



Wearable Photoplethysmography: The road ahead

**Dr Peter H. Charlton
Dr Xiao Hu**

The 2023 wearable photoplethysmography roadmap
<https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6579/acead2>

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Schedule

1. Wearable Photoplethysmography: Current Status and Future Challenges

Peter H. Charlton, University of Cambridge, UK

2. Using wearable photoplethysmography for detecting atrial fibrillation in ambulatory conditions

Antti Vehkaoja, Tampere University, Finland

3. Learning from alarms: A novel robust learning approach to learn an accurate photoplethysmography-based atrial fibrillation detector using eight million samples labeled with imprecise arrhythmia alarms

Amit Shah, Emory University

4. Robust peak detection for photoplethysmography signal analysis

Márton Áron Goda, Technion IIT, Israel

5. Discussion: How do we make the most of wearable photoplethysmography?

All



Wearable Photoplethysmography: Current Status and Future Challenges

Dr Peter H. Charlton

University of Cambridge
City, University of London

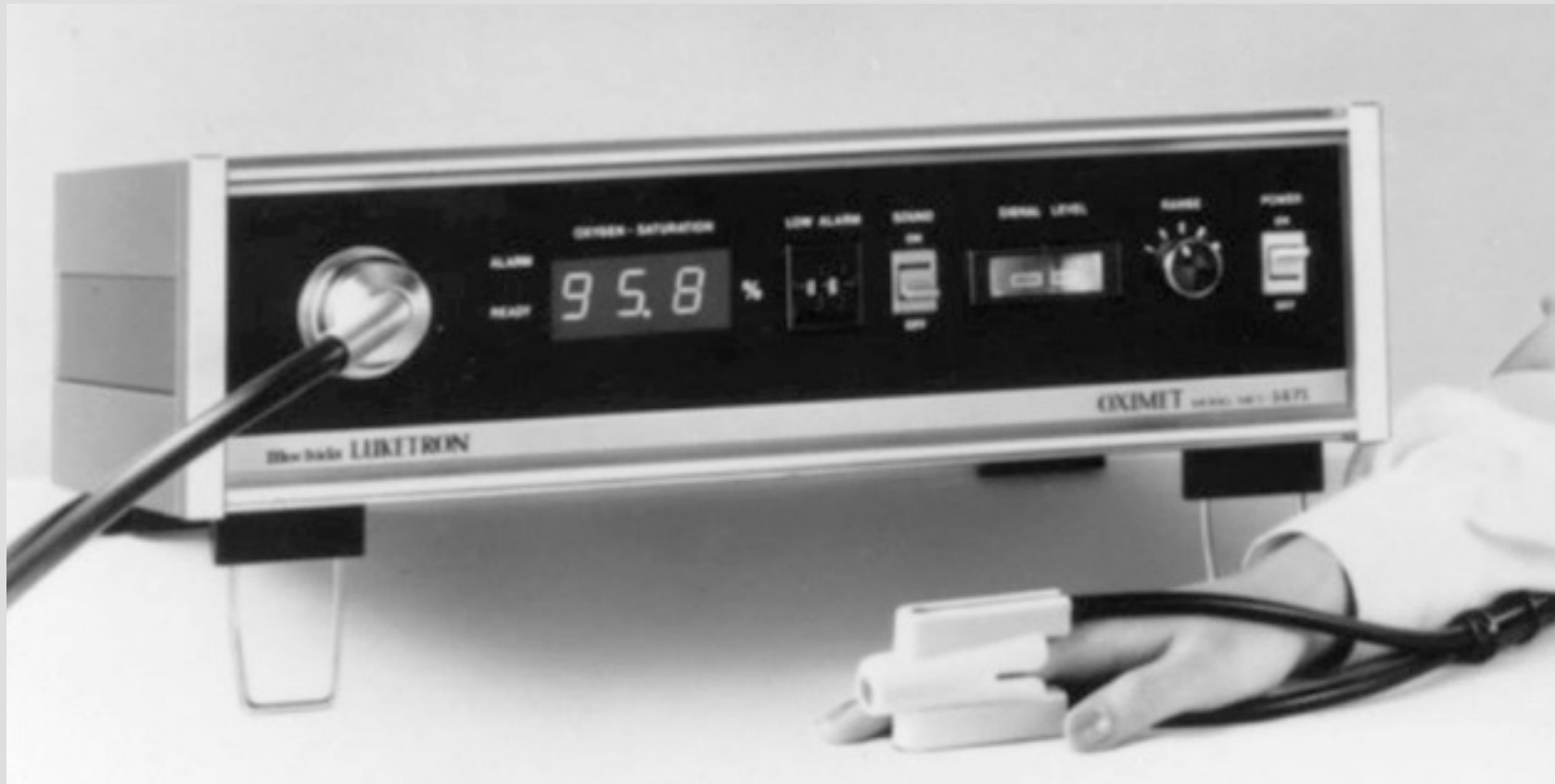
