Humanoid Robot Learning How To Track and Grip

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ABSTRACT

Interaction with its environment is a key requisite for designing a humanoid robot especially to have the ability to recognize and manipulate unknown objects and it is crucial to successfully work in natural environments. However visual object recognition still remains a challenging problem. To get the robot capable of identifying the geometric shapes and colors of the objects, this paper proposes new approach using neuro Zernike moments. Furthermore, the paper proposes a natural language understanding system, where the robot will be able to effectively communicate with human through a dialogue developed in Arabic language. The developed dialogue and a dynamic object model are used for learning semantic categories, object descriptions, and new words acquisition for object learning. In this paper, a robot will be developed to interact with the users performing some specified actions. Moreover, integration between the proposed vision and natural language understanding systems has been presented. Finally, a hardware circuit is designed and Q-learning technique is presented assisting the robot to track and grip objects. Intensive experiments have been conducted indoor to address the validity of the complete system. Qualitative comparison among different techniques is accomplished. The achieved results show that the overall system performance of the proposed system outperforms in terms of accuracy and response time.

Indexing terms/Keywords

Zernike moments, neural network, natural language understanding system, Gripping system and Reinforcement Learning
INTRODUCTION

Autonomous robots can perform desired tasks in unstructured environments without continuous human guidance. Many kinds of robots have some degree of autonomy. Different robots can be autonomous in different ways. A high degree of autonomy is particularly desirable in fields such as space exploration, cleaning floors, mowing lawns, waste water treatment, localization and recognition of objects. Since the proper system is the reliable vision system, so the question arises here is: how to develop a robot that can see like a human? For many applications in robot vision interested in detecting objects by giving it a distinctive color from the surrounding environment, for an instance, recognizing the ball in pitch between two teams of humanoid soccer robot team [1, 2], using laser, sonar, camera or learning to classify objects into categories in human development. Such ability is crucial for robots that should operate in human environments where object categorization skills are required to recognize complex object categories (e.g., metal objects, empty bottles, etc.) [3], or other approaches used for grouping objects with the same color and shapes [4] or separating objects of different shapes [5]. However, in this paper, robots will learn how to distinguish among different geometric shapes, rectangular, circle, and triangular objects picked up via a camera mounted on the robot arm and identify their colors using different techniques. However in this paper, robots will learn how to distinguish among different geometric shapes of square, rectangular, circle, and triangular objects picked up via a camera mounted on the robot and also identify their colors.

The paper also focuses on the distinction of robot to a command given by user in Arabic language. Using the Arabic language syntax for imperative sentence and establishment of dialogue to identify the objects that not exist in the database. In this paper, we address learning of unknown objects in dialogue, which enables a robot to acquire information about unknown objects, and store this information in a knowledge base. A typical problem will be raised is that non-trivial information must be communicated, such as when the user enters an imperative syntax error, or there are new words in the written sentence that cannot be understood by the system. Thus, the dialogue system should conduct dialogue strategies for learning in such way that the information about the object can successfully be communicated. In addition, it has to cope with new words learning on writing, grammatical and semantic levels to achieve the learning goal. It should create a model of the object's semantics, which describes the type, color, shape, properties of the object and its function. All previous data will be addressed using Arabic language. Moreover, this paper adds question syntax of Arabic language. For controlling and enhancing the motion of humanoid robot to autonomously grasp objects, a new hardware circuit is designed and Q-learning technique is presented assisting the robot to find, change its state and grasp objects.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: Section 2 gives an overview of the proposed system comprising the proposed vision system architecture, the natural language understanding system architecture, the integration of them and shows an overview of the grasping system. Section 3 presents experiments and discussion. Finally section 4 concludes the paper.

2. The Proposed System:-

The proposed system, as shown in figure (1), consists of the following sub-systems:

A. Vision Sub-system.
B. Natural Language Understanding Sub-system.
C. User-Interface Dialogue Manager.
D. Arabic Text to Speech Sub-system.
E. Motion Sub-System (Learning How to track and grip).

