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Authors: DE PINNA, MÁRIO C. C., and NG, HEOK H.

Source: American Museum Novitates, 2004(3437): 1-23

Published By: American Museum of Natural History

URL: https://doi.org/10.1206/0003-

0082(2004)437<0001:TSUCIS>2.0.CO;2

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## Novitates AMERICAN MUSEUM

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY CENTRAL PARK WEST AT 79TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10024 Number 3437, 23 pp., 14 figures, 1 table

May 14, 2004

# The Second Ural Centrum in Siluriformes and Its Implication for the Monophyly of Superfamily Sisoroidea (Teleostei, Ostariophysi)

MÁRIO C. C. DE PINNA1 AND HEOK H. NG2

#### **ABSTRACT**

A well-developed second ural half-centrum is a peculiar characteristic of the caudal skeleton of certain siluriforms, not seen in other Recent ostariophysans. Although the character has been previously recorded in the literature, its exact taxonomic distribution, structure, ontogeny, and phylogenetic meaning within siluriforms are not yet determined. In this paper, the degree of development of the second ural half-centrum is surveyed across the order. The ontogeny of the relevant axial structures in the posterior region of the vertebral column is reported in representative siluriform taxa. The condition where the second ural centrum is well formed and forms a complete intervertebral joint anteriorly with the compound caudal centrum is considered derived within siluriforms, a character state homoplastic with the primitive state in more distant teleostean outgroups. Various catfishes display that derived condition, which is informative about relationships at different levels within the group. The most inclusive of those clades is the superfamily Sisoroidea, including the families Amblycipitidae, Akysidae, Sisoridae, Erethistidae, and Aspredinidae. The placement of the neotropical Aspredinidae into an otherwise exclusively Asian clade has important biogeographical implications and the structure of the second ural centrum provides additional support to that hypothesis. Based on the currently available knowledge on the relationships among catfishes, a well-developed second ural centrum is hypothesized to be a result of six different events in siluriforms.

#### INTRODUCTION

The caudal skeleton has been a rich source of taxonomically informative variation for the Teleostei and its subgroups. Numerous papers have documented and interpreted the structure of the internal supports of the caudal fin in bony fishes, both before and after

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ISSN 0003-0082

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Museu de Zoologia, Universidade de São Paulo, Caixa Postal 42594, São Paulo-SP 04299-970 Brazil. Research Associate, Division of Vertebrate Zoology (Ichthyology), American Museam of Natural History.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> School of Biological Sciences, National University of Singapore, 10 Kent Ridge Crescent, 119260 Singapore. Present address: Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA.

the advent of phylogenetic thinking (see Monod, 1968; Schultze and Arratia, 1989 and references therein). This long record of investigation has made the caudal skeleton one of the most important sources of characters for elucidating phylogenetic relationships among teleostean fishes. Lundberg and Baskin (1969) were the first to study in detail the large degree of variation in the caudal skeleton of the order Siluriformes, and found many morphological patterns diagnostic for monophyletic groups therein. Since then, caudal skeleton characters have been regularly used in studies of relationships among catfishes. Despite relatively intense research focusing on the caudal skeleton and its variations within Siluriformes, it appears to us that a number of additional potentially informative characters still await discovery in that complex.

The aim of this paper is to report on a survey of a specific part of the caudal skeleton of siluriforms, namely the degree of development of the second ural centrum  $(U_2)$ . The full development of the anterior half of that centrum, where it forms a complete intervertebral joint anteriorly and has a welldefined ossification center, occurs consistently in the adults of a few groups of catfishes, as first reported by Lundberg and Baskin (1969). This feature is unusual in siluriforms and unique among other Recent ostariophysans, yet it remains poorly understood as to its exact distribution and phylogenetic implications. Accordingly, we here conduct a comparative survey of the U<sub>2</sub> in various representatives of all siluriform families, aiming at documenting the distribution of the trait in as much detail as possible. On the basis of that, we propose that the degree of development of the second ural centrum is a welldefined character informative at various levels in the phylogeny of siluriforms.

This study started as an evaluation of the significance of the second ural centrum for the monophyly of the superfamily Sisoro-idea, defined by de Pinna (1996) to include the Asiatic catfish families Amblycipitidae, Akysidae, Erethistidae, and Sisoridae, plus the neotropical Aspredinidae. The possible affinities of Aspredinidae with Asiatic taxa has important biogeographic implications, since it is the first case of a trans-Pacific re-

lationship in South American freshwater fishes. Although a number of trans-Pacific relationships are known for the North American freshwater fish fauna, including both Recent and Fossil taxa (Grande, 1994: 68–74), no such case was known for South America. In the process of the study, taxonomic coverage was expanded to encompass the whole Siluriformes, and revealed data relevant also for understanding relationships of other subgroups within the order.

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

Comparative material representing all currently recognized families of Siluriformes was examined as cleared and stained preparations, listed in appendix 1. Representatives chosen included the genera considered primitive or basal in their respective families, whenever that information is known and specimens were available. Most specimens were prepared according to the method of Taylor and Van Dyke (1985), which stains cartilage and bone, but some were prepared previously and were stained for bone only. The embryonic specimen of Pterobunocephalus was prepared inside the egg, by puncturing the egg case before the clearing and staining procedure. Illustrations were prepared with the aid of a microvideo system attached to a stereomicroscope. Images taken by the video system were printed with a color video printer and then traced by hand, against comparison with the actual specimen. Anatomical terminology follows Lundberg and Baskin (1969) and, for terms not treated therein, Monod (1968).

#### ANATOMICAL ABBREVIATIONS

EP	epural
HS	hemal spine
$HY_n$	hypural <i>n</i>
LHP	lower hypural plate
NS	neural spine
PH	parhypural
$PU_n$	preural centrum n
$\mathbf{U}_n$	ural centrum n
UN	uroneural
UHP	upper hypural plate

ED

#### Institutional Abbreviations

AMNH American Museum of Natural History, New York

ANSP	Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia
BMNH	The Natural History Museum, London
CAS	California Academy of Sciences, San
CTID	Francisco
CMK	Collection Maurice Kottelat, Cornol
DUVC	Vertebrate Collection, Duke University,
20.0	Durham
FMNH	Field Museum, Chicago
MCP	Museu de Ciências da Pontifícia Univ-
	ersidade Católica do Rio Grande do
	Sul, Porto Alegre
MCZ	Museum of Comparative Zoology, Har-
	vard University, Cambridge
MNHN	Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle,
	Paris
MRAC	Musee Royal de l'Afrique Centrale,
	Tervuren
MZUSP	Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de
	São Paulo, São Paulo
NRM	Swedish Museum of Natural History,
	Stockholm
RUSI	South African Institute for Aquatic
	Biodiversity, formerly the JLB Smith
	Institute of Ichthyology, Grahamstown
UMMZ	Museum of Zoology, University of
	Michigan, Ann Arbor
USNM	National Museum of Natural History,

#### THE SECOND URAL CENTRUM IN SILURIFORMES AND OTHER TELEOSTEI

D.C.

