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GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup> Report 2010/2011



GeoBio-  
Center  
LMU München

# GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup> Report 2010/2011



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Editor: Dirk Erpenbeck

Layout: Lydia Geißler

Cover photo composition: Lydia Geißler

GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup>, Richard-Wagner-Str. 10, 80333 München  
<http://www.geobio-center.uni-muenchen.de>

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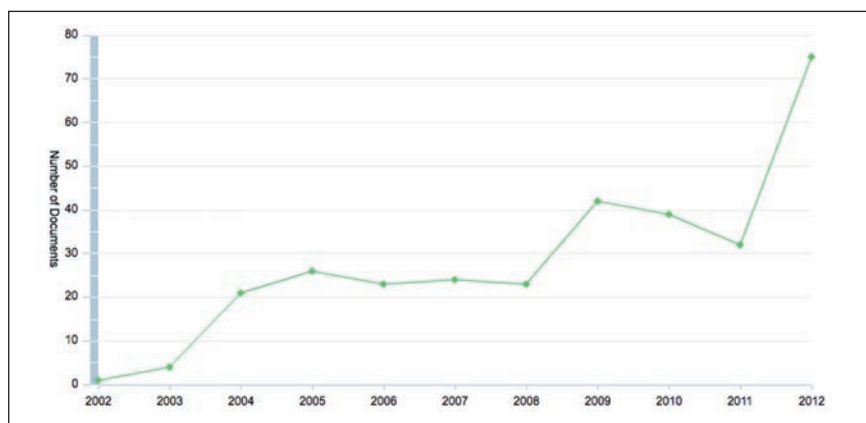
## Welcoming note

### Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, dear Colleagues,

it is a great pleasure to present to you here the biannual report 2010/2011 of the GeoBio-Center. As you will see from the following pages, the GeoBio-Center has been operating very successfully in the past two years. We have been attracting several new projects to the Center, among them a new DFG Emmy-Noether research group. We have a highly productive research output in top international journals and I would like to congratulate all members of the GeoBio-Center for their excellent achievements in the last two years - which are clearly displayed in the steady (and in 2012 sharp) increase in ISI publications in the last few years (see figure below) that list the GeoBio-Center as affiliation! We have initiated and consolidated collaborations with our national and international partners. Noteworthy in this respect are the projects in progress with our partner university, the Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. Other projects, associated with, or funded by the GeoBio-Center also enjoy high visibility and productivity. Not only research is flourishing, also our outreach and teaching goals have been accomplished more than successfully. We have constantly been present in the press with va-



*Prof. Dr. Gert Wörheide  
Spokesman of the  
GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup>*



*ISI publications in the last few years that list the GeoBio-Center as affiliation (Source: SCOPUS)*

rious press releases, have participated in exhibitions in the Palaeontological Museum and have contributed significantly to the education of several young scholars in the geo- and biosciences Bachelor's- and Master's programmes. All this with a background of dwindling resources. I would like to congratulate all members of the GeoBio-Center for their excellent achievements in the last two years!

With the very best regards

Prof. Dr. Gert Wörheide  
Spokesman of the GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup>

## Achievements of the GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup> members 2010 & 2011 at a glance<sup>1)</sup>

### Grants and stipends: <sup>2)</sup>

|                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| • Salaries:                | € 509,505          |
| • Consumables / Equipment: | € 866,719          |
| • not further specified:   | € 6,146,779        |
| <b>total:</b>              | <b>€ 7,523,003</b> |

**Publications in ISI-indexed journals:** 191

**Other peer-reviewed publications:** 36

**Further publications:** 78

**Prizes and Honors:** 12

### Theses and Habilitations

Habilitations: 1

Ph.D. Theses: 13

Diploma-Theses: 10

M.Sc. Theses: 15

B.Sc. Theses: 32

Qualifying Theses: 3

<sup>1)</sup> Data provided here is based on the voluntary feedback of the GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup> members for this biannual report and therefore to be regarded as minimum.

<sup>2)</sup> All grants and stipends are administrated by the associated departments.

# Members of the GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup>

## Ordinary members of the GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup> (2011)

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Prof. Dr. R. Agerer        | Dept. Biology I, Systematic Botany and Mycology, LMU  |
| Prof. Dr. A. Altenbach     | Dept. Earth and Environmental Sciences, Palaeontology & Geobiology, LMU   |
| Prof. Dr. E. Bayer         | SNSB, Botanical Garden Munich-Nymphenburg, Faculty of Biology, LMU  |
| Prof. Dr. A. Friedrich     | Dept. Earth and Environmental Sciences, Geology, LMU  |
| PD Dr. M. Gottschling      | Dept. Biology I, Systematic Botany and Mycology, LMU  |
| Prof. Dr. J. Grau          | Dept. Biology I, Systematic Botany and Mycology, LMU  |
| Prof. Dr. G. Grupe         | Dept. Biology II, LMU & Bavarian State Collection for Anthropology and Palaeoanatomy  |
| Prof. Dr. G. Haszprunar    | Dept. Biology I, LMU & Bavarian State Collection for Zoology  |
| Prof. Dr. W. Heckl         | TUM & Deutsches Museum  |
| Prof. Dr. E. Hegner        | Dept. Earth and Environmental Sciences, Mineralogy, Petrology and Geochemistry, LMU   |
| PD Dr. M. Hess             | Dept. Biology I, Systematic Zoology, LMU  |
| Prof. Dr. G. Heubl         | Dept. Biology I, Systematic Botany and Mycology, LMU  |
| Prof. Dr. S. Hölzl         | Bavarian State Collection for Palaeontology and Geology & Faculty of Geosciences, LMU   |
| Prof. Dr. M. Krings        | Bavarian State Collection for Palaeontology and Geology & Faculty of Geosciences, LMU   |
| PD Dr. C. Laforsch         | Dept. Biology II, LMU   |
| PD Dr. R. Matzke-Karasz    | GeoBio-CenterLMU  |
| Prof. Dr. C. Mayr          | Dept. Earth and Environmental Sciences, Palaeontology & Geobiology, LMU   |
| Prof. Dr. R. Melzer        | Bavarian State Collection for Zoology & Faculty of Biology, LMU   |
| PD Dr. A. Nützel           | Bavarian State Collection for Palaeontology and Geology & Faculty of Geosciences, LMU   |
| Prof. Dr. J. Peters        | Faculty of Veterinary Medicine & Bavarian State Collection for Anthropology and Palaeoanatomy                                     |
| Prof. Dr. N. Petersen      | Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Geophysics, LMU   |
| PD Dr. O. Rauhut           | Bavarian State Collection for Palaeontology and Geology, Faculty of Geosciences, LMU  |
| Prof. Dr. B. Reichenbacher | Dept. Earth and Environmental Sciences, Palaeontology & Geobiology, LMU   |
| PD Dr. G. Rössner          | Bavarian State Collection for Palaeontology and Geology, Faculty of Geosciences, LMU  |
| Prof. Dr. W. Schmahl       | Dept. Earth and Environmental Sciences, Crystallography, LMU & Bav. State Coll. for Mineralogy                                    |
| PD Dr. M. Schrödl          | Bavarian State Collection for Zoology   |
| Prof. Dr. F. Siegert       | Dept. Biology II, LMU   |
| Prof. Dr. G. Wörheide      | Dept. Earth and Environmental Sciences, Palaeontology & Geobiology, LMU & Bavarian State Collection for Palaeontology and Geology |



## Extraordinary members of the GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup> (2011)

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Prof. Dr. W. Altermann     | Dept. of Geology, University of Pretoria  |
| Prof. Dr. M. Amler         | Ruprecht-Karls-University, Heidelberg   |
| Dr. M. Balke               | Bavarian State Collection for Zoology   |
| Dr. A. Beck                | Bavarian State Collection for Botany  |
| Prof Dr. M. Böhme          | Senckenberg Center for Human Evolution and Paleoecology,<br>University of Tübingen                |
| Mrs. U. Bommhardt          | Dept. Earth and Environmental Sciences, Palaeontology & Geobiology, LMU                           |
| Prof. Dr. F. Brümmer       | Institute for Biology, University of Stuttgart  |
| Dr. R. Butler              | GeoBio-CenterLMU  |
| Dr. C. Ehrhart             | Dept. Biology I, LMU  |
| Dr. D. Erpenbeck           | Dept. Earth and Environmental Sciences, Palaeontology & Geobiology, LMU                           |
| Dr. E. Facher              | Dept. Biology I, LMU  |
| Dr. G. Försterra           | Universidad Austral de Chile, LMU, Fundación Huinay, Chile  |
| Dr. M. Gaulke              | Philippine Endemic Species Conservation Project (PESCP)   |
| Dr. J. Gaviria             | Centro Jardin Botánico, Fac. Ciencias, ULA, Venezuela   |
| Dr. F. Glaw                | Bavarian State Collection for Zoology   |
| PD Dr. U. Göhlich          | Natural History Museum Vienna   |
| Dr. E. Griesshaber-Schmahl | Dept. Earth and Environmental Sciences, Crystallography, LMU                                      |
| Dr. A. Hausmann            | Bavarian State Collection for Zoology   |
| Dr. V. Häussermann         | Universidad Austral de Chile, LMU, Fundación Huinay, Chile  |
| Dr. A. Kempe               | Dept. Geo- & Umweltwiss., Sektion Crystallography, LMU  |
| Prof. Dr. M. Krautter      | Universität Stuttgart   |
| Dr. B. Kremer              | Institute of Paleobiology, Biogeology Department, Polish Academy of Sciences<br>Ottobrunn         |
| Dr. H. Lehnert             | Humboldt University, Berlin   |
| Prof. Dr. R. Leinfelder    | Institute of Systematic Zoology and Evolutionary Biology with Phyletic Museum,<br>Jena University |
| PD Dr. M. Nickel           | Bavarian State Collection for Palaeontology and Geology   |
| Dr. M. Nose                | Leibniz Intitute DMSZ Braunschweig  |
| Prof. Dr. J. Overmann      | Dept. Biology I, Systematic Botany and Mycology, LMU  |
| Dr. S. Raidl               | Bavarian State Collection for Zoology   |
| Dr. N. Reiff               | Bavarian State Collection for Zoology   |
| Dr. B. Ruthensteiner       | Bavarian State Collection for Zoology   |
| Dr. U. Schliwen            | Bavarian State Collection for Zoology   |
| Dr. U. Struck              | Humboldt University and Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin   |
| PD Dr. R. Tollrian         | Ruhr-University, Bochum   |
| Dr. W. Werner              | Bavarian State Collection for Palaeontology and Geology   |
| Prof Dr. C. Wild           | Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Ecology, Bremen  |
| PD Dr. A. Zink             | Institute for Mummies and the Iceman, Bozen, Italien  |

## Joint projects in marine barcoding and coral ecology initiated with the Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand

**Prof. Dr. Gert Wörheide, Dr. Dirk Erpenbeck,  
Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences**

Bangkok's Chulalongkorn University is among the oldest and most established universities of Thailand, and partner University of the LMU since 2010. In 2011 Prof. Gert Wörheide visited Bangkok for constitutive talks with the Faculty of Science of the Chulalongkorn University, combined with the marine biological laboratories of Ang Sila and Koh Sichang. In the course of these talks a wide range of complementary research interests was elaborated.



*Prof. Wörheide (front) and Benedikt Kuttner prepare samples at the Center of Excellence for Molecular Biology and Genomics of Shrimp of the Chulalongkorn University.*

In a subsequent visit of Prof. Gert Wörheide with Dr. Dirk Erpenbeck, representing the Faculty of Geosciences and the GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup>, detailed collaborative projects and student exchanges were initiated, and possibilities for joint student courses on the marine biological research station of Koh Sichang explored. They were joined by Benedikt Kuttner, B.Sc. student for Geosciences at the LMU, who conducted the fieldwork in Koh Sichang for his B.Sc project "Assessment of symbiont diversity in scleractinian corals around Sichang Island (Gulf of Thailand)" as first marine collaborative project in this GeoBio-Center-Chulalongkorn framework.

