

Supplementary Information for

## First Evidence of Convergent Lifestyle Signal in Reptile Skull Roof Microanatomy

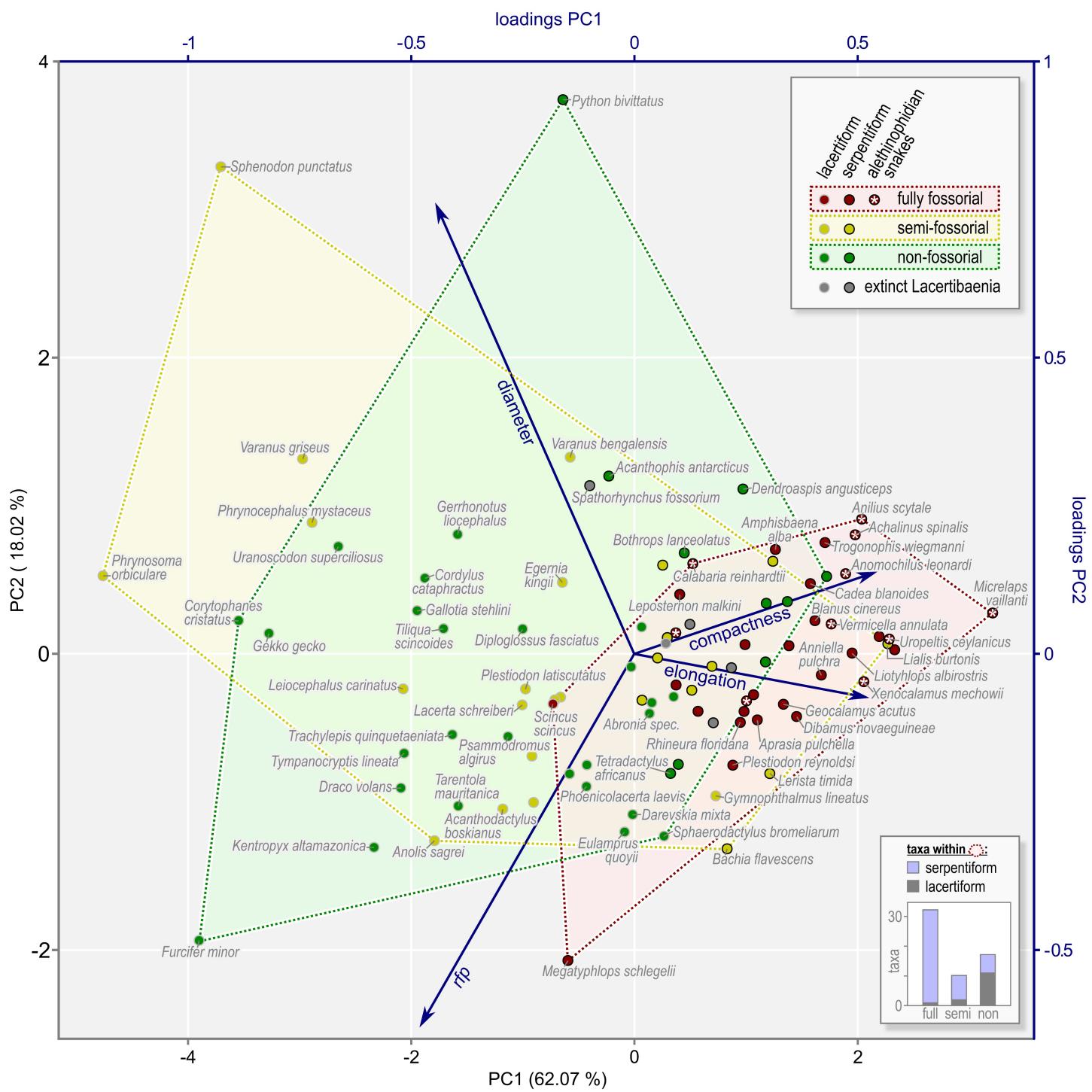
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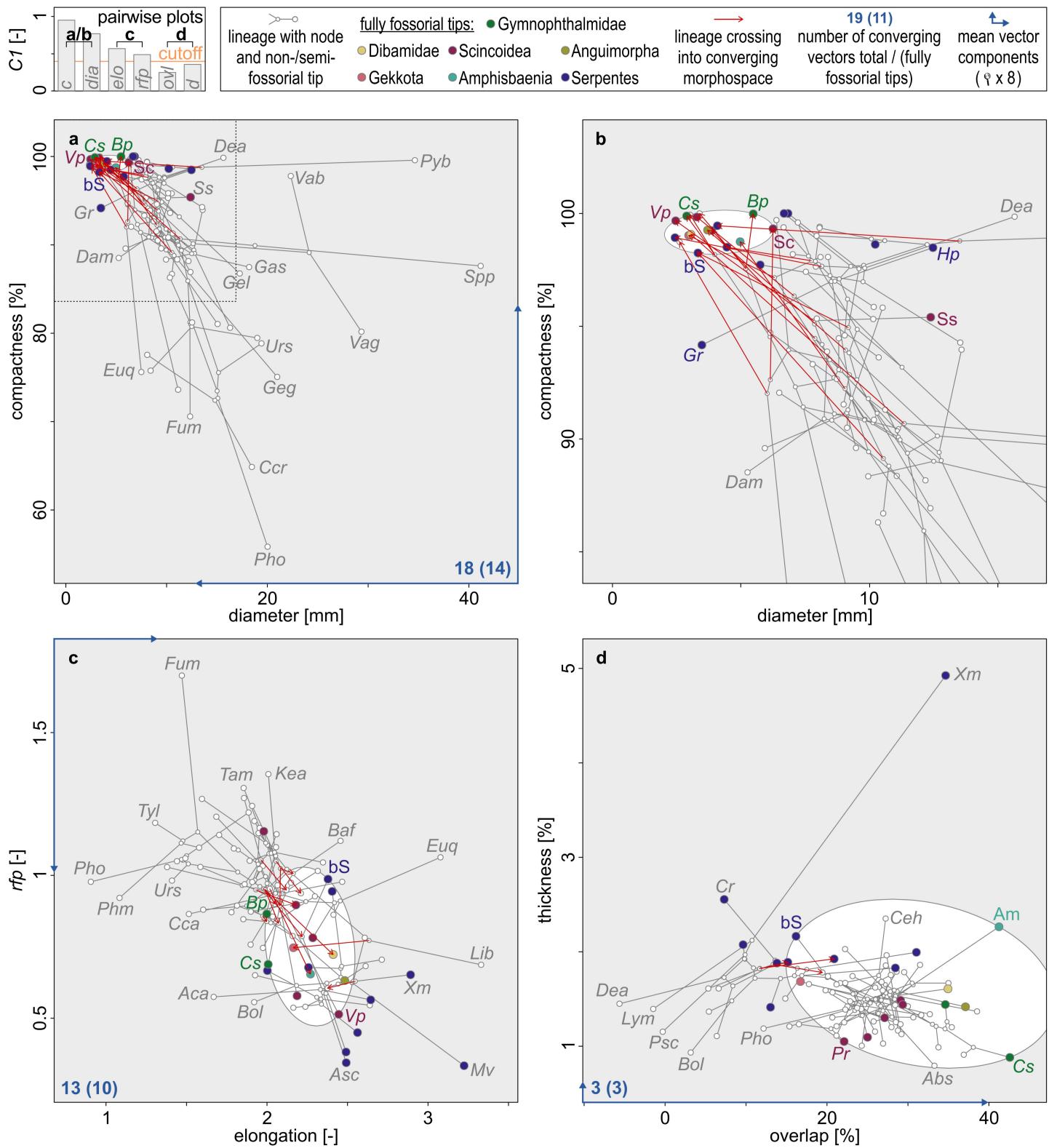


