Journal Description

The Standard Celeration Society publishes the *Journal of Precision Teaching and Celeration* (JPTC) two times a year. JPTC provides a forum for research, practical applications and discussions of Precision Teaching and Celeration technology. JPTC has dedicated itself to the promotion and diffusion of Precision Teaching and Standard Celeration technologies.

Journal Sections:

Authors may submit their original contributions to one of five sections of JPTC:

I. **Application Articles**: "Application articles" require:
(1) Use of Standard Celeration Charts;
(2) Use of basic charting conventions;
(See the JPTC guidelines for guidance on the "basic charting conventions");
(3) Description of variables or procedures supporting the interpretation of the data.

"Application articles" usually represent data from applied settings such as schools, clinics, human service agencies.

II. **Research Articles**: "Research articles" require:
(1) The use of Standard Celeration Charts;
(2) Descriptions of the collection and analysis of data;
(3) Use of basic and advanced charting conventions and analysis;
(See the JPTC guidelines for guidance on the "basic" and "advanced" charting conventions and analysis);
(4) Description of variables or procedures supporting the interpretation of the data;
(5) Control for extraneous variables or report of their influence.

III. **Discussion Articles**: "Discussion articles" offer explanations, reviews, and extensions of Precision Teaching and Standard Celeration concepts.

IV. **Chart Shares**: "Chart shares" contain data displayed on Standard Celeration Charts along with brief descriptions of the performer, what occurred, and other relevant observations. [Note: We encourage performers (e.g. students, clients, patients) to submit their own charts to the chart share section.]

V. **Technical Notes:** Brief technical descriptions clarifying, elaborating, or reporting upon Precision Teaching and Standard Celeration concepts.

Submission Guidelines:

To submit a manuscript authors must conform to the following guidelines:
(1) If submitting by postal mail*, submit three typewritten, doubled spaced copies of the manuscript without author's names or affiliations. If submitting by email, send to rmk11@psu.edu.
(2) If submittiing electronic manuscripts, we recommend OpenOffice Writer (v3 or higher), Word Perfect (v4), Apple iWork, or Microsoft Office 2003. We discourage Microsoft Office 2007 and will not accept pdfs.
(3) Follow the format outlined in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (5th edition, 2001);
(4) Do not exceed 20 words in the article title;
(5) Include an abstract and do not exceed 250 words in the abstract (Technical Notes do not require an abstract);
(6) Select 3 to 5 key words that describe the manuscript;
(7) Secure permission for use of copyrighted materials;
(8) Send all charts and graphics in vector format or as 600 dpi bitmapped images, uncompressed;

