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TITRE : Premier crâne partiel de *Togocetus* de Kpogamé (Togo) et la diversité des protocètes dans le bassin phosphaté togolais

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Abstract:

Earliest cetaceans (whales) originated from the early Eocene of Indo-Pakistan, but the group dispersed through most of the oceans of the planet by the late middle to late Eocene. This late Eocene global distribution indicates that important dispersal events took place during the middle Eocene (Lutetian), a globally undersampled time interval that is well documented in the Togolese phosphate series. We report here the first discovery of a partial cetacean cranium from middle Eocene deposits of Togo (West Africa). A 3D model of the cranium and teeth was reconstructed in order to reveal hidden anatomical features. The dental and cranial characteristics of the Togolese specimen recall those of protocetid taxa described in Africa, Asia, and North America, but also display significant differences. In particular, we show that the new specimen shares a number of morphological features with the Togolese taxon *Togocetus*. Such a hypothesis is further supported by a cladistic analysis including 45 taxa and 167 morphological characters, which recovers the new specimen close to *Togocetus* as the first offshoot of protocetids. Phylogenetic analysis including all the protocetids remains of Kpogamé confirms the singular diversity of the Togolese phosphate basin, and enables to examine potential connections with faunas from contemporaneous localities in Africa.

Keywords: Protocetidae; Middle Eocene; Comparative anatomy; Phylogeny; Paleoenvironment.

Résumé :

Il est admis que les premiers cétacés sont originaires de formations indo-pakistanaïses datées du début Éocène. Cependant, leur dispersion à travers la plupart des océans n'aurait été effective qu'entre la moitié et la fin de l'Éocène. Leur répartition mondiale, à la fin de l'Éocène, indique toutefois que d'importants événements de dispersion ont eu lieu pendant l'Éocène moyen. Cet intervalle de temps, peu documenté à une échelle mondiale, est enregistré dans la série des phosphates du Togo (Afrique de l'Ouest). Nous décrivons ici le premier crâne partiel de protocète togolais provenant des gisements de phosphate datés de l'Éocène moyen. Une reconstruction 3D du crâne et des dents a été réalisée afin de révéler plusieurs caractéristiques anatomiques internes. Les caractères dentaires et crâniens du spécimen togolais rappellent ceux de taxons de protocètes décrits en Afrique, en Asie et en Amérique du Nord, mais présentent également des différences significatives. En particulier, nous montrons que le nouveau spécimen partage un certain nombre de caractéristiques morphologiques uniques avec *Togocetus*. Cette hypothèse est en outre soutenue par une analyse cladistique incluant 45 taxons et 167 caractères morphologiques. Il ressort de cette analyse que le clade incluant le nouveau spécimen et *Togocetus* représente un embranchement basal au sein des protocètes. L'analyse phylogénétique incluant l'ensemble des restes de protocètes de Kpogamé confirme la diversité singulière du bassin phosphaté togolais, et permet d'examiner des connexions potentielles entre cette faune de protocètes du Togo et les faunes d'autres bassins contemporains d'Afrique.

Mots clés : Protocetidae ; Eocène moyen ; Anatomie comparée ; Phylogénie ; Paléoenvironnement.

INTRODUCTION

The Protocetidae is a diverse paraphyletic family of archaic whales that constitute a major step in the evolutionary transition from land mammals to fully aquatic cetaceans (Gingerich *et al.*, 2009; Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011). Protocetids were all quadrupedal swimmers but displayed diverse locomotor lifestyles from the amphibious basal forms to fully pelagic species (Buchholtz, 1998, 2007; Luo & Gingerich, 1999; Gingerich, 2010; Gao & Ni, 2015; Bebej & Smith, 2017; Vautrin *et al.*, 2020), and thanks to their inferred osmoregulatory capabilities (Clementz *et al.*, 2006), were capable of crossing vast oceanic areas (Lambert *et al.*, 2019). From their cradle in Pakistan, the group rapidly dispersed westward through the Tethys Seaway (Wang *et al.*, 2002; Fordyce, 2018) to colonize most of the oceans of the planet in only a few million years from the early to the late Lutetian (Lambert *et al.*, 2019). Although originating from Asia, the family name was coined based on early African discoveries (Stromer, 1908), following the description of *Protocetus atavus* from the middle Eocene Mokattam Formation in Egypt (Fraas, 1904). Africa undoubtedly played a pivotal role during early protocetid dispersal events, as evidenced by subsequent discoveries made in the Eocene Formations of Nigeria (Andrews, 1920), Egypt (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011; Gingerich *et al.*, 2019), Morocco (Gingerich & Zouhri, 2015), Senegal (Hautier *et al.*, 2014; Vautrin *et al.*, 2020), and Togo (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014). However, the African fossil record of the family remains scarce and patchily distributed on the continent, while recent discoveries in West Africa revealed an unexpected diversity among protocetid assemblages (Hautier *et al.* 2014; Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014; Gingerich & Zouhri, 2015; Vautrin *et al.* 2020).

The first Western African protocetid remains were discovered in Bartonian deposits of the Ameki Formation in southern Nigeria (40.4 to 37.2 Myr; Arua & Rao, 1987; Arua, 1988, 1991;

Odumodu & Nfor, 2012; Onuigbo *et al.*, 2020) and were attributed to *Pappocetus lugardi* (Andrews, 1920). In the 1980s, Michel Traverse was in charge for undertaking the geological survey in the Togolese phosphate quarry of Hahotoé-Kpogamé when he discovered a rich vertebrate fauna from middle Eocene deposits (Cappetta & Traverse, 1988), including many fragmentary protocetid fossils. Gingerich & Cappetta (2014) described most of these remains and named a new protocetid genus and species, *Togocetus traversei*, based on isolated teeth as well as incomplete cranial and postcranial elements. It has been suggested that *To. traversei* lived alongside two distinctly larger and smaller protocetid taxa, which could not be assigned to any previously recognized taxa due to the limited nature of the material (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014). Such a diversity of early cetacean taxa was later supported by Mourlam & Orliac (2017, 2018) through a reassessment of isolated petrosal bones and tympanic bullae originally collected by Michel Traverse. Complete cranial material can prove essential to confidently delimitate extinct species, as tooth position and intraspecific dental variation might be challenging to ascertain based on isolated teeth only. Of the five protocetid genera described in Africa (i.e. *Protocetus*, *Aegyptocetus*, *Pappocetus*, *Togocetus*, and *Aegicetus*), only *Protocetus* (Fraas, 1904) and *Aegyptocetus* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011) are represented by subcomplete cranial material. Recent paleontological fieldworks in southern Togo demonstrated the great potential for new discoveries in the phosphate series of this area. The specimen described here corresponds to a partial protocetid cranium unearthed from the quarry of Kpogamé and potentially constitutes the most complete cranial remain of the recently described *Togocetus*. Here, we seek to: (i) describe the morphology of the new Togolese specimen; (ii) clarify its phylogenetic position, (iii) and discuss its systematic significance.

GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

The Togolese phosphate deposits cover an area of ~70km², extending from Aveta in the South West to Dagbati in the North West (Visse, 1957; Colonna-Cimera, 1961; Slansky, 1962; Johnson, 1987) (Fig. 1A). They are now exploited by the *Société Nouvelle des Phosphates du Togo* (SNPT) in two quarries at Kpogamé (SW) and Dagbati (NE).

Stratigraphically, the phosphate complex overlies a lower Eocene palygorskite-rich claystone (Johnson, 1987). The palygorskite-rich claystone constitutes the upper unit of the Tabligbo Group. The phosphate complex is made of three informal formations, from the base to the top (Slansky, 1962; Johnson, 1987) (Fig. 1B):

- The phosphatic marl formation (15 to 20m thick), which was described as a phosphate biomicrite with a clay or marl matrix and a high abundance of benthic and planktonic foraminifera (Slansky, 1962; Monciardini *et al.*, 1986; Johnson, 1987). This formation is intersected by limestone layers of various thicknesses, ranging from 5 to 10m, which contain a few foraminifera (Johnson *et al.*, 2000).
- The phospharenite layer is 2m to 8m thick and consists of phosphate grains, pellets, coproliths, and elasmobranch tooth fragments (Slansky, 1962; Johnson, 1987; Johnson *et al.*, 2000). The phospharenite layer is continuous laterally with calcareous phosphate in the South East of the basin. The calcareous phosphate consists of alternating white shell-rich limestone and soft-beige phospharenite. An abundant elasmobranch fauna (Slansky, 1962; Cappetta & Traverse, 1988) was discovered in the transition zone between the calcareous phosphate formation and phospharenite, in association with numerous fragments of the internal casts of gastropods, lamellibranchs, and nautilid fragments (Slansky, 1962; Johnson, 1987), as well as mammal remains (Gingerich & Cappetta,

2014). The base of these phospharenite and calcareous phosphate layers is made of claystone, marl, and limestone with an average thickness of 1.5m. The phospharenite and calcareous phosphate layers have been attributed to middle Eocene based on the elasmobranch fauna (Cappetta & Traverse, 1988) and to middle Lutetian biozone P11 based on foraminifera (Da Costa *et al.*, 2013).

- The phosphatic clay (0.5 to 10 m thick) consists of layers of green to brown claystone (oxidized) intersected with small lenticular layers of beige phospharenite alternating with continuous layers of phospharenites (Johnson, 1987).

Previous paleontological and sedimentological studies (Johnson, 1987; Cappetta & Traverse, 1988; Johnson *et al.*, 2000) were carried out in the north-eastern part of the Kpogamé quarry (Fig. 1). The specimen described here was discovered in 2016 in the southwest part of this quarry (N 06.28983° and E 001.32169°), approximately 6 km from the area surveyed by Johnson (1987) and Cappetta & Traverse (1988), which yielded *To. traversei* (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014). The lithological succession varies slightly between the NE and SW parts of the quarry. In the southwest, the most basal facies consists of greenish stratified clay overlain by a thin layer of greyish clay. In the northeast part of the quarry (Johnson, 1987; Cappetta & Traverse, 1988; Johnson *et al.*, 2000), this clay is absent, and a bone bed occupies the same stratigraphic position (Johnson 1987; Cappetta & Traverse, 1988; Johnson *et al.*, 2000). On top of this clay layer, the main phosphate deposit is composed of alternating thick layers of soft brownish phospharenite (50 cm to 300 cm) and a thin layer of purplish compact oxidised phosphate (10 cm). This main phosphate layer (2.5 to 3m) includes at its base a yellowish compact phosphatic limestone with coprolites, shell fragments, and elasmobranch teeth, which yielded the specimen described here (Fig. 1). This phosphatic limestone is about 100 cm to 150 cm thick, and its thickness increases towards the southeast, whereas the thickness of the main phosphate layer decreases in the same

direction. There is no unconformity between the carbonate and phosphate layers, which suggests a relatively progressive change from carbonate to phosphate sedimentation (Slansky, 1962; Johnson, 1987; Cappetta & Traverse, 1988; Johnson *et al.*, 2000).

MATERIAL AND METHOD

Fossil specimen

The specimen described here was prepared with pneumatic drills and consolidated with cyanoacrylate glue.

3D reconstruction of the cranium

The cranium and upper tooth rows were imaged using high-resolution microtomography (μ CT) at the MRI platform of the *Institut des Sciences de l'Evolution de Montpellier* (ISE-M). Image segmentation of the cranium elements was performed on the μ CT images with Avizo.Lite 2019.4 (Visualization Sciences Group) software. The 3D virtual restoration was performed with MorphoDig software (v. 1.5.3; Lebrun, 2018). The virtually restored 3D model is deposited in MorphoMuseum (Kassegne *et al.*, 2021).

Measurements

The cranium and tooth rows were measured following the protocol of Bianucci & Gingerich (2011) on 3D models with Avizo.Lite 2019.4 software (Visualization Sciences Group). All measurements are given in Tables 1-2.

Comparisons

The cranium was compared with those of remingtonocetids such as *Dalanistes ahmedi* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995a) and *Remingtonocetus domandaensis* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001b). It was also compared with African protocetids from Egypt, *Protocetus atavus* (Fraas, 1904; Kellogg, 1936), *Aegyptocetus tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), and with Asian protocetids from Pakistan, *Rodhocetus kasrani* (Gingerich *et al.* 1994), *Maiacetus inuus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2009), *Takracetus simus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995b), *Artiocetus clavis* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001a), *Gaviacetus razai* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995a; Luo and Gingerich, 1999), *Qaisracetus arifi* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001b), *Makaracetus bidens* (Gingerich, 2005), and India, *Kharodacetus sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *Dhedacetushyaeni* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *Babiacetus indicus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995b). American protocetids were also used for comparisons: *Georgiacetus vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), *Carolinacetus gingerichi* (Geisler *et al.*, 2005), and *Tupelocetus palmeri* (Gibson *et al.*, 2019).

Tooth rows were compared with those of remingtonocetid taxa like *Re. harudiensis* (Bajpai *et al.*, 2011) and *Re. domandaensis* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001b) as well as protocetid taxa like *Ma. inuus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2009), *Ro. kasrani* (Gingerich, *et al.*, 1994), *Ar. clavis* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001a), *Pr. atavus* (Fraas, 1904; Kellogg, 1936), *Indocetus ramani* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1993), *Q. arifi* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001b), *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), *Dh.hyaeni* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *To. traversei* (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014), *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), *B. indicus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995), *Ca. gingerichi* (Geisler *et al.*, 2005), *Tu. palmeri* (Gibson *et al.*, 2019), and *Aegicetus gehennae* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019).

Phylogenetic analysis

A matrix of 167 characters and 45 taxa has been assembled to assess the phylogenetic position of the new Togolese specimen. The core of this matrix is based on Geisler *et al.* (2005), and Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) supplemented with one additional character from Thewissen & Hussain (2000), one from Bianucci & Gingerich (2011), 20 from Mourlam & Orliac (2018), two from Gibson *et al.* (2019), two from Lambert *et al.* (2019) and 22 from Vautrin *et al.* (2020). Among them, 15 characters have been modified and/or split into new ones (see characters 2, 9, 10, 20, 30, 31, 45, 46, 53, 75, 87-92, 94, 116 and 124; see also Supplementary Text 1). In addition, we defined 19 new phylogenetic characters (see characters 149-167). All characters have equal weight and are parsimony-informative, and 35 of them are ordered. The taxonomic sample follows that of Mourlam & Orliac (2018) to which we added the remingtonocetids *Attockicetus* (Thewissen & Hussain, 2000) and *Rayanistes* (Bebej *et al.*, 2015), along with eight protocetids: *Takracetus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995a), *Natchitochia* (Uhen, 1998), *Dhedacetus* and *Kharodacetus* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *Tupelocetus* (Gibson *et al.*, 2019), *Peregocetus* (Lambert *et al.*, 2019), *Aegicetus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019) and cf. *Carolinacetus* sp. (SNTB 2011-01; Vautrin *et al.*, 2020). Furthermore, due to several modifications in previously defined phylogenetic characters, we decided to reassess the tympanic bulla assignment of *Togocetus* by Mourlam & Orliac (2018). Thus, *Togocetus* has been coded without any auditory region characters (referred below as *Togocetus* “earless”), and we considered its hypothesized tympanic bulla (*i.e.* morphotype β) as another operational taxonomic unit of its own. The matrix, in nexus format, along with the list of characters (Supplemental Text 2), are available in supplementary data. The parsimony analysis was performed with the software PAUP* 4.0a166 (Swofford, 2002), via the online platform CIPRES Science Gateway (Miller *et al.*, 2010) through a Branch Swapping heuristic search using the Tree Bisection Reconnection method (TBR; Swofford & Olsen, 1990; see also Darlu & Tassy, 1993:85; Goëffon *et al.*, 2010) with 1,000 replications,

random taxa addition, 100 trees held by replication and Accelerated Transformation optimization (ACCTRAN; Farris, 1970; Swofford, 1985, 2002; see also Darlu & Tassy, 1993:88). Branch support has been quantified with Bremer support values (Bremer, 1994). Finally, character states are indicated here in the form: Character^{state}.

In order to simplify comparisons between the new Togolese specimen, *Togocetus* and other taxa, we here introduce two indexes: the shared index (Sha) and the similarity index (Sim). The shared index (in %) is the number of common characters between two taxa relative to the total number of characters in one of them. Here, unless otherwise specified, we consider this index for the new Togolese specimen with a total number of 40 characters. The similarity index (in %) corresponds to the number of shared character states relative to the total number of comparable characters between two taxa. The dataset compiling these indexes is available in supplementary data (Supplemental Table 1). For more accuracy, we considered the similarity index only if the shared index is at least at a threshold of 40%, which corresponds to the shared index between the new Togolese specimen and *Togocetus*.

Abbreviations: ULDG KPO, Department of geology of the University of Lomé, Togo, Kpogamé-Hahotoé collection.

SYSTEMATIC PALAEONTOLOGY

Class MAMMALIA Linnaeus, 1758

Order ARTIODACTYLA Owen, 1848

Suborder CETACEA Brisson, 1762

Infraorder ARCHAEOCETI Flower, 1883

Family PROTOCETIDAE Stromer, 1908

Genus *Togocetus* Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014

Togocetus cf. *traversei* Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014

Figures 2-6

Material: The specimen consists of a partial cranium prepared out of a calcareous phosphate matrix. The specimen is on loan at the Montpellier University for preparation and study, and will be stored in the collection of Geology Department of the University of Lomé, Togo. Official specimen number is ‘ULDG KPO1’, shorten here to KPO1.

Distribution: Phosphate complex of Hahotoé-Kpogamé, mid-Lutetian, middle Eocene. The specimen was found in the transition zone between the soft and calcareous phosphate deposits (Fig. 1).

Locality : Kpogamé, phosphate quarry (N 06.28983° and E 001.32169°) of the *Société Nouvelle des Phosphates du Togo* (SNPT).

Description:

Cranium - The partial cranium lacks the anterior part of the rostrum, the cranial roof, and most of the basicranium apart from the left zygomatic process of the squamosal. The maxilla, nasal, palatine, pterygoid, alisphenoid, and squamosal bones are preserved, as well as two incomplete dental rows described hereafter. As reconstructed, the remaining part of the skull approximately measures 37.6 cm from the anterior border of the canine to the postglenoid process of the

squamosal, and 25.9 cm from the anterior border of the canine to the posterior end of the palate. Based on estimations, the length between the canine and palatine end appears shorter in KPO1 than in *Artiocetus clavis* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001a), *Gaviacetus razai* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995) *Makaracetus bidens* (Gingerich, 2005), *Kharodacetus sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *Aegyptocetus tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), *Georgiacetus vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), and longer than in *Maiacetus inuus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2009) and *Qaisracetus arifi* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001b). The preserved part of the snout is elongated and narrow (Figs. 2, 3) like in most protocetid genera.

Maxilla - The left maxilla is better preserved than the right one, which is mostly broken (Figs. 2-3). The premaxillae are absent, and the suture between the premaxilla and maxilla cannot be observed, the snout being broken just anteriorly to the left canine. The medial contact surface between the left maxilla and the nasals is exposed, the latter being ventrally deflected (Fig. 2). The left infraorbital foramen is small (h=15.4 mm, w=7.3 mm), oval in shape, and located vertically above the P₃. This position differs from that observed in *Ma. inuus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2009), *Ro. kasrani* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1994), *Ar. clavis* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001a), *Q. arifi* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001b), *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), *Dh.hyaeni* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014) in which the infraorbital foramen is located more anteriorly, above the diastema separating the P² and P³. The lateral surface of the left maxilla is slightly concave anterior to the infraorbital foramen (Fig. 5). The palatal surface of the maxillae is deformed and fractured (Fig. 3) so that no palatal foramen could be identified with certainty. The suture between both left and right maxillae is visible towards the midline where the two bones meet to form the anterior part of the palate, which is slightly concave (Fig. 3). Diastemata are present between C and P¹ (15.7 mm), between P¹ and P² (15.6 mm), and between P² and P³ (14 mm). The

presence of a diastema between teeth from C to P³ constitutes a distinctive characteristic observed in most protocetid taxa. In KPO1, the length of the diastema decreases from C to P³, (15.7 mm, C-P¹; 15.6 mm, P¹-P²; 14 mm, P²-P³). A similar decrease in length is observed in *Ro. kasrani* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1994) but with different values (18.5mm, 11.3mm and 3.3mm). In contrast, the diastema length increases from C to P³ in *Ag. tarfa* (24.2mm, 25mm, 26mm; Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011). Concave embrasure pits are visible between the right P² and P³ and on the mesio-buccal side of the P⁴, M¹⁻³ (Fig. 3); these concavities receive the tip of the corresponding lower teeth in occlusion. Such pits are present in some species, but their positions vary substantially between taxa. As for *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), pits are present from P² to M² in KPO1, the one between M¹ and M² being very large. However, the former also displays embrasure pits between C/P¹ and P¹/P² and lack the one between M²/M³. *Georgiacetus vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998) displays embrasure pits medial to the P⁴, M¹, M², and M³. Embrasure pits are found between P³-P⁴-M¹-M² in *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), between P³-P⁴ and M¹-M² in *Ma. inuus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2009) and *Ro. kasrani* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1994); they are present lingual to the anterior side of P⁴, M¹, and M² in *Q. arifi* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001b). In *Aegicetus gehennae* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019), the embrasure pits are only visible between P³-P⁴. *Indocetus ramani* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014) displays embrasure pits between P³ and P⁴, and posterior to the M¹.

Nasal - The nasal is a thick and paired bone, which is largely broken both anteriorly and posteriorly and deflected ventrally (Fig. 2). The preserved part of the nasal extends from the level of the anterior root of the P² to the anterior root of the M¹. The contacts with the premaxillae and the frontals are not preserved. Their width is almost constant throughout their length but slightly

widens posteriorly at the level of the P⁴. The crenulated contact surface of the right nasal is visible in lateral and dorsal views (Fig. 2). The suture between the two nasals is not fused. In μ CT images, the ventral surface of the nasals is strongly concave.

Vomer – The morphology of the vomer could be assessed based on μ CT images (Kassegne *et al.*, 2021). The vomer is a long and intricate slingshot-shaped structure. It attaches dorsally to the palatal process of the maxillary via a fine basal branch that bifurcates dorsally into two parallel branches, which never join along their entire length.

Palatine - The palatine is wider on the maxillary side and tapered on the pterygoid side. It does not bear a foramen. Anteriorly, the suture between the maxillae and the palatine is hardly identifiable visually but could be followed with the μ CT data. It forms a narrow band, which is enclosed between the two maxillae. Its posterior suture with the pterygoids is not identifiable. The palatine of KPO1 forms a narrow band enclosed between the two dental rows starting at P⁴ and widening at M³ (Fig. 3), which clearly departs from the shape of the palatine observed in other taxa. In *Ga. razai* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995), *Mk. bidens* (Gingerich, 2005), *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), and *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.* 1998), the palatines interlock between the two dental rows forming a flat, triangular wedge. The anteriormost tip of the palatine is located at the P⁴ level in KPO1, *Protocetus atavus* (Fraas, 1904), *Ga. razai* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995), and *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011); it ends medial to P² in *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014) and medial to M¹ in *Mk. bidens* (Gingerich, 2005).

Alisphenoid - The alisphenoid usually articulates with the pterygoid anteriorly and the squamosal posteriorly. However, no suture was visible to the naked eye or with μ CT data. The foramen

ovale is identifiable (Fig. 3), so part of the alisphenoid is likely present between the pterygoid and the squamosal. The long axis of the foramen ovale is 10.1 mm long and its short axis is 8.6 mm.

Squamosal - Only the left squamosal is preserved (Figs. 2-3). The supramastoid crest is visible in dorsal view (Fig. 2). In ventral view (Fig. 4A), the zygomatic process of the squamosal is well preserved and slightly broken at the level of the supposed contact with the jugal. The glenoid fossa is rather flat and broad mediolaterally. This fossa is bordered posteriorly by the postglenoid process, which is blunt. This process, 30 mm high, arises ventrally and overhangs posteriorly the external auditory meatus almost perpendicularly to the zygomatic process of the squamosal. Thus, the postglenoid process largely contributes to the anterior margin of the ear canal. As for the posterior margin of the external auditory meatus, it is called the postmeatal process of the squamosal (Luo & Gingerich, 1999). Interestingly, the posterior surface of the postmeatal process is deeply marked by a 5 mm wide sulcus oriented dorsoventrally. To our knowledge, this sulcus is unknown in protocetids. The petrotympanic complex is missing, and it is impossible to assess whether this “postmeatal sulcus” could be linked to the stylomastoid foramen or possibly to the position of the tympanohyal (Luo & Gingerich, 1999).

