

# WETrak: Finger Tracking Using Wrist-Worn EMG Sensors

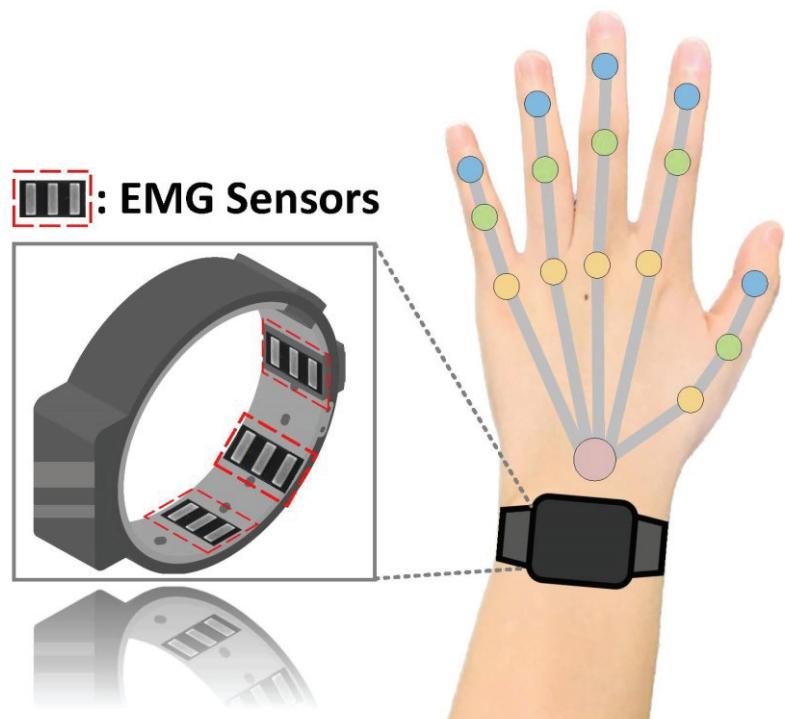
Jiani Cao<sup>1</sup>, Yang Liu<sup>2</sup>, Lixiang Han<sup>1</sup>, Zhenjiang Li<sup>1</sup>

City University of Hong Kong<sup>1</sup>, University of Cambridge<sup>2</sup>



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CAMBRIDGE

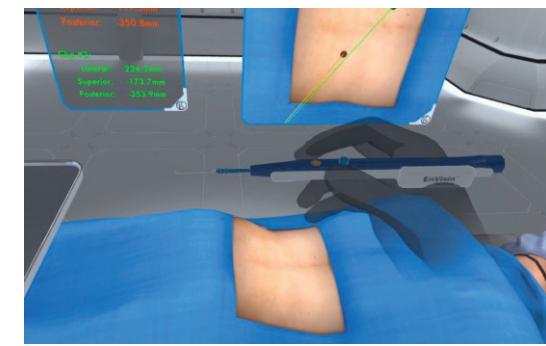
# Motivation



Recovery treatment



AR/VR



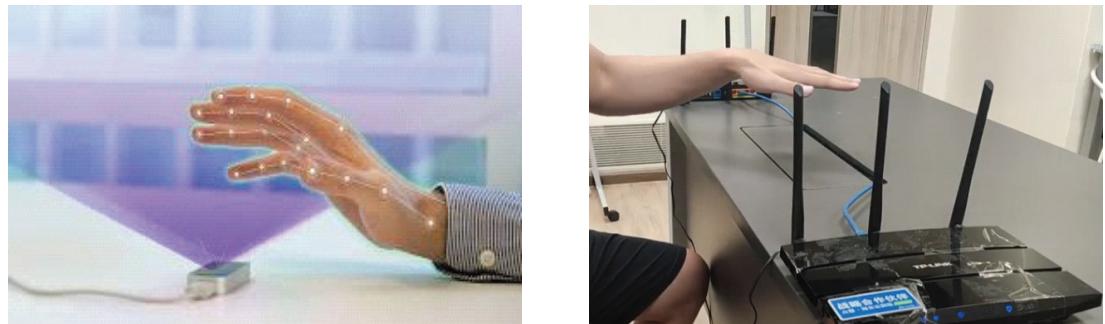
Surgical training



SL translation

# Existing Solutions

Camera/wireless-based approach:

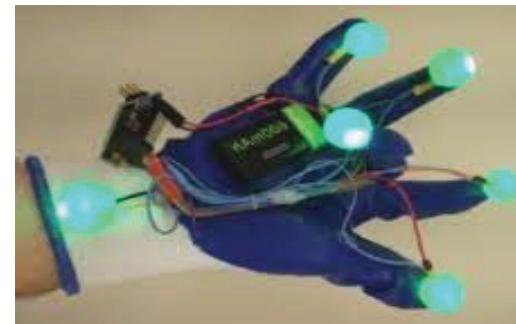


Not portable

Environment

Limited area

Wearable-based approach:



