

Abstract

The goal of the thesis is to find the way how to apply use-wear analysis as well as functional analysis to archaeological assemblages of selected artefacts from Central European archaeological contexts, namely lithics (chipped stone artefacts) and obtain the greatest potential from the analysis. Thesis consists of: current state in the field of functional studies research worldwide, method of use-wear application in connection with material science knowledge, especially tribology. Use-wear analysis is applied to the selected lithic artefacts from Paleolithic to Eneolithic Periods. The results of this work are based on the following microscopic approaches: low power approach (LPA), high power approach (HPA), scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and confocal laser scanning microscopy (CLSM). There are described and stated differences in potential of above mentioned approaches in connection with specific archaeological artefacts (assemblages of artefacts). The question answered in the conclusion is how to apply the above mentioned methodological approaches in application to various archaeological materials (period, number, context etc.) to obtain the greatest informational potential from the material analysed. Work is concluded with specific terminology from the field of tribology and use-wear analysis (of lithics) in Czech language to open this field of study wider use among Czech researchers.