

# High-Speed Automated Micromanipulation System with Multi-Scalability

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Meeting

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# Introduction

“What I want to talk about is the problem of manipulating  
and controlling things on a small scale”

by Richard Feynman, “There is Plenty of Room at the Bottom”

at annual meeting of American Physical Society, in 1959.

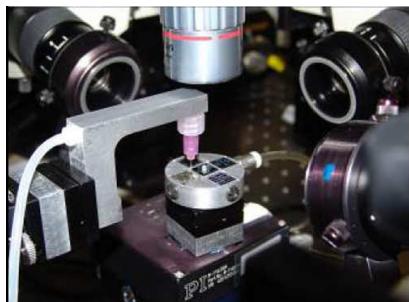
After five decades, micromanipulation still stays as a challenging issue

# Micromanipulation

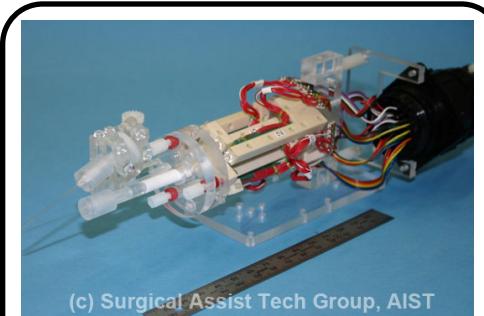
## Micromanipulation

- to physically interact with a sample under a microscope
- level of precision of movement is necessary

## Application Areas



assembling micromachines



(c) Surgical Assist Tech Group, AIST



bio-micromanipulation

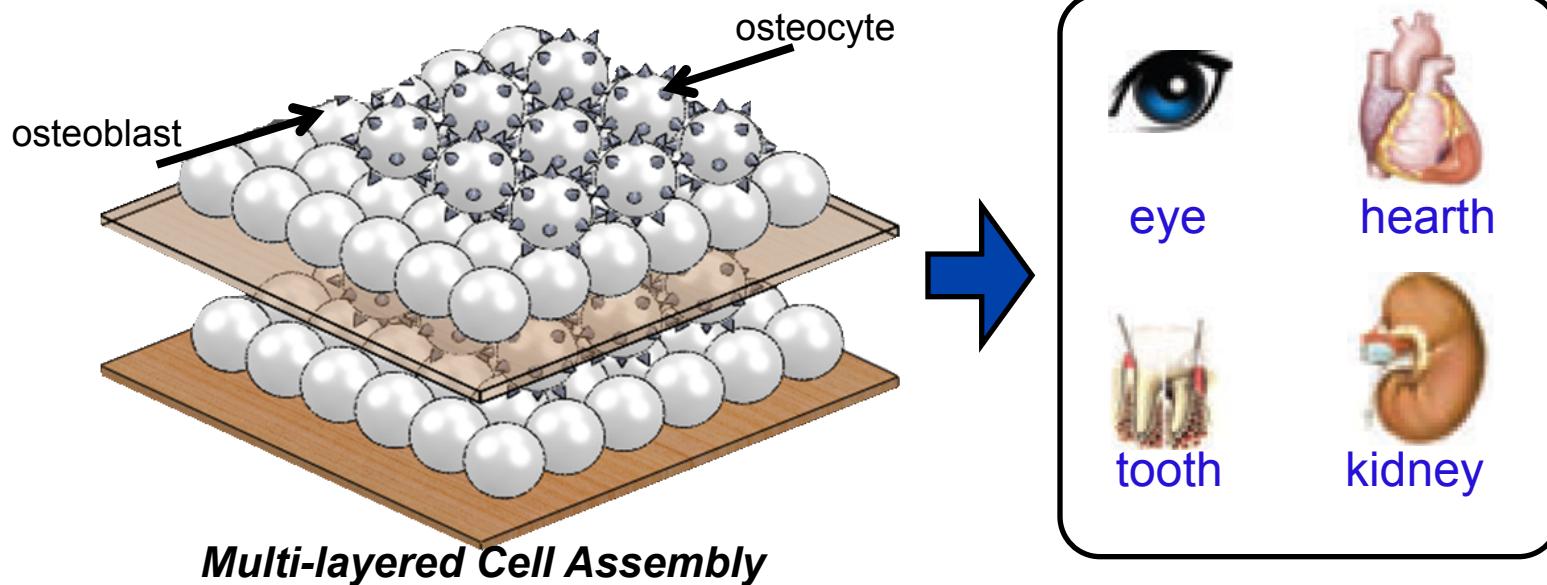
Cell characterization, cell sorting,  
cell fusion, sperm injection, etc.

Important for biomechanics,  
microbiology, genetics, etc.



# Micromanipulation

## Target Application: Tissue Regeneration



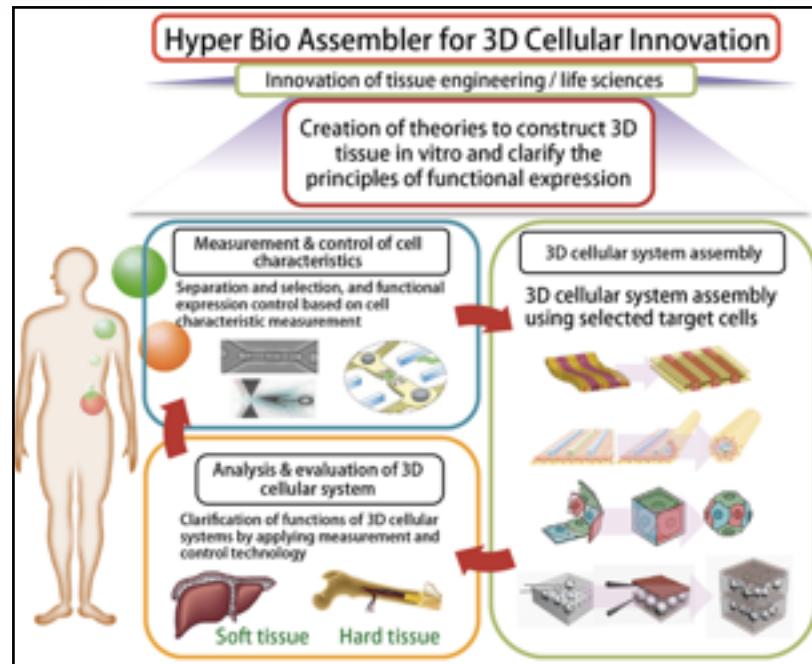
### Regenerative Medicine

- regenerating damaged tissues of human in vitro,
- solve the problems of the shortage of organs available for donation,
- solve the problem of organ transplant rejection as regeneration is from own tissue.

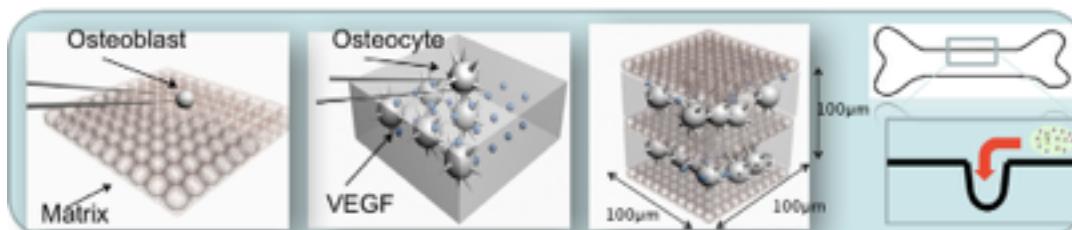
# Target Application

## REGENERATIVE MEDICINE

Purpose of the research is creating living, functional tissues.



*my task*

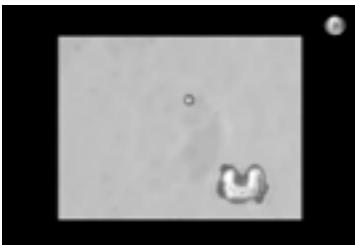


**Necessary features:** Fast and precise manipulation

# Micromanipulation

Motorized stage, PZT, etc...

## Magnetically Driven



Magnetic Microtransporters  
(Univ. of Pennsylvania)

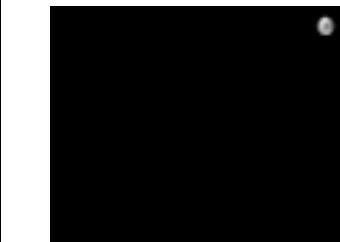


Enucleation by Microrobot  
(Nagoya U., 2012)

## Optical Tweezers



Optical Tweezers  
(C. U. of Hong Kong)

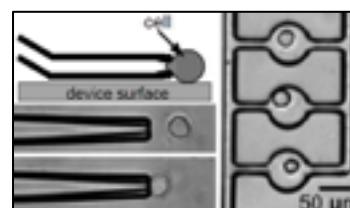


Automatic Cell Sorting with Combined (C. U. of Hong Kong)

## Micropipette



Position Control of Cells  
(U. of Toronto, 2012)

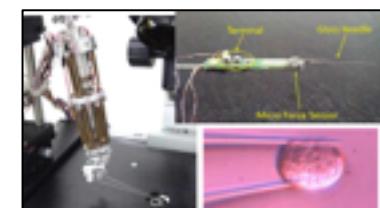


Micropipette for Single Cell Deposition (U. of Toronto)

## Microfinger



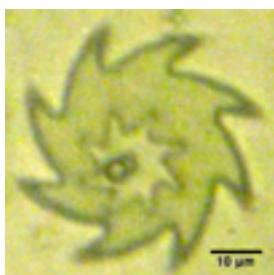
Automated Nanomanipulation  
(U. of Toronto, 2012)



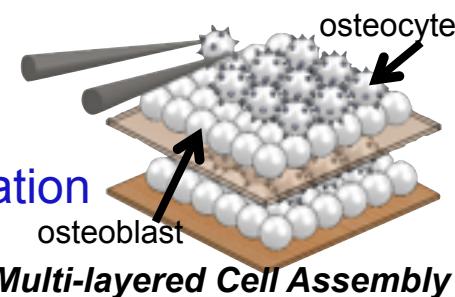
Cell Hardness Measurement by Micro Force Sensor (Osaka U.)