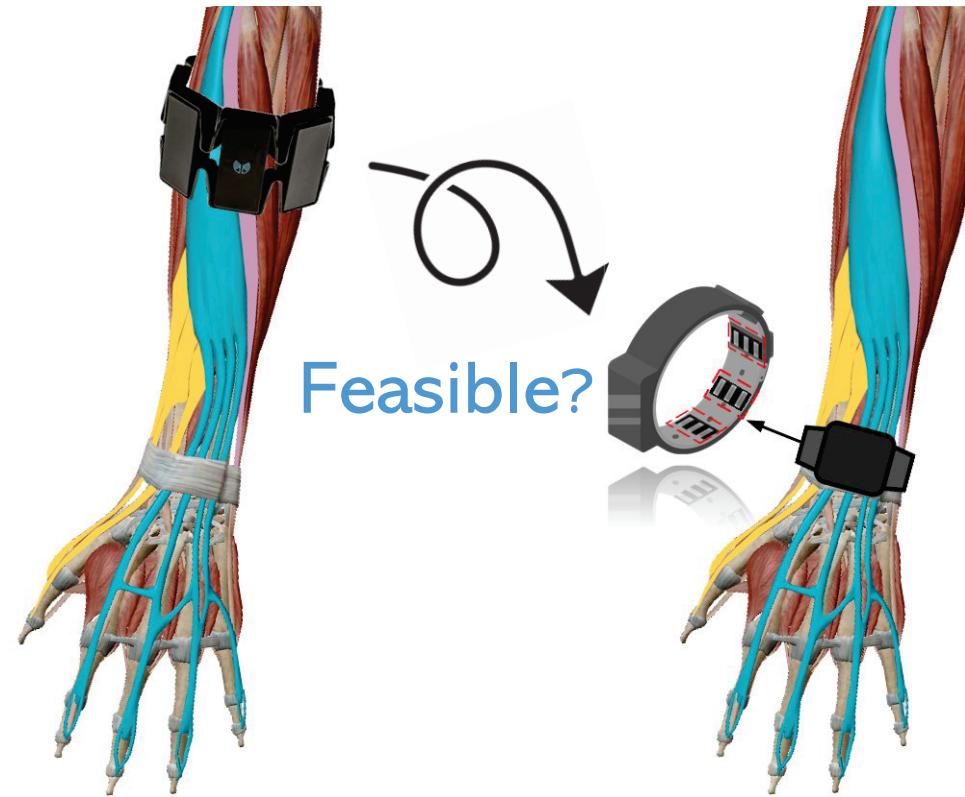
Attach to you

Accumulate error

# Key Problem

Using commercial EMG armband [1][2]:

- Fine-grained motion
- Wear on forearm
- Only for tracking



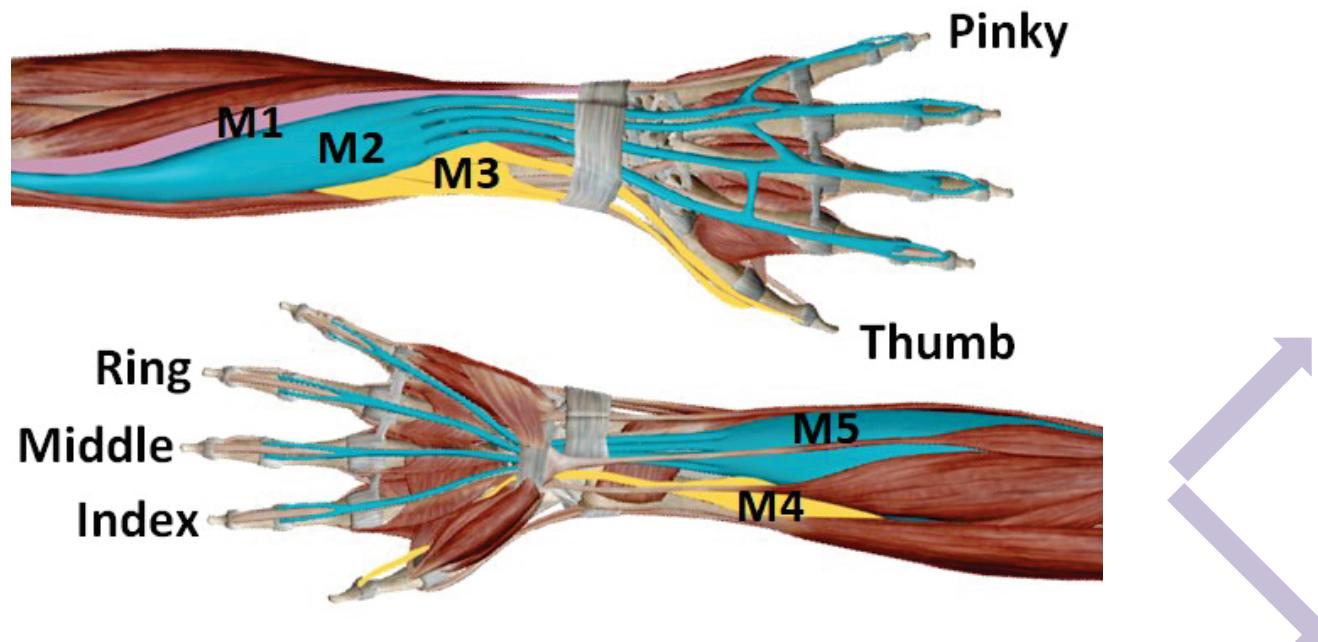
Sensor placement?