![Fig.1. System Overview](image-url)

2. A. Vision Sub-System:

There are things that attract any child such as colors and geometric shapes of objects. Once the child taught how to distinguish between them using one word that defines each shape and color then he could recognize them by himself later on. The main aim of the proposed system is to make robots behave as child, once it is learned the skill of how to
recognize object’s shape such as square, rectangle, circle, or triangle, and its color such as red, black, white, blue, green,…etc., seen by its camera. It could detect the object’s shape and its color by itself seen later in any image taken by his camera at different places. The proposed vision system has examined many approaches such as hough transform, harris corner detection and neural network but this paper provide more accurate and new technique using Zernike moments in new way. The following procedure is demonstrated in the flowchart shown in figure 2.

![Flowchart](image)

Fig.2. The object and color detection program flow chart

1- Acquiring image

Images taken from the robot’s camera can easily be fed to our program using developed function. This function makes it possible to assign a variable as a video input. Image processing cannot be performed on a video input, so single frames should be extracted from the video with a frame grabber. A so-called snapshot is taken out of the video input and this single image is used for object shape and color detection.

2- Image preprocessing

The images of the object from webcam that used in our experiments have different qualities such as brightness, contrast, or noise. We overcome these problems as follow:

a. **Noise**, image frame taken from camera is a color image. Images are coded using RGB-space. In the RGB color space, each color is described as a combination of three main colors, namely Red, Green, and Blue. This color space can be visualized as a 3d matrix. Each image is converted into black and white as shown in figure (3.a, 3.b), then the image is filtered to remove any added noise due to lighting using Median filtering to reduce “salt and pepper” noise.

![Image](image)

(a) (b)

Fig.3. Result of converting image to black and white

b. **Brightness**, to adjust the brightness of the image, the intensity operator with the following methods is used. The original image matrix $X$ of $N \times M$ is the array of fuzzy singleton of each member represented by the degree of brightness levels $p$, $p=0,1,2,3...P-1$ with $p$ values between 0 and 255 can be written as follows[6].

$$X = \begin{bmatrix}
\mu_{x_1} / x_{11} & \mu_{x_2} / x_{12} & \ldots & \mu_{x_M} / x_{1M} \\
\mu_{x_2} / x_{21} & \mu_{x_2} / x_{22} & \ldots & \mu_{x_M} / x_{2M} \\
\vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\
\mu_{x_N} / x_{1N} & \mu_{x_{N2}} / x_{2N} & \ldots & \mu_{x_{NM}} / x_{NN}
\end{bmatrix}$$

Where $0 \leq \mu_{mn} \leq 1$ is intensity, $m=1,2,...,M$, $n=1,2,...,N$ and $\mu_{mn} / x_{11}$ means intensity value of first pixel $x_{11}$ of matrix $X$.

$$T_1(\mu_{mn}) = T_1(\mu_{mn}) = 2\mu^2_{mn}, \quad 0 \leq \mu_{mn} \leq 0.5$$

$$= T_1(\mu_{mn}) = 1 - 2(1 - \mu_{mn})^2, \quad 0.5 \leq \mu_{mn} \leq 1 \quad (1)$$

Equation (1) is used to adjust each pixel of image brightness as follows, the values greater than 0.5 increases the brightness of the pixels, the values less than 0.5 decreases the brightness of the pixels. The procedure of the fuzzy image enhancement is shown in Figure 4.
3- Edge detection

The black and white image is converted into edge image, we developed function takes a binary image $I$ as its input, and returns a binary image $BW$ of the same size as $I$, with 1's where the function finds edges in $I$ and 0's elsewhere. Different methods have been examined and chose the best one as seen in table 2 the best approach for edge detection in our application using edge based color Method which will be illustrated as follow:-

