

# 1 Selection of Standard Parts under the Influence of Deep 2 Learning

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4 *Despite the automation trend, manual assembly still represents an essential*  
5 *manufacturing step, which is associated with high time and cost*  
6 *expenditure. To meet these challenges, various optimization approaches for*  
7 *manual assembly are investigated. New potentials exist through the*  
8 *integration of object detection algorithms. Object detection is a subfield of*  
9 *computer vision and is concerned with determining the content and position*  
10 *of objects based on image properties (features). Deep learning applies when*  
11 *these features are extracted from diverse data by deep neural networks.*  
12 *These networks are trained on images containing all relevant information*  
13 *about the object to be recognized. In this way, images of all components and*  
14 *typical assembly defects can be integrated into an object detection model to*  
15 *monitor the assembly process. Overall, the application of Deep Learning*  
16 *holds great optimization potential for manual assembly. However, the*  
17 *question arises whether current products are appropriately designed for the*  
18 *use of such systems. Only if object detection algorithms can identify*  
19 *assembly components, their use in manual assembly is reasonable. Existing*  
20 *design guidelines do not consider this aspect yet. This research project*  
21 *investigates which properties standard parts should have, to enhance the*  
22 *accuracy of object detection algorithms.*

23  
24 **Keywords:** *Deep Learning, Object Detection, Computer Vision, Product*  
25 *Engineering, Design Guidelines*

## 26 27 28 Introduction

29  
30 Despite the ongoing trend towards automation, most companies still  
31 assemble manually, resulting in high time and cost expenditure. In addition to  
32 the high labor costs in the European region, the growing diversity of variants  
33 presents companies with major challenges. Employees have to adapt more and  
34 more flexibly and quickly to new products and variants. The situation is further  
35 exacerbated by the increasing shortage of skilled workers.

36 To ensure that European companies can continue to hold their own in  
37 global competition, they must constantly optimize their processes. To support  
38 them in this, potential optimization approaches for manual assembly are being  
39 investigated in numerous ongoing research projects. One possibility to  
40 optimize manual assembly lies in the use of object detection algorithms. By  
41 capturing the assembly process using a camera and subsequent object  
42 detection, it is possible to determine the position, location, and type of  
43 components so that information about work steps, assembly errors, or the  
44 current state of the product can be derived.

45 Object detection is a subfield of computer vision and is concerned with  
46 identifying the content and position of various objects based on certain image  
47 properties (features). Deep learning takes place when these features are

1 extracted from data by deep neural networks (Khan et al., 2018). Convolutional  
2 neural networks (CNNs) can be used for this purpose. For object detection, a  
3 CNN is trained with training images, on which the position and class of the  
4 objects of interest are marked. It is trained for a certain number of iterations  
5 and validated over a validation dataset until the detection quality is optimal. In  
6 this way, images of all components and typical assembly defects can be  
7 integrated into the object detection model.

8 For datasets such as COCO, CIFAR or ImageNet, the performance of deep  
9 learning models has been widely evaluated (Bochkovskiy et al., 2020). These  
10 datasets include various object classes relevant to everyday life (e.g., animals,  
11 buildings, flowers, or furnishings). However, objects from industrial assembly  
12 have different characteristics. While cats, for example, can take on countless  
13 shapes, objects in an industrial context are usually clearly defined. In order to  
14 recognize them reliably, it may be necessary to optimize the architecture of the  
15 neural network or to modify the shape of the objects. In the following, the  
16 second approach will be investigated. This approach has rarely been considered  
17 in the literature because the shape of animals, plants or buildings cannot be  
18 modified. In contrast, industrial products are easier to revise. Design guidelines,  
19 for example, could be used to provide guidance on how to design products in a  
20 way that is appropriate for object detection.

21 Overall, the use of object detection algorithms based on Deep Learning in  
22 manual assembly holds great potential for optimization. Assembly times could  
23 be reduced, employees could be relieved and assembly errors could be avoided.  
24 However, to ensure that the use of object detection algorithms in manual  
25 assembly is sensible, industrial products and all associated components should  
26 be recognized with reliability. To achieve this, a high level of detectability by  
27 object detection systems should already be considered during product design.  
28 At the moment, there are numerous design guidelines for an assembly-  
29 compatible design, but these do not address the aspect of integrating object  
30 detection.

