

Improved Phase I Control Charts for Monitoring Times Between Events

N. Kumar^{*†} and S. Chakraborti[‡]

Abstract

In many situations the times between certain events are observed and monitored instead of the number of events themselves, particularly when the events occur rarely. In this case it is common to assume that the times between events follow an exponential distribution. Control charts are one of the main tools of statistical process control and monitoring. Control charts are used in Phase I to assist operating personnel in bringing the process into a state of statistical control. In this paper, Phase I control charts are considered for the observations from an exponential distribution with an unknown mean. A simulation study is carried out to compare the in-control (IC) robustness and out-of-control (OOC) performance of the proposed chart. It is seen that the proposed charts are considerably more IC robust than two competing charts and have comparable OOC properties.

keywords: Phase I and Phase II control charts; Exponential distribution; In-control robustness; TBE; Performance; Dixon's statistic.

1 Introduction

A control chart is a very useful statistical tool used to distinguish between common and special causes of variation. In the literature, two phases of control charting practice have been discussed. In Phase I, a set of process data is gathered and

^{*}Department of Statistics, University of Pretoria, Hatfield, South Africa

[†]Correspondence to: Department of Statistics, University of Pretoria, Hatfield, South Africa, Email: nirpeksh@gmail.com, Mob.:+27-740717125

[‡]Department of Information Systems, Statistics and Management Science, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487, USA

analyzed all at once in a retrospective analysis, constructing trial control limits to determine if the process has been in control over the period of time where the data were collected, and to see if reliable control limits can be established to monitor the future production process. Control charts are used primarily in Phase I to assist operating personnel in bringing the process into a state of statistical control. In Phase II, we use the control chart to monitor the process by comparing the sample statistic for each successive sample as it is drawn from the process to the control limits. The Phase I or the retrospective phase is an important component of an overall control charting and monitoring regime where the objectives are somewhat different from the Phase II or the monitoring phase. The reader is referred to Chakraborti *et al.*¹ for an overview of Phase I control charts.

In many situations the time between certain events are observed and monitored instead of the number of event occurrences, particularly when the events occur rarely. In this case it is common to assume that the times between events (TBE) follow an exponential distribution. Montgomery² recommends that the times between failures be monitored with regard to the quality of the process. Several TBE control charts have been proposed in the literature³⁻⁵. Liu *et al.*⁶ compare some of these charts including the CUSUM and EWMA charts. Some authors suggest applying the regular Shewhart charts after a transformation of the data⁷⁻⁹. Jones and Champ¹⁰ emphasize the early stage process improvement activities when failures occur according a homogeneous Poisson process. Jones and Champ¹⁰ They also addressed the seriousness of the problem when the Phase I control chart is used to control the individual false alarm rate and suggested that the Phase I control charts should be designed to control the overall false alarm rate (probability) and not the individual false alarm rate.

Robustness is an important desirable property of a control chart so that the IC chart performance is stable. If a control chart is not IC robust, its performance properties become somewhat pointless. Robustness of control charts has been discussed by many authors¹¹⁻¹³. Dovoedo and Chakraborti¹³ examined the robustness Jones and Champ¹⁰ charts and proposed new Phase I control charts based on a modified box-plot for individual observations from an exponential distribution with an unknown mean, so that the overall false alarm rate is controlled at a given nominal value. In this paper, we improve on these charts further and consider new Phase I control charts for observations from an exponential distribution with an unknown mean.

The key idea is that since the proposed charts are constructed from the median of the data, the resulting control limits are expected to be more IC robust than those proposed by Jones and Champ¹⁰, which are based on the mean, in the presence of

one or more OOC observations.

The paper is structured as follows: In Section 2, the control limits for the one-sided control chart are proposed. The control limits for two-sided control chart are developed in Section 3. A simulation study is carried out to compare the in-control robustness of the proposed procedure with the Jones and Champ¹⁰ and Dovoedo and Chakraborti¹³ procedures in Section 4 and is compared the OOC performance in Section 5. In section 6, a numerical example is given for illustration and the concluding remarks are made in Section 7.

