

**CEMENT AND CONCRETE REFERENCE LABORATORY**  
**PROFICIENCY SAMPLE PROGRAM**

**Final Report**  
**ASR – ASTM C1260 Proficiency Samples**  
**Number 5 and Number 6**

August 2018



**CCRL**  
Cement and Concrete  
Reference Laboratory

[www.ccril.us](http://www.ccril.us)

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August 24, 2018

**To: Participants in the CCRL ASR – ASTM C1260 Sample Program**

**SUBJECT: Final Report for ASR Proficiency Samples No. 5 and No. 6**

Following is the report for the current pair of CCRL ASR Samples which were distributed in June 2018. The aggregates used for these samples were both fine aggregate.

This report consists of a statistical Summary of Results, a set of general Scatter Diagrams, and associated detailed information. The Table of Results with individualized information for laboratory can be downloaded at our website located at: <http://www.ccrl.us/>.

The CCRL Proficiency Sample Programs are intended for internal use by the laboratory as a tool to identify potential problems in laboratory procedures or test equipment and to initiate remedial actions. These programs are designed to complement the CCRL Laboratory Inspection Program as part of a total quality system. Care should be taken when using this program for any other purpose.

In addition to test results, laboratories were asked to report the mold release agent used and the type of 80°C storage used. These are results reported –

Mold release agent: 42 used “Teflon”; 63 used “other”, which included: 16 using WD-40;  
12 using mineral oil; 9 using form oil

80°C storage: 84 used “oven”, 23 used “water bath”

**Additional samples of these two materials and other CCRL samples are available for purchase.** These samples may be useful for equipment verification, technician training, and research. Contact CCRL for availability and price.

It is presently anticipated that the next ASR – ASTM C1260 Samples will be distributed in June 2019.

Sincerely,

Kent Niedzielski  
Program Manager  
Proficiency Sample Programs  
Cement and Concrete Reference Laboratory

**To: Participants in the CCRL ASR - ASTM C1260 Proficiency Sample Program**

**FROM: Kent Niedzielski, Program Manager, Proficiency Sample Programs**

**SUBJECT: Explanation of Final Report on Results of Tests on ASR Proficiency Samples No. 5 and No. 6**

This letter and the material included with it constitute the final report and summary of results for the current pair of ASR Proficiency Samples, which were distributed in June 2018. This material includes a Table of Results for Individual laboratory data, a statistical Summary of Results, and a set of general scatter diagrams. Your unique laboratory number is displayed at the top of the Individual Table of Results.

An explanation of the program is contained in the paper: "Statistical Evaluation of Interlaboratory Cement Tests" by J. R. Crandall and R. L. Blaine [View Document](#), and "Statistical Aspects of the Cement Testing Program" by W.J. Youden [View Document](#), which can be found in Volume 59, Proceedings of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society, June 25, 1959, American Society for Testing and Materials.

### **Laboratory Ratings**

Each laboratory receives an individualized Laboratory Ratings. Each line of the ratings shows the test title and the reporting unit in the first two columns. After that it lists in order, the laboratory's results for the odd and even numbered samples, overall averages for the odd and even numbered samples, and the laboratory's ratings for the odd and even samples.

The ratings for the individual laboratory were determined in the manner described by Crandall and Blaine using a rating scale of 1 to 5 instead of 0 to 4. The ratings have no valid standing beyond showing the difference between the individual laboratory result and the average for a particular test. Laboratory Ratings are calculated using the unrounded values for average and standard deviation.

The following table details the relationship between the ratings and the averages.

<b>Ratings</b>	<b>Range (Number of Standard Deviations)</b>	<b>Number (Per 100) of Laboratories achieving the rating <sup>1</sup></b>
5	Less than 1	69
4	1 to 1.5	18
3	1.5 to 2	9
2	2 to 2.5	3
1	Greater than 2.5	1

The sign of the rating merely shows whether the result reported was greater or less than the average obtained.

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<sup>1</sup>Youden, W.J., "Statistical Aspects of the Cement Testing Program", *Proceedings of the American Society for testing and Materials Volume 59*, 1959.

