Mechanical characterization of human oocytes

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Infertility

 In France : 10 - 16 % of couples have conceiving difficulty

Assisted reproductive technology ART

- In the world : 1.5×10^{6} ART per year
- ART represents in France 1 birth / 34

ICSI

- France 2013 : 40 006 ICSI attempts
- Success rate 21.8 %



ICSI procedure

- Ovarian stimulation
- Ovarian puncture within 36 hours



- Selection of oocytes on morphological criteria
- In vitro fertilisation and culture of embryos for 2-5 days



Transfer to the uterus



Cause of miscarrying

- Technical problem
- Spermatozoon quality
- Oocyte quality

Oocyte choice criteria

Morphological (classical)



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Platform EGG

Produce objective mechanical criterion to help physicians determine which oocyte should be inseminated and transferred





Morphological selection criteria

















Mechanical selection criteria



Mechanical selection criteria



A mechanical test

Our first Time



Outline



Concept of Magnetic spring
Simplest configuration
First force sensor design
Oocyte characterisation platform
Active magnetic springs



Capteur EGG

Global design Magnetic springs design

3 Conclusion and perspectives

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Magnetic levitation

Quite simple



Magnetic levitation

Basics





Magnetic levitation

Horizontal behavior







 $K_x \approx 0.01 \text{ N/m}$

Displacement of 1 μ m \Longrightarrow force of 10 nN

First force sensor design

Design modification







First force sensor design

Final design







First force sensor design

Application to oocyte characterisation

Problem of surface tension



Force instrumented Petri dish





Special Petri dish



Entire platform



Entire platform







Problem of surface tension remains

3 DOF active control



Active magnetic springs Basics





Active magnetic springs Basics





Active magnetic springs Basics





 $F_{elec} = K_{elec}(x) \, . \, i \implies \hat{F}_{oo} = K_{elec} \, . \, i_{measured} + K_{mag} \, . \, x_{measured}$

Position active control





Position active control





Position active control





Position active control



VIRCO : Virtual Input Rejection COntrol

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Capteur EGG

Design

- Magnetic levitation
- Magnetic springs
- Buoyancy
- Active magnetic springs
- Unknown input observer (Kalman or GELESO filters)
- Advanced robust control law (VIRCO)
- Medical and biological requirements
- habits of ART centers



In ART center of Besançon hospital





In ART center of Besançon hospital

1. W02018172688 - DISPOSITIF POUR LA CARACTERISATION MECANIQUE D'UN ELEMENT D'INTERET PAR EXEMPLE UN OVOCYTE



Magnetic springs inside the Petri dish





Magnetic springs inside the Petri dish







Single use magnetic glass indenter of 16 mm length and 0.8 mm diameter

Negative stiffness magnetic spring





Negative stiffness magnetic spring





Negative stiffness magnetic spring





 $K_x \approx -0.001 \text{ N/m}$

Unstable behavior along \vec{x}

Displacement of 1 μ m \implies force of 1 nN

Conducting experiments on oocytes





Oocytes mechanical properties

Loading and unloading tests





Oocytes mechanical properties

Relaxation tests with flat or sharp tip





Oocytes mechanical properties

Oocyte constitution



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Conclusion and perspectives



- Approximately 80 supernumerary oocytes already tested
- Each oocyte exhibit a particular mechanical profile

Next steps

- · Fine modelling of the different oocyte parts
- Clinical trial on 20 patients...

Thank you for your attention...





Contributors

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