

PROVENANCE STUDY OF OBSIDIAN STONE TOOLS WITH PGAA – NEW RESULTS WITHIN THE TéT PROJECT

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OBSIDIAN

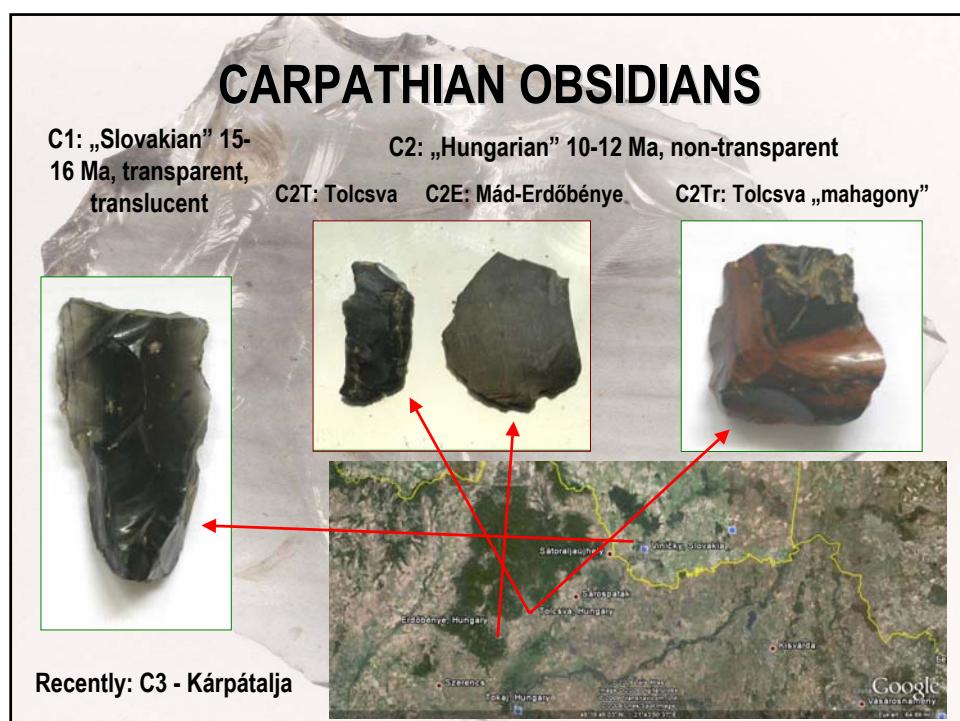
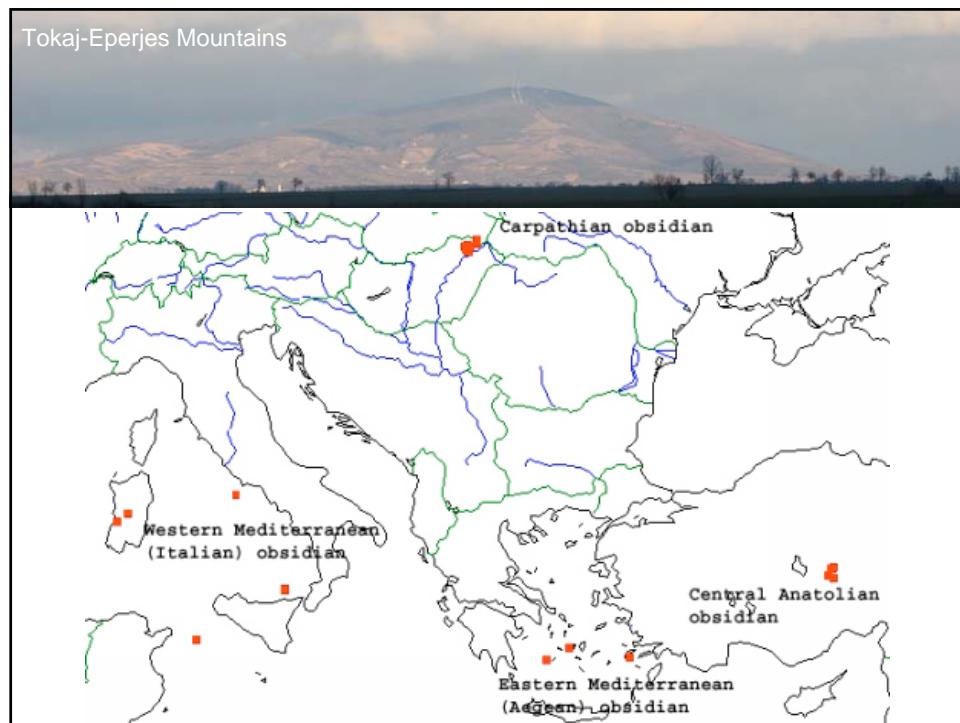
- Quenched igneous rock (rock glass of rhyolitic composition)
- Obsidians are typically young rocks of Tertiary or Quaternary age

