



Monograph

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:B3E6C489-6D96-4AF5-A33D-EE8329A9321B

A mountain of millipedes I: An endemic species-group of the genus *Chaleponcus* Attems, 1914, from the Udzungwa Mountains, Tanzania (Diplopoda, Spirostreptida, Odontopygidae)

Henrik ENGHOFF

Natural History Museum of Denmark, University of Copenhagen, Universitetsparken 15, DK-2100 København Ø, Denmark, email: henghoff@snm.ku.dk

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:author:FB09A817-000D-43C3-BCC4-2BC1E5373635

Abstract. Twenty new species of the millipede genus *Chaleponcus* Attems, 1914, are described from the Udzungwa Mountains: *C. netus* sp. nov., *C. quasimodo* sp. nov., *C. malleolus* sp. nov., *C. scopus* sp. nov., *C. nikolajscharffi* sp. nov., *C. mwanihanensis* sp. nov., *C. basiliscus* sp. nov., *C. krai* sp. nov., *C. nectarinia* sp. nov., *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov., *C. ibis* sp. nov., *C. vandenspiegeli* sp. nov., *C. vilici* sp. nov., *C. teres* sp. nov., *C. hamerae* sp. nov., *C. termini* sp. nov., *C. gracilior* sp. nov., *C. mwabvui* sp. nov., *C. howelli* sp. nov. and *C. tintin* sp. nov. Together with *C. dabagaensis* Kraus, 1958, they constitute the *Chaleponcus dabagaensis*-group, well characterized by apparently apomorphic gonopodal characters, presumably monophyletic, and the first example of a major radiation within the Udzungwas. All species are restricted to altitudes >1390 m, all but one were found in only one, rarely two forest reserves, and the vast majority of specimens were collected in montane forest. *Chaleponcus gracilior* sp. nov. was collected in four forest reserves, often in secondary habitats where other species were only exceptionally found. Co-occurrence of multiple species, inter-specific differences in body size and unusual tarsal setation of a few species tentatively suggest adaptive radiation.

Keywords. Eastern Arc, species swarm, taxonomy, new species

Enghoff H. 2014. A mountain of millipedes I: An endemic species-group of the genus *Chaleponcus* Attems, 1914, from the Udzungwa Mountains, Tanzania (Diplopoda, Spirostreptida, Odontopygidae). *European Journal of Taxonomy* 100: 1–75. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5852/ejt.2014.100>

Contents

Introduction	2
Material and methods	4
Results	8
Taxonomy	8
General description of the <i>Chaleponcus dabagaensis</i> group	10
Species in which the gonopod coxa has an obvious lateral process	17
<i>Chaleponcus netus</i> sp. nov.	17
<i>Chaleponcus dabagaensis</i> Kraus, 1958	20
<i>Chaleponcus quasimodo</i> sp. nov.	23

<i>Chaleponcus malleolus</i> sp. nov.	25
<i>Chaleponcus scopus</i> sp. nov.	27
<i>Chaleponcus nikolajsharffi</i> sp. nov.	30
<i>Chaleponcus mwanihanensis</i> sp. nov.	32
<i>Chaleponcus basiliscus</i> sp. nov.	35
Species without an obvious lateral coxal process in which the metapical shelf-spine (<i>mss</i>) is long and projects \pm mesad	37
<i>Chaleponcus krai</i> sp. nov.	37
<i>Chaleponcus nectarinia</i> sp. nov.	39
<i>Chaleponcus circumvallatus</i> sp. nov.	41
<i>Chaleponcus ibis</i> sp. nov.	44
<i>Chaleponcus vandenspiegelii</i> sp. nov.	46
Species without an obvious lateral coxal process in which the metapical shelf-spine (<i>mss</i>) is not long and projecting \pm mesad	48
<i>Chaleponcus vilici</i> sp. nov.	48
<i>Chaleponcus teres</i> sp. nov.	51
<i>Chaleponcus hamerae</i> sp. nov.	53
<i>Chaleponcus termini</i> sp. nov.	56
<i>Chaleponcus gracilior</i> sp. nov.	58
<i>Chaleponcus mwabvui</i> sp. nov.	61
<i>Chaleponcus howelli</i> sp. nov.	63
<i>Chaleponcus tintin</i> sp. nov.	65
Key to species of the <i>Chaleponcus dabagaensis</i> group	67
Distribution and habitat	69
Two notes on general morphology	70
Discussion	73
Acknowledgements	73
References	73

Introduction

Odontopygidae is an endemic Afrotropical family of millipedes counting around 400 described species, all but one described from the African mainland. The exception, *Bandeirenica caboverdus* (Pierrard, 1987) was described from the Cape Verde Islands, where it is a significant pest (Jolivet 1986, Nascimento 2012) but it has most likely been introduced from the African mainland. Odontopygidae are thus absent from Madagascar, like the two other major endemic Afrotropical millipede families, Oxydesmidae Cook, 1895 (Hoffman 1990) and Gomphodesmidae Cook, 1896 (Hoffman 2005a).

Thanks to Kraus (1960, 1966) it is relatively easy to get an overview of the Odontopygidae, but the family still poses major taxonomical problems; see e.g., Hoffman (1991) and Frederiksen & Enghoff (2012). Up till now, 57 species of Odontopygidae have been described or recorded from Tanzania (Enghoff *et al.* in prep.), but unidentified material already present in collections suggests that this is just a small fraction of the actual number of species. The material from the Udzungwa Mts studied by me alone counts 35 species. No less than 21 of these can be referred to the genus *Chaleponcus* Attems, 1914. Twenty species have been described in *Chaleponcus* until now (Kraus 1960, 1966; Frederiksen 2013a), mainly from southern Africa north to Zimbabwe and southern Mozambique. One species, *C. dabagaensis* Kraus, 1958, was described from Tanzania but was later (Kraus 1960) excluded from the genus. It was not until very recently that Frederiksen (2013a) “reintroduced” *Chaleponcus* to Tanzania by describing a new species from the Pare Mts in the northern part of the country.

Genus concepts in Odontopygidae are to a high degree less than satisfactory (Frederiksen 2013b). Add to this the fact that the identity of the type species of the type genus, *Odontopyge* Brandt, 1841, was relatively recently (Hoffman 1991) totally re-interpreted, resulting in a complete nomenclatural remix and leaving a considerable number of species described in *Odontopyge* without a valid generic affiliation. Luckily, *Chaleponcus* was not affected by this.

The present contribution is a taxonomic treatment of the 21 species of *Chaleponcus* so far collected in the Udzungwa Mountains in southern Tanzania. The Udzungwa Mountains are part of the Eastern Arc Mountains, which in turn constitute one among 25 biodiversity hotspots regarded as crucial for conservation of biodiversity on a global scale (Myers *et al.* 2000); see also Burgess *et al.* (2007).

The Udzungwa Mountains, situated at 7°22' S to 8°38' S and 35°07' E to 36°58' E (Fig. 1) and covering more than 16,000 km², is by far the largest among the eastern Arc mountain blocks. More than 1300 km² forest remains, spanning altitudes from 300 to 2580 m asl. The Udzungwas harbour an extremely rich endemic fauna including 17 vertebrate species (Burgess *et al.* 2007).

There are several forest reserves in the Udzungwa Mts. Fig. 1 shows the location of those forest reserves (henceforward abbreviated FR) from which material for the present paper has been collected.

Several millipede species have been reported from the Udzungwa Mountains (Enghoff 2011a; Enghoff *et al.* in prep.; Hoffman 1990, 2005a, 2005b; Hoffman & Howell 1985, 1996; Kraus 1958). Almost

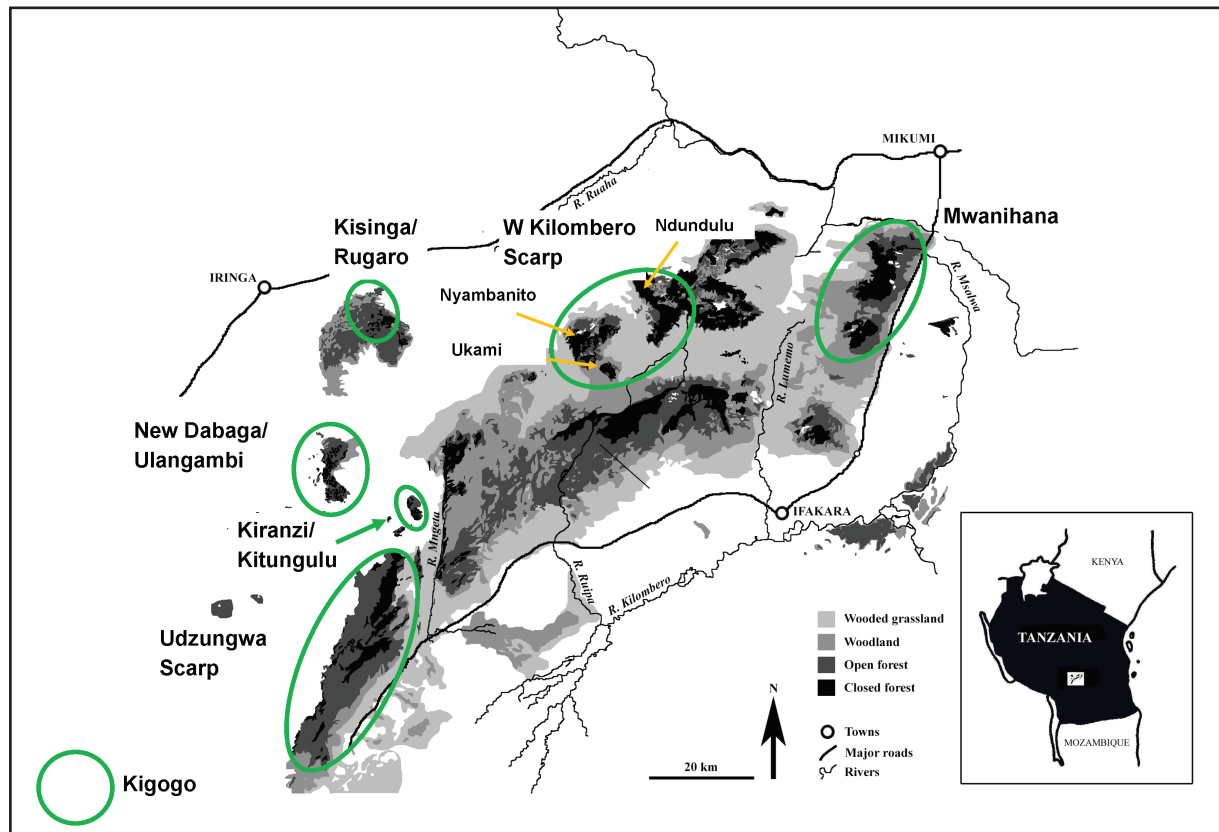


Fig. 1. Map of the Udzungwa Mountains, showing the location of the forest reserves (green rings) where the material studied here was collected, as well as names of individual mountains in West Kilombero FR. Based on fig. 1 in Marshall *et al.* (2010).

all of these are as far as known endemic to the Udzungwas. The only odontopygid recorded from the Udzungwas so far is the abovementioned *Chaleponcus dabagaensis*.

Marshall *et al.* (2001a, 2001b) analysed the millipede fauna of West Kilombero Scarp FR and New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, respectively, based on very large collections made by Frontier Tanzania which were sorted into unnamed morphospecies. Marshall *et al.* (2001b) recognized 38 morphospecies of millipedes from West Kilombero Scarp FR and 13 from New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, but this is almost certainly an underestimate of the actual number of species present in the analysed material. For example, I regard it likely that most of the six *Chaleponcus* species described here from West Kilombero Scarp FR would have been lumped as just one morphospecies, and similarly for most of the 11 *Chaleponcus* species described here from New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR.

Material and methods

The vast majority of material for this paper comes from the zoological collections of the Natural History Museum of Denmark, University of Copenhagen (ZMUC). Much of the material was collected during several field trips to the Udzungwa Mts by ZMUC staff, but a very substantial part of it was collected by the NGO Frontier Tanzania (<http://www.frontiergap.com/About-Us/Background-Mission.aspx>) and was subsequently deposited in ZMUC. Smaller collections of odontopygids from the Udzungwas were obtained from the Virginia Museum of Natural History (VMNH), where a very large collection of Tanzanian millipedes was accumulated by the late Richard L. Hoffman, and from Museo di Storia naturale – Zoologia ‘La Specola’, Firenze (MZF).

Marshall *et al.* (2001a) described how the material from West Kilombero FR was collected: “Ground-dwelling millipedes were primarily sampled by timed searching of 3 m × 3 m quadrats. ... The leaf litter and topsoil within quadrats was searched thoroughly by hand for a total of eight person hours per quadrat at all trapsites. In addition, the general proximity of all trapsites was searched for two person hours. During such searches, particular attention was paid to rotting logs, the underside of rocks and other such microhabitats, which may have been missed by the quadrat samples.” The collecting procedure in New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR was the same (Marshall *et al.* 2001b). A. Marshall (pers. comm.) has further informed me that during these campaigns the collectors had to dig down to around 15cm to find millipedes after initially fruitless searches in the topsoil alone.

A total of 460 male specimens were examined. All samples are kept in 70% alcohol, and the colours of almost all specimens are quite bleached.

Specimens were examined in alcohol under a stereo microscope. Specimens for scanning electron microscopy (SEM) were transferred to 96% ethanol, then to acetone, air-dried, mounted on aluminium stubs or on triangles of flexible aluminium tape and in turn mounted on stubs, coated with platinum/palladium and studied in a JEOL JSM-6335F scanning electron microscope.

Descriptions

In the light of the very large material at hand, of the uniformity of odontopygid millipede non-gonopod morphology, and of the virtual impossibility of identifying females, only adult males are considered, and the descriptions of non-gonopod morphology are kept to a minimum. The following information is included:

- numbers of body rings (excluding telson)
- midbody diameter
- colour pattern when discernible
- limbus structure
- shape of anal valves
- setation of walking leg tarsi

The subheading “Distribution and habitat” summarises the label information. Altitudinal ranges are given as the ‘maximal’ range although the actual range may be narrower. For example, the studied samples of *C. nectarinia* sp. nov. were collected at 1955 m asl, 1945 m asl, 1940 m asl and 1930–1950 m asl. The altitudinal range for this species is given as 1930–1955 m asl, although the specimens labelled “1930–1955 m asl” may have been collected within the range specified by the exact altitudes given for the other samples. It should be noted that the ‘maximal’ range given neglects a possible disjunct altitudinal distribution. For example, for *C. netus* sp. nov. the ‘maximal’ altitudinal range 1390–1955 m asl is given, but the samples are grouped in two ranges, viz., 1390–1410 m asl and 1800–1963 m asl.

Under the subheading “Coexisting species”, species found in the same samples as the species under consideration, as well as additional species found in the same forest reserve, are listed; see also Table 1. This information should be read keeping in mind that sampling was not at all standardized, and that a sample may contain from one to 61 *Chaleponcus* males.

Gonopod terminology

The terminology introduced by Frederiksen (2013a,b; Frederiksen & Enghoff 2012) is used. This terminology largely refrains from attempting to homologize parts of the gonopod telopodite with individual podomeres (femur, tibia, tarsus ...) as was done by previous authors working on the group, notably Kraus (1960, 1966).

Positional/directional terms:

Basal refers to a position on the side nearest to the gonopod sternum. Basad means “directed towards the sternum”. Morphologically this refers to “dorsal” and “dorsad”, but since gonopods are traditionally depicted upside down, basal and basad are preferred.

Apical refers to a position farthest away from the gonopod sternum. Apicad means “directed away from the sternum”. Morphologically this refers to “ventral” and “ventrad”, but since gonopods are traditionally depicted upside down, apical and apicad are preferred.

Distal refers to a position at or near the tip of the gonopod coxa, solenomere or telomere. Distad refers to the corresponding directions. The antitheses are proximal and proximad.

Anatomical terms

The gonopod *coxa* consists of a longitudinally folded lamella with the free margins projecting mesad. The anterior lamella is called *proplica*, the posterior lamella, *metaplica*. In *Chaleponcus*, proplica and metaplica come together apically and form a hoodlike *cucullus*. See Fig. 7.

