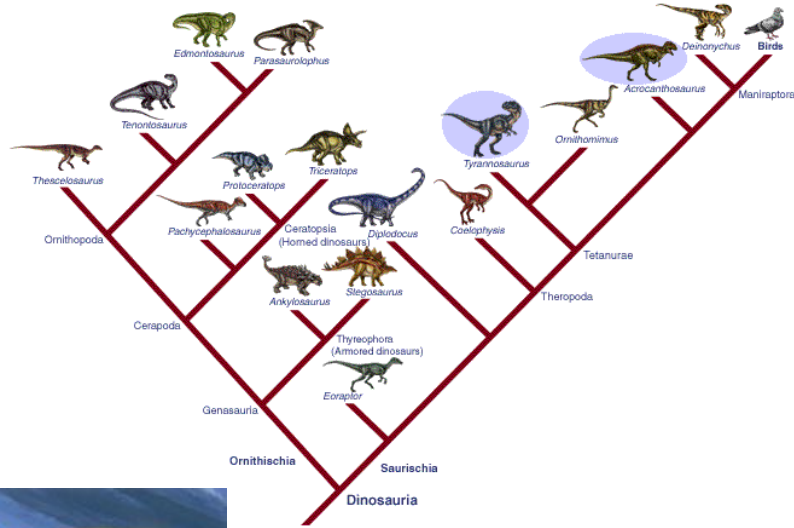
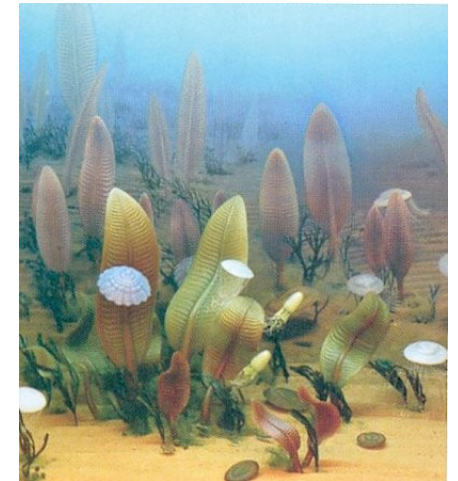


# HISTORY OF LIFE ON EARTH



Asteroid Impact

David A. Hardy



# Systematics and taxonomy

systematics, paleontology → history of evolutionary changes

**systematics** = study of relationships between organisms

**taxonomy** = theory and practice of classification

**category**: class, order, family, species, ...

**taxon**: Mammalia, Primates, Hominidae, *Homo sapiens*, ...

# 1. Before Linnaeus

honeybee = *Apis pubescens, thorace subgriseo, abdomine fusco, pedibus posticis glabris utrinque margine ciliatis*

[Bee with soft short hairs, gray chest, dark brown abdomen, legs with no hair, and small sacs with hair-like outgrowths along the edge]

*Acaciae quodammodo accedens, Myrobalano chebulo Veslingii similis arbor Americana spinosa, foliis ceratoniae in pediculo geminatis, siliqua bivalvi compressa corniculata seu cochlearum vel arietinorum cornuum in modum incurvata, sive Unguis cati*

[A spiny American tree, in some way resembling Acacia, similar to Vesling's *Myrobalanus chebulae*, with *Ceratonia* leaves in pairs on the pedicle, a silique with two valves, which is compressed, and horn-shaped or curved like the horns of snailshells or ram's horns, or like a cat's claws]

European bison = buffle, urus, bubalus, catoblepas, theur, the bubalus of Belon, Scottish bison

... Aristotle: bonasus → the same?



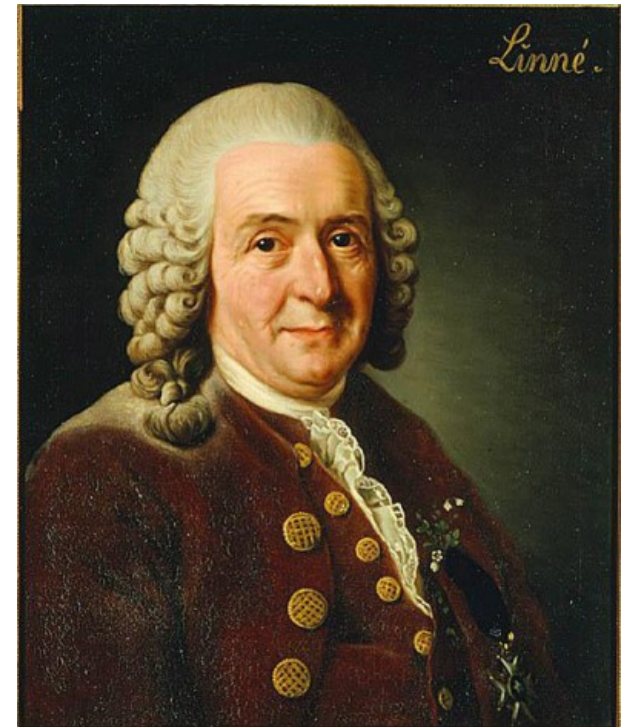
## 2. Carolus Linnaeus:

1735 *Systema Naturae*

binomial nomenclature: genus + species

hierarchical classification:

kingdom, class, order, genus, species,  
(variety/subspecies)



Carolus Linnaeus

### 3. Darwin:

cladogenesis (branching) and anagenesis (change without branching)

a system should reflect a real phylogeny → but HOW?

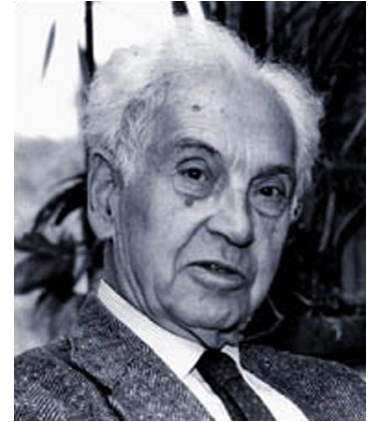
### Evolutionary systematics

before 1950: common ancestor + adaptive divergence

discussions if adaptive or neutral traits better

subjective and unclear criteria of choosing and weighing of traits ⇒  
taxonomy in crisis (⇒ the word „taxonomy“ itself replaced by  
„systematics“)

controversy between splitters and lumpers



E. Mayr

# Numerical taxonomy (phenetics)

1957: Charles Michener, Robert Sokal, P.H.A. Sneath



*Hoplitis*

taxonomy should be based on a total similarity rather than on a small number of „important“ traits

⇒ as many traits as possible

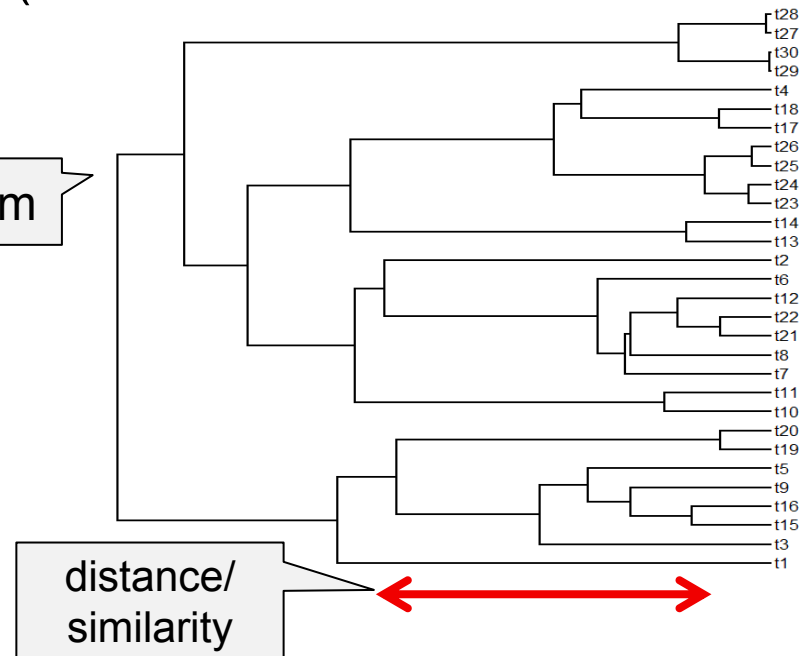
numerical methods: morphological and genetic distances, ordination (PCA, DFA, CVA, MDS, ...), cluster analysis (UPGMA)

phenograms

problems:

- homoplasy (= convergence, parallelism, reversion)
- shared primitive (ancestral) traits
- unequal rate of evolution

phenogram



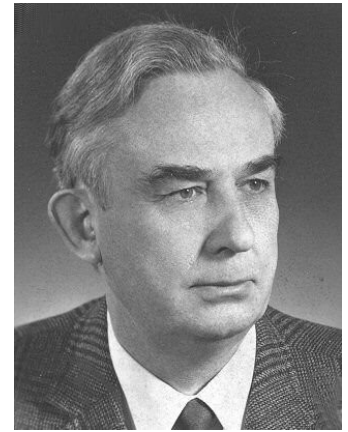
# Phylogenetic systematics (cladistics)

1950, 1966: **Willi Hennig**: *Phylogenetic Systematics*

only genealogies, not adaptive divergence

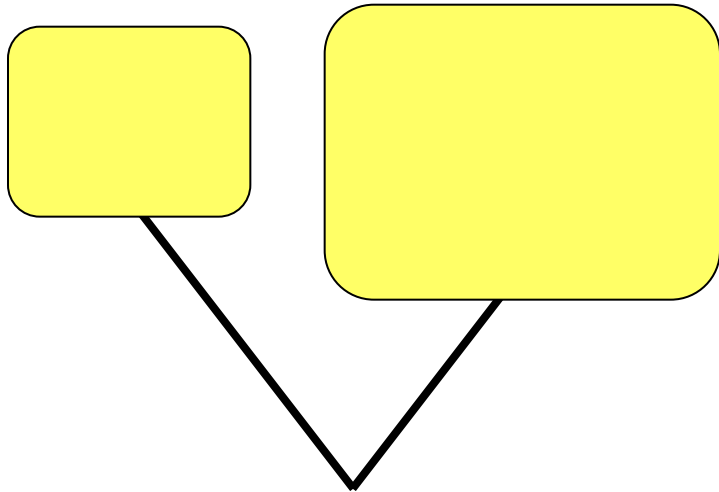
strict monophyly

monophyletic group = **clade**

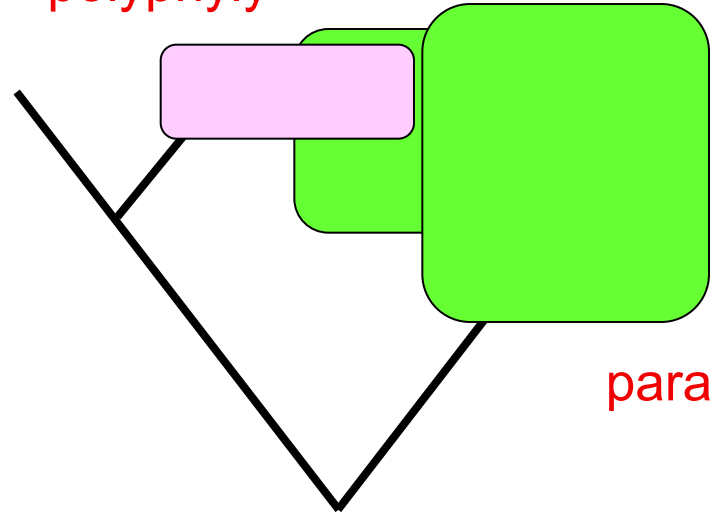


W. Hennig

monophyly



polyphyly



paraphyly

Synapsida

savci

Parareptilia

želvy

Plesiosaoria

Ichthyosauria

haterie

leguáni

agamy

chameleoni

hadi

Mosasauria

varani

krokodýli

Pterosauria

Ornithischia

Sauropoda

ostatní teropodi

ptáci

Sphenodontida

Squamata

Lepidosauria

Diapsida

Eureptilia

Reptilia

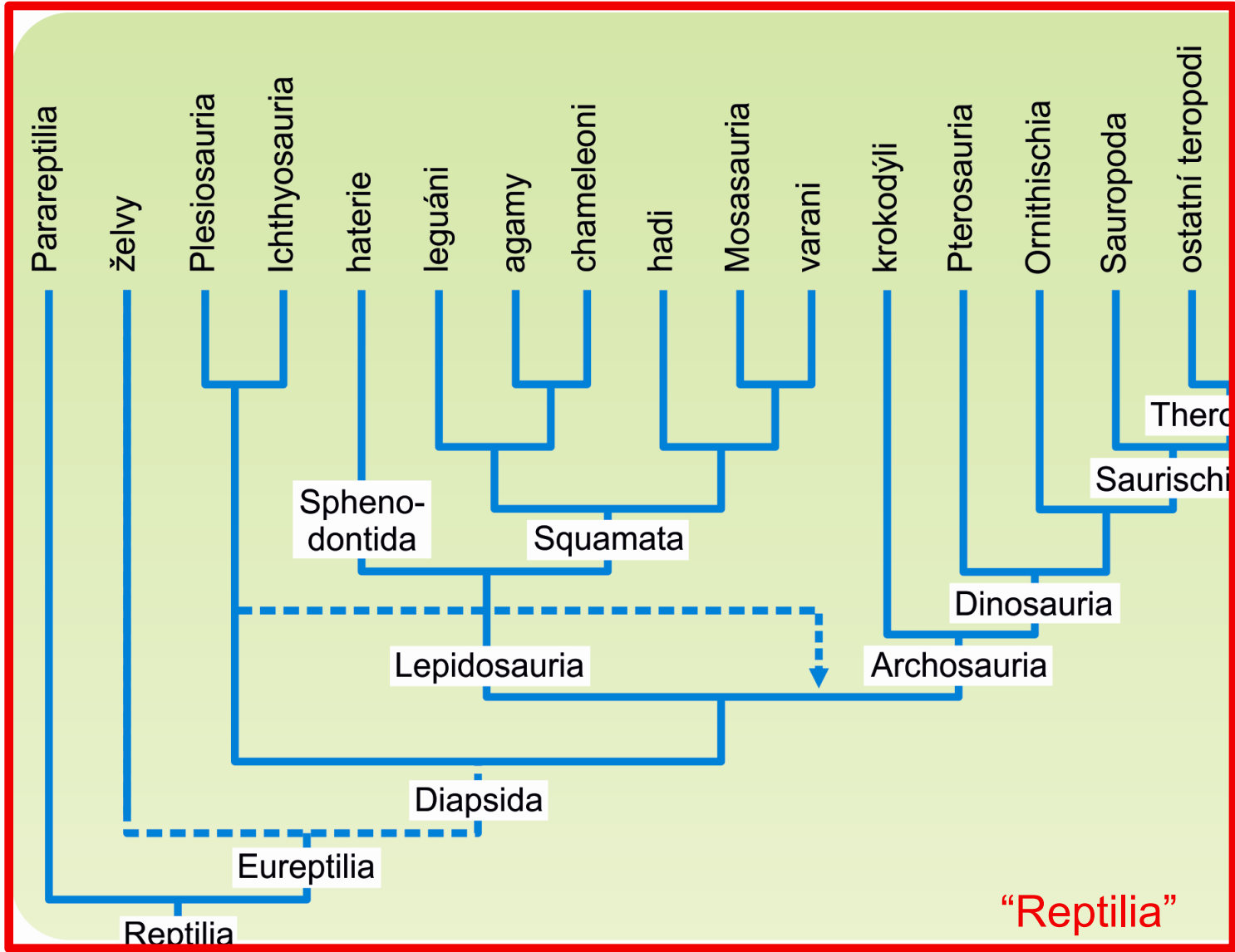
Dinosauria

Archosauria

“Reptilia”

Theropoda

Saurischia





# “Pongidae”



Orangutan  
48 chromosomes  
(24 pairs)



Gorilla  
48 chromosomes  
(24 pairs)



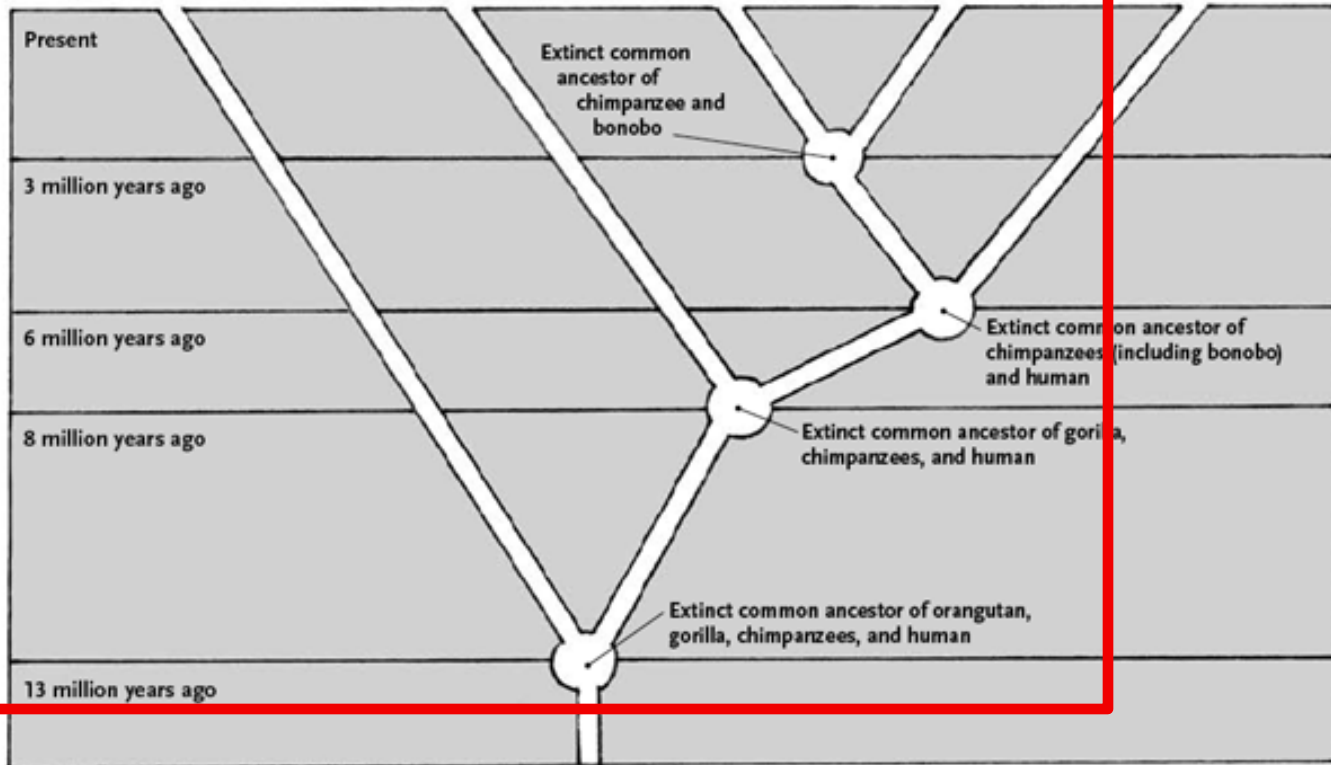
Chimpanzee  
48 chromosomes  
(24 pairs)



