

***Interactive comment on* “Hominin responses to environmental changes during the Middle Pleistocene in Central and Southern Italy” by R. Orain et al.**

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Dear Dr. Orain, I enjoyed reading your paper "Hominin responses to environmental changes during the Middle Pleistocene in Central and Southern Italy". However I remained surprised about some statements on the Fontana Ranuccio and Ceprano sites that perhaps you can help me to understand.

How can you say that TL (thermoluminescence?) ages place Ranuccio in the OIS12, citing Muttoni et al. (2009)? I'm not aware about TL datings at Ranuccio and, above all, these ages are not reported in Muttoni et al. (2009), which actually is focussed on the paleomagnetism of the Ranuccio site. Furthermore please be aware that the reference

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paper for the K/Ar ages is Biddittu et al. (1979, Quaternaria; attached).

About the Ceprano site, one thing is to say that Ceprano man is contemporaneous to the Heidelbergensis (as correctly stated in Nomade et al., 2011), another thing is to attribute the Ceprano man to the Heidelbergensis species, a controversial matter already addressed by Mounier et al. 2011 (Plos One).

Kind Regards, Giancarlo Scardia

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<http://www.clim-past-discuss.net/8/C2080/2012/cpd-8-C2080-2012-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Clim. Past Discuss., 8, 5181, 2012.

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