2 The One-sided control chart

Suppose that the events in a process occur according to a homogeneous Poisson process with a constant failure rate. Under this assumption, the times between two consecutive failures are independent and follow an exponential distribution. Further suppose that there are n random times between failures, denoted by $X_i, i = 1, \dots, n$. Assume that these random variables X_1, \dots, X_n are independent and follows an exponential distribution with an unknown mean μ_1, \dots, μ_n respectively. The process is IC at time i when $\mu_i = \mu$ (unknown). Let $\bar{X} = (1/n) \sum X_i$ denote the sample average and let α denote the overall false alarm rate. Jones and Champ¹⁰ proposed the following one-sided control chart to maintain the overall false alarm rate at a nominal level α_0 .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LCL} &= [1 - (1 - \alpha_0)^{1/(n-1)}] \bar{X} \\ \text{CL} &= \bar{X} \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Let $X_{(1)}, \dots, X_{(n)}$ be the ordered observations and let $X_{(l)}, X_{(m)}, X_{(u)}$ denote the first, the second and the third quartile, respectively. Dovoedo and Chakraborti¹⁴ use the following definition for the indices l, m , and u : $m = \text{ceil}(m/2)$; $l = \text{floor}(m/4) + 1$ if $\text{mod}(m, 4) \neq 0$ and $l = \text{floor}(m/4)$ otherwise, where $\text{ceil}(a)$ denotes the smallest integer greater than or equal to a , $\text{floor}(a)$ denotes the largest integer less than or equal to a , and $\text{mod}(a, b)$ denotes the remainder in the division of an integer a by an integer b ; $u = m - l + 1$.

Motivated by a boxplot, Dovoedo and Chakraborti¹³ proposed the following lower control limit and the center line for a one-sided chart for the same problem.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LCL} &= X_{(m)} - k_l(X_{(m)} - X_{(l)}) \\ \text{CL} &= X_{(m)} \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

The constant k_l is called a fence constant, which is determined to control the overall false alarm rate at some nominal level α_0 . Thus k_l is found such that

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_0 &= \Pr[X_{(1)} < X_{(m)} - k_l(X_{(m)} - X_{(l)})|IC] \\ &= \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty I_{G_l(y_l)}(\alpha = 1, \beta = l - 1) f_{Z_{(l)}, Z_{(m)}}(z_{(l)}, z_{(m)}) dz_{(m)} dz_{(l)}\end{aligned}\quad (3)$$

where $y_{(l)} = z_{(m)} - k_l(X_{(m)} - X_{(l)})$, $I_{G_l(y_l)}(\alpha = 1, \beta = l - 1)$ denotes the incomplete Beta function evaluated at $G_l(y_{(l)}) = F(y_{(l)})/F(z_{(l)})$ and $z_{(i)}$ denotes the value of $Z_{(i)}$, the i th order statistic of a random sample of size n from the distribution of the standardized exponential random variable $Z = X/\mu$.

Dovoedo and Chakraborti¹³ suggested the lower control limit based on the spacing between the median and the first quartile, $X_{(l)}$ and $X_{(m)}$. As the observation $X_{(l+1)}$ is expected to be mostly affected directly by its predecessor $X_{(l)}$, we consider a new lower control limit for the one-sided chart, based on the the spacing between these two order statistics, as

$$\begin{aligned}\text{LCL} &= X_{(m)} - k_1(X_{(l+1)} - X_{(l)}) \\ \text{CL} &= X_{(m)}\end{aligned}\quad (4)$$

For a given nominal value α_0 the new fence constant k_1 is obtained from the following equation, which is the overall false alarm rate, that is the probability of the event that at least one observation falls below the lower control limit when the process is IC.

$$\alpha_0 = \Pr[X_{(1)} < X_{(m)} - k_1(X_{(l+1)} - X_{(l)})|IC].$$

Note that the above equation may be re-written as

$$\alpha_0 = \Pr\left[\frac{X_{(l+1)} - X_{(l)}}{X_{(m)} - X_{(1)}} < 1/k_1|IC\right].$$

Now denoting

$$T_1 = \frac{X_{(l+1)} - X_{(l)}}{X_{(m)} - X_{(1)}}.\quad (5)$$

The fence constant k_1 for the new procedure can be obtained as

$$\alpha_0 = \Pr[T_1 < 1/k_1|IC].\quad (6)$$

It turns out that the statistic T_1 is a particular case of Dixon's (Dixon¹⁵) statistic. Likes¹⁶ obtained its distribution for testing outliers in an exponential sample, which

is given in the appendix. Thus, the IC distribution of the statistic T_1 can be simply obtained by substituting suitable quantities ($s = l + 1, r = l, q = m, p = 1$) in the statistic (A.1) and its distribution (A.2). This is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
& 1 - F_{T_1}(t) \\
&= \frac{(n-1)!}{(n-m)!} (1-t) \left[\sum_{i=1}^{m-l-1} \left[\frac{(-1)^{i+1} (m-l-i) [(n-l)t + (n-m+i)(1-t)]^{-1}}{(i-1)!(m-i-1)!(n-l)} \right] \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \sum_{j=1}^{l-1} \left[\frac{(-1)^{m-l+j} j [(n-l)t + (n-l+j)(1-t)]^{-1}}{(l-j-1)!(m-l+j-1)!(n-l)} \right] \right] \quad (7)
\end{aligned}$$

