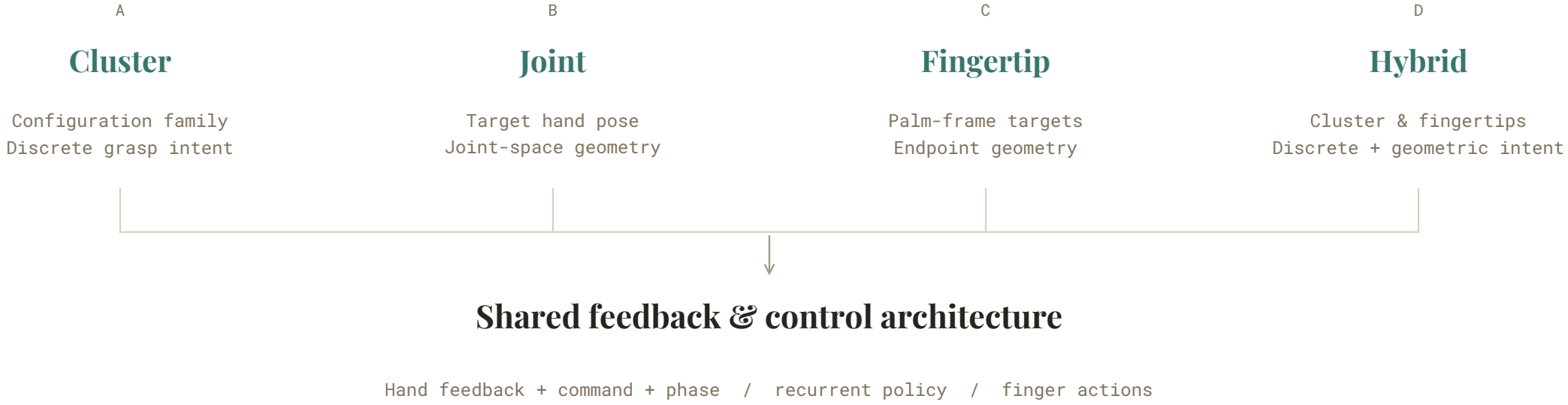INTERFACE ABLATION