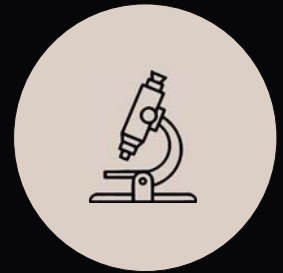
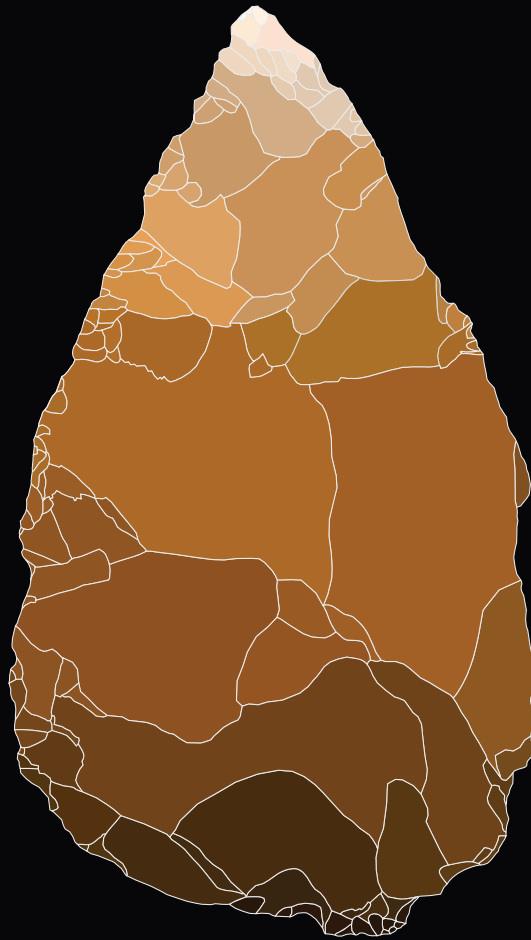


# ABSTRACT BOOK

16th SKAM Lithic Workshop



„Fossil Directeur“  
A Phenomenon over Time and Space

21-23 October 2019 Nitra, Slovak Republic

**16<sup>th</sup> SKAM Lithic Workshop**  
***“Fossil directeur” - A phenomenon over time and space***

**21–23 of October 2019, Nitra, Slovak Republic**

**ABSTRACT BOOK**

Adrián Nemergut, Ivan Cheben, Jaroslava Ruttkayová, Katarzyna Pyżewicz (eds.)

**NITRA 2019**

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Institute of Archaeology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Nitra, Slovak Republic

**Ivan Cheben**

Institute of Archaeology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Nitra, Slovak Republic

**Jaroslava Ruttkayová**

Ponitrianske múzeum, Nitra, Slovak Republic

**Katarzyna Pyżewicz**

Department of Archaeology, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poznań, Poland

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# **ABSTRACTS**

## **Aurignacian industry types and their «fossiles directeurs» in the Carpathian Basin and East Bohemian Massif: a new study attempt**

Yuri E. DEMIDENKO, Petr ŠKRDLA, Sándor BÉRES, Béla RÁCZ

In spite of more than a century long Aurignacian studies in the Carpathian Basin and East Bohemian Massif of the Middle Danube region (since the discovery of Krems-Hundssteig site – Strobl & Obermaier 1909) and even some synthesis works done during last 10 years (e.g. Nigst 2012; Demidenko, Škrdla, Nejman 2017; Chu 2018), understanding of various Aurignacian industries and their specific artifacts (“fossils directeurs / fossil types”) is still far from clear. The present study attempts to summarize some data from the most understandable so far for us sites and their materials on the subject using an Aurignacian *sensu stricto* chronological-industrial type sequence.

