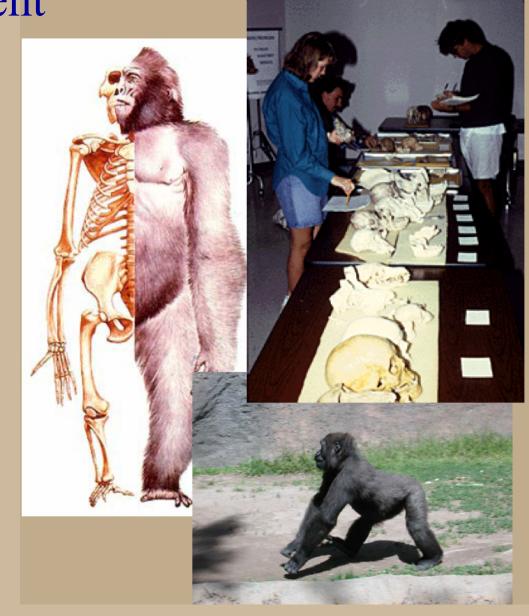


Database vs Interactive Teaching and

Learning Environment

- "Hands on" teaching and learning
- Scientific method
- Data collection
  - Skeletal elements
  - Assessing behaviors
- Quantification and hypothesis testing
- Instantaneous feedback

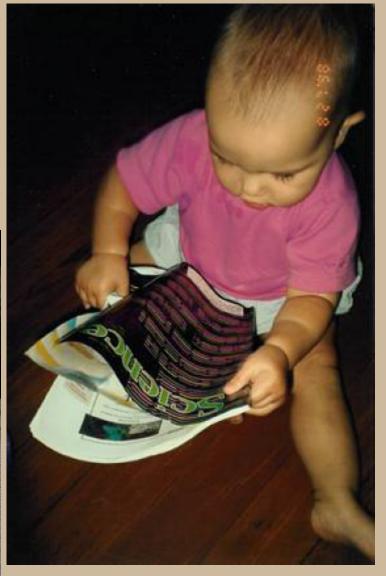




Population of diverse learners,

from the K...





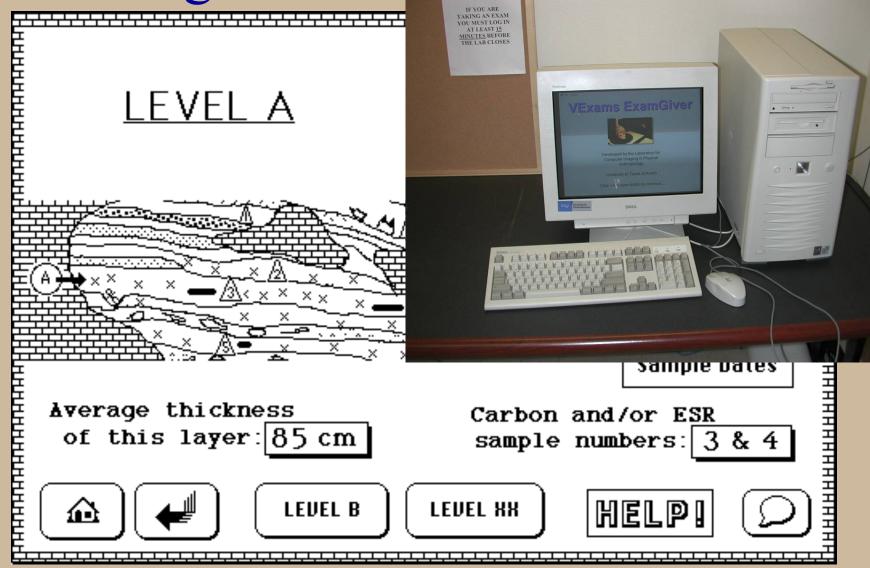
to the grey.

Digital Challenge: how to make the methods, data, and analysis process available and accessible

• Combine the best of the teaching methods with the newest of the and rethink the basic assumptions of knowledge discovery and transfer

• Transform what is perceived to be the computer interface into an interactive learning tool where the user is in the control seat

Learning Modules: 1980s...



Apple HyperCard: late 1980s

# Development and Delivery

- 2-D and 3-D data capture and rendering
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  - eForensics.info
  - eFossils.org
- Repurposing basic data
  - Laptops and handhelds
  - eSkeletons kids' portal
  - 3-D printouts at varying scales
- Evaluation
  - Vexams and testing lab



