

Marco Cherin

### **Personal data**

**Name and surname:** Marco Cherin                      **ID/Passport:** YB4871661

**Position and affiliation:** Associate Professor, Department of Physics and Geology, University of Perugia (Italy)

**Academic training:** **Ph.D.** in Earth Sciences, University of Perugia, Italy (2013); **M.Sc.** with Honor in Natural Sciences, University of Pisa, Italy (2009); **B.Sc.** with Honor in Environmental Sciences, University of Salento, Italy (2006)

### **Scientific production indicators**

**h index:** 10                      **Citing documents:** 34

**Total number of citations:** 366 in 247 documents (source: Scopus)

### **Academic trajectory**

**Main research line:** Systematics, paleobiology, evolution, paleoecology, biochronology and taphonomy of Neogene-Quaternary terrestrial and marine vertebrates from Europe and East Africa

**Summary:** Marco Cherin carries out paleontological research in continental and marine Neogene-Quaternary successions in collaboration with several international researchers. His study, focused on macromammals, is part of interdisciplinary research on the paleontological sites, intertwining with sedimentological-stratigraphic, archaeological, palynological, malacological, geochemical, magnetostratigraphic and geochronological data for the reconstruction of paleoecological contexts and paleoclimate modifications.

He is the coordinator of the Italian-Tanzanian research project THOR (Tanzania Human Origins Research) aimed at the geo-paleontological study of some key sites for human evolution such as Olduvai Gorge and Laetoli.

He spent several periods abroad mainly thanks to funding from the European Union (e.g., Erasmus+ and Synthesys projects): Swedish Museum of Natural History (2019); Institut Català de Paleontologia Miquel Crusafont (2017 and 2018); Natural History Museum London (2013); Hungarian Natural History Museum (2012); etc.

He currently teaches "Introduction to Paleontology" and "Vertebrate Paleontology" at the B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Geology at the University of Perugia. He is the director of the School of Paleoanthropology of the University of Perugia.

### **Research projects during the last 5 years (indicate only the most important 5 and include those of which you are the main investigator (IP) and those in which you are research team member)**

1. **Project title:** Study and promotion of Plio-Pleistocene paleoanthropological sites in northern Tanzania (Olduvai and Laetoli)  
**Reference according to funding agency:** 2016: ARC-001447; 2017: ARC-001613; 2018: ARC-001868; 2019: ARC-375; 2020: ARC-614; 2021: ARC-1022  
**Principal investigator(s):** Giorgio Manzi, Sapienza University of Rome  
**Funding agency:** Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

- Amount granted:** 50000 €  
**Duration:** 2016-today
2. **Project title:** 3D Geosciences  
**Reference according to funding agency:** n/a  
**Principal investigator(s):** Marco Cherin  
**Funding agency:** Department of Physics and Geology, University of Perugia  
**Amount granted:** 30000 €  
**Duration:** 2021-2023
3. **Project title:** Paleoeology and chronology of the Pantalla fossiliferous site (central Italy; Early Pleistocene)  
**Reference according to funding agency:** n/a  
**Principal investigator(s):** Marco Cherin  
**Funding agency:** Department of Physics and Geology, University of Perugia  
**Amount granted:** 5000 €  
**Duration:** 2017-2019
4. **Project title:** Exploring Site S: New bipedal footprints at Laetoli (Tanzania)  
**Reference according to funding agency:** n/a  
**Principal investigator(s):** Marco Cherin  
**Funding agency:** Leakey Foundation, USA  
**Amount granted:** 24340 US\$  
**Duration:** 2017

