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As successive observations become available, their scores are cumulated, and the cumulative sum is written in the centre of the zone at the appropriate point on the chart. However, as soon as a new observation falls on the *opposite* side of the centre-line to the immediately preceding observation, the total score is reset to zero and cumulation then starts again, beginning with the current score. Once the total score equals or exceeds 8, the system is deemed to be 'out-of-control', and the