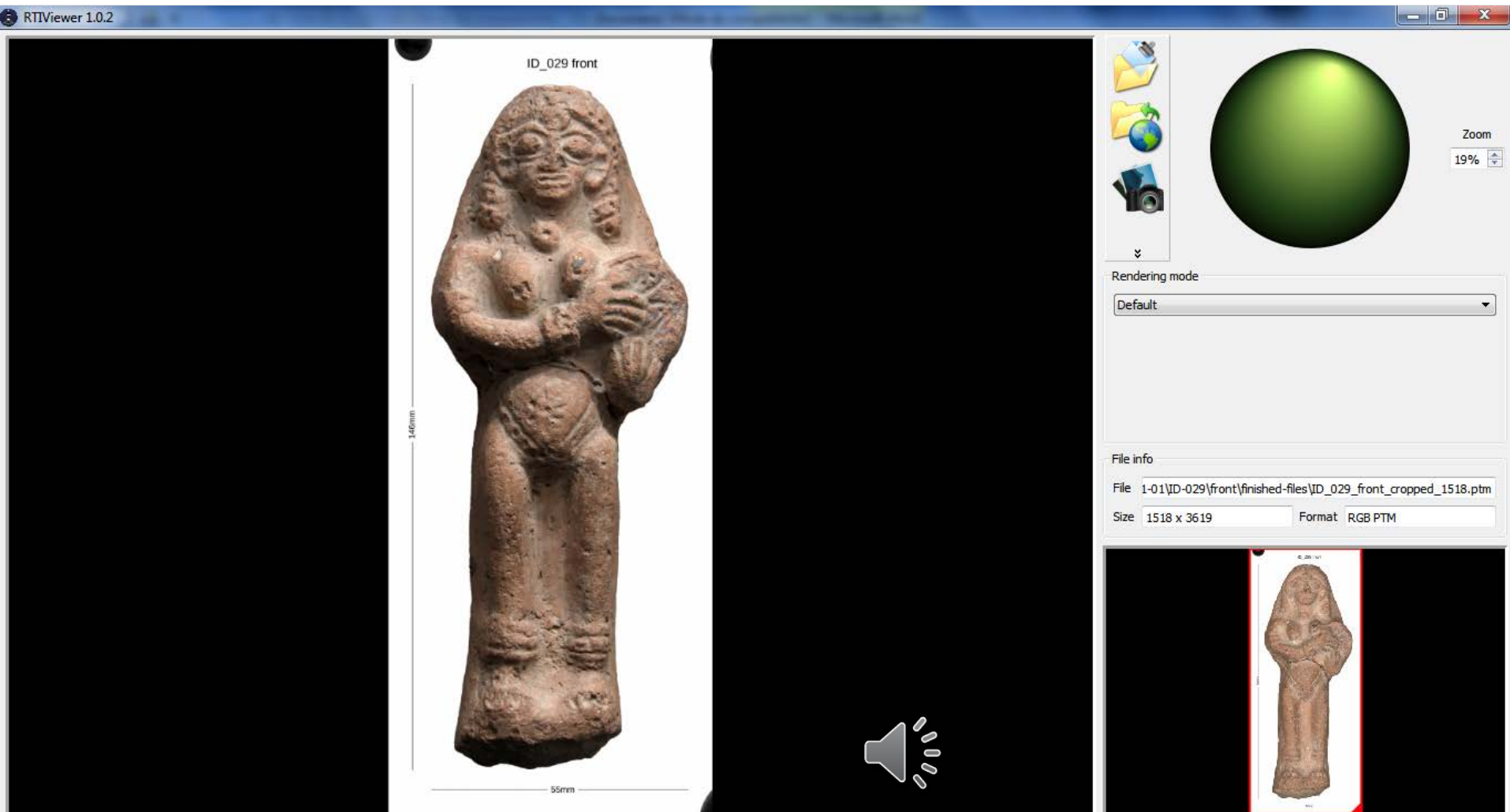


The Franco-German Figurines Project, FGFP (2012-2016)

Rethinking Figurines

Females from Rabbat-Ammon and Beyond

Regine Hunziker-Rodewald
University of Strasbourg (France)



team



-
- **Regine Hunziker-Rodewald** University of Strasbourg, France - Old Testament and ANE History
 - **Astrid Nunn** University of Wuerzburg, Germany - ANE Archaeology
 - **Thomas Graichen** University of Mainz, Germany – PhD stud. ANE Archaeology

project objectives

- **compile a corpus of the Iron Age female terracotta figurines from Jordan (2012-2016)**
- **photo-recording of these figurines and their fragments by RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging)**
- **create a typology as a comparative tool in order to understand the function and use of these figurines**

project objectives

- **situate these figurines in the cultural history of the Southern Levant**
- **link these figurines to the textual, epigraphic, iconographical, archaeological evidence**
- **2016: corpus online for further interdisciplinary research**

associated research questions

- **workshops**
- **molding techniques**
- **mold-links**
- **impact of political, economic, socio-religious factors on the production of these figurines**
- **“artistic schools”**
- **...**