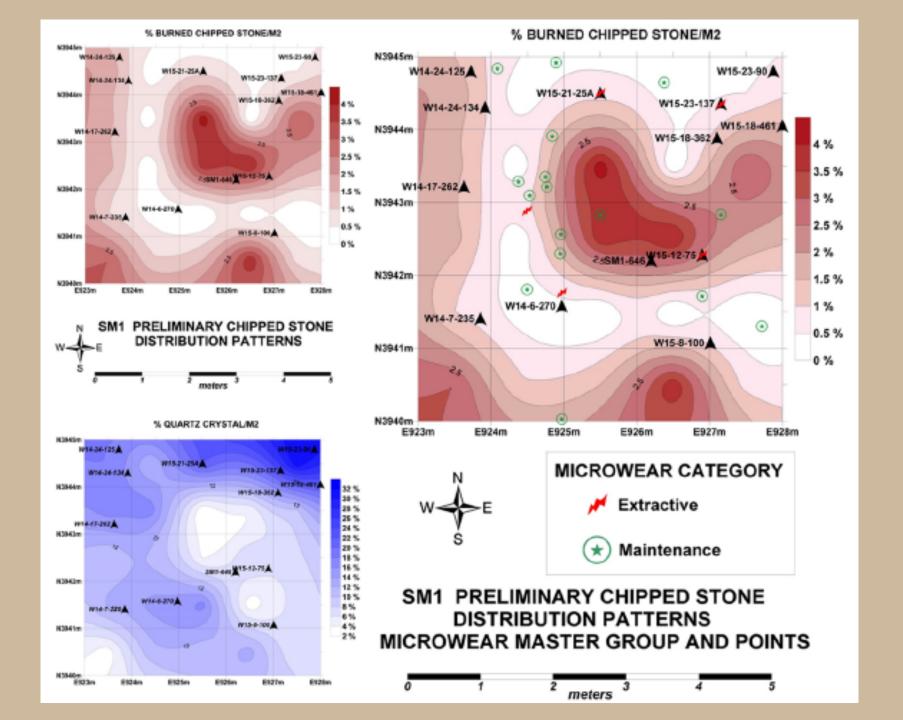
# Data Acquisition

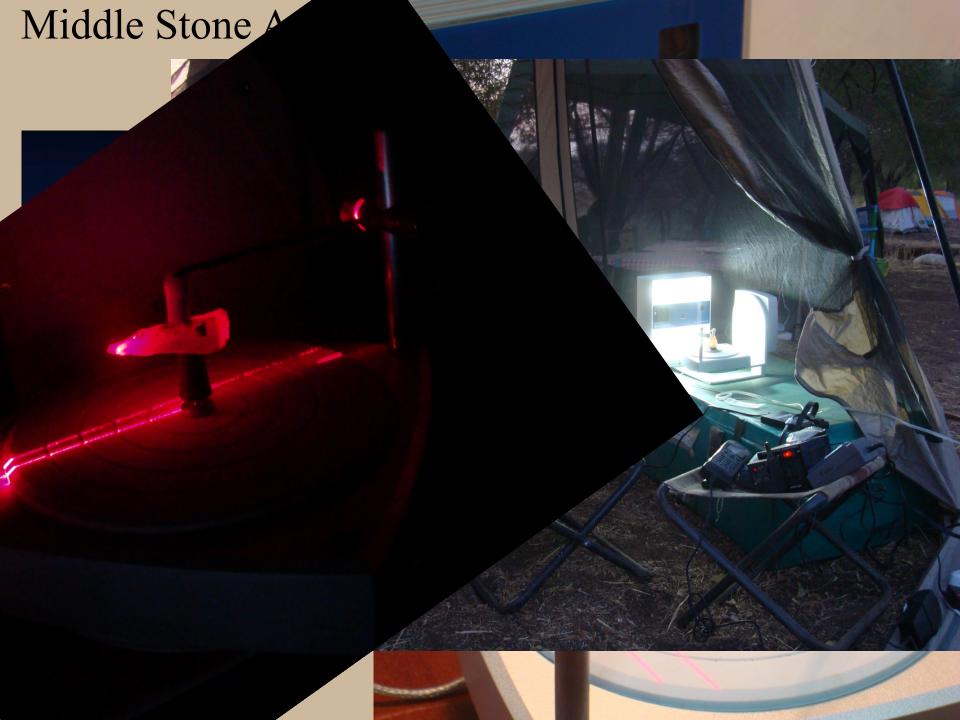
The University of Texas
High Resolution
X-Ray CT Facility



