



Kent Academic Repository

Mahoney, Patrick (2019) *Root growth and dental eruption in modern human deciduous teeth with preliminary observations on great apes*. Journal of Human Evolution, 129 . pp. 46-53. ISSN 0047-2484.

Downloaded from

<https://kar.kent.ac.uk/71445/> The University of Kent's Academic Repository KAR

The version of record is available from

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhevol.2018.12.011>

This document version

Author's Accepted Manuscript

DOI for this version

Licence for this version

CC BY-NC-ND (Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives)

Additional information

Versions of research works

Versions of Record

If this version is the version of record, it is the same as the published version available on the publisher's web site. Cite as the published version.

Author Accepted Manuscripts

If this document is identified as the Author Accepted Manuscript it is the version after peer review but before type setting, copy editing or publisher branding. Cite as Surname, Initial. (Year) 'Title of article'. To be published in *Title of Journal* , Volume and issue numbers [peer-reviewed accepted version]. Available at: DOI or URL (Accessed: date).

Enquiries

If you have questions about this document contact ResearchSupport@kent.ac.uk. Please include the URL of the record in KAR. If you believe that your, or a third party's rights have been compromised through this document please see our [Take Down policy](https://www.kent.ac.uk/guides/kar-the-kent-academic-repository#policies) (available from <https://www.kent.ac.uk/guides/kar-the-kent-academic-repository#policies>).

Manuscript Details

Manuscript number	HUMEV_2017_247_R4
Title	Root growth and dental eruption in modern human deciduous teeth with preliminary observations on great apes
Article type	Full Length Article

Abstract

Recent studies of dental development have indicated that root growth rates are linked to the eruption of some permanent tooth types in modern humans and *Pan troglodytes*. Little is known about the potential links between these aspects of dental development in deciduous teeth of any primate species. This histology study calculates the rate at which roots extend in length for human deciduous maxillary teeth and a small sample of deciduous canines and premolars from *Pan troglodytes* and *Pongo pygmaeus*. Links are sought between root extension rates and previously published data for deciduous tooth emergence in each of these species. Results reported here provide the first evidence that the roots of human deciduous incisors, canines, and premolars extend in length at an accelerated rate as these teeth emerge. Accelerated extension rates in a deciduous canine from *Pan* coincided with the age that this tooth type emerged in captive chimpanzees. High extension rates in a canine from *Pongo* preceded emergence age. Preliminary observations indicate that deciduous canine and premolar roots of *Pan* and *Pongo* extend in length rapidly when compared to these tooth types from modern human children. This study provides a starting point from which to investigate new links between the incremental development of deciduous roots and tooth emergence in primates.

Keywords	Histology; dentine; extension rates; great apes; roots.
Corresponding Author	patrick mahoney
Corresponding Author's Institution	University of Kent
Order of Authors	patrick mahoney

Submission Files Included in this PDF

File Name [File Type]

Cover letter + Response.pdf [Response to Reviewers (without Author Details)]

Title page.doc [Title Page (with Author Details)]

PM accepted - This manuscript clean copy EDITOR (1).doc [Manuscript (without Author Details)]

Fig 1.tif [Figure]

Fig 2.tif [Figure]

Figure 3a-b.tif [Figure]

Fig 4.tif [Figure]

New Fig 5 without layers.tif [Figure]

Table 1 Editor.doc [Table]

To view all the submission files, including those not included in the PDF, click on the manuscript title on your EVISE Homepage, then click 'Download zip file'.

Research Data Related to this Submission

There are no linked research data sets for this submission. The following reason is given:
Data for *Pan troglodytes* and *Pongo pygmaeus* are in the Tables. Data for modern humans can be made available upon request.

19th December 2018

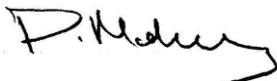
Dear Professor Alba

Thank you very much for your continued consideration of my manuscript.

I accepted all of your edits and uploaded a clean version of the manuscript.

I made no other changes.

Sincerely yours



Patrick Mahoney

1 Root growth and dental eruption in modern human deciduous teeth with preliminary
2 observations on great apes

3

4 Patrick Mahoney

5

6 *Human Osteology Lab, Skeletal Biology Research Centre, School of Anthropology and Conservation,*
7 *University of Kent, Canterbury, UK*

8

9 *E-mail address:* p.mahoney@kent.ac.uk (P. Mahoney).

10

11 **Key words:** Histology; Dentine; Dental development; Great apes; Roots.

12

13

1 Root growth and dental eruption in modern human deciduous teeth with preliminary
2 observations on great apes

3

4 Patrick Mahoney

5

6 *Human Osteology Lab, Skeletal Biology Research Centre, School of Anthropology and Conservation,*
7 *University of Kent, Canterbury, UK*

8

9 *E-mail address:* p.mahoney@kent.ac.uk (P. Mahoney).

10

11 **Key words:** Histology; Dentine; Dental development; Great apes; Roots.

12

13 **Abstract**

14 Recent studies of dental development have indicated that root growth rates are linked to the
15 eruption of some permanent tooth types in modern humans and *Pan troglodytes*. Little is
16 known about the potential links between these aspects of dental development in deciduous
17 teeth of any primate species. This histology study calculates the rate at which roots extend in
18 length for human deciduous maxillary teeth and a small sample of deciduous canines and
19 premolars from *Pan troglodytes* and *Pongo pygmaeus*. Links are sought between root
20 extension rates and previously published data for deciduous tooth emergence in each of these
21 species. Results reported here provide the first evidence that the roots of human deciduous
22 incisors, canines, and premolars extend in length at an accelerated rate as these teeth emerge.
23 Accelerated extension rates in a deciduous canine from *Pan* coincided with the age that this
24 tooth type emerged in captive chimpanzees. High extension rates in a canine from *Pongo*
25 preceded emergence age. Preliminary observations indicate that deciduous canine and
26 premolar roots of *Pan* and *Pongo* extend in length rapidly when compared to these tooth
27 types from modern human children. This study provides a starting point from which to
28 investigate new links between the incremental development of deciduous roots and tooth
29 emergence in primates.

31 **1. Introduction**

32 Studies of dental development have started to investigate relationships between the rate
33 at which roots extend in length (root extension rates: RERs) and eruption¹ in modern human
34 and great ape permanent teeth. There is now mounting evidence that roots of both modern
35 human permanent teeth and great apes have a growth trajectory that includes a period in
36 which RERs are accelerated (Dean, 2007, 2010; Smith et al., 2007; Dean and Vesey, 2008;
37 Dean and Cole, 2013). This peak in RERs coincides with the period during which permanent
38 teeth erupt into function in *Pan troglodytes* (Dean and Vesey, 2008; Dean and Cole, 2013).
39 This differs to modern humans where RERs peak prior to gingival emergence of permanent
40 canines and molars, but accelerate as incisors move into function (Dean and Vesey, 2008;
41 Dean, 2010; Dean and Cole, 2013). This is interesting because the eruption of permanent
42 teeth, especially for molars, has provided an important source of information from which to
43 infer the schedule of life history in fossil species (e.g., Smith, 1989).

44 In comparison with permanent teeth, much less is known about RERs for human
45 deciduous teeth. Many studies have related fractional stages of deciduous root growth to
46 chronological age in human children (e.g., Schour and Massler, 1940; Massler et al., 1941;
47 Fanning, 1961; Moorrees et al., 1963; Deutsch et al., 1985; Liversidge et al., 1993;
48 Liversidge and Molleson, 2004; AlQahtani et al., 2010). However, only a few studies have
49 been undertaken with the aim of assessing the rate roots extend in length (Stack, 1967;
50 Deutsch et al., 1985). Stack (1967) reported root length measurements for deciduous
51 maxillary central incisors (dI¹) and observed that dI¹ roots attained a length of 6 mm by the
52 twelfth month after birth. As the dI¹ enamel crown is complete 1.5 months after birth
53 (AlQahtani et al., 2010), the roots extended at an average rate of 19.0 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$ (6 mm/10.5

¹Eruption involves resorption of the alveolar bone above the crown leading to a developmental pathway for the tooth to move through the bone (intraosseous stage of eruption). The supraosseous stage of eruption commences as the tooth emerges through alveolar bone. The eruption process continues as the crown appears above the gum line (gingival emergence) and eventually moves into function with the opposing tooth (e.g., Haavikko, 1970; Cahill, 1974; Cahill and Marks, 1980).

54 months, or 6000 μm / 315 days). Deutsch et al. (1985) calculated average RERs from
55 measurements of tooth length and reported an extension rate of 20 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$ for dI^1 and 17.7
56 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$ for lateral maxillary incisors (dI^2). It is unknown if human deciduous maxillary roots
57 extend in length with a uniform velocity or if rates change over the duration of root growth.
58 Neither is it known if RERs are linked to the eruption of some deciduous tooth types but not
59 others, in the way that has been described for permanent teeth (Dean and Cole, 2013).
60 Moreover, with so little data for deciduous RERs it has been difficult to determine if
61 extension rates relate to other aspects of eruption. The rate that permanent teeth erupt differs
62 between incisors and canines, which mirrors variation in RERs towards the end of root
63 growth in these tooth types (Dean and Vesey, 2008). Whether eruption rates are linked to
64 variation in RERs along the deciduous tooth row has not been explored previously.