<http://culturalheritageimaging.org/Technologies/RTI/>

Reflectance Transformation Imaging (RTI)



2001

Tom Malzbender
(HP Labs, Palo
Alto, USA):

Polynomial
Texture Mapping
Domes

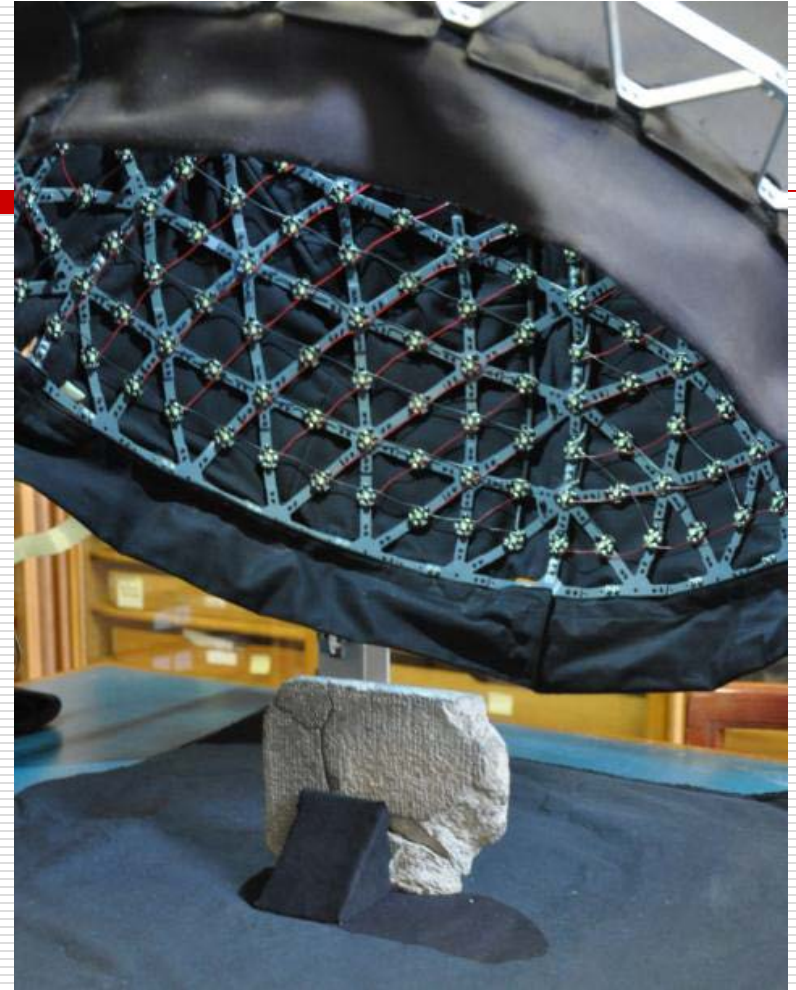


<http://www.hpl.hp.com/research/ptm/papers/ptm.pdf>

2004

**Geert Willems (KU Leuven,
Belgium):**

Camera Dome System



<https://www.propylaeum.de/altorientalistik/themenportale/leuven-camera-dome-system/>

> 2001

**B. Zuckerman, West
Semitic Research
Project (Los Angeles,
USA)**

- automated light dome
- own viewing software
- online-database



<https://www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/wsrp/information/>

