

# *Early hominins in north-west Europe: a punctuated long chronology?*

Article

Supplemental Material

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**Table 4:** Inferred environments and key supporting evidence at Atapuerca in the Early and Middle Pleistocene (after Rodríguez et al., 2011: table 9).

Evidence	Key Patterns (Early & Middle Pleistocene)	
Small vertebrates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant woodland component in herpetofauna</li> <li>• Small mammals suggest moist, open habitats</li> </ul>	
Large mammals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All of temperate affinity</li> <li>• None unequivocally indicating cold or arid environments</li> </ul>	
Vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuous presence of Mediterranean taxa &amp; mesic trees</li> <li>• One possible cold steppe landscape phase</li> </ul>	
Palaeotemperature (amphibian & squamate assemblages)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Always warmer than Burgos today</li> <li>• “Cold”/“warm” period differences of only c. 2°C</li> </ul>	
Annual precipitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 750mm (dry)–1049mm (humid), compared to c. 570mm in present</li> </ul>	
Environment types	<p><b>Early Pleistocene</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mediterranean open woodland</li> <li>• Open woodland and steppe</li> <li>• Open arid (?)</li> <li>• Open woodland and moist meadows</li> <li>• Temperate open woodlands and meadows with lagoons</li> </ul>	<p><b>Middle Pleistocene</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Humid temperate open woodland</li> <li>• Mediterranean open woodland</li> <li>• Moist meadows with scattered trees</li> <li>• Open woodland and meadows</li> <li>• Steppe</li> </ul>