WASHINGTON

ARCHY 483 Analysis of Stone Artefacts

Spring 2019

Lecture 9

Upper Palaeolithic: blades, microliths, Châtelperronian, Aurignacian, Gravettian, Solutrean, Magdalenian Q1. Why is Nick Toth's classification system for the Olduwan better than Mary Leakey's?

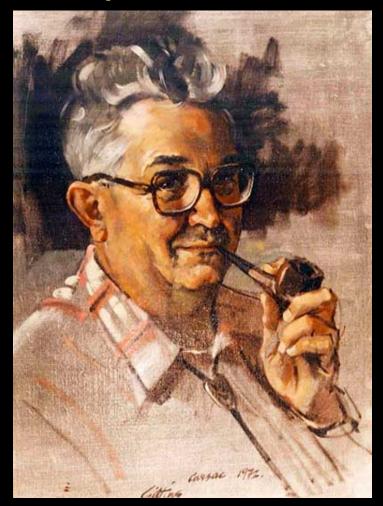
Q2. What are the three main types of stone artefact that are found in Achuelean assemblages?

Q3. What two differences between handaxes found in East Africa and East Asia?

Q1. How is Richard Klein's view of the Middle Palaeolithic wrong?



Q2. Name two of the key contributors to the Mousterian debate, and summarise their positions.





Q3. What do Middle Palaeolithic stone artefacts from India tell us about Stanley Ambrose's hypothesis?





May 30

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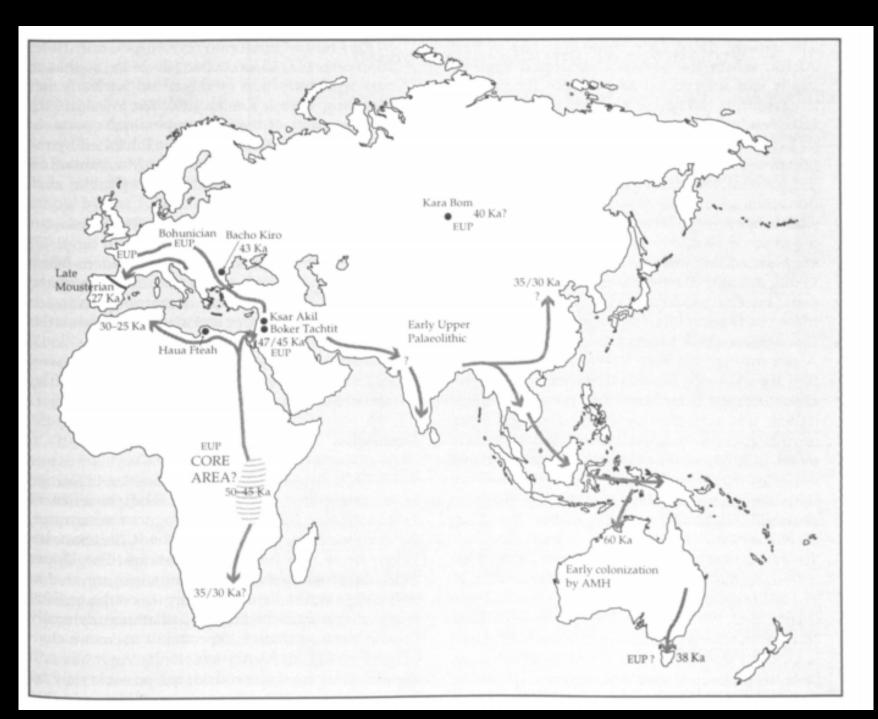
Upper Palaeolithic

