

encapsulation of the venom canal varies from infolded but open to completely enclosed and tubular and thus may warrant a separate species designation from the open *U. kroehleri*. We measured length, width, the distance of canals with respect to carina, the surface and each other, intercarinal angle, and area of canals as visible on the basal-most exposed cross-section. All results are preliminary, owing to small ($n \approx 10$) sample sizes. Canal shape does not vary significantly with position in the jaw, as inferred from intercarinal angle ($n/plr = 10/0.22/0.46$) or canal area ($8/0.11/0.57$) or distance from the surface ($8/0.96/-0.02$), but it does with respect to distal offset of the canals ($12/0.03/-0.63$) and canal proximity to each other ($9/0.00/0.84$). The variation from two median canals (*U. kroehleri* and some Moncure specimens) to enclosed tubes (other Moncure specimens and Arizona specimens) mirrors the ontogenetic stages seen in elapid and viperid fangs and leads us to suggest that these teeth may represent a similar evolutionary trajectory. Also, given the high proportion of these teeth at the site, and the variation implying that they are from several different positions in the jaw, we suggest that *Uatchitodon* had a unique arrangement of venom-conducting teeth unlike that of known analogs

Poster Session III, (Friday)

EVOLUTIONARY INSIGHTS FROM PRELIMINARY STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF TEETH OF THE VENOMOUS MICROVERTEBRATE *UATCHITODON* (ARCHOSAURIFORMES) FROM THE UPPER TRIASSIC (SANFORD SUB-BASIN, CUMNOCK FORMATION) OF NORTH CAROLINA, USA

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Venom is one of the most potent weapons in the animal kingdom, and evolved multiple times in a diverse array of lineages, yet only rarely in the highly successful archosauromorphs. Only two named extinct venomous archosauriformes are known, both from Late Triassic teeth (*Graoulyodon hacheti* and *Uatchitodon kroehleri*). Here we report the discovery of numerous (~30) venom-conducting teeth and tooth fragments in the Upper Triassic of North Carolina (Moncure locality, Cumnock Formation, Sanford sub-basin) that are similar to broadly contemporaneous, previously described teeth from Arizona as well as *U. kroehleri*. The Moncure teeth are tall, recurved, and laterally compressed, with serrated edges possessing compound denticles and a venom canal on both the labial and lingual surfaces. We therefore assign these teeth to the genus *Uatchitodon*, although the