## Bacteria Driven

Bacteria Driven  
Micro Crank  
Nagoya U., 2012)



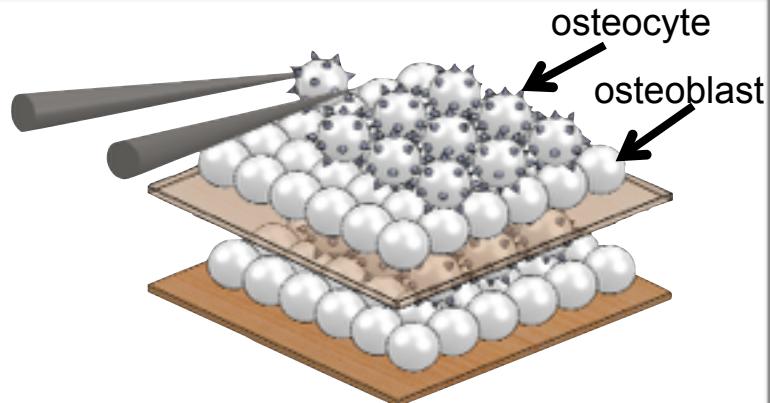
- 1-Dexterous handling,
- 2-3D manipulation ability,
- 3-Multi-sized objects manipulation
- 4- Bio-compatible



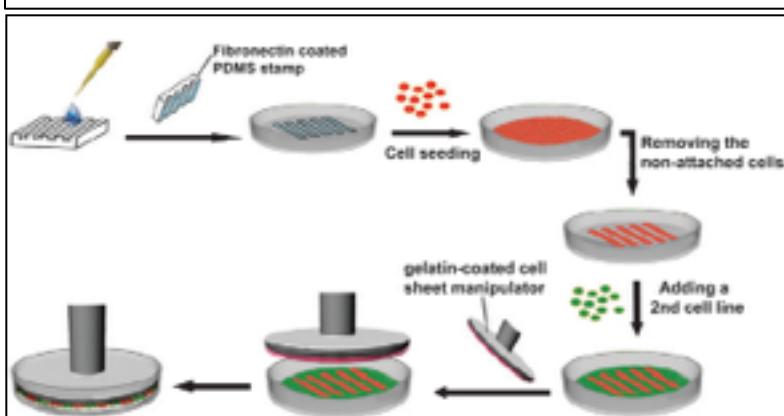
# Tissue Regeneration

To grow tissues in the laboratory and safely implant them when the body cannot heal itself.

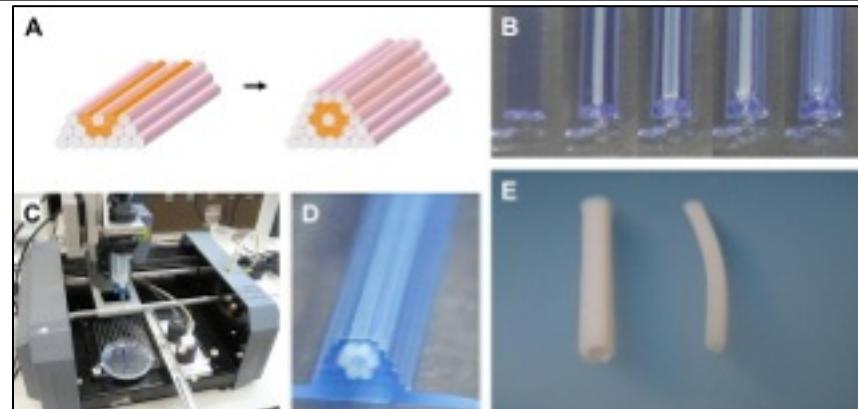
- Two common methods:
  1. Cell sheet engineering
  2. Bio-printing



Multi-layered Cell Assembly (Regeneration of Tissue)



**Cell Sheet Engineering**  
(Tokyo Women Medical University)



**Bio-printing**  
(University of Missouri)

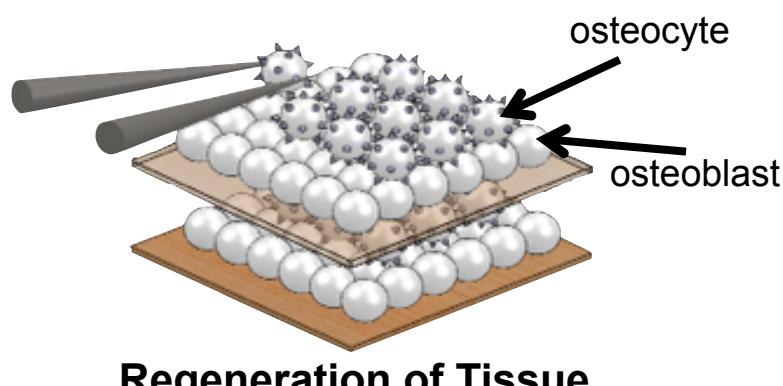
# Required Features

## 1. A general purpose microhand that has multi-scalability

- Multi-sized objects handling
- Large workspace with precise positioning for transportation

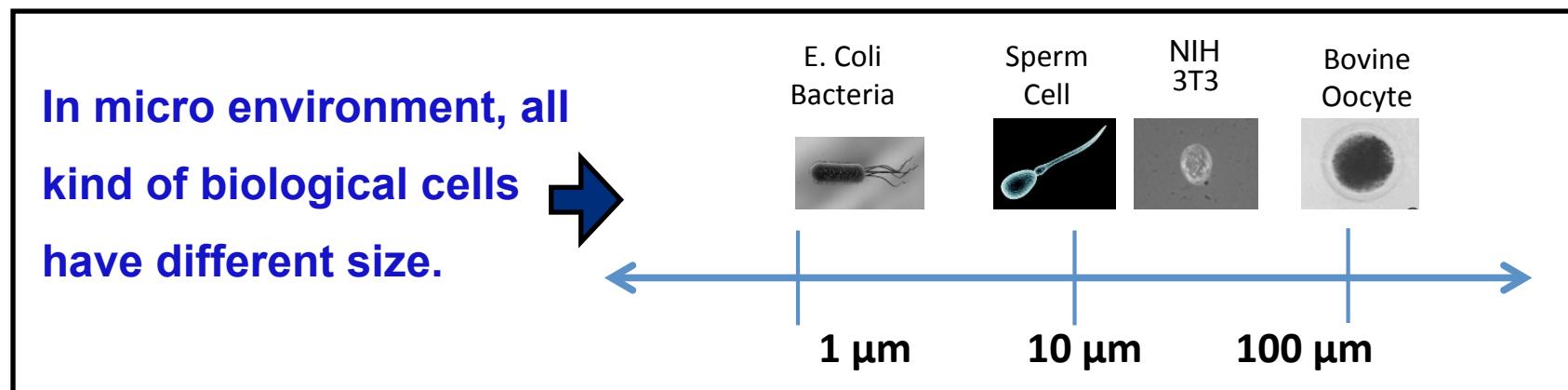
## 2. High speed manipulation ability

- Presence of a vast number of cells
- Cells' restricted life span



# A General Purpose Microhand

In literature, most micromanipulators have been designed as task-specific systems to manipulate particular microobjects



Instead of task-specific systems, a **general-purpose microhand** is required.

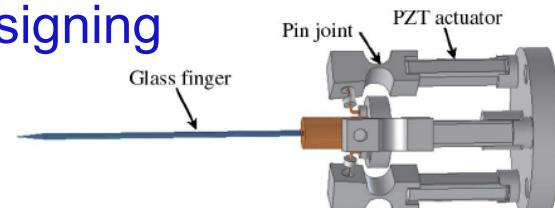
To achieve a general purpose microhand (**concept of multi-scalability**)

- A large workspace with a high resolution for grasping different-sized microobjects.
- A large workspace with a precise positioning for the transportation of microobjects.

# Concept of Multi-Scalability

## Challenges

- Mostly, end-effectors have limited workspace. Designing criteria of the microhand is crucial.



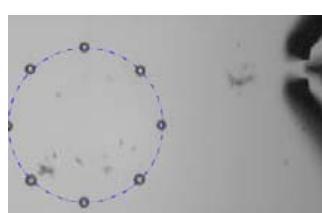
- Inverted microscope stage has limited space. Achieving large workspace with fine motion for the transportation is arduous task.



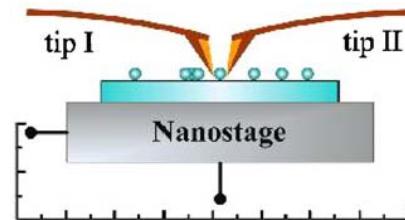
## Proposed Solutions

- Workspace optimization for multi-sized objects handling.
- Coarse-to-fine motion strategy for transportation

# High-Speed Micromanipulation

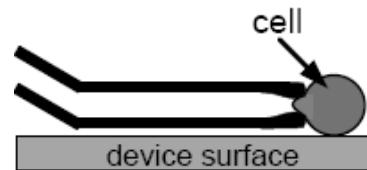


Robotic Pick-and-Place using Microgripper,  
Zhang et al., 2010

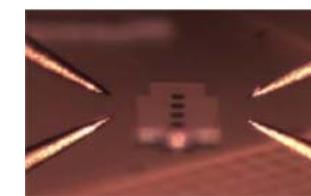


3D Micromanipulation using Nanogripper,  
Xie et al., 2009

A micromanipulation system  
that can realize pick-and-  
place task in 1 second



Single Cell Deposition using Pipette,  
Lu et al., 2010



3D Microstructures Assembly,  
Wason et al., 2010



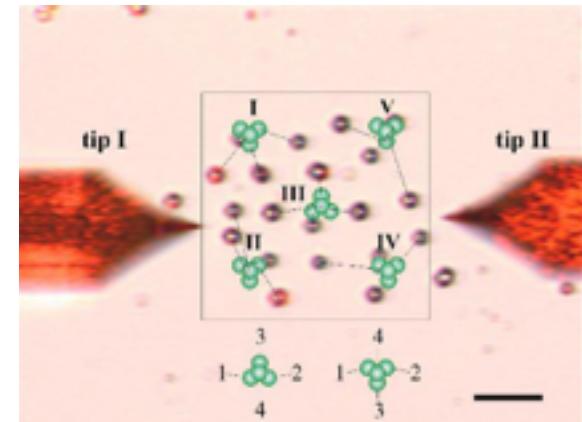
Duration for the simple pick-and-place task by various contact micromanipulator

# Related Works (Fast Micromanipulation)

**“Three-dimensional Automated Micromanipulation using a Nanotip Gripper with Multi-feedback”** by Xie et al.

2009 - *Journal of Micromechanics and Microengineering*

grasping(20s) + transport(10s) + releasing(18s) = 48 sec.



**“Autonomous Robotic Pick-and-Place of Microobjects”**

by Zhang et al.

2010 – *IEEE Transaction on Robotics*

grasping + transport + releasing = 6 sec.

The highest speed reported in the literature thus far.

