

Master thesis

Magnetic Human Hand Motion Reconstruction



**UNI
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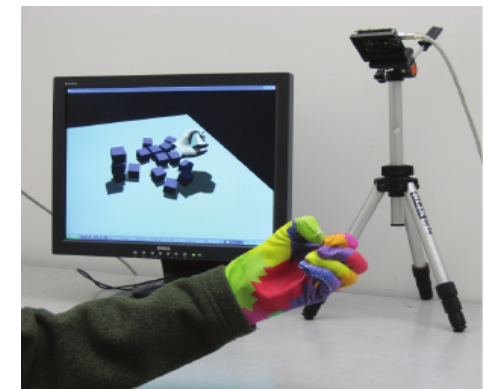
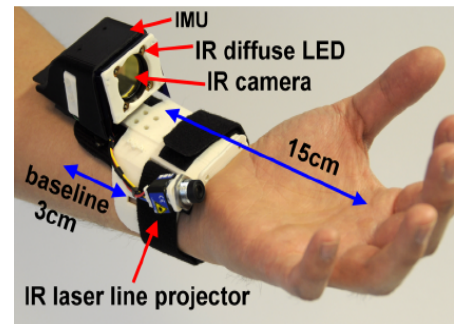
Embedded Systems Engineering

22.03.2016

Systems for Hand Motion Reconstruction

Vision based

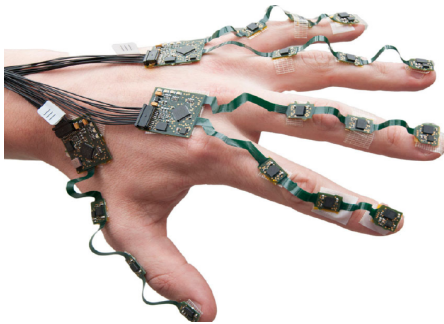
- High accuracy possible, often used as ground truth
- Usually big and static systems
- Price and number of cameras rises with demanded accuracy [1, 2]



Systems for Hand Motion Reconstruction

Data gloves

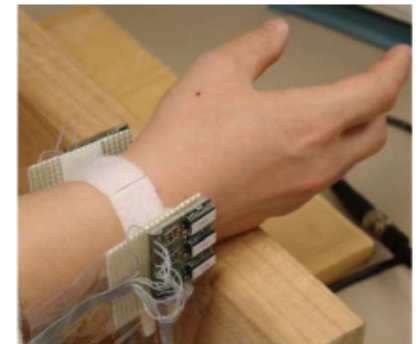
- Mobile system
- IMUs or bend sensors used
- Accuracy is dependent on number of utilized sensor units [3]
- Placement of sensors is crucial
- Average error to vision based system around 7.1° [4]



Systems for Hand Motion Reconstruction

Magnetic approach

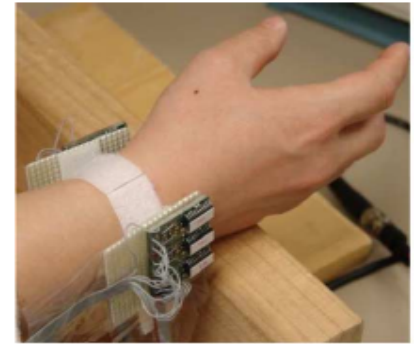
- Passive magnetic system using magnets on fingertips [6]
→ Few publications on this



Systems for Hand Motion Reconstruction

Magnetic approach

- Passive magnetic system using magnets on fingertips [6]
 - Few publications on this
 - Promising approach to build a system which is:
 - Wearable
 - Cheap
 - Easy to use



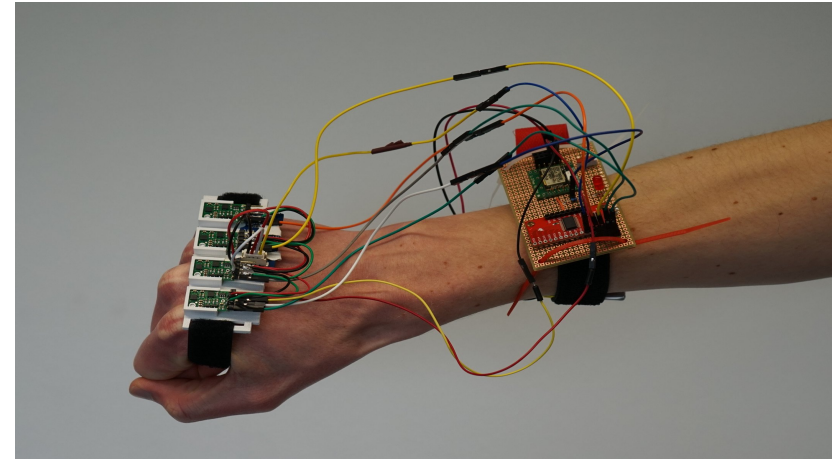
Passive Magnetic Hand Motion Reconstruction

- Finger postures are determined by joint angles
- Minimizing a nonlinear objective function for estimating K fingers with N magnets

