

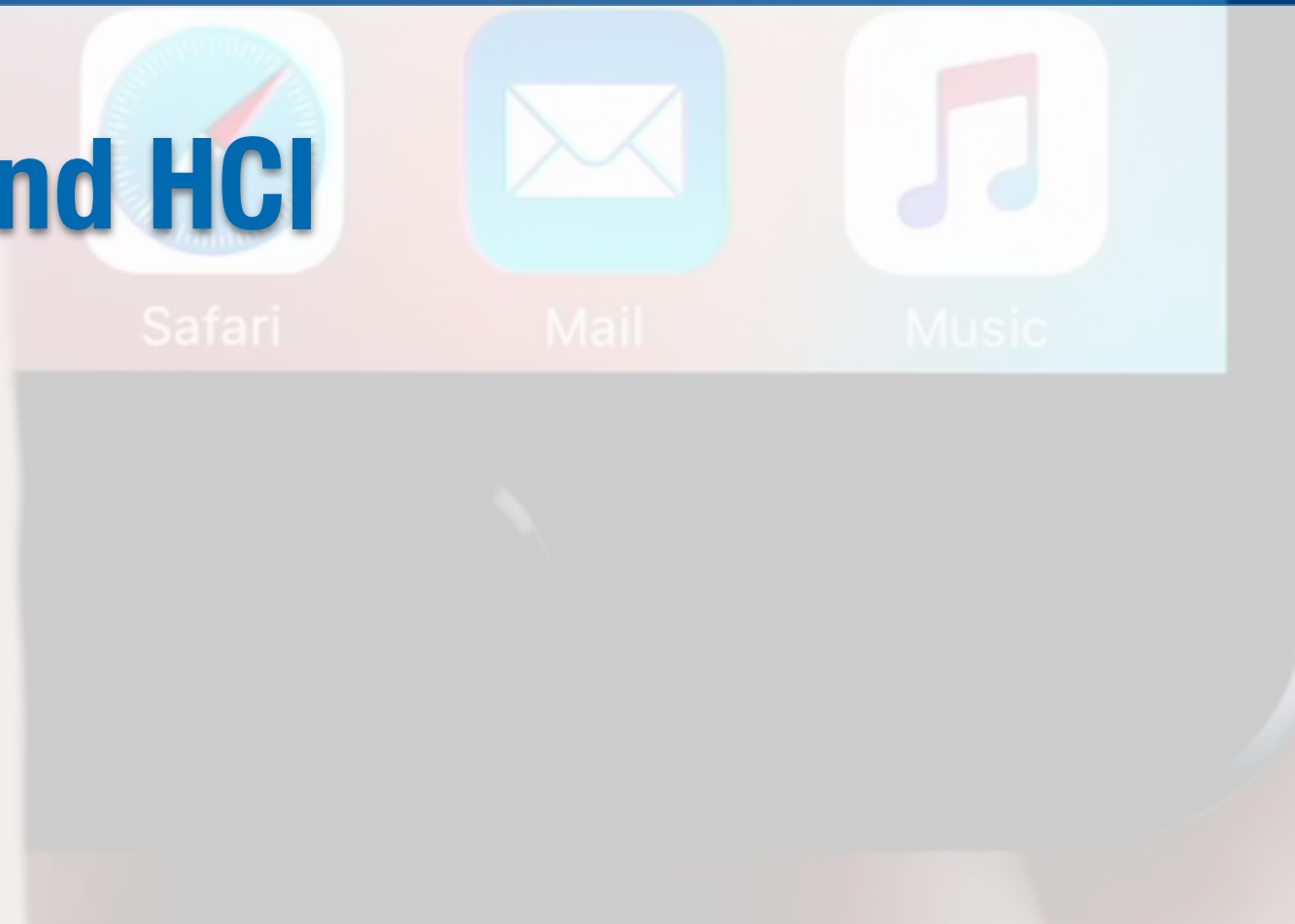
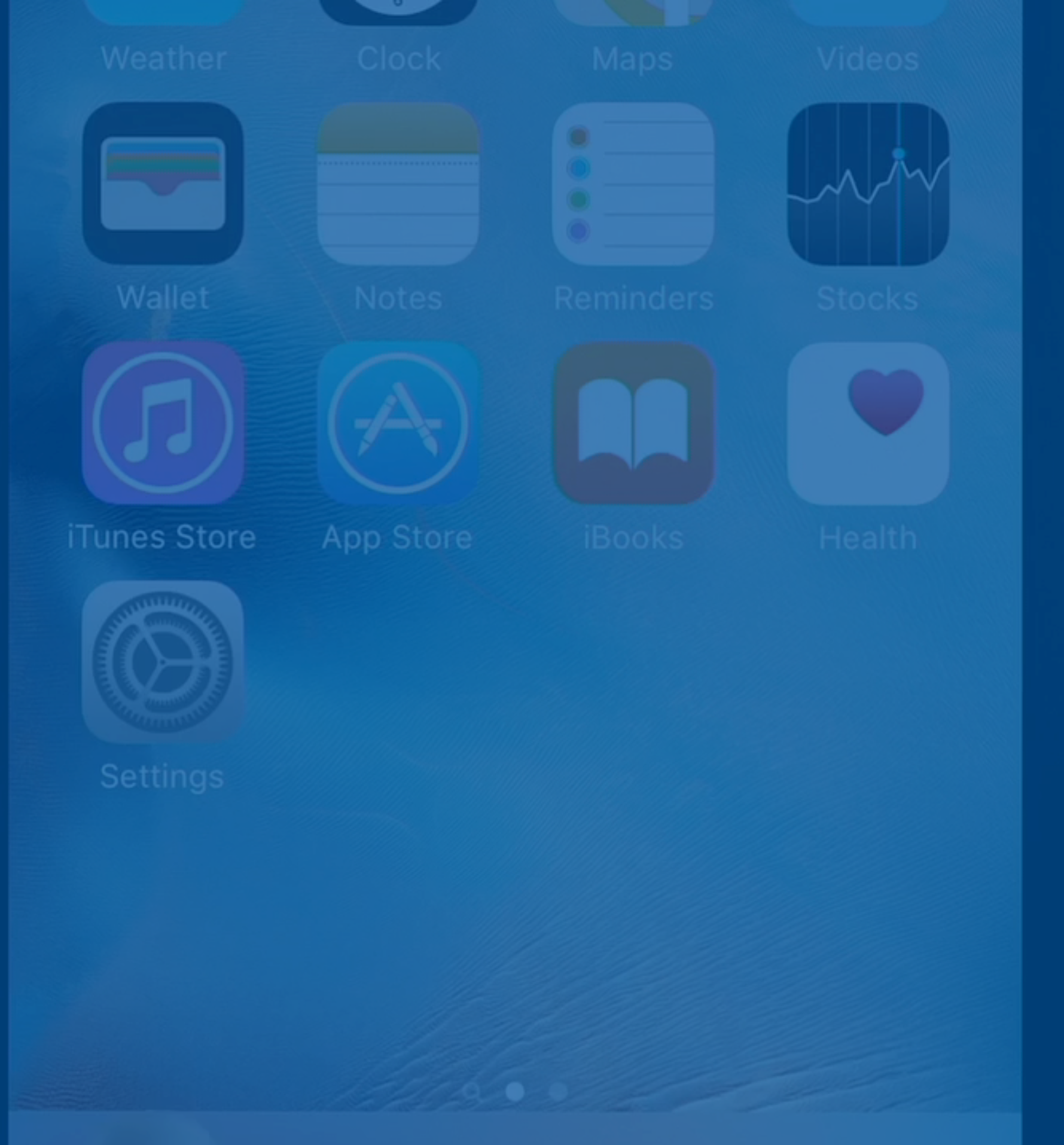
# Current Topics in Media Computing and HCI

## S6: Force Input on Mobile Devices

Christian Corsten

SS 2018

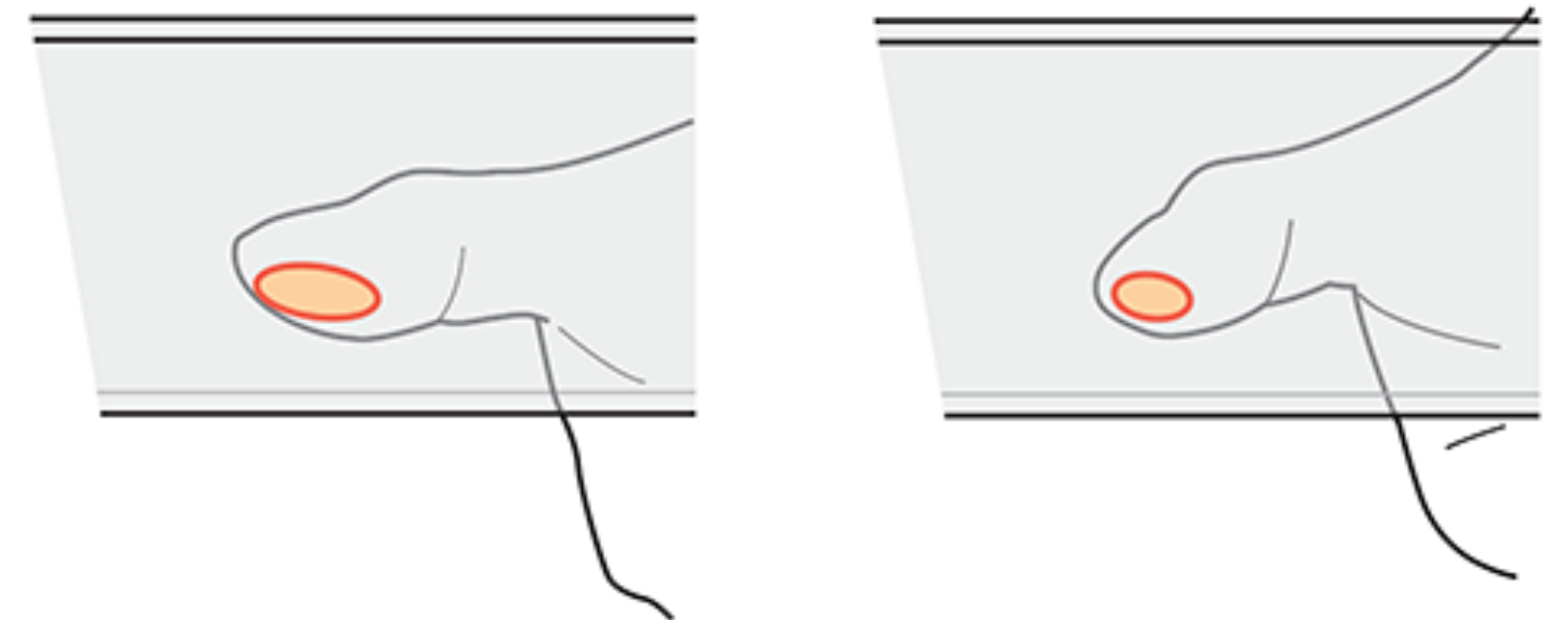
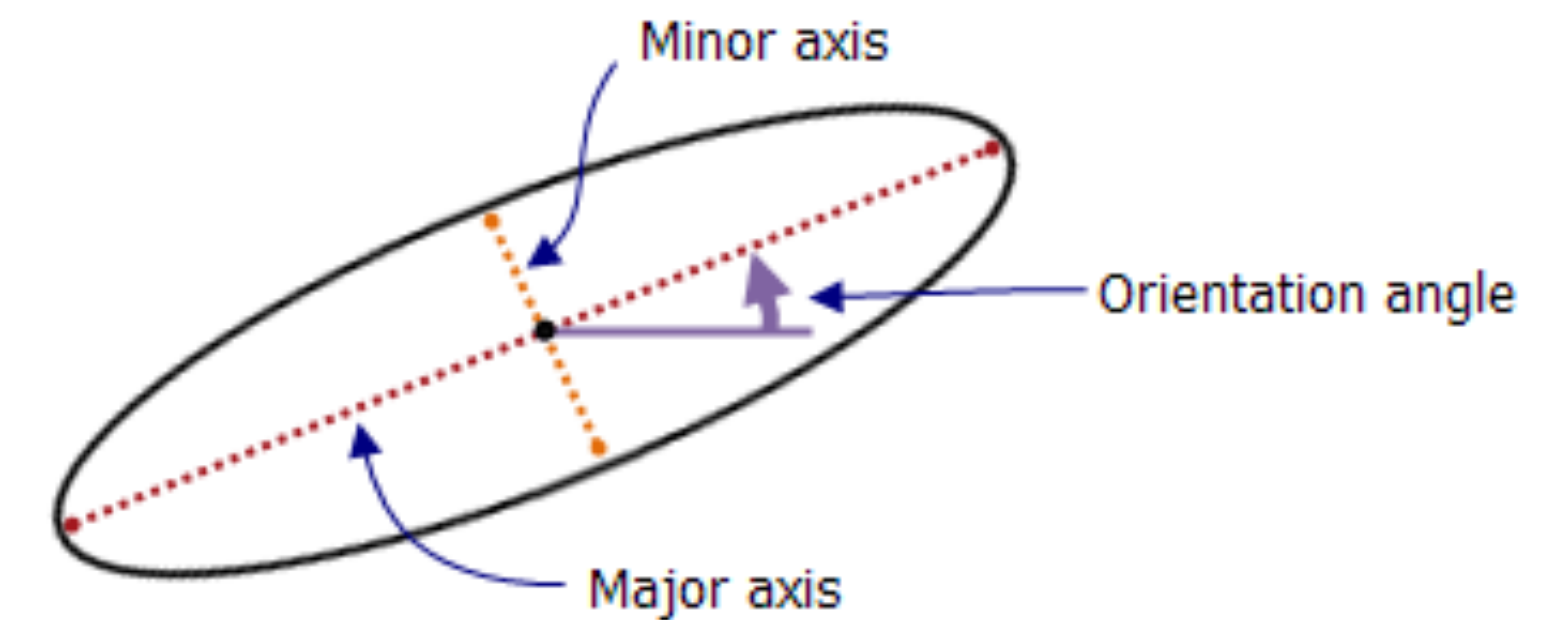
[hci.rwth-aachen.de/cthci](http://hci.rwth-aachen.de/cthci)





