

TOHOKU UNIVERSITY  
Graduate School of Information Sciences

Discovering Improved Feature Spaces for Unsupervised  
Visual Anomaly Detection for Industrial Products  
(工業製品の教師なし視覚異常検出のための改良された  
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by

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# Discovering Improved Feature Spaces for Unsupervised Visual Anomaly Detection for Industrial Products

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## Abstract

Computer vision models have been instrumental in detection of anomalies in industrial manufacturing processes. Automation of the detection of anomalies plays a crucial role in reducing the production cost while maintaining quality control and ensuring the consistency and reliability of production lines. Current models are capable of categorizing the products as anomalous or nominal, moreover the models can outline the defective region with high accuracy.

Contemporary industrial anomaly detection models utilize multiple types of approaches. Three successful methods are: k-nearest neighbor method where statistical outliers are detected on the feature space of a pre-trained network, reconstruction based methods where a decoder is trained to predict the input of an encoder in the form of pre-trained network, student-teacher base methods where a student network is trained to match the output of the teacher pre-trained network.

As was mentioned, the use of pre-trained networks is prevalent in industrial anomaly detection models. The lack of large industrial datasets and the scarcity of samples with anomalies in those datasets make the use of classical learning methods impractical. Therefore, in the recent year, there has been an emergence of industrial anomaly detection models that rely on the features extracted by pre-trained neural networks. Out of all available pre-trained models for use as a backbone in industrial anomaly detection models, models trained on the ImageNet1k classification task are the dominant choice. ImageNet1k is a general-purpose dataset that consists of 1,000 different classes of 1,281,167 training images. While the usage of ImageNet1k-trained backbones is the dominant idea and has been shown to be effective in most cases, this thesis proposes that training on ImageNet1k generates feature spaces that are general purpose, and better performance of industrial anomaly detection models could be achieved with more specialized feature spaces generated by various methods. This investigation aims to explore and validate these alternative feature spaces to enhance model performance in detecting industrial anomalies.

In this thesis we explore methods of forming specialized feature spaces for industrial anomaly models with the purpose of improving their performance. The main proposal of this thesis is to investigate if a dataset can be formed such that, features extracted from such a dataset would show an improvement in the accuracy of anomaly detection models. The proposed method is to extract a subset of images from a large image dataset such as Laion4b, Laion400m, YFCC100M etc. while ensuring the relevancy of the images that are being extracted to the industrial use cases. To achieve that task, we train an "extractor" bi-class(which are industrial and non-industrial) classifier model, and apply the extractor model to the large image dataset. To train the "extractor" model we form another dataset that contains images consisting of industrial and non-industrial classes.

In addition to the generation of an industrial-specialized dataset, this thesis explores the effect of other feature spaces that have not been widely utilized in industrial anomaly detection models. Specifically, during our experiments, it was discovered that Vision Transformer-based models as backbones tend to perform considerably worse compared to CNN-based models. This observation highlights the limitations of Vision Transformer models in capturing the intricate patterns and features necessary for effective anomaly detection in industrial settings. Furthermore, out of all available CNN-based models, ResNet-based models showed superior performance, demonstrating their robustness and effectiveness in this domain. More precisely, WideResNet50 and WideResNet101 models

proved to achieve the highest accuracy when used as backbones for industrial anomaly detection models.

To evaluate the performance of different pre-trained models as backbones, we test them using with different types of industrial anomaly detection models. Throughout all the experiments we use MVTechAD dataset, which contains over 5000 images of industrial objects consisting of 15 different categories. For the experiments of this thesis we use models RealNet and PatchCore to represent a model per each type of industrial anomaly detection models. RealNet for reconstruction based methods and PatchCore for feature-embedding based methods.

To train the "extractor" models we set up a dataset consisting of 2 classes, industrial and non-industrial. Main part of the dataset consist of ImageNet1k classes manually separated into two categories. We train our extractor ResNet50 on the constructed dataset with the classification task. The resulting extractor model then used to extract industrial class images from a large image dataset, in our case YFCC100M. This results in a unlabeled dataset consisting of more that 6 million images. Due to the unlabeled nature of the generated dataset, we use self-supervised learning methods to achieve feature extraction.

Although it is common for Vision Transformer models to be used self-supervised learning, experiments showed that, using ViT models as backbones are ineffective compared to CNN models. Therefore, we train WideResNet50 using DINO self-supervised learning pipeline on the dataset formed from applying the extractor model on the YFCC100M dataset. We perform self-supervised learning with the same conditions on the randomly extracted dataset. Three WideResNet50 models are compared using as backbones to two industrial anomaly detection models, namely PatchCore and RealNet.

In conclusion, this thesis demonstrates that the choice of feature space and backbone architecture significantly impacts the performance of industrial anomaly detection models. By generating a specialized dataset and exploring alternative feature extraction methods, we have shown that more tailored feature spaces can enhance detection accuracy. Our experiments confirmed the superiority of CNN-based models, particularly WideResNet50 and WideResNet101, over Vision Transformer models. The findings highlight the potential of self-supervised learning on industrial-specific datasets to further improve anomaly detection capabilities. Future research should continue to refine these approaches, potentially leading to more robust and efficient industrial anomaly detection systems.

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

In our modern times when we strive to automate every menial task that was resolved by human labor, one of the fields that have been the most important is the industrial manufacturing processes. In improving the process of production, the key point is to ensure the reliability of the process and the quality of the produce. Throughout the recent years, the use of Machine Learning algorithms, specifically Computer Vision models, have showed to be a powerful tool in detecting the defects(called anomalies in the field of machine learning). Therefore, a new field: Industrial Anomaly Detection was formed, which focuses on researching and developing efficient computer vision models in the field. There are generally two types of architectures in the industrial anomaly detection models: feature embedding based architectures and reconstruction based architectures. Most contemporary models are trained without supervision and they, due to the lack of large scale image dataset of industrial objects and the unbalanced nature of available datasets towards nominal samples, rely on the feature space of a pre-trained model.

The training process depends on the architecture of the model. In feature-embedding

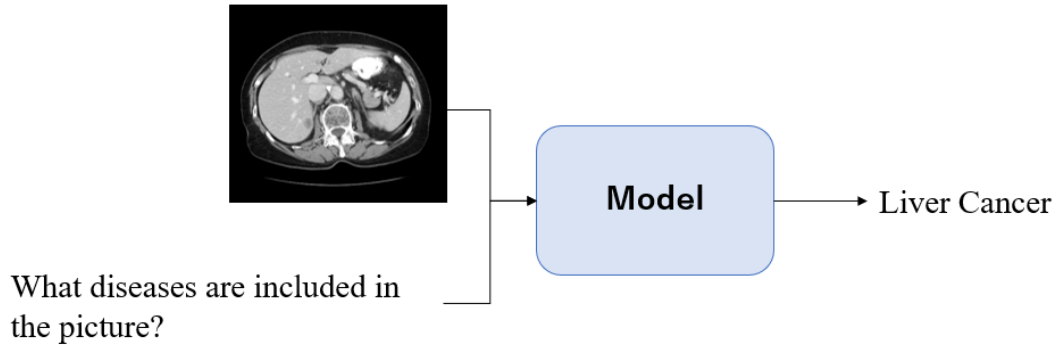


Figure 1.1: Medical Visual Question Answering (VQA) [1] is a task where the model receives medical images and corresponding questions as input and produces accurate answers as the output.

types of architectures, usually the training process involves performing a feature extractions and saving them with various modifications. Thereafter, during inference same feature extraction applied to the image being inferred followed by various statistical methods used to calculate the anomaly score of the sample. An example for the feature embedding architecture can be a model PatchCore, which saves nominal features in the memory bank after applying neighborhood aggregation and utilized k-nearest neighbor method to calculate an anomaly score. In reconstruction based methods, autoencoder models is trained either on the features extracted by the pre-trained model or the pre-trained model is used as an encoder inside the autoencoder. For example, in the RealNet model multiple autoencoders are trained on the layers of the feature extractor model.