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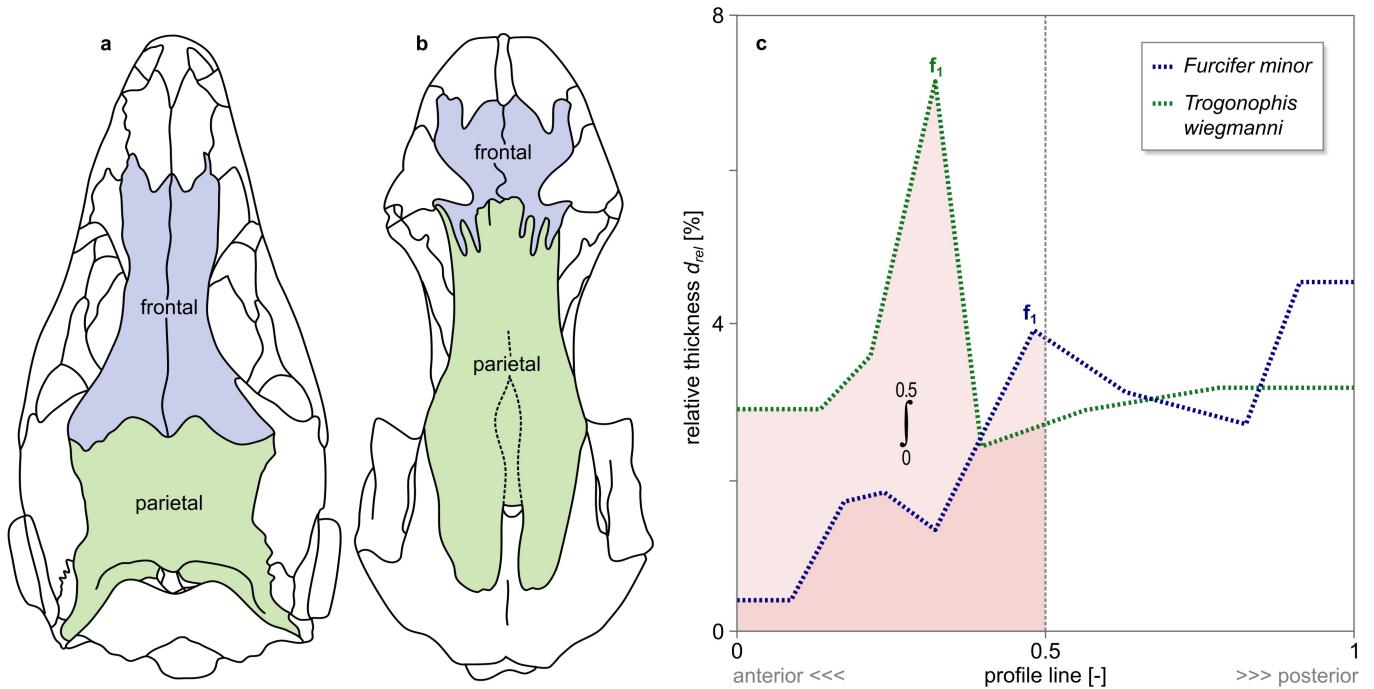
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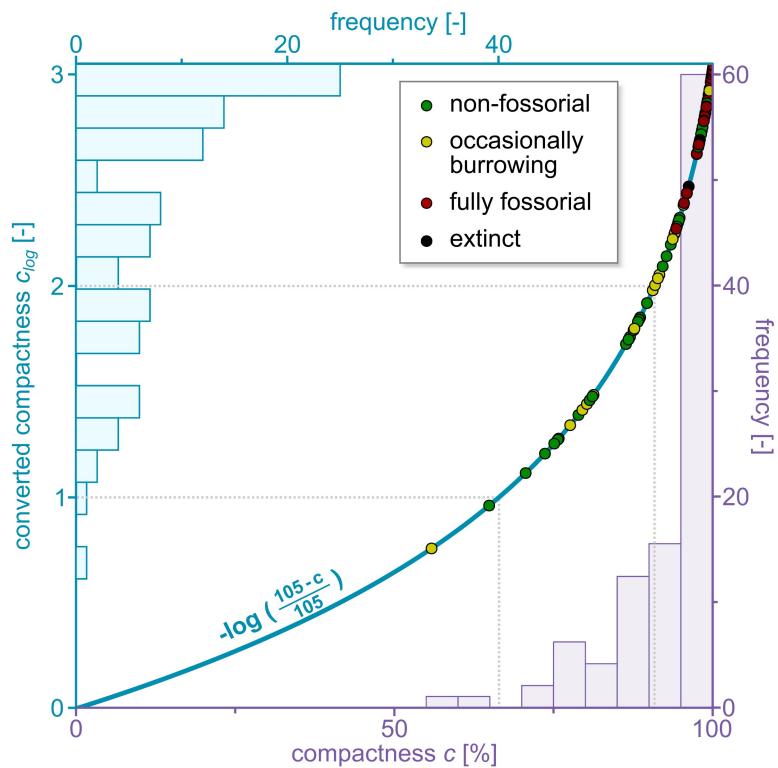
**Figure S1. Principal component analysis of microanatomical and morphological traits** that were found to significantly converge and showed a significant lifestyle signal: compactness, length ratio of frontal and parietal bones *rfp*, cranial elongation, and skull diameter. Bivariate plot (two first PCs) with convex hulls (dotted lines) indicating the morphospace occupied by each lifestyle. Lacertiform/serpentiform bauplan indicated for all taxa – bottom left inset shows proportions of these bauplans for the 59 extant taxa located inside the region overlapping with the fully fossorial morphospace.



**Figure S2. Bivariate morphospaces depicting the convergent evolution of skull roof traits.** Different from Figure 4, the converging morphospace ellipsoids are defined by the phenotype of limbless taxa that primarily acquired a fully fossorial lifestyle. The convergence index  $C_5$  [41] corresponds to the number of lineages entering this space. As indicated by univariate  $C_1$  (see top left legend box diagram), compactness and diameter (a, b) are strongly converging – with (b) showing an enlarged excerpt of (a) in accordance with the dashed line. The ratio of frontal and parietal  $rfp$  and elongation (c) are weakly converging, while overlap and thickness (d) are not converging. Note the consistently greater numbers of morphospace vectors converging to fossorial tips compared to the initial lifestyle coding (Figure 4). For key to tip abbreviations, see Table S6.



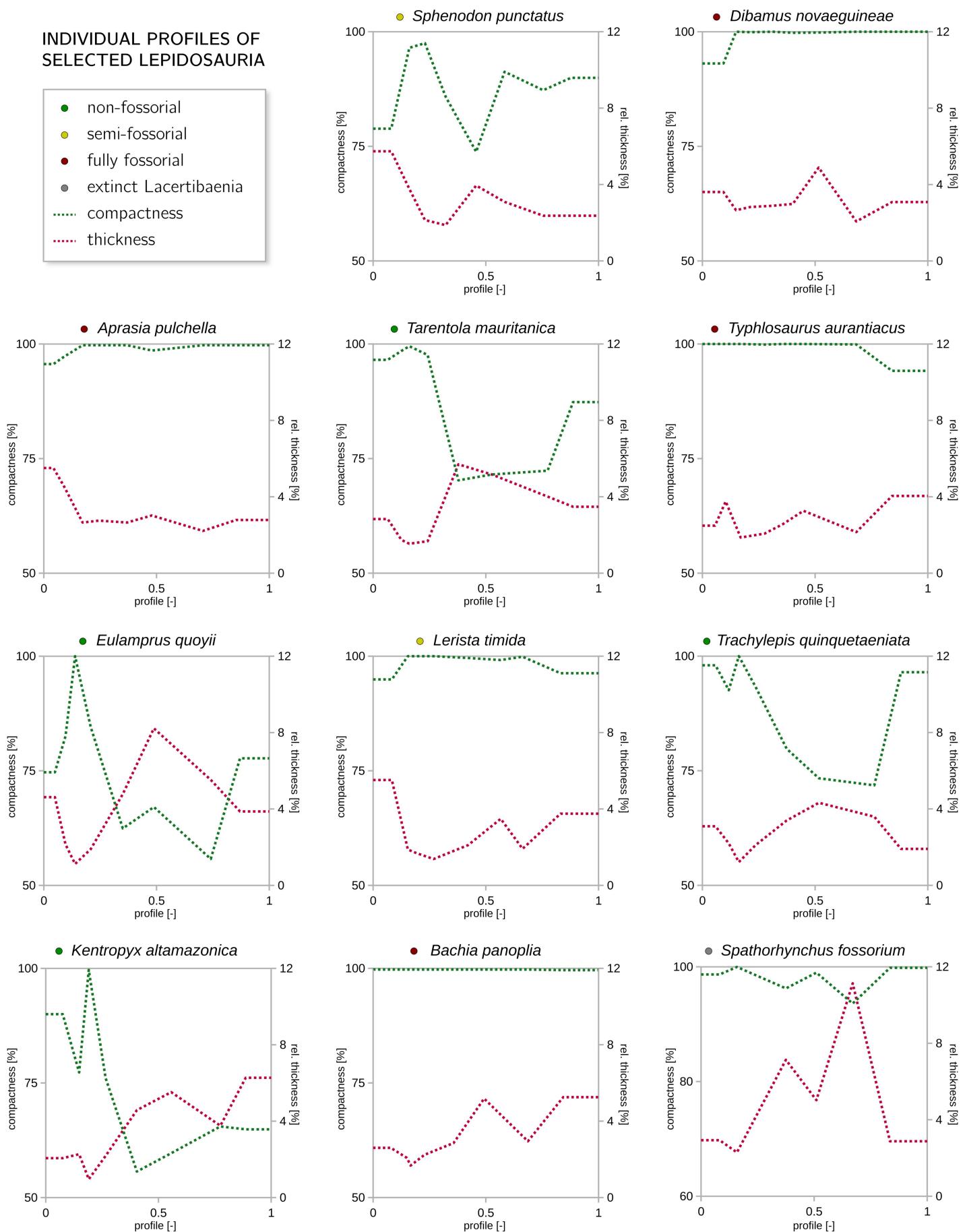
**Figure S3. Frontal and parietal bones may have deviating proportions between squamates of different lifestyles.** Cranium of a non-fossorial lacertid lizard (a) modified from Evans [81] and a fully fossorial amphisbaenian lizard (b) modified from Gans & Montero [39]. Examples of cranial thickness profiles (c) show that measurements for homologous bones may represent very different subsections of the skull roof as a functional unity. We computed thickness profile integrals in the limits from 0 to 0.5 in order to allow for an unbiased interspecific comparison of the anterior skull roof.