**Edge Detection based on Color Method**

As viewed previously in flowchart in figure 2, color of object is detected after separating each object alone and found its color using RGB system. Identification the color of the object can be achieved through the borders of each object, separating the object into an individual image, and then the color can be determined by creating a color map function, where each color can be visualized as a 3d matrix. Finding the average of this matrix can identify the color of the object. This method has low efficiency. So modification made to identifying the object's color achieved more powerful to propose the use of the color to detect the object location and boundary using HSV system to save the fuzzification preprocessing time which more accurate and powerful system. Fuzzification stages that detect the object edge using fuzzy sobel [6] takes long time. This time will be a challenging problem when robot arm get learned to grasp object. Robot will take a long time to take action according to the object's location. To tackle this problem, a new technique is proposed. This technique does not begin with shape detection then detect its color after using fuzzy sobel edge, however it detects object location and its edge by its color then it recognizes its shape using the following techniques. This algorithm is as follows:-

*Step1:* Color image taken by camera.

*Step2:* Convert color system from rgb system to hsv system.

*Step3:* Develop a function to detect object location by its color.

For example, user needs to find object with rectangle shape and yellow color, the developed system will search for all objects with yellow color using color hsv ranges in table 1, and extracts them in new black and white images which will then be used to find the rectangle image using one of the following techniques as shown in figure 5. So we save fuzzy sobel edge detection time needed for preprocessed image.

![Fig.4. Reduction of the brightness on an image](image)

(a) Light affection on an image

(b) Fig.5. Example of an image taken and yellow object is extracted in a separate image
Table 1. HSV colors ranges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color</th>
<th>H(Hue) Range</th>
<th>S(Saturation) Range</th>
<th>V(Value) Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td></td>
<td>&gt;= 0 &amp; &lt;=0.19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td></td>
<td>&gt;= 0 &amp; &lt;=0.049</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>&gt;= 0.084 &amp; &lt;=0.25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green</td>
<td>&gt; 0.25 &amp; &lt;=0.4167</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyan</td>
<td>&gt; 0.4167 &amp; &lt;=0.5833</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>&gt; 0.5833 &amp; &lt;=0.75</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnetic</td>
<td>&gt; 0.75 &amp; &lt;=0.9167</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red</td>
<td>&gt; 0.083 &amp; &lt;=0.9168</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The proposed edge detection method based on fuzzification preprocessing is compared with object extraction based on color to extract object and the edge detection based on the ordinary sobel, shown in table 2. Noted that, the proposed object detection based color is fastest and there is tiny change in time with increasing number of objects in an image. From the previous figure, it is noted that, the object with required color was detected without the need for shape detection. However, shape detection will be needed in case of there are more than one object with the same color as seen in figure 6. So after detected object based its color, the following shape detection algorithm used.

Table 2. Comparison among fuzzy sobel, sobel, and object extraction based on color

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Object edge detection based on fuzzy sobel</th>
<th>Object edge detection based on sobel</th>
<th>Object edge detection based on color</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time for one object per image</td>
<td>48.8273 sec</td>
<td>0.1049 sec</td>
<td>0.1090 sec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time for four object per image</td>
<td>72.5782 sec</td>
<td>0.2035 sec</td>
<td>0.1099 sec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4- Image Segmentation

The previous binary image is used to find the boundary of each object. We developed a function traces the exterior boundaries of objects, as well as boundaries of holes inside these objects, in the binary image BW. Also descends into the outermost objects (parents) and traces their children (objects completely enclosed by the parents). BW must be a binary image where nonzero pixels belong to an object and 0 pixels constitute the background returning indices of each object boundary. These indices are used to segment the black and white image to a set of images, each of which contains only one item.
5-Neuro Zernike Moments

Neural network technique mentioned in [6] provided highest percentage compared to all previous techniques such as neuro hough transform, neuro harris corner detection, and neuro wavelet transform as will be seen in the following experimental result. To enhance vision system to detect the shape of the object regardless of its rotation, we trained neural network with Zernike moments vector of the object shape. In general, Zernike moments are often used efficiently as shape descriptors of image objects, such as logos or trademarks that cannot be defined by a single contour. Shape identification and feature extraction are the main concern of our vision system. Object parameters are mostly dependent on spatio-temporal relationships among the pixels. However feature extraction is a complex phenomenon which needs to be addressed from the invariance property, irrespective of position and orientation. Zernike moments are used as shape descriptors and identified as rotation invariant due to Orthogonality property.