In this paper we hypothesize that using ImageNet pre-trained models as feature extractors in industrial anomaly detection models can be a potential bottleneck of

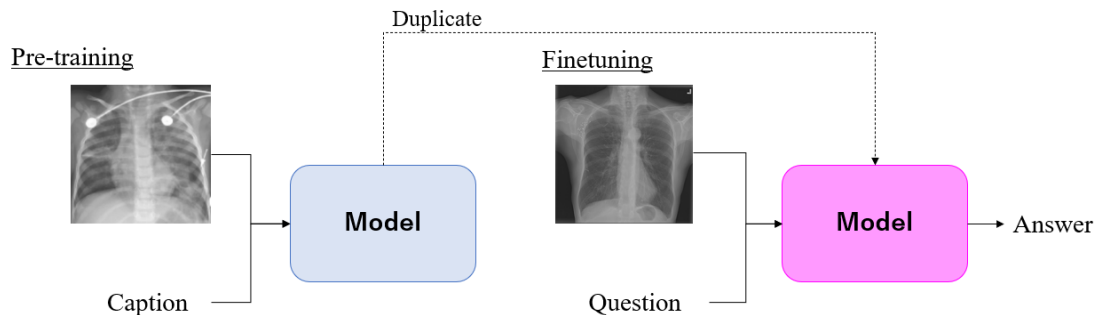


Figure 1.2: Pre-training followed by finetuning: The approach involves pre-training the model on a large-scale medical image-caption dataset [2], and subsequently finetuning it specifically for the task of medical visual question answering [1].

performance due to the generalized nature of the ImageNet dataset. There is a large representation mismatch between ImageNet which contains a large quantity of natural samples whereas the IAD requires features which represent industrial objects more accurately. Our hypothesis implies that most if not all existing models could benefit from a more specialized feature space which is extracted from datasets with focus on more industrial settings rather than being general or having natural samples.

In order to address this issue the thesis proposes to generate a feature space that would represent the type of data that is used in industrial anomaly detection tasks. In order to accomplish this task, we propose extracting an industrial setting sub-datasets from a large multi-purpose dataset, followed by performing a training on the extracted dataset to have a feature extractor. Throughout this process it is important to choose appropriate dataset to extract from, a proper self supervised learning method and an accurate extraction method. All three parts of the pipeline are important and have to be a deliberate choice, however the most important part and the defining factor

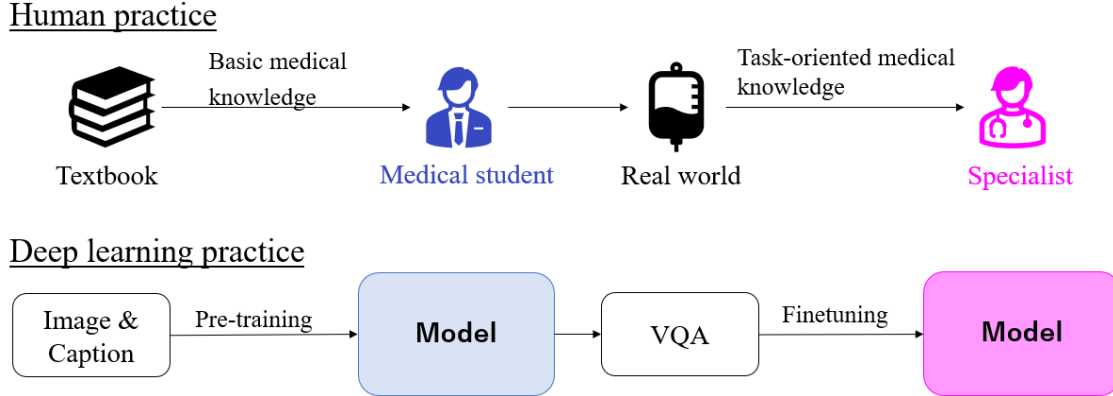


Figure 1.3: Comparing model learning to medical student training

for the quality of the extracted features is the extraction method.

In this thesis we opted to utilize a ResNet50 model trained on the dataset curated by hand. However, in this thesis, we will also be discussing other possible options for industrial image extractors. Due to the unlabeled nature of the extracted dataset by the method of our choice, this work will use the DINO unsupervised learning method on all experiments as a feature learning tool. The choice is also motivated by the capability of DINO to train both Vision Transformer and Convolution based networks.

To evaluate the accuracy of different feature spaces against each other, we use PatchCore as the main industrial anomaly detection model. All pre-trained models are to be used as backbones for the model and evaluated on the accuracy of the model on MVTechAD dataset. Firstly, we perform experiments on ViT based backbones because Vision Transformers are more robust for self-supervised learning method which we utilize in this work. However, with further experiments we show that convolution based models are much better fit for the task of industrial anomaly detection. And lastly we provide comparisons between random extraction of images, selective

extraction of images and state-of-the-art backbone when used with PatchCore model.

This chapter serves as the introduction to the thesis, offering a comprehensive overview of the research topic and highlighting its significance within the field. Chapter 2 will focus on the Related Work, delving into the concept of visual question answering, Transformer attention models, and examining recent advancements in vision-language pre-training techniques that have demonstrated effectiveness in addressing various medical vision-language tasks. Chapter 3 will address the limitations of previous work and introduce the proposed method as a solution. It will highlight the key improvements and contributions of the proposed two-stage pre-training method. In Chapter 4, we will conduct a series of comprehensive experiments to evaluate the proposed method. This chapter will provide detailed information about the experimental setup and methodology used. Additionally, it will include an in-depth analysis of the obtained results, demonstrating the performance of the proposed method and its effectiveness in addressing the medical visual question answering. In Chapter 5, we will summarize the key findings obtained from our research and provide a comprehensive conclusion. We will also discuss potential areas for further improvement and future research directions in the field, aiming to contribute to the advancement of knowledge and advancements in the topic.

In this introductory chapter we unveiled the field of Industrial Anomaly detection and the potential accuracy bottleneck present in most applications. In the Chapter 2 the Related Work will be thoroughly discussed, namely the topics will be Vision Transformers, Residual Networks, Wide Residual Networks and their architectural differences. Moreover, we will further discuss PatchCore and RealNet models and their use of pre-trained networks. Chapter 3 will focus on the possible bottleneck of

using ImageNet pre-trained networks as feature extractors and the solutions that can be engaged to address the issue. Chapter 4 contains the demonstration of the potential of the proposed solution through empirical evidence, conducted series of experiments will be explained in detail. And lastly, Chapter 5 will serve as a conclusion where we will summarize the results of this work. Moreover, it the last chapter, we will suggest multiple methods of feature space generation that can be explored in further research.