Since equation (6) may be written as

$$\alpha_0 = F_{T_1}(1/k_1) = F_{T_1}(t_1) \quad (8)$$

with $t_1 = 1/k_1$. The new fence constant can be obtained using (7).

Thus for a fixed nominal value α_0 , equation (8) can be solved numerically (using, for example, the *solve* function in MATLAB), where $F_{T_1}(t_1)$ is given by (7). Once the fence constant k_1 is found, the lower control limit of the proposed one-sided control chart can be constructed by using equation (4). The values of the fence constant k_1 for some selected values of n and some typical values of the overall false alarm rate α_0 are presented in Table 1.

3 The two-sided control chart

Jones and Champ¹⁰ give the approximate lower and upper control limits to maintain the overall false alarm rate at the nominal level α_0 as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{LCL} &= \frac{n\bar{X}}{1 + (n-1)F_{2(n-1),2}(1 - \alpha_0/n + \tau)} \\
\text{CL} &= \bar{X} \\
\text{UCL} &= \frac{n\bar{X}}{1 + (n-1)F_{2(n-1),2}(\tau)}
\end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

where the F -distribution has numerator and denominator degrees of freedom $2(n-1)$ and 2; and τ satisfies $0 < \tau < \alpha_0/n$.

For the same problem, Dovoedo and Chakraborti¹³ proposed the two-sided control limits, for a given nominal value α_0 ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LCL} &= X_{(m)} - k_l(X_{(m)} - X_{(l)}) \\ \text{CL} &= X_{(m)} \\ \text{UCL} &= X_{(m)} + k_u(X_{(u)} - X_{(m)}) \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

We propose new control limits for two-sided control chart based on the spacing $X_{(u)} - X_{(u-1)}$ and $X_{(l+1)} - X_{(l)}$ as the observation $X_{(u)}$ is most affected by $X_{(u-1)}$ and $X_{(l+1)}$ by $X_{(l)}$. Hence the proposed two-sided control chart is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LCL} &= X_{(m)} - k_1(X_{(l+1)} - X_{(l)}) \\ \text{CL} &= X_{(m)} \\ \text{UCL} &= X_{(m)} + k_2(X_{(u)} - X_{(u-1)}) \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

The fence constants k_1 and k_2 may be obtained using the following statistics

$$\begin{aligned} T_1 &= \frac{X_{(l+1)} - X_{(l)}}{X_{(m)} - X_{(1)}} \\ T_2 &= \frac{X_{(u)} - X_{(u-1)}}{X_{(n)} - X_{(m)}} \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

The IC distribution of T_1 is given by (7). The statistic T_2 and its IC distribution can be obtained by replacing $s = u, r = u - 1, q = m$ and $p = m$ in equations (A.1) and (A.2). This is given by

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - F_{T_2}(t) &= (n - m)!(1 - t) \left[\sum_{i=1}^{n-u} \left[\frac{(-1)^{i+1}(n - u - i + 1)[(n - u + 1)t + i(1 - t)]^{-1}}{(i - 1)!(n - m - i)!(n - u + 1)} \right] \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{j=1}^{u-m-1} \left[\frac{(-1)^{n-u+j+1}j[(n - u + 1)t + (n - u + j + 1)(1 - t)]^{-1}}{(u - m - j - 1)!(n - u + j)!(n - u + 1)} \right] \right] \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

Thus the overall false alarm rate is given by

$$\alpha = \Pr[X_{(1)} < X_{(m)} - k_1(X_{(l+1)} - X_{(l)}) \cup X_{(n)} > X_{(m)} + k_2(X_{(u)} - X_{(u-1)}) | IC]$$

