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NORTHROP GRUMMAN

DEFINING THE FUTURE

Process Performance Baselines and Models: Duh, I Don't Get It

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Northrop Grumman Corporation

- **Knowing your goals**
- **Collecting data**
- **When do you have a baseline**
- **What is a model**



ice



- Intended for people who are new to baselines and models.
- Uses an example that everyone can relate to,... how much time should I allocate to get to the airport gate on time.
- If you understand basic principles, you can apply it to your work.
- The bottom left corner of each slide describes how the same principles can be applied to peer reviews.

Goals, i.e., What is Important to You?

Goal 1

(focus for this presentation)



Save every minute possible so I can spend more time at home instead of sitting in an airport.

Cost and schedule,... sound familiar?

Goal 2



Save money. There are different ways to get to the airport that have different costs.

Never create a baseline and model if you have no goal.

Peer Reviews: Typical peer review goals are to find more defects and to be more efficient.

Pain Sitting at the Airport?

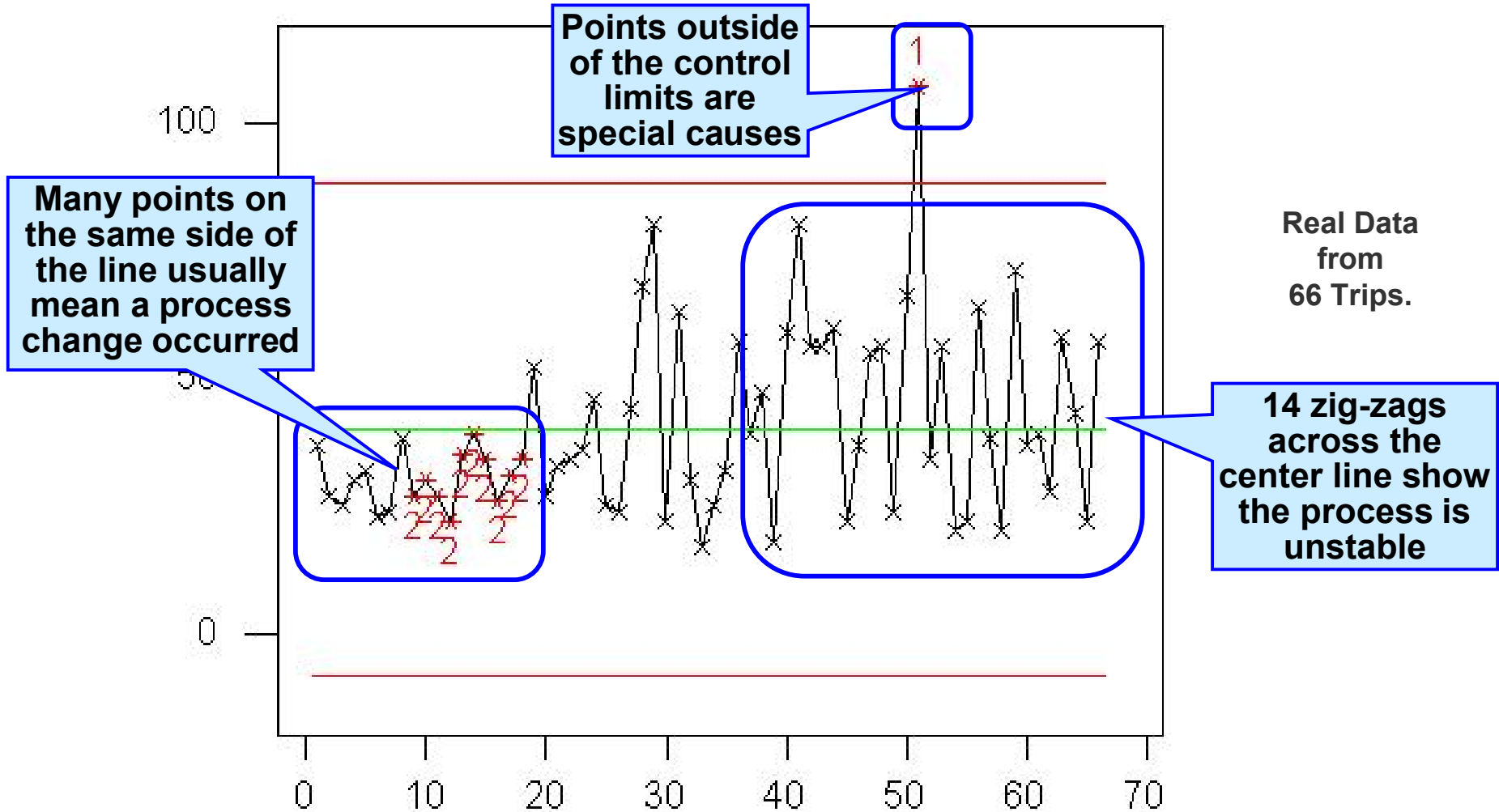


Get Me Outta Here!



Peer Reviews: Pain is the number of defects found during integration and test and system test.

