

It is surprising that you do not discuss/cite Maisano, 2002 (The potential utility of postnatal skeletal developmental patterns in squamate phylogenetics. *Zool. J. Linn. Soc.* **136**:277–313) in your discussion of previous work (lines 50-62). I used event pairs in a phylogenetic analysis of Squamata based on postnatal ossification patterns in 21 species across Squamata – 13 years before Werneburg and Sánchez-Villagra, 2015. You should at least acknowledge this work.

12: insert ‘Although’ at beginning of sentence; change ‘that’ to ‘this’

13: change ‘completely’ to ‘very’

14: change ‘that’ to ‘this’, ‘little’ to ‘few’, and ‘attempted usefulness’ to ‘have assessed the utility’

18: change ‘were’ to ‘was’

23: insert comma after ‘analyses’

25: change ‘is not present’ to ‘is weak at best’ and delete ‘or is very weak’

29: insert comma after ‘species’ and change rest of line to ‘Squamata (lizards, snakes and amphisbaenians) is one of the most’

30: a reference should be cited

31: change ‘obscured’ to ‘confounded’

32: here and elsewhere, there should be a comma after ‘e.g.’

33: ‘chameleons’ is misspelled

39: change ‘Increase’ to ‘Increasing’

40: change ‘have’ to ‘has’ and ‘the’ to ‘an’, and insert ‘but rather has’ at end of line

41: delete ‘only’ and second ‘the’, change ‘those’ to ‘these’

46: change ‘last’ to ‘only’

47: change ‘that’ to ‘this’ and provide references for the ‘numerous publications on this subject’

51: move ‘rarely’ to before ‘have’ and delete ‘surprisingly’ (a developmental perspective is lacking in most of systematics – it is not surprising!)

52: delete first ‘the’

59: change ‘attempted’ to ‘attempt’ (tense)

61: change ‘assessed’ to ‘assess’ (tense)

75: insert ‘the’ after ‘using’

88: change comma to semicolon (as it follows a colon)

92: replace 'one' with 'using *RAGI* sequence' and insert comma after

93: delete 'using *RAGI* sequence' and 'however,'

95: change first comma to semicolon, delete 'and the' and 'one', and insert 'to date' at end of sentence

100: change 'either' to 'both' and 'topology' to 'topologies'

101: 'lengths' is misspelled, change 'manually set' to 'calibrated'

102: hyphenate 'oldest-known' and delete 'total'

104-105: I don't understand this sentence

105-107: I would say that all squamate lineages are poorly known in the fossil record

116: insert 'the' after 'following'

123: here and elsewhere, insert comma after 'i.e.'

124: insert 'a' after 'in'

125: change 'locate outside' to 'beyond'

126: insert 'a' after is'

133: insert 'one' after 'yielded'

139: change 'neither' to 'published', delete comma, change 'nor' to 'or' and 'phylogeny' to 'phylogenies'

140: change 'Similarly' to 'Similar' and delete 'also'

142: insert 'the' after 'only'

143: insert 'a' after 'In'

144: insert 'a' at end of line

145: insert 'a' after second 'and'

152: change 'step' to 'steps' and insert 'the' before 'fossil'

153: change 'step' to 'steps', insert 'the' after 'and'

162: change 'smaller' to 'less inclusive'

165: delete 'rather'

170: change 'one' to 'those'

171: change 'dataset' to 'data and 'Such situation' to 'This', delete 'other'

173: insert 'the' after 'in'

- 175: change 'became' to 'were'
- 176: change 'some reptiles' to 'lepidosaurs' (actually, development of ALL lepidosaurs is incompletely known!)
- 177: change 'studying' to 'study' and insert 'of' after
- 178: change 'may' to 'will' and 'for' to 'to' and delete 'such'
- 179: delete 'more probable' and 'also'
- 182: change 'bolstered' to 'indicated'
- 184: delete 'previously' and change 'phylogeny' to 'phylogenies'
- 185: change 'that' to 'this'
- 187: change 'reminds' to 'resembles' and delete 'also'
- 191: insert 'a' before 'molecular' and 'they' before 'would'
- 193: change 'states' to 'state'
- 196: here and elsewhere, change 'torsion complete' to 'torsion completion'
- 197: change 'are' to 'is'
- 199: insert 'in' after 'unlike' and change 'are' to 'is'
- 209: delete 'being' and change 'plesiomorphic' to 'plesiomorphy'
- 211: change 'on' to 'into'
- 213: change 'none' to 'no'
- 215: insert 'the' after 'to'
- 223: insert 'the' at end of line
- 225: delete 'the'
- 235: insert comma after 'analyses'
- 236: delete 'rather' and insert 'between' after 'than'
- 237: change 'not' to 'at best weakly' and delete 'or is very weak'
- 351: this paper is not cited
- Figures 5-14: change 'Inferred on' to 'Mapped onto'; also, taxon names are too small to be legible
- Table 1: does this need to be a table, or can it be a short appendix? Also, should the taxonomic authorities be included in the References? Finally, for consistency all taxonomic authority citations should be in parentheses

Table 2: again, must this be a table instead of an appendix? For event 20, should ‘Anlagen’ be capitalized?

Table 3: ‘Head et al., 2016’ is a three-author paper and should be cited as others (‘Head, Mahlow & Müller’)

Table 4:

In ‘Unidentata’, line 3: change ‘simultaneously’ to ‘simultaneous’

In ‘Scincoidea’, lines 3 and 4: change ‘complete’ to ‘completion’

In ‘Serpentes’, line 1: change ‘complete’ to ‘completion’

In ‘Anguimorpha’, lines 3 and 7 (and on next page) lines 9 and 11: change ‘simultaneously’ to ‘simultaneous’

In ‘Pleurodonta’, line 1: change ‘simultaneously’ to ‘simultaneous’

In ‘Acrodonta’, line 2: change ‘complete’ to ‘completion’

In ‘Autarchoglossa’, line 1: change ‘simultaneously’ to ‘simultaneous’

In ‘Anguimorpha’, lines 3 and 5: change ‘simultaneously’ to ‘simultaneous’

In ‘Scincomorpha’, lines 1 and 3: change ‘simultaneously’ to ‘simultaneous’

In ‘Scincoidea’, lines 1, 6, and 9: change ‘complete’ to ‘completion’; lines 8, 10, and 14: change ‘simultaneously’ to ‘simultaneous’

In ‘Gymnophthalmidae’, lines 1, 6, and 8: change ‘simultaneously’ to ‘simultaneous’