

Developing Data-Driven Metrics & Visual Controls Northstar Aerospace - Bedford Park, IL

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INTRODUCTION

- Operations: Strong foothold of defense and commercial aerospace sectors of the global industry, in US & Canada
- Mission: Manufacture helicopter and aircraft parts
- Products & Services: Rotorcraft drive systems, machine parts, and repair, & overhaul of aircraft transmission components
- Customers: Boeing, Bell Helicopter,
 GE & Rolls Royce



PROBLEM STATEMENT

Develop visual controls to analyze variation of production processes throughout the plant, allowing for further analysis and improvements

Background:

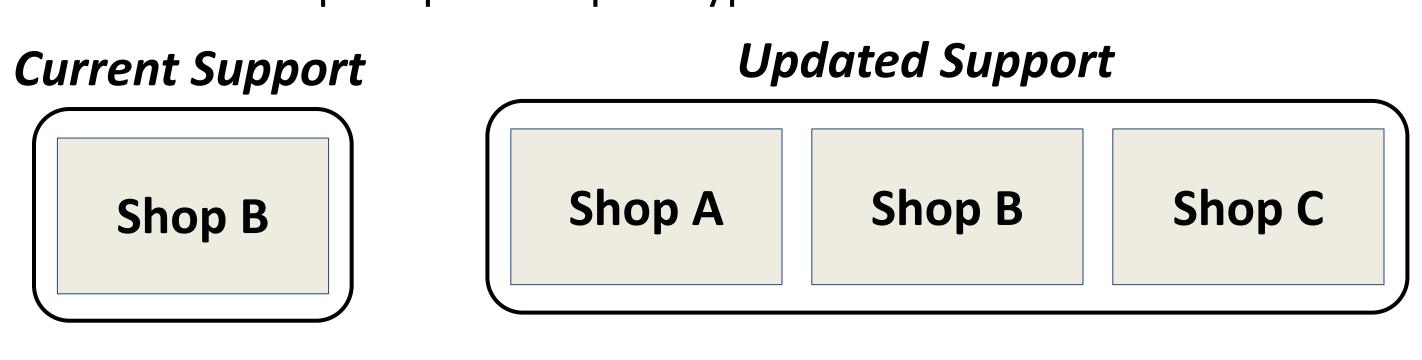
NSA has a high-mix low-volume manufacturing plant. With many manufacturing processes and machines, there is a lot of room for bottlenecks. The processes are divided up into 3 main sections; Shop A, Shop B, and Shop C.



SYSTEM MODEL

Assumptions:

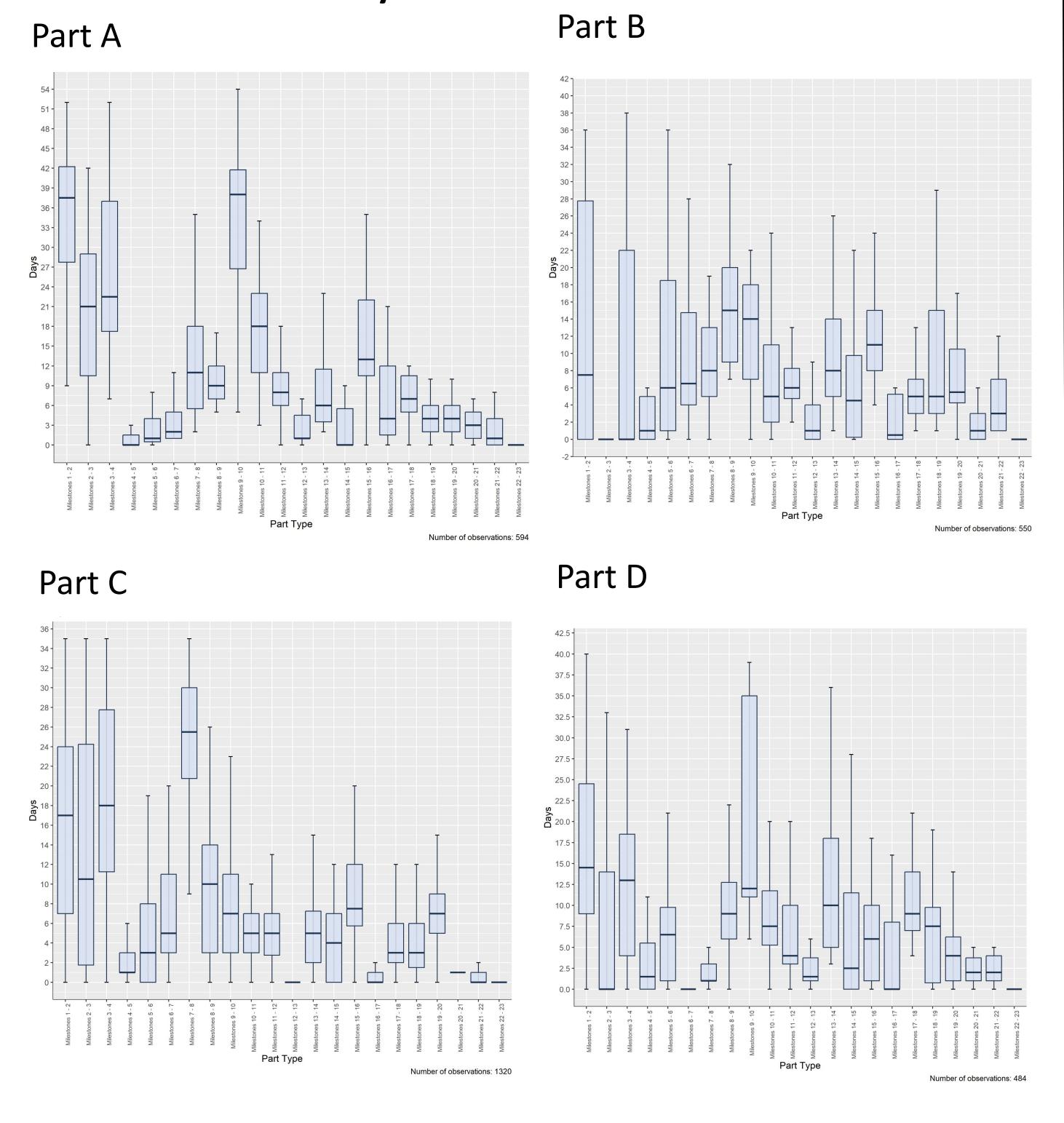
- Parts pass through "milestones" (operations) as they go through the manufacturing process
- There are 23 milestones included in the 3 Shops
- Parts are split up into 5 part types