**ZSM** 

Smithsonian Institution, Washington

Zoologische Staatssammlung, Munich

The ural centra in the caudal skeleton of adult teleosts are often compound structures formed ontogenetically by the fusion of autoand chordacentra precursors corresponding to multiple individual centra. It has been argued that the so-called second ural centra in adult teleosts can be formed ontogenetically in markedly different ways and are not necessarily homologous in various lineages (Schultze and Arratia, 1988). A structure identifiable as a second ural centrum  $(U_2)$  is well developed in adults of the majority of lower teleosts, and this is probably the primitive condition for the group. Such is the case in most, or at least basal members of, osteoglossomorphs, elopomorphs, clupeomorphs, and esocoids (Monod, 1968; Schultze and Arratia, 1988; Arratia and Schultze, 1992), as well as most basal fossil teleosts (Patterson and Rosen, 1977). In Recent clupeomorphs, U<sub>2</sub> is most markedly developed in Denticeps clupeoides, sister group to all other Clupeiformes and sole Recent representative of suborder Denticipitoidei. The centrum is also well differentiated in the majority of other clupeomorphs, though usually smaller in relative size than that observed in Denticeps. The degree of development of  $U_2$  is variable in most groups of lower Neoteleostei, including groups such as aulopiforms and protacanthopterygians (sensu Johnson and Patterson, 1996). A second ural centrum is not differentiated (or not independent) in adult acanthopterygians. Among ostariophysans, a well-developed autogenous second ural centrum is present in some fossil gonorynchiforms, such as Dastilbe, Tharrhias, and Parachanos (Poyato-Ariza, 1996), but not in Recent adult gonorynchiforms. Chanos has bilateral flanges extending dorsoposteriorly from its complex centrum (illustrated in Poyato-Ariza, 1996: fig. 19 and labeled "postero-lateral process of caudal terminal complex"). Topological similarities suggest that these structures may be remnants of the urostyle (sensu Monod, 1968) of a primitive U<sub>2</sub>, itself fused or greatly reduced and adpressed to the posterior margin of  $PU_1 + U_1$ . A well-developed U<sub>2</sub> is also present in some siluriforms, as detailed in this paper, but not in other otophysans.

Lundberg and Baskin (1969) recognized for the first time that a few Siluriformes have a well-developed U<sub>2</sub> as adults. In those cases, the centrum forms a normal vertebral joint anteriorly with the compound caudal centrum  $(PU_1 + U_1)$ , with a clearly recognizable conical articular surface intermediated with cartilage. Since its discovery, the presence of a well-developed U<sub>2</sub> has been considered to be of phylogenetic significance. Lundberg and Baskin observed that all other adult ostariophysans lack a U<sub>2</sub> autocentrum, and that its presence in some catfishes indicates that "the potential for its independent redevelopment has not been lost, at least in Siluriformes" (Lundberg and Baskin, 1969: 17). In light of the phylogeny currently accepted for ostariophysans (Fink and Fink, 1996) and lower teleosts (Johnson and Patterson, 1996; Arratia, 1997a, 1997b), it seems certain that the presence (or the redevelopment) of a welldeveloped U<sub>2</sub> in some catfishes should be interpreted as apomorphic. The Diplomystidae, considered as sister group to all other fossil and Recent siluriforms (Lundberg and Baskin, 1969; Grande, 1987; Arratia, 1987; Mo, 1991; de Pinna, 1998), do not have a welldeveloped U<sub>2</sub> as adults. Likewise, species of the fossil family Hypsidoridae, considered as basal siluriforms, also lack an identifiable U<sub>2</sub> (Grande, 1987; Grande and de Pinna, 1998). Finally, no instances of a well-developed U<sub>2</sub> are known in gymnotiforms, characiforms, or cypriniforms, closest relatives of siluriforms. Within Siluriformes, Lundberg and Baskin reported the presence of a well-developed U<sub>2</sub> in Helogeninae (Cetopsidae), Aspredinidae, Amblyceps (Amblycipitidae), and some Chiloglanis (Mochokidae). The authors consider that each of those have closest relatives lacking a full U<sub>2</sub>, indicating that the structure has been redeveloped four independent times in siluriforms.

The U<sub>2</sub> in siluriforms, when well developed and in adults, is always entirely fused and continuous with the upper hypural plate. No siluriforms have a U2 independent of hypural ossifications like in the primitive condition of other lower teleosts (which also include many cases of fusion). The second ural centrum in siluriforms, when present, tapers posteriorly, is fused with one or more of the upper hypurals, and does not have an articular surface on its posterior end. It should, thus, be more rigorously called a half-centrum, though for brevity in this paper it is just called a centrum. Also, it always lacks the peculiar dorsoposterior process (often tubular or semitubular) called a urostyle (in the terminology of Monod, 1968). A vestige of the urostyle may be represented by a ridge along the middorsal line of the centrum and of the associated hypural. In some aspredinids (such as Pterobunocephalus), the ridge may be quite deep anteriorly, indeed resembling an attenuated urostyle. This ridge accommodates the ventral margin of the uroneurals and seems to form a floor for the opisthural cavity. Overall, the condition of the caudal skeleton in catfishes with a well developed U<sub>2</sub> is markedly similar to that in some osteglossomorphs, such as Pantodon, Scleropages, and Heterotis (cf. Monod, 1968). Basal members of osteoglossomorphs, such as Hiodon, however, have an autogenous U<sub>2</sub> (Hilton, 2002) similar to that in basal Elopomorphs (such as *Elops*) and quite different from the siluriform condition. Some paracanthopterygians, such as percopsiforms (Rosen and Patterson, 1969: fig. 16) also have a condition similar to that in siluriforms, though there may be some question as to the actual homology of the second ural centrum in paracanthopterygians.

The well-developed condition of the  $U_2$  in catfishes can be associated with some interesting structural modifications. In some taxa, such as aspredinids and akysids, the  $U_2$  and associated upper hypural plate are extremely well developed, and are oriented nearly on the horizontal axis. In such cases, it seems like the upper hypural plate is the actual caudal-fin support, while the lower hypural plate appears superficially to be a large hemal spine. This arrangement must have important, yet unexplored, biomechanical implications in the movement of the upper lobe of the caudal fin in those fishes.

The degree of U<sub>2</sub> development in adults varies markedly among various catfish taxa. Three basic types can be recognized: *Type 1*: there is little or no trace of U<sub>2</sub> ossification. Hypural 3 (or the upper hypural plate) has no obvious proximal thickening and fits into a cavity on the posterodorsal end of PU<sub>1</sub> + U<sub>1</sub>, immediately ventral to the base of the uroneural (fig. 1). This is the condition present in most catfishes and other ostariophysans. Type 2: the proximal end of hypural 3 or upper hypural plate has a small bony thickening, often having a tight contact, or even forming an incipient articulation, but without a well-defined cartilage disk, with the posterior portion of  $PU_1 + U_1$  (fig. 2). Type 3: a well-formed, obvious vertebral centrum is attached to the base of hypural 3 or a compound upper hypural plate. This centrum has a well-defined articulation anteriorly with the posterior portion of PU<sub>1</sub> + U<sub>1</sub>, intermediated by cartilage, and a conical ossification center visible by transparency (fig. 3). In anterior view, the similarity in structure between the U2 and a normal vertebral centrum is evident (fig. 4).

Type 1  $U_2$  is present in outgroup ostariophysans, and is considered as the primitive state for catfishes. Type 2 seems to be subject to considerable degree of intraspecific vari-

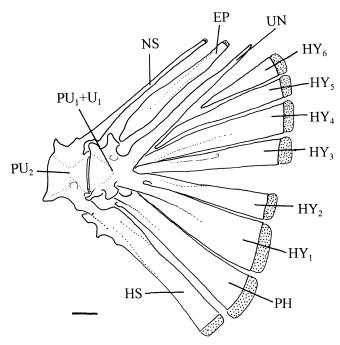


Fig. 1. Caudal skeleton of *Diplomystes mesembrinus* (Diplomystidae; MZUSP 62595, 149 mm SL). Scale bar = 1 mm.

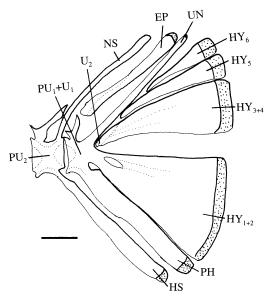


Fig. 2. Caudal skeleton of *Helicophagus* waandersii (Pangasiidae; UMMZ 186797, 77 mm SL). Scale bar = 1 mm.

ation; its delimitation as a discrete character state is difficult and we consider its phylogenetic significance to be uncertain at this point. In fact, the homology of the bony thickening at the base of the upper hypural with a ural centrum remains to be directly demonstrated by ontogenetic data. Type 3 is a condition derived within siluriforms; it seems to form a well-defined character state, with few cases of intermediate conditions and little or no relevant intraspecific variation in the samples examined. Although more in-depth studies may find a basis for considering U2 types 1, 2, and 3 as a multistate character ordered in that sequence, we do not consider that to be warranted at present. Only type 3 can currently be considered as objective evidence of relationship.