# Chapter 2

## Related Work

In this chapter we will thoroughly discuss works related to the current thesis. Firstly we explore computer vision model architectures that are used as feature extractors, namely Vision Transformers, Convolutional Neural Networks, Residual Networks and Wide Residual Networks. We will investigate the differences between aforementioned architectures in order to bring attention to their drastic difference in performance as feature extractors for industrial anomaly detection models. Second, we will delve into the topic of unsupervised and self-supervised learning specifically. The comprehensive analysis of self-supervised learning model DINO, which we utilize broadly in this work due to the unlabeled nature of a dataset extracted with our method, will be provided. Thereafter, a detailed discussion on Industrial Anomaly Detection will be provided. This section will also present the challenges the field faces with the scarcity of diverse training data and the need of Unsupervised Industrial Anomaly Detection models. Lastly, we will study the architecture of two industrial anomaly detection models used in the experiments present in this work. The first model we analyze is PatchCore models which uses saved extracted features

in a memory bank. And the second model is RealNet which trains auto-encoders on the layers of feature extractor model.

## 2.1 Vision Transformer

Introduction of Vision Transformers have presented a significantly different approach to computer vision tasks, where the standard approach of using convolutional neural networks have been replaced by transformer architecture. Until the point of introduction of vision transformers, transformer architecture was commonly used for natural language processing tasks. Transformer architecture leverages self-attention mechanism which has the ability to capture relationship between all parts of data with each other. In case of Vision Transformers, self-attention mechanism is able to capture the global context of the image rather than focusing on local features as CNN filters do.

One of the main challenges when it comes to utilizing transformer architecture on visual data, is that it does not have the ability to capture spatial information as the traditional CNN models do. Moreover, transformers are originally equipped to work with sequential data like a stream of words which images are not. In order to make images a viable input for transformer, the image is split into constant size patches which are then embedded with positional encodings saving crucial spatial information. Transformer evaluates the relationships between all the patches using the self-attention mechanism. Thereafter, output from the transformer is used as an input for classification feed-forward network. In the case of Industrial Anomaly Detection, output from each transformer layer can be used as extracted features in anomaly detection models.

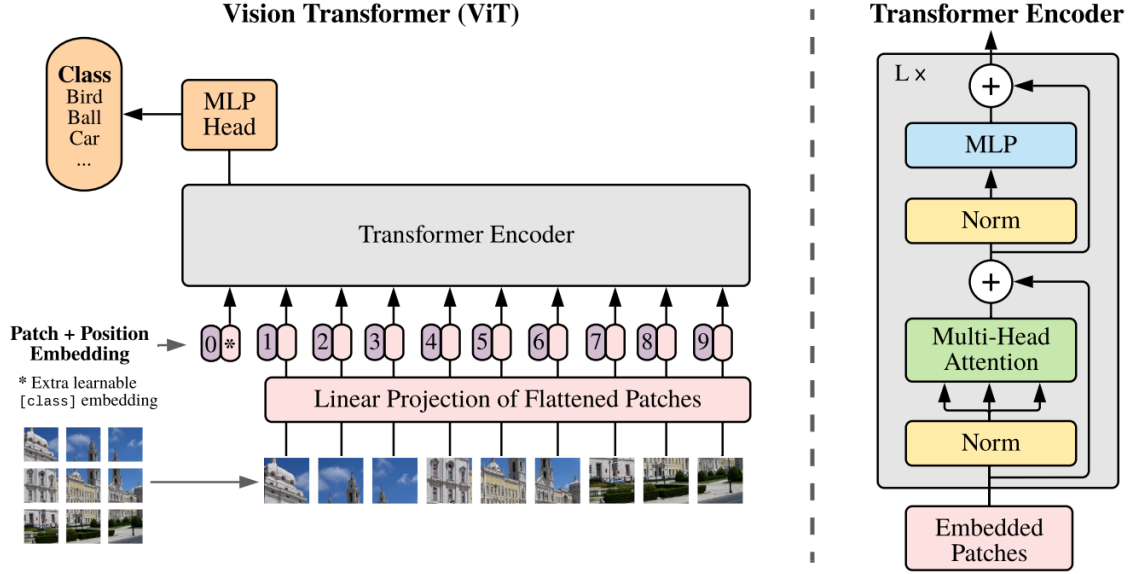


Figure 2.1: Vision Transformer model which uses the Transformer encoder shown on the right to capture meaningful features from the images. The images have to be split into patches to transform them into a sequential data in order to make them to be able to be captured by Transformers.

In the recent years Vision Transformers have been used extensively in self-supervised learning models. The prevalence of Vision Transformers in self-supervised learning can be explained by the ability of them to utilize the global context of images, which allows them to be able to extract high quality features from unlabeled data. Methods like contrastive learning proved to be very efficient when used in combination with Vision Transformers especially.

## 2.2 Convolutional Neural Networks

For many years Convolutional Neural Networks have been the main architecture in the field of image processing due to their ability to capture spatial hierarchical features. They have been used efficiently in tasks such as image classification, semantic segmentation and object detection. When this architecture was introduced by Yann LeCun and colleagues in 1980, it revolutionized the field showing significant increase in accuracy over the methods that used to be prevalent.

The main novelty that Convolutional Neural Networks introduced were the convolutional and pooling layers of the network. Convolutional layer performs a "convolution" operation using kernels on the input image or, in the later layers, on the features extracted by the filters of the previous layer. In the first layers, local features are captured by convolution and in the later layers, pooling operation is performed, which serves as dimensionality reduction and extraction of global features from local ones. In more recent models convolution and pooling layers are also followed by normalization layers, which stabilizes and speeds up the training process. Between each layers of the model, some non-linearity function, which is usually ReLU activation function, is used to allow the model to learn to generalize more complex structures of data. Generally, the final stage of CNN architectures consist of fully-connected layers that maps the learned features to specific classes.

In spite of the fact that Vision Transformers have been emerging as the competitor to the CNN architectures, CNN architectures still stand as the preferable option in certain specific cases, Industrial Anomaly Detection being one of them. The ability of CNNs to capture local features and spatial hierarchies with high accuracy, can contribute to their efficiency as feature extractors in IAD models.

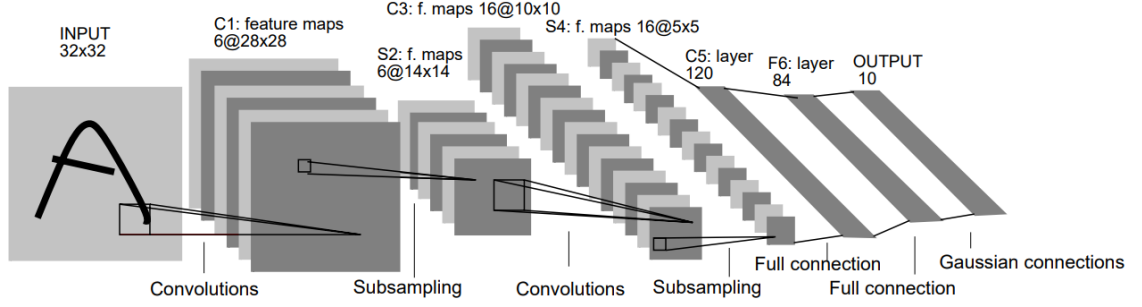


Figure 2.2: Convolutional Neural Network consisting of convolution and subsampling layers. Its architecture allows for the efficient capture of spatial features, which can explain its prominence in anomaly detection models.

### 2.2.1 Residual Networks

Residual Network architectures are the subset of CNNs that are designed for deep learning scenarios and address one of the main challenges of training deep neural networks. The architecture presented a concept of skip connections which is a connection between layers that skips some layers(usually one) in between. This new addition allows models to have hundreds of layers, which was impossible due to the vanishing gradients problem.

