

**HAND ARM  
VIBRATION**



International conference

**6-9 JUNE 2023**  
Espace Prouvé,  
Nancy, France

# Acute vibrotactile threshold shifts in relation to force and hand-arm vibration

Shuxiang Gao  
Supervisor: Ying Ye  
ISVR, University of Southampton  
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- Background
- Research question
- Experiment design
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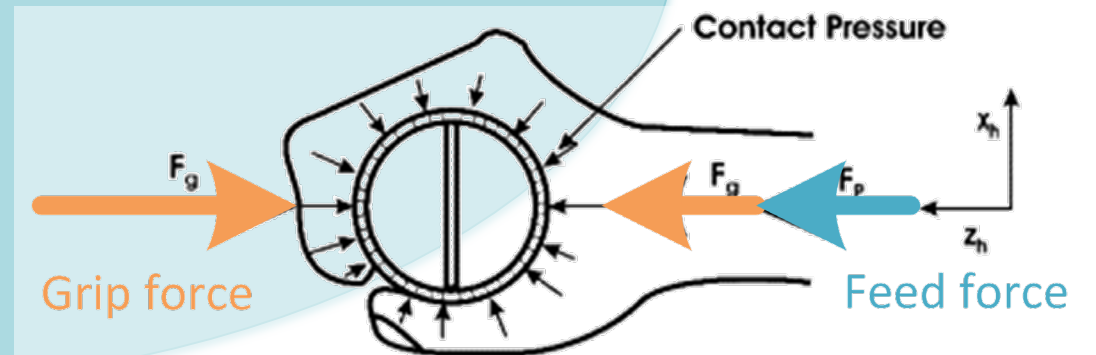
# Background

## — Influencing factors

5349-1 Annex D (informative):

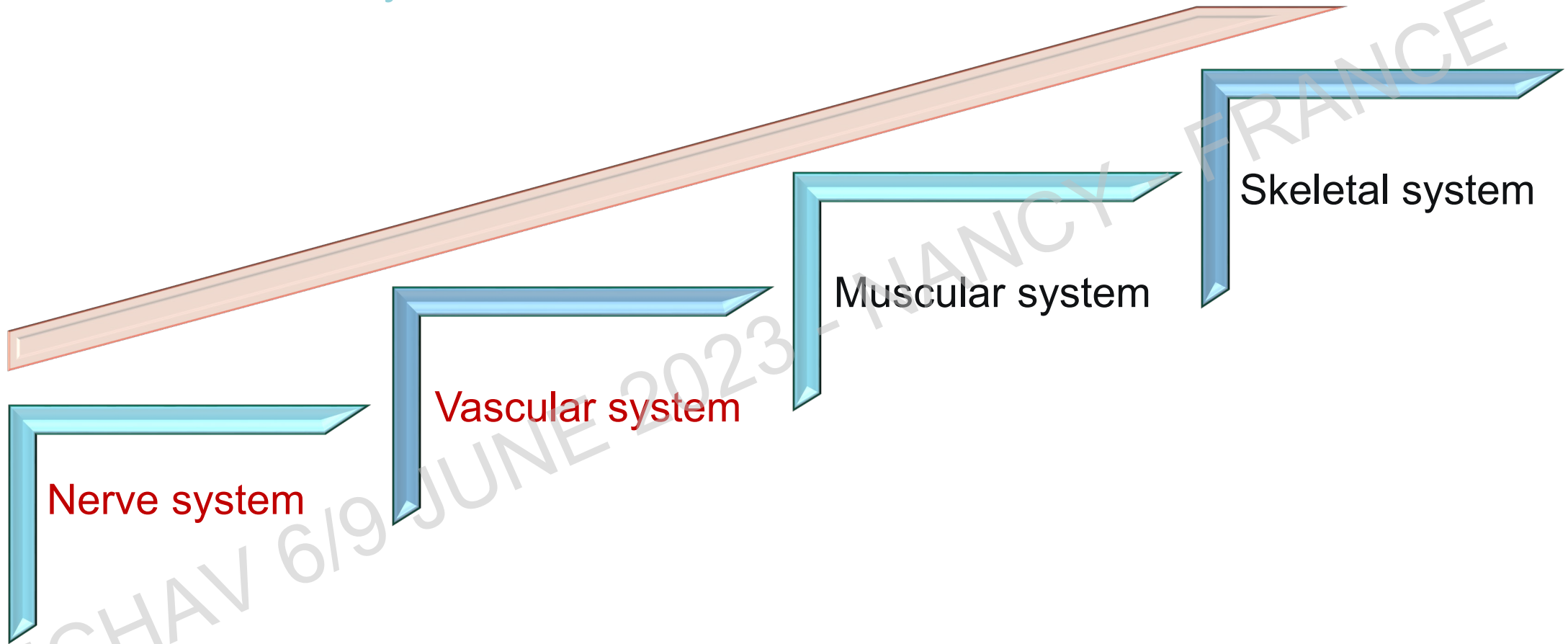
More factors likely to influence the effects of exposure to HAV in working conditions

- Direction of the HAV
- Age, constitution and health
- **Coupling force**
- Hand, arm and body posture
- Exposure location
- Noise
- .....



