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Preface

We are pleased to present the proceedings of the first international conference, Asia Haptics 2014, held in Tsukuba, Japan, November 18–20.

Asia Haptics is a new type of international conference for the haptics fields, featuring interactive presentations with demonstrations. We received 62 submissions, and the review process led to 58 of those being accepted for publication. With the addition of 10 late-breaking demonstrations and 3 exhibits, the conference became the place to experience 71 live demonstrations of haptics research.

While the haptics-related research field is huge, the book divides it into six parts.

Part I is composed of nine chapters, treating perception and psychophysics of haptics. They are unquestionably the basis of haptics research.

Part II comprises 12 chapters, dealing with tactile devices for skin sensation, such as vibration, pressure, and temperature, and their rendering methods.

Part III consists of 13 chapters, considering force feedback devices and rendering methods. Some of them utilized tactile-based illusions, so the distinction between tactile devices and force feedback devices is vague.

Part IV is composed of five chapters, concerned with sensors such as the pressure distribution sensor and force sensor, many of which enable novel computer–human interaction.

Part V is made up of seven chapters, going into medical applications including surgery simulation and rehabilitation.

Part VI contains 11 chapters, discussing the application of haptics to virtual reality, telepresence, and multimedia, all exploring new application areas of haptics.

This book helps not only active haptic researchers but also general readers to understand what is going on in this interdisciplinary area of science and technology. All chapters have accompanying videos available online (Springer video). Therefore, readers can easily understand the concept of the work with the supplemental videos.

December 2014

Hiroyuki Kajimoto
Hideyuki Ando
Ki-Uk Kyung
Contents

Part I Perception

The Scaling of the Haptic Perception on the Fingertip
Using an Interface of Anthropomorphic Finger Motions ........... 3
Yusuke Ujitoko and Koichi Hirota

Change in the Amount Poured as a Result of Vibration When
Pouring a Liquid ........................................... 7
Sakiko Ikeno, Ryo Watanabe, Ryuta Okazaki, Taku Hachisu,
Michi Sato and Hiroyuki Kajimoto

A Study on Upper-Limb Motor Control Using Mirror Illusion
in Bimanual Steering ..................................... 13
Yoshihiro Tanaka, Taiji Sakajiri and Akihito Sano

Vibrotactile Cueing for Biasing Perceived Inertia of Gripped
Object ........................................................ 17
Hikaru Nagano, Shogo Okamoto and Yoji Yamada

Auditory Feedback for Ear Picks ............................ 21
Masahiro Koge, Yosuke Kurihara, Ryuta Okazaki, Taku Hachisu
and Hiroyuki Kajimoto

Visual Stimulation Influences on the Position of Vibrotactile
Perception ...................................................... 29
Arinobu Nijjima and Takefumi Ogawa

Haptic Assistance of Spatial Pointing with Simple Vibrotactile
Feedback for Gesture Interfaces ............................. 37
Seonghwan Kim, Masashi Konyo and Satoshi Tadokoro
Pressure Sensation Elicited by Rapid Temperature Changes ............................................. 41
Ryo Watanabe and Hiroyuki Kajimoto

The Effect of Frequency Shifting on Audio–Tactile Conversion for Enriching Musical Experience ......................................................... 45
Ryuta Okazaki, Hidenori Kuribayashi and Hiroyuki Kajimoto

Part II Tactile Devices and Rendering

A Flexible PDMS-Based Multimodal Pulse and Temperature Display ................................................................. 55
Simon Gallo and Hannes Bleuler

Adding Texture to Aerial Images Using Ultrasounds .......................................................... 59
Yasuaki Monnai, Keisuke Hasegawa, Masahiro Fujiwara, Kazuma Yoshino, Seki Inoue and Hiroyuki Shinoda

Driving System of Diminished Haptics: Transformation of Real-World Textures ................................................. 63
Daisuke Yamaguchi, Yoichi Ochiai, Takayuki Hoshi, Jun Rekimoto and Masaya Takasaki

High-Speed Thermal Display System that Synchronized with the Image Using Water Flow ................................................. 69
Kyohei Hayakawa, Kazuki Imai, Ryo Honaga and Masamichi Sakaguchi

Texture Modulation of 3D Fabricated Object via Electrotactile Augmentation ................................................................. 75
Shunsuke Yoshimoto, Yoshihiro Kuroda, Masataka Imura and Osamu Oshiro

