Gripper Finger Design for Automatic Bottle Opener

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Abstract

This paper presents a design of parallel gripper finger for robotic dual-arm working with an automatic push-down bottle crown cork cap opener on ABB’s Yumi collaborative bartender robot. A safe grip is made from ABS plastic 3D printing for human-based interaction design for grasping and holding a glass bottle. Rack design and proposed automatic push-down bottle opener using pneumatics are presented to support a gripper finger. Experimental tests as bartender environment with 4 different types of carbonated soft drink with crown cork cap show that can be achieved effectively with average of 91.5% percentage of successful cap opener.

1 Introduction

In recent years, many types of safe collaborative robot with single arm and dual-arm intended for direct collaboration with human-based workers in the industrial automation with incrementally superior capacities have been invented to handle bimanual tasks in the product assembly and movement with a specific trajectory point. Robot can assist humans in many tasks. Performance of picking and placing objects using robotics technology is an important objective of industrial automation for picking and packing boxes with computer-based vision. Robot Arm is being used the manipulation of static objects that are fast and proven to be reliable. There are many types of robotic arm used. A picking robot arm is scheduled to pick a task in the specific working space to enhance the stability and movement with a specific trajectory points. In the authors have presented a cable-driven underactuated robotic gripper, which is designed for adaptable picking objects in different shapes, weights, sizes, and textures. ABB’s Yumi robot has been reported many successful efforts to improve dual-arm operations for synchronized programming in industrial tasks detailed in [3]. Kinematic plan for conventional industrial robotic arms are capable of moving the static object manipulation. However, there is a trouble when moving object manipulation such as a smooth picking up a bottle and a grasping motion. Our inspiration of this research came from the Japanese news that the Japanese owner of restaurants and shops are struggling to hire staff in an aging society. Then in 2020, the Japan’s first robot bartender has begun serving up drinks in a Tokyo pub with the industrial robot. In order to avoid jerking the object and figuring out the reasonable time in safety, we present a design of gripper for industrial ABB’s Yumi robotic dual-arm.

Moreover, the grippers have to be mated with objects to ensure that the objects do not either fall off or get damage from the grippers. The 2-finger parallel gripper was chose because it is the most flexible design and is able to carry out most percentage of applications. The ABB’s YuMi is offered gripper options. The basic function of the option is to grasp parts using a parallel grip. There are some inventions related to a crowncap bottle opener. A conventional bottle opener is a specialised lever inserted beneath the pleated metalwork pulling it off when upward force is applied to the handle end of the opener. Autonomous bottle opener robot has presented with a simple bottle opener to assist the bartender. Without suffering from wrist motion disorder while opening, a push bottle opener includes a mechanism configured to remove a
bottle cap when the opener is introduced over a bottle and pushed downwardly.

To our best knowledge, a design of gripper finger on ABB’s Yumi collaborative robot is presented for human-based tasks performing automatic manipulation collaboration with an automatic push-down glass bottle opener using pneumatics in order to operate on grasped objects.

In this paper, a design of safe gripper finger holding a glass while movement based on the dual-arm industrial robot will be proposed for gasping a glass, preparing a glass and pouring a beverage, which will be able to replace humans in the future.

- To design a safe gripper finger for holding a glass while movement based on the dual-arm industrial robot.
- To propose an automatic push-down crown cap bottle opener based on the dual-arm industrial robot.

2 Proposed Gripper Finger of Robotic Dual-Arm

In this section, the gripper finger of robotic dual-arm is proposed to apply with an automatic bottle opener. The design of automatic bottle opener controlled by the solenoid circuit are presented as follows.

2.1 Proposed Gripper Finger

In this paper, gripper finger design is to optimise the collaborative robot for picking and placing a bottle with a specific process. The robotic parts handler that physically interacts with the working environment. This leads to increase throughput, improve system reliability and compensate for robot inaccuracy.

The objective is to gasp and hold safely a glass bottle with a parallel gripper while using pneumatic for opening a bottle crown cork cap with an automatic push-down bottle opener. The dimension of carbonated soft drink in 250 ml glass bottle is of $11 \times 20 \times 13$ cm with the 25mm crown cork bottle cap. The design of safe gripper finger is made by 3D-printing ABS (Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene) plastic for grasping and holding a glass bottle and human-friendly interaction is shown in Figure 1.

