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SAFETY ANALYSIS ON HUMAN-ROBOT COLLABORATION IN
HEAVY ASSEMBLY TASKS

Master of Science Thesis

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ABSTRACT

Morteza Dianatfar: Safety analysis on human-robot collaboration in heavy assembly tasks

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Manufacturing assembly industry has traditionally utilized human labor to perform assembly tasks manually. With the introduction of industrial robots, fully automated solutions have provided an opportunity to perform complex and repetitive tasks and assist in the assembly of heavy components. In recent years, improvement in robot technologies and changes in safety legislation have enabled new human-robot collaboration (HRC) concepts which have drawn attention of manufacturers. HRC uses characteristics of dexterity and flexibility of human and repeatability and precision of robots to increase the flexibility of the system, decrease the cost of labor in production and improve ergonomics in the design of shared workspace.

The operator safety is one of the challenges inside the HRC environment. The safety concerns could be altered with different levels of physical interactions between robot and human. This thesis aimed to develop solution for analyzing the safety functions on different human-robot interaction (HRI) levels. The approach was started with the classification of tasks between human and robot. In this thesis, assembly sequences were designed to fulfill the requirements of each interaction levels of HRI. These experiments were providing evaluation tables for analyzing the safety functions in HRI levels.

The primary objective of this thesis is to design the HRC system with suitable safety functions. The safety of the workstation was developed using a combination of hardware and software. Laser scanners employed to detect the presence of a human in hazard areas and ABB SafeMove add-on were configured to exploit safety signals to the robot controller for adopting safety functions such as safety-rated monitored stop, and speed and separation monitoring.

In this thesis, time work study analysis was demonstrated that the implementation of HRC decreases the fatigue and the injury risks of the operator and enhances the ergonomics for the operators. The study of safety functions through different HRI levels proved that with an increase of physical interactions it was necessary to employ multiple safety functions to prohibit collisions between robot and human.

PREFACE

The study presented in this thesis has been carried out at the Mechanical Engineering and Industrial System (MEI) department of Tampere University of Technology (TUT).

Firstly, I would like to express my gratitude to Professor Minna Lanz for providing me the opportunity to work in her team and her endless support for performing this experiment. I am also thankful to my supervisor D.Sc. (Tech) Borja Ramis Ferrer for his supports throughout this thesis. Furthermore, I am grateful to my colleagues Jyrki Latokartano, Alireza Changizi, Mehdi Mahmoodpour, Joe Samuel David for their assistance at different stages of implementation of this thesis.

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LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CAD	Computer Aided Design
CE	Conformité Européene
Cobots	Collaborative Robots
DOF	Degree of Freedom
EHSR	Essential Health and Safety Requirements
GMAW	Gas-shielded Metal Arc Welding
HRC	Human-Robot Collaboration
HRI	Human-Robot Interaction
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
IFR	International Federation of Robotics
MEI	Mechanical Engineering and Industrial System
OSHA	Occupational Safety & Health Department
PLC	Programmable Logic Controller
SCARA	Selective Compliance Articulated Robot Arm
TCP	Tool Center Point
TUT	Tampere University of Technology

1. INTRODUCTION

In the last decade, the human-robot interaction (HRI) and human-robot collaboration (HRC) topics have gained the significant interests among researchers in manufacturing assembly process. Traditionally, assembly process was performed by the operator in a workstations that results in massive injuries and ergonomic issues leading to a social cost of labor in the factory [1]. By introducing the industrial robots with repeatability, precision, and high payload characteristics, new opportunities emerged to adopt robots in assembly workstations. However, this trend brought some issues such as positioning robots inside workstation with barriers such as fences and safeguarding walls. Robots with low intelligence (manually programmed by the expert) cannot operate with the complexity of products and sufficient flexibility during the assembly process.

Therefore, with adopting human cognitive capabilities such as dexterity and flexibility and robot's characteristics mentioned above, there is a possibility to create flexible workstations, decrease the cost of manufacturing and provide a better ergonomic solution for operators. The increased interaction between human and robot is expected to enhance the assembly process in shared workspace. In this case operator may guide robot by hand and robot bring power assistance to the operator [1]. With the help of semi-automated assembly workstation industrial robots can cooperate with the operator as a team to take advantage of their combination capabilities [2].

The HRC concepts have been implemented mainly in academia, but unfortunately, there are only few implementations in industrial premises. The challenge is on ensuring human safety inside shared workspace at all times. The most common existing solution is to monitor the operator's position in a shared workspace and continuous assessment of movement speed. Recently, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) has published standards to provide safety requirements and guidance for industrial robots inside HRC application. Standards such as ISO 10218-1/2 [3],[4] provide outline safety requirements of industrial robot and robot system integration for the collaborative workplace, and ISO/TS 15066 [5] grant additional guidelines for implementing safety in HRI.

On this thesis, HRC application in industrial cases is examined where operator and industrial robot together assemble the diesel engine's components. Assembly tasks are classified with proposed factors for each assembly task between human and robot. Afterward, scenarios of assembly respected to the fourth interaction levels [6] are created to analyze smoothness of workflow inside HRC based on different interaction levels. Later on, the safety of the operator is concerned by using two SICK laser scanners [7] and

ABB Safemove feature [8]. The study is repeated for each interaction levels, the results of the safety analysis for selecting suitable safety function, and time work study analysis are presented in the resulting chapter.

1.1 Research Gap

Recently, research in the field of HRC in assembly has been focused on inherently safe robots such as KUKA iiwa [9],[10], ABB Yumi [11],[12], and Baxter [13],[14] with small payloads. The current applications for these type of collaborative robots (cobots) are relating primarily for assisting the operator to hand-over the small tools or light-weight components. However, the needs in the industry are also for handling mid and/ or heavy-weight components. The industrial robots can have high payload capability and with good reachability. Due to the safety reasons, industrial robots are separated from human operators by fences or barriers in the factory floor. The technological changes as well as changes in standardization are expected to allow HRC implemented in mid and/ or heavy assembly tasks. The indentified research gap relates to use of industrial robot experiments in HRC tasks. There are less studies about how to employ industrial robots in HRC shared workspace with heavier parts, due to the fact that implementation of safety for the bigger robot is challenging and dangerous.

Other problem that is addressed here is that in the research field of HRC, there is quite a few cases where researchers consider the interaction levels between the robot and human inside HRC shared workspace. In this thesis, the interaction levels between industrial robot and operator for the assembly process is studied, and their impacts on safety implementation are analyzed.

1.2 Research Objectives and Outline of the Thesis

On this thesis, implementing a hybrid assembly workstation for assembly process of product is investigated. Hence, the objectives of the thesis are following:

- Detection of the factors that are suitable for task allocation between robot and operator
- Selection and implementation of the safety devices which is suitable for each interaction level safety based on standards guideline
- Determination of the scenarios that match with interaction levels and create smooth workflow inside the shared workspace

The thesis includes following chapters and sections. In the chapter 2, an overview of manufacturing assembly, HRC and industrial robot markets are discussed. Next, the current studies in the field of robotics safety are reviewed. The details of the use case development such as design of workstation, design of tools, task allocation and safety implementation are provided in the chapter 3. Finally, the results related to the implemented solution is explained in the chapter 4.

1.3 Research Questions and Limitations

The research questions of this thesis can be listed as follows:

RQ1: How to allocate task between the robots and human in HRI levels?

RQ2: What kind of safety functions should be implemented for workstation based on the HRI levels?

RQ3: Is it possible with proper resource allocation to enhance productivity?

During the research of this thesis, the emerged limitations are as following:

- Due to the recent development of classification of HRI level, there has been a gap between scholar researches and practical studies.
- There is a limitation to access all of the engine components due to the method of manufacturing of the engine which made the disassembly of all the components challenging. Therefore, defining tasks related to interaction levels are limited to specific components.
- Lack of access to a tool changing systems, only two grippers were selected for assembly tasks which decreased the flexibility of choosing the components for robot's task.
- The focus of thesis was not on the layout design, gripper or feeder strategies, thus the existing available equipment was used.

1.4 Research Methodology

Based on the research questions mentioned in the previous subsection; different methods have been tested to fulfill the research outcomes. The Figure 1 demonstrates the research questions and utilized methods for each one and ultimately the results and outcomes are presented.

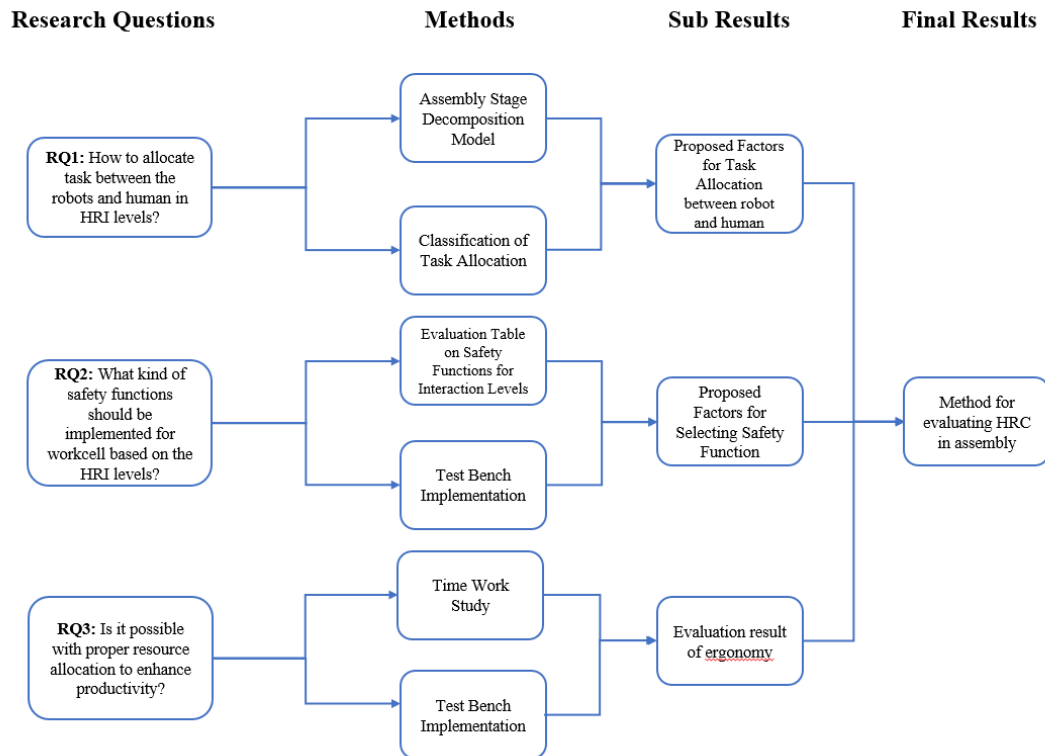


Figure 1. Research Methodology Diagram

Two methods have been employed, “Assembly Stage Decomposition Model” and “Classification of Task Allocation” in the chapters 3.2 and 3.3, for the first research question to investigate the subject. With the help of the assembly stage decomposition model [15], assembly sequences are identified and workstation tasks has been allotted by classification of task allocation method. The outcome of these two methods provides tasks allocation between robot and human based on four factors: task complexity, ergonomic, payload, repeatability.

To explore the research question number two, the method of Evaluation Table on Safety Functions for Interaction Levels (in the chapter 4.1.3) is used to identify the required safety functions and Test Bench Implementation (in the chapter 3.5) is applied in the experiment section to test the outcomes of the previous method. Ultimately, the outcomes (4) of the mentioned methods resulted in satisfaction of safety requirement of three of HRI levels.

The Time Work Study (in the chapter 4.1.1) and Test Bench Implementation (in the chapter 3.5) methods are used to in parallel to scrutinize the productivity between manual assembly and HRC system to observe the results.

Finally, the method is proposed for evaluating HRC safety in assembly systems with considering different HRI levels.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

In this chapter, the state of art of different type of assembly in the manufacturing industry will be reviewed. Then, the introduction to the human-robot collaboration will be discussed and also industrial robots history and applications will be explained. Afterwards, the essence of machine directive and related standards for human-robot collaboration will be explained and overview of standards related to the industrial robot safety will be addressed.

2.1 Assembly systems in the manufacturing industry

The industrial assembly is affected by elements such as rapid product changes, growing number of variants and short planning time of the client. In the particular the workload of manual work in the factories can affect the cost pressure within low-wage countries. In practice, the mentioned challenges can occur, through a rationalization approach to the industrial assembly, flexible assembly technology and highly trained staff. There are different existing concepts that are suitable for competing productivity demand and flexibility; however, these concepts rely on the product complexity, variant diversity and output rate which has to be considered [16].

Within sufficient technology in industrial assembly, the assembly of products take from 15 to 70 % of total manufacturing time [16],[17]. The varying volume of products and an increasing number of variants can be hard to manage. Since products have a small period of usage on the market due to the rapid technology change, the funding for the variant dependant part and product of assembly system can decrease. There are numbers of ideas to satisfy these requirements in the industry.

The classification of assembly systems in the manufacturing domain used in this thesis, is provided by [16] and explained in this section. Figure 2 demonstrates the three most vital assembly systems for utilization area in the industry, the following systems are manual assembly, hybrid assembly and automated assembly [18].

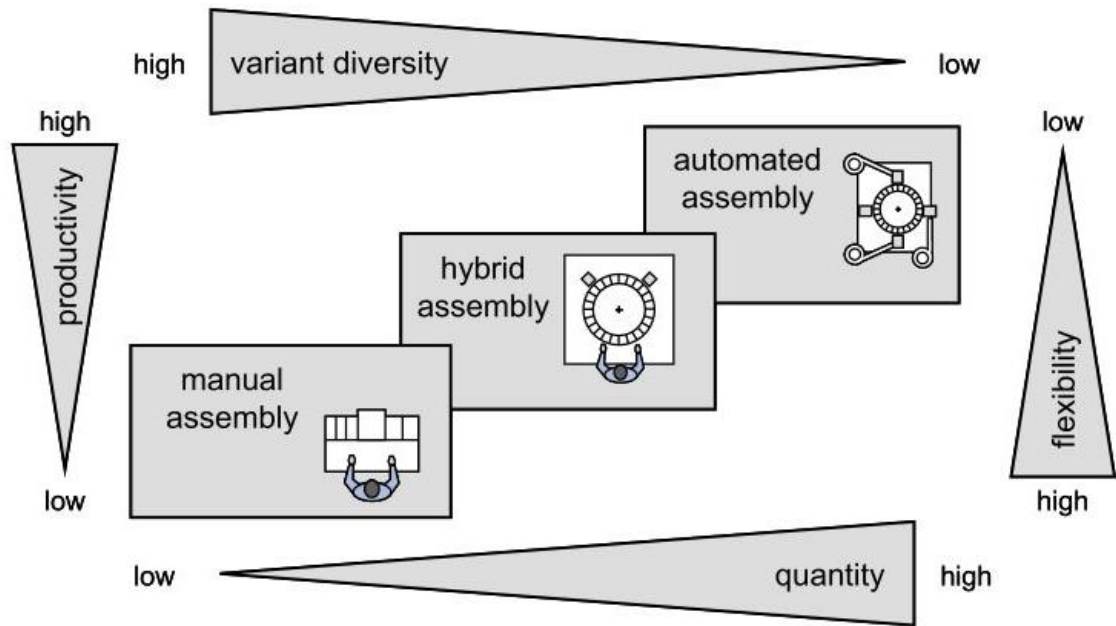


Figure 2. Utilization area for manual, hybrid and automated assembly [16]

Figure 2 depicts the fact while the assembly design is changed from manual to automated assembly system; the productivity of the system increases. With considering variant diversity and quantity factors such as sales duration, production rate per unit and the market's demand it is shown that hybrid assembly has higher flexibility compared to the automated assembly system. Manual flow assembly, manual single place assembly, one-piece-flow assembly, hybrid assembly, automated single place assembly and automated flow assembly are six basic types (depicted in Figure 3) which have been made to encounter the diversity of jobs during the development of industrial assembly systems [19].

Rigid and flexible assembly system are two classifications that are demonstrated in Figure 3. Afterwards, two categories are defined based on product output (pieces/hour) and their complexity (expressed in number of assembled pieces). The essential contrast could be observed between two groups where in the rigid automated system, the concentration is on technical design and in the flexible manual system, the arrangement of workers is more important [16].

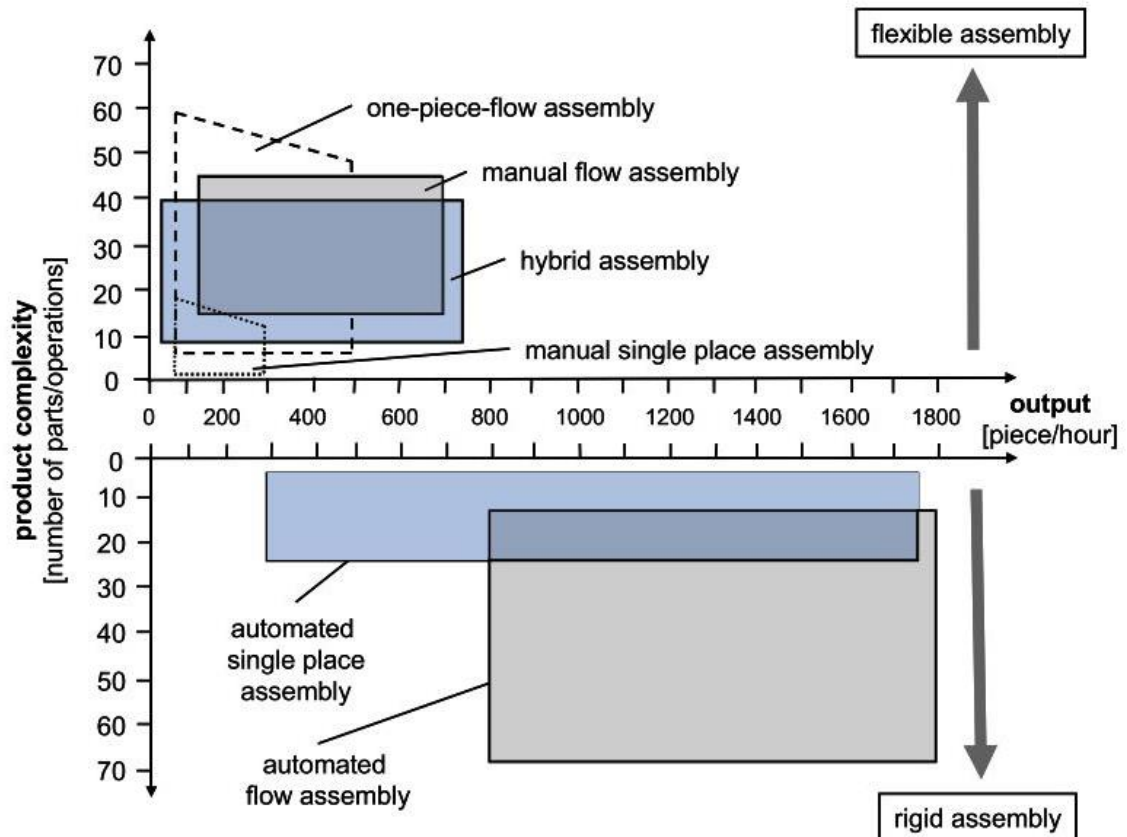


Figure 3. Classification of assembly system based on output and complexity [16]

2.1.1 Flexible manual assembly

The core of this kind of assembly system is operator, where operator uses the intelligence and speed skills of their hand beside aid such as tools, jigs, fixtures, gauges etc., to perform the assembly procedure. In this system, the output rate relies on the ergonomic design of the workplace, environments, light, and etc [19]. Workplace design that does not follow ergonomic concepts such as bending and standing up repetitively should come up with a better solution to prohibit fatigue and assembly errors. Moreover, these solutions will improve the level of efficiency in workstation and create an environment suitable for an elder worker or for the ones with reduced performance [16]. However, if a design is created for a small work place with correct ergonomically solution then these solutions are suitable for assemblies of small goods with less complexity [20]. Therefore, complex goods can be assembled in a workstation that is divided to smaller sections. These workstation can be linked together. It worth mentioning that there is another solution called set-wise assembly flow which would be explained. Three forms of manual assembly in manufacturing systems are as following [16]:

- Single Station Assembly with Set-Wise Assembly Flow
- Single Station Assembly According to the One-Piece-Flow Principle
- Multi-Station Assembly According to the One-Piece-Flow Principle

In *Single Station Assembly with Set-Wise Assembly Flow*, the product is assembled step by step before the next product is started. In set-wise assembly flow, the first item will be assembled for the whole production set, the second item for the entire product set and so on [18]. For this purpose, there is an idea to use two turntables (such as Figure 4), one for the products and one for items need to be assembled on the product in the set of ware bins. Therefore, each item that need to be assembled will be rotated to the area that is ergonomic and close to the worker [21],[16]. The forced repetitiveness of movements, a short distance for grasping items can be an advantage of this arrangement. In addition, each part is supplied equivalent to the pattern of assembly. Therefore the total assembly time will be declined about 30-50%. However, there is a limitation for use of this method based on a number of variants, and the size of tables [19].