The external auditory meatus is about 8 mm wide (at its narrowest part) and 22 mm long. This pathway for airborne sound transmission is oriented following the posterolateral- anteromedial axis and leads anteromedially to a depression in the shape of an isosceles triangle. This triangular fossa corresponds to the contact site for the sigmoid process of the ectotympanic (Luo & Gingerich, 1999). A small ovoid foramen is visible anterior to the lateral apex of this triangle, on the medial flank of the postglenoid process. Its long axis is parallel to the external auditory meatus and is 3.2 mm long while its short axis is 1.1 mm. The location of this foramen

matches that of the postglenoid foramen. Interestingly, at the anteromedial tip of the triangular fossa, the vascular groove (*sensu* Luo & Gingerich, 1999) dives dorsoventrally. This vascular groove contributes to the lateral border of a foramen passing at the interface between the squamosal and the petrosal (see anteroexternal sulcus of the petrosal in Luo & Gingerich, 1999; Martínez-Cáceres *et al.*, 2017; Mead & Fordyce, 2009; Mourlam & Orliac, 2018). Based on previous studies (*int. al.* Martínez-Cáceres *et al.*, 2017, Geisler & Luo, 1998), this vascular foramen should correspond to the postglenoid foramen (see also Gibson *et al.*, 2019; Mourlam & Orliac, 2018). However, because KPO1 exhibits a distinct postglenoid foramen posterolaterally (see also Supplemental Fig. 1), this vascular foramen cannot be linked to the passage of the capsuloparietal emissary vein (see also Mead & Fordyce, 2009). Thus, we consider here that this vascular foramen corresponds to the ramus superior of the stapedia artery (*e.g.* Wible, 1993; Luo & Gingerich, 1999; de Muizon *et al.* 2015). Medial to the glenoid fossa and anterior to the contact site on the squamosal for the sigmoid process of the ectotympanic, a wide and shallow bony channel runs anteroposteriorly. This channel constitutes a pathway between the medial side of the dentary and the lateral side of the tympanic bulla. We hypothesize that this channel could have hosted in life some fatty tissue used for underwater sound transmission (*e.g.* Nummela *et al.* 2007; Nummela & Yamato, 2018). An elongated entoglenoid process (about 28 mm long from its most posteromedial point to its most anterolateral one) is present anteromedial to the triangular depression. Contrary to most protocetids for which this structure has been described, its entoglenoid process is not falciform but hat-shaped (subrectangular, Fig. 4C). This process supposedly contacts the thin bony lamina that extends anteriorly from the tubarius process of the ectotympanic (Luo & Gingerich, 1999; Mourlam & Orliac, 2018). The posterior third of the medial side of the entoglenoid process is overhanging the empty space normally filled by the petrosal. A small bony hook emerges anteromedial to that part of the entoglenoid process. This

bony structure delimits the anterior part of the fossa for the tensor tympani muscle located on the petrosal. Anterior to that hook, a broad sulcus runs anteromedially and follows the anterior two-thirds of the medial side of the entoglenoid process. This sulcus corresponds to the lateral margin of the Eustachian tube. The anterior third of the medial side of the entoglenoid process consists of a thin bony wall. This wall contributes to the ventral margin of the foramen ovale that deeply excavates the anterolateral part of the entoglenoid process. Based on the preservation of the specimen, it is not possible to identify the limit between the squamosal and the alisphenoid. Therefore, the precise location of the foramen ovale cannot be assessed in relation to these two bony units.

In medial view (Fig. 4B), the postmeatal process is riddled with lines that converge anteromedially towards the location of the petrotympanic complex. This structure corresponds to the sutural surface for the posterior processes of the petrosal and the ectotympanic (*e.g. Gibson et al., 2019*). Anteriorly, the smooth surface of the squamosal presents two bowl-shaped recesses: a broad ventral one and a smaller dorsal one. The broad recess hosts part of the petrosal in life but does not correspond to the counter-impression of this bone (*Gibson et al., 2019*). The smaller recess is punctured by a large foramen (about 4 mm wide). This foramen, probably broken ventrally, corresponds to the passage of the capsuloparietal emissary vein that exits the skull through the postglenoid foramen (*e.g. Wible, 1993; Geisler & Luo, 1998; de Muizon et al., 2015*). In addition, dorsoposterior to the smaller recess and dorsal to the postmeatal process, there is a deep and broad sulcus (about 4.3 mm wide) that pierces the external surface of the squamosal. This sulcus likely corresponds to a broken squamosal emissary foramen (*Thewissen & Bajpai, 2009*) and therefore, could be the gateway into the skull for the *vena diploëtica magna*, just before it merges with the capsuloparietal emissary vein (*Wible, 1993; de Muizon et al.,*

2015). Interestingly, the squamosal emissary foramen is unknown within protocetids and is, at the archaeocete scale, only known for the remingtonocetid *Kutchicetus* (Thewissen & Bajpai, 2009). Anterior to the two recesses, the vascular groove runs dorsoventrally and pierces the squamosal dorsolaterally. The dorsal aperture of this foramen was likely linked to an early diverging branch of the *temporalis ramus*. Anterior to the vascular foramen, a broad and shallow groove is visible and corresponds to the contact surface with the anterior process of the *tegmen tympani* of the petrosal.

Upper dentition - The cranium is lacking some teeth, especially on the right side where only the last three premolars and the first two molars are present (Fig. 2). The left dental row is more complete with eight teeth: one canine (C), four premolars (P¹⁻⁴) and three molars (M¹⁻³). Most of the upper teeth are moderately worn, but some are largely broken, notably the P¹ and molars. The crown ornamentation varies among KPO1 teeth. Some teeth have a smooth crown (M²) and others (P³ et P⁴) display a slightly crenulated enamel surface like *Ag. Tarfa*, *To. traversei*, *Ge. vogtlensis*, *Tu. palmeri*, and *Ae. gehennae*.

Canine

Only the left C is preserved. It is large compared to other teeth and curved backwards like in most protocetids but smaller than that of *Pr. atavus* (Fraas, 1904; Kellogg, 1936; Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), *To. traversei* (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014), *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), and *Ae. gehennae* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019) (Table 1-2). The apex and the distal side of the crown are worn, with extensive exposure of the dentine. The crown is labio-lingually compressed with a faint mesial carina, like in *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci &

Gingerich, 2011) and *Ca. gingerichi* (ChM PV 5401; Geisler *et al.*, 2005), but unlike in *Ma. inuus*, where it is more conical (Gingerich *et al.*, 2009). The canine of KPO1 is mainly single-rooted, as in all protocetids. Its orientation resembles that of *To. traversei* (KPG-M 3; Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014). The apex of the root is bifurcated (Fig. 5 C-D), a situation only observed in *Ge. vogtlensis* (GSM 350; Hulbert *et al.*, 1998) and possibly in *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014). The main root is large and curved backwards.

Premolars

The P¹ of KPO1 is single-rooted. Its crown is poorly preserved, lacking its enamel cap (Fig. 3). It is, however, distinctly smaller than all other premolars (Figs 3-5), and is shorter than in *Pr. atavus* (Fraas, 1904; Kellogg, 1936; Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), *To. traversei* (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014), *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), *Ae. gehennae* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019), and longer than in *Ma. inuus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2009). It is narrower than that of *Ma. inuus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2009), *Pr. atavus* (Fraas, 1904; Kellogg, 1936; Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *Dh. hyaeni* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), *To. traversei* (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014), *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), and *Ae. gehennae* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019) (Table 1-2). P¹ has a single root like in *Ma. inuus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2009), *I. ramani* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1993), *Q. arifi* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001b), *To. traversei* (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014), and probably *Mk. bidens* (Gingerich, 2005), but unlike *Pr. atavus* (Uhen, 1999), *Dh. hyaeni* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), *Ae. gehennae* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019), for which the P¹ is double-rooted. The posterior side of the root is almost dorsoventrally oriented (Fig. 5).

The P² crown of KPO1 is monocuspidate and asymmetrical, its distal part being more developed (Table 1). It is smaller than that of *Pr. atavus* (Fraas, 1904; Kellogg, 1936; Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), *Dh. hyaeni* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *To. traversei* (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014), *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), *Tu. palmeri* (Gibson *et al.*, 2019), but similar in size to that of *Ma. inuus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2009) (Table 1-2). Wear surface is visible at the apex of the crown. P² displays a labio-lingually compressed crown with a sharp mesial carina joining a prominent cingulum, which is present on both labial and lingual surfaces. The crown differs from that of the P² of *Pr. atavus* (Fraas, 1904; Kellogg, 1936), in which the metacone is quite distinct from the paracone, and differs from *Dh. hyaeni* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), which has a protocone lobe. Unlike P¹, P² has two divergent anteroposterior roots like *Ma. inuus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2009), *Ga. razai* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995a), *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *I. ramani* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1993), *Q. arifi* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001b), *Mk. bidens* (Gingerich, 2005), *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), *Dh. hyaeni* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *B. indicus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995b), *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), and *Tu. palmeri* (Gibson *et al.*, 2019). The base of the roots is exposed outside the alveoli (Fig. 5A). The root apices are curved curved, but this character has not been described in any other protocetid taxa but is rarely preserved or visible.

P³ is almost symmetrical, the apex of the crown (paracone) is equidistant from its mesial and distal margins in occlusal view (Fig. 5E). However, the distalmost corner of the crown is more dorsally oriented in labial view (Fig. 5C), with the apex being closer from the mesial margin. The left and right P³ of KPO1 are shorter than those of *Ma. inuus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2009), *Pr. atavus* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), *I. ramani* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1993), *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), *To. traversei* (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014), *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*,

1998), and *Ae. gehennae* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019); they are similar in size to those of *Dh. hyaeni* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014) and *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014). (Table 1-2). It is less worn than P² and shows no dentine exposure, as well as mesial and distal carinae. There is no sign of a distinct metacone, which differs from the situation observed in *Pr. atavus* (Fraas, 1904; Kellogg 1936), *B. indicus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995b), *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), and *Ae. gehennae* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019) where the metacone is present. A faint distolingual swelling is visible close to the enamel-dentine junction surface (Fig. 5E), which is reminiscent of the presence of an incipient protocone lobe similar to *To. traversei* (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014) and unlike P³ teeth of *Ma. inuus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2009), *Q. arifi* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001), *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), *Ae. gehennae* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019) which have a protocone lobe. In contrast, *Dh. hyaeni* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014) display a large protocone. The P³ of KPO1 do not show accessory cusps like *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011) contrary to what is observed in *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998). They are double-rooted like in *Ma. inuus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2009), *I. ramani* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1993), *Q. arifi* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001b), *Mk. bidens* (Gingerich, 2005) and *Ae. gehennae* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019). It is triple rooted in *Ro. kasrani* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1994), *Ta. simus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995a), *Ga. razai* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995a; Luo & Gingerich, 1999), *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 1998), *B. indicus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995b), and *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998). The roots are exposed laterally above the level of the alveoli but less than in the P² (Fig. 5A).

As compared to the P³, the crown of P⁴ is mesiodistally shorter and more asymmetrical (Fig. 5). It is triangular in labial view (Fig. 5C) with a long and straight mesial carina and a shorter distal carina. It corresponds to the widest tooth buccolingually (Fig. 5E) and is shorter and narrower than the P⁴ of *Pr. atavus* (Fraas, 1904), *I. ramani* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1993), *Ag. tarfa*

(Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *To. traversei* (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014), *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert et al., 1998), *Ae. gehennae* (Gingerich et al., 2019) (Table 1-2). In contrast, the dimensions of the P⁴ of KPO1 are very similar to those of *Ma. inuus* (Gingerich et al., 2009) (Table 1-2). The P⁴ is mainly constituted by a strong paracone, which is associated with a minute metacone that only individualizes towards the apex of the crown. It differs from the P⁴ attributed to *To. traversei* which does not have a distinct metacone (Fig. 6F & H: Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014). However, P⁴ of *To. traversei* is crossed by groove indicating the presence of a nearly completely fused metacone. A small groove also isolates the metacone of KPO1 from the paracone on the lingual side, faint on the buccal side. Such a metacone is absent in *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), but present and distinct from the paracone in *Pr. atavus* (Fraas, 1904; Kellogg, 1936), *Dh.hyaeni* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *B. indicus* (Gingerich et al., 1995b), *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert et al., 1998), and *Ae. gehennae* (Gingerich et al., 2019). As for the P³, a distolingual swelling is present (Fig. 5D). It is here more developed but does not form a distinct protocone as observed in the molars. This swelling called the protocone lobe (e.g. Bajpai & Thewissen, 1998) is, however, supported by its own root. P⁴ has three roots, one below the protocone lobe on the lingual side and the other two under the main crown on the buccal side (Fig. 5C-E). The trifurcated-root P⁴ of KPO1 is also observed in *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 1998) but differs from *Ma. inuus* (Gingerich et al., 2009), which has a two-rooted P⁴. A small cingulum (2mm high) surrounds the base of the crown.

Molars

M¹⁻³ crowns are present but not fully preserved. On the left dental row, all molar crowns are visible, but the M³ crown is mostly broken and fractured. On the right dental row, the M³ is absent. The molar row is closely packed, leaving no diastema between the teeth. A cingulum is visible on the distolingual corner of the left M³ crown (Fig. 5D) and the lingual side of the right M², the other molars are too broken to observe its presence. As for the premolars, the base of the roots is exposed laterally above the level of the alveoli (Fig. 5A).

The M¹ crown is not entirely covered with enamel. The M¹ shows an individualized lingual protocone, and distinct paracone and metacone (Figs 5-6). The left M¹ of KPO1 is slightly shorter than the M¹ of *I. ramani* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1993), *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), *To. traversei* (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014), *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), *Ae. gehennae* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019); it is slightly longer than those of *Pr. atavus* (Fraas, 1904), and *Dh.hyaeni* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014) (Table 1-2). The M¹ is a three-rooted tooth as those of *Ro. kasrani* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1994), *Ta. simus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995a), *Q. arifi* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001b), *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 1998) and *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998). In occlusal view, the M¹ of KPO1 is triangular as that of *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011) and *Ae. gehennae* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019). The presence of protocone on the M¹ is also observed in taxa such as *Q. arifi* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001b), *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), *Dh.hyaeni* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *K. sahnii* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014), *B. indicus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995a), *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998), and *Ae. gehennae* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019), even if their size and shape vary across these taxa. The protocone and metacone of the M¹ of KPO1 are otherwise too badly preserved and no other details can be observed to allow comparisons with other taxa.

The left M² displays a large paracone, a small metacone, and a large protocone. The M² are smaller than those of *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), *Ae. gehennae* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019) (Table 1-2); they are similar in size to the M² of *Ma. inuus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2009) and *Dh. hyaeni* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014) (Table 1-2). The M² paracone is larger than that of the M¹ of KPO1. The paracone and metacone are joined by a shallow groove extending from the cusps to the cingulum on the buccal side and by a narrow, shallow groove on the lingual side. The inclined lingual surface is longer than the labial surface. The crown has a more or less smooth enamel surface. They show confluent medial and posterolateral roots, which only separate closely to their apex. The M² are then three-rooted like in *To. traversei* (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014), *Q. arifi* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001b), *Ta. simus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995a), and *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998). In occlusal view, the outline of the M² of *Ae. gehennae* crown is rectangular (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019), which contrasts from that of KPO1, *Ag. tarfa* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), *To. traversei* (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014), and *Dh. hyaeni* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014) that all display a triangular M2 crown .

The M³ is not well preserved. The labial side is missing; the lingual side is fractured. Its crown cannot be precisely compared. The only observable feature is a massive swelling in the distolingual corner of the crown (Fig. 5D), which corresponds to a protocone that is less individualized than in M¹ and M². A similar situation is observed in *Q. arifi* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001b), *Ae. gehennae* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019), and to a lesser extent in *Ag. tarfa* that display a more modest lingual expansion of the crown into a small protocone lobe (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011) like *B. indicus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995b). The protocone is nearly disappears on M³ in *Ma. inuus* according Gingerich *et al.* (2009). Only two branches of M³ roots are preserved, but the initiation of a third root is visible on the lingual side of the most posterior root, so that the M³ of

KPO1 was probably three-rooted like that of *Ro. kasrani* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1994), *Q. arifi* (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001b), and *Ge. vogtlensis* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998). The M³ of KPO1 differs from those of *Ta. simus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995b) and probably *I. ramani* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1993), which present two roots aligned mesiodistally.

Phylogenetic position of KPO1

In order to assess the phylogenetic position of KPO1, we tabulated a matrix of 167 characters coded for 45 taxa (see Material and methods and Supplemental Texts 1-2 for more details). The cladistics analysis, performed with PAUP*, retained 2,100 most parsimonious trees of a length (L) of 674 steps, with a low consistency index (CI = 0.49; Kluge & Farris, 1969) and a low retention index (RI = 0.68; Farris, 1989). The topology of the strict consensus tree (L = 691; CI = 0.47; RI = 0.67) is illustrated in Figure 7 and the node supports are detailed in Table 3. The topological structure of the strict consensus tree is consistent with that of previous analyses (*e.g.* Geisler *et al.*, 2005; Gol'din & Zvonok, 2013) with the protocetid whales found as a large paraphyletic group at the base of the Pelagiceti clade (node P; see Uhen, 2008)

Interestingly, KPO1 is found here as the first offshoot of the protocetids and forms a clade with *Togocetus traversei* (coded here without the auditory region, see materials and methods), which was erected on the basis of specimens from the Hahotoé-Kpogamé area. This clade (node Pr1) is supported by nine synapomorphies, including two non-ambiguous ones: the presence of a doubled preparacrista (see Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014; Fig. 6) on the M² (165¹; RI = 0.50), and the presence of the metacone on the P⁴ (161¹; RI = 0.57). This latter character state is convergent with higher protocetids (node Pr7) such as *Protocetus* (Fraas, 1904: pl. I fig. 2) and *Georgiacetus* (Hulbert *et al.*, 1998: Fig. 8). In addition, we performed a second phylogenetic analysis

considering KPO1 and the previous elements of *Togocetus* (without any auditory region elements) as one single operational taxonomic unit representing their genus. As a result, the topology of the consensus tree is identical to that of the first phylogenetic analysis and *Togocetus* remains as the first offshoot of the protocetid (see Supplemental Fig. 5) and is here defined by seven non-ambiguous autapomorphies (see Discussion).

Considering the whole matrix, only 24% of the characters are documented for KPO1. Among them, at least 52.5% present a plesiomorphic state at the cetacean scale (node C), such as the narrowing of the palate posterior to M^3 (12^0 ; RI = 0.67), the presence of a large protocone on M^2 (90^0 ; RI = 0.58) and the posterior edge of the infraorbital foramen located above P^3 (150^3 ; RI = 0.56). In comparison, on a similar set of characters (Sha = 90%; *i.e.* four characters less), the remingtonocetid *Remingtonocetus* presents 44.44% of plesiomorphic states, the protocetids *Protocetus* and *Georgiacetus* exhibit respectively 41.67% and 30.56% of it, and the basilosaurid *Dorudon* displays only 25% of it. In addition, the pakicetid family (Sha = 87.5%) presents 74.29% of plesiomorphic states. With this first overview, it appears that KPO1 displays a rather high number of plesiomorphic features. More precisely, apart from *Togocetus* (Sha = 40%; Sim = 93.75%), KPO1 presents strong commonalities with some basal archaeocetes (see Supplemental Fig. 3 and Supplemental Table 1); the ambulocetid *Ambulocetus* (Sha = 47.50%; Sim = 63.16%), the basalmost remingtonocetid *Attockicetus* (Sha = 42.50%; Sim = 64.71%) and three of the most basal protocetids: *Rodhocetus* (Sha = 65%; Sim = 69.23%), *Artiocetus* (Sha = 80%; Sim = 62.50%), and *Qaisracetus* (Sha = 72.50%; Sim = 62.07%). In addition, *Togocetus* has also great resemblance with three basal protocetids (Supplemental Table 1): *Rodhocetus* (Sha = 69.23%; Sim = 70.37%), *Peregocetus* (Sha = 51.28%; Sim = 70%), and *Qaisracetus* (Sha = 46.15%; Sim = 72.22%). Finally, in average, KPO1 is more similar to the protocetids (Sha = 70.83%; Sim =

52.21%) than it is to the remingtonocetids (Sha = 60%; Sim = 45.97%), and the same goes for *Togocetus* (protocetid Sha = 58.97%; Sim = 56.56% vs. remingtonocetids Sha = 59.83%; Sim = 38.05%).

Thus, contra Mourlam & Orliac (2018) the phylogenetic position of *Togocetus* without its hypothesized tympanic bulla (*i.e.* morphotype β), is way more basal than previously found. However, its former hypothesized tympanic bulla is still positioned as the last offshoot of the protocetids (Mourlam & Orliac, 2018, Vautrin *et al.*, 2020: fig.8) and belongs here to a multifurcation with *Aegicetus*, *Babiacetus* and *Takracetus* (node Pr12). This multifurcation is probably due to a lack of knowledge about the tympanic bullae of *Aegicetus* (Gingerich *et al.* 2019) and *Babiacetus* (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995b) and by the fact that *Takracetus*' bulla is unknown (Gingerich *et al.*, 1995a). This multifurcation is supported by 24 synapomorphies, eight of which are non-ambiguous, including for instance the absence of the second tuberosity of the involucrum (71⁰; RI = 0.80), more than 14 thoracic vertebrae (104²; RI = 0.67), the absence of an embrasure pit between P⁴ and M¹ (155⁰; RI = 0.54) and the absence of the metacone on P² (159⁰; RI = 0.25).

The morphotype γ - one of the unknown protocetid taxa from Kpogamé according to Mourlam & Orliac, (2018) - is found here as the sister taxon of *Protocetus* (node Pr10). A single non-ambiguous synapomorphy supports that clade and involves the medial posterior prominence of their tympanic bullae, which is smaller than the lateral posterior prominence (60²; RI = 0.40). It is also interesting to note that in spite of this phylogenetic proximity, both taxa exhibit striking differences such as the two non-ambiguous autapomorphies of the morphotype γ , which are: a sub-rectangular entoglenoid process (46³; RI = 0.86; Fig. 4C) and the presence of the fifth tuberosity of the involucrum (74¹; RI = 0.50). Furthermore, the couple '*Protocetus* - morphotype γ ' belongs to a larger clade (node Pr8) that includes two protocetid taxa from India: *Dhedacetus*

and *Kharodacetus* (Bajpai & Thewissen, 2014). This larger clade is supported by 12 synapomorphies, of which only two are non-ambiguous: a narrow rostrum breadth at P² (149⁰; RI = 0.50) and the metacone as large as the paracone on the M² (163⁰; RI = 0.71). In addition, it is noteworthy that some of the ambiguous synapomorphies supporting that clade concern the auditory region, such as the presence of the medial sulcus on the tympanic bulla (61¹; RI = 1.00). Nevertheless, this character state is so far only known for *Protocetus* and the morphotype γ .

Another protocetid taxon from Kpogamé has been referred to ?*Carolinacetus* sp. by Mourlam & Orliac (2018). This referral is still supported in the current analysis (see Discussion). Indeed, ?*Carolinacetus* sp. falls within a clade (node Pr5) including cf. *Carolinacetus* sp. from Senegal (SNTB 2011-01; Vautrin et al., 2020) and two protocetid taxa from the same American locality in South Carolina: *Carolinacetus* (Geisler et al., 2005) and *Tupelocetus* (Gibson et al., 2019). This clade, which is multifurcated, is supported by seven non-ambiguous synapomorphies out of a total of 14: a thin anteroventral side of the internal auditory meatus riddled with foramina (43¹; RI = 0.67), a deep transinvolucrum sulcus (69²; RI = 0.67), the presence of the fourth (73¹; RI = 1.00) and the fifth (74¹; RI = 0.50) tuberosities of the involucrum, wide and dorsoventrally flatten thoracic vertebrae (107¹; RI = 0.17), a deep and round depression behind the prezygapophyses (109⁰; RI = 0.33), and the presence of the supraneural shelf on the thoracic vertebrae (111¹; RI = 0.50; see Vautrin et al., 2020).

The phylogenetic position of the remingtonocetids has been assessed here for the first time with all six taxa referred to this family. The monophyly of Remingtonocetidae is supported (node R) and the phylogenetic position of *Attockicetus* as the first offshoot of this family is consistent with the previous analysis of Thewissen & Hussain (2000). However, the Bremer support of that clade is weak (*i.e.* Bremer index of 1) and among the 17 synapomorphies defining

this family, only two are non-ambiguous: a transversely convex palate (6²; RI = 0.12) and small orbits (20⁰; RI = 0.44).

In contrast, the monophyly of Pelagiceti (node P) is strongly supported with 39 synapomorphies of which 17 non-ambiguous, including the narrowing of the palate at the level of the M¹ (12³; RI = 0.67), an enlarged pterygoid sinus that forms a deep anteroposterior trough which approaches the internal nares (33³; RI = 0.95), a straight medial angle of the tympanic bulla (57²; RI = 0.90), a sub-circular dome-shape involucrum (66⁴; RI = 0.86), and the loss of the protocone on the P³ (87³; RI = 0.73), P⁴ (88³; RI = 0.47) and M¹ (89³; RI = 0.62).

Within Pelagiceti, it is interesting to note the particular phylogenetic position of *Kekenodon* (node B). The phylogenetic position of this enigmatic late Oligocene taxon represented by scarce remains (Hector, 1881; Hernández-cisneros & Tsai, 2016), is still poorly resolved, and it is not clear whether it belongs to Basilosauridae (*e.g.* Kellogg, 1936) or Mysticeti (*e.g.* Fordyce, 1992). In the results presented here, *Kekenodon* is not found sister to early neocetes contra previous studies built on the same dataset (*e.g.* Gol'din & Zvonok, 2013; Mourlam & Orliac, 2018). It represents instead the first offshoot of the basilosaurids (following Kellogg, 1936 and Mitchell, 1989). Notwithstanding, the present study is not designed to address this peculiar question. Be that as it may, the monophyly of Basilosauridae is supported here, as in previous works (*e.g.* Luo & Gingerich, 1999; Martínez-Cáceres *et al.*, 2017; Vautrin *et al.*, 2020). Considering *Kekenodon* as its first offshoot (node B), the basilosaurid monophyly is then supported by two non-ambiguous synapomorphies: an elongated skull (1²; RI = 0.50) and the presence of large accessory cusps on posterior premolars and molars (77²; RI = 0.86).

DISCUSSION

Systematic attribution and phylogenetic position of KPO1

KPO1 represents, so far, the most complete skull specimen of a protocetid found from the Eocene deposits of Togo. It mainly consists of two maxillaries with their subcomplete associated dentition, alongside with part of the alisphenoid, nasal, palatine, vomer, pterygoid, and squamosal. The dental and cranial characteristics of this Togolese specimen display significant differences with those of other protocetid taxa, especially the African *Aegyptocetus tarfa*, *Aegicetus gehennae*, and *Protocetus atavus*. KPO1 differs from *Ag. tarfa* in its overall smaller size, the position of the infraorbital foramen, differential diastemata length, and the presence of a metacone on P⁴. Compared to *Ae. gehennae*, KPO1 shows smaller or shorter upper teeth, a single-rooted P¹, the absence of metacone on P³, and the triangular rather than rectangular outline shape of the M² in occlusal view. KPO1 also differs from *Pr. atavus* in showing smaller premolars and molars and an absence of metacone on P² and P³.

