

A Cumulative Binomial Chart for Uni-variate Process Control

M.S. Fallah Nezhad¹ and M.S. Owlia^{1,*}

Abstract. *In this paper, a control method based on binomial distribution is proposed in which, by analyzing the cumulated data for a uni-variate quality characteristic, the possible mean shift is detected. In this method, the domain of observations is first divided into some specified intervals and then the number of observations in each interval is counted. Control statistics are next defined using the counted values based on the approximation methods. Necessary adaptations are made to form an appropriate statistic for the process monitoring. Using a simulation technique, the performance of the proposed method is compared with the ones of the optimal EWMA, GEWMA, CUSUM and GLR control charts. The results show that with an equal in-control average run length, the cumulative Binomial control method performs better than control charts in detecting a mean shift of any size less than 3σ . The analysis is also carried out for autocorrelated data, showing that the proposed method performs better than other methods for small to moderate values of autocorrelation coefficients.*

Keywords: *Statistical process control; Binomial distribution; Cumulative data; Simulation.*

INTRODUCTION

Statistical Process Control (SPC) aims at quality improvement through reduction of variation. Control charts, as the main techniques of SPC, are based on the assumption that if the process is in the state of statistical control, the outcomes are predictable. Based on previous observations, it is possible for a given set of limits to determine the probability of future observations falling within these limits [1].

Assume that $Y_i, i = 1, 2, \dots$, be the i th observation of an i.i.d. process, and at time τ which is called a change point, the probability distribution of Y_i changes from $N(\mu_0, \sigma^2)$ to $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$. In other words, the mean of Y_i undergoes a persistent shift of size $\mu - \mu_0$ at time τ , where we assume that μ and τ are unknown, μ_0 and τ are known and, without loss of generality, $\mu_0 = 0$ and $\sigma = 1$. In this case, the process is categorized to be in an out-of-control condition.

Different approaches have been developed in the literature to improve the detection of an out-of-control process. EWMA control charts [2,3] have been used to improve the detection of a small process shift. As the

most recent observations can have more information on process errors than previous observations, we may assign different weights to the data according to their recorded time. Weights decrease exponentially with the age of each point in EWMA control chart. According to Wu [4], in the one-sided optimal EWMA control chart, the first time (stopping time) the process falls outside the control limit, c can be written as:

$$T_E(c) = \inf\{n \geq 1 : |\bar{W}_n(r)| \geq c\}, \quad (1)$$

where:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{W}_n(r) &= \frac{W_n(r)}{\sigma_{W_n}} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{(2-r)}}{\sqrt{r(1-(1-r)^{2n})}} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} r(1-r)^i Y_{n-i}, \end{aligned}$$

$$W_n(r) = rY_n + (1-r)W_{n-1}(r),$$

$$W_0(r) = 0.$$

r is a weighting parameter ($0 < r \leq 1$), and σ_{W_n} is the standard deviation of $W_n(r)$. Since the magnitude of the shift is unknown, by using a method such as the maximum likelihood procedure to raise the sensitivity

1. Department of Industrial Engineering, Yazd University, Yazd, P.O. Box 89195-741, Iran.

*. Corresponding author. Email: owliams@yazduni.ac.ir

Received 4 October 2009; received in revised form 27 January 2010; accepted 22 February 2010

of the EWMA chart for detecting a change in the mean [5], we have:

$$W_n = \sup_{0 < r \leq 1} \{|\overline{W}_n(r)|\},$$

when statistic W_n is more than a constant threshold, c , then, the process is categorized to be out-of-control.

$$T(c) = \inf\{n \geq 1 : W_n \geq c\}. \tag{2}$$

Since $r(1 - r)^i$, $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$, $0 < r \leq 1$ gets its maximum value when $r = \frac{1}{i+1}$, a feasible control statistic and its stopping times can be defined as follows [5]:

$$T_{GE}(c) = \inf\left\{n \geq 1 : \max_{1 \leq k \leq n} \overline{W}_n\left(\frac{1}{k}\right) \geq c\right\}. \tag{3}$$

CUSUM chart is another process control technique which was first introduced by Page [6] and its properties have been thoroughly studied in the literature (see e.g. [7]). A CUSUM chart monitors the accumulated process observations after the process is determined to be in the out-of-control state. The CUSUM chart is based on the optimal likelihood ratio test on a particular shift size at each time. If the mean shift δ is known, the two-sided stopping time of the CUSUM can be written as:

$$TC(c) = \min(T_C^+(c), T_C^-(c)), \tag{4}$$

where:

$$T_C^+(c) = \inf\{n : S_n^+ = \max(S_{n-1}^+ + y_n - k, 0); S_n^+ \geq c\},$$

$$T_C^-(c) = \inf\{n : S_n^- = \max(S_{n-1}^- - y_n - k, 0); S_n^- \geq c\},$$

when the mean shift δ is unknown.