#### ONTOGENETIC DATA

The ontogenetic fate of the second ural centrum seems to differ in various catfish

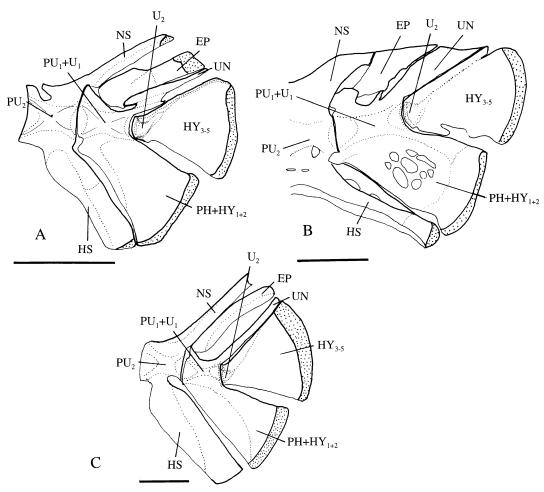


Fig. 3. Caudal skeletons in Akysidae: **A.** *Akysis recavus* (MZUSP 75128, 24 mm SL), **B.** *Breitensteinia insignis* (AMNH 58378, disarticulated adult specimen), **C.** *Parakysis grandis* (CMK 7915, 44 mm SL). Scale bar = 1 mm.

taxa. Lundberg and Baskin (1969) showed that the most common condition in siluriforms is to have a U2, or some remnant thereof, fused to the bases of hypurals 3 and 4, but noticed that in trichomycterids it is fused to the base of hypural 3 only. According to those authors, any remnants of the second ural centrum are associated with the base(s) of upper hypurals, and not with the compound centrum. Arratia (1983) confirmed that U<sub>2</sub> is fused to the base of hypural 3 in some Trichomycterinae, but argued that in Nematogenyidae it is instead fused to the posterior portion of the compound centrum. An alternative interpretation, similar to Arratia's on Nematogenyidae, was advanced by Fujita (1992) and Ichiyanagi and Fujita (1995), on the basis of observations on species of Clariidae (Siluriformes) and Cobitidae (Cypriniformes), respectively. In their view, the structure called  $PU_1 + U_1$  by Lundberg and Baskin (1969) was considered to include the second ural centrum as well (as  $PU_1 + U_{1+2}$ ). Thus, the vertebral centrum material associated with hypural 3, considered by Lundberg and Baskin to be the U<sub>2</sub>, would actually be homologous to a more posterior ural centrum (U<sub>3</sub>). This idea was not based on direct observation of fusion, but apparently inferred on the basis of the joint association of parhypural, hypural 1, and hypural 2 to a single centrum element during

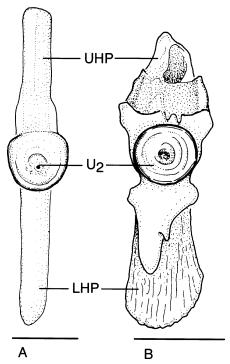


Fig. 4. Caudal skeleton in anterior view: **A.** *Parakysis grandis* (Akysidae; MZUSP 63109, 37.8 mm SL), **B.** *Agmus* sp. (Aspredinidae; AMNH 97160, disarticulated adult specimen). Scale bars = 1 mm.

ontogeny, thereby implying that this element is compound from three primitive centra. The compound nature of the teleostean U<sub>1</sub> has been suggested in the past (Nybelin, 1971) on the basis of its association with hypurals 1 and 2 in the vast majority of teleosts, fossil and Recent (Patterson and Rosen, 1977; de Pinna, 1996; Arratia, 1997b). Schultze and Arratia (1988) went further, and proposed not only that  $U_1$  was formed by fusion of two centra (as  $U_{1+2}$ ), but also that  $U_2$  was formed by fusion of three other centra (as  $U_{3+4+5}$ ). Such complex fusions have not been corroborated by other authors (Hilton, 2002), and have also not been confirmed in the material examined for this paper. While some of the individual ural and preural centra may indeed be compound in origin, evidence for that is controversial. Therefore, we prefer to maintain the terminology of Lundberg and Baskin until more direct evidence of the exact composition of the compound ural centrum in ostariophysans and other teleosts is available. We would further note that hypural 1 originates, in at least one siluriform (Fujita, 1992) and one cypriniform (Ichiyanagi and Fujita, 1995), as a basal anteroventral offshoot of the cartilaginous hypural 2, rather than as an independent element (this information disagrees with Arratia, 1997b: 309, who stated that hypurals 1 and 2 are not connected by cartilage in juvenile ostariophysans). This is perhaps also the case in juveniles of many other teleosts, where cartilaginous hypurals 1 and 2 are fused at their bases at a stage when all other hypurals are independent (cf. Monod, 1968: figs. 30, 32, 61; Patterson and Rosen, 1977: figs. 26, 28). Although separate chondrification and subsequent cartilage fusion in early development has been documented for some taxa (cf. Fujita, 1994, in the cichlid *Tilapia* and Arratia and Schultze, 1992, in the Salmonid Onchorhynchus), it seems possible that hypural 1 in many, perhaps most, teleosts is just an ontogenetic offshoot from hypural 2. If so, it should not be expected to be associated with its own centrum in the vertebral series, and the centrum that supports hypurals 1 and 2 in the majority of teleosts would indeed be a single element. In that case, the compound centrum for the parhypural plus hypurals 1 and 2 in siluriforms and other ostariophysans would not involve three or more centra, but only two  $(PU_1 + U_1)$ , as normally accepted. However, general conclusions along these lines need further information on early chondral differentiation of the elements of the caudal skeleton, not yet available for most relevant taxa.

The development of the second ural centrum in catfishes in general is still poorly documented, and current ideas are based on observations on few taxa. Ontogeny of U<sub>2</sub> in groups where it displays a type 3 degree of development is virtually unknown, in great part due to the difficulty in obtaining growth series of the relevant taxa. Juveniles of the superfamily Sisoroidea are rare in collections. For this study, we obtained juvenile sisoroid material of Gagata (Sisoridae) and Aspredo (Aspredinindae), plus late embryonic material of Pterobunocephalus (Aspredinidae). Although no growth series were available, observation of juvenile conditions is nonetheless informative about the forma-

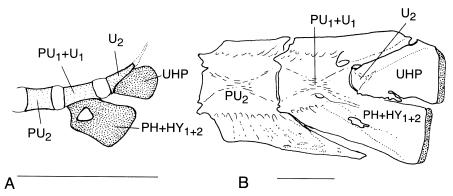


Fig. 5. Ontogenetic changes in the second ural centrum of Aspredinidae. **A.** *Pterobunocephalus* sp. (MZUSP 57208, approx. 5.5 mm SL), late embryo inside eggshell, **B.** *Pterobunocephalus* sp. (MZUSP uncat., 63.0 mm SL), adult. Heavy stippling represents cartilage, light stipling represents a thin mineralized layer, and open areas represent notochord (in A) or bone (in B). Scale bars = 0.5 mm (A) and 1 mm (B).

tion of the second ural centrum in those taxa. In the smallest specimen examined, a *Pterobunocephalus* embryo still inside an eggshell, hypurals 3 and 4 are already fused to U<sub>2</sub> (fig. 5A). Still, there is little doubt that the structure is actually a ural centrum, because it forms a continuous series with other centra anterior to it. Concomitantly, its homology with the respective centrum in adults is also obvious (fig. 5B). Similar situations are seen in later-stage juveniles of *Gagata* (fig. 6) and *Aspredo* (MZUSP 77694). The configurations in these specimens rule out

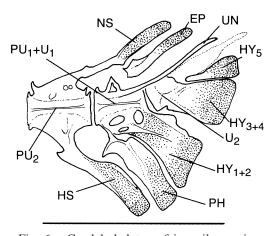


Fig. 6. Caudal skeleton of juvenile specimen of *Gagata melanopterus* (Sisoridae; MZUSP 52865, 16.0 mm SL). Stippling represents cartilage, open areas represent bone or notochord (in dotted lines). Scale bar = 1 mm.

the possibility that the structure identified as  $U_2$  might be a centrum-like specialization of the proximal part of the upper hypural complex, that is, not really a centrum, but simply a hypural modification gross-morphologically similar to a centrum in adults.

