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1	Can Pallars i Llobateres: A new hominoid-bearing locality from the late Miocene of the
2	Vallès-Penedès Basin (NE Iberian Peninsula)
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33	
34	Abstract
35	In the Iberian Peninsula, Miocene apes (Hominoidea) are generally rare and mostly
36	restricted to the Vallès-Penedès Basin. Here we report a new hominoid maxillary fragment
37	with M^2 from this basin. It was surface-collected in March 2017 from the site of Can Pallars i
38	Llobateres (CPL, Sant Quirze del Vallès), where fossil apes had not been previously recorded.
39	The locality of provenance (CPL-M), which has delivered no further fossil remains, is located
40	very close (ca. 50 m) to previously known CPL outcrops, and not very far (ca. 500 m in NW
41	direction) from the classical hominoid-bearing locality of Can Poncic 1. Here we describe the
42	new fossil and, based on the size and proportions of the M ² , justify its taxonomic attribution
43	to Hispanopithecus cf. laietanus, a species previously recorded from several Vallesian sites of
44	the Vallès-Penedès Basin. Based on the associated mammal fauna from CPL, we also provide
45	a biochronological dating and a paleoenvironmental reconstruction for the site. The
46	associated fauna enables an unambiguous correlation to the Cricetulodon hartenbergeri –
47	Progonomys hispanicus interval local subzone, with an estimated age of 9.98–9.73 Ma (late

48 Vallesian, MN10). Therefore, CPL-M is roughly coeval with the H. laietanus-bearing localities 49 of Can Llobateres 1 and Can Feu 1, and minimally older than those of La Tarumba 1 and Can 50 Llobateres 2. In contrast, CPL-M is younger than the early Vallesian (MN9) localities of Can 51 Poncic 1 (the type locality of *Hispanopithecus crusafonti*) as well as Polinyà 2 (Gabarró) and 52 Estació Depuradora d'Aigües Residuals-Riu Ripoll 13, where Hispanopithecus sp. is recorded. 53 The associated fauna from CPL indicates a densely forested and humid paleoenvironment 54 with nearby freshwater. This supports the view that *Hispanopithecus* might have been 55 restricted to dense wetland forests soon before its extinction during the late Vallesian, due 56 to progressive climatic deterioration. Coupled with the existence of other fossiliferous 57 outcrops in the area, this find is most promising for the prospect of discovering additional 58 fossil hominoid remains in the future.

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60 **1. Introduction**

61 1.1 The hominoid find from Can Pallars i Llobateres

62 Miocene apes (Primates: Hominoidea) from Iberia are geographically restricted to 63 Catalonia (NE Iberian Peninsula), mostly coming from multiple sites in the Vallès-Penedès 64 Basin (Alba, 2012), near Barcelona (Casanovas-Vilar et al., 2016a). Although several partial 65 hominoid skeletons have been recovered there (Moyà-Solà and Köhler, 1996; Moyà-Solà et 66 al., 2004; Alba, 2012; Alba et al., 2012b, 2015), hominoid remains are generally scarce and 67 mostly consist of isolated specimens, being considered 'rare' or uncommon taxa that require 68 a large sampling effort to be adequately documented (e.g., Alba, 2012; Alba et al., 2017a). 69 This notwithstanding, sometimes hominoid finds are the result of fortunate circumstances 70 (e.g., the partial skeleton of *Hispanopithecus laietanus* from Can Feu 1; Alba et al., 2012b).

Here we report a maxillary fragment from the site of Can Pallars i Llobateres¹ (CPL, Sant
Quirze del Vallès; Llenas Avellaneda, 1999; Furió et al., 2015; Casanovas-Vilar et al.,
2016a,b), which was surface-collected by J. Manel Méndez in March 2017. We describe and
figure this specimen, and compare it with previously known hominoid remains from the
Vallès-Penedès Basin, in order to justify its taxonomic assignment. Based on the study of the
unpublished associated vertebrate fauna, we further contextualize this find from both
chronological and paleoenvironmental viewpoints.

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79 1.2 Can Pallars i Llobateres

CPL is located ca. 500–600 m NW from the site of Can Poncic² (CP, Sant Quirze del Vallès; 80 81 Crusafont Pairó and Truyols Santonja, 1947; Figs. 1 and 2). The exact location of CP localities 82 (Crusafont Pairó and Golpe Posse, 1972; Golpe Posse, 1974) is uncertain due to the 83 insufficient published documentation (Crusafont Pairó and Truyols Santonja, 1947; Santafé 84 Llopis, 1978; Llenas i Avellaneda, 1996). However, based on published photographs 85 (Crusafont Pairó and Truyols Santonja, 1947), orthophotos from 1946 (ICGC, 2017), and 86 recent surveys (Alba and Almécija, 2017), CP can be confidently located within an area of 87 about 0.7 ha (Fig. 2). Hominoid remains were recovered at the locality of Can Poncic 1 (CP1) 88 from the early 1950s to the early 1970s (Crusafont Pairó, 1958; Crusafont Pairó and 89 Hürzeler, 1969; Crusafont-Pairó and Golpe-Posse, 1973; Moyà-Solà et al., 1990; Harrison, 90 1991; Golpe Posse, 1993; Alba, 2012; Alba et al., 2012a, 2013; Pérez de los Ríos et al., 2013).

91 CP1 is the type locality of the extinct great ape *Hispanopithecus crusafonti* (Begun, 1992),

¹ Formerly spelled 'Can Pallàs de Llobateres' or 'Can Pallars de Llobateres.'

² Formerly spelled 'Can Ponsic' or 'Can Ponsich.'

92 otherwise only recorded from Teuleria del Firal (Begun, 1992; Alba, 2012) in the Seu d'Urgell
93 Basin (Catalan Pyrenees).