Proto-Aurignacian / Aurignacian 0 is the only now Aurignacian industry type that can be placed into the time period preceding Heinrich Event 4 (HE-4) and Campanian Ignimbrite (CI) eruption, ca. 46 000 – 40 000 cal BP, GI-12 – GI-9. Proto-Aurignacian “fossil types” can be seen through the presence of serial bladelet “carinated” cores, lamelles Dufour of Dufour sub-type and Krems points. Proto-Aurignacian sites are known in Lower Austria (Krems-Hundssteig), Romanian Banat (Coșava, Romanești-Dumbrăvița, Tincova), Ukrainian Transcarpathia (Beregovo I), possibly some materials in Vojvodina’s Banat (Crvenka-At) and maybe in Eastern Resava (Orlovača cave, levels 4-3c) in Serbia, as well as in Eastern Slovakia (e.g. Tibava).

Early Aurignacian / Aurignacian I geochronologically slightly postdates CI / HE-4, being probably connected to ca. 39 – 37 000 cal BP, GS-9 – GI-8 episode. Its “fossils directeurs” occur in a view of antler split-based points, lithic wide-fronted carinated endscraper-cores and blades with Aurignacian retouch. However, the known possible and scarce Early Aurignacian assemblages in the region until now have either the antler points (Istállóskő, lower layer in Bükk Mountains of North-Eastern Hungary) or characteristic lithics (Senftenberg and maybe a part of layer 3 at Willendorf II in Lower Austria) that makes Early Aurignacian as poorly understood yet industry type in the region. At the same time, geochronologically separating Proto-Aurignacian and Early Aurignacian industry types CI / HE-4 is one more argument against recognition of any “Aurignacian 0.5” (e.g. Sitlivy et al. 2012: 126–127), falsely

combining artifact features of both Proto-Aurignacian and Early Aurignacian (see critics in Demidenko, Škrdla, Nejman 2017: 8).

Middle Aurignacian // Aurignacian II is related to interval of ca. 37-36 000 – 34 000 cal BP, GI-7 – GI-6. By lithic types, it is the best seen with the occurrence of nosed / shouldered endscraper-cores and often Middle Paleolithic-looking laterally retouched pieces. This is also the only Aurignacian industry type of flakey debitage character frequently technologically connected to radial and discoidal core reduction methods caused by a need in thick flakes as blanks for the endscraper-cores and retouched tools, although blade, blade/bladelet and bladelet cores do also variably present. Nowadays two type-like sites are known in Lower Austria (Willendorf II, layer 4) and Southern Moravia (Napajedla III / Napajedla-Zámoravi), although in Southern Moravia Milovice I site, Nova Dědina and Žlutava surface find spots do likely belong to the industry type, as well as finds from Bukovac Cave, level 3b in Eastern Resava, Serbia. Its surface finds have also been found in Eastern Slovakia (Medzany) and Mátra Mountains in North-Eastern Hungary (Nagyréde 1-2). Namely, the discussing Middle Aurignacian // Aurignacian II loci in the Carpathian Basin and East Bohemian Massif represent Aurignacian human moves from Europe via the Balkans (see Klissoura Cave 1, layers IV and IIIId–g, North-Western Peloponnese in Southern Greece) into the East Mediterranean Levant where the industry type is named “Classic Levantine Aurignacian”.

Evolved Aurignacian with Góra Puławska II-type microliths was recently defined in Central and Eastern Europe (Demidenko, Škrdla, Nejman 2017: 32-33) and it likely dates to ca. 36 000 – 32 000 cal BP, GI-7 – GI-5. At present, it seems likely to us that lithic assemblages of the industry type do continue Early Aurignacian lithic treatment tradition with the availability of serial wide-fronted carinated endscraper-cores and some blades recalling the ones having Aurignacian retouch, although antler split-based points never occur and, at the same time, specific Góra Puławska II-type microliths with dorsal retouch are the novel feature there. The sites of the industry type are well recognized in the East Bohemian Massif (Stránská skála IIa, layer 4, Stránská skála IIa, layer 3, Stránská skála II, Stránská skála IIIa, Stránská skála IIIb, Lišeň VIII / Lišeň-Nad vyhonem in Southern Moravia and Alberndorf I in Lower Austria) but they have to be yet defined within the Carpathian Basin.

