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Studies about the procurement of lithic raw materials are usually based on the study of primary geological outcrops, leaving apart the so called "secondary deposits", formed by the dismantling of preexisting ones. Secondary deposits present varying features not comparable with those of the primary outcrops. For this reason, their study can be very interesting depending on the geographical context.

Recurrent exploitation of this kind of deposits is evident in Roca dels Bous (Eastern Pre-pyrenees). Cobble fragments abound among lithic remains in late Middle Paleolithic archaeological levels. These cobbles were collected in fluvial deposits of Segre river, that drains a vast watershed from the metamorphic Pyrenean axial zone southwards carrying lithologies of different types and ages (Ordovician – Oligocene).

We developed a geoarchaeologic study in which quaternary terraces near Roca dels Bous were systematically sampled. The purpose was to know in detail the availability of raw materials in these deposits. At a later stage, the study of N12 archaeological level of Roca dels Bous (composed by more than 25.000 lithic remains) has shown a strong dominance of a particular lithology: the so called black quartzite, relatively scarce in quaternary terraces according to the results of our surveys.

An interesting and unexpected scenario outlines for a very specific period of the late Middle Paleolithic in which there was an intensive exploitation of terrace quaternary deposits. Such exploitation was clearly selective and was aimed at obtaining a very particular type of rock: the black quartzite.

ORAL

A5. RAW MATERIAL PROCUREMENT IN THE LATE MIDDLE PALEOLITHIC AND EARLY UPPER PALEOLITHIC AT COVA GRAN (EASTERN PRE-PYRENEES, IBERIA)

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Lithic raw material provenance is an essential aspect to identify settlement and mobility patterns of prehistoric groups. In southern Pre-pyrenees, these patterns are poorly known compared to its adjacent region of the South of France.

Cova Gran de Santa Linya (Lleida, Iberia) has a wide archaeo-stratigraphic sequence comprising chronologies ranging from the end of the Middle Paleolithic to the early Upper Paleolithic. It includes a key and controversial period of our evolutionary origins as the Middle/Upper Paleolithic transition (MP/UP).

We present the study of the provenance of lithic raw materials of six archaeological units of Cova Gran: S1B, S1B1, S1C (Middle Paleolithic) and 497A, 497C, 497D (Upper Paleolithic), formed in barely altered sedimentary contexts. This will allow us to trace the changes in raw material procurement patterns between 20.000 and 50.000 Ky, a time period that involves the presence of two different hominid (*H. neanderthalensis* vs *H. sapiens sapiens*). Results provide valuable data to the current circulation models of raw materials and to the debate that characterizes the transition from the Middle Palaeolithic (MP) to the Upper Palaeolithic (UP). While in MP significant amounts of quartzite are detected, the UP levels are characterized by flint as the only rock type. Local flint types are the major raw materials used but regional and long distance mobility markers have been identified.

Features observed in these archaeological units show confined mobility patterns near the settlement along the entire sequence. However significant changes are seen between MP and UP units with the presence/absence of quartzite and the use of regional resources.

ORAL

A6. LE SITE MOUSTÉRIEN DE LA GROTTÉ DU NOISETIER, PYRÉNÉES CENTRALES FRANÇAISES : UN BILAN INTERDISCIPLINAIRE APRÈS DIX ANS DE FOUILLE

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