Consumption patterns of last hunter gatherers and first farmer societies in the North-East of the Iberian Peninsula: a comparative approach using FTIR-ATR analyses in animal burned bones

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Résumé

The study of burned faunal remains might be a way to investigate prehistoric cooking techniques to prepare meal of animal origin. Our previous analyses using FTIR – ATR measurements on faunal remains from Bauma del Serrat del Pont (NE Iberian Peninsula, 6600 cal ANE / 3340 – 2935 CAL ANE) allowed us to distinguish 5 groups of thermoalteration according to their chemical markers and its damage' degree. Some of these marks may have correspondence with the culinary treatment applied. Indeed, this mentioned study demonstrated that Mesolithic groups who lived in this rock shelter they already boiled the meal. The aim of the current work is to apply this tested approach to the faunal assemblage of Cova del Vidre (NE Iberian Peninsula 6264 cal ANE / 5161 cal ANE). The obtained results permits to better evaluate the efficiency of the FTIR analysis in the study of the burned bones, as well as deepen in the knowledge of changes in the culinary practices and consume habits that took place at the beginning of Neolithic in the North East of the Iberian Peninsula.

Mots-Clés: burned bones, FTIR, ATR, cooking techniques, zooarchaeology, Iberian Peninsula, Neolithic

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