



COMPARABLE CHALLENGES: A parallel can be drawn between a typical security screening task and a well-known neuropsychological test – the Embedded Figures Test (EFT). Like a screening task, the EFT requires object localisation and recognition within a cluster of confounding shapes (see Figure 1).

Figure 1 the comparable challenges presented by the EFT and the X-ray screening test

Fact 1: Individuals with a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) outperform non-autistic individuals in the EFT. Their enhanced abilities are attributed to heightened attention to visual detail and sensitivity to trivial changes in the visual environment.

Fact 2: ASD traits are present in the non-clinical population and individuals can be localised on a continuum from normality to clinical relevance for each trait. A psychometrically validated self-report questionnaire (AQ) is available to measure where any given individual lies on the continuum of ASD traits.

PREDICTION

differences in performance on a security X-ray screening task.

HYPOTHESIS TESTING