# Background

— Affected systems



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# Background

## — Acute neural and vascular effects

### Sensorineural response

Numbness,  
Reduced sensation



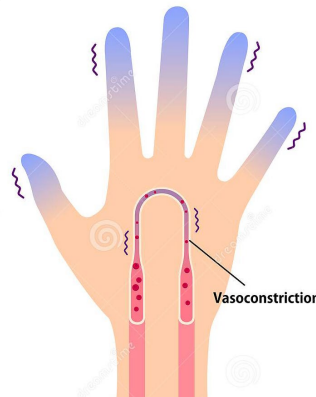
Cold hand

### Sensory testing measures

Vibrotactile perception threshold (**VPT**)  
Thermotactile perception threshold (TPT)

### Vascular response

Loss of blood flow  
→ Coldness

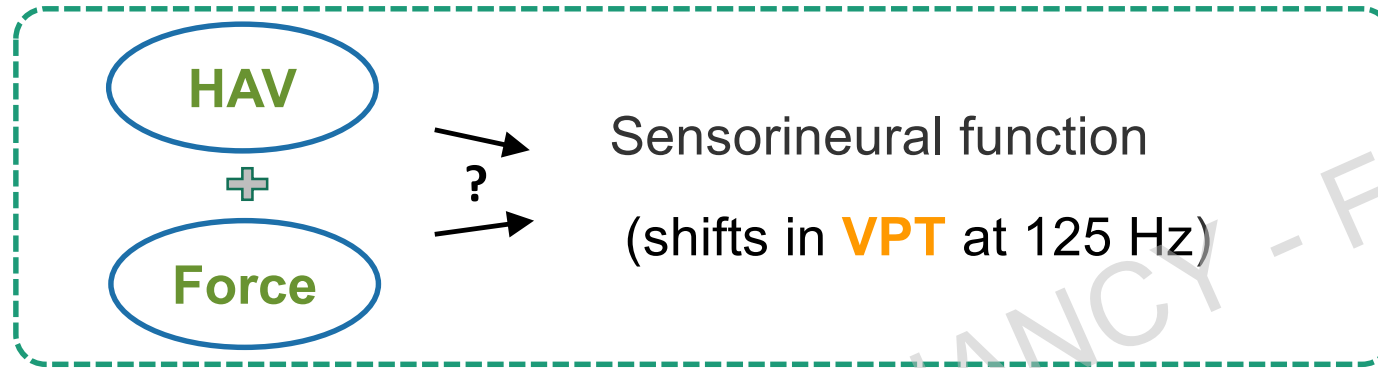


### Vascular testing measures (acute)

Finger blood flow (FBF)  
Finger skin temperature (FST)

Figure REF: [Stock Photos & Images, Vectors, Video & Audio - Dreamstime;](#)  
[St Augustine Orthopaedic Surgery | Jacksonville Sports Med \(oastaug.com\)](#)

# Experiment question and design



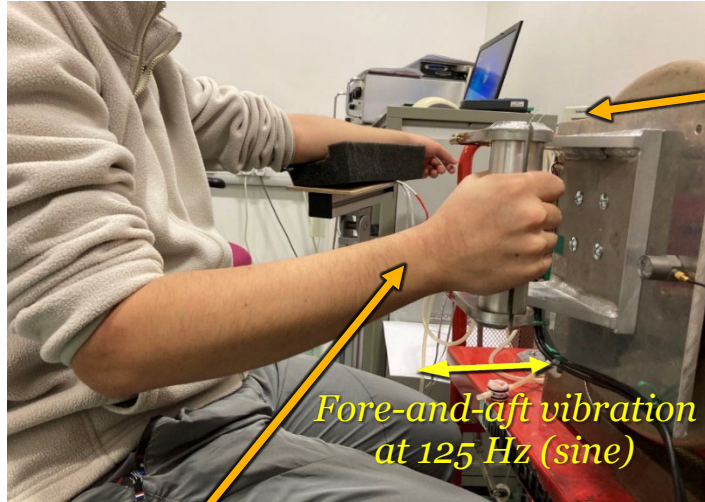
20 vibration and force situations :

	No vibration	V1 = 5.5 ms <sup>-2</sup> r.m.s. HAV	V2 = 11.0 ms <sup>-2</sup> r.m.s. HAV	V2 = 22.0 ms <sup>-2</sup> r.m.s. HAV	V2 = 44.0 ms <sup>-2</sup> r.m.s. HAV
F1 = 10 N	F1	F1+V1	F1+V2	F1+V3	F1+V4
F2 = 20 N	F2	F2+V1	F2+V2	F2+V3	F2+V4
F3 = 40 N	F3	F3+V1	F3+V2	F3+V3	F3+V4
F4 = 80 N	F4	F4+V1	F4+V2	F4+V3	F4+V4

