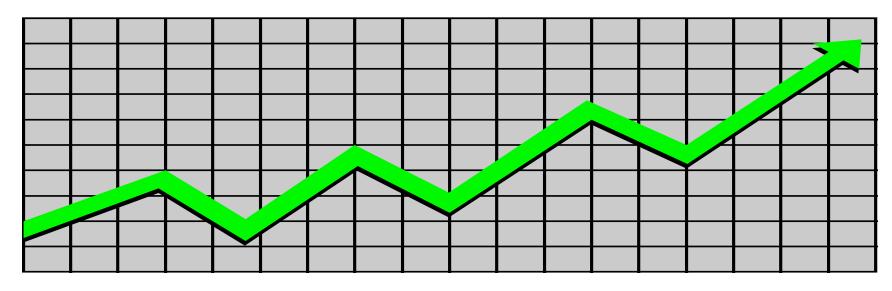
Available as a Powerpoint data file

The Elsmar Cove

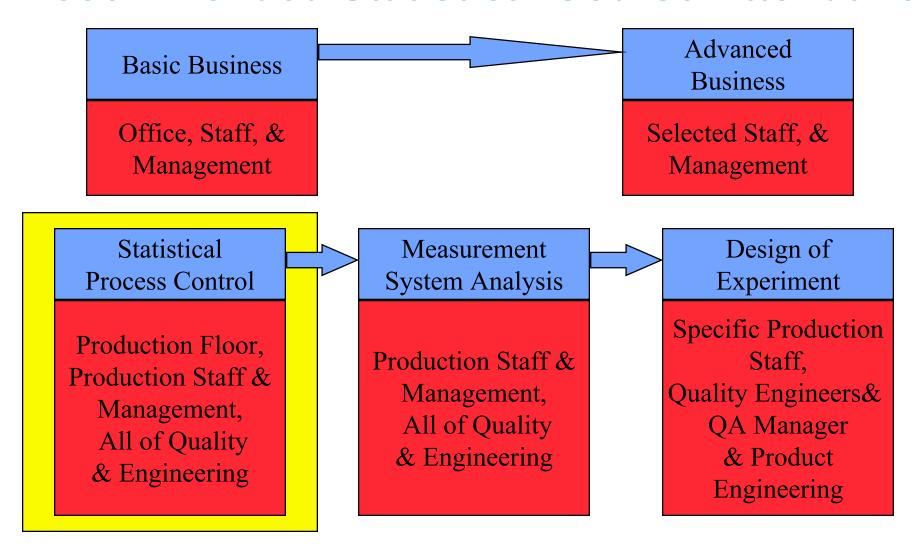
http://Elsmar.com/courses.html

# Statistics



# Statistical Process Control & Control Charting

#### **Recommended Statistical Course Attendance**

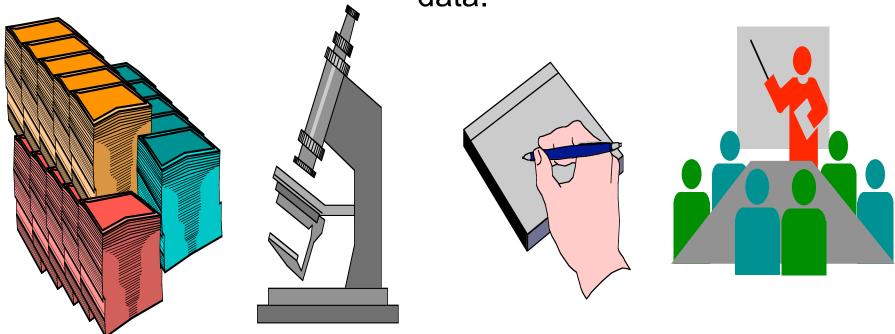


\*Your APQP Team should attend as many classes as time will allow

### **Basic Definitions**

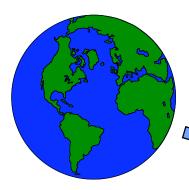
#### Statistics:

the science of collecting, analyzing, interpreting and presenting data.



A *Statistic* is a single characteristic taken from this process.

# Universe, Populations & Samples



#### **Universe:**

the collection of all elements

#### **Population:**

the set of objects of interest





#### Sample:

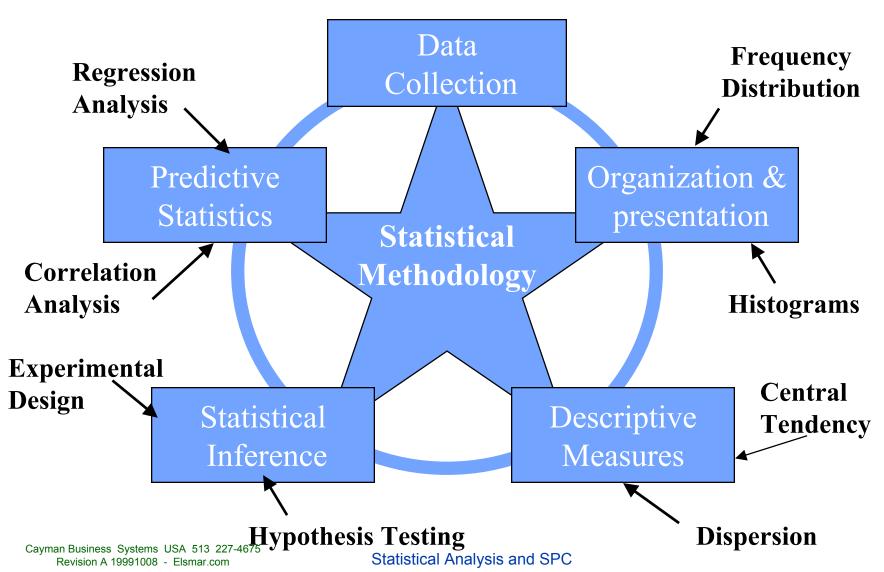
a subset of objects taken from the population

#### **Randam Sample:**

all possible samples of the same size have an equal chance of occuring.

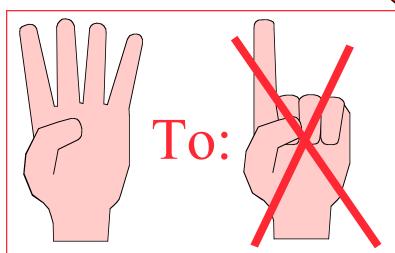
# Statistical Methodology

*Statistical methods* are procedures for drawing conclusions about populations utilizing information provided by random samples.



