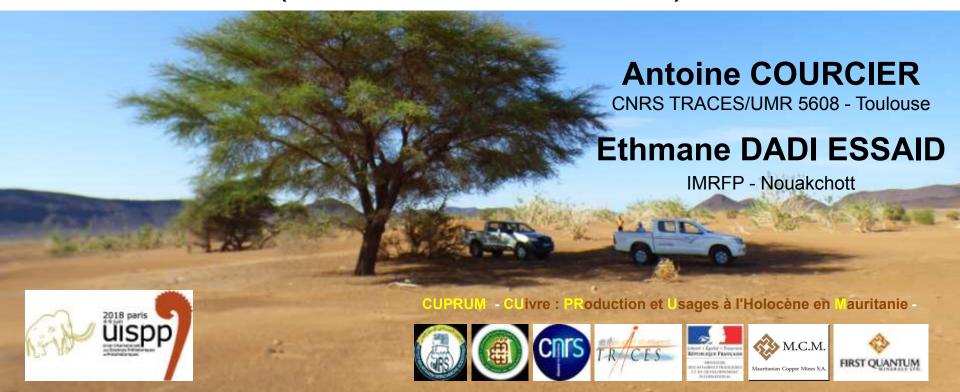
Origin(s) and development of metallurgy during

Holocen period in Saharo-Sahelian zone:

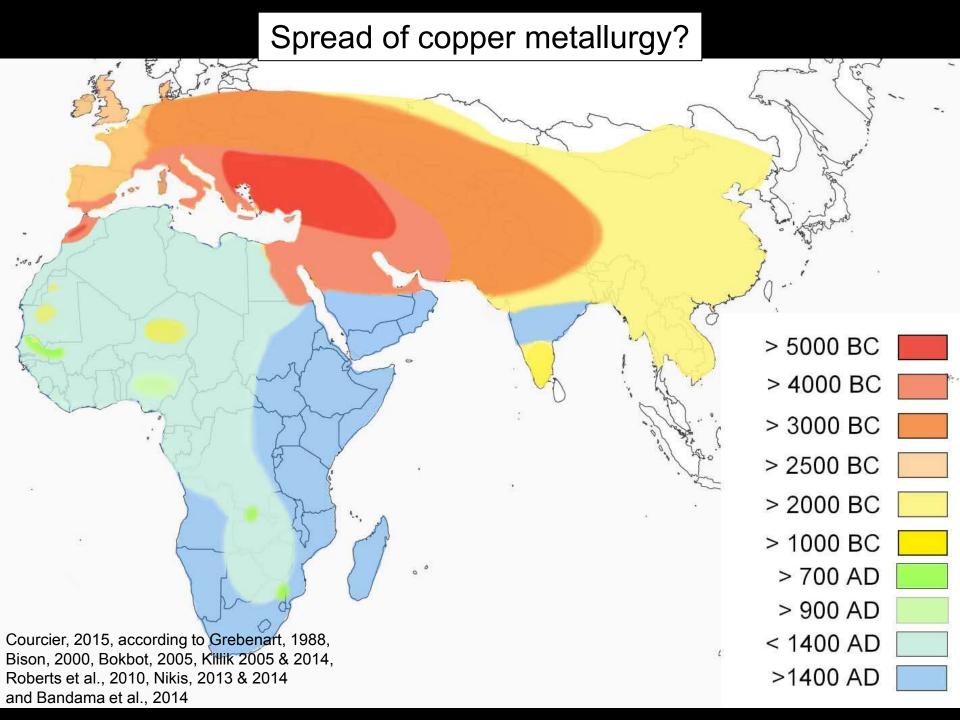
Mauritania in perspective

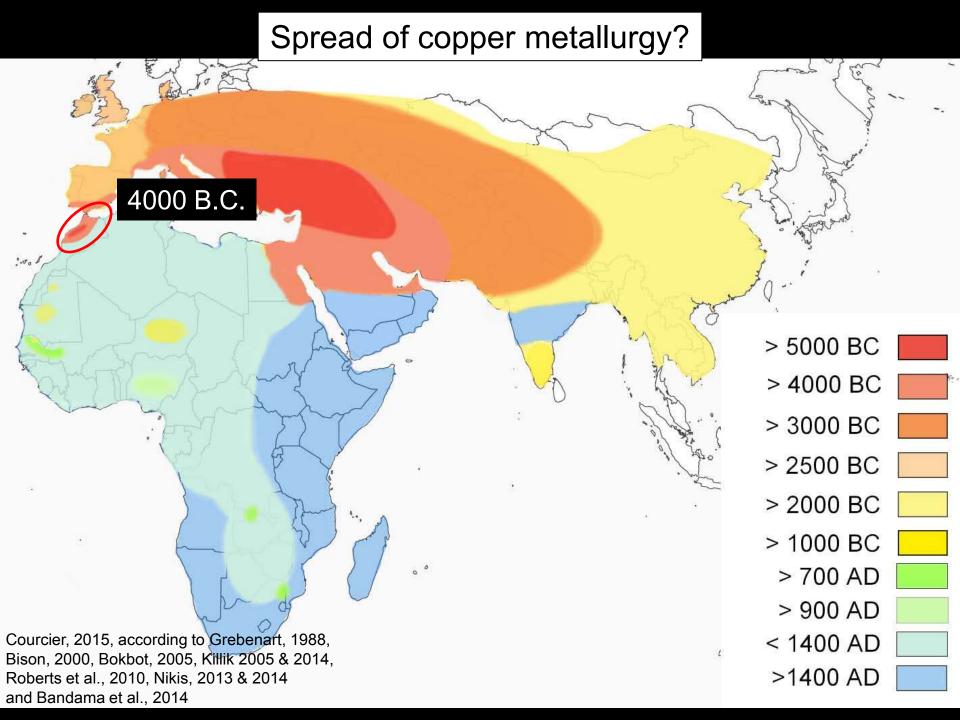
CUPRUM project

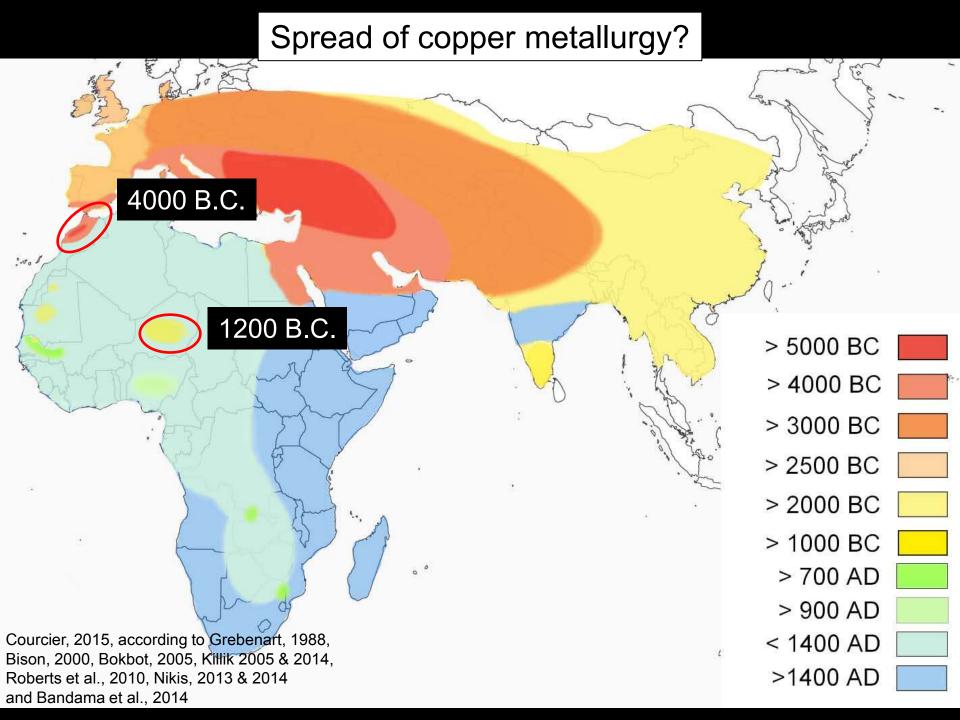
(fieldworks 2016 - 2017)