# Touch Input: Properties

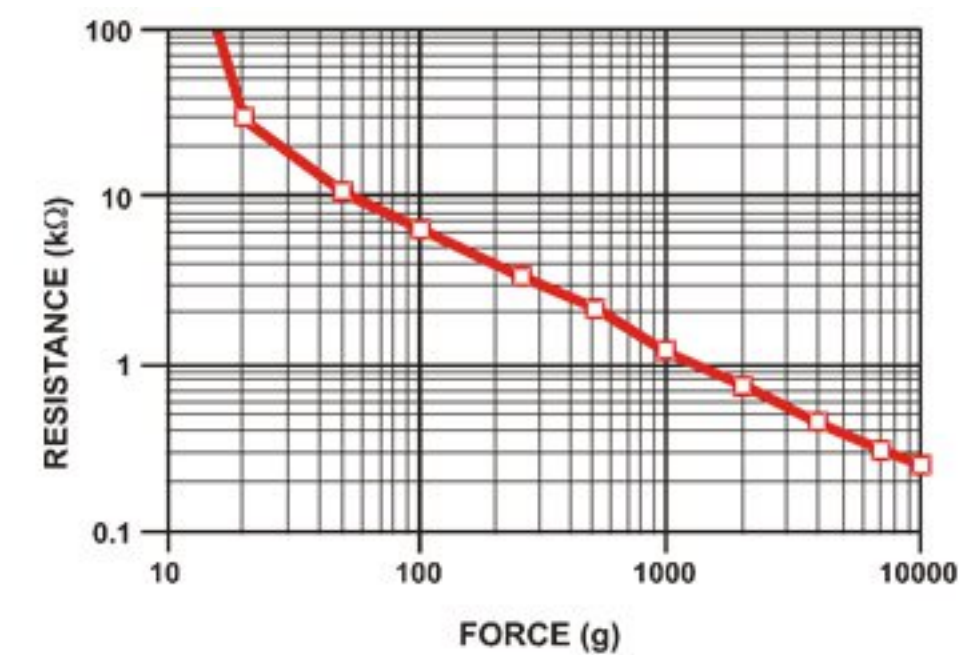
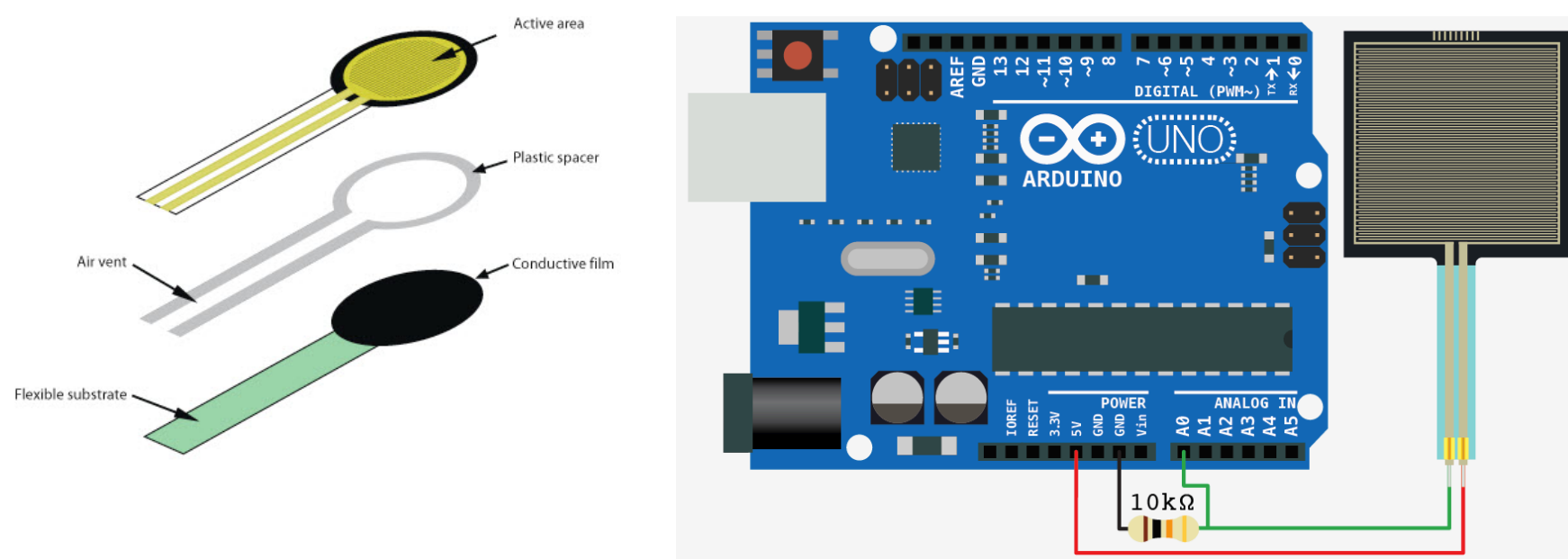
- Usually binary (finger on the surface vs. off the surface)
- Location (x, y)
- Contact size (radius)
- Orientation (angle)
- What else?
  - Distance to the (capacitive) touchscreen?
  - Force?





# Force Input: How to Detect?

- By contact size?
  - Benko et al.: *Precise Selection Techniques for Multi-Touch Screens*, CHI '06
  - Boring et al.: *The Fat Thumb*, MobileHCI '12
- By time? – bad estimate!
- Force-sensing resistors



Force (lb)	Force (N)	FSR Resistance	(FSR + R) Ω	Current thru FSR+R	Voltage across R
None	None	Infinite	Infinite!	0 mA	0V
0.04 lb	0.2 N	30KΩ	40 KΩ	0.13 mA	1.3 V
0.22 lb	1 N	6 KΩ	16 KΩ	0.31 mA	3.1 V
2.2 lb	10 N	1 KΩ	11 KΩ	0.45 mA	4.5 V
22 lb	100 N	250 Ω	10.25 KΩ	0.49 mA	4.9 V











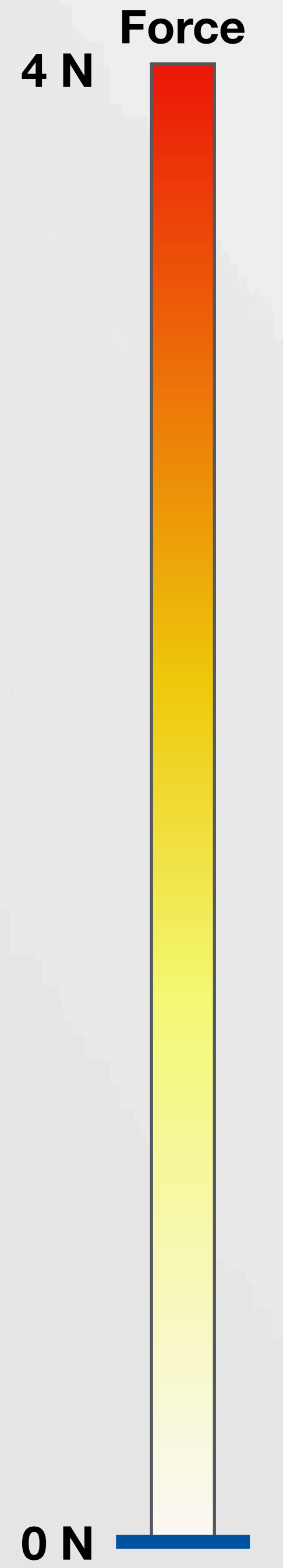








# Force Input on iPhone



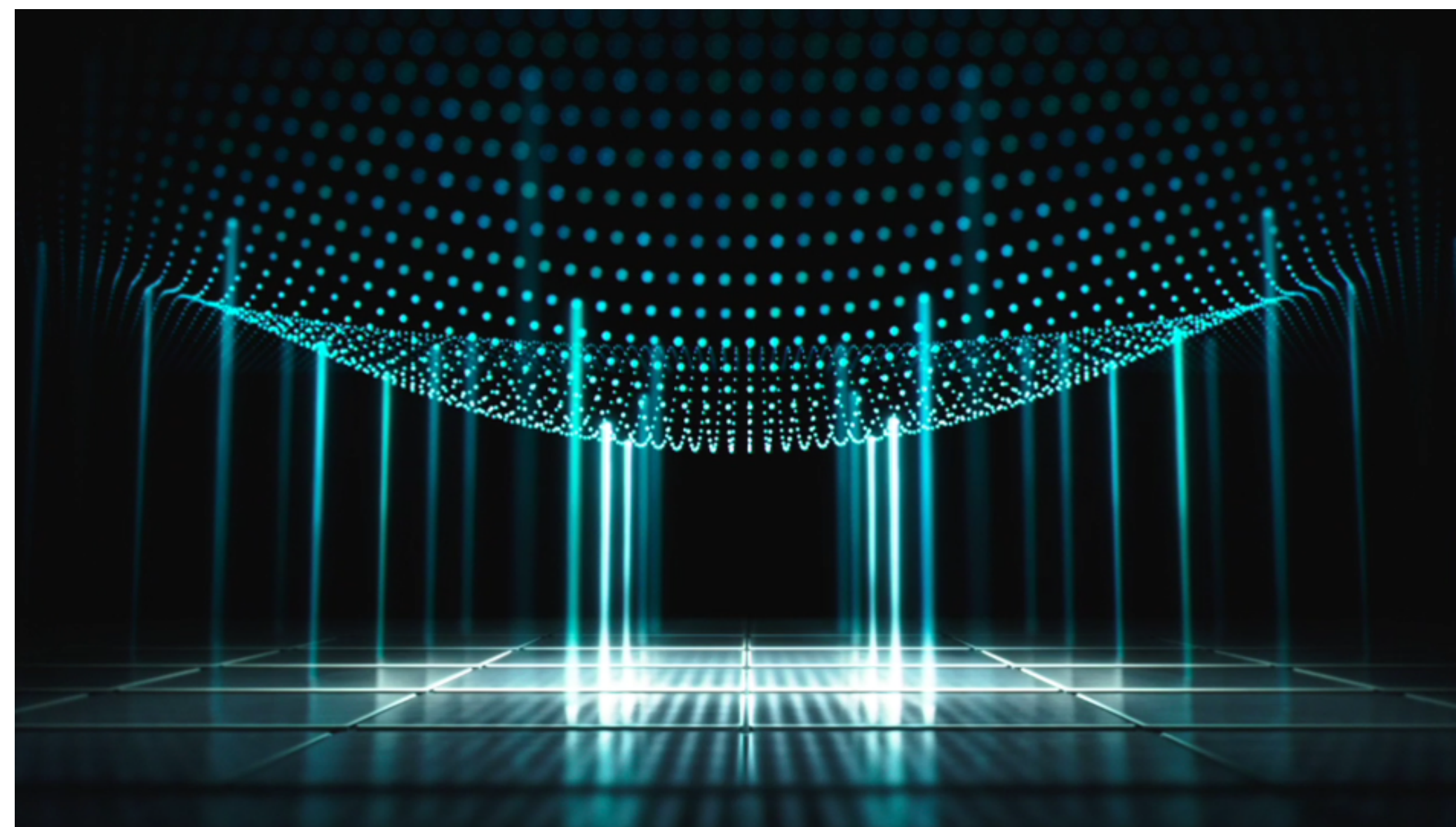


# Force Sensing on iPhone 6S

Cover glass (slightly flexible)  
Display  
Capacitive pressure sensors  
Taptic Engine (for haptic feedback)