65 Root growth rates are poorly understood for great ape deciduous teeth. As part of their
66 pioneering study on dental development in juvenile great apes, Dean and Wood (1981)
67 inferred a rapid rate of root growth for a deciduous maxillary canine (dC^1) of *Pongo*
68 *pygmaeus*. Subsequently, only a few studies have considered great ape deciduous teeth but
69 none provided data on aspects of the chronology of root growth (Aiello and Dean, 1990;
70 Siebert and Swindler, 1991; Winkler et al. 1991).

71 Many factors could potentially influence the way RERs will relate to the eruption of
72 modern human and great ape deciduous teeth, or to variation in these rates when compared
73 among these species. Three of these factors are the ontogeny of facial development, eruption
74 schedules, and root length. First, there is much greater growth and anterior displacement of
75 the lower facial region in *Pan* and *Pongo* compared to human children (e.g., Schultz, 1940,
76 1941; Moore and Lavelle, 1974). This difference in facial ontogeny might determine the
77 space that is available for root growth and thus the rate at which roots can develop at any
78 point in time. Second, human deciduous teeth typically erupt over a period of 1.4 to 1.6 years
79 (Hillson, 2014: Table 4). In comparison, deciduous teeth of captive chimpanzees and

80 orangutans erupt in less than one year—median duration of eruption is 0.8 to 0.97 years in
81 *Pan* (Nissen and Reisen, 1945; Conroy and Mahoney, 1991; Kuykendal et al., 1992) and 0.68
82 years in *Pongo* (Fooden and Izor, 1983). These different eruption schedules may determine
83 the time available for root formation and thus the rate at which roots extend in length. Third,
84 root length influences extension rates in modern human and great ape permanent teeth (Dean
85 and Vesey, 2008, Dean and Cole, 2013), which could also relate to the time available for root
86 growth. As root length varies between deciduous teeth of humans, *Pan* and *Pongo* (see
87 Methods subsection) it would seem likely that this may contribute at least some variation to
88 extension rates. These three factors (facial development, eruption schedules, and root length)
89 may all come together to generate variation in RERs.

90 This study reconstructs RERs for modern human dI^1 , dI^2 , dC^1 , maxillary third premolars
91 (dP^3), and fourth premolars (dP^4). Root extension rates are also reconstructed for deciduous
92 maxillary and mandibular canines ($dC1$) and a dP^3 of *Pan troglodytes*, and a dC^1 and dP^4 of
93 *Pongo pygmaeus*. The main aims are (i) to describe the trajectory of RERs for each tooth
94 type, and (ii) to determine if RERs correspond with the emergence of deciduous teeth.
95 Correspondence between deciduous RERs and emergence will be sought in two ways.
96 Human RERs will be assessed in the portion of the root that forms as deciduous teeth emerge
97 through alveolar bone (Liversidge and Molleson, 2017). The portion of the root that forms as
98 deciduous teeth emerge in *Pan* and *Pongo* is unknown. Therefore extension rates will be
99 related to previously published ages at which gingival emergence occurs in captive
100 chimpanzees and orangutans (Nissen and Reisen, 1945; Fooden and Izor, 1983; Kuykendall
101 et al., 1992). Two additional aims of this study are to (iii) compare variation in human RERs
102 along the tooth row to the rate that deciduous teeth erupt, and (iv) to conduct a preliminary
103 comparison of RERs between human, chimpanzee and orangutan deciduous teeth. All
104 samples studied here were selected because long period or accentuated growth markings were
105 present and visible in thin sections of the roots, and because the roots had not resorbed. The

106 principle goal of this study is to provide a starting point, to gain clues about the potential of
107 deciduous RERs for comparative studies of dental development, and to determine if
108 deciduous RERs relate to tooth emergence.

109

110 **2. Materials and methods**

111 *2.1. Samples*

112 Humans The twenty-eight thin sections of deciduous maxillary teeth were from the Skeletal
113 Biology Research Centre, University of Kent, UK and were prepared previously for studies
114 of enamel growth and thickness (Mahoney, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2015). The skeletons from
115 which the teeth were obtained were from one cemetery in Canterbury, England, that dates to
116 the early 16th century AD (Hicks and Hicks, 2001).

117 Great apes Five thin sections of great ape deciduous teeth were selected. Three sections were
118 from the Elliot Smith Collection, University College London. These sections are of dC¹ from
119 *Pan troglodytes* (reference number CA20A.2.36-c), and a dC¹ and dP⁴ from *Pongo pygmaeus*
120 (CA28 J57-c; CA28 J57-E respectively). These individuals were wild shot specimens from
121 the 1920s. Thin sections from these specimens were first prepared for a paper on tooth wear
122 by Aiello et al. (1991). Root extension rates have not been reported previously for these
123 sections.

124 A thin section of dC₁ (reference number 906-11-73) from *Pan troglodytes* was selected
125 from a collection held at The Ohio State University. Another unsectioned dP³ (reference
126 number SF001) of *Pan troglodytes* was chosen from a collection held at Simon Frasier
127 University. These were captive animals. The dP³ from Simon Frasier University was
128 sectioned for this study using standard methods (Mahoney, 2015).

129

130

131 2.2. *Methods*

132 Each section was examined with a high resolution microscope (Olympus BX53) at
133 magnifications of 4× to 60× using transmitted light. Images were captured with a microscope
134 digital camera (Olympus DP74) and analyzed using Olympus cellSens software.

135 Dentine daily secretion rates Dentine daily secretion rates (DSRs) in μm per day are needed
136 to calculate root extension rates, but daily incremental lines are inconsistently preserved in
137 thin sections of roots from human and ape deciduous teeth. One way of overcoming the
138 absence of these lines is to calculate crown dentine DSRs and then transfer this estimated rate
139 to the root of the same thin section. Doing so likely underestimates the dentine DSR. Prenatal
140 crown dentine DSRs were calculated by measuring the length of a dentine tubule from the
141 dentine-enamel junction (DEJ) to the neonatal line, and dividing it by the corresponding
142 enamel prism formation time (see Fig. 1). This method is adapted from Dean and Scandrett
143 (1995) and Le Cabec et al. (2017). The selected enamel prism formed over 30 to 40 days.
144 These prenatal prisms lengths were selected because they were present within all tooth types,
145 they avoided the zone of enamel decussation near the horn, and the 30 to 40 day period over
146 which they formed standardized the measurement between tooth types. Cross striations were
147 counted along this length of the enamel prism (e.g., Reid et al., 1998), to calculate the amount
148 of time taken by ameloblasts to deposit enamel between locations 1 and 2 in Figure 1. Since it
149 takes the same amount of time to form the equivalent portion of the corresponding dentine
150 tubule, this amount of time was divided into the length in μm of the corresponding dentine
151 tubule, which is shown as the dotted line leading to location 3 (Fig. 1). The accentuated line
152 at location 3 is the reflection of the neonatal line in dentine (Fig. 1). This calculation gives an
153 average rate in $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$ that prenatal dentine matrix is secreted in the crown.

154 Root extension rates Postnatal RERs were calculated using two methods. The first method
155 was adapted from Dean and Vesey (2008) and used to calculate rates for all of the human and
156 great ape teeth studied here. Rates were calculated at fixed intervals of 200, 500, and 1000

157 μm , and every 1000 μm thereafter beginning at the cervix and extending apically down the
158 CEJ for the first 5 mm of root length. Figure 2 illustrates the extension rate calculation using
159 the orangutan dC¹ thin section. Roots are greatly ‘splayed’ in human dP⁴ and the more apical
160 portions were not captured when the thin sections were made. So it was only possible to
161 calculate extension rates for the first millimeter beyond the human dP⁴ enamel cervix.

162 Correspondence between human deciduous RERs and eruption was sought by assessing
163 rates in the portion of the root that formed during alveolar emergence, relative to extension
164 rates from times relating to before and after emergence. Alveolar emergence occurs for each
165 human deciduous tooth type when roots are on average between 1.8–3.2 mm in length
166 (Liversidge and Molleson, 2017), which is well within the 5 mm window of root growth
167 studied here.

168 Correspondence between RERs and eruption of dC¹ in *Pan* and *Pongo* was sought by
169 relating extension rates to the previously published age at which gingival emergence occurs
170 in captive chimpanzees and orangutans (Nissen and Riesen, 1945; Fooden and Izor, 1983;
171 Kuykendall et al., 1992). To do this, it was necessary to calculate an additional set of
172 extension rates for the two dC¹, as the first 5 mm of root growth might not capture the
173 eruption phase as these teeth might emerge when the root is longer. The two dC¹ were
174 selected because accentuated and long period markings were well preserved in the entire root.
175 This second methodology is based upon Dean and Cole (2013), wherein extension rates are
176 calculated for successive segments of root, rather than at fixed locations (i.e., 200, 500, or
177 1000 μm) to try and capture the entire trajectory of root growth for the chimpanzee dC¹ (root
178 length of 11.19 mm) and the orangutan dC¹ (9.28 mm; rates determined using the second
179 methodology are reported in Table 1 footnotes). Following this, the formation age for each
180 segment of root was calculated by combining postnatal dC¹ enamel formation time from the
181 neonatal line, with root formation time calculated from extension rates (enamel formation
182 times are calculated using standard methods for deciduous teeth; e.g., Mahoney, 2012). The

183 formation age for each segment of root was then compared to the previously published age at
184 which gingival emergence occurs for dC¹ in captive chimpanzees and orangutans. In doing
185 so, it was possible to identify the portion of the root that forms as dC¹ emerges, so that
186 extension rates at this location of the root could be assessed.