Togocetus is a poorly known protocetid taxon described by Gingerich & Cappetta (2014) based on several isolated dental, cranial, and postcranial elements. These remains were considered to belong to *To. traversei* mostly based on size and preservation similarities as well as rarity of duplication of skeletal elements, but a recent reassessment of the morphological diversity of tympanic bullae (Mourlam & Orliac, 2018) cast doubt on some initial attributions. Such uncertainties are inherent to the fragmentary and isolated nature of the material used to describe the species, and only the discovery of additional and more complete specimens will enable to ascertain the validity of the proposed associations between craniodental and postcranial materials. Apart from four isolated tympanic bullae (Mourlam & Orliac, 2018), only a few cranial remains of *To. traversei* have been described; they correspond to portions of the mid cranial pons, the frontal shield, and two squamosals (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014). Most of these parts are

missing on the new Togolese specimen, except for the left zygomatic process of the squamosal, which precludes any detailed comparisons. The zygomatic processes included in the original material described by Gingerich and Cappetta (2014) are very fragmentary but appear somewhat more slender than the specimen KPO1. Here, comparisons between KPO1 and *Togocetus* are therefore mainly restricted to dental features. The cladistic analysis demonstrated the sister relationship between KPO1 and *Togocetus*, which is supported by two non-ambiguous synapomorphies: the presence of the metacone on the P⁴ (161¹; RI = 0.57), and the presence of a doubled preparacrista on the M² (165¹; RI = 0.50). Among their 16 common characters coded in the phylogenetic analysis (Sha = 40%), only one of them presents a variation of character state (Sim = 93.75%): the position of the metacone on the P⁴ (162; CI = 0.50; RI = 0.00 [*i.e.* tree steps = max steps]) that is nearly fused with the paracone for KPO1 (162²) and almost completely fused (*i.e.* only presence of a sulcus) for *Togocetus* (162³). This series of characters indicates that KPO1 is likely a representative of the genus *Togocetus*. The holotype of *To. traversei*, UM-KPG-M 1, consists of a mandibular fragment retaining its M₃ and the generic diagnosis relies on three states of character (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014): a relatively small mandibular canal (97¹ RI = 0.57), a salient metaconid on the M₁ (somehow equivalent to 84² in our analysis, RI = 0.60), and a femoral head lacking the fovea capitis femoris (148⁰ RI = 0.50). There is therefore, to date, no known upper dental or cranial diagnostic feature for *Togocetus* and the skull fragment KPO1 then sheds a new light on the poorly known cranial anatomy of this taxon. Based on this new material and following the results of the second phylogenetic analysis (see Supplemental Fig. 5), we showed that *Togocetus* is a protocetid whale characterized by a transversely concave palate (6⁰; RI = 0.12), the presence of a metacone on P⁴ (161¹; RI = 0.57) located apically and nearly completely fused with the paracone (162⁽²³⁾; RI = 0.00), a doubled preparacrista on M² (165¹; RI = 0.00), a talonid longer than the trigonid on the M₁ and M₂ (84²; RI = 0.60), a variable position

of the mandibular symphysis (either below P₁ or below the diastema between P₂ and P₃; 95⁽⁰²⁾; RI = 0.61), and the transverse processes of the thoracic vertebrae orientated laterally and dorsally (110¹; RI = 0.90). Three other state of characters could define *Togocetus* ambiguously; a sub-rectangular shaped entoglenoid process (46³; RI = 0.86), a medium size mandibular foramen (97¹; RI = 0.57) and a thick sternum with a rectangular manubrium (113¹; RI = 0.80).

However, KPO1 also shows some morphological differences with *To. traversei* (Fig. 6). The teeth of KPO1 have similar proportions to the ones attributed to the latter, but are slightly smaller (Fig. 6 and Table 1). The root branches of P¹ KPG-M9 (Fig. 6: Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014) is bifurcating and divided by a faint lingual groove, but it is still single-rooted, as it is clearly the case in KPG-M20. Such lingual division is not observed on KPO1, but its crown and root overall shapes are very similar to those of P¹ attributed to *To. traversei* (Fig. 6A-D). No P² was found in the material initially collected by Traverse (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014). The P³ KPG-M39 is characterised by a posterolingual swelling reminiscent of the presence of a protocone, as well as a crest that joins the paracone and the lingual cingulum anteriorly. We observed a faint distolingual swelling close to the enamel-dentine junction, but not to the extent of the P³ of *To. traversei*. The anterior end of the mesial carina of P⁴ is broken on both sides. Gingerich & Cappetta, (2014) observed no trace of metacone on the two tooth fragments identified as P⁴, which they considered as a diagnostic feature of *To. traversei*. However, we reattributed one of these teeth (KPG-M59) as a probable P³ since its crown is more symmetrical with an obtuse angle of the paracone in lateral view. The other P⁴ attributed to *To. traversei* (KPG-M 134, Fig. 6F and H) resembles that of the new specimen but lacks a metacone. However, a small groove on the lingual surface of KPG-M 134 is suggestive of the presence of an incipient metacone (Fig. 6H). The M¹ and M³ are virtually unknown in the original material of

To. traversei and teeth from these positions are very fragmentary in KPO1. As the M² of *To. traversei*, the left M² of KPO1 is three-rooted, the most posterior roots being largely confluent. The doubled preparacrista is visible on the 3D reconstruction (Fig. 6M); it is low as in KPG-M4 (Fig. 6N) but this feature shows a significant intraspecific variation on the M² of *To. traversei* (Fig. 6N and O). In occlusal view, the angulation of the anterior and posterior margins of the crown relative to its lateral margin resembles that described on the M² of *To. traversei* (Fig. 6K and L). The distal margin is straight rather than concave, which was considered as a distinctive feature of *To. traversei* with regards to other protocetid species. The mesial margin appears more concave on KPO1 than on KPG-M4 (Fig. 6L), but the enamel of the protocone is highly worn on the former (Fig. 2), which could partly explain such a difference. Pending future discoveries that would enable to assess the extent of dental variation among protocetid taxa, and considering the size and morphological differences observed between KPO1 and the material attributed to *To. traversei*, we propose to assign the new Togolese specimen to *Togocetus* cf. *traversei*.

At first glance, it appears rather puzzling to find the most basal protocetid more than 7,000 km away from the hypothetical cradle of the family in the Indo-Pakistan region (*int. al.* Gingerich *et al.*, 1994; Gingerich *et al.*, 2001a; Marx *et al.*, 2016). Nevertheless, this position was consistently retrieved regardless of the inclusion or not of *Togocetus* into the analysis (Fig. 7 and Supplemental Figs. 4-5), and whether or not KPO1 was associated with one of the three bullar morphotypes from Kpogamé (Supplemental Figs. 6-8). Our cladistic results confirmed that *Togocetus* and KPO1 display a large proportion of plesiomorphic features. Gingerich & Cappetta (2014) also initially described most of *Togocetus* specificities as ancestral features, notably its overall size, the presence of a small mandibular canal, and the presence of a metaconid on M₁. According to these authors, the absence of the fovea capitis femoris represents the only derived

character of *Togocetus*. On the one hand, one could consider the association between the dental material of *To. traversei* and the sole femur to be unnatural due to the isolated nature of the Togolese remains. The absence of the fovea capitis femoris is indeed rather uncommon among protocetids (only known in *Natchitochia*; Uhen, 2014) and has been proposed to be a diagnostic feature for the family Remingtonocetidae (Gingerich et al., 1995a: table 8). In our phylogenetic analysis, however, the absence of the fovea capitis femoris (148⁰; RI = 0.50; ACCTRAN) represents an ambiguous synapomorphy for the clade gathering the remingtonocetids with the more derived cetaceans (node C2), which indicates that this feature is also likely to be plesiomorphic for protocetids. Thus, the association of morphological features first recognised as diagnostic for *Togocetus* also leads toward a recognition of a basal position for this taxon and is coherent with its association with KPO1. Such basal position is also consistent with the middle Lutetian age (planktonic foraminiferal zone P11) proposed for Kpogamé (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014). If confirmed, the absence of the fovea capitis femoris in *Togocetus* also indicates that it was most likely a foot-powered swimmer (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014; see also Adam, 2009; Bebej et al., 2015), already well able to cross part of the Tethys Sea to reach Africa from the Indo-Pakistan region, in a similar way than did the remingtonocetid *Rayanistes* (Bebej et al., 2015). Another basal protocetid, *Peregocetus*, was in fact described even further away from Indo-Pakistan in middle Eocene deposits of Peru (Lambert et al., 2019). Consequently, our results confirmed that the anatomical adaptations necessary for the colonization of fully aquatic environments were acquired very early during the evolutionary history of archaeocetes, in a clade including at least remingtonocetids and more derived cetaceans (node C2). Our discovery demonstrates that much more is to be learnt about the early radiation of these semi-aquatic archaeocetes and that a more precise temporal and geographic resolution is a prerequisite to establish the chronology of their dispersion and diversification.

Protocetid diversity in the Togolese phosphate basin

Based on dental and postcranial remains, Gingerich & Cappetta (2014) described three protocetid taxa, including *Togocetus*, from Kpogamé. In turn, following the redescription of the auditory region remains from Kpogamé, Mourlam & Orliac (2018) identified three bullar morphotypes (α , β and γ), which they proposed likely belonged to three protocetid genera. In addition, based on their phylogenetic analysis, these authors were able to associate the morphotype α to ?*Carolinacetus* sp. and the morphotype β to *Togocetus* (Mourlam & Orliac, 2018). They were unable, however, to identify the third morphotype (γ) in a systematic point of view.

In the light of our present phylogenetic analysis, the identification of the bullar morphotype α as ?*Carolinacetus* sp. is consistent with previous results (Mourlam & Orliac, 2018). Indeed, the morphotype α is found within an unresolved clade (node Pr5) that contains *Carolinacetus* (Geisler *et al.*, 2005), and cf. *Carolinacetus* sp. from Senegal (SNTB 2011-01; Vautrin *et al.*, 2020). In addition, among the 28 characters that *Carolinacetus* and the morphotype α have in common (Sha = 32.18% for *Carolinacetus*), only one state of character differs (Sim = 96.43%): the shape of the fossa for the tensor tympani muscle on the petrosal (37; RI = 0.86). That said, *Tupelocetus* (Gibson *et al.*, 2019) is also present in this polytomy (node Pr5). This recently described protocetid comes from the same locality as *Carolinacetus* in South Carolina (Geisler and Luo, 2005). *Tupelocetus* and *Carolinacetus* present some size variations alongside morphological differences on the occiput, parietal and basicranium that led Gibson *et al.* (2019) to consider *Tupelocetus* as a separate genus. However, based on these authors agreement subtree resulting from their phylogenetic analysis, *Tupelocetus* and *Carolinacetus* are found as sister taxa

within a trifurcation (Gibson *et al.*, 2019: Fig. 5). Furthermore, based on our phylogenetic analysis, among the 12 characters shared by *Tupelocetus* and *Carolinacetus*, only two of them present a variation of character's state (Sim = 83.33%; but with a very low shared index for *Carolinacetus*: Sha = 13.79%): the posterior end of the ascending process of the premaxilla (8; RI = 0.40) and the length of the external auditory meatus (47; RI = 0.53). Thus, while *Carolinacetus* and *Tupelocetus* likely represent two different taxa, we cannot exclude that *Tu. palmeri* rather represents another species of *Carolinacetus* due to geographic and anatomical similarities. Further work on the bony labyrinth of these two taxa, along with the study of the numerous protocetid specimens found in this north American locality (Gibson *et al.*, 2019), would certainly help to clarify this issue.

The poorly documented morphotype β has been initially associated with *Togocetus* on the ground of phylogenetic congruence (Mourlam & Orliac, 2018). Based on its 14 phylogenetic characters available (i.e. only 8.4% of the characters of the matrix), the morphotype β appears to be the most derived morphotype from Kpogamé, with, for instance, the presence of a medial keel on the tympanic bulla (64¹; RI = 0.33) and the absence of the second (71⁰; RI = 0.80) and third (72⁰; RI = 0.75) tuberosities of the involucrum. This phylogenetic position is corroborated with the present phylogenetic analysis. However, due to modification of the definition of some characters and character states (see Supplemental Text 1), the phylogenetic position of *Togocetus* “earless” (i.e. coded without any characters from the auditory region) drastically changed to find itself as the first offshoot of the protocetid. Consequently, contra Mourlam & Orliac (2018), the morphotype β cannot be identified as the ear region of *Togocetus* and probably belongs to one of the most derived protocetid known so far.

Although the third bullar morphotype γ is the best documented out of the three from Kpogamé, it belongs to an unknown protocetid taxon. Some of the preserved squamosal remains associated to the morphotype γ allows some scarce comparison with that of KPO1. Thus, it is interesting to note that they both share a unique feature within protocetids (Fig. 4C): the overall shape of their entoglenoid process is that of a hat (46³; RI = 0.86) with a foramen ovale that deeply excavates the anterolateral part of the entoglenoid process. However, the morphotype γ and KPO1 also exhibit some differences: while the posterolateral part of the entoglenoid process of KPO1 is convex, the same structure is concave for the morphotype γ . Although it cannot be excluded that this concavity is partially weathered, its morphology matches that of the thin anterolateral wall of the tympanic bulla, suggesting that its shape is nevertheless fairly well preserved (Supplemental Fig. 2). In addition, the vascular groove of the morphotype γ is wider and deeper than that of KPO1. Finally, according to the results of our phylogenetic analysis, the morphotype γ and KPO1 clearly occupy distinct parts of the tree and therefore, they most likely belong to two different protocetid genera. The systematic attribution of the morphotype γ is becoming clearer in the light of our phylogenetic analysis. Indeed, contrary to the previous analysis (Mourlam & Orliac, 2018), the morphotype γ is now found in a clade (node Pr 10) as the sister taxa of *Protocetus*. Among the 36 characters shared by *Protocetus* and the morphotype γ (Sha = 32.72% for *Protocetus*), six of them present a variation of character's state (Sim = 83.33%): the position of the secondary facial foramen (41; RI = 0.50), the shape of the entoglenoid process (46; RI = 0.86), the shape and orientation of the tip of the sigmoid process (52; RI = 0.50), the presence or not of an articulation between the medial edge of the tympanic bulla and the basioccipital (54; RI = 0.25), and the presence or not of the third (72; RI = 0.75) and fifth (74; RI = 0.50) tuberosities of the involucrum. Although these morphological differences clearly highlight that *Protocetus* and the morphotype γ likely represent two distinct taxa, it

remains unclear whether the morphotype γ represents another species of *Protocetus* or a genus on its own. Here again, the study of the bony labyrinth of *Protocetus*, if available (Arlt *et al.*, 2018), could shed more light on that issue.

The middle ear ossicles of protocetids exhibit a mosaic pattern of plesiomorphic and derived characters (Mourlam & Orliac, 2019) highlighting a differential of tempo and mode of evolution (Simpson, 1944) within the auditory region. So far, this assertion has not been formally tested for the protocetid tympanic bullae. Consequently, it is legitimate to wonder if one of the three bullar morphotypes could actually be associated with *Togocetus* and, because of evolutionary convergences and the absence of common characters with *Togocetus*, it is found in a more derived position instead. Thus, we performed four phylogenetic analyses to compare the four possible hypotheses: *Togocetus* “earless” and *Togocetus* associated with one of the three morphotypes (Supplemental Figs. 5-8). Regardless of the hypothesis tested, *Togocetus* is systematically found to be the first offshoot of the protocetids, the topology of the consensus tree being unequally resolved for the protocetid depending on the tested hypothesis. The hypothesis that presents the less polytomies is to consider the morphotype β as being *Togocetus* auditory region (Supplemental Fig. 6). Furthermore, the consensus tree of this “ β hypothesis” has a length of 689 steps and is therefore the most parsimonious consensus tree out of the four hypotheses. However, this hypothesis includes one operational taxonomic unit less than the *Togocetus* “earless” hypothesis. Thus, considering the average step by taxon (ast), the “ β hypothesis” is only the second most parsimonious hypothesis (ast = 16.02) and the “earless hypothesis” remains the most parsimonious one (ast = 15.70). This leads us to consider that, so far, the auditory region of *Togocetus* remains uncertain. Therefore, until the discovery of new *in situ* material of the ear

region, we consider that there is potentially a minimum of four protocetid taxa at Kpogamé: *Togocetus*, ?*Carolinacetus* sp. and two indetermined protocetids (morphotypes β and γ).

Depositional environment and protocetid distribution in Africa

Protocetids have a wide geographical distribution, being known from Asia, Africa, North, and South America (de Muizon, 2009; Gingerich, 2010; Uhen, 2010; Gingerich *et al.*, 2019), and were only found in late middle Eocene to early Priabonian formations (Gingerich *et al.*, 2019). However, the distribution of Eocene African protocetids remains incomplete. So far, only *Pappocetus lugardi* was described in two distinct Bartonian contemporary basins in Nigeria (Andrews, 1920) and Morocco (Gingerich & Zouhri, 2015). The other recognized species remain basin-specific and no taxonomic similarity is observed between contemporary sites of the middle Lutetian (Egypt: *Protocetus atavus*, Fraas, 1904; and Togo: ?*Carolinacetus*, *Togocetus traversei*, protocetids indeterminate, Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014; Mourlam & Orliac, 2018), late Lutetian (Senegal: cf. *Carolinacetus*, protocetids indeterminate, Hautier *et al.*, 2014; Vautrin *et al.*, 2020; and Egypt : *Aegyptocetus tarfa*, Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011), and Priabonian (Egypt: *Aegicetus gehennae*, Gingerich *et al.*, 2019). Besides possible age uncertainties, differences in depositional environments might explain a substantial part of the distribution and diversity of protocetid taxa. African protocetids known from Lutetian deposits are all associated with environments characterized by biochemical sedimentation (phosphate or carbonate) linked to a significant supply of nutrients, notably through upwellings (Slansky 1962, 1980; Lucas *et al.*, 1979; Johnson, 1987; Johnson *et al.*, 2000; Haddi, 2014) .

In the Togolese basin, the phosphatogenesis period was favourable to the expansion of early cetaceans (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014) and other marine vertebrates (Cappetta & Traverse,

1988; Bourdon & Cappetta, 2012). Deposits are mainly composed of phosphates, carbonates, and clays, with cetacean remains being exclusively found in the formers. The KPO1 specimen was found in a phosphate carbonate layer containing shark coprolites and teeth as well as foraminifera, which all characterize a rich marine environment. This environment is marked by an important contribution of continental minerals such as kaolinite, quartz and traces of plants marked by the presence of pollens (Johnson *et al.*, 2000) as well as some remains of terrestrial mammals (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014), indicating the proximity of the coast. Using bioclasts, mineralogy (quartz, kaolinite) and pollens to characterise the depositional environment of the phosphates of Kpogamé, Johnson (1987) and Johnson *et al.* (2000) proposed a shallow marine environment of average salinity with moderate deposition energy. Carbon and oxygen isotopic data also indicated that Togolese protocetids lived in nearshore environments and were capable of osmoregulation in the marine environment (Clementz *et al.*, 2006).

The protocetids known from Nigeria, Senegal, Egypt, and Morocco were all found in middle Lutetian to early Priabonian deposits characterizing nearshore environments. *P. lugardi*, was found in the Bartonian Ameki Formation in southern Nigeria (40.4 to 37.2 Myr; Arua, 1988, 1991; Arua & Rao, 1987; Odumodu & Nfor, 2012; Onuigbo *et al.*, 2020), which was deposited in an environment varying from marine to estuarine (Reyment, 1965). Based on foraminifera assemblages, Arua (1988) also proposed an environment ranging from near-shore to the subtidal and intertidal zones. More recently, Odumodu & Nfor (2012) suggested that the Ameki Formation was deposited on the marine continental shelf in the open marine neritic zone based on the study of nautiloids. The indeterminate protocetids of Senegal (Hautier *et al.*, 2014; Vautrin *et al.*, 2020) were found in the Taïba formation dated from the late Lutetian to the Bartonian based on planktonic foraminifera (Brancart & Flicoteaux, 1971; Brancart, 1977; Flicoteaux, 1975,

1982; Samb, 2008) and sharks (Hautier *et al.*, 2012). The Taïba formation mainly consists of phosphate and carbonate deposits (Samb, 2008; Hautier *et al.*, 2014), which were proposed to represent a very shallow circalittoral marine environment (Pascal, 1987). In Egypt, protocetids were found in both Lutetian (*Pr. atavus*, *Ag. tarfa*) and earliest Priabonian (*Ae. gehennae*) formations. The middle Lutetian Jebel Mokattam formation that yielded *Pr. atavus* was proposed to be deposited in open and shallow marine environments (Gingerich, 1992; Safia *et al.*, 2019). *Aegyptocetus tarfa* was found in the Gebel Hof Formation, which consists of limestone-rich *Nummulites* (Bianucci & Gingerich, 2011). The wackestone sandy nummulitic microfacies (Sallam *et al.*, 2015) indicates a deposit in an open marine platform, with free circulation and receiving small quantities of detrital sand grains. Water depth was then tens of meters within the euphotic zone (Sallam *et al.*, 2015). In southwest Morocco, protocetids were found in the Bartonian sandstones of the Gueran Formation (Gingerich & Zouhri, 2015). Based on the marine carbonates accumulating further offshore northwest of Gueran, the depositional environment of the whole formation was reconstructed as a neritic zone (Ranke *et al.*, 1982).

No protocetids have been reported from early Lutetian African formations. This could indicate that they were not yet present in early Lutetian Africa despite the presence of favourable depositional environments. In the Togolese basin, like in Egyptian and Senegalese basins, the early Lutetian period corresponds to a regressive phase (Johnson, 1987; Johnson *et al.*, 2000; Da Costa, 2005) followed by the deposition of phosphates, carbonates, and sandstones. As previously mentioned, such deposits characterize shallow, near-shore marine environments, as it almost always the case for other protocetid taxa worldwide (Gingerich *et al.*, 2001a; Gingerich *et al.*, 2001b; Geisler *et al.*, 2005; Thewissen *et al.*, 2009; Uhen, 2010; Uhen *et al.*, 2011; Gao & Ni, 2015; Lambert *et al.*, 2019). On the one hand, this might indicate that protocetids were restricted

to coastal waters, being only able to migrate along continuous shorelines. On the other hand, recent discoveries demonstrated that some protocetids were undoubtedly great travellers likely capable of crossing vast oceanic areas (Lambert *et al.*, 2019; Vautrin *et al.*, 2020), with shallow environments being simply more favourable for preserving their remains.

CONCLUSION

We report here the first discovery of a partial cetacean cranium from middle Eocene phosphates deposits of Togo. Cranial and dental comparisons, 3D reconstructions, and cladistic analyses have shown that the new specimen from Togo differs from known protocetids, particularly African ones like *Aegyptocetus tarfa*, *Aegicetus gehennae*, and *Protocetus atavus*. The new specimen displays a number of morphological resemblances with *Togocetus*. Phylogenetic analyses recovered the new specimen close to *Togocetus* as the first offshoot of protocetids. This basal position is consistent with the Lutetian age of the Togolese phosphate deposits. These results enabled us to assign the specimen to *Togocetus cf. traversei*, so that it represents the first and most complete cranial remain of *Togocetus*. We showed that Kpogamé phosphates potentially enclosed at least four protocetid taxa, which confirms the great diversity of this family and its wide geographical distribution during the middle Eocene.

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Table 1. Measurements (in mm) for upper tooth crowns of KPO1: canines (C), premolars (P), and molars (M). Estimates are marked with questions marks.

Tableau 1. Mesures (en mm) des couronnes des dents supérieures de KPO1 : canine (C), prémolaires (P) et molaires (M). Les estimations sont marquées d'un point d'interrogation.

Tooth locus	Length	Width	Height
Left C	18	11.5	11.7
Left P ¹	17.7?	7.7?	-
Left P ²	25.8	10.1	9.4
Right P ²	-	10.3	-
Left P ³	27.3	-	13.3
Right P ³	26.4	-	-
Left P ⁴	26.4	17.1	16.1
Right P ⁴	26.7	17.7	15.1
Left M ¹	21.5	17.5	-
Right M ¹	-	-	-
Left M ²	19.97	21.7	11.6
Right M ²	20.5	-	10.2
Left M ³	-	-	-

Table 2. Upper teeth measurements (in mm) for selected remingtonocetids and protocetids.

Tableau 2. Mesures des dents supérieures (en mm) pour certains rémingtonocètes et protocètes connus.