In cases where some laboratories' results are eliminated, averages, standard deviations, coefficients of variation, and the ratings of the other laboratories' results, are recalculated using the data remaining after the elimination. Since the laboratory ratings given are the results from this one series of tests, you need not attach too much significance to a single low rating, or pair of ratings, from this one series. A continuing tendency to get low ratings on several pairs of samples should lead a laboratory to consider the types of error, systematic and random, contribute to ratings that are low. Systematic error, which is indicated by low ratings with the same signs on each pair of samples, means a consistent error is occurring in equipment and/or test procedures. One indication of random error is low ratings on both samples with different signs. Since systematic error occurs with more regularity, its cause is generally easier to find than the cause of random error.

### **Summary of Results**

The Summary of Results provide the statistical summary for each test. Each line lists the test, the number of participants represented, the averages, standard deviations and coefficients of variations. When necessary the data from the test is represented in two lines, one line with all results reported, and then a second line with outlying results omitted. Sometimes two or more recalculations are required to eliminate all outliers from the test. In these cases, all of the laboratories omitted in previous recalculations are also omitted in subsequent ones. Results omitted are values that are more than three standard deviations from the mean of one or both samples. Elimination of these outlying results may little effect on the average, but may have a more pronounced effect on the standard deviation and coefficient of variation.

### **Scatter Diagrams**

General scatter diagrams are supplied with this report. Crandall and Blaine describe the manner of preparing scatter diagrams, and their interpretation, in the paper published in the 1959 ASTM Proceedings.

Using the results received from each laboratory, a scatter diagram is generated for each test method by plotting the value for the odd numbered samples on the X, or horizontal axis, against the value for the even numbered samples on the Y, or vertical axis. Vertical and horizontal dashed lines, which divide the diagrams into four sections or quadrants, place the average values for the odd and even numbered samples, respectively. The first line of print under the diagram includes the test number, as given on the data sheet, the test title, and the number of data points on the diagrams. The number of plotted points may not agree with the total number of data pairs included in the analysis because a few points may be off the diagram, and some points may represent several data pairs, which are identical. Laboratories whose points are off the diagram will have a rating of  $\pm 1$  for that particular test.

As described in Crandall and Blaine, a tight circular pattern of points around the intersection of the median lines is the ideal situation. Stretching out of the pattern into the first (upper right) and third (lower left) quadrants, suggests some kind of bias, or tendency for laboratories to get high or low results on both samples. Examination of the scatter diagrams indicates strong evidence of bias on many tests.