187 Eruption rates The average rate at which each human deciduous tooth type erupts was
188 estimated by dividing the average crown height (in mm: dI¹ = 6.79; dI² = 6.37; dC¹ = 7.85;
189 dP³ = 6.20; dP⁴ = 6.75; Liversidge and Molleson, 2017) by the average duration over which
190 these teeth erupt in males and females (in days: dI¹ = 73; dI² = 100; dC¹ = 128; dP³ = 237; dP⁴
191 = 152; Al-Batayneh and Shaweesh, 2018).

192

193 **3. Results**

194 *3.1. Humans*

195 Dentine daily secretion rates Average crown dentine DSR's (in μm per day) were 3.15 (± 1
196 SD = 0.51) for dI¹, 3.10 (± 1 SD = 0.43) for dI², 3.85 (± 1 SD = 0.30) for dC¹, 2.70 (± 1 SD =
197 0.40) for dP³, and 3.18 (± 1 SD = 0.51) for dP⁴. When these average rates were transferred to
198 the root of the corresponding tooth type it gave a dentine formation time—from the
199 cementodentine junction inwards for 200 μm towards the pulp chamber (Fig. 2)—of 63 days
200 in dI¹, 64 days in dI², 52 days in dC¹, 74 days in dP³, and 63 days in dP⁴. The range of crown
201 dentine DSRs reported here for dI¹ and dP⁴ lie within the range of rates previously reported
202 for one individual (dI¹ = 3.08 to 4.42 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$; dP₄ = 3.60 to 4.30 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$; Schour and
203 Poncher, 1937).

204 Root extension rates Each tooth type displayed a root extension trajectory that included a
205 'growth spurt' (Table 1). On average, roots extended in length at a faster rate in single-rooted
206 anterior teeth (dI¹, dI², and dC¹) compared to premolars (Fig. 3a).

207 The overall average extension rate for dI¹ of 23.17 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$ is greater than the average rate
208 of 19.0 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$ recalculated from data reported by Stack (1967), and it is slightly higher than

209 the average rate of 20.0 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$ calculated from tooth height measurements by Deutsch et al.
210 (1985). The average extension rate of 22.65 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$ for dI^2 is higher than the average rate of
211 17.7 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$ reported by Deutsch et al. (1985) for this tooth type.

212 Eruption rates The estimated average rate of tooth eruption (in μm per day) differed between
213 the single-rooted anterior teeth ($dI^1 = 93.0$; $dI^2 = 63.7$; $dC^1 = 61.3$) compared to premolars
214 ($dP^3 = 26.2$; $dP^4 = 44.4$).

215

216 3.2. Great apes

217 Dentine daily secretion rates Average crown dentine DSRs of 3.32 μm per day for the
218 chimpanzee dC^1 forms 200 μm of dentine in 60 days. This dentine DSR was used to calculate
219 extension rates for the upper and lower canine of *Pan*. A dentine DSR of 2.40 μm per day for
220 the chimpanzee dP^3 forms 200 μm of dentine in 83 days. A dentine DSR of 3.59 μm per day
221 for the orangutan dP^4 forms 200 μm in 56 days. This crown dentine DSR for dP^4 was
222 transferred to the orangutan dC^1 as it was not possible to accurately calculate this rate in the
223 canine thin section. Doing so probably slight underestimates RERs for the dC^1 if *Pongo* is
224 similar to *Pan* and shows a reduced crown dentine DSR in premolars compared to dC^1 .

225 Root extension rates Average extension rates for the great ape deciduous teeth are reported in
226 Table 1. The dC^1 of *Pan* displayed a trajectory of root growth that included a ‘growth spurt’
227 (Fig. 3b). The spurt occurred near the enamel crown with a high initial rate followed by
228 steady decline until the root was 4 mm in length, after which rates accelerated. When
229 extension rates were recalculated for the entire length of the dC^1 root, rates accelerated from 4
230 mm until the root had lengthened to 5 mm and then gradually decelerated until the root was
231 complete (Table 1 footnotes; see Fig. 4a).

232 The trajectory of root growth in the dC^1 of *Pongo* over the first 5 mm of root growth was
233 more gradual compared to that of dC^1 in *Pan* (Fig. 3b). Rates accelerate away from the dC^1
234 cervix of the *Pongo* crown increasing to maximum values as the root lengthened between 2 to

235 4 mm. Rates slowed down when the root was 5 mm in length. When rates were recalculated
236 for the entire length of the root, extension rates continued to slow down until root growth was
237 complete (Table 1 footnotes; Fig. 4b).

238 Only a few RERs were calculated for premolars of *Pan* and *Pongo* near the enamel crown.
239 When these rates were compared to equivalent locations in the dC1 roots of these species,
240 roots extended in length at a faster rate in canines compared to premolars (Table 1).

241 Crown formation times Total crown formation time was 458 days for the chimpanzee dC1
242 with 140 days of prenatal enamel growth, giving a postnatal enamel formation time of 318
243 days. Total crown formation time for the orangutan dC1 was 367 days with 114 days of
244 prenatal enamel growth, giving a postnatal enamel formation time of 253 days.

245

246 **4. Discussion**

247 *4.1. Human deciduous root extension rates*

248 Figure 5a–d depicts plots of extension rate data combined with data from Liversidge and
249 Molleson (2017) for varying root lengths of deciduous maxillary teeth. These plots illustrate
250 that RERs accelerate as each tooth type emerges. The exception is dC1 where root extension
251 accelerates just after alveolar emergence (Fig. 5c). These findings indicate that the trajectory
252 of root growth for this sample of human deciduous maxillary teeth was not linear, and that
253 RERs accelerated as, or just after, alveolar emergence. This link between accelerated RERs
254 and emergence of deciduous teeth differs compared to permanent teeth. Accelerated
255 extension rates occur before permanent canines and molars erupt, while these teeth are still
256 contained within alveolar bone (Dean and Cole, 2013).

257 Extension rates varied along the deciduous maxillary tooth row (Fig 3a). Roots of
258 deciduous anterior teeth extended faster than premolars, either when equivalent locations
259 were compared over the first 5 mm of root growth or when the overall average values were
260 considered (Table 1). The variation in extension rates corresponds with average root length,

261 as typically anterior deciduous teeth will have a much longer root than dP³ and a slightly
262 longer root than dP⁴ (Liversidge and Molleson, 2017). Thus, longer roots of deciduous
263 anterior teeth seem to extend at a faster rate, which parallels the situation reported for
264 permanent teeth where roots of taller teeth extended faster (Dean and Cole, 2013).

265 Deciduous anterior teeth erupt faster than premolars. When the estimated eruption rates
266 are compared to the average extension rates in Table 1 it is apparent that anterior teeth
267 emerge rapidly with roots that form quickly, when compared to premolars. Of the anterior
268 teeth, dI¹ had the fastest rate of eruption and achieved the highest RER when its root had
269 extended to a length of 2 mm. This is interesting because it suggests a mechanism by which
270 tooth eruption rates may relate to RERs. Rapid tooth emergence could create space beneath
271 the root apex in the crypt into which the root could lengthen quickly (Marks and Schroeder,
272 1996). This makes sense as the surface area of a root provides an attachment point for
273 periodontal fibres that stabilize the tooth against chewing forces (reviewed by Spencer,
274 2003). Under this scenario, the rapid RERs of anterior teeth might provide more root surface
275 in a shorter period of time from which to stabilize their crowns as they moved rapidly into
276 function relative to premolars.

277

278 4.2. Great ape deciduous root extension rates

279 Figure 4a illustrated that the higher extension rates for the dC¹ of *Pan* lay within the range
280 of ages that this tooth type emerged in captive chimpanzees (Nissen and Riesen, 1945;
281 Kuykendall et al., 1992), which also encompasses the age of dC₁ emergence reported for a
282 sample of wild East African chimpanzees (Machanda et al., 2015). Faster extension rates
283 occurred during the first 5 mm of root growth as this tooth type emerged. Slower extension
284 rates occurred as the root lengthened between 7 to 11 mm, which is after the age dC¹ has
285 emerged.

286 Figure 4b illustrated that the highest extension rate for the dC¹ of *Pongo* occurred before
287 the age that this tooth type emerged in captive orangutans (Fooden and Izor; 1983).
288 Furthermore, if great ape deciduous teeth emerge with the same amount of root that is present
289 in human deciduous teeth, which is about half the length of the crown (Liversidge and
290 Molleson, 2017), then this orangutan dC¹ (with a crown height of 8.66 mm) would have
291 emerged when the roots were slightly longer than 4 mm in length (Fig. 4b). This would have
292 occurred as extension rates were decelerating. By comparison, and using the same
293 calculation, the chimpanzee dC¹ with a crown height of 8.02 mm would have emerged when
294 the root was 4 mm, which would have coincided with accelerating extension rates.

295 Extension rates were faster in the dC¹ of *Pan* and *Pongo* compared to data for permanent
296 canines of these species (Dean and Vesey, 2008). When equivalent locations were compared
297 along the first 5 mm of root, the chimpanzee dC¹ root extended in length four to five times
298 faster (range = 24.57–30.33 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$; Table 1) compared to permanent canines of *Pan* (range
299 = 5.10–12.90 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$; Dean and Vesey, 2008). Rates of extension between 9.0 to 10.9
300 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$ for the first 5 mm of root growth in a combined sample of permanent lower canines
301 from orangutans and gorillas (Dean and Vesey, 2008) are less than the values reported here
302 for dC¹ of *Pongo* that lie between 23.07–30.86 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$ (Table 1).