### Classification of Statistics:

• Descriptive statistics: the methodology of efficiently collecting, organizing, and describing data.



• Inductive Statistics: the process of drawing conclusions about unknown characteristics of a population usually based from a sample taken from the population

• Predictive Statistics: the process of predicting future values based on historical data.

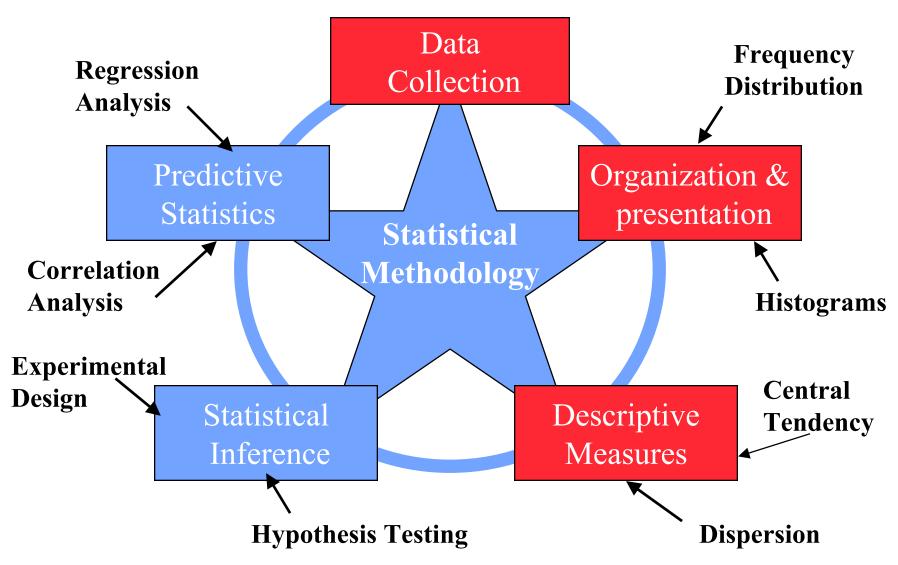
Tomorrow we will produce 5000 parts, based off of last weeks production of: 5250; 5500; 4500; 4750; 5000

#### Four Levels of Measurements

- Nominal: Objects are classified into simple attributable categories with no quantitative difference between them, (Yes/No, Good/Bad).
- Ordinal: Objects are able to be arranged, ranked, or ordered into a meaningful attributable arrangement with no real measurement. (Yellow/Blue/Green, Square/Round/Triangle)
- Interval: observations are able to be ranked into exact differences between any two observations, measurements with no natural origin or zero, 80 degrees is not twice as hot as 40 degrees. A one unit scale change corresponds to a one unit change on the object being studied.
- Ratio: contains all the properties of interval but has a natural origin.
   Having a natural origin allows 25 to behalf of 50.

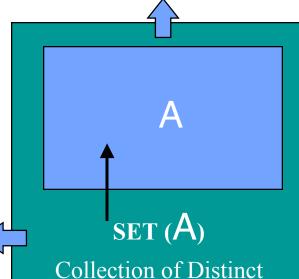
Note that each successive level has all the properties of the previous.

#### **SPC** is Concerned With:



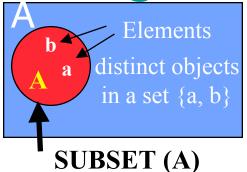
### **Data Collection**

**Venn Diagrams** 

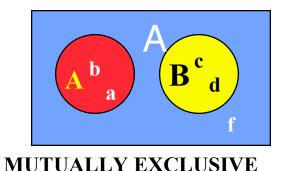


Collection of Distinct
Objects Having Some
Attribute in Common
This is an example of a
Null or Empty Set
UNIVERSAL SET

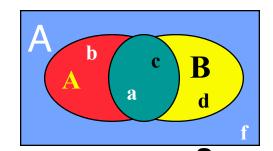
The Total Set of Elements of Interest



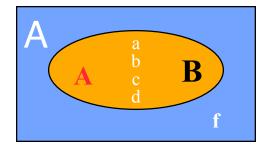
portion of the set defined in some unambiguous way



Subsets A & B have no elements in common



Intersect (A  $\cap$  B)
Common Elements of sets  $\{a,c\}$ 



Union (A U B)
Component Elements
of sets {a,b,c,d}

Complement (') is the inverse of the specific set called out Complement of set A is A' or  $\{0\}$  subset  $A' = \{c,d,f\}$ 

#### **Events**

A **Sample Space** (S) is the set of all possible outcomes.

An *Event* is any subset of a sample space.



A **Simple Event** is any subset of the sample space to include a single outcome. S = {H, T}

A **Compound Event** is any subset of the sample space which consists of two or more simple events.

S = {HHH, HHT, HTH, HTT, THH, THT, TTH, TTT}

HHH

HHT

HEads

HHH

HTAIIS

HEADS

HEADS

HTH

TAIIS

TAIIS

THH

THEADS

THEADS

THH

THEADS

THH

THEADS

T

A set of Events is said to be **Collectively Exhaustive** if all simple events are included, (like the equation above).

# Putting it all Together

 When gathering data for a process, we must realize that

# **Organizing Data**

# **Presenting Data**

# Descriptive Measurement

### **SPC** - Variation

The greatest obstacle to the use of modern quality control methods is the mistaken belief that the math involved is too difficult for the 'ordinary' person to understand. While the **Theories** on which many statistical methods are based involve some high-powered mathematics, you don't have to be a mathematician to use many of these modern methods nor do you have to fully understand them.





Let's start by taking a pie and cutting it into pieces making each piece the same size as best we can.

There is an inherent variability in even a very good product. You can see this if you have a measurement device which is sensitive enough to detect that variation. In life this is typically the case. No two flowers, snow flakes, pieces of pie or thumb prints are the same. They may look alike, but when seen 'through a microscope' we can see they are each different. We call these differences **Variation**.

#### Causes of Variation

#### **Special Causes of Variation**

Special causes are problems that arise in a **periodic** fashion. They are somewhat unpredictable and can be dealt with at the machine or operator level. Examples of special causes are operator error, broken tools, and machine setting drift. This type of variation is not critical and only represents a small fraction of the variation found in a process.