94 The site of CPL was discovered in 1999, when urbanization works unearthed several 95 Miocene large mammal remains within an area smaller than 1.5 ha (Fig. 2). These were 96 excavated by a team from the former Institut de Paleontologia M. Crusafont in Sabadell 97 (IPS), which also screen-washed some sediment samples. The exact provenance of most 98 remains was not documented, but those subsequently surface-collected came from different 99 spots (Fig. 2): CPL-A, CPL-B, CPL-P1 (=CPL-C), CPL-P3, CPL-P2, and CPL-P4. The more 100 abundant small mammal material came from two consecutive stratigraphic horizons (CPL s.s. 101 and CPL3) within the classical CPL area (M. Llenas Avellaneda, pers. comm. to D.M.A.; see 102 also Llenas Avellaneda, 1999). Except for a provisional faunal list provided in the field report 103 (Llenas Avellaneda, 1999) and a few subsequent emendations (Casanovas-Vilar et al., 104 2016b), the fossils from CPL remained mostly unpublished (but see Furió et al., 2015). The 105 hominoid maxillary fragment described here was found embedded within a small sediment 106 block of carbonated claystone in locality CPL-M (Alba et al., 2017b), within an uncultivated 107 land parcel (Fig. 2) very close to the classical CPL outcrops (roughly equivalent to CPL-B). The 108 find was immediately reported to the Archaeological and Paleontological Survey of the 109 Generalitat de Catalunya, and is currently housed at the Institut Català de Paleontologia 110 Miquel Crusafont (ICP) with catalog No. IPS102942.

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- 112 **2.** Materials and methods
- 113 2.1 Comparisons with other hominoids

IPS102942 was compared with upper molars of other Vallès-Penedès dryopithecines
(Begun et al., 1990; Begun, 1992; Golpe Posse, 1993; Moyà-Solà and Köhler, 1995, 1996;

116 Moyà-Solà et al., 2004, 2009a,b; Alba, 2012; Alba et al., 2012a, 2013; Pérez de los Ríos et al., 117 2013), with particular emphasis on those from CP1 (H. crusafonti) and Can Llobateres 1 and 118 2 (CLL1 and CLL2, respectively; tooth locus identifications of H. laietanus from CLL1 after 119 Alba et al., 2012a). No upper molars are available from the other Vallès-Penedès localities 120 with H. laietanus, namely: La Tarumba 1 (LT1, type locality; Villalta Comella and Crusafont 121 Pairó, 1944; Golpe Posse, 1993), Polinyà 2 (Gabarró; PO2; Crusafont-Pairó and Golpe-Posse, 122 1973; Golpe Posse, 1993), Estació Depuradora d'Aigües Residuals-Riu Ripoll 13 (EDAR13; 123 Checa Soler and Rius Font, 2003) and Can Feu 1 (CF1; Alba et al., 2012b). All specimens were 124 measured with digital calipers to the nearest 0.1 mm by one of the authors (D.M.A.). The 125 following measurements were taken: BL, buccolingual breadth (in mm, taken both at the 126 mesial and the distal crown portions); MD, mesiodistal length (in mm); and BLI, 127 breadth/length index (in %, computed as maximum BL/MD×100). Dental terminology follows 128 Alba et al. (2013:Fig. 1). 129 130 2.2 Associated fauna

Large vertebrate remains from CPL are very scarce, including 52 specimens from CPL, CPLB, CPL-A, CPL-P1, CPL-P3 and CPL-P4—see Supplementary Online Material (SOM) S1 for
further details. The associated small mammal fauna is represented by a collection of 384
micromammal teeth from CPL and CPL3 (see SOM S1). All of the fossils are housed at the
ICP.

137 2.3 Coordinates

138 Geographic coordinates for paleontological localities are given in the Universal Transverse

139 Mercator (UTM) system, based on the European Terrestrial Reference System 1989

(ETRS89). They were verified with the aid of topographic maps and orthophotos from the
web application VISSIR v3.26 of the Institut Cartogràfic i Geològic de Catalunya (ICGC, 2017).

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143 **3. Results**

144 3.1 Description of the hominoid maxilla

IPS102942 is a left maxillary fragment (ca. 1.5 × 2.0 cm), still partially embedded in matrix,
that preserves an alveolus with broken roots and a socketed molar crown (Fig. 3A–C). The
specimen is poorly preserved, displaying multiple diagenetic cracks filled with sediment.
Given the poor preservation, little can be said about the comparative anatomy of the
maxilla, although the position of the preserved portion of the palatine process relative to the
alveolar margin suggests that the palate was deep.

Alba et al. (2017b) originally identified the near-complete, socketed tooth as M¹, but 151 closer examination suggests it is M². The missing crown, anterior to the molar crown, is 152 153 broken at or slightly below the cervix. The lingual root of this tooth, visible along most of its 154 length (because the maxillary bone lacks its lingual side), is mesiodistally broad and 155 resembles the single fused root of the socketed molar (which is slightly exposed below the 156 cervix). The cross-section of the roots close to the alveolar plane, in occlusal view, reveals 157 two buccal root canals, indicating that two distinct buccal roots were likely present, as it is 158 typical of hominoid upper molars. Although the presence of one or two buccal roots in hominoid P⁴ is variable (Emoret and Kullmer, 2014), the aforementioned morphology of the 159 lingual root enables us to rule out an identification of the missing crown as a P^4 , meaning 160 161 that the missing crown is a molar. Given that the well-developed metacone and only moderate distal tapering of the molar crown are not consistent with an M³, the socketed 162 molar must belong to an M^2), and the missing crown was an M^1 . 163

164 The molar crown is well preserved, except for a missing enamel chip that would have 165 included the lingual and distal aspects of the hypocone, as well as most of the distal marginal 166 ridge—which nevertheless does not preclude taking reliable crown measurements. The 167 crown is quite worn, with extensive dentine exposure at the protocone and the preserved 168 portion of the hypocone. It displays a subrectangular to suboval and distally tapering 169 occlusal contour, being buccolingually broader (BL = 9.8 mm) than mesiodistally long 170 (estimated MD = 8.7 mm; BLI = 112.6%), and much broader on the mesial than on the distal 171 (BL = 8.7 mm) portions of the crown. The mesial contour of the crown is rather straight, 172 whereas the buccal and distal contours are convex, and the lingual contour is more clearly 173 biconvex. The crown displays quite vertical walls and is not particularly inflated toward its 174 base. There are four main cusps, the protocone being the most extensive, the hypocone 175 being the smallest, and the paracone and metacone being similar in size to one another 176 (although the former is somewhat higher). The buccal cusps are more mesially located than 177 the corresponding lingual cusps, and very peripheral. The hypocone is located on the 178 distolingual corner of the crown. Mesiobuccally from the protocone, at approximately the 179 crown midline behind the mesial marginal ridge, there is a small dentine exposure that 180 seemingly represents a completely worn protoconule located at the end of the similarly 181 worn preprotocrista. A short and slit-like mesial fovea is still discernible on the buccal moiety 182 of the crown in spite of wear. This fovea, which originally likely ran to the protoconule base, 183 is distally delimited by a rather straight and transverse hypoparacrista directed toward the 184 former protoconule. Two occlusal grooves can be still observed in spite of wear: a transverse 185 one, separating the bases of the protocone and the hypocone, and a more obliquely 186 oriented one, which runs from the buccal crown wall to the center of the trigon basin, 187 separating the bases of the paracone and the metacone, and further transecting the merging

