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Figure 1. Touch sensation test kit consisting of 20 Semmes-Weinstein Monofilaments

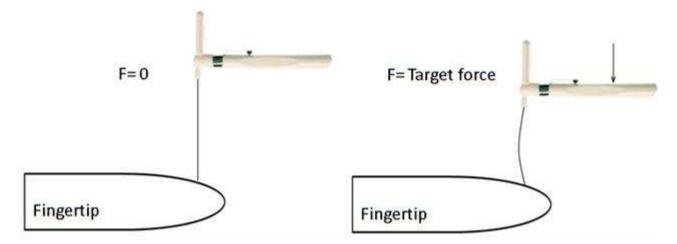


Figure 2. Illustration of touch sensation test methodology. The monofilament pressed perpendicular to the target surface. The pressing force continues to increase until it reaches a maximum when the filament starts to bend and apply a target force.



Figure 3. Two-point discrimination tool to assess the narrowest distance that could be sensed as two pressure points.

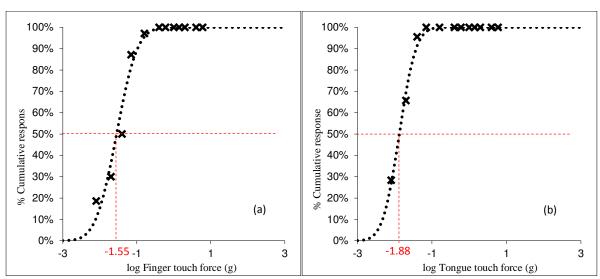


Figure 4. Log-normal fitting (probit analysis) of the cumulative population percentage vs the touch sensitivity (g): (a) the index fingertip $(10^{-1.55} = 0.028 \text{ g})$; (b) the tongue $(10^{-1.88} = 0.013 \text{ g})$.

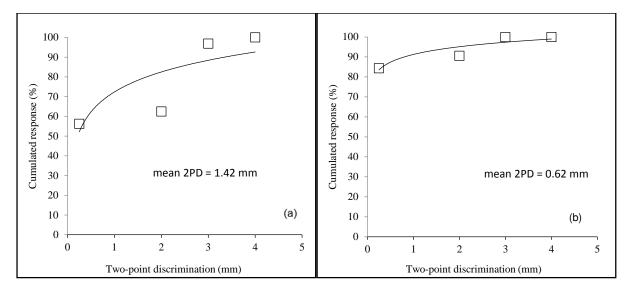


Figure 5. Cumulative responses of subjects shown as population percentage against the distance (mm) between the two points: (a) the index fingertip (mean two-point discrimination = 1.42mm); (b) the tongue (mean two-point discrimination = 0.62 mm) (with guide to eye lines)

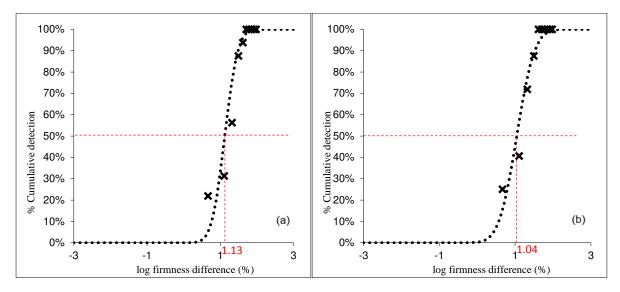


Figure 6. Log-normal best fitted (probit analysis) cumulative responses of subjects shown as population percentage against the logarithmic firmness difference (%); (a) the fingertip $(10^{1.13} = 13.3 \%)$; (b) the tongue $(10^{1.04} = 11.1 \%)$

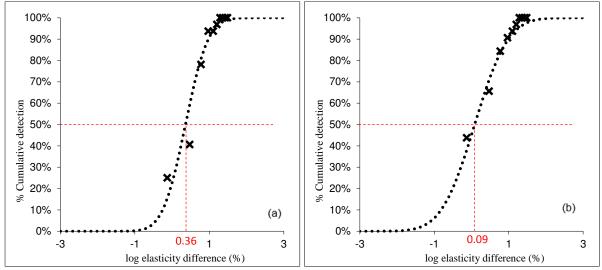


Figure 7. Log-normal best fitted (probit analysis) cumulative responses of subjects shown as population percentage against the logarithmic elasticity difference (%); (a) the fingertip $(10^{0.36} = 2.7 \%)$; (b) the tongue $(10^{0.09} = 1.1 \%)$

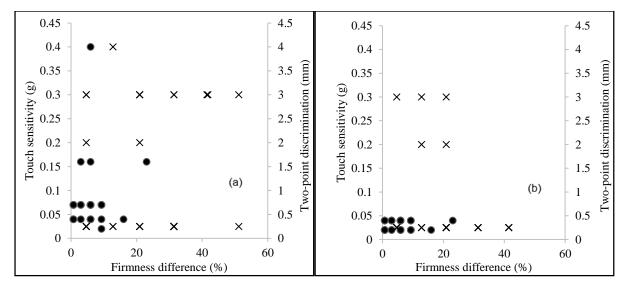


Figure 8. Individual's capability of firmness discrimination and touching sensitivity (•) and two-point discrimination ability (×): (a) by the index fingertip; (b) by the tongue.

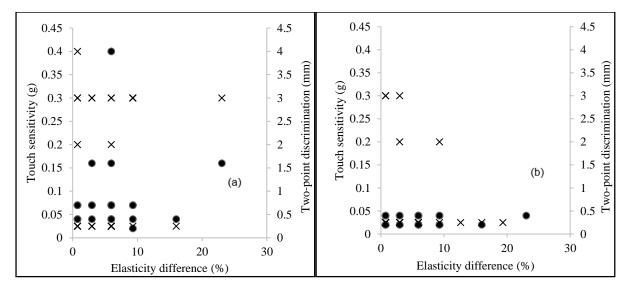


Figure 9. Individual's capability of elasticity discrimination and touching sensitivity (\bullet) and two-point discrimination ability (×): (a) by the index fingertip; (b) by the tongue.