303

304 4.3. Humans compared to great apes

305 The overall average rate at which roots extended to a length of 5 mm is greater in dC¹,
306 dP³, and dP⁴ of *Pan* and *Pongo* compared to the same tooth types of human children (Table
307 1). When equivalent locations along the root are compared between these species, RERs are
308 generally still higher in the great ape teeth compared to humans (Table 1). Rates for the dC¹
309 of *Pan* begin to overlap with those of human dC¹ roots when they have lengthened to 3 mm,
310 but rates from the dC¹ of *Pongo* remained faster than human dC¹ until the root has lengthened
311 to 5 mm (Fig. 3b). Only a few rates were calculated for great ape premolars, but these were

312 also accelerated compared to human premolars, especially in *Pan*. It seems unlikely that a
313 higher rate of root extension in the great ape teeth can be attributed to just variation in root
314 length. The dC¹ root of *Pongo* was 9.28 mm in length, which was close to the average length
315 of 9.11 mm for the human dC¹. The dC¹ root of *Pan* was 11.19 mm and extended faster than
316 the shorter human dC¹ roots, but there were still portions of the root where extension rates
317 overlapped between these species. Clearly, the extent of the overlap in extension rates
318 between these species has yet to be determined and the data analyzed here are only a ‘first
319 step’. With this in mind, future studies might explore potential links between RERs and the
320 slowed schedule of eruption for human deciduous teeth compared to *Pan* and *Pongo*.

321

322 **Conclusions**

323 Root extension rates were calculated from 28 thin sections of modern human deciduous
324 maxillary teeth, and for five sections of deciduous canines and premolars from *Pan* and
325 *Pongo*. Rates were used to reconstruct the trajectory of deciduous root growth, and to
326 determine if root extension rates corresponded with tooth emergence. All teeth examined here
327 had a growth trajectory that included a peak in the rate that roots extended in length. Rates
328 peaked at different stages of root growth in different tooth types. The peak in root extension
329 rates occurred in the portion of the root that formed as human deciduous incisors and
330 premolars emerged through alveolar bone, and just after alveolar emergence for the canine.
331 Accelerated extension rates in a deciduous canine from *Pan* coincided with the age that this
332 tooth type emerged in captive chimpanzees. High extension rates in a canine from *Pongo*
333 preceded emergence age. For *Pan* it was possible to combine root formation time up until the
334 root growth spurt with the crown postnatal enamel formation time to reconstruct the known
335 age of dC¹ emergence. Preliminary observations indicate that extension rates in deciduous
336 canines and premolars from *Pan* and *Pongo* are higher than these rates in the same tooth

337 types of modern human children. This study provides a starting point from which to explore
338 root extension rates and eruption in primate deciduous teeth.

339

340 **Acknowledgements**

341 I thank two anonymous reviewers, the Associate Editor Clément Zanolli, and the Editor
342 David Alba for their very helpful comments. I thank Helen Liversidge for providing an
343 advanced copy of her (now published) study on human deciduous root length and eruption. I
344 thank Chris Dean, Debbie Guatelli-Steinberg, and Mark Skinner for access to thin sections of
345 great ape deciduous dentition. This research was supported by The Royal Society (grant
346 number: RG-110435).

347

348 **References**

349 Al-Batayneha, O.B., Shaweesh, A., 2018. Clinical duration of eruption of deciduous teeth in
350 Jordanian children: Across-sectional study. *Archives of Oral Biology* 90, 86–90.

351 AlQahtani, S.J., Hector, M.P., Liversidge, H.M., 2010. Brief communication: The London
352 atlas of human tooth development and eruption. *American Journal of Physical
353 Anthropology* 142, 481–490.

354 Aiello, L.C., Dean, M.C., 1990. *An Introduction to Human Evolutionary Anatomy*. Elsevier
355 Academic Press, London.

356 Aiello, L.C., Dean, M.C., Montgomery, C., 1991. The natural history of deciduous tooth
357 attrition in hominoids. *Journal of Human Evolution* 21, 397–412.

358 Cahill, D.R., 1974. Histological changes in the bony crypt and gubernacular canal of erupting
359 permanent premolars during deciduous premolar exfoliation in beagles. *Journal of Dental
360 Research* 53, 786–791.

361 Cahill, D.R., Marks, S.C., 1980. Tooth eruption: evidence for the central role of the dental
362 follicle. *Journal of Oral Pathology and Medicine* 9, 189–200.

363 Conroy, G.C., Mahoney, C.J., 1991. Mixed longitudinal study of dental emergence in the
364 chimpanzee, *Pan troglodytes* (Primates, Pongidae). *American Journal of Physical
365 Anthropology* 86, 243–254.

366 Dean, M.C., 2007. A radiographic and histological study of modern human lower first
367 permanent molar root growth during the supraosseous eruptive phase. *Journal of Human
368 Evolution* 53, 635–646.

369 Dean, M.C., 2010. Retrieving chronological age from dental remains of early fossil hominins
370 to reconstruct human growth in the past. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society*
371 B 365, 3397–3410.

372 Dean, M.C., Cole, T.J., 2013. Human life history evolution explains dissociation between the
373 timing of tooth eruption and peak rates of root growth. *PLoS One* 8, e54534.

374 Dean, M.C., Scandrett, A.E., 1995. Rates of dentine mineralization in permanent human
375 teeth. *International Journal of Osteoarchaeology* 5, 349-358.

376 Dean, M.C., Vesey, P., 2008. Preliminary observations on increasing root length during the
377 eruptive phase of tooth development in modern humans and great apes. *Journal of Human*
378 *Evolution* 54, 258–271.

379 Dean, M.C., Wood, B., 1981. Developing pongid dentition and its use for ageing individual
380 crania in comparative cross-sectional growth studies. *Folia Primatologica* 36, 111-27

381 Deutsch, D., Tam, O., Stack, M.V., 1985. Post-natal changes in size, morphology and weight
382 of developing postnatal deciduous anterior teeth. *Growth* 49, 202–217.

383 Fanning, E.A., 1961. A longitudinal study of tooth formation and root resorption. *New*
384 *Zealand Dental Journal* 57, 202–217.

385 Fooden, J., Izor, R., 1983. Growth curves, dental emergence norms, and supplementary
386 morphological observations in known-age captive orangutans. *American Journal of*
387 *Pimatology* 5, 285–301.

388 Haavikko, K., 1970. The formation and the alveolar and clinical eruption of the permanent
389 teeth; An orthopantomographic study. *Suomen Hammaslaakariseuran Toimituksia* 66,
390 104–170.

391 Hicks, M., Hicks, A., 2001. *St. Gregory’s Priory, Northgate, Canterbury Excavations 1988–*
392 *1991. Canterbury Archaeological Trust, Canterbury.*

393 Hillson, S., 2014. *Tooth Development in Human Evolution and Bioarchaeology. Cambridge*
394 *University Press, Cambridge.*

395 Hullah, S.A., Lucas, J.O., Wake, M.A., Hesketh, K.D., 2000. Eruption of the primary
396 dentition in human infants: a prospective descriptive study. *American Academy of*
397 *Pediatric Dentistry* 22, 415–422.

398 Kuykendall, K.L., Mahoney, C.J., Conroy, G.C., 1992. Probit and survival analysis of tooth
399 emergence ages in a mixed longitudinal sample of chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*).
400 *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 89, 379–399.

401 LeCabe, A., Dean, M.C., Begun, D.R., 2017. Dental development and age at death of the
402 holotype of *Anapithecus hernyaki* (RUD 9) using synchrotron virtual histology. *Journal of*

403 Human Evolution 108, 161–175.

404 Liversidge, H.M., Dean, M.C., Molleson, T.I., 1993. Increasing tooth length between birth
405 and 5.4 years. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 90, 307-313.

406 Liversidge HM, Molleson T., 2004. Variation in crown and root formation of human
407 deciduous teeth. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 123, 172–180.

408 Liversidge, H., Molleson, T., 2017. Human tooth development, tooth length and eruption: a
409 study of British archaeological dentitions. *Historical Biology* 30, 166-173

410 Machanda, Z., Brazeau, N.F., Bernard, A.B., Donovan, R.N., Papakyrikos, A.M., Wrangham,
411 R., Smith, T.M., 2015. Dental eruption in East African wild chimpanzees. *Journal of*
412 *Human Evolution* 82, 37–44.

413 Mahoney, P., 2010. Two dimensional patterns of human enamel thickness on deciduous
414 (dm1, dm2) and permanent first (M1) mandibular molars. *Archives of Oral Biology* 55,
415 115–126.

416 Mahoney, P., 2011. Human deciduous mandibular molar incremental enamel development.
417 *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 144, 204–214.

418 Mahoney, P., 2012. Incremental enamel development in modern human deciduous anterior
419 teeth. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 147, 637–651.

420 Mahoney, P., 2015. Dental fast track: prenatal enamel growth, incisor eruption, and weaning
421 in human infants. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 156, 407–421.

422 Marks, S.C., Schroeder, H.E., 1996. Tooth eruption: theories and facts. *The Anatomical*
423 *Record* 245, 374-393.

424 Massler, M., Schour, I., Poncher, H.G., 1941. Developmental pattern of the child as reflected
425 in the calcification pattern of the teeth. *American Journal of Disease of Children* 62, 33-
426 67.

427 Moore, J.W., Lavelle, C.L.B., 1974. *Growth of the Facial Skeleton in the Hominoidea*.
428 Academic Press, London.

429 Moorrees, C.F.A., Fanning, E.A., Hunt, E.E., 1963. Formation and resorption of three
430 deciduous teeth in children. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 19, 99–108.

