

CoorGrasp: Coordinated Contact Control for Adaptive Dexterous Grasping Under Uncertainty

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Abstract—While recent research has focused heavily on dexterous grasp pose generation, less attention has been devoted to the execution of planned grasps. Under shape and position uncertainty, open-loop execution often yields uncoordinated contacts, causing undesired in-hand object motion and even grasp failures. To address this, this paper proposes a tactile-driven model predictive controller for adaptive and delicate execution of diverse dexterous grasps. Our approach emphasizes multi-contact coordination across both approaching and grasping phases, with three key novelties: (i) coordination-aware phase separation, (ii) arm–hand coordination to compensate for position errors, and (iii) adaptive force coordination to increase contact forces in a balanced manner. An analytical model is employed to relate contact forces to robot joint motions for predictive control. Our formulation imposes no restrictions on grasp types or contact configurations and integrates seamlessly with state-of-the-art grasp pose generation methods. We validate the approach through large-scale simulations involving 15k grasps across 478 objects on three robotic hands, and real-world experiments on 8 objects. Results demonstrate that our method achieves higher grasp success rates and reduced undesired object movements. Supplementary materials are available at <https://ada-grasp-ctrl.github.io/>.

I. INTRODUCTION

Dexterous grasping is a fundamental skill in multi-fingered manipulation, as precise grasps often serve as prerequisites for subsequent tasks [1]–[4]. While substantial progress has been made in grasp pose synthesis and generation, comparatively less attention has been devoted to the actual execution of planned grasps, which demands delicate control of the physical hand-object interactions.

We define a preferable *delicate grasping process* as one where the robotic hand approaches an object on a horizontal tabletop and grasps the object without altering its original pose. Given a grasp pose planned by grasp pose generation approaches, the most straightforward and commonly used execution strategy is to move the robot to the planned joint configuration in an open-loop manner. However, the quality of generated grasps and open-loop execution can be affected by several practical factors, including 1) **imperfect generation**: real-time grasp pose generation often relies on trained

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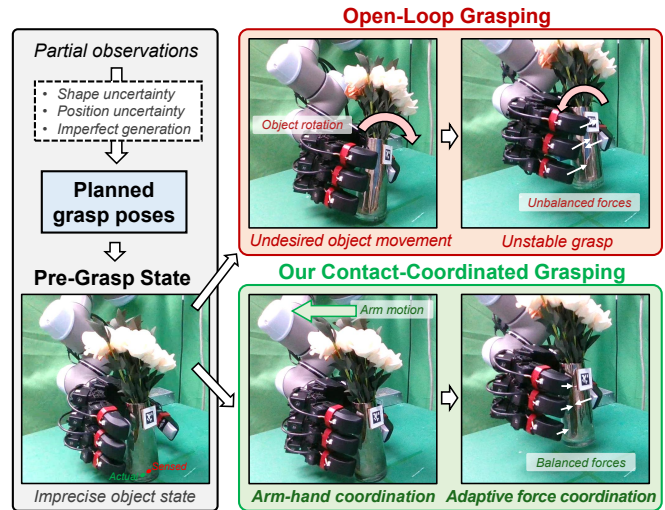


Fig. 1: Execution of planned dexterous grasps. Due to uncertainty, open-loop execution of imperfect planned grasp poses can cause unintended in-hand object movements or grasp failures. This work proposes a tactile-driven control approach that coordinates multiple contacts during both approaching and grasping, reducing undesired object motion and enabling adaptive, delicate execution of diverse dexterous grasps.

networks, which may produce small but impactful errors during inference; 2) **shape uncertainty**: partial observations and depth noises lead to uncertainty in the object’s full geometry; and 3) **position uncertainty**: errors in robot-camera calibration and sensing noises introduce uncertainty in the object’s precise location. Owing to perception and planning errors, we usually observe that objects are unintentionally moved in-hand during open-loop grasping, as multiple fingers fail to contact the object simultaneously or apply forces in a coordinated manner, as illustrated in Fig. 1. These *undesired object movements* may lead to incorrect grasp configurations or even grasp failures.

This work aims to enable adaptive execution of planned tabletop grasps under uncertainty while minimizing undesired object movements through tactile-feedback control. The key for achieving this objective is maintaining **coordinated contacts** throughout both the approaching and grasping phases, meaning that contact forces from multiple fingers should remain balanced at all times. Existing tactile-feedback approaches typically treat approaching and grasping separately, primarily using position control during approaching to establish contacts and force control during grasping to apply desired forces [5]–[9]. While this strategy can partly mitigate uncertainty, these methods usually control each finger independently and devote limited attention to the coordination among multiple fingers and contacts.

TABLE I: Distinctive features of our approach compared with existing tactile-driven grasping control methods.