**CCRL PROFICIENCY SAMPLE PROGRAM**  
 C1260 ASR Proficiency Samples No. 5 and No. 6

Final Report – August 24, 2018

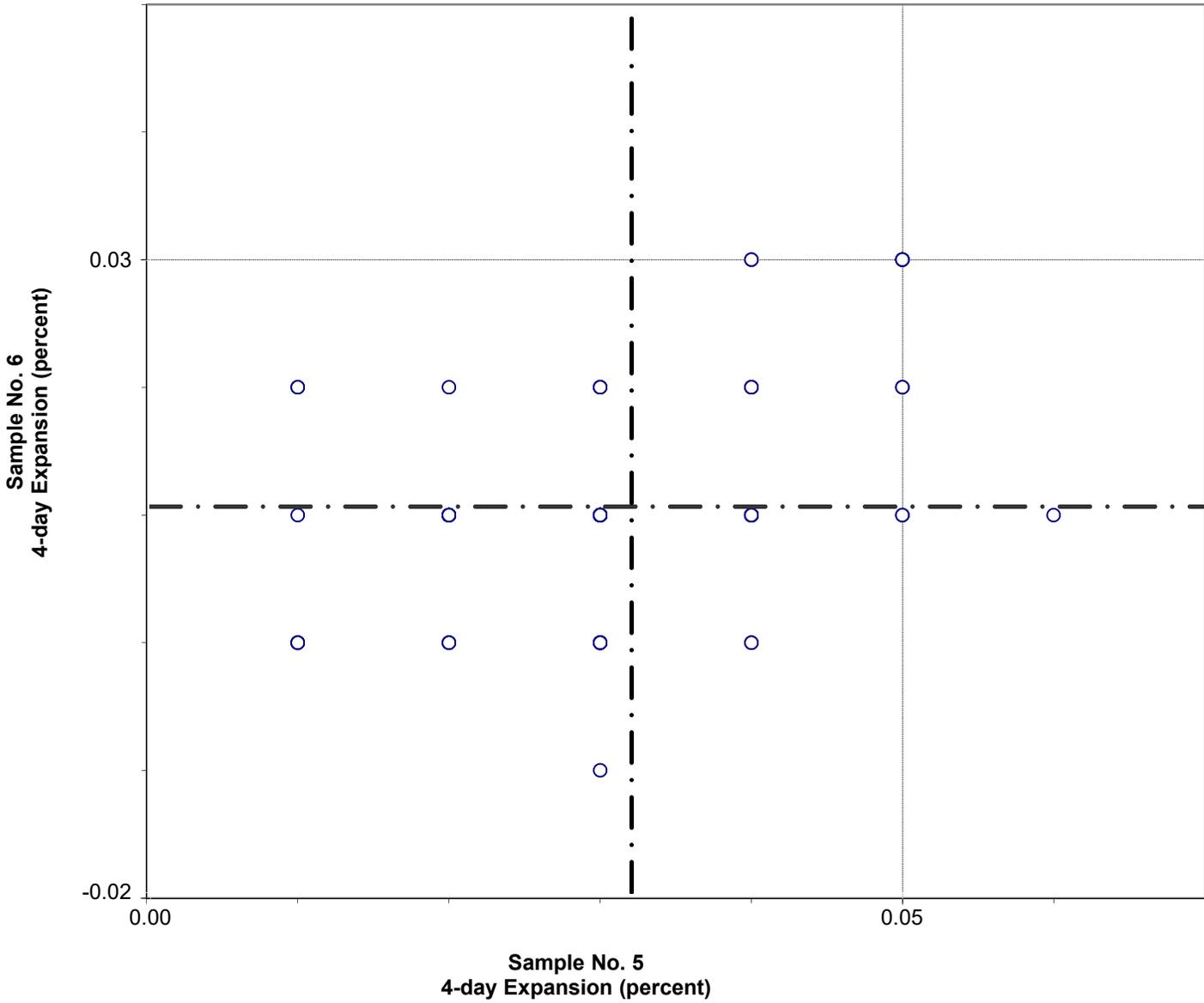
SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Sample No. 5

Sample No. 6

Test (unit)	#Labs	Average	S.D.	C.V.	Average	S.D.	C.V.
<b>4-day Expansion (percent)</b>							
	101	0.03	0.02	58	0.01	0.02	141
	*95	0.03	0.01	33	0.01	0.01	72
* Labs Eliminated - 474, 565, 1222, 1859, 2938, 3875							
<b>7-day Expansion (percent)</b>							
	107	0.07	0.03	50	0.03	0.03	125
	*102	0.07	0.02	27	0.02	0.01	48
* Labs Eliminated - 474, 565, 1859, 2177, 2935							
<b>11-day Expansion (percent)</b>							
	101	0.12	0.05	41	0.05	0.04	78
	*91	0.12	0.02	19	0.04	0.01	31
* Labs Eliminated - 202, 474, 565, 1200, 1481, 1576, 1577, 1859, 2177, 2935							
<b>14-day Expansion (percent)</b>							
	105	0.15	0.06	37	0.08	0.10	120
	*94	0.15	0.03	17	0.07	0.02	26
* Labs Eliminated - 202, 474, 565, 1200, 1481, 1576, 1577, 1859, 2177, 2935, 3875							
<b>21-day Expansion (percent)</b>							
	99	0.22	0.07	32	0.13	0.06	45
	*93	0.22	0.04	20	0.12	0.04	31
* Labs Eliminated - 202, 474, 565, 1481, 1859, 2177							
<b>28-day Expansion (percent)</b>							
	98	0.27	0.08	30	0.18	0.07	38
	*91	0.27	0.05	18	0.17	0.05	26
* Labs Eliminated - 202, 474, 565, 1481, 1535, 1859, 2177							