To compute the Zernike moments of a digital image, the range of the image should be mapped to the unit circle first with its origin at the image's center. The pixels falling outside the unit circle are discarded in the computation process. In our implementation of Zernike moments, we used binary images. So the following steps are necessary to extract features of any shape image using Neuro Zernike moments:-

(a) Converts color image into the binary image.

(b) Map over a unit disc image and convert into polar coordinate as seen in figure 7.a, b. The center of the image and disk is same.

Fig. 7(a) NxN pixels  
Fig. 7(b) Unit Circle Mapped image bitmap onto NxN pixel size image.

Where \( x_1, x_2 \) are X-axis dimensions and \( y_1, y_2 \) are Y-axis dimensions of the pixel rectangle. \( \bar{x}, \bar{y} \) is the center of the unit disk, \( \rho \) is polar value and \( \theta \) is polar angle.

(c) Compute the distance \( d \) using equation (2)

\[
d = \sqrt{(x^2 - \bar{x})^2 + (y^2 - \bar{y})^2}^{\frac{1}{2}} \tag{2}
\]

(d) Compute the distance vector \( \rho \) and angle \( \theta \) for any \((x,y)\) pixel in \(f(x,y)\) in polar coordinates as

\[
\rho = \sqrt{(x - \bar{x})^2 + (y - \bar{y})^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \theta = \tan^{-1}\left[\frac{x - \bar{x}}{y - \bar{y}}\right]
\]

This step maps pixel coordinate \((x_1,x_2)\) to \((-1,+1)\) and \((y_1,y_2)\) to \((-1,+1)\) in polar. In this way, almost all the pixels in image bound box as given in figure 3.21 above are inside unit circle except some foreground pixels.

(e) Compute a set of complex polynomials \(\{V_{nm}(x, y)\}\) which form a complete orthogonal set over the unit disk of \(x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\) in polar coordinates and Zernike moments using equations 3, 4, 5. Moreover, reconstruction of Zernike moments can be used to determine the amount of moments necessary to make an accurate descriptor using equation 6.

\[
Z_{nm} = \left(\frac{n + 1}{\pi}\right) \sum_{\rho} \sum_{\theta} V^*(\rho, \theta) f(x,y) \quad x^2 + y^2 \leq 1 \tag{3}
\]

Where:

\(|m| \leq n\), \(n-|m|\) is even.

The Zernike polynomial \(V_{nm}(\rho, \theta)\) is defined as a function of the radial polynomial:

\[
V_{nm}(\rho, \theta) = R_{nm}(\rho) e^{in\theta} \tag{4}
\]

And the radial polynomial is:

\[
R_{nm}(\rho) = \sum_{i=0}^{i=\frac{n-m}{2}} \frac{(n-m)!}{(n-i)!(i)!} \frac{(n+1)^2(n-2i)!}{\rho^{n-m}}
\]
Suppose we know all Zernike moments $Z_{nm}$ of $f(x, y)$ up to order $N$, we can reconstruct the image by:

$$f'(x, y) = \sum_{n=0}^{N} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} Z_{nm} V_{nm}(x, y)$$  \hspace{1cm} (6)$$

(f) Choosing order of $(n=8, 10, 120, 140)$ each with four different repetitions $(m=0, 2, 4, 6)$. Order of Zernike is choosing according to how could differentiate between the three shapes. Find out that, calculating Zernike moments for fixed order with different repetitions and plotting Zernike moments results producing different curves for each shape, for example rectangle has different curve than circle or triangle as seen in figure 8. But when calculating Zernike moments for fixed repetition with different orders producing the same curves for the three shapes which couldn't allow us to differentiate between the three shapes as seen in figure 9.

