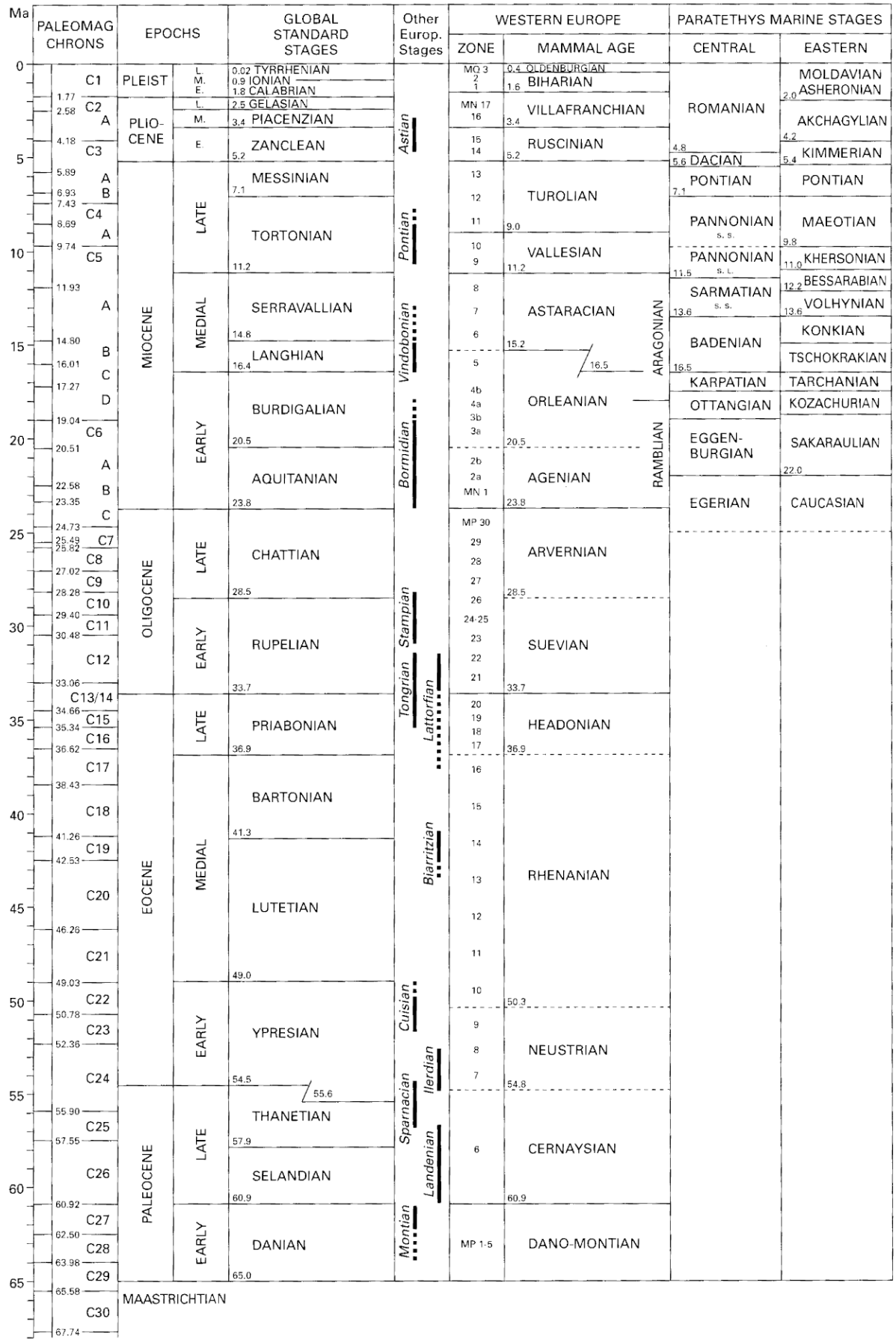
Time Chart



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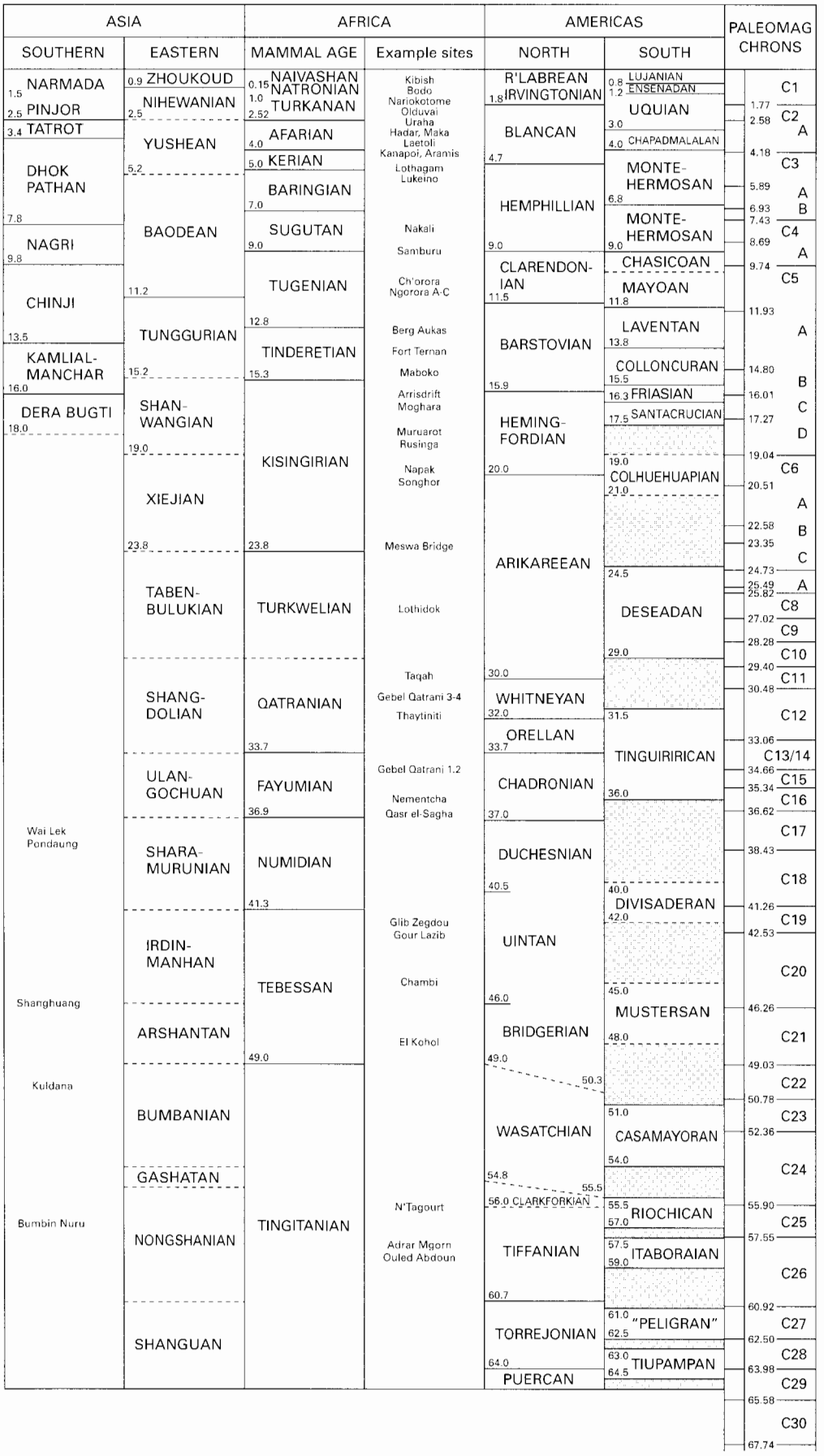

Time scale used in this encyclopedia. The Global Standard Stages are formal subdivisions of Cenozoic epochs defined in western European stratotypes; vertically oriented terms refer to marine stage names used incorrectly (but often) in the literature as mammalian zones. The age-calibration of the stage boundaries and of the paleomagnetic record follows Berggren, W.A., Kent, D.V., Swisher, C.C., III. and Aubry, M.-P. 1995 (in W.A. Berggren, et al., eds., SEPM Society for Sedimentary Geology, Special Publication 54). Normal and reversed intervals within the paleomagnetic chrons are not indicated. The correlation of North American, South American, European, and (Eastern) Asian Land Mammal Ages to this time scale is that of M.C. McKenna and S.K. Bell, 1997, Classification of Mammals Above the Species Level, *Columbia University Press. For Europe, the set of numbered MN (Mammalian Neogene) and MP (Mammalian Paleogene) zones subdivides the Cenozoic even more finely. Land Mammal Ages for Africa are based on characterizations summarized in the entry* AFRICA. *For Africa and the Paleogene of Southern Asia, specific sites with primates are shown as well. Oblique broken lines represent uncertainty as to the boundary between successive time units. Shaded intervals indicate gaps in the local stratigraphic record. The* PLEISTOCENE *time scale is shown in greater detail in that entry.*

Encyclopedia of Human Evolution and Prehistory

Second edition

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Garland Publishing, Inc.
A member of the Taylor & Francis Group
New York & London, 2000