Phylogenomic analyses of echinoid diversification prompt a re-

evaluation of their fossil record

Short title: Phylogeny and diversification of sea urchins

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Abstract

Echinoids are key components of modern marine ecosystems. Despite a remarkable fossil record, the emergence of their crown group is documented by few specimens of unclear affinities, rendering much of their early history uncertain. The origin of sand dollars, one of its most distinctive clades, is also unclear due to an unstable phylogenetic context and discrepancies between molecular divergence times and fossil evidence. We employ seventeen novel genomes and transcriptomes to build a phylogenomic dataset with a near-complete sampling of major lineages. With it, we revise the phylogeny and divergence times of echinoids, and place their history within the broader context of echinoderm evolution. We also introduce the concept of a chronospace—a multidimensional representation of node ages—and use it to explore the effects of using alternative gene samples, models of molecular evolution, and clock priors. We find the choice of clock model to have the strongest impact on divergence times, while the use of site-heterogeneous models shows little effects. The choice of loci shows an intermediate impact, affecting mostly deep Paleozoic nodes, for which clock-like genes recover dates more congruent with fossil evidence. Our results reveal that crown group echinoids originated in the Permian and diversified rapidly in the Triassic, despite the relative lack of fossil evidence for this early diversification. We also clarify the relationships among sand dollars and their close relatives, showing that the genus *Apatopygus* represents a relict lineage with a deep Jurassic origin. Surprisingly, the origin of sand dollars is confidently dated to the Cretaceous, implying ghost ranges spanning approximately 50 million years, a remarkable discrepancy with their rich fossil record.

Keywords: Echinoidea, Sea urchins, Sand dollars, Phylogenomics, Time calibration, Site heterogeneous models

Introduction

The fossil record represents the best source of primary data for constraining the origins of major lineages across the tree of life. However, the fossil record is not perfect, and even for groups with an excellent fossilization potential, constraining their age of origin can be difficult [1, 2]. Furthermore, as many traditional hypotheses of relationships have been revised in light of large-scale molecular datasets, the affinities of fossil lineages and their bearings on inferred times of divergence have also required a reassessment. An exemplary case of this is Echinoidea, a clade comprised of sea urchins, heart urchins, sand dollars, and allies, for which phylogenomic trees have questioned the timing of previously well-constrained nodes [3, 4].

Echinoids are easily recognized by their spine-covered skeletons or tests, composed of numerous tightly interlocking plates. Slightly over 1,000 living species have been described to date [5], a diversity that populates every marine benthic environment from intertidal to abyssal depths [6]. Echinoids are usually subdivided into two morpho-functional groups with similar species-level diversities: "regular" sea urchins, a paraphyletic assemblage of hemispherical, epibenthic consumers protected by large spines; and irregulars (Irregularia), a clade of predominantly infaunal and bilaterally symmetrical forms covered by small and specialized spines. In today's oceans, regular echinoids act as ecosystem engineers in biodiverse coastal communities such as coral reefs [7] and kelp forests [8], where they are often the main consumers. They are first well-known in the fossil record on either side of the Permian-Triassic (P-T) mass extinction event when many species occupied reef environments similar to those inhabited today by their descendants [9, 10]. This extinction event was originally thought to have radically impacted the macroevolutionary history of the clade, decimating the echinoid stem group and leading to the radiation of crown group taxa from a single surviving lineage [11, 12]. However, it is now widely accepted that the origin of crown group Echinoidea (i.e., the divergence between its two

main lineages, Cidaroidea and Euechinoidea) occurred in the Late Permian, as supported by molecular

estimates of divergence [13, 14], as well as the occurrence of Permian fossils with morphologies typical

of modern cidaroids [15, 16]. However, a recent total-evidence study recovered many taxa previously

classified as crown group members along the echinoid stem, while also suggesting that up to three

crown group lineages survived the P-T mass extinction [3]. This result increases the discrepancy between

molecular estimates and the fossil record and renders uncertain the early evolutionary history of crown

group echinoids. Constraining the timing of origin of this clade relative to the P-T mass extinction

(especially in the light of recent topological changes [3, 4]) is further complicated by the poor

preservation potential of stem group echinoids, and the difficulty assigning available disarticulated

remains from the Late Paleozoic and Early Triassic to specific clades [11, 12, 17-20].

Compared to the morphological conservatism of regular sea urchins, the evolutionary history of

the relatively younger Irregularia was characterized by dramatic levels of morphological and ecological

innovation [21-24]. Within the diversity of irregulars, sand dollars are the most easily recognized (Fig. 1).

The clade includes greatly flattened forms that live in high-energy sandy environments where they feed

using a unique mechanism for selecting and transporting organic particles to the mouth, where these

are crushed using well-developed jaws [25, 26]. Sand dollars (Scutelloida) were long thought to be most

closely related to sea biscuits (Clypeasteroida) given a wealth of shared morphological characters [19,

25]. The extraordinary fossil record of both sand dollars and sea biscuits suggested their last common

ancestor originated in the early Cenozoic from among an assemblage known as "cassiduloids" [23, 25], a

once diverse group that is today represented by three depauperate lineages: cassidulids (and close

relatives), echinolampadids, and apatopygids [19, 27]. These taxa not only lack the defining features of

both scutelloids and clypeasteroids but have experienced little morphological change since their origin

deep in the Mesozoic [24, 27-29]. However, early molecular phylogenies supported both cassidulids and

echinolampadids as close relatives of sand dollars (e.g., [14, 30]), a topology initially disregarded for its

conflicts with both morphological and paleontological evidence, but later confirmed using phylogenomic

approaches [4]. While many of the traits shared by sand dollars and sea biscuits have since been

suggested to represent a mix of convergences and ancestral synapomorphies secondarily lost by some

"cassiduloids" [3, 4], the strong discrepancy between molecular topologies and the fossil record remains

unexplained. Central to this discussion is the position of apatopygids, a clade so far unsampled in

molecular studies. Apatopygids have a fossil record stretching more than 100 million years and likely

have phylogenetic affinities with even older extinct lineages [3, 19, 28, 29]. Although current molecular

topologies already imply ghost ranges for scutelloids and clypeasteroids that necessarily extend beyond

the Cretaceous-Paleogene (K-Pg) boundary, the phylogenetic position of apatopygids could impose even

earlier ages on these lineages (Fig. 1). Constraining these divergences is necessary to understand the

timing of origin of the sand dollars, one of the most specialized lineages of echinoids [24-27]. Resolving

some phylogenetic relationships within scutelloids has also been complicated by their recurrent

miniaturization and associated loss of morphological features (Fig. 1; [25, 31, 32]).

Fig. 1: Neognathostomate diversity and phylogenetic relationships. **A.** *Fellaster zelandiae*, North Island,

New Zealand (Clypeasteroida). **B.** Large specimen: *Peronella japonica*, Ryukyu Islands, Japan; Small

specimen: *Echinocyamus crispus*, Maricaban Island, Philippines (Laganina: Scutelloida). **C.** Large

specimen: *Leodia sexiesperforata*, Long Key, Florida; Small specimen: *Sinaechinocyamus mai*, Taiwan

(Scutellina: Scutelloida). **D.** *Rhyncholampas pacificus,* Isla Isabela, Galápagos Islands (Cassidulidae). **E.**

Conolampas sigsbei, Bimini, Bahamas (Echinolampadidae). **F.** *Apatopygus recens* , Australia

(Apatopygidae). **G.** Hypotheses of relationships among neognathostomates. Top: Morphology supports

a clade of Clypeasteroida + Scutelloida originating after the K-Pg boundary, subtended by a paraphyletic

assemblage of extant (red) and extinct (green) "cassiduloids" [19]. Bottom: A recent total-evidence

study split most of cassiduloid diversity into a clade of extant lineages closely related to scutelloids, and

an unrelated clade of extinct forms (Nucleolitoida) [3]. Divergence times are much older and conflict

with fossil evidence. Cassidulids and apatopygids lacked molecular data in this analysis. Scale bars = 10

mm.

Echinoidea constitutes a model clade in developmental biology and genomics. As these fields

embrace a more comparative approach [13, 33, 34], robust and time-calibrated phylogenies are

expected to play an increasingly important role. Likewise, the extraordinary fossil record of echinoids

and the ease with which echinoid fossils can be incorporated in phylogenetic analyses make them an

ideal system to explore macroevolutionary dynamics using phylogenetic comparative methods [3, 31]. In

this study, we build upon available molecular resources with 17 novel genome-scale datasets and build

the largest molecular matrix for echinoids yet compiled. Our expanded phylogenomic dataset extends

sampling to 16 of the 17 currently recognized echinoid orders (plus the unassigned apatopygids) [35],

and is the first to bracket the extant diversity of both sand dollars and sea biscuits and include members

of all three lineages of living "cassiduloids" (cassidulids, echinolampadids, and apatopygids). We also

incorporate a diverse sample of outgroups, providing access to the deepest nodes within the crown

groups of all other echinoderm classes (holothuroids, asteroids, ophiuroids, and crinoids). With it, we

reconstruct the phylogenetic relationships and divergence times of the major lineages of living echinoids

and place their diversification within the broader context of echinoderm evolution.

Results

Phylogenetic relationships supported by the full dataset were remarkably stable, with all nodes

but one being identically resolved and fully supported across a wide range of inference methods (Fig.

2A). While recovering a topology similar to those of previous molecular studies [3, 4, 13, 14, 30, 36], this

analysis is the first to sample and confidently place micropygoids and aspidodiadematoids within

Aulodonta, as well as resolve the relationships among all major clades of Neognathostomata

(scutelloids, clypeateroids and the three lineages of extant "cassiduloids"). Our results show that

Apatopygus recens is not related to the remaining "cassiduloids" but is instead the sister clade to all

other sampled neognathostomates. The strong support for this placement, as well as for a clade of

cassidulids and echinolampadids (Cassiduloida *sensu stricto*) as the sister group to sand dollars, provides

a basis for an otherwise elusive phylogenetic classification of neognathostomates. Our topology also

confirms that *Sinaechinocyamus mai*, a miniaturized species once considered a plesiomorphic member

of Scutelloida based on the reduction or loss of diagnostic features (Fig. 1), is in fact a derived

paedomorphic lineage closely related to *Scaphechinus mirabilis* [32].

