

Contents

1	Introduction	17
2	The Middle to Upper Palaeolithic transition: Background information	23
2.1	The late Middle Palaeolithic	23
2.2	The transitional technocomplexes	24
2.3	The Bohunician	26
2.4	The Proto-Aurignacian and Early Aurignacian	27
3	Models, model expectations, theoretical background, and methods	29
3.1	Models and model expectations	29
3.2	Technological style and units of analysis	34
3.3	Raw material transformation and reduction sequence	37
3.3.1	Idealized reduction sequence	37
3.3.2	Raw material transformation	46
3.4	Attribute analysis	50
3.4.1	Attribute Group A	52
3.4.2	Attribute group B	52
3.4.3	Attribute group C	52
3.4.4	Attribute group D	53
3.4.5	Attribute group E	54
3.4.6	Attribute group F	54
3.4.7	Attribute group G	55
3.4.8	Attribute group H	55
3.4.9	Attribute group I	56
3.4.10	Attribute group J	57
3.4.11	Attribute group K	58
3.5	Refitting analysis	60
3.6	Describing and comparing the reduction sequences	61
3.7	Summary	64
4	Sites and sampling strategy	67
4.1	Willendorf II	68
4.1.1	Site location	68
4.1.2	History of research	68
4.1.3	Stratigraphy	73
4.1.4	Site formation and excavation strategy	78
4.1.5	Studied assemblages and sampling strategies	80

4.2	Vedrovice V	82
4.2.1	Site location	82
4.2.2	History of research	82
4.2.3	Stratigraphy	84
4.2.4	Site formation and excavation strategy	84
4.2.5	Studied assemblage and sampling strategy	86
4.3	Stratzing 94	86
4.3.1	Site location	86
4.3.2	History of research	87
4.3.3	Stratigraphy	88
4.3.4	Site formation and excavation strategy	89
4.3.5	Studied assemblages and sampling strategy	89
4.4	Stránská skála IIIc	90
4.4.1	Site location	90
4.4.2	History of research	91
4.4.3	Stratigraphy	92
4.4.4	Site formation and excavation strategy	93
4.4.5	Studied assemblages and sampling strategy	94
4.5	Assemblages used for comparison	95
4.5.1	Kůlna Cave-Layer 7a	95
4.5.2	Stránská skála IIIa-Layer 4	96
4.5.3	The grouped assemblages of Stránská skála IIa-Layer 4 and Stránská skála IIIa-Layer 3	97
4.6	Summary	97
5	Technological analysis	99
5.1	Willendorf II – AH 2	99
5.1.1	General assemblage description	99
5.1.2	Raw material procurement and transport (Step A)	99
5.1.3	Decortification and initial core preparation (Step B) and core preparation (Step C)	101
5.1.4	Blank production (Step D)	102
5.1.5	Tool production/modification, use, recycling, and re-use (steps E to H)	113
5.2	Willendorf II – AH 3	117
5.2.1	General assemblage description	117
5.2.2	Raw material procurement and transport (Step A)	117
5.2.3	Decortification and initial core preparation (Step B) and core preparation (Step C)	122
5.2.4	Blank production (Step D)	123
5.2.5	Tool production/modification, use, recycling, and re-use (Steps E to H)	130
5.3	Willendorf II – AH 4	136
5.3.1	General assemblage composition	136
5.3.2	Raw material procurement and transport (Step A)	138
5.3.3	Decortification and initial core preparation (Step B) and core preparation (Step C)	144
5.3.4	Blank production (Step D)	144
5.3.5	Tool production/modification, use, recycling, and re-use (Steps E to H)	166
5.4	Vedrovice V	171
5.4.1	General assemblage composition	171
5.4.2	Raw material procurement and transport (Step A)	172
5.4.3	Decortification and core preparation (Steps B and C)	174