Levallois replaced by prismatic blade core reduction

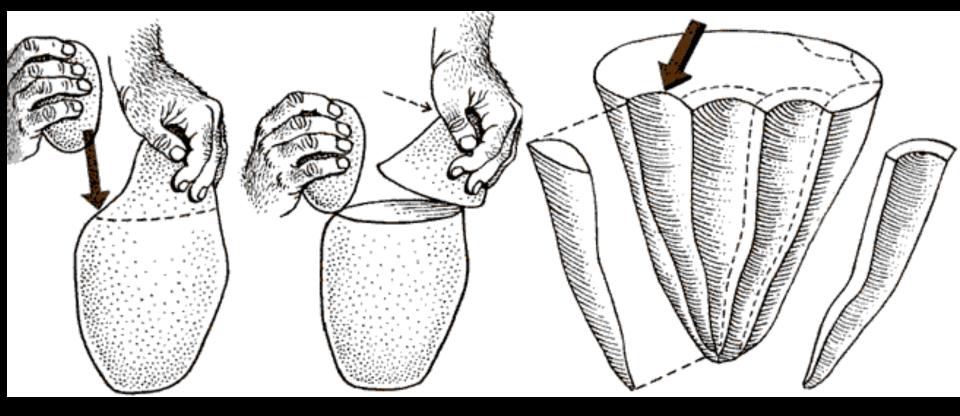
Handaxes and LCTs disappear completely

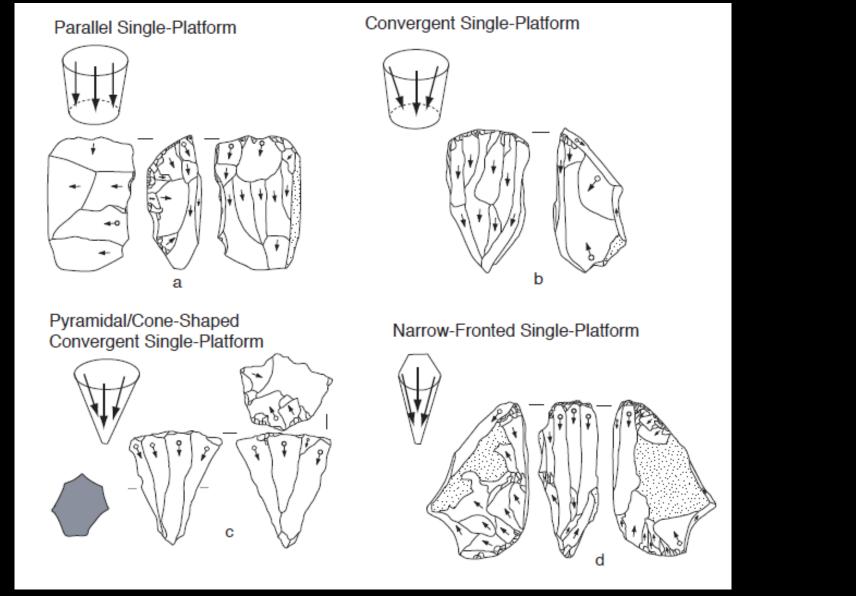
Greater numbers of burins & endscrapers made on blades

Some grinding stones









Prismatic blades: cores have series of elongated rectangular or triangular flakes detached from them. "Prismatic" refers to the long, flat flake scars that occur on blades and cores. Core shapes are approximately conical or cylindrical. Flakes have ridges from previous removals that serve as guiding line for next removal.

- Systematic production of prismatic blades, with only rare cases where flake production continued to be the dominant mode (East Asia and Australia)
- The routine exploitation of animal bones, antlers and ivory as raw materials for the production of mundane or ritual tools as well as for art objects
- Systematic usage of body decorations, including beads and pendants made from marine shells, teeth, ivory and ostrich eggshells
- Long-distance exchange networks providing lithic raw materials and marine shells from distances of up to several hundred kilometers
- Development of grinding tools is noticeable in the subtropical belt including the region with the Mediterranean-type vegetation

Châtelperronian: interchangeably called Castelperronian and characterized by backed curved knives or points and bone tools

Aurignacian: with carinated (keeled, ridged) and nosed scrapers, and rich in bone, antler and ivory items, beads and pendants and mobiliary art objects

Gravettian: with straight-backed points on blades, and with many bone, antler and ivory objects

Solutrean: typified by numerous delicate bifacial tool types, most probably projectile points

Magdalenian: rich in antler and bone work, among which the harpoon types are most famous

Châtelperronian (45-40 ka) Aurignacian (32-26 ka) Gravettian (28-22 ka) Solutrean (21–17 ka) Magdalenian (18–10 ka) Various other less interesting things Mesolithic Neolithic

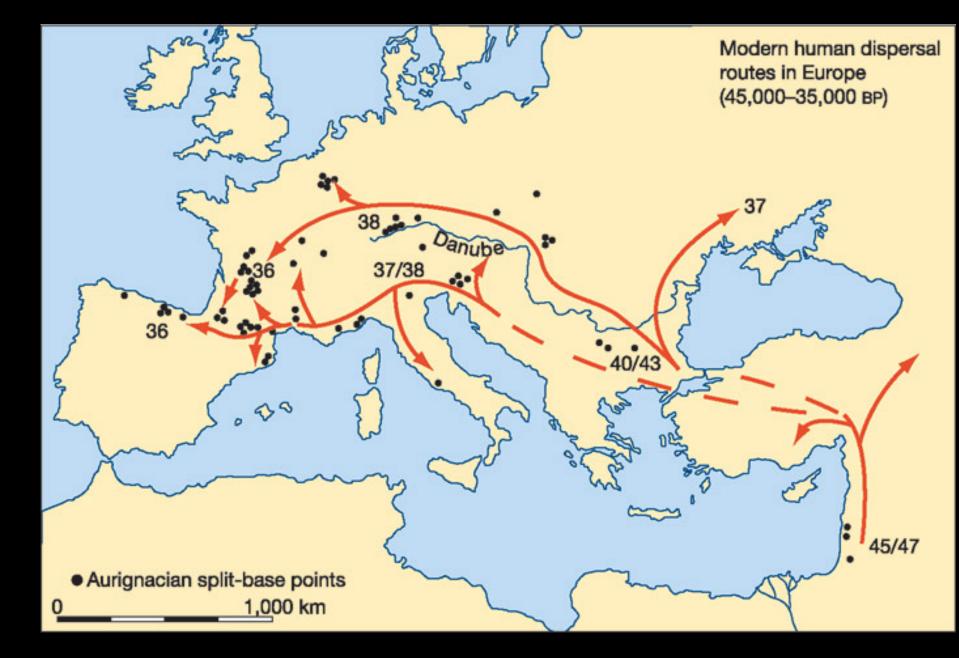
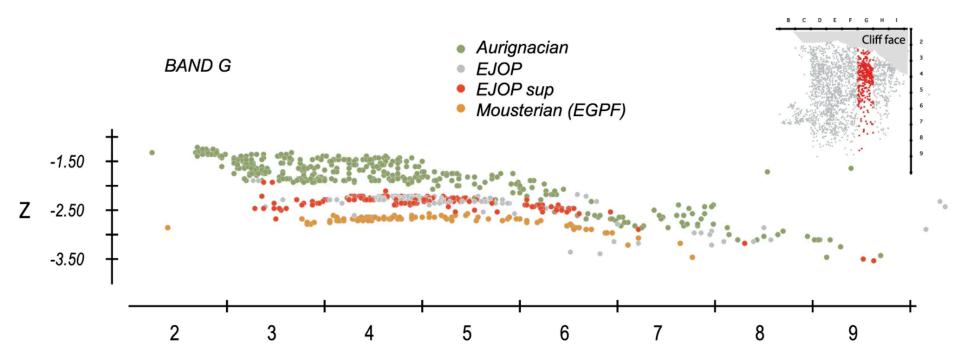
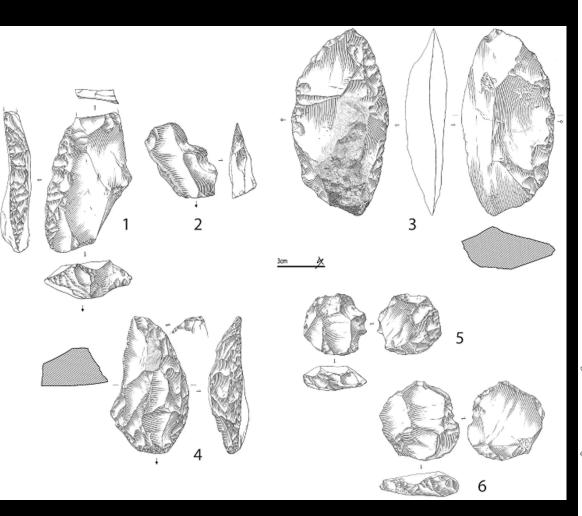