The usual ResNet model consists of residual blocks that have a skip connection at the input connecting directly to the output of the block. Skip connection facilitates the model to learn a residual mapping  $F(x) = H(x) - x$ , instead of the direct  $H(x)$  mapping from the input  $x$ , which allows the model to learn residuals or differences, rather than the one-to-one mapping. Each residual block contains multiple convolutional layers and activation layers. In most of the ResNet implementations, such as ResNet50, a bottleneck residual connection is used which consists of a 3x3 convolution layers in between two 1x1 convolution layers. All the innovation present in ResNet

architecture allows for the training of multi layer deep models without the vanishing gradients problem and preserving the learned features across layers.

Residual Networks emerged as a dominant model to be used as feature extractors in industrial anomaly detection models. This choice is driven mainly by empirical evidence to their efficiency. However, we can also see that in ResNet models the advantages of CNNs, such as capturing local features and spatial hierarchies, are amplified by allowing us to train larger size CNN models. Advantages which might make CNNs a preferable choice as feature extractors for IAD models.

### **2.2.2 Wide Residual Neural Networks**

Wide Residual Networks are enhancement upon the regular ResNet architecture, which focus on increasing the width of the model instead of the depth. The main point of this improvement is in the residual blocks where the channels of convolutions are increase by some factor, allowing the model to have increase representational capacity while maintaining the ability to train deep networks. Increased channel size also allows Wide ResNets to have improved gradient flow which enhances the models capability to learn from large complex datasets. The enhancements allow Wide ResNets to have higher capacity to learn fine-grained details which makes this type of architecture a suitable choice for usage as feature extractors in IAD models.

## 2.2 Convolutional Neural Networks

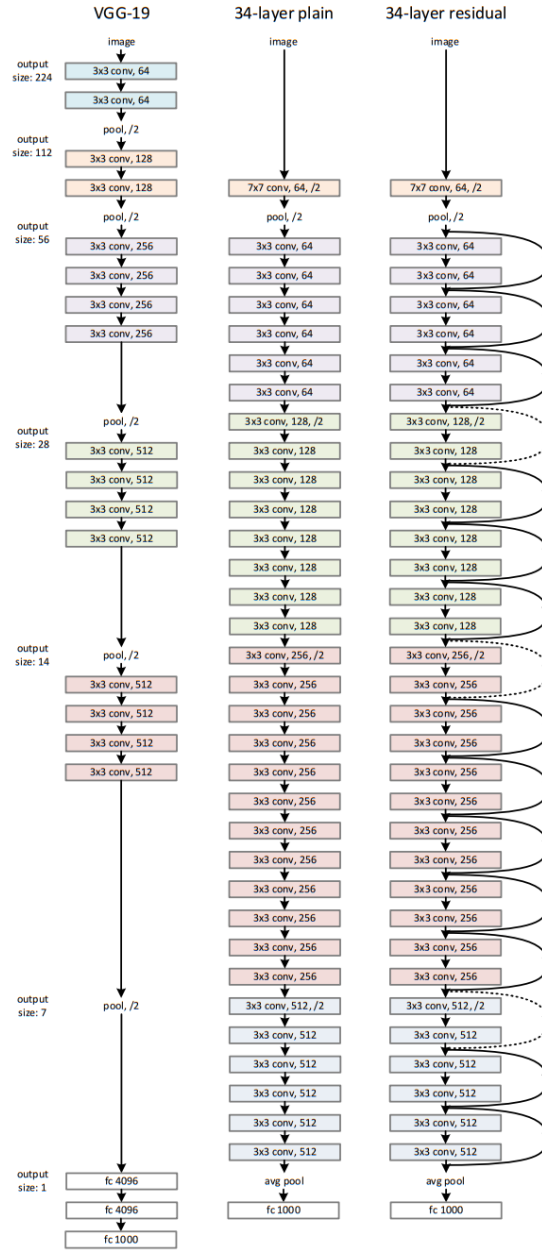


Figure 2.3: Convolutional Neural Network consisting of convolution and subsampling layers. Its architecture allows for the efficient capture of spatial features, which can explain its prominence in anomaly detection models.

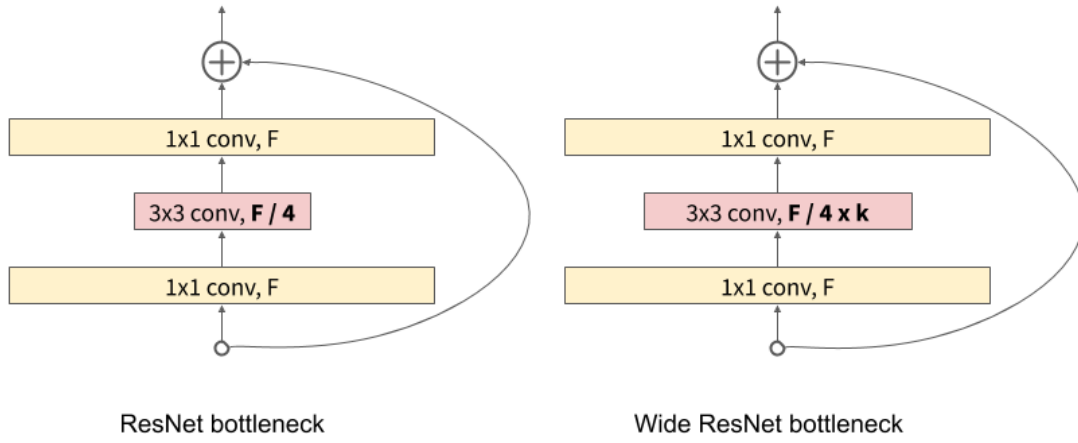


Figure 2.4: Convolutional Neural Network consisting of convolution and subsampling layers. Its architecture allows for the efficient capture of spatial features, which can explain its prominence in anomaly detection models.



## **2.3 Unsupervised Learning**

To generate feature spaces suitable for industrial anomaly detection tasks, it is beneficial to use multiple available, large scale, unlabeled image datasets. One of the many Unsupervised Learning techniques will allow us to effectively extract features from unlabeled datasets. Unsupervised Learning refers to the variant of machine learning algorithms where the models is trained to learn patterns in the data itself, instead of overt output labels like in supervised learning. Unsupervised Learning models in their process leverage such architectures as autoencoders which work by first transforming the data into a compressed representation and then learning to restore the input, generative adversarial networks which train two competing models discriminator and a generator, clusterization algorithms which separates the input into clusters using algorithms like k-NN, contrasive learning which learns features by comparing input data.

### **2.3.1 Self-supervised Learning**

Self-supervised learning are a subset of unsupervised learning models in that, they also designed to learn from unlabeled data but unlike unsupervised learning models that learn representation from the data directly, self-supervised learning first assigns "labels" or "tasks" on unlabeled data and learns to fit the generated labels or complete the generated tasks in order to extract hidden structures and patterns from the provided input. Therefore, self-supervised learning serves as the middle ground between unsupervised and supervised learning, in an attempt to leverage the advantages of supervised learning in an unsupervised setting. Over the recent years, self-supervised learning models proved to be very efficient method of unsupervised

learning, allowing to train models that can perform with high accuracy on multiple tasks after the task specific fine-tuning process.

As have been stated the key component of self-supervised learning is the generation of assisting tasks based on the training data. An example for the types of tasks that might be generated can be, predicting various transformations applied on the image or drawing in the random missing patches of the image. By training to accomplish this tasks, self-supervised model learn the patterns that inherently exist in the data, extracting valuable features in the process. This mode of learning can be utilized to generate feature spaces suitable for the task of industrial anomaly detection from large scale unlabeled datasets. Indeed, we use one of the most robust self-supervised learning models DINO in this work.