Work	Method	Coordination-aware phase separation	Arm-hand coordination	Adaptive force coordination	Diverse planned grasps	Evaluation scale
[5]	Feedback control	✗	✗	✗	✗	3 objects (real)
[10]	Feedback control	✓	✗	✗	✗	12 objects (real)
[6]	Feedback control	✗	✗	✗	✓	9 grasps, 3 objects (real)
[7]	Feedback control	✗	✗	✗	✗	8 objects (real)
[11]	Tactile servoing	✗	✓	✗	✗	4 objects (sim) / 2 objects (real)
[12]	Reinforcement learning	-	✗	-	✗	30 objects (sim) / 14 objects (real)
[13]	Imitation learning	-	✗	-	✗	100 objects (real)
[8]	Feedback control	✗	✗	✗	✗	43 objects (real)
[9]	Feedback control	✗	✗	✗	✗	3 objects (real)
Ours	MPC	✓	✓	✓	✓	15k grasps, 478 objects, 3 hands (sim) 8 grasps, 8 objects, 1 hand (real)

To address the above objective, we propose a model predictive control (MPC) approach for coordinated contact control during grasping. The key contributions and novelties of our approach beyond existing methods include:

- 1) **Coordination-Aware Phase Separation:** Unlike conventional methods that treat each finger independently, our approach separates the approaching and grasping phases based on the collective state of all contacts. The transition occurs once sufficient contacts are established to enable non-zero yet balanced forces.
- 2) **Arm-Hand Coordination during Approaching:** The approaching phase is to establish adequate contacts on the object while avoiding large forces. To adapt to the actual object position without excessively deviating from the planned finger configuration, our method enables coordinated arm motions to adjust the global hand pose, contrasting with conventional methods that rely solely on finger motions.
- 3) **Adaptive Force Coordination during Grasping:** The grasping phase is to coordinately increase contact forces to firmly grasp the object. Unlike conventional methods that prescribe fixed desired forces for each fingertip, our approach adaptively allocates forces of all contacts online based on measured contact locations and forces, guided by wrench balance criteria.

To achieve these functions, our approach employs a contact-driven MPC with an analytical motion-contact model. Unlike methods constrained to fixed grasp types or fingertip-only contacts, our approach imposes no restrictions on the grasp postures, contact numbers, or locations, provided that tactile sensing of these contacts is available. Consequently, it can be seamlessly combined with state-of-the-art (SOTA) grasp pose generation methods and diverse grasp poses, enhancing actual grasp quality with tactile feedback as the only additional requirement.

For evaluation, we perform a large-scale simulation study involving 15k grasps across 478 objects using three robotic hands, providing statistical validation of our approach on diverse grasps and comparisons with baselines. In addition, we demonstrate real-world deployment of the proposed method on eight everyday objects. The results show that our method achieves planned grasps with higher success rates and reduced undesired object motion under uncertainty.

II. RELATED WORK

A. Dexterous Grasp Planning

Extensive research has been devoted to generating diverse multi-fingered grasp poses. Analytic methods typically compute force-closure grasps from complete object geometries, using either sampling-based search or gradient-based optimization with differentiable metrics, simulators, or bilevel formulations [14]–[18]. Building on large-scale synthesized datasets, learning-based approaches employ generative models for real-time grasp generation [19]–[21], possibly with partial observations of objects. Since generated grasps are often imperfect, some open-loop strategies try to introduce intermediate poses (e.g., pre-grasp, grasp, squeeze) to improve robustness, reflecting coordination and phase separation from a purely kinematic perspective [17], [18].

Some works considered object shape uncertainty in planning by placing contacts on object surface with lower uncertainty and applying higher finger compliance for contacts with higher uncertainty [6], [22]. These approaches focus on improving the robustness of planned results with uncertainty modeled from visual observations. In contrast, our method focuses on closed-loop execution, leveraging real-time tactile feedback to adapt to actual positions and shapes.

B. Tactile-Driven Dexterous Grasping Control

Grasping control based solely on vision [23]–[25] is challenging, as vision alone struggles to capture the precise hand-object relationship. To address this, many works incorporated tactile sensing. Some explored continuous re-grasping to adjust contact locations [26], [27] or resistance to disturbances after a stable grasp is achieved [28]–[31]. In contrast, our approach focuses on adaptive and delicate execution of diverse planned grasp, accounting for both the approaching and contact interactions.

A common tactile-driven grasping strategy is to use position control during approaching and force control after making contacts [5]–[9]. Tactile-servoing methods [11] map desired tactile changes to robot motions via tactile Jacobians. Although these methods guarantee firm grasps of objects under shape uncertainty, they require pre-defined desired contacts for each fingertip and do not explicitly consider the multi-contact coordination, often leading to undesired object movements. An approach-to-grasp strategy was proposed in [10] to handle position uncertainty, which pauses the first contacting finger until others make contacts. However, since

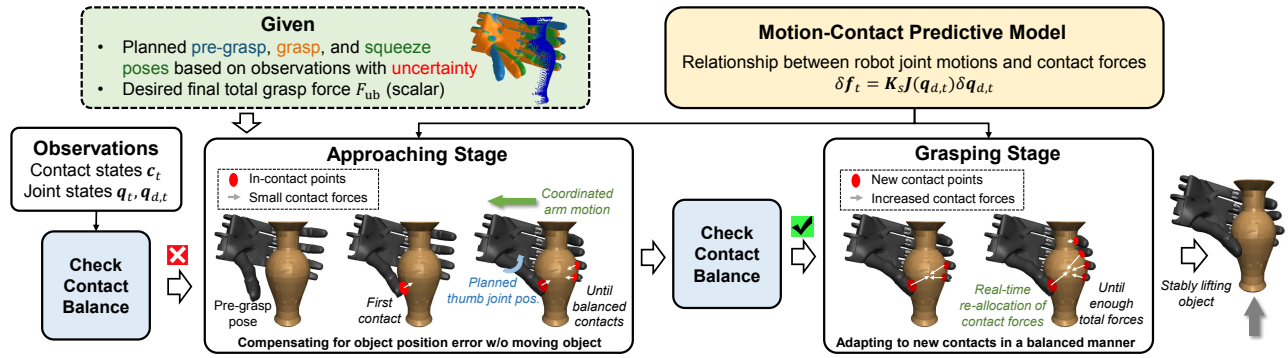


Fig. 2: **Overview of our tactile-driven coordinated contact control method** for adaptive execution of planned grasp poses generated from observations with uncertainty. Our method employs a coordination-aware separation of the approaching and grasping phases, using the criteria of wrench balance. During the approaching phase, the fingers make contact with the object using gentle forces, while coordinated arm motions compensate for object position errors without deviating from the planned finger configurations. Once sufficient contacts are established, the fingers increase contact forces in a balanced manner to reach the desired total grasp force, during which the desired force of each contact is re-allocated in real time to adapt to changes in contact states.

