

UNRAVELLING THE BIOLOGY OF THE NODOSAURID DINOSAUR *STRUTHIOSAURUS AUSTRIACUS* FROM THE LATE CRETACEOUS OF AUSTRIA

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Nodosaurids are thyreophoran dinosaurs displaying extensive body armor composed of closely arranged bony osteoderms, which are partly modified into prominent spikes around their neck and shoulders. *Struthiosaurus* is a European Late Cretaceous representative of this spiky group of herbivorous quadrupeds. Numerous cranial and postcranial remains were unearthed in the 19th century and later assigned to different individuals of *Struthiosaurus austriacus*; with a comparatively small body size of approximately three meters in maximum length. The material comes from early Campanian continental beds of Austria, now housed in the Department of Palaeontology of the University of Vienna. Although subject to extensive research in the past, some aspects of the biology of this enigmatic thyreophoran dinosaur still remain unknown. In this talk, we are aiming to help answer unresolved questions and overcome limitations of previous studies by providing a closer look at the available material of *Struthiosaurus austriacus*.