Weak signals?

[1] Y. Liu, C. Lin, and Z. Li, “Wr-hand: Wearable armband can track user’s hand,” Proc. of the ACM on Interactive, Mobile, Wearable and Ubiquitous Technologies, 2021.

[2] Y. Liu, S. Zhang, and M. Gowda, “Neuropose: 3d hand pose tracking using emg wearables,” in Proc. ACM WWW, 2021.

# Feasibility Study

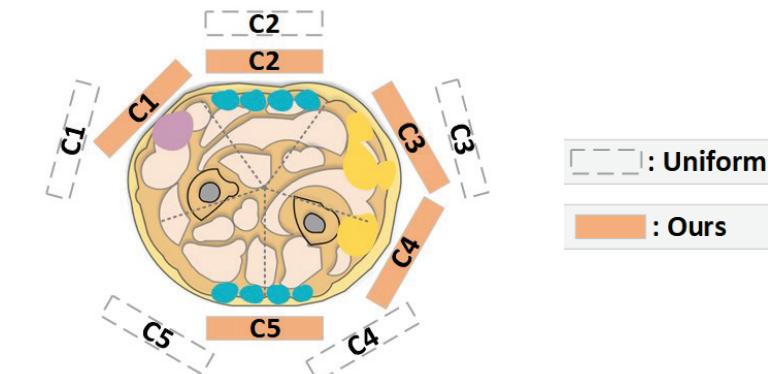


Thumb: M3 and M4

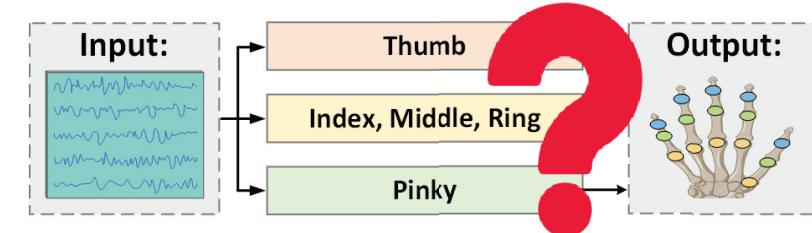
Index, Middle, Ring: M2 and M5

Pinky: M1 and M5

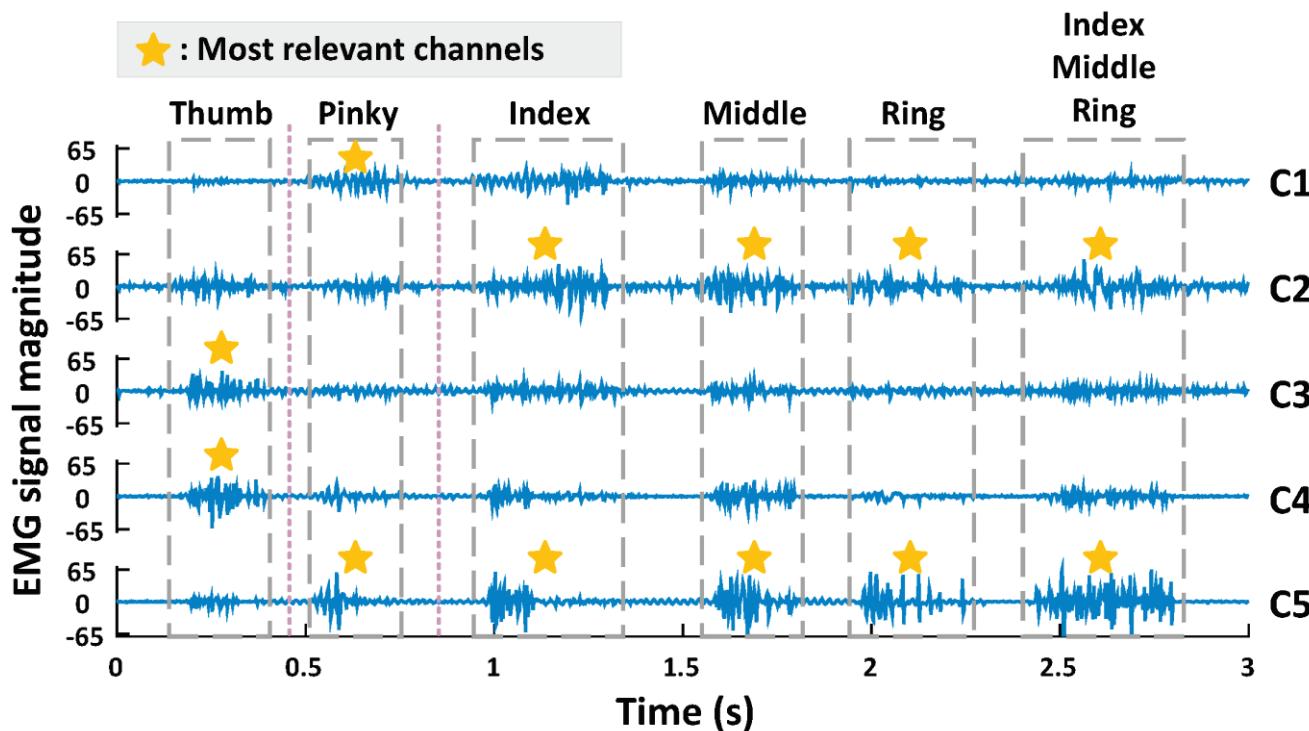
- Sensor placement:



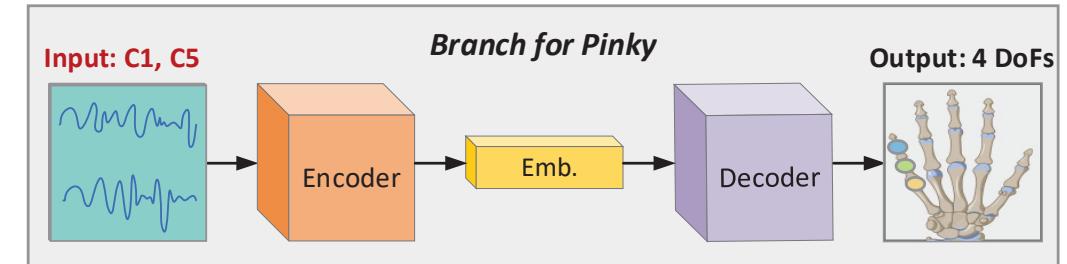
- Finger groups:



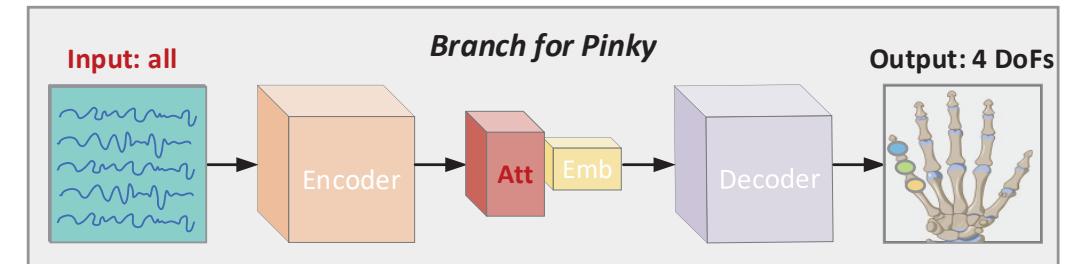
# Observation - 1



- Most relevant muscles have strong responses

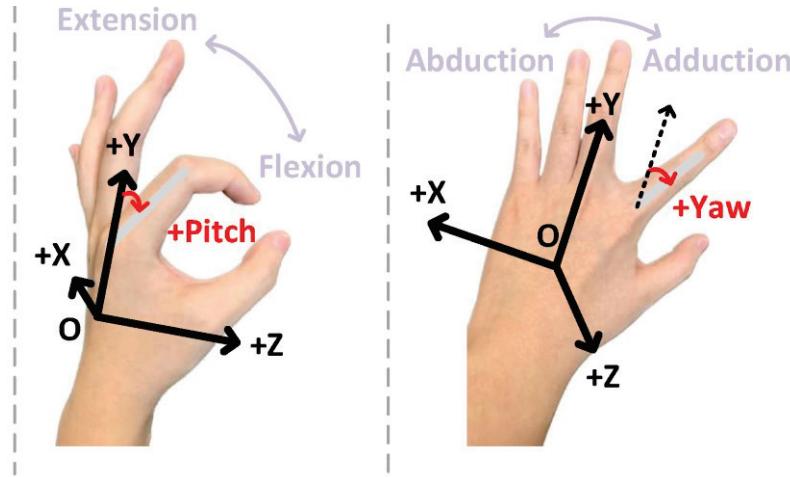
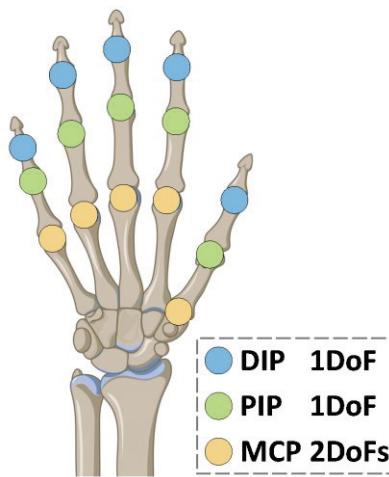


