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Advances in Paleontology and Classification Methods: From Descriptive Taxonomy to Virtual Imaging and 3D Modelling

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Message from the Guest Editor

This Special Issue aims to bring together case studies highlighting both taxonomic issues (in the application of classical and cladistic methods) and outcomes from applying new technologies in the morpho-anatomic analysis of fossils. Although viewed as separated, these aspects interfinger with respect to answering questions on evolutionary events and their relationship with the environment and large-scale patterns of biodiversity. Finally, the increasing availability of 3D models and virtual fossil representations is also transforming natural history museums, which can now use virtual paleontology as an outreaching tool in science communication and dissemination. Articles addressing any of the above themes are welcome.

- fossil classification
- digital–virtual palaeontology
- evolution
- biodiversity variation

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Understanding the Earth's origin and its bio-geological evolution, the multiple implications of the geosciences (as a coherentset of interconnected disciplines), and the sociocultural and ethical interdisciplinary approaches, will be crucial for a better understanding of Nature, and also for undertaking scientificallybased political decisions.

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