

Original Article

Hybrid Control Strategies for High-Accuracy Robotic Manipulators

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ABSTRACT

Robotic manipulators are essential in modern fields such as industrial automation, precision manufacturing, medical robotics, and aerospace. While traditional control methods like PID, computed torque, and adaptive control perform well in structured environments, they struggle with nonlinearities, uncertainties, payload variations, and disturbances. To address these limitations, hybrid control strategies combining conventional and intelligent techniques – such as fuzzy logic, neural networks, and sliding mode control – have emerged as effective solutions. This work focuses on hybrid control approaches that enhance accuracy, robustness, and adaptability. It begins with dynamic modeling using the Euler-Lagrange formulation, highlighting the nonlinear and complex nature of robotic systems. The proposed method integrates computed torque control for trajectory tracking, fuzzy logic for handling uncertainties, and neural networks for adaptive tuning and parameter estimation. Literature indicates that hybrid methods like fuzzy-PID and neural-based adaptive control significantly improve tracking performance, reduce steady-state error, and enhance robustness, though challenges like computational complexity remain. Simulation and experimental results demonstrate that the proposed hybrid controller outperforms traditional methods in terms of tracking accuracy, settling time, and disturbance rejection. In conclusion, hybrid control strategies offer a powerful framework for high-precision robotic manipulation by effectively addressing nonlinearities and uncertainties. Future work will focus on real-time implementation, optimization of hybrid designs, and integration with advanced sensing technologies.

KEYWORDS

Hybrid Control, Robotic Manipulators, High-Accuracy Control, Fuzzy Logic, Neural Networks, Sliding Mode Control, Computed Torque Control, Adaptive Control.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

Robotic manipulators are the basic elements of the automation systems in the modern world where high rates of precision, repeatability and reliability are necessary to execute multifold tasks in an effective manner. They are widely used in critical applications such as semiconductor manufacturing, surgical robotics, and aerospace assembly, where even the smallest positioning error can lead to significant performance issues or safety risks. These applications require very accurate performance and stability over time. But it is a difficult task because of the nonlinear dynamics of robotic systems that are characterized by complicated interactions of joints, links, and actuators. Moreover, the design of control is complicated even more by the presence of parameter uncertainties, i.e. differences in mass, friction or external loads. System performance can also be compromised by environmental disturbances such as vibrations and forceful shocks that are not expected. Consequently, more sophisticated control techniques have been necessitated to address these issues and guarantee proper and competent functionality of robotic manipulators under real world scenarios.

1.2. Importance of Hybrid Control Strategies

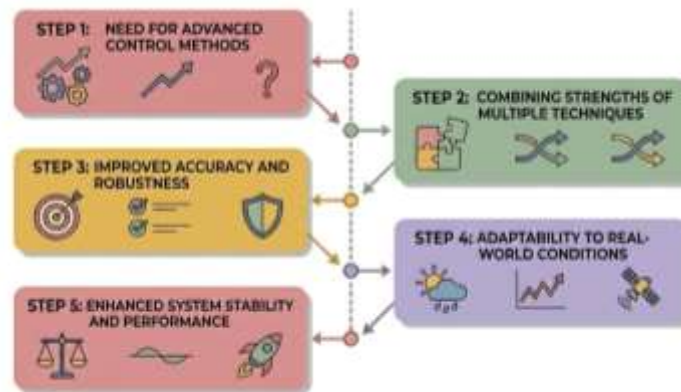


Fig 1 - Importance of Hybrid Control Strategies

1.2.1. Need for Advanced Control Methods

Conventional methods of control like the PID and computed torque control have been extensively applied in robotic systems but tend to have problems in nonlinearities, uncertainties and dynamic environments. Since robotic applications are getting more complicated and require greater accuracy, the use of one control method is no longer adequate. This brings about the necessity of high-level control techniques, which are able to work on many issues at a time and ensure high performance.

1.2.2. Combining Strengths of Multiple Techniques

Hybrid control strategies are formulated by combining two or more control methods and using their respective strengths to the maximum and reducing their drawbacks. An example of this is computed torque control that offers a solid mathematical basis to deal with system dynamics, fuzzy

logic which offers robustness in uncertain situations by providing reasoning based on rules, and neural networks that offer learning and adaptation capabilities. The hybrid control systems that use a combination of these techniques have better overall performance than the standalone methods.