In conclusion it is seen that the conducted Aurignacian study for the analyzed four industry types in the Carpathian Basin and East Bohemian Massif certainly shows the validity of particular “fossils directeurs” for each Aurignacian industry type allowing a better understanding of complex industrial multi-structure for Aurignacian techno-complex throughout various regions of Western Eurasia.

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## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**Asheichyk, V.**

independent researcher, Minsk, Belarus  
vitali.asheichyk@gmail.com

**Bartík, J.**

Museum of Moravian Slovakia Uherské Hradiště, Smetanovy sady 179,  
686 01 Uherské Hradiště, Czech Republic  
adraj.bartik@gmail.com

**Béres, S.**

Bokros st. 33, 2011 Budakalász, Hungary  
sberes1956@gmail.com

**Bielińska-Majewska, B.**

Distict Museum in Toruń, Department of Achaeology, Rynek Staromiejski 1, 87-100 Toruń,  
Poland  
bmmajewscy@gmail.com

**Burdukiewicz, J. M.**

University of Wroclaw, Institute of Archaeology, Szewska 48, 51-139 Wrocław, Poland  
janmibur@gmail.com

**Cieśla, M.**

Institute of Archaeology, Jagiellonian University, ul. Gołębia 11, 31-007 Cracow, Poland  
magda.ciesla@uj.edu.pl

**Cheben, M.**

Institute of Archaeology Slovak Academy of Sciences, Akademická 2, 949 21 Nitra, Slovak  
Republic  
michal.cheben@savba.sk

**Chłoń, M.**

Institute of Archaeology, University of Wroclaw, Szewska 48, 50-139, Wrocław, Poland  
marcinchlون@gmail.com

**Demidenko, Yu. E.**

Ferenc Rákóczi II Transcarpathian Hungarian Institute, Kossuth square 6, 90200 Berehove,  
Ukraine;  
Institute of archaeology NASU, Geroyiv Stalingrada av. 12, Kyiv 04210, Ukraine  
yu.e.demidenko@gmail.com

**Eigner, J.**

National museum (Národní muzeum) Praha, Václavské náměstí 68, 110 00 Praha 1, Czech  
Republic  
jan\_eigner@nm.cz



**Gerasimov, D.**

Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (the Kunstkamera), 199034,  
University Emb., Saint-Petersburg, Russia  
dger@kunstkamera.ru

**Ginter, B.**

Institute of Archaeology, Jagiellonian University, Gołębia 11, 31-007 Cracow, Poland  
bolgint38@wp.pl

**Gruzdź, W.**

State Archaeological Museum in Warsaw, Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Department, Długa 52  
– Arsenal, 00-241 Warsaw, Poland  
wittold@gmail.com

**Gryczewska, N.**

Institute of Archaeology University of Warsaw, Krakowskie Przedmieście 26/28, 00-927  
Warsaw, Poland  
n.gryczewska@uw.edu.pl

**Kaczor, M.**

Department of Archaeology, Adam Mickiewicz University, Umultowska 89D, 61-614, Poznań,  
Poland  
maciejkaczor0306@o2.pl

**Kerneder-Gubała, K.**

Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology Polish Academy of Sciences, Solidarności alej 105,  
00-140 Warsaw, Poland  
gubalka@poczta.fm

**Klaric, L.**

CNRS, UMR-7055, PRETEC, Universite de Paris-Ouest-Nanterre-La Defense, 21 allée de  
l'Université, 92023 Nanterre, France  
laurent.klaric@mae.u-paris10.fr

**Klecha, A.**

The Antiquity of Southeastern Europe Research University of Warsaw, Smyczkowa 11/9A,  
02-678 Warsaw, Poland  
aleksandraaklecha@gmail.com

