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Citation for published version:

Alaica, A, Clayton-Schalburg, J, Dalton, A, Kranioti, E, Echávarri, GG & Pickard, C 2018, 'Variability along the Frontier: Stable carbon and nitrogen isotope ratio analysis of human remains from the Late Roman-Early Byzantine cemetery site of Joan Planells, Ibiza, Spain', *Archaeological and Anthropological Sciences*, pp. 1-14. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12520-018-0656-0>

Digital Object Identifier (DOI):

[10.1007/s12520-018-0656-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12520-018-0656-0)

Link:

[Link to publication record in Edinburgh Research Explorer](#)

Document Version:

Peer reviewed version

Published In:

Archaeological and Anthropological Sciences

Publisher Rights Statement:

The final publication is available at Springer via <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs12520-018-0656-0>.

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1 **Variability along the Frontier: Stable carbon and nitrogen isotope ratio analysis of human**
2 **remains from the Late Roman-Early Byzantine cemetery site of Joan Planells, Ibiza, Spain**

3
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13
14 **Abstract**

15 Carbon ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$) and nitrogen ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$) stable isotope analysis of human bone collagen from 38
16 individuals was undertaken to assess diet at the Late Roman-Early Byzantine (AD 300-700)
17 cemetery site, Joan Planells, in Ibiza, Spain. The results ($\delta^{13}\text{C}=-18.7\pm 0.5\text{‰}$ and
18 $\delta^{15}\text{N}=10.1\pm 1.3\text{‰}$) that the diet of this population was derived predominantly from C₃ terrestrial
19 resources; plant foods were likely dietary staples along with meat and/or dairy produce
20 comprising an important component of diet. Variation in stable isotope ratio values suggest
21 individual differences in diet. Two individuals, both males, are statistical outliers with distinctive
22 $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values (14.4‰ and 14.8‰) that point to significant consumption of marine resources.
23 Females, on average, have higher $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values than males. The parsimonious explanation for this
24 observation is the greater inclusion of C₄ resources such as millet in the diets of females.
25 Comparison of the diet of the Joan Planells population with other Late Roman period sites on the
26 Hispanic mainland and other parts of the Mediterranean region suggests that populations may
27 have been responding to a combination of socio-political and environmental factors that could
28 have included Roman influence of food consumptive practices in some of these distant locales.

32 **1. Introduction**

33 Ibiza, one of the westernmost of the Balearic Islands, is located near the confluence of the
34 Mediterranean and Atlantic Seas. Colonized by the 3rd millennium BC, the occupation history of
35 Ibiza has been marked by successive waves of invasion and migration (Pomeroy 1976; Curchin
36 1991; Márquez-Grant 2005).

37 From the late 1st century BC until at least the late 3rd century AD, the social, economic and
38 political structures throughout Europe, Asia and North Africa were influenced and altered, to a
39 greater or lesser extent, by the expansion of the Roman Empire (Pericot Garcia 1972; Woolf and
40 Gosden 1997). Ibiza came into the sphere of Roman influence in the mid-2nd century BC
41 following the collapse of Carthage in 146 BC. Remaining largely politically and economically
42 autonomous for much of the following century it became a municipality of Rome in AD 70
43 (Curchin 1991). While Ibiza became more strongly connected to Roman exchange networks, the
44 evidence at Joan Planells dates to the 3rd to 7th centuries. These political and economic
45 transformations were happened at a time called the Roman Warm Period, which saw the
46 development of Roman civilization across the Western Mediterranean during a period of quiet
47 storm activity. This period was succeeded by a period of the highest storm activity witnessed in
48 this part of the Western Mediterranean in over 3 millennia (Degei et al. 2015). It is important to
49 emphasize that climate and paleoecological studies have corroborated that the North Atlantic
50 Oscillation (NAO) was a regional mechanism driving natural in the environmental fluctuation of
51 the western Mediterranean during the Late Holocene (Lamb 1995; Nieto-Moreno et al. 2011,
52 2013). With these dramatic shifts happening, this paper contextualizes how the Roman influence
53 in the region during the 3rd to 5th centuries (and continuing into the 7th century) was impacting
54 the island of Ibiza, while other socio-political and environmental transformations were occurring.
55 As diet and food consumption are important interlocutors for political, cultural and social
56 exchange, this isotopic dataset provides ideal evidence to consider how the population in the
57 Late Roman period were mitigating change.

58 Carbon and nitrogen stable isotope analysis of human bone collagen, an established method of
59 investigating diet in past populations, was used to determine food consumption patterns in a Late
60 Roman-Early Byzantine cemetery population at Joan Planells, Ibiza. In Late Roman times, the
61 Iberian Peninsula is considered an essential region in the Imperial economy, which makes this

62 study an essential contribution of data to the growing corpus of information on diet and dietary
63 change in prehistoric and early historic Ibiza (Kulikowski 2004).

64

65 **2. Joan Planells – Historical, Environmental and Archaeological Background**

66 Joan Planells is a large cemetery site in Eivissa, Ibiza (Figure 1). As mentioned above, the island
67 was first impacted by Roman expansion in the 2nd and 3rd centuries. During the time that this
68 island was in the sphere of Roman influence, there was relative economic stability, but from the
69 4th century onward the Roman presence in the Iberian Peninsula experienced economic crisis and
70 political break down ensued (Kulikowski 2004). With this economic crisis, the Atlantic
71 commerce deteriorated rapidly.

72 During the 3rd to 5th centuries and into the 7th century, the Iberian Peninsula experienced
73 important environmental changes. In Galicia, from the 2nd to 4th centuries, temperature and
74 humidity conditions were optimal for agriculture, providing good growing seasons for most of
75 the crops (Lopez Costas and Muldner 2016). When there were crop failures, millet and
76 fish/shellfish were alternative foods sources. The marine resources exploited are an important
77 contribution to Late Roman/post-Roman diet and may have been specific to the local perspective
78 (Lopez Costas and Muldner 2016).

79 Prior to its use as a cemetery the site was an urban area used for pottery production (Esquembre
80 Bebia et al. 2005; Martinez 2011; Girdwood 2012). The site is 36 m by 14 m in size and only a
81 portion was excavated. The remains of 74 individuals were recovered in both single cist and
82 multiple burials, some with comingled remains, and from a small number of simple pit burials
83 (Martinez 2011). Individuals were placed in supine position and accompanied by few graves
84 goods (Martinez 2011; Graziani Echávarri 2013). The small number of artifacts that were found
85 in association with the skeletal remains indicate that this necropolis was in use from the Late
86 Roman period, c. 3th–5th century AD, and continued to be used until the end of the Byzantine
87 period, in the 7th century AD.

88

89 FIGURE 1 HERE

90

91 Sex and age were assessed and recorded under the supervision of one of the authors (EK).
92 Standard methods for sex estimation utilizing the morphological features of the pelvis and
93 cranium were employed wherever possible with the inclusion of metric techniques (Buikstra and
94 Ubelaker 1994). Discriminant functions based on cranial and postcranial measurements were
95 also employed to classify individuals when the pelvis was not available. The discriminant
96 functions used for sex estimation was derived from a pooled sample from Ibiza of the same
97 period and not from the American Standards. At first, sex was estimated using pelvic
98 morphology and from these estimates discriminant functions were developed for long bones (e.g.
99 femur) and teeth using bootstrapping to account for sample size bias. The individuals with over
100 80% posterior probability of correct classification were considered reliable while anything under
101 80% was considered unknown. This information provided the demographic information
102 necessary to sample the 38 individuals that were analyzed for isotopes, in which males, females
103 and children were considered for the study. Of the 74 individuals recovered from Joan Planells,
104 43 were adults, 7 were juveniles and 24 were of unknown age at death (García-Donas et al.
105 2014). Sex estimation was possible for 25 individuals with 11 males and 14 females (García-
106 Donas et al. 2014). Indicators of degenerative joint disease, including Schmorl's nodes, were
107 found to be more common in females than among the males, whereas trauma and metabolic
108 ailments were more prevalent in males (see García-Donas et al. 2014 for more details). The
109 preservation of the Joan Planells assemblage was poor, and the remains were highly fragmented.
110 Many of the burials were weathered and the bone was cracked, which made the collection of
111 samples for isotope analysis difficult. The population of Joan Planells appears to be from a local
112 area, as the community buried in the cemetery includes men, women and children. Most
113 evidence from ceramic remains and from textual records suggest that this site was urban, but this
114 is not completely corroborated. The dietary evidence that is present below sheds some light on
115 the kinds of patterns related to status and identity in relation to food consumption.

