ADVANCED EXCEL FOR GEOLOGISTS – 18 APRIL 2023

About the Workshop

As a geologist, if you're not looking at rocks, you're looking at data. In the fast-paced and competitive world we live in, it is imperative that you maximize your efficiency. While Python® is the new buzz-skill, Microsoft® Excel® offers an unfathomably wide range of capabilities which can be learned much quicker with the basic understanding of Excel which most people already have, compared to Python coding.

In this 1-day, hands-on course, we will be covering an exciting set of Excel formulas that you might be unfamiliar with, and functionalities such as Power Query, Pivot Tables, and the Excel Data Model. We will cover some basics to firm up everyone's foundation before we ramp up to the more advanced skills.

Examples and data applicable to our day-to-day geological work will be used to keep it relevant. The best way to learn is to apply the theory first-hand, so the course will include a follow-along tutorial to build your own Excel tool to analyse geological data.

Benefits of attending

The course will offer among other the following:

- Teach basic Excel best-practice procedures to create clean, clear, and understandable worksheets that can be shared with colleagues or clients.
- Illustrate a number of Excel formulas that can assist you with your data analysis.
- Stimulate a problem-solving mindset to combine and nest multiple formulas for complicated procedures.
- Assist geoscientists with methods of cleaning data to be analysed or imported into modelling software.
- Instil an affinity for data and the potential that you can derive from it once you are comfortable with playing with it.

Who should attend

- **Students** preparing for a career in a geological field
- **Geology Graduates** looking to add applicable skills to their CV
- **Exploration Geologists** dealing with drilling data, logging and sampling data, and/or assay data (QC)
- **Production Geologists** responsible for production data from the mine
- **Resource Geologists** working with large raw datasets that often need cleaning before importing into specialised software, and summarising results from multi-million cell block models.
- **Geological Database Managers** needing to clean data before uploading, or after exporting.
- **GIS Practitioners, Hydrogeologists, Geophysicists, Project Managers, and Mineral Resource Managers** working with various datasets
- **Academic Researchers** processing research results for academic articles.

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About the presenter

Marius Swart (B.Sc Hons Geology) joined Earthlab Technical Division in 2018. He is currently working as a Resource Geologist, but has experience in surface and underground mining, exploration project planning and management, and general geological consultation. His software skills include geological modelling and Mineral Resource estimation, GIS, project management, and data analysis. As an analytical thinker, Marius thrives in problem-solving and system optimisation through data analytics. He is meticulous and methodical, being distinctly comprehensive in planning and management tasks, producing clean models, and ensuring best-practice is adhered to.

During his time as a Grade Control Geologist at Gamsberg, he was exposed to a consistent stream of production data from the open pit mine and concentrator plant, and was inspired by the impressive data processing done in Excel by the Head Production Geologist of the time. Working as a Consulting Geologist for Earthlab, Marius built his experience in Excel as an ancillary skill over time by constantly looking for ways to optimise the various processes that involved tabular data of any kind. The skill became extremely valuable when he transitioned into a Resource Geology role, working with large datasets that need either cleaning, manipulation, or summarising. He is a self-proclaimed "*Excel Nerd*" and likens the satisfaction from seeing a complex Excel formula produce a desired result instead of #VALUE! to that of finding a gold nugget in a piece of core.

Registration Fees

Member – R1 000,00
Non-Member – R1 500,00
Retired – R500,00
Student Member – R500,00
Sponsored Student – R0,00

CPD Points

8 GSSA
1 SACNASP

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