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A novel algorithm to monitor process mean and process capability index for a dynamic target

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Abstract

In this article, a novel algorithm is introduced to monitor the process mean and a novel process capability index is developed for a normal production process. The new process capability index is able to deduct the capability of the process more accurately. An illustration is given for turning operations carried out in CNC machining centre. The work piece material used in the turning process is AISI 304 stainless steel. The process parameters used in the turning operations are 200 m/min cutting speed, 0.05 mm feed rate and 0.5 mm depth of cut. It is found that the new index is robust and can give warning if the spread is more in the process. It is found that when the mean is in the dynamic target, the process spread shows few warnings through the control charts. From the process capability analysis, it is found that the C_{pk} is less than one for the observed data. This shows that the process is not adequate of meeting the required dynamic target. Where as the newly developed algorithm is capable of meeting the required capability. Hence it is advisable to utilize C_{pk}^T to prevent future non-conformities.

Keywords: stainless steel, turning, process mean, monitor, capability index, dynamic target

Introduction

The process capability index gives the relationship of process specification and actual performance of the process. There are several process capability indices such as C_{pk} , C_r , C_p , C_{pm} etc. The process capability index is applicable to variable quality characteristics. It is a quantitative measure that reflects how well the process can produce components for the given standard or specification.

The process capability index is developed by Juran (1974) [6] and is defined as $C_p = (U-L) / 6\sigma$, that does not depend on process mean. A new process capability index focused on the target value known to be C_{pm} is developed by Chan *et al.* (1988) [1]. Grant, E.L., and R.S. Leavenworth (1996) [3], have given the metrics for process capability indices. One can find a detailed study of process capability analysis in Montgomery, D.C (1996) [10]. Comparisons among various indices and its confidence intervals can be found in Mark L. Crossley (2010) [8]. Many authors have contributed to the development of process capability indices. The C_{pk} is introduced by Kane (1986) [7] to study the impact of process mean μ on the process capability indices. Hsiang and Taguchi (1985), considered the influence of the departure of the process mean (μ) from the target T . Yerriswamy Wooluru *et al.* (2014), have studied the process capability tools and techniques. Mohamed Boujelbene (2018) [9], has studied average roughness through process capability tools. Parvesh Kumar Rajvanshi and R.M. Belokar (2012) [11], have improved the boring operation through process capability tools. Gabriele Arcidiacono and Stefano Nuzzi (2017) [2] have reviewed the fundamentals of process capability ratio. Joseph KA (2017) [5], has studied process stability of the moulding machine.

The c_{pk} process capability index is the minimum of C_{pu} , C_{pl} . The International Standard of C_{pk} is 1.33. If the production process turns out more than 1.33 as C_{pk} value, then the process potential is upto International standard. In industries Shewhart Variable Control Chart is widely used to monitor the process mean. But due to several factors the target may be changed. Hence to incorporate the dynamic target appropriate algorithm is needed. However, there is a research gap in developing control charts and process capability indices for dynamic target. Hence a novel algorithm is developed in this article and accordingly the process capability index C_{pk} is modified.

Turning process details

The work piece material used in the turning process is AISI 304 stainless steel. The turning process is carried out in Batliboi make CNC machining centre. The diameter and length of the workpiece used in the turning operations are 40 mm and 100 mm, respectively. The process parameters used in the turning operations are 200 m/min cutting speed (v), 0.05 mm feed rate (f) and 0.5 mm depth of cut (d). The chemical composition of the AISI 304 stainless steel is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Chemical composition of the AISI 304 stainless steel (weight %)

Element	C	Mn	Si	P	S	Cr	Mo	Ni	Fe
%	0.069	1.63	0.4090	0.0420	0.0110	18.5	0.29	8.02	70.1

Measures of Process Capability for a target mean

- $C_{pu} = \frac{(USL - \bar{X})}{3\sigma}$
- $C_{pl} = \frac{(\bar{X} - LSL)}{3\sigma}$
- $C_{pk} = \min(C_{pu}, C_{pl})$.

Where, USL= Upper Specification Limit.
LSL=Lower Specification Limit.
σ= Process standard deviation.

A novel algorithm for \bar{X} and R chart

- Step 1: Draw a sample from the production process and arrange it in subgroups.
- Step 2: Determine the median for each subgroups. This is the new dynamic target.
- Step 3: Truncate left and right observations from the target median or smooth the data by replacing all the values that exceeds the new target by median value.
- Step 4: Now find the sample mean \bar{X} and \bar{R} .
- Step 5: Obtain Upper Control Limit and Lower Control Limit.
- Step 6: Plot \bar{X} and R chart and if any point falls beyond UCL or LCL, the process is said to be out of control. Otherwise the process is said to be in Statistical Quality Control.
- Step 7: Determine Process Capability Index Cpk, if Cpk. 1.33, the process is capable of producing items according to international standard otherwise it shows incapable of the process. Hence remedial action is asked.

