


# A comprehensive study of EEG-based control of artificial arms

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## Abstract:

*Introduction/purpose: The electroencephalography (EEG) signal has a great impact on the development of prosthetic arm control technology. EEG signals are used as the main tool in functional investigations of human motion. The study of controlling prosthetic arms using brain signals is still in its early stages. Brain wave-controlled prosthetic arms have attracted researchers' attention in the last few years.*

*Methods: Several studies have been carried out to systematically review published articles as a means of offering researchers and experts a comprehensive summary of the present, state-of-the-art EEG-based control techniques used in the prosthetic arm and other technologies.*

*Results: 175 articles were studied, compared, and filtered to only include the articles that have strong connections to the study.*

*Conclusion: This study has three goals. The first one is to gather, summarize, and evaluate information from the studies published between 2011 and 2022. The second goal is to extensively report on the holistic, experimental outcomes of this domain in relation to current research. It is systematically performed to provide a wealthy image and grounded evidence of the current state of research covering EEG-based control of prosthetic arms to all experts and scientists. The third goal is to recognize the gap in knowledge that demands further investigation and to recommend directions for future research in this area.*

*Keywords: EEG, BCI, comprehensive study, prosthetic arms, controllers.*

## Introduction

The absence of the upper limb results in severe impairment in everyday life, which can further influence both the social and mental state

(Abdulrahman Satam, 2021). For these reasons, developments in cosmetic and body-driven prostheses date from some centuries ago, and they have been evolving ever since. Research showed that the estimated percentage of impaired people is rising up due to wars, conflicts, diseases, accidents, and forgotten minefields from previous battles and wars.

A prosthesis is much more than a device; it also completes a wearer's sense of wholeness. It gives emotional comfort. The history of prosthetics is not just about the advancement of medical science, it is a history of human beings who miss an essential part of themselves. The earliest known prosthetic was not an eye, leg, or arm. It was a toe, first made by Egyptians around 3000 years ago. Then development continued with the Roman Empire to the end of the Middle Ages and finally to the civil war in the United States of America.

A decade ago, prosthetic limbs were developed as a practical complementary system for impaired people. Prosthetics, or artificial limbs, are used to replace limbs that were lost or absent limbs from birth. They enable those with congenital limb differences and amputees alike to improve function and mobility. Due to advances in medical science, prosthetics have improved and are capable of remarkable things (Osama & Allauddin, 2022).

In addition to the development of the prosthetic arm (Figure 1) design, scientists are focusing on improving the control of the techniques for the purpose of accuracy, performance enhancement, and the comfort of the prosthesis.



Figure 1 – Prosthetic arm  
Рис. 1 – Протез руки  
Слика 1 – Протетичка рука

Ensuring the smoothness and effective control techniques of the prosthetic limb is an important factor in the interface between the wearable prosthesis and the human since the prosthetic limb is donned by a human.

Therefore, those control strategies can be classified according to the human-robot interaction method. The control of the prosthetic arm is influenced by electrophysiological signals. These signals have been well-known tools to examine the capacity and conduct of the human movement in ongoing research.

Electroencephalography (EEG) has been one of frequently used physiological signals in the control techniques of prosthetic limbs, especially in the upper limbs. EEG is considered a non-invasive and convenient method that may be appropriate for realistic application. Recently, it was found that fewer endeavors have been made to efficiently audit these reviews, as a way of offering analysts and specialists a synopsis of the current, best-in-class EEG-based control systems utilized for assistive innovation. Hence, this research has three primary objectives.

The primary aim is to deliberately assemble, abridge, assess, and organize data with respect to accuracy and estimations of the past research distributed in the publications between 2011 and 2018.

The second objective is to broadly report on all the trial results of this domain's present research. It is methodically performed to give a clear picture and grounded proof of the momentum conditions of research covering EEG-based control uses and benefits for controlling assistive robotics to every specialist and researcher. The third objective is to perceive the whole of information that requests in-depth examination and to suggest ways for future research in this domain (Mandekar et al, 2022). To achieve these objectives, the following research questions (RQs) have been put forward:

(Q1) What are the types of EEG signals that are used to control the prosthetic arm?

(Q2) How do these signals translate to control commands?

The solutions to these questions will guide the reader and enhance their knowledge of the recent development of prosthetic arms based on EEG signals. A more extensive image of various emergent topics/themes, experiments, and concepts will be offered. This paper is structured into six sections.

The following section provides a background of EEG signals and prosthetic limbs. The third section describes the methodology through which the review processes were conducted. The fourth section presents the SLR results, followed by the fifth section which reports on the results of the research questions as organized according to their sequences. Finally, the sixth section presents a discussion of the review and its conclusion.

Table 1 – Symbols

Таблица 1 – Обозначения

Табела 1 – Симболи

Symbol	Meaning
EEG	Electroencephalography
ECoGs	electrocorticograms
MEGs	magnetoencephalograms
fMRI	functional magnetic resonance imaging
fNIRS	Functional near-infrared spectroscopy
BCI	Brain-Computer Interface
SVM	Support Vector Method
FFT	Fast Fourier transform
CSP	Common spatial Pattern
LDA	Linear discriminant analysis
PSD	Power Spectral Density
LSTM	Long*short term Memory
BPNN	Back Propagation Neural Network
BMI	Brain Machine Interface
PET	Positron Emission Tomography
BFN	Brain Functional Network
ANN	Artificial Neural Network
ERP	Event-related Potential
WT	Wavelet transform
MLP	Multi-layer Perceptron
K-NN	K-Nearest Neighbor
NB	Naïve Bayes
FES	Functional Electrical Simulation