**CCRL Proficiency Sample Program  
4-day Expansion  
C1260 ASR Samples No. 5 and No. 6**

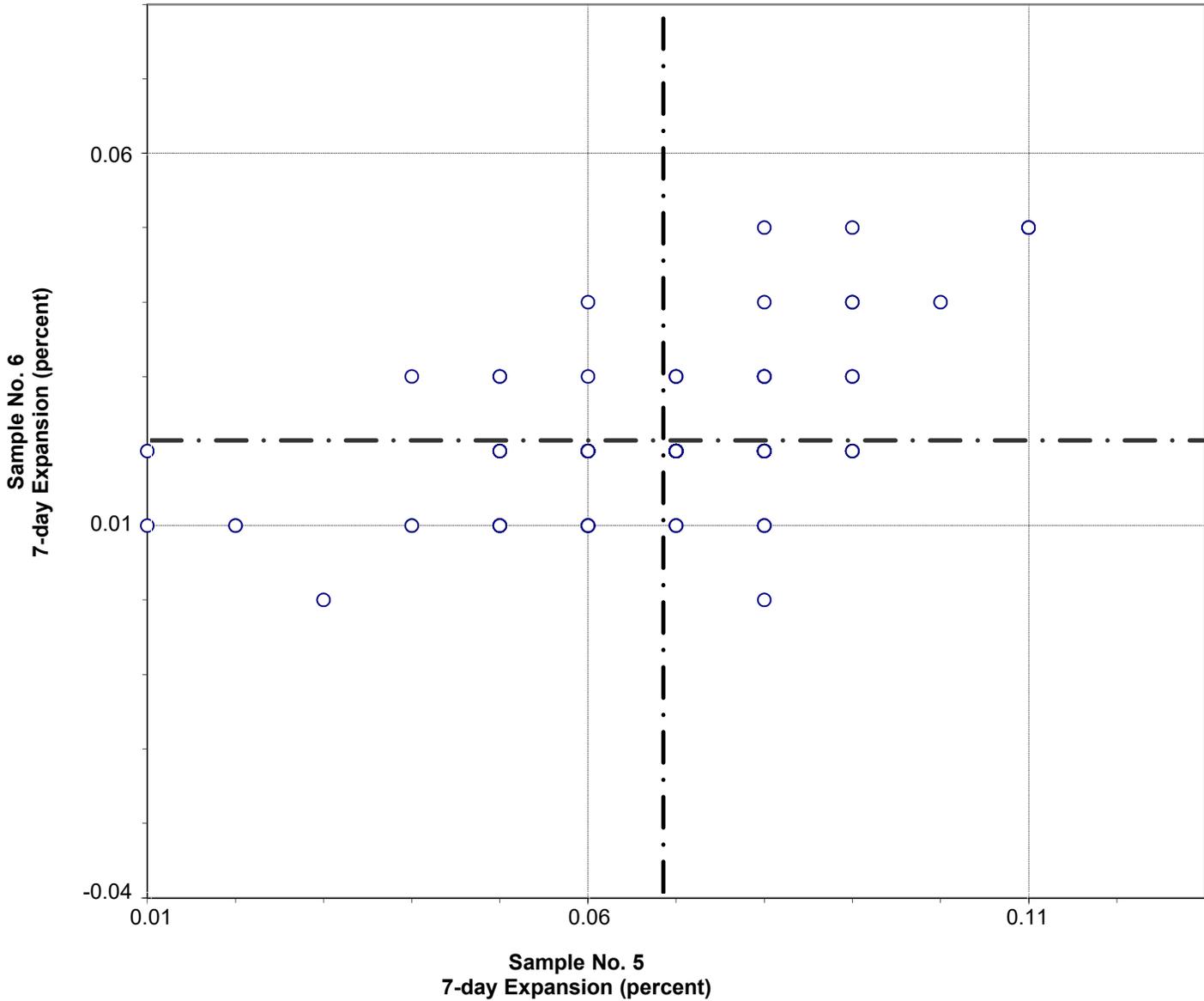


**Test No. 2020 4-day Expansion 95 Points**

Sample No. 5	Ave 0.03	S.D. 0.01	C.V. 33
Sample No. 6	Ave 0.01	S.D. 0.01	C.V. 72

Labs Eliminated: 474, 565, 1222, 1859, 2938, 3875