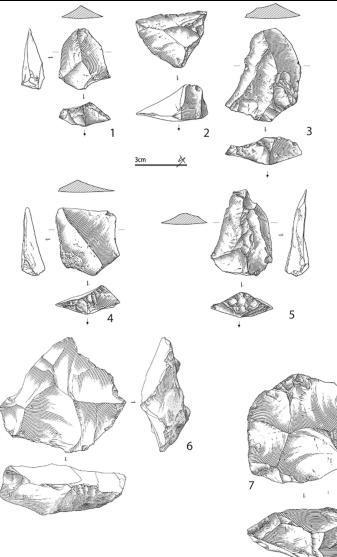
Figure 1

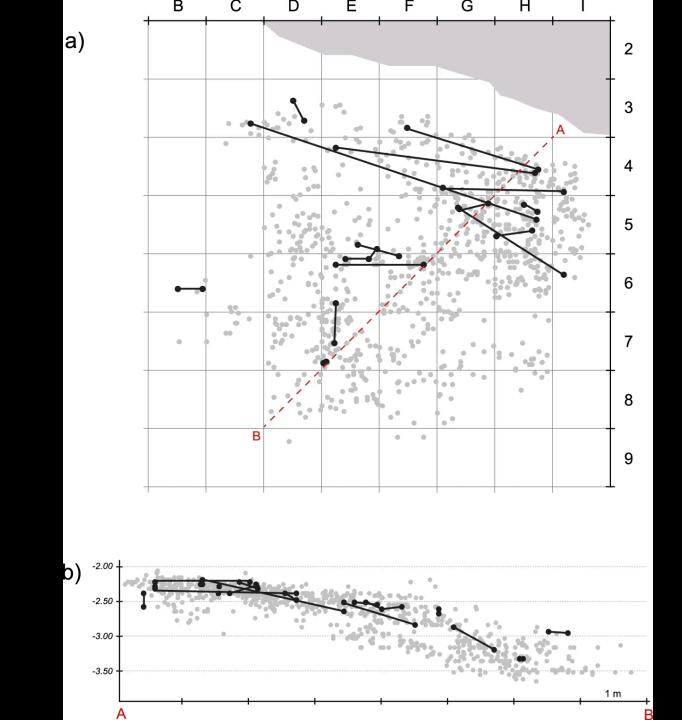
From: No Reliable Evidence for a Neanderthal-Châtelperronian Association at La Roche-à-Pierrot, Saint-Césaire

