

## Alesi baby ape cranium: a recent case study of the transformative potential power of synchrotron imaging in Paleoanthropology

### == Abstract ==

The erupted teeth on Alesi, the most complete fossil ape cranium known in the fossil record were broken and lost, when it was discovered, making it nearly impossible to identify even its precise taxonomic identification. This presentation will showcase how synchrotron scanning at the ESRF revealed the unerupted teeth and other aspects of its internal anatomy, making it possible to assign the specimen to a species and to reconstruct multiple aspects of the paleobiology including its diet, locomotion, hearing and balance, life history, and age at death.