(a) Magnitude of Zernike moments for circle

(b) Magnitude of Zernike moments for triangle

(c) Magnitude of Zernike moments for rectangle

(d) Zernike moments result of three shapes, red for circle, blue for triangle and green for rectangle
Fig. 8. Zernike moments results of $n=120$ with $m=0,2,4,6$

(a) Magnitude of Zernike moments for circle

(b) Magnitude of Zernike moments for triangle

(c) Magnitude of Zernike moments for rectangle

(d) Zernike moments result of three shapes, red for circle, blue for triangle and green for rectangle

Fig. 9. Zernike moments results of $n=10,40,120,140$ with $m=2$

It is noted that, curves of Zernike moments result with fixed order and changing repetition differentiate rectangle from both circle and triangle at high order and curves of Zernike moments with fixed order and changing repetition differentiate circle from both triangle and rectangle at low order. So choosing both higher order and lower one allow to differentiate between shapes. But curves of Zernike moments results with fixed repetition and change order produced the identical curves with all shapes so we couldn't use them to identify the shape of object.

(g) Rescale Zernike moments calculated in step (f) by dividing all Zernike moment results by the maximum one which make all values between zero and one. So when we use different scales for the same shape will produce the same curve as seen in figure 10.
Fig. 10. Rescale Zernike moments results of the same shape with different scale

It is noted that, the magnitude of Zernike moments results were rotation independent.

(h) Calculate four polynomial functions that represent curves for magnitude of Zernike moments results calculated as seen in figure 11 with dashed lines represents polynomial function. And four polynomial functions that represent curves for phase of Zernike moments results.

(a) Polynomial function represents magnitude of Zernike moments for circle shape
Polynomial function represents magnitude of zernike moments for triangle shape

Polynomial function represents magnitude of zernike moments for rectangle shape

Fig. 11. polynomial function represents magnitude of zernike moments for three shapes

(i) Calculating three coefficients for each polynomial function has been calculated in step (h).

The previous polynomials' coefficients vector has been used to train the neural network. This solves our input size problem of neural network. The problem of varying coefficients vectors size which used in the previous techniques mentioned in [6] reduced to 24 neurons and is not depend on the size of captured image or shape rotation as will see in the experimental results.

2. B. Natural Language Understanding System Sub-system

An interactive learning for artificial systems has been addressed in several systems. However, the number of approaches that allow interactive knowledge acquisition for humanoid robots is still comparably small [7]. This paper focuses on how to establish a dialogue between the user and the robot especially if some of the commands to the robots are not pre-defined. Furthermore, the paper concentrates on how the robot will understand the commands on syntax of the Arabic language, to address these issues, the natural language understanding system is proposed as shown in figure 12. The proposed system has the following components:

![Fig. 12. Natural Language Understanding System Overview](image)

a- The form of imperative sentence syntax

First sentence is entered into the system in the form of imperative syntax; imperative syntax of the Arabic language takes more than one form as shown in figure 13.a. The input sentence is divided into a set of tokens, and then the affix such as "\text{\texttt{}}" added at the beginning of the word or "\text{\texttt{}}" added at the end of the word is omitted. Moreover, the proposed system has ability to take a question from user about the place of the object using a question tool of "\text{\texttt{}}". The question is entered into the system in the form of question syntax; the question syntax of the Arabic language takes more than one form as in the shown in figure 13.b, it begins with "\text{\texttt{}}".
b- Ontology