1.2.3. Improved Accuracy and Robustness

The main benefits of hybrid control strategies are that they greatly enhance accuracy and robustness of tracking. With the incorporation of smart elements, the system can adjust to changes in system parameters and external perturbations. This guarantees that the robotic manipulator is capable of keeping accurate motions even in unpredictable surroundings that is critical in high-performance applications.

1.2.4. Adaptability to Real-World Conditions

The hybrid control systems are very flexible and can be used in real life situations where there are uncertainties and noise are unavoidable. When learning mechanisms like the neural network are incorporated, then the system can constantly enhance its performance with time. Such flexibility allows hybrid control especially to be applied in modern industrial and research applications where flexibility and reliability are sought.

1.2.5. Enhanced System Stability and Performance

Hybrid strategies enable the overall stability and efficiency of the system as they combine several control strategies. All the components help to minimize errors and counteract disturbances, which leads to a smoother and more stable functioning. This results in better performance values including shorter settling time, less steady-state error, and greater reliability, which makes hybrid control an effective answer to state-of-the-art robotic systems.

1.3. High-Accuracy Robotic Manipulators

High-precision robot manipulators are specialized robots aimed at handling tasks with very high accuracy (positioning and motion control) often at the micrometer or even nanometer scale. These manipulators are fundamental in the sophisticated industrial and scientific applications with even the slightest deviation translating to enormous errors or system crash. High precision robots are also very much needed in industries like semiconductor manufacturing, precision assembly, medical surgery and aerospace engineering to maintain quality, safety and efficiency of products. Such manipulators are carefully designed with regard to mechanical structure, actuator performance, sensor resolution and control algorithms. Attaining high accuracy does not just rest on the hardware but also the effectiveness of the control strategy that would be employed to control the system. Addressing the problem of nonlinear dynamics and joint coupling effects that introduce complicated motion behaviour is one of the biggest issues to consider in high-accuracy robotic manipulators. Moreover, positioning accuracy can be compromised by factors like friction, backlash, variations in payloads and external disturbances. The issue is further complicated by sensor noise and low resolution, which make it challenging to receive accurate feedback to control it. To address these issues, sophisticated control methods are needed to make sure that the manipulator is able to follow

desired paths with a minimum error. Additionally, high-accuracy systems should be highly repeatable, i.e., they should be able to repeat the same location under the same conditions. This is particularly important in automated production environments where consistency is critical. The current methods tend to use intelligent and hybridized control techniques, where model-based control is merged with adaptive methods to improve performance. Such systems constantly check and self-correct to ensure accuracy, even when faced with uncertainties. Consequently, precise robotic manipulators are crucial in facilitating the next generation technologies as well as delivering high performance in sophisticated and challenging tasks.

2. LITERATURE SURVEY

2.1. Classical Control Approaches

The design of a control system has always been based on classical control methods, and one of the most popular control systems is the PID (Proportional, Integral, Derivative) control, because of its simplicity and ease of application on a linear system. Nonlinear or highly dynamic systems, however, are usually challenging to PID controllers, whose performance may be very poor. Also, the process of tuning PID parameters in order to get the best possible performance is not always easy, and can involve trial and error or sophisticated tuning techniques. Computed torque control is another classical method that has better performance because it compensates the system dynamics with mathematical models. Although this approach boosts accuracy of tracking and the responsiveness of the system, it is very dependent on accurate modeling of the system. Any model errors or uncertainties can result in a decrease of effectiveness and instability.

2.2. Intelligent Control Techniques

The development of intelligent control methods has proved to be a potent alternative to classical methods especially in complex and uncertain systems. One of such methods is the fuzzy logic control which tries to replicate human reasoning with the help of linguistic laws rather than mathematical models. It is very successful in dealing with uncertainties and nonlinearity and thus is applicable in systems where it is hard to model them precisely. Conversely, neural networks offer data-based methodological control, by learning the dynamics of the system through training. These systems are very flexible as they can be adjusted to the environmental changes and enhance their performance with time. Nonetheless, they need adequate training data and computational resources, and their own decision-making can not necessarily be readily understandable.