Fig. 2: Phylogenetic relationships among major clades of Echinoidea. **A.** Favored topology. With the

exception of a single contentious node within Echinacea (marked with a star), all methods supported the

same pattern of relationships. Numbers below major clades correspond to the current numbers of

described living species (obtained from [5]). **B.** Likelihood-mapping analysis showing the proportion of

quartets supporting different resolutions within Echinacea. While the majority of quartets support the

topology depicted in **A** (shown in red), a significant number support an alternative resolution that has

been recovered in morphological analyses [19] (shown in blue). **C.** Support for a clade of Salenioida +

(Camarodonta + Stomopneustoida), as depicted in **A**, is predominantly concentrated among the most

phylogenetically useful loci. This signal is attenuated in larger datasets that contain less reliable genes,

eventually favoring an alternative resolution. Only the 584 loci containing data for the three main

lineages of Echinacea were considered. The line corresponds to a second-degree polynomial regression.

D. Resolution and bootstrap scores (color coded) of the topology within Echinacea found using datasets

of different sizes and alternative methods of inference.

Salenioida is another major lineage sampled here for the first time, and whose exact position

among regular echinoids proved difficult to resolve. While some methods supported salenioids as the

sister group to a clade of camarodonts, stomopneustoids, and arbacioids (a topology previously

supported by morphology [19]), others recovered a closer relationship of salenioids to Camarodonta +

Stomopneustoida, with arbacioids sister to them all (as shown in Fig. 2A). As revealed using likelihood

mapping, these results do not stem from a lack of phylogenetic signal, but rather from the presence of

strong and conflicting evidence in the dataset regarding the position of salenioids (Fig. 2B). However, a

careful dissection of these signals shows that loci with high phylogenetic usefulness (as defined by [3,

37]; see Methods) favor the topology shown in Fig. 2A, with the morphological hypothesis becoming

dominant only after incorporating less reliable loci (Fig .2C). In line with these results, moderate levels of

gene subsampling (down to 500 loci) targeting the most phylogenetically useful loci unambiguously

support the placement of arbacioids as sister to the remaining taxa, regardless of the chosen method of

inference (Fig. 2D). More extreme subsampling (down to 100 loci) again results in disagreement among

methods. This possibly stems from the increasing effect of stochastic errors in smaller datasets, as less

than half of the sampled loci in these reduced datasets contain data for all branches of this quartet (see

Fig. 2C). This result shows the importance of ensuring that datasets (especially subsampled ones) retain

appropriate levels of occupancy for clades bracketing contentious nodes [38]. Despite these

disagreements, several lines of evidence favor the topology shown in Fig. 2A, including the results of

likelihood mapping, and the increased support for this resolution among the most phylogenetically

useful loci and when using more complex methods of reconstruction, such as partitioned and site-

heterogeneous models, which favor this topology regardless of dataset size (Fig. 2D).

While alternative methods of inference had minor effects on phylogenetic relationships, they

did impact the reconstruction of branch lengths (Fig. S1). Site-heterogeneous models (such as

CAT+GTR+G) returned longer branch lengths overall, but also uncovered a larger degree of molecular

change among echinoderm classes. Branches connecting these clades were stretched to a much larger

extent than those within the ingroup (Fig. S1), which might affect the inference of node dates. We

tested this hypothesis by exploring the sensitivity of divergence times to the use of alternative models of

molecular evolution (site-homogeneous vs. site-heterogeneous), as well as different clock priors

(autocorrelated vs. uncorrelated), and gene sampling strategies (using five different approaches; see

Methods). All combinations of these factors were explored, resulting in 20 different time-calibration

settings that were run under Bayesian approaches. Inferred divergence times were significantly affected

by all of these factors (MANOVA; all $P < 2.2 \times 10^{-16}$). While nodes connecting some outgroup taxa were

among those most sensitive to these decisions, large effects were also seen among nodes relating to the

origin and diversification of the echinoid clades Cidaroidea and Aulodonta (Fig. 3A). All of these nodes

varied in age by more than 60 Ma—and up to 115 Ma—among the consensus topologies of different

analyses (Fig. 3A).

Fig. 3: Sensitivity of divergence time estimation to methodological decisions. **A.** The ten most sensitive

ages are found within Cidaroidea, Aulodonta, and among outgroup nodes. For each, the range shown

spans the interval between the minimum and maximum ages found among the consensus topologies of

all time-calibrated runs. **B-C.** Scores for the between-group PCA (bgPCA) separating chronograms based

on the clock model (**B**) or the model of molecular evolution (**C**) employed. While the first factor has a

major impact on inferred ages, the second one has only minor effects. **D-E.** Change in branch lengths

along the bgPCA axis defined by discriminating based on clock model (**D**) or model of molecular

evolution (**E**). Branches are colored according to their contraction/expansion given a score of − 1 (top) or

+ 1 (bottom) standard deviations along the bgPCA axis, relative to the mean. Clades/nodes showing age

differences larger than 20 Ma are labelled (none in the case of **E**).

In order to isolate and visualize the impact of these factors on divergence time estimation, we

extracted the recovered node ages from the posterior distribution of time-calibrated topologies under

different settings. This allowed chronograms to be represented in a multidimensional space of node

dates, which we term a chronospace, given its similarities to treespaces commonly used to explore

topological differences [39]. Each observation was also classified as obtained under a specific clock prior,

model of molecular evolution, and gene sampling strategy, and the major effects of each of these

choices were extracted with the use of between-group principal component analyses (bgPCAs). This

revealed that the single dimension of chronospace maximizing the distinctiveness of trees obtained

under different clock models explained 53.7% of the total variance in node ages across all analyses (Figs.

3B-E and S2). In contrast, the choice of different loci or models of molecular evolution showed a much

lesser effect, explaining only 10.5% and 4.0% of the total variance, respectively. Even though all of these

decisions affected a similar set of sensitive nodes (those mentioned above, as well as some relationships

within Atelostomata), the choice of clock model modified the ages of 17 of these by more than 20 Ma

(Fig. S3). This degree of change was induced on only 5 nodes by selecting alternative loci (Fig. S4), and

was not induced on any node by enforcing different models of evolution (Fig. S5).

Even when the age of crown Echinodermata was constrained to postdate the appearance of

stereom (the characteristic skeletal microstructure of echinoderms) in the Early Cambrian [40, 41], only

analyses using the most clock-like loci recovered ages concordant with this (i.e., median ages younger

than the calibration enforced; Fig. S6). Instead, most consensus trees favored markedly older ages for

the clade, in some cases even predating the origin of the Ediacaran biota [42] (Fig. S6). Despite the

relative sensitivity of many of the earliest nodes to methodological choices (Fig. 3A), the split between

Crinoidea and all other echinoderms (Eleutherozoa) is always inferred to have predated the end of the

Cambrian (youngest median age = 492.2 Ma), and the divergence among the other major lineages

(classes) of extant echinoderms are constrained to have happened between the Late Cambrian and

Middle Ordovician (Fig. S6). Our results also recover an early origin of crown group Holothuroidea (sea

cucumbers; range of median ages = 351.6–383.2 Ma), well before the crown groups of other extant

echinoderm classes. These dates markedly postdate the first records of holothuroid calcareous rings in

the fossil record [43, 44], and imply that this trait does not define the holothuroid crown group but

instead evolved from an echinoid-like jaw-apparatus along its stem [45]. The other noteworthy

disagreement between these results and those of previous studies [46] involves dating crown group

Crinoidea to times that precede the P-T mass extinction (range of median ages = 268.0–327.7 Ma,

although highest posterior density intervals are always wide and include Triassic ages).

Across all of the analyses performed, the echinoid crown group is found to have originated

somewhere between the Pennsylvanian and Cisuralian, with 42% posterior probability falling within the

late Carboniferous and 58% within the early Permian (Fig. 4C). An origin of the clade postdating the P-T

mass extinction is never recovered, even when such ages were allowed under the joint prior (Fig. S7).

While the posterior distribution of ages for Euechinoidea spans both sides of the P-T boundary, the

remaining earliest splits within the echinoid tree are constrained to have occurred during the Triassic,

including the origins of Aulodonta, Carinacea, Echinacea, and Irregularia (Figs. 4 and S6). Many echinoid

orders are also inferred to have diverged from their respective sister clades during this period, including

aspidodiadematoids, pedinoids, echinothurioids, arbacioids, and salenioids. LTT plots confirm that

lineage diversification proceeded rapidly throughout the Triassic (Fig. 4B). Despite the topological

reorganization of Neognathostomata, the clade is dated to a relatively narrow time interval in the Late

to Middle Jurassic (range of median ages = 169.48-179.96 Ma), in agreement with recent estimates [3].

Within this clade, the origins of both scutelloids and clypeasteroids confidently predate the K-Pg mass

extinction (posterior probability of origination before the boundary = 0.9995 and 0.9621, respectively),

despite younger ages being allowed by the joint prior (Fig. S7).

Fig. 4: Divergence times among major clades of Echinoidea and other echinoderms. **A.** Consensus

chronogram of the two runs using clock-like genes under a CAT+GTR+G model of molecular evolution

and a autocorrelated log-normal (LN) clock prior. Node ages correspond to median values, and bars

show the 95% highest posterior density intervals. **B.** Lineage-through-time plot, showing the rapid

divergence of higher-level clades following the P-T mass extinction (shown with dashed lines, along with

the K-Pg boundary). Each line corresponds to an individual consensus topology from among the time-

calibrated runs performed. **C.** Posterior distributions of the ages of selected nodes (identified in **A**). The

effects of models of molecular evolution are not shown, as they represent the least important factor

(see Fig. 3); distributions using site-homogeneous and heterogeneous models are combined for every

combination of targeted loci and clock prior.

