

Supplementary Materials for  
**Cenozoic megatooth sharks occupied extremely high trophic positions**

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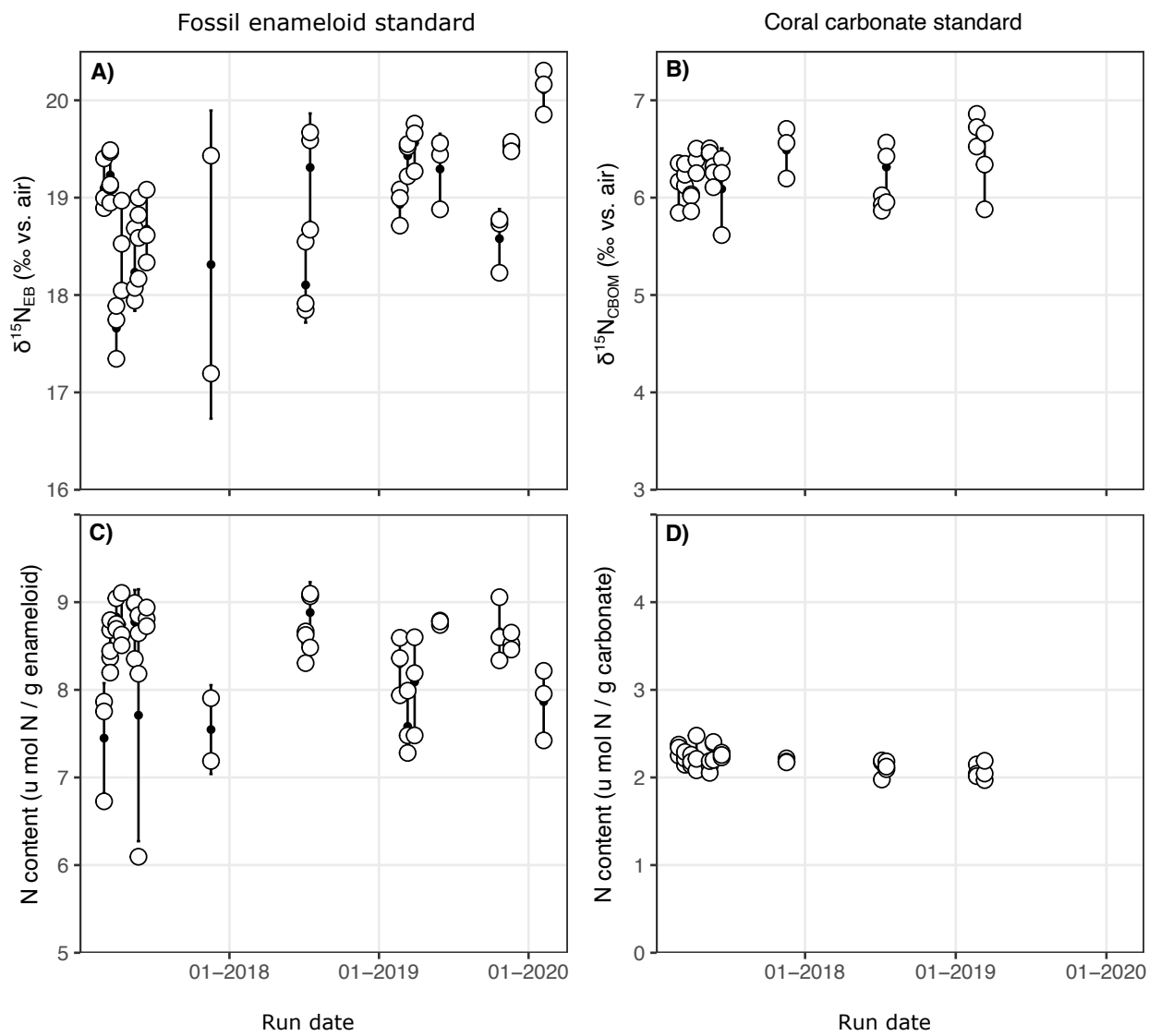
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**The PDF file includes:**