Depending on the material used, a stress limit of designed gripper finger is tested on the stress analysis by the Autodesk Inventor. Prototype of gripper on ABB’s Yumi robot is shown in Figure 2.

2.2 Proposed Automatic Bottle opener

The concept of an automatic bottle cap opener mechanism is to effortlessly open and remove the bottle cap in one push-down by single handed robot. Rack design for proposed automatic bottle opener implementation using pneumatics is being worked reliably with the collaborative robot.

Mechanism of proposed automatic bottle opener consists of aluminium profile, bracket, a bottle stand, an automatic push-down bottle cap opener at the top of rack, a bottle opener stand, a pneumatic air cylinder, and a stroke adjustment sensor. Installation of an automatic bottle crown cap opener is shown in Figure 3. The dimension of rack design is $15.1 \times 17.4 \times 42$ cm connected with the pneumatic systems.
The process of an automatic bottle cap opener starts with the right-hand side of robot arm released a bottle into a bottle stand after selecting and picking a beverage. Then an automatic bottle opener moves vertically by the pneumatic air cylinder in order to remove a crown cap by an automatic push-down bottle cap opener installed at the top of rack in one push down motion. A stroke adjust sensor is referred as a switch for controlling the outstroke of air cylinder while operation.

The relationship on outstroke between force, radius and pressure that can given from

\[ F_r = A_e \cdot P, \]

where \( F_r \) is the resultant force, \( P \) is the pressure on the surface and \( A_e \) is the effective cross-sectional area of the piston surface.

Solenoid circuit is connected with I/O robot interface as shown in Figure 4. The output signal voltage of robot is used at 24 Vdc while operating. Prototype of automatic push-down bottle opener using pneumatics including with the rack for safety is shown in Figure 5.

3 Coordinate systems of collaborative robot

The mechanical arm of ABB’s Yumi robot is divided into an arm, a wrist and an end-manipulator. All the manipulators have marked for four reference points used during process to posture the tool in the workspace with a given orientation. The robot orientation is described with three-dimensional rotation using an order set of four numbers named quaternions. The ABB collaborative robots are able to control manually by using the flex pendant [16], which is a hand held controller connected to the robot.

The robot movement is programmed by teach pedant, which are relative to the Tool Center Point (TCP). Normally, TCP is defined as the active point of the tool as one point for each tool at a given time. When the robot is programmed to move along a given path following by TCP expressed in relation to the coordinate system.

Let \( \mathbf{t}_{co} \) be the translation vector from the original coordinate system of tool flange to TCP as [17]

\[ \mathbf{t}_{co} = [ t_x \ t_y \ t_z ]^T. \]  

Consider \( \mathbf{M} \) be the translation matrix from the tool flange to
TCP as

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & t_x \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

(3)

where $\mathbf{I}$ is the identity matrix and $\mathbf{0}$ is a zero vector.

TCP is assumed at the same coordinate independent of $N$ robot positions that is determined by

$$\mathbf{P}_{1,i} \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{P}_{1,j} \mathbf{M},$$

(4)

where $i, j \in [1 \ldots N]$ and $i \neq j$.

Consider that

$$\mathbf{P}_{1,i} \mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & a_{24} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & a_{34} \\ a_{41} & a_{42} & a_{43} & a_{44} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & t_x \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & t_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & t_z \end{bmatrix},$$

(5)

and

$$\mathbf{P}_{1,j} \mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & b_{13} & b_{14} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & b_{23} & b_{24} \\ b_{31} & b_{32} & b_{33} & b_{34} \\ b_{41} & b_{42} & b_{43} & b_{44} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & t_x \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & t_y \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. $$

(6)

Therefore, the linear equation of system can be expressed as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}_a - \mathbf{B}_b \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} t_x \\ t_y \\ t_z \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I}_a - \mathbf{I}_b \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}.$$ 

(7)

It is seen that all information determining the coordinate of TCP is achieved following (7).