Autonomous Robotic Pick-and-Place  
of Micro Objects

Advanced Micro and Nanosystems Lab

University of Toronto

# High-Speed Micromanipulation

## Challenges

- ➊ 3D info is necessary where as under standard microscopy 2D is feasible
- ➋ Control the vibration of the end effector caused by high speed motion

## Proposed Solutions

- ➌ Implementation of fast detection algorithm to obtain 3D position
- ➍ Residual vibration suppression to success high-speed grasping

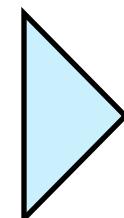
# Contributions

## Summary of the solutions

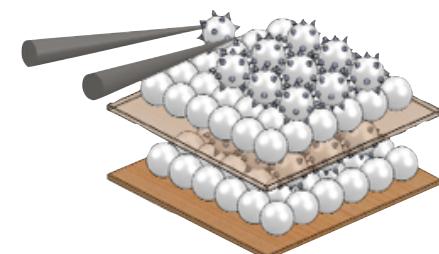
- To realize a general-purpose microhand:
  - Workspace optimization for multi-sized objects handling.
  - Coarse-to-fine motion strategy for transportation
- To achieve high speed automated micromanipulation
  - Implementation of fast detection algorithm to obtain 3D position
  - Residual vibration suppression to success high-speed grasping

## Academic Contributions

- Multi-Scalability Concept
- First high-speed system



Promote micro robotics/life science



Tissue Regeneration

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7. Recent & Future Work

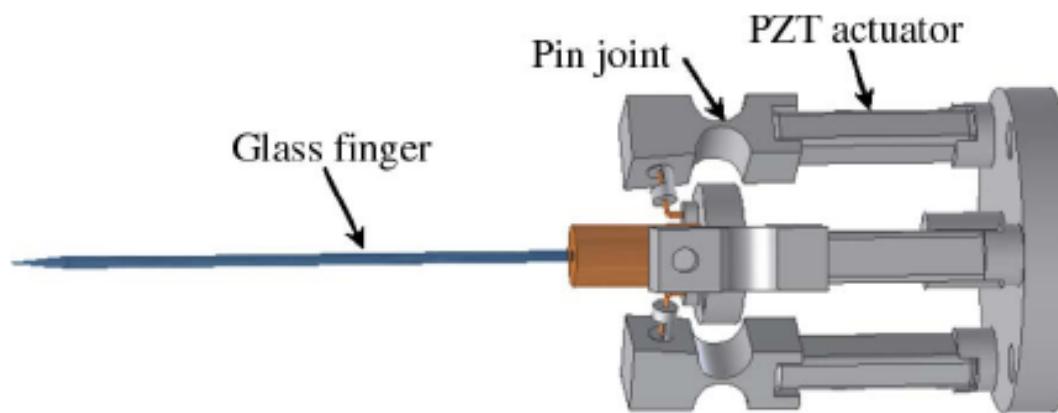
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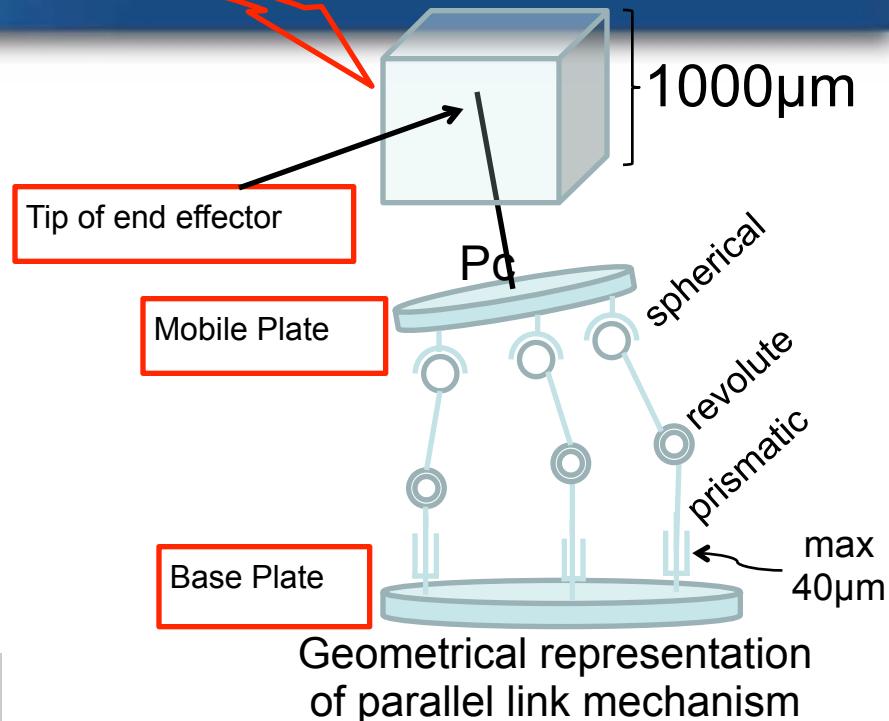
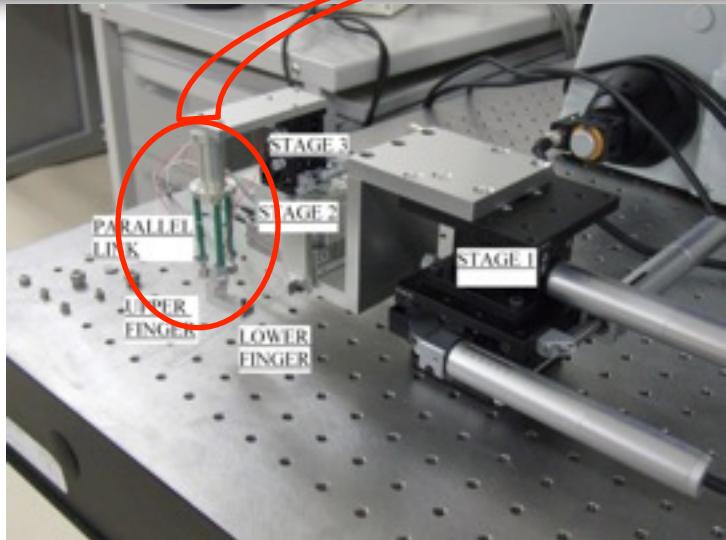
# Manipulation of Multi-Sized Objects

To manipulate different size microobjects, end effector of the microhand should have:

- Large workspace,
- High resolution.



# Inverse Kinematics



From tip of the end effector to center of mobile plate: Newton – Raphson Method

$$\begin{bmatrix} P_{cx} \\ P_{cy} \\ P_{cz} \end{bmatrix}^{k+1} = \begin{bmatrix} P_{cx} \\ P_{cy} \\ P_{cz} \end{bmatrix}^k - J^{-1}(P_{cx}, P_{cy}, P_{cz})^k \cdot f(P_{cx}, P_{cy}, P_{cz})^k$$

From mobile plate to fixed base plate:

- Transformation matrix =

$$P_c = \begin{bmatrix} P_{cx} \\ P_{cy} \\ P_{cz} \end{bmatrix}$$

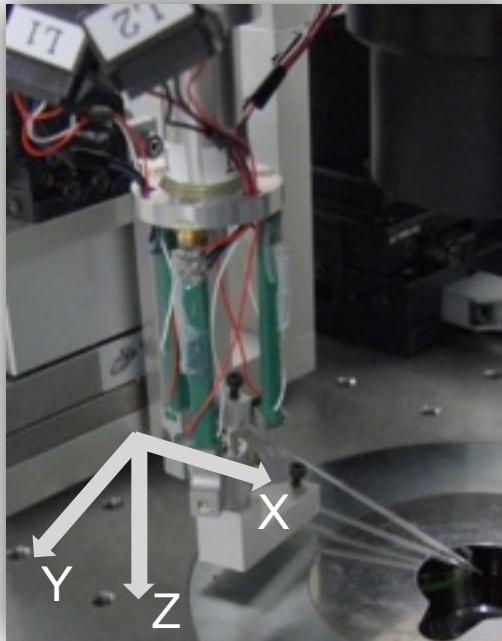
Position vector

$$ROT = \begin{bmatrix} U_x & V_x & W_x \\ U_y & V_y & W_y \\ U_z & V_z & W_z \end{bmatrix}$$

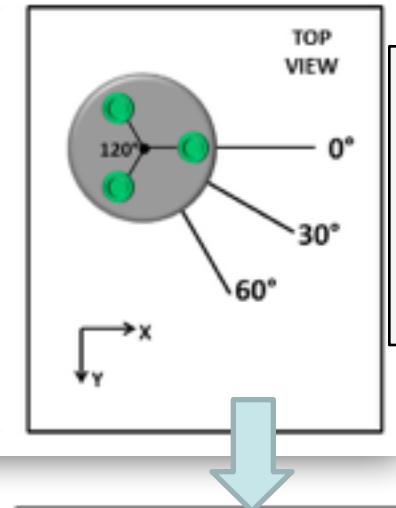
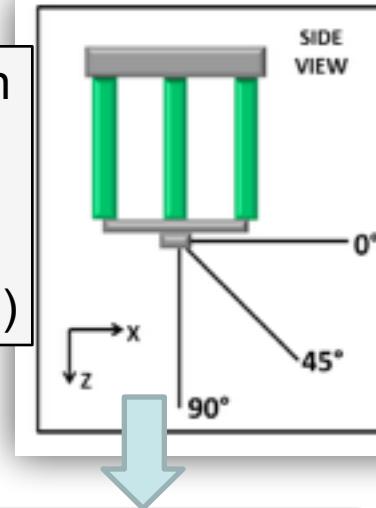
Rotation Matrix

# Optimization of Workspace

Workspace optimization in the X-Z plane and in the X-Y plane



Orientation change in vertical direction  
**(X-Z plane)**



Orientation change in horizontal direction  
**(X-Y plane)**

X-Z plane

5°: 60 x 52 µm

45°: 530 x 480 µm

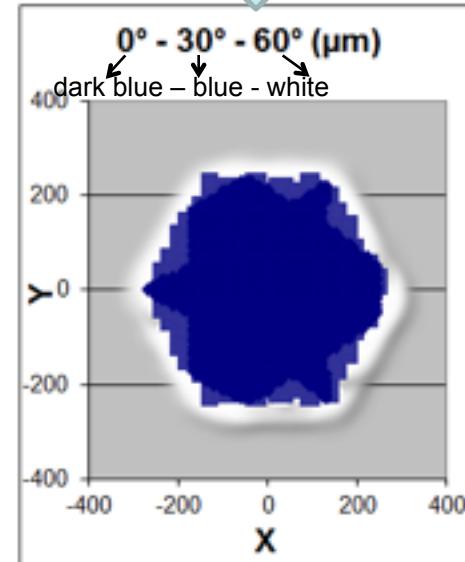
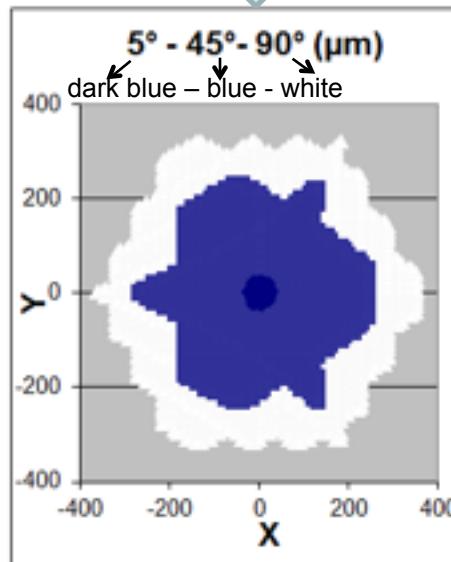
90°: 720 x 640 µm