The gonopod *telopodite* consists of three main parts: basomere, solenomere and telomere. The basomere starts as a straight rod, located in the cavity formed by the coxal pro- and metaplica. It then bends mesad; the bend is termed *arculus* and is effectuated by a 1½ turn spiralling of the basomere whereby the spiral loops are displaced mesad (somewhat like a high-spined snail shell). The part of the basomere involved in the 1½ turn is called the *torsotope*. The actual right-angle bend takes place *after* the torsotope when the basomere is “on its way down” (basad) but then bends mesad at right angles and becomes narrower (posttarsal narrowing *sensu* Frederiksen 2013b). In the terminology of Kraus (1966), the part of the basomere before the ‘actual’ bend is the prefemur, the posttarsal narrowing is the femur. After the posttarsal narrowing the telopodite is divided into solenomere and basomere. The ‘postfemoral’ part *sensu* Kraus (1966) is not well-defined. The start of the solenomere can be difficult to define, but the fine suture running along the solenomere (visible, e.g., on Fig 28B) helps to identify it. See Figs 8 and 10.

Table 1. Coexistence of *Chaleponcus* species in the Udzungwa Mts. For each species, coexisting species at two levels are listed: species found in the same samples and additional species found in the same forest reserve. Abbreviations: FR = forest reserve, KIG = Kigogo, KK = Kiranzi/Kitunguli, KR = Kisinga/Rugaro, MWA = Mwanihana, NDU = New Dabaga/Ulangambi, US = Udzungwa Scarp, WKS = West Kilombero Scarp.

FR	species	in same samples	further species in same FR
NDU, WKS	<i>netus</i>	NDU: <i>dabagaensis</i> , <i>gracilior</i> , <i>malleolus</i> , <i>mwabvui</i> , <i>nectarinia</i> , <i>termini</i> , <i>vandenspiegeli</i> , <i>vilici</i> WKS: <i>circumvallatus</i>	NDU: <i>krai</i> , <i>teres</i> WKS: <i>basiliscus</i> , <i>gracilior</i> , <i>ibis</i> , <i>tintin</i>
KK, NDU	<i>dabagaensis</i>	KK: <i>gracilior</i> NDU: <i>gracilior</i> , <i>mwabvui</i> , <i>netus</i> , <i>termini</i>	KK: - NDU: <i>krai</i> , <i>malleolus</i> , <i>nectarinia</i> , <i>teres</i> , <i>vandenspiegeli</i> , <i>vilici</i>
KIG	<i>quasimodo</i>	<i>howelli</i> , <i>mwabvui</i> , <i>scopus</i>	-
NDU	<i>malleolus</i>	<i>gracilior</i> , <i>nectarinia</i> , <i>netus</i> , <i>vilici</i>	<i>dabagaensis</i> , <i>krai</i> , <i>mwabvui</i> , <i>teres</i> , <i>termini</i> , <i>vandenspiegeli</i>
KIG	<i>scopus</i>	<i>howelli</i> , <i>mwabvui</i> , <i>quasimodo</i>	-
US	<i>nikolajsharffi</i>	<i>hamerae</i>	<i>circumvallatus</i>
MWA	<i>mwanihanensis</i>	-	-
WKS	<i>basiliscus</i>	<i>ibis</i>	<i>circumvallatus</i> , <i>gracilior</i> , <i>netus</i> , <i>tintin</i>
KR, NDU	<i>krai</i>	KR: - NDU: <i>gracilior</i>	KR: <i>gracilior</i> NDU: -
NDU	<i>nectarinia</i>	<i>malleolus</i> , <i>netus</i> , <i>teres</i> , <i>termini</i> , <i>vilici</i>	<i>dabagaensis</i> , <i>gracilior</i> , <i>krai</i> , <i>mwabvui</i> , <i>vandenspiegeli</i>
US, WKS	<i>circumvallatus</i>	US: - WKS: <i>netus</i>	US: <i>hamerae</i> , <i>nikolajsharffi</i> WKS: <i>basiliscus</i> , <i>gracilior</i> , <i>ibis</i> , <i>tintin</i>
WKS	<i>ibis</i>	<i>basiliscus</i>	<i>circumvallatus</i> , <i>gracilior</i> , <i>netus</i> , <i>tintin</i>
NDU	<i>vandenspiegeli</i>	<i>gracilior</i> , <i>netus</i> , <i>termini</i>	<i>dabagaensis</i> , <i>krai</i> , <i>malleolus</i> , <i>mwabvui</i> , <i>nectarinia</i> , <i>teres</i> , <i>vilici</i>
NDU	<i>vilici</i>	<i>gracilior</i> , <i>malleolus</i> , <i>nectarinia</i> , <i>netus</i> , <i>teres</i> , <i>termini</i>	<i>dabagaensis</i> , <i>krai</i> , <i>mwabvui</i> , <i>vandenspiegeli</i>
NDU	<i>teres</i>	<i>termini</i> , <i>vilici</i>	<i>dabagaensis</i> , <i>gracilior</i> , <i>krai</i> , <i>malleolus</i> , <i>mwabvui</i> , <i>nectarinia</i> , <i>netus</i> , <i>vandenspiegeli</i>
US	<i>hamerae</i>	<i>nikolajsharffi</i>	<i>circumvallatus</i>
NDU	<i>termini</i>	<i>gracilior</i> , <i>mwabvui</i> , <i>nectarinia</i> , <i>netus</i> , <i>teres</i> , <i>vilici</i>	<i>dabagaensis</i> , <i>krai</i> , <i>malleolus</i> , <i>vandenspiegeli</i>
KK, KR, NDU, WKS	<i>gracilior</i>	KK: <i>dabagaensis</i> KR: - NDU: <i>dabagaensis</i> , <i>krai</i> , <i>malleolus</i> , <i>mwabvui</i> , <i>netus</i> , <i>termini</i> , <i>vilici</i> WKS: -	KK: - KR: <i>krai</i> NDU: <i>nectarinia</i> , <i>teres</i> , <i>vandenspiegeli</i> WKS: <i>basiliscus</i> , <i>circumvallatus</i> , <i>ibis</i> , <i>netus</i> , <i>tintin</i>
KIG, NDU	<i>mwabvui</i>	KIG: <i>howelli</i> , <i>quasimodo</i> , <i>scopus</i> NDU: <i>dabagaensis</i> , <i>gracilior</i> , <i>netus</i> , <i>termini</i>	KIG: - NDU: <i>krai</i> , <i>malleolus</i> , <i>nectarinia</i> , <i>teres</i> , <i>vandenspiegeli</i> , <i>vilici</i>
KIG	<i>howelli</i>	<i>mwabvui</i> , <i>quasimodo</i> , <i>scopus</i>	-
WKS	<i>tintin</i>	-	<i>basiliscus</i> , <i>circumvallatus</i> , <i>gracilior</i> , <i>ibis</i> , <i>netus</i>

Abbreviations for morphological terms used in descriptions and on illustrations

Accessory structures may be indicated with ' or with numbers.

<i>al</i>	=	anterior telomeral lamella
<i>alp</i>	=	process on <i>al</i>
<i>als</i>	=	spine on <i>al</i>
<i>bal</i>	=	basal telomeral lamella
<i>cu</i>	=	cucullus
<i>dp</i>	=	distal telomeral process
<i>il</i>	=	intermediate telomeral lamella
<i>in</i>	=	metapical incision
<i>la</i>	=	protruding lateral margin of coxa
<i>lp</i>	=	lateral coxal process
<i>mf</i>	=	anteriad metapical flange
<i>mp</i>	=	mesal metapical process
<i>mfp</i>	=	metapical flange process
<i>ms</i>	=	metapical shelf
<i>msh</i>	=	metapical shelf-forming lobe
<i>mss</i>	=	metapical shelf-spine
<i>pb</i>	=	proximal side branch of <i>slm</i>
<i>pl</i>	=	posterior telomeral lamella
<i>plb</i>	=	basal branch of <i>pl</i>
<i>plp</i>	=	process on <i>pl</i>
<i>pls</i>	=	spine on <i>pl</i>
<i>prl</i>	=	propical lobe
<i>ps</i>	=	proximal solenomeral spine
<i>pxl</i>	=	proximal telomeral lobe
<i>pxs</i>	=	spine on proximal telomeral lobe
<i>slm</i>	=	solenomere
<i>spl</i>	=	spine-like telomeral branch
<i>st</i>	=	main telomeral stem
<i>sts</i>	=	small spine on <i>st</i>
<i>th</i>	=	thumblike process on main telomeral stem
<i>tp</i>	=	torsotope process

Abbreviations used in the text, other than abbreviations for morphological terms

asl	=	above sea level
FR	=	Forest Reserve
MZF	=	Zoological Museum, Firenze
VMNH	=	Virginia Museum of Natural History
ZMUC	=	Natural History Museum of Denmark (Zoological Museum)

Results

Taxonomy

Class Diplopoda Blainville-Gervais, 1844
Order Spirostreptida Brandt, 1833
Family Odontopygidae Attems, 1909
Subfamily Archepyginae Manfredi, 1939

The taxon Archepyginae corresponds to Odontopyginae *sensu* Kraus (1960, 1966), see Hoffman (1991), and includes those odontopygid genera in which the gonopod telopodite has a flexible, mostly spiralled zone (torsotope *sensu* Hoffman 2008) followed by a delimited, usually narrower zone (“Femur” *sensu* Kraus 1960, 1968).

Tribe Prionopetalini Hoffman, 1991

This taxon was introduced as a replacement name for Odontopygini *sensu* Hoffman (1980) and includes those archepygine genera in which the solenomere is long and thin, as opposed to the genera placed by Hoffman (1980, 1991) in the tribe Ctenoiulini.

Genus *Chaleponcus* Attems, 1914

This genus was established by Attems (1914) for three new species, of which *C. limbatus* Attems, 1914, was subsequently designated as type species by Kraus (1960).

Chaleponcus was treated in detail by Kraus (1960, 1966) and was recently addressed by Frederiksen (2013a). Vohland & Hamer (2013) redescribed two *Chaleponcus* species from Namibia. From the works of these authors the following diagnosis of *Chaleponcus* can be extracted, based entirely on gonopod structure, using the terminology suggested by Frederiksen (2013a,b; Frederiksen & Enghoff 2012) and emended in light of the species described here:

Prionopetalini in which

- the proplica and metaplica of the gonopod coxa come together apically and form a hoodlike structure, here termed cucullus
- the solenomere is very long, whiplike, at least twice as long as the telomere if stretched out, not spiralled terminally, and without accessory branches or outgrowths (except for sometimes at the very base, corresponding to the “Tibialdorn” of Kraus; see species descriptions)
- the telomere is proximally folded like a tube or a trough and distally separates into two or three diverging lamellae

Kraus (1960, 1966) included 19 species in *Chaleponcus*, distributed in southern African as far north as Zimbabwe and southern Mozambique, and Frederiksen (2013a) added a 20th species from northern Tanzania. Kraus (1960, 1966) did not include *Chaleponcus dabagaensis* Kraus, 1958, described from the Udzungwa Mts (not W Usambaras as stated by Frederiksen 2013a); this species Kraus (1960) excluded from the genus and tentatively assigned to another predominantly S African genus, *Spinotarsus* Attems, 1909. In fact, he described the species as *Chaleponcus (Storthoporus) dabagaensis*, and as he (1960) listed *Storthoporus* Attems, 1928, as a synonym of *Spinotarsus*, the transfer seemed logical. However, *C. dabagaensis* lacks most characteristics of *Spinotarsus*, including a spiny proximal lamella on the telomere and the strongly sclerotized lamella (“Bogenlamelle”) on the posterior surface of the telomere. *C. dabagaensis* does have a trait seen in many *Spinotarsus* species, viz., the longitudinally fluted solenomere; this is a character not seen in other previously described *Chaleponcus* species but found in most of the species described here. *C. dabagaensis* also has the spine-bearing shelf, see below,

and without doubt belongs together with the other Udzungwan species treated in the present paper. I here reallocate it back to *Chaleponcus*.

The Udzungwa species described here and referred to *Chaleponcus* differ from their congeners in one conspicuous character, the spine-bearing ‘shelf’ on the gonopodal coxal metaplica. Many odontopygids have spines in various positions on the gonopod coxa, including the subdistal position on the metaplica where the spine-bearing shelf is situated in the Udzungwan species. This is, e.g., true for *Chaleponcus parensis* Frederiksen, 2013, *Prionopetalum bifidum* VandenSpiegel & Pierrard, 2009, *Patinatus attemsi* Kraus, 1960, *P. bidentatus* Kraus, 1960, *Spinotarsus viridis* Kraus, 1966, *Allantogonus* spp. (Kraus 1960, Attems 1935), *Kompsoprium* spp. (Kraus 1960, Attems 1935) and *Odontopygista natalica* Kraus, 1960. In all these species except one, however, the spine is not associated with a shelflike structure and are most likely not homologous with the ‘shelf-borne’ spine in the Udzungwan species. The exception is *Spinotarsus viridis*, where the spine does seem to originate from a horizontal shelf (Kraus 1966: fig. 350); in other characters, however, *S. viridis* is a typical *Spinotarsus*.

Based on the probably autapomorphic spine-bearing shelf and the longitudinally fluted solenomere, a species group can be defined for the Udzungwan species of *Chaleponcus*. Following tradition, the group is named after the first described species in the group and hence will be named the *Chaleponcus dabagaensis* group.

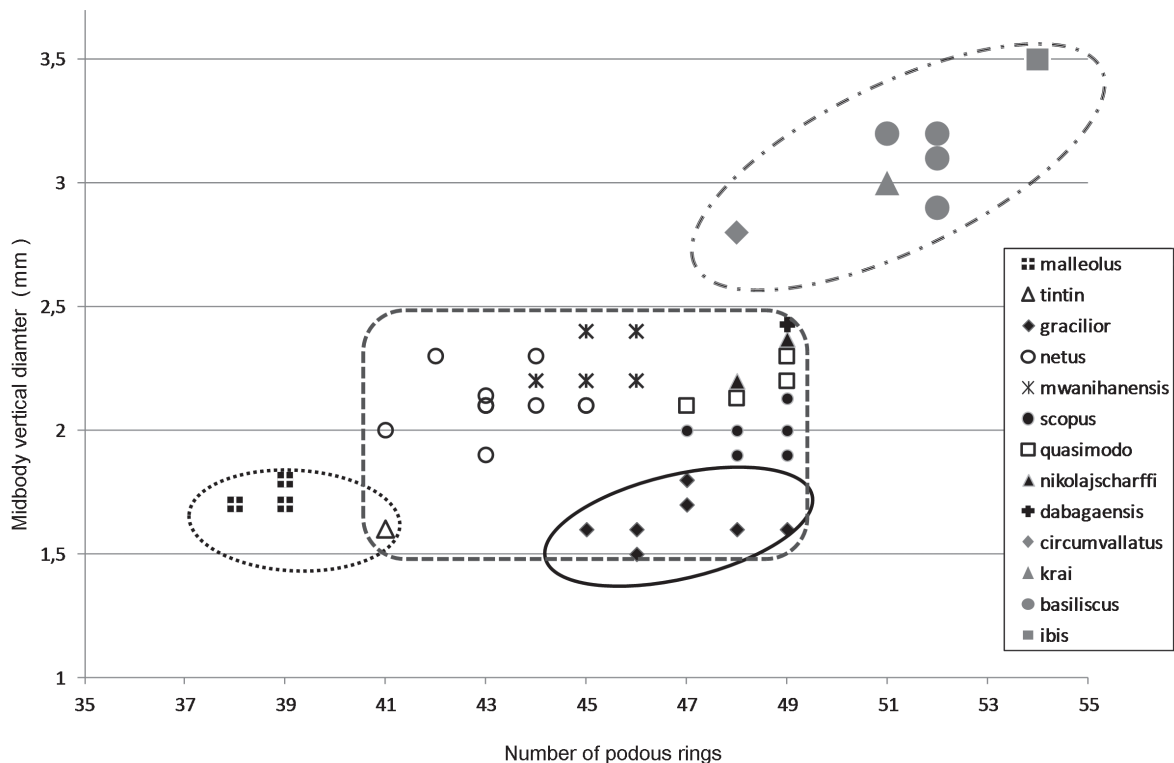


Fig. 2. Body size of males of 13 species of the *Chaleponcus dabagaensis* group: Number of podous rings and vertical midbody diameter in large, small and ‘long, thin’ species (cf. text), as well as medium sized species in which the gonopod coxa has an obvious lateral process.

