Intuitive, Wearable Haptic Devices for Communication with Ubiquitous Robots

Allison Okamura, Stanford University CMMI-1830163

Marcia O'Malley, Rice University CMMI-1830146

Challenge

How can we make haptic devices intuitive, unobtrusive, and wearable?



Humans and Robots



Humans and Agents



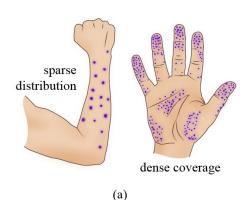
Humans and Humans

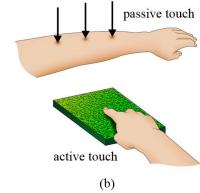
Scientific Impact

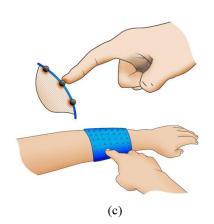
Haptic devices allow private, salient, touch-based information transfer between humans and intelligent systems

Solution

Overcome inherent trade-off between where we want to place devices for maximum wearability and where skin exhibits highest density of touch receptors







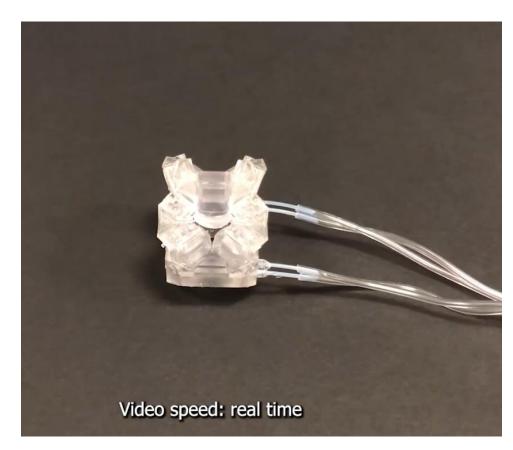




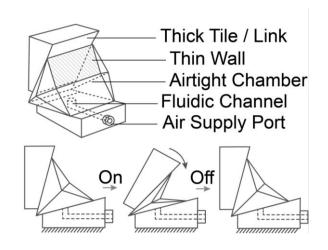


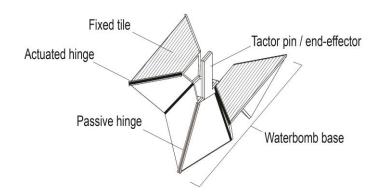


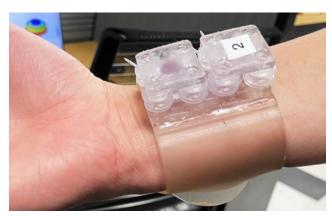
3-D Printed Soft Wearable Haptics



FingerPrint: 4-DoF Fingertip Haptic Device





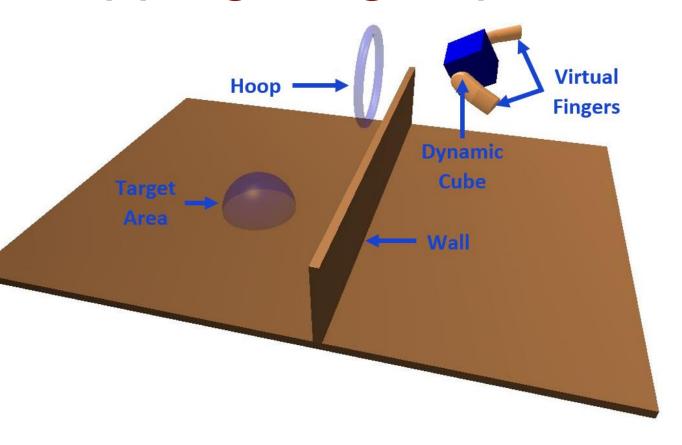


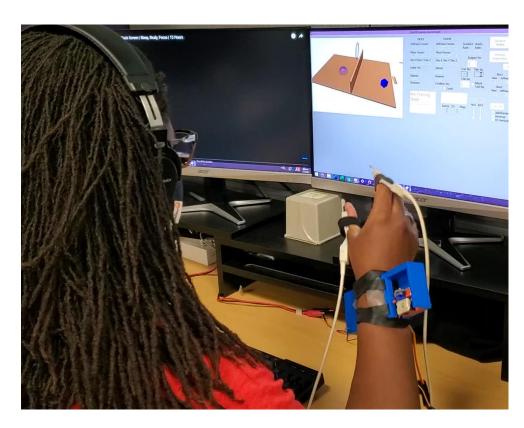


Multi-Contact Wrist Haptic Device

Zhenishbek Zhakypov and Allison Okamura: RoboSoft 2022

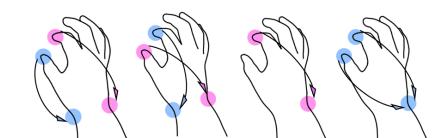
Mapping Fingertips to Wrist





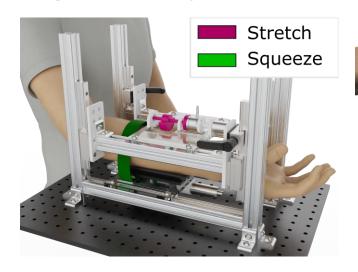
Users prefer a congruent mapping

J. Palmer, M. Sarac, A. Garza, and A. M. Okamura (Submitted)

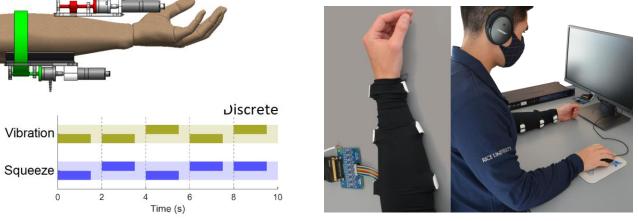


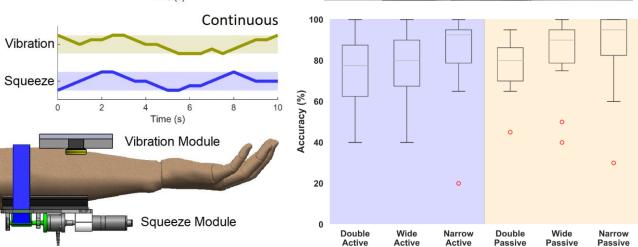
Characterizing perception of wearable haptic cues

High-fidelity test beds enable accurate cue delivery



Squeeze masks stretch, but effects can be mitigated by varying cue amplitude and separation distance, or by providing continuous rather than discrete cues





Perception of tactile sequences is affected by the user's focus direction and the user's agency over the feedback they receive Zook and O'Malley, Eurohaptics 2022





Open-source tools for wearable haptics

Software/hardware framework for vibrotactile cue development and delivery syntacts.org

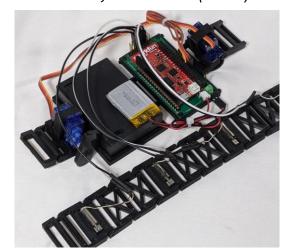


Haptic Interfaces Lab

Low-cost, untethered, battery-powered wearable haptic modules for stretch, vibration and twist cue



Zook et al., IEEE WHC (2021)







mahilab.rice.edu