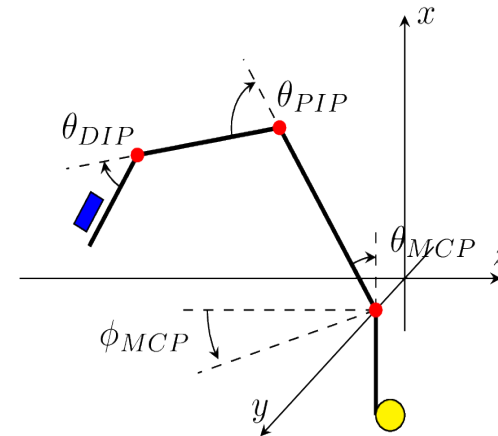
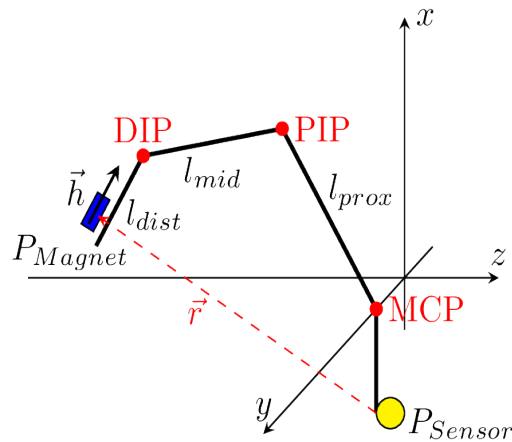
$$\underset{X_K}{\text{minimize}} \quad \frac{1}{2} \|\tilde{M} - M(X_K)\|_2^2$$

With \tilde{M} : sensor measurements

$M(X_K)$: magnetic flux density for system state X_K



Modeling the Human Hand



- Position and orientation of magnet relative to sensor unit is given by the joint angles of the kinematic chain
 - Exact determination of hand dimensions is important!
- Anatomics constrain range of motion and set θ_{DIP} and θ_{PIP} into relation [7, 8]
 - (single) Finger state vector $x = [\theta_{MCP} \ \theta_{PIP} \ \phi_{MCP}]^T$
 - State vector size for estimating K fingers $size(X_K) = (3 \times K)$

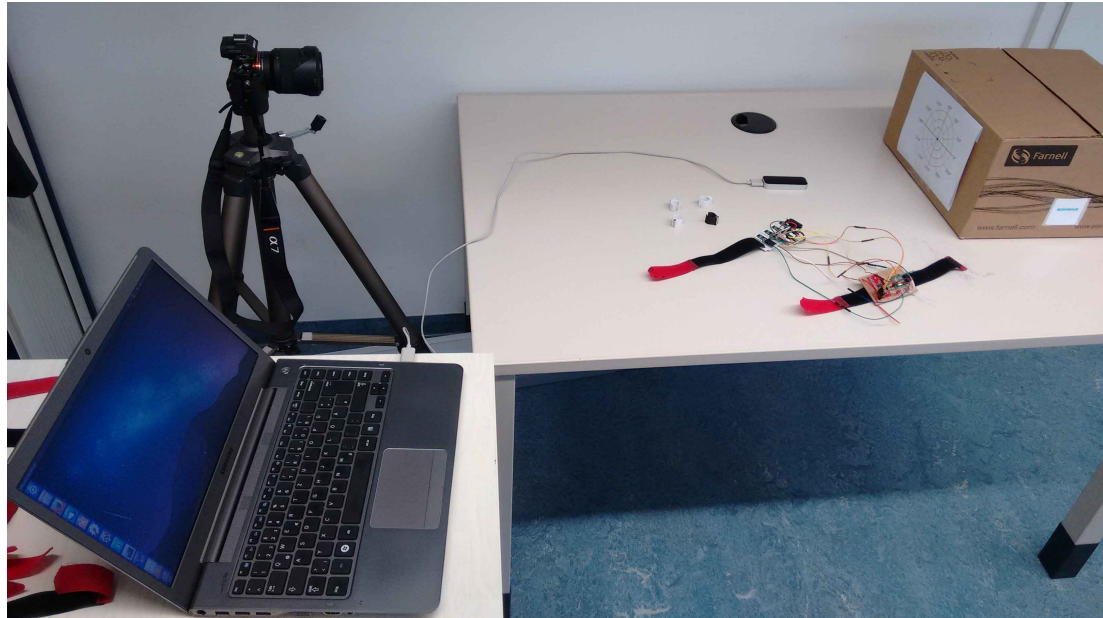
Modeling the static magnets

- Calculation of magnetic flux density by **cylindrical** model (numerical) [9]
- M is a cumulative sum over the K magnets for each of the N sensors

$$M \equiv [B_1 \quad B_2 \quad \cdots \quad B_N]^T = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{k=1}^K B_1(x_k) \\ \sum_{k=1}^K B_2(x_k) \\ \vdots \\ \sum_{k=1}^K B_N(x_k) \end{bmatrix} = M(X_K)$$

- Size of M : $size(M) = (3 \times N)$
- Nonlinearities introduced by position/orientation determination and magnetic models
- To get a fully determined system and unique solutions: $N \geq K$