Our ontology inspired from the work in [7, 8], however it is applied to the Arabic language, as shown in figure 14.a, and also we have added that the object is classified by its color and shape. Knowledge representation is an area in artificial intelligence that focuses on the design of formalisms which can explicitly represent knowledge about a particular domain, and the development of reasoning methods for inferring implicit knowledge from the represented explicit knowledge. Semantic network form a family of knowledge representation formalisms which can be used to represent and reason with conceptual knowledge about a domain of interest. For the classification of each object and storing its data in the database, we used semantic network[9]. A semantic network is a simple representation scheme that uses a graph of labeled nodes and directed arcs to encode knowledge [10,11]. Information type and semantic categories of objects are modeled in ontology. The object ontology provides inheritance information and defines properties that can be associated with objects. Moreover, our ontology for objects' locations inspired by the work in [12], however it is applied to Arabic language as shown in figure 15. User should store objects’ locations found in the environment in the database using "أَسْمَاء"، "الْبَعْض"، "حَلْصا"، "الْحَيَّ"، "عَلِى"، "أَجَاب" as shown in figure 14.b.

c- Dialogue

Dialogue begins when the robot does not find the object in its database, or the user enters an imperative syntax error. Dialogue is in a form of questions and answers words, mutual between the user and robot in Arabic as shown in figure 15 and it is different from the work in [7] where the answer is yes or no only, and in English. There are ten commands the user can use them such as, "فَلَمْ"، "الْجَرْن"، "الْجَرْن"، "الْجَرْن"، "الْجَرْن"، "الْجَرْن"، "الْجَرْن"، "الْجَرْن"، "الْجَرْن"، "الْجَرْن"، or dialogue begins when user ask for object's place using question of form "أَسْمَاء"، "الْبَعْض"، "حَلْصا"، "الْحَيَّ"، "عَلِى"، "أَجَاب" and the robot does not find the object in its database, the dialogue takes a form as shown in figure 14.a.
Fig. 15. Dialogue sample

2. C. User-Interface Dialogue Manager:

Merging between the vision and the natural language understanding systems is implemented by regular usage of GUI using Visual BASIC 6.0, where it appears to the user interface screen. One of the major problems faced most of previous researchers is the linking between Matlab environment and Visual Basic to have a reasonable interface for the users. In this paper, all programs have been developed in Prolog, and the Dynamic Link Library is implemented in such way that it can deal directly with Visual Basic programs. The developed interface gives the user different capabilities to choose as follows:

1. The user can ask the robot to describe the scene in the front of itself in terms of the shapes of the objects and their colors by using the developed vision program just by pressing a key called the vision system in the developed interface shown in figure 16.a.

2. The user can ask the robot to identify or fetch a particular object, the robot will use the developed Natural Language Understanding System to search about the object in its database. If it is recognized, the robot writes to the user that object is found. Then the object features will be sent to the vision system to recognize its shape and color, as shown in figures 16.b and 16.c.

3. The user can ask the robot about the object's place, the robot will use the developed Natural Language Understanding System to search about the object in its database. If it is recognized, the robot writes to the user that the object place as shown in figures 16.e and 16.f. Then the object will be sent to the vision system to recognize its shape and color.

In all the above cases, if the robot could not recognize the object because it is not in its database or the user entered a syntax error, or, robot does not find object's place in its database, a dialogue between the user and the robot will start, the user will answer some questions as shown in figure 16.d, and then the database will be adapted to accommodate the new information. If the same command sent to the robot, or the robot is asked again for identifying the same object, the system will be able to identify it.

(a) Result from calling vision system
2. D. Text to speech Sub system (Talking System)

The previously mentioned subsystems are interdependent. It is not enough to equip the robot with basic functionalities for dialogue comprehension and production to make it interact naturally in situated dialogues. We also need to find meaningful ways to relate language to be spoken, and enable the robot to use its perceptual experience to continuously learn and adapt itself to the environment. And cover speech recognition, where the dialogue between the user and robot will be voice based. For this purpose we used a tool to convert Arabic text of robot answer to voice, this tool called MbrolaTools35. This tool is well described in [13]. We used it to convert the answer of robot appeared to user to speech heard by user. When answer is written to user it will hear at the same time, this by pass this text to MbrolaTools35 as seen in Figure (17.a, 17.b), however the screen appears in figure 18.b will be invisible for the user. User will hear the voice immediately when it appears at text box. Also the dialogue between user and robot shown in figure 16.d changed to be not only based on text but also voice based.

