Effects of tool use and perturbation during motor adaptation on hand localization in immersive virtual reality

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Are end-effector shifts also observed in virtual reality environments?

- Our brain has a remarkable capacity for learning movements and adapting them to accomplish a motor goal.
- When visual feedback of hand position is misaligned, people can compensate for this perturbation, show persistent reach aftereffects, and even misestimate the location of the unseen hand in the direction of the previous visual training.

Participants reached to targets and indicated hand/pen

Part 1 - Hand Localization

Reach-to-Target

Aligned O Hand path Cursor path

Unseen hand

Targets

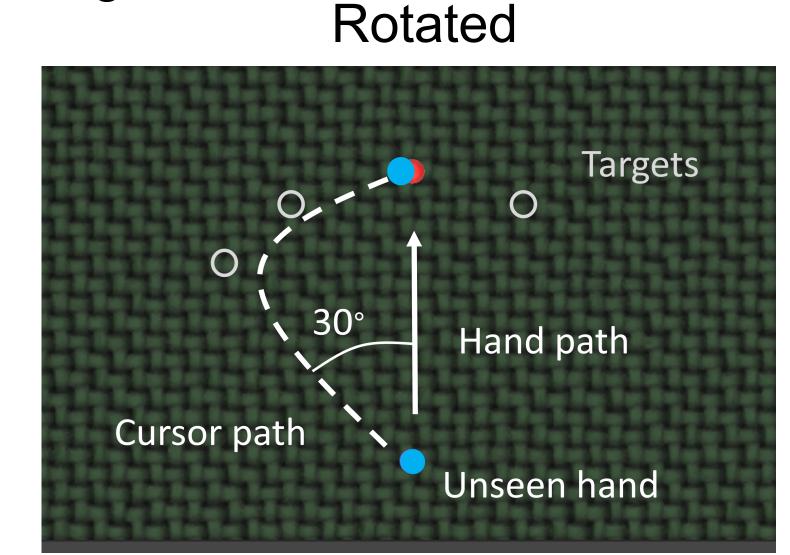
0

Dock

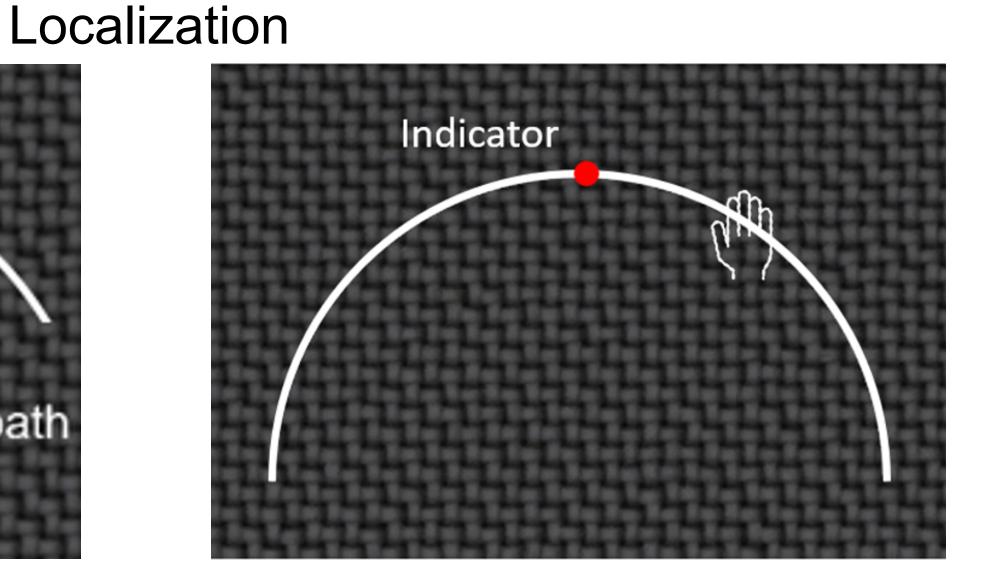
0

Pen path

Home