## Preliminaries and literature review

In the BCI system, EEG signals are most commonly used not only for prosthetics but also for any controllable devices such as robotics arms, Exoskeletons, Wheelchairs, drones, etc. Bridges et al. (Bridges et al, 2011) and his team provide an overview of human-machine interface architecture. The article contains good information about the control system. Yanagisawa et al. (Yanagisawa et al, 2011) shows a new method of controlling a prosthetic arm using ECoG signals. The system proved its effectiveness in decoding the hand movement of a patient who suffered from a stroke and used that signal to control a prosthetic hand. Another research implemented by Taha and his team (Beyrouthy et al, 2017) is about a system that extracts the EEG signals from the brain and uses them to control a smart 3D prosthetic arm. The system showed great results and presented a reliable alternative for an invasive system. Researchers in (Bright et al, 2016) succeeded in developing an EEG-based brain control system for the prosthetic arm using a BCI Neurosky mind wave set. The system reached an accuracy of 80 %. The team of researchers in (Elstob & Secco, 2016) controlled a 5 DOF robotic and prosthetic hand. They used two software frameworks. The method showed good results both technically and economically. A study of experimenting how transradial amputees could control grasp preshaping in a prosthetic arm using an EEG-based closed Loop BMI system is done by Agashe et al. (Agashe et al, 2016). The results showed that the EEG-based BMI system is a feasible solution. Healthy participants involved in a study implemented by Vidaurre et al. (Vidaurre et al, 2016) were able to use non-invasive Motor Imagery BCI to achieve linear control of an Upper Limb FES controlled Neuro Prosthesis. An embedded system was designed by (Rashid et al, 2018) in order to control the finger movement of the prosthetic arm using EEG signals. The signal classification accuracy of this study reached an acceptable percent of 79 %. Faiman et al. (Faiman et al, 2018) investigated whether spontaneous resting-state functional connectivity could predict the degree of motor adaptation of the right (dominant) upper limb reaching in response to a robot-mediated force field. Spontaneous neural activity was measured using resting-state electroencephalography (EEG) in healthy adults before a single session of motor adaptation. Noel & Snider (Noel & Snider, 2019) used the Deep Neural Network to control the prosthetic arm. The Neural Network was used to classify the signal to detect person's intention of extending the right index finger. The model achieved an accuracy of 63.3%. Gannouni et al. (Gannouni et al, 2020) presented a study that uses machine learning in order to anticipate the

movement of all five fingers. The proposed system achieved a signal classification accuracy of 81%. A 62% accuracy was achieved for an inexpensive mind-controlled prosthetic arm based on EEG signals. The system was implemented by (Chinta et al, 2020). Fuentes-Gonzalez et al. (Fuentes-Gonzalez et al, 2021) designed a prosthetic arm using blender software. The control of the prosthetic arm was done using EEG signals. The prosthetic arm was fitted to a 64-year-old man who had suffered from an electric shock. Ali et al. (Ali et al, 2021) build an inexpensive smart functional prosthesis arm in accordance with functional and non-functional requirements to meet users' goals and requirements. Setiawan et al. (Setiawan et al, 2021) designed a system to control a prosthetic hand using EEG signals to execute flexion and extension of fingers. Chaudhry et al (Chaudhry et al, 2022) discussed EEG control algorithms for prosthetic arms. They developed a cheap three-dimensional prosthetic arm; however, it was only a prototype and could not be applied for amputees. An EEG-based control system is not restricted to prosthetic arms only since exoskeleton and robotic arms can also be included in that area. Xu, et al. (Xu et al, 2011) developed a rehabilitation system for an upper limb stroke patient where the assistive device was based on motor imaginary EEG. The system proved feasible and is fully capable of exploring patient's motor initiatives and guiding stroke patients to perform rehabilitation training effectively. The teams in (Ramos-Murguialday et al, 2012) developed a robotic hand exoskeleton based BCI to move fingers in flexion and extension movements. The results suggest that feedback contingency (proprioceptive stimulation paired with EEG SMR desynchronization) influences the motor network enhancing significantly SMR down-regulation. Formaggio et al. (Formaggio et al, 2013) present a study to perform a robot assisted task using a Bi-Manu track robot assisted arm trainer. Eight subjects participated in the study. The results suggest new perspectives for the assessment of patients with neurological disease. Tung et al. (Tung et al, 2013) performed a study of EEG to track the effect of a BCI based therapy on brain plasticity. The results suggest that motor recovery improvement comes from increasing activation in the lesion hemisphere during the BCI therapy. Krichner et al. (Krichner et al, 2014) carried out an experiment to prove that EEG and EMG can improve the adaptability of assistive devices in accordance with demands of users. The results show that both EEG and EMG predict a movement before it is physically executed. Witkowski et al. (Witkowski et al, 2014) introduced and tested a novel hybrid brain-neural computer interaction (BNCI) system fusing electroencephalography (EEG) and electrooculography (EOG) to enhance reliability and safety of continuous hand exoskeleton-driven

grasping motions. Looned et al. (Looned et al, 2014) introduced a wearable and portable system consisting of a novel lightweight Robotic Arm Orthosis (RAO), a Functional Electrical Stimulation (FES) system, and a simple wireless Brain-Computer Interface (BCI). This system is able to process electroencephalographic (EEG) signals and translate them into motions of the impaired arm. The researchers in (Hortal et al, 2015) created a system based on a hybrid upper limb exoskeleton for neurological rehabilitation. The movement was controlled by an EEG-based BMI. The system showed the combined use of a hybrid upper limb exoskeleton. Brauchle and his team in (Brauchle et al, 2015) tested the feasibility of a 3D robotic assistant to produce movements with a multi-joint exoskeleton during MI synchronization of sensorimotor oscillations in the B-band. The team of researchers in (Elnady et al, 2015) tested the feasibility of using FES. Robotic training devices facilitate motor task completion in post-stroke individuals. A robotic training device was operated to assist a pre-defined goal-directed motor task. The results showed that the participants' ability to use proprioception to control a motor output did not affect their ability to use the BCI-driven exoskeleton with FES. A novel system for the neuro-motor rehabilitation of upper limbs was presented in (Comani et al, 2015). The system was validated in three sub-acute post-stroke patients. The system permits synchronized cortical and kinematic measures by integrating high-resolution EEG, a passive robotic device and Virtual Reality. The brain functional re-organization was monitored in association with motor patterns replicating activities of daily living (ADL). The patients underwent 13 rehabilitation sessions. Soekadar et al. (Soekadar et al, 2015) introduced a novel brain/neural-computer interaction (BNCI) system that integrates electroencephalography (EEG) and electrooculography (EOG) to improve control of assistive robotics in daily life environments. In (Bhagat et al, 2016), researchers demonstrated the feasibility of detecting a motor intent from the brain activity of chronic stroke patients using an asynchronous electroencephalography (EEG)-based brain machine interface (BMI). Another investigation was implemented in (Tang et al, 2016). They investigated whether self-induced variations of the electroencephalogram (EEG) can be useful as control signals for a man-made upper-limb exoskeleton. A BMI based on event-related desynchronization/synchronization (ERD/ERS) is proposed. The study showed that the system is effective to control the upper limb exoskeleton. A rehabilitation approach based on BCI providing contingent sensory feedback of brain activity was presented by Frolov et al. (Frolov et al, 2017). The results proved that adding BCI control to exoskeleton assistive devices can improve the rehabilitation process for post stroke patients.

