
ARROW: ADAPTIVE REINFORCEMENT LEARNING FOR ROBOTIC ARM OPTIMIZATION AND WORKFLOW

Dr. Ashuthosh Simha^{*1}, B. M. Srinivas², Chethan G.², Darshan Balaji S.²

¹Professor, Dept. of CSE, Jyothy Institute of Technology, Karnataka, India.

²Student, Dept. of CSE, Jyothy Institute of Technology, Karnataka, India.

Article Received: 06 April 2026

*Corresponding Author: Dr. Ashuthosh Simha

Article Revised: 26 April 2026

Professor, Dept. of CSE, Jyothy Institute of Technology, Karnataka, India.

Published on: 16 May 2026

DOI: <https://doi-doi.org/101555/ijrpa.6972>

ABSTRACT

Robotic arms are used a lot in factories and other places where machines do work. The old way of controlling arms used set plans and rules that did not change which made it hard for them to work well in new or changing situations. These systems had trouble when things were not certain or when they had to make decisions

New ideas, in Artificial Intelligence like Reinforcement Learning and Deep Reinforcement Learning have helped robotic arms learn what to do by trying things and seeing what happens. People have tried ways to make robotic arms work better like having them work together using cameras to see and practicing in simulated worlds.

This paper looks at the ways to control robotic arms including using Reinforcement Learning to plan movements using deep learning to understand what they see and practicing in simulated worlds before doing real things. The paper compares these methods to see which ones work well are efficient and can be used in life. One important thing the paper finds is that most systems only look at one part of the problem and are usually tested in worlds.

The paper points out what is missing in research and suggests a new way that combines learning seeing and controlling for robotic arm systems that are smart.

KEYWORDS: *Robotic Arm, Reinforcement Learning Deep Learning, Motion Planning, Simulation, Automation, Robotics.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Robotic arms are really important in industries like manufacturing, healthcare and automation. They do things like pick up objects and put them in place assemble things, weld

and move objects around. Usually robotic systems are programmed to do tasks but this means they have a hard time adjusting to new situations.

Now because of developments in Artificial Intelligence we have something called Reinforcement Learning. This means a robotic arm can learn what to do by trying things out and seeing what works. It does not need to be programmed by a person. It can adapt to new things.

Reinforcement Learning is more powerful when we use something called Deep Reinforcement Learning. This uses computer systems to handle complicated situations and make sure the robotic arm can move smoothly. Studies have shown that Deep Reinforcement Learning can help robotic arms get better at tasks like reaching for objects grabbing them and putting them together.

We often use computer simulations to train arms before we use them in the real world. This is a way to teach them what to do. It is still hard to get the robotic arm to do the same things in the real world that it did in the simulation. This is because the real world is different from the world.

People are also looking into ways to make robotic arms learn faster and better. This includes things, like having multiple robotic arms work and having humans work with robotic arms.

This paper looks at all the ways we can use Reinforcement Learning to control robotic arms. It also says that we need a system to control robotic arms so they can work smarter.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Reinforcement Learning for Robotic Control

Reinforcement learning is really useful when it comes to controlling arms. It helps with things like reaching for something grabbing it and moving it around. There are some algorithms for this like DQN, PPO, DDPG and TRPO.

People have found that reinforcement learning or DRL for short is great because it lets robots figure out the way to do things on their own without needing to be told exactly how. This means they can adapt well to new or changing situations. The downside is that teaching these robots requires a lot of information and powerful computers. Reinforcement learning or DRL is still an option though because it helps robots learn and improve over time which is really important for robotic arm control and tasks, like reaching, grasping and manipulation.

2.2 Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning

Multi-agent reinforcement learning or MARL for short is a way to make robots work better at

tasks. With MARL, parts of a robotic arm act like separate agents that work together. Studies on putting a shaft into a hole show that MARL is really good at helping robots learn fast and adapt to situations. This is better than when one agent is used. There are still some problems with MARL. For example it can be hard for the agents to talk to each other and work together smoothly. MARL still has to deal with things, like communication complexity and coordination.

2.3 Motion Planning using Reinforcement Learning

Motion planning is really important for controlling an arm. We usually use algorithms like A* and RRT. They are not very flexible.

There are some methods that combine old planning ways with learning-based approaches to make things more efficient and to get better results. These methods help to show the way, to the learning process, which means the robotic arm can learn things a lot faster.

