# The Capstone Team Project MECT 411

Name of Project: Smart Sorting Machine

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### **ABSTRACT**

The major problem with the currently used sorting machines is that they operate on predefined parameters loaded by the manufacturer. This way doesn't scale well due to the fact that a large amount of different products with different properties are introduced daily. Meaning, in order to classify them it requires to build a giant amount of data representing almost each product properties; this tends to be time and resources consuming process, which is why it seems a natural need to came up with an efficient implementation of a sorting machine that can learn new products through reading their properties in real time and build a model to represent them. Its significance is to reduce the size of data to be predefined as well as the time taken to prepare that data. That leads us to our most important objective that is to pull machine learning concepts into the physical world camera-based-computer-vision-intelligence that will guide the system to detect, identify and classify the goods in a similar way to human beings. On the other side the overall system speed, accuracy and sensitivity would impose performance challenges. However, for the mean time such obstacles could be dealt with by controlling the operating environment to prove our concept and obtain an adaptable sorting machine.

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# **LIST OF SYMBOLS and ABBREVIATIONS**

Mog	Mixtture Of Gaussian
ML	Machine learning
ANN	Artificial Neural Network
KNN	K-nearest neighbors
X-D	(integer) dimensional
K	number of distributions
ω	weight associated with ith gaussian at time t
μ	mean
σ	standard deviation
η	Gaussian probability density function
Θ	Morphological erode
$\oplus$	Morphological dilate

0	Morphological Open

### **CHAPTER 1 - INTRODUCTION**

### 1.1. Detailed definition of the project

The core principle is combining sorting operation, with ML classification algorithms (e.g. KNN ...), to adapt a larger variety of goods. Products' properties (color or shape) are collected through image processing: static images at the training stage, while live video stream at the test stage. Subsequent to the extraction of the properties, they are forwarded to the ML algorithm- either to train it or to obtain a prediction of the product category, leading to the gate-response (open/close) to guide the product.

### 1.2 Significance of the project

The proposed project will introduce machine learning to the industry as a replacement of static predefined data, tackling two concerns at the mean time:

- Eliminating the need of large memory capacity to store static data
- Reducing the time taken to prepare the software system by the manufacturer.

### 1.3. Detailed project objectives

The aim is to develop an intelligent sorting machine that will adopt supervised machine learning techniques, and replace the traditional preloaded parameters ones. It will classify products based on visual features, guide them to the required destination and get reconfigured for different sets of products.

### 1.4 Detailed project constraints

Technically, we are limited by a sequential input of products; we can't pass two or more products at the same time due to the mechanical design as well as the object-detection implemented algorithm. Extracted features are affected by the system sensitivity due to:

- The noise occurring by light and movement of the product
- Similarity of features between different products

These constraints will affect the overall machine decision speed as well as the accuracy.

### 1.5 Report Organization

The 1<sup>st</sup> chapter is meant to give the reader a general idea about the project. It then proceeds to go further into theoretical detail within the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter where backbones-used-technologies are touched. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter, it will offer an insight on the design and configuration of the sorter system core and also discuss the engineering standards. Chapter 4 describes the manufacturing steps- 5 and 6 discuss the testing and comment on how the results fit our objectives and design. Chapter 7 wraps up with final conclusions.

### **CHAPTER 2 - LITERATURE REVIEW**

### 2.1 Background information

### 2.1.1 Machine Learning

### 2.1.1.1 Definition

"Machine learning is a type of artificial intelligence (AI) that provides computers with the ability to learn without being explicitly programmed" said Margret [8]. Machine learning is an enormous field, with hundreds of different algorithms for solving myriad different problems. For example, a subclass thereof is the process of classification, whose most common algorithms are K-Nearest Neighbors, Support Vector Machine ...etc.

### 2.1.1.2 K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN)

A simple method that stores all different training cases and predict the numerical value based on a similarity measure. i.e. distance calculation. That value represents a class membership or a property value [4]. Commonly-used distance functions are Euclidean, Manhattan, and Minkowski.

### 2.1.2 Machine Vision

It is computers' ability to acquire digital images and process them to gather information for further usages (e.g. robot control). This technology is adopted by inspection procedures such as counting, gauging, or detecting defects. Replaces relying solely on

operator judgment, thus it makes task performance much more time efficient, higher precision and reliable. Machine vision has been deployed in various fields (e.g. medical, security, etc).