Rendering Different Sensations to Multiple Fingers in a Multi-digit Softness Display: Pulsation and Distributed Softness ........................................................ 81
Toshiki Kitazawa and Akio Yamamoto

Development of Wearable Outer-Covering Haptic Display Using Ball Effector for Hand Motion Guidance ......................................................... 85
Vibol Yem, Mai Otsuki and Hideaki Kuzuoka
Presentation of Softness Using Film-Type Electro-Tactile Display and Pressure Distribution Measurement .......................... 91
Seiya Takei, Ryo Watanabe, Ryuta Okazaki, Taku Hachisu and Hiroyuki Kajimoto

Development of Cold Sense Display Using Adjustment of Water Flow Volume ......................................................... 97
Ryo Honaga, Kazuki Imai, Kyohei Hayakawa and Masamichi Sakaguchi

HeatHapt Thermal Radiation-Based Haptic Display ................. 105
Satoshi Saga

Haptic Interaction on a Touch Surface ................................. 109
Dongbum Pyo, Semin Ryu, Seung-Chan Kim and Dong-Soo Kwon

Friction Perception by Laterally Vibrotactile Stimulus:
Early Demonstration ...................................................... 113
Akihiro Imaizumi, Shogo Okamoto and Yoji Yamada

Part III Force Feedback Devices and Rendering

Pressure Threshold of the Hanger Reflex at the Wrist .............. 121
Takuto Nakamura, Narihiro Nishimura, Taku Hachisu, Michi Sato and Hiroyuki Kajimoto

SPIDAR-S: Haptic Device Attached to the Smartphone .......... 127
Motonori Toshima, Katsuhito Akahane and Makoto Sato

Pseudo-Haptic Interface Using Multipoint Suction Pressures
and Vibrotactile Stimuli ............................................... 131
Daiki Maemori, Lope Ben Porquis, Masashi Konyo and Satoshi Tadokoro

Wearable Pseudo-Haptic Interaction by Using Electrical Muscle Stimulation ...................................................... 135
Takaaki Ishikawa, Toshio Tsuji and Yuichi Kurita

Normal and Tangential Force Decomposition and Augmentation
Based on Contact Centroid ............................................. 141
Sunghoon Yim, Seokhee Jeon and Seungmoon Choi
Object Manipulation by Deformable Hand .......................... 145
Koichi Hirota, Yusuke Ujitoko, Kazuya Kiriyama
and Kazuyoshi Tagawa

A Proposal of Wire-Driven Bimanual Multi-finger Haptic
Display SPIDAR-10 .................................................. 149
Hiroshi Koganeyama, Satoshi Miyake, Lanhai Liu, Naoki Maruyama,
Katsuhito Akahane and Makoto Sato

Force Control of Stuffed Toy Robot for Intention Expression ...... 153
Nutnaree Kleawsirikul, Yuanyuan Li and Shoichi Hasegawa

Wearable 3DOF Substitutive Force Display Device
Based on Frictional Vibrotactile Phantom Sensation .............. 157
Ryota Nakagawa and Kinya Fujita

Proposal of 6 DoF Haptic Interface SPIDAR-I Optimized
by Minimizing Margin of Peak Force .............................. 161
Yunong Ji, Hiroyuki Tajima, Katsuhito Akahane and Makoto Sato

Robotic Touch Surface: 3D Haptic Rendering of Virtual
Geometry on Touch Surface ........................................ 169
Seung-Chan Kim, Byung-Kil Han, Jiwon Seo and Dong-Soo Kwon

SRU: Stepwise Rotation Update of Finite Element Model
for Large Deformation ................................................ 173
Yoshihiro Kuroda and Haruo Takemura

A Conceptual Design of a Smart Knob with Torque Feedback
for Mobile Applications .............................................. 177
Sang Kyu Byeon, Dong-Soo Choi, Won-Hyeong Park,
Yu-Joon Kim, Ki-Uk Kyung and Sang-Youn Kim

Part IV Sensing

Built-in Capacitive Position Sensing for Multi-user Electrostatic
Visuo-haptic Display .................................................. 183
Taku Nakamura and Akio Yamamoto