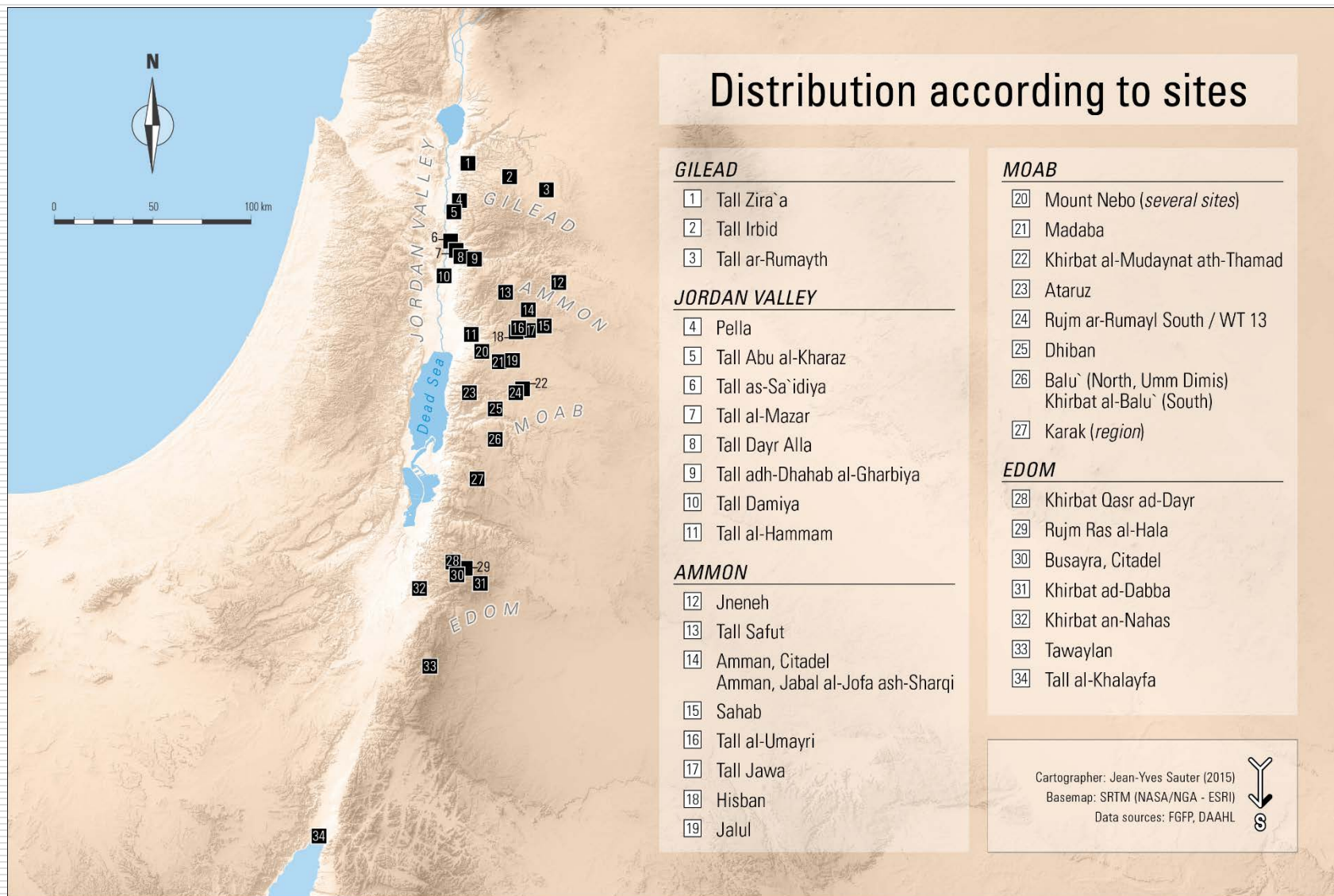
2006

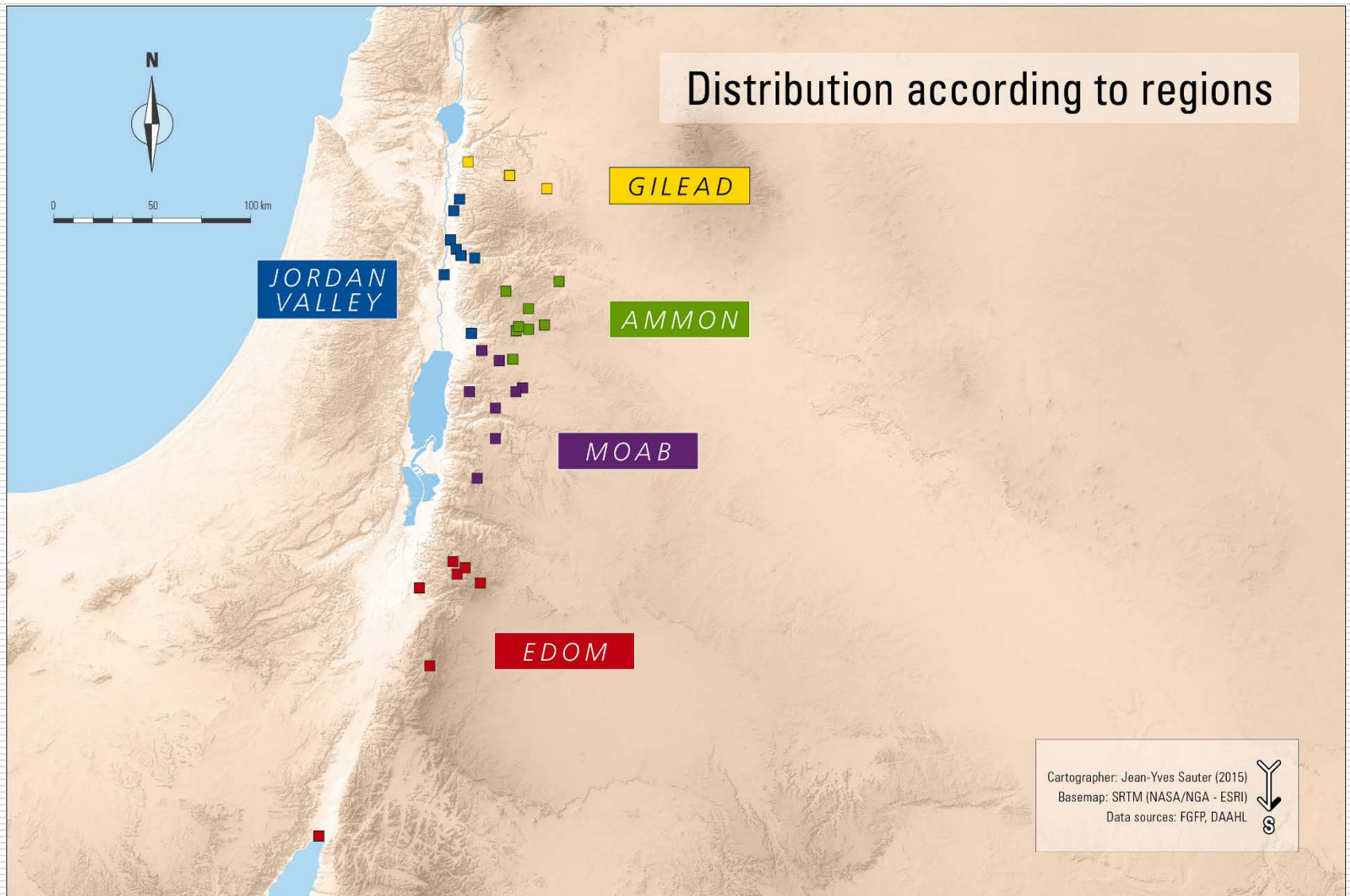
Tom Malzbender and the University of Minho (Portugal):

