

# Matthäus Merian's crocodile in the *Historiae naturalis de quadrupetibus* —Supplemental data—

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This document provides supplementary data to the following paper:

Spennemann, Dirk H.R. (2019)[2020]. Matthäus Merian's crocodile in Japan. A biblio-forensic examination of the origins and longevity of an illustration of a *Crocodylus niloticus* in Jan Jonston's *Historiae naturalis de quadrupetibus*. *Script & Print* 43(4), 201–239.

The aim of this document is to provide a pictorial documentation of all images and image variants discussed or referred to in the main paper, in order to permit the reader a ready comparison.

Matthäus Merian

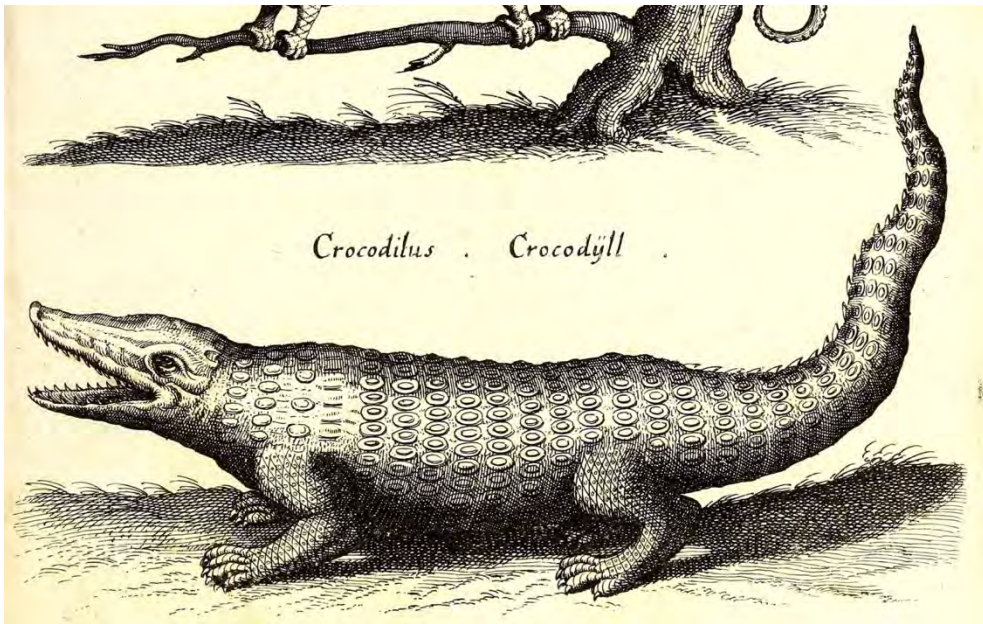


Figure S1. Crocodile in the first edition (Jonston, 1652, plate 79) (Washington copy).<sup>1</sup>

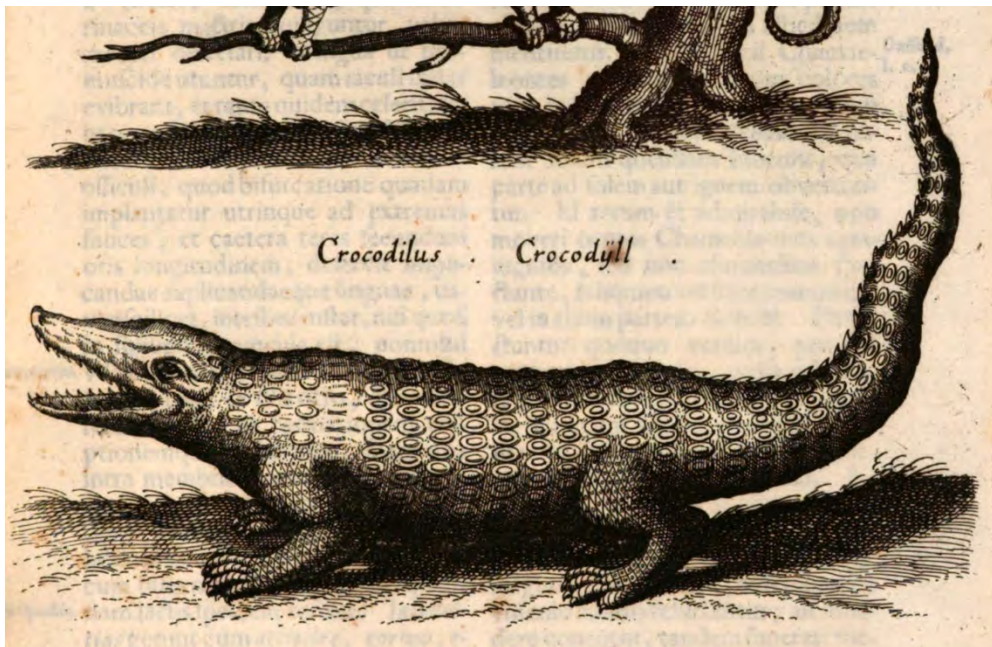


Figure S2. Crocodile in the first edition (Jonston, 1652, plate 79) (Madrid copy).<sup>2</sup>

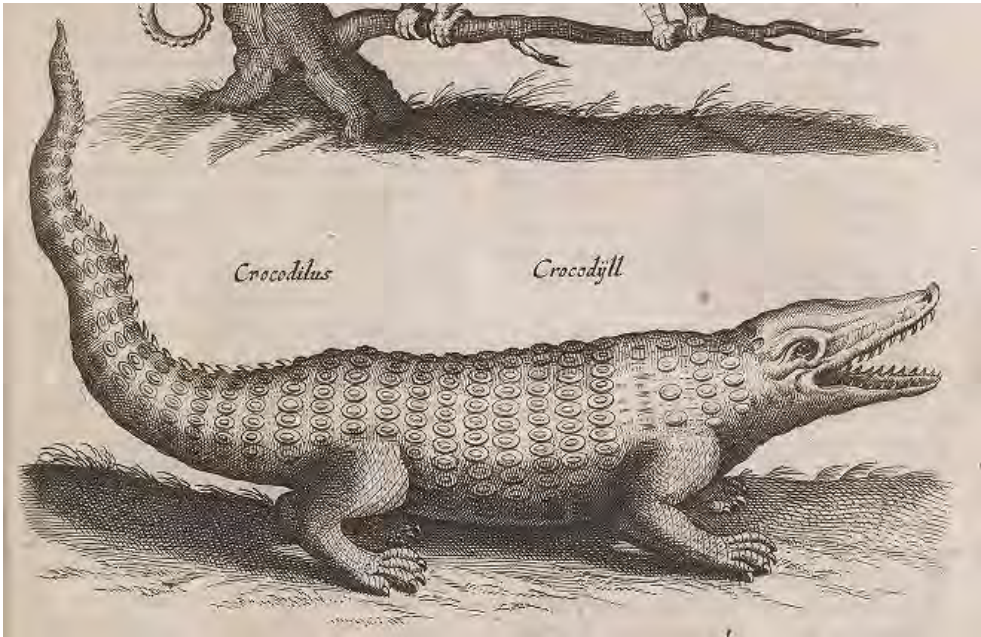


Figure S3. Crocodile in the first Dutch-printed edition (Jonston, 1657, plate 79).<sup>3</sup>

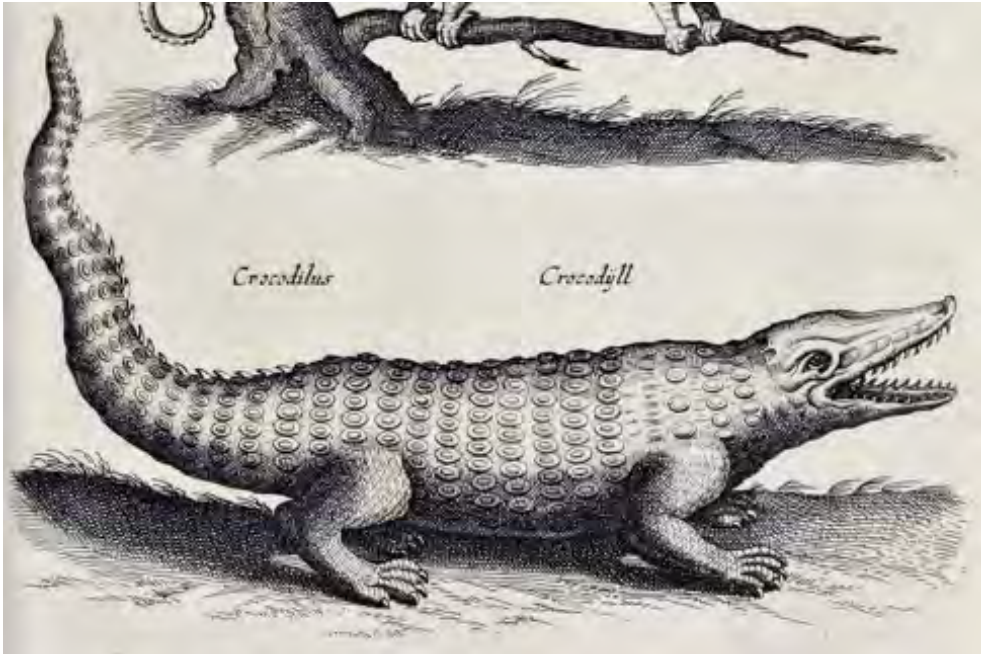


Figure S4. Crocodile in the first Dutch language edition (Jonston, 1660, plate 79).

