**The epigraphic stela of Montoro (Córdoba): the earliest monumental script in Iberia?**

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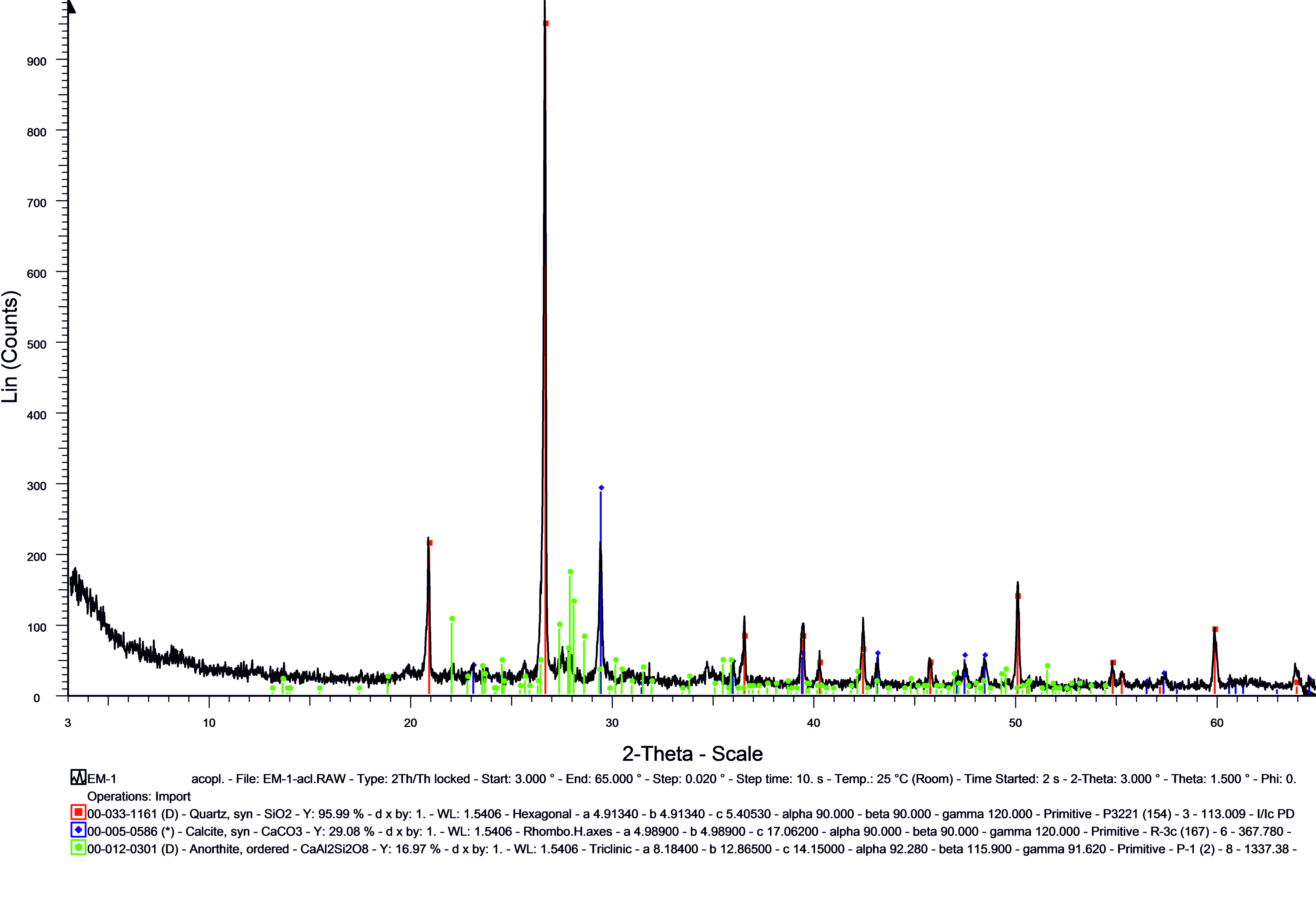
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*A remarkable stela from Montoro, southern Spain, is unique in its morphology, epigraphic traits and landscape context.A programme of chemical characterisation, digital imaging, and geo-lithological and epigraphic analyseswas conducted to determine its age and significance, and the results were integrated with data fromarchaeological investigations of the surrounding area. This multi-faceted approach allowed the stela to be interpreted within the context of early interactions betweenliterate Mediterranean societies of the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age and non-literate Iberian societies. A key outcome of this research is a wider understanding of the complex patternsin the use and perception of early scripts.*

*Keywords:* Spain, Montoro, Torre de Villaverde, Late Bronze Age, Iron Age, stela, epigraphy



*Figure S1. X-ray diffractogram of sample EM-1. Design: Ángel Justo Erbez.*