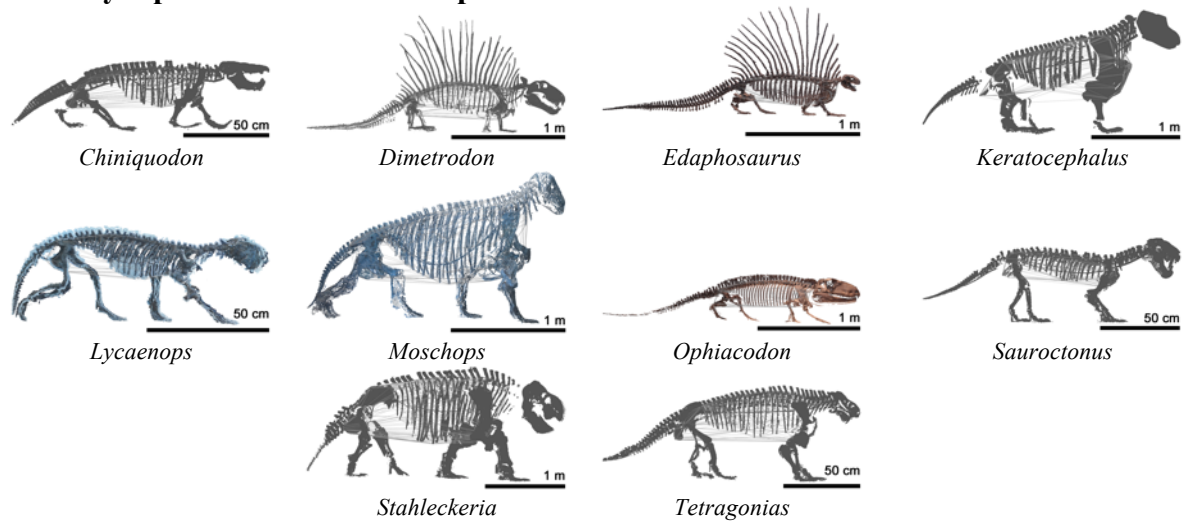


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**Body cavity volume reconstruction in terrestrial tetrapods**

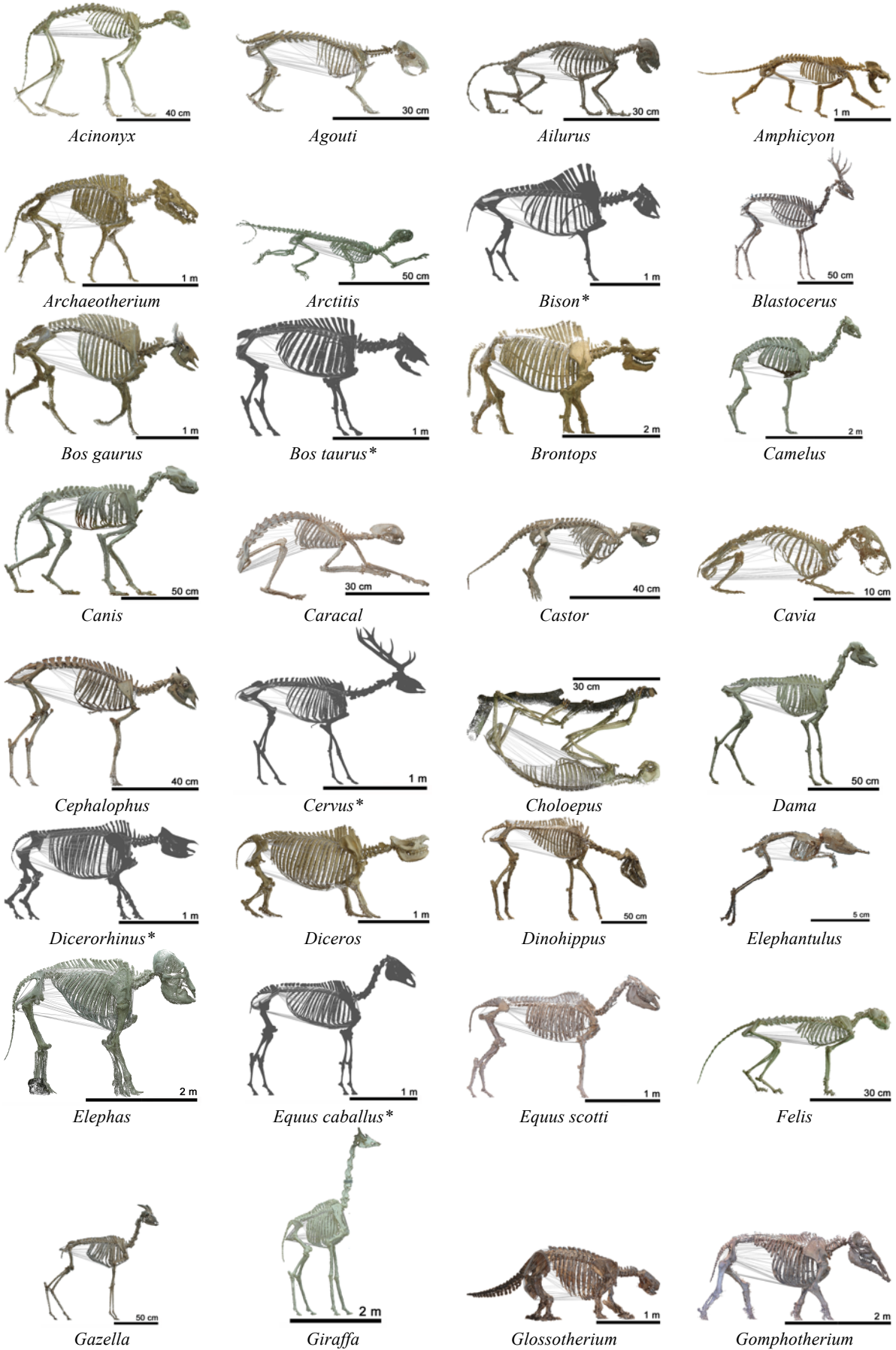
Marcus Clauss, Irina Nurutdinova, Carlo Meloro, Hanns-Christian Gunga, Duofang Jiang, Johannes Koller, Bernd Herkner, P. Martin Sander, Olaf Hellwich