X-Y plane

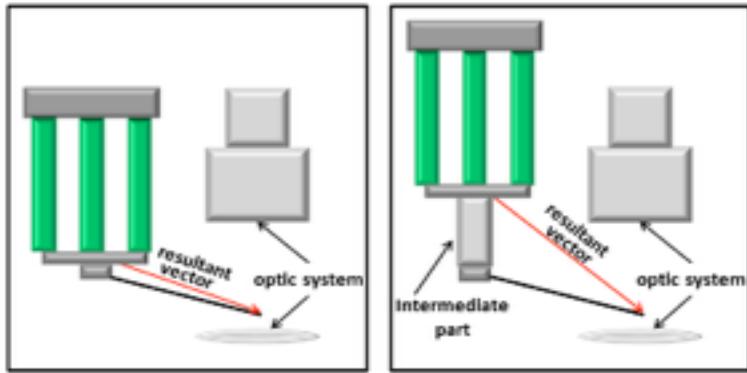
0°: 530 x 480 µm

30°: 510 x 480 µm

60°: 540 x 480 µm



# Optimization of Workspace



Workspace comparison between former and latter orientations

	X ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Y ( $\mu\text{m}$ )
Former ( $27.5^\circ$ )	45	22
Latter ( $39^\circ$ )	132	40

**representation of cell fusion task**  
egg cell: bovine oocyte ( $100 \mu\text{m}$ )  
donor cell: fibroblast ( $15 \mu\text{m}$ )

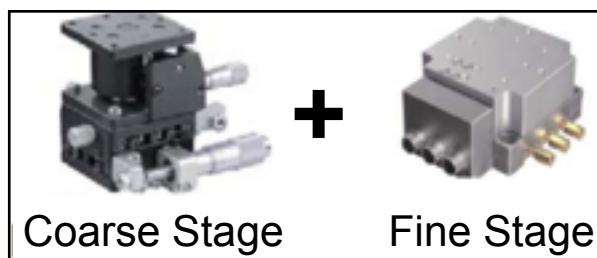
	Xmin ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Xmax ( $\mu\text{m}$ )
related work 1	3	17
related work 2	20	100
<b>proposed solution</b>	1	132

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7. Questions & Answers

# Coarse-to-Fine Motion Strategy

For the long distance transportation of microobjects with the precise positioning:

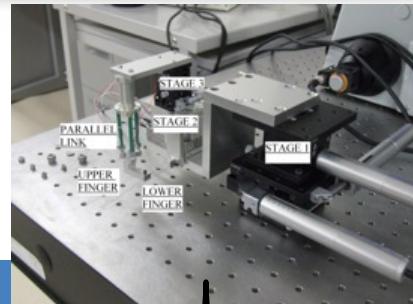


- Combination of coarse motion and fine motion functions.
- In our study, this combination was realized through visual feedback.

# Details of Microhand

## Fine Motion Stage

0.1x0.1x0.1 mm  
2.3 mm/sec  
(Global Motion)

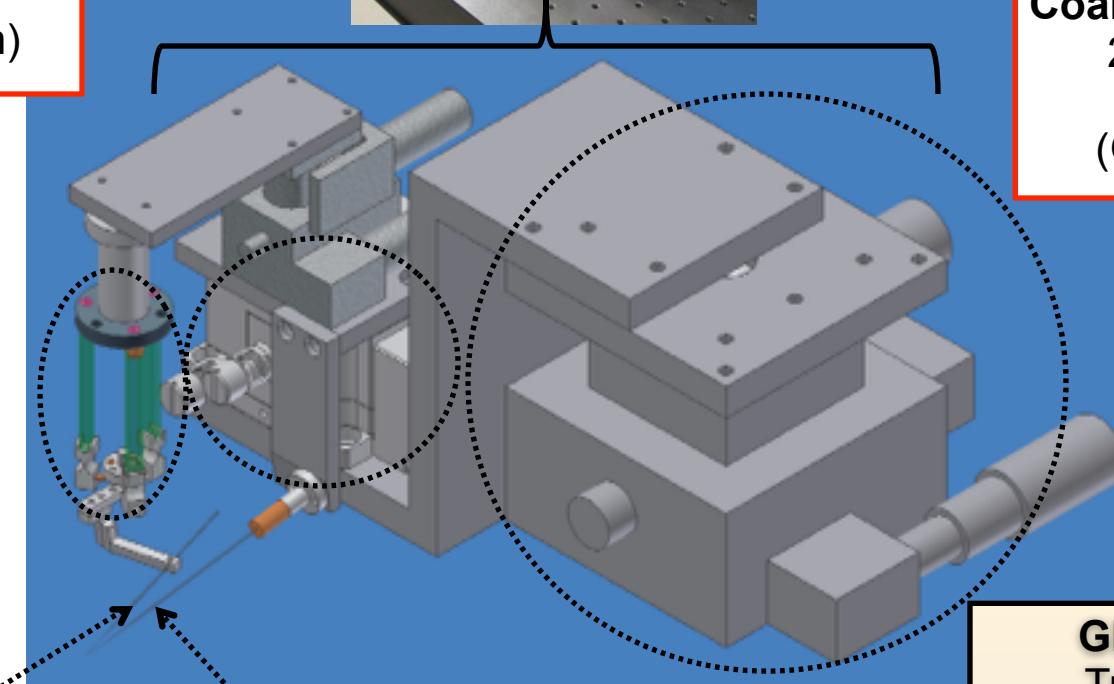


## Coarse Motion Stage

25x25x10 mm  
1.1 mm/sec  
(Global Motion)

## Parallel Mechanism

0.13x0.04x0.02 mm  
10 cm/sec  
(Local Motion)



Right end effector  
(needle 1)

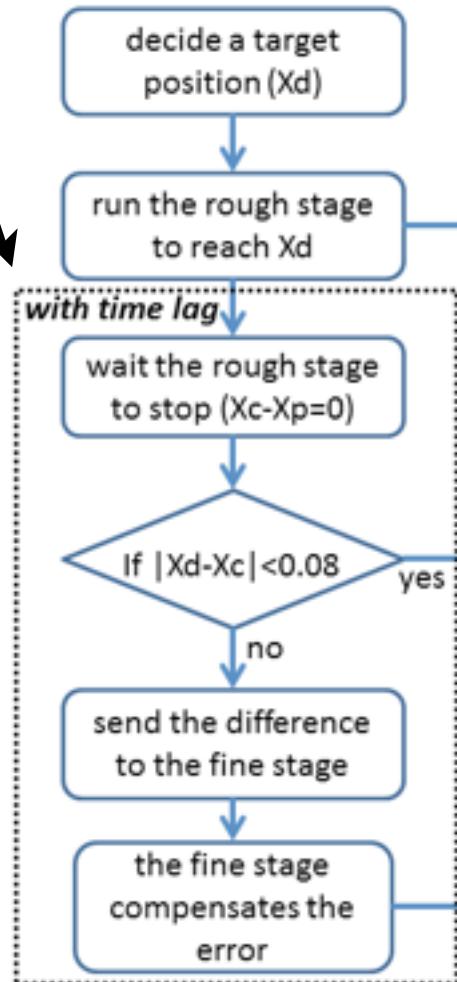
Left end effector  
(needle 2)

**Global Motion:**  
Transportation,  
Positioning

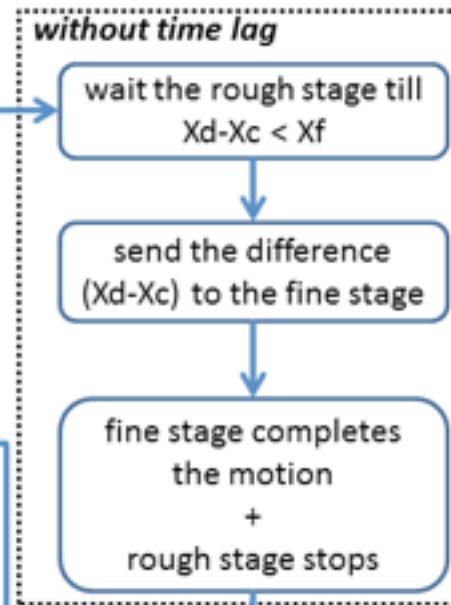
**Local Motion:**  
Grasping, Releasing

# Flow Chart

Conventional Method



Modified Version



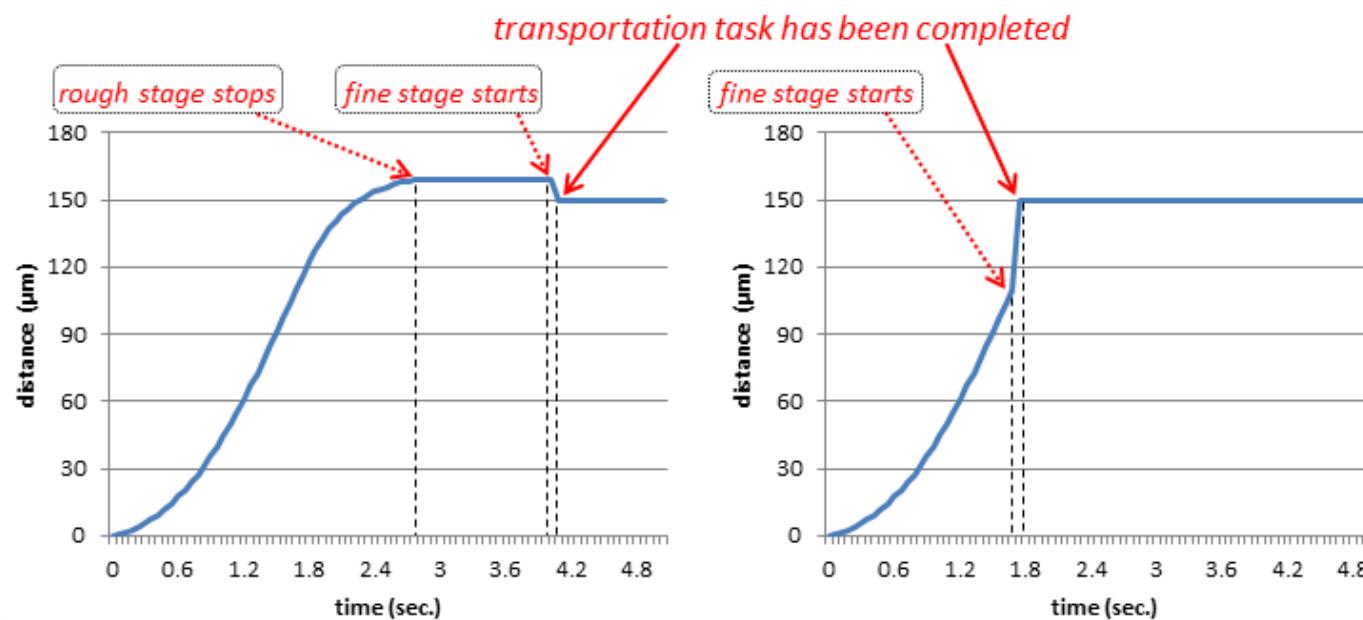
$X_d$ : Target Position  
 $X_c$ : Current Position  
 $X_p$ : Previous Position  
 $X_f$ : Half workspace of Fine

# Coarse-to-Fine Motion Strategy



Coarse-to-fine motion:

- From 17  $\mu\text{m}$  error to 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$
- Without time lag
- Duration 4.1 sec to 2 sec.