Siegmund and Venkatraman [8] proposed the GLR (generalized likelihood ratio) chart in which the upward stopping time is:

$$T_{GL}^+(c) = \inf\left\{n : \max_{1 \leq k \leq n} U_n(k) \geq c\right\},$$

$$U_n(k) = \frac{(y_{n-k+1} + \dots + y_n)}{k^{1/2}}. \tag{5}$$

In this paper, we consider mainly the upward stopping times, that is $T_E^*(c)$, $T_{GE}^+(c)$, $T_C^+(c)$ and $T_{GL}^+(c)$.

DATA ANALYSIS BY BINOMIAL DISTRIBUTION

Observations on a quality characteristic of a product (or service) have a wide potential capacity of getting different information depending on the type of approach used for the analysis. The control charting

method is one of the most common statistical methods to analyze the data for the purpose of process monitoring; however, this does not mean not using other valuable information apparently hidden in the observations. One approach is to apply the Bayesian rule together with sequential analysis in which, at any iteration, based on prior probabilities and the behavior of the present observations, the probability of the process being out-of-control is calculated. For example, Marcellus [9] presented a Bayesian analogue of the Shewhart X-bar chart and compared it with the CUSUM charts. Fallahnezhad and Niaki [10] presented an iterative approach to analyze and classify the states of uni-variate quality control systems. Their approach starts out with defining a measure called belief, and subsequently the beliefs in the system to be in-control are updated by taking new observations on the quality characteristic under study. When the updated beliefs are out of the control limits, the process is determined to be in an out-of-control state.

Another approach is to convert the change point problem to equivalent problems that can be analyzed easier. For example, we may divide the domain of observation to some specified intervals. When the process is in-control, each interval is expected to contain observations with equal probabilities, $p = \frac{1}{s}$, where s denotes the number of intervals. In other words, we partition the domain of observations into s subspaces, in such a way that the probability of observations being in each subspace is equal. Thus, when n observations are gathered, the number of observations that are in each interval follows a binomial distribution with parameters, n and $p = \frac{1}{s}$. Hence, when the process is in-control, we have s binomial distribution with equal parameters of $p = \frac{1}{s}$.

When the process changes from the in-control to out-of-control state, since the defined intervals will contain the observations with different probabilities, then the parameters of binomial distributions will change and we encounter a new equivalent problem. This new problem is to detect when the parameter of each binomial distribution (each interval) has changed.

NEW CUMULATIVE BINOMIAL METHOD

Assume the domain of standard normal data has been partitioned into $s = 3$ subspaces and $\Phi(\cdot)$ denotes the cumulative standard normal distribution function. Since $\Phi(-0.44) = \frac{1}{3}$, we consider three intervals for data as follows;

$$I_1 = (-\infty, -0.44), \quad I_2 = (-0.44, 0.44),$$

$$I_3 = (0.44, \infty).$$

Statistics $x_{i,k}$, $i = 1, 2, 3$, $k = 1, 2, \dots$, are defined as

the number of observations that are in the i th interval among k gathered observations and are calculated using the following recursive equation;

$$x_{i,k} = \begin{cases} x_{i,k-1} + 1 & \text{If the } k\text{th observation is in} \\ & \text{interval } I_i \\ x_{i,k-1} & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

since $\int_{x \in I_i} f(x)dx = \frac{1}{3}$, thus $x_{i,k}$ $i = 1, 2, 3$ and $k = 1, 2, \dots$ follows a binomial distribution with parameters $(k, p = \frac{1}{3})$. Now, the statistics \bar{x}_k and S^2 are defined as follows:

$$\bar{x}_k = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^3 x_{i,k}}{3}, \quad S^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^3 (x_{i,k} - \bar{x}_k)^2}{2}. \quad (7)$$

Since $x_{i,k}$ follows a binomial distribution with parameters $(k, p = \frac{1}{3})$, there are some approximation rules for evaluating binomial distribution with normal distribution [11]. One rule is that both kp and $k(1-p)$ must be greater than 5. Considering the approximation rules in our problem, we should have $k > 15$. If the number of gathered observations is less than 15 ($k \leq 15$), we suggest using an EWMA control method for the initial observations.

$$W_k(r) = rY_k + (1-r)W_{k-1}(r),$$

$$15 \geq k > 0,$$

$$W_0(r) = 0,$$

where Y_k is the k th observation. When the statistics, W_k , are more than a constant threshold like c , then the process is categorized to be out-of-control.

Now in the case of gathering more than 15 observations, $k > 15$, according to the approximation rules for evaluating binomial distribution, we conclude that variables, $x_{i,k}$, follow a normal distribution with parameters:

$$(\mu = kp, \sigma^2 = kp(1-p)) = \left(\mu = \frac{k}{3}, \sigma^2 = \frac{2k}{9} \right).$$

Since random variables, $x_{i,k}$ $i = 1, 2, 3$, follow the same normal distribution with parameters, $\mu = \frac{k}{3}$, $\sigma^2 = \frac{2k}{9}$, then we conclude that $\frac{2S^2}{\sigma^2}$ follows a χ^2 distribution with 2 degrees of freedom. Thus we have:

$$P \left\{ \frac{2S^2}{\sigma^2} \leq \chi_{1-\alpha}^2 \right\} = \alpha \Rightarrow P \{ 2S^2 \leq \sigma^2 \chi_{1-\alpha}^2 \} = \alpha. \quad (8)$$

Since $\sigma^2 = \frac{2k}{9}$ and $S^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^3 (x_{i,k} - \bar{x}_k)^2}{2}$, we have:

$$P \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^3 (x_{i,k} - \bar{x}_k)^2 \leq c' = \frac{2k}{9} \chi_{1-\alpha}^2 \right\} = \alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow P \left\{ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^3 (x_{i,k} - \bar{x}_k)^2}{k} \leq c' = \frac{2}{9} \chi_{1-\alpha}^2 \right\} = \alpha, \quad (9)$$

where α is the probability of type-one error. Since the values of $x_{i,k}$, $x_{i,k-1}$ are not independent, the value of statistic S^2 are not independent in each stage. As a result, we define a threshold value c' for $\frac{\sum_{i=1}^3 (x_{i,k} - \bar{x}_k)^2}{k}$ and, when:

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^3 (x_{i,k} - \bar{x}_k)^2}{k} > c',$$

then the process is classified to be in out-of-control condition.

Now, the above control method can be summarized in the following framework:

1. For the initial observations, when $k \leq 15$, if statistics W_k are more than a constant threshold like c , then the process is categorized to be out-of-control.
2. In the case of gathering more than 15 observations, ($k > 15$), when:

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^3 (x_{i,k} - \bar{x}_k)^2}{k} > c',$$

then the process is classified to be in an out-of-control condition.

The value of c and c' should be determined to ascertain a given probability of the type-one error and good chart properties.

SIMULATION STUDY

In the simulation study, after generating standard normal observations, Y_k , in the k th iteration of the data gathering process, we update the value of W_k and $\frac{\sum_{i=1}^3 (x_{i,k} - \bar{x}_k)^2}{k}$, using Equations 6 and 7. Then, using the decision making framework introduced in the last section, we determine the out of control process.

In this paper, all tables compare the simulation results for various values of the mean shift, μ , with change point, $\tau = 1$. The values in parentheses in all tables are the standard deviations of the simulation results of the stopping times.

Han and Tsung [5] compared the abilities of their proposed GEWMA control charts to the performance of the optimal EWMA, Shewhart EWMA, GLR and CUSUM. We compared the performance

of the proposed methodology in terms of both in-control and out-of-control average run lengths with other control charts. Also when the collected data on the quality characteristic are auto-correlated, the performance of the proposed procedure is compared with the residual-based EWMA chart [12], residual-based CUSUM chart [13] and triggered CUSCORE chart [14] for different values of the autocorrelation coefficient in an AR(1) process.

In 10000 independent replications, for an intended ARL_0 of 435, the reference value for the optimal EWMA and CUSUM is taken to be 1, that is $\delta = 1$. r^* is the optimal weighted parameter of the optimal EWMA. It is determined based on minimizing the

$SADT_\delta$ (stationary average delay time), and satisfies $r^* = 2a^*\delta^2/c^2$; c being the width of the control limits (see [15]). Srivastava and Wu [16] recommended $a^* = 0.5117$ for minimizing the ARL_δ (average run length). The threshold-value of the optimal EWMA, Shewhart EWMA, GEWMA, GLR and CUSUM methods are estimated at 2.82, 2.82, 3.29, 3.45 and 4.94 with estimated ARL_0 of 437, 430, 438, 439 and 434, respectively. In the fourth column and last row of Tables 1 and 2, c and L denote values of the width of the control limits of the optimal EWMA chart and Shewhart chart, respectively. The parameters have been adjusted to the best values of chart parameters [5]. For the proposed method, we pick $c = 0.35$ and $c' = 1.334$, such

Table 1. The results of ARL_1 study for $ARL_0 = 435$.

| Shifts | Binomial Approach | Optimal EWMA | Shewhart EWMA | GEWMA | GLR | CUSUM |
|------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 0 | 470 (1393) | 437 (434) | 430 (428) | 438 (424) | 439 (435) | 434 (436) |
| 0.1 | 122.45 (239) | 297 (288) | 294 (285) | 304 (275) | 295 (267) | 326 (323) |
| 0.25 | 34.24 (47.14) | 110 (102) | 109 (102) | 105 (78.8) | 108 (80.4) | 132 (123) |
| 0.5 | 12.89 (12.53) | 32.4 (25) | 32.4 (25) | 34.9 (22.7) | 36.2 (23.3) | 37.2 (30.4) |
| 0.75 | 6.87 (4.88) | 15.7 (9.63) | 15.7 (9.63) | 17.4 (10.3) | 18.1 (10.7) | 16.7 (10.8) |
| 1 | 4.91 (2.53) | 9.95 (5.01) | 9.92 (5.03) | 10.7 (5.92) | 11.1 (6.18) | 10.3 (5.45) |
| 1.25 | 3.93 (1.76) | 7.24 (3.11) | 7.19 (3.14) | 7.36 (3.91) | 7.58 (3.98) | 7.34 (3.32) |
| 1.5 | 3.17 (1.32) | 5.37 (2.18) | 5.67 (2.23) | 5.41 (2.75) | 5.59 (2.8) | 5.7 (2.26) |
| 2 | 2.4 (0.86) | 4.03 (1.24) | 3.91 (1.35) | 3.41 (1.64) | 3.54 (1.65) | 3.98 (1.28) |
| 3 | 1.73 (0.54) | 2.63 (0.65) | 2.29 (0.86) | 1.85 (0.83) | 1.91 (0.81) | 2.55 (0.65) |
| Parameters | $C = 0.35,$ $C' = 1.334$ | $\lambda = 0.128$ $C = 2.89$ | $\lambda = 0.128$ $C = 2.89,$ $L = 3.9$ | $C = 3.9$ | $C = 3.45$ | $C = 4.94$ |

Table 2. The results of ARL_1 study for $ARL_0 = 865$.

| Shifts | Binomial Approach | Optimal EWMA | Shewhart EWMA | GEWMA | GLR | CUSUM |
|------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 0 | 890.95 (2036.6) | 867 (868) | 863.00 (864) | 866 (853) | 862 (840) | 868 (877) |
| 0.1 | 270.43 (395.3) | 524 (507) | 521.00 (506) | 481 (401) | 477 (406) | 592 (593) |
| 0.25 | 57.9 (68.47) | 155 (144) | 155.00 (144) | 137 (94.20) | 139 (95.80) | 200 (188) |
| 0.5 | 17.96 (17.58) | 39.90 (30.70) | 39.90 (30.70) | 41.60 (25.60) | 42.90 (25.90) | 46.10 (37.40) |
| 0.75 | 9.53 (6.98) | 18.30 (10.90) | 18.30 (10.90) | 20.20 (11.55) | 20.90 (11.60) | 19.20 (12.10) |
| 1 | 6.65 (3.12) | 11.50 (5.53) | 11.50 (5.54) | 12.30 (6.59) | 12.70 (6.68) | 11.60 (5.90) |
| 1.25 | 4.65 (2.29) | 8.29 (3.38) | 8.28 (3.39) | 8.35 (4.31) | 8.63 (4.36) | 8.25 (3.54) |
| 1.5 | 3.82 (1.52) | 6.50 (2.23) | 6.48 (2.35) | 6.11 (3.08) | 6.31 (3.08) | 6.38 (2.40) |
| 2 | 2.89 (0.94) | 4.58 (1.32) | 4.53 (1.36) | 3.76 (1.75) | 3.89 (1.75) | 4.42 (1.35) |
| 3 | 2.04 (0.57) | 2.69 (0.69) | 2.77 (0.88) | 2.01 (0.88) | 2.07 (0.85) | 2.82 (0.69) |
| Parameters | $C = 0.42,$ $C' = 1.8$ | $\lambda = 0.111$ $C = 3.033$ | $\lambda = 0.111$ $C = 3.033,$ $L = 4.4$ | $C = 3.5$ | $C = 3.67$ | $C = 5.62$ |

that ARL_0 is 470 in the simulation experiment. It means that ARL_0 is sufficiently large and, according to $ARL_0 = \frac{1}{\alpha}$, the probability of type-one error (α) is sufficiently small. The value of c and c' has been chosen to show the good performance of the proposed method.

For the comparison study, we estimate the ARL_1 and the standard deviation of the run lengths of the proposed method, as well as the optimal EWMA, Shewhart EWMA, GEWMA, GLR and CUSUM methods, by 10000 independent replications in each scenario of the mean shifts. The shifts are given in multiples of the process standard deviations and are shown in the first column of Table 1. The second up to the sixth column of Table 1 show the ARL_1 values of the methods under consideration.

The results of Table 1 illustrate that the Binomial method performs better than other methods in all scenarios of mean shifts. In other words, not only the probability of type-one error, but also the probability of type-two error associated with the proposed method is less than their corresponding values in the other methods (according to formulas $ARL_1 = \frac{1}{1-\beta}$ and $ARL_0 = \frac{1}{\alpha}$ [17]). Moreover, the standard deviations of ARL_1 for the proposed methods are generally less than these values in the other methods.

For the intended $ARL_0 \approx 865$ in Table 2, we pick $c = 0.42$ and $c' = 1.8$, such that the ARL_0 for the binomial method is 890 in the simulation experiment. In this case, we have the same conclusions as from Table 1. As seen from Tables 1 and 2, the GEWMA control chart is better than the other methods in detecting a large mean shift, but for mean shifts less than 3σ , the proposed method is the best.

AUTOCORRELATION

An autoregressive moving average model, denoted as $ARMA(p, q)$, is often used to represent the autocorrelation structure of the data. The general $ARMA(p, q)$ model is:

$$x_k = \frac{\Theta(B)}{\Phi(B)} a_k, \quad (10)$$

where x_k are observed data, a_k are independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.) normal variables with mean zero and variance, σ^2 , and B is the backshift operator. $\Theta(B)$ and $\Phi(B)$ are referred to as the AR and MA polynomial, and are parameterized as $\Phi(B) = 1 - \varphi_1 B^1 - \varphi_2 B^2 \dots - \varphi_p B^p$ and $\Theta(B) = 1 - \theta_1 B^1 - \theta_2 B^2 \dots - \theta_q B^q$, respectively. Suppose there is a deterministic shift which we refer to as a fault in the process at some time, τ . The process data to be monitored may be represented as:

$$y_k = x_k + \delta f_{k-\tau},$$

where f_k indicates the nature of the fault, and δ is the

fault magnitude. For a step mean shift (for example $f_k = 1$ for $k \geq 0$ and 0 otherwise), it is assumed that the model in Equation 10 is invertible, the case in which the residuals can be obtained by filtering y_k with the inverse filter, $\frac{\Phi(B)}{\Theta(B)}$, that is:

$$e_k = \frac{\Phi(B)}{\Theta(B)} y_k = a_k + \delta \bar{f}_{k-\tau},$$

where:

$$\bar{f}_{k-\tau} = \frac{\Phi(B)}{\Theta(B)} f_{k-\tau},$$

is referred to as the fault signature [18]. Thus, the residuals are uncorrelated with time-varying mean, $\delta \bar{f}_{k-\tau}$, and variance, σ_e^2 . The value of $\bar{f}_{k-\tau}$ depends on the ARMA model and, hence on the autocorrelation structure of the data.

The information in the dynamics of the fault signature can be useful for detecting faults. Traditional residual-based charts do not make use of this information, however. In contrast, a Generalized Likelihood Ratio Test (GLRT) or a cumulative score (Cuscore) chart can take this information into account [14].

The Cuscore test, originally introduced by Fisher [19], was later developed by Bagshaw and Johnson [20]. The Cuscore test is intended to detect changes in the parameters of a stochastic model. In some sense [14], the Cuscore chart is a form of the popular CUSUM control chart. The one-sided Cuscore statistic is:

$$Q_k = \max\{Q_{k-1} + r_k(e_k - m), 0\},$$

where r_k and m are referred to as the detector and reference values, respectively. If Q_k exceeds a decision interval, h , it is concluded that a fault has occurred in the process.

The model for first-order autocorrelation (the AR(1) model) is the most frequently encountered case in practice. Therefore, we restrict our work to the AR(1) case. For this model, the choice of $m = (1 - \phi_1) \frac{\delta}{2}$ is nearly optimal, in terms of minimizing the out-of-control ARL and $r_k = 1 - \phi_1$ [21].

We know that the standard residuals, $\frac{e_k}{\sigma_e}$, follow a standard normal distribution. Now, after determining the residuals, we consider three intervals for standard residuals, as follows:

$$I_1 = (-\infty, -0.44), \quad I_2 = (-0.44, 0.44),$$

$$I_3 = (0.44, \infty).$$

Statistics, $x_{i,k}$ $i = 1, 2, 3$ $k = 1, 2, \dots$, are defined as the number of standard residuals that are in the

i th interval among k gathered observations, and are calculated using the following recursive equation:

$$x_{i,k} = \begin{cases} x_{i,k-1} + 1 & \text{If the } k\text{th standard residuals} \\ & \frac{e_k}{\sigma_e} \text{ is in interval } I_i \\ x_{i,k-1} & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

Other mathematical derivations are similar to the previous section and when one of the following inequalities is satisfied, the process is classified to be in an out-of-control condition.

1. For the initial observations, when $k \leq 15$, if the statistics, W_k , are more than a constant threshold like c , then the process is categorized to be out-of-control. W_k is the EWMA statistic of the standard residuals and will be defined by the following equation:

$$W_k(r) = r \frac{e_k}{\sigma_e} + (1 - r)W_{k-1}(r),$$

$$15 > k > 0,$$

$$W_0(r) = 0,$$

2. In the case of gathering more than 15 observations, $k > 15$, when:

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^3 (x_{i,k} - \bar{x}_k)^2}{k} > c',$$

then the process is classified to be in an out-of-control condition.

The value of c and c' should be determined to ascertain a given probability of the type-one error. Results of the simulation study for different values of the autocorrelation coefficient have been shown in Tables 3, 4 and 5.

Table 3 shows the results of a comparison study for $\phi = 0.5$. As seen, the proposed method performs better than the other methods in mean shifts that are in the interval $(0, 2\sigma)$, and for shifts more than 2σ , the Cusum methods for residuals are the best, respectively.

Also, the results in Table 3 denote that the standard deviation for ARL1 values in the proposed method is less than the ones in other methods.

Table 4 shows the results of the comparison for $\phi = 0.9$. In this case, for shifts less than 0.1σ , the EWMA method is the best; the Cuscore chart being the best for detecting shifts between 0.1σ and 1.5σ . For other mean shifts, the proposed method is the best. We know that when a shift, δ , occurs in the mean of an autocorrelated variable, then the value of shift in the residuals will be $(1 - \phi)\delta$ [22]. Thus, the results of the simulation for case $\phi = 0.9$ was expected, because shift 0.1δ occurs in the mean of residuals, which is so much less than the real mean shift in the process. Also, the standard deviation of ARL values in the Cuscore method is the minimum for all mean shifts.

The results for $\phi = 0.1$ have been shown in Table 5. In this case, for all shifts less than 2σ , the proposed method performs better than other methods and also its standard deviation is the least. For other mean shift, the Cuscore method has the best performance. Because of the low value of the autocorrelation, this result is expected.

Table 3. The results of ARL₀ and ARL₁ study for $\phi = 0.5$.

| Shifts | Binomial Approach | EWMA for Residuals | Cuscore | CUSUM for Residuals |
|------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 0.00 | 451.00 (1437) | 421.00 (417) | 420.00 (435) | 430.00 (426) |
| 0.10 | 156.63 (300) | 257.00 (259) | 295.00 (267) | 301.00 (283) |
| 0.25 | 46.04 (62) | 134.47 (122) | 144.532 (130) | 185.201 (173) |
| 0.50 | 17.68 (17) | 67.328 (55) | 67.282 (50) | 89.979 (80) |
| 0.75 | 9.87 (8) | 36.8727 (30) | 36.677 (26) | 48.2835 (41) |
| 1.00 | 7.29 (4.7) | 23.682 (16) | 26.22 (15) | 29.3704 (23) |
| 1.25 | 5.30 (3.1) | 17.4242 (11) | 17.944 (10) | 19.8704 (14) |
| 1.50 | 4.5 (2.25) | 13.1241 (7) | 14.493 (7) | 14.2967 (9) |
| 2.00 | 3.64 (1.26) | 4.93 (4) | 3.9 (4) | 8.98 (5) |
| 3.00 | 3.07 (0.38) | 3.32 (2) | 1.8 (2) | 4.05 (2.5) |
| Parameters | $C = 0.35,$ $C' = 1.334$ | $\lambda = 0.1$ $L = 2.51$ | $L = 3.5$ $m = 0.25$ $r = 0.5$ | $H = 4.25$ $m = 0.5$ |

Table 4. The results of ARL_0 and ARL_1 study for $\phi = 0.9$.

| Shifts | Binomial Approach | EWMA for Residuals | Cuscore | CUSUM for Residuals |
|------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 0.00 | 520.00 (1423) | 418.00 (425) | 443.00 (405) | 426.00 (419) |
| 0.10 | 488.63 (1324) | 386.00 (397) | 393.00 (35) | 391.00 (383) |
| 0.25 | 470.24 (1301) | 330.35 (334) | 285.02 (322) | 358.11 (348) |
| 0.50 | 315.13 (824) | 268.02 (269) | 201.48 (255) | 301.27 (301) |
| 0.75 | 184.09 (413) | 211.28 (212) | 146.79 (209) | 256.89 (249) |
| 1.00 | 123.84 (251) | 177.96 (169) | 115.40 (170) | 217.42 (209) |
| 1.25 | 90.14 (168) | 144.45 (131) | 88.62 (135) | 183.75 (179) |
| 1.50 | 72.18 (127) | 116.64 (111) | 72.97 (110) | 160.25 (152) |
| 2.00 | 47.1 (76) | 85.93 (72) | 82.9 (47) | 118.98 (113) |
| 3.00 | 26.2 (34) | 51.32 (39) | 55.8 (26) | 63.05 (63) |
| Parameters | $C = 0.35,$ $C' = 1.334$ | $\lambda = 0.1$ $L = 2.51$ | $L = 1.45$ $m = 0.05$ $r = 0.1$ | $H = 4.25$ $m = 0.5$ |

Table 5. The results of ARL_0 and ARL_1 study for $\phi = 0.1$.

| Shifts | Binomial Approach | EWMA for Residuals | Cuscore | CUSUM for Residuals |
|------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 0.00 | 501.00 (1464) | 425.00 (437) | 445.00 (405) | 428.00 (417) |
| 0.10 | 141.50 (288) | 189.4.00 (187) | 232.00 (222) | 391.00 (383) |
| 0.25 | 40.01 (57) | 69.01 (62) | 100.30 (40) | 101.25 (97) |
| 0.50 | 14.55 (15) | 27.51 (21) | 33.63 (14) | 35.33 (30) |
| 0.75 | 7.66 (6.1) | 15.83 (8.3) | 16.84 (8.2) | 17.22 (12) |
| 1.00 | 5.17 (3.24) | 10.57 (5.2) | 10.54 (5.1) | 10.44 (6) |
| 1.25 | 4.51 (2.9) | 7.70 (3.1) | 7.64 (3.1) | 7.49 (4) |
| 1.50 | 3.63 (1.8) | 6.43 (2.8) | 5.93 (2.5) | 5.74 (3) |
| 2.00 | 2.9 (0.99) | 4.39 (1.5) | 4.15 (1.4) | 3.98 (1.6) |
| 3.00 | 1.9 (0.59) | 2.84 (1.1) | 2.67 (1.1) | 2.54 (1.1) |
| Parameters | $C = 0.35, C' = 1.334$ | $\lambda = 0.1$ $L = 2.51$ | $L = 4.2$ $m = 0.45$ $r = 0.9$ | $H = 4.25$ $m = 0.5$ |

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS ON THE NUMBER OF INTERVALS

Although, in our study, the domain of the data was divided into three intervals, a question may be raised on the optimal number of partitioning intervals. To test the sensitivity of results to the number of intervals, a new simulation study is carried out. The simulation is tested using $s = 2, 3, 4$ intervals, and the ARL values are estimated using 10000 independent replications in each scenario of the mean shifts.

As can be seen from Table 6, changing the

number of the intervals has a low effect on the performance of the proposed approach in detecting an out-of-control process. Also, it can be seen that among simulated cases, partitioning the domain of the data into $s = 3$ intervals has a slightly better performance.

From a theoretical point of view, we know that in control process problems, three cases may occur: a negative shift, a positive shift, or no change in the process mean. Thus, dividing the domain of the data into three intervals is reasonable because each interval corresponds to a state of the process.

Table 6. The results of the sensitivity analysis on the number of intervals.

| Shifts | Binomial Approach, $s = 2$ | Binomial Approach, $s = 3$ | Binomial Approach, $s = 4$ |
|------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 0.00 | 440.00 ()1342 | 470 (1393) | 458.00 (1345) |
| 0.10 | 202 (362) | 122.45 (239) | 171.00 (313) |
| 0.25 | 46.0 (65) | 34.24 (47.14) | 41.30 (56) |
| 0.50 | 13.68 (15) | 12.89 (12.53) | 13.63 (13) |
| 0.75 | 7.27 (5) | 6.87 (4.88) | 7.21 (5.2) |
| 1.00 | 5.09 (2.7) | 4.91 (2.53) | 5.09 (2.67) |
| 1.25 | 4.02 (1.79) | 3.93 (1.76) | 4.01 (1.7) |
| 1.50 | 3.3 (1.3) | 3.17 (1.32) | 3.33 (1.3) |
| 2.00 | 2.54 (0.84) | 2.4 (0.86) | 2.53 (0.8) |
| 3.00 | 1.07 (0.38) | 1.73 (0.54) | 1.67 (0.1) |
| Parameters | $C = 0.36, C' = 1.5$ | $C = 0.35$ $C' = 1.334$ | $C = 0.36$ $C' = 1.55$ |

CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, we proposed a binomial distribution approach to analyze the cumulated data for a univariate quality characteristic. In this approach, we used a EWMA control method for initial observations. After gathering enough observations, we used an approximation rule for evaluating binomial distribution with normal distribution and, then, defined a statistic, S^2 , that is the standard deviation of random normal variables, $x_{i,k}$ $i = 1, 2, 3$. Since the probability distribution function of S^2 is a χ^2 distribution with two degrees of freedom, we determined a constant control threshold for statistic S^2 , such that when the updated statistic, S^2 , in different iterations of data gathering process is more than a control threshold, the process is determined to be in out-of-control state.

Simulation experiments were carried out to compare the performance of the proposed method with ones of the optimal EWMA, GEWMA, CUSUM and GLR control charts. The results showed that the cumulative binomial method would improve the performance of process control techniques by decreasing the probability of type-one and type-two errors.

The primary assumption of this research was the independency of observations. For autocorrelated data, however, the proposed method was adapted for the residuals that were i.i.d variables. For this case, the results of the simulation study showed that the proposed method performs better than other methods for small to moderate values of autocorrelation coefficients.

We used an EWMA control method for initial observations. However, testing other methods is a good point for future research. Also, determining the optimal time of changing from the EWMA method

to the binomial approach is another good point for research. Moreover, a sensitivity analysis on the values of c and c' is required.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors would like to thank the referees for their valuable comments and suggestions, which improved the presentation of this paper.

REFERENCES

1. Niaki, S.T.A. and Fallahnezhad, M.S. "Decision-making in detecting and diagnosing faults in multivariate statistical quality control environments", *International Journal of Advanced Manufacturing Technology*, **42**(7), pp. 713-724 (2009).
2. Hunter, S.J. "The exponentially weighted moving average", *Journal of Quality Technology*, **18**, pp. 203-210 (1986).
3. Crowder, S.V. "A simple method for studying run-length distributions of exponentially weighted moving average charts", *Technometrics*, **29**, pp. 401-407 (1987).
4. Wu, Y.H. "Design of control charts for detecting the change point", in *Change-Point Problems*, E. Carlstein, H.G. Müller and D. Siegmund, Eds., pp. 330-345, IMS, Hayward, CA (1994).
5. Han, D. and Tsung, F. "A generalized EWMA control chart and its comparison with the optimal EWMA, CUSUM and GLR schemes", *The Annals of Statistics*, **32**(1), pp. 316-339 (2004).
6. Page, E.S. "Continuous inspection schemes", *Biometrika*, **14**, pp. 100-115 (1954).

7. Woodall, W.H. "The design of CUSUM quality control charts", *Journal of Quality Technology*, **18**, pp. 99-101 (1986).
8. Siegmund, D. and Venkatraman, E.S. "Using the generalized likelihood ratio statistic for sequential detection of a change-point", *The Annals of Statistics*, **23**, pp. 255-271 (1995).
9. Marcellus, R.L. "Bayesian monitoring to detect a shift in process mean", *Quality and Reliability Engineering International*, **23**, pp. 233-245 (2007).
10. Fallahnezhad, M.S. and Niaki, S.T.A. "A new monitoring design for uni-variate statistical quality control charts", *Information Sciences*, **180**, pp. 1051-1059 (2010).
11. Box, G.E., Hunter, W.G. and Hunter, J.S. "Statistics for experimenters: An introduction to design, data analysis, and model building", *Wiley-Interscience*, 2nd Ed., p. 53 (2005).
12. Lu, C.W. and Reynolds, M.R. "EWMA control charts for monitoring the mean of autocorrelated processes", *Journal of Quality Technology*, **31**, pp. 166-188 (1999).
13. Lu, C.W. and Reynolds, M.R. "CUSUM charts for monitoring an autocorrelated process", *Journal of Quality Technology*, **33**, pp. 316-334 (2001).
14. Shu, L., Apley, D.W. and Tsung, F. "Autocorrelated process monitoring using triggered CUSCORE charts", *Quality and Reliability Engineering International*, **18**, pp. 411-421 (2002).
15. Srivastava, M.S. and Wu, Y.H. "Comparison of EWMA, CUSUM and Shirayev-Roberts procedures for detecting a shift in the mean", *The Annals of Statistics*, **21**, pp. 645-670 (1993).
16. Srivastava, M.S. and Wu, Y.H. "Evaluation of optimum weights and average run lengths in EWMA control schemes", *Comm. Statist. Theory Methods*, **26**, pp. 1253-1267 (1997).
17. Montgomery, D., *Introduction to Statistical Quality Control*, John Wiley and Sons, Inc., 4th Ed. (2001).
18. Apley, D.W. and Shi, J.J. "The GLRT for statistical process control of autocorrelated processes", *IIE Transactions*, **31**, pp. 1123-1134 (1999).
19. Fisher, R.A. "Theory of statistical estimation", *Proceedings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society*, **22**, pp. 700-725 (1925).
20. Bagshaw, M. and Johnson, R.A. "Sequential procedures for detecting parameter changes in a time-series model", *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, **72**, pp. 593-597 (1977).
21. Hu, S.J. and Roan, C. "Change patterns in the time series-based control charts", *Journal of Quality Technology*, **28**, pp. 302-312 (1996).
22. Wieringa, J.E. "Statistically process control for serially correlated data", PhD Thesis, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (1999).

BIOGRAPHIES

Mohammad Saber Fallah Nezhad graduated from Sharif University of Technology, Iran. His research area is focused on Quality Control. He is also interested in Stochastic Modeling, Dynamic Programming and Sequential Analysis. Dr. Fallah-Nezhad is Assistant Professor of Industrial Engineering at Yazd University, Iran.

Mohammad Saleh Owlia is Associate Professor of Industrial Engineering at Yazd University, Iran. He obtained his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran and his Ph.D. in Quality Management from Birmingham University, in the UK. Dr. Owlia's research has focused on Quality Management and Engineering, Performance Assessment, and Knowledge Management. He is recipient of both a distinguished researcher award, and outstanding lecturer award from Yazd University.