(e) The user ask the robot about the object's place  (f) the robot writes to the user the object place

Fig.16. Example of the proposed system scenario
2. D. Motion Sub-System (Learning How to track and grip):

In highly structured settings, modern-day robots can be scripted to perform a wide variety of tasks with mind boggling precision and repeatability. However, outside of carefully controlled settings, robotic capabilities are much more limited. Indeed, the ability to even merely grasp a modest variety of previously unseen rigid objects in real world cluttered environments is considered a highly nontrivial task [14]. While Reinforcement Learning (RL) is not traditionally designed for interactive supervisory input from a human teacher, several works in both robot and software agents have adapted it for human input by letting a human trainer control the reward signal. This paper proposed a trained robot arm to grasp object specify certain shape and color using reinforcement learning such as q-learning [15]. Interactive Q-Learning modified to incorporate interactive human guidance in addition to feedback algorithm has been chosen to save time of training using ordinary q-learning algorithm. The algorithm has been used as follow:-

Step 1: while learning do
Step 2: while waiting for guidance do
Step 3: if receive human guidance message then
Step 4: \[ g = \text{guide-object} \]
Step 5: end if
Step 6: end while
Step 7: if received guidance then
Step 8: \[ a = \text{random selection of actions containing } g \]
Step 9: else
Step 10:  \( a = \) random selection weighted by \( Q(s, a) \) values
Step 11: end if
Step 12: execute \( a \), and transition to \( s \) (small delay to allow for human reward)
Step 13: sense reward, \( r \)
Step 14: update Q-value:
\[
Q(s, a) \leftarrow Q(s, a) + \alpha (r + \gamma \max_a Q(s', a')) - Q(s, a)
\]
Step 15: end while

The proposed states have been used due to the difference between the object location and center of image (camera located at robot arm) as shown in figure [18], the state of yellow rectangle object is in state 1 needs the robot to turn left. Actions that robot can do are up, down, left, and right.

- The states have been chosen as follows:-
  - State 1: if \( e_x > \) threshold.
  - State 2: if \( e_x < \) threshold.
  - State 3: if \( e_y > \) threshold.
  - State 4: if \( e_y < \) threshold.
  - State 5: if \( e_x = \) threshold and \( e_y = \) threshold.

Where \( e_x \) = difference between \( x \)-coordinate of object and \( x \)-coordinate of image center.
\( e_y \) = difference between \( y \)-coordinate of object and \( y \)-coordinate of image center.
Threshold is chosen according to distance between camera mounted on robot arm and the gripper of robot arm.
- Actions have been chosen as follows:-
  - Action 1: robot arm turn left.
  - Action 2: robot arm turn right.
  - Action 3: robot arm up.
  - Action 4: robot arm down.
  - Action 5: robot arm catch object.

- Reward \( (r) \) is one value from \( 1, -1 \) or 0 ) according to the progress of robot arm finding object.

\[
\begin{array}{cccccc}
S1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\
S2 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\
S3 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\
S4 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\
S5 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\
\end{array}
\]

- \( \gamma \) is learning rate has been chosen = .8 its value between [0,1].
The q-learning matrix initially zeros and then after the robot get trained from two different trainers the q-learning matrix was as follows:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
2 & 0 & -1 \\
0 & 3 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 3 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
\end{array}
\]  
\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
5 & 0 & 1 \\
-1 & 12 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 10 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
\end{array}
\]

After robot arm learned how to find, verify its state and action for catching object, robot will be tested to follow q-learning matrix to find the appropriate action without intervention of human. The robot arm and hardware circuit connected of our system seen in figure [19].