Disclosures

The following presentation focuses on what is (in my view) an exciting article published in *Physiological Measurement*:

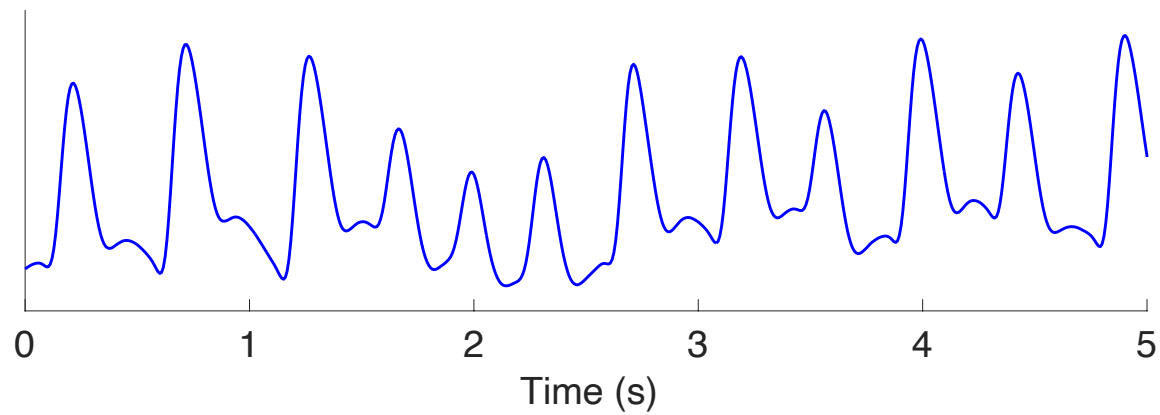
Charlton P.H. *et al.*, **The 2023 wearable photoplethysmography roadmap**, *Phys Meas*, 2023, <https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6579/acead2>

Please note:

- I am on the Executive Editorial Board for *Physiological Measurement*
(which has been a very interesting experience, I'd recommend it)
- My conference fee for Computing in Cardiology 2023 was paid by *IOP Publishing*, the publisher of *Physiological Measurement*.
(for which I'm grateful)



Photoplethysmogram (PPG) signal

















(artistic license – this heart rate is fictional)

TOPICAL REVIEW

The 2023 wearable photoplethysmography roadmap

Peter H Charlton^{1,2,48} , John Allen^{3,4,48} , Raquel Bailón^{5,6,48} , Stephanie Baker^{7,48} , Joachim A Behar⁸ ,
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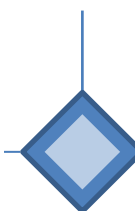
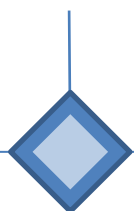
Wearable Photoplethysmography



Findings of the Roadmap (and behind the scenes)