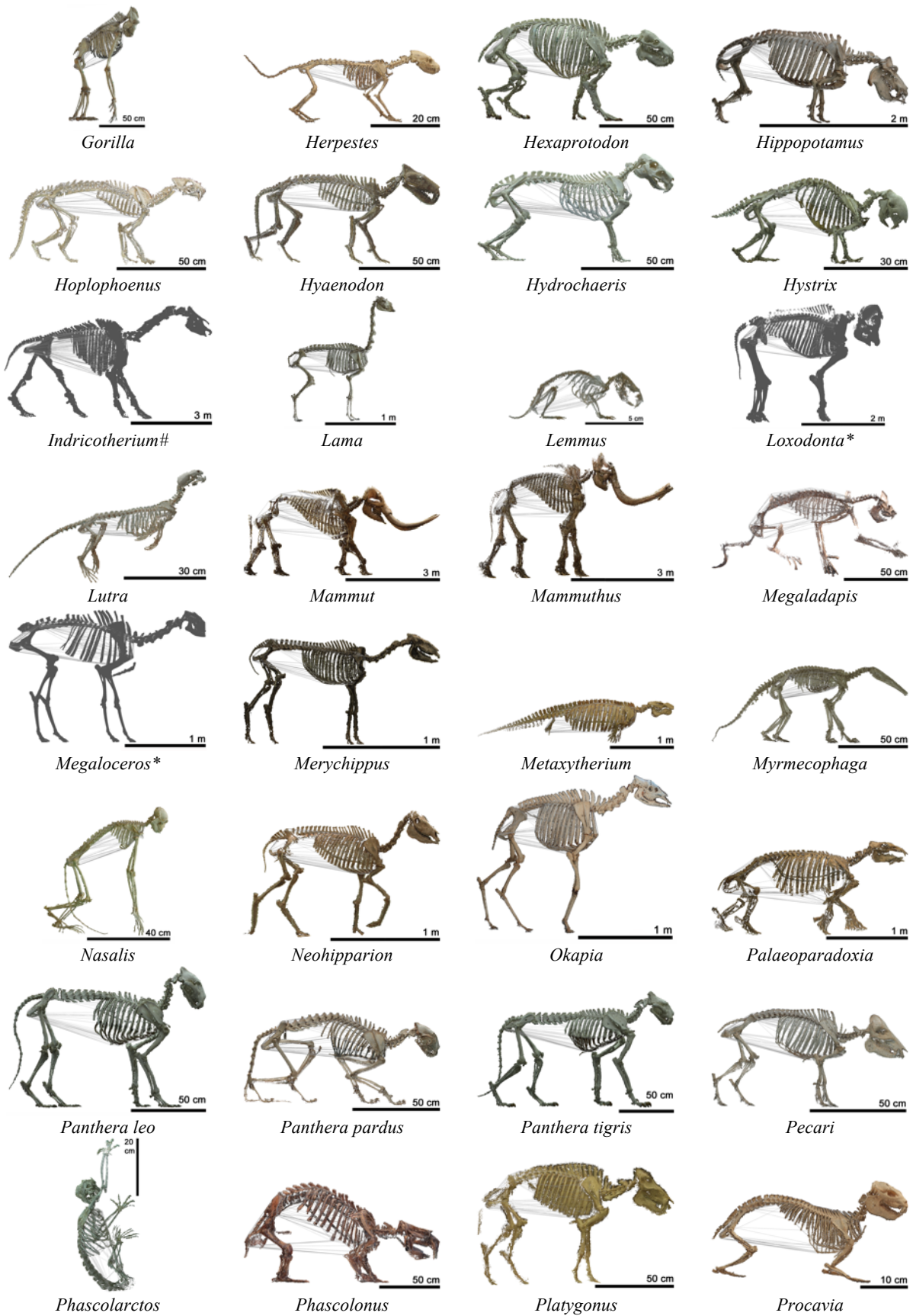
Correspondence  
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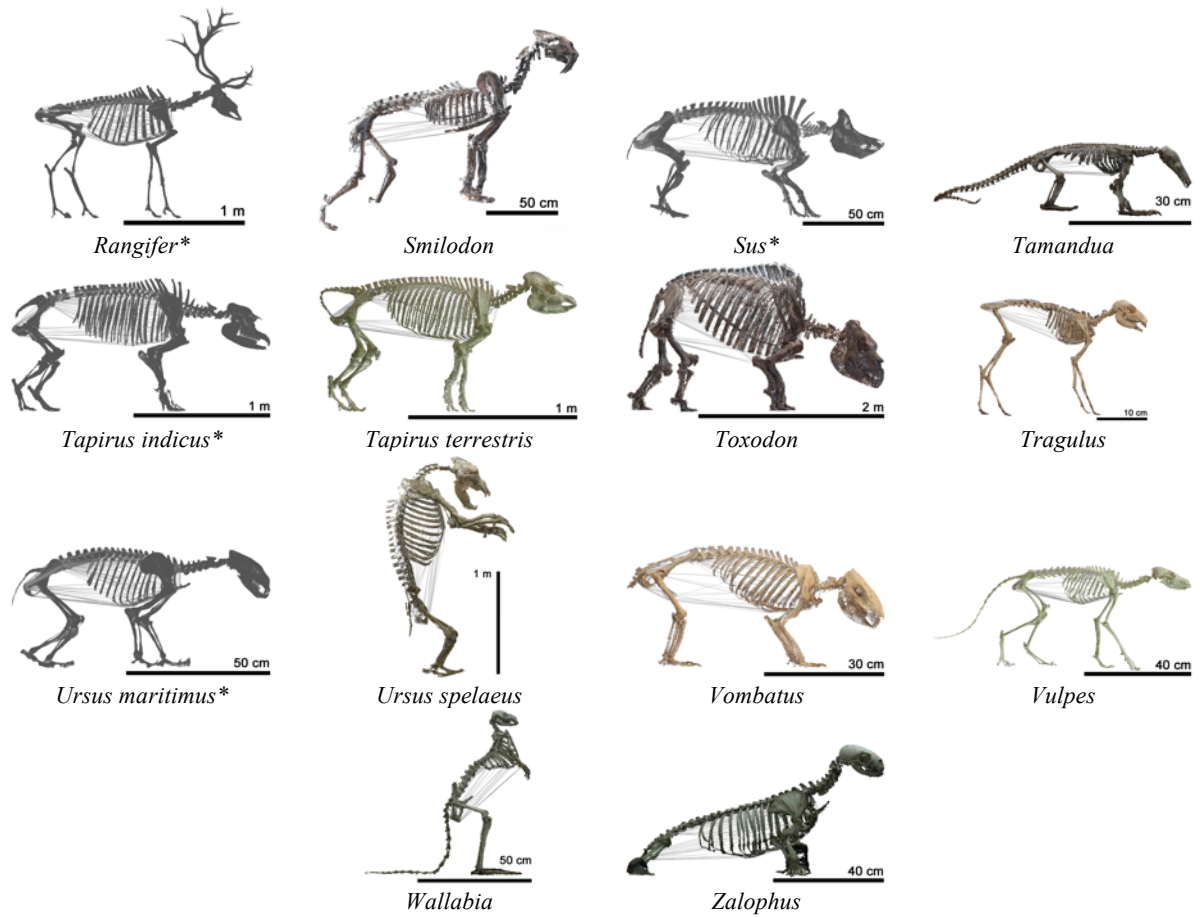
**Basal synapsids/ mammal-like reptiles**