2.4 Vision-Based Robotic Control

Computer vision is really important for robotic arms to work with objects. They use models, like YOLO to find and locate objects.

Vision-based systems that learn from trial and error combine seeing and controlling to pick up and move objects correctly. It is still hard to do this fast and get it right every time. Computer vision and robotic arms are getting better at this.

2.5 Simulation and Sim-to-Real Transfer

Simulation environments like Gazebo and PyBullet are commonly used to train arms. They offer an affordable way to train them. There is a difference between simulation and real-world environments. This is called the "reality gap". To close this gap people use methods like domain adaptation and mapping algorithms. These help arms work well in real life. The simulation environments help train arms. Gazebo and PyBullet are examples of environments. They are safe. Don't cost a lot. The reality gap is an issue.

3. RESEARCH GAP

From what I have read there are some problems with current systems:

Most systems are only tested on computers and not in life. The different parts of the system like perception, learning and control do not work well together. It takes a time to train and use these systems and they use a lot of power. It is hard to take what is learned in a simulation and use it in life because the environments are different. Systems, with agents do not scale

well. It is hard to design rewards that help the system work well.

Even though a lot of progress has been made there is still no system that combines all the parts well. So we need a system that combines reinforcement learning, computer vision, control and simulation to make a smart robotic arm that can adapt and work well. The robotic arm system should use reinforcement learning. The robotic arm system should use computer vision. The robotic arm system should have real-time control. The robotic arm system should use simulation.

4. PROPOSED SYSTEM

To fix the problems we are going to use an arm system that uses reinforcement learning. This system helps the robotic arm learn how to do things like reach for objects and grab them by trying things out in its environment. The system gets better at doing things because it gets rewards when it does something. We use computer vision to find objects and figure out where they are. This information helps the robotic arm system make decisions. First we train the system in an environment so it does not break anything. Then we use what it learned to control a robotic arm. The robotic arm system can also learn from systems and from people to get even better. Our robotic arm system is better, than systems because it can see things learn and make decisions all at the same time, which makes it work more efficiently and adapt to new things.

5. METHODOLOGY / SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

The robotic arm system is made to work with a kind of learning called reinforcement learning. This system does a lot of things like seeing, learning, deciding and controlling. It all starts with getting information from the environment using things like cameras and distance sensors. These things tell us where things are and what they look like.

The cameras and sensors give us a lot of information about the things around the arm. This information includes where things are and what they look like. The robotic arm system uses this information to understand what is going on.

The robotic arm system then uses this information to make decisions. It does this by using something called reinforcement learning. The robotic arm is like an actor that does things and sees what happens. It looks at what's going on and then decides what to do. The robotic arm system gets better at doing things by trying them over.

The robotic arm system uses computer programs to help it learn. These programs are like teachers that help the robotic arm system get better. The robotic arm system gets rewards when

it does things right. It uses these rewards to learn what to do.

The robotic arm system has a part that helps it move. This part is like a brain that tells the arm what to do. It gets information from the sensors. Then tells the robotic arm how to move. The robotic arm system is always looking at what's going on and using that information to get better.

At first the robotic arm system practices in a world. This fake world is like a video game. The robotic arm system can try things without breaking. The fake world is very realistic. The robotic arm system can learn a lot.

Sometimes the fake world is not exactly like the real world. So the robotic arm system has to learn to deal with the differences. It does this by trying things in ways.

After the robotic arm system has practiced enough it can start working in the world. The robotic arm system has an interface that shows us how it is doing. This interface helps us see if the robotic arm system is working well or not.

The robotic arm system is always getting better. It does this by looking, deciding, doing and learning. The robotic arm system is very good at dealing with changing situations. It can work well even when things are hard or confusing.

The robotic arm system is really good at working in the world because it can learn and adapt. It uses reinforcement learning to get better and better. The robotic arm system is a powerful tool that can do a lot of things.

The robotic arm system has a lot of parts that work together. It has sensors and cameras that give it information. It has a brain that tells it what to do. It has a body that can move and do things. The robotic arm system is, like a robot that can learn and get better.

The robotic arm system is very useful because it can work in a lot of situations. It can work in places where it's hard for people to go. It can do things that're hard for people to do. The robotic arm system is a helpful tool that can make our lives easier.