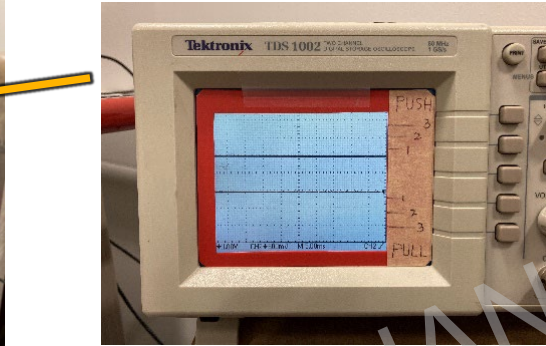


# Experiment design

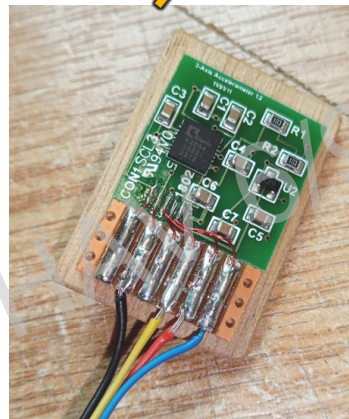
## —Apparatus and approaches taken



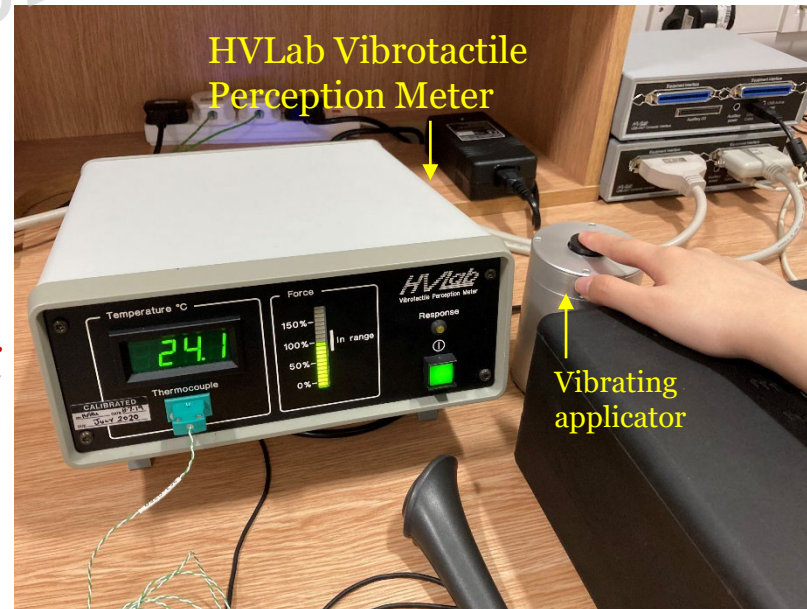
Fore-and-aft vibration at 125 Hz (sine)



Position of the subjects when exposed to motion.



VPT test at 125 Hz  
Vibration stimuli

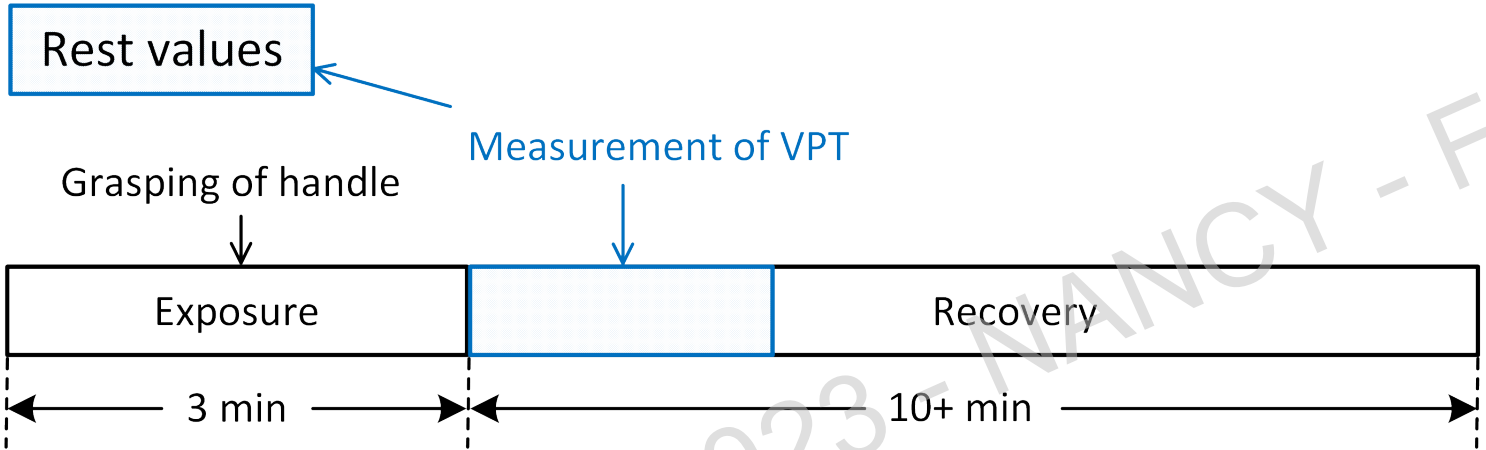


HVLab Vibrotactile Perception Meter

Vibrating applicator



# Experiment design



Temporary threshold shifts (TTS) = | Post values - Rest values |

Detail information:

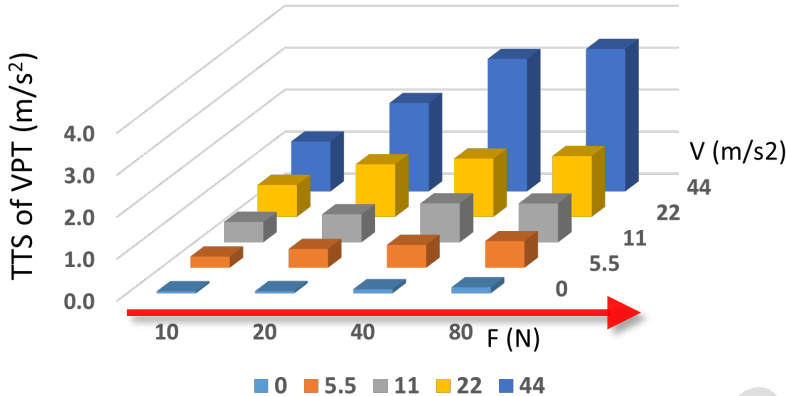
<i>Num. of subjects</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Hand size</i>	<i>Grip strength</i>	<i>Room temperature</i>
15	23-41 years	7.0-8.5	400-650 N	22.2±2 °C



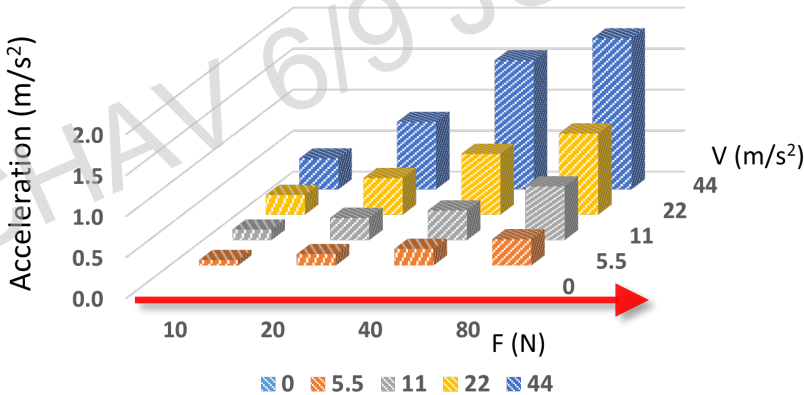


# Results

- Temporary threshold shifts (TTS) of VPT

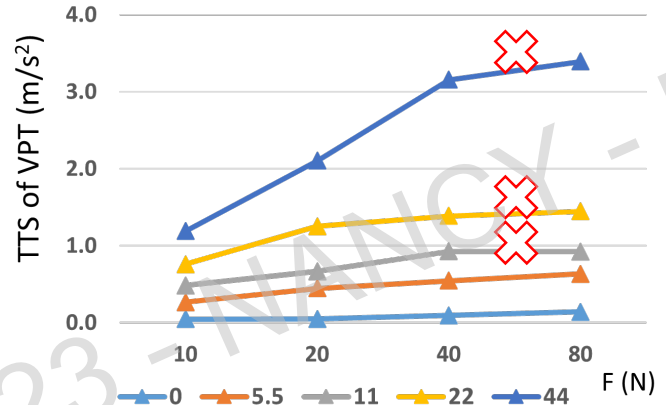
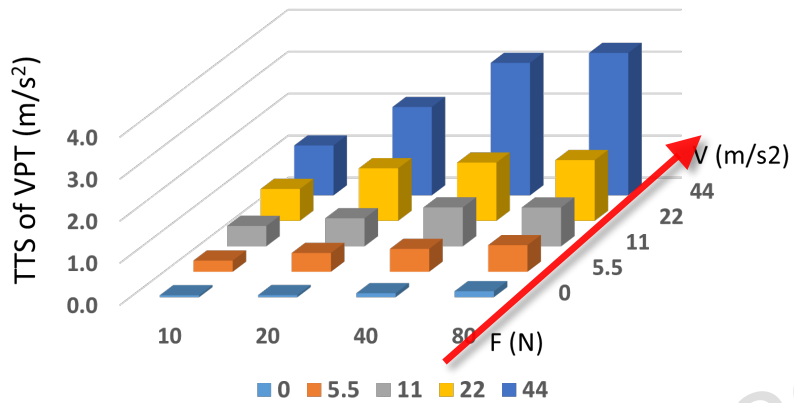