*"[...] with each press, these sensors measure microscopic changes in the distance between the cover glass and the backlight." – Apple Inc.*

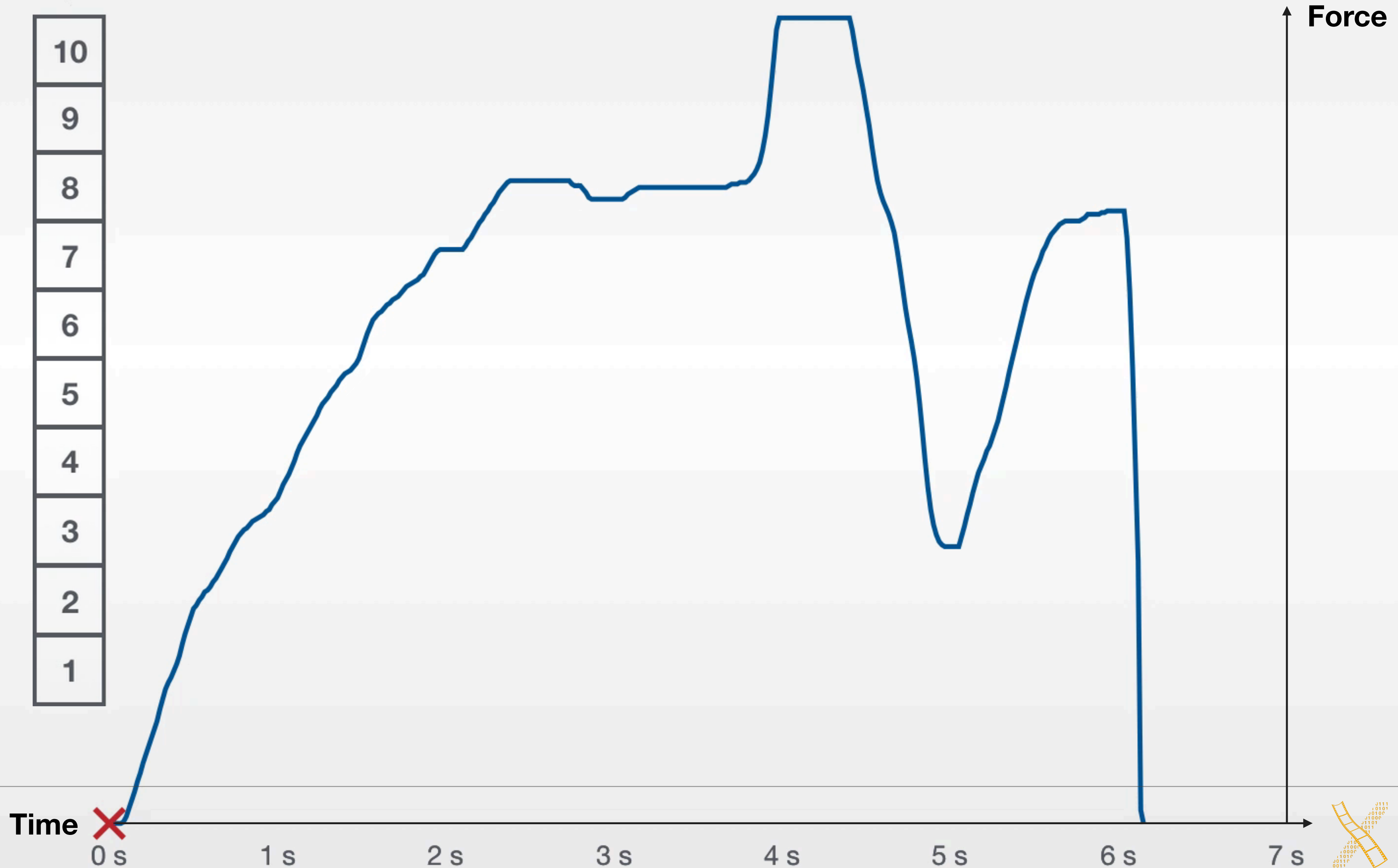


Full article:



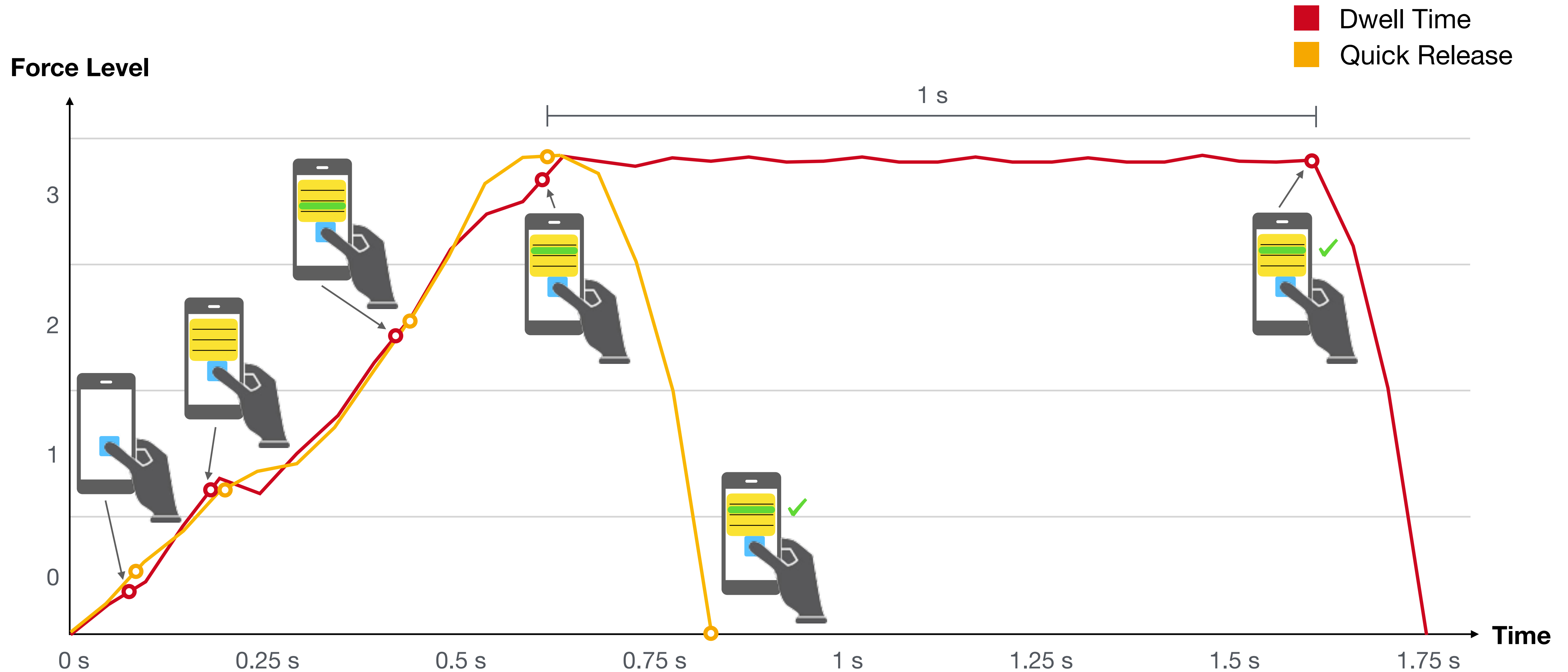


# Pressure-Based Linear Targeting (PBLT)





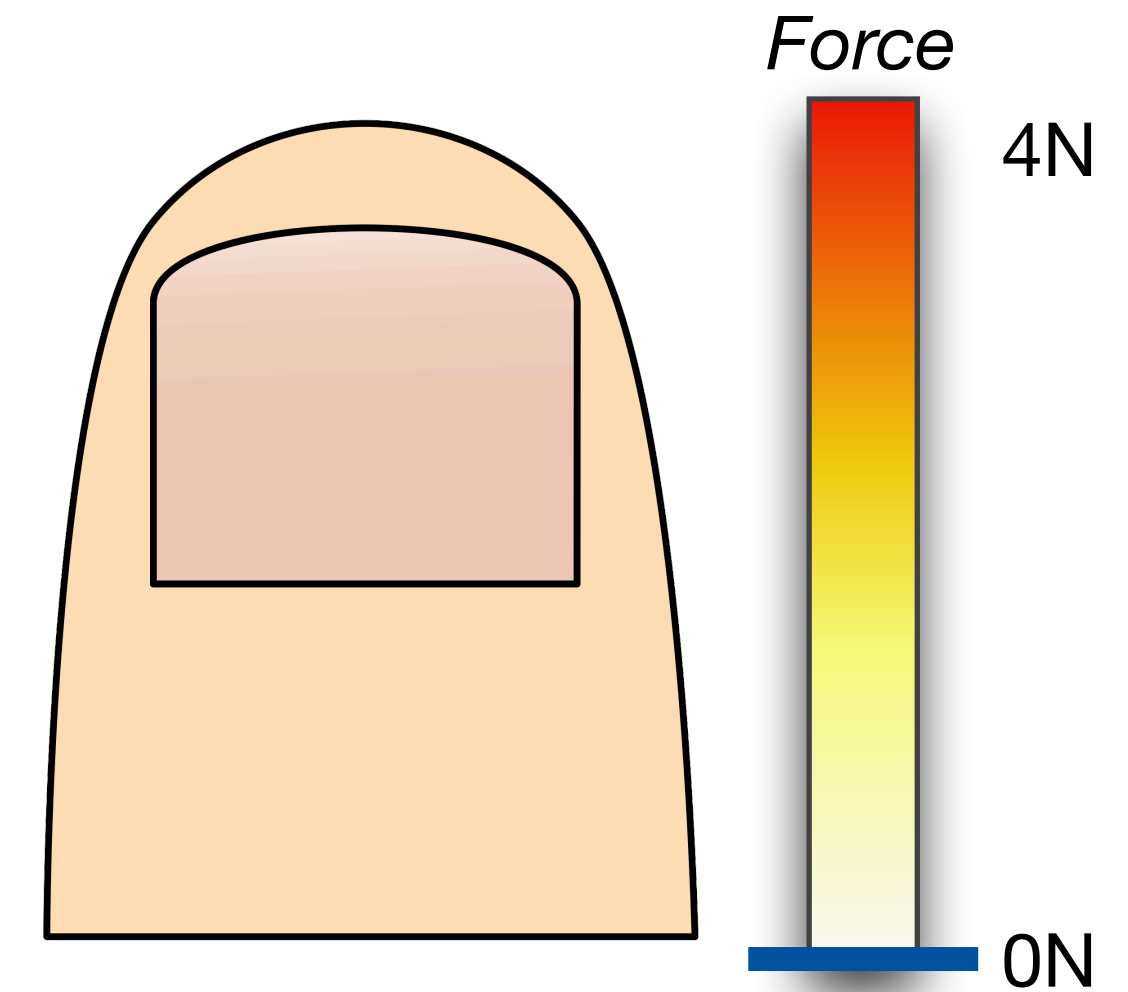
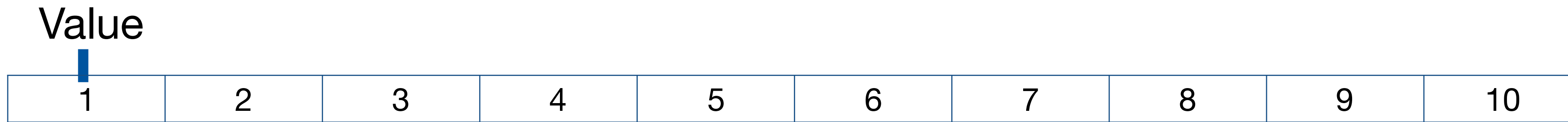
# Confirming Value Selection