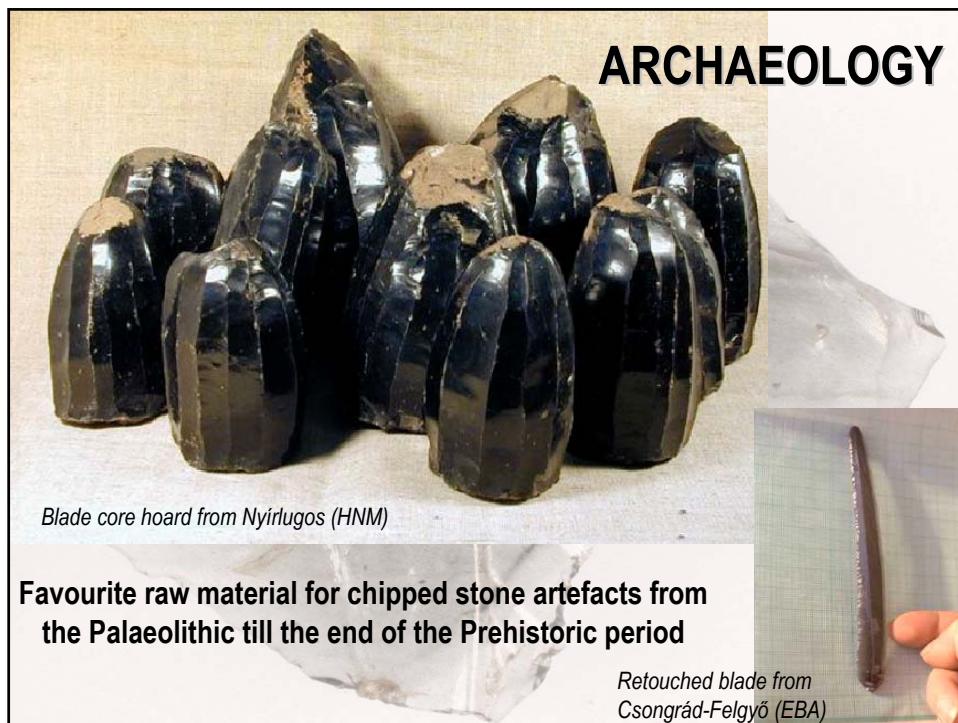


Bodrogzserdahely: Primary geological occurrence



Vinicky: Secondary geological occurrence in ryolite tufa





TASKS (ARCHAEOOMETRY)

Provenance study of archaeological objects - based on non-destructive chemical analysis (**PGAA**)

Earlier: Classification of archaeological pieces and raw materials from the Carpathian region

- 2008-2009: Provenance study of artefacts from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina (TéT project)