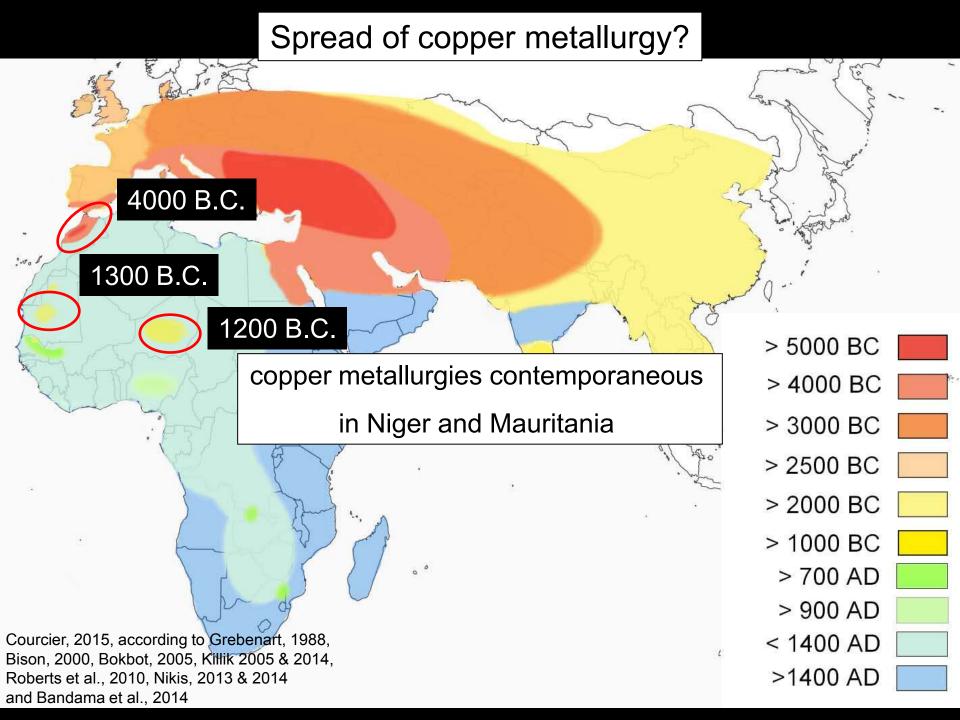


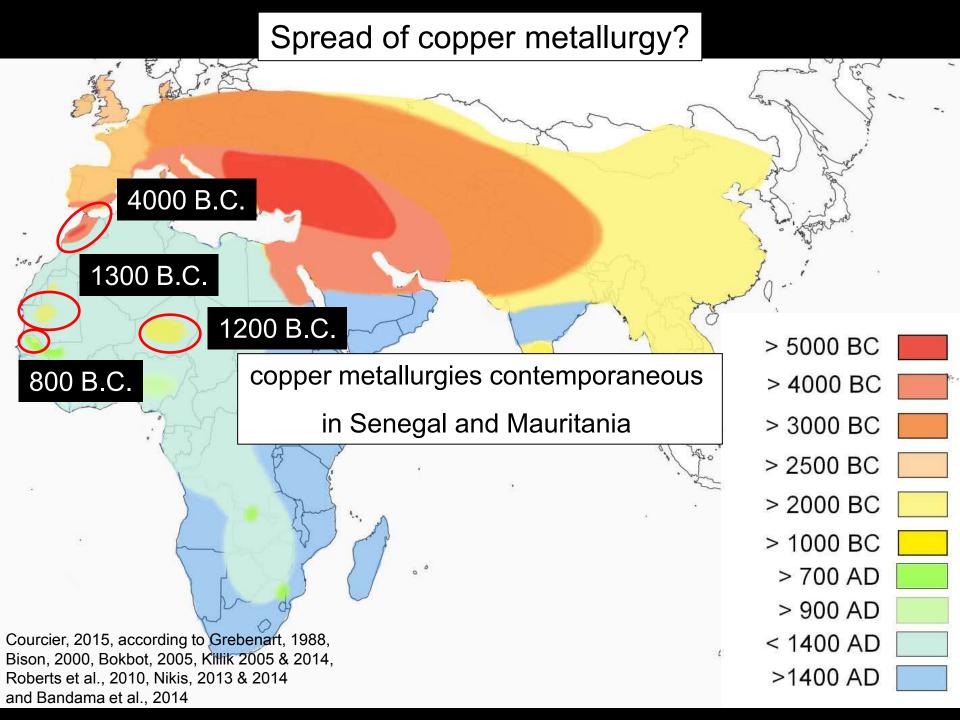


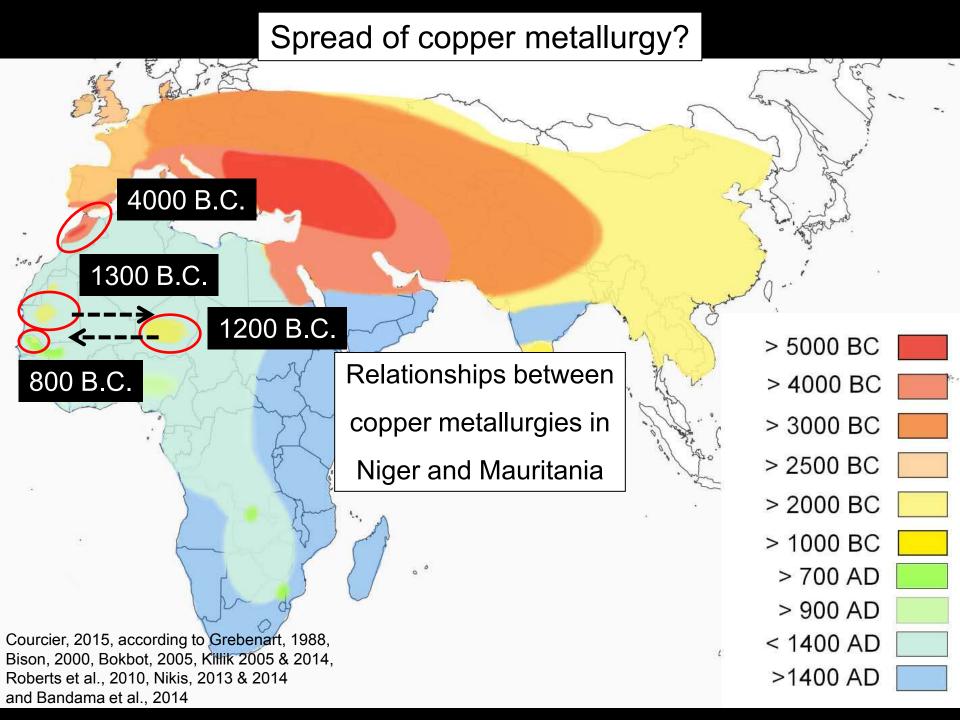


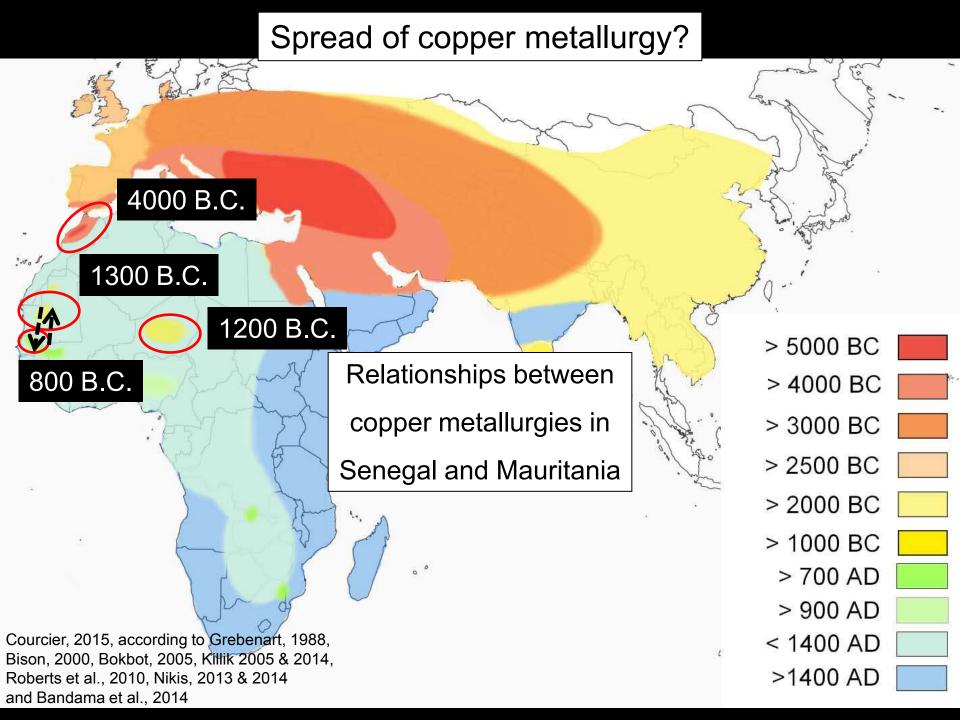




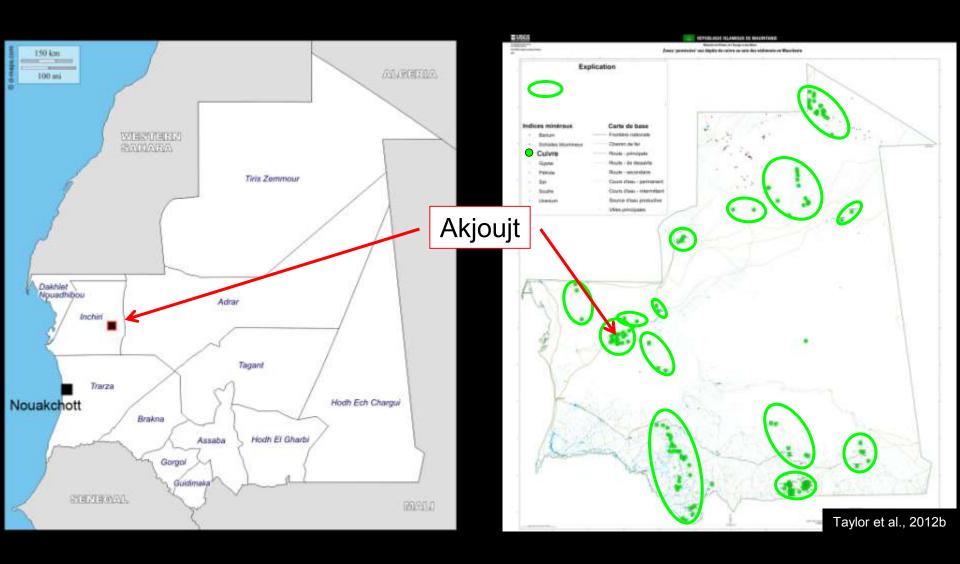




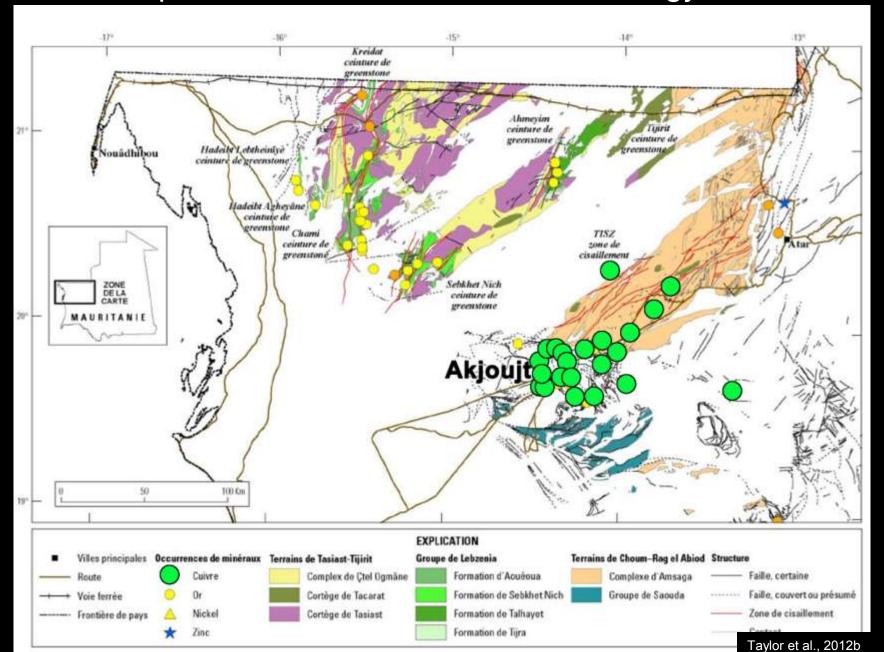




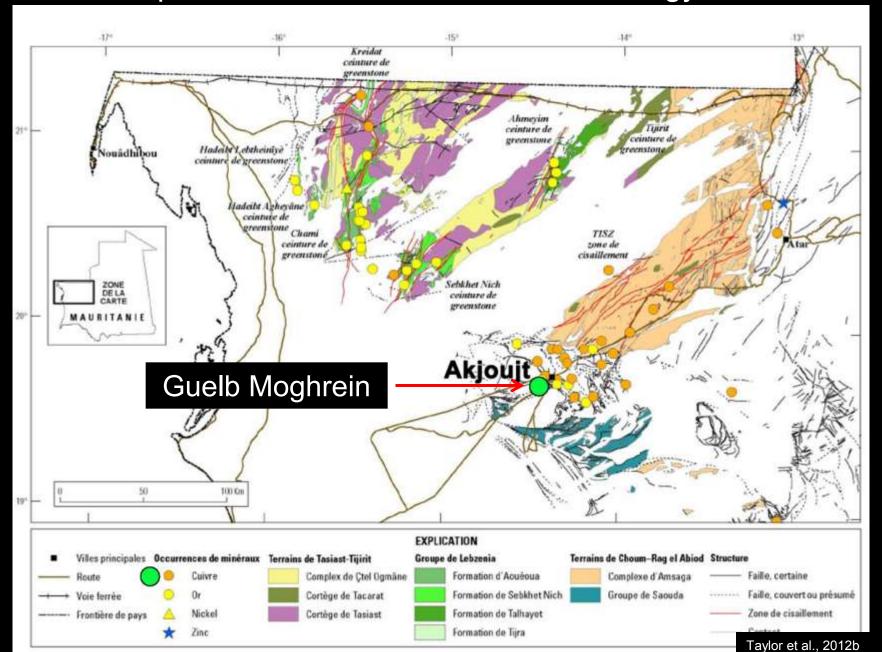
Location of previous research focus on metallurgy in Mauritania



Location of previous research focus on metallurgy in Mauritania



Location of previous research focus on metallurgy in Mauritania



the pioneers (1912-1960)

SEANCE or MARDI 30 AOUT 1913 (APRILING)

Printings Changes de M. TATANINGS (Sobies) et de M. Fr. KISSLEN (Abase)

Présidence du D' Bont Madrin.

W - AGE DES MÉTAUX

Vestiges de l'Age du Cuivre en Mouritanie.

Pai

M" B. Grova (Cherbourg, Manche)

Les Pointes de Flèches, que j'al présentées l'année des Congrès de Nimes, ont fait connaître le degré de perfection auque la taille du silex était purvenue en Mauritanie, à l'époque manithique.

Les différences d'exécusion, que l'on temarque purmi les paises recoellies, semblest indiquer une evolution, que pourrait des classer un certain nombre de ces pointes dans l'Enéolithèpet, su les métaux sont délà d'un usage courant.

Or, il n'avait out trouvé, en fait de métal, que quidques monté debris, si peu importante que le les avais vimplement mis de eles

M. in D^a Marcel Bandouin m'ayam demandé, il y a quelque temps, si l'on avait trouse du métal parmi l'industrie mantamiente, je pensal siors à examiner les tragments régligés justifice jour.

He as compensions d'un esocier, resouche, de cond de lond d'une sorte de sommits, d'un morçous de risque de conditionne

d'epaisseur, et de quelques menus debris en seculars plus mis-Tous ces fragments étaient très alures. Le crochet des aincouvers de grains de quarts, enrobés dans l'oxydation. Peus des quelque peine à mettre le métal à m. Je constant que se misparaissair pas avoir l'aspect du herotas ; mais, comme se de mes commissances ués buraées sur cessies, le moute es - 203 -

