

Artifact Analysis

Lab Activity #2: Microsoft Excel

For this activity, use the Excel file provided by the instructor. This file has a pre-existing spreadsheet with data collected from Paleoindian fluted points recovered in the Great Basin. This data is publicly accessible through the PIDBA website <http://pidba.utk.edu/main.htm>. This website is an excellent source of data for research projects and potential Senior Seminar projects.

Follow the instructions below and answer questions about the dataset. Note that there are multiple sheets in the Excel workbook that you may need to look at.

Procedures:

1. Save the Excel file as “LabActivity2<your last name>”
2. Delete the title and reference information at the top of the spreadsheet (rows 1-13).
3. Freeze the new top row.
4. Sort the spreadsheet by Original FS/Figure # (smallest to largest).
5. Hide the Section column.
6. Calculate the average, maximum, minimum, standard deviation, and coefficient of variation for:
 - Max. Length, Max. Width, Basal Width, Max. Thickness, Basal Width:Max. Width, Basal Indentation, Basal Indentation:Basal Width, and Front Angle.
7. Add a new sheet to the Excel file and label it “Tables.” Make a table based on your results from step #6.
8. Make a bar graph comparing the coefficients of variation (CVs) in your table from step #6. Add this graph below the table in your new sheet.
9. Create a second table with all of the points from the Dietz site. This table should include:
 - FS#, Section, Max. Length, Max. Width, Basal Width, Max. Thickness, Basal Indentation:Basal Width, and # Sides Fluted.
 - Also include summary statistics in your table.
10. Save this new sheet as a pdf.

Questions:

1. Which are the least and most variable attributes of Great Basin fluted points? Provide statistics to back up your answer.
2. How many points are only fluted on one side?

3. How many points have edge grinding?

4. Are there significant differences between points from the overall dataset and points from the Dietz site? What do you think might explain this?

Submission:

- Your answers to the questions should be saved as a Word document.
- Save your Excel file with all of the changes you've made.
- Both files (Word and Excel) should be labeled the exact same way: "LabActivity2<your last name>"
- Submit both files to me via email (dta49@msstate.edu) *before* class on Tuesday, January 29. There is no written report for this lab.