In catfishes without a well-developed U<sub>2</sub>, very little centrum material, if any, is associated with the bases of hypurals 3 and 4. In very small juvenile Trichogenes longipinnis (Trichomycteridae) examined, no ossifications can be clearly identified as U<sub>2</sub> material during the ossification of the caudal skeleton. At the earliest stage available (fig. 7A), the limits between centra can be seen as membranous separations, and the region corresponding to U<sub>2</sub> is independent of any hypurals. It remains so as ossification progresses (fig. 7B). Whatever little U<sub>2</sub> material that gets ossified seems to be incorporated into the posterior region of the compound centrum and/or the mesial surface of the uroneural. The bone thickening at the base of hypural 3 in adults is entirely composed of hypural material, since an evident thickening is already evident in the cartilaginous phase of the hypural, before the onset of ossification. The same situation holds for juvenile *Clarias* gariepinnus (NRM 15319). Thus, the generally held assumption that U<sub>2</sub> is fused to the bases of hypurals 3 (trichomycterids) or 3 and 4 (all other catfishes) does not seem ontogenetically corroborated in the taxa exam-

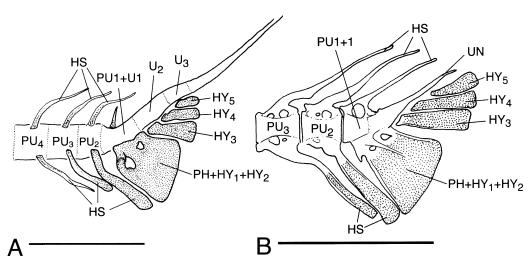


Fig. 7. Development of the caudal skeleton of *Trichogenes longipinnis* (Trichomycteridae; MZUSP 80933). **A.** at 9.1 mm SL, **B.** at 18.2 mm SL. Stippling represents cartilage, open areas represent membrane (A) or bone (B). Scale bars = 0.5 mm (A) and 1 mm (B).

ined. The fate of  $U_2$  material may not be uniform among various catfish taxa.

Also, we found only little evidence of fusion between  $PU_1$  and  $U_1$ . The region corresponding to the two centra before the onset of ossification is always continuous in all juveniles examined. On the other hand, a larger juvenile of *Trichogenes* (fig. 7B) shows a tenous line of suture at the expected limit between  $PU_1$  and  $U_1$  which was not evident before ossification (fig. 7A). Perhaps fusion of the precursors of the two centra occurs very early in development, yet beginning of ossification still reveals a vestige of the primitive separation between them. In adults, fusion is again complete.

### THE SECOND URAL CENTRUM IN SILURIFORM FAMILIES

We were able to examine several taxa not available to other authors and to verify that  $U_2$  forms a full vertebral joint anteriorly in several additional catfish taxa not previously recorded. Appendix 1 summarizes our results, with a list of the material examined and an indication of the degree of development of the second ural centrum for Siluriforms (types 1, 2, or 3; see above). Below we provide a discussion on each of the catfish families known to have at least one instance of a well-developed  $U_2$ .

#### AKYSIDAE

A previously unreported fully developed U<sub>2</sub> forming an intervertebral joint is present and very conspicuous in all akysids examined, and is the primitive condition for the family (fig. 3). In all cases, the second ural centrum is very well developed, and almost the same size as the anterior half of the second preural vertebra. Also, the centrum and associated upper hypural plate are positioned nearly along the longitudinal axis of the vertebral column.

#### **AMBLYCIPITIDAE**

Lundberg and Baskin (1969) reported some variation in U<sub>2</sub> development in this family, with Liobagrus showing a well-developed condition and Amblyceps lacking it. Our observations confirm theirs. In *Lioba*grus reini, three of the four specimens examined show a very conspicuous full development of U<sub>2</sub> (fig. 8), while a fourth specimen shows a rather reduced condition. In *Amblyceps*, the centrum is poorly developed. We did not confirm the observations by Chen (1994: 111) that the U<sub>2</sub> is fused to the compound centrum in Amblyceps. In the specimens we examined, the two are clearly separate, and the U<sub>2</sub> is reduced. However, there seems to be some variation in this fusion

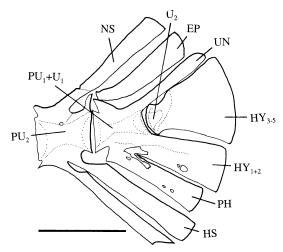


Fig. 8. Caudal skeleton of *Liobagrus anguillicaudatus* (Amblycipitidae; AMNH 11069, disarticulated adult specimen). Scale bar = 1 mm.

among amblycipitids, since Lundberg and Baskin (1969: 17) reported that 3 out of 29 specimens examined of *Liobagrus anguillicaudatus* showed fusion between U<sub>2</sub> and PU<sub>1</sub> + U<sub>1</sub>. In *Xiurenbagrus*, sister group to all other amblycipitids (Chen, 1994; Chen and Lundberg, 1995), U<sub>2</sub> is reported as well developed and forming a full intervertebral joint with the compound centrum (Chen, 1994: 111; Chen and Lundberg, 1995: 790). The presence of a well-developed U<sub>2</sub> in *Xiurenbagrus* and *Liobagrus* indicates that this is the plesiomorphic condition for amblycipitids, and that the reduced state in *Amblyceps* is a reversal.

#### **A**MPHILIIDAE

A well-developed U<sub>2</sub> was previously unreported in amphiliids. We found the structure forming an anterior intervertebral joint in *Leptoglanis brevis* (fig. 9) and *Zaireichthys zonatus*. Similar yet slightly less well-developed conditions are seen in the very similar *L. rotundiceps* and in *L. camerunensis*. All other amphiliids examined, including *L. xenognathus*, lack a well-developed second ural centrum.

#### ASPREDINIDAE

Most aspredinids examined have a well-developed  $U_2$  (fig. 10). In some, such as Ag-

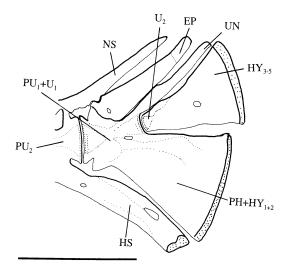


Fig. 9. Caudal skeleton of *Leptoglanis brevis* (Amphiliidae, UMMZ 199990, 29 mm SL). Scale bar = 1 mm.

mus (fig. 10A), the limit between  $U_2$  and the compound centrum is partly covered by additional ossification, but still clearly visible. In representatives of the tribe Hoplomyzontini examined here (Ernstichthys and Hoplomyzon), the whole portion posterior to the compound centrum is heavily covered by thick superficial ossification, and a separate U<sub>2</sub> is not evident. Considering that all other aspredinid representatives have a well-developed U<sub>2</sub>, and further that hoplomyzontins are not basal in the family (Friel, 1994), it seems that the absence of an evident U<sub>2</sub> in that tribe is secondary, and that the primitive condition for the family Aspredinidae is to have a welldeveloped second ural centrum. It is likely that the condition in hoplomyzontins is a result simply of additional ossifications in the caudal skeleton, and that the normal aspredinid condition is present but obscured in members of that tribe. Intermediate conditions such as that in Agmus demonstrate that such a configuration is likely. The condition in the basal undescribed genus which is the sister group to all other aspredinids (referred to as "Pseudobunocephalus" by Friel, 1994) seems to be similar to that in hoplomyzontins (cf. Friel, 1994: fig. 27). The condition of U<sub>2</sub> in such cases should be examined in juvenile specimens, before the onset of superficial ossification on the caudal skeleton. Lundberg