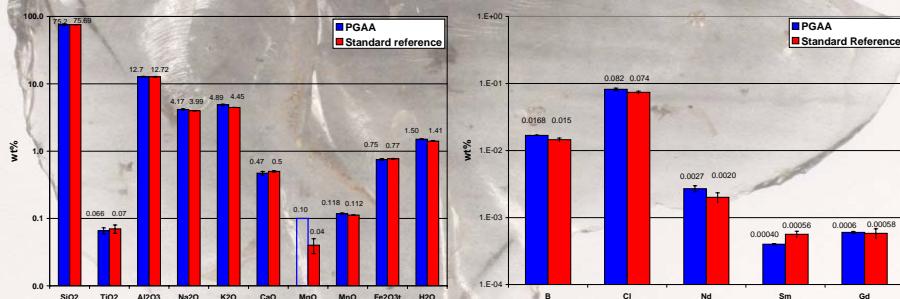
What is the origin of raw materials of Croatian and Bosnian artefacts?

The Carpathian or the Mediterranean region?

(There is no local geological source in Croatia!)

PROMPT GAMMA ACTIVATION ANALYSIS

- Major components: SiO₂, TiO₂, Fe₂O₃, MnO, Al₂O₃, CaO, (MgO), K₂O, Na₂O, H₂O
- Traces: B, Cl, Nd, Sm, Gd

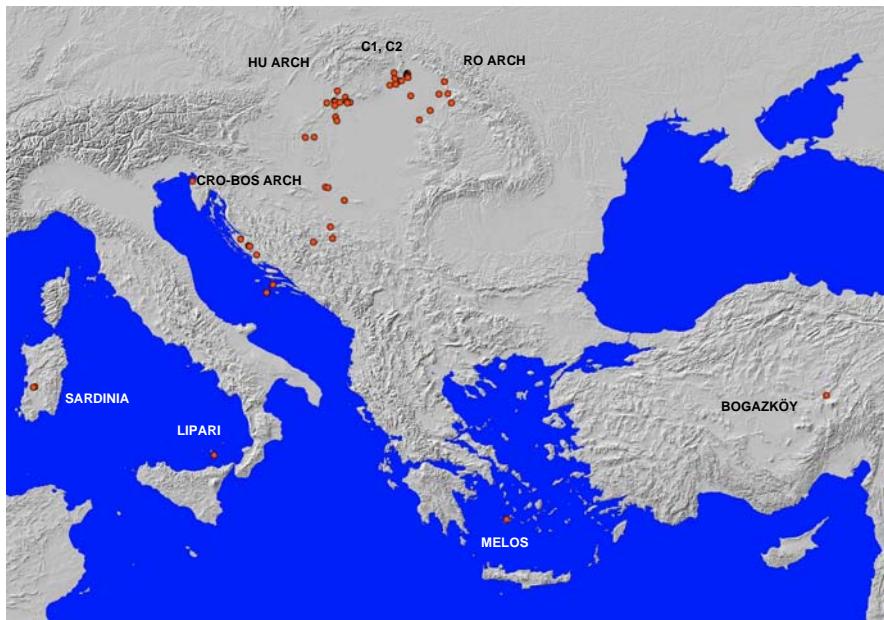


JR-2 geological standard (ryolite – Wada Toge obsidian / Geological Survey of Japan)