	C	P ¹	P ²	P ³	P ⁴	M ¹	M ²	M ³	C	P ¹	P ²	P ³	P ⁴	M ¹	M ²	M ³	References
	Length								Width								
Remingtonocetidae																	
<i>R. harudiensis</i> (IITR-SB 2770)Right	21		38	39	28	21	19	18	7		5	7	12	12	11	10	Bajpai et al.,2011
<i>R. harudiensis</i> (IITR-SB 2770)Left	19	19	36	39	31	20	19		7	5	6	7	11	11	11		Bajpai et al.,2011
<i>R. domandaensis</i>	20	20							9.6	6.8							Gingerich et al., 2001
Protocetidae																	
<i>Maiacetus inuus</i> Female (Righth)	19.23	16.8	28.6	28.65	25.46	19.9	20			7.76							Gingerich et al., 2009
		1				3											
<i>Ma. inuus</i> Female (Left)	13.21								26								Gingerich et al., 2009
<i>Ma. inuus</i> Male (right)	23.8	16.2	29	33.79	25.57	20.2	21.39	14	13.65	8.98	12.72	16.4	20.2		17.4	12.1	Gingerich et al., 2009
		4				1							2			6	
<i>Protocetus atavus</i> SMNS 11084	26.5	20.9	34.2	36.4	25	20		14.2	12.3	9.8	12.1	16.8	20.3			13.4	Hulbert et al., 1998
<i>Dhedacetus hyaeni</i> (Right)			34.1				19.5	14.4			11.9						Bajpai and Thewissen, 20
<i>Dh. hyaeni</i> (Left)		22.5		33.1		20.7	18.6			10.5		15					Bajpai and Thewissen, 20
<i>Kharodacetus sahnii</i> (right)		32.7	49.4	45.7	40.1	29.5				14.8	17.9	21.1		27.7			Bajpai and Thewissen, 20
<i>K. sahnii</i> (Left)			45.5		39.5	31.9	27.8			14.2	17.6		33.7		26.3		Bajpai and Thewissen, 20

<i>Aegyptocetus tarfa</i>	24.7	20.6	40.0	37.0	33.3	23.0	25.2	20.3	13.3	11.7	15.2	21.5	24.5	23.9	23.5	18.1	Bianucci and Gingerich, 2019
<i>Indocetus ramani</i> IITR/SB/2986				34.4	29.8	22.3							22.3	21.8			Bajpai and Thewissen, 2019
<i>I. ramani</i> LUVP 11034					21.5												Bajpai and Thewissen, 2019
<i>I. ramani</i> IITR/SB/4001				33.4	28.5	23.4						17.9	22.2	20.9			Bajpai and Thewissen, 2019
<i>Togocetus traversei</i>	27.0	39.0	49.0	42.1	40.0	25.3	26.3	21.5									Gingerich & Cappetta, 2001
<i>Georgiacetus vogtlensis</i>	29.2	27.7	47.3	44	39.7	25.5		20.8	17.6	12.9	18	25.5	24	22.9		18.5	Hulbert et al., 1998
<i>Tupelocetus palmeri</i> ChM PV6950			43.58									16.50					Gibson et al., 2019
<i>Aegicetus gehennae</i>	27	39	49	42	40	25.3	26.3	21.5	14.4*	15.7	15.2*	25.2	26.3	24.5	25	16.8	Gingerich et al., 2019
KPO1 Left	18	17.7?	25.8	27.3	26.4	21.5	19.97		11.5	7.7?	10.1		17.1	17.5	21.7		Kassegne et al. this study
KPO1 Right				26.4	26.7		20.5				10.3		17.7				Kassegne et al. this study

Table 3. Supports for the different nodes of the strict consensus (Figure 7; L = 691; CI = 0.47; RI = 0.67) of the 2,100 most parsimonious trees (L = 674; CI = 0.49; RI = 0.68) under ACCTRAN optimisation. Characters in bold indicate convergences. Character's list available in Supplemental Text 2.

Tableau 3. Supports des différents nœuds du consensus strict (Figure 7 ; L = 691 ; CI = 0.47; RI = 0.67) de 2100 arbres les plus parcimonieux (L = 674; CI = 0.49; RI = 0.68). Les caractères en gras indiquent les convergences. La liste des caractères est disponible en anglais dans les annexes (Supplemental Text 2)

Clade Name	Node	Bremer support	Number of Synapomorphies	Number of non-ambiguous Synapomorphies	Non-ambiguous Synapomorphies - Character (state)
Cetacea	C	2	18	11	32(2), 35(1), 45(1), 47(2), 49(0), 62(1), 63(1), 87(3) , 96(0), 138(0), 161(0)
	C1	1	24	4	118(1), 153(1), 155(1) , 158(1)
	C2	1	11	4	55(1), 59(2), 98(1), 156(1)
Remingtonocetidae	R	1	17	2	6(2), 20(0)

	R1	1	4	2	89(1), 90(3)
	R2	1	9	3	95(4), 96(1), 166(1)
	R3	1	17	7	6(1), 10(2), 27(0), 77(1), 80(1), 84(0), 91(1)
	R4	1	4	1	167(2)
"protocetid"	Pr	1	20	7	19(1), 82(1), 83(1), 103(1), 147(1), 151(1), 164(2)
	Pr1	1	9	2	161(1) , 165(1)
	Pr2	1	11	4	87(2), 150(1), 158(0), 163(1)
	Pr3	1	5	2	128(0), 155(0)
	Pr4	1	20	9	7(1), 11(2), 17(1), 24(1), 143(1), 144(1), 145(1), 154(1), 157(1)
	Pr5	1	14	7	43(1), 69(2), 73(1), 74(1), 107(1), 109(0), 111(1)
	Pr6	1	21	9	3(2), 4(1), 16(3), 66(2), 99(0), 110(1), 121(0), 149(1), 167(0)
	Pr7	1	14	7	33(2), 46(2), 68(1), 79(1), 95(2), 118(2), 161(1)
	Pr8	1	12	2	149(0), 163(0)
	Pr9	1	5	1	90(0)
	Pr10	1	3	1	60(2)
	Pr11	1	11	4	7(2), 8(3), 58(1), 120(1)

	Pr12	1	24	8	17(0), 34(0), 64(1), 71(0), 76(1), 104(2), 155(0) , 159(0)
Pelagiceti	P	2	39	17	12(3), 23(0), 33(3), 47(1), 57(2), 65(1), 66(4), 67(0), 70(0), 87(3) , 88(3), 89(3), 91(1) , 92(1), 100(1), 101(1), 156(0)
Neoceti	N	1	18	6	4(3), 11(0), 95(3), 150(4), 153(0), 161(0)
Basilosauridae	B	1	8	2	1(2), 77(2)
	B1	1	1	1	59(1)
	B2	1	2	1	65(2)
	B3	1	3	2	62(0), 113(1)
	B4	1	4	1	112(1)
	B5	1	6	4	12(4), 56(0), 99(2), 152(1)
	B6	2	6	3	22(1), 78(1), 155(1)
	B7	2	8	2	1(1), 86(1)
	B8	2	7	2	23(1), 101(0)

Figure legend

Figure 1. Map (A) showing the geographic and geologic position of Kpogamé quarry that yielded the cranium KPO1 and stratigraphic position (B) described in this study. The black star indicates the area where the first remains of *Togocetus traversei* were discovered (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014), the red star indicates the position of KPO1 in Kpogamé quarry. C, photo showing the fossil of KPO1 in phosphate carbonate deposit from the base of the sequence (B). 1- palygorskite-rich claystone, 2- phosphatic marl, 3- calcareous phosphate, 4- phospharenite, 5- oxidized phosphate, 6- clay, 7- gravel, sand, silt.

Figure 1. Carte montrant la position géographique et géologique (A) et la position stratigraphique (B) de la carrière de Kpogamé. L'étoile noire indique la zone où les premiers restes de *Togocetus traversei* ont été découverts (Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014) et l'étoile rouge la position de KPO1 dans la carrière de Kpogamé. C, photo montrant le fossile KPO1 dans le dépôt de phosphates carbonatés situé à la base de la séquence (B). 1- argilite feuilletée à attapulgite, 2- marne phosphatée, 3- phosphate carbonaté, 4- phospharénite, 5- phosphate oxydé, 6- argile, 7- gravier, sable, silt.

Figure 2. Dorsal view of the cranium KPO1. Dotted areas represent broken parts. *Abbreviations*, ant, anterior; C, canine; M², second upper molar; Nas, nasal; P⁴, fourth upper premolar; Sq, squamosal; Vo, vomer; zp, zygomatic process of the squamosal. Scale bar represents 5cm.

Figure 2. Vue dorsale du crâne KPO1. En pointillé, les parties cassées ou fracturés. *Abréviations* : ant, antérieur ; C, canine ; M², deuxième molaire supérieure ; Nas, nasal; P⁴, quatrième prémolaire

supérieure; Sq, squamosal Vo, vomer; zp, processus zygomatic du squamosal. La barre d'échelle représente 5 cm.

Figure 3. Palatal view of the cranium KPO1. Embrasure pits are represented by hatched areas. The suture between the maxillae and the palatines (dotted line) was identified based on μ CT data. *Abbreviations:* C, canine; eam, external auditory meatus; fo, foramen ovale; gr, maxillar groove; M, molar; Max, maxilla; P, premolar; Pal, palatine; pc, palatal crest; pgp, postglenoid process; Sq, squamosal; zp, zygomatic process of the squamosal. Scale bar represents 5cm.

Figure 3. Vue palatine du crâne KPO1. Les fosses d'embrasure sont représentées par des zones hachurées. La suture entre les maxillaires et les palatins (trait pointillé) a été reconstruite à partir de données μ CT. *Abréviations :* C, canine ; eam, méat auditif externe ; fo, foramen ovale ; gr, sillon maxillaire ; M, molaire ; Max, maxillaire ; P, prémolaire ; Pal, palatin ; pc, crête palatine ; pgp, process post-glénoïde ; Sq, squamosal ; zp, processus zygomatic du squamosal. La barre d'échelle représente 5 cm.

Figure 4. Ventral (A) and medial (B) views of the basicranium of KPO1. (C) Comparison (not to scale) between the entoglenoid process of KPO1, and that of the morphotype γ from Kpogamé and that of the protocetid *Georgiacetus* (GSM 350; inverted image) in order to highlight (1) the peculiar hat shape entoglenoid process (*i.e.* sub-rectangular; character 46³) and (2) the main differences between the morphotype γ and KPO1 such as the shape of the posterolateral rim (red line) and the size of the vascular groove (vg). *Abbreviations:* bh, bony hook; brb, broad bowl-shaped recess (see description); brs, small bowl-shaped recess; cap, contact surface with the anterior process of the *tegmen tympani* of

the petrosal; *cevf*, capsuloparietal emissary vein foramen; *eam*, external auditory meatus; *egp*, entoglenoid process; *et*, Eustachian tube; *fo*, foramen ovale; *gf*, glenoid fossa; *pgf*, postglenoid foramen; *pgp*, postglenoid process; *pmp*, postmeatal process; *pms*, “postmeatal sulcus”; *sbc*, shallow bony channel; *sef*, squamosal emissary foramen; *spc*, contact site on the squamosal for the sigmoid process of the ectotympanic; *sse*, sutural surface for the posterior process of the ectotympanic; *ssp*, sutural surface for the posterior process of the petrosal; *vg*, vascular groove; *zp*, zygomatic process of the squamosal. Scale bar represents 5 cm.

Figure 4. Vue ventrale (A) et médiale (B) du basicrâne de KPO1. (C) Comparaison (pas à l'échelle) entre le processus entoglénoïde de KPO1, celui du morphotype γ de Kpogamé et celui du protocète *Georgiacetus* (GSM 350; image inversée) afin d'illustrer (1) la particularité d'un processus entoglénoïde en forme de chapeau (*i.e.* sub-rectangulaire ; caractère 46³) ainsi que (2) les différences notables entre le morphotype γ et KPO1 telles que la forme du bord postero-latéral (ligne rouge) et la taille du sillon vasculaire (*vg*). *Abréviations* : *bh*, crochet osseux ; *brb*, large alcôve en forme de bol (voir description) ; *brs*, petite alcôve en forme de bol ; *cap*, surface de contact avec le processus antérieur du *tegmen tympani* du pétreux ; *cevf*, foramen de la veine émissaire capsulopariétale ; *eam*, méat auditif externe; *egp*, processus entoglénoïde ; *et*, trompe d'Eustache ; *fo*, foramen ovale ; *gf*, fosse glénoïde ; *pgf*, foramen post-glénoïde ; *pgp*, processus post-glénoïde ; *pmp*, processus post-méatal ; *pms*, “sulcus post-méatal” ; *sbc*, canal osseux peu profond ; *sef*, foramen émissaire squamosal ; *spc*, zone de contact sur le squamosal pour le processus sigmoïde de l'ectotympanique ; *sse*, surface de suture pour le processus postérieur de l'ectotympanique ; *ssp*, surface de suture pour le processus postérieur du pétreux ; *vg*, sillon vasculaire; *zp*, processus zygomatique du squamosal. La barre d'échelle représente 5 cm.

Figure 5. 3D reconstructions of the cranium and teeth of KPO1. A, B, and C, lateral view of the left side of KPO1; D, lingual view; E, occlusal view. The doubled arrows indicate the duplicated apex of the root of the canine (see description). *Abbreviations:* C, canine; iof, infraorbital foramen; M, molar; P, premolar. The cranium elements are in grey, canine in dark red, premolar in light red and molar in yellow. Scale bar represents 2 cm.

Figure 5. Reconstructions 3D du crâne et des dents de KPO1. A, B et C, vue latérale du côté gauche de KPO1 ; D, vue linguale ; E, vue occlusale. Les flèches doubles indiquent l'extrémité dédoublée de la racine de la canine. *Abréviations :* C, canine ; iof, foramen infraorbitaire; M, molaire ; P, prémolaire. Les éléments du crâne sont ici représentés en gris, la canine en rouge foncé, les prémolaires en rouge clair et les molaires en jaune. Les barres d'échelle représentent 2 cm.

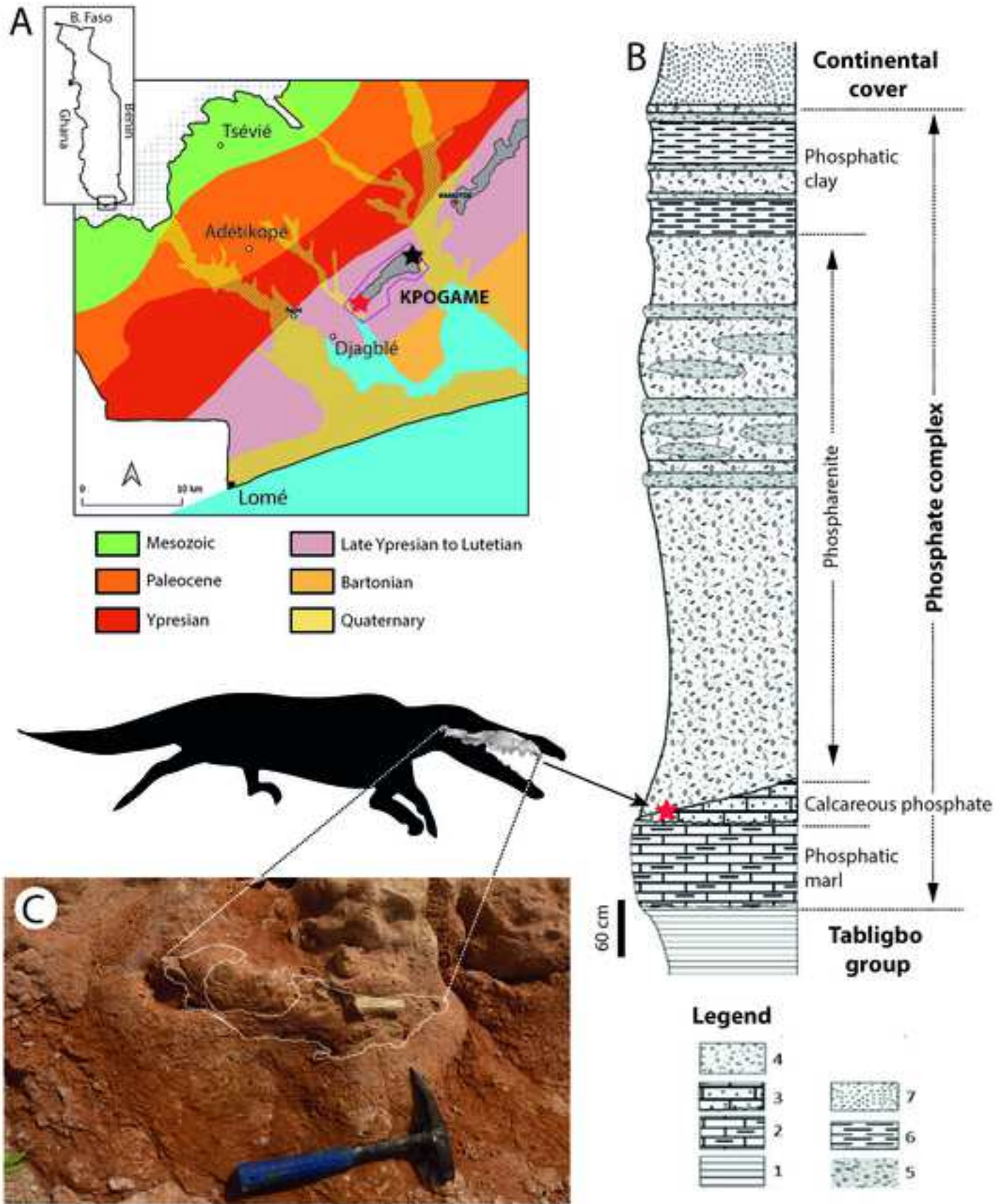
Figure 6. Comparisons between 3D reconstructions of KPO1 teeth (A, C, E, G, I, K, and M) and isolated teeth of *Togocetus traversei* (B, D, F, H, J, L, N, and O; Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014): A, buccal view of the left P¹ of KPO1; B, buccal view of the left P¹ of KPG-M9; C, buccal view of the left P³ of KPO1; D, buccal view of the left P³ of KPG-M39; E-G, buccal and lingual views of the left P⁴ of KPO1; F-H, buccal and lingual views of the left P⁴ of KPG-M134; I-K-M, lingual, occlusal, and mesial views of the left M² of KPO1; J-L-N, lingual, occlusal, and mesial views of the right M² of KPG-M4 (images inverted); O, mesial view of the right M² KPG-M6 (image inverted). *Abbreviations:* gr, lingual groove suggestive of the presence of a metacone; m, metacone; pp, doubled preparacrista. Scale bars represent 1 cm.

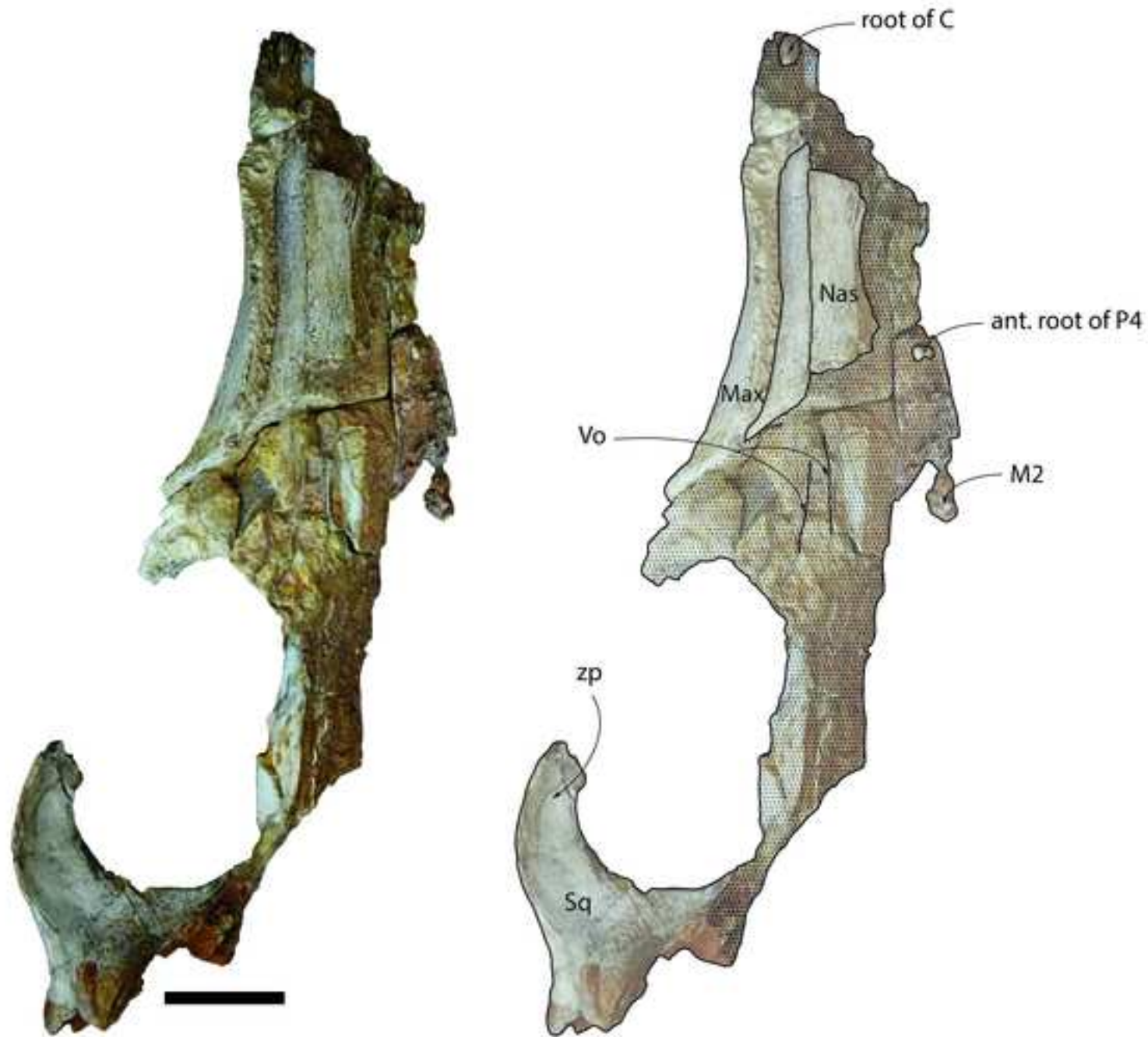
Figure 6. Comparaisons entre des reconstructions 3D de dents de KPO1 (A, C, E, G, I, K et M) et des dents isolées de *Togocetus traversei* (B, D, F, H, J, L, N et O ; Gingerich & Cappetta, 2014) : A, P¹ gauche de KPO1 en vue buccale; B, P¹ gauche de KPG-M9 en vue buccale; C, P³ gauche de KPO1 en vue buccale ; D, vue buccale du P³ gauche de KPG-M39 ; E-G, vues buccale et linguale du P⁴ gauche de KPO1 ; F-H, vues buccale et linguale du P⁴ gauche de KPG-M134 ; I-K-M, vues linguale, occlusale et mésiale de la M² gauche de KPO1 ; J-L-N, vues linguale, occlusale et mésiale de la M² droite de KPG-M4 (images inversées) ; O, vue mésiale de la M² droite de KPG-M6 (image inversée). Abréviations : gr, sillon lingual suggérant la présence d'une métacone ; m, métacone ; pp, préparacrista doublée. Les barres d'échelle représentent 1 cm.

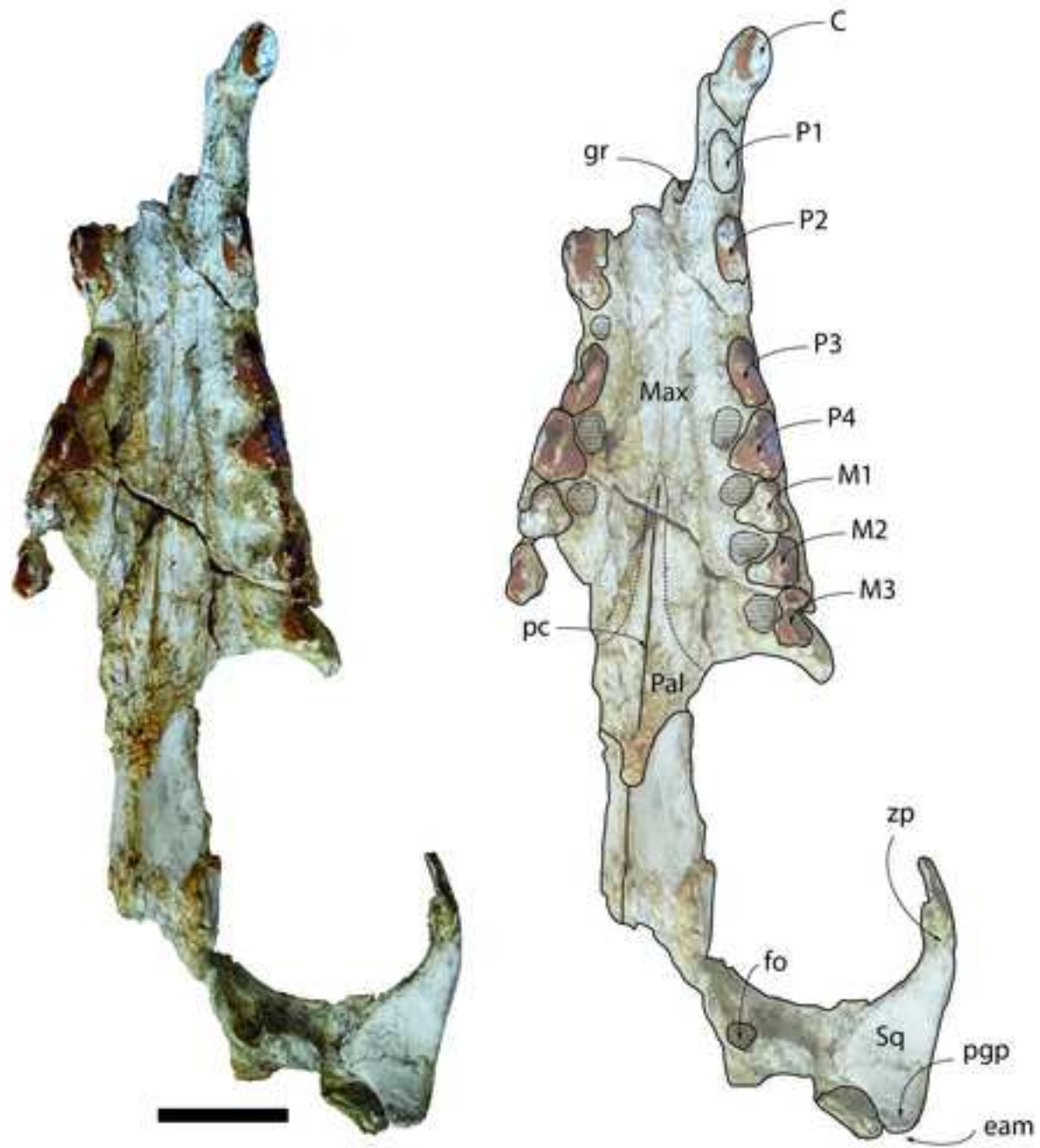
Figure 7. Phylogenetic tree of basal cetaceans based on the cladistic analysis of 45 taxa and 167 morphological characters, highlighting the phylogenetic relationships of the KPO1 (red), *Togocetus* (orange), and the other protocetids taxa from Togo (orange). Topology of the strict consensus (L = 691; CI = 0.47; RI = 0.67) of the 2,100 most parsimonious trees (L = 674; CI = 0.49; RI = 0.68). The designation C indicates the Cetacea, R the remingtonocetes, Pr is the paraphyletic assemblage of protocetids and pelagicetes, P the Pelagiceti, B the basilosaurids, and N the Neoceti (see details in Table 3). Supports of the different nodes are indicated in detail in Table 3. Illustrations by R. Mourlam.

