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# **Laboratory Method Validation Criteria for AAPFCO - Part 3 (DRAFT)**

James M. Bartos  
Office of Indiana State Chemist

# Objectives (review):

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- **Satisfy AAPFCO's Terms and Definitions committee's Laboratory Method Requirement**
- **Provide a reference document**
- One standardized process
- Everyone use same terminology & interpretation
- Increase our pool of trained experts
- Improve efficiency (i.e. minimize unnecessary effort)
- **Provide alternative pathway for those who can't afford recognized validation entities**
  - *AAPFCO still prefers AOAC or similar approach*

# Topics Covered (Parts 1 & 2)

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## ■ Part 1:

- Submission of a method validation proposal
- Validation materials (*test sample*) selection
- Precision
- Horwitz predicted relative standard deviation (PRSD)
- Repeatability precision and HorRat(r)
- Accuracy

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## ■ Part 2:

- Sample preparation
- Ruggedness variables and designs
- Limit of Detection and Quantification

# Part 3 Topics

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## ■ Tests for Data Outliers

- Collaborative study data

## ■ Cochran's test

- evaluation of within lab variability
- agreement of replicated sample results
- how does variation of individual replicates compare with total variation

## ■ Grubb's test

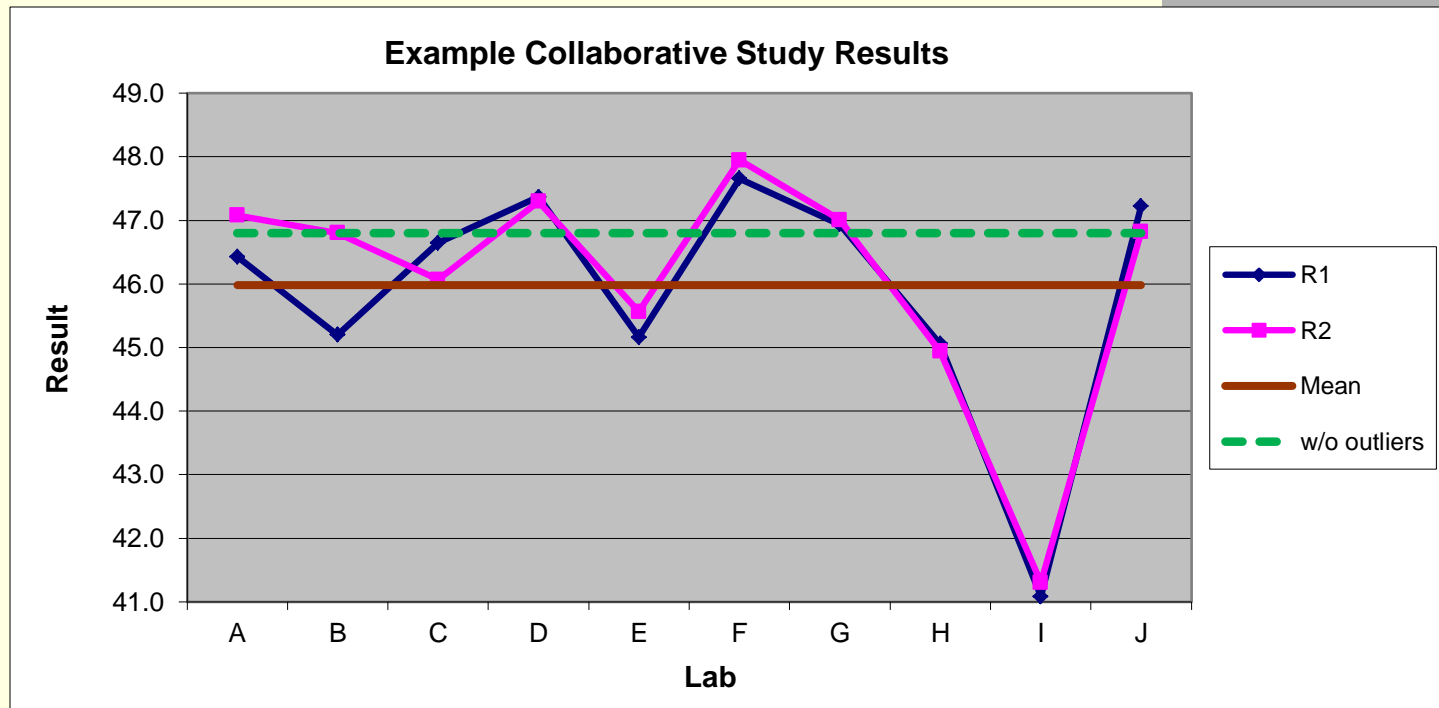
- Comparison of standard deviations with targeted data removed
- Single Grubbs Low – lowest lab's result removed
- Single Grubbs High – highest lab's result removed
- Double Grubbs Low Low – two lowest lab's results removed
- Double Grubbs High High – two highest lab's results removed
- Double Grubbs Low High – lowest and highest lab's results removed

