Fossil Record – the palaeontological journal of the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin

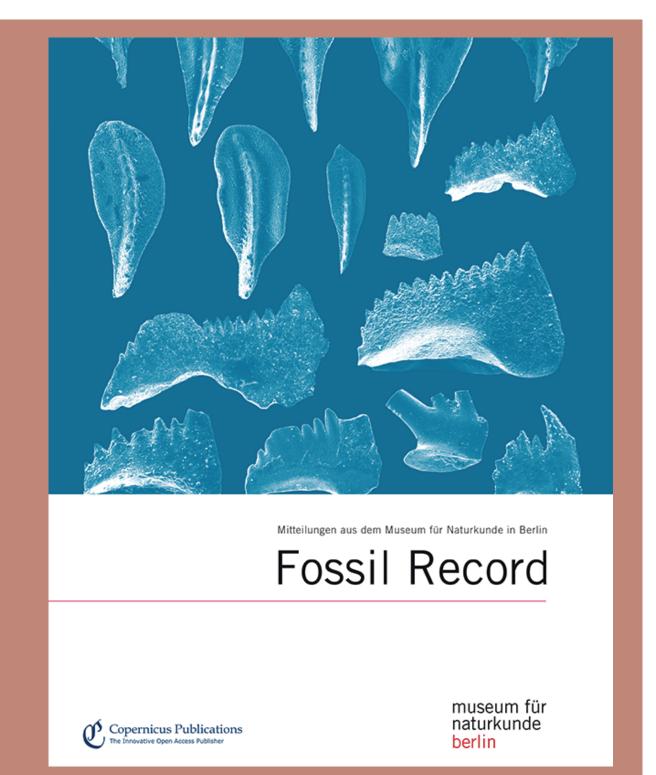
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museum für naturkunde berlin



The Journal

Fossil Record is one of three journals issued by the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin (Fig. 1). It handles palaeontological science, spanning such fields as taxonomy and systematics, biostratigraphy and biogeochemistry, palaeoecology, evolution and earth history. All taxonomic groups are covered, including vertebrates, invertebrates, plants, and microfossils. **Fossil Record** was founded in 1998 under the name "Mitteilungen aus dem Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin, Geowissenschaftliche Reihe" by Prof. Hans-Peter Schultze. In 2009, the journal became ISI-listed. Since 2014, simultaneously with publication by Copernicus Publications, it has been open access, and increased its impact factor up to 1,250 in 2016. As an online open-access journal, **Fossil Record** closes the gap between the requirements of scientists, funders, and libraries for open access to scientific publications. Besides enjoying better visibility, scientific papers are thus much more widely distributed and available for scientific databases.

We welcome international contributions dealing with fossil specimens and collections, as well as research on palaeobiological processes and patterns using common and innovative analytical methods. **Fossil Record** enjoys an internationally good reputation, resulting in submission of excellent manuscripts from all over the world (Fig. 2). We offer a peer-review process with at least two independent reviews. Since 2006, **Fossil Record** has appeared with two issues each year. In addition, special issues are printed on chief editors' demand. Advantageously, comprehensive manuscripts such as (doctoral) monographs are also printed (Fig. 3). We provide opportunity for high quality illustrations (Fig. 4). Article processing charges (APCs) covering costs for the review process, type-setting, web publication and long term archiving upon publication are currently not requested from authors, instead covered by the Museum für Naturkunde. However, different models for author contributions are currently evaluated and may be introduced at a later stage. Manuscripts can be uploaded on the **Fossil Record** website (https://www.fossil-record.net/).



Fig. 1. Scientific journals issued by the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin.

Miocene sepiids (Cephalopoda, Coleoidea) from Australia

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Fig. 2. Košťák et al. 20, 159-172, 2017.

