ACTA PALAEONTOLOGICA POLONICA

New saurichthyid actinopterygian fishes from the Anisian (Middle Triassic) of southwestern China

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Acta Palaeontologica Polonica 56 (3), 2011: 581-614 doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.4202/app.2010.0007

A new genus *Sinosaurichthys* of the Saurichthyidae with three new species, *S. longipectoralis*, *S. longimedialis*, and *S. minuta*, are described and compared with *Saurichthys*. The new genus is represented by more than a hundred almost complete skeletons, collected from the strata corresponding to the Upper Member of the Guanling Formation (Pelsonian, Anisian, Middle Triassic) of two localities: Yangjuan of Panxian County, Guizhou Province, and Dawazi of Luoping, Yunnan Province, China. *Sinosaurichthys* differs from *Saurichthys* in having an unusual dermal pectoral girdle, high insertion of pectoral fin, relatively dorsally positioned axial skeleton in the abdominal region, and in the absence of branchiostegal rays. These differences are supposed to reflect the different life styles between the two genera. *Sinosaurichthys*, like the extant needlefish, probably has a better ability for cruising in surface water than *Saurichthys*. In addition, these species of *Sinosaurichthys* are compared, and their morphological differences also probably reflect individual adaptations for different habitats at the two localities.

Key words: Actinopterygii, Saurichthyidae, *Sinosaurichthys*, Anisian, Triassic, Guizhou, Yunnan, China.

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