31 In order to fully exploit the potential of object detection algorithms based  
32 on deep learning in manual assembly, product design should be focused on this  
33 use case. For this reason, the research project investigates which design  
34 properties products and their components must have in order to enable optimal  
35 object detection. Since standard parts (especially screws) are installed in most  
36 industrial products, the research concentrates on this group of products.

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## 1 Assembly-oriented product design

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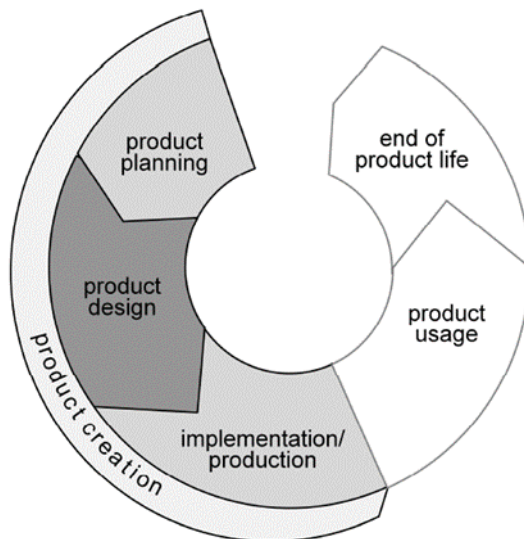
### 3 *The Product Design Process*

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5 Assembly-oriented product design is an important part of the product  
6 creation process. This is part of the technical product life cycle and can be  
7 divided into the three phases of product planning, product design and  
8 implementation/production (VDI 2221 Part 1, 2019), see **Figure 1**. While  
9 product planning aims at the general design of the company's offering, product  
10 design is an interdisciplinary company process for the development of a  
11 marketable product, based on a definition of initial goals and requirements for  
12 the product, which are continuously developed and iteratively adapted during  
13 the process.

14

15 **Figure 1.** *Technical Product Lifecycle*



16

17 Source: VDI Richtlinie 2221 – Blatt 1, 2019

18

19 In order to increase the comprehensibility of the extensive and complex  
20 product development process, efforts have been made since the end of the  
21 nineteenth century to systematize this process. Reuleaux made the first  
22 considerations at the end of the nineteenth century by developing a model  
23 procedure for kinematic synthesis (Reuleaux, 1875). Further efforts to  
24 systematically structure the product development process were made by  
25 Wögerbauer (1942), Kesselring (1954), Hansen (1965), Hubka (1976), Koller  
26 (1976), Pahl et al. (1977), Roth (1982) and Rodenacker (1991). The aim of all  
27 these considerations was to provide design engineers with tools to develop  
28 products more efficiently. In order to establish a German standard and  
29 harmonize scientific findings, the first edition of VDI 2221 was published in  
30 1986 (VDI 2221, 1986), which was last revised in 2019 due to new findings  
31 (VDI 2221 – Part 1, 2019). In addition to the primary guideline VDI 2221, the  
32 authors refer to additional guidelines such as VDI 2222 Part 1 (1997), VDI  
33 2222 Part 2 (1982), VDI 2223 (2004) and VDI/VDE 2206 (2021), which

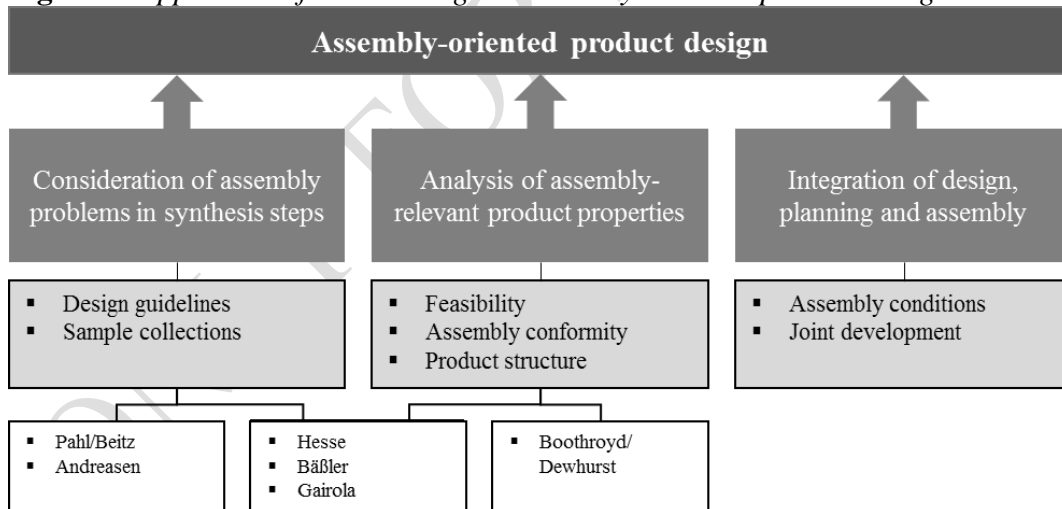
1 specify special aspects and details of methodical product development and  
2 solution finding.

