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A new apheliscine "condylarth" mammal from the late Paleocene of Montana and Alberta and the phylogeny of hyopsodontids

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We describe a new genus, including at least two species, of apheliscine 'condylarth,' Gingerichia geoteretes from Douglass and Glennie quarries in the eastern Crazy Mountains Basin, south-central Montana, and *Gingerichia hystrix* from Cochrane 2, in Alberta, Canada, both late Paleocene (early Tiffanian; Ti1) sites. *Gingerichia geoteretes* is based on a nearly complete lower cheek dentition and is distinctive among apheliscines in lacking paraconid, metaconid, and anterior cingulid on p4 and possessing lower molars with less reduced paraconids (particularly m2 and m3) and relatively elevated trigonids. *Gingerichia hystrix* appears to represent a slightly older species and its morphology is slightly less specialized than that of *G. geoteretes* . These taxa are rare elements in the Cochrane 2 and Douglass Quarry assemblages and are the earliest known apheliscines; they therefore provide a new opportunity to elucidate both the composition and the phylogenetic relationships of the Apheliscinae and other small-bodied 'condylarths.' Phylogenetic analysis indicates that *Hyopsodus* and mioclaenids form a monophyletic group that excludes other taxa traditionally placed in Hyopsodontidae, including apheliscines. Accordingly, Hyopsodontidae is redefined to include the traditional contents of Mioclaenidae. Other 'hyopsodontids,' including apheliscines, form a monophyletic clade, and Apheliscidae is revived to accommodate this group. Finally, we recognize *Haplaletes serior* as the lower dentition of *Utemylus latomius* or a close relative.

Key words: Mammalia, “Condylarthra,” Apheliscidae, Hyopsodontidae, Paleocene, Tiffanian, N. America.

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