

Individual Moving Range (I-MR) Charts

The Swiss Army Knife of Process Charts

SPC Selection Process







- Control charts for variables data
- Monitors the process over time
- Individual Chart
 - Plots each measurement as a separate data point
 - Each data point stands on its own (subgroup size = 1)
- Moving Range Chart
 - Uses a default value of 2, which means each data point plots the difference (range) between two consecutive data points as they come from the process in sequential order
 - There will be one less data point in the Moving Range chart than the Individual chart





Xbar-R Charts



- Control charts for variables data
- Monitors the process over time
- The distribution does not have to be approximately normal
- Based on the average of a series of observations, called a subgroup
- Monitors the variation between observations in the subgroup over time
- The larger the subgroup, the more sensitive the chart will be to shifts, providing a Rational Subgroup can be formed







Rational Subgroup

- ✓ Items which were produced under the same conditions
- \checkmark When possible, formed by using consecutive units
- \checkmark Each subgroup's statistics are compared to the control limits, and patterns of variation between subgroups are analyzed

Picture a Stable Distribution

 \checkmark A group of objects containing a characteristic of interest

Distribution



Subgroup:

• A subset of the distribution of interest



Sample Xbar-R Chart



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- I-MR
 - When you have a limited number of individual measurements
- Xbar-R
 - When you can collect measurements in groups (subgroups) of between two and ten observations
- For subgroup sizes greater than ten
 - Use Xbar / Sigma charts
- Must have data that is time-ordered



- Always look at the Range chart first
 - Control limits on the I-MR are derived from the change in range (moving range)
 - The control limits on the Xbar-R chart are derived from the average range
 - If the Range chart is out of control, then the control limits on the Individual and X-bar chart are meaningless.
- Look for out of control points
 - Special causes must be eliminated
 - There should be more than five distinct values plotted
 - No single value should appear more than 25% of the time

I-MR Chart



 Looking at the moving range chart, what does the out of control point tell you?





 Average charts become more sensitive to process changes as the subgroup size is increased



Sensitive to Process Changes



 As the subgroup size increases the control limits of the range chart increase



- Range Chart
 - UCL 42.86
 - LCL 0

- Range Chart
 - UCL 52.99
 - LCL 5.27



- Individual/Xbar Charts
 - Interpret the points on the X-bar chart relative to the control limits and Run Tests
 - Look for out of control points
 - Look for obvious non-random behavior
- Averages in the Xbar Chart cannot be compared to requirements



Xbar-R Cannot Be Compared to Requirements



Look at the control limits on the Individual and Xbar Charts



UCL – 131.17
LCL – 68.2

UCL – 109.33LCL – 90.05

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General Steps for Constructing I-MR Charts

- 1. Select characteristic (critical "X" or CTQ) to be charted
- 2. Determine the purpose of the chart
- 3. Select data-collection points
- 4. Determine the measurement method/criteria
- 5. Drop the data into Minitab or other charting software



Questions?



Coventry Healthcare – Larry Dyer MBB

Run Tests – Western Electric Rules