Highly Flexible and Transparent Skin-like Tactile Sensor ........ 187
Saekwang Nam, Suntak Park, Sungryul Yun, Bong Je Park,
Seung Koo Park, Mijeong Choi and Ki-Uk Kyung
A Mounting Foot-Type Force-Sensing Device for a Desk with Haptic Sensing Capability ........................................ 191
Toshiaki Tsuji, Tatsuki Seki and Sho Sakaino

Thumbnail Input for Head-Mounted Display ...................... 197
Yasutoshi Makino

Fingertip Force Estimation Based on the Deformation of the Fingertip .......................................................... 201
Kibita Akihito, Toshio Tsuji and Yuichi Kurita

Part V Medical Application

Exoskeleton Simulator of Impaired Ankle: Simulation of Spasticity and Clonus .................................................. 209
Hiroshi Okumura, Shogo Okamoto, Shun Ishikawa, Kaoru Isogai, Naomi Yanagihara-Yamada, Yasuhiro Akiyama and Yoji Yamada

A Surgery Simulator Using an Optimized Space and Time Adaptive Deformation Simulation on GPU ......................... 215
Ryo Kuriki, Kazuyoshi Tagawa and Hiromi T. Tanaka

Hierarchical Examination of Colliding Points Between Rigid and Deformable Objects ........................................... 219
Mary-Clare Dy, Kazuyoshi Tagawa, Hiromi T. Tanaka and Masaru Komori

Wearable Robot for Simulating Knee Disorders in the Training of Manual Examination Techniques .......................... 225
Shun Ishikawa, Shogo Okamoto, Kaoru Isogai, Naomi Yanagihara-Yamada, Yasuhiro Akiyama, Yujiro Kawasaki and Yoji Yamada

Development of the Haptic Device for a Hepatectomy Simulator .......................................................... 231
Yu-uki Enzaki, Hiroaki Yano, Yukio Oshiro, Jaejeong Kim, Sangtae Kim, Hiroo Iwata and Nobuhiro Ohkohchi

Haptic Augmentation of Surgical Operation Using a Passive Hand Exoskeleton ................................................ 237
Jun Nishida, Kei Nakai, Akira Matsushita and Kenji Suzuki
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Haptic Virtual Reality Training Environment for Micro-robotic Cell Injection</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syafizwan Faroque, Ben Horan, Husaini Adam, Mulyoto Pangestu and Samuel Thomas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part VI VR, Telepresence and Multimedia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FeelCraft: User-Crafted Tactile Content</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oliver Schneider, Siyan Zhao and Ali Israr</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of Ball Game Defense Robot Based on Physical Properties and Motion of Human</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosuke Sato, Yuki Hashimoto, Hiroaki Yano and Hiroo Iwata</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of Handshake Gadget and Exhibition in Niconico Chokaigi</td>
<td>267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Takanori Miyoshi, Yuki Ueno, Kouki Kawase, Yusaku Matsuda, Yuya Ogawa, Kento Takemori and Kazuhiko Terashima</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haptic Snake: Line-Based Physical Mobile Interaction in 3D Space</td>
<td>273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Byung-Kil Han, Seung-Chan Kim, Semin Ryu and Dong Soo Kwon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panoramic Movie-Rendering Method with Superimposed Computer Graphics for Immersive Walk-Through System</td>
<td>277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hikaru Takatori, Hiroaki Yano and Hiroo Iwata</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Tap: The Sensation of Tapping a Rigid Object in Mid-Air</td>
<td>285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nobuhisa Miyamoto, Kazuma Aoyama, Masahiro Furukawa, Taro Maeda and Hideyuki Ando</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haptic-Enabled English Education System</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minh Phuong Hoang, Jaebong Lee, Hojin Lee, Kyusong Lee, Gary Geunbae Lee and Seungmoon Choi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Vibrations to Simulate Taps on Different Materials</td>
<td>297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taku Hachisu, Gabriel Cirio, Maud Marchal, Anatole Lécuyer and Hiroyuki Kajimoto</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haptic Interface for Shape and Texture Recognition of Remote Objects by Using a Laser Range Finder</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yoshiyuki Yamashita, Hiroaki Yano and Hiroo Iwata</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Generating Vibrotactile Images on the Human Palms .......................... 311
Keisuke Hasegawa and Hiroyuki Shinoda

A Proposal of Model-Based Haptization System for Animal Images ................................................................. 313
Takahiro Okubo, Katsuhito Akahane and Makoto Sato

Index .................................................................................................................................................. 317