

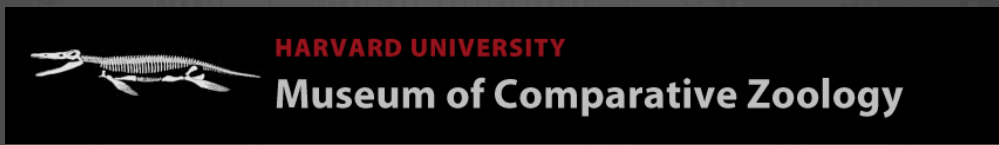


Using digitized fossil Coleoptera (beetles) to study ecological and evolutionary response to global climate change

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*Digitize and make available
all the major collections of
fossil insect specimens in
the United States*





Digitization Goals

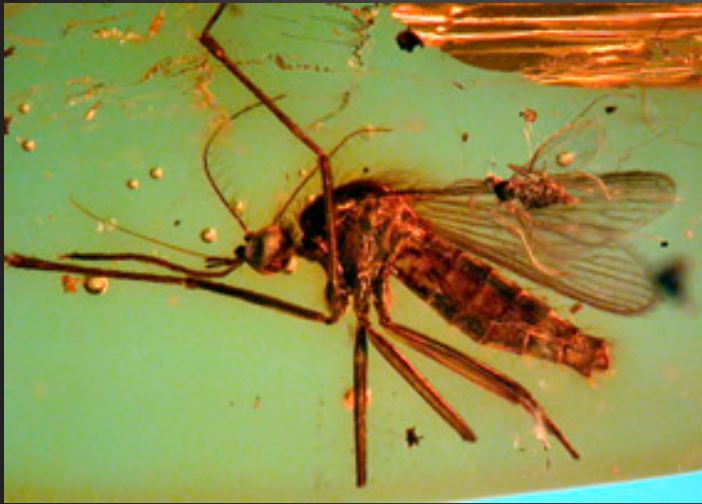
- Database ~500,000 specimens
- ~77,000 digital images
- Data sharing
- iDigPaleo development



YPM-IP.1002 *Dunbaria fasciipennis* Holotype



Research Goals



- Examine insect response to environmental change in deep time
- Examine evolutionary history of fossil insect groups and patterns of diversity in deep time

How do beetles respond to global cooling during the middle Eocene?



Grande (2013); Lawrence & Britton (1994)