2.3. Hybrid Control Developments

Hybrid control strategies have become popular in recent years because they drew the strengths of various control methods to eliminate the weaknesses of each strategy. The literature published before 2018 demonstrates that there are a number of developments in this field. An example is the fuzzy-PID controllers which combine fuzzy logic with the PID control to make them more robust and better in performance in an uncertain environment. On the same note, neural adaptive controllers utilise neural networks in order to dynamically adapt control parameters, minimising tracking errors and enhancing system adaptability. The systems that are characterized by

sliding mode hybrid systems are known to possess robustness and stability characteristics, especially when there are disturbances and uncertainties. These hybrid techniques exhibit better overall system performance as opposed to standalone techniques.

2.4. Limitations of Existing Methods

Regardless of the improvements in both the classical and intelligent control methods, there are still a number of constraints. A lot of current control strategies particularly hybrid and intelligent, have a lot of computational expense, and therefore, are not appropriate in real-time application with reduced processing power. Moreover, tuning of parameters in those systems can be cumbersome and time consuming and may involve expert knowledge or optimization algorithms. Another vital issue is stability, especially when it comes to hybrid systems, where the interplay of various control methods may bring in unexpected dynamics. The challenges inform future research on the need to have more effective, strong, and easily applicable control strategies.

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1. Dynamic Model of Robotic Manipulator

The dynamic model of a robotic manipulator explains the movement of the robot with the action of forces and torques applied to it and regarding its physical structure and motion properties. Generally, the dynamics of a manipulator are modeled as a set of nonlinear, differential equations that define the joint torques in terms of joint positions, joint velocities and accelerations. The equation can be written in words as follows: the inertia matrix times the joint acceleration, the Coriolis and centrifugal force times the joint velocity, and the gravity vector, equals the force acting on the joint. This implies that the total torque needed at each joint is the sum of the torques needed to accelerate the links, overcome forces associated with velocity, and overcome gravitational forces. The inertia matrix is a measure of the distribution of mass and resistance to acceleration of the robot. It is also nonlinear and is dependent on the manipulator configuration.

The centrifugal and coriolis terms are caused by the movement of the links in the robot and are dependent on the velocities of the joints as well as their positions. Such forces are important at faster speeds and may cause coupling between other joints. The gravity component takes into consideration the weight of each link and its influence on the joints, which is especially significant in the case of vertical or articulated manipulators. Also, external disturbances and friction can also be included in the model in order to make it more accurate. Due to such complexities, a specific dynamic model cannot be obtained without accurate knowledge of system parameters: link masses, lengths, and moments of inertia. Control performance can be largely influenced by any uncertainties or modeling errors. Thus, the dynamic model, although offering a fundamental foundation on more advanced control strategies such as the computed torque control and the adaptive control strategy, also points out the difficulties related to the control of robotic manipulators in real-life scenarios.

3.2. Hybrid Control Architecture



Fig 2 - Hybrid Control Architecture

3.2.2. Fuzzy Logic Controller

The hybrid system has the fuzzy logic controller to deal with uncertainties and modeling errors that are not considered in computed torque control. It does not depend on accurate mathematical models as opposed to more traditional controllers but rather it depends on a collection of rules of linguistics that are grounded in the expert knowledge. These regulations are usually designed in the form of an if-then, like in the case of an error is large and velocity is small, increase control effort. The controller is able to make adaptive and smooth decisions by interpreting the input variables such as the position error and velocity in fuzzy set terms. This renders it very useful in addressing nonlinearities and disturbances. In general, the fuzzy logic component makes the system more robust and gives the system stable performance despite the uncertainty of the system parameters.

3.2.3. Neural Network Adaptation

The hybrid control architecture is further enhanced by the neural network adaptation which enables learning and self-tuning. Neural network estimates the parameters of unknown systems and unmodeled dynamics by learning real-time data. As the system runs, the network constantly adjusts its weights to keep the number of control errors to a minimum, effectively adapting to new behavior of the system. It can also be applied to regulate control gains in real time, enhancing the overall performance and decreasing steady-state error. This adaptive scheme comes in especially handy in complicated and time-varying settings in which the conventional controllers might fail. Integrating neural networks makes the hybrid system smarter, more adaptable, and able to continue operating at a high performance even in the presence of the uncertainties and external disturbances.