General description of the *Chaleponcus dabagaensis* group

This description only applies to males and, as far as non-gonopodal characters are concerned, only includes a selection (*cf.* above).

Non-gonopodal characters

BODY LENGTH. *ca.* 2–5 cm. Midbody vertical diameter 1.6–3.5 mm. 38–54 podous rings, no apodous rings in front of telson. The 21 species may conveniently be divided into four size groups (*cf.* Figs 2–3):

- Large species, diameter 2.8–3.5 mm, 48–54 podous rings: *C. basiliscus* sp. nov., *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov., *C. ibis* sp. nov., *C. krai* sp. nov.
- Medium-sized species, diameter 1.6–2.4 mm, 41–49 podous rings: *C. dabagaensis*, *C. hamerae* sp. nov., *C. howelli* sp. nov., *C. mwabvui* sp. nov., *C. mwanihanensis* sp. nov., *C. nectarinia* sp. nov., *C. netus* sp. nov., *C. nikolajscharffi* sp. nov., *C. quasimodo* sp. nov., *C. scopus* sp. nov., *C. teres* sp. nov., *C. termini* sp. nov., *C. vandenspiegeli* sp. nov., *C. vilici* sp. nov.
- Small species, diameter 1.6–1.8 mm, 38–41 podous rings: *C. malleolus* sp. nov., *C. tintin* sp. nov.
- ‘Long, thin species’, diameter 1.5–1.8 mm, 45–49 podous rings: *C. gracilior* sp. nov.

COLOUR. Bleached in most studied specimens, but a pale middorsal longitudinal band is often discernible.

LIMBUS (examined on the dorsal side of midbody rings). Lobulate to serrate. Lobes often triangular and pointed, but sometimes rounded or spatulate, sometimes very shallow, rarely virtually absent, often longitudinally striolate, sometimes apically denticulate. See Fig. 4.

CLAWS OF WALKING LEGS. With a long (> claw proper) accessory claw. Tip of tarsus usually with a moderate number of strong setae (“normal setation”), but in two species, *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov. and *C. ibis* sp. nov., with a dense whorl of stout setae surrounding the claw like a palisade. See Fig. 5.

TELSON. Preanal ring with wrinkled/coriaceous sculpture dorsally. Anal valves with wrinkled/coriaceous sculpture, except along caudal and ventral margins; in almost all species each with a dorsal denticle of variable size, and often also with a smaller ventral denticle; denticles when present well set off from rest

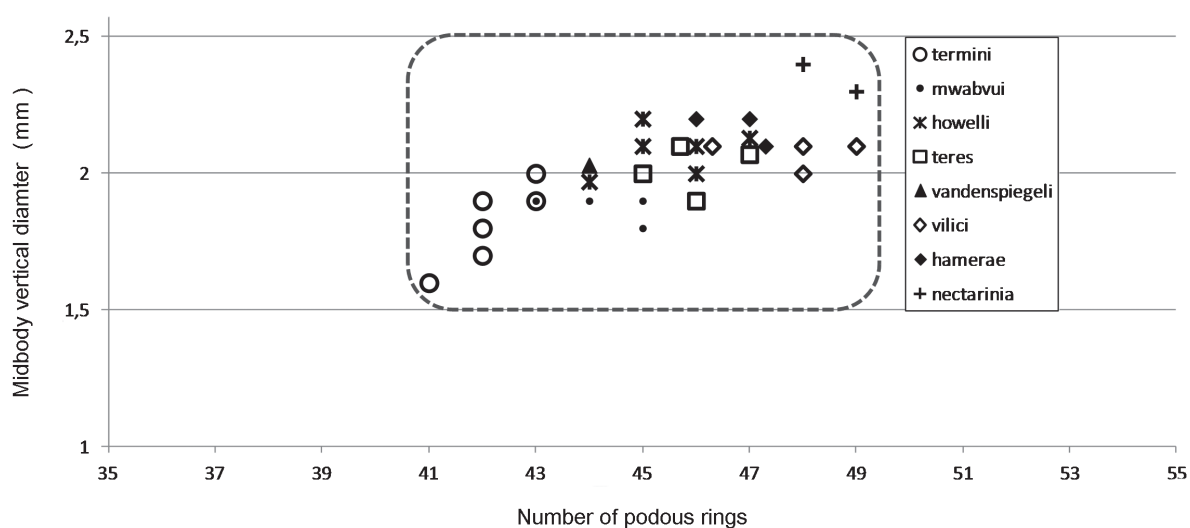


Fig. 3. Body size of males of 8 species of the *Chaleponcus dabagaensis* group: Number of podous rings and vertical midbody diameter in medium-sized species in which the gonopod coxa has no obvious lateral process.

of valve rather than just being “sharp corners” (compare Fig. 6A–C, with fig. 3 in Frederiksen 2013b). Each valve with three setae. Free margin (‘lip’) of anal valves raised in most species and provided with three small extensions (‘ravelins’) on which the setae are borne. These setiferous tubercles not protruding in lateral view. See Fig. 6.

BODY RING 7. Body ring 7 of males modified, with posterior shallow concavities for accommodation of gonopods. The detailed shape of the concavities varies among species, in parallel with variations of gonopod shape, but this has not been studied in detail here.

Gonopods

COXA (Fig. 7). In anterior or posterior view 3–4 × as long as broad. Free margin of proplica straight, shallowly concave or shallowly sinuous from base to proplical lobe (*prl*) at *ca.* $\frac{2}{3}$ of the length of the proplica. Metaplica basally with an anteriad flange (*mf*) usually ending in a blunt or triangular process (*mfp*). Free margin of metaplica variable, but at *ca.* $\frac{2}{3}$ of its length, the metaplica carries a *metaplical shelf* (*ms*) on which a *metaplical shelf-spine* (*mss*) is inserted. Distal to *prl* and *ms*, proplica and metaplica join to form an apical ‘hood’, the *cucullus* (*cu*). The cucullus may take many different shapes and together with the metaplical shelf-spine defines the general ‘profile’ of the gonopod coxa which is often species-specific (Fig. 9).

TELOPODITE (Figs 8, 10). Basomere including torsotope without spines, arcus 90°. First full (360°) turn of torsotope very tight, leaving no space inside the spiral, but last half (180°) turn, a more open spiral, leaving room for a triangular to semicircular torsotope process (*tp*) on the basal side of the spiral (*tp* was described for *C. dabagaensis* by Kraus (1958) as a blunt peg in the position corresponding to that of a femoral spine: “Kein Femoraldorn, auf der Vorderseite jedoch an dessen Stelle ein stumpfer Zapfen”). The torsion of the torsotope begins with an anteriad bend. Posttorsal narrowing unremarkable, not very pronounced.

SOLENOMERE (*slm*). Solenomere originating on apical side of telopodite, just after posttorsal narrowing, whiplike, taeniate, irregularly curving in specimens prepared for SEM, longitudinally fluted (sometimes indistinctly) and sometimes also with tiny retrorse spines in distal part. A slender proximal spine (*ps*) often originating from base of solenomere, sometimes accompanied by a small ± lamellar outgrowth and/or a second small spine.

TELOMERE. Telomere highly variable, originating on basal side of telopodite, just after posttorsal narrowing, starting with a proximal lobe (*pxl*) lying closely against posterior base of *slm*. Telomere continuing distally to *pxl* in simple, large main stem (*st*), anterior margin of *st* forming shallow lobe (*st'*) lying closely against proximal part of *slm*. Distal part of telomere very complicated, consisting of several lamellar parts; two or three lamellae can be distinguished, but these may each have accessory lamellae, carry variously shaped spines and have more or less serrated margins. I have been unable to homologize the various lamellae etc. of the telomere between species; thus, what is called anterior lamella in one species may be homologous with what it called posterior lamella in another. For example, the very characteristic anterior lamella in *C. krai* sp. nov. is remarkably similar to the posterior lamella in *C. nectarinia* sp. nov., but whether these two structures are homologous, or whether different parts of the telomere have evolved convergently to serve similar needs, remains unclear.

Included species (alphabetically)

Chaleponcus basiliscus sp. nov., *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov., *C. dabagaensis* Kraus, 1958, *C. gracilior* sp. nov., *C. hamerae* sp. nov., *C. howelli* sp. nov., *C. ibis* sp. nov., *C. krai* sp. nov., *C. malleolus* sp. nov., *C. mwabvui* sp. nov., *C. mwanihanensis* sp. nov., *C. nectarinia* sp. nov., *C. netus* sp. nov., *C.*

nikolajscharffi sp. nov., *C. quasimodo* sp. nov., *C. scopus* sp. nov., *C. teres* sp. nov., *C. termini* sp. nov., *C. tintin* sp. nov., *C. vandenspiegeli* sp. nov., *C. vilici* sp. nov.

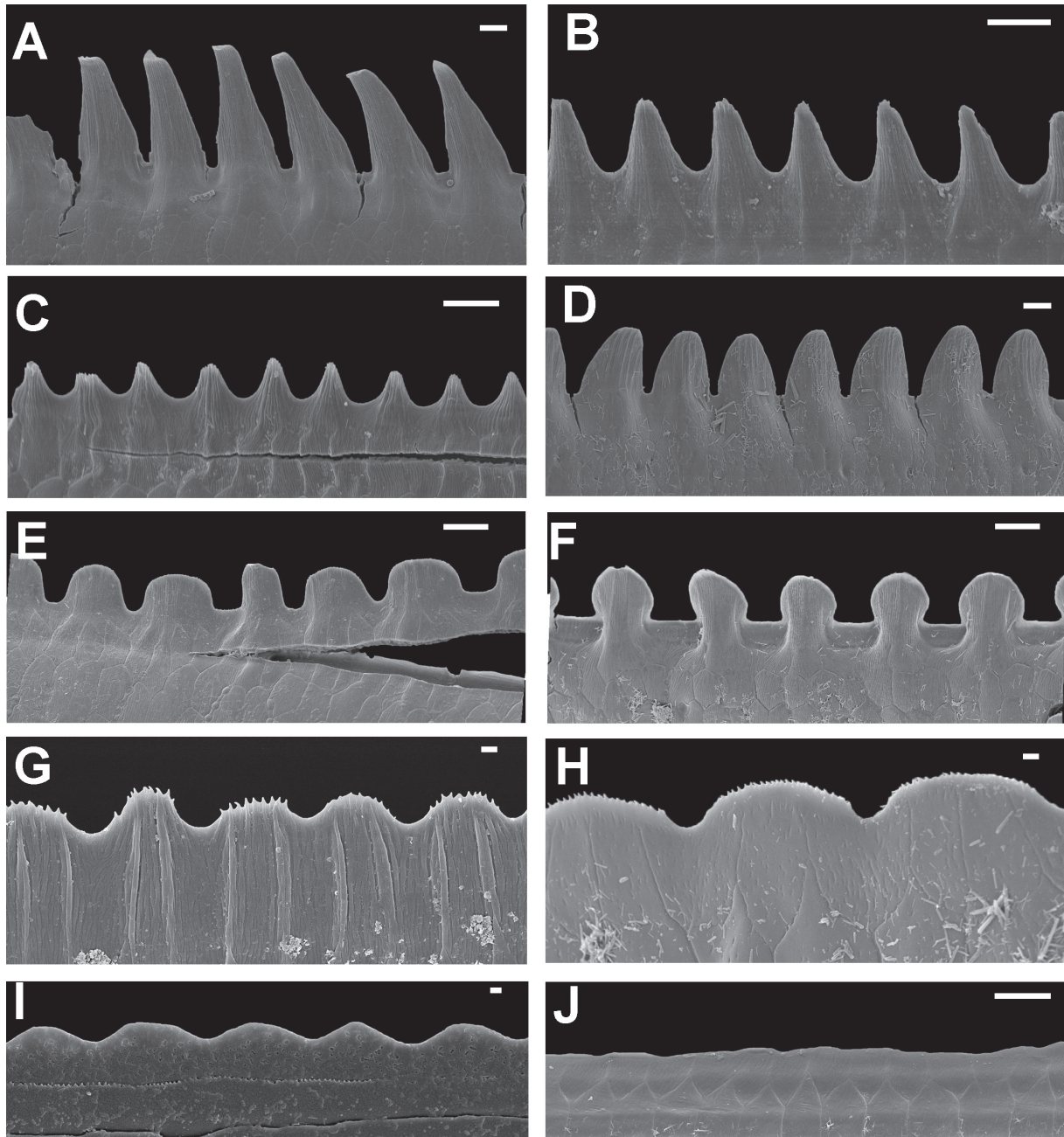


Fig. 4. Limbus types in *Chaleponcus* species, SEM micrographs, external view, except I: internal view. — **A.** Lobes pointed, more than twice as long as broad (*C. scopus* sp. nov.). **B.** Lobes pointed, slightly less than twice as long as broad (*C. howelli* sp. nov.). **C.** Lobes pointed, almost equilateral triangles (*C. netus* sp. nov.), **D.** Lobes rounded, slightly longer than broad (*C. dabagaensis* Kraus, 1958). **E.** Lobes broadly rounded, slightly shorter than broad (*C. hamerae* sp. nov.). **F.** Lobes spatulate (*C. gracilior* sp. nov.). **G.** Lobes rounded, broader than long, spinose, ridged (*C. krai* sp. nov.). **H.** Lobes ca. 3 times as broad as high, rounded, spinose (*C. teres* sp. nov.). **I.** Lobes rounded, much broader than high, smooth (*C. malleolus* sp. nov.). **J.** No lobes (*C. circumvallatus* sp. nov.). Scales: 0.01 mm (A–F, J), 0.001 mm (G–I).

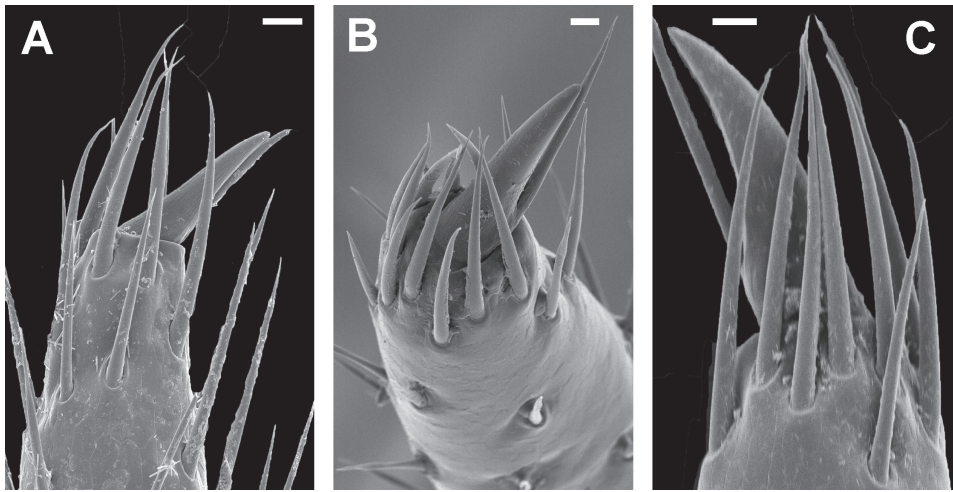


Fig. 5. *Chaleponcus* spp., tip of tarsus and claw of walking legs. — **A.** *C. mwanihanensis* sp. nov. as an example of normal setation. **B–C.** *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov. with the claw surrounded by a 'palisade' of setae. Scales 0.1 mm.