Bonobo  
48 chromosomes  
(24 pairs)



Human  
46 chromosomes  
(23 pairs)



characters:

**plesiomorphic** (= ancestral, „primitive“)

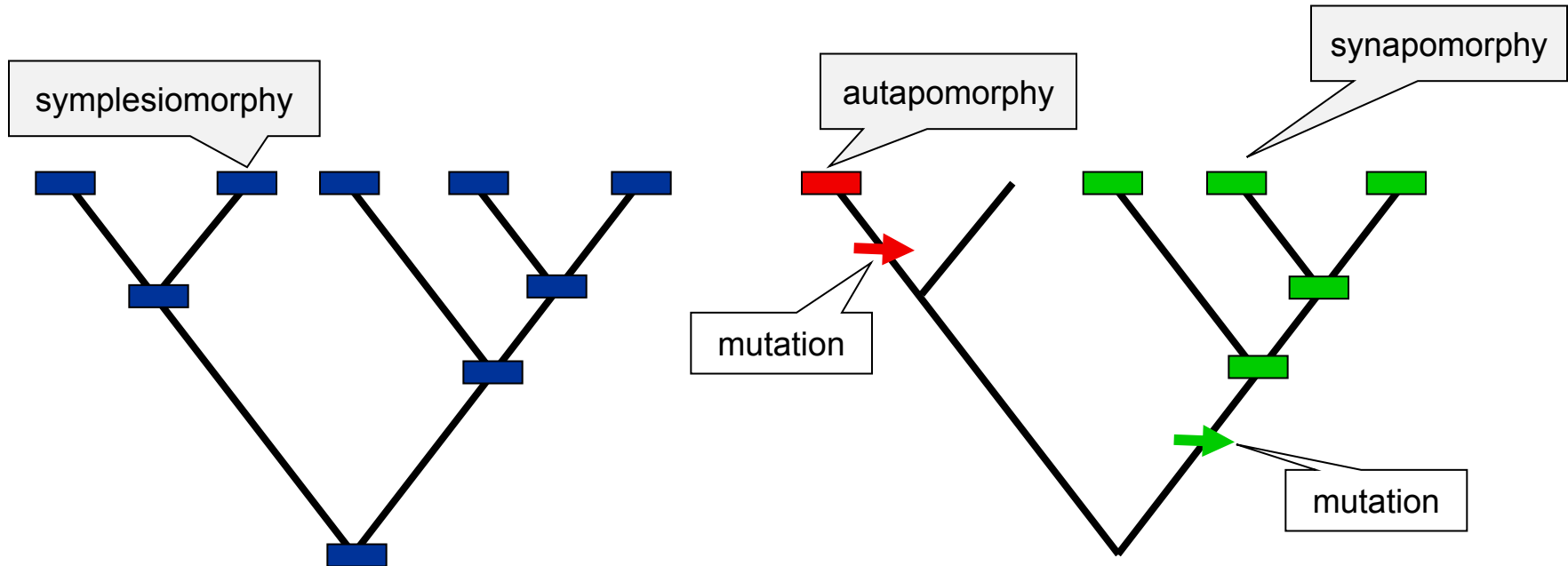
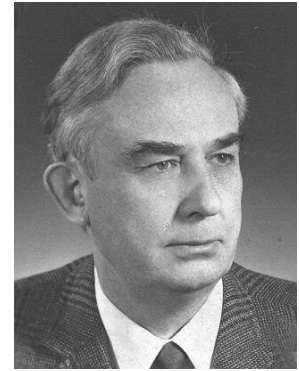
symplesiomorphic (= shared ancestral)

**apomorphic** (= derived)

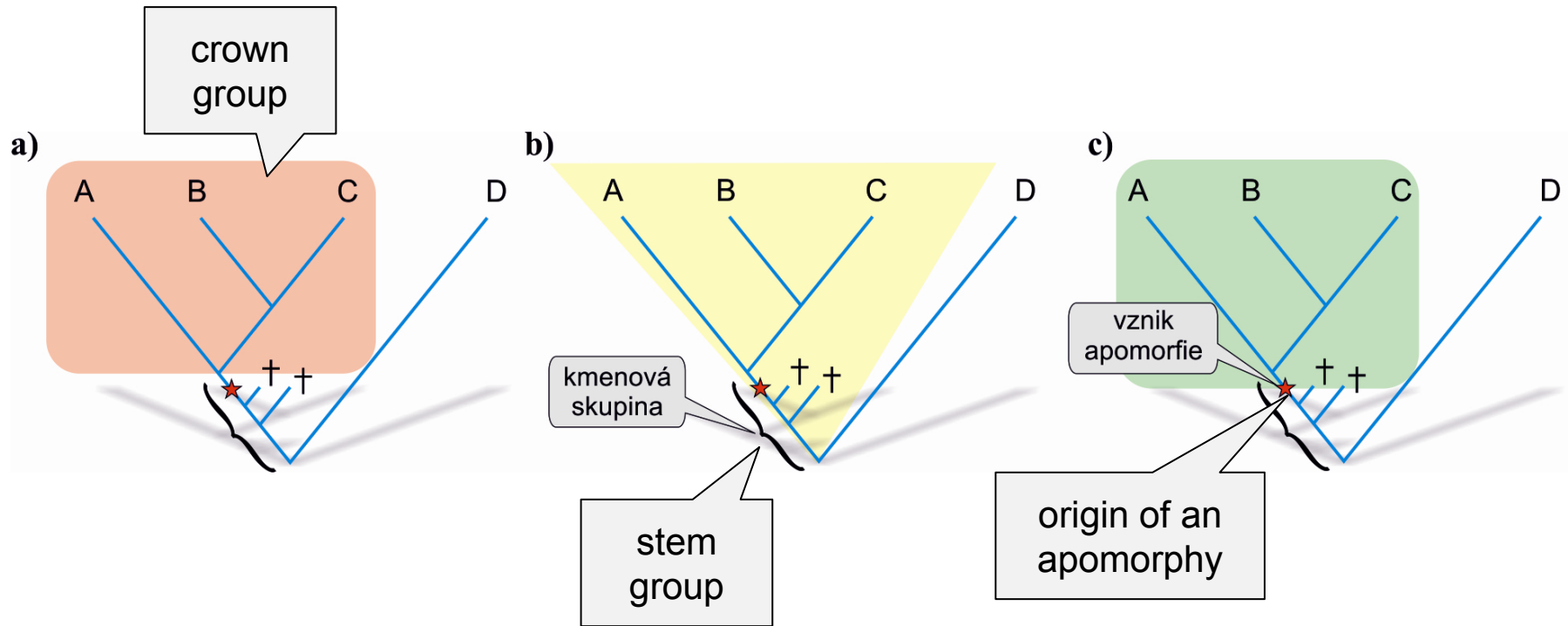
synapomorphic (= shared derived)

autapomorphic (= unique derived)

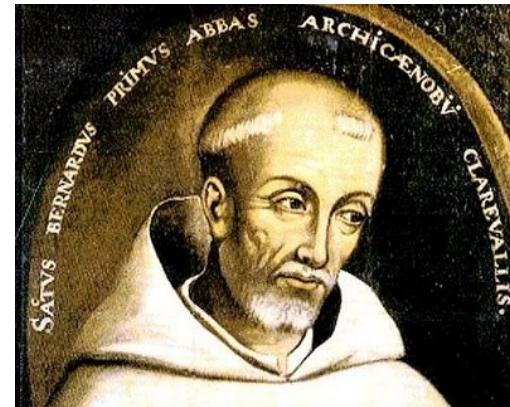
clades defined only by synapomorphies



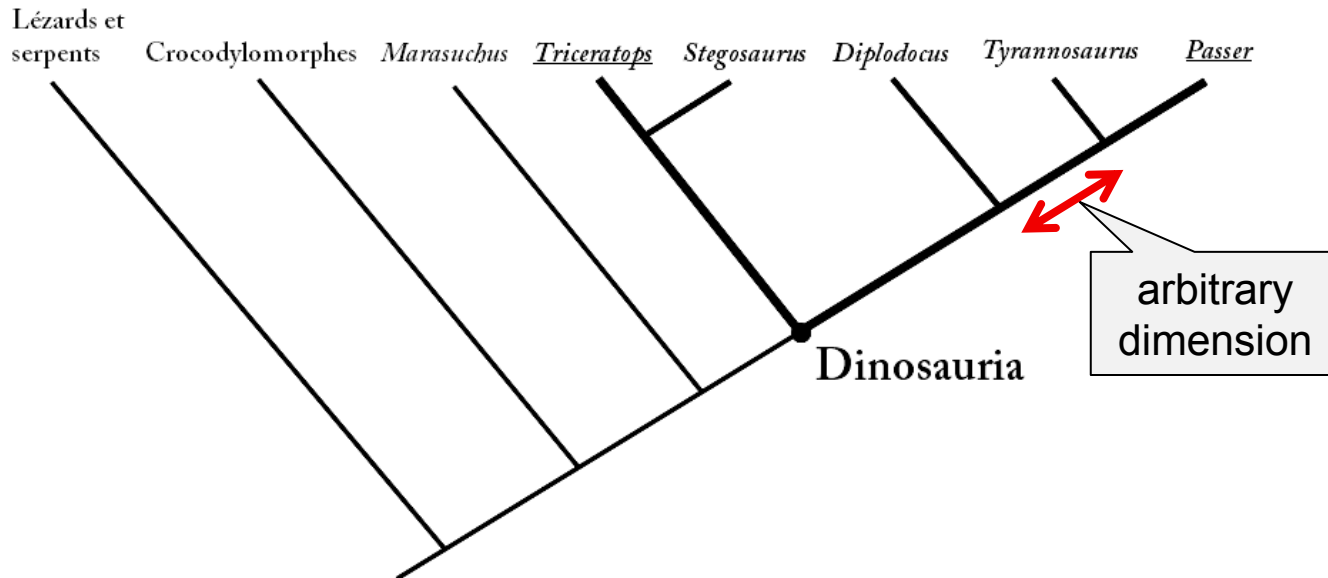
# Definition of clades and classification of extinct taxa:



principle of parsimony: Occam's razor  
(William of Ockham, 14th century)



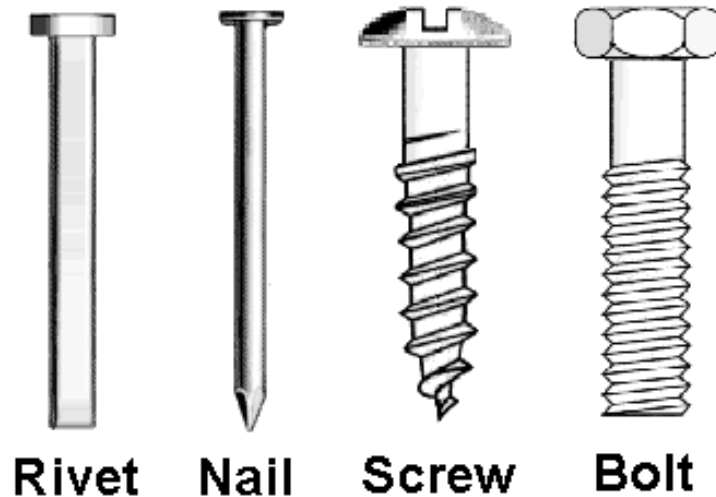
cladograms



PhyloCode (*International Code of Phylogenetic Nomenclature*)  
till now somewhat controversial and impractical

problems: homoplasy, rapid evolution

# Cladistics and phenetics exemplified by the „evolution“ of fasteners



Rivet: the simplest structure  $\Rightarrow$  we suppose that it is the most similar to the common ancestor of all modern types of fasteners

We can define 7 derived character states (ie. those nonexistent in rivets):

- 1) notched heads,
- 2) rounded heads,
- 3) hex heads,
- 4) threaded shafts,
- 5) tapered shafts,
- 6) pointed tips,
- and 7) thick diameter.

# Cladistics and phenetics exemplified by the „evolution“ of fasteners

Character states of all 4 types are listed in the following table where

„0“ = plesiomorphic („rivet-like“) state

„1“ = apomorphic (derived) state

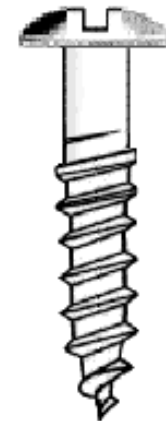
Character	Rivet	Nail	Screw	Bolt
Head notch	0	0	1	0
Rounded head	0	0	1	0
Hex head	0	0	0	1
Threaded shaft	0	0	1	1
Tapered shaft	0	0	1	0
Pointed tip	0	1	1	0
Thick diameter	0	0	1	1



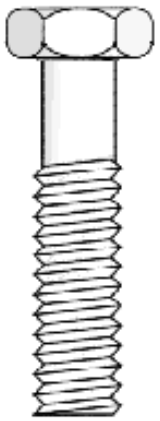
**Rivet**



**Nail**



**Screw**



**Bolt**

# Cladistics and phenetics exemplified by the „evolution“ of fasteners

Character	Rivet	Nail	Screw	Bolt
Head notch			1	0
Rounded head			1	0
Hex head			0	1
Threaded shaft			1	1
Tapered shaft			1	0
Pointed tip			1	0
Thick diameter			1	1

Phenetic Comparison (Total of all shared states)				
	Rivet	Nail	Screw	Bolt
Rivet	-	6	1	4
Nail		-	2	3
Screw			-	2
Bolt				-

If we use the **phenetic** approach we count the total number of shared states (both ancestral and derived).

For example rivet vs. nail: 6 similarities, 1 difference

# Cladistics and phenetics exemplified by the „evolution“ of fasteners

Character	Rivet	Nail	Screw	Bolt
Head notch	0	0	1	0
Rounded head	0	0	1	0
Hex head	0	0	0	1
Threaded shaft	0	0	0	0
Tapered shaft	0	0	1	0
Pointed tip	0	0	0	0
Thick diameter	0	0	0	0

Cladistic Comparison (Total of derived states only)				
	Rivet	Nail	Screw	Bolt
Rivet	-	0	0	0
Nail		-	1	0
Screw			-	2
Bolt				-

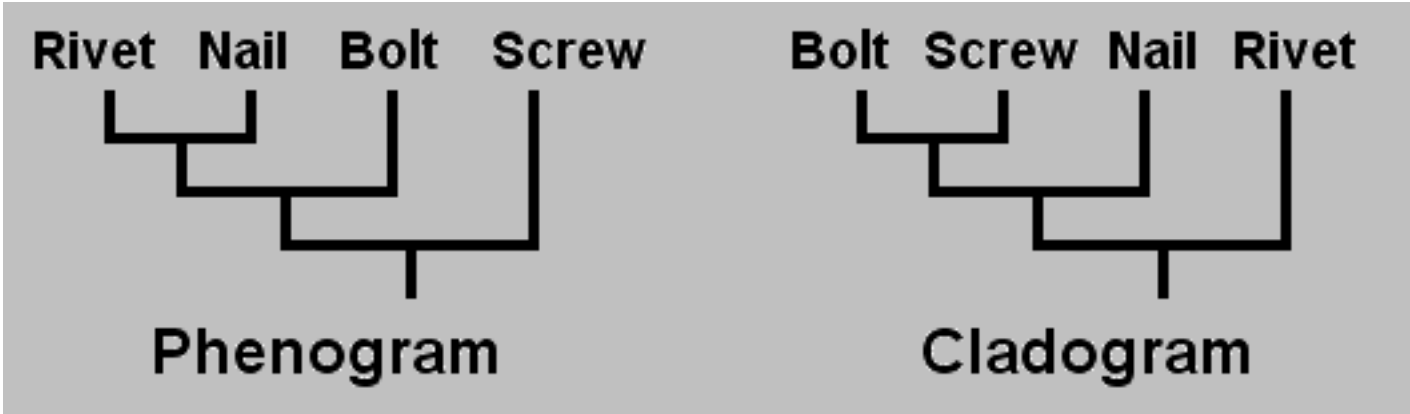
If we use the **cladistic** approach we take into account only shared derived states.

For example, screw vs. bolt: 2 **synapomorphies**



# Cladistics and phenetics exemplified by the „evolution“ of fasteners

Phenetic Comparison (Total of all shared states)					Cladistic Comparison (Total of derived states only)				
	Rivet	Nail	Screw	Bolt		Rivet	Nail	Screw	Bolt
Rivet	-	6	1	4	Rivet	-	0	0	0
Nail		-	2	3	Nail		-	1	0
Screw			-	2	Screw			-	2
Bolt				-	Bolt				-



## Evolutionary systematics – a response

phylogenetic relationships + degree of divergence  $\Rightarrow$  combination of phenetic and cladistic approach

reflection of both clades and grades

An evolutionary grade is a group of similar species that has given rise to another group that differs markedly from the ancestral condition, and is thus not considered part of the ancestral group.