Discussion

(a) The echinoid Tree of Life

In agreement with previous phylogenomic studies [3, 4], echinoid diversity can be subdivided

into five major clades (Fig. 2A). Cidaroids form the sister group to all other crown group echinoids

(Euechinoidea). Some aspects of the relationships among sampled cidaroids are consistent with previous

molecular [47] and morphological studies [19], including an initial split between *Histocidaris* and the

remaining taxa, representing the two main branches of extant cidaroids [5, 35]. Others, such as the

nested position of *Prionocidaris baculosa* within the genus *Eucidaris,* not only implies paraphyly of this

genus but also suggests the need for a taxonomic reorganization of the family Cidaridae. Within

euechinoids, the monophyly of Aulodonta is supported for the first time with sampling of all of its major

groups. The subdivision of these into a clade that includes diadematoids plus micropygoids (which we

propose should retain the name Diadematacea), sister to a clade including echinothurioids and

pedinoids (Echinothuriacea *sensu* [4]) is strongly reminiscent of some early classifications (e.g., [48]).

Our expanded phylogenomic sampling also confirms an aulodont affinity for aspidodiadematoids [3, 35]

and places them within Echinothuriacea as the sister group to Pedinoida.

The remaining diversity of echinoids, which forms the clade Carinacea (Fig. 2), is subdivided into

Irregularia and their sister clade among regulars, for which we amend the name Echinacea to include

Salenioida. Given the striking morphological gap separating regular and irregular echinoids, the origin of

Irregularia has been shrouded in mystery [19, 23, 48]. Our complete sampling of major regular lineages

determines Echinacea *sensu stricto* to be the sister clade to irregular echinoids. A monophyletic

Echinacea was also supported in a recent total-evidence analysis [3] , but the incomplete molecular

sampling of that study resulted in a slightly different topology that placed salenioids as the sister group

to the remaining lineages. However, an overall lack of morphological synapomorphies uniting these

clades had previously been acknowledged [19]. While the relationships within Echinacea proved to be

difficult to resolve even with thousands of loci, multiple lines of evidence lead us to prefer a topology in

which salenioids form a clade with camarodonts + stomopneustoids, with arbacioids sister to all of these

(Fig. 2).

As has been already established [3, 4, 14, 19, 30], the lineages of irregular echinoids here

sampled are subdivided into Atelostomata (heart urchins and allies) and Neognathostomata (sand

dollars, sea biscuits, and "cassiduloids"). Despite the former being the most diverse of the five main

clades of echinoids (Fig. 2), its representation in phylogenomic studies remains low, and its internal

phylogeny poorly constrained [35]. On the contrary, recent molecular studies have greatly improved our

understanding of the relationships among neognathosomates [3, 4, 36], revealing an evolutionary

history that dramatically departs from previous conceptions. Even when scutelloids and clypeasteroids

were never recovered as reciprocal sister lineages by molecular phylogenies (e.g., [13, 14, 30]), this

result was not fully accepted until phylogenomic data confidently placed echinolampadids as the sister

lineage to sand dollars [4]. At the same time, this result rendered the position of the remaining

"cassiduloids", a taxonomic wastebasket with an already complicated history of classification [19, 27, 28,

49], entirely uncertain. An attempt to constrain the position of these using a total-evidence approach [3]

subdivided the "cassiduloids" into three unrelated clades: Nucleolitoida, composed of extinct lineages

and placed outside the node defined by Scutelloida + Clypeasteroida, and two other clades nested

within it (see Fig. 1). Extant "cassiduloids" were recovered as members of one of the latter clades,

representing the monophyletic sister group to sand dollars. Here, we show that *Apatopygus recens* does

not belong within this clade but is instead the sister group to all other extant neognathostomates. Given

this phylogenetic position, as well as the morphological similarities between *Apatopygus* and the

entirely extinct nucleolitids [19, 28, 49-51], it is likely that the three extant species of apatopygids

represent the last surviving remnants of Nucleolitoida, a clade of otherwise predominantly Mesozoic

neognathostomates [3]. Because of the renewed importance in recognizing this topology, we propose

the name Luminacea for the clade uniting all extant neognathostomates with the exclusion of

Apatopygus (Fig. 2). This nomenclature refers to the dynamic evolutionary history of the Aristotle's

lantern (i.e., the echinoid jaw-apparatus) within the clade (present in the adults of both clypeasteroids

and scutelloids, but found only in the juveniles of Cassiduloida *sensu stricto*), the inclusion of the so-

called lamp urchins (echinolampadids) within the clade, and the illumination provided by this hitherto

unexpected topology. The previous misplacement of *Apatopygus* within this clade ([3]; see Fig. 1G) is

likely a consequence of tip-dating preferring more stratigraphically congruent topologies [52], an effect

that can incorrectly resolve taxa on long terminal branches [53]. Given the generally useful phylogenetic

signal of stratigraphic information [54], this inaccuracy further highlights the unusual evolutionary

history of living apatopygids.

(b)   Echinoid diversification

Calibrating phylogenies to absolute time is crucial to understanding evolutionary history, as the

resulting chronograms provide a major avenue for testing hypotheses of diversification. However, the

accuracy and precision of the inferred divergence times hinge upon many methodological choices that

are often difficult or time-consuming to justify (e.g., calibration strategies, prior distributions on node

ages, clock models, etc.) [55-60]. Understanding the individual impacts of each of these sources of

uncertainty can be difficult. Sensitivity of inferred ages is commonly explored by running analyses under

different settings and summarizing results in either tables or by stacking chronograms in order to

visualize the relative position of nodes (see for example [56, 57]). This approach discards a lot of

information contained in Bayesian posterior distributions of time-calibrated trees. For example, patterns

of correlation among branch lengths (i.e., ways in which changes in a given branch length are

accommodated by other regions of the tree) are lost, and alternative ways in which node ages are

attained (e.g., which of all descendant branches are expanding as a given node becomes older) are not

usually explored, even though they can potentially represent very different evolutionary scenarios.

Here we explore the sensitivity of node ages to different ways of modelling heterogeneities

among lineages in the rates and patterns of molecular evolution, as well as alternative criteria to sample

loci. To do so, we introduce an approach to visualize the distribution of chronograms in a

multidimensional space of node ages (a chronospace), and measure the overall effect of these decisions

on inferred dates using multivariate statistical methods. Our results reveal that divergence times

obtained under site-homogeneous and site-heterogeneous models (such as CAT+GTR+G) are broadly

comparable. This happens despite these types of models estimating higher levels of sequence

divergence and stretching branches in a non-isometric manner (Fig. S1). A similar result was recently

found when comparing site-homogeneous models with different numbers of parameters [61],

suggesting that relaxed clocks adjust branch rates in a manner that buffers the effects introduced by

using more complex (and computationally-intensive) models of evolution. Similarly, the choice between

different loci also has a small effect on inferred ages, with little evidence of a systematic difference

between the divergence times supported by randomly-chosen loci and those found using targeted

sampling criteria, such as selecting genes for their phylogenetic signal, usefulness, occupancy, or clock-

likeness. A meaningful effect was restricted to a few ancient nodes (e.g., Echinodermata), for which

clock-like genes suggested younger ages that are more consistent with fossil evidence. While this

validates the use of clock-like genes for inferring deep histories of diversification, the choice of loci had

no meaningful effect on younger ages. Finally, the choice between alternative clock models induced

differences in ages that were five to ten times stronger than those of other factors, emphasizing the

importance of either validating their choice (e.g., [62]) or—as done here—focusing on results that are

robust to them.

The origin and early diversification of crown group Echinoidea have always been considered to

have been determined (or at least strongly affected) by the P-T mass extinction [11, 12, 16, 20].

However, estimating the number of crown group members surviving the most severe biodiversity crisis

in the Phanerozoic [63] has been hampered by both paleontological and phylogenetic uncertainties [3,

10, 13-15, 18]. Our results establish with confidence that multiple crown group lineages survived and

crossed this boundary, finding for the first time a null posterior probability of the clade originating after

the extinction event. While the survival of three crown group lineages is slightly favored (Fig. S8),

discerning between alternative scenarios is still precluded by uncertainties in dating these early

divergences. Echinoid diversification during the Triassic was relatively fast (Fig. 4B) and involved rapid

divergences among its major clades. Even many lineages presently classified at the ordinal level trace

their origins to this initial pulse of diversification following the P-T mass extinction.

The late Paleozoic and Triassic origins inferred for the crown group and many euechinoid orders

prompts a re-evaluation of fossils from this interval of time. Incompletely known fossil taxa such as the

Pennsylvanian *?Eotiaris meurevillensis*, with an overall morphology akin to that of crown group

echinoids, has a stratigraphic range consistent with our inferred date for the origin of the echinoid

crown group [20]. Additionally, the Triassic fossil record of echinoids has been considered to be

dominated by stem group cidaroids, with the first euechinoids not known until the Late Triassic [17, 64].

However, the Triassic origins of many euechinoid lineages supported by our analyses necessitates that

potential euechinoid affinities should be re-considered for this diversity of Triassic fossils. This is

especially the case for the serpianotiarids and triadocidarids, abundant Triassic families variously

interpreted as cidaroids, euechinoids, or even stem echinoids [3, 17, 64, 65]. A reinterpretation of any of

these as euechinoids would suggest that the long-implied gap in the euechinoid record [16, 18] is caused

by our inability to correctly place these key fossils, as opposed to an incompleteness of the fossil record

itself.

While our phylogenomic approach is the first to resolve the position of all major cassiduloid

lineages, the inferred ages for many nodes within Neognathostomata remain in strong disagreement

with the fossil record. No Mesozoic fossil can be unambiguously assigned to either sand dollars or sea

biscuits, a surprising situation given the good fossilization potential and highly distinctive morphology of

these clades [19, 21, 25, 66]. While molecular support for a sister group relationship between scutelloids

and echinolampadids already implied this clade (Echinolampadacea) must have split from clypeasteroids

by the Late Cretaceous [3, 4, 14, 19], this still left open the possibility that the crown groups of sand

dollars and sea biscuits radiated in the Cenozoic. Under this scenario, the Mesozoic history of these

groups could have been comprised of forms lacking their distinctive morphological features,

complicating their correct identification. This hypothesis is here rejected, with the data unambiguously

supporting the radiation of both crown groups preceding the K-Pg mass extinction (Fig. 4C). While it

remains possible that these results are incorrect even after such a thorough exploration of the time-

calibration toolkit (see for example [60, 67]), these findings call for a critical reassessment of the

Cretaceous fossil record, and a better understanding of the timing and pattern of morphological

evolution among fossil and extant neognathostomates. For example, isolated teeth with an overall

resemblance to those of modern sand dollars and sea biscuits have been found in Lower Cretaceous

deposits [68], raising the possibility that other overlooked and disarticulated remains might close the

gap between rocks and clocks.

(c)   **Conclusions**

Although echinoid phylogenetics has long been studied using morphological data, the position

of several major lineages (e.g., aspidodiadematoids, micropygoids, salenioids, apatopygids) remained to

be confirmed with the use of phylogenomic approaches. Our work not only greatly expands the

available genomic resources for the clade, but finds novel resolutions for some of these lineages,

improving our understanding of their evolutionary history. The most salient aspect of our topology is the

splitting of the extant "cassiduloids" into two distantly related clades, one of which is composed

exclusively of apatopygids. This result is crucial to constrain the ancestral traits shared by the main

lineages of neognathostomates, helping unravel the evolutionary processes that gave rise to the unique

morphology of the sand dollars and sea biscuits [3, 24, 25].

Although divergence time estimation is known to be sensitive to many methodological

decisions, systematically quantifying the relative impact of these on inferred ages has rarely been done.

Here we propose an approach based on chronospaces (implemented in R [69] and available at

https://github.com/mongiardino/chronospace) that can help visualize key effects and determine the

sensitivity of node dates to different assumptions. Our results shed new light on the early evolutionary

history of crown group echinoids and its relationship with the P-T mass extinction event, a point in time

where the fossil record provides ambiguous answers. They also establish with confidence a Cretaceous

origin for the sand dollars and sea biscuits, preceding their first appearance in the fossil record by at

least 40 to 50 Ma, respectively (and potentially up to 65 Ma). These clades, therefore, join several well-

established cases of discrepancies between the fossil record and molecular clocks, such as those

underlying the origins of placental mammals [70] and flowering plants [71].

Methods

(a)   Sampling, bioinformatics, and matrix construction

This study builds upon previous phylogenomic matrices [3, 4], the last of which was augmented

through the addition of eight published datasets (mostly expanding outgroup sampling), as well as 17

novel echinoid datasets (15 transcriptomes and two draft genomes). For all novel datasets, tissue

sampling, DNA/RNA extraction, library preparation, and sequencing varied by specimen, and are

detailed in the Supplementary Information. Raw reads have been deposited in NCBI under Bioproject

accession numbers XXX and XXX. Final taxon sampling included 12 outgroups and 50 echinoids

(accession numbers and sampling details can be found in Table S1).

Raw reads for all transcriptomic datasets were trimmed or excluded using quality scores with

Trimmomatic v. 0.36 [72] under default parameters. Further sanitation steps were performed using the

Agalma 2.0 phylogenomic workflow [73], and datasets were assembled *de novo* with Trinity 2.5.1 [74].

For genomic shotgun sequences, adapters were removed with BBDuk

(https://sourceforge.net/projects/bbmap/), and UrQt v. 1.0.18 [75] was used to filter short reads (size <

50) and trim low-quality ends (score < 28). Datasets were then assembled using MEGAHIT v. 1.1.2 [76].

Draft genomes were masked using RepeatMasker v. 4.1.0 [77, 78], before obtaining gene predictions

with AUGUSTUS 3.2.3 [79]. A custom set of universal single-copy orthologs (USCOs) obtained from the

latest *Strongylocentrotus purpuratus* genome assembly (Spur v. 5.0) was employed as the training

dataset. Settings and further details of these analyses can be found in the Supplementary Information.

Multiplexed transcriptomes were sanitized from cross-contaminants using CroCo v. 1.1 [80], and

likely non-metazoan contaminants were removed using alien_index v. 3.0 [81] (removing sequences

with AI values > 45). Datasets were imported back into Agalma, which automated orthology inference

(as described in [73, 82]), gene alignment with MACSE [83], and trimming with GBLOCKS [84]. The amino

acid supermatrix was reduced using a 70% occupancy threshold, producing a final dataset of 1,346 loci

(327,695 sites). As a final sanitation step, gene trees were obtained using ParGenes v. 1.0.1 [85], which

performed model selection (minimizing the Bayesian Information Criterion) and inference using 100

bootstrap (BS) replicates. Trees were then used to remove outlier sequences with TreeShrink v. 1.3.1

[86]. We specified a reduced tolerance for false positives and limited removal to at most three terminals

which had to increase tree diameter by at least 25% (-q 0.01 -k 3 -b 25). Statistics for the supermatrix

and all assemblies can be found in Table S2.

(b)   Phylogenetic inference

Inference was performed under multiple probabilistic and coalescent-aware methods, known to

differ in their susceptibility to model violations. Coalescent-based inference was performed using the

summary method ASTRAL-III [87], estimating support as local posterior probabilities [88]. Among

concatenation approaches, we used Bayesian inference under an unpartitioned GTR+G model in

ExaBayes 1.5 [89]. Two chains were run for 2.5 million generations, samples were drawn every one

hundred, and the initial 25% was discarded as burn-in. We also explored maximum likelihood inference

with partitioned and unpartitioned models. For the former, the fast-relaxed clustering algorithm was

used to find the best-fitting model among the top 10% using IQ-TREE 1.6.12 [90, 91] (-m MFP+MERGE -

rclusterf 10 -rcluster-max 3000), and support was evaluated with 1,000 ultrafast BS replicates [92]. For

the latter, we used the LG4X+R model in RAxML-NG v. 0.5.1 [93] and evaluated support with 200

replicates of BS. Finally, we also implemented the site-heterogeneous LG+C60+F+G mixture model using

the posterior mean site frequency (PMSF) approach to provide a fast approximation of the full profile

mixture model [94], allowing the use of 100 BS replicates to estimate support. Given some degree of

topological conflict between the results of the other methods (see below), multiple guide trees were

used to estimate site frequency profiles, but the resulting phylogenies were identical.

Given conflicts between methods in the resolution of one particular node (involving the

relationships among Arbacioida, Salenioida, and the clade of Stomopneustoida + Camarodonta), all

methods were repeated after reducing the matrix to 500 and 100 loci selected for their phylogenetic

usefulness using the approach described in [3, 37] and implemented in the *genesortR* script

(https://github.com/mongiardino/genesortR). This approach relies on seven gene properties routinely

used for phylogenomic subsampling, including multiple proxies for phylogenetic signal—such as the

average BS and Robinson-Foulds (RF) similarity to a target topology—as well as several potential sources

of systematic bias (e.g., rate and compositional heterogeneities). Outgroups were removed before

calculating these metrics. RF similarity was measured to a species tree that had the conflicting

relationship collapsed so as not to bias gene selection in favor of any resolution. A principal component

analysis (PCA) of this dataset resulted in a dimension (PC 2, 17.6% of variance) along which phylogenetic

signal increased while sources of bias decreased (Fig. S9), and which was used for loci selection. For the

smallest dataset, we also performed inference under the site-heterogeneous CAT+GTR+G model using

PhyloBayes-MPI [95]. Three runs were continued for > 10,000 generations, sampling every two

generations and discarding the initial 25%. Convergence was confirmed given a maximum bipartition

discrepancy of 0.067 and effective sample sizes for all parameters > 150.

Two other approaches were implemented in order to assist in resolving the contentious node.

First, we implemented a likelihood-mapping analysis [96] in IQ-TREE to visualize the phylogenetic signal

for alternative resolutions of the quartet involving these three lineages (Arbacioida, Salenioida, and

Stomopneustoida + Camarodonta) and their sister clade (Irregularia; other taxa were excluded). Second,

we estimated the log-likelihood scores of each site in RAxML (using best-fitting models) for the two most

strongly supported resolutions found through likelihood mapping. These were used to calculate gene-

wise differences in scores, or δ values [97]. In order to search for discernable trends in the signal for

alternative topologies, genes were ordered based on their phylogenetic usefulness (see above) and the

mean per-locus δ values of datasets composed of multiples of 20 loci (i.e., the most useful 20, 40, etc.)

were calculated.

