

Characterisation of Lithic Tools for Provenance Study

Wednesday, 6 March 2024 14:00 (15 minutes)

Lithic artefacts are important remains for comprehending the life of our Prehistoric ancestors. Indeed, reconstructing raw materials supply strategy is crucial in order to better understand socioecological dynamics, including mobility, territorial control and possible contacts. In the last years, analytical characterisation protocols have employed to identify the origin of lithic tools from archaeological contexts. This study shows the work carried out during the past few years on lithic materials from different areas of the Iberian Peninsula like Valencian Community and Cantabrian Mountains and the development of a multianalytical protocol based on both destructive and non-destructive approaches. The works pushed forward the characterisation of rocks from the two areas, permitting the identification of lithic materials from archaeological sites such as Cueva de la Cocina [1-2] and La Calvera rock-shelter [3]. The works carried out evidenced the effectiveness of rare earth elements as provenance markers. Furthermore, an innovative approach based on smartphone imaging colorimetry characterisation was tested for the first time.

Acknowledgements. The authors acknowledge PALARQ Foundation Analysis project 19/20 and the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation for funding the project EvolMED (PID2021-127731NB-C21). Mirco Ramacciotti acknowledges the support of the Margarita Salas Fellowship (MS21-176) funded by the Ministry of Universities (Spain).

Presenting author

Mirco Ramacciotti

Primary author: RAMACCIOTTI, Mirco (University of Valencia)

Co-authors: Dr DIEZ-CASTILLO, Agustín (University of Valencia); Dr PASTOR, Agustín (University of Valencia); Dr GALLELLO, Gianni (University of Valencia); Dr GARCÍA-PUCHOL, Oreto (University of Valencia)

Presenter: RAMACCIOTTI, Mirco (University of Valencia)

Session Classification: Cultural heritage, a testimony of the past and reference book for the future

Track Classification: General sessions: Cultural heritage, a testimony of the past and reference book for the future