Opportunities



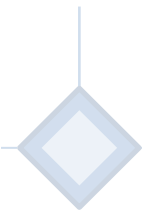
Wearable Photoplethysmography

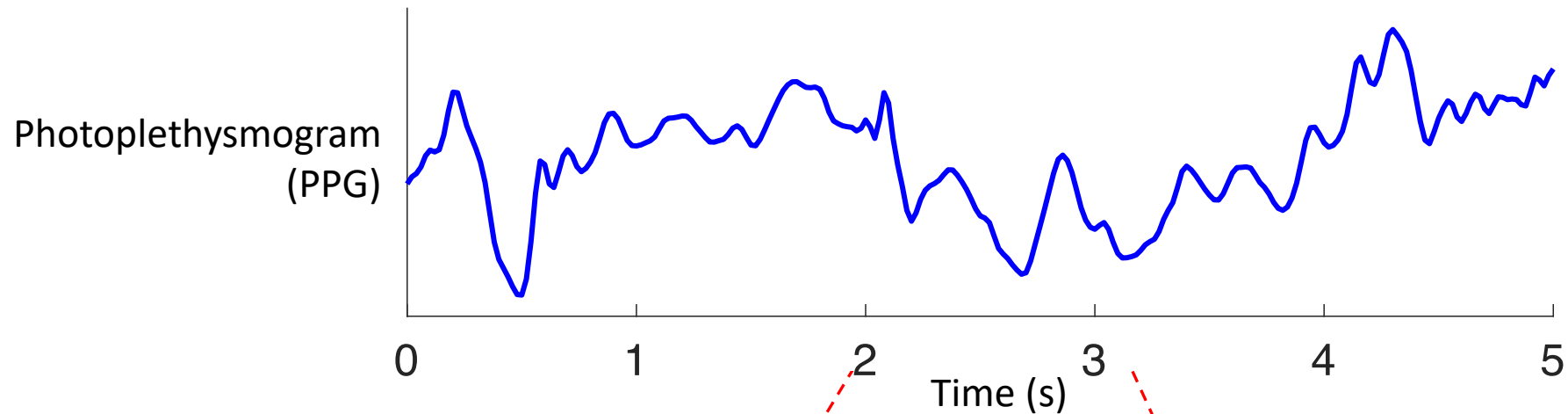


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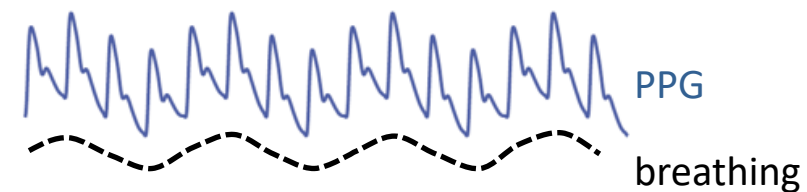
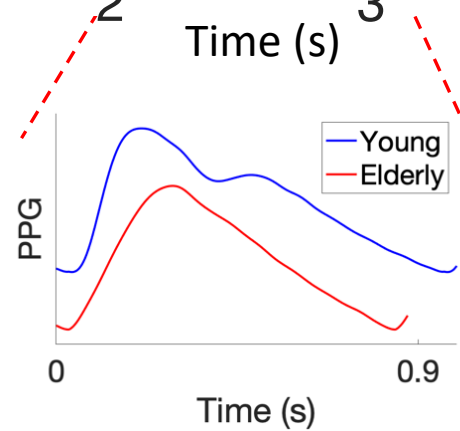
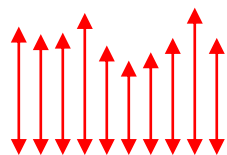


?

bpm

Normal
rhythm

Arrhythmia



M. Verch, flickr, <https://flickr.com/photos/160866001@N07/32586534637/> (CC BY 2.0)

Crew, Wikimedia Commons, [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Apple_Watch_user_\(Unsplash\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Apple_Watch_user_(Unsplash).jpg) (CC0 1.0)