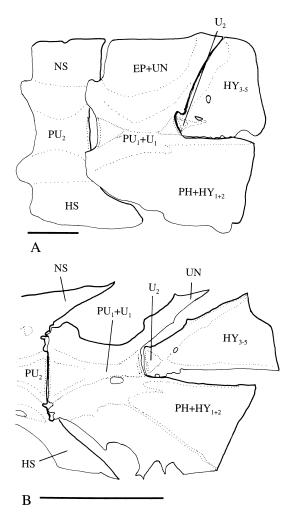


Fig. 10. Caudal skeletons in Aspredinidae: **A.** *Agmus* sp. (AMNH uncat., disarticulated adult specimen), **B.** *Platystacus cotylephorus* (USNM 87834, approx. 100 mm SL). Scale bar = 1 mm.

and Baskin (1969: 17) reported that  $U_2$  is developed in all aspredinids except one species of *Bunocephalus*, which they refered to as *Bunocephalus* sp. That specimen is actually a representative of *Scoloplax* (Scoloplacidae), which was yet undescribed in 1969 (cf. Bailey and Baskin, 1976: 2).

#### AUCHENIPTERIDAE

A type 3 U<sub>2</sub> was reported in *Entomocorus* by Ferraris (1988: 58), and considered autapomorphic for the genus. Among auchenipterids examined for this study, we also found

a similar situation in the specimens examined of *Asterophysus*. The two genera are separated by a number of nodes in the current tree of auchenipterid relationships (Ferraris, 1988; cf. de Pinna, 1998), and the two occurrences of the derived condition must be optimized as convergent. Schultze and Arratia (1989: fig. 10A) also illustrated a seemingly functional  $U_2$  in a juvenile specimen identified as *Centromochlus* sp. Since the condition has not been seen in adult specimens of the genus examined here, we presume the centrum regresses with growth in that taxon.

#### CETOPSIDAE

This family comprises two subfamilies, Cetopsinae and Helogeninae (de Pinna and Vari, 1995), previously considered as separate families. The presence of a well-developed U<sub>2</sub> in helogenines was reported by Lundberg and Baskin (1969: 17, fig. 7a). The phrasing of their description led Vari and Ortega (1986: 5) to consider that Lundberg and Baskin reported a totally autogenous U<sub>2</sub> for Helogenes marmoratus, that is, separate from both the compound centrum and from the upper hypural plate. Vari and Ortega, after examining the caudal skeleton of over 100 specimens of all species of *Helogenes*, concluded that the specimen illustrated and described by Lundberg and Baskin was abnormal, and that Helogenes has a U2 fused to the upper hypural plate, as observed in aspredinids, amblycipitids, and mochokids. Vari and Ortega, however, did not examine the specimen studied by Lundberg and Baskin (AMNH 13332; their fig. 7a cites AMNH 3332, which we consider to be a misprint). We examined that same specimen and confirm that its U<sub>2</sub> is fused to the base of the upper hypural plate formed by fused hypurals 3 and 4, as described and illustrated by Vari and Ortega (1986: 5, fig. 1), rather than totally autogenous. In our view, the confusion stems from an ambiguous interpretation of the following passage in Lundberg and Baskin (1969: 17): "In all [groups that have a separate U<sub>2</sub> autocentrum] except *Helogenes* the U<sub>2</sub> autocentrum is fused to a single compound upper hypural element." It seems that Lundberg and Baskin meant that in *Heloge*-

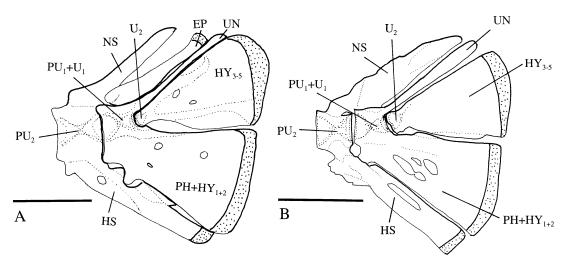


Fig. 11. Caudal skeletons in Erethistidae: **A.** *Conta conta* (UMMZ 208632, 43 mm SL), **B.** *Erethistes pusillus* (UMMZ 208697, 39 mm SL). Scale bar = 1 mm.

nes the  $U_2$  is fused only to the base of the compound hypural 3 + 4 (hypural 5 is free in the genus), rather than to a single upper hypural plate formed by the fusion of hypurals 3, 4, and 5, as in all other taxa with a well-developed  $U_2$ .

#### **ERETHISTIDAE**

Previously unreported for the members of this family, a well-developed condition of  $U_2$  is present in all erethistids examined (fig. 11). In *Conta* (fig. 11A), the centrum is re-

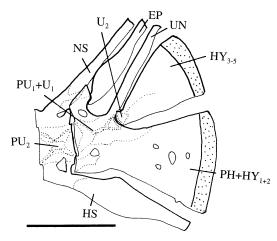


Fig. 12. Caudal skeleton of *Chiloglanis polypogon* (Mochokidae; USNM 304264, 29 mm SL). Scale bar = 1 mm.

duced in overall size, but still forms a full joint anteriorly with  $PU_1 + U_1$ .

#### MOCHOKIDAE

A well-developed  $U_2$  centrum was found in some, but not all, species of *Chiloglanis* by Lundberg and Baskin (1969). We have confirmed that variation in our sample. The four specimens examined of *C. polypogon* (fig. 12) all have a full  $U_2$ , while it is poorly developed in all three of *C. disneyi*. In all other mochockids examined, there is extensive secondary ossification that fuses the upper hypural plate with  $PU_1 + U_1$  and obscures the condition of the  $U_2$ . Examination of growth series is needed to investigate the actual condition of the structure in other mochokids.

#### **PIMELODIDAE**

Among pimelodids examined, a well-developed U<sub>2</sub> was observed only in *Pseudopimelodus raninus* (fig. 13) but not in the other species available. It has not been observed in *P. roosevelt* and *P. villosus* examined by Lundberg and Baskin (1969). Because a full U<sub>2</sub> is also absent in *Microglanis*, the closest relative of *Pseudopimelodus* (Lundberg et al., 1991), we conclude that the U<sub>2</sub> seen in *P. raninus* is autapomorphic for the species, or synapomorphic for a very restricted subclade of pseudopimelodines.

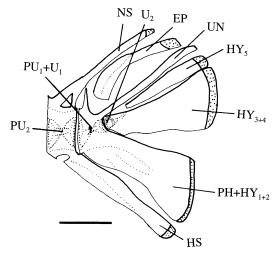


Fig. 13. Caudal skeleton of *Pseudopimelodus* raninus (AMNH 55370, disarticulated late juvenile specimen). Scale bar = 1 mm.

#### Sisoridae

A full intervertebral joint of U<sub>2</sub> has not been previously reported in Sisoridae, although we found the condition in most taxa of the family examined (fig. 14). In Glyptothorax, some species have the fully developed U<sub>2</sub>, such as G. major, while in others, the centrum is somewhat reduced yet clearly forming a full anterior joint with the compound centrum. In Bagarius, the U2 is not developed and corresponds to type 1, the primitive state for catfishes. This is the only such case in Sisoridae. The condition of U<sub>2</sub> in Sisor is currently unobservable, because the specimens examined have extensive additional ossification over the compound centrum and proximal portion of hypurals, obscuring the actual condition of underlying structures. Considering the currently accepted hypothesis of sisorid interrelationships (de Pinna, 1996), we regard a well-developed U<sub>2</sub> forming a full intervertebral joint with the compound centrum to be the primitive condition for the family, with some species of Glyptothorax having a somewhat reduced condition and *Bagarius* having a secondarily reduced U<sub>2</sub>.