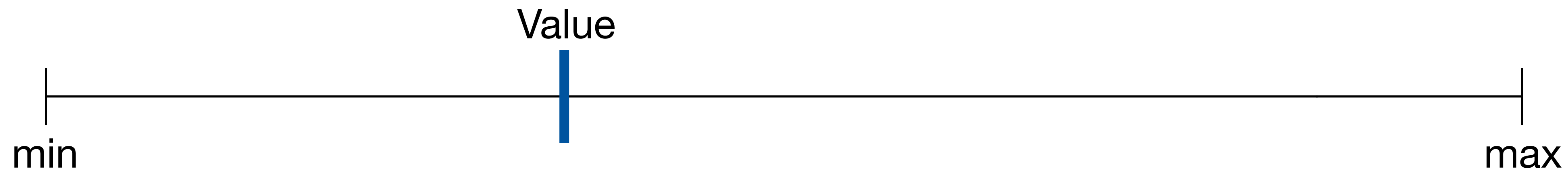


# Control Mechanisms

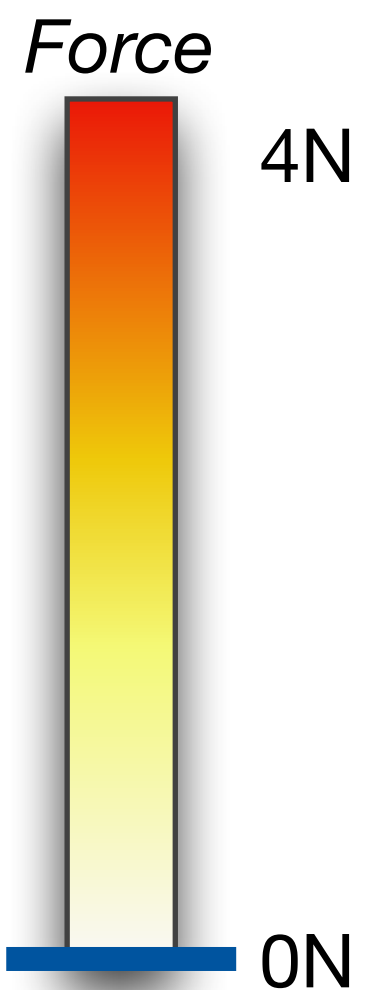
## Positional Control



## Rate-based Control



How to *decrease* the value?







# Force Picker

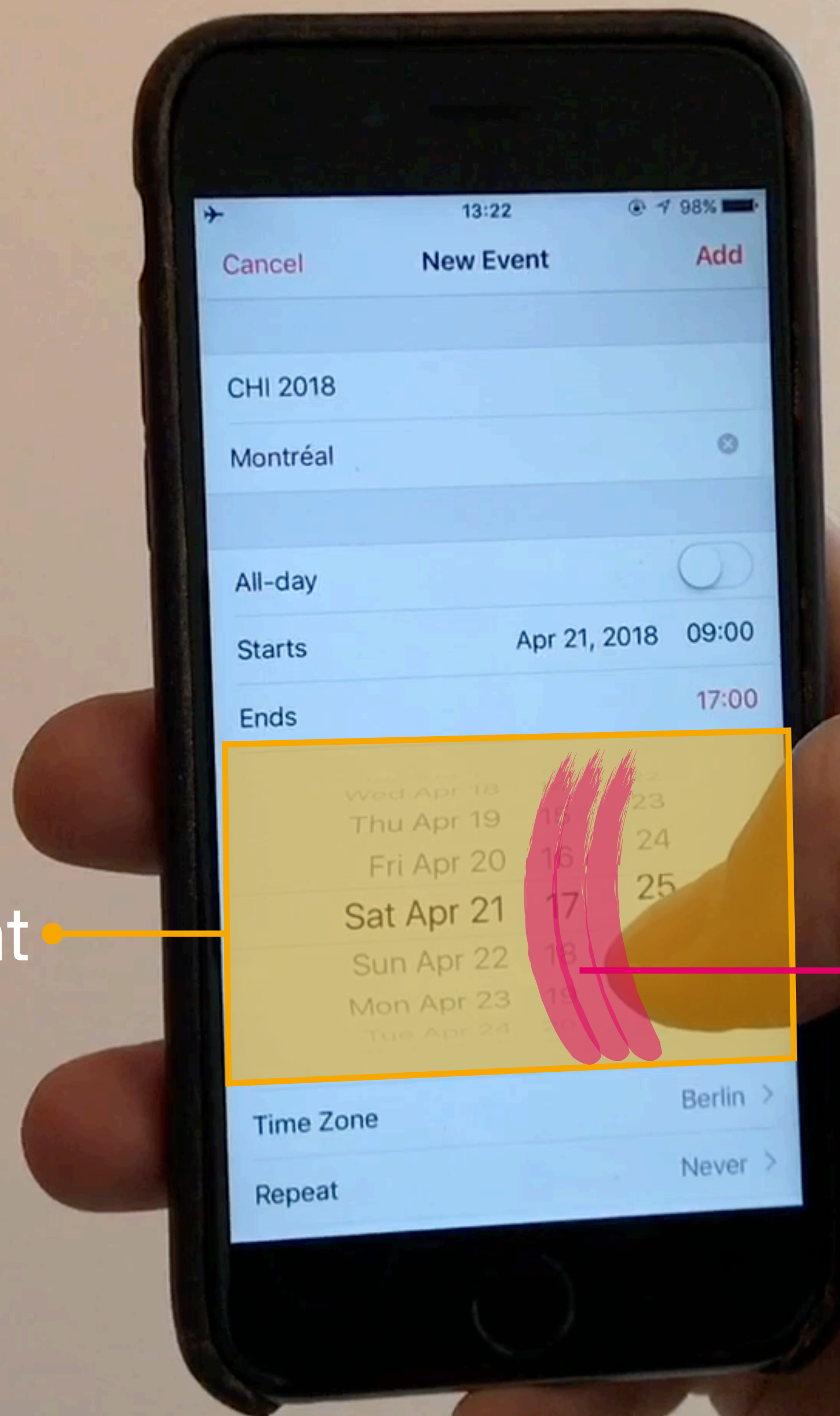
Corsten et al., CHI '18



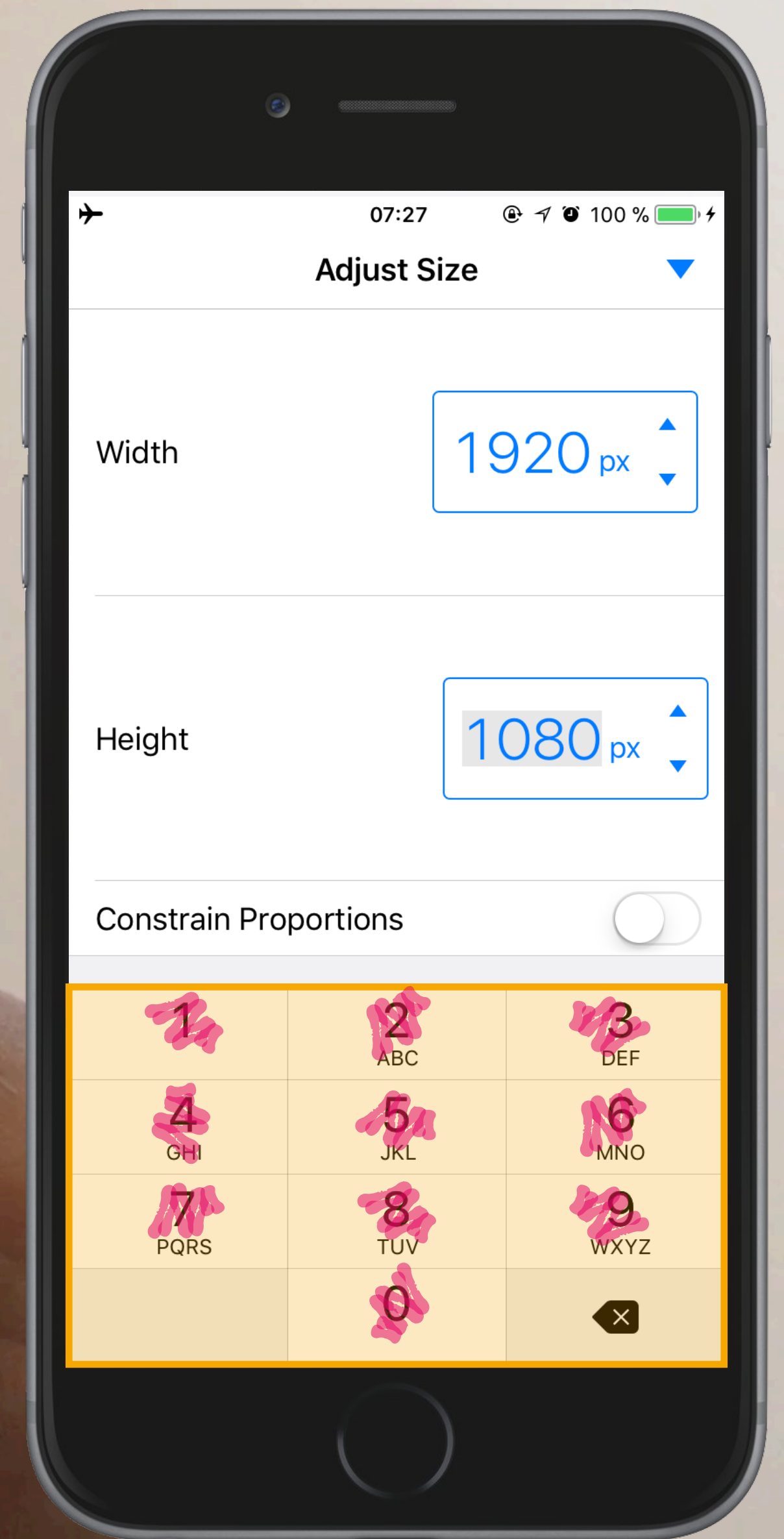
# Force Picker

Corsten et al., CHI '18

Display Footprint



Gesture Footprint



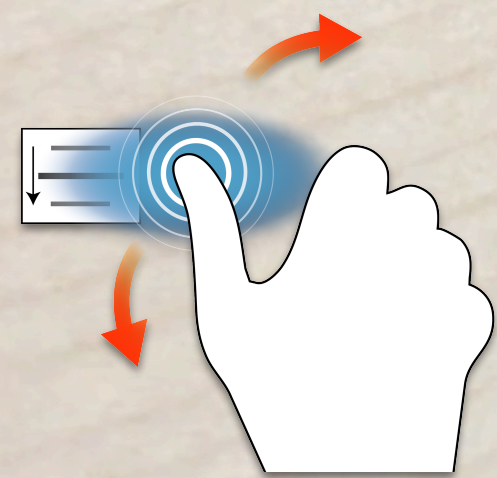




# Force Picker

Corsten et al., CHI '18





# Force Picker

Corsten et al., CHI '18



# Force Control Performance: How To Quantify?

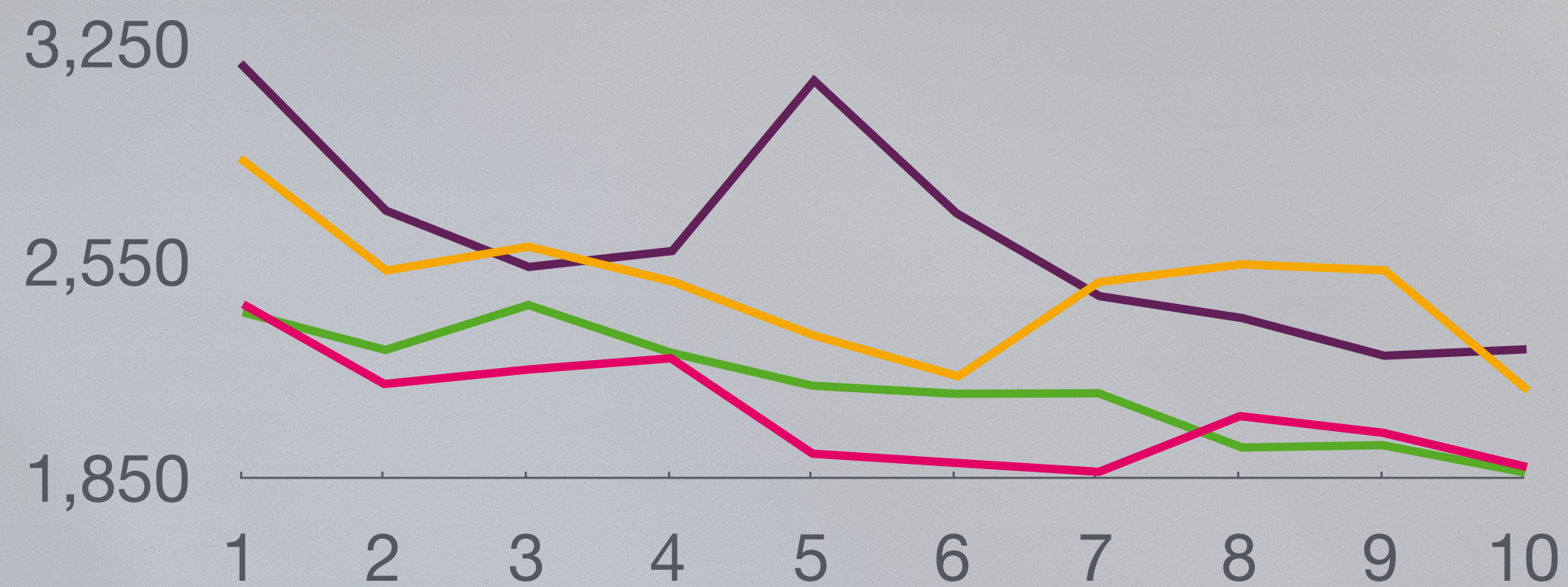
- Task completion time (measured in ms)
- Error rate (How often did the user *not* select the correct item?)
- Number of crossings
- Pressure variance/jitter



