

KB&G Introduction of Cusum for concrete QC

Single, Multigrade, Multivariable Cusum

CUSUM (or cumulative sum control chart) is a sequential analysis statistical technique developed in the 1950s and widely used in the concrete industry.

The most common application of control charts is as a means of continuously assessing compressive strength results in order to:

check whether target strengths are being achieved;
measure the variations from target (all products vary);
identify magnitude of any variation;

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Setting up your data to perform a Cusum analysis

For a single concrete type, determine your target strength

Principle of the cusum system The essential principle is that differences between results and their target values are calculated and added cumulatively to form a cumulative sum (cusum). When this cusum is plotted graphically against the sequence of results, a visual presentation of the trend relative to the target level is produced.

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Margin and target mean strength

$f_{\rm m} = f_{\rm c} + k s$

where f_m = the target mean strength f_c = the specified characteristic strength ks = the margin, which is the product of: s = the standard deviation, k = a constant The constant k is derived from the mathematics of the normal distribut

The constant k is derived from the mathematics of the normal distribution and increases as the proportion of defectives is decreased, thus:

k for 10% defectives = 1.28
k for 5% defectives = 1.64
k for 2.5% defectives = 1.96
k for 1% defectives = 2.33

Total 61

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18



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Cusum showing different points as to where out of control situations exist

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Practical Uses For CUSUM

Multigrade CUSUM – incorporating different concrete types into a single analysis

Multi variable – based on the same time frame, including variable such as plant efficiency, constituent material quality, labour, weather – anything measurable that a target can be defined

Optimising compressive strengths and therefore binder quantity and type

Big driver for CUSUM is **consistency**, as per any statistical method, the lower the standard deviation, the lower the target – making the multi-variable CUSUM especially powerful for concrete

The amount of genuine QC that is done in aggregates – 80% of the volume of concrete

Over 75% of the world concrete is batched with **3 or fewer aggregate bins/silos**

Keep it simple, the industry is not Labcrete, **methodologies need to be robust and simple**