**Figure S1.** 3D skeleton reconstructions of early synapsids (incl. indications of the convex hull of the body cavity).

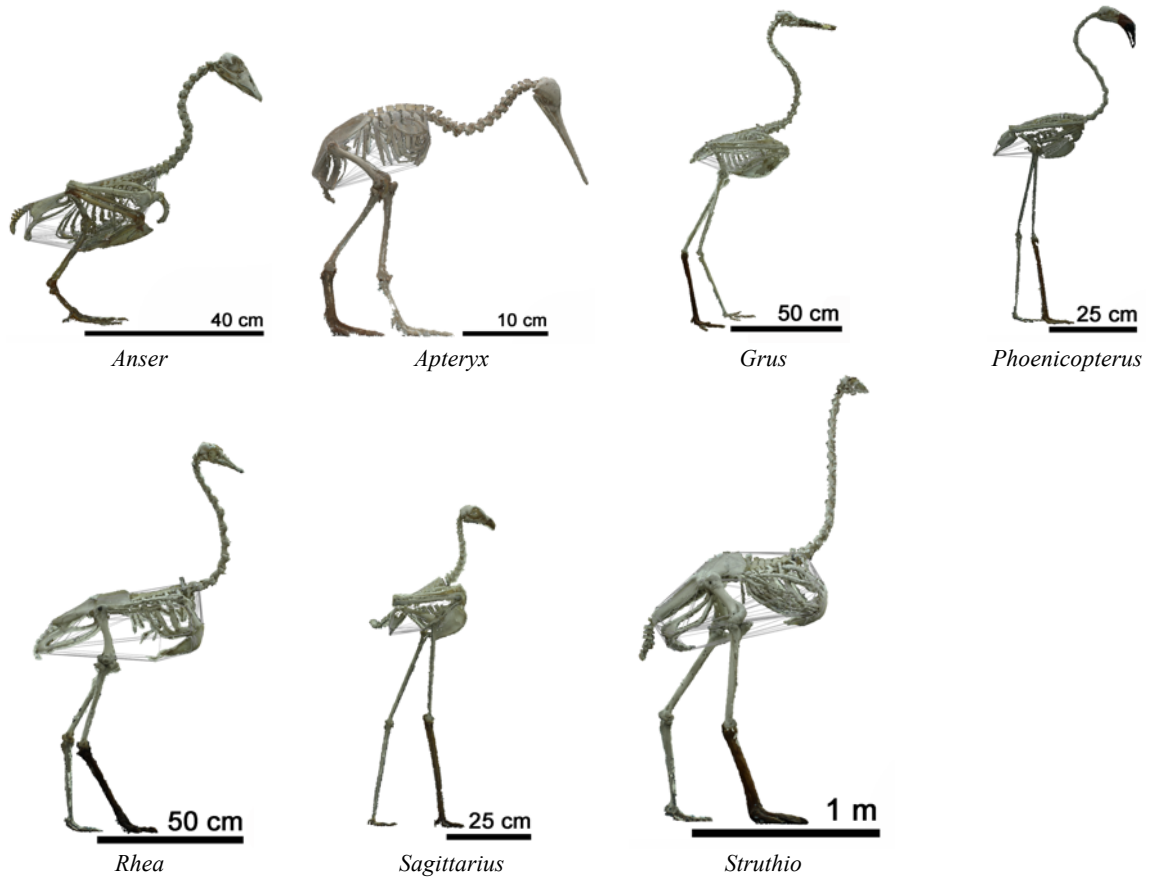
**Mammals**





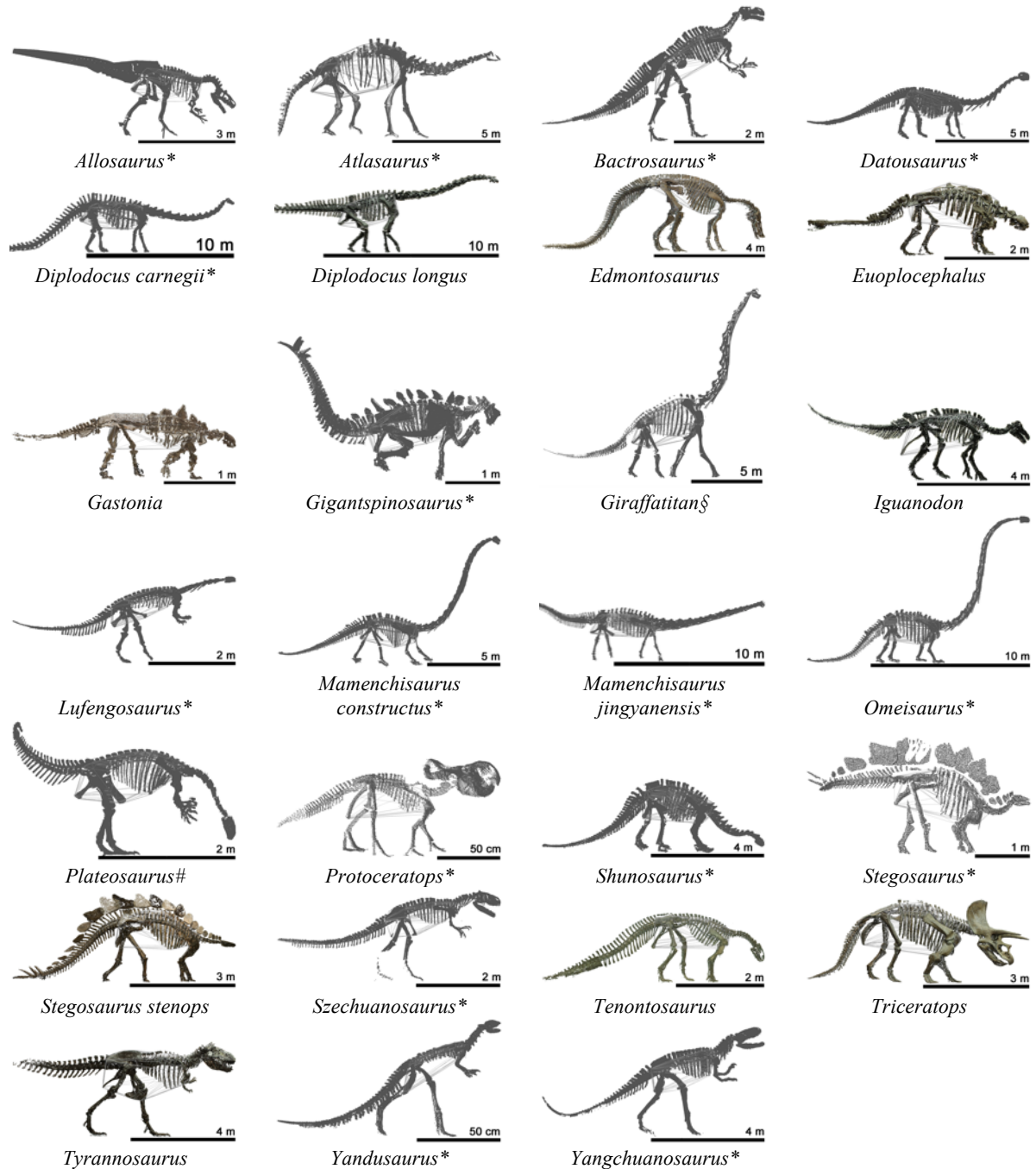


**Figure S2.** 3D skeleton reconstructions of mammals (incl. indications of the convex hull of the body cavity). Reconstructions from this study, except \*(from Sellers et al., 2012) and #(from Stoinski et al., 2011).

**Birds**

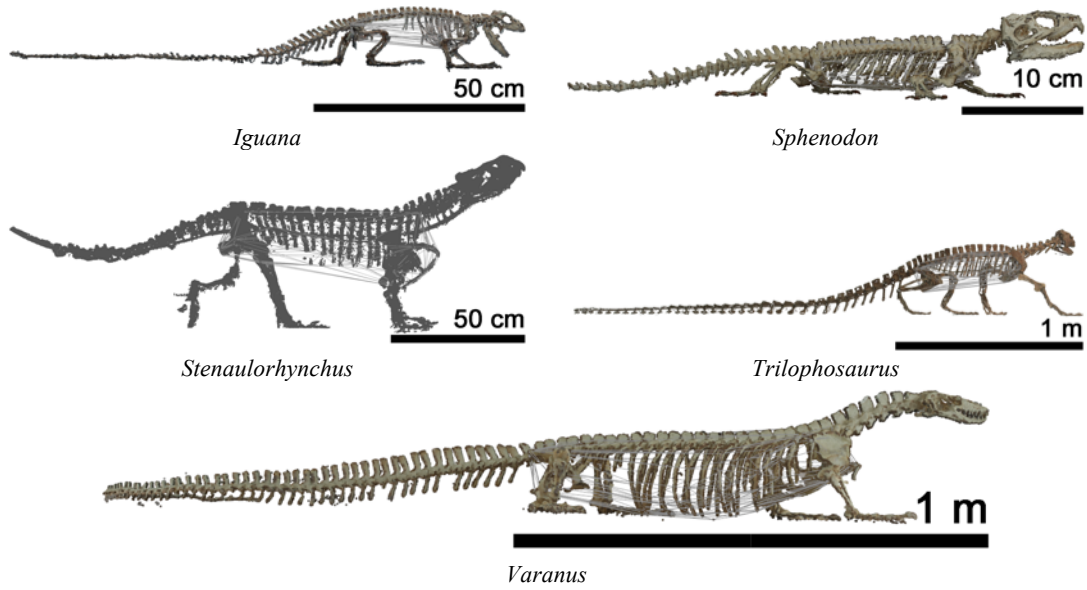
**Figure S3.** 3D skeleton reconstructions of birds (incl. indications of the convex hull of the body cavity).