Locality

Eocene lake system

- UT – CO – WY

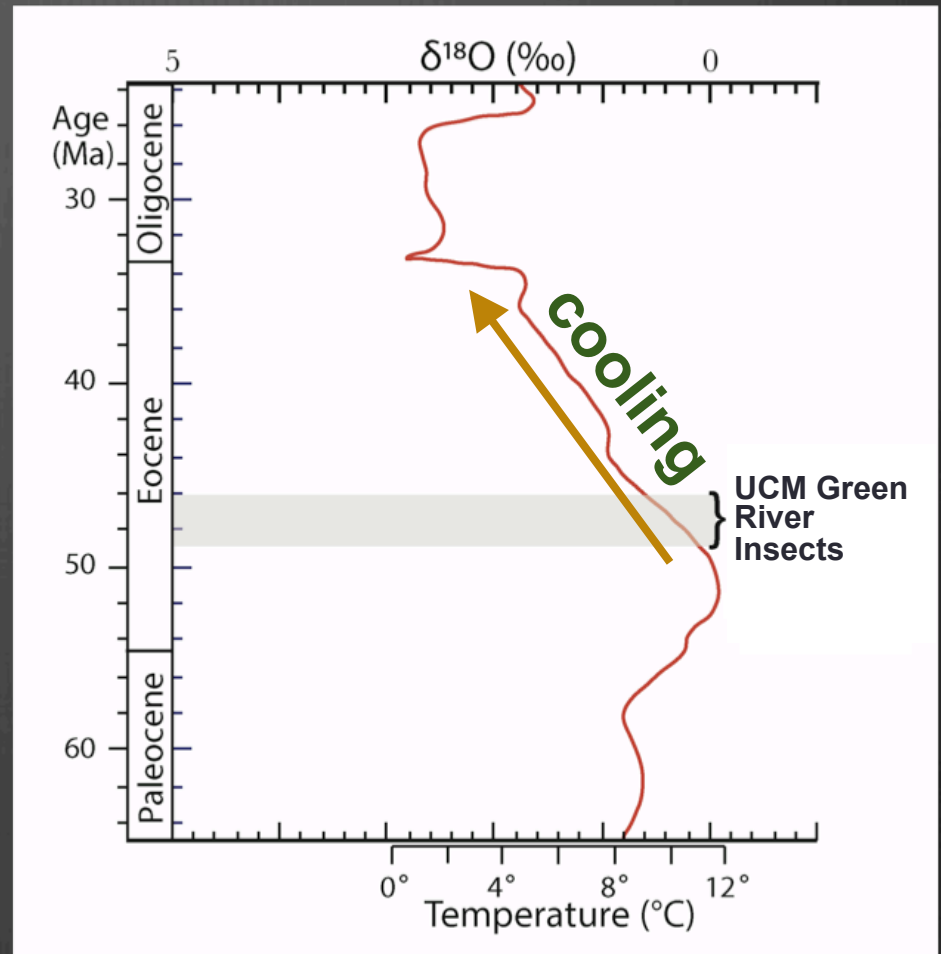
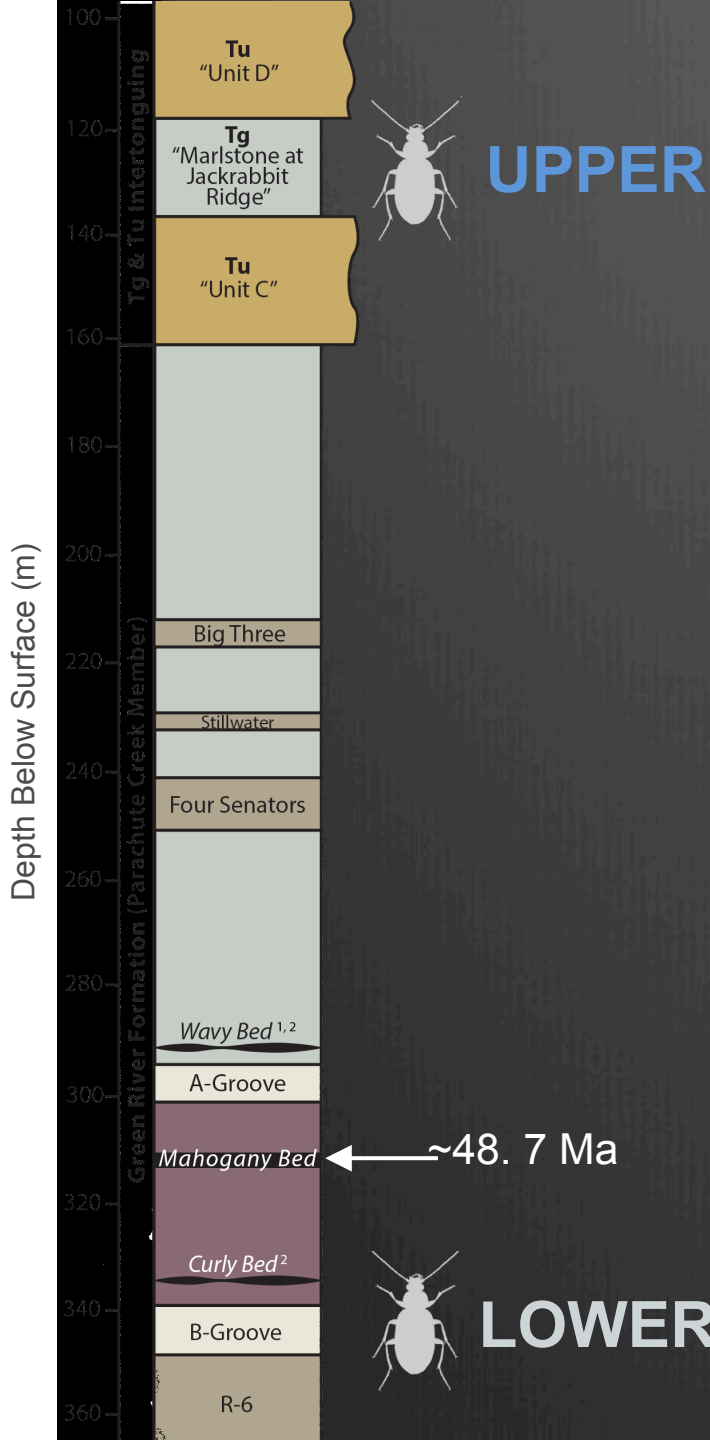
Piceance Creek Basin

All major insect orders

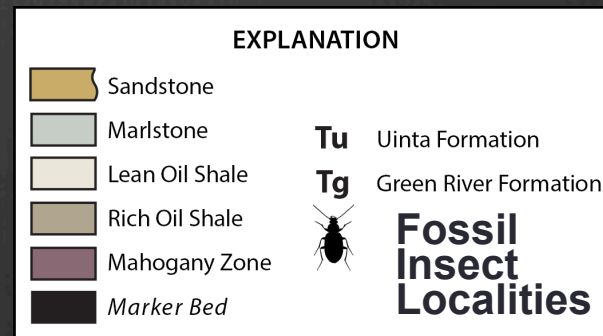
- Diptera
- Coleoptera
- Hymenoptera







Modified from Zachos et al. (2001)



Cashion & Donnell (1972); Donnell (2010); Duncan (1997); O'Sullivan & Hail (1987); Smith et al. (2008)

Focal Taxa

Order Coleoptera

Carabidae (ground beetles)

Staphylinidae (rove beetles)

Curculionoidea (weevils)