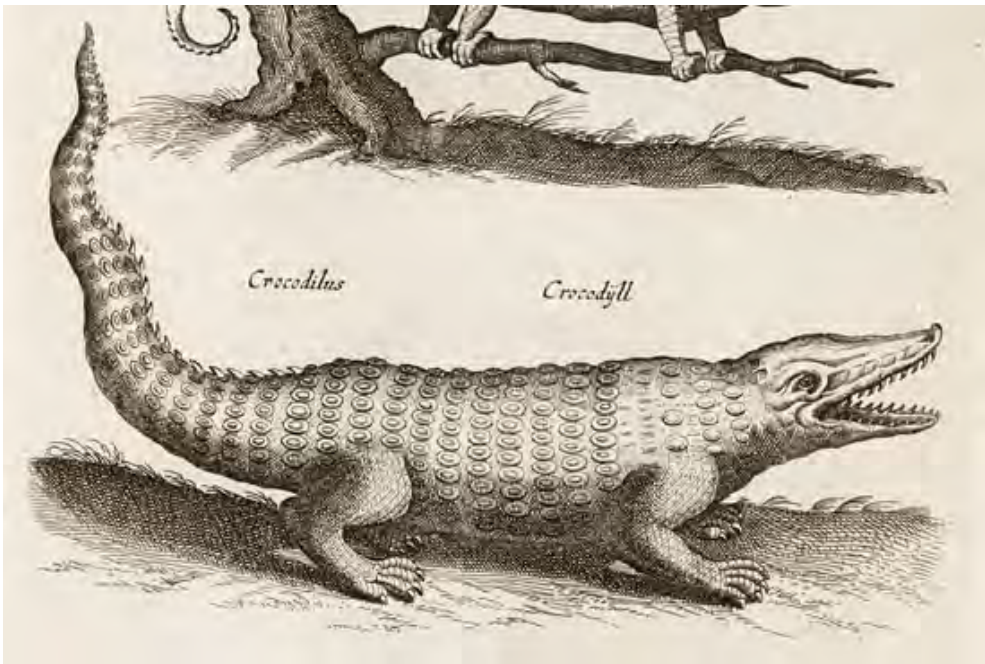


Figure S5. Crocodile in the first English edition reputedly printed in London (Johnston, 1678b, plate 79).



Figure S6. Crocodile in the second English edition printed in Amsterdam (Johnston, 1678a, plate 79).

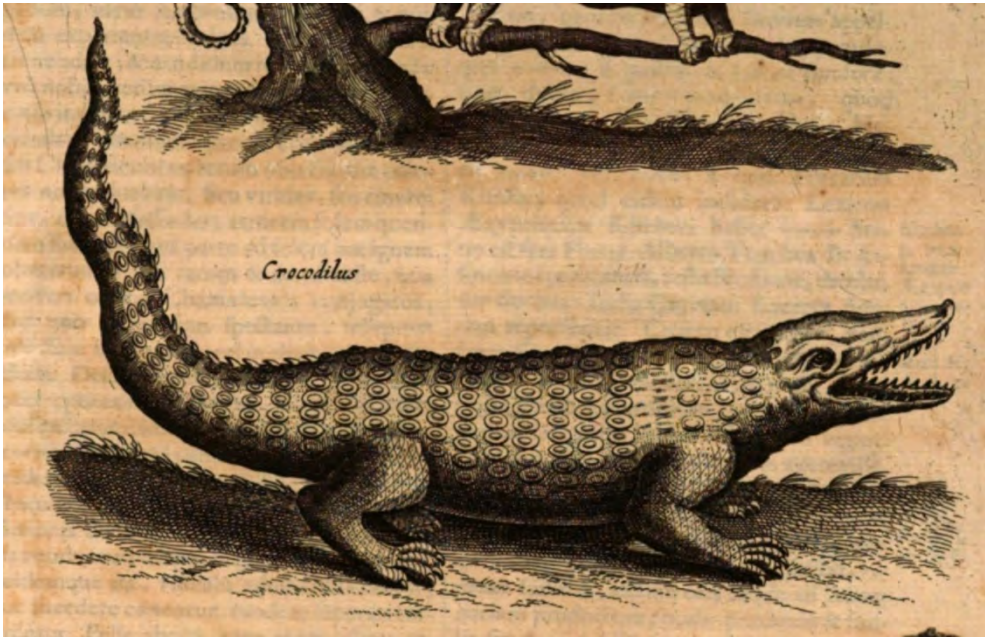


Figure S7. Crocodile by Jonston, 1718, plate 79).<sup>4</sup>

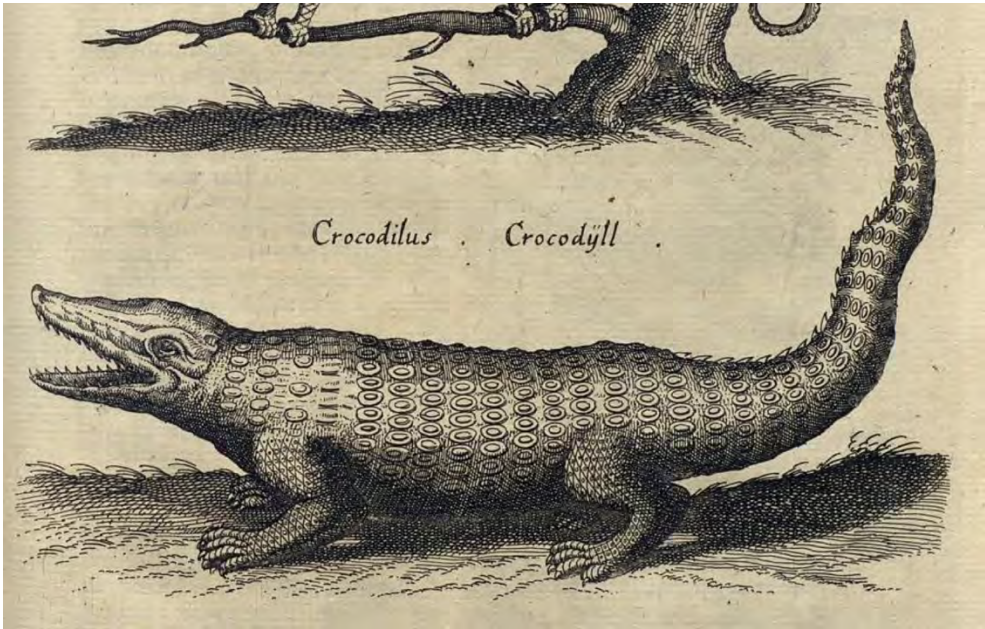


Figure S8. Crocodile by Matthias Merian (Jonston, 1755, plate 79). (Oldenburg copy).<sup>5</sup>

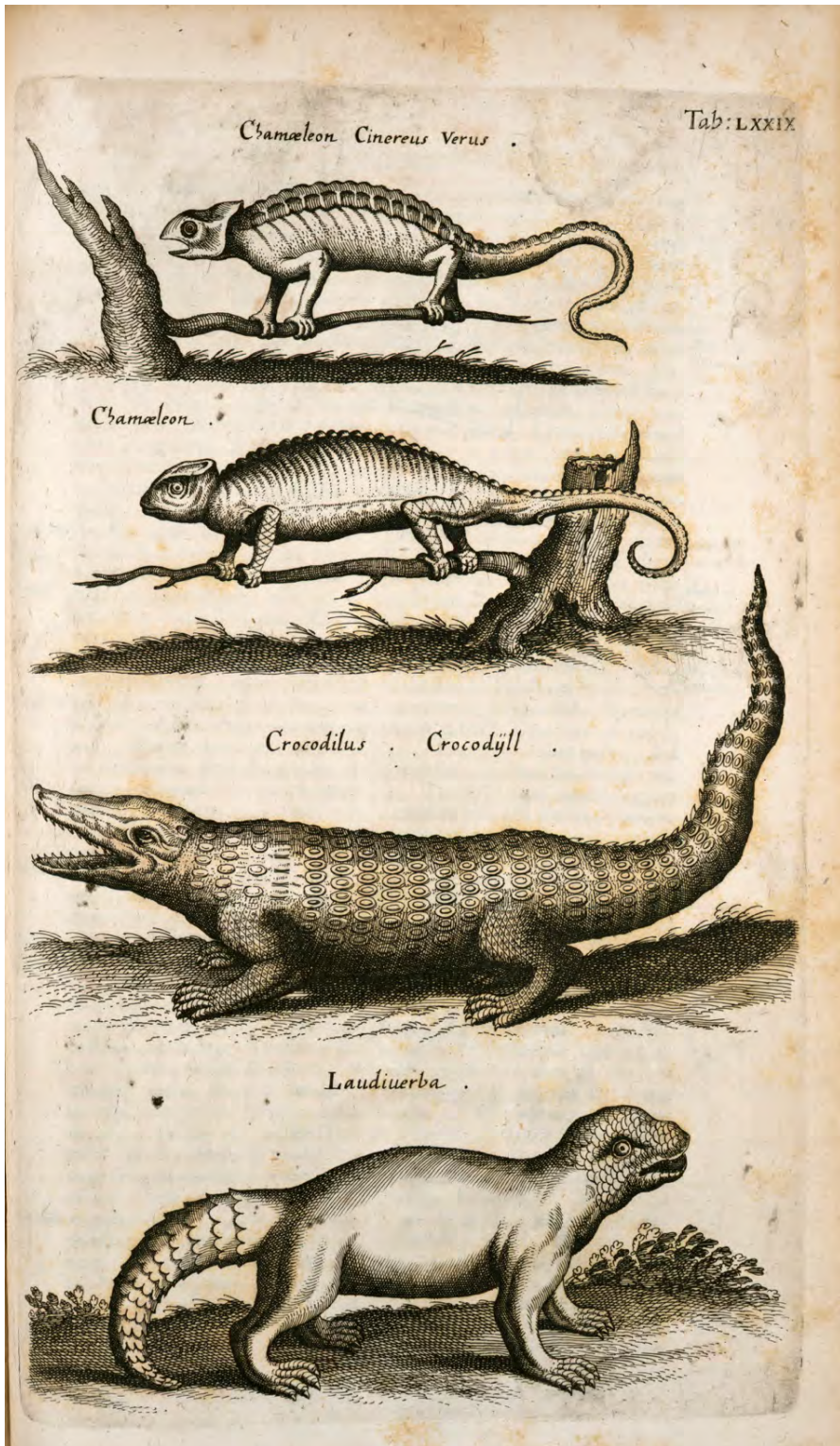
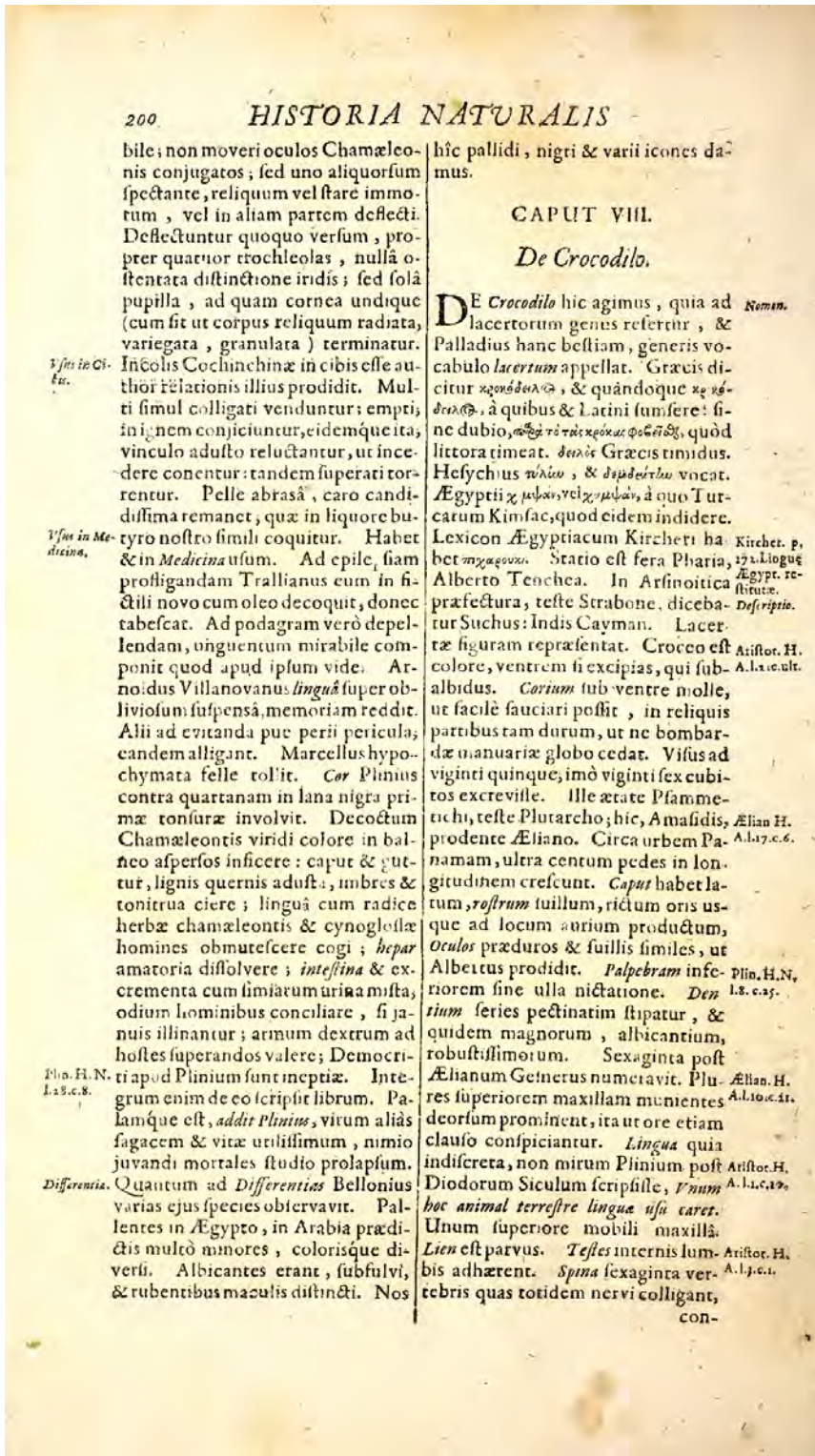


Figure S9. The crocodile in context of the full plate in the Frankfurt first edition (Jonston, 1652, plate 79).



bile; non moveri oculos Chamæleonis conjugatos; sed uno aliquorū spectante, reliquum vel stare immotum, vel in aliam partem deflecti. Deflectuntur quoque versum, propter quatuor trochleolas, nullā ostentata distinctiōne iridis; sed solā pupilla, ad quam cornea undique (cum sit ut corpus reliquum radiata, variegata, granulata) terminatur. Inſolis Cochinchinæ in cibis esse authori relationis illius prodidit. Multi simul colligati venduntur; empti, in ignem conjiciuntur, eidemque ita, vinculo adusto reluctantur, ut incedere conentur: tandem superati torrentur. Pelle abrasā, caro candidissima remanet, quæ in liquore butyro nostro simili coquitur. Habet & in Medicina usum. Ad epile, siam profligandam Trallianus cum in fistili novo cum oleo decoquit, donec tabescat. Ad podagram verò depellendam, unguentum mirabile componit quod apud ipsum vide. Arnoïdus Villanovanus linguā super obliuioſum suspensā, memoriā reddit. Alii ad evitanda pue perii pericula, eandem alligant. Marcellus hypochymata felle tollit. Cor Phinius contra quartanam in lana nigra prima tonsuræ involvit. Decoctum Chamæleontis viridi colore in balneo asperſos inficere: caput & guttur, lignis quernis adustis, imbres & tonitrua eiere; linguā cum radice herbæ chamæleontis & cynoglossæ homines obmutescere cogi; hepar amorica dissolvere; intestina & excrementa cum simiarum urina mista, odium hominibus conciliare, si januis illinantur; armum dextrum ad hostes superandos valere; Democriti apud Plinium sunt ineptiæ. Integrum enim de eo scripsit librum. Palamque est, addit Plinius, vitum aliās sagacem & vitæ utilissimum, nimio juvandi mortales studio prolapsū. Quantū ad Differentias Bellonius varias ejus species observavit. Palentes in Ægypto, in Arabia prædictis multo minores, colorisque diversis. Albicantes erant, subfulvi, & rubentibus maculis distincti. Nos

hic pallidi, nigri & varii icones damus.

CAPUT VIII.

De Crocodilo.

DE Crocodilo hic agimus, quia ad lacertorum genus refertur, & Palladius hanc bestiam, generis vocabulo lacertum appellat. Grævis dicitur κροκόδειλος, & quandoque κροκόδειλος, à quibus & Latini sumere: sine dubio, ἀπὸ τοῦ κρόκου φοβηθέντες, quòd littora timeat. δειδώς Græcis timidus. Hesychius κρόκου, & δειδόμενον vocat. Ægyptii κροκόδειλος, vel κροκόδειλος, à quo Turcarum Kimſac, quod eidem indidere. Lexicon Ægyptiacum Kircheri habet κροκόδειλος. Statio est fera Phariæ Alberto Tenchea. In Arfinoitica præfectura, teste Strabone, dicebatur Suchus: Indis Cayman. Lacertæ figuram representat. Crocco est colore, ventrem si excipias, qui subalbidus. Carium sub ventre molle, ut facile fauciari possit, in reliquis partibus tam durum, ut ne bombardæ manuaræ globo cedat. Visus ad viginti quinque, imò viginti sex cubitos excreville. Ille ætate Psammethici, teste Plutarcho; hic, Amasidis, prodente Eliano. Circa urbem Panamam, ultra centum pedes in longitudinem crescunt. Caput habet latum, rostrum tuillum, rictum oris usque ad locum aurium productum, Oculos præduros & suillis similes, ut Albeicus prodidit. Palpebram anteriorem sine ulla nictatione. Dentium series pectinatim stipatur, & quidem magnorum, albicantium, robustissimorum. Sexaginta post Æliam Genetis numeravit. Plures superiores maxillam munitentes deorsum prominent, ita ut ore etiam clauso conspiciantur. Lingua quia indisereta, non mirum Plinium post Diodorum Siculum scripsisse, Vnum hoc animal terrestre lingua usu caret. Unum superiore mobili maxillâ. Lien est parvus. Testes internis lumbis adherent. Spina sexaginta vertebris quas totidem nervi colligant, con-

Visus in Cicutu.

Visus in Medicina.

Pho. H. N. 1.2. c. 8.

Differentia.

Nomen.

Kircher. p. 171. Liogues Ægypt. reſtitute. Descriptio.

Aristot. H. A. 1. c. ult.

Ælian. H. A. 1. 17. c. 6.

Plin. H. N. 1. 8. c. 25.

Ælian. H. A. 1. 10. c. 21.

Aristot. H. A. 1. 2. c. 19.

Aristot. H. A. 1. 2. c. 11.

Figure S10. The beginning of the text section on the crocodile in the Frankfurt first edition (Jonston, 1652, p. 200).

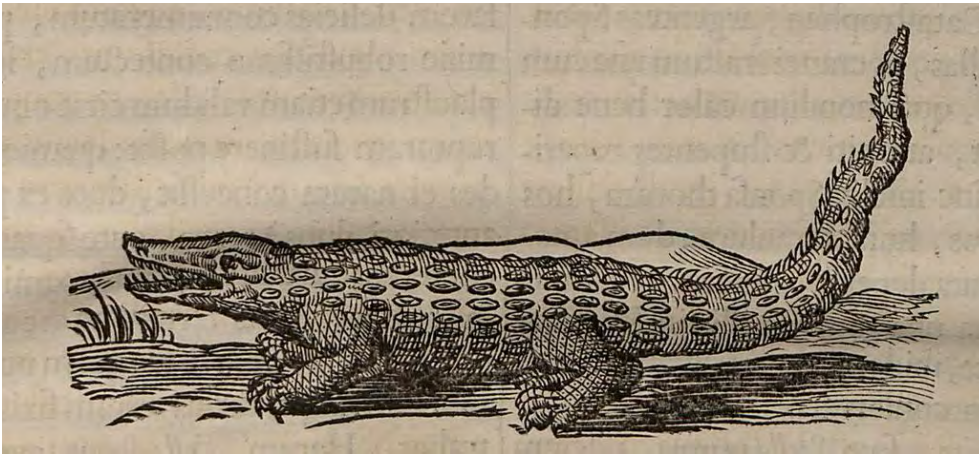


Figure S11. Re-use of Merian's crocodile in a Dutch publication (*Sepibus & Kircher, 1678, p. 25*).



Kitayama Kangan



Figure S12. A crocodile by Kitayama Kangan (北山寒巖) as published by Morishima Churyō (1787, pp. 6-7). (Paris copy shown).<sup>6</sup>



Figure S13. A crocodile by Kitayama Kangan (北山寒巖) as published by Morishima Churyō (1796, pp. 6-7).