only finger motions are used, the final contact configuration may deviate from the target grasp, resulting in unbalanced wrench and object rotation. Tactile-driven reinforcement learning [12] and imitation learning [13] improve grasp success but similarly ignore undesired object movements. In contrast, our approach incorporates arm motions to compensate for object position errors and explicitly coordinates multiple contacts throughout both the approaching and grasping phases. Table I summarizes existing methods and emphasizes the distinguishing features of our approach.

III. PRELIMINARIES

Planned grasps: The grasp pose generator we use plans three sequential grasp poses based on a point-cloud observation, including a collision-free pre-grasp pose, a grasp pose where the hand is just in contact with the object, and a squeeze pose that can firmly grasp the object, following [17]. We utilize these three poses as the guidance of finger moving directions in our control method.

Assumptions: We make the following assumptions for the mathematical formulation of the manipulation process: 1) All contacts between the hand and object are regarded as *point contacts with friction* [32]; 2) The location, normal, and force of each contact can be measured by the tactile sensors in real time; 3) The fingers are driven by joint-space PD controllers; and 4) the robot is collision-free at the planned pre-grasp pose, and the fingers required for grasp are in contact with the object at the planned squeeze pose.

Notations: The joint position of the arm-hand robot at time t is denoted as $\mathbf{q}_t \in \mathbb{R}^{N_a + N_h}$, where N_a and N_h are the degrees-of-freedom (DoFs) of the arm and hand, respectively. The contact state is denoted $\mathbf{c}_t = \{\mathbf{c}_t^1, \dots, \mathbf{c}_t^m\}$, where m is the number of contacts. The state of each contact \mathbf{c}_t^i includes a contact force $\mathbf{f}_t^i \in \mathbb{R}^3$, a contact position $\mathbf{p}_t^i \in \mathbb{R}^3$, and a contact normal $\mathbf{n}_t^i \in \mathbb{R}^3$. We denote $\mathbf{f}_t = [\mathbf{f}_t^1; \dots; \mathbf{f}_t^m] \in \mathbb{R}^{3m}$. Note that we use $[\mathbf{a}; \mathbf{b}]$ to denote vertical concatenation of column vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} .

Multi-contact grasp: Based on the contact normal \mathbf{n}^i , we can choose two tangent directions \mathbf{d}^i and \mathbf{e}^i to construct a contact frame $[\mathbf{n}^i, \mathbf{d}^i, \mathbf{e}^i]$. Defining the contact force \mathbf{f}^i in the contact frame, the wrench $\mathbf{w}^i \in \mathbb{R}^6$ applied on the object

from contact i can be calculated as $\mathbf{w}^i = \mathbf{G}^i \mathbf{f}^i$, where

$$\mathbf{G}^i = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{G}_F^i \\ \mathbf{G}_M^i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{n}^i & \mathbf{d}^i & \mathbf{e}^i \\ \tilde{\mathbf{p}}^i \times \mathbf{n}^i & \tilde{\mathbf{p}}^i \times \mathbf{d}^i & \tilde{\mathbf{p}}^i \times \mathbf{e}^i \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times 3} \quad (1)$$

We define $\tilde{\mathbf{p}}^i$ as the relative position to the centroid of all contact points. The total wrench is obtained as $\mathbf{w} = \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{G}^i \mathbf{f}^i = \mathbf{G} \mathbf{f}$, where $\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times 3m}$. Additionally, we define a *normalized wrench* as

$$\bar{\mathbf{w}} = \left[\frac{\mathbf{G}_F \mathbf{f}}{\sum_{i=1}^m \|\mathbf{G}_F^i \mathbf{f}^i\|_2}; \frac{\mathbf{G}_M \mathbf{f}}{\sum_{i=1}^m \|\mathbf{G}_M^i \mathbf{f}^i\|_2} \right] \quad (2)$$

IV. METHOD

A. Overview of Contact-Coordinated Grasping Process

The best open-loop execution strategy leverages the planned three subsequent grasp poses. The path from the pre-grasp pose to grasp pose aims to move from a collision-free pose to a pose just in contact (i.e., approaching phase), and the path from the grasp pose to squeeze pose aims to apply sufficient contact forces (i.e., grasping phase). This open-loop strategy has reflected the concept of coordination from solely kinematic perspective, as the fingers are always in coordinated configurations with respect to the object geometry. However, since no feedback is utilized during execution, it cannot adapt to actual object positions and shapes in the presence of uncertainty and imperfect generations. Tactile feedback provides information about the actual contact states and has been widely used in parallel-gripper grasping to ensure firm grasps. However, how to effectively integrate it in multi-fingered dexterous grasping, so as to coordinate multiple contacts under uncertainty, remains an open question, which is the focus of our approach.

