

1 **A Lungfish survivor of the end-Devonian extinction and an Early Carboniferous dipnoan**
2 **radiation.**

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19 **Abstract**

20

21 Until recently the immediate aftermath of the Hangenberg event of the Famennian Stage (Upper
22 Devonian) was considered to have decimated sarcopterygian groups, including lungfish, with only
23 two taxa, *Occlusus romeri* and *Sagenodus* spp., being unequivocally recorded from rocks of
24 Tournaisian age (Mississippian, Early Carboniferous). Recent discoveries of numerous
25 morphologically diverse lungfish tooth plates from southern Scotland and northern England indicate
26 that at least ten dipnoan taxa existed during the earliest Carboniferous. Of these taxa, only two,
27 *Xylognathus* and *Ballgadus*, preserve cranial and post-cranial skeletal elements that are yet to be
28 described. Here we present a description of the skull of a new genus and species of lungfish,
29 *Limanichthys fraseri* gen. et sp. nov. that hails from the very earliest Tournaisian in the Ballagan
30 Formation of Burnmouth, southern Scotland. The new specimen represents the earliest definitive
31 Tournaisian lungfish skull material thus providing an invaluable insight into the response of this
32 group, and indeed, the Sarcopterygii as a whole, immediately following the latest Devonian
33 Hangenberg event. Phylogenetic analysis places *Limanichthys fraseri* within the Devonian
34 ‘phaneropleurid-fleurantiid’ grade of lungfish and that the Carboniferous lungfish represent forms
35 that have their origins deep in the Mid and Late Devonian as well as those from a unique
36 Carboniferous radiation.

37

38 **Key words:** Dipnoi, Tournaisian, lungfish, Hangenberg, Ballagan Formation, Carboniferous

39 **Introduction**

40

41 The Tournaisian Stage of the Early Carboniferous (Mississippian) has recently been considered as a
42 period of time possessing a characteristic recovery fauna following the end-Devonian extinction
43 event (Smithson *et al.* 2015). During the Famennian-Tournaisian (the Devonian-Carboniferous
44 boundary) diversity and abundance of sarcopterygian fish at the genus level declined abruptly as
45 chondrichthyans and actinopterygians diversified rapidly in the early Tournaisian (Sallan & Coates
46 2010; Friedman & Sallan 2012). Additionally, the individuals within the groups are considered to
47 have become smaller during the transition from the Late Devonian to Early Carboniferous, a
48 possible result of nutrient deprivation in the aftermath of the Hangenberg extinction event (Sallan &
49 Galimberti 2015). Though by no means diverse compared to the Middle and Upper Devonian,
50 recent discoveries have shown that lungfishes were not as greatly affected by this episode as
51 previously thought with total dipnoan taxa being more or less constant from the Famennian through
52 to the Tournaisian (Smithson *et al.* 2015).

53 Several remarkable differences are noticeable between Late Devonian lungfishes and Early
54 Carboniferous lungfish: Carboniferous forms are almost exclusively found in non-marine
55 environments whereas Devonian lungfish occupied both freshwater and marine environments; wide
56 (length to width ratio <1), ‘spoon-shaped’ tooth plates with parallel to sub-parallel ridges, typified
57 by the genus *Ctenodus*, appear for the first time; a dichotomy in size between tooth plates occurs
58 with very small and very large tooth plates being present (Smithson *et al.* 2015) and, all currently
59 known Carboniferous lungfishes possess cartilaginous or poorly-ossified neurocrania. The reduction
60 of ossified cranial tissue has been hypothesised to be due to paedomorphosis and/or change in water
61 chemistrythe environmental conditions of the time (Bemis 1984; Pardo *et al.* 2014) whereby
62 reduction of skull ossification is the most energetically efficient means of development in on a
63 global scale . The lower Tournaisian marks a period of recovery from the Upper Devonian

64 Hangenberg crisis which saw a complex sequence of glacioeustatic sea-level change and associated
65 carbon burial and reworking represented by a pronounced double carbon isotope spike (Kaiser *et al.*
66 2016). Further to the loss of a bony neurocranium, all Carboniferous lungfishes possess an
67 unossified or poorly ossified rostrum though the extent of this is variable and less extreme than in
68 post-Carboniferous lungfishes (Kemp *et al.* 2017).

69 The loss of or poor ossification of the neurocranium and rostrum in Carboniferous lungfish
70 is by no means unique to this time. Several Devonian forms ranging from the Mid Devonian
71 (*Pentlandia*) to the Late Devonian (*Howidipterus*, *Barwickia*, *Rhynchodipterus*, *Soederberghia*,
72 *Phaneropleuron*, *Scaumenacia*, *Nielsenia* and *Jarvikia*) also possessed either a poorly-ossified or
73 unossified neurocranium and/or rostrum (Lehman 1959; Long 1992; Cloutier 1997; Friedman
74 2007a; Challands & Den Blauwen 2016). Such observations imply that Carboniferous lungfishes
75 were not innovative in terms of skull construction but whether loss of ossification is homoplastic or
76 not has not been readily investigated. To do so would require a thorough assessment of the
77 phylogenetic relationships and character evolution between Devonian lungfishes and the all
78 Carboniferous lungfish taxa which, to date, has not been completed. However, previously Schultze
79 & Chorn (1997) compiled a character matrix of eighteen taxa from the Devonian to Recent while
80 Lloyd *et al.* (2012) included nine Carboniferous taxa in their analysis of evolutionary rates of the
81 Dipnoi from the Devonian to Recent. The only monophyletic group in Carboniferous lungfish that
82 Lloyd *et al.* (2012) recognised comprised *Tranodis* as the sister taxon to *Straitonia* and *Occlusus*
83 *romeri* (formerly *Ctenodus romeri* Thomson 1965). *Gnathorhiza* was recognised as the most
84 derived of the Carboniferous lungfishes whereas *Delatitia* as the most primitive, the latter forming a
85 clade with the ‘phaneropleurid-fleurantiids’ *Pentlandia*, *Scaumenacia* and *Howidipterus*. The range
86 of *Delatitia* is confined to the Early Carboniferous and its association with the ‘phaneropleurids-
87 fleurantiids’ implies a deep root to this taxon in the Devonian. We address herein the possibility of a

88 similar Devonian origin for other Carboniferous taxa, specifically the new taxon we describe, and
89 argue
90 that the Tournaisian Stage did not represent a characteristic recovery fauna for the lungfishes but a
91 time of diversification of a new clade alongside those with a more ancient lineage.

92

93 **Materials and methods**

94 Specimen NMS G 2017.10.2 was collected in 2014 from the foreshore at Burnmouth, 5 miles (8
95 km) north of Berwick upon Tweed, in the Scottish Borders. It was found in a black sandy siltstone,
96 34.5 metres above the base of the Ballagan Formation, in rocks exposed at very low tides outside
97 the harbour wall, and recovered using conventional excavation techniques (hammer and chisel).
98 Following extraction the block containing the specimen was cut to size using a diamond-tipped
99 lapping saw. The part was microCT scanned at the University of Cambridge, Department of
100 Zoology using an X-Tek microCT Scanner producing a voxel resolution of 12 μm . The resulting
101 1439 scan slices (see supplemental data) were pre-processed in Fiji (Schindelin *et al.* 2012)
102 automatically adjusting for brightness and contrast and partially correcting for beam hardening
103 using the *subtract background* process in Fiji. Segmentation of the skeletal elements was conducted
104 in Materialize Mimics v. 17.0. Photographs of the specimen were taken using a Nikon D5200
105 digital SLR using

106

107 **Phylogenetic analysis**

108 Rather than undertaking an exclusive analysis of Devonian or Carboniferous taxa, our aim here is to
109 derive hypotheses of relationships between taxa from both Periods so that the phylogenetic signal
110 from as broad a suite of taxa as possible influences the overall phylogeny. Such an approach comes
111 at the cost of including some taxa with few known character states and so we expect low support for
112 some clades. However, we consider such a direction to be more preferable than that of a

113 reductionist approach whereby characters are constructed and used specifically to tease apart the
114 relationships of a small cohort of contemporary taxa (by Period). Such a reductionist approach is, in
115 essence, an *a posteriori* statement that the investigator expects there to be a coherent phylogeny for
116 the taxa chosen.

117 Bayesian phylogenetic analysis was conducted in MrBayes v. 3.2.6. using a GTR model
118 with a gamma distribution. Four runs were conducted independently each with two chains for
119 10000000 generations, a sampling frequency of 1000 and a burn-in fraction of 25%. Characters 3,
120 40, 61, 72, 107 and 138 were ordered.

121 Parsimony analysis was performed using T.N.T. software (Goloboff *et al.* 2008) following
122 the procedure outlined in Clack *et al.* (2016). A total of 100 000 trees were selected as the maximum
123 size of tree space for the exploration of alternative tree topologies. Initial trees were calculated
124 using a New Technology search with ratchet and drift options implemented. We chose 10 replicates
125 (random stepwise addition sequences of taxa), keeping a maximum of five trees at the end of each
126 replicate, using the bisection–reconnection algorithm for tree branch swapping and retaining all
127 trees found at the end of all replicates. A new round of branch swapping was then applied to all
128 trees retained from the initial search ('trees from RAM' box ticked). For each set of experiments,
129 where applicable, we summarized the results in the form of a strict consensus . Characters 3, 40, 61,
130 72, 107 & 138 were ordered.

131 Our character matrix requires a dataset that describes the morphological variation of both
132 Devonian and post-Devonian taxa and so to achieve this we have used the matrix of Clack *et al.*
133 (2018). This dataset comprises characters used by Challands & Den Blaauwen (2016) as well as
134 those (where not duplicated) from Lloyd *et al.* (2012), the former concerning Devonian taxa
135 exclusively, the latter Devonian-Recent taxa. The most recent character matrix concerning
136 Carboniferous and post-Palaeozoic lungfish from Kemp *et al.* (2017) was designed to elucidate
137 relationships between Carboniferous lungfish and more recent taxa. It produces a lack of resolution

138 between Devonian taxa with many Devonian taxa scoring '0' for all characters. Additionally, we
139 have recoded fifteen characters from the Kemp *et al.* (2017) matrix and rerun their analysis using
140 the parameters given above (see supplemental data). In addition to the matrix of Clack *et al.* (2018)
141 we have included the post-Carboniferous taxon *Persephonichthys*. Taxa that are only known from
142 mandibles and tooth plates, including *Chirodipterus rhenanus*, *Sunwapta* and *Holodipterus*
143 *santacruzensis*, were omitted from the analysis.

144

145 **Characters used in the matrix**

146 Integration of multiple character schemes runs the risk of duplication of characters. While this has
147 been avoided where possible, it is recognised that no definitive scheme is applicable that has been
148 specifically designed for the Dipnoi as a whole. Defining such a character scheme is a matter of
149 much urgency because not all the characters used herein are comprehensively defined. For instance,
150 characters 167 and 175 (characters 22 and 37 of Schultze & Marshall 1993, respectively) are
151 essentially different permutations of describing the arrangement of the dermal bones and so contain
152 overlap. That said, we employ the characters used in the recent analysis of Clack *et al.* (2018) in
153 order to make our analysis comparable with well-established previous hypotheses that use
154 subsections of the characters we have used. Those characters that are clear repetitions have been
155 removed and are highlighted in the supplemental information of Clack *et al.* (2018).

156

157 **Geological setting**

158 The skull material described herein originated from the Ballagan Formation of Burnmouth,
159 Scotland (Fig. 1), from the VI palynozone, dated as 348–346.6 Ma (Smithson *et al.* 2012, Marshall
160 *et al.* in press). The fossils occur within a sandy siltstone bed near to the base of the formation, at
161 British National Grid Reference NT 395800, 661000, 34.5 m above the base of the Ballagan
162 Formation which approximates to the Devonian-Carboniferous boundary. The bed is a black sandy

163 siltstone comprising matrix-supported siltstone with millimetre sized clasts of grey, green or black
164 siltstone. The thickness of the bed varies laterally (15-30 cm thick) as does the internal structure
165 (structureless to weakly bedded). This unit contains the oldest tetrapod material of the Ballagan
166 Formation, with associated indeterminate bones (Clack *et al.* 2016). Other fossils within the bed are
167 gyracanthid spines, *Ageleodus* teeth, rhizodont and actinopterygian scales, ostracods, plant and
168 charcoal fragments. The sandy siltstone facies has been identified as the most vertebrate fossil-rich
169 units in the Ballagan Formation (Bennett *et al.* 2016).

170 The Ballagan Formation comprises ten facies and three facies associations, each of which
171 occur throughout the formation; 1) fluvial facies association; 2) overbank facies association; and 3)
172 saline-hypersaline lake facies association (Bennett *et al.* 2016). The sandy siltstone facies occurs
173 within the overbank facies association, and are interpreted to have formed as cohesive flows
174 resulting from seasonal flood events, picking up sediment clasts and fossil material from desiccated
175 floodplain lakes and vegetated ground as the flood travelled (Bennett *et al.* 2016). The beds either
176 deposited material into depressions on a dry vegetated floodplain, or into existing floodplain lakes
177 or pools. The dipnoan-bearing bed occurs above a series of three 5-10 cm thick very fine sandstone
178 beds, which are rooted but otherwise unmodified indicative of entisol palaeosols (Kearsey *et al.*
179 2016). Overlying these sandstones is a 10 cm thick laminated grey siltstone. The contact between
180 the fossil-bearing bed and the underlying siltstone is obscured by poor exposure. The environment
181 of deposition is interpreted to have been within a temporary lake on the floodplain.

182

183 **Results**

184 Several schemes have been used in the past for description of the skull roof bones of lungfish
185 (Forster-Cooper 1937; Jarvik 1967). Of these, the one that has been adopted the most is that of
186 Forster-Cooper (1937) and it is this terminology that is adopted herein.

187 The anatomical terminology and measurements made for tooth plates follow those used by
188 Smithson *et al.* (2015).

189

190 **Specimen description**

191 Superclass **Osteichthyes** Huxley, 1880

192 Class **Sarcopterygii** Romer, 1955

193 unranked **Dipnomorpha** Ahlberg, 1991

194 Subclass **Dipnoi** Müller, 1845

195 Family **undesigned**

196 Genus ***Limanichthys*** gen. nov.

197 (Figs 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)

198

199 **LSID** <http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:0EC0B9D2-0672-45A2-900D-44D93A6DC12F>

200

201 **Type species.** *Limanichthys fraseri* sp. nov.

202

203 **Diagnosis.** Dipnoan with unossified neurocranium in which anterolateral margin of the Y₁-bone
204 contacts the posterolateral margin of the X-bone and the posterior margin of the X-bone contacts
205 the anterior margin of the I-bone. Paired C-bones that contact two thirds of the length of the medial
206 margin of the fused K-L-bones.

207

208 **Derivation of name.** From the Greek λιμάνι Limani, harbour, and ιχθύς Ichthys, fish, referring to
209 the discovery of the type specimen in the beds outside the harbour at Burnmouth.

210

211 *Limanichthys fraseri* sp. nov.

212

213 **LSID** <http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:0EC0B9D2-0672-45A2-900D-44D93A6DC12F>

214

215 **Derivation of name.** From the Latin form of Fraser in honour of Nicholas Fraser, Keeper of
216 Natural Sciences, National Museums Scotland who retrieved and collected the specimen.

217

218 **Type material.** NMS G 2017.10.2a,b

219

220 **Material.** NMS G 2017.10.2a (part) and NMS G 2017.10.2 b (counterpart). UMZC 2017.5.10a, b,
221 c; a large block of black sandy siltstone, sawn into three pieces, containing an operculum and other
222 disarticulated skull bones, a tooth plate with a single row of teeth, and a number of ribs.

223

224 **Type locality and horizon.** Black sandy siltstone c. 33 m above the base of the Ballagan Formation
225 on the foreshore at Burnmouth, 20 m north of the outer harbour wall, Scottish Borders, Scotland.

226

227 **Description.** The type specimen comprises a part and counterpart of a slightly disarticulated skull
228 roof and palate with the lateral dorsal skull bones having moved anteromedially over the medial
229 skull bones such that the K-L, J- and I-bones appear to lie more anteriorly than expected (Fig. 2).
230 This gives the impression of two layers of bone. The counterpart (NMS G 2017.10.2 b) contains the
231 parasphenoid and approximately half of the skull roof material revealing the visceral surface of the
232 skull roof bones. The parasphenoid lies dorsal to the skull roof having been moved post mortem.
233 Several scales are present on the counterpart and a large gyracanthid spine has also come to lie on
234 top of the skull roof.

235 The B-bone is 63 mm long and has an imperfectly preserved posterior margin. The anterior
236 margin possesses an anteromedian process inserting into the midline between the C-bones. An

237 inverted 'V' depression/ridge in the centre of the visceral surface of the B-bone indicates the
238 position of the median crista while the dorsal surface reveals several fine radiating ridges from the
239 centre of the bone. No lateral line canals or pores are observed in the exposed anterodorsal portion
240 of the B-bone. While the state of preservation precludes the presence of anterolateral processes on
241 the B-bone, and the width of the B-bone cannot be measured accurately because the lateral margins
242 are broken, the maximum width is estimated to be 39 mm based on the impression of the lost bone
243 and the margin with the adjacent I-bone. The lateral margin of the B-bone contacts the medial
244 margin of the I-bone.

245 The C-bones are almost completely preserved and are hexagonal in shape with margins of
246 unequal length and a distinctive anterior process that projects forward to lie lateral to the D-bone.
247 The anterior-most portion of this process meets the posterior margin of the E-bones. Sitting between
248 the anterior processes of the C-bones is a large, single hexagonal D-bone. The C-bones are 65 mm
249 long by 28 mm wide whereas the D-bone is 32 mm long by 15 mm wide. At the centre of the D-
250 bone, the visceral surface bears a single circular indentation, possibly a vestigial indication of a
251 pineal foramen but the depression does not appear to penetrate through the D-bone. Whether such a
252 circular structure is present on the dermal surface of the D-bone cannot be ascertained.