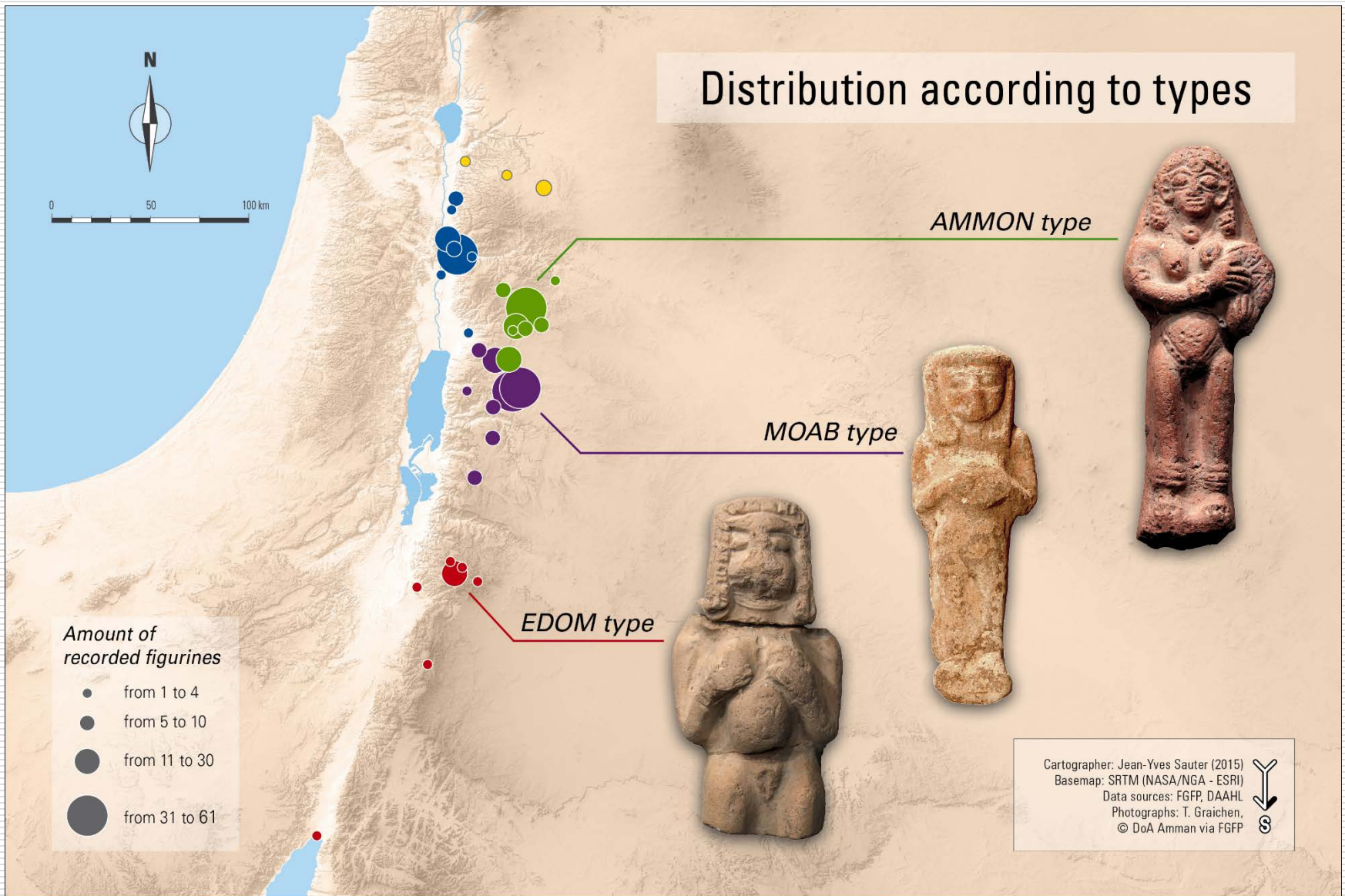
- RTI-Software



http://culturalheritageimaging.org/What_We_Do/Projects/pavc/







stats

- 420 items listed
- 25 complete (6 %)
- 395 fragmentary (94 %)

coping with fragments

- 75 legs / leg fragments (19 %)

— anklets



L41, Balua