#### **Common Causes of Variation**

Common causes are problems inherent in the system itself. They are always present and effect the output of the process. Examples of common causes of variation are poor training, inappropriate production methods, and poor workstation design.

As we can see, common causes of variation are more critical on the manufacturing process than special causes. In fact Dr. Deming suggests that about 80 to 85% of all the problems encountered in production processes are caused by common causes, while only 15 to 20% are caused by special causes

#### Causes of Variation

#### **Special Causes of Variation**

- Accounts for 5-15% of quality problems.
- Is due to a factor that has "slipped" into the process causing unstable or unpredictable variation.
- Are unpredictable variations that are abnormal to the process including human error, equipment failure, defective/changed raw materials, acid spills, power failures, etc.; failure to remove them can result is corrosion, scale, metal fatigue, lower equipment efficiency, increased maintenance costs, unsafe working conditions, wasted chemicals, increased down-time (plant shut-down...), etc.
- Removal of all special causes of variation yields a process that is in statistical control.
- Correctable by local personnel.

#### **Common Causes of Variation**

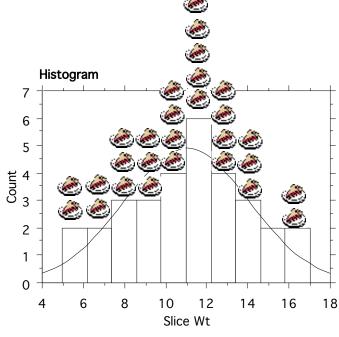
- □ Account for 85-95% of quality problems
- Are due to the many small sources of variation "engineered" into the process of the "system".
- Are naturally caused and are always present in the process because they are linked to the system's base ability to perform; it is the predictable and stable inherent variability resulting from the process operating as it was designed.
- Standard deviation, s, is used as a measure of the inherent process variability; it helps describe the well-known normal distribution curve.
- Correctable only by management; typically requires the repair/replacement of a system's component, or the system itself.

### Distribution

Sometimes you can look at two slices of pie and tell which is bigger. Sometimes you cannot. Slice a pie up into what you think are equal sized pieces and line them up according to size. Many look the same. If we want to arrange the pieces according to size, we need another way to tell how big each piece is. A weight scale will do quite well. Now - lets look at what we would find if we weighed each piece.

There are big and little pieces, but you can see that the number of pieces in each step of the graph (weight group) varies from the largest piece to the smallest piece in a fairly regular and symmetrical pattern. This is the **Distribution** of the weights. The curve is what we would expect if the Distribution was a '**Normal**' distribution.

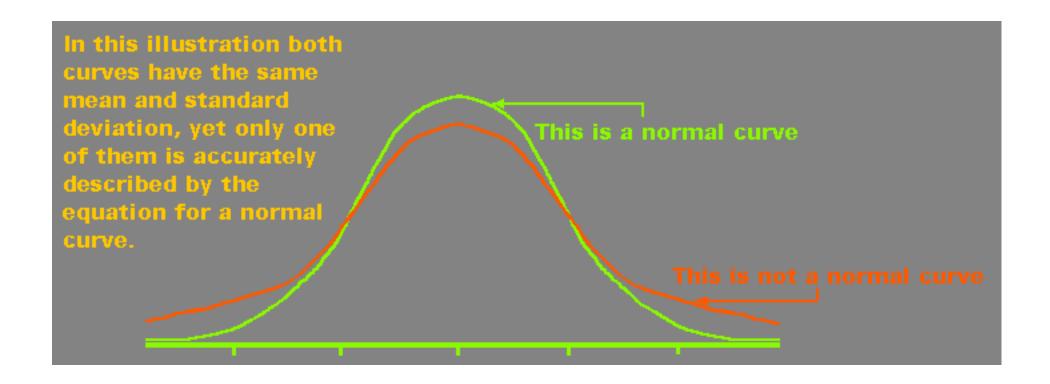
Imagine doing this with 100 pies!



#### Frequency Distribution for Slice Wt

From (≥)	To (<)	Count	Normal Count
5.000	6.200	2	.994
6.200	7.400	2	1.856
7.400	8.600	3	2.968
8.600	9.800	3	4.065
9.800	11.000	4	4.766
11.000	12.200	6	4.786
12.200	13.400	4	4.116
13.400	14.600	3	3.031
14.600	15.800	2	1.911
15.800	17.000	2	1.032
	Total	31	29.527

#### A Normal Distribution



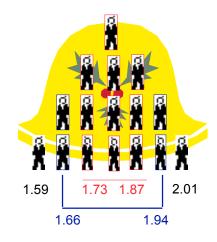
### Normal Distribution (Bell Curve)

This is a pattern which repeats itself endlessly not only with pieces of pie but in manufactured products and in nature. There is always an inherent **Variability**. Sometimes it's a matter of finding a measurement device sensitive enough to measure it.

Measurements may be in volts, millimeters, amperes, hours, minutes, inches or one of many other units of measure.

It you take a sample of a population (such as height) and you chart their distribution, you will end up with a curve that looks like a bell.

A **Distribution** which looks like a bell is a **Normal** Distribution. Normal Distributions are the most common type of distribution found in nature - but they are **not** the ONLY type of distribution.



Heights of men in the military:

Average height: 1.80 meters

Shortest: 1.59 meters

Tallest 2.01 meters

Sixty-eight percent are between 1.73 and 1.87 meters.

Ninety-five per cent are between 1.66 and 1.94 meters.