Evaluation of the System



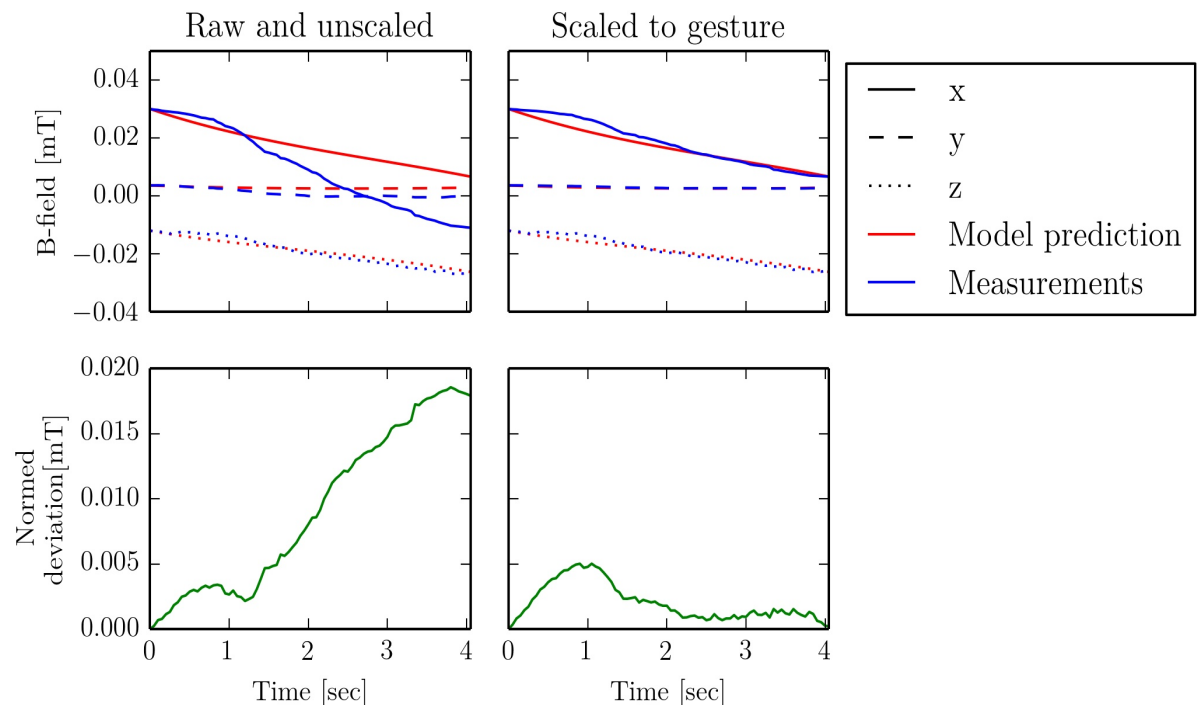
- Comparison to vision based system (Leap Motion)
- Post processing of recorded magnetic data for comparing different minimization formulations

Results

Preliminary – Scaling the measurements

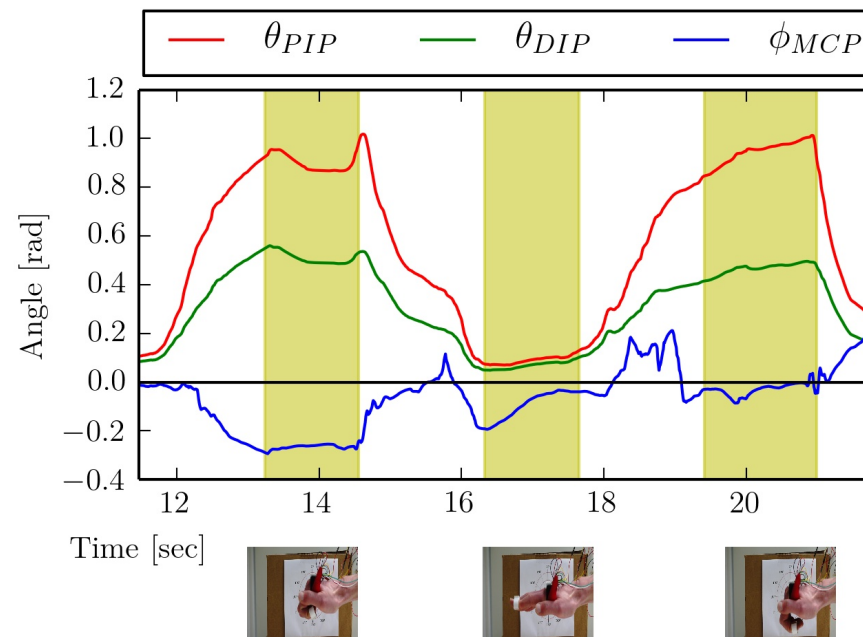
- High difference between model prediction and measurements
→ Induced by hand measured anatomic parameters
- For estimating 1 finger with 1 sensor already 9 values have to be determined
→ Estimation and tuning by trial-and-error not applicable
→ Linear scaling of measurements to model prediction leads to reasonable results