The researchers in (Buerkle et al, 2021) presented a novel approach of how upper-limb movement intentions can be measured with a mobile electroencephalogram (EEG). The results suggested high detection accuracies and potential time gains of up to 513 ms to be achieved in a semi-online system. Thus, the time advantages included in a simulation demonstrated the potential to increase a system's reaction time and therefore improve the safety and the fluency of Human-Robot Collaboration. The EEG based control systems have application in the field of robotic arms. Steinisch et al. (Steinisch et al, 2013) proposed a system for neuro-motor rehabilitation of the upper limbs in stroke survivors. The system is composed of a passive robotic device (Trackhold) for kinematic tracking and gravity compensation, five dedicated virtual reality (VR) applications for training of distinct movement patterns, and high-resolution EEG for synchronous monitoring of cortical activity. Another study was conducted by Shedeed et al. (Shedeed et al, 2013). They presented a BMI system based on EEG signals to control three movements (open arm, close arm, and closehand). The signal classification accuracy reached up to 91%. The researchers in (Bhattacharyya et al, 2014) proposed a novel approach toward EEG-driven position control of a robot arm by utilizing motor imagery. The results showed that the system is effective in the rehabilitation process. The team in (Xu et al, 2015) designed a BCI-based online robot control system. The study included 30 participants. The system proved its effectiveness and reliability. The total accuracy of the system reached up to 91 %. Meng et al.(Meng et al, 2016) designed a system to control a robotic arm to perform reach and grasp based on non-invasive BCI technology. Thirteen participants were included in this research. The system showed that the subjects can control the arm through modulation of their brain with the training. Karakoc et al. (Karakoc et al, 2017) designed a robotic arm using solidwork software. The arm can be controlled using brainwaves. The study was successful –however, although the arm was successfully controlled, it was not applicable (only a prototype). Bousseta et al. (Bousseta et al, 2018) proposed a novel BCI system that consists of controlling a robot arm based on the user's thoughts. Four subjects (1 female and 3 males) aged between 20 and 29 participated in the experiment. They were instructed to imagine the execution of movements of the right hand, the left hand, both right and left hands or the movement of the feet depending on the protocol established. A dynamical system conceptual and preliminary design together with system modeling are introduced in (Szabolcsi, 2019). Both dynamical system design and analysis tasks based on classical and modern control engineering approaches are handled in (Szabolcsi, 2020) using MATLAB.



## Research methodology used in the study

An extensive literature search was carried out. The search covered studies between 2011 and 2018. Only full-text papers published in English were considered. In this research, the combination of keywords (BCI or Brain-Computer Interface or EEG or Electroencephalography) and (Prosthetic Limb, Prosthetic Arms or Robot) and ( Control Method ) is used. Figure 2 shows the process of how the chosen papers were selected in this research.

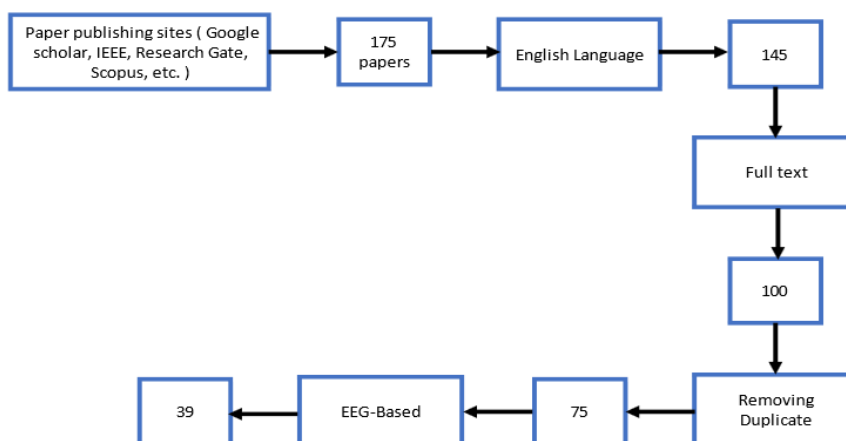


Figure 2 – Research method

Рис. 2 – Метод исследования

Слика 2 – Метод истраживања

From the figure above, the number of selected papers was decreased due to the application of several filters depending on the type of the papers, e.g. full text or not. Only English language papers were chosen, also depending on the type of input signals, i.e. EEG signals. Only the articles that dealt with an upper limb (Arm, Hand) were included.

Figure 3 shows the distributions of the articles regarding the EEG-Based Control method for artificial upper limbs (as prosthetic arms or assistive devices or robotic arms). Years from 2013 till mid of 2016 witnessed a rise in research interest in this area.

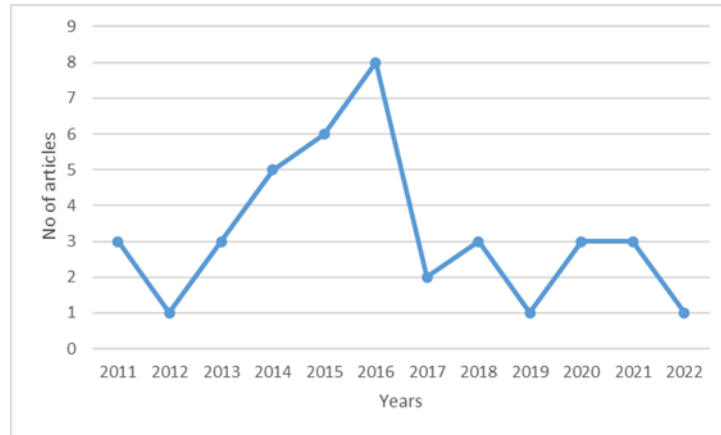


Figure 3 – Publication distribution  
 Рис. 3 – Распространение публикаций  
 Слика 3 – Распoдела публикација

## Background

### *Prosthetic limbs*

In this section, the focus of the prosthetic limb will be on the prosthetic arms type. The prosthetic arm consists of several components that work together to make the arm useful.