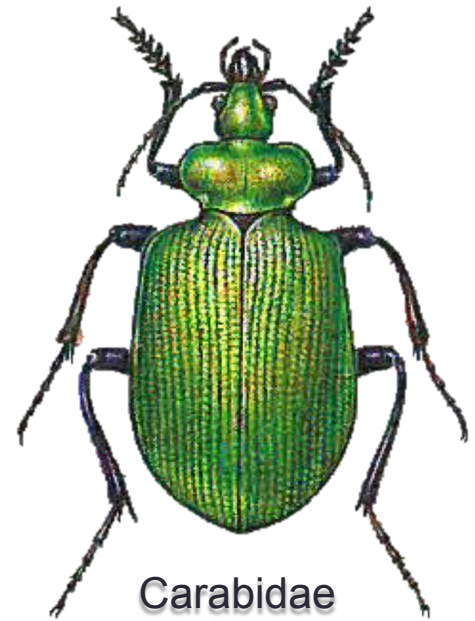
Chosen for

taxonomic diversity

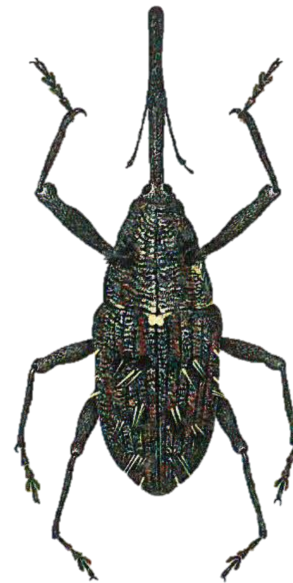
ecological affinities

relative abundance

dispersal potential



Carabidae

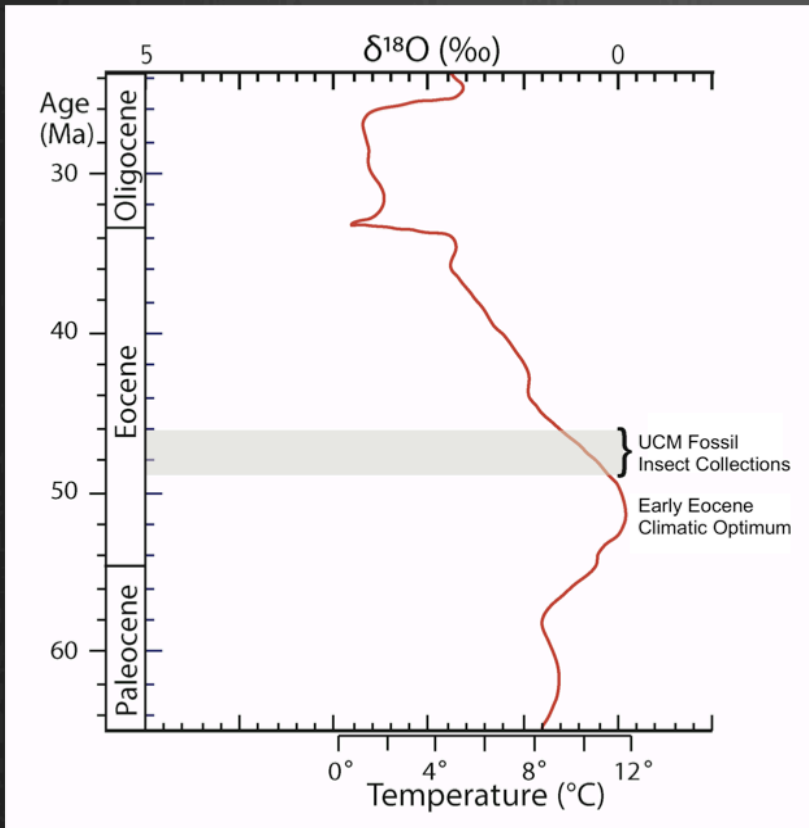


Curculionoidea



Staphylinidae

Predictions

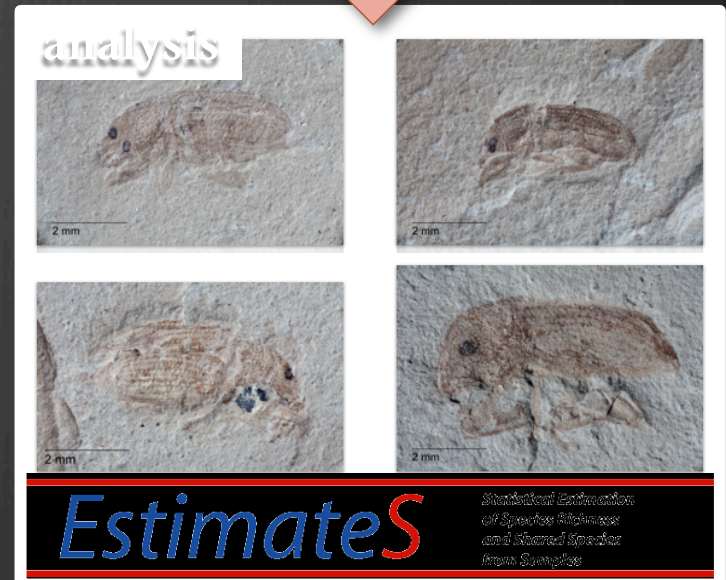


Decrease in species richness

Shifts in relative abundance

**Compositional changes
(turnover)**

Imaging & Analysis



Results Summary

Imaged Specimens

Locality	Samples	Coleoptera Imaged	ID'ed to morphospp.
Upper	51	737	191
Lower	39	1356	389
Total	90	2093	580