coping with fragments

- 75 legs / leg fragments (19 %)

- anklets
- naked



L21, Amman

coping with fragments

- anklets
- naked
- drum
- jewellery

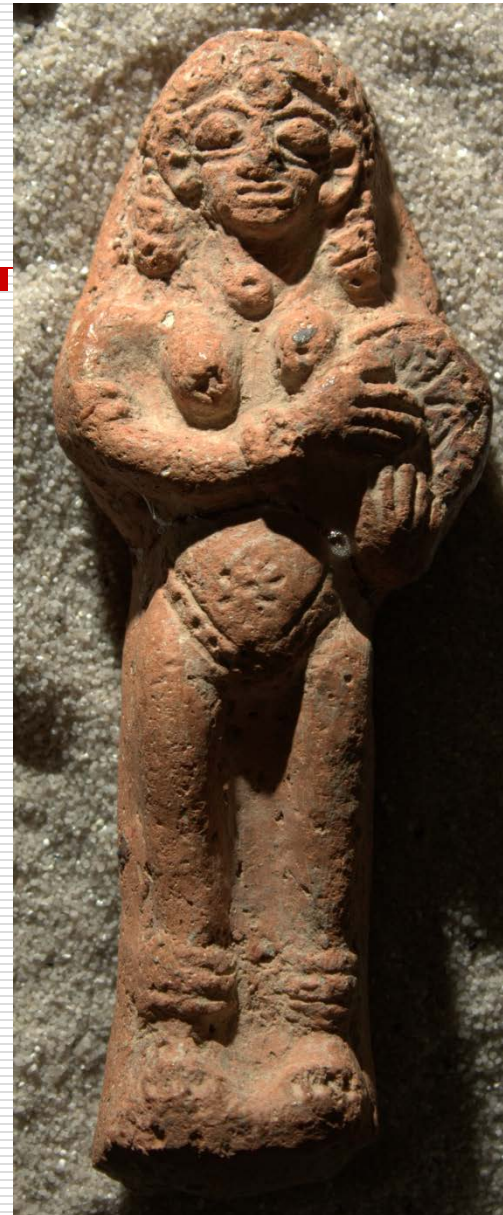


L84 TDA

!!

- anklets
- naked
- drum
- jewellery

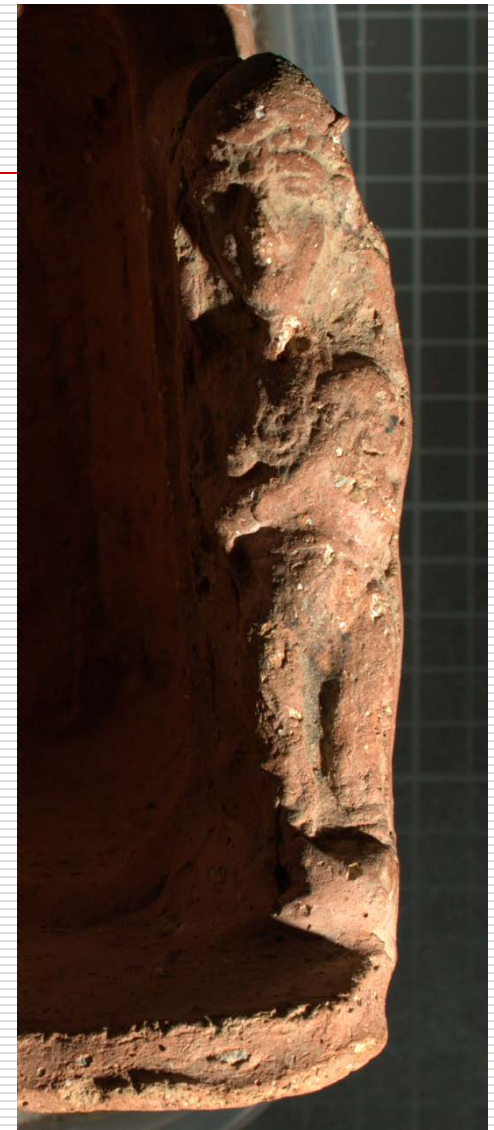
AC



!!!

