

Cloud Robotics

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Peer Review Information	Abstract
Type: Article Received: 23 April 2026 Revised: 09 May 2026 Accepted: 22 June 2026 Published: 18 July 2026	Cloud robotics is basically a combination of cloud computing and robotics, where robots don't have to do all the heavy processing on their own. Instead, they can send data to the cloud, get it processed there, and even share what they learn with other robots. This makes the whole system more flexible and powerful. In this paper, the main focus is on different architectures used in cloud robotics, along with common issues like network delays and data security, which are still major concerns. From what I understood while studying this topic, delay is one of the biggest problems, especially when robots need to react quickly. Security is another issue since sensitive data is being transferred over networks. To address this, a hybrid system is suggested, mainly for industrial environments like factories, where both cloud and local processing are used together. This helps in reducing delay while still getting the benefits of cloud computing. The results from testing and simulations show that this approach performs better than traditional systems where robots work independently. For example, in a real factory setup, robots can quickly adapt to new tasks by sharing information through the cloud, which improves efficiency. Overall, cloud robotics looks promising, but there are still some practical challenges that need to be solved before it can be fully reliable in all situations. Keywords: Cloud Robotics; Cloud Computing; Edge Computing; Robot Collaboration; Network Latency; Data Security

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Introduction

Traditional robots usually have limited processing power and memory, which makes it difficult for them to perform complex tasks on their own. Also, most of them work independently without sharing information, which reduces efficiency in many cases. Cloud robotics tries to solve this problem by connecting robots to cloud systems, allowing them to access more computing power and storage. This also enables communication between robots, like robot-to-robot or machine-to-cloud interaction.

With the rapid growth of technologies like artificial intelligence, 5G networks, and cloud platforms, cloud robotics has become more practical and relevant today. I feel this is especially important in areas where quick decision-making is needed. For example, self-driving cars can use cloud data to understand traffic patterns in real time instead of relying only on onboard sensors. This can help them avoid congestion or accidents.

Another example can be seen in warehouses, where multiple robots work together. If one robot learns how to handle a new type of object, it can share that information with others through the cloud, which saves time and improves overall performance. So instead of working alone, robots can act more like a team. This shift from isolate systems to connected systems is what makes cloud robotics an interesting and growing field.

Research Gap

Even though cloud robotics has been studied for quite some time, there are still several gaps that need attention. One of the main problems is handling real-time delays. Since robots depend on cloud communication, any delay in the network can affect their performance, especially in time-sensitive tasks. From what I noticed, many existing systems don't handle this issue very well.

Another challenge is data privacy and security. Robots often deal with sensitive information, especially in areas like healthcare or defense. But many research works don't fully address how to keep this data safe while transferring it to the cloud. Also, different robots from different manufacturers often have compatibility issues, making it hard to integrate them into a single system.

There is also limited research on how these systems perform in extreme conditions, like disaster zones or emergency situations. In such cases, network connectivity may not be stable, which can affect the system badly. Edge-cloud integration is another area that is not explored enough. In my opinion, combining edge computing with cloud systems could reduce delays and improve response time, but there are not many detailed studies on this yet.

Objective

The main objective of this study is to understand how cloud robotics systems are designed and how they actually work in real-world scenarios. This includes studying different architectures and platforms used in cloud robotics. I tried to focus not just on theory but also on how these systems are applied in practical situations.

Another goal is to identify the different application areas where cloud robotics is being used. These include industries like manufacturing, healthcare, and service sectors. For example, in hospitals, robots can assist doctors by accessing patient data from the cloud, while in factories, they can improve automation processes.

The study also aims to suggest a workflow that connects the robot's local processing with cloud capabilities. This is important because relying only on the cloud can cause delays, while relying only on the robot can limit performance. So, a balanced approach is needed. From my understanding, creating a system that uses both edge and cloud resources efficiently can solve many existing problems and improve overall performance.

Literature Review

The concept of cloud robotics started gaining attention around 2012 when Hu and his team introduced the idea of sharing computational resources through the cloud. This was an important step because it showed how robots could overcome their hardware limitations. Later, in 2015, Kehoe and his team provided a detailed survey explaining different aspects of cloud robotics, including how robots can learn from each other.

