

**Tracking technological changes across the Last Glacial Maximum:
a diachronic perspective on the Gravettian-Epigravettian
archaeological record from the Eastern Carpathians (northeastern
Romania)**

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Archaeological research over the last decade at several sites from the Bistrița Valley (northeastern Romania) have considerably redefined the chronological and cultural framework of the regional Upper Palaeolithic sequence. The archaeological record from six recently reassessed sites (Bistricioara-Lutărie I, III, Mal, Poiana Cireșului, Buda and Lespezi) documents the Gravettian-Epigravettian succession between 28 and 16 kyr cal BP.

The archaeological layers from the six selected sites provided consistent lithic assemblages of 1,000 to 6,000 artifacts, illustrate important differences in terms of technological and typological variability raw material selection, flake and laminar blank production and formal tools. While the lithic material variability alone offers only a glimpse of the cultural background as a whole, it nevertheless manages to both support and nuance the chronologically-secure continuity of human presence in the area during the peak of the LGM.