

Contents

I	Solutrean points as a focus of research	1
1	Introduction	3
2	The Solutrean technocomplex in Iberia	5
2.1	Research history and theories	5
2.1.1	Internal chronology	5
2.1.2	Interpretative models of the ‘Solutrean Phenomenon’	5
2.2	The Solutrean technocomplex from a regional perspective	7
2.2.1	Northern Iberia	7
2.2.2	Southern Iberia	7
2.3	A critical review of the Solutrean evidence	9
3	Environmental context of the Iberian Solutrean	13
3.1	Iberian geography and geology – an archaeologist’s perspective	13
3.2	Climatic conditions and vegetational responses	14
3.2.1	The climate from a global perspective	14
3.2.2	Vegetational environment	17
4	Research on Iberian Solutrean points	19
4.1	Solutrean points – a first approximation	19
4.1.1	Defining the term	19
4.1.2	A note on functional implications	19
4.2	Research history on Solutrean points	20
4.2.1	The typological approach	20
4.2.2	Technological and experimental studies on Solutrean points	21
4.2.3	Hunting technology and hafting	22
4.3	Resume and research questions	23
II	Materials and chrono-spatial framework of the study	25
5	The sample of Solutrean points	27
5.1	Analysed material – ‘primary’ and ‘secondary’ data	27
5.2	Commonly observed sampling biases	27
5.3	Sample size and context	28
5.3.1	Spatial framework	28
5.3.2	Chronological framework	29
III	Theoretical and methodological framework	47
6	A process-oriented approach to Solutrean points	49
6.1	Introduction to technological organisation and ‘point type profiles’	49
6.2	Scales of observation and inference	49
6.3	Defining basic point types	51
6.3.1	A ‘lithic’ minimum number of individuals	51
6.3.2	The ‘recognition bias’	52
6.4	The biography model and definition of analytical units	52
6.5	Establishing ‘point type profiles’	54
6.5.1	Technological design	54
6.5.2	The concepts of risk and cost	55

7	Analytical methods – application to Solutrean points	57
7.1	Technological analysis	57
7.1.1	Raw material analysis	57
7.1.2	Production sequence	57
7.1.3	Reuse – resharpening and recycling	59
7.2	Macroscopic fracture analysis	60
7.2.1	State of preservation	60
7.2.2	Fracture analysis	60
7.3	Morphometric analysis	63
7.3.1	Basic measurements	63
7.3.2	Photographic documentation	63
7.4	Objectifying shapes	64
7.4.1	The informative value of shapes	64
7.4.2	Shape-analysis using SECANTO	64
IV	The Solutrean points from Iberia	67
8	Concave base points	69
8.1	Introduction to the sample	69
8.2	Morphology and metrics	71
8.2.1	Shape analysis	71
8.2.2	Basic metrics	73
8.2.3	Spatial morpho-metric variability	73
8.3	Raw material and technological analysis	75
8.3.1	Raw materials	75
8.3.2	Production sequence	75
8.4	Techno-functional analysis	77
8.4.1	Preservation	77
8.4.2	Fractures	77
8.4.3	Maintenance and recycling	81
8.4.4	Reconstruction of hafting	81
8.5	Transitional points	83
8.6	Summary – point type profile	85
9	Shouldered points (Northern Iberia)	89
9.1	Introduction to the sample	89
9.2	Morphology and metrics	89
9.2.1	Shape analysis	89
9.2.2	Basic metrics	93
9.2.3	Spatial morpho-metric variability	93
9.2.4	Morpho-metric description of subtypes	93
9.3	Raw material and technological analysis	94
9.3.1	Raw material	94
9.3.2	Production sequence	95
9.4	Techno-functional analysis	96
9.4.1	Fractures	96
9.4.2	Maintenance and recycling	99
9.4.3	Reconstruction of hafting	99
9.5	Summary – point type profile	100
10	Shouldered points (Southern Iberia)	103
10.1	Introduction to the sample	103
10.2	Morphology and metrics	104
10.2.1	Shape analysis	104
10.2.2	Basic metrics	105
10.2.3	Spatial morpho-metric variability	109
10.3	Raw material and technological analysis	109
10.3.1	Raw material	109
10.3.2	Production sequence	109

10.4	Techno-functional analysis	111
10.4.1	Fractures	111
10.4.2	Maintenance and recycling	112
10.4.3	Reconstruction of hafting	114
10.5	Summary – point type profile	115
11	Stemmed and winged points	119
11.1	Introduction to the sample	120
11.2	Morphology and metrics	124
11.2.1	Shape analysis	124
11.2.2	Basic metrics	124
11.2.3	Spatial morpho-metric variability	126
11.3	Raw material and technological analysis	126
11.3.1	Raw material	126
11.3.2	Production sequence	128
11.4	Techno-functional analysis	129
11.4.1	Fractures	129
11.4.2	Maintenance and recycling	131
11.4.3	Reconstruction of hafting	133
11.5	Summary – point type profile	133
12	Leaf-shaped points	135
12.1	Introduction to the sample	135
12.2	Morphology and metrics	137
12.2.1	Shape analysis	137
12.2.2	Basic metrics	137
12.2.3	Spatial morpho-metric variability	137
12.3	Raw material and technological analysis	141
12.3.1	Raw material	141
12.3.2	Production sequence	141
12.4	Techno-functional analysis	141
12.4.1	Fractures	141
12.4.2	Maintenance and recycling	143
12.4.3	Reconstruction of hafting	143
12.5	Summary – point type profile	144
V	Contextualisation and perspectives	147
13	Synchronic variability – technological strategies in context	149
13.1	Introduction	149
13.2	An Iberian-scale perspective on basic point types	149
13.2.1	Comparison of results	150
13.2.2	Spatial distribution and abundance of point types	150
13.3	Tool making and using behaviour – comparing point type profiles	150
13.3.1	Strategies in technological design from northern Iberia	151
13.3.2	Strategies in technological design from southern Iberia	154
13.3.3	Comparison of tool making and using behaviour	155
13.4	The context of use of Solutrean points	157
13.4.1	Solutrean points as hunting weapon implements	157
13.4.2	The ‘toolkit’ – insights from the assemblage scale	159
13.4.3	Hunting equipment, faunal remains and hunting strategies	160
13.5	Proposed interpretation of the observations	164
A	Appendix - selected sites	167
A.1	Sites from northern Iberia	169
A.2	Sites from south-eastern Iberia	179
A.3	Sites from western Iberia	184
	Bibliography	189