

Main Heading Review Material

STATISTICAL PROCESS CONTROL (SPC) (pp. 246–260)

- **Statistical process control (SPC)**—A process used to monitor standards by taking measurements and corrective action as a product or service is being produced.
- **Control chart**—A graphical presentation of process data over time.

A process is said to be operating *in statistical control* when the only source of variation is common (natural) causes. The process must first be brought into statistical control by detecting and eliminating special (assignable) causes of variation. *The objective of a process control system is to provide a statistical signal when assignable causes of variation are present.*

- **Natural variations**—The variability that affects every production process to some degree and is to be expected; also known as common cause.

When natural variations form a *normal distribution*, they are characterized by two parameters:

- Mean, μ (the measure of central tendency—in this case, the average value)
- Standard deviation, σ (the measure of dispersion)

As long as the distribution (output measurements) remains within specified limits, the process is said to be “in control,” and natural variations are tolerated.

- **Assignable variation**—Variation in a production process that can be traced to specific causes.

Control charts for the mean, \bar{x} , and the range, R , are used to monitor *variables* (outputs with continuous dimensions), such as weight, speed, length, or strength.

- **\bar{x} -chart**—A quality control chart for variables that indicates when changes occur in the central tendency of a production process.
- **R -chart**—A control chart that tracks the range within a sample; it indicates that a gain or loss in uniformity has occurred in dispersion of a production process.
- **Central limit theorem**—The theoretical foundation for \bar{x} -charts, which states that regardless of the distribution of the population of all parts or services, the \bar{x} distribution will tend to follow a normal curve as the number of samples increases:

$$\bar{\bar{x}} = \mu \quad (\text{S6-1})$$

$$\sigma_{\bar{x}} = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \quad (\text{S6-2})$$

The \bar{x} -chart limits, if we know the true standard deviation σ of the process population, are:

$$\text{Upper control limit (UCL)} = \bar{\bar{x}} + z\sigma_{\bar{x}} \quad (\text{S6-3})$$

$$\text{Lower control limit (LCL)} = \bar{\bar{x}} - z\sigma_{\bar{x}} \quad (\text{S6-4})$$

where z = confidence level selected (e.g., $z = 3$ is 99.73% confidence).

The *range*, R , of a sample is defined as the difference between the largest and smallest items. If we do not know the true standard deviation, σ , of the population, the \bar{x} -chart limits are:

$$\text{UCL}_{\bar{x}} = \bar{\bar{x}} + A_2\bar{R} \quad (\text{S6-5})$$

$$\text{LCL}_{\bar{x}} = \bar{\bar{x}} - A_2\bar{R} \quad (\text{S6-6})$$

In addition to being concerned with the process average, operations managers are interested in the process dispersion, or range. The R -chart control limits for the range of a process are:

$$\text{UCL}_R = D_4\bar{R} \quad (\text{S6-7})$$

$$\text{LCL}_R = D_3\bar{R} \quad (\text{S6-8})$$

Attributes are typically classified as *defective* or *nondefective*. The two attribute charts are (1) p -charts (which measure the *percent* defective in a sample), and (2) c -charts (which *count* the number of defects in a sample).

- **p -chart**—A quality control chart that is used to control attributes:

$$\text{UCL}_p = \bar{p} + z\sigma_p \quad (\text{S6-9})$$

$$\text{LCL}_p = \bar{p} - z\sigma_p \quad (\text{S6-10})$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_p = \sqrt{\frac{\bar{p}(1 - \bar{p})}{n}} \quad (\text{S6-11})$$

- **c -chart**—A quality control chart used to control the number of defects per unit of output. The Poisson distribution is the basis for c -charts, whose 99.73% limits are computed as:

$$\text{Control limits} = \bar{c} \pm 3\sqrt{\bar{c}} \quad (\text{S6-12})$$

- **Run test**—A test used to examine the points in a control chart to determine whether nonrandom variation is present.