Hence for a nominal value α_0 of the overall false alarm rate, the fence constants k_1 and k_2 are obtained such that

$$\alpha_0 = \Pr[X_{(1)} < X_{(m)} - k_1(X_{(l+1)} - X_{(l)}) \cup X_{(n)} > X_{(m)} + k_2(X_{(u)} - X_{(u-1)}) | IC]$$

that is

$$\alpha_0 = \Pr[T_1 < 1/k_1 \cup T_2 < 1/k_2 | IC]. \quad (14)$$

Using the property of the exponential distribution, it can be seen that the events $\Pr[T_1 < 1/k_1]$ and $\Pr[T_2 < 1/k_2]$ are independent but are not disjoint. Hence (14) may be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_0 &= \Pr[T_1 < 1/k_1 | IC] + \Pr[T_2 < 1/k_2 | IC] - \Pr[T_1 < 1/k_1 \cap T_2 < 1/k_2 | IC] \\ &= \Pr[T_1 < 1/k_1 | IC] + \Pr[T_2 < 1/k_2 | IC] - \Pr[T_1 < 1/k_1 | IC] \cdot \Pr[T_2 < 1/k_2 | IC] \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

Thus, one way to find the constants k_1 and k_2 from (15) is to make the term $\Pr[T_1 < 1/k_1 | IC]$ in equation (15) equal to $\alpha_0/(2-\alpha_0)$ and the term $\Pr[T_2 < 1/k_2 | IC]$ equal to $\alpha_0/2$. Following this line of argument, the charting constants k_1 and k_2 are calculated and provided in Table 2 for some selected values of n and the overall nominal false alarm rate α_0 .

4 Comparison of IC robustness

Here, we first investigate the IC robustness of the one-sided control charts to the assumption of the underlying exponential distribution via simulation. Similar comparisons are then done for the two-sided charts. The IC robustness is an important attribute of a control chart and should be investigated thoroughly since in practice the underlying distribution may not be exactly exponential. The more robust the control chart, the more confidence the user has on the advertised false alarm rate associated with that control chart. Without the assurance of a robust false alarm rate, the performance of a control chart in detecting changes by a OOC signal becomes somewhat meaningless.

The simulation study is modeled after Dovoedo and Chakraborti¹³. For this, we consider two slightly more and two slightly less skewed distributions than the exponential distribution. The two more skewed distributions are the Gamma(1.1,1) and the Gamma(1.2,1) and the two less skewed distributions are the Gamma(0.8,1) and the Gamma(0.9,1), respectively. The results in this section are based on 100,000 simulations with a sample of $n = 20$ observations. The results for the one-sided control charts are reported in the Table 3.

From Table 3, it is seen that in almost all cases, the empirical overall false alarm rates for the Jones and Champ¹⁰ chart deviate most significantly from the nominal overall false alarm rate α_0 , whereas those for the proposed chart deviate the

least. In other words, in all of the 16 cases considered, the proposed procedure is most IC robust in terms of the overall false alarm rate. For example, for the Gamma(0.8,1) distribution with $\alpha_0 = 0.2$, the absolute deviation of the overall false alarm rate is 96.0% for the Jones and Champ¹⁰ chart, it is 29.8% for the Dovoedo and Chakraborti¹³ chart, but it is only 0.9% for the proposed chart. Moreover, the variation among the empirical overall false alarm rates is also seen to be negligible for the proposed control chart for any given nominal probability α_0 . Thus the proposed one-sided chart is far more IC robust than both of its competitors, the Jones and Champ¹⁰ chart and the Dovoedo and Chakraborti¹³ chart.

A similar simulation study was carried out for two-sided control charts and the results are presented in the Table 4. To compute the control limits for Jones and Champ¹⁰ charts, τ was taken to be equal to $\alpha_0/2n$, the mid-point between 0 and α_0/n in equation (9).

From Table 4, we reach the same conclusion as for Table 3. The empirical false alarm rates for the Jones and Champ¹⁰ chart deviate most significantly from the desired overall nominal false alarm rate, whereas the proposed procedure is seen to be the most robust. In fact in all the 16 cases, the proposed procedure turns out to be the most robust. For example, for the Gamma(1.2,1) distribution, using $\alpha_0 = 0.2$, the deviation is 53.1% for the Jones and Champ¹⁰ chart, 10.7% for Dovoedo and Chakraborti¹³ whereas it is only 1.6% for the proposed chart. This is a significant improvement.