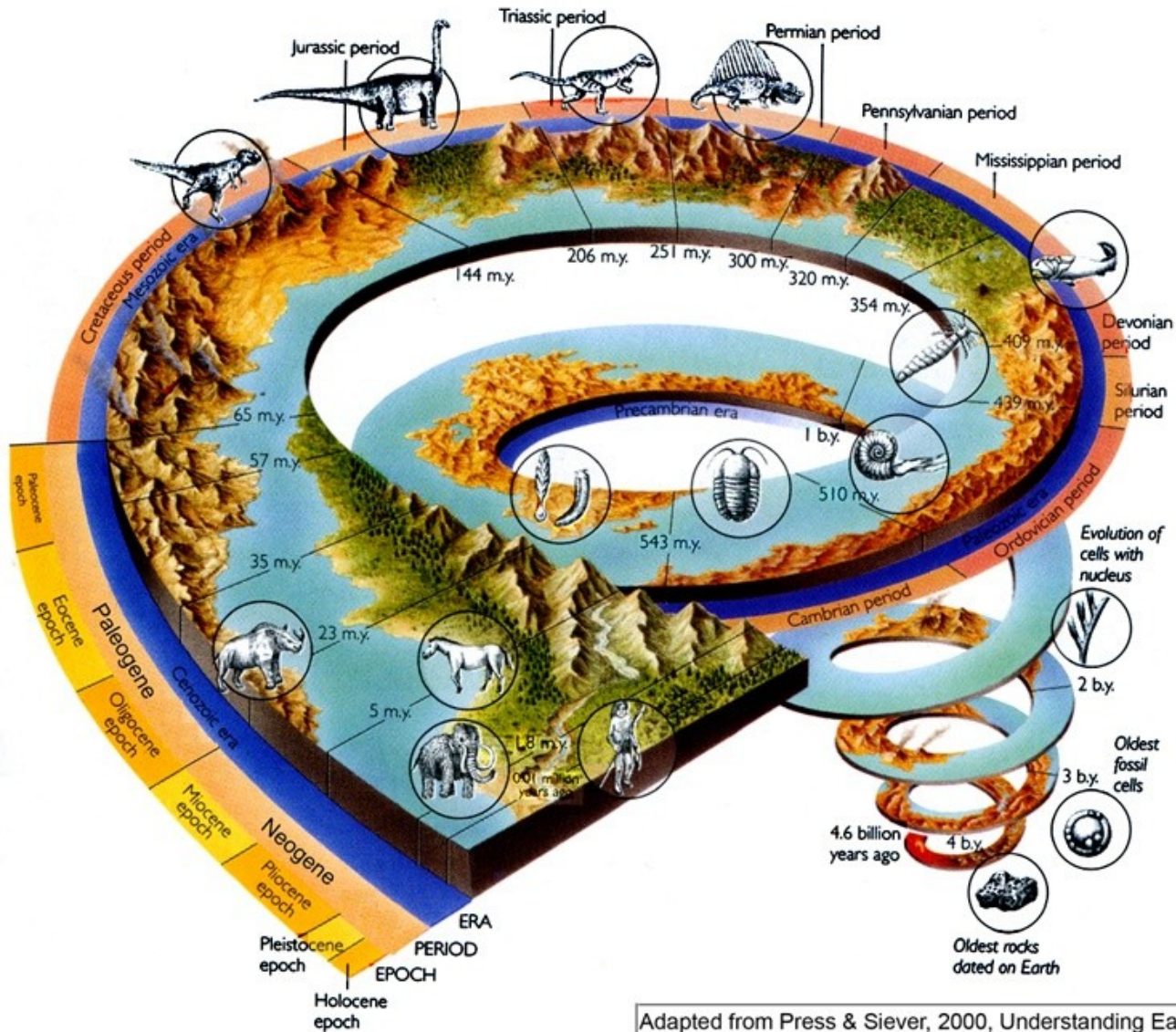
$\Rightarrow$  the ancestral group is then paraphyletic

eg. reptiles (without birds),  
fishes in a traditional sense

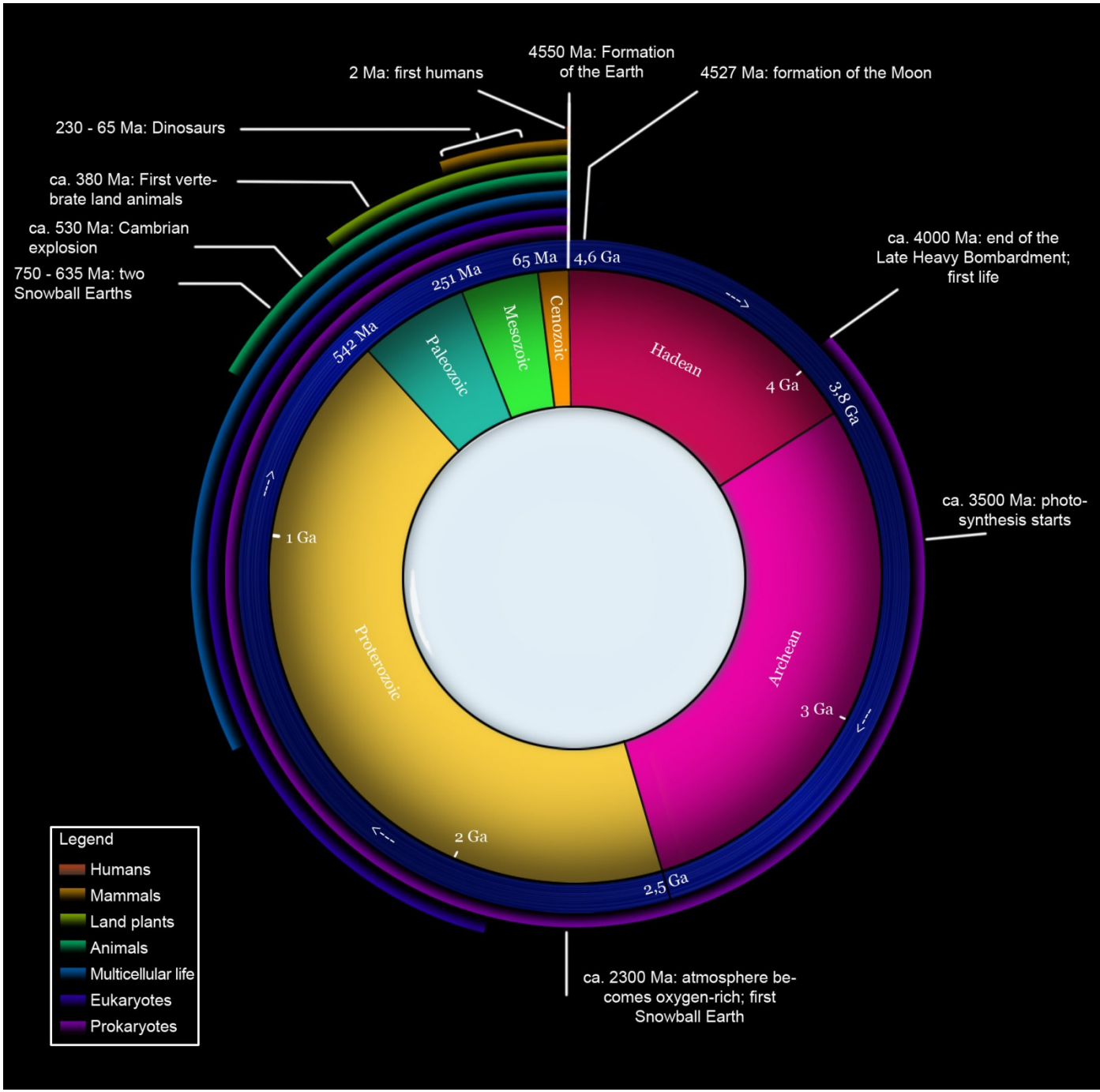


E. Mayr

# HISTORY OF LIFE ON EARTH

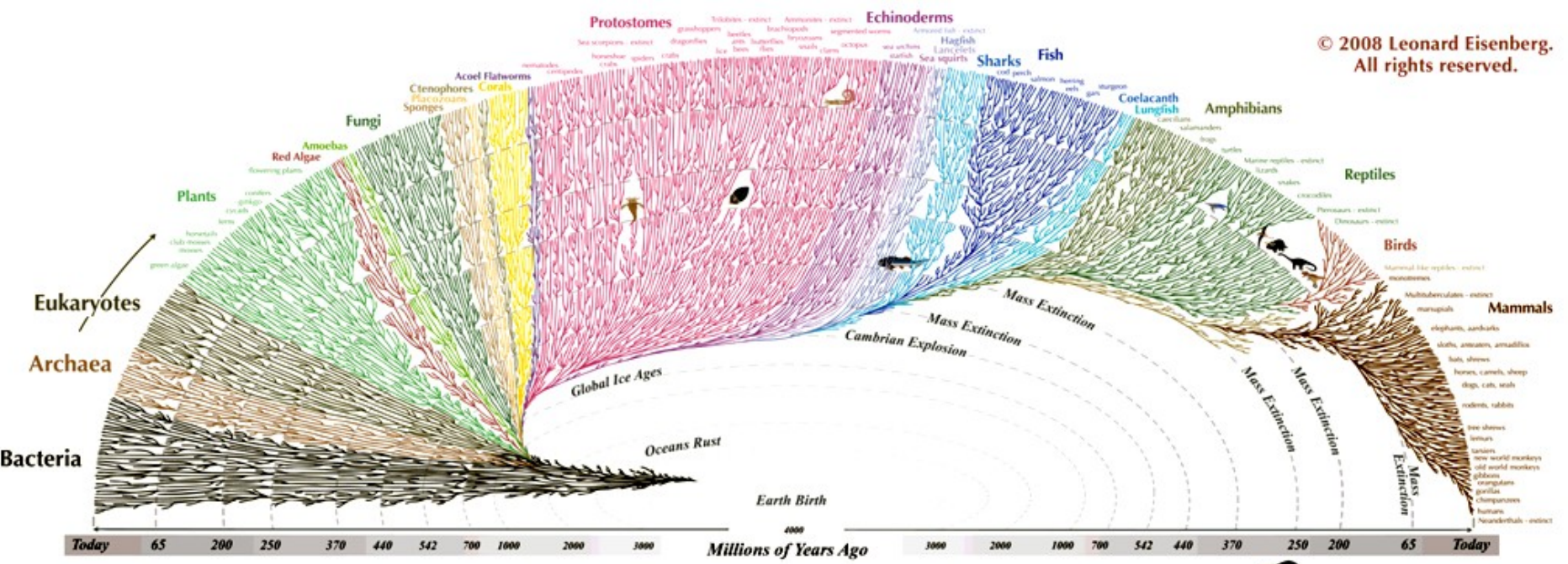



Adapted from Press & Siever, 2000, Understanding Earth



- Legend**
- Humans
  - Mammals
  - Land plants
  - Animals
  - Multicellular life
  - Eukaryotes
  - Prokaryotes

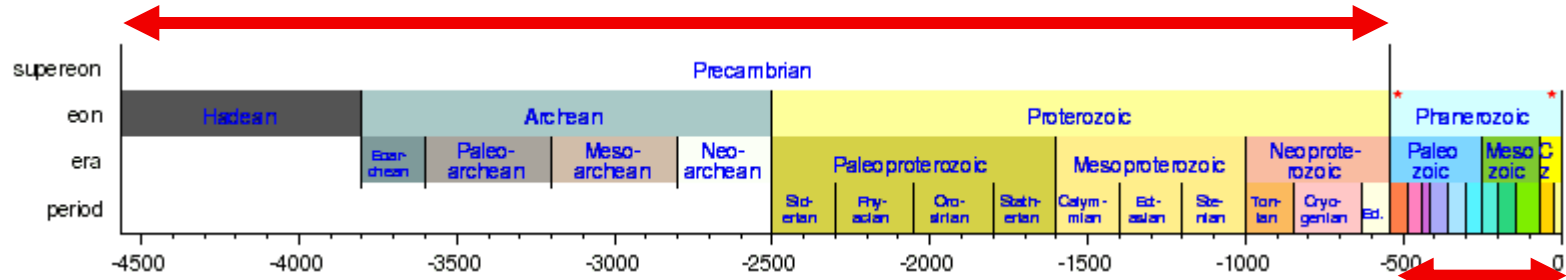
© 2008 Leonard Eisenberg.  
All rights reserved.



All the major and many of the minor living branches of life are shown on this diagram, but only a few of those that have gone extinct are shown. Example: Dinosaurs - extinct 

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evgenia.com

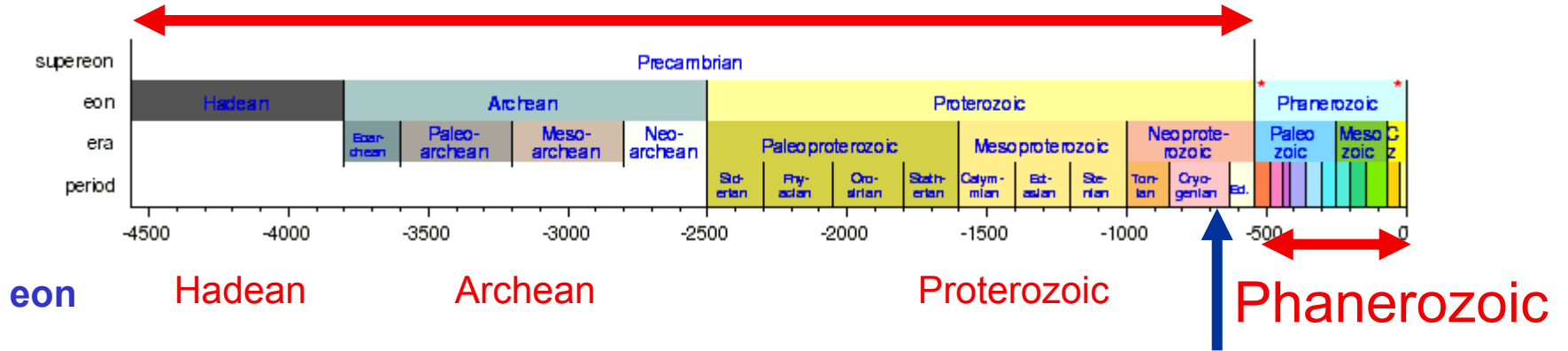
# Precambrian



eon Hadean Archean Proterozoic Phanerozoic

EON	ERA	PERIOD	MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO	KEY EVENTS	
Phanerozoic	Caenozoic	Quaternary	1.6	Humans evolve	
		Tertiary			
	Mesozoic	Cretaceous	138	Extinction of Dinosaurs	
		Jurassic			
		Triassic			
	Paleozoic	Permian	240	Permian mass extinction	
		Carboniferous	330		
		Devonian	410	Invertebrates become common	
		Silurian			
		Ordovician	500		
		Cambrian			
	Proterozoic	Also known as Precambrian	3500		Earliest life
	Archean				
Hadean					

# Precambrian



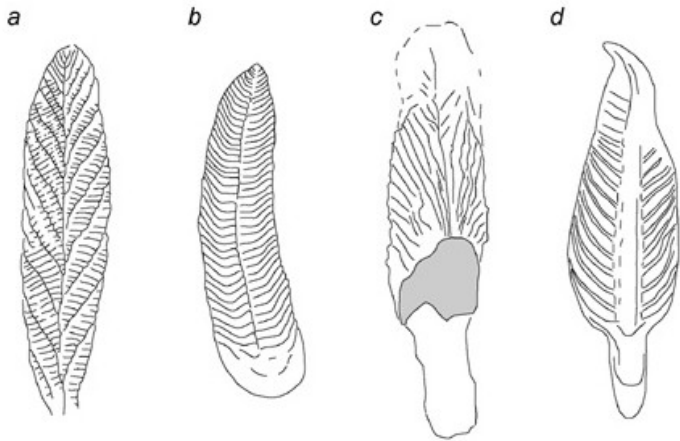
Ediacaran (Vendian) fauna  
~635-542 M



Charnwood, Leicestershire  
~ 560 M

Mistaken Point, Newfoundland  
~ 565 M





*Charnia*

*Charnia*

*Spriggina*

*Stromatoveris*

*Thaumaptilon*



Ediacara Hills,  
Australia



*Spriggina*

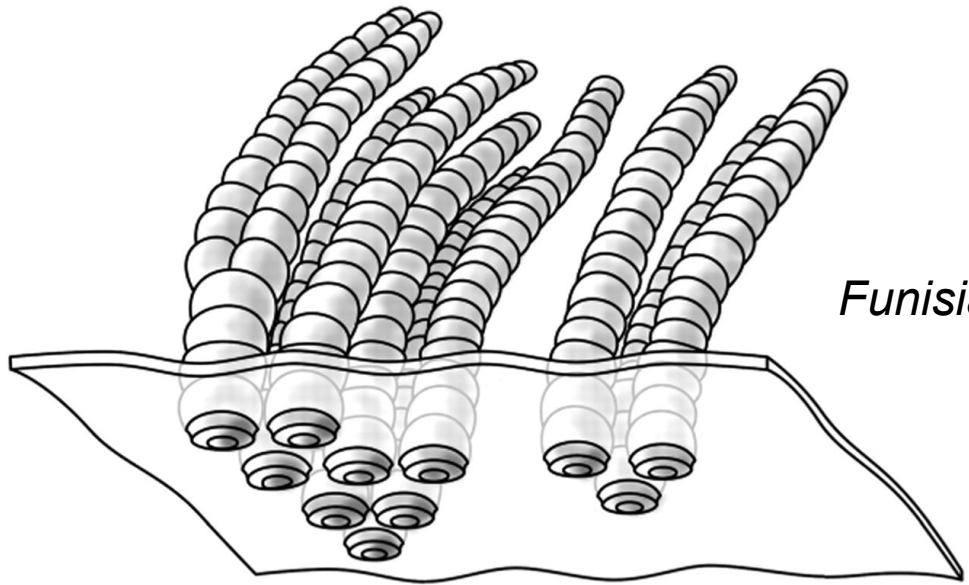
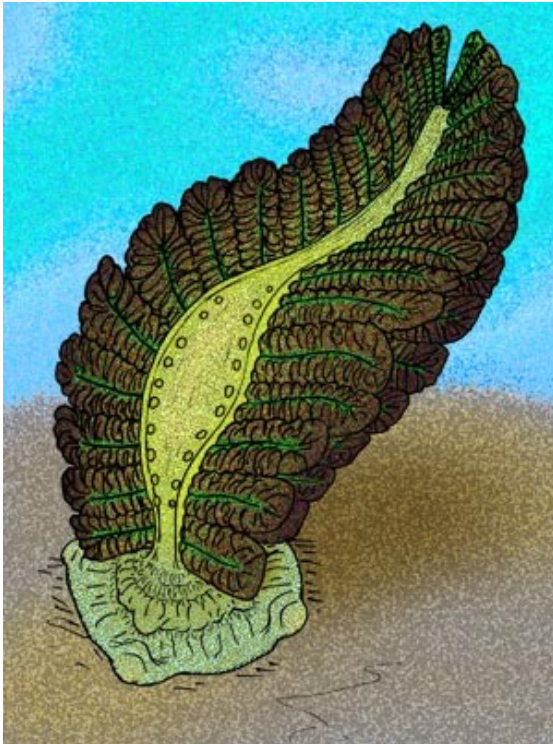


