



An unusual long-tailed pterosaur with elongated neck from western Liaoning of China

XIAOLIN WANG¹, ALEXANDER W.A. KELLNER²,
SHUNXING JIANG^{1,3} and XI MENG^{1,3}

¹Key Laboratory of Evolutionary Systematics of Vertebrates
Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, Chinese Academy of Sciences
PO Box 643, Beijing, 100044, China

²Setor de Paleovertebrados, Museu Nacional, UFRJ
Quinta da Boa Vista s/n, São Cristóvão, 20940-040 Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil

³Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, 100049, China

Manuscript received on August 11, 2009; accepted for publication on September 10, 2009;
contributed by ALEXANDER W.A. KELLNER*

ABSTRACT

A new long-tailed pterosaur, *Wukongopterus lii* gen. et sp. nov., is described based on an almost complete skeleton (IVPP V15113) representing an individual with an estimated wing span of 730 mm. The specimen was discovered in strata that possibly represent the Daohugou Bed (or Daohugou Formation) at Linglongta, Jianchang, Liaoning Province, China. *Wukongopterus lii* is a non-pterodactyloid pterosaur diagnosed by the first two pairs of premaxillary teeth protruding beyond the dentary, elongated cervical vertebrae (convergent with Pterodactyloidea), and a strongly curved second pedal phalanx of the fifth toe. The specimen further has a broken tibia that indicates an injury occurred while the individual was still alive. Taphonomic aspects provide indirect evidence of an uropatagium, supporting the general hypothesis that at least all non-pterodactyloid pterosaurs show a membrane between the hind limbs. A phylogenetic analysis including most non-pterodactyloid pterosaurs shows that *Wukongopterus lii* gen. et sp. nov. lies outside the Novialoidea, being cladistically more primitive than the Rhamphorhynchidae and *Campylognathoides*. This analysis differs from previous studies and indicates that more work is needed before a stable picture of non-pterodactyloid pterosaur relationships is achieved.

Key words: Pterosauria, *Wukongopterus*, ?Late Jurassic-Early Cretaceous, Liaoning, China.

INTRODUCTION

Since the description of the first pterosaur from the Early Cretaceous Jehol Biota (Ji and Ji 1997), about 28 species have been recorded, 13 from the Yixian and 15 from the Jiufotang formations, respectively (see Wang, Kellner et al. 2005, 2008, Wang and Zhou 2006, Wang, Kellner et al. 2008, Lü et al. 2006, Lü et al. 2008, Andres and Ji 2008). Among them are primitive taxa such

as members of the Anurognathidae (Ji and Ji 1998, Wang et al. 2002, Kellner et al. 2009), a few Archaeopterodactyloidea (e.g., Lü 2003, Wang et al. 2007), and several Dsungaripteroidea (e.g., Wang and Zhou 2003). Although some species have been the object of controversy (e.g., Ji et al. 1999, Unwin et al. 2000) and the actual diversity might be inflated (e.g., Wang and Zhou 2006, Wang, Campos et al. 2008), pterodactyloids by far outnumber non-pterodactyloid species, the latter represented by two anurognathids (Ji and Ji 1998, Wang et al. 2002) and two putative rhamphorhynchids (Czerkas and Ji 2002, Lü 2009). Based on our present under-

*Member Academia Brasileira de Ciências
Correspondence to: Xiaolin Wang / Alexander W.A. Kellner
E-mails: xlinwang@263.net / kellner@mn.ufjf.br

standing of the evolutionary history of pterosaurs the prevalence of pterodactyloids in Cretaceous deposits is expected and, apart from the Anurognathidae, possibly *Pterorhynchus* and the newly described *Changchengopterus*, all non-pterodactyloid flying reptiles went extinct towards the end of the Jurassic (Wellnhofer 1991, Kellner 2003, Unwin 2003a).

Of the non-pterodactyloid pterosaurs associated to the Jehol Biota, two bear an elongated tail. The first is *Pterorhynchus wellnhoferi*, known from a complete skeleton collected from the Daohugou Bed (Czerkas and Ji 2002), whose age is controversial. Although this matter has not been settled yet, there is growing evidence that the layers of the Daohugou Bed (Wang et al. 2000) were formed between Late Jurassic to Early Cretaceous (Zhang 2002, He et al. 2004, Wang, Zhou et al. 2005) instead of Middle Jurassic as previously thought (Chen and Zhang 2004). The second long-tailed pterosaur is *Changchengopterus pani* that is based on a partial skeleton lacking the skull briefly described recently. According to Lü (2009) that specimen was collected in the Tiaojishan Formation that is regarded middle Jurassic in age. However after a thorough field investigation, *Changchengopterus* was probably collected from the same horizon as the specimen described in this paper (X. Wang, unpublished data).

Here we report another long-tailed flying reptile from a new locality (Linglongta, Jianchang County, Huludao City) of western Liaoning, China (Fig. 1). There is considerable controversy regarding those strata, with local geological map considering the fossil-bearing bed the Lanqi Formation, which is equivalent to the Tiaojishan Formation. Based on sedimentological and field data, it is likely that the outcrop where the specimen was collected belongs to the Daohugou Bed (Formation) rather than Tiaojishan Formation (X. Wang, unpublished data). Therefore, along with *Pterorhynchus wellnhoferi*, the new find reported here (*Wukongopterus lii* gen. et sp. nov.) is potentially the youngest long-tailed non-pterodactyloid known to date, showing that those primitive pterosaurs were more diverse towards the end of the Jurassic perhaps entering in the Cretaceous. It further highlights the importance of the Jehol Biota that is starting to shape our understanding of the evolutionary history of this group of volant archosaurs.

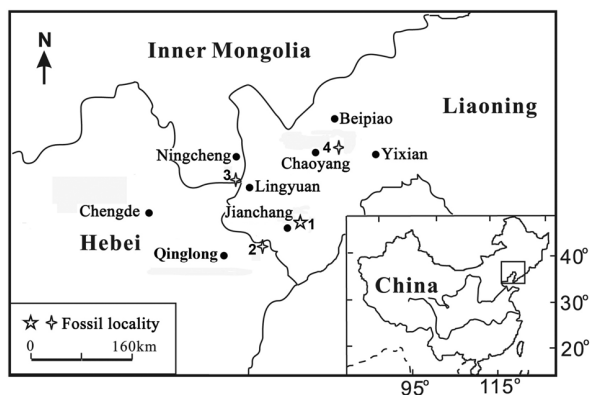


Fig. 1 – Sketch map showing the localities with the occurrence of non-pterodactyloid pterosaurs in northeast China. 1. Linglongta, Jianchang, Liaoning (Daohugou Bed): *Wukongopterus lii* gen. et sp. nov. in this paper; 2. Mutoudeng, Qinglong, Hebei (Tiaojishan Formation, probably Daohugou Bed): *Changchengopterus pani* Lü 2009; 3. Daohugou, Ningcheng, Inner Mongolia (Daohugou Bed): *Jeholopterus ningchengensis* Wang et al. 2002, *Pterorhynchus wellnhoferi* Czerkas and Ji 2002; 4. Zhangjiagou, Beipiao, Liaoning (Jianshangou Bed of the lower Yixian Formation): *Dendrorhynchoides curvidentatus* Ji and Ji 1998.

SYSTEMATIC PALEONTOLOGY

PTEROSAURIA Kaup 1834

Wukongopteridae fam. nov.

Type genus: *Wukongopterus* gen. nov.

Diagnosis: as for the genus.

Wukongopterus gen. nov.

Etymology: *Wukongopterus*, from Sun Wukong (the Monkey King), one of the most famous and beloved fictional characters of the classical Chinese literature “Journey to the West”, and *pterus* from the Greek meaning wing.

Type Species: *Wukongopterus lii* sp. nov.

Diagnosis: As for the type and only species.

Wukongopterus lii sp. nov.

Etymology: In honour to Yutong Li, senior preparator of the IVPP in recognition of the excellent work preparing this and many other Chinese fossils.

Holotype: The specimen consists of an almost complete skeleton, lacking the occipital region and the skull roof, housed at the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, CAS in Beijing under the number IVPP V15113 (Figs. 2–3).

