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Assessment of Drug Picking Activity using RGB-D Camera

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■ About Me

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- **Course:** Ph.D. candidate student
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- **Research of interest**
 - 3D human pose estimation and its application
 - Human activity recognition
 - Human behavior analysis

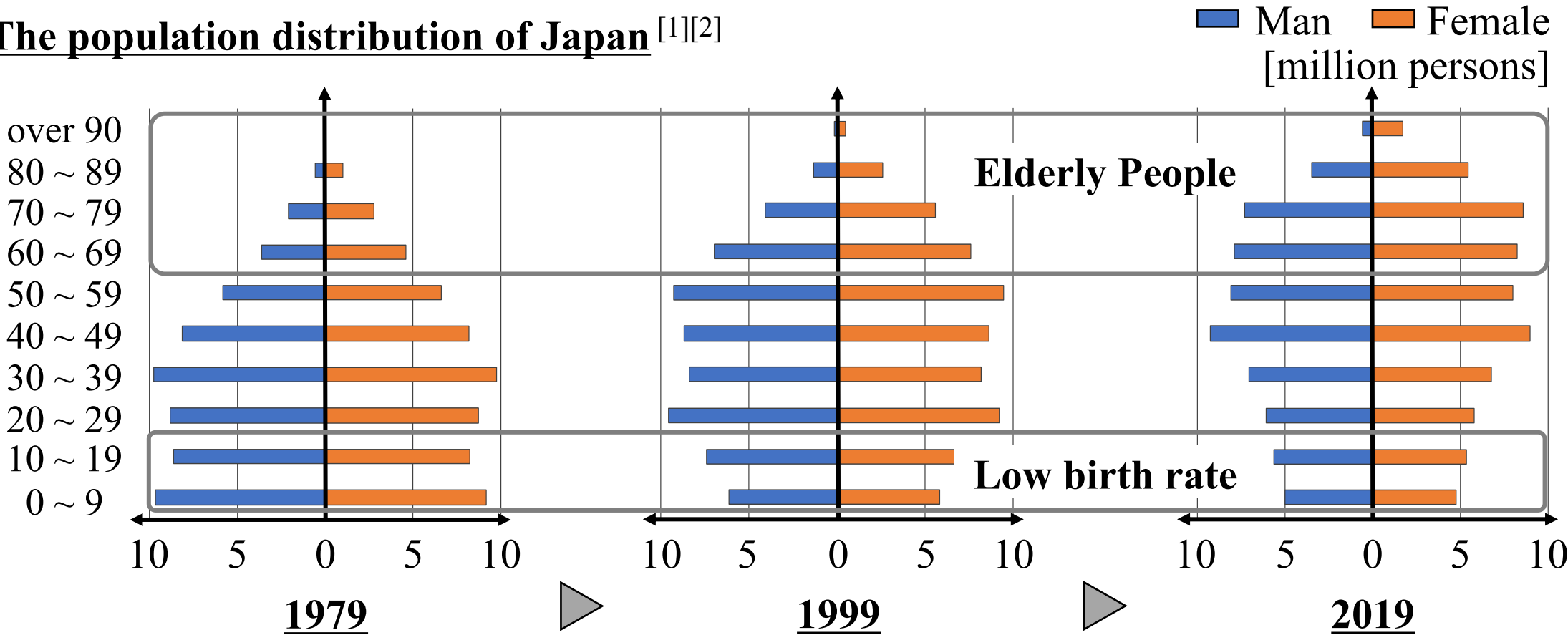
Agenda

- Background
- Research Aim
- The Tools used in This Study
- The Proposed Framework for Drug Picking Activity
- Experiment 1
- Experiment 2
- The Effectiveness of Our Proposed Framework
- Conclusion

■ Background

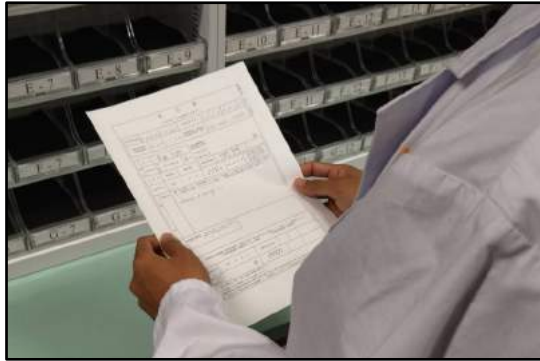
The aging rate is increasing because of medical advancement and decreasing birth rate and so on.

The population distribution of Japan [1][2]



■ Background

Drug picking procedure in Japan



1. Check the prescription



2. Pick the drugs



3. Check the drugs



4. Explain to the patient

A pharmacist's workload is increasing due to expanding the demand of drugs in an aged society. In Japan, non-pharmacists became able to pick some type of drugs in order to decrease the burden on pharmacists. However, picking error tends to occur since some drugs are similar.

➡ A system is required to prevent the error during drug picking activity.