Observed Morphospecies

Locality	Carabids	Staphylinids	Weevils	Total S _{obs}
Upper	16	16	27	59
Lower	24	22	34	80

Sampling Effort

Observed species

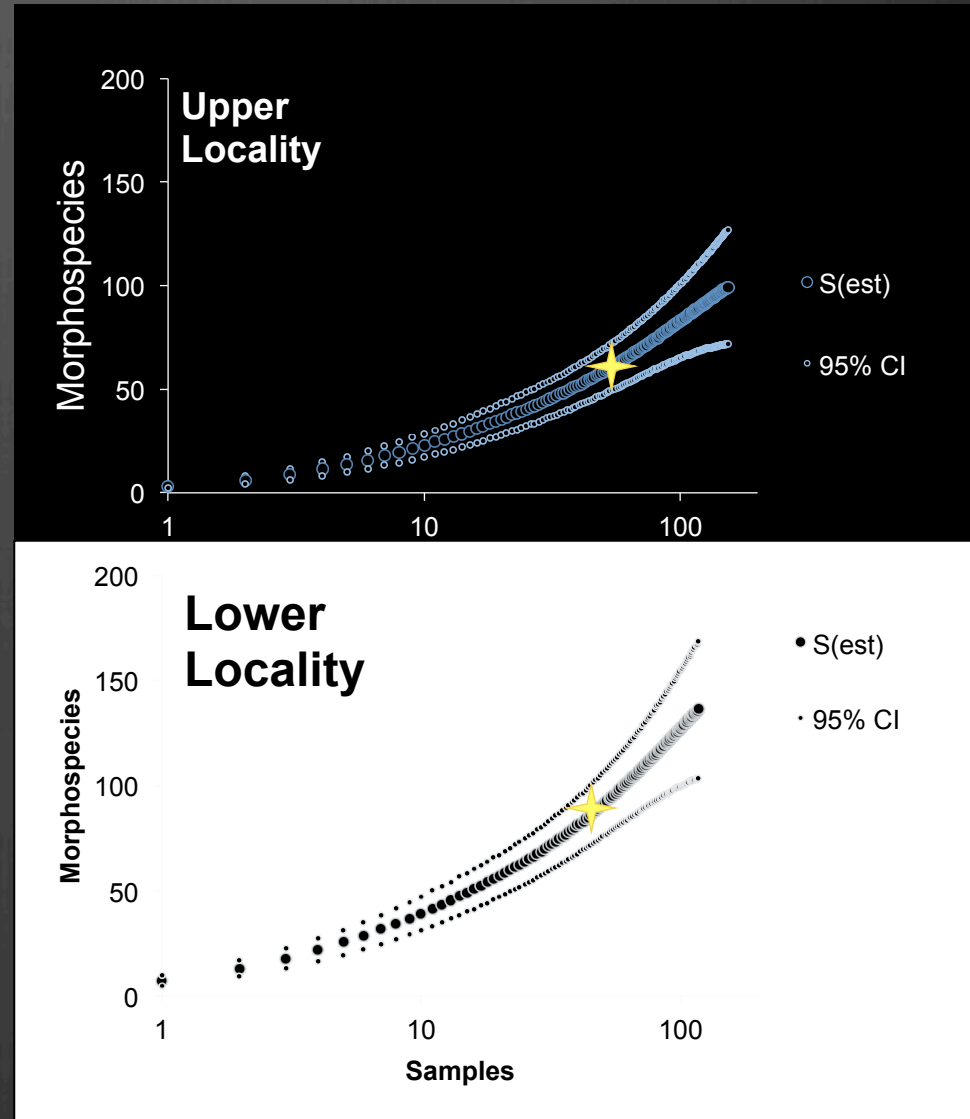
UPPER: 51 samples/59 spp

LOWER: 39 samples/80 spp

How complete is sampling for each locality?

Estimated species

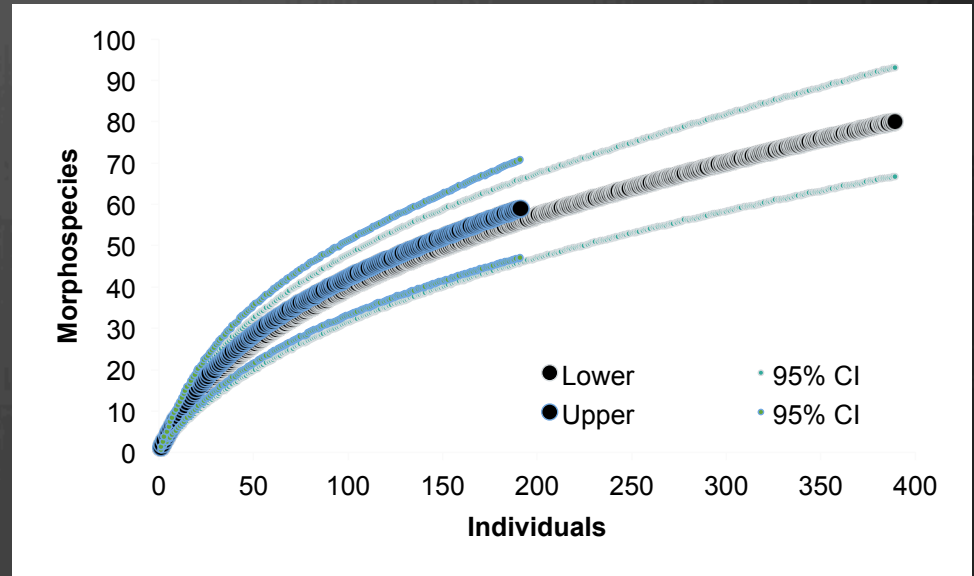
Sample-based rarefaction:
S(est)



Richness

As global climate cooled, did the # of spp. change?