Figs. S1 to S6  
Table S1  
Legends for data S1 to S3

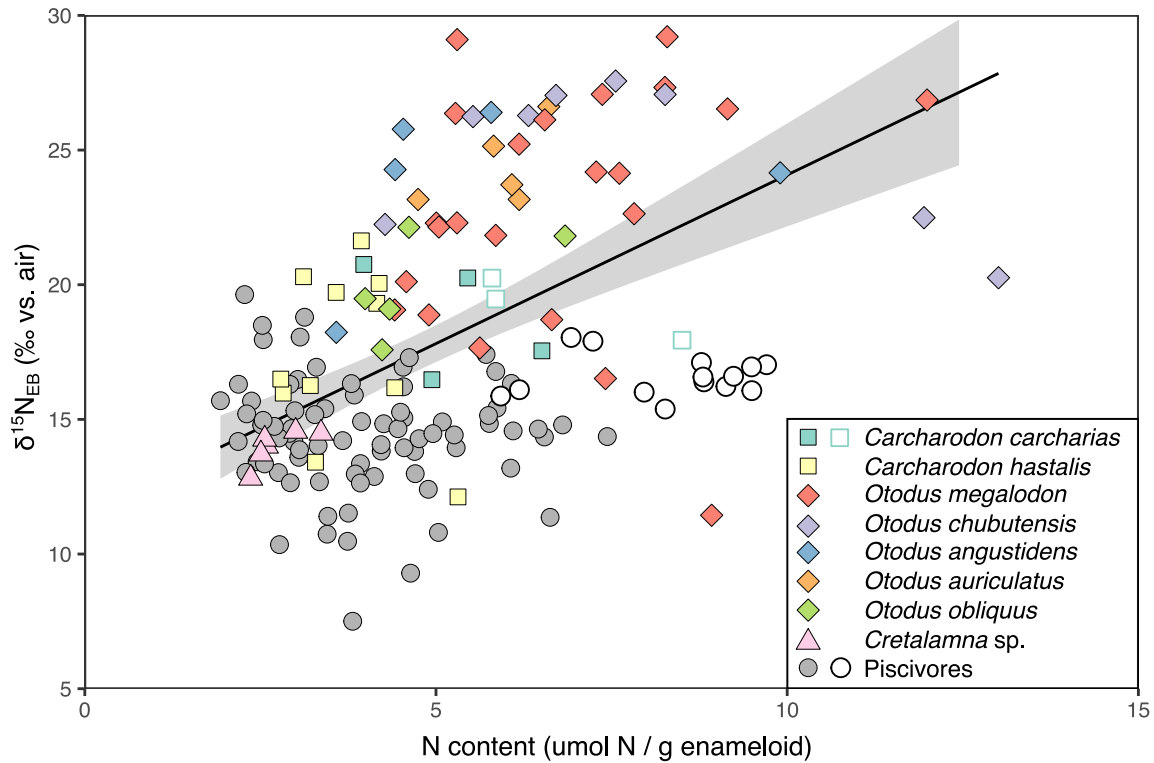
**Other Supplementary Material for this manuscript includes the following:**