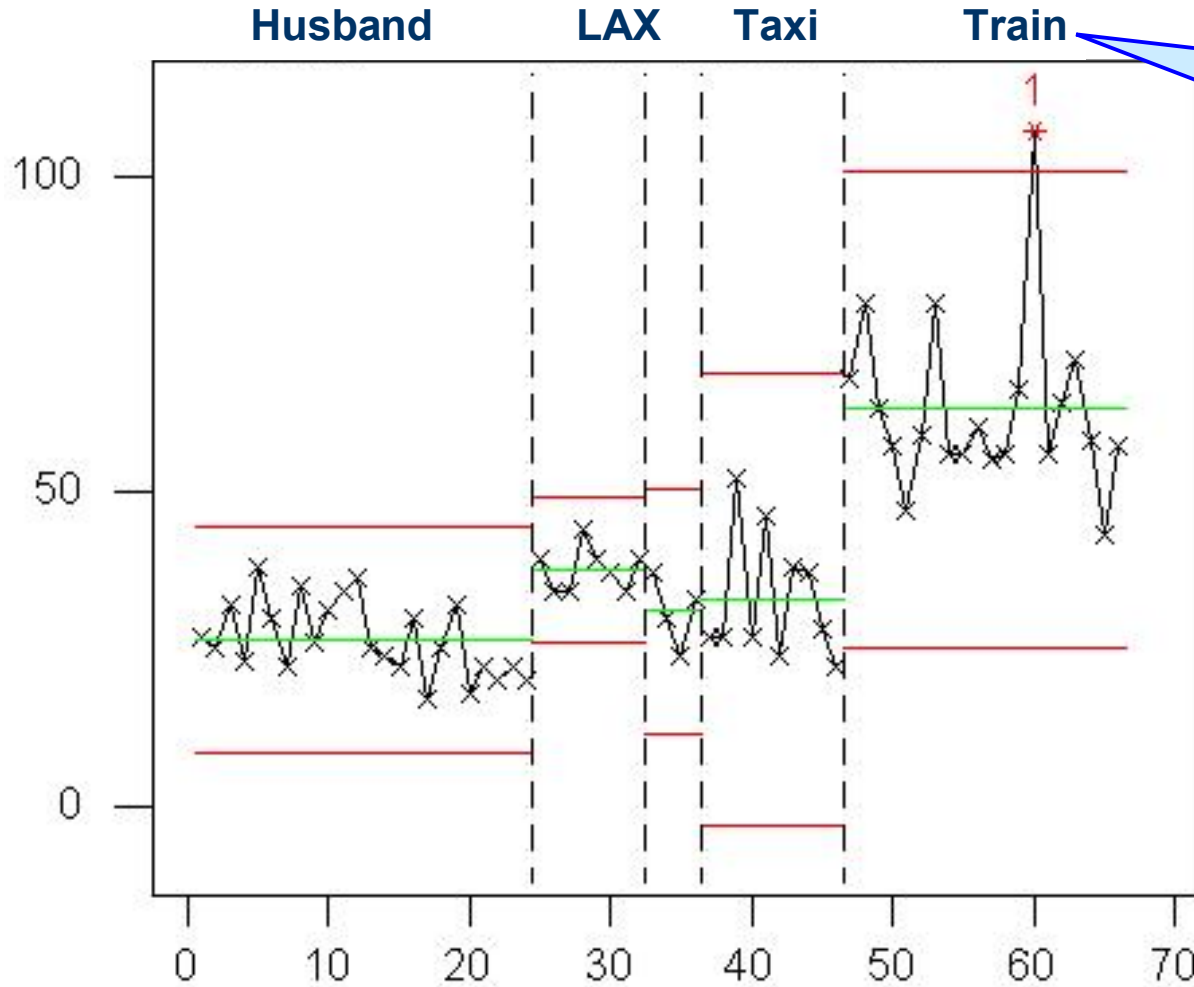
Use a Stable Process



Data is too unstable in many ways to establish a baseline.

Peer Reviews: At first, you might have the number of defects over the project life cycle so the process may be unstable.

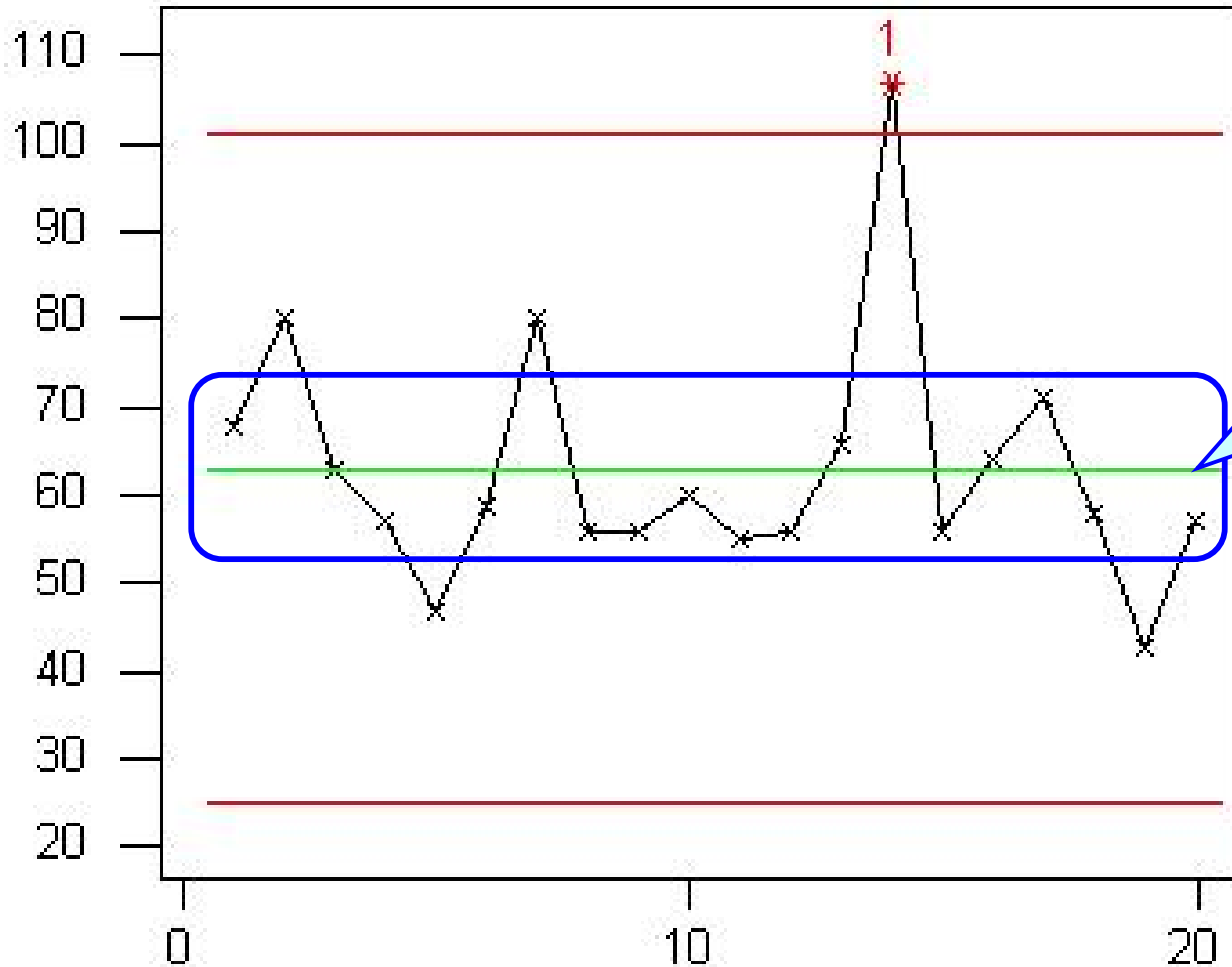
Really Unstable?