- anklets
- naked
- drum
- jewellery
- cultic context

KA



rhythm



- **Membranophones**

- drum, tambour, tambourine, timbrel, bongo ...

- **Idiophones**

- **Aerophones**

- **Chordophones**

von Hornbostel/Sachs, 1914





Westenholz 2007



ID_34 TDA



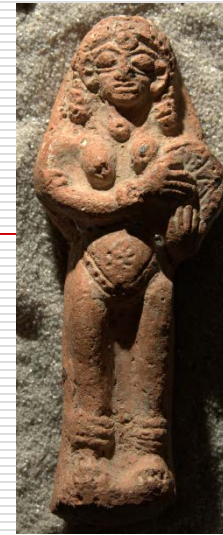
stats, Rabbat-Ammon

- 60 fragments listed
- 15 drums (25 %)
- 15 legs / leg fragments w. anklets (25 %)



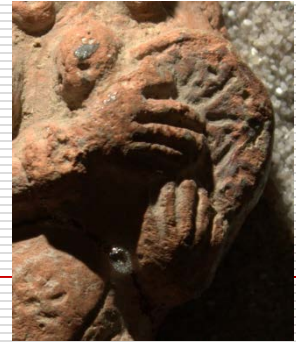
L25, L26, L39h

stats, Rabbat-Ammon



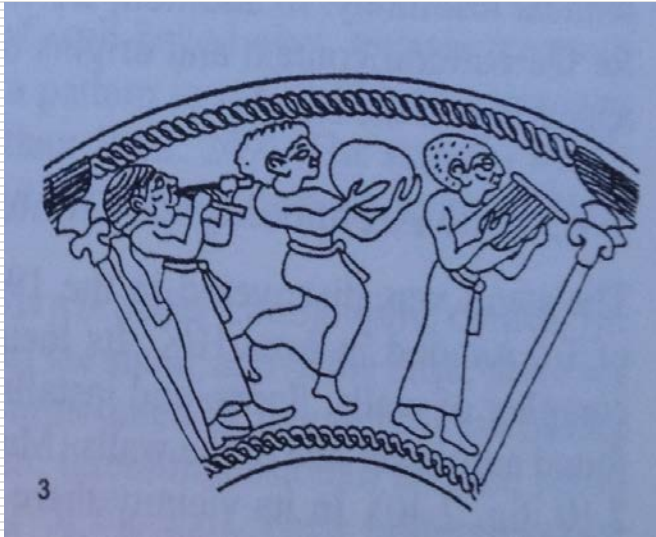
- 60 fragments listed
- 15 drums (25 %)
- 15 legs / leg fragments w. anklets (25 %)

drums - dance



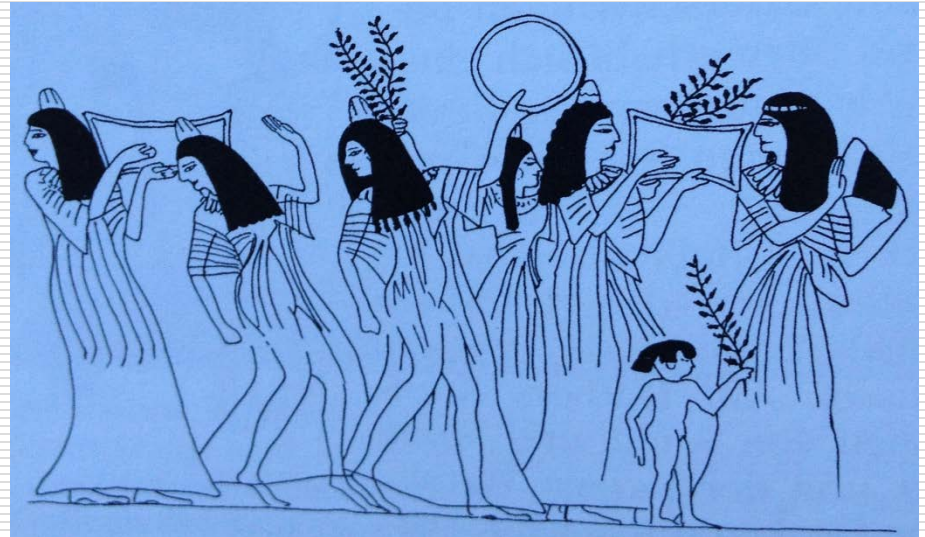
- Ex 15,20 ... and all the women went out after her with drums (תָּבָעִים) and with dancing
- Jdg 11,34 ... and there was his daughter coming out to meet him with drums (תָּבָעִים) and with dancing
- 1Sam 18,6 ... the women came out of all the towns ... singing and dancing with drums (תָּבָעִים)