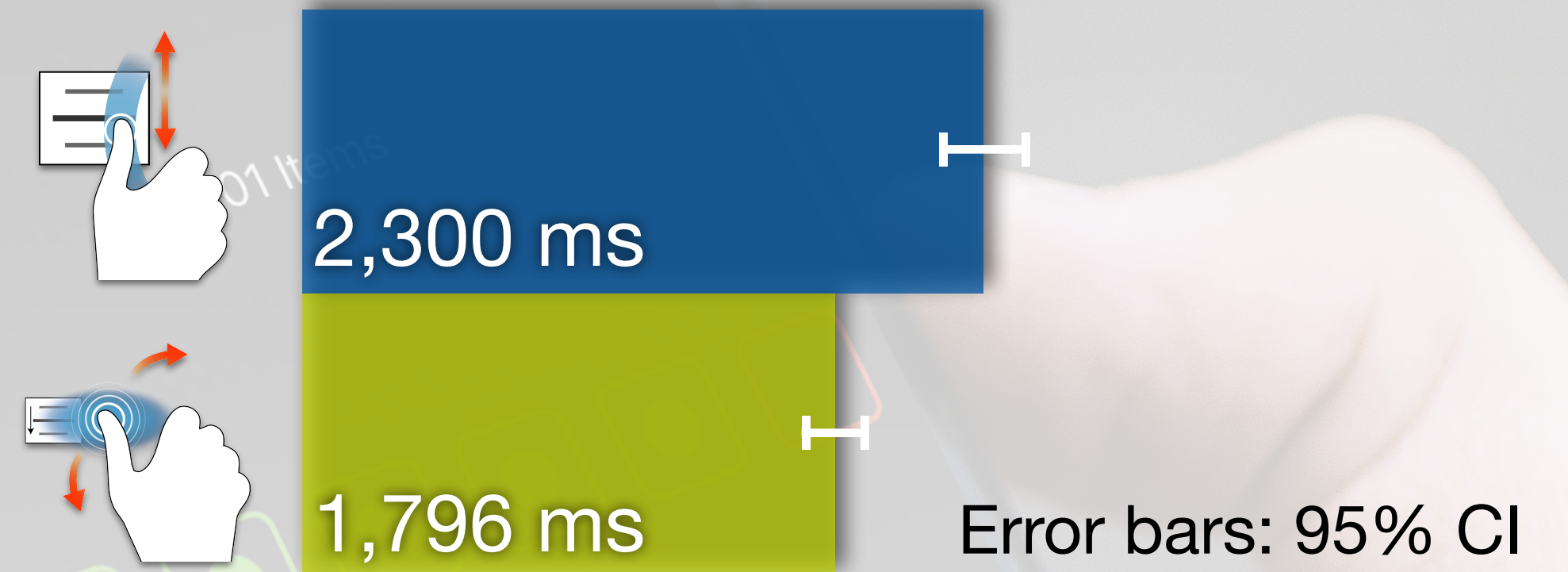
# Force Picker: Study

Corsten et al., CHI '18

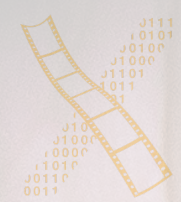
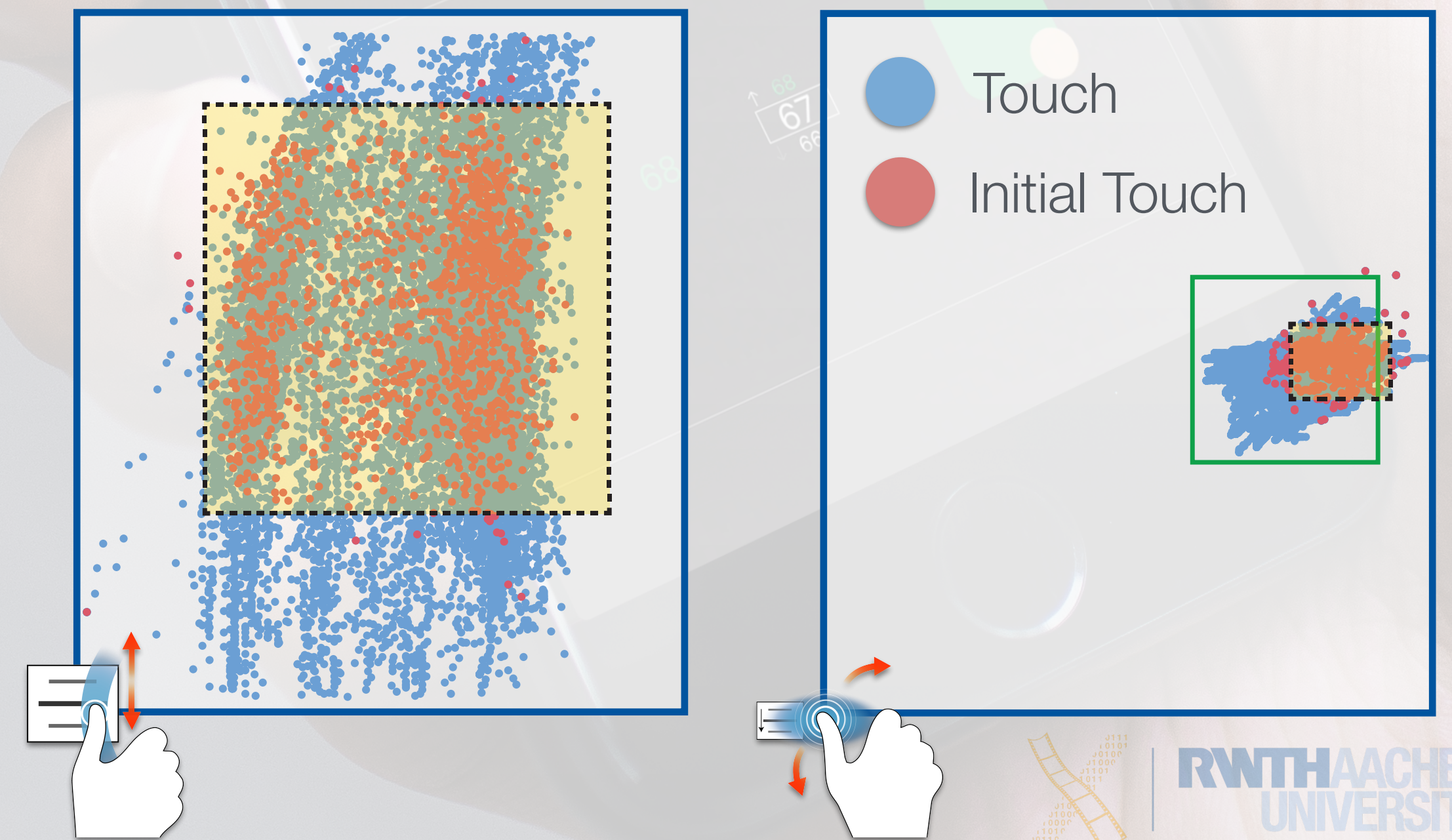
### Time over Training Sessions