#### **Indexed publications during the last 5 years (include the 10 most important ones)**

1. Madurell-Malapeira, J., Bartolini-Lucenti, S., Prat-Vericat, M., Sorbelli, L., Blasetti, A., Ferretti, M.P., Goro, A., Cherin, M. 2021. Jaramillo-aged carnivorans from Collecorti (Colfiorito Basin, Italy). *Historical Biology*, doi: 10.1080/08912963.2021.1989590
2. Sorbelli, L., Villa, A., Gentili, S., Cherin, M., Carnevale, G., Tschopp, E., Delfino, M. 2021. The Early Pleistocene ectothermic vertebrates of Pietrafitta (Italy) and the last Western European occurrence of *Latonia* Meyer, 1843. *Comptes Rendus Palevol*, 20: 555-583
3. Azzarà, B., Boschian, G., Brochu, C.A., Delfino, M., Iurino, D.A., Kimambo, J.S., Manzi, G., Masao, F.T., Menconero, S., Njau, J.K., Cherin, M. 2021. A new cranium of *Crocodylus anthropophagus* from Olduvai Gorge, northern Tanzania. *Rivista Italiana di Paleontologia e Stratigrafia*, 127: 275-295
4. Sorbelli, L., Alba, D.M., Cherin, M., Moullé, P.E., Brugal, J.P., Madurell-Malapeira, J. 2021. A review on *Bison schoetensacki* and its closest relatives through the early-Middle Pleistocene transition: Insights from the Vallparadís Section (NE Iberian Peninsula) and other European localities. *Quaternary Science Reviews*, 261: 106933
5. Mecozzi, M., Sardella, R., Boscaini, A., Cherin, M., Costeur, L., Madurell-Malapeira, J., Pavia, M., Profico, A., Iurino, D.A. 2021. The tale of a short-tailed cat: New outstanding Late Pleistocene fossils of *Lynx pardinus* from southern Italy. *Quaternary Science Reviews*, 262: 106840
6. Cherin, M., Alba, D.A., Crotti, M., Menconero, S., Moullé, P.-É., Sorbelli, L., Madurell-Malapeira, J. 2020. The post-Jaramillo persistence of *Sus strozzii* (Suidae, Mammalia) in Europe: New evidence from the Vallparadís Section (NE Iberian Peninsula) and other coeval sites. *Quaternary Science Reviews*, 233: 106234

7. Cherin, M., Azzarà, B., Breda, M., Brobia Ansoleaga, A., Buzi, C., Pandolfi, L., Pazzaglia, F. 2019. Large mammal remains from the Early Pleistocene site of Podere San Lorenzo (Perugia, central Italy). *Rivista Italiana di Paleontologia e Stratigrafia*, 125: 489-515
8. Cherin, M., D'Allestro, V., Masini, F. 2019. New bovid remains from the Early Pleistocene of Umbria (Italy) and a reappraisal of *Leptobos merlai*. *Journal of Mammalian Evolution*, 26: 201-224
9. Cherin, M., Sorbelli, L., Crotti, M., Iurino, D.A., Sardella, R., Souron, A. 2018. New material of *Sus strozzi* (Suidae, Mammalia) from the Early Pleistocene of Italy and a phylogenetic analysis of suines. *Quaternary Science Reviews*, 194: 94-115
10. Cherin, M., Iurino, D.A., Zanatta, M., Fernandez, V., Paciaroni, A., Petrillo, C., Rettori, R., Sardella, R. 2018. Synchrotron radiation reveals the identity of the large felid from Monte Argentario (Early Pleistocene, Italy). *Scientific Reports*, 8: 8338