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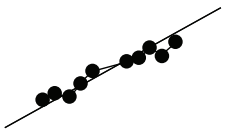
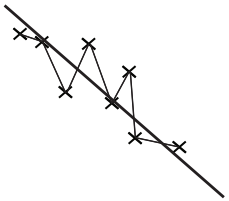
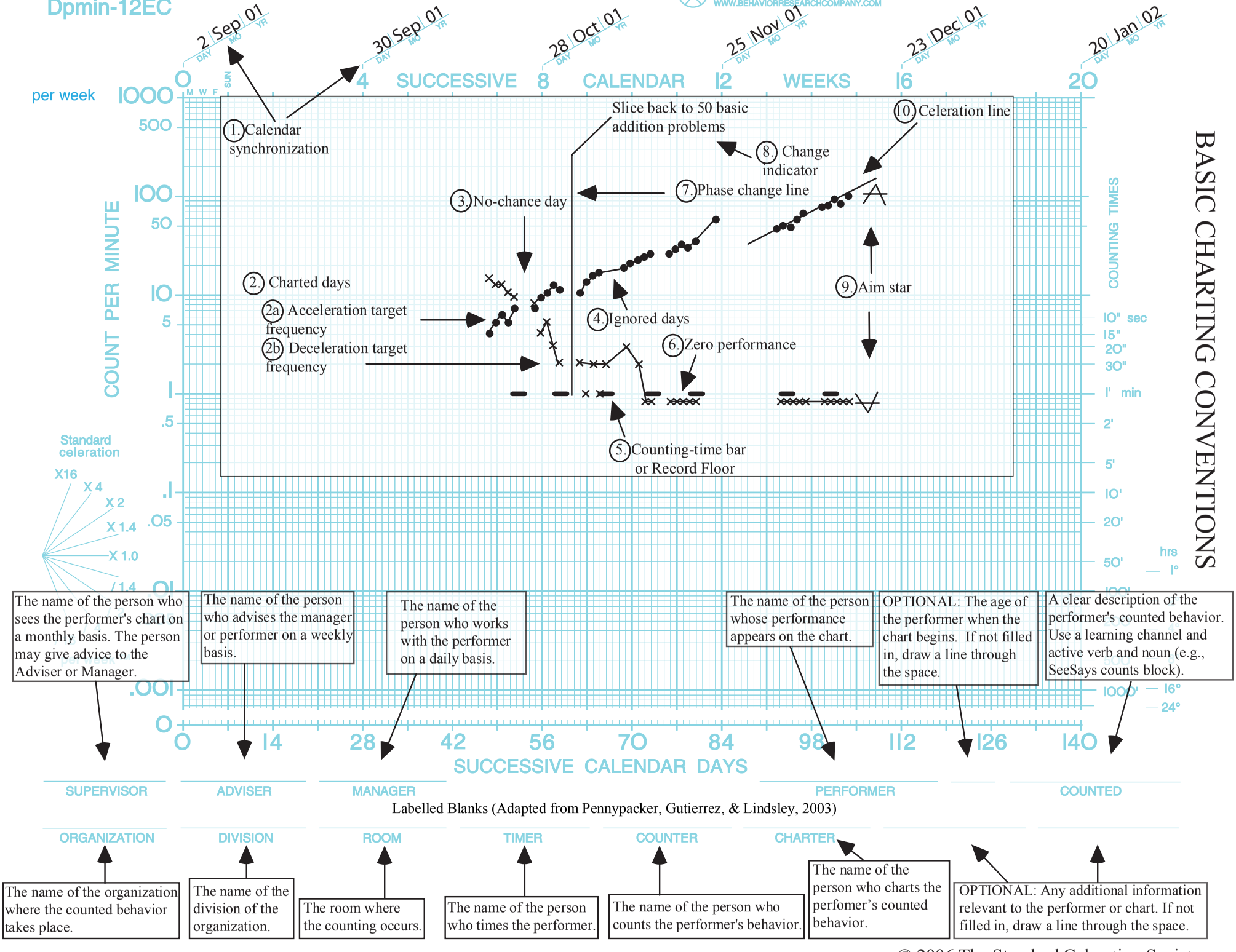
Editors reserve the right to edit all material accepted for publication.

BASIC CHARTING CONVENTIONS for the DAILY STANDARD CELERATION CHART

TERM	DEFINITION	CONVENTION
1. CALENDAR SYNCHRONIZATION	A standard date for starting all charts.	The synchronization date begins on the first Sunday before Labor Day. The second chart begins 20 weeks after the synchronization date. The third chart begins 40 weeks after synchronization date. Three charts cover a full year.
2. CHARTED DAY	A day the charter records and charts a behavior.	1. Chart the behavior frequency on the chart on the appropriate day line. 2. Connect charted days. 3. *Do not* connect charted days across *phase change lines* or *no chance days.*
a) ACCELERATION TARGET FREQUENCY	Responses of the performer intended to accelerate.	Chart a dot (●) on the appropriate day line.
b) DECELERATION TARGET FREQUENCY	Responses of the performer intended to decelerate.	Chart an (x) on the appropriate day line.
3. NO CHANCE DAY	A day on which the behavior had *no chance* to occur.	Skip day on daily chart. (Do not connect data across no chance days).
4. IGNORED DAY	A day on which the behavior could have occurred but no one recorded it.	Skip day on daily chart. (Connect data across ignored days).
5. COUNTING-TIME BAR (aka Record Floor)	Designates on the chart the performer's lowest possible performance (other than zero) in a counting time. Always designated as "once per counting time."	Draw solid horizontal line from the Tuesday to Thursday day lines on the chart at the "counting-time bar."

TERM	DEFINITION	CONVENTION
6. ZERO PERFORMANCE	No performance occurred during the recording period.	Chart on the line directly below the "counting-time bar."
7. PHASE CHANGE LINE	A line drawn in the space between the last charted day of one intervention phase and the first charted day of a new intervention phase.	Draw a vertical line between the intervention phases. Draw the line from the top of the data to the "counting-time bar."
8. CHANGE INDICATOR	Words, symbols or phrases written on the chart in the appropriate phase to indicate changes during that phase.	Write word, symbol and/or phrase. An arrow (➡) may be used to indicate the continuance of a change into a new phase.
9. AIM STAR	A symbol used to represent: (a) the desired frequency, and (b) the desired date to achieve the frequency.	Place the point of the caret... ⩓ for acceleration data ⩔ for deceleration data ...on the desired aim date. Place the horizontal bar, —, on the desired frequency. The caret and horizontal line will create a "star."
10. CELERATION LINE	A straight line drawn through 7 to 9 or more charted days. This line indicates the amount of improvement that has taken place in a given period of time. A new line is drawn for each phase for both acceleration and deceleration targets. (**Note:** For non-research projects it is acceptable to draw free-hand celeration lines.)	 Acceleration Target  Deceleration Target