# Data Set

LAB	R1	R2
A	46.43	47.08
B	45.20	46.80
C	46.65	46.07
D	47.37	47.30
E	45.16	45.56
F	47.66	47.95
G	46.94	47.01
H	45.06	44.94
I	41.09	41.30
J	47.22	46.82

- Arbitrary example
- To remove outlier(s), considerable variability is required
- Example - data from 10 labs
  - Identified as A - J
- R1 & R2 are results from the same sample that was split
  - *R1 & R2 are not replicate readings of the same sample extract/digest*
  - Blind duplicates to collaborators
  - Some studies may have samples included in 3 or more blind replicates, resulting in R3, R4, etc.

# Visual Appraisal



- Lab I's results seem unusually low
- Lab F's results are noticeably higher than others
- Most labs obtained close duplicate results, with possible exception of Lab B

# Cochrans Test

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- First test performed to check for outliers
- Comparison of individual labs' variance to total variance
- Variance =  $\sum(X - \bar{X})^2 / (n - 1)$ ; n = # of reps
- If one lab is responsible for a disproportionate amount of the total variance, it can be removed
- Critical values for Cochran maximum variance ratio can be found in Appendix D, Appendix 1 of AOAC Official Methods of Analysis
- 2.5% (1-tail) level

# Cochrans Test, Example

LAB	R1	R2	Mean	R1 - Mean	R2 - Mean	(R1 - mean) <sup>2</sup>	(R2 - mean) <sup>2</sup>	Variance	% of total
A	46.43	47.08	46.75	-0.3249	0.3249	0.1056	0.1056	0.2112	11.12
B	45.20	46.80	46.00	-0.8000	0.8000	0.6400	0.6400	1.2800	67.43
C	46.65	46.07	46.36	0.2888	-0.2888	0.0834	0.0834	0.1668	8.79
D	47.37	47.30	47.33	0.0361	-0.0361	0.0013	0.0013	0.0026	0.14
E	45.16	45.56	45.36	-0.2016	0.2016	0.0406	0.0406	0.0813	4.28
F	47.66	47.95	47.80	-0.1444	0.1444	0.0209	0.0209	0.0417	2.20
G	46.94	47.01	46.97	-0.0361	0.0361	0.0013	0.0013	0.0026	0.14
H	45.06	44.94	45.00	0.0588	-0.0588	0.0035	0.0035	0.0069	0.36
I	41.09	41.30	41.19	-0.1083	0.1083	0.0117	0.0117	0.0235	1.24
J	47.22	46.82	47.02	0.2020	-0.2020	0.0408	0.0408	0.0816	4.30

total variance = 1.8982

- $\text{Variance} = (R1 - \text{mean})^2 + (R2 - \text{mean})^2 / (2 - 1)$
- Total variance = sum of all individual lab variances
- Determine % of total
- Lab B has greatest variance =  $1.2800/1.8982$  or **67.43%** of total
- For labs = 10, reps = 2, critical value = **65.5**;
- **Lab B exceeds 65.5, therefore it is a Cochrans outlier**