253 Like *Ctenodus* (Sharp & Clack 2013, fig. 27) the anterior portion of the I-bone possesses an
254 anterolateral process that contacts the posterior margin of the X-bone or X-Y₁ bone and the medial
255 margins of the Y₁ and Y₂ bones (Fig. 3 D). The anteromedial margin of the I-bone is longer, is
256 concave in shape and contacts the posterolateral margin of the J-bone. A large posterior process,
257 similar to that seen in *Ctenodus* is present (seen most clearly in the counterpart NMS G 2017.10.2 b,
258 Fig. 2 B, D) and extends beyond the posterior margin of the B-bone. A series of lateral line grooves
259 descending into pores are present in the dorsal face of the I-bone traversing from the anterolateral
260 margin next to the Y₂-bone to the medial margin. The pores can be seen to bifurcate and radiate
261 from a central point. It is not clear whether the lateral line pores continue medially into the B-bone.

262 Anteromedially to the I-bones lie the J-bones which are elongate with a rounded
263 posterolateral margin. Their shape differs from the J-bones of *Ctenodus* which are shorter and has a
264 more angular posterolateral margin and are more similar to *Uronemus* (Watson & Gill 1923).
265 However, unlike the J-bones of *Uronemus* the lateral margin contacts the X-bone alone rather than a
266 fused X-Y₁-bone (Fig. 3 A, F). The medial contact of the J-bone with the C-bone also differs from
267 *Uronemus* and *Ctenodus* in being more than 50% the length of the J-bone.

268 The most anterior of the lateral series of skull roof bones is a combined K-L-bone which
269 possesses an anteromedial margin contacting the E-bone for approximately one third of its length
270 while the other two thirds contact the C-bone. The lateral line groove seen in the X-bone does not
271 traverse the posterolateral margin of the K-L-bone and no evidence of lateral line pores or grooves
272 are seen in this bone. A fused K-L bone is a variable character with some taxa being polymorphic
273 possessing either a fused K-L-bone or separate K- and L-bones (e.g. *Pentlandia*, Challands & Den
274 Blaauwen 2016, fig. 2 c; *Chirodipterus australis*, Miles 1977, fig. 118 d; and *Amadeodipterus*,
275 Young & Schultze 2005, fig 4 b). The condition of a fused K-L bone is known in other pre-
276 Carboniferous taxa including *Jarvikia* (Lehman 1959, fig. 22), *Oervegia* (Lehman 1959),
277 *Phaneropleuron* (Traquair 1871) possibly *Rhinodipterus kimberleyensis* (Clement 2012) and
278 *Rhinodipterus ulrichi* (Ørving 1961).

279 The lateral line is represented not by a series of distinct pores as in, for instance, *Dipterus*
280 (White 1965), but by a series of radial grooves descending into pores that converge towards the
281 centre of the bone. These grooves and pores forming the lateral line canal system are carried
282 anteroposteriorly by the X, Y₁, Y₂-bones and medially by the I-bone. The lateral line bifurcates in
283 the X-bone with one branch directed laterally into bone 4 of the cheek which is not preserved in the
284 specimen.

285 The X-bone is shaped similarly to the combined X-Y-bone of *Uronemus* (Watson & Gill
286 1923; Westoll 1949) and *Ctenodus allodens* as figured by Sharp & Clack (2013; fig. 9) though is

287 distinguished as being a single bone in this case by having a single ossification centre. An
288 incomplete and broken Z-bone is also visible posterior to the Y₂-bone but it is not possible to
289 discern the course of the lateral line canal through it. Whereas the lateral line may bifurcate in bone
290 4, sending a branch into circumorbital bone 3 (the supraorbital lateral line), bone 4 seldom contacts
291 the Y₁-bone. In *Ctenodus* where bone 4 *does* contact the Y₁-bone, it does not possess a bifurcation
292 of the lateral line canal and, furthermore, bone 4 does not contact the J-bone. This rules out
293 misidentification of the X-bone as bone 4 in specimen NMS G 2017.10.2 despite it having similar
294 morphology to bone 4 in *Uronemus* and *Ctenodus allodens*.

295 The E-bones are of approximately equal in length to the B- and C-bones and expand
296 laterally towards their anterior such that the anterior margin is twice as wide as the posterior
297 margin. *Ctenodus* differs from *Limanichthys* in possessing E-bones having a medial margin much
298 shorter (approximately 50%) than the lateral margin. Together, this arrangement forms a deep v-
299 shaped notch in the anterior margin of the paired E-bones that, in *Ctenodus*, *Conchopoma* and
300 *Uronemus*, houses the F-bone. This v-shaped notch is shallow in *Limanichthys* and no F-bone is
301 preserved.

302 The parasphenoid is incompletely preserved with the majority of the corpus missing. From
303 the preservation of the impression of the posterior portion of the corpus the expansion of the corpus
304 from the stalk is smooth and very wide and estimated to be more than twice the width of the stalk at
305 its widest point (Fig. 4 A-C). The parasphenoid stalk in *Limanichthys* is long, posteriorly
306 expanding, strongly ridged, and curves medially at the posterior end to a single fine point. The stalk
307 lies level with the corpus of the parasphenoid.

308 The operculum in UMZC 2017.5.10b (Fig. 5) is preserved in external view. It is slightly
309 concealed by an overlying gyraacanthid spine. The bone is subcircular in outline, with a maximum
310 diameter of 110 mm. It was crushed flat postmortem and bears many cracks across its surface
311 suggesting the operculum was outwardly convex in life. It is finely pitted, but lacks obvious

312 ornament. The position of the damaged tabulate process on the anterior edge of the bone indicates
313 the specimen is from the right.

314 An incomplete cranial rib is preserved on UMZC 2017.5.10c (Fig. 5). Judging by the
315 specimen attributed to *Sagenodus copeanus* (Schulze & Chorn 1997 fig. 37), only the distal part of
316 the bone is present. The proximal end and an area overlying a lower jaw element had been eroded
317 away prior to collection. The intact rib was probably c. 70 mm long. It appears to have been hollow
318 originally but was crushed flat postmortem. It is 14 mm broad at the distal end and tapers to less
319 than half this width proximally.

320

321 **Dentition.** No palatal dentition is preserved in specimen NMS G 2017.10.2 but microCT scanning
322 of the part (NMS G 2017.10.2a) reveals a single marginal dental element in close proximity to and
323 lying dorsal to the parasphenoid. The element is 4 mm long and possesses seven simple cusps that
324 become smaller posteriorly (Fig. 6). Such a pattern of dentition superficially resembles that seen in
325 the lateral vomerine teeth of *Andreyevichthys* (Krupina & Reisz, 1999) though the resolution of the
326 scan precludes confident assignation to this type of element. Dermopalatine dentitions (e.g. in
327 *Persephonichthys*, Pardo *et al.* 2014) and even vestigial dentaries (e.g. *Pentlandia*, Challands 2015)
328 bear a similar morphology.

329 A much larger dental element, c.15 mm long, is preserved on UMZC 2017.5.10c. It is a
330 single tooth ridge bearing seven teeth (Figs 5, 7). The first six teeth are fused together, the seventh
331 and largest is separate. The tips of all the teeth are worn exposing the mix of dark and light dentine
332 seen in the worn teeth on typical lungfish tooth plates. The teeth are cone-shaped and become
333 progressively larger along the row. The diameter of the first tooth is ~1.3 mm, that of the last is ~2.5
334 mm. There is no evidence that this toothed element is a broken fragment of a larger tooth plate, but
335 instead it too looks similar to the vomerine tooth plates figured in Krupina & Reisz (1999, fig. 1 c).
336 Similar single tooth ridges have been found in slightly younger rocks in the Ballagan Formation at

337 Willie's Hole. These may belong to *Ctenodus williei* (Smithson *et al.* 2015) and will be described in
338 due course. The occurrence of palatal tooth plates in Early Carboniferous lungfish adds to the
339 growing evidence (Challands *et al.* 2016, Smithson *et al.* 2015) that following the end-Devonian
340 extinction event the dipnoan dentition was more varied than previously recognised (Smithson *et al.*
341 in press).

342

343 **Phylogenetic analysis**

344 The present analysis is the most complete analysis of all Devonian and Carboniferous lungfish in
345 the light of the recent discoveries of taxa from the Tournaisian of the United Kingdom. The
346 resulting parsimony analysis produces 27 most parsimonious trees (MPTs) of length 883 (CI = 0.29,
347 RI = 0.61) and a well-resolved strict consensus tree (length = 898, CI = 0.28, RI = 0.60) for all
348 lungfish except for small polytomies containing *Scaumenacia* and *Delatitia*, *Rhinodipterus*,
349 *Phaneropleuron* and a new taxon from Greenland, *Celsiodon* (Clack *et al.* 2018), and for the early-
350 diverging lungfishes *Archaeonectes*, *Chirodipterus onawayensis*, *Chirodipterus wildungensis* and
351 *Dipnorhynchus cathlesae*. (Fig. 8). Node support (Bremer decay indices) for clades are low
352 throughout. Bayesian analysis produced a poorly resolved 50% compatibility tree (Fig. 9) but if all
353 posterior probabilities for branches are used, including those <50% the Bayesian analysis produces
354 a tree topology largely similar to that of the parsimony analysis but with differences in placement of
355 key taxa (branches with posterior probability <50%, see supplementary information).

356 In the Bayesian analysis *Limanichthys* resolves as sister taxon to *Pentlandia* with posterior
357 probability of 58%. This clade falls out more basal to all other Carboniferous lungfish in the
358 parsimony analysis towards the base of what has been called the phaneropleurid-fleurantiid grade
359 (Challands & Den Blauw, 2016). The parsimony result is consistent with previous analyses
360 (Schultze & Chorn, 1997; Lloyd *et al.* 2011) in which *Delatitia* resolves as the most basal
361 Carboniferous lungfish, but whereas Schultze & Chorn (1997) resolve *Delatitia* at the base of *all*

362 other Carboniferous forms, Lloyd *et al.* (2011) resolve *Delatitia* among the phaneropleurid-
363 fleurantiid grade as the current analyses do. The more derived position of *Ctenodus* with *Straitonia*
364 in the Bayesian analysis is in contrast with the parsimony analysis and previous analyses (Schultze
365 & Chorn, 1997; Lloyd *et al.*, 2011; Challands & Den Blauwen, 2016; Clack *et al.* 2018). The
366 parsimony analysis places *Phaneropleuron* towards the base of the phaneropleurid-fleurantiid grade
367 and *Harajicadipterus* and *Orlovichthys* are relegated to a more basal position relative to
368 *Phaneropleuron*. The Bayesian solution does not resolve *Phaneropleuron*.

369 The strict consensus tree of the parsimony analysis also places *Limanichthys* as the sister
370 taxon to the Givetian form *Pentlandia*. *Phaneropleuron*, the three species of *Rhinodipterus* plus a
371 new taxon described from Greenland, *Celsiodon*, (Clack *et al.*, 2018) form a poylotomy basal to
372 *Limanichthys* + *Pentlandia* and this is likely attributed to the unstable position of the poorly
373 described *Phaneropleuron*. *Limanichthys* and *Pentlandia* are supported by a single character
374 reversal (character 53 - posterior parasphenoid stalk converges). It is worth noting that the derived
375 state of character 155 (poorly ossified or cartilagenous neurocranium) is shared by *Phaneropleuron*
376 and all taxa above as well as being independently derived in *Rhynchodipterus* and *Soederberghia*
377 Whereas *Phaneropleuron* resolves in a position consistent with earlier analyses (Friedman 2007b),
378 previous analysis of the phaneropleurid-fleurantiid grade by Challands & Den Blauwen (2016)
379 failed to place *Phaneropleuron* within this group. The present analysis still does not unequivocally
380 place *Phaneropleuron* within the phaneropleurid-fleurantiid grade, but this inconsistency appears to
381 be partly resolved with the present new dataset which places *Phaneropleuron* in this grade in 18 of
382 the 27 most parsimonious trees.

383 All Carboniferous taxa (exluding *Limanichthys*, *Delatitia* but also including
384 *Persephonichthys*) form a monophyletic clade in the parsimony analysis defined by two characters
385 (characters 52 and 143) of which the former is a reversal. The Carboniferous dipnoan clade in the
386 Bayesian analysis contains the same taxa in different groupings, however, unlike the previous

387 analysis Clack *et al.* (2018), *Nielsenia* is unresolved but in the parsimony analysis it resolves with
388 the phaneropleurid-fleurantiids. A Carboniferous lungfish clade is supported by a low posterior
389 probability (57%) and support is also low for groupings higher in the tree including the clade
390 containing *Tranodis* + (*Ctenodus* + *Straitonia*) (61%) and the most derived clade comprising
391 *Conchopoma* + *Parasagenodus* (*Gnathorhiza* + (*Palaeophichthys* + *Persephonichthys*) (72%). The
392 grouping in this most derived clade is consistent between Bayesian and parsimony analyses. The
393 clade forming the *Gnathorhiza* + (*Palaeophichthys* + *Persephonichthys*) clade is defined by seven
394 characters (characters 19, 37, 45, 170, 175, 177 and 185) with a Bremer decay index of 2.
395 Characters 37 and 45 are reversals while characters 170, 175, 177 and 185 are ambiguous. The
396 posterior probability supporting this clade is low at 57%.

397

398 **Discussion**

399 **Comparison with other dipnoans**

400 There are currently eighteen Carboniferous dipnoan genera known, eleven of which are represented
401 by skull material. Superficially, *Limanichthys* most closely resembles *Ctenodus* but differs in
402 several key morphological characteristics. *Ctenodus murchisoni* as figured in Sharp & Clack (2013)
403 (fig. 10 a, NHMUK P 5031) has a fused X-Y₁-bone which, incidentally, is labelled as the Y₂-bone,
404 the conventional numbering of the Y-bones being reversed (the Y₁-bone is typically anterior to the
405 Y₂-bone). In specimen NMS G 2017.10.2 the Y₂-bone is small and located posterolaterally to the
406 Y₁-bone but the X-bone and Y₁-bone are clearly separate. *Ctenodus interruptus*, *Ctenodus cristatus*
407 and *Uronemus* also possess a fused X- and Y₁-bone. *Ctenodus allodens*, the only species of
408 *Ctenodus* that possesses separate X- and Y₁-bones, can be clearly differentiated from *Limanichthys*
409 in having an X-bone that does not contact the J-bone. This difference in *Ctenodus allodens* from all
410 other species of *Ctenodus* may indicate an incorrect generic assignation. Discriminating
411 *Limanichthys* on the basis of the formal diagnosis of *Ctenodus allodens* is not possible because it is

412 based purely on the dentition of *Ctenodus allodens*. This is in spite of there being relatively well-
413 preserved skull material (NMS G. 1894.155.12, fig. 8, 9. Sharp & Clack, 2013). However,
414 comparison with the skull material of *Ctenodus allodens* further discounts assigning *Limanichthys*
415 to this genus and species on account of the anterolateral margin of the J-bone in *Ctenodus allodens*
416 not contacting the posterior margin of the X-bone (fig. 8, 9, Sharp & Clack, 2013).

417 *Delatitia* was originally assigned to the genus *Ctenodus* by Woodward (1906) though was
418 recognised by Long & Campbell (1985) as a separate genus on account of the structure of its long
419 E-bones, the structure of the Y-bones as well as the course of the lateral line in the I-bone. The Y₁-
420 bone in *Delatitia* is distinctive in possessing a characteristic embayment on the lateral margin to
421 receive the operculum much as the X-bone does in *Limanichthys*. This embayment is, relative to
422 *Delatitia*, positioned more anteriorly in *Limanichthys*. The identity of the lateral series of bones is
423 confirmed by the second bone posterior to the X-bone (the Y₂-bone) lacking a bifurcation in the
424 lateral line as would be expected if it were a Z-bone. Therefore this element is the Y₂-bone, the
425 element anterior to that is the Y₁-bone followed by the X-bone. The fused X-Y₁-bone of *Sagenodus*
426 possesses a similar embayment in an anterior position like that of *Limanichthys* in a fused X-Y₁-bone
427 (interpreted by Schultze & Chorn, 1997, as a fused X-K-bone). *Limanichthys* also differs from
428 *Sagenodus* in possessing a single anterior point of the B-bone rather than a double point (Fig. 3 C).

429 *Sagenodus*, *Ctenodus*, *Conchopoma* and *Uronemus* all possess a single F-bone anterior to
430 the paired E-bones (Fig. 3 C-F respectively). The specimen of *Limanichthys* described herein does
431 not possess an F-bone but its presence cannot be ruled out as the most anterior part of the specimen
432 is missing.

433 The course of the lateral line has previously been used as a means of discriminating dipnoan
434 taxa and for homologising dermal bones (Stensiö 1947; Westoll 1949; White 1965; Lehman 1966;
435 Schultze 1993) and we use the presence/absence of the various branches of the lateral line system to
436 further distinguish between *Limanichthys* and *Ctenodus*. *Ctenodus allodens* possesses an anterior

437 lateral line groove in the B-bone which leads anterolaterally into the J-bone. *Limanichthys*,
438 however, possesses no such groove. Furthermore, the lateral line in the I-bone of *Limanichthys*
439 clearly displays pores rather than just a simple groove indicating that it is a continuation of the
440 supraorbital lateral line from the Z-bone rather than a lateral line groove that traverses the I- to J-
441 bones. The alignment of the lateral line pores in the I-bone and those in the Y₂-bone also preclude
442 the continuity of the lateral line from the Y₂-bone to the I-bone.

443 The parasphenoid is phylogenetically informative in dipnoans (e. g. Marshall, 1986; Ahlberg
444 *et al.* 2006; Clack *et al.* 2018) and so differences in the structure of this bone are of particular
445 interest when comparing between taxa. A distinct ridge-groove is apparent on the corpus of the
446 parasphenoid of *Ctenodus cristatus* (Sharp & Clack, 2013, fig. 16 A, B) on the buccal surface
447 whereas the visceral surface of the stalk possesses a corrugated surface similar to *Limanichthys*.
448 *Limanichthys*, however, lacks the distinctive lateral expansion of the parasphenoid stalk seen in
449 *Ctenodus cristatus* (Fig. 4). The incomplete exposure of the stalk of the parasphenoid allows limited
450 interpretation but from what can be seen the stalk possesses a single tapering point unlike the stalk
451 of *Ctenodus cristatus* in which the stalk has a rounded posterior and distinct lateral expansions on
452 the stalk. MicroCT scanning did not produce sufficient density contrast to segment the parasphenoid
453 and reveal the complete structure of this bone.