**Contributions to congresses during the last 5 years (include the 10 most important ones)**

1. Cherin, M., Breda, M., Esattore, B., Holpin, S., Iurino, D.A. 2021. The *Dama*-like deer '*Pseudodama*' *nestii* (Mammalia, Cervidae) from Pantalla (Early Pleistocene). *Volume dei riassunti del XXI Convegno della Società Paleontologica Italiana, Bologna, June 2021*, p. 34.
2. Iurino, D.A., Mecozzi, B., Moscarella, A., Cherin, M., Boscaini, A., Costeur, L., Madurell-Malapeira, J., Pavia, M., Profico, A., Sardella, R. 2021. The outstanding sample of *Lynx pardinus* from the Late Pleistocene locality of Ingarano (Southern Italy). In: Belvedere, M., Díez Díaz, V., Mecozzi, B., Sardella, R (Eds.), *Abstract book of the XVIII annual conference of the European Association of Vertebrate Palaeontologists. July 2021. Palaeovertebrata*, 44, pp. 96-97
3. Sorbelli, L., Cherin, M., Madurell-Malapeira, J. 2021. The earliest *Bison* from the Mediterranean area: a review. In: Belvedere, M., Díez Díaz, V., Mecozzi, B., Sardella, R (Eds.), *Abstract book of the XVIII annual conference of the European Association of Vertebrate Palaeontologists. July 2021. Palaeovertebrata*, 44, p. 153
4. Azzarà, B., Boschian, G., Brochu, C.A., Delfino, M., Iurino, D.A., Kimambo, J.S., Masao, F.T., Menconero, S., Njau, J.K., Manzi, G., Cherin, M. 2021. *Crocodylus anthropophagus* from Olduvai DK locality (northern Tanzania). In: Belvedere, M., Díez Díaz, V., Mecozzi, B., Sardella, R (Eds.), *Abstract book of the XVIII annual conference of the European Association of Vertebrate Palaeontologists. July 2021. Palaeovertebrata*, 44, pp. 22-23
5. Sorbelli, L., Cherin, M., Alba, D.M., Madurell-Malapeira, J. 2019. The Epivillafranchian *Bison schoetensacki* sample from the Vallparadís Section. In: Martínez-Navarro, B., Palmqvist, P., Espigares, M.P., Ros-Montoya, S. (Eds.), *Libro de Resúmenes XXXV Jornadas de la Sociedad Española de Paleontología*, pp. 296-298
6. Cherin M., Alba, D.M., Crotti, M., Menconero, S., Moullé, P.É., Sorbelli, L., Utschig, G., Madurell-Malapeira, J. 2019. The suid record from Vallparadís Section (NE Iberian Peninsula) and the post-Jaramillo persistence of *Sus strozzi* in Europe. In: Rook, L., Pandolfi, L. (Eds.), *Paleodays 2019. La Società Paleontologica Italiana a Benevento e Pietraraja. Parte 1: Volume dei riassunti della XIX Riunione annuale SPI (Società Paleontologica Italiana)*, pp. 11-12
7. Sorbelli, L., Cherin, M., Kostopoulos, D.S., Pavia, M., Carnevale, G. 2019. Partial cranium of *Propotamochoerus* (Cetartiodactyla, Suidae) from the late Miocene of Northern Italy. In: Rook, L., Pandolfi, L. (Eds.), *Paleodays 2019. La Società Paleontologica Italiana a Benevento e Pietraraja. Parte 1: Volume dei riassunti della XIX Riunione annuale SPI (Società Paleontologica Italiana)*, pp. 42-43

8. Cherin, M., Fressoia, F., Adams, J., Boschian, G., Crotti, M., Denys, C., Kimambo, J.S., Kwekason, A., Iurino, D.A., Menconero, S., Mori, E., Zipfel, B., Masao, F.T. 2019. A new porcupine mandible from Olduvai Gorge and reappraisal of *Hystrix makapanensis* (Mammalia, Rodentia). *Abstract book, VII Conference East African Association for Paleoanthropology and Paleontology (EAAPP), Nairobi. August 2019*, pp. 8-9
9. Sorbelli, L., Cherin, M., Alba, D.M., Madurell-Malapeira, J. 2018. Bison remains from the latest Early Pleistocene of Vallparadís Section (Vallès-Penedès Basin, Iberian Peninsula) and comparison with the bovid sample from Ellera di Corciano (Italy). *Abstract book, XVI Meeting European Association of Vertebrate Palaeontologists (EAVP), Caparica, June-July 2018*, p. 178.
10. Cherin, M., Iurino, D.A., Zanatta, M., Fernandez, V., Paciaroni, A., Petrillo, C., Rettori, R., Sardella, R. 2018. *Acinonyx pardinensis* (Felidae, Mammalia) 're-discovered' at Monte Argentario (Italy, Early Pleistocene) thanks to synchrotron microtomography. *Abstract book, XVI Meeting European Association of Vertebrate Palaeontologists (EAVP), Caparica, June-July 2018*, p. 43