3 For example, VDI 2223 recommends the use of design guidelines, also  
4 known as design rules. These give designers concrete indications of potential  
5 design weaknesses and suggest suitable improvements. They can serve as a  
6 checklist for reviewing designs before they are released for elaboration. In  
7 literature, design rules are usually documented as collections of solutions or in  
8 design catalogs. Design guidelines can refer to a wide range of aspects. For  
9 example, there are rules for stress-appropriate, cost-appropriate, welding-  
10 appropriate or production-appropriate design. However, for manual assembly,  
11 the information on product design for assembly is particularly relevant.

### 12 *Approaches for an assembly-oriented product design*

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14  
15 Product design has a decisive influence on the future assembly process.  
16 For example, the product design influences the structure of the assembly  
17 systems, the future joining processes and the options for feeding, storing and  
18 separating components. For this reason, the assembly processes that will be  
19 required later should already be considered during the design phase. In  
20 literature, different approaches can be found to realize an assembly-oriented  
21 product design, see **Figure 2**.

22  
23 **Figure 2.** *Approaches for achieving an assembly-oriented product design*



24  
25 *Source:* Own illustration based on Ehrlenspiel, 1995

26  
27 On the one hand, concrete design guidelines for assembly-oriented design  
28 are provided in form of collections of examples and design guidelines. The  
29 authors recommend that assembly problems should already be taken into  
30 account during the synthesis steps in the product development process. Well-  
31 known collections of examples can be found in Pahl et al. (2007), Andreasen et  
32 al. (1983), Hesse (1995), Bäßler (1988) and Gairola (1981).

33 Another approach is the analysis of assembly-relevant product properties.  
34 Here, a systematic product analysis is used to assess the suitability for

1 assembly and to identify weak points. Concrete methods can be found in Hesse  
2 (1995), Bäßler (1988), Gairola (1981) and Bothroyd et al. (1983).

3 The third approach concerns the integration of design, planning and  
4 assembly. Organizational measures can improve cooperation between these  
5 various departments so that the flow of information is optimized. An integrated  
6 process should improve planning quality, reduce development time and  
7 minimize costs. The discussed approaches are not comparable, but they are  
8 highly complementary. Ideally, all three approaches are combined (Ehrlenspiel,  
9 1995).

10 In the context of the paper, the first approach will be pursued. The aim is  
11 to derive concrete design guidelines from practical tests. These shall serve  
12 designers as a tool to design products in a way that they are reliably recognized  
13 by object detection algorithms based on Deep Learning.

## 16 **Deep Learning based Object Detection**

18 Object detection has attracted increasing attention in recent years due to its  
19 wide range of applications and recent technological breakthroughs. This task is  
20 being intensively studied both in academia and in practice, e.g. in security  
21 surveillance, autonomous driving, traffic monitoring, drone scene analysis and  
22 robot vision. Among the many factors and efforts that have led to the rapid  
23 development of object detection techniques, notable contributions should be  
24 attributed to the development of deep convolutional neural networks and the  
25 computational power of GPUs. Currently, the deep learning models are widely  
26 used throughout the computer vision field, including general object detection  
27 and domain-specific object detection. Most state-of-the-art object detectors use  
28 deep learning networks as a backbone and recognition network to extract,  
29 classify or localize features from input data.

