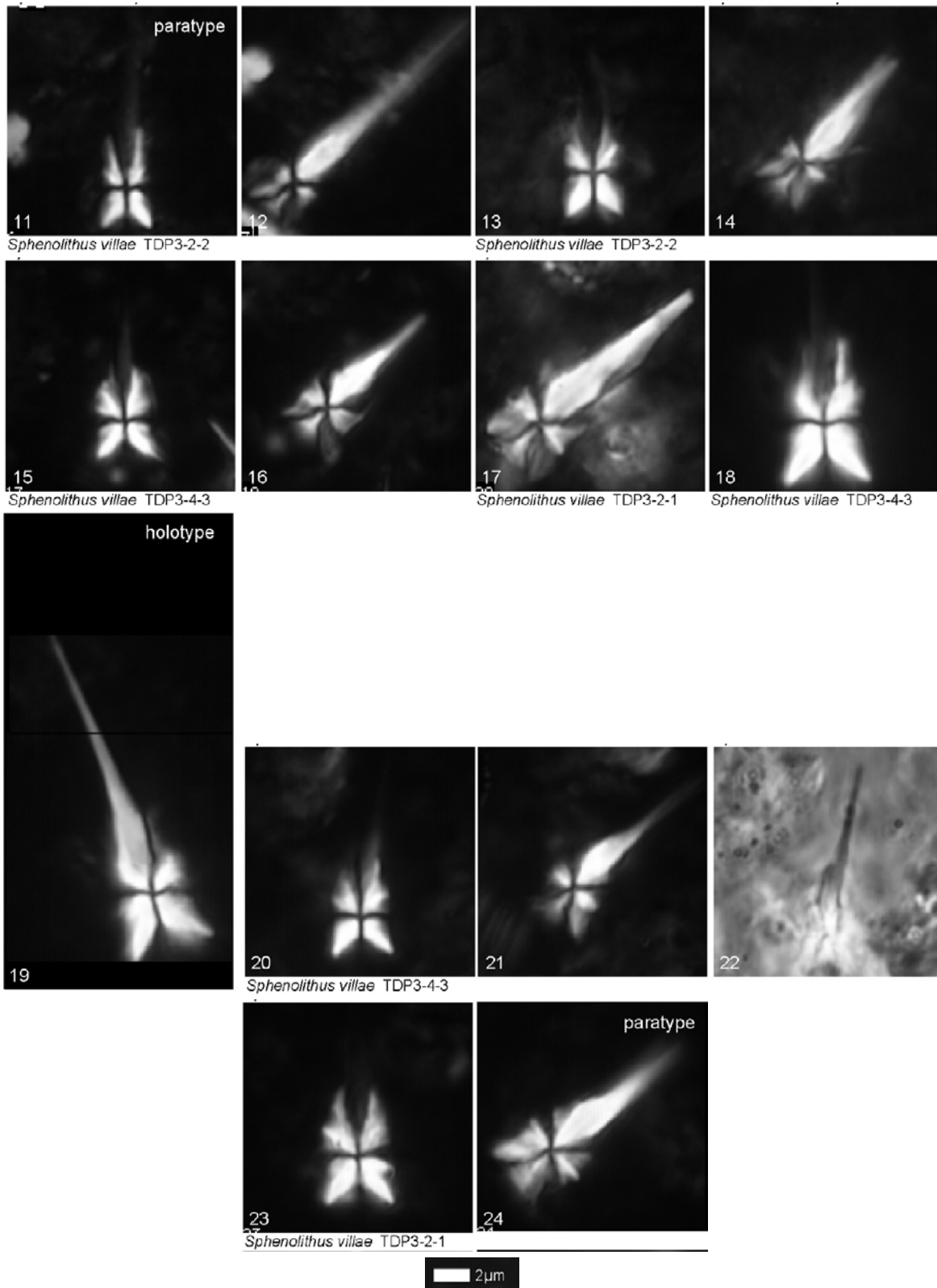


218. *Sphenolithus villae* Bown (2005)



Pl. 44, figs 11-24

**Derivation of name:** After Dr. Giuliana Villa (Univ. of Parma, Italy), nannopaleontologist.

**Diagnosis:** Large (H = 7.5-19.8 $\mu$ m), narrow sphenolith with tall spine that is dark at 0°. Relatively tall base, with roughly equidimensional upper and lower quadrants. Spine indents deeply into upper quadrants, appears to be monocrystalline, and is brightest at 45°.

**Differentiation:** Comparable in general morphology to the Miocene *Sphenolithus belemnos*, however *S. villae* is larger, more robustly constructed, with blockier spine and base.

**Dimensions:** H = 7.5-19.8 $\mu$ m.

**Holotype:** Pl. 44, fig.19 (fig.18 same specimen).

**Paratypes:** Pl. 44, fig.24 (fig.23 same specimen); Pl. 44, fig.11 (fig.12 same specimen).

**Type locality:** TDP Site 3, Mpara Hill, Tanzania.

**Type level:** Lower Eocene, Sample TDP3-4-3, 52cm (Zone NP11).

**Occurrence:** NP11; TDP Site 3.

Bown, P.R., 2005: Palaeogene calcareous nannofossils from the Kilwa and Lindi areas of coastal Tanzania (Tanzania Drilling Project 2003-4). *Journal of Nannoplankton Research*, **27(1)**: 21-95.