## Non-avian dinosaurs



**Figure S4.** 3D skeleton reconstructions of non-avian dinosaurs (incl. indications of the convex hull of the body cavity). Reconstructions from this study, except # (from Gunga et al., 2007), § (from Gunga et al., 2008), \* (from Stoinski et al., 2011).

## Reptiles



## Amphibia



**Figure S5.** 3D skeleton reconstructions of reptiles and amphibia (incl. indications of the convex hull of the body cavity).



**Table S1.** Specimens used in this study, categories and measurements

Specimen as taken	Species name in tree	Food <sup>a</sup>	Chew <sup>b</sup>	Femur length cm	Torso volume cm <sup>3</sup>	Free-hull ratio	Mirrored/ split torso	Origin <sup>c</sup>	Source <sup>d</sup>	ID at Origin
<b>Early synapsids</b>										
<i>Chiniquodon theotonicus</i> ( <i>Belesodon magnificus</i> )	<i>Chiniquodon theotonicus</i>	carn		16.45	25257.3	0.235	mirr	GPIT	1	RE-07112
<i>Dimetrodon incisivus</i>	<i>Dimetrodon incisivus</i>	carn		17.99	52310.0	0.084	-	GPIT	1	RE-07100
<i>Edaphosaurus boanerges</i>	<i>Edaphosaurus boanerges</i>	herb		18.54	38933.1	0.129	-	AMNH	1	7003
<i>Keratocephalus moloch</i>	<i>Keratocephalus moloch</i>	herb		32.31	591338.0	0.299	mirr	GPIT	1	RE-07102
<i>Lycaenops ornatus</i>	<i>Lycaenops ornatus</i>	carn		18.18	10442.8	0.199	-	AMNH	1	2240
<i>Moschops capensis</i>	<i>Moschops capensis</i>	herb		38.28	445972.0	0.167	-	AMNH	1	5552
<i>Ophiacodon retroversus</i>	<i>Ophiacodon retroversus</i>	carn		17.90	32421.0	0.127	mirr	AMNH	1	4155
<i>Sauroctonus parringtoni</i>	<i>Sauroctonus parringtoni</i>	carn		18.65	18277.5	0.207	-	GPIT	1	RE-07113
<i>Stahleckeria potens</i>	<i>Stahleckeria potens</i>	herb		45.02	867003.0	0.172	-	GPIT	1	RE-07106
<i>Tetragonias (Dicynodon) njalilus</i>	<i>Tetragonias njalilus</i>	herb		20.46	67309.0	0.258	-	GPIT	1	RE-08649
<b>Mammals</b>										
<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	carn		23.23	5913.2	0.252	-	ZFMK	1	MAM 1931.0070
<i>Coelogenys paca</i>	<i>Agouti paca</i>	herb		10.22	2212.2	0.307	-	ZMUZ	1	10698
<i>Ailurus fulgens</i>	<i>Ailurus fulgens</i>	herb		10.93	1457.1	0.203	mirr	BNHM	1	8223
<i>Amphicyon ingens</i>	<i>Amphicyon ingens</i>	carn		53.85	167553.0	0.220	-	AMNH	1	FAM 68117/54262
<i>Archaeotherium mortoni</i>	<i>Archaeotherium mortoni</i>	herb		28.58	58047.3	0.254	-	AMNH	1	11323
<i>Arctictis binturong</i>	<i>Arctictis binturong</i>	herb		15.59	4726.7	0.337	-	BNHM	1	7553
<i>Bison bison</i>	<i>Bison bison</i>	herb		42.42	275565.0	0.093	-		2	
<i>Blastoceros pampaeus</i>	<i>Blastoceros dichotomus</i>	herb		22.96	16767.9	0.237	-	AMNH	1	11202
<i>Bos gaurus</i>	<i>Bos frontalis</i>	herb		56.48	545800.0	0.243	-	AMNH	1	18465
<i>Bos taurus</i>	<i>Bos taurus</i>	herb		37.37	145353.0	0.214	-		2	
<i>Brontops robustus</i>	<i>Brontops robustus</i>	herb		80.50	1569812.0	0.138	-	AMNH	1	518
<i>Camelus dromedarius</i>	<i>Camelus dromedarius</i>	herb		54.66	284066.0	0.163	-	DMUG	1	no ID
<i>Canis canis</i>	<i>Canis lupus</i>	carn		26.45	22138.5	0.193	split	DMUG	1	no ID
<i>Caracal caracal</i>	<i>Caracal caracal</i>	carn		17.13	2708.5	0.323	split	BNHM	1	10766
<i>Castor canadensis</i>	<i>Castor canadensis</i>	herb		11.40	5654.2	0.250	-	BNHM	1	1997

(ctd.)