### 2.3.2 DINO model

DINO(from distillation with no labels) is a robust self-supervised learning model that was introduced by Facebook AI team that uses enhanced knowledge distillation pipeline to learn useful representations from an unlabeled large image datasets. The model achieves high accuracy on top-1 classification task on the ImageNet dataset, specifically 79.1 percent when training the model ViT-S/14 and higher 82.1% when used with the ViT-B/14 model. DINO models ability to train both Vision Transformer and CNN based model and its high efficiency makes the model an excellent choice for the purposes of this thesis.

In its training process DINO utilizes the teacher-student architecture where student is trained to align its output to the output of the teacher model. Both student and teacher models trained using the same model architecture but using different

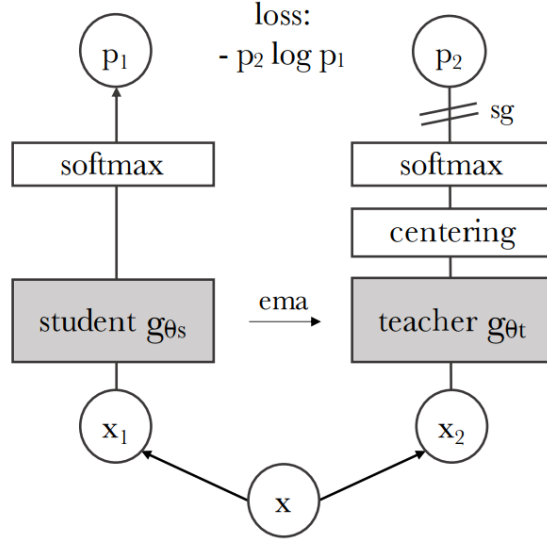


Figure 2.5: Convolutional Neural Network consisting of convolution and subsampling layers. Its architecture allows for the efficient capture of spatial features, which can explain its prominence in anomaly detection models.

parameters. The key point of the DINO model is that the teacher model is trained using the EMA - exponential moving average of the student model in order to guarantee the stability during training. Training process itself consists of passing an input image with random transformations picked from a constant set of transformations, to teacher and student models and adjusting the student models output to the teacher models output using cross-entropy loss function. During such a training process, the student model learn invariant and meaningful features from the input.

## 2.4 Industrial Anomaly Detection

Industrial Anomaly Detection has become the irreplaceable part of various manufacturing processes, allowing to detect any deviations from standards of manufactur-

ing and preventing defective products from potentially reaching the output. Anomalies of varying kind expected to happen in every industrial processes due to different reasons like, wear and tear, software errors and malfunction of devices. Industrial Anomaly Detection methods allow us monitor the manufacturing pipeline and to anticipate such defects, followed with swift corrections. This allows for increased stability of manufacturing, improved quality control, mediating costly defects, minimizing downtime and enhancing efficiency.

Contemporary Industrial Anomaly Detection methods heavily rely on deep learning computer vision models. Variety of computer vision models like convolutional neural networks, vision transformers and autoencoders can be utilized to efficiently implement industrial anomaly detection in real use case scenarios where data from visual sensors such as cameras. These models posses the ability to learn complex visual representation from high-dimensional imagery data, allowing IAD tasks to be performed with high accuracy and reliability. Over the recent years the field of Industrail Anomaly Detection witnessed a lot of improvements, especially in the field of Unsupervised Industrial Anomaly Detection where there is a scarcity of anomalous data.

### **2.4.1 Unsupervised Industrial Anomaly Detection**

Unsupervised Industrial Anomaly Detection leverage unsupervised deep learning techniques in order to learn any deviations from the nominal patterns it the provided input. In IAD field unsupervised learning is vital because labeled anomalous images are extremely scarce or non-existent. There are multiple types of architectures that

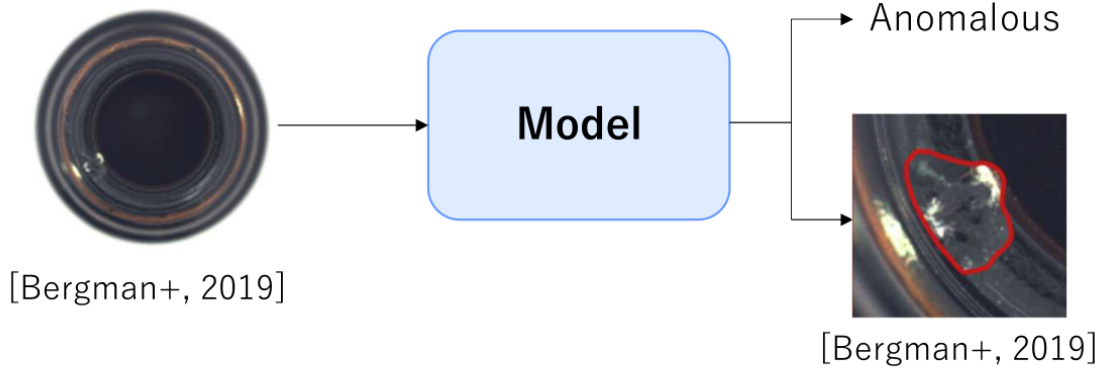


Figure 2.6: Convolutional Neural Network consisting of convolution and subsampling layers. Its architecture allows for the efficient capture of spatial features, which can explain its prominence in anomaly detection models.

can be engaged to implement unsupervised iad models, including architectures like autoencoders, clustering and various statistical techniques are common to be used. As an example, PatchCore model uses memory-bank approach opting to save features extracted by pre-trained backbone model with some aggregation operations while on the inference performing kNN over the saved features and extracted features of the test sample. Another model called SimpleNet trains a discriminator with synthetically generated anomalies on the features of the nominal samples. There are also reconstruction based models like RealNet which utilized auto-encoders on the layers of the pre-trained feature extractor model. In this thesis, we use these three models to test different feature spaces on.

### 2.4.2 PatchCore

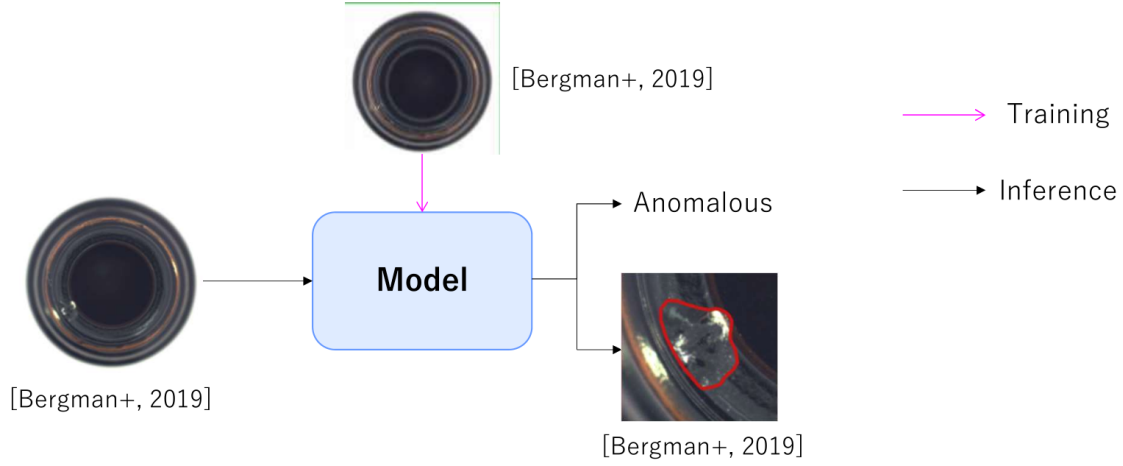


Figure 2.7: Convolutional Neural Network consisting of convolution and subsampling layers. Its architecture allows for the efficient capture of spatial features, which can explain its prominence in anomaly detection models.