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188 point of the long postparacrista with the shorter premetacrista. The postmetacrista and the 189 preparacrista progressively curve in a lingual direction until merging with the distal and 190 mesial marginal ridges, respectively. A straight crista obliqua apparently linked the 191 protocone with the metacone, although the postprotocrista portion has been completely 192 obliterated by wear. Similarly, a somewhat developed hypocone-metacone crista might have 193 crossed the distal fovea, although it has been largely obscured by wear and it is not possible 194 to ascertain whether it would have been continuous or not. No secondary enamel folds or 195 wrinkling can be discerned, but this might be simply attributable to wear. No buccal or 196 lingual cingular remnants are present.

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198 3.2 Comparisons with other Vallès-Penedès hominoids

Compared with the available M¹ and M² sample of Vallès-Penedès hominoids, IPS102942 199 200 (Fig. 4a) fits well with the occlusal morphology of previously known specimens of 201 Hispanopithecus spp. (Fig. 4b-h, k-p). In particular, like the specimens of Hispanopithecus 202 (Alba et al., 2013; Pérez de los Ríos et al., 2013), IPS102942 differs from the upper molars of 203 the middle Miocene taxa—Dryopithecus (Fig. 4i), Pierolapithecus (Fig. 4j), and Anoiapithecus 204 (Fig. 4q-s)—in the more peripheralized cusps, the less bulging crown base, the apparently 205 lesser developed metacone-hypocone crista (even if blurred by wear in IPS102942), and the 206 more reduced cingula (although their development is variable in *Hispanopithecus*; Alba et al., 2012b). Compared to the two species of Hispanopithecus from the Vallès-Penedès, the 207 slightly tapering occlusal profile of IPS102942 more closely resembles that of the M² (Fig. 208 209 4e-g,k,n-p) than the squarer profile of the M¹ (Fig. 4b-f,k-m), even though IPS102942 appears smaller and mesiodistally shorter than the previously recorded M². The hypocone in 210 IPS102942 appears mesiodistally aligned with the protocone, as in the M^2 of *H. laietanus* 211

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212	(Fig. 4f–h), whereas in the M ² of <i>H. crusafonti</i> (Fig. 4k,n) the hypocone is more lingually
213	situated relative to the protocone, as in the M^2 of <i>Anoiapithecus</i> (Fig. 4r,s).
214	With regard to metric comparisons, IPS102942 more closely resembles in both size and
215	proportions the smaller (presumably female) M^1 of <i>H. laietanus</i> (Fig. 5a), being somewhat
216	smaller than all available M^2 (Fig. 5b). Thus, the MD (8.7 mm) and BL (9.7 mm) of IPS102942
217	fall somewhat below the known M^2 size ranges of both <i>H. laietanus</i> (MD mean = 10.18 mm,
218	range = 8.8, 11.2 mm; BL mean = 11.18 mm, range = 10.0, 11.6 mm; <i>n</i> = 5) and <i>H. crusafonti</i>
219	(MD mean = 10.10 mm, range = 8.8, 11.1 mm; BL mean = 11.50 mm, range = 10.9, 12.2 mm;
220	n = 4; data from Alba et al., 2012a:Table 4). In turn, the BLI (112.6%) of IPS102942 falls well
221	within the M^2 range of both <i>H. laietanus</i> (BLI mean = 110.54%, range = 101.8%, 130.7%; $n =$
222	5) and <i>H. crusafonti</i> (BLI mean = 114.58%, range = 105.4%, 127.3%; <i>n</i> = 4; data from Alba et
223	al., 2012a:Table 4).

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225 **4. Discussion**

226 4.1 Taxonomic assignment

227 Even before the erection of *H. crusafonti* by Begun (1992), the distinction of the CP1 228 hominoid sample at the species rank advocated by Begun et al. (1990) was already 229 controversial (Harrison, 1991; Ribot et al., 1996; Andrews et al., 1996). However, the 230 taxonomic validity of *H. crusafonti* has been subsequently supported by multiple researchers 231 (e.g., Cameron, 1999; Begun, 2002, 2009, 2015; Moyà-Solà et al., 2009a; Casanovas-Vilar et 232 al., 2011; Pickford, 2012; Alba, 2012; Alba et al., 2012a). Alba et al. (2012a) concurred with 233 Ribot et al. (1996) that the development of upper molar cingula is too variable to be 234 diagnostic (contra Begun, 1992, 2002), but confirmed that *H. crusafonti* tends to display broader M¹ and M² than *H. laietanus* (Begun, 1992, 2002). However, based on available 235

sample, such differences in occlusal proportions are only significant for the M¹ (Alba et al., 236 237 2012), so that this diagnostic criterion is not useful in the case of IPS102942, which 238 moreover falls in the extensive overlap zone between the two species. This notwithstanding, 239 an assignment to *H. laietanus* is supported by some subtleties of occlusal morphology 240 (hypocone position), for which *H. crusafonti* differs from *H. laietanus* and more closely 241 approaches the condition of *Anoiapithecus* (see Alba et al., 2013). Additional remains—the I¹ 242 is particularly diagnostic (Begun, 1992; Alba et al., 2012a)—would be required to further substantiate the attribution of IPS102942 to H. laietanus. Given that a single tooth is 243 244 available, we prefer to be cautious and provide a tentative assignment to this species, i.e., H. 245 cf. laietanus.