### Time after Training



### Gesture Footprint after Training





# Force Picker

Corsten et al., CHI '18







# ForceEdge: Controlling Autoscroll on both Desktop and Mobile Computers using the Force

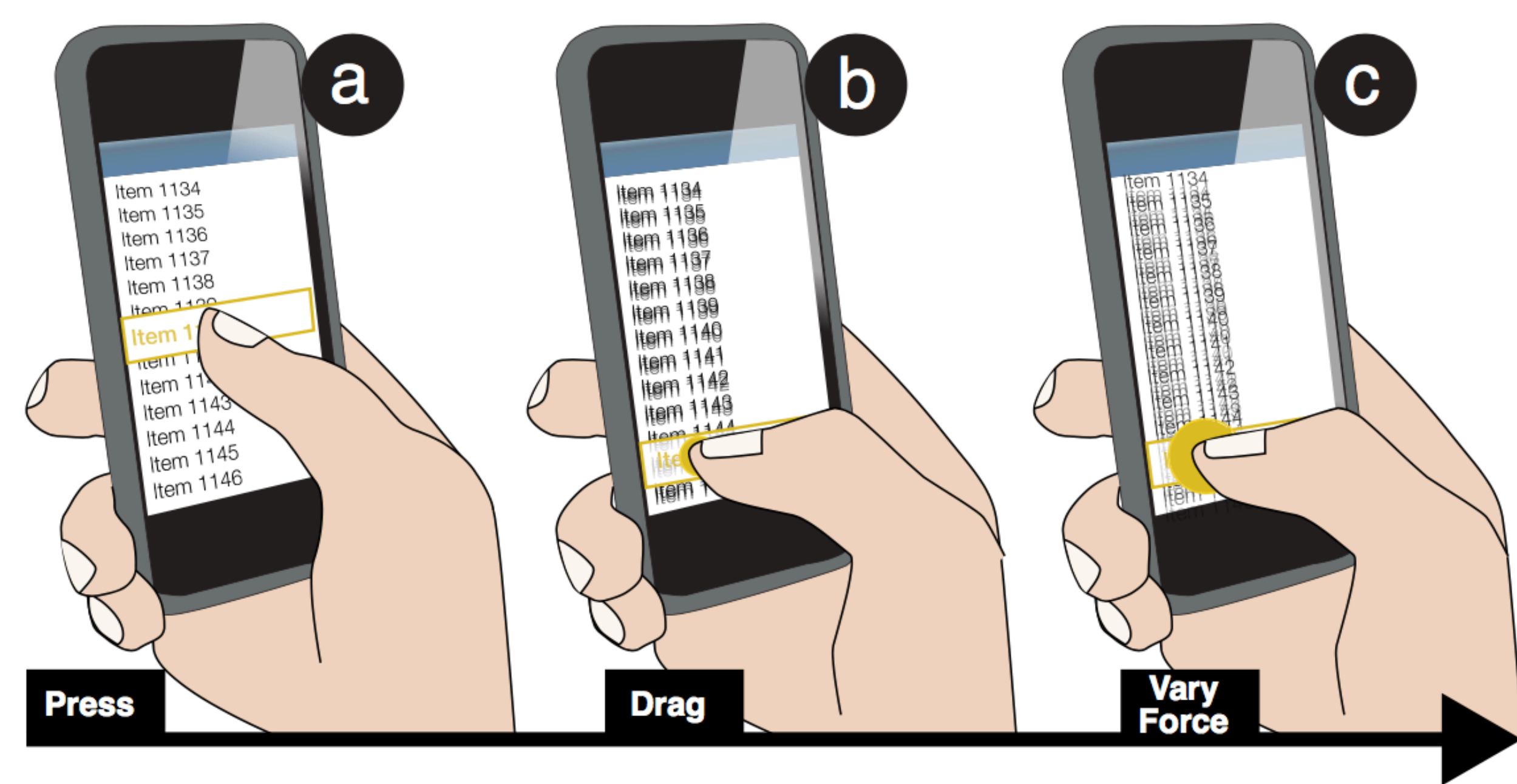
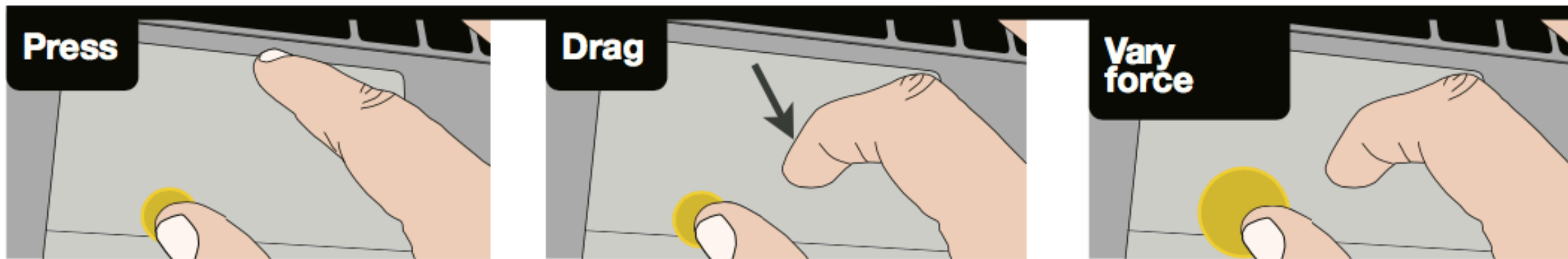
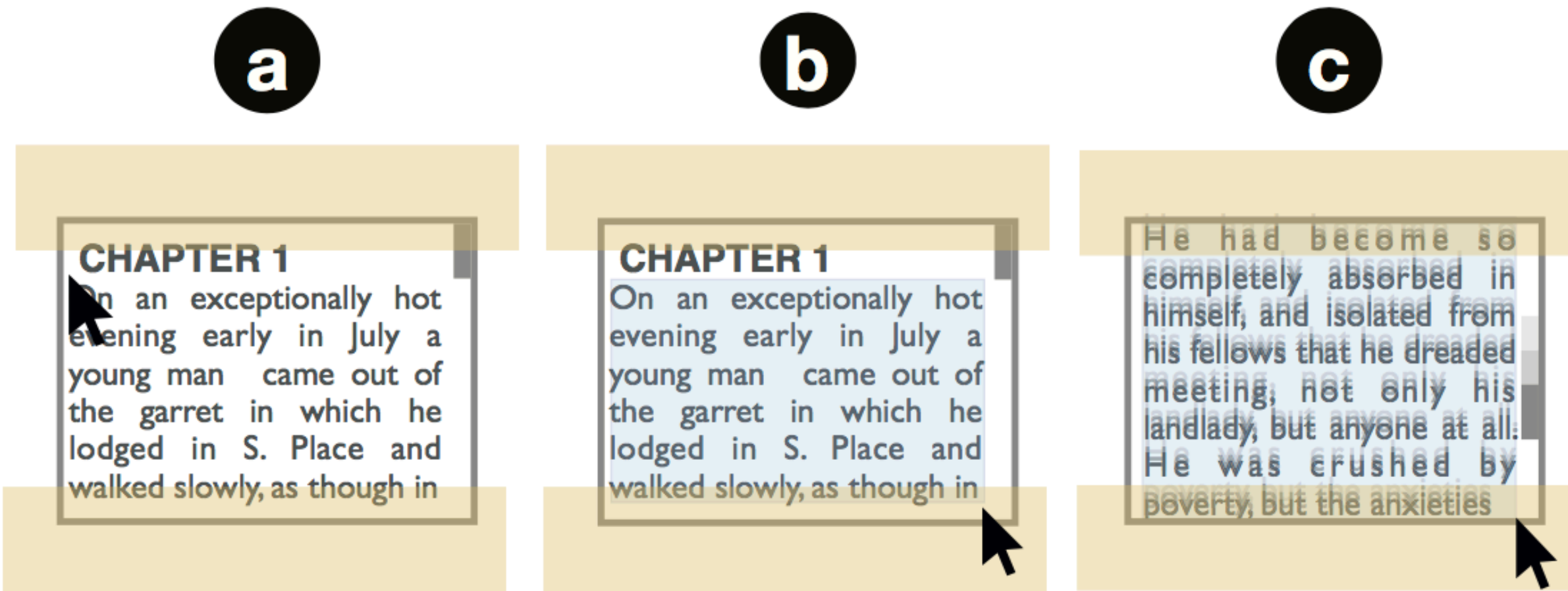
*Axel Antoine, Sylvain Malacria, Géry Casiez*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tnkqfT1leqo>



# Force Edge

Antoine et al., CHI '17





# Force Control Performance: Influencing Factors

- Number of targets/menu size, levels of pressure
- Feedback (visual, partly visual, audio only, ...)
- Selection mechanism (Dwell Time, Quick Release, ...)
- Sensor range
- Discrete vs. continuous control
- Direction (up vs. down) – increase vs. decrease force
- Transfer function (usually: go for linear)
- Control mechanism (position-based vs. rate-based)
- Motion
- Fingers



# BackXPress: Using Back-of-Device Finger Pressure to Augment Touchscreen Input on Smartphones

Christian Corsten – Bjoern Daehlmann – Simon Voelker – Jan Borchers



Chair for Computer  
Science 10 (Media  
Computing and Human-  
Computer Interaction)

**RWTH**AACHEN  
UNIVERSITY

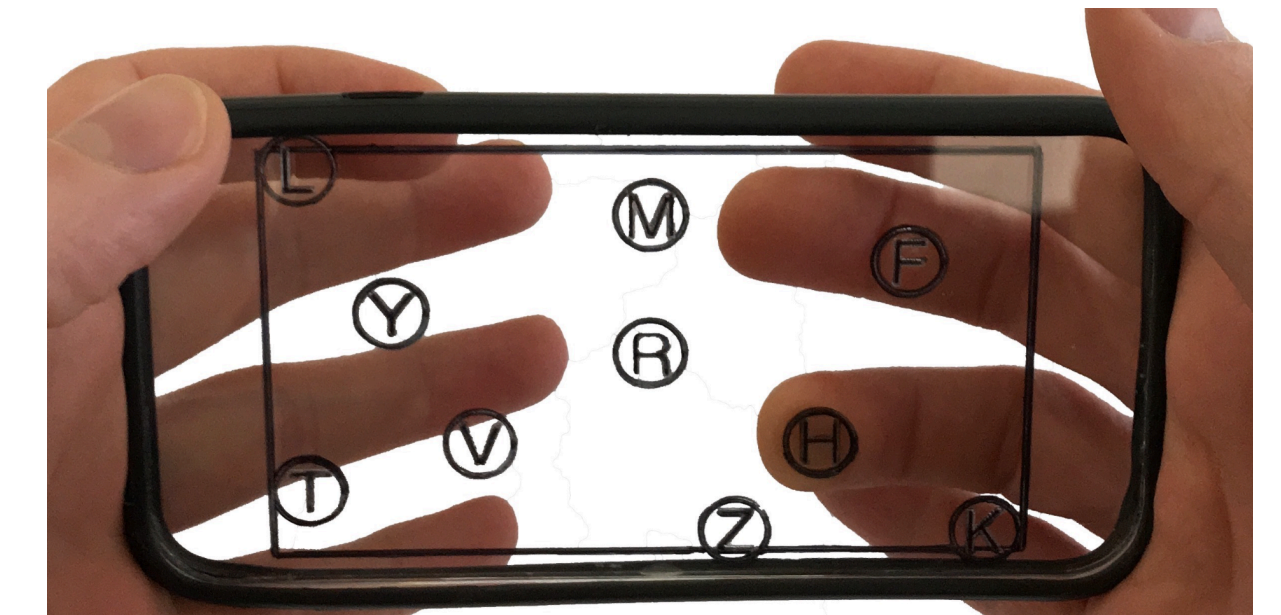
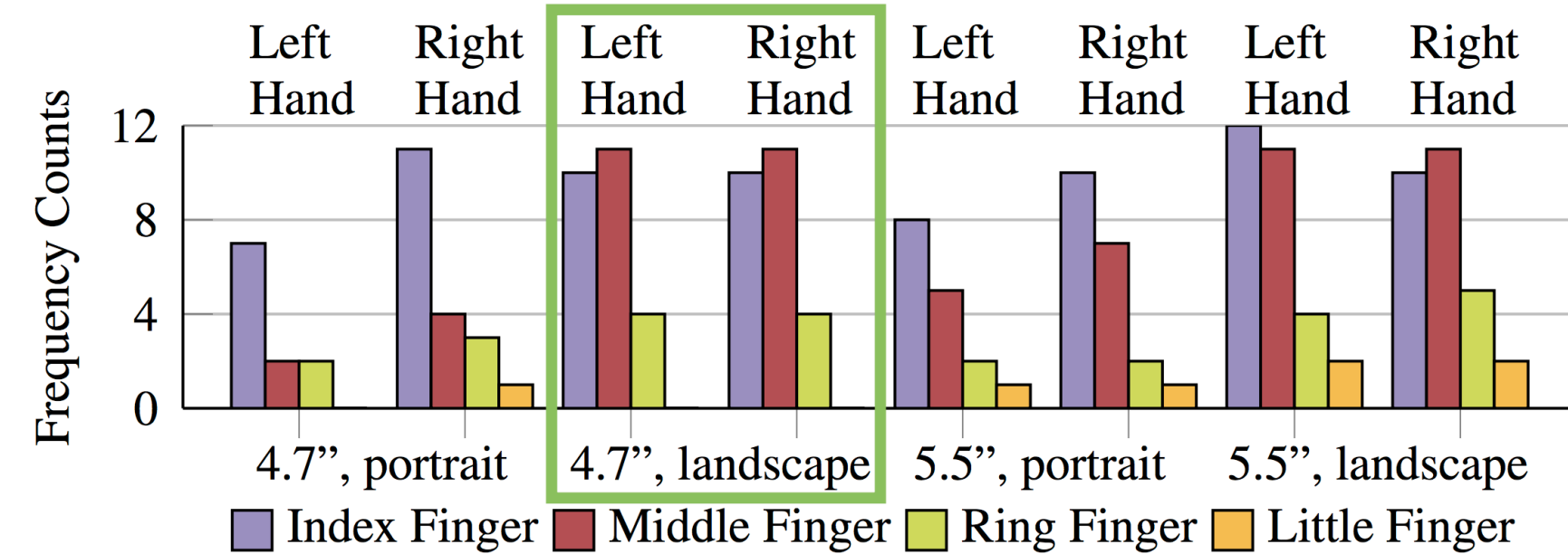
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tSxH5\\_MhKE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tSxH5_MhKE)

[www.hci.rwth-aachen.de](http://www.hci.rwth-aachen.de)