Minolta surface scanning





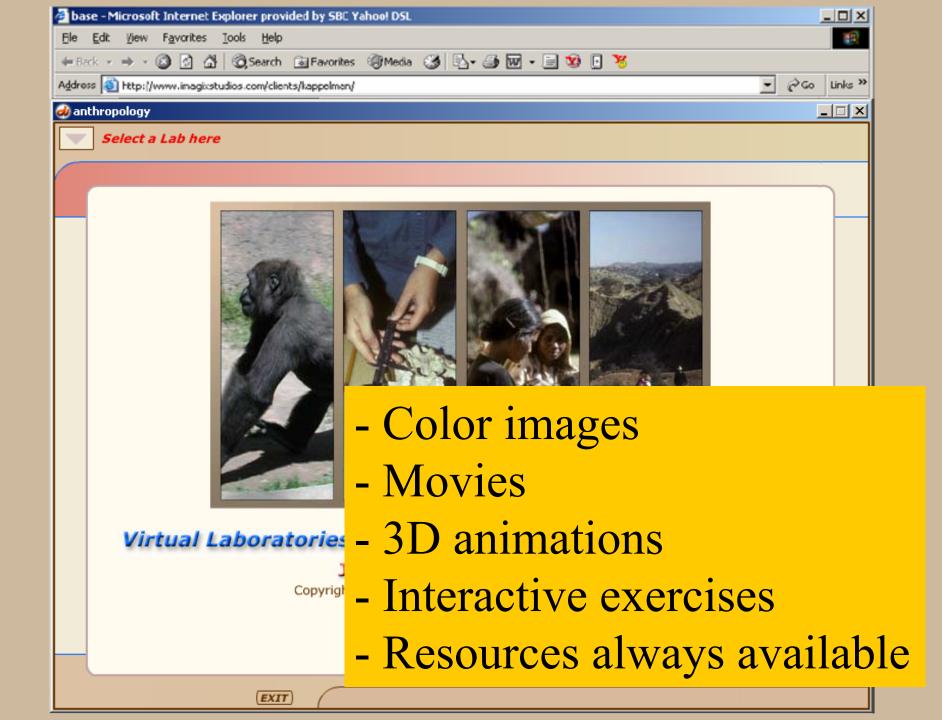


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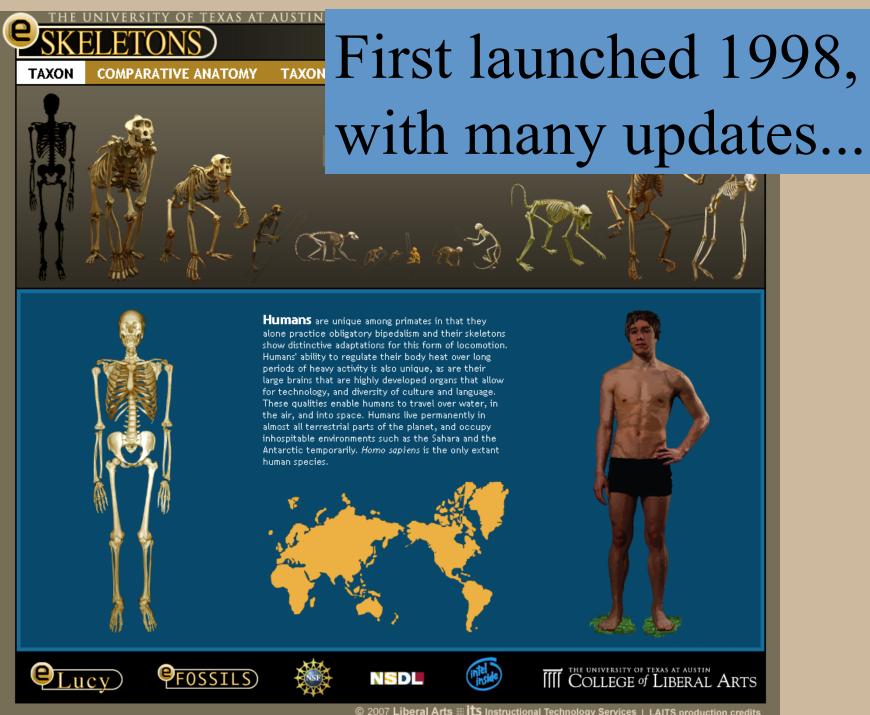




## Development and Delivery

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### Lucy

# First launched 2008 meet Lucy



eLucy is a website that will help you to learn about the world's most famous fossil. Lucy, a member of the species Australopithecus afarensis, who lived 3.2 million years ago. Lucy was discovered in 1974 in Ethiopia, and she is unique because over 40% of her skeleton was recovered, making her one of the most complete australopithecine fossils ever found. This website provides activities and lessons that will help you to learn about Lucy's place within the history of human evolution. Some activities are online, but others can be completed offline. After studying Lucy, you can investigate other aspects of human evolution at eFossils.org. You can learn more about the human and primate skeleton at eSkeletons.org.

Lucy began her public tour of the United States in 2007 in the exhibit, "Lucy's Legacy: the Hidden Treasures of Ethiopia."

### COMPARE LUCY

Visitors can view individual bones from Lucy and compare her bone morphology with the anatomy of chimpanzees and modern humans. Just select an element to get started.

### STUDENTS > Activities

This section contains crosswords, puzzles, life-size printouts and other activities to help students learn more about Lucy and human origins.

### TEACHERS > Lessons

This section is a collection of lessons and suggested activities that may be used to supplement science classes focusing on human evolution and human origins.

About eLucy

FAQ

Glossary

Links



eSkeletons

### First launched 2011

eFossils.org a collaborative website and community database for the study of human evolution



Sites ▼ Species ▼ Comparative Anatomy Catalog Resources ▼ Forums ▼



### Old Feet. New Site.

Foot bones from Burtele suggest a hominin with an opposable big toe lived in Ethiopia 3.4 Ma. Image @The Cleveland Museum of Natural History via LiveScience.