- Other muscles can generate certain signals



Dynamically adjust **importance**

# Observation -2



	MCP_P	MCP_Y	PIP	DIP
Thumb	50°~90°	45°~60°	75°~80°	75°~80°
Index	90°	60°	105°	80°~90°
Middle	90°	45°	105°	80°~90°
Ring	90°	45°	120°	80°~90°
Pinky	90°	50°	135°	90°

Maximum range  
of movement  
↓  
Possible  
search space

## However

- Not every finger moves at every moment
- Even if they do move, they may not reach their maximum value

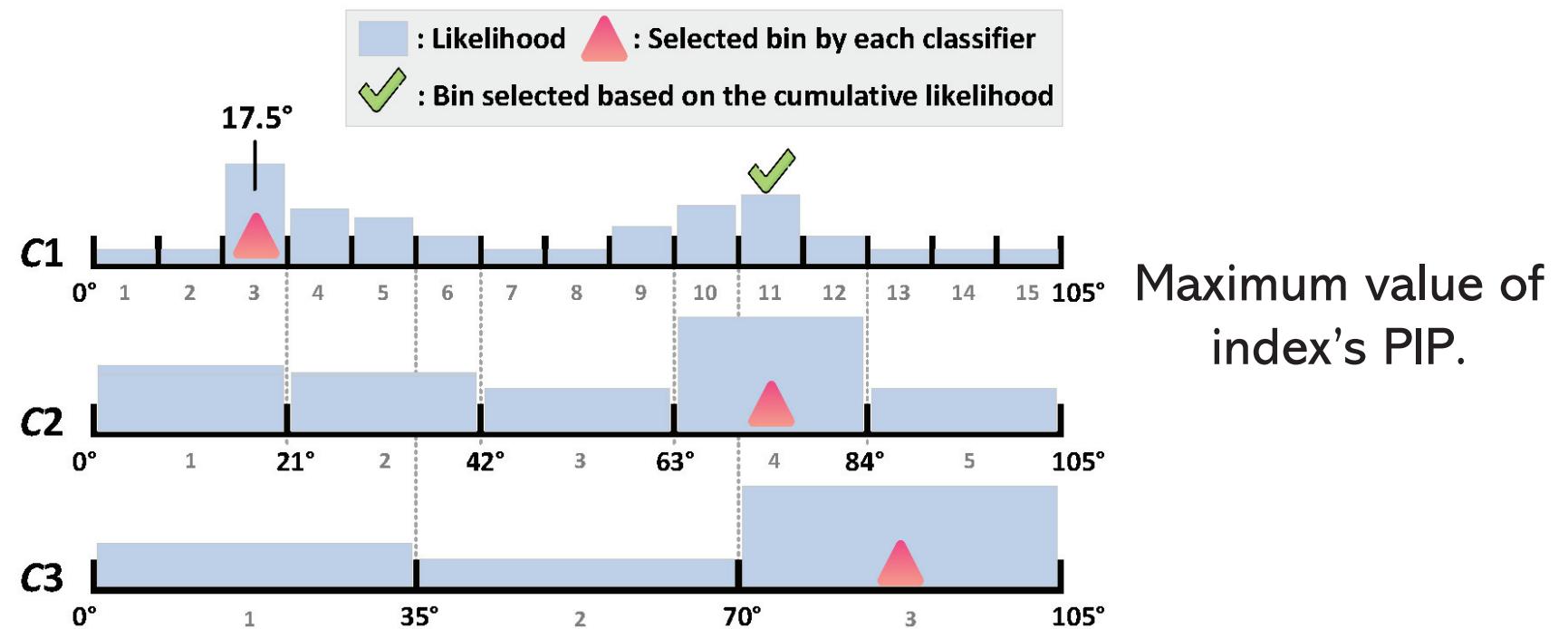


Can we reduce the search space to adapt to different movements?