The visit was initiated by a half-day seminar including presentations of relevant projects from LMU and Chulalongkorn researchers. In the subsequent



days, several talks were held with Prof. Pirom Kamolratanakul, President of Chulalongkorn University, Prof. Anchalee Tassanakajon, Director of the Center of Excellence for Molecular Biology and Genomics of Shrimp, Prof. Supot Hannongbua, Dean of the Faculty for Natural Sciences, Prof. Somsak Panha, Vice Dean of the Faculty for Natural Sciences, and Prof. Padermsak Jarayabhand, Director of the Aquatic Resources Research Institute, and concrete plans for projects finalized. DNA Barcoding was identified as principal main point of joint interest. DNA Barcoding facilitates the unambiguous species identification of various organismal groups with molecular biological (DNA-based) methods. This method not only enables researchers to detect cryptic species, but also facilitates the estimation of biodiversity of a geographic region. Currently several major national as well as international "Barcoding of Life" initiatives are conducted. Prof. Somsak Panha establishes the "Thailand Barcoding of Life Initiative" (ThaiBoL), while the Sponge Barcoding Project ([www.spongebarcoding.org](http://www.spongebarcoding.org)), an organismic focused barcoding initiative, is coordinated at the LMU by Prof. Wörheide and Dr. Erpenbeck. Here, future collaboration in marine and terrestrial barcoding projects were agreed.

To initiate the marine barcoding initiatives, several samples of marine sponges were subsampled during a research visit at Dr. Sumait Puchakarn, Director of the Marine Biodiversity Research Unit, Institute of Marine Science of the Burapha University. Furthermore academic and student exchange agree-



*From left to right: Prof. Anchalee Tassanakajon, Director of the Center of Excellence for Molecular Biology and Genomics of Shrimp, Prof. Somsak Panha, Vice Dean, and Prof. Supot Hannongbua, Dean of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Chulalongkorn University, Prof. Gert Wörheide and Dr. Dirk Erpenbeck of the Faculty of Geosciences and GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup>.*

ments between the Faculty of Science of the Chulalongkorn university, and the Faculty of Geosciences and GeoBio-Center of the LMU were signed.

Subsequently, the island of Koh Sichang has been visited for fieldwork as its marine biological station provides excellent infrastructure for research projects at coastal habitats with a principal aim of subsampling several coral species, the focus of Benedikt Kuttner's B.Sc. project. Benedikt Kuttner's project compares the genetic fingerprint (DNA sequences of the ribosomal DNA cluster) of *Symbiodinium*, an important coral symbiont that plays an integrative role for the survival of corals during of global warming. The insights into the diversity of symbionts provide important insights towards the reaction of corals to increased sea temperatures. During fieldwork, tissue material of several coral species was collected by snorkelling at different island locations, and subsequently analysed in the Molecular Biological labs of the Chulalongkorn University. Simultaneously, possibilities for excursions and fieldwork of LMU students on Ko Sichang were assessed.

Back in the laboratories of Prof. Anchalee Tassanakajon in the Center of Excellence for Molecular Biology and Genomics of Shrimp of the Chulalongkorn University coral (and symbiont) DNA was extracted and prepared for shipment to Germany. In 2012 Benedikt Kuttner successfully continued and finished his analyses, which are about to be published with the partners of the Chulalongkorn University.

## Creating a strategical basis for ThaiBOL

### A cooperation of the LMU/GeoBio-Center with the University Chulalongkorn, Thailand

*Dr. Axel Hausmann, Bavarian State Collection for Zoology*

#### Background

ThaiBOL aims to create a DNA reference library (COI 5') for all living organisms of Thailand for the purpose of reliable, automatized re-identification. The last years of research elucidated the great potentials of such DNA barcode libraries for a broad range of applications (cf. [www.faunabavarica.de](http://www.faunabavarica.de)) such as for scientific spin-off projects in taxonomy, zoo- and phylogeography, evolutionary research and ecology.

The Bavarian State Collection of Zoology (ZSM) and its partner, the Biodiversity Institute of the University of Guelph in Canada are the only institutions worldwide with experience in the construction of comprehensive DNA reference libraries for larger, entire country faunas (cf. project Barcoding Fauna Bavarica: [www.faunabavarica.de](http://www.faunabavarica.de)). From the experience of the BFB project we could deduct three principles on which such projects must be based: (1) focus on the megadiverse groups of insects involving background expertise of taxonomists (2) sufficient sample size, i.e. 5-10 individuals per species from different regions of the country (3) include material from neighboring countries to complete missing species and to explain unclear genetic patterns.

#### Pilot phase of ThaiBOL in 2012 – first results

Aim of the pilot phase in 2012 was to initiate and facilitate a cooperation between the LMU Munich and the university Chulalongkorn, Bangkok (Thailand) for a common future ThaiBOL project. For that purpose we have (1) submitted to DNA barcoding 2800 moths and butterflies from Thailand and Laos, most from own collecting, colls Pinratana and Küppers, Bangkok. Of these, we have about 2000 barcode sequences (mtDNA COI 5') of 955 species in the Canadian BOLD database, currently.



*Exploration of the suitability of various study areas for common sample programs including collecting at light; left: Luang Prabang (Nong Khiau) Laos; right: Chiang Mai, Thailand*

(2) established contacts to several partners in Thailand and Laos. Ulf Buchsbaum (Lepidoptera section, ZSM) successfully visited Thailand and Laos in October and November 2011 for 4 weeks, with the following outcomes:

- testing conditions and prerequisites for efficient and successful sampling: Sampling from collections (material comparatively old, and not reflecting the whole species diversity) revealed to be less promising for ThaiBOL than fresh collecting in the field.



*left: project discussions with Prof. Somsak Panha (Chulalongkorn University Bangkok) and students;*



*right: presentation of the role of the Zoologische Staatssammlung München in the iBOL program*

- testing infrastructural conditions for a ThaiBOL project: The situation is very promising for the success of ThaiBOL: (a) there is a great mutual interest in common expeditions and lab work with capacity building and exchange of students, graduates and postdocs (training in sampling, museology, entomology, collection management, databasing, DNA barcoding, taxonomy) (b) partnerships between ZSM and the University of Guelph warrants technical realization of the high-throughput sequencing work flow and avoids frictional losses in the initial phase.

- our iBOL presentation and the project discussions revealed that partnership with the University Chulalongkorn is fairly promising, goals and interests are very similar. The University Chulalongkorn is well prepared to be the center for a ThaiBOL project and appears as the ideal partner for LMU/GeoBio-Center and ZSM.

- promising contacts with other institutions in Thailand and Laos were strengthened for warranting reasonable collateral support of ThaiBOL



*left: project discussions with Amnuay Pinratana (Bangkok);*



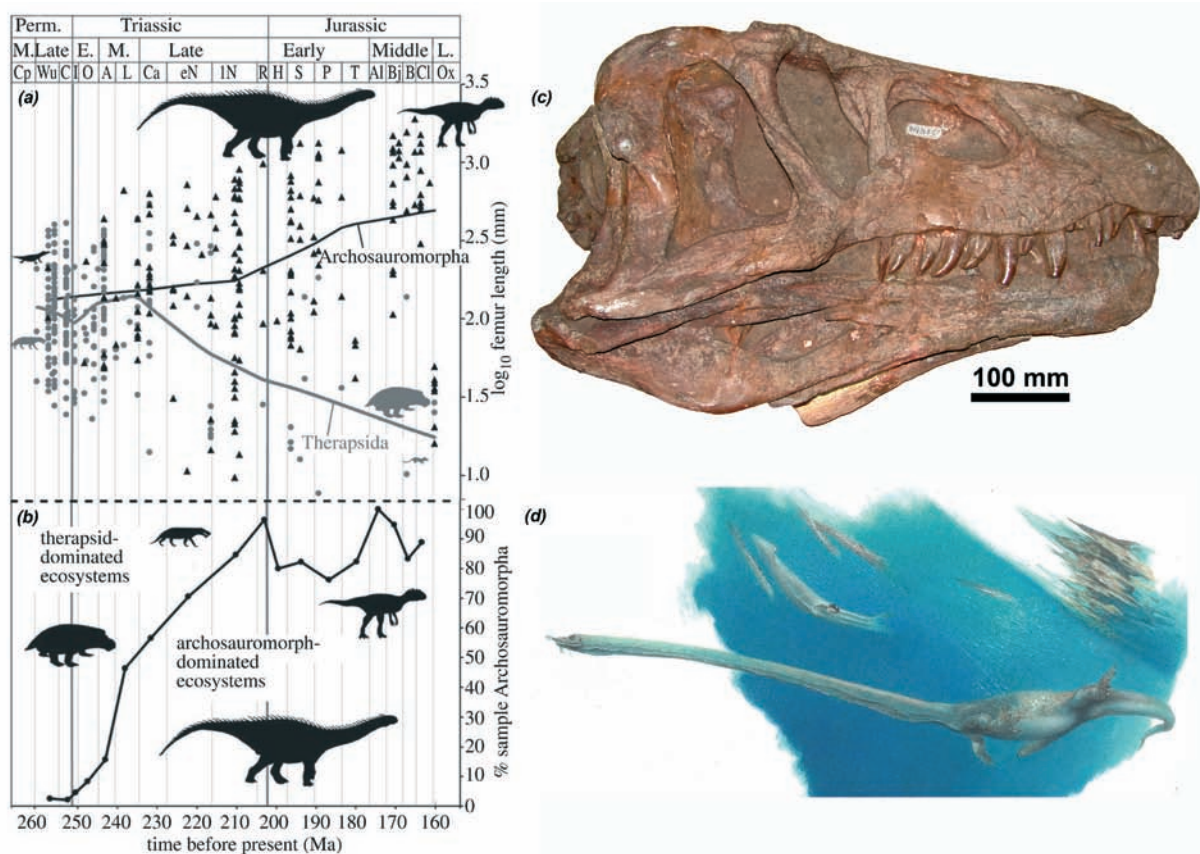
*right: break talks with Prof. Somsak Panha (Chulalongkorn University Bangkok) and students*



## New Emmy Noether group at GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup>

Dr. Richard Butler, GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup>

The Triassic Period (252–200 million years ago) was a critical phase of Earth history, which saw a major reorganization of terrestrial vertebrate communities that has been dubbed “The Great Transition”. In the aftermath of the largest mass extinction of all time at the end of the Permian, post-extinction ecosystems witnessed the major evolutionary diversification of Archosauromorpha. Archosauromorpha consists of birds and crocodylians and all reptiles more closely related to these living groups than to lizards, including dinosaurs, pte-



(a), (b): the Triassic rise to dominance of archosauromorphs. Archosauromorphs increased dramatically in size (a) and species richness (b) as the previous dominant group (synapsids) declined (from Sookias et al. 2012). (c): skull of one of the earliest archosauromorphs, the giant terrestrial predator from the early Middle Triassic of South Africa (specimen in Bernhard Price Insitute, Johannesburg). (d): life reconstruction of the bizarre long-necked marine early archosauromorph Tanystropheus, from the Middle Triassic of central Europe (from Nosotti 2007).

rosaurids, and a broad range of other groups such as rhynchosaurs, erythro-suchids, aetosaurs and rauisuchians. During the Triassic archosauromorphs achieved high species richness and a phenomenal diversity of morphologies, and by the end of the Triassic they were the sole occupants of large-bodied terrestrial vertebrate niches worldwide. Archosauromorphs went on to dominate terrestrial ecosystems (in the form of dinosaurs, pterosaurs and crocodylomorphs) for the subsequent 135 million years of the Mesozoic, and remain the most species rich clade of terrestrial vertebrates in the modern world (10,000 species of birds and crocodylians). Understanding the tempo and dynamics of the early archosauromorph radiation is therefore critical to understanding the rise of dinosaurian communities and the modern biota.