Specimen as taken	Species name in tree	Food <sup>a</sup>	Chew <sup>b</sup>	Femur length cm	Torso volume cm <sup>3</sup>	Free-hull ratio	Mirrored/ split torso	Origin <sup>c</sup>	Source <sup>d</sup>	ID at Origin
<i>Cavia porcellus</i>	<i>Cavia porcellus</i>	herb		4.66	354.5	0.360	-	CZAEPW	1	no ID
<i>Cephalophus niger</i>	<i>Cephalophus niger</i>	herb		18.00	9507.9	0.244	-	BNHM	1	2493
<i>Cervus elaphus</i>	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>	herb		29.12	53778.3	0.196	-		2	
<i>Choloepus didactylus</i>	<i>Choloepus didactylus</i>	herb		16.87	5262.1	0.267	split	ZFMK	1	no ID
<i>Dama dama</i>	<i>Dama dama</i>	herb		21.17	21706.5	0.250	-	DMUG	1	no ID
<i>Dicerorhinus sumatrensis</i>	<i>Dicerorhinus sumatrensis</i>	herb		40.91	251521.0	0.073	-		2	
<i>Diceros bicornis</i>	<i>Diceros bicornis</i>	herb		43.14	364154.0	0.054	-	ZFMK	1	MAM 1934.0047
<i>Dinohippus leidyanus</i>	<i>Dinohippus leidyanus</i>	herb		33.51	73237.2	0.224	-	AMNH	1	17224
<i>Elephantulus rozeti</i>	<i>Elephantulus rozeti</i>	carn		2.41	14.7	0.285	-	BNHM	1	9159
<i>Elephas maximus</i>	<i>Elephas maximus</i>	herb		93.09	1323760.0	0.193	-	DMUG	1	no ID
<i>Equus caballus</i>	<i>Equus caballus</i>	herb		51.65	233771.0	0.114	-		2	
<i>Equus scotti</i>	<i>Equus scotti</i>	herb		41.07	209734.0	0.196	-	AMNH	1	10606
<i>Felis catus</i>	<i>Felis silvestris</i>	carn		12.64	1713.9	0.271	-	ZFMK	1	MAM 1986.0005
<i>Nanger dama</i>	<i>Gazella dama</i>	herb		24.89	24901.2	0.174	-	BNHM	1	1467
<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	herb		49.87	295159.4	0.061	-	DMUG	1	no ID
<i>Glossotherium robustus</i>	<i>Glossotherium robustus</i>	herb		47.08	483877.0	0.139	-	AMNH	1	11277
<i>Gomphotherium productum</i>	<i>Gomphotherium productum</i>	herb		66.58	2739370.0	0.238	-	AMNH	1	10582
<i>Gorilla gorilla</i>	<i>Gorilla gorilla</i>	herb		38.25	43739.2	0.106	-	ZMUZ	1	11880
<i>Herpestes brachyurus</i>	<i>Herpestes brachyurus</i>	carn		7.28	676.7	0.269	-	ZMUZ	1	10328
<i>Hexaprotodon liberiensis</i>	<i>Hexaprotodon liberiensis</i>	herb		24.77	53075.2	0.180	-	DMUG	1	no ID
<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	herb		48.91	475857.0	0.192	-	BNHM	1	2767
<i>Hoplophoneus primaevus</i>	<i>Hoplophoneus primaevus</i>	carn		21.35	9944.9	0.337	-	AMNH	1	1406
<i>Hyaenodon horridus</i>	<i>Hyaenodon horridus</i>	carn		21.92	12888.4	0.279	-	AMNH	1	1375
<i>Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris</i>	<i>Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris</i>	herb		19.87	23589.2	0.329	split	DMUG	1	no ID
<i>Hystrix spp.</i>	<i>Hystrix cristata</i>	herb		12.02	6234.3	0.273	-	DMUG	1	no ID
<i>Paraceratherium tianshanensis</i>	<i>Indricotherium transouralicum</i>	herb		124.63	4969740.0	0.259	-	BCNHM	3	no ID
<i>Lama guanicoe</i>	<i>Lama guanicoe</i>	herb		32.48	71884.6	0.230	-	ZMUZ	1	10814
<i>Lemmus lemmus</i>	<i>Lemmus lemmus</i>	herb		2.22	25.9	0.393	-	CZAEPW	1	no ID
<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	herb		114.99	1546200.0	0.155	-		2	

(ctd.)

Specimen as taken	Species name in tree	Food <sup>a</sup>	Chew <sup>b</sup>	Femur length cm	Torso volume cm <sup>3</sup>	Free-hull ratio	Mirrored/ split torso	Origin <sup>c</sup>	Source <sup>d</sup>	ID at Origin
<i>Lutra lutra</i>	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	carn		8.18	1841.2	0.198	split	BNHM	1	115
<i>Mammot americanum</i>	<i>Mammot americanum</i>	herb		110.36	3563910.0	0.285	-	AMNH	1	9951
<i>Mammuthus jeffersoni</i>	<i>Mammuthus columbi</i>	herb		127.38	2541860.0	0.213	-	AMNH	1	FAM 99927
<i>Megaladapis edwardsi</i>	<i>Megaladapis edwardsi</i>	herb		23.33	42604.3	0.258	-	AMNH	1	15868
<i>Megaloceros giganteus</i>	<i>Megaloceros giganteus</i>	herb		48.07	156848.0	0.229	-		2	
<i>Merychippus quintus</i>	<i>Merychippus quintus</i>	herb		28.14	38294.0	0.232	-	AMNH	1	14185
<i>Metaxytherium floridanum</i>	<i>Metaxytherium floridanum</i>	herb		17.20	279265.0	0.273	-	AMNH	1	26838
<i>Myrmecophaga tridactyla</i>	<i>Myrmecophaga tridactyla</i>	carn		22.46	10049.6	0.160	-	ZZ	1	no ID
<i>Nasalis larvatus</i>	<i>Nasalis larvatus</i>	herb		22.27	3223.0	0.305	-	ZFMK	1	MAM 1939.0042
<i>Neohipparion affine</i>	<i>Neohipparion affine</i>	herb		30.79	66395.5	0.268	-	AMNH	1	9815
<i>Okapia johnstoni</i>	<i>Okapia johnstoni</i>	herb		34.36	111079.0	0.099	-	BNHM	1	3940
<i>Palaeoparadoxia tabatai</i>	<i>Palaeoparadoxia tabatai</i>	herb		41.96	271982.0	0.240	-	AMNH	1	129177
<i>Panthera leo</i>	<i>Panthera leo</i>	carn		30.97	31630.9	0.249	-	DMUG	1	no ID
<i>Panthera pardus</i>	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	carn		25.07	14958.9	0.212	-	BNHM	1	273
<i>Panthera tigris</i>	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	carn		36.84	46061.8	0.208	-	DMUG	1	no ID
<i>Pecari tajacu</i>	<i>Pecari tajacu</i>	herb		17.68	12891.4	0.202	-	BNHM	1	1071
<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	herb		12.96	2781.3	0.327	-	BNHM	1	6260
<i>Phascolonus gigas</i>	<i>Phascolonus gigas</i>	herb		33.80	168794.0	0.317	-	AMNH	1	129499
<i>Platygonus leptorhinus</i>	<i>Platygonus compressus</i>	herb		21.15	25493.9	0.207	-	AMNH	1	10388
<i>Procapra capensis</i>	<i>Procapra capensis</i>	herb		7.65	1488.4	0.356	-	ZMUZ	1	10850
<i>Rangifer tarandus</i>	<i>Rangifer tarandus</i>	herb		30.90	50442.0	0.100	-		2	
<i>Smilodon floridanus</i>	<i>Smilodon fatalis</i>	carn		39.34	59137.8	0.219	-	AMNH	1	FM 14398
<i>Sus scrofa</i>	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	herb		24.58	45418.0	0.180	-		2	
<i>Tamandua mexicana</i>	<i>Tamandua mexicana</i>	carn		7.70	865.3	0.245	-	BNHM	1	1257
<i>Tapirus indicus</i>	<i>Tapirus indicus</i>	herb		35.26	103340.0	0.149	-		2	
<i>Tapirus terrestris</i>	<i>Tapirus terrestris</i>	herb		29.90	50212.0	0.134	-	ZFMK	1	MAM 1934.0105
<i>Toxodon burmeisteri</i>	<i>Toxodon platensis</i>	herb		60.97	762687.0	0.143	-	AMNH	1	14943
<i>Tragulus javanicus</i>	<i>Tragulus javanicus</i>	herb		6.98	412.4	0.336	-	ZMUZ	1	11021
<i>Ursus maritimus</i>	<i>Ursus maritimus</i>	carn		41.98	72996.4	0.188	-		2	

(ctd.)