431 Nissen, H.W., Riesen, A.H., 1945. The deciduous dentition of chimpanzee. *Growth* 9, 265–
432 274.

433 Reid, D.J., Beynin, A.D., Ramirez Rozzi, F.V., 1998. Histological reconstruction of dental
434 development in four individuals from a medieval site in Picardie, France. *Journal of*
435 *Human Evolution* 35, 463-477.

436 Schour, I., 1936. Neonatal line in enamel and dentin of human deciduous teeth and permanent
437 first molar. *Journal of the American Dental Association* 23, 1946–1955.

438 Schour, I., Massler, M., 1940. Studies in tooth development: the growth pattern of human
439 teeth. *Journal of the American Dental Association* 27, 1918–1931.

440 Schour, I., Poncher, H.G., 1937. Rate of apposition of enamel and dentin, measured by the
441 effect of acute fluorosis. *American Journal of Diseases of Children* 54, 757–776.

442 Schultz, A.H., 1940. Growth and development of the chimpanzee. *Contributions to*
443 *Embryology* 28, 1–63.

444 Schultz, A.H., 1941. Growth and development of the orang-utan. *Contributions to*
445 *Embryology* 29, 57–110.

446 Siebert JR, Swindler DR., 1991. Perinatal dental development in the chimpanzee. *American*
447 *Journal of Physical Anthropology* 86, 287-294.

448 Smith, B.H., 1989. Dental development as a measure of life history in primates. *Evolution.*
449 43, 683–688.

450 Smith, T.M., Reid, D.J., Dean, M.C., Olejniczak, A.J., Martin, L.B., 2007. Molar
451 development in common chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*). *Journal of Human Evolution* 55,
452 201–216.

453 Spencer, MA., 2003. Tooth-root form and function in platyrrhine seed-eaters. *American*
454 *Journal of Physical Anthropology* 122, 325–335.

455 Stack, M.V., 1967. Vertical growth rates of deciduous teeth. *Journal of Dental Research* 46,
456 879–882.

457 Winkler, L.A., Schwartz, J.H., Swindler, D.R., 1991. Aspects of dental development in the
458 orangutan prior to eruption of the permanent dentition. *American Journal of Physical*
459 *Anthropology* 86, 255-271.

460

461 **FIGURE CAPTIONS**

462

463 **Figure 1.** Thin section of a dC¹ crown of *Pan troglodytes* (catalogue number CA20A.2.36). A) Thin
464 section image produced at a magnification of 4× using polarized microscopy. Light blue circle
465 denotes dentine; light green circle denotes enamel. White arrows point to the neonatal line, which is
466 an accentuated marking in enamel and dentine. B) Section image produced at a magnification of 20×.
467 The dashed white line traces an enamel rod between the enamel-dentine junction (1) and the neonatal
468 line (white line) to the right (2). A dashed white line traces a dentine tubule to the neonatal line in
469 dentine (3). The length of the dentine tubule is shorter compared to the length of the enamel rod

470 because odontoblasts secrete new matrix at a slower rate compared to the rate that ameloblasts secrete
471 new matrix. See text for calculating an estimate of crown dentine DSRs.

472

473 **Figure 2.** Thin section of a dC¹ root of *Pongo pygmaeus* (catalogue number CA28.J57c). A) Thin
474 section image produced at a magnification of 4× using polarized microscopy. B) Section image
475 produced at a magnification of 20×. Black arrow 1 points to a black dashed line that traces a dentine
476 tubule from the cement-dentin junction inwards for a distance of 200 μm to the white arrow. This
477 distance of 200 μm between these two arrows formed in 56 days. The dashed line between the white
478 arrow and black arrow 2 traces an accentuated growth line. The length of the root in μm between
479 black arrow 1 and black arrow 2 divided by 56 days gives an estimate of the rate in μm/day that the
480 root extends in length between the two black arrows.

481

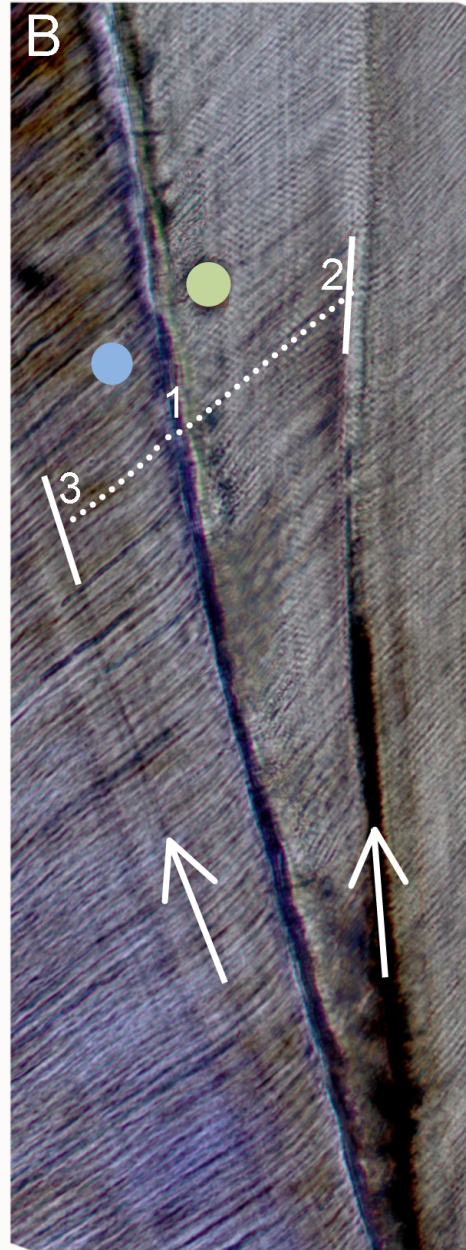
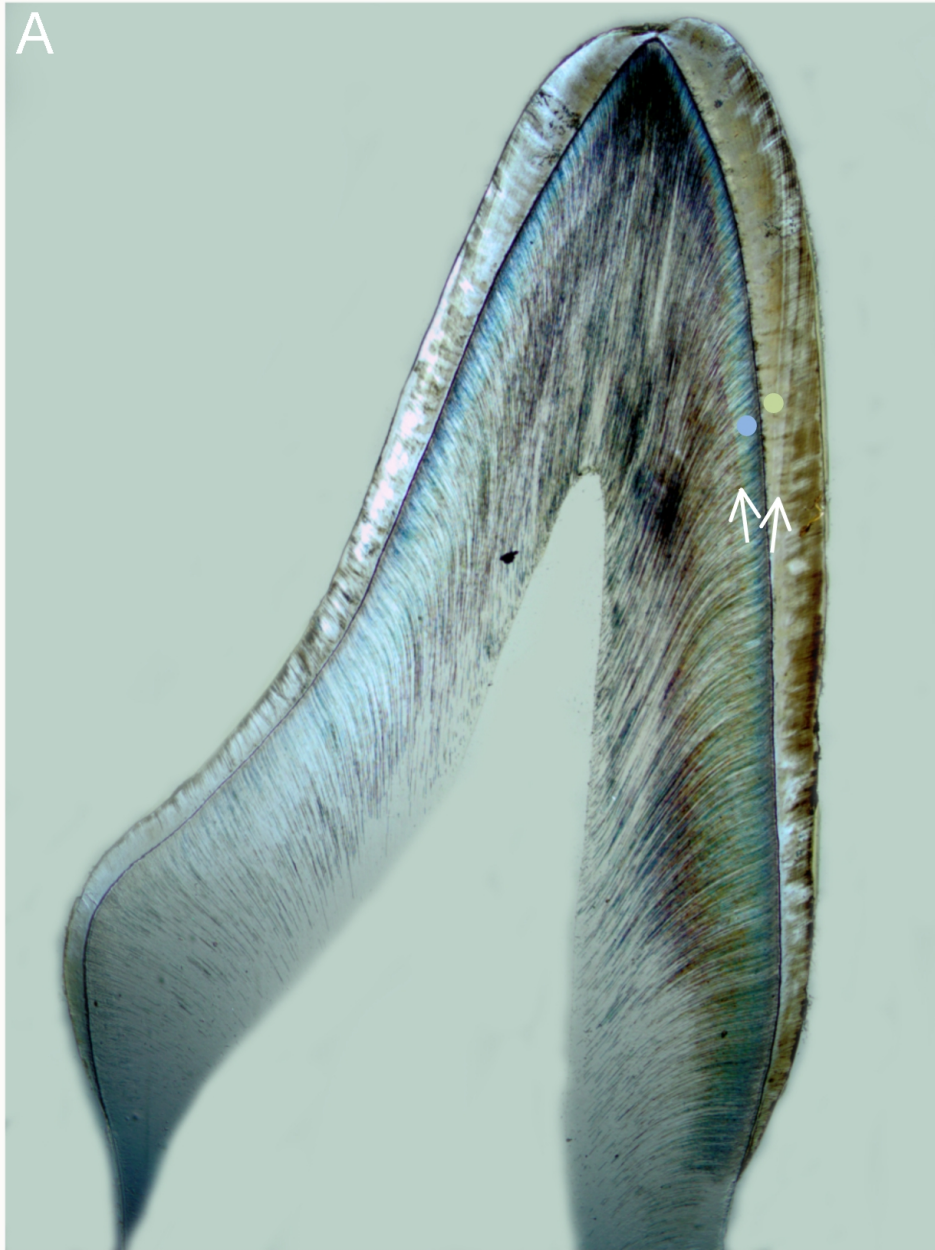
482 **Figure 3.** A) Scatter plot illustrating extension rates for the first 5 mm of root growth in human
483 deciduous teeth. B) Extension rates for the first 5 mm of root growth in dC¹ of modern humans, *Pan*
484 *troglydites*, and *Pongo pygmaeus*.