30 The task of identifying and localizing objects on RGB-image data is  
31 crucial for many applications in the industrial environment. Typically, deep  
32 learning-based methods achieve this goal by using features extracted by  
33 convolutional neural networks (CNNs) (Lecun et al., 1998). CNNs are built by  
34 alternately stacking convolutional and pooling operations with learnable  
35 weights. Convolutional layers convolve one or more parameterized kernel with  
36 the respective input data and thus create feature maps. These contain low-level  
37 features like edges and textures in the networks first layers and high-level  
38 features like object information in the deeper layers.

39 To reduce the number of parameters in the networks, the spatial feature  
40 map size is scaled down using pooling operations such as max pooling or  
41 average pooling. The pooling operation is typically performed over a 3 x 3  
42 sliding window of the input data (Wu, 2017). This is one of many applied  
43 feature-space dimensionality reduction methods that lead to a more stable  
44 training and better generalization of the trained model.

45 Typically, the output of each networks layer is applied to an activation  
46 function to introduce the necessary non-linearity of a neural network. The most-

1 widespread activation function is the rectified linear unit (ReLU)  $f(x)=\max(0, x)$   
2 (Nair et al., 2010).

3 By stacking pooling and convolutional layers, a network can be built that  
4 enables a hierarchical and evolutionary development of pixel data towards  
5 meaningful feature representations. These can be used for the mentioned  
6 downstream tasks such as classification and localization of objects. Many of the  
7 downstream applications use Residual Networks (He et al., 2016) as backbone,  
8 whereas other types of neural networks like Transformers (Dosovitskiy et al.,  
9 2021) have shown large success as feature extractors.

10 Object detection methods can mainly be divided in two-shot methods, where  
11 object regions are predicted first and classified in a separate neural pathway  
12 (Girshick et al., 2014) and one-shot methods where location and class of objects  
13 are derived from the same features (Redmon et al., 2016). In the present work, a  
14 region proposal-based method (Ren et al., 2016) coupled with a feature pyramid  
15 network (Lin et al., 2017) is used. Two-shot approaches typically show a higher  
16 object detection accuracy at a higher computational cost than single-shot-detectors.

17 Faster-RCNN introduces the concept of a region proposal network (RPN) to  
18 determine regions of interest (RoI) that will be classified. The RPN is a fully  
19 convolutional network to predict object bounds and objectness scores at each  
20 image position. The RPN slides over selected feature maps of the backbone CNN,  
21 obtaining a low-dimensional vector at each position. This vector is fed into a  
22 classifier and regressor to classify if there is an object and regress its position.  
23 Each region then is parameterized relative to a reference anchor box. The  
24 distance between the predicted box and the ground truth position is measured  
25 to only output the offset between the predicted box and the anchor.

26 Feature pyramids built upon image pyramids have been widely applied in  
27 many object detection systems to improve scale invariance. The FPN consists  
28 of a bottom-up pathway and a top-down pathway of differently sized featured  
29 maps from the backbone CNN. It so combines low-resolution and semantically  
30 strong features with high-resolution and semantically weak features.

31 Due to its architecture, a vanilla Faster-RCNN network will output multiple,  
32 slightly shifted bounding boxes for each object. These must be filtered for  
33 duplicates to achieve useful prediction results. NMS (non-maximum suppression)  
34 is a heuristic method which selects only the object of the highest classification  
35 score, otherwise the object will be ignored. This method is commonly used in  
36 almost all object detection architectures, despite there is active research toward  
37 NMS-free methods (Hosang et al., 2017).

38 The resulting network can be trained end-to-end using bounding-box  
39 annotated image data. Typically, this is done using stochastic gradient descent on a  
40 combined loss function to both minimize the bounding-box position error and the  
41 logistic classification error. Typically, the network is trained on a large dataset  
42 such as Microsoft Common Objects in Context (Lin et al., 2014). COCO contains  
43 80 objects classes and 328K images. The pre-trained network is then finetuned for  
44 a specific task such as detection of screws or other relevant objects.

45 Current research in the field of unsupervised object classification and  
46 detection shows the general viability of training networks without annotated

1 data. These approaches allow to use much larger amounts of training data (and  
 2 thus more accurate networks) and use models in even more application field,  
 3 where data annotation is inefficient. Especially methods such as contrastive  
 4 learning (Chen et al., 2020) have gained latest attention as standard CNNs trained  
 5 under this unsupervised method achieve similar accuracy compared to supervised  
 6 training procedures.