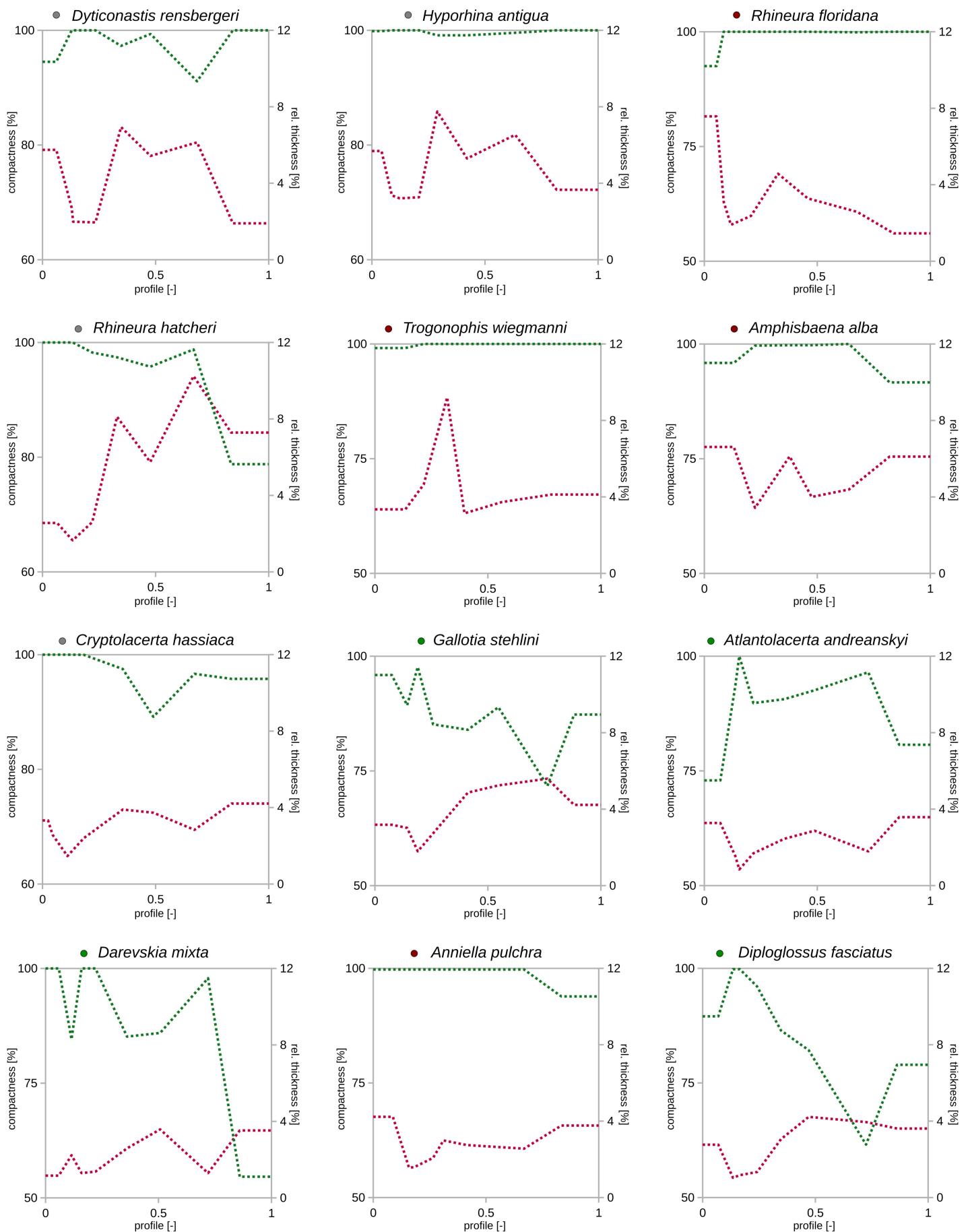
**Figure S4. Logarithmic compactness conversion for individual specimens with indication of conversion equation.** Compactness distribution appears strongly aggregated between 95 % and 100 % (violet histogram). In this interval, conversion produces a more moderate distribution (light blue histogram) to the benefit of an increased resolution. This allows for a more differentiated visualization of trait evolution when mapped on a phylogeny (Figure 5).