The broad goals of our Emmy Noether research group are to increase scientific understanding of early archosauromorph anatomy, systematics, palaeobiology and palaeobiogeographical distribution, and to use this data to examine macroevolutionary patterns and processes during the clade's radiation. We ultimately aim to address questions and test hypotheses such as: was the archosauromorph evolutionary radiation triggered by the end-Permian extinction? How rapidly did archosauromorphs diversify following the extinction and did changes in morphological diversity outpace changes in species richness? Were the evolutionary success and extraordinary body sizes achieved by archosauromorphs mediated by unique biological features or environmental conditions?

In order to address these broad questions, it is critical that we first understand the taxonomy and species richness of archosauromorphs from the post-extinction interval (Lower and Middle Triassic), and that we develop a well-supported phylogenetic framework (evolutionary tree) that allows us to track evolutionary changes through time. Although research on Mesozoic vertebrate palaeontology has seen a dramatic expansion in the last two decades, the anatomy and taxonomy of these early archosauromorphs remain poorly understood and neglected. The initial stage of our work is therefore focused on the collection of anatomical and systematic data for archosauromorphs from this time interval, and the completion of taxonomic revisions. In order to achieve this we are visiting important collections of early archosauromorph fossils in countries worldwide, including South Africa, Australia, the USA, Russia, China and India, and are carrying out CT-scanning of many specimens. In all of the countries in which we are working we are establishing new research collaborations that facilitate access to crucial fossil material. For example, in China we will be working closely with Dr. Jun Liu and Dr. Corwin Sullivan of the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology in Beijing in order to revise Lower–Middle Triassic archosauromorph fossils in their collection. We hope that these new collaborations will also lead to future



joint fieldwork in countries like South Africa and India.

At present our team consists of two PhD students (Martin Ezcurra, Roland Sookias) and myself (as PI/group leader). In addition, since establishing the group, four students from the MEME and EES programs have completed research projects or Master's theses under my supervision, and more such projects are planned.

I completed my PhD in 2006 at the University of Cambridge, focusing on early dinosaur evolution. I was subsequently a postdoc from 2006–2009 at the Natural History Museum in London, investigating macroevolutionary hy-



potheses of dinosaur/plant evolutionary interactions. In 2009 I moved to the BSPG in Munich as a Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellow, working in the research group of Oliver Rauhut and focusing on diversity patterns among Triassic vertebrates. The Emmy Noether group is a continuation of my research themes focusing on early Mesozoic vertebrates and deep time diversification/macroevolution.

*From left to right: Roland Sookias, Martin Ezcurra and Richard Butler*

Martin Ezcurra completed his Licenciatura degree (=German Diplom) at the University of Buenos Aires in February 2012, and came to Munich in March 2012. Although only 25, Martin has been publishing research since 2006, with more than 30 peer-reviewed papers on Mesozoic vertebrates, including lead author work in *Systematic Biology* and *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, and completed a >500 page thesis on early dinosaur systematics as part of his studies in Argentina. His PhD work in Munich is focused on the systematics of Proterosuchia, one of the most important groups of early archosauromorphs.

Roland Sookias studied Natural Sciences at the University of Cambridge, and has Master's degrees in Sustainable Development from Uppsala University and Advanced Methods in Taxonomy and Biodiversity from Imperial College London. His Master's thesis at Imperial (which I co-supervised) used evolutionary model-fitting approaches to examine body size evolution in Late Permian–Middle Jurassic vertebrates, and has resulted in peer-reviewed publications in *Biology Letters* and *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*. He joined our group in February 2012, and his research will focus on the systematics of the early archosauromorph clade Euparkeriidae, and patterns of morphological and species diversification during the archosauromorph radiation.

Since the establishment of the group in September 2011, we have published 15 peer-reviewed papers, with highlights including papers in *Nature Communications*, *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, and *PLoS ONE*. We have carried out research work in South Africa, Australia, London, Vienna, Zürich and the USA, and presented initial results at international conferences in Europe and North America. The next year will see us moving forward with anatomical, systematic and palaeobiological work, including visiting Russia, China and India, and beginning to address the larger macroevolutionary questions.

## Stable isotopes composition in lichens and its implication on the lichen symbiosis

**Dr. Andreas Beck, Bavarian State Collection for Botany;**

**PD Dr. Christoph Mayr, Dept. Earth and Environmental Sciences**

Lichens are complex symbiotic entities, being formed by at least one algal (photobiont) and one fungal partner (mycobiont). Lichens are extremely successful and represented in almost all terrestrial habitats from the tropics to polar regions and from the sea shore to high mountains. They are found on virtually all substrates ranging from soil to bark, rock and anthropogenic matter and occur in some of the most extreme environments on Earth, such as Antarctic mountains, hot deserts, tropical mountain rainforests, and toxic slag heaps. They can even survive the conditions in space. Notwithstanding, the nature of the lichen symbiosis (i.e., mutualism or parasitism) is still widely debated. While it is clear that the algal partner delivers carbohydrates to the fun-



*Fig. 1: Xanthoria parietina growing on tree bark and stone in close vicinity (Oberschleißheim, Germany; modified from Beck & Mayr accepted).*

gus, no evidence of transported substances from the fungus to the alga has been demonstrated so far. It is often discussed, that nitrogen could be supplied to the alga by the fungus. In the last decades, the use of stable isotope techniques has become an important tool for ecophysiology and ecosystem research and could be helpful in elucidating the nature of the lichen symbiosis. Stable isotope patterns are known to vary largely in lichens, but effects of substrate on carbon and nitrogen stable isotope signatures of lichens were previously not investigated systematically. Therefore we analysed in a project supported by the GeoBio-Center the common green algal lichen *Xanthoria parietina* growing in close vicinity on different substrate (see Fig. 1) for stable isotope composition. The results demonstrate that lichens from bark show a broader range of  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  values than those from minerogenic substrate. Lichens from organic substrates seem to have an additional nitrogen source, which is depleted in  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  and not available to lichens from rocky surfaces. Lichens from both substrates differ also in  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values, with more negative values in lichens growing on bark. Taken together, stable isotope patterns separate specimens of *X. parietina* from the different substrate at one collection site, with the overlap becoming larger when different collection sites – especially with higher anthropogenic impact – are included in the analysis.

Both mayor lichen components – algae and fungi – can be separated by density gradient centrifugation. Analysing the stable isotope composition for both bionts separately, we could show that the difference in stable isotope composition can be mainly attributed to the mycobiont (Beck & Mayr accepted). While the  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  values of the photobionts were very similar for the different substrates, mycobiont values varied to a much larger extent. This demonstrates that the difference in  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  values is mainly due to the mycobiont.

If the nitrogen would be supplied from the mycobiont to the photobiont, a correlation of  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  values from myco- and photobionts from the same lichen thallus would be expected. No such correlation could be observed. Contrary to this finding, the  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values of the symbionts were correlated (Fig. 2) as expected due to the delivery of carbohydrates from the photobiont to the mycobiont. Therefore it is unlikely that in *X. parietina* a major fraction of the nitrogen supply of lichen alga is delivered by the lichen fungus. Currently further investigations are carried out to examine this relationship in further lichen species. We cordially thank the GeoBio-Center for financing a part of this study. Further details of this study can be found in the corresponding publication.

## Publication

Beck A, Mayr C (2012) Nitrogen and carbon isotope variability in the green-algal lichen *Xanthoria parietina* and their implications on mycobiont-photobiont interactions. *Ecology and Evolution*. DOI - 10.1002/ece3.417.

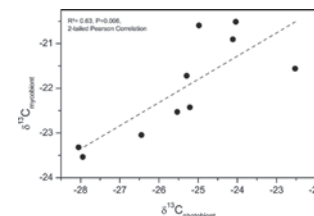


Fig. 2:  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values of photobiont plotted vs. mycobiont of *Xanthoria parietina* (modified from Beck & Mayr accepted).



## In Patagonian waters between 6 and 98 °C – The Huinay fjordos expedition no. “10”

**Roland Meyer, Andrea Weis, Roland R. Melzer, Bavarian State  
Collection of Zoology**

Since 2005, the GeoBioCenter at LMU included the fjords at the Pacific coast of Southern South America into their research foci. The nearly pristine Chilean fjords, extending from Puerto Montt to Cape Horn, i.e. over more than 2,000 km from 41 to 55°S, and exhibiting a coast length of almost 90,000 km are the largest and least studied fjord system on earth with various new species and biocoenoses awaiting their discovery.



*left: Typical patagonian weather conditions at the diving site “Loberia” at the fjordo Renihué*

*right: Andrea and Roland preparing samples at wet lab of Huinay station*

To provide a species and habitat inventory, Vreni Häussermann and Günter Försterra from the Huinay Scientific field station ([www.huinay.cl](http://www.huinay.cl)), have established a network of about 50 scientists from various institutions analysing the samples collected during land or ship borne field trips, resulting in at present ca. 70 scientific publications, numerous talks and presentations at meetings, and – as its major offspring – the “Marine Benthic Fauna of Chilean Patagonia”, a 1000-page book on fjord biodiversity (see annual report 08/09). To our great pleasure, Vreni was awarded in 2011 for book and research project with a Pew marine scholarship “biodiversity and the Chilean Patagonian fjords”. Several work groups being members of GeoBio-

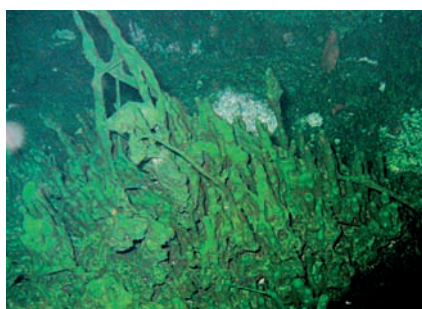


*left: Sponge paradise in Fjordo Renihué*

*right: Portrait of Hemigrapsus crenulatus*

Center contribute to this project, e.g. with studies on molluscs, decapod crustaceans and pycnogonids.

In 2011, our field trip partially supported by the GeoBio-Center led us back to the Huinay Scientific Field station and our model fjord, the Fjordo Comau. Furthermore, under typical patagonian weather, i.e. continuous rainfall, we made a four day trip to Parque Pumalin ([www.parquepumalin.cl](http://www.parquepumalin.cl)) and Fjordo Renihué, which is directly exposed to the open ocean and has large salt marshes in its innermost parts. Thus the two studied localities represent two very different fjord types that are interesting to compare: the Renihué fjord is influenced by two conditions: (1) the open water of the Pacific Ocean and (2) the river entering the fjord at the south with a high freshwater input. These extreme circumstances are creating a unique and special environment and therefore an extraordinary biodiversity: at its southern part the species composition is influenced by the input of the river and the fast changing water parameters. The north-western part of the fjord on the other hand is affected by the open water of the Pacific Ocean. Solid abiotic factors (salinity, temperature) create a complete change in biocoenosis and a high biodiversity.



*left: Blue algae inhabiting 60°C pond*

*right: Water analyses at the Geysers in Huequi valley*

Due to the Comau Fjord's protected geographical location and size, environmental conditions in it are much more stable. The biodiversity of the Comau Fjord represents a typical "fjord-species composition".