116

117 **3. Reconstructing Diet**

118 *3.1 Historical Sources*

119 Documentary sources indicate that in the Mediterranean region in the 2nd to 7th centuries AD diet
120 was based largely on cereals (principally wheat and barley as well as millet, rye and oats), olive
121 oil and wine, as well as legumes, such as lentils and chickpeas (Garnsey 1999). As the principal

122 staple in the Mediterranean diet, wheat was often imported/exported throughout the Roman and
123 Byzantine empires (e.g. Curchin 1991). Resources were not equally available to all. Meat did not
124 figure prominently in the diets of many individuals, although it was an important component of
125 the diets of the Roman upper classes (Garnsey 1999). Large herds of sheep and goat were
126 reportedly kept predominantly for secondary products, such as wool and milk to produce cheese
127 (Dalby and Grainger 2012; Garnsey 1999). Archaeologically, sheep, goat and pig appear to have
128 been the primary sources of meat (Prowse et al. 2005). Cattle may have been reared primarily for
129 use in traction (Garnsey 1999).

130 Salt fish and fish sauces and pastes were produced in quantity in the Roman provinces of Spain
131 and continued to be economically important into the Byzantine period (Ponsich and Tarradell
132 1965; Garnsey 1999; Shepard 2004). In AD 301 the Edict of Diocletian V. 1-5 likely led to the
133 reduced cost of freshwater fish across the Roman Empire (Rutgers et al. 2009) and this may in
134 turn have resulted in social widening of access to fish and fish products. However, consumption
135 of fish in Roman society was often related to status. Fish products, such as *garum* made from
136 tuna fish, were luxury foods with many elites having access. For members of the lower echelons
137 of Roman society, fish products were a difficult resource to obtain (Corcoran 1963; Garnsey
138 1998). In northwestern Spain, evidence of salting facilities has been uncovered for processing
139 and preserving seafood dating back to the Iron Age. Historical sources during the Late Roman
140 and Medieval periods suggest that a local marshland was exploited heavily for salt production
141 (Lopez Costas and Muldner 2016). Local salting facilities on the Balaeric islands have not been
142 extensively studied. There may have been more localized fish consuming practices on the islands
143 and therefore large-scale salting activities may not have been a priority during the Late Roman
144 period. From the work conducted by Ramon Torres et al. (2012) it appears that at the site of Sa
145 Caleta, Phoenicians were actively extracting salt, which turned into a prosperous industry by
146 around 650BC. Therefore, Ibiza has strong ties to trade within the Mediterranean, carrying over
147 to Roman and Early Byzantine exchange networks.

148

149 *3.2 Stable Isotope Analysis*

150 Carbon and nitrogen stable isotope ratios of bone collagen have been demonstrated to be reliable
151 indicators of long-term dietary protein intake (Sealy 2001, Schoeninger 2010). $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$
152 isotope values of different categories of foods (e.g. marine and freshwater foods, and terrestrial

153 resources from C₃ and C₄ plant foodwebs) are generally distinctive. Plants in different
154 environments (terrestrial, marine and freshwater) fix/acquire carbon during photosynthesis in
155 different ways. Plants utilized as dietary staples fix carbon by one of two pathways, either the C₃
156 or C₄ pathway. C₃ plants comprise most grasses and plants native to temperate regions, including
157 oats, barley, wheat, and rice. C₄ plants include important cereal staples such as maize and millet.
158 C₃ plants generally have lower $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values than C₄ plants. For example, a typical consumer of
159 foods drawn from the terrestrial C₃ foodweb might have $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values between approximately -
160 20‰ and -18‰, while a consumer entirely dependent on resources from the C₄ foodweb would
161 be anticipated to have $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ around -7.5‰ (cf. van der Merwe and Vogel 1978; Tykot 2004).
162 Marine plants also fix carbon by the C₃ pathway. However, the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of marine plants are
163 distinctive from terrestrial C₃ plants because marine carbon isotope ratios are enriched relative to
164 atmospheric carbon isotope ratios (Tykot 2004). A typical consumer of predominantly marine
165 resources might have isotope values of $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -12\text{‰}$. Although this overlaps with the carbon
166 isotope values of C₄ consumers, the two dietary components can *often* be distinguished by $\delta^{15}\text{N}$
167 analysis.

168 Nitrogen stable isotopes are enriched with each trophic level by at least c. 3-5‰ (Bocherens and
169 Drucker 2003) and potentially up to 6‰ (O'Connell et al. 2012). Human consumers of terrestrial
170 resources will typically have $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values c. 6-10‰ (Tykot 2004). Marine/freshwater food-chains
171 are generally longer than terrestrial food-chains so consumers of aquatic resources tend to have
172 higher $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values than consumers of terrestrial resources (although see Hedges and Reynard
173 [2007] for discussion of uncertainties in $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ trophic shift variation). This $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ difference
174 between terrestrial and aquatic food-chains generally allows diets based on marine resources to
175 be distinguished from those derived from the C₄ foodweb.

176 Co-analysis of $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ signals of humans and fauna may distinguish between diets based
177 on terrestrial C₃ and C₄ plant foodwebs, freshwater and marine resources, and identify the trophic
178 level of the consumer (e.g. Chisholm et al. 1982; Schoeninger and DeNiro 1984; Tykot 2004).

179

180 **4. Materials and Method**

181 Bone samples for stable isotope analysis were obtained from the individuals that were relatively
182 well preserved in comparison to most the human bone material recovered. In the case of co-

183 mingled remains only one sample was taken to ensure that there was no duplication in sampling.
184 A total of 38 individuals were sampled (see Table 1), comprising 12 males, 8 females and 18
185 individuals of unknown sex. Twenty-two of these individuals are adults; one is a juvenile and 15
186 are of unknown age.

187 A sample of approximately 1 g of bone was taken from each specimen. Pre-treatment consisted
188 of cleaning each sample with the removal of 1-2 mm of surface bone. This was done to eliminate
189 remnant external contaminants accumulated while buried (van Klinken and Hedges 1995).
190 Cancellous bone was removed from samples taken from the long bones. Collagen was extracted
191 from all samples using a modified version of the Longin (1971) method (Brown et al. 1988).

192 Each sample was demineralized in 1 N HCl at 20°C for a minimum of 24 hours, and gelatinized
193 in 0.03 N HCl at 80°C for approximately 16 hours. The resulting solution was then lyophilized.
194 Well-preserved collagen samples, i.e. those with %wt yield of >1.00% (van Klinken 1999), were
195 measured for $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ by the SUERC Radiocarbon Laboratory in East Kilbride, UK, using
196 a Costech ECS 4010 combustion elemental analyzer coupled to a Thermofisher Delta V
197 Advantage gas source isotope ratio mass spectrometer. In-house gelatine standards, which are
198 calibrated to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) reference materials USGS40 (L-
199 glutamic acid, $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{V-PDB}} = -26.39\text{‰}$), USGS41 (L-glutamic acid, $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{V-PDB}} = +37.63\text{‰}$), IAEA-
200 CH-6 (sucrose, $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{V-PDB}} = -10.45\text{‰}$), USGS25 (ammonium sulphate, $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{AIR}} = -30.41\text{‰}$),
201 IAEA-N-1 (ammonium sulphate, $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{AIR}} = +0.43\text{‰}$) and IAEA-N-2 (ammonium sulphate,
202 $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{AIR}} = +20.41\text{‰}$), are run in duplicate for every ten unknown samples. Results are corrected
203 for linearity and instrumental drift, and are reported as per mil (‰) relative to the internationally
204 accepted standards V-PDB and AIR, with 1σ precisions of $\pm 0.2\text{‰}$ and $\pm 0.3\text{‰}$ for $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and
205 $\delta^{15}\text{N}$, respectively.

206 Collagen integrity was assessed by the following criteria: (i) atomic C:N ratio in the range 2.9 to
207 3.6 (DeNiro 1985), and (ii) minimum %C = 13% and %N = 5% (Ambrose 1990). All the
208 samples discussed below met these criteria.

209 Comparison of human stable isotope values with those of potential food sources improves the
210 accuracy of dietary models. However, no faunal remains were recovered from the Joan Planells
211 cemetery. The Joan Planells data were therefore compared to published archaeological faunal

212 stable isotope values from the near-contemporary site of S'Hort des Llimoners also located at
213 Eivissa, Ibiza (see Table 2, data from Fuller et al. 2010).