Our approach leverages the planned grasp poses as a guidance of finger moving directions. We first linearly interpolate between the pre-grasp, grasp, and squeeze pose, obtaining a joint-space *guiding path* denoted as $\bar{\mathcal{P}} = \{\bar{\mathbf{q}}_1, \dots, \bar{\mathbf{q}}_T\}$. Due to uncertainty, the separation of the approaching and grasping phase should be adaptively determined based on real-time feedback. Unlike most tactile-feedback methods that independently treat each finger, we incorporate a **coordination-aware separation** strategy, whose core criteria is whether the

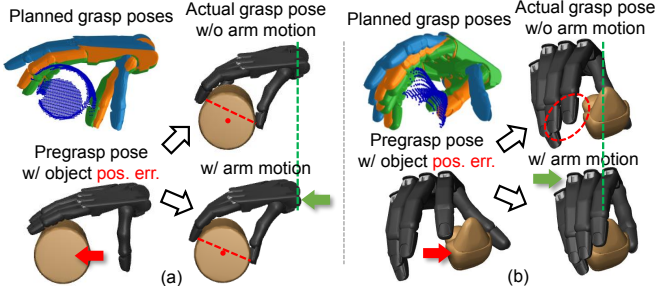


Fig. 3: **Two cases to illustrate the issues when only using finger motions to compensate for object position errors.** The baseline strategy is to stop the first-contacting fingers and actuate the remaining fingers until all fingers make contact, without involving arm motions (top-right figures of each case). It may lead to issues that (a) the fingers reach an unstable grasp configuration; or (b) the remaining fingers fail to make contact with the object even after reaching the planned final squeeze pose.

multiple in-contact locations can apply a balanced wrench to the object, as described in Section IV-C.3.

During the first approaching phase, the objective is to move along the guiding path while avoiding applying large forces to the object, until satisfying the phase transition criteria. Owing to position uncertainty, the fingers may not make contact with the object simultaneously (as in Fig. 2). If the first in-contact fingers continue moving forward, they will unintentionally move the object. One strategy is to stop these fingers and actuate the other fingers until they are all in contact [10]. However, since the relative position between the object and hand palm deviates from the planned one, the first-contact fingers will undershoot the desired values while the other fingers will overshoot the desired values, leading to larger deviation from the planned contact configurations and less stable grasps, as illustrated in Fig. 3. Our key insight is that **arm-hand coordination** can be incorporated to simultaneously adjust the palm pose, enabling smaller deviation from the planned finger configurations. We design an MPC with joint optimization of arm and hand motions, which is described in Section IV-C.1.

When the phase-transition criteria is satisfied, the robot starts to increase grasp forces. The key question is how to allocate the desired force of each contact. We use the wrench balance criteria to optimize the allocation of the force distribution across all contacts. Note that, due to partial and noisy observations, it is uncertain prior to execution which parts of the hand will make contact with the object. Moreover, new contacts may still emerge after the phase transition (see Fig. 2). Thus, the desired forces are re-allocated in real time to adapt to contact state changes, while also accounting for current contact forces and joint configurations to ensure smoothness and reachability. To achieve this **adaptive force coordination**, we design an MPC that jointly optimizes the desired contact forces and corresponding robot motions, as described in Section IV-C.2.

Furthermore, to control contact forces via robot joint movements, we employ a motion-contact model to predict contact force changes and incorporate it into the MPC for both the approaching and grasping phases, as described in Section IV-B. The complete pipeline is illustrated in Fig. 2.

B. Motion-Contact Modeling

Inspired by the interaction control of robot arms [33], we employ a motion-contact model to predict the changes of contact forces caused by arm-hand joint movements.

Consider the i^{th} contact as illustrated in Fig. 4. Accounting for compliance of both the environment and robot joints, one contact involves three key positions: \mathbf{p}_o^i , \mathbf{p}_e^i and \mathbf{p}_d^i . The \mathbf{p}_o^i represents the undeformed position of the contact, and \mathbf{p}_e^i represents the actual contact position. For convenience, all positions, forces, and Jacobians are expressed in local contact frames. Under the quasi-static and linear-elastic assumption [34], the contact force \mathbf{f}^i is determined by

$$\mathbf{f}^i = \mathbf{K}_o \mathbf{p}_{o,e}^i = \mathbf{K}_o (\mathbf{p}_e^i - \mathbf{p}_o^i) \quad (3)$$

where \mathbf{K}_o is the object stiffness matrix. The actual contact position \mathbf{p}_e can be calculated using the robot forward kinematics as $\mathbf{p}_e^i = \text{FK}^i(\mathbf{q})$. Due to the compliance of the robot joints, the *actual* joint positions \mathbf{q} will not be the same as the *desired* joint positions \mathbf{q}_d (i.e., the position control command). The aforementioned \mathbf{p}_d^i represents the desired Cartesian-space position of \mathbf{q}_d , as $\mathbf{p}_d^i = \text{FK}^i(\mathbf{q}_d)$, and $\mathbf{p}_{e,d}^i = \mathbf{p}_d^i - \mathbf{p}_e^i$. Note that multiple contacts may exist on one finger. To consider their coupling, we stack all contact points as $\mathbf{p} = [\mathbf{p}_{(\cdot)}^1; \dots; \mathbf{p}_{(\cdot)}^m]$ and Jacobians as $\mathbf{J} = [\mathbf{J}^1(\cdot); \dots; \mathbf{J}^m(\cdot)]$. For quasi-static situations, we have

$$\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q})^\top \mathbf{f} = \boldsymbol{\tau} = \mathbf{K}_p (\mathbf{q}_d - \mathbf{q}) \quad (4)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ is joint torques and \mathbf{K}_p is the position stiffness of the low-level joint PD controller. Considering that the object stiffness is usually much larger than the robot joint stiffness, the derivative $d\mathbf{q}$ is usually much smaller than $d\mathbf{q}_d$ during in-contact movements. Thus, we approximate that $d\mathbf{p}_{e,d} \approx \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q}_d)(d\mathbf{q}_d - d\mathbf{q})$, instead of using $\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q})$ in [33]. Substituting it into the derivative of (4) and neglecting the derivative of the Jacobian under quasi-static assumption, we have

$$d\mathbf{p}_{e,d} = \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q}_d) \mathbf{K}_p^{-1} \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q})^\top d\mathbf{f} \quad (5)$$