- Max deviation unscaled: 0.018mT
- Max deviation scaled: 0.005mT



Results

Preliminary – Characteristics of Leap Motion

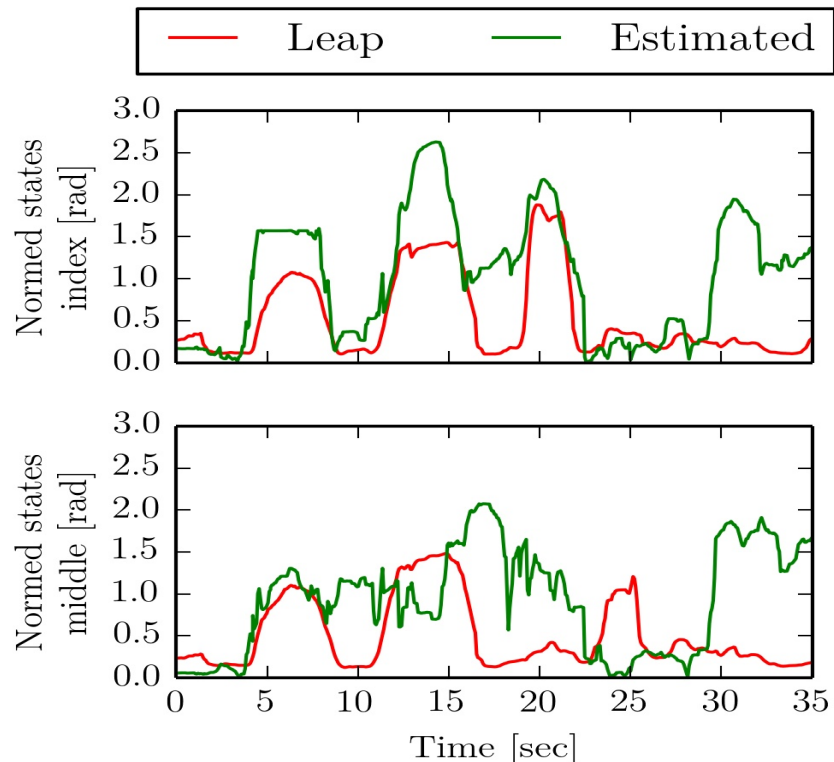


- Minimum $\phi_{MCP} = -16.845^\circ$
- Maximum $\phi_{MCP} = 12.147^\circ$

- Often false interpretation of lateral movement, which did not occur
 - Possibly introduced by direction estimation of Leap
 - Lateral movement of Leap has to be handled with care