214

215 **5. Results and Discussion**

216 The $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ isotope values of the Joan Planells human bone samples are presented in
217 Table 1 and in Figures 2 and 3. Mean \pm standard deviation (1σ) $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values of the
218 sampled population ($n=38$) are $-18.7\pm 0.5\text{‰}$ and $10.1\pm 1.3\text{‰}$, respectively. In a Mediterranean
219 population, these values are consistent with a diet based largely, but not necessarily exclusively,
220 on terrestrial C_3 resources including meat and dairy produce (e.g. Richards et al. 1998; Tykot
221 2004). Comparison with Late Antiquity–Early Byzantine (LA-EB) animal isotope data (from
222 Fuller et al. 2010) to set baseline values for the local foodweb suggests that animal protein was a
223 noteworthy component of average diet but that additional resources, such as cereals, were likely
224 to have been important dietary staples – see Table 2 and Figure 3. The average $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ value of the
225 Joan Planells individuals is 4.6‰ above the caprine mean $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ value (of 5.5‰, $n=8$), 4.3‰
226 above the pig mean $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ value (of 5.8‰, $n=2$) and 2.6‰ above the cattle mean $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ value (of
227 7.5‰, $n=2$). Caprine and porcine products may therefore have played a more important role in
228 human diet than those of cattle. This corresponds not only to the reported dominance of goat in
229 the animal remains recovered from Late Antiquity-Early Byzantine sites in Ibiza but also to
230 accounts of Roman period diet, which point to greater dependence on pork (Fuller et al. 2010).

231 The higher mean $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ value of humans compared to animal food-species (-18.7‰ in humans in
232 comparison to -20.1‰ in cattle, pigs and caprines) is statistically significant (Mann-Whitney U
233 Test $\delta^{13}\text{C}$, $U=32.5$, $p<0.05$ – see Table 3 for all p-values and U statistics). This may reflect
234 additional or distinctive protein sources in human diet (e.g. a small component of C_4 resources)
235 or, alternatively, may be the result of a $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ food-consumer offset. Bocherens and Drucker
236 (2003) argued that the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ trophic level shift between ‘predator’ and ‘prey’ could be up to
237 2.0‰. Notably, the food species dataset from S'Hort des Llimoners is limited, comprising a total
238 of 12 specimens from three taxa. It is therefore possible that the observed difference in human
239 and domesticate $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values is an artefact of sample size.

240 TABLE 1 HERE

241 FIGURE 2 HERE

242 FIGURE 3 HERE

243 TABLE 2 HERE

244 TABLE 3 HERE

245 *5.1 Limitations of Study*

246 This study serves to add to the growing body of research on dietary trends during the Late
247 Roman period of the Balearic Islands. Fuller et al (2010) provide an extensive diachronic
248 perspective from various sites on Ibiza and Formentera, with human and animal isotopic
249 signatures being gathered. Within the scope of our project, and with the resources available to
250 the authors on site context information as well as historical correlates, the project does suffer
251 from a lack of local animal signatures to tease apart the human signatures and the sources of
252 dietary consumption as well as provide a stronger connection to the kinds of biocultural and
253 historical processes that may have been impacting diets between men, women and children. In
254 addition to this, the burials available to analyze for isotopic signatures were limited to 38
255 individuals, as there was some poorly preserved remains from the cemetery of Joan Planells.
256 Furthermore, due to the limited contact with the original excavators there is not as much in-depth
257 contextual information that could be added to the background and interpretations of dietary
258 practice at this site. This limitation is a testament to the necessity of osteological specialists to be
259 present during excavations and for more conversations to occur during and after the recovery of
260 the material from the field.

261 Despite these limitations, the study allows for comparisons to be made more closely among men
262 and women from Joan Planells, which is a greater step towards discussing gendered dietary
263 trends in the past. This kind of conversation allows for more nuanced interpretations to be made
264 about the ways that Romanization were influencing frontier sites at the confluence of the Roman
265 and non-Roman world.

266 *5.2 Differences in individual diets*

267 At Joan Planells stable carbon isotope ratios have a relatively narrow range of values from -
268 17.7‰ to -19.7‰ (within $\pm 1\%$, which DeNiro and Schoeninger [1983] identified as the typical
269 range for populations consuming uniform diet). The range of the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values is consistent with a

270 predominantly C₃ foodweb-derived diet for *this* region. C₃ plants are reported to have mean $\delta^{13}\text{C}$
271 of -26.5‰ (e.g. Tykot 2004): assuming a diet-bone collagen offset of +5‰, consumers of an
272 exclusively C₃ derived diets would be anticipated to have $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of c. -21.5‰. However, C₃
273 cereals from the West-Mediterranean region of Spain have been demonstrated to be relatively
274 ^{13}C -enriched. Archaeological specimens of *Triticum durum*, *Hordeum vulgare* and *Hordeum*
275 *vulgare nudum* recovered from Neolithic to Iron Age contexts have mean $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of -22.6‰,
276 -22.8‰ and -22.6‰, respectively (see table 1, Araus et al. 1997). Consumers of these C₃
277 resources would have $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of c. -17.7‰.

278 The nitrogen isotope ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$) values exhibit a wide range from 9.0‰ to 14.8‰ spanning
279 approximately one trophic level (O'Connell et al. 2012), suggestive of individual differences in
280 dietary intake. It should be noted, however, that most of the sampled population have $\delta^{15}\text{N}$
281 values of $\leq 12.7\%$. Two males, UE303 and UE301, are statistical outliers with especially high
282 $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values of 14.4‰ and 14.8‰, but typical $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of -18.6‰ and -19.1‰, respectively.
283 This suggests that the diet of these individuals was distinctive from other members of this group.
284 Increased $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values are typical of diets that include aquatic resources such as fish and sea
285 mammals. Generally, consumption of marine resources is associated with the co-linear increase
286 of both $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values (Schoeninger et al. 1990). Spearman's Rank Order Correlation test
287 indicated a moderate positive correlation ($r_s=0.37$) between the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values in the Joan
288 Planells population (see also Figure 2). Arguably, however, $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values are a more reliable
289 indicator of marine resource consumption than $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ in Mediterranean populations where diets
290 may be relatively high in carbohydrate and low in protein (Prowse et al. 2005; Craig et al. 2013).
291 In individuals with relatively low protein diets nutrient scrambling (Prowse et al. 2004; Craig et
292 al. 2013) may result in carbon and nitrogen being drawn from different dietary constituents –
293 carbon may be assimilated from dietary proteins, carbohydrates and/or lipids in protein
294 inadequate diets (Hedges 2004). It is likely therefore that the ^{15}N -enriched values of individuals
295 UE301 and UE303 are the result of increased access to aquatic/marine resources, which may be
296 status- or activity-related. This interpretation is offered cautiously – in the Mediterranean region
297 identifying the consumption of marine foods is non-trivial. Among the men of Joan Planells,
298 there is a stepwise, linear pattern that shows there is incremental differences in $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values,
299 while $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values are almost the same (Figure 2) (positive linear trend is highlighted by a
300 vertical-dashed red line). This pattern may be suggestive of differential access to fish resources

301 among the men of this population and that possibly there were men of highly distinct statuses
302 being buried in the same cemetery. The $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values of fish from the Mediterranean Sea
303 vary widely (see Pinnegar and Polunin 2000; Garvie-Lok 2001; Polunin et al. 2001; Badalamenti
304 et al. 2002; Prowse et al. 2004; Keenleyside et al. 2009). Polunin et al. (2001) reported that the
305 mean $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values of modern fish specimens captured off the southeast coast of Ibiza
306 were -17.8‰ , much lower than the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ range (-8.3‰ to -14.1‰) for modern and archaeological
307 Mediterranean fish published by Garcia-Guixé et al. (2010).