**Kościuk-Zalupka, J.**

Jagiellonian University, Street Golebia 11, 31-007 Cracow, Poland  
u.kosciuk@gmail.com

**Kot, M.**

Institute of Archaeology University of Warsaw, Krakowskie Przedmieście 26/28, 00-927  
Warsaw, Poland  
m.kot@uw.edu.pl

**Lengyel, G.**

University of Miskolc, Egyetem utca 1, 3515 Miskolc (Egyetemváros), Hungary  
bolengyu@uni-miskolc.hu

**Leonova, E.**

Institute of archaeology RAS, Dm. Ulyanova st. 19, 117292 Moscow, Russia  
lenischa@yandex.ru

**Markó, A.**

Hungarian National Museum, 14-16 Múzeum körút, H - 1088 Budapest, Hungary  
markoa@hnm.hu

**Mester, Z.**

Institute of Archaeological Sciences, Eötvös Loránd University, Múzeum krt. 4/B, 1088 Budapest, Hungary  
mester.zsolt@btk.elte.hu

**Michalec, G.**

Institute of Archaeology, University of Wrocław, Szewska 48, 50-139, Wrocław, Poland  
282397@uwr.edu.pl

**Migal, W.**

State Archaeological Museum in Warsaw, Rescue Archeology Department, Długa 52 –  
Arsenał, 00-241 Warszawa, Poland  
awmigal@gmail.com

**Moník, M.**

Palacky University, Department of Geology, 17. listopadu 1192/12, 771 46 Olomouc, Czech Republic  
martin.monik@gmail.com

**Muraviev, R.**

independent researcher  
alcesalces243@gmail.com

**Nemergut, A.**

Institute of Archaeology Slovak Academy of Sciences, Akademická 2, 949 21 Nitra, Slovak Republic  
adrian.nemergut@gmail.com

**Neruda, P.**

Anthropos Institute, Moravian Museum, Zelný trh 6, 65937 Brno, Czech Republic  
pneruda@mzm.cz

**Nerudová, Z.**

Centre for Cultural Anthropology, Moravian Museum, Zelný trh 6, 65937 Brno, Czech Republic  
znerudova@mzm.cz

**Novák, M.**

Institute of Archaeology of the Czech Academy of Sciences - Brno, Paleolithic and Paleoanthropology Research Center, Dolní Věstonice 25, 691 29 Dolní Věstonice, Czech Republic  
novak@arub.cz

**Otcherednoy, A.**

Institute for the History of Material Culture affiliated of Russian Academy of Science, Dvortsovaya emb. 18, 119861 Saint-Petersburg, Russia  
a.otcherednoy@gmail.com

**Péntek, A.**

Késmárki utca 27, 2143 Kistarcsa, Hungary  
attila.pentek@yahoo.com

**Pérez, S. D.**

Departamento de Prehistoria y Arqueología, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Campus de Cantoblanco, 28049 Madrid, Spain  
sara.dizp@predoc.uam.es

**Plaza, D.**

Muzeum Okregowe w Sandomierzu/District Museum in Sandomierz, Zamkowa 12, 27-600 Sandomierz, Poland  
d.k.plaza@zamek-sandomierz.pl, kacpros@hotmail.com

**Polanská, M.**

Institute of Archaeology of the Czech Academy of Sciences - Brno, Paleolithic and Paleoanthropology Research Center, Dolní Věstonice 25, 691 29 Dolní Věstonice, Czech Republic  
polanska@arub.cz

**Przeździecki, M.**

Institute of Archaeology University of Warsaw, Krakowskie Przedmieście 26/28, 00-927 Warsaw, Poland  
michal.przezdziecki@gmail.com

**Přichystal, A.**

Masaryk University, Kotlářská 2, 61137 Brno, Czech Republic  
prichy@sci.muni.cz

**Pyżewicz, K.**

Department of Archaeology, Adam Mickiewicz University, Umultowska 89D, 61-614 Poznań, Poland  
kpyzewicz@gmail.com