Data S1 to S3



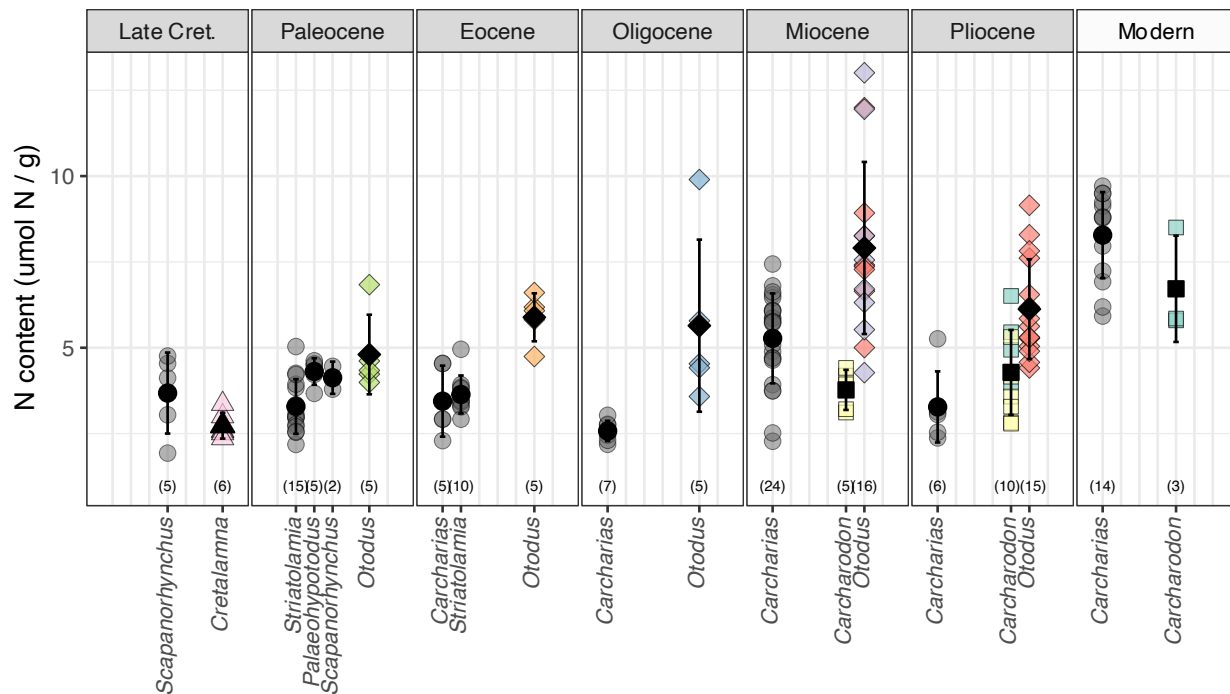
**Fig. S1.**

Results from fossil enameloid and coral carbonate standards run in triplicate with each batch of analyses. (A)  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}}$  and (C) N content for the fossil enameloid standard by analysis date; (B) carbonate bound organic matter  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  ( $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{CBOM}}$ ) and (D) N content for the coral carbonate standard. Note that the scales for  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}}$  and  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{CBOM}}$ , and N content have different values but the same range to allow for comparisons between the two standards. The coral carbonate standard was exhausted in mid 2019 and replaced with a different coral carbonate standard and so does not extend over the same range of analysis dates.