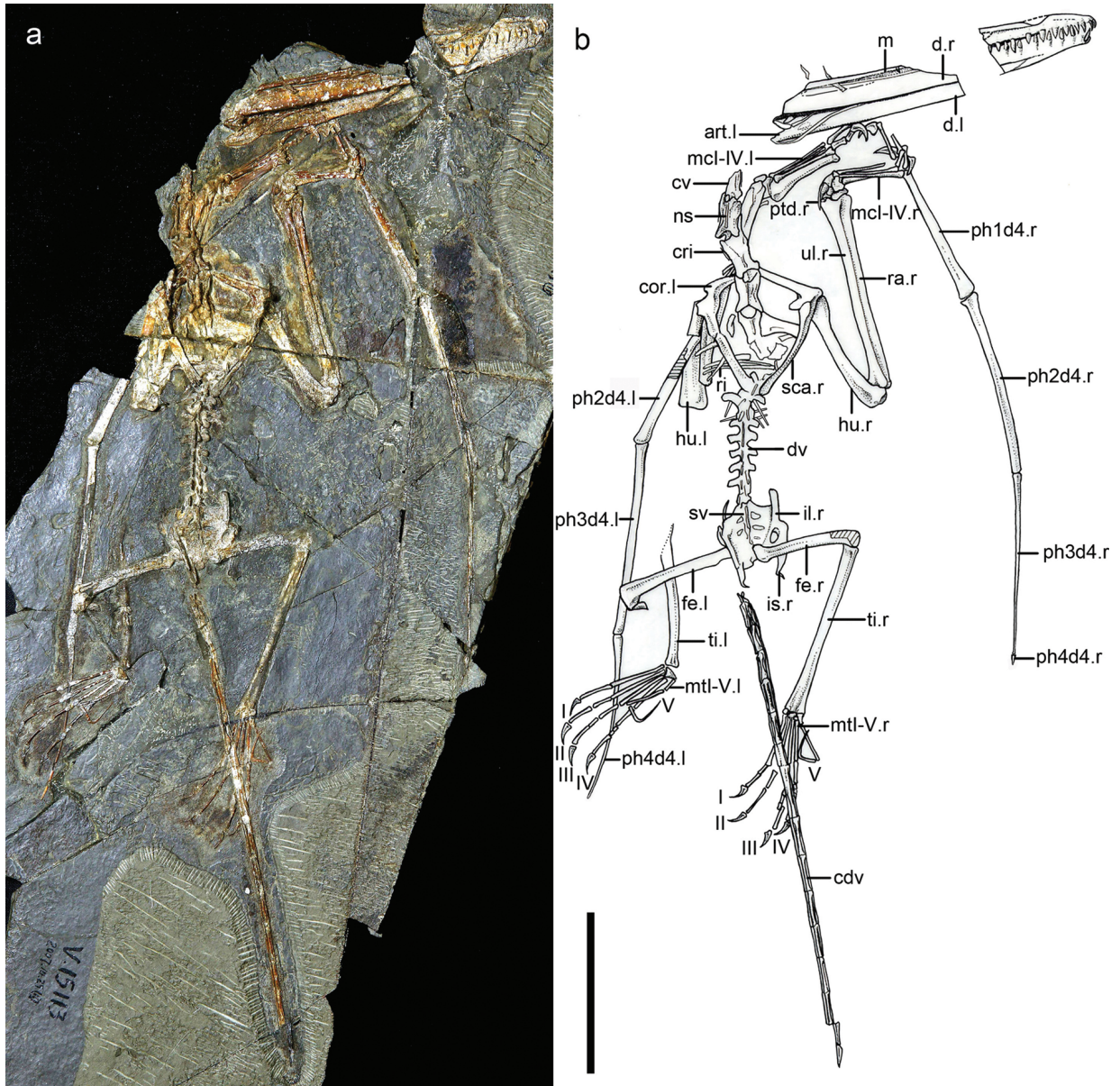


Fig. 2 – *Wukongopterus lii* IVPP V15113, holotype. (a) photo and (b) drawing of the complete skeleton. Note the broken tibia on the left side. Scale bar: 50 mm. art, articular; cdv, caudal vertebrae; cri, cervical rib; cor, coracoid; cv, cervical vertebra; d, dentary; dv, dorsal vertebra; fe, femur; hu, humerus; il, ilium; is, ischium; l, left; m, maxilla; mcl-IV, metacarpal 1-4; ns, neural spine; ph1-4d4, first to fourth phalanx of manual digit IV; mtl-V, Metatarsal 1-5; ptd, pteroid; ra, radius; r, right; ri, rib; sca, scapula; sv, sacral vertebra; ti, tibia; ul, ulna; I-IV, 1-5, first through fifth pedal digits.

Locality and horizon: Linglongta, Jianchang, western Liaoning, China. Daohugou Bed (Formation), ?Late Jurassic-Early Cretaceous (Zhang 2002, He et al. 2004).

Diagnosis: A non-pterodactyloid pterosaur with the following combination of characters that distinguish it

from other pterosaurs (autapomorphies are marked with an asterisk): first two pairs of premaxillary teeth protruding beyond the dentary*, at least 16 short peg-like teeth on each side of the upper jaw (convergent with some archaeoptero-dactyloids), maxillary ramus of the jugal long, anteriorly projected and splint-like*,

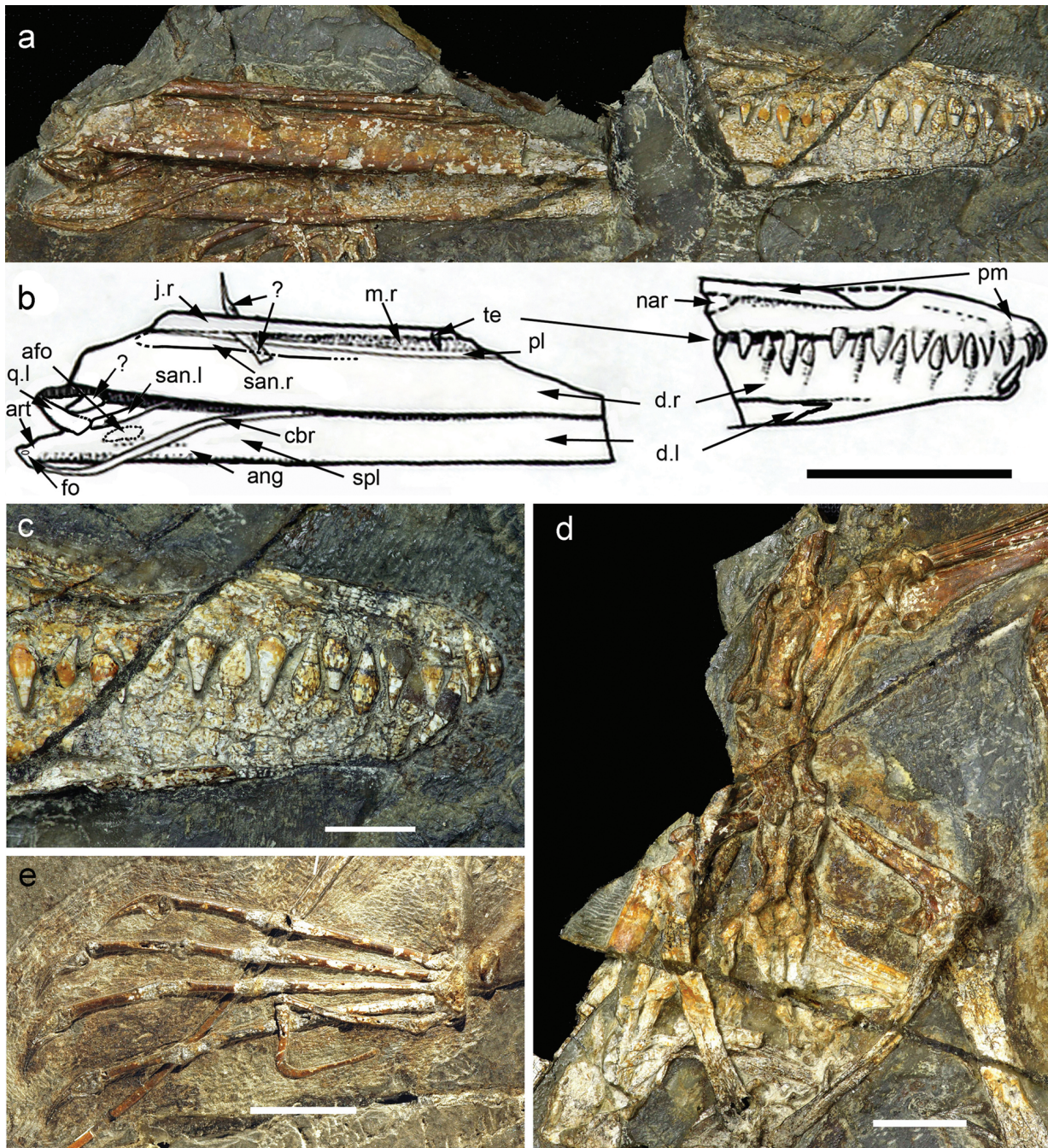


Fig. 3 – *Wukongopterus lii* IVPP V15113. (a) photo and (b) drawing of the skull. Scale bar: 20 mm, c-d details of the skeleton. (c) dentition. (d) cervical vertebrae. (e) left foot. Scale bars: 10 mm. afo, adductor fossa; ang, angular; art, articular; cbr, ceratobranchial; d, dentary; j, jugal; l, left; m, maxilla; nar, external naris; pm, premaxilla; pl, palatine; q, quadrate; r, right; san, surangular; spl, splenial; te, teeth; ?, unknown element.

quadrate inclined backwards for about 120° *, cervical vertebrae more elongated than in any known non-pterodactyloid*, length of wing metacarpal about half the length of the first wing finger phalanx (convergent with the Pterodactyloidea), strongly curved second pedal phalanx of the fifth toe with the angle between the proximal and distal segments about 75° *.

TAPHONOMY

The specimen (IVPP V15113) is preserved in a grey-dark shale and most elements are exposed in dorsal view. The skull is exposed on its right side and completely lacks the occipital and dorsal portions as well as part of the middle region, possibly broken away during the collecting process. The anterior cervical vertebrae and parts of the left wing are also lacking. Bones tend to be flattened, a common condition of pterosaur material. The specimen is well articulated with almost all elements in their natural position, indicating that the carcass reached the bottom of the water column complete and remained practically undisturbed before final burial. The left wing is partially folded underneath the body and the left manus lies close to the right one. Some patches of soft tissue are preserved near the wing elements, particularly on the left side between the third and fourth wing phalanges. Although not as extremely well preserved as some other specimens from the Daohugou locality, Inner Mongolia, China (Wang et al. 2002, Kellner et al. 2009) and deposits from other countries (e.g., Wellnhofer 1991, Kellner and Campos 1999), the preserved material shows the structural fibers that are typical of the pterosaur wing (e.g., Unwin and Bakhurina 1994, Kellner 1996, Sayão and Kellner 2007).

A noteworthy feature of IVPP V15113 is the condition of the left hind limb. The left femur is articulated with the acetabulum and perpendicular to the body, almost as a mirror image of its right counterpart. The left tibia is broken below the proximal articulation, which is still articulated with the femur. The broken portion of the tibia and the foot, which also remained in anatomical position, are displaced towards the body, underneath the femur. The fracture is not a clean transverse break through the bone, which would have suggested a taphonomic origin, but rather longitudinal and therefore consistent with the rupture of fresh bone. No evidence of

scavenging was observed that could have accounted for this breakage. The skeleton is rather undistorted and even small elements, such as the pedal phalanges of both feet, are preserved. Based on those observations it is likely that the breakage of this bone occurred while the animal was still alive. The fact that it is not healed as was observed in pterosaurs before (e.g., Kellner and Tomida 2000), there is a possibility that the broken tibia might be or resulted in the *causa mortis* of this individual. Similar conclusions on broken wing metacarpals were published by Wellnhofer (1970).

Lastly, the fact that the broken part of the left hind limb is still in close contact with the body argues for the presence of an uropatagium in *Wukongopterus lii*, as has been reported in a few primitive pterosaurs (Unwin and Bakhurina 1994, Wang et al. 2002).

DESCRIPTION AND COMPARATIVE ANATOMY

Although not complete, the skull of *Wukongopterus lii* is clearly elongated, a characteristic of non-anurognathid pterosaurs (length quadrate – anterior tip of the premaxillae: 101 mm, estimated length squamosal – tip of premaxillae: 120 mm). The rostral portion anterior to the external nares (32.6 mm) is proportionally shorter than in *Angustinaripterus*, *Rhamphorhynchus* and the Pterodactyloidea (He et al. 1983, Kellner 2003, 2004, Unwin 2003a). There is no evidence of a premaxillary crest that has been reported in some pterodactyloids (e.g., Campos and Kellner 1985), but also in the primitive *Austriadactylus*, *Raeticodactylus*, *Angustinaripterus*, *Harpactognathus*, and *Pterorhynchus* (He et al. 1983, Dalla Vecchia et al. 2002, Czerkas and Ji 2002, Carpenter et al. 2003, Stecher 2008). The ventral margin of the skull is straight as in most pterosaurs and differs from the undulating condition observed in *Harpactognathus* (Carpenter et al. 2003). The premaxillae are not laterally expanded, differing from *Angustinaripterus*. The alveolar margin of the maxilla is thickened, with a marked parallel sulcus running for most of the extension of this bone. The maxillary ramus of the jugal is an anteriorly directed long and very thin bone, clearly indicating that the antorbital fenestra must have been quite large in this pterosaur. The bony bar that forms the ventral margin of the middle portion of the skull (composed of the jugal and maxilla) is remarkably

thin for a non-pterodactyloid pterosaur. The preserved part of the maxilla shows no evidence of a bony bar separating the external naris from the antorbital fenestra, and it is possible that *Wukongopterus* possessed a naso-antorbital fenestra. Although only the ventral portion of the left quadrate is preserved, it shows that this bone is inclined posteriorly for about 120° (but not to the same degree as observed in the Archaeopterodactyloidea), differing from anurognathids, *Austriadactylus*, *Cacibupteryx*, and *Dimorphodon* (Wellnhofer 1991, Dalla Vecchia et al. 2002, Gasparini et al. 2004, Bennett 2007). There is no anterior bony projection (formed by the premaxillae) as present in *Rhamphorhynchus* (Wellnhofer 1975a, b). No detailed information of the palatal or occipital regions is available.