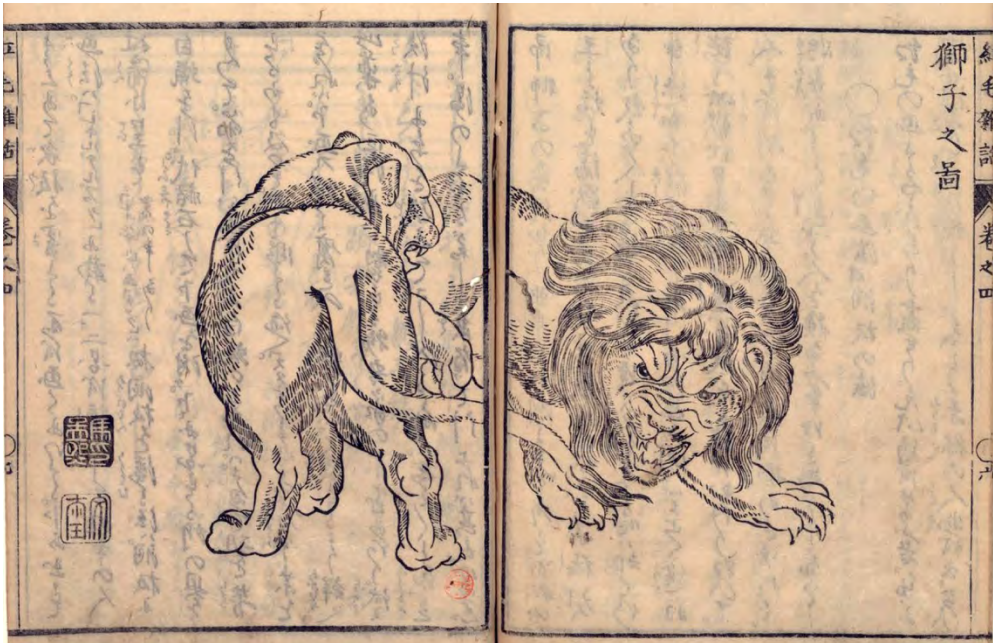


Figure S14. A pair of lions by Kitayama Kangan (北山寒巖) as published by Morishima Chūryō (1787, pp. 12–13). (Paris copy shown).<sup>7</sup>



Figure S15. A pair of lions in the first Dutch-printed edition (Jonston, 1657, plate 51).<sup>8</sup>

Hans Rudolf Manuel Deutsch



Figure S16. Crocodile, woodcut by Hans Rudolf Manuel Deutsch (Münster, 1564, p. 1404).

Unknown artist

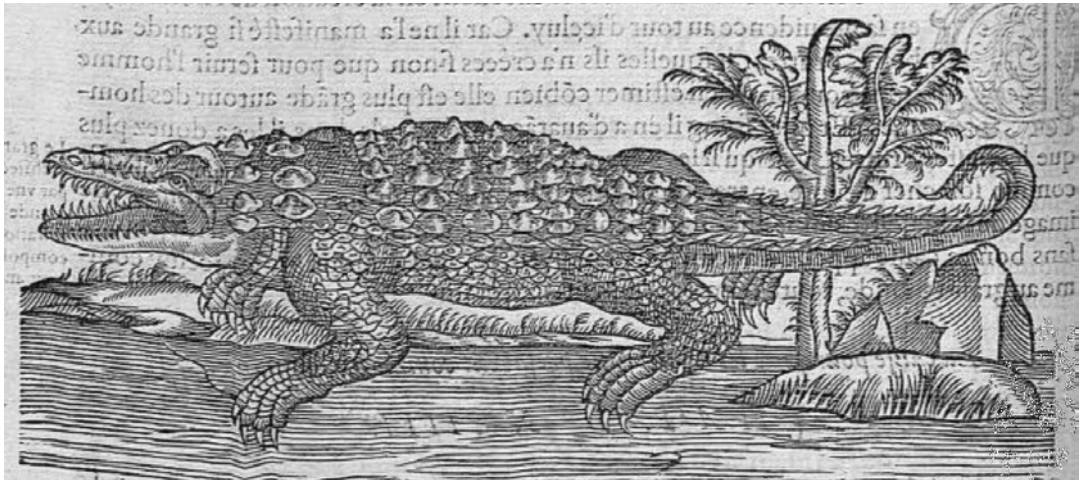


Figure S17. The crocodile as depicted in Ambroise Paré's 'animaux et d'excellence de l'homme' (Paré, 1579, p. 76).

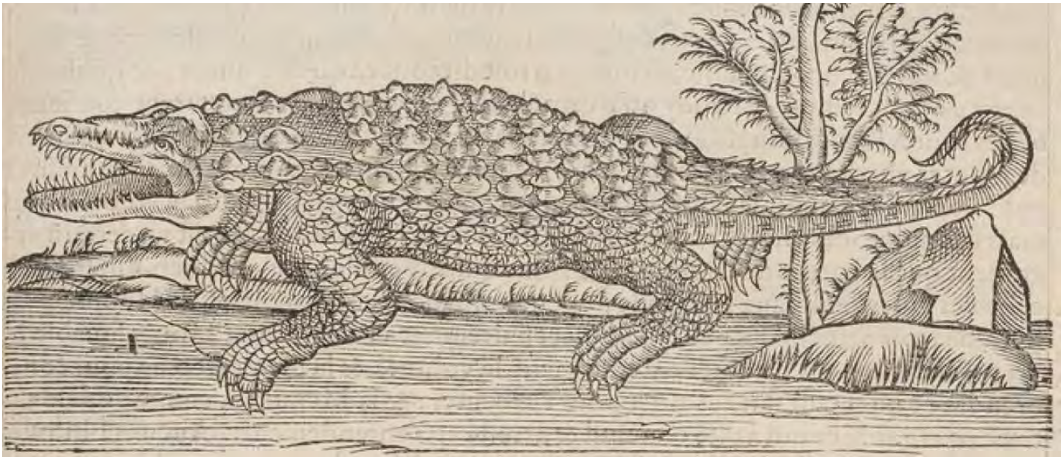


Figure S18. The crocodile as depicted in Ambroise Paré's 'animaux et d'excellence de l'homme' (Paré, 1589, p. 81).

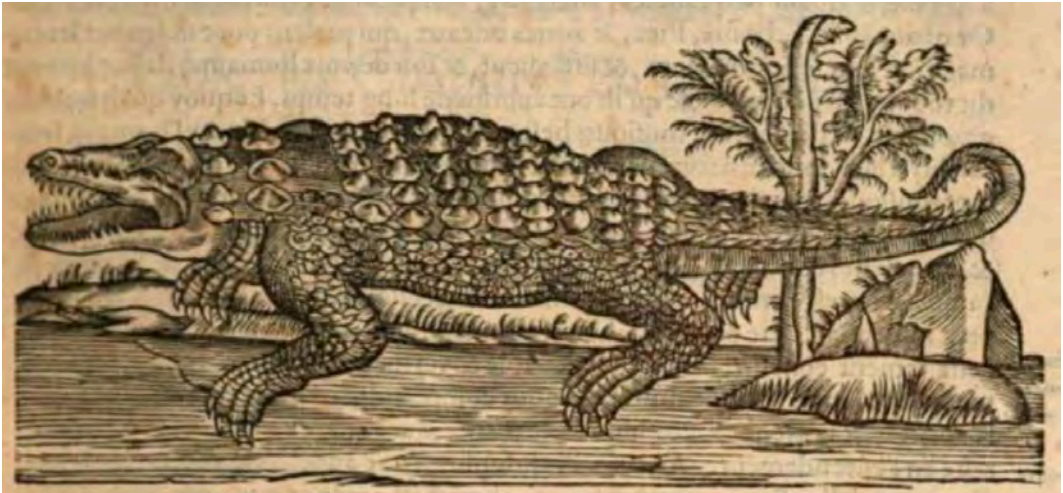


Figure S19. The crocodile as depicted in Ambroise Paré's 'animaux et d'excellence de l'homme' (Paré, 1614, p. 18).



Figure S20. The crocodile as depicted in Ambroise Paré's 'animaux et d'excellence de l'homme' (Paré, 1641, p. 55).



Figure S21. A crocodile hunt as depicted in Ambroise Paré's 'des monstres et prodiges' (Paré, 1589, p. 1056).

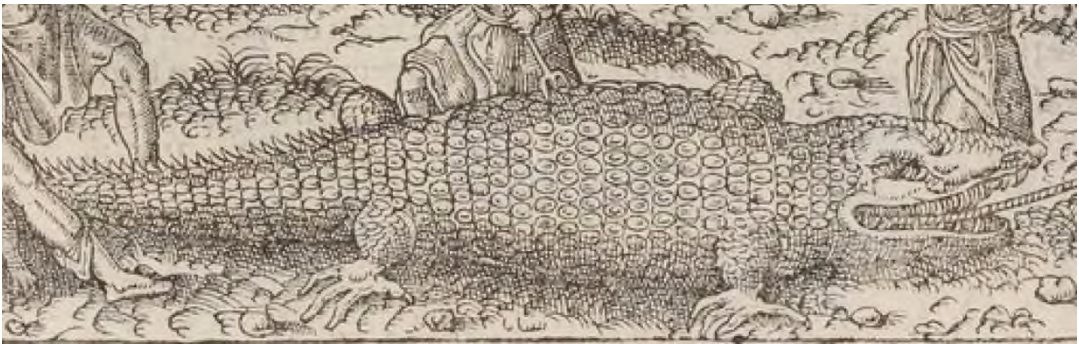


Figure S22. The crocodile as depicted in Ambroise Paré's 'des monstres et prodiges' Detail of Figure S21.



Figure S23. A crocodile hunt as depicted in Ambroise Paré's 'des monstres et prodiges' (Paré, 1641, p. 681).

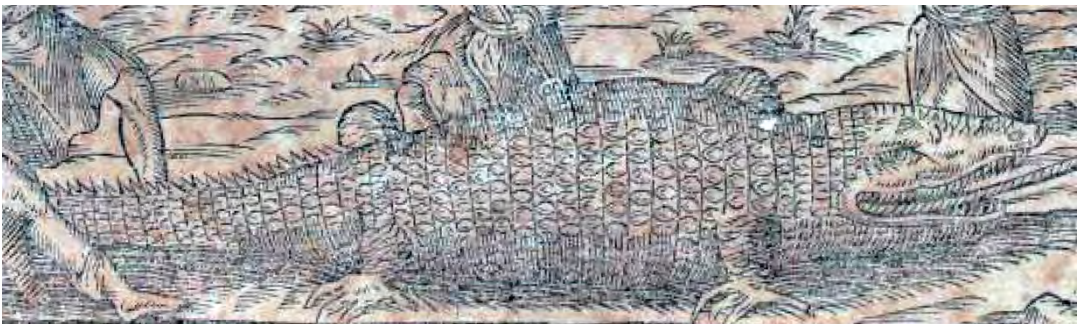


Figure S24. The crocodile as depicted in Ambroise Paré's 'des monstres et prodiges.' Detail of Figure S23.