drums and dancing



Olympia bowl

Paz 2007



Thebes, 14th c. BC

Redmond 1997

anklets - sound



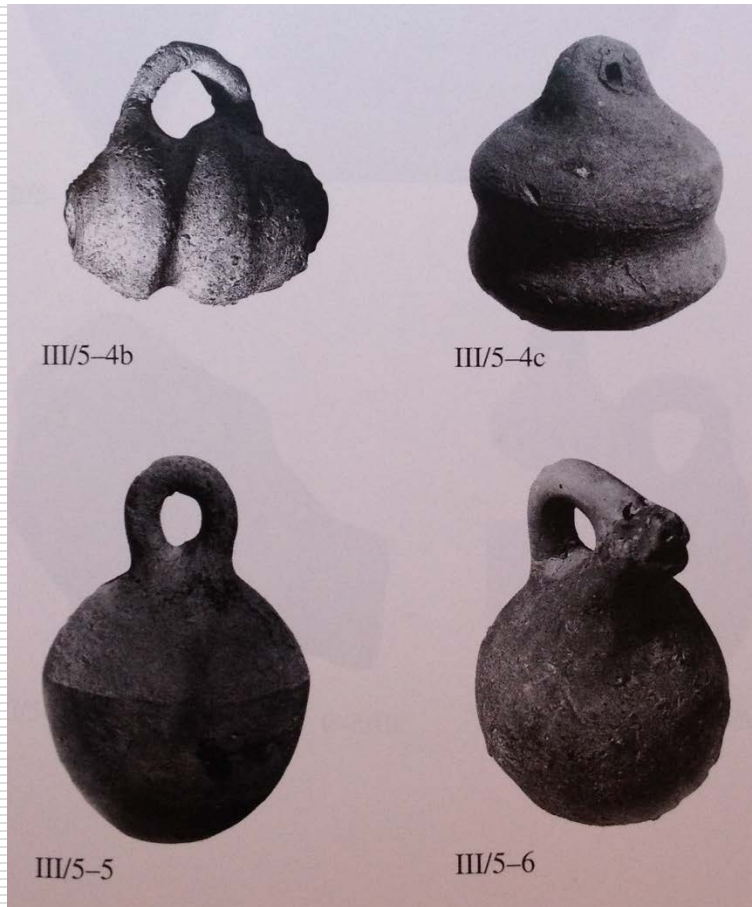
- Isaiah 3,16: ... the daughters of Zion ... walk ...
tinkling with their feet (עבס; παίζουσαι)
- Qur'ān 24,31: And let them not **stamp** their feet to
make known what they conceal of their adornment
- Gustav Dalman 1937, V, 8, p. 342: arab. *ḥilḥāl* / *ḥalḥāl*
anklet; *ranna* "to tinkle"

anklets - rhythm



- **Idiophones:**
 - **clappers, srappers, rattles, sistra, cymbals, bells**
- **Membranophones**
- **Aerophones**
- **Chordophones**

von Hornbostel/Sachs, 1914



Braun 1999



Westenholz 2007

Musical Instruments	A. Stone Age (before 3200 BCE)	B. Bronze Age (3200-1200 BCE)	C. Iron Age (1220-586 BCE)
Bells	--	--	10
Cymbals	--	19	4
Clappers	--	2	--
Rattles	2	28	54
Bullroarers	2	1	2
Drums ¹¹	1	1	44
Bone whistle	--	1	8
Horiz. flutes	--	--	--
Panpipes	--	--	--
Single pipes	--	1	--
Double pipes	--	--	10
Organs	--	--	--
Shofars	--	--	--
Trumpets	--	1	--
Conch trumpets	--	--	3
Zurna-type	--	--	--
Harps	1	--	--
Lutes	--	3	--
Lyres	--	3	11
TOTAL	6	60	146