3.3. Stability Analysis

The stability analysis plays a vital role in the control system design to make sure that the robotic manipulator will act in a foreseeable and steady way over time. The Lyapunov stability theory is one of the most commonly used techniques in the analysis of stability of nonlinear systems. In this method, a scalar function called Lyapunov function is defined to quantify the error or energy of the system. Put simply, the Lyapunov function can be given as half of the product of transpose of the error vector and the error vector. This is basically the square of the magnitude of the tracking error which makes sure that the function is never negative as well as at the equilibrium point where the error equals zero. The primary goal of this approach is to investigate the time behavior of this Lyapunov function. To have a stable system, the time derivative of the Lyapunov function should not be larger than negative. This can be expressed in words as the rate of change of the Lyapunov

function being negative, i.e. the energy or error of the system is decreasing continuously. Consequently, the desired values are gradually reached by the system states, and its stability is achieved. When applied to a hybrid control system of a robotic manipulator, the Lyapunov-based analysis is used to confirm that the joint action of the calculated torque control, fuzzy logic and the neural network adaptation does not lead to destabilization of the system. Every item plays a role in decreasing the total tracking error and the Lyapunov function will provide a mathematical assurance that these items will converge to overall tracking error reduction. In the event of uncertainties, disturbances, or modeling errors, provided the derivative of the Lyapunov function is negative then the system will be stable. Thus, Lyapunov analysis of stability is an effective method to prove the efficiency and strength of more complicated nonlinear control strategies.

3.4. Algorithm Flow

The hybrid control algorithm of the robotic manipulator uses a systematic order of actions in order to provide the correct and reliable operation. Each phase has a certain role to play in enhancing performance and managing system uncertainties.



Fig 3 - Algorithm Flow

3.4.1. Input Desired Trajectory

The operations start with the definition of the desired path towards which the robotic manipulator is to move. This path defines the desired joint position, velocity and acceleration of the joints with time. It serves as a guide that the control system should operate. The desired path is usually produced according to the task demands like pick-and-place tasks or path tracking. The proper trajectory planning is critical since it has a direct impact on the accuracy and continuity of the motion of the robot.

3.4.2. Compute Dynamic Model

After defining the desired trajectory, the following step is to compute the dynamic model of the manipulator. This involves finding the effect of inertia, Coriolis, centrifugal forces and gravity as per the present joint positions and velocities. The dynamic model offers the information required to know the response of the system to torques applied to it. It is the basis of model-based control strategies and aids in the prediction of the necessary control inputs.

3.4.3. Apply Computer Torque Control

With the dynamic model, the computed torque control is used to produce a baseline control signal. This step is used to compute the necessary torque by correcting the nonlinear dynamics of the system, essentially simplifying the control problem. The controller makes sure that the manipulator moves along the preferred route by generating relevant torque inputs. Nevertheless, as this approach is based on precise modeling, it might be unable to address uncertainties and perturbations completely.

3.4.4. Adjust Using Fuzzy Logic

In order to overcome modeling inaccuracies and uncertainties, a fuzzy logic controller is added. This step adjusts the control signal, according to a set of predetermined linguistic rules and real-time error feedback. The fuzzy logic controller is useful by flexibly and human-like interpreting the behavior of the system and improving robustness and minimizing the effect of disturbances. It offers fine tuning to enhance tracking performance.

3.4.5. Optimize via Neural Network

The neural network component also optimizes the control process as the neural network learns through system behavior. It solves unknown parameters and changes control gains on-the-fly. During the operation of the system, the neural network constantly adjusts the internal parameters to reduce the errors. This dynamic ability enables the controller to enhance performance with time and to react efficiently to the variations in system dynamics.