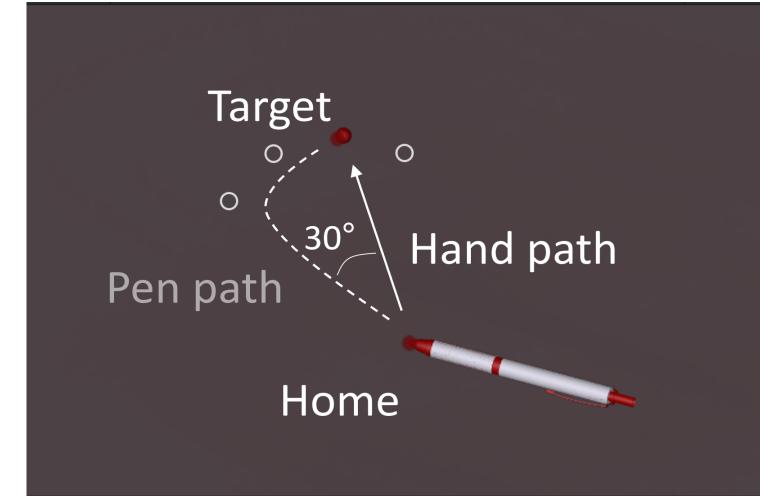
Hand path Jnseen hand



Part 2 - Tool Localization

Reach-to-Target

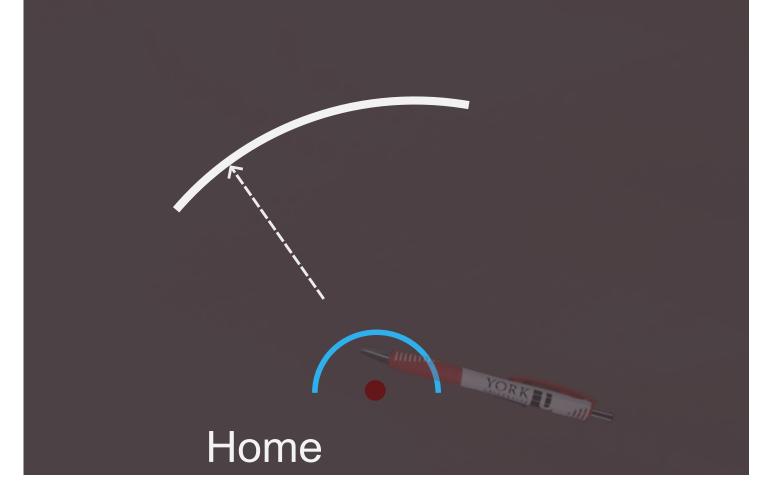
Aligned Target

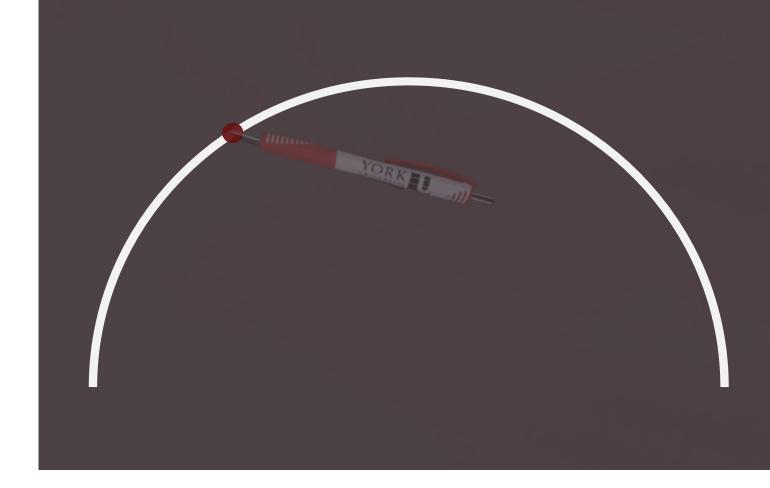


Rotated

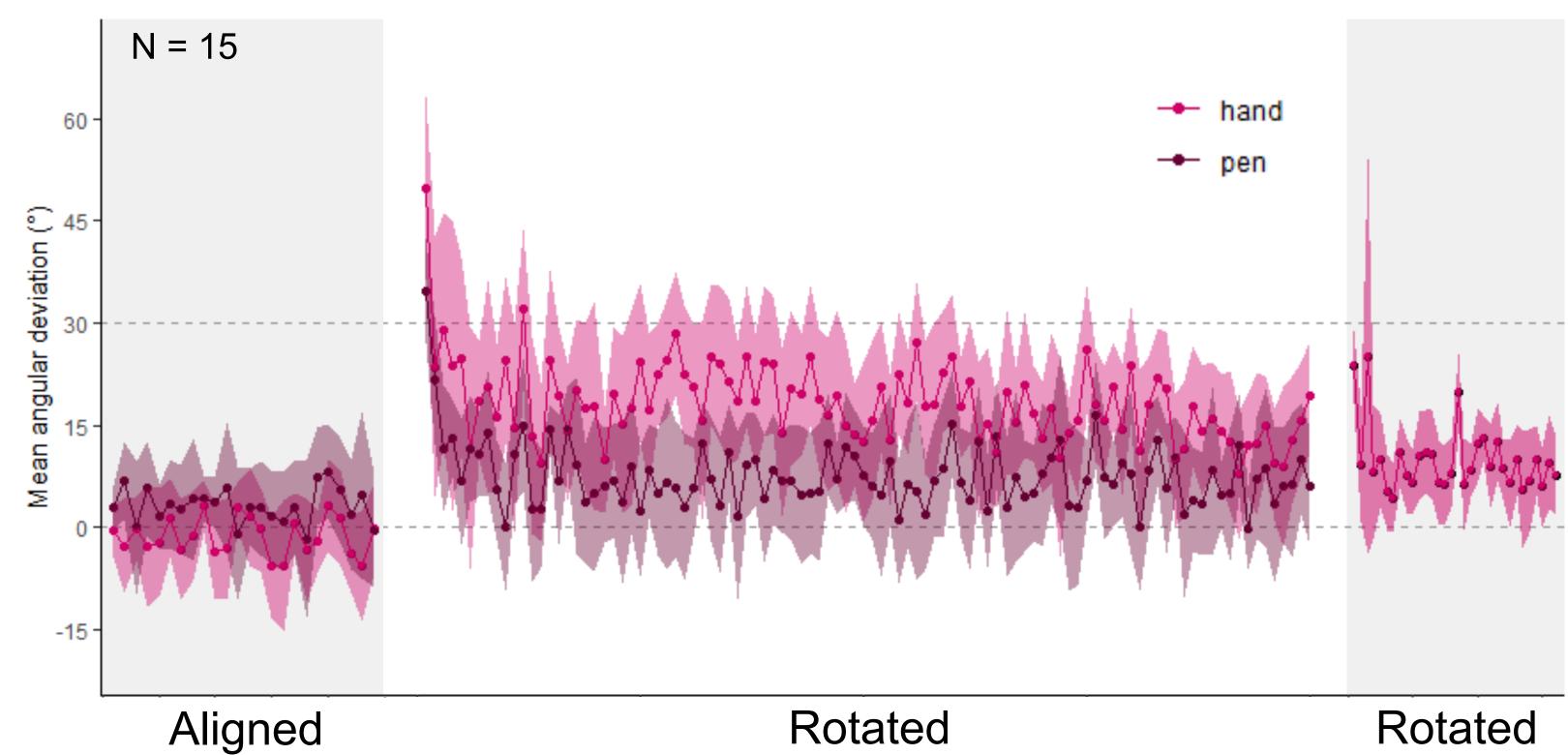


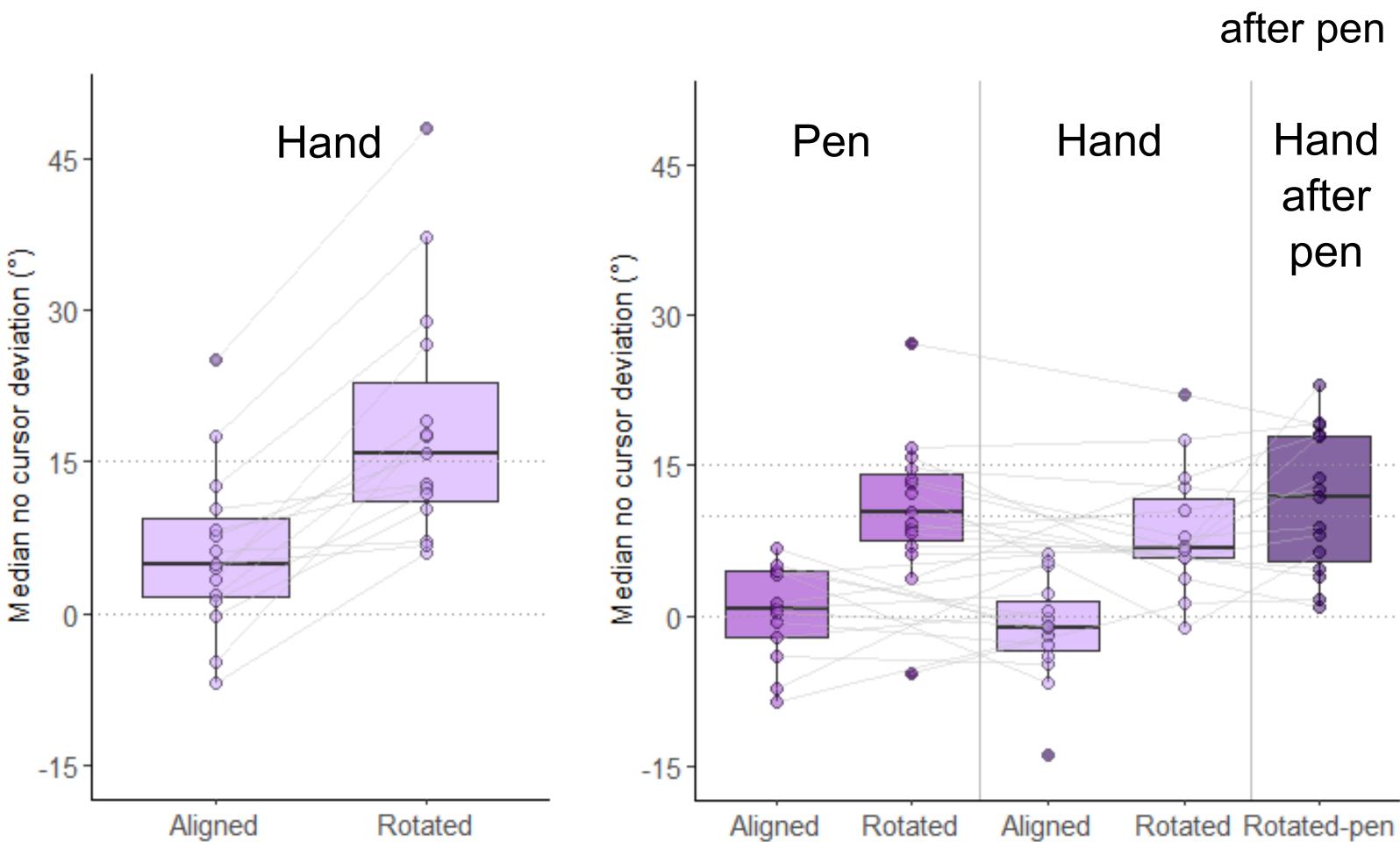
