Head of a juvenile Nile crocodile (Crocodylus niloticus). The irregular polygonal scales on the face and jaws of crocodiles are not controlled genetically. Instead, the patterns are generated through a self-organizational process in which the stiff skin cracks in a tensional stress field as the crocodile grows. See page 78.

Photo: Michel C. Mitinkovitch and Adrien Debry
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46  A Stringent Limit on a Drifting Proton-to-Electron Mass Ratio from Alcohol in the Early Universe
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The proton-to-electron mass ratio inferred from methanol lines in a distant galaxy is in accord with the laboratory value.

49  Alignment of Magnetized Accretion Disks and Relativistic Jets with Spinning Black Holes
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Mapping the geographic distribution and phylogenetic relationships of 21,037 vertebrate species yields 11 realms.

78  Crocodile Head Scales Are Not Developmental Units But Emerge from Physical Cracking
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Tension-induced cracks generate random polygonal scales in the keratinized skin on crocodile heads and jaws.

82  Translation Elongation Factor EF-P Alleviates Ribosome Stalling at Polyproline Stretches
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EF-P is essential for rapid synthesis of proteins containing consecutive proline residues.

85  EF-P Is Essential for Rapid Synthesis of Proteins Containing Consecutive Proline Residues
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A universally conserved translation factor facilitates synthesis of peptides that would otherwise cause ribosome stalling.

88  Para-Aminosalicylic Acid Acts as an Alternative Substrate of Folate Metabolism in Mycobacterium tuberculosis
S. Chakraborty et al.
A drug used against tuberculosis for the past 50 years is a metabolic poison and not an enzyme inhibitor.

91  Dynamic Persistence of Antibiotic-Stressed Mycobacteria
Y. Wakamoto et al.
Bacterial cells that divide before a pulse of catalase expression survive the application of the antibiotic isoniazid.

96  The End of History Illusion
J. Quoidbach et al.
Even though we know that we’ve changed over the years, we believe, mistakenly, that we won’t change much in the future.