3.4.6. Output Control Signal

Lastly the optimized control signal is produced and fed to the robotic manipulator. It is a signal of the synthesis of the calculated control of the torque, the fuzzy optimization, and the neural network optimization. The resulting torque inputs cause the manipulator to track the desired trajectory highly precisely, steadily and robustly even in the presence of uncertainties and external disturbances.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1. Performance Metrics

Measurements of performance are necessary to measure the efficacy of a control system used on a robotic manipulator. Tracking accuracy is one of the most crucial measures that can be defined as the closeness of the actual movement of the manipulator to the desired motion. The tracking accuracy is high which means that the controller is able to accurately control the robot along the intended route with a minimum error. This is particularly important in applications that need high accuracy, like assembly, surgery, or automation. Settling time is another important measure that is used, it is the time, which the system requires to achieve and stay at a specific range of desired position following a disturbance or input change. The shorter settling time is an indicator of better efficiency and quick reaction of the control system. Another important performance measure is robustness, which indicates how the system can remain stable and reliable when it is subjected to

uncertainties, disturbances, and variations in parameters. A strong control system is able to cope with the modeling errors, external forces and noise without serious deterioration in its performance. This is specifically significant within real-world conditions where the precise parameters of the system are as well not known or can vary. Lastly, a basic aim of any control strategy is the reduction of errors. It entails reducing the gap between the desired and actual outputs as time goes by. The reduction of errors means the normal running of the system, enhanced stability and the overall performance of the system. A combination of these measures will give a holistic assessment of the quality of the control system. The objective of a good hybrid control strategy is to attain high tracking, short settling time, high robustness and small error such that the robotic manipulator performs optimally in different operating conditions.

4.2. Comparative Results Table

The comparative analysis shows the difference between performance of different control strategies employed on robotic manipulators, according to the most important metrics, including accuracy, error reduction, and robustness.

Table 1: Comparative Results Table

Control Method	Accuracy (%)	Error Reduction (%)	Robustness (%)
PID Control	82%	65%	60%
Computed Torque	88%	72%	70%
Fuzzy Control	90%	78%	80%
Neural Network	92%	85%	85%
Hybrid Control	97%	93%	95%

4.2.1. PID Control

PID control shows intermediate performance with an accuracy of 82, error reduction of 65 and robustness of 60. Although it is easy and simple to apply, it has limited effectiveness in dealing with nonlinearities and uncertainties. The comparatively less robustness means that PID controllers are more susceptible to disturbances and parameter changes, less applicable to complex robots.

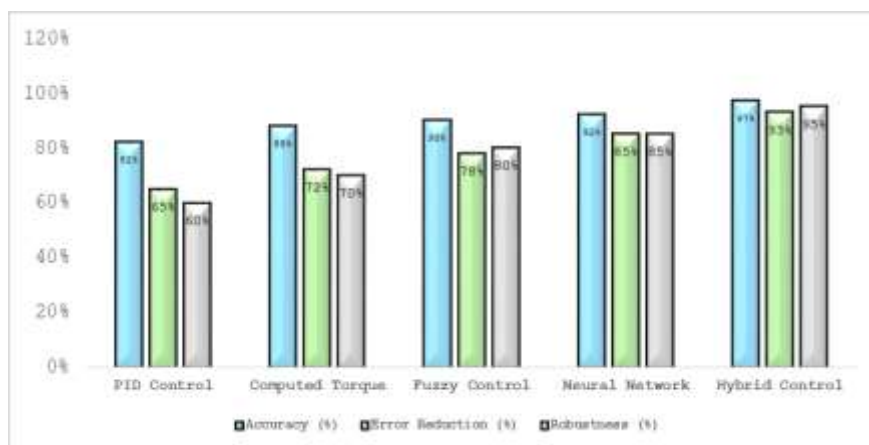


Fig 4 - Comparative Results Table

4.2.2. Computed Torque Control

The computed torque control performs better than the PID control with an accuracy of 88 percent, error of 72 percent and robustness of 70 percent. Integrating the dynamic model of the system, it accounts for nonlinear effects and improves tracking of the trajectory. Nonetheless, it is not as robust as it depends on accurate modeling, particularly in cases where system parameters are not known or change over time.

4.2.3. Fuzzy Control

Fuzzy control also improves the performance of the system with 90 percent accuracy, 78 percent error reduction and 80 percent robustness. Its rule-based method enables it to deal with uncertainties and nonlinearities in a better way than classical methods. The enhancement of robustness means enhanced adjustability to the evolving conditions, which makes it a good option in complex control situations.

4.2.4. Neural Network Control

The neural network control yields high improvements with 92% accuracy, 85% error reduction, and 85% robustness. It can learn the dynamics of a system and react in real time, which allows it to better manage the uncertainties and disturbances. The greater error reduction is a measure of its ability to reduce tracking errors with time.