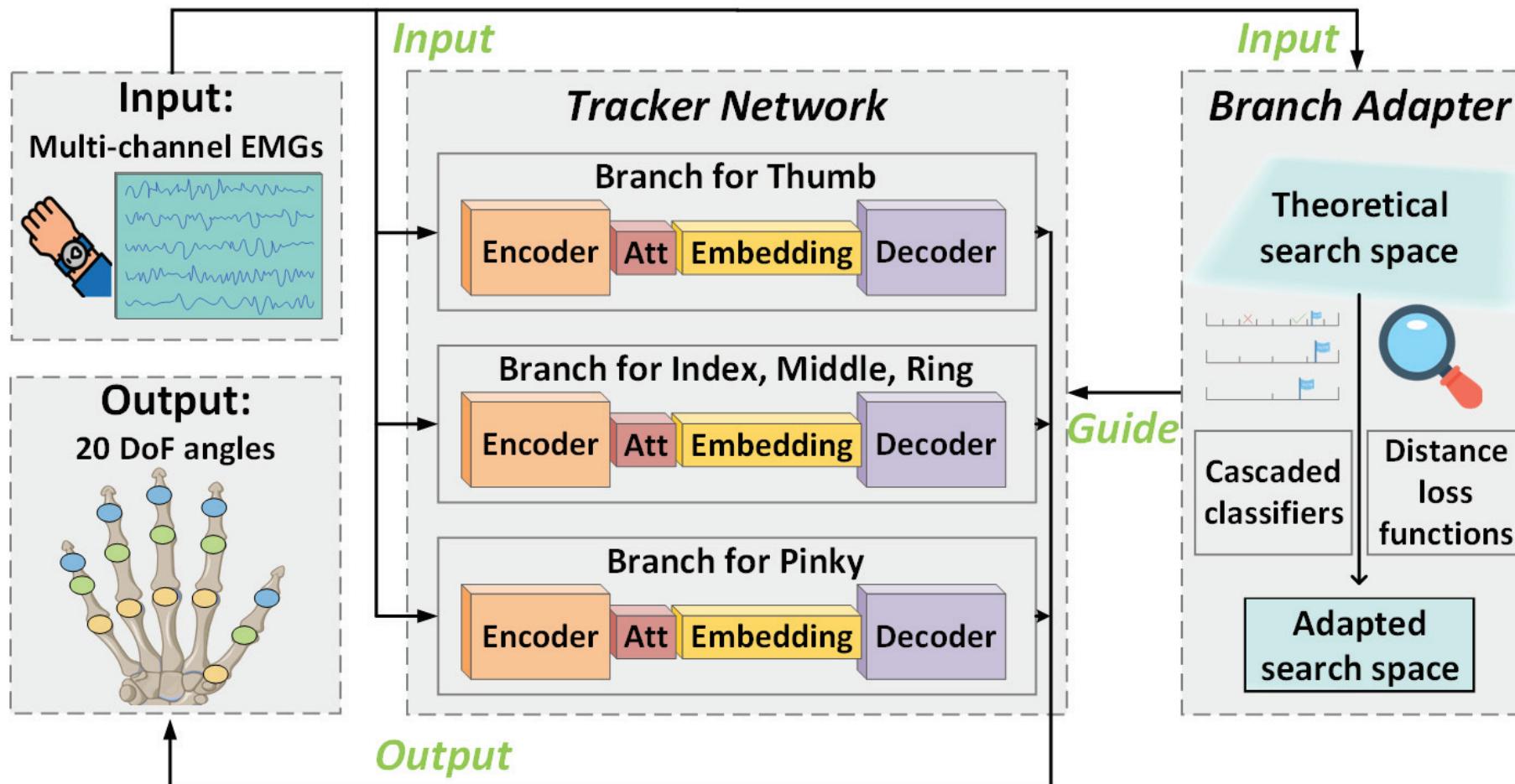
# Observation -2

- Core idea of **branch adapter**:
  - Dynamically predict the actual maximum and minimum of movement

	MCP_P	MCP_Y	PIP	DIP
Thumb	50°~90°	45°~60°	75°~80°	75°~80°
Index	90°	60°	105°	80°~90°
Middle	90°	45°	105°	80°~90°
Ring	90°	45°	120°	80°~90°
Pinky	90°	50°	135°	90°