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247 4.2 Age

248 An updated faunal list from CPL is reported in Table 1 (see also SOM S2 and SOM Figs. S1-249 S2). The presence of the three-toed horse *Hippotherium* conclusively demonstrates the 250 Vallesian age of CPL, being first recorded in the Vallès-Penedès Basin at 11.2 Ma (Garcés et 251 al., 1997, 2003; Agustí et al., 1997; Casanovas-Vilar et al., 2016a,b). This agrees with the 252 presence of the boselaphin antelope *Miotragocerus* aff. *pannoniae* sensu Moyà-Solà (1983) 253 and the lagomorph Prolagus crusafonti, which apparently replaced Miotragocerus 254 monnacensis (Moyà-Solà, 1983; Fuss et al., 2015) and Prolagus oeningensis (López Martínez, 255 2001; Angelone and Veitschegger, 2015), respectively, in the Vallesian. Rodents (Fig. 6) and 256 insectivores enable a more precise dating, the assemblage being dominated by Cricetulodon 257 sabadellensis, as in other Vallesian hominoid-bearing localities (CLL1 and CFE1; Casanovas-258 Vilar et al., 2012). The presence of this species (instead of its putative ancestor, Cricetulodon 259 hartenbergeri), coupled with that of Democricetodon cf. nemoralis and Keramidomys

260 pertesunatoi, and the absence of Progonomys hispanicus, indicates an unambiguous 261 correlation to the C. hartenbergeri – P. hispanicus interval local subzone of the Vallès-262 Penedès Basin (Casanovas-Vilar et al., 2011, 2012, 2016a,b), with an estimated age of 9.98-263 9.73 Ma (Casanovas-Vilar et al., 2016a,b). This is consistent with the presence of Dinosorex 264 (which became extinct in the Vallès-Penedès Basin shortly after the MN9/MN10 transition; 265 Furió et al., 2015) and the co-occurrence between Lantanotherium sanmigueli and 266 Crusafontina endemica (characteristic of this subzone; Casanovas-Vilar et al., 2012). 267 CPL is therefore roughly coeval with CFE1 (same subzone; Casanovas-Vilar et al., 2012, 268 2016a,b) and CLL1 (with a magnetostratigraphically interpolated age of 9.76 Ma; Agustí et 269 al., 1996, updated by Casanovas-Vilar et al., 2016b after new chron boundaries in Hilgen et 270 al., 2012), where H. laietanus is also recorded (Crusafont Pairó, 1958, 1965; Crusafont Pairó 271 and Hürzeler, 1969; Crusafont-Pairó and Golpe-Posse, 1973; Begun et al., 1990; Moyà-Solà 272 et al., 1990; Harrison, 1991; Golpe Posse, 1993; Alba, 2012; Alba et al., 2012a,b). Because of 273 the absence of *Progonomys*, these localities have been classically correlated to MN9 (early 274 Vallesian; e.g., Agustí et al., 1996, 1997; Furió et al., 2015; Casanovas-Vilar et al., 2011, 2012, 275 2016a)—unlike the slightly younger locality of CLL2, which has also yielded remains of H. 276 laietanus (Moyà-Solà and Köhler, 1993, 1995, 1996; Almécija et al., 2007; Alba, 2012) and is 277 correlated to the C. sabadellensis + P. hispanicus concurrent range subzone (i.e., to MN10, 278 late Vallesian), with an interpolated age of 9.62 Ma (updated by Casanovas-Vilar et al., 279 2016b, after Agustí et al., 1996). Under the 'faunal' concept of MN units, CLL1 was even 280 selected by some authors (Fahlbusch, 1976; De Bruijn et al., 1992; Mein, 1999) as the 281 reference locality for MN9. However, *Progonomys* already commonly occurs in roughly 282 coeval sites from other Iberian basins (Hilgen et al., 2012; Van Dam et al., 2014; Casanovas-283 Vilar et al., 2016b), with the lower boundary of MN10 being set at 9.98 Ma. Therefore, under

a strictly biostratigraphic approach to MN units, MN10 would include the local subzone to
which CPL, CLL1 and CFE1 are correlated (Casanovas-Vilar et al., 2016b).

286 The latest occurrence of *H. laietanus* corresponds to its type locality (LT1; Villalta Comella 287 and Crusafont Pairó, 1944; Golpe Posse, 1993; Alba, 2012), correlated to the local 288 Rotundomys montisrotundi lineage subzone (MN10) and with a magnetostratigraphically 289 interpolated age of 9.57 Ma (Casanovas-Vilar et al., 2016a). In turn, the oldest possible 290 occurrence of Hispanopithecus in the basin is documented at PO2 and EDAR13 (Crusafont-291 Pairó and Golpe-Posse, 1973; Golpe Posse, 1982, 1993; Moyà Solà et al. 1990; Harrison, 292 1991; Begun, 2002; Checa Soler and Rius Font, 2003; Alba, 2012). The former is correlated to 293 MN9 in a strict sense (11.2–10.0 Ma; Casanovas-Vilar et al., 2011, 2016a), whereas EDAR13 294 is correlated to the *C. hartenbergeri* range subzone (10.3–9.98 Ma; Casanovas-Vilar et al., 295 2011, 2016a, b) and therefore older than CLL1. Even though the material from PO2 and 296 EDAR13 has been classically assigned to H. laietanus (Crusafont-Pairó and Golpe-Posse, 297 1973; Golpe Posse, 1982, 1993; Moyà Solà et al., 1990; Harrison, 1991; Ribot et al., 1996; 298 Checa Soler and Rius Font, 2003; Casanovas-Vilar et al., 2011; Alba, 2012), the scarce available remains are arguably undiagnostic at the species level: the female C¹ from PO2 was 299 300 assigned to H. laietanus based on its similarities to those from CLL1 (Crusafont-Pairó and 301 Golpe-Posse, 1973; Golpe Posse, 1982, 1993), but this tooth type is unknown for H. 302 crusafonti (e.g., Begun, 1992), and the same applies to the fragmentary manual phalanges 303 from EDAR13 (Checa Soler and Rius Font, 2003), even if they resemble those of H. laietanus 304 from CLL2 (Moyà-Solà and Köhler, 1996; Almécija et al., 2007). 305 If the PO2 and EDAR13 remains are removed from the hypodigm of *H. laietanus* and 306 assigned to Hispanopithecus sp. (contra Alba, 2012), the known stratigraphic range of H.