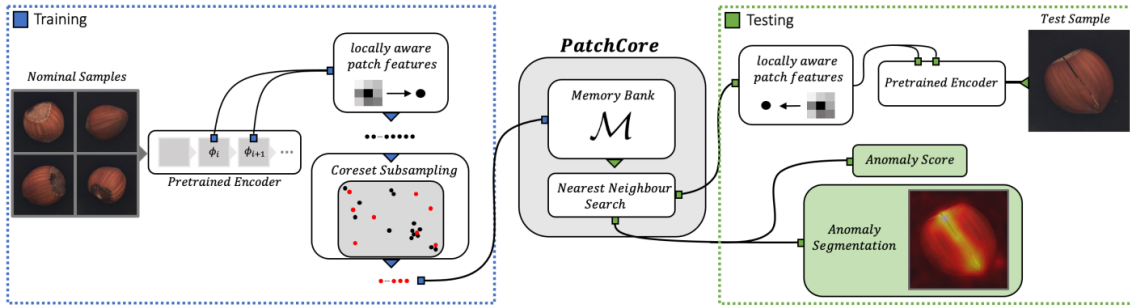


Figure 2.8: Convolutional Neural Network consisting of convolution and subsampling layers. Its architecture allows for the efficient capture of spatial features, which can explain its prominence in anomaly detection models.

# Chapter 3

## Addressing Feature Space

## Shortcomings through Selective

## Image Extraction

This chapter will focus on the current state of Industrial Anomaly Detection, namely the use of pre-trained backbones in the unsupervised industrial anomaly detection models. We will briefly touch on the reason the pre-trained feature extractor is an irreplaceable component of contemporary models. This section will investigate the specific attributes of these models, providing insights into why they are commonly chosen for this task and how they integrate with other components of the detection system. However, we will also address potential limitations, delving into the ways in which these currently used models might actually serve as bottlenecks, hindering the overall performance and scalability of the detection systems. Further, we delve into the exploration of different feature spaces fit for the task of industrial anomaly detection. Moreover, we explore the methods by which it would be possible to gener-

ate new feature spaces that are tailor made for industrial tasks, specifically industrial anomaly detection. This will involve a detailed investigation of advanced techniques, such as selective image extraction from large-scale datasets, to create feature spaces that are more precise and capable of addressing the unique challenges presented by industrial anomaly detection.

### 3.1 Usage of Pre-trained Feature Extractors in Contemporary Anomaly Detection Models

Due to the lack of datasets with large quantity of anomalous samples and the real world use-case scenarios being the same nature, most industrial anomaly detection tasks are of the unsupervised nature. When it comes to unsupervised industrial anomaly detection, most contemporary models achieve the detection of the anomalies by performing some operations on the features extracted by pre-trained feature extractors. This approach to industrial anomaly detection was introduced by applying k-Nearest-Neighbor approach to extracted features in the paper "Deep Nearest Neighbor Anomaly Detection". Due to the efficacy of k-Nearest-Neighbor in general anomaly detection tasks, including anomaly detection on tabular data, it has been proposed that the approach would work for anomaly detection in image data. The paper compares performing kNN on raw images against kNN on extracted features from a pre-trained feature extractor, showing that the latter method shows promising performance. Since, unsupervised industrial anomaly detection models use methods such as kNN, clusterization, auto-encoders etc. on extracted features to achieve high accuracy anomaly detection. By leveraging pre-trained feature extractors, these models



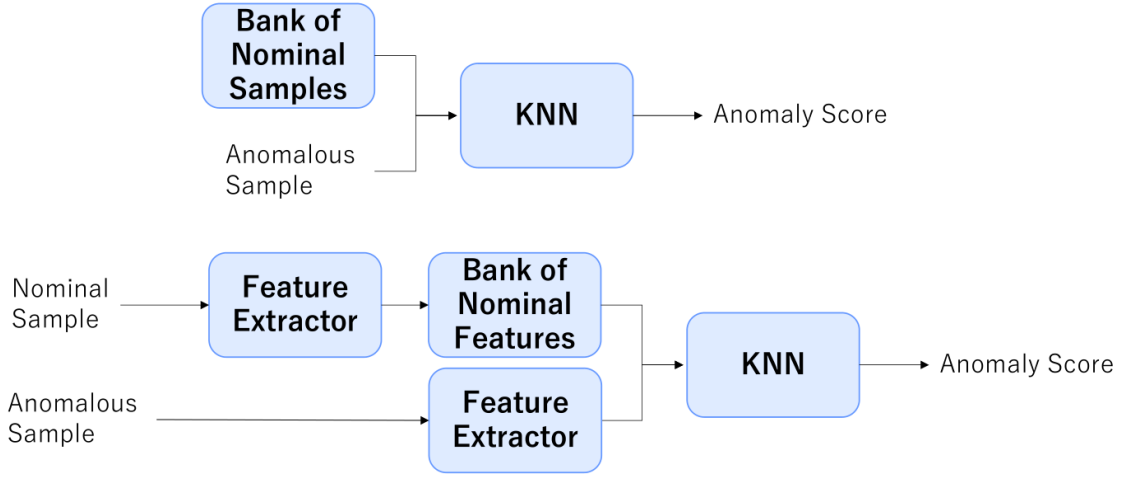


Figure 3.1: Convolutional Neural Network consisting of convolution and subsampling layers. Its architecture allows for the efficient capture of spatial features, which can explain its prominence in anomaly detection models.

can bypass the need for extensive labeled datasets, which are often scarce in industrial settings, thus benefiting from the vast amounts of data and learning already captured in these pre-trained models, thereby enhancing their detection capability.

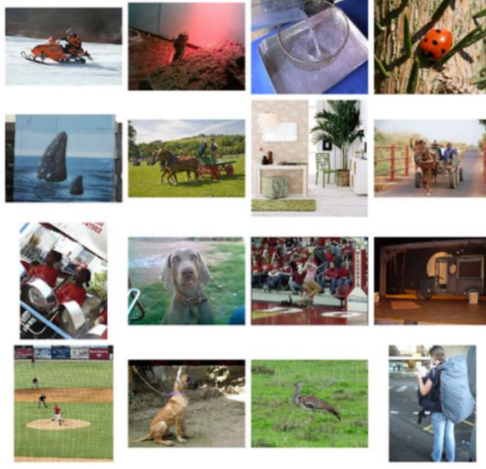
## 3.2 Commonly Used Pre-trained Extractors

As will be demonstrated by the experiments further in the Chapter 4 the most commonly used type of models as feature extractors in the industrial anomaly detection models are the convolutional models, specifically residual networks. The case is that residual networks significantly outperform vision transformers as feature extractors for anomaly detection models. This occurrence might be explained by the fact that convolutional models have the higher capacity to capture spatial hierarchies and local relationships than the vision transformer architectures. Throughout all

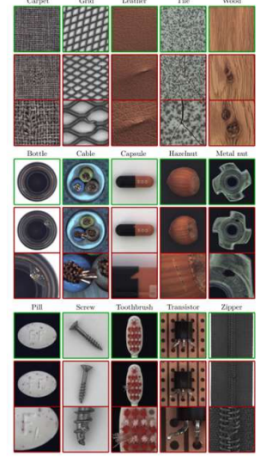
the state-of-the-art industrial anomaly detection models, the common practice is to use feature extractors pre-trained on ImageNet dataset on a supervised classification task. This pre-training on ImageNet allows the models to leverage a vast amount of general knowledge, which can then be fine-tuned to the specific requirements of industrial anomaly detection. ImageNet pre-trained feature extractor are common in all the fields of machine learning including industrial anomaly detection due to the extensiveness and generality of ImageNet dataset. This thesis will further explore these aspects through detailed experiments and analyses, providing a comprehensive understanding of why ResNets remain the backbone of state-of-the-art industrial anomaly detection models.