During our scuba dives at water temperatures between 6 and 8 °C, we collected ca 500 new samples of various shrimps, crabs and sea spiders for our integrative taxonomy projects including classical morphology as well as DNA sequence analyses (in cooperation with MarBoL, the marine barcode of life project, [www.marinebarcoding.org](http://www.marinebarcoding.org)) linking Chilean fjord fauna with the Subantarctic and Antarctic, e.g. via samples provided by colleagues from the Falkland Islands and the by "Polarstern". Most impressive was the change between extremely muddy waters with zero sight in the inner parts of fjordo Renihué, and the crystal clear ocean waters in its outer parts, hosting beautiful sponge and coelenterate reefs with exuberant life.

But our excursions were not only cold water dominated. We joined Prof. Beatriz Diez and her team from the Universita Catolica de Chile on two land



trips to the thermal water brooks around Huinay in which life is found in the form of blue algal mats even at temperatures of almost 60°C. One of the excursion's highlights were the impressive geysers of "Huequi" valley which eject boiling hot waters. As on earlier excursions, we sampled the terrestrial arthropod fauna of the "cold" valdivian rain forests characteristic of the mountain slopes and valleys in the northern section of the fjords. Furthermore we established a Malaise trap in the neighbourhood of the station that allows to study the flying insect fauna around Huinay such as lepidopterans, hymenoptera and dipterans, and its changes within seasonal cycles (courtesy of Freunde der Zoologischen Staatssammlung).

With every field trip, every new fjord visited we gain new astonishing insights into the multitude of life forms and communities in the Chilean deep South that was fully covered with glaciers during the last ice age. Our next scope will therefore be analysis of postglacial recolonization 14,000 years ago and its impact on species distribution and biogeography.



*Field collection trip across rain forest*

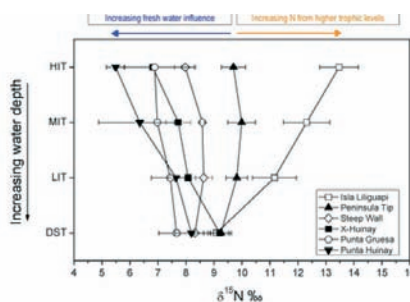
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## Nitrogen fluxes in the Comau Fjord (Chile) –a stable isotope project

**Christoph Mayr, Verena Häussermann, Günter Försterra, Alexander Altenbach, Dept. Earth and Environmental Sciences LMU, Universidad Austral de Chile, Fundación Huinay, Chile**

The Comau Fjord is one of the few fjords in northern Patagonia (Chile) that is largely unaffected by human population. Aquaculture, sewage inflow and road building is still very restricted as large parts of the fjord are accessible only by boat. The fjord allows studies in an almost pristine fjord ecosystem. There is a big need that this pristine state will be conserved for future generations, because the northern Patagonian fjord ecosystems offer a habitat for a wealth of marine and terrestrial plant and animal species (Häussermann & Försterra 2009). There are still unknown species in this area and little is known about matter fluxes and food webs. Furthermore, it is essentially unknown how these ecosystems adapt to Global Change. These questions require substantial scientific approaches, and, happily, appropriate logistics for such projects are provided by the Huinay Scientific Field Station, located close to the center of the Comau Fjord.



left: Fig. 1 Scuba divers from the Huinay Scientific Field Station collecting organisms from the fjord walls for isotope analyses.

right: Fig. 2  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  values from macroalgae collected at six different sites in the Comau Fjord at various depths (HIT: high intertidal, MIT: mid intertidal, LIT: low intertidal, DST: deep subtidal). The effect of  $^{15}\text{N}$ -depleted freshwater nitrogen sources is clearly discernible in the intertidal of sites close to river mouths (e.g. Punta Huinay). In contrast, excessive fecal sources from colonies of sea lions and birds enrich the macroalgae with  $^{15}\text{N}$  at Isla Lliguapi (modified from Mayr et al. 2011).

In a joint German-Chilean project, which was supported by a travel grant and equipment from the GeoBio-Center, selected fjord species were collected (Fig. 1) and their stable isotope composition analysed. An isotopic approach was chosen as there is a well-known dependency of nitrogen stable isotopes in animal tissue with their trophic position. The higher the trophic position of an animal, the higher is the relative  $^{15}\text{N}$  amount in its tissue. As anthropogenic pollution, in particular sewage inflow, may alter the  $^{15}\text{N}$  signatures as well, the Comau fjord offers the unique possibility to determine a baseline for close-by pristine fjords. This may be crucial when stable isotopes once become established as a standard water quality monitoring in this region. Similar approaches were successfully applied in other coastal areas already (e.g. Costanzo et al. 2001).

A  $^{15}\text{N}$  enrichment of 3.4 ‰ was observed with each increase of the trophic level previously (e.g. Post 2002). The trophic  $^{15}\text{N}$  enrichment was confirmed also in our study, with top predators having the highest, and macroalgae having the lowest  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  values (Mayr et al. 2011). However, the large scatter of data especially for the macroalgae (*Ulva*, *Enteromorpha* and other taxa) pointed to other factors affecting their isotopic composition as well. Spatial studies of macroalgal  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  showed that freshwater influx also had an important influence on  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  values (Mayr et al. 2011). Terrestrial N sources distributed to the fjord via river inflows substantially lowered  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  values of macroalgae in the uppermost water layers and close to river mouths (Fig. 2). Moreover, the influence of  $^{15}\text{N}$ -enriched nitrogen released from sea lion and bird colonies could be detected at one site. In contrast to macroalgae, the benthic filter feeding mussels (*Mytilus*, *Aulacomya*) showed no such spatial  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  variations (Mayr et al. 2011). The lack of spatial  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  variability points to a fully marine food source for the mussels. Our study demonstrated the chances but also the challenges associated with isotopic studies of food webs. While some fjord organisms are suitable for trophic studies, others may be affected by non-marine N-sources (river inflow, hydrothermal vents). Despite of these complications, stable isotope analyses, however, stand out among other techniques (e.g. stomach content investigations) to characterize food webs due to the opportunity to study a long-term integrated trophic signal in the tissues of the organisms.

The first results from this isotopic study were promising and led to a variety of ongoing activities. The material collected so far was subject of one Diploma thesis and five Bachelor theses at the Universities of Munich and Erlangen. Present projects in the Comau Fjord, in which stable isotope techniques are applied, are dealing with environmental changes reflected in the fjord sediments (cooperation with Lorena Rebolledo, Universidad de Concepcion), the coral habitats (cooperation with Carin Jantzen, AWI Bremerhaven), and the benthic communities at hydrothermal vents in the fjord (cooperation with Javier Sellanes and co-workers, Universidad de Coquimbo). For all these projects the initial work framed by the GeoBio-Center can provide an isotopic database.

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## The versatile waterflea

### Sequence of “ecoresponsive” *Daphnia* genome revealed

Water fleas are highly adaptable organisms that can react rapidly to alterations in environmental conditions. The *Daphnia* Genomics Consortium, an international group of researchers that includes three from LMU – biologist Professor Christian Laforsch and biochemists Dr. Georg J. Arnold and Dr. Thomas Fröhlich (Genzentrum-LAFUGA), has now sequenced the complete genome of the water flea *Daphnia pulex*. To their surprise, the team found that the water flea has more genes in its genome than any other animal yet sequenced. Humans have about 23,000 protein-coding genes, but *Daphnia pulex* (Fig. 1) can boast of having over 31,000. The reason for this difference appears to be an elevated rate of gene duplication in the course of its evolution. This provided raw material for the evolution of new functions, which in turn allowed the species to respond appropriately to frequently changing environmental conditions and explains its extraordinary phenotypic plasticity. Indeed, one-third of all its genes have no homologs in other organisms, and the LMU investigators showed that members of this class are activated in response to environmental stressors. (Science, 4 February 2011)

In the context of the comprehensive analysis of the *Daphnia* genome led by Dr. John Colbourne of Indiana University (Bloomington, USA), LMU Professor Christian Laforsch of the Department of Biology II and his colleagues Dr. Georg J. Arnold and Dr. Thomas Fröhlich from the Laboratory for Functional Genome Analysis at LMU’s Genzentrum (LAFUGA) took a close look at patterns of gene expression in the organism.

With the aid of state of the art mass spectrometry techniques the LMU researchers were able to detect and identify the products of active genes. Further studies of the RNA molecules transcribed from the genomic DNA (which go on to program protein synthesis), carried out in cooperation with Laforsch, then showed that members of the novel *Daphnia* gene set are activated when the organisms are exposed to environmental stressors. One can therefore infer that the protein products of these genes play important roles in enabling the animals to adapt to varying environmental conditions.

“The water flea occupies a central position in the food chain, which makes it a keystone species in freshwater ecosystems,” says Laforsch. “The organisms are extremely sensitive to the presence of toxins in their habitats, so that they serve already as model organism in ecotoxicology. In addition, a wealth of data on the ecology and evolutionary biology of *Daphnia* is available, so



Fig. 1: *Daphnia pulex*

that the water flea has all the hallmarks of an ideal model system for the study of the genetic mechanisms underlying adaptations to diverse environmental factors.”

The time is ripe for this organism to take on a starring role in the biosciences. With the publication of the genome sequence, further in-depth investigations are now possible. These will ultimately tell us which gene functions are linked to which phenotypic traits, and elucidate the roles of specific genes in enabling adaptation to environmental variation – including climate change.

(göd) presse+media LMU

### Publication

Colbourne JK, Pfrender ME, Gilbert D, Thomas WK, Tucker A, Oakley TH, Tokishita S, Aerts A, Arnold GJ, Basu MK, Bauer DJ, Caceres CE, Carmel L, Casola C, Choi J-H, Detter JC, Dong Q, Dusheyko S, Eads BD, Fröhlich T, Geiler-Samerotte KA, Gerlach D, Hatcher P, Jogdeo S, Krijgsveld J, Kriventseva EV, Klotz D, Laforsch C, Lindquist E, Lopez J, Manak JR, Muller J, Pangilinan J, Patwardhan RP, Pitluck S, Pritham EJ, Rechtsteiner A, Rho M, Rogozin IB, Sakarya O, Salamov A, Schaack S, Shapiro H, Shiga Y, Skalitzky C, Smith Z, Souvorov A, Sung W, Tang Z, Tsuchiya D, Tu H, Vos H, Wang M, Wolf YI, Yamagata H, Yamada T, Ye Y, Shaw JR, Andrews J, Crease TJ, Tang H, Lucas SM, Robertson HM, Bork P, Koonin EV, Zdobnov EM, Grigoriev IV, Lynch M, Boore JL (2011) The Ecoresponsive Genome of *Daphnia pulex*. *Science* 331: 555-561



## Ostracod exoskeleton evolution studied by JSPS fellow at the GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup>

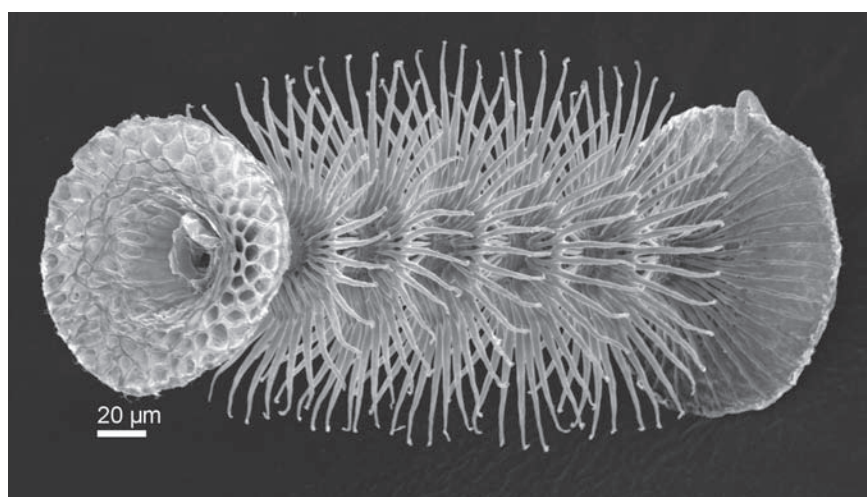
*Shinnosuke Yamada, guest researcher at GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup>*

I have been working as a guest researcher of the GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup> for two years (June 2010-June 2012), funded by a research grant of the Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science. My host researcher was PD Dr. Renate Matzke-Karasz.