Disaggregation shows the data is actually more stable.

Peer Reviews: Breaking down the data by life-cycle phase, i.e., requirements, design, code, test, etc. may show the data is not unstable.

Taking the Train

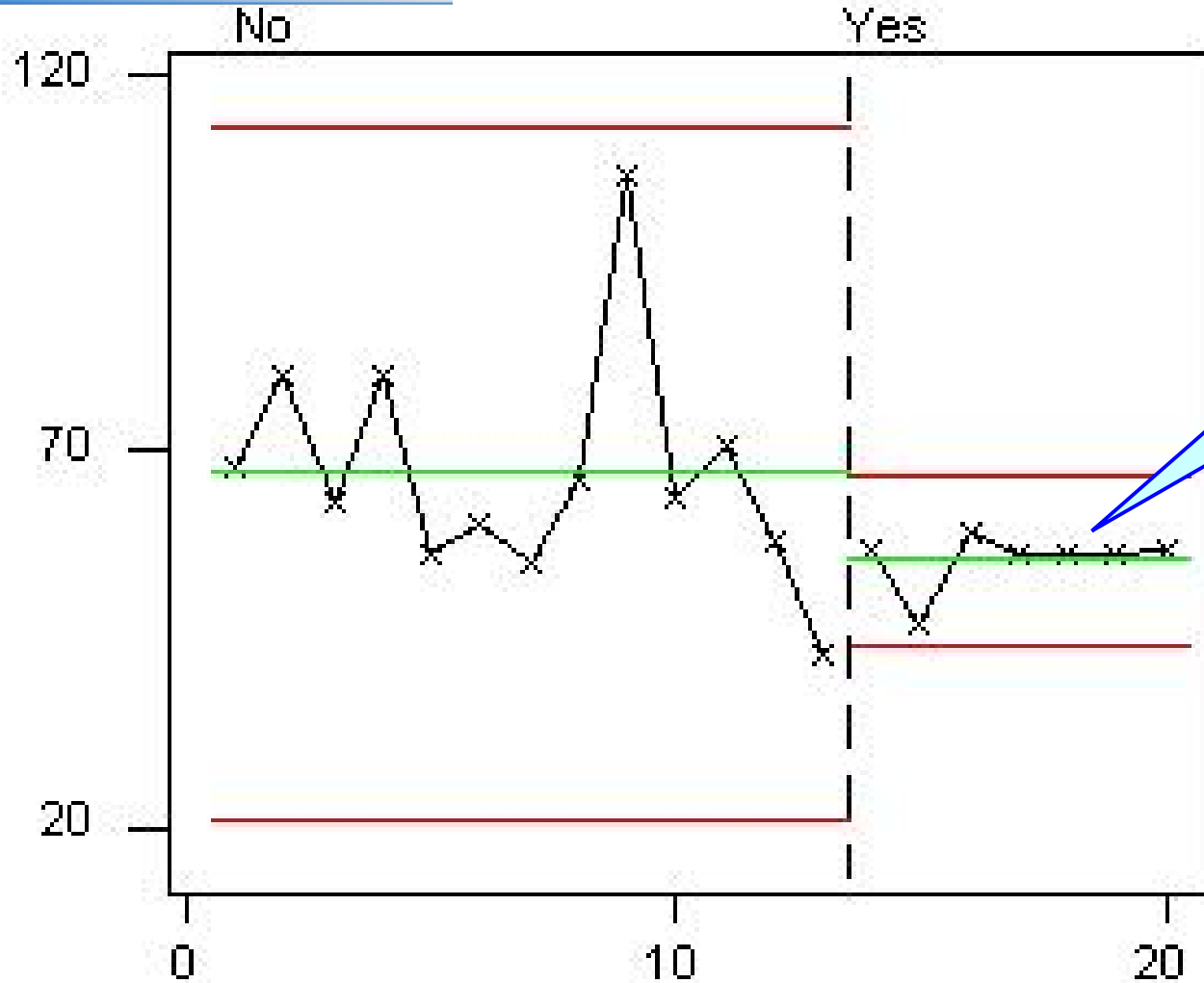


The data looks suspicious with most points near the mean. Probably an unstable process. Only 5 points out of 20 are not near the mean.