307 *laietanus* is circumscribed to ca. 10 to 9.57 Ma. This is younger than CP1—the type locality of

308 *H. crusafonti* (Begun, 1992; Alba, 2012; Alba et al., 2012a), correlated with the *C*.

hartenbergeri range subzone (10.30–9.98 Ma; Casanovas-Vilar et al., 2016a,b)—suggesting
that *H. laietanus* might have postdated *H. crusafonti*. Unfortunately, the lack of diagnostic
remains from EDAR13 (roughly coeval to CP1) and dating uncertainties for PO2 do not allow
us to conclusively discard some overlap between the stratigraphic ranges of *H. crusafonti*and the younger *H. laietanus* during the latest early Vallesian (MN9).

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315 4.3 Paleoenvironment

316 Based on its postcranial morphology (Moyà-Solà and Köhler, 1996; Almécija et al., 2007, 317 2013, 2015; Alba et al., 2010, 2012b; Alba, 2012; Pina et al., 2012) and microwear analyses 318 (Ungar, 1996; DeMiguel et al., 2014), H. laietanus can be considered an arboreal orthograde 319 primate with specific adaptations to below-branch suspension and frugivory—thereby being 320 indicative of densely forested environments, in agreement with the paleoenvironmental 321 evidence provided by the CPL associated fauna (Table 1; SOM S2 and SOM Figs. S1–S2). 322 The tridactyl horse Hippotherium (primigenium) does not necessarily indicate an open, 323 grassland habitat, given mesowear evidence that it displayed a wide dietary spectrum 324 (Kaiser et al., 2000; Kaiser, 2003). In contrast, the antelope Miotragocerus is considered a 325 browser (Merceron et al., 2007) and semiaquatic animal that inhabited closed and swampy 326 areas (Köhler, 1993). The latter is consistent with the nearby presence of freshwater, as 327 further indicated by the beaver Euroxenomys and the geoemydid turtle Ptychogaster. 328 Several small mammals are also indicative of a forested environment, including the 329 remarkable diversity of arboreal dormice, the presence of two eomyids, and the more 330 abundant cricetids Eumyarion and Anomalomys (Casanovas-Vilar and Agustí, 2007)-the 331 latter interpreted as a burrower that would have preferred moist soils (Casanovas-Vilar and

1*1*.

Agustí, 2007). The diverse insectivore assemblage from CPL is similarly indicative of moist
and warm conditions, as further shown by the presence *Dinosorex* (a typical forest dweller;
Furió et al., 2015), *Talpa* (a burrower linked to constantly humid soils; Furió et al., 2011), *Plesiodimylus* (a malacophagous taxon indicative of an abundant presence of gastropods;
Crespo et al., 2018), and *Lantanotherium* and *Crusafontina* (whose extant relatives are
restricted to the rainforests of southeastern Asia).

338 Most of the small mammal taxa apparently associated with humid forest environments 339 are not recorded in coeval sites from the inner Iberian Peninsula, which during the Vallesian 340 were typically characterized by more arid environments (Casanovas-Vilar and Agustí, 2007; 341 Casanovas-Vilar et al., 2008). This applies to most of the insectivores (with the exception of 342 Crusafontina; Furió et al., 2011) and multiple rodent taxa (the eomyids, most of the glirids, 343 and the cricetids *Eumyarion* and *Anomalomys*; Casanovas-Vilar and Agustí, 2007; Casanovas-344 Vilar et al., 2008). This paleobiogeographical evidence suggests that, during the Vallesian, 345 Vallès-Penedès habitats were moister and more densely forested than other areas of the 346 Iberian Peninsula, thus being closer to those from France and Central Europe, as previously 347 noted for the late Aragonian (Casanovas-Vilar et al., 2008). Such environmental differences 348 would account for the observed geographical distribution of Miocene hominoids in the 349 Iberian Peninsula, being only recorded from the more humid and closed environments from 350 the Vallès-Penedès and Seu d'Urgell basins in NE Iberia (e.g., Alba, 2012). 351 Based on the associated fauna, the paleoenvironment of CPL can be inferred as a densely 352 forested and humid environment with nearby water, similar to that of CLL1. The latter has

353 further yielded plant remains, which together with the fauna allow us to reconstruct its

354 paleoenvironment as a very humid marshy area with nearby dense wetland forests with

some (sub)tropical plant elements (Marmi et al., 2012). The newly reported maxillary

fragment of *Hispanopithecus* from CPL-M therefore supports the view that this taxon would
have been restricted to forested humid habitats providing a year-round fruit supply (Marmi
et al., 2012, and references therein). These habitats apparently persisted in the VallèsPenedès Basin until the early late Vallesian—even if they were progressively becoming more
fragmentary, due to an ongoing trend of climatic deterioration that ultimately presumably
led to their extinction (Agustí et al., 2003; Casanovas-Vilar et al., 2011; Marmi et al., 2012;
DeMiguel et al., 2014).

363

5. Summary and conclusions

We describe a new hominoid maxillary fragment with M^2 recovered from a new locality 365 366 from the site of CPL, where Miocene apes had not been previously reported. Although CPL is 367 relatively close (500 m) to the type locality of *H. crusafonti* (10.30–9.98 Ma, MN9, early 368 Vallesian), based on occlusal morphology the new find is tentatively assigned to *H*. cf. 369 *laietanus*. The associated fauna from CPL further indicates a younger age (9.98–9.73 Ma), being roughly coeval with other Vallès-Penedès localities with H. laietanus (CLL1 and CFE1), 370 371 correlated to earliest MN10 (late Vallesian) on biostratigraphic grounds. Although some 372 temporal overlap between the two species cannot be completely ruled out, currently 373 available evidence is consistent with a replacement of *H. crusafonti* by *H. laietanus* close to 374 the MN9/MN10 transition (ca. 10.0 Ma). The associated fauna from CPL indicates a densely 375 forested and humid paleoenvironment with nearby freshwater (as in CLL1), thereby 376 strengthening the view that Hispanopithecus might have been restricted to dense wetland 377 forests soon before it went extinct in the late Vallesian. Given the existence of other 378 fossiliferous outcrops in CPL, the find reported here is most promising for the prospect of 379 finding additional fossil hominoid remains in this area.

