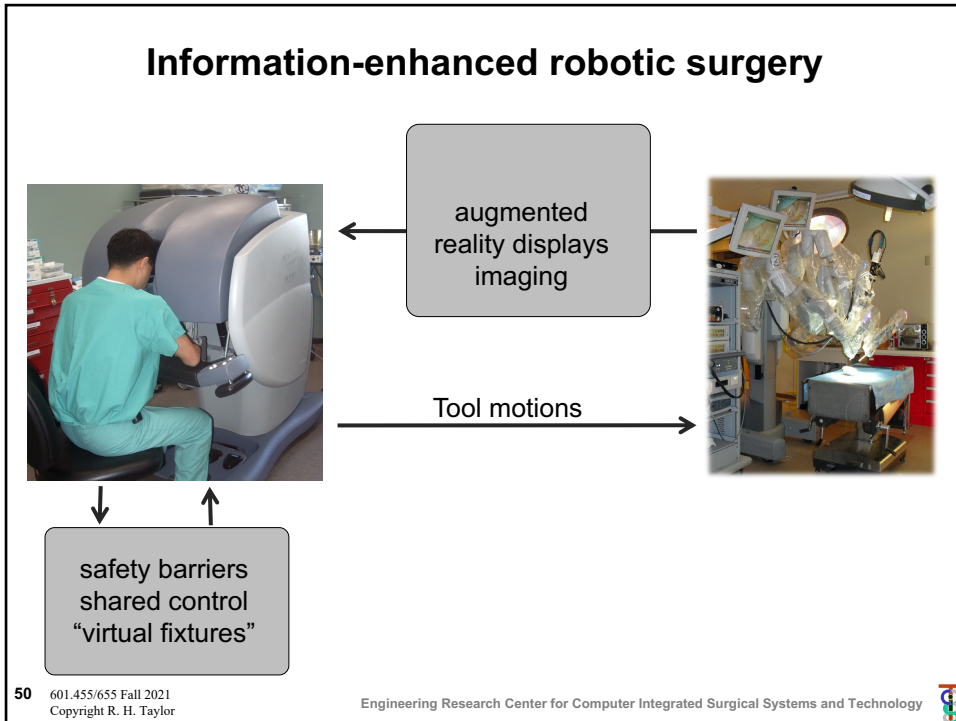


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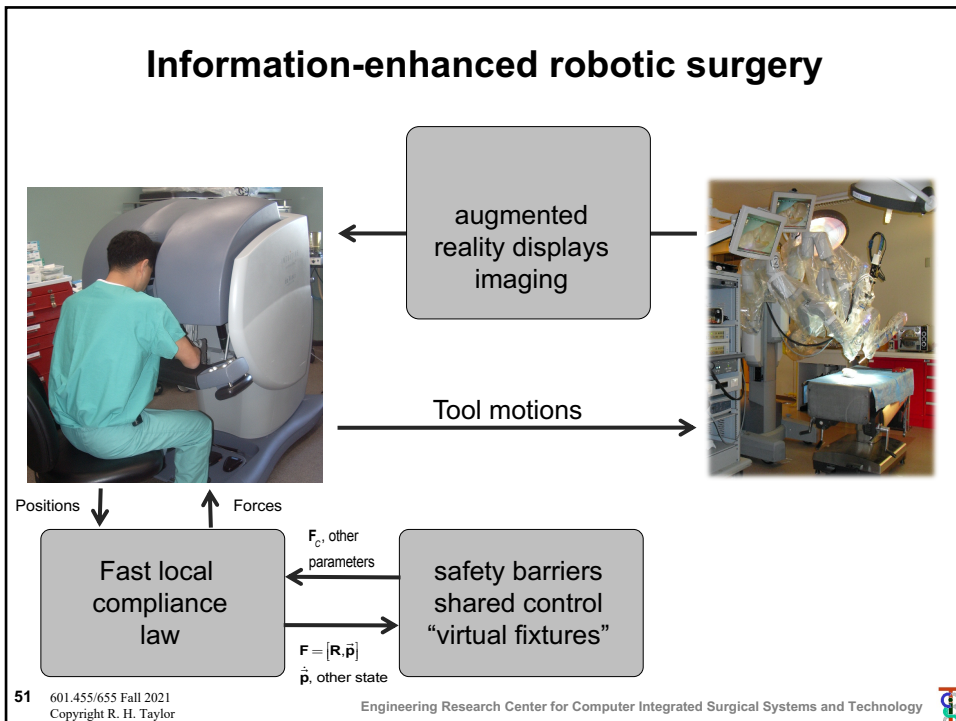
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50



51

## Virtual Fixture “Hook” in DaVinci API

- **Experimental interface not in any clinical or commercial product.**
- Specification developed jointly by JHU and Intuitive to support research
- Prototyped at JHU by Tian Xia and Russ Taylor
- Current version implemented in DaVinci “S” model by Lawton Verner at ISI, with “hooks” in a proprietary ISI Application Program Interface
- Accessed through cisst/SAW libraries