# Grubbs Test For Outliers

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- Remove any Cochrans outlier(s)
- Calculate the standard deviation **of the means**
- Grubbs test = systematically remove data with the greatest probability of being outliers and ratio SD's
  - Remove lowest mean (*single Grubbs low*)
  - Remove highest mean (*single Grubbs high*)
  - Remove two lowest means (*double Grubbs low, low*)
  - Remove two highest means (*double Grubbs high, high*)
  - Remove lowest AND highest mean (*double Grubbs low, high*)
- Calculate % decrease in SD resulting from eliminated data
- Compare to Table values (Appendix D, Appendix 1, OMA)
- 2.5% (2-tail) {1.25 (1-tail)} level

# Grubbs Test, Example

LAB	R1	R2	Mean
A	46.43	47.08	46.75
B			
C	46.65	46.07	46.36
D	47.37	47.30	47.33
E	45.16	45.56	45.36
F	47.66	47.95	47.80
G	46.94	47.01	46.97
H	45.06	44.94	45.00
I	41.09	41.30	41.19
J	47.22	46.82	47.02

Cochrans Outlier

SD of Means 2.006

- First remove any Cochran outlier(s); *Lab B in this example*
- Calculate the standard deviation of the means of the remaining labs
  - This SD value is the basis of comparison
- A minimum of 7 data points is recommended, so if necessary, only two more labs should be removed

# Single Grubbs Low, Example

LAB	R1	R2	Mean
A	46.43	47.08	46.75
B			
C	46.65	46.07	46.36
D	47.37	47.30	47.33
E	45.16	45.56	45.36
F	47.66	47.95	47.80
G	46.94	47.01	46.97
H	45.06	44.94	45.00
I			
J	47.22	46.82	47.02

Cochrans Outlier

Lowest Mean

SD of Means 0.961

- New SD with the lowest lab mean removed is 0.961
- Calculate the % decrease in SD with value removed
- $= 100 \times [1 - (\text{SD}_{\text{Grubbs removed}} / \text{SD}_{\text{Total}})]$
- $\text{SGL} = 100 \times [1 - (0.961 / 2.006)] = \mathbf{52.09}$
- Table Value, **Labs = 9**, with lowest value removed = **46.8**
- SGL of **52.09** exceeds **46.8**, therefore **lab I is a Single Grubbs outlier**

# Single Grubbs High, Example

LAB	R1	R2	Mean
A	46.43	47.08	46.75
B			
C	46.65	46.07	46.36
D	47.37	47.30	47.33
E	45.16	45.56	45.36
F			
G	46.94	47.01	46.97
H	45.06	44.94	45.00
I	41.09	41.30	41.19
J	47.22	46.82	47.02

Cochrans Outlier

Highest Mean

SD of Means      2.016

- New SD with the highest lab mean removed is 2.016
- Calculate the % decrease in SD with value removed
- $= 100 \times [1 - (\text{SD}_{\text{Grubbs removed}} / \text{SD}_{\text{Total}})]$
- $\text{SGH} = 100 \times [1 - (2.016 / 2.006)] = -0.5$  *(note: can be negative)*
- Table Value, Labs = 9, with highest value removed = **46.8**
- SGH of -0.5 is less than 46.8, **lab F is NOT a Single Grubbs outlier**

# Double Grubbs Low Low, Example

LAB	R1	R2	Mean
A	46.43	47.08	46.75
B			
C	46.65	46.07	46.36
D	47.37	47.30	47.33
E	45.16	45.56	45.36
F	47.66	47.95	47.80
G	46.94	47.01	46.97
H			
I			
J	47.22	46.82	47.02

Cochrans Outlier

2<sup>nd</sup> Lowest Mean  
Lowest Mean

SD of Means      0.778

- New SD with two lowest lab means removed is 0.778
- Calculate the % decrease in SD with values removed
- $= 100 \times [1 - (\text{SD}_{\text{Grubbs removed}} / \text{SD}_{\text{Total}})]$
- $\text{DGLL} = 100 \times [1 - (0.778 / 2.006)] = \mathbf{61.22}$
- Table Value, Labs = 9, with two lowest values removed = **61.0**
- $\text{DGLL of } 61.22 > 61.0$ ; labs H & I are Double Grubbs LL outliers

