### A Thesis for the Degree of Ph.D. in Engineering

# Advanced Robotic Inspection Technology Based on Force Information Processing

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Graduate School of Science and Technology Keio University

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#### **Thesis Abstract**

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#### Thesis Summary

The rapid increase in aging infrastructure facilities is a global problem, and the establishment of preventive maintenance technologies is an urgent issue. Robotic inspection technologies have been studied to inspect targets quantitatively that are inaccessible by humans. Conventional technologies have been developed individually for the application; however, required functions are summarized as access, environmental adaptation, and inspection functions. The functions commonly involve force information, suggesting that it is practical for the advancement of the technology. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to clarify the effectiveness of processing force information. This study takes three approaches to process force information for 1) state estimation and motion control, 2) environmental adaptation, and 3) structural diagnosis.

Chapter 1 describes the motivation, related works, and objectives of this dissertation.

Chapter 2 describes the basic technology of this study, namely, robust control using a disturbance observer and estimating the reaction force by applying the disturbance observer.

Chapter 3 proposes a novel velocity estimation method of mobile mechanisms moving on road surfaces, including complex slippage, using disturbance forces and machine learning. Then, a learning policy for the application of the proposed method is clarified through experimental studies.

Chapter 4 proposes motion control based on the driving force. First, the motion control using the estimated velocity described in Chapter 3 is designed. Next, it is mentioned that the interference of driving forces can disturb the turning. Thus, driving force distribution is proposed to solve this problem. Furthermore, the novel motion control that appropriately allows slippage by driving force distribution and virtual turning velocity control that compensates for lateral disturbance is proposed. Finally, the stabilization conditions and design guidelines are discussed.

In Chapter 5, pushing force control mechanisms using force-controlled actuators and passive mechanisms are proposed for the robot that moves while adapting to the environment. Then, model-based control with disturbance compensation based on an identified model is proposed. The validity is demonstrated with the mechanisms implemented on a turbine generator inspection robot.

Chapter 6 proposes a novel percussion device that can control the impact force and estimate the reaction force with a single mechanism for internal structures diagnosis. The relationship between the device's input/output characteristics and internal structure state expressed by a coupled vibration model is clarified. Furthermore, a diagnosis method is proposed using the model parameter estimation. The validity of the proposed diagnosis method is demonstrated by simulation and experiment, using stator wedge loosening diagnosis for the turbine generator as an example.

Chapter 7 concludes this dissertation by summarizing the contents obtained in each chapter.