- Limb. The limbs of a prosthetic arm are formed out of lightweight, yet durable materials.
- Socket. The socket connects the prosthesis to the residual limb to ensure that it fits securely. A poor fit can cause considerable discomfort and reduce the function of the prosthetic arm. To circumvent this problem, prosthetics are made using a personalized mold to fit the exact shape of the residual limb.
- Suspension system. The suspension system is the component that secures the prosthetic to the residual limb. There are different suspension systems, including a harness, an elastic sleeve, a suction socket, or a self-suspending socket.
- Control system. While the brain controls a natural limb and nerve impulses, a prosthetic arm cannot be controlled the same way. Control systems are myoelectric, body-powered, or motor-controlled.

### *Electroencephalography (EEG)*

Electroencephalography (EEG) is the most common brain signal that has been utilized in brain-machine interface applications. This popularity

is due to several facts: EEG signals are non-invasive, low cost, compatible, portable and have a high temporal resolution in comparison with other brainwave measurements such as electrocorticograms (ECoGs), magnetoencephalograms (MEGs), functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) and near-infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS).

Electroencephalography can be defined as the measurement of the electric brain activity caused by currents induced by neurons within the brain (Murphy et al, 2017). The EEG signal can be detected in a non-invasive way by placing the electrode on the scalp. This justifies why the EEG measurement is the most widespread brain activity measurement technique. In addition, it is comparatively affordable and provides a high temporal resolution (about 1 ms). However, it has a weak signal and is prone to several artifacts and relatively poor spatial resolution.

In EEG measurement, detected waveforms reveal cortical electrical activity. The signal intensity of EEG activity is often quite small and measured in the microvolt ( $\mu\text{V}$ ) range (Übeyli, 2009; Acharya et al, 2019). The main EEG rhythms are classified based on the frequency range as alpha ( $\alpha$ ), beta ( $\beta$ ), delta ( $\delta$ ), theta ( $\theta$ ) and gamma as shown in Table 1a.

*Table 1a – EEG frequencies*

*Таблица 1а – Частоты ЭЭГ*

*Табела 1а – ЕЕГ фреквенције*

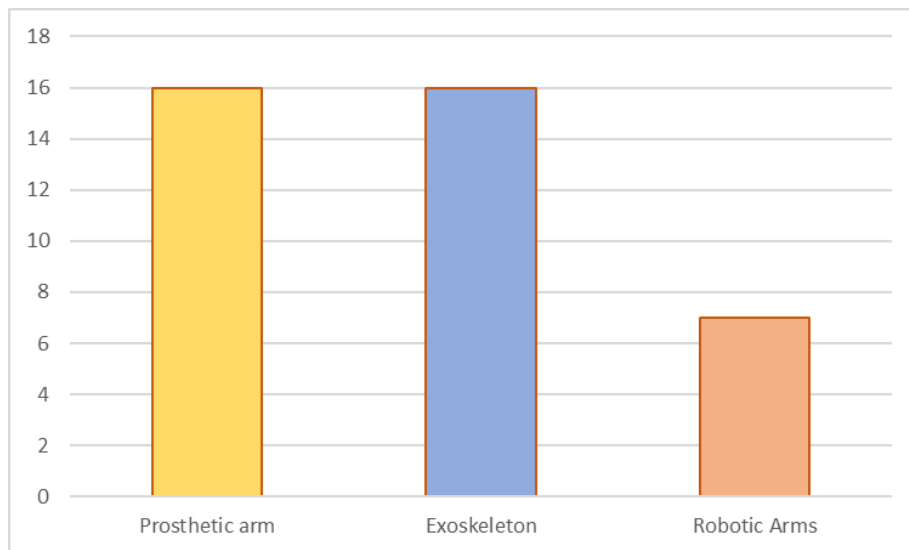
EEG	Frequencies	Description
Delta $\delta$	0.5-4	Appear in infant and deep sleep
Theta $\Theta$	4-8	Appear in partial and temporal areas in children
Alpha $\alpha$	8-13	Occur in awoken adults in the parietal and frontal region of the scalp
Beta B	13-30	These waves are related to the movements and commonly appear in the frontal and central lobe. The decreasing of the Beta rhythm indicates a movement, preparation of movements, planning a move, or imagining a movement. This decrease is most dominant in the contralateral motor cortex. This attenuation in Beta waves is called event-related desynchronization. The rhythms increase after the movement and are known as event-related synchronization.
Gamma $\gamma$	>30	These are higher rhythms that have frequencies of more than 30 Hz.

## Results

During the systematic review, 39 articles were chosen for principal studies and all of them were using EEG as an input signal.

However, the output was either a prosthetic limb, an exoskeleton device, or a robotic arm.

Figure 4 shows the number of studies that dealt with each one considered in this paper.



*Figure 4 – Articles dealing with EEG application*

*Рис. 4 – Статји о примении ЕЕГ*

*Слика 4 – Чланци о примени ЕЕГ апликације*

The systematic review results in 39 papers, chosen as principal studies and published in the field of EEG-based control of prosthetic arms, exoskeleton, and robotic arms, are shown in Tables 2, 3, and 4, respectively.

Table 2 – Prosthetic arm

Таблица 2 – Протез руки

Табела 2 – Простетичка рука

Reference No.	EEG Extraction Method	Controller Used	No. of movements	year
(Bridges et al, 2011)	Not specified	Not specified	Grasp	2011
(Yanagisawa et al, 2011)	Feature extraction: bandpass filter (Fast Fourier Transform) Classifier : Support Vector Machine SVM	Not Specified	Grasp, extension of the second and third finger ( scissor shape)	2011
(Beyrouthy et al, 2017)	Not specified	Raspberry Pi + Arduino	Close and open hand	2016
(Bright et al, 2016)	Not specified	Arduino UNO	Flexion, extension, pinch	2016
(Elstob & Secco, 2016)	CSP spatial filter for extraction Linear Discriminant analysis LDA for classifier	Arduino UNO	Open, close	2016
(Agashe et al, 2016)	High-pass and low-pass second-order Butterworth filters	Built-in controller	Grasp	2016
(Vidaurre et al, 2016)	Band Pass filter for Extraction, LDA as a classifier	Not specified	Control, right hand or left hand	2016
(Rashid et al, 2018)	Data Processing: low and high pass filter Feature extraction : calculation o band power from PSD Classification: Logistic regression classifier network	Arduino UNO	Finger flexion and extension	2018
(Faiman et al, 2018)	Data was filtered with Bandpass and Notch filter Data extraction using Fast Fourier Transform	Not specified	Reaching	2018