- Acceleration at hand wrist

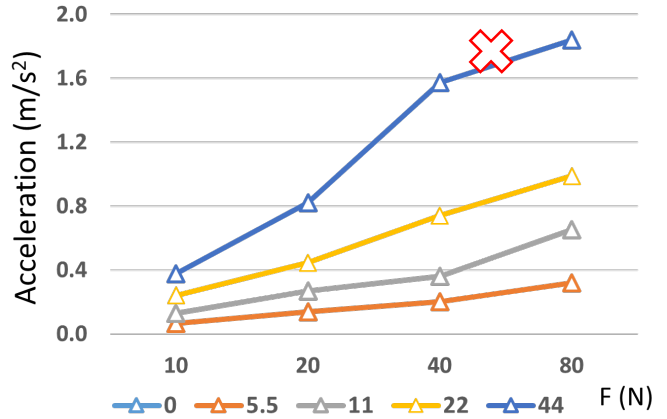
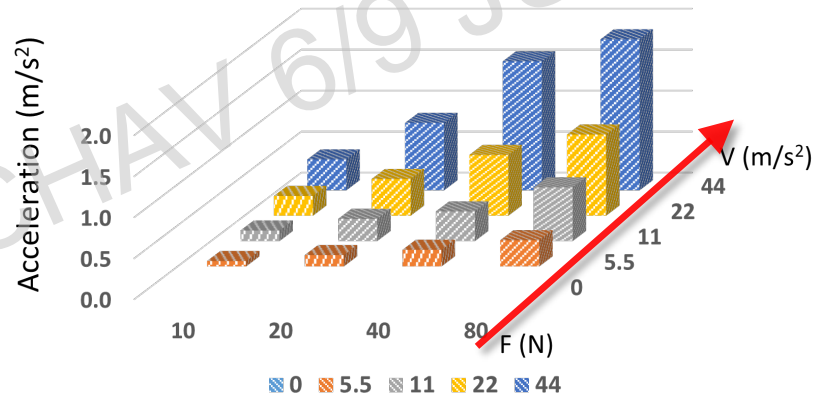


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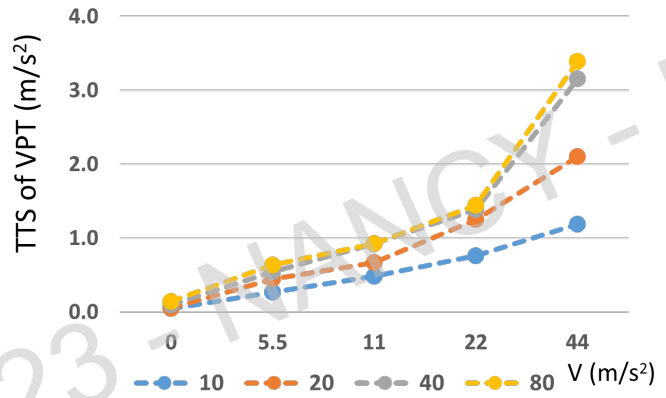
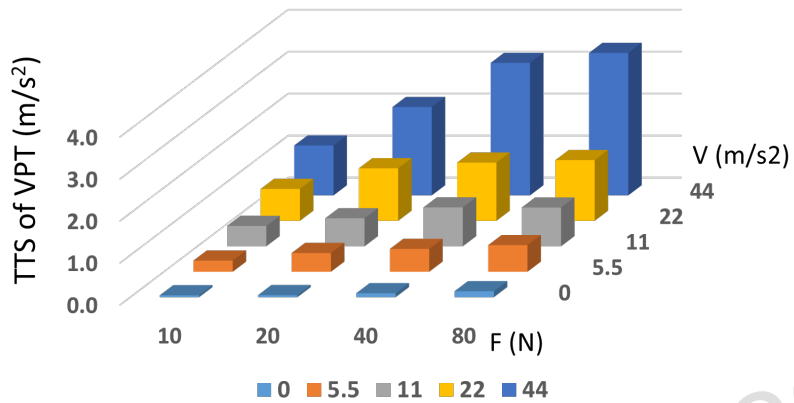


- Acceleration at hand wrist

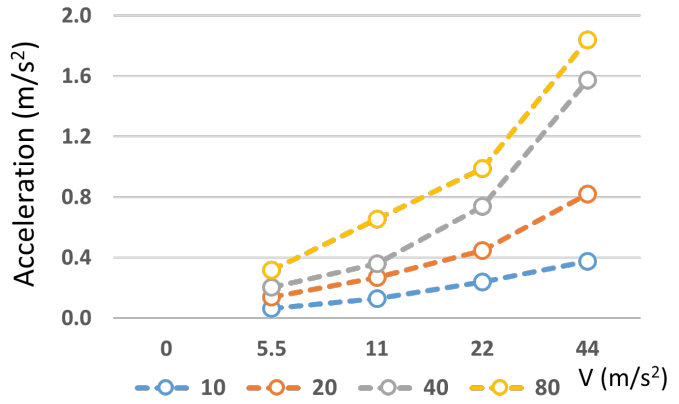
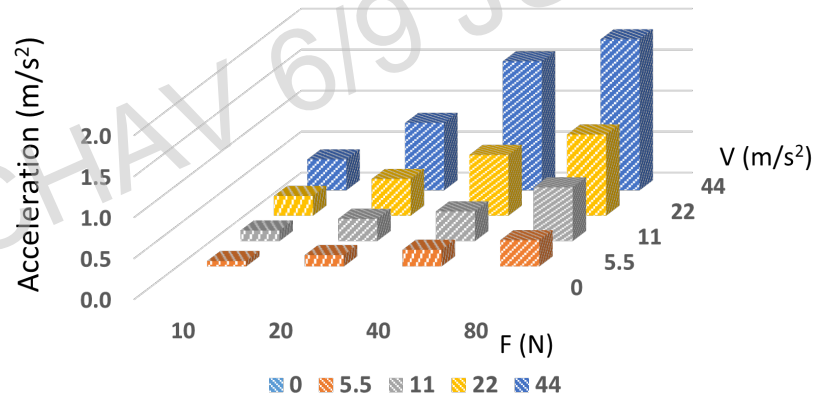