*Dickinsonia*  
~ 580 M



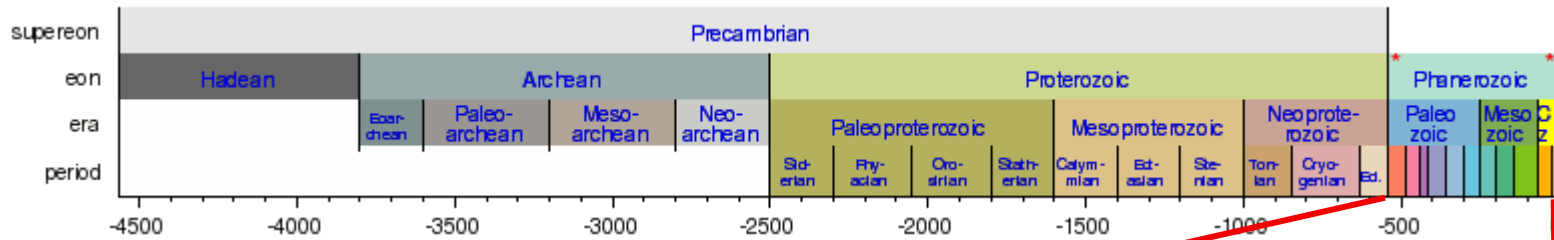


*Spriggina*



*Funisia: sex?*

# Phanerozoic

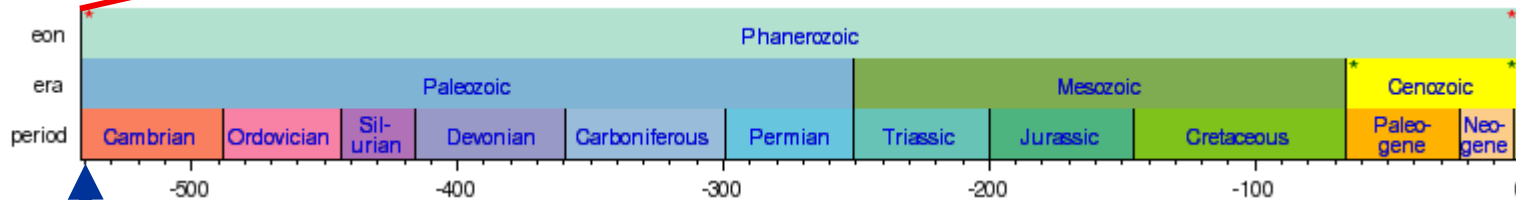


era

Paleozoic

Mesozoic

Cenozoic



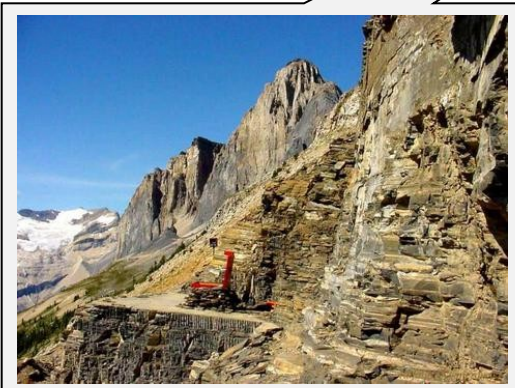
Cambrian explosion  
~ 542-520 M

# Cambrian explosion

## Burgess Shale

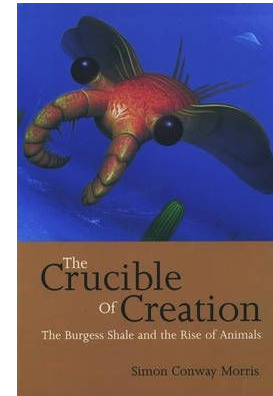
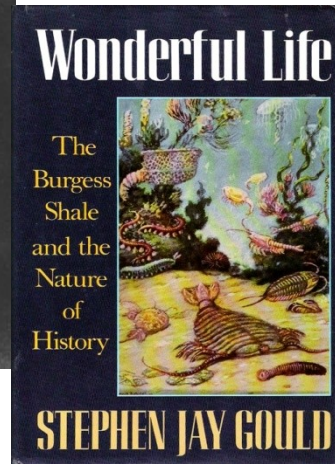
~ 542-520 M

Canadian Rockies, Yoho National Park

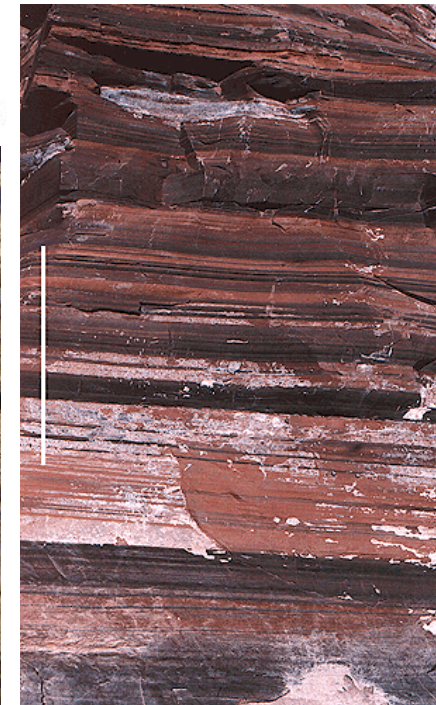


continent

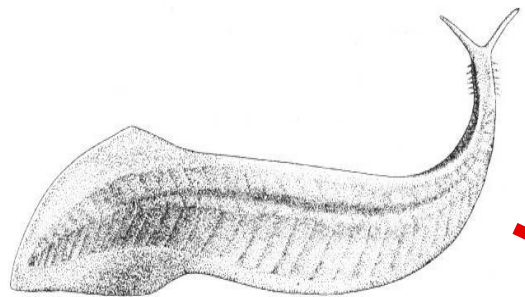
# Charles Doolittle Walcott (1909)



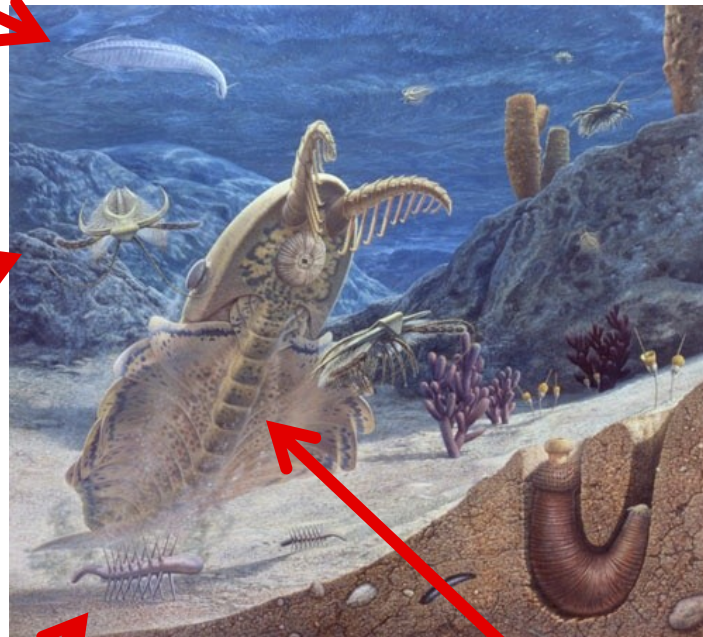
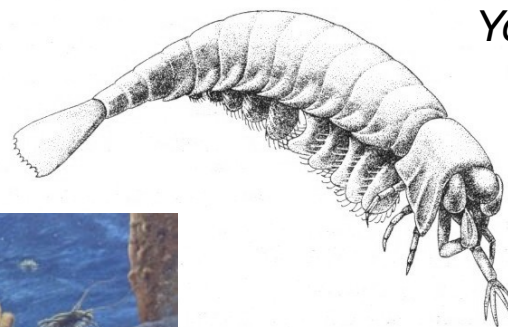
Simon Conway Morris



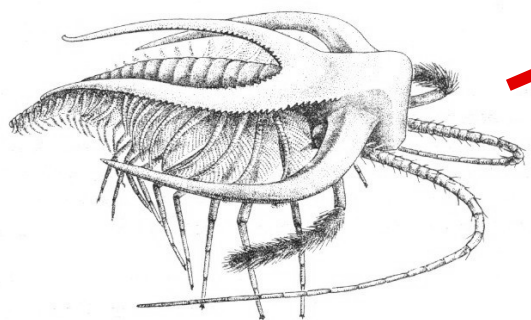
*Pikaia gracilens*



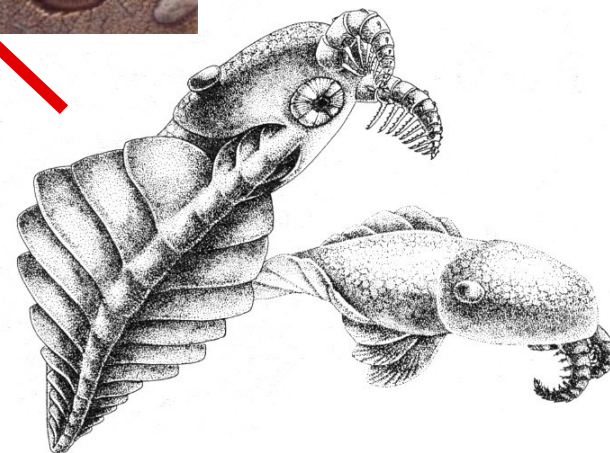
*Yohoia*



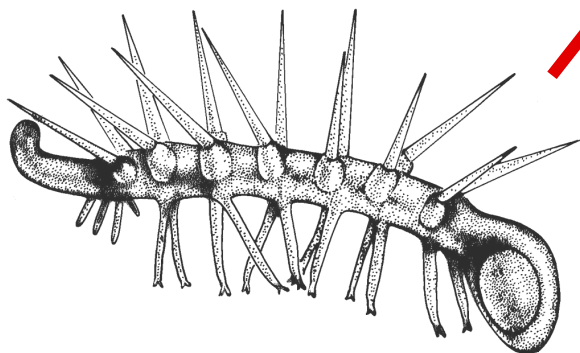
*Marella*



*Anomalocaris nathorsti*

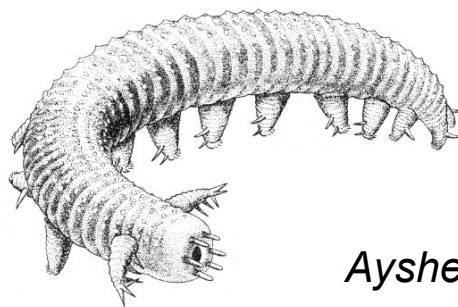
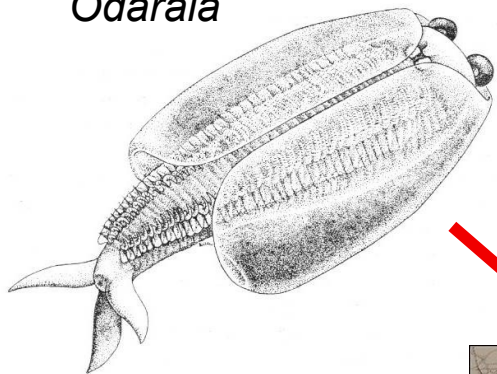


*Hallucigenia*

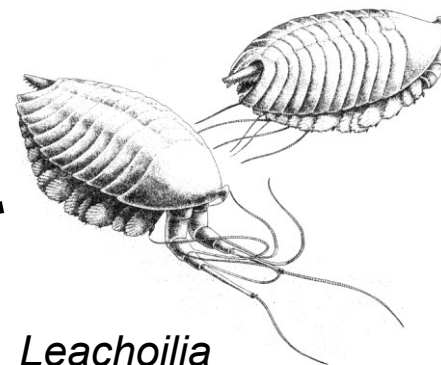


*A. canadensis*

*Odaraia*



*Aysheaia*



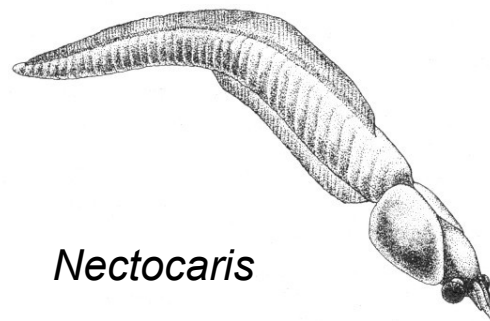
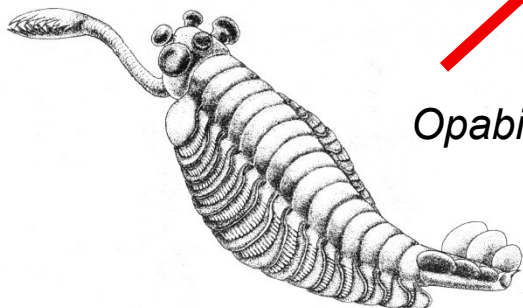
*Leachoilia*



*Wiwaxia*

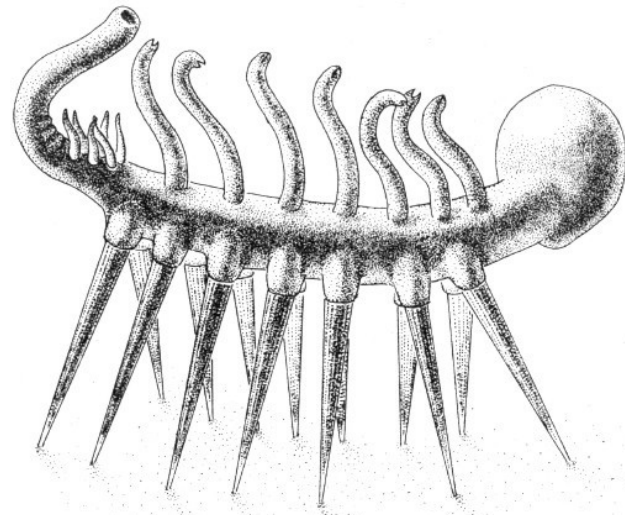
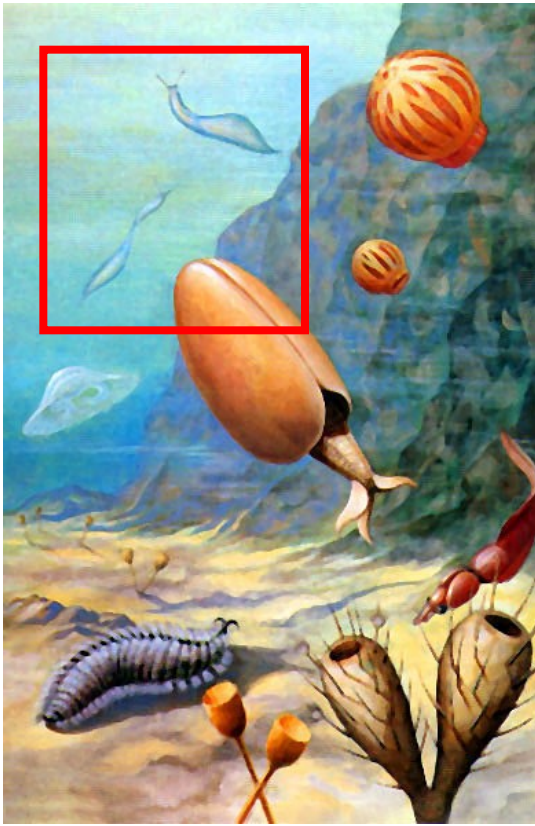


*Opabinia*

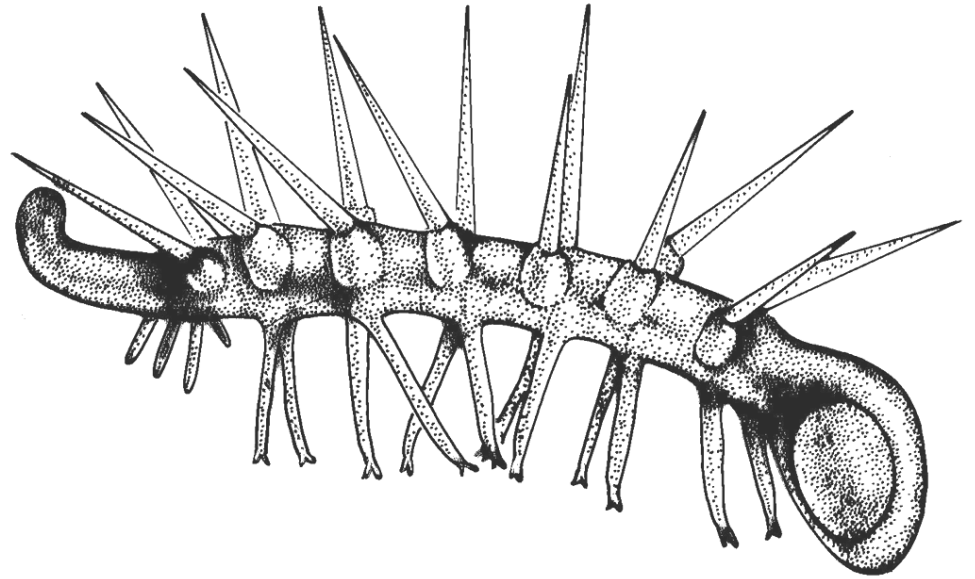


*Nectocaris*

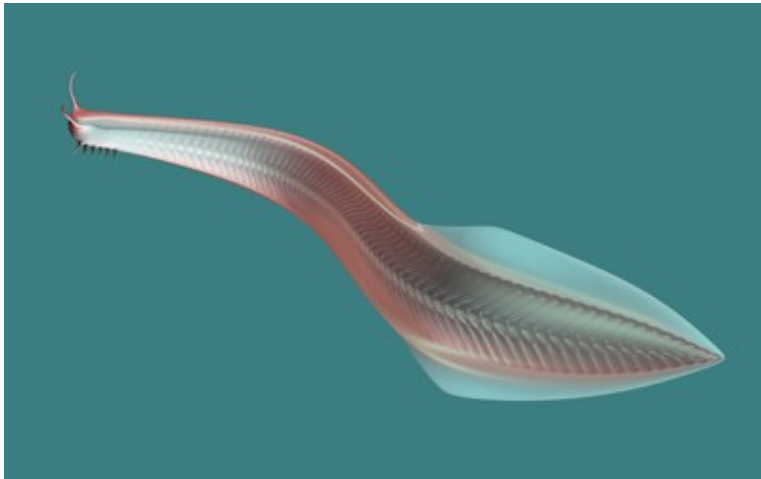
*Opabinia*

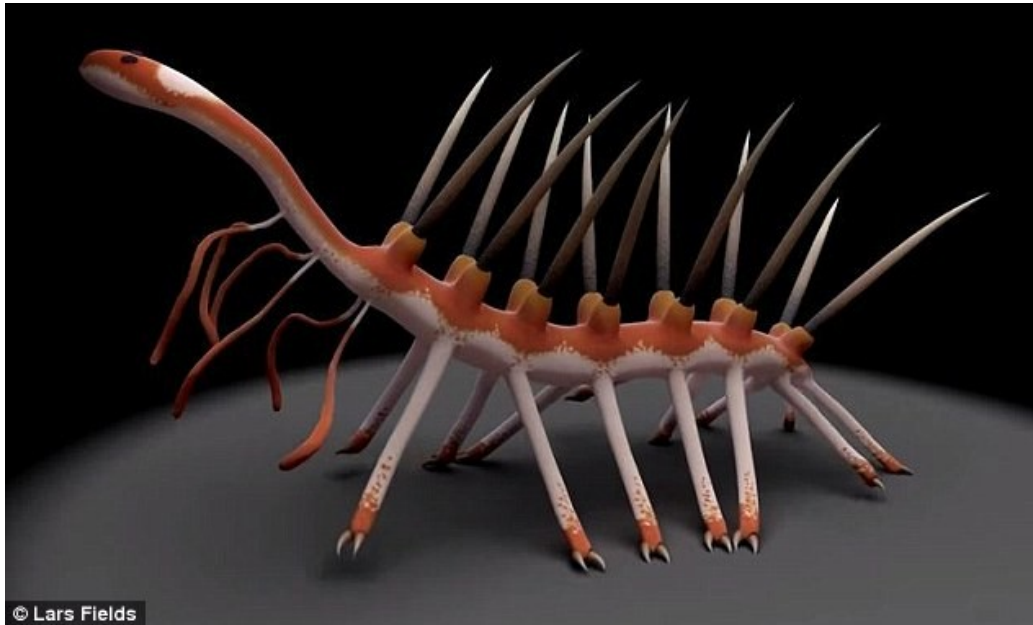


*Hallucigenia*



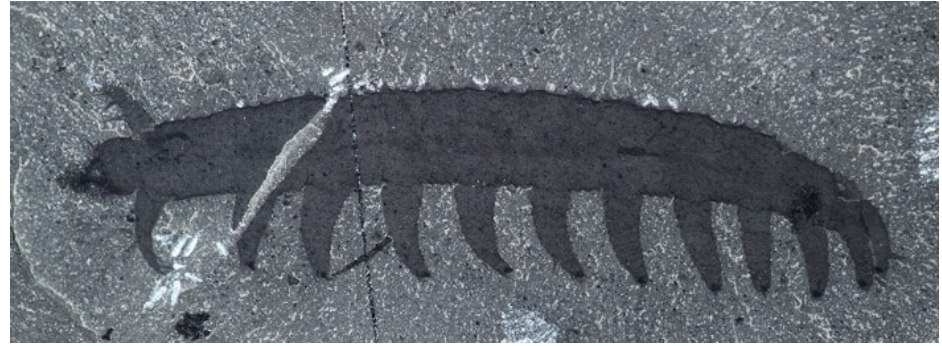
*Pikaia gracilens* (Chordata)





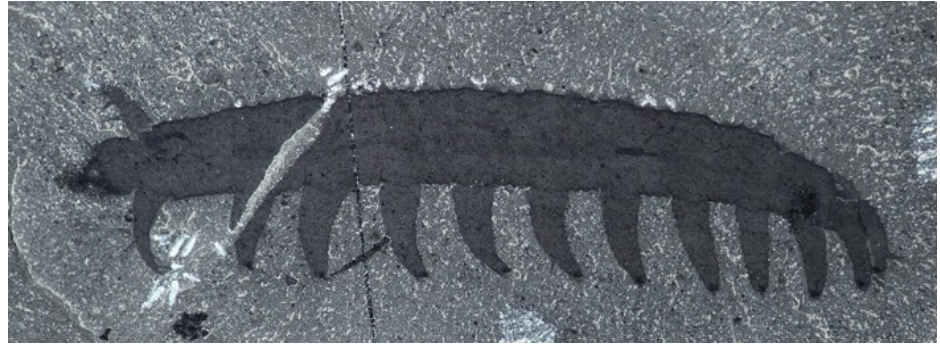
© Lars Fields





*Aysheaia*

Transition from sea to land?