380

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625	
626	Figure captions
627	
628	Figure 1. Geological map of the Vallès sector of the Vallès-Penedès Basin (NE Iberian
629	Peninsula), indicating the location of all the Vallesian localities that have delivered fossil
630	remains of Hispanopithecus spp. Abbreviations (municipalities indicated within brackets):
631	CFE1 = Can Feu 1 [Sant Quirze del Vallès]; CLL1 = Can Llobateres 1 [Sabadell]; CLL2 = Can
632	Llobateres 2 [Sabadell]; CP1 = Can Poncic 1 [Sant Quirze del Vallès]; CPL-M = Can Pallars i
633	Llobateres-M [Sant Quirze del Vallès]; EDAR13 = Estació Depuradora d'Aigües Residuals–Riu
634	Ripoll 13 [Sabadell]; LT1 = La Tarumba 1 [Viladecavalls]; PO2 = Polinyà 2 (Gabarró) [Polinyà].
635	

636	Figure 2. Aerial photograph showing various fossiliferous outcrops from Can Pallars i
637	Llobateres (CPL) and the approximate location of the classical site of Can Poncic (CP). Dotted
638	white rectangles denote loosely defined sites, whereas red asterisks denote the exact
639	location of paleontological localities. The location of the Can Poncic farmhouse and other
640	local toponyms are also indicated. North is toward the top. Coordinates are indicated below
641	(for details on the system of geographical coordinates used, please see the Materials and
642	methods). Legend: CPL = Can Pallars i Llobateres (central coordinates: 31N 421450 E –
643	4598750 N, including CPL-A and CPL3); CPL-M (=CPL-B) = Location of the hominoid find by
644	Méndez (31N 421380 E – 4598702 N); CPL-P2 = Spot 2 of CPL (31N 421610 E – 4598607 N);
645	CPL-P3 = Spot 3 of CPL (31N 421423 E – 4598424 N); CPL-P4 = Spot 4 of CPL (31N 421672 E –
646	4598609 N); CP = Can Poncic (approximate coordinates 31N 421900 – 4598475). Other CPL
647	localities not depicted in the figure include CPL-B (31N 421410 E – 4598675 N) and CPL-P1
648	(=CPL-C; 31N 421470 E – 4598485 N). Figure modified from base orthophotos downloaded
649	from VISSIR v3.26 (ICGC, 2017: sheets 286-119 and 287-119, scale 1:2500), ©Institut
650	Cartogràfic i Geològic de Catalunya, with permission allowed by licence Creative Commons
651	(CC) – Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0; see <u>http://www.icgc.cat/Ajuda/Avis-legal</u> for
652	the reuse policies allowed for ICGC web contents).

Figure 3. Left maxillary fragment with M² (IPS102942) of *Hispanopithecus* cf. *laietanus* from
CPL-M in occlusal (a), buccal (b) and lingual (c) views.

Figure 4. Comparison of the occlusal morphology of the left M² (IPS102942) of

Hispanopithecus cf. *laietanus* from CPL-M (a) with the M¹ and/or M² of other Vallès-Penedès

hominoids: b) left M¹ (IPS1781) of *H. laietanus* from CCL1; c) right M¹ (IPS1844, reversed) of

H. laietanus from CLL1; d) left M^1 (IPS1788) of *H. laietanus* from CLL1; e) left M^1-M^2 660 (IPS58338–IPS58338) of *H. laietanus* from CCL1; f) right M¹–M² (IPS18000.5) of *H. laietanus* 661 from CLL2; g) left M² IPS1794 of *H. laietanus* from CLL1; h) left ?M² (IPS1771) of *H. laietanus* 662 from CLL1; i) left M^1-M^2 (IPS35026) of Dryopithecus fontani from ACM/C3-Ae; j) left M^1-M^2 663 (IPS21350, holotype) of *Pierolapithecus catalaunicus* from ACM/BCV1; k) left M^1-M^2 664 (IPS1798, holotype) of *Hispanopithecus crusafonti* from CP1; I) left M¹ (IPS1815) of *H*. 665 *crusafonti* from CP1; m) left M¹ (IPS1818) of *H. crusafonti* from CP1; n) left M² (IPS1820 of *H.* 666 *crusafonti* from CP1; o) right M³ or M² (IPS1812, reversed) of *H. crusafonti* from CP1; p) right 667 M² (IPS1821, reversed) of *H. crusafonti* from CP1; q) left M¹ (IPS41712) of *Anoiapithecus* 668 brevirostris from ACM/C3-Aj; r) left M¹–M² (IPS43000, holotype) of A. brevirostris from 669 ACM/C3-Aj; s) right $M^{1}-M^{2}$ (IPS35027, reversed) of *A. brevirostris* from ACM/C1-E*. Locality 670 671 abbreviations: ACM = Abocador de Can Mata (els Hostalets de Pierola); C1 = Cel·la 1 (ACM 672 sector); C3 = Cel·la 3 (ACM sector); for other abbreviations, see Figure 1 caption. 673 674 Figure 5. Bivariate plots of buccolingual breadth (BL, in mm) vs. mesiodistal length (MD, in

675 mm) of the M^2 (IPS102942) of *Hispanopithecus* cf. *laietanus* from CPL-M, as compared to the 676 M^1 (a) and M^2 (b) of Vallès-Penedès hominoids.

677

Figure 6. Stratigraphic ranges of the biochronologically most significant rodent species and
situation of the Vallès-Penedès localities that have previously yielded fossil remains of *Hispanopithecus*. Rodent species present at CPL-M are indicated in bold. Dashed lines
between rodent species indicate phylogenetic relationships. Local biozonation of the VallèsPenedès Basin is after Casanovas-Vilar et al. (2016b) while Neogene timescale follows Hilgen
et al. (2012). In the case of MN (Mammal Neogene) zones, their boundaries are indicated as

- defined by selected first appearance events (after Hilgen et al., 2012). The reference sites for
- 685 MN9 (CLL1) and MN10 (Masía del Barbo, Spain) are denoted with asterisks. Note that CLL1 is
- herein placed within MN10 when MN zones are defined according to first appearance
- 687 events. For locality abbreviations, see Figure 1 caption. Other abbreviations: *C. harten*. =
- 688 Cricetulodon hartenbergeri range subzone; C. h. P. h. = Cricetulodon hartenbergeri –
- 689 *Progonomys hispanicus* interval subzone; *C* + *P* = *Cricetulodon sabadellensis* + *Progonomys*
- 690 *hispanicus* concurrent range zone. *Rot. montis.* = *Rotundomys montisrotundi* lineage
- 691 subzone; *Rot. bressa.* = *Rotundomys bressanus* lineage subzone.
- 692

1 **Table 1**

- 2 Updated list of the faunal assemblage from Can Pallars i Llobateres (CPL, including those
- 3 small mammal specimens labelled as CPL3, as well as the large mammal specimens from
- 4 CPL, CPL-A, CPL-B, CPL-P1, CPL-P3, CPL-P4 and CPL-M).

