Abstract

This diploma thesis describes searching for long forgotten routes between ancient settlements in the mountainous environment of Central Bulgaria. It focuses on Stara Planina Mountains, where the highest peaks over two thousand metres are. Geographical features of this area were analysed using three-dimensional tools in GIS environment. I experimented with various route-designing tools and tested their capabilities against well-known ancient paths. The most accurate tools were then selected to predict routes on maps of ancient settlements from various historical periods. The data used to construct these maps had been collected from two different sources. The first source was a multidisciplinary project called TRAP, initiated by Mgr. Adéla Sobotková, the consultant of my thesis. This project’s data was collected during spring and autumn surface survey campaigns in the Kazanluk region of Tundzha River valley. The second source was specialized monographs and journal articles about settlement and path connections in ancient Thracia in the period between 6th century BC and 4th century AD.