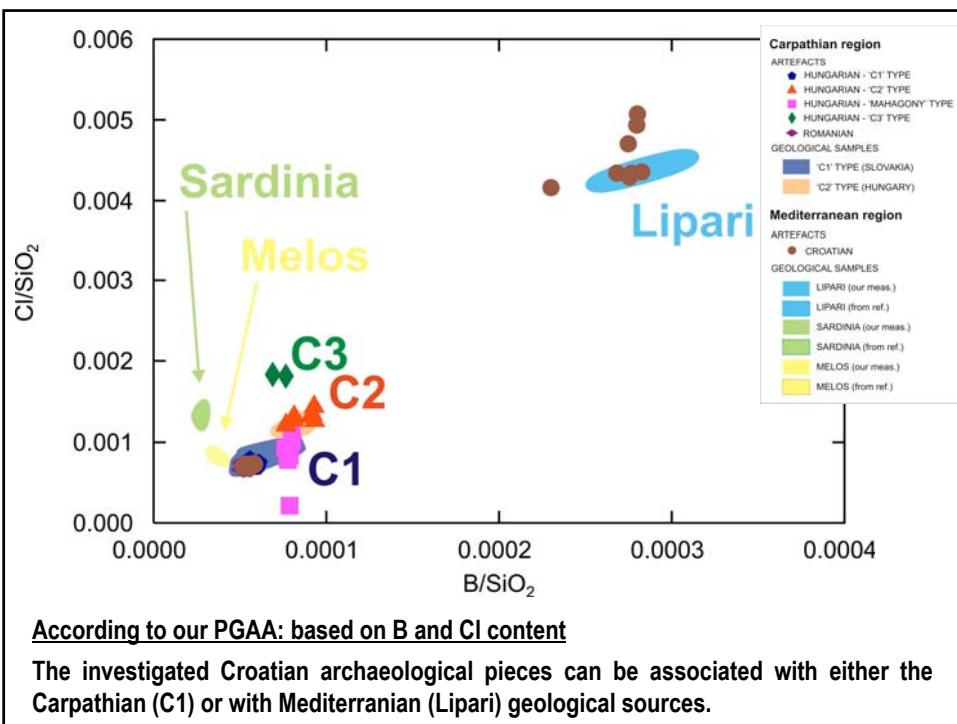
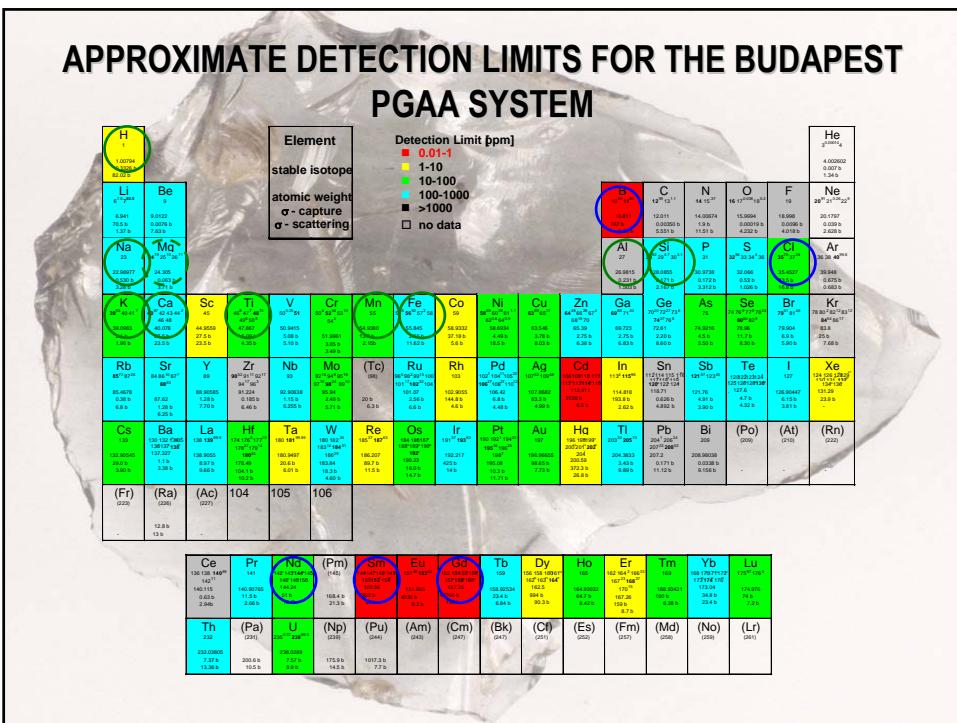
WE HAVE STUDIED WITH PGAA