Reference No.	EEG Extraction Method	Controller Used	No. of movements	year
(Noel & Snider, 2019)	Extraction and analysis : Power spectral density Classification : Support vector machine	Not specified	Flexion and extension of fingers	2019
(Gannouni et al, 2020)	Extracting CSP Classifying: LDA	Not specified	Finger movements	2020
(Chinta et al, 2020)	Classification : LSTM ( Long-Short Term Memory Model	Not specified	Upward and downward arm movement	2020
(Fuentes-Gonzalez et al, 2021)	Not specified	Arduino UNO	Open and close hand	2020
(Ali et al, 2021)	Not specified	Not specified	Arm movement, fingers open and close	2021
(Setiawan et al, 2021)	RC Filter OP AMP for Signal Extraction	Arduino UNO	Flexion and extension of fingers	2021
(Chaudhry et al, 2022)	Extraction : FFT Classification: SVM	Arduino UNO	Fingers flexion and extension	2022

Table 3 – Exoskeleton  
Таблица 3 – Экзоскелет  
Табела 3 – Егзоскелет

Reference No.	EEG Extraction Method	Controller Used	No. of movements	year
(Xu et al, 2011)	Extraction: WT Classification: LDA	Not specified	Right and left arm	2011
(Ramos-Murguialday et al, 2012)	Spatial filter	Not specified	Fingers flexion and extension	2012
(Formaggio et al, 2013)	Sampling : Band Pass Filter and FFT	Not specified	Hand movement	2013
(Tung et al, 2013)		Not specified	Upper arm movement	2013

Reference No.	EEG Extraction Method	Controller Used	No. of movements	year
(Krichner et al, 2014)	Sampling: FFT Band Pass Filter and Spatial filter Classification: SVM	Not specified	Upper arm movement	2014
(Witkowski et al, 2014)	Sampling Band Pass Filter Preprocessing: Laplacian filter	Not specified	Hand movement	2014
(Looned et al, 2014)	Extraction: Spatial Filter Classifier: Linear Classifier	Not specified	Arm movement and grasp	2014
(Hortal et al, 2015)	Sampling : Notch Filter Extracting : Band Pass Filter Classifier: SVM	Not specified	Elbow flexion and extension	2015
(Brauchle et al, 2015)	Digitization: High Pass Filter Classification : Linear Classification	Not specified	Arm reaching movement	2015
(Elnady et al, 2015)	Extract: common spatial pattern Algorithm Classifier: Linear Discriminant Analysis LDA	Not specified	Elbow flexion , extension hand open and close	2015
(Comani et al, 2015)	Samplings: notch and Bandpass filter	Not specified	Upper arm movement	2015
(Soekadar et al, 2015)	Sampling band pass filter preprocessing: Laplacian +- filter	Not specified	Upper arm movement	2015
(Bhagat et al, 2016)	Sampling : High then Low Pass Filter Classification: SVM	Not specified	Elbow flexion extension	2016
(Tang et al, 2016)	Sampling : Notch and Band Pass Filter Classifier: LDA, SVM, BPNN	Not specified	Right- and left-hand movement both feet movement	2016
(Frolov et al, 2017)	Extraction: Band Pass Filter classify: Bayesian classifier	Not specified	Hand open and close	2017
(Buerkle et al, 2021)	Extraction :FFT Classification: SVM	Not specified	Right and left hand	2021

Table 4 – Robotic arm  
 Таблица 4 – Роботизированная (бионическая) рука  
 Табела 4 – Роботичка рука

	Reference No.	EEG Extraction Method	Controller Used	No. of movements	year
1	(Steinisch et al, 2013)	Sampling : Notch and Bandpass filter	Not specified	Arm movement	2013
2	(Shedeed et al, 2013)	Extraction: WT, FFT, PCA Classifier: SVM	Not specified	Close and open arm Close hand	2014
3	(Bhattacharyya et al, 2014)	Extraction: FFT Classifier: SVM	Not specified	Arm movement, left, right and forward	2014
4	(Xu et al, 2015)	Extraction: WT Classifier: LDA	Not specified	Arm move upward and downward	2015
5	(Meng et al, 2016)	Not specified	Not specified	Arm movement: left, right, up, down	2016
6	(Karakoc et al, 2017)	Not specified	Arduino	Open and close hand	2017
7	(Bousseta et al, 2018)	Extraction: FFT Classifier: SVM	Not specified	Arm base right, left Elbow up and down	2018

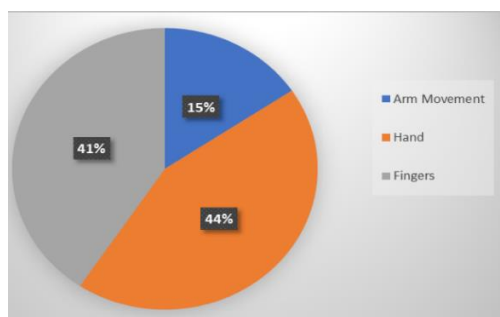


Figure 5 – EEG signal control in the prosthetic arm research studies from Table 2  
 Рис. 5 – Управление сигналом ЭЭГ в исследованиях о протезировании руки из Таблицы 2

Слика 5 – Управљање ЕЕГ сигналом у истраживачким студијама које се баве протетичком руком (табела 2)



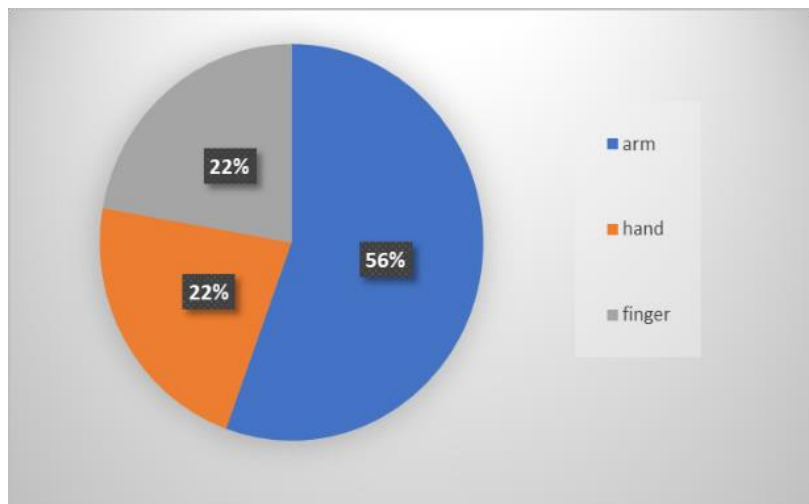


Figure 6 – EEG signal control in the exoskeleton research studies from Table 3  
Рис. 6 – Управление сигналом ЭЭГ в исследованиях экзоскелета из Таблицы 3  
Слика 6 – Управљање ЕЕГ сигналом у истраживачким студијама које се баве екзоскелетом (табела 3)

