

Description of different sheets:

Form-types dates (a-d)

This sheet lists Form-Types (Typological Classifications) in column A, with their characteristic cross-over points (a-d) listed in columns B-E. *Cross-over point a* is the point where the μ -value changes to a non-zero value. *Cross-over point b* defines the point where μ -values reach 1. *Cross-over point c* is where μ -values drop below 1 again. *Cross-over point d* is the point where μ -values drop to 0.

In between sheet for mu

This sheet is used in the process of calculating μ -values for pottery form types. Column A lists values for t in years from 50 BC to AD 500. For calculating the μ -values, the subroutine *MuvaluesforDating* copies the a-d values for the current Form-type from the *Form-types dates (a-d)* sheet into cells B2-E2. It then compares the values in column A with the values in cells B2-E2 according to the formula

$$\mu(t) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0 & \text{if } t < a \\ \frac{t-a}{b-a} & \text{if } a \leq t \leq b \\ 1 & \text{if } b \leq t \leq c \\ \frac{d-t}{d-c} & \text{if } c \leq t \leq d \\ 0 & \text{if } t > d \end{array} \right\}.$$

The result is pasted in column F.

Form-type dates mu

This sheet lists Form Types in column A. The other column headings display values for t . For each Form-Type, the cells to the right of column A display the Form-Type's μ -value for that column's value for t . These values are copied from the *In between sheet for mu* sheet into this list.

Input

In column A, the Form-Types from the context you wanted to date are listed (take care to match the spelling in the *Form-types dates (a-d)* sheet).

Output

The subroutine *Dating* copies the μ -values from the *Form-type dates mu* sheet for those Form-Types listed in the *Input* sheet. It then calculates the minimum for each value of t and uses this as the final date for the context. This is expressed in a chart and also copied into a separate Excel file as an easily used output.