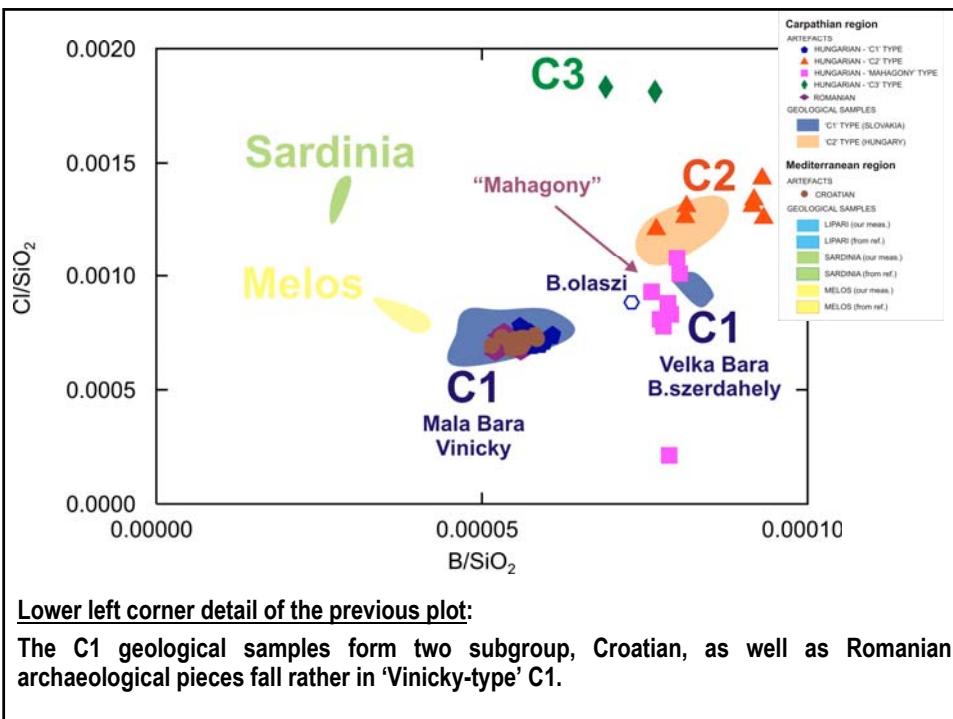
- 26 Croatian and Bosnian archaeological finds
- 28 Hungarian archaeological finds
(Hundreds were investigated earlier with EDS-XRF, but non-Carpathian origin was not indicated)
- 5 Romanian archaeological finds
- 20 Carpathian (C1, C2 and C3) geological samples
- 6 Mediterranean (Lipari, Sardinia and Melos) geological samples
- + 126 reference data from the literature was used for Mediterranean region