Onychophora

# diversity and disparity:

interpretation of Burgess fossils

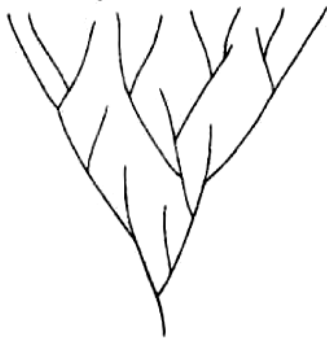
Stephen Jay Gould vs. Simon Conway Morris

diversity = number of species

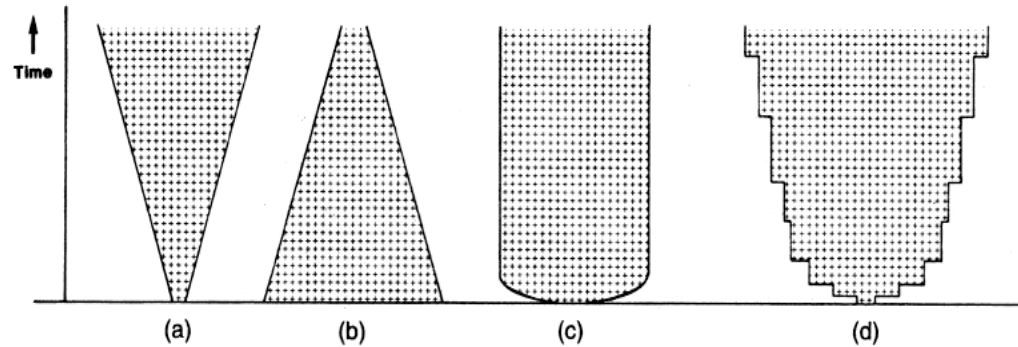
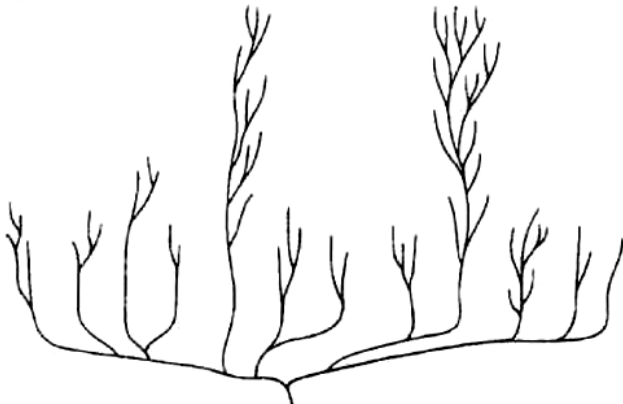
disparity = number of „Bauplans“



The Cone of Increasing Diversity



Decimation and Diversification



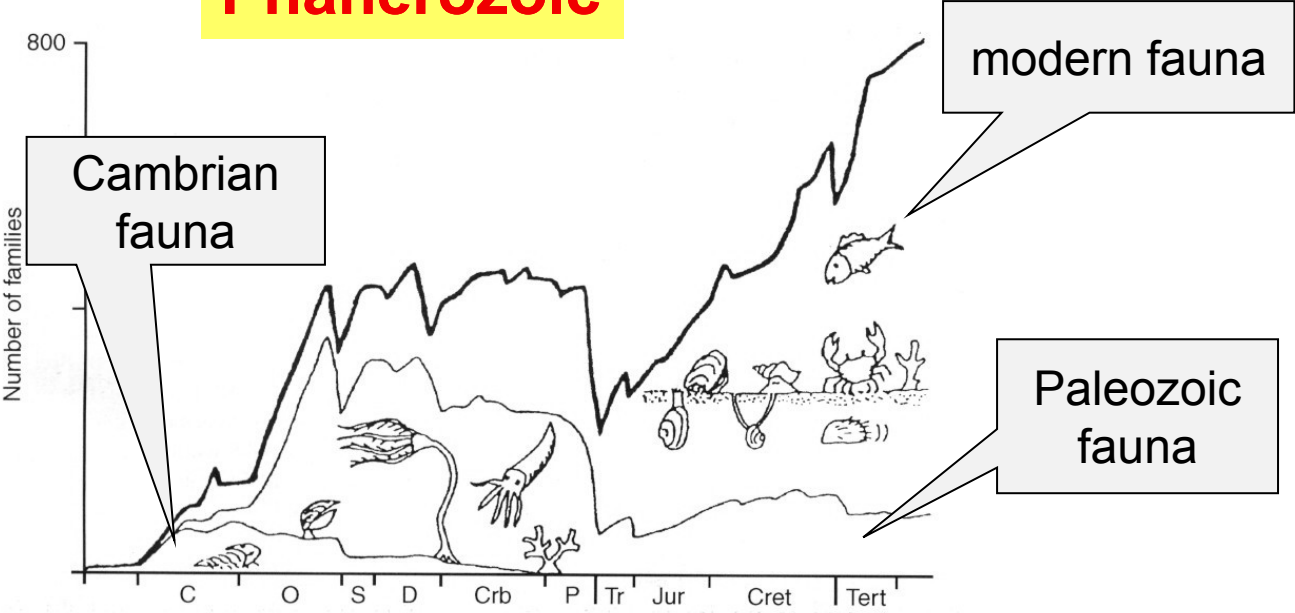
traditional

Gould

Conway Morris

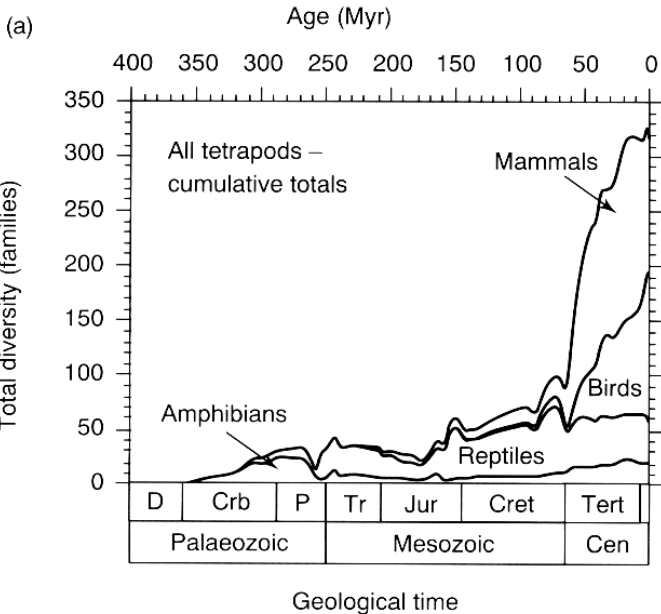
# Phanerozoic

increasing  
diversity

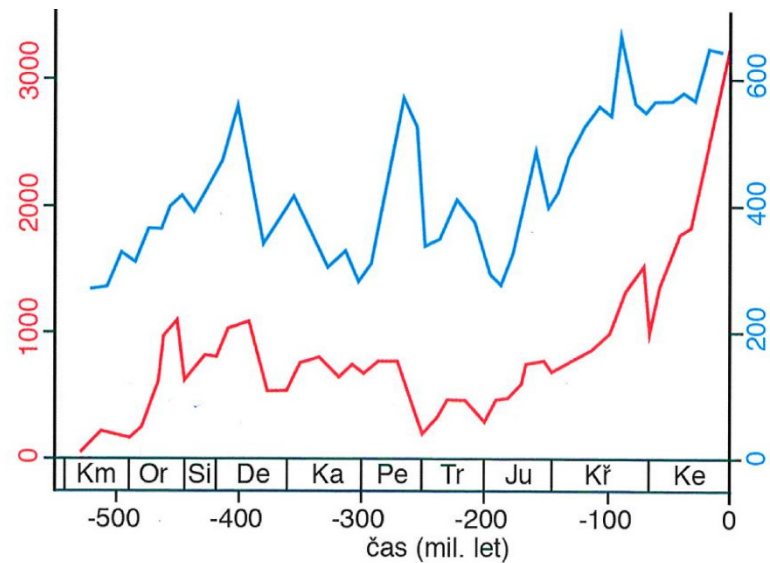
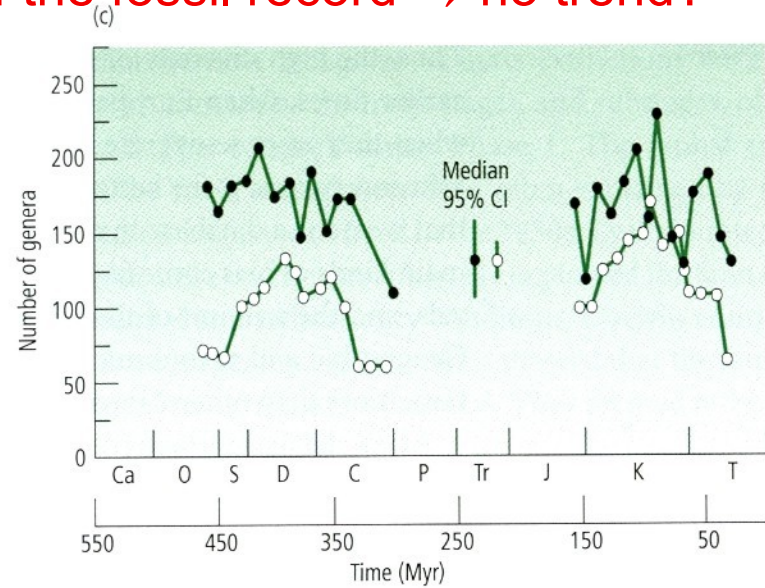
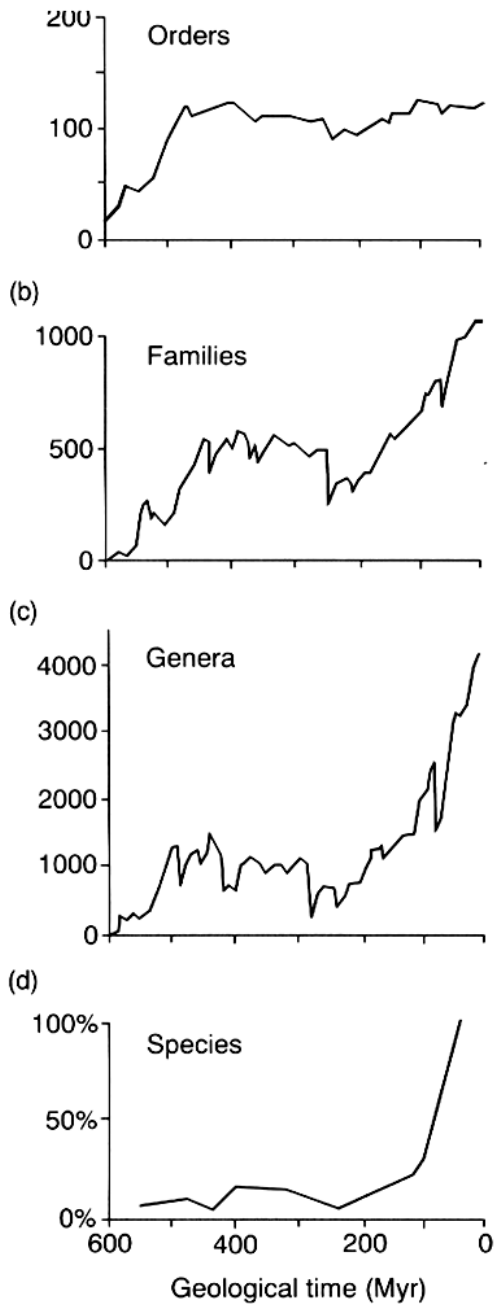


Jack J. Sepkoski (1981): logistic model

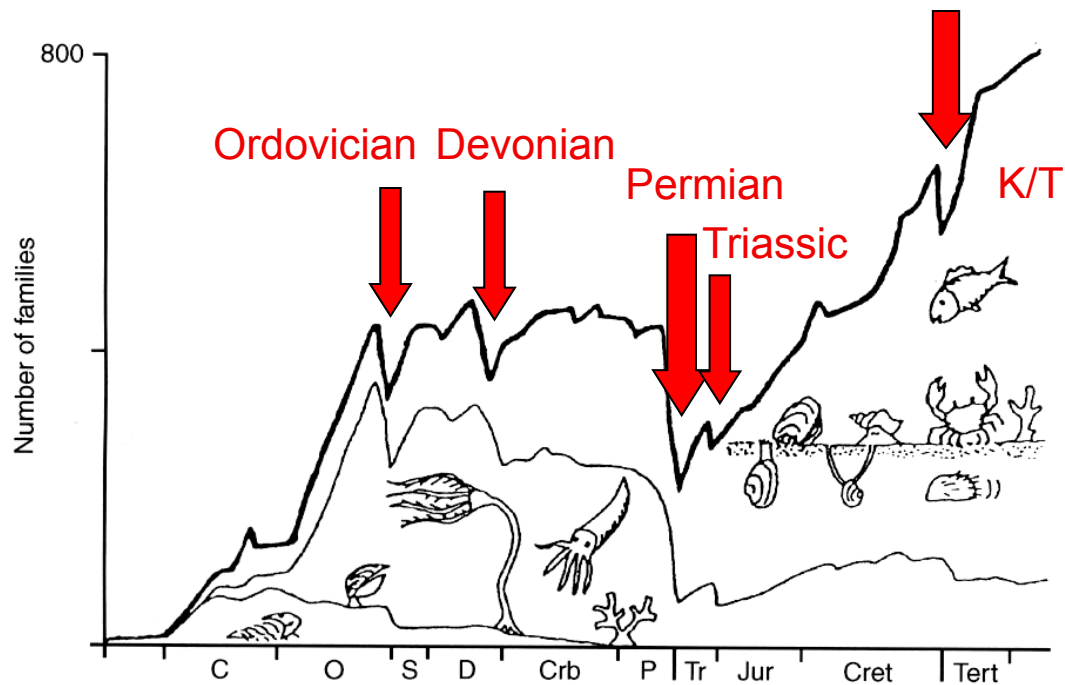
Michael J. Benton (1997):  
curve for terrestrial organisms differs  
exponential model



If we take into account incompleteness of the fossil record → no trend?



Obr. 7.27: Růst globální diverzity: červená křivka popisuje růst počtu „rodů“ na základě prvního a posledního výskytu ve fosilním záznamu, modrá křivka počet „rodů“ po odstranění „tahu přítomnosti“ (viz text).

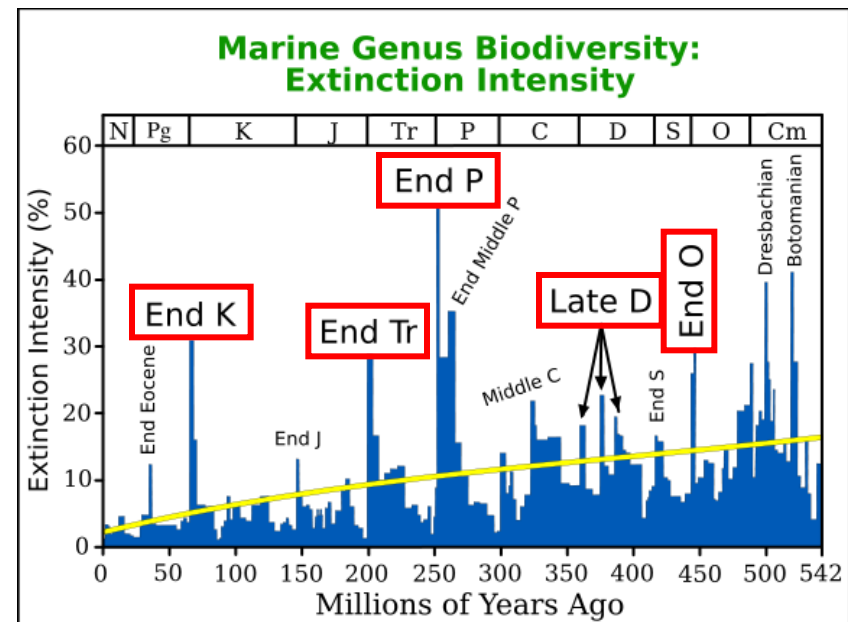


## Extinction:

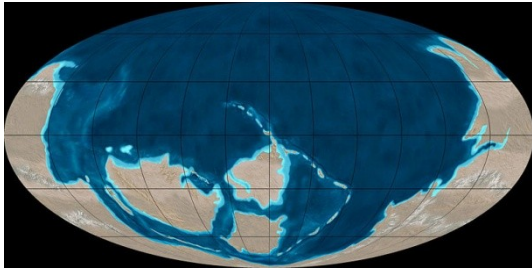
background extinctions

mass extinctions → „Big Five“

greatest: end of the Permian

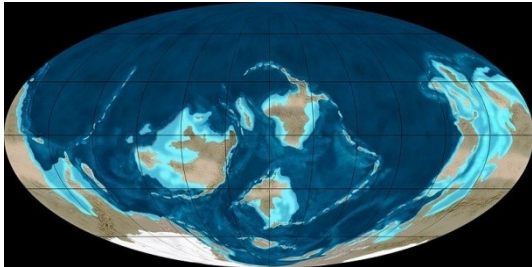


# Paleozoic



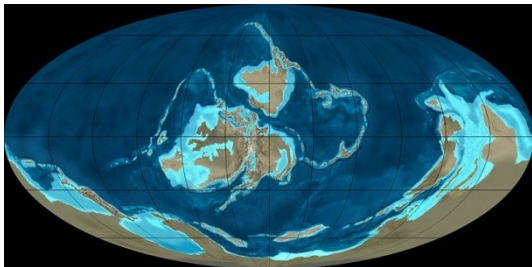
## Cambrian:

single supercontinent Rodinia (Proterozoic) → Gondwana, Laurentia, Baltica, Angara (Siberia), Avalonia ...