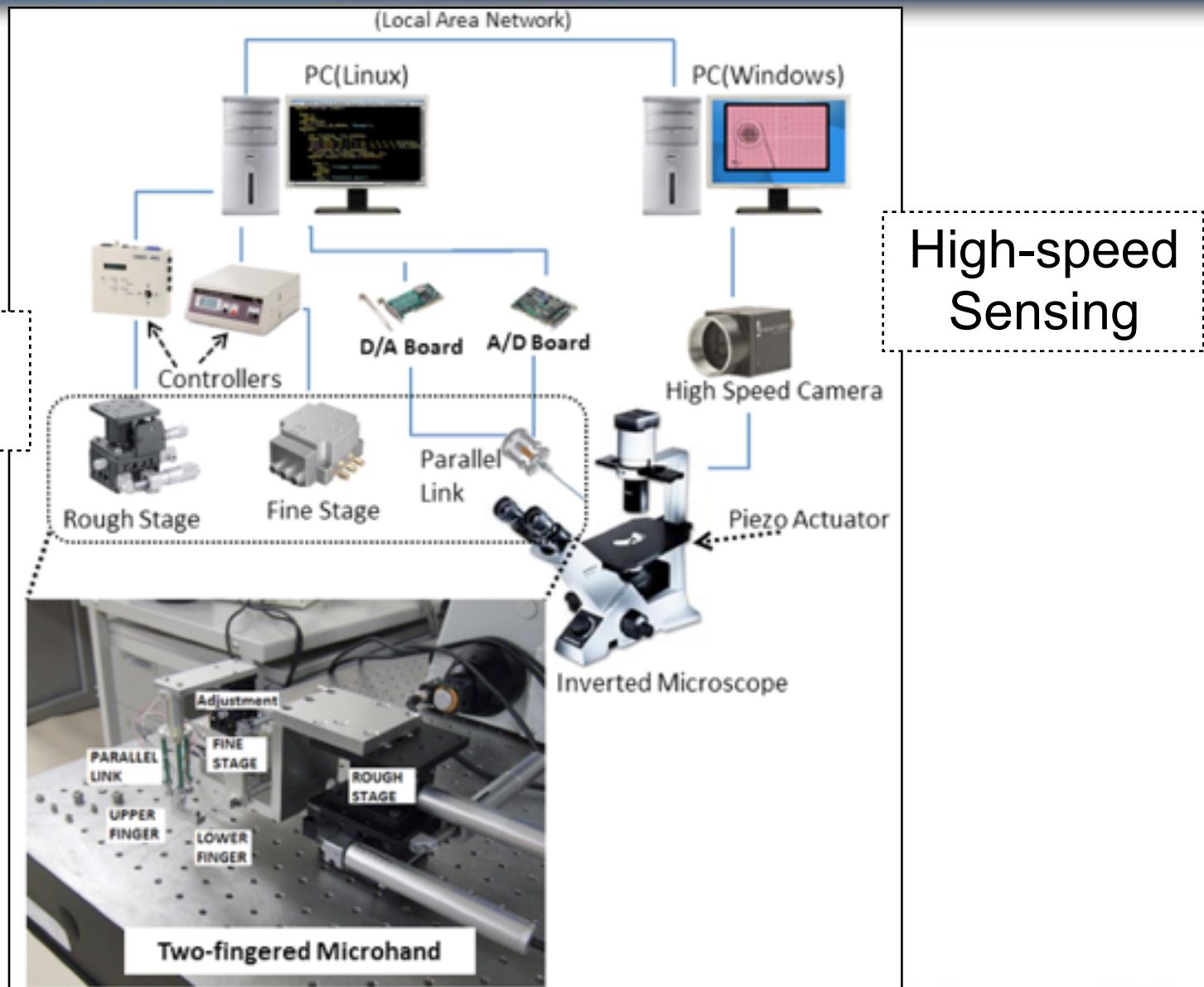


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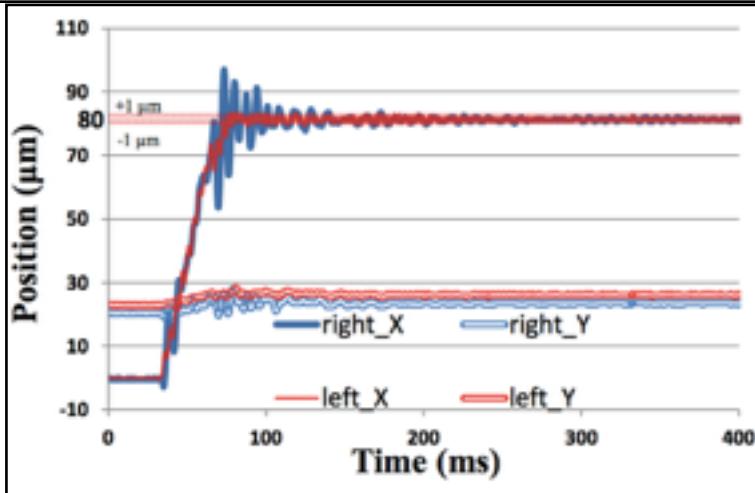
# System Configuration

High-speed  
Actuation

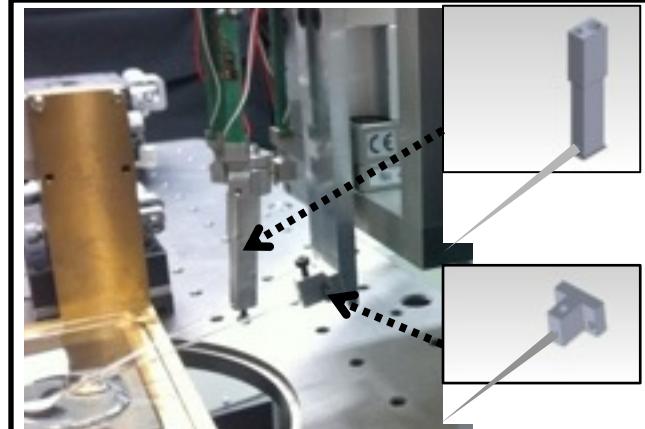


# Vibration Compensation

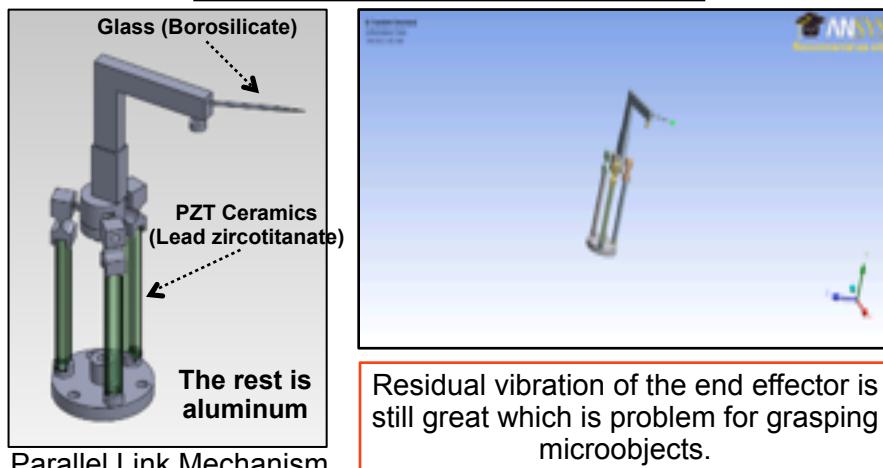
Vibration results of the end effectors for 2.3 mm/s



**Structure Modification**

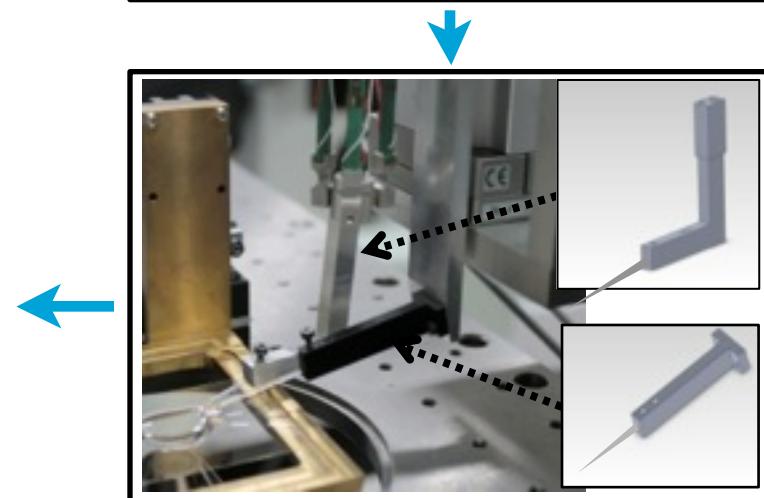


ANSYS result



Parallel Link Mechanism

Residual vibration of the end effector is still great which is problem for grasping microobjects.



