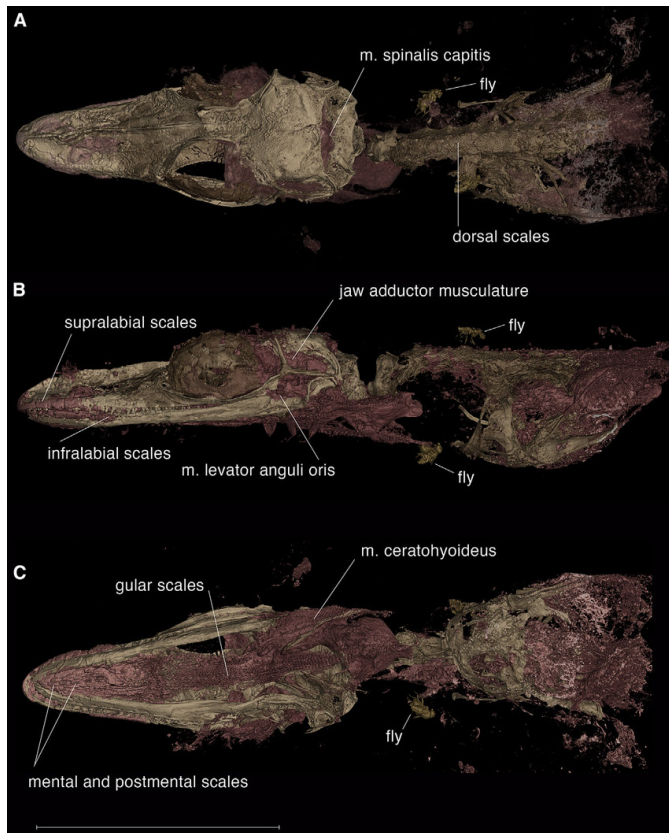


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Oculudentavis naga (GRS-Ref-286278) displaying the superb preservation of bone and soft tissue (A) Dorsal; (B) lateral; (C) ventral views. Scale bar represents 10 mm. Diptera associated with the lizard skeleton were identified as Phoridae, Platypezidae, Ceratopogonidae, or Brachycera (Empidoidea). See also Figures S1-S7 and Data S1.

[Source publication](#)



Unusual morphology in the mid-Cretaceous lizard *Oculudentavis*

Article

Full-text available

Jun 2021

● Arnau Bolet · ● Edward L Stanley · ● Juan Diego Daza · [...] · ● Susan E. Evans

Oculudentavis khaungraae was described based on a tiny skull trapped in amber. The slender tapering rostrum with retracted narial openings, large eyes, and short vaulted braincase led to its identification as the smallest avian dinosaur on record, comparable to the smallest living hummingbirds. Despite its bird-like appearance, Oculudentavis showed...

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Contexts in source publication

Context 1

... is a second Myanmar amber specimen preserving a skull of smaller size to that of HPG-15-3 and a partial postcranial skeleton (Figures 1, 2A-2J, and S1). Like the holotype of *Oculudentavis*, it has a long rostrum, a large orbit, a short postorbital region, and a long-toothed mandible. ...

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Context 2

... ossicles (Figures 1, S4C, and S4F). In both species, the orbit contains a large ring of "spoon-shaped" scleral ossicles that supported a large eye. ...

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Context 3

... Soft tissue ([Figure 1](#) ; Data S1, Gular scales in *Oculudentavis*). Both specimens also preserve soft tissue. ...

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Context 4

... specimens also preserve soft tissue. The head and body are covered in small, granular scales, with large rectangular supralabial and infralabial scales, tiny scales covering the eyelid, and a nostril placed anterior to the midpoint of each retracted narial opening (Figures 1 and 2) in *O. naga*. There are no osteoderms. ...

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Context 5

... long shallow dentary, sharp conical teeth, low coronoid process, weak mandibular symphysis, restriction of adductor muscle origin to lateral parietal margins, and the short mandibular adductor fossa are suggestive of a weak bite force. Coupled with the long retroarticular process, for the attachment of the depressor mandibulae, this implies a feeding strategy requiring fast jaw opening but limited power-perhaps for snapping at fast-moving small insects (e.g., ants or flies; [Figure 1](#)). This would be consistent with the large eyes and tapering rostrum. ...

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Citations

Burmese (Myanmar) amber taxa, on-line supplement v.2021.1

Article

Full-text available

Jun 2021

● Andrew J Ross

This taxonomic list is a supplement to Ross (2021). It includes taxa described or recorded from the beginning of January 2021 up to th...

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Paleontology: It's a bird, it's a plane, it's Oculudentavis!

Article

Aug 2021 · [CURR BIOL](#)

● Krister T. Smith

Few animals have experienced such jarring taxonomic whiplash as has Oculudentavis, a tiny tetrapod preserved in amber. A new...

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