■ Background

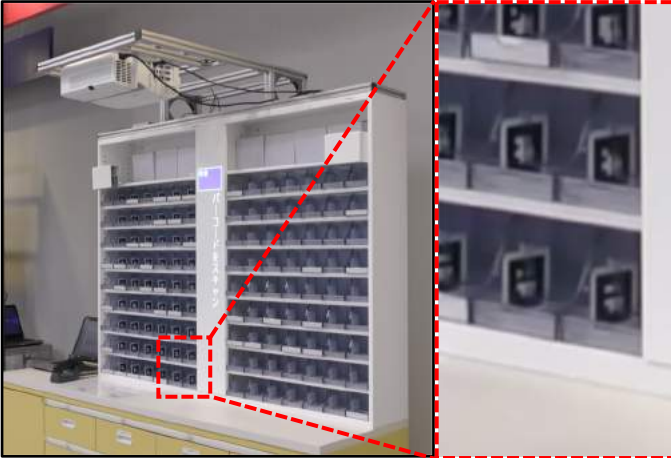
Previous methods to prevent the error for drug picking activity



1. Bar-code Scanner [4]



2. ADS [5]



3. DCM using AR markers [6]

1. Bar-code or RFID method

→ Cumbersome to scan

2. Automated Dispensing System (ADS)

→ Require high cost

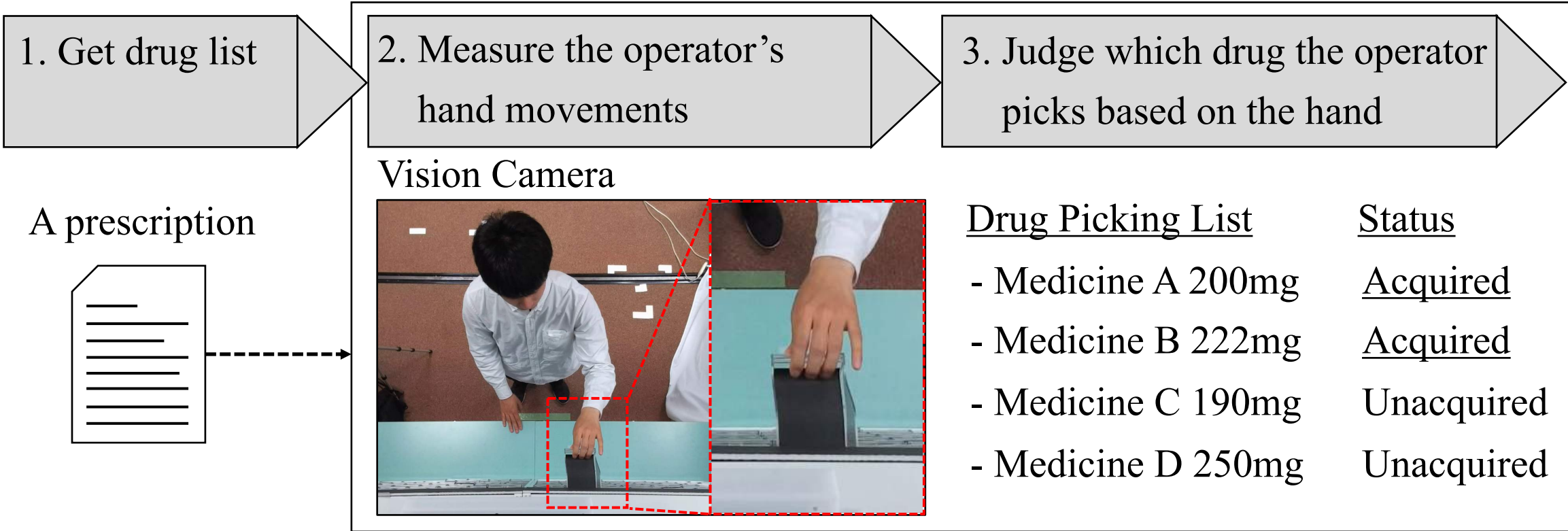
3. Dispensing Cabinet Modification (DCM)

→ Need to install a lot of LEDs or AR markers

Research Aim

This study attempts to build a framework for judging the drug picking activity in order to detect the errors easily at low-cost.

The judgement framework



■ The Tools used in This Study

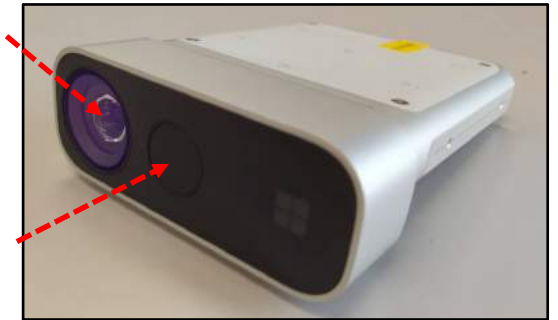
Accurate 3D hand detection in real space

➤ **Azure Kinect**

This device can detect the 3D hand landmarks in real space using a depth sensor.