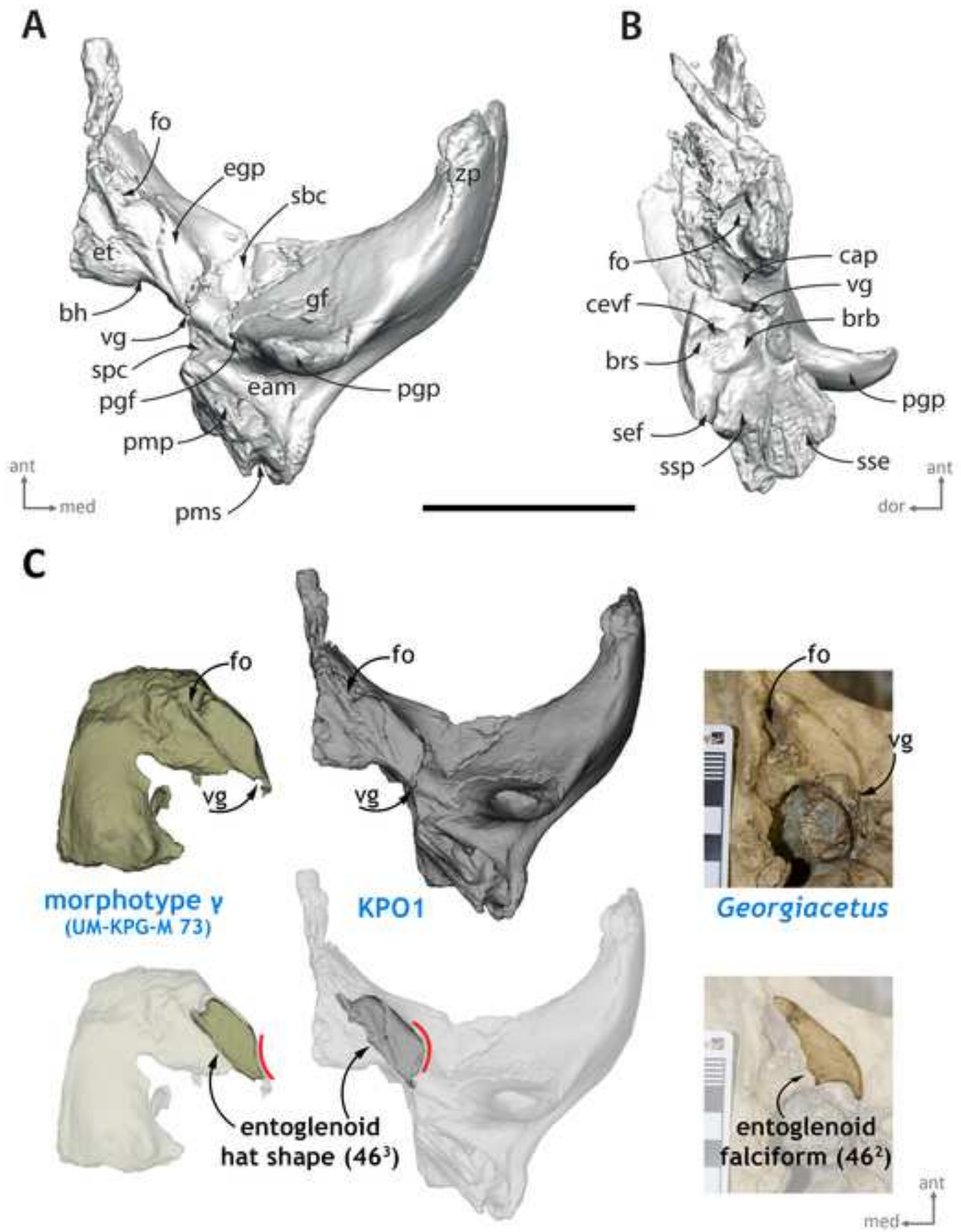
Figure 7. Arbre phylogénétique des cétacés basaux issu de l'analyse cladistique de 45 taxons et 167 caractères morphologiques, mettant en évidence les relations phylogénétiques de KPO1 (rouge), *Togocetus* (orange), et d'autres protocètes du Togo (orange). Topologie du consensus strict (L = 691 ; CI = 0.47 ; RI = 0.67) de 2100 arbres les plus parcimonieux (L = 674 ; CI = 0.49; RI = 0.68). La lettre C désigne le clade Cetacea, R les remingtonocètes, Pr l'assemblage paraphylétique des protocètes et

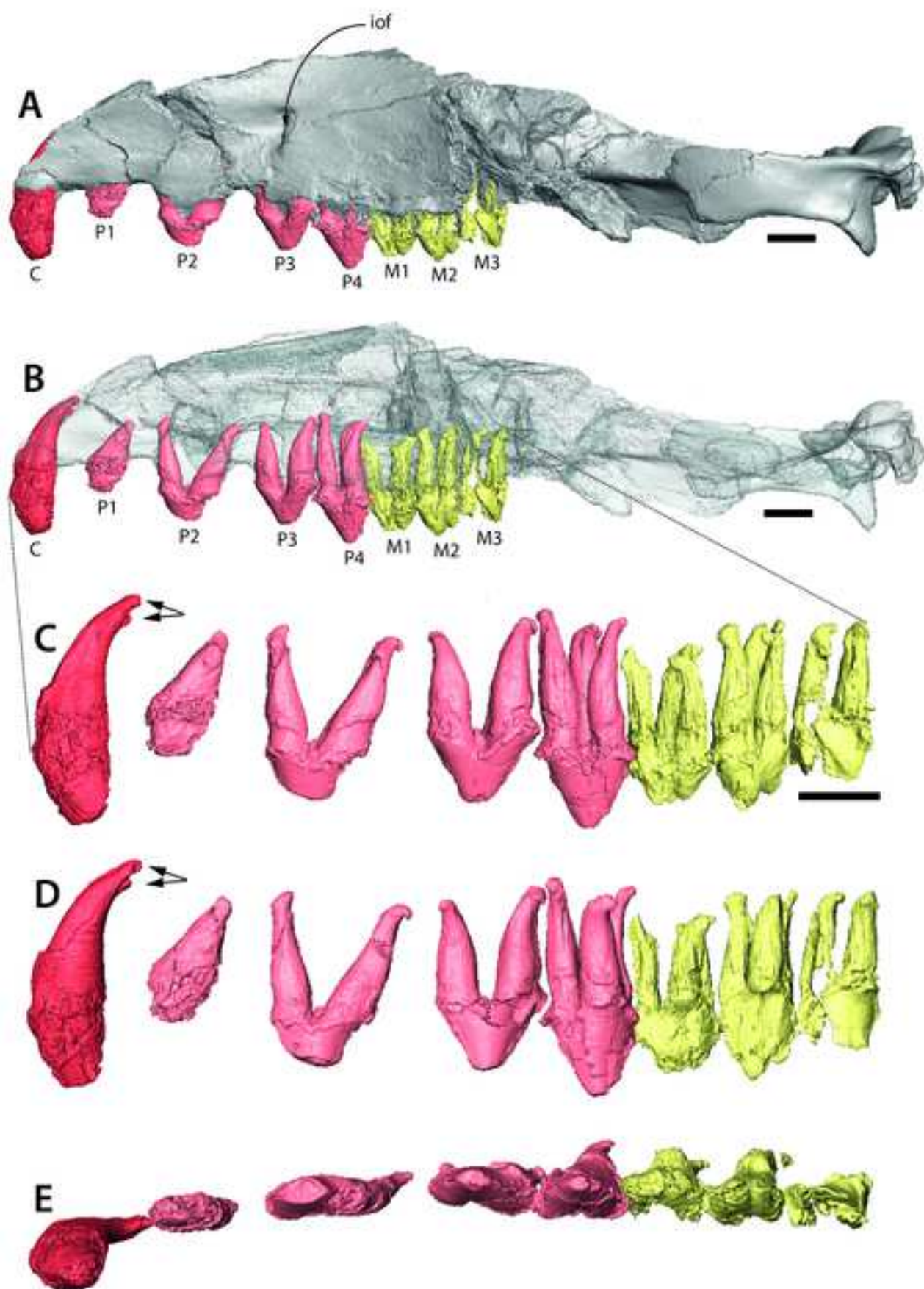
pelagicètes, P les pélagicètes, et N les néocètes (voir détails dans le Tableau 3). Les supports aux nœuds sont détaillés dans le Tableau 3. Illustrations faites par R. Mourlam.

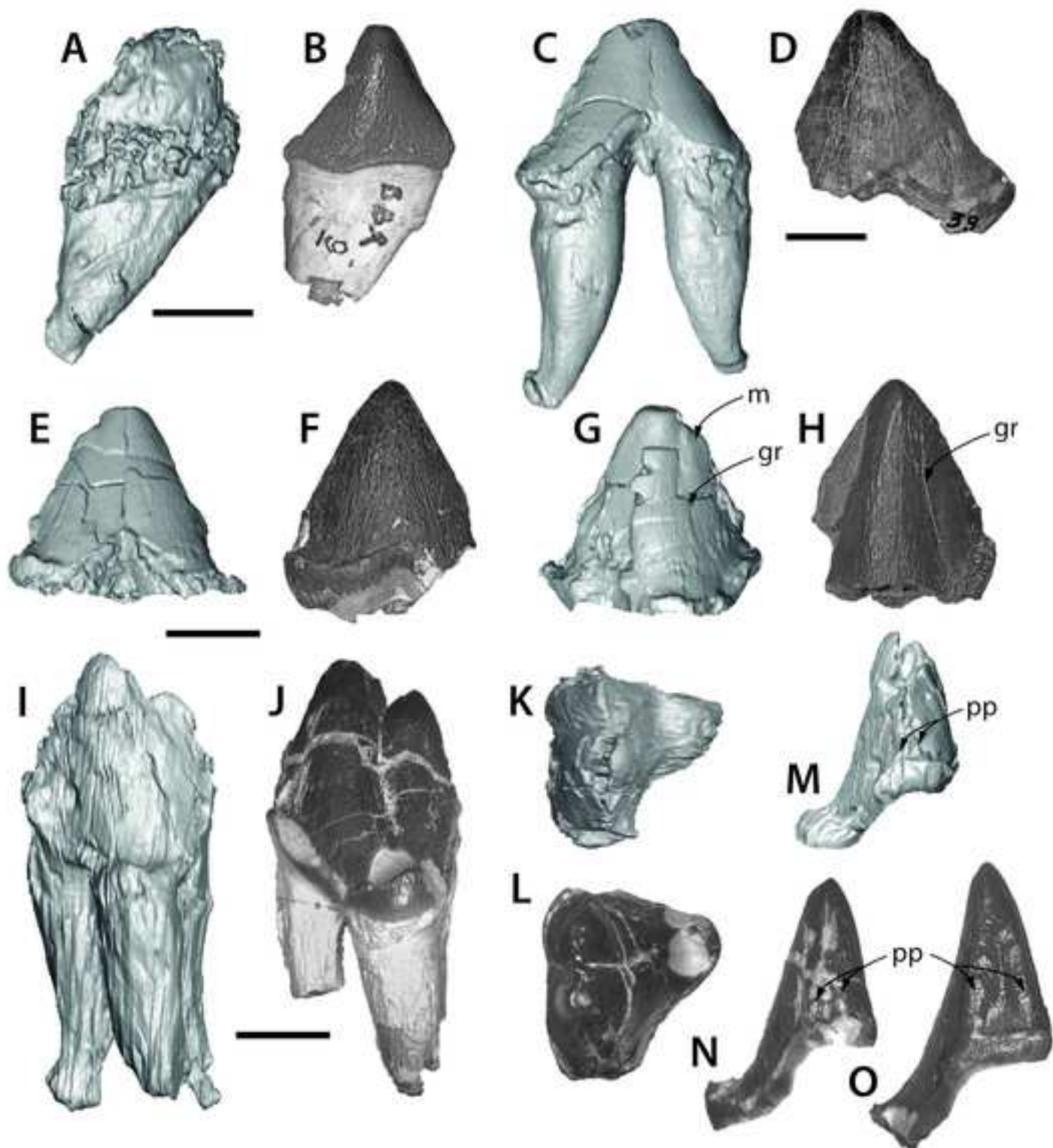


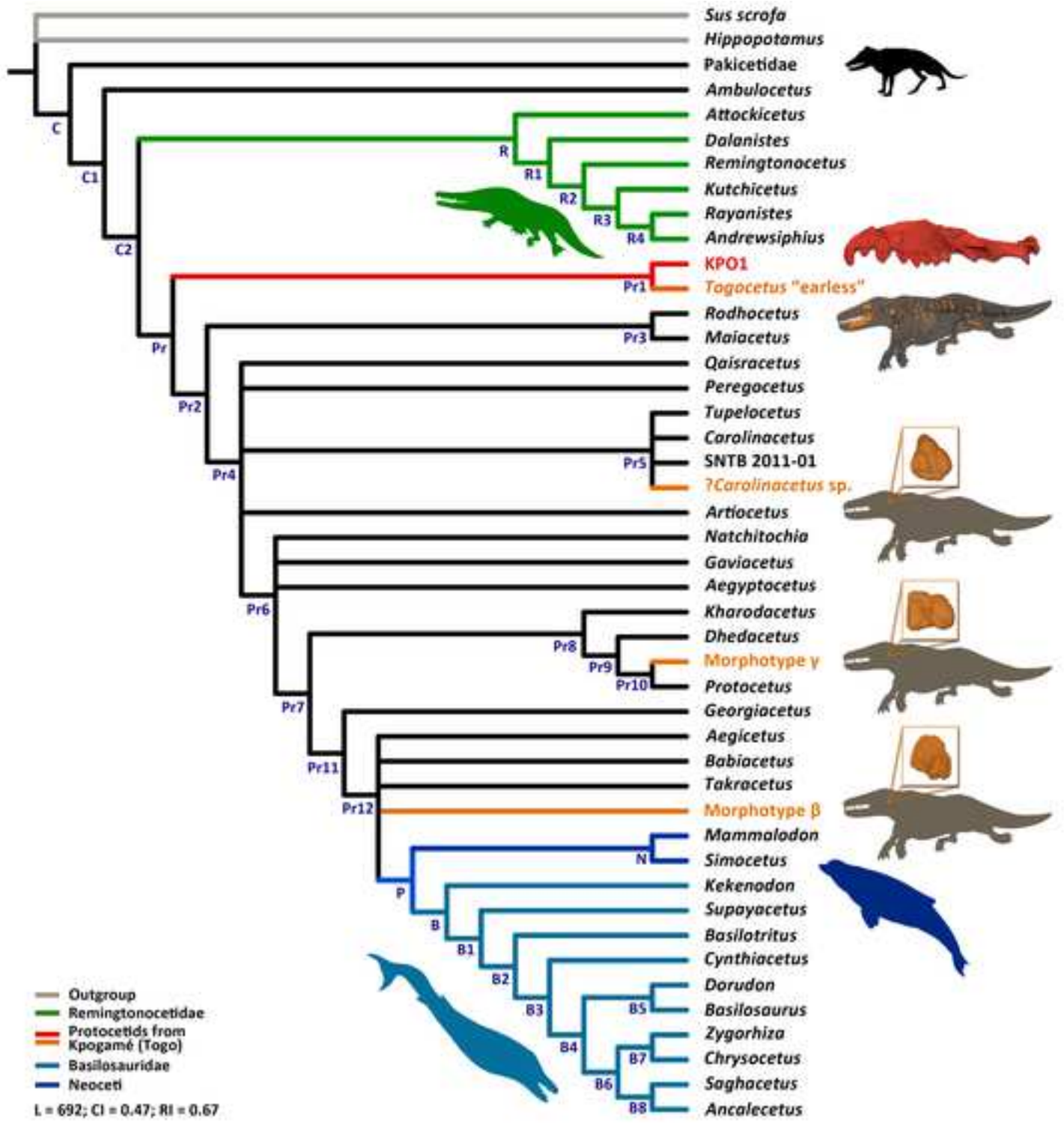












Online Supplementary Material related to *First partial cranium of Togocetus from Kpogamé (Togo) and the protocetid diversity in the Togolese phosphate basin.*

Premier crâne partiel de Togocetus de Kpogamé (Togo) et la diversité des protocètes dans le bassin phosphaté togolais

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Text 1. Phylogenetic analysis – Character modifications

In order to take into account our morphological observations about protocetids (and other archaeocetes), and to highlight their anatomical diversity, we have been led to modify 15 phylogenetic characters from the literature (*e.g.* Geisler *et al.* 2005; Gol'din & Zvonok 2013). The following text aims to shed light on what motivated our choices.

CRANIAL

2. Rostrum length:

This character was initially defined by Thewissen & Hussain (2000: character 08) in order to compare the length of the rostrum of remingtonocetids. However, since the remingtonocetid present a rather elongated rostrum, the two states of character defined by these authors do not cover the whole spectrum of variability at the scale of archaeocetes and early neocetes:

2. *anterior to orbit approximately two times the length of skull posterior to orbit*
3. *anterior to orbit approximately three times the length of skull posterior to orbit*

Thus, we have completed this character by adding the following two states:

0. *anterior to orbit equal or smaller than the length of skull posterior to orbit (see *Mammalodon*)*
1. *anterior to orbit approximately 1.5 times the length of skull posterior to orbit (most of the known protocetids)*

9-10. Embrasure pits between I1-I2 and I2-I3 and C-I3:

These two characters were initially defined by Geisler *et al.* (2005: characters 09 and 10) in order to document the presence or not of embrasure pits (and their depth in character 10). Following Thewissen & Bajpai (2009), we considered also the location of these embrasure pits (*i.e.* lateral position or not).

20. Orbit size:

The two first states of this character were initially defined by Uhen (1998: character 07). In order to highlight the unusual size of the orbit of *Takracetus* and some basilosaurids, we completed this character by introducing a new threshold at 60% of condylar breadth, leading to the modification and the split of the second state as follows:

1. *medium, vertical diameter of orbit between 30% and 60% of condylar breadth*
2. *large, vertical diameter of orbit > 60% of condylar breadth*

30-31. Palate angulation and frontal angulation (ex-clinorhynch):

The clinorhynch is the “downward deflection of the rostrum and frontal shield relative to the braincases as a whole” (Bianucci & Gingerich 2011: 1183). In other words, it is the combination of a relative palate angulation (θ_1) and relative frontal angulation ($\theta_2 - \theta_3$) that are both positives. The character 108 from Bianucci & Gingerich (2011) only considers two states: the presence or not of clinorhynch. Thus, several different categories are represented within the absence of clinorhynch with for instance the taxa with a positive palate angulation and a negative frontal angulation (*e.g. Qaisracetus*) or the taxa with both negative palate and frontal angulations (*e.g. Georgiacetus*). To highlight this diversity, we split this character into two new ones, documenting all the cases observed: 30. *Palate angulation* - 31. *Frontal angulation*.

Remark on the postglenoid foramen:

According to Geisler & Luo (1998: see also Luo & Gingerich 1999; Martínez-Cáceres *et al.* 2017), the postglenoid foramen of protocetid is located at the interface between the petrosal and the squamosal. However, KPO1 presents both a distinct postglenoid foramen medial to the postglenoid process and a distinct foramen at the interface between the petrosal and the squamosal (see vascular foramen in Description, Fig.4, and Supplemental Fig. 1). Consequently, the vascular foramen is not necessarily linked to the passage of the capsuloparietal emissary vein, thus leaving open two conflicting hypotheses: either the postglenoid foramen merges with the vascular foramen later in the evolutionary history of the group, or both foramina are clearly distinct and the postglenoid foramen disappears later within protocetids. While the relationship between this two foramina remains unclear, we have chosen not to use this character

(Geisler *et al.* 2005: character 26; modified from Geisler & Luo 1998: character 24) in our analysis.

AUDITORY REGION

45-46. Entoglenoid process:

This character was initially defined by Geisler *et al.* (2005: character 60) and then modified by Gol'din & Zvonok (2013: character 33). In their definitions, there is a mix of “presence-absence”, “shape” and “contact or not with the tympanic bulla” states. Thus, we decided to bisect this character into a “presence-absence” character (45. *Entoglenoid process*) and a “shape” character (46. *Entoglenoid process shape*). Since the tympanic bulla is not always available, we decided to not define a third character about the possible contact with this bone. In addition, based on our observation, we defined 3 new states for the shape character:

1. drop shape, which is an incipient “falciform” with a small lateral lip, as found in *Carolinacetus* and *Tupelocetus*
2. falciform, as found in *Protocetus* and *Georgiacetus*
3. sub-rectangular, as found in KPO1

53. Base of posterior process of tympanic:

This character was defined by Geisler *et al.* (2005: character 59) and included two states: “0. *forms a single columnar pedicle – 1. perforated and forms medial and lateral pedicles*”. Then, Gol'din & Zvonok (2013: character 32) added a third state for this character: “2. *long and gracile pedicle*” to highlight the particularities of neocetes’ tympanic bullae. However, the state of preservation of the tympanic bullae of the two neocetes from the taxonomic sample of the present study do not allow to observe this third state and we therefore deleted it.

DENTAL

75. I2 length:

This character was initially defined by Geisler *et al.* (2005: character 65). It included two states (“0. *substantially smaller than canine - 1. subequal to canine*”) without doing any distinction between upper and lower incisors nor between the different loci. However, for some taxa (*e.g. Qaisracetus*; see Gingerich *et al.* 2001), depending on the locus, the incisor can be both shorter and longer than the canine. To avoid this

issue, we decided to focus the comparison only on the upper I². In addition, we defined a new state based on the protocetid *Qaisracetus*: “2. longer than canine”.

87-90. Protocone:

Initially, only two characters were defined concerning the protocone: one about the premolars (Gol'din & Zvonok 2013: character 43) and one about the molars (Geisler *et al.* 2005: character 75). Based on our observation, there is morphological variation of the protocone between P³ and P⁴, and also between M¹ and M². Consequently, we decided to define four distinct characters (one for each of these loci) in order to highlight this diversity. In addition, based on Gingerich *et al.* (1995) and Thewissen & Bajpai (2009), we introduced a fourth state of character: “protocone lobe”.

91-93. Upper molars' roots:

Three characters concerning the roots of the upper molars were defined by Uhen (1998: characters 29-31) and then later modified by Geisler *et al.* (2005: characters 76-77 and 79). In their definitions, these authors took in consideration the level of fusion of the roots. However, the level of root's fusion is rather plastic intraspecifically in human and in other mammals (*e.g.* Peiris *et al.* 2015; Ahmed *et al.* 2017; Marcano-Caldera *et al.* 2019). While there is no study on that matter about early whales, we decided not to take into account the level of fusion of the roots and to focus on their numbers only (“0. three roots - 1. two roots”).

VERTEBRAL, STERNAL AND RIB

116. Number of lumbar vertebrae:

Based on the observations made by Gingerich *et al.* (2019) on *Aegicetus*, we defined a new state to the character 59 of Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) modified from Geisler *et al.* (2005: character 90; see also Uhen 1998 and Martínez-Cáceres & Muizon 2011): “0. 4 lumbar vertebrae”.

PECTORAL AND FORELIMB

124. Humerus capitulum:

Based on our observations on *Andrewsiphius* and *Kutchicetus* (Thewissen & Bajpai 2009: fig. 10), we defined a new state to the character 99 of Vautrin *et al.* (2020): “1. incipient (narrow and flat)”.