### 2.1.2.1 Vision in industrial automation

Utilizing vision in industry will create a system capable of performing a wide variety of industrial guidance, inspection and identification tasks at a very significant rate. Visual inspection will be applied during any stage of production ranging from raw material to packaging lines. To achieve that, several inspection methods are developed - like OCR/OCV, 1D,2D-code reading, color verification, precision alignment, assembly verification and general defect inspection.

### 2.1.3 Image processing operations

Raw digital-images have no meaning for computers, some translation-operations have to take place, to extract understandable information for future use.

### 2.1.3.1 Filtering

A software function that changes the appearance of an image or part of it, by altering the shades and colors of the pixels in some manner. Filters add a wide variety of textures, tones and special effects.[10]. Blur filters such as Gaussian blur (figure-X) are used to reduce noise from images[11]

### 2.1.3.2 Thresholding

In order to segment pixels of interest from the rest, we perform a comparison of each pixel's intensity value I with respect to a threshold value T, and replace each pixel where ( I < T ) with a black one, as shown in the figure-1 below



### 2.1.3.3 Morphological operations

To process images by their shapes. Morophological operations are applied by convolution with a customized kernel matrix.

- Erosion: to extract the foreground (Figure-2)
- Dilation: to extract the background (Figure-3)
- Open: Erosion followed by dilation to eliminate noise in the scene (Figure-4)

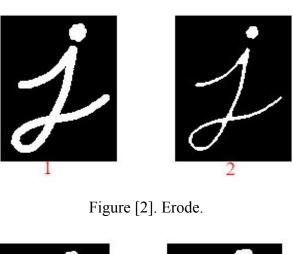




Figure [3]. Dilate.

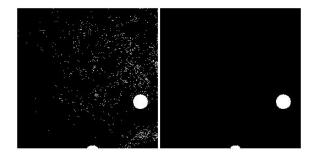


Figure [4]. Open.

### 2.1.3.4 Feature extraction

A feature is a piece of information that carries a specific property (shape, color, size ... etc.). With using specific algorithms to take care of collecting image-features, result is represented in terms of sets of different dimensions.

### Edge

This method takes an image as an input, detects its edges and calculates their length and directions. The result is accumulated into 1-D histogram. The figure-5 below shows an edge-detection result.

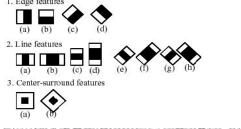


Figure [5]. Edge detection.

### • Haar-Like

A technique that collects object geometrical-segmentation properties, through

considering adjacent rectangular-regions (Figure 6) at a location in the window. Then summing up the pixel intensities in each region and finally calculating the difference between these sums.



### 2.1.3.5 Motion detection

In any scene the moving objects represent the foreground. This foreground is extracted for further processing (e.g. feature extraction). To achieve that, several techniques were developed to detect motion. These techniques are either differentiation-based (e.g. Frame subtraction) or segmentation-based (e.g. Mixture of Gaussian, Figure-7).

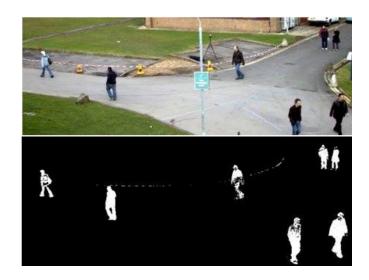


Figure [7]. Motion detection via MOG.

### 2.1.4 Sorting Machine

Sorting is any process of arranging items systematically [9]. Yet sorting has two

distinct implementations. Ordering or arranging items in a sequence, and categorizing according to predefined specifications such as color, weight, conductivity, etc... Machines were implemented to automate such tasks in pharmaceutical, food and mining industries.

### 2.2 Concurrent solutions

Some of the existing sorting solutions:

- o Blizzard optical sorter from TOMRA, used in frozen fruit inspection
- O QVision analyzer from TOMRA, used in meat protein and fat analysis

### 2.3 Comparisons of the concurrent solutions

Table [1]. Comparison between the available sorters and the proposed one.