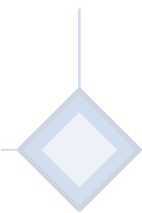
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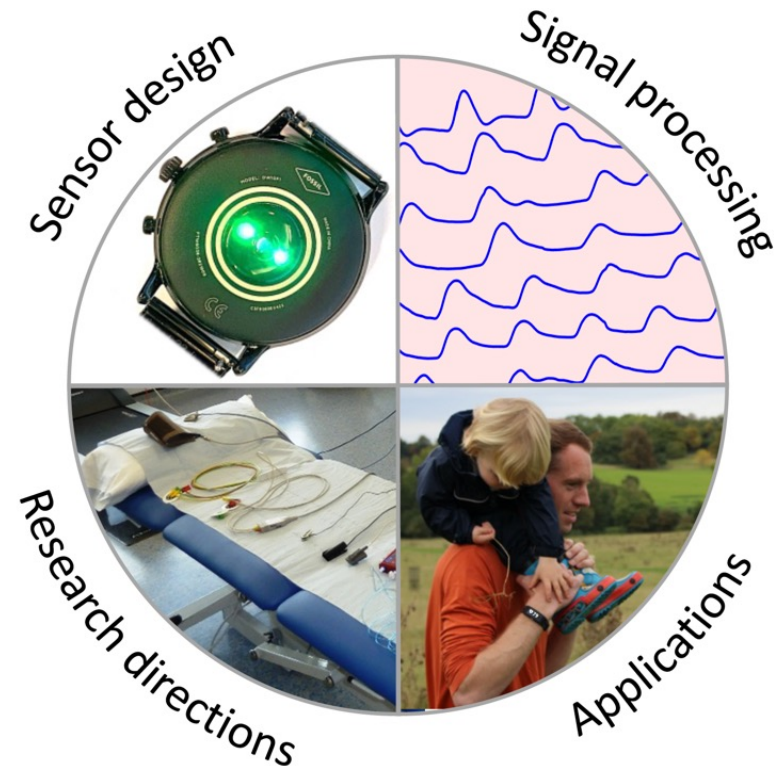
Opportunities



The 2023 wearable photoplethysmography roadmap

Aim: To provide key directions for research and development to realise the full potential of wearable photoplethysmography.

Methods: 51 experts provided their perspectives on 24 key topics within four areas:

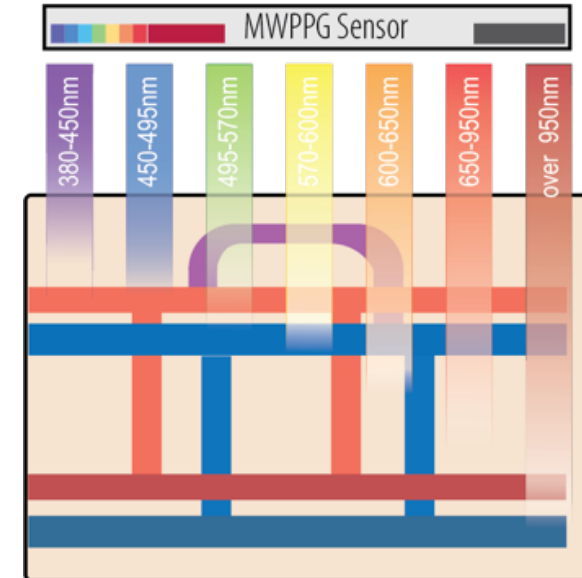
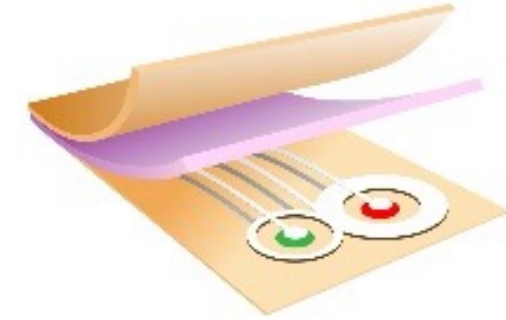


SENSOR DESIGN

Photoplethysmography with emerging materials and sensors

In-ear photoplethysmography for respiratory monitoring

Wearable multi-wavelength photoplethysmography



SENSOR DESIGN

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Wearable multi-wavelength photoplethysmography