More recent research has focused on advanced topics like digital twins and Industry 4.0. For example, Xu et al. (2021) discussed how digital twins can be used to create virtual models of physical systems, which can help in monitoring and improving performance. These ideas are quite interesting, especially for industrial applications.

However, while going through these papers, I noticed that many of them don't provide standard ways to measure system performance. This makes it difficult to compare different approaches. Also, some studies focus more on theoretical models rather than practical implementation. So, even though there is a lot of research available, there is still a need for more practical and standardized approaches in this field.

Problem Statement

One of the main problems in robotics is that onboard hardware is not enough to handle complex AI tasks. Advanced algorithms require high processing power, which increases the cost of robots and also limits their flexibility. This becomes a big issue in industries where multiple robots are used.

Another problem is related to cloud connectivity. While connecting robots to the cloud provides many benefits, it also creates dependency on network availability. If the connection is unstable or slow, the robot's performance can be affected. I think this is a major drawback, especially in real-time applications.

Also, current systems are not very efficient in handling failures. If one part of the system fails, it can affect the entire operation. Resource sharing between robots is also not optimized in many cases. So overall, there is a need for a system that can handle high computational tasks while also being reliable and efficient in different conditions.

Methodology

For this study, I followed a systematic approach to collect and analyze information. More than 50 research papers were reviewed using platforms like Google Scholar and IEEE Xplore. I used specific keywords related to cloud robotics to find relevant papers.

After collecting the papers, I analyzed different system architectures and compared their features. Simulation tools like ROS and AWS RoboMaker were used to understand how these systems work in practice. These tools helped in testing different scenarios without needing expensive hardware.

I also looked at real-world case studies and tried to match them with simulation results. In some cases, basic prototypes were also considered to understand practical challenges. This approach helped in getting a better idea of how cloud robotics systems perform in different situations. Overall, the methodology was focused on both theoretical study and practical analysis.

Data Collection

The data for this study was collected from multiple sources, including academic research papers, online repositories, and cloud platform documentation. Platforms like Google Cloud Robotics and ROS repositories provided useful technical information.

I mainly focused on performance-related data such as latency, processing speed, and accuracy. These parameters are important because they directly affect how well a robot performs its tasks. For example, lower latency means faster response time, which is critical in real-time applications.

The data was taken from standard benchmarks and experimental results mentioned in research papers. In some cases, simulation results were also used. From what I observed, combining data from different sources helped in getting a more complete understanding of the system's performance.

System Architecture

The system architecture in cloud robotics usually includes multiple layers. It starts with sensors that collect data from the environment. This data is then processed at the edge level before being sent to the cloud for more complex analysis.

The cloud layer uses virtual machines and AI models to process the data and send back instructions to the robot. At the same time, robots can also communicate with each other, forming small networks known as ad-hoc clouds. This makes the system more flexible and efficient.

One thing I found interesting is that data flows in both directions—robots send data to the cloud and also receive instructions from it. This continuous flow helps in improving performance over time. Overall, the architecture is designed to balance local processing and cloud computing.

Proposed System Workflow

In the proposed workflow, the robot first collects data using its sensors. This data is then sent to the cloud, where it is processed using machine learning models. After processing, the cloud sends back the required instructions to the robot.

Another important feature is collaborative learning. Robots can share their learned models with each other, which helps in improving overall performance. This is especially useful in environments where multiple robots are working together.

The system also uses digital twins to simulate and improve performance continuously. For example, in a warehouse, if one robot identifies a new type of package, it can share this information with others instantly. This reduces the time required for training and improves efficiency.

Results

The results from simulations showed significant improvements compared to traditional systems. One of the main improvements was in latency, which was reduced by around 40%. This means the system can respond faster to changes.

Another important result was in accuracy. Object detection accuracy reached up to 95% when cloud-based AI models were used. This shows that cloud processing can improve the quality of results.

The system was also tested for scalability and was able to handle up to 100 robots without major issues. From my observation, this is a good sign for real-world applications where multiple robots are used together.

Conclusion

Cloud robotics has the potential to improve how robots work by making them smarter and more connected. It allows robots to handle complex tasks without needing expensive hardware. However, there are still some challenges, especially related to security and network reliability. In the future, technologies like 6G and better edge computing solutions could help in solving these problems. I think combining cloud and edge computing is the key to making these systems more efficient. Overall, cloud robotics is an interesting field with a lot of potential, and it will likely play an important role in future automation systems.

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