**CCRL Proficiency Sample Program  
7-day Expansion  
C1260 ASR Samples No. 5 and No. 6**

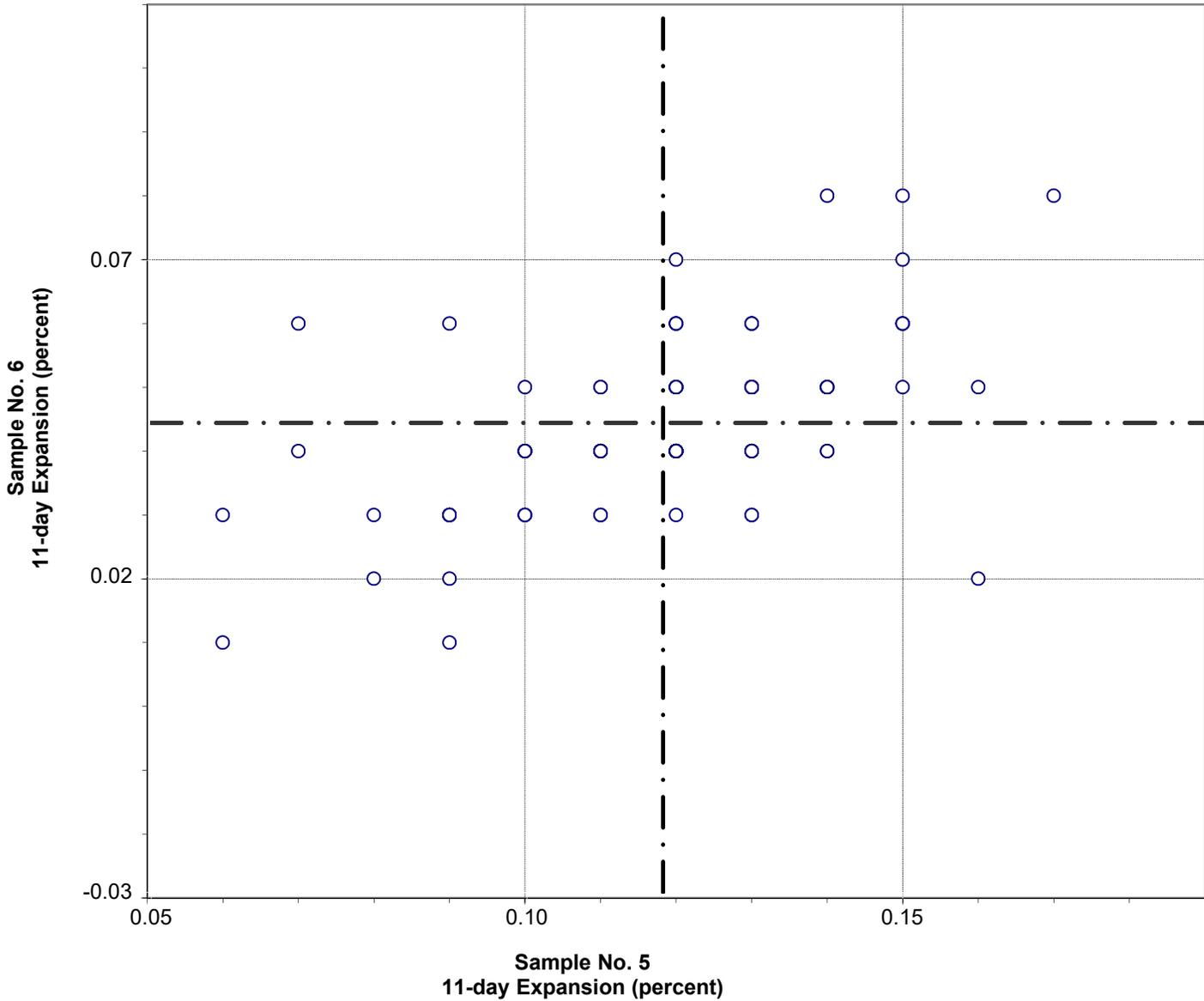


Test No. 2030 7-day Expansion 102 Points

Sample No. 5	Ave 0.07	S.D. 0.02	C.V. 27
Sample No. 6	Ave 0.02	S.D. 0.01	C.V. 48