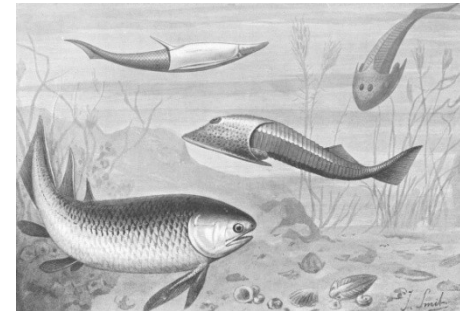
## Ordovician:

increase of diversity (marine organisms)  
the end: 1st mass extinction

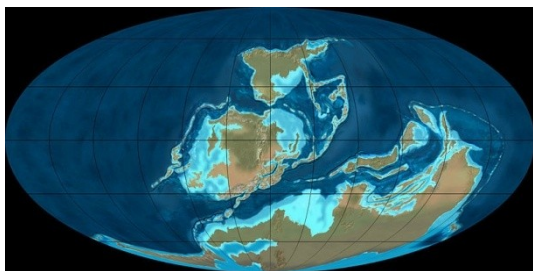


## Silurian:

gnathostomes  
first terrestrial o.  
(plants, scorpions)



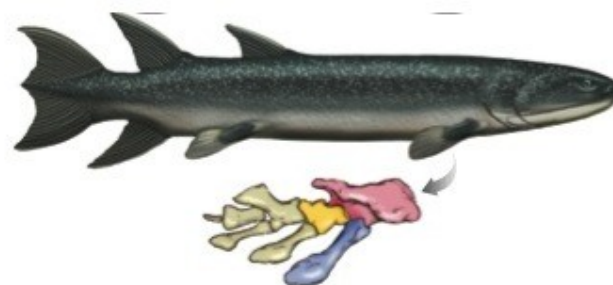
Laurentia+Baltica = Laurasia



## Devon:

radiace ryb, první žraloci, lalokoploutví, obojživelníci  
na konci 2. masová extinkce

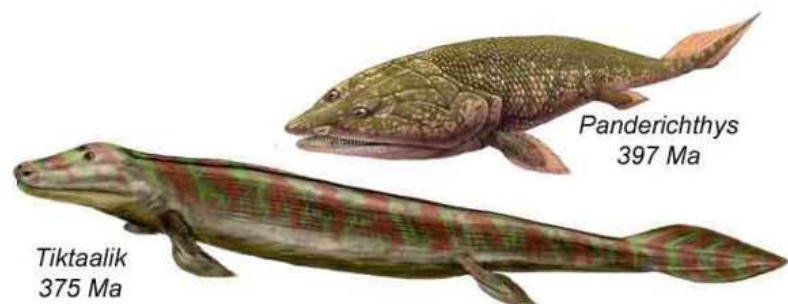
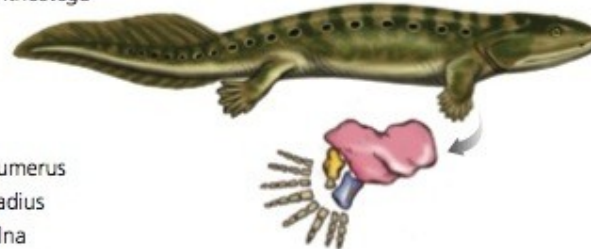
*Eusthenopteron*



*Tiktaalik*



*Acanthostega*



*Tiktaalik*  
375 Ma

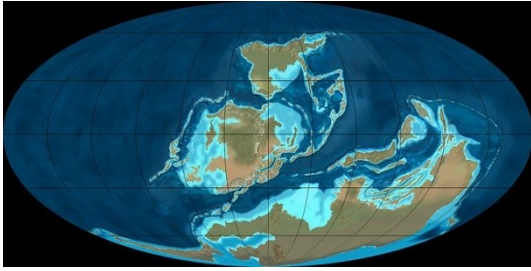


*Acanthostega*  
360 Ma



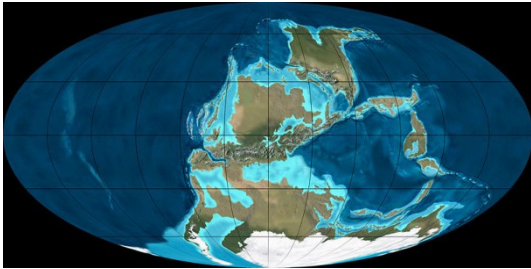
*Ichthyostega*  
365 Ma





## Devon:

radiace ryb, první žraloci, lalokoploutví, obojživelníci  
na konci 2. masová extinkce

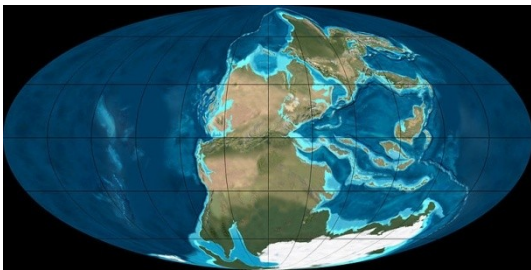


## Karbon:

přesličky, hmyz, první plazi



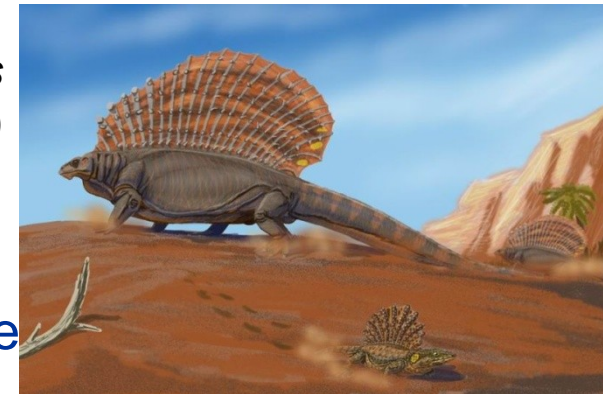
*Archaeothyris*  
(Synapsida)



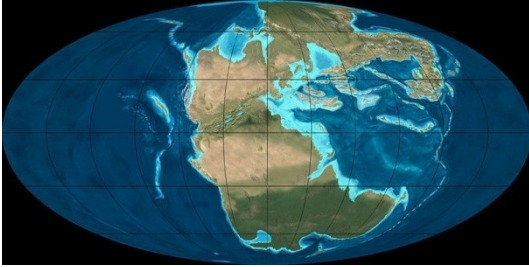
## Perm:

Pangea  
Therapsida (→ savci)  
na konci 3. masová extinkce

*Edaphosaurus*  
(Pelycosauria)



# Mesozoic



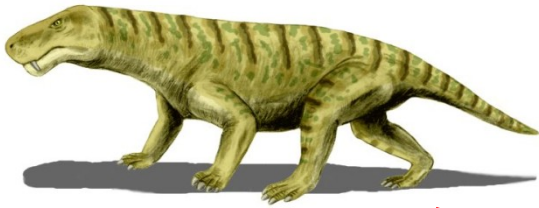
## Triassic:

butterflies, dipterans

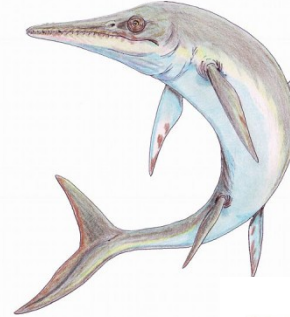
radiation of reptiles (tortoises, ichthyosaurs, plesiosaurs, pterosaurs)

the end: dinosaurs, mammals, 4th extinction

synapsid  
Pelycosauria  
(*Palaeohatteria*)



Therapsida



ichthyosaurs



plesiosaurs



cynodont  
(*Cynognathus*)



pterosaurs



primitive mammal (*Castorocauda*)

## Evolution of mammals

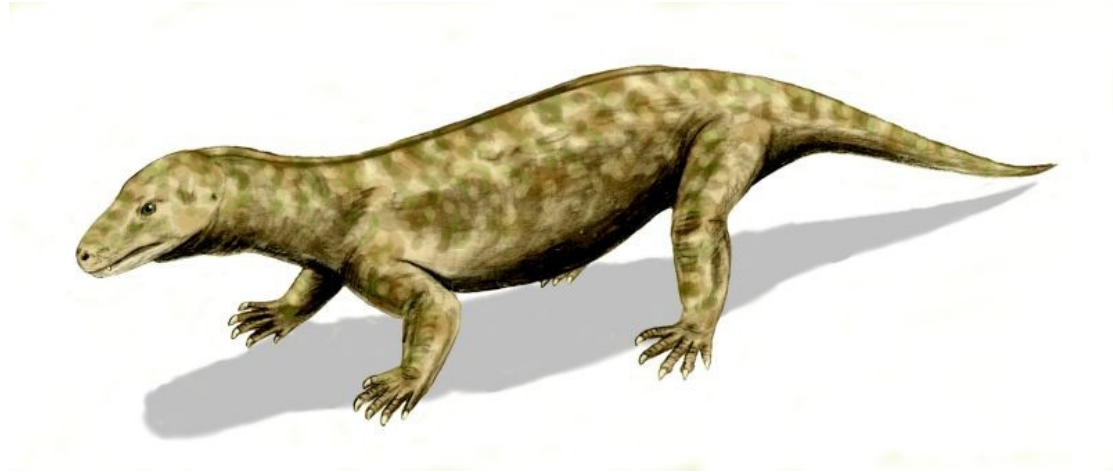
*Sphenacodon*: Lower Permian (270 M ) – mandible from several bones, reptile-like articulation, no eardrum

*Biarmosuchia*: Upper Permian – one of the first therapsids, articulation already more mammal-like, knit upper jaw, hind legs more upright



*Biarmosuchus*

*Procynosuchus*: end of Permian – primitive cynodont



*Thrinaxodon*: Lower Triassic – more derived cynodont, eardrum in the lower jaw



*Probainognathus*: Middle Triassic (~ 235 M) – 2 joints: mammalian+reptilian

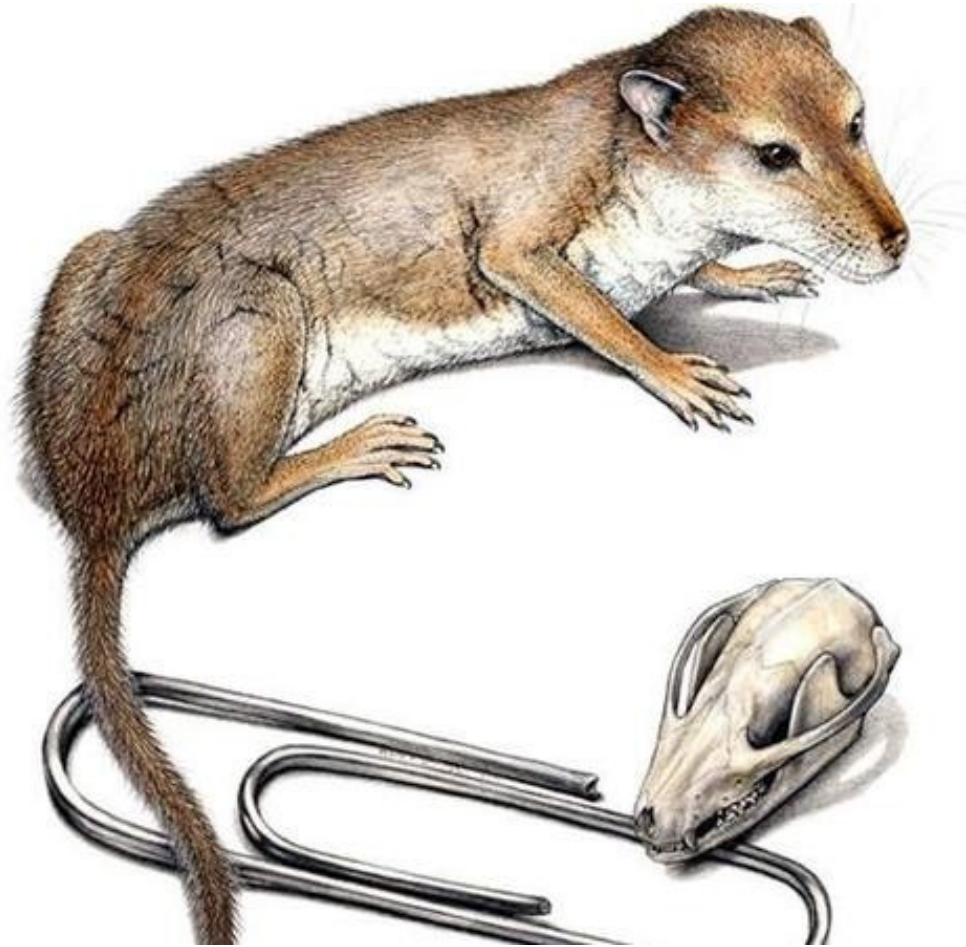


*Diarbrognathus*: Lower Jurassic (~ 209 M) – advanced cynodont, although still 2 joints, but the reptilian one used almost entirely for hearing

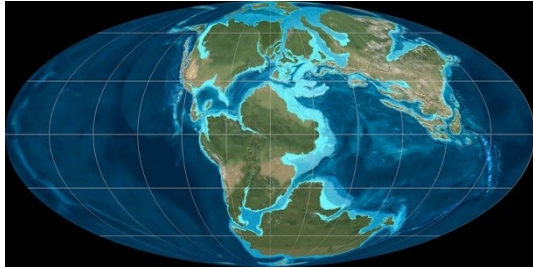
*Morganucodon*: Lower Jurassic (~ 220 M)  
– still a residue of the reptilian joint



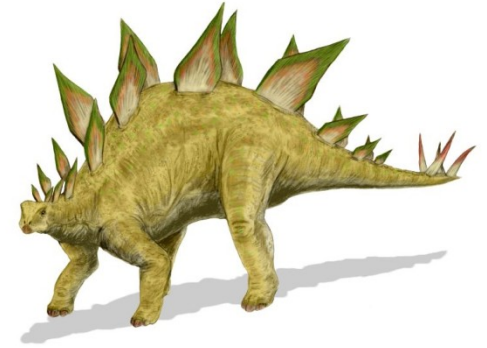
*Hadrocodium*: Lower Jurassic – transition of the middle ear ossicles from the jaw to the cranium



# Mesozoic



**Jurassic:**  
bone fishes  
bird evolution

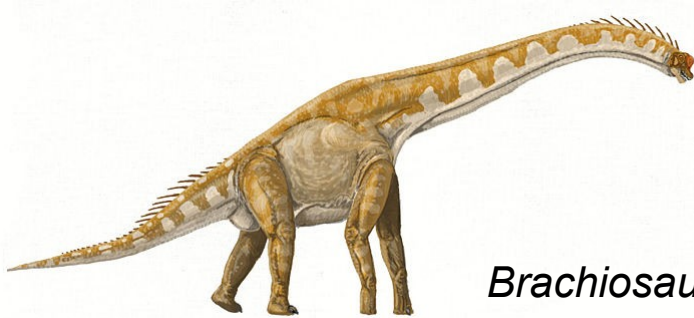


*Stegosaurus*

**Saurischia**

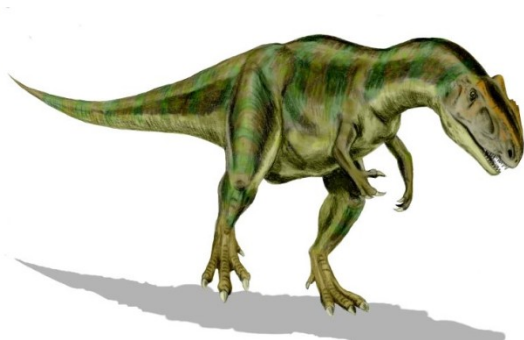
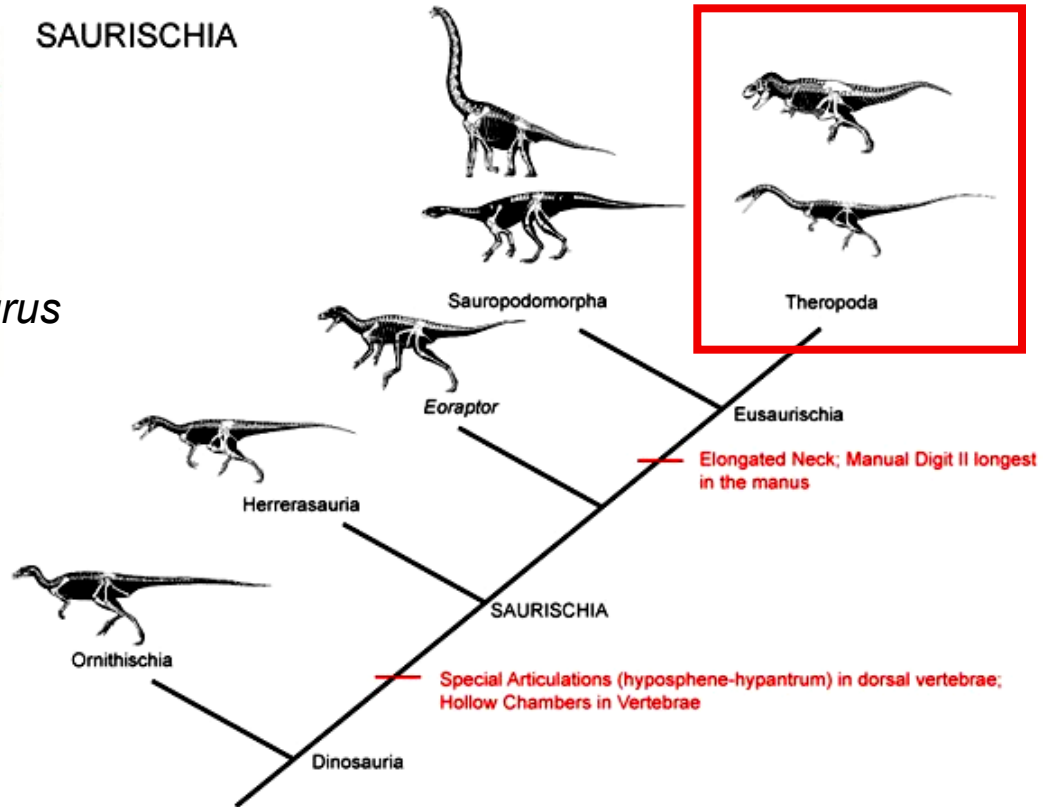
**dinosaurs**