abina en chimiste distingué, M. Chalafour, pharmacien en chef de

sa giando surprise, il reconsut que tous les fragments que jo ses prosentes fraient en Cairre par, usos sucun alliage d'estin a planto, et sersfermaient sculoment quelques traces de Fer.

Dimini sur l'altération de la periphérie, qui a gagné le contre entité le mini très causan. Dans l'un des fragments, le cuiver l'un primité a complètement disparu. Le croches sus moira de finitérieur.

Calatrus pemer qu'il seruit intéressant de comparur ces sessons avec celles des instruments de coivre de l'époque phisorique, récoltés en d'autres régions, particulièrement en larges. Mais les ronditions se sont pas les mêmes. Les instrunant que prisent de l'age du Coivre onten trouves dans les sombes, nons que cres qui entes occupent sei ont longemps sejourné à de alter, exposés à toures les intempéries d'un élimat, dont nous

"un âge du cuivre en Mauritanie" B. Crova (1912)

du le rescialiste, pouroir faire des expériences est use plus sunde quantre de roétal que je n'ero possède.

Jounnie, ces veniges, trouvés pris de la côm occidentale de Santiaine, m'oot paru assez interessants pour être présentés au Congres et faint l'objet de cent communication.

M. Mariai Bacacero. — Je suis très heurista, et très fier, d'avoir prompte les recherches prévidentes. — Elles confirment tout à se mes prévisions dédoriques.

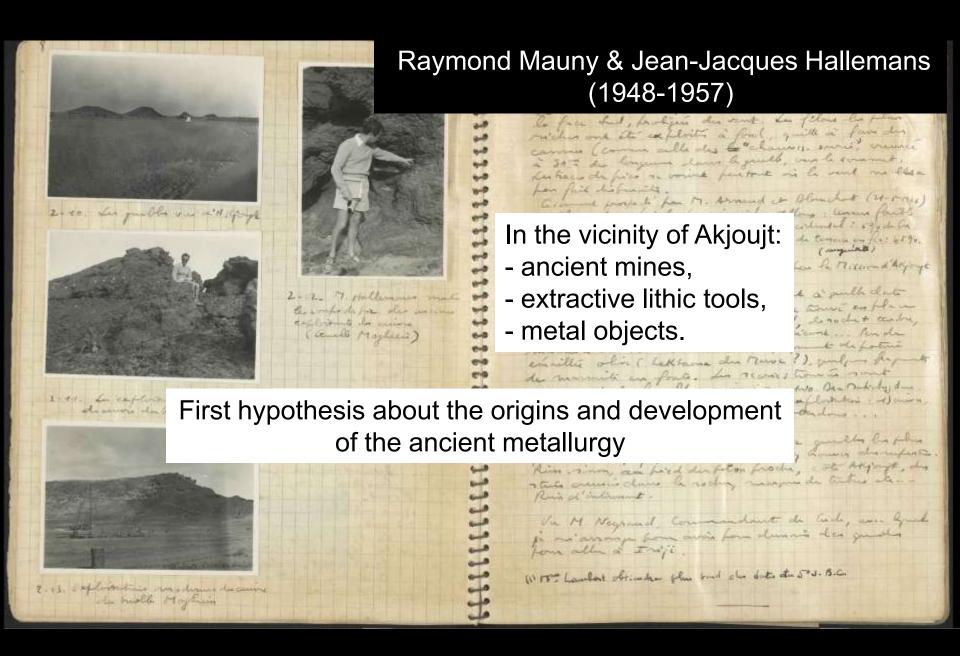
It am dies que otte idée m'est m'a la suite de mes trouvailles si la mis turaux reletifs à l'Age à cuite gar en Vendee, et parcede Caller gar en Vendee, et parcepossede dans ma collection et piece en Calvre pur de Mazland, que l'ai dels signales (1). In settis bacherte, qui set asso aux Trancher et une poisse aux Trancher et une poisse aux Francher, et les décrissis aux Trancher, et les décrissis aux Trancher, et les décrissis



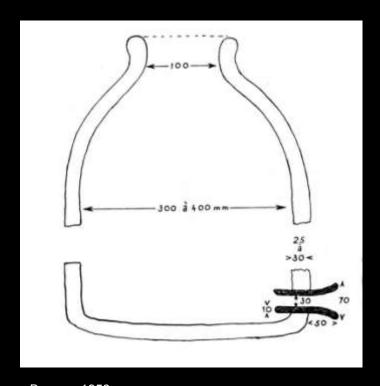
Fig. 1. — Harborn plant, in Type Tranolst at Flicto on Galler, in Meetra an IColl, Nation Sections.