## INDIVIDUAL PROFILES OF SELECTED LEPIDOSAURIA

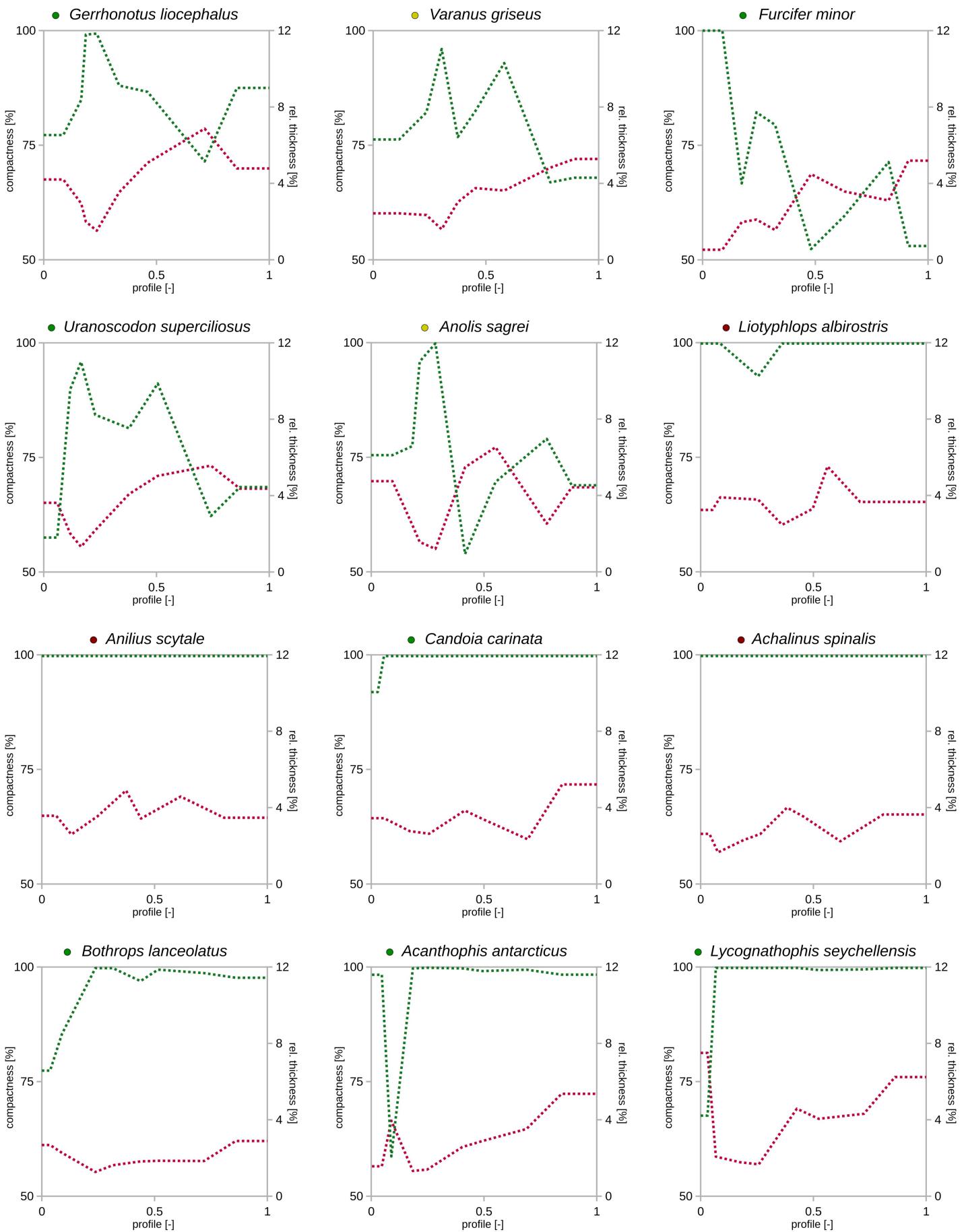
- non-fossorial
- semi-fossorial
- fully fossorial
- extinct Lacertibaenia
- compactness
- thickness



**Figure S5. Individual compactness and thickness profiles of selected Lepidosauria I: Sphenodontidae, Dibamidae, Gekkota, Scincoidea, and Lacertoidea 1.**



**Figure S6. Individual compactness and thickness profiles of selected Lepidosauria II:**  
Lacertoidea 2 and Anguimorpha 1. For legend box, see Figure S5.



**Figure 7. Individual compactness and thickness profiles of selected Lepidosauria III: Anguimorpha 2, Iguania, and Serpentes.** For legend box, see Figure S5.

**Table S1. Results summary: trait average, phylogenetically informed ANOVAs and PCA, phylogenetic signal and quantification of convergence.** Skull roof compactness ( $c$ ), thickness ( $d$ ), bone overlap ( $ovl$ ), ratio of frontal and parietal ( $rfp$ ), cranial elongation ( $elo$ ), and skull diameter ( $dia$ ) with corresponding  $p$ -values. Skull dimensions length ( $l$ ), height ( $h$ ), and width ( $w$ ) and posterior thickness profile ( $d$ -posterior). Lifestyles non-fossorial (*non-foss*), semi-fossorial (*occ-burr*), and fully fossorial (*full-foss*) with Retention Index ( $RI$ , [42]) and partial least squares analysis ( $r$ -PLS, [43]).

dataset & lifestyle	$n_{total}$	$n_{non-foss}$	$n_{occ-burr}$	$n_{full-foss}$	$n_{extinct}$	$RI_{foss}$	$r$ -PLS $_{foss}$	$p_{r-PLS}$
	99	36	26	32	5	0.42	0.37	0.005
	preliminary phylogenetically informed ANOVAs			$p_{l-w}$	$p_{l-h}$	$p_{w-h}$	$p_l$	$p_{d\text{-posterior}}$
				0.003	0.360	0.055	0.0004	0.79
trait average	class mean & standard deviation	$c$ [%]	$d$ [%]	$ovl$ [%]	$rfp$ [-]	$elo$ [-]	$dia$ [mm]	
	non-fossorial	$89.0 \pm 9.4$	$1.42 \pm 0.29$	$20.9 \pm 10.5$	$0.97 \pm 0.25$	$1.99 \pm 0.42$	$11.42 \pm 5.93$	
	semi-fossorial	$91.0 \pm 9.8$	$1.44 \pm 0.33$	$25.1 \pm 7.7$	$0.96 \pm 0.19$	$1.94 \pm 0.46$	$11.90 \pm 8.47$	
	fully fossorial	$98.8 \pm 1.4$	$1.95 \pm 0.73$	$29.6 \pm 11.9$	$0.68 \pm 0.27$	$2.35 \pm 0.32$	$5.13 \pm 2.78$	
	extinct Lacertibaenia	$97.8 \pm 1.3$	$2.15 \pm 0.39$	$36.5 \pm 10.4$	$0.81 \pm 0.06$	$2.12 \pm 0.18$	$9.72 \pm 5.01$	
phylogenetically informed ANOVAs	comparison between lifestyle classes	$p_c$	$p_d$	$p_{ovl}$	$p_{rfp}$	$p_{elo}$	$p_{dia}$	
	overall comparison	0.0010	0.0004	0.0004	0.0003	0.0207	0.0008	
pairwise	non-fossorial ~ semi-fossorial	0.1175	0.8318	0.2504	0.8529	0.8070	0.4855	
	non-fossorial ~ fully fossorial	0.0009	0.0003	0.0003	0.0006	0.0384	0.0012	
	semi-fossorial ~ fully fossorial	0.1168	0.0014	0.0010	0.0014	0.0384	0.0012	
log size correlation		$p_c$	$p_d$	$p_{ovl}$	$p_{rfp}$	$p_{elo}$		
	overall dataset	0.0020	1.0000	0.0036	0.0119	0.0020		
subsets	non-fossorial	0.2328	0.3300	1.0000	1.0000	0.0728		
	semi-fossorial	0.0420	0.3380	0.4014	1.0000	0.0208		
	fully fossorial	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	0.0897	0.4000		
phylo signal	phylogenetic signal in trait evolution	$c$	$d$	$ovl$	$rfp$	$elo$	$dia$	
	Pagel's $\lambda$	0.88	0.38	0.78	1.00	0.66	0.84	
	$p_\lambda$	$\ll 0.0001$	0.015	$\ll 0.0001$	$\ll 0.0001$	< 0.0001	< 0.0001	
convolve package	quantification of convergence	$c$	$d$	$ovl$	$rfp$	$elo$	$dia$	
	$C1$	0.81	0.28	0.36	0.44	0.49	0.56	
	cutoff	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	
	$p_{C1}$	< 0.0001	0.6525	0.0556	0.0018	0.0001	< 0.0001	
	$C5$	25	0	2	0	18	17	
principal components	$p_{C5}$	< 0.0001	1.0000	0.1583	1.0000	< 0.0001	< 0.0001	
	principal component analysis	$PC1$	$PC2$	$PC3$	$PC4$	lifestyle signal in $PC1$ (phylo. informed ANOVA)		
	variance explained [%]	62.07	18.02	10.82	9.10	overall $p = 0.0001$		
	$c$	0.544	0.139	0.191	0.805	non ~ semi $p = 0.6612$		
	$rfp$	-0.479	-0.630	-0.335	0.512	non ~ full $p = 0.0003$		
loadings	$elo$	0.526	-0.074	-0.835	-0.144	semi ~ full $p = 0.0006$		
	$dia$	-0.445	0.761	-0.393	-0.262			

**Table S2. Sampled specimens with collection number, µCT scan resolution ([µm] = voxel size), and lifestyle (LS, 1 = non-fossilial, 2 = semi-fossilial, 3 = fully fossilial) in accordance with given reference. Where not otherwise noted, µCT scans were carried out at the CT- & Visualization Lab, Museum für Naturkunde, Leibniz Institute for Evolution and Biodiversity Science, Berlin, Germany with GE Phoenix Nanotom S (RRID:SCR\_017995) or Yxlon FF35 CT (RRID:SCR\_018208).**