Disaggregate to see if there is a reason for the 5 outliers.

Peer Reviews: You might do a control chart of just code reviews and you might get some outliers.

ons is Rush Hour

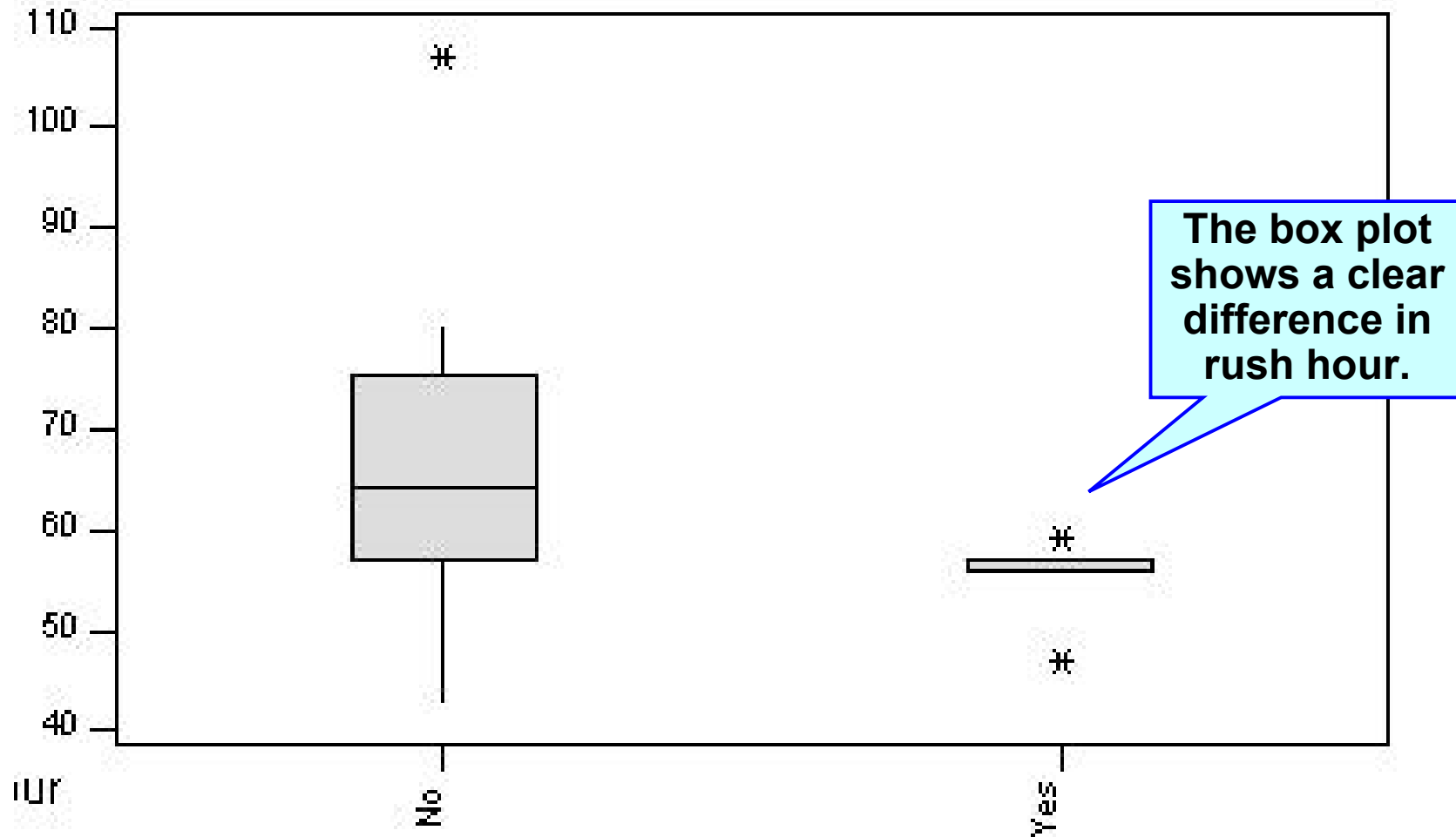


The best time to take the train is during rush hour.

Disaggregation helps to understand process variation.

Peer Reviews: An outlier could be complex code, an inexperienced developer, an unusually large number of reviewers, etc.

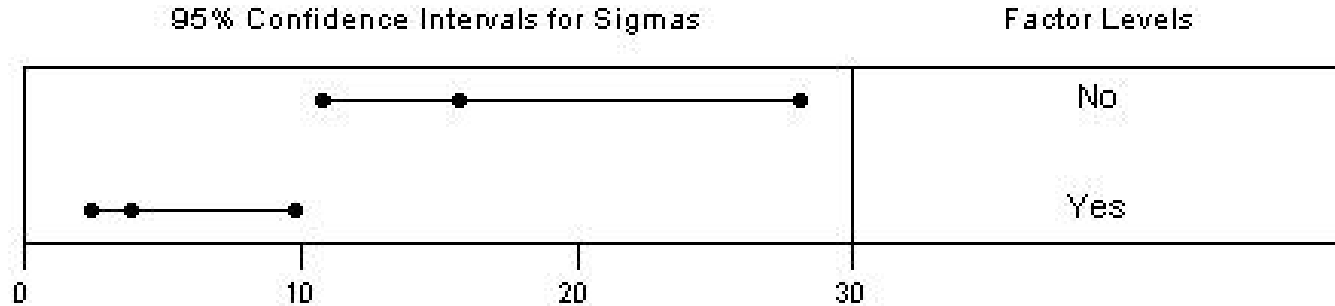
Difference in Rush Hour Significant?