#### Red Deer Cave Fossils

Descriptions of fossils from Southwest China have sparked new debate about human evolution in Asia. Photo by Darren Cunroe (via LiveScience).



#### Denisovian DNA

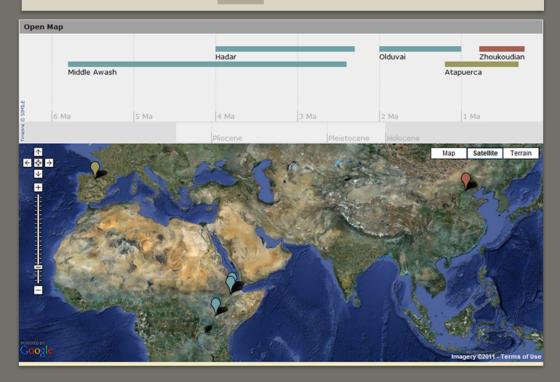
From a finger bone and a molar, researchers have mapped the genome of newly discovered extinct hominins who lived 30,000 ears ago. View the results here.





### **Explore Lucy**

Learn more about one of the most famous fossils ever found: the 3.2 million year old fossil of "Lucy", a nearly complete fossilized skeleton from the species Australopithecus afarensis. View more of her morphology in the Bone Viewer, or visit eLucy to compare her anatomy with that of a modern human and a modern chimpanzee.

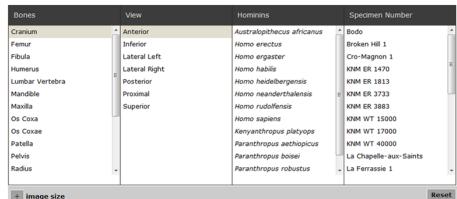


### Navigation

- In The News link
- Time line
- Map
- Pull-down menus
- e.g.: Sites
  - Hominins
  - Archaeology
  - Fauna
  - Paleoecology
  - Bibliography and links