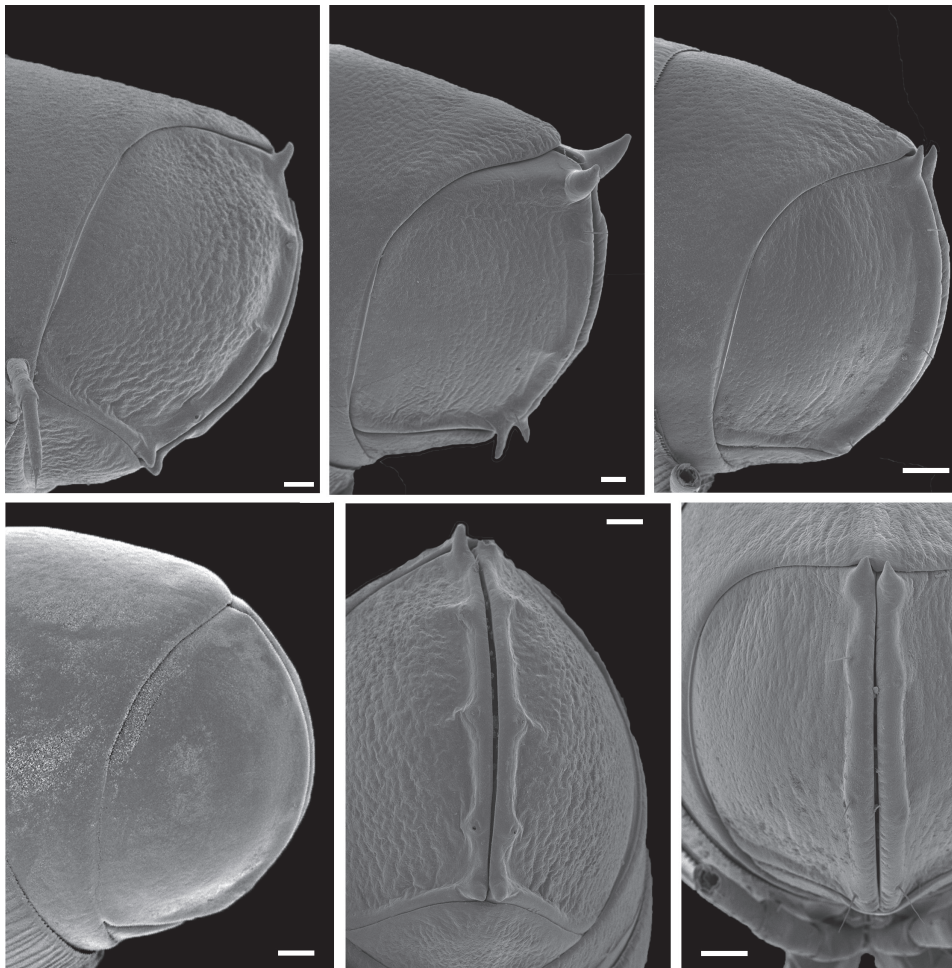


Fig. 6. Telson types in *Chaleponcus* species. — **A.** Dorsal and ventral anal valve spines well developed (*C. nectarinia* sp. nov.). **B.** Spines very long (*C. circumvallatus* sp. nov.). **C.** Dorsal spine well developed, ventral spine barely indicated (*C. mwabvui* sp. nov.). **D.** No spines (*C. teres* sp. nov.). **E.** Setiferous tubercles on ravelins (*C. nectarinia* sp. nov.). **F.** With setiferous tubercles, not on ravelins (*C. mwabvui* sp. nov.). Scales 0.1 mm.

The species cannot easily be arranged in subgroups. For practical reasons the descriptions are organised as follows:

- Species in which the gonopod coxa has an obvious lateral process (exceptionally, *C. basiliscus* sp. nov., two processes): *C. netus* sp. nov., *C. dabagaensis* Kraus, 1958, *C. quasimodo* sp. nov., *C. malleolus* sp. nov., *C. scopus* sp. nov., *C. nikolajsharffi* sp. nov., *C. mwanihanensis* sp. nov., *C. basiliscus* sp. nov.
- Species without an obvious lateral coxal process in which the metaplical shelf-spine (*mss*) is long and projects \pm mesad: *C. krai* sp. nov., *C. nectarinia* sp. nov., *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov., *C. ibis* sp. nov., *C. vandenspiegeli* sp. nov.
- Species without an obvious lateral coxal process in which the metaplical shelf-spine (*mss*) is not long and projecting \pm mesad (*C. vilici* sp. nov. has the lateral side of the coxa somewhat angled,

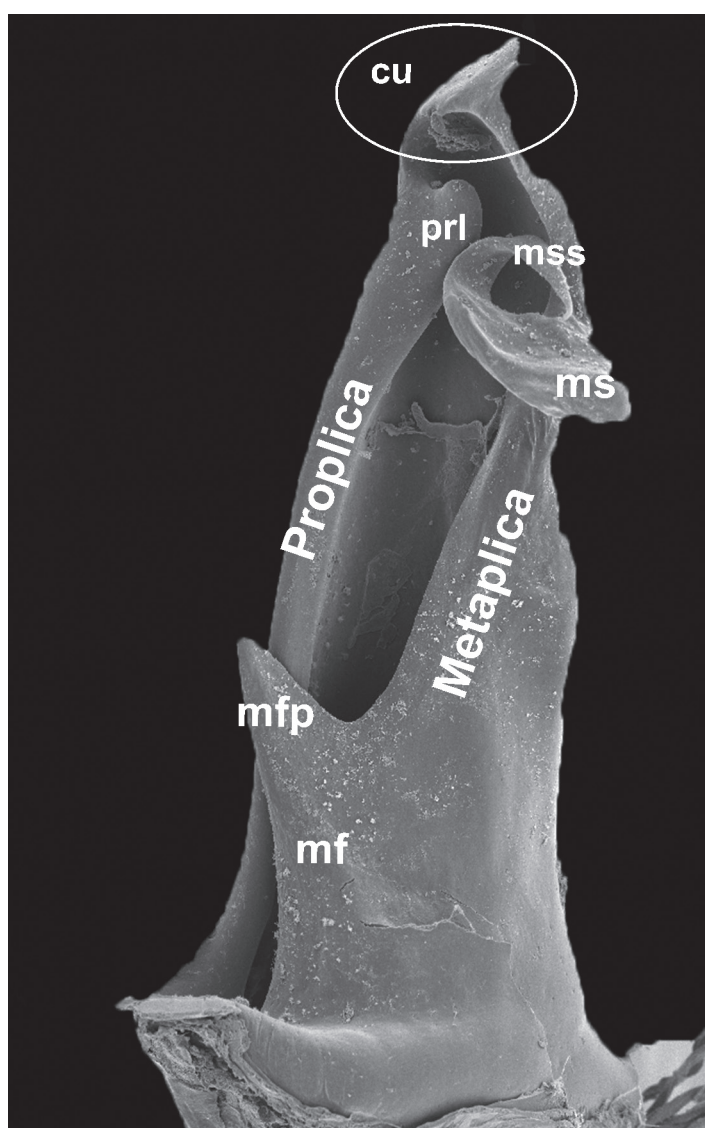


Fig. 7. Gonopod coxa terminology, left coxa of *Chaleponcus termini* sp. nov., mesal(-posterior) view. *cu* = cucullus, *mf* = anteriad metaplical flange, *mfp* = metaplical flange process, *ms* = metaplical shelf, *mss* = metaplical shelf-spine, *prl* = proplical lobe.

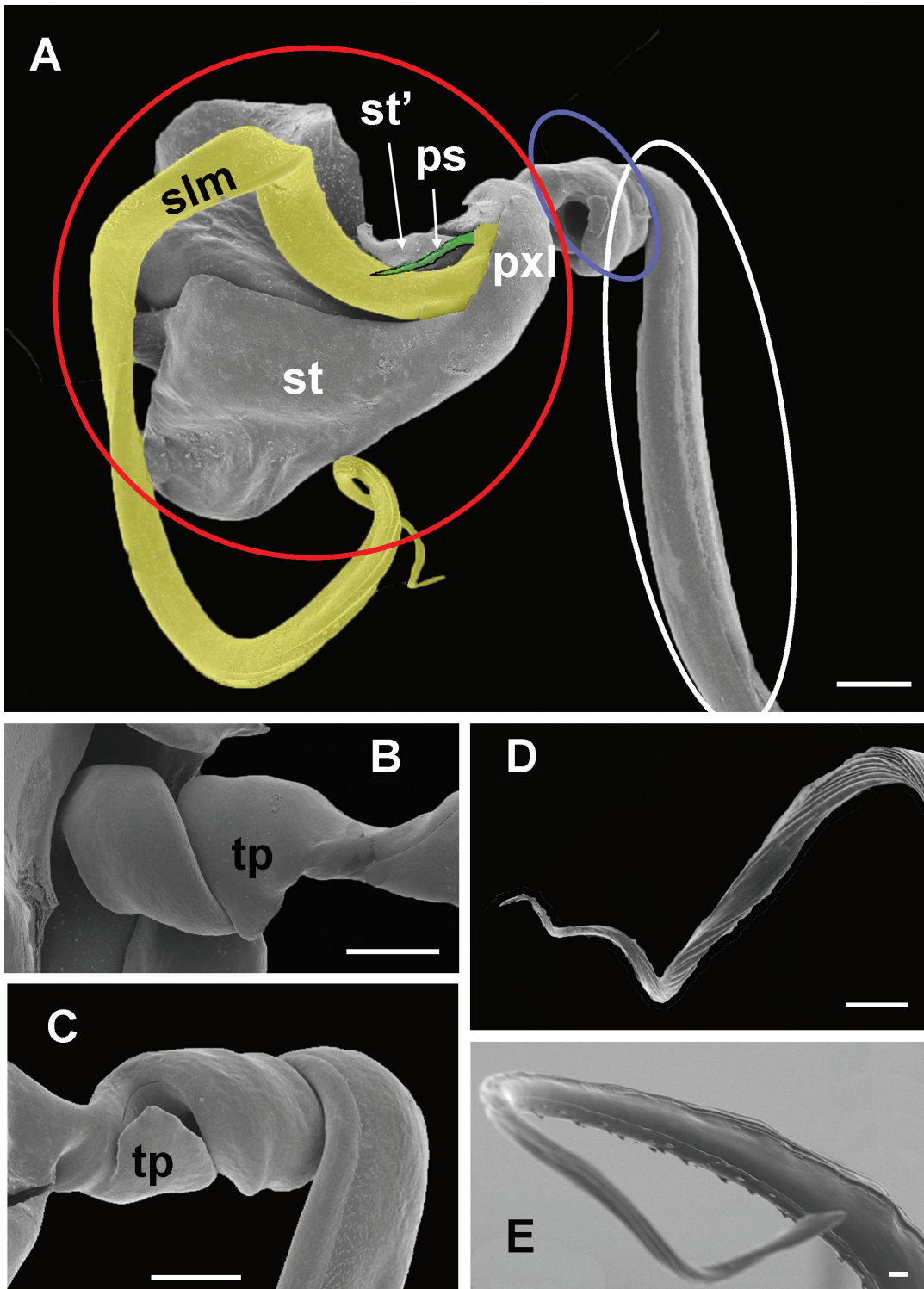


Fig. 8. Gonopod telopodite terminology. — **A.** Left telopodite of *Chaleponcus termini* sp. nov., posterior view. White oval = basomere, blue oval = torsotope, red oval = telomere, yellow = solenomere (*slm*), green = proximal spine of solenomere (*ps*), *pxl* = proximal lobe of telomere, *st* = main stem of telomere, *st'* = shallow lobe of *st*. **B–C.** Torsotope (left gonopod) with torsotope process (*tp*). **B.** *C. vilici* sp. nov., mesal-anterior view. **C.** *C. netus* sp. nov., posterior view. **D.** Solenomere (*C. dabagaensis*) to show longitudinal fluting. **E.** Tip of solenomere (*C. netus* sp. nov.) to show spinulation. Scales: 0.1 mm (A–D), 0.01 mm (E).

which reminds of a small lateral process): *C. vilici* sp. nov., *C. teres* sp. nov., *C. hamerae* sp. nov., *C. termini* sp. nov., *C. gracilior* sp. nov., *C. mwabvui* sp. nov., *C. howelli* sp. nov., *C. tintin* sp. nov.

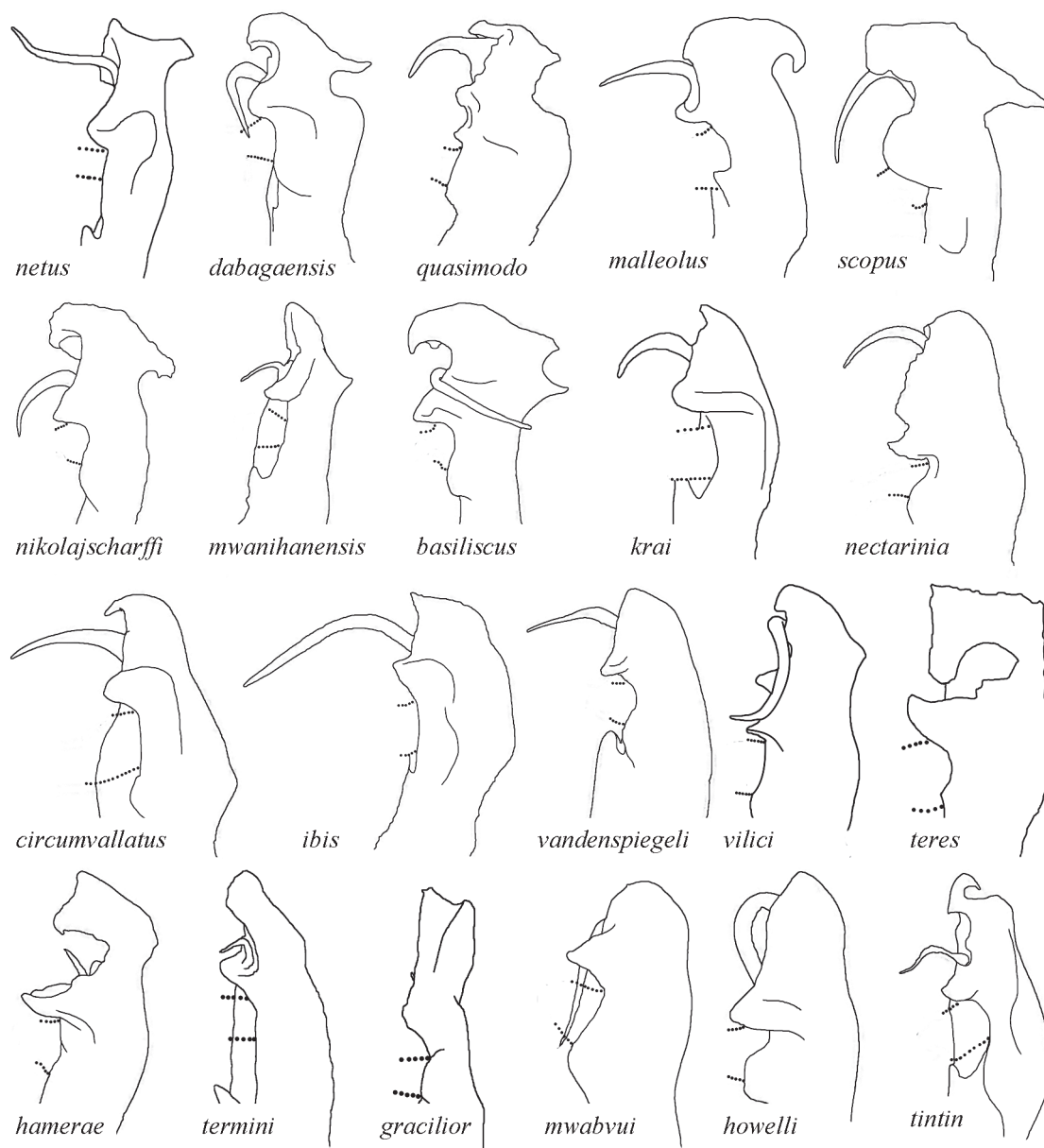


Fig. 9. *Chaleponcus* spp., outline of coxite of left gonopod, posterior view. (The 'transverse' plane of the gonopod is usually slightly at angles with the exact transverse plane of the millipede, so it may be necessary to tilt the gonopod slightly in order to obtain the view shown on the drawings.) The stippled lines indicate the place where the telopodital basomere emerges from the coxal cavity. Not to scale.

Species in which the gonopod coxa has an obvious lateral process

(exceptionally, *C. basiliscus* sp. nov., two processes)

***Chaleponcus netus* sp. nov.**

[urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:244DB18B-A3BC-43C6-9B7F-B1C309C14737](https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-14737)

Figs 4, 8–11, 34

Diagnosis

Medium-sized. Differs from all other group members by the presence of a long, gently curved, longitudinally fluted spine (*pxs*) on the proximal lobe of the telomere. The profile of the coxa (Fig. 9) is also distinctive, as is the spine-like tip of the anterior lamella (*al*) of the telomere.

Etymology

The name is a Latin adjective meaning "woven" or "knit" and refers to the intricately interwoven gonopod telopodites.