### **3.2.1 Potential Drawbacks of ImageNet Pre-trained Feature Extractors**

The use of ImageNet pre-trained feature extractors could carry some hidden potential drawbacks when used in industrial anomaly detection. ImageNet dataset consists of wide variety of categories, including manufactured objects alongside with natural samples, humans etc. This diverse nature is indeed beneficial for many general-purpose applications, as it allows for robust feature learning across many domains. Meanwhile, most industrial anomaly detection datasets consist of close up shots of manufactured objects like screws, pills, transistors etc, which require a different focus and precision. As we can observe, the nature of samples found in ImageNet dataset have a discrepancy from the samples that would be found in usual industrial anomaly detection task. Features learned from general purpose datasets such as ImageNet could match industrial features with less accuracy than a feature learned from a spe-



[Russovitsky+, 2014]



[Bergman+, 2019]

Figure 3.2: Convolutional Neural Network consisting of convolution and subsampling layers. Its architecture allows for the efficient capture of spatial features, which can explain its prominence in anomaly detection models.

cialized dataset. Therefore, it raises the question of whether the apparent convenience of using such well-established models truly outweighs the potential benefits of training models on more specialized datasets tailored to specific industrial needs.

### 3.3 Addressing the Drawbacks Through Exploration of Various Feature Spaces

To test the hypothesis stated above, in this thesis, we decided to test the performance of multiple pre-trained feature extractors on the against each other on the same industrial anomaly detection models. Firstly, we want to find out which architectures would learn the most effective features from the datasets we are going

to construct in the future steps. Our goal is not only to identify the most suitable architecture but also to gain insight into how different architectures handle industrial data, especially given the unique challenges presented by these datasets. In order to determine the best architecture we test multiple ImageNet pre-trained models with different architectures on the identical industrial anomaly detection model. Further, after the result of this analysis on model architecture, we move on to the exploration of methods for generation of suitable feature spaces.

### 3.4 Construction of Industrial Anomaly Detection Specialized Feature Spaces

There are multiple approaches to constructing the possibly suitable feature spaces for industrial tasks. These approaches can be separated mainly into two types: methods that involve enhancing or modifying the feature spaces extracted from ImageNet dataset, methods that consist of assembling a dataset that would be closely related to industrial setting. An example for the first method would be introducing random or synthetic noise to the randomly selected features learned from ImageNet. In this thesis, however, we mainly focus on, and propose multiple ways to accomplish feature space generation by the second method. First approach we explore is the extracting industrial subset from the large scale, general purpose dataset using a CNN classifier as an extractor and learning feature form that subset. Second approach is similar to the first one, with the exception that, instead of using a CNN classifier, we utilize the combination of an LLM and a VLM.

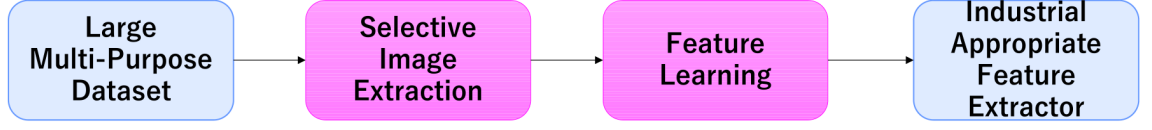


Figure 3.3: Convolutional Neural Network consisting of convolution and subsampling layers. Its architecture allows for the efficient capture of spatial features, which can explain its prominence in anomaly detection models.

## 3.5 Selective Extraction With Bi-Class CNN Classifier

As mentioned before, first approach we will be discussing thoroughly is utilizing a bi-class CNN classifier to extract a industrial setting specific subset from the a large scale multi purpose dataset. The process consists of two stages, which are training the bi-class CNN classifier and selecting for industrial images using the trained model. The bi-class classifier will be trained to sort images into two classes: industrial and non-industrial. Once the training phase is complete, the classifier will be utilized to filter through the extensive dataset, flagging and selecting images that fall under the industrial category. Our goal is to achieve precise extraction of industrial setting images, from which, further learning of useful industrial specialized features can be achieved.

### 3.5.1 Assembling the Bi-Class Classifier

The procedure of training the bi-class CNN classifier is a standard classification task training on the dataset that consists of samples of two classes, which are "in-

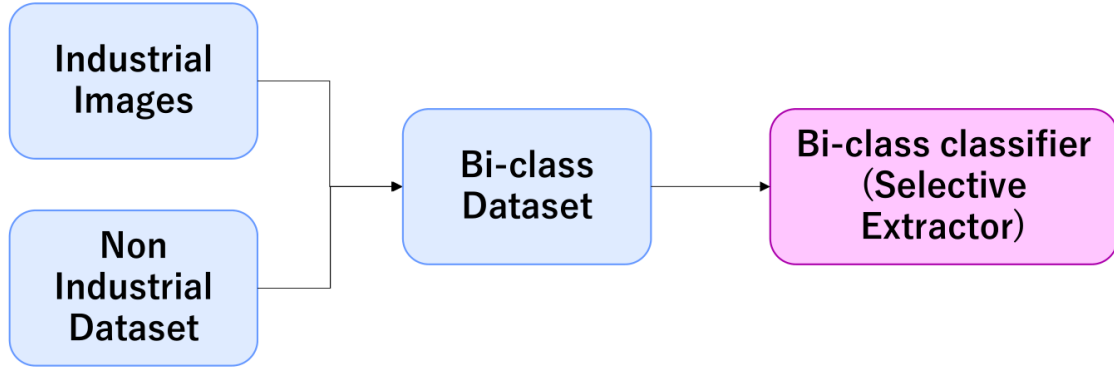


Figure 3.4: Convolutional Neural Network consisting of convolution and subsampling layers. Its architecture allows for the efficient capture of spatial features, which can explain its prominence in anomaly detection models.

dustrial" and "non-industrial". Firstly, we are required a dataset with such classes, which will be acquired by manually splitting labeled multi-purpose dataset. In the case of this thesis, due to its versatility and large scale, the decision has been made to choose the dataset ImageNet. Further, we split the images in the ImageNet dataset by 1000 classes, having 454 industrial classes and 546 non-industrial classes. Finally, in order to achieve a trained CNN classifier model in a more robust way, we can leverage an ImageNet pre-trained model due to the fact that the new built dataset mostly consist of samples from ImageNet dataset.

The extraction process will be discussed in the next section more thoroughly, however, before moving on to it, an important point should be brought to attention. The point is, after the first selection attempts, through manual visual analysis of the extracted samples, it has been revealed that the extractor model shows bias towards human faces for the "industrial" class. To alleviate this issue, two measures are taken: inclusion of the samples from "Labeled Faces in Wild" into the "non-industrial" subset

and extraction of images with prominently shown faces in them using "YOLOv5" object detection. After performing listed actions, the performance of the selective extractor appeared to be acceptable according to manual visual analysis.