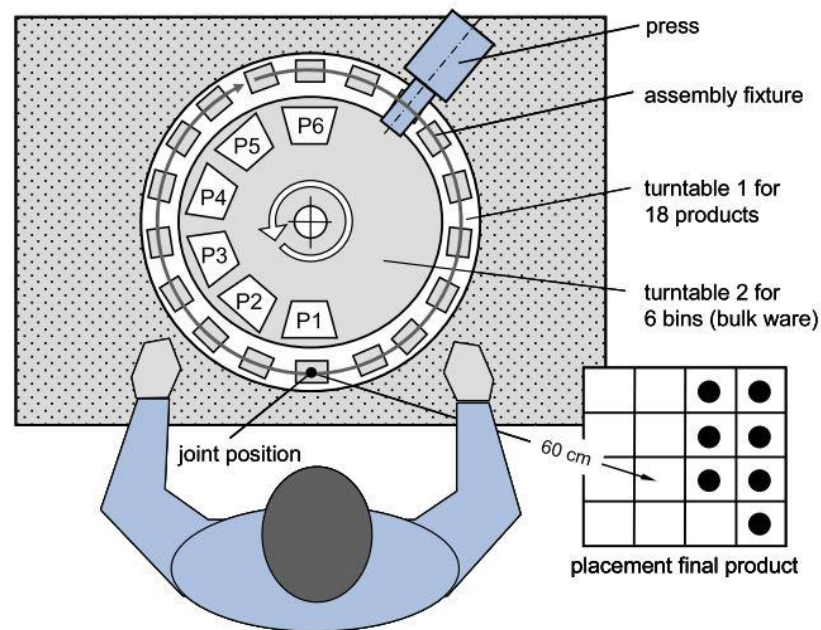


Figure 4. Assembly station with set-wise sequencing for an electrical componentry [16]

Principle in assembly lines with a various number of components and product variants, it requires to provide unique parts and tools accessible. One of the rational methods for this purpose is a *single workstation with one-piece flow concept* (Figure 5). In this method, the worker will walk along the line and use number of supply bins to assemble part piece by piece and finalize it at the end of workstation [21],[16].

When the product variant is growing and product amount escalates to the 100000 pieces/year and the demands for the delivery lot are from 1 to 100 pieces, then the previous solution cannot be used. The solution suggested here is to divide the supply of variant dependent pieces from variant independent pieces [16].

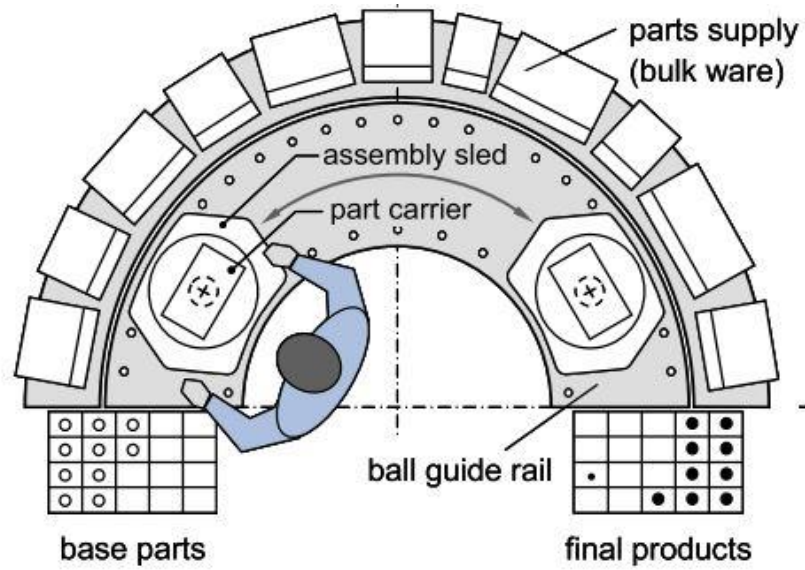


Figure 5. One-piece flow assembly station with different part supplies [16]

This strategy *Multi-Station Assembly According to the One-Piece-Flow* can be used. The suitable design for this solution would be dividing section into two sections: commissioning area and assembly line itself (Figure 6). The variant dependent parts are preserved in commissioning area such as supermarkets and variant independent pieces are accessible along assembly line [21],[16].

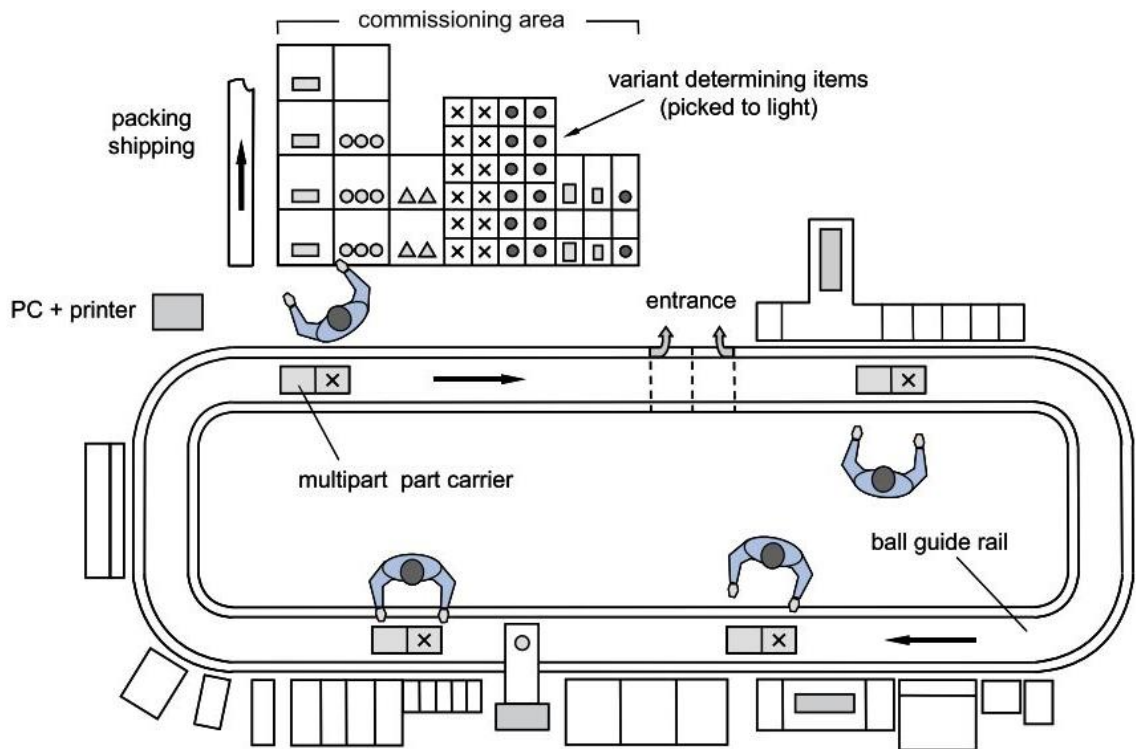


Figure 6. Assembly layout for a various number of products [16]

2.1.2 Flexible Automated Systems:

The automatic assembly can be recalled in the application of indexing tables and feeder in a fixed or hard automation. Briefly, soft automation utilizes programmable assembly machines in parallel with robotic assembly cells such as single or a multi-station robotic where all movement sequences of robot's system are controlled by a programmable logic controller (PLC) or computer system [22].

Recently, the main factors for applying automation are technological practicality and cost. In addition, automation can accomplish a function more efficiently, reliably, or accurately than the operator, or further exchange the operator at a lower cost [23]. Another study from an industrial Delphi survey [24] demonstrates that the top three answers based on the advantages of automation are cost savings, achieving higher efficiency and increasing competitiveness.

Figure 3 depicts that in a system with output rate over 720 pieces per hour, there are demands for an automated system. Linear transfer assembly lines are suitable for assembly of product with 20 kg and surface area of 300x400 mm, which employs standardize necessary modules. This will create a platform called process modules where you behave operations such as screwing, welding or testing. If a linkage can be created between process module and basic module, an automated station can be shaped. The process module contains a variety of product from basic platform or customized product. Based on the movability of process modules, changing the layout of the assembly process can finish in less than an hour. In comparison, modifying a rigid system can occupy time more than a couple of days. Other components such as manual modules can be combined within the system [16].

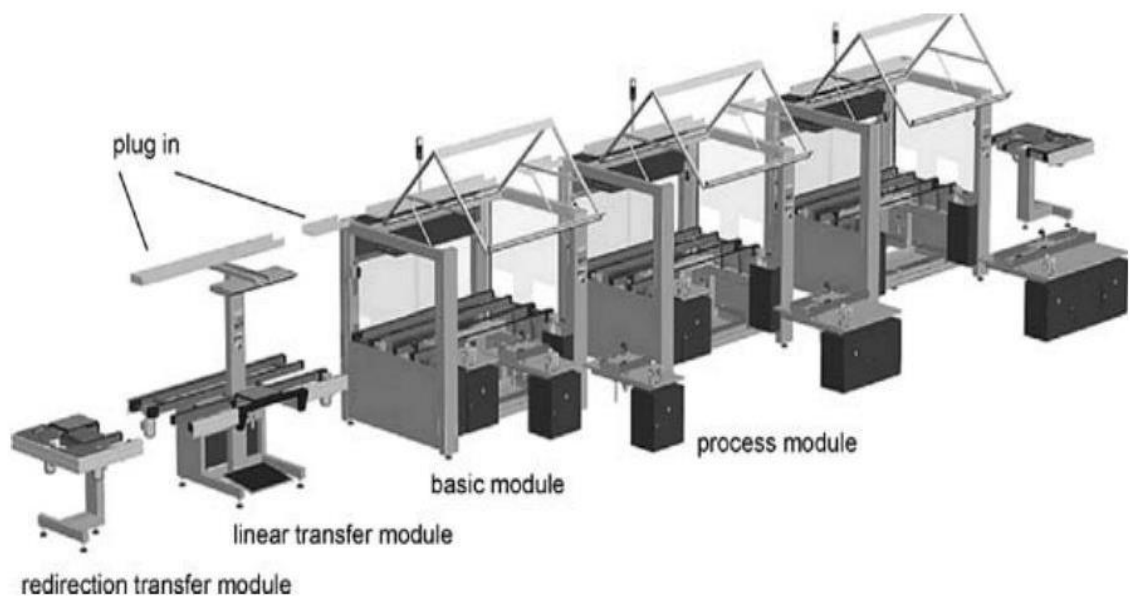


Figure 7. Modular system for linear transfer assembly lines [16]

As Figure 7 demonstrates, a system comprise of different modules make the manual and automated stations able to merge. Depending on relative high capital cost, customers can

state increase or decrease of the system with a change in demand along lifecycle. Hence, the growing phase of new good can initiate with small system layouts such as one or two manual modules and one automated workstation. If the production increases during the next period, the assembly system could be integrated other extension modules to their system as shown in Figure 8.

The capability of change based on production rate is assured by modifying manual stations to automatic and/or adding or removing the modules. There might be disadvantages caused by the high price of process modules if they will not be needed later on. However, if the span of products is shorter than a practical span of the modules using the modules will be troublesome[16].

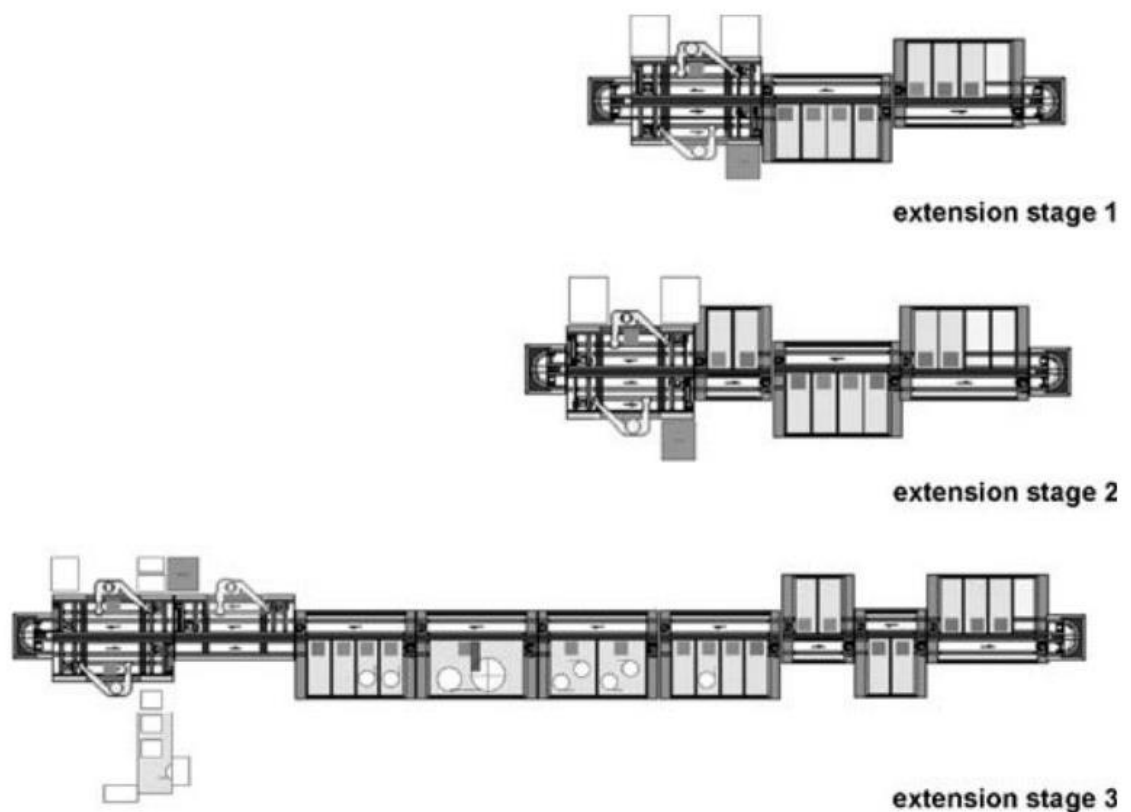


Figure 8. Extension stages of linear transfer assembly lines [16]

2.1.3 Hybrid Assembly Systems:

As mentioned before when the number of parts is growing, the manual workstations have not enough capacities. Before encountering a fully automated system, another layout needs to be discussed called a mixed manual assembly or hybrid systems. In this system, the assembly units from automated workstations are mixed with manual workstation, based on a number of items, variant diversity, productivity and flexibility they would be

placed between the two mentioned systems [25]. Building a hybrid system begins with complete manual assembly and regarding the degree of automation of each assembly task, the operation will be allocated to the manual or automated workstation. For instance, for assembly operation which required high flexibility level, it will be wise to allocate it to the manual workstation [18].

Another advantage of the hybrid system is that by utilizing the number of extension workstations, the degree of automation of system can modify within product rate in the period of the total service life. The further extensions could be implemented on real sales number while the total potential of one stage is worn out. It is vital to produce neutral products for the hybrid systems, so rising the ratio of system modules that could be usable after the end of product lifespan [16].

2.2 Industrial Robotics History

In 1954, George Devol invented the first industrial robots for part handling application. This invention led to acquiring their robots in General Motors company in 1961 [26]. The company ASEA (nowadays called ABB) built their own industrial robot named IRB6, which consist of a microcomputer controller in 1973. This robot employed continuous path motioning which provide applications in the automotive industry for welding and material handling [27]. In 1978, Makino from Yamanashi University of Japan invented the four-axis robot arm called Selective Compliance Articulated Robot Arm (SCARA) which was suitable for fast assembly of small components that mostly used in electrical manufacturing [28].

By optimization of robot dynamics and accuracy of SCARA robot, they were able to build AdeptOne robot in 1984 [29]. During recent years, a hot topic emerged for researchers to decrease the mass and inertia of serial robots. KUKA introduced their 7- Degree of Freedom (DOF) robot arm prototype in 2006 which included torque-control capabilities in its joints to increase performance and safety in industrial robot application [30]. One of significant differences between industrial robots and human was human's dexterity. Robot manufacturers in years introduced robots to compensate human dexterity in their performance. This aspect motivated manufacturers to develop two-arm robots where it could increase productivity, capabilities and ergonomic quality to manual workstations [31][32].

Dual arm robot such as Yumi from ABB was built for small parts assembly solution such as electronic part assembly, toy industry and watch industry that could work side by side with a human because of forcing sensor as an inherent safety feature (Figure 9). Each arm of Yumi had a payload of 0.5 kg, and it had an integrated vision with the product itself [33].