The lower jaw (total length: 103.2 mm) is articulated to the skull. The dentary is long and lacks a ventral sagittal crest as the one reported in anhanguerids (e.g., Kellner and Tomida 2000), some tapejarids (Wellnhofer and Kellner 1991, Wang and Zhou 2002), and in the primitive non-pterodactyloid *Raeticodactylus* (Stecher 2008). The anterior tip is straight and not downturned as in *Campylognathoides* and *Eudimorphodon* (Wild 1978, Padian 2008b) and does not show the laterally compressed anterior projection of *Rhamphorhynchus*. The mandibular symphysis is short (estimated length: 20 mm, less than 20% of mandibular length), differing from the longer symphysis of *Rhamphorhynchus*, *Dorygnathus* and pterodactyloids (Kellner 2003). The surangular is elongated and forms part of the dorsal margin of the adductor fossa. This bone also contacts the articular but does not take part in the articulation for the skull. The long angular composes the posteroventral border of the mandibular ramus. The articular is also elongated but not to the same degree as in *Caviramus* and *Raeticodactylus*, in which this bone is ventroposteriorly projected (Fröbisch and Fröbisch 2006, Stecher 2008). The borders of this element are thickened and a prominent opening is present on the dorsal surface. It is not clear if this opening leads to a pneumatic foramen as observed in some pterodactyloids (e.g., Wellnhofer 1985).

The left ceratobranchial is preserved and forms an elongated rod-like bone running over the medial surface of the mandibular ramus.

Since the middle portion of the skull and mandible

are not preserved, the total number of teeth cannot be established with certainty. Anterior to the broken area there are 10 upper teeth on the right side (anterior to the external naris), and one tooth is preserved on the posterior end of the maxilla right after the breakage. In the lower jaw the ninth tooth is positioned right under the anterior margin of the external naris. Based on the spacing between the alveoli, the total tooth counts estimated for the upper jaw is 16 and for the lower one might be 12, although this last number could be higher. In any case, the tooth count of the new Chinese specimen is higher than in the Anurognathidae, *Sordes*, *Scaphognathus*, and *Rhamphorhynchus* (Wellnhofer 1991).

The first two premaxillary pair of teeth are positioned anterior to the tip of the lower jaw and therefore have no matching mandibular teeth. Such a projection has not been observed in non-pterodactyloids with the exception of *Scaphognathus*, in which the dental margin of the upper jaw is slightly deflected dorsally (Wellnhofer 1991) contrasting to the straight condition of *Wukongopterus*. Within more derived pterosaurs, the archaeopterodactyloid *Feilongus* also has the anterior part of the upper jaw projecting relative to the lower jaw (Wang, Kellner et al. 2005), but is more pronounced than in *Wukongopterus*. The teeth are conical and peg-like, with an oval cross-section. All the teeth are quite short compared with rhamphorhynchids. *Wukongopterus* lacks anteroventrally-projecting fang-like teeth present in *Dorygnathus* and *Angustinaripterus*, and the particular heterodont dentition of *Dimorphodon*. The new species also lacks multicuspid teeth present in several Triassic pterosaurs (Wild 1978, Jenkins et al. 2001, Dalla Vecchia 2003, 2009, Fröbisch and Fröbisch 2006, Stecher 2008) and the finely serrated carinae observed in *Austriadactylus* (Dalla Vecchia et al. 2002).

Six cervical vertebrae from the middle and posterior part of the neck are preserved, exposed in dorsal view. The last one shows morphological similarities with the subsequent dorsal vertebrae but is much larger. All remaining cervical vertebrae bear ribs and are elongated, more than in any other non-pterodactyloid pterosaur and similar to more derived pterosaurs (e.g., Wang et al. 2007). Their length does not reach the condition of some archaeopterodactyloids like *Pterodactylus kochi* or the Azhdarchidae (Howse 1986,

Kellner and Langston 1996), but are elongated similar to *Germanodactylus cristatus*. Although mainly exposed in dorsal view, the lateral surface of some can be observed and lacks a pneumatic foramen. The neural spine is blade-like and comparatively low, differing in this respect from other non-pterodactyloids. The complete set of dorsal vertebrae is preserved comprising 12 elements, none being fused into a notarium. The neural spine is high (proportionally higher than in the cervical series) and quadrangular. There are five sacral vertebrae, four original ones showing intercostal fenestrae and a fifth element incorporated from the caudal series, totally fused with the preceding vertebra. This last sacral has the transverse processes bent up and joins the post-acetabular portion of the ilium on the medioventral surface. Despite being strongly connected to the ilium, the sacral vertebrae are not fused to this bone. The caudal vertebrae series is almost complete lacking the distal part. Individual vertebrae are difficult to distinguish. Rod-like structures formed likely by the elongation of the zygapophyses (as in most other non-pterodactyloid species except *Austriadactylus* and *Changchengopterus* [Dalla Vecchia 2002, Dalla Vecchia et al. 2002, Lü 2009]) are present indicating that *Wukongopterus lii* had a stiffened tail. Only one free caudal is preserved, but since the tail has drifted slightly from the pelvis, more might have been originally present.

The sternum is present and well ossified but lies under the body and cannot be described in detail. The scapula (length: 34.1 mm–32.9 mm) is longer than the coracoid (~25.3 mm) and both elements are not fused. The scapula is elongated and does not form a plate-like structure as in some Triassic pterosaurs (Dalla Vecchia 2003, 2009). This bone is longer relatively to the coracoid compared to *Changchengopterus pani*. The coracoid shows a well developed biceps tubercle but lacks a deep coracoidal flange as reported for *Changchengopterus* (Lü 2009). Although not well preserved, the deltopectoral crest of the humerus (length: 38.7 mm) is positioned proximally and does not extend further down the shaft as in *Raeticodactylus*, *Campylognathoides*, and *Eudimorphodon ranzii* (Wild 1978, Padian 2008b, Stecher 2008).

The radius and ulna are elongated, with the diameter of the radius being sub equal to the one of the ulna

(length: 62.1 mm). The carpus is best observed on the right side, the carpals are not fused, with both the proximal and distal series presenting two elements. This number could be higher and more carpal elements have been reported in pterodactyloid pterosaurs (Kellner and Tomida 2000). The pteroid (length: 7.3 mm) is very small and is attached to the proximal carpal series. The ratio of the wing metacarpal (length: 22.9 mm) and some bones (e.g., wing finger phalanges, humerus) suggests that this element is slightly larger compared to other non-pterodactyloid pterosaurs, but does not approach the extreme elongated pterodactyloid condition. Manual unguals are deeper and more curved than pedal unguals. The first wing finger phalanx is the smallest (length: 45.7 mm) followed by the fourth (51.4 mm), second (56.8 mm) and third (58.3–59.3 mm) ones, respectively. The ratio of the first wing finger phalanx and the tibia is similar to "*Eudimorphodon*" *cromptonellus* (see Jenkins et al. 2001) and are the smallest values within non-pterodactyloid pterosaurs.

The femur (length: 33.3–35.6 mm) is shorter than the tibia (length: 52.8 mm) and has a large head. Both pedes are well preserved with metatarsal III (16.8–17.2 mm) being larger than metatarsal IV (14.5–15.0). The phalangeal formula (2.3.4.5.2) is typical for non-pterodactyloid pterosaurs that have two elongated phalanges on pedal digit V. The first phalanx of pedal digit V is longer than in some non-pterodactyloids (e.g., *Rhamphorhynchus*). The last phalanx of pedal digit V differs from all pterosaurs in being more curved with the distal and proximal portion forming an angle of about 75°. This "boomerang-shaped" last phalanx of pedal digit V is also observed in *Sordes*, *Dorygnathus* and *Scaphognathus*, but all show a larger angle (135°) between the distal and proximal parts (Wellnhofer 1991, Unwin and Bakhurina 1994). The pedal unguals are long, curved with a deep lateral sulcus, and have a broad, flattened ventral surface.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The long tail, short wing metacarpals and long pedal digit V clearly indicate that *Wukongopterus lii* is not a member of the Pterodactyloidea. In order to assess the phylogenetic position of the new species, we performed a cladistic analysis using the original data set

of Kellner (2003), which is being continuously updated by the inclusion of new characters and taxa, as well as by the review of character states (Kellner 2004, Wang, Kellner, 2005, 2008, see Appendix). The present analysis shows that *Wukongopterus lii* is a primitive non-pterodactyloid placed outside the Novialoidea, but more derived relative to the Anurognathidae, *Austriadactylus*, *Sordes*, *Preondactylus*, and *Scaphognathus* (Fig. 4). *Wukongopterus lii* lacks the synapomorphic features of the Rhamphorhynchinae and also the ones which unite the two species of *Campylognathoides*. These taxa are nested within the Novialoidea.

Although the phylogeny of non-pterodactyloid taxa is beyond the scope of this paper, it is interesting to note that the results that were achieved in the present study differ from previous analyses (e.g., Kellner 2003, 2004, Unwin 2003a, b, Wang, Kellner et al. 2008, Dalla Vecchia 2009). Among the most striking differences is the paraphyly of the Campylognathoididae, having *Eudimorphodon ranzii* forming a monophyletic group with other Triassic pterosaurs instead of *Campylognathoides* as has been previously advocated (e.g., Wild 1978, Kellner 2003, Unwin 2003a, b). The particular position of *Peteinosaurus* as sister-taxon of “*Eudimorphodon*” *cromptonellus* further supports the suspicion that *Eudimorphodon* as presently defined is paraphyletic and there are doubts if all specimens attributed to this taxon do represent the same species or even the same genus (e.g., Kellner 2003, Dalla Vecchia 2003, 2009). Caution is therefore needed before compiling all *Eudimorphodon* specimens in one single terminal taxon as has been done before (Unwin 2003b).