#### PHYLOGENETIC IMPLICATIONS OF THE PRESENCE OF A WELL-DEVELOPED U<sub>2</sub>

The presence of a type 3 second ural centrum in the cases discussed above can be mapped onto phylogenetic schemes currently accepted for various siluriform clades. It also provides additional evidence for some unsettled or controversial questions on the relationships of different subgroups of catfishes, at widely divergent levels of generality.

The most important phylogenetic implications of the second ural centrum are in the superfamily Sisoroidea, specifically the inclusion of the neotropical Aspredinidae therein, the only non-Asiatic taxon in the group. The first time aspredinids were aligned with Asiatic taxa was in Ferraris (1989), who proposed the family as the sister group to Akysidae. Chen (1994) placed aspredinids as the sister group to asiatic sisoroids (Sisoridae—including Erethistidae-Amblycipitidae, and Akysidae). Friel (1994), on the other hand, suggested that aspredinids were more closely related to doradoids (comprising the neotropical families Doradidae and Auchenipteridae-including Centromochlidae and Ageneiosidae—plus the African Mochokidae) than to any other siluriforms. De Pinna (1996) hypothesized that aspredinids were related to sisoroids, as the sister group to Erethistidae (members of which were formerly included in Sisoridae). The evidence for the monophyly of the suborder so far includes three relatively homoplasyfree synapomorphies (de Pinna, 1996): (1) the compressed and vertically expanded posterior center of ossification of the palatine; (2) the articular region of the lateral ethmoid laterally produced, with the articular facet for the palatine at the tip; and (3) the presence of a humero-vertebral ligament (connecting the humeral process—or the soft tissue in the humeral region—to the anterior portion of the vertebral column). Other potential characters exist, but these depend on more extensive ad hoc hypotheses of reversal within sisoroids and convergence in other catfish groups (for these, see de Pinna, 1996). All families included in Sisoroidea by de Pinna (1996) can be hypothesized as primitively having a fully formed U<sub>2</sub>. The few excep-

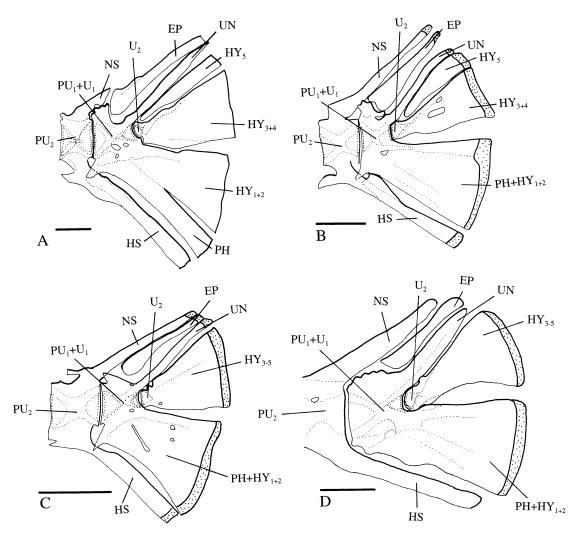


Fig. 14. Caudal skeletons in Sisoridae: **A.** *Gagata gagata* (AMNH 8358, disarticulated specimen), **B.** *Glyptothorax sinensis* (AMNH 10265, 51.9 mm SL), **C.** *Nangra nangra* (CMK 6369, 39 mm SL), **D.** *Pseudexostoma yunnanensis* (NRM 25124, 82 mm SL). Scale bar = 1 mm.

tions therein are parsimoniously interpreted as secondary reversals, based on congruence with other character data. The presence of a well-developed, type 3 U<sub>2</sub> can be interpreted as additional support for the monophyly of Sisoroidea, including the neotropical Aspredinidae.

The presence of a type 3 U<sub>2</sub> in helogenines is the most well documented in the literature (cf. Lundberg and Baskin, 1969; Vari and Ortega, 1986). It seems to constitute an autapomorphy for the subfamily. It has been demonstrated (de Pinna, 1993; de Pinna and

Vari, 1995) that former Cetopsidae and Helogenidae constitute a monophyletic group, now recognized as an expanded Cetopsidae (comprising monophyletic subfamilies Cetopsinae and Helogeninae). Cetopsines do not show a well-developed U<sub>2</sub>, as confirmed by our own observations and those of other authors. There is some indication that the phylogenetic position of cetopsids may be close to the base of the siluriform cladogram (Mo, 1991, in part; de Pinna, 1993; de Pinna and Vari, 1995), perhaps as the sister group to all other non-diplomystid catfishes. If that

is so, the immediate outgroups to helogenines are, in sequence, cetopsines, a clade containing most other catfishes, and diplomystids. This indicates that the condition of  $U_2$  in helogenines can only be parsimoniously optimized as a transition at the base of the subfamily, and is therefore autapomorphic for it. A well-developed  $U_2$  should be included among the diagnostic features of the subfamily Helogeninae.

Among Amphiliidae, the type 3 U<sub>2</sub> is present in Zaireichthys zonatus and a subgroup of Leptoglanis that includes forms similar in general aspect to Zaireichthys (L. rotundiceps and L. brevis). Therefore, it may be a synapomorphy indicating that those species are more closely related to Z. zonatus than to remaining species of *Leptoglanis* and that the latter genus may not be monophyletic. The type species of Leptoglanis, L. xenognathus, has the plesiomorphic type 1 U<sub>2</sub>. Considering that amphiliids (including Leptoglanis) are a monophyletic group (de Pinna, 1993), the type 3 U<sub>2</sub> that occurs in some members of the family is convergent with that in other catfishes.

Remaining occurrences of a Type 3  $\rm U_2$  seem to be synapomorphic for very small clades. In mochokids, it is likely a synapomorphy for a subgroup of *Chiloglanis*. Similarly, the occurrence in *Pseudopimelodus* is either autapomorphic for *P. raninus* or synapomorphic for a subset of the genus. In Auchenipteridae, type 3  $\rm U_2$  occurs in two taxa which are not close relatives (see above), and which must be hypothesized as results of separate events.

Lundberg and Baskin (1969) estimated that a fully developed U<sub>2</sub> developed independently four times within siluriforms: in Helogenidae, Aspredinidae, Amblycipitidae, and Mochokidae. Considering the new descriptive data within an updated phylogenetic context, it seems that the conditions in Amblycipitidae and Aspredinidae are homologous. On the other hand, other occurrences imply additional cases of convergence, such as in some amphiliids, some pseudopimelodines, and twice in auchenipterids. A total of six events can thus be hypothesized: (1) Helogeninae (Cetopsidae); (2) Pseudopimelodus raninus (Pimelodidae); (3) Sisoroidea (Amblycipitidae, Akysidae, Sisoridae, Aspredinidae, and Erethistidae); (4) Zaireichthys and some Leptoglanis (Amphiliidae); (5) Entomocorus (Auchenipteridae); and (6) Asterophysus (Auchenipteridae).

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The authors thank Marcelo Britto, Lance Grande, and an anonymous reviewer for comments on the manuscript. Carl Ferraris kindly donated juvenile specimens of Gagata melanopterus for examination and discussed with us various topics treated herein. For access to collections and loans of specimens, we thank Melanie Stiassny, Scott Schaefer, Barbara Brown, Radford Arrindell, and Norma Feinberg (AMNH), John Lundberg, Bill Saul, and Mark Sabaj (ANSP), Gordon Howes and Darrell Siebert (BMNH), Bill Eschmeyer and David Catania (CAS), Maurice Kottelat (CMK and formerly ZSM), Barry Chernoff and Mary-Anne Rogers (FMNH), Roberto Reis (MCP), Karsten Hartel (MCZ), Guy Duhamel and Patrice Pruvost (MNHN), the late Guy Teugels (MRAC), Sven Kullander and Erik Åhlander (NRM), Paul Skelton and Roger Bills (RUSI), Bill Fink and Doug Nelson (UMMZ), and Richard Vari and Susan Jewett (USNM). Research funding to MP is provided by CNPq (#301082, Brazilian Federal Government), FAPESP (#99/09781-6, São Paulo State Government), NSF (DEB9903533), and National University of Singapore (Visiting Scientist Fellowship). Financial support for HN came from a Short-Term Visitor Grant from the Smithsonian Institution and from Research Grant RP 960314 to Peter K. L. Ng (National University of Singapore).