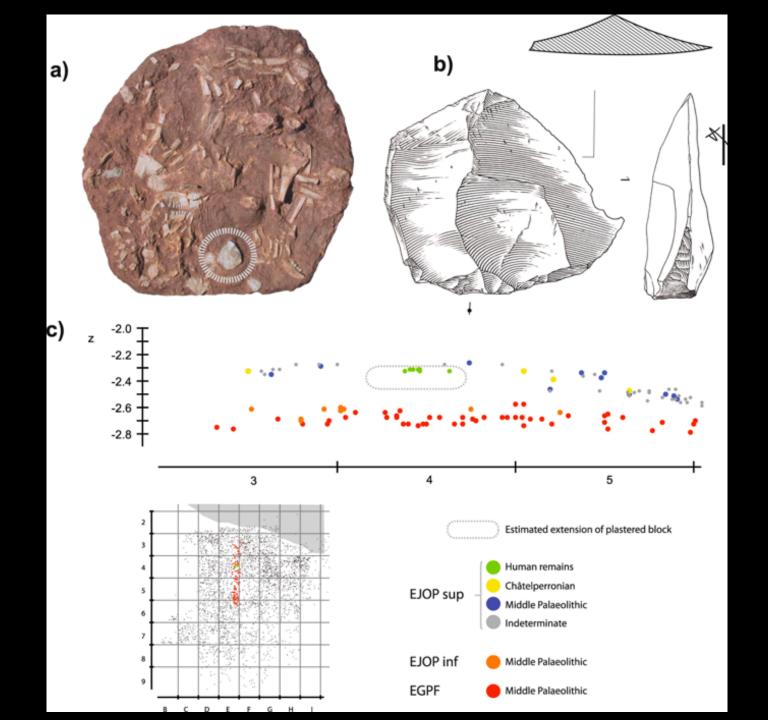


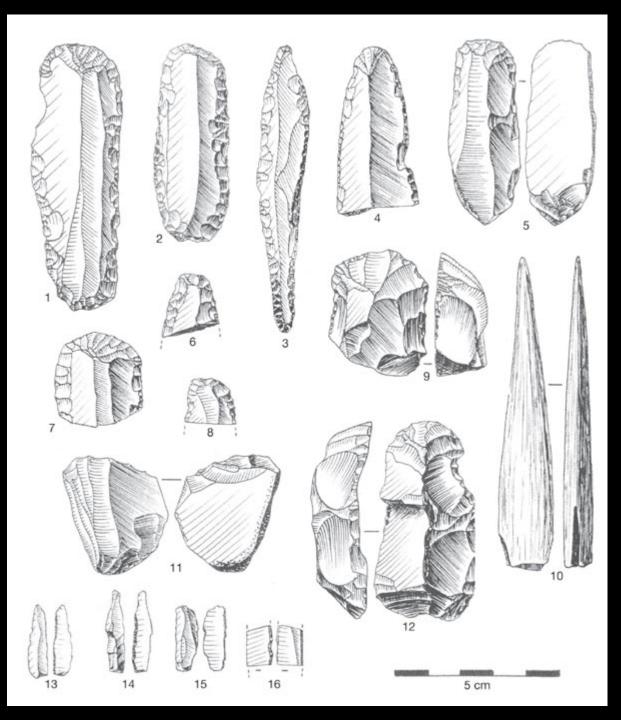
Projection of all lithic material recovered from band G during Lévêque's excavations. Note that from line 6 onwards the heavily sloped deposits mix material assigned by Lévêque to the Mousterian, Châtelperronian and Aurignacian.





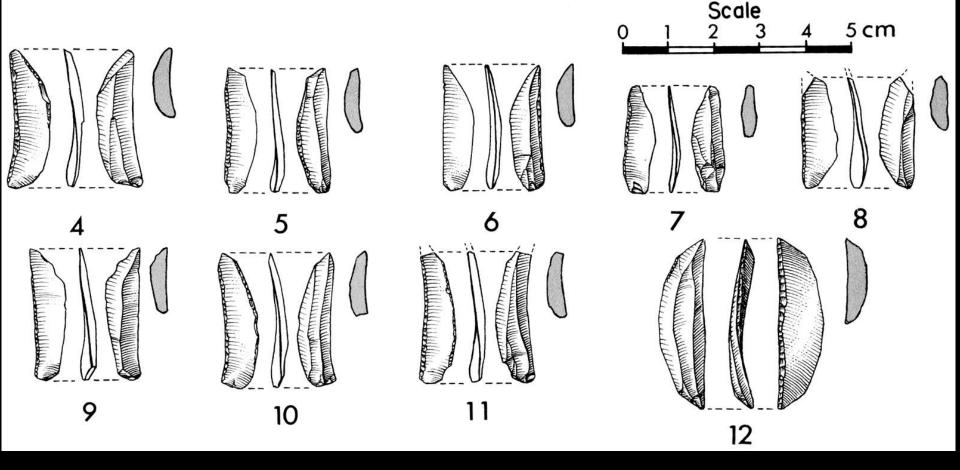




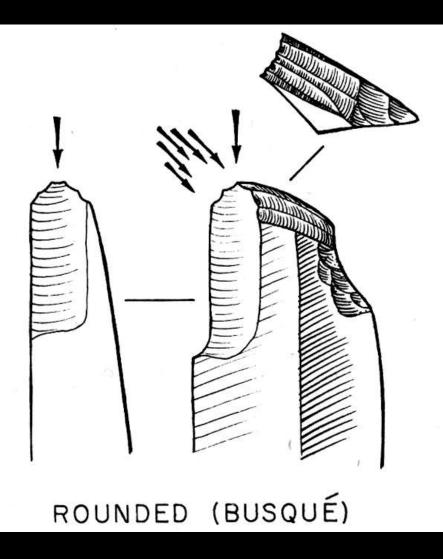


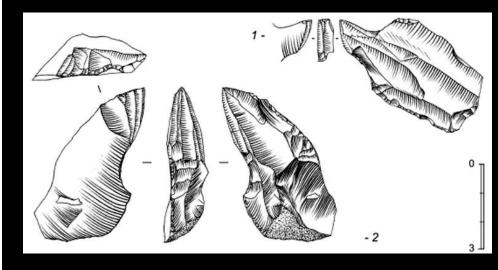
Grotte des Fées

1-8, edgeretouched Aurignacian blades; 9 and 12, thick, carinate end scrapers; 11, bladelet core on large flake; 13–16, inversely retouched Lamelles Dufour bladelets; 10, splitbase bone or antler point.