My research focus is to understand the evolution of the arthropod exoskeleton exemplified by small bivalved crustacean Ostracoda. The ostracod skeleton has many important anatomical and morphological characters that can be studied not only in Recent animals, but also sometimes in fossil specimens. Three research projects have been carried out during my stay at the GeoBioCenter<sup>LMU</sup>, collaborating with Drs Renate Matzke-Karasz and Martin Hess. We analyzed freshwater ostracods from Bavaria utilizing EM and CLSM, and also performed 3D reconstructions based on serial LM sections.

### Anatomy and function of skeleto-musculature in the ostracod mandible

Ultrastructure of the skeleto-musculature of podocopids was completely described by TEM and the calcification process of the pivot point of the mandible was shown by SEM methods. Further, we provided a 3D reconstruction of the musculature of the ostracod mandible, showing that freshwater ostracods developed a typical “biting” mandible in spite of the restriction of their bivalved carapace. The manuscript of this research has been published in *Journal of Morphology*.



*Chitinous skeleton of the Zenker organ of Pseudocanodonta rostrata*

### **Anatomy and function of the sperm pump “Zenker organ”**

Some ostracod taxa are famous for their “giant sperm” and a distinct distal part of the long spermduct is transformed into a conspicuous cylindrical organ for ejaculation, called “Zenker organ”. We analysed the micro- and ultrastructure of this organ in the freshwater ostracod *Pseudocandona marchica* by light microscopy and TEM. Using the software *Amira*, we further reconstructed the anatomy of the Zenker organ in three dimensions.

Several structures were described for the first time, like the internal ejaculatory valve, preventing the filamentous sperm from being sucked back into the proximal part of the sperm duct. Our study is the first to propose a hypothesis on the operating mode of a pumping system for giant sperm in arthropods. This study is published in *Naturwissenschaften*.

### **Morphogenesis of the sperm pump “Zenker organ”**

Now we are investigating the formation process of the Zenker organ in *Pseudocandona marchica*. In the early adult phase right after the moult to adulthood, the organ is not more than a chitinous tube. Subsequently, structures like the ejaculatory valve, the inner tube and the chitinous spines are formed. The detailed sequence of this process will be imaged in 2D and 3D by CLSM, light microscopical histology and TEM and discussed in the context of sperm production in the young male.

I enjoyed my stay at the GeoBio-Center<sup>LMU</sup> very much and would like to thank the members, as well as the entire AG Hess in Martinsried for their hospitality.

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- Rössner GE, Heißig K (2011) Insektenfresser-Schädel. Fossilien, Zeitschrift für Hobbypaläontologen 4/2011: 196-197
- Rössner GE, Mayr C (2010) Kapitaler Elchschädel. Fossilien, Zeitschrift für Hobbypaläontologen 4/2010: 197
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- Rössner GE, Mayr C. (2010) Nachweis eines kapitalen Elchs (*Alces alces* Linnaeus, 1758) vom Walchensee. Jahresbericht 2009 und Mitteilungen der Freunde der Bayerischen Staatssammlung für Paläontologie und Historische Geologie München e.V. 38: 37-39
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- Rössner GE, Moser M, Hölzl S, Nützel A, Werner W (2011) Die Evolution der Zähne. Pfeil (München) 32 pp
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- Segeer AH, Hausmann A (eds) (2011) Die Großschmetterlinge Deutschlands. Heterocera Press (Budapest) 308 pp
- Struck U (2011) On the use of stable nitrogen isotopes in present an past anoxic environments. In: Altenbach AV, Bernard JM, Seckbach J (eds) Anoxia, Evidence for eukaryote survival and and paleontological strategies. Book series: Cellular origin, life in extreme habitats and astrobiology. Springer (Berlin) 21: 497-513
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- Zischler H, Leinfelder RR (2010) „Wenn wir den Wald verstehen wollen...“ Ein Gespräch mit dem Generaldirektor des Museums für Naturkunde. In: Moritz U, Pufelska A, Zischler H (eds) Vorstoß ins Innere. Streifzüge durch das Berliner Museum für Naturkunde. Alpheus-Verlag (Berlin): 59-62

## Grants and Stipends

- Daxner-Höck G, Göhlich UB, Harzhauser M, Piller W: The Oligocene-Miocene transition in the Valley of Lakes, Mongolia: vertebrate fauna, paleoenvironments, paleoclimate, geochemistry, geology, stratigraphy. FWF-Project (Fonds zur Förderung der Wissenschaftlichen Forschung, Österreich) (2010-2013) total € 250,000
- Erpenbeck D: DAAD Travel Grant. € 800
- Erpenbeck D: Where spicules are pointless - the phylogenetic relationships of Phyllospongiinae (Porifera: Demospongiae: Thorectidae). Temminck Fellowship, Naturalis Leiden (2011) total ca. € 2,000.
- Peters J, Grupe G: Die frühholozäne Gesellschaft Obermesopotamiens und ihre Subsistenz. DFG (PE 424/10-1)
- Peters J, Grupe G, Uerpmann HP: DFG-Projekt Ungulate domestication and early animal husbandry in the Upper Euphrates Basin. DFG (PE 424/9-2)
- Grupe G: „Settlement continuity, changing economy, and palaeoecology: Comparing Viking Haithabu and medieval Schleswig. DFG (GR 959/16-2)
- Glaw F: Conservation and sustainable use of amphibians in Madagascar: Integrating species and area priority assessments with a standardization of monitoring techniques Volkswagenstiftung (2010-2011) total € 2,500
- Glaw F: Conservation of the Comoroan herpetofauna Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund (2009-2010) total € 6,910
- Glaw F: GBIF Vertebrata / Herp-Vert. BMBF (2011) total €10,500
- Glaw F: Global Reptile Assessment Workshop in Madagaskar. MBZ Species Conservation Fund (23.01.-02.02.2011) total ca. €1.500
- Gottschling M, Söhner S: Diversity, morphology, and phylogeny of microalgae from Japanese waters. JSPS ca. € 30,000
- Haszprunar G: 52. Phylogenetisches Symposium in München: Quo vadis, Taxonomie?. DFG (HA 2598/ 14-1, 11.2010) € 8,500
- Haszprunar G: Barcoding-Atlas der Fauna Bavarica. Bayerisches STMWFK (since 01.01.2009) € 750,000
- Hausmann A: Geometrid Moths of Europe Vols 3 and 5, dissections, Apollo Books und AAGE. V Jensens Fonde, Denmark € 14,400
- Hausmann A Haszprunar G: Barcoding Fauna Bavarica. Freistaat Bayern, Ministry of Science (2010-2011) € 350.000
- Hausmann A, Haszprunar G: Barcoding African Geometridae, CBOL, Smithsonian Institution, Washington. 7,000 €
- Hausmann A: DNA Barcoding iBOL organisatorical meeting in Guelph/Canada and Adelaide/Australien. University of Guelph (Dr. Paul Hebert) 2,000 €
- Hausmann A: DNA Barcoding Lepidoptera worldwide, barcoding 30,000 ZSM butterflies (Africa, South America, 2010-2011). University of Guelph (Dr. Paul Hebert) total ca. 300,000 €
- Hausmann A: iBOL Publication support (PLoS). University Guelph/Canada (Dr. Paul Hebert). € 1,050
- Hegner E: Crust-formation processes on early Earth. BMBF. € 40,000
- Kerp H, Krings M. A first synecological study of the Rhynie chert biota – interactions between organisms and their environment – Part II. Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, 04.2011-03.2014) total € 208,000
- Kremer B: Modern mineralized cyanobacteria from alkaline volcanic lakes as analogues of Earth's early life. Homing Plus project of the Foundation for Polish Science (2010-2012) total € 50,000
- Kremer B: Traces of life from the Barberton (South Africa) and its significance for the interpretation of Early Earth evolution. Grant of Ministry of Science and Higher Education. (2010-2012) total € 40,000 Euro
- Matzke-Karasz R: DFG (Ma 2118/3, Start: 01.07.2011, 3 years) in total € 271,936
- Mayr C: Klimaveränderungen im Holozän und Spätglazial Neuseelands: Stabile Isotope lakustriner Sedimente des Lake Pupuke (Auckland-Vulkanfeld). DFG (MA 4235-1, 11.2007-10.2010) total ca. € 130,712
- Mayr C: Qualitative environmental and climatic reconstruction for the last glacial-interglacial cycles in southern Patagonia – the stable isotope record of the ICDP site Laguna Potrok Aike. DFG SPP "Internationales Kontinentales Bohrprogramm (ICDP)" (MA 4235-4, 05.2009 - 04.2012)
- Melzer RR: Evolution of ocelli and optic lobes in Pycnogonida (Arthropoda): Fine structure and neuroanatomy. DFG (ME 2683/6-1, 1.1.2010-30.6.2012) € 14,500
- Melzer RR: Larval development of decapod Crustacea. Sea Life (01.01.2010 – 31.08.2012) € 17,000
- Nützel A: Phylogenie und Systematik ausgewählter Gastropodengruppen an der Trias/Jura-Grenze. DFG (2009-2011, Projekt NU 96/11-1) € 8100 consumables plus student researcher
- Nützel A: Humboldt Fellowship for Andrzej Kaim (2010-2011). € 2200 salary + € 800 research allowance / month)
- Nützel A: DAAD Travel grant. € 810
- Overmann J: The evolutionary basis of alphaproteobacterial diversity. DFG (Ov 20/19-1 01/2011-10/2011 2 TV-L E13/2 positions for 10 months + € 21,950
- Overmann J: TP 04 Mikrobiell gesteuerte Ökosystemleistungen. BMBF Verbundprojekt The future Okavango ( 01LL0912M, 09.2010-08.2015) 2 TV-L E13/2 positions + € 69,600
- Overmann J: BMBF Verbundvorhaben GBIF-D, Teilprojekt 3 01LH1001C 01/2011-12/2013 Erschließung organismenbezogener prokaryontischer Daten für Biodiversitätsanalysen 1 TV-L E13 position + € 447,594
- Overmann J: Prokaryotic diversity changes and their functional interrelation to land use. DFG (Ov 20/18-2, 04.2011-03.2014) 0.65 TVL E13 positions + student researcher + € 112,935
- Overmann J: Population structure of *Dinoroseobacter shibae* and *Phaeobacter gallaeciensis*. DFG (TRR 51/1-TP07 07-2011-12-2013) 1 TV-L 13 position + € 88,600
- Overmann J: Leibniz-SAW ATKiM (SAW-2011-IOW-3, 03/2011-