**Rácz, B.**

Ferenc Rakoczi II, Transcarpathian Hungarian Institute, Kossuth square 6, 902 00 Berehove, Ukraine  
adarats@gmail.com

**Rios-Garaizar, J.**

Centro Nacional de Investigacion sobre la Evolucion Humana, 090 02 Burgos, Spain  
joseba.rios@cenieh.es

**Różok, Z.**

Institute of Archaeology, University of Wrocław, Szewska 48, 50-139, Wrocław, Poland  
thezosiar@gmail.com

**Rychtaříková, T.**

Institute of Archaeology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Čechyňská 19, 602 00  
Brno, Czech Republic  
nienna11@gmail.com

**Slah, G.**

Vilnius Academy of Arts, Maironio st. 6, LT-01124 Vilnius, Lithuania  
qwidar@gmail.com

**Sobczyk, K.**

Institute of Archaeology, Jagiellonian University, Gołębia 11, 31-007 Cracow, Poland  
krzysztof.sobczyk@uj.edu.pl

**Soják, M.**

Institute of Archaeology Slovak Academy of Sciences, Mlynská 6, 052 01 Spišská Nová Ves,  
Slovak Republic  
sojak@ta3.sk

**Stefański, D.**

Archaeological Museum in Kraków, Senacka 3, 31-002, Cracow, Poland  
damian.stefanski@ma.krakow.pl

**Sudol-Procyk, M.**

Institute of Archaeology, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, Szosa Bydgoska St. No  
44/48, 87-100 Toruń, Poland  
sudol@umk.pl

**Škrdla, P.**

Czech Academy of Sciences, Institute of Archaeology - Brno, Čechyňská 363/19, 602 00 Brno,  
Czech Republic  
ps8a@seznam.cz

**Teska, S.**

Adam Mickiewicz University, st. Uniwersytetu Poznańskiego 7, 61-614, Poznań, Poland  
sebastian.teska@gmail.com

**Tkach, E.**

Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (the Kunstkamera), 199034,  
University Emb., Saint-Petersburg, Russia  
evgeniia.tkach@gmail.com

**Tkachou, A.**

Institute of History of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, Akademic st. 1, 220072  
Minsk, Belarus  
aleh.tkachou@gmail.com

**Tkachova, M.**

Institute of History of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, Akademic st. 1, 220072  
Minsk, Belarus  
tkachova.maryia@gmail.com

**Valde-Nowak, P.**

Institute of Archaeology, Jagiellonian University, Gołębia 11, 31-007 Cracow, Poland  
p.valde-nowak@uj.edu.pl

**Vashanau, A.**

Institute of History of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, Akademic st. 1, 220072  
Minsk, Belarus  
vashanau@gmail.com

**Werra, D. H.**

The Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Aleja Solidarnosci  
105, 00-140 Warsaw, Poland  
dagmarawerra@yahoo.com

**Wilczyński, J.**

Institute of Systematics and Evolution of Animals, Polish Academy of Sciences, Sławkowska  
17, 31-016 Cracow, Poland  
jaslov@wp.pl

**Wiśniewski, A.**

Institute of Archaeology, University of Wrocław, Szewska 48, 50-139, Wrocław, Poland  
andrzej.wisniewski@uni.wroc.pl

**Wydrzycki, A.**

Institute of Archaeology, Jagiellonian University, Gołębia St. 11, 31-007 Cracow, Poland  
albert.wydrzycki@gmail.com

**Zajac, M.**

Archaeological Museum in Kraków, Senacka 3, 31-002 Cracow, Poland  
mzzajac@outlook.com

**Zandler, K.**

Ferenczy Museum Center, Fő tér 2-5, 2000 Szentendre, Hungary  
zkrisztian77@yahoo.com, krisztian.zandler@muzeumicentrum.hu

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