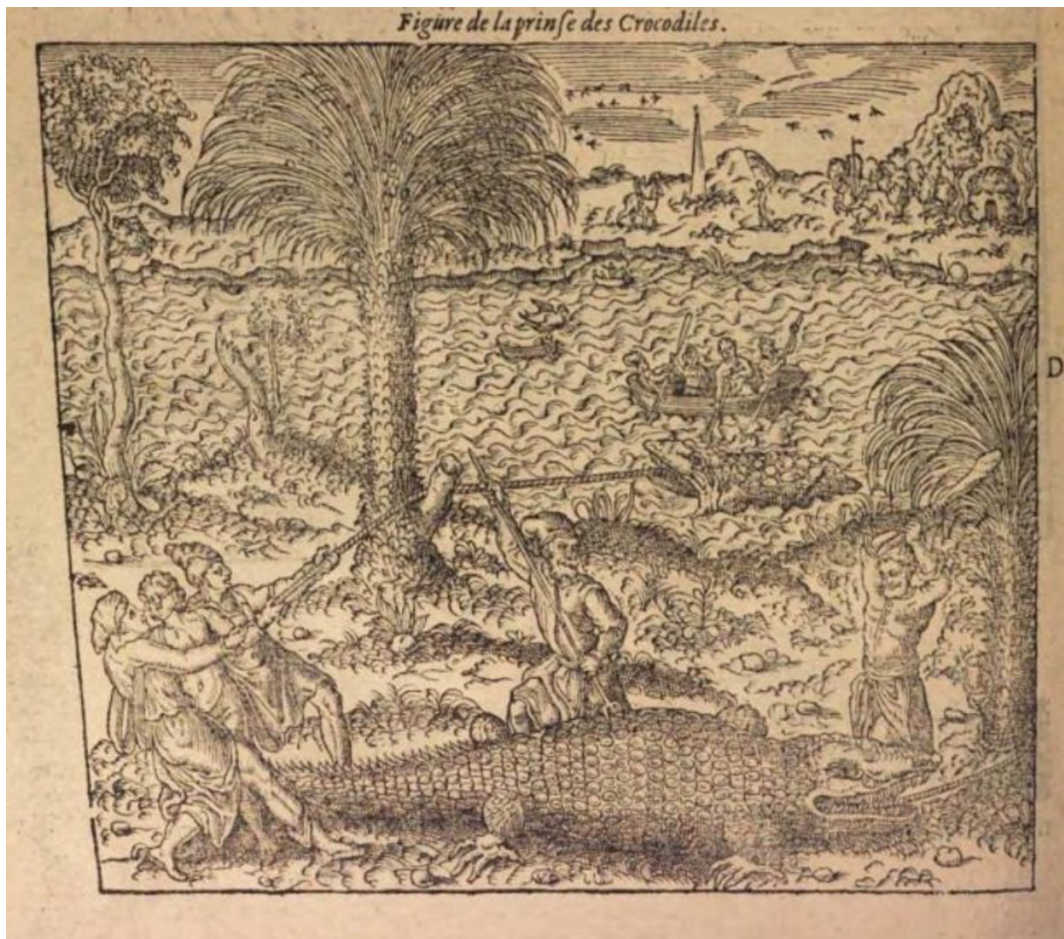


Figure S25. A crocodile hunt as depicted in Ambroise Paré's 'des monstres et prodiges' (Paré, 1614, p. 1056).

Adriaen Collaert



Figure S26. Crocodile with other reptiles on the bank of a river, engraving by Adriaen Collaert (c. 1610, pl. 25).





Figure S27. Crocodile, new left-right obverse engraving based on Adriaen Collaert re-published by Justus Sadeler, Venice (Southbeys, 2017).

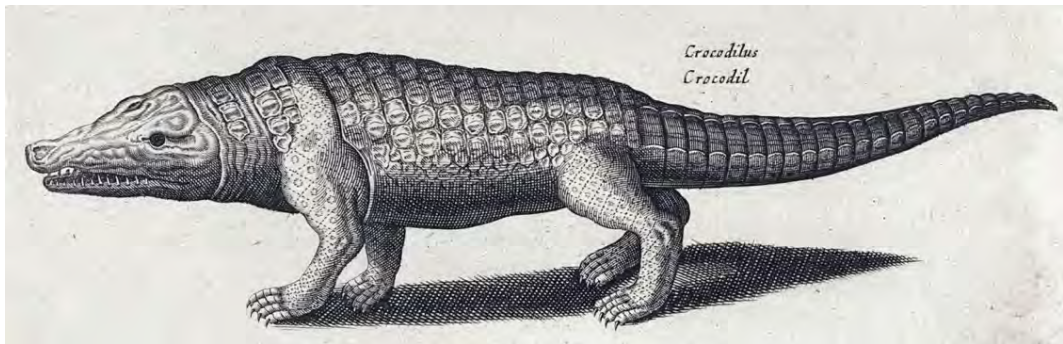


Figure S28. Crocodile, engraving by Collaert (1634, pl. 18).



Figure S29. Allegorical representation of Africa, early state for the series 'Four Continents' by Adriaen Collaert (ca 1610).<sup>9</sup>



Figure S30. Allegorical representation of Africa, from the series 'Four Continents' by Adriaen Collaert (ca 1610).<sup>10</sup>

Julius Goltzius



Figure S31. Allegorical representation of Africa, from the series 'Four Continents' by Julius Goltzius (ca 1590).<sup>11</sup>

Peter Paul Rubens



Figure S32. Peter Paul Rubens' "The hippopotamus and crocodile hunt" (1615–1616). Original in the Alte Pinakothek, München.<sup>12</sup>



Figure S33. Peter Paul Rubens' "The hippopotamus and crocodile hunt" "a represented in an etching by Pieter Claesz Soutman. Based on an ink-wash sketch by Anthony van Dyck.<sup>13</sup>



Figure S34. Section of Peter Paul Rubens' "The hippopotamus and crocodile hunt" as represented in an etching by Pieter Claesz Soutman (Detail of Figure S33).

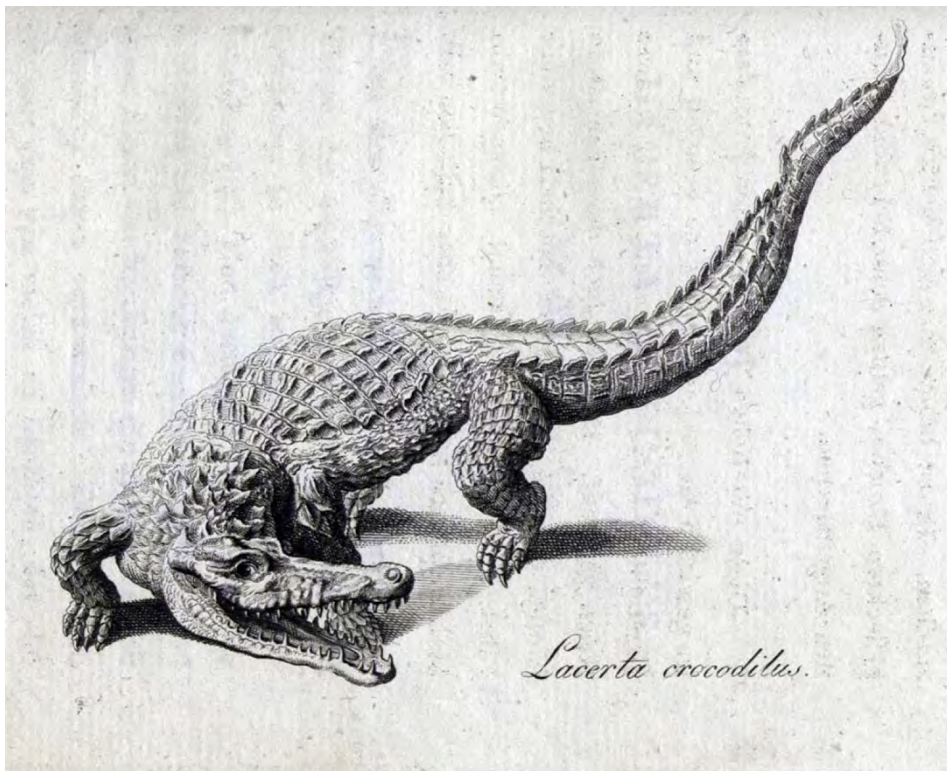


Figure S35. Peter Paul Rubens' Crocodile, as extracted from the painting (Blumenbach, 1798, n° 26).



Figure S36. The curiosity cabinet of Ferrante Imperato in Naples (Imperato, 1599, frontispiece).



Figure S37. The crocodile suspended from the ceiling of the curiosity cabinet of Ferrante Imperato.  
Detail of Figure S36.



Figure S38. The curiosity cabinet of Ferrante Imperato in Naples as shown in the Venice reprint (Imperato, 1672, frontispiece)

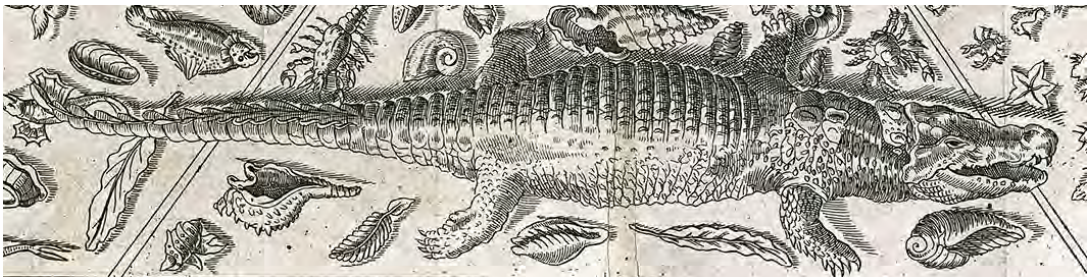


Figure S39. The crocodile suspended from the ceiling of the curiosity cabinet of Ferrante Imperato. Detail of Figure S38.



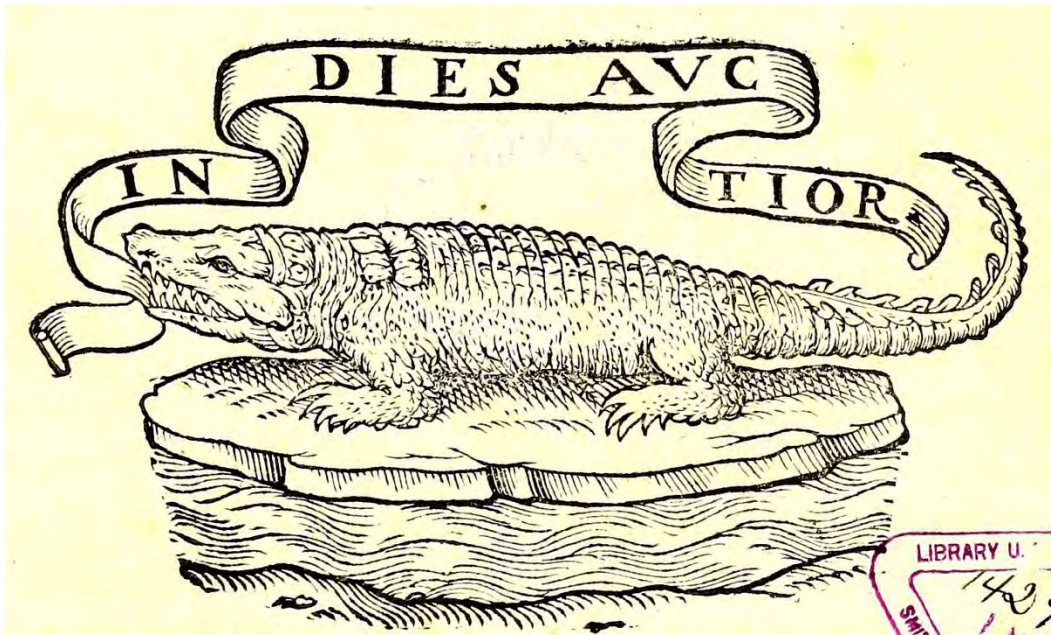


Figure S40. Detail of the crocodile used on the title page of Ferrante Imperato's *historia naturale* (Imperato, 1599).