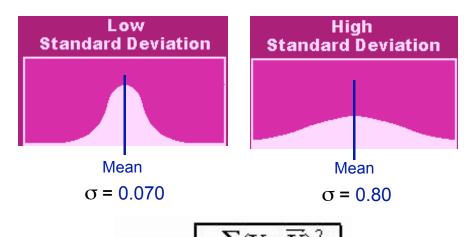
#### **Standard Deviation**

#### **Human Proportions**

	Men		Women		
Height	X-Bar	sigma	X-Bar	sigma	
Standing	1.8	0.07	1.6	0.05	
Sitting	0.9	0.03	0.86	0.02	

$$\overline{X} = X$$
-Bar = Mean

$$\sigma$$
 = sigma = Standard Deviation



Finding the Standard Deviation

The most common measure of <u>dispersion</u>. The standard deviation is the square root of the <u>variance</u>, which is the sum of squared distances between each datum and the <u>mean</u>, divided by the <u>sample</u> <u>size</u> minus one. For a tiny sample of three values (1,2,15), the <u>mean</u> is:

$$(1 + 2 + 15)/3 = 6$$

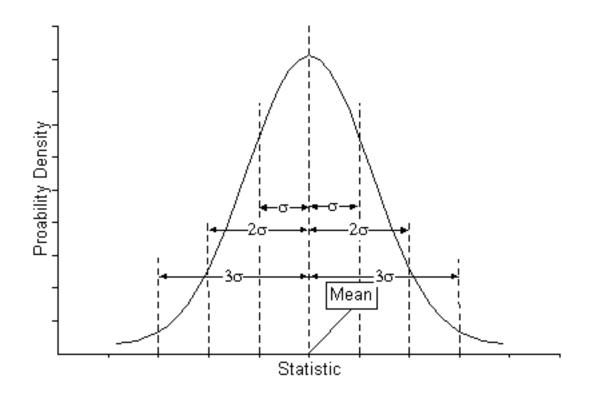
and the variance is

$$((1-6)^2 + (2-6)^2 + (15-6)^2) / (3-1) = 61$$

The standard deviation  $(\sigma)$  is not a very helpful measure of spread for distributions in general. Its usefulness is due to its intimate connection with a special type of distribution, namely to the **normal distribution**.

The standard deviation is more sensitive to a few extreme observations than is the mean. A skewed distribution with a few values in the 'long tail' will have large standard deviation and it will not provide much helpful information in such cases.

### **Standard Deviation**



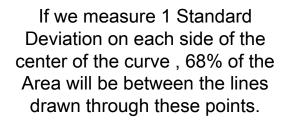
#### **Basic Terms**

$$\overline{X} = X$$
-Bar = Average

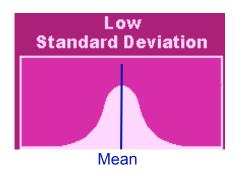
This is X-Bar. It tells us the **Average** of a group of numbers (in this case average height). X-Bar is the middle of the curve where we have the largest percentage of men.

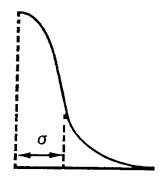


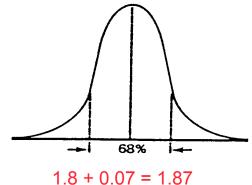
σ is the Greek letter Sigma. It is the distance from the center of the curve to the point where the curve stops curving downward and starts curving outward. We're interested in points at 1, 2 and 3 Standard Deviations from the Mean (the center).



The Human Proportions table tells us the Standard Deviation (σ - dispersion) of men's heights is 0.07 meters, so by simple addition and subtraction we know that 68% of the men are between 1.73 and 1.87 meters.







$$1.8 + 0.07 = 1.87$$
  
 $1.8 - 0.07 = 1.73$ 

#### More On Standard Deviation

Two standard deviations would be 0.14 meters. Ninety-five percent of men are between 1.66 and 1.94 meters. Three Standard Deviations are 0.21 meters and 99.73% of the Area of the Normal curve is between +3 sigma ( $+3\sigma$ ) and  $-3\sigma$ . We can say that practically all of the men are between 1.59 and 2.01 meters.

Only about 13 in 10,000 men are taller than 2.01 meters. The same is true of men below 1.59 meters.

#### But...

What does this have to do with making nuts, bolts, transmissions and aspirin tablets?

If we have a machine which will measure every man who comes down the street, what are the odds that any individual man is 1.8 meters tall? What are the odds that the next man who walks by will be between 1.59 and 2.01 meters? How about between 1.73 and 1.87 meters?

#### **Two Standard Deviations**

$$\sigma$$
 = 0.07 x2 = 0.14

$$1.8 - 0.14 = 1.66$$

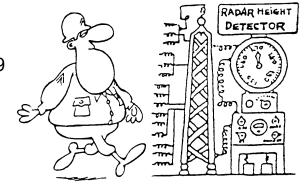
$$1.8 + 0.14 = 1.94$$

#### **Three Standard Deviations**

$$\sigma$$
 = 0.07 x3 = 0.21

$$1.8 - 0.21 = 1.59$$

$$1.8 + 0.21 = 2.01$$



### Dispersion Revisited

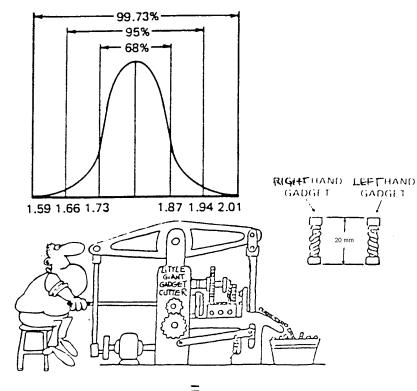
Sixty-eight % of all men are between 1.73 and 1.87 meters tall. So, there are 68 chances in 100 that the next man will be between these Limits. I'd have to give you odds of 68 to 32 (2:1).

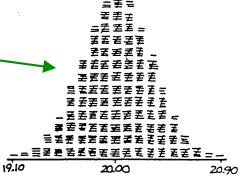
Ninety-five % of all men are between 1.66 and 1.94 meters tall. That gives us odds of 95 to 5 (19:1) that the next man won't be shorter than 1.66 nor taller than 1.94 meters. There are only 2 1/2 chances in 100 that the next man will be taller than 1.94 meters and 13 1/2 chances in 10,000 (1:740) that he will be taller than 2.01 meters.

The gadgets we make are supposed to be exactly 20 millimeters long. We are going to make a **Lot** of 500 widgets.

We measure the Lot with a micrometer and find:

As you can see, they are in the same Bell Shaped Pattern as the pieces of pie and the men.





### Population vs Sample

The **Average** is 20 millimeters, but individually they vary from 19.10mm to 20.90mm. This is OK with our customers because their specification calls for and Average of 20mm with a **Tolerance** of +/-1.5mm. That means they will accept anything between 18.5 and 21.5mm. These points are know as the Limits or the **Tolerance Limits**.