### Comparative Anatomy



+ image size

Male



H. erectus





Unknown



Unknown



P. boisei

Unknown

Unknown













H. erectus

Male

Unknown



Skhul V

H. sapiens

Male

Unknown



H. ergaster

Male





Sts 5 A. africanus Undetermined Adult



La Chapelle-aux-Saints H. neanderthalensis Unknown Adult



Cro-Magnon 1 H. sapiens Unknown Adult



H. rudolfensis

**Young Adult** 

Unknown



P. robustus

Male

Adult

Female







K. platyops

Unknown

Adult



P. aethiopicus

Unknown

Adult



H. hal

Unkno

Adu













A. africanus

Adult

H. neanderthalensis

Unknown

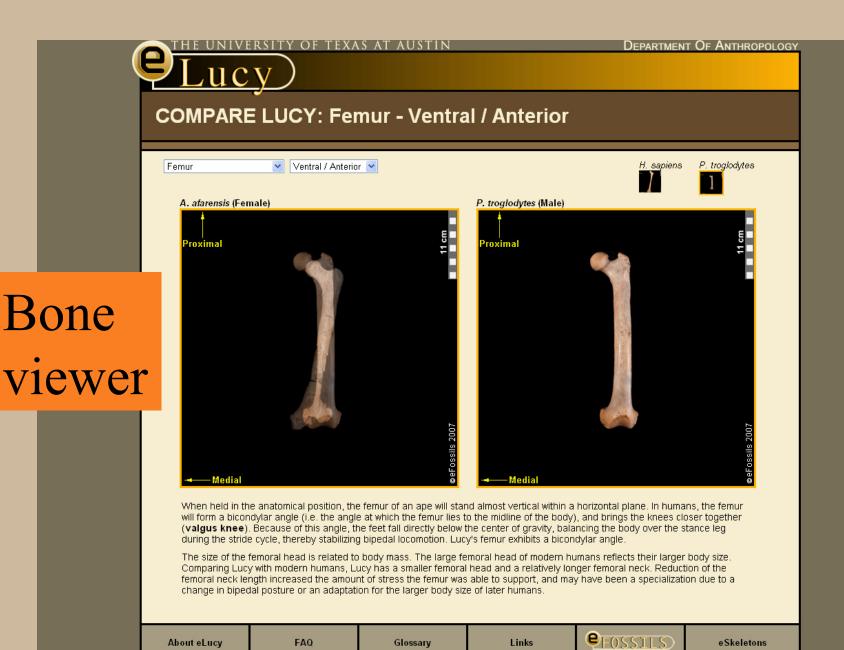
Adult



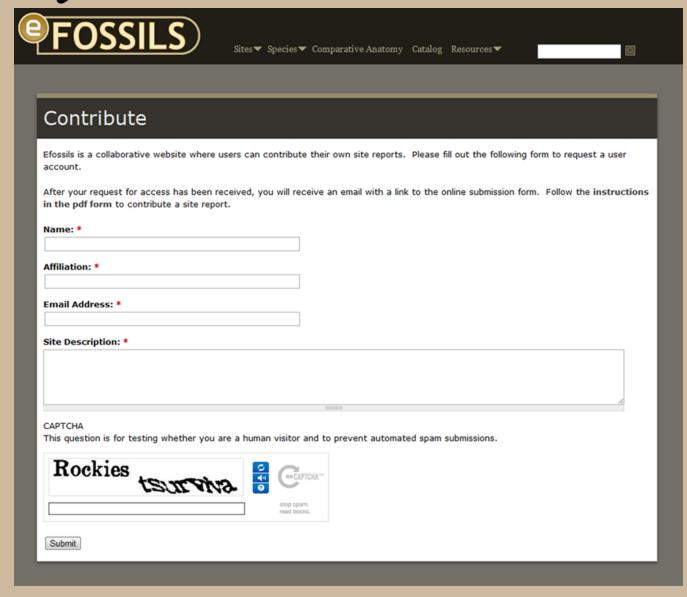




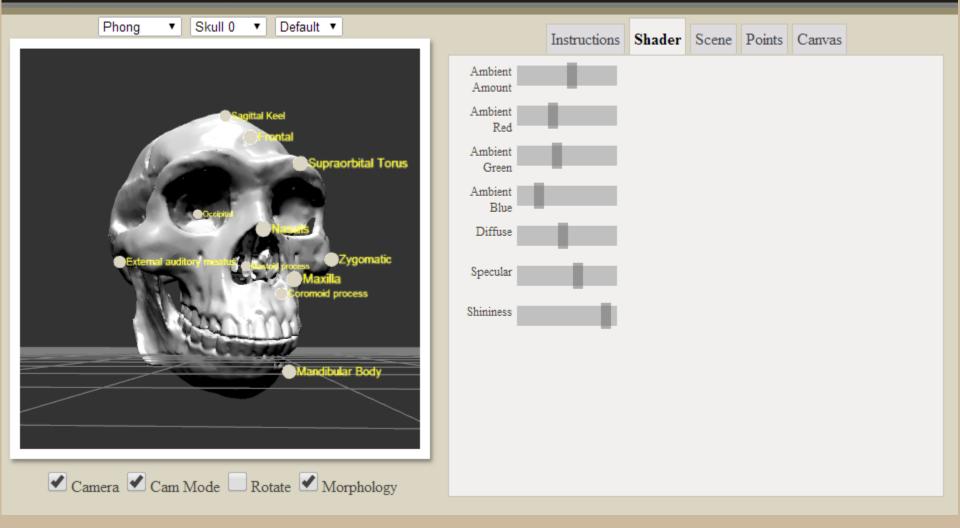
Neanderthal 1 H. heidelbergensis H. neanderthalensis Unknown Adult

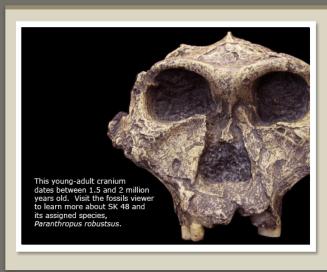


## Community website: add a site









#### Recent News

13 March 2013: Key differences in the in the brains of Neadnerthals and modern humans...(Proceedings of the Royal Society B)

15 Nov 2012: As reported in Science, Neanderthals and Homo sapiens may have inheritied use of spear points from an earlier ancestory...

3 Oct 2012: A recently discovered juvnile skull may hold clues as to when early humans began including meat as a regular part of their diet. Read the article in PLOS.

past news

#### Discussions

Australopithecud sediba was recently suggested as a possible ancestor to early Homo (4 replies).

AL666 should not be assigned to homo habilis as the majority of the traits used to identify the specimen as Homo habilis are also seen in australopiths.

Early human acnestors radiated out of Africa a little less than 2 Ma, according to the most recent data. However, little is know as to what affected these prehistoric migrations...

more discussions

**Open Map** Hadar Olduvai Zhoukoudian Middle Awash Atapuerca 6 Ma 5 Ma 4 Ma 3 Ма 1 Ma Pleistocene

eFossils Production Credits

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

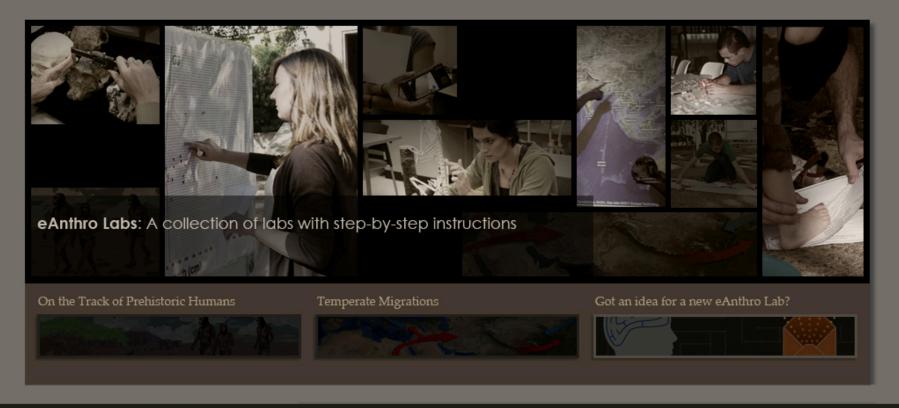
**ⅢLiberal Arts** 

eFossils is a collaborative website in which users can explore important fossil localities and browse using this site or have any other questions, please feel free to contact us.