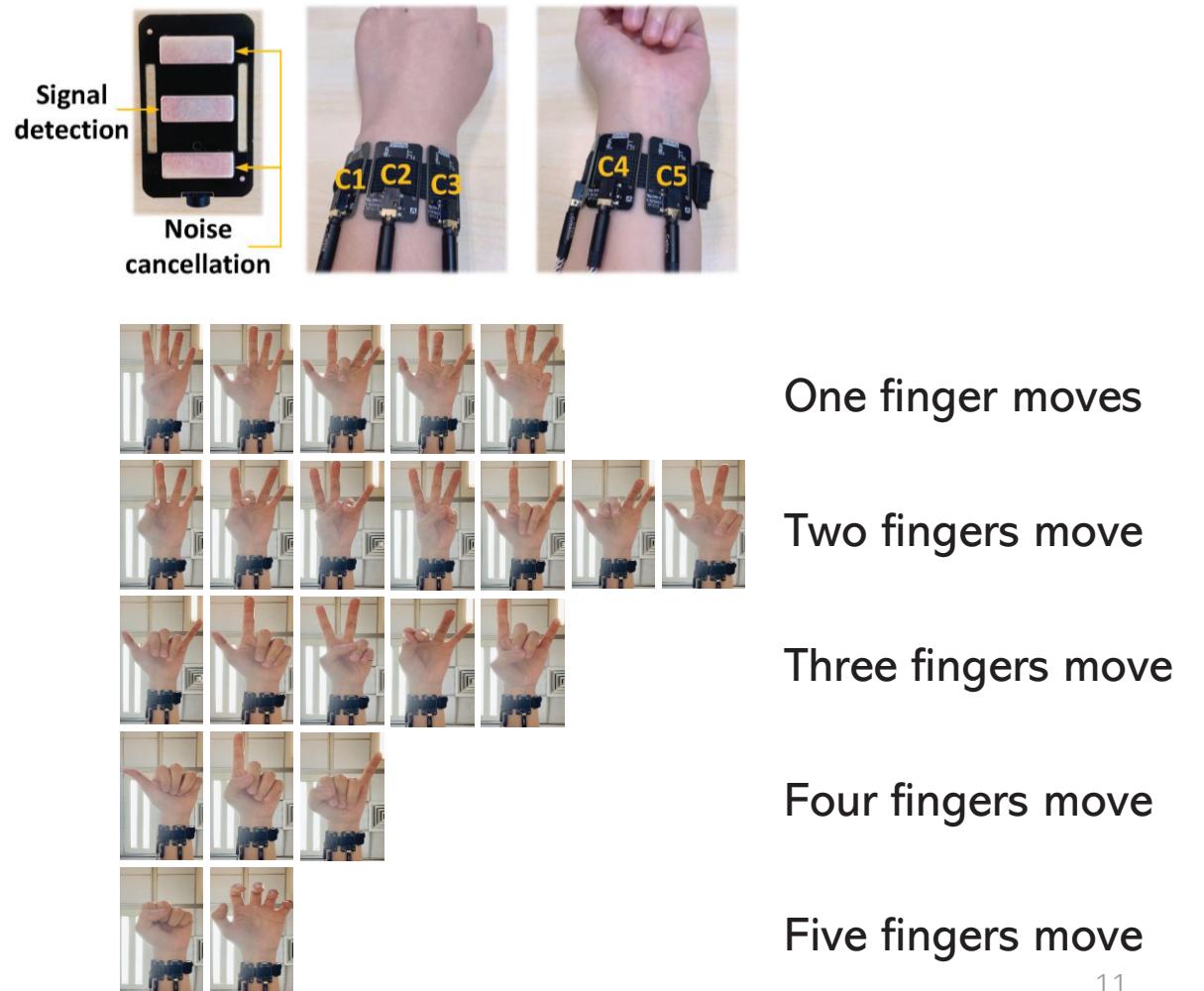


# Our system: WETrak



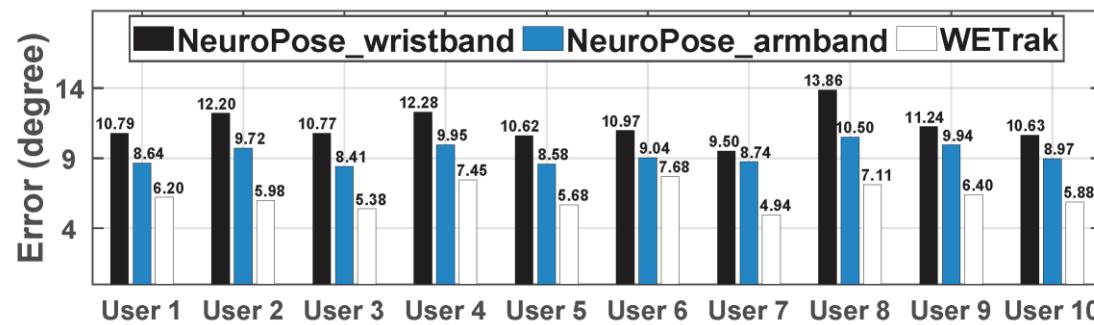
# Experimental Setup

- Tracking device:
  - A custom-made wristband that includes five EMG sensors
- Dataset:
  - 22 basic states covering all finger movements



# Overall Performance

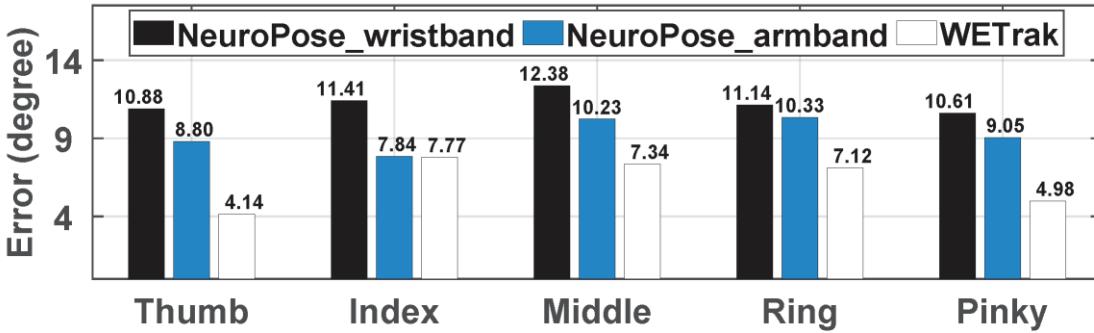
- Compare with:
  - NeuroPose [1] with our **wristband**
  - NeuroPose with its **armband**