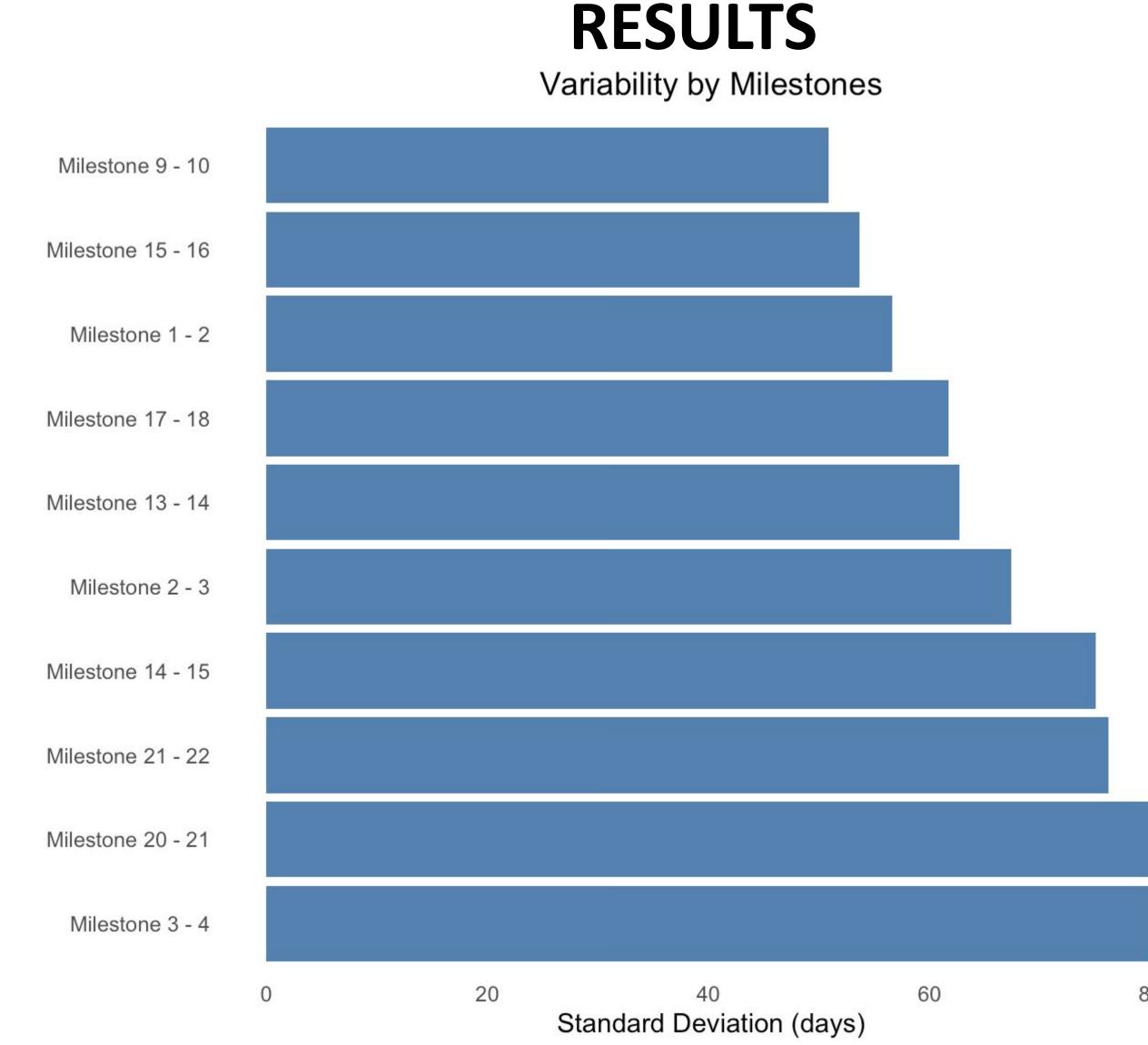


R-Script:

 Given historical dates on when parts complete each milestone, the R-script calculates the amount of time the parts spend in each milestone

Box Plots of Variability:





the database was updated to the new historical data

- Helps understand where the largest bottlenecks are between milestones
- Can help improve the efficiency of the process when targeting areas of high variability

IMPACT

- Future and existing shops can be analyzed provided data is put into excel document
- Outputs give data distribution, timelines and schedules to help the client plan their future operations more efficiently
- Creates a foundation for future data analytics within the factory

FUTURE STEPS

- Connect R script with new/current ERP system to update with live data on manufacturing facility displays
- Apply to different datasets and part families within manufacturing facility