Material studied (total: 66 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°00' 26.6" S, 35°56' 06.1" E, montane forest, 1910 m asl, plot Kinyonga, casual, 24 Oct. 2000, Frontier Tanzania (ZMUC).

Paratypes

All from TANZANIA, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, all collected by Frontier Tanzania, all in ZMUC: **New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR:** 9 ♂♂, 08°05' 34.5" S, 35°55' 31.5" E, montane, 1800–1900 m asl, plot 16, casual, 15–16 Nov. 2000; 3 ♂♂, 08°00' 26.6" S, 35°56' 06.1" E, montane forest, 1910 m asl, plot Kinyonga, casual, 24 Oct. 2000; 1 ♂, 08°00' 26.5" S, 35°56' 06.1" E, scrub/thicket/bush, 1908 m asl, plot Kinyonga, 19 Oct. 2000. **West Kilombero Scarp FR:** 1 ♂, 07°50' 38.4" S, 36°22' 17.6" E, montane forest, 1390 m asl, plot Paradiso, 12 Nov. 2000; 6 ♂♂, 07°50' 38.4" S, 36°22' 17.6" E, montane forest, 1390–1410 m asl, plot Paradiso, 18 Nov. 2000; 2 ♂♂, 08°04' 05.6" S, 35°54' 20.4" E, montane, 1930 m asl, plot 6, sample 1 of 3, 28 Oct. 2000; 2 ♂♂, 08°04' 05.6" S, 35°54' 20.4" E, montane, 1930 m asl, plot 6, sample 2 of 3, 27 Oct. 2000; 1 ♂, 08°04' 05.6" S, 35°54' 20.4" E, montane, 1930 m asl, plot 6, sample 3 of 3, 27 Oct. 2000; 2 ♂♂, 08°03' 39.9" S, 35°54' 41.9" E, montane, 1945 m asl, plot 24, 29 Oct. 2000; 16 ♂♂, 08°03' 34.9" S, 35°54' 41.9" E, montane, 1955 m asl, plot 24, casual, 2 Nov. 2000; 2 ♂♂, 08°03' 39.9" S, 35°54' 41.9" E, montane, 1963 m asl, plot 24, sample 1 of 3, 28 Oct. 2000; 3 ♂♂, montane, 1800–1955 m asl, plot MS, plot A, 29 Oct. 2000; 17 ♂♂, 07°50' 38.4" S, 36°22' 17.6" E, montane forest, 1390–1410 m asl, plot Paradiso, 12–18 Nov. 2000.

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°00' 26.6" S, 35°56' 06.1" E, montane forest, 1910 m asl.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 1.9–2.3 mm, 41–45 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 12 years in alcohol pale yellowish, with paramedian dark bands flanking a broad middorsal light stripe, a narrow blackish lateral stripe at ozopore level.

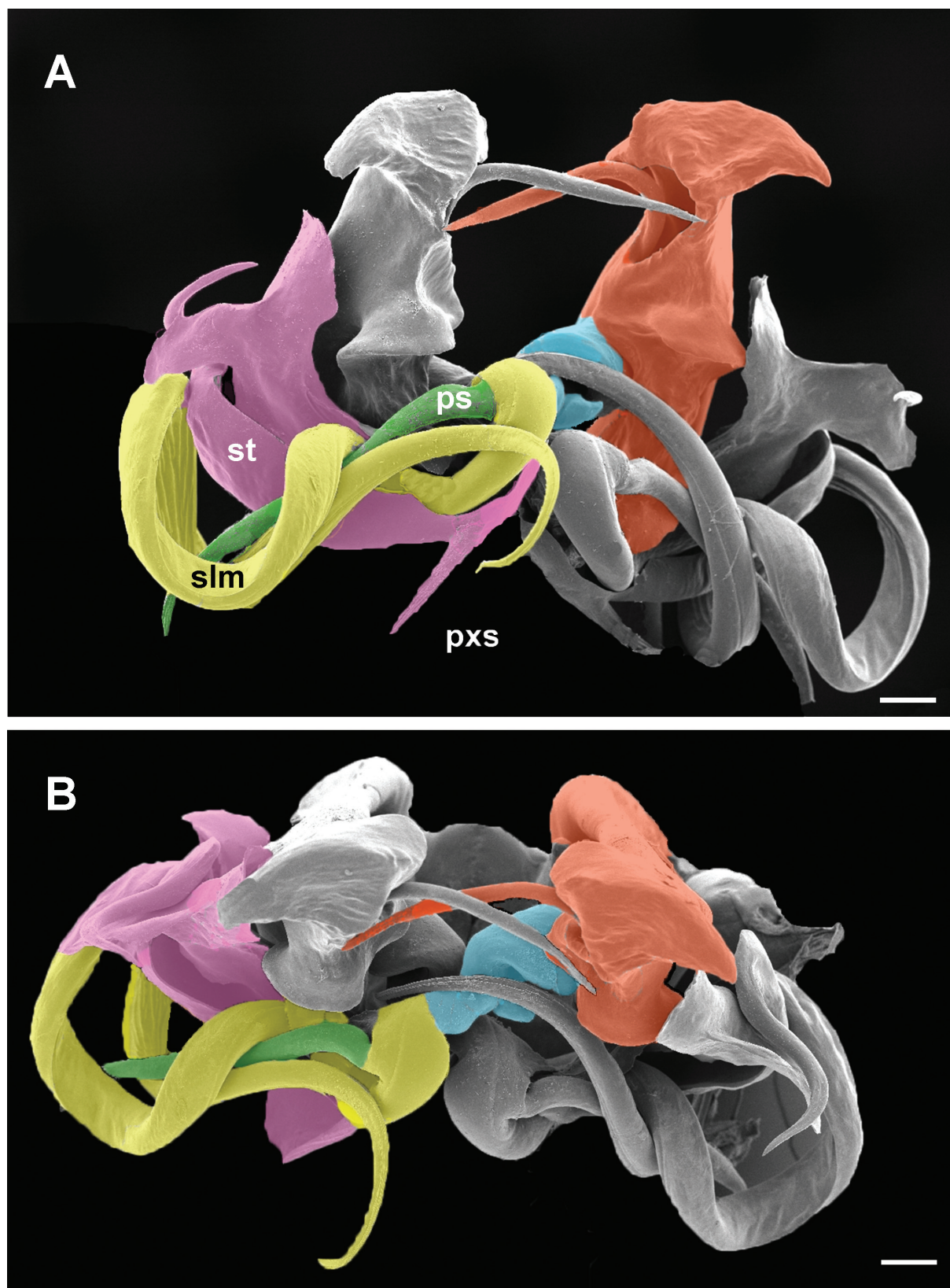


Fig. 10. *Chaleponcus netus* sp. nov., left gonopod, coloured. — **A.** Posterior view. **B.** Ventral view. Orange = coxite, blue = torsotope, yellow = solenomere (*slm*), green = proximal spine of solenomere (*ps*), pink = telomere. *pxs* = spine on proximal telomerical lobe, *st* = main stem of telomere. Scales 0.1 mm.

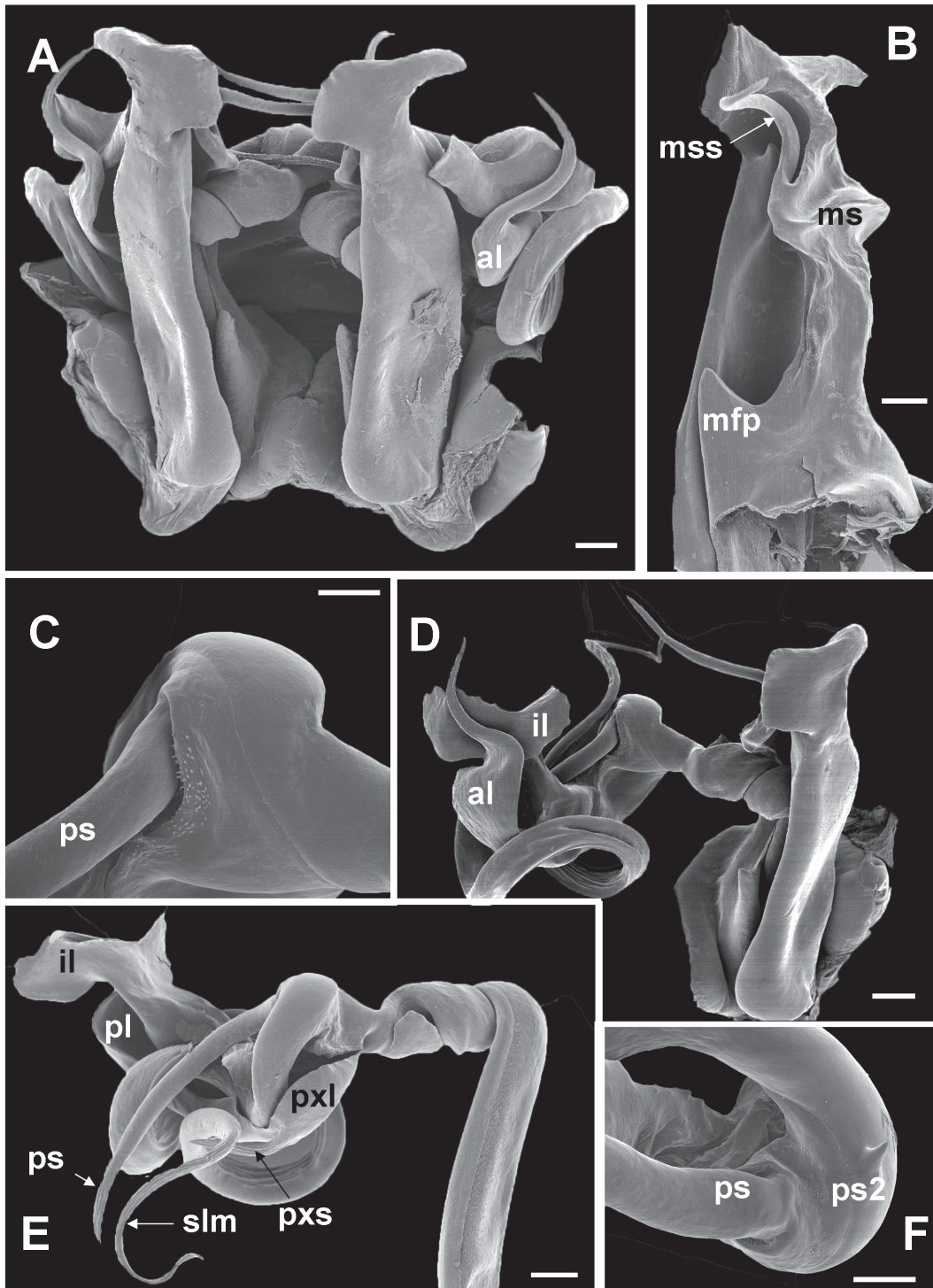


Fig. 11. *Chaleponcus netus* sp. nov., gonopods. — **A.** Gonopods, anterior view. **B.** Left coxite, mesal view. **C.** Base of proximal solenomere spine (*ps*) with spinose socket. **D.** Right gonopod, anterior (and slightly mesal) view. **E.** Left gonopod telopodite, posterior view. **F.** Base of proximal solenomere spine (*ps*) in a different individual, with denticle (*ps2*). *al* = anterior lamella of telomere, *il* = intermediate lamella of telomere, *mfp* = metapical flange process, *ms* = metapical shelf, *mss* = metapical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior lamella of telomere, *ps* = proximal spine of solenomere, *ps2* = additional proximal spine of solenomere, *pxl* = proximal lobe of telomere, *pxs* = spine on proximal lobe of telomere. Scales: 0.1 mm (A–B, D–E), 0.05 mm (C, F).

ANAL VALVES. Each with a long, slightly curving dorsal spine and a small to well-developed, triangular ventral one; marginal rim raised, setiferous tubercles on small ‘ravelins’.

LIMBUS (Fig. 4C). With almost equilateral triangular lobes with rounded, spinulose tips, separated by parabolic sinuses; lobes striate on external surface.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9–11). About 4 × as long as wide. Lateral margin very shallowly convex from base up to beyond level of *prl* and *ms*, then curving lateral and together with apical margin forming blunt, disto-lateral process of cucullus; main part of cucullus subrectangular in anterior view. Metapical flange (*mf*) ending in blunt process; metapical mesal margin straight up to level of arculus, then abruptly turning mesad at *ca.* 130° angle (base of *mss*), then turning apicad at *ca.* right angles. Metapical shelf (*ms*) regularly rounded, projecting posteriad as well as mesad. Metapical shelf-spine (*mss*) originating from anterior-mesal end of *ms*, very long, first directed apicad, then mesad and apically slightly obliquely distad, *in situ* crossing over with opposite *mss*.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Figs 8, 10–11). Solenomere with a very long, gently curved proximal spine (*ps*) set in a socket with more or less spinulose rim; sometimes a tiny denticle (*ps2*) at base of *ps*. Proximal lobe of telomere (*pxl*) with a long, gently curved, longitudinally fluted spine (*pxs*). Telomere distally with three branches:

- an S-shaped anterior lamella (*al*), broad at base, then narrowing and ending in curved spine-like tip,
- a large, irregularly shaped intermediate lamella (*il*),
- a small, rounded posterior lamella (*pl*).

Distribution and habitat

Known from New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR and West Kilombero FR, Udzungwa Mts. Altitudinal range: 1390–1963 m asl. Habitat: montane forest; one sample from scrub/thicket/bush.

Coexisting species

In New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR *C. dabagaensis*, *C. gracilior* sp. nov., *C. malleolus* sp. nov., *C. mwabvui* sp. nov., *C. nectarinia* sp. nov., *C. termini* sp. nov., *C. vandenspiegelii* sp. nov. and *C. vilici* sp. nov. were found in the same samples as *C. netus* sp. nov. In addition, *C. kraii* sp. nov. and *C. teres* sp. nov. were found in New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR. In West Kilombero Scarp FR *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov. was found in the same sample as *C. netus* sp. nov. In addition, *C. basiliscus* sp. nov., *C. gracilior* sp. nov., *C. ibis* sp. nov., and *C. tintin* sp. nov. were found in West Kilombero Scarp FR.

Chaleponcus dabagaensis Kraus, 1958

Figs 4, 8–9, 12

Chaleponcus (Storthoporus) dabagaensis Kraus, 1958

Chaleponcus (Storthoporus) dabagaensis: Kraus 1960: 192, under “Species *incertae sedis*”.

Diagnosis

Medium-sized. Differs from all other group members by the presence of a thumblike process (*th*) on the main stem of the telomere; also by the profile of the gonopod coxa (Fig. 9), especially its ‘hunch-backed’ lateral side, shared only by *C. quasimodo* sp. nov.

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, Kwabuni Estate at Dabaga, 2100 m asl.

Material studied (total: 9 ♂♂)

Type material

Holotype ♂ (Überseemuseum Bremen), paratypes 5 ♀♀ (Überseemuseum Bremen and Senckenberg Museum Frankfurt), all from type locality; not studied.

Other material

All from TANZANIA, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, all in ZMUC: **Kiranzi-Kitungulu FR:** 2 ♂♂, 08°09'S, 35°05'E, forest, Jan. 1996, M. Andersen, P. Gravlund, A. Jakobsen leg; 5, ♂♂, 08°07'S, 35°04'E, 1700 m asl, Mar.–Apr. 1996, L.L. Sørensen leg. **New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR:** 1 ♂, 08°06'47.4" S, 35°56'50.4" E, montane, 1855 m asl, plot MS – plot A, 11 Nov. 2000, Frontier Tanzania UMPS leg.; 1 ♂, 08°06'47.4" S, 35°56'50.4" E, montane, 1800–1955 m asl, plot MS – plot A, 29 Oct. 2000, Frontier Tanzania leg.

Description (male)

[data in square brackets from Kraus (1958), translated]

DIAMETER. 2.4 [2.4] mm, 49 [49] podous rings.

COLOUR. [Horn yellow, dorsally with darker marbling and medially with broad, yellow, longitudinal stripe; a blackish lateral stripe at ozopore level].

ANAL VALVES. Each with a long, slightly curving dorsal spine and a small, triangular ventral one; marginal rim raised; setiferous tubercles well developed, on small 'ravelins'.