(c)   Time calibration

Node dating was performed using relaxed molecular clocks in PhyloBayes v4.1 using a fixed

topology and a novel set of 22 fossil calibrations corresponding to nodes from our newly inferred

phylogeny (listed in the Supplementary Information). Depending on the node, we enforced both

minimum and maximum bounds, or either one of these. A birth-death prior was used for divergence

times, which allowed for the implementation of soft bounds [98], leaving 5% prior probability of

divergences falling outside of the specified interval. We explored the sensitivity of divergence time

estimates to gene selection, model of molecular evolution, and clock prior. One hundred loci were

sampled from the full supermatrix according to four targeted sampling schemes: usefulness (calculated

as explained above, except incorporating all echinoderm terminals), phylogenetic signal (i.e., smallest RF

distance to species tree), clock-likeness (i.e., smallest variance of root-to-tip distances), and level of

occupancy. For clock-likeness, we only considered loci that lay within one standard deviation of the

mean rate (estimated by dividing total tree length by the number of terminals [99]), as this method is

otherwise prone to selecting largely uninformative loci (Fig. S10; [37]). A fifth sample of randomly

chosen loci was also evaluated. These five datasets were run under two models of molecular evolution,

the site-homogeneous GTR+G and the site-heterogeneous CAT+GTR+G, and both uncorrelated gamma

(UGAM) and autocorrelated log-normal (LN) clocks were implemented. The combination of these

settings (loci sampled, model of evolution, and clock prior) resulted in 20 analyses. For each, two runs

were continued for 20,000 generations, after which the initial 25% was discarded and the chains thinned

to every two generations (see log-likelihood trace plots in Fig. S11). To explore the sensitivity of

divergence times to these methodological decisions, 500 random chronograms were sampled from each

analysis (250 from each run), and their node dates were subjected to multivariate analyses of variance

(MANOVA) and between-group PCA (bgPCA) using package *Morpho* [100] in the R statistical

environment [69]. bgPCA involves the use of PCA on the covariance matrix of group means (e.g., the

mean ages of all nodes obtained under UGAM or LN clocks), followed by the projection of original

samples onto the obtained bgPC axes. The result is a multidimensional representation of divergence

times—a chronospace—rotated so as to capture the distinctiveness of observations obtained under

different settings. Separate bgPCAs were performed for loci sampling strategy, clock prior and model of

molecular evolution, and the proportion of total variance explained by bgPC axes was interpreted as an

estimate of the relative impact of these choices on inferred times of divergence. Finally, lineage-

through-time plots were generated using *ape* [101].

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Competing interests

555   We declare no competing interests.

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Supplementary Information for:

777   N Mongiardino Koch, JR Thompson, AS Hatch, MF McCowin, AF Armstrong, SE Coppard, F Aguilera, O

778   Bronstein, A Kroh, R Mooi, GW Rouse – Phylogenomic analyses of echinoid diversification prompt a re-

779   evaluation of their fossil record

781   Sequencing and further bioinformatic details

Apatopygus recens, *Aspidodiadema hawaiiense*, *Fellaster zelandiae*, *Histocidaris variabilis*,

Rhyncholampas pacificus, *Sinaechinocyamus mai*, *Stereocidaris neumayeri*, *Tromikosoma hispidum*.

Tissue subsamples were finely chopped with a scalpel and preserved in RNA*later* (Ambion) buffer

solution for 1 day at 4°C to allow the RNA*later* to effectively penetrate the tissues, followed by long-

term storage at -80°C until RNA extraction. Total RNA was extracted from 1.5 mm Triple-Pure High

Impact Zirconium beads (Benchmark Scientific) in Trizol (Ambion), using Direct-zol RNA Miniprep Kit

(Zymo Research) with in-column DNase I incubation to remove genomic DNA. Prior to mRNA capture,

total RNA concentration was estimated using Qubit RNA HS Assay Kit (Invitrogen; range = 8.33-96

ng/μL), and quality was assessed using either High Sensitivity RNA ScreenTape or RNA ScreenTape with

an Agilent 4200 TapeStation. Mature mRNA was isolated from total RNA and libraries were prepared

using KAPA mRNA HyperPrep Kit (KAPA Biosystems) following the manufacturer's instructions (including

sample customization based on total RNA quantity and quality values), targeting an insert size circa 500

base pairs (bp), and using custom 10-nucleotide Illumina TruSeq style adapters [102]. Post-amplification,

DNA concentration was estimated using Qubit dsDNA BR Assay Kit (Invitrogen; range = 6.06-13.4 ng/μL).

Concentration, quality, and molecular weight distribution of libraries (range = 547-978 bp) was also

assessed using Genomic DNA ScreenTape with an Agilent 4200 TapeStation. Ten libraries (including two

annelids not employed here) were sequenced on one lane of a multiplexed run using NovaSeq S4

platform with 100 bp paired-end reads at the IGM Genomics Center (University of California San Diego).

The assembled transcriptomes were sanitized from cross-contaminant reads product of

multiplexed sequencing using CroCo v. 1.1 [80]. These eight datasets, as well as two annelid

transcriptomes not employed in this study but sequenced in the same lane, were incorporated.

Transcripts considered over or under-expressed across samples (as defined by default parameters),

were kept. This resulted in an average removal of 1.26% of assembled transcripts (range: 0.4% for

Aspidodiadema to 3.06% for *Histocidaris*).

Clypeaster japonicus, *Encope emarginata*, *Leodia sexiesperforata*, *Peronella japonica*. Eggs were

collected from a single female specimen of each species and immediately placed into RNA later for

preservation. The samples were left in RNAlater at 4°C for at least 1 day and then transferred to a -80°C

freezer until RNA extraction. RNA extraction was performed using Trizol and was then treated with

Ambion's Turbo DNA-free kit. RNA was quantified using both Nanodrop and an Agilent 2100

Bioanalyzer. Only RNA samples with an RNA integrity number (RIN) of > 7 were used. RNA-Seq libraries

were prepared using the NEB Ultra Directional kit using the standard protocol and multiplexed with 6bp

NEB multiplex primers. Paired-end 100 libraries were generated from the resultant libraries at the UC

Berkeley Genome Center using an Illumina HighSeq 2500.

Bathysalenia phoinissa, *Micropyga tuberculata*: The material was collected by the deep-sea

cruise BIOMAGLO [103] conducted in 2017 jointly by the French National Museum of Natural History

(MNHN) as part of the Tropical Deep-Sea Benthos program, the French Research Institute for

Exploitation of the Sea (IFREMER), the "Terres Australes et Antarctiques Françaises" (TAAF), the

Departmental Council of Mayotte and the French Development Agency (AFD), with the financial support

of the European Union (Xe FED). Specimens were sorted into taxonomic bins at class level and

collectively fixed in 70% ethanol at room temperature. Following taxonomic identification, tissue

samples were obtained using sterilized forceps and disposable scalpel blades. Tissue subsamples were

collected in high-purity 96% ethanol and stored at -40°C until DNA extraction. Total genomic DNA was

extracted using the DNeasy Blood and Tissue Kit (QIAGEN) following the manufacturer's instructions,

complemented by the addition of 4 µl RNAse A (QIAGEN, 100 mg/ml) for RNA digestion. Elution buffer

volume was reduced to 60 µl and the elution step repeated twice per sample in order to maximize DNA

concentration and yield. After collection of the first elution, spin-column membranes were rinsed again

twice with fresh elution buffer (40 µl) to further increase yield. Elutions were collected separately, with

the first one used for sequencing and the second for quality control. For the latter, a portion of the

mitochondrial cytochrome c oxidase subunit I (COI) was amplified using PCR. Amplifications were

conducted with TopTaq DNA Polymerase (QIAGEN) using 1 µl of extracted genomic DNA (approx. 10–15

ng). Details on primers and protocols can be found in [104]. PCR products were visualized on a 1%

agarose gel, purified using ExoSAP-IT (Affymetrix), and sequenced at Microsynth GmbH (Vienna, Austria)

with the same primers. Sequences are deposited in GenBank under the accession numbers XXX and XXX.

Prior to library preparation, total genomic DNA concentration was estimated using Qubit DNA

BR Assay Kit (Invitrogen) in order to determine library preparation strategy. This step was carried out by

Macrogen (Korea), using an Illumina TruSeq DNA PCR-free kit (for *Micropyga*) and an Illumina TruSeq

Nano DNA kit (for *Bathysalenia*). Library preparation followed the manufacturer's instructions, targeting

an insert size of 350 base pairs (bp). The libraries were sequenced by Macrogen (Korea) on a shared lane

of a multiplexed run using an Illumina HiSeq X instrument with 150 bp paired-end reads. Sequencing

depth was 134.1 and 161.3 million reads for *Bathysalenia* and *Micropyga*, respectively. Pre-processing of

Illumina shotgun data was carried out by removal of adapters using BBDuk

(https://sourceforge.net/projects/bbmap/) with settings: `minlen=50 ktrim=r k=23 mink=11`

`tpe tbo`); followed by quality trimming of reads using UrQt v. 1.0.18 [75], discarding regions with

phred quality score < 28 and sequences of size < 50. Assembly of the data was carried out with MEGAHIT

v. 1.1.2 [76], in an iterative approach followed by assessment of assembly quality using BUSCO v. 3.0.2.

scores [105] using the metazoan dataset ODB v. 9 [106]. Final BUSCO scores of the draft assemblies

were 28.4% (S:27.8%, D:0.6%, F:48.2%, M:23.4%, n:978) for *Bathysalenia* and 17.2% (S:16.8%, D:0.4%,

F:59.0%, M:23.8%, n:978) for *Micropyga*. As recommended by Hoff and Stanke [78], draft genomes were

masked with RepeatMasker v. 4.1.0 [77] prior to gene prediction, using settings: `-norna -xsmall`;

resulting in 3.82 % and 2.9% masked bases for *Bathysalenia* and *Micropyga*, respectively. Gene

prediction was carried out using AUGUSTUS v. 3.2.3 [79] using settings: `--strand=both --`

`singlestrand=false --genemodel=partial --codingseq=on --sample=0 --`

`alternatives-from-sampling=false --exonnames=on --softmasking=on`. This step

relied on a training dataset composed of universal single-copy orthologs (USCOs) derived from the most

recent *Strongylocentrotus purpuratus* genome (Spur v.5).

Echinothrix calamaris, Tripneustes gratilla. Tissue samples were taken from live sea urchins

housed in laboratory aquaria and total RNA was immediately extracted from 150 mg of tissue using a

PureLink™ RNA extraction kit (Invitrogen™). The quality of total RNA was assessed on a BioAnalyzer

2100 (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA, USA) to ensure a RIN > 9 for all samples. Mature mRNA was

extracted from 1ug of total RNA and cDNA libraries were constructed using a TruSeq kit (Illumina).

Quality control of libraries was assessed on a BioAnalyzer and quantification measured using qPCR.