In addition, the search conducted by PAUP (Swoford 2000) with the inclusion of *Harpactognathus*, *Angustinaripterus*, and *Cacibupteryx*, known from cranial material only, and *Changchengopterus*, known from a partial skeleton (lacking cranial elements), resulted in thousands of most parsimonious cladograms. Part of the explanation for this can be attributed to the incompleteness of several species. Due to the fragility of their bones and based on the fact that they are flying animals, pterosaur remains are generally difficult to preserve and are mostly fragmentary (e.g., Dalla Vecchia et al. 2001, Fröbisch and Fröbisch 2006, Calvo et al. 2007, Martill et al. 2008, Costa and Kellner 2009). Even deposits where exceptionally specimens are occa-

sionally found like the Romualdo Formation (e.g., Fara et al. 2005) have yielded incomplete and fragmentary material (e.g., Wellnhofer 1985). Regarding non-pterodactyloid pterosaurs, with the exception of *Campylognathoides*, *Dorygnathus* and *Rhamphorhynchus* (Wellnhofer 1975a, b, Bennett 1995, Padian 2008a, b), all other are based on incomplete or badly preserved specimens (e.g., *Preondactylus*). Even more complete taxa such as *Austriadactylus* and *Raeticodactylus* lack important post-cranial bones that have yielded diagnostic characters of several non-pterodactyloid clades (e.g., Kellner 2003, Unwin 2003b). When only *Changchengopterus pani* is included in the phylogenetic analysis, the consensus cladogram differs even more from all published pterosaur phylogenies so far by having *Austriadactylus* as the most basal pterosaur, the Anurognathidae as the sister group of the Pterodactyloidea, and all remaining non-pterodactyloid united in a monophyletic group (see Appendix). Since we were not able to examine the holotype and only known specimen of *Changchengopterus pani* first hand, this result must be seen with caution.

The present study shows the lack of stability regarding the relationships of non-pterodactyloid taxa and several changes are expected in the future when additional and more complete non-pterodactyloid material comes to light. Until a more stable picture of the relationships of non-pterodactyloids is achieved, we refrain from naming nodes.

The only non-pterodactyloid pterosaurs from China are the anurognathids *Jeholopterus* (from the Daohugou Bed) and *Dendrorhynchoides* (from the Jianshangou Bed of the Yixian Formation), and three putative rhamphorhynchids: *Angustinaripterus* from the Middle Jurassic Xiashaximiao Formation, *Changchengopterus* reported from the Tiaojishan Formation (although we suspect that it comes also from the Daohugou Bed) and *Pterorhynchus* (from the Daohugou Bed). The anurognathid *Dendrorhynchoides* was first thought to possess an elongated tail (Ji and Ji 1998, Ji et al. 1999), which was convincingly dismissed by Unwin et al. (2000). *Angustinaripterus longicephalus* is only known by a skull and lower jaw but, despite its uncertain phylogenetic position, is not a pterodactyloid (e.g., separated external nares and antorbital fenestra). The dentition and the presence of a premaxillary sagittal crest are some fea-

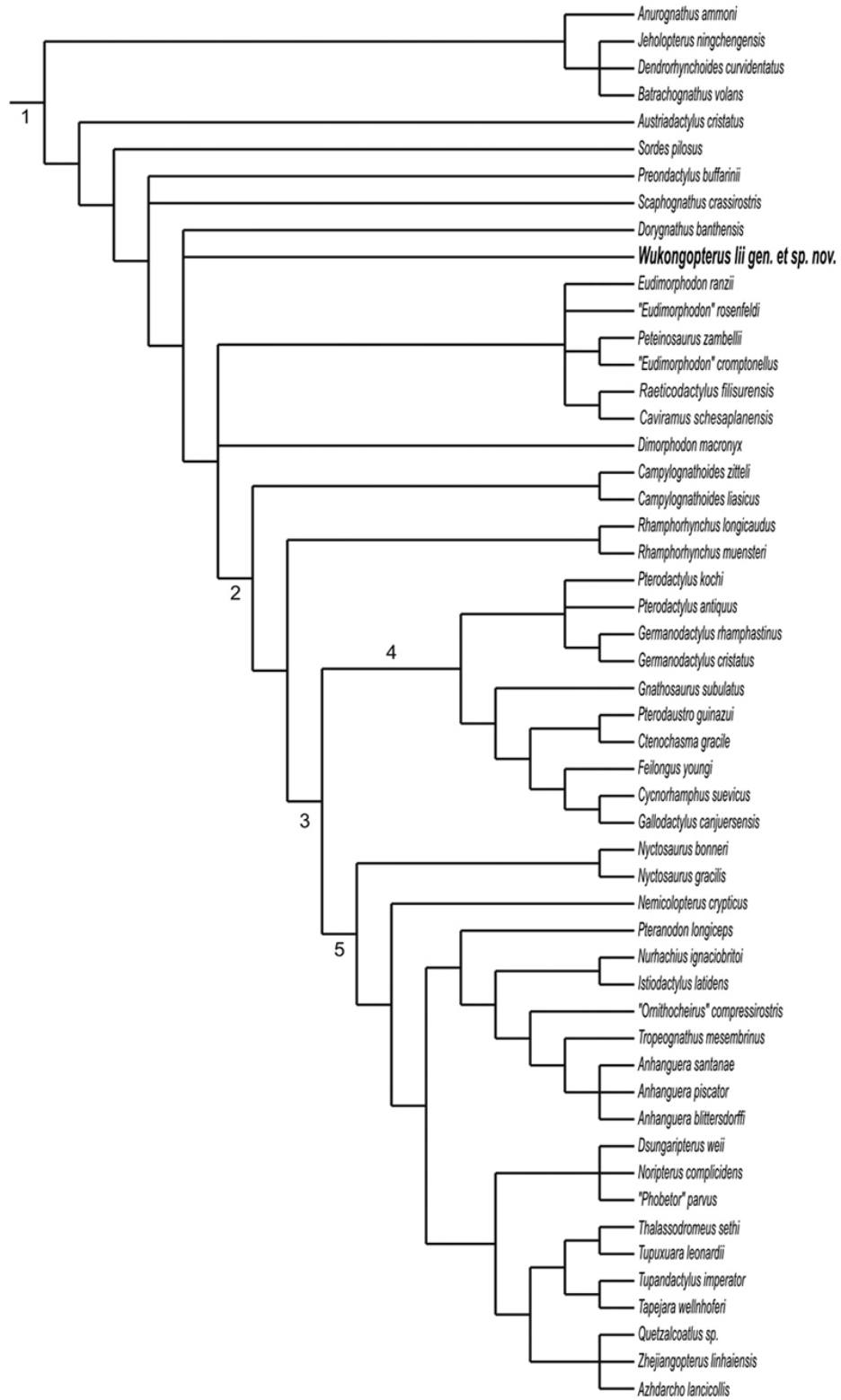


Fig. 4 – Phylogenetic relationships of *Wukongopterus lii*. 1, Pterosauria; 2, Novalioidea; 3, Pterodactyloidea; 4, Archaeopteroidea; 5, Dsungaripteroidea. See appendix for details.

tures that distinguish *Angustinaripterus* from *Wukongopterus*.

The non-pterodactyloid *Changchengopterus pani* is known from a partial skeleton to which we had no access that was only briefly described by Lü (2009). Based on the original publication, *Wukongopterus* differs from *Changchengopterus* by several features, including the presence of elongated pre- and postzygophyses, a comparatively larger ulna, and the strongly curved second phalanx of pedal digit V. In the data matrix, Lü (2009) also points out that *Changchengopterus* bears short cervical vertebrae, which contrasts to the elongated condition of those bones in *Wukongopterus*. *Changchengopterus* also appears to have a proportionally smaller tibia, which can be regarded as a potential diagnostic feature of this taxon. Another difference is found in the proportion of the wing finger elements, with *Wukongopterus* having the first wing finger phalanx the shortest of all (including the fourth), while in *Changchengopterus* this bone has the same size of the third wing finger phalanx (Lü 2009).

The only long-tailed pterosaur that comes from the same deposit of *Wukongopterus* is *Pterorhynchus wellnhoferi*, which is based on a nearly complete specimen from the Daohugou Bed that was still unprepared when described (Czerkas and Ji 2002). Unfortunately, we also did not have any access to the specimen (as is apparently the case for other researchers, C. Bennett, pers. comm. 2009). Based on the published illustrations, *Wukongopterus* differs from *Pterorhynchus* by features such as the lack of a premaxillary sagittal crest and the larger number of teeth. *Pterorhynchus* was classified in the Rhamphorhynchidae (Czerkas and Ji 2002) but is unlikely a member of this clade since it lacks cranial rhamphorhynchid synapomorphic features (e.g., Kellner 2004). It would be interesting to make a detailed comparison between *Wukongopterus* and *Pterorhynchus*, particularly regarding postcranial elements, in order to establish if there is a close relationship among those taxa.

Among the interesting features of *Wukongopterus* are the several traits of the skull that are similar to pterodactyloids. Those include the thin ventral margin of the skull, suggesting the presence of a large antorbital fenestra, and the inclination of the quadrate. Also some postcranial elements, mainly the elongated cervical ver-

tebrae that have not been reported in any non-pterodactyloid before, are a derived trait of this taxon. The different sizes of the cervical vertebrae in pterosaurs, now also in the non-pterodactyloids, is a quite interesting subject for further research that might try to understand mechanical consequences of such arrangement. Nonetheless the remaining skeleton clearly shows primitive non-pterodactyloid characteristics such as the elongated tail and the developed fifth pedal digit.

Non-pterodactyloid pterosaurs also show considerable variation in the shape of the second (and last) pedal phalanx that can be short (*Campylognathoides*), straight (*Jeholopterus*, *Dimorphodon*), slightly curved (*Rhamphorhynchus*), and strongly curved (“boomerang” shaped) (*Sordes*, *Scaphognathus*, *Dorygnathus*). Although falling into the last category, the angle between the proximal and distal portion of the last phalanx of pedal digit V in *Wukongopterus lii* is strongly curved, with the proximal and distal segment at an angle of lesser than 90°. In *Sordes* the last phalanx of pedal digit V has been demonstrated to be connected with the uropatagium (Unwin and Bakhurina 1994) and it is generally accepted that this was also the case of other pterosaurs (e.g., Wellnhofer 1991). Therefore, the variation of morphology and size of the phalanx of pedal digit V might indicate a variation in the shape of the uropatagium in non-pterodactyloid pterosaurs, a hypothesis that might be explored in the future with more findings.

