

Supplementary information for ‘**Ichthyosaurs from the Upper Triassic (Carnian–Norian) of the New Siberian Islands, Russian Arctic, and their implications for the evolution of the ichthyosaurian basicranium and vertebral column**’ by Nikolay G. Zverkov, Dmitry V. Grigoriev, Andrzej S. Wolniewicz, Alexey G. Konstantinov & Evgeny S. Sobolev

**Table S1.** Measurements of selected vertebral centra (in mm).

Specimen No	Anteroposterior length (L)	Dorsoventral height (H)	Mediolateral width (W)	Neural canal floor max/min width
ZIN PH 1/250 (1) post.pres.	49.0	115.0	101.0	18/10
ZIN PH 1/250 (2) caudal	50.0	118.0	100.5	14/8
ZIN PH 3/250 ant.pres.	16	32	37	9/7
ZIN PH 3/250 ant.pres.	19	32	34	9/4
ZIN PH 3/250 ant.pres.	17	31	37	7/4
ZIN PH 3/250 post.pres.	15.5	33	inc	inc
ZIN PH 3/250 anterior caudal	16	35	32	8/2
ZIN PH 3/250 caudal	14	40	30	NA
ZIN PH 3/250 caudal	15	32	31	6/3
ZIN PH 5/250 (v1)	10	21.5	21.5	NA
ZIN PH 5/250 (v2)	NA	NA	NA	NA
ZIN PH 5/250 (v3)	12	NA	NA	NA
ZIN PH 5/250 (v4)	12.5	27.5	NA	7/2
ZIN PH 5/250 (v5)	13	NA	NA	7/2
ZIN PH 5/250 (v6)	13	24.5	28	7/3
ZIN PH 5/250 (v7)	15	25	NA	7/3
ZIN PH 5/250 (v8)	15	28	32	NA
ZIN PH 6/250 caudal	14	30	33	5/2
ZIN PH 6/250 caudal	14	32	31	Inc.
ZIN PH 7/250 ant.pres.	16.5	37	40	Inc.
ZIN PH 8/250 ant.pres.	16	31		Inc.
ZIN PH 8/250 ant.pres.	17	29	28	Inc.
ZIN PH 8/250 post.pres.	20	38	41.5	Inc.
ZIN PH 9/250	20	38	42	7/5
ZIN PH 10/250 caudal	50.5	Inc.	Inc.	Inc.
ZIN PH 11/250 ant.pres.	21.5	34	44	18/13
ZIN PH 12/250 caudal	17	51	50	13/9
ZIN PH 14/250 ant.pres.	22	50	50	10/5
ZIN PH 16/250 ant.pres.	17	32	36	9/3
ZIN PH 17/250 post.pres.	12	33	36,5	9/7
ZIN PH 18/250	15	Inc.	Inc.	Inc.
ZIN PH 20/250 ant.pres.	16	33	35	8.5/3
ZIN PH 20/250 ant.pres.	16	31	39	6/3
ZIN PH 20/250 ant.pres.	15	31.5	34	6/3
ZIN PH 20/250 caudal	15	34	31	inc

ZIN PH 22/250 caudal	19	49	46	9/4
ZIN PH 22/250 caudal	16,5	Inc.	Inc.	8.5/4.5
ZIN PH 23/250 ant.pres.	15	28	36	inc
ZIN PH 23/250 ant.pres.	17	30	Inc.	inc

\*Abbreviations: ant.pres. = anterior presacral; inc. = incomplete; post. pres. = posterior presacral.

### **Additional measurements**

#### **ZIN PH 21/250**

dorsal rib head: dorsoventral maximum height = 70 mm, preserved length = 25 mm.

tail rib head = 36x24 mm.

#### **ZIN PH 3/250 elements of uncertain nature (rib heads or ?propodials)**

1. Preserved proximodistal length = 30 mm; anteroposterior width of proximal end = 31 mm, dorsoventral width = 22 mm; diameter at diaphysis = 13 mm.

2. Preserved proximodistal length = 33 mm; anteroposterior width of proximal end = 27 mm, dorsoventral width = 20 mm; diameter at diaphysis = 13 mm.