454 *Uronemus* shares some superficial similarities with *Ctenodus* and *Limanichthys* in the
455 arrangement of the skull roof bones as already mentioned. The D-bone, which has been
456 demonstrated to be polymorphic in the Devonian forms *Dipterus*, *Scaumenacia* and *Pentlandia*
457 (White 1965; Cloutier 1997; Challands & Den Blaauwen 2016) is considerably smaller in
458 *Uronemus* (Fig. 3 F). *Limanichthys* possesses a single large D-bone as seen in *Ctenodus* but with a
459 circular structure in the centre, a similar structure being present in the D-bone of *Sagenodus* and
460 interpreted as a pit for the pineal organ (Schultze & Chorn 1997). Further differences between
461 *Limanichthys* and *Uronemus* concern the characteristic surface ornamentation of the dermal bones

462 in the latter. Unlike *Uronemus splendens*, the external surface of the bone is not ornately sculpted
463 with pits and ridges in *Limanichthys*. We do not consider that this ornamentation has been lost
464 through erosion as the smooth nature of the surface is consistent across the entire specimen as
465 lateral line pores are clearly evident.

466

467 **Phylogenetic discussion**

468 The interrelationships of Devonian and Carboniferous Dipnoi are unstable. This is reflected in
469 topological disparity between previous analyses (Schultze & Chorn 1997; Lloyd *et al.* 2012; Pardo
470 *et al.* 2014; Kemp *et al.* 2017) as well as low clade support for a monophyletic Carboniferous
471 lungfish clade in the current analyses. However, several broad consistencies can be noted from both
472 parsimony and Bayesian analyses of the Devonian and Carboniferous lungfish character matrix of
473 this study: 1 – *Limanichthys* and *Delatitia* consistently resolve as basal members outside a
474 monophyletic Carboniferous lungfish clade; 2 – some Carboniferous lungfish taxa (*Limanichthys*
475 and *Delatitia*) consistently resolve within the Devonian phaneropleurid-fleurantiid grade; 3 –
476 *Gnathorhiza*, *Palaeophichthys* and *Persephonichthys* consistently occupy a crownward position in
477 the tree topology.

478 With all but a few exceptions (*Melanognathus*, *Sunwapta*, *Chirodipterus* and the
479 dipnorhynchids), recent studies using a greater breadth of characters and taxa have established some
480 stability within the Devonian taxa (Pardo *et al.* 2014; Challands & den Blaauwen, 2016). Similar
481 efforts have not been spent in attempting to resolve the Carboniferous lungfish taxa with the recent
482 exception of Kemp *et al.* (2017; Fig. 10 A) who produced an original character matrix that
483 attempted to eliminate unknown character states for post-Devonian taxa. They included only well-
484 known Carboniferous taxa at the generic level with two Devonian taxa (*Dipterus* and
485 *Chirodipterus*) as the outgroup but crucially they also included post-Palaeozoic taxa. In particular,
486 Kemp *et al.* (2017) drew attention to the previous use of dental characters in phylogenetic analyses

487 stating that characters concerned with tooth-ridge angle are inappropriate because they become
488 modified during growth and from preservation. They also stated that the length to width ratio and
489 number of ridges are unreliable as phylogenetic indicators as Kemp (1977) demonstrated that tooth
490 ridge angle between individual ridges is indeed variable in both modern (*Neoceratodus*) and fossil
491 (*Sagenodus*) taxa. One potential point of confusion here is with the definition of tooth ridge angle.
492 In our analysis, we use tooth ridge angle as meaning the angle at the point subtended by the first and
493 last tooth ridges, even if that point lies outside the tooth plate. This is not to be confused with the
494 angle between *individual* tooth ridges which will change as more ridges are added to the tooth plate
495 and as the tooth plate and ridges wear.

496 Though we do not dispute that intraspecific variation in length to width ratio and tooth ridge
497 angle does occur, Smithson *et al.* (2015) were able to demonstrate the degree of interspecific
498 variation is greater than the intraspecific variation in Late Devonian and Early Carboniferous
499 lungfish tooth plates indicating that tooth ridge angle does hold important phylogenetic information.
500 Furthermore, the bins for growth stages of *Sagenodus* in the data presented by Kemp (1977) are not
501 continuous but have a gap of up to 10 x 6 mm between the definition of growth stages. This
502 indicates that the data being presented do not represent a true growth continuum but the specimens
503 chosen may in fact represent completely different taxa or the products of substantial remodelling
504 and resorption that could abruptly alter morphology. Finally, in the study of Kemp (1977) where the
505 number of measured tooth plate samples is low (ranging from 2 to 11 specimens for each growth
506 stage of *Sagenodus*), the inferential power of the resulting statistics is low and, from central limits
507 theorem, unlikely to represent the population mean.

508 Using their resulting post-Devonian phylogeny, Kemp *et al.* (2017) then created a
509 compound phylogeny of Devonian and post-Devonian taxa by incorporating the result with that of
510 Pardo *et al.* (2014). The analysis of Pardo *et al.* (2014) placed *Sagenodus* in a basal position among
511 the phaneropleurids and fleurantiids but it also lacked the key Carboniferous taxon *Ctenodus*.

512 Incorporating *Ctenodus* into the phylogeny of Pardo *et al.* (2014) with the phylogenetic result of
513 Kemp *et al.* (2017) would have produced a polytomy of ten taxa (*Ctenodus*, *Andrejevichthys*,
514 *Scaumenacia*, *Adelargo*, *Sagenodus*, *Howidipterus*, *Barwickia*, *Fleurantia*, *Orlovichthys* and
515 *Rhinodipterus kimberleyensis*). To avoid this Kemp *et al.* (2017) simply pruned *Ctenodus* out of
516 their analysis. Such an approach, though convenient for producing a well-resolved tree for
517 phylogenetic diversity estimates, gives a false impression of the compatibility between hypotheses
518 of relationships for Devonian lungfish and Carboniferous lungfish using two entirely different
519 character matrices. Our approach has been to use a comprehensive character matrix that includes
520 many of the characters employed in the analysis of Kemp *et al.* (2017) but for as many Devonian
521 and Carboniferous lungfish taxa as is feasible (based on completeness of specimens and suitable
522 descriptions where specimens cannot be observed first hand). We have also included the well-
523 preserved Permian taxon *Persephonichthys* (Pardo *et al.* 2014) which, when first described was
524 placed as sister to the crown group lungfishes and, in turn, *Rhinodipterus kimberleyensis* and
525 *Orlovichthys* were resolved as sisters to *Persephonichthys*. Such an approach with a great number
526 of taxa is likely to result in polytomies and these are, to a degree, informative if only to demonstrate
527 which taxa and associations are problematic.

528

529 **Rhinodipterids.** A monophyletic *Rhinodipterus* clade as recognised by Clement (2012) was
530 disputed by Pardo *et al.* (2014) who considered *Rhinodipterus* to be a polyphyletic genus with
531 *Rhinodipterus kimberleyensis* resolving as sister taxon to *Orlovichthys* and *Rhinodipterus ulrichi*,
532 resolving in a more basal position below the ‘phaneropleurid-fleurantiid’ grade. The inclusion of
533 *Phaneropleuron* creates instability in this clade in the parsimony analysis and collapses it to a
534 polytomy. However, exclusion of *Phaneropleuron* results in *Rhinodipterus ulrichi*, *R. secans* and *R.*
535 *kimberleyensis* being recovered as a monophyletic clade as in the analysis of Clement (2012) but
536 also with the inclusion of *Celsiodon* (Clack *et al.* 2018). Bayesian analysis does not resolve a

537 significant monophyletic *Rhinodipterus* clade but does resolve *Celsiodon* in a more basal position
538 as sister taxon to *Phaneropleuron*. The inclusion of the new Greenland taxon in this clade differs
539 considerably from that of Clack *et al.* (2018) where it was recovered as sister taxon to *Ctenodus*. It
540 is important to note, however, the changes made in the current matrix from that used in the analysis
541 for *Celsiodon* (see supplementary information). Our analyses also confirm previous work proposing
542 that the genus *Rhinodipterus* lies more crownward than *Dipterus* (Schultze 2001; Ahlberg *et al.*
543 2006; Friedman 2007b; Qiao & Zhu 2009).

544

545 ***Delatitia***. In both our parsimony and Bayesian analyses *Delatitia* resolves within the
546 phaneropleurid-fleurantiid grade (Figs. 8, 9). The parsimony hypothesis of Schultze & Chorn
547 (1997, Fig. 10 E), wherein *Delatitia* is the most basal taxon of a monophyletic Carboniferous
548 lungfish clade, is not reproduced here and our analysis is more similar to that of Lloyd *et al.* (2011,
549 Fig. 10 F) in which *Delatitia* is a more basal member of the phaneropleurid-fleurantiid grade.

550

551 ***Gnathorhiza* as a lepidosirenid**. The interpretation of *Gnathorhiza* as a stem lepidosirenid is not
552 new dating back as far as Case (1915), Romer & Smith (1934, who incidentally also listed several
553 lines of evidence rejecting the association), and Olson & Daly (1972). However, earlier
554 considerations of the inclusion of *Gnathorhiza* with the Lepidosirenidae were rejected primarily on
555 grounds of convergence of tooth plate morphology by Stromer (1910) and later by Berman (1968),
556 Schultze & Marshall (1997) and Schultze (2004). The phylogenetic analysis of Cavin *et al.* (2007)
557 subsequently found *Gnathorhiza* to lie outside the Lepidosirenidae. They did not regard evidence
558 pertaining to possible shared aestivation behaviour of the two groups as being conclusive for
559 considering *Gnathorhiza* as a lepidosirenid. Most recently, however, Kemp *et al.* (2017) interpreted
560 the gnathorhizids to be sister group to the lepidosirenids and included aestivation as a character for
561 which they scored *Gnathorhiza* as being capable of making an aestivation burrow. In other taxa

562 where aestivation is marked as absent it is questionable how such a conclusion could have been
563 derived.

564 The current analyses produce further interesting associations among the derived
565 Carboniferous taxa. The introduction of the Permian lungfish *Persephonichthys* into the current
566 analysis places *Persephonichthys* + *Palaeophichthys* as the sister taxa to *Gnathorhiza* similar to the
567 analysis of Schultze (1994). The present study does not include the post-Carboniferous taxa
568 included in Kemp *et al.* (2017) but *Gnathorhiza* consistently occupies a derived position
569 monophyletic with *Palaeophichthys* and *Persephonichthys*.

570 In our phylogenetic review we have found that some of the characters coded for
571 *Persephonichthys* in the matrix of Kemp *et al.* (2017) are incorrect . Firstly, Pardo *et al.* (2014, p. 5)
572 describe three mediolateral bones in *Persephonichthys*; the KLM, J and I-bones rather than two or
573 less as coded by Kemp *et al.* (2017). Pardo *et al.* (2014, p. 8) also clearly state the periorbital bones
574 (Kemp *et al.* 2017, character 14) are incomplete in *Persephonichthys* and there is no evidence of the
575 structure of the fins (Kemp *et al.* 2017, character 65). Although Pardo *et al.* (2014) identified scales
576 in specimens of *Persephonichthys*, these data do not reveal any information about their structure or
577 histology. As such, the characters mentioned above and characters 68, 70-72 of Kemp *et al.* (2017)
578 should be coded as ‘?’. Rerunning a parsimony analysis under the conditions that Kemp *et al.*
579 (2017) used produces three MPTs of length 163 but crucially *Gnathorhiza* + *Persephonichthys*
580 consistently resolve above *Conchopoma* + *Uronemus* yet below all other post-Palaeozoic taxa.
581 Furthermore, the tree collapses above *Gnathorhiza* + *Persephonichthys*. Conducting a Bayesian
582 analysis of the corrected dataset of Kemp *et al.* (2017) resolves *Gnathorhiza* and *Persephonichthys*
583 in a more basal position as in the corrected parsimony analysis (Fig. 10, C) placing it as the sister
584 group to all post-Carboniferous lungfish and also reflecting the results of the analyses with our
585 comprehensive character matrix (Fig. 9). The support for *Gnathorhiza* + *Persephonichthys* in the

586 Bayesian analysis with the corrected matrix is high (87%) with support for the node subtending the
587 ceratodontids and lepidosirenids being low (44%).

588 Arguments in favour of or rejecting a clade on the basis of characters cannot be made for
589 Bayesian analyses nor an analysis that does not include lepidosirenid taxa but in the light of our
590 reanalysis of the data of Kemp *et al* (2017) and the position of *Gnathorhiza* and *Persephonichthys*
591 in our analysis, we consider *Gnathorhiza* as being a lepidosirenid to be an unlikely natural
592 association.

593

594 ***Persephonichthys as a transitional form.*** *Persephonichthys* was considered by Pardo *et al.* (2014)
595 to be a transitional form between the dipterid grade lungfish and all modern lungfish though the
596 most recent analysis of Carboniferous lungfish and post-Palaeozoic lungfish (Kemp *et al.* 2017)
597 places *Persephonichthys* as a member of the lepidosirenid clade. *Persephonichthys* holds the same
598 position in both the Bayesian and parsimony hypotheses in our analyses. Pardo *et al.* (2014) only
599 included one Carboniferous taxon, *Sagenodus*, in their analysis but found *Persephonichthys* to
600 resolve above *Rhinodipterus kimberleyensis* and below modern ceratodontiform lungfishes.
601 Additionally, reanalysis of the Kemp *et al.* (2017) matrix (see above) also places *Persephonichthys*
602 outside the lepidosirenid clade into a more basal position as a transitional form between
603 Carboniferous and post-Palaeozoic lungfish rather than as a transitional form between the dipterid
604 and modern lungfish as previously hypothesised by Pardo *et al.* (2014).

605

606 ***Conchopoma.*** *Conchopoma* is an unusual taxon with a mixture of both primitive and derived
607 characters, as well as multistate characters, which has previously occupied an unstable position in
608 phylogenetic analyses. Significant primitive characters in *Conchopoma* include a denticulated
609 parasphenoid and a parasphenoid stalk with either a single or a bifid stalk (multistate) whereas
610 derived characters of shared with more crownward taxa include the fusion of skull roof bones and

611 an uninterrupted median fin lacking a basal plate support (see supplemental information and
612 matrix). The possession of both single and paired E-bones is another multistate character in
613 *Conchopoma* that likely contributes to its instability. In our analyses *Conchopoma* and
614 *Parasagenodus* are always resolved as sister taxa to each other though in polytomy in the Bayesian
615 analysis. The poorly known *Parasagenodus* may be a contributing factor to the instability of this
616 clade in the Bayesian analysis and previous analyses (Ahlberg *et al.* 2006). *Conchopoma* never
617 resolves as sister taxon to *Uronemus* as in the analysis of Kemp *et al.* (2017). Our analysis places
618 the node subtending *Conchopoma* + *Parasagenodus* towards the top of the tree (Figs 8, 9). This
619 position in the Bayesian analysis has a posterior probability of 72% indicating the significance of
620 this placement. The position of such 'transitional' forms as considered by (Kemp *et al.* 2017) is
621 contentious yet important as, along with *Parasagenodus*, *Gnathorhiza*, *Palaeophichthys* and
622 *Persephonichthys* (see above), they define what can be called the origin of 'modern' lungfish. If just
623 the taxa included in the analysis of Kemp *et al.* (2017) are subject to parsimony analysis using our
624 matrix, *Ctenodus* resolves in the same position as in Kemp *et al.* (2017). *Conchopoma*, however,
625 then becomes sister taxon to the derived form *Gnathorhiza* and is placed at the top of the tree (Fig.
626 10 D) as Kemp *et al.* (2017) suspected may occur when characters applicable to both Palaeozoic
627 and post-Palaeozoic lungfish (herein) are used.

628

629 ***Uronemus*.** *Uronemus* is considered as part of the Neodipnoi (see below) by Kemp *et al.* (2017)
630 who considered it united with this group by possessing an ascending pterygopalatine process. On
631 first-hand examination of the pterygoid of *Uronemus* NMS G 1976.19.3, no ascending
632 pterygopalatine palatine process is seen to be present on the dorsal side of the specimen. A lateral
633 thickening present on the posterolateral margin represents the thickened area between the upper jaw
634 bone and the skull seen in Devonian lungfish as mentioned by Kemp *et al.* (2017) and demonstrates

635 some of the more primitive Devonian synapomorphies present in *Uronemus*. We do not consider
636 *Uronemus* as a member of the Neodipnoi.
637

638 **Neodipnoi.** Our analysis thus brings into question the definition in Kemp *et al.* (2017) of the
639 Neodipnoi; the clade including all taxa more closely related to *Lepidosiren*, *Neoceratodus*,
640 *Gnathorhiza*, *Uronemus* and *Conchopoma* than to *Ctenodus* and *Sagenodus*. Adhering to the
641 definition of Kemp *et al.* (2017) for the Neodipnoi and applying it to our parsimony analysis, the
642 Neodipnoi would include all Carboniferous lungfish taxa other than *Sagenodus*, *Uronemus*,
643 *Megapleuron*, *Xylognathus*, *Ctenodus*, *Delatita* and *Limanichthys*. The concept breaks down when
644 considering the results of the Bayesian analysis where *Uronemus* resolves in a basal position in the
645 Carboniferous lungfish clade and *Ctenodus* occupies a more derived position. The Neodipnoi are
646 unified by, according to Kemp *et al.* (2017), among other characters, the presence of an ascending
647 pterygopalatine process and lacking a gular series of bones albeit ambiguously because these
648 characters are coded as unknown in *Conchopoma* and *Uronemus*. The lack of an ascending
649 pterygopalatine process and associated structures (Kemp *et al.* 2017, supplementary information) in
650 *Uronemus* (Smith *et al.*, 1987, fig. 4 and see above), *Tranodis* and *Sagenodus* firmly dissociates
651 these taxa from the Neodipnoi. *Conchopoma*, furthermore, possesses a complete complement of
652 periorbital bones as figured by Marshall (1988, figs. 2, 3), the presence of which further removes
653 this taxon from this definition of the Neodipnoi. Further problems with this definition are
654 encountered specifically when considering *Tranodis* (Thomson 1966; Schultze & Bolt 1996). The
655 lungfish *Tranodis* from the Upper Mississippian of North America, which was absent from the
656 analysis of Kemp *et al.* (2017), occupies a derived position as primitive sister taxon to *Straitonia* in
657 our parsimony analysis yet would not be included in the Neodipnoi under the definition of Kemp *et*
658 *al.* (2017) as it possesses both a complete complement of periorbital bones and rostral bones
659 anterior to the E-bones. *Palaeophichthys*, as sister taxon to *Gnathorhiza* and *Persephonichthys*, may

660 indeed possess an ascending pterygopalatine process from Schultze's (1994, p.109, fig. 2)
661 description; "The posterior flange of the pterygoid has a steep medial side and a narrow width", but
662 *Palaeophichthys* also possesses a gular series of bones. The legitimacy of *Palaeophichthys* as a
663 valid genus is still debated and it has been considered a synonym of *Monongahela* (Schultze 1994)
664 yet is also considered a distinct genus by Kemp (1998). In our analysis we have coded
665 *Palaeophichthys* from the descriptions provided by Eastman (1908, 1917) and Schultze (1994) and
666 retrieve the close association of *Gnathorhiza* and *Palaeophichthys* that Miles (1977), Schultze
667 (1994) and Schultze & Marshall (1993) found.