- All beetles pooled by locality
- Individual-based rarefaction

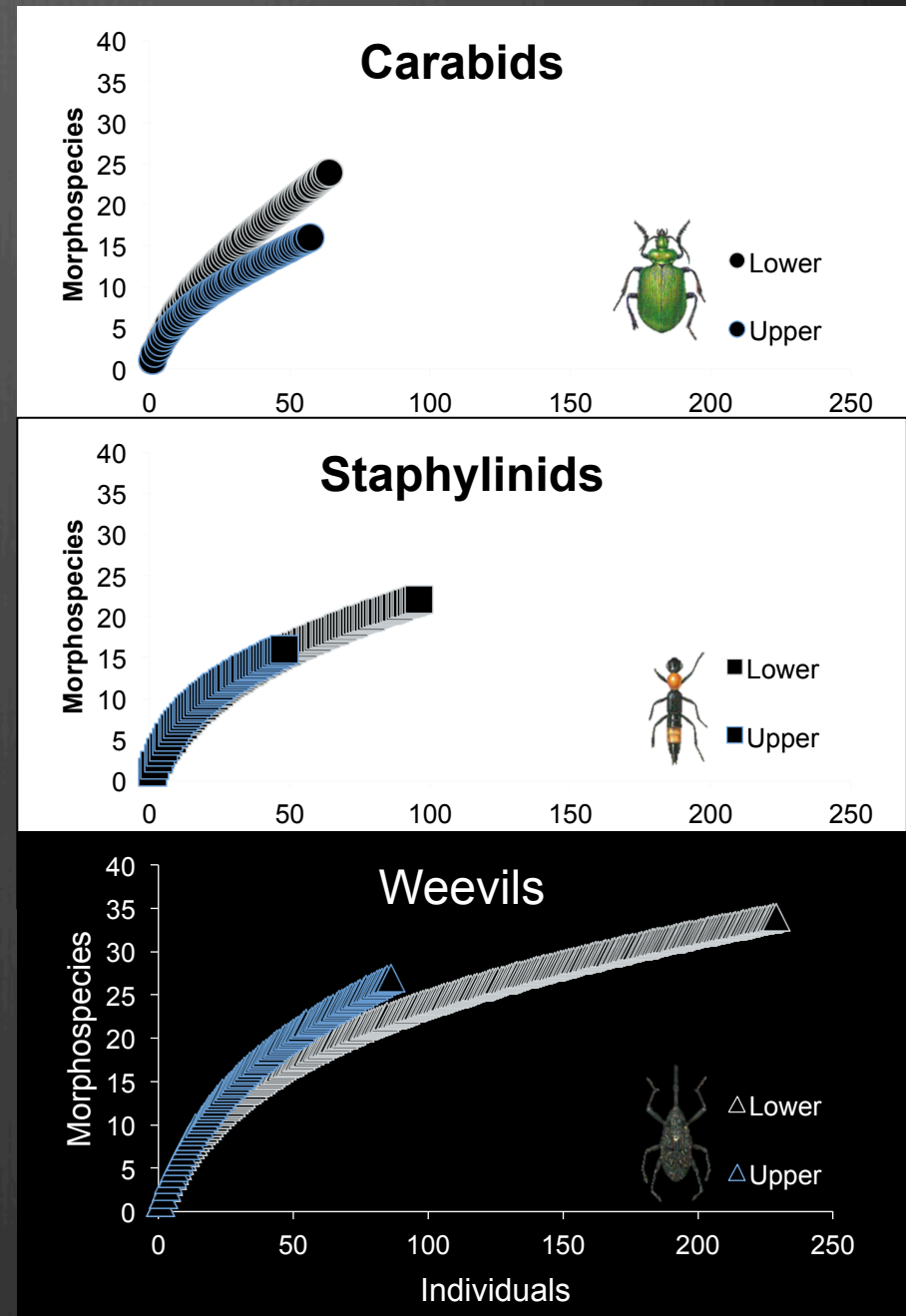


Total richness did not decrease.