Then, substituting (5) into the derivative of (3), we have

$$\begin{aligned} d\mathbf{f} &= \bar{\mathbf{K}}_o d\mathbf{p}_{o,e} = \bar{\mathbf{K}}_o d\mathbf{p}_{o,d} - \bar{\mathbf{K}}_o d\mathbf{p}_{e,d} \\ &= \bar{\mathbf{K}}_o d\mathbf{p}_{o,d} - \bar{\mathbf{K}}_o \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q}_d) \mathbf{K}_p^{-1} \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q})^\top d\mathbf{f} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

$$d\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{K}_s d\mathbf{p}_{o,d} = (\mathbf{I} + \bar{\mathbf{K}}_o \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q}_d) \mathbf{K}_p^{-1} \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q})^\top)^{-1} \bar{\mathbf{K}}_o d\mathbf{p}_{o,d} \quad (7)$$

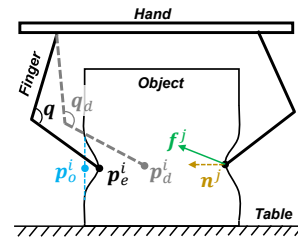


Fig. 4: **Illustration of the mathematical formulation of contacts.** The undeformed, actual, and desired positions of the i^{th} contact as well as the contact normals and forces of the j^{th} contact are shown.

where $\bar{\mathbf{K}}_o$ is the diagonal stack of \mathbf{K}_o . If assuming a temporarily constant object pose (i.e., $d\mathbf{p}_o = \mathbf{0}$), we have

$$d\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{K}_s \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q}_d) d\mathbf{q}_d \quad (8)$$

Note that $\mathbf{K}_s \rightarrow (\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q}_d) \mathbf{K}_p^{-1} \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q})^\top)^{-1}$ when $\mathbf{K}_o \rightarrow \infty$. Thus, \mathbf{K}_o also acts like a damped regularization term to tackle singularities of the finger Jacobians. Additionally, as assuming temporarily constant object poses, the (8) ignores the potential coupling among multiple contacts caused by slight object movements. The full coupling effects are influenced by frictional and supporting forces/torques from the table, which are difficult to model precisely in practice.

C. Model Predictive Grasping Control

The optimization variables for both phases include control input $\mathbf{u}_t = \mathbf{q}_{d,t+1} - \mathbf{q}_{d,t}$ and desired forces of all contact \mathbf{f}_{t+1} . Note that this formulation does not take account of the future contact states of current non-contacting points, as they cannot be predicted using tactile feedback alone.

1) *Approaching Phase*: The MPC is formulated as

$$\min_{\mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{f}_{t+1}} \mathcal{J}_{\text{guide}} + \mathcal{J}_{\text{palm}} + \mathcal{J}_{\text{tm}} + \mathcal{J}_{\text{vel}} + \mathcal{J}_{\text{acc}} \quad (9)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \mathbf{f}_{i,t+1} = \mathbf{f}_{i,t} + \mathbf{K}_s \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q}_{d,t}) \mathbf{u}_t \quad (10)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m f_{i,1,t+1} \leq F_{\text{appr}} \quad (11)$$

$$\mathbf{q}_{\text{lb}} \leq \mathbf{q}_{d,t} + \mathbf{u}_t \leq \mathbf{q}_{\text{ub}} \quad (12)$$

Constraint (11) ensures that the fingers do not apply large forces to the object, where $f_{i,1,t+1}$ represents the normal-axis force and F_{appr} is a small threshold. The cost $\mathcal{J}_{\text{guide}}$ aims to follow the planned guiding path $\bar{\mathbf{P}}$ of fingers as $\mathcal{J}_{\text{guide}} = \|(\mathbf{q}_{d,t} + \mathbf{u}_t) - \bar{\mathbf{q}}_{t+1}\|_{\mathbf{W}_g}$, where the elements for arm joints in the weight matrix \mathbf{W}_g are zeros. The cost $\mathcal{J}_{\text{palm}}$ aims to restrict the vertical-axis movement and rotation of the hand palm, specified as $\mathcal{J}_{\text{palm}} = \|\text{FK}^p(\mathbf{q}_{d,t} + \mathbf{u}_t) - \text{FK}^p(\bar{\mathbf{q}}_{t+1})\|_{\mathbf{W}_p}$, where the horizontal axes of the weight matrix \mathbf{W}_p are zeros. The cost \mathcal{J}_{tm} penalizes the tangential movements of the contact points, specified as $\mathcal{J}_{\text{tm}} = \|\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q}_{d,t}) \mathbf{u}_t\|_{\mathbf{W}_t}$, where the tangential dimensions of \mathbf{W}_t are non-zero. Additionally, the cost \mathcal{J}_{vel} and \mathcal{J}_{acc} slightly penalize the velocity and acceleration of \mathbf{q}_d to enhance smoothness.