LIMBUS (Fig. 4D). With tongue-shaped, apically rounded lobes separated by narrow sinuses, lobes almost meeting at base, lobes striate on external surface.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 12). About 4 × as long as wide. Lateral margin straight up to level of *ms*, then curving mesad and then lateral, leaving a deep, rounded incision and giving the entire coxa a 'hunchback' profile; apical margin gently convex, laterally gently concave, forming long, slightly curved lateral cucullar process. Metapical flange (*mf*) ending in approximately right-angled-rounded corner; metapical mesal margin basally straight, with rounded-triangular process (*mp*) just below level of arculus. Metapical shelf (*ms*) simply rounded, projecting posteriad as well as mesad, continuing without transition in metapical shelf-spine (*mms*); *mms* of medium length, curving first mesad, then obliquely basad, tip reaching level of basomere.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Figs 8, 12). Solenomere with a small, straight proximal spine (*ps*) with an associated lobe (as in *C. gracilior* sp. nov., but simpler). Main stem of telomere (*st*) with a characteristic thumblike process (*th*) distally. Telomere distally with two branches:

- a large, convoluted anterior lamella (*al*) with smooth edges, continuous with *st* on basal side of telomere,
- a posterior-distal lamella (*pl*) forming direct distal continuation of *st* but separated from it by rounded- triangular incision; margins of *pl* in part strongly serrated.

Distribution and habitat

Known from New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR and Kiranzi-Kitungulu FR, Udzungwa Mts. Altitudinal range: 1700–1955 m asl, 2100 m asl according to Kraus (1958). Habitat: montane forest. Recorded by Kraus (1958) from "Halbregenwald" (= semi-rain forest).

Coexisting species

In Kiranzi-Kitungulu FR, *C. gracilior* sp. nov. was found in the same sample as *C. dabagaensis*. In New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR *C. gracilior* sp. nov., *C. mwabvui* sp. nov., *C. netus* sp. nov. and *C. termini* sp.

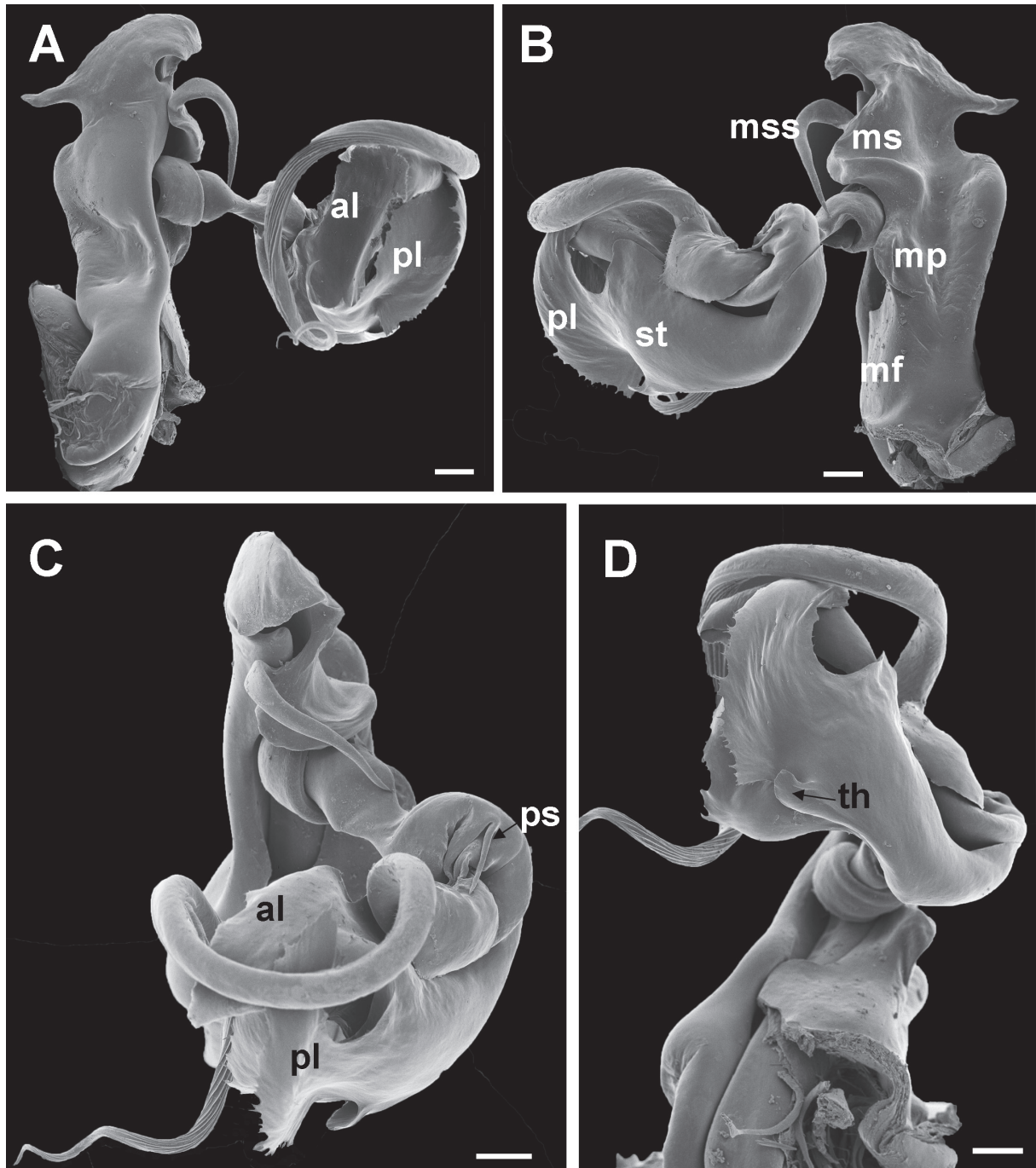


Fig. 12. *Chaleponcus dabagaensis* Kraus, 1958, left gonopod. — A. Anterior view. B. Posterior view. C. Mesal-ventral view. D. Mesal-dorsal view. *al* = anterior lamella of telomere, *mf* = metaplical flange, *mp* = mesal metaplical process, *ms* = metaplical shelf, *mss* = metaplical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior lamella of telomere, *ps* = proximal spine of solenomere, *st* = main telomeral stem, *th* = thumblike process of telomere main stem. Scales 0.1 mm.

nov. were found in the same samples as *C. dabagaensis*. In addition, *C. krai* sp. nov., *C. malleolus* sp. nov., *C. nectarinia* sp. nov., *C. teres* sp. nov., *C. vandenspiegeli* sp. nov. and *C. vilici* sp. nov. were found in New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR.

Notes

The original description by Kraus (1958) leaves no doubt that the specimens at hand (which include topotypes) belong to *C. dabagaensis*. See under “Genus *Chaleponcus*” for a review of the history of this species.

Chaleponcus quasimodo sp. nov.

[urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:37A2F533-120D-45C5-8C49-B77A4C2DA088](https://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:37A2F533-120D-45C5-8C49-B77A4C2DA088)

Figs 9, 13

Diagnosis

Medium-sized. Differs from all other group members except *C. dabagaensis* by the ‘hunch-backed’ profile of the gonopod coxa (Fig. 9); differs from *C. dabagaensis* by the profile of the coxal tip and by the absence of a thumblike process on the main stem of the telomere.

Etymology

The name is a noun, here in apposition, and refers to Quasimodo, the hunch-back of Notre-Dame, title figure of the novel by Victor Hugo (1839).

Material studied (total: 9 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Mufindi District, Udzungwa Mts, Kigogo FR, 1700 m, 8–10 Oct. 1984, pitfall traps in montane rain forest. N. Scharff leg. (ZMUC).

Paratypes

All from TANZANIA, Iringa Region, Mufindi District, Udzungwa Mts, Kigogo FR, all in ZMUC: 1 ♂, 1700 m, 8–10 Oct. 1984, pitfall traps in montane rain forest. N. Scharff leg.; 7 ♂♂, 1900 m, 7–15 Oct. 1984, pitfall traps in montane rain forest. N. Scharff leg.

Type locality

TANZANIA, Iringa Region, Mufindi District, Udzungwa Mts, Kigogo FR, 1700 m, montane rain forest.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 2.1–2.3 mm, 47–49 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 30 years in alcohol almost completely bleached, with traces of paramedian darker bands flanking a broad middorsal light stripe, sometimes a thin dark line in middle of stripe.

ANAL VALVES. Each with a long, slightly curving dorsal spine and a small, triangular ventral one; marginal rim raised, setiferous tubercles on small ‘ravelins’.

LIMBUS. With broadly rounded lobes, as long as broad or slightly longer, striate on outer surface.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 13). About 3 × as long as wide. Lateral margin straight up to level of *ms*, then curving mesad and then lateral, leaving a deep, rounded incision and giving the entire coxa a

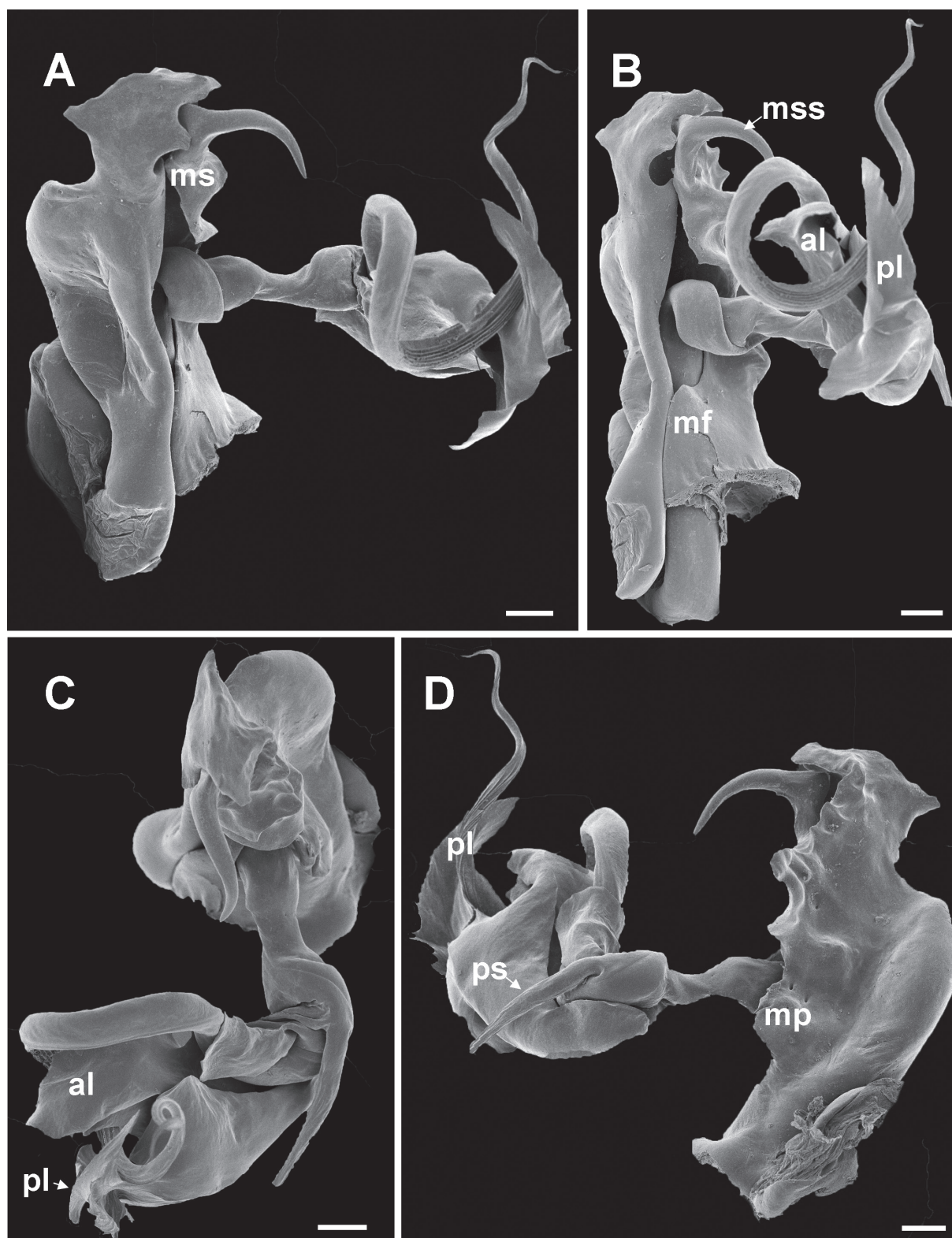


Fig. 13. *Chaleponcus quasimodo* sp. nov., left gonopod. **A.** Anterior view. **B.** Anterior-mesal view. **C.** Ventral view. **D.** Posterior view. *al* = anterior lamella of telomere, *mf* = metaplical flange, *mp* = mesal metaplical process, *ms* = metaplical shelf, *mss* = metaplical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior lamella of telomere, *ps* = proximal spine of solenomere. Scales 0.1 mm.

‘hunchback’ profile; apical margin slightly convex, irregularly undulate, forming *ca.* 70° angles with lateral margin. Mesal margin of proplica with two mesad processes apically, one above, one below metapical shelf-spine (*mss*). Metapical flange (*mf*) ending in approximately right-angled-rounded corner, hardly projecting; metapical mesal margin with rounded-triangular process (*mp*) just below level of arculus, distally with triangular incision with coarsely nodose margin. Metapical shelf (*ms*) of moderate size, projecting slightly posteriad as well as mesad, continuing without transition in metapical shelf-spine (*mss*); *mss* of medium length, curving obliquely basad.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 13). Solenomere with medium long, almost straight proximal spine (*ps*). Telomere distally with two relatively small and simple branches:

- an anterior lamella (*al*),
- a posterior lamella (*pl*).

Distribution and habitat

Known only from Kigogo FR, Udzungwa Mts. Altitudinal range: 1700–1900 m. Habitat: montane rain forest.

Coexisting species

All four species known from Kigogo FR, i.e., *C. quasimodo* sp. nov., *C. scopus* sp. nov., *C. howelli* sp. nov. and *C. mwabvui* sp. nov., were found in the same samples.

Chaleponcus malleolus sp. nov.

[urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:85393BDE-7999-4CD5-BFA2-2B21A022E2A8](https://doi.org/10.3897/zoobank.org/act:85393BDE-7999-4CD5-BFA2-2B21A022E2A8)

Figs 4, 9, 14

Diagnosis

Small (smallest species in the *C. dabagaensis* group). Differs from all other group members, except *C. teres* sp. nov., by the absence of a dorsal spine on each anal valve. Further differs from all other group members by the profile of the gonopod coxal tip (Fig. 9), especially the strongly curved, hooklike lateral process.

Etymology

The name is a Latin noun, here in apposition, meaning ‘little hammer’, and refers to the gonopod coxa profile.

Material studied (total: 14 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°00' 26.6" S, 35°56' 06.1" E, montane forest, 1910 m asl, plot Kinyonga, casual, 24 Oct. 2000, Frontier Tanzania (ZMUC).

Paratypes

All from TANZANIA, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, all collected by Frontier Tanzania, all in ZMUC: 1 ♂, 08°00' 26.6" S, 35°56' 06.1" E, montane forest, 1910 m asl, plot Kinyonga, casual, 24 Oct. 2000; 9 ♂♂, 08°00' 26.6" S, 35°56' 06.1" E, scrub/thicket/bush, 1904–1915 m asl, plot Kinyonga, 18–20 Oct. 2000; 3 ♂♂, 08°03' 39.9" S, 35°54' 41.9" E, montane, 1945 m asl, plot 24, 29 Oct. 2000.