A simulation study was also done to study the impact of n . It is seen that as the sample size increases the Jones and Champ¹⁰, Dovoedo and Chakraborti¹³ procedures both become less IC robust than the proposed chart. However, the proposed chart remains almost robust for all n . As the nominal value α_0 increases, the charts other than the proposed chart deviate more significantly whereas the proposed chart shows the same robustness in terms of overall nominal false alarm rate α_0 .

Next we examine the OOC performance of the charts.

5 The OOC performance

To compare the out-of-control performance of the proposed charting procedure with the other two, we follow the same set up as in Dovoedo and Chakraborti¹³. We use the shift values for δ : -0.05; -0.1; -0.25; and -0.5.

Tables 5 and 6 show the performance of the one-sided and two-sided control charts, respectively, in terms of the observed proportions of out-of-control signals. All these results are based on 100,000 simulations with $n = 20$. The 95% margin of error for reported results in Tables 5 and 6 is approximately 0.00295.

It is seen that the proposed charts are comparably effective in detecting an OOC situation. For example for a nominal value $\alpha_0 = 0.1$, with 5 out of the 20 observations replaced by OOC observations from $\text{Expo}(0.5)$ ($\delta = -0.5$), the proportion of cases with at least one signal is $0.10116 = 10.116\%$ for the proposed procedure for the one-sided Phase I control chart, while it is $0.09115 = 9.115\%$ for Dovoedo and Chakraborti¹³ and $0.10156 = 10.156\%$ for Jones and Champ¹⁰ chart. It may be noted that none of these charts seems entirely superior or satisfactory in respect of OOC performance. However, the key for a Phase I is a robust IC performance.

Next we illustrate the proposed control chart with an example.

6 An Illustration

Table 7 shows a set of 30 failure time data generated from a Poisson distribution with a mean of 0.1. For these data $n = 30$, $l = 8$, $m = 15$ and $u = 23$. We monitor these data with the proposed Phase I chart.

The center line for the proposed two-sided control chart is $CL = X_{(15)} = 6.91$ and the lower and upper control limits are given by:

$$LCL = -53.9213 \quad \text{and} \quad UCL = 47.2320$$

Since $LCL < 0$ we fix the lower control limit as $LCL = 0$. It can be seen from Figure 1 that the 11th observation 52.32 plots outside the UCL which indicates an OOC situation, that needs further investigation. Note that for these data, neither the Dovoedo and Chakraborti¹³ nor the Jones and Champ¹⁰ control chart indicates any OOC situation.

7 Concluding remarks

In this paper Phase I control charts are considered for observations from an exponential distribution with an unknown mean. The proposed charts are based on the median and hence hold the IC robustness property well. In fact the proposed charts are shown to be more IC robust than both the Jones and Champ¹⁰ and the Dovoedo and Chakraborti¹³ charts currently available in the literature. Further work is necessary on the out-of-control performance of these charts.

Acknowledgements

The first author's post doctoral fellowship is supported by a South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChI) award to the second author at the University of Pretoria, in South Africa. Partial support is also provided by the Department of Statistics, University of Pretoria.

A The distribution of Dixon's statistic

Likes¹⁶ proposed Dixon's¹⁵ statistic to identify suspected observations in exponential samples. This is given by

$$Z = \frac{X_{(s)} - X_{(r)}}{X_{(q)} - X_{(p)}}, 1 \leq p \leq r < s \leq q \leq n; q - p > s - r \quad (\text{A.1})$$

The distribution of Z is shown to be

$$\begin{aligned} & 1 - F_Z(z) \\ &= \frac{(n-p)!}{(n-q)!} (1-z) \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{q-s} \sum_{k=1}^{s-r} \left[\frac{(-1)^{i+k} (q-r-i)! [(n-s+k)z + (n-q+i)(1-z)]^{-1}}{(i-1)!(k-1)!(q-s-i)!(s-r-k)!(q-p-i)!(n-s+k)} \right] \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{j=1}^{r-p} \sum_{k=1}^{s-r} \left[\frac{(-1)^{q-s+j+k} (s-r+j-1)! [(n-s+k)z + (n-r+k)(1-z)]^{-1}}{(j-1)!(k-1)!(r-p-j)!(s-r-k)!(q-r+j-1)!(n-s+k)} \right] \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.2})$$

References

1. Chakraborti S, Human SW, Graham MA. Phase I statistical process control charts: An overview and some results. *Quality Engineering* 2009; **21**:52-62.
2. Montgomery DC. *Introduction to Statistical Quality Control* (6th edition). Wiley: New York, 2009.
3. Lucas JM. Counted data CUSUMs. *Technometrics* 1985; **27**:129-144.
4. Vardeman S, Ray D. Average run lengths for CUSUM schemes when observations are exponentially distributed. *Technometrics* 1985; **27**:145-150.