This formulation enables coordinated arm motions to adjust the palm position and adapt to the actual object position, avoiding large contact forces while following the guiding finger path as close as possible.

2) *Grasping Phase*: The MPC is formulated as

$$\min_{\mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{f}_{t+1}} \mathcal{J}_{\text{guide}} + \mathcal{J}_{\text{wrench}} + \mathcal{J}_{\text{vel}} + \mathcal{J}_{\text{acc}} \quad (13)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \mathbf{f}_{i,t+1} = \mathbf{f}_{i,t} + \mathbf{K}_s \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q}_{d,t}) \mathbf{u}_t \quad (14)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m f_{i,1,t+1} = F_{\text{des},t+1} \quad (15)$$

$$\mathbf{f}_{i,t+1} \in \mathcal{F}, \quad i \in [1, m] \quad (16)$$

$$\mathbf{q}_{\text{lb}} \leq \mathbf{q}_{d,t} + \mathbf{u}_t \leq \mathbf{q}_{\text{ub}} \quad (17)$$

$$\mathbf{W}_a \mathbf{u}_t = \mathbf{0} \quad (18)$$

Constraint (15) ensures that the sum of normal contact forces equals a scalar desired grasp force $F_{\text{des},t}$. We define it as an increased value over time t :

$$F_{\text{des},t+1} = \min \left(\max \left(\sum_{i=1}^m f_{i,1,t}, F_{\text{des},t} \right), F_{\text{ub}} \right) + \delta F \quad (19)$$

where F_{ub} is the pre-defined final grasp force and δF is the step size. Constraint (16) represents the friction cone constraint formulated as $f_{i,1} \geq 0$ and $|f_{i,1}| \geq \hat{\mu} \sqrt{f_{i,2}^2 + f_{i,3}^2}$ for $i \in [1, m]$, where $\hat{\mu}$ is the estimated friction coefficient. It is usually safe to set $\hat{\mu}$ below the actual value in practice. The cost $\mathcal{J}_{\text{wrench}}$ is to adaptively coordinate desired forces of multiple contacts by pursuing wrench balance, which is specified as $\mathcal{J}_{\text{wrench}} = \|\mathbf{G} \mathbf{f}_{t+1}\|_2^2$. The $\mathcal{J}_{\text{guide}}$ is to actuate the non-contact fingers to continue following the guiding path to establish potential additional contacts, and the element of its weight matrix \mathbf{W}_g is set to zero if the corresponding finger is already in contact. Additionally, arm motions are not used in this phase and constrained by (18), where the arm-related element of \mathbf{W}_a are set to 1.

Note that this formulation requires a pre-defined final grasp force F_{ub} which ensures a firm grasp. The work does not tackle the problem of determining F_{ub} , as it depends on the object's mass, friction coefficient, and material softness, which cannot be fully addressed from a control perspective. Possible solutions include visual estimation of object properties via vision-language models or tactile-based slippage detection to increase F_{ub} reactively [7], [35].

3) *Phase Transition*: The criteria of phase transition is defined as whether the multiple in-contact locations can apply a balanced wrench to the object. It is online calculated via the following optimization problem:

$$\min_{\mathbf{f}} J = \|\mathbf{G} \mathbf{f}\|_2^2 \quad (20)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \mathbf{f}_i \in \mathcal{F}, \quad i \in [1, m] \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{i=1}^m f_{i,1} = 1 \quad (21)$$

Considering object scales, we express torques in units of N·cm when computing J . The grasping phase is activated if the normalized wrench $\|\bar{\mathbf{w}}\|_2$ of the optimal solution is below a threshold ϵ_b .

V. RESULTS

In the experiments, the guiding paths are constructed by linearly interpolating between planned pre-grasp and grasp poses over 2 seconds, and between grasp and squeeze poses over another 2 seconds. The action is computed at 10Hz and then interpolated for high-frequency low-level execution. The hyper-parameters and more implementation details are provided in Appendix (available on [Website](#)). The optimization is solved using `scipy.optimize.minimize` in Python.

Evaluation metrics: The metrics for evaluation includes 1) **Success rate (%)**: a grasp is considered successful if the object is lifted from the tabletop and reaches the desired height; 2) **Average object position error (mm)**: the distance between the final object position and desired position (i.e.,



Fig. 5: Visualization of some grasps in our large-scale simulation evaluation. The evaluation totally involves 15k grasps on 478 objects and three dexterous hands. These figures show the grasp states after lifting from a table, achieved using our approach.

TABLE II: Large-scale simulation evaluation results under object shape uncertainty.

Method	Shadow				Allegro				LEAP			
	SR ^a ↑	Pos. ↓	Rot. ↓	Wrench ↓	SR ↑	Pos. ↓	Rot. ↓	Wrench ↓	SR ↑	Pos. ↓	Rot. ↓	Wrench ↓
Open-loop	81.6	6.0±5.5	5.2±4.6	0.53±0.24	79.8	5.9±5.5	5.0±4.1	0.44±0.19	79.3	7.3±5.5	5.3±4.3	0.43±0.20
Feedback control	86.7	18±11	13±12	0.43±0.19	86.1	18±11	12±9.8	0.44±0.17	87.8	20±13	11±8.5	0.45±0.20
W/o arm motion	90.8	3.1±5.2	3.4±4.9	0.18±0.19	91.5	2.8±4.7	2.9±4.2	0.19±0.17	93.2	3.2±5.3	3.3±4.5	0.18±0.18
Independ. forces	87.7	12±6.5	7.9±6.4	0.42±0.18	86.2	12±6.6	7.4±5.6	0.43±0.15	89.2	14±9.1	7.0±5.2	0.46±0.19
Ours	91.6	2.4±4.2	2.6±4.5	0.16±0.17	92.4	2.2±4.3	2.2±3.7	0.18±1.15	93.6	2.5±4.7	2.4±3.5	0.17±0.17

^a SR: success rate (%). Pos. (mm): averaged object position errors. Rot. (°): averaged object rotation error. Wrench: averaged normalized wrench. Results are reported as (mean ± standard deviation).