# Results

- Temporary threshold shifts (TTS) of VPT



- Acceleration at hand wrist



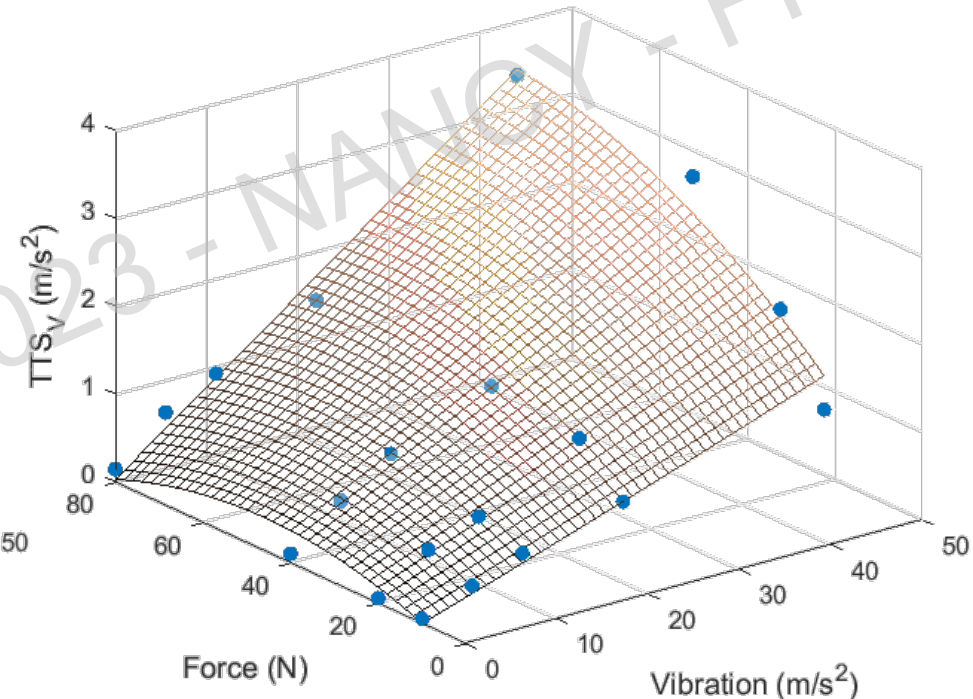
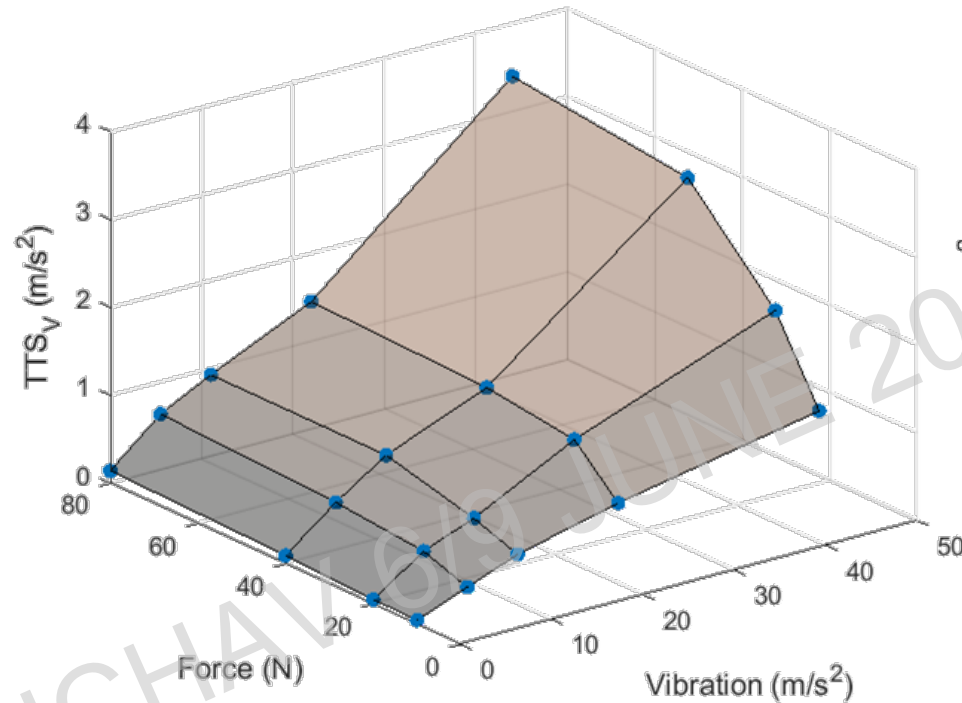
# Results — Fitting model