668 Given these inconsistencies we regard the included taxa of the Neodipnoi as proposed by
669 Kemp *et al.* (2017) as not being valid and adopt the original definition of Agnolin (2010) as the
670 Neoceratodontidae + Lepidosirenidae.

671

672 **Dipnoan size following the Hangenberg extinction event.** Sallan & Galimberti (2015) compiled
673 an extensive dataset of the size of all vertebrate taxa that existed across the Devonian-Carboniferous
674 boundary and employed regression analyses to ascertain if there was any significant decline in size
675 of taxa following the Hangenberg extinction event. In essence they were testing for the Lilliput
676 effect (Urbanek 1993) as has been recognised in invertebrate taxa following the end-Permian
677 extinction (Twitchett 2007) and terrestrial vertebrate taxa (Huttenlocker, 2014). Their data were
678 based on estimated body size from reconstructions in the published literature from which they
679 demonstrated that there was a slight decrease in size of all vertebrate taxa from the Devonian into
680 the Carboniferous. Dipnoan size was shown to remain static throughout the Carboniferous without
681 any statistical increase or decrease in body length.

682 The estimated body sizes of the lungfish discovered recently in the Tournaisian of the
683 Scottish Borders and Midland Valley (Carpenter *et al.* 2014, Challands *et al.* 2015, Smithson *et al.*
684 2015 and this present study) are broadly consistent with the pattern expected from Sallan and

685 Galimberti's (2015) analysis. *Limanichthys*, from the earliest Carboniferous, at c. 34.5 m above the
686 D/C boundary, and less than 0.5 million years after the Hangenberg event, is a relatively large fish,
687 at least 150 cm long. It is the largest of all the lungfish taxa collected from the horizons in the lower
688 half of the Tournaisian. This includes specimens from Bute (Carpenter *et al.* 2014), Willie's Hole
689 and most of the other material from Burnmouth (Smithson *et al.* 2012, 2016 Clack *et al.* 2016, Otoo
690 *et al.* 2018). Evidence of much larger taxa has been found in the highest tetrapod-bearing horizon at
691 Burnmouth (Clack *et al.* 2016, Clack *et al.* 2019) with individual bones representing lungfish up to
692 3 m long. In contrast, remains of very small individuals have been collected throughout the
693 Ballagan Formation representing fish no more than 10 cm long. The majority were probably less
694 than 40 cm long which may be indicative of the Lilliput effect (Sallan & Galimberti 2016). The
695 phylogenetic analysis suggests that the largest Tournaisian taxa (*Limanichthys* and *Delatitia*) belong
696 to lungfish clades with their roots deep in the Devonian and that the smaller taxa (e.g. *Xylognathus*
697 and *Sagenodus*) represent part of a new radiation of post-Hangenberg lungfish, a trend which
698 apparently continued throughout the Mississippian (Smithson *et al.* in press)

699

700 **Carboniferous radiation of lungfish.** Elucidating a cause for this new radiation in lungfish, as
701 well as why a Devonian group persisted into the Carboniferous is problematic. Sallan & Coates
702 (2010) suggested that piscine sarcopterygians underwent a taxic decline in the aftermath of the
703 Hangenberg extinction event and further stated that marine and freshwater environments were
704 affected equally. Our results show that freshwater and brackish lineages from within the
705 phaneropleurid – fleurantiid grade survived the Hangenberg extinction event. Our data also imply
706 that the roots of some of these lineages (e.g. *Limanichthys*, *Delatitia*) lie deep within the Devonian
707 rather than being a purely Carboniferous innovation. Tooth plates assigned to *Limanichthys* and
708 *Delatitia* are not known (those reported by Long & Campbell, 1985, for *Delatitia* are incomplete
709 and not associated directly with the cranial material) but recently two undescribed tooth plates from

710 the Frasnian of Russia have been found to possess characteristics similar to *Ctenodus* toothplates,
711 namely ovate shape, parallel ridges, a convex prearticular tooth plate surface and a tooth ridge angle
712 less than 40° (Challands *et al.* 2017) indicating at least a possible Devonian origination for other
713 Carboniferous taxa. The Carboniferous lungfish of the phaneropleurid – fleurantiid grade
714 (*Limanichthys* and *Delatitia*) may therefore represent a ‘dead clade walking’ (Jablonski 2002) being
715 the last of the phaneropleurid – fleurantiid association and not part of a distinct Carboniferous
716 lungfish radiation. Rather, we suggest that the Carboniferous lungfish radiation *sensu stricto* is
717 represented by forms possessing, in particular, high tooth ridge angles with fusion of cusps and
718 fewer tooth rows and with reduced dermal ossifications that represent transitional forms prior to the
719 advent of the Ceratodontoidei. We consider the Ceratodontoidei to comprise the clade including all
720 taxa more closely related to *Lepidosiren* and *Neoceratodus* than to *Palaeophichthys* and
721 *Persephonichthys*.

722 *Persephonichthys* was found by Pardo *et al.* (2014) to possess a pectoral girdle structure
723 that, unlike other Carboniferous lungfish, was decoupled from the skull, as in extant lungfish. From
724 this they inferred that *Persephonichthys* was capable of an improvement in feeding through buccal
725 suction though suction feeding was demonstrated by Clement *et al.* (2016) to already be manifest in
726 Devonian taxa as demonstrated by the pectoral girdle of *Rhinodipterus*. As well as being a Permian
727 form, our analyses suggest that *Persephonichthys* plus crown lungfishes represent descendents of
728 the Carboniferous radiation rather than being derived from Devonian phaneropleurid-fleurantiid
729 stock. In such a case, the development of a skeletal mechanism capable of buccal pumping for
730 suction feeding (as indicated by the presence of a long posterior parasphenoid stalk and the
731 presence of large cranial ribs) must have occurred during or after (unlikely) the development of new
732 tooth plate morphologies. The tooth plates of *Persephonichthys* possess a high tooth ridge angle,
733 with laterally compressed ridges and only four tooth rows. Additionally, the first tooth row of
734 *Persephonichthys* is extremely elongate relative to the other two rows, a feature that is also present

735 in *Gnathorhiza dikeloda*. Such features are typical of many Early Carboniferous lungfishes (e.g
736 *Xylognathus*, *Uronemus*, *Coccovedus*, *Occludus*) but are also present to a lesser degree in some
737 stemward lungfish including *Orlovichthys* and *Rhinodipterus*. This likely represents a certain degree
738 of heterodonty in lungfish, in which the elongate and laterally compressed first tooth row function
739 differently during occlusion from the other rows (Smithson *et al.* in press). The Carboniferous
740 lungfish radiation therefore appears to represent a wholesale, concomitant adoption of novel
741 mastication strategies and food capture (suction feeding) first seen in a handful of Devonian taxa
742 but becoming prevalent during a time of significant environmental change following the
743 Hangenberg event.

744 The onset of the Carboniferous saw a profound change in habitats that sarcopterygians, both
745 piscine and tetrapod, occupied. Anderson *et al.* (2015) and Clack *et al.* (2016) were able to
746 demonstrate that tetrapod diversification was well underway by the Tournaisian. At this time there
747 were diverse wetland environments and seasonal palaeosols in coastal floodplains in the region
748 subsequently represented by the Scottish Borders (Kearsey *et al.* 2016). Such environments were
749 not exclusively freshwater as indicated by Kearsey *et al.* (2016) as well as trace-fossils (Bennett *et*
750 *al.* 2017) and gypsum/anhydrite evaporites (Millward *et al.* 2018). Together these data provide
751 evidence of marine-to-brackish water input onto the floodplain. Floodplain lakes contained a
752 diverse vertebrate fauna besides lungfish (rhizodonts, tetrapods, actinopterygians, chondrichthyans).
753 Invertebrate fossils include ostracods (*Shemonaella* and *Paraparchites*), bivalves (*Modiolus* and
754 *Naiadites*) and rare eurypterids, shrimps, *Spirorbis* sp., *Serpula* sp., orthocones and scolecodonts
755 (Bennett *et al.* 2016, Otoo *et al.* 2018). No direct evidence has been found indicating the diet of
756 different Palaeozoic lungfish though they are generally considered to have been durophagous
757 (Clement *et al.* 2016). The innovations in the pectoral girdle outlined by Pardo *et al.* (2014)
758 represented a change to a more varied omnivorous feeding strategy. The prevalence of plant
759 material in the Ballagan Formation coupled with the abundance of small actinopterygian fish (Otoo

760 *et al.* 2018) and the diversity and innovations in lungfish tooth plate morphologies encountered in the
761 Tournaisian (Smithson *et al.* 2015) may indicate a more varied diet in some of the lungfish at this
762 time compared to lungfish from the Devonian. The diversity of new ecological niches in the
763 Tournaisian Ballagan Formation represents a step change from the relatively uniform environments
764 of the marine realm or large lacustrine habitats (e.g. the Orcadian Basin of Scotland) predominant in
765 the Devonian and it is into these environments that both Devonian lungfish survivors and the new
766 Carboniferous lungfish clade radiated.

767

768 **Conclusions**

769

770 *Limanichtys fraseri* is the earliest lungfish recovered from Carboniferous strata immediately
771 following the Devonian Hangenberg extinction event. Phylogenetic analysis resolves *Limanichthys*
772 with the primitive Devonian lungfish *Pentlandia* in a separate, more basal clade than the majority of
773 other Carboniferous lungfish. Both parsimony and Bayesian analyses imply deep roots for certain
774 Carboniferous taxa from the phaneropleurid-fleurantiid grade lungfish with *Limanichthys* and
775 *Delatitia* possibly representing relict taxa from within this grade. The inclusion of Carboniferous
776 lungfish alongside Devonian forms blurs the boundaries of what are formerly considered
777 ‘Devonian’ or ‘Carboniferous’ lungfish clades. Separate from this mixture of Devonian and
778 Carboniferous taxa, a unique radiation of exclusively Carboniferous lungfish occurred before the
779 advent of the Ceratodontoidei and Neodipnoi *sensu* Agnolin (2010). This radiation is typified by
780 lungfish with heterodont tooth plates with a reduced number of tooth ridges and laterally
781 compressed tooth rows that likely represent a response to the diversification of ecological niches
782 that became available in seasonally wet-dry brackish to freshwater coastal flood plain environments
783 in the Tournaisian. These data indicate that the Hangenberg extinction was not environmentally

784 pandemic and some taxa of Devonian stock that inhabited non-marine environments survived into
785 the Carboniferous as dead clades walking, joining the likes of the rhizodonts.

786

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788

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798

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1007 **Figure 1.** Distribution of the Ballagan Formation in south eastern Scotland and north eastern
1008 England and stratigraphic position of *Limanichthys* in the section of the Ballagan Formation at
1009 Burnmouth. Sedimentary log redrawn from Kearsey *et al.* (2016).

1010

1011 **Figure 2.** Counterpart (A) and part (B) of NMS G 2017.10.2 with respective interpretive drawings
1012 (C, D) showing the identified skull roof bones and parasphenoid.

1013

1014 **Figure 3.** Reconstructions of Devonian and Carboniferous dipnoan skull roofs: A. *Limanichthys*
1015 *fraseri*; B. *Pentlandia macroptera*; C. *Sagenodus inaequalis*; D. *Ctenodus allodens*; E.

1016 *Conchopoma gadiforme*; F. *Uronemus splendens*. B after Challands & Den Blaauwen (2016); D
1017 after Westoll (1949) and Sharp & Clack (2013); C, E & F after Westoll (1949).

1018

1019 **Figure 4.** A. Parasphenoid of *Limanichthys fraseri* in the part specimen showing impression of
1020 parasphenoid stalk and posterior region of lateral expansion of the corpus; B. Stalk of parasphenoid
1021 of *Limanichthys* showing strong ridging and tapering to a single point; C. Tentative reconstruction
1022 of the parasphenoid of *Limanichthys*; D. Parasphenoid of *Sagenodus copenanus* in visceral view
1023 from Schultze & Chorn (1997) fig. 22; E. Parasphenoid of *Ctenodus interruptus* in visceral view
1024 from Watson & Gill (1923), fig. 25 b; F. Parasphenoid of *Ctenodus cristatus*, buccal view, from
1025 Sharp & Clack (2013), fig. 15 b; G. Parasphenoid of *Pentlandia macroptera* from Challands & Den
1026 Blaauwen (2016), fig. 5 a. Scale bars: A-F = 10 mm, G = 4 mm.

1027

1028 **Figure 5.** A. UMZC 2017.5.10a-c showing disarticulated operculum, ribs, cranial ribs, anocleithra
1029 and tooth plate of *Limanichthys*; B. Interpretive drawing of skeletal elements in UMZC
1030 2017.5.10a-c. Scale bars = 50 mm.

1031

1032 **Figure 6. A.** MicroCT rendering of NMS G 2017.10.2a with translucent mask showing position of
1033 the marginal tooth plate of *Limanichthys* below the parasphenoid. **B.** Detailed rendering of the
1034 marginal tooth plate exhibiting seven individual cusps that decrease in size to the posterior (right).

1035

1036 **Figure 7.** Detail of tooth plate and anocleithrum on UMZC 2017.5.10c. Scale bar = 10 mm.

1037

1038 **Figure 8.** Strict consensus tree from 27 most parsimonious trees (length = 898, CI = 0.28, RI =
1039 0.60). Values next to nodes represent Bremer support indices. Carboniferous taxa are shown in grey
1040 boxes.

1041

1042 **Figure 9.** 50% majority rule tree from Bayesian analysis. Posterior probabilities >50% are shown
1043 next to nodes. Carboniferous taxa are shown in grey boxes.

1044

1045 **Figure 10.** Different phylogenetic hypotheses for Devonian, Carboniferous and post-Palaeozoic
1046 lungfish. **A.** Analysis of Kemp *et al.* (2017) placing *Gnathorhiza* with the lepidosirenids; **B.** 50%
1047 consensus tree (length 176) of 5 MPT (length 175) for reanalysis of the matrix of Kemp *et al.*
1048 (2017) following correction of character codings for *Persephonichthys*. *Gnathorhiza* resolves well
1049 outside the lepidosirenids as the most derived Carboniferous taxon; **C.** Bayesian analysis of the
1050 corrected matrix of Kemp *et al.* (2017) that also resolves *Gnathorhiza* outside the lepidosirenids; **D.**
1051 Phylogeny of matrix used in this study only including the taxa used present in the matrix of Kemp
1052 *et al.* (2017). *Conchopoma* resolves in a derived position in the crown rather than in a basal
1053 position; **E.** Hypothesis of Schultze & Chorn (1997) with *Conchopoma* resolving in a basal
1054 position; **F.** Hypothesis of Lloyd *et al.* (2012) with *Conchopoma* resolving in a basal position and
1055 *Gnathorhiza* resolving as the sister to all post-Palaeozoic taxa as per the current analysis.