Order	Family	Taxonomic assignment
Testudines	Geoemydidae	Ptychogaster sp.
Testudines	Testudinidae	<i>Testudo</i> sp.
Testudines	Testudinidae	Titanochelon cf. richardi
Squatama	Indet.	Serpentes indet.
Primates	Hominidae	Hispanopithecus cf. laietanus
Proboscidea	Indet. ^ª	Proboscidea indet. ^a
Artiodactyla	Cervidae	Cervidae indet.
Artiodactyla	Bovidae	Miotragocerus aff. pannoniae
Perissodactyla	Equidae	Hippotherium (primigenium) cf. catalaunicum ^b
Perissodactyla	Rhinocerotidae	Rhinocerotidae indet.
Eulipotyphla	Soricidae	Crusafontina endemica
Eulipotyphla	Erinaceidae	Lantanotherium sanmigueli
Eulipotyphla	Heterosoricidae	Dinosorex grycivensis
Eulipotyphla	Dimylidae	Plesiodimylus chantrei
Eulipotyphla	Talpidae	Talpa minuta
Lagomorpha	Ochotonidae	Prolagus crusafonti
Rodentia	Cricetidae	Cricetulodon sabadellensis
Rodentia	Cricetidae	Eumyarion leemanni

Rodentia	Cricetidae	Democricetodon cf. nemoralis
Rodentia	Cricetidae	Hispanomys thaleri
Rodentia	Cricetidae	Anomalomys gaillardi
Rodentia	Eomyidae	Eomyops catalaunicus
Rodentia	Eomyidae	Keramidomys pertesunatoi
Rodentia	Gliridae	Muscardinus hispanicus
Rodentia	Gliridae	Muscardinus vallesiensis
Rodentia	Gliridae	Glirulus lissiensis
Rodentia	Gliridae	Paraglirulus werenfelsi
Rodentia	Gliridae	Myoglis meini
Rodentia	Sciuridae	Spermophilinus bredai
Rodentia	Sciuridae	Heteroxerus grivensis
Rodentia	Castoridae	Euroxenomys minutus

6	^a Llenas i Avellaneda (1999) mentioned the recovery of a cervical vertebra of
7	Tetralophodon longirostris, but we were unable to find such a material. All the available
8	proboscidean remains from CPL localities are too fragmentary to enable their identification
9	even at the family rank.
10	^b Following Bernor et al. (1996), we consider <i>Hippotherium</i> (<i>primigenium</i>) as a species
11	complex (as denoted by the name interpolated within parentheses; see ICZN, 1999:Art. 6.2).



Ebro Basin deposits (conglomerates, breccias, sandstones and lutites)

Can Pallars / // Can Pallars **Hobateres** CPL-M Forrent de la Betauca Cane Poncic CPL-P4 CPL-B (farmhouse) Hoh Residència CP CPL-P3 Can Poncic (area) Camí del Mig

100 m









Supplementary Online Material

Can Pallars i Llobateres: A new hominoid-bearing locality from the late Miocene of the Vallès-Penedès Basin (NE Iberian Peninsula)

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SOM S1

Supplementary materials and methods

Associated fauna

The large vertebrate remains from CPL include the following specimens:

- 20 specimens recovered in 1999 from CPL (IPS13989 to IPS13994, IPS13996, IPS103684 to IPS103688, and IPS105907 to IPS105914, of which IPS13993 and IPS105908 come from CPL-B).
- 29 specimens surface-collected, apparently at a later time, from CPL-A (IPS104303 to IPS104322), CPL-B (IPS104294 to IPS104299, and IPS104302) and CPL-P1 (=CPL-C; IPS104299, IPS104300).
- Three specimens most recently recovered in 2017 from CPL-P3 (IPS104355) and CPL-P4 (IPS104348 to IPS104350).

The associated small mammal fauna from CPL includes the following micromammal teeth:

- 279 rodent teeth labeled as coming from CPL (IPS66320 to IPS66598) and 73 from CPL3 (IPS14948, IPS66604 to IPS66638, IPS69519 to IPS69555).
- 30 eulipotyphlan teeth from CPL (IPS65589 to IPS65615, IPS66599 to IPS66601).
- Two lagomorph teeth from CPL3 (IPS66639 and IPS66640).

SOM S2

Supplementary results

Associated fauna

The presence of an indeterminate snake can be ascertained based on a fragmentary vertebra (IPS140320), and the scarce and fragmentary testudine remains allow us to determinate the presence of three different species: a medium-sized tortoise of genus *Testudo*, based on a couple of peripherals (IPS104299 and IPS104302); a giant tortoise that we assign to *Titanochelon* cf. *richardi*, based on another peripheral (IPS104318) and a costal fragment (IPS104348); and a freshwater geoemydid turtle, based on a peripheral (IPS104300) and a costal fragment (IPS104313), the former attributable to genus *Ptychogaster*.

Owing to the lack of a fossiliferous layer amenable to systematic excavations, large mammals from CPL are insufficiently sampled, so that only a few species can be identified.