RGB camera

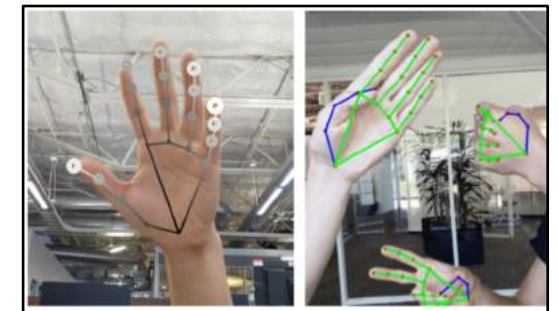
Depth sensor



Azure Kinect [7]

➤ **MediaPipe library**

This software library can detect the 2D hand landmark from an RGB image using Convolutional Neural Network.



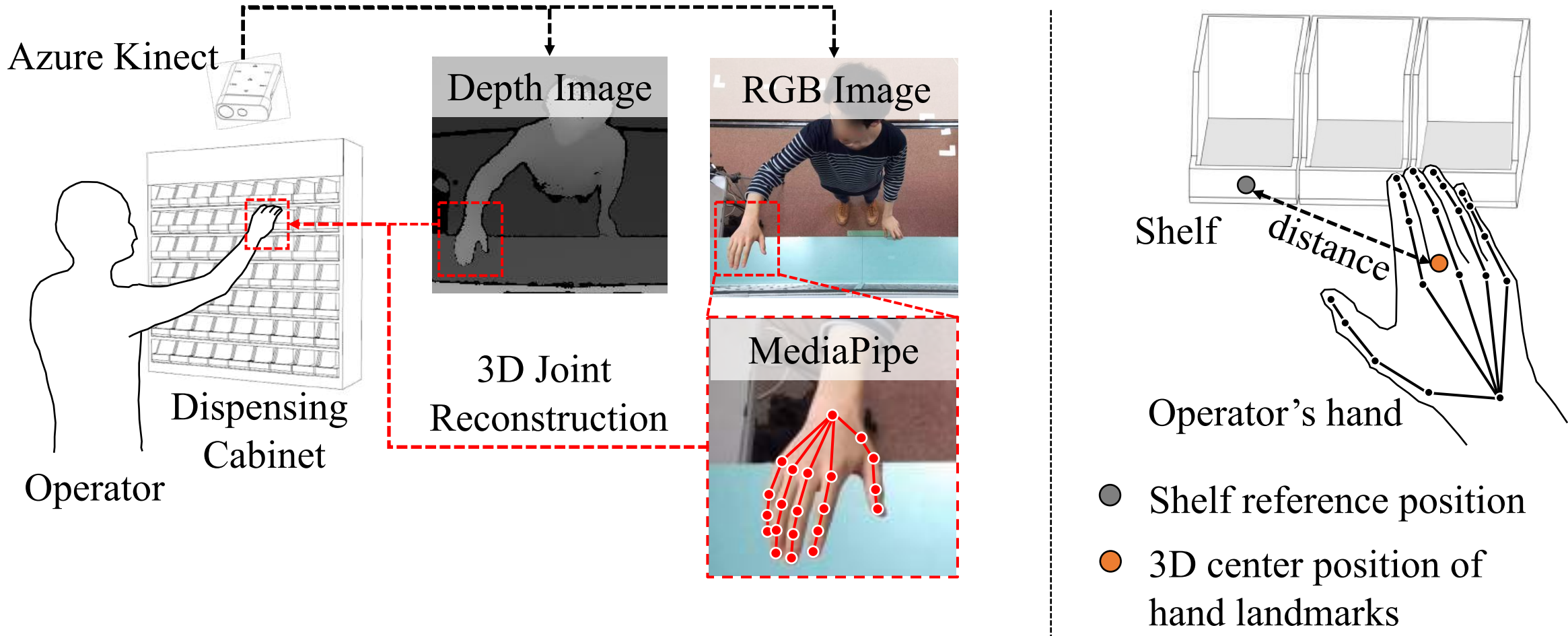
MediaPipe library [8]



We expect that 3D hand landmarks can be detected accurately by combining the Azure Kinect with the MediaPipe library.

■ The Proposed Framework for Drug Picking Activity

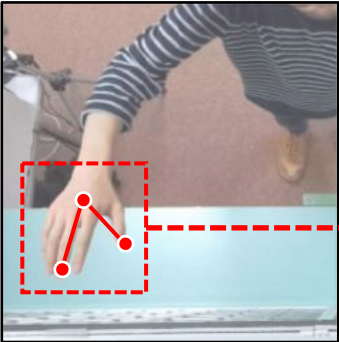
Our framework judges which shelf the operator has pulled based on the position of the hand and the position of the shelf.