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Text 2. Phylogenetic analysis – Character's list

CRANIAL	Ch. 01 to 34
AUDITORY REGION	Ch. 35 to 74
DENTAL	Ch. 75 to 94
DENTARY	Ch. 95 to 98
VERTEBRAL, STERNAL AND RIB	Ch. 99 to 122
PECTORAL AND FORELIMB	Ch. 123 to 139
PELVIC AND HINDLIMB	Ch. 140 to 148
NEW CHARACTERS	Ch. 149 to 167

CRANIAL

1. **Skull length:**

Character 1 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 3 Geisler et al. (2005)

0. short, length < 700% of condylar breadth
1. moderate length, 700% - 800% of condylar breadth
2. elongate, > 800% of condylar breadth

2. **Rostrum length:**

This study - modified from Character 08 Thewissen & Hussain (2000)

0. anterior to orbit equal or smaller than the length of skull posterior to orbit
1. anterior to orbit approximately 1.5 times the length of skull posterior to orbit
2. anterior to orbit approximately two times the length of skull posterior to orbit
3. anterior to orbit approximately three times the length of skull posterior to orbit

3. **Anterior margin of external nares:**

Character 2 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 4 Geisler et al. (2005)*

0. anterior to I3
1. dorsal or immediately posterior to I3
2. dorsal to I3 to canine diastema
3. dorsal to canine
4. posterior to canine (Geisler et al. 2005)

4. **Posterior margin of external nares:**

Character 3 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 5 Geisler et al. (2005) - modified from Geisler & Luo (1998)*

0. anterior to P1
1. dorsal to P1
2. between P1 and P2
3. dorsal or posterior to P2

5. **Palatine fissure:**

Character 2 Geisler et al. (2005)

0. present
1. absent

6. **Palate:**

Character 5 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 6 Geisler et al. (2005)

0. concave transversely
1. flat transversely
2. convex transversely

7. **Palatal process of premaxilla:**

Character 6 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 7 Geisler et al. (2005)

0. short, terminates anterior or at posterior edge of canine
1. between canine and P1
2. at P1
3. posterior to P1

8. Ascending process of premaxilla:

Character 7 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 8 Geisler et al. (2005)

0. terminates posteriorly, anterior to or over P1
1. over P2
2. over diastema between P2 and P3
3. over or posterior to P3

9. Embrasure pits between I1-I2 and I2-I3:

This study - modified from Thewissen & Bajpai (2009) - Character 7 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 9 Geisler et al. (2005)

0. absent
1. present ventrally
2. occurs on lateral and ventral surfaces of maxilla

10. Embrasure pit between C and I3:

This study - modified from Thewissen & Bajpai (2009) - Character 8 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 10 Geisler et al. (2005)

0. absent
1. present ventrally
2. occurs on lateral and ventral surfaces of maxilla

11. Embrasure pit between P1 and C:

Character 10 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 11 Geisler et al. (2005)

0. absent
1. small, located on ventral surface of maxilla
2. deep but contained on ventral surface
3. occurs on lateral and ventral surfaces of maxilla

12. Palate narrows:

Character 11 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 14 Geisler et al. (2005)*

0. posterior to M3
1. at M3
2. at M2
3. at M1
4. at P4
5. the palate does not narrow

13. Rostrum breadth at M2:

Character 13 Geisler et al. (2005)

0. wide, width at M2 >140% the condylar width
1. narrow, width at M2 < 120% the maximum width across the occipital condyles

14. Posterior margin of nasal in relation to the PMM (posterior margin of maxilla) in dorsal view:

Character 4 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - modified from Uhen et al. (2011) - PMM posterior margin of maxilla

0. posterior to PMM
1. anterior or at the same level as PMM

15. Nasal process of frontal:

Character 12 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 15 Geisler et al. (2005) - modified from Uhen (1998)

0. absent
1. present, frontal with small (< 3 mm) process that lies medial to the posterior end of the nasal
2. frontal with large nasal process

16. Supraorbital process:

Character 13 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 16 Geisler et al. (2005) - Barnes (1984) - modified from Uhen (1998)

0. absent, frontal shield width < 180% the condylar breadth
1. present but small, 180% < frontal shield width < 190% of condylar breadth
2. present, 190% < frontal shield width < 240% of condylar breadth
3. greatly enlarged, > 245% of condylar breadth

17. Anterior edge of orbit:

Character 14 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 19 Geisler et al. (2005) - Geisler (2001)

0. over or posterior to M3
1. over M2 or M2/M3 division
2. over M1 or M1/M2 division
3. over P4 or P4/M1 division

18. Posterior edge of postorbital process:

Character 15 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 20 Geisler et al. (2005) - modified from Uhen (1998)

0. forms highly obtuse angle with sagittal crest (angle of anterior border of temporal fossa)
1. oriented at approximately 90° to sagittal crest
2. forms acute angle with sagittal crest due to posterior swelling of lateral end

19. Orbit:

Character 18 Geisler et al. (2005)

0. elevated highly above toothrow
1. elevated slightly above toothrow

20. Orbit size:

This study - modified from Character 07 Uhen (1998) - Character 17 Geisler et al. (2005)

0. small, vertical diameter of orbit < 30% of condylar breadth
1. medium, vertical diameter of orbit between 30% and 60% of condylar breadth
2. large, vertical diameter of orbit > 60% of condylar breadth

21. Orientation of supraoccipital shield:

Character 20 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 32 Geisler et al. (2005) - modified from Uhen (1998)

0. posterodorsally

1. vertical above foramen magnum
 2. anterodorsally
- 22. Fossa for insertion of rectus capitus lateralis muscle:**
Character 21 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 36 Geisler et al. (2005) - (narrow part of fan points medially)
0. absent
 1. present as ovoid pit lateral to occipital condyle
 2. present and divided into two smaller fossae which share the larger depression
- 23. Fan-shaped fossa on exoccipital dorsal to paroccipital process:**
Character 22 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 37 Geisler et al. (2005) - see description in text Gol'din & Zvonok (2013)
0. absent
 1. present
- 24. Dorsoventral row of muscular fossae on lateral edge of exoccipital:**
Character 23 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 38 Geisler et al. (2005)
0. absent
 1. present
- 25. Nuchal rise:**
Character 119 Gibson et al. (2019)
0. absent
 1. sharp
 2. broad
- 26. Nuchal crests:**
Character 31 Geisler et al. (2005)
0. oriented laterally
 1. lateral ends are gently curved posterolaterally
 2. form a horseshoe shape in dorsal view that is open posteriorly
- 27. Nuchal tubercles:**
Character 34 Geisler et al. (2005)
0. absent
 1. present on dorsal edge of foramen magnum
- 28. Parietal ridge:**
Character 120 Gibson et al. (2019)
0. present
 1. absent
- 29. Cerebellar rete (as determined in endocasts or a visible cranial cavity):**
Character 33 Geisler et al. (2005)
0. absent or indistinguishable from the rest of the endocast
 1. occurs dorsal and medial to petrosal
 2. occurs dorsal and medial to petrosal as well dorsal to the cerebellum
 3. hypertrophied completely surrounding the dorsal surface of the cerebellum and the trigeminal nerve and towers above the endocast of the cerebral hemispheres

30. Palate angulation:

This study - modified from Character 108 Bianucci & Gingerich (2011) - Clinorhynchy

0. θ_1 negative
1. θ_1 neutral
2. θ_1 positive

31. Frontal angulation:

This study - modified from Character 108 Bianucci & Gingerich (2011) - Clinorhynchy

0. $\theta_2 < \theta_3$
1. $\theta_2 > \theta_3$

32. Foramen ovale:

Character 23 Geisler et al. (2005)

0. within the alisphenoid
1. at squamosal and alisphenoid suture but open ventrally
2. at squamosal/alisphenoid suture but completely enclosed
3. merged with piriform fenestra

33. Pterygoid sinus:

Character 16 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 24 Geisler et al. (2005) - modified from Luo & Gingerich (1999)

0. absent
1. present but obscured in ventral view by the bulla, occupies region between anterior end of involucrum and alisphenoid portion of pterygoid ridge
2. breaches posterior wall of tube for foramen ovale and extends slightly anterior to the anterior edge of the tympanic bulla
3. enlarged, forms a deep anteroposterior trough which approaches the internal nares

34. Lateral extent of exoccipital in ventral view:

Character 18 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 29 Geisler et al. (2005)

0. same as or less than the mastoid process of petrosal
1. greater than mastoid process of petrosal

AUDITORY REGION

35. Anterior process of petrosal (anterior extension of tegmen tympani):

Character 40 Geisler et al. (2005)

0. absent
1. present, anterior edge of tegmen tympani extends far anterior to the edge of the pars cochlearis

36. Anterior process of petrosal:

Character 24 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 41 Geisler et al. (2005) - Luo & Gingerich (1999)

- 0. articulates laterally with the entoglenoid (falciform) process of the squamosal but is exposed ventrally
 - 1. anterior two-thirds of the anterior process completely overlapped ventrally by the entoglenoid process
- 37. Fossa for tensor tympani muscle:**
Character 25 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 45 Geisler et al. (2005) - modified from Luo & Marsh (1996)
- 0. shallow, bowl-shaped pit
 - 1. deep groove that is partially hidden in ventral view by a medial shelf of the tegmen tympani
 - 2. deep groove that is clearly visible
 - 3. absent
- 38. Concave facet of promontorium:**
Character 91 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)
- 0. absent
 - 1. present
- 39. Shape of concave facet of promontorium:**
Character 92 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)
- 0. broad and deep
 - 1. broad and shallow
 - 2. narrow and shallow
- 40. Size of crista interfenestralis:**
Character 93 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)
- 0. thin (smaller than that of the length of the fenestra vestibuli)
 - 1. average (same size as the length of the fenestra vestibuli)
 - 2. large (larger than that of the length of the fenestra vestibuli)
- 41. Position of the secondary facial foramen:**
Character 95 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)
- 0. anterolateral to the fenestra vestibuli
 - 1. lateral to the fenestra vestibuli
 - 2. posterior to the fenestra vestibuli
- 42. Edge of internal acoustic meatus:**
Character 26 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 47 Geisler et al. (2005)
- 0. flush or nearly flush with the surrounding endocranial surface of petrosal
 - 1. forms a tube that projects mediodorsally into the endocranial cavity
- 43. Anteroventral side of the IAM:**
Character 94 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)
- 0. large shelf
 - 1. thin, riddled with foramina
- 44. Stylomastoid foramen:**
Character 49 Geisler et al. (2005)

- 0. forms a large open notch, petrosal does not contact the petrosal either anterior or posterior to the fenestra rotunda
 - 1. is complete, ectotympanic contacts tympanohyal laterally and the petrosal medially, in some cases ectotympanic separated from petrosal by a narrow (<1 mm) fissure
- 45. Entoglenoid process:**
This study - modified from Character 33 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 60 Geisler et al. (2005) - Luo & Gingerich (1999)*
- 0. absent
 - 1. present
- 46. Entoglenoid process shape:**
This study - modified from Character 33 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 60 Geisler et al. (2005) - Luo & Gingerich (1999)*
- 0. ovoid
 - 1. drop shape (incipient falciform)
 - 2. falciform
 - 3. sub-rectangular
 - 4. thin ridge
- 47. External auditory meatus:**
Character 17 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 28 Geisler et al. (2005) - modified from Luo & Gingerich (1999)*
- 0. short, 17% < length of meatus < 25% half of the basicranial width
 - 1. long, 25% < length of meatus < 40%
 - 2. very long, 40% < length of meatus < 47%
 - 3. elongate, > 50% of half of the basicranial width
- 48. Tympanic ring:**
Character 50 Geisler et al. (2005)
- 0. simple ring or an annulus of thin bone projects from dorsal surface of the bulla
 - 1. annulus not visible, instead the middle conical process present in the homologous position
- 49. Meatal portion of ectotympanic:**
Character 53 Geisler et al. (2005)
- 0. tympanic does not extend ventral to external auditory meatus
 - 1. tympanic extends laterally forming the floor of the external auditory meatus
- 50. Lateral furrow of tympanic:**
Character 56 Geisler et al. (2005)
- 0. absent
 - 1. present
- 51. Sigmoid process and the transverse rim on it:**
Character 29 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 54 Geisler et al. (2005)*
- 0. plate and thin sigmoid process, no transverse rim
 - 1. plate and broad sigmoid process, low transverse rim
 - 2. robust and broad sigmoid process, high transverse rim

- 52. Tip of sigmoid process:**
Character 30 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 55 Geisler et al. (2005) - modified from Luo & Gingerich (1999)
 0. points posterodorsally
 1. forms anteroposteriorly broad, transverse plate
- 53. Base of posterior process of tympanic:**
This study - modified from Character 32 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 59 Geisler et al. (2005) - Kasuya (1973)*
 0. forms a single columnar pedicle
 1. perforated and forms medial and lateral pedicles
- 54. Articulation of medial edge of the TB with basioccipital:**
Character 35 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 62 Geisler et al. (2005) - Luo & Gingerich (1999) - TB tympanic bulla
 0. present
 1. absent
- 55. Basioccipital crests (falcate processes):**
Character 27 Geisler et al. (2005)
 0. absent
 1. present, forming ventrolaterally flaring basioccipital processes
 2. present and extremely wide transversely and narrow anteroposteriorly
- 56. Posterior edge of tympanic:**
Character 36 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 64 Geisler et al. (2005) - Geisler & Luo (1998) - Luo & Gingerich (1999)
 0. does not contact exoccipital
 1. contacts paraoccipital process of exoccipital
- 57. Angle medial:**
Character 78 Mourlam & Orliac (2018) - between anterior part of the medial posterior prominence and the anteromedial side of ectotympanic
 0. acute angle
 1. obtuse angle
 2. straight angle
- 58. Angle lateral:**
Character 79 Mourlam & Orliac (2018) - between anterior part of the lateral posterior prominence and the anterolateral side of ectotympanic
 0. absent
 1. present
- 59. Median furrow of tympanic:**
Character 31 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 57 Geisler et al. (2005) - modified from Geisler & Luo (1998) - Luo & Gingerich (1999)*
 0. forms narrow notch on posterior edge of bulla in ventral view
 1. forms broad embayment of posterior edge of bulla

2. bisects bulla into a smaller posteromedial and a larger posterolateral portions
- 60. Size medial posterior prominence (mp) - lateral posterior prominence (lp):**
Character 80 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)
0. mp > lp
 1. mp = lp
 2. mp < lp
- 61. Medial sulcus:**
Character 81 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)
0. absent
 1. present
- 62. Position of external opening of the eustachian tube:**
Character 27 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 52 Geisler et al. (2005) - Luo & Gingerich (1999)
0. at anterior end of bulla
 1. on medial side of bulla
 2. at anterior end of bulla, but anterior half of involucrem is thin
- 63. Involucrem of bulla:**
Character 51 Geisler et al. (2005)
0. absent
 1. present
- 64. Medial keel:**
Character 77 Mourlam & Orliac (2018) - on the medial side of ectotympanic
0. absent
 1. present
- 65. Shape of involucrem in dorsoventral view:**
Character 28 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013)
0. club-shaped
 1. angled posteromedially
 2. drop-shaped
- 66. Shape of the dorsal surface of the involucrem:**
Character 82 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)
0. club shaped
 1. sub-circular pit
 2. drop shaped
 3. shamrock
 4. sub-circular dome
- 67. Transinvolucrem sulcus (Tis):**
Character 83 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)
0. absent
 1. present

68. Tis width:
Character 84 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)

- 0. broad
- 1. thin line

69. Tis depth:
Character 85 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)

- 0. shallow
- 1. marked
- 2. deep (fovea)

70. Tuberosity of the involucrem n°1:
Character 86 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)

- 0. absent
- 1. present

71. Tuberosity of the involucrem n°2:
Character 87 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)

- 0. absent
- 1. present

72. Tuberosity of the involucrem n°3:
Character 88 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)

- 0. absent
- 1. present

73. Tuberosity of the involucrem n°4:
Character 89 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)

- 0. absent
- 1. present

74. Tuberosity of the involucrem n°5:
Character 90 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)

- 0. absent
- 1. present

DENTAL

75. I2 length:
This study - modified from Character 65 Geisler et al. (2005)

- 0. substantially smaller than canine
- 1. subequal to canine
- 2. longer than canine

76. P1 and p1:
Character 37 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 66 Geisler et al. (2005)

- 0. substantially smaller than canines

1. subequal to canine in size (Geisler *et al.* 2005)
- 77. Accessory cusps on posterior premolars and molars:**
Character 38 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 67 Geisler et al. (2005) - lowers and uppers
0. absent
 1. present but small
 2. present and large (modified from Uhen 1998; Geisler *et al.* 2005)
- 78. P1 roots:**
Character 39 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 68 Geisler et al. (2005)*
0. absent
 1. one root
 2. two roots (Uhen 1999; Geisler *et al.* 2005)
- 79. P1 roots:**
Character 40 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 69 Geisler et al. (2005)
0. one root
 1. two roots (Uhen 1999; Geisler *et al.* 2005)
- 80. P3 length:**
Character 70 Geisler et al. (2005) - modified from Thewissen & Hussain (2000)
0. shorter than length of P4
 1. subequal to P4 length
 2. longer than P4
- 81. Paraconid on lower molars:**
Character 71 Geisler et al. (2005)
0. present and large
 1. small and much lower than protoconid
 2. absent
- 82. Carnassial notch on lower molars:**
Character 72 Geisler et al. (2005)
0. absent
 1. present
- 83. Trigonid of molars:**
Character 73 Geisler et al. (2005) - at least on m2-m3*
0. flat anterior border
 1. concave with a reentrant groove, accommodates posterior convex border of the talonid or adjacent tooth
- 84. Talonid of m1 and m2:**
Character 74 Thewissen & Bajpai (2009) modified from Character 74 Geisler et al. (2005)
0. trigonid longer than talonid
 1. trigonid and talonid similar in length
 2. talonid longer than trigonid

- 85. Enamel of P:**
Character 41 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013)
 0. ornamented
 1. smooth (modified from Gingerich & Uhen 1996)
- 86. Prominent denticulate cingula on P2-P4:**
Character 42 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - modified from Köhler & Fordyce (1997)
 0. absent
 1. present (modified from Köhler & Fordyce 1997)
- 87. P3 protocone:**
This study - modified from Character 43 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - modified from Gingerich et al. (1995a)
 0. present and large
 1. present but is minute cusp
 2. protocone lobe
e.g. see Gingerich et al. (1995b); Thewissen & Bajpai (2009)
 3. absent (modified from Gingerich et al. 1995a)
- 88. P4 protocone:**
This study - modified from Character 43 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - modified from Gingerich et al. (1995a)
 0. present and large
 1. present but is minute cusp
 2. protocone lobe
e.g. see Gingerich et al. (1995b); Thewissen & Bajpai (2009)
 3. absent (modified from Gingerich et al. 1995a)
- 89. M1 protocone:**
This study - modified from Character 44 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 75 Geisler et al. (2005)
 0. present and large
 1. present but is minute cusp
 2. protocone lobe
e.g. see Gingerich et al. (1995b); Thewissen & Bajpai (2009)
 3. absent (Thewissen & Hussain 2000; Geisler et al. 2005)
- 90. M2 protocone:**
This study - modified from Character 44 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 75 Geisler et al. (2005)
 0. present and large
 1. present but is minute cusp
 2. protocone lobe
e.g. see Gingerich et al. (1995b); Thewissen & Bajpai (2009)
 3. absent (Thewissen & Hussain 2000; Geisler et al. 2005)
- 91. M1 roots:**

This study - modified from Character 45 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 76 Geisler et al. (2005)*

0. three roots
1. two roots

92. M2 roots:

This study - modified from Character 46 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 77 Geisler et al. (2005)*

0. three roots
1. two roots

93. M3:

Character 47 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 78 Geisler et al. (2005)*

0. present and roughly equal in size to M2
1. present but small, maximum mesodistal < 60% the length of M2
2. absent (modified from Zhou et al., 1995; Geisler and Luo, 1998; Geisler et al., 2005)

94. M3 roots:

This study - modified from Character 48 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 79 Geisler et al. (2005)*

0. three roots
1. two roots

DENTARY

95. Mandibular symphysis posterior termination:

Character 49 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 80 Geisler et al. (2005) - Uhen (1998)*

0. below p1
 1. below p2
 2. below diastema between p2 and p3, or p3
 3. posterior to p3
 4. below or posterior to p4
- Uhen (1998); Geisler et al. (2005)*

96. Mandibular symphysis:

Character 50 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 81 Geisler et al. (2005) - Uhen (1998)

0. suture visible
1. fused

97. Mandibular foramen size:

Character 82 Geisler et al. (2005) - modified from Thewissen (1994) - Geisler & Luo (1998)*

0. small, maximum height of opening 25% or less the height of mandible at m3
1. medium size, between 25 and 50%
2. greatly enlarged, maximum height greater than 50% the height of the mandible at m3

- 98. Coronoid height:**
Character 114 Lambert et al. (2019)
0. high
1. low

VERTEBRAL, STERNAL AND RIB

- 99. Articulation facets on the atlas for the axis:**
Character 53 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 85 Geisler et al. (2005)*
0. convex
1. flat
2. concave
- 100. Hypophysis of axis in ventral view:**
Character 54 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 84 Geisler et al. (2005)
0. steep-sided cone, transverse width < 1.5 times its anteroposterior length
1. low with no clear separation from lateral articulation facets for the atlas, transverse width > 2 times its anteroposterior length
- 101. Vertebral foramen in the axis:**
Character 55 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - modified from Martínez-Cáceres & Muizon (2011)
0. moderate or large
1. small or absent
- 102. Vertebral foramen of transverse processes in C3-C7:**
Character 56 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - modified from Martínez-Cáceres & Muizon (2011)
0. moderate or large
1. small
- 103. Cervical vertebra:**
Character 87 Geisler et al. (2005)
0. long, length of centra greater than or equal those of anterior thoracics
1. short, length shorter than anterior thoracics
- 104. Number of thoracic vertebrae:**
Character 58 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 88 Geisler et al. (2005) - modified from Uhen (1998) - Martínez-Cáceres & Muizon (2011)*
0. < 10
1. 11 - 14
2. >14
- 105. Spinous processes of T6 and T7:**
Character 89 Geisler et al. (2005)
0. steeply inclined from plane of the anterior face of the centrum >25°

1. gently inclined to vertical 15°
- 106. Centrum shape of thoracic vertebrae:**
Character 89 Vautrin et al. (2020)
0. heart shape, ratio width/height <math><140\%</math>
 1. flattened ventrally, ratio >math>140\%</math>
- 107. Thoracic vertebrae width:**
Character 90 Vautrin et al. (2020)
0. broad vertebrae, length/height <math><1.1</math>
 1. long length/height >math>1.1</math>
- 108. Depression behind the prezygapophyses:**
Character 91 Vautrin et al. (2020)
0. absent
 1. present
- 109. Depression shape behind the prezygapophyses:**
Character 92 Vautrin et al. (2020)
0. deep and round
 1. shallow and elliptic
- 110. Transverse processes orientation:**
Character 93 Vautrin et al. (2020)
0. laterally
 1. laterally and dorsally
- 111. Supraneural shelf:**
Character 94 Vautrin et al. (2020)
0. absent
 1. present
- 112. Neural spine of the thoracic vertebrae:**
Character 95 Vautrin et al. (2020)
0. long and thin
 1. short
- 113. Sternum shape:**
Character 64 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - modified from Uhen et al. (2011)
0. T-shaped manubrium, with rod-shaped elements
 1. thick, rectangular manubrium with thick, polygonal elements
 2. broad flat manubrium and elements
- 114. First five ribs:**
Character 65 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 97 Geisler et al. (2005)
0. distal ends similar in diameter to proximal portions
 1. distal ends expanded and bulbous
- 115. Change in angle (CIA) in anterior rib:**

Character 96 Vautrin et al. (2020)

0. CIA proximal
1. CIA distal

116. Number of lumbar vertebrae:

This study - character state modified based on Gingerich et al. (2019) - Character 59 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 90 Geisler et al. (2005) - modified from Uhen (1998) - Martínez-Cáceres & Muizon (2011)*

0. 4
1. 6-7
2. 8
3. 9-14
4. >14

117. Elongation of vertebrae of posterior half of vertebral column:

Character 60 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 91 Geisler et al. (2005) - whichever is longer*

0. short: centrum length < 150% the centrum height
1. moderate: 150 % < centrum length < 250% the centrum height
2. elongate: centrum length > 250% the centrum height

118. Lumbar zygapophyses:

Character 61 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 92 Geisler et al. (2005) - Uhen (1998)

0. revolute
1. curved
2. flat
3. absent

119. Number of postlumbar vertebrae articulating via pleuropophyses:

Character 96 Geisler et al. (2005)

0. more than four
1. four
2. three
3. two
4. none

120. Articulation between sacral vertebrae and ilium of pelvis:

Character 62 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 93 Geisler et al. (2005) - Uhen (1998)

0. broad area of articulation between pelvis and one or two sacral vertebrae
1. no articulation between vertebrae and pelvis

121. Number of vertebrae fused together to form a sacrum:

Character 63 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 94 Geisler et al. (2005) - modified from Uhen (1998)*

0. no fusion
1. two
2. more than two

122. Transverse processes of sacral vertebrae:

Character 95 Geisler et al. (2005)

- 0. short
- 1. long

PECTORAL AND FORELIMB

123. Shape of scapula:

Character 66 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - modified from Gingerich & Uhen (1996)

- 0. flat
- 1. narrow

124. Humerus capitulum:

This study - modified from Character 99 Vautrin et al. (2020) based on Thewissen & Bajpai (2009)

- 0. present
- 1. incipient (narrow and flat)
- 2. absent

125. Ulna and radius shape:

Character 100 Vautrin et al. (2020)

- 0. long and straight
- 1. short and curved

126. Radius:

Character 68 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 98 Geisler et al. (2005) - Uhen (1998)

- 0. circular to slightly ovoid in cross section
- 1. flattened mediolaterally, highly elliptical in cross section

127. Distal end of ulna:

Character 100 Geisler et al. (2005)

- 0. pointed
- 1. broad anteroposteriorly

128. Ulna pisiform articulation:

Character 102 Vautrin et al. (2020)

- 0. absent
- 1. present

129. Pisiform size:

Character 110 Vautrin et al. (2020)

- 0. smaller than the metacarpal V
- 1. same size or bigger than the metacarpal V

130. Orientation of the pisiform:

Character 105 Vautrin et al. (2020)

- 0. dorsally oriented
- 1. laterally oriented

131. Lunar size:

Character 103 Vautrin et al. (2020)

- 0. smaller or same size than the pyramidal
- 1. bigger than the pyramidal

132. Unciform size:

Character 104 Vautrin et al. (2020)

