

## **Abstract**

Body height is the main characteristic of human. It can be variable to the relation to the environment. Development of the height is primarily determined genetically, but an environment has a partly influence. An evolutionary view is very important, especially in the identification of fossils at the Plio-Pleistocene boundary and the overall view on individual development to 2.5 million years ago and characteristics of our ancestor. This bachelor thesis summarized the methods how to estimate the most accurate body height of fossil *Homo* and compares individuals between them. It also focuses on the geographic area of genus *Homo* not only on the period and if there is a correlation with increase or decrease in the height of an individual. The main finding of this work is diversity within species *Homo*. *Homo habilis* had reached the height of range 120–155 cm. In contrast, *Homo ergaster* measured up to about 170 cm. While *Australopithecines* were lower growth. *Australopithecus* were tall on average around 114 cm and *Paranthropus* exceeded them at range 10 cm. Slight differences in body height can be seen in the context of sexual dimorphism. The climate in Plio-Pleistocene had no influence on the change in height. Rather, the geographic area of occurrence of our ancestor played a role here.

## **Key words:**

Plio-Pleistocene, body height, genus *Homo*, evolution, measurement methods, *Paranthropus*, *Australopithecus*