Gessner

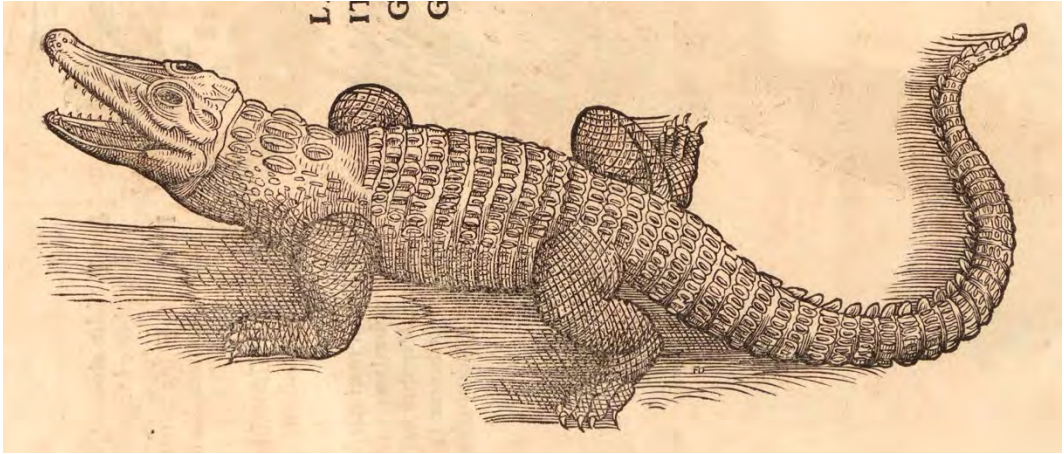


Figure S41. Illustration of a crocodile in Gessner's *icones animalium quadrupedum viviparorum et oviparorum* (1553, p. 54).

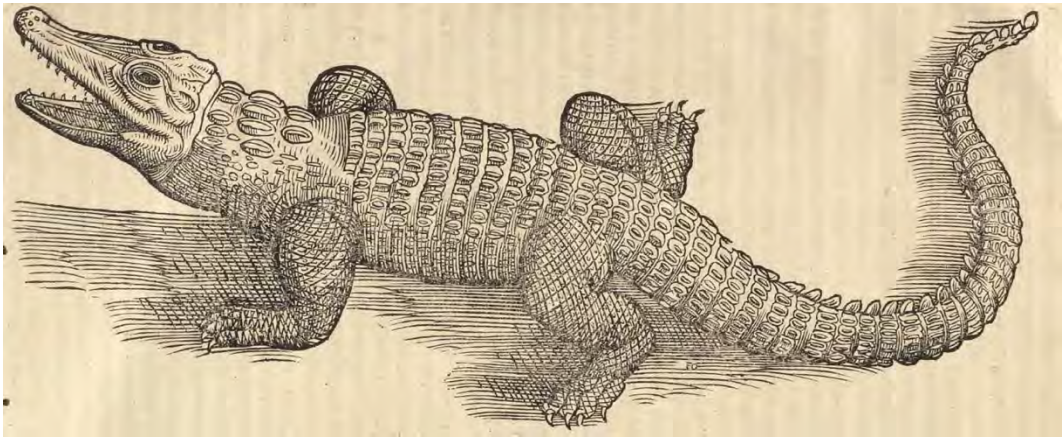


Figure S42. Illustration of a crocodile in *Historiæ animalium* (Gessner, 1554, p. 8).

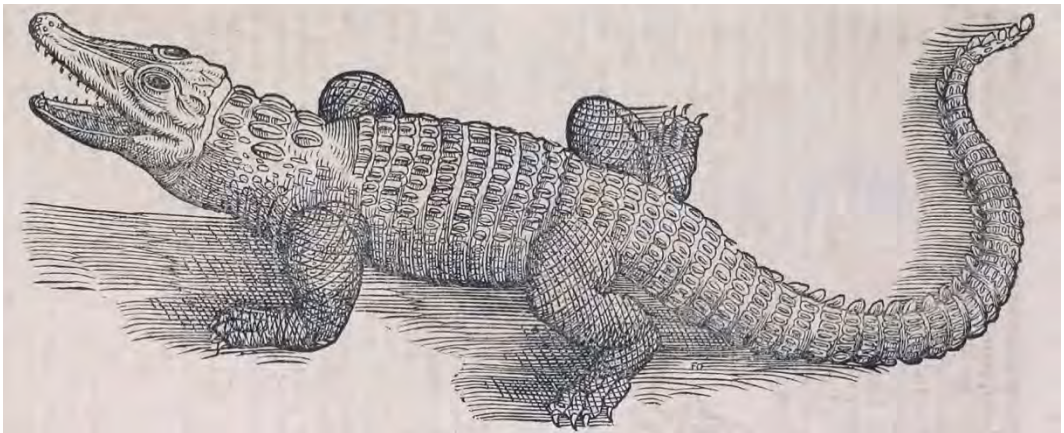
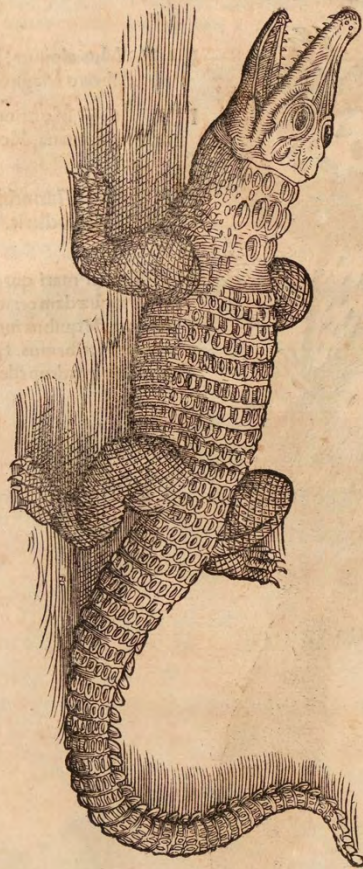


Figure S43. Illustration of a crocodile in *Historiæ animalium* (Gessner, 1586, p. 356).

54

Dequadrup. ouiparis.

ANIMALIVM QVADRVPELV M OVI-  
PARORVM ICONES.



LATINE Crocodilus,  
ITALICE Crocodila,  
GALLICE Crocodile,  
GERMAN. Crocodyl/  
oder Cocodrill.

Figure S44. Illustration of a crocodile in *Historiae animalium* (Gessner, 1560, p. 54).

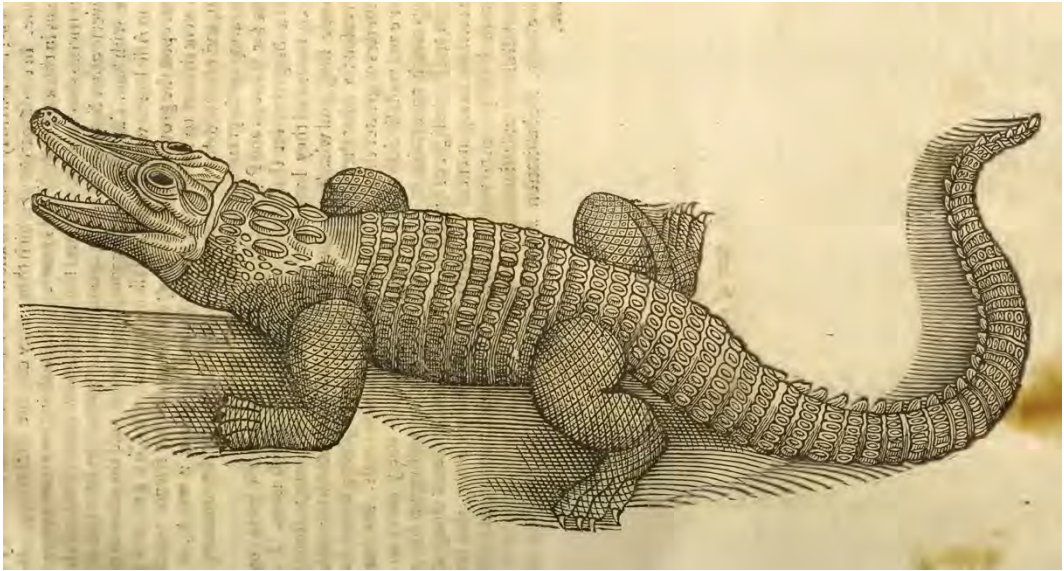


Figure S45. The crocodile as engraved by Cecil Thomas for the first English edition of Ambroise Paré's '*animaux et d'excellence de l'homme*' (Paré, 1634, p. 77).