Funding for eFossils was provided by the Longhorn Innovation Fund for Technology (LIFT) Award from the Research & Educational Technology Committee (R&E) of the IT governance structure

eAnthro Digital Libraries List





DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN



eAnthro Labs is a digital database of community run laboratory exercises. Anyone insterested in a particular hypothesis may contribute to an existing lab or propose one of their own.

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### eAnthro Digital Libraries





PFOSSILS



**@SKELETONS**)



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### eAnthro Digital Libraries





PFOSSILS



**@SKELETONS**)



FOOTPRINTS FOUND at Laetoli, Tanzania, in 1976 that date to 3.7 million years ago are among the most spectacular fossil discoveries because they record a moment in time when many different animals walked through wet volcanic ash leaving behind their tracks. Among these animals were several prehistoric humans who belonged to the species Australopithecus afarensis, a small brained, bipedal hominin that lived in East Africa from about 4 to 2.8 million years ago. Their footprints were preserved when the ash dried and hardened, and was covered by another layer of volcanic ash.

The Laetoli Trackways offer a unique opportunity to explore how scientists study the behaviors of fossil organisms because the tracks, quite literally, record a snapshot of how Au. afarensis walked. The trackways also permit us to take measurements of both foot length and stride length of these individuals; however, other interesting information about this species, its height for example, is unknown.

Can we use the relationship between foot length and stride length versus height in living humans to estimate the stature of these fossil humans? If you look at the people around you, you'll note that there is a general relationship between foot length, stride length, and height: shorter people generally have shorter feet and take shorter strides, while taller people have longer feet and take long strides. This general relationship can be evaluated by measuring a large sample of people and, if the relationship (or correlation) is strong, it can be used to estimate or predict the height of Au. afarensis.

Try it yourself. You can measure and evaluate the correlation between foot length and stride length versus body height, and then use these data to estimate the height of the Laetoli hominins.

e-Fossils Production Credits

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

IIILiberal Arts

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

### eAnthro Labs

Anthro Labs is a collaborative website in which participants can upload their own data to explore a hypothesis. If you have any problems using this site or have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

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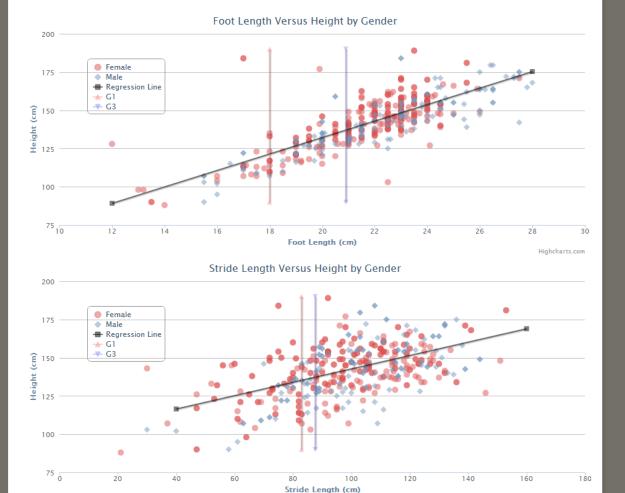
Highcharts.com

Lab Home Instructions My Data Sets Graph Data About the Math Share Photos Download Datasheet

### Trackways Exercise On the Track of Prehistoric Humans

When the measurements are graphed, you will see a trend in the data that correlates the relationship between foot length and height, and stride length and height. Note that individuals with longer strides and longer feet appear to be taller than those individuals with shorter feet and shorter strides. The foot length and stride length of the Laetoli footprints can be measured and plotted as well. From this data, an estimate can be made for the height of the individuals who made the tracks at Laetoli, answering the question, "How tall were the australopiths?"

view ALL published data sets | view prehistorictrackways.gmail.com's published data sets | Filter Data | See who's contributing





Collaboratorium: some problems require participation of the field

eAnthro Digital Libraries

PANTHRO LABS

FORENSICS)

PFOSSILS

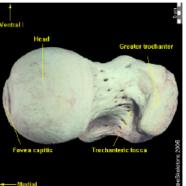
**PLUCY** 

**@SKELETONS** 

# Human Osteology Guide, mastered in Adobe Acrobat Pro Extended with 3D embedded objects

The femur is the proximal bone of the hindlimb. It is the largest bone in the human body. The femur articulates proximally with the acetabulum of the os coxa to form the hip joint. Distally, the femur articulates with the tibial condyles to form the knee joint. Click on the bone at right to enable the interactive 3D viewer. Use your mouse and the toolbar to rotate, zoom, and pan the image.