But is the difference significant enough to have two baselines?

Peer Reviews: Defects may be different for inexperienced developers but it may not be significant, whereas # of reviewers might be.

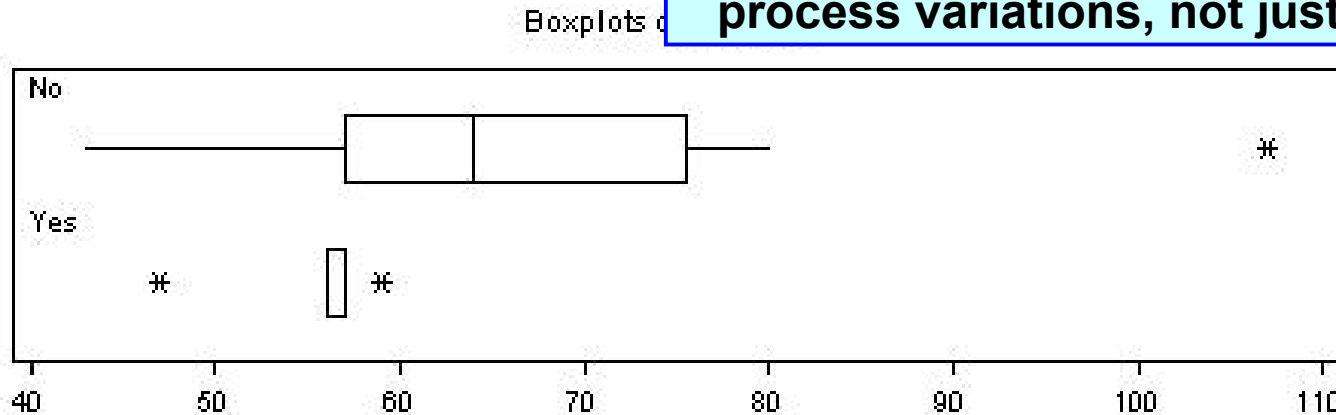
Variance Provides the Answer



F-Test
 Test Statistic: 16.452
 P-Value : 0.003

Test for Equal Variance shows the difference is statistically significant. P-Value < 0.05 is significant.

Similar analysis should be done for other process variations, not just rush hour.

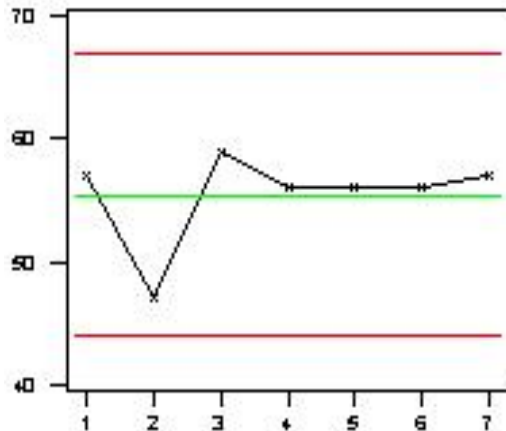


The difference is significant enough to warrant two baselines.

Peer Reviews: One area that has a significant difference is whether people review thoroughly before the meeting.

Established for Rush Hour

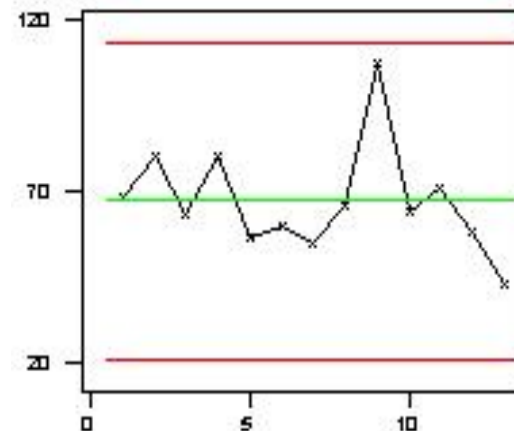
Rush Hour Baseline



Mean	55.4286
StDev	3.8668
Variance	14.9524
Skewness	-2.19901
Kurtosis	5.49992
N	7

Minimum	47.0000
1st Quartile	56.0000
Median	56.0000
3rd Quartile	57.0000
Maximum	59.0000

Not Rush Hour Baseline



Mean	67.0000
StDev	15.6844
Variance	246
Skewness	1.28677
Kurtosis	2.89383
N	13

Minimum	43.000
1st Quartile	57.000
Median	64.000
3rd Quartile	75.500
Maximum	107.000

The standard deviation is high. Consider lower-level baselines to refine this baseline.

Note: Collect at least 15 points.

Baselines provide a range and distribution for performance.

Peer Reviews: The project may have separate baselines for peer reviews done with and without customers and managers.

Need to Be Collected?

Actual data collection form used during train trips. Data was collected over the last 2.5 years for 17 trips.