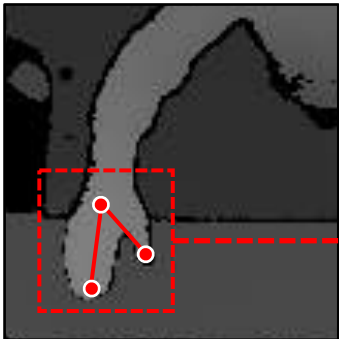
■ The Proposed Framework for Drug Picking Activity

The hand detection procedure

- 1. The Azure Kinect detects the hand landmarks
- 2. The MediaPipe library detects the 2D hand landmarks
- 3. Generate the 3D hand landmarks

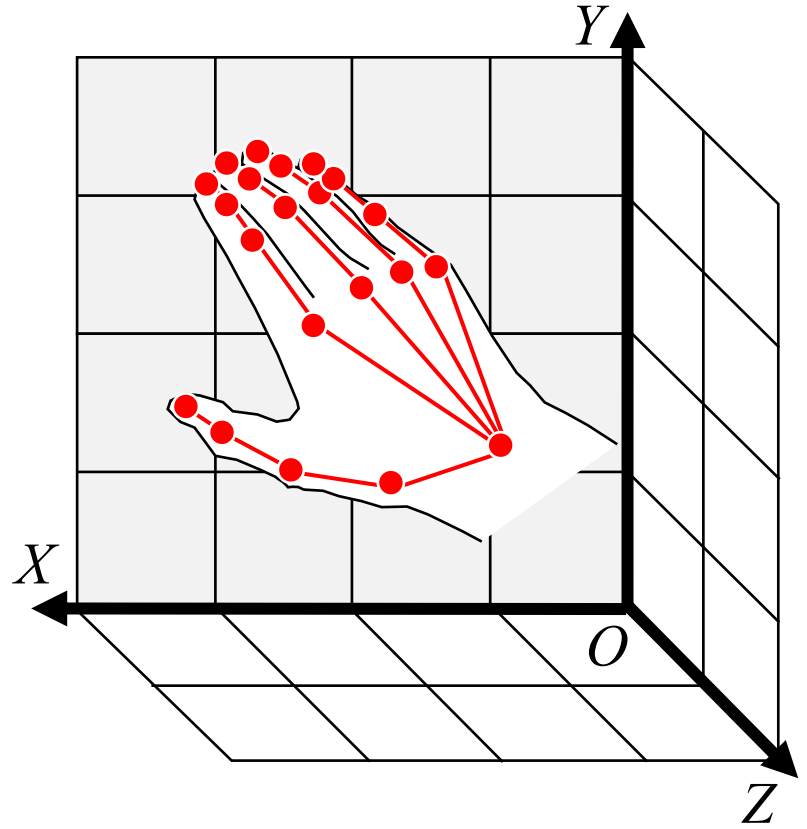
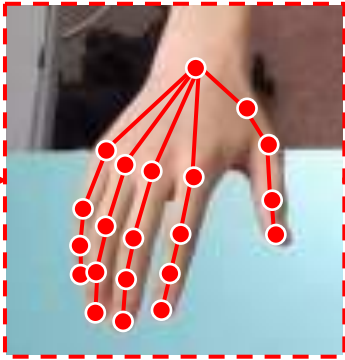


RGB Image



Depth Image

Extract the ROI



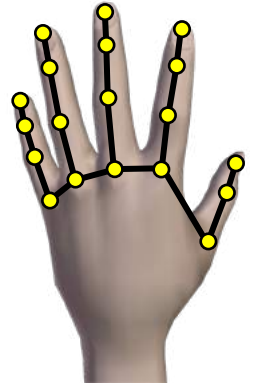
■ The Proposed Framework for Drug Picking Activity