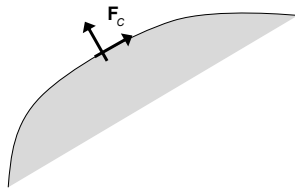
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52

## Compliance virtual fixtures



$\mathbf{F} = [\mathbf{R}, \vec{\mathbf{p}}]$  = current pose;  $\dot{\mathbf{p}}$  = current velocity

$\mathbf{F}_c = [\mathbf{R}_c, \vec{\mathbf{p}}_c]$  = position compliance frame

$\vec{\mathbf{k}}^{(+)}, \vec{\mathbf{k}}^{(-)}$  = position stiffness factors

$\vec{\mathbf{b}}^{(+)}, \vec{\mathbf{b}}^{(-)}$  = damping factors

$\vec{\mathbf{g}}^{(+)}, \vec{\mathbf{g}}^{(-)}$  = force bias terms

$\mathbf{R}_o$  = orientation compliance frame

$\vec{\mathbf{k}}_o^{(+)}, \vec{\mathbf{k}}_o^{(-)}$  = orientation stiffness factors

$\vec{\mathbf{t}}^{(+)}, \vec{\mathbf{t}}^{(-)}$  = torque bias terms

$t$  = time remaining on timeout counter

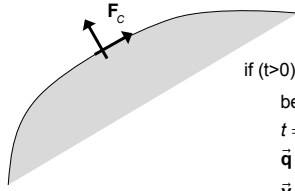
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## Compliance virtual fixtures



```

if (t>0) then
  begin
    t = t - 1
     $\vec{q} = \mathbf{F}_c^{-1} \vec{p} = \mathbf{R}_c^{-1} (\vec{p} - \vec{p}_c)$ 
     $\vec{v} = \mathbf{R}_c^{-1} \dot{\vec{p}}$ 
     $\vec{h} = \vec{0}; \vec{\psi} = \vec{0}$ 
    for  $i \in \{x, y, z\}$  do
      {if  $\vec{q}_i \leq 0$  then  $\vec{h}_i = \vec{g}_i^{(-)} + \vec{k}_i^{(-)} \vec{q}_i + \vec{b}_i^{(-)} \vec{v}_i$ , else  $\vec{h}_i = \vec{g}_i^{(+)} + \vec{k}_i^{(+)} \vec{q}_i + \vec{b}_i^{(+)} \vec{v}_i$ };
     $\vec{f} = \mathbf{R}_c \vec{h}$ ; add  $\vec{f}$  to the forces exerted on the master

     $\vec{\theta} =$  Rodrigues vector corresponding to  $\Delta \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}_o^{-1} \mathbf{R}$ 
    for  $i \in \{x, y, z\}$  do
      {if  $\vec{\theta}_i \leq 0$  then  $\vec{\psi}_i = \vec{\tau}_i^{(-)} + \vec{k}_i^{(-)} \vec{\theta}_i$ , else  $\vec{\psi}_i = \vec{\tau}_i^{(+)} + \vec{k}_i^{(+)} \vec{\theta}_i$ };
    add  $\mathbf{R}_o \vec{\psi}$  to the torques exerted on the master
  end
  
```

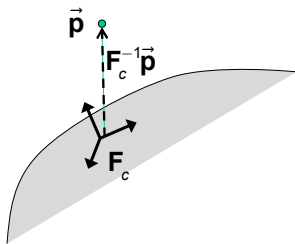
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## Surface following virtual fixture



**Goal:** Stay on a surface; bias force drawing toward the surface; spring force resisting penetration

$\vec{p}_c =$  closest point on surface  
 $\mathbf{R}_c \vec{z} =$  surface normal at  $\vec{p}_c$

$\vec{k}^{(-)} = [0, 0, -stiffness]$

$\vec{g}^{(+)} = [0, 0, -bias]$

Others = 0

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## Limitation and Extensions

- The specific abstraction just presented has some limitations. In particular, it separates the position and orientation compliance in a way that makes coupling of orientations and translations non-trivial.
- This can be gotten around to some extent by continually updating the virtual fixture compliance parameters.
- There are several obvious extensions that may be tried. For example, one can provide fuller matrices for virtual fixture force/torque generation. For example:

Compute  $\vec{q}, \vec{v}, \vec{\theta}, \vec{\phi}$  from  $\mathbf{F}_c$  and  $\mathbf{R}_o$ , where  $(\vec{\phi} = d\vec{\theta} / dt)$

Compute a region  $i$  of local configuration space from  $\vec{q}$  and  $\vec{\theta}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \vec{h} \\ \vec{\psi} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{K}_i \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \vec{q} \\ \vec{\theta} \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{B}_i \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \vec{v} \\ \vec{\phi} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \vec{g}_i \\ \vec{\tau}_i \end{bmatrix}$$

Add  $\mathbf{R}_c \vec{h}$  to master forces and  $\mathbf{R}_o \vec{\psi}$  to master torques