SIGNAL PROCESSING

Pulse rate variability

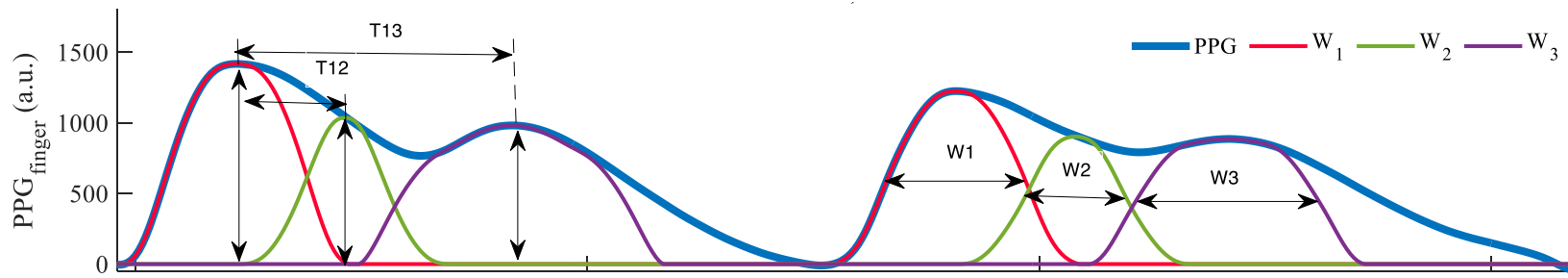
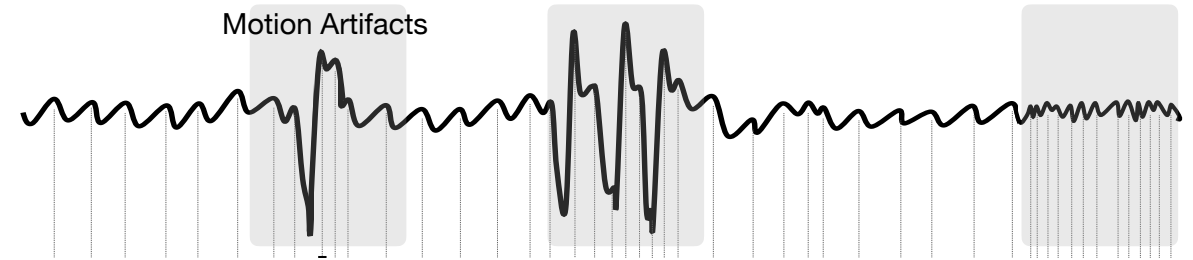
Respiratory monitoring

Pulse wave analysis

Development of wearable pulse oximeters

PPG signal quality: not a black and white matter

Motion artifacts in wearable photoplethysmography



SENSOR DESIGN

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Respiratory monitoring
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PPG signal quality: not a black and white matter
Motion artifacts in wearable photoplethysmography

APPLICATIONS

Consumer applications
Detecting cardiac arrhythmias
Sleep assessment from the PPG
Diagnosing obstructive sleep apnea from pulse oximetry
Mental health assessment by autonomic nervous system monitoring
Unobtrusive and continuous blood pressure monitoring
Hospital monitoring
PPG low frequency variability and autonomic function
Assessment of vascular age and arterial compliance
Assessment of peripheral arterial disease

RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

Investigating waveform analysis for blood pressure monitoring
Sources of inaccuracy in wearable photoplethysmography
Wearable data analysis
Understanding the origins of the photoplethysmogram
Alternatives to photoplethysmography

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RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

Themes emerging

- Expanding functionality
- Optimising sensor design
- Approaches to signal processing
- Identifying potential applications
- Gaining trust