NEBNext Multiplex adaptors were added via ligation, and the cDNA libraries were sequenced at Genome

Quebec, McGill University. Three libraries were multiplex sequenced on one lane of Illumina at a

concentration of 8 pM per cDNA library using HiSeq2500 transcriptome sequencing to generate 125bp

paired-end reads. This resulted in approximately 80 million reads for each transcriptome.

Tetrapygus niger. Adult specimens were collected and transported alive to the University of

Concepcion. Tissue samples (female gonad and tube feet) from one individual were finely chopped with

a scalpel, and total RNA was extracted immediately using TriReagent (Sigma), following the

manufacturer's instructions. Total RNA concentration was estimated using QuantiFluor® RNA System

(111.84-339.04 ng/μL) and quality was assessed using Agilent RNA 6000 Nano kit with an Agilent 2100

TapeStation (RIN: 5.4-8.4). cDNA libraries were prepared at Genoma Mayor SpA (Chile) using TruSeq

Stranded mRNA Kit (Illumina) and sequenced on a multiplexed run using Illumina HiSeq 4000 platform

with 150 paired-end reads, resulting in 54.1 M reads for gonad female and 52.7 M reads for tube feet,

respectively. These two transcriptomic datasets were combined before performing all steps of

bioinformatic processing.

Eucidaris metularia. A single specimen was preserved in RNA*later* after being starved overnight

and kept for 1 day at 4°C before long-term storage at -80°C. Total RNA was extracted using Direct-zol

RNA Miniprep Kit (with in-column DNase treatment; Zymo Research) from Trizol. mRNA was isolated

with Dynabeads mRNA Direct Micro Kit (Invitrogen). RNA concentration was estimated using Qubit RNA

broad range assay kit, and quality was assessed using RNA ScreenTape with an Agilent 4200 TapeStation.

Values were used to customize downstream protocols following manufacturers' instructions. Library

preparation was performed with KAPA-Stranded RNA-Seq kits, targeting an insert size in the range of

200–300 base pairs. The quality and concentration of libraries were assessed using DNA ScreenTape.

The library was sequenced in a multiplexed pair-end runs using Illumina HiSeq 4000 with 7 other

libraries in the same lane (all previously published in [4]). In order to minimize read crossover, 10 bp

sequence tags designed to be robust to indel and substitution errors were employed [102].

The assembled transcriptome was filtered from cross-contaminant reads product of multiplexed

sequencing using CroCo v. 1.1 [80]. Seven other transcriptomes sequenced together were also

employed, and results of this step are reported in figure S1 of Mongiardino Koch et al. [3].

Fossil constraints

All clade names used below refer to the corresponding crown groups.

Ambulacraria (Echinodermata-Hemichordata divergence) – **Younger bound**: 518 Ma, Middle Atdabanian (age 3, Series 3 of Cambrian). **Older bound**: 636.1 Ma, Lantian Biota, Ediacaran. **Reference:** [107]. **Notes:** The root of our tree is constrained with a younger bound concurrent with the earliest occurrence of stereom in the fossil record (see below). The older bound is based on the maximum age of the Lantian Biota, a Lagerstätte lacking any trace of eumetazoan fossils.

Echinodermata (Pelmatozoan-Eleutherozoan divergence) – **Younger bound**: Unconstrained. **Older bound:** 515.5 Ma, Middle Atdabanian (age 3, Series 3 of Cambrian). **Reference**: [107]. **Notes:** This divergence (which represents the divergence of crown group echinoderms), has an older bound based upon the earliest occurrence of stereom in the fossil record. Stereom constitutes an echinoderm synapomorphy readily recognizable in the fossil record due to its unique mesh-like structure [41]. The first records of stereom point to a sudden and global appearance within the middle Atdabanian [40]. Note that this is also used as younger bound for the divergence between echinoderms and hemichordates.

Echinozoa (Echinoidea-Holothuroidea divergence) – **Younger bound:** 469.96 Ma, Top of *Pseudoclamacograptus decorates* graptolite zone. **Older bound:** 461.95 Ma, Top Floian. **Reference:** [108, 109]. **Notes:** The oldest crown eleutherozoan fossils are disarticulated holothurian calcareous ring elements which are known from the Red *Orthoceras* limestone of Sweden. This falls within the *P. decorates* graptolite zone.

Asterozoa (Ophiuroidea-Asteroidea divergence) – **Younger bound**: 521 Ma, Top of *Psigraptus jacksoni* Zone. **Older bound**: 480.55 Ma, Base of Series 2 Cambrian Period. **Reference**: [108, 109]. **Taxon**:

Maydenia roadsidensis. **Notes**: The divergence of asterozoan classes is calibrated based upon the

stratigraphic occurrence of *Maydenia roadsidensis*, the oldest asterozoan, which is a stem group

ophiuroid [110] and occurs in the *Psigraptus jacksoni* Zone of the Floian.

Asteroidea – **Younger bound:** 239.10 Ma, Top Fassanian, Ladinian, Mo3, *nodosus* biozone, Triassic.

Older bound: 252.16 Ma, P-T Boundary. **Reference**: [111]. **Taxon**: *Trichasteropsis weissmanni*. **Notes**:

Fossil evidence suggests the divergence of the asterozoan crown group took place sometime in the Early

or Middle Triassic [111]. Based upon its phylogenetic position and stratigraphic occurrence as the oldest

crown group asteroid, we use the forcipulatacean *T. weissmanni* from the Middle Triassic Muschelkalk

as the soft bound on this divergence.

Crinoidea – **Younger bound**: 247.06 Ma, Top Spathian (Paris Biota, Lower Shale unit, Thaynes Group,

Spathian, Triassic). **Older bound**: Unconstrained. **Reference**: [112]. **Taxon**: *Holocrinus*. **Notes**: Crown

group Crinoidea is difficult to define, though a rapid post-Palaeozoic morphological diversification is

supported by fossil evidence. We use *Holocrinus* from the Early Triassic of the Thaynes group to calibrate

the younger bound on the divergence of the crown group (i.e., the split between Isocrinida and all other

extant crinoids).

Ophiuroidea (Euryophiurida-Ophintegrida divergence) – **Younger bound**: 247.06 Ma, Top Spathian (Paris

Biota, Lower Shale unit, Thaynes Group, Spathian, Triassic). **Older bound**: Unconstrained. **Reference**:

[113]. **Taxon**: *Shoshonura brayardi*. **Notes**: *S. brayardi* from the Spathian Thaynes Group of the Western

USA is a member of the crown group ophiuroid clade Ophiodermatina. It is thus the currently oldest

described member of the ophiuroid crown group, setting its minimum age of divergence.

Pneumonophora (Holothuriida-Neoholothuriida divergence) – **Younger bound**: 259.8 Ma, S*pinosus* zone

of Early Ladinian (used base Ladinian). **Older bound**: 241.5 Ma, Base Wuchiapingian. **Reference**: [44,

108]. **Notes**: The oldest (undescribed) holothuriid calcareous ring ossicles are from the *Spinosus* zone of

the Ladinian of Germany and calibrate its divergence from neoholothuriids.

Echinoidea (Cidaroidea-Euechinoidea divergence) – **Younger bound**: 298.9 Ma, Base Carnian. **Older**

bound: 237 Ma, Base Permian. **Reference**: [114]. **Taxon**: *Triassicidaris? ampezzana*. **Notes**: The recent

phylogenetic analysis of Mongiardino Koch and Thompson [3] found many traditional early crown group

echinoids as members of the stem group. Given this result, *Triassicidaris? ampezzana*, a cidaroid which

is known from the St. Cassian beds of Italy, becomes the current oldest crown group echinoid.

Pedinoida-Aspidodiadematoida – **Younger bound**: 209.46 Ma, Top of Norian. **Older bound**: 252.16 Ma,

P-T boundary. **Reference**: See discussion in supplement of Thompson et al. [13]. **Taxon**: *Diademopsis* ex.

gr. *heberti*. **Notes**: The oldest euechinoid, *Diademopsis* ex. gr. *heberti*, which is a pedinoid, is known

from the Norian of Peru. This fossil calibrates the younger bound on the pedinoid-aspidodiadematoid

divergence.

Carinacea (Echinacea-Irregularia divergence) – **Younger bound**: 234.5 Ma, Top Sinemurian. **Older**

bound: 190.8 Ma, Top Julian 1 ammonoid zone of Norian. **Reference**: Li et al. [115]. **Taxon**:

Jesionekechinus. **Notes**: The divergence of Carinacea is calibrated based upon the oldest irregular

echinoid, *Jesionekechinus*, which occurs above the Sinemurian of New York Canyon, Nevada. For a more

detailed discussion of this divergence see the supplement of Thompson et al. [13].

Salenioida-(Camarodonta+Stomopneustoida) divergence– **Younger bound**: 228.35 Ma, Base Hettangian.

Older bound: 201.3 Ma, Top Carnian. **Reference**: [14]. **Taxon**: *Acrosalenia chartroni*. **Notes**: The stem

group salenioid *Acrosalenia chartroni* from the Hettangian of France is the earliest representative of

Echinacea. Given the topology recovered by our analyses, this fossil was used to calibrate the divergence

between salenioids and the clade composed of stomopneustoids and camarodonts.

Stomopneustoida-Camarodonta divergence – **Younger bound**: 201.3 Ma, Top Pliensbachian. **Older**

bound: 182.7 Ma, Base Jurassic. **Reference**: See discussion in supplement of Thompson et al. [13].

Taxon: Stomechinids from Morocco like *Diplechinus hebbriensis* [116]. **Notes**: The oldest stomechinids,

which are stem group stomopneustoids, are from the Early Jurassic of Morocco.

