

February 6  
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Dear Mr Lyle,

Yes, I am afraid I do think that your approach is a mistaken one, or that, at the least, you cannot be making adequate use of your data, even though the latter be very imperfect.

When you say "My settings cannot be under such control", I presume you mean that whatever settings the operator makes the actual rates of flow are not thereby standardised, but I did not mean to imply this, but only that what the operator does to the machine in setting it can be rendered reproducible, so that its average effects on desiderata may be studied. Simple or multiple regression will then be the technique required, and the coefficients arrived at in this way might differ a good deal from the ratios of the standard deviations which you propose.

Yours sincerely