Specimen as taken	Species name in tree	Food <sup>a</sup>	Chew <sup>b</sup>	Femur length cm	Torso volume cm <sup>3</sup>	Free-hull ratio	Mirrored/ split torso	Origin <sup>c</sup>	Source <sup>d</sup>	ID at Origin
<i>Ursus spelaeus</i>	<i>Ursus spelaeus</i>	herb		45.71	161547.0	0.128	-	AMNH	1	39416
<i>Vombatus ursinus</i>	<i>Vombatus ursinus</i>	herb		13.74	6447.2	0.215	-	ZMUZ	1	11068
<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	carn		14.16	2358.6	0.220	-	ZFMK	1	MAM 1933.0126a
<i>Wallabia spp.</i>	<i>Wallabia bicolor</i>	herb		17.00	5361.8	0.337	split	DMUG	1	no ID
<i>Otarid spp.</i>	<i>Zalophus californianus</i>	carn		7.26	9898.8	0.148	-	DMUG	1	no ID
<b>Birds</b>										
<i>Anser anser</i>	<i>Anser anser</i>	herb		8.12	2626.3	0.127	-	DMUG	1	no ID
<i>Apteryx owenii</i>	<i>Apteryx owenii</i>	herb		8.61	396.9	0.230	-	BNHM	1	2344
<i>Grus spp.</i>	<i>Grus grus</i>	herb		16.23	4196.7	0.250	-	DMUG	1	no ID
<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	carn		27.13	1194.0	0.229	-	DMUG	1	no ID
<i>Rhea americana</i>	<i>Rhea americana</i>	herb		20.53	12239.3	0.229	-	DMUG	1	no ID
<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>	carn		11.86	1334.9	0.206	-	DMUG	1	no ID
<i>Struthio camelus</i>	<i>Struthio camelus</i>	herb		32.22	73816.9	0.242	-	DMUG	1	no ID
<b>Non-avian dinosaurs</b>										
<i>Allosaurus fragilis</i>	<i>Allosaurus fragilis</i>	carn		84.28	774160.0	0.169	-	SMA	3	Big Al II
<i>Atlasaurus imelakei</i>	<i>Atlasaurus imelakei</i>	herb	nonchew	190.62	6535910.0	0.126	split	MMEM	3	no ID
<i>Bactrosaurus johnsoni</i>	<i>Bactrosaurus johnsoni</i>	herb	chew	81.00	505908.0	0.232	-	BCNHM	3	no ID
<i>Datousaurus bashanensis</i>	<i>Datousaurus bashanensis</i>	herb	nonchew	119.86	2829100.0	0.143	-	ZMNH	3	no ID
<i>Diplodocus carnegii</i>	<i>Diplodocus carnegii</i>	herb	nonchew	158.01	6693450.0	0.083	-	MNHB	3	no ID
<i>Diplodocus longus</i>	<i>Diplodocus longus</i>	herb	nonchew	144.33	3933920.0	0.127	-	NMSF	1	no ID
<i>Anatotitan copei</i>	<i>Edmontosaurus annectens</i>	herb	chew	118.17	1499110.0	0.201	-	AMNH	1	5886
<i>Euoplocephalus tutus</i>	<i>Euoplocephalus tutus</i>	herb	nonchew	66.54	1873940.0	0.261	-	NMSF	1	no ID
<i>Gastonia burgei</i>	<i>Gastonia burgei</i>	herb	nonchew	35.91	301690.0	0.280	-	USUEPM	1	no ID
<i>Gigantspinosaurus sichuanensis</i>	<i>Gigantspinosaurus sichuanensis</i>	herb	nonchew	67.36	775033.0	0.281	-	ZMNH	3	no ID
<i>Brachiosaurus brancai</i>	<i>Giraffatitan brancai</i>	herb	nonchew	197.46	17029000.0	0.101	-	MNHB	5	no ID
<i>Iguanodon bernissartensis</i>	<i>Iguanodon bernissartensis</i>	herb	chew	102.17	2242310.0	0.185	-	NMSF	1	no ID
<i>Lufengosaurus huenei</i>	<i>Lufengosaurus huenei</i>	herb	nonchew	56.38	339974.0	0.157	-	BCNHM	3	no ID
<i>Mamenchisaurus constructus</i>	<i>Mamenchisaurus constructus</i>	herb	nonchew	146.74	5709280.0	0.194	-	ZMNH	3	no ID
<i>Mamenchisaurus jingyanensis</i>	<i>Mamenchisaurus jingyanensis</i>	herb	nonchew	142.95	6206260.0	0.163	-	BCNHM	3	no ID

(ctd.)

Specimen as taken	Species name in tree	Food <sup>a</sup>	Chew <sup>b</sup>	Femur length cm	Torso volume cm <sup>3</sup>	Free-hull ratio	Mirrored/ split torso	Origin <sup>c</sup>	Source <sup>d</sup>	ID at Origin
<i>Omeisaurus yianfuensis</i>	<i>Omeisaurus yianfuensis</i>	herb	nonchew	129.40	5695660.0	0.065	-	ZMNH	3	no ID
<i>Plateosaurus engelhardti</i>	<i>Plateosaurus engelhardti</i>	herb	nonchew	58.03	322912.0	0.102	-	GPIT	4	RE-07288
<i>Protoceratops andrewsi</i>	<i>Protoceratops andrewsi</i>	herb	chew	24.61	28244.8	0.456	-	BCNHM	3	no ID
<i>Shunosaurus lii</i>	<i>Shunosaurus lii</i>	herb	nonchew	90.41	1730150.0	0.106	-	ZMNH	3	no ID
<i>Stegosaurus</i>	<i>Stegosaurus armatus</i>	herb	nonchew	78.47	802276.0	0.236	mirr	SMA	3	Moritz
<i>Stegosaurus stenops</i>	<i>Stegosaurus stenops</i>	herb	nonchew	107.66	1425560.0	0.213	-	NMSF	1	no ID
<i>Szechuanosaurus campi</i>	<i>Szechuanosaurus campi</i>	carn		60.20	269308.0	0.143	-	ZMNH	3	no ID
<i>Tenontosaurus tilletti</i>	<i>Tenontosaurus tilletti</i>	herb	chew	71.65	411004.0	0.282	-	AMNH	1	FARB 3034
<i>Triceratops elatus</i>	<i>Triceratops horridus</i>	herb	chew	104.74	3113700.0	0.239	-	NMSF	1	no ID
<i>Tyrannosaurus rex</i>	<i>Tyrannosaurus rex</i>	carn		126.47	3762000.0	0.134	-	NMSF	1	no ID
<i>Yandusaurus multidentis</i>	<i>Yandusaurus hongheensis</i>	herb	nonchew	15.80	4213.4	0.325	-	ZMNH	3	no ID
<i>Yangchuanosaurus hepingensis</i>	<i>Yangchuanosaurus shangyouensis</i>	carn		98.57	974264.0	0.167	-	ZMNH	3	no ID
<b>Reptiles</b>										
<i>Iguana rhinolopha</i>	<i>Iguana iguana</i>	herb		9.01	1012.1	0.271	-	BNHM	1	1260
<i>Sphenodon punctatus</i>	<i>Sphenodon punctatus</i>	carn		4.42	163.8	0.183	split	ZMUZ	1	no ID
<i>Stenaulorhynchus stockley</i>	<i>Stenaulorhynchus stockley</i>	herb		17.71	33364.7	0.197	-	GPIT	1	RE-07192
<i>Trilophosaurus buettneri</i>	<i>Trilophosaurus buettneri</i>	herb		23.88	11695.5	0.151	-	AMNH	1	7502
<i>Varanus salvator</i>	<i>Varanus salvator</i>	carn		13.18	13188.5	0.105	-	ZMUZ	1	no ID
<b>Amphibia</b>										
<i>Diadectes phaseolinus</i>	<i>Diadectes phaseolinus</i>	herb		18.75	72289.2	0.231	-	AMNH	1	4684
<i>Eryops megacephalus</i>	<i>Eryops megacephalus</i>	carn		19.46	32237.5	0.324	-	AMNH	1	4657