Figure 1

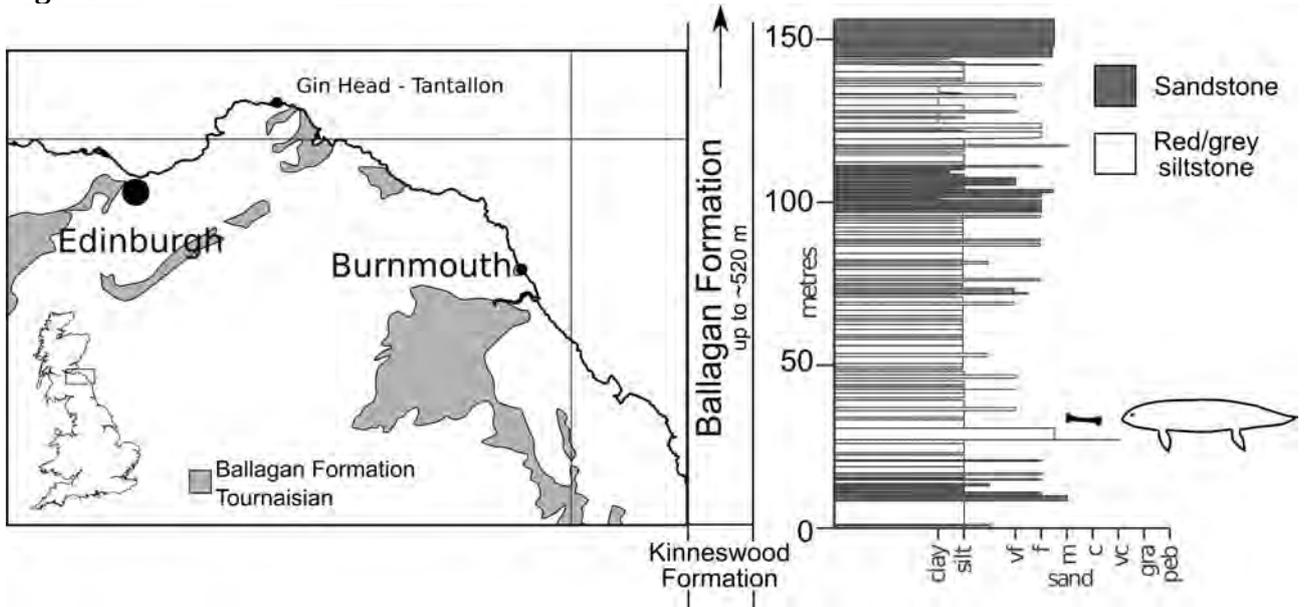


Figure 2

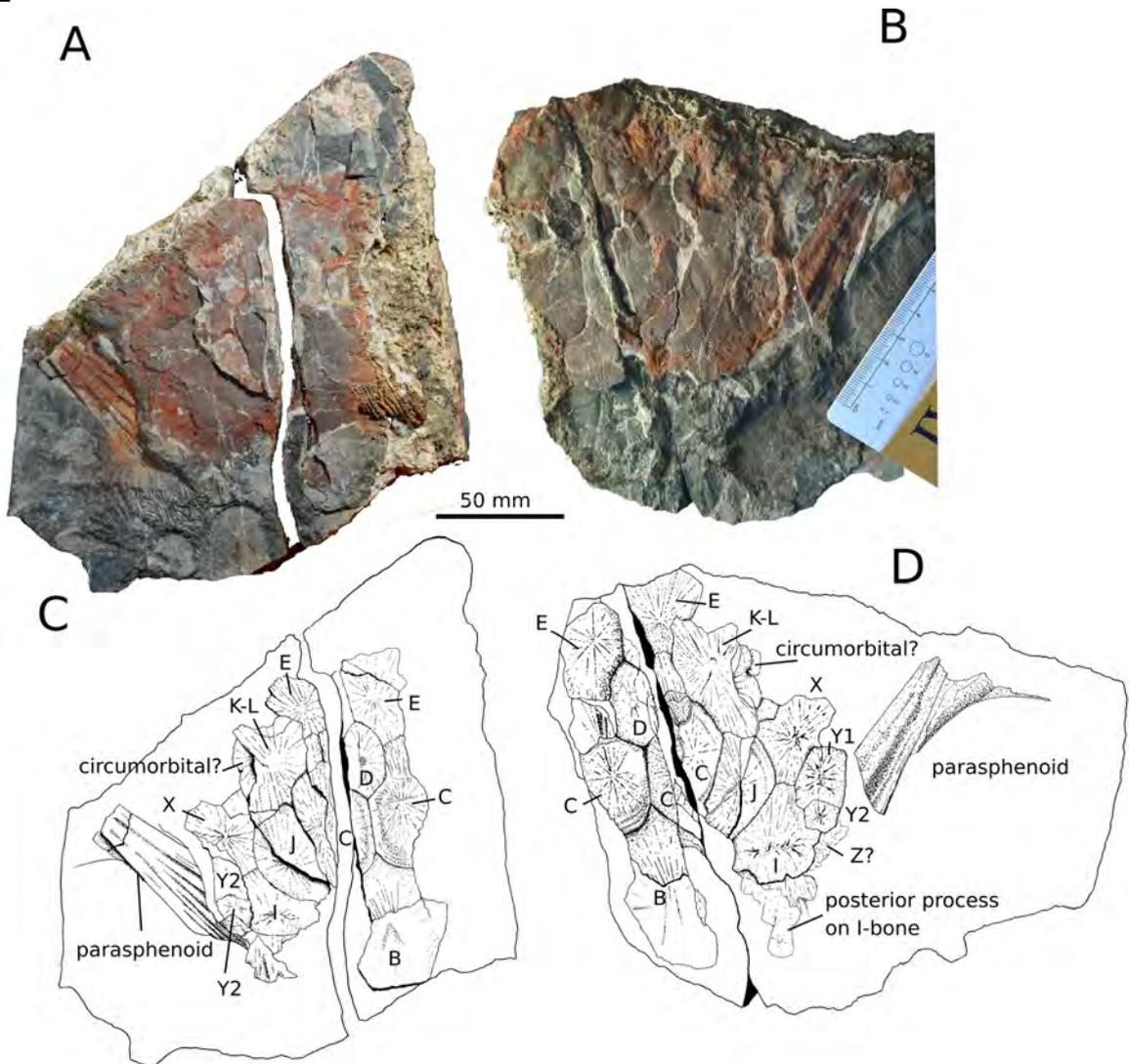


Figure 3

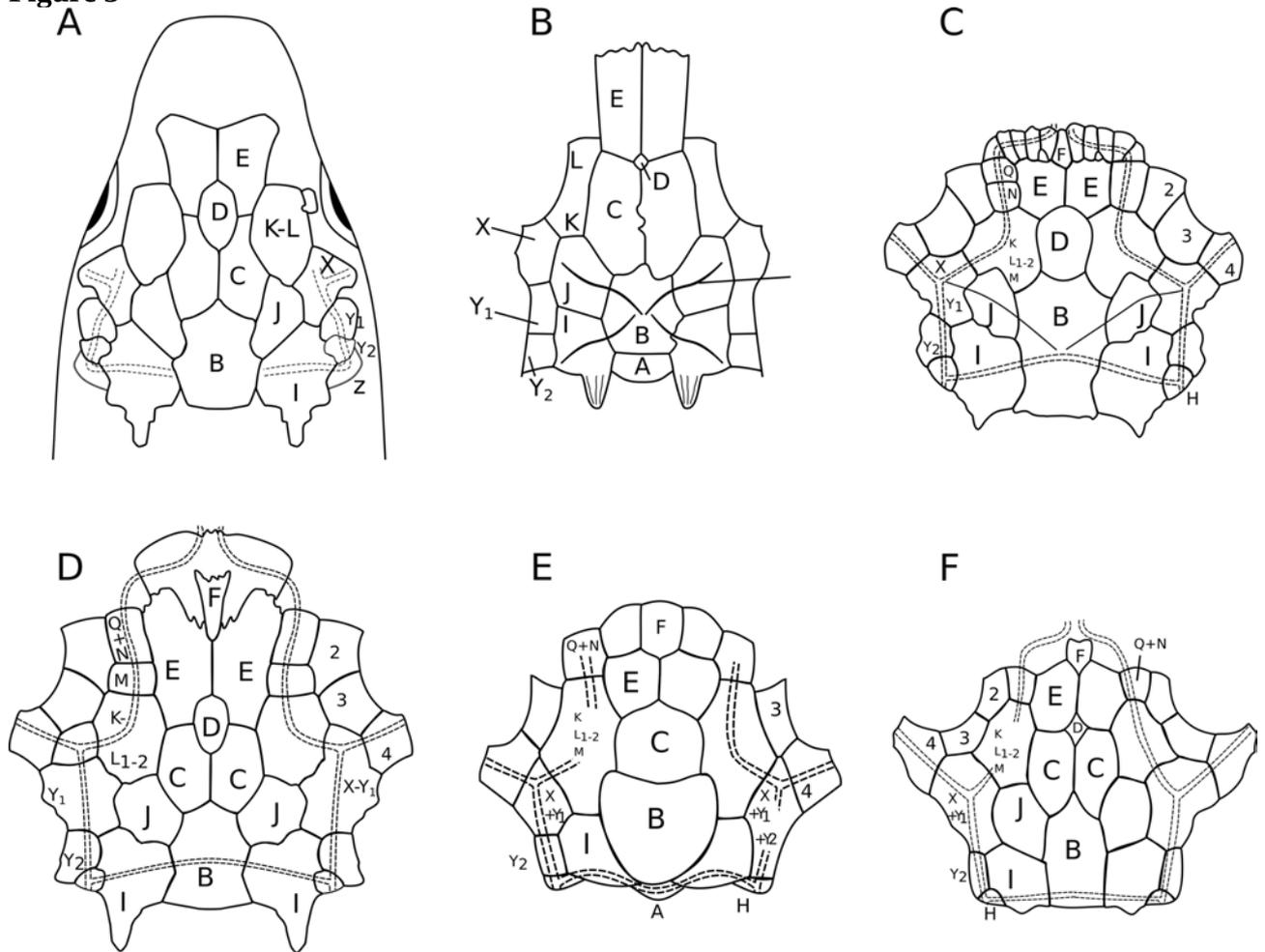


Figure 4

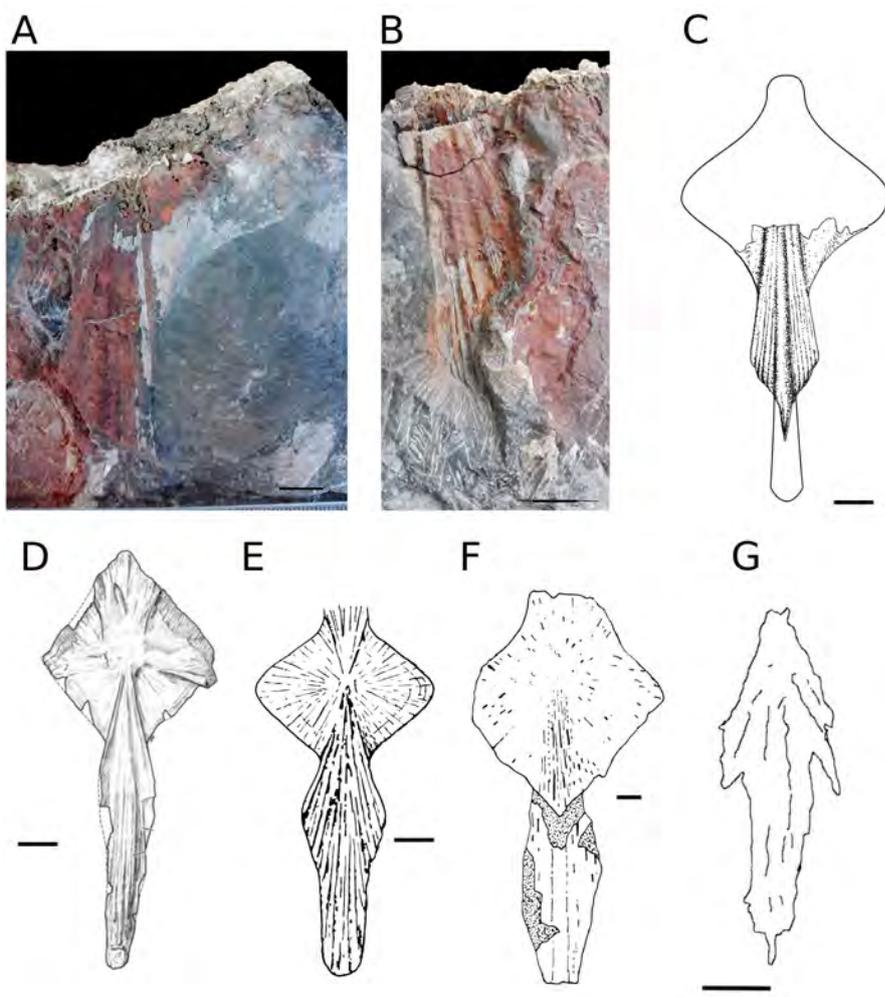


Figure 5

A



B

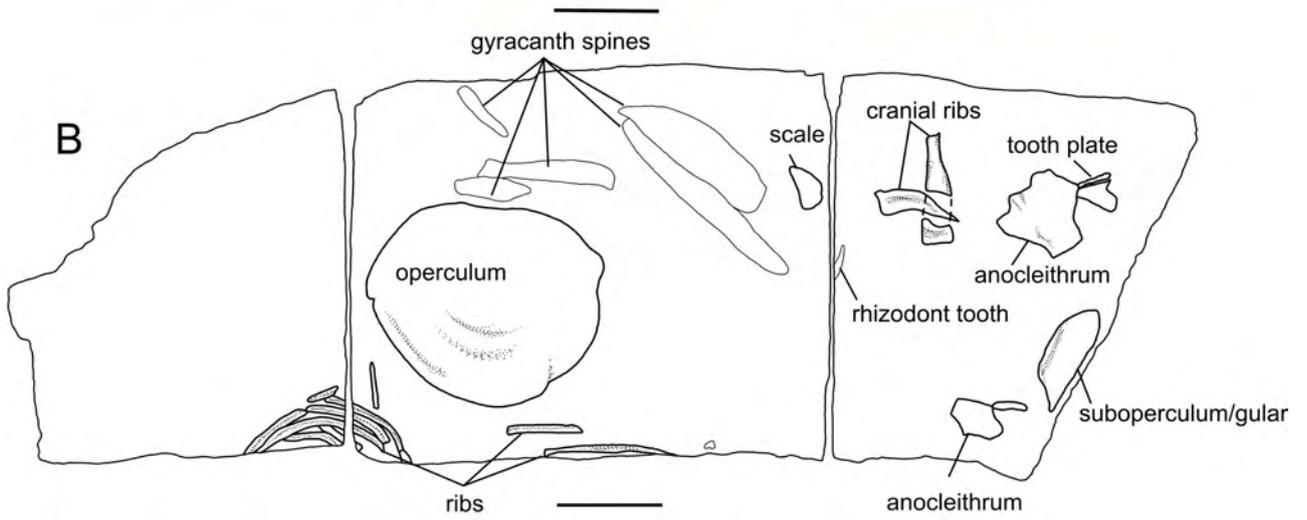
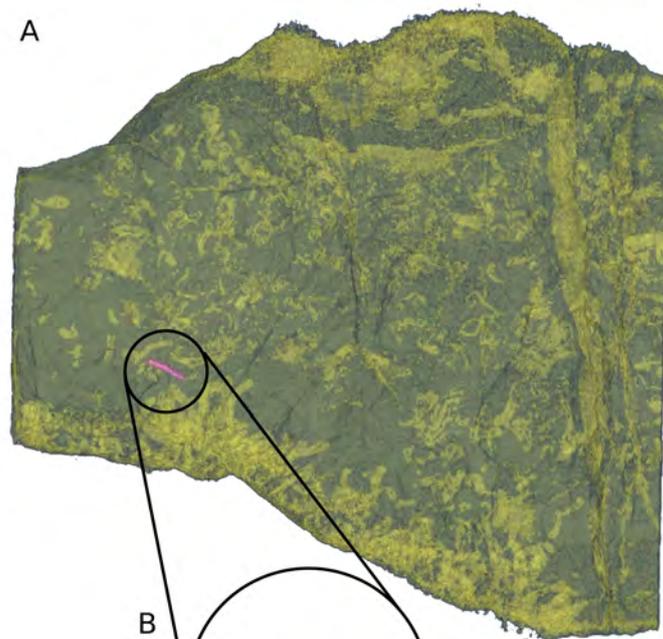
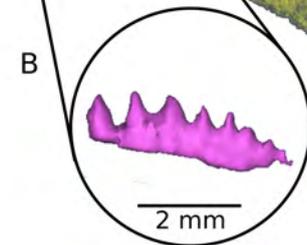