Machine/Props	Machine/Props Blizzard QVision		Current project	
Sensor	Pulsed led (UV/VIS)	VIS near infrared light	HD web camera	
Sensed features type	Chemical + Physical	Chemical	Physical	
Sensed features	<ul><li>Color</li><li>Shape</li><li>Structural differences</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Shape</li> <li>Optical radiation to</li> <li>Structural</li> <li>Optical radiation to</li> <li>Col</li> <li>Shape</li> </ul>		
Usage fields	Food industries-inspection	Food industries-inspection & analysis	& Food industries-categoriz ation, Recycling	
Product feeding method	Free fall	Conveyor belt	Rotating table	
Rejection mechanism	Air guns	-	Mechanical gate	

# **2.4** Engineering standards of the concurrent solutions

• ISO 11161:2007: safe integrate ability

• ISO 9001:2015: quality management revision

### **CHAPTER 3 - DESIGN and ANALYSIS**

### 3.1. System architecture

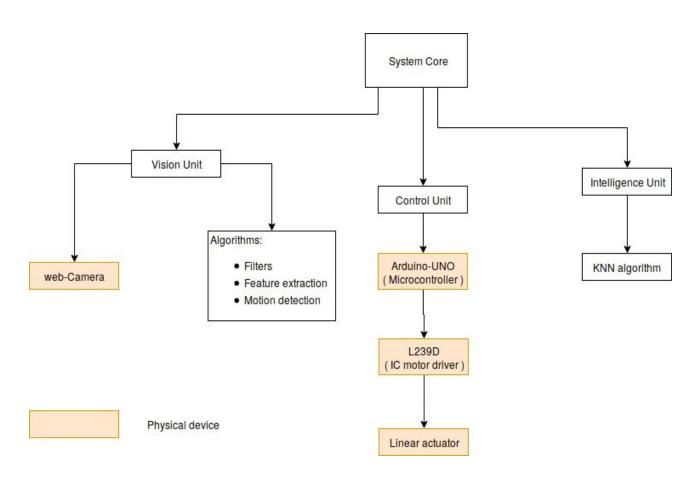


Figure [8]. System architecture.

As shown in figure-8 that the system consists of three independent units:

### 1. Vision

Using a web camera (vision sensor), to capture *frames/sec* (a.k.a live-video feed). These frames are forwarded towards filtering, motion-detecting and feature-extraction algorithms.

# 2. Intelligence Utilizing an implementation of KNN algorithm, to build, to rain and then to test a

model representation of products.

### 3. Control

A linear actuator (figure 9) is used to guide the products through an opening/closing gate. That actuator is controlled by microcontroller (figure 10) through L239D integrated chip (IC). The microcontroller acts as a bridge between the computer system and the physical world, taking a command via serial-port and based on its interpretation it toggles the actuator state. (Schema tic in APPENDIX-F)





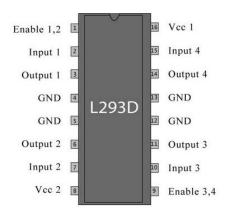


Figure [11]. Motor Shield.

### 3.2 System workflow

A workflow was developed to build a scenario for the sorting system as shown in figure 12 below.

As described in figure 12, there exist 2 modes for the System launch Mode Training mode Normal mode Training set (Images) Input Training set of images Waiting for object Preprocess image data Noise Reduction Processing Data Thresholding Enhancement Updating parameters Applying Extraction algorithms for keypoints Classify object destination Path A Path B ∠U system, explained in the following pseudo-code:

```
if mode is training:
    images = Get images, tagged by category ( operator selects a folder containing them)
    filtered_images = filter ( images )
    features = extract_features ( filtered_images )
    ml = train_algorithm_on_features ( features )

else mode is testing:
    images = get_video_feed_from_camera()
    if detect_motio_in_images ( images ):
        filtered_images = filter (images)
        features = extract_features ( filtered_images )
        classification = predict_category ( features )
        if classification is first type:
            open gate, let go to path 1
        else if classification is second type:
            close gate, let go to path 2
```

## 3.3 Design calculations and parameters

### 3.3.1 Mechanical

### • Design parameters matrix

Table [2]. Design parameters matrix

	Requirement	Solution
Material	Prototype requires:      Light-weight     Cost-effective     Easy to work into new shapes	Aluminum
Goods infeed mechanism	<ul><li>Easy to implement</li><li>Consume small area</li><li>Light weight</li></ul>	Wood, rotating table $\phi = 300  mm$ THK = 4mm
Distinguishing mechanism	<ul> <li>Integrability with infeed mechanism</li> <li>Requirements available ( locally )</li> </ul>	Gate mechanism Open/Close → 2 paths