<sup>a</sup>based on Walls (1981), Losos and Greene (1988), Rand et al. (1990), Weishampel et al. (1990), Reisz and Sues (2000), Reisz (2006), Wilman et al. (2014) and the Paleobiology Database ([www.paleobiodb.org](http://www.paleobiodb.org))

<sup>b</sup>based on Weishampel et al. (1990) and Wings and Sander (2007)

<sup>c</sup>for skeletons from sources 1, 3-5: AMNH American Museum of Natural History New York USA, BCNHM = Beijing Natural History Museum China, BNHM = Natural History Museum Basle Switzerland, CZAEPW = Clinic of Zoo Animals Exotic Pets and Wildlife University of Zurich Switzerland, DMUG = Anatomy Museum Department of Morphology Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Ghent University Belgium, MEMM = Moroccan Ministry of Energy and Mining Morocco, MNHB = Natural History Museum Berlin Germany, NMSF = Senckenberg Naturmuseum Frankfurt Germany, GPIT = Paleontological Collection University of Tübingen Germany, SMA = Sauriermuseum Aathal Switzerland, USUEPM = Utah State University Eastern Prehistoric Museum Price USA, ZFMK = Alexander Koenig Research Museum Bonn Germany, ZMNH = Zigong Museum of Natural History China, ZMUZ = Zoological Museum University of Zurich Switzerland, ZZ = Zurich Zoo Switzerland

<sup>d</sup>Sources: 1 = this study, 2 = Sellers et al. (2012), 3 = described in Stoinski et al. (2011), 4 = described in Gunga et al. (2007), 5 = described in Gunga et al. (2008)

### Phylogenetic tree

The phylogenetic tree (Fig. S6) used in the PGLS analysis was constructed based on various sources. The topology was based on a combination of tree sources that included some of the most recent phylogenetic hypotheses. Due to the taxa selection of the present study, which was mainly driven by mounted skeleton availability and the logistics of obtaining their respective scans or photographs, it was not possible to build a supertree based on a character matrix because the taxa considered were too distantly related. Due to the sample, inevitably certain taxonomic groups (i.e., mammals) are more represented than others. The phylogeny includes both fossil and living tetrapods. The basic topology of tetrapod groups is based on tree of life project (Maddison and Schulz, 2007) supplemented with specific references.

*Eryops megacephalus* is here basal to all the other taxa as member of Temnospondyli (extinct group of primitive tetrapods) (Ruta et al., 2007). It is followed by *Diadectes phaseolinus*, the sister taxon of all the Amniota (Berman and Henrici, 2003). Within the Amniota an early split is recognised between the Diapsida and the Synapsida (represented by basal Eupelycosauria, therapsids, and mammals) (Benton, 2014).

Within Diapsida, the sample is characterized by a mix of extant and fossil Sauria. The presence of extant *Sphenodon*, *Iguana* and *Varanus* characterizes the split of Lepidosauriamorpha from Archosauriamorpha that include crocodiles (not present in our study), birds and their fossil relatives (i.e., dinosaurs). The position of *Sphenodon* relative to the other Squamata follows Pyron et al. (Pyron et al., 2013).

Within Archosauromorpha we positioned *Trilophosaurus* and *Stenaulorhynchus* basal to dinosaurs and birds after Ezcurra et al. (Ezcurra et al., 2014) who presented a recent updated phylogeny of Sauria. In their topology *Stenaulorhynchus* is not present however *Trilophosaurus* is positioned basal to Rhynchosauria (the group to which *Stenaulorhynchus* belongs).

Dinosauria is the other large clade of Archosauromorpha. Its topology is based on the supertree of Lloyd et al. (Lloyd et al., 2008) with the manual addition of extant Aves as from the topology in Xu et al. (Xu et al., 2014). The position of certain specific dinosaur taxa was updated such as that of *Datousaurus bashanensis* that is basal to Eusaropoda (Sekiya, 2011) and for *Szechuanosaurus campi* that is closely related to *Yangchuanosaurus* within theropods (Carrano et al., 2012). Modern bird topology was generated after Jetz et al. (Jetz et al., 2012), and Prum et al. (Prum et al., 2015) with respect to the position of the kiwi (*Apteryx owenii*) and the rhea (*Rhea americana*).

Within Synapsida, the position of primitive Eupelycosauria and the general topology of therapsids follows Sidor (Sidor, 2003). The historical *Beselodon magnificus* was updated as *Chiniquodon theotonicus* (member of Eucynodontia) (Abdala and Giannini, 2002), and *Scymnognathus parringtoni* was named *Sauroctonus parringtoni* (Gebauer, 2014).

For mammals the topology of extant taxa was generated following Bininda-Emonds et al. (Bininda-Emonds et al., 2007, Bininda-Emonds et al., 2008) with the addition of specific fossil branches after Raia et al. (Raia et al., 2013). A substantial addition was the inclusion of the fossil Notoungulate *Toxodon* and the Demostylia *Palaeoparadoxia*, whose taxonomic position was recently updated as basal members of Perissodactyla (Cooper et al., 2014, Welker et al., 2015). Following Cooper et al. (Cooper et al., 2014) for *Palaeoparadoxia* also allowed to place the ancient sirenid *Metaxytherium* as sister

taxon of Proboscidea. For fossil Xenathra we followed the topology presented by Gaudin (Gaudin, 2004). The position of Ferae (Carnivora and Creodonta) and basal ungulates follows Raia et al. (Raia et al., 2013) and Spaulding et al. (Spaulding et al., 2009) while the relationship of primates and extant rodents follows Bininda-Emonds et al. (Bininda-Emonds et al., 2007, Bininda-Emonds et al., 2008).

In order to date the tree we opted to combine multiple empirical and analytical approaches. Firstly we recorded first and last occurrence for each taxon with the assumption that last occurrence for all extant species is zero. To avoid bias in relation to the scattered information, we employed the palaeodb website (<http://fossilworks.org/?page=paleodb>) to record species' time ranges. When a particular species was not present in the database, we used the genus range or conservatively stratigraphic clues based on the literature. We then employed the script 'timePaleoPhy' from the R package 'paleotree' (Bapst, 2013) to constrain time of divergence of taxa based on their stratigraphic occurrences. This script follows the same method proposed by Brusatte et al. (Brusatte et al., 2008) to date the supertree of fossil dinosaurs. In addition, we constrained the tree internal nodes based on Ksepka et al. (Ksepka et al., 2015). The list of nodes and their respective dates (Table S2) was compiled after searching the fossil calibration database that includes some but not all of the internal nodes for our topology.

**Table S2.** Time of divergence provided for different nodes in the tree. Dates are conservatively based on the maximum nodal age reported on the website <http://fossilcalibrations.org/> developed by Ksepka et al. (Ksepka et al., 2015). All the other internal nodes ages were set to 'NA' and automatically generated using the script `timepaleophy` (Bapst, 2013).