SPECIES	SPECIMEN	CLADE	HIGHER LEVEL	[µm]	LS	REFERENCE
<i>Sphenodon punctatus</i>	ZMB 13837	Sphenodontidae	Lepidosauria	46.3	2	Dawbin [82]
<i>Dibamus novaeguineae</i>	ZMB 8856	Dibamidae	Squamata	5.8	3	Rieppel [83]
<i>Lialis burtonis</i>	ZMB 10546	Pygopodidae	Gekkota	14.3	2	Shea [84]
<i>Aprasia pulchella</i>	ZMB 25504	Pygopodidae	Gekkota	5.7	3	Shea [84]
<i>Sphaerodactylus bromeliarum</i>	ZMB 42827	Sphaerodactylidae	Gekkota	3.5	1	Peters & Schwartz [70]
<i>Tarentola mauritanica</i>	ZMB 17966	Phyllodactylidae	Gekkota	11.3	1	Johnson, Russell, & Bauer [85]
<i>Gekko gecko</i>	ZMB 48746	Gekkonidae	Gekkota	20.0	1	Subramanean & Vikram Reddy [86]
<i>Xantusia riversiana</i>	ZMB 29899	Xantusiidae	Scincoidea	9.3	1	Fellers & Drost [87]
<i>Tetradactylus africanus</i>	AMNH 57628	Gerrhosauridae	Scincoidea	8.0	1	Mason & Alexander [88]
<i>Platysaurus capensis</i>	ZMB 38563	Cordylidae	Scincoidea	11.4	1	Whiting et al. [89]
<i>Cordylus cataphractus</i>	ZMB 74455	Cordylidae	Scincoidea	14.6	1	Broeckhoven & Mouton [90]
<i>Chamaesaura anguina</i>	ZMB 56421	Cordylidae	Scincoidea	7.5	1	Shine & Wall [91]
<i>Typhlosaurus aurantiacus</i>	ZMB 3936	Scincidae	Scincoidea	4.9	3	Vitt & Caldwell [23]
<i>Plestiodon latiscutatus</i>	ZMB 26508	Scincidae	Scincoidea	10.0	2	Goris [92]
<i>Plestiodon reynoldsi</i>	ZMB 23322	Scincidae	Scincoidea	7.1	3	Pike, Peterman, & Exum [93]
<i>Scincus scincus</i>	ZMB 15318	Scincidae	Scincoidea	13.8	3	Stadler et al. [94]
<i>Grandidierina petiti</i>	ZSM 1620/2010	Scincidae	Scincoidea	8.3	3	Rosa et al. [95]
<i>Sphenomorphus solomonis</i>	ZMB 8803	Scincidae	Scincoidea	9.3	1	Shine & Wall [91]
<i>Saiphos equalis</i>	SAMA R39075	Scincidae	Scincoidea	11.1	3	Shine & Wall [91]
<i>Coeranoscincus reticulatus</i>	SAMA R27452	Scincidae	Scincoidea	20.0	3	Rabosky et al. [96]
<i>Eulamprus quoyii</i>	ZMB 43336	Scincidae	Scincoidea	11.8	1	Law & Bradley [97]
<i>Lerista timida</i>	SAMA R57365	Scincidae	Scincoidea	7.2	2	Robertson & Coventry [98]
<i>Egernia kingii</i>	ZMB 21457	Scincidae	Scincoidea	14.3	2	Chapple [99]
<i>Tiliqua scincoides</i>	ZMB 17061	Scincidae	Scincoidea	16.5	1	Price-Rees, Brown, & Shine [100]
<i>Liopholis whitii</i>	ZMB 29584	Scincidae	Scincoidea	11.3	2	Chapple [99]

<i>Eutropis multifasciata</i>	ZMB 77386	Scincidae	Scincoidea	10.7	2	Catena & Hembree [101]
<i>Trachylepis quinquetaeniata</i>	ZMB 31019	Scincidae	Scincoidea	15.0	1	Spawls et al. [102]
<i>Kentropyx altamazonica</i>	ZMB 69836	Teiidae	Lacertoidea	12.5	1	Vitt et al. [103]
<i>Alopoglossus copii</i>	ZMB 9986	Gymnophthalmidae	Lacertoidea	10.0	2	Hernández-Jaimes, Jerez, & Ramírez-Pinilla [104]
<i>Bachia flavescens</i>	ZMB 8585	Gymnophthalmidae	Lacertoidea	10.0	2	Barros, Herrel, & Kohlsdorf [27]
<i>Bachia panoplia</i>	AMNH R64876	Gymnophthalmidae	Lacertoidea	8.3	3	Barros, Herrel, & Kohlsdorf [27]
<i>Calyptommatus sinebrachiatus</i>	AMNH R138889	Gymnophthalmidae	Lacertoidea	3.3	3	Barros, Herrel, & Kohlsdorf [27]
<i>Gymnophthalmus lineatus</i>	ZMB 28660	Gymnophthalmidae	Lacertoidea	4.9	2	van Buurt [105]
<i>Spathorhynchus fossorium</i>	USNM 26318	Amphisbaenia: Rhineuridae	Lacertoidea	21.5 <sup>1</sup>	n/a	[extinct]
<i>Dyticonastis rensbergeri</i>	UCMP 76881 <sup>2</sup>	Amphisbaenia: Rhineuridae	Lacertoidea	13.0	n/a	[extinct]
<i>Hyporhina antigua</i>	ZMPU 11390	Amphisbaenia: Rhineuridae	Lacertoidea	5.0	n/a	[extinct]
<i>Rhineura floridana</i>	ZMB 13848	Amphisbaenia: Rhineuridae	Lacertoidea	8.3	3	Vitt & Caldwell [23]
<i>Rhineura hatcheri</i>	CM 15763	Amphisbaenia: Rhineuridae	Lacertoidea	7.5	n/a	[extinct]
<i>Bipes tridactylus</i>	FMNH 265140 CG5528	Amphisbaenia: Bipedidae	Lacertoidea	6.0	3	Vitt & Caldwell [23]
<i>Blanus cinereus</i>	ZMB 1389	Amphisbaenia: Blanidae	Lacertoidea	6.7	3	Vitt & Caldwell [23]
<i>Trogonophis wiegmanni</i>	ZMB 55026	Amphisbaenia: Trogonophidae	Lacertoidea	12.2	3	Vitt & Caldwell [23]
<i>Cadea blanoides</i>	ZMB 4082	Amphisbaenia: Cadeidae	Lacertoidea	11.0	3	Vitt & Caldwell [23]
<i>Geocalamus acutus</i>	ZMB 21941	Amphisbaenia: Amphisbaenidae	Lacertoidea	7.0	3	Vitt & Caldwell [23]
<i>Amphisbaena alba</i>	ZMB 77355	Amphisbaenia: Amphisbaenidae	Lacertoidea	17.7	3	Vitt & Caldwell [23]
<i>Amphisbaena cubana</i>	ZMB 6904	Amphisbaenia: Amphisbaenidae	Lacertoidea	8.3	3	Vitt & Caldwell [23]
<i>Leposternon malkini</i>	MZUSP 13750	Amphisbaenia: Amphisbaenidae	Lacertoidea	12.6	3	Vitt & Caldwell [23]
<i>Cryptolacerta hansiaca</i>	SMF ME 2604 <sup>3</sup>	Lacertibaenia	Lacertoidea	12.4	n/a	[extinct]
<i>Psammodromus algirus</i>	ZMB 17931	Lacertidae	Lacertoidea	8.8	1	Martin & López [106]
<i>Gallotia stehlini</i>	ZMB 29084	Lacertidae	Lacertoidea	12.5	1	Carretero et al. [107]
<i>Atlantolacerta andreanskyi</i>	ZFMK 8751	Lacertidae	Lacertoidea	6.1	1	Hoser [108]
<i>Nucras tessellata</i>	ZMB 25635	Lacertidae	Lacertoidea	9.5	2	Cooper & Whiting [109]
<i>Gastropholis echinata</i>	ZMB 11333	Lacertidae	Lacertoidea	16.4	1	Segniagbeto et al. [110]
<i>Acanthodactylus boskianus</i>	ZMB 70859	Lacertidae	Lacertoidea	8.9	2	Zaady & Bouskila [111]
<i>Phoenicolacerta laevis</i>	ZMB 14316	Lacertidae	Lacertoidea	10.4	1	Modrý et al. [112]
<i>Lacerta schreiberi</i>	ZMB 11024	Lacertidae	Lacertoidea	10.7	2	Marco, Díaz-Paniagua, & Hidalgo-Vila [113]