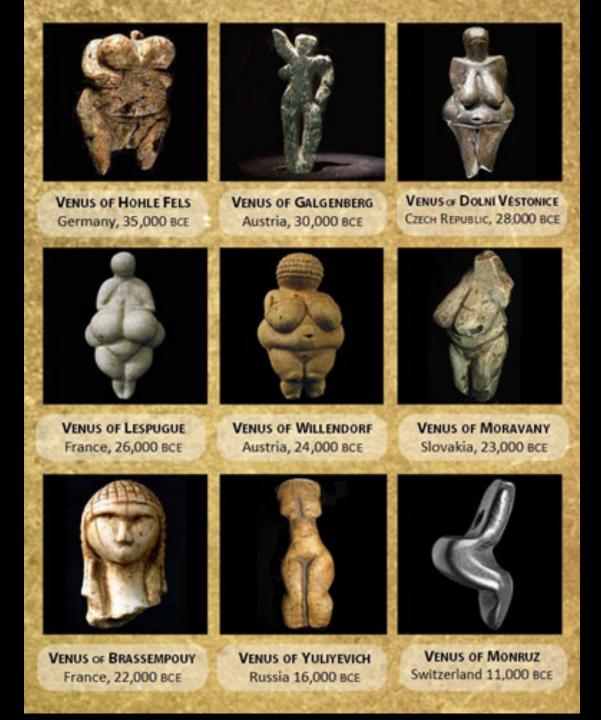


Dufour bladelets, (Lamelles Dufour) from Abri Pataud Level 8: Intermediate Aurignacian-a. (Movius 1977)





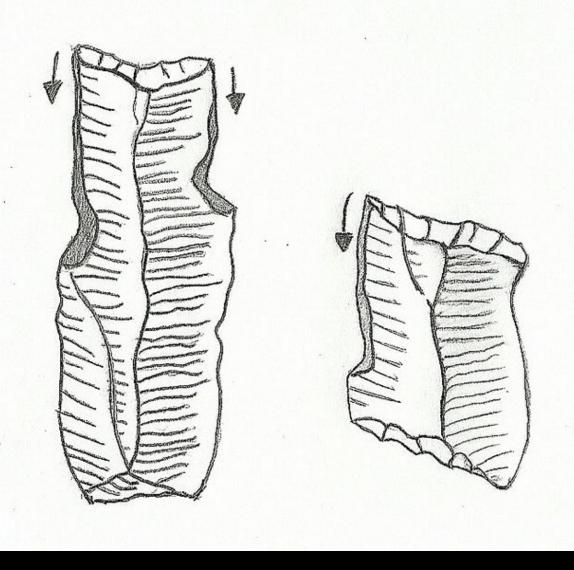
Beaked Burin







Gravettian point and shouldered point







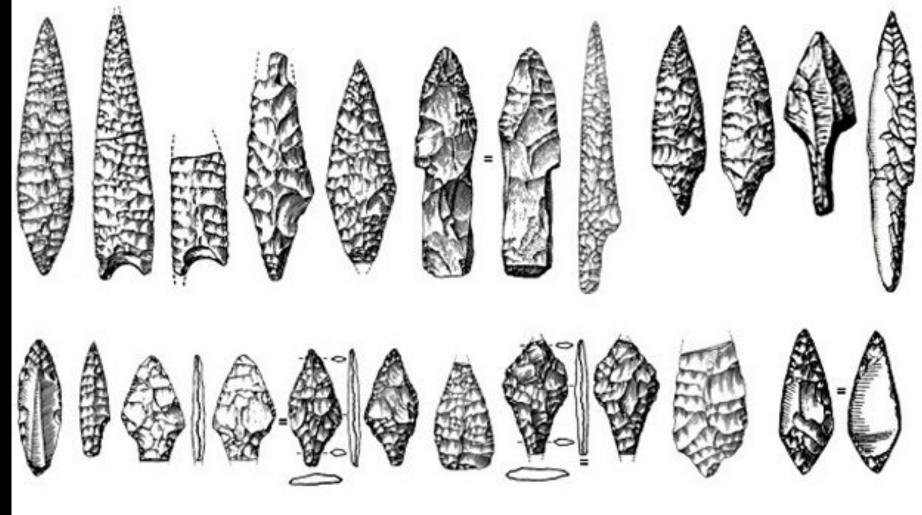




Noaillian Burins

	Backed microliths	Non-backed microliths	Typical points
Willendorf-Kostenkian: Petřkovice I, 24-21 ky BP			
Evolved Pavlovian: Pavlov I, 27-25 ky BP		0000	
Early Pavlovian: Doiní Věstonice II, around 27 ky BP			