Labs Eliminated: 474, 565, 1859, 2177, 2935

**CCRL Proficiency Sample Program  
11-day Expansion  
C1260 ASR Samples No. 5 and No. 6**

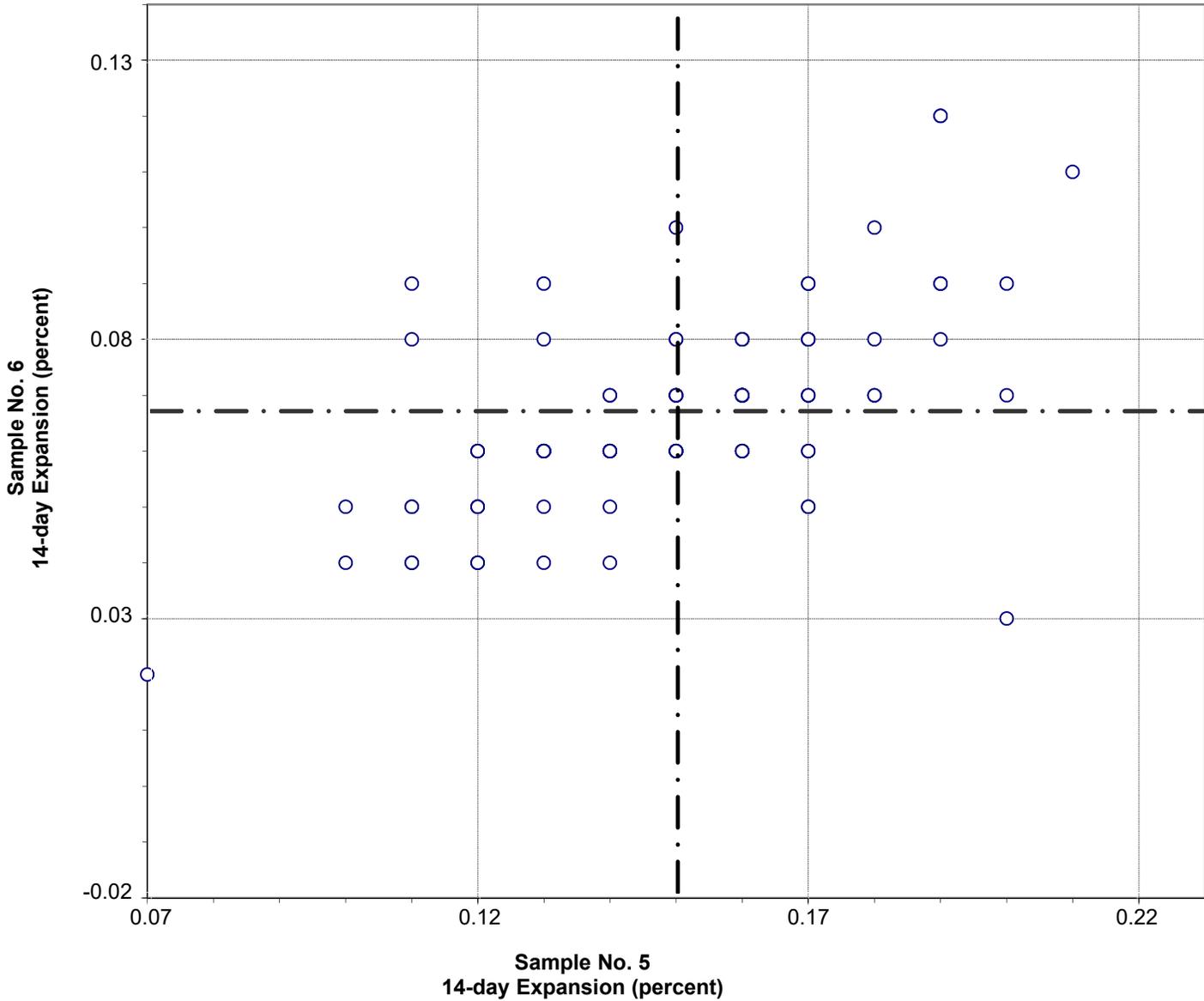


Test No. 2040 11-day Expansion 91 Points

Sample No. 5 Ave 0.12 S.D. 0.02 C.V. 19  
 Sample No. 6 Ave 0.04 S.D. 0.01 C.V. 31