Measures of process capability indices for a dynamic target

The New Process Capability Indices based on dynamic target are given below:

- $C_{pu}^T = \frac{(USL - \bar{X}_T)}{3\sigma}$

- $C_{pl}^T = \frac{(\bar{X}_T - LSL)}{3\sigma}$
- $C_{pk}^T = \min(C_{pu}^T, C_{pl}^T)$.

Where, USL= Upper Specification Limit.
LSL=Lower Specification Limit.
σ= Standard deviation based on the target.
 \bar{X}_T = Dynamic target mean based on the target.
 C_{pu}^T = Process capability index for the upper specification limit based on the target.
 C_{pl}^T = Process capability index for the lower specification limit based on the target.
 $C_{pk}^T = \min(C_{pu}^T, C_{pl}^T)$.

Table 2: Observed data for turning operation of cylindrical components in a CNC Turning center (Diameters in Millimeters) Drawing Size = Diameter $\varnothing 38 \pm 0.02$ mm

Exp. No.	X1	X2	X3	X4
1	38.00	38.01	38.01	38.00
2	38.00	38.00	37.99	37.99
3	38.00	37.99	38.00	37.99
4	38.01	38.00	38.00	38.01
5	38.01	38.01	38.00	38.00
6	38.01	38.00	38.00	38.01
7	38.00	37.99	37.99	38.00
8	38.01	38.01	38.00	38.00
9	37.99	37.99	38.00	38.01
10	38.01	38.01	38.00	37.99
11	38.01	38.00	38.01	38.00
12	37.99	38.00	38.00	37.99
13	37.99	37.99	37.99	38.00
14	38.00	38.00	38.00	37.99
15	38.01	38.00	38.00	37.99
16	37.99	38.00	38.01	37.99
17	38.00	37.99	38.00	38.00
18	38.00	38.01	38.00	37.99
19	38.01	38.00	38.00	38.01
20	38.00	37.99	37.99	38.00



Fig 1(A): Machined work piece **(B)** Diameter measurement using micrometer

Table 3: Descriptive Statistics for the known variables before smoothing

Sample	N	Mean	SE Mean	TrMean	StDev	Minimum	Q1	Median
X1	20	38.002	0.00172	38.002	0.00768	37.990	38.000	38.000
X2	20	37.999	0.00170	37.999	0.00759	37.990	37.990	38.000
X3	20	37.999	0.00135	37.999	0.00605	37.990	38.000	38.000
X4	20	37.998	0.00172	37.998	0.00768	37.990	37.990	38.000

Table 3 shows the descriptive statistics for the experimental data before smoothing. Table 4 shows the descriptive statistics for the smoothed data by using new algorithm.

Table 4: Descriptive Statistics for the known variable X by using new algorithm

Sample	N	Mean	SE Mean	TrMean	StDev	Minimum	Q1	Median
X1	20	37.998	0.000918	37.998	0.00410	37.990	38.000	38.000
X2	20	37.997	0.00105	37.997	0.00470	37.990	37.990	38.000
X3	20	37.998	0.000918	37.998	0.00410	37.990	38.000	38.000
X4	20	37.996	0.00112	37.996	0.00503	37.990	37.990	38.000