Figure 6

A



B



15 mm

2 mm

Figure 7

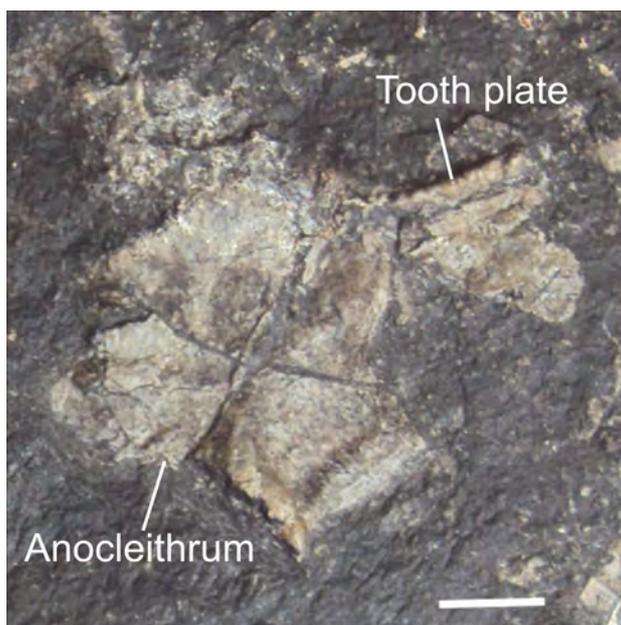


Figure 8

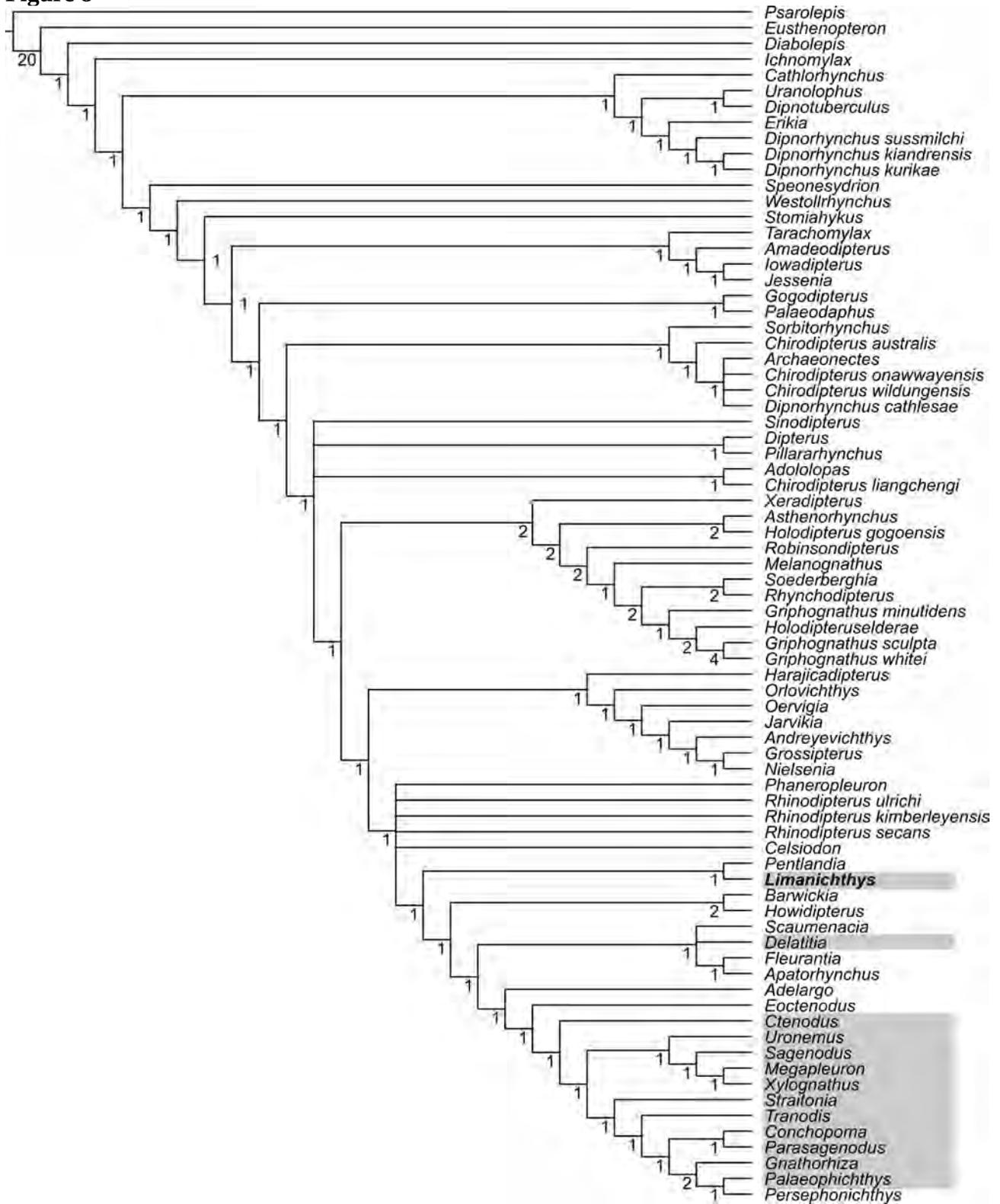


Figure 9

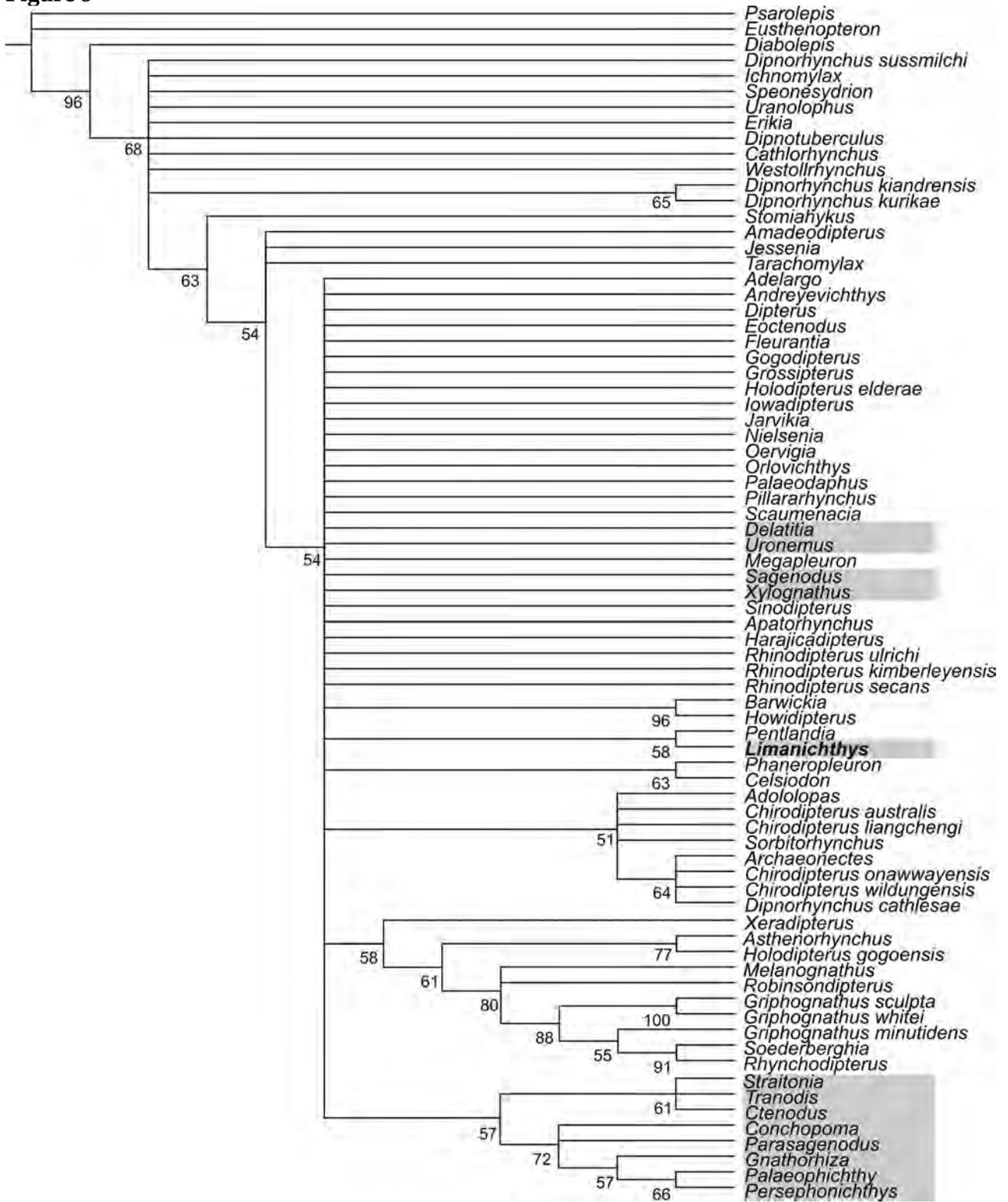
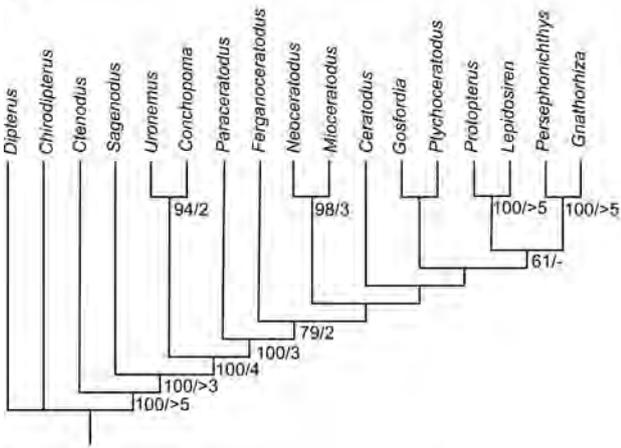
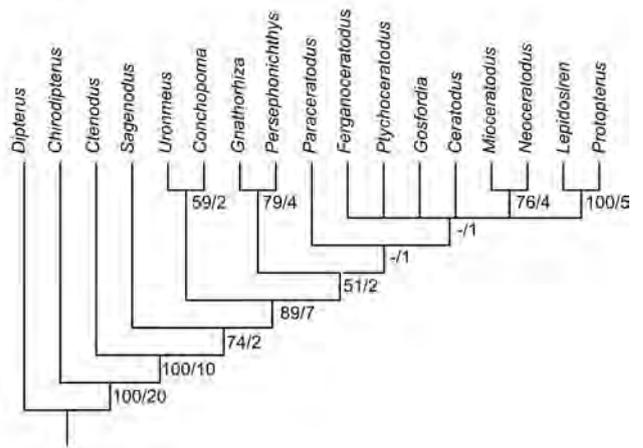


Figure 10

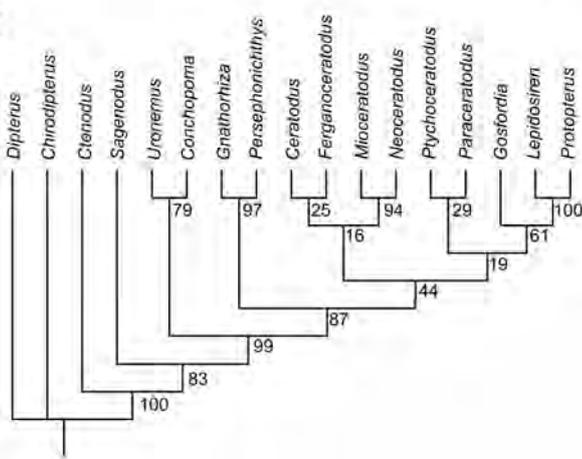
A



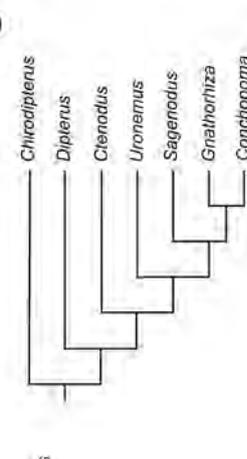
B



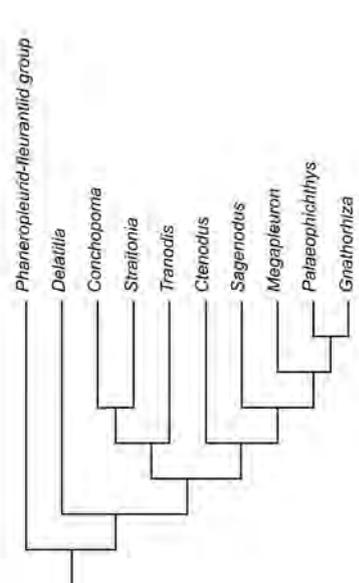
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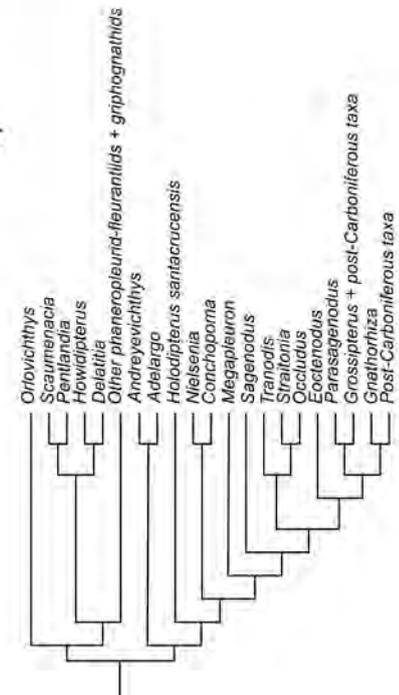
D



E



F



CHARACTER LIST

All characters are from Clack *et al.* (*in review*) which are derived from Qiao & Zhu (2015), Qiao & Zhu (2009), Schultze (2001), Ahlberg *et al.* (2006) and Friedman (2007) with modifications as described below.

1. Pineal opening: 0. open; 1. closed. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 1), Schultze (2001; char. 1), Ahlberg *et al.* (2006; char. 55), Qiao and Zhu (2009; char. 1).
2. Pineal region marked by short eminence: 0. no; 1. yes.
3. Cosmine present on skull: 0. yes, full cover; 1. yes, but strongly reduced; 2. no. (ordered)
4. Length of B bone: 0. short (less than 2 times its width); 1. long (equal or more than 2 times its width); 2. broad (wider than long).
5. Pit-lines on B bone: 0. absent; 1. anterior and middle pit-line present; 2. only anterior pit-line.
6. C bone: 0. absent; 1. present.
7. D-bone: 0. many; 1. single; 2. absent.
8. Contact between E and C bones: 0. absent; 1. present.
9. Paired E bones: 0. mosaic; 1 present; 2. single E-bone; 3. absent The polarity of this character has been reversed from 0. absent; 1. present; 2. mosaic to reflect the occurrence of this character in the oldest (most basal) to more recent (derived) dipnoan taxa.

10. Length of E-bone(s): 0. less than twice their width; 1. more than twice their width.
11. I-bones meeting in midline: 0. yes; 1. no, separated by B bone. This character changed to just refer to I-bones rather than implying homology between the I-bones and postparietals.
12. Posterior process of I bone: 0. absent; 1. present.
13. J-bones meeting in midline: 0. yes; 1. no. This character changed to just refer to J-bones rather than implying homology between the J-bones and parietals.
14. L-bone: 0 = two present, 1 = one present, 2 = fused K+L, 3 = fused K+L+M, 4 = other bones included. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 25), Schultze and Chorn (1997; char. 10,37,38,39,40), Schultze (2001; char. 25), Schultze (2004; char. 18).
15. Length of L-bone: 0. similar to others in supraorbital canal series; 1. about twice as long as others in supraorbital canal series.
16. K-bone: 0 = single, 1 = space of K+X, 2 = neither single nor K+X (e.g. fused (i.e 'space of') K+L-bones), 3 = K-bone absent. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 24), Schultze and Chorn (1997; char. 9,36), Schultze (2001; char. 24), Schultze (2004; char. 17).
17. K bone: 0. medial to X bone; 1. anterior to X bone; 2. in sequence.
18. M bone: 0. present; 1. absent.
19. N bone: 0. present; 1. absent.

20. Q bone: 0. absent; 1. present.

21. Z bone: 0. posterior to I bone; 1. lateral to I bone.

22. Maximum width of skull roof situated posterior to the level of the bone Y_1 : 0. yes; 1. No.

23. Sutures between median series of skull roofing bones: 0 = straight, 1 = interdigitate, 2 = open.
Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 3), Schultze (2001; char. 3), Schultze (2004; char. 1).

24. Elongated snout: 0. absent; 1. present.

25. Ossified upper lip in adult: 0. mosaic; 1. fused; 2. absent.

26. Snout/skull roof: 0. with diffuse posterior margin; 1. with sharp posterior margin. (Uncertain for *Eusthenopteron* but coded as '1' given the clear demarcation between naso-parietal-frontal? and parietals).

27. Supraorbital and infraorbital canals: 0. separated; 1. connected.

28. Lateral line in bone 3: 0. absent; 1. present.

29. Cheek bones: 0. cheek bones 1-11 present; 1. no 11; 2. no 10, 11.

30. Length of postorbital cheek: 0. substantially longer than diameter of orbit; 1. equal to or shorter than diameter of orbit.

31. Ratio length snout:cheek: 0. <1 ; 1. ≥ 1 . (Schultze & Marshall (1993) definition: Ratio snout/cheek: 0 = 1:1, 1 = 2 (>1.5):1, 2 = 3 (>2.5):1, 3 = >4 :1. Schultze and Marshall (1993;

char. 85), Schultze (2001; char. 85), Schultze (2004; char. 53).)

32. Bone 6: 0. reaching ventral margin of cheek; 1. excluded from ventral margin of cheek by bone 10.
33. Bone 7: 0. approximately equilateral; 1. much longer than deep.
34. Size of bone 10 (quadratojugal): 0. large, as 5 or greater; 1. much smaller than 5, or absent.
35. Subopercular: 0. two; 1. one.
36. Buccohypophyseal opening (foramen): 0. present; 1. absent.
37. Palatal construction: 0. parasphenoid separates pterygoids; 1. pterygoids articulate with each other with suture; 2. pterygoids fused.
38. Parasphenoid: 0. fused into palate; 1. visible sutures; 2. overlapping (pterygoids).
39. Transverse curvature of palate: 0. flat; 1. arched.
40. Parasphenoid stalk: 0. no stalk; 1. simple stalk without sharp division into tapering proximal portion and parallel-sided distal portion; 2. stalk with sharp division into tapering proximal portion and parallel-sided distal portion. (ordered)
41. Ratio of posterior length to anterior length of parasphenoid: 0. less than 1 or about 1; 1. greater than 1.
42. Furrow on ventral surface of parasphenoid stalk: 0. absent; 1. present.

43. Furrow on dorsal surface of parasphenoid stalk: 0. absent; 1. present.
44. Parasphenoid bearing denticle-lined ascending process: 0. no; 1. yes.
45. Dental material on parasphenoid: 0. present; 1. absent.
46. Parasphenoid reaching posterior margin of occiput: 0. no; 1. yes.
47. Shape of parasphenoid: 0 = anteriorly elongated, 1 = plow-shaped, 2 = with lozenge, 3 = round anterior portion, 4 = angled anterior portion. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 49), Schultze and Chorn (1997; char. 18), Schultze (2001; char. 49), Schultze (2004; char. 34).
48. Position of parasphenoid: 0. below ethmosphenoid; 1. below otico-occipital; 2. below both.
49. Position of anterior end of parasphenoid: 0. in front of jaw articulation; 1. not in front.
50. Ratio of maximum width of parasphenoid to distance of articulation points of jaws: 0. less than $\frac{1}{3}$; 1. between $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{2}{3}$; 2. greater than $\frac{2}{3}$.
51. Lateral angle of parasphenoid: 0 = no angle, 1 = angular, 2 = rounded, 3 = reflexed. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 48), Schultze (2001; char. 48), Schultze (2004; char. 33).
52. (Posterior) end of parasphenoid (stalk): 0. single point; 1. bifid; 2. trifid with lateral projections.
53. Margins of posterior stalk of parasphenoid: 0. converge to posterior angle; 1. subparallel.

54. “Vomer” *sensu* Miles (1977): 0. present; 1. absent.
55. “Dermopalatine 1” *sensu* Miles (1977): 0. median; 1. paired.
56. “Dermopalatine 1” *sensu* Miles (1977) / pterygoid: 0. fused to pterygoid; 1. present, not in contact; 2. isolated.
57. Series anterolateral to pterygoids: 0. present, with tusks; 1. present with denticles or dentine sheet; 2. present with tooth row. This is interpreted as meaning ‘dental’ series anterolateral to pterygoids.
58. Parasphenoid separating pterygoids along more than half of their length: 0. yes; 1. no.
59. Angle between midline and anterolateral margin of pterygoid: 0. less than 55 degrees; 1. more than 55 degrees. From Ahlberg et al (2006), character 24 and Qiao & Zhu (2009; 2015).
60. Anterior nostril: 0. located dorsal to oral margin; 1. marginal.
61. Posterior nostril: 0. located dorsal to oral margin; 1. marginal 2. palatal. (ordered)
62. Internasal pits: 0. well developed; 1. reduced or absent.
63. Cosmine-like tissue within oral cavity: 0. no; 1. yes.
64. Premaxilla: 0. present; 1. absent.
65. Lateral lines in mandible: 0. parallel; 1. converging in one bone. *Diplocercides* only has one

lateral line canal in the mandible (Forey et al, 2000).

66. Length of symphysis (ratio length of symphysis to length of jaw): 0. greater than 1/3; 1. between 1/5 and 1/3; 2. less than 1/5.

67. Adsymphysial plate: 0 = present, but fused, 1 = isolated, sutured bone, 2 = missing. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 66), Schultze (2001; char. 66), Schultze (2004; char. 45).

68. "Dentary": 0. unpaired ; 1. paired; 2. absent.

69. Dentary-prearticular relationship: 0. dentition-generating gap; 1. small midline hole only ; 2. no gap.

70. Slot between dentary and prearticular: 0. broad; 1. narrow; 2. no slot.

71. Adductor fossa: 0. not overhung by prearticular; 1. overhung by prearticular.

72. Length of adductor fossa: 0. more than 20% of jaw length; 1. 5%-20% of jaw length; 2. 0-5% of jaw length (ordered). For *Diplocercides*, see Friedman (2007) fig. 5c.