- TTS of VPT: A function of vibration level and force level

TTS<sub>v</sub>

V (m/s<sup>2</sup>)

F (N)



Polynomial with two terms (V, F) up to power 2

$$TTS_v = 4.284 \cdot 10^{-5} V^2 + 6.000 \cdot 10^{-4} V \cdot F - 2.974 \cdot 10^{-4} F^2 + 0.028 \cdot V + 0.027 \cdot F - 0.253$$

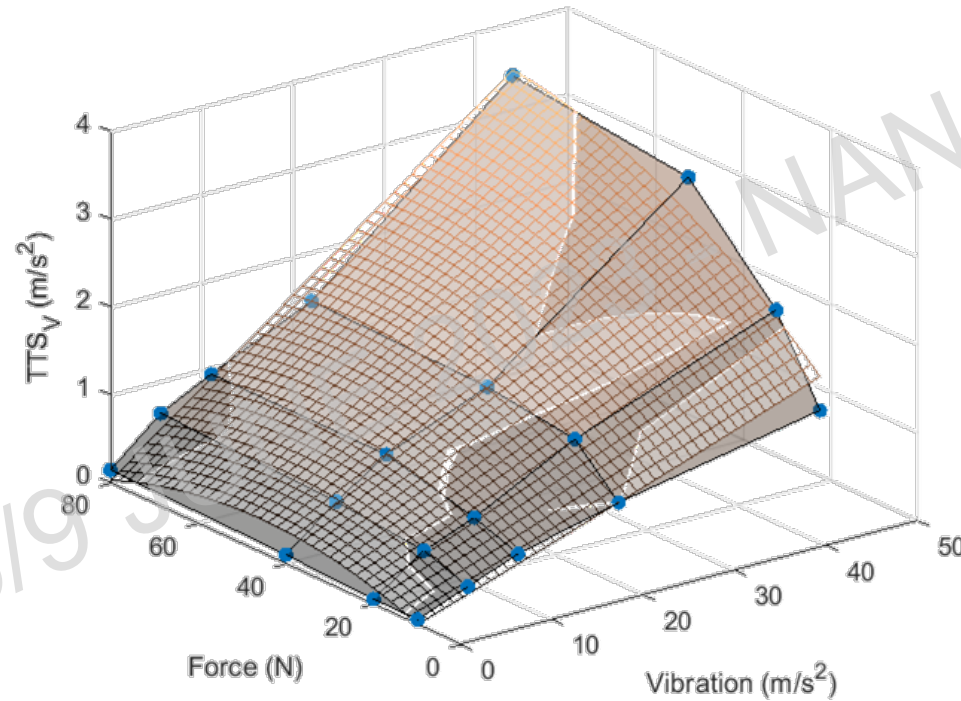
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## Summary

- The sensorineural effects:
  - Greater HAV → more VPT shifts.
  - Greater force → more VPT shifts
  - VPT shifts: A function of vibration level and force level
  - Correlated with transmitted acceleration