**Ornithischia**



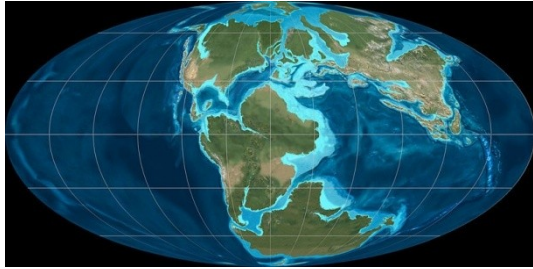
*Brachiosaurus*

SAURISCHIA

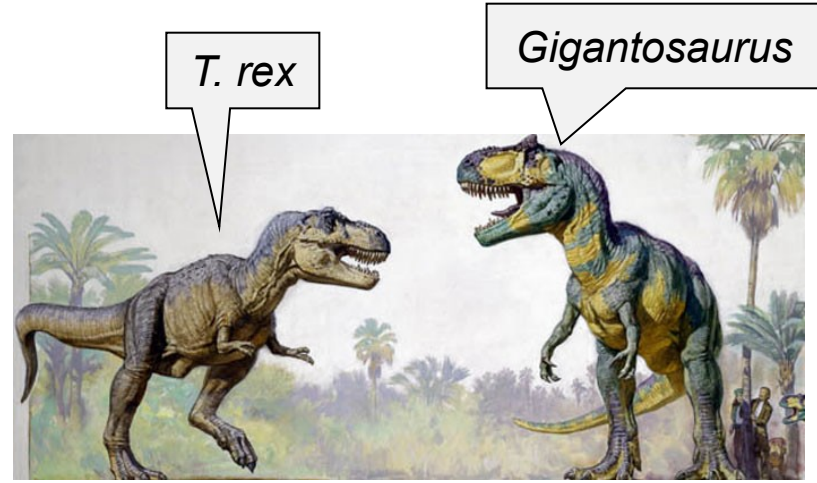


*Allosaurus*

# Mesozoic



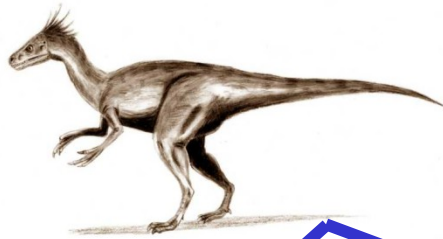
**Jurassic:**  
bone fishes  
bird evolution



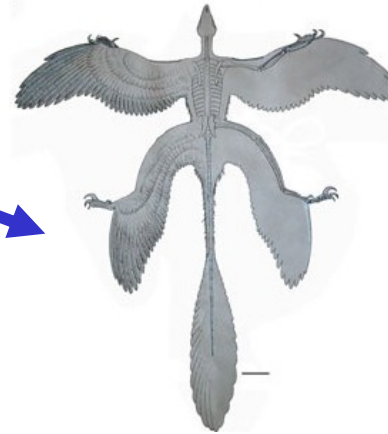
theropod dinosaurs



Maniraptora



tyrannosaurs  
(Cretaceous)



*Microraptor gui*

ANCESTORS OF BIRDS  
**Gliders not flyers**  
A new study suggest 125-million-year-old dinosaur from China might have glided from tree to tree with legs in a forward position.

Artist's conception of the Microraptor gui and the possible position of the hindlimbs during flight

Long and asymmetric feathers facing down.

Modern birds      Biplane

Feathers on both limbs would create an aerodynamic lift similar to the biplane but different from birds.



*Archaeopteryx lithographica*





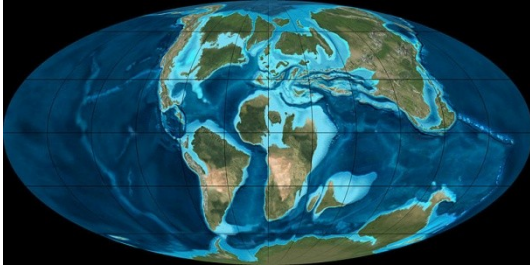
# Mesozoic

## Cretaceous:

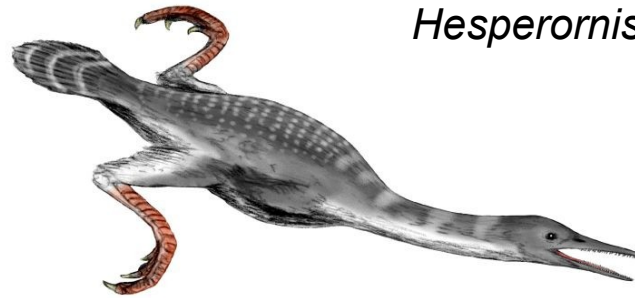
angiosperms

modern sharks and rays, mosasaurs, first snakes,  
birds

mammals: divergenc of marsupials and placentals



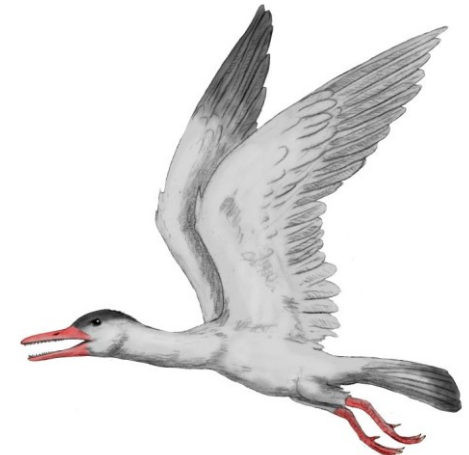
mosasaurs



*Hesperornis*

the end: **5th extinction**, 66 M

→ the cause??



*Ichthyornis*

# Extinkce na K/T\* (K/Pg\*\*) boundary:

\*) Cretaceous/Tertiary  
\*\*) Cretaceous /Paleogene

1980 Louis Alvarez et al.:

catastrophic hypothesis – asteroid 10 km in diameter  
 $10^9 \times$  more than Hiroshima



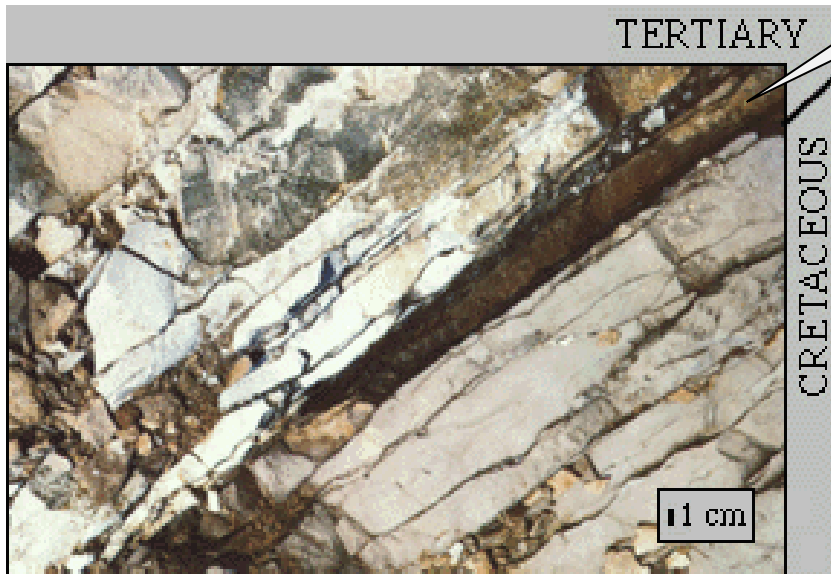
L. Alvarez



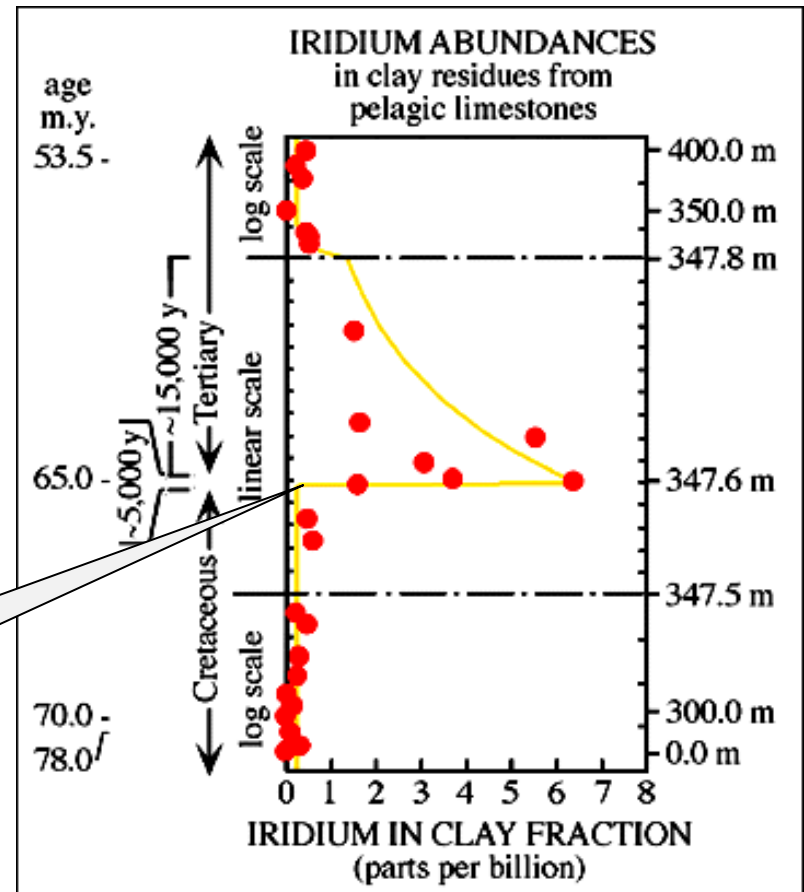
# Extinction on the K/T (K/Pg) boundary:

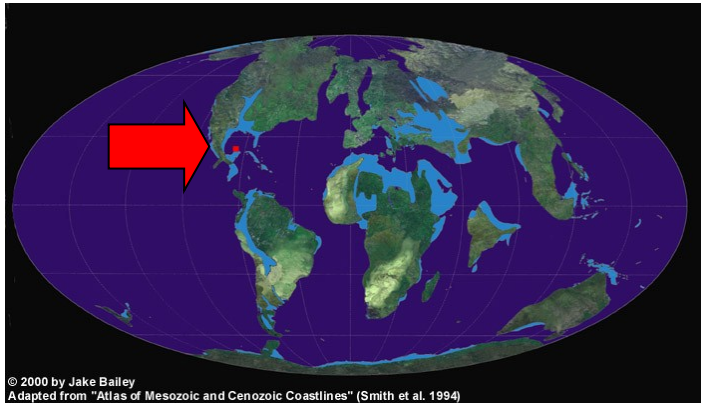
iridium on the boundary

K/T boundary



cca. 100-fold increase of the amount of iridium

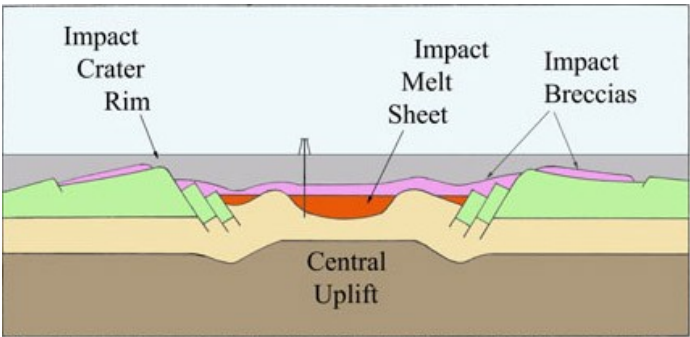
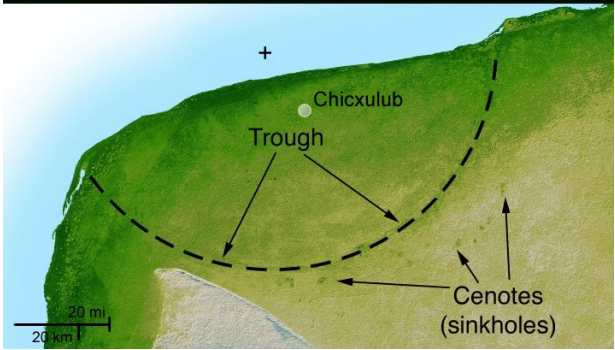
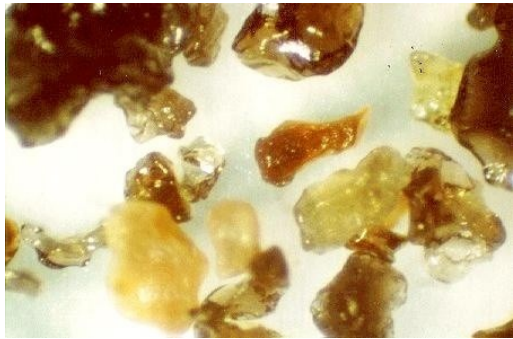
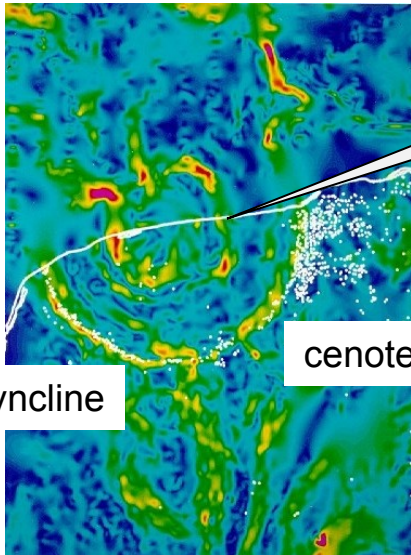




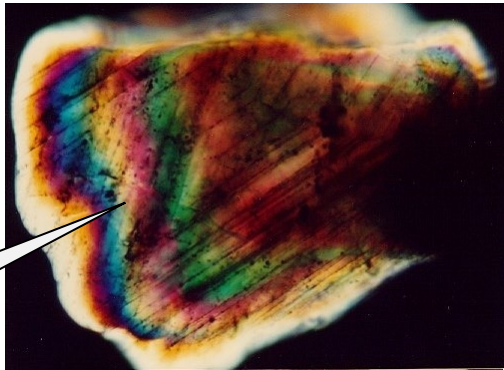
Chicxulub crater (Mexico)



map of gravitational field



shock crystal



## Problems of the impact theory:

extinctions not that sudden for most animals, occurring before the impact  
species have been disappearing in several phases from more thermophilic  
to less thermophilic

the impact by ca. 300 ky older than the extinction (but it may have trigger  
tsunamies and earthquakes  $\Rightarrow$  mixing of layers)

locality El Penon (Mexico): same species above and below the „impact“  
layer)

## Alternative hypothesis:

gradual cooling caused by giant volcano erruptions on the Deccan Plateau  
in India

basalt layer 1200-1800 m thick, 100 000 km<sup>2</sup>  $\Rightarrow$  during 1 MY  
 $\rightarrow$  min. 1,5 mil. km<sup>3</sup> of basalts

the origin of the plateau at the turn of the Cretaceous and Tertiary

## Recent findings:

According to new dating the Deccan event appeared before the impact –  
problém: inaccurate dating of the Indian event

More precise dating: the Chicxulub crater corresponds with the extinction

~ 100 ky before the impact cooling by 6–8 °C, probably as a consequence  
of the Deccan catastrophe – the impact then as the „coup of grace“

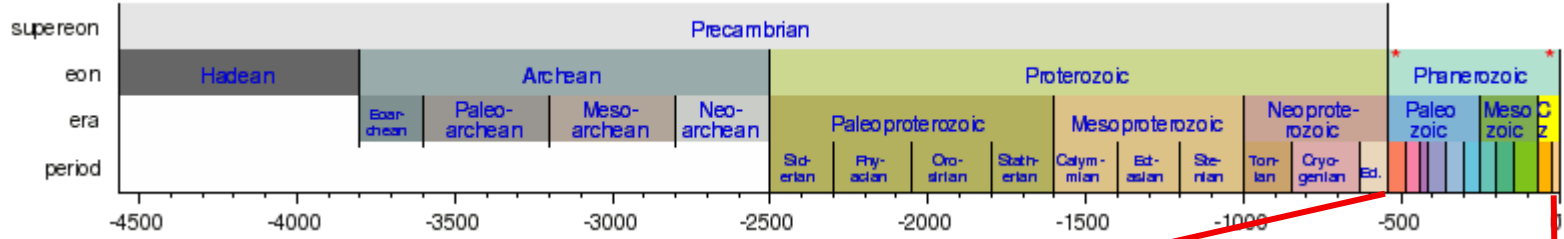
Cyanobacteria as a result of the greenhouse effect?

Some theories: two consecutive impacts

Animations:

eg. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bU1QPtOZQZU>

**eon: Phanerozoic**

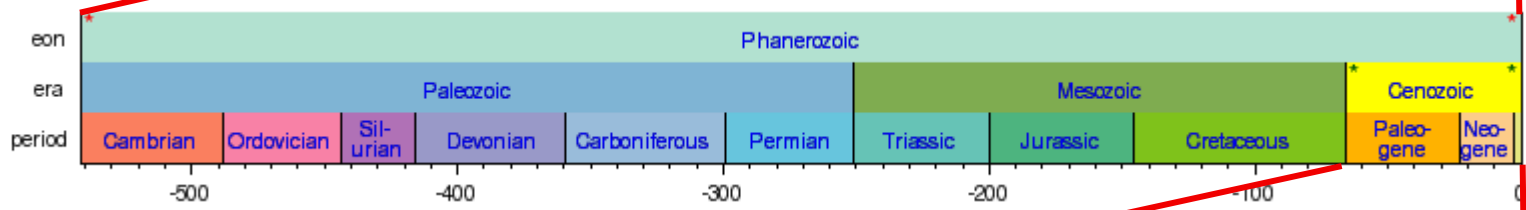


**era**

**Paleozoic**

**Mesozoic**

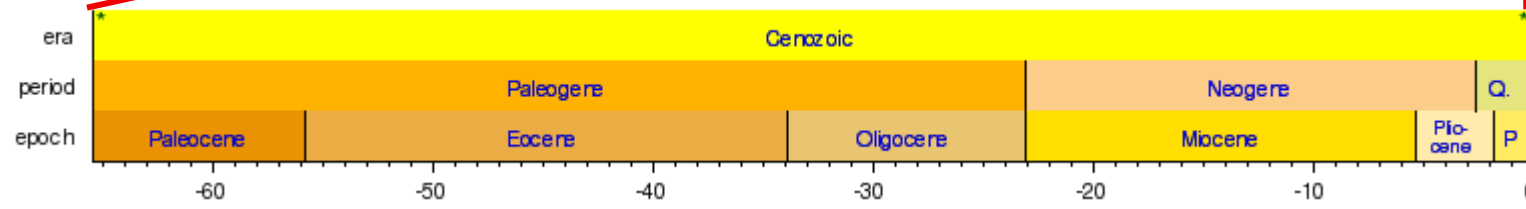
**Cenozoic**



**period**

**Paleogene**

**Neogene**



**epoch**

**Paleocene**

**Eocene**

**Oligocen**

**Miocene**

**Plio- Pleisto-**

# Paleontological vs. molecular data

When have animal phyla and mammalian/bird orders emerged?