Neognathostomata-Atelostomata divergence – **Younger bound**: 234.5 Ma, Base of Toarcian. **Older**

bound: 182.7 Ma, St. Cassian Beds, bottom of Julian 2 ammonoid Zone. **Reference**: [14, 115]. **Taxon**:

Younger bound is set by *Galeropygus sublaevis* (older bound is relatively uninformative). **Notes**: The

base of the Toarcian (which contains the oldest neognathostomate *G. sublaevis*) is used as the lower

bound on the divergence between the neognathostomata and all other crown irregular echinoids. Note

that depending on the position of the unsampled echinoneoids, this split might also correspond to the

origin of crown group Irregularia (see recent topologies recovered by Lin et al. [36] and Mongiardino

Koch & Thompson [3]).

Atelostomata (Holasteroida-Spatangoida divergence) – **Younger bound**: 137.68 Ma, Bottom of

Campylotoxus zone in Valanginian. **Older bound**: 201.3 Ma, Base of Jurassic. **Reference**: [117]. **Taxon**:

Younger bound is based on *Toxaster* (older bound is loosely uninformative). **Notes**: The toxasterids are

stem group spatangoids that calibrate the divergence between spatangoids and holasteroids. The oldest

Toxaster are from the *Campylotoxus* zone in the Valanginian, and set the younger bound on the

divergence.

Echinolampadacea (Cassiduloida-Scutelloida divergence) – **Younger bound**: 113 Ma, Base Albian. **Older**

bound: 145 Ma, Base Cretaceous. **Reference**: [118]. **Taxon**: Younger bound is based on *Eurypetalum*

rancheriana (older bound is loosely uninformative). **Notes**: The oldest member of Echinolampadacea is

the faujasiid *Eurypetalum rancheriana* (originally placed in the genus *Faujasia* and later transferred, see

[28, 29]) from the Late Albian of Colombia.

Scutelloida (Scutelliformes-Laganiformes divergence) – **Younger bound**: 56.0 Ma, Bottom of Eocene.

Older bound: Unconstrained. **Reference**: [14, 119]. **Taxon**: Younger bound is based on *Eoscutum*

doncieuxi. **Notes**: We use the base of the Eocene as the younger bound on the divergence between

scutelliforms and laganiforms. This is based upon the occurrence of *E. doncieuxi*, the oldest scutelliform,

which is known from the Lower Eocene. The older bound is left unconstrained in order to account for

the current uncertainty in the origin of the clade (i.e., allow for Mesozoic ages).

Leodia-(*Encope+Mellita*) divergence – **Younger bound**: 23.03 Ma, Base Miocene. **Older bound**: 33.9 Ma,

Base of Oligocene. **Reference**: [120, 121]. **Taxon**: Younger bound is based on *Encope michoacanensis*

(older bound is loosely uninformative). **Notes**: This node is constrained using the oldest representative

of these three genera of mellitids.

Clypeasteroida – **Younger bound**: 47.8 Ma, Base Lutetian. **Older bound**: Unconstrained. **Reference**:

[122, 123]. **Taxon**: Younger bound is based on *Clypeaster calzadai* and *Clypeaster moianensis*. **Notes**:

The oldest known fossil species of Clypeasteroida (the clypeasterids *C. calzadai* and *C. moianensis*) are

from the middle Eocene, upper Lutetian (Biarritzian) of Cataluña, Spain. The older bound is left

unconstrained in order to account for the current uncertainty in the origin of the clade (i.e., allow for

Mesozoic ages).

Strongylocentrotidae-Toxopneustidae divergence – **Younger bound**: 44.4 Ma, Eocene Planktonic Zones

E9-E12. **Older bound**: 56.0 Ma, Base Eocene. **Reference**: [124, 125]. **Taxon**: Younger bound is based on

Lytechinus axiologus (older bound is loosely uninformative). **Notes**: The oldest member of the clade

comprising toxopneustids and strongylocentrotids is the toxopneustid *Lytechinus axiologus.* This taxon is

known from the Eocene Yellow Limestone Group of Jamaica. The Yellow Limestone group represents the

Eocene Planktonic Zones E9-E12.

Supplementary Figures and Tables

Fig. S1: Estimated branch lengths across different models of molecular evolution. Different site-homogeneous models (left) infer similar levels of divergence, and the choice between them induces little distortion in the general tree structure. Site-heterogeneous models on the other hand, not only infer a larger degree of divergence between terminals relative to site-homogeneous ones (center and left), but they also distort the tree (i.e., impose a non-isometric stretching), with branch lengths connecting outgroup taxa expanding much more than those within the ingroup clade.

1016

Fig. S2: Effect of gene sampling strategy on inferred times of divergence. **A.** A chronospace, depicting

the differences in inferred ages between chronograms obtained using different loci. Axes constitute the

first two dimensions of the bgPCA (capturing 8.8% out of a total of 10.5% of variances summarized by all

four dimensions). Note that a bimodal distribution of the data, likely corresponding to the

implementation of LN or UGAM clock models (see Fig. 3) is evident, even when the bgPCA is performed

so as to discriminate chronograms based on a different factor. The inset shows the centroid for each

type of loci sampling strategy, and the width of the lines connecting them are scaled to the inverse of

the Euclidean distances that separates them (as a visual summary of overall similarity). The ages most

different to those obtained under random loci sampling were found when selecting clock-like genes. **B.**

Change in branch lengths along the first two bgPC axes. Branches are colored according to their

contraction/expansion given a score of − 1 (top) or + 1 (bottom) standard deviations, relative to the

mean. Clades/nodes showing age differences larger than 20 Ma are labelled.

1029

1030 **Fig. S3:** Distribution of posterior probabilities for node ages that show an average difference larger than

1031 20 Ma depending on the choice of clock prior.

1032

Fig. S4: Distribution of posterior probabilities for node ages that show a maximum difference larger than

20 Ma depending on the choice of clock prior (no node showed average differences larger than 20 Ma).

The largest differences can be seen in the relatively younger ages of Ambulacraria and Echinodermata

when using clock-like genes, and in the relatively older ages for some nodes within cidaroids and starfish

when using loci with high occupancy. Other sampling criteria largely agree on inferred node ages, as can

also be seen in Fig. S2 as short distances between their centroids in chronospace.

1039

1040   **Fig. S5:** Distribution of posterior probabilities for node ages that are the most affected by the choice of

1041   model of molecular evolution. No node showed average differences larger than 20 Ma, so those with

1042   the largest effect are shown.

1043

Fig. S6: Median ages for selected clades across the consensus trees of the 40 time-calibrated

experiments performed (20 analyses x 2 runs each).

1046

Fig. S7: Prior distributions of all constrained nodes. Five hundred replicates were sampled from the joint

prior, showing appropriately broad distributions of node ages. Blue lines show minima and yellow ones

maxima (when enforced); dotted lines show the age of the Permian-Triassic (251.9 Ma) and Cretaceous-

Paleogene (66 Ma) mass extinction events. Nodes whose ages are of special interest (Echinoidea,

Scutelloida, and Clypeasteroida) are shown in pink, revealing large prior probabilities of the divergence

occurring at either side of mass extinction events.

1053

Fig. S8: Number of lineages inferred to have crossed the Permian-Triassic (P-T) boundary. The

probabilities of each scenario are estimated from the inferred divergence times of the 10,000

chronograms sampled across all of the analyses performed (250 for the two runs of each combination of

sampled loci, model of molecular evolution, and clock prior). The probability of three or more crown

group lineages surviving the Permian-Triassic extinction is 58.47%.

1059

1060   **Fig. S9:** Ordering of loci enforced using *genesortR* [37] and its relationship to the seven gene properties

1061   employed. High ranking loci (i.e., the most phylogenetically useful) show low root-to-tip variances (or

1062   high clock-likeness), low saturation and compositional heterogeneity, as well as high average bootstrap

1063   and Robinson-Foulds similarity to a target topology (in this case, with the contentious relationship

1064   among major lineages of Echinacea collapsed).

1065

Fig. S10: Relationship between the root-to-tip variance (a proxy for the clock-likeness of loci) and the

rate of evolution (estimated as the total tree length divided by the number of terminals). The most

clock-like loci (shown in red), which are often favored for the inference of divergence times (e.g., [60,

126]), are among the most highly conserved and can provide little information for constraining node

ages [37]. Highly clock-like genes with a higher information content were used instead by choosing the

loci with the lowest root-to-tip variance from among those that were within 1 standard deviation from

the mean evolutionary rate (shown in blue).

1073

Fig. S11: Trace plots of the log-likelihood of different time-calibration runs. All runs show evidence of

reaching convergence and stationarity before our imposed burn-in fraction of 10,000 generations. For

simplicity, only runs under the CAT+GTR+G model are plotted. Those run under GTR+G converged much

faster.

Table S1: Transcriptomic/genomic datasets added in this study relative to the taxon sampling of

Mongiardino Koch et al. [4] and Mongiardino Koch & Thompson [3]. Taxa with citations were taken from

the literature, and details can be found in the corresponding studies and associated NCBI BioProjects.

Taxa are shown in alphabetical order; those identified with "OG" are outgroup taxa (i.e., non-echinoids).

Voucher specimens are deposited at the Benthic Invertebrate Collection, Scripps Institution of

Oceanography (SIO-BIC), and the Echinoderm Collection, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle (MNHN-

IE). If multiple accession numbers are shown for a given taxon, these datasets were merged before

assembly. Similar details for all other specimens can be found in [3, 4].