308 The mean \pm s.d. (1σ) $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values of the females ($n=8$) at Joan Planells are $-18.3\pm 0.5\text{‰}$
309 and $11.5\pm 0.8\text{‰}$, respectively, while those of the males ($n=12$) are $-18.9\pm 0.3\text{‰}$ and $11.3\pm 1.7\text{‰}$,
310 respectively. There is a statistically significant difference between male and female $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values,
311 but not in $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values, even with the statistical outliers included (Mann-Whitney U Test $\delta^{13}\text{C}$,
312 $U=19.5$, $p<0.05$; $\delta^{15}\text{N}$, $U=64.5$, $p>0.05$). This difference along with isotopic signatures for an
313 increased preponderance of degenerative conditions may point to activity and/or sex-based
314 differences in access to food. The parsimonious explanation for relative ^{13}C -enrichment in
315 females with no associated increase in $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values is a greater contribution of C_4 plant resources
316 to diet (cf. Müldner et al. 2011 and Pickard et al. 2017). Millet, a C_4 cereal, may have contributed
317 to the diets of Late Roman-Early Byzantine interred on Ibiza (e.g. Fuller et al. 2010). An
318 alternative possibility is the consumption of low trophic level aquatic/marine resources such as
319 shellfish and garum made from low trophic level fish. For example, stable isotope values of
320 samples of garum from Roman Pompeii have high $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values (-12.2‰) and relatively low $\delta^{15}\text{N}$
321 values (4.9‰) (Pate 2016). Similar mean values are quoted by Prowse et al. (2004) for five
322 ancient garum samples, with $\delta^{13}\text{C}=-14.7\pm 0.6\text{‰}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}=6.5\pm 1.7\text{‰}$. Hedges (2004) indicated
323 that as much as 20% of dietary protein would need to be drawn from marine resources for this
324 component of diet to be isotopically visible. Given an average daily requirement of c. 50 g of
325 protein in females and traditional Southeast Asian fish sauces, which are considered to “parallel
326 almost exactly” garum, have a protein content of 100g/L (see Curtis 2009), consumption of 100
327 ml of garum per day should be isotopically visible. Additionally, in carbohydrate rich diets that
328 are relatively low in protein, protein-rich foods can make a disproportionate contribution to
329 collagen isotope signals reflecting amino acid routing as opposed to biosynthesis (Webb et al.
330 2016).

331

332 *5.3 Demographics and diet*

333 A further consideration in isotope-based dietary reconstruction is the structure and ‘isotope age’
334 of the population sampled. The Joan Planells bone collagen samples were obtained from
335 individuals of varying age as well as from different skeletal elements (including long bones,
336 digits and ribs) The isotope signatures of these individuals therefore potentially reflect diet at
337 different stages of life and over varying timespans. The timespan reflected in bone collagen
338 stable isotope values depends on (i) the age of the individual at death, and (ii) the type of bone
339 sampled, i.e. whether it is trabecular or cortical tissue. In infants and young children there is
340 rapid bone development and sampled bone collagen may reflect diet only during the year prior to
341 death (Tsutaya and Yoneda 2013). During adolescence, another key period of substantial bone
342 growth, complete collagen turnover may occur in both trabecular and cortical bone in as little as
343 one to two years (Ubelaker and Parra 2011; Tsutaya and Yoneda 2013). In adulthood, with
344 cessation of bone growth, collagen turnover reduces significantly – it is estimated to take, on
345 average, between 10 and 30 years for collagen to turnover completely (Libby et al. 1964;
346 Stenhouse and Baxter 1979; Hedges et al. 2007). Consequently, in young to middle aged adults
347 there is disproportionate representation of dietary intake during adolescence in bone collagen
348 isotope signatures depending on skeletal element sampled (Hedges et al. 2007; Ubelaker and
349 Parra 2011). Collagen turnover in cancellous elements is generally more rapid than that in
350 cortical tissues. Collagen in adult ribs may turnover completely in as little as c. 2 years and in
351 vertebrae in 1-3 years, while turnover in the mid-shaft of an adult femur may take over 20 years
352 (Bryant & Loutit 1964; Hedges et al. 2007).

353 The majority of the aged individuals sampled at Joan Planells fall into the young to middle adult
354 categories. In these individuals analysis of cortical bone would be anticipated to mainly reflect
355 dietary intake during adolescence, while analysis of largely cancellous bone tissue should reflect
356 diet in the last 2-5 years before death. Comparison of cortical vs cancellous elements indicated
357 no significant difference in $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ nor in $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values (Mann-Whitney U Test $\delta^{13}\text{C}$, $U=227.5$,
358 $p>0.05$; $\delta^{15}\text{N}$, $U=170.5$, $p>0.05$) suggesting that dietary intake did not change significantly
359 between adolescence and adulthood.

360 Notably, 88% of the females analyzed were of reproductive age. A range of factors, including
361 pregnancy as well as nutritional stress and pathological conditions can result in non-dietary

362 related variation in individual $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values (e.g. Fuller et al. 2005; Nitsch et al. 2010;
363 Olsen et al. 2014).

364

365 *5.4 Diet in the Late Antiquity-Early Byzantine period – a stable isotope perspective*

366 Diet of the Late Antiquity-Early Byzantine cemetery population at S'Horts des Llimoners is
367 broadly like that of the Joan Planells population, with primary dependence on C_3 resources and
368 potentially with a small component of C_4 or marine resources (Table 4; Fuller et al. 2010). Given
369 the proximity contemporaneity of the two sites the similarity in diets is perhaps not unexpected.
370 However, differences in minor components of diet are evident. While the $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values of the adult
371 populations at Joan Planells (n=23) and S'Horts des Llimoners (n=34) are statistically
372 indistinguishable, there is a significant difference in the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values (Mann-Whitney U-test,
373 $\delta^{13}\text{C}$, U=525.5, $p<0.05$; $\delta^{15}\text{N}$, U=402, $p>0.05$). The relative ^{13}C -enrichment of the Joan Planells
374 adult population compared to that of S'Horts des Llimoners lends support to the suggestion that a
375 C_4 resource, such as millet, may have contributed to diet at Joan Planells, and possibly more
376 among women of this population. Alternatively, this difference may reflect more complex
377 patterns of dietary difference resulting from macronutrient scrambling in carbohydrate rich diets
378 that include marine protein (e.g. Prowse et al. 2005; Craig et al. 2013).

379 TABLE 4 HERE

380 It is apparent that there was no one 'Roman' diet in both Italy, mainland Spain and the Balearic
381 Islands (Killgrove and Montgomery 2016). Direct comparison of stable isotope values and diets
382 at Late Roman sites in other regions is limited by the demonstrably different baseline isotope
383 values of domesticates across these regions (e.g. Prowse et al. 2004; Keenleyside et al. 2009;
384 Craig et al. 2009; Rissech et al. 2016). However, some general observations can be drawn.

385 Dependence on C_3 plants, with an important but variable contribution from meat and/or dairy
386 products, is characteristic of many Late Roman sites in the sphere of Roman influence and on
387 mainland Spain and throughout the Mediterranean Basin (e.g. Killgrove and Tykot 2013; Rissech
388 et al. 2016; Salazar-García et al. 2016; Saragoça et al. 2016). The range and relative importance
389 of the foods consumed at S'Horts des Llimoners and Joan Planells are remarkably like the diets
390 inferred for individuals interred at the Late Roman cemeteries of Casal Bertone and Castellaccio

391 Europarco, Rome, Italy (see Killgrove and Tykot 2013). At each of these sites diet was based
392 principally on C₃ plants with meat/other animal products, while C₄ and/or aquatic resources
393 minor contributors to diet. However, interestingly this pattern is reverse for mainland NW Spain,
394 which shows high consumption of fish and C₄ resources (Lopez-Costas and Muldner 2016).

395 As at Joan Planells, caprines and pigs were likely the primary sources of animal protein at the
396 late Roman necropolis at Carrer Ample 1, Barcelona, Spain. Rissech et al. (2016) highlighted the
397 distinctive nature of diet at Carrer Ample 1 in comparison to other Late Roman sites in the
398 Mediterranean owing to the slight or absent contribution of fish at this coastally located site. The
399 $\Delta^{15}\text{N}$ spacing of 6.4‰ between humans and domesticates is relatively high at Carrer Ample 1,
400 larger than one trophic level (O'Connell 2012) – see Table 5. The likely contribution of fish to
401 diet at Carrer Ample 1 thus appears to be greater than that at Joan Planells or Casal Bertone and
402 Castellaccio Europarco. This interpretation is complicated by the single chicken bone analyzed
403 from Carrer Ample 1, which has a $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ value of 10.8‰. However, broadly Carrer Ample 1 fits
404 the C₃-dominated dietary pattern evident at many other sites.

405 Although discerning the role of marine resources in Mediterranean diet in Antiquity is complex,
406 the stable isotope evidence, at least at the population level, points to little contribution of fish to
407 diet at many sites (e.g. Fuller et al. 2010; Killgrove and Tykot 2013; Rissech et al. 2016; and see
408 Table 5). These patterns differ from those seen in Late Roman contexts at A Lanzada in Galicia,
409 where there is frequent consumption of local fish species (Lopez-Costas and Muldner 2016). A
410 Lanzada has some of the most C¹³-enriched values observed in any Iberian population. There is
411 furthermore a significant shift in diet between the Roman and post-Roman period during the 2nd
412 and 4th centuries AD where there is economic and environmental transformation. Archaeological
413 and/or osteological indicators at sites such as Carrer Ample 1, Castellaccio Europarco, as well as
414 Joan Planells, suggest that the interred populations were generally of low socio-economic
415 standing (Killgrove and Tykot 2013; Rissech et al. 2016). However, some of the individuals
416 interred at these sites do have ¹⁵N-enrichment consistent with a greater, and in some instances, a
417 sizeable proportion of fish in diet (e.g. UE 301 and UE303 at Joan Planells) These two male
418 individuals are both in their 20s or 30s and their graves were single cist burials with
419 undifferentiated artifacts. Perhaps these were individuals who had direct connections with the
420 fishing industry?