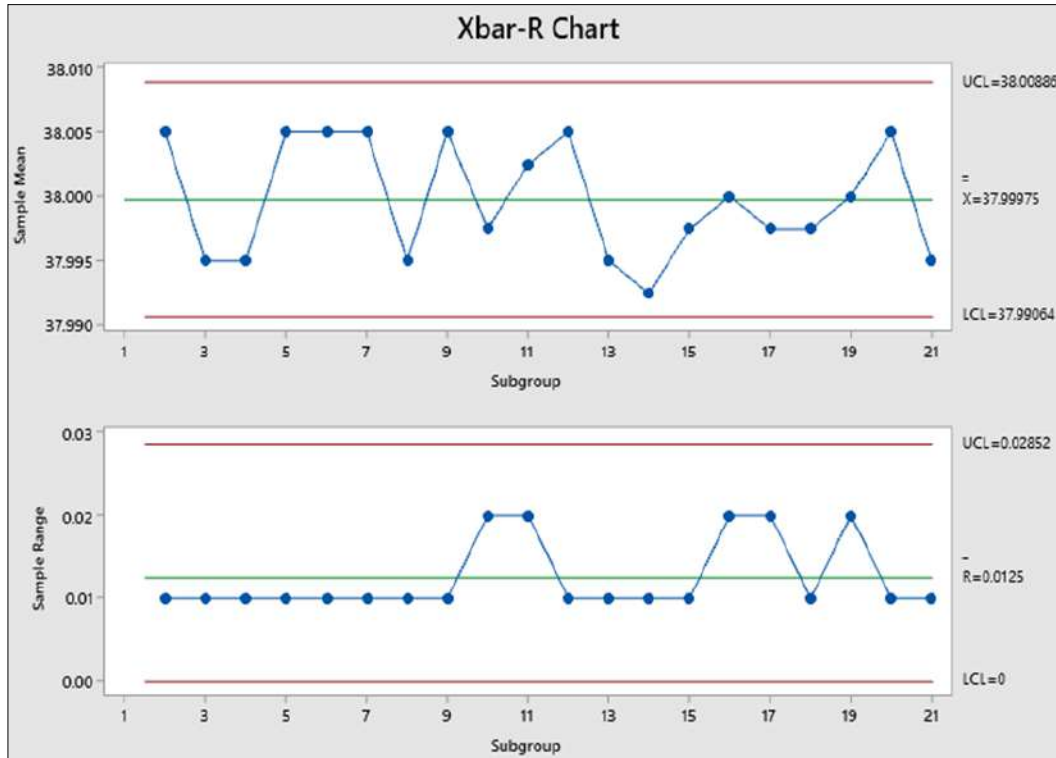


Fig 2: \bar{X} and R chart for the observed sample data using Shewhart algorithm

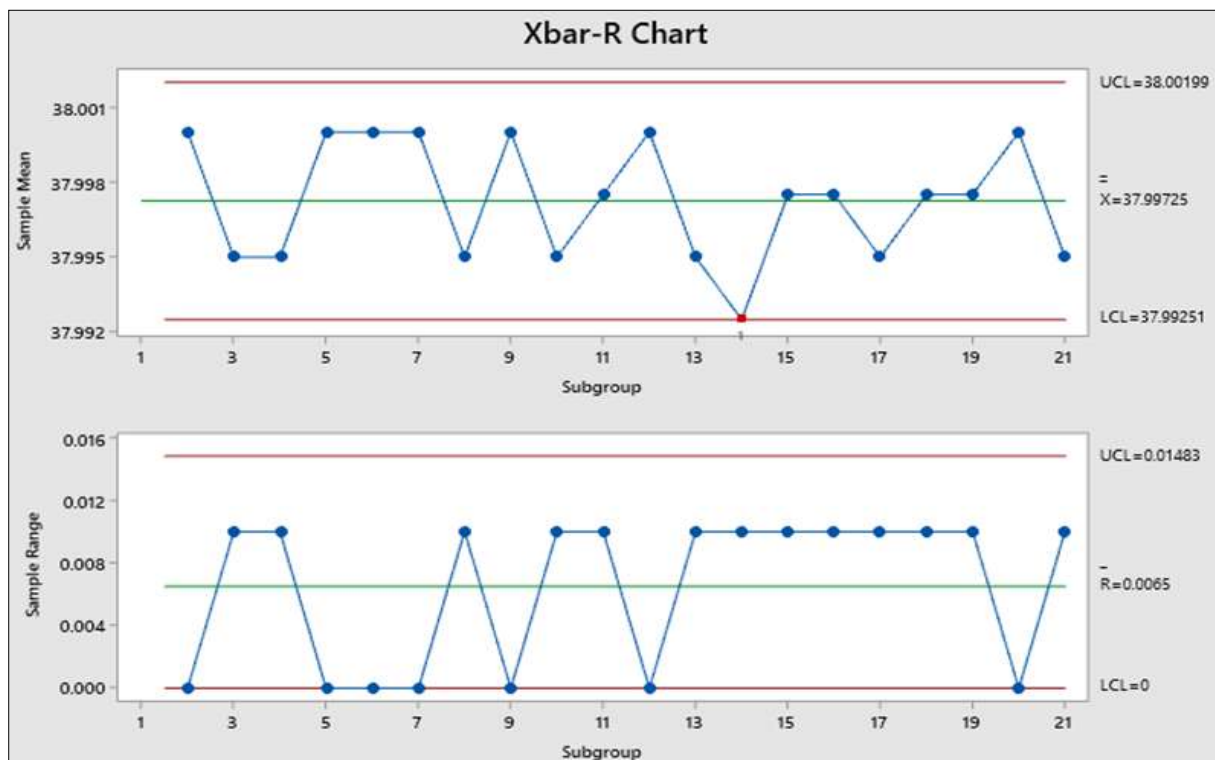


Fig 3: \bar{X} and R chart for the Modified algorithm

Interpretation: Figure 2 shows the \bar{x} and R chart for the observed sample data using Shewhart algorithm. From the figure 2, it is found that the production process is in Statistical Quality Control. It reveals that the process is governed only by the natural variances. Figure 2 shows the