The Business of Lings do Caires : Les Haches places de Vendes. — 244, hade, 117 p., of the or 2 pl., hors base.

the pioneers (1912-1960)



the pioneers (1912-1960)



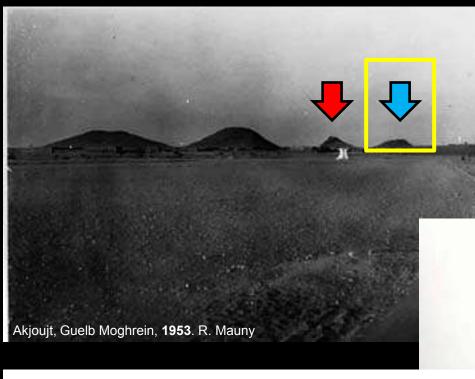
Henry Bessac (1955-1956)

In South of Akjoujt, at Lemdena:

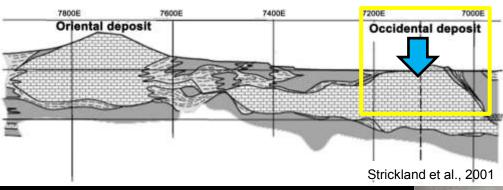
- furnace walls
- slags

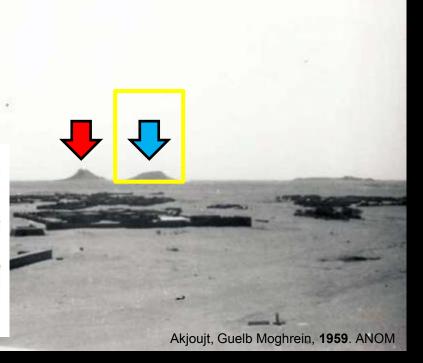
Bessac, 1958

Nicole Lambert's works (1965 - 1983)

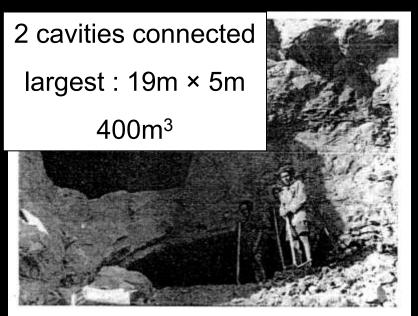


- eastern Guelb Moghrein
- western Guelb Moghrein





Nicole Lambert's works (1965 - 1983)



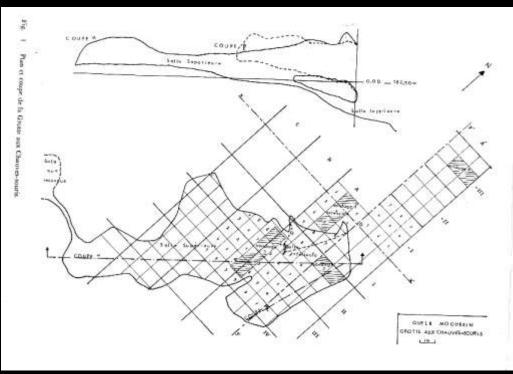
Lambert, 1965

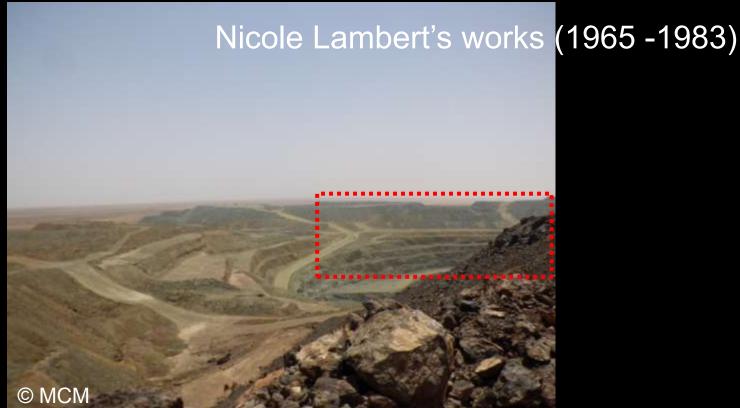
2776 ± 126 BP - 2350 ± 110 BP

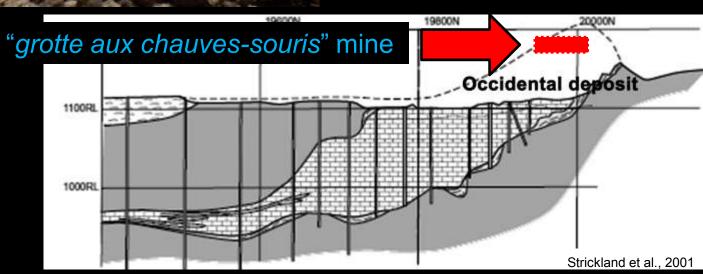
1305 - 197 cal. BC

"grotte aux chauves-souris" mine

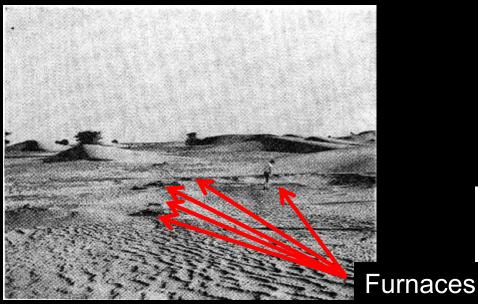
(western Guelb Moghrein)







Nicole Lambert's works (1965 -1983)

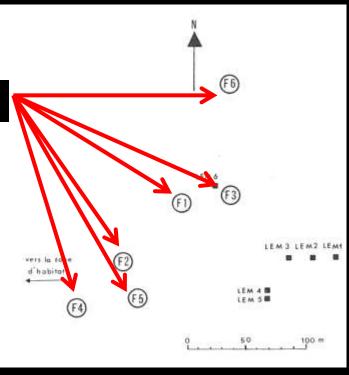


Lambert, 1975

Lemdena: metallurgical site

(50 km to the South of the mine "grotte aux chauves-souris")

1760 ± 110 BP 28 - 537 cal. AD



Lambert, 1975

Nicole Lambert's works (1965 - 1983)

1760 ± 110 BP

28 - 537 cal. AD

Lemdena, metallurgical site

sites not contemporaneous

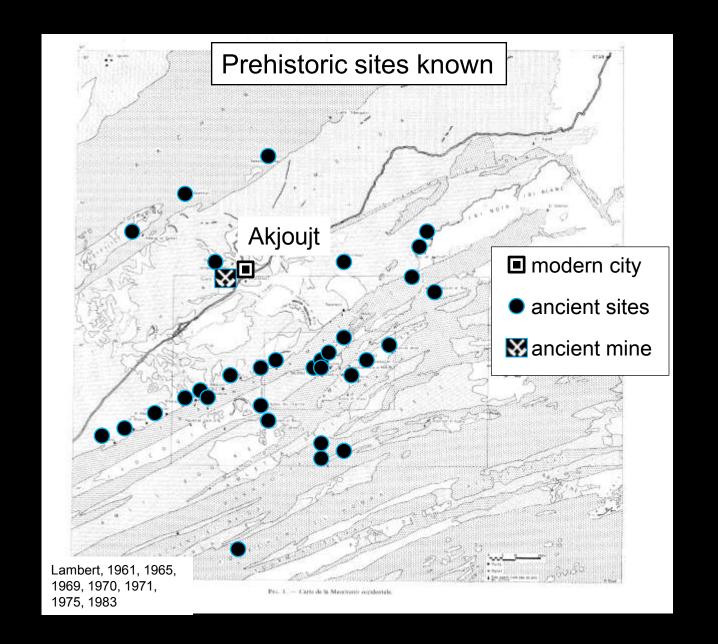
#

lack of chronological frame

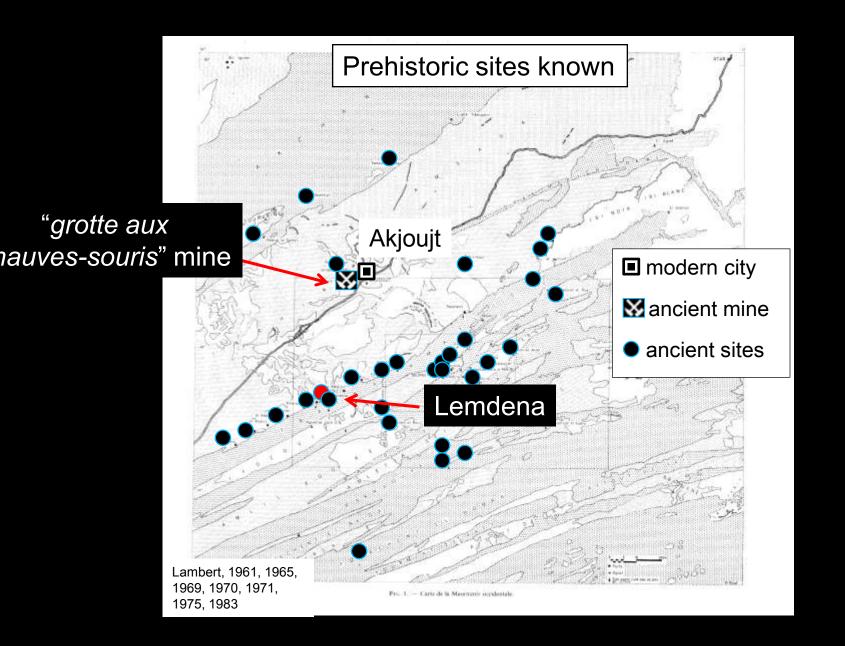
2776 ± 126 BP - 2350 ± 110 BP 1305 - 197 cal. BC

"grotte aux chauves-souris" mine

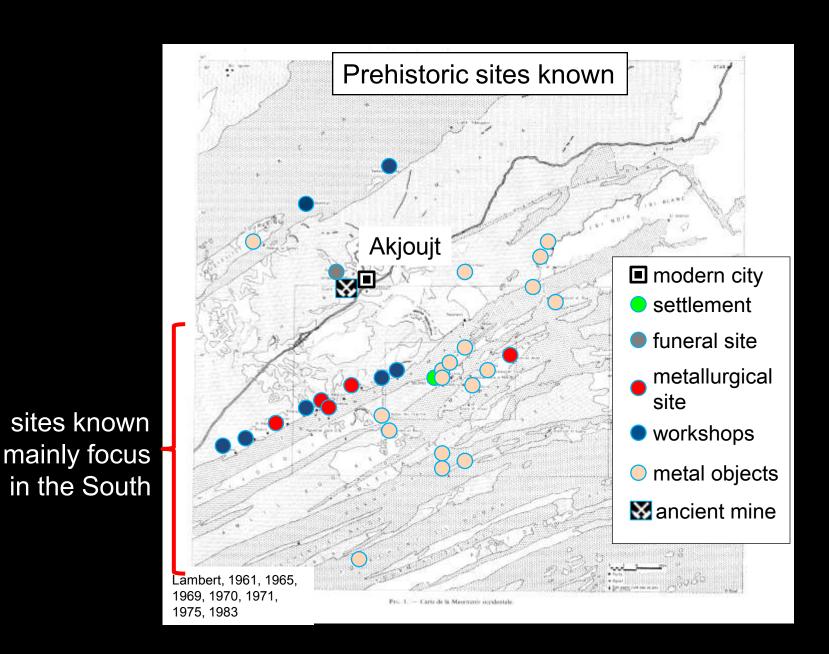
Nicole Lambert's works (1965 -1983)