421 TABLE 5 HERE

422 An alternative hypothesis is that individuals of higher status had greater access to prestige foods.
423 Prowse and colleagues (2004) demonstrated that the affluent population of Portus Romae,
424 interred at Isola Sacra, consumed a significant proportion of fish, with up to 40% of dietary
425 protein derived from marine resources. In contrast to this, the rural, inland, farming population
426 from the cemetery at an ANAS excavated site in Rome's suburbs had relatively low ^{13}C and ^{15}N
427 reflecting the minor importance of fish to diet (Prowse et al. 2004). However, this correlation
428 between status and fish consumption is far from universal. At the contemporary trading port of
429 Velia, in southern Italy, Craig and colleagues (2009) identified variation in access to marine
430 resources: this could not be clearly linked to status inferred from burial style. As Craig et al.
431 (2009) pointed out there is no evidence to support the notion that the individuals interred at Isola
432 Sacra were of higher status than the population at Velia. Craig et al. (2009) therefore concluded
433 that the increased consumption of fish evident at Isola Sacra did not directly reflect status but
434 was specific to the economy, occupations and access to traded foods of those employed at one of
435 the largest trading ports in the Roman world.

436 Differences in the diets of males and females are suggested by stable isotope ratios at Isola
437 Sacra, Velia and Joan Planells (Prowse et al. 2005; Craig et al. 2009). At each of these sites
438 females appear to consume more plants, while males have greater access to either meat or fish.
439 This trend is evident also in the pre-Roman, Celtic population from the necropolis of Seminario
440 Vescovile in Verona, dating from the 3rd to 1st century BC, which indicates that women
441 consumed higher amounts of C₄ plants (and cereals in general), while men had greater access to
442 meat (Laffranchi et al. 2016). For cultural and practical reason men in Roman society generally
443 had greater access to higher prestige food such as meat and fish. Socio-economic status may
444 have influenced the manifestation of dietary differences. The effects of sex-based dietary
445 restrictions would have been more pronounced in wealthier households. All members of lower
446 status households, male and female would have had limited access to meat (Garnsey 1999). The
447 cultural restriction of certain foods based on the perceived negative effects on health in females
448 may have permeated the social makeup of the colonies.

449 Dietary differences between males and females at Joan Planells hint at greater consumption of a
450 C₄ resource. The stable isotope values of the domesticates from S'Horts des Llimoners show no

451 evidence for a C₄ component in animal feed. Thus, if sex-based dietary differences at Joan
452 Planells reflect C₄ input, it is likely that this was in the form of the C₄ cereal millet. Stable
453 isotope analyses have indicated that the consumption of millet was widespread in later
454 prehistoric and Roman Europe and that it correlated with socio-economic status (e.g. Murray and
455 Schoeninger 1988; Bonsall et al. 2004; Le Huray and Schutkowski 2005). In Roman society
456 millet was viewed as a poor-quality cereal (Iacumin et al. 2014; Kulikowski 2004), not used in
457 the kitchens of the elite, and often grown for animal fodder (Adamson 2004). Millet flour was
458 also used to produce bread and a sort of porridge cooked in water and salt. Often, these kinds of
459 foods were accompanied by vegetables and cheese and very rarely with meat (Columella, *De Re*
460 *Rustica*, 2, 9, 14-16; Pliny the Elder, *Naturalis Historiae* XVIII, 83-84; Lafranchi et al. 2016).
461 Cemetery sites in the locus of Rome confirm the correlation between millet intake and socio-
462 economic status. At the more rural, suburban cemetery of Castellaccio Europarco consumption
463 of millet was greater than at the urban cemetery of Casal Bertone – this is reflected in relative
464 ¹³C at the former site (Castellaccio Europarco adult $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -17.8 \pm 2.6\text{‰}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N} = 9.4 \pm 1.4\text{‰}$;
465 Casal Bertone adult $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -18.2 \pm 0.6$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N} = 10.0 \pm 1.5\text{‰}$).

466 The evidence from Joan Planells spans the 3rd to 7th centuries AD and the isotopic signatures are
467 evaluated at the site level. This means that the population average for $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values
468 account for the entire spread of this timeframe. While most the burials are from the 3rd to 5th
469 centuries, the later 7th century evidence may present some variability among the trends for this
470 Late Roman period. Nevertheless, the dataset is an important contribution to discuss how diet
471 can differ not only between geographically closer locales, such as Joan Planells and A Lanzada
472 in mainland Spain, but also how diet can vary within a population, in which two men have
473 significantly higher $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values than the rest of the population.

474 The discussion above highlights the clear similarities between the diet, and potentially cultural
475 restrictions that limit access to foods, at Joan Planells and other sites both in Italy and in the
476 sphere of Roman influence on mainland Spain and the Balearic Islands. However, to determine if
477 these similarities are the result of Roman influence comparisons must be made with pre-Roman
478 diet on Ibiza. The diet of the Joan Planells adult population is distinctive from that of the earlier
479 Punic (5th-2nd/1st centuries BC) population from the rural necropolis Ses Païsses de Cala d'Hort
480 ($\delta^{13}\text{C} = -18.7 \pm 0.3\text{‰}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N} = 12.5 \pm 0.5\text{‰}$, n = 38), situated in southwest Ibiza: Fuller et al. 2010).
481 Relative ¹⁵N-enrichment is evident at the latter site (Mann-Whitney U test $\delta^{13}\text{C}$, U=354, p>0.05;

482 $\delta^{15}\text{N}$, $U=135$, $p<0.05$) suggesting increased consumption of higher trophic level foods, such as
483 meat and potentially fish or fish products. While it is tempting to attribute this apparent shift in
484 dietary pattern to Roman influence, it is important to acknowledge that there is no difference
485 (Mann-Whitney U test $\delta^{13}\text{C}$, $U=61.5$ $p>0.05$; $\delta^{15}\text{N}$, $U=71$, $p>0.05$) in the isotope values of the
486 Joan Planells population and that of an urban Punic population at Puig des Molins ($\delta^{13}\text{C}=-$
487 18.8 ± 0.3 and $\delta^{15}\text{N}=-11.3\pm 0.8$, $n=6$: Fuller et al. 2010). This suggests the diet of urban
488 populations remained largely unchanged in Ibiza through the Punic period and into the Roman
489 period. However, the number of adults sampled for Puig des Molins is very small. Additionally,
490 there was no demographic information available for either the Puig des Molins or Ses Païsses de
491 Cala d'Hort populations so it was not possible to investigate sex-based variability in Punic diet.
492 Further research into dietary variability at Punic and Roman period sites on Ibiza would assist in
493 clarifying the impact of external spheres of influence on local cultural practices.

494 It is apparent then that the dietary patterns of population at Joan Planells varied internally, but
495 also it varied greatly from the pattern of food consumption in Italy and in mainland Spain during
496 the Late Roman period. Twiss (2007) articulates that food forms the basis of identity politics and
497 forms the basis of sustaining group cohesion and responses to internal and external pressures to a
498 community. For the population of Joan Planells, the negotiation of identity was occurring
499 through the Late Roman context and in the Early Byzantine period, when new internal and
500 external pressures were mounting. This community may have faced environmental and socio-
501 political change that was mitigated by consuming more local, C_3 plant resources, instead of
502 engaging with the millet trade and fish acquisition. The ability for this population to negotiate
503 their role in the midst the cessation of Roman influence recognizes the ingenuity and agency for
504 the community at Joan Planells.

505

506 **6. Conclusions**

507 The results of $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ analysis of human bone collagen indicate that the population
508 sampled at Joan Planells consumed a diet based largely on C_3 resources with a possible small
509 contribution from C_4 plants and/or aquatic resources. The $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of the men and women are
510 statistically significantly different, suggesting dietary and potentially gender-differences. The
511 enriched $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ signatures of two males in particular may have implications for status and/or
512 activity-related differences in dietary intake.