7 The broad variety of deep learning methods led to a large number of different  
 8 methods for localizing and classifying objects. Faster-RCNNs have been around  
 9 for many years and thus are well understood in both their technical details and  
 10 real-world behavior. Newer methods such as shifting window transformers (Liu et  
 11 al., 2021) or the YOLO family with YOLOR (Wang et al., 2021) as state-of-the-  
 12 art method might outperform Faster-RCNN in terms prediction performance. The  
 13 research objective in this work however is a real-world problem, where not latest  
 14 research trends are deployed but well understood methods.

## 17 **Materials and Methods**

### 19 *Null hypotheses and alternative hypotheses*

21 In order to develop design guidelines, the first step was to formulate theses  
 22 concerning an optimal selection of standard parts. The basic functionality of object  
 23 detection algorithms was used as the basis for the theses. The object detection  
 24 algorithms available on the research stage are based on CNNs, which consist of  
 25 several layers arranged one after the other. The receptive field of the individual  
 26 layers increases the deeper they are in the network. During the training process, the  
 27 first layers learn to recognize simple image features such as corners and edges.  
 28 Deeper layers respond to more complex contours and higher dimensional features.  
 29 If image features are assigned to an incorrect object class due to their high  
 30 similarity, the object detection algorithms can no longer reliably identify the  
 31 objects to be detected. On this basis, the hypotheses listed in Table 1 were  
 32 formulated.

33 Since a hypothesis cannot be statistically proven, but only disproven, null and  
 34 alternative hypotheses were formulated. If a null hypothesis can be refuted by the  
 35 experiments described below, the respective alternative hypothesis can be  
 36 accepted. (Siebertz et al., 2017)

38 **Table 1.** *Null hypotheses and alternative hypotheses*

No.	Null hypothesis	Alternative hypothesis
1	Screws of the same type are detected even if their nominal size differs by only one size increment. mAP > 75	Screws of the same type are confused if their nominal size differs by only one size increment. mAP ≤ 75
2	Screws with similar screw heads will be detected reliably. mAP > 75	Screws with similar screw heads will be confused. mAP ≤ 75

39

1 The Mean Average Precision (mAP) is a quantitative specification for the  
2 recognition accuracy of an object detection model and will serve as an  
3 indicator in the experiments. Due to the high complexity and individuality in  
4 applications of object detection algorithms, no concrete minimum value for the  
5 mAP is defined in the literature. Depending on the use case, a higher or lower  
6 mAP may be sufficient for reliable object detection. In the context of this  
7 paper, a mAP higher than 75% is assumed to be sufficient.

### 8 9 *Dependent variables and independent variables*

10  
11 The hypotheses were tested by experiments. The basis of the experimental  
12 design was the determination of independent and dependent variables. As  
13 described before, the mAP was used as the dependent variable. The definition  
14 of mAP used in this work is analogous to the metric mAP@[50%:95%] used in  
15 the COCO dataset. It describes the average of the variant Average Precision  
16 values under the assumption that a positive detection is evaluated at 50%, 55%,  
17 ..., to 95% agreement between prediction and actual position of the object. The  
18 Average Precision is obtained from the area under the Precision (Recall)  
19 function, where Recall is defined as the correct positive rate (sensitivity) and  
20 Precision is defined as the positive prediction value (accuracy) (Henderson et  
21 al., 2017).

22 In this way, the mAP evaluates both the quality of classification (Are the  
23 correct objects detected?) and of position determination (Is the position of the  
24 objects on the images detected correctly?) by the prediction model. With regard  
25 to the theses under investigation, it seems appropriate to provide a meaningful  
26 value on detection accuracy. (Henderson et al., 2017)

27 Regarding the independent variables, a distinction must be made between  
28 influencing variables which are intended to be varied deliberately (factors) and  
29 influencing variables which are kept constant (control variables). Since the  
30 optimal standard part selection for high detectability is supposed to be  
31 investigated by object detection algorithms, the screw diameter as well as the  
32 head shape of the screws were defined as factors to be varied.