Labelled Blanks (Adapted from Pennypacker, Gutierrez, & Lindsley, 2003)

ORGANIZATION — The name of the organization where the counted behavior takes place.

DIVISION — The name of the division of the organization.

ROOM — The room where the counting occurs.

TIMER — The name of the person who times the performer.

COUNTER — The name of the person who counts the performer's behavior.

CHARTER — The name of the person who charts the perfomer's counted behavior.

OPTIONAL: Any additional information relevant to the performer or chart. If not filled in, draw a line through the space.

ADVANCED CHARTING CONVENTIONS for the DAILY STANDARD CELERATION CHART

TERM	DEFINITION	CONVENTION
Tools:		
CELERATION FINDER	A translucent tool (often Mylar) with celeration lines or calibration lines used for computing celeration line values. One edge of the celeration finder has the vertical axis of a Standard Celeration Chart, called a frequency finder, to assist in plotting frequencies and other common charting practices, including alternate techniques to compute celeration line values.	Bought commercially. For a frequency finder, one can copy and cut out part of the vertical axis on the Standard Celeration Chart.
Calculations:		
1. CELERATION CALCULATION (Quarter-Intersect Method)	The process for *graphically* determining a celeration line (aka "the line of best fit"). Divide the frequencies for each phase into four equal quarters (include ignored and no chance days), locate the median frequency for each half, and then draw a celeration line connecting the quarter intersect points.	See advanced charting conventions sample chart.
Frequency:		
2. FREQUENCY CHANGE (FC) (aka frequency jump up or jump down)	The multiply "x" or divide "÷" value that compares the final frequency of one phase to the beginning frequency in the next phase. Compute this by comparing the frequency where the celeration line crosses the *last* day of one phase to the frequency where the celeration line crosses the *first* day of the next phase. E.g., a frequency jump from 6/minute to 18/minute. FC = x 3.0.	Place an "FC =" in the upper left cell of the analysis matrix. Indicate the value with a "x" or "÷" sign (e.g., FC = x 3.0).
Celeration:		
3. CELERATION CHANGE (CC) (aka celeration turn up or turn down)	The multiply "x" or divide "÷" value that compares the celeration of one phase to the celeration in the next phase (e.g., a celeration turn down from x1.3 to ÷ 1.3. CC= ÷ 1.7).	Place a "CC =" in the upper middle cell of the analysis matrix with the value indicated with a "x" or "÷" sign. (e.g., CC = ÷ 1.7).

TERM	DEFINITION	CONVENTION
4. PROJECTION LINE	A dashed line extending to the future from the celeration line. The projection offers a forecast that enables the calculation of the celeration change value.	See advanced charting conventions sample chart.
5. BOUNCE CHANGE (BC)	The multiply "x" or divide "÷" value that compares the bounce of one phase to the bounce in the next phase. Computed by comparing the total bounce of one phase to the total bounce of the next phase. (e.g., a bounce change from x 5.0 to x 1.4, BC = ÷ 3.6).	Place a "BC=" in the upper right cell of the analysis matrix with the value indicated with a multiply "x" or divide "÷" symbol (e.g., BC = ÷ 3.6).
6. CELERATION FAN	The nine-blade celeration fan shows nine reference celerations used to quickly provide a visual estimate of any celeration value by using modifiers of "equal to," "greater than," or "less than."	Celeration fans are printed on all commercial standard celeration charts.
7. CELERATION COLLECTION	A group of three or more celerations for different performers relating to the same behavior over approximately the same time period.	Numerically identify the high, middle and low celeration in the celeration collection and indicate the total number of celerations in the collection.
8. ANALYSIS MATRIX	The analysis matrix provides the numeric change information regarding the effects of the intervention(s) on frequency, celeration and bounce between two phases.	Place the analysis matrix between the two phases being compared. For acceleration targets place the matrix above the data. For deceleration targets place the matrix below the data.