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#### APPENDIX 1

Material Examined and, for Suluriformes, Condition of Second Ural Centrum Types 1, 2, and 3 of  $U_2$  are explained in text. The number in parentheses following each catalog number is the number of specimens examined, not the total number of specimens. See text (Material and Methods) for institutional abbreviations.

Species	Catalog no.	U <sub>2</sub> centrum type
SILURIFORMES		
Akysidae		
Acrochordonichthys guttatus	MZUSP 42468 (1)	3
Akysis ephippifer	CMK 4296 (1)	3
Akysis heterurus	MZUSP uncat. (4)	3
Akysis leucorhynchus	USNM 109636 (1)	3
Akysis recavus	MZUSP uncat. (1)	3
Akysis similis	UMMZ 214907 (4)	3
Akysis varius	USNM 232930 (1)	3
Akysis sp.	BMNH 1980.10.10:188 (1)	3
Breitensteinia insignis	AMNH 58378 (1)	3
Parakysis grandis	CMK 7915 (2)	3
Amblycipitidae		
Amblyceps mangois	UMMZ 208906 (1)	2
	ANSP 59316 (1)	2
Liobagrus anguillicaudatus	AMNH 11069 (2)	3
Liobagrus reini	AMNH 26744 (1)	3
Ü	USNM 89370 (4)	2 or 3a
Amphilidae		
Amphilius atesunensis	USNM 296969 (1)	1
Amphilius jacksoni	UMMZ 199987 (2)	1
Amphilius platychir	AMNH 71925 (1)	2
Andersonia pellegrini	MNHN 1959.316 (1)	1
Doumea thysi	USNM 303564 (2)	1
Leptoglanis brevis	UMMZ 199990 (5)	3
Leptoglanis camerunensis	MNHN 1988.1152 (1)	2
Leptoglanis rotundiceps	UMMZ 20020 (2)	3
Leptoglanis xenognathus	MRAC 118490-501(1)	1
Paramphilius firestonei	USNM 118812 (1)	1
Paramphilius trichomycteroides	MNHN 1982-1206 (2)	1
Phractura scaphirhynchura	AMNH 6622 (2)	1
Trachyglanis sp.	AMNH 58446 (1)	1
Zaireichtys zonatus	CAS-SU 64127 (1)	3
Anchariidae		
Ancharius fuscus	AMNH 93702 (1)	1
Ariidae		
Arius africanus	AMNH 88024 (1)	1
Arius solidus	AMNH 58711 (1)	1
Bagre bagre	AMNH 20718 (2)	1
Genidens genidens	AMNH 20725 (3)	3, 1 <sup>b</sup>
· ·		-, -
Aspredinidae	AMNH upost (2)	3
Agmus sp.	AMNH uncat. (2)	3
Amaralia hypsiura	AMNH uncat. (1)	3
Aspredinichthys filamentosus	USNM 207452 (2)	<del>-</del>
Aspredo aspredo	USNM 226072 (1)	3
Bunocephalus coracoideus	AMNH21815 (1)	3

atype 2 in one specimen, type 3 in the others.

btype 3 in one specimen, type 1 in the others.

		U <sub>2</sub> centrum
Species	Catalog no.	type
SILURIFORMES (continued)		
Aspredinidae (continued)		
Ernstichthys sp.	MZUSP 37814 (1)	с
Hoplomyzon sexpapilostoma	AMNH 97232 (1)	c
Platystacus cotylephorus	USNM 87834 (1)	3
Xyliphius melanopterus	DUVC-31-79 (1)	3
Astroblepidae		
Astroblepus chotae	USNM 167875 (1)	1
Astroblepus sp.	AMNH 20873 (1)	1
Auchenipteridae	`,	
Ageneiosus marmoratus	AMNH uncat. (1)	1
Asterophysus batrachus	ANSP 158294 (1)	3
Auchenipterichthys thoracatus	MZUSP 36934 (1)	2
Centromochlus existimatus	MZUSP 48868 (2)	1
Entomocorus gameroi	AMNH 55404 (4)	1
Tetranematichthys quadrifilis	MZUSP 37517 (1)	1
Trachelyichthys decaradiatus	MZUSP 6830 (1)	2
Tatia sp.	MZUSP 37599 (1)	1
-	Mille of Stays (1)	•
Austroglanidae	M7110D 65022 (1)	2
Austroglanis gilli	MZUSP 65822 (1)	2
Austroglanis barnardi Austroglanis sclateri	MZUSP 62630 (1)	1
•	MZUSP 63075 (1)	1
Bagridae	ADDIT 11102 (1)	
Hemibagrus macropterus	AMNH 11103 (1)	1
Horabagrus brachysoma	CAS 141072 (1)	1
Pseudomystus siamensis	CAS 53212 (1)	1
Rita chrysea	USNM 114948 (1)	1
Callichthyidae		
Corydoras aeneus	AMNH 21772 (1)	1
Cetopsidae		
Helogenes marmoratus	AMNH 13332 (1)	3
	AMNH 91372 (1)	3
Pseudocetopsis sp.	USNM 302348 (1)	1
• •	USNM 257763 (1)	1
Chacidae		
Chaca chaca	AMNH 58393 (1)	1
	711VII VII 30333 (1)	•
Clariidae	13.000 2210 (1)	
Channallabes apus	AMNH 6613 (1)	1
Clarias vandenhoutei	AMNH 32778 (2)	1
Heterobranchus isopterus	AMNH 32759 (1)	1
Horaglanis krishnai	BMNH 1981.11.20:1 (1)	1
Claroteidae		
Auchenoglanis ballayi	CAS 15449 (1)	1
Bathybagrus tetranema	UMMZ 196086 (1)	1
Chrysichthys ornatus	AMNH 6700 (1)	1
Lophiobagrus cyclurus	MRAC 131157-184 (1)	1
Parauchenoglanis guttatus	MRAC 179230-233 (1)	1
Phyllonemus filinemus	MRAC 90257 (1)	1
Platyglanis depierrei	MNHN 1978-760 (1)	1
Rheoglanis dendrophorus	BMNH 1976.5.21:26 (1)	1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup>Unknown, obscured by secondary ossification.