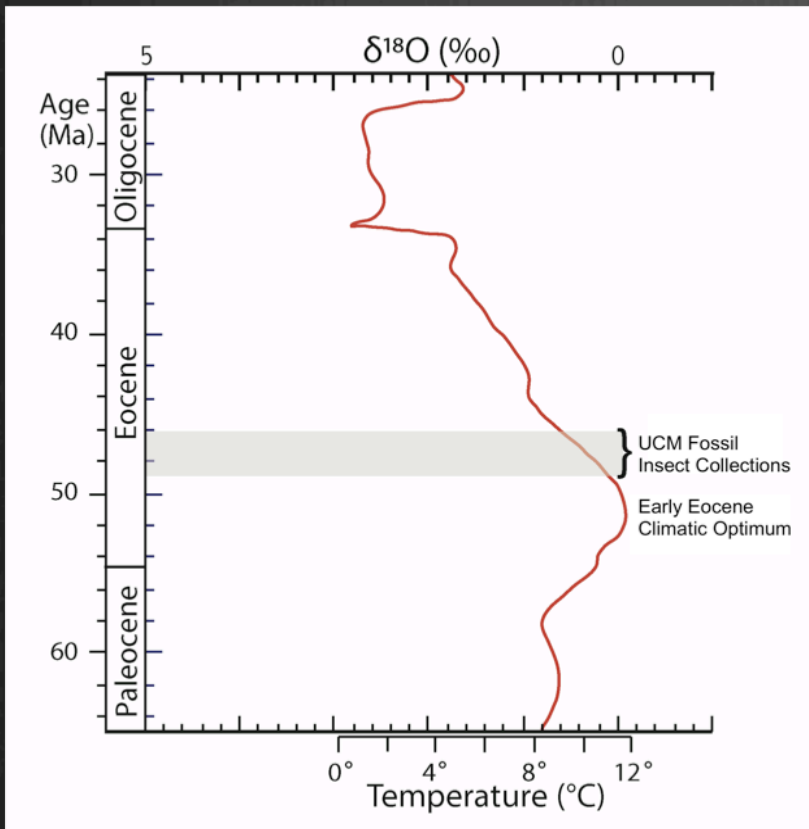
Focal Taxa

*Carabidae, Staphylinidae,
& Curculionoidea*

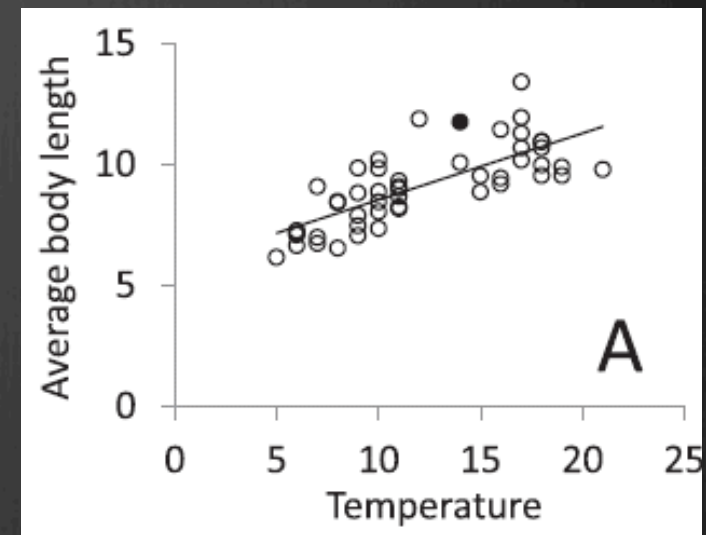
- Some taxon-specific directionality
- Compositional shifts
- Do predators shift more quickly than herbivores?



Predictions



Decrease in body size.



Original article

Latitudinal trends in body length distributions of European darkling beetles (Tenebrionidae)

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^aWater Ecology Team, Department of Biotechnology and Biosciences, University of Milano Bicocca, Piazza della Scienza 2, 20126 Milan, Italy

^bAzorean Biodiversity Group (CITA-A) and Platform for Enhancing Ecological Research & Sustainability (PEERS), Universidade dos Açores, Dep. Ciências Agrárias, Angra do Heroísmo, Terceira, Açores, Portugal

^cDipartimento di Biologia Ambientale, Università degli Studi Roma Tre, Viale G. Marconi 446, 00146 Rome, Italy

^dChair of Ecology and Biogeography, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, Lwowska 1, 87-100 Toruń, Poland