<i>Archaeolacerta bedriagae</i>	ZMB 69157	Lacertidae	Lacertoidea	10.5	1	Bombi et al. [114]
<i>Darevskia mixta</i>	ZMB 44583	Lacertidae	Lacertoidea	7.9	1	Gabelaia, Adriaens, & Tarkhnishvili [115]
<i>Anniella pulchra</i>	ZMB 7843	Anniellidae	Anguimorpha	6.4	3	Vitt & Caldwell [23]
<i>Diploglossus fasciatus</i>	ZMB 1183	Anguidae	Anguimorpha	14.3	1	Ribeiro & Amaral [116]
<i>Ophiodes striatus</i>	ZMB 67020	Anguidae	Anguimorpha	14.5	2	Oliveira [117]
<i>Celestus haetianus</i>	ZMB 52518	Anguidae	Anguimorpha	12.1	2	Thomas [118]
<i>Dopasia gracilis</i>	ZMB 9930	Anguidae	Anguimorpha	12.0	2	Verma [119]
<i>Ophisaurus koellikeri</i>	ZMB 18006	Anguidae	Anguimorpha	10.0	2	de Pous et al. [120]
<i>Anguis fragilis</i>	ZMB 3239	Anguidae	Anguimorpha	9.4	2	Blain, Bailon, & Agustí [121]
<i>Gerrhonotus liocephalus</i>	ZMB 6691	Anguidae	Anguimorpha	15.5	1	Flury [122]
<i>Abronia spec.</i>	ZMB 67130	Anguidae	Anguimorpha	10.4	1	Vitt & Caldwell [23]
<i>Varanus griseus</i>	ZMB 36602	Varanidae	Anguimorpha	61.2	2	Tsellarius & Tsellarius [123]
<i>Varanus bengalensis</i>	ZMB 16299	Varanidae	Anguimorpha	34.8	2	Traeholt [124]
<i>Furcifer minor</i>	ZMB 10411	Chamaeleonidae	Iguania	13.0	1	Randrianantoandro, Andriantsimana, & Randrianavelona [125]
<i>Tymanocryptis lineata</i>	ZMB 4714	Agamidae	Iguania	10.9	1	Melville & Schulte [28]
<i>Phrynocephalus mystaceus</i>	ZMB 44079	Agamidae	Iguania	17.5	2	Panov, Tsellarius, & Nepomnyashchikh [126]
<i>Draco volans</i>	ZMB 31390A	Agamidae	Iguania	7.8	1	Hairston [127]
<i>Uranoscodon superciliosus</i>	ZMB 30932	Tropiduridae	Iguania	18.5	1	Howland, Vitt, & Lopez [128]
<i>Leiocephalus carinatus</i>	ZMB 78161	Leiocephalidae	Iguania	12.9	2	Kavaliers, Courtenay, & Hirst [129]
<i>Phrynosoma orbiculare</i>	ZMB 37142	Phrynosomatidae	Iguania	14.0	2	Weese [130]
<i>Corytophanes cristatus</i>	ZMB 80461	Corytophanidae	Iguania	17.1	1	Townsend et al. [131]
<i>Anolis sagrei</i>	ZMB 537	Dactyloidae	Iguania	9.1	2	Pacala, Rummel, & Roughgarden [132]
<i>Liophylops albirostris</i>	ZMB 9529	Anomalepidae	Serpentes	3.0	3	Rieppel, Kley, & Maisano [133]
<i>Afrotyphlops schlegelii</i>	ZMB 36884	Typhlopidae	Serpentes	9.4	3	Allemand et al. [134]
<i>Anilius scytale</i>	ZMB 1438	Aniliidae	Serpentes	12.5	3	Allemand et al. [134]
<i>Calabaria reinhardtii</i>	ZMB 20308	Boidae	Serpentes	19.4	3	Angelici et al. [135]
<i>Candoia carinata</i>	ZMB 14571	Boidae	Serpentes	11.7	1	Jayne [136]
<i>Eryx conicus</i>	ZMB 1463	Boidae	Serpentes	13.0	2	Pough [137]
<i>Anomochilus leonardi</i>	ZMB 80303	Anomochildiae	Serpentes	6.4	3	Rieppel & Maisano [138]
<i>Uropeltis ceylanicus</i>	ZMB 90312	Uropeltidae	Serpentes	6.7	3	Gower, Captain, & Thakur [139]

<i>Python bivittatus</i>	ZMB 30906	Pythonidae	Serpentes	40.7	1	Sharma & Kandel [140]
<i>Achalinus spinalis</i>	ZMB 27948A	Xenodermatidae	Serpentes	10.7	3	Yamasaki & Mori [141]
<i>Cerastes vipera</i>	ZMB 20862	Viperidae	Serpentes	12.2	2	Ibrahim [142]
<i>Bothrops lanceolatus</i>	ZMB 2946	Viperidae	Serpentes	20.0	1	Gros-Désormeaux et al. [143]
<i>Micrelaps vaillanti</i>	ZMB 22406	Lamprophiidae	Serpentes	5.0	3	Rasmussen [144]
<i>Psammophis crucifer</i>	ZMB 16482	Lamprophiidae	Serpentes	12.5	1	Shine et al. [145]
<i>Xenocalamus mechowii</i>	ZMB 23387	Lamprophiidae	Serpentes	8.7	3	Bates [146]
<i>Lycodryas maculatus</i>	ZMB 19226	Lamprophiidae	Serpentes	14.1	1	Vences et al. [147]
<i>Dendroaspis angusticeps</i>	ZMB 56385	Elapidae	Serpentes	23.2	1	Petras et al. [148]
<i>Acanthophis antarcticus</i>	ZMB 38580	Elapidae	Serpentes	14.0	1	Smith et al. [149]
<i>Vermicella annulata</i>	ZMB 63500	Elapidae	Serpentes	11.0	3	Johnson [150]
<i>Geagras redimitus</i>	MNHN RA 8404	Colubridae	Serpentes	4.3	3	Holm [151]
<i>Lycognathophis seychellensis</i>	ZMB 7617	Colubridae	Serpentes	13.4	1	Bowler [152]
<i>Heterodon platirhinos</i>	ZMB 13871	Colubridae	Serpentes	15.0	3	Edgren [153]

<sup>1</sup> in-plane resolution, voxel size = 21.5 µm x 21.5 µm x 47.2 µm, resulting cross section resolution = 28.7 µm - 33.0 µm

<sup>2</sup> scanned at the University of Texas High-Resolution X-ray CT Facility

<sup>3</sup> scanned at the Helmholtz Centre Berlin for Materials and Energy using a micro-focus X-ray

**Table S3. Key to collection numbers from Table S2.**

<b>AMNH</b>	American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY, United States of America
<b>CM</b>	Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, PA, United States of America
<b>FMNH</b>	Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, IL, United States of America
<b>MNHN</b>	Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, France
<b>MZUSP</b>	Museum of Zoology of the University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
<b>SAMA</b>	South Australian Museum, Adelaide, Australia
<b>SMF</b>	Senckenberg Naturmuseum Frankfurt, Leibniz Institution for Biodiversity and Earth System Research, Frankfurt, Germany
<b>UCMP</b>	University of California Museum of Paleontology, Berkeley, CA, United States of America
<b>USNM</b>	Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, Washington, DC, United States of America
<b>ZFMK</b>	Zoological Research Museum Alexander Koenig, Leibniz Institute for Animal Biodiversity, Bonn, Germany
<b>ZMB</b>	Museum für Naturkunde, Leibniz Institute for Evolution and Biodiversity Science, Berlin, Germany
<b>ZMPU</b>	Zoological Museum of Perm University, Perm, Russia
<b>ZSM</b>	Zoologische Staatssammlung München, Germany

**Table S4. Independent acquisitions of a fully fossorial lifestyle** for the here investigated taxa in accordance with stochastic mapping of character evolution (Figure 1). Regarding the higher clade averages, our dataset comprises 85 % of primary and 35 % of secondary acquisitions of a fully fossorial lifestyle. The resulting fully fossorial clusters were used as single converging tips in the convergence analysis.