33 Object detection models are usually trained and validated on a database  
34 consisting of images of the objects to be detected. Since these are essential for  
35 the recognition accuracy, all variables that influence the image characteristics  
36 have to be defined as independent variables and kept constant during the tests.  
37 This ensures that only the influence of the standard part selection on the mAP  
38 is measured. Besides the illumination intensity, image background, image  
39 quality, image perspective as well as the number of training and validation  
40 images used have to be kept constant. Finally, there are a variety of different  
41 object detection algorithms that can be used for object detection. Since the type  
42 of model used also has an impact on mAP, one algorithm must be selected and  
43 applied for the experiments.

44



1 *Experimental Setup*

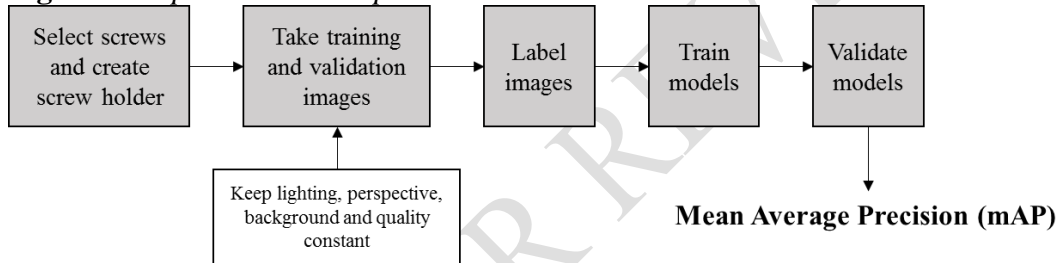
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3 After defining the independent and dependent variables, an experimental  
4 setup was planned which allows the control variables to be kept constant while  
5 the screws characteristics are varied.

6 The principle procedure of the investigation is shown in Figure 3. First,  
7 screws with different diameters and screw heads were selected. In addition to  
8 grub screws, cylindrical head, countersunk head and lens head screws were  
9 procured in nominal sizes M3 to M10. Since screws in assemblies usually  
10 occur in a bolted state, elements were designed to house the screws. These  
11 were simple aluminum cubes which were provided with threaded holes. In  
12 order to investigate the previously established hypotheses, similar screw  
13 diameters and screw heads were selected in each case and illuminated whether  
14 they could be distinguished by an object detection algorithm. The selected  
15 screw pairs can be taken from Table 2.

16

17 **Figure 3.** *Experimental Setup*



18

19

20 **Table 2.** *Selected Screw Types - The object detection models are each trained*  
21 *with images of both types and are designed to differ between the two types.*

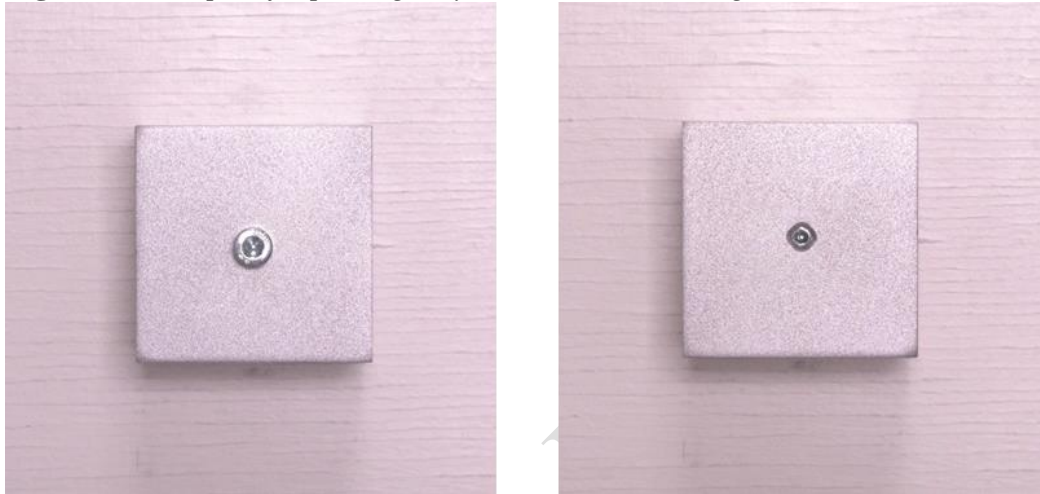
Hypothesis	Screw type 1	Screw type 2
1	Cylinder head screw M3	Cylinder head screw M4
	Cylinder head screw M5	Cylinder head screw M6
	Cylinder head screw M8	Cylinder head screw M10
	Lens head screw M3	Lens head screw M4
	Lens head screw M5	Lens head screw M6
	Lens head screw M8	Lens head screw M10
	Countersunk screw M3	Countersunk screw M4
	Countersunk screw M5	Countersunk screw M6
	Countersunk screw M8	Countersunk screw M10
	Grub screw M3	Grub screw M4
	Grub screw M5	Grub screw M6
	Grub screw M8	Grub screw M10
2	Cylinder head screw M3	Lens head screw M3