- 02/2014). 1 TV-L E13 position + € 10,000
- Rössner GE: Evolution of Miocene Mammals. Fellowship of the Ministry of Science and Innovation of Spain for research visits at the Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales in Madrid, (10.2011 and 12.2011)
- Rössner GE: Förderung zur Initiierung und Intensivierung bilateraler Kooperation mit der Universität Kyoto (Japan) zur Erforschung terrestrischer Säugetierfaunen des Paläogens und Neogens in Myanmar. DFG (RO 119/5-11, 06.2010) total € 1,000
- Rössner GE: Miocene giraffes of Austria. Synthesys (08.2011)
- Ruthensteiner B, Haszprunar G: Nephrogenesis in molluscs and sipunculans - did the molluscan kidney evolve independently? DFG (RU 895/4-1, 3 years since 01.07.2008) 1 TVL13/2 + € 38,890
- Siegert F: Developing an integrated forest carbon monitoring system with field sampling and remote sensing (Prof. Klein) DFG (KL 894/17-1, 2012-2014).
- Spelda J, Melzer RR, Haszprunar G: GBIF Webservice Bodenzoologie. (BMBF, 01.09.2010-31.10.2012) 67,000 €
- Struck U: TP2 Global trends in nutrient dynamics during the Ediacaran / Cambrian period as revealed in nitrogen isotope signatures. DFG Forschergruppe 736 (Pi: Ulrich Struck, Graham Shields 01.07.2007 - 31.12.2010). 2 TVL 13/2 position + 1 student researcher (24 months) + € 20,000
- Struck U: TP2 Global trends in nutrient dynamics. DFG Forschergruppe 736 (Pi: Ulrich Struck 01.03.2011 - 31.03.2014) 1 TVL 13/2 position + 1 student researcher (24 months) + € 20,000
- Struck U: MicroCT, ROV, Spektrophotometer (PI: Müller J, Struck U) BMBF, PT-Jülich, Forschungszentrum Jülich (01.11.2009 - 31.10.2010) € 450,000
- Struck U: SAW: Abbaubarkeit von arktischen, terrigenem Kohlenstoff im Meer. Leibniz Gemeinschaft (01.01.2011 - 31.12.2013) 1 TVL 13/2 position + € 5,000
- Taylor TN, Krings M: Fossil microbes from the Rhynie chert Lagerstätte. National Science Foundation (NSF, 06.2006-05.2010) total US \$ 385,000
- Taylor TN, Krings M: Understanding the diversity and biology of microbes in late Paleozoic ecosystems. National Science Foundation (NSF, 05.2010 - 04.2014) total US \$ 390,746
- Triebel D, Haszprunar G: Informationsnetz für biologische Forschungsdaten. DFG (INST 747/1-1, 1-2 since 01.01.2009) 1 TVL13 position for two years + € 34,900
- Triebel D, Haszprunar G GBIF-D, Kompetenzzentren innovativer Datenmobilisierung. Part 2: GBIF-D Nodes Mycology and Evertebrata II. BMBF
- Triebel D, Melzer RR, Haszprunar G: GBIF-D: Kompetenzzentren innovativer Datenmobilisierung, BMBF (1.12.2010 - 31.12.2013) € 1,000,000
- Wägele JW, Haszprunar G, et al.: GBOL, German Barcoding of Life. BMBF (2012-2015, since 11.2011) € 1,400,000
- Werner W: Caracterización de la biodiversidad del Jurásico superior de Asturias: interés paleontológico y patrimonial de sus yacimientos incluidos en la figura de monumento natural. Instituto Geológico y Minero, Madrid, (Project CANOA 74-6-00-17-00, September 2010) total € 1,000
- Wörheide G, Rahman A: Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung (2010-2011) total € 19,200
- Wörheide G: Annual Meeting of the Paleontological Society. DFG (2010) total € 6,390
- Wörheide G: Deep Metazoan Phylogeny - Stammesgeschichte der Großgruppen der Tiere, A phylogenomic approach to resolve deep phylogenetic incongruences among Phylum Porifera. DFG (2010-2012) 1TVL13 + student researcher + € 42,317
- Wörheide G, Larroux C: Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung (2010-2011) total € 9,600
- Wörheide G: Sponge Barcoding Project. Queensland Museum (via MarBoL, Sloan Foundation 2010) total € 21,000

## Prizes and Honors

- Bärmann EV, Börner S, Rössner GE, Hebel C, Hammer S, Erpenbeck D, Wörheide G (2011) *Gazella arabica* – lost and found?. Poster award German Society for Mammalian Biology (Luxembourg 13.-17.09.2011)
- Haszprunar G (2011) Elected as Humboldt-Ring Spokesman 19.05.2011
- Haszprunar G (2011) Elected as chairman of the Society for Biological Systematics e.V. (GfBS, 24.02.2011)
- Kremer B (2011) High productivity of early Silurian sea evidenced by post-bloom macroaggregates, *Sedimentary Geology*, 240 (3-4):115-122 has been awarded in the Institute of Paleobiology Polish Academy of Sciences as the best publication in 2011
- Laforsch C (2011) Habilitation award of the LMU Munich
- Leinfelder R (2011) Carson Fellow at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society
- Matzke-Karasz R. Appointed counsellor of the organizing committee of the 17th International Symposium on Ostracods (July 2013, Rome)
- Matzke-Karasz R (2010) Appointed Liaison Officer of the International Research Group on Ostracoda in board panel of The Crustacean Society (as from 2010)
- Matzke-Karasz R (2011) Appointed member of the scientific committee of the European Ostracodologists' Meeting EOM7, Karl-Franzens-University (September 2011, Graz)
- Matzke-Karasz R (2009-2013) Elected chair of the steering committee of the International Research Group on Ostacoda, IRGO
- Wörheide G (2011) Elected as Dean of the Faculty of Geosciences, LMU
- Zinßmeister C, Söhner S, Facher E, Keupp H, Gottschling M (2011) The taxonomic identity of *Scrippsiella trochoidea* (Thracosphaeraceae, Dinophyceae), an ecologically important species of the marine phytoplankton. Abstract / Talk (awarded with the Nobis Prize for outstanding research) Nobis 2011, Salzburg (Austria)



## Presentations on Conferences and Symposia

- Agerer R (2010) Ektomykorrhizen. Workshop. Tagung der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Mykologie. Kassel. (16.-23.9.2010)
- Agerer R (2011) Exploration and exploitation strategies of ectomycorrhizal fungi. International Leopoldina Symposium. Growth and Defence in Plants: Resource Allocation at Multiple Scales. Freising. (4.-6.7.2011): 25
- Aiglstorfer M, Böhme M, Gross M, Made J van der, Prieto J, Rössner GE (2011) Tragulidae and other large herbivorous Mammals from the latest Middle Miocene (Sarmatian) of the Styrian Basin (Austria). The 4th International Workshop on the Neogene from the Central and South-Eastern Europe NC-SEE-4, Banská Bystrica, Slavakia (12.-16.9.2011): 4-5
- Amler MRW (2010) High diversity in a minor molluscan class – Rostroconchia and their occurrence in the Palaeozoic record. 80th Meeting of Paläontologische Gesellschaft, Munich (5.-8.10.2010). Zitteliana B29: 16
- Astrin J, Misof B, Hausmann A, Haszprunar G, Wägele W (2011): Initiating the German Barcode of Life project, GBOL. Abstracts of the 4th International Barcode of Life Conference, Adelaide, Australia
- Bäumler N, Haszprunar G, Ruthensteiner B (2010) Development of the Excretory System in a Polyplacophoran. In: 17th World Congress of Malacology, Phuket, Thailand (18.-24.07.2010) Panha S, Sutcharit C, Tongkerd P (eds) Tropical Natural History. Supplement 3: 81
- Bäumler N, Haszprunar G, Ruthensteiner B (2011) Overlap in appearance of the protonephridia and the metanephridial system in a mollusc. Deep Metazoan Phylogeny 2011 - New data, new challenges (11.-14.10.2011) Zitteliana. B30: 10
- Bäumler N, Haszprunar G, Ruthensteiner B (2010) Rehabilitation of the Nephrocoel Theory? The Example of *Mytilus*. In: 17th World Congress of Malacology, Phuket, Thailand (18.-24.07.2010) Panha S, Sutcharit C, Tongkerd P (eds) Tropical Natural History. Supplement 3: 319
- Bäumler N, Haszprunar G, Ruthensteiner B (2011) Larval and adult excretory systems in molluscs – how do they compare? 4. Graduiertenforum der Fachgruppe Morphologie der Deutschen Zoologischen Gesellschaft (21.-23. 10. 2011): 17
- Ballhorn U, Jubanski J, Kronseder K, Siegert F (2012) Airborne LiDAR measurements to estimate peat swamp forest carbon stock and peat carbon loss by fire. IGARSS 2012
- Bärmann EV, Börner S, Rössner GE, Hebel C, Hammer S, Erpenbeck D, Wörheide, G. *Gazella arabica* – lost and found? 85. Jahrestagung der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Säugetierkunde, Luxembourg (13.-17.9.2011). Mammalian Biology Special issue to volume 76:5.
- Bäumler N, Haszprunar G, Ruthensteiner B (2010) Development of molluscan excretory systems with emphasis on Polyplacophora. 3. Graduiertenforum der Fachgruppe Morphologie der DZG. Wien (21.-24. 10. 2010): 27
- Bäumler N, Haszprunar G, Ruthensteiner B (2010) Rehabilitation of the Nephrocoel Theory? The Example of *Mytilus*. Generierung, Analyse und Visualisierung morphologischer Datensätze. 3. Graduiertenforum der Fachgruppe Morphologie der DZG. Wien (21.-24. 10. 2010): 37
- Becker C, Grupe G: Teamplayer oder Gegenspieler? Der zweifache Nutzen von Archäozoologie und Isotopenanalyse – Haithabu und Schleswig neu bewertet. 8. Tagung der Gesellschaft für Archäozoologie und Prähistorische Anthropologie, Berlin (28-30.9.2010)
- Becking LE, Erpenbeck D, Cleary DFR, van Soest RWM, de Voogd NJ. (2010) Indonesian anchialine lakes: laboratories of sponge evolution? 8th World Sponge Conference, Girona, Spain: 139
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- Weis A, Schrödl M, Melzer RR (2011) "Cryptic diversity or extinction pump? Phylogeography and evolution of the southern South American benthos – a comparison to Antarctica. Coordinationworkshop Antarktis (5.-6.10.2011)
- Wierig E, Hausmann A (2010): Assessing geometrid biodiversity: two new major ZSM projects. Forum Herbulot, Florida, McGuire Centre, Gainesville (21-23.6.2010)
- Wörheide G (2011) The status quo of higher-level metazoan phylogeny based on phylogenomic analyses. *Zitteliana Reihe B* 30: 57-57
- Wörheide G (2010) An evolutionary fast track to bio-calcification. Euro-ISRS Symposium Wageningen, Netherlands (December)
- Wörheide G (2010) Current affairs in cryptic speciation: the crown-of-thorns starfish in the Indian Ocean (co-author). Euro-ISRS Symposium Wageningen, Netherlands (December)
- Wörheide G (2010) Das Sponge-Barcoding-Projekt als Modell und Ausnahme. 52. Phylogenetisches Symposium München (November)
- Wörheide G (2010) Evolution and phylogeny of sponges and other non-bilateria animals. International Sponge Conference, Girona, Spain (September)
- Wörheide G (2010) Phylogenomics of non-bilateria metazoans. Phylogenomics Day, University of Geneva, Switzerland (June)
- Wörheide G (2011) Phylogenomics of non-bilateria metazoans. Hydra-Meeting Tutzing, Searching for Eve: basal metazoans and the evolution of multicellular complexity (September)
- Wörheide G (2011) Sponge barcoding as a tool to investigate Australasian sponge species diversity and their phylogeographic relationships. 22nd Pacific Science Congress, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (June)
- Wörheide G, Vargas S, Lueter C, Reitner J (2011) Precious coral and rock sponge gardens on the deep aphotic fore-reef of Osprey Reef (Coral Sea, Australia). *Coral Reefs* 30: 901-901
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Zinßmeister C, Söhner S, Facher E, Keupp H, Gottschling M (2011) The taxonomic identity of *Scrippsiella trochoidea* (Thoracosphaeraceae, Dinophyceae), an ecologically important species of the marine phytoplankton. (awarded with the Nobis Prize for outstanding research) Nobis 2011, Salzburg