Increasing Stiffness ( $\delta_{\max} \propto \frac{wL^4}{EI}$ ):

thickness: 3x, weight: 2x

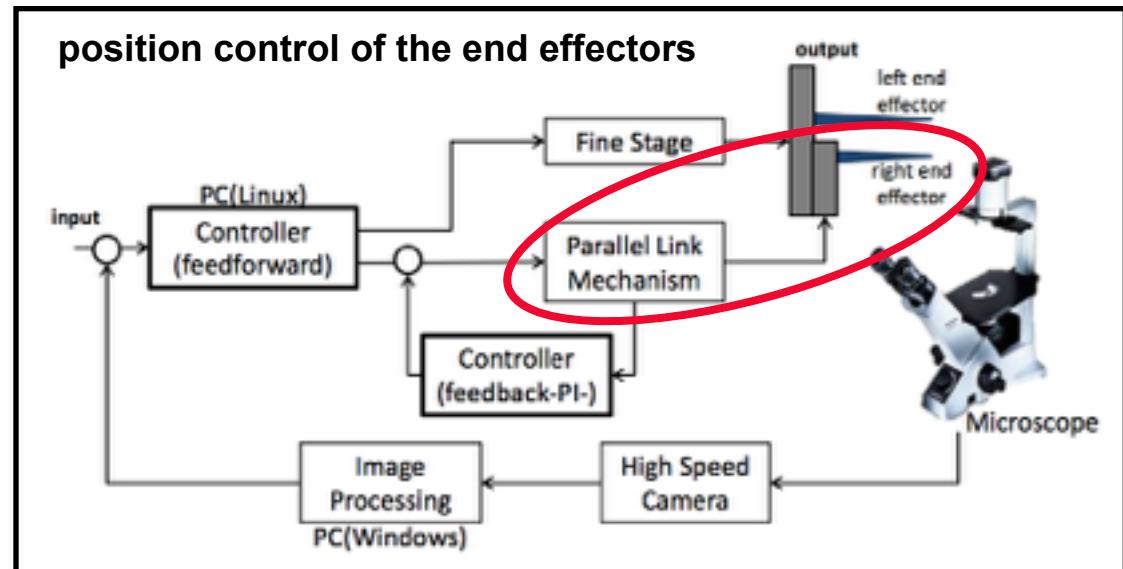
# Residual Vibration Suppression

## Possible Control Methods for Residual Vibration

- trajectory smoothing
- input shaping
- feedback control
- feedforward control

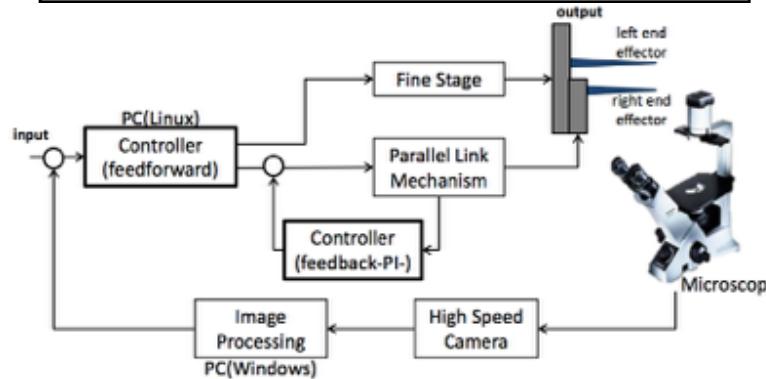
prediction of the behavior  
of the vibration is feasible:

- frequency,
- amplitude,
- settling time,
- etc.



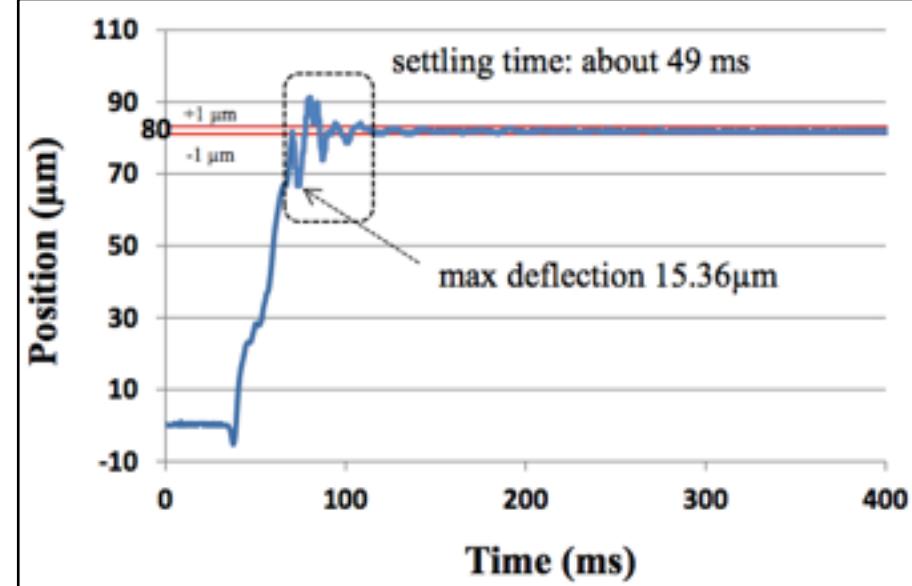
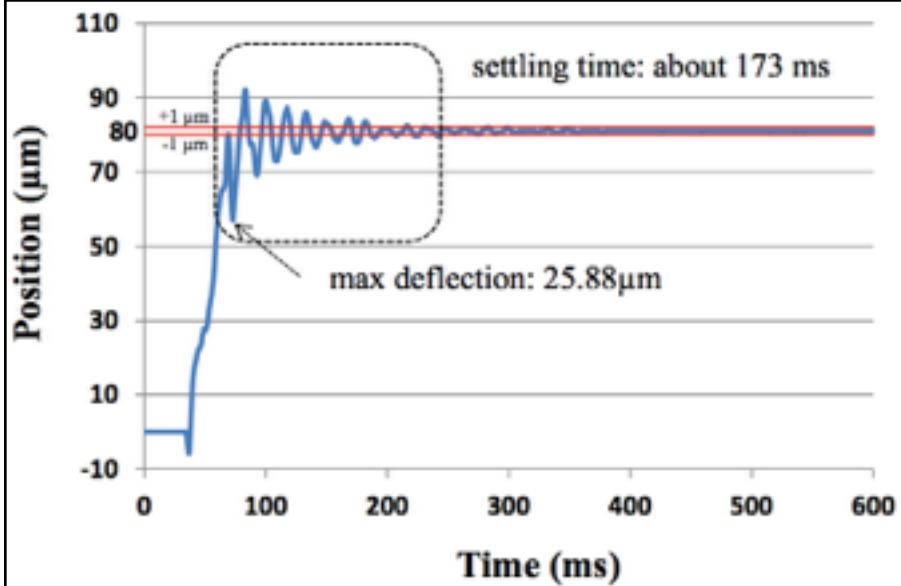
# Feedforward Control

position control of the end effectors



open loop

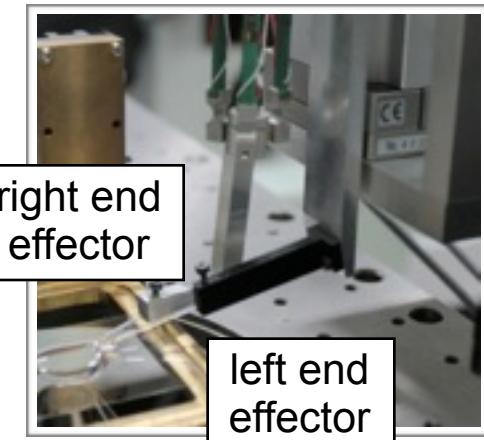
feedforward



# Vibration Control Results

VIBRATION AND SETTLING TIME AFTER VIBRATION SUPPRESSION

	Left End Effector		Right End Effector	
	Deflection ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Settling (ms)	Deflection ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Settling (ms)
Original Values	5.76	226	29.1	192
Structural Design	1	20	25.88	173
Average Improvement (%)	83	91	12	10
Feedforward Control	-	-	15.36	49
Average Improvement (%)	-	-	47	74

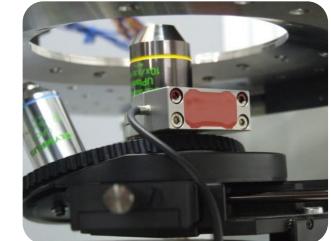


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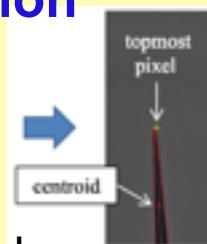
# 3D Object Detection at High-Speed

**3D info** is necessary where as under standard microscopy 2D is feasible.



## End Effector Detection

- Top-down scanning
- Contour detection based on elongated orientation
- Determination of the tip (x, y)
- Definition of ROI automatically
- Template-matching for z-axis info



## Target Object Detection

Depth from Border Intensity Variation  
(by Nghiem et al.)

- Top-down scanning
- Object's contour detection
- Stripe region defining
- Searching for the best focused image