	Countersunk screw M3	Grub screw M3
	Cylinder head screw M6	Lens head screw M6
	Countersunk screw M6	Grub screw M6
	Cylinder head screw M10	Lens head screw M10
	Countersunk screw M10	Grub screw M10

1

2

**Figure 4.** Example of a pairing - Cylinder head M3 and grub screw M3



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4

5 Afterwards, images of the inserted screws were created. **Figure 1** shows  
 6 an example of a pair consisting of a cylinder head M3 and a grub screw M3  
 7 (hypothesis 2), which should be distinguished. In order to keep the illuminance  
 8 constant, these images were recorded in a room illuminated exclusively with  
 9 artificial light, and the illuminance was continuously monitored using a  
 10 calibrated lux meter. The objects were placed on an electric turntable, which  
 11 has a rotation speed of 60 seconds per revolution and a white surface, at the  
 12 same position each time. In addition, a camera (Sony Alpha 6300 with  
 13 SELP1650 lens) was focused on the objects of interest. To capture images of  
 14 the screws, the turntable was set in rotation and, starting at a defined start  
 15 mark, an image was recorded every second. The settings as well as the position  
 16 of the camera to the object were kept constant during the recording of each test  
 17 object.

18 After all objects had been recorded from one perspective, the camera  
 19 changed position in order to record all objects from another perspective and  
 20 thus generate a larger number of images. In total, images were recorded from  
 21 ten different perspectives. The described procedure ensured that the object  
 22 images differed only in their visual appearance.

23 For each screw type, a total of 360 images were recorded and divided into  
 24 training and validation images. Every fifth image was defined as a validation  
 25 image, while the remaining images were used as training images.  
 26 Subsequently, both the training and validation images were labeled. For this

1 purpose, it was manually marked on the images which screw is contained and  
2 at which position it is located. Afterwards, the model was trained.

3 For this purpose, a Faster-R CNN model with ResNet-50 backbone and a  
4 feature pyramid network head was used, which represents a good compromise  
5 between detection accuracy, training time, inference time, and model size at the  
6 time of the study. The model architecture, as well as a model pre-trained over  
7 ~37 epochs on the COCO dataset, were taken from the PyTorch framework  
8 detectron2 developed by FAIR. (Wu et al., 2021; Ren et al., 2016). Each model  
9 contained two object instances, for which in each case 240 images were used  
10 for training and 60 images for validation.

11 The detectron2 framework enables a low development effort for object  
12 detection methods, offers a variety of different model architectures, and is  
13 more performant in terms of training and inference time than a pure PyTorch  
14 implementation. Using a pre-trained model is common practice because it  
15 eliminates learning simple contours of the first network layers. This has a  
16 positive effect on the training time and the number of frames needed for  
17 training.

18 On the pre-trained model, the training images were trained locally for  
19 40,000 iterations and validated using the validation dataset. The obtained  
20 results are explained in the following section.

## 21 22 23 **Results**

24  
25 The results indicate that all screws considered can be identified by the  
26 object detection with high reliability. For all models, the mAP is significantly  
27 higher than the value of 75 described in Materials and Methods.

28 In order to obtain statistically valid results, the experiment was repeated three  
29 times and the one-sided one-sample t-test was performed. For this purpose, the  
30 t-value for each model was calculated according to Equation 1 and compared  
31 with the critical t-value for  $\alpha = 0.05$  ( $t = 2.920$ ) according to Graf et al. (1998).  
32 If the calculated t-value is higher than the critical t-value, the difference  
33 between  $\bar{X}$  and  $\mu_0$  is significant (Schneider, 2020).