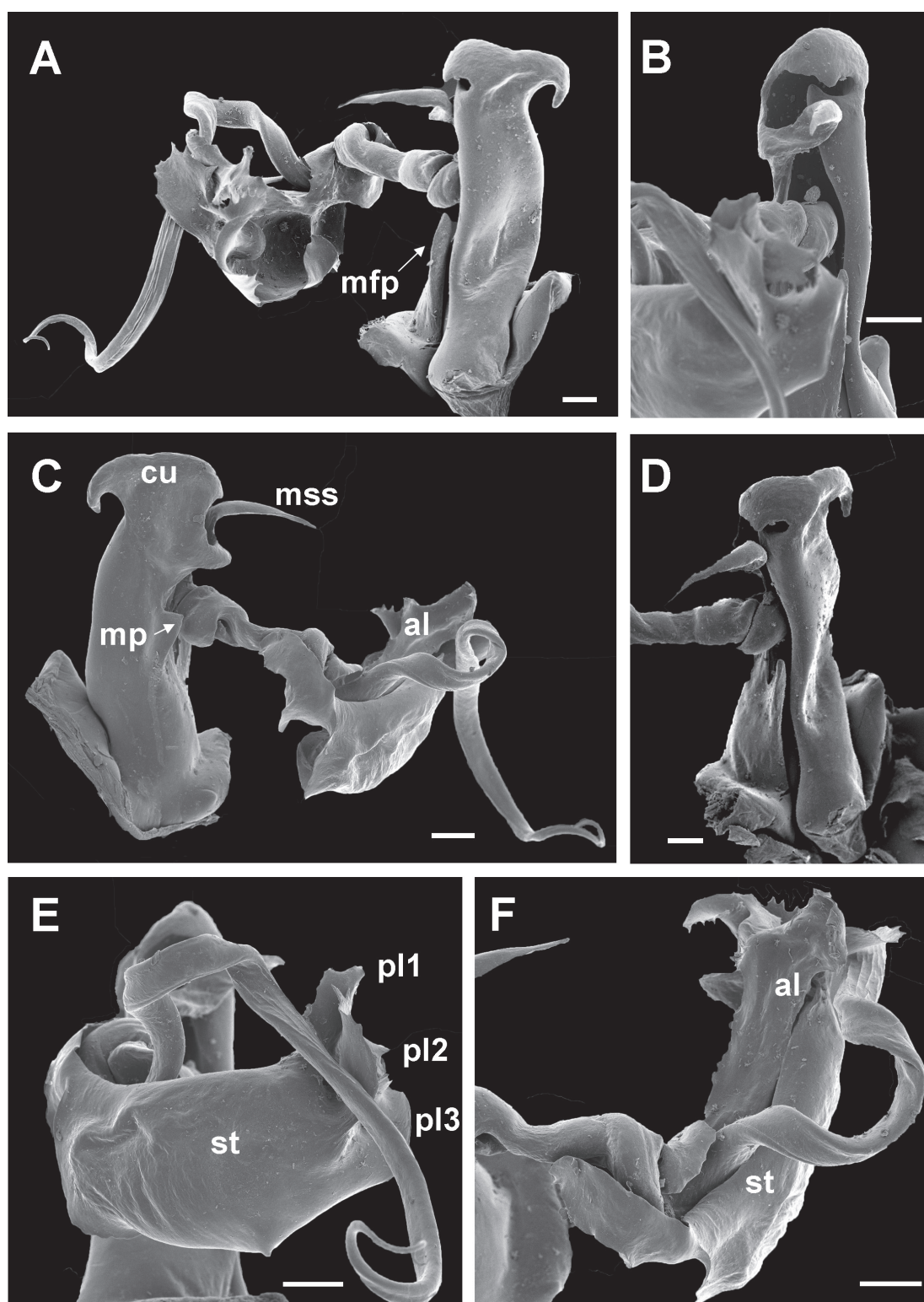


Fig. 14. *Chaleponcus malleolus* sp. nov., right gonopod. **A.** Anterior view. **B.** Mesal view, focus on coxa. **C.** Posterior view. **D.** Anterior-mesal view. **E.** Mesal view, focus on telopodite. **F.** Telopodite, ventral-posterior view. *al* = anterior lamella of telomere, *cu* = cucullus, *mfp* = metaplical flange process, *mp* = mesal metaplical process, *mss*; metaplical shelf-spine, *pl1*, *pl2*, *pl3* = lobes of posterior lamella of telomere, *st* = main stem of telomere. Scales 0.1 mm.

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°00' 26.6" S, 35°56' 06.1" E, montane forest, 1910 m asl.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 1.7–1.8 mm, 38–39 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 13 years in alcohol pale yellowish, traces of dark dorsolateral bands and a pale middorsal band.

ANAL VALVES. Neither dorsal nor ventral spines; marginal rim not raised, setiferous tubercles small, not on 'ravelins'.

LIMBUS (Fig. 4I). With very low, smooth lobes, *ca.* 0.2 times as long as broad.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 14). Almost 4 × as long as wide; lateral margin very slightly convex up to level of propical lobe, then curving laterad and then basad, forming cucullar hook together with otherwise almost straight apical margin; cucullus (*cu*) short, with big lateral, basad, blunt-tipped strongly curved hook. Metapical flange ending in blunt, apicad process (*mfp*); metapical mesal margin straight, but with triangular process (*mp*) just below level of arculus. Metapical shelf mainly projecting mesad, continuing without transition in metapical shelf-spine (*mss*). *mss* medium long, curving almost exclusively in horizontal plane, first antierad, then mesad.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 14). Solenomere without a spine or other secondary branches. Telomere simple, distally with 2, closely adjoining branches:

- an oblong anterior lamella (*al*),
- a posterior lamella forming a direct distal continuation of main stem (*st*) and distally with three short lobes: apical (*pl1*) and intermediate (*pl2*) lobe, with irregularly jagged edges, basal lobe (*pl3*) smooth-edged, semicircular.

Distribution and habitat

Only known from New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR. Altitudinal range: 1904–1945 m asl. Habitat: montane forest, scrub/thicket/bush.

Coexisting species

C. gracilior sp. nov., *C. nectarinia* sp. nov., *C. netus* sp. nov. and *C. vilici* sp. nov. were found in the same samples as *C. malleolus* sp. nov. In addition, *C. dabagaensis*, *C. kraai* sp. nov., *C. mwabvui* sp. nov., *C. teres* sp. nov., *C. termini* sp. nov. and *C. vandenspiegelii* sp. nov. and were found in New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR.

Chaleponcus scopus sp. nov.

[urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:A4A8E1FE-3CE6-4D04-A1EE-80A63ED9FB79](https://zoobank.org/act:A4A8E1FE-3CE6-4D04-A1EE-80A63ED9FB79)

Figs 4, 9, 15

Diagnosis

Medium-sized. Differs from all other group members by the profile of the gonopod coxal tip (Fig. 9), especially the shape of the lateral process. Very similar to *C. nikolajsharffi* sp. nov., sharing, i.a., a non-transverse metapical shelf and a groove for accommodating the solenomere formed by two telomere

lobes; differing from *C. nikolajsharffi* sp. nov. by being thinner and having a differently shaped lateral coxal process.

Etymology

The name is a Latin noun in apposition and refers to the profile of the gonopod coxa, which somewhat resembles the head profile of the hammerhead stork (*Scopus umbretta*).

Material studied (total: 16 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Mufindi District, Udzungwa Mts, Kigogo FR, 1700 m, 8–10 Oct. 1984, pitfall traps in montane rain forest. N. Scharff leg. (ZMUC).

Paratypes

All from TANZANIA, Iringa Region, Mufindi District, Udzungwa Mts, Kigogo FR, all in ZMUC: 6 ♂♂, 1700 m, 8–10 Oct. 1984, pitfall traps in montane rain forest, N. Scharff leg.; 9 ♂♂, 1900 m, 7–15 Oct. 1984, pitfall traps in montane rain forest, N. Scharff leg.

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Mufindi District, Udzungwa Mts, Kigogo FR, 1700 m, 8–10 Oct. 1984, montane rain forest.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 1.9–2.0 mm, 47–49 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 30 years in alcohol with traces of paramedian darker bands flanking a broad middorsal light stripe; dark bands divided into separate dots on each diplosegment in anterior part of body.

ANAL VALVES. Each with a long dorsal spine and a well-developed, but small, triangular ventral one; marginal rim raised, setiferous tubercles well developed, on ‘ravelins’.

LIMBUS (Fig. 4A). With very long, slender triangular lobes; lobes *ca.* $2\frac{1}{2}$ × as long as broad, almost meeting at base, striate on external surface.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 15). About $3\frac{1}{2}$ × as long as wide. Lateral margin basally slightly convex, curving strongly laterad *ca.* at level of *prl*, forming semicircular incision, and continuing in slender, curved, pointed lateral process (*lp*); apical margin sloping apico-mesad from process, irregularly undulate and with blunt-angled projection *ca.* $\frac{2}{3}$ from tip of *lp*; cucullus (*cu*) mesally projecting as rounded-subrectangular lobe with irregularly undulate margin. Metapical flange (*mf*) with very low rounded anteriad protrusion, no process; metapical mesal margin basally straight, then overlaid by lamelloid process (*mp*) covering arculus. Metapical shelf not transverse as in most other species: posterior surface of metaplica with large lobe (*msl*) roofing arculus; lobe concave on posterior face, folded anteriad and on anterior face giving rise to metapical shelf-spine (*mss*). *mms* of medium length, curving first obliquely anteriad, then mesad, then obliquely basad, not reaching level of torsus.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 15). Solenomere with a long, gently sinuous, mesad, proximal spine (*ps*) arising from a wrinkled area. Telomere distally with two branches:

- a very large anterior lamella (*al*), increasing in diameter towards tip, with a broadly rounded smooth-edged tip and a small, thumblike process (*al'*); solenomere resting between *al'* and main body of *al*,

- a small, rounded posterior lamella (*pl*) with irregular edges.

Distribution and habitat

Known only from Kigogo FR, Udzungwa Mts. Altitudinal range: 1700–1900 m asl. Habitat: montane rain forest.

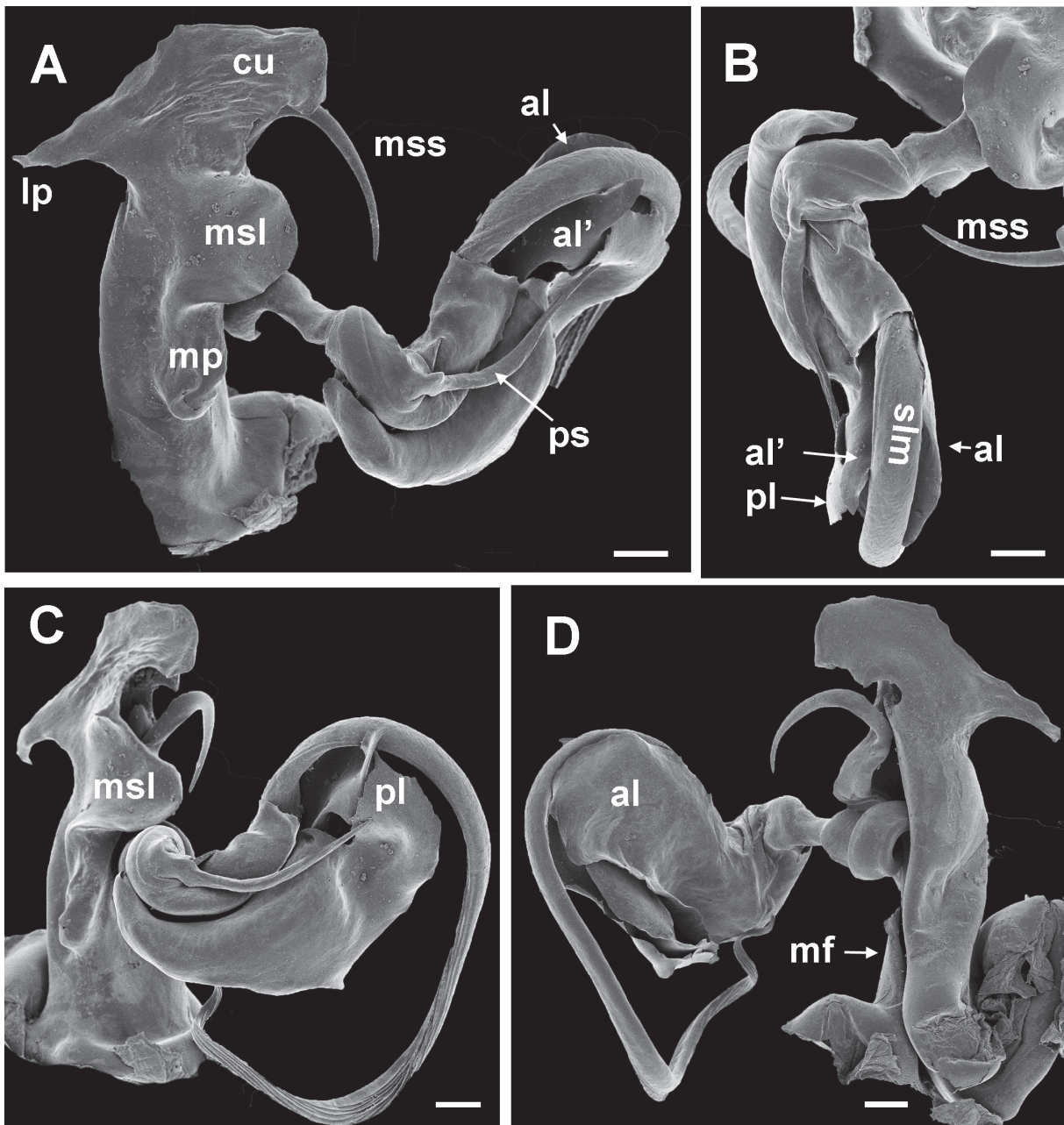


Fig. 15. *Chaleponcus scopus* sp. nov., right gonopod. **A.** Posterior view. **B.** Ventral-posterior view. **C.** Mesal-posterior view. **D.** Anterior view. *al* = anterior lamella of telomere, *al'* = thumblike process of *al*, *cu* = cucullus, *lp* = lateral coxal process, *mf* = metaplical flange, *mp* = mesal metaplical process, *msl* = mesal shelf-forming lobe, *mss* = metaplical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior lamella of telomere, *ps* = proximal solenomeral spine, *slm* = solenomere. Scales 0.1 mm.

Coexisting species

All four species known from Kigogo FR, i.e., *C. quasimodo* sp. nov., *C. scopus* sp. nov., *C. howelli* sp. nov. and *C. mwabvui* sp. nov., were found in the same samples.

Note

Very similar to and probably closely related to *C. nikolajsharffi* sp. nov. from Udzungwa Scarp FR.

Chaleponcus nikolajsharffi sp. nov.

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:FA4BA44E-0547-4E9C-A4A4-781E2298A650

Figs 9, 16, 34

Diagnosis

Medium-sized. Differs from all other group members by the profile of the gonopod coxal tip (Fig. 9). Very similar to *C. scopus* sp. nov., sharing, i.a., a non-transverse metaplical shelf and a groove for accommodating the solenomere formed by two telomere lobes; differing from *C. scopus* sp. nov. by apparently having the solenomere-conducting groove formed by the anterior and the posterior telomeral lamellae, instead of by the anterior lamella and a process from the latter, as well as by having a differently shaped lateral coxal process.

Etymology

The name honours my colleague, arachnologist Nikolaj Scharff (ZMUC), collector of this and numerous other Tanzanian millipedes.

Material studied (total: 11 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Udzungwa Mts, Udzungwa Scarp FR, above Chita village, 1500 m, 2–13 Nov. 1984, pitfall traps, montane rain forest. N. Scharff leg. (ZMUC).

Paratypes

All from TANZANIA, Iringa Region, Udzungwa Mts, Udzungwa Scarp FR: 1 ♂, above Chita village, 1450–1650 m, 4–9 Nov. 1984, pitfall traps, montane rain forest, N. Scharff leg. (ZMUC); 2 ♂♂, above Chita village, 1600–1650 m, 8–13 Nov. 1984, pitfall traps, montane rain forest, N. Scharff leg. (ZMUC); 2 ♂♂, above Chita village, 1400 m, 4–5 Nov. 1984, pitfall traps, montane rain forest, N. Scharff leg. (ZMUC); 1 ♂, above Chita village, 1500 m, 2–13 Nov. 1984, pitfall traps, montane rain forest, N. Scharff leg. (ZMUC); 2 ♂♂, 11 km SE of Masisiwe village, Kihanga Stream, 1800 m, 08°22' 05.7" S, 35°58' 41.6" E, 17–27 May 1997, ZMUC & SI Exp. leg. (ZMUC); 2 ♂♂, nr. Masisiwe, 08°20' 32" S, 35°58' 03" E, 12–15 Jul. 2004, A. Sforzi & L. Bartolozzi leg. (MZF, n° Mag. 2695).

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Udzungwa Mts, Udzungwa Scarp FR, above Chita village, 1500 m, montane rain forest.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 2.2–2.4 mm, 48–49 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 10 years in alcohol with a broad light middorsal stripe formed by an hourglass-shaped spot on each body ring; stripe flanked by brownish paramedian bands; older specimens unicolourous light brown/pinkish.