513 This investigation reveals important dietary trends for a region that was in the sphere of Roman
514 influence. The combination of carbon and nitrogen isotopes along with demographic data
515 indicates dietary diversity at Joan Planells. While there are limitations in the detail of
516 archaeological contextual information, these dietary trends at Joan Planells to attest to great
517 variation in subsistence practices and gendered access to food at a time when the Roman sphere
518 was being impacted climatically with surges in extreme storm frequencies as well as greater
519 contact with hostile groups. With the eventual transition to Byzantine dominance in the
520 Mediterranean, these dietary trends reflect the diversity of strategies that may have been
521 practiced during a period of political, economic and social instability. This paper contributes to a
522 more in-depth understanding that scholars have of diet in the Late Roman period, in which no
523 singular dietary trend can be labelled Roman. Better understand the variation in these subsistence
524 signatures can begin to tell us more about local responses to socio-political, economic and
525 environmental changes.

526

527 **Acknowledgements**

528 We thank the School of History, Classics and Archaeology, University of Edinburgh, the
529 Scotland Saltire Scholarship Foundation and Trinity College, University of Toronto, for their
530 financial support. Special thanks to Luis Manuel Gonzalez La Rosa for his support in the final
531 stages of writing this manuscript. Also, we would like to thank the comments from anonymous
532 reviewers who helped to greatly improve this article. Any faults or errors are our own.

533

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Table 1: Carbon and nitrogen stable isotope ratio values and collagen quality indicators of the Joan Planells samples.

GUsi	Context ID	Element	Sex	Age	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$	C/N	%N	%C
2589	JP03 UE324	Scapula	F	17-25	-17.7	12.2	3.2	14.8	40.6
2590	JP03 UE352	Phalanx	M	adult	-18.9	10.2	3.2	15.2	41.8
2591	JP03 UE325	Metacarpal	F	17-25	-17.9	11.3	3.2	14.7	40.1
2592	JP03 UE304	Metacarpal	M	17-24	-18.9	11.2	3.2	15.2	41.7
2593	JP03 UE333	Radius	M	17-35	-18.4	10.9	3.2	10.0	27.7
2594	JP03 UE340	Rib	F	17-44	-18.4	11.3	3.2	12.4	34.4
2595	JP03 UE355	Phalanx	F	17-25	-18.6	11.6	3.2	15.0	40.9
2596	JP03 UE323	Fibula	F	17-35	-18.7	10.3	3.2	15.2	41.6
2597	JP03 UE302	Long bone	M	30-39	-18.2	10.6	3.2	10.3	28.3
2598	JP03 UE357	Long bone	M	>23	-18.9	9.8	3.3	8.2	23.5
2599	JP03 UE303	Long bone	M	25-45	-18.6	14.4	3.2	15.3	42.1
2600	JP03 UE316	Radius	F	22-24	-19.0	12.0	3.2	14.8	40.5
2601	JP03 UE305	Rib	M	21-25	-18.6	11.4	3.2	14.4	39.7
2602	JP03 UE329	Rib	F	17-25	-18.1	12.7	3.2	14.8	40.6
2603	JP03 UE301 201x103 JP03 UE349-	Scapula	M	17-39	-19.1	14.8	3.2	14.9	41.1
2604	2	Metatarsal	M	17-39	-18.6	12.1	3.2	16.1	44.0
4707	JP 03 UE 307	Long Bone	UN	UN	-19.3	9.7	3.2	14.1	38.3
4709	JP 03 UE 310	Fibula	UN	UN	-19.1	10.2	3.2	14.8	40.5
4702	JP 03 UE 312	Long Bone	UN	UN	-19.0	9.4	3.2	15.7	43.1
4703	JP 03 UE 314	Long Bone	UN	17-21	-19.7	9.0	3.2	13.7	37.7
4716	JP 03 UE 315 JP 03 UE	Metatarsal	UN	UN	-19.0	10.4	3.2	15.8	43.0
4712	316A	Long Bone	UN	25-45	-19.7	11.5	3.3	14.5	40.5
4706	JP 03 UE 319	Fibula	UN	UN	-18.3	11.1	3.2	13.9	37.9
4720	JP 03 UE 320	Rib	UN	UN	-18.4	9.8	3.2	13.4	36.8
4715	JP 03 UE 321 JP 03 UE	Fibula	UN	UN	-18.7	10.5	3.2	14.4	39.4
4718	329B	Long Bone	UN	19-25	-18.9	12.1	3.2	15.5	42.8
4700	JP 03 UE 332	Ulna	UN	<1	-18.9	9.2	3.2	14.2	39.3
4701	JP 03 UE 334 JP 03 UE	Long Bone	M?	30-34	-19.3	9.6	3.2	14.4	39.7
4711	341-2	Long Bone	UN	25-35	-19.5	10.0	3.3	15.0	41.9
4704	JP 03 UE 344	Metacarpal	UN	25-35	-18.8	9.1	3.2	14.7	40.2
4719	JP 03 UE 346	Fibula	UN	UN	-18.0	12.4	3.2	14.8	40.7
4717	JP 03 UE 347 JP 03 UE	Humerus	UN	UN	-18.9	10.4	3.2	15.1	41.7
4710	348-5	Long Bone	UN	UN	-18.0	12.0	3.2	15.6	42.7
4699	JP 03 UE 352	Phalanx	M	UN	-18.9	10.0	3.2	14.9	40.8
4708	JP 03 UE 354	Metatarsal	F?	UN	-17.7	10.9	3.2	14.6	39.6
4714	JP 03 UE 357	Rib 4th	M?	23-35	-19.0	10.5	3.2	15.4	42.0
4713	JP 03 UE 359	Metacarpal	UN	UN	-18.6	9.1	3.2	15.5	42.2
4705	JP 03 UE 405	Radius	UN	UN	-18.7	10.7	3.2	14.8	40.3

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752

753 **Table 2:** Carbon ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$) and nitrogen ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$) stable isotope ratio values of Late Antiquity-Early
 754 Byzantine fauna from S'Hort des Llimoners, Ibiza (data from Fuller et al., 2010).

Sample	Species	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	C:N
IBF 9	Pig	-20.8	5.5	3.4
IB-A-13	Pig	-20.8	6.1	3.2
IBF 10	Sheep/goat	-21.0	5.7	3.3
IBF 8	Sheep/goat	-20.1	4.2	3.3
IB-A-2	Sheep/goat	-20.2	8.7	3.2
IB-A-3	Sheep/goat	-19.8	4.6	3.2
IB-A-4	Sheep/goat	-19.9	5.8	3.2
IB-A-5	Sheep/goat	-20.2	5.5	3.2
IB-A-6	Sheep/goat	-19.8	4.2	3.2
IB-A-14	Sheep/goat	-18.1	5.5	3.2
IBF 11	Cow	-20.3	7.7	3.3
IBF 14	Cow	-19.9	7.2	3.3
IBF 13	Dog	-19.0	9.2	3.3

755

756 **Table 3:** Mann-Whitney p-values, U statistics and indication of statistically significant
 757 difference (SSD) data

Variables compared	p-value		U statistic		SSD	
	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$
trabecular (n= 15) vs cortical (n= 23)	0.100482	0.952372	227.5	170.5	N	N
human (n=38) vs animal-food species (n= 12)	0.000009	n/a	32.5	n/a	Y	n/a
Joan Planells males (n=12) vs females (n=8)	0.027891	0.203017	19.5	64.5	Y	N
Joan Planells (n=23) vs S'Horts des Llimoners (n=34)	0.028689	0.857998	525.5	402	Y	N
Joan Planells (n=23) vs Ses Païsses de Cala d'Hort (n=38)	0.216777	0.000007	354	135	N	Y
Joan Planells (n=23) vs Puig des Molins (n=6)	0.686370	0.914252	61.5	71	N	N

758

759

760 **Table 4:** Comparison of Joan Planells and S'Horts des Llimoners $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values.