Body Size

- 🎬 Image J
- 🎬 Elytron area

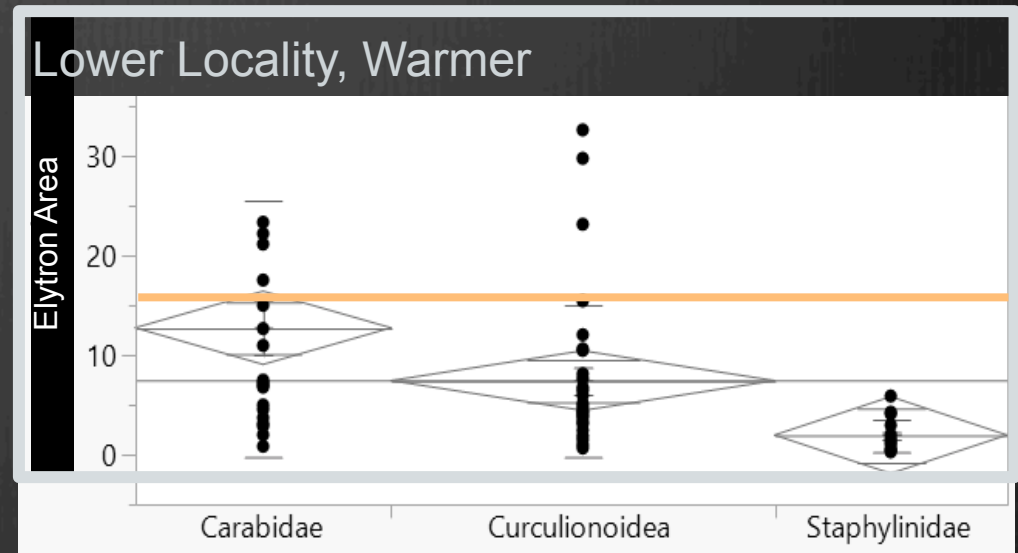
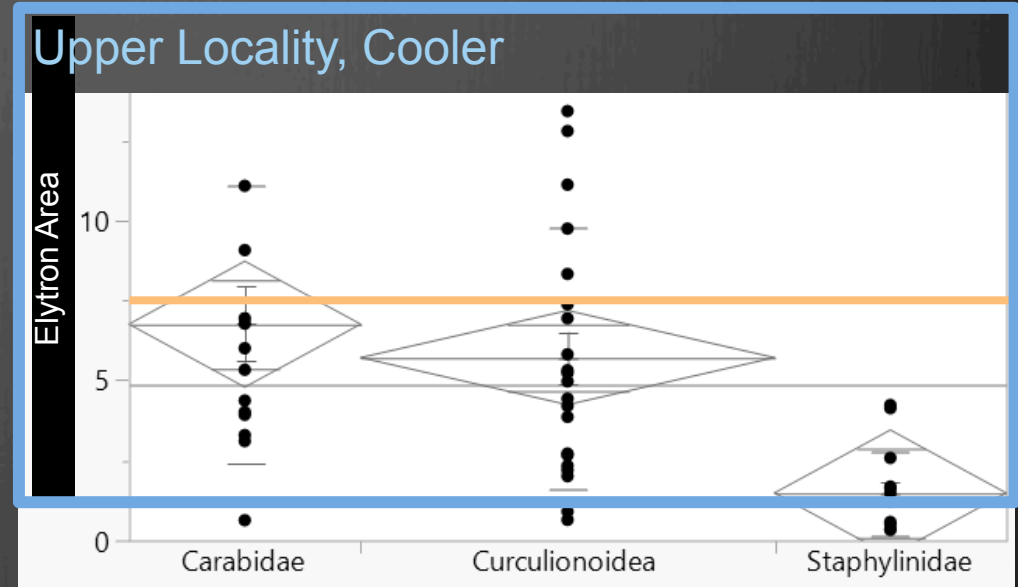


e.g. Gardner et al. (2011), Hunt & Roy (2006), Fattorini et al. (2013)