To conclude, most researchers agree that the primitive long-tailed pterosaurs went extinct by the end of the Jurassic (Wellnhofer 1991), some even using them for dating deposits (e.g., Lü 2009). Despite the disputed age of the Daohugou Bed, that might extend into the lower Cretaceous, *Wukongopterus* indicates that long-tailed pterosaurs were more diverse towards the end of the Jurassic than previously thought. This discovery further enhances the importance of the ancient ecosystems of the Jehol Group for the understanding of pterosaur evolutionary history.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to thank Yutong Li for the preparation of the specimen, Wei Gao for the photos, Jinling Huang for the drawings that illustrate this paper and Taissa Rodrigues for discussions regarding pterosaur characters. Fabio Dalla Vecchia, Juliana Manso Sayão, Dio-

genes de Almeida Campos, Chris Bennett and Mark Witton are acknowledged for comments on the earlier draft of this ms. This study was supported by the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars (40825005), National Natural Science Foundation of China (40121202), The Major Basic Research Projects of the Ministry of Science and Technology of China (2006CB806400). AWAK acknowledges the Fundação Carlos Chagas Filho de Amparo à Pesquisa do Rio de Janeiro (FAPERJ no. E-26/102.779/2008) and the Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq no. 304965/2006-5) for supporting research in China.

RESUMO

Um novo pterossauro de cauda longa, *Wukongopterus lii* gen. et sp. nov., é descrito baseado em um esqueleto quase completo (IVPP V15113) de um indivíduo com abertura alar estimada em 730 mm. O exemplar foi encontrado nas camadas Daohugou (ou Formação Daohugou) em Linglongta, Jianchang, Província de Liaoning, China. *Wukongopterus lii* é um pterossauro não-pterodactiloíde diagnosticado pela presença de dois pares de dentes pré-maxilares posicionados antes do início do dentário, vértebras cervicais alongadas (convergente com os Pterodactyloidea) e a segunda falange do quinto dígito do pé fortemente curvada. Este espécime também apresenta uma tíbia quebrada indicando que a quebra ocorreu com o animal em vida. Evidências tafonômicas apresentam dados indiretos da presença de um uropatágio, corroborando com a hipótese de que pelo menos os não-pterodactiloídes possuíam uma membrana entre os seus membros posteriores. Uma análise filogenética incluindo vários pterossauros não-pterodactiloídes resulta no posicionamento de *Wukongopterus lii* gen. et sp. nov. fora dos Novialoidea, sendo cladisticamente mais primitivo do que os Rhamphorhynchidae e *Campylognathoides*. Esta nova análise filogenética difere de resultados anteriores, indicando que mais trabalhos são necessários até que uma estabilidade da relação de parentesco entre os pterossauros não-pterodactiloídes seja alcançada.

Palavras-chave: Pterosauria, *Wukongopterus*, ?Jurássico Superior-Cretáceo Inferior, Liaoning, China.

REFERENCES

- ANDRES B AND JI Q. 2008. A new pterosaur from the Liaoning Province of China, the phylogeny of the pterodactyloidea, and convergence in their cervical vertebrae. 51: 453–469.
- BENNETT SC. 1995. A statistical study of *Rhamphorhynchus* from the Solnhofen Limestone of Germany: year-classes of a single large species. *J Paleont* 69: 569–580.
- BENNETT SC. 2007. A second specimen the pterosaur *Anurognathus ammoni*. *Paläont Zeitschrift* 81: 376–398.
- CALVO JO, PORFIRI JD, GONZÁLEZ-RIGA B AND KELLNER AWA. 2007. A new Cretaceous terrestrial ecosystem from Gondwana with the description of a new sauropod dinosaur. *An Acad Bras Cienc* 79: 529–541.
- CAMPOS DA AND KELLNER AWA. 1985. Panorama of the Flying Reptiles Study in Brazil and South America. *An Acad Bras Cienc* 57: 453–466.
- CARPENTER K, UNWIN D, CLOWARD K, MILES C AND MILES C. 2003. A new scaphognathine pterosaur from the Upper Jurassic Morrison Formation of Wyoming, USA. In: BUFFETAUT E AND MAZIN J-M (Eds), *Evolution and Palaeobiology of Pterosaurs*. Geol Soc, London, Special Publications 217, p. 45–54.
- CHEN W AND ZHANG Y. 2004. Isotope geochronology. In: JI Q (Ed), *Mesozoic Jehol Biota of Western Liaoning*, Beijing: Geological Publishing House, p. 95–158.
- COSTA F AND KELLNER AWA. 2009. On two pterosaur humeri from the Tendaguru beds (Upper Jurassic, Tanzania). *An Acad Bras Cienc* 81: 813–818.
- CZERKAS SA AND JI Q. 2002. A rhamphorhynchoid with a headcrest and complex integumentary structures. In: CZERKAS SJ (Ed), *Feathered Dinosaurs and the origin of flight*. Utah: The Dinosaur Museum, p. 15–41.
- DALLA VECCHIA FM. 2002. A caudal segment of a Late Triassic pterosaur (Diapsida, Pterosauria) from Northeastern Italy. *Gortania* 23: 5–36.
- DALLA VECCHIA FM. 2003. New morphological observations on Triassic pterosaurs. In: BUFFETAUT E AND MAZIN J-M (Eds), *Evolution and Palaeobiology of Pterosaurs*. Geol Soc, London, Special Publications 217, p. 23–43.
- DALLA VECCHIA FM. 2009. Anatomy and systematics of the pterosaur *Carniadactylus* gen. n. *rosenfeldi* (Dalla Vecchia, 1995). *Riv Ital Paleont Strati* 115: 159–188.
- DALLA VECCHIA FM, ARDUINI P AND KELLNER AWA. 2001. The first pterosaur from the Cenomanian (Late Cretaceous) Lagerstätten of Lebanon. *Cretac Res* 22: 219–225.
- DALLA VECCHIA FM, WILD R, HOPF H AND REITNER J. 2002. A crested rhamphorhynchoid pterosaur from the Late Triassic of Austria. *J Vert Paleont* 22: 196–199.

- FARA E, SARAIVA AAF, CAMPOS DA, MOREIRA JKR, SIEBRA DC AND KELLNER AWA. 2005. Controlled excavations in the Romualdo Member of the Santana Formation (Early Cretaceous, Araripe Basin, northeastern Brazil): stratigraphic, palaeoenvironmental and palaeoecological implications. *Palaeogeogr Palaeoclim Palaeoecol* 218: 145–160.
- FRÖBISCH NB AND FRÖBISCH J. 2006. A new basal pterosaur genus from the Upper Triassic of Northern Calcareous Alps of Switzerland. *Palaeontology* 49: 1081–1090.
- GASPARINI Z, FERNÁNDEZ M AND FUENTE M DE LA. 2004. A new pterosaur from the Jurassic of Cuba. *Palaeontology* 47: 919–927.
- HE HY, WANG XL, ZHOU ZH, ZHU F, JIN F, WANG F, DING X AND BOVEN A. 2004. $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ dating of ignimbrite from Inner Mongolia, northeastern China, indicates a post-Middle Jurassic age for the overlying Dao-hugou Bed. *Geophysical Res Letters* 31: 1–4.
- HE X, YAN D AND SU D. 1983. A new pterosaur from the middle Jurassic of Dashanpu, Zigong, Sichuan. *Journ Chengdu College Geol Suppl* 1: 27–33.
- HOWSE SCB. 1986. On the cervical vertebrae of the Pterodactyloidea (Reptilia: Archosauria). *Zool Journ Linn Soc* 88: 307–328.
- JENKINS FA JR, SHUBIN NH, GATESY SM AND PADIAN K. 2001. A diminutive pterosaur (Pterosauria: Eudimorphodontidae) from the Greenlandic Triassic. *Bull Mus Comp Zool* 156: 151–170.
- JI SA AND JI Q. 1997. Discovery of a new pterosaur from western Liaoning, China. *Acta Geol Sin* 71: 1–6.
- JI SA AND JI Q. 1998. A new fossil pterosaur (Rhamphorhynchoidea) from Liaoning. *Jiangsu Geology* 22: 199–206.
- JI SA, JI Q AND PADIAN K. 1999. Biostratigraphy of new pterosaurs from China. *Nature* 398: 573–574.
- KELLNER AWA. 1996. Reinterpretation of a remarkably well preserved pterosaur soft tissue from the Early Cretaceous of Brazil. *J Vert Paleont* 16: 718–722.
- KELLNER AWA. 2003. Pterosaur phylogeny and comments on the evolutionary history of the group. In: BUFFETAUT E AND MAZIN J-M (Eds), *Evolution and Palaeobiology of Pterosaurs*. Geol Soc, London, Special Publications 217, p. 105–137.
- KELLNER AWA. 2004. New information on the Tapejaridae (Pterosauria, Pterodactyloidea) and discussion of the relationships of this clade. *Ameghiniana* 41: 521–534.
- KELLNER AWA AND CAMPOS DA. 1999. Vertebrate Paleontology in Brazil – a review. *Episodes* 22: 238–251.
- KELLNER AWA AND LANGSTON W JR. 1996. Cranial remains of *Quetzalcoatlus* (Pterosauria, Azhdarchidae) from the Late Cretaceous Sediments of Big Bend National Park, Texas. *J Vert Paleont* 16: 222–231.
- KELLNER AWA AND TOMIDA Y. 2000. Description of a new species of Anhangueridae (Pterodactyloidea) with comments on the pterosaur fauna from the Santana Formation (Aptian-Albian), Northeastern Brazil. *National Science Museum Monographs* 17: 1–135.
- KELLNER AWA, WANG X, TISCHLINGER H, CAMPOS DA, HONE DWE AND MENG X. 2009. The soft tissue of *Jeholopterus* (Pterosauria, Anurognathidae, Batrachognathinae) and the structure of the pterosaur wing membrane. *Proc Royal Soc B* doi: 10.1098/rspb.2009.0846.
- LÜ J, JI S, YUAN C AND JI Q. 2006. Pterosaurs from China. Beijing: Geological Publishing House, 147 p.
- LÜ J, UNWIN DM, XU L AND ZHANG X. 2008. A new azhdarchoid pterosaur from the Lower Cretaceous of China and its implications for pterosaur phylogeny and evolution. *Naturwissenschaften* doi: 10.1007/s00114-008-0397-5.
- LÜ JC. 2003. A new pterosaur: *Beipiaopterus chenianus*, gen. et sp. nov. (Reptilia: Pterosauria) from western Liaoning Province of China. *Memoir Fukui Prefectural Dinosaur Museum* 2: 153–160.
- LÜ JC. 2009. A new non-pterodactyloid pterosaur from Qinglong County, Hebei Province of China. *Acta Geol Sin* 83: 189–199.
- MARTILL DM, WITTON MP AND GALE A. 2008. Possible azhdarchoid pterosaur remains from the Coniacian (Late Cretaceous) of England. *Zitteliana* 28: 209–218.
- PADIAN K. 2008a. The Early Jurassic pterosaur *Dorygnathus banthensis* (Theodori 1830). *Spec Papers in Palaeont* 80: 1–64.
- PADIAN K. 2008b. The Early Jurassic pterosaur *Campylognathoides* Strand, 1928. *Spec Papers in Palaeont* 80: 65–107.
- SAYÃO JM AND KELLNER AWA. 2007. Novo esqueleto parcial de pterossauro (Pterodactyloidea, Tapejaridae) do Membro Crato (Aptiano), Formação Santana, Bacia do Araripe, Nordeste do Brasil. *Estudos Geológicos* 16: 16–40.
- STECHER R. 2008. A new Triassic pterosaur from Switzerland (Central Australpine, Grisons), *Raeticodactylus filisurenensis* gen. et sp. nov. *Swiss Journ Geosci* 101: 185–201.
- SWOFFORD DL. 2000. PAUP: Phylogenetic Analysis Using Parsimony, Version 4.0B10 (for Microsoft Windows) Massachusetts: Sinauer Associates, Inc. Sunderland.