5. Gan FF. Designs of one- and two-sided exponential EWMA charts. *Journal of Quality Technology* 1998; **30**:55-69.
6. Liu JY, Xie M, Goh TN, Sharma PR. A comparative study of exponential time between events charts. *Quality Technology and Quantitative Management* 2006; **3**:347-359.
7. Nelson LS. A control chart for parts-per-million nonconforming items. *Journal of Quality Technology* 1994; **26**:239-240.
8. Kittlitz RG. Transforming the exponential for SPC applications. *Journal of Quality Technology* 1999; **31**:301-308.
9. Kao S. Normalization of the origin-shifted exponential distribution for control chart construction. *Journal of Applied Statistics* 2010; **27**:1067-1087.
10. Jones LA, Champ CW. Phase I control charts for times between events. *Quality and Reliability Engineering International* 2002; **18**:479-488.
11. Pehlivan C, Testik MC. Impact of model misspecification on the exponential EWMA charts: A robustness Study when the time-between-events are not exponential. *Quality and Reliability Engineering International* 2010; **26**:177-190.
12. Borrer CM, Keats JB, Montgomery DC. Robustness of the time between events CUSUM. *International Journal of Production Research* 2003; **41**:3435-3444.
13. Dovoedo YH, Chakraborti S. Boxplot-based Phase I Control Charts for Time Between Events. *Quality and Reliability Engineering International* 2012; **28**:123-130.
14. Dovoedo YH, Chakraborti S. On some properties of a simple and more general boxplot-type method for identifying outliers. *American Statistical Association Proceedings of the Joint Statistical Meetings*, Alexandria, VA, 2009; 3900-3908.
15. Dixon WJ. Processing data for outliers. *Biometrics* 1953; **9**:74-89.
16. Likes J. Distribution of Dixon's statistics in the case of an exponential population. *Metrika* 1966; **11**:46-54.

Authors' biographies

N. Kumar is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Statistics, M.G. Kashi Vidyapith, Varanasi, India. He is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of Statistics in the University of Pretoria, Pretoria, RSA. He received his Master and D. Phil. Degree in Statistics from the University of Allahabad, Allahabad, India. His research interests include statistical outlier detection, statistical process control and panel data models.

S. Chakraborti is a Professor of Statistics in the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, U.S.A. His research interests include theory and applications of nonparametric and robust statistical methodologies with emphasis on statistical process control. Professor Chakraborti is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute. He is the author or the co-author of over 80 publications including the book *Nonparametric Statistical Inference* published by Taylor and Francis

Table 1: Fence constants for the proposed one-sided control chart

α_0	Number of Phase I observations n				
	10	15	20	25	30
0.01	280.0482	620.906	823.4736	1104.8554	1308.5535
0.05	54.4843	121.2247	160.9200	216.0615	255.9534
0.1	26.2788	58.74	78.0677	104.9175	124.3375
0.2	12.1576	27.4521	36.5802	49.2624	58.4318

Table 2: Fence constants for the proposed two-sided control chart

α_0	Number of Phase I observations n									
	10		15		20		25		30	
	k_1	k_2	k_1	k_2	k_1	k_2	k_1	k_2	k_1	k_2
0.01	560.1742	1161.1827	1240.2384	1859.9880	1644.3525	2708.1128	2205.6963	4112.5772	2611.8057	5069.8775
0.05	109.0588	225.1749	240.9067	360.5456	319.2869	524.9170	428.1643	796.9483	506.9276	982.5032
0.1	52.6642	108.1645	115.9775	173.0985	153.6365	251.9917	205.9495	382.4547	243.7901	471.5313
0.2	24.4568	49.64082	53.4879	79.3422	70.7777	115.4788	94.7966	175.1298	112.1674	215.9476