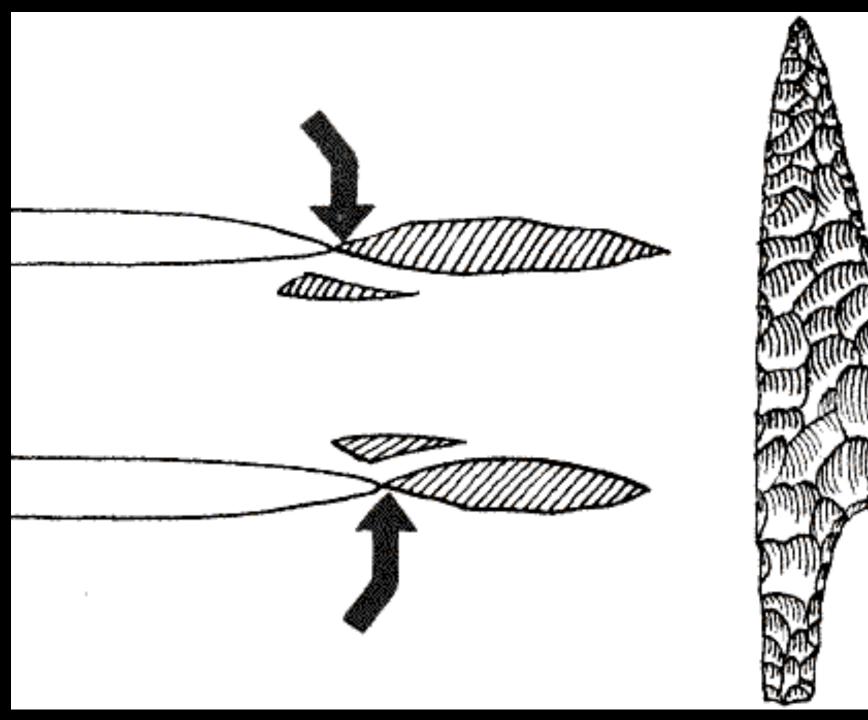
Central European Gravettian microliths

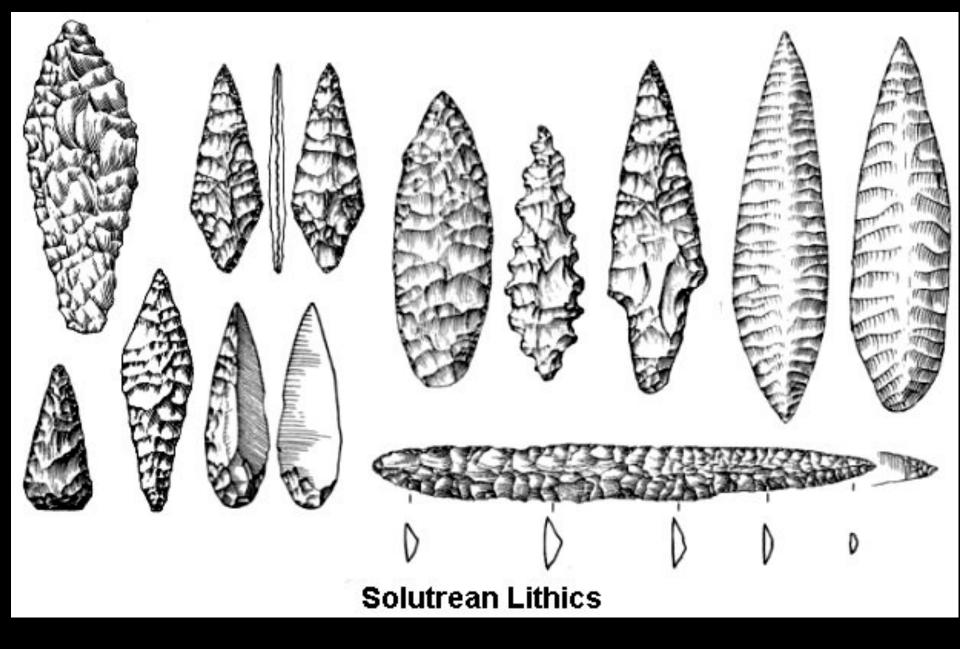


Solutrean Lithics

Philip E. L. Smith 1966 "Le Solutréen en France" Publications de l'Institut de Préhistoire de l'Université de Bordeaux, No. 5.

Solutrean: pressure flaking





Solutrean: pressure flaking



Solutrean Laurel-Leaf points from the Volgu cache, Le Volgu in the Department of Saonet-et Loire in eastern France (max 35 cm long)

Ihe Solutrean hypothesis



Dennis Stanford (Smithsonian) and Bruce Bradley (Exeter)