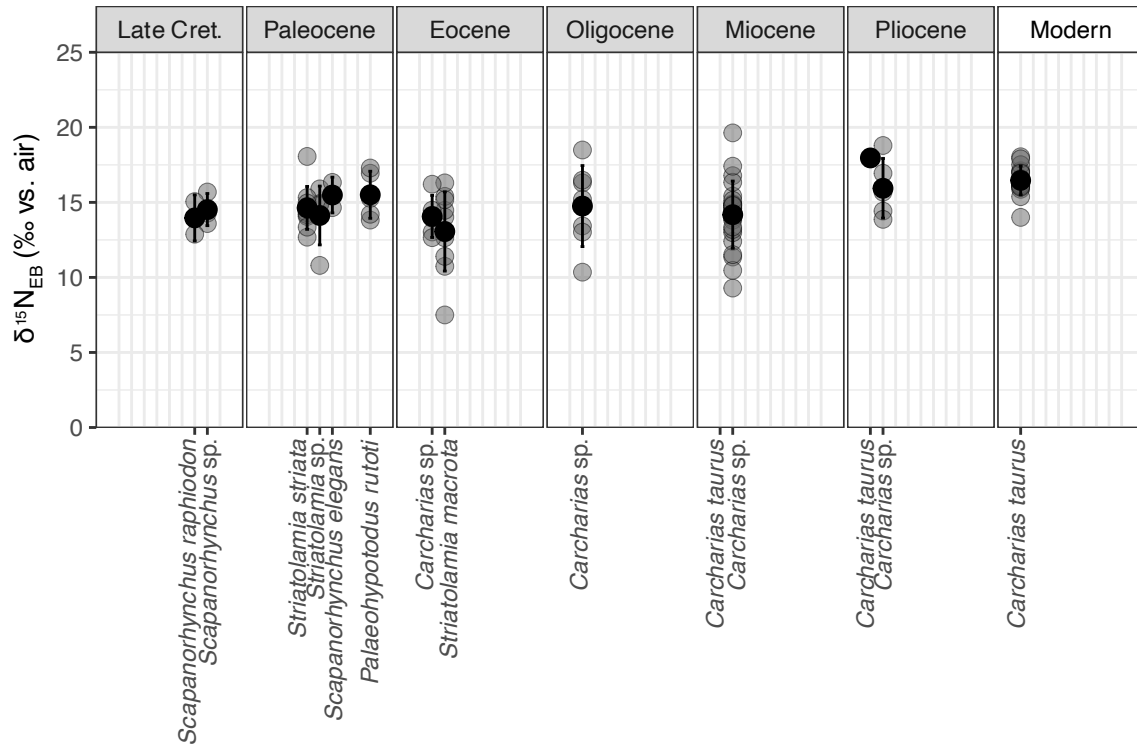
**Fig. S2.**

$\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}}$  vs. N content for all specimens measured in this study. Symbols in legend and as in Fig. 2A, with the exception that modern specimens (*Carcharodon carcharias* and *Carcharias taurus*) are shown here in open symbols for reference. As described in the text, we would expect a negative correlation between  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}}$  and N content if diagenesis is altering the  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}}$  values of these specimens. There is a weak positive correlation across all fossil specimens (black line and shaded 95% CI,  $r^2 = 0.27$ , Pearson's correlation 0.52,  $t = 7.23$ ,  $df = 144$ ,  $p\text{-value} = 2.1 \times 10^{-11}$ ). However, this is driven mostly by the high  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}}$  and high N content of *Otodus* sharks relative to the other fossil specimens, suggesting that there may be taxa specific differences in N content of shark enameloid. When considering *Otodus* teeth or piscivore teeth alone, there is no significant correlation between  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}}$  and N content (Pearson's correlation 0.17,  $t = 1.16$ ,  $df = 44$ ,  $p\text{-value} = 0.25$  and Pearson's correlation -0.09,  $t = -0.82$ ,  $df = 77$ ,  $p\text{-value} = 0.42$ , respectively). Overall we do not find evidence from the paired  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}}$  and N content data for a diagenetic influence on the  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}}$  values of these specimens.