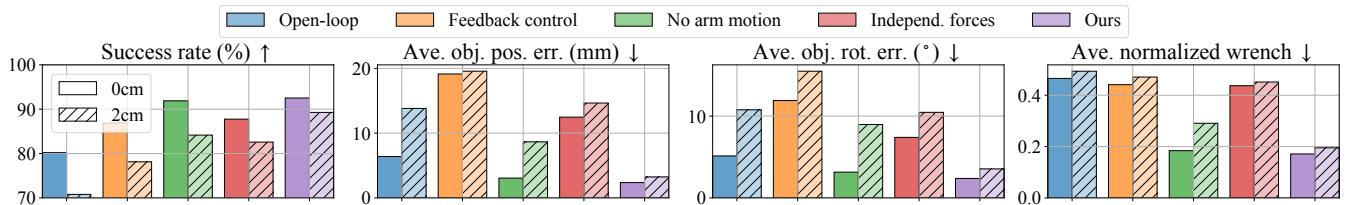


Fig. 6: Simulation evaluation results under object position uncertainty, averaged across the three hands. “0cm” refers to no position errors, and “2cm” refers to perturbing the positions by 2 cm along eight uniformly distributed planar directions respectively.

initial object position + lift height), averaged over all successful cases; 3) **Average object rotation error** (°): the angle between the final and initial object orientation, averaged over all successful cases; and 4) **Average normalized wrench**: the normalized wrench during the last 0.5 second before lifting, averaged over all success cases.

Baselines: We choose four baselines for comparison in simulation, including 1) **Open-loop**: The open-loop execution strategy as aforementioned. 2) **Feedback control**: A widely used two-phase tactile-feedback controller concluded from [5]–[9], where each finger are independently controlled. It uses position control for the approaching phase and force control after making contacts. Here the force control law is designed as $\delta \mathbf{q}_d^i = \alpha (\mathbf{K}_p^i)^{-1} \mathbf{J}^i(\mathbf{q})^\top (\mathbf{f}_d^i - \mathbf{f}^i)$, where the desired force \mathbf{f}_d^i are set to be equal for all contacts. 3) **Without arm motion**: Only adjusting finger motions to adapt to object position errors without leveraging arm motions, like [10]. We implement it by forbidding arm motions in our framework. 4) **Independent forces**: Using independent equal desired forces for each contact in the grasping phase, while other settings are the same as ours. The first two baselines are well-practiced strategies, and the last two are ablations of ours to respectively show the significance of coordinated arm motions and adaptive contact force coordination. For fair comparison, the desired total force F_{ub} in our method is set to match the averaged final force observed in open-loop execution, and the desired force of each contact in baselines (2) and (4) is set to F_{ub}/N_{finger} (the number of fingers).

Grasp pose planning: As for the grasp pose generation, we first adopt one of the SOTA grasp synthesis approaches [17] to construct a large-scale tabletop grasp pose dataset for the Shadow, Allegro, and LEAP Hand, respectively. To achieve real-time grasp inference from partial observations, we then train flow-based generative models as in [17], [18] using the synthesized grasp poses and single-view point clouds of objects. These models have demonstrated reliable performance and are well applied in the real world. Specifically, 2k objects from the DGN assets [15] are divided into training and testing sets with a 4:1 ratio. Each object is scaled to multiple sizes, placed on the tabletop in different poses, and rendered from various single-view perspectives. The trained models are employed for grasp pose planning.

A. Simulation Studies

We conduct simulation studies to statistically evaluate the methods. We run the trained models on the test set and select top 10 grasps from 100 batched samples for each case based on probability estimation. We then randomly sample 5k grasps across 478 objects for each hand, which are used in the following evaluation. The grasping is simulated in MuJoCo [36]. Some of the grasps are visualized in Fig. 5.

1) *Evaluation with Shape Uncertainty:* Since the network-based generation uses partial pointcloud as the observation, the generated grasps reflect the influence of shape uncertainty. The evaluation results on all grasps of the three hands using our method and the baselines are summarized in Table II. The results indicate that 1) our approach performs similarly to the baseline without arm

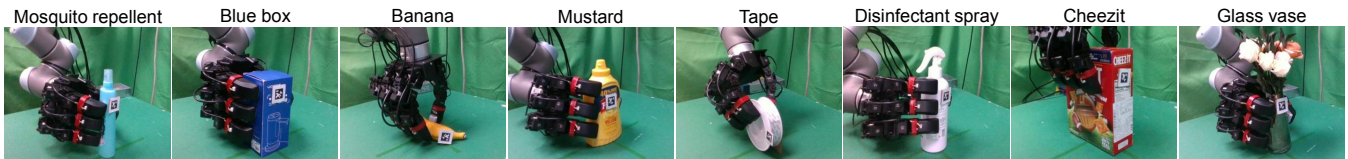


Fig. 7: Real-world experiments include comparison of our method with baselines on eight different everyday objects and planned grasps. The AprilTag markers are only used for quantitative evaluation of undesired object movements.

TABLE III: Quantitative results of the real-world experiments, averaged across all tests.