#### 3.5.2 Selective Extraction

Utilizing the CNN selective image extractor, the database for feature learning can be formed. The construction of dataset is performed by classifying images in a large multi-purpose dataset, which is in the case of this work will be the YFCC100M dataset. The choice of this particular dataset is motivated by the necessity of easily accessible and versatile dataset. By performing the classification, the bi-class CNN classifier can effectively sift through the vast YFCC100M dataset, isolating and extracting a subset of images that are assumed to be related to industrial settings. Furthermore, upon visual inspection of the extracted samples, it becomes evident that there is a noticeable bias towards industrial images, indicating the efficacy of the bi-class CNN classifier in accurately identifying and selecting industrial-relevant samples.

#### 3.5.3 Feature Learning

Due to the nature of the selective extraction method, the resultant dataset comprises solely of the "industrial" class for all the samples extracted. Given that supervised classification task training necessitates the presence of multiple classes within a dataset, utilizing this single-class dataset for such tasks is evidently not feasible. To circumvent this limitation, we opt for an unsupervised learning approach. Specifically, we employ a self-supervised learning model known as DINO to extract meaningful

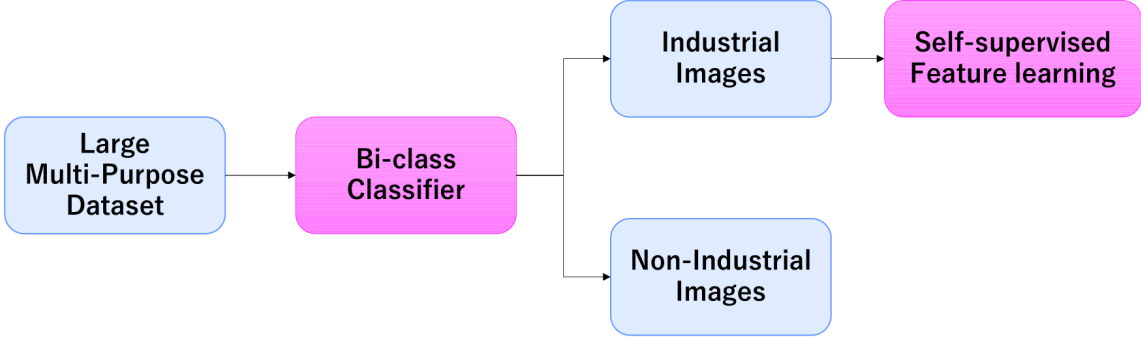


Figure 3.5: Convolutional Neural Network consisting of convolution and subsampling layers. Its architecture allows for the efficient capture of spatial features, which can explain its prominence in anomaly detection models.

features from the vast, unlabeled dataset of industrial images. For a more in-depth discussion of the DINO model and its underlying mechanisms, readers are referred to Chapter 2, where detailed explanations and examples are provided.

## 3.6 Selective Extraction With an LLM and a VLM

The second approach to the selective extraction that is proposed in this thesis is the utilization of the combination of an LLM (Large Language Model) and an VLM (Vision Language Model). The pipeline of the selective extraction by this method consists of two major stages, which are generation of descriptions using an LLM and filtration by a cosine similarity threshold with the help of an VLM. For this work we chose GPT-3 model as the LLM and CLIP model as the VLM. This method can function in specialized manner and in a general manner. When used in a specialized manner, it is possible to generate descriptions that would select for images that are close in feature to a specific use case. In generalized style of functioning, we generate



descriptions that are related to the word "industrial", "manufacturing" etc. In the case of this thesis, we focus on improving the performance on the dataset MVTechAD in order to test the efficiency of the method in constrained boundaries. The steps to utilize the method with focus on MVTechAD are as follows: using specific prompts to generate descriptions and extracting images using the CLIP model.

The first prompt to the GPT-3 model is as follows:

"give a python array containing the word "transistor" and it's synonyms, include as much synonyms as possible but avoid unrelated words"

afterwards, the following prompt is given:

"generate description for use in a CLIP model using these generated words, each word should be used in at least one description. One description should contain at least one word from the list. Generate as much descriptions as possible. Output as python array"

This process generates description for a single category in the MVTechAD dataset. Further, the same procedure is applied to the remaining categories in the dataset.

To determine the threshold value that is used for the extraction process, we apply CLIP with the descriptions specific to a category in the MVTechAD dataset to the images in the same category. Through the aforementioned approach the value of 0.29 was determined to be optimal to extract images. Every image that passes the threshold 0.29 on any of the descriptions are selected from the YFCC100M dataset.

#### 3.6.1 Feature Learning

The use of base keywords, which are in this case categories from MVTechAD dataset, makes it possible to assemble a labeled dataset, unlike the method with the

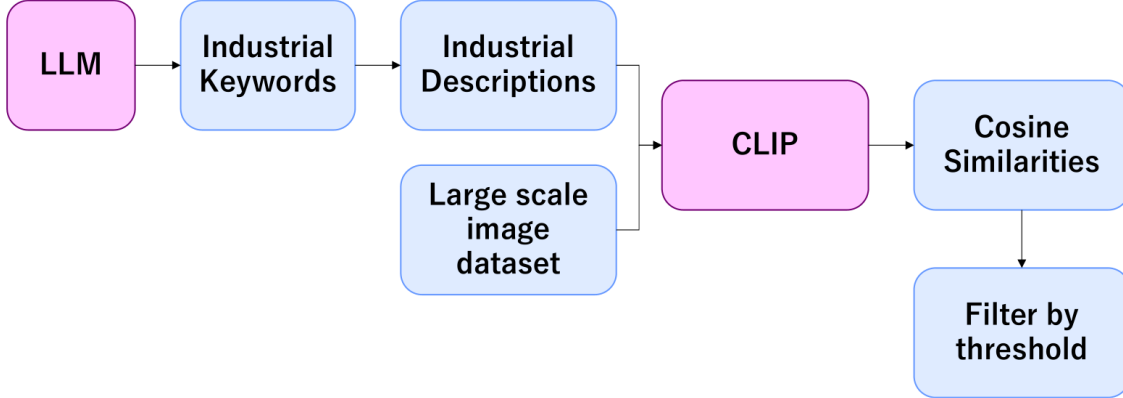


Figure 3.6: Convolutional Neural Network consisting of convolution and subsampling layers. Its architecture allows for the efficient capture of spatial features, which can explain its prominence in anomaly detection models.

bi-class CNN classifier. This property of the method of extraction creates a possibility of feature learning through supervised classification task training. Supervised learning is accomplished by using the base keywords that are given in the former prompts, which are, in the of this thesis, the categories in the dataset MVTechAD. Moreover, we use the features of the ImageNet pre-trained model as the starting point and perform a fine-tuning instead of learning features from scratch. The performance of ImageNet features on the industrial anomaly detection makes them a good starting point for training.

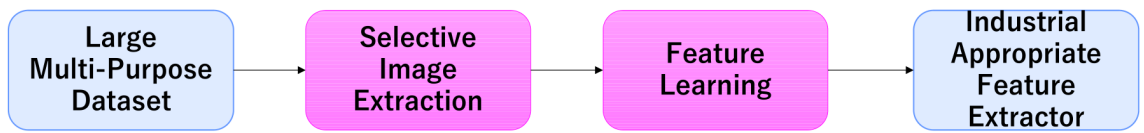


Figure 3.7: Convolutional Neural Network consisting of convolution and subsampling layers. Its architecture allows for the efficient capture of spatial features, which can explain its prominence in anomaly detection models.



## Chapter 4

# Experiments

TBW



## Chapter 5

# Conclusions and Future Improvements

### 5.1 Conclusions

TBW

### 5.2 Future Improvements

TBW





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