Site	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$			$\delta^{15}\text{N}$			Range		n
	Av.	Max	Min	Av.	Max	Min	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$	
Joan Planells	-18.7±0.5	-19.7	-17.7	11.2±1.5	14.8	9.0	2.0	5.8	23
S'Horts des Llimoners	-19.0±0.4	-19.7	-18.0	11.1±0.9	12.6	8.3	1.7	4.3	34

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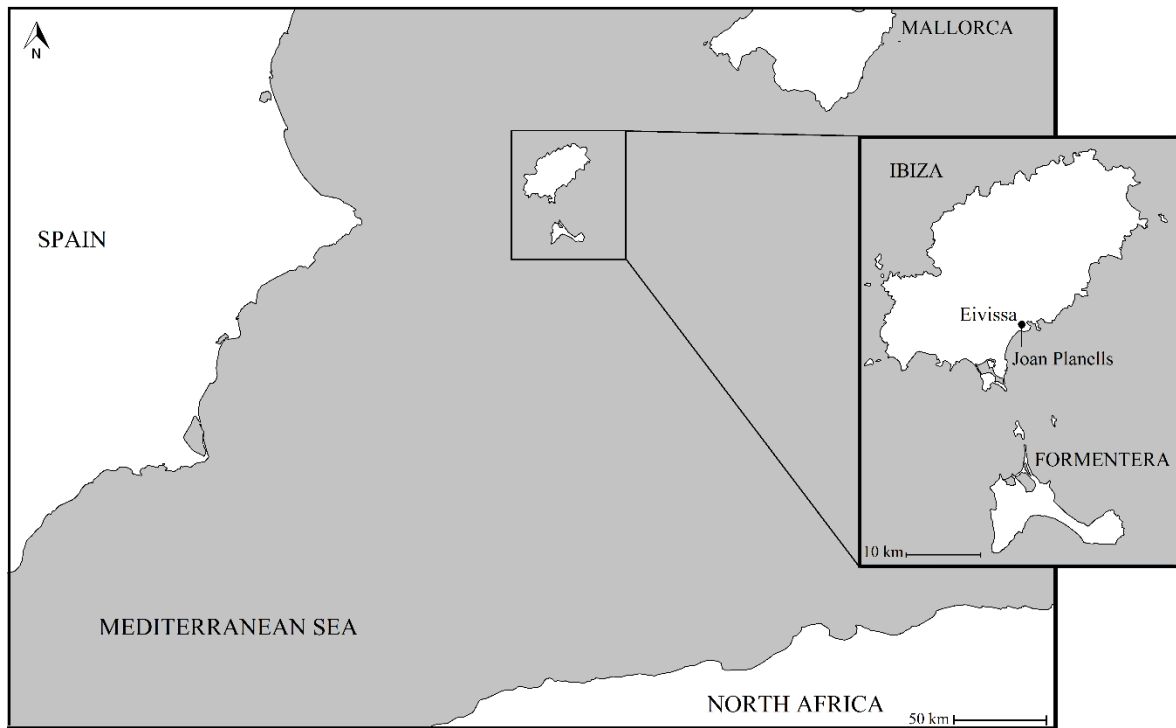
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763 **Table 5 – Summary data of Roman/Late Roman period sites in the Mediterranean region**764 **Where available the data reflect adult values. For those sites marked with * demographic information**
765 **was not available.**

Site	Date	Human $\delta^{13}\text{C}$			Human $\delta^{15}\text{N}$			n	Domesticated $\delta^{13}\text{C}$			Domesticated $\delta^{15}\text{N}$			n	M vs F
		mean	min	max	mean	min	max		mean	min	max	mean	min	max		
ANAS, Rome, Italy*	-	19.4±0.4	-20.0	-18.9	9.5±1.8	6.9	11.3	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a
Carrer Ample 1, Spain	AD 1st-4th C	18.9±0.3	-19.5	-18.4	11.0±0.4	10.4	11.7	15	-20.4±0.7	-22.0	-19.4	4.6±2.0	1.9	8.7	11	N
Bertone, Rome, Italy	AD 2nd-3rd C	18.2±0.6	-19.5	-16.8	10.0±0.5	7.0	11.8	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N
Castellaccio	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Europarco, Rome, Italy	AD 1st-3rd C	17.8±2.6	-19.5	-12.5	9.4±1.4	7.8	11.5	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a
Sacra, Rome, Italy*	AD 1st-3rd C	18.8±0.3	-19.7	-17.8	10.8±1.2	7.5	14.4	105	-21.0	-	-	5.4	-	-	-	Y
Leptiminus, Tunisia	AD 2nd-5th C	17.8±0.6	-19.0	-16.5	13.0±1.3	10.00	15.7	52	-19.4±1.0	-21.1	-18.3	9.2±2.7	6.0	12.9	6	N
Monte Cagonha, Portugal	AD 7th C	18.3±0.3	-18.8	-17.4	10.3±0.7	9.8	13.2	23	-20.2±0.7	-21.3	-18.8	7.1±0.7	6.1	8	10	N
S'Horts des Llimoners	AD 4th-7th C	19.0±0.4	-19.6	-18.0	11.1±0.9	8.3	12.6	34	-20.1±0.7	-20.8	-18.1	5.9±1.4	4.2	8.7	12	N
St Callixtus, Rome, Italy	AD 3rd-5th C	19.7±0.4	-20.2	-18.9	10.6±0.5	9.7	11.8	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a
Tossal de les Basses, Spain	AD 6th-7th C	18.2±0.3	-18.7	-17.7	10.8±0.9	8.4	12.2	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N
Velia, Italy	AD 1st-2nd C	19.4±0.3	-20.0	-18.7	8.7±1.3	6.6	14.1	117	-21.0±1.0	-22.6	-19.1	4.4±1.9	2.6	7.9	8	Y

