New giant carnivorous dinosaur discovered with tiny arms like T. rex
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record, the team was able to paint a picture of the life of this M. gigas before it died. Living in the present-day northern Patagonia region of Argentina, the dinosaur was 45 years old, about 11 meters long, and weighed more than four tons. And, it had a big family. "The group flourished and reached a peak of diversity shortly before [they] became extinct," says Canale. "They may have used the arms for reproductive behavior such as holding the female during mating or support themselves to stand back up after a break or a fall," Canale adds.

Canale says, "It was probably one of the most exciting points of my career."


The team also found that the skull of M. gigas was decorated with crests, furrows, bumps and small hornlets. "Those ornamentations appear late in the development when the individuals became adults," Canale says. The group thinks that the features were probably used to attract potential mates. "Sexual selection is a powerful evolutionary force. But given that we cannot directly observe their behavior, it is impossible to be certain about this," says Canale.

"The fossil has a lot of novel information, and it is in superb shape," says Canale. He looks forward to exploring other questions that the M. gigas fossil can help him answer. "We found the perfect spot on the first day of searching, and M. gigas was found,"