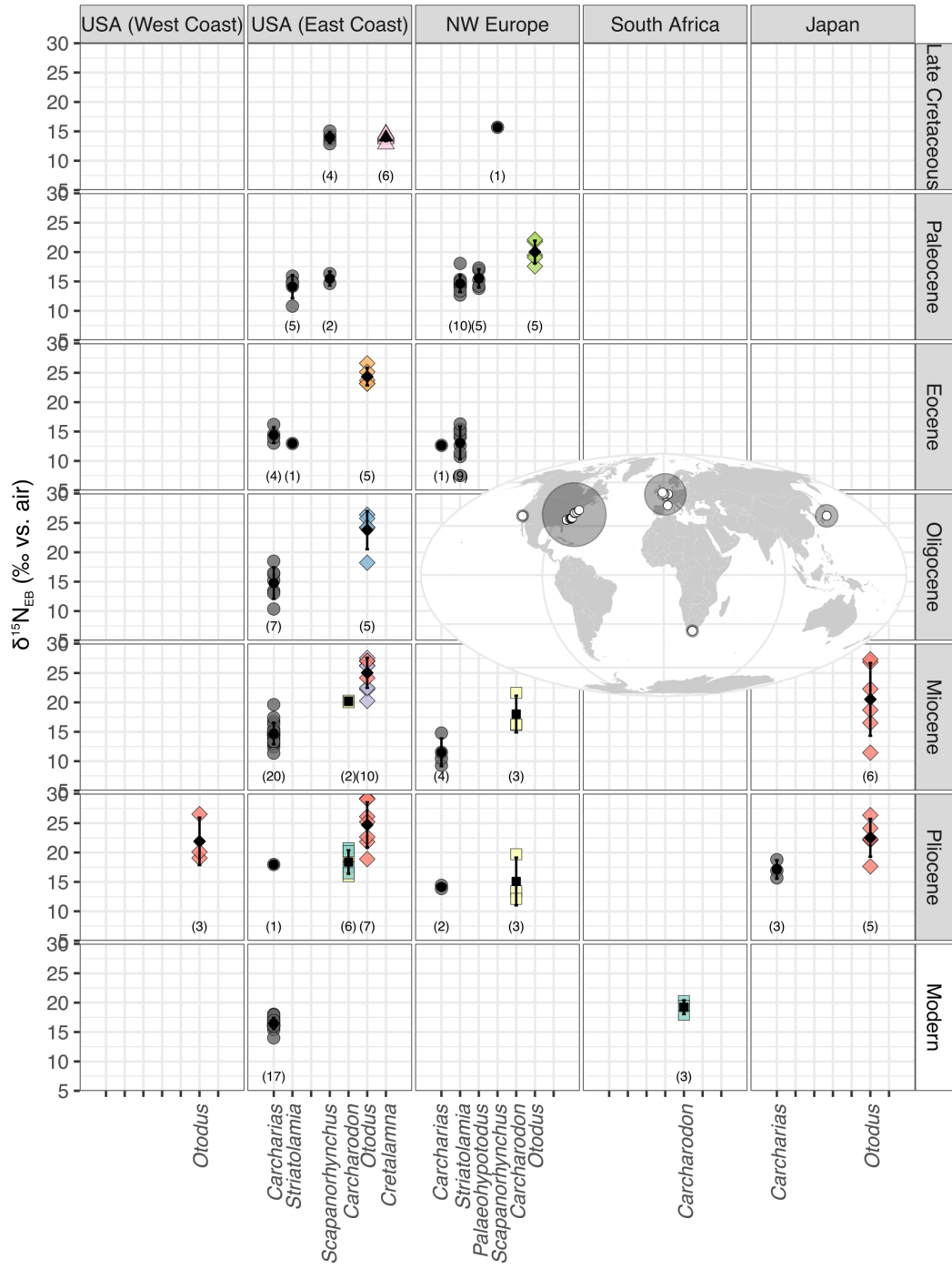
**Fig. S3.**

Shark enameloid-bound N content for each studied epoch, by taxa. Symbols as in Fig. 2A. Lower N content in fossil samples may be due to the loss of organic matter from the enameloid matrix over time. Alternatively, there may be a role for contamination by tooth dentin which tends to lose its organic matter quickly. This would tend to bias the fossil samples to lower N content without significant changes in  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}}$ . With the exception of higher N content in *Otodus megalodon* tooth enameloid, there does not seem to be any consistent patterns in enameloid-bound N content of fossil teeth over the Cenozoic epochs studied here.