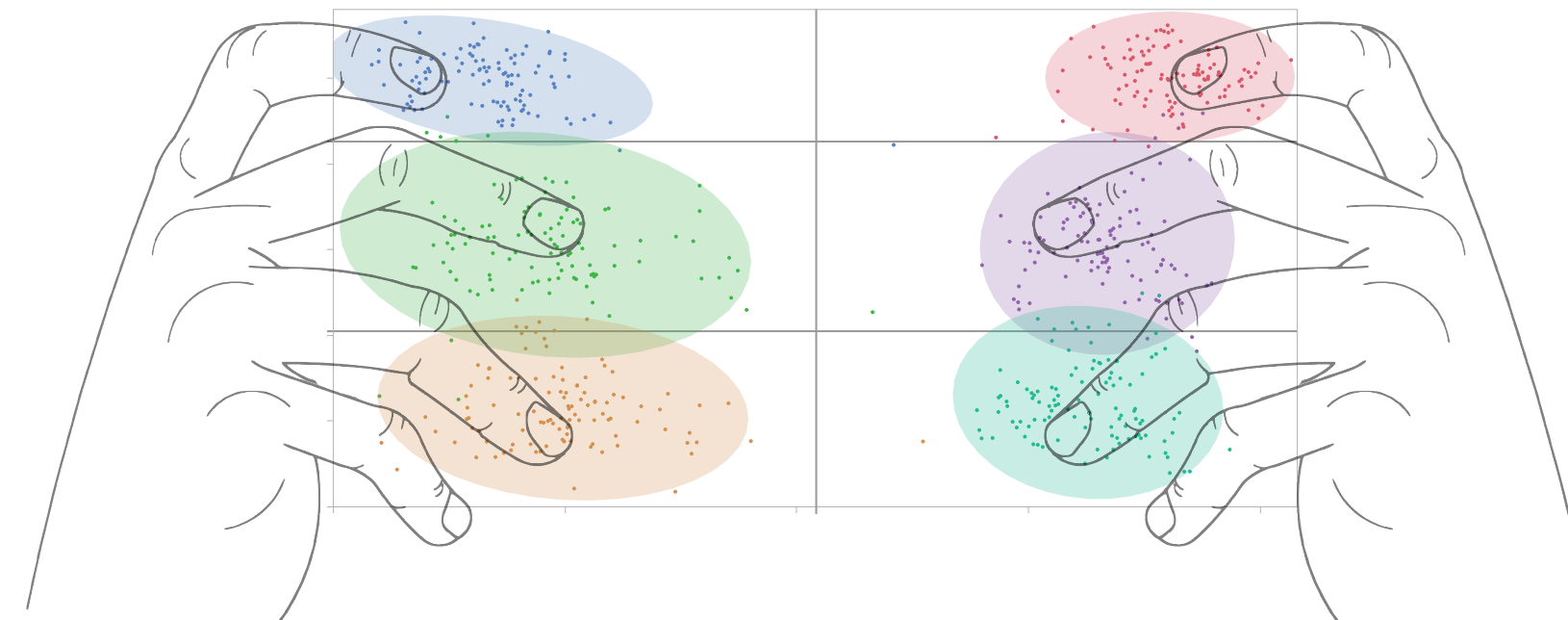


# BackXPress: Research Questions

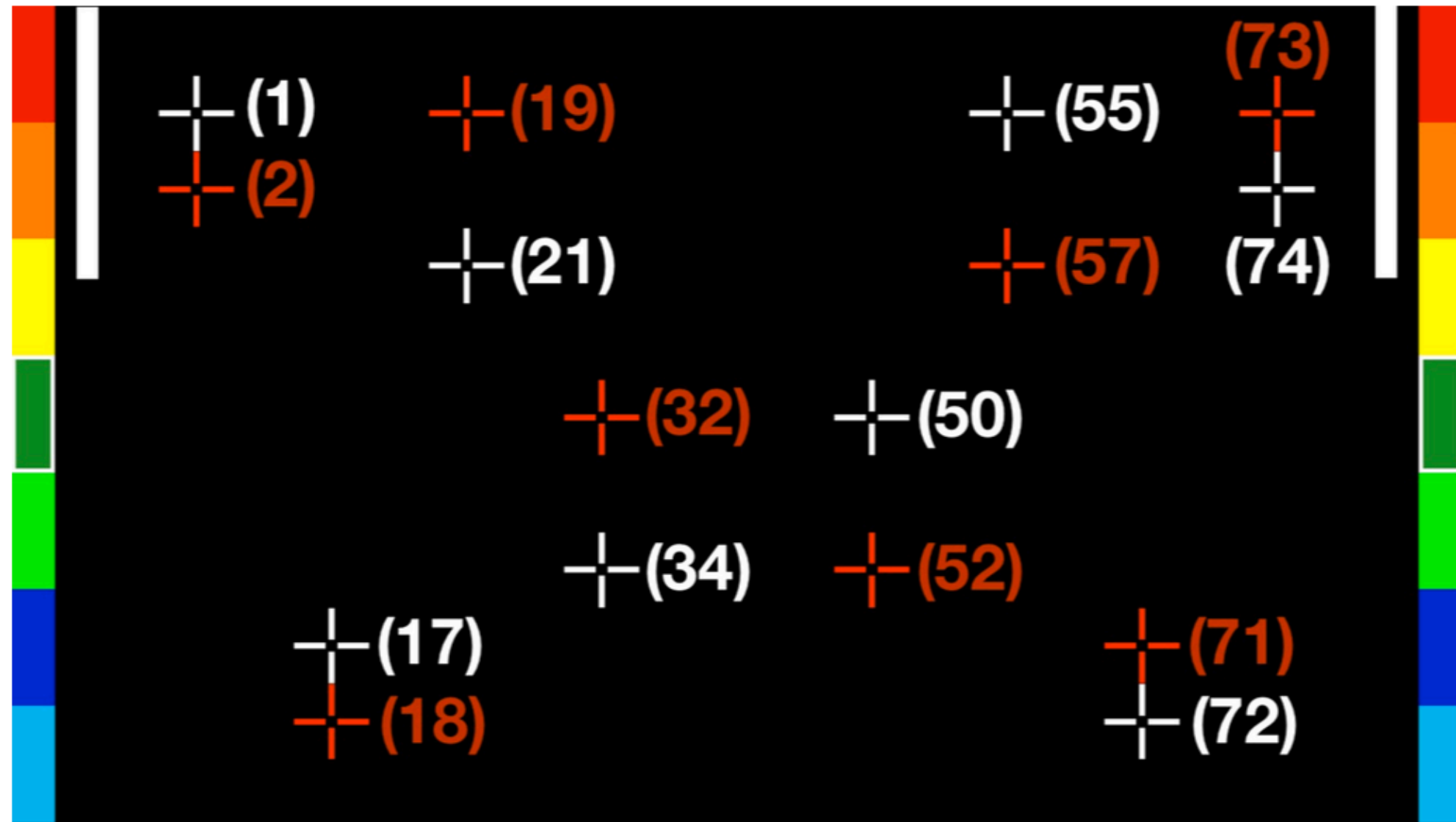
With which fingers can users comfortably exert BoD pressure?



Where at the BoD do users exert pressure with these fingers?

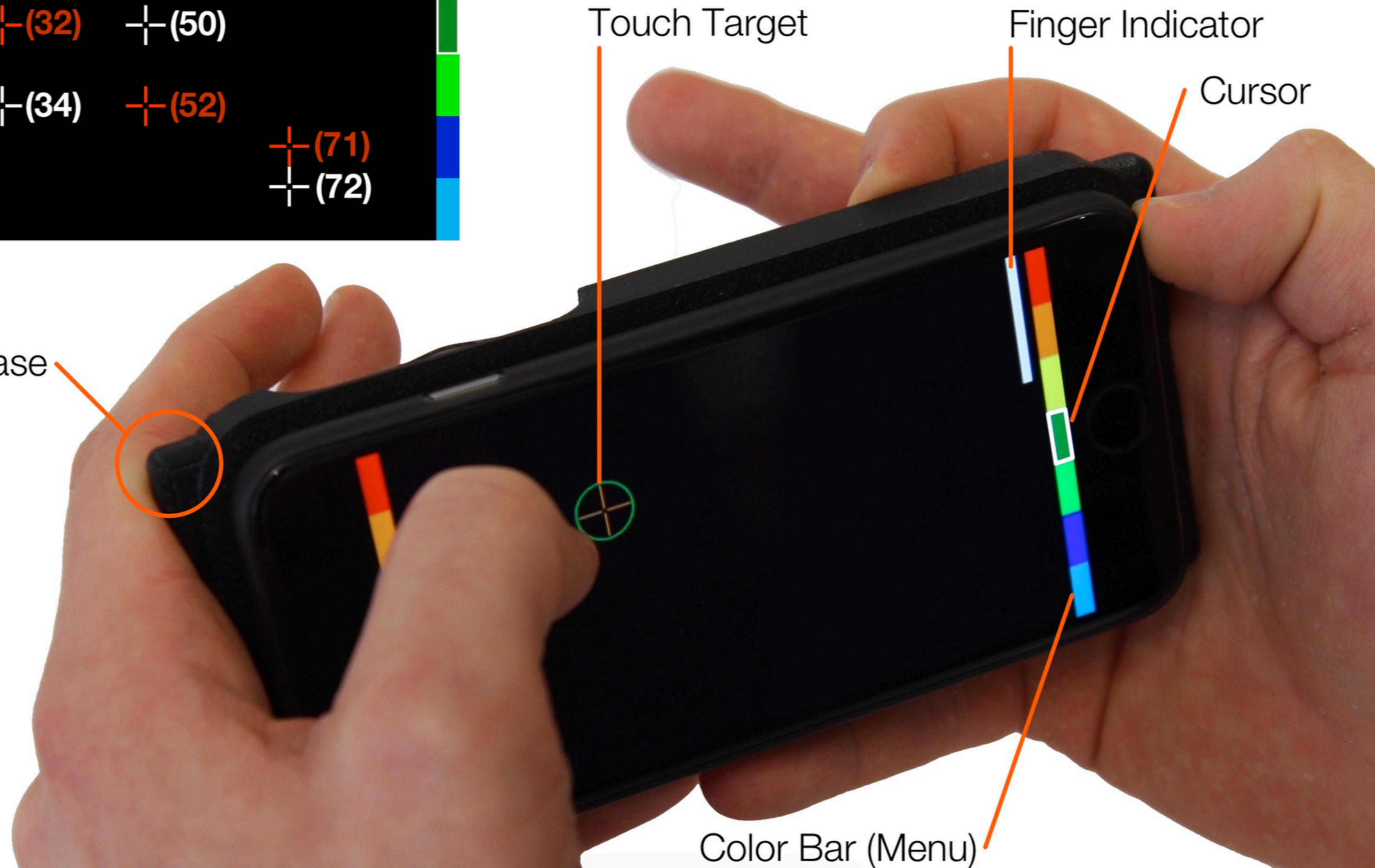






How accurately can users apply BoD force while tapping at the front?

3D-Printed Case



**BackXPress**

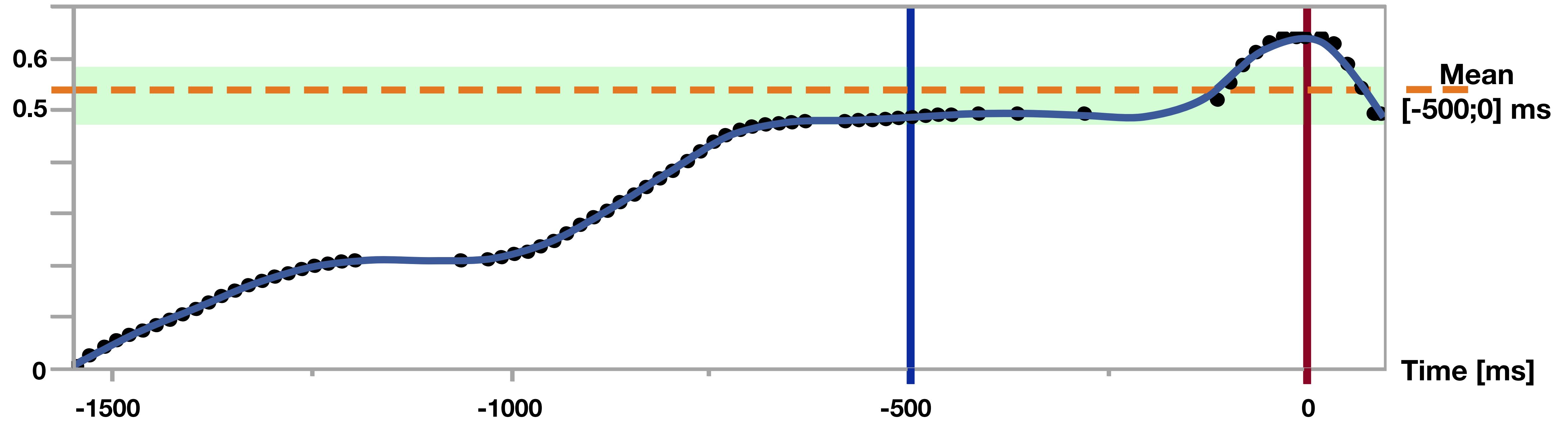
Corsten et al., CHI '18

Color Bar (Menu)