The judgement procedure

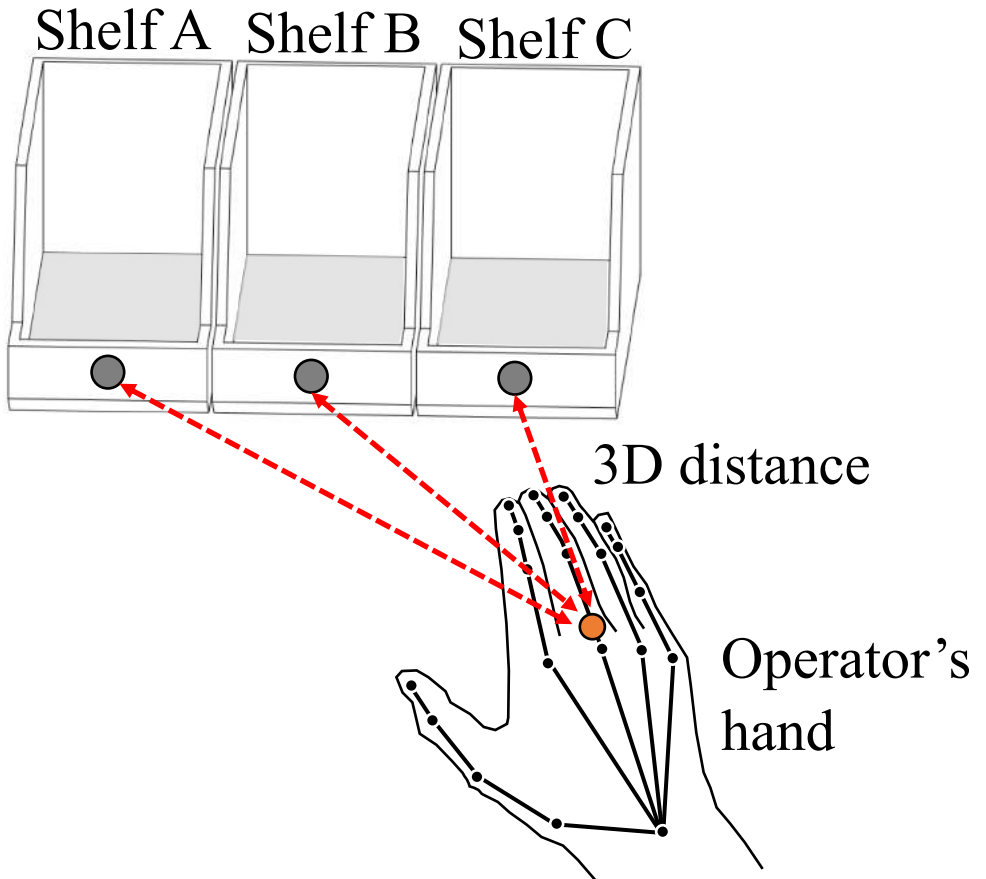
1. Calculate the 3D center position of the operator's hand
2. Identify the nearest reference shelf from the hand
3. Judge the shelf as "operated shelf"
if it is detected as nearest for more than 0.5 seconds

How to calculate the 3D center position of the hand?

The finger landmarks are used to calculate the 3D center position of the hand.



Yellow circles indicate the finger landmarks in the MediaPipe library

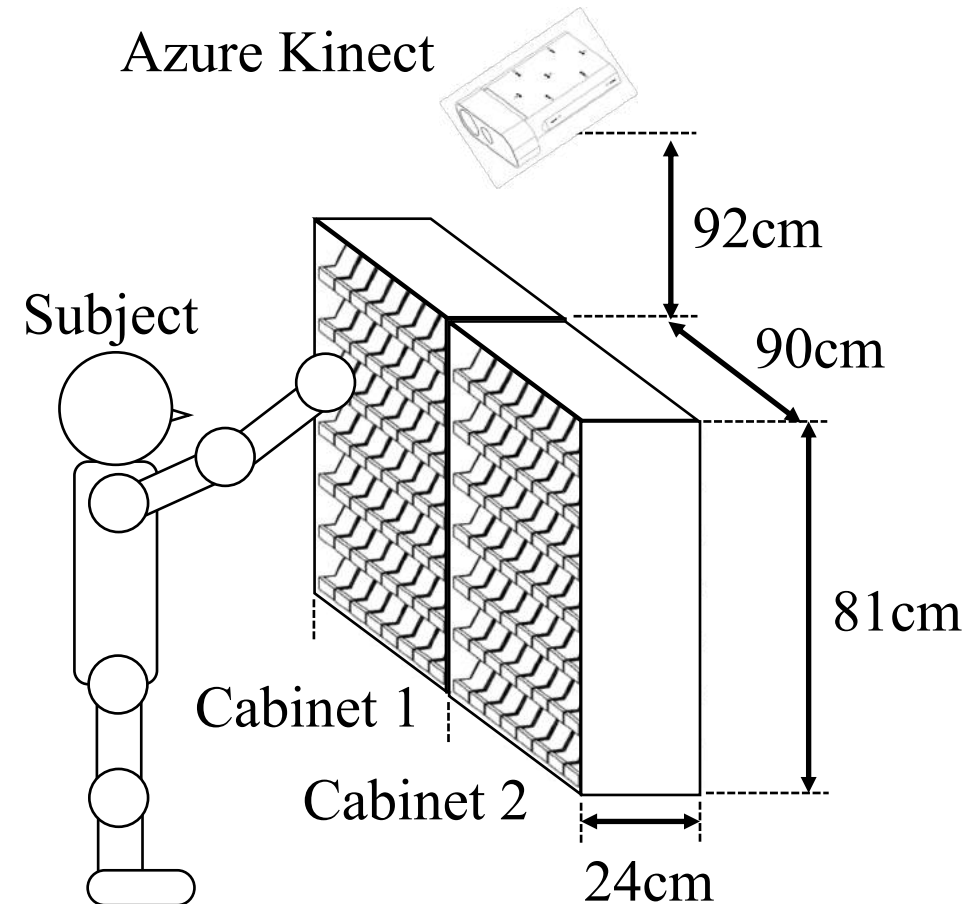


- Reference shelf position
- 3D center position of hand landmarks
- ↔ 3D distance between the shelf and the center position of the hand

