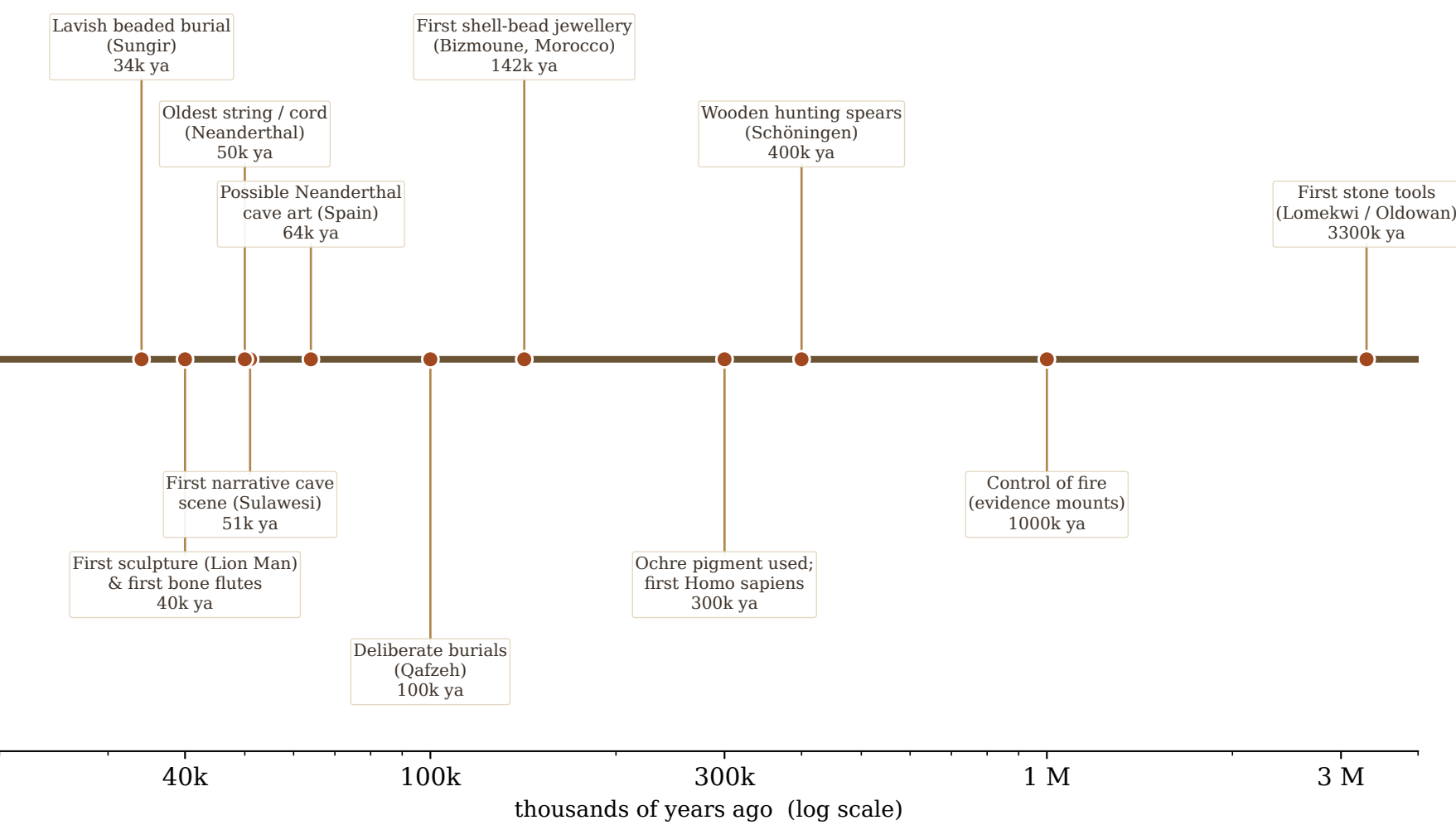


A Timeline of Firsts: The Dawn of Culture



Dates are approximate and several are debated. Note how symbolic culture — beads, burial, art, music — clusters in the last few hundred thousand years.