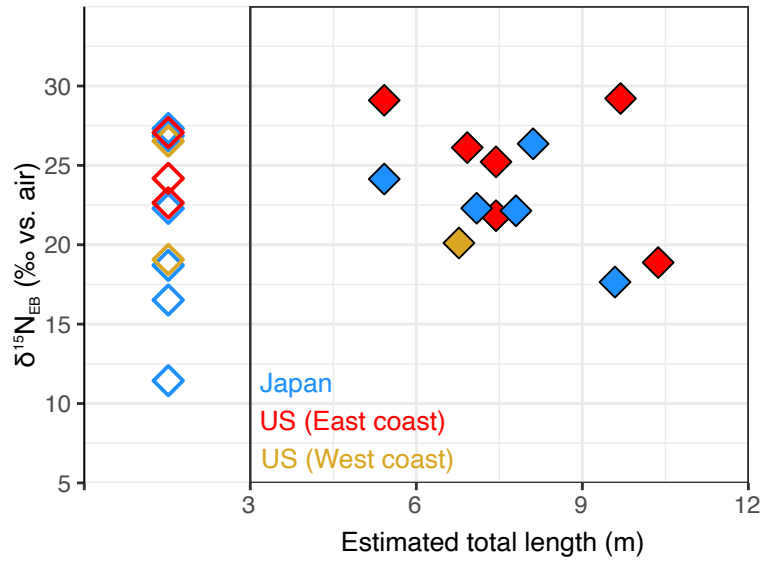


**Fig. S4.**

Assessing baseline  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  changes. Piscivorous shark  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}}$  for each studied epoch, by species. Mean  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}} \pm 1\sigma$  are given in black symbols for each species.



**Fig. S5.** Shark  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}}$  for each studied epoch and broad location, by taxa. Symbols and inset map as in Fig. 2. Differences between average genera  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}}$  at different locations is  $< 3\text{‰}$ , and patterns between genera are conserved across locations.



**Fig. S6.**

*Otodus megalodon*  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}}$  vs. total length as estimated from tooth size. Colors are location: USA east coast (red,  $n = 6$ ), Japan (blue,  $n = 5$ ), and USA west coast (yellow,  $n = 1$ ) (see Data S1). *O. megalodon*  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}}$  samples without size estimates are with empty symbols to the left. *O. megalodon* was likely  $\sim 2$  m at birth (46).

**Table S1.**

Results of Welch's t-test comparisons of the  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{EB}}$  of large shark species and contemporaneous piscivorous sharks, for each epoch. Late Cretaceous *Cretalamna* sp., Pliocene *Carcharodon carcharias*, Pliocene *C. hastalis*, and modern *C. carcharias* are indistinguishable from contemporaneous piscivorous sharks.

<b>epoch</b>	<b>species</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>df</b>	<b>p</b>
Late Cretaceous	<i>Cretalamna</i> sp.	-0.57	6.16	0.5886
Paleocene	<i>Otodus obliquus</i>	5.68	5.27	0.0020
Eocene	<i>Otodus auriculatus</i>	12.26	10.84	0.0000
Oligocene	<i>Otodus angustidens</i>	5.09	7.68	0.0011
Miocene	<i>Carcharodon hastalis</i>	3.88	5.41	0.0100
Miocene	<i>Otodus chubutensis</i>	9.86	10.19	0.0000
Miocene	<i>Otodus megalodon</i>	3.63	7.71	0.0071
Pliocene	<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	1.89	6.29	0.1054
Pliocene	<i>Carcharodon hastalis</i>	-0.07	8.52	0.9448
Pliocene	<i>Otodus megalodon</i>	5.79	16.85	0.0000
Modern	<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	3.72	2.37	0.0501



**Data S1. (separate file)**

Specimen information, enameloid-bound  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ , and N content data for modern and fossil teeth used in this study. Tooth sizes and estimated total lengths for *Otodus megalodon* specimens. Dental collagen  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  values for modern *Carcharias taurus* specimens. Enameloid-bound  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  and N content for fossil enameloid standard analyses, carbonate-bound  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  and N content data for coral carbonate standard analyses.

**Data S2. (separate file)**

Literature compilation of modern shark  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  measurements, including description of variables and list of citations.

**Data S3. (separate file)**

Literature compilation of modern marine mammal  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  measurements, including description of variables and list of citations.