Labs Eliminated: 202, 474, 565, 1200, 1481, 1576, 1577, 1859, 2177, 2935

**CCRL Proficiency Sample Program  
14-day Expansion  
C1260 ASR Samples No. 5 and No. 6**

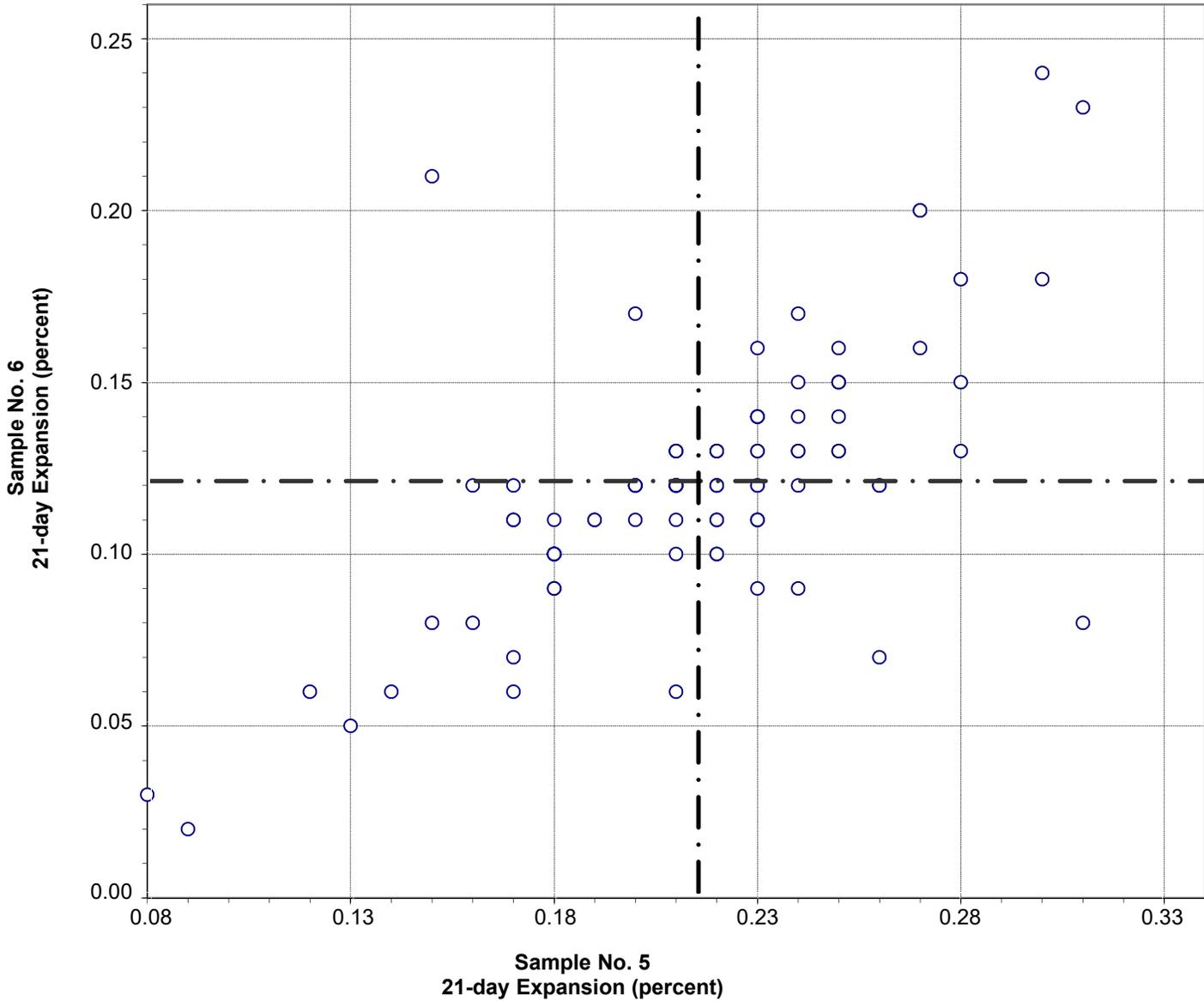


Test No. 2050 14-day Expansion 94 Points

Sample No. 5	Ave 0.15	S.D. 0.03	C.V. 17
Sample No. 6	Ave 0.07	S.D. 0.02	C.V. 26

Labs Eliminated: 202, 474, 565, 1200, 1481, 1576, 1577, 1859, 2177, 2935, 3875

**CCRL Proficiency Sample Program  
21-day Expansion  
C1260 ASR Samples No. 5 and No. 6**