NeuroPose with wristband:  $13.86\text{--}9.50^\circ$

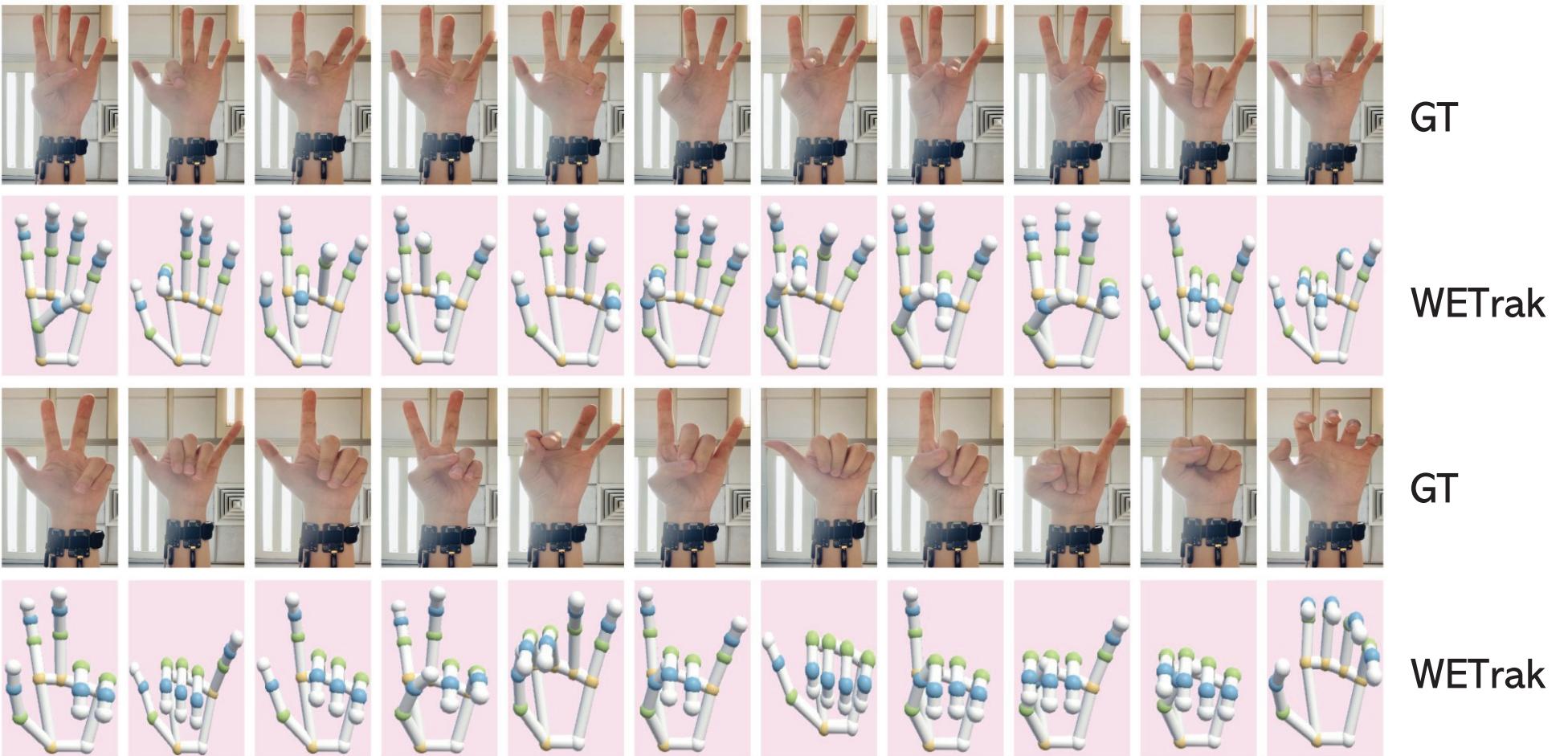
NeuroPose with armband:  $10.50\text{--}8.41^\circ$

Ours:  $4.94\text{--}7.68^\circ$



[1] Y. Liu, S. Zhang, and M. Gowda, “Neuropose: 3d hand pose tracking using emg wearables,” in Proc. ACM WWW, 2021.

# Visualization Result



# Conclusion 1,2,3

## 1. One goal:

- Finger tracking only using **wrist-worn EMG sensors**

## 2. Two aspects:

- Sensor **placement**
- **Accurate tracking**

## 3. Three modules:

- Feasibility study
- Tracker network
- Branch adapter

# *Thank you*

## *Q&A*

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