Results

Estimating four fingers

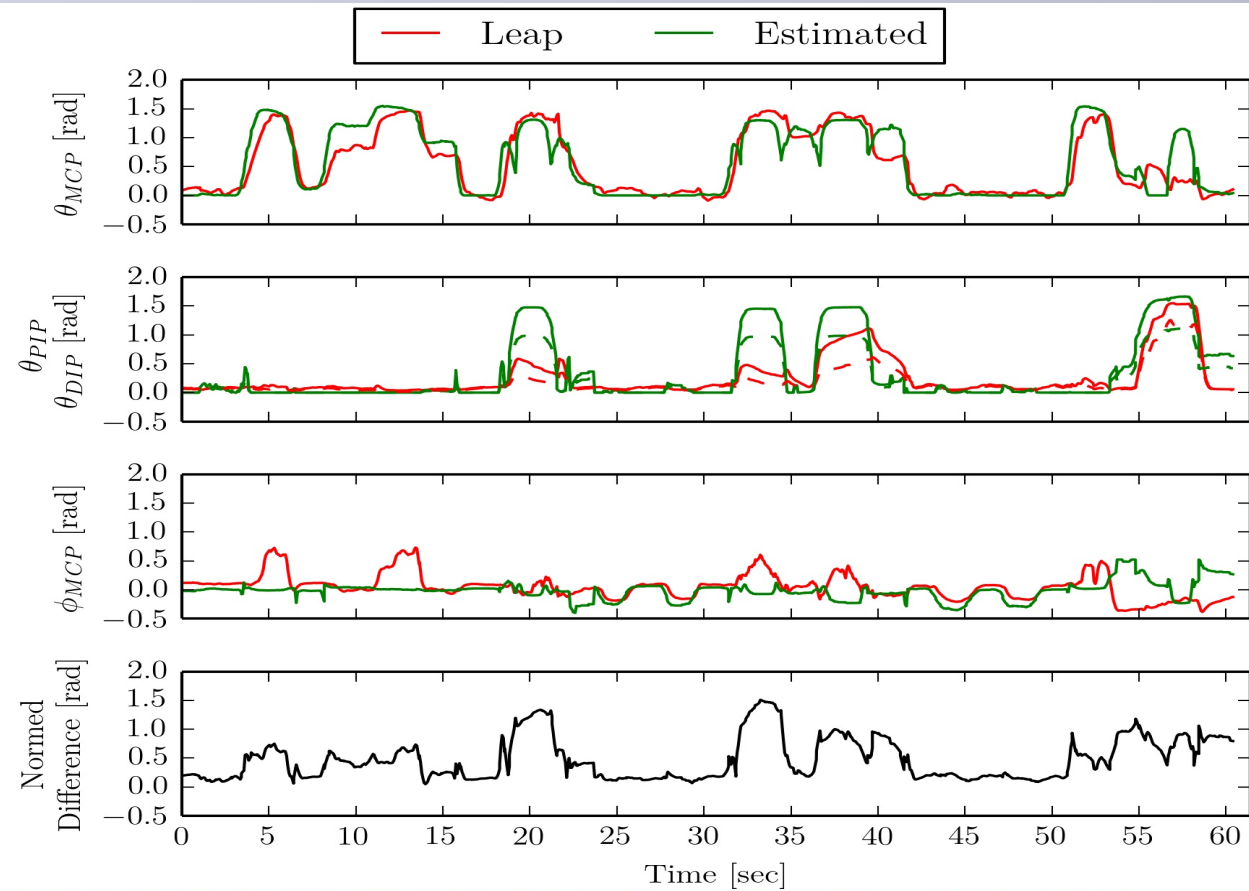


- Individual movements not detectable by magnetic system with this configuration due to:
 - False measured hand dimensions
- Estimation takes 0.837s per measurement set
 - No real time behaviour