- 0. bigger than the cuneiform
- 1. same size than the cuneiform

133. Lunar size in comparison to the unciform:

Character 107 Vautrin et al. (2020)

- 0. equal or bigger than the unciform
- 1. smaller than the unciform

134. Trapezoid and magnum:

Character 69 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 101 Geisler et al. (2005) - Uhen (1998)

- 0. separate
- 1. fused

135. Distal carpal articular surfaces:

Character 70 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 102 Geisler et al. (2005) - Uhen (1998)

- 0. curved to allow for substantial movement
- 1. flat

136. Proximal phalanx III length:

Character 106 Vautrin et al. (2020)

- 0. smaller or equal to metacarpal III length
- 1. longer than metacarpal III length

137. Length of the medial phalanx V:

Character 108 Vautrin et al. (2020)

- 0. same as the medial phalanx II
- 1. longer and thinner

138. Digit I:

Character 109 Vautrin et al. (2020)

- 0. present
- 1. absent

139. Hooves:

Character 101 Vautrin et al. (2020)

- 0. present
- 1. absent

PELVIC AND HINDLIMB

140. Pelvis size:

Character 71 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 103 Geisler et al. (2005)

- 0. large, has well-developed ilium with total length > 300% the length of the first sacral vertebra
 - 1. greatly reduced with a small ilium, total length of the length of the first sacral vertebra
- 141. Obturator foramen:**
Character 72 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 104 Geisler et al. (2005) - modified from Hulbert (1998)
- 0. larger than acetabulum
 - 1. smaller than acetabulum
- 142. Dorsal edge of acetabulum:**
Character 73 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 105 Geisler et al. (2005) - Gingerich et al. (1995b)
- 0. high and sharp
 - 1. low and rounded
- 143. Ventromedial expansion of pubis ventro-medial to OF:**
Character 74 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 106 Geisler et al. (2005) - Hulbert (1998) - Uhen (1999) - OF obturator foramen
- 0. absent
 - 1. present but small expansion
 - 2. present and extreme expansion
- 144. Anterior border of cranial pubic ramus:**
Character 116 Lambert et al. (2019)
- 0. very concave
 - 1. slightly concave
- 145. Ilium neck size:**
Character 97 Vautrin et al. (2020)
- 0. massive
 - 1. long and narrow
 - 2. reduced
- 146. Projection of the ischium:**
Character 98 Vautrin et al. (2020)
- 0. projected clearly dorsally, little posteriorly, creates a marked curvature of the dorsal margin
 - 1. projected dorsally and dorso-posteriorly, slight curvature of the dorsal margin
 - 2. projected mainly dorso-posteriorly, no curvature of the dorsal margin
- 147. Femur:**
Character 75 Gol'din & Zvonok (2013) - Character 107 Geisler et al. (2005) - Uhen (1998)
- 0. large
 - 1. moderate
 - 2. small
- 148. Fovea capitis femoris:**

Character 76 Mourlam & Orliac (2018)

- 0. absent
- 1. present

NEW CHARACTERS

149. Rostrum breadth at P2:

This study

- 0. narrow (P2 length is more than 60% of rostrum breadth)
- 1. reduced (P2 length is between 50% and 60% of rostrum breadth)
- 2. average (P2 length is between 40% and 50% of rostrum breadth)
- 3. broad (P2 length is less than 40% of rostrum breadth)

150. Posterior edge of infraorbital foramen:

This study

- 0. anterior to P3
- 1. above the anterior edge of P3
- 2. above P3
- 3. between P3 and P4
- 4. posterior to P4

151. Embrasure pit between P2 and P3:

This study

- 0. absent
- 1. present

152. Size of the embrasure pit between P2 and P3:

This study

- 0. small
- 1. broad

153. Embrasure pit between P3 and P4:

This study

- 0. absent
- 1. present

154. Size of the embrasure pit between P3 and P4:

This study

- 0. small
- 1. broad

155. Embrasure pit between P4 and M1:

This study

- 0. absent
- 1. present

156. Embrasure pit between M1 and M2:

This study

- 0. absent

1. present

157. Size of the embrasure pit between M1 and M2:

This study

0. small
1. broad

158. Embrasure pit between M2 and M3:

This study

0. absent
1. present

159. Metacone on P2:

This study

0. absent
1. present

160. Metacone on P3:

This study

0. absent
1. present

161. Metacone on P4:

This study

0. absent
1. present

162. Position of metacone on P4:

This study

0. distal, clearly distinct from paracone
1. distal, nearly fused with paracone
2. apical, nearly fused with paracone
3. almost completely fused (i.e. only presence of a sulcus)

163. Metacone size on M2:

0. subequal to paracone
1. smaller than paracone

164. Position of metacone on M2:

0. distal, clearly distinct from paracone
1. distal, nearly fused with paracone
2. apical, nearly fused with paracone
3. almost completely fused (i.e. only presence of a sulcus)

165. Doubled preparacrista on M2:

0. absent

1. present

166. Acetabular notch:

This study - based on Bebej et al. (2015)

0. open
1. narrow (nearly closed)
2. closed

167. Femoral head orientation:

This study

0. perpendicular to shaft
1. about 45° from the shaft
2. in the continuation of the shaft

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Figure 1. Postglenoid foramen vs. vascular groove

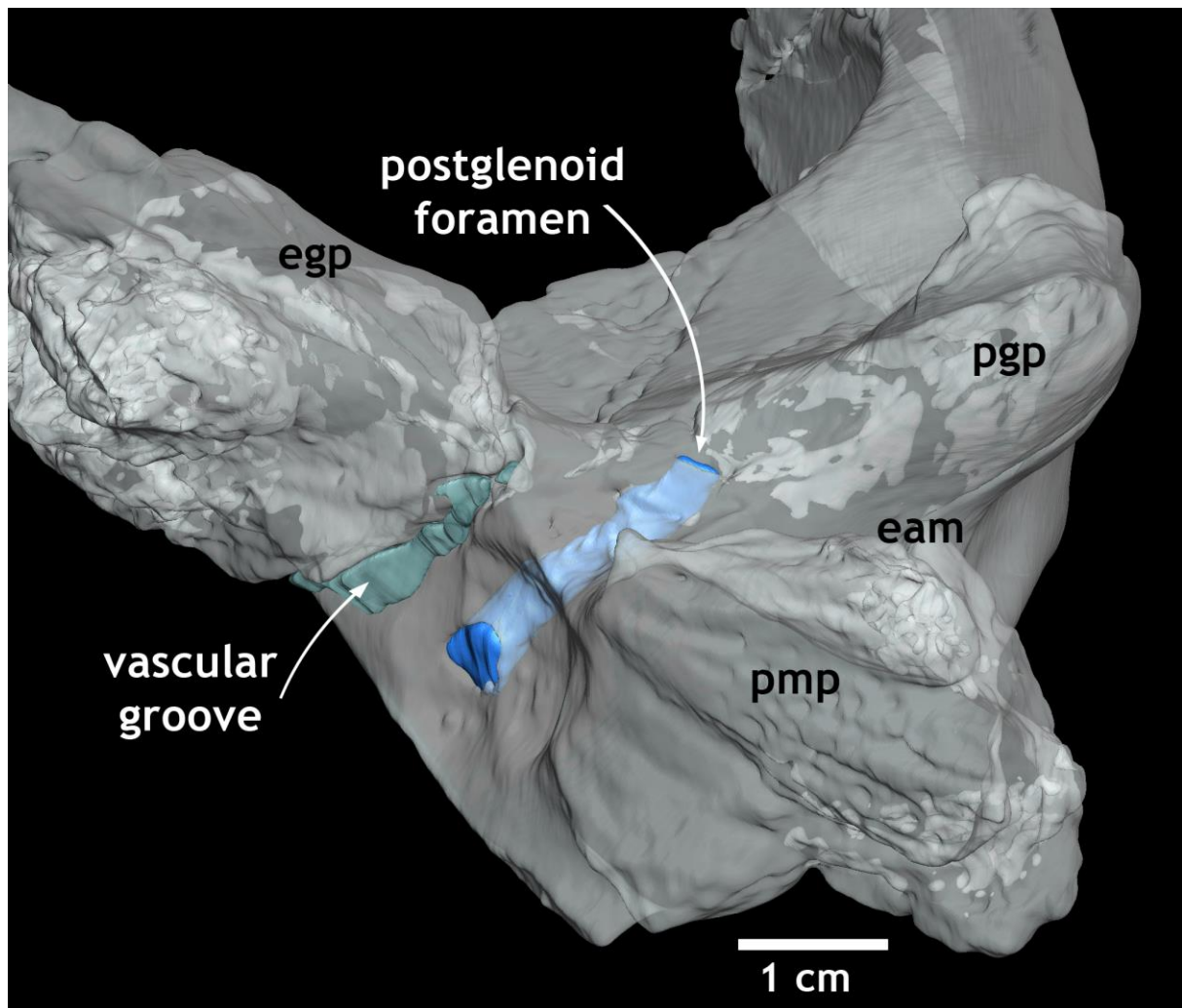


Figure 1. Posteromedial view of the basicranium of KPO1 (in 60% of transparency), highlighting the pathway of the capsuloparietal emissary vein (in blue) passing through the postglenoid foramen and that of the vascular groove (in turquoise) distant from the postglenoid foramen. *Abbreviations:* eam, external auditory meatus; egp, entoglenoid process; pgp, postglenoid process; pmp, postmeal process. Scale bar represents 1 cm.

Figure 1. Vue postéro-médiale du basicrâne de KPO1 (à 60% de transparence), illustrant le passage de la veine émissaire capsulopariétale (en bleu) passant par le foramen post-glénoïde, ainsi que le passage du sillon vasculaire (en turquoise) distant du foramen post-glénoïde. *Abréviations :* eam, méat auditif externe ; egp, processus entoglénoïde ; pgp, processus post-glénoïde; pmp, processus post-méatal. La barre d'échelle représente 1 cm.

Figure 2. Entoglenoid process of morphotype γ

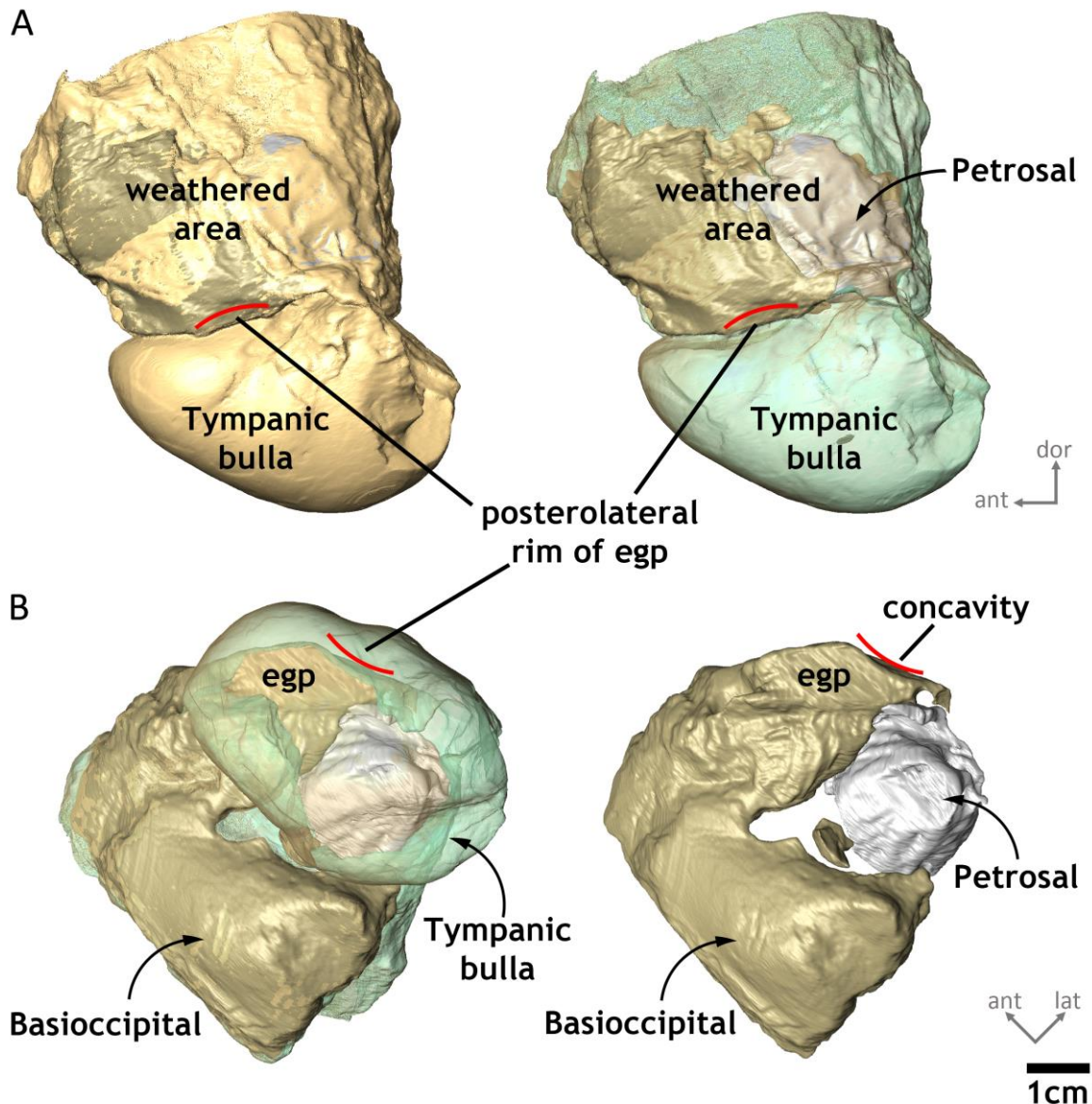


Figure 2. Lateral (A) and ventral (B) views of the auditory region of the morphotype γ (UM-KPG-M 73) highlighting (A) the weathered area of this specimen suggesting that the posterolateral rim of the entoglenoid process (egp) could be partially damaged, but also (B) the close relationship between the morphology of the anterolateral wall of the tympanic bulla and that of the posterolateral rim of the entoglenoid process suggesting that its morphology is nevertheless fairly well preserved. 3D surface of morphotype γ (UM-KPG-M 73) kindly provided by Maëva J. Orliac (ISEM).

Figure 2. Vues latérale (A) et ventrale (B) de la région auditive du morphotype γ (UM-KPG-M 73) afin d'illustrer la zone altérée de ce spécimen suggérant que le bord postéro-latéral du processus entoglénoïde (egp) pourrait être partiellement endommagé (A), mais aussi la relation étroite entre la morphologie du bord antérolatérale de la bulle tympanique et celle du bord postéro-latéral du processus entoglénoïde suggérant que sa morphologie est malgré tout assez bien préservée (B). Surface 3D du morphotype γ (UM-KPG-M 73) aimablement fournie par Maëva J. Orliac (ISEM)

Figure 3. Strict consensus – Similarity index

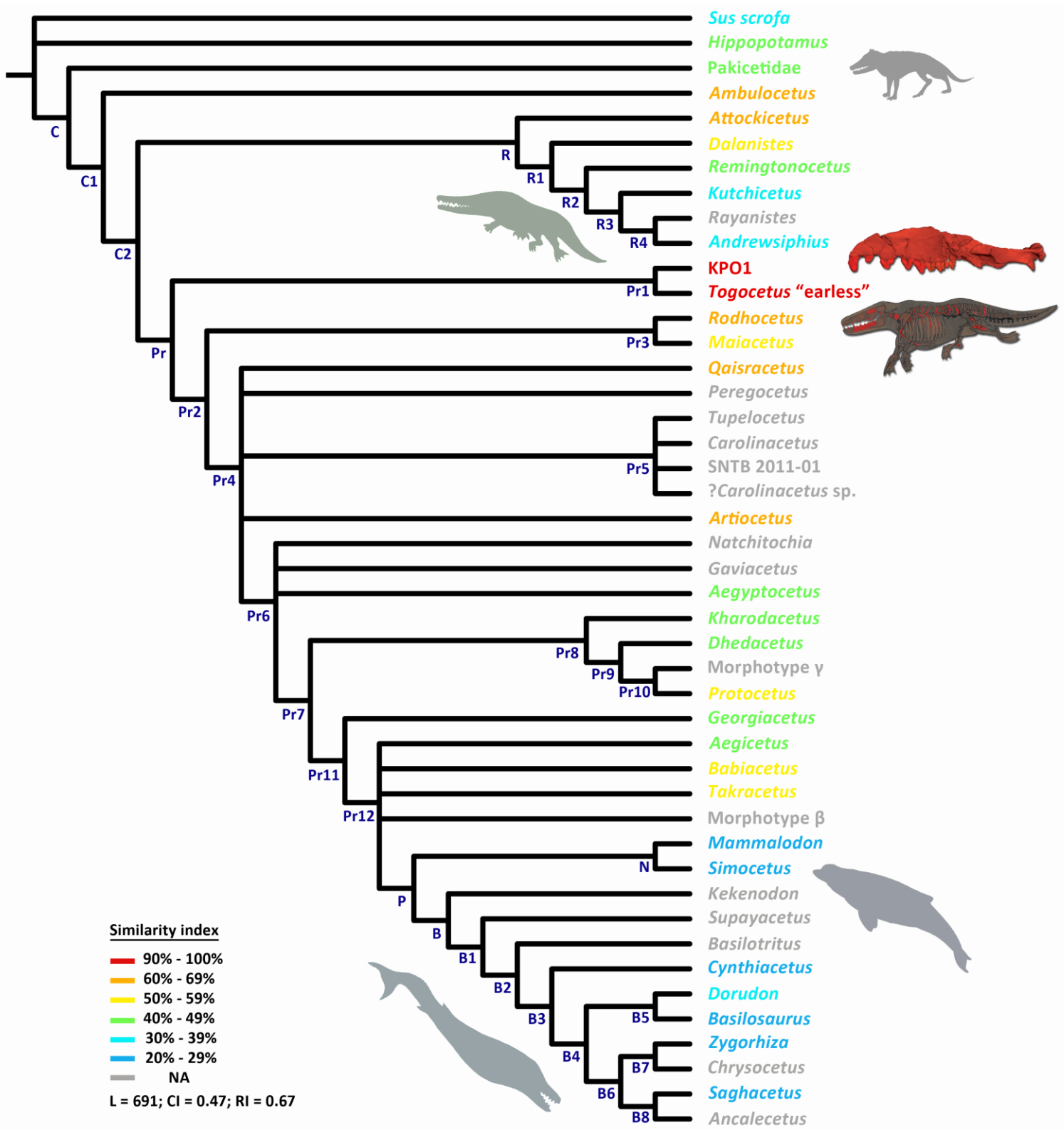


Figure 3. Phylogenetic tree of basal cetaceans based on the main cladistics analysis of this study (see Figure 7 and the Material and method section), highlighting the similarity index between KPO1 and the other taxa of this analysis. In grey, taxa with a shared index lower than 40%. Data about the shared and similarity indexes are available in Supplemental Table 1. Topology of the strict consensus (L = 691; CI = 0.47; RI = 0.67) of the 2,100 most parsimonious trees (L = 674; CI = 0.49; RI = 0.68). Illustrations by R. Mourlam.

Figure 3. Arbre phylogénétique de cétacés basaux issu de l'analyse cladistique principale (voir Figure 7 et la section Matériel et méthode) illustrant l'indice de similarité entre KPO1 et les autres taxons de l'analyse. En gris, taxons dont l'indice de partage est inférieur à 40%. Les valeurs des indices de partage et de similarité sont disponibles au Tableau 1 de cette annexe. Topologie du consensus strict (L = 691; CI = 0.47; RI = 0.67) de 2100 arbres les plus parcimonieux (L = 674; CI = 0.49; RI = 0.68). Illustrations faites par R. Mourlam.

Figure 4. Strict consensus – without *Togocetus* “earless”

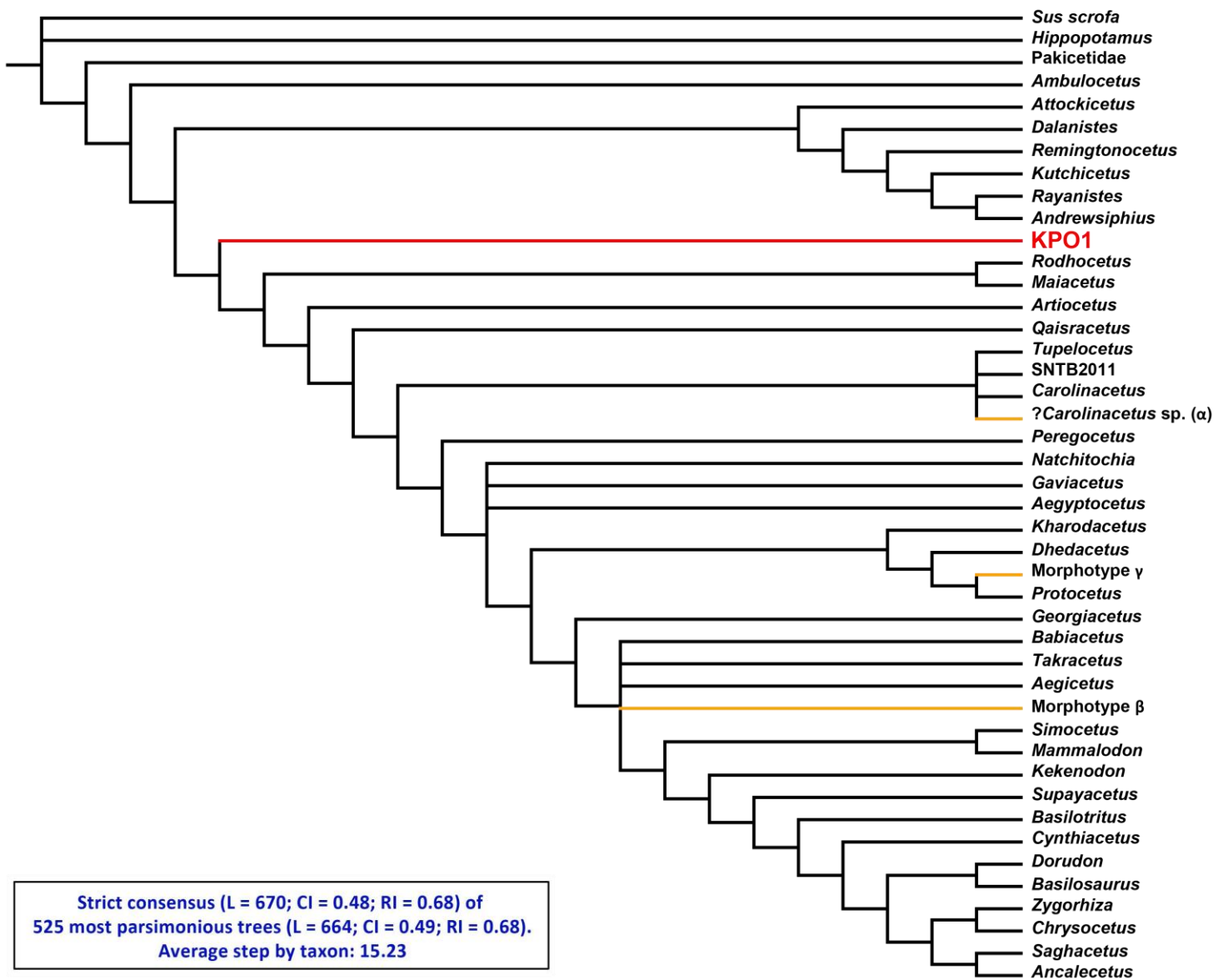


Figure 4. Phylogenetic tree of basal cetaceans based on the cladistic analysis of 44 taxa (*i.e.* without *T. traversei* described by Gingerich & Cappetta 2014) and 167 morphological characters. KPO1 is here indicated in red. The other protocetids from Togo are indicated in orange. Topology of the strict consensus (L = 670; CI = 0.48; RI = 0.68) of the 525 most parsimonious trees (L = 664; CI = 0.49; RI = 0.68).

Figure 4. Arbre phylogénétique des cétacés basaux issu de l'analyse cladistique de 44 taxons (*i.e.* sans *T. traversei* décrit par Gingerich & Cappetta 2014) et 167 caractères morphologiques. KPO1 est indiqué ici en rouge. Les autres protocètes du Togo sont indiqués en orange. Topologie du consensus strict (L = 670 ; CI = 0.48 ; RI = 0.68) de 525 arbres les plus parcimonieux (L = 664 ; CI = 0.49 ; RI = 0.68).