Nicole Lambert's works (1965 - 1983)



Nicole Lambert's works (1965 - 1983)



Vernet's works (1983 - 2015)

Lemgueirinat: metallurgical furnace

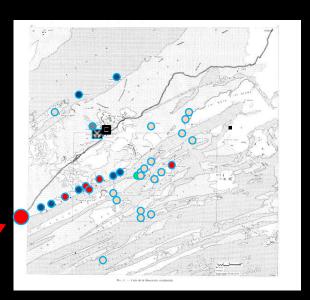


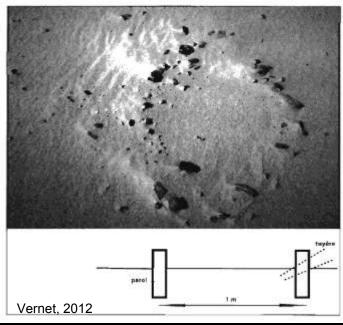
2550 ± 100 BP

Vernet, 2003

850 - 406 cal. BC

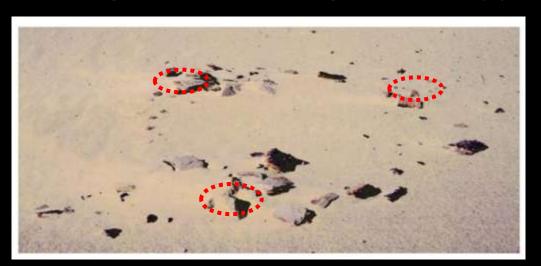
contemporaneous of ancient "grotte aux chauves-souris" mine





Vernet's works (1983 - 2015)

Lemgueirinat: metallurgical furnace(s)

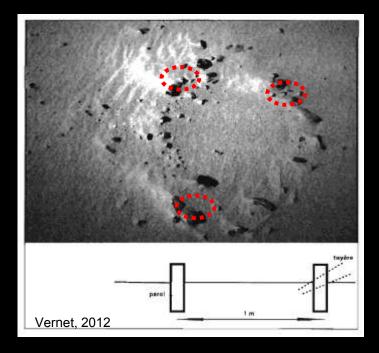


Vernet, 2003

3 metallurgical furnaces in battery?

Ø:1m?

 \emptyset : 0,3 – 0,4 m?



Vernet's works (1983 - 2015)



R. Vernet: 3000 metal objects recorded

Many questions still remain...

Many questions

Chronological

Diachronical development of metallurgy in Mauritania?

Technological

Extractive process?

Cultural

Provenance of copper ores, raw material and contacts with adjacent region?

Since A. Crova, (1912)

one century of research...

... but few information

Mauritania:

interface with two metallurgical traditions

Neolithic → Copper → Iron

Neolithic → Iron → Copper

> 5000 BC

> 4000 BC

> 3000 BC

a key-region to understand origins & development of metallurgy in Western Africa

>1400 AD

CUivre : PRoduction et Usages en Mauritanie à l'Holocène

CUPRUM

2016-2019

supported

financially and scientifically

Ministère de l'Europe et des

Affaires Etrangères

MEAE



human and logistic ways

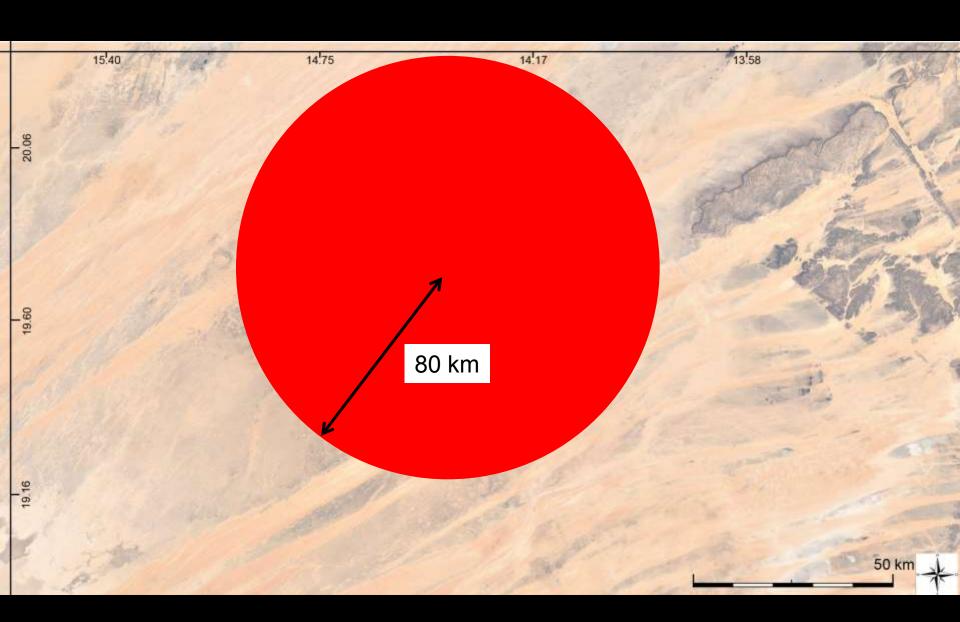
private mining company

Mauritanian Copper Mine

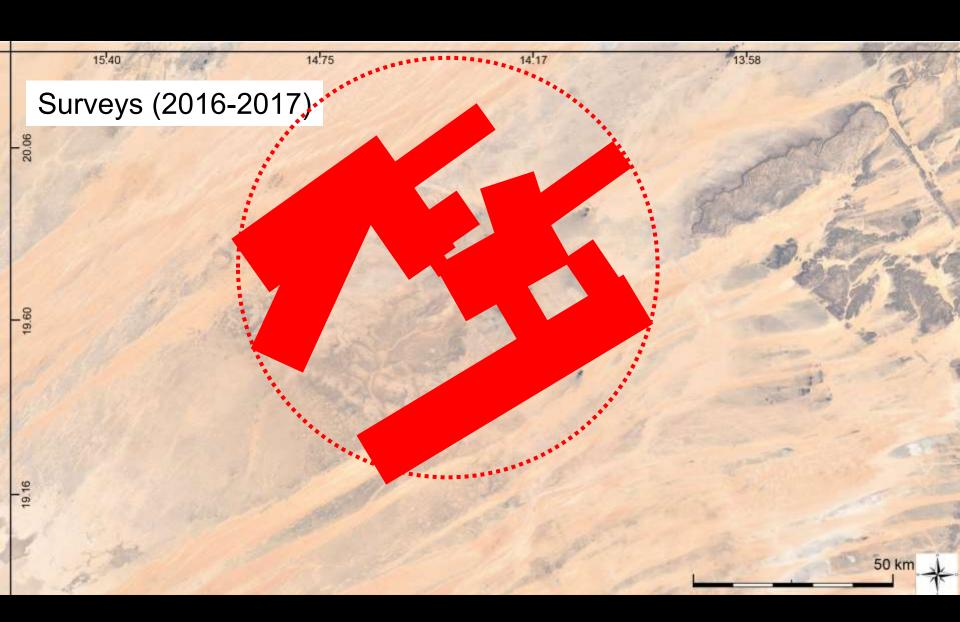
MCM



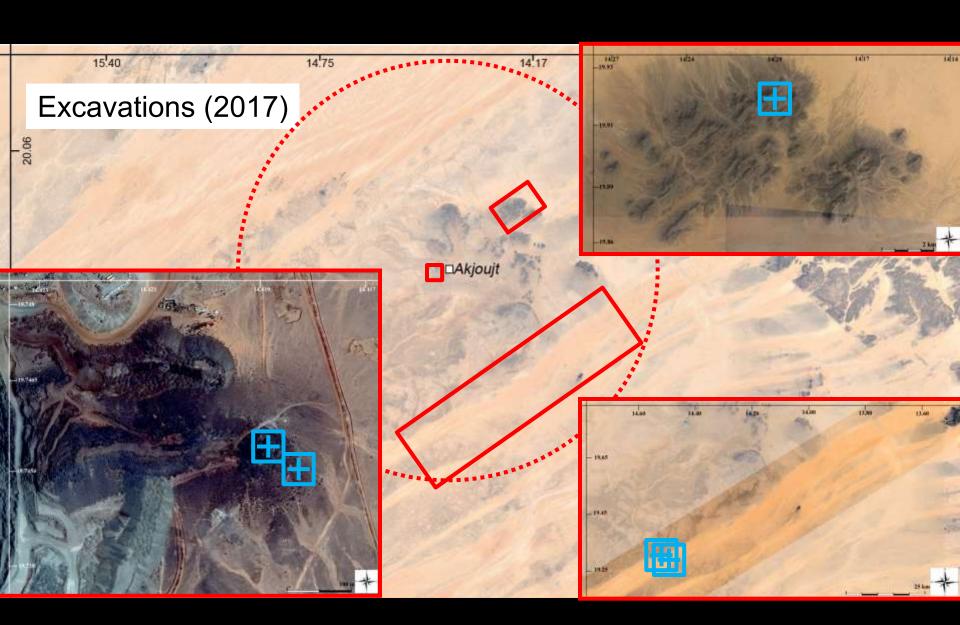
Research area



Research area



Research area



Preliminary results

1st – 2nd campaigns 2016-2017

CUPRUM - CUivre : PRoduction et Usages à l'Holocène en Mauritanie -









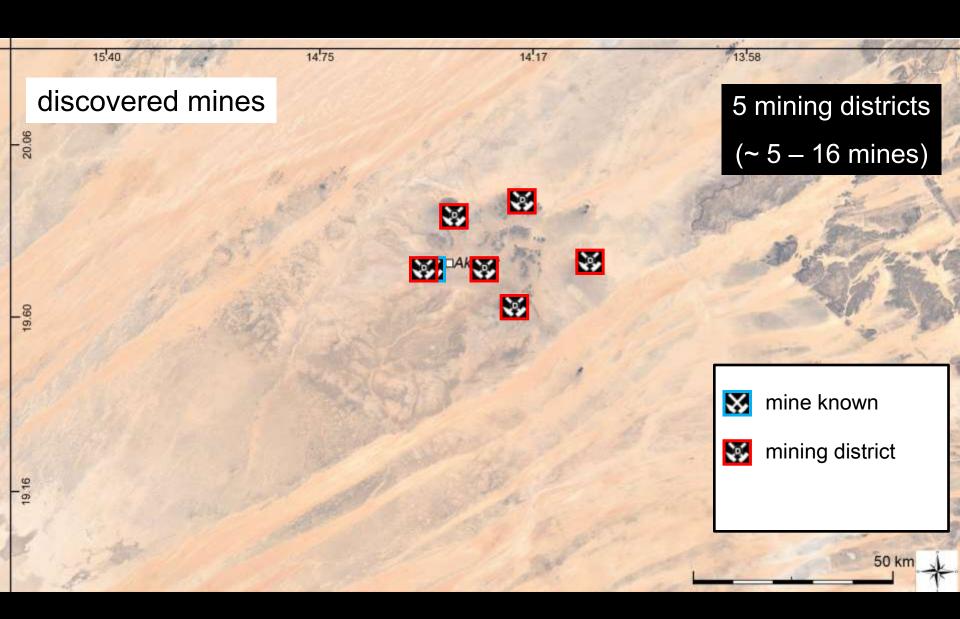


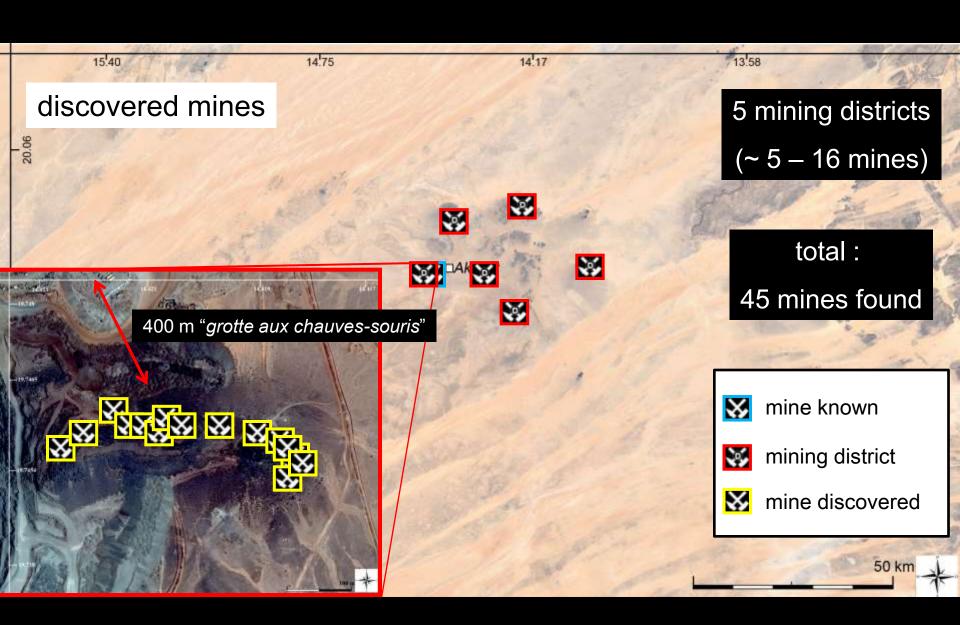














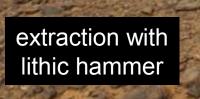
copper ores malachite chrysocolla

extraction with lithic hammer



copper ores

malachite
chrysocolla





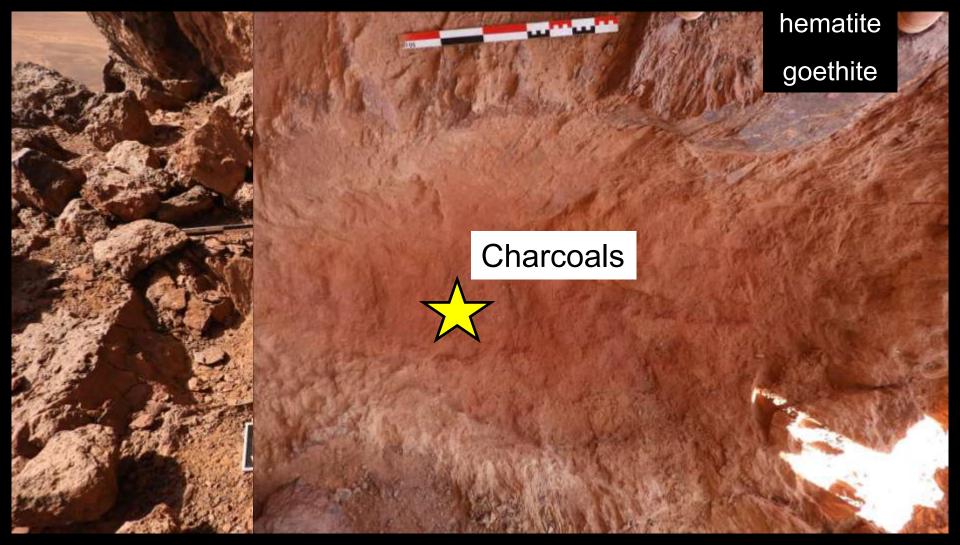
copper ores

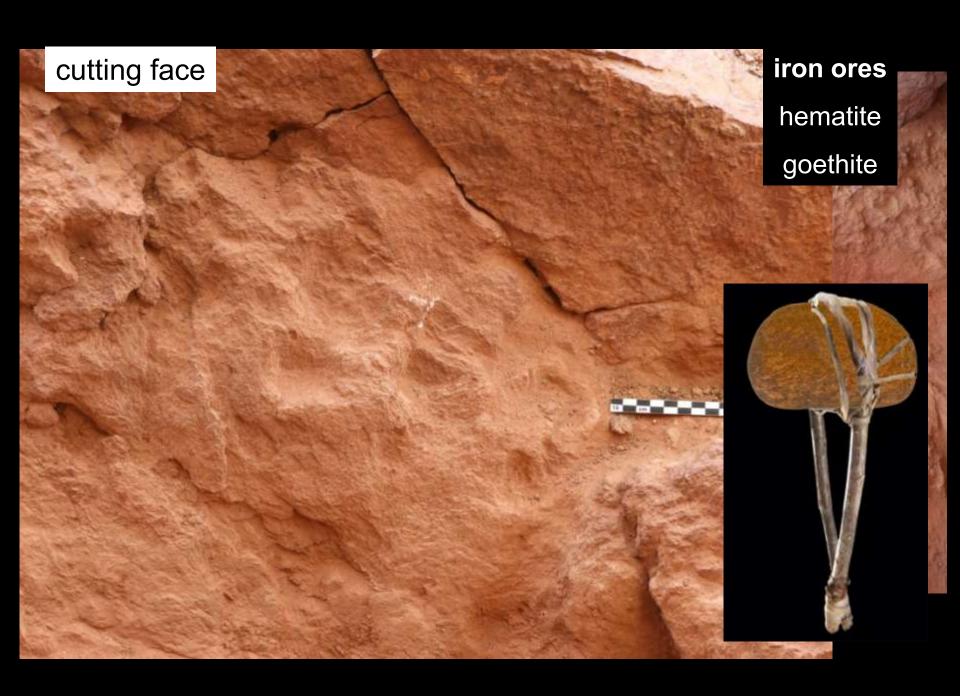
malachite

chrysocolla



cutting face iron ores





iron ores

hematite

goethite



extraction:

- iron ores?
- pigments?
- flux for copper smelting?