### **Fieldwork experience**

Since 2015 he has been directing excavation and research activities at the paleontological and archaeological sites of Laetoli and Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania, coordinating a group that includes researchers from the Universities of Perugia, Sapienza of Roma, Florence, Pisa, and Dar es Salaam.

In 2016 he directed the paleontological excavation of an Early Pleistocene whale skeleton at Alleronia (Italy).

In 2011-2013 he directed the paleontological excavation of continental vertebrates at the Early Pleistocene site "Quasar" at Ellera di Corciano (Italy).

In 2010 he participated in the paleontological excavation of a skeleton of a Pliocene sirenian at Campagnatico (Italy), coordinated by Prof. Giovanni Bianucci (University of Pisa).

In 2006 he participated in the paleontological excavation of several skeletons of Pleistocene marine mammals at Cutrofiano (Italy), coordinated by Dr. Angelo Varola (University of Salento).

### **Other merits**

- Winner of Medal Giovanni Merla 2020, Società Paleontologica Italiana
- Winner of the prize for best publication by a young researcher 2018, University of Perugia
- Assistant Editor of the Bollettino della Società Paleontologica Italiana from 2020
- Council Member of the Società Paleontologica Italiana from 2013 to 2019
- Member of the East African Association for Paleoanthropology and Paleontology from 2016
- Member of the European Association of Vertebrate Palaeontologists from 2014
- Member of the Società Paleontologica Italiana from 2011
- Member of the Associazione Italiana per lo Studio del Quaternario from 2010
- Council Member of the Science Museum Center, University of Perugia from 2020
- Board Member of the PhD in Earth System and Global Changes, University of Perugia from 2020

- Board Member of the PhD in Science and Technology for Physics and Geology, University of Perugia from 2018
- Delegate for Orientation of the Department of Physics and Geology, University of Perugia from 2019
- Supervisor of the PhD in Geology “Palaeoenvironmental study of the Middle-Late Pleistocene Ndutu-Naisiusiu Beds Olduvai Gorge (Tanzania)” by Beatrice Azzarà from 2019
- Co-supervisor of the PhD in Geology “Villafranchian ungulates from Mediterranean Europe: Taxonomy, paleobiology and dispersal events” by Leonardo Sorbelli (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) from 2018
- Supervisor/co-supervisor of about 30 B.Sc. and M.Sc. dissertations from 2010
- Member of the Organizing and/or Scientific Committees of 10 conferences/congresses from 2010
- He is much involved in science dissemination and communication activities, both individually and in collaboration with cooperatives, associations and companies
- The collaboration with various regional and national museums is also active, for activities ranging from collection curation to design and preparation of exhibitions, from paleontological preparation to scientific consultancy
- He is the main scientific consultant in paleontology for the Superintendence of Archeology, Fine Arts and Landscape of Umbria
- The relationship with the mass media for science dissemination is frequent: numerous television, radio and podcast interviews at local, national and international level (e.g., RAI, CNN, Nature Podcast); many citations in local, national and international newspapers (e.g., La Repubblica, Corriere della Sera, National Geographic, The New York Times, The Guardian, Scientific American); design and management of the website of the School of Paleoanthropology of the University of Perugia ([www.paleoantropologia.it](http://www.paleoantropologia.it)) and of the THOR project ([www.thorproject.it](http://www.thorproject.it)) and related social networks (Facebook, Instagram, Flickr, YouTube)