■ Experiment 1

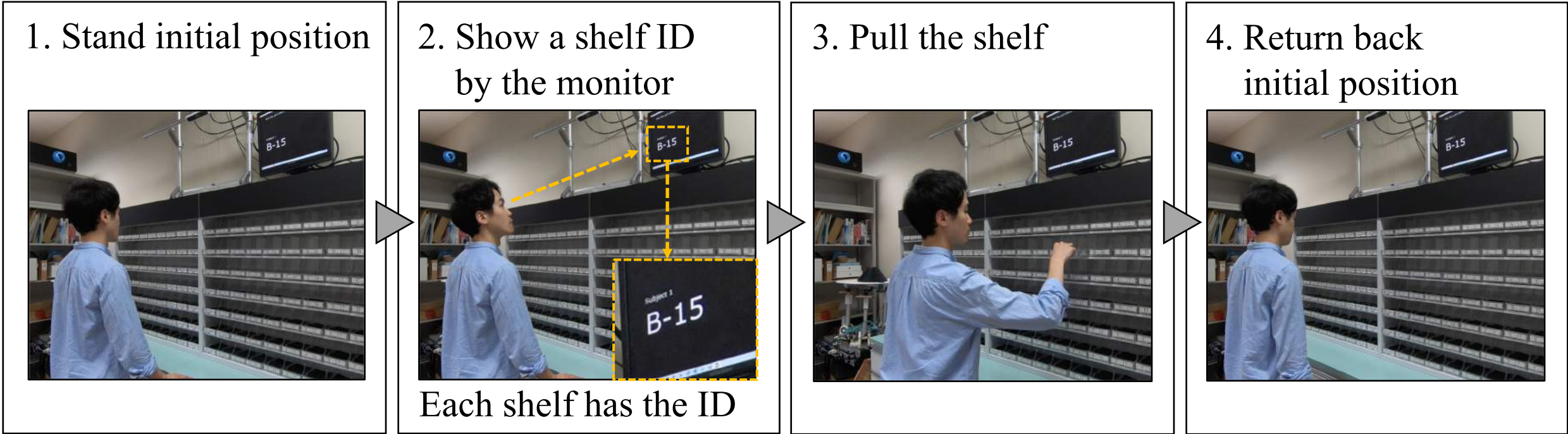
The experiment environment

- **Subject:** 5 persons
- **Dispensing cabinet**
 - Capacity: 63 shelves (7rows \times 9columns)
 - A shelf size: 9.4cm \times 10.6cm \times 13.3cm
 - Align two cabinets side by side
 - Put cabinets at a height of 85.5cm above floor
- **Azure Kinect**
 - RGB camera: 1920 \times 1080px, 90° \times 59°
 - Depth sensor: 512 \times 512px, 120° \times 120°



■ Experiment 1

The experiment procedure



Each shelf has the ID

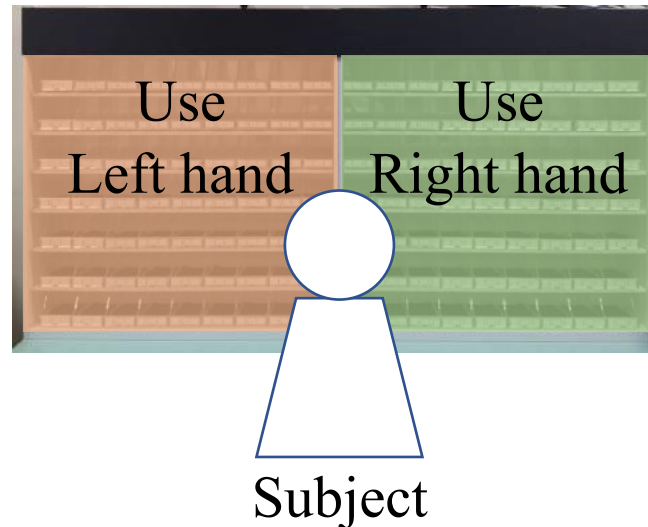
5. Repeat these steps above until the subject operates each shelf only once

■ Experiment 1

The constraints during our experiments

We impose the constraints on the subject's movement in order to avoid uneven operation depending on the subject's behavior at that time.

- To use specific hand side



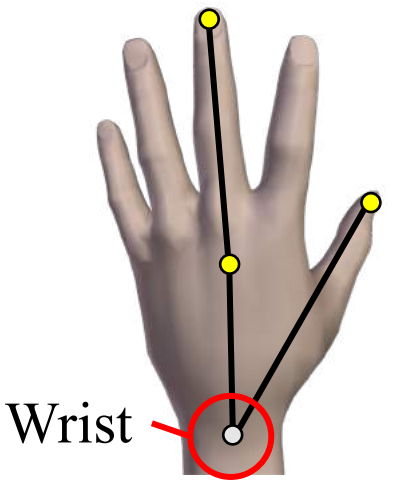
- The back of the hand faces upward



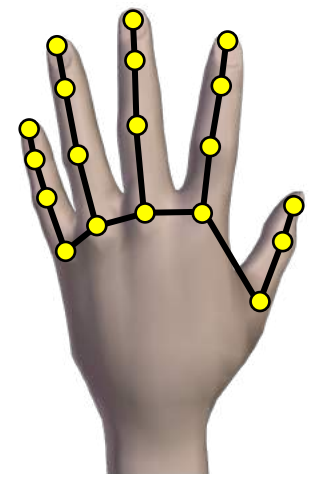
■ Experiment 1

Comparison in different hand landmarks

- The wrist position of Azure Kinect
- Hand_{ak}: The center of hand landmarks of the Azure Kinect without the wrist
- Hand_{mp}: The center of hand landmarks of the MediaPipe library