Proximal View



Distal View

#### Proximal Femur

The proximal femur is dominated by its massive, nearly spherical head. The articular surface of the femoral head is disrupted by the fovea capitis, an excavated depression in the otherwise smooth surface. The head is connected to the rest of the femur by its neck. Two roughed trochanters on the proximal femur provide important muscle attachment sites. The greater trochanter projects superiorly from the dorsal surface of the proximal tibia. The gluteus medius and gluteus minimus muscles take origin here and serve as critical hip stabilizers during walking. Further distally, several major hip flexors take origin from the lesser trochanter. The two trochanters are united by an intertrochanteric crest on the dorsal surface of the proximal femur and an intertrochanteric line on the ventral surface.

#### Distal Femur

The distal femur bears two large articular condyles which rest on the corresponding condyles of the tibial plateau. The broader lateral condyle is separated from the narrower, more curved (in distal view), medial condyle by a broad depression known as the intercondylar fossa. The medial condyle projects further distally such that the shaft tilts laterally when the condyles are set upon a flat surface (e.g. the tibial plateau). The two condyles merge ventrally as the patellar surface, an articular facet for the patella. The medial epicondyle and lateral epicondyle sit just proximal to the condyles, where they provide attachment sites for the collateral knee ligaments. The lateral epicondyle is separated from the lateral condyle by the popliteal groove.

# Human Osteology Guide, mastered in Adobe Acrobat Pro Extended with 3D embedded objects







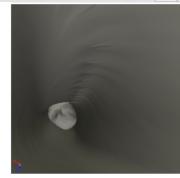


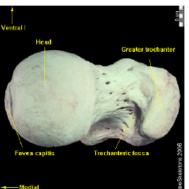






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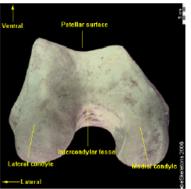




Proximal View

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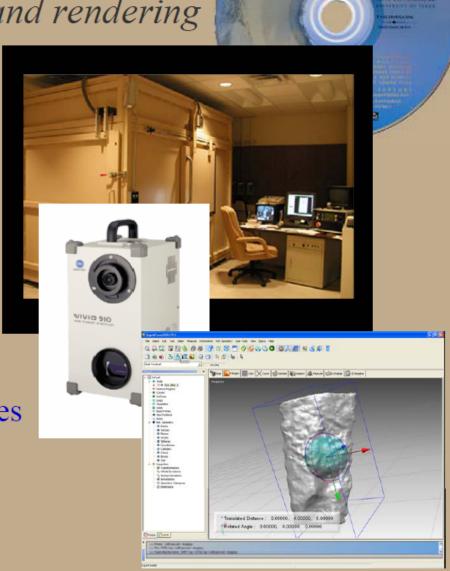
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  - Vexams and testing lab



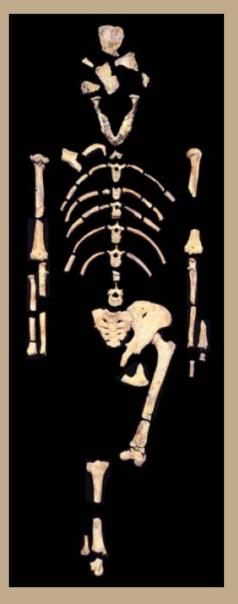
# 3-D printouts at varying scales

- Files of 3-D scans available for downloading by users
  - Engineering modeling
  - Health care professionals and students
- eFossils and the Lucy Exhibit
  - Lucy's tour of the U.S.









### Possibilities of New Technology



Human hand study set

- Create more resilient print-outs of carpal bones for osteology students

- Allows for 3D Rendering of Internal Structures:
- Sagittal cross-section of human cranium