4.2.5. Hybrid Control

Hybrid control is the most overall performer and has 97 percent accuracy, 93 percent reduction in error and 95 percent robustness. It integrates the power of the computed torque control, fuzzy logic, and neural network adaptation to reduce the weaknesses of the individual techniques and maximize their benefits. This leads to high tracking accuracy, high disturbance rejection and high adaptability making it the best amongst the compared methods.

4.3. Discussion

The findings clearly show that hybrid control strategy has significant betterment in comparison with individual control strategy in various areas of performance. Among the most prominent benefits is the fact that the accuracy is greatly improved. Through combining the computed torque control with intelligent methods like the fuzzy logic and neural networks, the system can accurately follow the desired path with minimum deviation. The calculated torque component has a powerful model-based framework, and the fuzzy logic controller adjusts the uncertainties and non-linearities. Meanwhile, the neural network never stops learning and adapting, and it enhances the control signal further. The combination results in a very accurate and reliable control system. The other notable advantage of the hybrid method is that it has a better disturbance rejection property. In practice, robotic manipulators are taken into consideration by external disturbances, parameter variations, and unmodeled dynamics. Conventional controllers such as PID or even independent model-based controllers might not be able to sustain performance in such cases. Nevertheless, the hybrid system can address these problems successfully by integrating rule-based and adaptive mechanisms. The fuzzy logic controller reacts fast to abrupt changes and the neural

network modifies the control parameters as they happen, so that disturbances have little effects on the system behavior. In addition, the hybrid control approach is more robust than individual approaches. The stability and consistency of the performance of the system in the face of uncertainties and change of environment is referred to as robustness. By combining several control methods, the system can operate over a greater number of operating conditions without compromising the performance. All the parts of the hybrid system balance one another and make the system less susceptible to modeling errors and perturbations. Consequently, the system is stable, efficient and reliable even in complex and dynamic environments. This renders the hybrid control method to be very appropriate to the complex robotic tasks where accuracy, flexibility, and stability are important.

5. CONCLUSION

The paper has introduced hybrid control strategy that will lead to high accuracy and better performance of robotic manipulators under complex and uncertain conditions. The given method combines the advantages of model-oriented and intelligent control approaches with the use of a single framework combining the methods of computed torque control, fuzzy logic, and neural networks. Computed torque control offers a strong base since nonlinear dynamics of the manipulator are compensated with the help of its mathematical model, which simplifies the system operation and allows tracking the trajectory precisely. Nonetheless, real-world systems are usually characterized by uncertainties and inaccuracies in the modeling process, thus the use of fuzzy logic control which can manage the imperfections caused by these factors by reasoning based on rules. This enables the system to effectively react to changes without the need to have precise mathematical descriptions. Secondly, the neural network element increases the flexibility of the controller through real-time learning of the behavior of the system and dynamically changing control parameters. The combination of the three methods leads to a very efficient and strong control system which can address the weaknesses of the single methods. Simulation and comparative results clearly show that the hybrid control strategy is much more effective than the traditional methods, including PID and standalone computed torque control. Significant advances in tracking accuracy, where the manipulator closely tracks the intended path with limited variations are noted. The reduction of errors is also greatly improved, with the adaptive and intelligent mechanisms combining constantly to reduce the difference between the desired and actual outputs. Moreover, there is high robustness in the system which ensures that the performance of the system is stable even in the occurrence of disturbances, changes in the parameters as well as unmodeled dynamics. These benefits render the hybrid solution especially appropriate in sophisticated robotic tasks that require accuracy, dependability, and flexibility. Although these are encouraging findings, some more research and development can still be done. The further work will be based on the real-time implementation of the suggested hybrid control strategy on physical robots that will also present new difficulties due to their computational and hardware limitations. Another major direction is optimization of the hybrid architecture, which will minimize the computational complexity of the hybrid architecture with high performance. Also, more effective techniques of learning and more efficient tuning techniques can be discussed to further increase the adaptability and scalability of the system. All in all, the hybrid

control method is an important advancement in the area of robotic control systems, which provides an effective and useful solution to work in nonlinear and uncertain environments in the context of modern industries.

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