\bar{x} and R chart for the Modified algorithm. However if the dynamic target changes then the control charts are changed as in figure 3, that reveals a warning. Hence appropriate action is sought. This may help the quality control practitioners to avoid future non-conformities.

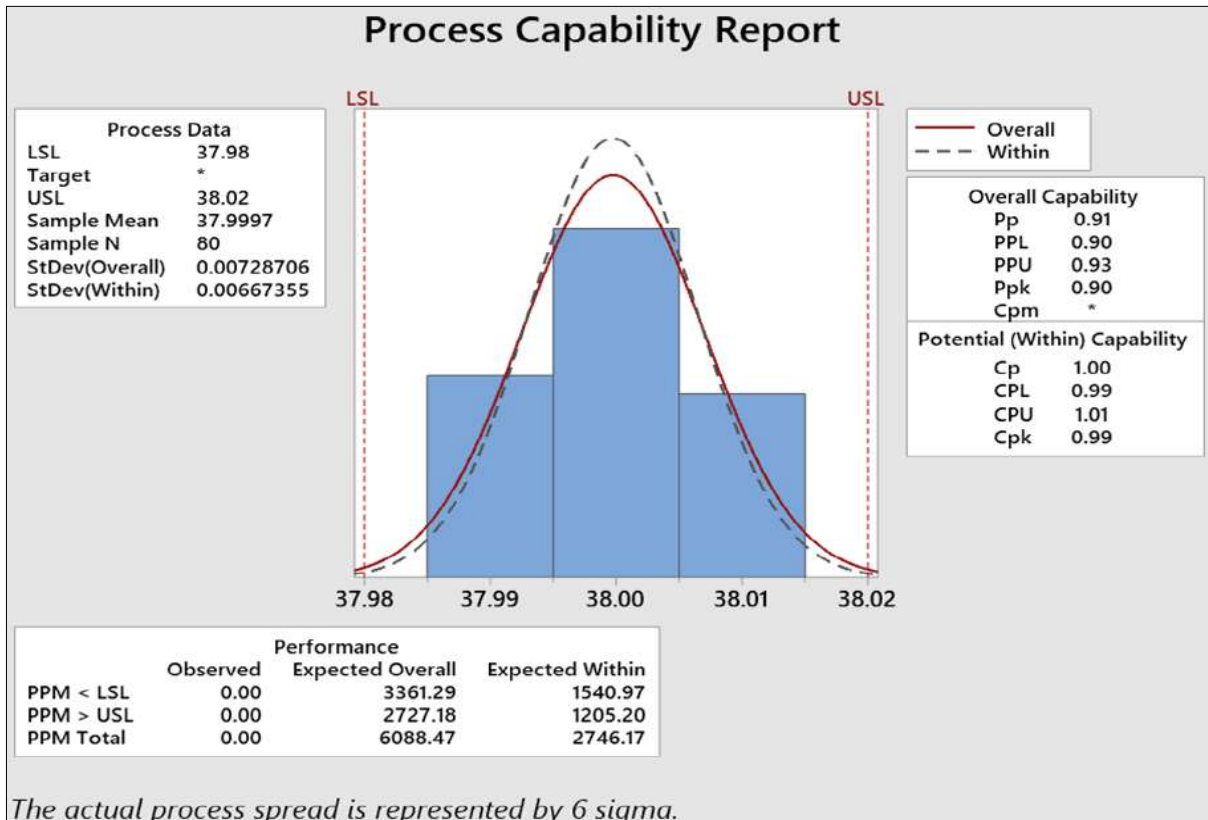


Fig 4: Process capability values for the observed data

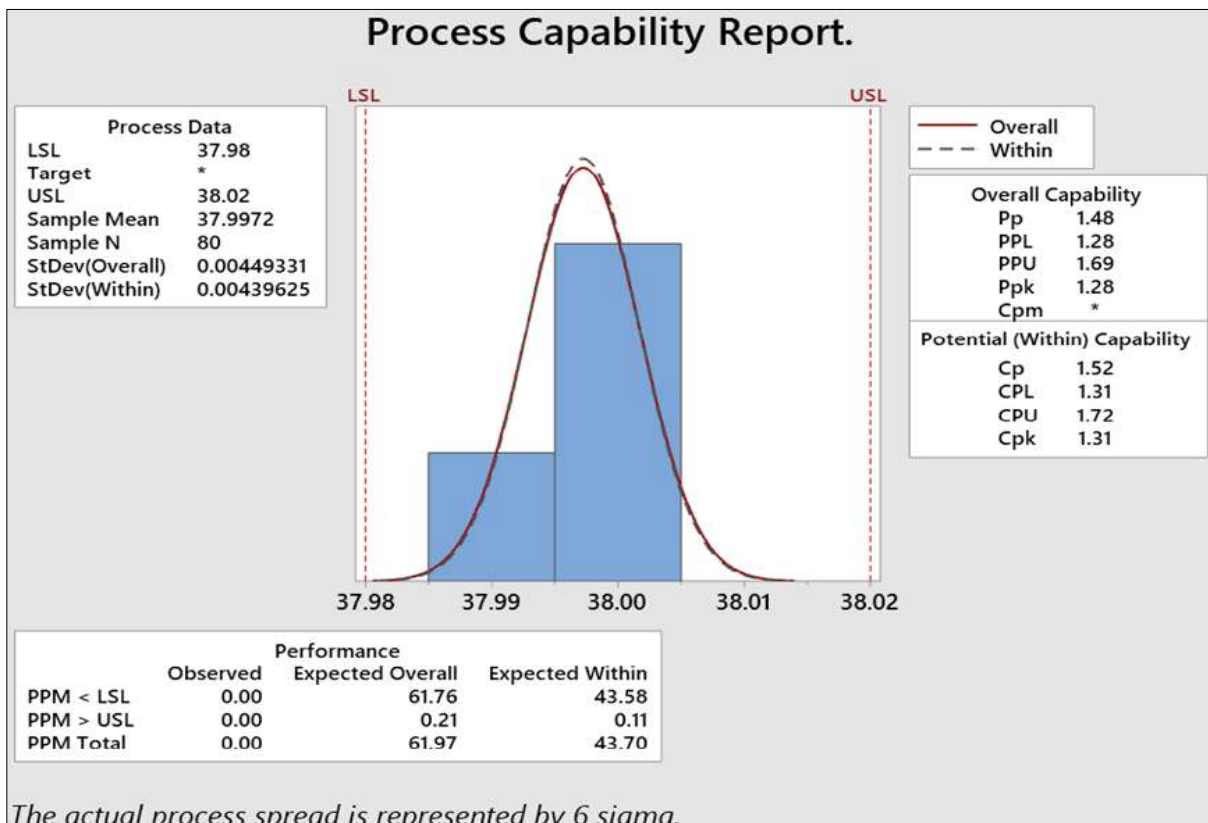


Fig 5: Process capability indices values based on the novel algorithm

Interpretations

Fig 4, shows the process capability values for the observed data based on Shewhart algorithm. It is found that the process capability values are lower than one. Hence we conclude that the production process is not capable of producing items. Therefore, in order to achieve the capability of the process the dynamic target algorithm is recommended. Figure 5, shows the process capability indices values based on the novel algorithm Hence from figure 5, it is also found that the novel algorithm for \bar{X} and R chart reveals the process is capable of producing according to International standard.

Confidence interval for the process capability index C_{pk}

Let

n = Sample size

C_{pk} = Process capability index

$Z_{\alpha/2}$ = Two- sided normal standardize value.

The upper tail confidence interval for C_{pk} is

$$C_{pk} + Z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{\frac{1}{9n} + \frac{(C_{pk})^2}{2n-2}}$$

The upper tail confidence interval for the dynamic target process capability index C_{pk}^T is

$$C_{pk}^T + Z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{\frac{1}{9n} + \frac{(C_{pk}^T)^2}{2n-2}}$$

Table 5: Comparison of Confidence Intervals for C_{pk} and C_{pk}^T

	Value	Upper Limit
$C_{pk} =$	0.99	2.236788714
$C_{pk}^T =$	1.3	3.947411146

From table 5, it is found that the upper limit reaches nearly four in case of newly developed process capability index C_{pk}^T

Conclusion

The process capability studies in turning process of AISI 304 stainless steel is carried out successfully. Due to several factors in the quality control environment, the target may be changed. Hence to incorporate the dynamic target appropriate algorithm is developed. The novel algorithm is capable of revealing the warnings in the control charts. The new algorithm is used to modify the process capability index C_{pk} . The newly introduced process capability index may be used in the industries for future purpose in order to achieve the international standard of the capability of the process.

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