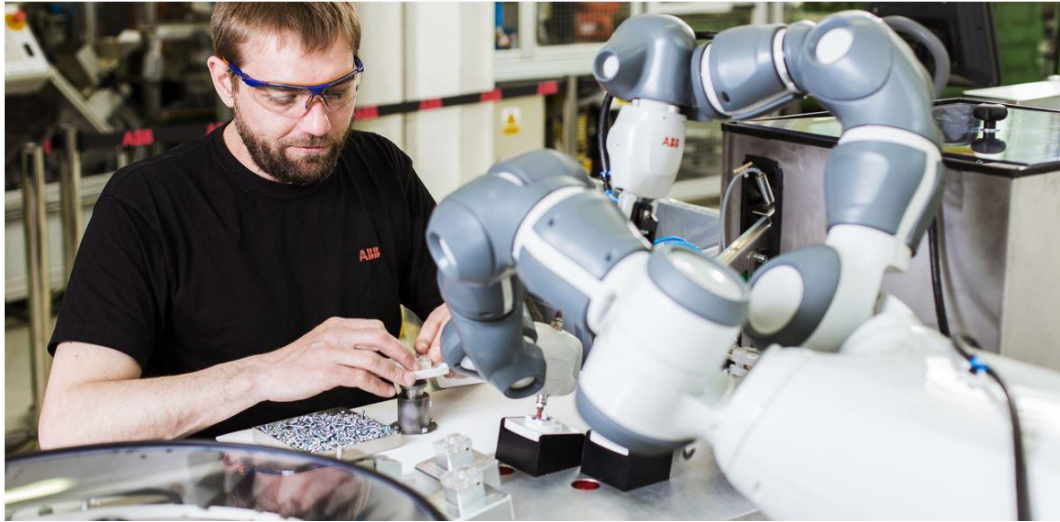


Figure 9. Yumi robot from ABB [34]

Another example was Baxter from Rethink Robotics, which was the world's first two-arm collaborative robot in 2012. It had a wide range of applications like line loading, machine tending, packaging, and material handling. Against conventional industrial robots that was costly in safeguarding, programming and integrating to a single task, Baxter could be trained by programming and installation was quickly and fast. Therefore, it was suitable for lower volume and higher mix environment where determined the vast part of the manufacturing task nowadays. This robot was fulfilled safety by inherent design with power and force limited compliant arm (Figure 10) that contained elastic actuators and embedded sensors [35].



Figure 10. Baxter from Rethink Robotics [36]

2.3 Human-Robot Collaboration

Regard to a significant number of customized products in the assembly lines, the need of adjustment of assembly tasks based on maximizing flexibility and adaptability are increasing. Ergo, human-robot collaboration has numerous advantages over full-automated processes [37]. The complexity of processes decreases while worker guide the robot and the robot bring power aid to the labor [1]. Hybrid assembly lines keep pace with industrial demands for advanced production solutions, improvement of quality of the product, increase the flexibility of production, reduce the costs and enhancement of ergonomics [38].

In general, labors and robot have their own advantages in assembly processes. The robot can perform tasks without break, fatigue and operate simple task more productive. Although the robot faces restrictions such as cumbersome programming, dealing with complex shape components. However, a human can handle complex parts and quickly adapt to the new task. But, a human has a lack of sufficient force and precision [1].

Nowadays, weight compensator or balancers are employed for the assembly of heavy components. Due to lack of inertial force compensator in such systems, injuries can occur by slight mistakes [39]. According to statistics published by the Occupational Safety & Health Department (OSHA) of the US Department of labor [40], over 30 % of European manufacturing labors face significant consequences such as social and economic cost with lower back pain injuries.

Due to the significant investment in hybrid and automated assembly, the demands for employing robotics in manufacturing processes is increasing. Industrial robots play a big role in satisfying the mentioned demands. Robots are used in large volume in automotive, electronics and electric product industries [29]. Generally, a robot workstation contains one or more robots with their controllers and other relevant tools such as grippers, sensors, safety devices and material handling components for transferring the parts inside workstation between different stages of manufacturing.

During recent years, numerous scientists and researchers studied on implementation of industrial applications focused on human and robots. They aimed to come up with a solution upon a shared workspace where human and robots can work together in a safe environment without barriers such as fences and cooperate to gain high product customization by implementing flexible and reconfigurable production system.

Several ISO standards have been published in recent years to accomplish the safe shared workspace. ISO 10218-1/2 cover safety requirements of human-robot collaboration workspaces to help acquire further collaboration between industrial robots with humans. Traditionally the direct interaction between human and robots was prohibited. In 2016, ISO/TS 15066 introduced additional guides and numerous safe methods as a supplement to the previous standard [6].

The requirement to increase efficiency, flexibility, and productivity in the production line

along with the need to reduce the stress level of human and its workload, would make the improvement of HRI obligatory [41]. HRI systems have been classified into “workspace sharing,” and “time-sharing” by earlier studies depending on their functionality [6],[1]. In workspace sharing HRI system, robot and human both are working in the same workplace and both responsible for handling and assembly task. The interaction between them is restricted to the collision avoidance of the robot with a human where the robot will stop moving if the distance between human and robot is lower than secure distance [5]. In a time-sharing interaction system, the task is shared between human and robot to accomplish the shared task at the same time, the interaction of the robot with a human is more important than just avoid collision between them [5]. Bdiwi [6], proposed a new classification method for interaction levels between human and robot in industrial application which divided into four sections:

- a) **Shared workspace without shared task:** in this level of interaction, human and robot do their own task separately, and there is no interference between each other’s task by the opponent. Based on the physical limitation or process flow, the environment uses the fenceless workstation. Workspace is defined in two zones, one related to the human and one related to the robot. A human can freely move in the human workspace, but if a human wants to enter the robot workspace, the robot shall be stopped.
- b) **Shared workspace, shared task without physical interaction:** in this level, a task will be shared between human and robot, but there is no direct contact between them. Furthermore, another zone will be added to the workspace as a “co-operate zone” where the robot could assist the human just by holding the part so the human can operate on it; as an example the human do the assembly on the part. If human works in the cooperate zone, the robot shall decrease its speed regard to the distance between human and robot.
- c) **Shared workspace, shared task “handing-over”:** in this level, the shared task between robot and human includes the direct handing-over. For example, the robot will pick a component from the assembly line and hand it to human directly.
- d) **Shared workspace, shared the task with physical interaction:** here a complete physical interaction happens between robot and human. For instance, the robot could pick up a heavy part from the line and bring it to the point near assembly line and then a human can use hand-guiding devices to move the robot to the precise position for assembly and release the part [6].

2.3.1 Industrial Robotics Markets

International Federation of Robotics (IFR) publishes a report of robotics market annually. A recent report on industrial robotics market in September of 2017 [42], announced that robotics turnover during 2016 was about 40 billion dollars. They estimated that by 2020 there would be 1.7 million new industrial robots in the market. In 2016, 294 thousand units acquired in the industry in global markets (Figure 11). The major industries that

employ the industrial robot were automotive industry and electrical/electronics. The automotive industry had 6 percent growth in 2016, and the electrical industry had 41 percent growth within one year (Figure 12).



Figure 11. Estimated annual worldwide supply of Industrial robots 2008-2016 and 2017-2020 [42]

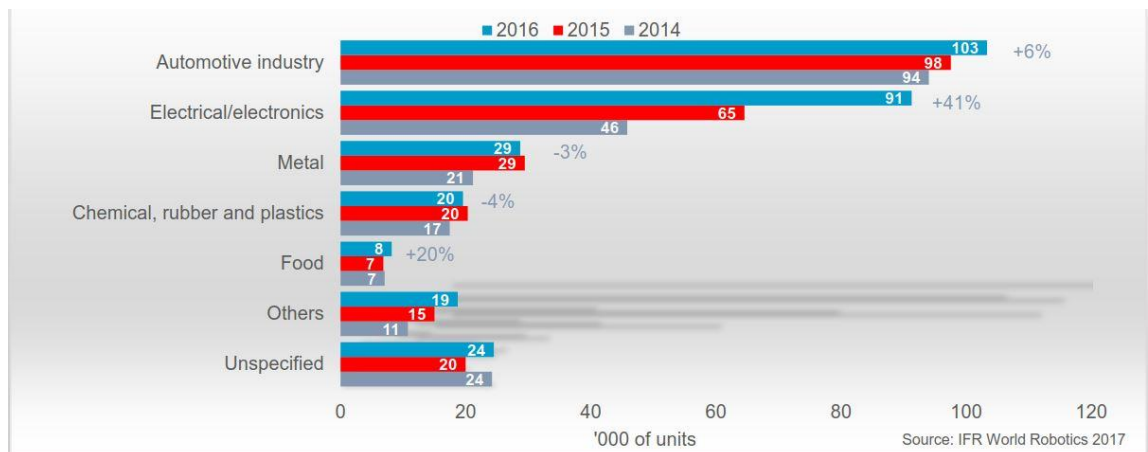


Figure 12. Major industries usage [42]

It is predicted that by 2020 there will be 3 million industrial robots in operation compared to 2016 where 1.8 million industrial robots operated by industries. Total supply market within the top 15 countries in 2016 is depicted in Figure 13; China exploited around 87 thousand units only by itself and took the first place among other countries. China, Republic of Korea, Japan, United States and Germany in overall include 74 percent of total supply. The estimation for global supply concludes that China will have 40 percent of global supply by 2020.

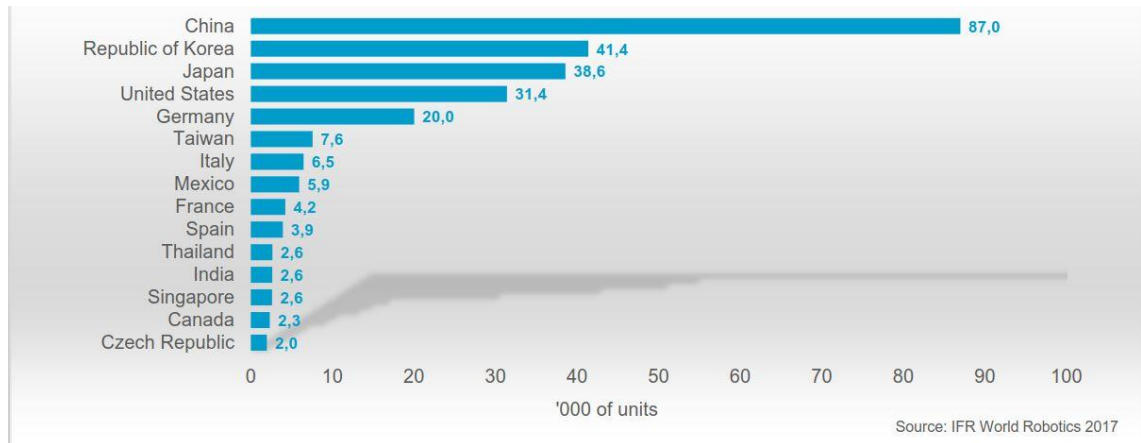


Figure 13. Global markets of the industrial robot by countries [42]

2.3.2 Industrial Robotics Applications

From industrial application perspective, there are many solutions to employ industrial robotics in factories. The report from IFR [42] stated that most application of industrial robots is in the automotive and electronic industries. The typical industrial robot application are reviewed with their majority usage as following:

- a) **Handling:** One of the enormous usages is in handling of the component in factory layout. It includes vast processes such as grasping, transporting, packaging, palletizing and picking. These processes have been used in most of the workstations and specifically in logistics. The main challenge in this domain are designing the gripper and related grasping strategies. However, it remarkably depends on the geometry property of workpieces and their location in workstation [29]. Currently, the most applicable potential for the industrial robot is palletizing and lifting components to reduce ergonomic issues for operator and the existing limitation due to payload by load handling regulations [43](Figure 14). For designing gripper, additive manufacturing and 3D printing technology provide an easy solution to implement a reliable solution for complicated grippers.



Figure 14. KR Quantec PA series from KUKA for palletizing [44]

- b) **Welding:** welding process play an important role in car body assemblies where two material can join by applying heat or pressure (Figure 15). Typically, workpieces melt at contact locations with another filler material. Spot welding and gas-shielded metal arc welding (GMAW) are common robot-based welding use cases. Fumes, ergonomic working position issues, heat, and noise are common hazardous risks in manual GMAW welding processes [29]. Based on industrial robot advantages such as high repeatability and position accuracy, experts exchange human operator with industrial robots even in smaller lot sizes to prevent risks in workstation. Through modern robot calibration methods, repeatability reaches $\pm 0.05\text{mm}$, and position accuracy gained better values than $\pm 1.0\text{mm}$ [45].

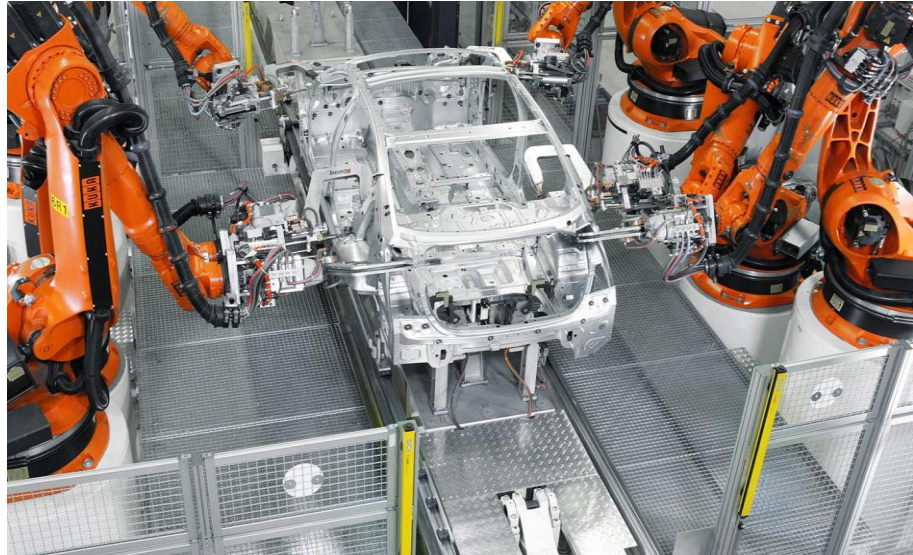


Figure 15. KUKA Spot Welding [46]

- c) **Assembly:** the assembly process is one of the most practical applications in factory floor that consists up to 80 % of product's manufacturing cost [47]. The assembly process is defined as a combination of subassembly component to other components of the system through joining [48]. For instance, in the automotive industry, there are many applications where industrial robots assemble components or handle heavy components to a precise position for operator to finalize assembly by joining processes such as screwing. Industrial robots specially employ in high-throughput manufacturing lines to provide flexible workstation and versatile tools for the operators [29] (Figure 16). Traditionally, these robots operated with fences all around the workstation to equip safety environment for human workers, but collaborative robots paved the path to be utilized in shared workspace without fences to create human-robot collaboration workspace.

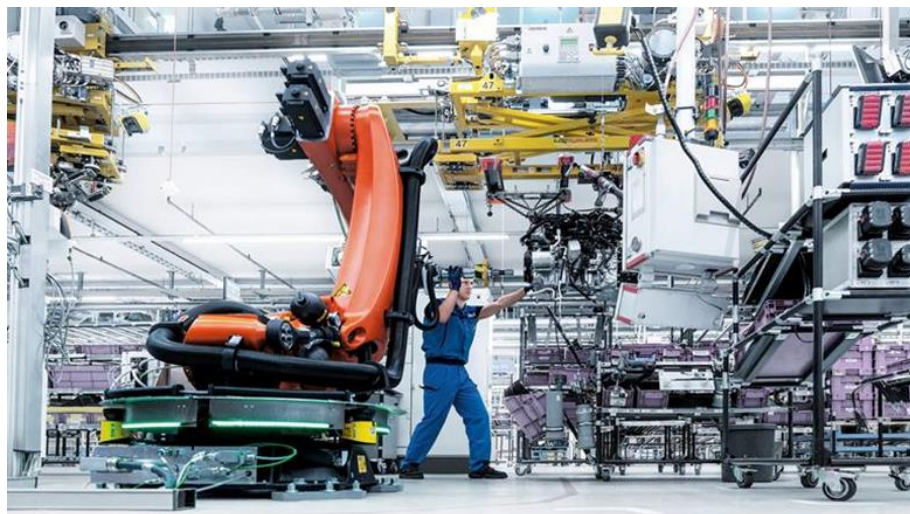


Figure 16. Assembly Application of Industrial Robot [49]

- d) Painting:** one of the other applications that implemented in the automotive industry to reduce hazardous working conditions for the operator is painting. This process initially developed by a Norwegian company called Trallfa in 1969. The robots spray paint for bumpers and other car body parts, nowadays it is employed to paint the whole body of the car to substitute the traditional way of paint bath [50] (Figure 17). Today's industrial robot's design provide electrical robots which prevents the explosion in painting workstation, robots are designed with custom gripper to open and close hoods and door while painting the body. The movement of the robots is replicated from operators, and the robot programming of the process is done by offline simulations to enhance paint deposition, thickness, and coverage area [29].



Figure 17. Painting Application of Industrial Robots [29]

2.4 Machine Directive and Safety Standards

2.4.1 Machine Directive

Today's machinery sector plays a significant role in the engineering industry and consists of various assembly processes in the factory layout; the power of these machineries come from sources other than human or animal effort. Meanwhile, in decades engineering industry faced many accidents regarding operating machinery by a human. Some of these accidents were so hazardous that in some cases led to the death of a person. There are a couple of accidents that operator stuck between robot and the wall and crushed the person and resulted to fatality. Another unfortunate example, is an industrial robot malfunctioned

and started to move outside of its safe area and loaded a massive car part onto the head of the operator [51].