Subprocess Step

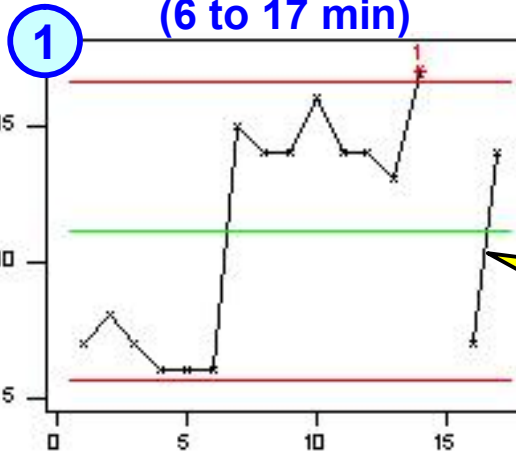
1	Home to Train		Time leave house
2	Waiting for Train		Time sit on bench at train station
3	Train Ride		Time train leaves
4	Waiting for Shuttle		Time train stops at Aviation
5	Shuttle Ride		Time shuttle leaves
6	Terminal 1 to Terminal 6		Time shuttle at Terminal 1
7	Terminal 6 Door to Gate		Time at Door C at Terminal 6
			Time at United gate

Break down the process into measurable subprocesses.

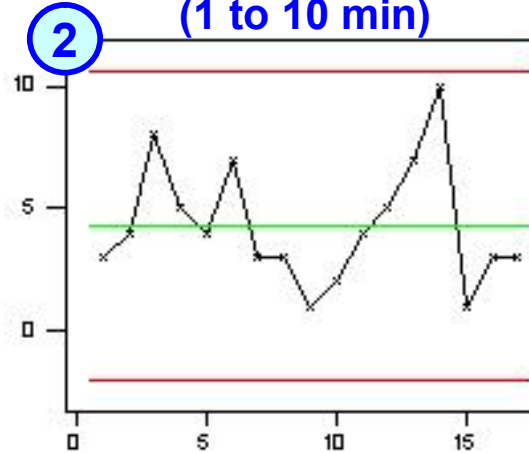
Peer Reviews: Subprocesses for peer reviews include preparing, reviewing before the meeting, the meeting, closing action items.

Processes for Process Variation (1 of 2)

Home to Train (6 to 17 min)

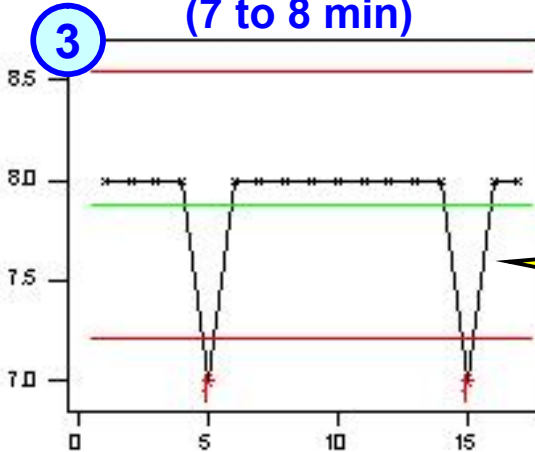


Waiting for Train (1 to 10 min)



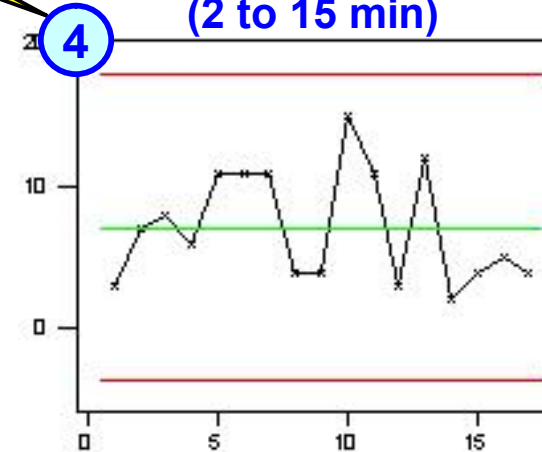
The distribution / range is unacceptable for 1 and 4. Need to understand better.

Train Ride (7 to 8 min)



Train Ride is extremely stable. No improvements possible.

Waiting for Shuttle (2 to 15 min)

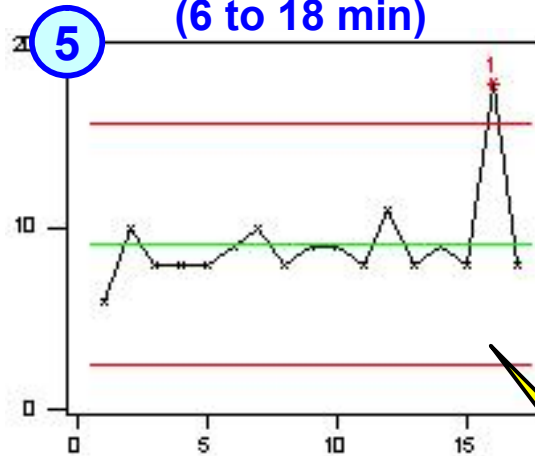


If you're unhappy with the range, investigate for improvements.

Peer Reviews: Probably see variation depending on the number of reviewers and the size of the product being reviewed.