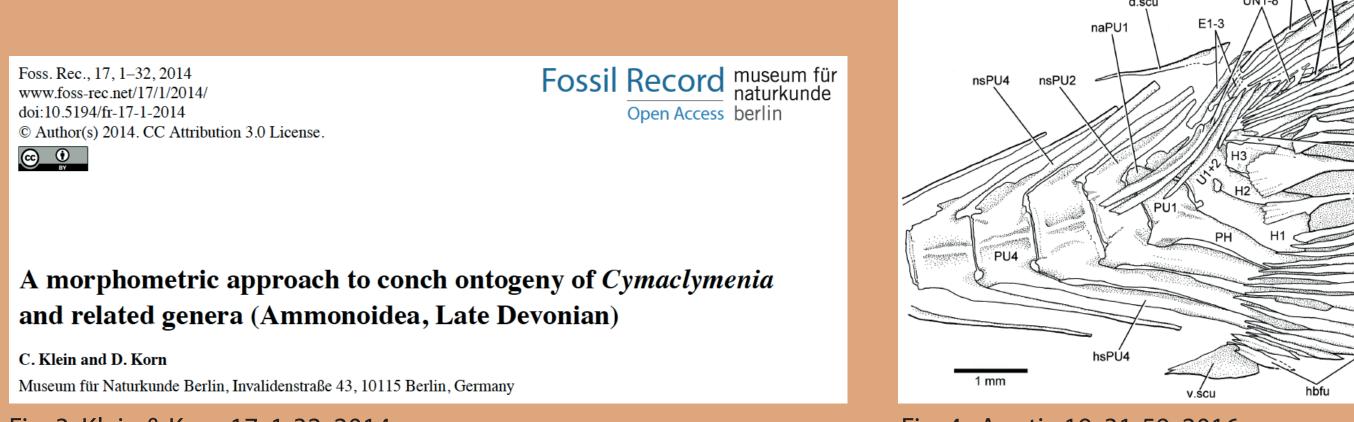


Fig. 3. Klein & Korn 17, 1-32, 2014. Fig. 4. Arratia 19, 31-59, 2016.





Fig. 7. Brachiosaurus (Giraffatitan) brancai in the Tendaguru exhibition hall.

The Editor

The **Museum für Naturkunde** is an integrated research museum and since 2009, the museum has been a member of the Leibniz Association, which is a non-profit organization combining and promoting world-renowned research institutions. The **Museum für Naturkunde** conducts excellent research in biology and earth sciences. Specifically, we study the geological and biological evolution and diversity of life, and transfer this knowledge to the international scientific community as well as the public. To date, our collections, comprising over 30 million zoological, palaeontological, geological and mineralogical specimens, are of unique cultural, historical, and scientific value inextricably linked to our research (Fig. 5). In order to provide as much free access to knowledge as possible we aim to develop an open-access strategy, offering open-access advisory services to our researchers. This process is part of the science programme "Digital World and Information Science", which combines information and communication technology, biodiversity informatics, and library and information sciences at the museum.

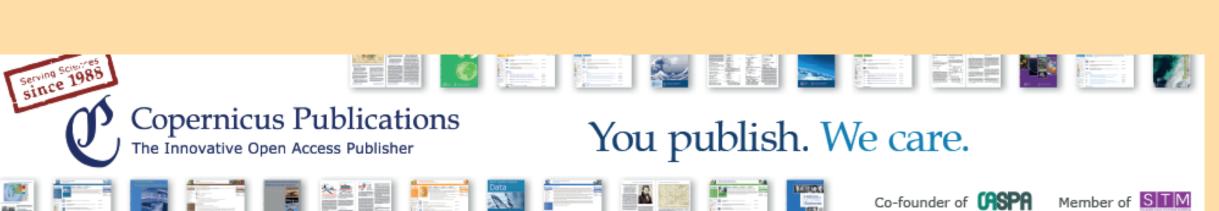
Historically, the **Museum für Naturkunde** arose in 1810 with the merging of three museums (Anatomical-Zootomical, Mineralogical, and Zoological Museum). Simultaneously, the Berlin's Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Unter den Linden was founded. Since the official opening in 1889, the museum is housed in the present building in Invalidenstrasse 43 (Fig. 6). The museum's famous dinosaur bones were discovered on the Tendaguru expedition (present-day's Tanzania) from 1909 to 1913 (Fig. 7). During World War II, much of the building was destroyed. However, 75% of our collections were saved and new cosmopolitan expeditions yielding new material were undertaken in the following centuries. Our newest famous dinosaurian aquisition, *T. rex* Tristan, was discovered just recently in Montana, USA.



Fig. 5. Fossil collection on display in the Tendaguru exhi-

The Publisher

Copernicus Publications is a German open-access publisher based in Göttingen. It has been a partner of scientists and societies since 1988 and launched its first open-access journal in 2001. Since 2004, all journals have been open access. With a clear focus on in-house services, **Copernicus Publications** promotes the work of scientists worldwide in the most personal and effective way, and is highly proficient in handling large data sets. Currently, **Copernicus Publications** publishes 38 highly reputed scientific journals mainly from the geosciences, engineering, and life sciences.







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