Not Robust

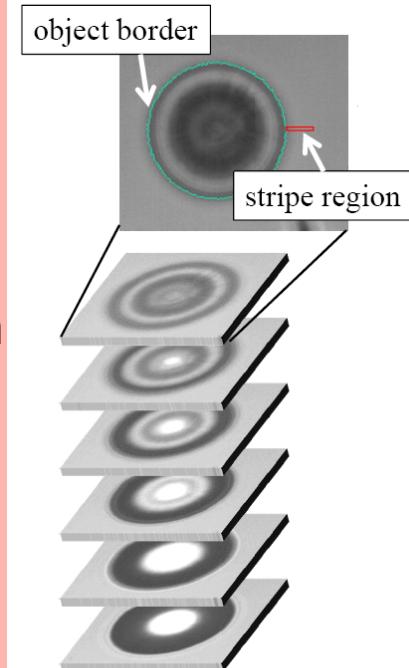


Image stack captured at different focal distances

# High-Speed Detection of Object

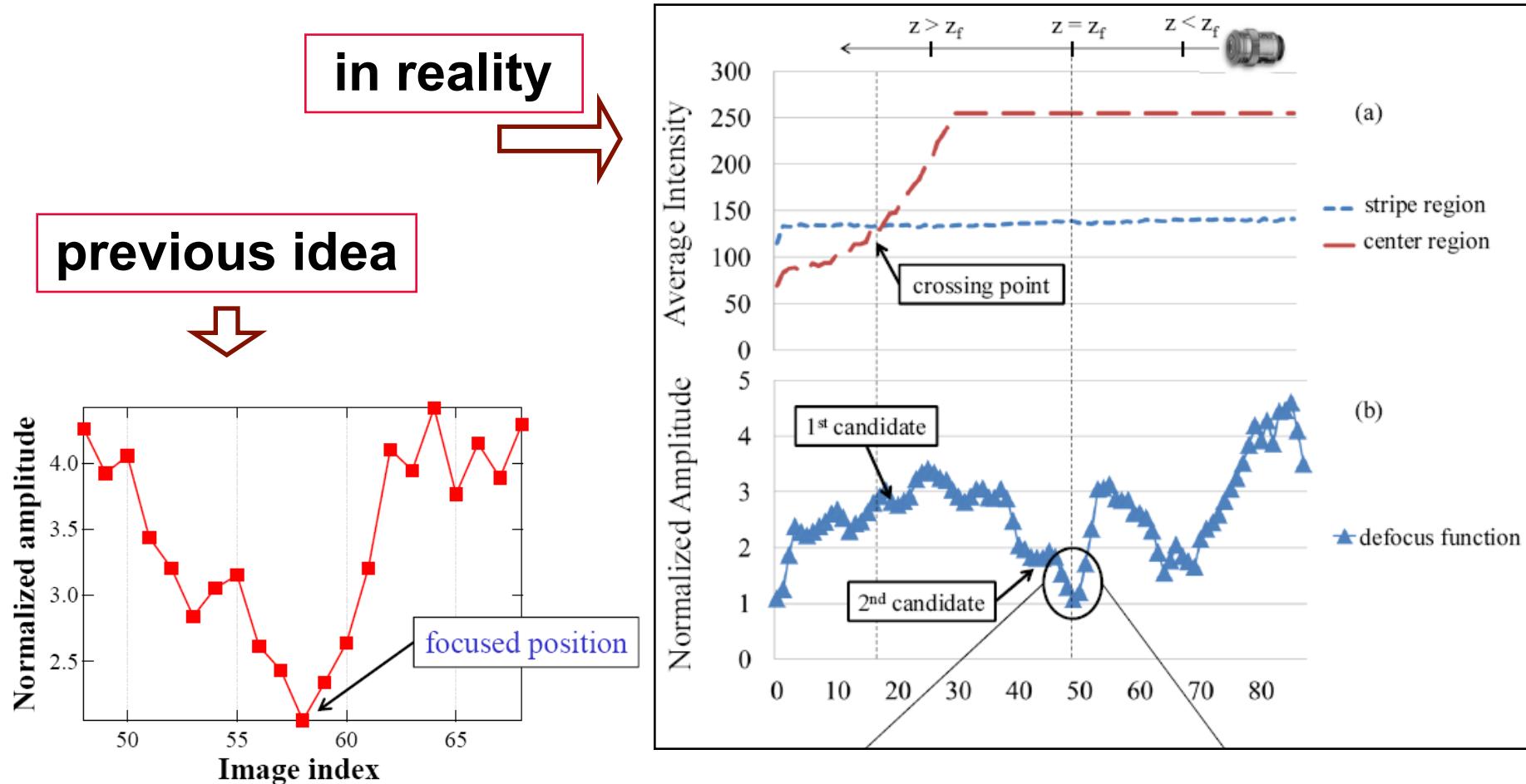
**Problem:** Sometimes can not obtain depth information accurately, even for the same objects

## Modification of the Detection Algorithm

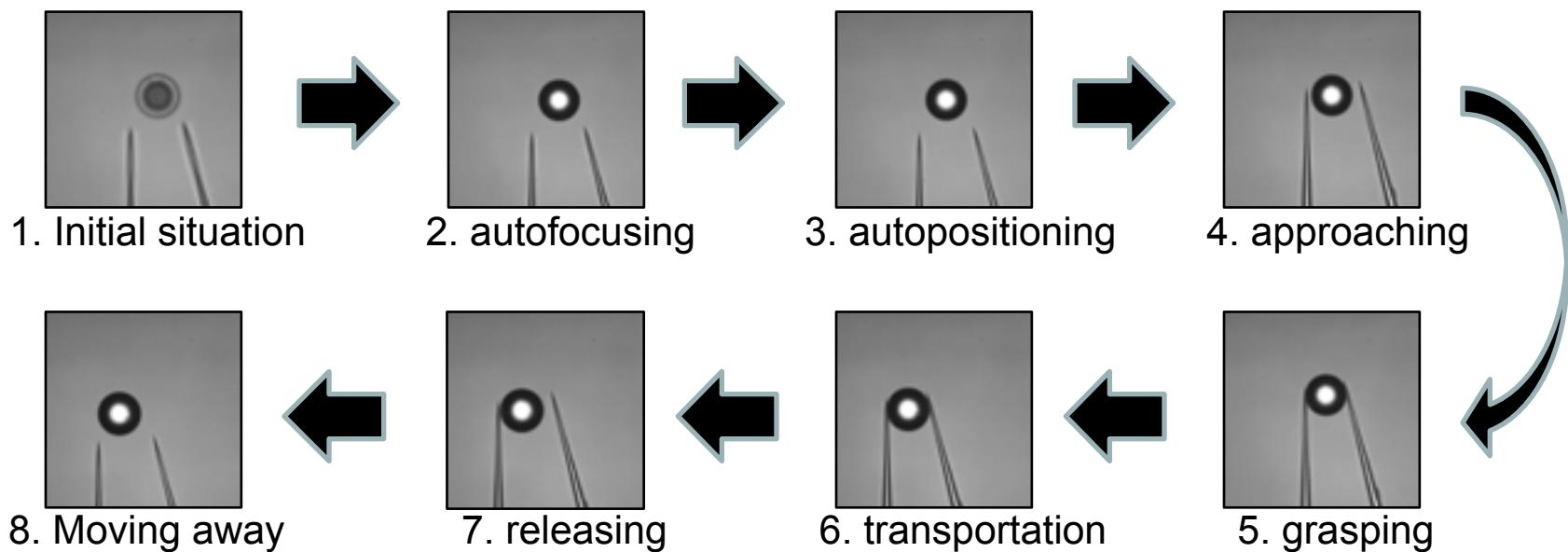
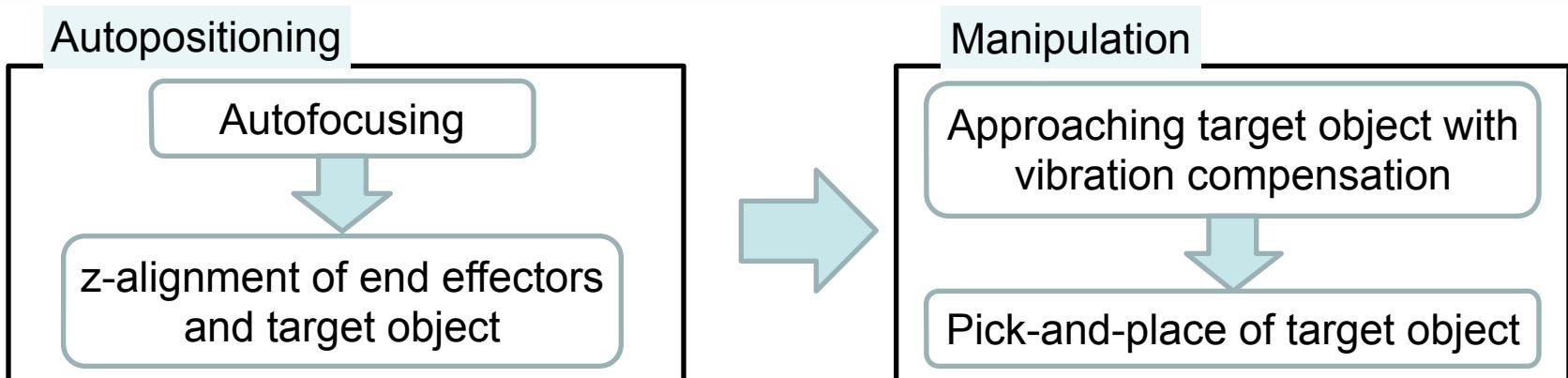
1. Instead of global thresholding --> adaptive thresholding
  - Uneven lighting condition in dynamic environment
2. All minimum point in the graph should be checked
  - There could be more than one local minimum

**Result:** Success rate 70% --> 96%

# Comparison of Detection Algorithm



# Pick-and-Place Task

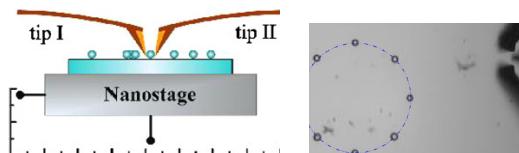


# Pick-and-Place Task

High Speed Automated  
Manipulation of 55  $\mu\text{m}$  microbeads

	<b>Success rate</b>	<b>Duration</b>
Autopositioning:	96%	340 ms
Grasping:	100%	290 ms
Transportation:	90%	
Releasing:	70%	340 ms

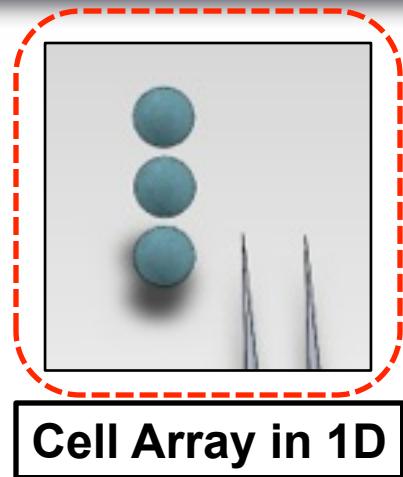
*Video Speed: 0.1X*



	Related Work1	Related Work2	Proposed System
<b>Duration of Manipulation</b>	48 s.	6 s.	0.97 s.