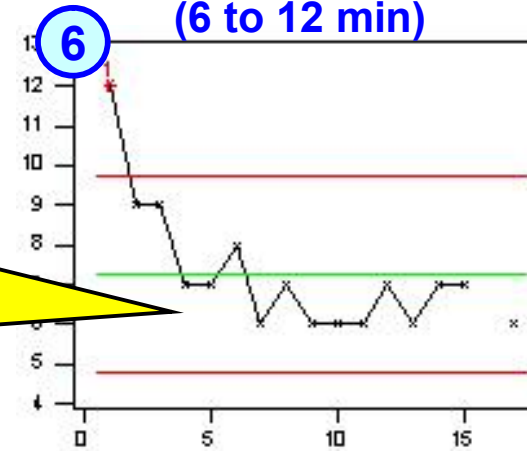
Processes for Process Variation (2 of 2)

Shuttle Ride (6 to 18 min)

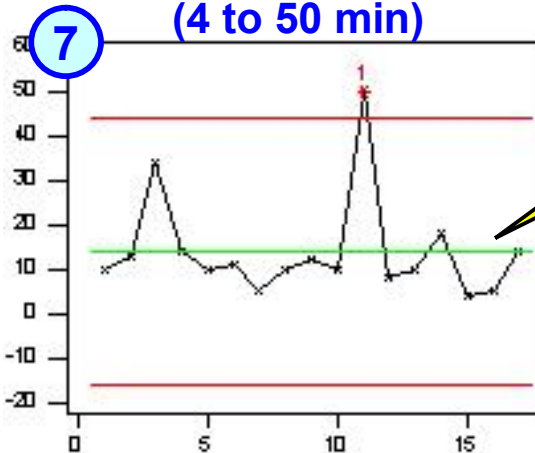


Obvious the process was improved. Discovered it is faster to get off the shuttle and walk to Terminal 6.

Terminal 1 to Terminal 6 (6 to 12 min)



Terminal 6 Door to Gate (4 to 50 min)



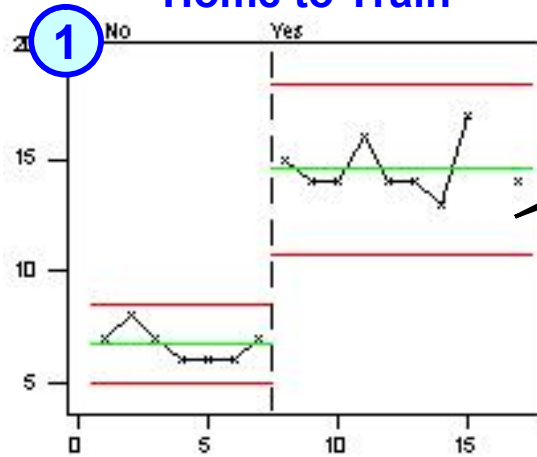
5 and 7 appear stable but both have outliers to investigate

Outliers are special causes which should be investigated.

Peer Reviews: Variation in preparing for a meeting could be whether the customer is there, in which case briefings are created.

Seven Reasons for Process Variation

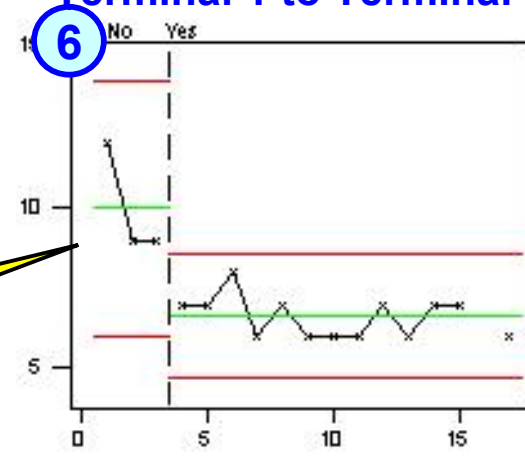
Home to Train



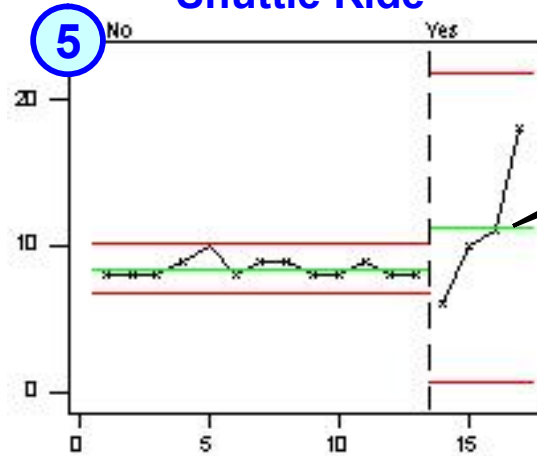
Driving vs Walking

Shuttle vs Walking

Terminal 1 to Terminal 6



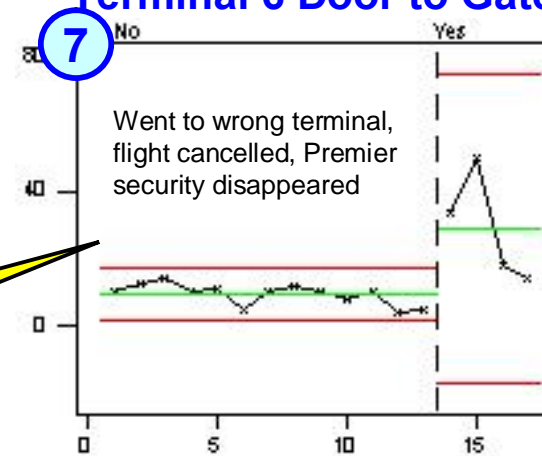
Shuttle Ride



Rush Hour vs No Rush Hour

Normal vs Special Case

Terminal 6 Door to Gate



Recall from previous slides about significant differences.

Peer Reviews: Collect enough data from each peer review subprocess so the graphs clearly show the difference.