3. Experiments and Discussion

Intensive experiments have been conducted to address the validity of the proposed systems. First, we have tested the vision program in several stages to check its accuracy, initially it is tested on still images, and then simulated using Webots 6.2.4 simulator. Background with one color, black, is chosen. The achieved results from the vision program have a reasonable precision, although the vision affected by the camera angle, and lighting. Furthermore, the achieved results that compared to related work in [6, 16, 17] in table (3) showed that the proposed neuro Zernike moments provided the best result and it is rotational independent and we made it scale independent also. This thesis provides techniques not only to detect the shape of the object but also enhance the color detection system in [18] which replaced the rgb system with hsv system. Comparison between the vision system techniques mentioned in [6,16,18] and the proposed system mentioned in this paper seen in figure 20, 21, when all previous techniques for color and shape detection applied in detection of 60 practical objects image, it is observed that hsv better than rgb system and is not affected by light like rgb system.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object</th>
<th>Circle</th>
<th>Triangle</th>
<th>Rectangle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hough Transform[17]</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuro HT</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harris Corner Detection[17]</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuro HCD</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuro WT</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuro Zernike moments</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Color Detection Techniques
- Using color map (RGB system)
- Using ranges (RGB system)
- Using HSV

Fig. 20. Color techniques comparison

Shape Detection Techniques
- Difference
- Modified Area
- Area Estimation

Fig. 21. Shape Detection techniques comparison
4. Conclusion

We concluded that to get the robot capable of identifying the geometric shapes and colors of the objects, this system examined different approaches such as Neuro Hough Transform, Neuro Harris corner detection, Neuro Wavelet transform and Neuro Zernike moments. Hybrid technique between neural network and Zernike moments has a remarkable performance for object identification and shape recognition. Zernike moments have some desirable properties such as rotation invariance, robustness to noise, expression efficiency, and multi-level representation for describing various shapes of patterns so our proposed system recognizes not only shapes but also the shapes even if they have some deformations providing high efficiency than any other techniques.

The algorithm implemented with the robot arm to catch the objects. For controlling and enhancing the motion of humanoid robot to autonomously grasp objects, a new hardware circuit is designed and Q-learning technique is presented assisting the robot to find, change its state and catch objects. The performance of vision system based on simulation was 100% however practically was 98.33%, while it is very fast and scalable. Also, object edge detection based color has been used to enforce the whole operation for finding object location then catches it by learnt robot arm. Our system provided Arabic dialogue interface system that allows dialogue between robot and user. This makes robot really assistant to human in real world environment. Finally our system compared to system proposed in research papers in [6,16,17] in table (4).

Table 4 Comparison between the proposed system and the work of [6,16,17]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Edge detection</td>
<td>Using Fuzzification</td>
<td>Using Fuzzification and fastest edge based color</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vision System</td>
<td>Object detected by shape only, color detection not focused in papers</td>
<td>Object detected by shape and color Even with some deformation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shape detection</td>
<td>Using HT, NN, HCD</td>
<td>Using new techniques such as NN decreasing its complexity and its problems, Neuro WT, Neuro HT, Neuro HCD, difference and Neuro Zernike moments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Image size</td>
<td>Dependent on application and image taken</td>
<td>• Scale independent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• independent on image size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• rotation independent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural language</td>
<td>Was not his goal</td>
<td>Allow communication through dialogue between robot and user</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding System</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talking System</td>
<td>Was not his goal</td>
<td>Use Arabic text to speech tool allow robot answers convert to speech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motion System</td>
<td>Using The robot arm is a revolute robot type (RRR) with microcontroller circuit to separate objects</td>
<td>We using OWI-535 wired control robot arm kit with hardware circuit control robot arm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Algorithm</td>
<td>Was not his goal</td>
<td>Used to learning robot arm to trace and grip</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

References:

[1] M. Vukobratović, "Humanoid Robotics, Past, Present State, Future", Director Robotics Center, Mihailo Pupin Institute, 11000 Belgrade, P.O. Box 15, Serbia, E-mail: vuk@robot.imp.bg.ac.yu, SISY 2006 • 4th Serbian-Hungarian Joint Symposium on Intelligent Systems, pp 13-27.


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