ACQUISITION NO.	CLUSTER / TAXA INCLUDED	HIGHER LEVEL	SAMPLED / TOTAL
1	<i>Dibamus novaeguineae</i>	Dibamidae	1 of 1 (100 %)
2	<i>Aprasia pulchella</i>	Gekkota	1 of 1 (100 %)
3	<i>Typhlosaurus aurantiacus</i>		
4	<i>Plestiodon reynoldsi</i>		
5	<i>Scincus scincus</i>	Scincoidea	
6	<i>Grandidierina petiti</i>		5 of 20 (25 %)
7	common ancestor of <i>Saiphos equalis</i> and <i>Coeranoscincus reticulatus</i>		
8	<i>Bachia panoplia</i>	non-lacertibaenian	
9	<i>Calyptommatus sinebrachiatus</i>	Lacertoidea	2 of 3 (67 %)
10	Amphisbaenia: <i>Rhineura floridana</i> , <i>Bipes tridactylus</i> , <i>Blanus cinereus</i> , <i>Cadea blanoides</i> , <i>Trogonophis wiegmanni</i> , <i>Geocalamus acutus</i> , <i>Amphisbaena alba</i> , <i>Amphisbaena cubana</i> , and <i>Leposternon malkini</i>	Lacertibaenia	1 of 1 (100 %)
11	<i>Anniella pulchra</i>	Anguimorpha	1 of 1 (100 %)
12	common ancestor of <i>Liophlops albirostris</i> and <i>Afrotyplops schlegelii</i>		
13	<i>Anilius scytale</i>		
14	<i>Calabaria reinhardtii</i>		
15	common ancestor of <i>Anomochilus leonardi</i> and <i>Uropeltis ceylanicus</i>	Serpentes	<u>primary:</u> 1 of 1 (100 %)
16	<i>Achalinus spinalis</i>		<u>secondary:</u>
17	<i>Micrelaps vaillanti</i>		9 of 26 (35 %)
18	<i>Xenocalamus mechowii</i>		
19	<i>Vermicella annulata</i>		
20	<i>Geagras redimitus</i>		
21	<i>Heterodon platirhinos</i>		

**Table S5. Per specimen measurements:** skull roof compactness (*c*), thickness (*d*), bone overlap (*ovl*), ratio of frontal and parietal (*rfp*), cranial elongation (*elo*), skull diameter (*dia*), and lifestyle (1 = non-fossorial, 2 = semi-fossorial, 3 = fully fossorial)

species	lifestyle	<i>c</i> [%]	<i>d</i> [%]	<i>ovl</i> [%]	<i>rfp</i> [-]	<i>elo</i> [-]	<i>dia</i> [mm]
<i>Sphenodon punctatus</i>	2	87.6	1.79	28.6	1.03	1.38	41.17
<i>Dibamus novaeguineae</i>	3	99.1	1.61	34.9	0.72	2.41	3.05
<i>Lialis burtonis</i>	2	98.1	1.34	32.7	0.69	3.33	8.09
<i>Aprasia pulchella</i>	3	99.0	1.68	16.7	0.75	2.16	2.96
<i>Sphaerodactylus bromeliacum</i>	1	98.3	0.79	33.3	1.10	2.06	3.29
<i>Tarentola mauritanica</i>	1	86.7	1.68	26.7	1.31	1.85	10.53
<i>Gekko gecko</i>	1	75.1	1.67	21.6	1.27	1.60	20.98
<i>Xantusia riversiana</i>	1	94.5	1.57	20.7	0.76	1.90	8.80
<i>Tetradactylus africanus</i>	1	94.7	1.42	22.5	1.02	2.32	6.13
<i>Platysaurus capensis</i>	1	98.1	1.15	25.9	0.97	2.07	8.38
<i>Cordylus cataphractus</i>	1	81.0	1.74	20.1	0.86	1.51	15.06
<i>Chamaesaura anguina</i>	1	92.0	1.62	26.0	0.98	2.47	6.48
<i>Typhlosaurus aurantiacus</i>	3	99.2	1.30	27.1	0.58	2.19	3.86
<i>Plestiodon latiscutatus</i>	2	93.6	1.23	16.5	1.03	1.59	10.35
<i>Plestiodon reynoldsi</i>	3	99.8	1.05	22.1	0.90	2.18	3.28
<i>Scincus scincus</i>	3	95.4	1.49	29.1	1.15	1.98	12.37
<i>Grandidierina petiti</i>	3	99.7	1.09	25.0	0.51	2.45	2.46
<i>Sphenomorphus solomonis</i>	1	99.7	1.21	15.4	0.87	1.90	6.38
<i>Saiphos equalis</i>	3	98.7	1.32	28.9	0.80	2.25	4.67
<i>Coeranoscincus reticulatus</i>	3	99.9	1.56	29.8	0.76	2.32	7.81
<i>Eulamprus quoyii</i>	1	75.6	2.03	22.2	1.06	3.08	7.49
<i>Lerista timida</i>	2	98.7	1.37	38.5	0.86	2.41	2.61
<i>Egernia kingii</i>	2	94.0	1.75	27.9	0.87	1.78	13.57
<i>Tiliqua scincoides</i>	1	80.6	1.38	24.3	1.03	1.97	16.30
<i>Liopholis whitii</i>	2	91.3	1.66	17.8	1.02	1.95	10.61
<i>Eutropis multifasciata</i>	2	90.8	1.21	21.2	1.17	1.95	10.17
<i>Trachylepis quinquetaeniata</i>	1	88.2	1.39	24.2	1.21	1.69	12.17
<i>Kentropyx altamazonica</i>	1	73.6	1.43	28.4	1.35	2.01	11.14
<i>Alopoglossus copii</i>	2	92.7	0.99	33.8	1.24	1.91	8.72
<i>Bachia flavescens</i>	2	100.0	1.20	35.4	1.12	2.46	3.39
<i>Bachia panoplia</i>	3	100.0	1.44	34.6	0.86	2.00	5.47

<i>Calyptommatus sinebrachiatus</i>	3	99.9	0.88	42.6	0.69	2.01	2.88
<i>Gymnophthalmus lineatus</i>	2	99.9	0.91	36.9	0.97	2.15	3.02
<i>Spathorhynchus fossorium</i>	n/a	97.9	2.15	45.5	0.82	1.94	17.85
<i>Dyticonastis rensbergeri</i>	n/a	97.8	2.28	39.0	0.82	2.26	10.41
<i>Hyporhina antigua</i>	n/a	99.7	2.58	37.2	0.72	2.02	5.08
<i>Rhineura floridana</i>	3	99.1	1.92	32.3	0.81	2.21	4.26
<i>Rhineura hatcheri</i>	n/a	96.1	2.24	42.1	0.88	2.37	6.30
<i>Bipes tridactylus</i>	3	95.8	2.22	41.8	0.72	1.79	4.37
<i>Blanus cinereus</i>	3	99.6	1.84	39.4	0.47	2.16	3.10
<i>Cadea blanoides</i>	3	99.8	2.15	46.5	0.49	2.29	5.77
<i>Trogonophis wiegmanni</i>	3	99.9	2.31	45.5	0.35	2.15	5.10
<i>Geocalamus acutus</i>	3	99.7	1.84	43.8	0.71	2.29	3.31
<i>Amphisbaena alba</i>	3	97.8	2.72	41.9	0.54	2.40	9.23
<i>Amphisbaena cubana</i>	3	99.8	2.14	46.9	0.50	2.66	3.44
<i>Leposternon malkini</i>	3	98.9	2.76	46.8	0.69	1.85	8.64
<i>Cryptolacerta hassiaca</i>	n/a	97.4	1.51	18.8	0.82	2.03	8.96
<i>Psammodromus algirus</i>	1	88.3	1.42	30.0	1.09	1.79	9.94
<i>Gallotia stehlini</i>	1	87.5	1.74	23.2	1.14	1.70	18.19
<i>Atlantolacerta andreanskyi</i>	1	89.6	1.16	28.8	0.98	1.91	5.93
<i>Nucras tessellata</i>	2	89.6	1.86	31.5	0.97	1.86	9.47
<i>Gastropholis echinata</i>	1	95.8	1.96	27.4	0.95	2.12	10.51
<i>Acanthodactylus boskianus</i>	2	90.5	1.13	29.2	1.27	1.86	9.12
<i>Phoenicolacerta laevis</i>	1	93.3	1.20	28.0	1.14	2.06	7.78
<i>Lacerta schreiberi</i>	2	88.4	1.30	20.7	1.05	1.89	11.06
<i>Archaeolacerta bedriagae</i>	1	93.9	1.59	26.9	1.15	1.95	8.35
<i>Darevskia mixta</i>	1	88.5	1.03	26.9	1.05	2.35	5.25
<i>Anniella pulchra</i>	3	99.3	1.42	37.1	0.63	2.48	3.70
<i>Diploglossus fasciatus</i>	1	86.9	1.25	28.5	0.89	1.81	12.36
<i>Ophiodes striatus</i>	2	91.5	1.65	21.2	0.93	2.30	8.99
<i>Celestus haetianus</i>	2	95.3	2.35	27.2	0.75	1.97	7.95
<i>Dopasia gracilis</i>	2	99.4	1.39	22.3	0.85	1.85	8.06
<i>Ophisaurus koellikeri</i>	2	99.4	1.40	23.7	0.86	2.04	6.65
<i>Anguis fragilis</i>	2	98.2	1.47	22.9	0.79	2.16	7.01
<i>Gerrhonotus liocephalus</i>	1	86.8	1.78	29.5	0.88	1.60	17.26