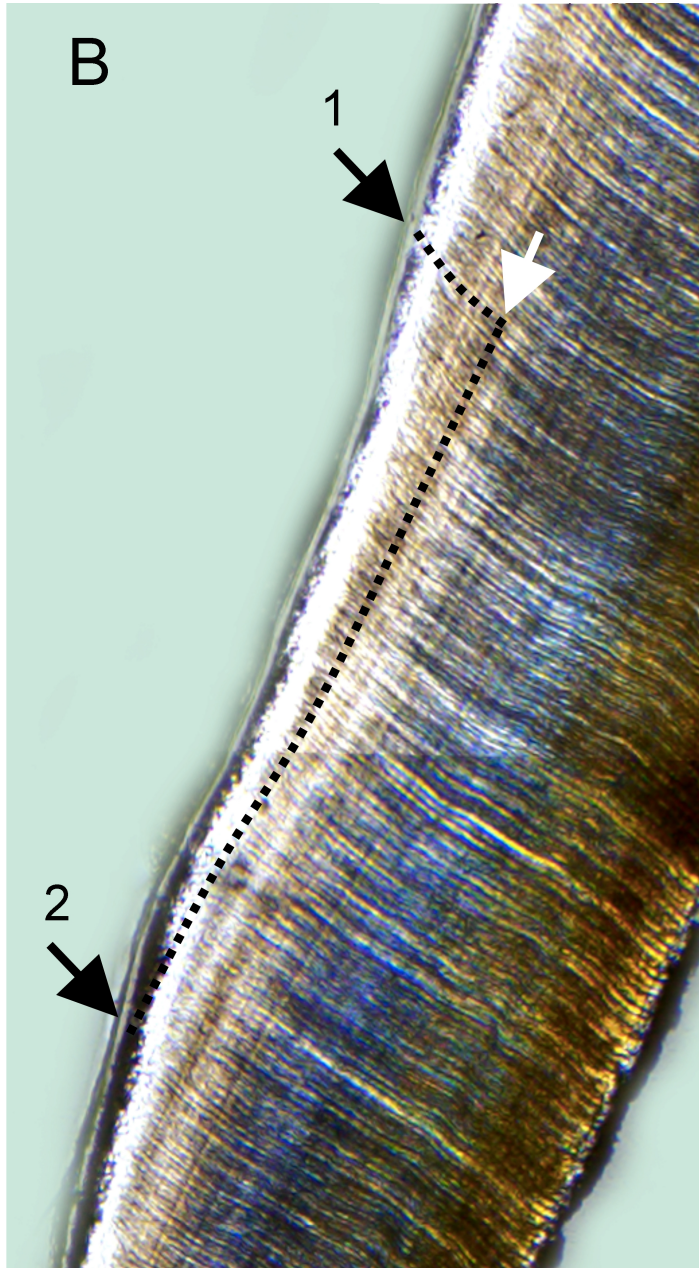
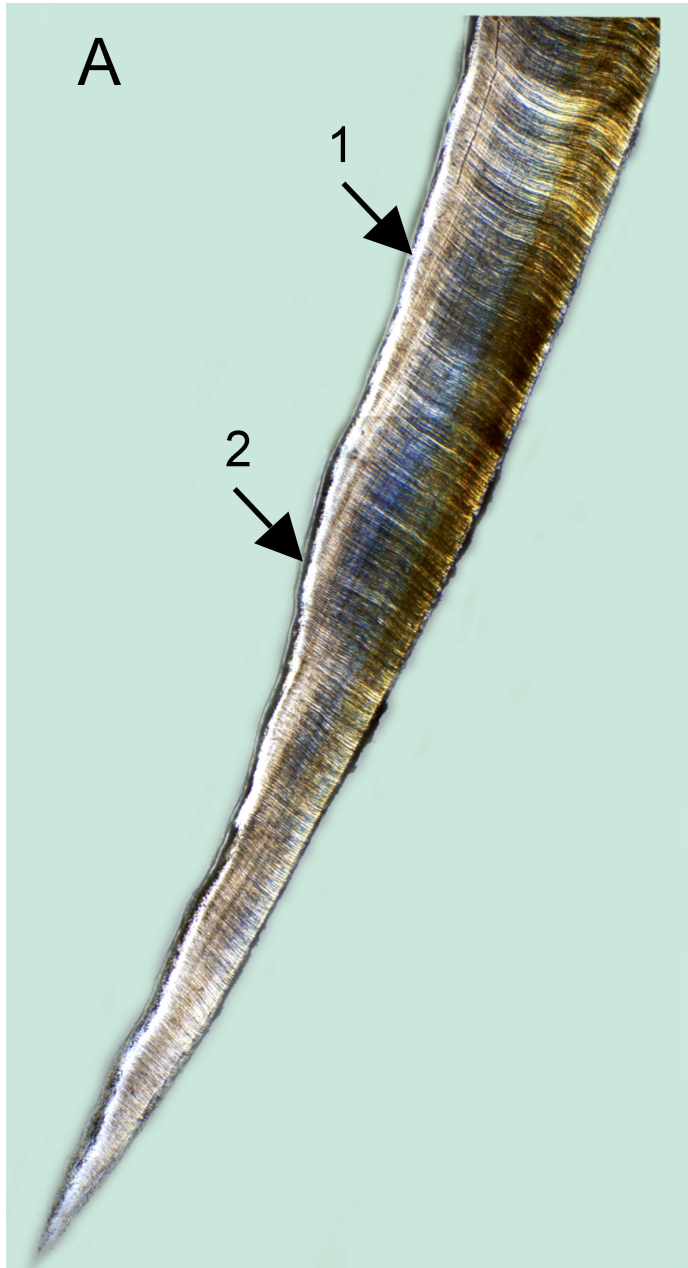
485

