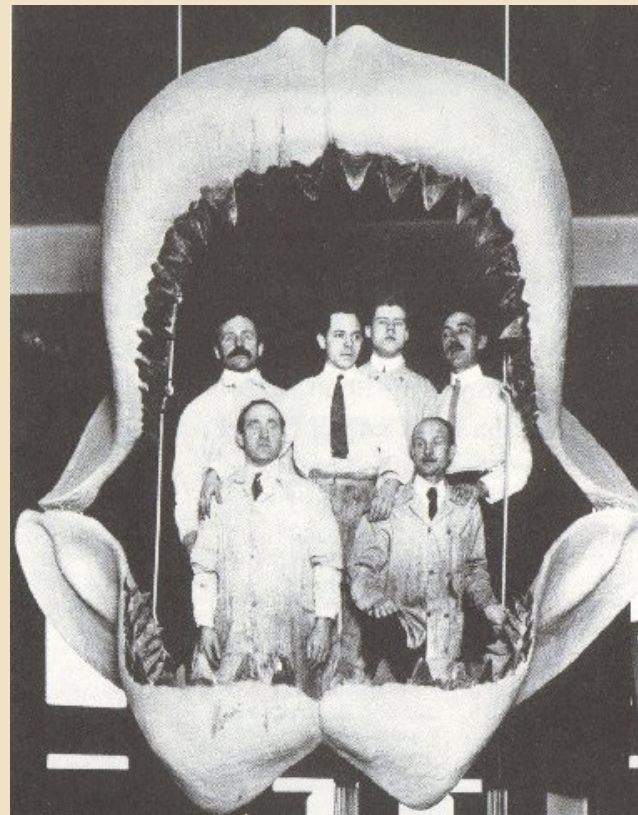
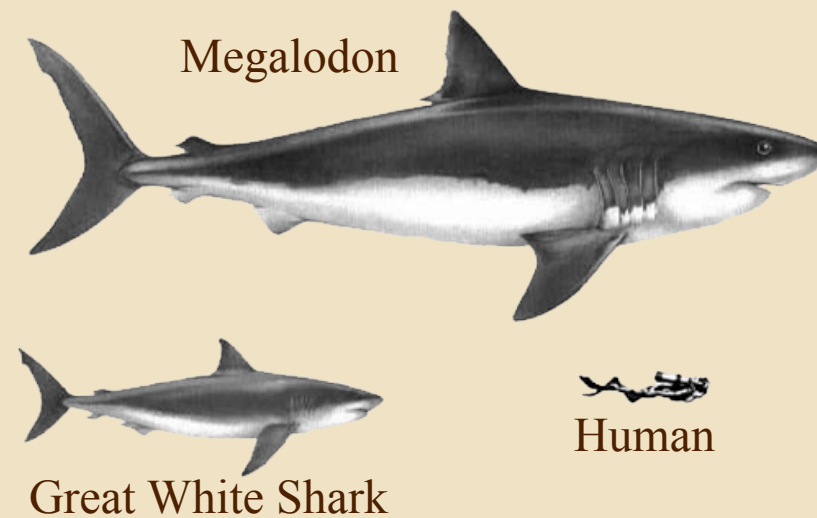


# Megalodon

Megalodons (*Carcharodon megalodon*) were giant prehistoric sharks that lived between 23.8 and 5.3 million years ago. They are the largest known carnivorous fish to have ever lived. They are believed to have reached sizes of more than 52.5 feet long and weighed more than 48 tons. In comparison, the largest known great white shark was about 23.5 feet long and weighed 2.4 tons. Their diet most likely consisted of large bony fish, porpoises, dolphins and whales. One tooth is the size of a human hand and their jaws spanned six feet wide and seven feet tall.



An old reconstruction, now thought to be too large



A modern, more accurate reconstruction