766

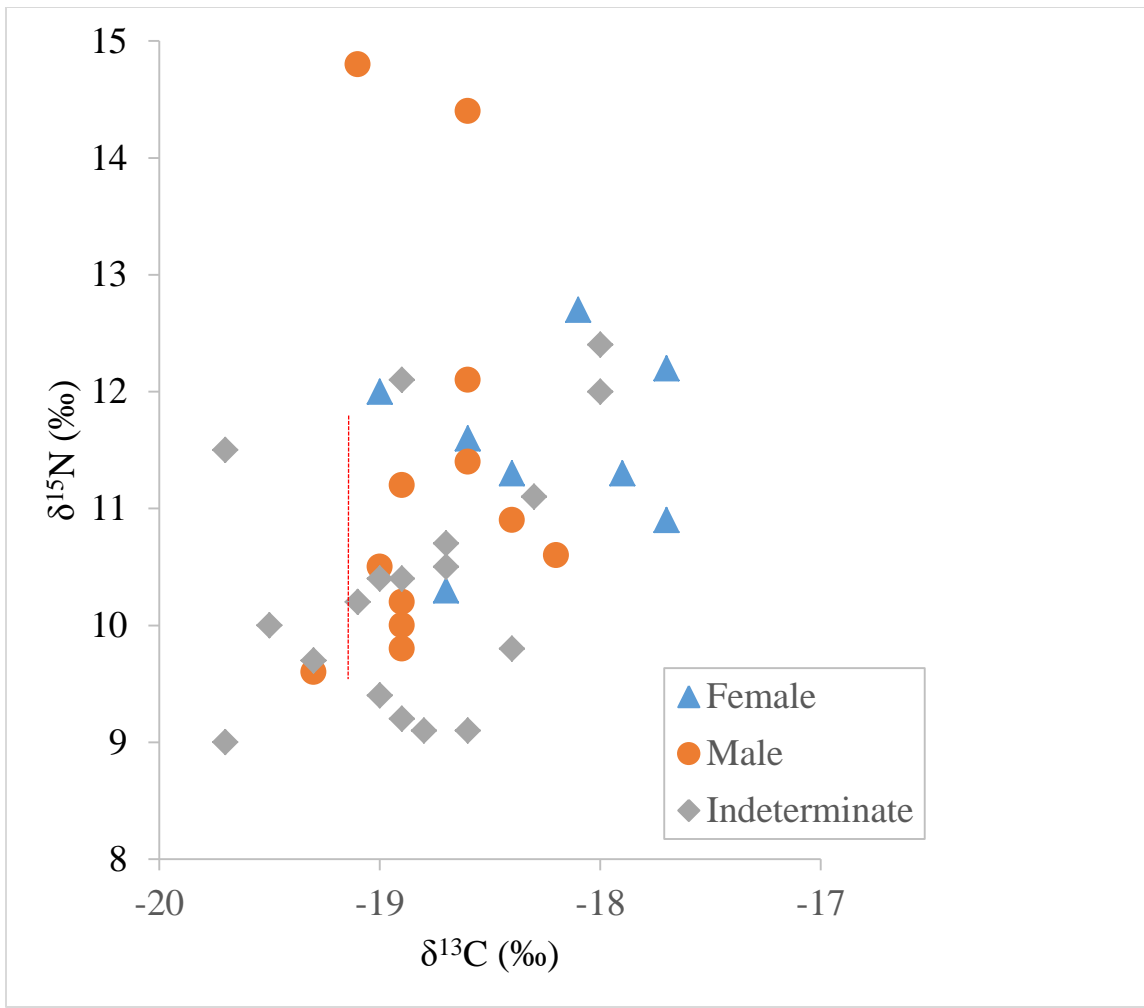
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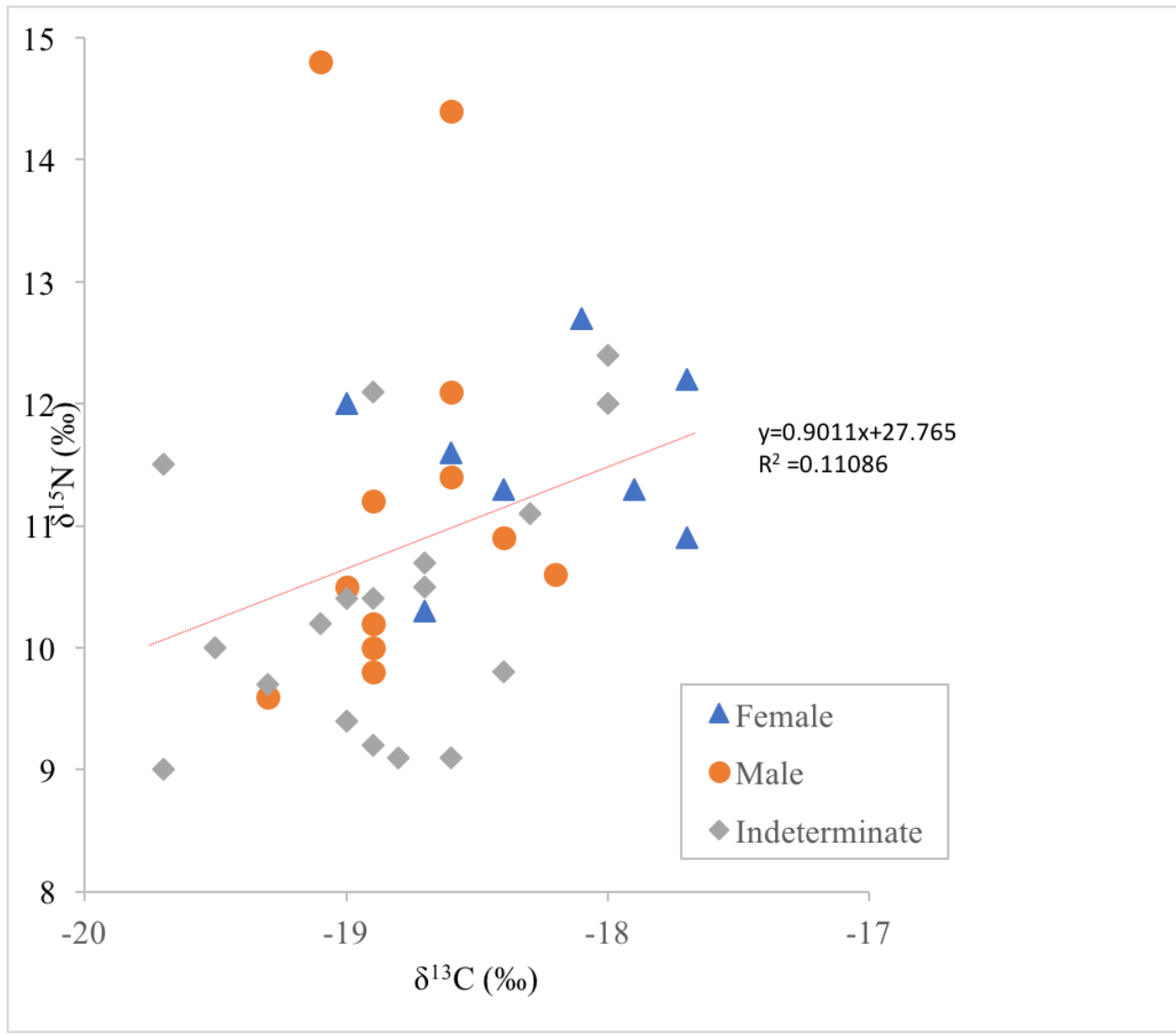
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769 **Figure 1:** Map of Ibiza with the site of Joan Planells identified.

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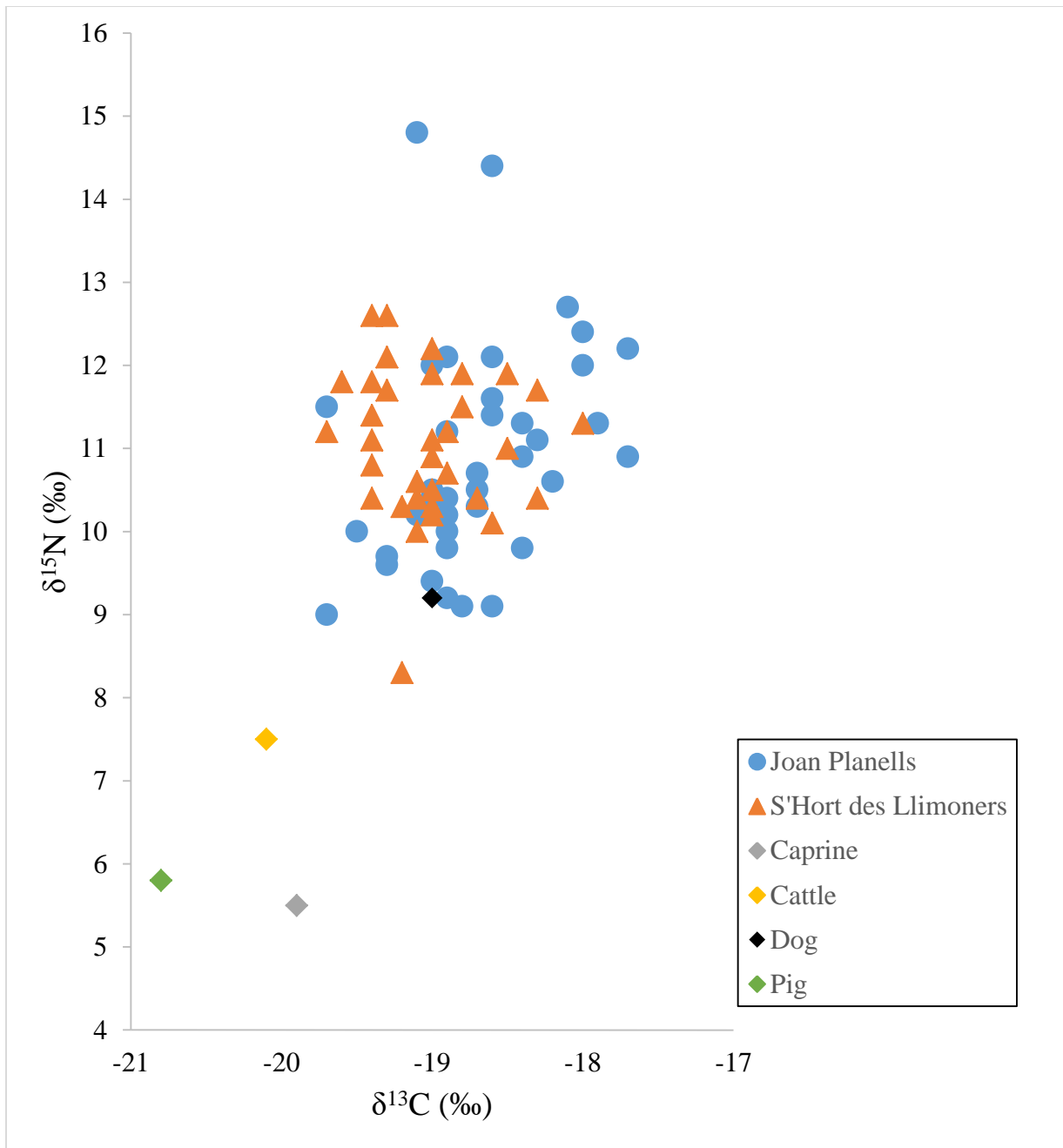


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772

773 **Figure 2:** Scatterplot of Joan Planells human $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ vs $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values. The positive linear
 774 relationship is indicated by the dashed red line. The R^2 value is 0.11086 and the p value is
 775 0.04108 (<0.05).



776

777

778 **Figure 3:** Scatterplot comparing the human remains from Joan Planells with the animal remains
 779 from S'Hort de Llimoners (Fuller et al. 2010) – data presented as mean±sd (1σ) where
 780 appropriate.

781