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# Teaching

- Agerer R, Bodensteiner P, Döbbeler P, Facher E, Gottschling M, Heubl G, Peršoh D. Praktikum zur Artenvielfalt mit Exkursionen. SS10, 3 SWS.
- Agerer R, Bodensteiner P, Döbbeler P, Facher E, Gottschling M, Heubl G, Peršoh D. Praktikum zur Artenvielfalt mit Exkursionen. SS 2011, 3 SWS.
- Agerer R, Bodensteiner P, Döbbeler P, Facher E, Gottschling M, Heubl G, Peršoh D. Botanik und Mykologie. WS 10/11, 6 ECTS.
- Agerer R, Bodensteiner Ph, Facher E, Gottschling M, Heubl G, Peršoh D. Botanik und Mykologie. WS 11/12, 6 ECTS.
- Agerer R. Diversity and Evolution of Fungi: SS10, SS11, 1 SWS lecture, 4 SWS practicals
- Agerer R. Field Mycology: WS10/11, 1 SWS lecture, 4 SWS practicals
- Agerer R. Mykorrhiza. WS 10/11, 1SWS lecture, 4SWS practicals
- Agerer R. Soil Mycomicrobiology: SS 11, SS 12, 1SWS lecture, 4SWS practicals
- Altenbach AV. Advanced Micropaleontology, SS11, 2SWS
- Altenbach AV. Field excursion "Lake Alat and the Raibler Unit", SS11, 1SWS
- Altenbach AV. Geobiology I WS09/10, WS10/11, 2SWS
- Altenbach AV. Geomicrobiology WS09/10, SS10, WS10/11, 2SWS
- Altenbach AV. Geostatistics, SS10, SS11, 2SWS
- Amler MRW. Biostratigraphie. LMU Munich (2010)
- Amler MRW. Einführung in das System Erde. PU Marburg. (2010-2011)
- Amler MRW. Einführung in die Geowissenschaften II. LMU (2010)
- Amler MRW. Entwicklung der Biosphäre: Grundlagen der Paläontologie. PU Marburg. (2010-2011)
- Amler MRW. Entwicklung fossiler Ökosysteme im Laufe der Erdgeschichte. PU Marburg. (2010-2011)
- Amler MRW. Erdgeschichte und regionale Geologie Mitteleuropas. PU Marburg. (2010-2011)
- Amler MRW. Exkursion Wutach-Schlucht. RKU Heidelberg (2011)
- Amler MRW. Geologischer Kartierkurs Lahnmulde. LMU Munich (2010)
- Amler MRW. Geologischer Kartierkurs Lahnmulde. RKU Heidelberg (2011)
- Amler MRW. Klastische Sedimentäre Systeme. RKU Heidelberg (2011)
- Amler MRW. Roscoff-Kurs zur Geologie, Sedimentologie und Meeresökologie einer Großzeitenküste in der NW-Bretagne. LMU Munich (2010)
- Amler MRW. Roscoff-Kurs zur Geologie, Sedimentologie und Meeresökologie einer Großzeitenküste in der NW-Bretagne. PU Marburg. (2010-2011)
- Amler MRW. Sedimentologie. LMU Munich (2010)
- Amler MRW. Sedimentpetrologie. LMU Munich (2010)
- Amler MRW. Spezielle Paläontologie: Mikropaläontologie. RKU Heidelberg (2011)
- Erpenbeck D. Exercises in Palaeontology (course B). WS 09/10, 1 SWS
- Erpenbeck D. Advanced Methods in Palaeobiology. WS 09/10, 2 SWS
- Erpenbeck D. Advanced Molecular Palaeobiology. WS 09/10, 1 SWS
- Erpenbeck D. Geobiology II (molecular Geobiology). SS 11, 2 SWS
- Erpenbeck D. Geobiology II. SS 11, 2 SWS
- Erpenbeck D. Morphology course Evertabrata I ("lower" Metazoa). WS 10/11, 1.2 SWS
- Erpenbeck D. Phylogenetic Analysis of Morphological and Molecular characters. WS 10/11, 0.8 SWS
- Erpenbeck D. Special Methods in Palaeobiology II. WS 10/11, WS 11/12, 2 SWS
- Erpenbeck D. Spezielle Methoden der Paläobiologie I. SS 10, SS11, 2 SWS
- Erpenbeck D. Exercises in Palaeontology (course B). WS 09/10, 10/11, 11/12, 2 SWS
- Erpenbeck D. Advanced Molecular Palaeobiology. WS 10/11, 11/12 2 SWS
- Erpenbeck D. Taxonomy and Phylogeny. SS10, SS11 SWS
- Facher E, Gottschling M. Organisation naturwissenschaftlicher Sammlungen. SS 2010, WS 10/11, 2 SWS
- Gilg AH, Mayr C. Geochemistry of stable isotopes, Lecture, SS 10/11 2 SWS
- Glaw F. Exercises on amphibians, reptiles, birds plus excursions excursions SS 2011
- Göhlich UB. Collection management and public relations SS 10, 2SWS
- Gottschling M. Morphologie, Evolution und Diversität der Samenpflanzen. SS10, SS11
- Gottschling M, Facher E. Einführung in die Ausbreitungsbiologie der Samenpflanzen und mikroskopische Techniken. WS 10/ 11, WS 11/12, 2SWS
- Gottschling M, Facher E. Morphologie und Diversität der eukaryotischen Algen und mikroskopische Techniken, WS 10/ 11, WS 11/12, 2SWS
- Haszprunar G. Allgemeine Systematik Zoologie. SS10, SS11, 1 SWS
- Haszprunar G, Heß M. Marine Biological Excursion to Banyuls-sur Mer plus Seminar. SS10, SS11, 10+2 SWS
- Haszprunar G, et al. Artenvielfalt Zoologie. SS10, SS11, 4 SWS
- Haszprunar G, Renner S. Systematics & Data. WS WS10/11, WS 11/12, 2 SWS
- Haszprunar G et al. Malakologie. WS10/11, WS 11/12, 6 SWS
- Haszprunar G. et al. Niedere Metazoa und Würmer. WS10/11, 6 SWS
- Kremer B. The biomarkers and other indicators of life (Institute of



- Paleobiology PAS)
- Kremer B. The principle of astrobiology (Institute of Paleobiology PAS)
- Kremer B. The role of microorganisms in biosphere evolution (Institute of Paleobiology PAS)
- Krings M, Reichenbacher R. Special topics in palaeobiology. WS 09/10, WS 10/11, 2 SWS
- Krings M. Paläontologie II - Paläobotanik. SS 10, SS 11, 3 SWS
- Matzke-Karasz R. Practicals: Geobiologie II, Labor- und Geländepraktikum, Paläontologische Arbeitsmethoden, Seminar: Bachelorseminar
- Matzke-Karasz R. Teaching at Biozentrum LMU in cooperation with other lecturers: Arthropod Biology (lecture and practical)
- Mayr C, Matzke-Karasz, R. Geobiologie II, SS 10/11 2 SWS
- Melzer RR et al. Arthropods, course. WS 09/10, WS 10/11, 3 SWS
- Melzer RR et al. Arthropods, lecture. WS 09/10, WS 10/11, 2 SWS
- Melzer RR et al. Marine biology, lecture, 2 SWS
- Melzer RR. Course in Mediterranean marine biology. SS 10, SS11, 10 SWS
- Melzer RR, Schrödl M. Biology of arthropods and molluscs, lab course, 15 SWS
- Reichenbacher B, Krings M. Current research in palaeontology; WS 09/10, WS 10/11, 2 SWS
- Rössner GE. Evolution, Diversität und Funktion der Säugetiere. WS 9/10, 2 SWS
- Rössner GE. Naturwissenschaftliches Zeichnen und Illustrieren. WS 10/11, 2 SWS
- Rössner GE. Zähne und Gebiss der Säugetiere, WS 11/12, 1 SWS
- Siegert F. Seminar: Tropical Rainforests
- Siegert F. Satellite Remote Sensing and GIS, 2SWS
- Wörheide G. Advanced Methods in Paleobiology. SS 10
- Wörheide G. Advanced Molecular Palaeobiology. WS 10/11
- Wörheide G. Aktuelle Forschungen in der Paläontologie. WS 10/11, WS 11/12
- Wörheide G. Bachelorseminar (Vertiefungsrichtung Geologie). SS 10, SS 11
- Wörheide G. Biological and Computational Aspects of Phylogenetic Interference. SS 10
- Wörheide G. EES Summerschool "Phylogenetics". SS 11
- Wörheide G. Einführung in die Geowissenschaften II. SS 10, SS 11
- Wörheide G. Frontiers in Evolutionary Geo- and Palaeobiology. SS 10
- Wörheide G. Geobiological field methods: Coral Reefs in the Red Sea (Egypt). SS 11
- Wörheide G. Geobiologie küstennaher Lebensräume Südfrankreich. SS 10
- Wörheide G. Historische Geologie. VL, WS 10/11, WS 11/12
- Wörheide G. Ozeanologie. WS 10/11, WS 11/12
- Wörheide G. Seminar & Discussion 2: Global Change. SS 11
- Wörheide G. Seminar zu Themen der molekularen Paläobiologie. WS 10/11
- Wörheide G. Wechselwirkungen Erde-Leben II. WS 10/11, WS 11/12