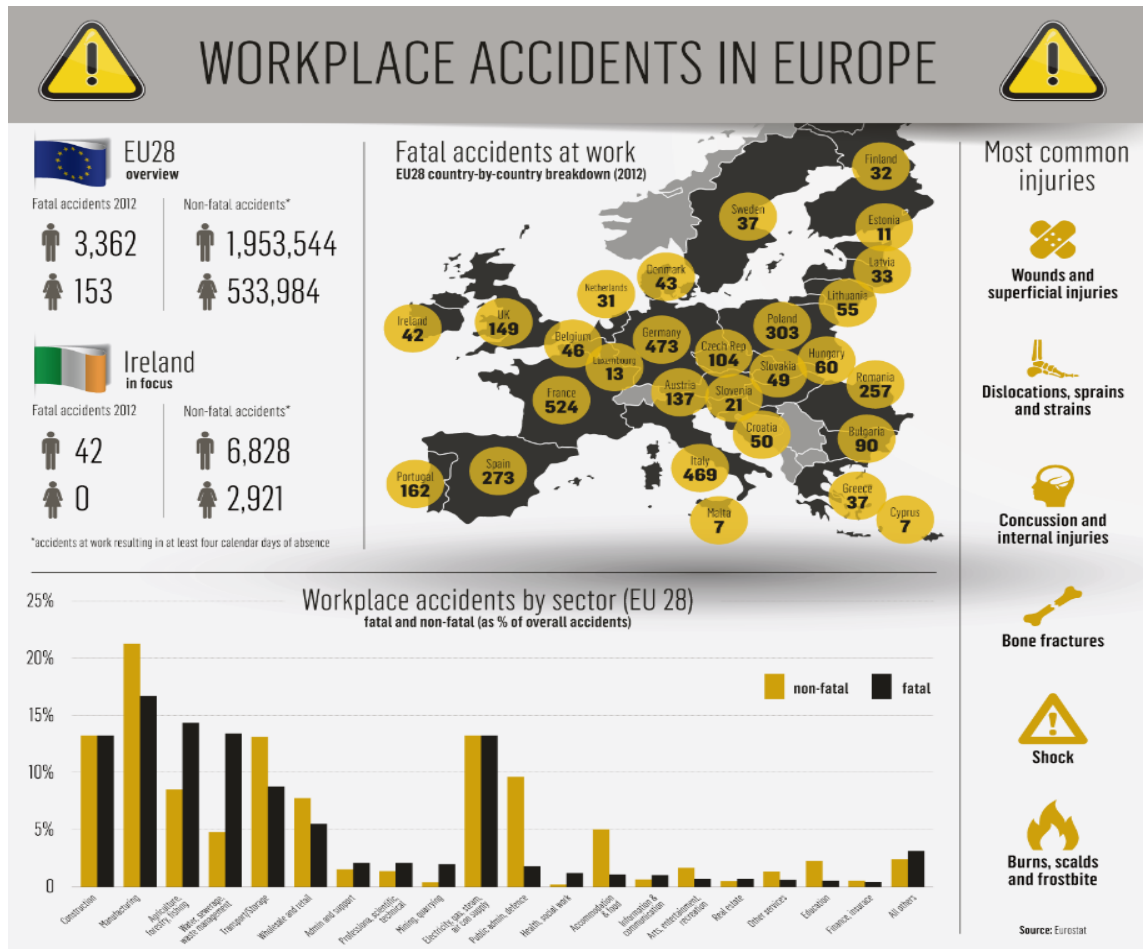


Figure 18. Workplace accidents in Europe in 2012 [52]

Figure 18 Depicts a workplace accidents in Europe in 2012 [52]. In Finland, there were 32 fatal accidents; the report also showed that manufacturing sector had 17% of fatal accidents and 22% of non-fatal injuries. These social costs of the numerous accident could decrease by implementing the safe design of machinery and also by proper installation and maintenance procedure. Therefore, the EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT and the COUNCIL of the EUROPEAN UNION provided Machinery Directive 89/392/EEC in 1989 for the first time, the latest version of the directive was 2006/42/EC, which was published on 9 June of 2006 and became applicable on 29 December of 2009 [53].

According to Machine Directive [53], this directive targets on the market of industrial machinery to provide Essential Health and Safety Requirements (EHSR) of general application of machinery. The goals of machinery directive are to ensure free movement of machinery on the EU market, to assure the safety of operators against the risk of machinery and to ensure safety by design consideration of system. The scope of this directive

applies to products such as “a) machinery, b) interchangeable equipment, c) safety components, d) lifting accessories, e) chains, ropes, and webbing, f) removable mechanical transmission devices and g) partly completed machinery for example industrial robots” [53]. Some exceptions are mentioned in the directive, for instance, a) equipment that designed to use in amusement parks, b) weapons, c) machinery that produced for military or police purposes, d) machinery that designed for research goals, etc.

According to the directive, the manufacturer was defined as any natural or legal person who was responsible for designing and/or producing machinery or partly completed machinery. The manufacturer should provide the conformity of the machinery with this directive wherever aimed to put the product on the market based on his/her name or trademark. In the absence of a person any natural or legal person who wanted to employ machinery into the service should cover this directive for the machinery. For this purpose, the manufacturer should provide Conformité Européene (CE) marking label on his/her machinery as a guarantee of that machinery conforms to the requirements of machine directive. Therefore, it was the requirement to obtain three steps consist of risk assessment, risk reduction and proof before conformity assessment. Consequently, the manufacturer should define which essential health and safety requirements were suitable to his/her machinery and depending on that, what kind of measure should be taken into the account.

There were multiple annexes alongside this directive and most of the important ones related to industrial robots were:

- Annex I: Essential health and safety requirements relating to the design and construction of machinery
- Annex III: CE Marking
- Annex V: indicative list of the safety components
- Annex VI: assembly instructions for partly completed machinery

According to Annex I [53], the manufacturer or authorized representative was responsible for ensuring to do the following steps:

- Distinguish the boundary of product whether it is intended for use or any other reasonable foreseeable misuse of the machinery
- Recognize the hazardous risk that produced by the machinery and other dependent hazardous situation
- Evaluate the severity of possible harm and the possibility of the occurrence caused by risk
- Regarding the directive, measure the existing risk require the risk reduction process
- With the use of protective measures mention in the directive, remove the hazards and lower the related risk

For ensuring the Essential Health and Safety Requirements regarding Annex I, There were standards to help the manufacturer to fulfill these requirements, perform risk assessment, and employ safety components in the machinery. These safety standards were categorized into three types:

- **Type A standards:** there are basic standards that determine the fundamental principle to attain the safety of machinery
- **Type B standards:** there are universal standards that give guidelines about specific safety aspects such as safety distances and separating distances, protective devices like laser scanners or light curtains
- **Type C standards:** there are machine standards that clarify in-depth safety requirements for special machinery such as industrial robots.

Figure 19, It demonstrated the related standards to use alongside machine directive; it depicted the essential standards for manufacturer to ensure essential health and safety requirements.

Machinery Safety

Type A Standards (Basic Safety Standards)

☆ Standards related to basic concepts and design concepts that can be applied to all machinery.

EN ISO 12100-1: Basic concept, general principles for design
Part 1: Basic terminology, methodology

EN ISO 12100-2: Basic concept, general principles for design
Part 2: Technical principles and specifications

EN14121-1: Principle of risk assessment

A

Type B Standards (Generic Safety Standards)

☆ Standards related to safety and safety equipment that can be applied to different types of machinery.

B1: Safety-related Standards, such as Safe Distances

EN999: The positioning of protective equipment in respect of approach speeds of parts of the human body.

EN ISO 13849-1: Safety-related parts of control systems
Part 1: General principles for design

EN1127-1: Explosive atmospheres - Explosion prevention and protection
Part 1: Basic concepts and methodology

EN60204-1: Electrical equipment of machines
Part 1: Specification for general requirements

B

B2: Standards Related to Safety Devices

EN ISO 13850: Emergency stop equipment, functional aspects - Principles for design

EN574: Two-hand control devices, functional aspects - Principle for design

EN1088: Interlocking devices associated with guards - Principles for design and selection

EN1760-1: General principles for the design and testing of pressure sensitive mats and pressure sensitive floors

EN61469-1: Electro-sensitive protective equipment
Part 1: General requirements and tests

EN61496-2: Electro-sensitive protective equipment
Part 2: Particular requirements for equipment using active opto-electronic devices

EN60947-1: Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear
Part 1: General rules

Type C Standards (Individual Safety Standards)

☆ Standards that specify detailed safety requirements for specific machinery.

EN81-3: Safety rules for the construction and installation of electric lifts (Section 3: electric and hydraulic industrial lifts)

EN115: Safety rules for the construction and installation of escalators and passenger conveyors

EN201: Rubber and plastic machines - Injection Moulding machines - Safety requirements

EN415: Safety of packaging machines

EN422: Rubber and plastics - Machines - Safety

EN692: Mechanical presses - Safety

EN693: Hydraulic presses - Safety

EN ISO10218: Manipulating Industrial robots - Safety

EN869: Safety requirements for high pressure metal diecasting units

EN1010: Technical safety requirements for the design and construction of printing and paper converting machines

EN1034: Technical safety requirements for the design and construction of paper making and finishing machines
(Section 3: winders, slitters, and plying machines)

EN1114: Extrusion molding machine safety

EN12415: Safety of machine tools - small numerically controlled turning machines and turning centers

EN12417: Safety of machine tools - machining center

EN12478: Safety of machine tools - Large numerically controlled turning machines and turning centers

EN13128: Safety of machine tools - milling machines

C

Figure 19. Machinery safety standards based on their categories [54]

2.4.2 EN ISO 12100

One of the vital tasks of the manufacturer for conducting CE marking for machinery is risk assessment and risk reduction. This procedure of these aspects is described in EN ISO 12100 [55]. To do a risk assessment and risk reduction the manufacturer shall take

consider the following steps in order to understand how to implement safety for his machinery:

- Regarding intended use and any reasonable foreseeable misuse of his machinery, he should define the limits of his machinery
- Recognize the hazardous and associated hazardous risk due to machine situations
- Calculate the risk level of each identified hazard risk
- Assess the identified risk and make decision based on the need of risk reduction
- Remove the hazard risk or decrease the associated risk with the help of protective measures

Action A to D is related to risk assessment, and E is based on risk reduction. In general, risk assessment consists of logical steps to analyze and evaluate the risks that exists with the current state of machinery. If there is a need to reduce risk after a risk assessment, this process can be iterated until the risk level is decreased to a practicable level in order it can be implemented. In Figure 20, the process of risk assessment and risk reduction is represented; it starts by determination of limits that exist in the machinery, continues to the process of hazard risk identification and estimation of the level of risk. Afterwards, with risk analysis, it concludes the risks that can be avoided by changing in design or structure of machinery. Otherwise, it enters to the risk reduction phase to find suitable protective measures for the machinery.

Determination of machinery limitation is divided to use limits, space limits, time limits and other limits relevant to properties of the material that should be processed, such as level of cleanliness and environmental conditions. Use limits consist of the intended use and the reasonably foreseeable misuse of machinery by operators, maintenance personnel, trainees and other attendees in the working area of machinery. Space limits take into account the range of movement, space required by the operator to interact with the machinery during machine process and maintenance period, human interaction with the machine and the power supply of the machinery. Time limits consider the lifetime of machinery and its components as well as service intervals.

In order to identify hazards, the risk assessment is the essential step of machinery after determining the limits. It is mandatory to identify all operations of machinery and all the tasks that the operator should perform with the machine and consider the parts, mechanism or all the functions of the machine that is interacting with an operator. The hazards that manufacturer shall consider in the risk assessment process consist of a) operator interaction in the whole life cycle of the machine b) possible state of the machine c) reasonable foreseeable misuse of the machine.

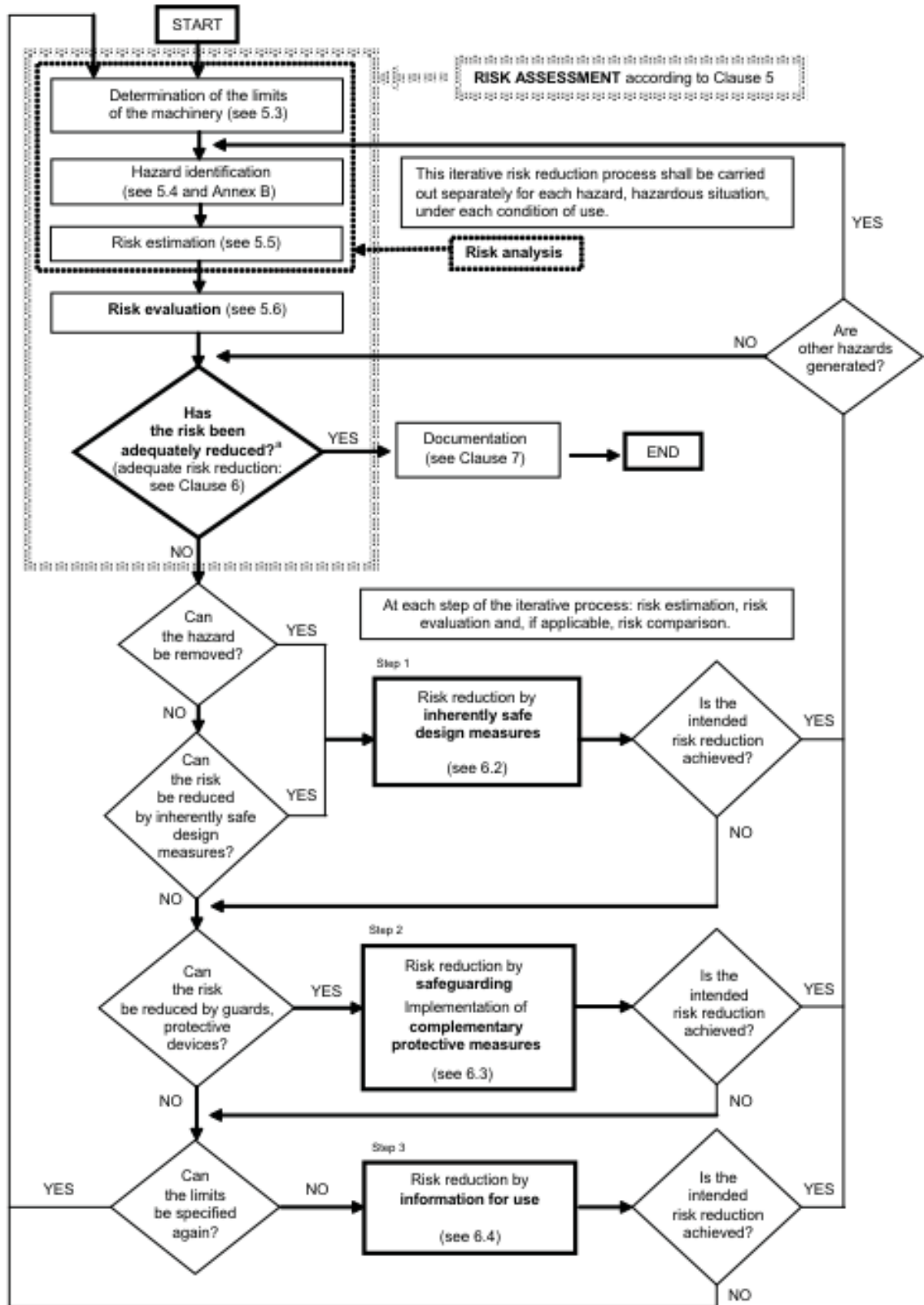


Figure 20. Representation of the risk reduction process including iterative three-step method [55]

Risk estimation shall be done after hazard identification for each hazard situation by defining the elements of the risk. The risk of the hazard situation depends on: a) severity of harm b) the probability of occurrence of that harm which is a function of the exposure of a person to hazard, the possibility of occurrence of a hazardous situation and the possibility of avoiding or limiting the harm by technical solution or human caution. The procedure of this evaluation is depicted in Figure 21.

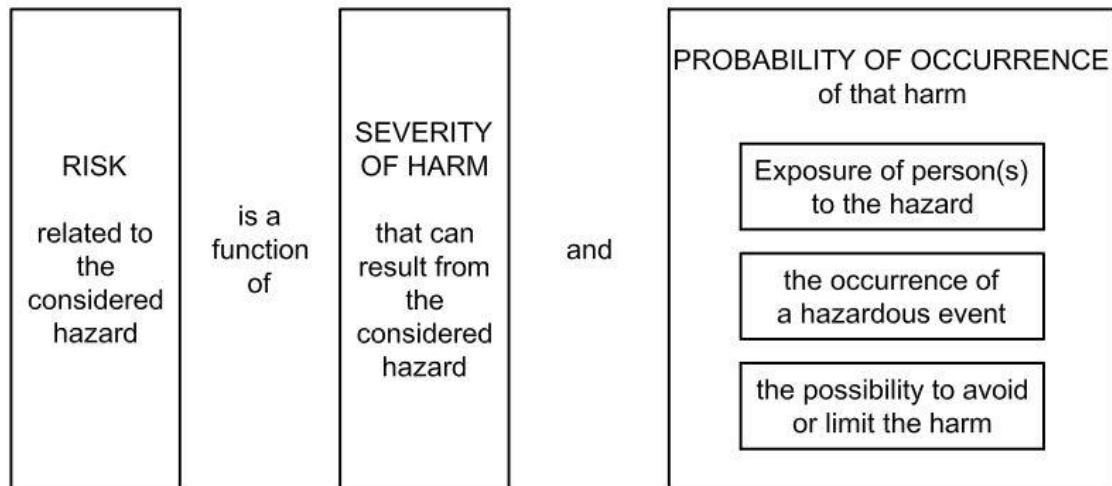


Figure 21. The element of risk [55]

Ultimately, the risk reduction is an essential part of risk analysis. The objective of risk reduction can be accomplished by removing the risks. There are three-step methods for implementing protective measures for reducing risk.

- **Step 1: Inherent safe design measures:** this process, ensure the possibility to reduce risk by implementing a suitable choice of design features of the machine itself.
- **Step 2: Safeguarding and/or complementary protective measures:** Considering the intended use and the reasonably foreseeable misuse, safeguarding and protective measures can reduce hazard when it is not practicable to remove hazard by the previous step.
- **Step 3: Information for use:** even after implementing the first two steps, there are still hazards that remain in the system. Thus, the solution for this is to provide information about hazards and risks for the operators of the machine. This information can include, information about operating procedure for the use of the machinery, recommended safety practices and training to demonstrate how to use the machinery, warning sign and information for all phases of machinery life cycle and the instruction about what kind of protective equipment that the operator should use in the machine process.

2.4.3 ISO 10218

In this part, ISO 10218 [3], [4] will be explained which is related to the safety of industrial robots. This standard is part of type C standards, describes the hazards that exist within the use of industrial robots and industrial robot systems. There is a difference between the provision of type C standard with type A or type B standards, therefore “the provisions of the type C standard take precedence over the provisions of other standards for machines that have been designed and built in accordance with the provisions of type C standard.” [3].

Hazards that rely on the robots are well known in the industry, but the source of these risks depends on the particular use case of the robot system. Based on the character of automation process and difficulty of the robot’s installation, the number, and type of hazard are dependent on these two factors. But the hazards that rely on these system changes with the different types of robot are used in workstation.

ISO 10218 is divided into two parts; first, supply the guidance to ensure safety in the design and production of robots. Second, provides the guidance about safeguarding for personnel while working with robots inside shared workspace. ISO 10218-1 [3], provides requirements and guidelines for inherent safe design, protective measures, and information for the use of industrial robots. It demonstrates the primitive hazards while employing industrial robots and how to eliminate or decrease these hazards. One of the most critical section of this standard is about requirements of collaborative operation.