5.4.4	Blank production (Step D)	174
5.4.5	Tool production/modification, use, recycling, and re-use (Steps E to H)	184
5.5	Stratzing 94 – AH 1	188
5.5.1	General assemblage composition	188
5.5.2	Raw material procurement and transport (Step A)	189
5.5.3	Decortification and initial core preparation (Step B) and core preparation (Step C)	190
5.5.4	Blank production (Step D)	190
5.5.5	Tool production/modification, use, recycling, and re-use (Steps E to H)	191
5.6	Stratzing 94 – AH 2	192
5.6.1	General assemblage composition	192
5.6.2	Raw material procurement and transport (Step A)	193
5.6.3	Decortification and initial core preparation (Step B) and core preparation (Step C)	198
5.6.4	Blank production (Step D)	199
5.6.5	Tool production/modification, use, recycling, and re-use (Steps E to H)	209
5.7	Stránská skála IIIc	213
5.7.1	General assemblage composition	213
5.7.2	Raw material procurement and transport (Step A)	213
5.7.3	Decortification and initial core preparation (Step B) and core preparation (Step C)	214
5.7.4	Blank production (Step D)	214
5.7.5	Tool production/modification, use, recycling, and re-use (Steps E to H)	216
5.8	Summary	216
6	Comparing the lithic technology	217
6.1	Operational sequences of the studied assemblages based on the data provided in Chapter 5	217
6.1.1	Vedrovice V	217
6.1.2	Willendorf II-AH 2	218
6.1.3	Willendorf II-AH 3	218
6.1.4	Willendorf II-AH 4	219
6.1.5	Stratzing 94-AH 1	219
6.1.6	Stratzing 94-AH 2	219
6.1.7	Stránská skála IIIc	220
6.2	A first comparison between the assemblages of Vedrovice V, Willendorf II-AH 2, Willendorf II-AH 3, Willendorf II-AH 4, Stratzing 94-AH 1, Stratzing 94-AH 2, Stránská skála IIIc, and other assemblages (data from literature)	220
6.3	Comparison of knapping behaviours along the operational sequences: Pair-wise assemblage comparison using a measure of difference	222
6.3.1	Comparing the assemblages of Willendorf II-AH 2, Willendorf II-AH 3, Willendorf II-AH 4, Vedrovice V, Stratzing 94-AH 2, and Stránská skála IIIc	222
6.3.2	Comparing the studied assemblages of Willendorf II-AH 2, Willendorf II-AH 3, Willendorf II-AH 4, Vedrovice V, Stratzing 94-AH 2, and Stránská skála IIIc with data from the literature for the assemblages of Kůlna Cave-Layer 7a, Stránská skála IIIa-Layer 4, and the grouped assemblages of Stránská skála IIa-Layer 4 and Stránská skála IIIa-Layer 3	249
6.4	Summary of the measures of difference: Differences and similarities between the assemblages of Willendorf II-AH 2, Willendorf II-AH 3, Willendorf II-AH 4, Vedrovice V, Stratzing 94-AH 2, and Stránská skála IIIc, Kůlna Cave-Layer 7a, Stránská skála IIIa-Layer 4, and the grouped assemblages of Stránská skála IIa-Layer 4 and Stránská skála IIIa-Layer 3.	285

7	The chronostratigraphic sequence of the Marine Isotope stage 3 of the Middle Danube region	289
8	Results and discussion	293
8.1	Evaluation of the method	293
8.2	The attribution of the assemblage of Willendorf II-AH 2	299
8.3	Bladelets in the EUP of the Middle Danube region	301
8.3.1	Bladelets in the Aurignacian of the Middle Danube region	301
8.3.2	Bladelets in the Szeletian and Bohunician of the Middle Danube region	307
8.3.3	Carinated pieces in the Szeletian and Bohunician of the Middle Danube region	308
8.4	What does the Middle to Upper Palaeolithic transition in the Middle Danube region look like?	310
8.5	Is there evidence of a local evolution of the Early Upper Palaeolithic without influence from outside?	315
8.6	Does the regional patterning of the EUP technocomplexes support an early or late appearance of the Aurignacian?	316
8.7	The question of a Proto-Aurignacian in Central Europe – The Krems-Hundssteig site and its evidence	318
8.8	Implications	323
8.8.1	The diffusion and stimulus diffusion models for the development of the Szeletian and the Bohunician/IUP as marker for the first AMH in Europe	323
8.8.2	Local evolution of the Châtelperronian, Lincombian-Ranisian-Jerzmanowician, and Uluzzian?	324
9	Conclusion	341
9.1	Archaeological results	342
9.1.1	The Szeletian of Willendorf II-AH 2	342
9.1.2	Bladelet production in the EUP of the Middle Danube region	342
9.1.3	Similarities in lithic technology between the Szeletian and Bohunician and no support for the local evolution model for the development of the Szeletian	343
9.1.4	Aurignacian during Greenland Interstadial 11 (44/42 ka cal BP) and its implications for the development of some of the transitional technocomplexes in Europe	343
9.2	Implications for the dispersal of anatomically modern humans into Europe	344
9.3	Implications and directions for future research	345
	References	347
	Key to figures and symbols	363
	List of figures	365
	List of tables	373