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Exploring Oysters: Data and Methods

- 2018 oyster measurements
- 20 late Archaic Shell Mound and Mississippian sites
- Left valve length (LL) and left valve height (LH) measurements (mm)
- Oyster size and length were collected from oyster bed maps created in the late 1950s
- A standard height and length (HL) but also measured the oyster size (left valve of least length) at selected sites
- Correlation's test was used to compare HL and LL between all late Archaic and Mississippian sites
- A Spearman's rank correlation test was used to examine the strength of the relationship between HL and total oyster bed length (m) in late and 20 Archaic sites of 20 sites
- Total oyster size (total length) and Core Pathways analysis from the correlation analysis

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Oyster Reef Distributions

- Oyster reefs as mapped in the late 1950s for Georgia and South Carolina
- Various historical oyster reef locations for South Carolina
- Clark Alexander's lady digitized the historical oyster reef locations for Georgia
- Location of the islands for sites in the study area
- Oyster samples for measurement came from 10 sites and 10 oyster beds of the late Archaic

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- Late Archaic mean = Mississippian mean oyster size for the total population
- This also holds when comparing means for late Archaic and Mississippian sites in the same foraging pattern - except for Oostan Island in the late Archaic and Florida's coast
- In several late Archaic sites there is a small but significant decrease in size of oyster over time
- Oyster size also varies latitudinally
- Much of the difference between islands and other sites reflected by sites are significantly different in terms of LL and LH

Round 3 Introductions

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GCRC 2020 Gathering