Robots that work in collaborative operation shall provide a visual indication when a robot operates in collaborative operation and shall fulfill one or more of below requirements:

- a) **Safety-rated monitored stop:** This situation happens when human enters the collaborative workspace then robots shall stop its movement. For this purpose, the robot would start to decrease its speed and lead to a category two, stop, by IEC 60204-1 [56]. Meanwhile, if human exits the collaborative workspace, the robot may resume its automatic operation. It worth to mention that if there is fault happens in safety-rated monitored stop function, the robot shall stop in a category 0.
- b) **Hand-guiding:** robots that provide the requirement of hand-guiding function for their movement shall locate the hand-guiding equipment near to the end-effector and shall be equipped with an emergency stop and an enabling device.
- c) **Speed and separation monitoring:** in this set-up whenever human wants to get near to the robot, robot shall maintain a determined speed and separation distance from the human. In the case of failure robot shall result in a protective stop. The robot itself inside shared workspace is just a component, and safety of robot only cannot fulfill the safety of whole system where during collaborative operation there are dynamic task happens inside the collaborative workspace. Therefore the risk assessment shall be done during the design of the system. In addition, it is

vital to notify personnel by information for use about implementing speed values and separation distances.

- d) **Power and force limiting by inherent design or control:** During contacts between the robot and human, the robot can only impart limited static and dynamic forces to avoid any harm to the human, if any of these parameters exceed their limits, robots shall result in a protective stop.

As mentioned above, through the implementation of some of the collaborative workspace there is a need to identify the hazard and perform a risk assessment. The risk assessment shall provide particular consideration to the following objective:

- The intended use of the robot, including teaching, maintenance, setting and cleaning
- Unexpected starting of the robot
- Consider the possibility of personnel access from any direction
- Reasonably foreseeable misuse of the robot
- Take consideration of system failure during operation
- Hazards that associated based on specific robot application

These risk shall be removed or decreased by design or substitution in design, and afterwards if it is needed safeguarding and other protective measures shall be used. Also, another residual risk shall be reduced by information use such as warnings, signs or training. In Annex I of ISO 10218-1, there is a list of possible hazards with different categories such as mechanical, electrical, thermal, noise, vibration, material substances, ergonomics hazards or combination of them.

According to ISO 10218-2 [4], Safety requirements for industrial robots is about specifying the safety requirements for the integration of industrial robots and industrial robot system. This integration consist of the following sections:

- the design, manufacturing, installation, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the industrial robot system or cell;
- mandatory information needed for all processes above
- Component devices of the industrial robot system or cell.

ISO 10218 discuss the possible hazardous situation related to the industrial robot system and provide requirement on how to reduce these hazards. It worth to mention, cause the robot by itself produce noises in workstation. Therefore, a noise hazard is removed from the risk assessment process.

The layout design of these system workstation is playing a significant role to reduce hazard risk. For this purpose, it needs to consider the following factors while designing the robot systems, a) set-up the physical limits of workstation, b) identify the workspaces, access, and clearance, c) providing manual access control outside of safeguarding, d) considering the ergonomics and human interface with equipment, e) considering

environmental conditions, f) the process of changing tools or workpieces, g) take into account perimeter safeguarding, h) consider the requirement to install the emergency stops in the location that needed, i) provide enabling device near to the robots, j) consider the intended use of all equipment.

Based on the ISO 10218 standard, we can define spaces in shared workspace as follows:

- **Maximum Space:** it demonstrates the workspace that the robot can reach to the area.
- **Operating Space:** the workspace that the operation is done and the robot is not in its safe limitation.
- **Restricted Space:** it demonstrates the safe workspace of the area where the robot uses it as a mechanical limitation on its axis 1, 2 or 3. Also, it can be achieved by software limitation, for example, the Safemove from ABB robots.
- **Safeguarded Space:** the area, which designed to have safety component such as safe-guarding or light curtains.

All of these spaces are depicted in Figure 22.

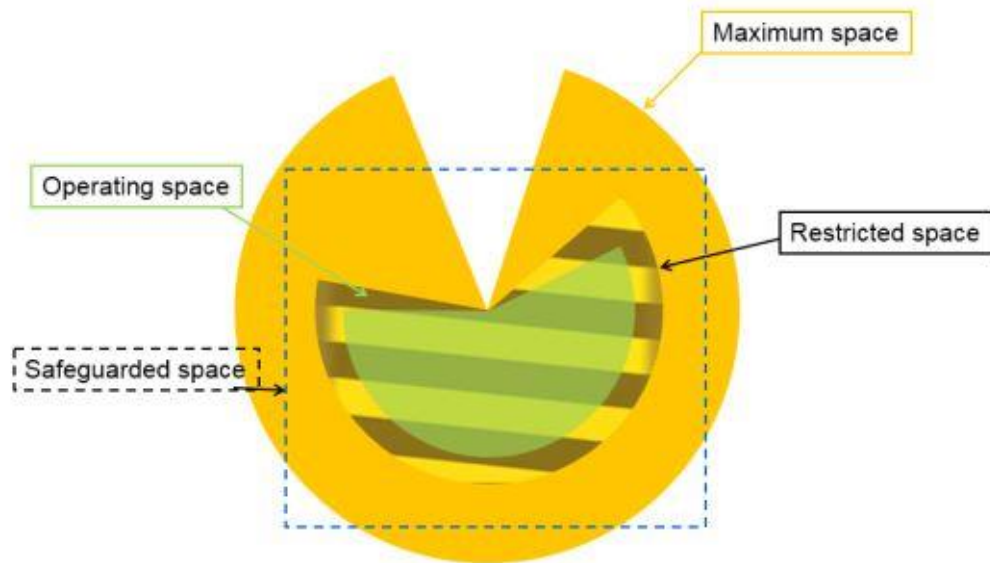


Figure 22. Definition of shared workspace areas [57]

Safeguarding implements in the case that the hazard risk cannot be eliminated by design, so safeguards such as guards, fences and protective devices shall protect the hazardous area in station like the light curtains. The sensitive protective devices are usually utilized when an operation requires frequent access to the operator, operator interacts with the machinery or more importantly while it is not ergonomic to use fix guarding such as fences.

2.4.4 ISO-TS 15066

Besides ISO 10218 part I and II, there is one technical specification that recently has been published, ISO-TS 15066 [5]. This technical specification determines the safety requirements for the collaborative industrial robots and workspaces. It is a complement to the guidelines of ISO 10218 about safety requirements and safety integration of industrial robots and industrial robot systems. Some relevant terms and definition in HRC based on this technical specification are:

- **Collaborative operation:** it is a condition where the industrial robot and human work together inside the collaborative workspace.
- **Collaborative workspace:** a workspace near to the robot workspace where a human can also perform the tasks at the same time the robot works.
- **Quasi-static contact:** it defines the contact that happens between the human and robot system and leads to human clamped between the robot and another fix or moving part of shared workspace.
- **Transient contact:** it defines contact between operator and robot's system where a human can retract from moving components of the robot system.

Generally, the difference between collaborative operation and traditional robotcell is where in collaborative operation human can perform the associated tasks in close distance with robot system and also has direct contact with the robot while robot's actuator is still active (Figure 23).

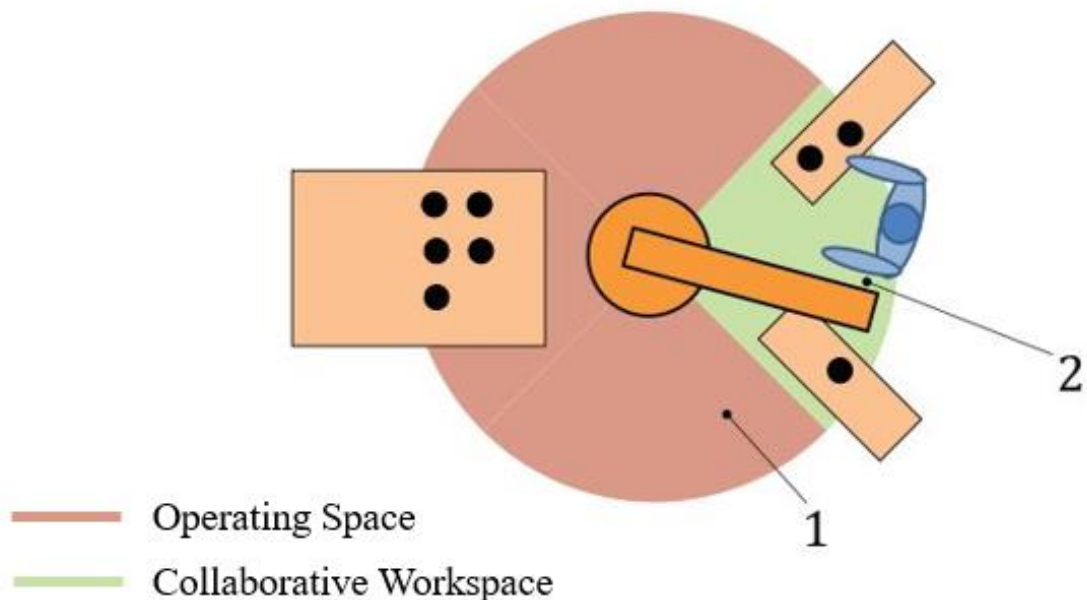


Figure 23. Collaborative workspace Example [5]

To ensure safety for collaborative robot system, it is needed to utilize the system with proper protective measure while the operator works inside collaborative workspace all the time. Therefore, a risk assessment shall be done to recognize all possible hazards related to the collaborative operation and afterward the suitable risk reduction can be picked.

The following factor shall be considered while designing the collaborative application that can help for reducing the hazard inside shared workspace:

- set-up the physical limits of workstation
- identify the workspaces, access, and clearance
- considering the ergonomics and human interface with equipment
- declaring the use limits for the operator
- determine the transition or time limits of collaborative operation

The minimum factors that shall be considered during the hazard identification process are robot related hazards, hazards depend on the robot systems and hazards that depend on the application of operation by itself. The robot related hazards consist of robot characteristics, quasi-static contact situation in the robot system and operator distance from robot workspace. As a process of identifying hazards depends on robot system, following elements can be noticed such as hazards related to the end-effector and workpiece, operator movements regard to the location of components and orientation of structures, and specifying the type of contact between human body and parts.

Finally, after all of the hazards are determined, the risks related to the collaborative robot system shall be assessed before considering the risk reduction measures. These measures are achieved from the ISO 10218 part II: firstly, remove hazards by applying the essential safe design. Secondly, using protective measures to prohibit access of personnel to danger zone or control the hazards before the operator enters the hazards environment. Thirdly, providing complementary protective measures such as information for use, training or personal protective devices, etc.

2.5 Review and Classification of Safety in HRC

In this subchapter, challenges in the research field of safety systems is mentioned and current trend of the subject is reviewed for better understanding of existing methods and safety measures applied in other studies. The Table 1 illustrates the trend of methods and provide a comprehensive references for further investigation of outcomes and challenges of the methods and sensor types in different fields.

One of the major issues in robot workstations is when presence of multiple persons or large components lead to situation where human in shared workspace cannot be detected. This can lead to critical problem about safety of operator with harmful injuries. Several

author on their researches have demonstrated that these risks of occlusion can be reduced by employing several sensors. For instance, 2D vision cameras have studied and shown that their capability for component detection and identification in shared workspace. But some environmental conditions such as dust and light will cause disturbance in the detection of objects. Therefore, there were some authors studied the possibility of multiple camera usage (e.g. Multiple Kinects).

Laser scanners or light curtains are monitored planes in the defined zones, the challenges raised with these sensors are where operator or other worker obstruct the beams for carrying out their daily work. In another hand, 3D cameras, such as SafetyEYE are studied to protect the access of operator or objects with 3D scanning of danger zones. The advantage can be mentioned as this three-dimensional sensor is capable of scanning different zones simultaneously. In addition, there are limitation for use of this sensor, the zones are defined for workstation is not dynamic and for reconfiguration of zone it is needed to redo whole process from beginning. Other issue is about the location of sensor for setup which with changes in the workstation it should be relocated again and calculate the zones and also environmental elements such as light have effect on the precision of its camera.

Then, other investigation is projector and safety system where the zone of workspace is projected on surface and with depth camera sensor the presence of human or object can be detected. The challenge for this system is that in industrial application there can be disturbances such as tables, fences, components, etc. for projection on the surface. Plus, the resolution of depth camera is low for such large work area. The some of these studies is summarized in Table 1.

In the majority of studies, the tool center point (TCP) collision with human body part or object is investigated. For such system, vision cameras and force sensor for robot's gripper are used. There is lack of research about collision of human or components with other robot joints. In addition, there is demand to more detailed implementation of real-time collision avoidance and motion planning. Heavy industrial robots cause latencies between control system and delays in motion, also there is a gap of safety system implementation for such robots.

Table 1. Summary of reviewed methods

Method	Reference	Sensor type	Safety- function
Safety EYE	Michalis et al 2015 [58], Jalba et al 2017 [59], Vivo et al 2017 [60],	3D camera	Safety-rated monitored stop
Safety EYE	Thomas et al [61]	3D camera	Safety-rated monitored stop, Robot speed control (distance between robot and human)

Projector and safety system	Vogel et al. 2017, 2013, 2011 [62],[63],[64], Leso et al 2015 [65], Hietanen et al 2017 [66]	2D camera	Safety-rated monitored stop
Depth space distance calculation	Flacco et al 2017, 2014,2012 [67],[68],[69]	Multiple RGBD	Robot speed control (distance between robot and human)
real-time human tracking	Morato et al [70]	Multiple Kinects	Safety-rated monitored stop, Robot speed control (distance between robot and human)
Collision avoidance in an augmented environment	Mohammed et al. 2017 [71], Schmidt et al. 2014 [72],[73], Wang et al. 2013 [74]	RGBD	Safety rated monitored stop, robot position control, robot speed control (distance between robot and human)
Triple stereo-vision system and colour markers	Tan and Arai [75]	Multiple stereo camera	Near field vision system : Monitoring upper body function, wrist function
Sensor for detecting human presence	Zaeh et al [76]	SICK Laser scanner and pressure mat	robot speed control (distance between robot and human)
Multi-Objective Convolutional Neural Networks	Miseikis et al [77]	2D camera	Robot position estimation
Level 3 of HRI	Bdiwi et al [6]	RGBD and stereo cam	All (Robot position, Robot speed, Near field vision system, Detection of faulty events)
Presence of human in the HRC area	Antonelli et al 2017 [78]	SICK Laser scanner	robot speed control (distance between robot and human)
Hand safety in assembly phase	Cherubini et al. 2016[79]	2D camera	Near field vision system: hand function

2.6 Literature Review Summary

In this chapter, the three types of assembly in the manufacturing industry, manual assembly, fully automated assembly system, and hybrid assembly system are explained. In addition to this, the history of the development of industrial robots and their market share until 2020 is reviewed. Then, most used applications of the industrial robot such as handling, welding, assembly, and painting are discussed. In the next, the essence of machine

directive is addressed and afterwards the harmonized standards for industrial robots ISO 10218, ISO/TS 15066 are shortly specified. Finally, the challenges of employing different safety system in current trend of researches are explained.

3. DEVELOPMENT / EXPERIMENT

In this thesis experiment, the goal is to create human-robot collaboration workstation for assembly of heavy components. As mentioned earlier, in the current applications, collaborative robots used in HRC to assist the operator to handover the tools or small components but there is a gap in the assembly of bigger components with employing large industrial robots in HRC. In this study, we decide to implement use-case for industrial application of large robots in HRC.

3.1 Experiment's Equipment and design

The selected case derives from the tractor industry and deals with the assembly of a diesel engine (Figure 24). The diesel engine assembly station is one of the most challenging stages of assembly process which is mostly done manually in the factory. The assembly process performed by the operator with the help of portable tools and it is divided into subtasks. The time estimate of the assembly of this product is 70 engines in two shifts.



Figure 24. Product: Diesel Engine

The robot used in this case was placed in Mechanical Engineering and Industrial System (MEI) laboratories at Tampere University of Technology (TUT). The robot was ABB IRB 4600 with a payload capability of 60 kg and reachability of 2.05 m. The robot was equipped with the IRC5 controller and robot control software, RobotWare. RobotWare

supported every characteristic of the robot system, such as motion control, development, and implementation of application programs, communication, etc.



Figure 25. ABB IRB 4600-60 [80]

The existing prototype jigs for components were used for robot tasks. These components were a motor frame, head cover, pushrods, and rockershaft. It was assumed that the robot would pick the components from a table in workstation, so the jigs were mounted on the planar surface.



Figure 26. Motor Frame and Head Cover Jigs

For the pushrods and rockershaft, the design contained the combination of plywood holes and 3D print part as a holder by MakerBot Replicator machine. The plywood holes considered as a holder for the cubic shape of rockershaft and for the pushrod the cylindrical feeding system was used and afterwards, design of jigs improved by adopting grove shape feeding system (Figure 27).

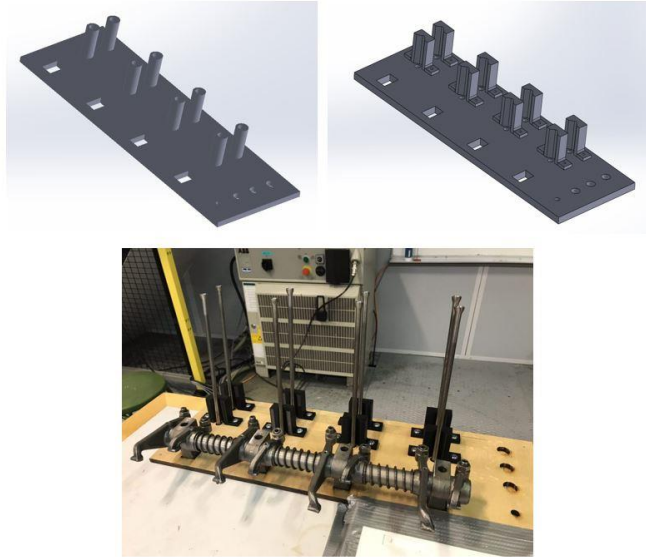


Figure 27. From Top Left: First Design, Improved Design, Final Implementation

The ABB IRB 4600 robot in laboratory had pneumatic air source for implementation of grippers. The pneumatic grippers provided sufficient grasp force for the components in the assembly process. That parameters for selecting the gripper for the aspect of this project were the stroke of finger jaws and a total payload of the gripper.