Red 3 Variables for the Model

1 **Rush Hour**
(No translation needed)



2 **Raining**
(Translated for walking to the train and Terminal 6)



3 **Normal Situation**
(Translated for special causes)



Use terms that users of the model will understand.

Peer Reviews: This is not really a problem for peer reviews, except maybe %~~in~~ experienced developer+which may be sensitive.

Carlo Simulation

	Minimum Minutes	Median Minutes	Maximum Minutes	Mean	Standard Deviation	Monte Carlo Data Type
Train Details for Monte Carlo Simulation						
Home to Train (Car)	6	7	8			Triangular
Home to Train (Walk)				14.60	1.24	Lognormal
Wait for Train	1	3	5			Triangular
Train Ride	8	8	9			Triangular
Wait for Shuttle (Rush Hour)	3	4	7			Triangular
Wait for Shuttle (No Rush Hour)	2	8	16			Triangular
Shuttle Ride (Rush Hour)	6	11	18			Triangular
Shuttle Ride (No Rush Hour)	8	8	10			Triangular
Terminal 1 to United (Shuttle)	9	10	12			Triangular
Terminal 1 to United (Walk)	6	7	8			Triangular
To Gate (Special Cause)	14	30	50			Triangular
To Gate (Normal)				9.39	3.10	Normal
Variables for the Simulation						
Rush Hour?	Yes					
Raining?	No					
Normal Situation?	Yes					

Need to know whether Triangular, Normal, Lognormal, or a constant should be used for the simulation

3 variables for the simulation

Simulations assume you understand your data.

Peer Reviews: Can simulate the estimated number of defects, the estimated hours for doing peer reviews, etc.

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Train Trips

This is the actual model I use when I take the train. Based on the baselines, it says what time to leave the house.

Enter Departure Time: **8:20 AM**

Look at Minimum Train Time: 6:55 AM

Enter Best Train Departure Time: **6:53 AM**

Rush Hour (Yes or No): **Yes**

Walk to Train (Yes or No): **Yes**

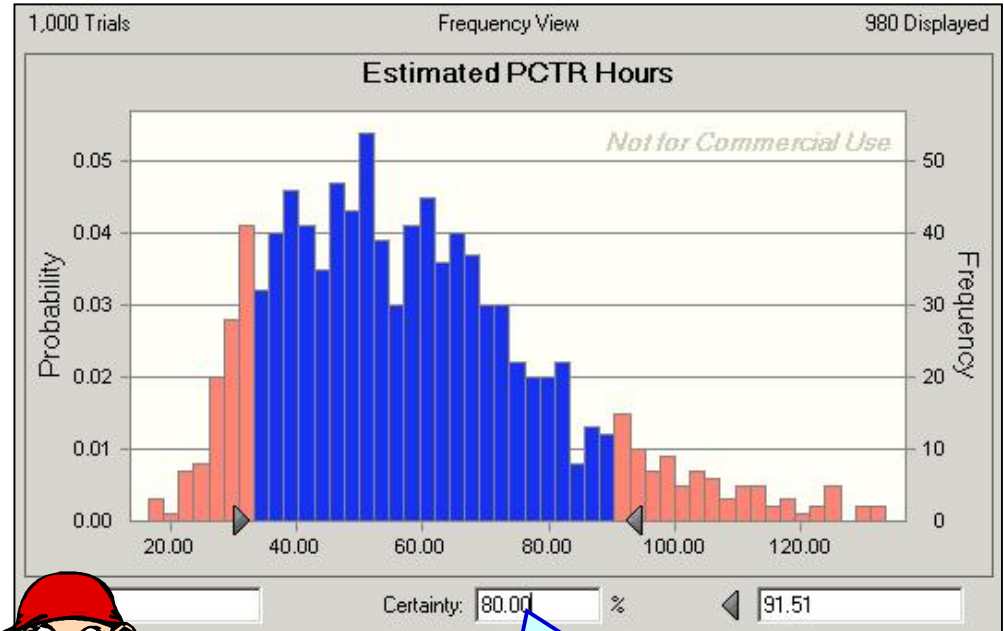
Walk to Door C (Yes or No): **Yes**

When to Leave House **6:36 AM**

Time Home to Bench	0:14	0:07	6:36 AM
Time Waiting for Train to Leave	0:03		6:50 AM
			6:53 AM
Minimum Train Departure Time			6:55 AM
Time Train Start to Stop	0:08		7:03 AM
Time Waiting for Shuttle to Leave	0:10	0:05	7:11 AM
Time Shuttle Drive to Terminal 1	0:11	0:09	7:16 AM
Time Terminal 1 to Door C	0:11	0:07	7:25 AM
Time Door C to Gate	0:13		7:32 AM
Time Bathroom & Stand By Gate	0:05		7:45 AM
Time Sitting on Plane	0:30		7:50 AM
			8:20 AM

Monte Carlo Simulation Output

(Note: This is not the actual data for the train)



Select a percent. Means 80% probability it will take <= 91.51 minutes.

Models are powerful for predicting/estimating the future.

Peer Reviews: Probably don't need the one on the left, but doing a Monte Carlo simulation on the right would be useful.

- **Identify your goals before creating any baselines and models**
- **Analyze and disaggregate the data until it is stable (no special causes)**
- **Create multiple baselines when process variation (rush hour) is significant**
- **Understand each subprocess thoroughly to create better models. Analyzing subprocesses uncovers process variables (rush hour, car vs walking, shuttle vs walking, flight problems, etc.)**
- **Create models to estimate / predict the future**

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