Our problem is to keep the widget cutting machines at the center of 20.0mm and to not let individuals vary (disperse) more than they did in this lot.

All of the gadgets we measured were made at one time (the same Run) on the same machine by the same operator and from the same material lot. Because of all these things being the same, we can be quite sure that the Pattern of their Variation will almost exactly fit the Normal Curve.

We would also know that the greatest Individual Variations will be quite close to +/-3  $\sigma$ . This is a Spread of 6 Standard Deviations.

The difference between the Longest (20.9mm) and the Shortest (19.1mm) is 1.80mm. One sixth of 1.80 is 0.3. So.... The standard deviation is 0.3mm.

Since we measured every widget, we measured the entire **Population**. We can do the same thing with a **Sample**.

To take a sample, you take gadgets out of a bucket. A Sample is usually more than 1 piece. We'll use a Sample Size of 5. BUT WAIT!!! We want a Random Sample. To get a Random Sample we must 'dig around' in the bucket we're taking gadgets from. If we do this 5 times, we shold see something like the table below.

	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	
	20.16	20.25	20.02 +	19.73	20.33	
	20.27 +	19.63 <b>-</b>	19.88	20.46 +	20.03	
	19.94	20.15	19.99	19.41 <b>-</b>	20.37 +	
	19.54 <b>-</b>	20.59 +	19.96	20.01	19.68 <b>-</b>	Grand
	19.85	19.90	19.78 -	20.09	20.13	Average
Average	19.95	20.10	19.93	19.94	20.11	20.01
Range	0.73	0.96	0.24	1.05	0.69	0.734
	<ul><li>+ Largest Measurement in sample</li><li>- Smallest Measurement in sample</li></ul>					

These 5 Sample Averages vary quite a bit from the Lot Average of 20.0mm, but the Grand Average is 20.01mm. We wouldn't always come so close, but if we have enough Samples (say 20 to 25) the Average of a number of Samples will be a good Estimate of the Actual Average of the Lot.

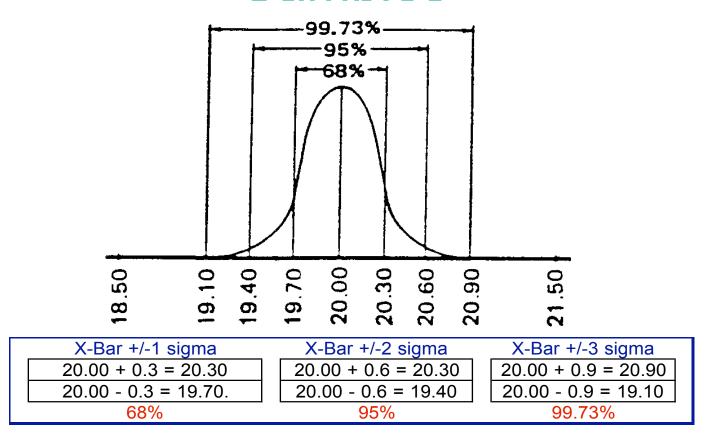
You'll notice the table has another number labeled Range. The range is the difference between the largest and smallest measurement in each sample. Like the Averages, the Ranges vary in each sample.

In our Lot of 500 gadgets we divided the Range by 6 to get the Standard Deviation. In that case we were measuring a **Population**. We can't do that with **Samples** of 5 because we had 500 chances of getting some of the extreme values - not just 5 chances. In **Samples** of 5 there is less chance of getting some of the extreme values so the **Divisor** will be smaller. We call this divisor the **d**<sub>2</sub> (d two) factor. **We can find (look up) the appropriate d factor in a Table.** For a sample size of 5, the **d**<sub>2</sub> factor is 2.326 (from the table). Dividing the Average Range (0.734) by the **d**<sub>2</sub> factor (2.326) gives us a Standard Deviation of 0.316. This doesn't differ much from the figure of 0.3 which we got when we measured 500 pieces.

This shows that by taking relatively **small** samples we can Estimate two very important things about the Distribution of the Measurements of any product: The Average and the Standard Deviation.

$$\overline{X} = X$$
-Bar = Average  $\sigma = \text{Sigma} = \text{Standard Deviation}$ 

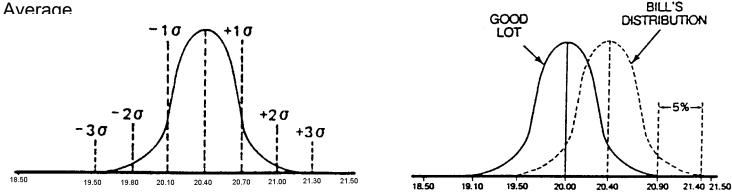
The Standard Deviation ( $\sigma$ ) of the gadgets is 0.3mm and the Average is 20.00mm. Knowing these 2 values, we can now put some % figures on our Normal Distribution Curve. If we're doing a good job of cutting the gadgets to the Average of 20mm, 68% should be between 19.70 and 20.30mm. Ninety-five percent should be between -2 s and +2  $\sigma$  (19.40mm and 20.90mm). 99.73% should be between -3  $\sigma$  and +3  $\sigma$  (19.10mm and 20.90mm).



Even if something very unusual happens to give me an occasional gadget shorter than 19.10mm, or longer than 20.90mm, as long as the gadget machine is properly adjusted to make an Average of 20.00mm I could give you odds of 997 to 3 that you can't find one (At Random) outside of these Limits. But - You and I know that machines, materials and operators do not always do what they are supposed to do.

Bill Jones works on machine #2. Bill's mother-in-law has been camping at his house for the last 6 weeks. Bill has been feeling sort of frustrated. His mind just isn't focused on cutting gadgets. Yesterday his machine was off about four tenths (4/10) of a millimeter.

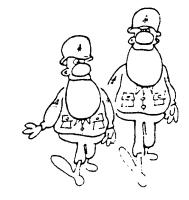
How did we find out? We cannot if we just look at a few individual gadgets. Let's assume that his Average was 20.40mm. The Pattern of the Variation of Individual Measurements about the center of the 20.40mm was the same as in any good lot... Except - the Bell Shaped Curve was shoved over +0.40mm. Sigma (Standard Deviation) is the same (0.3mm). The 3σ Limits of his Distribution are now changed to 19.50mm and 21.30mm. They are within the customer's specification of 18.50mm through 21.50mm... But - the customer will probably complain about the higher



We've already seen that a good Lot can be expected to vary between 19.10mm and 20.90mm. Five per cent of the gadgets Bill was making were over the limit of 20.90mm. NOTE: You have top use a Statistical Table to figure this out! If we were to pick up single pieces from Bill's machine, there are only 5 chances in 100, or 1 chance in 20, that we would get one of the pieces which is larger than 20.90mm.