Table 3: Empirical overall false alarm rates for the one-sided control charts

α_0	Method	Distribution			
		Gamma(1.2,1)	Gamma(1.1,1)	Gamma(0.9,1)	Gamma(0.8,1)
0.01	Proposed	0.00921 (7.9%)	0.00954 (4.6%)	0.00971 (2.9%)	0.01000 (0.0%)
	DC	0.01508 (50.8%)	0.01148 (14.8%)	0.00789 (21.1%)	0.00605 (39.5%)
	JC	0.00256 (74.4%)	0.00507 (49.3%)	0.01965 (96.5%)	0.04009 (300.9%)
0.05	Proposed	0.05033 (0.7%)	0.05046 (0.9%)	0.04977 (0.5%)	0.04992 (0.2%)
	DC	0.06864 (37.3%)	0.05781 (15.6%)	0.04182 (16.4%)	0.03238 (35.2%)
	JC	0.01747 (65.1%)	0.02920 (41.6%)	0.08521 (70.4%)	0.14140 (182.8%)
0.1	Proposed	0.10035 (0.3%)	0.10062 (0.6%)	0.09980 (0.2%)	0.10044 (0.4%)
	DC	0.13323 (33.2%)	0.11625 (16.3%)	0.08442 (15.6%)	0.06565 (34.4%)
	JC	0.04075 (59.3%)	0.06426 (35.7%)	0.15469 (54.7%)	0.23709 (137.1%)
0.2	Proposed	0.20070 (0.3%)	0.20178 (0.9%)	0.20088 (0.4%)	0.20185 (0.9%)
	DC	0.25265 (26.3%)	0.22573 (12.9%)	0.17322 (13.4%)	0.14038 (29.8%)
	JC	0.09845 (50.8%)	0.13859 (30.7%)	0.28209 (41.0%)	0.39207 (96.0%)

Table 4: Empirical overall false alarm rates for the two-sided control charts

α_0	Method	Distribution			
		Gamma(1.2,1)	Gamma(1.1,1)	Gamma(0.9,1)	Gamma(0.8,1)
0.01	Proposed	0.01006 (0.6%)	0.00987 (1.3%)	0.01005 (0.5%)	0.01000 (0.0%)
	DC	0.01135 (13.5%)	0.01044 (4.4%)	0.00972 (2.8%)	0.01028 (2.8%)
	JC	0.00281 (71.9%)	0.00494 (50.6%)	0.01983 (98.3%)	0.03941 (294.1%)
0.05	Proposed	0.04941 (1.2%)	0.05056 (1.1%)	0.05026 (0.5%)	0.04996 (0.1%)
	DC	0.05536 (10.7%)	0.05149 (3.0%)	0.04833 (3.3%)	0.04856 (2.9%)
	JC	0.01791 (64.2%)	0.03000 (40.0%)	0.08027 (60.5%)	0.13365 (167.3%)
0.1	Proposed	0.09923 (0.8%)	0.10091 (0.9%)	0.10159 (1.6%)	0.10184 (1.8%)
	DC	0.10860 (8.6%)	0.10354 (3.5%)	0.09506 (4.9%)	0.09673 (3.3%)
	JC	0.04125 (58.8%)	0.06263 (37.4%)	0.14634 (46.3%)	0.22658 (126.6%)
0.2	Proposed	0.20310 (1.6%)	0.20010 (0.0%)	0.20500 (2.5%)	0.20130 (0.6%)
	DC	0.22140 (10.7%)	0.21020 (5.1%)	0.19180 (4.1%)	0.18630 (6.9%)
	JC	0.09380 (53.1%)	0.12780 (36.1%)	0.25660 (28.3%)	0.36430 (82.2%)