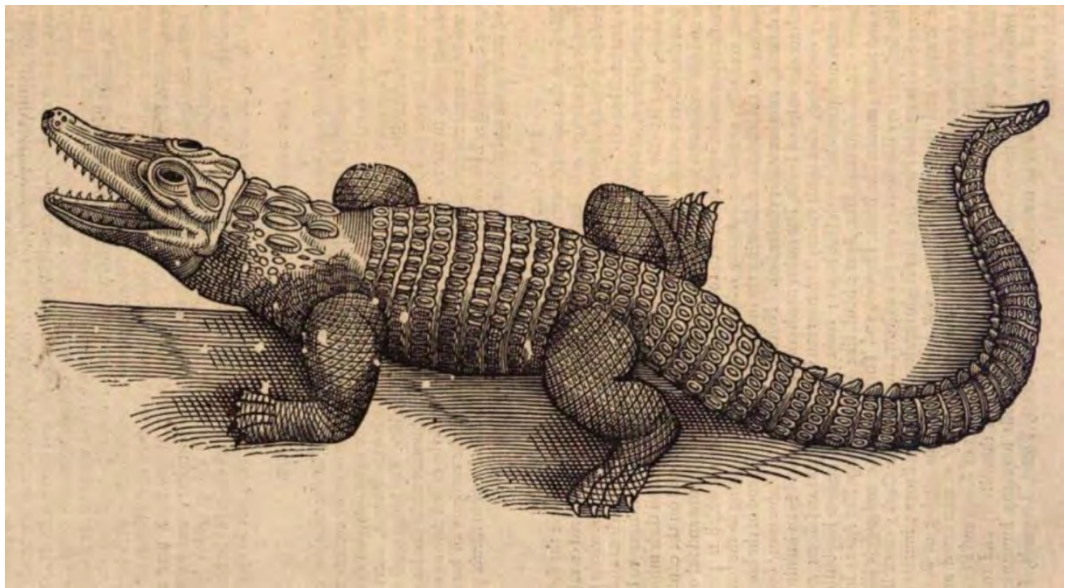


Figure S46. The crocodile as depicted in the second English edition of Ambroise Paré's '*animaux et d'excellence de l'homme*' (Paré, 1649, p. 58). Note the damage to the printing plate (light spots).

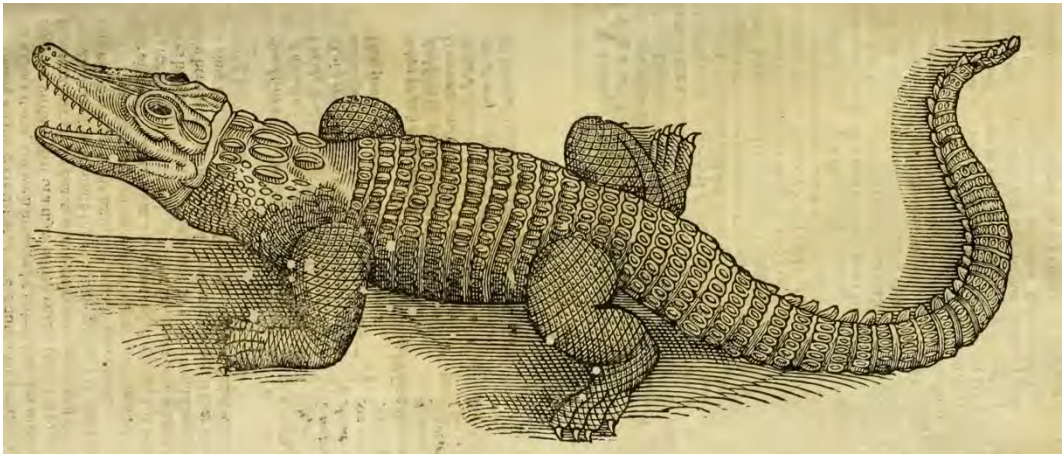


Figure S47. Illustration of a crocodile in Topsell's history of four-footed beasts and serpents (Topsell, 1658, p. 682).  
Note the additional damage to the printing plate.

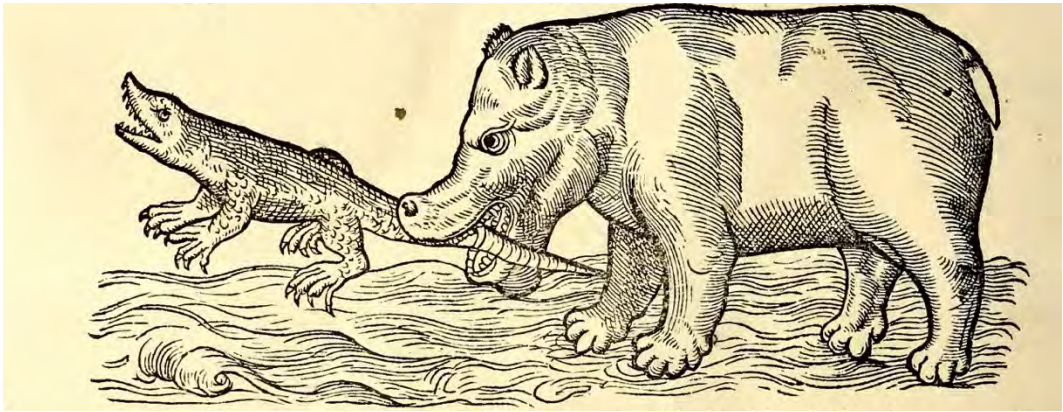


Figure S48. Illustration of the hippopotamus and crocodile interaction in *Historiae animalium* (Gessner, 1560, p. 354).



Figure S49. Illustration of the hippopotamus and crocodile interaction in *Historiae animalium* (Gessner, 1604, p. 417).

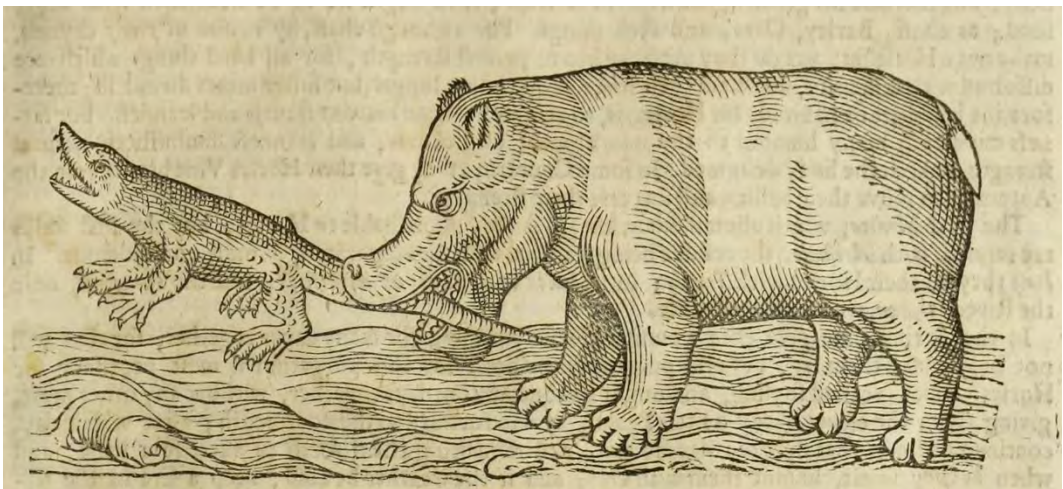


Figure S50. Illustration of the hippopotamus and crocodile interaction in *Topsell's history of four-footed beasts and serpents* (Topsell, 1658, p. 682).

Cesare Ripa



Figure S51. Allegorical figure *Lussuria* by Cesare Ripa (1613, Pt. II, p. 15).



Figure S52. Allegorical figure Lussuria by Cesare Ripa (1618, p. 315).





Figure S53. Allegorical figure *Lussuria* by Cesare Ripa (1645, p. 381).



Figure S54. Allegorical figure *Lussuria* by Carlo Mariotti (Ripa, 1766, p. 58).



Figure S55. Allegorical figure *Lussuria* engraved by Isaac Fuller (*Ripa*, 1709, opp p. 50).

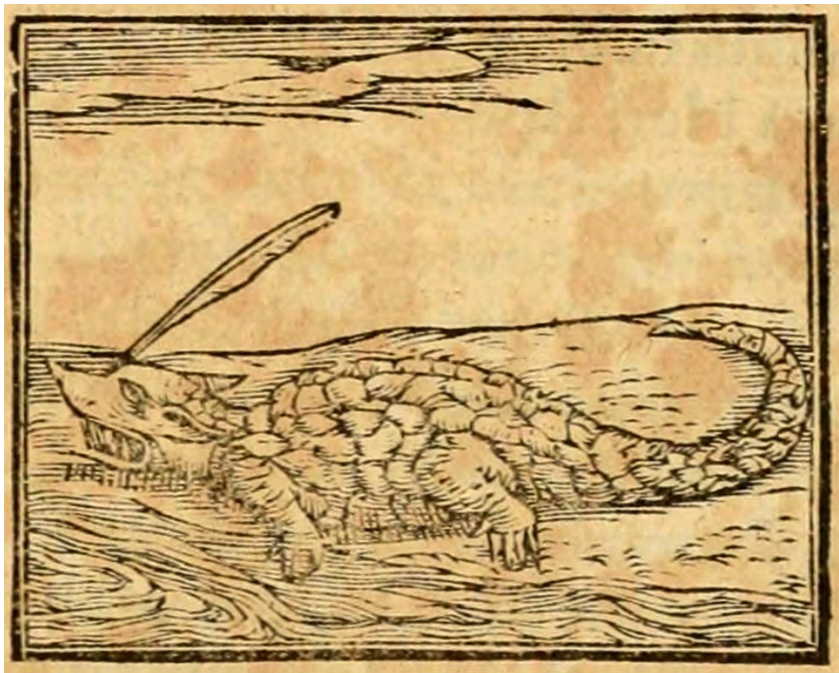


Figure S56. A Nile crocodile in *Valeriano's Hieroglyphica* (*Valeriano*, 1575, p. 128 r).

## Superompositions

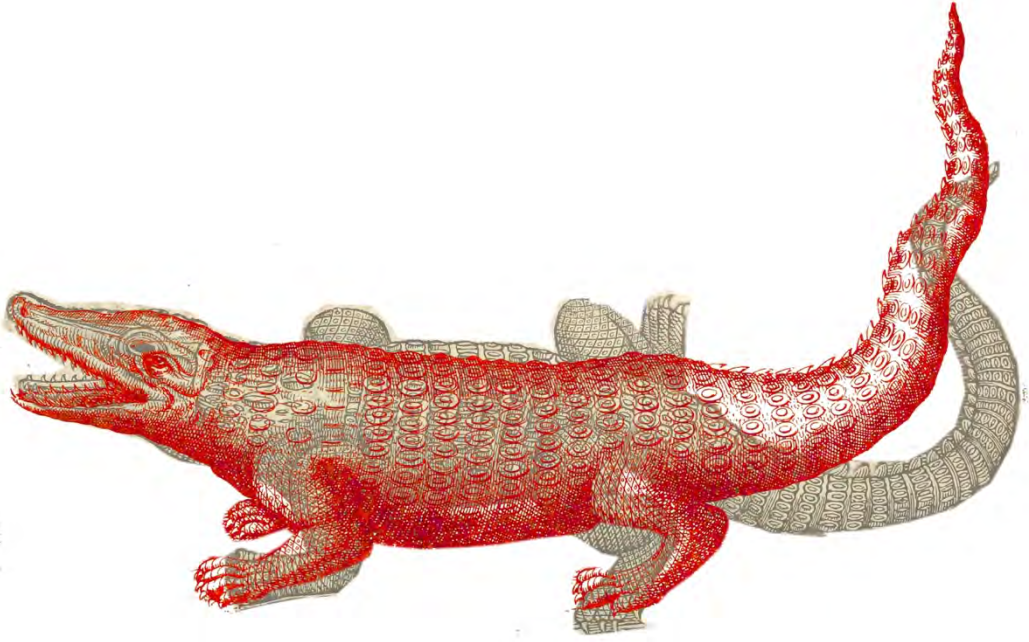


Figure S57. Superimposition of Merian's crocodile over the specimen engraved by Cecil Thomas (which is identical with those used by Gessner).