The robotic arm system is always getting better. It is learning things and adapting to new situations. The robotic arm system is an exciting technology that can do a lot of things. It is an arm system that can learn and get better over time. The robotic arm system is made to work with reinforcement learning. It does a great job.

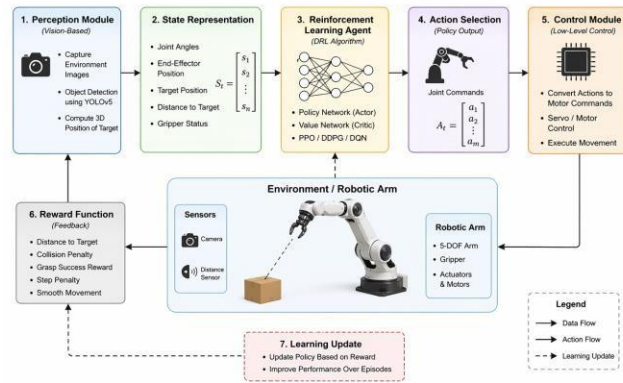


Fig - 2: System Architecture of RL-Based Robotic Arm Control System

Fig -1: System Architecture.



Fig -2: Robotic Arm System.

6. CONCLUSION

This paper is about using reinforcement learning to control arms. It looks at methods like deep reinforcement learning and vision-based control to see how well they work for robotic arms. The study shows that reinforcement learning helps robotic arms learn what to do on their own so we do not need to program them in the way.

Some methods, such as reward shaping and motion planning make robotic systems work better and adapt faster. However most of these methods only work in environments and are designed for specific tasks, not for general use.

This paper suggests a way of doing things, which combines perception, learning and control for robotic arms. It uses reinforcement learning, computer vision and real-time feedback so the robotic arm can work well in changing environments.

In the future we can work on making the arm better at moving from simulated environments to the real world and making it learn faster. We can also add techniques, such as working with humans and transfer learning. Robotic arms that use reinforcement learning can really change automation making them smarter more flexible and better at handling real-world problems. Reinforcement learning and robotic arms are a combination, for the future.

7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The people who wrote this paper want to say thank you to the Dr. Ashuthosh Simha Department of Computer Science and Engineering at Jyothy Institute of Technology. They helped us a lot by giving us the things we needed to do this survey work. The people who wrote this paper also want to say thank you to the person who guided our project and the teachers who helped us. They gave us advice and encouraged us all the time. They also gave us suggestions that helped us make this paper better. We also want to say thank you to the researchers who have written about arm control and reinforcement learning. What they wrote helped us a lot. Gave us ideas, for this survey. Finally we want to say thank you to all the people who worked with us. They helped us. Worked together to finish this work.

8. REFERENCES

1. D. Gao et al., "An Intelligent Control Method for Servo Motor Based on Reinforcement Learning," *Algorithms*, vol. 17, 2024.
2. G. Cao and J. Bai, "Multi-agent Deep Reinforcement Learning-based Robotic Arm Assembly Research," *PLOS ONE*, 2025.
3. M. Sasaki et al., "Sim-Real Mapping of an Image-Based Robot Arm Controller Using Deep Reinforcement Learning," *Applied Sciences*, vol. 12, 2022.
4. K. Belda and O. Rovný, "Predictive Control of 5 DOF Robot Arm Using Mathematical Modeling," *IEEE Conference on Process Control*, 2017.
5. H. J. Kim et al., "Arm Motion Estimation Algorithm using MYO Armband," *IEEE International Conference on Robotic Computing*, 2017.
6. D. Zhou et al., "Robotic Arm Motion Planning Based on Residual Reinforcement Learning," *ICCAE*, 2021.
7. Franceschetti et al., "Robotic Arm Control and Task Training through Deep Reinforcement Learning," arXiv, 2020.
8. J. M. Correa et al., "Deep Reinforcement Learning Based Robotic Arm Control Simulation for Object Reaching Task," *IJACSA*, vol. 16, 2025.

9. H. Sekkat et al., "Vision-Based Robotic Arm Control Using Deep Reinforcement Learning," *Applied Sciences*, vol. 11, 2021.
10. U. Kartoun et al., "A Human-Robot Collaborative Reinforcement Learning Algorithm," *Journal of Intelligent & Robotic Systems*, 2010.