Concept Questions:
1.1–1.4

Problems: S6.1–S6.39

VIDEO S6.1

Farm to Fork: Quality at Darden Restaurants

Virtual Office Hours
for Solved Problems:
S6.1–S6.3

ACTIVE MODELS S6.1 and S6.2

VIDEO S6.2

Frito-Lay's Quality-Controlled Potato Chips

Virtual Office Hours for
Solved Problem: S6.5

Main Heading	Review Material	
PROCESS CAPABILITY (pp. 260–262)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Process capability—The ability to meet design specifications. ■ C_p—A ratio for determining whether a process meets design specifications. $C_p = \frac{(\text{Upper specification} - \text{Lower specification})}{6\sigma} \quad (\text{S6-13})$ ■ C_{pk}—A proportion of variation (3σ) between the center of the process and the nearest specification limit: $C_{pk} = \text{Minimum of } \left[\frac{\text{Upper spec limit} - \bar{X}}{3\sigma}, \frac{\bar{X} - \text{Lower spec limit}}{3\sigma} \right] \quad (\text{S6-14})$ 	<p>Concept Questions: 2.1–2.4</p> <p>Problems: S6.40–S6.50</p> <p>Virtual Office Hours for Solved Problems: S6.4</p> <p>ACTIVE MODEL S6.3</p>
ACCEPTANCE SAMPLING (pp. 262–265)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Acceptance sampling—A method of measuring random samples of lots or batches of products against predetermined standards. ■ Operating characteristic (OC) curve—A graph that describes how well an acceptance plan discriminates between good and bad lots. ■ Producer's risk—The mistake of having a producer's good lot rejected through sampling. ■ Consumer's risk—The mistake of a customer's acceptance of a bad lot overlooked through sampling. ■ Acceptable quality level (AQL)—The quality level of a lot considered good. ■ Lot tolerance percent defective (LTPD)—The quality level of a lot considered bad. ■ Type I error—Statistically, the probability of rejecting a good lot. ■ Type II error—Statistically, the probability of accepting a bad lot. ■ Average outgoing quality (AOQ)—The percent defective in an average lot of goods inspected through acceptance sampling: $\text{AOQ} = \frac{(P_d)(P_a)(N - n)}{N} \quad (\text{S6-15})$ 	<p>Concept Questions: 3.1–3.4</p> <p>Problems: S6.51–S6.55</p>

Self Test

■ **Before taking the self-test**, refer to the learning objectives listed at the beginning of the supplement and the key terms listed at the end of the supplement.

- LO S6.1** If the mean of a particular sample is within control limits and the range of that sample is not within control limits:
- the process is in control, with only assignable causes of variation.
 - the process is not producing within the established control limits.
 - the process is producing within the established control limits, with only natural causes of variation.
 - the process has both natural and assignable causes of variation.

- LO S6.2** The central limit theorem:
- is the theoretical foundation of the c -chart.
 - states that the average of assignable variations is zero.
 - allows managers to use the normal distribution as the basis for building some control charts.
 - states that the average range can be used as a proxy for the standard deviation.
 - controls the steepness of an operating characteristic curve.

- LO S6.3** The type of chart used to control the central tendency of variables with continuous dimensions is:
- \bar{x} -chart.
 - R -chart.
 - p -chart.
 - c -chart.
 - none of the above.

- LO S6.4** If parts in a sample are measured and the mean of the sample measurement is outside the control limits:
- the process is out of control, and the cause should be established.
 - the process is in control but not capable of producing within the established control limits.
 - the process is within the established control limits, with only natural causes of variation.
 - all of the above are true.

- LO S6.5** Control charts for attributes are:
- p -charts.
 - c -charts.
 - R -charts.
 - \bar{x} -charts.
 - both a and b.

- LO S6.6** The ability of a process to meet design specifications is called:
- Taguchi.
 - process capability.
 - capability index.
 - acceptance sampling.
 - average outgoing quality.

- LO S6.7** The _____ risk is the probability that a lot will be rejected despite the quality level exceeding or meeting the _____.