



Mr Armin Elsler
Bsc(Vienna), Bsc(Vienna), Msc(Vienna)

Research Associate

Area of research

Early tetrapod evolution: Red Queen or Court Jester? (Supervisor: Professor Michael J. Benton)

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Summary

My current work concentrates on the macroevolution of early tetrapods, with a particular focus on the evolution of body size. A pre-existing database is updated and a supertree of early tetrapods is created. This dataset forms the base for subsequent phylogenetic comparative analyses, which will be coupled with additional research on diversity and morphological disparity patterns. Special attention is given to the effects of mass extinctions in the observed timeframe.

Previous research topics include morphological and phylogenetic analyses of an ornithischian dinosaur specimen from the U.S., a morphological description of fossil bird remains from Austria, stable isotope geochemistry of Late Triassic brachiopods and chemical analyses of high temperature solid state reaction products.

My interests include the macroevolution and the shape of phylogenies of early tetrapods and dinosaurs, mass extinctions, early terrestrial ecosystem evolution and the possible usage of geochemical analyses within a phylogenetic framework.

Biography

2019 - present: Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Bristol (United Kingdom)

2015 - 2019: PhD in Geology, University of Bristol (United Kingdom)

2014: MSc in Earth Sciences, University of Vienna (Austria)

2013: BSc in Biology, University of Vienna (Austria)

2010: BSc in Geosciences and Atmosphere Sciences, University of Innsbruck (Austria)

Teaching

Demonstrating:

2017: Sedimentology (2nd year course), University of Bristol [temporary]

2016/2017: Geology 1 - Evolution of Earth & Life (1st year course), University of Bristol

2016: Evolution of the Biosphere (3rd year course), University of Bristol

2016: Geology 1 - Sedimentology (1st year course), University of Bristol [temporary]

2016: Geology 1 - Geological maps + Evolution of Earth & Life (1st year course), University of Bristol

2015/2016: Independent Development of Geology Skills 2 (3rd year course), University of Bristol

2015/2016: Independent Development of Geology Skills 1 (2nd year course), University of Bristol

2015: Geology 1 - Geological maps + Evolution of Earth & Life (1st year course), University of Bristol

Keywords

- macroevolution
- early tetrapods
- dinosaurs
- phylogeny
- stable isotopes

Memberships

Organisations

[School of Earth Sciences](#)

Earth Sciences staff

- [Earth Sciences postdoctoral researchers](#)

Postgraduate students

- [Research students \(PhD and MSc\)](#)

Research groups

- [Palaeobiology](#)

Research themes

- [Evolution of Biodiversity and Morphology](#)

Recent publications

- Stubbs, T, Benton, M, Elsler, A & Marquez, AP, 2019, '[Morphological innovation and the evolution of hadrosaurid dinosaurs](#)'. *Paleobiology*, vol 45., pp. 347-362
- Herrera-Flores, JA, Stubbs, TL, Elsler, A & Benton, MJ, 2018, '[Taxonomic reassessment of *Clevosaurus latidens* Fraser, 1993 \(Lepidosauria, Rhynchocephalia\) and rhynchocephalian phylogeny based on parsimony and Bayesian inference](#)'. *Journal of Paleontology*, vol 92., pp. 734-742
- Elsler, A & Kriwet, J, 2015, '[A new specimen of *Othnielosaurus consors*](#)', pp. 60
- Happ, J & Elsler, A, 2014, '[Der älteste österreichische Singvogel aus dem Mittel-Miozän Kärntens](#)', pp. Supplement
- Mette, W, Elsler, A & Korte, C, 2012, '[Palaeoenvironmental changes in the Late Triassic \(Rhaetian\) of the Northern Calcareous Alps: Clues from stable isotopes and microfossils](#)'. *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, vol 350-352., pp. 62-72
- Mette, W, Korte, C & Elsler, A, 2012, '[Carbon isotope fluctuations and benthic environments in the north-alpine Rhaetian](#)', pp. 123
- Mette, W, Elsler, A & Korte, C, 2011, '[Ostracods and \$\delta^{18}\text{O}\$ analysis in the Late Triassic of the Northern Calcareous Alps – implications for palaeotemperature and sea level fluctuations](#)'. *Joannea Geologie und Paläontologie*, vol 11., pp. 137-140

[View complete publications list](#) in the University of Bristol publications system

Courses

Mr Elsler currently teaches 2 courses: