

Variation and Quality

Defining, Measuring, and Controlling Quality in Manufacturing

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Here's what Subway had to say:

"As you know, all of our sandwiches are made to order, and our bread is baked daily in every one of our more than 38,000 restaurants in 100 countries worldwide. We have policies and procedures in place to ensure that our products are consistent and have the same great taste no matter which Subway restaurant you visit.

We have seen the photo you referenced of a Subway sandwich that looks like it doesn't meet our standards. We always strive for our customers to have the most positive experience possible, and we believe this was an isolated case in which the bread preparation procedures were unfortunately not followed."

There were many theories out there, ranging from toasting shrinkage to faulty bread to a fake tape measure.

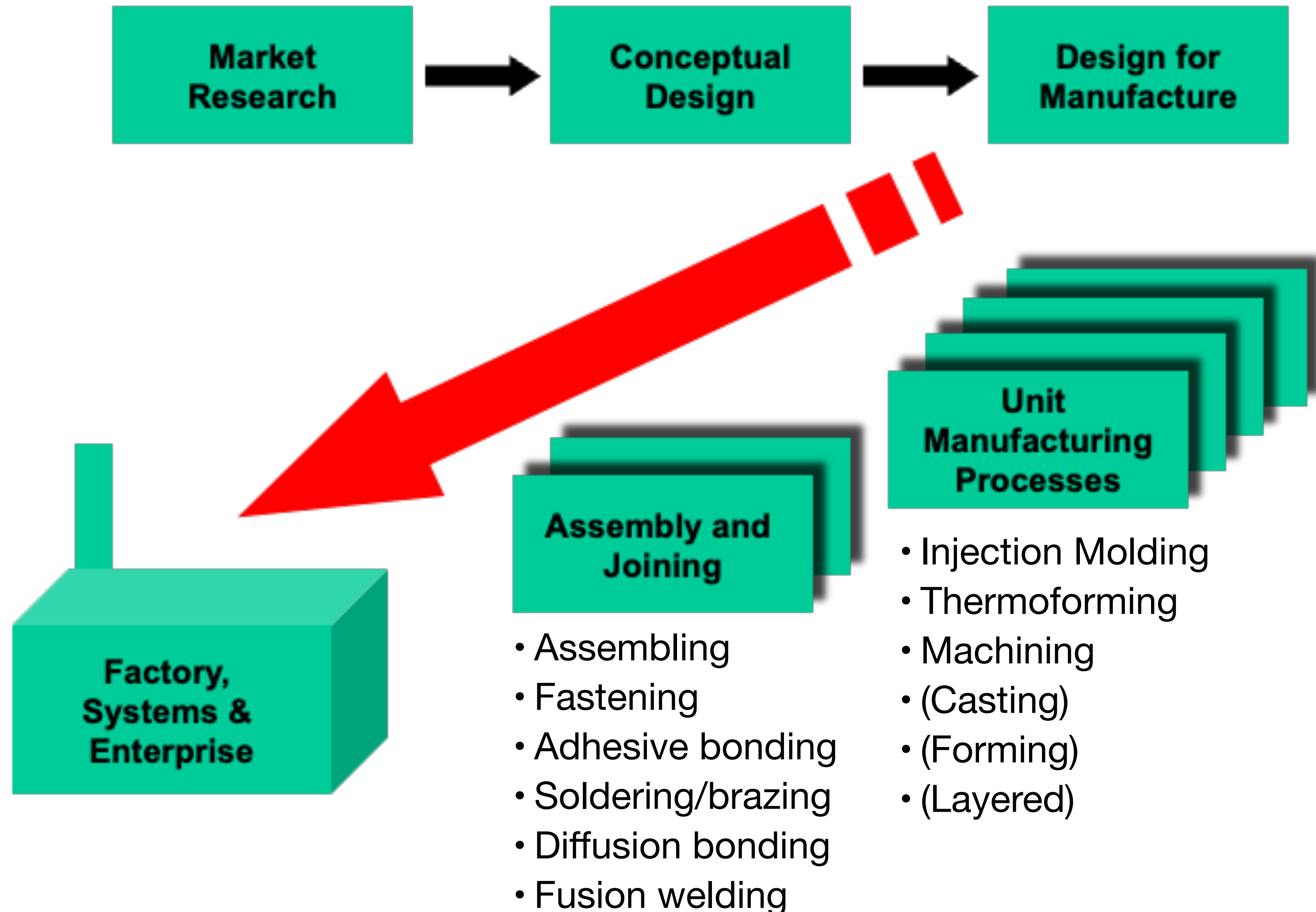
While it denies the claims, Subway announced a proposed settlement Monday. According to court documents, franchisees would be required to have a measurement tool in stores and adhere to regular compliance inspections that would include measuring a sampling of baked bread to make sure loaves are 12-inches.

Subway also said it would amend training materials and other communication that had "allowed for a small tolerance in the size of a Footlong sandwich."

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2.008 Manufacturing Context

what have we covered so far:

- some unit processes (more to come)
- assemble to make useful products
- (covered in **Review Session** and **Quiz**)
 - closed book, 1 page cheat sheet

what is still coming up

- **variations and quality control**
- manufacturing systems
- process planning
- cost

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2.008 Objectives

Internalize the **rate**, **quality**, **cost**, and **flexibility** as manufacturing attributes

e.g. injection molding: cooling

machining: MRR

multiple processes: systems

Apply physics to understand the factors that influence the **rate**, **quality**, **cost**, and **flexibility** of processes

mostly qualitative so far

today: how to **define**,
measure and **control** it

Apply an understanding of variation to the factor that influence **rate**, **quality**, **cost**, and **flexibility** of processes and systems

Understand the impact of manufacturing constraints on product design and process planning

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What is Quality?



can we agree on what it is?

to **control** it you need to be able to **measure** it

what is the **metric** and the **specification**?

“within spec” = 👍, otherwise 👎

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2.008 Topic Coverage

Variations

What is our **yield**? % that meets quality.

What can we do about it?




Statistical Representation

Process **Capability**

Process **Control**

Accuracy vs Precision

Quality Loss

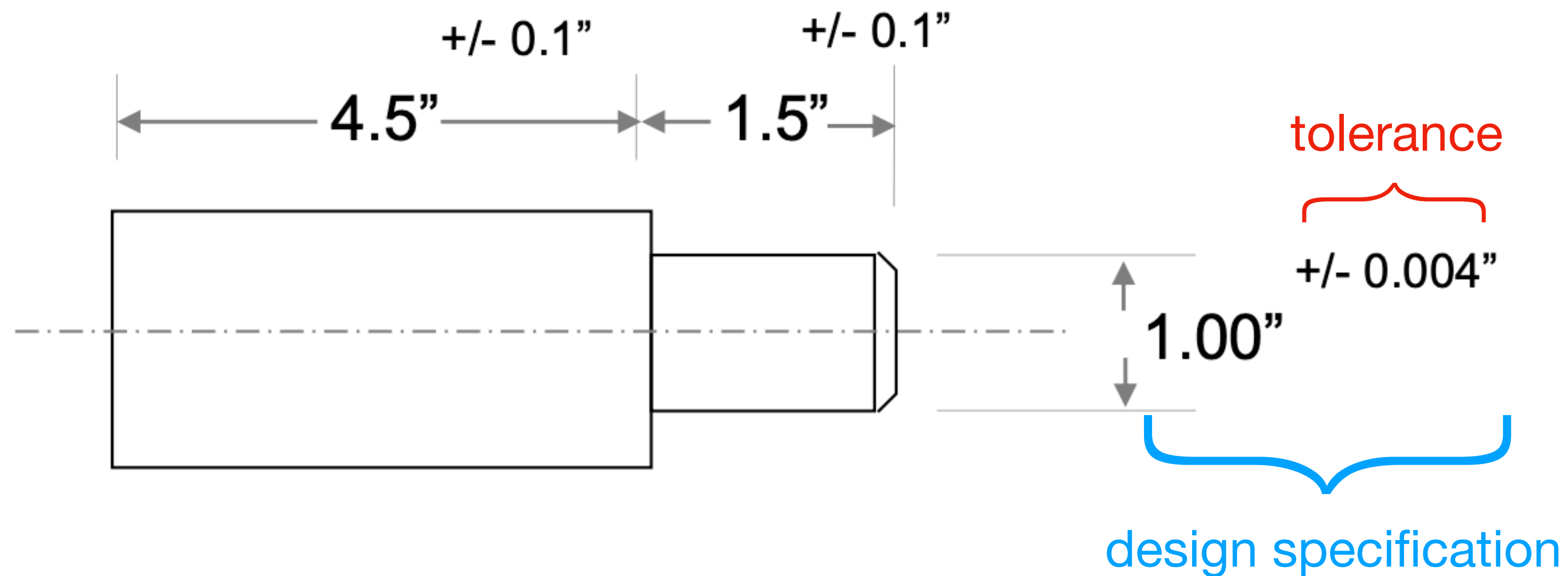
 See more images	 See more images	 See more images
Intel - Core i9-14900K 14th Gen 24-Core 32-Thread - 4.4GHz (6.0GHz Turbo) Socket LGA 170...	Intel - Core i7-14700K 14th Gen 20-Core 28-Thread - 4.3GHz (5.6GHz Turbo) Socket LGA 170...	Intel - Core i5-14600K 14th Gen 14-Core 20-Thread - 4.0GHz (5.3GHz Turbo) Socket LGA 170...
Model: BX8071514900K SKU: 6560418 ★★★★★ (279)	Model: BX8071514700K SKU: 6560420 ★★★★★ (189)	Model: BX8071514600K SKU: 6560423 ★★★★★ (12)
\$499.99	\$399.99	\$239.99

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Variations in Engineered Part



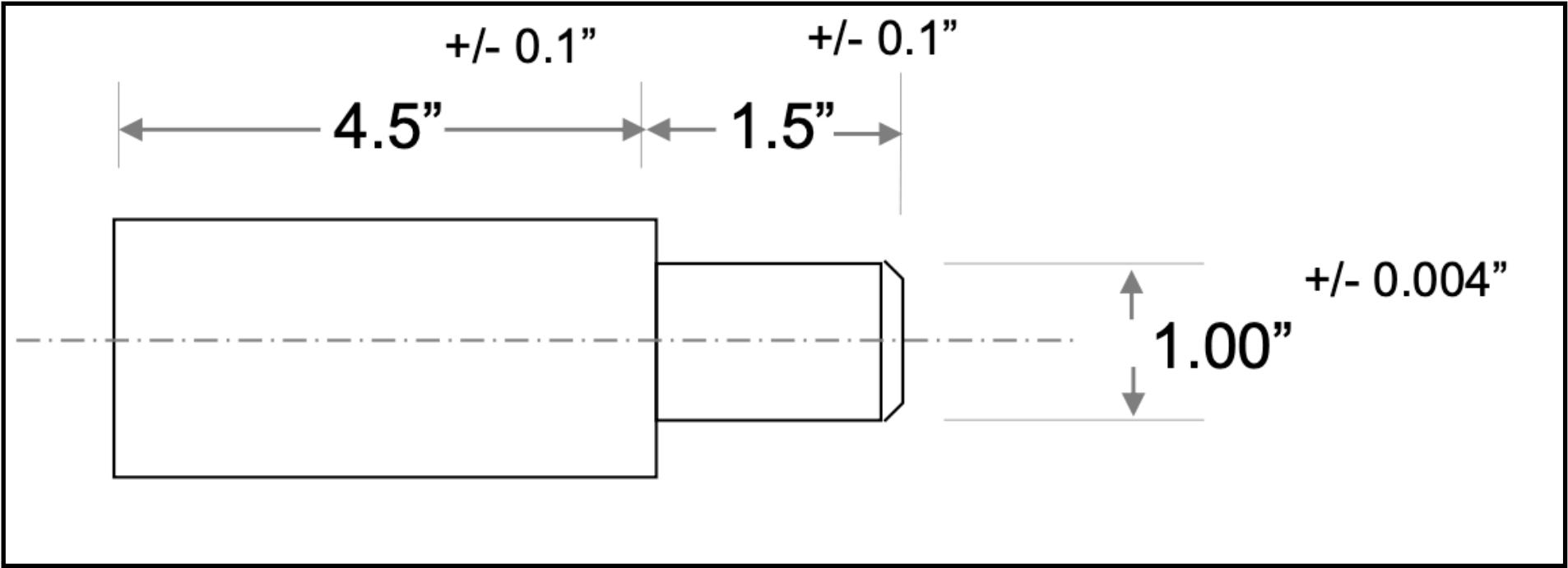
how much variation can your design **tolerate**?

“within spec” = 👍, otherwise 👎

compare your **process outcome** (single measurement for a part) to your **specification** (range)

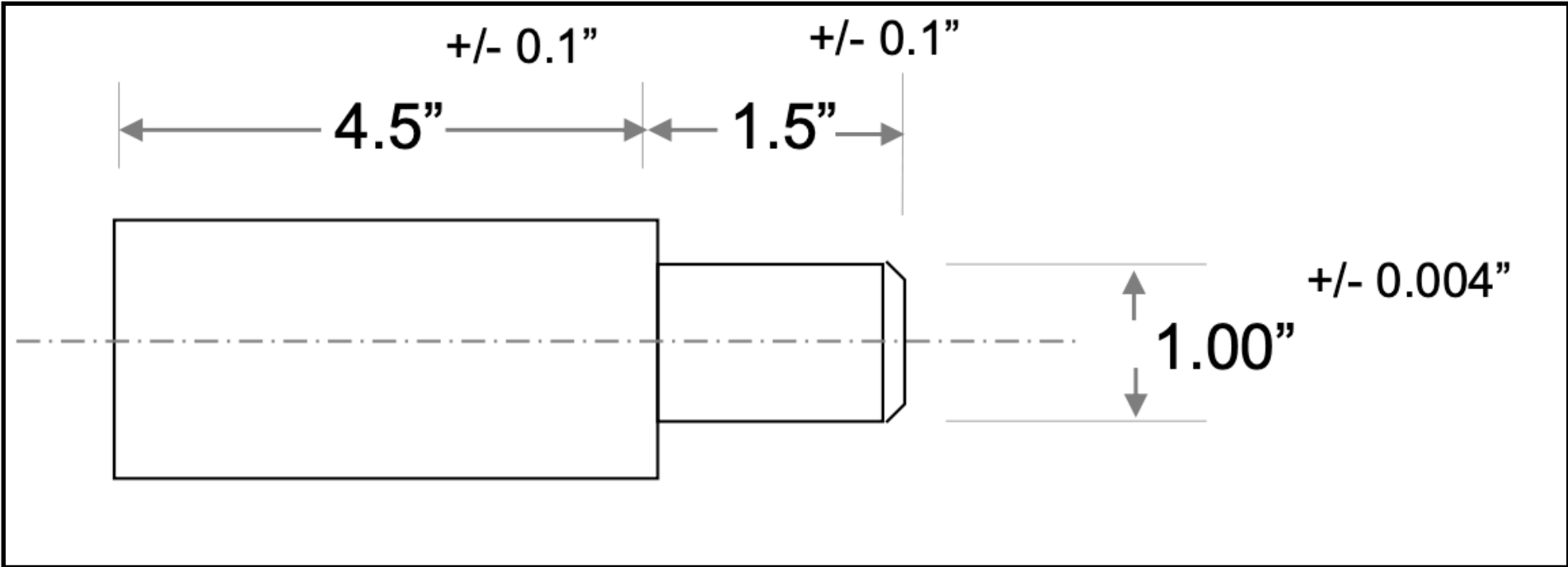
Variations in Critical Diameter

Raw data, n = 20



1.0013	0.9986	1.0015	0.9996
1.0060	0.9997	1.0029	0.9977
1.0042	0.9955	1.0019	0.9970
0.9992	1.0034	0.9995	1.0022
1.0020	0.9960	1.0013	1.0020

Variations in Critical Diameter



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1.0013	0.9986	1.0015	0.9996
1.0060	0.9997	1.0029	0.9977
1.0042	0.9955	1.0019	0.9970
0.9992	1.0034	0.9995	1.0022
1.0020	0.9960	1.0013	1.0020

6 Buckets

.994 - .996	2	✗
.996 - .998	2	✓
.998 - 1.000	5	✓
1.000 - 1.002	6	✓
1.002 - 1.004	3	✓
1.004 - 1.006	2	✗

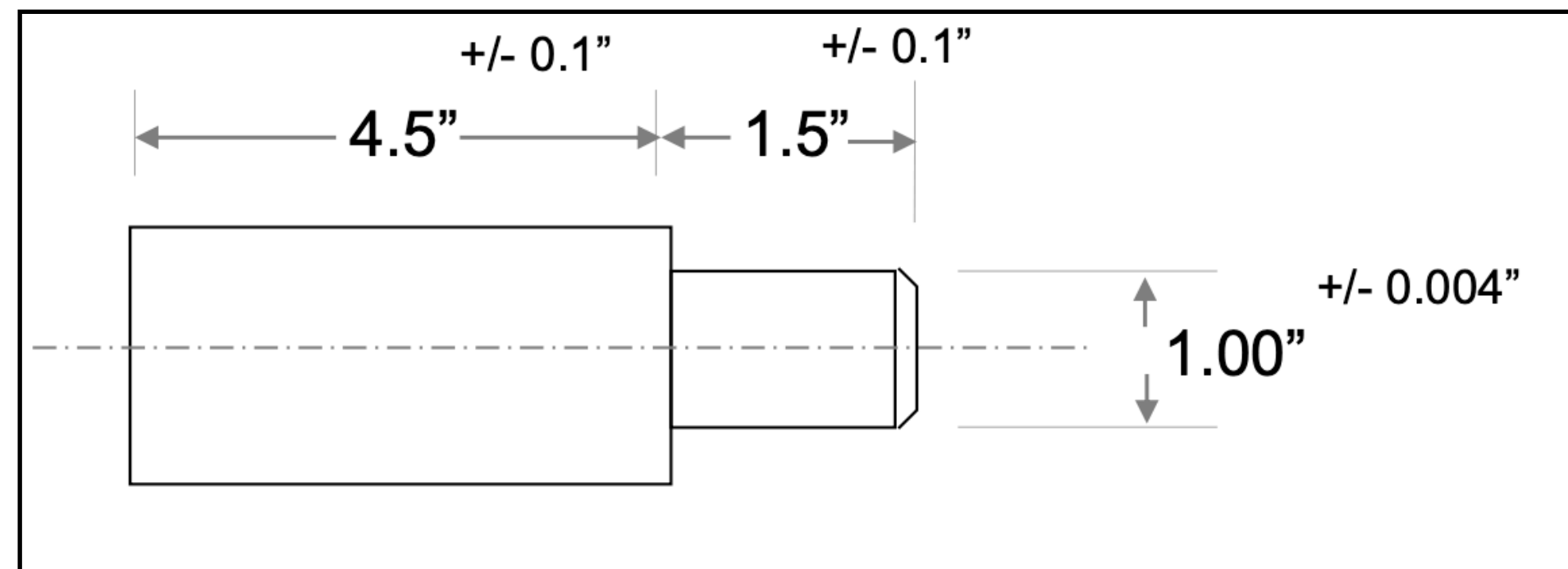
bucketing helps you understand the data

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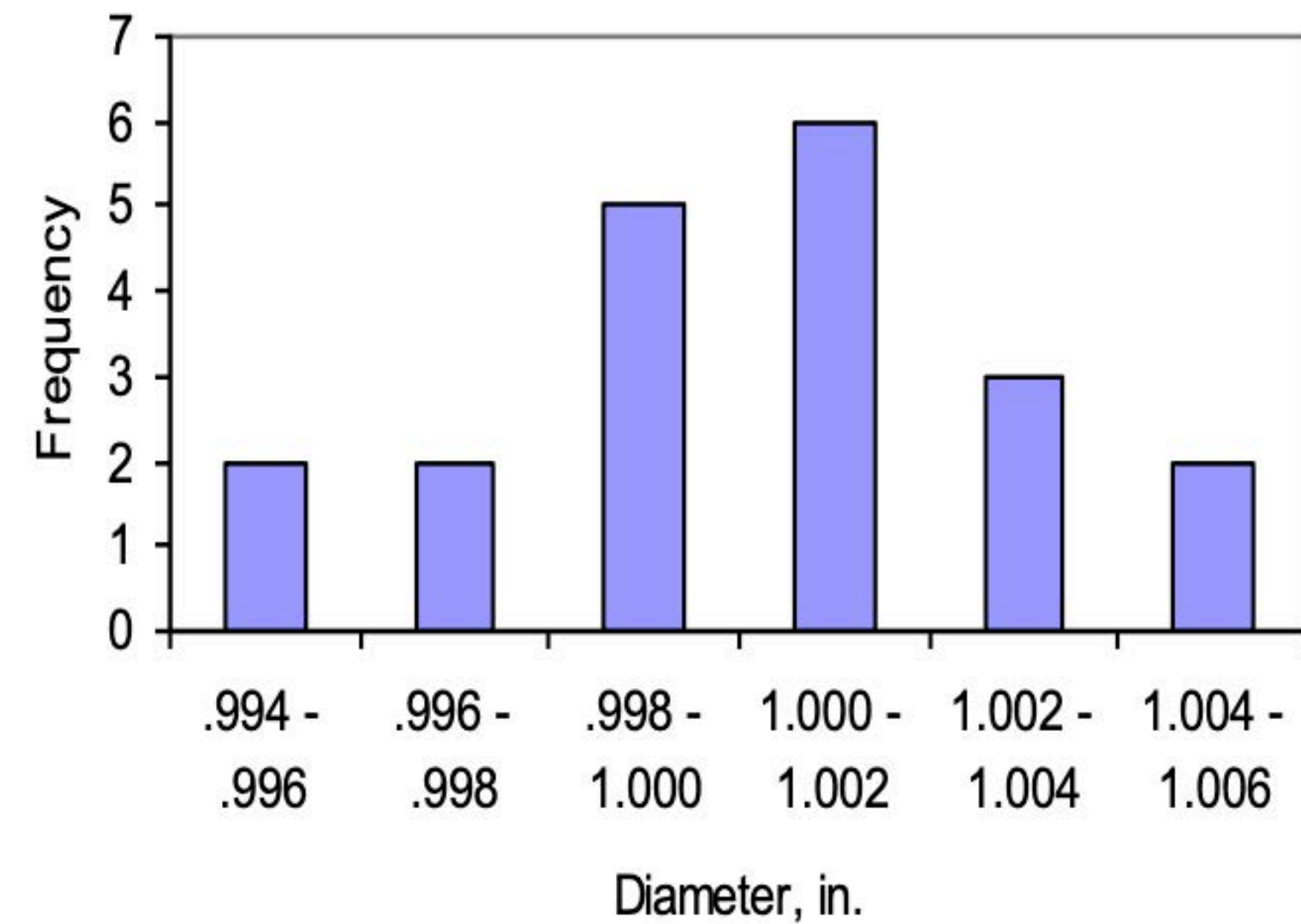
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Variations in Critical Diameter



get statistical: **process outcome distribution**



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Causes of Variations for the Consumer

Manufacturing:

- part variations from unit manufacturing processes
- assembly variations

Use:

- variations in conditions of use
- deterioration

cars: tested in high elevations, arid, humid, cold - needs to be addressed in design stage and turned into **specifications**

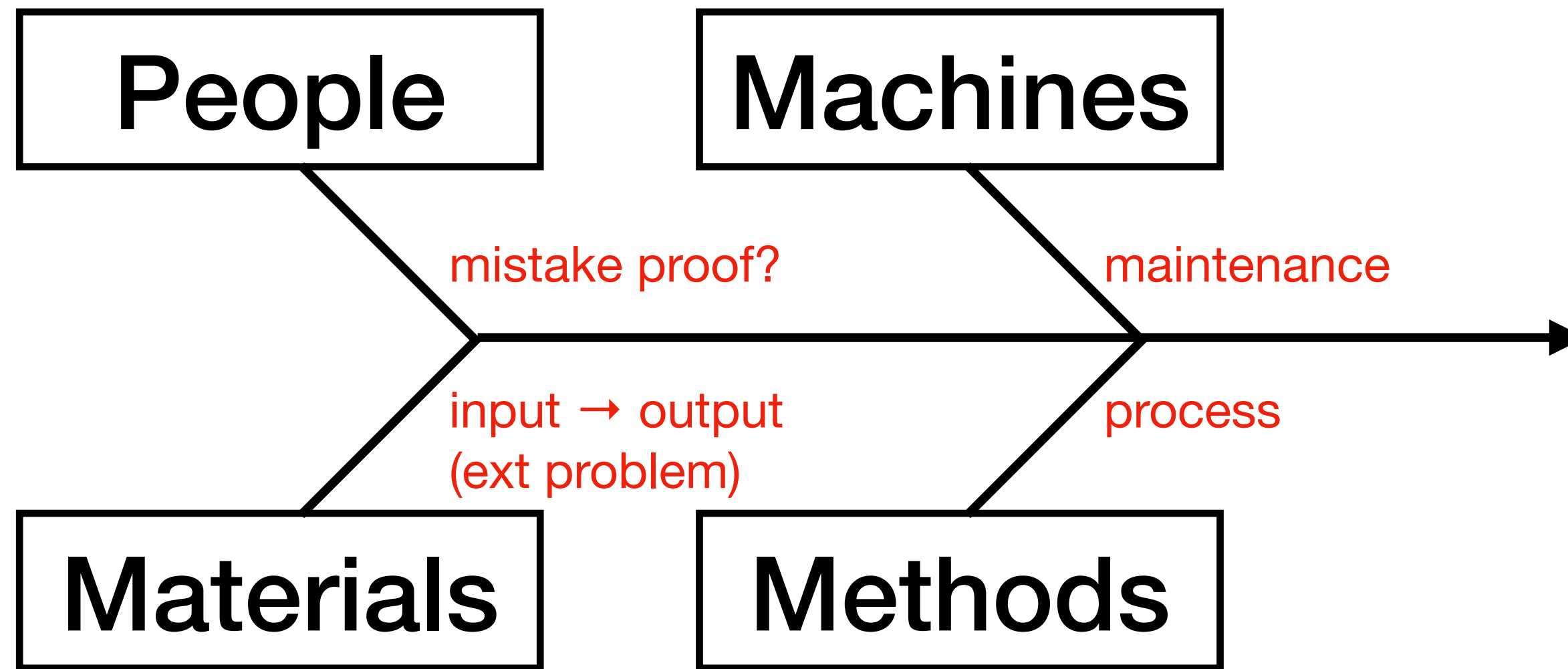


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Part and Assembly Variation



Outcome Examples

- shaft O.D. (inches)
- hole distance from reference surface (mm)
- circuit resistance (ohms)
- heat treat temperature (degrees)
- engineering change processing time (hours)

Outcome is **measured**



unit of measure (mm, kg, etc.)

measurement method: accurate and precise over time

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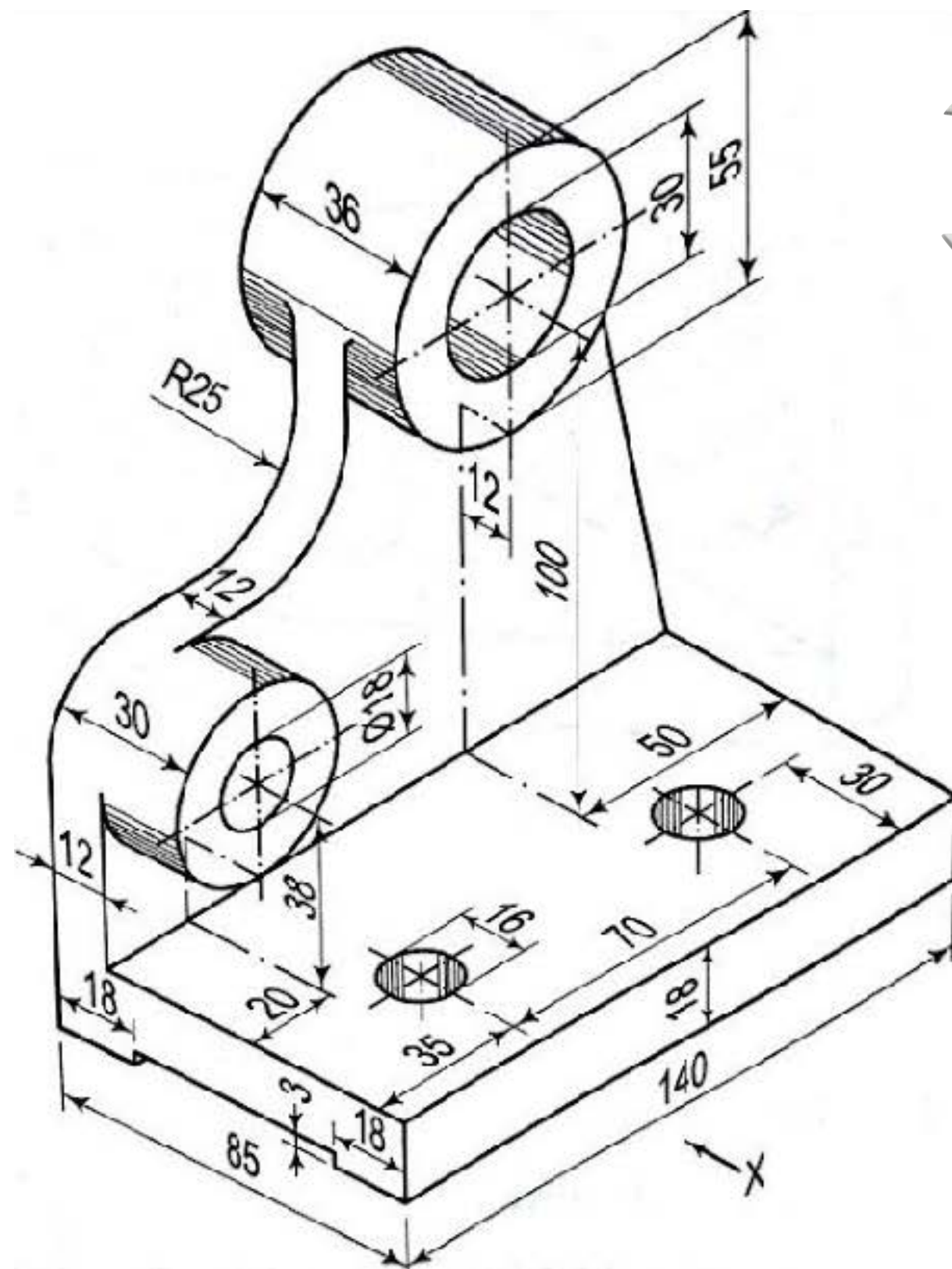
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Control of Variations: Technological Development

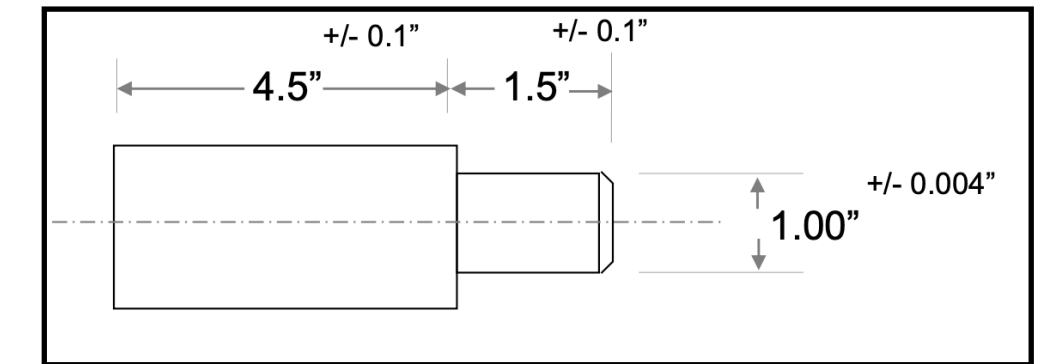
physical masters



engineering drawings



go/no-go gauge



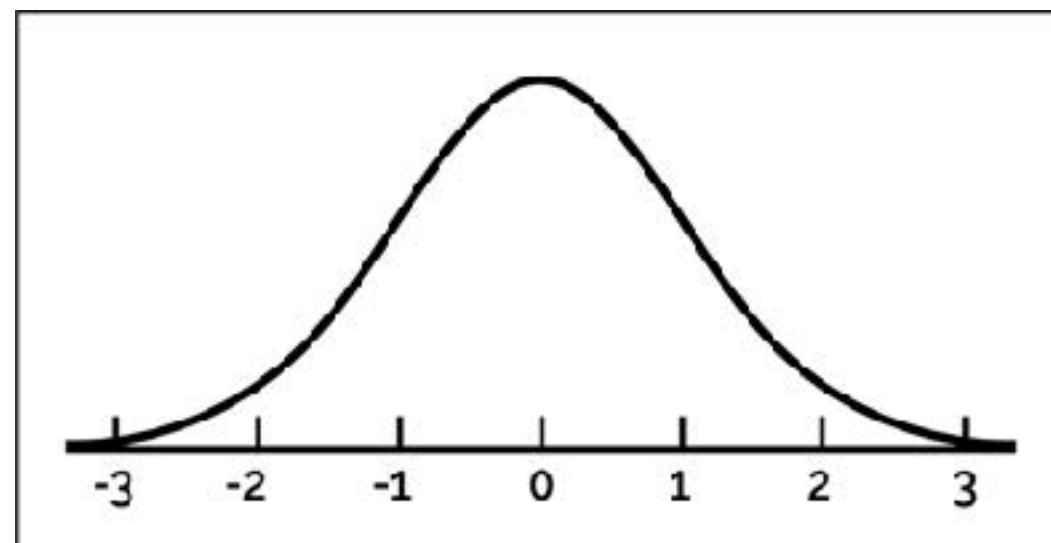
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Control of Variations: Technological Development measurement is good, but costly

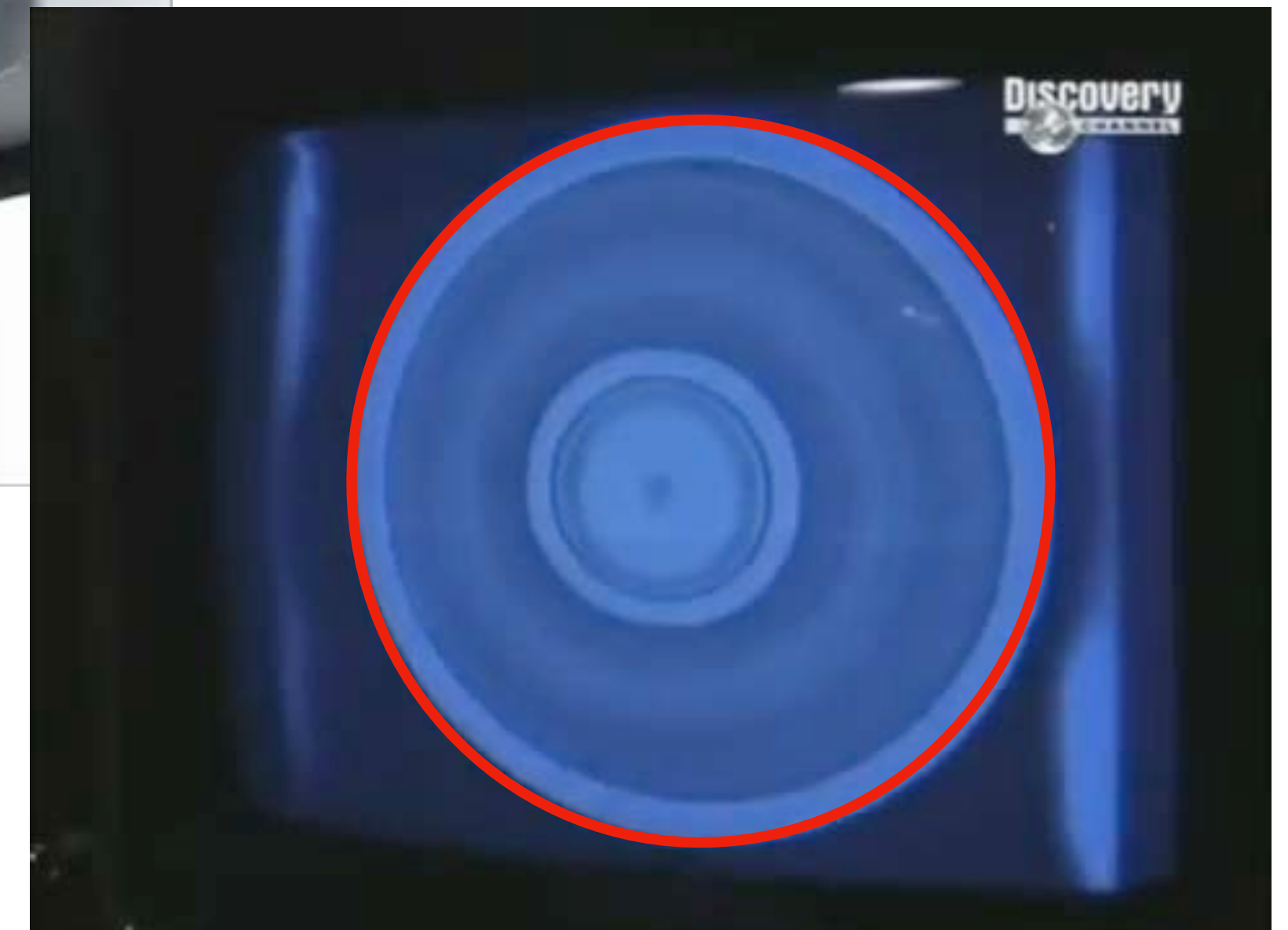
statistical representation



continuous on-line measurement



optical measurement demo

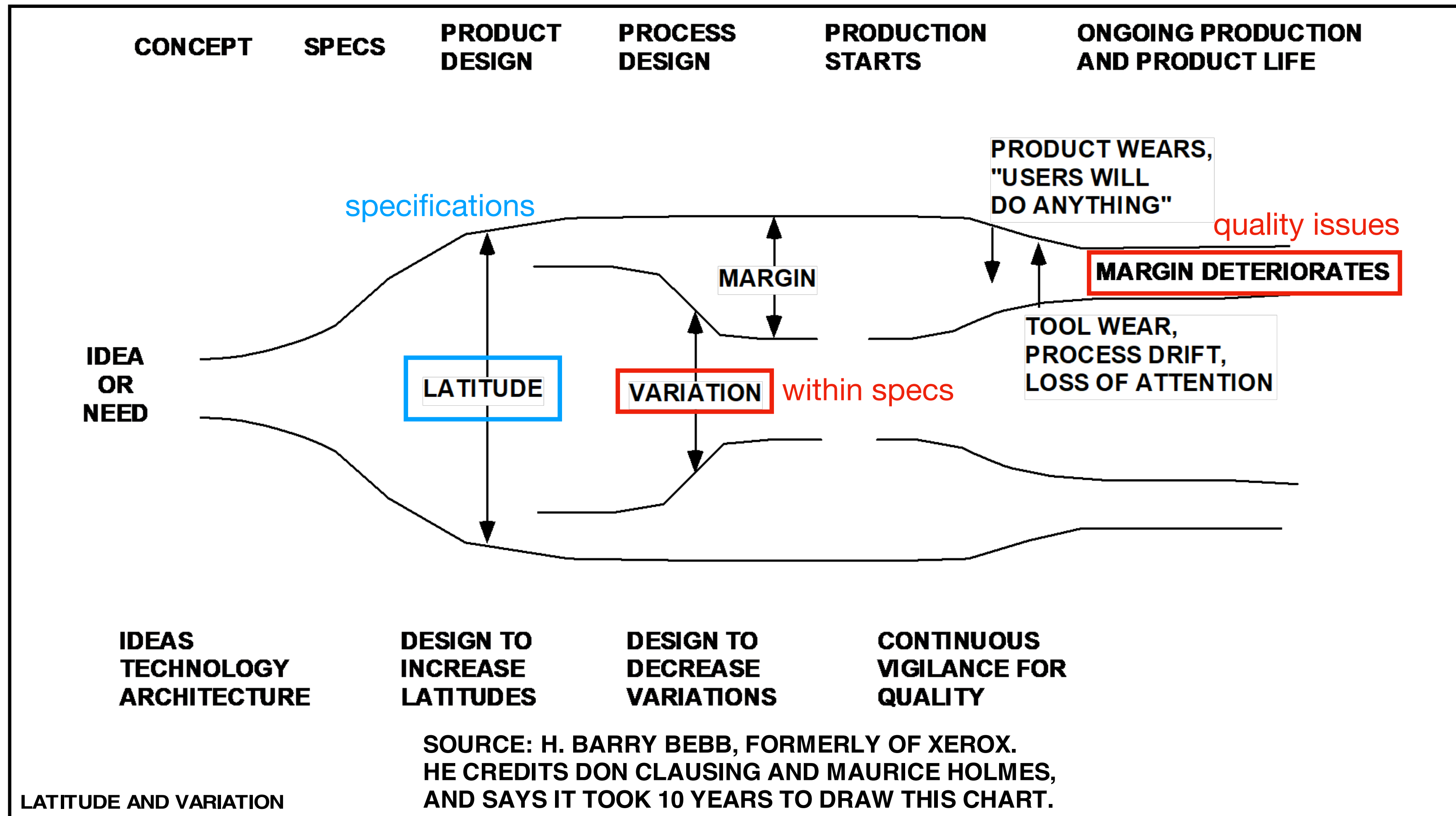


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Process Management Over Time



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Types of Variations

Systematic / Assignable / Special Cause

(you know or can figure out what is happening)

- tool is wearing out
- operator used the wrong depth of cut
- typically a “single direction” shift

Random / Un-assignable / Common Cause

(there's always some amount of randomness)

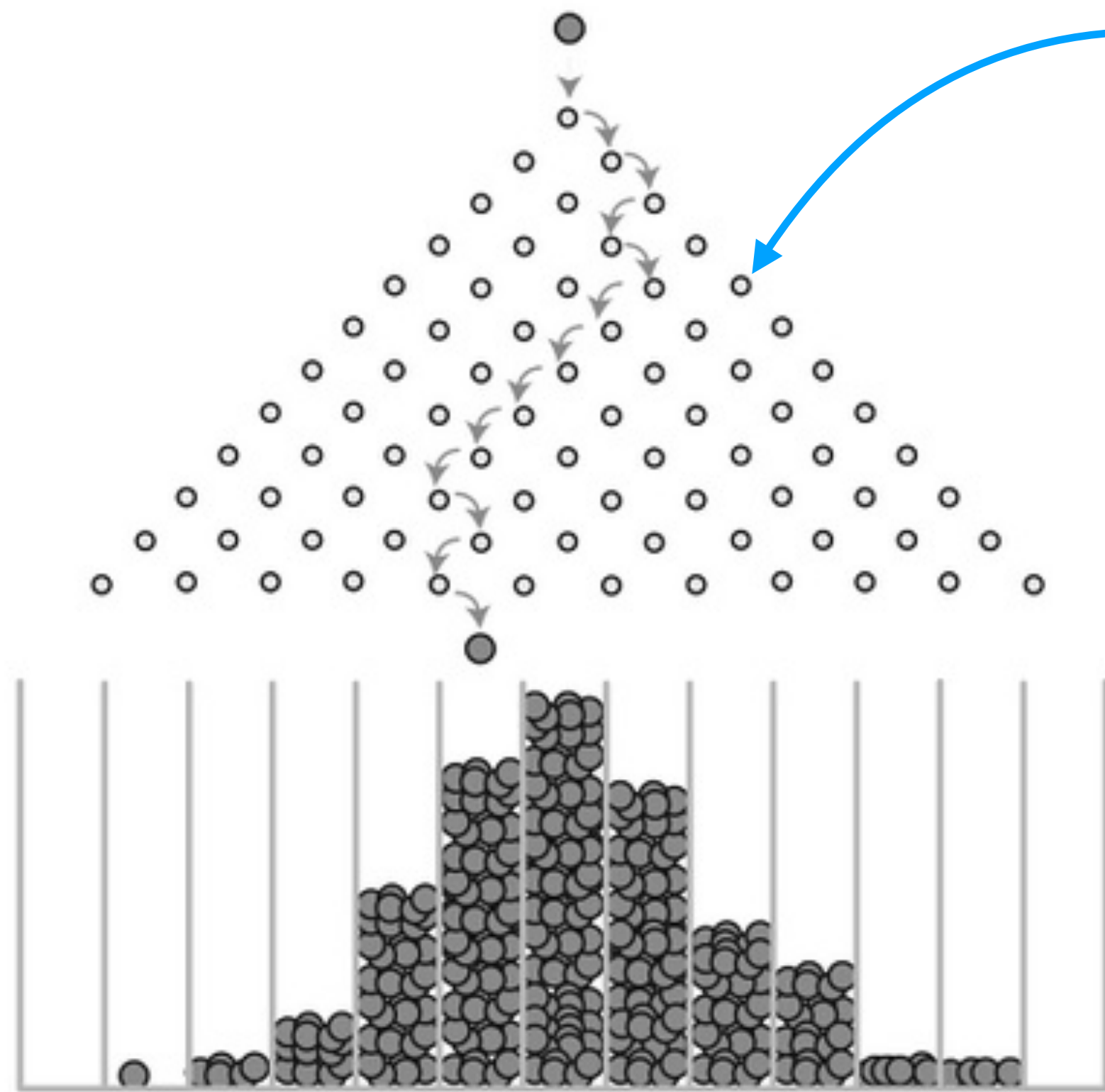
- there's some natural variation due to vibrations, nonlinearities, etc.
- i.e. a truck passed by and caused extra vibration or there was a solar flare
- “positive and negative” shifts

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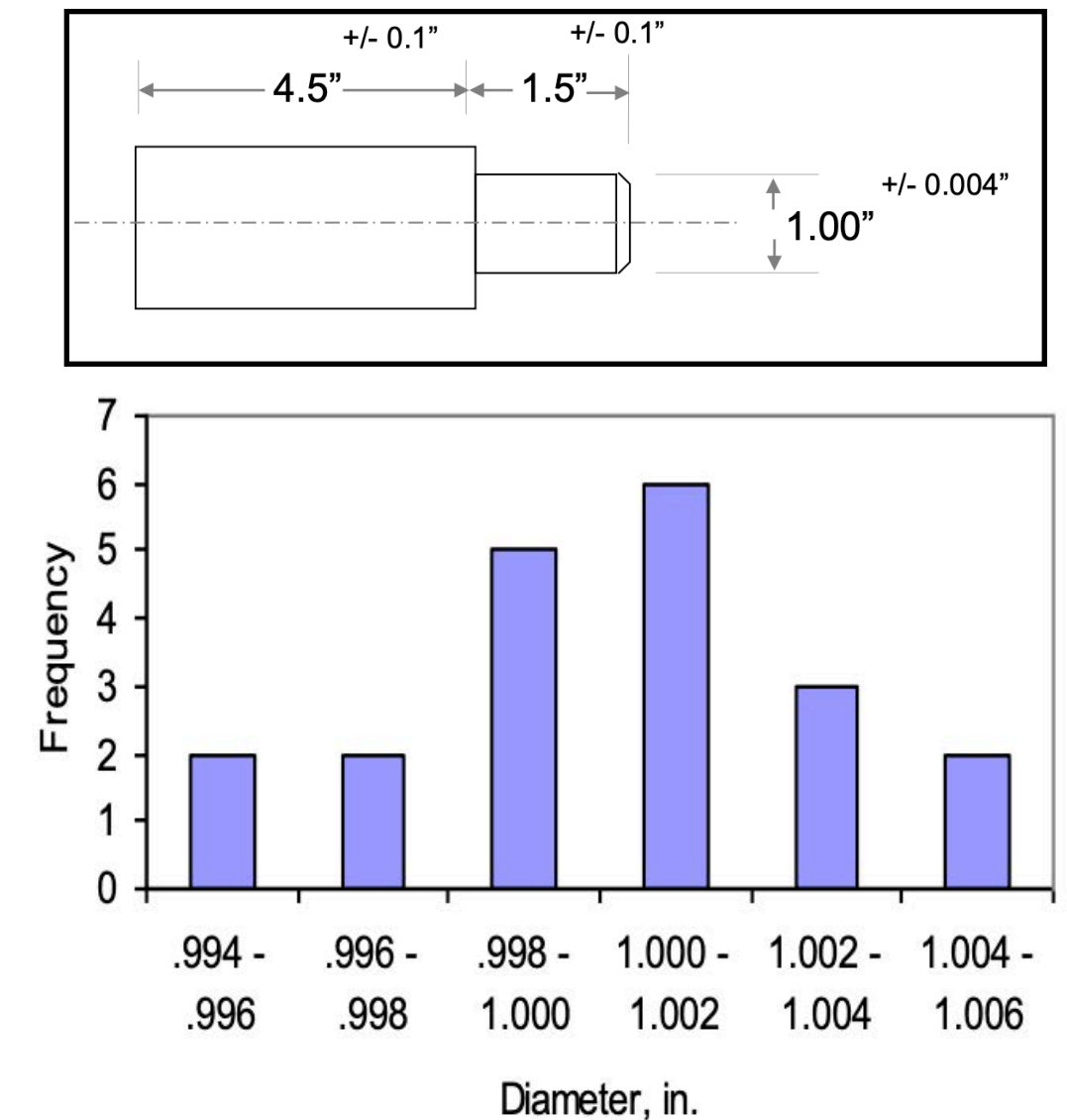
Manufacturing Outcomes



each row is **independent**

just like a manufacturing process with multiple inputs

Outcomes are **normally distributed**



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Chocolate Bar Distributions

Which bar do you expect to have lower variation?

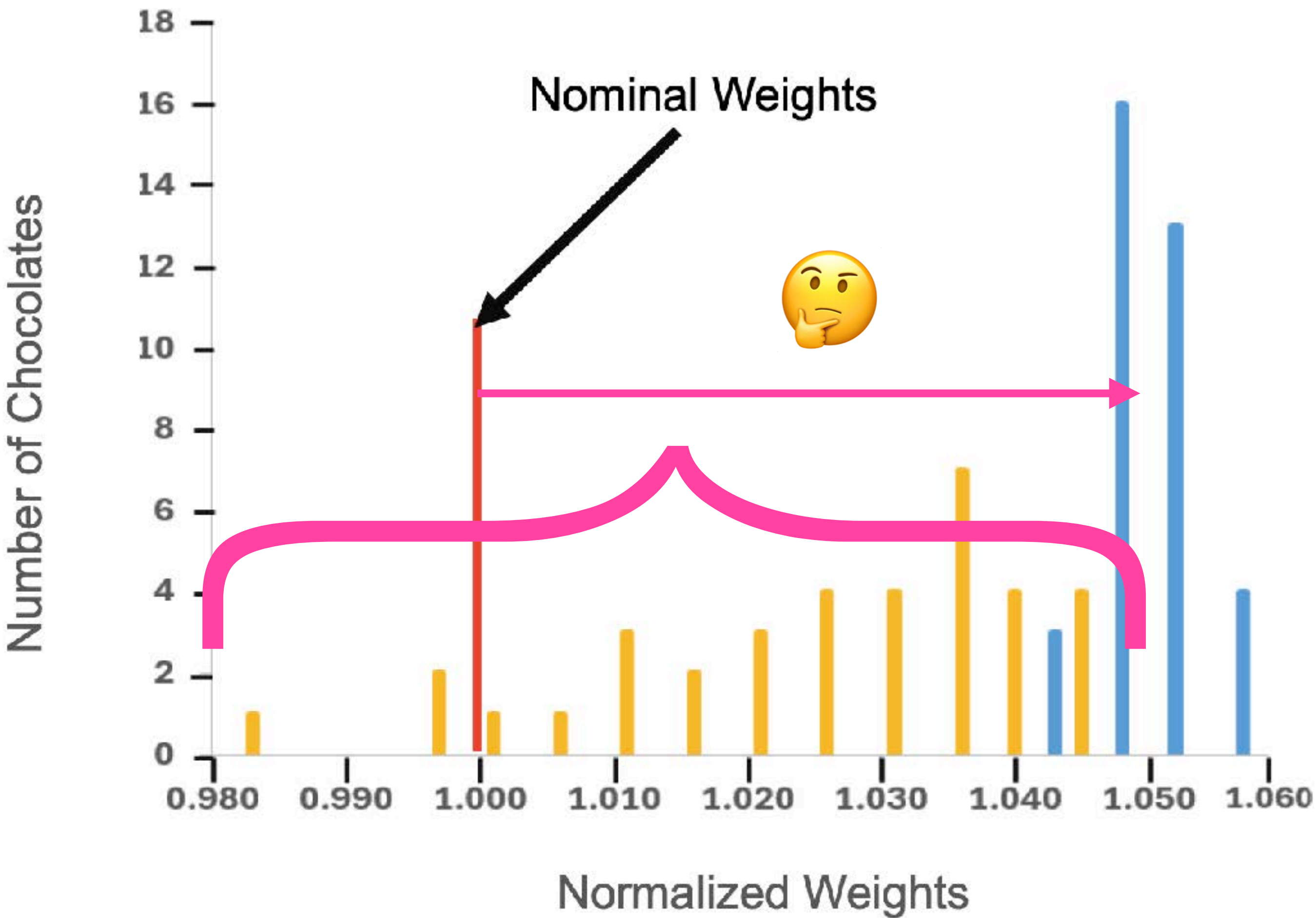
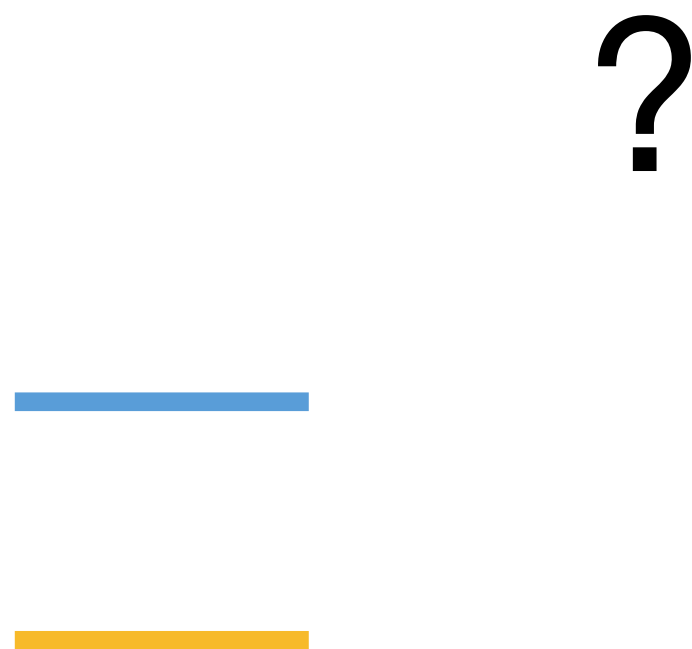
- investigate mean and standard deviation of chocolate bar weight distributions



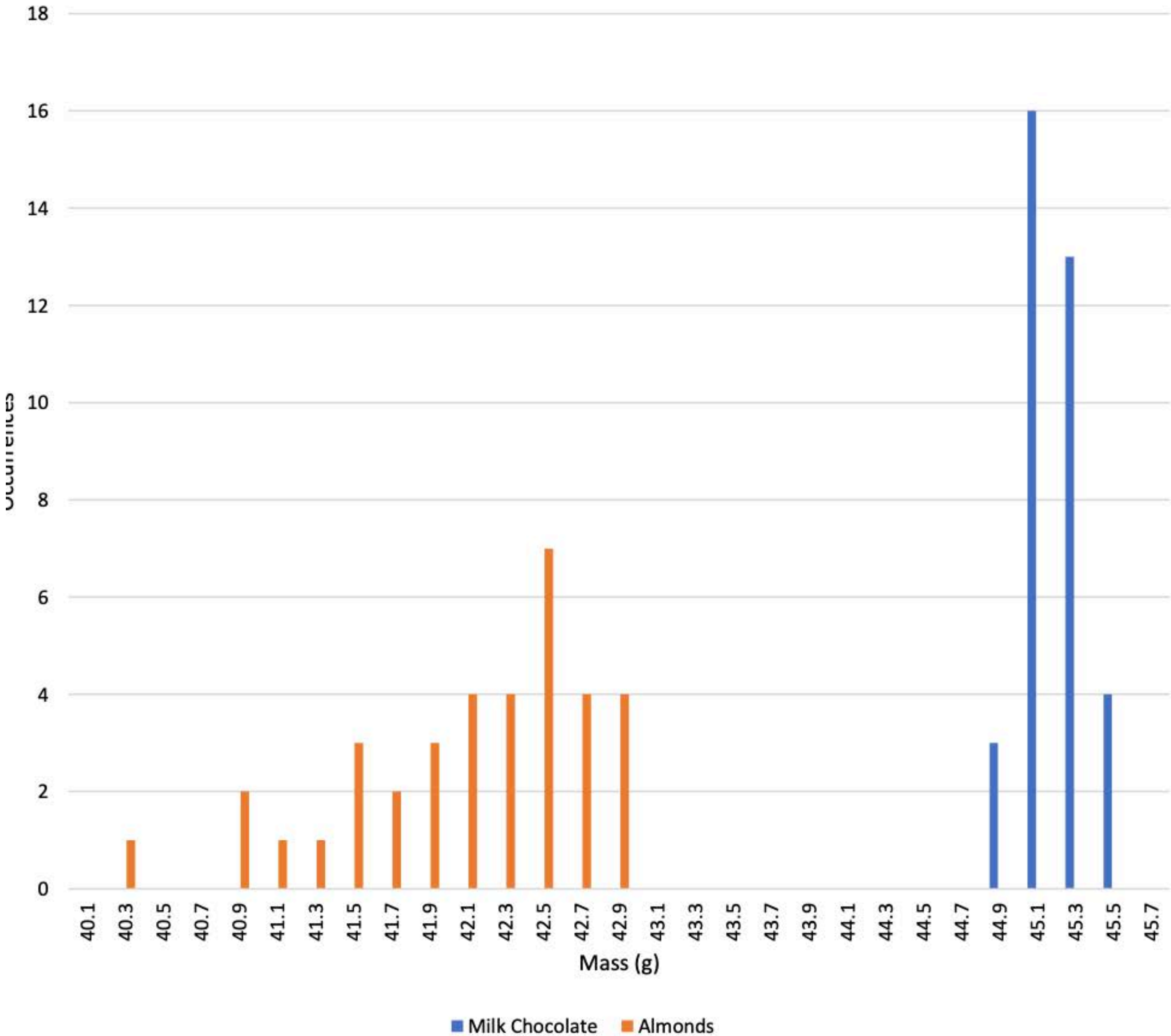
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Weight Distribution of Hershey's Milk Chocolate and Milk Chocolate with Almond Bars



Distribution of Hershey's Milk Chocolate and Almond Bar Masses



Milk Chocolate Analysis (n=36)

Nominal Weight (g)	43
Median	45.08
Mean	45.10
Min	44.72
Max	45.41
Standard Deviation	0.16



Almond Bar Analysis (n=36)

Nominal Weight (g)	41
Median	42.16
Mean	42.01
Min	40.13
Max	42.83
Standard Deviation	0.64

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Statistical Distributions

central tendency: more in the middle

- sample mean (arithmetic)
- sample median **when do we choose median?**

measures of **dispersion**

- variance
- standard deviation **(“average deviation from the mean”)**
- range

$$\text{mean : } \bar{x} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n}$$

$$\text{variance : } s^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n}$$

$$\text{std dev : } s = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n}}$$

x: sample variable
n: number of values

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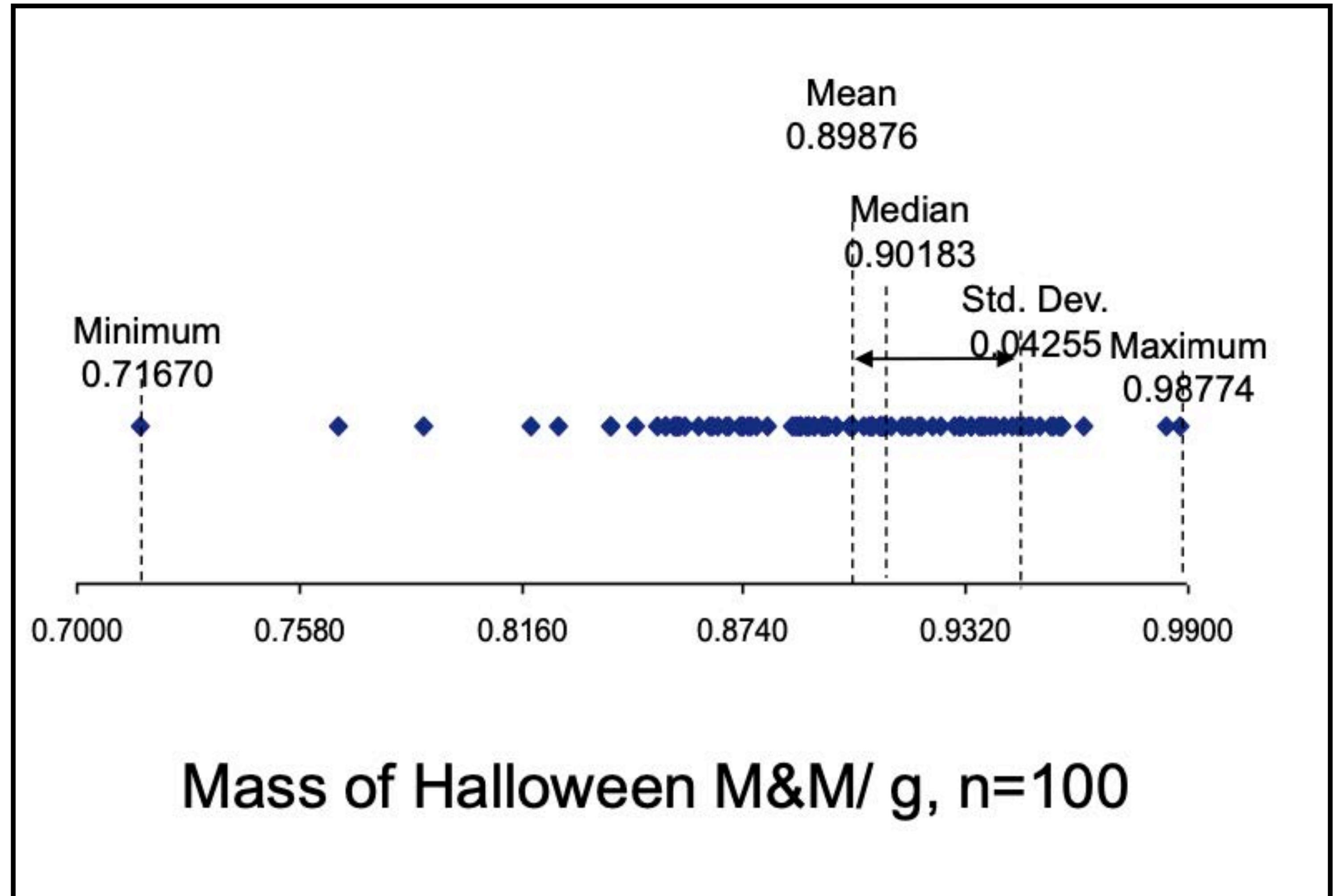
Statistical Distributions

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Statistical Distributions

Probability

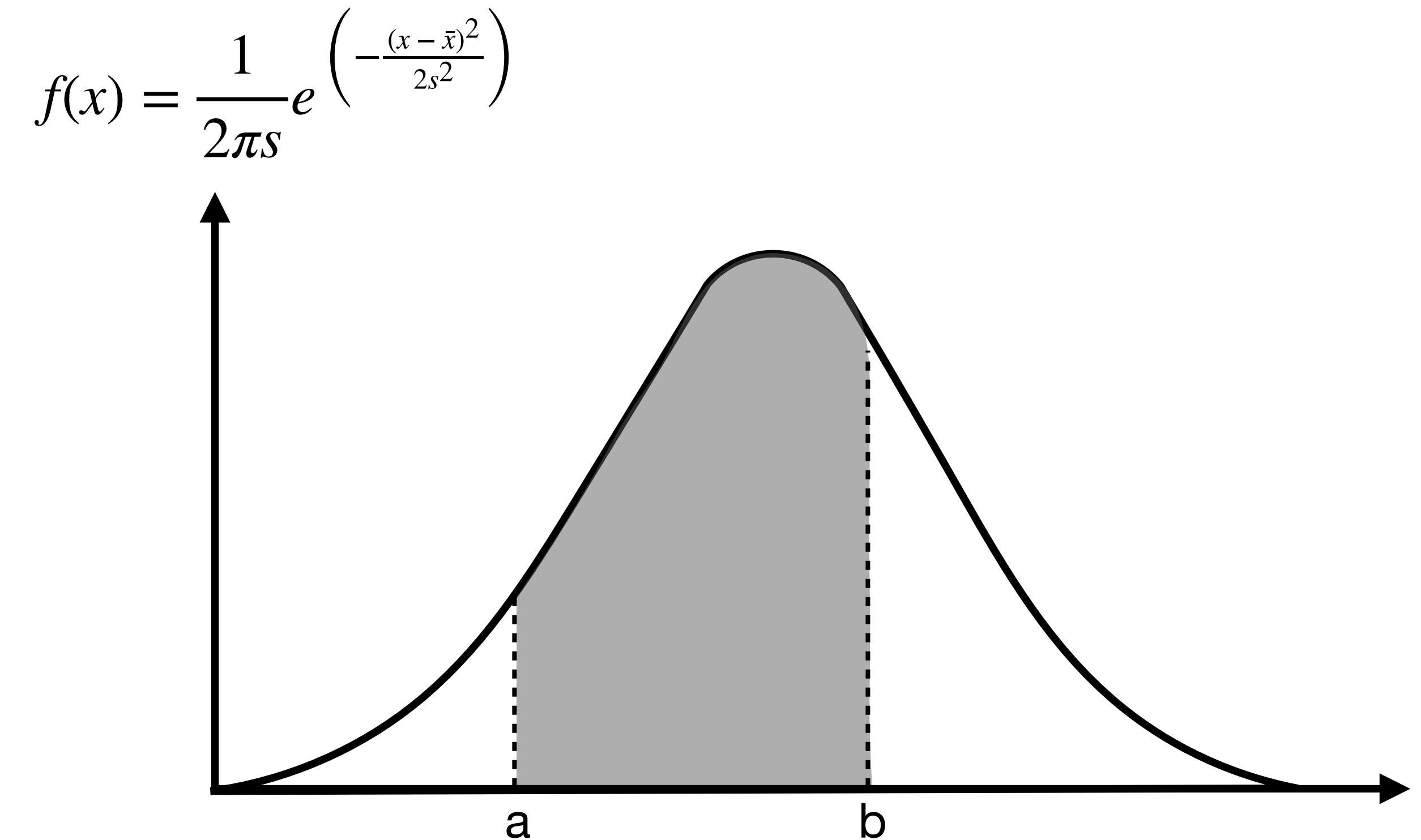
$$P\{a \leq x \leq b\} = \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

$$P\{-\infty \leq x \leq \infty\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = 1 \text{ for all } \bar{x}, s$$

Normalized

$$z = \frac{x - \bar{x}}{s} \quad (\text{"number of std devs"})$$

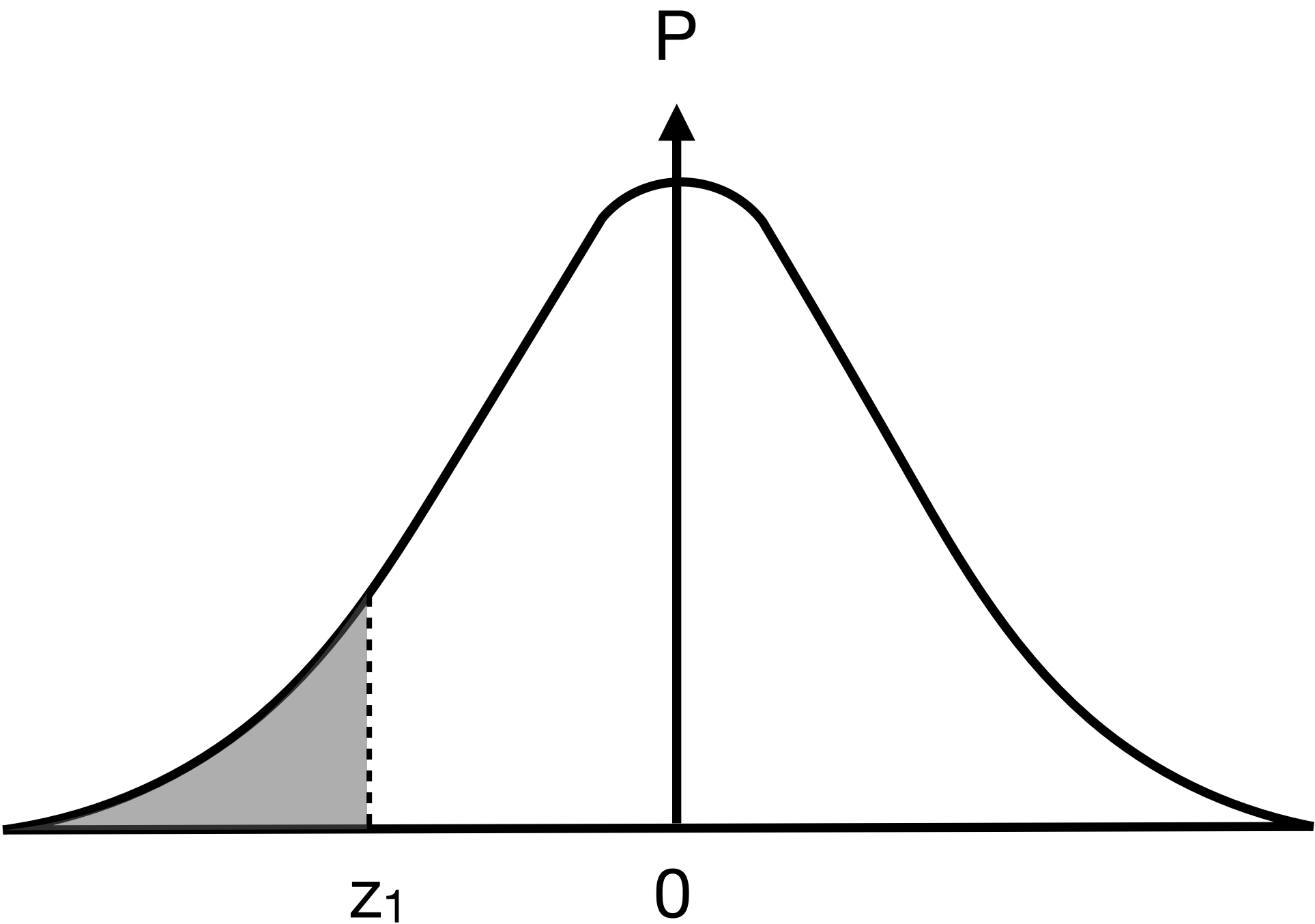
$$P\{z_1 \leq x \leq z_2\} = \int_{z_1}^{z_2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{(-\frac{z^2}{2})}$$



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Areas under the Normal Distribution Curve

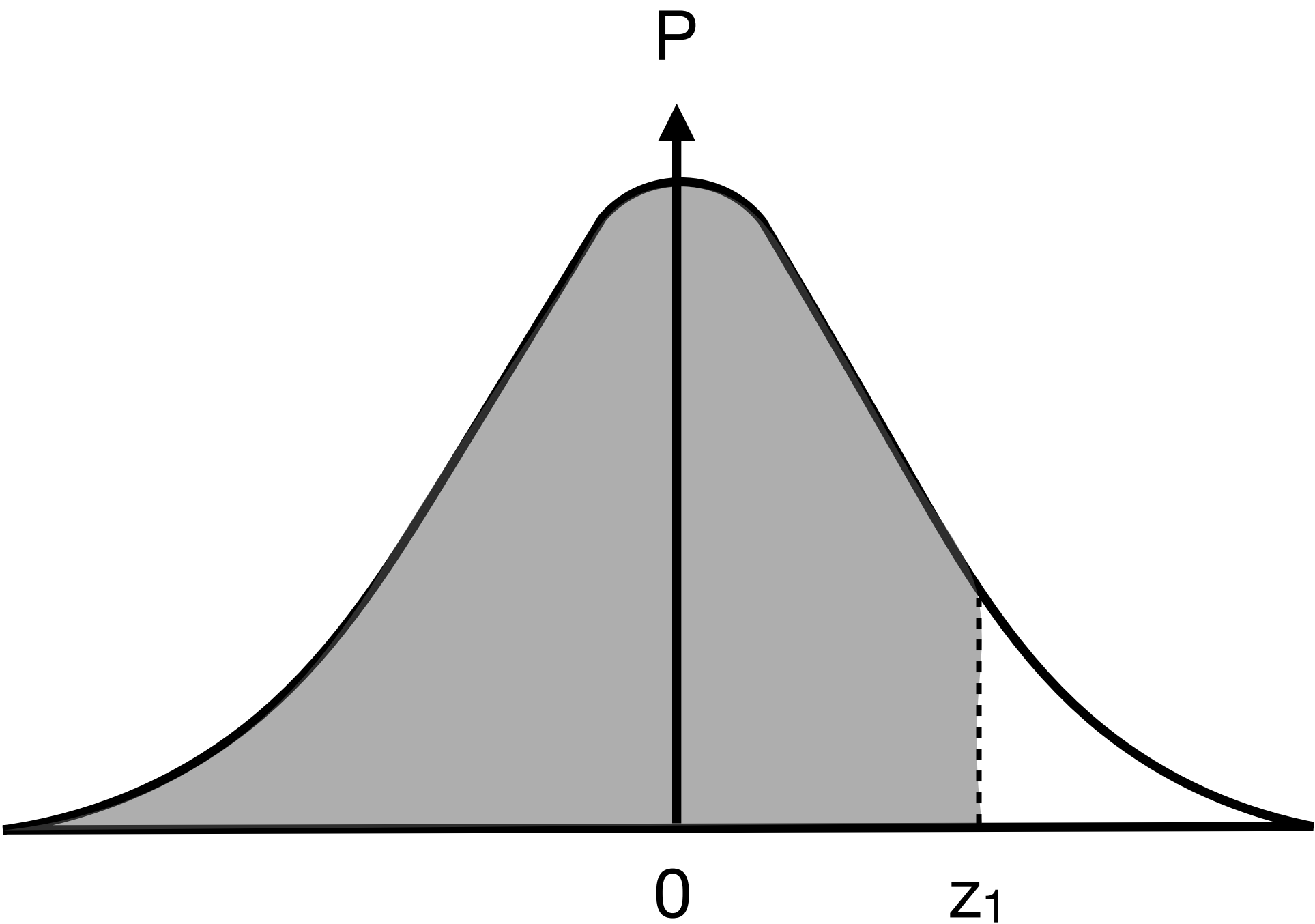


Z	0	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.09
-3.0	0.0013	0.0013	0.0013	0.0012	0.0012	0.0011	0.0011	0.0011	0.0010	0.0010
-2.9	0.0019	0.0018	0.0018	0.0017	0.0016	0.0016	0.0015	0.0015	0.0014	0.0014
-2.8	0.0026	0.0025	0.0024	0.0023	0.0023	0.0022	0.0021	0.0021	0.0020	0.0019
-2.7	0.0035	0.0034	0.0033	0.0032	0.0031	0.0030	0.0029	0.0028	0.0027	0.0026
-2.6	0.0047	0.0045	0.0044	0.0043	0.0041	0.0040	0.0039	0.0038	0.0037	0.0036
-2.5	0.0062	0.0060	0.0059	0.0057	0.0055	0.0054	0.0052	0.0051	0.0049	0.0048
-2.4	0.0082	0.0080	0.0078	0.0075	0.0073	0.0071	0.0069	0.0068	0.0066	0.0064
-2.3	0.0107	0.0104	0.0102	0.0099	0.0096	0.0094	0.0091	0.0089	0.0087	0.0084
-2.2	0.0139	0.0136	0.0132	0.0129	0.0125	0.0122	0.0119	0.0116	0.0113	0.0110
-2.1	0.0179	0.0174	0.0170	0.0166	0.0162	0.0158	0.0154	0.0150	0.0146	0.0143
-2.0	0.0228	0.0222	0.0217	0.0212	0.0207	0.0202	0.0197	0.0192	0.0188	0.0183
-1.9	0.0287	0.0281	0.0274	0.0268	0.0262	0.0256	0.0250	0.0244	0.0239	0.0233
-1.8	0.0359	0.0351	0.0344	0.0336	0.0329	0.0322	0.0314	0.0307	0.0301	0.0294
-1.7	0.0446	0.0436	0.0427	0.0418	0.0409	0.0401	0.0392	0.0384	0.0375	0.0367
-1.6	0.0548	0.0537	0.0526	0.0516	0.0505	0.0495	0.0485	0.0475	0.0465	0.0455
-1.5	0.0668	0.0655	0.0643	0.0630	0.0618	0.0606	0.0594	0.0582	0.0571	0.0559
-1.4	0.0808	0.0793	0.0778	0.0764	0.0749	0.0735	0.0721	0.0708	0.0694	0.0681
-1.3	0.0968	0.0951	0.0934	0.0918	0.0901	0.0885	0.0869	0.0853	0.0838	0.0823
-1.2	0.1151	0.1131	0.1112	0.1093	0.1075	0.1056	0.1038	0.1020	0.1003	0.0985
-1.1	0.1357	0.1335	0.1314	0.1292	0.1271	0.1251	0.1230	0.1210	0.1190	0.1170
-1.0	0.1587	0.1562	0.1539	0.1515	0.1492	0.1469	0.1446	0.1423	0.1401	0.1379
-0.9	0.1841	0.1814	0.1788	0.1762	0.1736	0.1711	0.1685	0.1660	0.1635	0.1611
-0.8	0.2119	0.2090	0.2061	0.2033	0.2005	0.1977	0.1949	0.1922	0.1894	0.1867
-0.7	0.2420	0.2389	0.2358	0.2327	0.2296	0.2266	0.2236	0.2206	0.2177	0.2148
-0.6	0.2743	0.2709	0.2676	0.2643	0.2611	0.2578	0.2546	0.2514	0.2483	0.2451
-0.5	0.3085	0.3050	0.3015	0.2981	0.2946	0.2912	0.2877	0.2843	0.2810	0.2776
-0.4	0.3446	0.3409	0.3372	0.3336	0.3300	0.3264	0.3228	0.3192	0.3156	0.3121
-0.3	0.3821	0.3783	0.3745	0.3707	0.3669	0.3632	0.3594	0.3557	0.3520	0.3483
-0.2	0.4207	0.4168	0.4129	0.4090	0.4052	0.4013	0.3974	0.3936	0.3897	0.3859
-0.1	0.4602	0.4562	0.4522	0.4483	0.4443	0.4404	0.4364	0.4325	0.4286	0.4247
0.0	0.5000	0.5040	0.5080	0.5120	0.5160	0.5199	0.5239	0.5279	0.5319	0.5359

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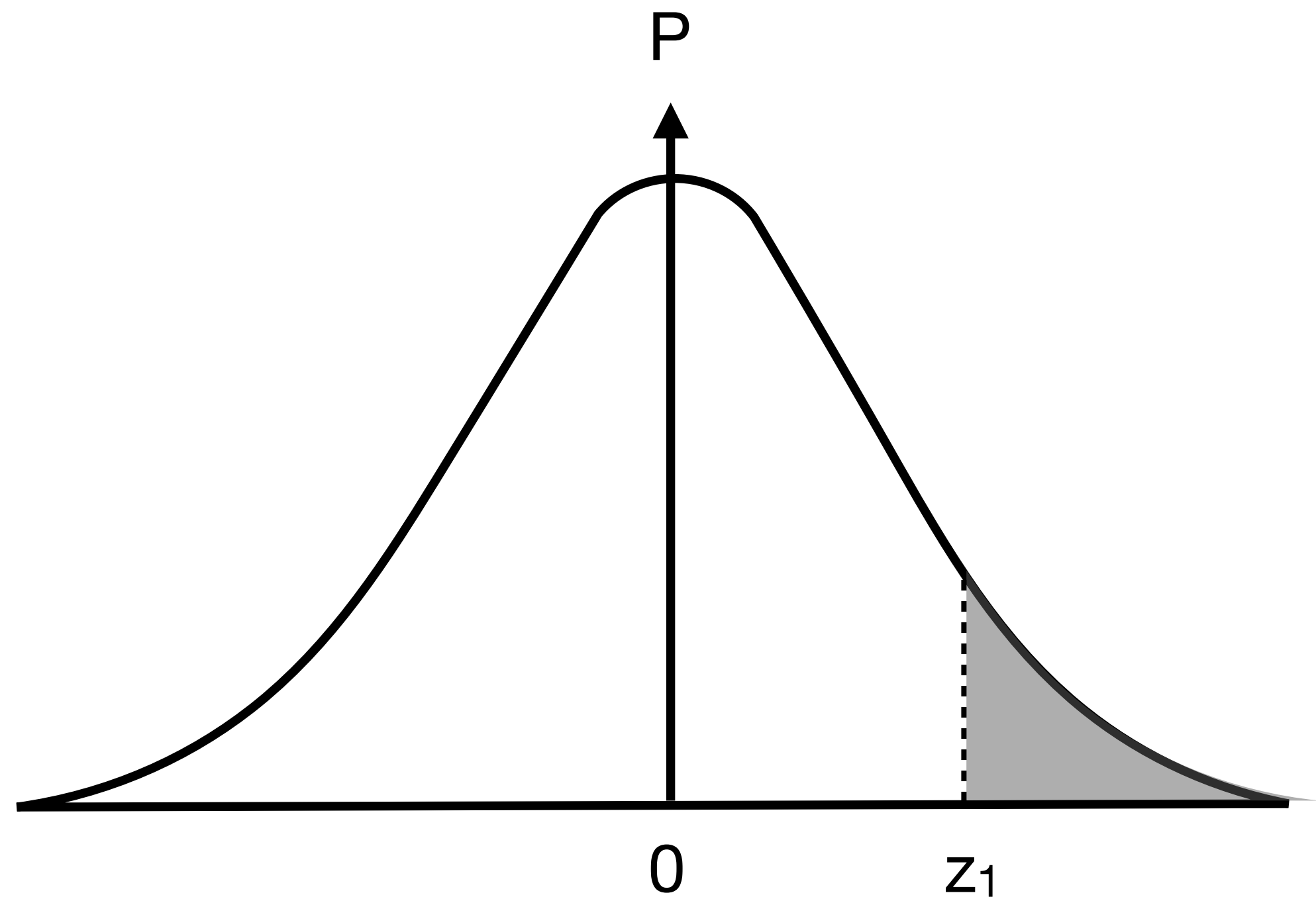
Z	0	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.09
0.0	0.5000	0.5040	0.5080	0.5120	0.5160	0.5199	0.5239	0.5279	0.5319	0.5359
0.1	0.5398	0.5438	0.5478	0.5517	0.5557	0.5596	0.5636	0.5675	0.5714	0.5753
0.2	0.5793	0.5832	0.5871	0.5910	0.5948	0.5987	0.6026	0.6064	0.6103	0.6141
0.3	0.6179	0.6217	0.6255	0.6293	0.6331	0.6368	0.6406	0.6443	0.6480	0.6517
0.4	0.6554	0.6591	0.6628	0.6664	0.6700	0.6736	0.6772	0.6808	0.6844	0.6879
0.5	0.6915	0.6950	0.6985	0.7019	0.7054	0.7088	0.7123	0.7157	0.7190	0.7224
0.6	0.7257	0.7291	0.7324	0.7357	0.7389	0.7422	0.7454	0.7486	0.7517	0.7549
0.7	0.7580	0.7611	0.7642	0.7673	0.7704	0.7734	0.7764	0.7794	0.7823	0.7852
0.8	0.7881	0.7910	0.7939	0.7967	0.7995	0.8023	0.8051	0.8078	0.8106	0.8133
0.9	0.8159	0.8186	0.8212	0.8238	0.8264	0.8289	0.8315	0.8340	0.8365	0.8389
1.0	0.8413	0.8438	0.8461	0.8485	0.8508	0.8531	0.8554	0.8577	0.8599	0.8621
1.1	0.8643	0.8665	0.8686	0.8708	0.8729	0.8749	0.8770	0.8790	0.8810	0.8830
1.2	0.8849	0.8869	0.8888	0.8907	0.8925	0.8944	0.8962	0.8980	0.8997	0.9015
1.3	0.9032	0.9049	0.9066	0.9082	0.9099	0.9115	0.9131	0.9147	0.9162	0.9177
1.4	0.9192	0.9207	0.9222	0.9236	0.9251	0.9265	0.9279	0.9292	0.9306	0.9319
1.5	0.9332	0.9345	0.9357	0.9370	0.9382	0.9394	0.9406	0.9418	0.9429	0.9441
1.6	0.9452	0.9463	0.9474	0.9484	0.9495	0.9505	0.9515	0.9525	0.9535	0.9545
1.7	0.9554	0.9564	0.9573	0.9582	0.9591	0.9599	0.9608	0.9616	0.9625	0.9633
1.8	0.9641	0.9649	0.9656	0.9664	0.9671	0.9678	0.9686	0.9693	0.9699	0.9706
1.9	0.9713	0.9719	0.9726	0.9732	0.9738	0.9744	0.9750	0.9756	0.9761	0.9767
2.0	0.9772	0.9778	0.9783	0.9788	0.9793	0.9798	0.9803	0.9808	0.9812	0.9817
2.1	0.9821	0.9826	0.9830	0.9834	0.9838	0.9842	0.9846	0.9850	0.9854	0.9857
2.2	0.9861	0.9864	0.9868	0.9871	0.9875	0.9878	0.9881	0.9884	0.9887	0.9890
2.3	0.9893	0.9896	0.9898	0.9901	0.9904	0.9906	0.9909	0.9911	0.9913	0.9916
2.4	0.9918	0.9920	0.9922	0.9925	0.9927	0.9929	0.9931	0.9932	0.9934	0.9936
2.5	0.9938	0.9940	0.9941	0.9943	0.9945	0.9946	0.9948	0.9949	0.9951	0.9952
2.6	0.9953	0.9955	0.9956	0.9957	0.9959	0.9960	0.9961	0.9962	0.9963	0.9964
2.7	0.9965	0.9966	0.9967	0.9968	0.9969	0.9970	0.9971	0.9972	0.9973	0.9974
2.8	0.9974	0.9975	0.9976	0.9977	0.9977	0.9978	0.9979	0.9979	0.9980	0.9981
2.9	0.9981	0.9982	0.9982	0.9983	0.9984	0.9984	0.9985	0.9985	0.9986	0.9986
3.0	0.9987	0.9987	0.9987	0.9988	0.9988	0.9989	0.9989	0.9989	0.9990	0.9990

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Normal Distribution Example



Take an M&M with mass = 0.9g. Based on our normal curve, how many M&Ms in a package on average have a mass greater than 0.9g?

$$z = \frac{x - \bar{x}}{s} = \frac{0.9000 - 0.8988}{0.0425} = 0.29$$

The area to the right of $z = 0.29$ is 1 minus the area to the left of $z = 0.29$. Using the table:

$$P = (1 - 0.6141) = 0.3859$$

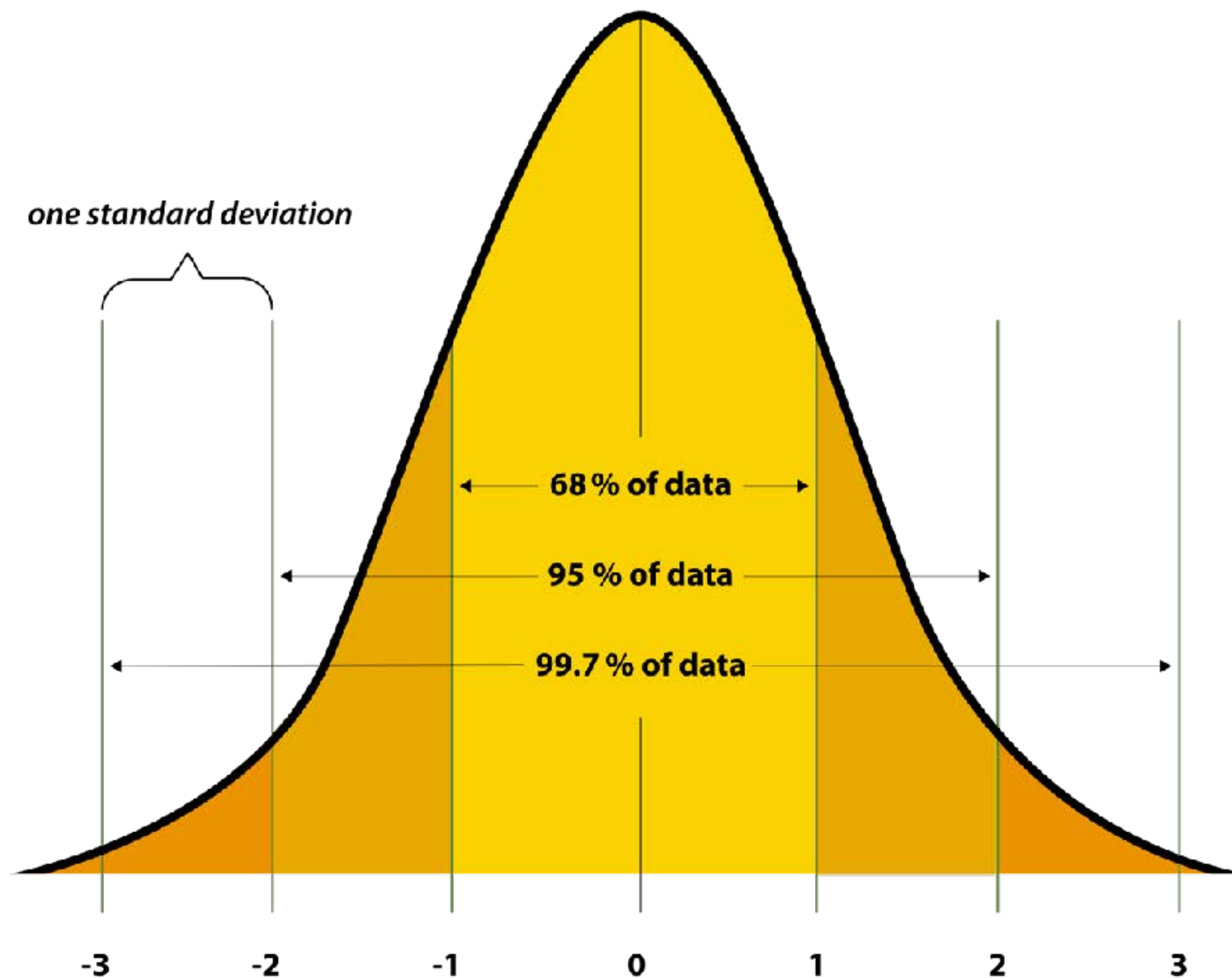
So 38.59% of our 100 M&Ms will on average have a mass greater than 0.9g, or 39 M&Ms

Variation and Quality

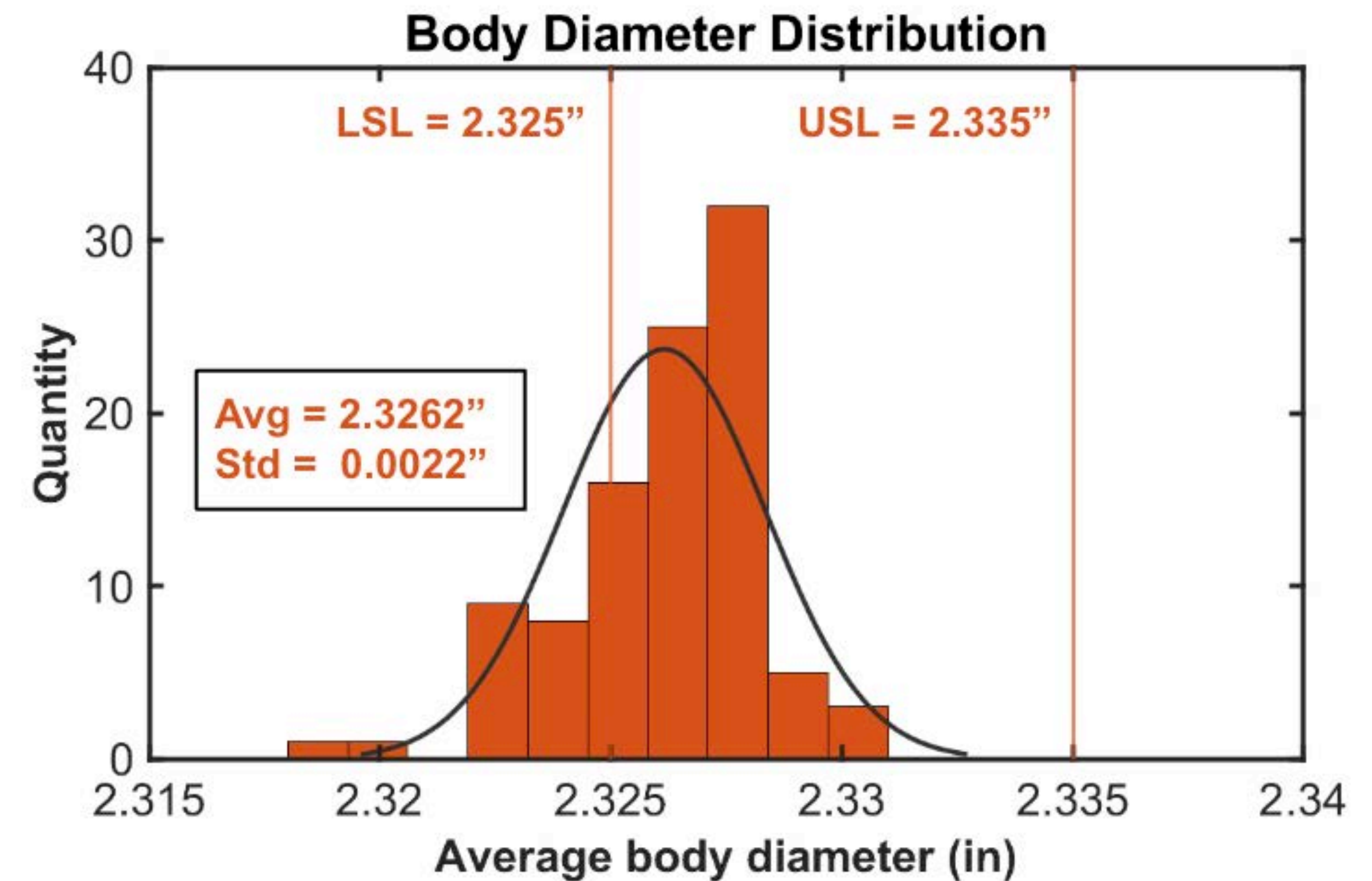
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Standard Deviation References



Yo-yo project distributions



Variation and Quality

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Process Capability!

Is the **process** **capable** of meeting the **design requirements**?

Design and Manufacturing intersect

$$C_p = \frac{USL - LSL}{6\sigma_{process}}$$

LSL: lower specification limit
USL: upper specification limit

Variation and Quality

Defining, Measuring, and Controlling Quality in Manufacturing

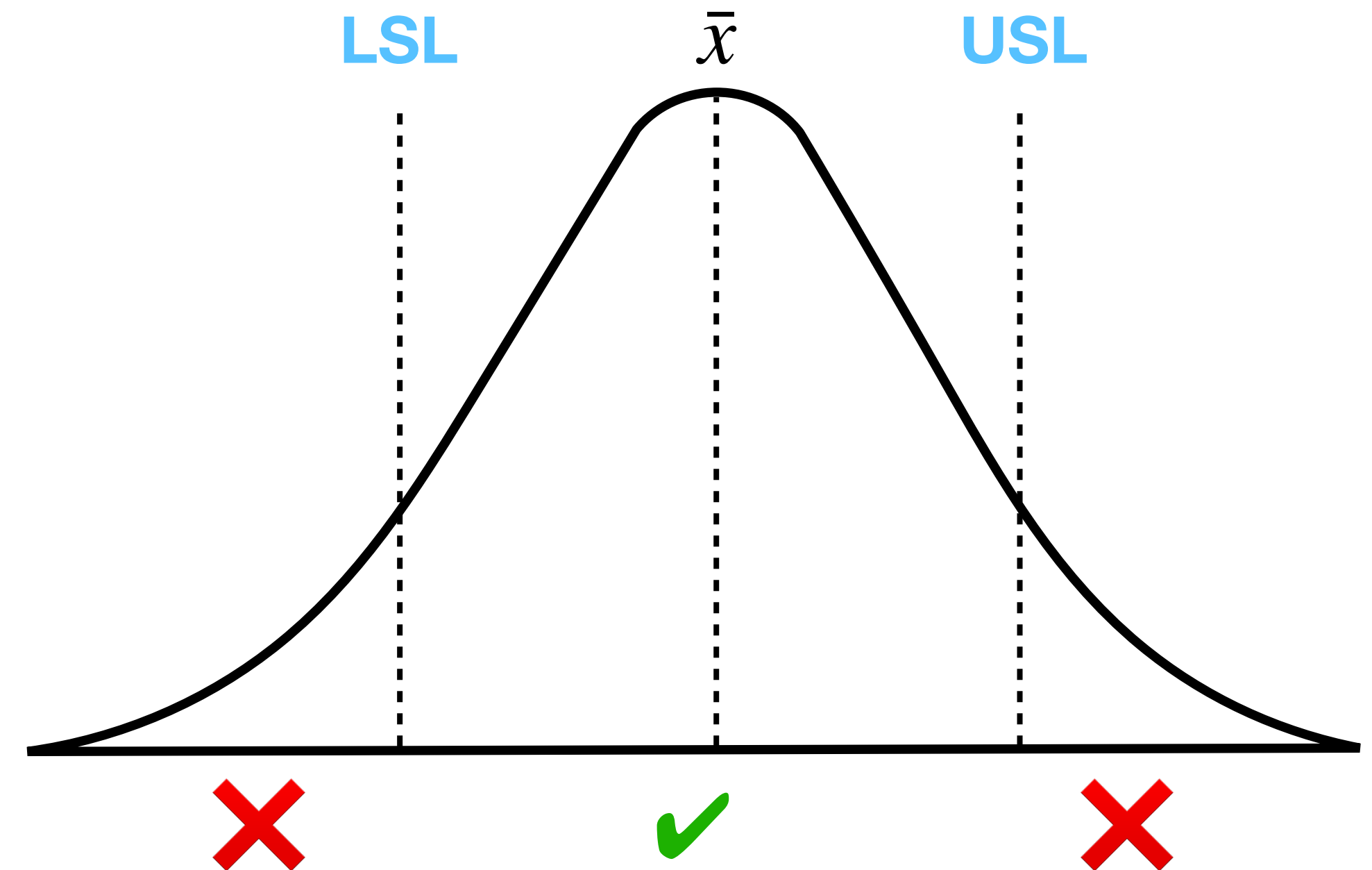
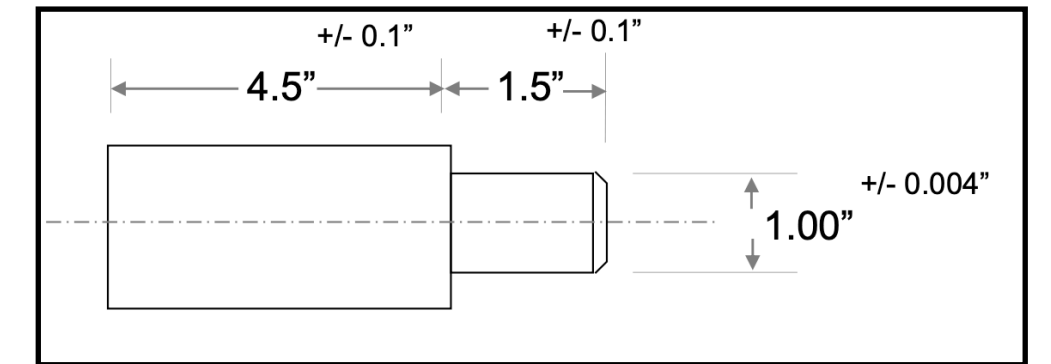
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Process Capability!

Is the **process** **capable** of meeting the **design requirements**?

Design and Manufacturing intersect

$$C_p = \frac{USL - LSL}{6\sigma_{process}}$$



LSL: lower specification limit
USL: upper specification limit

Variation and Quality

Defining, Measuring, and Controlling Quality in Manufacturing

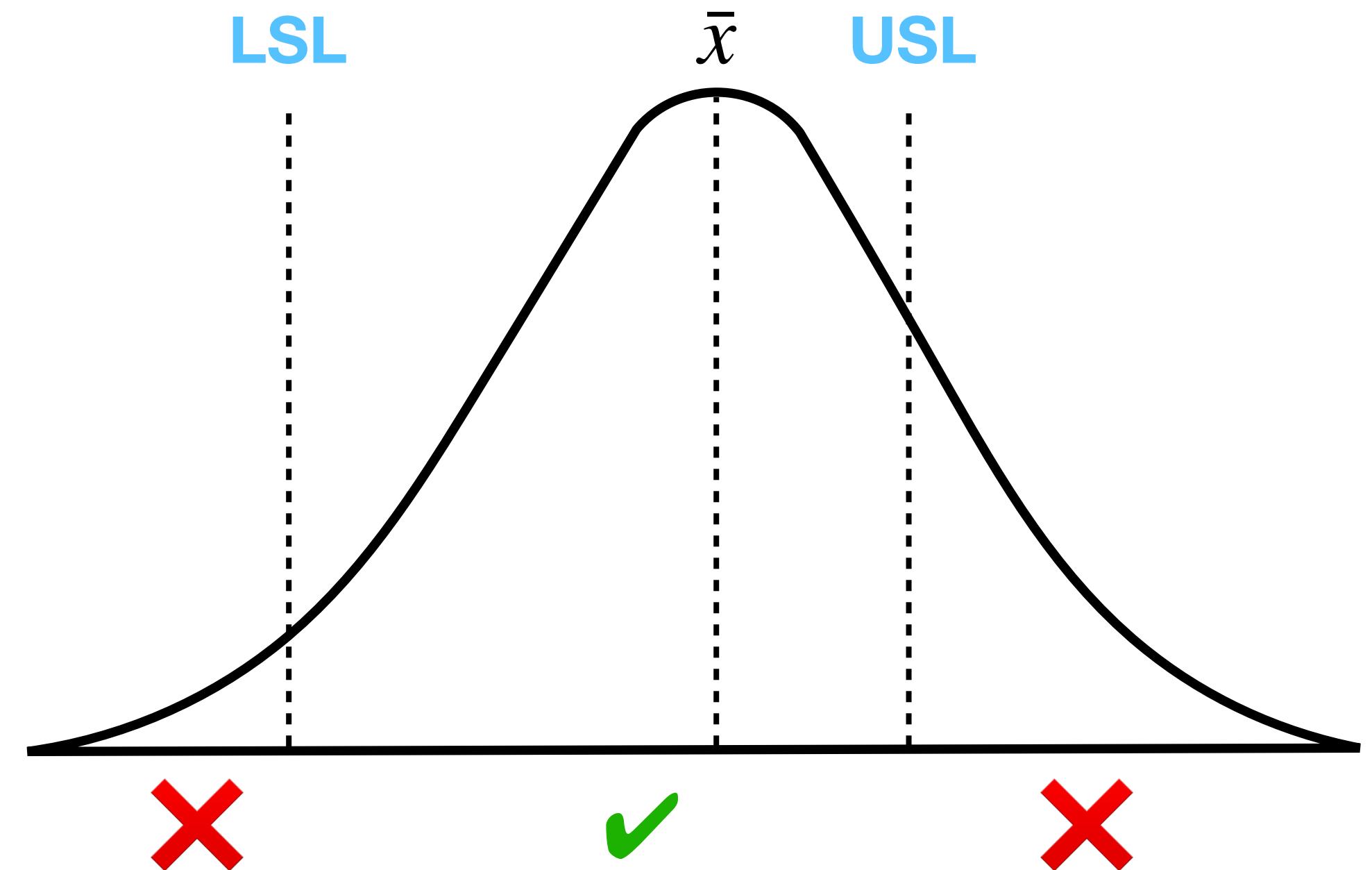
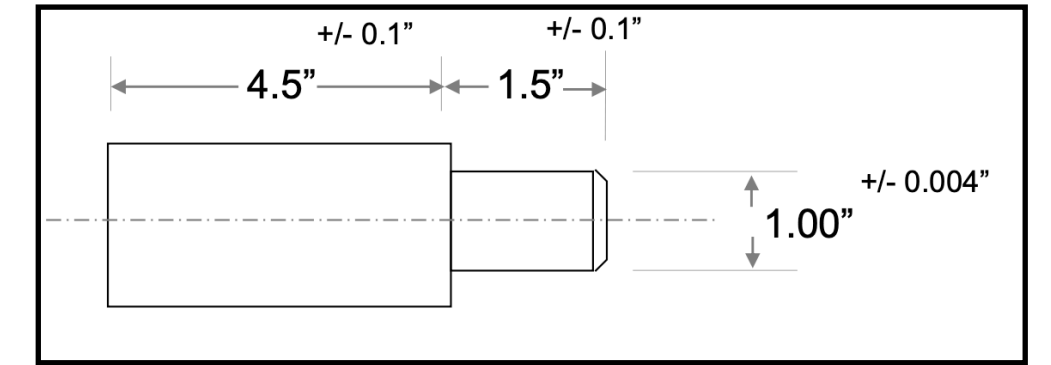
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Process Capability!

Is the **process** **capable** of meeting the **design requirements**?

Design and Manufacturing intersect

$$C_p = \frac{USL - LSL}{6\sigma_{process}}$$



LSL: lower specification limit
USL: upper specification limit

Variation and Quality

Defining, Measuring, and Controlling Quality in Manufacturing

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Process Capability!

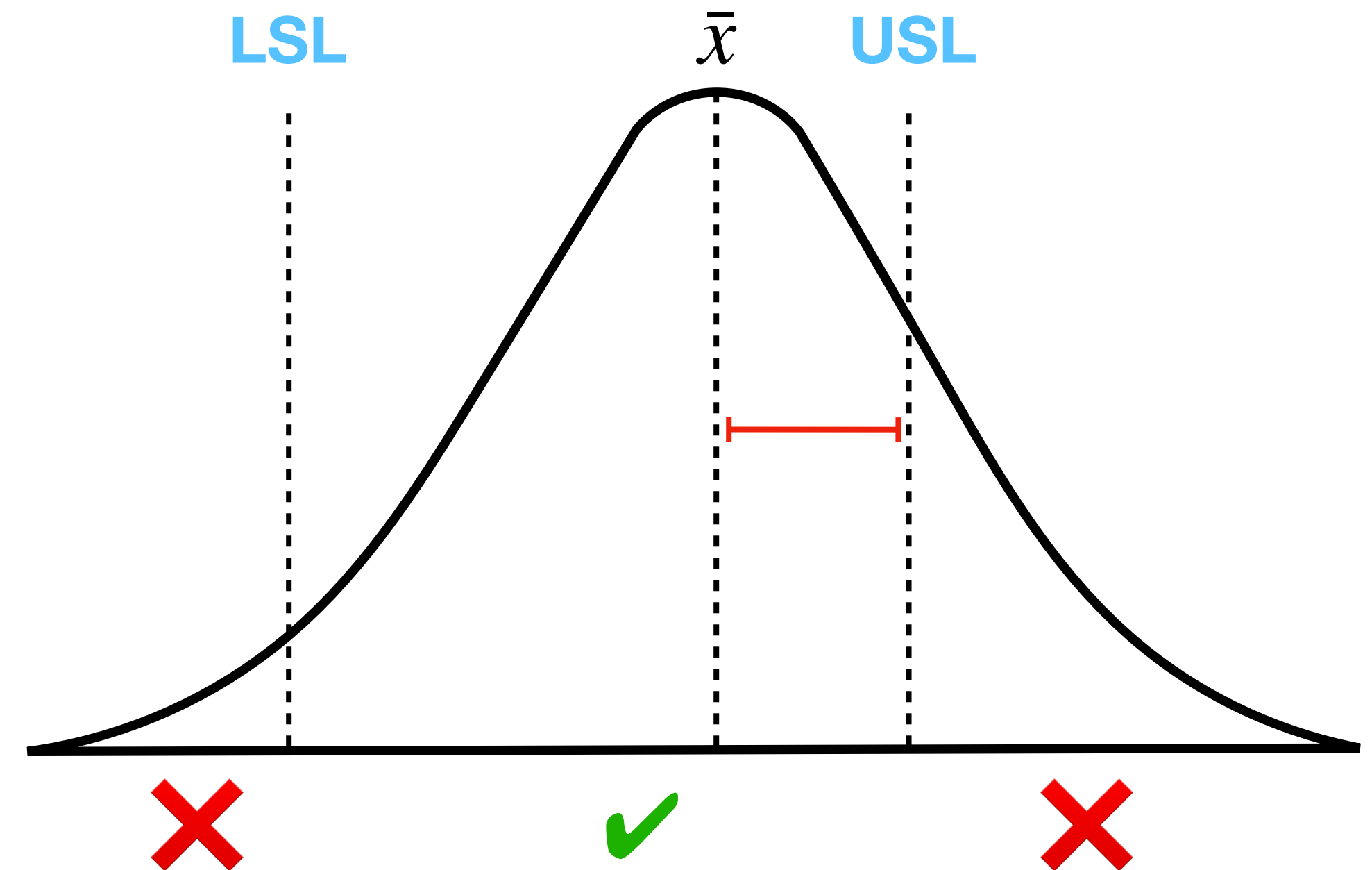
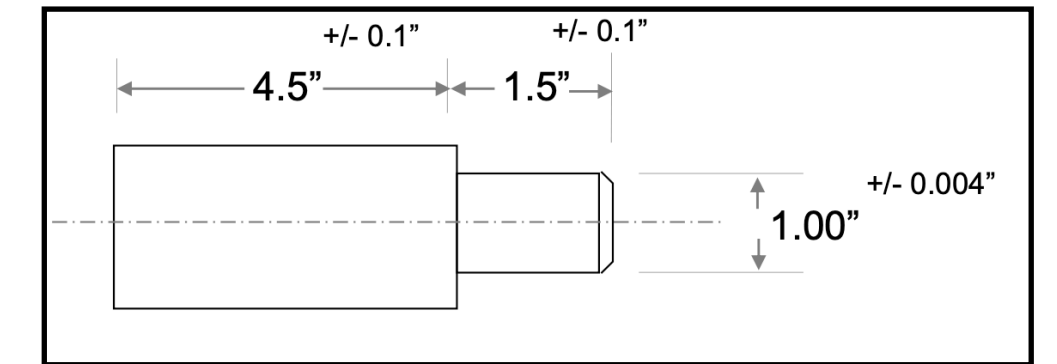
Is the **process** **capable** of meeting the **design requirements**?

Design and Manufacturing intersect

$$C_{pk} = \frac{USL - \bar{x}}{3\sigma_{process}} \quad \text{or} \quad C_{pk} = \frac{\bar{x} - LSL}{3\sigma_{process}}$$

(whichever is smaller)

C_{pk} is a more strict metric that is sensitive to shifts in the mean



LSL: lower specification limit
USL: upper specification limit

Variation and Quality

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Capability Example

Mean = 0.738

Standard Deviation = 0.0725

USL = 0.900

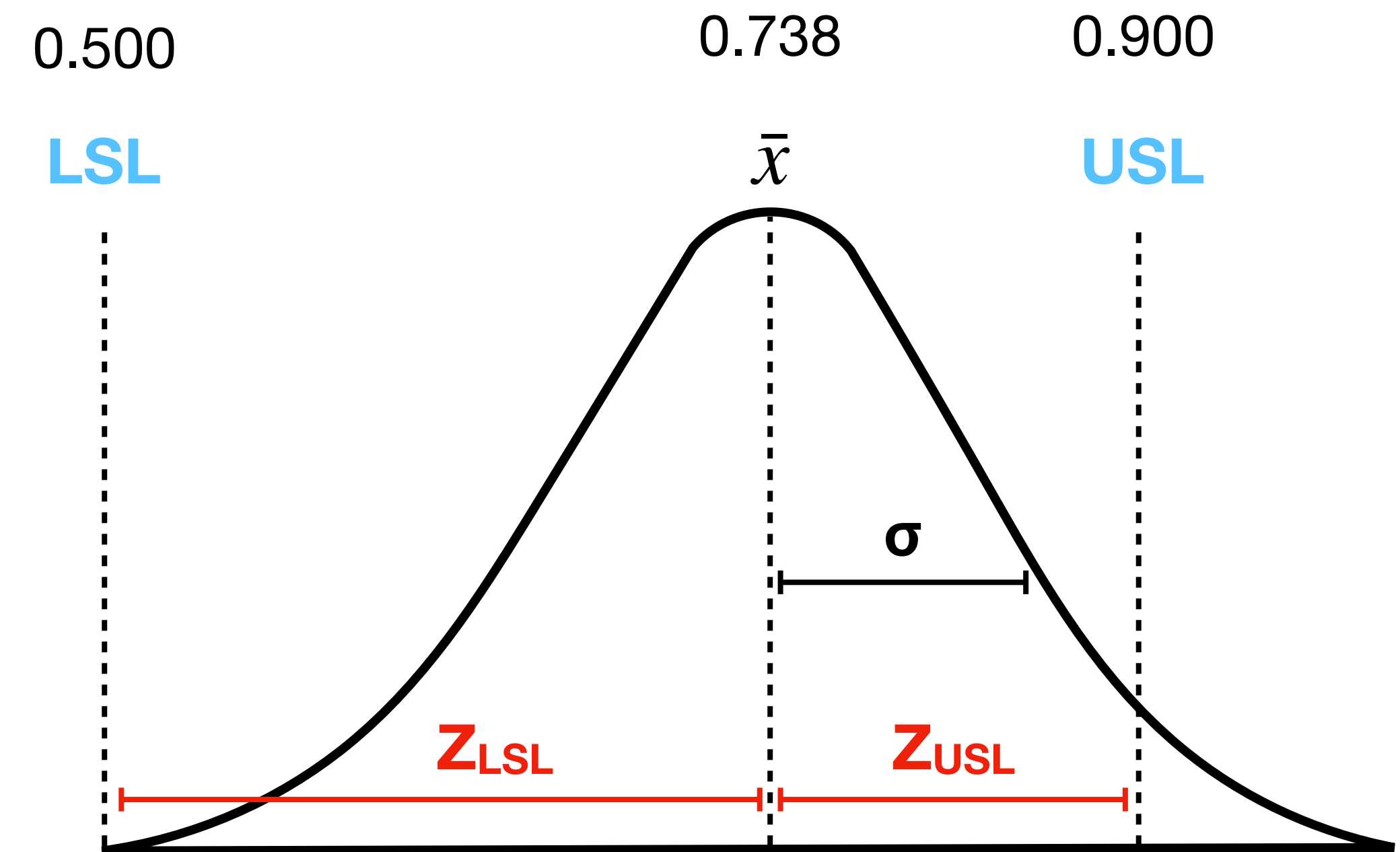
LSL = 0.500

Normalizing:

$$Z_{USL} = \frac{USL - \bar{x}}{\sigma} = \frac{0.900 - 0.738}{0.0725} = 2.23$$

$$Z_{LSL} = \frac{\bar{x} - LSL}{\sigma} = \frac{0.738 - 0.500}{0.0725} = 3.28$$

$$Z_{min} = 2.23$$



$$C_{pk} = 2.23/3 = 0.740$$

$$C_p = (0.900 - 0.500)/(6 * 0.0725) = 0.920$$

Variation and Quality

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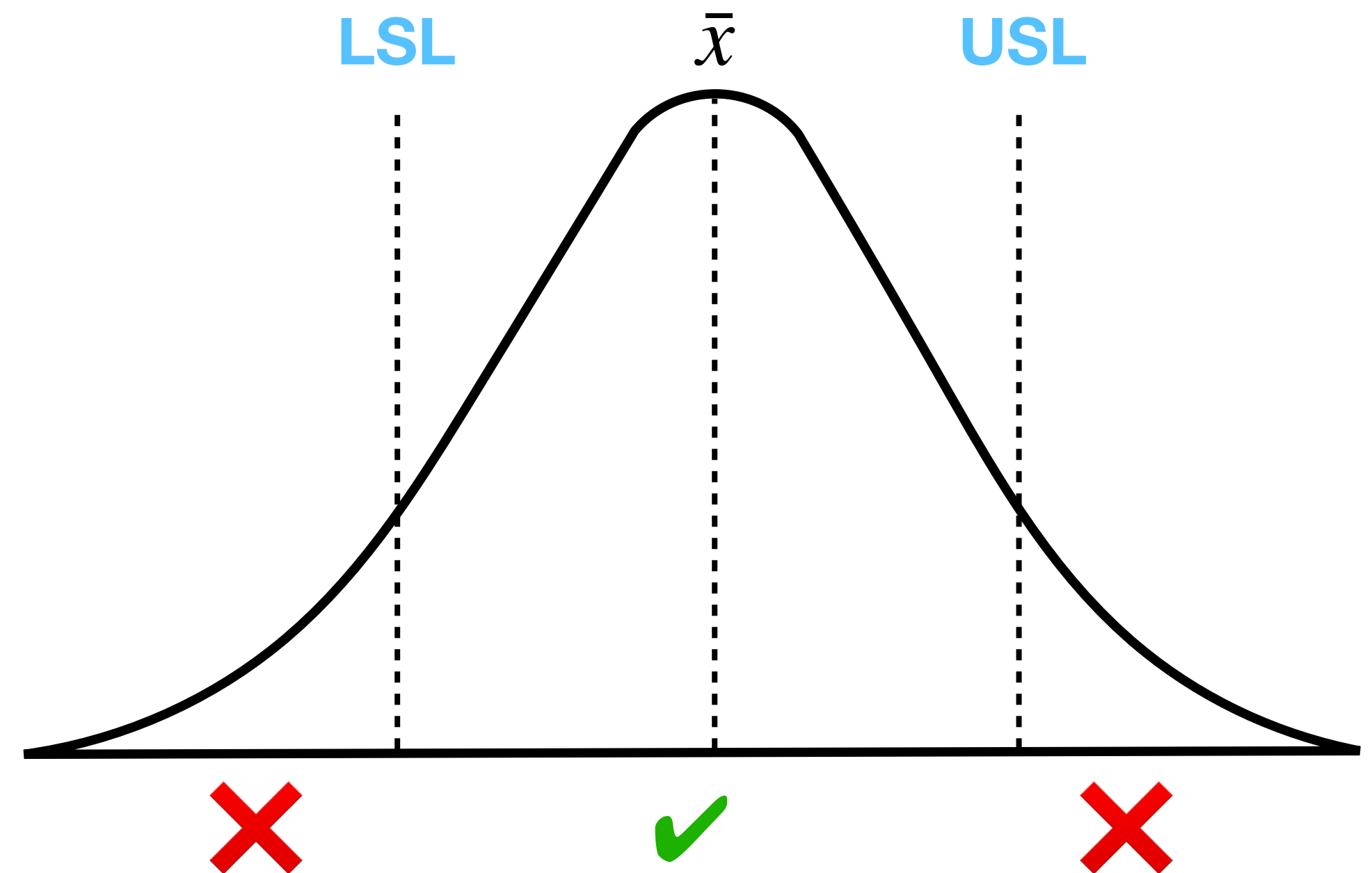
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Process Capability!

How do we improve?

Design + Manufacturing

$$C_p = \frac{USL - LSL}{6\sigma_{process}}$$



LSL: lower specification limit
USL: upper specification limit

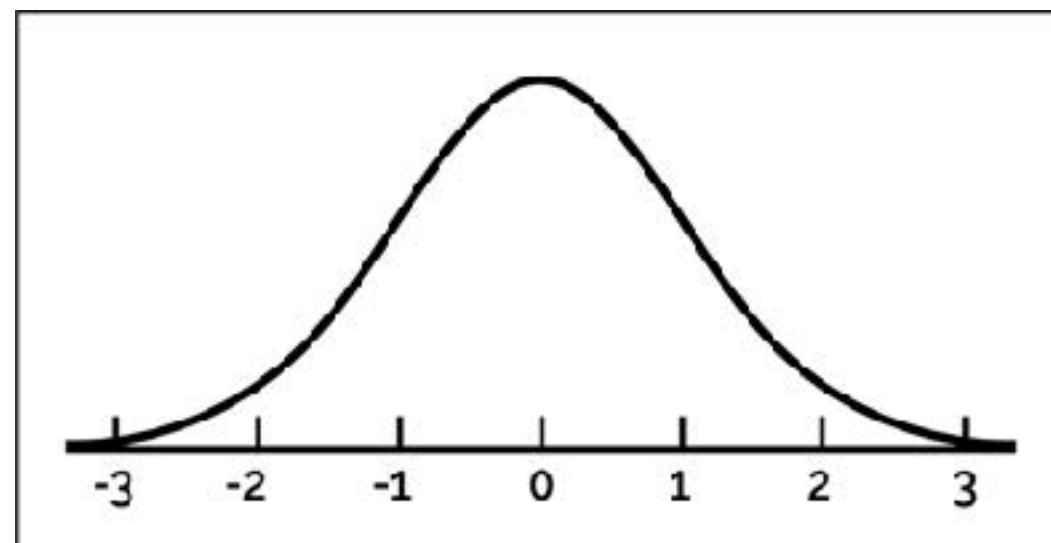
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Control of Variations: Technological Development

statistical representation



continuous on-line measurement



no statistical
representation needed

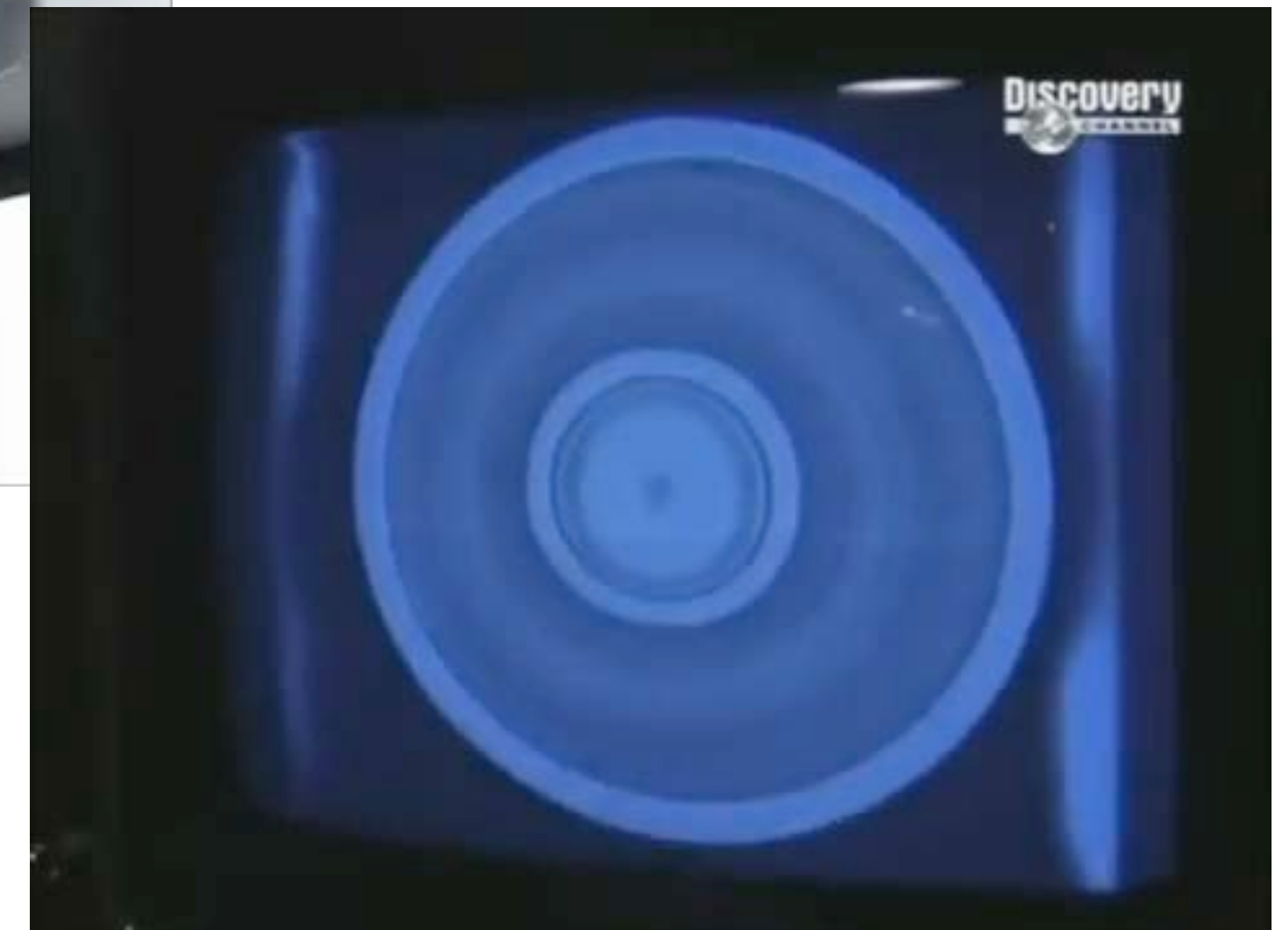


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Spring 2025

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