#### **ZIN PH 5/250, holotype of *Auroroborealia incogita* gen. et sp. nov., cranial measurements:**

##### Parabasisphenoid

Preserved maximum mediolateral width (at the level of the basiptyergoid process) = 30 (34 mm estimated when complete)

Preserved anteroposterior length = 34 mm

Mediolateral width posteriorly = 22 mm

Maximum height = 21 mm

Facet for the basioccipital mediolateral width = 21 mm; dorsoventral height = 20 mm

Basiptyergoid process: anteroposterior length = 17.5 mm; dorsoventral height = 10 mm

Diameter of the internal carotid foramen = 4 mm

##### Mandible

Preserved anteroposterior length = 65 mm

Posterior dorsoventral height = 21 mm

Dorsoventral height at the region of the anterior breakage = 16 mm

##### Hyoid

Anteroposterior length = 75 mm

Maximum thickness = 12.5 mm anteriorly and 7 mm at anteroposterior mid-length

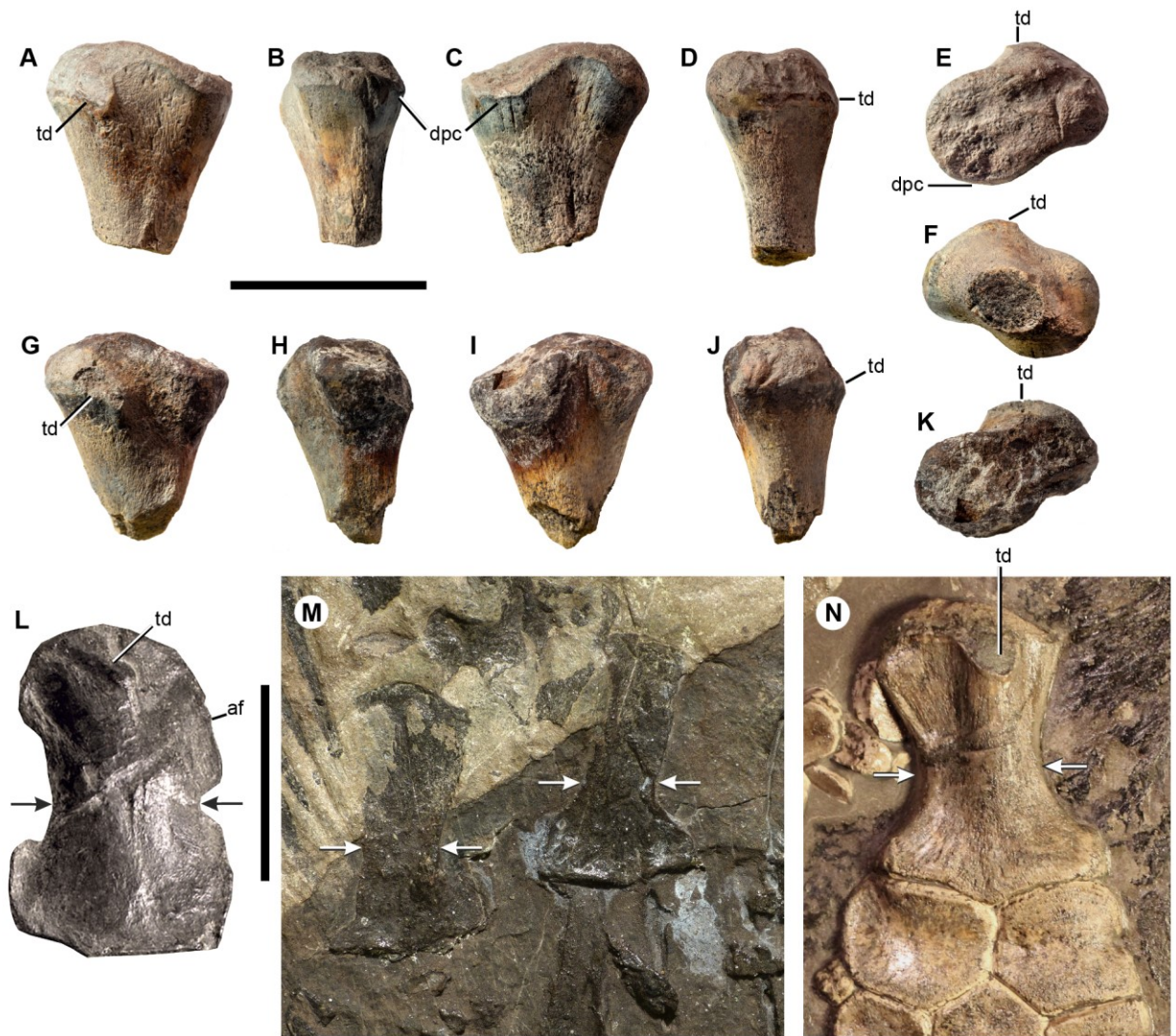
### **Description of ambiguously identified elements associated with ZIN PH 3/250.**