Hand path

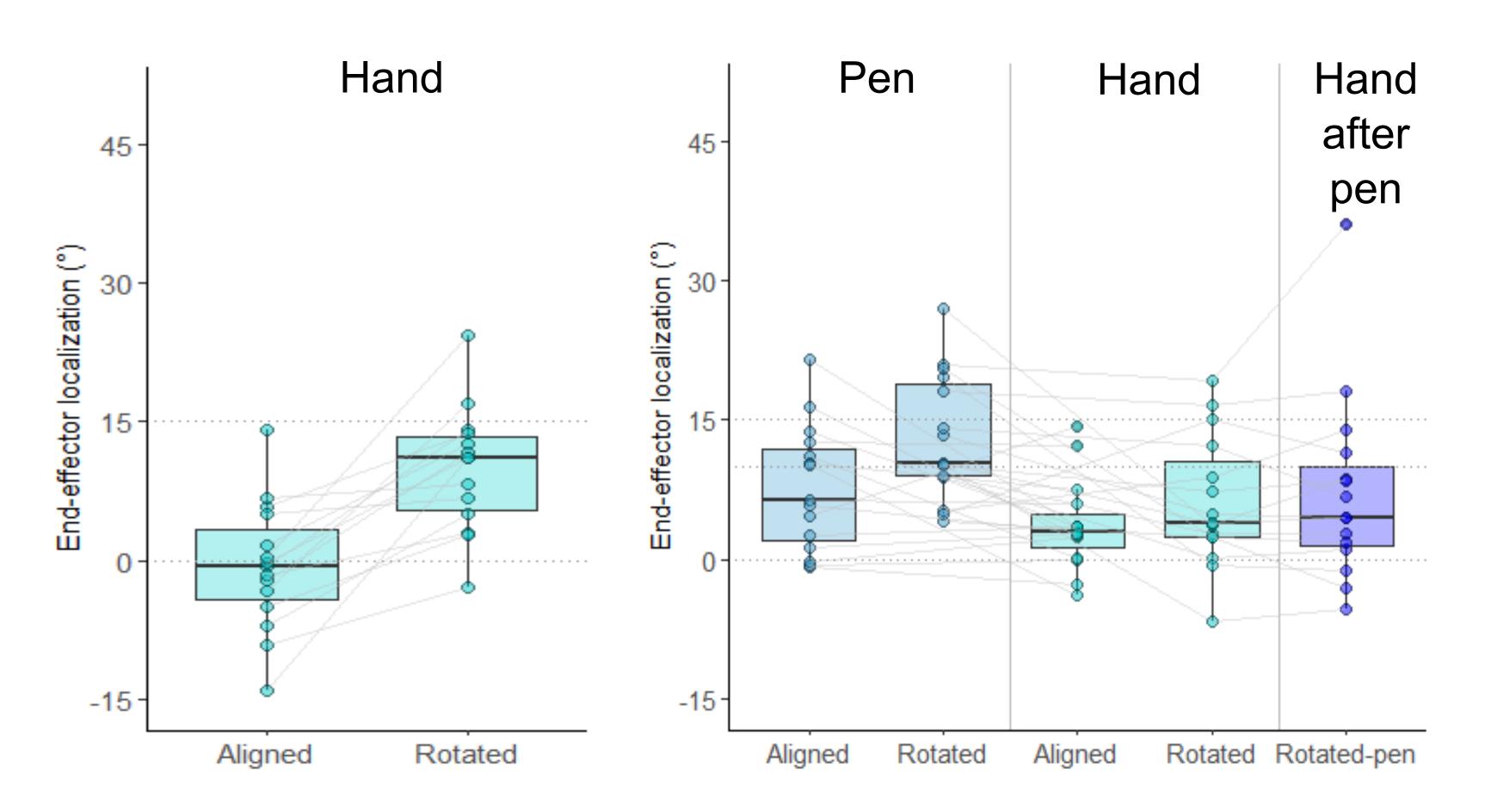




Reaches compensated for perturbation which led to reach aftereffects and shifts in hand and tool localization







In VR, adapting to pen reaches led to changes in reach aftereffects and estimate of pen location, but not hand.