## Theses and Habilitations

- Adolf S (2010) DNA-Barcoding von Tiefseeorganismen. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Wörheide G)
- Almes J (2011) The effects of seawater warming and acidification on scleractinian coral metabolism and associated microbial diversity. M.Sc. Thesis, external, Diplom Biologie, Universität Göttingen, (Wörheide G)
- Augusteyns J (2010) Überprüfung der Gonopodenmerkmale von nordalpinen Diplopodenarten der Gattung *Ochogona* (Cook, 1895) mittels Rasterelektronen- und Lichtmikroskop, sowie Beiträge zu ihrer Verbreitungsbiologie. Qualifying Thesis, LMU (Melzer R)
- Baumer M (2011) Effekt organischer Substanz auf die Messungen der stabilen Isotope (C und O) von Karbonaten in Mischungsexperimenten. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Mayr C).
- Beierl S (2010) Ein Carnivoren-Unterkiefer aus der Fossilfundstelle Sandelzhausen: Beschreibung der Morphologie mit taxonomisch-systematischen sowie funktionellen Folgerungen und paläoökologischen Interpretationen. M.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Rössner GE, Wörheide G)
- Benesch D (2011) 3D-Analyse und -Visualisierung des marinen Pulmonaten *Otina ovata* (Brown, 1827) (Gastropoda: Euthyneura). B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Ruthensteiner B, Haszprunar G)
- Berger J (2010) Phylogeny and barcoding of the Comoroan reptiles, with a focus on the genera *Amphiglossus*, *Furcifer*, *Hemidactylus* and *Ramphotyphlops*. Diploma-thesis, LMU (Haszprunar G, Glaw F)
- Berry K (2011) M.Sc. Thesis (Wild C, Struck U)
- Biebl A (2010) 3D-reconstruction and visualisation of the central nervous system of the sea spiders, *Tanystylum conirostre* (Dohrn, 1881) and *Pycnogonum littorale* (Ström, 1762) (Chelicerata: Pycnogonida). Diploma-thesis, LMU (Melzer R)
- Börner S. (2011) Evaluierung des systematischen Status von *Gazella arabica* (Mammalia, Cetartiodactyla, Ruminantia, Bovidae) basierend auf DNS-Sequenzierung und historischen Beschreibungen der phänotypischen Merkmale sowie phylogenetische Analyse der Gazellen. M.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Rössner GE, Wörheide G)
- Brückmann B (2010) Ecological niche modelling of the genus *Phelsuma* with view on invasive species and climatic change. Diploma-thesis, LMU (Laforsch C, Schrödl M, Glaw F)
- Buchner M (2011) Isotopenuntersuchungen an organischer Substanz eines Bohrkerns aus dem Walchensee, Bayern. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Mayr C)
- Buggele S (2011) Isotopic investigation on a sediment profile from the Comau Fjord in Chile. Bachelorarbeit LMU-München. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Mayr C)
- Burger T (2010) Herkunftsrekonstruktion anhand stabiler Strontium-Isotope an ausgewählten Gräbern des frühmittelalterlichen Reihengräberfeldes Weingarten, Kreis Ravensburg. B.Sc. Thesis LMU (Grupe G)
- Chen H (2012) Population structure and species description of aquatic Sphingomonadaceae Ph.D. Thesis (Overmann J)
- Dennerlein B (2011) Untersuchungen an Dünnschliffen aus dem Walchensee, Bayern. B.Sc. Thesis, FAU (Mayr C)
- Deppe J (2011) Provenienzanalyse anhand stabiler Strontiumisotope am Beispiel des frühmittelalterlichen Reihengräberfeldes von Weingarten (Kreis Ravensburg), Baden-Württemberg, Diploma-thesis, LMU (Grupe G).
- Dotzler N (2010) Microbial life in the late Paleozoic: new discoveries from the Early Devonian and Carboniferous. PhD Thesis, LMU (Krings M, Agerer R)
- Cesena F (2011) Faunistik und Biogeographie anomurer Krebse (Crustacea: Decapoda: Anomura) aus den chilenischen Fjorden. B. Sc. Thesis, LMU (Melzer R)
- Eichmann V (2010) Phylogeography of calcareous sponge *Leucetta chagosensis* using the mitochondrial DNA marker COIII. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Wörheide G)
- Fegebank F (2010) 3D-Rekonstruktion der Zoea-I-Larve von *Xantho pilipes* A. Milne Edwards, 1867 (Decapoda: Brachyura, Xanthidae) mit Blick auf das zentrale Nervensystem. Diploma thesis, Universität München (Melzer R)
- Geil S (2010) Vergleichende Zusammenstellung verfügbarer DNS-Sequenzen der Wiederkäufer (Ruminantia, Mammalia), B.Sc. Thesis LMU (Rössner GE, Wörheide G)
- Göhlich UB (2011) Habilitation, LMU
- Goldstein F (2010) Geological Mapping of the 2006 pyroclastic density current deposits on Tungurahua Volcano, Ecuador. Diploma Thesis, LMU (Dingwell D, Altenbach AV)
- Haas F (2010) Coral reefs in a time of change – case studies to understand potential consequences of phase shifts from corals to benthic algae. Ph.D. Thesis, LMU (Wild C)
- Hawe A (2010) 3D-Mikroanatomie der rhipidoglossaten Heterobranchia *Hyalogyrina glabra* Marshall, 1988 und *Hyalogyrina grasslei* Warén & Bouchet, 1993 (Gastropoda: Ectobranchia) Diploma-thesis, LMU (Haszprunar G, Heß M)
- Heckeberg NS (2010) A skull of a wolf-like dog from the Pleistocene fissure fillings of the Gargano Peninsula and its role in taxonomic and palaeoecological context. M.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Rössner GE, Wörheide G)
- Hesse, K (2011) Geochemische Untersuchungen an einem Sedimentkern des Lago Galletué, Chile. B.Sc. Thesis, FAU (Mayr C)
- Hollauer S (2010) Herkunftsanalysen anhand von fossilem Holz mit Hilfe von stabilen Strontium-Isotopen. M.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Grupe G)
- Hütz A (2011) Bacterial chemotaxis in the ultraoligotrophic Eastern Mediterranean Sea. Ph.D. Thesis (Overmann J)
- Immmer F (2011) Anthropologie mittelalterlicher Bergwerksarbeiter aus Sachsen: Morphologie und Bleibelastung. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Grupe G)
- Jacob J (2010) M.Sc. Thesis (Struck U)
- Jogler M. (2012) Niche adaptation and microdiversity among populations of planktonic bacteria. Ph.D. Thesis (Overmann J)
- Jöst AB (2011) Interactive 3D-anatomy of the hadal cocculinid limpet *Fedikovella caymanensis* (Gastropoda, Cocculinida). B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Ruthensteiner B, Haszprunar G)

- Karl K (2010) Biomineralisation: Characterization of proteins from the organic matrices of the precious coral, *Corallium konojoi*. M.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Wörheide G)
- Knauerhase S (2011) Herkunftsanalyse der Bestatteten des römischen Heerlagers von Viminacium mittels Strontium. B.Sc. Thesis (Grupe G)
- Kraus S (2011) M.Sc. Thesis (Struck U)
- Kretzler F (2011) Computergestützte 3D-Rekonstruktion der Facettenaugen von *Glycymeris glycymeris*, *Arca noae* und *Barbatia barbata* (Mollusca) Diploma-Thesis, LMU (Haszprunar G, Heß M)
- Lang C (2010) Zur Paläoökologie der frühholozänen Kropfgazelle (*Gazella subgutturosa*) im akeramischen Neolithikum des oberen Euphrattals – Implikationen für den Nutzungsmodus der ältesten bekannten Tempelanlage am Göbekli Tepe. M.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Grupe G)
- Lehmann A (2010) Rekonstruktion des Einzugsgebietes eines mittelalterlichen Armenhauses (Minoritenweg in Regensburg) anhand von ausgewählten Sauerstoff- und Strontiumisotopenverhältnissen B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Grupe G)
- Leonhardt H (2012) Impact Evaluation in the Kruger National Park Using High-Resolution Satellite Imagery (RapidEye). M.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Siegert F)
- Lutz A (2010) Anthropologische Untersuchungen an Massengräbern aus dem Dreißigjährigen Krieg. M.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Grupe G)
- Masing UD (2011) Polyplacophora of Oceania - Biodiversity and Distribution of Chitons in the Pacific Ocean Islands. Diploma-Thesis, LMU (Haszprunar G)
- Meisel S (2011) Ph.D. Thesis (Struck U)
- Melville L (2011) Detektion importierter Haus- und Wildtiere in das mittelalterliche Handelszentrum Haihabu und Schleswig mittels stabiler Strontiumisotope. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Grupe G)
- Mergl CP (2011) Faunistics and biogeography of decapod crabs from the Chilean fjordal region. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Melzer RR)
- Müßig S (2010) Herkunftsrekonstruktion anhand stabiler Strontiumisotope an ausgewählten Gräbern des merowingerzeitlichen Reihengräberfelds Weingarten, Baden-Württemberg. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Grupe G)
- Naumann MS (2010) Biogeochemical consequences of organic matter release by reef-building scleractinian corals. Ph.D. Thesis, LMU (Wild C)
- Niggl W (2010) Organic matter release to Red Sea Cnidarians and its function as energy carrier - effects of environmental variables. Ph.D. Thesis, LMU (Wild C)
- Nitsche N (2010) Die Gattung *Zamarada* (Lepidoptera, Geometridae; Kamerun, Ghana, Tansania): Integrative Revision aus morphologischen und molekularen Daten. Qualification Thesis, LMU (Hausmann A, Haszprunar G)
- Otto K (2011) Analyse von FFH Potentialflächen auf Basis von RapidEye – Bilddaten für Natura 2000. M.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Siegert F)
- Pantanello A (2011) 3D-Rekonstruktion und Visualisierung des Oberschlundganglions der Asselspinne *Achelia echinata* (Hodge, 1864) (Arthropoda, Pycnogonida). Zulassungsarbeit, LMU (Melzer R)
- Probstmeier J (2010) Herkunftsrekonstruktion anhand stabiler Strontiumisotope an ausgewählten Gräbern des merowingerzeitlichen Reihengräberfelds Weingarten, Baden-Württemberg. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Grupe G)
- Sauer L (2010) Stable isotope analyses of Holocene lake sediments from Lake Szurpiły, north-eastern Poland. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Mayr C)
- Scheffler A (2011) Morphologische Analyse decapoder Crustaceen-Larven: REM-Studie von Mandibeln bei Phyllosoma der Gattung *Scyllarus* spec. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Melzer R)
- Schneider S (2010) A multidisciplinary study of Late Jurassic bivalves from a semi-enclosed basin: Examples of adaptation and speciation and their stratigraphic and tectonic background (Lusitanian Basin, central Portugal). Ph.D. Thesis, LMU (Fürsich FT, Werner W)
- Schuster A (2011) Molecular phylogeny of lithistid sponges (Porifera: Demospongiae). M.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Wörheide G)
- Sellmaier A (2010) Rekonstruktion der trophischen Entwicklung des Fischkaltersees (Osterseen, Bayern) mithilfe subfossiler Diatomeengesellschaften. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Raeder U, Mayr C)
- Silva-Flores P (2011) Unravelling an enigma: Ecology of waxcaps (Hygrocybe: Agaricomycetes). M.Sc. Thesis (Agerer R)
- Slaby BM (2010) 3D-Rekonstruktion einer rezenten Foraminifere. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Altenbach AV)
- Sofeso C (2010) Charakterisierung einer spätantiken Grabanlage in Erding: archäometrische Analyse der Skelettfunde vom Kletthamer Feld (Erding, Obb., 4.-5. Jh.). M.Sc. Thesis (Grupe G, Harbeck M)
- Steinhauser I (2011) Stabile Isotope als Anzeiger trophischer Beziehungen zwischen aquatischen Organismen des Brunnensees (Bayern). B.Sc. Thesis FAU (Matzke-Karasz R, Mayr C)
- Straube N (2011): Molecular phylogeny and evolution of Lantern Sharks (Chondrichthyes: Elmopteridae) PhD-Thesis, LMU (Haszprunar G, Schliwen)
- Tesch P (2011) B.Sc. Thesis (Struck U)
- Theuerkauf, M. 2011. Sedimentologische Untersuchungen an einem Quartärprofil bei Bobingen, Bayern. B.Sc. Thesis, FAU (Mayr C)
- Troll E (2011) Isotopen-geochemische Untersuchungen an einem Sedimentkern aus dem Sager Meer, Niedersachsen. B.Sc. Thesis LMU (Mayr C)
- Untiet V (2010) Methodische Annäherung an die kontaminationsfreie Darstellung der biogenen Blei-Isotopie archäologischer Knochenproben im Kontext der individuellen Herkunftsanalyse. B.Sc. Thesis (Grupe G)
- Vogler C (2010) Phylogeography and evolution of the crown-of-thorns starfish *Acanthaster planci*. Ph.D. Thesis, LMU (Wörheide G)
- Vohberger M (2011) Lokal oder eingewandert? Interpretationsmöglichkeiten und Grenzen von lokalen Strontium- und Sauerstoffisotopensignaturen am Beispiel einer Altgrabung in Wenigumstadt. Ph.D. Thesis, LMU (Grupe G)
- Wagner ST (2010) R-Zell-Muster in der Facettenaugen der Arthropoda – ein Überblick. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Melzer R)
- Weber S (2010) Analysen stabiler Isotope von Knochenfunden aus

- der Zeit des Neolithikums in Süd-Ost Anatolien. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Grupe G)
- Weinzierl C (2010): Vergleichende Untersuchungen zur Histologie und Ultrastruktur des Mantelrandes der Bivalvia. Diploma-Thesis, LMU (Haszprunar G, Heß M)
- Weiß M (2011) Isotopen-geochemische Untersuchung von Sedimenten des Walchensees und dessen Einzugsgebiet. B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Mayr C)
- Wenter R (2010) Molecular basis of inter- and intraspecific multicellularity in prokaryotes (Ph.D. Thesis (Overmann J)
- Zoch N (2010) B.Sc. Thesis, LMU (Struck U)