1 Table 3 shows that for all models,  $T > t$ .

2

$$T = \frac{\bar{X} - \mu_0}{S} \sqrt{n}$$

*Equation 1*

$\bar{X}$  Mean average of test results (=  $\overline{mAP}$ )

$\mu_0$  Value tested against (= 75)

$S$  Standard deviation

$n$  Size of sample (= 3)

3

4

ONLY FOR REVIEW

1 **Table 3. Experimental Results**

Hypothesis	Model	$\overline{mAP}$	$T$
1	Cylinder head M3 + Cylinder head M4	98.14	49.2
	Cylinder head M5 + Cylinder head M6	98.92	39.4
	Cylinder head M8 + Cylinder head M10	98.89	34.8
	Lens head M3 + Lens head M4	97.65	93.4
	Lens head M5 + Lens head M6	99.55	123.4
	Lens head M8 + Lens head M10	99.52	266.2
	Countersunk M3 + Countersunk M4	91.68	10.9
	Countersunk M5 + Countersunk M6	91.62	4.8
	Countersunk M8 + Countersunk M10	93.40	7.0
	Grub screw M3 + Grub screw M4	81.64	5.5
	Grub screw M5 + Grub screw M6	84.16	6.0
	Grub screw M8 + Grub screw M10	85.77	3.1
2	Cylinder head M3 + Lens head M3	96.18	26.4
	Countersunk M3 + Grub screw M3	85.56	5.6
	Cylinder head M6 + Lens head M6	98.69	42.1
	Countersunk M6 + Grub screw M6	88.55	7.0
	Cylinder head M10 + Lens head M10	99.40	40.7
	Countersunk M10 + Grub screw M10	89.45	9.4

2  
3 Despite the very high overall detection accuracies, some models detect  
4 screws more accurately if they have larger nominal diameters. For example,  
5 grub screws are better distinguished from one another the larger their diameter  
6 ( $81.64 < 84.16 < 85.77$ ). Considering the models with countersunk screws and  
7 grub screws, it becomes clear that screws achieve higher mAP when their  
8 absolute size increases ( $85.56 < 88.55 < 89.45$ ). These results lead to the  
9 assumption that some screws are better detected the wider their absolute  
10 diameter tends to be.

11 In addition, the test results show that the models containing grub screws  
12 and countersunk screws have slightly lower recognition accuracies compared  
13 to the other models. Unlike lens head and cylinder head screws, these two  
14 types of screws are fully sunken into the component. This leads to the  
15 assumption that screws are better detected if their head does not entirely sink  
16 into the component.

17 However, even the model with the lowest mAP (81.64) achieves a very  
18 high recognition accuracy and is able to identify the contained objects with

1 high reliability. Therefore, the present investigation does not result in any  
2 design restrictions with regard to the selection of standard parts.

## 3 4 5 **Conclusions**

6  
7 No restrictions for designers with regard to the selection of standard parts  
8 can be derived from the results of the investigation. All screws considered in  
9 the investigation were detected reliably by the algorithm used. This shows that  
10 a conventional Faster-R-CNN model has no problems recognizing screws with  
11 very similar optical properties. Thus, neither an optimization of the architecture  
12 of the model nor of the selection of standard parts is necessary.

13 However, in addition to the theses considered, there are a number of other  
14 product features which are not addressed in the present study. For example, it  
15 is necessary to examine the influence of certain assembly characteristics on  
16 recognition accuracy and the extent to which similar design elements (e.g.  
17 grooves, bores, etc.) can be distinguished. Since the screws in the present  
18 investigation were deliberately tested in simple aluminum cubes in order to  
19 minimize interference, it is also necessary to determine whether the results can  
20 be transferred to standard parts in real products. The product environment - e.g.  
21 the assembly workplace, tools or body parts of assembly workers - represents a  
22 significant optical interference influence and could affect the detection  
23 capability of the object detection algorithms. Experience shows that  
24 environmental conditions have a great influence on the quality of object  
25 detection algorithms, so that different results can be expected here with high  
26 probability. For this reason, further tests must be carried out in a real product  
27 environment to verify the results.

28 Overall, the research project represents a first step towards deriving design  
29 guidelines for the use of object detection algorithms in manual assembly,  
30 which must be followed by further investigations. Only after a comprehensive  
31 examination of the topic a statement can be made whether the use of object  
32 detection algorithms in manual assembly results in restrictions with regard to  
33 the product design.

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