73. Morphology of adductor fossa: 0. open; 1. reduced to vestigial slit.

74. Coronoids: 0. present; 1. absent.

75. Lip fold: 0. absent; 1. present.

76. Meckelian bone: 0. wholly ossified; 1. only articular ossified, or not ossified at all.

77. Retroarticular process: 0. small and poorly developed; 1. robust, squarish.
78. Skin contact surface on infradentary bones: 0. reaching up to lip of adductor fossa; 1. widely separated from lip of adductor fossa. 1
79. Curvature of ventral mandibular margin: 0. strongly convex; 1. essentially flat.
80. Orientation of glenoid: 0. mostly dorsally; 1. posterodorsally.
81. Shape of glenoid fossa: 0. double structure; 1. single groove.
82. Angular and surangular: 0. separate; 1. fused into a single long bone.
83. Splenial and postsplenial: 0. separate; 1. fused. For *Diplocercides*, coded as '?' due to uncertainty of homology and from fusion of infradentaries (see Friedman, 2007).
84. Teeth on upper lip: 0. shedding teeth; 1. statodont tooth row; 2. teeth absent.
85. Teeth on dentary: 0. shedding teeth present; 1. statodont tooth rows present; 2. teeth absent.
86. Number of tooth ridges *in adult specimens*: 0. <10; 1. >10. Kemp (1977) clearly demonstrated that the number of tooth ridges in growing *Neoceratodus forsteri* increases from larval stage to adult and that the number of tooth ridges differs between the lower and upper jaws. When coding for this character it is important to account for the complete growth series of the taxon and if this is not possible, justification must be given for coding for this character.

87. Tooth plates: 0. present; 1. absent. Not applicable in the context of outgroup otherwise absence would be considered a reversal.
88. Morphology of teeth on pterygoid and prearticular: 0. round/conical; 1., forming distinct proximodistal cutting ridge.
89. Addition of large dentine elements at regular intervals to lateral margin of pterygoid/prearticular: 0. yes; 1. no.
90. Nature of large dentine elements: 0. teeth; 1. petrodentine cores; 2. thick irregular dentine; 3. ridges narrow regular dentine ridges.
91. Addition of marginal blisters to pterygoid/prearticular: 0. no; 1. yes.
92. Shape of marginal blisters: 0. bead-shaped; 1. elongated strips.
93. Addition of inter-row dentine along edge of pterygoid/prearticular: 0. no; 1. yes.
94. Nature of inter-row dentine: 0. always fuses or wears down into sheet; 1. separate denticles persist between some tooth rows.
95. Pulp cavity: 0. tooth plates without pulp cavity; 1. with pulp cavity.
96. Diffuse dentine deposition on surface of palate/lower jaw: 0. yes, diffusely across whole palate; 1. no; 2. redeposition of denticles only within “footprint” (outer circumference) of resorbed tooth plate.

97. Relative areas of denticle field/thin dentine sheet on palate: 0. all or nearly all denticles; 1. both dentine sheet and denticles; 2. mostly dentine sheet; 3. denticles outside toothplate; 4 dentine sheet on resorption areas within toothplate.
98. Relative areas of denticle field and dentine sheet on lower jaw: 0. all or nearly all denticles; 1. both denticles and dentine sheet; 2. mostly dentine sheet.
99. Resorption of dentition on pterygoid/prearticular plate origin: 0. little or no resorption, origin left unmodified; 1. extensive resorption, removing mesial parts of plate; 2. resorption and deposition of dentine sheet within toothplate only, not crossing edges.
100. Distinct vertically growing “heel” on prearticular: 0. no; 1. yes.
101. Petrodentine: 0. absent; 1. present.
102. Sharp “additive” mesial and posterior edges on tooth plates: 0. absent; 1. present.
103. Behaviour of “additive edges” (if present): 0. quiescent; 1. active.
104. Braincase/skull table relationship: 0. broad contact; 1. supported by cristae.
105. Angle between quadrate and plane of parasphenoid: 0. 90-95 degrees; 1. 80 -65 degrees; 2. 55-35 degrees.
106. Autostyly: 0. absent; 1. present.
107. Lateral commissure: 0. separate from palatoquadrate; 1. partly fused but distinguishable; 2.

wholly fused to palatoquadrate. (ordered). The presence of a structure termed the lateral commissure in Dipnoi was rejected by Miles (1977).

108. Palatoquadrate: 0. fused into palate; 1. free.

109. Dorsolateral process on palatoquadrate: 0. absent; 1. present.

110. Metotic (lateral otic) fissure: 0. present; 1. absent.

111. Intracranial joint/ventral cranial fissure: 0. mobile joint; 1. ventral cranial fissure; 2. neither fissure nor joint.

112. Occiput inset from posterior margin of neurocranium: 0. no; 1. yes.

113. Notochordal canal occluded by ossified cranial centrum: 0. no; 1. yes.

114. Neural cavity and notochordal canal separated by an ossified shelf in the occipital region, posterior to the foramen for N. X: 0. yes; 1. no.

115. Ossification complete along ventral midline of notochordal canal posteriorly: 0. yes; 1. no.

116. Occipital region bears transverse processes flanking foramen magnum: 0. no; 1. yes.

117. Dorsal aorta: 0. divides at or anterior to occiput; 1. divides posterior to occiput. (Friedman, 9).

118. Lateral dorsal aortae: 0. run along ventral surface of neurocranium; 1. run in grooves on parasphenoid.

119. Occipital artery extramural: 0. no; 1. yes.

120. Neurocranium extends far posterior to hind margin of postparietals: 0. no; 1. yes.

121. Dorsolateral crista fenestrated: 0. no; 1. yes.

122. Median crista discontinuous: 0. no; 1. yes.

123. Little or no overlap between intersections of median and dorsolateral cristae with the dermal skull roof (median crista abbreviated): 0. no; 1. yes.

124. Lateral cristae fenestrated: 0. no; 1. yes.

125. Development of a pronounced ridge anterior to and continuous with the dorsolateral cristae: 0. no; 1. yes.

126. Articulation of first epibranchial posterior to the level of the foramen for N. IX: 0. no; 1. yes.

127. Notochord extending to or beyond level of N. V: 0. yes; 1. no.

128. Development of a deep "spiracular recess" *sensu* Thomson and Campbell (1971): 0. yes; 1. no.

129. Separate foramina for the internal carotid artery and efferent pseudobranchial artery: 0. no; 1. yes.

130. Jugular vein: 0. little or no groove; 1. travels through deep groove along length of otic region.
131. Foramina for the jugular vein and the ramus hyomandibularis N. VII on the posterior surface of the transverse wall of the otic region: 0. confluent; 1. separate.
132. Foramina for the jugular vein and the orbital artery on the posterior surface of the transverse wall of the otic region: 0. confluent; 1. separate.
133. Foramina for the ramus hyomandibularis N. VII and the orbital artery on the posterior surface of the transverse wall of the otic region: 0. confluent; 1. separate.
134. Hyomandibular facet traverses fissure in transverse otic wall (hyomandibular facet extends on to palatoquadrate): 0. no; 1. yes.
135. Separate ossified canals for pineal and parapineal organs: 0. yes; 1. no.
136. Foramen for N. II above the level of foramen sphenoticum minus: 0. no; 1. yes.
137. Foramen for N. III above level of foramen sphenoticum minus: 0. no; 1. yes.
138. Ventral face of nasal capsule: 0. complete; 1. perforated by fenestration that opens posteroventrolaterally (fenestra ventralis); 2. solum nasi completely unossified. (ordered).
139. Nasal capsule set well posterior to snout margin or preoral eminence: 0. no; 1. yes.
140. Enlarged, knob-shaped protrusion on the posteroventral surface of the quadrate (hyosuspensory eminence of Miles, 1977): 0. absent; 1. present.

141. Overlap relationship between entopterygoids and parasphenoid: 0. parasphenoid overlaps entopterygoids dorsally; 1. entopterygoids overlap parasphenoid dorsally.
142. Cleithrum and clavicle: 0. with cosmine; 1. without cosmine.
143. Median fin morphologies: 0. all separate and short-based; 1. posterior dorsal fin long-based; 2. both dorsal fins long-based uninterrupted fin fringe.
144. Posterior dorsal fin support: 0. all radials carried by basal plate; 1. anterior radials on basal plate, posterior radials free; 2. no basal plate.
145. Anal fin support: 0. trapezoidal with no distinct shaft; 1. cylindrical proximal shaft and triangular distal plate.
146. Median fin radials: 0. cylindrical; 1. hourglass-shaped.
147. Vertebral column: 0. unconstricted notochord; 1. disc centra.
148. Neural arches and spines: 0. separate; 1. fused.
149. Scales: 0. rhombic; 1. round.
150. Cosmine on scales: 0. present; 1. absent.
- 151: Adlateral cristae (postero-dorsal extensions of the lateral cristae that connect the otic region of the neurocranium to the visceral surface of the dermal skull roof) present: 0. yes; 1. no.

(Character 15 in Friedman 2007)

152: Median callus on palate: 0. absent; 1. present. (Character 18 in Ahlberg *et al.* 2006)

153: B bone: 0. absent; 1. present. (Character 8 in Schultze, 2001).

154: Foramen for the internal carotid anterior to that for the efferent pseudobranchial artery: 0. no;
1. yes. (Character 29 in Friedman 2007)

155. Ossification of neurocranium: 0 - completely ossified; 1 – poorly-ossified/cartilagenous.

156 = Character 11 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). C-bone(s): 0 – paired; 1 – single. Character state ‘1’
changed from ‘*single/absent*’ to differentiate between character 6: C-bone: 0. absent; 1. absent.

157. Angle between first and last tooth ridge: 0 - 50 – 100°; 1- less than 50° or greater than 100°

158. Character 62 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Lower jaw: 0 = short mandible rami, 1 = elongated rami
with short symphysis, 2 = elongated symphysis. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 61),
Schultze (2001; char. 61).

159. Character 4 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Kinesis between nasal region and braincase behind it: 0 =
absent, 1 = present. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 4), Schultze (2001; char. 4), Schultze
(2004; char. 2).

160. Character 5 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). A-bone: 0 = independent A-bone, 1 = not present as
independent bone, 2 = incorporated into skull roof. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 5),
Schultze (2001; char. 5), Schultze (2004; char. 3).

161. Character 6 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Supraoccipital commissure: 0 = through Z-G-I-A-I-G-Z, 1 = through I-A-I, 2 = through I-B-I, 3 = through Z-B-Z, 4 = above bones. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 6), Schultze and Chorn (1997; char. 3), Schultze (2001; char. 6), Schultze (2004; char. 4).
162. Character 10 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Adductor muscles: 0 = below skull roof, 1 = above skull roof. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 10), Schultze (2001; char. 10), Schultze (2004; char. 8).
163. Character 15 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). F-bone: 0 = not existing, 1 = present, 2 = place of F+E. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 15), Schultze (2001; char. 15), Schultze (2004; char. 12).
164. Character 16 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Space taken by K+L or more bones (i.e. K- and L-bones missing if '0'): 0 = not, 1 = yes, 2 = in addition M, 3 = in addition M+N, 4 = in addition J+M, 5 = in addition X. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 16), Schultze (2001; char. 16), Schultze (2004; char. 13).
165. Character 18 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). G-bone: 0 = present, 1 = absent. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 18), Schultze (2001; char. 18). This character is logically possible for taxa outside the in group though in considering so the polarity is confused. Schultze and Marshall (1993) do not test the polarity of the character with the context of an outgroup and so we code it as '?' for non-dipnoan taxa in this study.
166. Character 19 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). I-bone: 0 = present, 1 = space of I+J, 2 = space of I+J+L+M, 3 = space of I+Z, 4 = space of A+B+I+J, 5 = space of I+Y+Z. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 19), Schultze and Chorn (1997; char. 8), Schultze (2001; char. 19),

Schultze (2004; char. 14).

167. Character 22 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). J-bone: 0 = present, 1 = space of J+K+L+M, 2 = space of I+J, 3 = space of J+L+M, 4 = space of A+B+I+J, 5 = space of J+C. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 22), Schultze and Chorn (1997; char. 2), Schultze (2001; char. 22), Schultze (2004; char. 16).

168. Character 29 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Z-bone: 0 = behind skull roof, 1 = integrated into skull roof, 2 = space of Y+Z, 3 = lacking as isolated bone. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 29), Schultze and Chorn (1997; char. 12,34), Schultze (2001; char. 29), Schultze (2004; char. 22).

169. Character 30 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Lateral line entering skull table through: 0 = bone Z, 1 = bone I, 2 = above bones. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 30), Schultze (2001; char. 30), Schultze (2004; char. 23).

170. Character 31 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Y-bone: 0 = Y1- and Y2-bones present, 1 = only one Y-bone, 2 = space of X+Y, 3 = space of Y+Z. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 31), Schultze and Chorn (1997; char. 13,35), Schultze (2001; char. 31), Schultze (2004; char. 24).

171. Character 32 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). X-bone: 0 = isolated, 1 = space of X+K, 2 = space of X+Y, 3 = missing. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 32), Schultze and Chorn (1997; char. 14), Schultze (2001; char. 32), Schultze (2004; char. 25).

172. Character 34 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). T-bone: 0 = present, 1 = absent. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 34), Schultze (2001; char. 34).

173. Character 36 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Bone 10: 0 = present, 1 = absent. Schultze and Marshall

- (1993; char. 36), Schultze (2001; char. 36), Schultze (2004; char. 28).
174. Character 37 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Bone 11: 0 = present, 1 = absent. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 36), Schultze (2001; char. 36), Schultze (2004; char. 28).
175. Character 38 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Space taken by L+M: 0 = not present, 1 = present, 2 = space of J+L+M, 3 = space of J+K+L+M (+ possible N), 4 = space of I+J+L+M, 5 = space of K+L+M. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 37), Schultze (2001; char. 37), Schultze (2004; char. 29).
176. Character 39 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Maxilla and premaxilla: 0 = absent, 1 = present. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 38), Schultze (2001; char. 38).
177. Character 57 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Ascending process on pterygoid: 0 = absent, 1 = short, 2 = long. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 56), Schultze and Chorn (1997; char. 20), Schultze (2001; char. 56), Schultze (2004; char. 40). State '2' only found in post-Palaeozoic Dipnoi.
178. Character 65 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Number of infradentaries: 0 = four, 1 = two, 2 = one, 3 = three. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 64), Schultze and Chorn (1997; char. 21), Schultze (2001; char. 64), Schultze (2004; char. 43).
179. Character 71 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Ossified meckelian bone: 0 = present, 1 = lacking. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 70), Schultze (2001; char. 70), Schultze (2004; char. 48).
180. Character 73 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Dentition: 0 = dentine plates, 1 = tooth plates, 2 = toothed (shedding denticles). Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 72), Schultze (2001; char. 72), Schultze (2004; char. 49).

181. Character 74 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Form of marginal tooth ridge: 0 = absent, 1 = continuous, 2 = incomplete. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 73), Schultze (2001; char. 73).
182. Character 75 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Tuberosities on palate: 0 = present and irregular, 1 = arranged radially, 2 = arranged in rows, 3 = absent. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 74), Schultze (2001; char. 74).
183. Character 76 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). 0 = no denticles, 1 = episodically shed denticles. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 75), Schultze (2001; char. 75), Schultze (2004; char. 50).
184. Character 77 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Tooth plates ridges: 0 = no tooth plates, 1 = without radial pattern, 2 = radial pattern with cusps, 3 = radial pattern without cusps, 4 = parallel ridges. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 76), Schultze and Chorn (1997; char. 23,32), Schultze (2001; char. 76).
185. Character 80 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Ceratohyal: 0 = short and stout, 1 = long. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 79), Schultze and Chorn (1997; char. 26), Schultze (2001; char. 79), Schultze (2004; char. 51).
186. Character 81 of Lloyd *et al.* (2012). Basihyal: 0 = short without denticles, 1 = long and denticulated, 2 = short and denticulated. Schultze and Marshall (1993; char. 80), Schultze (2001; char. 80), Schultze (2004; char. 52).

Notes on characters

Character 5. Pit-lines on B bone: 0. absent; 1. anterior and middle pit-line present; 2. only anterior pit-line; 3. only posterior pit line. *Gnathorhiza* only possesses a posterior pit line which has not traditionally been coded. Here we add this as a fourth state unordered.

Characters amended in the matrix of Kemp *et al.* (2017).

Recoding of *Persephonichthys* is required for Character 21 when considering all lateral line canals. In the supraorbital series and the mandibular bones the lateral line canals are enclosed in bone in *Persephonichthys*.

Uronemus

Character 3 from 1 to 0. *Uronemus* possesses elaborate ornamentation on the surface of the calvarial bones as clearly seen in specimen NMS G 1976.19.3.

Dipterus

Character 3 from 0 to 1. There is no reference to surface ornamentation on the calvarial bones of *Dipterus* in White (1965) for instance nor in the many specimens viewed by the authors.

Sagenodus

Character 3 from 0 to 1. There is no reference to surface ornamentation on the calvarial bones of *Sagenodus* in the many specimens of the NMS and BMNH viewed by the authors.

Chirodipterus

Character 3 from 0 to 1. There is no reference to surface ornamentation on the calvarial bones of *Chirodipterus* in Miles (1977) for instance nor in the specimens viewed by the authors in the BMNH. Character 7. *Chirodipterus* is polymorphic for this character. An F-bone is present in *Chirodipterus* BMNH P52563 (see Miles, 1977, fig. 118 c).

Ctenodus

Character 2 from 0 to 1. The snout of *Ctenodus* is not mineralised.

Character 3 from 0 to 1. There is no reference to surface ornamentation beyond that of the typical radiating ornamentation on the calvarial bones of *Ctenodus*. The ornamentation described in Sharp & Clack (2013) refers to the typical dipnoan radiating pattern and lateral line canal pores.

Conchopoma

Character 9 from 1 to 0. *Conchopoma* possesses a full compliment of periorbital bones as figured by Marshall (1988, figs. 2, 3).

Persephonichthys

Character 14 from 0 to 1. Pardo *et al.* (2014, p.8) clearly state the periorbital bones are incomplete.

Character 65 from 1 to ?. There is no evidence of the structure of the fins in *Persephonichthys*.

Character 68 from 1 to ?

Character 72 from 1 to ?

Character 71 from 1 to ?

Character 70 from 1 to ?

Changes made to matrix of Clack *et al.* (in press).

Ctenodus

Character 2 from '?' to '0'. There is no record of a pineal eminence in *Ctenodus*. See review of the genus by Sharp & Clack (2013).

Character 14 from '?' to '2'. *Ctenodus* possesses a fused K+L bone. See review of the genus by Sharp & Clack (2013).

Character 16 from '0' to '2'. *Ctenodus* possesses a fused K+L bone and so is coded as '2'. See review of the genus by Sharp & Clack (2013).