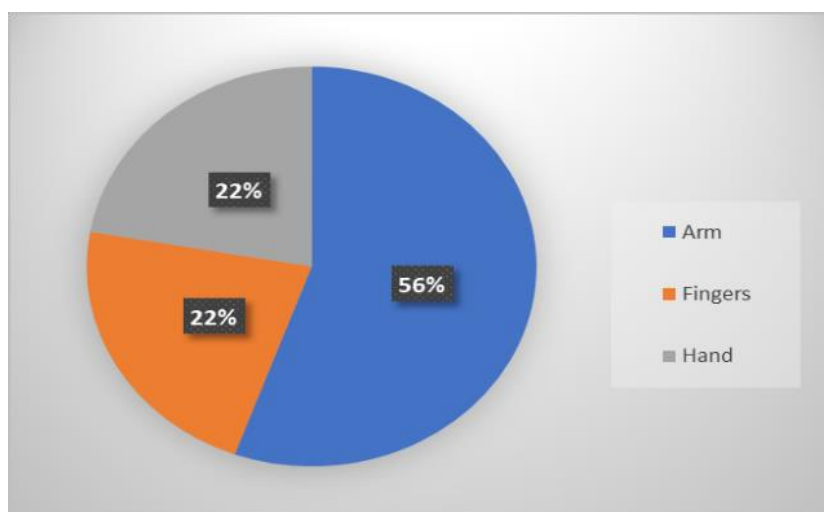


Figure 7 – EEG signal control in the robotic arm research studies from Table 4  
Рис. 7 – Управление сигналом ЭЭГ в исследованиях роботизированной руки из Таблицы 4  
Слика 7 – Управљање ЕЕГ сигналом у истраживачким студијама које се баве роботичком руком (табела 4)

### EEG signal types

EEG is nowadays considered a successful non-invasive realistic and practical Brain-Machine Interface BMI Technique. This is due to the fact that other techniques are considered high cost, e.g. magnetoencephalography (MEG) and positron emission tomography (PET).

Three key elements characterise the EEG-based prosthetic arm: the type of EEG signals, which part of the prosthetic arm is under control, and how to translate the EEG signal to a control command to manage the prosthesis. Figure 8 shows these key elements.

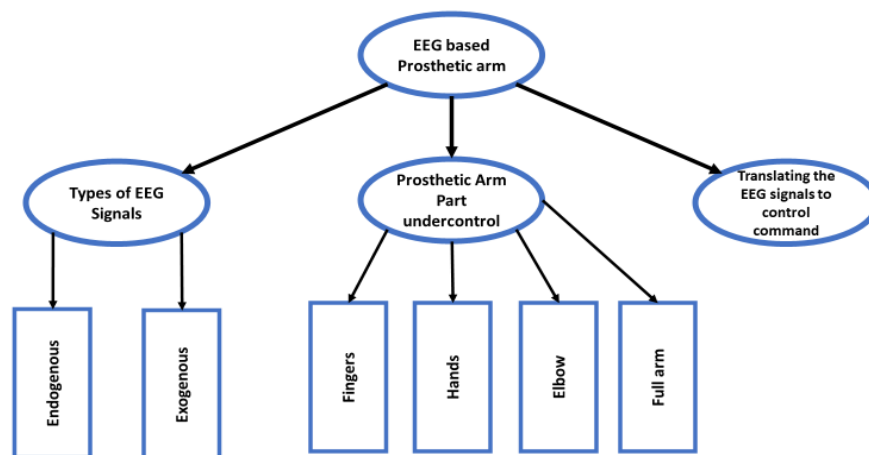


Figure 8 – Research elements

Рис. 8 – Элементы исследования

Слика 8 – Елементи истраживања

### Endogenous and exogenous EEG signals

Depending on the movement type, the prosthetic arm can be managed by utilizing exogenous or endogenous EEG signals.

Table 5 shows the differences between these two types.

Table 5 – EEG signal types  
 Таблица 5 – Типы сигналов ЭЭГ  
 Табела 5 – Типови ЕЕГ сигнала

EEG Signal	Description	Advantages	Disadvantages	Types	Description
Exogenous	Generated by applying external stimuli like auditory or virtual clue	Minimum training for participants	1- Require a lot of focus. 2- Participants can be really exhausted from strong stimuli.	Steady State Visually Evoked Potential (SSVEP)	The reaction to the stimuli is at different frequencies. If the participant looks at a flashing light with specific frequency, the EEG signal from the visual cortex would be at the same frequency
				P-300 Based Interface	The same as SSVEP but the data transfer rate is lower
Endogenous	Does not need external stimuli	Participants with neurological problems can control prosthesis automatically	1- Need more training 2- Data transfer rate is lower	Sensorimotor Rhythms (SMR)	Endure two kinds of amplitude modulations known as event-related desynchronization (ERD) and event-related synchronization (ERS)
				Slow Cortical Potentials (SCP)	Slow event-related direct-current shifts of the electroencephalogram. Slow cortical potential shifts in the electrical negative direction reflect the depolarization of large cortical cell assemblies, reducing their excitation threshold.

## *Prosthetic arm parts*

The control of a prosthetic arm has different paradigms represented by whether the control includes only fingers, hand, elbow, or a full arm. Every part requires different types of signals. Besides, the time of training is dependent on the parts.

### **A - Fingers**

Both human hands have four fingers and a thumb each. The fingers have two main moves: flexion and extension. The flex movement is mainly for grasping, while extension is for reaching things. Due to flexion, several modes can be made, i.e. bending, making a fist, gripping, grasping and folding fingers. On the other hand, the extension of fingers includes the following modes: pointing, stretching out, and spreading out.

The thumb is responsible for 50% of the hand function. The thumb has two joints at the end and middle which flex and extend, just like the fingers. The next joint down, however, is highly specialized and allows several unique movements not possible in the fingers. These are the following motions: circumduction, abduction, adduction, and repulsion.