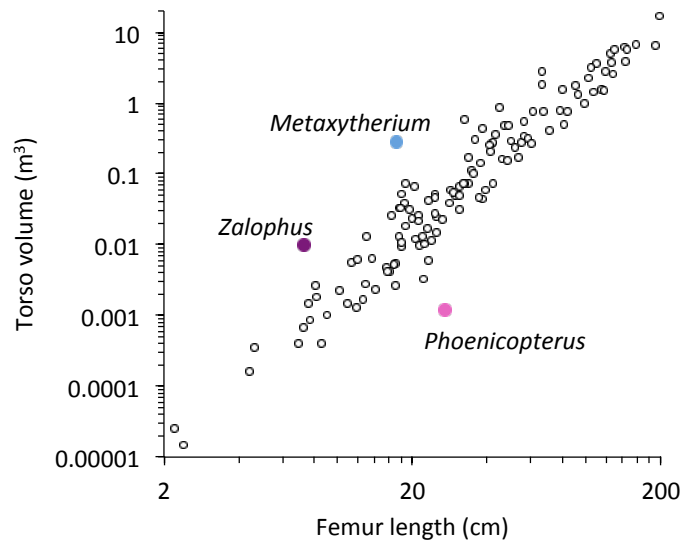
Node #	Node label	Time
1	Tetrapoda	351
3	Amniota	332.9
11	Theria	169.6
14	Boreoeutheria	164.6
15	Euarchontoglires	164.6
16	Rodentia	66
19	Primates	66
25	Whippomorpha	66
29	Bovidae	28.1
56	Carnivora	66
73	Xenarthra	164.6
76	Afrotheria	164.6
78	Sirenia	66
79	Proboscidea	23.03
83	Marsupialia	131.3
89	Diapsida	295.9
90	Archosauromorpha	255.9
92	Dinosauria	235
93	Ornithischia	230
105	Sauropodomorpha	232
120	Palaeognathae	86.8
122	Neognathae	86.8
123	Neoaves	60.2
125	Lepidosauria	252.7
126	Squamata	209.5





### Outliers

Three outliers were eliminated from the dataset used in the main study after visual inspection: the flamingo (*Phoenicopterus*), the sirenian (*Metaxytherium*) and the sea lion (*Zalophus*) (Fig. S7). In the case of the flamingos, we can only speculate that its typical diet - shrimp and algae caught in the filter system of the beak (Zweers et al., 1995) - is so small and requires so little processing that a particularly small gastrointestinal tract and coelomic cavity is feasible, and/or that flamingos have particularly long legs for their body volume. In the case of the marine mammals, it is plausible that the different mechanical constraints of their lifestyle leads to systematically different proportions of limbs and torso (Jones and Pierce, 2016).



**Figure S7.** Visual outlier inspection: exclusion of the flamingo (combination of very long femur and very small torso) and two marine mammals (combination of very short femurs and very voluminous torsos)

### Considerations about body mass in relation to torso volume

While the necessity to control for body size is self-evident, the answer to the question about which proxy is most suitable is not. Body mass is the most common basis against which other morphological and physiological measures are compared (Peters, 1983, Calder, 1996, Sibly et al., 2012). However, the volume of the torso represents a major proportion of overall body mass. Therefore, differences in torso volume most certainly are reflected in body mass differences already. On the other hand, we could hence predict that we could use body mass itself as a proxy for 'torso volume', and the relationship of body mass to femur length should resemble that of torso volume to femur length.

For the testing of these hypotheses, a valid dataset is required where all measurements are taken from the same, healthy individuals. In particular, when using body mass in this way, the feeding status of the animals used for the measurement is critical. To our knowledge, the largest dataset on femur length and body mass is presented by Campione and Evans (2012); however, the methods do not indicate a protocol about the feeding status, i.e. the degree of gut fill, in the animals. In particular in herbivores, gut fill represents a constant, relevant proportion of body mass (Clauss et al., 2013) that is considered the reason for their larger torso volumes. Using the elephant as an example, Clauss et al. (2005) demonstrated how the feeding status of animals whose body mass and gut fill are measured can influence the position of a species in comparative datasets. To date, most likely, no completely reliable large data collection on body mass and femur length exists. However, it is noteworthy that in the data evaluated by Campione and Evans (2012), there is a difference in the femur length-body mass relationship between Carnivora (i.e., mainly carnivores) and Ungulata (i.e., mainly herbivores) that could indicate that, at comparable femur length, Ungulata have higher body masses than Carnivora - a finding that would corroborate the prediction made above. Campione and Evans (2012) demonstrate that femur circumference is better related to body mass than femur length; for the question of our study this means that femur circumference would probably be a less suitable proxy as it equalizes differences in body mass at similar stature.

To perform an explorative test of these considerations, we compiled body mass data for the extant mammals, birds and reptiles of our dataset from a single source - the Animal Diversity Web ([www.animaldiversity.org](http://www.animaldiversity.org), accessed 25.05.2016). We consistently collected the mean (or calculated it from the minimum and maximum provided), even if in some cases the data given did not appear intuitively correct, added it to our own dataset (Table S1), and performed analyses using the same methods as outlined in the main text.

There was a linear relationship (scaling including the exponent of 1.0 in the 95%CI) between torso volume and body mass, with no influence of diet (Table S3). In contrast, there was an expected cubic scaling for the relationship of body mass and femur length, and diet was a significant factor, suggesting that for similar femur lengths, herbivores have higher body masses than carnivores (Table S4).

**Table S3.** Results of statistical analyses according to Torso volume = *a* (factor) Body mass<sup>*b*</sup> (and the corresponding factor\*Body mass interaction) in Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) and Phylogenetic Generalized Least Squares (PGLS) for extant mammals, birds and reptiles (n=63)

Stats	$\lambda$	<b>a</b>		<b>b</b>		<b>factor<sup>#</sup></b>		<b>interaction<sup>†</sup></b>
		(95%CI)	p	(95%CI)	p	(95%CI)	p	p
OLS	(0)	384 (286, 515)	<0.001	0.94 (0.88, 1.00)	<0.001	<i>Diet</i> 1.07 (0.77, 1.48)	0.680	n.s.
PGLS	0	384 (286, 515)	<0.001	0.94 (0.88, 1.00)	<0.001	1.07 (0.77, 1.48)	0.681	n.s.

this is only an explorative analysis with Body mass estimates that have no connection to the Torso volume data generated in this study  
Torso volume in cm<sup>3</sup>, Body mass in kg

<sup>#</sup>factor coding: Diet (carnivore = 0, herbivore = 1)

<sup>†</sup>models were calculated with interaction term first; if this was not significant, the model was again calculated without the interaction term; estimates for the factor in this table always represent the models where either the interaction was significant or excluded

**Table S4.** Results of statistical analyses according to Body mass = *a* (factor) Femur length<sup>*b*</sup> (and the corresponding factor\*Femur length interaction) in Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) and Phylogenetic Generalized Least Squares (PGLS) for extant mammals, birds and reptiles (n=63)

Stats	$\lambda$	<b>a</b>		<b>b</b>		<b>factor<sup>#</sup></b>		<b>interaction<sup>†</sup></b>
		(95%CI)	p	(95%CI)	p	(95%CI)	p	p
OLS	(0)	0.004 (0.002, 0.007)	<0.001	2.98 (2.78, 3.19)	<0.001	<i>Diet</i> 1.75 (1.20, 2.55)	0.005	n.s.
PGLS	0	0.004 (0.002, 0.007)	<0.001	2.98 (2.78, 3.19)	<0.001	1.75 (1.20, 2.55)	0.005	n.s.

this is only an explorative analysis with Body mass estimates that have no connection to the Femur length data generated in this study  
Body mass in kg, Femur length in cm

<sup>#</sup>factor coding: Diet (carnivore = 0, herbivore = 1)

<sup>†</sup>models were calculated with interaction term first; if this was not significant, the model was again calculated without the interaction term; estimates for the factor in this table always represent the models where either the interaction was significant or excluded

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