Westenholz 2007

Drums - idiophones

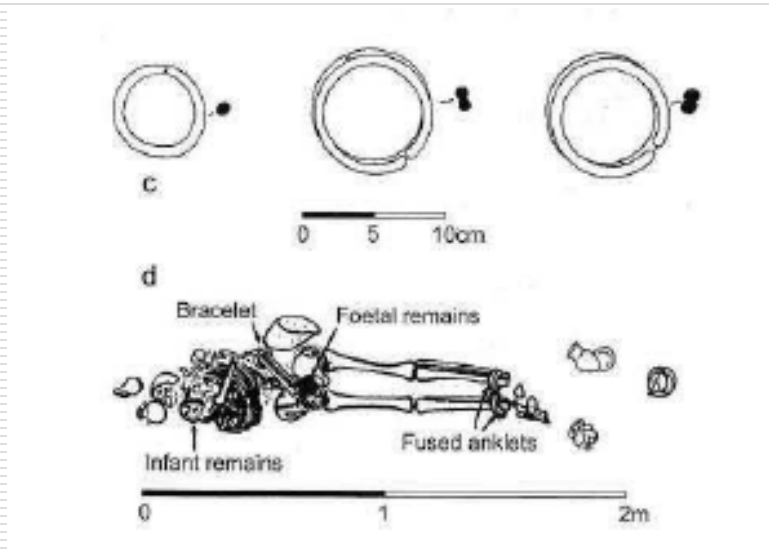


Saqqara, 14th c. BC

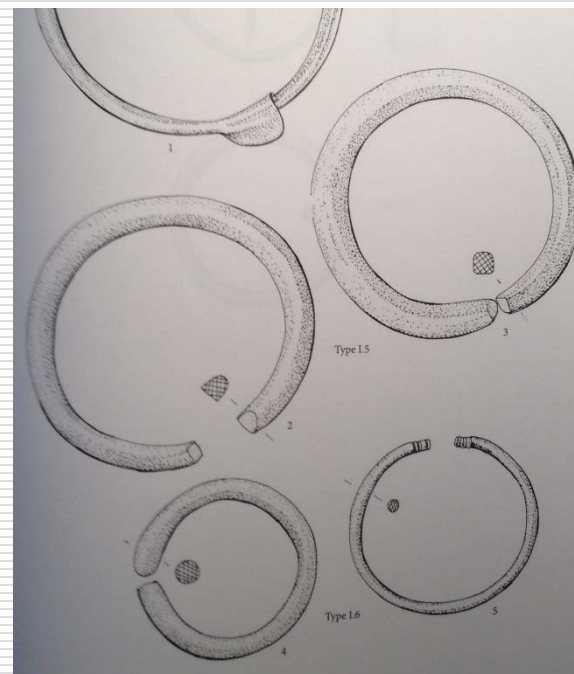


Ashdod, 11-10th c. BC

anklets



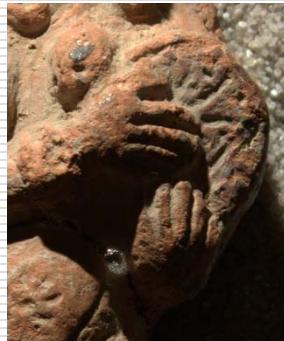
Green: 2007, 289



Golani 2013

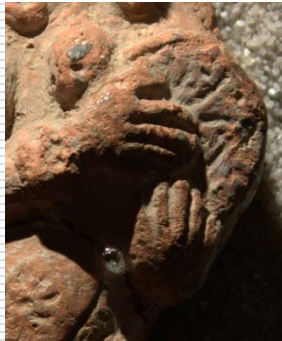
Conclusion

- In order to put into effect the sound of their anklets, bracelets and other jewellery ...

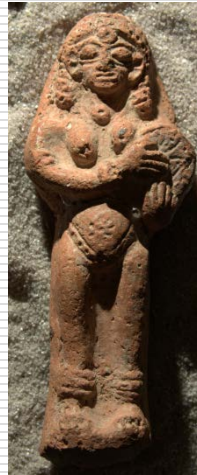


Conclusion

- ... the women had to move. They are not primarily drummers, but **dancers!**



But whom do they seduce? Humans?



- Cf. Hos 4:14: ... **the men ... sacrifice with sacred women ...**

... or are they seducing/inviting God to renew,
to secure, and to guarantee prosperity?

- Cf. Exodus 38,8/1 Samuel 2,22:
... the women who served at the
entrance to the tent of meeting ...



... or are they seducing/inviting God to renew,
to secure, and to guarantee prosperity?

- Cf. Proverbs 8,30:

... I was daily *his* delight, rejoicing always
before him ...



And these mass-produced figurines?

- in domestic,
- in cultic,
- in funeral contexts
- all over Jordan?



-
- Are they linked to the El cult, by a kind of sacred marriage ritual in analogy to KTU 1.23 in which the figurines represent and replace their owners (f.) who brought them in order **to be kissed and impregnated**, as their substitute, by the mighty god El?

-
- “He bends down, kisses their lips,
See how sweet their lips are,
Sweet as pomegranate[s].
As he kisses, there is **conception** ...”

KTU 1.23, 49-51

This is not the end ... thank you!



Acknowledgements:

- **University of Strasbourg (France)**
- **University of Würzburg (Germany)**
- **Department of Antiquities of Jordan, Amman**

- **Photos: Thomas Graichen (Germany)**
- **Drums: Miranda Rondeau (California)**