#### So What?

Remember a while back we gave Odds of 740 to 1 that the next man to walk by the height machine would not be taller than 2.01 meters. We were betting that he would not exceed the 3 sigma Limit. What if we look at the next 2 men who walk by. It's a safe bet that the Average of the two will be nearer the Grand Average of 1.80 meters than to the extreme height of 2.01 meters.



For the same Odds of 740:1, I'd have to use narrower 3 sigma ( $\sigma$ ) Limits. If we bet on the Average of the next 4 men, we'd have to use still narrower Limits? No! These Limits are NOT reduced in proportion to the number of men (the Sample Size). Limits for the Average of 2 men would be about 2/3 of the Limits for Individuals. For the Average of 4 men, the Limits would be 1/2 the Limits for Individuals. How do we get these figures? Not only do measurements of Individuals vary in the Bell Shaped Pattern of the Norman Distribution Curve, but Sample Averages vary in the same Pattern, about the same Center. However, the Standard Deviation (sigma or  $\sigma$ ) of Sample Averages is the  $\sigma$  of Individuals divided by the Square Root of the Sample Size.

In the case of our men, the Sigma of Individual Heights is 0.07 meters. For each Sample size we divide 0.07m by the Square Root of the Sample Size.

### A Square Root?

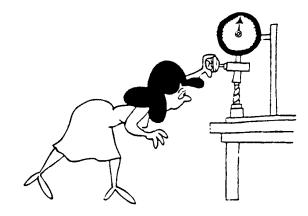
We get Square Roots from a Table or a Calculator.

Let's apply this principle to measuring gadgets from Bill's machine. We take Samples of 5 gadgets from the machine every 15 minutes.

				Three sigma Limits		
	Square Root	0.07 Divided	3 Times	Shortest	Longest	
Sample	of Sample	by Square	Sigma of	(1.8-3	(1.8 + 3)	
Size	Size	Root	Acerages	sigma)	sigma	
2	1.414	0.050	0.150	1.65	1.95	
4	2.000	0.035	0.105	1.70	1.91	
5	2.236	0.031	0.093	1.71	1.89	
10	3.162	0.022	0.066	1.73	1.87	

We get Square Roots from a Table or a Calculator.

Let's apply this principle to measuring gadgets from Bill's machine. We take Samples of 5 gadgets from the machine every 15 minutes and measure them with a dial micrometer. We have seen that Standard Deviation (sigma or  $\sigma$ ) of this measurement is 0.3mm. The Square Root of 5 (the Sample Size) is 2.236. Dividing 0.3 by 2.236 gives us a Standard Deviation of 0.134mm for Averages of 5 gadgets. 3 Standard Deviations is 0.402mm.



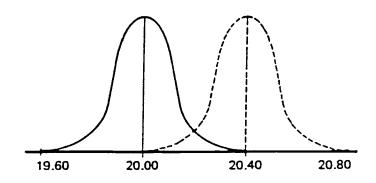
0.3mm /  $\sqrt{5} = 0.134$ mm

(Adjustment for Sample Size)

 $3 \times 0.134$ mm = 0.402mm

#### A Shift in the Center

If Bill's machine is set up right, for an Average of 20.00mm, Averages of 5 should not vary more than 0.4mm above and below this Center (between 19.60mm and 20.40mm). As long as our Sample Averages vary between these limits we can be reasonably sure that the Actual Average of the machine is close to the Specified Average of 20.00mm. It's a 740:1 bet that no Sample Average is higher than 20.40mm.



If Bill's machine is set up right, for an Average of 20.00mm, Averages of 5 should not vary more than 0.4mm above and below this Center (between 19.60mm and 20.40mm). As long as our Sample Averages vary between these limits we can be reasonably sure that the Actual Average of the machine is close to the Specified Average of 20.00mm. It's a 740:1 bet that no Sample Average is higher than 20.40mm.

But... If Bill's machine setting is 20.40mm, Averages of Samples of 5 will vary 0.4mm on either side of this High Center. There is now a 50:50 chance that any Sample Average will be above 20.40mm.

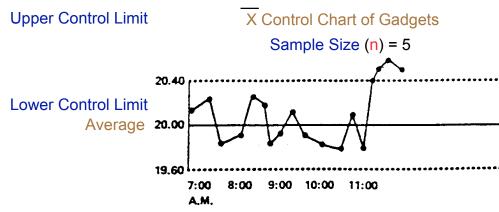
Of course, there's the same 50:50 chance that the Sample Average will be BELOW 20.40mm. But... With these Odds in our favour we're practically certain to get a high Average in the first 2 or 3 Samples.

#### **Control Chart**

Developed in the mid 1920's by Walter Shewhart of Bell labs, this SPC tool has become a major contributor to the quality improvement process. It allows the use to monitor and control process variation. It also allow the user to make the proper corrective actions to eliminate the sources of variation. Even though they require the user to have some statistical background, the are relatively easy to construct. There are two basic types of control charts, the average and range control charts. The first deals with how close the process is to the nominal design value, while the range chart indicates the amount of spread or variability around the nominal design value. A control chart has basically three lines: the upper control limit **UCL**, the center line CL (average), and the lower control limit LCL. These lines are computed from samples taken from the production line. Each sample represents a point on the control chart. A minimum of 25 points is required for a control chart to be accurate. In the Control Chart at the right, the Center Line says that the gadgets should Average 20.00mm. The Upper and Lower dotted lines say that if this specification is met. Averages of Sample sizes (n) of 5 (n = 5) should not be less than 19.60mm nor more than 20.40mm.



# A Control Chart is a Picture of what we are doing.



#### **Control Charts**

#### **Control Charts Serve 2 Basic Purposes**

Control Charts provide information for *decision making* with respect to a manufacturing process. When a random pattern of variation occurs and process capability has been established, the process should be left alone. When an unstable (nonrandom) pattern of variation is occurring, action should be taken to find and eliminate the disturbing or assignable causes.