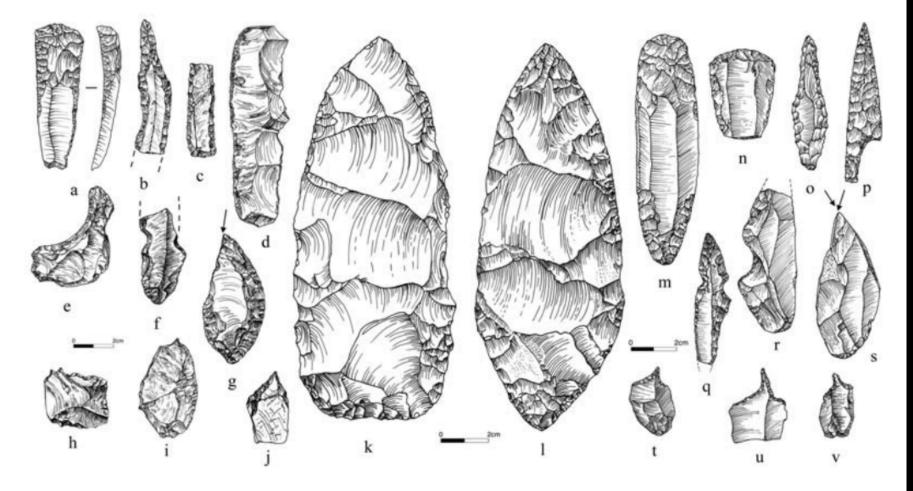


Figure 1 Clovis and Solutrean tools. a–k: Clovis; l–v: Solutrean; a, m–n: end scrapers on blades; b, o: borers; c: retouched bladelet; d: retouched blade; p: shouldered point; e, f, r: notches; g, s: burins; h–j, t–v: gravers. (a: Gault Site; b, c, j: Bostrum site; d, e: Simon Cache; f, g, i: Murray Springs; h: Blackwater Draw Locality 1; k: Fenn Cache; l: Solutré; m, q: Fourneau-du-Diable; n, r, s, t, u: Laugerie-Haute Ouest; o: Oulen; p: La Placard; v: La Riera.)

The North Atlantic ice-edge corridor: a possible Palaeolithic route to the New World. Bruce Bradley and Dennis Stanford. World Archaeology 2004 Vol. 36(4): 459 – 478.

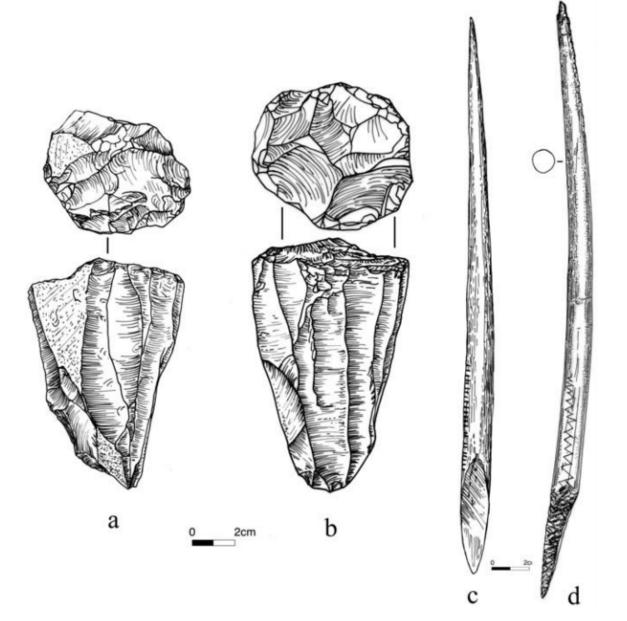
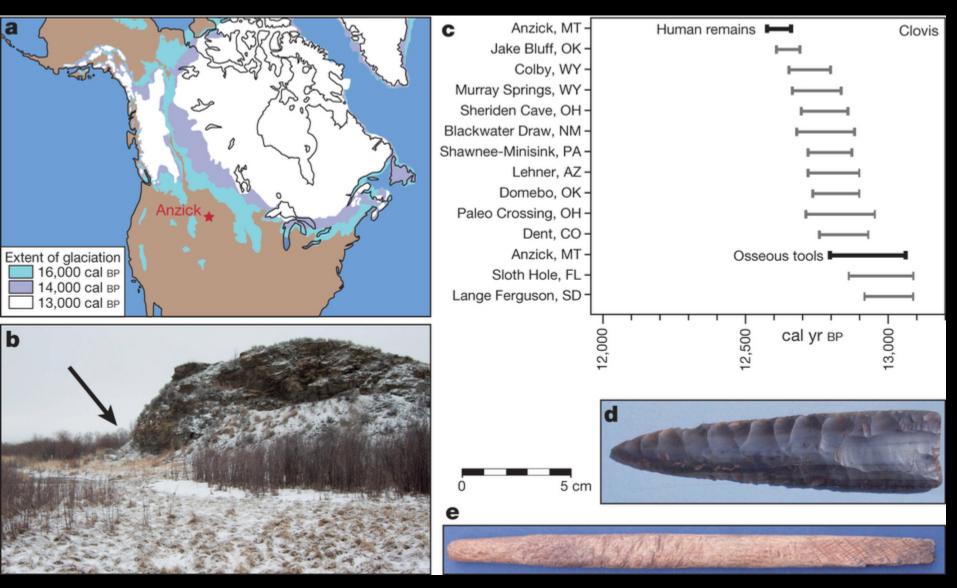


Figure 2 Solutrean and Clovis artefacts. a: Solutrean blade core from Les Maitreaux; b: Clovis blade core from Gault; c: Solutrean sagai from Grotte des Harpons; d: Clovis sagai from Aucilla River.