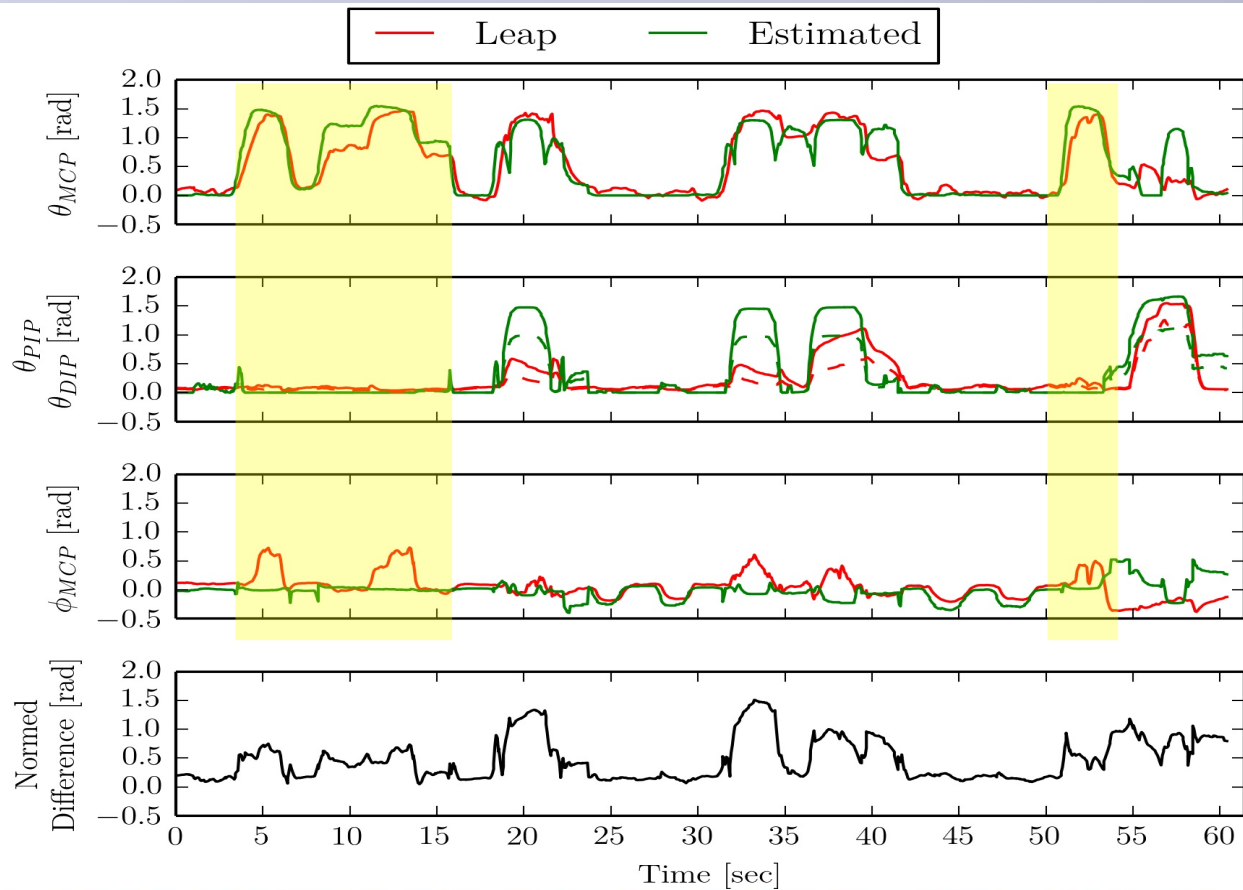
Results

Estimating one finger – best set



Results

Estimating one finger – best set



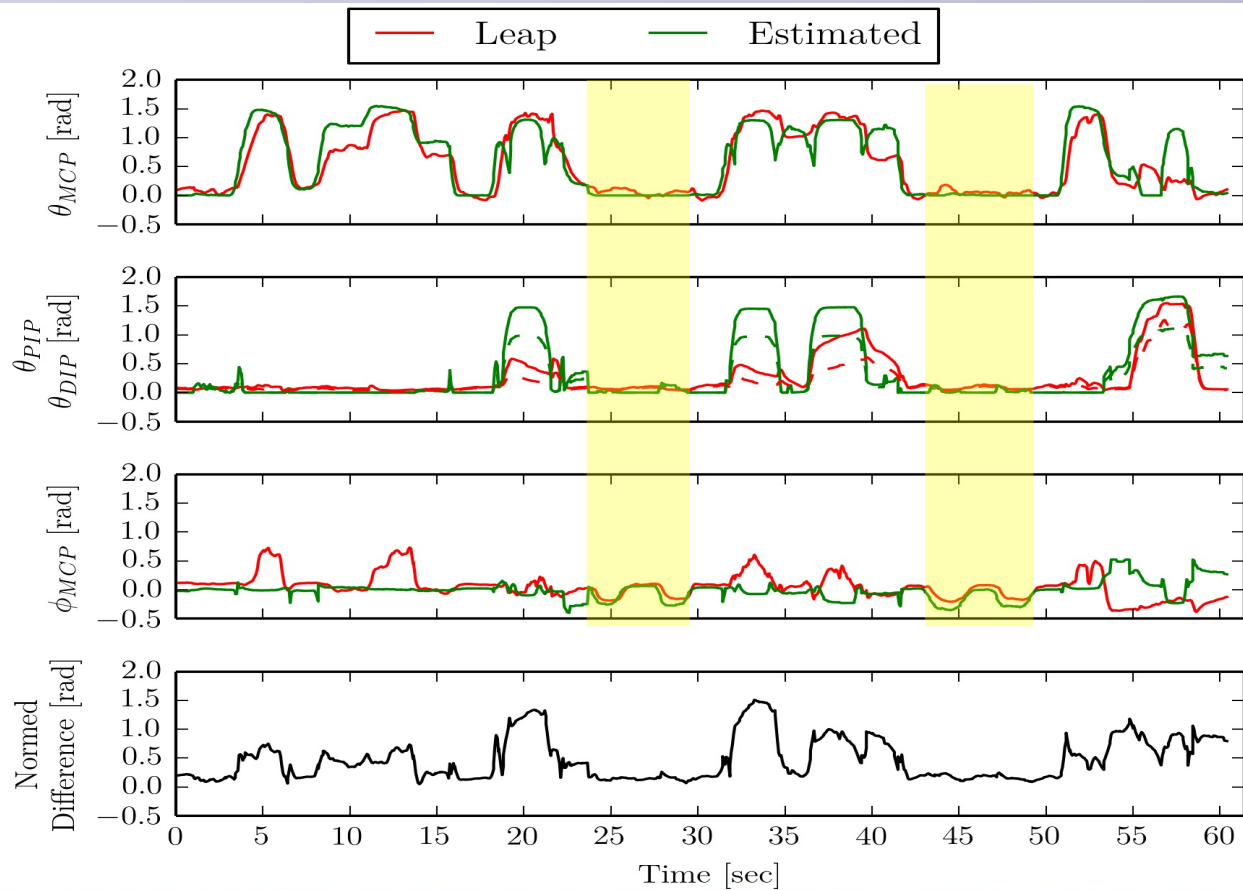
- Flexion-extension of MCP joint:

$$\rightarrow \mu_{\theta_{MCP}} = -7.448^\circ \pm 0.172$$



Results

Estimating one finger – best set



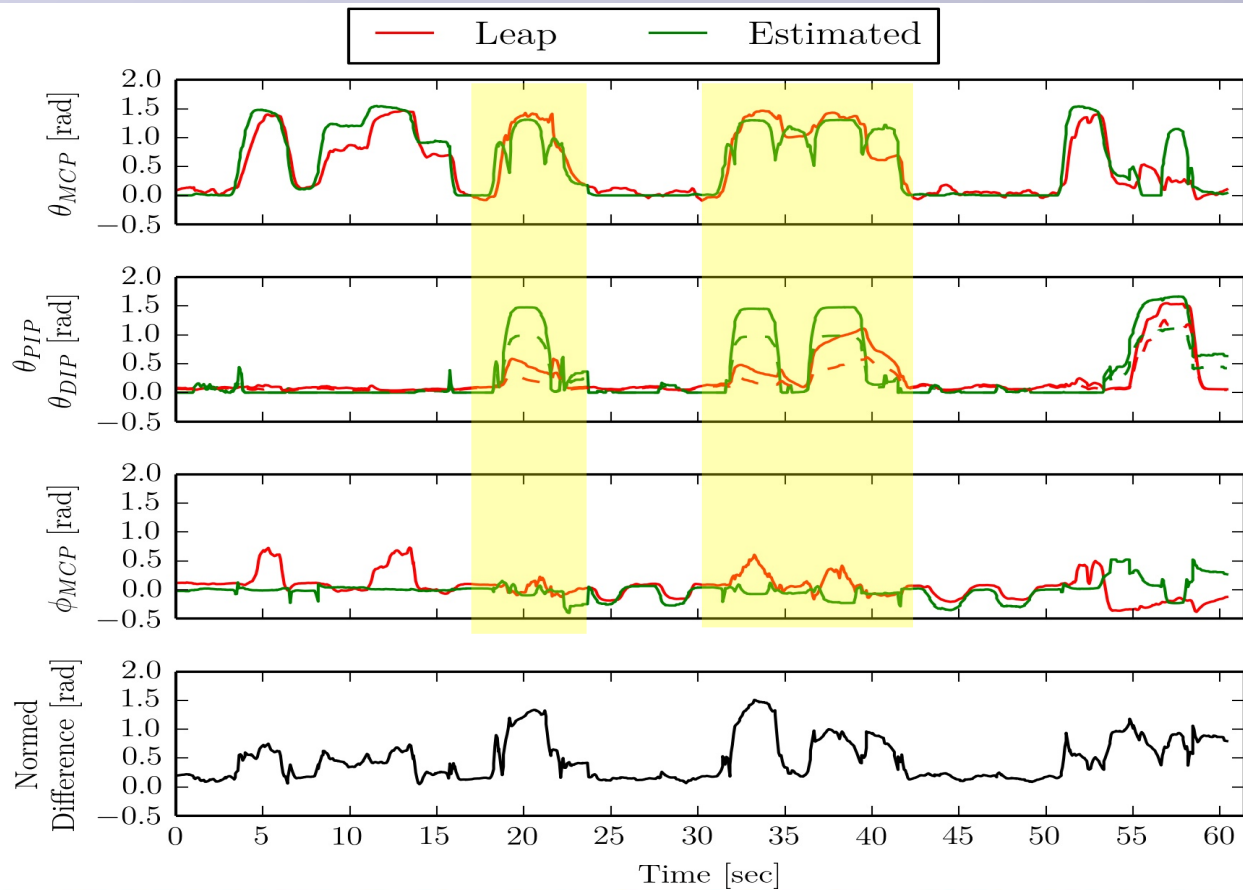
- Adduction-abduction of MCP joint:

$$\rightarrow \mu_{\phi_{MCP}} = 4.698^\circ \pm 0.0$$



Results

Estimating one finger – best set



- Bending to fist:

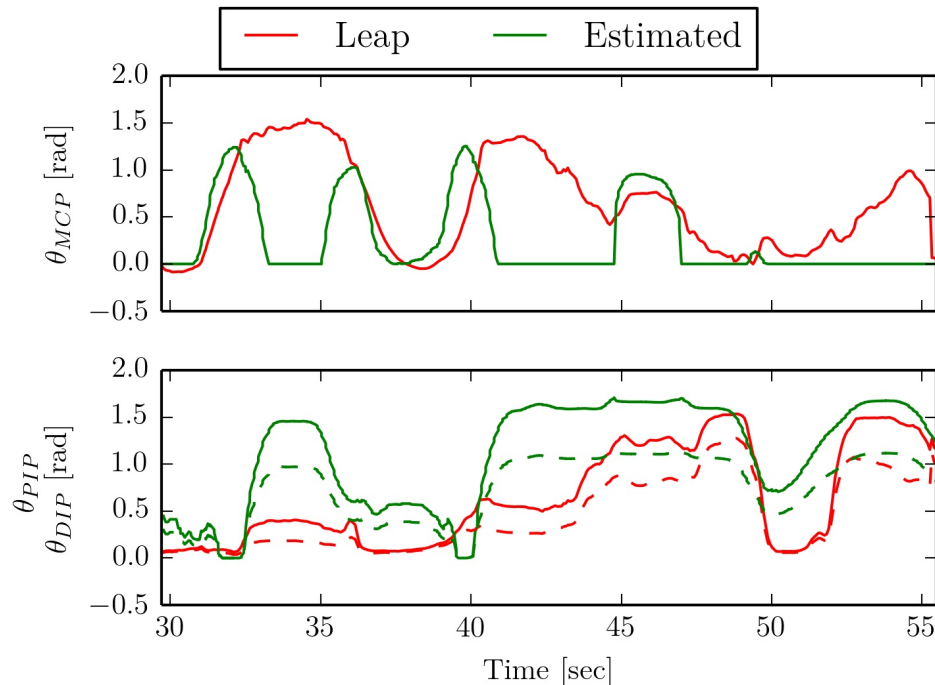
$$\rightarrow \mu_{\theta_{MCP}} = 2.005^\circ \pm 0.229$$

$$\rightarrow \mu_{\theta_{PIP}} = -13.866^\circ \pm 3.552$$



Results

Estimating one finger – bending to fist



- $\mu_{\theta_{MCP}} = 21.486^\circ \pm 6.188$
- $\mu_{\theta_{PIP}} = -26.413^\circ \pm 1.146$
- “0-cases” for θ_{MCP} values occur because no solution is found by the minimizer
- This is introduced by:
 - Bad accuracy of hand dimensions
 - Fitting gesture scales linearly for stretched finger only

Results

Estimating one finger – Observations and Limitations

- Motion trackable for single flexion-extension of θ_{MCP} and lateral movement of MCP joint ($= \phi_{\text{MCP}}$)
- Results while bending to fist lead to bad values for θ_{MCP}
- Critical influence factors:
 - Accuracy of hand dimensions
→ Can not totally be compensated by fitting gesture
 - Constant position of hand
 - System frequency → Motion speed
- Objective function formulation:
 - System has to be overdetermined $N > K$