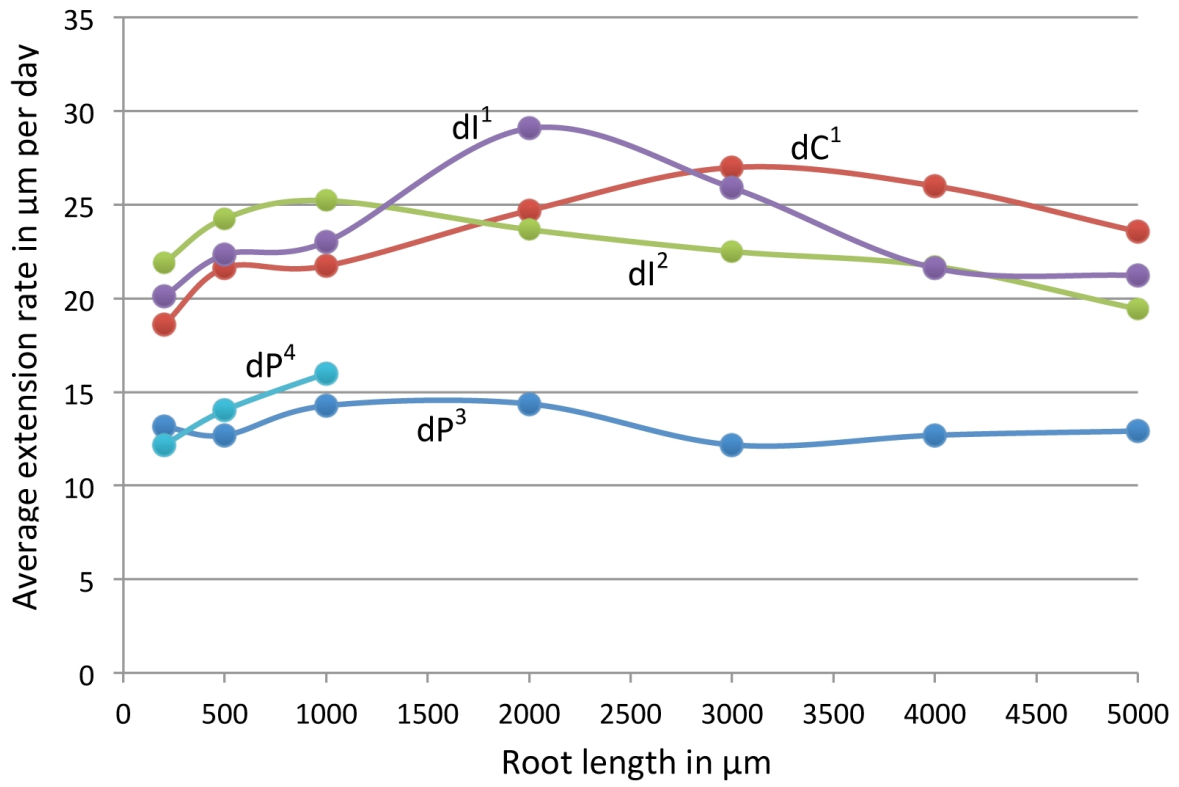
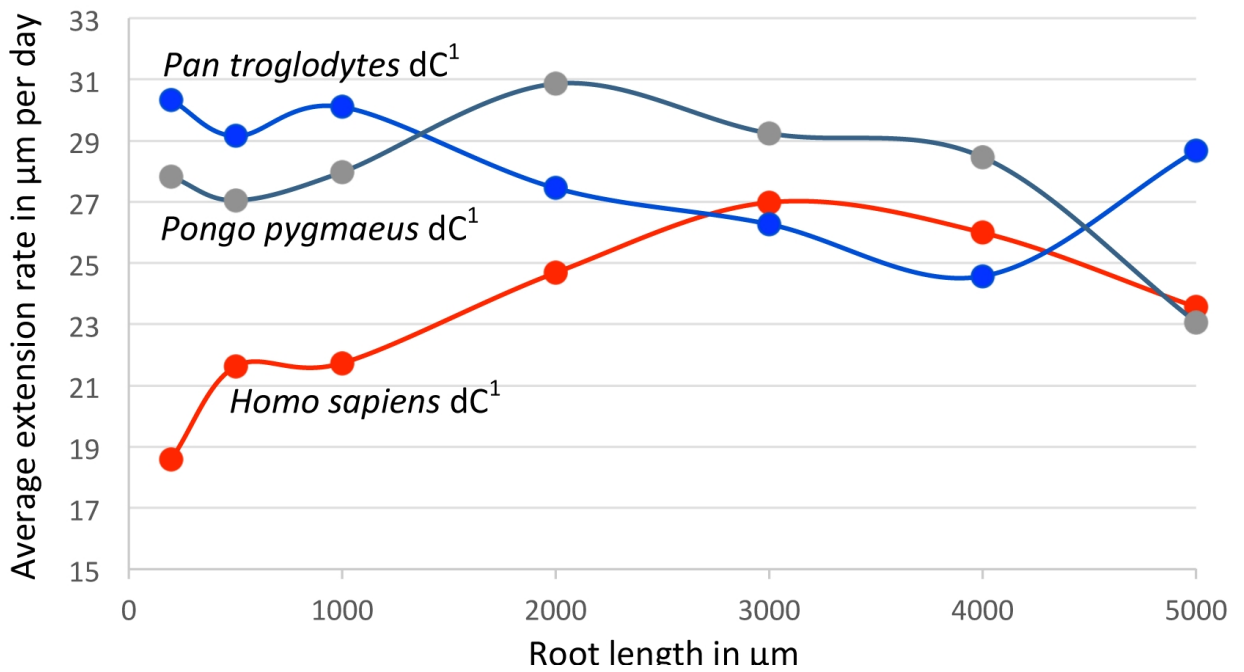
486 **Figure 4.** Root extension rates related to the age at which dC¹ emerges for *Pan* and *Pongo*. A) Crown
487 completion occurs at 318 days after birth (see Table 1 footnotes). Root extension rates are taken from
488 the footnotes of Table 1 and have been calculated for consecutive segments of root length. Median
489 dC¹ crown emergence times for captive male and female chimpanzees lie between 335 to 372 days
490 (1.02 yr: Kuykendall et al., 1992; 0.97 yr for males and 0.92 yr for females, average of left and right
491 maxilla: Nissen and Riesen, 1945). The 5th to 95th percentile of 0.64 yr to 1.35 yr is taken from
492 Kuykendall et al. (1992). B) Crown completion occurs 253 days after birth in this *Pongo pygmaeus*
493 dC¹ (see Table 1 footnotes). Root extension rates are taken from the footnotes in Table 1 for
494 consecutive segments of root length. Tooth emergence times are taken from Fooden and Izor (1983)
495 and are for captive modern orangutans nursed by their mothers. Mean emergence times for males =
496 412 days (342 to 487 days). Mean emergence time for females = 434 days (427 to 448 days); the
497 greater range of values for males is illustrated.

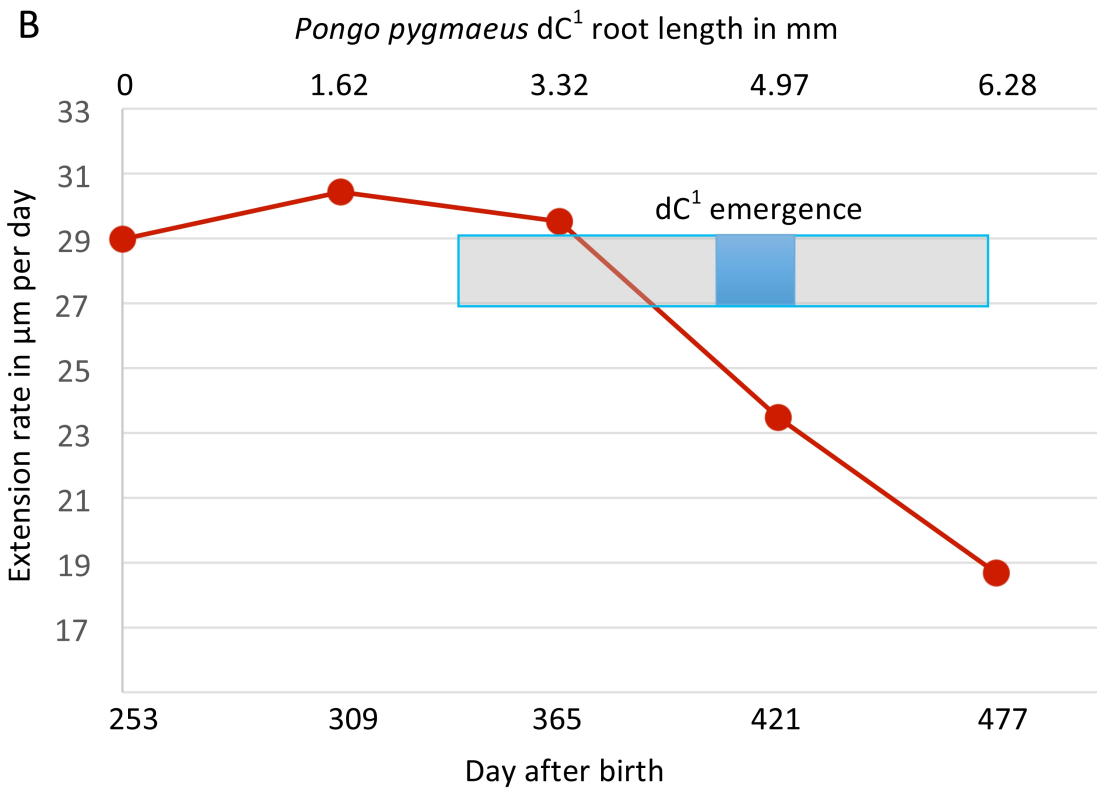
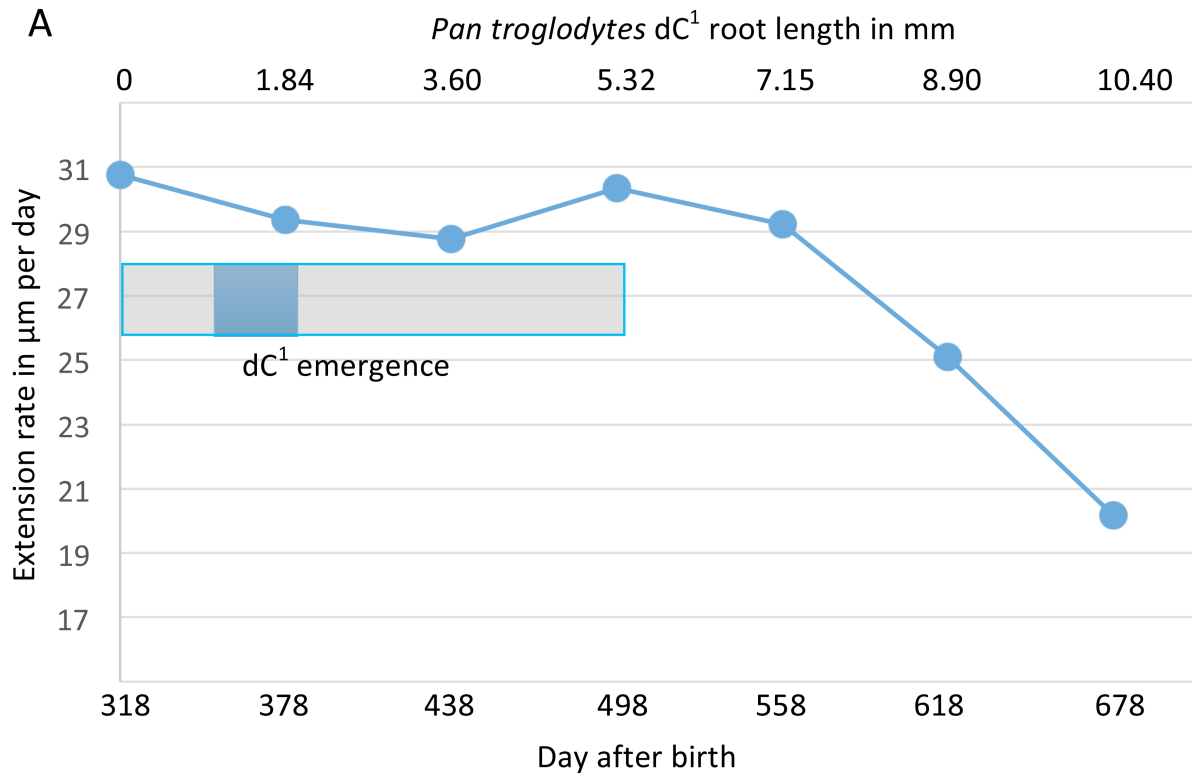
498