Table 5: OOC performance of the one-sided Phase I control charts

α_0	t	Method	Shift size δ			
			-0.05	-0.1	-0.25	-0.5
0.01	t=1	Proposed	0.01008	0.00961	0.01007	0.00977
		DC	0.01017	0.01030	0.00985	0.00956
		JC	0.01012	0.00984	0.01033	0.00989
	t=3	Proposed	0.01015	0.00993	0.00993	0.00966
		DC	0.00953	0.01000	0.01004	0.00953
		JC	0.01037	0.01015	0.01016	0.01054
	t=5	Proposed	0.01017	0.01017	0.00965	0.01016
		DC	0.00966	0.01005	0.01000	0.00987
		JC	0.01023	0.01043	0.01059	0.01013
0.05	t=1	Proposed	0.04970	0.05025	0.04946	0.05041
		DC	0.05010	0.05006	0.04960	0.04833
		JC	0.04977	0.05105	0.04939	0.05085
	t=3	Proposed	0.05024	0.04973	0.05022	0.05009
		DC	0.05107	0.05055	0.04890	0.04822
		JC	0.04968	0.04899	0.05093	0.05139
	t=5	Proposed	0.05176	0.05063	0.05095	0.05118
		DC	0.04891	0.05025	0.04999	0.04736
		JC	0.04955	0.05052	0.04985	0.05210
0.1	t=1	Proposed	0.09956	0.10009	0.09958	0.10013
		DC	0.10029	0.10039	0.09992	0.09616
		JC	0.10152	0.10118	0.10070	0.10314
	t=3	Proposed	0.09825	0.09864	0.09985	0.09961
		DC	0.10157	0.10019	0.09929	0.09679
		JC	0.09910	0.09908	0.10348	0.10474
	t=5	Proposed	0.10018	0.09998	0.09892	0.10116
		DC	0.09954	0.09839	0.09842	0.09715
		JC	0.10044	0.09951	0.10072	0.10156
0.2	t=1	Proposed	0.19973	0.20241	0.19704	0.19838
		DC	0.19833	0.19913	0.19781	0.19584
		JC	0.20093	0.19979	0.20086	0.20411
	t=3	Proposed	0.19839	0.19961	0.20018	0.20828
		DC	0.20158	0.20180	0.19968	0.18724
		JC	0.19873	0.20096	0.20233	0.21122
	t=5	Proposed	0.19940	0.20078	0.19984	0.20177
		DC	0.19959	0.20182	0.19670	0.19677
		JC	0.19848	0.19717	0.20466	0.20701

Table 6: OOC performance of the two-sided Phase I control charts

α_0	t	Method	Shift size δ			
			-0.05	-0.1	-0.25	-0.5
0.01	t=1	Proposed	0.00990	0.00996	0.01002	0.00997
		DC	0.00987	0.00993	0.00991	0.01012
		JC	0.00989	0.00974	0.01067	0.01082
	t=3	Proposed	0.00958	0.01042	0.00997	0.01000
		DC	0.01024	0.00983	0.01031	0.01115
		JC	0.01041	0.00996	0.01060	0.01318
	t=5	Proposed	0.01009	0.00953	0.01008	0.01082
		DC	0.00971	0.01006	0.01042	0.01132
		JC	0.01007	0.01058	0.01116	0.01545
0.05	t=1	Proposed	0.04899	0.05058	0.04955	0.05101
		DC	0.05094	0.04890	0.05098	0.05037
		JC	0.04891	0.04897	0.04960	0.05304
	t=3	Proposed	0.04987	0.05020	0.05033	0.05041
		DC	0.04957	0.04920	0.05197	0.05188
		JC	0.04821	0.04952	0.05155	0.05913
	t=5	Proposed	0.04832	0.05026	0.04904	0.05072
		DC	0.05037	0.04999	0.05192	0.05526
		JC	0.04983	0.04834	0.05284	0.06777
0.1	t=1	Proposed	0.10052	0.09872	0.10064	0.09993
		DC	0.10025	0.09879	0.10212	0.10125
		JC	0.09657	0.09519	0.09704	0.10128
	t=3	Proposed	0.10056	0.10060	0.10285	0.10048
		DC	0.10086	0.10012	0.10277	0.10279
		JC	0.09686	0.09723	0.10227	0.11356
	t=5	Proposed	0.09756	0.09938	0.10201	0.10175
		DC	0.09983	0.10227	0.10215	0.11005
		JC	0.09585	0.09647	0.10146	0.12673
0.2	t=1	Proposed	0.20019	0.19734	0.19894	0.20263
		DC	0.19984	0.19918	0.20085	0.20116
		JC	0.18586	0.18337	0.18427	0.19393
	t=3	Proposed	0.20008	0.20120	0.19995	0.20280
		DC	0.19909	0.20120	0.20363	0.20335
		JC	0.18372	0.18439	0.18715	0.21261
	t=5	Proposed	0.20063	0.20112	0.20119	0.20290
		DC	0.20074	0.20108	0.20623	0.21133
		JC	0.18366	0.18414	0.19366	0.23005

Table 7: Time between failures data

1.24	6.69	9.77	1.23	14.03	18.07	3.90	13.61	18.47	12.85
52.32	14.75	4.69	0.18	13.61	4.57	0.28	7.08	12.00	5.15
6.09	20.41	5.93	19.03	13.65	6.37	2.06	3.30	6.91	12.08