### 4 Experimental Setup

Simulation setup for ABB’s Yumi bartender on specific environment is illustrated with the four different type of beverages. Experimental setup of ABB’s Yumi collaborative robot bartender consists of TCP calibration and workobject using the ABB Teach Pedant controller on chessboard pattern at the base frame, including with the proposed bartender algorithm.

![1st position of TCP](image1.png)

(a) 1st position of TCP.

![2nd position of TCP](image2.png)

(b) 2nd position of TCP.

![3rd position of TCP](image3.png)

(c) 3rd position of TCP.

![4th position of TCP](image4.png)

(d) 4th position of TCP.

Figure 6: TCP calibration on chessboard pattern.

```python
Algorithm 1 ABB’s Yumi Bartender algorithm

1: INITIAL PARAMETERS: GUI, Status1, 2, , 4, Drink#1, 2, , 4, Sensor Top, Sensor Bottom;
2: INITIAL FUNCTIONS:
3: PickupDrink() {
4: INPUT Position of Robot from CAMERA
5: INPUT Kinematic of Robot
6: Position and Kinematic Calculation()
7: OUTPUT Robot move to pick bottle
8: OUTPUT Robot move to open bottle cap and pick glass
9: SolenoidON ()
10: OUTPUT Robot move to pick bottle
11: OUTPUT Robot move to pour
12: IF (Drink# == Drink#1) {
13: OUTPUT Pour Drink#1
14: ELSE
15: OUTPUT Pour Drink#2
16: } ELSE
17: SolenoidOFF ()
18: IF (Sensor Bottom == ON) {
19: YES
20: ELSE NO |
21: }|
22: IF (Sensor Top == ON) {
23: CASE Drink#1 : Status1 = PickupDrink ()
24: CASE Drink#2 : Status2 = PickupDrink ()
25: CASE Drink#3 : Status3 = PickupDrink ()
26: CASE Drink#4 : Status4 = PickupDrink ()
27: }
```

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4.1 TCP calibration

TCP calibration is modified on the chessboard pattern by determining the TCP 4-reference position with different type of grasping gesture object using ABB Teach Pendant as shown in Figure 6.

4.2 Workobject

A workobject [19] is a coordinate system used to describe the position of a work piece. The workobject consists of two frames as a user frame and an object frame. All positions will be related to the object frame, which is related to the user frame and world coordinate system. Working movement is modified on the chessboard pattern by marking the 3-reference point on x-axis and y-axis using ABB Teach Pendant.

4.3 Bartender algorithm

The proposed ABB’s Yumi bartender algorithm is as shown in Algorithm 1. The process is starting from taking order from user via GUI interface on web application, then select one beverage and open the cap with an automatic push-down cap opener using the right-hand side of robot. Finally, to pick a glass and then pour the selected beverage into a glass by the left-hand side of robot. Demonstration of ABB’s Yumi bartender robot with gripper finger dual-arm working with the automatic push-down bottle opener is depicted in Figure 7.

5 Experimental Results

Experimental results show that ABB dual-arm robot performing gesture-based robotic gripper capable of being human-based recognised consist of four paths as two paths for opening a bottle cap using an automatic push-down bottle cap opener by pneumatics and preparing a glass. Next two paths for pouring a selected drink by the right-hand side into a glass holding by the left-hand side of robot gripper as follows.
5.1 Path for opening a bottle and preparing a glass

Figure 8 shows the paths of gripper gesture controlled the right-hand side robot for opening a bottle and for preparing a glass on the left-hand side of robot. Experimental route for opening a bottle cap by a right-hand side gripper were the No. 1-4 shown in Figure 8(a). Route 1 started at location No. 1, involved taking up a bottle from location No. 2 and moving it to replace on the bottle opener stand at location No. 3 and waiting for opening a bottle cap at location No. 4, then taking up a bottle to location No. 2 again waiting for pouring in the next route. Route 2 started at location No. 1, involved picking up a glass from location No. 2 and moving it to location No. 3 and then rotating a glass right-side up to location No. 4, then standby for the next route at the location No. 5.