Equids are rather abundantly represented by the three-toed horse Hippotherium (primigenium) cf. catalaunicum, including two lower cheek teeth (IPS13994 and IPS104305; SOM Fig. S1a, b), fragments of metacarpal III (IPS104308 and IPS104315; SOM Fig. S1d), a distal phalanx III (IPS104310), a distal fragment of lateral metapodial (IPS104311), and a calcaneus (IPS104355; SOM Fig. S1c). Some other available remains might belong to the same taxon, but do not preserve enough information so as to be sure. In turn, boselaphin bovids are represented by a small horn core fragment (IPS104349; SOM Fig. S1k), a lumbar vertebral body (IPS13991), a P^3 crown fragment (IPS103686), and a hemimandible with P_2 - M_3 (IPS13993; Fig. 6h–j). The dentognathic material, in particular the mandible, is attributable to the antelope Miotragocerus aff. pannoniae sensu Moyà-Solà (1983). Even though the diagnostic metatarsal morphology of this species (Moyà-Solà, 1983; Fuss et al., 2015) cannot be ascertained from this material, several features, such the size of the dentition, rule out an attribution to either Miotragocerus monacensis or Protragocerus chantrei, which are smaller and display shorter and more molarized lower premolars (Moyà-Solà, 1983). Following Moyà-Solà (1983), the species assignment is made with open nomenclature, because the available remains correspond to a form smaller than M. pannoniae s.s. from similarly-aged localities from the basin, such as Can Llobateres. Due to the scarcity of the material, other large mammals can be only identified to family rank, including: a proboscidean, based on fragments of a long bone (IPS13996), ribs (IPS104316, IPS105913), and indeterminate bones (IPS104314, IPS105914); a rhinocerotid, based on an upper cheek tooth fragment (IPS104304; SOM Fig. S1f), a patella (IPS13990; SOM Fig. S1g), a fragmentary metapodial (IPS105908), and fragments of a long bone (IPS103685) and ribs (IPS104306, IPS105905), among other remains of more dubious taxonomic ascription; and a cervid, based on a distal fragment of humerus (IPS103687; SOM Fig. S1e). Llenas i Avellaneda (1999) reported the presence at CPL of the gomphothere Tetralophodon longirostris, as recorded by a cervical vertebra. However, we were unable to find this specimen among the ICP collections and, therefore, this species is not included on the faunal list reported in Table 1.

In contrast to the scarcity of large mammal remains, micromammals are well represented by a sample of 384 identifiable teeth (SOM Fig. S2). Rodent are represented by 15 out of 21 species, including: five cricetids (*Cricetulodon sabadellensis*, SOM Fig. S2a, b; *Eumyarion leemanni*, SOM Fig. S2d; *Democricetodon* cf. *nemoralis*, SOM Fig. S2c; *Hispanomys thaleri*,

SOM Fig. S2f; and Anomalomys gaillardi, SOM Fig. S2g), two eomyids (*Eomyops catalaunicus*; and *Keramidomys pertesunatoi*, SOM Fig. S2e), five glirids (*Muscardinus hispanicus*, SOM Fig. S2m; *Muscardinus vallesiensis*, SOM Fig. S2l; *Glirulus lissiensis*; *Paraglirulus werenfelsi*, SOM Fig. S2n; and *Myoglis meini*, SOM Fig. S2k), two sciurids (*Spermophilinus bredai*, SOM Fig. S2i; and *Heteroxerus grivensis*, SOM Fig. S2h), and a castorid (*Euroxenomys minutus*, SOM Fig. S2j). Eulipotyphlans (24%) includie a soricid (*Crusafontina endemica*, SOM Fig. S2w, x), an erinaceid (*Lantanotherium sanmigueli*, SOM Fig. S2r, u), a heterosoricid (*Dinosorex grycivensis*, SOM Fig. S2s, v), a dimylid (*Plesiodimylus chantrei*, SOM Fig. S2q, t) and a talpid (*Talpa minuta*, SOM Fig. S2o, p), whereas lagomorphs (5%) are represented by the ochotonid *Prolagus crusafonti*.



SOM Figure S1. Large mammal remains from CPL: a) right lower cheek tooth (P₄ or M₁; IPS13994) of *Hippotherium* (*primigenium*) cf. *catalaunicum* from CPL, in occlusal view; b) left lower cheek tooth (?P₄; IPS103305) of *Hi.* cf. *catalaunicum* from CPL-A, in occlusal view; c) right calcaneus (IPS104355) of *Hi.* cf. *catalaunicum* from CPL-P3, in dorsal view; d) distal

fragment of metacarpal III (IPS104315) of *Hi.* cf. *catalaunicum* from CPL-A, in anterior view. e) distal fragment of right humerus (IPS103687) of Cervidae indet. from CPL, in posterior view; f) fragment of upper cheek tooth (IPS104304) of Rhinocerotidae indet from CPL-A, in buccal view; g) patella (IPS13990) of Rhinocerotidae indet. from CPL, in posterior view; h–j) right hemimandible with P₂–M₃ (IPS13993) of *Miotragocerus* aff. *pannoniae* from CPL-B, in buccal (h), occlusal (i) and lingual (j) views; k) horn core fragment (IPS104349) of Boselaphini indet. from CPL-P4.



SOM Figure S2. SEM micrographs of selected small mammal remains from CPL: a) left M¹ (IPS66333) of *Cricetulodon sabadellensis*; b) right M₁ (IPS66470, reversed) of *C. sabadellensis*; c) left M₁ (IPS66594) of *Democricetodon* cf. *nemoralis*; d) right M₁ (IPS66574, reversed) of *Eumyarion leemanni*; e) left M₁ or M₂ (IPS66595) of *Keramidomys pertesunatoi*; f) left M¹ (IPS66542) of *Hispanomys thaleri*; g) left M₁ (IPS66607) of *Anomalomys gaillardi*; h) left M¹ or M² (IPS66611) of *Heteroxerus grivensis*; i) left M¹ or M² (IPS66622) of

Spermophilinus bredai; j) left M^1 or M^2 (IPS66610) of Euroxenomys minutus; k) right M_1 (IPS69520, reversed) of Myoglis meini; l) left M^1 (IPS69550) of Muscardinus vallesiensis; m) left M_1 (IPS69542) of Muscardinus hispanicus; n) left M^2 (IPS69525) of Paraglirulus werenfelsi; o) left P^4 (IPS65590) of Talpa minuta; p) left M_1 (IPS65614) of T. minuta; q) right M^2 (IPS65606, reversed) of Plesiodimylus chantrei; r) left M_1 (IPS65612) of Lantanotherium sanmigueli; s) left M_1 (IPS65501) of Dinosorex grycivensis; t) left M_2 (IPS65605) of Pl. chantrei; u) left M^2 (IPS65594) of L. sanmigueli; v) right P^4 (IPS65604, reversed) of D. grycivensis; w) left I^1 (IPS65593) of Crusafontina endemica; x) right M_2 (IPS65597, reversed) of Cr. endemica.