Taxon	Citation	Tissue type	Collector	Locality (depth)	Voucher	GenBank accession number
Amphiura filiformis (OG)	[127]	-	-	-	-	SRX2255774
Apatopygus recens	This study	Mixed	Owen Anderson	Foveaux Strait, South Island, New Zealand	SIO-BIC E7142	
Aspidodiadema hawaiiense	This study	Mixed	Greg Rouse, Avery Hatch	Seamount 4, Costa Rica, Pacific Ocean (1,003 m)	SIO-BIC E7363	
Asterias rubens (OG)	[128]	-	-	-	-	SRX445860
Astrophyton muricatum (OG)	[129, 130]	-	-	-	-	SRX1391908
Bathysalenia phoinissa	This study	Tube feet, spine muscles	BIOMAGLO Cruise Team	Mozambique Channel, Mayotte (295-336 m)	MNHN-IE-2016-23	

Clypeaster japonicus	This study	Eggs	Frances Armstrong	Misaki Marine Biological Station, Kanagawa, Japan	-	
Echinothrix calamaris	This study	Male gonad	-	Phillipines	-	
Encope emarginata	This study	Eggs	Gulf Specimen Marine Lab	Apalachee Bay, Florida, USA	-	
Eucidaris metularia	This study	Mixed	Greg Rouse	Al-Fahal Reef, Red Sea, Makkah, Saudi Arabia	SIO-BIC 2017-008	
Fellaster zelandiae	This study	Spines, tube feet, gut, joining tissue of Aristotle's lantern	Wilma Blom	Western end of Cornwallis Beach, Auckland, New Zealand	SIO-BIC E7920	
Histocidaris variabilis	This study	Gonad	Greg Rouse, Avery Hatch	Las Gemelas Seamount, near Isla del Coco, Costa Rica, Pacific Ocean (571 m)	SIO-BIC E7350	
Lamberticrinus messingi (OG)	[130, 131]	-	-	-	-	SRX1397823
Leodia sexiesperforata	This study	Eggs	Frances Armstrong	Bocas del Toro, Panama	-	
Metacrinus rotundus (OG)	[132]	-	-	-	-	DRX021520

Species	Source	Tissue	Collector	Locality	Voucher	Accession
Micropyga tuberculata	This study	Tube feet, spine muscles	BIOMAGLO Cruise Team	Mozambique Channel, Îles Glorieuses (385-410 m)	MNHN-IE-2016-39	
Ophiocoma echinata (OG)	[128]	-	-	-	-	SRX445856
Peronella japonica	This study	Eggs	Frances Armstrong	Kanazawa, Japan	-	
Rhyncholampas pacificus	This study	Mixed	Carlos A. Conejeros-Vargas	Panteón Beach, Puerto Ángel Bay, Oaxaca, Mexico	SIO-BIC E7918	
Scaphechinus mirabilis	[133]	-	-	-	-	DRX187887 DRX187888
Sinaechinocyamus mai	This study	Gregory's diverticulum	Jih-Pai Lin	Miaoli County, Taiwan	SIO-BIC E7919	
Sterechinus neumayeri	[134]	-	-	-	-	ERX3498697 ERX3498698 ERX3498699 ERX3498700 ERX3498701
Stereocidaris nascaensis	This study	Muscle surrounding Aristotle's lantern	Charlotte Seid	Off San Ambrosio, Desventuradas Islands, Chile (215 m)	SIO-BIC E7154	

Species		Tissue	Collector	Location	Accession
Tetrapygus niger	This study	Female gonad, tube feet	Felipe Aguilera	Dichato Bay, Chile	-
Tripneustes gratilla	This study	Pedicellaria	-	Phillipines	-
Tromikosoma hispidum	This study	Tube feet	Lisa Levin, Todd Litke	Quepos Plateau, Costa Rica, Pacific Ocean (2067 m)	SIO-BIC E7251

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Table S2: Details of molecular datasets and supermatrix. Statistics for raw reads and assemblies are

shown for datasets incorporated in this study relative to the sampling of [3, 4] (where similar statistics

can be found for the other datasets). Taxa are shown in alphabetical order; those identified with "OG"

are outgroup taxa (i.e., non-echinoids). Novel datasets correspond to Illumina pair-end transcriptomes,

except for two draft genomes (*Bathysalenia phoinissa* and *Micropyga tuberculata*). Mean insert size is

expressed in number of base pairs. For transcriptomes, read pairs (initial) shows numbers input into

Agalma [73], (i.e., after processing with Trimmomatic [72] or UrQt [75]), while read pairs (retained)

shows those that passed the Agalma curation checks (including ribosomal, adapter, quality, and

compositional filters), and represent the final number of read pairs used for assembly. For genomes, see

information in the bioinformatic details above. Assemblies were further sanitized with either

alien_index [81] alone or in combination with CroCo [80] (see bioinformatic details), and the number of

assembled transcripts/contigs shows the size of datasets after these curation steps. The number of loci

shows the occupancy of terminals in the supermatrix output by Agalma (1,346 loci at 70% occupancy),

after which loci were further removed by TreeShrink [86], resulting in the final occupancy scores.

Species	Mean insert size	Read pairs (initial)	Read pairs (retained)	Assembled transcripts/contigs	Number of loci	Removed by TreeShrink	Final occupancy
Abatus agassizii	-	-	-	-	522	5	38.4
Abatus cordatus	-	-	-	-	497	2	36.8
Acanthaster planci (OG)	-	-	-	-	864	8	63.6
Amphiura filiformis (OG)	180.1	61,558,173	52,206,727	416,946	761	8	55.9
Apatopygus recens	415.3	74,315,687	56,898,850	274,380	1152	5	85.2
Apostichopus japonicus (OG)	-	-	-	-	849	9	62.4
Araeosoma leptaleum	-	-	-	-	1184	2	87.8
Arbacia lixula	-	-	-	-	1234	1	91.6
Aspidodiadema hawaiiense	228.7	109,716,219	104,518,714	311,032	1060	11	77.9
Asterias rubens (OG)	230.4	31,890,613	25,495,009	103,090	805	9	59.1
Asthenosoma varium	-	-	-	-	1254	7	92.6

Species						
Astrophyton muricatum (OG)	195.9	25,191,954	22,281,829	149,146	478	5	35.1
Bathysalenia phoinissa	-	-	-	154,120	605	6	44.5
Brissus obesus	-	-	-	-	773	0	57.4
Caenopedina hawaiiensis	-	-	-	-	1094	2	81.1
Clypeaster japonicus	198.6	10,505,520	9,298,316	74,743	829	1	61.5
Clypeaster rosaceus	-	-	-	-	1242	2	92.1
Clypeaster subdepressus	-	-	-	-	1233	3	91.4
Colobocentrotus atratus	-	-	-	-	1158	0	86.0
Conolampas sigsbei	-	-	-	-	1001	5	74.0
Cystechinus c.f. *giganteus*	-	-	-	-	661	0	49.1
Dendraster excentricus	-	-	-	-	337	1	25.0
Diadema setosum	-	-	-	-	305	1	22.6
Echinarachnius parma	-	-	-	-	1187	3	88.0
Echinocardium cordatum	-	-	-	-	1012	2	75.0
Echinocardium mediterraneum	-	-	-	-	1185	1	88.0
Echinocyamus crispus	-	-	-	-	709	6	52.2
Echinometra mathaei	-	-	-	-	1055	0	78.4
Echinothrix calamaris	203.9	68,871,087	60,443,904	251,788	1252	4	92.7
Encope emarginata	206.2	12,015,888	10,461,870	66,241	1076	1	79.9
Eucidaris metularia	321.6	38,802,159	29,047,401	83,318	412	2	30.5
Eucidaris tribuloides	-	-	-	-	414	0	30.8
Evechinus chloroticus	-	-	-	-	1196	1	88.8
Fellaster zelandiae	313.9	62,619,791	51,742,748	168,598	1269	1	94.2
Heliocidaris erythrogramma	-	-	-	-	931	0	69.2
Histocidaris variabilis	329.2	84,103,672	73,884,180	144,044	1189	5	88.0
Holothuria forskali (OG)	-	-	-	-	743	8	54.6
Lamberticrinus messingi (OG)	195.0	22,989,820	20,234,597	59,049	351	3	25.9
Leodia sexiesperforata	203.8	16,211,182	14,174,475	68,964	1064	1	79.0
Leptosynapta clarki (OG)	-	-	-	-	403	4	29.6
Lissodiadema lorioli	-	-	-	-	770	0	57.2
Loxechinus albus	-	-	-	-	1265	1	93.9

Species							
Lytechinus variegatus	-	-	-	-	1257	2	93.2
Mellita tenuis	-	-	-	-	1002	1	74.4
Meoma ventricosa	-	-	-	-	1053	0	78.2
Mesocentrotus nudus	-	-	-	-	1247	0	92.6
Metacrinus rotundus (OG)	198.5	23,791,832	20,900,345	83,718	642	7	47.2
Micropyga tuberculata	-	-	-	170,514	415	4	30.5
Ophiocoma echinata (OG)	278.5	28,427,026	24,836,025	130,153	712	7	52.4
Paracentrotus lividus	-	-	-	-	1266	0	94.1
Patiria miniata (OG)	-	-	-	-	740	8	54.4
Peronella japonica	208.3	17,696,287	15,707,931	106,110	1043	6	77.0
Prionocidaris baculosa	-	-	-	-	794	3	58.8
Psammechinus miliaris	-	-	-	-	1173	1	87.1
Rhyncholampas pacificus	346.8	63,116,413	52,160,741	234,910	1070	2	79.3
Saccoglossus kowalevskii (OG)	-	-	-	-	668	6	49.2
Scaphechinus mirabilis	401.7	10,169,195	8,796,067	127,664	974	4	72.1
Sinaechinocyamus mai	297.2	60,208,172	52,265,201	164,646	1233	1	91.5
Sphaerechinus granularis	-	-	-	-	1214	1	90.1
Sterechinus neumayeri	207.3	26,376,279	21,308,840	122,001	1097	1	81.4
Stereocidaris nascaensis	327.0	69,962,495	60,316,050	121,508	1200	6	88.7
Stomopneustes variolaris	-	-	-	-	908	0	67.5
Strongylocentrotus purpuratus	-	-	-	-	1266	5	93.7
Tetrapygus niger	202.5	63,040,541	52,761,671	163,084	1287	2	95.5
Tripneustes gratilla	154.6	62,962,239	57,015,692	130,376	1309	1	97.2
Tromikosoma hispidum	300.4	57,208,357	47,909,038	234,502	1238	7	91.5

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