Demo



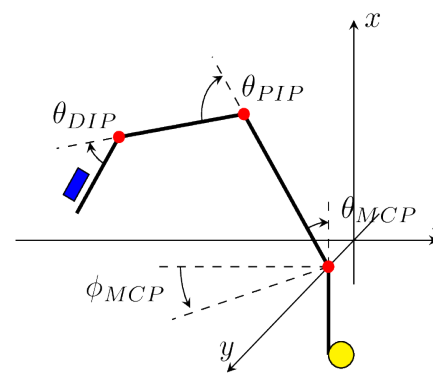
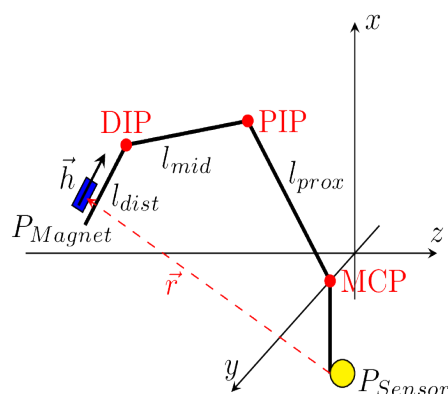
Conclusion and Future Work

- Reconstruction of a single finger is possible, dependent on several influence factors:
 - Error prone determination of hand dimensions
 - Find a more exact measuring method
 - Influence of earth magnetic field
 - Find a method to cancel the surrounding field dynamically
 - Data acquisition rate of sensor system
 - Employ faster sensors and microcontroller
- Lowest mean difference to Leap Motion over all 4 joint angles for a whole set:
 $27.330^\circ \pm 0.974$
- Basic HCI could be one field of application for the presented system
 - Navigating cursor in two directions
 - Detecting gestures

Bibliography

- [1] Northern Digital: *Optrak Certus Brochure*
- [2] Vicon Motion Systems LTD: *Vicon Vantage Brochure*
- [3] Synertial Labs: *Synertial, Glove Systems overview*
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- [6] Ma, Yanru et al.: *Magnetic hand motion tracking system for human-machine interaction*. In: *Electronics letters 46 (2010)*
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- [8] Lin, John et al.: *Modeling the constraints of human hand motion*. In: *Human Motion, 2000. Proceedings. Workshop on IEEE*
- [9] Derby, Norman et al.: *Cylindrical magnets and ideal solenoids*. In: *Amercan Journal of Physics 78 (2010)*

Kinematic Hand Model



$$h_x = \cos(-\theta_{MCP} - \theta_{PIP} - \theta_{DIP})$$

$$h_y = \cos(-\theta_{MCP} - \theta_{PIP} - \theta_{DIP}) \sin(\phi)$$

$$h_z = \sin(-\theta_{MCP} - \theta_{PIP} - \theta_{DIP}) \cos(\phi)$$

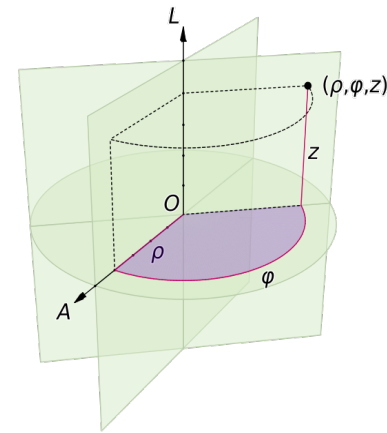
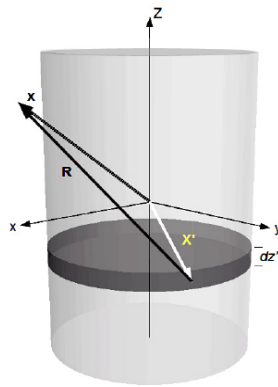
$$r_x = l_{Prox} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta_{MCP}\right) +$$

$$l_{Mid} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - (\theta_{MCP} + \theta_{PIP})\right) +$$

$$l_{Dist} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - (\theta_{MCP} + \theta_{PIP} + \theta_{DIP})\right) + (P_{MCP_x} - P_{Sensor_x})$$

$$r_y = l_{Prox} \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta_{MCP}\right) + \dots$$

Cylindrical Magnetic Model



$$C(k_c, p, c, s) = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{c \cos^2 \varphi + s \sin^2 \varphi}{(\cos^2 \varphi + p \sin^2 \varphi) \sqrt{\cos^2 \varphi + k_c^2 \sin^2 \varphi}} d\varphi$$

Dynamic Cancellation of Earth Magnetic Field

1. Hold the hand with the sensors attached in a stable and calm position
2. The magnets for the fingertips are absent
3. Measure the orientation R_I of the sensors and the corresponding surrounding earth magnetic field B_{earth}
4. After this calibration phase, track the orientation of the hand R_h
5. Calculate the relative orientation $R_d = R_I - R_h$
6. Convert R_d into a rotation matrix rot_d and apply this to B_{earth}
7. Subtract the rotated earth magnetic field from your actual measurement:

$$B = B_{meas} - rot_d \cdot B_{earth}$$