Figure 9 demonstrates the step-by-step of gesture movement of ABB’s Yumi bartender collaborative robot while using an automatic push-down bottle cap opener by pneumatics at the right-hand and holding a glass prepared by a left-hand side of robot gripper followed Route 1 and Route 2. Figure 9(a) shows the right gripper was taking a bottle to the rack of automatic push-down bottle opener, while the left gripper prepared to pick up a glass depicted in Figure 9(b). Meanwhile the bottle was being uncapped by automatic push-down opener using pneumatic, the right gripper was prepared into standby mode and left gripper was rotating a glass right-side up as shown in Figure 9(c). After that, the right gripper was taking out an uncapped bottle presented in Fig 9(d) and left gripper was waiting for pouring in the next route.
5.2 Path for pouring a beverage into a glass

Figure 10 shows the paths of gripper gesture controlled the right-hand side robot for pouring a selected beverage without cap into a glass held by the left-hand side of robot. Experimental route for pouring a uncapped bottle by a right-hand side gripper were the No. 1-9 shown in Figure 10(a). Route 3 started at location No. 1, involved holding an uncapped bottle to location No. 2 and moving it at the front of a glass holding by a left-hand side gripper to location No. 3, pouring slowly from location No. 5 to No. 6 and shaking softly from location No. 7 to No. 8, and then taking up an empty bottle to location No. 9 at the end route.

Now that a glass has been prepared by a left-hand side gripper and ready to pour. Route for pouring a beverage were the No. 1-9 shown in Figure 10(b). Route 4 started at location No. 1, moving a glass prepared from location No. 2 to No. 3, tilted a glass at a 45 degree angle from the location No. 4 to No. 5 and then poured a beverage slowly by a right-hand side gripper so that the liquid landed directly in the middle side of a glass holding by a left-hand side gripper of robot. Once a robot poured about half of beverage into a glass at the location No. 6, then straightened a glass and poured a rest of beverage directly into the center of glass from the location No. 7 to No. 8, and then moving a full glass with beverage to location No. 9 at the end route.
Figure 12: Percentage of opening the bottle cap by automatic push-down bottle opener using pneumatics.

Figure 11 demonstrates the step-by-step of gesture movement of ABB’s Yumi bartender collaborative robot while pouring a beverage using a right-hand side gripper into a glass holding by a left-hand side of robot gripper followed Route 3 and Route 4. Figure 11(a) shows that the right gripper was holding an unapped bottle and then pouring a beverage slowly into the middle side of glass, while the left gripper tilted a glass at a 45 degree angle depicted in Figure 11(b) until the bottle was empty, the right gripper was shaking a bottle softly, while the left gripper was holding straighten a glass in Figure 11(c). After that, the right gripper was taking an empty bottle into a bottle stand and left gripper was ready to serve as shown in Figure 11(d).

The average percentage of the results from opening a bottle cap is as the success of opening bottle cap is given for 91.5 %, the bottle cap doesn’t pop up the opener for 6.75 % and the failure for 1.75 % presented in Figure 12 which are achieved effectively.

6 Conclusion

In this paper, a design of gripper finger working with an automatic push-down bottle crown cork cap opener has been presented using pneumatics on ABB’s Yumi collaborative robot for the bartender environments with the 4-different types of carbonated soft drink. The proposed semi-circular shaped gripper is appropriately designed for grasping and holding a bottle safely and working with the automatic bottle opener. The design of safe parallel gripper finger made by ABS plastic for grasping and holding a glass bottle and human-based interaction has been introduced. A gripper finger design with the industrial specification is tested on the stress analysis depending on the material used by the Autodesk Inventor. Rack design for an automatic push-down bottle cap opener using pneumatics supported a proposed gripper finger has been proposed.

All proposed paths are introduced for safely working on bartender responsibilities including with opening a bottle, pouring a beverage and serving a beverage. The paths of successful gesture for grasping a bottle and hold a glass by proposed gripper finger have been presented that they can apply effectively and safely to work as a bartender controlled through a web application. Experimental results shown that the average percentage of 91.5% of successful cap opener can be achieved effectively.

Conflict of Interest The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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