Two elements of uncertain nature are preserved in ZIN PH 3/250 (Fig. S1A–K). The shallow concavities present on the surfaces of these elements, giving them a slightly 8-shaped outline in proximal/distal view, suggests that they could represent rib heads from the posterior dorsal to anterior caudal region of a large ichthyosaur. However, the assumption that the association of bones belonging to a small individual(s) included two fragmentary rib heads of an incomparably larger ichthyosaur is counterintuitive, given that no other skeletal elements of any other large ichthyosaurian were collected from the locality of ZIN PH 3/250.

An alternative and more likely interpretation is that these elements represent proximal portions of propodial bones. If this interpretation is correct, the similar size and highly similar shape of the elements in question indicate that these are both either humeri, or femora, and both from the same side of the body, thus demonstrating that specimen ZIN PH 3/250 includes bones of at least two individuals. The outline of these propodials in proximal view is strikingly similar to what Motani (1999b) described as humeral ‘Morphotype 3’ present in parvipelvians. A small, but well-pronounced process originates close to what is likely the posterior part of the dorsoproximal surface of the bone and is obliquely oriented (Fig. S1A, G). In neoichthyosaurians, such a process, also originating close to the posterior surface and directed anterodistally, is termed the trochanter dorsalis (or dorsal process) (e.g. Johnson 1979). The dorsal process is considered non-homologous with any humeral structure present in more basal ichthyosaurians except toretocnemids, which also possess a dorsal process (Motani 1999b; Yang *et al.* 2013; Fig. S1L). A less pronounced process, located closer to the opposite side (likely the anterior part of the ventrorproximal surface) of the presumed propodials, in this regard, is consistent with the deltopectoral crest (Fig. S1B, C). In neoichthyosaurians, the deltopectoral crest, compared to the trochanter dorsalis, is similarly oriented parallel to the proximodistal axis, and located close to the anterior surface of the humerus (Motani 1999b). Both the anterior and posterior surfaces of the presumed propodials of ZIN PH 3/250 are gently convex and the proximal end is slightly 8-shaped in outline, resembling the humeri of e.g. *Stenopterygius* (e.g. Johnson 1979, fig. 14f) and *Ichthyosaurus* (e.g. Motani, 1999b, fig. 2C). In the majority of non-parvipelvic ichthyosaurians, as well as in some basal parvipelvians, the humeri have an anterior flange (Fig. 9L), and their posterior flanges are markedly dorsoventrally compressed, forming a sharp posterior margin (see e.g. Motani 1999b; McGowan & Motani 2003). Judging from the cross-sections, the shaft (Fig. S1F) of the likely propodial elements of ZIN PH 3/250 was very slender, unlike in any other Triassic ichthyosaurian, perhaps except *Hudsonelpidia*, but a direct comparison is difficult because the only known humeri of *Hudsonelpidia* are preserved as parasagittal sections (Fig. S1M; McGowan 1995). The irregularly pitted, likely proximal surface of the presumed propodials is

demarcated by a well-developed ridge, extending along the entire circumference of the bones, similar to that present in some parvipelvians (Fig. S1N). Furthermore, the likely anterior portion of the proximal surface of the presumed propodial forms an obtuse angle with its posterior portion (Fig. S1A, C, G, I), a condition also present in parvipelvian humeri (e.g. *Ichthyosaurus* [Motani, 1999b, fig. 2F, I]; *Stenopterygius* [Johnson 1979, fig. 14a, b]). In contrast, Triassic ichthyosaurian rib heads form a gently convex or approximately flat articular surfaces, that are not demarcated from the rest of the bone by a well-developed ridge (Fig. 2Q–Z; *Shonisaurus sikanniensis*, TMP 94.378.2 [ASW pers. obs. April 2015]; *Besanosaurus leptorhynchus*, PIMUZ T 4376 [ASW pers. obs. March 2016]; *Macgowania janiceps*, TMP 2009.121.1 [ASW pers. obs. April 2015]).