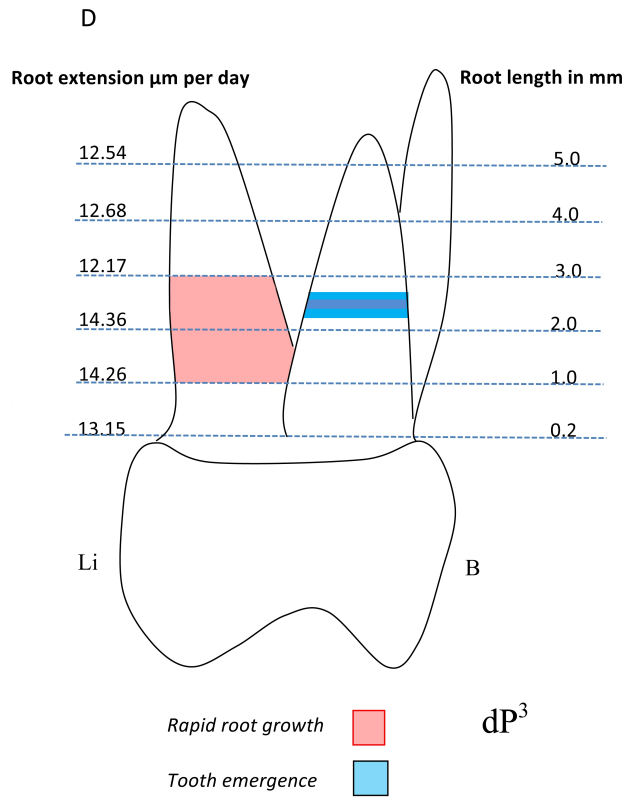
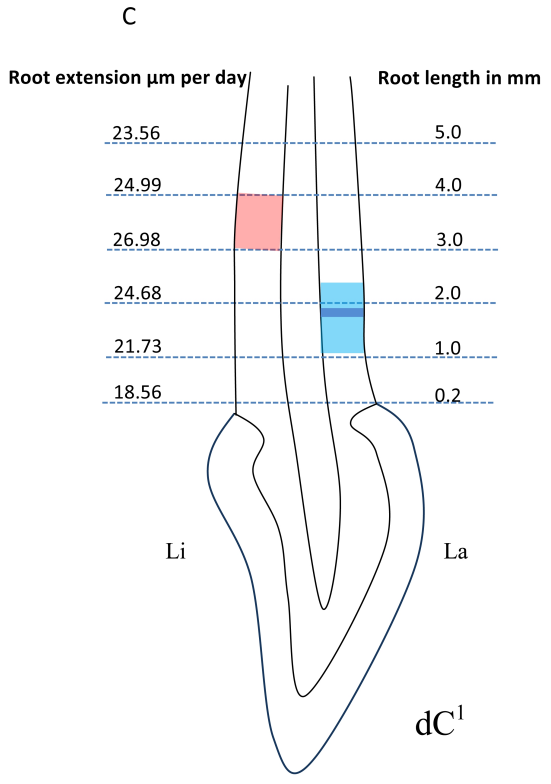
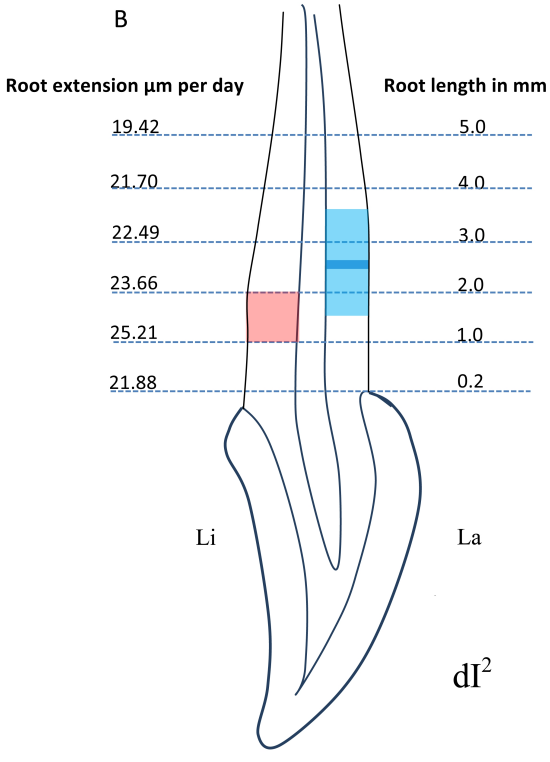
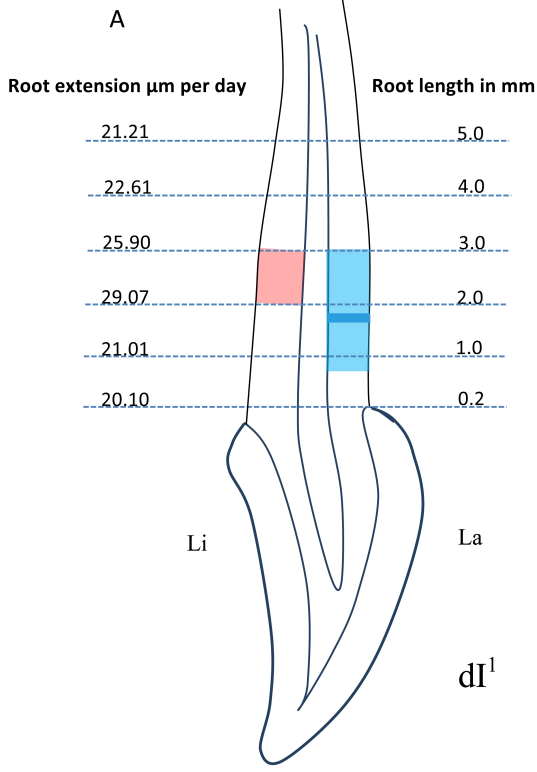
499 **Figure 5.** Mean root extension rates for human deciduous maxillary teeth related to the portion of root
500 that forms as each tooth type emerges through alveolar bone. A) Alveolar emergence occurs when dI¹
501 root is a mean length of 1.81 mm ±1 SD of 1.14 (range of 0.67 to 2.95 mm; recalculated from data in
502 Liversidge and Molleson, 2017: their Tables 5 and 6). B) Alveolar emergence occurs when dI² root
503 length is a mean of 2.64 mm (±1 SD of 1.48 to 3.80 mm). C) Alveolar emergence occurs when dC¹
504 root length is a mean of 1.76 mm (±1 SD of 1.03 to 2.49 mm). D) Alveolar emergence occurs when
505 dP³ root length is a mean of 2.56 mm (±1 SD of 2.41 to 2.71 mm).





A**B**





1 **Table 1**

2 Extension rates in $\mu\text{m}/\text{per day}$ (SD) in deciduous teeth at intervals between 200 μm and 5000 μm of root
 3 length.

Species	<i>n</i>	Tooth	200	500	1000	2000	3000	4000	5000	Average
<i>H. sapiens</i>	5	dI ¹	20.10 (2.03)	22.32 (1.65)	21.01 (1.79)	29.07 (1.50)	25.90 (1.05)	22.61 (1.53)	21.21 (1.53)	23.17 (1.58)
	5	dI ²	21.88 (3.08)	24.25 (3.04)	25.21 (1.69)	23.66 (1.46)	22.49 (0.99)	21.70 (0.96)	19.42 (1.03)	22.65 (1.75)
	6	dC ¹	18.56 (3.69)	21.62 (2.82)	21.73 (0.93)	24.68 (1.66)	26.98 (1.75)	24.99 (0.92)	23.56 (1.44)	23.16 (1.88)
	6	dP ³	13.15 (3.48)	12.68 (1.79)	14.26 (2.02)	14.36 (1.42)	12.17 (1.63)	12.68 (0.99)	12.54 (1.06)	13.12 (1.77)
	6	dP ⁴	12.17 (2.43)	14.0 (2.20)	15.99 (2.10)	— —	— —	— —	— —	14.05 (2.24)
	<i>P. troglodytes</i> ^a	1	dC ¹	30.33	29.15	30.10	27.45	26.27	24.57	28.67
1		dC ₁	31.67	32.03	28.20	25.45	—	—	—	29.33
1		dP ³	20.47	22.71	—	—	—	—	—	21.59
<i>Po. Pygmaeus</i> ^b	1	dC ¹	27.83	27.05	27.97	30.86	29.24	28.46	23.07	27.78
	1	dP ⁴	17.71	17.25	16.45	—	—	—	—	17.13

4 ^aUsing the methodology of Dean and Cole (2013) to reconstruct rates for consecutive segments of dC¹
 5 root length in *Pan* commencing at the enamel cervix and continuing down along the root towards the root
 6 apex: 30.76 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$ (cervix to 1.84 mm); 29.35 μm (1.84 to 3.60 mm); 28.77 μm (3.60 to 5.32 mm);
 7 30.55 μm (5.32 to 7.15mm); 29.33 μm (7.15 to 8.90 mm); 25.10 μm (8.90 to 10.40 mm); 20.16 μm (10.40 to
 8 near apex).

9 ^bReconstructing rates for consecutive segments of dC¹ root length in *Pongo* commencing at the enamel
 10 cervix and continuing down along the root towards the root apex: 28.98 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$ (cervix to 1.62 mm of root
 11 length); 30.44 $\mu\text{m}/\text{day}$ (1.62 to 3.32 mm); 29.53 (3.32 to 4.97 mm); 23.48 (4.97 to 6.28 mm); 18.67 (6.28 to
 12 7.32 mm).
 13