# Double Grubbs High High, Example

LAB	R1	R2	Mean
A	46.43	47.08	46.75
B			
C	46.65	46.07	46.36
D			
E	45.16	45.56	45.36
F			
G	46.94	47.01	46.97
H	45.06	44.94	45.00
I	41.09	41.30	41.19
J	47.22	46.82	47.02

Cochrans Outlier

2<sup>nd</sup> Highest Mean

Highest Mean

SD of Means = 2.065

- New SD with two highest lab means removed is 2.065
- Calculate the % decrease in SD with values removed
- $= 100 \times [1 - (\text{SD}_{\text{Grubbs removed}} / \text{SD}_{\text{Total}})]$
- $\text{DGHH} = 100 \times [1 - (2.065 / 2.006)] = \mathbf{-2.94}$
- Table Value, Labs = 9, with two lowest values removed = **61.0**
- $\text{DGHH}$  of  $-2.94 < 61.0$ ; **labs D & F are NOT Double Grubbs HH outliers**

# Double Grubbs Low High, Example

LAB	R1	R2	Mean
A	46.43	47.08	46.75
B			
C	46.65	46.07	46.36
D	47.37	47.30	47.33
E	45.16	45.56	45.36
F			
G	46.94	47.01	46.97
H	45.06	44.94	45.00
I			
J	47.22	46.82	47.02

Cochrans Outlier

Highest Mean

Lowest Mean

SD of Means 0.890

- New SD with lowest and highest lab means removed is 0.890
- Calculate the % decrease in SD with value removed
- $= 100 \times [1 - (\text{SD}_{\text{Grubbs removed}} / \text{SD}_{\text{Total}})]$
- $\text{DGLH} = 100 \times [1 - (0.890 / 2.006)] = \mathbf{55.63}$
- Table Value, Labs = 9, with low & high values removed = **64.1 (new)**
- $\text{DGLH of } 55.63 < 61.0$ ; **labs F & I are NOT Double Grubbs LH outliers**

# Repeat Cochrans Test

LAB	R1	R2	Mean	R1 - Mean	R2 - Mean	(R1 - mean) <sup>2</sup>	(R2 - mean) <sup>2</sup>	Variance	% of total
A	46.43	47.08	46.75	-0.3249	0.3249	0.1056	0.1056	0.2112	35.93
B									
C	46.65	46.07	46.36	0.2888	-0.2888	0.0834	0.0834	0.1668	28.39
D	47.37	47.30	47.33	0.0361	-0.0361	0.0013	0.0013	0.0026	0.44
E	45.16	45.56	45.36	-0.2016	0.2016	0.0406	0.0406	0.0813	13.83
F	47.66	47.95	47.80	-0.1444	0.1444	0.0209	0.0209	0.0417	7.10
G	46.94	47.01	46.97	-0.0361	0.0361	0.0013	0.0013	0.0026	0.44
H									
I									
J	47.22	46.82	47.02	0.2020	-0.2020	0.0408	0.0408	0.0816	13.88

total variance = 0.5878

- Remove results for all calculated outliers
- Identify the remaining lab with the highest variance (LAB A)
- Determine % of total variance =  $0.2112/0.5878 = 35.93\%$
- Table value, **7 labs**, 2 reps = **78.2**
- $35.93 < 78.2$ , Lab A is NOT a Cochrans outlier



# Summary

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- Cochrans, Single Grubbs and Double Grubbs should be repeated for every replicated sample in the study set
- Should keep 7 or more lab results for every material
  - One reason why larger number of collaborators is desired
- If large number of outliers is identified, the sample and/or method is questionable
- Not obligated to remove any outliers; however, data becomes increasingly inconsistent with studies/methods where outliers have been removed
- Other outlier tests and probability levels available, but Cochrans & Grubbs are common and internationally recognized

# What's next?

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- Pending:
  - Selectivity
  - More statistical requirements
  - Method review criteria
  - General timeline and “approval” process
  - Other information deemed necessary by LSC