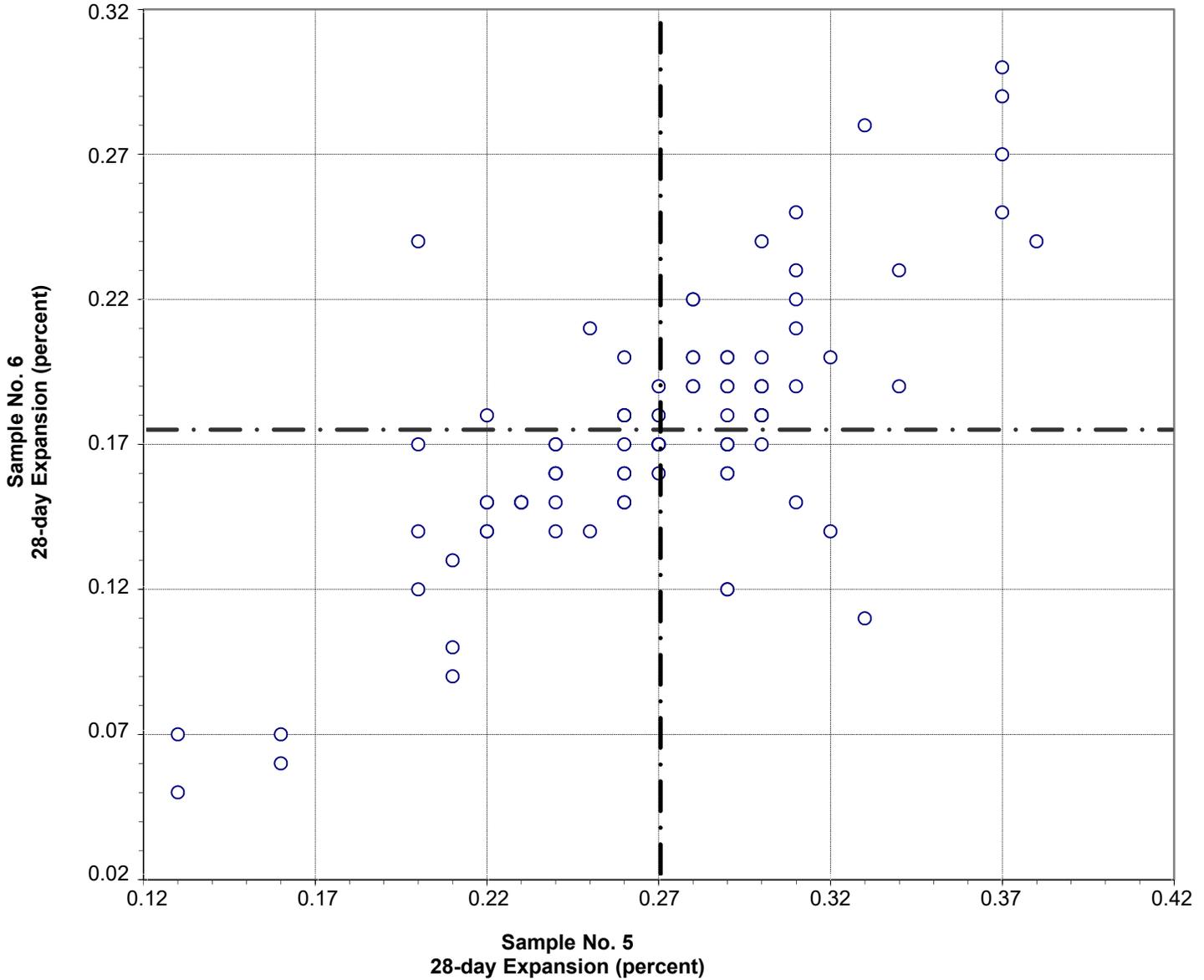


**Test No. 2060 21-day Expansion 93 Points**

Sample No. 5	Ave 0.22	S.D. 0.04	C.V. 20
Sample No. 6	Ave 0.12	S.D. 0.04	C.V. 31

Labs Eliminated: 202, 474, 565, 1481, 1859, 2177

**CCRL Proficiency Sample Program  
28-day Expansion  
C1260 ASR Samples No. 5 and No. 6**



**Test No. 2070 28-day Expansion 91 Points**

Sample No. 5	Ave 0.27	S.D. 0.05	C.V. 18
Sample No. 6	Ave 0.17	S.D. 0.05	C.V. 26

Labs Eliminated: 202, 474, 565, 1481, 1535, 1859, 2177