There are several studies regarding finger movements using EEG signals implemented over the last few years. Paek et al. (Paek et al, 2014) investigated how the finger tapping movement can be decoded from the scalp EEG signals. The study shows that finger kinematics can be inferred from delta band filtered fluctuation of the amplitude of EEG signals across the scalp using linear decoders with memory. Ketenci & Kayikcioglu (Ketenci & Kayikcioglu, 2019) studied the effect of theta brainwaves on movement detection. Four right-handed participants performed extensions with their fingers using EEG. They proved that theta signals participate in movement execution. Mohamed & Aharonson (Mohamed & Aharonson, 2021) studied the movement of wrist and fingers together (i.e. left finger and wrist or right finger and wrist). The results suggest that a combination of classifiers and features from different frequency bands could improve BCI performance to enable more dexterous control of a bionic hand. Rashid and his team (Rashid et al, 2018) designed a system that can be used to control the fingers of a prosthetic limbs using EEG signals. For this system, a two-staged classifier was used. The classifier was able to distinguish between three finger movements, the thumb, and the fist with an accuracy of 70%. A novel method of classification of four finger movements (thumb movement, index finger movement, middle and index finger combined movement, and fist movement) of the right hand on the basis of EEG (Electroencephalogram) data of the movements was

presented by Javed's team (Javed et al, 2017). The PSD and Linear Regression models were used to classify the signals. These classifiers had an accuracy of 65%. Liao et al. (Liao et al, 2014) investigated the discrimination of individual fingers from one hand using non-invasive EEG. The experimental results demonstrated that a movement-related spectral structure could be decoupled from EEG power spectrum density data using the Principal Component Analysis with an accuracy achieved of 77.11% .

### **B - Hand**

The hand movements include the fingers and the wrist movements. The wrist joint flexes and extends, but also deviates radially and ulnarly (moves from side to side). The word radially means "toward the thumb side". The term ulnarly means "toward the pinky side". One might use this motions when swinging a hammer. A study of implementing an algorithm for wrist movement detection was implemented by Ghani et al. (Ghani et al, 2013) - the movements of the hand were flexion and extension. The accuracy achieved by this algorithm was up to 91.93 % using discrete cosine transformation of energy and entropy. Huong et al. (Huong et al, 2018) used Event-Related Potential (ERP) components of P300, and the advanced features combined in Artificial Neural Network (ANN) were used to classify the electroencephalogram (EEG) signals associated with the left and right-hand movements. The results of classification are quite good and promising for the application in a BCI context to mentally control a computer or a machine.

Ting Li et al. (Li et al, 2018) proposed a model of voluntary hand movement decoding based on an HLM. The original intention of this design was to identify a computing architecture that could contain and describe complex data, such as that of an EEG BFN. Ramalingam et al. (Ramalingam et al, 2016) use machine learning algorithms to extract and classify signals from the brain to execute the motion of fingers and wrist rotation. four classes of right-hand movements were considered. The descriptive statistical features were computed from EEG signals. Feature selection was carried out to reduce the classifier complexity and an accuracy of 80.55% was achieved using the C4.5 decision tree algorithm.

### **C - Elbow**

The elbow is one of the most important parts of the arm because it allows the hand to move in almost any position so that various activities can be done. The movements that can be done with the elbow are flexion and extension. Ji-hoon et al. presented a study of the classification of

forearm movements according to elaborated rotation angles using electroencephalogram (EEG) signals (Jeong et al, 2020). They used the Hierarchical Low Convolutional Neural Network (HF-CNN) model for robust classification. The experimental results demonstrate the possibility of decoding complex kinematics information using EEG signals. Ghani et al. (Ghani et al, 2012) used EEG to analyze brain activity in order to translate human elbow movements to the movements of an artificial actuator. The work achieved 73% accuracy in the classification of the elbow movements using EEG. Faizal et al. designed an orthosis control system as a rehabilitation device by using a classification method with EEG and EMG signals, so that subjects who use this tool can carry out rehabilitation in upper arm movements, especially in the elbow joint. The system reached an accuracy of 85.2% with three movements: relax, flexion, and extension (Ferdiansyah et al, 2020).

### *Translating the EEG signal to the control command*

EEG signal decoding has several stages in order to reach the desired output. These common stages are preprocessing, feature extraction, and classification. At each stage, an algorithm is applied.

#### **A - Preprocessing**

EEG records electrical potentials generated by nerve cells. Electrodes are placed on the scalp and recorded by amplification. By this procedure, the obtained data shows a continuous graphic with the spatial distribution of the voltage changes over time. In order to translate brain activity into commands, there are three steps to be applied. First, the brain activity is recorded with an acquisition device. Then, artifacts are unwanted faulty parts of signals that are removed from signals (Gupta & Singh, 1996).

#### **B - Feature extraction**

Relevant features are extracted by methods such as Fast Fourier Transform (FFT), Wavelet Transform (WT), and Eigenvectors (Zhang et al, 2008). There are different methods for feature extraction of the signal such as FFT, WT, Eigenvectors, Time-frequency Distributions, and Autoregressive Method. Table 6 shows every method mentioned earlier with their advantages and disadvantages.

Table 6 – Feature extraction techniques  
 Таблица 6 – Методы выявления признаков  
 Табела 6 –Технике издвајања карактеристика

Name	Advantages	Disadvantages
FFT	1- Good tool for stationary signal processing 2- It is more appropriate for narrowband signals, such as sine wave 3- It has an enhanced speed over virtually all other available methods in real-time applications	1- Not good with nonstationary signals like EEG. 2- Suffers from large noise sensitivity
WT	1- It is better suited for the analysis of sudden and transient signal changes	Needs selecting a proper mother wavelet
Eigen vector	Provides suitable resolution to evaluate the sinusoid from the data	Lowest eigenvalue may generate false zeros when Pisarenko's method is employed
Time frequency distribution	1- It gives the feasibility of examining great continuous segments of the EEG signal 2- TFD only analyzes clean signals for good results	1- Time-frequency methods are oriented to deal with the concept of stationary; as a result, a windowing process is needed in the preprocessing module 2- It is quite slow (because of the gradient ascent computation) 3- Extracted features can be dependent on each other
Autoregressive	1- AR limits the loss of spectral problems and yields improved frequency resolution 2- Gives good frequency resolution 3- Spectral analysis based on the AR model is particularly advantageous when short data segments are analyzed, since the frequency resolution of an analytically derived AR spectrum is infinite and does not depend on the length of analyzed data	1- The model order in AR spectral estimation is difficult to select 2- The AR method will give poor spectral estimation once the estimated model is not appropriate, and the models' orders are incorrectly selected 3- It is readily susceptible to heavy biases and even large variability

### C - Classification

A classifier utilizes values for independent variables (features) as inputs to predict the corresponding class to which an independent variable belongs. A classifier has a number of parameters that require training from a training dataset (Wen et al, 2021). A trained classifier will model the association between classes and corresponding features and is capable of identifying new instances in an unseen testing dataset. Several techniques of classification are explained in Table 7.