pecies	Catalog no.	U <sub>2</sub> centrum type
ILURIFORMES (continued)		.^ L -
Cranoglanididae		
Cranoglanis bouderius	USNM 94590 (1)	1
ŭ	0314141 94390 (1)	1
Diplomystidae	12000 5500 (1)	
Diplomystes sp.	AMNH 55318 (1)	1
Diplomystes mesembrinus	MZUSP 62595 (1)	1
Doradidae		
Anduzedoras macrostoma	AMNH 74491 (2)	1
Leptodoras linnelli	AMNH uncat. (3)	1
Trachydoras paraguayensis	AMNH uncat. (1)	1
Wertheimeria maculata	MCZ 91317 (1)	с
Erethistidae		
Conta conta	UMMZ 208632 (2)	3
Erethistes pusillus	UMMZ 208697 (2)	3
Erethistoides montana	UMMZ 208745 (1)	3
Hara hara	UMMZ 208748 (3)	3
Hara jerdoni	AMNH 58394 (4)	3
Laguvia ribeiroi	UMMZ 208955 (5)	3
Laguvia shawi	UMMZ 208633 (1)	3
Pseudolaguvia tuberculatus	UMMZ 209010 (1)	3
Ictaluridae		
Ictalurus meridionalis	AMNH 25357 (2)	1
Noturus gyrinus	AMNH 22744 (1)	1
Loricariidae		
Farlowella sp.	AMNH uncat. (1)	1
Neoplecostomus sp.	MZUSP uncat. (1)	1
Malapteruridae		
Malapterurus electricus	AMNH uncat. (2)	1
•	Tivit (II alleatt (2)	•
Mochokidae	NOWING 1050 525 (1)	1
Brachysynodontis batensoda	MNHN 1959-525 (1)	1 1
Chiloglanis disneyi	USNM 303505 (3)	3
Chiloglanis polypogon Euchilichthys dybowskii	USNM 304264 (4) AMNH 6690 (1)	1
Hemisynodontis membranaceus	UMMZ 313407 (1)	1
Microsynodontis christyi	ZSM 22895 (1)	1
Microsynodontis batesii	AMNH 11741 (1)	i
Mochokiella paynei	AMNH 58398 (1)	i
Mochokus niloticus	USNM 229657 (1);	i
	AMNH 55703 (1)	i
Synodontis clarias	USNM 229746 (2)	1
Synodontis ciurius Synodontis nigriventris	AMNH 55333 (8)	1
Synodontis notatus	AMNH 6254 (1)	1
·		
Nematogenyidae Nematogenys inermis	CAS 12692 (1)	1
•	CAS 12092 (1)	1
Pangasiidae		_
Helicophagus waandersii	UMMZ 186797 (1)	2
Pangasius nasutus	AMNH 57267 (3)	1
Pangasius pangasius	UMMZ 208434 (2)	1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup>Unknown, obscured by secondary ossification.

Species	Catalog no.	U <sub>2</sub> centrum type
SILURIFORMES (continued)		
Pimelodidae		
Brachyglanis sp.	AMNH 91028 (1)	1
Brachyrhamdia imitator	AMNH 58322 (1)	1
Callophysus macropterus	AMNH uncat. (1)	1
Duopalatinus sp.	ANSP 139007 (1)	1
Hypophthalmus edentatus	AMNH 55369 (3)	1
Luciopimelodus pati	BMNH 1878.5.16:25 (1)	1
Pimelodus altipinnis	AMNH 33818 (1)	1
Pseudopimelodus raninus	AMNH 55370 (2)	3
Pseudopimelodus sp.	AMNH 40127 (3)	1
Rhamdiopsis sp.	MZUSP 35841 (1)	1
Sorubim lima	AMNH 55150 (1)	1
	AMINI 55150 (1)	1
Plotosidae		_
Plotosus papuensis	USNM 217106 (1)	1
Porochilus rendahli	AMNH 36827 (3)	1
Schilbeidae		
Ailia coilia	UMMZ 208442 (3)	1
Clupisoma garua	UMMZ 208355 (2)	1
Eutropiellus buffei	BMNH 1975.6.16:2 (1)	1
Neotropius khavalchor	BMNH 1992.2.11:8 (1)	1
Schilbe mystus	AMNH 6521 (1)	1
Silonia silondia	UMMZ 208460 (1)	1
Scoloplacidae		
Scoloplax empousa	MZUSP 37489 (2)	1
Siluridae		
Kryptopterus sp.	AMNH uncat. (2)	1
Silurus glanis	AMNH 18758 (1)	1
Sisoridae		
Bagarius bagarius	UMMZ186793 (1)	1
Bagarius yarrelli	AMNH 58363 (2)	1
Euchiloglanis kishinouyei	USNM 120365 (1)	3
Exostoma labiatum	NRM 25105 (1)	3
"Exostoma" sp.	USNM 13083 (1)	3
Gagata cenia	AMNH 58392 (1)	3
Gagata gasawyuh	AMNH 8358 (1)	3
Gangra viridescens	UMMZ 208725 (1)	3
Glyptothorax major	AMNH 58410 (2)	3
Glyptothorax pectinopterus	BMNH 15.445 (2)	3
Glyptothorax platypogon	USNM 87431 (1)	2
Glyptothorax sinensis	AMNH 10265 (3)	2
Glyptothorax trilineatus	UMMZ 186849 (1)	2
Glyptothorax sp.	USNM 288474 (1)	2
Nangra nangra	CMK 6369 (1)	3
Oreoglanis siamensis	USNM 118430 (1)	1
	CMK 4351 (1)	1
Pseudecheneis sulcatus	FMNH 99630 (1);	3
	BMNH 1985.9.16:50 (1)	2
Pseudexostoma yunnanensis	NRM 25124 (1)	3
Sisor rhabdophorus	BMNH 1970.6.25:2 (1)	c

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup>Unknown, obscured by secondary ossification.

Species	Catalog no.	$U_2$ centrum type
SILURIFORMES (continued)	<b>3</b>	
Trichomycteridae		
Pareiodon sp.	MZUSP 23522 (3)	1
Trichomycterus nigricans	MCP 10649 (1)	1
Trichogenes longipinnis	MZUSP uncat. (3)	1
CHARACIFORMES		
Hepsetidae		
Hepsetus odoe	USNM 231553 (1)	<del>-</del>
CYPRINIFORMES		
Cyprinidae		
Opsariichthys bidens	AMNH 10955 (1)	_
Nocomis leptocephalus	MZUSP 45979 (1)	_
Pimephales notatus	MZUSP 45956 (1)	_
GONORYNCHIFORMES		
Chanidae	M7110D (0470 (1)	
Chanos chanos	MZUSP 62470 (1)	_
Kneriidae	M7HSD (2121 (1)	
Kneria auriculata	MZUSP 63121 (1)	_
CLUPEOMORPHA		
Denticipitidae		
Denticeps clupeoides	MZUSP 62480 (1)	_
Pellona harroweri	MZUSP 11238 (1)	
PROTACANTHOPTERYGII		
Salmonidae		
Salmo salar	MZUSP 28531 (1)	_
Argentinidae		
Argentina striata	MZUSP 17914 (1)	
Galaxiidae	MEN (3D 1 (400 (1))	
Galaxias maculatus	MZUSP 16600 (1)	
Galaxias auratus	USNM 344895 (1)	_
Osmeridae Osmerus mordax	AMNH 32663 (1)	
Osmerus moraux	AMNH 110489 (2)	
	AWINI 110405 (2)	_
ESOCIFORMES		
Esocidae  Esox masquinongy	MZUSP 28038 (1)	
Umbridae	M2001 20030 (1)	_
Dallia pectoralis	MZUSP 38284 (1)	
Umbra limi	USNM 034033 (1)	
ELOPOMORPHA		
Albulidae		
Albula vulpes	MZUSP 10625 (1)	_
Elops sp.	MZUSP 60346 (1)	_

Species	Catalog no.	$\rm U_2$ centrum type
OSTEOGLOSSOMORPHA		
Hiodontidae		
Hiodon tergisus	MZUSP 28540 (1)	_
Osteoglossidae		
Osteoglossum sp.	MZUSP 17686 (1)	_
Arapaimidae		
Arapaima gigas	MZUSP 26083 (1)	_
TOMIIFORMES		
Chauliodontidae		
Chauliodus sloani	MZUSP uncat. (1)	200000
Gonostomatidae		
Maurolicus muelleri	MZUSP 18361 (1)	
ULOPIFORMES		
Chlorophthalmidae		
Chlorophthalmus agassizi	MZUSP 10648 (1)	
Paralepididae		
Lestidium atlanticum	MZUSP 60327 (1)	_
Synodontidae		
Saurida caribbaea	MZUSP 18359 (1)	_
4YCTOPHIFORMES		
Myctophidae		
Diaphus dumerili	MZUSP 35852 (1)	
Hygophum hygomii	MZUSP uncat. (1)	
ARACANTHOPTERYGII		
Aphredoderidae		
Aphredoderus sayanus	MZUSP 55046 (2)	_
Batrachoididae		
Thalassophryne punctata	MZUSP 47262 (1)	_
Gadidae		
Urophycis mystaceus	MZUSP 40220 (1)	
Merluciidae		
Merlucius sp	MZUSP 60347 (1)	