When compared to ichthyosaurian femora, the outline of these propodials in proximal view is markedly different from that in all hitherto described taxa (e.g. Merriam 1908; Camp 1980; Maxwell *et al.* 2012). However, the slenderness of the shaft in these propodials is similar to the condition observed in a number of ichthyosaurian femora from the Triassic (e.g. Merriam 1903, 1908; Camp 1980; Nicholls & Manabe 2001; Maxwell *et al.* 2012; Yang *et al.* 2013). In case the propodials of ZIN PH 3/250 actually represent femora, the more pronounced process should be interpreted as the ventral process, as the ventral process is commonly better developed than the dorsal process in femora of Triassic and Early Jurassic taxa (Maxwell *et al.* 2012). However, given the present state of knowledge of the anatomy of propodial elements in ichthyosaurians, humeral attribution of these propodials seems more plausible. Unfortunately, only the two-dimensional anatomy of the propodials of toretocnemids and early-diverging parvipelvians is currently known due to the lack of well-preserved, three-dimensional fossils, which hinders detailed comparisons. Because we were not able to confidently identify the elements in question as either rib heads or proximal parts of propodials, we exclude them from the hypodigm of *A. incognita*.



**Fig. S1.** Elements under question (A–K) interpreted as propodial bones in comparison with humeri of the toretocnemid *Qianichthysaurus xingyiensis* (L), modified from Jiang *et al.* (2020), and parvipelvians *Hudsonelpidia brevirostris* (holotype ROM 41993) (M) and *Stenopterygius quadriscissus* (specimen MB R 4008) (N). Views are: dorsal (A, G, L, N), anterior (B, H), ventral (C, I), posterior (D, J), proximal (E, K) and distal (cross-sectional, F). Abbreviations: af, anterior flange; dpc, deltopectoral crest; td, trochanter dorsalis; MB, Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin, Germany. Arrows indicate the narrowest region of the humeral shaft. Scale bars represent 3 cm.

**Table S2.** Global record of Carnian and Norian ichthyosaurs

Locality	Locality No	Litostratigraphic unit, age	Taxa	Reference
Shasta County, California, USA	1	Hosselkus Limestone, Carnian	<i>Toretocnemus californicus</i> ; <i>T. zitteli</i> ; <i>Californosaurus perrini</i> ; <i>Shastasaurus pacificus</i> ; <i>Shonisaurus</i> sp.	Merriam 1895, 1902, 1903, 1908; Motani 1999a
Shoshone Mts. and Pilot Mt., Nevada, USA	2	Luning Formation, shaly limestone member, late Carnian	<i>Shonisaurus popularis</i>	Camp 1976, 1980; McGowan & Motani 1999
El Antimonio district, Sonora, Mexico	3	upper Carnian interval of the Antimonio Formation	<i>Toretocnemus</i> sp.; <i>Shonisaurus</i> sp.	Callaway & Massare 1989b; Lucas & González-León 1995; Lucas 2002; Motani 1999a
Hopen, Svalbard	4	? De Geerdalen Formation, Carnian–early Norian	“remains of a large ichthyosaur”	Cox & Smith 1973
Mt. Potts, mid-Canterbury, New Zealand	5	Tories se Supergroup, Daonella Zone; early Carnian	Ichthyosauria indet. including a gigantic ?shastasaurid	Fordyce 1982; Fleming et al. 1971; Campbell 1965; Zammit 2010
Otamita Stream, Hokonui Hills, Southland, New Zealand	6	Mandeville Sandstone, upper Carnian	?Shastasauridae	Fordyce 1982; Fleming et al. 1971; Campbell 1965
Kiritehere coast, New Zealand	7	upper Carnian to lower Norian	Ichthyosauria indet.	Sachs & Grant-Mackie 2003
Roaring Bay, South Otago, New Zealand	8	Carnian	Ichthyosauria indet.	Zammit 2010
Omolon Massif, Russian Far East	9	Carnian	indeterminate large and gigantic ?shastasaurids	Ochev & Polubotko, 1964; Polubotko & Ochev 1972
Carinthia, Austria	10	<i>Cardita</i> -Schichten, Carnian	large shastasaurid “ <i>Shastasaurus carinthiacus</i> ”	Huene 1925
Rifugio Dibona, Tofane, Veneto Region, Italy	11	Dürrenstein Fm, earliest Tuvalian base of the late Carnian	large shastasaurid cf. <i>Shonisaurus</i>	Dalla Vecchia & Avanzini 2002
Sicily, Italy	12	Mufara Fm, upper Carnian, Tuvalian substage	small Ichthyosauria indet.	Dal Sasso et al. 2014