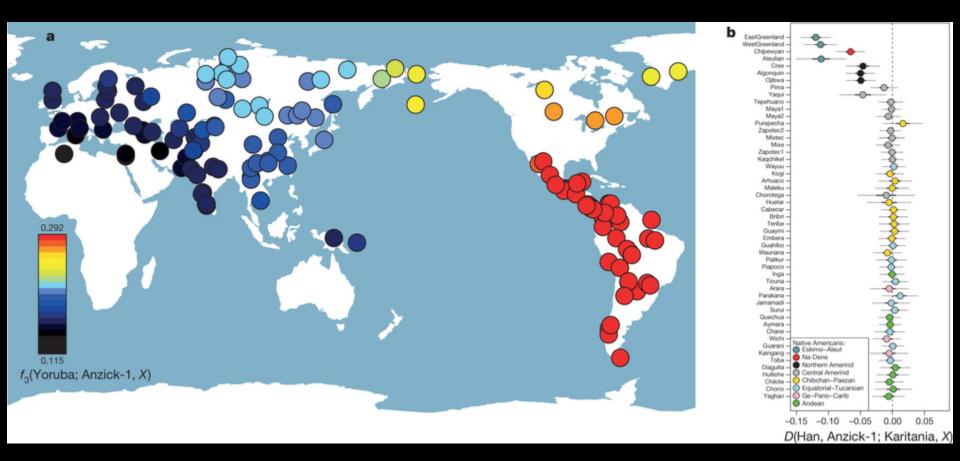
STONE AGE COLONISTS HOW EUROPEANS FIRST REACHED AMERICA



Rasmussen, M., Anzick, S. L., Waters, M. R., Skoglund, P., DeGiorgio, M., Stafford Jr, T. W., ... Willerslev, E. (2014). The genome of a Late Pleistocene human from a Clovis burial site in western Montana. *Nature*, *506*(7487), 225–229. doi:10.1038/nature13025



DNA from a male infant, buried approximately 12,600 years ago with ochre-covered Clovis artefacts at the Anzick site



"[The infant] belonged to a meta-population from which many contemporary Native Americans are descended and is closely related to all indigenous American populations. As such, contemporary Native Americans are effectively direct descendants of the people who made and used Clovis tools and buried this child. In agreement with previous archaeological and genetic studies, our genome analysis refutes the possibility that Clovis originated via a European (Solutrean) migration to the Americas."

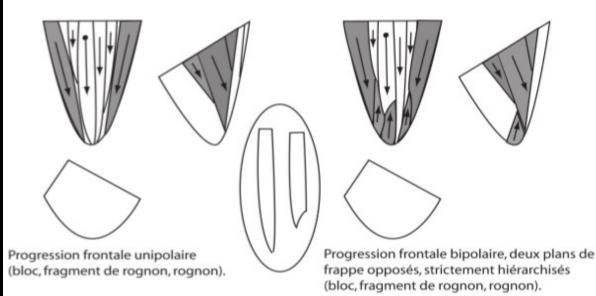
1. The Solutrean is too early. 2. Artefact size is wrong. 3. Lack of evidence of Solutrean seafaring 4. There's no fluted base in the Solutrean material.

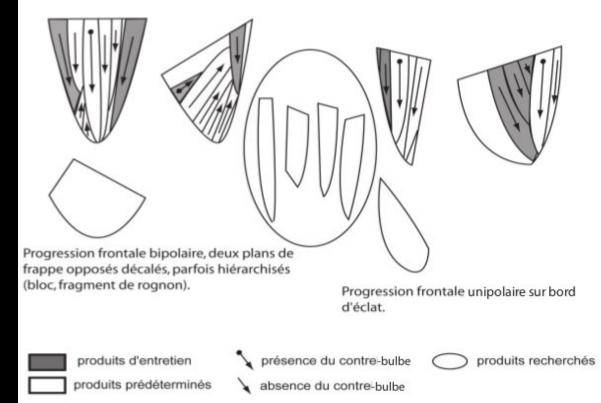




Magdalenien:

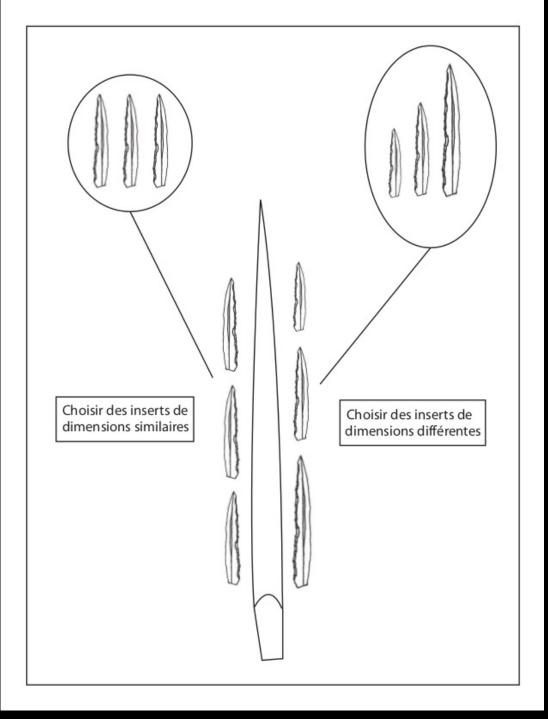
- Bone, antler, and ivory artefacts
- blade & scraper industries, carinated cores
- Lamelle à dos (backed bladelets)
- Lamelle denticulée (denticulate blades)







La Madeleine (Dordogne) Musée d'Archeologie Nationale et Domaine, St-Germain-en-Laye





Upper Palaeolithic in Europe