<i>Abronia spec.</i>	1	97.4	1.67	35.0	0.95	2.02	7.52
<i>Varanus griseus</i>	2	80.2	1.30	30.7	1.19	1.92	29.33
<i>Varanus bengalensis</i>	2	97.8	1.26	25.8	0.94	2.21	22.32
<i>Furcifer minor</i>	1	70.6	1.00	24.3	1.70	1.47	12.33
<i>Tympanocryptis lineata</i>	1	86.3	1.23	29.1	1.18	1.31	10.33
<i>Phrynocephalus mystaceus</i>	2	79.5	1.67	22.2	0.92	1.08	19.00
<i>Draco volans</i>	1	75.8	1.25	22.1	1.10	1.58	8.41
<i>Uranoscodon superciliosus</i>	1	78.8	1.59	19.8	0.98	1.41	19.42
<i>Leiocephalus carinatus</i>	2	81.2	1.11	21.2	1.06	1.49	12.53
<i>Phrynosoma orbiculare</i>	2	55.8	1.19	12.2	0.98	0.91	20.02
<i>Corytophanes cristatus</i>	1	64.9	1.33	31.6	1.05	1.44	18.46
<i>Anolis sagrei</i>	2	77.5	1.85	27.3	1.22	1.89	8.08
<i>Liopholops albirostris</i>	3	99.1	1.68	7.6	0.45	2.64	1.66
<i>Afrotyphlops schlegelii</i>	3	97.4	2.65	24.8	1.53	2.12	4.98
<i>Anilius scytale</i>	3	100.0	1.83	28.4	0.34	2.49	6.83
<i>Calabaria reinhardtii</i>	3	98.6	2.55	7.3	0.67	2.00	10.22
<i>Candoia carinata</i>	1	99.0	1.61	5.3	0.55	2.64	7.94
<i>Eryx conicus</i>	2	99.4	1.78	19.4	0.54	2.24	8.05
<i>Anomochilus leonardi</i>	3	100.0	2.38	32.4	0.38	2.27	3.98
<i>Uropeltis ceylanicus</i>	3	98.9	1.61	29.7	0.52	2.85	4.18
<i>Python bivittatus</i>	1	99.6	1.50	14.9	0.54	2.16	34.63
<i>Achalinus spinalis</i>	3	100.0	1.41	13.0	0.38	2.49	6.67
<i>Cerastes vipera</i>	2	95.3	1.37	5.4	0.65	1.93	10.14
<i>Bothrops lanceolatus</i>	1	94.6	0.93	3.2	0.56	1.92	9.03
<i>Micrelaps vaillanti</i>	3	98.9	2.07	9.6	0.33	3.22	2.43
<i>Psammophis crucifer</i>	1	97.6	1.15	-0.3	0.78	2.61	7.91
<i>Xenocalamus mechowii</i>	3	98.5	4.93	34.7	0.65	2.89	4.45
<i>Lycodryas maculatus</i>	1	99.6	1.39	-1.5	0.60	2.38	7.21
<i>Dendroaspis angusticeps</i>	1	99.9	1.45	-5.6	0.68	2.61	15.64
<i>Acanthophis antarcticus</i>	1	94.3	1.11	6.4	0.57	1.67	13.52
<i>Vermicella annulata</i>	3	97.7	1.88	13.8	0.56	2.64	5.74
<i>Geagras redimitus</i>	3	94.2	1.92	20.9	0.68	2.26	3.48
<i>Lycognathophis seychellensis</i>	1	95.9	1.61	6.6	0.70	2.71	10.16
<i>Heterodon platirhinos</i>	3	98.5	1.89	15.2	0.94	2.40	12.46

**Table S6. Key to species name abbreviations used in Figure 4 and S2.** Two-letter codes represent fully fossorial tips, three-letter codes represent non- and semi-fossorial tips. Species in italic letters, other groups (in accordance with Table S4) in roman letters.

<i>Abs</i> = <i>Abronia spec.</i>	<i>Dea</i> = <i>Dendroaspis angusticeps</i>	<i>Psc</i> = <i>Psammophis crucifer</i>
<i>Aca</i> = <i>Acanthophis antarcticus</i>	<i>Euq</i> = <i>Eulamprus quoyii</i>	<i>Pyb</i> = <i>Python bivittatus</i>
<i>Am</i> = <i>Amphisbaenia</i>	<i>Fum</i> = <i>Furcifer minor</i>	<i>Sc</i> = common ancestor of <i>Saiphos equalis</i> & <i>Coeranoscincus reticulatus</i>
<i>Asc</i> = <i>Anilius scytale</i>	<i>Gas</i> = <i>Gallotia stehlini</i>	
<i>Asp</i> = <i>Achalinus spinalis</i>	<i>Geg</i> = <i>Gekko gecko</i>	<i>Spp</i> = <i>Sphenodon punctatus</i>
<i>Baf</i> = <i>Bachia flavescens</i>	<i>Gel</i> = <i>Gerrhonotus liocephalus</i>	<i>Ss</i> = <i>Scincus scincus</i>
<i>Bol</i> = <i>Bothrops lanceolatus</i>	<i>Gr</i> = <i>Geagras redimitus</i>	<i>Tam</i> = <i>Tarentola mauritanica</i>
<i>Bp</i> = <i>Bachia panoplia</i>	<i>Hp</i> = <i>Heterodon platirhinos</i>	<i>Tyl</i> = <i>Tympanocryptis lineata</i>
<i>bS</i> = basal Serpentes	<i>Kea</i> = <i>Kentropyx altamazonica</i>	<i>Urs</i> = <i>Uranoscodon superciliosus</i>
<i>Cca</i> = <i>Cordylus cataphractus</i>	<i>Lib</i> = <i>Lialis burtonis</i>	<i>Vab</i> = <i>Varanus bengalensis</i>
<i>Ccr</i> = <i>Corytophanes cristatus</i>	<i>Lym</i> = <i>Lycodryas maculatus</i>	<i>Vag</i> = <i>Varanus griseus</i>
<i>Ceh</i> = <i>Celestus haetianus</i>	<i>Mv</i> = <i>Micrelaps vaillanti</i>	<i>Vp</i> = <i>Grandidierina petiti</i>
<i>Cr</i> = <i>Calabaria reinhardtii</i>	<i>Phm</i> = <i>Phrynocephalus mystaceus</i>	<i>Xm</i> = <i>Xenocalamus mechowii</i>
<i>Cs</i> = <i>Calyptommatus sinebrachiatus</i>	<i>Pho</i> = <i>Phrynosoma orbiculare</i>	
<i>Dam</i> = <i>Darevskia mixta</i>	<i>Pr</i> = <i>Plestiodon reynoldsi</i>	