Figure 28. Left: SCHUNK PGN-plus-P 100-1 [81], Right: SCHUNK PGN-plus-P 80-2 [82]

In the phase of selection of grippers, a multi-gripper with the capability of two grippers for the purpose of picking multiple components was designed. The selected grippers were, SCHUNK PGN-plus-P 100-1 and SCHUNK PGN-plus-P 80-2 (Figure 28). The PGN-

plus-P 100-1 had a stroke per jaw of 10mm and a maximum payload of 4.35 kg, and the PGN-plus-P 80-2 had a stroke per jaw of 4mm and a maximum payload of 5.5 kg. The used end-effector had two multi-functional fingers (Figure 29).

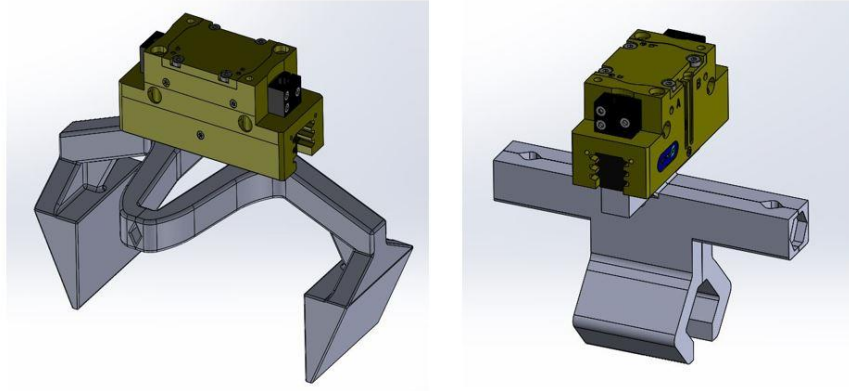


Figure 29. Left: Fingers Designed for the motor frame and headcover, Right: Fingers Designed for pushrods and rockershaft

The rail material was selected due to sufficient strength of structure. Further, plates were designed for grippers to enable movement of the grippers alongside structure. The whole end-effector was mounted on the robot flange in 6th axis of the robot (Figure 30).

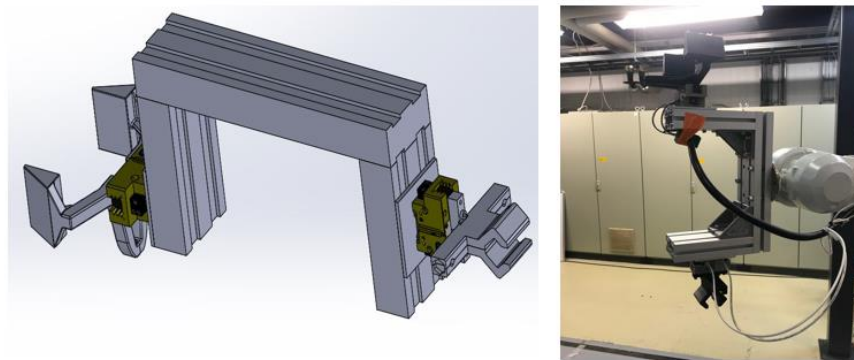


Figure 30. Multi-gripper Final Design

3.2 Engine Components Analysis

In the first step, the components of an engine should be analyzed to figure out which of the components could be used in the assembly process. For this aspect, the disassembly of components procedure took out. Some of the components could not be disassembled because of the complexity of the assembly process, and it required special tools. In the next step, the assembly stage decomposition model [15] was drawn. In this diagram, the engine was divided into two section, the engine block (which the component could not

be disassembled) and engine head. Afterwards, the assembly process of the components was analyzed and shown in the assembly stage decomposition model diagram (Figure 31).

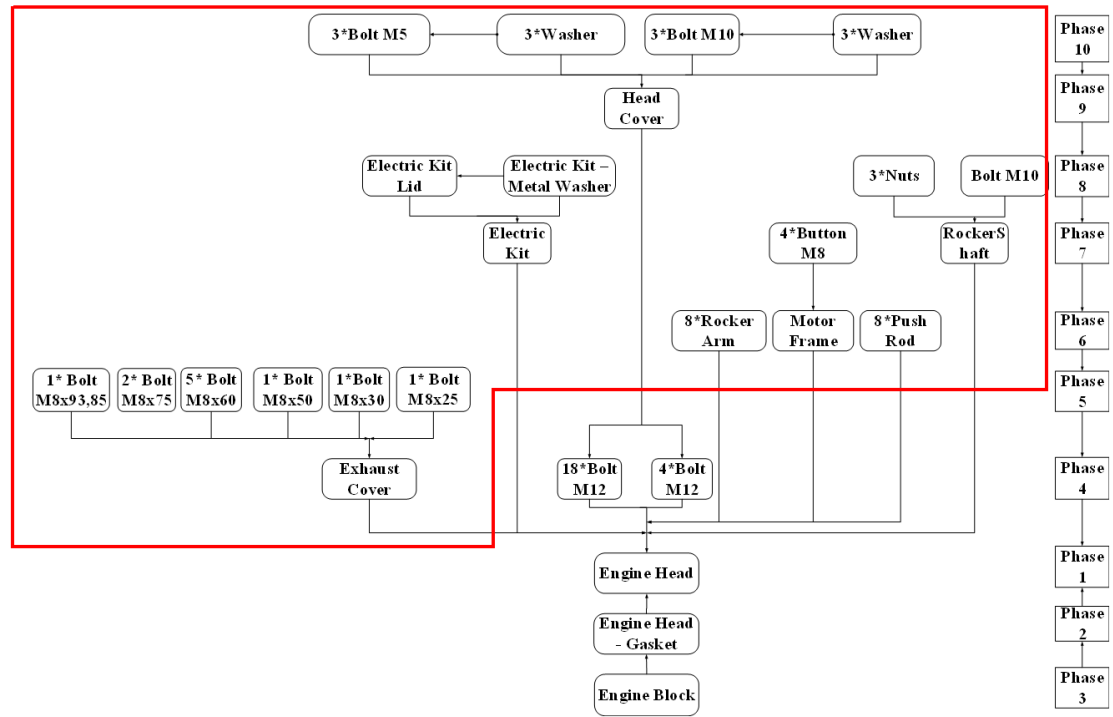


Figure 31. Assembly Stage Decomposition Model for Engine Components

From the disassembly process and assembly stage decomposition analysis, the components in Table 2 were considered for the assembly process of the experiment.

Table 2. List of assembly components

No	Components	Weight(g)	Number
1	Exhaust cover of the engine	6170	1
2	Pushrods	100	8
3	Rocker arm	69	8
4	Electric kit and washer	158	1
5	Motor frame	1830	1
6	Screws	16-60	22
7	Nuts	60	3
8	Rocker shaft	4300	1
9	Headcover	1340	1

3.3 Task Allocation

Based on assembly stage decomposition model and list of components, the stages of assembly was provided and assembly tasks were determined. In the next step, an analysis

method were provided to determine which tasks could be done by human and which tasks could be done by a robot. A study had conducted in an article from Helander [83] about multiple factors such as task complexity, equipment layout, specific type of robotics, load capacity, reachability, repeatability memory ,ergonomics, job satisfaction and degrees of freedom of motion considered in task allocation between the robot and the human. Therefore, four factors had been chosen for evaluating the assembly tasks in this thesis.

These factors were task complexity, ergonomics, payload, and repeatability. Task complexity evaluated based on the geometry of components, and how much it was complex to grasp the component. Design of new gripper fingers was needed to be considered, because there was a limitation of using multiple tools in the system. The ergonomic of the operator considered if it was violated by the assembly process, and if picking up the component could be easily assigned to a robot. Payload factor related to the value of the weight of components, for heavy components robot assigned to handle them and for lighter components operator could handle the components. For the last factor, repeatability, it was about the consideration of repeating the assembly task in the daily routine of assembly (whole shift) and also took into account that how other factors affected when there was a chance of high repeatability.

For each assembly task, each factor was considered and evaluated as a negative or positive effect on the system for both human and robot separately. For instance, considering the assembly of exhaust cover, the component itself had a complex geometry which was difficult to design gripper for picking the component, so it was a negative point for the robot. Meanwhile, the geometry of exhaust cover was simple for human cause operator could pick the component easily by using of two hands, so it was a positive point for a human.

For ergonomics, the robot did not face ergonomic issues because it was a large machine and could operate for a long period, while this component was heavy for human and in the longer run, it would cause back injuries for the operator. For payload, the robot capacity for the payload was 60 kg therefore it did not face an issue while performs assembly of this component. The weight of the component was around 6kg which considered as a heavy part for the operator to carry it on during whole shift. By considering the repeatability, it was obvious that by a large robot for bigger components and simple geometry, it would not face issue to redo the process at all. But for human, the effect of weight, geometry, and number of operation would cause errors and fault during working time per day. Also, it should be considered that high repetitive tasks for human could impact on tiredness and fatigue of operator.

All factors for this analysis were shown in Table 3 . To sum up the result, the points gave for each assembly task was collected. In the summary of negative points column, the number of negative points for each robot and human was added together. Therefore, the task allocation could be given to the resource which had less negative points. In a case

where the negative points were equal for both, it considered that the assembly task could be given to the robot or the human. There was one special case for rocker shaft, the component had a complexity of geometry and also the complexity of assembly process. Therefore it might be the best choice if the assembly of this component could be assigned as a combination of human and robot work.

Table 3. Task Allocation analysis

No	Task	Task complexity		Ergonomic		Payload		Repeatability		Summary of negative points		Task allocation
		Robot	Human	Robot	Human	Robot	Human	Robot	Human	R _N	H _N	
1	Assembly of exhaust cover	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	1	3	Robot
2	Assembly of push rod	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	Robot or Human
3	Assembly of rocker arm	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	Robot or Human
4	Assembly of electric kit	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	2	0	Human
5	Assembly of motor frame	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	0	2	Robot
6	Assembly of screws and nuts	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	2	0	Human
7	Assembly of rocker shaft	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	2	2	Robot & Human
8	Assembly of engine head cover	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	0	2	Robot

3.4 Cell Design and Simulation

For the purpose of cell design, the HRC workspaces were considered. Therefore, robot workspace, human workspace, and cooperation workspace were three parts of this collaboration environment. In the beginning, the engine was transferred to the laboratory. Then, two tables were placed in the shared workspace. One of them was providing the components for the robot in robot workspace, and another one was providing the components for human for assembly in the human workspace. With this arrangement, the engine was placed in the middle of both tables to provide equal distances. The height of the engine was adjusted to 90mm which was the average height of elbow based on anthropometric data (Figure 32).

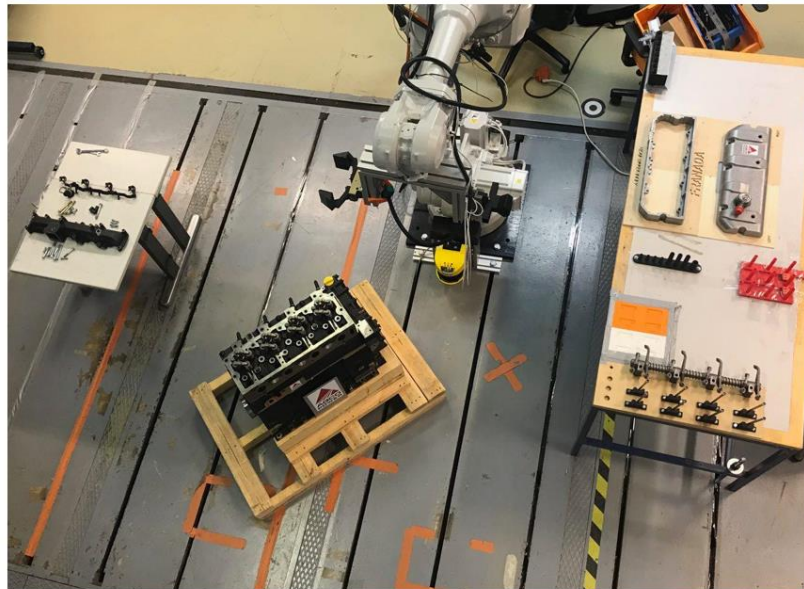


Figure 32. Cell Design in MEI Laboratory

For initial testing about robot movements inside workstation, it was decided to simulate the environment in Visual Components software. Visual Components had capability to simulate the workstation and programming robots. The software had virtual commissioning feature to upload program of the robot to the real robot controller. Therefore, the whole workstation was simulated with basic movements in software, and tested on the real robot at the laboratory (Figure 33).

After the performing virtual commissioning, some information were collected from implementation. Firstly, the range of robot movements was observed, and it had shown that the robot could cover the two table zones and the engine zone. Secondly, the initial information for defining the workspaces for the workstation was collected. From Figure 34, it

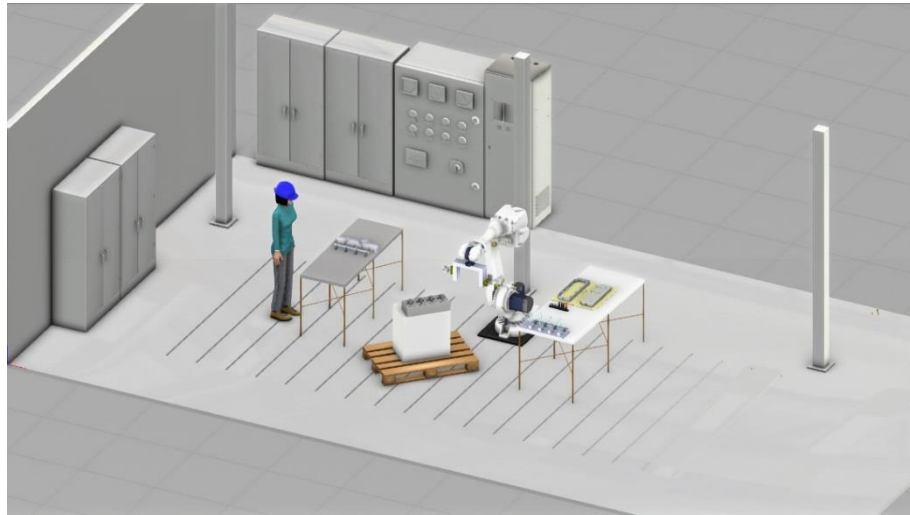
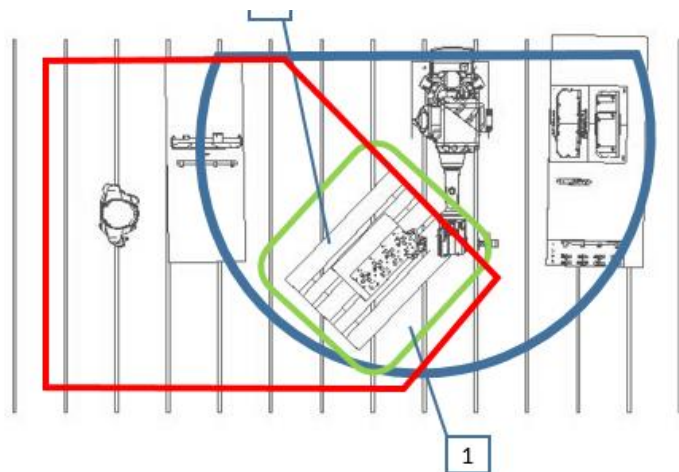


Figure 33. *Layout Simulation in Visual Components*

was depicted the robot workspace in blue colors which shows the reachability of the robot. For the human workspace, it was determined that human should start his assembly process from behind the table for the safety purposes. For the assembly of components, two zones were determined for human, the zone 1 which most of the components should be assembled from this zone to prevent collision between robot and human. There was only one exception for a sequence of assembly (exhaust cover) which should be assembled from zone 2.



-
- Robot Workspace
 - Collaboration Workspace
 - Human Workspace

Figure 34. *Cell Workspaces*

3.5 Assembly Sequence based on Interaction Level

Based on task allocation which was discussed beforehand, assembly sequence related to the human and robot needed to be determined. Due to the design and implementation of the gripper for the components, there was a limitation to allocate every task to the robot. Hence, some of the tasks were assigned to a human instead of robots.

For instance, the exhaust cover had a complex geometry for picking it up with grippers, so it required a specific design for itself to be able to be picked up by a robot for assembly. However, if robots assigned to assemble exhaust cover, it was required to assemble the bolts at the same time otherwise because of the position of assembly it could fall to the ground. So there were two solutions for this challenge, the first solution could be that human assemble the component bolts while robot holding the component which brings the danger for human. If the robot malfunctions, human might collide with robot arm or clamp between robot and table. The second solution could be to design more complex gripper which needed special design of fingers for holding the component and also a nut-runner to assemble the bolts. This solution might decrease the flexibility of designing other grippers while in the implementation there was no access to the tool racks.

Based on the same explanation, the primitive idea of task allocation was shown in Table 4. The only exception over here would be for assembly of rockershaft which depended on the interaction level of the system.

Table 4. Primary of Task Allocation



Assembly Process	Task Allocation
Assembly of Exhaust Cover	Human
Assembly of Rocker Arms	Human
Assembly of Motor Frame	Robot
Assembly of Electric Kit	Human
Assembly of Pushrods	Robot
Assembly of Rockershaft	Robot + Human
Assembly of Head Cover	Robot
Assembly of Bolts and Nuts	Human







Due to the classification of interaction levels which was reviewed in section 2.3 on page 15, the scenarios were determined based on each interaction level characteristics and defined the assembly sequence for each of the interaction levels. In the following, the scenario for these interaction level was described.





3.5.1 First Interaction Level Scenario


Based on the first interaction level, robot or human could provide components in intermediate storage for each other to continue the assembly. For the implementation of this interaction, the motor frame was considered as a component for locating in intermediate storage (table 2). Then, the human would continue the process of assembly by placing the electric kit on the frame and at final step place the motor frame on the engine. The assembly sequence followed by the Table 5.

Table 5. First Interaction level Assembly Sequence

Assem- bly Se- quence	Assem- bly Task	Instruction	Image
1	Assem- bly of Exhaust Cover	Human as- semble ex- haust cover from behind of engine and tight two of bolts just to hold the compo- nent	
2	Assem- bly of Bolts of Exhaust Cover	Human tight the bolts to finish the as- sembly of exhaust cover	

3	Assem- bly of Rocker Arms	Human as- semble the rocker arms from the front of the engine	
4	Assem- bly of Motor Frame	Robot pick from table 1 and place it on table 2	 
5	Assem- bly of Electric Kit	Human as- semble the electric kit on the table and afterward place the motor frame on the en- gine	 
6	Assem- bly of Motor Frame Screws	Human tight screws of motor frame to the engine	

7	Assem- bly of Pushrods	The robot picks push- rods from the table and places it in the engine	
8	Assem- bly of Rock- ershaft	Human picks up the rockershaft from table 2 and places it on the en- gine	
9	Assem- bly of Nuts of Rock- ershaft	Human tightens the nuts and bolt of rock- ershaft	
10	Assem- bly of Head- cover	The robot picks the head cover from the table and places it on the top of the motor frame	

11	Assem- bly of Head- cover Bolts	Human tightens the bolts of the headcover	
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The timing diagram for this assembly sequence was depicted in Figure 35, it demonstrated that the human-robot collaboration task was on a low level because the robot and the human were not allowed to have any interaction with each other. In the first interaction, the robot picked up the defined components and waited for the confirmation of the human. The operator after completing the tasks, gave permission signals to the robot by the physical button to further continue the task. This process replicated for each robot's task.