*Table 7 – Classification techniques*  
*Таблица 7 – Методи класификации*  
*Табела 7 – Технике класификације*

No	Method	Description
1	SVM	The SVM is a supervised learning algorithm that uses a kernel trick to transform input data into higher dimensional space, after which it segregates the data via a hyper-plan with maximal margins. Due to its ability to manage large datasets, the algorithm is widely used for binary classification problems in machine learning.
2	MLP	The MLP is a non-linear neural network based method comprising three sequential layers: input, hidden and output, respectively, where the hidden layer transmits input data to the output layer. However, the MLP model can cause over-fitting due to insufficient or excessive numbers of neurons.
3	NB	The NB classifier provides simple and efficient probabilistic classification based on Bayes' theorem, which posits that extracted features are not dependent. The NB model uses (i) a maximum probability algorithm to determine the class of earlier probabilities, and (ii) a feature's probability distribution from a training dataset. Results are then employed with a maximized posteriori decision tree to find the specific class label for a new test instance.
4	K-NN	The k-nearest neighbor is a supervised learning algorithm that identifies a testing sample's class according to the majority class of k-nearest training samples; i.e., a class label is allocated to a new instance of the most common class amongst KNN in the "feature" space. In this study, the k value was set to three.
5	K-fold cross validation	All classification models in the present work were trained and tested with EEG data and then confirmed using k-fold cross validation, which is a commonly used technique that compares (i) performances of two classification algorithms, or (ii) evaluates the performance of a single classifier on a given dataset (Wong, 2015). It has the advantage of using all instances in a dataset for either training or testing, where each instance is employed for validation exactly once.
6	LDA	It consists of the statistical properties of the data calculated for each class. For a single input variable (x), these are the mean and the variance of the variable for each class. For multiple variables, these are the same properties calculated over the multivariate Gaussian, namely the means and the covariance matrix. These statistical properties are estimated from the data and plug into the LDA equation to make predictions. These are the model values that would be saved to file for the model.



## Conclusion

The study of EEG-based prosthetic arms includes a wide range of fields to be familiar with, such as anatomy, signal processing, control methods, and design. All these fields represent sciences in themselves. Although researchers have done good work regarding prosthetic arm control, more needs to be done, such as increasing the accuracy in EEG signal extracting and faster control.

The use of automatic prosthetic arms is already an accepted method. It is considered one of the methods that aim to be applicable for lower limbs, wheelchairs, cars, and even drones.

In future research based on a Ph.D. thesis, the five extraction methods mentioned in Table 6 and the six classification methods mentioned in Table 7 will be used to control the full motion of the arm moving an object from one place to another using LabView or MATLAB simulation. Subsequently, a method with high accuracy will be applied for an actual prosthetic arm using Raspberry pi 4 controller.

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Комплексное исследование об управлении искусственной рукой с помощью электроэнцефалографии (ЭЭГ)

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РУБРИКА ГРНТИ: 45.31.31 Электрические аппараты низкого напряжения  
ВИД СТАТЬИ: оригинальная научная статья

**Резюме:**

**Введение/цель:** Сигнал электроэнцефалографии (ЭЭГ) оказывает большое влияние на развитие технологии управления протезом руки. Сигналы ЭЭГ используются в качестве основного инструмента в функциональных исследованиях движений человека. Изучение управления протезом руки с помощью сигналов головного мозга все еще находится на ранней стадии, так как данный вид управления начали исследовать всего несколько лет назад.

**Методы:** Было проведено несколько исследований с целью систематического обзора опубликованных статей, для того чтобы исследователи и специалисты могли ознакомиться с новейшими методами управления с помощью сигналов ЭЭГ, используемых не только в области протезирования конечностей, но и в других технологиях.

**Результаты:** В ходе исследования проанализировано 175 статей, из которых отобраны только непосредственно относящиеся к теме данного исследования.

**Выводы:** Данное исследование преследует три цели. Первая цель заключается в сборе, систематизации исследований и оценке полученной информации из трудов, опубликованных в период с 2011 по 2022 год. Вторая цель состоит в представлении подробного отчета о целостных экспериментальных достижениях в этой области, а также о текущих исследованиях. Таким образом систематизированный материал предоставляет большое количество примеров, описанных в новейших исследованиях об управлении протезом руки с помощью ЭЭГ. Третья цель состоит в выявлении проблем, требующих дальнейшего изучения, и в рекомендации направлений для будущих исследований в данной области.

**Ключевые слова:** ЭЭГ, ЭМГ, комплексное исследование, протез руки, управление.

Опсежна студија о управљању вештачком руком помоћу електроенцефалографије (еег)

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ОБЛАСТ: механика, електроника

КАТЕГОРИЈА (ТИП) ЧЛАНКА: оригинални научни рад



**Сажетак:**

*Увод/циљ:* Сигнал у електроенцефалографији (ЕЕГ) има велики утицај на развој технологије управљања протетичком руком. При функционалном испитивању људског покрета као главно средство користе се ЕЕГ сигнали. Контрола протетичке руке путем можданих таласа је још у раним фазама испитивања. Истраживачи се тек од пре неколико година баве овом врстом управљања.

*Метод:* Неколико студија је имало за циљ да систематично обради до сада објављена истраживања како би се истраживачима и стручњацима пружио свеобухватни преглед најновијих техника управљања путем ЕЕГ сигнала које се користе не само за протетичке руке већ и за друге технологије.

*Резултати:* Упоредно је 175 чланака, а изабрани су само они који су најтешње повезани са студијом.

*Закључак:* Ова студија има три циља. Први је да скуп, систематизује и процени информације објављене у студијама у периоду од 2011. до 2022. године. Други је да пружи детаљнији извештај о холистичким, експерименталним постигнућима у овој области, као и осадшњим истраживањима. Систематично урађена студија обезбеђује мноштво примера из савремених истраживања управљања протетичком руком путем ЕЕГ сигнала. Трећи циљ јесте да се укаже на области које захтевају даља истраживања, као и да се препоруче правци за њихово спровођење.

*Кључне речи:* ЕЕГ, ВСИ, свеобухватна студија, протетичка рука, контролери.

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