Manzanera, Teruel, Spain	13	Keuper levels, Carnian	Ichthyosauria indet.	de Miguel Chaves et al. 2015
Guanling area, Guizhou Province, People's Republic of China	14	Xiaowa Formation (also known as the Wayao Member of the Falang Fm. or as the Wayao Fm.), lower Carnian	<i>Qianichthysaurus zhoui</i> ; ' <i>Callawayia wolonggangense</i> '; <i>Ghuizhouichthysaurus tangae</i> ; <i>Typicusichthysaurus tsaihuae</i> (species inquirenda); <i>Guanlingsaurus liangae</i>	e.g. Li 1999; Yin et al. 2000; Wang et al. 2006; Chen et al., 2007; Ji et al. 2016
New Siberian Islands		lower Carnian	<b>Euichthyosauria indet.</b> (small); <b>Ichthyosauria indet.</b> (medium); <b>Shastasauridae indet.</b> (large)	herein
Xixabangma Feng, Dingri district and Qomolangma Feng (Mt. Everest) region, Nyanang, Xizang (Tibet), China	15	Langjiexue Group, Norian	<i>Himalayasaurus tibetensis</i> ; <i>Tibetosaurus tingjiensis</i> (possible synonym of the former)	Dong 1972, 1980; Yang et al. 1982; Motani et al. 1999; Li 2006
New Caledonia	16	Ouamoui Formation and Leprédour Shellbeds (early Norian)	Ichthyosauria indet.; ? cf. <i>Shonisaurus</i> sp.	Campbell 1984; Mazin 1985; Zammit 2010
Igandzhi River basin (Arman' River tributary), Russian Far East	17	Norian	Ichthyosauria indet.	Riabinin 1946
Burgagchan River, (Korkodon River tributary), Russian Far East	18	lower Norian	Ichthyosauria indet.	Ochev & Polubotko 1964
Omolon River basin, Russian Far East	19	upper Norian–Rhaetian	Ichthyosauria indet.	Ochev & Polubotko 1964
Hidden Creek, Wrangell Mts., Alaska, USA	20	Nizina Limestone, Norian	Indet. small ichthyosaur	Callaway & Massare 1989a
Western Brooks Range of Alaska, USA	21	Otuk limestone member, late Norian	Large ?shastasaurid	Tailleux et al. 1983; Druckenmiller et al., 2014
Wallowa Mountains of	22	Martin Bridge Limestone, Norian	<i>Shastasaurus</i> sp.	Orr & Katsura 1985; Orr 1986

north-eastern Oregon, USA				
Varney Bay area, Rupert Inlet, Vancouver Is., British Columbia, Canada	23	Quatsino Formation, Norian	Ichthyosauria indet.	Callaway & Massare 1989a with a ref. to W. Orr & G. Stanley pers. comm. 1988
Several localities in northeastern British Columbia, Canada	24	Pardonet Formation, Norian	<i>Hudsonelpidia brevirostris</i> ; <i>Macgowania janiceps</i> ; <i>Callawayia neoscapularis</i> ; <i>Shonisaurus sikanniensis</i>	McGowan 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997; Nicholls & Manabe 2001, 2004; Henderson 2015
Lahnwiesgraben near Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Bavaria, Germany	25	Kössen Formation, Hochalm Member, upper Norian	Large shastasaurid	Karl et al. 2014
Graubünden Canton and National Park region, Switzerland	26	Kössen Formation, Norian to Rhaetian	Large shastasaurid	Callaway & Massare 1989a
Hound Island, southeastern Alaska, USA	27	Hound Island Volcanics, <i>Epigondolella postera</i> Conodont Zone, middle Norian	<i>Shonisaurus</i> sp. cf. <i>Macgowania</i> cf. <i>Hudsonelpidia</i>	Adams 2009
New Siberian Islands		Lower and ?middle Norian	<i>Auroraborealia incognita</i> <b>gen. et sp. nov.</b> (small); Euichthyosauria indet. (medium); Ichthyosauria indet (medium); <b>Shastasauridae indet.</b> (large)	herein

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