### • Linear actuator position adjustment

Using a basic geometry calculation to obtain the distance x between shaft and an actuator with  $stroke\ length = 20\ mm$ , that will open the gate at ( $45 \sim 55\ degree$ )::

$$x = \frac{20}{\tan(45 \leftrightarrow 55)} = 14 \leftrightarrow 20 \ mm$$

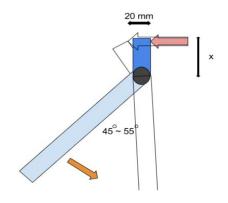


Figure [13]. Position adjustment

### 3.3.2 Electronics

Table [3]. Electronics requirements.

	Requirements	Solution
Motor ( for rotating table )	<ul><li>DC</li><li>Low speed</li><li>High torque</li></ul>	5V geared DC motor
Motor driver	<ul> <li>IC</li> <li>Arduino compatible,</li> <li>Contains H-Bridge ( for dual directions )</li> </ul>	L239D
Microcontroller	<ul> <li>Easy to setup</li> <li>c++ program lang</li> <li>cost effective</li> </ul>	Arduino-UNO
Power supply	<ul> <li>Volt: 5V</li> <li>Current ≥ 1 Amp</li> <li>Safe to use</li> </ul>	ASUS AC adaptor AD835M1

The chosen devices in table-X above are implemented in the electronic circuit of the project ( Details in schematic APPENDIX-F)

### 3.3.3 Image processing

• Mixture Of Gaussian (MOG)

Each pixel is characterized - by its intensity in RGB color space- in order to detect motion. Then the probability of observing the current pixel value is given by the following formula:

$$P(X_{t}) = \sum_{i=1}^{K} \omega_{(i,t)} \cdot \eta(X_{t}, \mu_{(i,t)}, \sigma_{(i,t)})$$
 (1)

where  $\eta$  is given by:

$$\eta(X_t, \mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\pi/2} |\sigma|^{1/2}} e^{-0.5(X, -\mu) \sigma^{-1}(X, -\mu)}$$
(2)

Each pixel is characterized by a mixture of K Gaussians. Once the background model is defined the MOG parameters are initialized. The first foreground detection is made and then the parameters are updated. Supposing that a background pixel corresponds to a high weight with a weak variance due to the fact that the background is more present than moving objects and that its value is practically constant. As video scene proceeds the process is repeated and the parameters are updated to detect motion (foreground-view). [11]

### Gaussian blur

In order to apply any filter on the image, a structural element is required.

$$O(i,j) = \sum_{m,n} F(i+m, j+n) h(m,n)$$
 (3)

Gaussian kernel prioritise its center-member, and the standard deviation  $\sigma$  between its elements affect the strength of the blurring process. The calculations is an example of gaussian smoothing with kernel h of size (3,3) and image A of size (5,4).

1	2	1
2	4	2
1	2	1

50	50	100	100
50	50	100	100
50	50	100	100
50	50	100	100
50	50	100	100

Ex. Calculating for pixel at position (2,2), the result is:

$$O(2,2) = \frac{1*50 + 2*50 + 1*100 + 2*50 + 4*50 + 2*100 + 1*50 + 2*50 + 1*100}{16} = \frac{1000}{16} = 62.5$$

### • Morphological open

Previously, it's declared that its an erosion followed by dilation process

$$A \circ B = (A \ominus B) \oplus B \tag{4}$$

Where A is - binary or grayscale- image and B is the structural element ( mxm matrix; m is odd ).

The operation works as follows:

- let *a ∈ A*
- let translation Ba: B origin at a
- 1. Dilation:

The dilation of A by B is simply the set of all points a such that the intersection of Ba with A is non-empty.

$$\forall a \in A; Ba \cap A \neq \phi$$

2. Erosion:

Then the erosion of A by B is simply the set of all points a such that Ba is a subset of A.

$$\forall a \in A; Ba \subseteq A$$

3. The result is an image with removed imperfections (figure - up up)

### EDGE EXTRACTION

In order to extract and subsequently represent the edges, two steps to be taken:

- 1. Detect edges using Canny edge detector:
  - a. Noise Reduction: Using Gaussian blur
  - b. Intensity gradient of the image Convolving with sobel operator (kernel) in both x and y directions:

$$G_{X} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad G_{y} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Obtaining the gradient strength & direction:

Edge\_Gradient 
$$(G) = \sqrt{G_x^2 + G_y^2}$$

$$Angle (\theta) = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{G_y}{G_x}\right)$$
(5)

- c. Non-maximum suppression: delete pixels that are not part of edges
- d. Thresholding:

Applies 2 level thresholding, and consider the output:

- If  $G(X) \ge U$  pper threshold  $\Rightarrow X \in E$  dge
- If  $Upper\ threshold \ge G(X) \ge Lower\ threshold$ :

  If X is connected to Y;  $G(Y) \ge Upper\ threshold$ :

$$X \in Edge$$

- If  $G(X) \leq Lower threshold \Rightarrow Reject$
- 2. Describe edges (lines) by applying *Hough transform*:
  Canny obtains the edges pixels. However, it is not enough to represent

edge-features of an image. Based upon that, Hough transform is used to describe each edge-point as  $(\rho, \theta)$  combination. Then a histogram be built out of Hough results.

$$y = mx + b$$
 (cartesian coordinate) (6)

$$\rho = x \cos(\Theta) + y \sin(\Theta) \text{ (polar coordinate)}$$
 (7)

- Using the *polar coordinate*
- let  $(x_0, y_0)$  be represented by  $(\rho_0, \theta_0)$
- Retrieve & plot all lines that pass through that point
- Repeat the preceding step for all points
- If 2 lines related to 2 different points intersects → They are related to the same line
- Accumulate the resulted points into a histogram

### • HAAR-LIKE EXTRACTION

To collect haar-like features from an image, the sum of each rectangular subsection is calculated, via the equation-8. Then these sums are accumulated into a histogram to create a feature-set.:

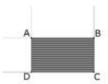


Figure [14]. Rectangular Section.

$$sum = I(C) + I(A) - I(B) - I(D)$$
 (8)

Where *I* is obtained by calculating the *integral-image* at each point *A,B,C,D*:

$$I_{\sum}(x,y) = \sum_{x' \le x, y' \le y} img(x',y')$$
 (9)

### 3.3.4 Machine learning

### KNN

This algorithm is considered a simple, and easy to implement. After preparing the training data set, prediction process will take the following steps:

- 1. Determine *K* ( number of nearest neighbors )
- 2. Calculate the distance between the queried instance features and all the training samples. Distance is calculated using Euclidean formula:

(11) 
$$d(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = d(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p}) = \sqrt{(q_1 - p_1)^2 + (q_2 - p_2)^2 + \dots + (q_n - p_n)^2}$$
$$= \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (q_i - p_i)^2}.$$

- 3. Sort the distances & create a set S -based on k-th rank- of the nearest neighbors
- 4. Gather category set *Y* of the *S* elements
- 5. Return the majority category of *Y* as the prediction of the query

### Scores

It is recommended to have precision, accuracy, recall and F1 scores calculated for each training session, to judge the usability of the trained model. To do so, let D be the set of classes A and B, T.P and T.N denote correct classification results of A and B respectively.

While F.P and F.N denote incorrect ones:

accuracy determines how much close the results are to true values.

$$accuracy = \frac{T.P + T.N}{D} \tag{12}$$

And the precision is the ability of the classifier to get True judgement for class A

$$precision = \frac{T.P}{T.P + F.P} \tag{13}$$

Recall (a.k.a sensitivity) score denotes the ratio of obtained True judgements of A

$$recall = \frac{T.P}{D} \tag{14}$$

F1 weighted harmonic mean of the precision and recall [10]

$$F1 = \frac{2 * precision * recall}{precision + recall}$$
 (15)

### 3.4 Engineering standards

Standards to be followed are (descriptions are in APPENDIX):

- Mechanical:
  - ASME Y14.5M-1994: Followed in structure design
- Electrical:

- BS-1363: Followed in the motor driver circuit
- ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 24/WG 7 : Followed in images codecs

### • Industrial:

 ISO 11161:2007: Followed in the concept of system integrability with other systems

### 3.5 Cost analysis

Table [4]. BOM.