- UNWIN DM. 2003a. On the phylogeny and evolutionary history of pterosaurs. In: BUFFETAUT E AND MAZIN J-M (Eds), *Evolution and Palaeobiology of Pterosaurs*. Geol Soc, London, Special Publications 217, p 139–190.
- UNWIN DM. 2003b. *Eudimorphodon* and the early history of pterosaurs. *Riv Mus Civ Science Nat "E Caffi" Bergamo* 22: 39–46.
- UNWIN DM AND BAKHURINA NN. 1994. *Sordes pilosus* and the nature of the pterosaur flight apparatus. *Nature* 371: 62–64.
- UNWIN DM, LÜ J AND BAKHURINA NN. 2000. On the systematic and stratigraphic significance of pterosaurs from the Lower Cretaceous Yixian Formation (Jehol Group) of Liaoning, China. *Mitt Mus Naturk Berlin, Geowiss R* 3: 181–206.
- WANG X AND ZHOU ZH. 2006. Pterosaur assemblages of the Jehol Biota and their implication for the Early Cretaceous pterosaur radiation. *Geol J* 41: 405–418.
- WANG X, WANG YQ, ZHANG F, ZHANG J, ZHOU Z, JIN F, HU Y, GU G AND ZHANG H. 2000. Vertebrate biostratigraphy of the Lower Cretaceous Yixian Formation in Lingyuan, western Liaoning and its neighboring southern Nei Mongol (Inner Mongolia), China. *Vert PalAsiat* 38: 81–99.
- WANG X, ZHOU Z, ZHANG F AND XU X. 2002. A nearly completely articulated rhamphorhynchoid pterosaur with exceptionally well-preserved wing membranes and 'hairs' from Inner Mongolia, northeast China. *Chinese Science Bull* 47: 226–230.
- WANG X, ZHOU Z, HE H, JIN F, WANG Y, ZHANG J, WANG Y, XU X AND ZHANG F. 2005. Stratigraphy and age of the Daohugou Bed in Ningcheng, Inner Mongolia. *Chinese Science Bull* 50: 2369–2376.
- WANG X, KELLNER AWA, ZHOU Z AND CAMPOS DA. 2005. Pterosaur diversity and faunal turnover in Cretaceous terrestrial ecosystems in China. *Nature* 437: 875–879.
- WANG X, KELLNER AWA, ZHOU Z AND CAMPOS DA. 2007. A new pterosaur (Ctenochasmatidae, Archaeopterygidae) from the Lower Cretaceous Yixian Formation of China. *Cretac Res* 28: 245–260.
- WANG X, KELLNER AWA, ZHOU Z AND CAMPOS DA. 2008. Discovery of a rare arboreal forest-dwelling flying reptile (Pterosauria, Pterodactyloidea) from China. *Proc Nat Acad Sci* 105: 1983–1987.
- WANG X, CAMPOS, DA, ZHOU Z AND KELLNER AWA. 2008. A primitive istiodactylid pterosaur (Pterodactyloidea) from the Jiufotang Formation (Early Cretaceous), northeast China. *Zootaxa* 1813: 1–18.
- WANG XL AND ZHOU ZH. 2002. A new pterosaur (Pterodactyloidea, Tapejaridae) from the Early Cretaceous Jiufotang Formation of western Liaoning, China and its implication for biostratigraphy. *Chinese Science Bull* 47: 1521–1527.
- WANG XL AND ZHOU ZH. 2003. Two new pterodactyloid pterosaurs from the Early Cretaceous Jiufotang Formation of western Liaoning, China. *Vert PalAsiat* 41: 34–41.
- WELLNHOFER P. 1970. Die Pterodactyloidea (Pterosauria) der Oberjura-Plattenkalke Süddeutschlands. *Abh Bayer Akad Wiss, NF* 141: 1–133.
- WELLNHOFER P. 1975a. Die Rhamphorhynchoidea (Pterosauria) der Oberjura Plattenkalke Süddeutschlands I: Allgemeine Skeltettmorphologie. *Palaeontographica* 148: 1–33.
- WELLNHOFER P. 1975b. Die Rhamphorhynchoidea der Oberjura-Plattenkalke Süddeutschlands II: Systematische Beschreibung. *Palaeontographica* 148: 132–186.
- WELLNHOFER P. 1985. Neue Pterosaurier aus der Santana Formation (Apt) der Chapada do Araripe, Brasilien. *Palaeontographica* 187: 105–182.
- WELLNHOFER P. 1991. The illustrated encyclopedia of pterosaurs. London: Salamander Books, 192 p.
- WELLNHOFER P AND KELLNER AWA. 1991. The skull of *Tapejara wellnhoferi* Kellner (Reptilia, Pterosauria) from the Lower Cretaceous Santana Formation of the Araripe Basin, Northeastern Brazil. *Mitt Bayer Staatsslg Paläont U hist Geol* 31: 89–106.
- WILD R. 1978. Die Flugsaurier (Reptilia, Pterosauria) aus der Oberen Trias von Cene bei Bergamo, Italien. *Boll Soc Paleont Italiana* 17: 176–256.
- ZHANG J. 2002. Discovery of Daohugou Biota (Pre-Jehol Biota) with a discussion on its geological age. *J Stratigr* 26: 173–177.

APPENDIX

In order to access the phylogenetic position *Wukongopterus lii* gen. et sp. nov., we performed a phylogenetic analysis using PAUP 4.0b10 for Microsoft Windows (Swofford 2000). The large dataset (3 outgroups + 57 pterosaur taxa, 89 characters, several multistate) dictated the heuristic search option. Characters were given equal weight and treated unordered (ACCTRAN setting). The search conducted by PAUP including all three outgroups (*Ornithosuchus longidens*, *Herrerasaurus ischigualastensis* and *Scleromochlus taylori*) and all 57 pterosaur taxa produced 140.698 of equally parsimonious trees with a length of 233 steps (consistency index = 0.6781, retention index = 0.8806, rescaled consistency index = 0.5971). A second search excluding the outgroup *Scleromochlus* and the pterosaur taxa *Changchengopterus pani*, *Harpactognathus gentryii*, *Angustinaripterus longicephalus* and *Cacibupteryx caribensis*, PAUP found 15893 equally parsimonious trees of 225 steps (consistency index = 0.6933, retention index = 0.8831, rescaled consistency index = 0.6122). A strict consensus cladogram of this last search is shown in Figure 4. See the main text for more details.

CHARACTER LIST (per anatomical region)

SKULL

01. Dorsal margin of the skull:
0 – straight or curved downward; 1 – concave; 2 – only rostrum curved upward
02. Upper and lower jaw:
0 – laterally compressed; 1 – comparatively broad
03. Rostral part of the skull anterior to the external nares:
0 – reduced; 1 – elongated (less than half of skull length); 2 – extremely elongated (more than half of skull length)
04. Rostral end of premaxillae/maxillae downturned:
0 – absent; 1 – present
05. Position of the external naris:
0 – above the premaxillary tooth row; 1 – displaced posterior to the premaxillary tooth row
06. Process separating the external nares:
0 – broad; 1 – narrow
07. Dorsoventrally compressed and elongated naris
0 – absent; 1 – present
08. Naris size relative antorbital fenestra
0 – naris smaller than antorbital fenestra; 1 – naris larger than antorbital fenestra; 2 – both very reduced (slit-like)
09. Naris and antorbital fenestra:
0 – separated; 1 – confluent, shorter than 45% of the skull length; 2 – confluent, longer than 45% of the skull length
10. Antorbital fenestra, shape
0 – elliptical or ovoid; 1 – triangular, with base and height subequal; 2 – triangular with height larger than base;
3 – very elongated anteroposteriorly
11. Orbit comparatively small and positioned very high in the skull:
0 – absent; 1 – present
12. Orbit pear-shaped:
0 – absent; 1 – present
13. Position of the orbit relative to the nasoantorbital fenestra (naris + antorbital fenestra):
0 – same level or higher; 1 – orbit lower than the dorsal rim of the nasoantorbital fenestra
14. Suborbital opening:
0 – absent; 1 – present

CHARACTER LIST (per anatomical region) – (continuation)

-
15. Premaxillary sagittal crest, position:
0 – absent; 1 – confined to the anterior portion of the skull; 2 – starting anterior to the anterior margin of the nasoantorbital fenestra, not reaching the skull roof above the orbit; 3 – starting anterior to the anterior margin of the nasoantorbital fenestra, extending beyond occipital region; 4 – starting at about the anterior margin of the nasoantorbital fenestra, reaching the skull roof above the orbit but not extending over the occipital region; 5 – starting close or at the anterior portion of the skull and extended over the occipital region; 6 – starting close or at the anterior portion of the skull, reaching orbit but not extended over the occipital region; 7 – starting at the posterior half of the nasoantorbital fenestra
16. Premaxillary sagittal crest shape:
0 – striated, low with a nearly straight dorsal margin; 1 – striated, high with a nearly straight dorsal margin; 2 – striated, high, spike-like; 3 – round dorsal margin, bladeshaped; 4 – smooth, moderately expanded anteriorly and forming a low rod-like extension posteriorly; 5 – smooth, very expanded anteriorly and forming a low rod-like extension posteriorly; 6 – smooth, starting low anteriorly and very expanded posteriorly
17. Expansion of the premaxillary tip:
0 – absent; 1 – present, with premaxillary end high; 2 – present, with premaxillary end dorsoventrally flattened
18. Posterior ventral expansion of the maxilla:
0 – absent; 1 – present
19. Maxilla-nasal contact
0 – broad; 1 – narrow; 2 – absent
20. Nasal process:
0 – absent; 1 – placed laterally, long, straight, and directed ventrally (not fused with maxillae); 2 – placed laterally, reduced; 3 – placed medially, long; 4 – placed medially, reduced; 5 – placed laterally, short and directed anteriorly
21. Foramen on nasal process:
0 – absent; 1 – present
22. Anterior process of jugal rodlike and deflected dorsally
0 – absent; 1 – present
23. Lacrimal process of the jugal:
0 – broad; 1 – thin, subvertical; 2 – thin, strongly inclined posteriorly
24. Bony frontal crest:
0 – absent; 1 – low and blunt; 2 – low and elongated; 3 – high and expanded posteriorly
25. Bony parietal crest:
0 – absent; 1 – present, blunt; 2 – present, laterally compressed and posteriorly expanded, with a rounded posterior margin; 3 – present, constituting the base of the posterior portion of the cranial crest
26. Posterior region of the skull rounded with the squamosal displaced ventrally:
0 – absent; 1 – present
27. Position of the quadrate relative to the ventral margin of the skull:
0 – vertical or subvertical; 1 – inclined about 120° backwards; 2 – inclined about 150° backwards
28. Position of the articulation between skull and mandible:
0 – under the posterior half of the orbit or further backwards; 1 – under the middle part of the orbit; 2 – under the anterior half of the orbit
29. Helical jaw joint:
0 – absent; 1 – present
30. Supraoccipital:
0 – does not extend backwards; 1 – extends backwards
31. Foramen pneumaticum piercing the supraoccipital:
0 – absent; 1 – present
32. Expanded distal ends of the paroccipital processes:
0 – absent; 1 – present
33. Basisphenoid:
0 – short; 1 – elongated
-