SENSOR DESIGN

SIGNAL PROCESSING

APPLICATIONS

RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

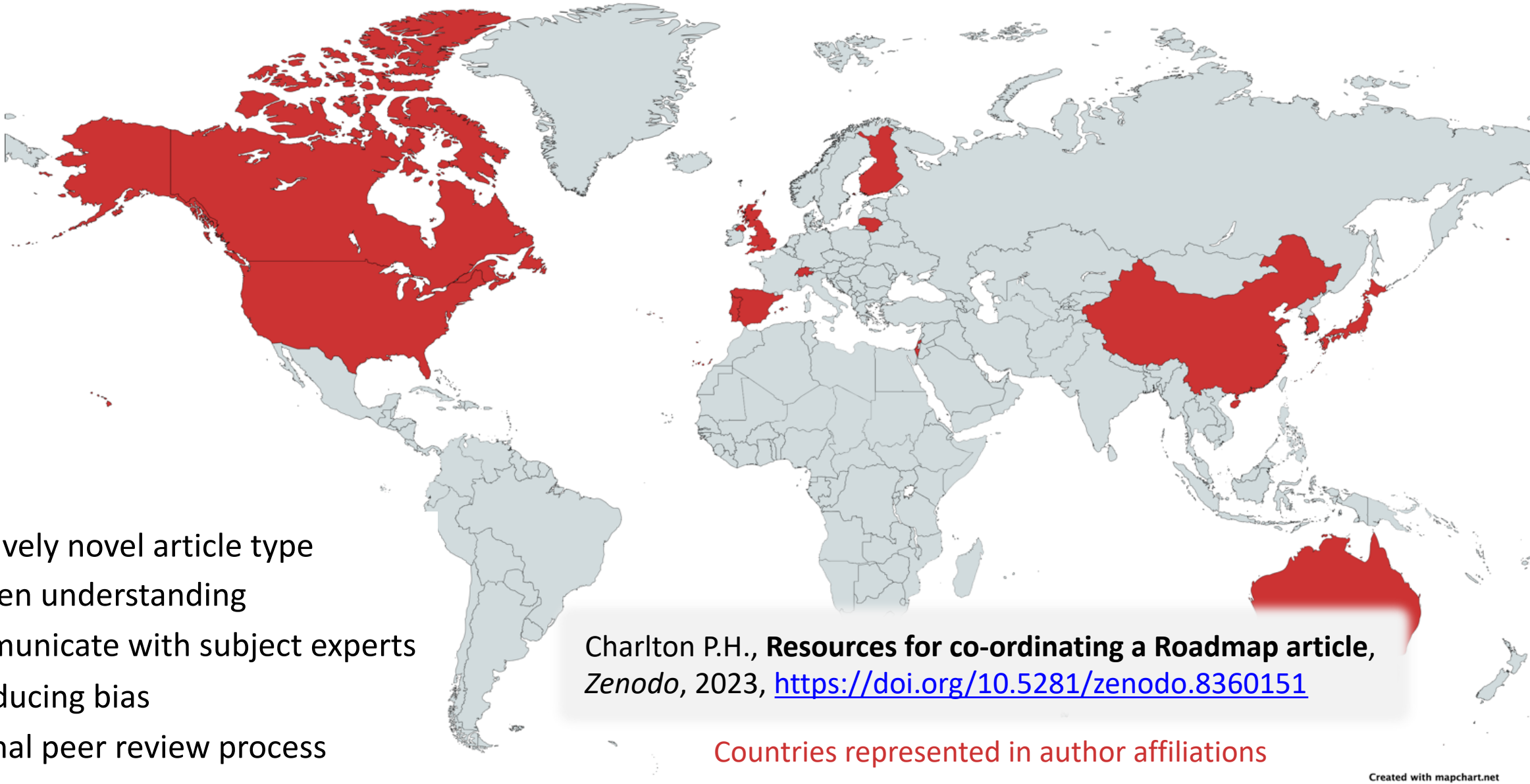
Themes emerging

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Challenges and solutions

- Signal quality
- Signal processing resources
- Device validation
- Sources of inaccuracy
- Equity
- Best practices

Co-ordinating a Roadmap article



Created with mapchart.net

Wearable Photoplethysmography



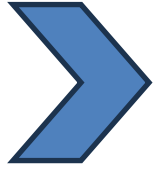
Findings of the Roadmap (and behind the scenes)



Opportunities



Opportunities



Focus Collection in *Physiological Measurement* on:

Open Source and Validated Computational Tools for Physiological Time Series Analysis

<https://iopscience.iop.org/collections/pmea-230825-336>



pyPPG:

A new toolbox for PPG analysis

<https://pyppg.readthedocs.io/>



Wearables network:

We're hoping to establish a (primarily European) network to collaborate on research into wearables

(ask me)

With thanks to...

Jonathan Mant
Panicos Kyriacou

University of Cambridge

British Heart Foundation

Innovate UK

VascAgeNet

The 50 co-authors of 'The 2023 wearable photoplethysmography roadmap', who have been a joy to work with.

TOPICAL REVIEW

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<https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6579/acead2> (CC BY 4.0)

Wearable photoplethysmography has potential to provide a wealth of physiological information with numerous applications in health, fitness, and wellbeing.

However, there is much work to be done to realise the full potential of wearable photoplethysmography.

The '2023 Wearable Photoplethysmography Roadmap' provides valuable directions for future work to help guide future research and development in the field.

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Wearable Photoplethysmography: Current Status and Future Challenges

Dr Peter H. Charlton

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Slides at:

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.8392964>

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Márton Áron Goda, Technion IIT, Israel
5. Discussion: What are the most important next steps for wearable photoplethysmography?

All



How do we make the most of wearable photoplethysmography?

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