Item	PART NO	PART NAME	QUANTITY	PRICE (\$)	SHIPPING COST (\$)	DESCRIPTION	SOURCE
------	------------	--------------	----------	------------	-----------------------	-------------	--------

1	Arduino	1	6	-	Microcontroller	Ebay.com
2	L293D	1	2	-	H-bridge Motor Driver	Ebay.com
3	Linear Actuator	1	-	-		Dep. Mechanical Eng.
4	Wires, sockets		5	-		Sertelektronik- magusa
5	screws	8	10	_		Ebay.com
6	Stabilization wheels	3	3	-	-	Magusa, industrial area .
7	SWITCH-SP DT	1	5	-	Slideswitch A switch that allows you to close or open a circuit permanently.	Ebay.com
8	HD webcam	1	10	-		Ebay.com
9	TACTILE-P TH	2	5		Pushbutton Momentary switches that close a circuit when pressed.	Ebay.com
10	Motor Connector	1	11		DC Motor Converts electrical energy into a mechanical energy, which makes the shaft rotate on it's axis.	Ebay.com

### **CHAPTER 4 - MANUFACTURING**

### 4.1. Manufacturing process selection

For the manufacturing of this project, majority of the work done was by means of assembly.

Component or end item comprising of a number of parts or subassemblies put together to perform a specific function, and capable of disassembly without destruction. What may be an assembly at one point, may be however a subassembly of another.<sup>[1]</sup> In the selected design for the sorting machine, the work revolved around adjusting three main components in such a way that would run the project smoothly and assist in achieving its objective.

Starting off with the base component, the aluminum plate was store bought with the necessary dimensions. The remaining parts were assembled upon this plate by using generic fasteners including screws, nuts, bolts, etc. This includes the fitting of the rotating wooden table which was custom made by a local carpenter in order to satisfy the design requirements. Last but not least, the gate composed of aluminum parts that is responsible for product passage based on the received classification commands, shall be attached to the motor to gain enough power for opening and closing.



### 4.2. Detailed manufacturing process

### 4.2.1 Base

The base plate was initially a slate shaped flat aluminum plate of dimensions (600\*340 mm) In order to compile the other various parts onto it, the plate we began working with had to be bent at its opposing edges by a factor of about (60 mm) with the help of a hydraulic bending machine we happened to find in a workshop abroad.



4.2.2 Rotating Table

For creating the round rotating table, we purchased a wooden block of length (300 mm) and breadth (4 mm) and then carried this block over to a handy woodcraft man to cut it into a circular shape using the (electric saw machine).



Figure [17]. Rotating plate.

### 4.2.3 Gate

At the very bottom and beneath the aluminum plate lays a motor from which a shaft extends. This shaft reaches up to the cylindrical rod of the arm which was formerly drilled vertically to accommodate for the shaft length inserted. The rod is also drilled such that the other flag shaped aluminum plate acting as the pathway gate which has two pin holes on its side can be screwed to it.



Figure [18]. Gate.

.....

### **CHAPTER 5 - PRODUCT TESTING**

### **5.1 Verification of Project Objectives**

To check whether the machine is going to fulfill the objective, the operator shall follow the protocol assigned below stepwise,

### 5.1.1 Resource Preparation

Firstly, the operator will either use an images that he/she captured or a suitable picture of the product taken from online sources such as **IMAGENET**.



Figure [19]. Image resources

### 5.1.2 Train the machine against the images

To begin with, noise filters were applied such as (erosion, Gaussian blur ...etc.).

Features are extracted using either one of the following extractors or a combination of them:

- Raw pixel
- Shape
- Haar like features
- Edge histogram features

- Hue histogram features
- Hog features
   and a vector V = [F1 F2 F3 ...] was created out of the extracted features which
   represents the image being entered.
  - Training session example
    - Configure settings.py (figure 20)
    - EXTRACTORS list to use Edge & Haar-like features, this combination will give a judgement based on the object structure
    - CLASSIFIER CORE to use KNN algorithm
    - PRE\_OPERATIONS to be empty list ( no filters to preprocess )

```
CLASSIFIER_CORE = 'configs.classifiers.KNN'
EXTRACTORS = [
'configs.features.EHFE',
'configs.features.HLFE',
]
PRE_OPERATIONS = [
]
```

Figure [20]. Config file

• Select the training datasets, with respect to their tag through the GUI (figure - 21)

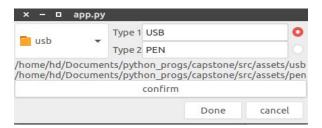


Figure [21]. Training data set selection

- Press *Done*, then press *Train model*
- The training process will start. At its end, a report describing the performance scores will be shown (as in figure 22)

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
PEN	0.75	1.00	0.86	3
USB	1.00	0.95	0.97	19
avg / total	0.97	0.95	0.96	22

Figure [22]. Scoring report.

