

Uncertainty Zone Calculator – How to Guide

This document describes how to use the ‘Uncertainty Calculator’. The ‘Uncertainty Calculator’ is an Excel file that classifies the projects in a selection competition based on their scoring variability.

The ‘Uncertainty Calculator’ has one sheet, divided into three areas:

- The left table has one row for each scoring assignment
- The middle of the sheet has parameters and summary information
- The right table has one row for each project, including the project score, uncertainty bounds, and the selection status of each project.

NOTE: do not edit the formulas in the cells that have grey background.

To use this sheet to run a quick uncertainty analysis on your competition results, you will need:

1. two columns of data from your competition:
 - Column A: the identity (name, title, number) associated with each score provided for an application/submission/project in your competition
 - Column B: the total score each marker gave the submission

Note: there should be one row for each scoring assignment in the competition. If a marker did not provide scores for an assignment, blank rows are permitted.

1. Clear the data entries in columns A and B (except row 1)
 2. Copy your competition’s project identity and assignment scores into column A and B.
2. You will also need to set some parameters, see column H.

Cell	Parameter	Comment
H2	Variability Measure	Standard Deviation(1) or Standard Error(2)
H3	Number of bounds	i.e., 1 = 68% of normal distribution, 2=95%
H4	Base bounds on average(1) or individual(2) project’s uncertainty	If individual is chosen but the project has less than half the maximum number of scorers, that project’s bounds are based on the average uncertainty.
H11	Number of winners	Number of projects nominally to be selected from this competition (AKA cut-off)

3. Copy a unique list of the project identifiers for your competition into column J
4. Select cells K2 to U2 (i.e., K2:U2)
5. Drag these formulas down for each of the project rows in this table
6. Sort columns J to U with a 2-level sort:
 1. First level: by column “M” (Has Scores?), sort order ‘Z to A’
 2. Second level: by column “N” (Average Scores), sort order ‘Largest to Smallest’
7. Column ‘U’ signals the selection status of the projects/applications
8. The ‘Selection Results’ table classifies the projects as:
 1. Certain winners: “YES”
 2. Uncertain: “MAYBE”
 3. Not winners: “NO”

Note: The data set in this Excel file is from the Ice Dance technical scores used in the CoSeT Overview. You can replace it with your own data or duplicate the sheet and keep the original for learning.