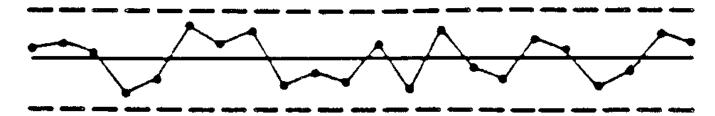
Control Charts provide information for *decision making* with respect to recently produced product. The Control Chart can be used as one source of information in the determination of whether product should be released to the customer or some alternate disposition made.

Control Charts provide information as to whether a process is being influenced by Chance causes or Special causes. A process is said to be in Statistical Control when all Special causes of variation have been removed and only Common causes remain. This is evidenced on a Control Chart by the absence of points beyond the Control Limits and by the absence of Non-Random Patterns or Trends within the Control Limits. A process in Statistical Control indicates that production is representative of the best the process can achieve with the materials, tools and equipment provided. Further process improvement can only be made by reducing variation due to Common causes, which generally means management taking action to improve the system.

**Upper Control Limit** 

Average

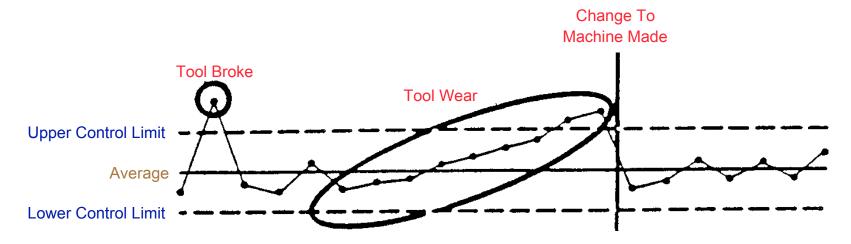
**Lower Control Limit** 



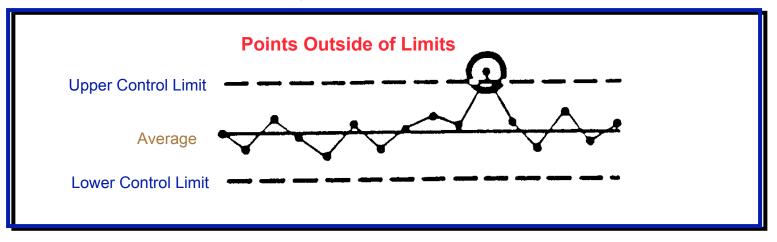
- A. Most points are near the center line.
- B. A few points are near the control limit.
- C. No points (or only a 'rare' point) are beyond the Control Limits.

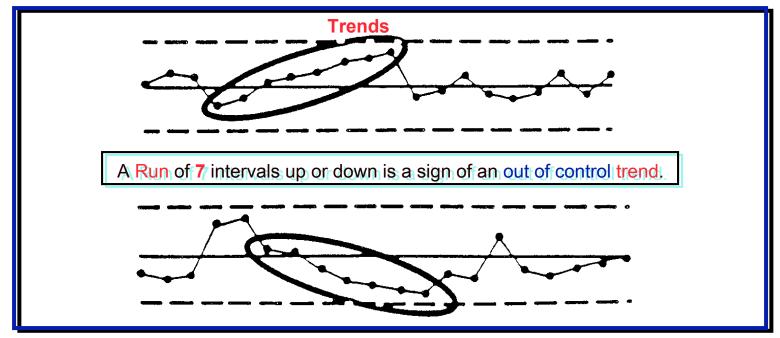
When Special causes of variation are affecting a process and making it unstable and unreliable, the process is said to be Out Of Control. Special causes of variation can be identified and eliminated thus improving the capability of the process and quality of the product. Generally, Special causes can be eliminated by action from someone directly connected with the process.

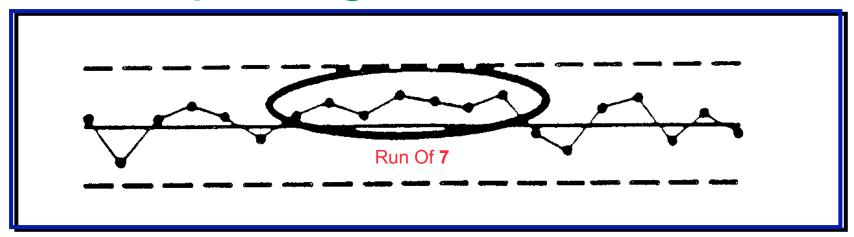
The following are some of the more common Out Of Control patterns:



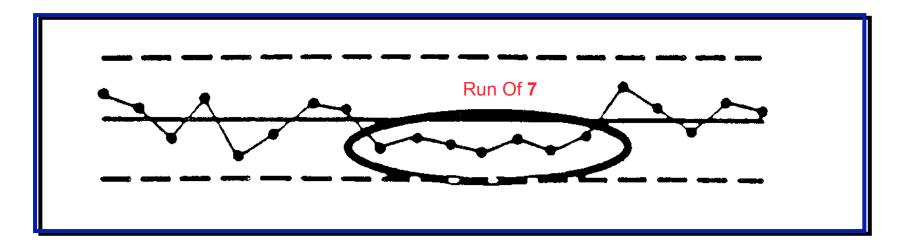
A. Most points are near the center line.