### 5.1.3 Test against new samples and run on spot

Once the machine is run, an object movement -on the rotating table- must be detected in the scene by applying MOG. Hence, the filtering and features extraction procedures are repeated on the exact frame where object was detected. Finally, the trained model will then predict the category suitable for that object and send the process command to the gate for opening or closing the object's path.

### **5.2 Verification of Engineering Standards**

- Mechanical: APPENDX-F contains the engineering drawings, that follows the standard ( ASME Y14.5M-1994 )
- Electrical: The use of insulated wires to connect between electronic components (BS-1363), as shown in the figure below
- Industrial: The overall design concept, implements the standard through the ease and safe of integrality with other systems ( ISO 1161:2007 )

## **CHAPTER 6 - RESULTS and DISCUSSIONS**

#### 6.1. The results

In the previous section of this report discussing the project's testing operations and functionality, we mentioned using an assorted sample of products. This sample included (3 different product categories: coins, pens, USB disks). using Haar + edge as features It was noted that 3 out of 7 trails were correct output, and that result with confidence of prediction going from  $(60 \rightarrow 85 \%)$ . However, we can make adjustments to minimize this kind of shortcomings by working on the background subtraction and noise elimination as well as estimating the best time to capture the scene.

#### **6.2.** The constraints

Perfection is a concept that is very difficult to achieve. Hence, the barriers to reach the utmost performance for this project are discussed as enlisted below;

#### 6.2.1 Accuracy of Classification:

When selecting a sample of products, it is preferred to select rather different objects so as not to confuse the working algorithm i.e. products with relative resemblance in their features increase the chance of error as a result of false positive output.

#### 6.2.2 Speed of Decision Making:

This characteristic depends on processor, algorithm, signal transmitting, controller, as well as gate motion motor speed. The rate of each of the stated speeds is expected to impact the system as a whole and have a negative impact on the decision process speed.

#### 6.2.3 Complexity of Product:

Often times, the products we run on the sorting machine can have seemingly complex features. This may be in the form of texture, shape, color, etc. or any other trait that might not be very common on readable by the extraction algorithm. There by becoming one of the constraints.

#### 6.2.4 Environment:

In general, the atmosphere surrounding the sorting machine, more specifically the region of interest which in this case happens to be the camera focus zone, must be in constant control by the operator so as to ensure lighting, external noise, background, etc. have little to no effect on the classification process.

## 6.2.5 Sequential Product Input

No more than one object can be read and interpreted by the machine at a time. This is due to the system gate operation design and the algorithm detection property making it a limiting sorting process.

All of the above mentioned points contribute to the constrictions for productivity. Reducing their occurrence on the other hand whenever possible would lead to a more efficient classification.

#### **CHAPTER 7 - CONCLUSIONS and FUTURE WORKS**

#### 7.1 Conclusions

Introducing ML to industrial machines is an interesting topic. Our project confirms the ability to implement ML in sorting process up to some level, and shows that challenges for obtaining good judgments. However, for now the project focuses on *proof of concept*, which reduces the importance of limitations at this stage.

#### 7.2 The future works

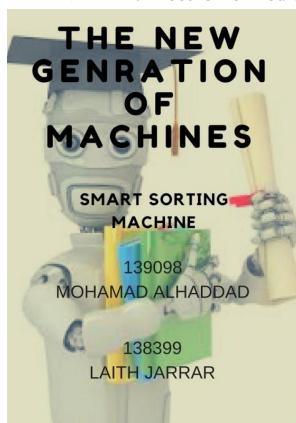
Process reliability is the main work that would be done, that could be achieved through improving both mechanical structure and the algorithms, to accept parallel products input, the overall sorting - from software judgement to hardware response - speed. While noise elimination and supporting much more distinguishing-features shall be took into consideration.

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#### **APPENDIX A: Electronic Media**





# **ABSTRACT**

- Sorting is a technique for organizing matter in a symmetric manner
- Sorting processes are commonly used in industrial & manufacturing fields
- Legacy sorting machines operate based on pre-specified properties to apply classification

# **OBJECTIVES**

- To Implement a cutting edge technology; Machine learning in Industrial environment
- To Improve the machine-user interface and to create a friendly platform to interact with
- To expose the importance of Computer Vision in the industry field

# **FUTURE WORKS**

- Enhancing sustainability in different environments
- Increasing the decision accuracy and diminishing the false classifications
- Improving the overall mechanical structure
- Supporting more complex objects. (for tenses to be coherent as in the preceding points.)