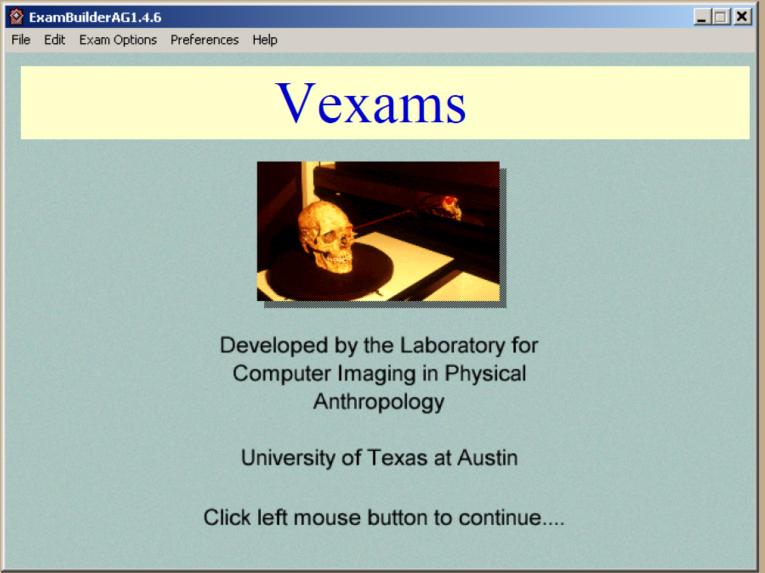


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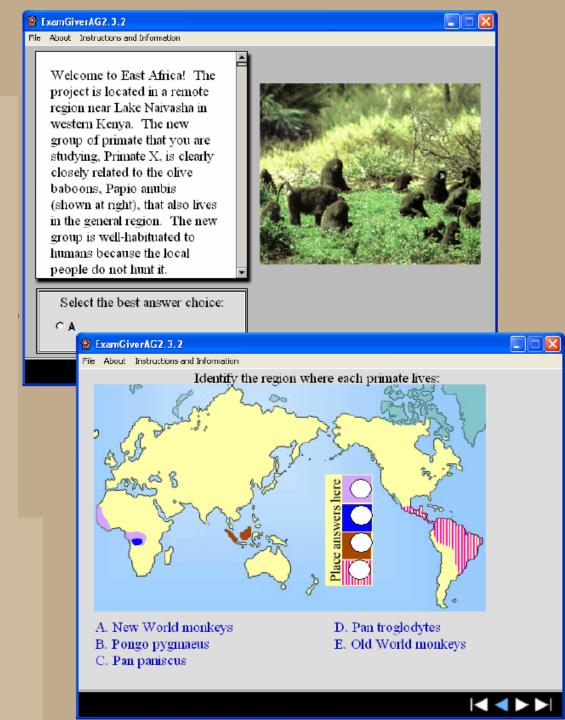


# Vexams: an interactive multimedia computer-based evaluation program

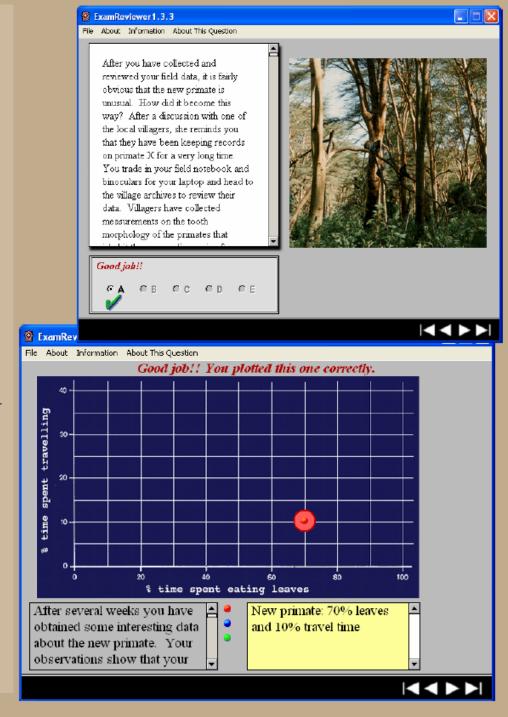


### **VExams**

- Integrate media
- Content drawn from full range of course content
- Integrate content with
  - Multiple choice
  - Matching
  - T/F
  - Fill-in
  - Interactive questions

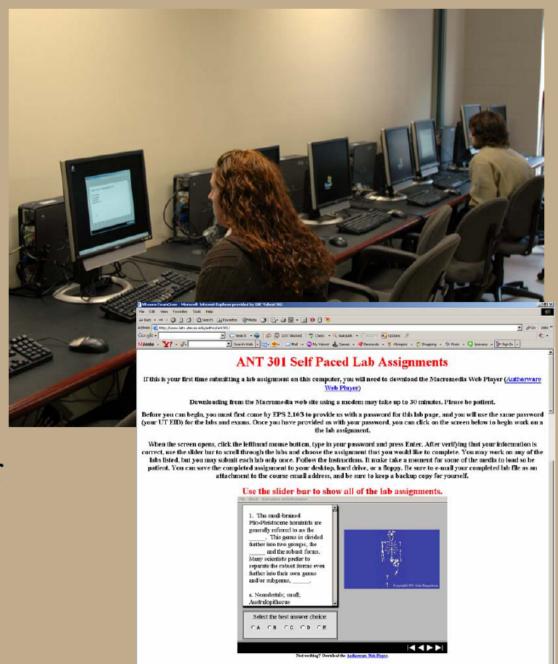


- Fixed number of questions
  - Random
  - Fixed
  - Unique but uniform exam
- Grade calculated automatically at end of exam
- Exam review
- 24/7 testing
- Centralized testing facility
  - Fill-in
  - Interactive



# Testing Facility

- ID checked and proctored exams
- One time or many times for highest score, better understanding
- Timed, or not
- Web-based for low or no (review) credit
- Initial support from Intel and Microsoft



Use the slider bar to show all of the lab assignments

### Acknowledgments

- Thanks to Ann Molineux for today's invitation
- Funding from National Science Foundation and UT (College of Liberal Arts, Longhorn Technology Fund), Intel, and Microsoft
- LA ITS staff including especially Adrienne Witzel
- Undergraduate and graduate students