small cavities

copper ores

&

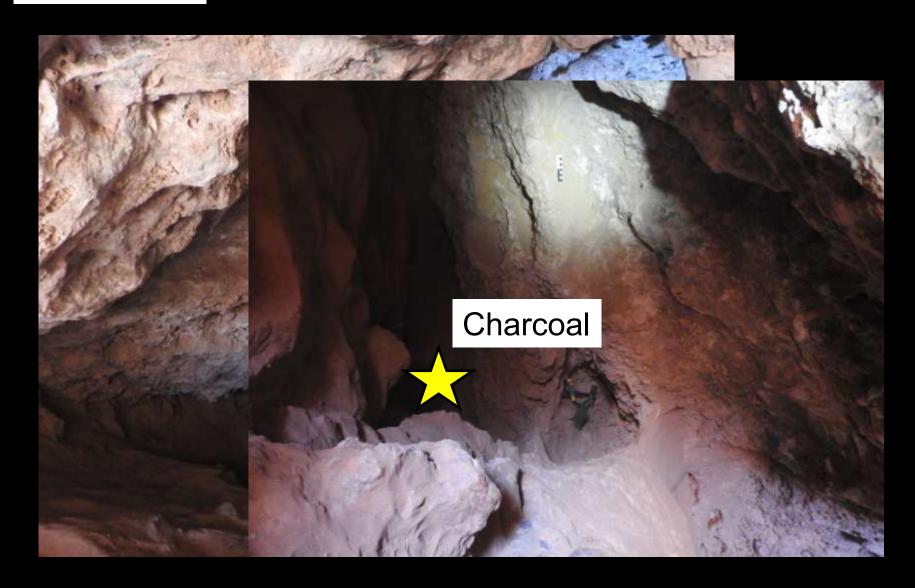


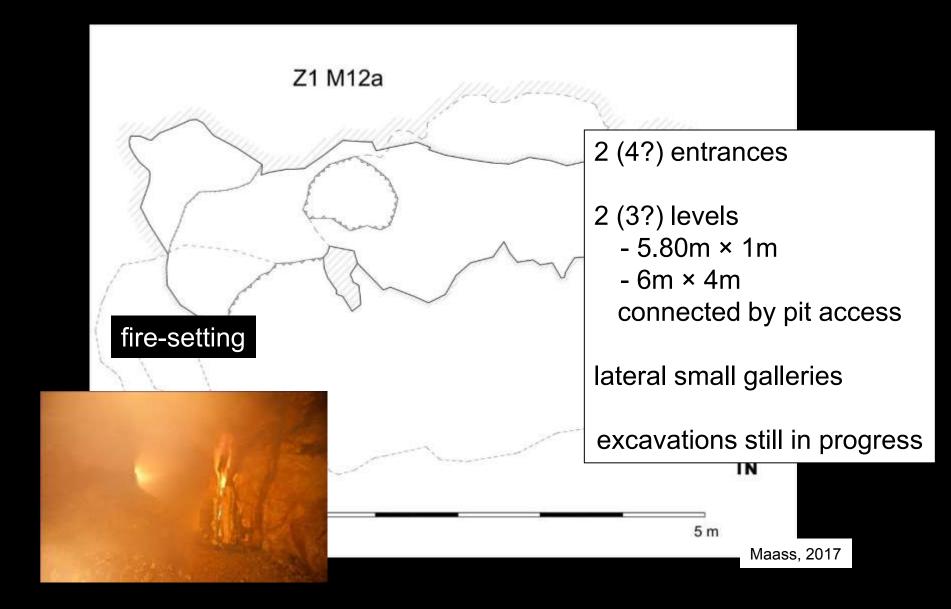




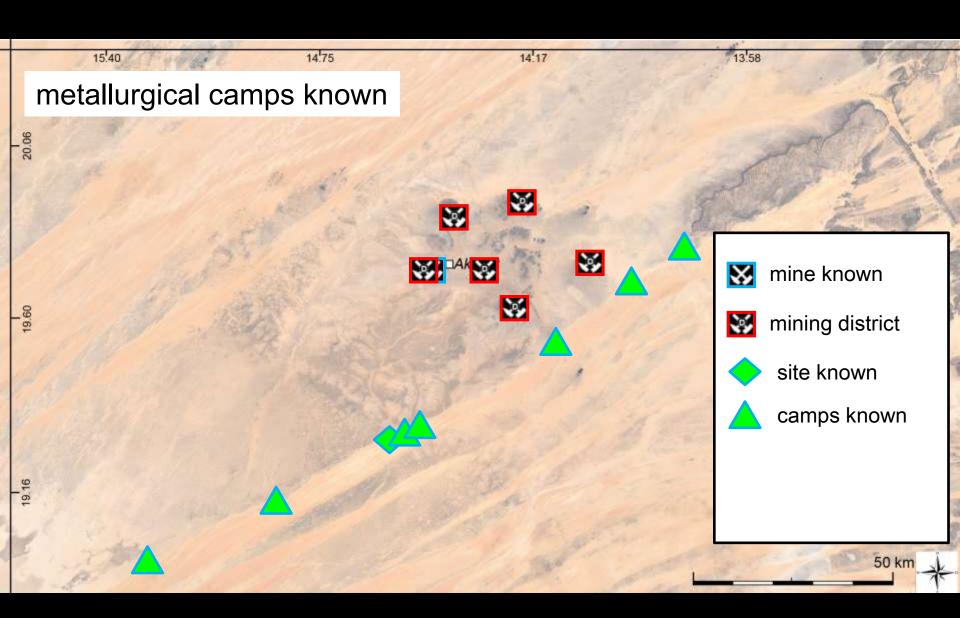


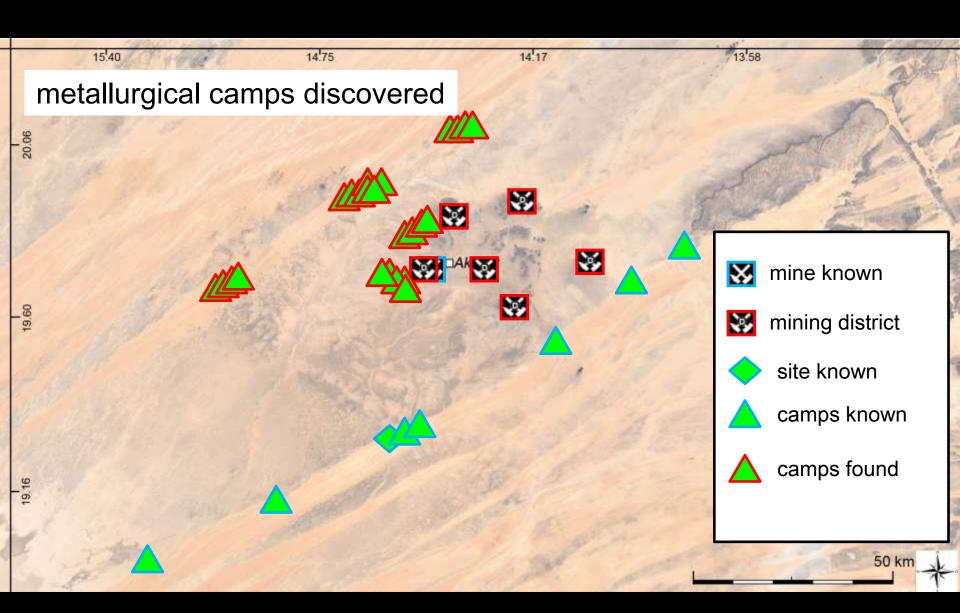


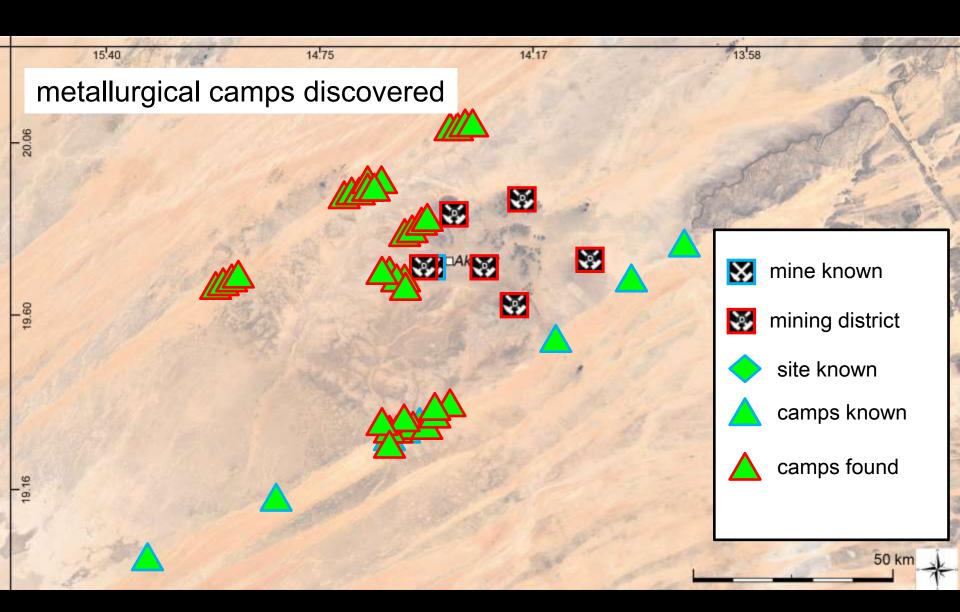


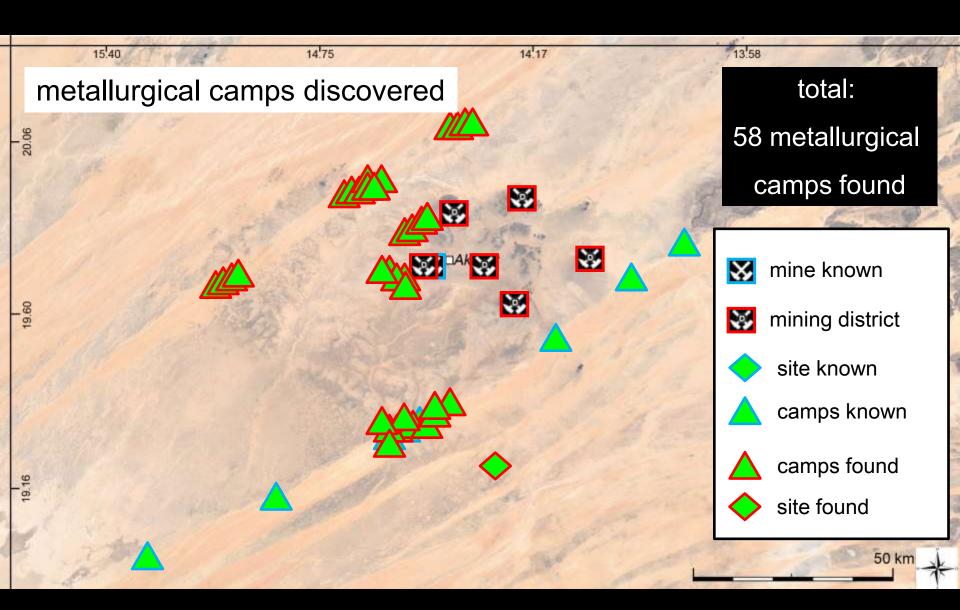


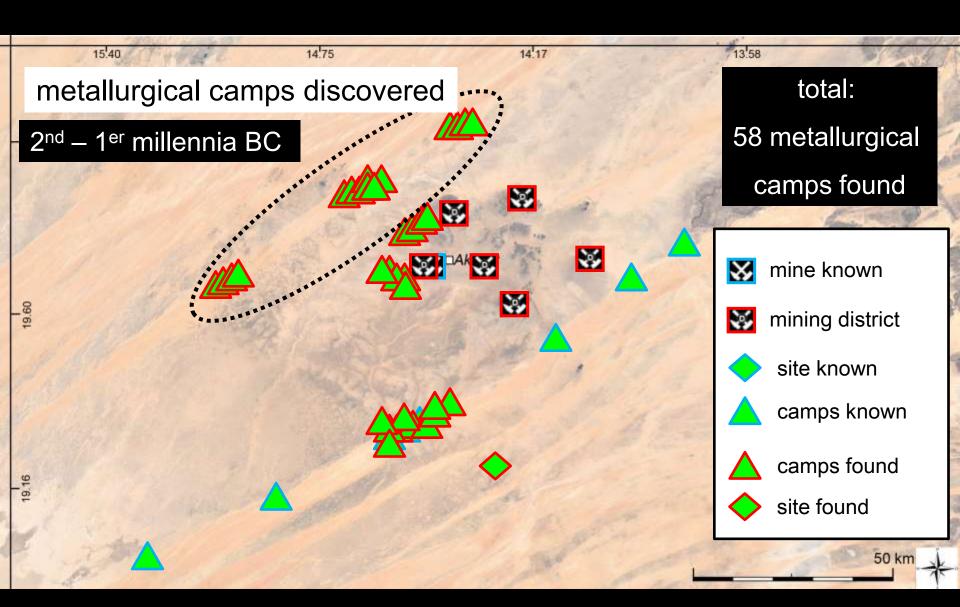


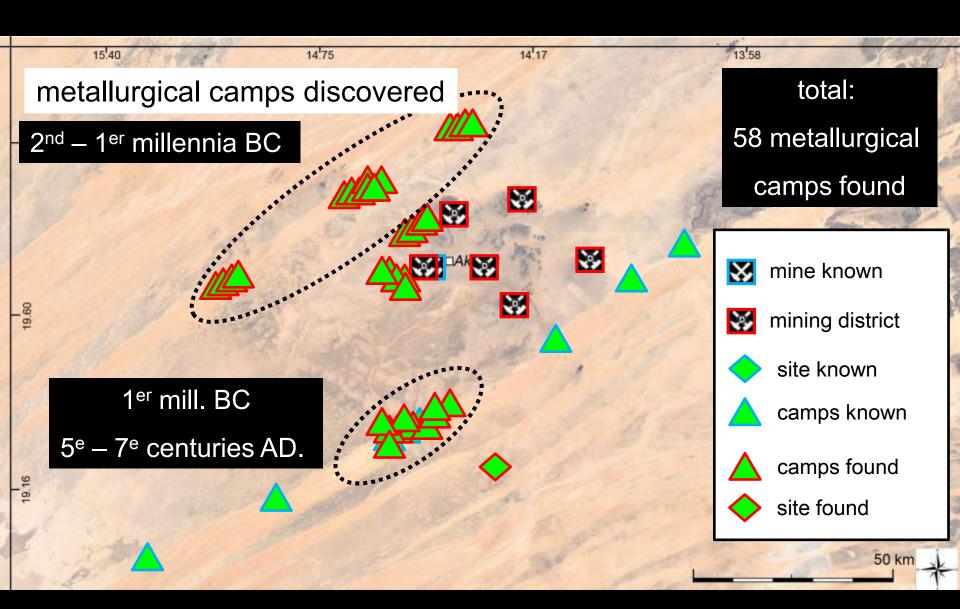






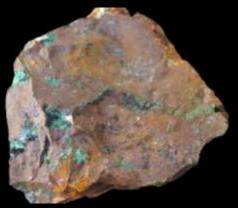




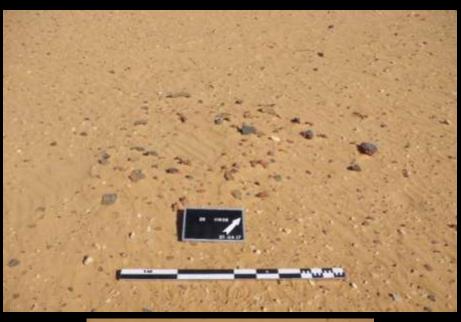




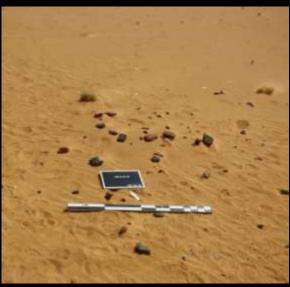
crushing/grinding ores workshops



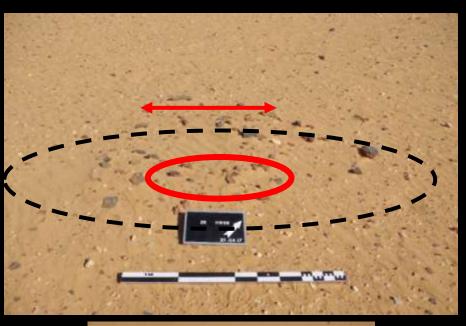




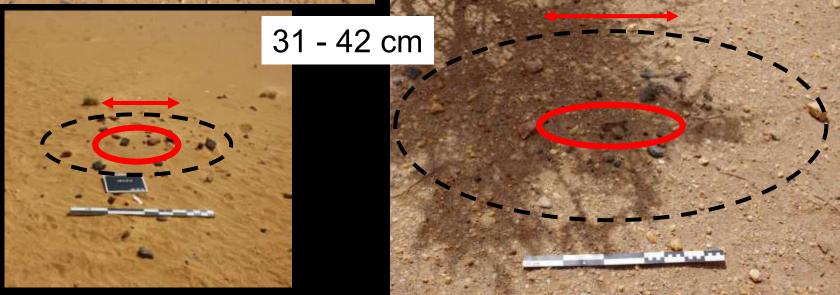
- crushing/grinding ores workshops
- furnaces







- crushing/grinding ores workshops
- furnaces





- crushing/grinding ores workshops
- furnaces (walls,



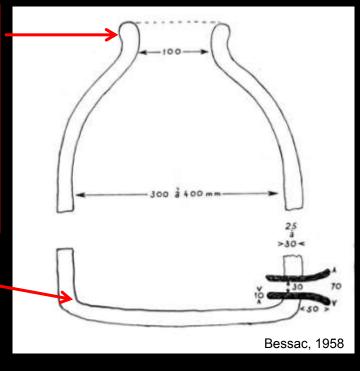




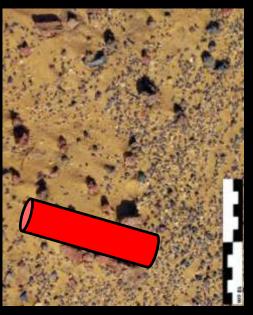


- crushing/grinding ores workshops
- furnaces (walls,



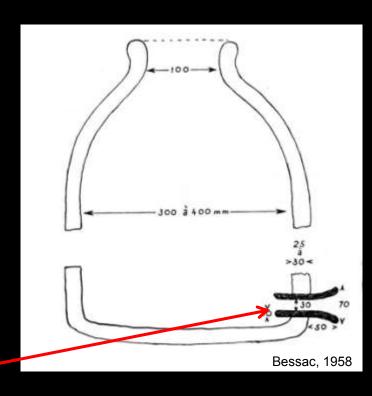




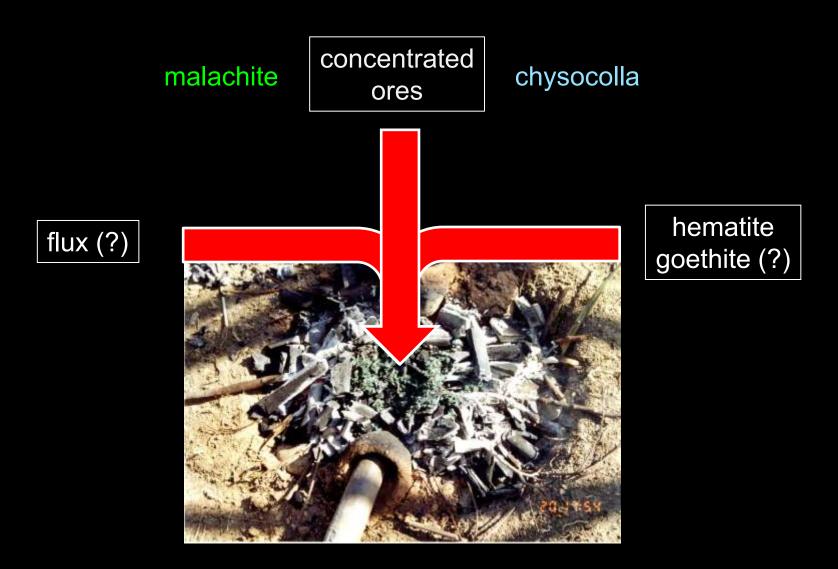


- crushing/grinding ores workshops
- furnaces (walls, tuyère)





smelting process?







- crushing/grinding ores workshops
- furnaces (walls, tuyère)
- crucibles





- crushing/grinding ores workshops