## **APPENDIX B: Constraints**

	YES	NO
Economic	X	
Environmental	X	
Sustainability	X	
Manufacturability	X	
Ethical		X
Health and Safety		X
Social		X
Political		X
(Other (Availability		X

## **APPENDIX C: Standards**

TS-EN Drawing Standard	Technical Drawing Standard	
BS-1363	Requires that all power pins, are partially insulated. However, earth pins must be solid brass, or, in the case of plugs intended solely for use with non-earthed devices	
ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 24/WG 7	Image processing and interchange	
ISO 11161:2007	Integrated manufacturing systems, it deals with safety of interconnection between machines and components	

# APPENDIX D: Logbook

11/10/2016	Meeting with the supervisor to talk about the selected capstone project
13/10/2016	Group members meeting to gather information about capstone project
13/11/2016	Preparing the abstract of the project
18/11/2016	Meeting with supervisors to discuss the project purpose
18/11/2016	Group members meeting to select an appropriate name for the project
20/11/2016	Preparing chapter 1, the introduction of the project
25/11/2016	Meeting with supervisors to discuss the introduction and literature review
2/11/2016	Getting started with Computer vision and openCV library
7/12/2016	Learning simple environment enhancement through image processing
11/12/2016	Learning simple feature extraction and key-points localization
12/12/2016	Learning key-points matching between similar images
13/12/2016	Meeting with supervisors to show project progress
15/12/2016	Designing simple mechanical structure to for the system
22/12/2016	Meeting with expert, to get feedback about the mechanical design
15/01/2017	Designing system algorithm
20/01/2017	Contacting an expert, to get feedback about the software design

21/02/2017	Implementing system code using python programming language
25/03/2017	Refactoring code and testing against static images
05/04/2017	Mechanical structure manufacturing
07/04/2017	Meeting with supervisors to show project progress
28/04/2017	Mechanical structure manufacturing
15/05/2017	Electrical circuit designed
18/05/2017	Electrical circuit implementation
19/05/2017	Testing on real product scenario
14/05/2017	Learning about classification optimization
20/05/2017	Finalizing report
21/05/2017	Finalizing report

# **APPENDIX E: Project Timeline**

Task	Duration ( Days )	Start	Finish	Assigned to
Project selection	7	10/11/2016	17/11/2016	Mohamad & Laith
State the	3	20/11/2016	23/11/2016	Mohamad & Laith
objectives				
Supervisor	20 meetings	25/11/2016	15/05/2017	Laith & Mohamad
discussion				
Computer Vision	90	5/12/2016	4/03/2017	Mohamad & Laith
Research				
Automation	3	7/12/2016	10/12/2016	Laith
Research				
Sorting methods	90	10/12/2016	9/03/2017	Mohamad & Laith
research				
Machine learning	90	7/12/2016	26/03/2017	Mohamad & Laith
research				
Environment	7	01/04/2017	08/04/2017	Mohamad & Laith
choose				
First work-flow	3	20/11/2016	23/11/2016	Mohamad & Laith
draft design				
System	1	24/11/2016	25/11/2016	Mohamad & Laith
architecture				
design				
Second work-flow	3	12/04/2017	15/04/2017	Mohamad & Laith
draft design				
Mechanical	1	20/11/2016	21/11/2016	Mohamad
design first draft				
Mechanical	15	01/05/2017	20/05/2017	Mohamad
manufacturing				
Electronics	45	11/11/2016	27/12/2016	Laith
ordering				
Software modules	60	7/12/2016	07/02/2017	Mohamad
selection				
System algorithm	90	7/12/2016	11/04/2017	Mohamad
implementation				
Overall	50	10/04/2017	20/05/2017	Mohamad
optimization				
Circuit design	3	15/05/2017	18/05/2017	Laith
Circuit prototype	1	18/05/2017	19/05/2017	Laith
Circuit	2	19/05/2015	20/05/2017	Laith
manufacturing				
Testing	80	01/02/2017	25/05/2017	Mohamad & Laith

# **APPENDIX F: Engineering Drawings**

Circuit schematic