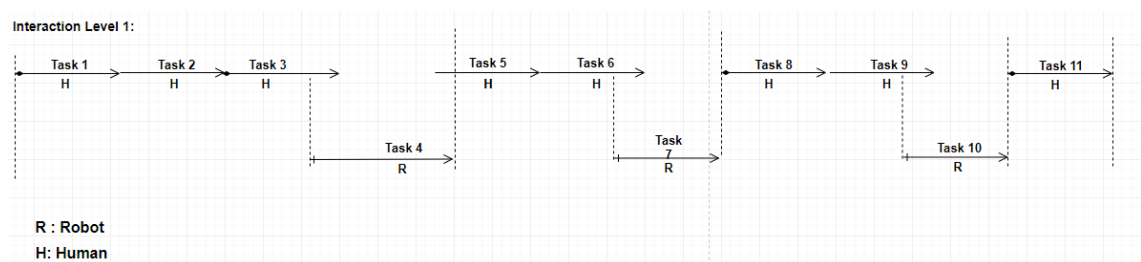





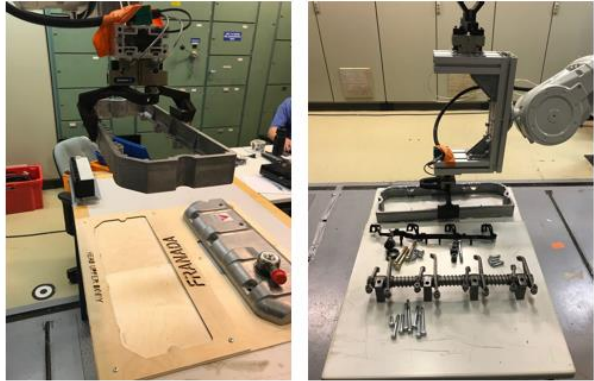


Figure 35. Timing Diagram for the First Interaction Level Sequence




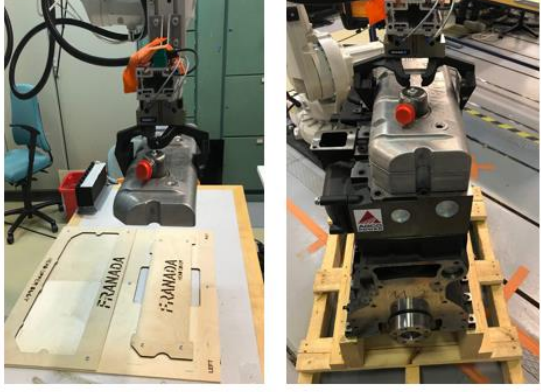
3.5.2 Second Interaction Level Scenario


As discussed before, in the second interaction level, robot should provide a component for a human to start assembly of another component on it. However, in this case, there should not be any physical interaction between robot and human. For this purpose, the robot picked up the motor frame, placed it on table 2 and waited for a human to finish the electric kit assembly. At the same time, the physical button the light would be turned on. This would indicate for an operator that it would wait for confirmation from operator to continue the assembly process. Therefore, after finishing the assembly of electric kit, human would push the physical button and stand behind the table. The robot would continue the assembly process by placing the motor frame on the engine. Table 6 demonstrated the sequence of this interaction level.

Table 6. Second Interaction Level Assembly Sequence

Assem- bly Se- quence	Assem- bly Task	Instruction	Image
1	Assem- bly of Exhaust Cover	Human as- semble ex- haust cover from be- hind of en- gine and tight two of bolts to hold the component	
2	Assem- bly of Bolts of Exhaust Cover	Human tight the bolts to fin- ish the as- sembly of the exhaust cover	
3	Assem- bly of Rocker Arms	Human as- semble the rocker arms from the front of the engine	

4	Assem- bly of Motor Frame	Robot picks from table 1 and places it on table 2 and waits for a human to assemble electric kit	
5	Assem- bly of Electric Kit	Human as- sembles the electric kit on the table and afterward press the physical button to trigger ro- bot to places the motor frame on the engine	
6	Assem- bly of Motor Frame Screws	Human tightens screws of motor frame to the engine	

7	Assem- bly of Pushrods	The robot picks push- rods from the table and places it in the en- gine	
8	Assem- bly of Rock- ershaft	Human picks up the rockershaft from table 2 and places it on the engine	
9	Assem- bly of Nuts of Rock- ershaft	Human tightens the nuts and bolt of rockershaft	
10	Assem- bly of Head- cover	The robot picks the head cover from the table and places it on the top of the motor frame	

11	Assem- bly of Head- cover Bolts	Human tightens the bolts of the headcover	
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For this sequence, the timing diagram was shown in Figure 36. It could be seen that in this level, a human had more engagement in the robot tasks and there was more dependency between robot and human to perform their tasks. The robot picked up motor frame in task four and brought it on human workspace. Then, operator assembled the electric kit on the motor frame and with physical button sent confirmation signal for robot to continue placing the motor frame on the engine. Also, the signal confirmation replicated for assembly of pushrods and headcover.

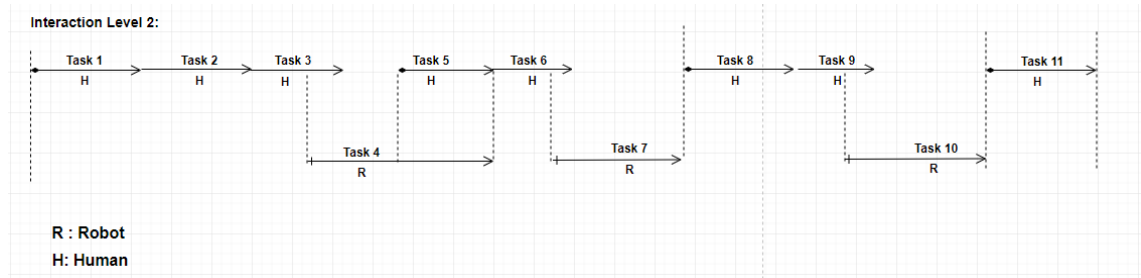


Figure 36. Timing Diagram of Second Interaction Level Sequence



3.5.3 Third Interaction Level Scenario





Regarding the classification of interaction levels, in the third level robot would hand over the components for a human. Hence, the robot and human had a physical interaction with each other, but it might not engage the complete physical contacts. In this scenario, two component were considered for hand over scenarios, the motor frame, and the rockershaft. As stated before in Table 2, these components were assumed as heavy components in the assembly process. In addition, carrying these components by a human during the whole shift would increase the fatigue. Ergo, in this scenario by carrying the object with the robot, the time of holding object inside workstation for human could be decreased. Another reason for picking rocker shaft for this scenario was that assembly of rockershaft requires precise locating the component. The rockershaft needed to align with three bolts




on the engine which if it might be wanted to be fully automatic that would require image processing tools and more complex gripper's finger design.

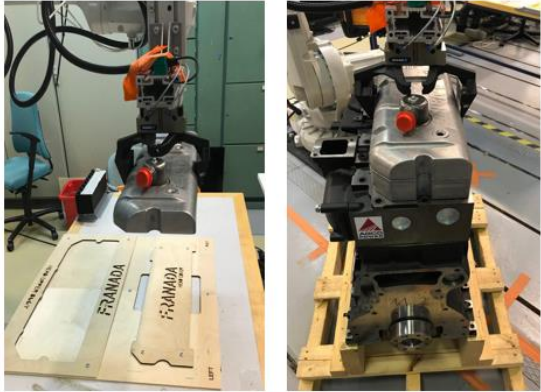

The process of this scenario was as follows, in the sequence of assembly of the motor frame, the robot picked up the motor frame from table 1 and brought it toward the collaboration zone. After robot reached to the collaboration zone, the physical button light would be turned on. Human might enter to the collaboration workspace from zone 1 (Figure 34), press the physical button and after 5 seconds the robot release the component. Then, human would continue the assembly process by placing the motor frame on the engine. The same routine would occur for the rockershaft too.

Table 7. Third Interaction Levels Assembly Sequence

As- sembly Se- quence	As- sem- bly Task	Instruc- tion	Image
1	As- sembly of Ex- haust Cover	Human as- sembles exhaust cover from behind of engine and tightens two of bolts to hold the component	
2	As- sembly of Bolts of Ex- haust Cover	Human tightens the bolts to fin- ish the as- sembly of the exhaust cover	

3	As- sembly of Rocker Arms	Human as- sembles the rocker arms from the front of the engine	
4	As- sembly of Mo- tor Frame	Robot picks from table 1 and hands it over to hu- man and hu- man pushes physical but- ton to release the part and places the motor frame on the engine	
5	As- sembly of Elec- tric Kit	Human as- sembles the electric kit on the motor frame of the engine	
6	As- sembly of Mo- tor Frame Screws	Human tightens screws of motor frame to the engine	

7	As- sembly of Push- rods	Robot picks push- rods from the table and place it in the en- gine	
8	As- sembly of Rock- ershaft	Robot picks rock- ershaft from table 1, hands it over to hu- man and human pushes physical button to release the part and places the rockershaft on the engine	
9	As- sembly of Nuts of Rock- ershaft	Human tights the nuts and bolt of rockershaft	

10	As- sembly of Head- cover	The robot picks the head cover from the table and places it on the top of the motor frame	
11	As- sembly of Head- cover Bolts	Human tightens the bolts of the headcover	

The timing diagram of this level of interaction was depicted in Figure 37. In this level, the engagement of robot in the assembly was more than the previous interaction levels. One of the challenge here was that assembly of pushrod by robots brought delays between task 6 and task 8. Therefore, the waiting time for the human would be increased. The characteristic of this interaction level was to hand over components for operator. Therefore, robot brought the motor frame and rockershaft near to the engine, the operator would reach to the engine from the front. After sending permission signal, robot would release the component after five seconds and operator would continue the assembly of component.

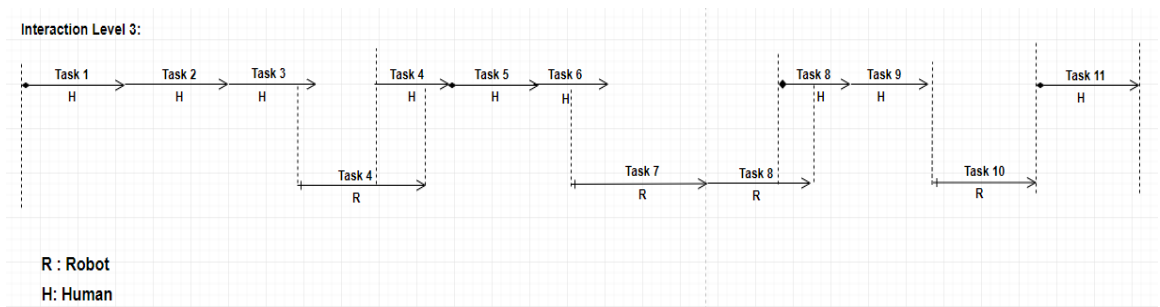


Figure 37. Timing Diagram for Third Interaction Level Sequence

3.6 Safety Implementation

3.6.1 Laser Scanners

Laser scanners are the most frequently used safety sensors in the field of robotics. These sensors are utilized in a shared workspace to detect an object (in our case the human) with optical sensing. It can scan the environment in a 2D- horizontal field of view and send infrared laser beams in the area. It uses the Time of Flight (TOF) principles where scanners send out short pulses of light, and at the same time, a stopwatch is started. When objects hit the beams of light, the light is reflected and pulses received by a laser scanner. While intrusion occurs, from the time between sending and reception, scanners determine the distance to the object and send stopping signal to its controller. Afterwards, the signal will be transferred to the robot controller and send stop signal for robot movements. In the laser scanner, a mirror is set up inside the device which by rotating at a constant speed it will deflect the light pulses. By this method, scanners can cover more field of view and detect an object in a desired field. The laser scanners can be chosen regarding the protective field range, scan angles, number of fields, etc.

The laser scanner S3000 from the SICK Company (Figure 38) was selected for this experiment. It provided a protective field range of 4.70m and 5.5 m, and a scanning angle of 190 degrees. The response time of scanners were 120ms and number of field sets could be defined up to 4 fields.



Figure 38. SICK S3000 Laser Scanner

The laser scanners beams had interference with the objects such as the engine and the tables in workstation. Therefore, two laser scanners were set up in positions where facing each other. So the beams could cover both areas of the front and behind the engine (Figure

39). The height of laser scanners adjusted to the 220mm, so it could detect operator's leg above the ankle and prohibit operator to crawl under the scanners. The resolution of protective field was set to 70mm for leg detection. Regarding the height of scanner set up, the circumstances such as errors in detecting the ankle of leg while laser beam got wider in the distance were avoided. The resulting range for the protective field was adjusted to 5.5m.

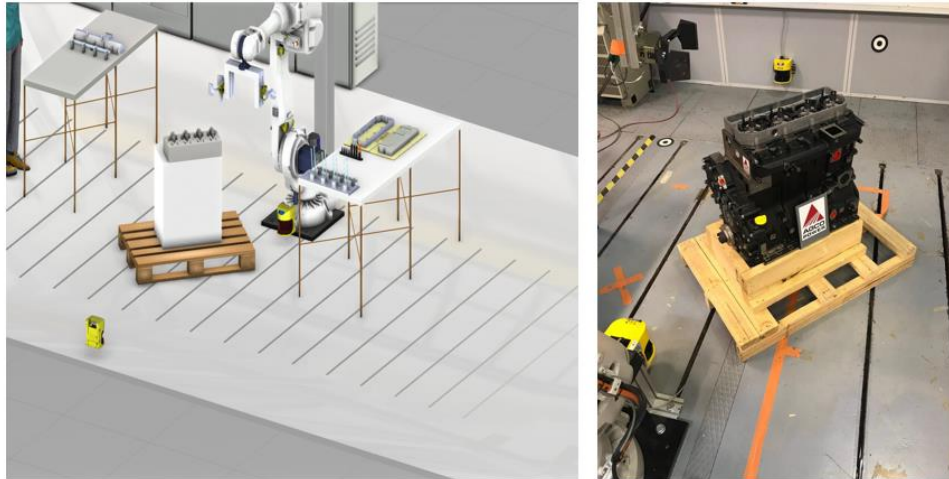


Figure 39. *Laser Scanners Set Up in Workstation*

There were two kinds of field sets in the laser scanner, protective field, and warning field. The protective field protected the hazardous area on a machine (in our case robot). The warning field could be defined in a state where the detection of the human might occur before the human enter to the hazardous area. In this implementation, for each scanner two fields were defined, the one field for protective field and another one for warning field.

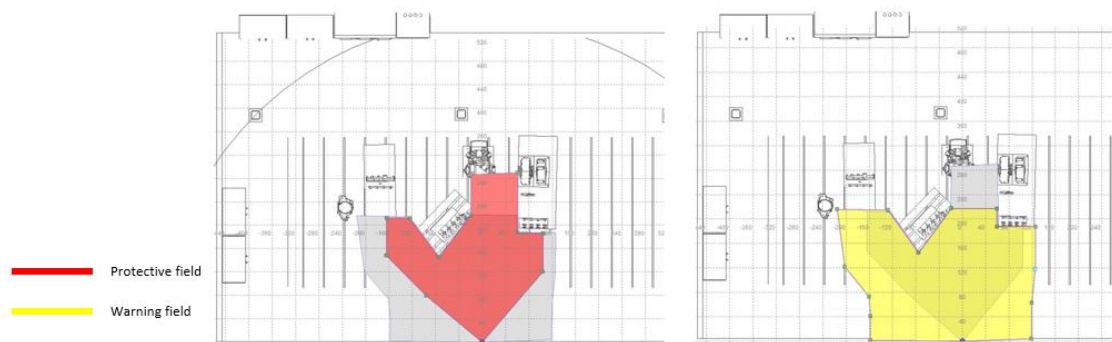


Figure 40. *Protective and Warning Definition for Wall Mounted Scanner*

For the wall-mounted laser scanner, the area in front of the engine, and area between table 1 and robot were hazardous area based on robot movements. Therefore, as it could be seen in Figure 40 these hazardous area covered by protective field.

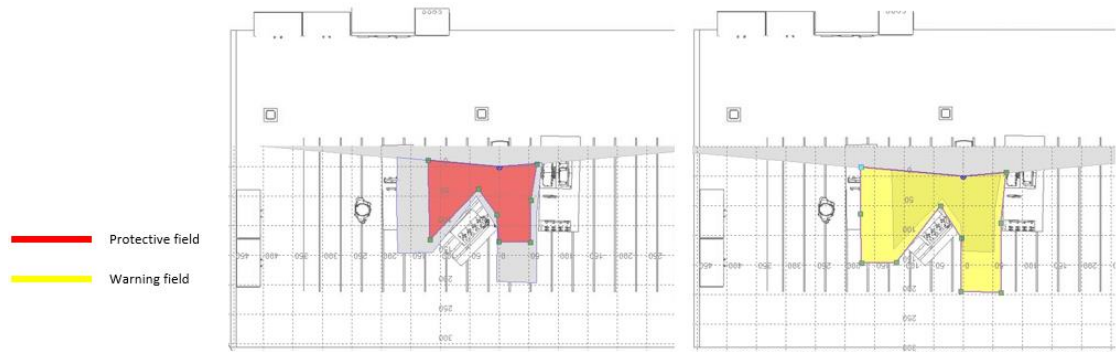


Figure 41. *Protective and Warning Definition for Robot Mounted Scanner*

For the scanner that mounted on the base of the robot, the hazardous area was defined in two section, the first zone was behind the engine where there was a chance for clamping of human between robot and table 2, and second zone was between table 1 and the engine where there was a chance for clamping of human too (Figure 41).

For the implementation of laser scanners, the safety-rated monitored stop function was considered as a primarily use case of this implementation. So in this process, if human or any objects violated the protective field, the light pulses would be received to the laser scanners. Then the signal would be sent to the controller of the laser scanner and activated the stop function signal which would be sent directly to the robot controller and force the robot to the stop states. After that, if the object was removed or human walked out of the protective field, the operator by physical button could resume the sequence of the robot. In addition, the speed limiting function was implemented for the warning fields. Hence, if human might enter to the zone of warning field, the robot speed would be decreased to 50% of their real-time speed. This would avoid robot movement with high acceleration where human was near to the hazardous area.