Method	Shape uncertainty (8 objects)					Position uncertainty (2 objects, 4 positions)				
	SR ^a ↑	Pos. ↓	Rot. 1 ↓	Rot. 2 ↓	Wrench ↓	SR ↑	Pos. ↓	Rot. 1 ↓	Rot. 2 ↓	Wrench ↓
Open-loop	40/40	8.5±4.6	3.5±2.2	6.7±2.5	0.57±0.19	20/20	30±13	12±4.1	12±5.6	0.74±0.09
Feedback control	40/40	11±6.6	3.4±2.1	5.3±3.2	0.54±0.15	20/20	13±7.4	4.9±1.7	8.5±4.9	0.69±0.13
Ours	40/40	3.1±2.4	1.7±1.1	3.1±1.4	0.40±0.12	20/20	4.1±1.6	3.2±1.7	5.2±1.9	0.42±0.09

^a SR: success rate. Pos. (mm): object position error before lifting. Rot. 1 (°): object rotation error before lifting. Rot. 2 (°): object rotation error after lifting. Wrench: normalized wrench before lifting. Results are reported as (mean ± standard deviation).

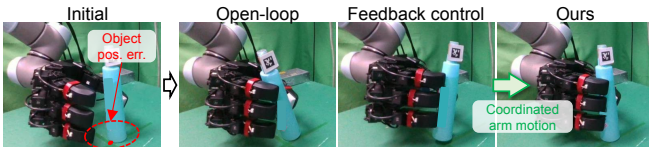


Fig. 8: Comparison between the methods under position uncertainty.

motion, as the visual observations contain no position errors; 2) our approach performs consistently better than other baselines on all three hands, demonstrating the significance of balanced grasping forces; 3) tactile-feedback approaches achieve higher success rates than open-loop execution, as they try to guarantee sufficient forces in every case; and 4) unbalanced forces from multiple contacts lead to large undesired object movements, even worse than open-loop executions that preserves kinematic-level finger coordination.

2) *Evaluation with Position Uncertainty*: We further evaluate the methods under object position errors. Specifically, the initial object positions are perturbed by 2 cm along eight uniformly distributed planar directions respectively to mimic position uncertainty. Cases with in-collision pre-grasp poses are filtered out. The averaged results across the three hands are shown in Fig. 6. The results indicate that 1) our method achieves the best performance, with the highest success rate as well as the lowest object movements and wrenches; 2) our method exhibits the smallest performance degradation between the settings with and without perturbation, demonstrating its higher adaptability to position errors; and 3) the baseline without arm motions suffers from higher performance drops, highlighting the significance of incorporating coordinated arm motions during approaching.

B. Real-World Experiments

Real-world experiments are conducted on a UR5 arm and a LEAP Hand [37]. Each fingertip is equipped with a vision-based tactile sensor named Tac3D [38], which can robustly estimate the contact surface shape and three-axis contact force distribution. Single-view point clouds of objects are captured by a calibrated Azure Kinect DK camera for grasp generation. To quantitatively evaluate the object movements during grasping, an AprilTag marker is attached to each object and tracked by another RealSense camera. Since the RealSense is not extrinsically calibrated, we report the object

position and rotation errors before lifting and the rotation errors after lifting, all computed as relative movements with respect to the initial pose. As tactile sensing is currently available only at the fingertip pads, we restrict our real-world experiments to fingertip grasps. However, our formulation imposes no constraints on contact distribution, as demonstrated in the simulation evaluation. The time cost of MPC solving is around 30 ms on an i9-13900K CPU.

1) *Evaluation with Shape Uncertainty*: We evaluate our approach against the open-loop strategy and feedback control method on eight planned grasps of different objects, as shown in Fig. 7. Each grasp is executed five times, and the averaged results across all objects are reported in Table III (left). The results show that our approach effectively reduces the undesired object movements.

2) *Evaluation with Position Uncertainty*: We further conduct experiments under large position errors, using the glass vase and mosquito repellent bottle. The object is displaced by approximately 2 cm from its original position, either towards the thumb or index finger. Each case is executed five times, and the averaged results are reported in Table III (right). An example is shown in Fig. 8, which shows that our method successfully adapts to the actual object position by leveraging coordinated arm motions, whereas the baselines lead to significant undesired object movements.

VI. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Discussion: We highlight aspects that are not yet fully explored and potential future improvements: 1) The computing efficiency and control frequency have not yet been fully optimized. The optimization could be solved faster with more efficient solvers. We expect that higher control frequency would further improve force control performance. 2) In the real-world experiments, tracking dynamic desired forces is not very accurate, especially the tangential forces, likely due to limitations in hand’s actuation mechanism, tactile sensors, and control delays. Despite these practical challenges, our method still outperforms the baselines. 3) Control of the lifting phase will be studied in future work. For instance, F_{ub} could be adjusted online using slippage detection during lifting, and the direction of frictions could be actively controlled to counteract the gravity.

Conclusion: This work proposes a tactile-driven MPC for coordinated contact control that enables adaptive and delicate execution of planned dexterous grasps under uncertainty. By maintaining coordination across multiple contacts during both the approaching and grasping phases, our approach minimizes undesired in-hand object movements and improves grasp qualities. It is compatible with diverse grasp poses planned by existing well-developed grasp pose generation methods. We evaluate our approach in simulation with 15k grasps across 478 objects on three robotic hands, and in real-world experiments on 8 objects. The results demonstrate that our method achieves planned grasps under uncertainty with higher success rates and reduced undesired object movements compared with the baselines.

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