Character 19 from '?' to '0'. Sharp & Clack (2013) note the presence of an N-bone in *Ctenodus*.

Character 20 from '0' to '1'. A fused Q+N-bone is noted in *Ctenodus* by Westoll (1949).

Character 58 from '0' to '1'. Figure 15 in Sharp & Clack (2013) appears to show that the parasphenoid separates the pterygoids for more than half their length but in this specimen the pterygoids are incomplete. Figure 15 shows a more complete specimen where the parasphenoid does not separate the pterygoids for more than half way.

Chirodipterus onawayensis

Character 74 from '0' to '1'. *Chirodipterus onawayensis* does not possess coronoid bones. See Schultze (1982).

Characters 93-103 are coded from Ahlberg *et al.* (2006) and have not been recoded here.

Conchopoma

Character 2 from ‘?’ to ‘0’. The pineal eminence is a structure expressed as a slight protrusion on the dermal surface of the skull roof as exemplified by *Diabolepis*, not of the endocast, and as such this character can be coded as ‘0’ for *Conchopoma*.

Character 5 from ‘?’ to ‘0’. Heidtke (1986) and Marshall (1988) demonstrates that neither pit lines nor canals pass through the B-bone of *Conchopoma* and as such it can be coded as ‘0’.

Character 6 from ‘?’ to ‘1’. *Conchopoma* clearly has a single C-bone as figured by Heidtke (1986) and Marshall (1988).

Character 9 from ‘1’ to ‘1, 2’. Whereas Marshall (1988) describes *Conchopoma edesi* as possessing paired E-bones (state ‘1’), Heidtke(1986) demonstrates *Conchopoma gadiforme* as possessing a single bone described as a combined Q-, F-, E-bone. The implication is that the E-bone is present and fused with the Q- and F-bones rather than lost completely and whereas this may be questioned, here we take a pragmatic stance and adopt Heidtke’s (1986) interpretation for *Conchopoma gadiforme*.

Character 13 from ‘?’ to ‘1’. Both Heidtke (1986) and Marshall (1988) interpret and figure the J-bone in *Conchopoma* as being fused with the K- and L-bones and as such it can be regarded as being present and does not meet along the midline.

Character 19. *Conchopoma edesi* does not possess a N-bone whereas *Conchopoma gadiforme* does.

Character 28 from 1 to 0. Marshall (1988) shows that a lateral line is absent in bone 3 in *Conchopoma*.

Character 30 from ‘1’ to ‘2’. *Conchopoma* may not possess a complete circumorbital series. For this character, the only unequivocal coding is for the lack of bones 10 and 11 as these are absent. State ‘0’

may be inapplicable because bones 1 and 2 have not been confidently identified as being present (Marshall, 1988).

Character 31 from '2' to '?'. The snout of *Conchopoma* is unossified and so it is not possible to determine this character.

Character 32 from '1' to '0'. Bone 6 does reach the ventral margin of the cheek in *Conchopoma*. See Marshall (1988).

Character 33 from '0' to '1'. Bone 7 is longer than it is deep in *Gnathorhiza*. See Marshall (1988) fig. 7.

Character 34 from '1' to '-'. *Conchopoma* does not possess bone 10 and so this character is coded as being inapplicable.

Character 35 from '1' to '?'. The suboperculae are not known in *Conchopoma* and so this character is coded as unknown.

Character 39 from '?' to '1'. The lateral margins of the parasphenoid of *Conchopoma edesi* curve ventrally forming an arch shape in transverse section. See Marshall (1988, fig. 8).

Character 40 from '?' to '2'. *Conchopoma* possesses a posterior parasphenoid stalk. See Heidtke (1986) and Marshall (1988).

Character 45 from '1' to '0'. Dental material is present on the parasphenoid of *Conchopoma*. See Heidtke (1986) and Marshall (1988).

Character 48 from '1' to '?'. The otico-occipital is either poorly ossified or not ossified in *Conchopoma* and is not preserved. It is therefore not possible to determine where the parasphenoid lies in relation to the otico-occipital and so this character must be coded as '?'.

Character 50 from '0' to '?'. To the best of the authors' knowledge there are no specimens of *Conchopoma* that are preserved in such a way as to be able to determine the state of this character. It is therefore coded as '?'.

Character 51 from '3' to '2'. The lateral angle of the parasphenoid of *Conchopoma* is rounded rather than reflexed. See Heidtke (1986) and Marshall (1988). A reflexed lateral angle of the parasphenoid is seen in *Neoceratodus*.

Character 52 from '?' to '0, 1'. The posterior end of the parasphenoid stalk in *Conchopoma* may terminate in a single point as seen in *Conchopoma gadiforme* (Heidtke, 1986, fig. 3 D) or a single point as in *Conchopoma edesi* (Marshall, 1988, fig. 8).

Character 53 from '?' to '1'. The margins of the posterior stalk of the parasphenoid of *Conchopoma* are parallel. See Heidtke (1986) and Marshall (1988).

Character 57 from '?' to '1'. *Conchopoma* possesses denticles on the anterolateral margin of the pterygoid. See Marshall (1988).

Character 58 from '?' to '0'. The parasphenoid of *Conchopoma gadiforme* separates the pterygoids completely. See Heidtke (1986).

Character 67 from '1' to '2'. There is no evidence for an adysmphyseal plate in *Conchopoma*. The structures labelled as 'da' in Schultze (1975) and Heidtke (1986 fig. 3) are dentaries whereas those la-

belled as 'ida' are considered to be splenials (*cf.* Schultze, 2001).

Character 69 from '?' to '1'. The dentary forms a narrow gap with the prearticular in *Conchopoma*.

See Heidtke (1986 fig. 3).

Character 70 from '?' to '1'. The dentary forms a narrow gap with the prearticular in *Conchopoma*.

See Heidtke (1986 fig. 3).

Character 74 from '0' to '1'. *Conchopoma* does not possess coronoid bones. See Heidtke (1986) and Marshall (1988).

Character 84 from '1' to '?'. The 'upper lip' of *Conchopoma* is either poorly cartilagenous or unossified and does not preserve so this character is coded as '?'.

Character 85 from '?' to '0'. Heidtke (1986) and Marshall (1988) both demonstrate that *Conchopoma* possesses denticles on the dentary and Marshall (1988) provides evidence that the denticles in *Conchopoma* are shed.

Character 86 from '?' to '-'. *Conchopoma* does not possess tooth plates and so must be coded as inapplicable for this character.

Character 88 from '?' to '-'. *Conchopoma* does not possess tooth plates and the denticles present are neither round nor conical and so this character must be coded as inapplicable.

Character 90 from '?' to '-'. *Conchopoma* does not possess large dentine elements that can unequivocally be described as 'teeth' - it possesses denticles - and so this character must be coded as inapplicable.

Character 92 from '?' to '-'. *Conchopoma* does not possess marginal nlisters to the pterygoid/prearticular and so this character must be coded as inapplicable.

Character 104 from '0' to '?'. The neurocranium of *Conchopoma* is not preserved so the coding state for this character is unknown.

Character 108 from '0' to '?'. The palatoquadrate in *Conchopoma* was cartilagenous or poorly ossified and is not preserved so the coding state for this character is unknown.

Character 141 from '?' to '1'. Heidtke (1986) interpret the entopterygoids of *Conchopoma* to overlap the parasphenoid dorsally. We adopt this interpretation for our coding.

Character 144 from '?' to '2'. The posterior dorsal fin radials of *Conchopoma* are not supported by basal plates on the neural spines. See Schultze (1975).

Character 145 from '?' to '-'. There is no distinct anal fin support in *Conchopoma*. The ventral median fin is a continuous fringe supported by haemal arches and radials. See Schultze (1975).

Character 146 from '?' to '1'. The median fin radials in *Conchopoma* are hour-glass shaped. See Schultze (1975).

Character 147 from '?' to '0'. The notochord in *Conchopoma* is unrestricted. See Schultze (1975) and Heidtke (1986).

Character 148 from '?' to '0'. The neural arches and neural spines are separate in *Conchopoma*. See Schultze (1975) and Heidtke (1986).

Character 157 from '?' to '-'. *Conchopoma* does not possess tooth plates and so this character is coded as inapplicable.

Character 159 from '0' to '?'. The snout and nasal region and the braincase are not preserved in *Conchopoma* and so this character must be coded as '?'.

Gnathorhiza

Character 2 from '?' to '0'. The pineal eminence is a structure expressed as a slight protrusion on the dermal surface of the skull roof as exemplified by *Diabolepis*, not of the endocast, and as such this character can be coded as '0' for *Gnathorhiza*.

Character 5 from '?' to '3'. *Gnathorhiza* only possesses a posterior pit line which has not traditionally been coded. Here we add this as a fourth state unordered.

Character 6 from '?' to '1'. *Gnathorhiza* clearly has paired C-bones as figured by Carlson (1968) and Berman (1976).

Character 13 from '?' to '1'. The J-bones of *Gnathorhiza* clearly do not meet in the middle as demonstrated by Carlson (1968) and Berman (1976).

Character 17 from '1' to '-'. The X-bone is not present in *Gnathorhiza* and so this character is recoded as being inapplicable.

Character 18 from '1' to '0'. Whereas a separate M-bone is not present in the lateral dermal skull series in *Gnathorhiza*, it is interpreted by Carlson (1968) and Berman (1976) to be present and fused with the K- and L-bones and so can be regarded as being present.

Character 22 from '?' to '1'. Berman (1976; fig. 1 D) demonstrates that the maximum width of the skull is at the level with, if slightly anterior to, bone Y₁.

Character 28 from '1' to '-'. Berman (1976) shows that bone 3 is not present in *Gnathorhiza*. This character is therefore coded as being inapplicable.

Character 29 from '1' to '2'. *Gnathorhiza* does not possess a complete circumorbital series. For this character, the only logical coding is for the lack of bones 10 and 11 as these are absent. State '0' is inapplicable because bones 1-3 are also absent (Berman, 1976).

Character 30 from '?' to '1'. Berman (1976) illustrates completely the cheek and orbit region in *Gnathorhiza* which shows that the postorbital cheek is approximately the same length as the orbit and can thus be coded as '1'.

Character 31 from '1' to '?'. The snout of *Gnathorhiza* is unossified and so it is not possible to determine this character.

Character 32 from '?' to '0'. Bone 6 does reach the ventral margin of the cheek in *Gnathorhiza*. See Berman (1976).

Character 33 from '?' to '1'. Bone 7 is longer than it is deep in *Gnathorhiza*. See Berman (1976) fig. 1.

Character 34 from '?' to '-'. *Gnathorhiza* does not possess bone 10 and so this character is coded as being inapplicable.

Character 37 from '0' to '1'. The pterygoids of *Gnathorhiza* are separated by the parasphenoid posteriorly but are interpreted to articulate with each other along the antero-lateral margin. See Berman (1976).

Character 40 from '?' to '2'. *Gnathorhiza* possesses a posterior parasphenoid stalk. See Carlson (1968) and Berman (1976).

Character 41 from '1' to '0'. The parasphenoid of *Gnathorhiza* figured by Berman (1976) shows an unclear distinction between the anterior corpus and the posterior stalk. However, if the stalk is considered to begin either at the thinnest point of the parasphenoid or more anteriorly, the ratio of the posterior portion to the anterior portion is still less than 1 and so this character can be coded as '0'.

Character 45 from '0' to '1'. Dental material is not present on the parasphenoid of *Gnathorhiza*. See Berman (1976).

Character 48 from '1' to '?'. The otico-occipital is either poorly ossified or not ossified in *Gnathorhiza* and is not preserved. It is therefore not possible to determine where the parasphenoid lies in relation to the otico-occipital and so this character must be coded as '?'.

Character 50 from '0' to '?'. To the best of the authors' knowledge there are no specimens of *Gnathorhiza* that are preserved in such a way as to be able to determine the state of this character. It is therefore coded as '?'.

Character 52 from '?' to '3'. The posterior end of the parasphenoid stalk in *Gnathorhiza* is trifid with lateral projections. See Berman (1976) fig. 4 B, J.

Character 53 from '?' to '1'. At the narrowest point, the margins of the stalk of the parasphenoid are

subparallel (see Berman, 1976). Towards the posterior the margins actually diverge into the lateral projections.

Character 57 from '?' to '2'. *Gnathorhiza* possesses tooth plates anterolateral to the pterygoids. See Berman (1976, fig. 4).

Character 59 from '?' to '0'. From Carlson (1968) the angle between midline and anterolateral margin of the pterygoid can be measured as 43° and thus coded as '0'.

Character 69 from '?' to '-'. The absence of dentary bones in *Gnathorhiza* means that this character must be coded as '-'.

Character 70 from '?' to '-'. The absence of dentary bones in *Gnathorhiza* means that this character must be coded as '-'.

Character 72 from '?' to '1'. From the description and figures in Berman (1976, fig. 5) the adductor fossa can be measured as being between 5-20% the total jaw length in *Gnathorhiza*.

Character 74 from '?' to '1'. No coronoids are present in *Gnathiorhiza*.

Character 79 from '?' to '1'. Specimens figured in Berman (1976, fig. 5) demonstrate that the curvature of the ventral margin is flat in *Gnathorhiza*.

Character 80 from '?' to '1'. The glenoid figured in Berman (1976, fig. 7) shows that the glenoid in *Gnathorhiza* is oriented posterodorsally.

Character 82 from '?' to '1'. Specimens figured in Berman (1976, fig. 5) demonstrate that the angular

and surangular are fused in *Gnathorhiza*.

Character 83 from '?' to '1'. The description and specimens figured in Berman (1976, fig. 5) demonstrate that the splenial and postsplenial are fused in *Gnathorhiza*.

Character 84 from '2' to '?'. The 'upper lip' of *Gnathorhiza* is either poorly cartilagenous or unossified and does not preserve so this character is coded as '?'.

Character 85 from '?' to '-'. The absence of dentary bones in *Gnathorhiza* means that this character must be coded as '-'.

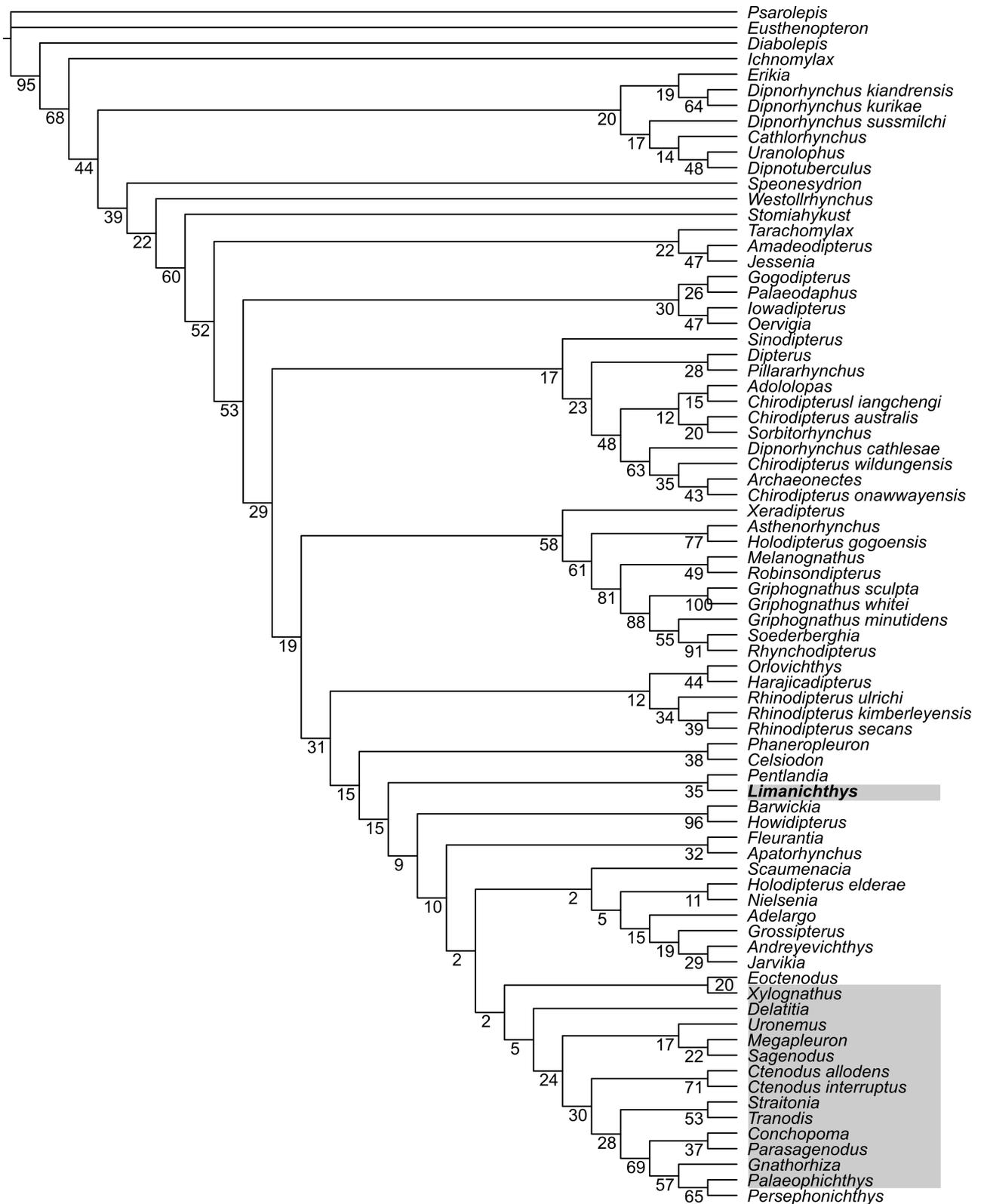
Character 92 from '?' to '-'. *Gnathorhiza* does not possess marginal nlisters to the pterygoid/prearticular and so this character must be coded as inapplicable.

Character 108 from '0' to '?'. The palatoquadrate in *Gnathorhiza* was cartilagenous or poorly ossified and is not preserved so the coding state for this character is unknown.

Character 141 from '?' to '1'. Carlson (1968) and Berman (1976) interpret the entopterygoids of *Gnathorhiza* to overlap the parasphenoid dorsally. We adopt this interpretation for our coding.

Character 159 from '0' to '?'. The snout and nasal region and the braincase are not preserved in *Gnathorhiza* and so this character must be coded as '?'.

Supplementary figure 1. 50% majority rule tree for Bayesian analysis showing nodes with posterior probability <50%.



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#NEXUS
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