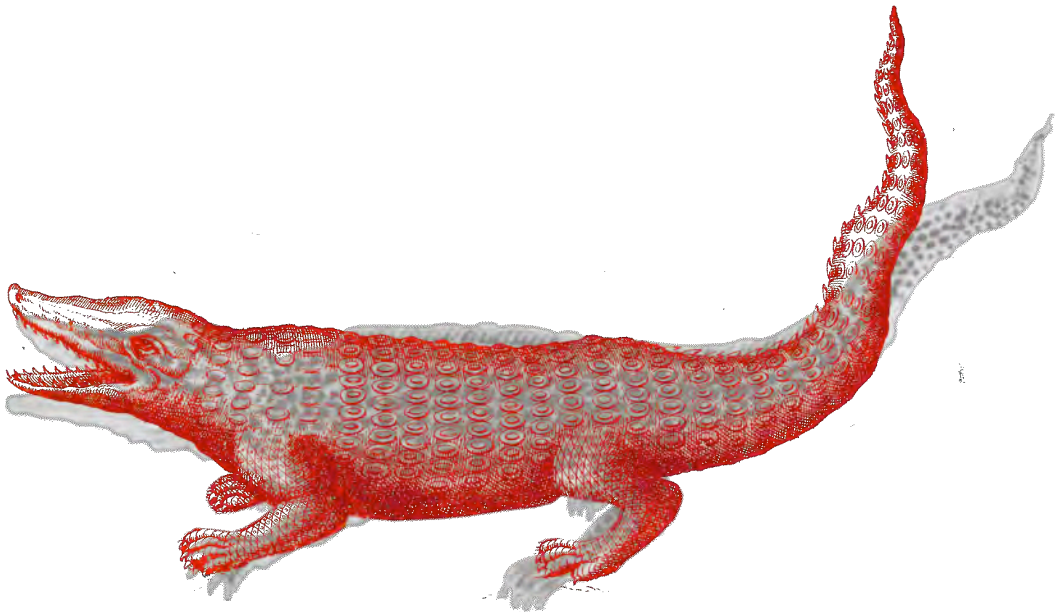


Figure S58. Superimposition of Merian's crocodile over the painting reputedly showing the Amami-Oshima specimen.

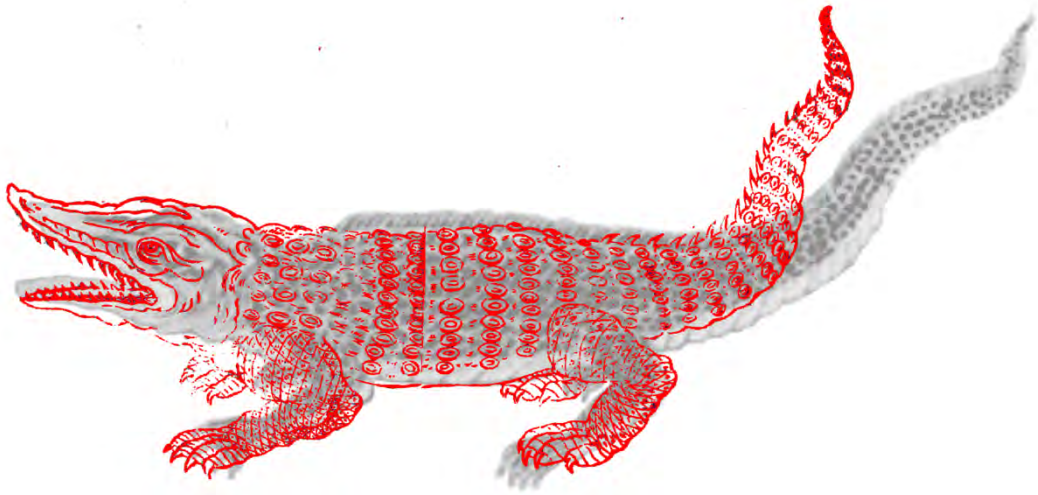


Figure S59. Superimposition of Kitayama Kangan crocodile over the painting reputedly showing the Amami-Oshima specimen.

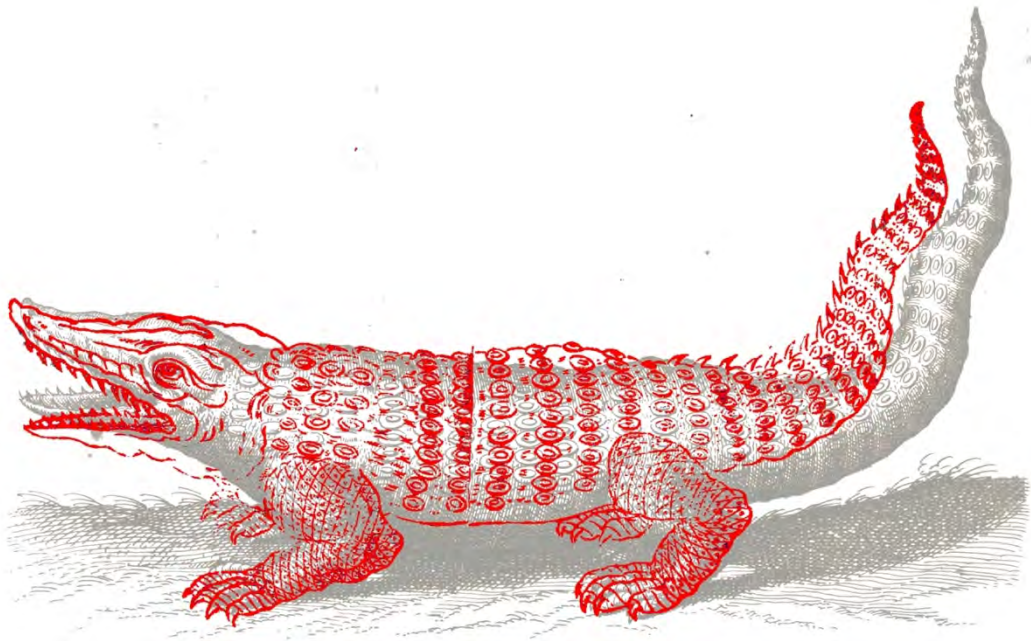


Figure S60. Superimposition of Kitayama Kangan crocodile over Merian's etching.

Other

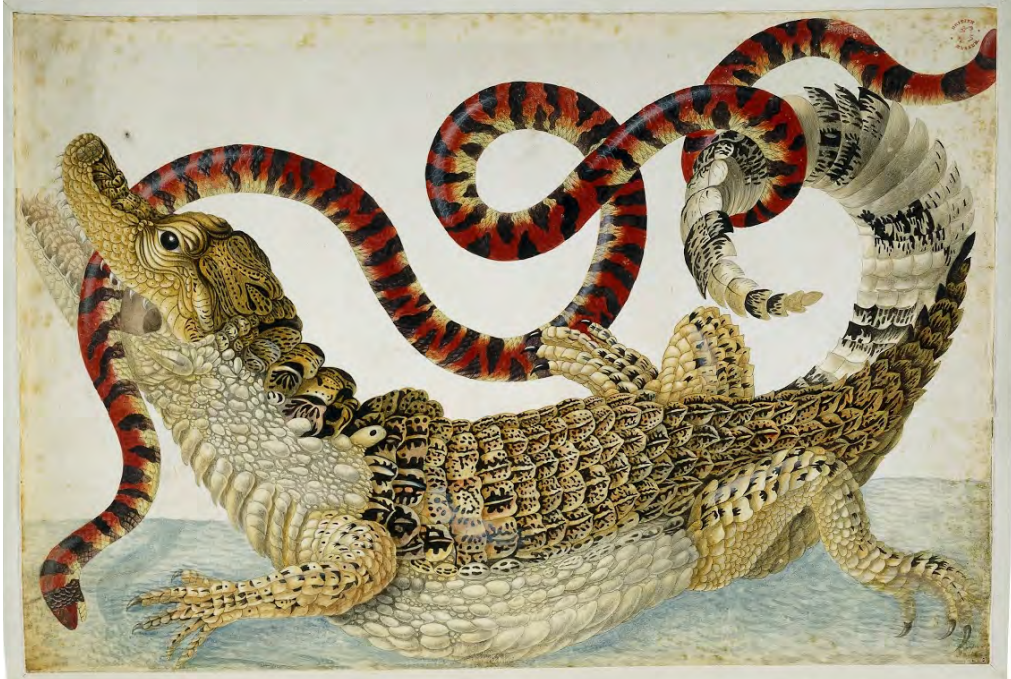


Figure S61. 'A Surinam caiman fighting a South American false coral snake' as drawn by Dorothea Maria Graff.<sup>14</sup>



Figure S62. The American Alligator as depicted by Cuvier (1835, opp. p.197).

## Acknowledgments

I am indebted to Hilary Webb (Library Collections Manager, Royal College of Surgeons) who kindly furnished images of Merian's plate in the Rouen edition.

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## Endnotes

1. Held by the Smithsonian Library, Washington DC CSLL N° 39088016899460, Reproduced from the copy uploaded to <https://archive.org/details/historiaenatural11650jons>.
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9. Gift of the Estate of James Hazen Hyde, 1959. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York Accession Number 59.654.5.
10. The Elisha Whittelsey Collection, The Elisha Whittelsey Fund, 1949. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York Accession Number 49.95.1516.
11. The Elisha Whittelsey Collection, The Elisha Whittelsey Fund, 1949. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York Accession Number 49.95.1526.
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13. Reproduced with permission, Museum Plantin-Moretus (Antwerp) n° PK.OP.20145.
14. From an album entitled 'Merian's Drawings of Surinam Insects &c'. British Museum SL,5275.61.

## References

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