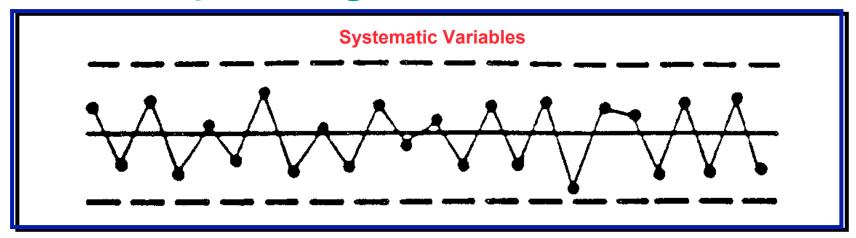




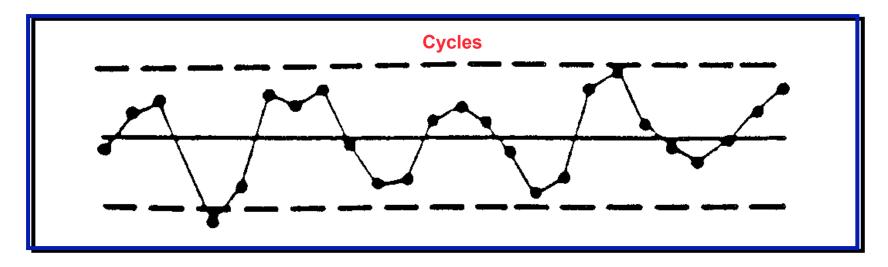


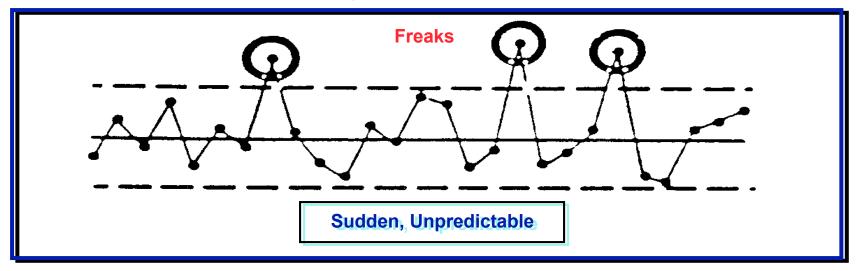
A Run of 7 successive points above or below the center line is an out of control condition.

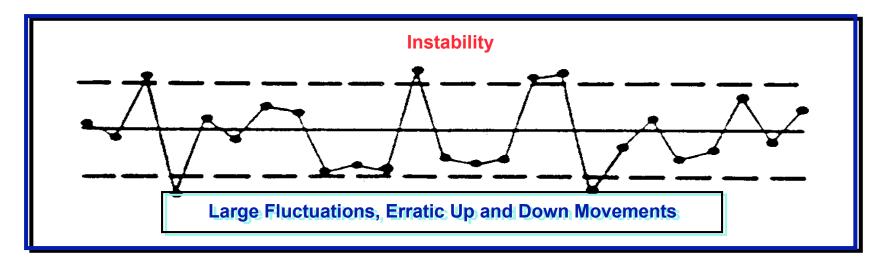


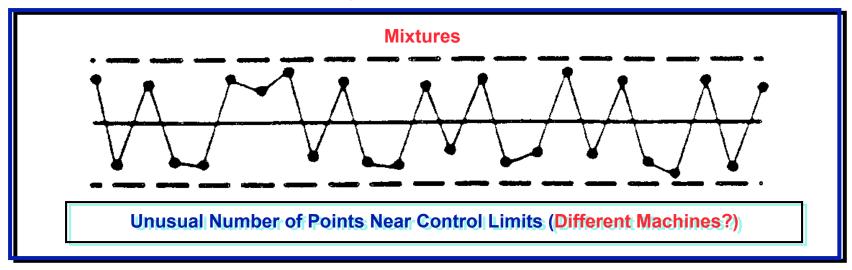


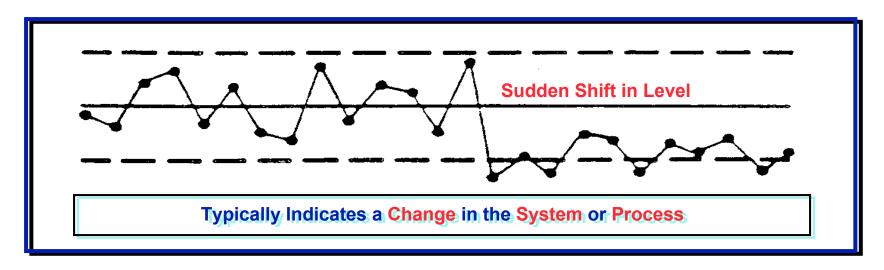
Predictable, Repeatable Patterns

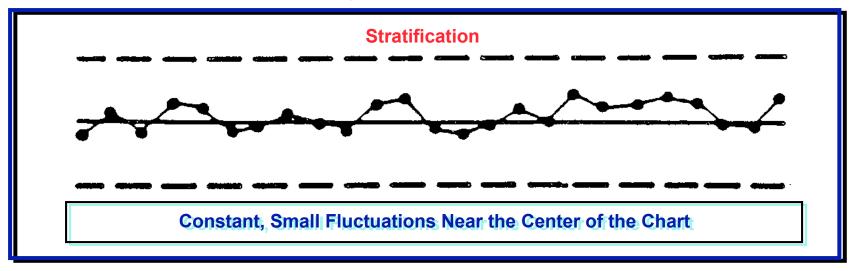












### **Analysis Summary**

There is a wide range of **non-random patterns** that require action. When the presence of a special cause is suspected, the following actions should be taken (subject to local instructions).

#### 1. CHECK

Check that all calculations and plots have been accurately completed, including those for control limits and means. When using variable charts, check that the pair (x bar, and R bar) are consistent. When satisfied that the data is accurate, **act immediately.** 

#### 2. INVESTIGATE

Investigate the process operation to determine the cause.

Use tools such as:

Brainstorming

Cause and Effect

Pareto Analysis

Your investigation should cover issues such as:

The method and tools for measurement

The staff involved (to identify any training needs

Time series, such as staff changes on particular days of the week

Changes in material

Machine wear and maintenance

Mixed samples from different people or machines

Incorrect data, mistakenly or otherwise

Changes in the environment (humidity etc.)

### **Analysis Summary**

#### 3.ACT

Decide on appropriate action and implement it.

Identify on the control chart

The cause of the problem

The action taken

As far as possible, eliminate the possibility of the special cause happening again.

#### 4. CONTINUE MONITORING

#### Plotting should continue against the existing limits

The effects of the process intervention should become visible. If not, it should be investigated. Where control chart analysis highlights an improvement in performance, the effect should be researched in order that:

Its operation can become integral to the process

Its application can be applied to other processes where appropriate

Control limits should be recalculated when out of control periods for which special causes have been found have been eliminated from the process.

The control limits are recalculated **excluding** the data plotted for the out of control period. A suitable sample size is also necessary.

On completion of the recalculation, you will need to check that all plots lie within the new limits

#### Control Charts X = X-Bar = Average

The most common type of Control Chart is the X-Bar & R Chart

#### **Attribute Control Charts**