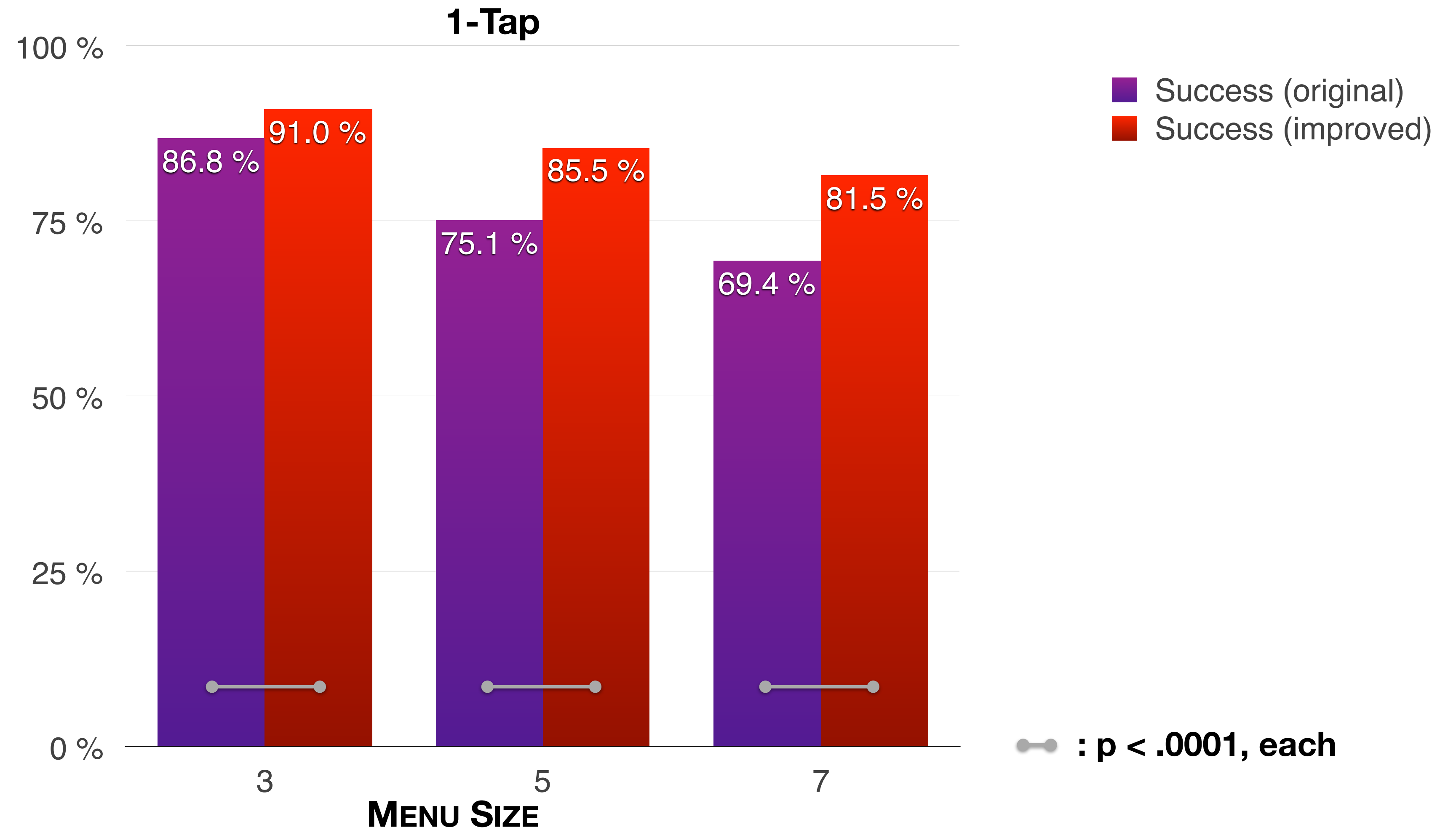
# BackXPress: Improvements

Force [%]





# BackXPress: Improvements



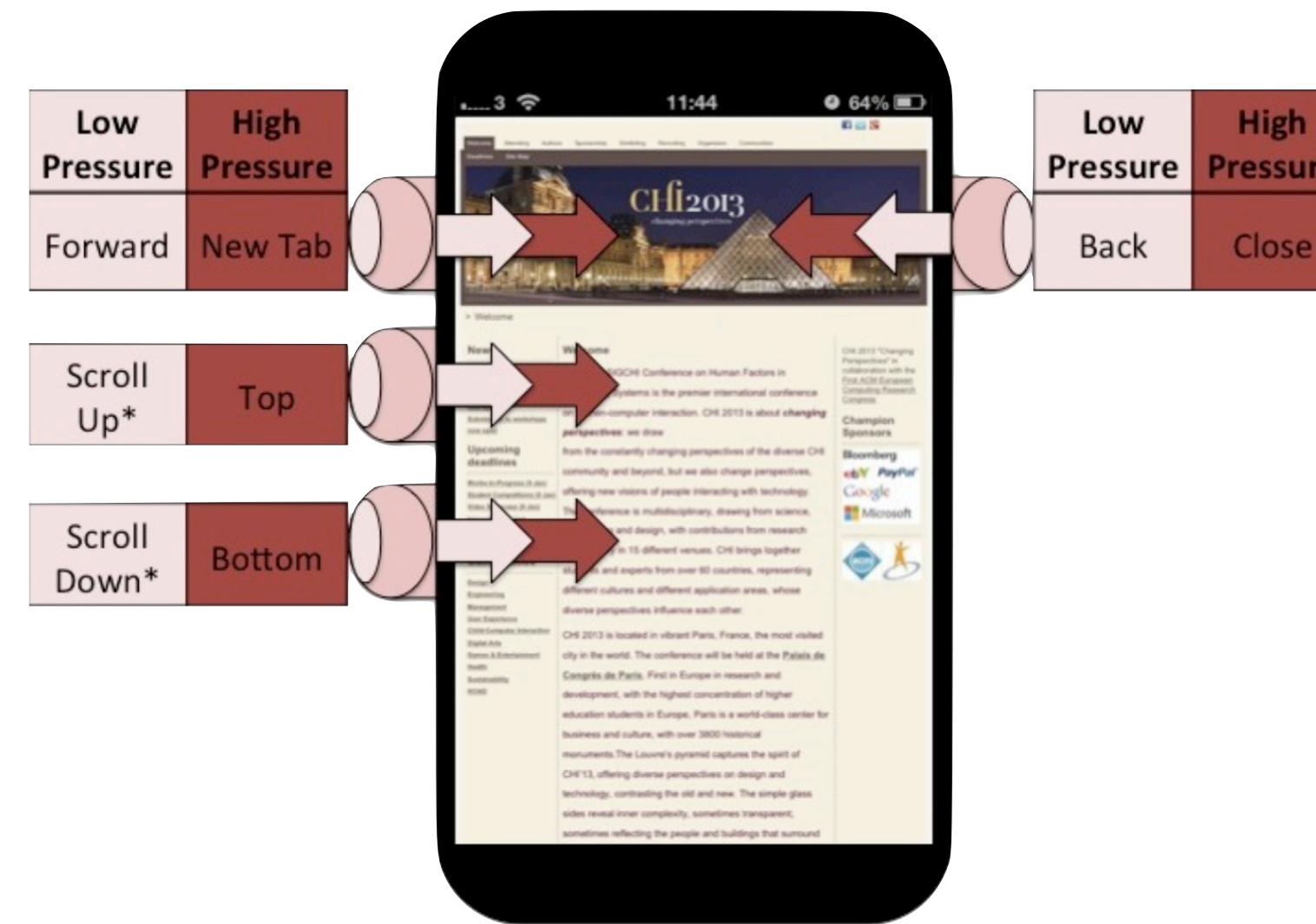
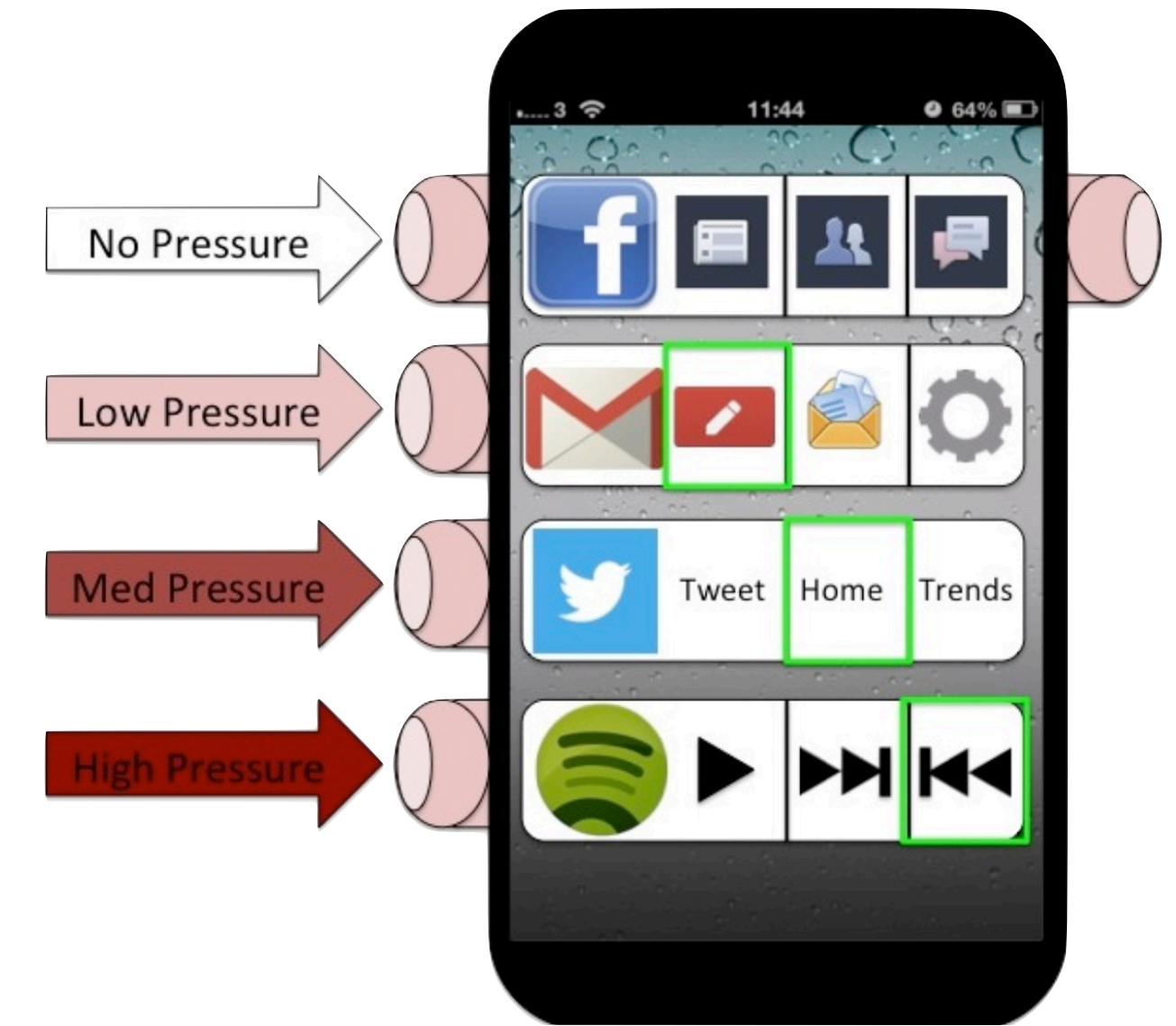






# Towards Utilising One-Handed Multi-Digit Pressure Input

Wilson et al., CHI EA '13





<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sPGvRXhDHE>

# ForceBoard: Subtle Text Entry Leveraging Pressure

**Mingyuan Zhong, Chun Yu, Qian Wang, Xuhai Xu, Yuanchun Shi**

**Department of Computer Science and Technology**

**Key Laboratory of Pervasive Computing, Ministry of Education**

**Global Innovation eXchange Institute**

**Tsinghua University, Beijing, China**



# Forceboard

Zhong et al., CHI '18

- 1D keyboard with sliding cursor controlled by force + tap
- Cursor width: 7 characters
- Quick Release to select, tap to select from available choices
- 11 WMP after 10 minutes of training

the library is closed today

t\_

└\_abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz?!x

<b>t</b>	s	u
r	q	v

Press

traveling to conferences is fun

traveled\_

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz?!x

<b>traveled</b>	overcome	traveling
statement	subsidies	statements

Press



# Benefits of Force Input

- Reduces gesture footprint & occlusion problems (e.g., with on-screen menus)
- Brings natural mappings for manipulation in the z-dimension
  - Pressure-sensitive back of device?
- Lets idle fingers (used for holding the device in place) partake in the interaction
  - Fingers can stay at a fixed location
  - Reachability benefit



# Wrap-Up

- Pressure input extends touch input by adding a z-dimension
- Embedded in desktop and mobile devices
- Benefits: Bounce-back, natural inverse, input from idle fingers, could address occlusion and reachability issues on mobile devices
- A lot of factors influence human performance: Levels, transfer function, control mechanism, feedback, selection mechanism, ...
- Usual DV's: Task completion time, error rate, number of crossings