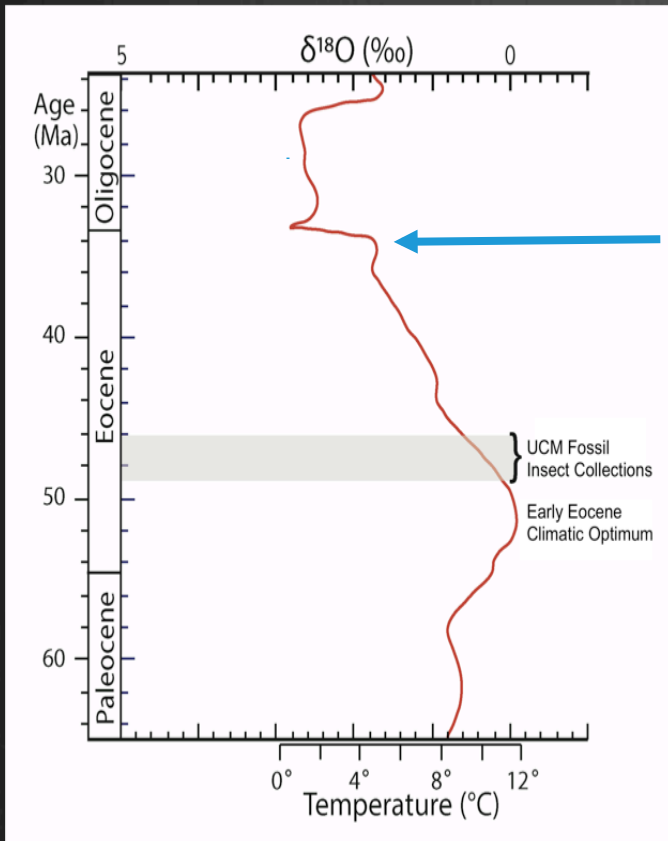
Body Size

- 🎬 **Elytron (wing) measurements**
Mean body size ↓ 30%

- 🎬 **ANOVA**
site $P = 0.0408$
family $P < .0001$



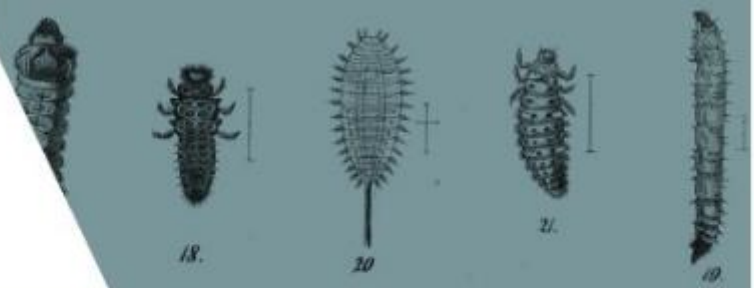
Body Size



Now working to digitize Florissant specimens

Prediction: body size will continue to decline





News

Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections
Annual Meeting

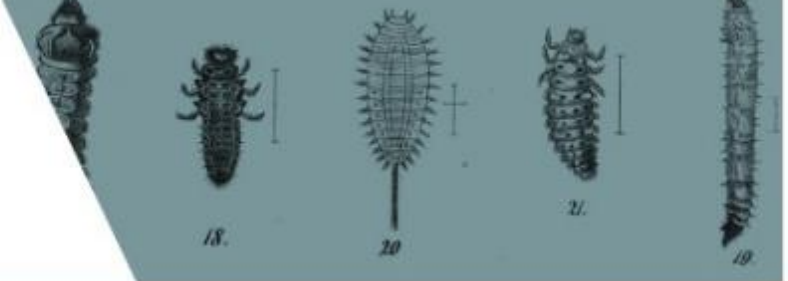
[More](#)



Featured Fossils

undet. Hexapoda (YPM IP 584656)





6292 SPECIMEN RESULTS 



SOURCE: FOSSIL/MODERN: FOSSILS HAS MEDIA: HAS MEDIA



YPM IP 223880
Urogomphus eximius



YPM IP 454215
undet. Zygoptera



YPM IP 794004
undet. Zygoptera



YPM IP 793713
undet. Vespidae



YPM IP 793298
undet. Vespidae



YPM IP 454356
undet. Trichoptera



YPM IP 454362
undet. Trichoptera



YPM IP 454362
undet. Trichoptera

FILTER BY

COMMON NAME

- Ants
- Ants, bees, and wasps
- Ants, bees, narrow-waisted hymenopterans, and true wasps
- Aphids
- Arthropods
- Bee fly
- Beetles
- [and 57 more](#)

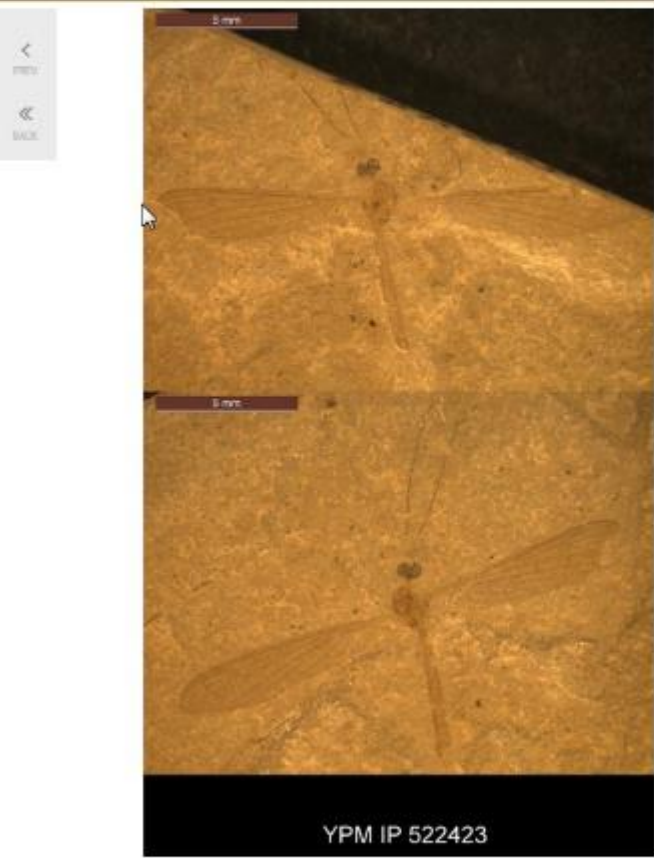
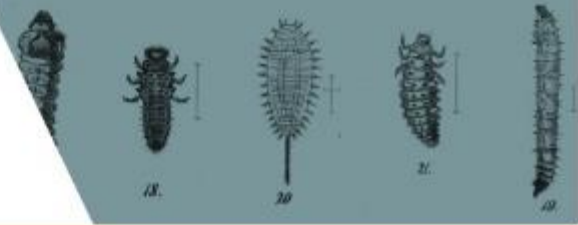
GENUS

- Acrocera
- Actea
- Anthracothremma
- Anthrakoris
- Aphaenogaster

CONTINENT

- Europe

BROWSE



undet. Tipulidae; feather on slab with
True Flies, Mosquitoes and Gnats
YPM IP 522423
Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History

TAXONOMY

Animalia > Arthropoda > Insecta > Diptera > Tipulidae > Family

LOCALITY

North America > USA > Colorado > Garfield County > N end of Radar Dome



- ADD TO ASSIGNMENT
- COMMENTS (0)
- SHARE

MAP

MEASURE

COMMENT

fossilinsects.colorado.edu