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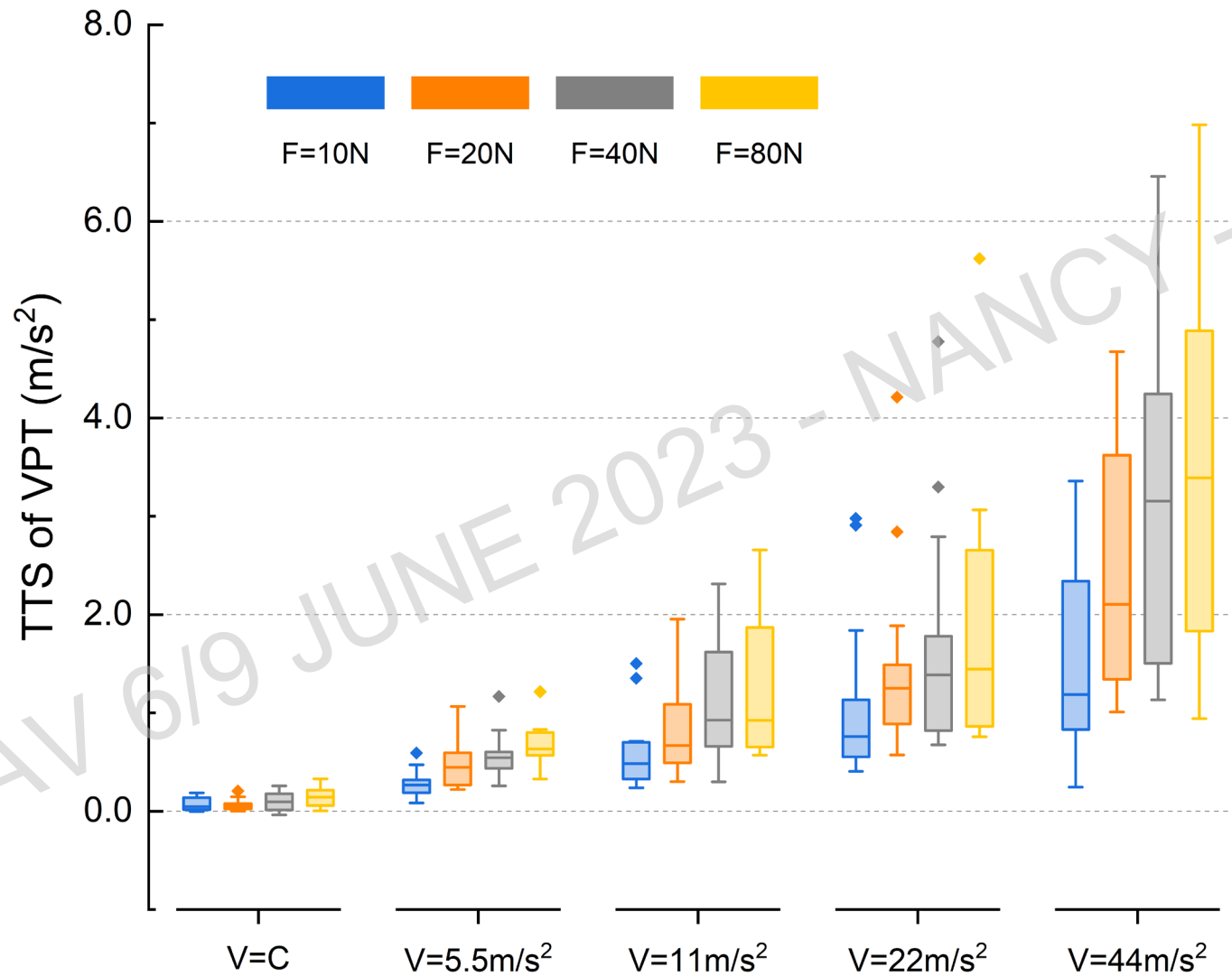


Thank you for your attention!

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# Results

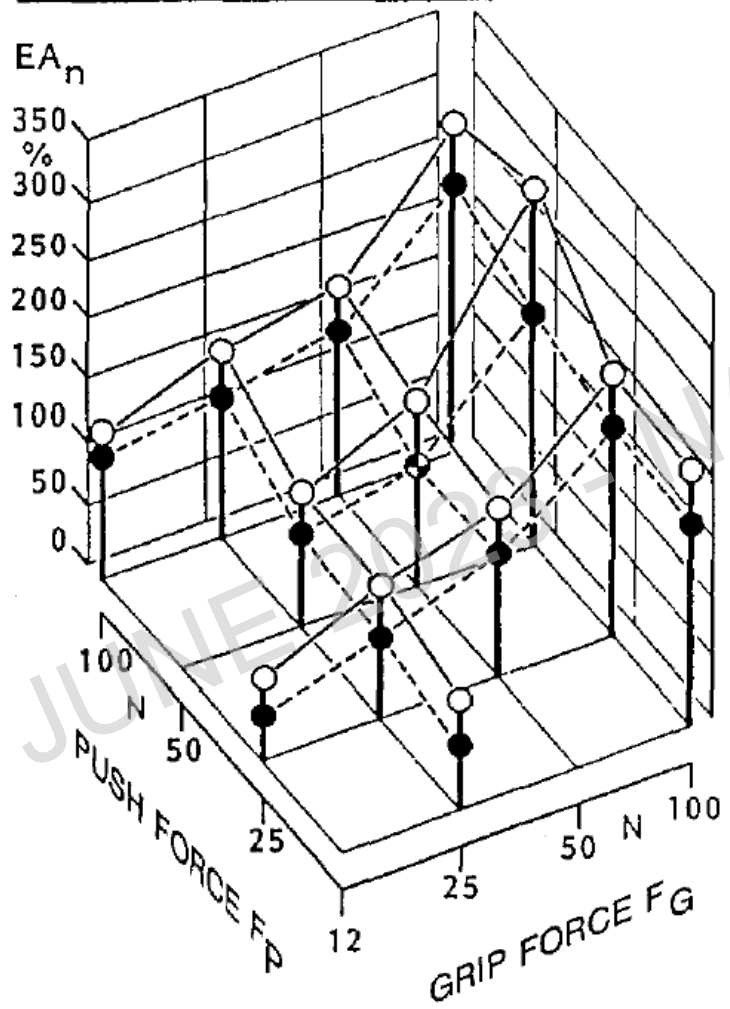


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M. flexor carpi ulnaris



● WITHOUT VIBRATION      ○ WITH VIBRATION  
 ● REFERENCE VALUE (100%), WITHOUT VIBRATION