

The core analysis enables us to see several kinds of management, but two of them are the most frequent and present in the three assemblages: cores with two opposite flaking surfaces and cores with orthogonal flaking surfaces (faces of quadrangular pebbles). Actually, they belong for the most to the same family, especially the "dis-coid" family, except for some cores (uni-bipolar method, prismatic or polyedric cores) (table III.). The variations within the flaking system could be explained by the pebble shape, even quadrangular pebbles of various sizes are above all chosen. The pebble volume is used from the start of the exploitation. The core turns in the hands to maintain angles for as long as possible.

The removal arrangement is similar on each debitage face: crossed, centripetal or uni-bipolar, involving different kinds of flakes (small and flat, thick with a back and some elongated flakes) (fig. 5.). Otherwise, the arris and the core edges guide removals on the trapezoidal or the pyramidal surfaces. Each debitage face shape reflects, therefore, a specific story, according to the debitage choice. The use of the core edges and of flakes leads to a flat debitage surface. The exploitation of two surfaces, on the contrary, results in wider and wider angles or it keeps good angles, and therefore in a pyramidal abandoned core. The core types (more or less cortical patches, removal organisation) could be a voluntary variation in the debitage in order to produce the most numerous and the most different kinds of flakes and for the longest time possible. From flint could be produced smaller and thinner flakes (good quality of the stone or men's needs?).

The size comparison of the cores shows that, regardless of the raw materials, the values are similar. A preference goes to the smallest pebbles (between 30-40 to 60 mm). The polyedric cores are smaller than the other ones. The cores with a cortical surface produce, in addition, the few largest ones. If we compare the core size and the removal size, we can see that men really wanted a lot of small flakes. The largest cores, which are present, result in a lot of small removals. The microlithic assemblage is, therefore, not only imposed by the small pebble size but also by a definite choice.

Because of its long sequence, Kůlna cave brings much more "Taubachian" or "microlithic" features to light. The main difference between the upper Micoquian levels, dated to the OIS 4, and Taubachian level II is based on the artefact size. The cores show the same processing system as in the Taubachian level.⁴⁰ However, the cores are technologically more diversified and the stone acquisition is really different as well, with a preference of flint as main raw materials for the Micoquian.⁴¹

⁴⁰ BOËDA 1995.; RINK et al. 1996.; MONCEL 2003.

⁴¹ VALOCH 1988.