MAP OF OCCURANCES



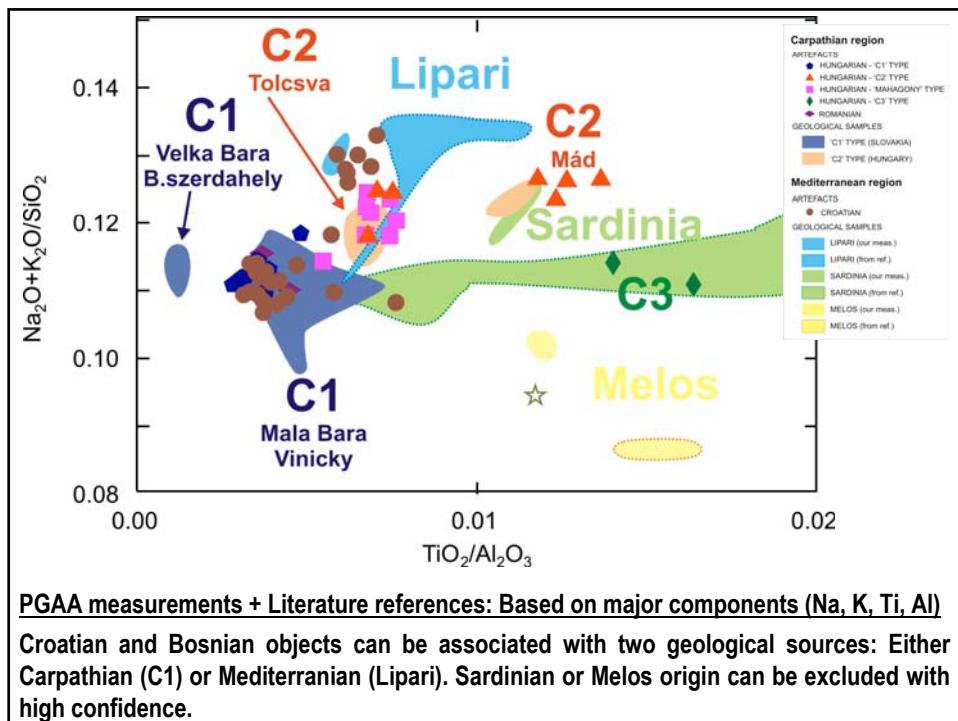
RESULTS





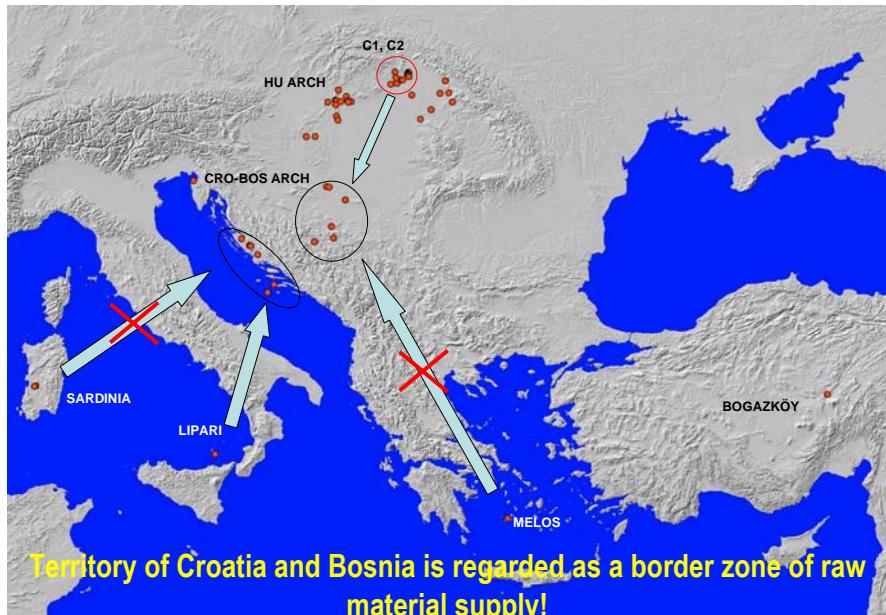
REFERENCES USED FOR DATA COMPARISON

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- Luglie, C., Le Bourdonnec, F.-X., Poupeau, G., Atzeni, E., Dubernet, S., Moretto, P., Serani, L. (2007) Journal of Archaeological Science, 34, 428-439 (**PIXE**)
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CONCLUSIONS

- Croatian archaeological finds – without local geological sources – can be associated with Carpathian (C1) or Mediterranean (Lipari) sources.
- Within the Carpathian obsidians, C1, C2 and C3 can be distinguished.
- Sardinia and Melos can be excluded from the possible sources of raw materials.
- Problem: Literature can not be used for comparison of B and Cl data.
- Again, we have to emphasize the importance of **non-destructive** study – because of the small number of archaeological finds.



PUBLICATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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- Zs. Kasztovszky, K. T. Biró, A. Markó, V. Dobosi: Cold neutron prompt gamma activation analysis – a non-destructive method for characterisation of high silica content chipped stone tools and raw materials, *Archaeometry*, 2008, 50, 1, 12-29.

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!