Figure 5. Strict consensus – *Togocetus* “earless” hypothesis

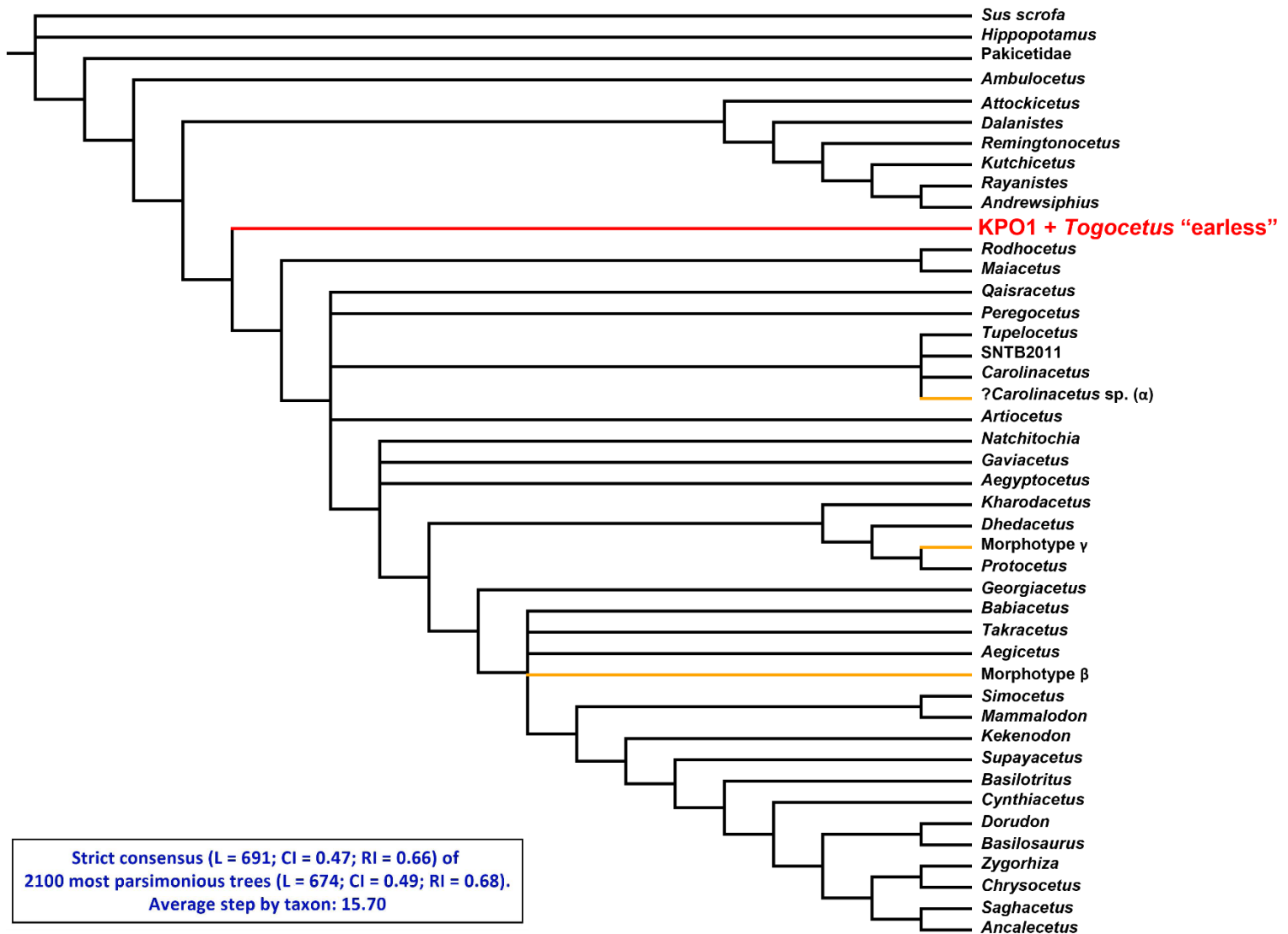


Figure 5. Phylogenetic tree of basal cetaceans based on the cladistics analysis of 44 taxa and 167 morphological characters following the hypothesis that the auditory region of the genus *Togocetus* is missing; *i.e.* KPO1 + *Togocetus* « earless » = one single operational taxonomic unit (OTU). This taxon is here indicated in red. The other protocetids from Togo are indicated in orange. Topology of the strict consensus (L = 691; CI = 0.47; RI = 0.66) of the 2,100 most parsimonious trees (L = 674; CI = 0.49; RI = 0.68).

Figure 5. Arbre phylogénétique des cétacés basaux issu de l'analyse cladistique de 44 taxons et 167 caractères morphologiques suivant l'hypothèse selon laquelle la région auditive du genre *Togocetus* est inconnue ; *i.e.* KPO1 + *Togocetus* « earless » = une seule et même Unité Evolutive (UE). Ce taxon est indiqué ici en rouge. Les autres protocètes du Togo sont indiqués en orange. Topologie du consensus strict (L = 691 ; CI = 0.47 ; RI = 0.66) de 2100 arbres les plus parcimonieux (L = 674 ; CI = 0.49 ; RI = 0.68).

Figure 6. Strict consensus – α hypothesis

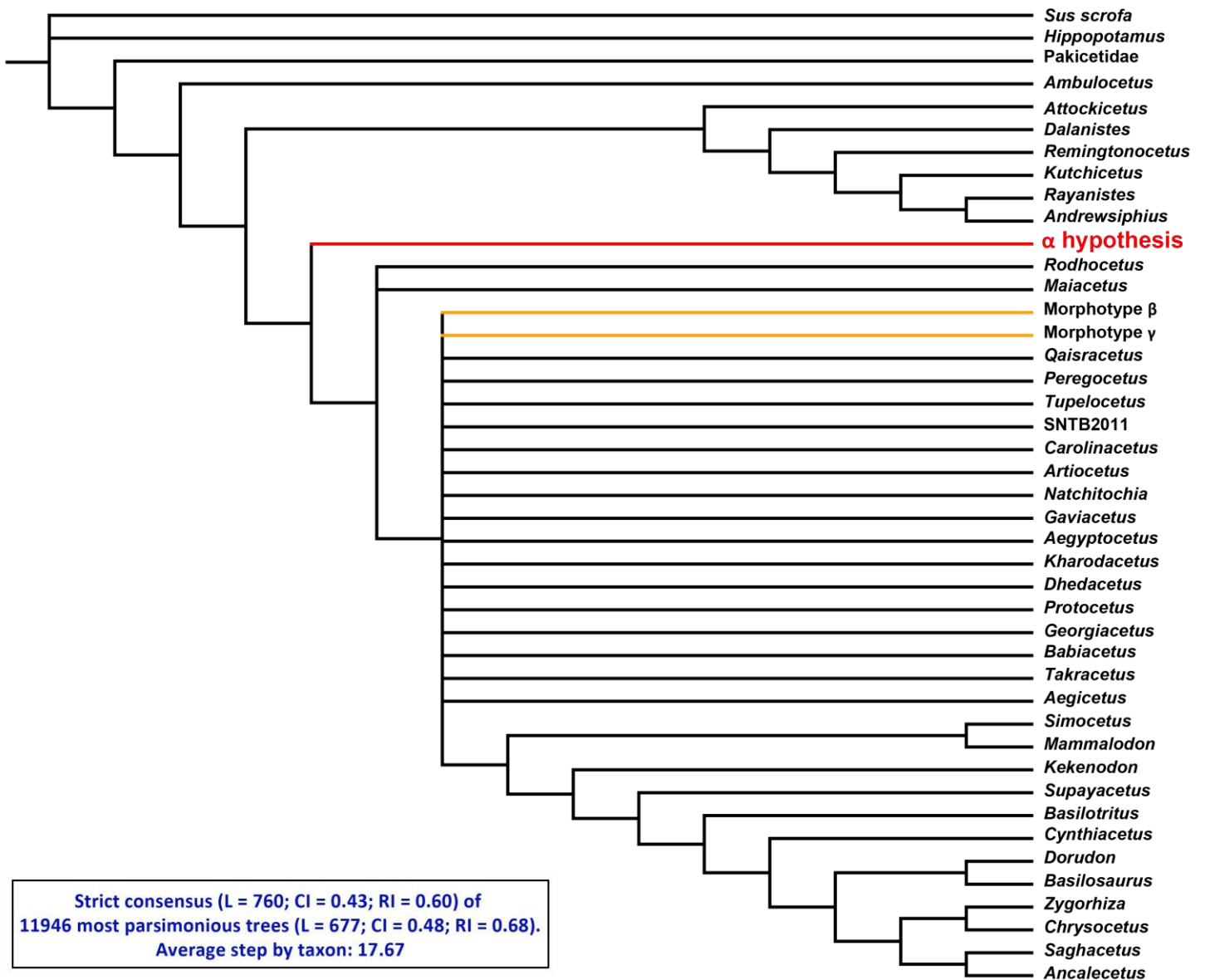


Figure 6. Phylogenetic tree of basal cetaceans based on the cladistics analysis of 43 taxa and 167 morphological characters following the hypothesis that the auditory region of morphotype α belongs to the genus *Togocetus*; *i.e.* KPO1 + *Togocetus* « earless » + morphotype α = one single operational taxonomic unit (OTU). This taxon is here indicated in red. The other protocetids from Togo are indicated in orange. Topology of the strict consensus (L = 760; CI = 0.43; RI = 0.60) of the 11,946 most parsimonious trees (L = 677; CI = 0.48; RI = 0.68).

Figure 6. Arbre phylogénétique des cétacés basaux issu de l'analyse cladistique de 43 taxons et 167 caractères morphologiques suivant l'hypothèse selon laquelle la région auditive du morphotype α est associée au genre *Togocetus* ; *i.e.* KPO1 + *Togocetus* « earless » + morphotype α = une seule et même Unité Evolutive (UE). Ce taxon est indiqué ici en rouge. Les autres protocètes du Togo sont indiqués en orange. Topologie du consensus strict (L = 760 ; CI = 0.43 ; RI = 0.60) de 11946 arbres les plus parcimonieux (L = 677 ; CI = 0.48 ; RI = 0.68).

Figure 7. Strict consensus – β hypothesis

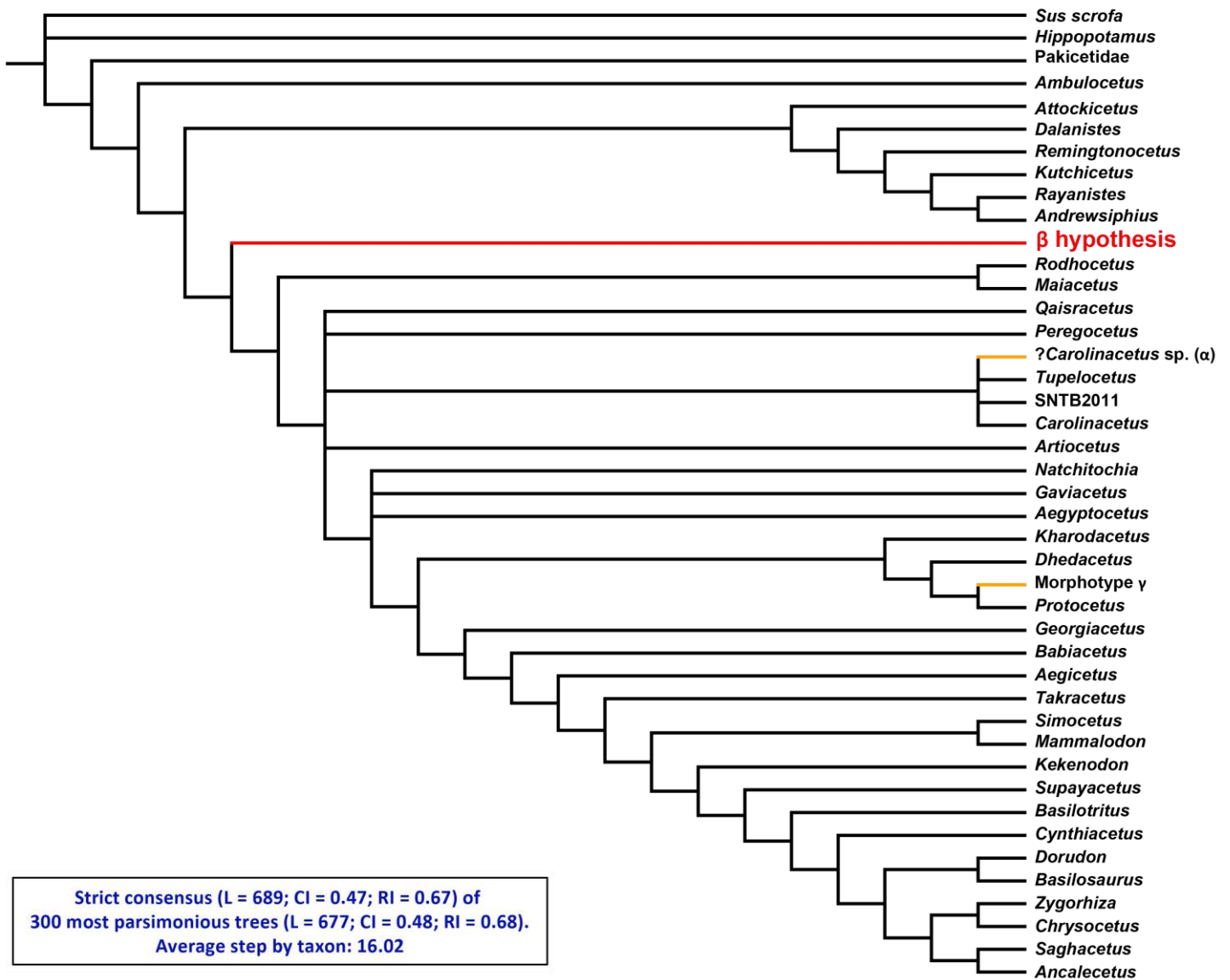


Figure 7. Phylogenetic tree of basal cetaceans based on the cladistics analysis of 43 taxa and 167 morphological characters following the hypothesis that the auditory region of morphotype β belongs to the genus *Togocetus*; *i.e.* KPO1 + *Togocetus* « earless » + morphotype β = one single operational taxonomic unit (OTU). This taxon is here indicated in red. The other protocetids from Togo are indicated in orange. Topology of the strict consensus (L = 689; CI = 0.47; RI = 0.67) of the 300 most parsimonious trees (L = 677; CI = 0.48; RI = 0.68).

Figure 7. Arbre phylogénétique des cétacés basaux issu de l'analyse cladistique de 43 taxons et 167 caractères morphologiques suivant l'hypothèse selon laquelle la région auditive du morphotype β est associée au genre *Togocetus*; *i.e.* KPO1 + *Togocetus* « earless » + morphotype β = une seule et même Unité Evolutive (UE). Ce taxon est indiqué ici en rouge. Les autres protocètes du Togo sont indiqués en orange. Topologie du consensus strict (L = 689 ; CI = 0.47 ; RI = 0.67) de 300 arbres les plus parcimonieux (L = 677 ; CI = 0.48 ; RI = 0.68).

Figure 8. Strict consensus – γ hypothesis

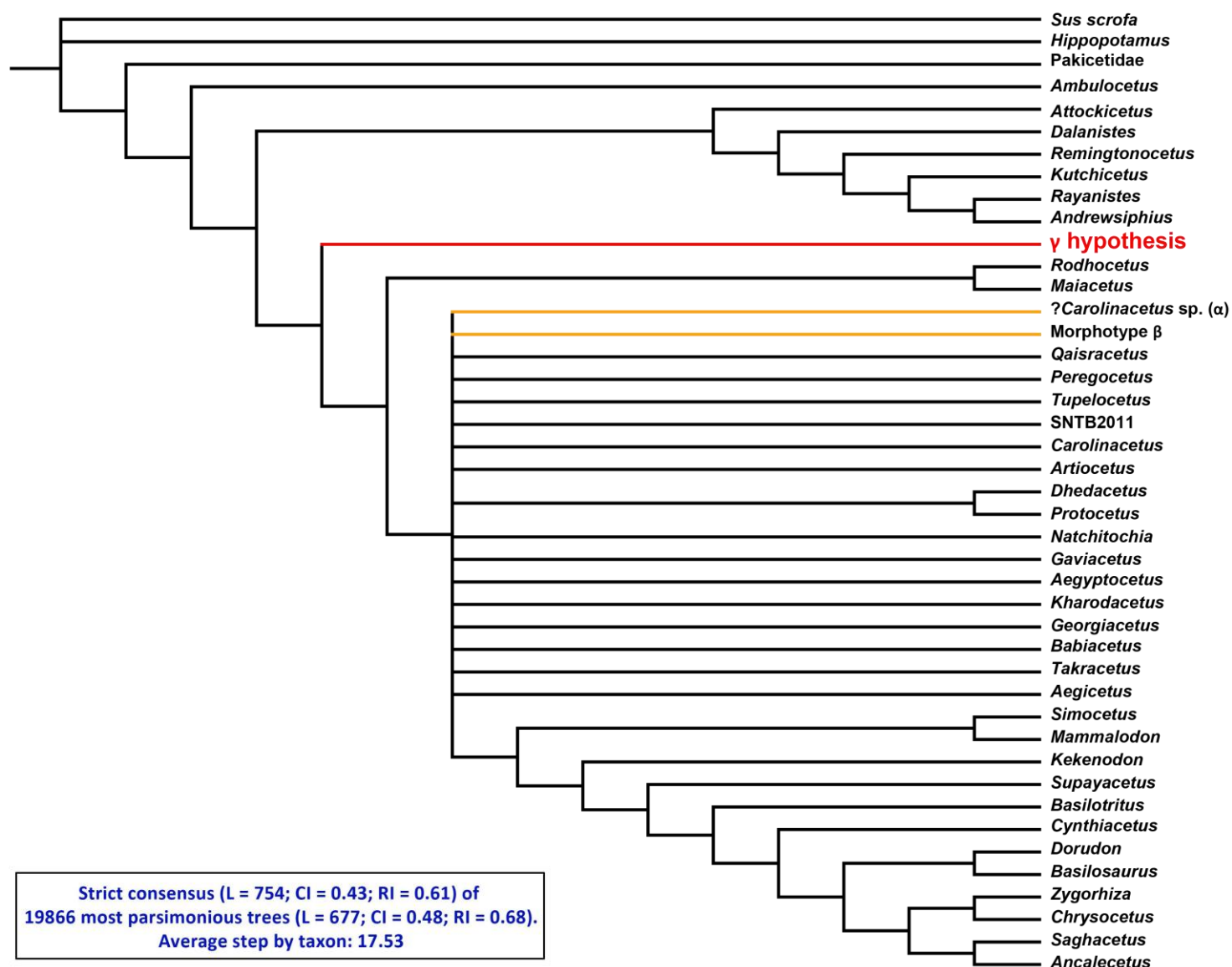


Figure 8. Phylogenetic tree of basal cetaceans based on the cladistics analysis of 43 taxa and 167 morphological characters following the hypothesis that the auditory region of morphotype γ belongs to the genus *Togocetus*; *i.e.* KPO1 + *Togocetus* « earless » + morphotype γ = one single operational taxonomic unit (OTU). This taxon is here indicated in red. The other protocetids from Togo are indicated in orange. Topology of the strict consensus (L = 754; CI = 0.43; RI = 0.61) of the 19,866 most parsimonious trees (L = 677; CI = 0.48; RI = 0.68).

Figure 8. Arbre phylogénétique des cétacés basaux issu de l'analyse cladistique de 43 taxons et 167 caractères morphologiques suivant l'hypothèse selon laquelle la région auditive du morphotype γ est associée au genre *Togocetus*; *i.e.* KPO1 + *Togocetus* « earless » + morphotype γ = une seule et même Unité Evolutive (UE). Ce taxon est indiqué ici en rouge. Les autres protocètes du Togo sont indiqués en orange. Topologie du consensus strict (L = 754; CI = 0.43; RI = 0.61) de 19,866 arbres les plus parcimonieux (L = 677; CI = 0.48; RI = 0.68).

Table 1. Shared and Similarity indexes

	Full Matrix		Comparison with KPO1				Comparison with <i>Togocetus</i>				Comparison with KPO1 + <i>Togocetus</i>			
	Number of coded characters	Total Percentage	Shared with	Shared index	Similarity	Similarity index	Shared with	Shared index	Similarity	Similarity index	Shared with	Shared index	Similarity	Similarity index
KPO1	40	23.95	40	100.00	40	100	16	41.03	15	93.75	40	63	40	100
<i>Togocetus</i>	39	23.35	16	40.00	15	93.75	39	100.00	39	100	39	62	39	100
KPO1 + <i>Togocetus</i>	63	37.72	40	100.00	40	100	39	100.00	39	100	63	100	63	100
<i>Hippopotamus</i>	147	88.02	37	92.50	18	48.65	32	82.05	14	43.75	55	87	23	41.82
<i>Sus scrofa</i>	156	93.41	39	97.50	14	35.90	33	84.62	11	33.33	57	90	18	31.58
Pakicetidae	132	79.04	35	87.50	17	48.57	31	79.49	13	41.94	50	79	21	42.00
<i>Ambulocetus</i>	75	44.91	19	47.50	12	63.16	23	58.97	12	52.17	34	54	19	55.88
<i>Andrewsiphius</i>	39	23.35	23	57.50	7	30.43	22	56.41	5	22.73	36	57	11	30.56
<i>Attockicetus</i>	21	12.57	17	42.50	11	64.71	11	28.21	7	63.64	17	27	11	64.71
<i>Dalanistes</i>	79	47.31	28	70.00	14	50.00	15	38.46	5	33.33	36	57	17	47.22
<i>Kutchicetus</i>	71	42.51	16	40.00	6	37.50	20	51.28	9	45.00	30	48	12	40.00
<i>Rayanistes</i>	14	8.38	0	0.00	NA	NA	5	12.82	3	60.00	5	8	3	60.00
<i>Remingtonocetus</i>	112	67.07	36	90.00	17	47.22	28	71.79	13	46.43	52	83	24	46.15
<i>Aegicetus</i>	101	60.48	23	57.50	11	47.83	37	94.87	19	51.35	45	71	25	55.56
<i>Aegyptocetus</i>	68	40.72	36	90.00	17	47.22	30	76.92	15	50.00	51	81	26	50.98
<i>Artiocetus</i>	90	53.89	32	80.00	20	62.50	17	43.59	11	64.71	37	59	23	62.16
<i>Babiacetus</i>	64	38.32	28	70.00	14	50.00	21	53.85	8	38.10	35	56	17	48.57
<i>Carolinacetus</i>	87	52.10	6	15.00	3	50.00	18	46.15	11	61.11	22	35	12	54.55
<i>Dhedacetus</i>	37	22.16	21	52.50	9	42.86	16	41.03	9	56.25	23	37	11	47.83
<i>Gaviacetus</i>	58	34.73	14	35.00	9	64.29	7	17.95	5	71.43	16	25	10	62.50
<i>Georgiacetus</i>	134	80.24	36	90.00	16	44.44	30	76.92	16	53.33	54	86	27	50.00
<i>Kharodacetus</i>	42	25.15	29	72.50	13	44.83	19	48.72	8	42.11	35	56	17	48.57
<i>Maiacetus</i>	91	54.49	26	65.00	13	50.00	24	61.54	9	37.50	36	57	18	50.00
<i>Natchitochia</i>	18	10.78	0	0.00	NA	NA	6	15.38	4	66.67	6	10	4	66.67
<i>Peregocetus</i>	44	26.35	2	5.00	2	100	20	51.28	14	70.00	20	32	14	70.00
<i>Protocetus</i>	110	65.87	36	90.00	18	50.00	22	56.41	15	68.18	42	67	23	54.76
<i>Qaisracetus</i>	91	54.49	29	72.50	18	62.07	18	46.15	13	72.22	36	57	24	66.67
<i>Rodhocetus</i>	109	65.27	26	65.00	18	69.23	27	69.23	19	70.37	44	70	31	70.45
SNTB 2011-01	25	14.97	0	0.00	NA	NA	7	17.95	3	42.86	7	11	3	42.86
<i>Takracetus</i>	23	13.77	18	45.00	10	55.56	1	2.56	1	100	18	29	10	55.56
<i>Tupelocetus</i>	16	9.58	4	10.00	3	75.00	2	5.13	2	100	4	6	3	75.00
<i>Ancalecetus</i>	23	13.77	14	35.00	6	42.86	22	56.41	12	54.55	27	43	14	51.85
<i>Basilosaurus</i>	146	87.43	40	100.00	10	25.00	36	92.31	13	36.11	60	95	17	28.33
<i>Basilotritus</i>	45	26.95	13	32.50	3	23.08	18	46.15	6	33.33	20	32	7	35.00
<i>Chrysocetus</i>	67	40.12	11	27.50	2	18.18	20	51.28	8	40.00	22	35	8	36.36
<i>Cynthiacetus</i>	146	87.43	40	100.00	11	27.50	38	97.44	17	44.74	62	98	23	37.10
<i>Dorudon</i>	148	88.62	36	90.00	12	33.33	32	82.05	17	53.13	56	89	25	44.64
<i>Saghacetus</i>	97	58.08	38	95.00	11	28.95	23	58.97	8	34.78	46	73	16	34.78
<i>Supayacetus</i>	29	17.37	1	2.50	0	0.00	4	10.26	2	50.00	4	6	2	50.00
<i>Zygorhiza</i>	131	78.44	40	100.00	9	22.50	31	79.49	8	25.81	55	87	16	29.09
<i>Kekenodon</i>	30	17.96	5	12.50	2	40.00	4	10.26	2	50.00	5	8	2	40.00
<i>Mammalodon</i>	74	44.31	28	70.00	8	28.57	15	38.46	4	26.67	33	52	9	27.27
<i>Simocetus</i>	57	34.13	28	70.00	6	21.43	12	30.77	1	8.33	31	49	7	22.58

Similarity index	90 - 100%
Similarity index	70 - 79%
Similarity index	60 - 69%
Similarity index	50 - 59%
Similarity index	40 - 49%
Similarity index	30 - 39%
Similarity index	20 - 29%
Similarity index	< 20%
Shared index	< 40%

Average by groups			
Protocetids	70.83	52.21	65.87
Remingtonocetids	60.00	45.97	61.11
Basilosaurids	97.00	27.46	80.95
Neocetes	70.00	25.00	50.79
Outgroup	95.00	42.27	88.89

Table 1. Shared and similarity indexes for KPO1, *Togocetus* and the association of these two as one single operational taxonomic unit. In addition, the first column indicates the number of coded characters for each taxa along with the percentage of it. For more details in the calculation, see Material and method section.

Tableau 1. Indices de partage et de similarité pour KPO1, *Togocetus* et l'association de ces deux entités en une seule unité évolutive. De plus, la première colonne du tableau indique le nombre de caractères codés pour chaque taxon ainsi que son pourcentage. Pour plus de détails sur les calculs, voir la section Matériel et méthode.