Essentials of Statistical Process Control Establishing Control Charts for Variables

1. Using a running and stable process:

Take 5 samples from the process each hour. Record the average (X) and the range (R - the difference between the highest and lowest measurements) for the set of 5 samples.

Continue until 25 sets of data are available.

2. Range Control Charts

Plot the results for the range (*R*) on a preliminary Control Chart as below:



3. Calculating the control limits for R:

Find the average of the 25 values for R. This is \overrightarrow{R} and $\overrightarrow{R} = \frac{\text{Sum of R values}}{25}$

The control limits are given by

Lower Control Limit for R: $LCL_R = D_3 \times R$

Upper Control Limit for R: $UCL_R = D_4 \times \overline{R}$

Where D_3 and D_4 are constants that vary with the sample size as below:

Sample Size	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
D_3	0	0	0	0	0	0.08	0.14	0.18	0.22
D_4	3.27	2.57	2.28	2.11	2.00	1.92	1.86	1.82	1.78

For a sample size of 5, the Control Limits are then...

Lower Control Limit for R: $LCL_R = 0$

Upper Control Limit for R: $UCL_R = 2.11 \times R$

4. Plot the average for the range (R) and the Upper and Lower Control Limits (UCL_R and LCL_R) on the Control Chart:



5. Interpret the Range Control Chart for control (see Analyzing Control Charts).

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1. Using a running and stable process:

Take 5 samples from the process each hour. Record the average (X) and the range (R - the difference between the highest and lowest measurements) for the set of 5 samples.

Continue until 25 sets of data are available.

2. Average Control Charts

Plot the results for the average (*x*) on a preliminary Control Chart as below:



3. Calculating the control limits for x:

Find the average of the 25 values for \overline{x} . This is \overline{x} and $\overline{x} = \frac{\text{Sum of X values}}{25}$ The control limits are given by

Lower Control Limit for \overline{x} :

$$LCL_{\overline{X}} = \overline{X} - A_2 \times \overline{R}$$
$$UCL_{\overline{Y}} = \overline{\overline{X}} + A_2 \times \overline{R}$$

Upper Control Limit for X:

Where A_2 is a constant that varies with the sample size as below:

Sample Size	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A ₂	1.88	1.02	0.73	0.58	0.48	0.42	0.37	0.34	0.31

Use $A_2 = 0.58$ for a sample size of 5 and calculate the Control Limits.

4. Plot the average of the averages (X) and the Upper and Lower Control Limits $(LCL_x^- \text{ and } UCL_x^-)$ on the Control Chart:



5. Interpret the Average Control Chart for control (see Analyzing Control Charts).