The indication lights was set up in workstation for demonstrating the states of operations. The green light would show that there was no object existed inside workstation and robot would move smoothly. The yellow light demonstrated the violation of warning field, so the operator would notice of why robot speed was decreased. Moreover, the red light would show that the operator violated the protective field and entered the hazardous area, and that was the identification of why the robot was stopped.

3.6.2 ABB SafeMove

One of the safety controllers exists in the robot system is provided from ABB called SafeMove for some range of their industrial robots. The SafeMove is an add-on for ABB RobotStudio software while it is connected to the IRC5 controller. The primary goal of SafeMove is ensured high safety level in shared workspace with using supervision functions. These functions are activated from a digital input of safety devices such as laser scanners, light curtain, etc. However, these functions are capable of stopping robot movements by setting digital output signals. With utilizing the robot system with safety PLC, the input and output signals are transferred to the PLC and can control the characteristic of robot movements. Some of the supervision functions are as follows:

- **Safe Zones:** This supervision provides optimization of cell size and process of installation of safeguarding will be simplified.
- **Safe Axis Ranges:** This supervision can be exchanged with electro-mechanical position switches. This function can provide more flexibility and control on robot axis movements.
- **Safe Robot Speed:** It supervises speed of tool center point and robot axis to protect human who work close to the robot workspace

In this thesis, when human entered to the protective field or warning field, a laser scanner sent digital signal outputs, this signal could be utilized to control robot program either to stop the robot movements or to reduce the speed of robot system. For the first step, regarding the trajectory of the robot inside assembly tasks, the safety axis ranges was adjusted for the robot. The required values were demonstrated in Figure 42. Violating these values would cause the category 1 stop for the robot. The category 1 stop was a controlled stop state where the power was available for the actuators to achieve the stop. Power would be removed from the actuators when the stop was completed. The axis 4, 5 and 6 were not limited because the design of the multi-gripper for enabling the reachability of required angles and positions needed to be considered.

Set range properties.

ROB1

Joint	Enabled	Lower bound (deg)	Upper bound (deg)	Invert
1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	-80.000	115.000	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	-35.000	90.000	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	-60.000	50.000	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	-400.000	400.000	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	-125.000	120.000	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	-400.000	400.000	<input type="checkbox"/>

Figure 42. Safety Range Axis Properties from ABB SafeMove

In the next phase, the tool of the robot was simulated with boxes and capsules to utilize the position of the tool when entered to the safety zones. Tool position function required the definition of safety zones. Hence, five safety zones were determined in RobotStudio environment, Table1, manual1, manual2, engine, and table 2 (Figure 43). If the robot movements exceeded their path because of malfunctioning and violated the zones, SafeMove would stop the robot in category 1. Meanwhile, the outputs from the laser scanners field were collected in SafeMove function to monitor the violation of field which led to robot stop function or reduced the speed of the robot path.

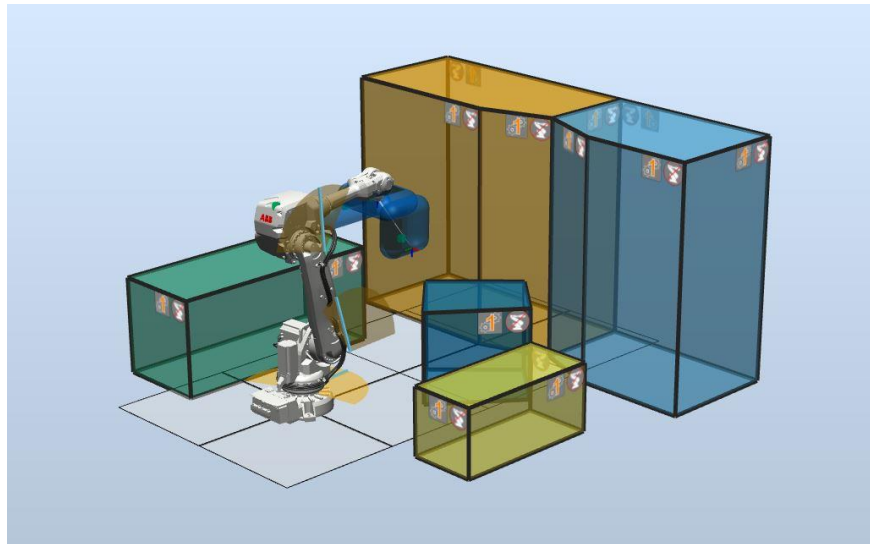


Figure 43. Safety Zone Definition in ABB RobotStudio

In the case of violations, the related indication light would be turned on as guidance for the operator for understanding the states of safety in shared workspace. In the state of stopping of the robot, after the object removed from safety zones with the help of a physical button the robot program could be resumed.

4. RESULTS

4.1.1 Time Work Study Analysis

For studying the impact of human-robot collaboration on productivity of system, the time work study was conducted. Therefore, the comparison of time study between manual assembly process and HRI scenarios was required. The manual assembly process was important in this case because nowadays in the industry the most part of engine assembly process was performed by an operator. For this study, an operator with some experience with components was used. The assembly process repeated three times to have a reliable experience with respect to the agility of the operator. The collected data was shown in Table 8.

Table 8. Time Study of Manual Assembly Sequence

Assembly Sequence	Assembly Task	First Try(s)	Second Try(s)	Third Try (s)	Average Time (s)
1	Assembly of Exhaust Cover	23.15	24.35	25.82	24.44
2	Assembly of Bolts of Exhaust Cover	89.49	85.04	82.20	85.58
3	Assembly of Rocker Arms	34.30	36.17	32.58	34.35
4	Assembly of Motor Frame	15.78	15.76	18.36	16.63
5	Assembly of Motor Frame Screws	47.40	47.45	49.79	48.21
6	Assembly of Electric Kit	33.67	33.23	34.57	33.82
7	Assembly of Push-rods	19.13	23.00	23.39	21.84
8	Assembly of Rockershaft	29.05	30.45	30.13	29.88
9	Assembly of Nuts of Rockershaft	48.87	43.99	44.93	45.93
10	Assembly of Head-cover	16.33	16.83	16.19	16.45
11	Assembly of Head-cover Bolts	61.77	57.53	63.30	60.87
Total time					418.00

In the next step, the time study was performed for each interaction levels. The robot speed was set to the 200 mm/s. Also, the delay time of operator in reaction of performing robot program was considered. The time study of three interaction levels were as following in Table 9, Table 10, and Table 11.

Table 9. *Time Study of First Interaction Level of HRC Sequence*

Assembly Sequence	Assembly Task	Average Time (s)
1	Assembly of Exhaust_Cover	24.44
2	Assembly of Bolts of Exhaust Cover	85.58
3	Assembly of Rocker Arms	34.35
4	Assembly of Motor Frame(robot)	48.40
5	Assembly of Motor Frame(human)	9.58
6	Assembly of Motor Frame Screws	21.60
7	Assembly of Electric Kit	13.85
8	Assembly of Push-rods	133.12
9	Assembly of Rockershaft	20.18
10	Assembly of Nuts of Rockershaft	32.01
11	Assembly of Headcover	36.21
12	Assembly of Headcover Bolts	45.29
Total Time		504.61

Table 10. *Time Study of Second Interaction Level of HRC Sequence*

Assembly Sequence	Assembly Task	Average Time (s)
1	Assembly of Exhaust Cover	24.44
2	Assembly of Bolts of Exhaust Cover	85.58
3	Assembly of Rocker Arms	34.35
4	Assembly of Motor Frame (robot)	48.40
5	Assembly of Motor Frame (human)	9.58
6	Assembly of Motor Frame Screws	21.60
7	Assembly of Electric Kit	15.76
8	Assembly of Push-rods	133.12
9	Assembly of Rockershaft	20.18
10	Assembly of Nuts of Rockershaft	32.01
11	Assembly of Headcover	36.21
12	Assembly of Headcover Bolts	45.29
Total Time		506.52

Table 11. Time Study of Third Interaction Level of HRC Sequence

Assembly Sequence	Assembly Task	Average Time (s)
1	Assembly of Exhaust Cover	24.44
2	Assembly of Bolts of Exhaust Cover	85.58
3	Assembly of Rocker Arms	34.35
4	Assembly of Motor Frame(robot)	37.60
5	Assembly of Motor Frame(human)	6.15
6	Assembly of Motor Frame Screws	21.60
7	Assembly of Electric Kit	13.85
8	Assembly of Pushrods	133.12
9	Assembly of Rockershaft(robot)	33.76
10	Assembly of Rockershaft(human)	11.92
11	Assembly of Nuts of Rockershaft	32.01
12	Assembly of Headcover	36.21
13	Assembly of Headcover Bolts	45.29
Total Time		515.88

It could be seen that total time of assembly process was increasing while the physical interaction between robot and human rises too. The implementation of HRC in three different interaction levels might not decrease the total time of assembly process in this case. However, by studying working time of human inside workstation, the big differences could be observed between various assembly sequences (Table 12). This result proved that with less time activity of human inside workstation, the fatigue of worker could be decreased significantly. Also it could be mentioned that with lower amount of workload, there would be less chance for injuries inside workstation. In addition, by assigning high payload task to the robots, the ergonomic of operator was improved.

Table 12. Total Amount of Human Working Time in Different Assembly Sequence

Human Assembly Process	Manual Assembly	First Interaction Level	Second Interaction Level	Third Interaction Level
Total Time (s)	418.00	286.88	288.79	275.19

As it was noticed in the time study, for robot assembly task, the assembly of pushrods took the biggest time in the whole assembly. Reason for this, was that the grippers just only capable of picking two pushrods at the same time. Also, the traveling time between pick and place point was repeated four times which at final made the whole process four times longer. Therefore, if the design of the gripper changed in a manner that the griper capable of pick all the eight pushrods at the same time, then by calculations in simulation with Visual Components the time of assembly could be reduced from 133 seconds to 38 seconds. This might be reduced the whole assembly process by 95 seconds, as a result with just some modification in the design we might approach nearly to the same time of manual assembly.

4.1.2 Task Allocation Results

Through the implementation of this project, the classification in section 3.3 was used for task allocation between robot and human tasks. From time work study in previous section, some results were noticed that it would be described as following. The first noticeable impact was from assembly of pushrods. In the task allocation table, it had been analyzed that this task could be done either by robot or by human. In this thesis, I decided to allocate this task to the robot, but the problem was about time of the assembly which was related to the design of gripper. The pushrods did not have complex geometry which was one of the factors in the task allocation, but complexity of the design of gripper could effect on other the factors in task allocation. With the better design solution, more improvement might be achieved in timing of robot tasks.

Second result from robot task was related to the payload factor. With repeating the assembly sequences, an operator found out that he became less tired during HRC assembly sequences. Maybe the time of assembly process between manual and HRC did not have so much difference but still it improved the ergonomic of the operator. This could bring up the fact that ergonomic and payload were two linked factors that impact on each other.

Regarding the design issues, it was better to test and analyze the task allocation before completing the design of workstation. Simulation softwares such as Siemens Technomatix could be utilized because it had capabilities to analyze human factors such as fatigue and ergonomics based on possible risk of injuries.

4.1.3 Safety Function Analysis

In this section, there were multiple factors proposed that what kind of safety function required for each interaction levels. Therefore, it worth to review the interaction levels again.

- **Interaction level one:** in this interaction level both robot and human operate in shared workspace (without physical barriers), but human is not allowed to enter the robot workspace and has not any physical interaction with robot.
- **Interaction level two:** in this interaction level both robot and human operate in shared workspace, robot will provide component in intermediate storage for the assembly by human. Noteworthy, human has not any physical interaction with robot and there is no need for human to enter the robot workspace.
- **Interaction level three:** in this level, human is allowed to enter to the cooperative workspace while robot provides components and hands it over to the human. In this interaction, partial physical interaction exists between robot and human.
- **Interaction level four:** in this level, both robot and human operate in shared workspace. The human uses hand guiding device to control the robot movements and assemble component in precise position. Moreover, this interaction level is not included in this experiment.

In addition, the safety function could be mentioned as follows:

- **Safety-rated monitored stop:** in this method when human enters the collaborative workspace the robot shall stop its motion.
- **Speed and separation monitoring:** in this method, if human enters the collaborative workspace, the robot can continue its movement while the human does not violate the safety distance between robot and human. If human enters the warning field, the robot starts to decrease the speed of movement. If human enters the protective field, the robot will stop completely.
- **Hand guiding:** in this method, the human use a hand guiding device to move robot system to the required position. However, beforehand the human enters to the collaborative workspace and using enabling device for controlling the robot movements, the robot shall achieve safety-rated monitored stop.
- **Power and force limiting:** this safety function is considered when contacts between robot and human are allowed. Based on quasi-static contact or transient contact, the amount of force on human body parts can differ and it shall calculated in specific cases.

For implementation of this thesis, the hand guiding device was not implemented and for the first three interaction levels, this safety function was not required as well. Also, the contact between robot and human was not allowed because the large industrial robot was not equipped with sensors such as capacitive skin sensors, and any contacts could cause injuries to the operator. Therefore, the analysis of two safety functions was assessed in Table 13 by following factors:

- **Mitigation of operator error:** this criteria addresses the error value of the operator in the assembly sequence, or violation of the process.
- **Reachability of operator:** it considers the ability level of the operator to grasp the components. When the low reachability occurs, there will be a possibility for the operator to change the working position.

- **Distance between human and robot:** this criteria defines the distance between human and robot. According to the proper assembly sequence for each interaction level, it may require the operator to enter the robot workspace.
- **Complexity of assembly task:** this factor considers the complexity of assembly process, the complexity can mean the number of components, direction of assembly, and etc. For instance, when the complexity is increasing, how much it can affect the safety of operator.
- **Weight of components:** based on existing components in the assembly of product, when the components get heavier it may affect the operator's ergonomic.

There were two levels for evaluation of the impact of each criteria on injuries severity [84]:

- **Low impact:** This level states the scale of injuries for the operator. On this master thesis, low impact represents the minor or moderate injury severity scale.
- **High impact:** This level represents serious and severe injuries that may happen to the operator.

By considering these factors and evaluating the importance of safety functions, the results could be concluded as follows:

- **Interaction level one:** for this level of interaction it had evaluated that implementation of safety-rated monitored stop was necessary.
- **Interaction level two:** in this level, safety-rated monitored stop was necessary but if the operator error could be increased it could affect on other factors which led to consideration of speed and separation monitoring function as optional case.
- **Interaction level three:** while human entered to the collaboration workspace it could affect on all of the factors. The operator could move between the robot workspace and human workplaces, these movements would be harmful if the operator was near the robot. Collision of robot with human with high speed could cause serious damages. Therefore, implementation of speed and separation monitoring beside safety-rated monitored stop was necessary.

Table 13. Interaction Level Safety Function Analysis

	Interaction Level 1				Interaction Level 2				Interaction Level 3			
Safety Function	Safety-rated monitored stop		Speed and distance limiting		Safety-rated monitored stop		Speed and distance limiting		Safety-rated monitored stop		Speed and distance limiting	
	Low Impact	High Impact	Low Impact	High Impact	Low Impact	High Impact	Low Impact	High Impact	Low Impact	High Impact	Low Impact	High Impact
Mitigation operator Error	√		√		√			√		√		√
Reachability of operator		√	√			√	√			√		√
Distance between human and robot workspace	√		√			√	√			√		√
Complexity of assembly task		√		√		√	√			√	√	
Weight of component		√	√			√		√		√		√
Result	High Impact		Low Impact		High Impact		Low Impact		High Impact		High Impact	

5. CONCLUSION

For achieving the goals of this project, the interaction levels of HRC was studied. The shared workspace for HRC environment was designed and proper tools such as multi-function grippers were built for different assembly sequences. Each interaction levels defined the different physical interactions between human and robot. This led to consider different assembly sequences for each interaction level. Based on the task allocation between human and robot, assembly tasks were justified by factors such as complexity of assembly tasks, ergonomics, repeatability and payload.

The assembly scenarios were investigated by simulations with Visual Components software. Afterwards, for each HRI levels, the ABB IRB4600 was programmed to follow main goals of each interaction level. The environment of shared workspace was determined by different zones and the possibility of hazard risks were assessed in different zones. Therefore, with guidance of technical specification ISO/TS 15066, two safety functions were determined for this project respect to HRI levels requirements. The two safety functions were called “safety-rated monitored stop” and “speed and separation monitoring”.

Firstly, the ABB SafeMove add-on in RobotStudio was utilized for definition of safety zones. These safety zones provided primary tools as a safety stop function inside hazardous area. Secondly, the SICK laser scanner was installed to scan the presence of human or object inside protective and warning fields. The signals of detection transferred from laser scanner to ABB IRC5 controller. In the case of violation of warning fields, the robot’s speed was decreased. Thus, if human or object violated the protective field, it led to stop the robot movements.

Time work study was used to analyze assembly sequences in different interaction levels, which shown that the cell design and gripper design could affect on the total time of assembly and robot movements. In addition, task allocation had been shown that payload and task complexity could be determined as important factors for allocating the tasks between the human and the robot. With comparison of time work study and task allocation, it was considered that the complex geometry of components and design of grippers had impacts on productivity of shared workspace.

In the scope of this project, the gripper fingers could be machined with rigid material to provide more grasp force for the gripper. Therefore, multiple picking of components

could be achieved while operator performs the responsible tasks. This might reduce the delay time for the robot to pick components and increase overlapping which finally improve the productivity.

Implementation of Sim-4-Safety of laser scanner to define multiple fields could be another solution that could affect the safety implementation. Up to four protective fields could be defined to smooth the workflow of tasks between operator and robot and increase the efficiency. Since the designed protective field in this experiment was one field and shaped like polygon, when the operator entered the area which was not in the range of robot movement, led the robot to stop. By defining multiple fields, the freedom of operator movements outside the hazardous area would increase and decrease the delay of the robot's working time. In addition, with better feeding strategy for the system, the delaying time for feeding robot would be decreased. This could led to enhance robot tasks timing.

For further studies, there are solutions that can be considered. Firstly, the design of grippers can be changed to provide faster movements inside workstation and reduce assembly time. As time work study showed, the assembly of pushrods have massive time consumption compared to manual assembly. As a solution, the gripper can be designed to pick eight pushrods at same time and reduce the time of assembly.

Secondly, the 4th interaction level could be investigated. This interaction level requires design of the hand guiding device for ABB IRB4600 and utilizing the robot grippers with force sensors. Hence, the impact of more physical interaction between robot and human can be studied and compared to the manual assembly. The hand guiding device can increase the flexibility and precision of assembly sequence. As safety aspect, the power and force limiting can be investigated in this specific case and results can be compared to the less physical interaction.

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