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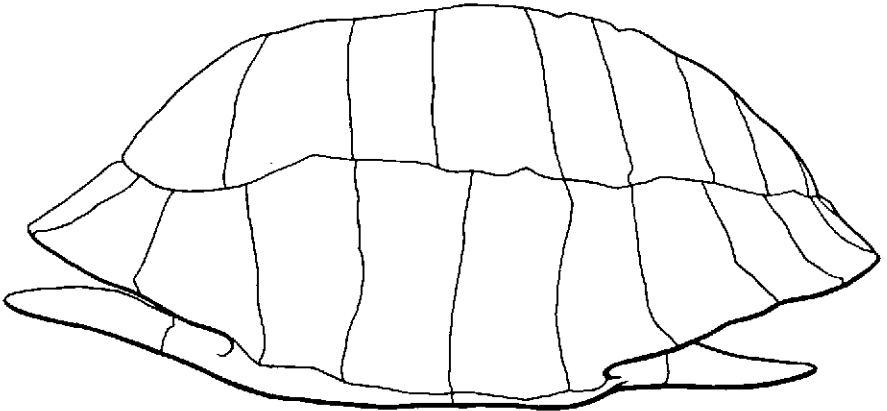


FIGURE 3.—Pleural differentiation as related to the neural formula. Alternately wide and narrow pleurals appear in the mid-Tertiary with the development of octagonal

process of the peripheral ribs and enters a notch on the edge of the pleural (Fig. 4). The rib ends enter the peripherals only in juveniles. In early fossil tortoises the emydid character is often retained until the individual is almost full grown (Auffenberg 1964d).

5) In most specialized tortoises the epiplastra are thickened for some distance on either side of the midline and on the dorsal surface. At the posterior border of the thickening the elevation drops off suddenly to the level of the entoplastron. The ledge thus formed is more or less deeply excavated at its base. This excavation and the thickened epiplastra are not found in the more primitive members of the group (*Styemys*, *Homo-*