- furnaces (walls, tuyère)
- crucibles
- slags heap



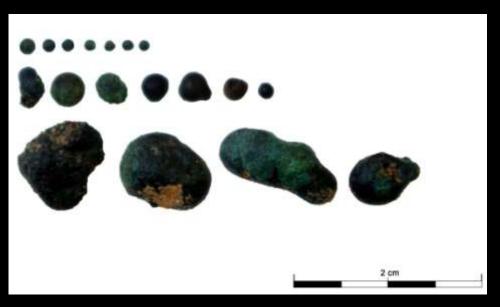




- crushing/grinding ores workshops
- furnaces (walls, tuyère)
- crucibles
- slags heap
- crushed slags heap

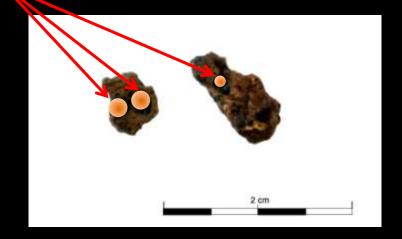








- crushing/grinding ores workshops
- furnaces (walls, tuyère)
- crucibles
- slags heap
- crushed slags heap
- metal prills



73 g sand casting



93,5% Cu

3% Fe, 3% Mn, 0,4% Ni

- crushing/grinding ores workshops
- furnaces (walls, tuyère)
- crucibles
- slags heap
- crushed slags heap
- metal prills
- semi-manufactured metal object





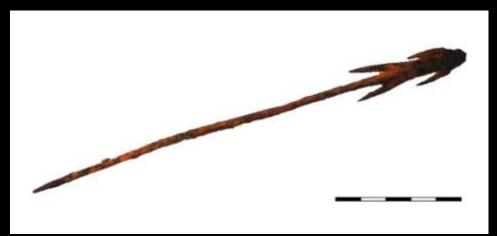




- crushing/grinding ores workshops
- furnaces (walls, tuyère)
- crucibles
- slags heap
- · crushed slags heap
- metal prills
- metal semi-manufactured object
- metal objects (copper,









- crushing/grinding ores workshops
- furnaces (walls, tuyère)
- crucibles
- slags heap
- · crushed slags heap
- metal prills
- metal semi-manufactured object
- metal objects (copper, iron)

relation between location of metallurgical activities and humid zones? mine known mining district camps known camps found 50 km

relation between location of metallurgical activities and humid zones?