Cambrian explosion?

molecular data (Wray et al. 1996):

Protostomia-Deuterostomia ~ 1200 M

Chordata-Echinodermata ~ 1000 M

„phylogenetic fuse“?



# Paleontological vs. molecular data

When have animal phyla and mammalian/bird orders emerged?

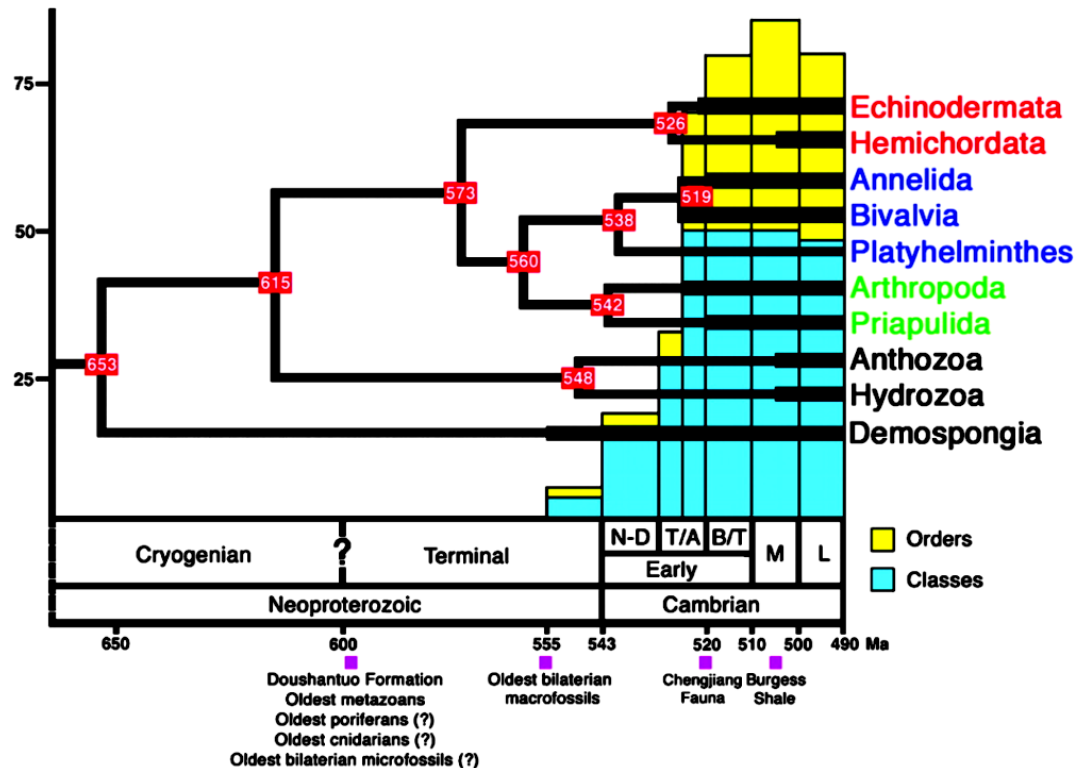
Cambrian explosion?

recent molecular estimates closer to the Cambrian explosion:

Metazoa ~ 650 M (Peterson et al. 2004)

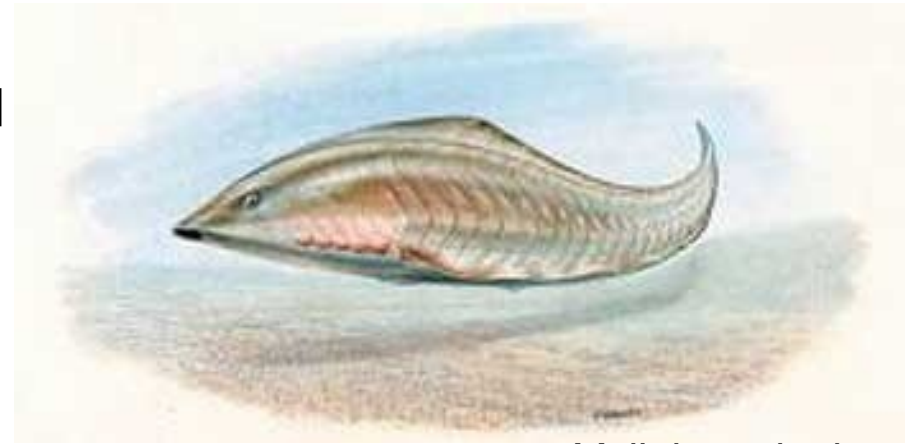
Protostomia-Deuterostomia ~ 582 M

(Aris-Brosou and Yang 2003)



# Cambrian explosion?

fauna of Chengjiang (China) ~ 525 M



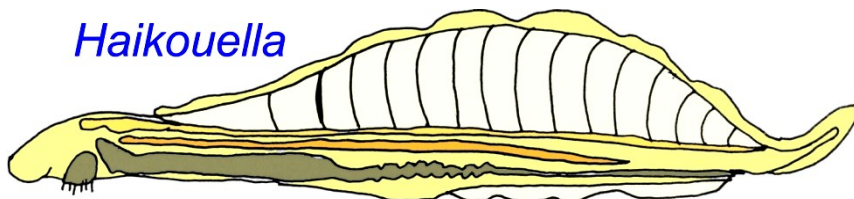
*Myllokunmingia*



*Yunnanozoon lividum*



*Haikouella lanceolata*



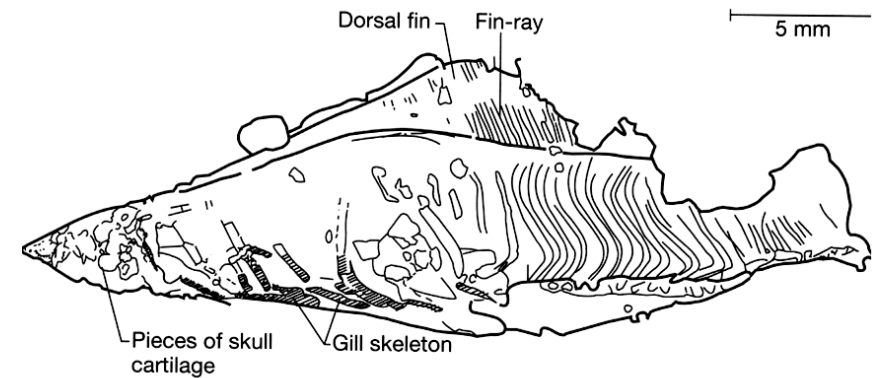
*Haikouella*



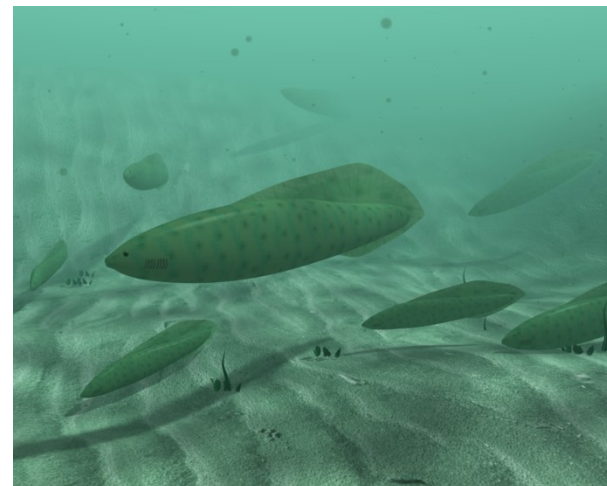
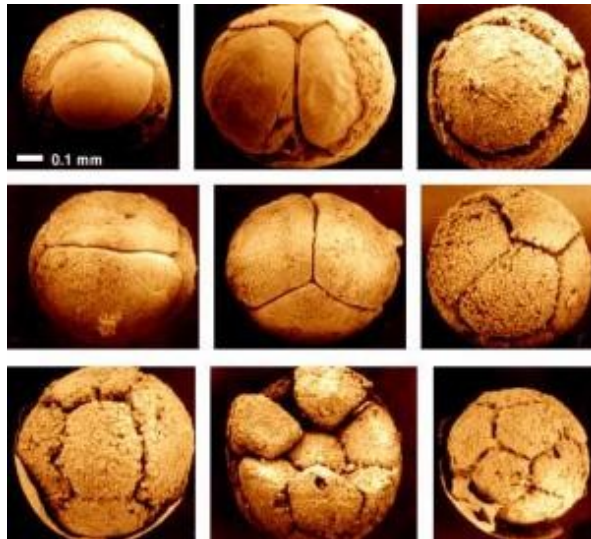
## Cambrian explosion?

fauna of Chengjiang (China) ~ 525 M

Doushantuo formation (S China),  
590–560 M: many species



early embryonic stages?



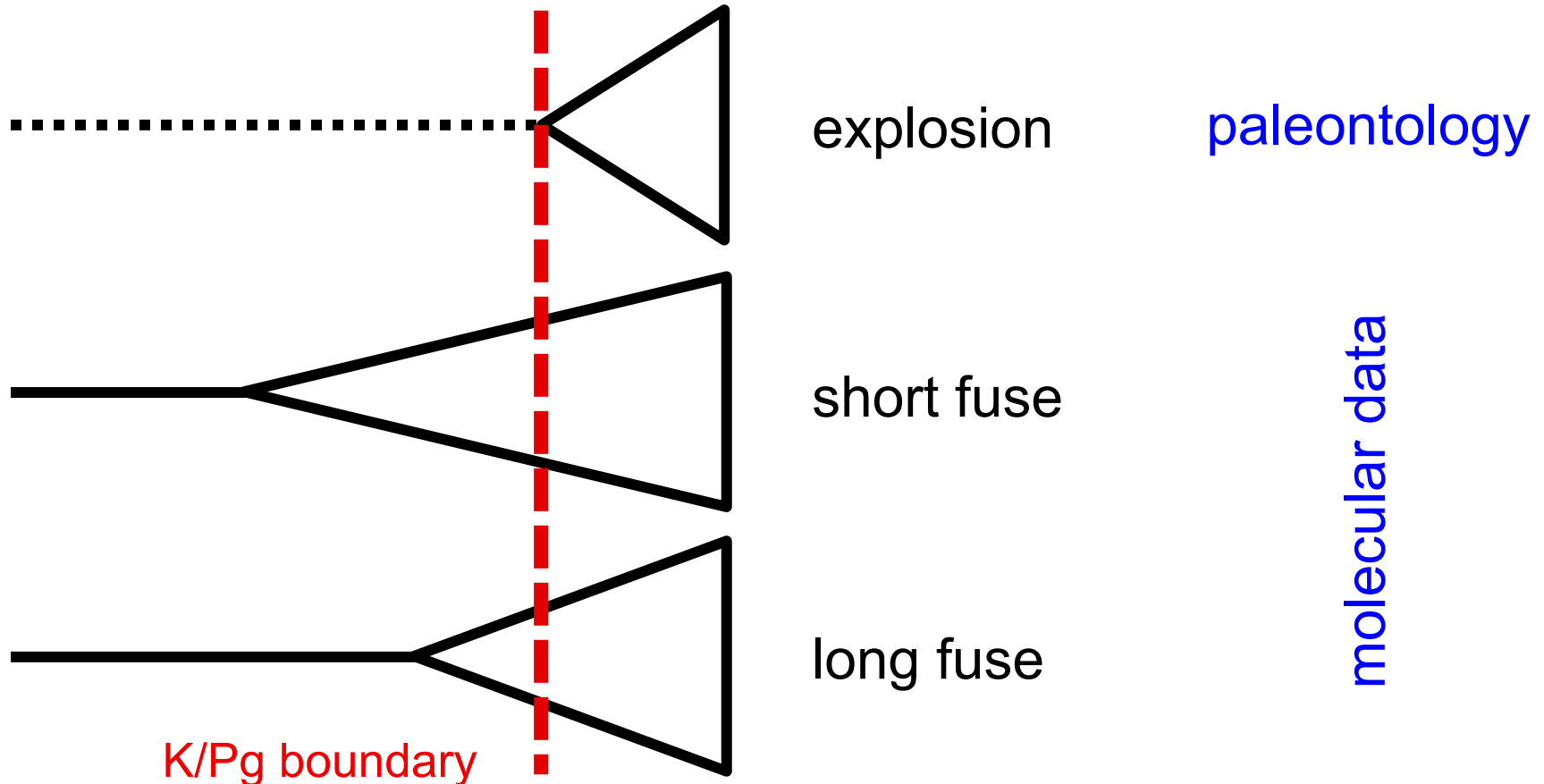
*Haikouichthys  
ercaicunensis*  
525 M

# Paleontological vs. molecular data

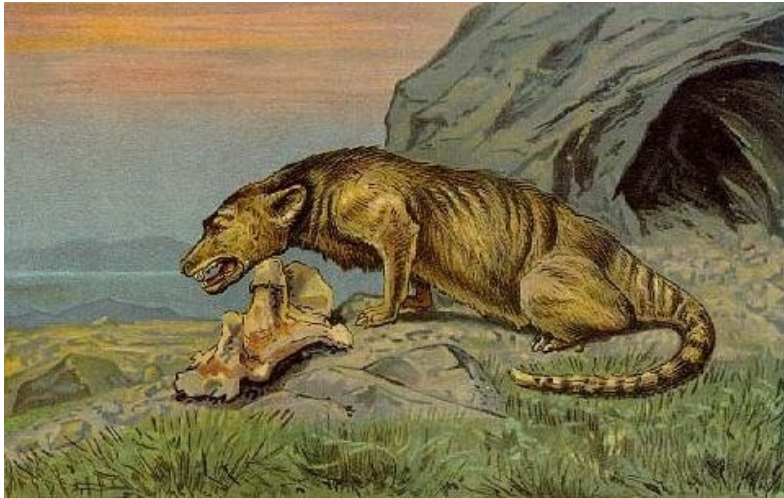
When have animal phyla and mammalian/bird orders emerged?

recent groups of mammals and birds and the K/Pg boundary

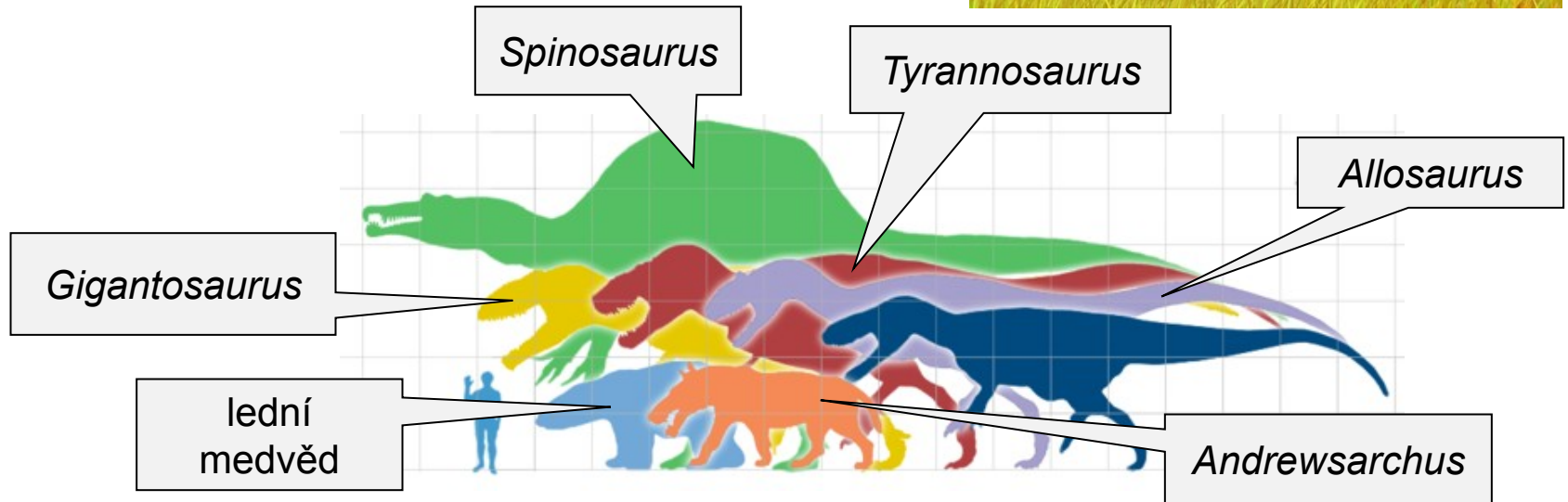
„Tertiary explosion“ vs. short fuse vs. long fuse



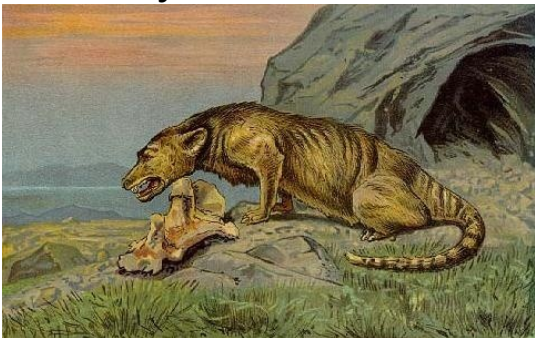
cetacean evolution: mesonychids → moving to water → cetaceans



*Andrewsarchus mongolicus*

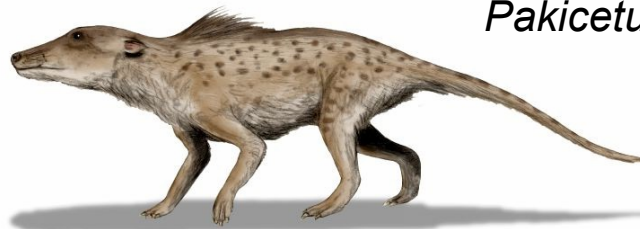


mesonychids ~ 56 M



**cetacean evolution**

*Pakicetus* 56-34 M



*Ambulocetus* 50-49 M



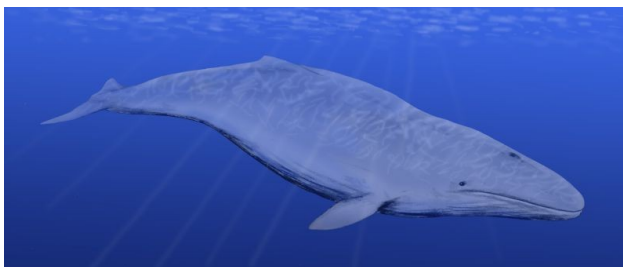
*Peregocetus pacificus* 43 M

*Dorudon* 41-33 M



*Rodhocetus* 47 M

*Basilosaurus*  
40-34 M



*Cetotherium* 15 M



# General principles

diversity: stock market analogy

extinction: foot soldier model

lifetime of lineages: gambler's bankruptcy model

random walk

David Raup, Jack Sepkoski:  
periodicity? (26 M)



D. Raup



J. J. Sepkoski