CHARACTER LIST (per anatomical region) – (continuation)

34. Palatal ridge:
0 – absent; 1 – discrete, tapering anteriorly; 2 – strong, tapering anteriorly;
3 – strong, confined to the posterior portion of the palate
35. Maxilla excluded from the internal naris:
0 – absent; 1 – present
36. Opening between pterygoids and basisphenoid (interpterygoid opening):
0 – absent or very reduced; 1 – present and larger than subtemporal fenestra; 2 – present but smaller than subtemporal fenestra
37. Large distinct foramina (cup-shaped structures) on the lateral side anterior portion of the dentary
0 – absent; 1 – present
38. Mandibular symphysis:
0 – absent or very short; 1 – present, at least 30% of mandible length
39. Anterior tip of the dentary downturned:
0 – absent; 1 – present
40. Tip of the dentary projected anteriorly:
0 – absent; 1 – present
41. Dentary bony sagittal crest:
0 – absent; 1 – blade-like and short, placed anteriorly; 2 – massive and deep
42. Distinctively elongated and posteriorly oriented articular and retroarticular process
0 – absent; 1 – present
43. Position and presence of teeth:
0 – teeth present, evenly distributed along the jaws; 1 – teeth absent from the anterior portion of the jaws;
2 – teeth confined to the anterior part of the jaws; 3 – jaws toothless
44. Largest maxillary teeth positioned posteriorly:
0 – absent; 1 – present
45. Variation in the size of the anterior teeth with the 5th and 6th smaller than the 4th and 7th:
0 – absent; 1 – present
46. Teeth with a broad and oval base:
0 – absent; 1 – present
47. Multicusped teeth:
0 – absent; 1 – present
48. Teeth finely serrated
0 – absent; 1 – present
49. Peg-like teeth:
0 – absent; 1 – present, 15 or less on each side of the upper jaws; 2 – present, more than 15 on each side of the upper jaws
50. Long slender teeth:
0 – absent or less than 150; 1 – present, more than 150
51. Laterally compressed and triangular teeth
0 – absent; 1 – present
- AXIAL SKELETON**
52. Notarium:
0 – absent; 1 – present
53. Atlas and axis:
0 – unfused; 1 – fused
54. Postexapophyses on cervical vertebrae:
0 – absent; 1 – present
55. Lateral pneumatic foramen on the centrum of the cervical vertebrae:
0 – absent; 1 – present
-

CHARACTER LIST (per anatomical region) – (continuation)

-
56. Midcervical vertebrae:
0 – short, sub-equal in length; 1 – elongated; 2 – extremely elongated
57. Cervical ribs on midcervical vertebrae:
0 – present; 1 – absent
58. Neural spines of the midcervical vertebrae:
0 – tall, blade-like; 1 – tall, spike-like; 2 – low, blade-like; 3 – extremely reduced or absent
59. Number of caudal vertebrae:
0 – more than 15; 1 – 15 or less
60. Caudal vertebrae with elongated zygapophyses forming rod-like bony processes
0 – absent; 1 – present

PECTORAL GIRDLE

61. Length of the scapula:
0 – subequal or longer than coracoid; 1 – scapula shorter than coracoid ($1 > sca/cor > 0.80$);
2 – substantially shorter than coracoid ($sca/cor \leq 0.80$)
62. Proximal surface of scapula:
0 – elongated; 1 – sub-oval
63. Shape of scapula
0 – elongated; 1 – stout, with constructed shaft
64. Coracoidal contact surface with sternum:
0 – no developed articulation surface; 1 – articulation surface flattened, lacking posterior expansion;
2 – articulation surface oval, with posterior expansion
65. Deep coracoidal flange:
0 – absent; 1 – present
66. Broad tubercle on ventroposterior margin of coracoid:
0 – absent; 1 – present
- 67 – Cristospine:
0 – absent; 1 – shallow and elongated; 2 – deep and short

FORELIMB

68. Proportional length of the humerus relative to the metacarpal IV (hu/mcIV):
0 – $hu/mcIV > 2.50$; 1 – $1.50 < hu/mcIV < 2.50$; 2 – $0.40 < hu/mcIV < 1.50$; 3 – $hu/mcIV < 0.40$
69. Proportional length of the humerus relative to the femur (hu/fe):
0 – $hu/fe \leq 0.80$; 1 – $1.4 > hu/fe > 0.80$; 2 – $hu/fe > 1.40$
70. Proportional length of the humerus plus ulna relative to the femur plus tibia (hu+ul/fe+ti):
0 – humerus plus ulna about 0.80% or less of femur plus tibia length ($hu+ul/fe+ti \leq 0.80$);
1 – humerus plus ulna larger than 0.80% of femur plus tibia length ($hu+ul/fe+ti > 0.80$)
71. Pneumatic foramen on the ventral side of the proximal: part of the humerus
0 – absent; 1 – present
72. Pneumatic foramen present on dorsal side of the proximal part of the humerus:
0 – absent; 1 – present
73. Deltopectoral crest of the humerus:
0 – reduced, positioned close to the humerus shaft; 1 – enlarged, proximally placed, with almost straight proximal margin;
2 – subrectangular, extending down the humerus shaft for at least 30% of humerus length; 3 – distally expanded;
4 – enlarged, hatchet shaped, proximally placed; 5 – enlarged, hatched shaped, positioned further down the humerus shaft;
6 – enlarged, warped; 7 – long, proximally placed, curving ventrally
74. Medial (= ulnar) crest of the humerus:
0 – absent or reduced; 1 – present, directed posteriorly; 2 – present, massive, with a developed proximal ridge
75. Distal end of the humerus:
0 – oval or D-shaped; 1 – subtriangular
-

CHARACTER LIST (per anatomical region) – (continuation)

76. Proportional length of the ulna relative to the metacarpal IV (ul/mcIV):
 0 – ulna 3.6 times longer than metacarpal IV ($ul/mcIV > 3.6$); 1 – length of ulna between 3.6 and two times the length of metacarpal IV ($3.6 > ul/mcIV > 2$); 2 – ulna less than two times the length of metacarpal IV ($ul/mcIV < 2$)
77. Diameter of radius and ulna:
 0 – subequal; 1 – diameter of the radius about half that of the ulna; 2 – diameter of the radius less than half that of the ulna
78. Distal syncarpals:
 0 – unfused; 1 – fused in a rectangular unit; 2 – fused in a triangular unit
79. Pteroid:
 0 – absent; 1 – shorter than half the length of the ulna; 2 – longer than half the length of the ulna
80. Metacarpals I-III:
 0 – articulating with carpus; 1 – metacarpal III articulates with carpus, metacarpals I and II reduced; 2 – not articulating with carpus
81. Proportional length of the first phalanx of manual digit IV relative to the metacarpal IV (ph1d4/mcIV):
 0 – both small and reduced; 1 – both enlarged with ph1d4 over four times the length of mcIV ($ph1d4/mcIV > 4.0$); 2 – both enlarged with ph1d4 between two and four times the length of mcIV ($4.0 > ph1d4/mcIV \geq 2.0$); 3 – both enlarged with ph1d4 less than two times the length of mcIV ($ph1d4/mcIV < 2.0$)
82. Proportional length of the first phalanx of manual digit IV relative to the tibiotarsus (ph1d4/ti):
 0 – ph1d4 reduced; 1 – ph1d4 elongated and less than twice the length of ti ($ph1d4/ti$ smaller than 2.00); 2 – ph1d4 elongated about or longer than twice the length of ti ($ph1d4/ti$ subequal/larger than 2.00)
83. Proportional length of the second phalanx of manual digit IV relative to the first phalanx of manual digit IV (ph2d4/ph1d4):
 0 – both short or absent;
 1 – elongated with second phalanx about the same size or longer than first ($ph2d4/ph1d4$ larger than 1.00);
 2 – elongated with second phalanx up to 30% shorter than first ($ph2d4/ph1d4$ between 0.70 – 1.00);
 3 – elongated with second phalanx more than 30% shorter than first ($ph2d4/ph1d4$ smaller than 0.70)
84. Proportional length of the third phalanx of manual digit IV relative to the first phalanx of manual digit IV (ph3d4/ph1d4):
 0 – both short or absent; 1 – ph3d4 about the same length or larger than ph1d4; 2 – ph3d4 shorter than ph1d4
85. Proportional length of the third phalanx of manual digit IV relative to the second phalanx of manual digit IV (ph3d4/ph2d4):
 0 – both short or absent; 1 – ph3d4 about the same size or longer than ph2d4; 2 – ph3d4 shorter than ph2d4

HIND LIMB

86. Proportional length of the femur relative to the metacarpal IV (fe/mcIV):
 0 – femur about twice or longer than metacarpal IV ($fe/mcIV \geq 2.00$); 1 – femur longer but less than twice the length of metacarpal IV ($1.00 < fe/mcIV < 2.00$); 2 – femur about the same length or shorter than metacarpal IV ($fe/mcIV \leq 1.00$)
87. Length of metatarsal III:
 0 – more than 30% of tibia length; 1 – less than 30% of tibia length
88. Fifth pedal digit:
 0 – with four phalanges; 1 – with 2 phalanges; 2 – with 1 or no phalanx (extremely reduced)
89. Last phalanx of pedal digit V:
 0 – reduced or absent; 1 – elongated, straight; 2 – elongated, curved; 3 – elongated, very curved (boomerang shape)
-