Azure Kinect



MediaPipe library

Result

The hand landmarks of the MediaPipe library can judge more accurately.

Subject	Azure Kinect		MediaPipe library	
	Wrist	Hand _{ak}	Hand _{mp}	
A	43%	99%	100%	
B	18%	89%	99%	
C	32%	90%	99%	
D	63%	93%	98%	
E	30%	79%	99%	
All	37%	90%	99%	

■ Experiment 2

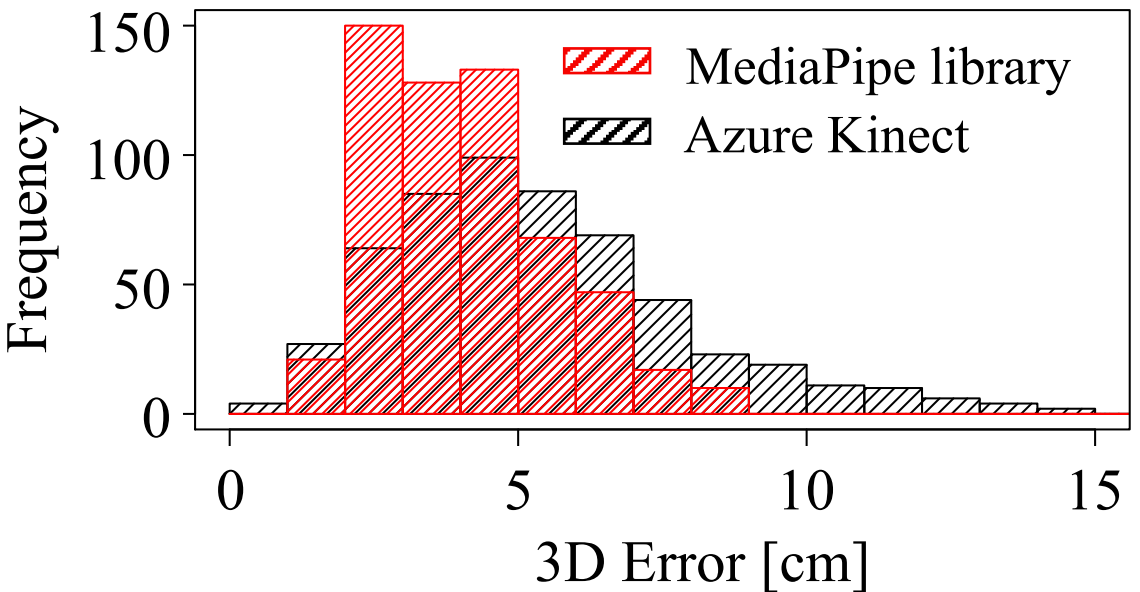
The experiment procedure

1. Extract the hand position manually by the tester when the subject grasps the target shelf
2. Calculate the 3D Euclidean distance between the hand and the shelf
3. Compare the difference between the distance for each landmarks using Welch's test

Landmark	Mean	SD
Azure Kinect	5.4 cm	2.5 cm
<u>MediaPipe library</u>	<u>4.1 cm</u>	<u>1.5 cm</u>