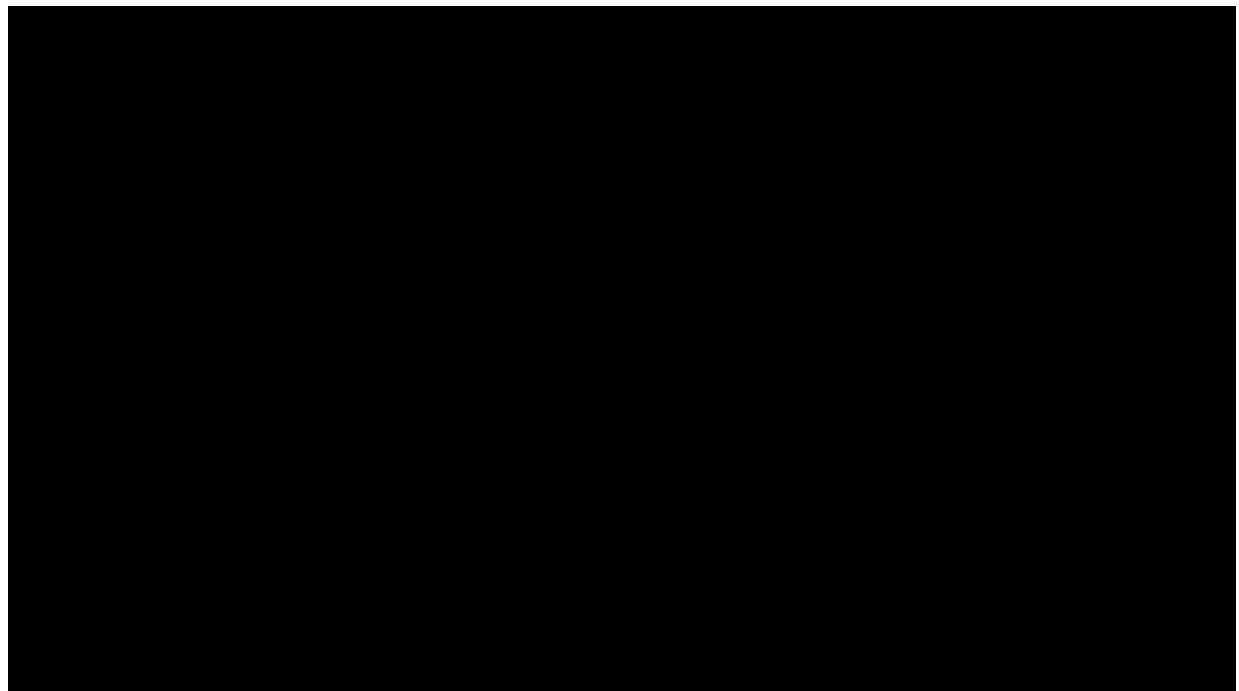
# 1D Array Realization

- **Target object** : 55  $\mu\text{m}$  microbeads
- **Target structure**: 1D microsphere array (maybe aligned three microobjects), as workspace is very limited
- Pick and place automatically at high speed but repositioning is manual.



Cell Array in 1D

**Experimental  
Result for 1D  
Microbeads Array**

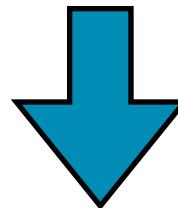


# Contents

1. Introduction
2. Manipulation of Multi-Sized Microobjects
3. Coarse to Fine Manipulation Strategy
4. Vibration Control for Stable Grasping
5. Fast 3D Detection of Microobjects and  
Experimental Results
6. Conclusions
7. Recent & Future Work

# Conclusions

- Multi-Scalability Concept for a general purpose microhand
  - compatible with wide range of applications
- First high speed contact micromanipulation system



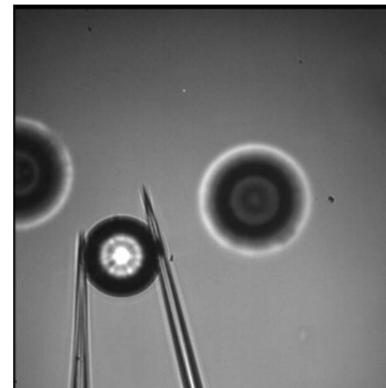
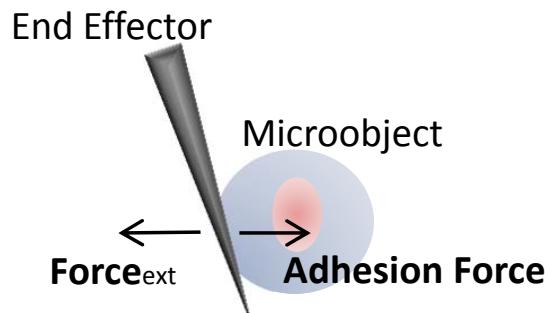
To promote micro-robotics / life science

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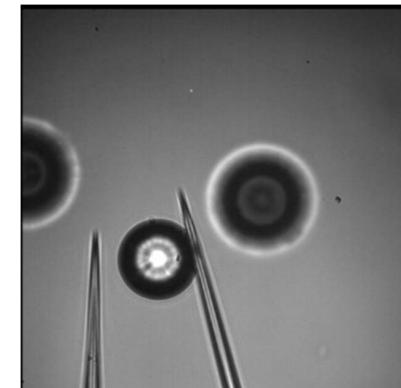
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# Recent Work & Future Work

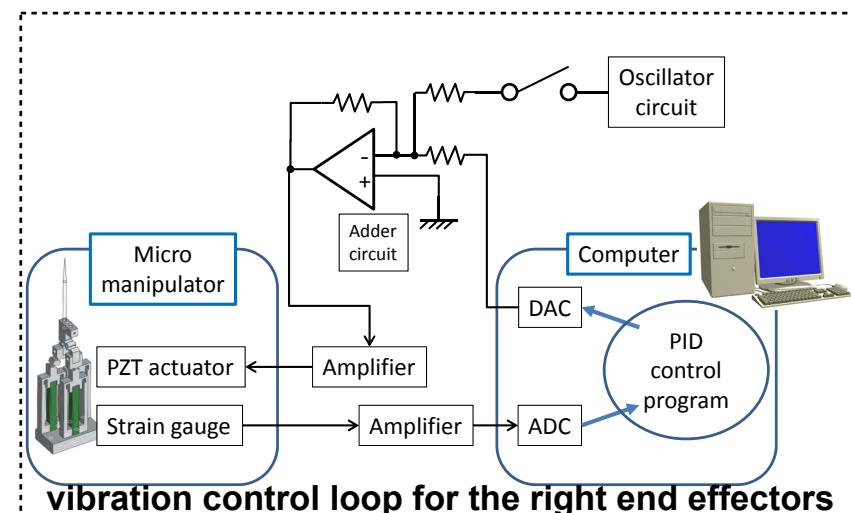
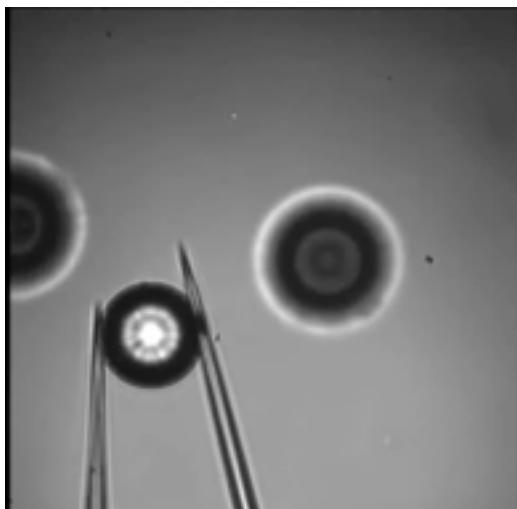
## Active Releasing by Controllable Vibration



a)



b)



# System Configuration

Fine Motion Stage

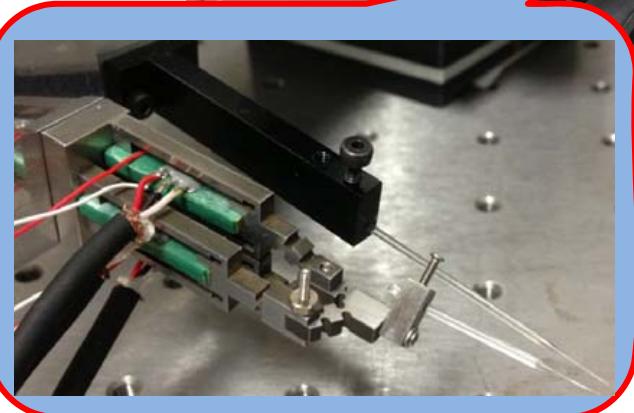
Coarse Motion Stage

Microscope

Parallel Link

Specimen Table

Right & Left Fingers



# Recent Work & Future Work

## Active Releasing by Controllable Vibration

success rate: 84 %

# Publications

## Journals

1. Ebubekir Avci, Hiroyuki Yabugaki, Kazuto Kamiyama, Masaru Kojima, Yasushi Mae, Tatsuo Arai: “Precise Releasing of Biological Cells at High Speed Using Controllable Vibration”.(In Preparation).
2. Ebubekir Avci, Kenichi Ohara, Yasushi Mae, Tatsuo Arai, “Micromanipulation in a Second Using Two-fingered Microhand”, **IEEE Transaction on Industrial Electronics**(Accepted).
3. Ebubekir Avci, Chang-Nghiem Nguyen, Kenichi Ohara, Yasushi Mae, Tatsuo Arai, “Analysis and Suppression of Residual Vibration in Microhand for High-Speed Single-Cell Manipulation”, **International Journal of Mechatronics and Automation**, vol. 3, no. 2, pp. 110-117, 2013.
4. Ebubekir Avci, Kenichi Ohara, Tomohito Takubo, Yasushi Mae, Tatsuo Arai, “Development of Multi-Scalable Microhand System with Precise Motion”, **Journal of Robotics and Mechatronics** vol. 25, no.1, pp. 183-191, 2013.
5. Chang-Nghiem Nguyen, Kenichi Ohara, Ebubekir Avci, Tomohito Takubo, Yasushi Mae, Tatsuo Arai, “Real-time precise 3D measurement of micro transparent objects using All-In-Focus imaging system”, **Journal of Micro – Nano Mechatronics**, vol. 7, pp. 21-31, 2012.

# Publications

## International Conferences (full paper - reviewed)

1. "Vibration Reduction of Microhand for Transporting Operation", (**ISFA 2014**).
- 2."Dynamic Releasing of Biological Cells at High Speed Using Parallel Mechanism to Control Adhesion Forces", (**ICRA 2014**).
- 3."Contact Manipulation of Microsize Objects at High Speed", (**IROS 2013 Workshop-Invited Speaker**).
- 4."Towards High Speed Automated Micromanipulation", (**ICRA 2013**).
5. "Towards High Speed Microassembly Using Two-fingered Microhand", (**ICRA 2013 Workshop**).
6. "Development of End Effector for Cell Manipulation with Two-fingered Micro-hand", (**MHS 2012**).
7. "Vibration Analysis of Microhand for High Speed Single Cell Manipulation", (**ICMA 2012**).
8. "High Speed Micromanipulation System with Multi-Scalability", (**ROBIO 2011**). Finalist of T. J. Tarn Best Paper in Robotics
9. "Automated Micromanipulation of a Microhand with All-In-Focus Imaging System", (**IROS 2011**).
10. "Workspace Optimization for Multi-Scale Micromanipulation System", (**MHS 2010**).
11. "A new Multi-Scale Micromanipulation System with Dexterous Motion", (**MHS 2009**).

## Domestic Conferences

- 1."Vibration Analysis of A Microhand Which Has A New Parallel Mechanism" (**RSJ 2013**).
- 2."High-Speed 3D Detection and Tracking of a Two-Fingered Microhand", (**SICE 2011**).
3. "Optimum Design for Multi-Scalable Microhand", (**RSJ 2010**).
4. "A new Multi-Scale Micromanipulation System", (**RSJ 2009**).

**Thank you for your kind attention**