DATA MATRIX

<i>Ornithosuchus longidens</i> (Huxley, 1877)								
0000000000	00000-0000	-0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000
<i>Herrerasaurus ischigualastensis</i> Reig, 1963								
0000000000	00000-0000	-0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	0000000000	000000020
<i>Scleromochlus taylori</i> Woodward, 1907								
000?0?0000	0?000-0000	-0?00000???	?????0?0?0	000?00?00?	0???00?00?	???????00?	?0???0?0??	?????????
<i>Anurognathus ammoni</i> Döderlein, 1923								
01000100??	?0??0-00??	-?00???????	?????00000	0000001100	0???0??10?	??????011?	?10000?101	1???001?
<i>Batrachognathus volans</i> Rjabimin, 1948								
?1000100??	???0-00?0	-??0???????	???0?00000	0000001100	?0?0?0?0??	001????21?	?10???????	?????????
<i>Dendrorhynchoides curvidentatus</i> (Ji and Ji, 1998)								
01000100??	???0-00?0	-??0???????	?????0?0?0	0000000110	00??00?0?10	0?0100?021	?1?000?10	1122200??
<i>Jeholopterus ningchengensis</i> Wang, Zhou, Zhang and Xu 2002								
0100010???	???0-00??	??000?0???	??????0?00	0000000110	00??01?10	000100?021	?1?000?10	112221011
<i>Austriadactylus cristatus</i> Dalla Vecchia, Wild, Hopf and Reitner, 2002								
0010100100	0000610000	-000?000??	???????????	?000000000	0????00?00	????0?????	??????0???	????1????
<i>Sordes pilosus</i> Sharov, 1971								
001010000?	00000-00?0	-?000010?0	?0????0000	00000001?0	00?0?00001	000100?011	?10000?10	211110013
<i>Preondactylus buffarini</i> Wild, 1984								
0010100?0?	0?000-00?0	-??000?0??	??????0000	0?0?00?000	00??0?0?0?	????????111	?1?10?10	2111100??
<i>Scaphognathus crassirostris</i> (Goldfuss, 1861)								
0010100000	00000-0000	-000001000	?000010?00	0000000100	00?0000001	0001001111	0010010?10	211110013
<i>Dorygnathus banthensis</i> (Theodori, 1830)								
0010100100	00000-0000	-000001000	?0??10101	0000000100	00??000001	00010??111	0030010?10	211111013
<i>Wukongopterus lii</i> gen. et sp. nov.								
001010????	?????00??	?0????1???	?????00000	0000000120	00?0?010201	000?0?1111	?01??10?10	211111013
<i>Dimorphodon macronyx</i> (Buckland, 1829)								
0010100102	00000-0010	-0000000?0	?0????0000	0000000100	00?0000001	00010??111	0010011110	211111011
<i>Raeticodactylus filisurensis</i> Stecher, 2008								
0010100000	0000220000	-00??010??	??????1000	2100001100	00??000???	????????21	?020??????	?1211?0??
<i>Caviramus schesaplanensis</i> Fröbisch and Fröbisch, 2006								
?0????????	??????????	??????????	??????1000	0100?01100	0?????????	??????????	??????????	??????????
<i>Peteinosaurus zambellii</i> Wild, 1978								
?0????????	??????????	??????????	??????????	?000?01100	00??????01	0001??1111	?10011?10	211110011
<i>"Eudimorphodon" rosenfeldi</i> Dalla Vecchia, 1995								
?01?1?00?	??????0??	??????????	??????0??	?000001100	00?000????	0??00?111	0????1????	2111100??
<i>"Eudimorphodon" cromptonellus</i> Jenkins, Shubin, Gatesy and Padian, 2001								
??????????	??????????	??000?????	000???????	?0??011??	00????????	??????111	????1????	21211101?
<i>Eudimorphodon ranzii</i> (Zambelli, 1973)								
0010100000	00000-0000	-0000010?0	?0??20010	0000001100	00?0000?0?	000100?11?	0020011?10	?????1???
<i>Campylognathoides liasicus</i> (Quenstedt, 1858)								
0010100101	00000-0000	-100001000	?000110010	0000000100	0000000001	0001001111	0020011?10	121221010
<i>Campylognathoides zitteli</i> (Plieninger, 1894)								
0010100101	00000-0000	-1000010?0	?????0010	0000000100	0000000001	000100?1??	?12??11?10	121220010
<i>Cacibuteryx caribensis</i> Gasparini, Fernández and Fuente, 2004								
001?100000	00000-?000	-0000000000	000010????	?000??????	??????????	??????????	??????????	??????????
<i>Harpactognathus gentryii</i> Carpenter, Unwin, Cloward, Miles and Miles, 2003								
0010101?0?	????2?0???	???????????	??01?????	?00???????	???????????	???????????	???????????	???????????
<i>Angustinaripterus longicephalus</i> He, Yan and Su, 1983								
0010101003	000020101?	?00????0??	??????00??	?000000100	0?????????	???????????	???????????	???????????
<i>Rhamphorhynchus muensteri</i> (Goldfuss, 1831)								
0010100200	00000-0000	-000001100	0000110101	0000000100	0000000001	0001001111	0040011?10	122221012
<i>Rhamphorhynchus longicaudus</i> (Münster, 1839)								
0010100200	00000-0000	-000001100	?000?0101	0000000100	0000?00001	0001001111	0040011?10	222221012
<i>Pterodactylus kochi</i> (Wagner, 1837)								
0010100-1-	00000-0021	00000121?0	?0?0?0100	0000000120	0000011210	0001001211	0070021?20	312222020
<i>Pterodactylus antiquus</i> (Soemmerring, 1812)								
0010100-1-	00000-0021	00000121?0	?0?0?0100	0000000120	0000011210	0001001211	0070021?10	312222020

DATA MATRIX (continuation)

<i>Germanodactylus cristatus</i> (Wiman, 1925)								
0010100-1-	0000400021	00000121?0	?0????0100	0000000120	00????11???	000100?211	??7?021???	3122221??
<i>Germanodactylus rhamphastinus</i> (Wagner, 1851)								
0010100-1-	0000400021	00000121?0	?????0?00	0000000120	00??11?0?	?001??211	??7?021???	31??2???
<i>Gnathosaurus subulatus</i> Meyer, 1834								
0020100-1-	0000202025	00000121?0	?0??020100	0000000100	0?????????	??????????	??????????	??????????
<i>Ctenochasma gracile</i> Oppel, 1862								
1020100-1-	0?000-0020	-0?00121?0	?0????0100	0000000101	0??00112?0	?001??211	??7??21???	312??2020
<i>Pterodaustro guinazui</i> Bonaparte, 1970								
1020100-1-	00000-0021	00000121?0	?0????0100	0000000101	0??011210	?001??211	??7?021???	312222020
<i>Feilongus youngi</i> Wang, Kellner, Zhou and Campos, 2005								
1020100-1-	0000100021	0000212?00	?0?0?0?00	0020000100	0?????????	??????????	??????????	??????????
<i>Gallodactylus canjuersensis</i> Fabre, 1974								
1010100-1-	0?000-0022	0??02??1??	?0????0?0?	0020000100	0?????????	0001??????	??????????	?1222?1??
<i>Cycnorhamphus suevicus</i> (Quenstedt, 1855)								
1010100-1-	00000-0022	00002121??	?0?0?0100	0020000100	0?00?112??	0001??210	??70021?0?	3122221??
<i>Nyctosaurus gracilis</i> (Marsh, 1876)								
0010100-1-	00000-0020	-00000?110	?010120100	0030000100	0111001010	0001001311	1050?21222	3222220??
<i>Nyctosaurus bonneri</i> Miller, 1972								
0010100-1-	00000-0020	-00000?1?0	?0????0100	0030000100	01?1?010?0	??????31?	??50?????2	322222???
<i>Nemicolepterus crypticus</i> Wang, Kellner, Zhou and Campos, 2008								
0010100-1-	00000-0026	001000?2??	?????0100	0030000100	00?001?10	000?0???11	?17??2???	31?222120
<i>Pteranodon longiceps</i> Marsh, 1876								
1020100-1-	00000-0024	0003301210	1010120100	0030000100	0111101110	1101001211	1061121222	322222020
<i>Istiodactylus latidens</i> (Seeley, 1901)								
0010100-2-	?0?0-0?20	-?2?????0?	??0???100	0?20000100	11?1?0????	1111002?1?	??611?2???	??1??????
<i>Nurhachius ignaciobrito</i> Wang, Kellner, Zhou and Campos, 2005								
0010100-2-	00000-002?	?02??112??	?????0?00	0020000100	110??011??	1?1?0?2211	0?61?222?1	312??21??
<i>"Ornithocheirus" compressirostris</i> (Owen, 1851)								
00101?????	????0-00??	??????????	??1????00	0?00000100	0?????????	??????????	??????????	??????????
<i>Tropeognathus mesembrinus</i> Wellnhofer, 1987								
0010100-1-	000013102?	?001101210	1012120100	1000000100	0?????????	??????????	??????????	??????????
<i>Anhanguera santanae</i> (Wellnhofer, 1985)								
0010100-1-	0000131023	1001101210	1011120100	?000100100	001110111?	211200???	01611?22?1	??????????
<i>Anhanguera blittersdorffi</i> Campos and Kellner, 1985								
0010100-1-	000013102?	?001101210	1011120100	1000100100	0?????????	??????????	??????????	??????????
<i>Anhanguera piscator</i> Kellner and Tomida, 2000								
0010100-1-	0000131023	1001101210	101?120100	1000100100	0011101110	2112002211	01611222?1	?????2120
<i>Dsungaripterus weii</i> Young, 1964								
2010100-1-	1001310120	-002301211	1111120100	0011010100	0111101010	00010?2200	??7?0211?1	312222120
<i>"Phobator" parvus</i> (Bakurina, 1982)								
0010100-1-	1001310120	-0023012?1	?1????0100	0011010100	0?????????	??????????	??????1??	??????????
<i>Noriopterus complicidens</i> Young, 1973								
?????????	?????????	??????????	??????????	?????10?00	??11010??	??????200	01720211??	312??2120
<i>Tupuxuara leonardii</i> Kellner and Campos, 1994								
0010100-2-	011056002?	?012301211	1113120100	0030000100	01111010??	0001012200	10720211??	313??2???
<i>Thalassodromeus sethi</i> Kellner and Campos, 2002								
0010100-2-	0110560024	0012301211	1113120100	0030000100	0?????????	??????????	??????????	??????????
<i>Tapejara wellnhoferi</i> Kellner, 1989								
0011100-2-	011055002?	?012301201	1110120100	2030000100	00?11010?0	000101?200	117202112?	31??2120
<i>Tupandactylus imperator</i> (Campos and Kellner, 1997)								
0011100-2-	011055002?	?0123012?1	??????????	??30000100	0?????????	??????????	??????????	??????????
<i>Quetzalcoatlus</i> sp.								
0010100-1-	00107?0020	-00??121?	??01?0100	0030000100	01110213?0	000110?200	10720211??	313222200
<i>Azhdarcho lancicollis</i> Nessov, 1984								
?????????	?????????	??????????	??????????	??30000100	?1110213??	??????????	107?0?????	??????????
<i>Zhejiangopterus linhaiensis</i> Cai and Wei, 1994								
0010100-1-	00100-0020	-000?012?1	?????0?00	0030000100	011??213?0	000?10?200	??7??21?2?	313??2???