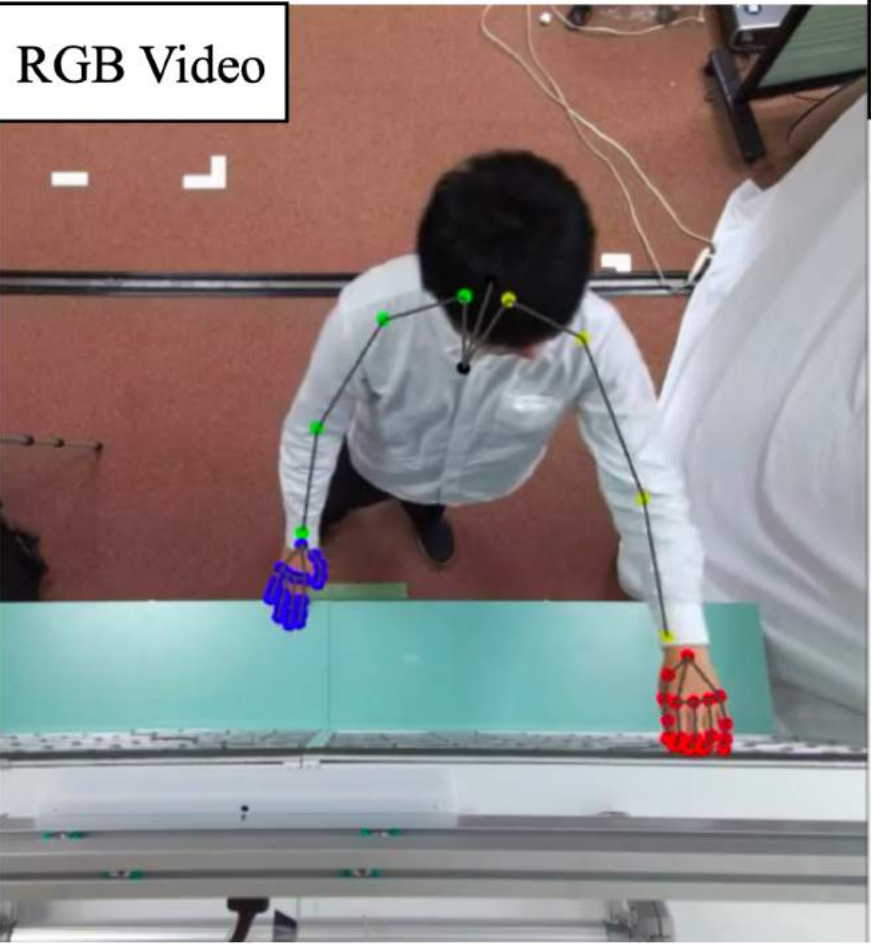
Result

The MediaPipe library is better than the Azure Kinect for the judgement.



■ The Effectiveness of Our Proposed Framework

Ground Truth



C-4

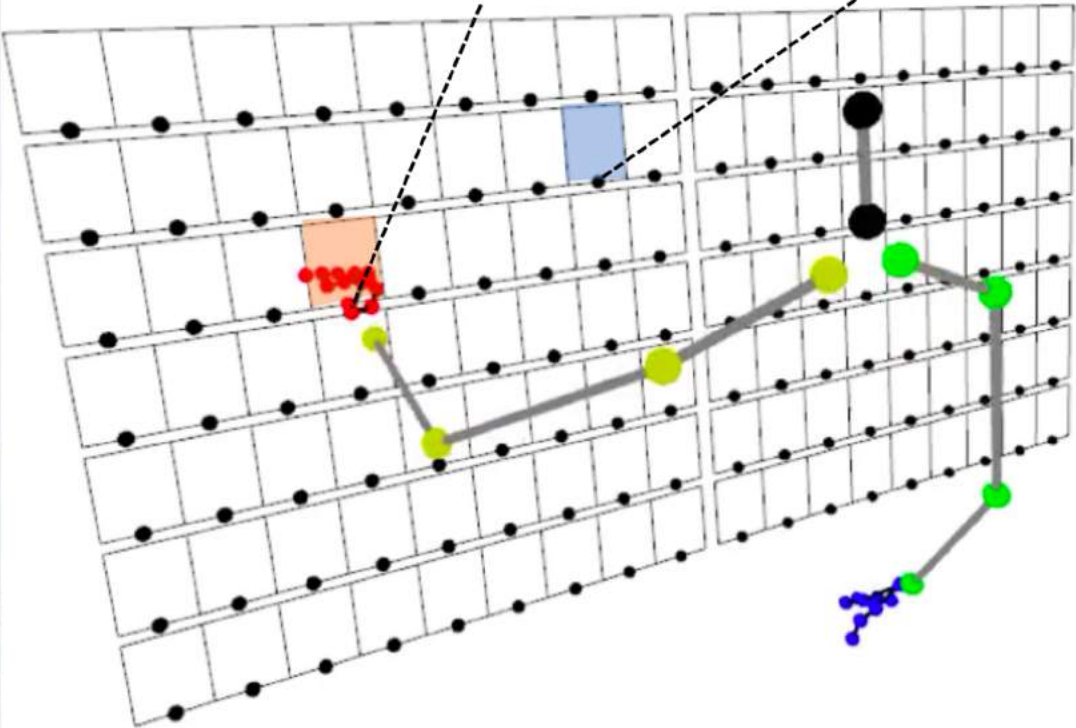
Judgement

C-4

3D View

Shelf "C-4"
reference point

Shelf "B-8"
reference point



● Left arm landmarks

● Right arm landmarks

● Left hand landmarks

● Right hand landmarks

■ Conclusion

Achievement

- Accurate measuring 3D location of operator's hand using the Azure Kinect and the MediaPipe library
- Reliable judgement procedure for the drug picking activity
- Easy-used and low-cost the judgement framework for drug picking activity

Future work

- Verify the judgement accuracy for the activity without the constraints of the operator's movement

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- [9] Pharmaceutical Safety and Environmental Health Bureau, “The state of dispensing operations”, <https://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/000498352.pdf> (in Japanese)