ANAL VALVES. Each with a long, slightly curving spine and a well-developed, triangular ventral one; marginal rim raised, setiferous tubercles well developed, on ‘ravelins’.

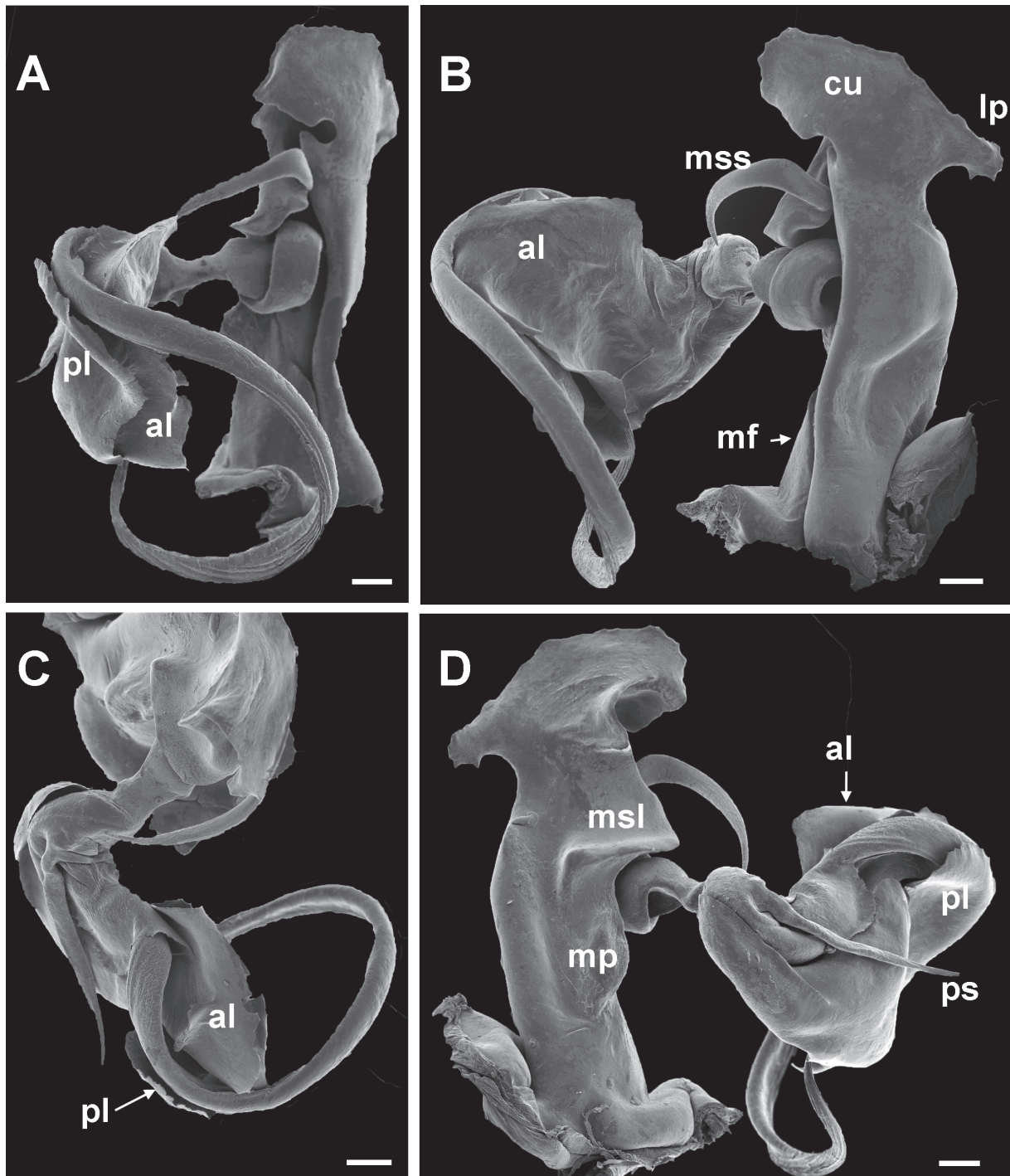


Fig. 16. *Chaleponcus nikolajscharffi* sp. nov., right gonopod. **A.** Mesal view. **B.** Anterior view. **C.** Ventral view. **D.** Posterior view. *al* = anterior lamella of telomere, *cu* = cucullus, *lp* = lateral coxal process, *mf* = metaplical flange, *mp* = mesal metaplical process, *msl* = metaplical shelf-forming lobe, *mss* = metaplical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior lamella of telomere, *ps* = proximal spine of solenomere. Scales 0.1 mm.

LIMBUS. With long, slender triangular lobes; lobes *ca.* $2\frac{1}{2} \times$ as long as broad, almost meeting at base, striate on external surface.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 16). About $4 \times$ as long as wide. Lateral margin basally slightly convex, curving strongly laterad *ca.* at level of *prl*, forming semicircular incision, and meeting apical margin in irregularly knobbed laterad process (*lp*); apical margin sloping apico-mesad from process, irregularly undulate; cucullus (*cu*) transverse, mesally projecting as rounded lobe with irregularly undulate margin. Metapical flange (*mf*) ending in low, rounded process; metapical mesal margin basally straight, further distally overlaid by lamelloid process (*mp*) covering arculus. Metapical shelf not transverse as in most other species: posterior surface of metaplica with large lobe (*msl*) roofing arculus; lobe concave on posterior face, folded anteriorly and on anterior face giving rise to metapical shelf-spine (*mss*). *mms* of medium length, curving first anteriorly, then mesad, then basad, reaching level of tarsus.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 16). Solenomere with a long, straight, mesad proximal spine (*ps*) originating from a wrinkled area. Telomere distally with two branches, *al* and *pl*, both curving anteriorly, both broad, in part with irregularly serrate edges, lying closely together and accommodating solenomere.

Distribution and habitat

Known only from Udzungwa Scarp FR. Altitudinal range: 1400–1800 m asl. Habitat: montane rain forest.

Coexisting species

C. hamerae sp. nov. was found in the same samples as *C. nikolajsharffi* sp. nov. In addition, *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov. was found in Udzungwa Scarp FR.

Notes

Very similar and probably closely related to *C. scopus* sp. nov. from Kigogo FR.

Very peculiar, mushroom-like inter-cytoscutal structures were observed with the scanning electron microscope in this species; see “Two notes on general morphology” and Fig. 34.

Chaleponcus mwanihanensis sp. nov.

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:84D1DB74-24F4-44A7-BF38-DD31A0FAAE15

Figs 5, 9, 17

Diagnosis

Medium-sized. Without a proximal spine on the solenomere, a character shared only by *C. malleolus* sp. nov. and *C. hamerae* sp. nov. Differing from these species (and indeed from all other species in the group) by the profile of the gonopod coxa (Fig. 9).

Etymology

The name is a Latin adjective referring to the type locality.

Material studied (total: 17 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Morogoro Region, Kilombero District, Udzungwa Mts, Mwanihana FR, 1800–1850 m, pitfall traps, montane rain forest 25–29 Sep. 1984, N. Scharff leg. (ZMUC).

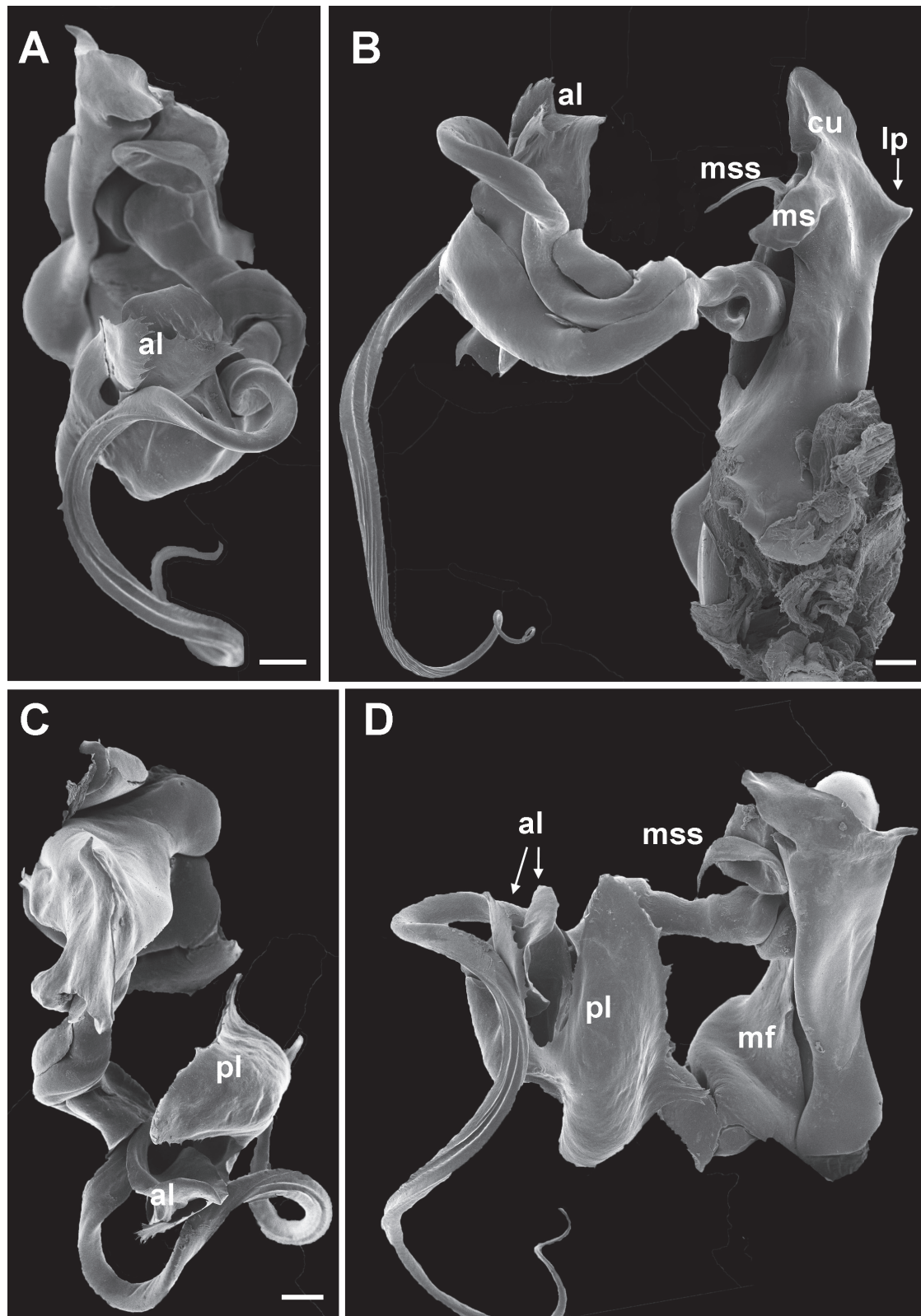


Fig. 17. *Chaleponcus mwanihanensis* sp. nov., gonopods. **A.** Left gonopods, mesal-ventral view. **B.** Left gonopod, posterior view. **C.** Right gonopod, ventral view. **D.** Right gonopod, anterior view. *al* = anterior lamella of telomere, *cu* = cucullus, *lp* = lateral coxal process, *mf* = metapical flange, *ms* = metapical shelf, *mss* = metapical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior lamella of telomere. Scales 0.1 mm.

Paratypes

All from TANZANIA, Morogoro Region, Kilombero District, Udzungwa Mts, Mwanihana FR, all in ZMUC: 3 ♂♂, above Sanje, 1800 m, pitfall trap, 18 Aug. 1982, M. Stoltze & N. Scharff leg.; 1 ♂, above Sanje, 1800 m, litter, 18 Aug. 1982, M. Stoltze & N. Scharff leg.; 9 ♂♂, 1800–1850 m, pitfall traps, montane rain forest, 25–29 Sep. 1984, N. Scharff leg.; 3 ♂♂, 1800–1850 m, litter in montane rain forest, 28–29 Sep. 1984, N. Scharff leg.

Type locality

TANZANIA: Morogoro Region, Kilombero District, Udzungwa Mts, Mwanihana FR, 1800–1850 m, montane rain forest.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 2.2–2.4 mm, 44–46 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 30 years in alcohol bleached but with traces of a broad, light dorsal stripe, flanked by dark dorsolateral bands, and thin dark lines at ozopore level.

ANAL VALVES. Each with a very long and slender, slightly curving spine and a small, triangular ventral one; marginal rim raised, setiferous tubercles well developed, on small ‘ravelins’.

LIMBUS. With broadly rounded lobes, separated by short stretches (*ca.* ¼–½ lobe width) of straight margin; lobes *ca.* as broad as long; deeply striate on external surface. Surface between lobes forming shallow concavity behind straight margin.

TARSAL SETATION (Fig. 5A). Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 17). About 3½ × as long as wide. Lateral margin basally straight, then curving slightly laterad and forming lateral triangular process (*lp*) before continuing to rounded coxal tip; cucullus (*cu*) hence approximately triangular in outline. Metaplical flange (*mf*) ending in approximately equilateral triangular process; metaplical mesal margin straight up to level of metaplical shelf (*ms*). *ms* simple, regularly rounded, projecting mesad as well as posteriad, continuing anterior-mesally in metaplical shelf-spine (*mss*) without a marked transition. *mss* short to medium long, curving first anteriorly, then mesad, then posteriad, almost only in horizontal plane.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 17). Solenomere without spines or other secondary branches. Telomere distally with two branches, both curving 180° anteriorly: Anterior lamella (*al*) smaller than posterior lamella (*pl*), both with several lobes with partly serrate-laciniate edges. Due to 180° curvature, distal part of *pl* dominating the anterior view, forming a roughly ellipsoid structure with the long axis oriented basal-apical.

Distribution and habitat

Known only from Mwanihana FR. Altitudinal range: 1800–1850 m asl. Habitat: montane rain forest.

Coexisting species

None known.

Chaleponcus basiliscus sp. nov.

[urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:AFC2BE4A-F296-4A7E-A396-0C99903FBBBE](https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-10000000)

Figs 9, 18

Diagnosis

Large. Differing from all other species in the group by the double lateral coxal process (Fig. 9).

Etymology

The name is a noun in apposition and refers to the (remote) resemblance of the cucullus profile to the reptile *Basiliscus* or its mythological namesake.

Material studied (total: 4 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, West Kilombero FR, Udekwa village, Nyambanito Mt., Ukami Forest, 07° 42'49" S, 36°25'15" E, Jul.–Nov. 1994. D. Moyer leg. (ZMUC).

Paratypes

TANZANIA: 3 ♂♂, data as holotype (ZMUC).

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, West Kilombero FR, Udekwa village, Nyambanito Mt, Ukami Forest, 07° 42'49" S, 36°25'15" E.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 2.9–3.2 mm, 51–52 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 20 years in alcohol with traces of a longitudinal light stripe flanked by paramedian darker bands.

ANAL VALVES. Each with a long, curved dorsal spine and a tiny ventral one.

LIMBUS. With triangular lobes; lobes slightly longer than broad, striate on outer surface.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 18). About $3\frac{1}{2}$ × as long as width of shaft. Lateral margin straight up to level of metapical shelf (*ms*), then curving strongly laterad and forming two triangular lateral processes, *lp1* and *lp2*; distal margin regularly convex; cucullus (*cu*) mesally ending in process with two blunt-triangular processes on basal side. Metapical shelf (*ms*) regularly rounded, mainly projecting mesad. Metapical shelf-spine (*mss*) long. The position of *mss* on Fig. 18 is abnormal or an artefact – in the left gonopod of the specimen in question, and also in the other specimens of *C. basiliscus* sp. nov., *mss* is directed first distad, then regularly curving mesad-basad, as in many other species.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 18). Solenomere with a very long, almost straight proximal spine (*ps*); the erect position of *ps* may be abnormal or an artefact – in other gonopods studied the spine is directed mesad. Telomere distally divided into two relatively small, only slightly lobed lamellae with almost smooth margins.

Distribution and habitat

Known only from Nyambanito Mt. in West Kilombero Scarp FR. No altitude or habitat information.

Coexisting species

C. ibis sp. nov. was found in the same sample as *C. basiliscus* sp. nov. In addition, *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov., *C. gracilior* sp. nov., *C. netus* sp. nov. and *C. tintin* sp. nov. were found in West Kilombero Scarp FR.

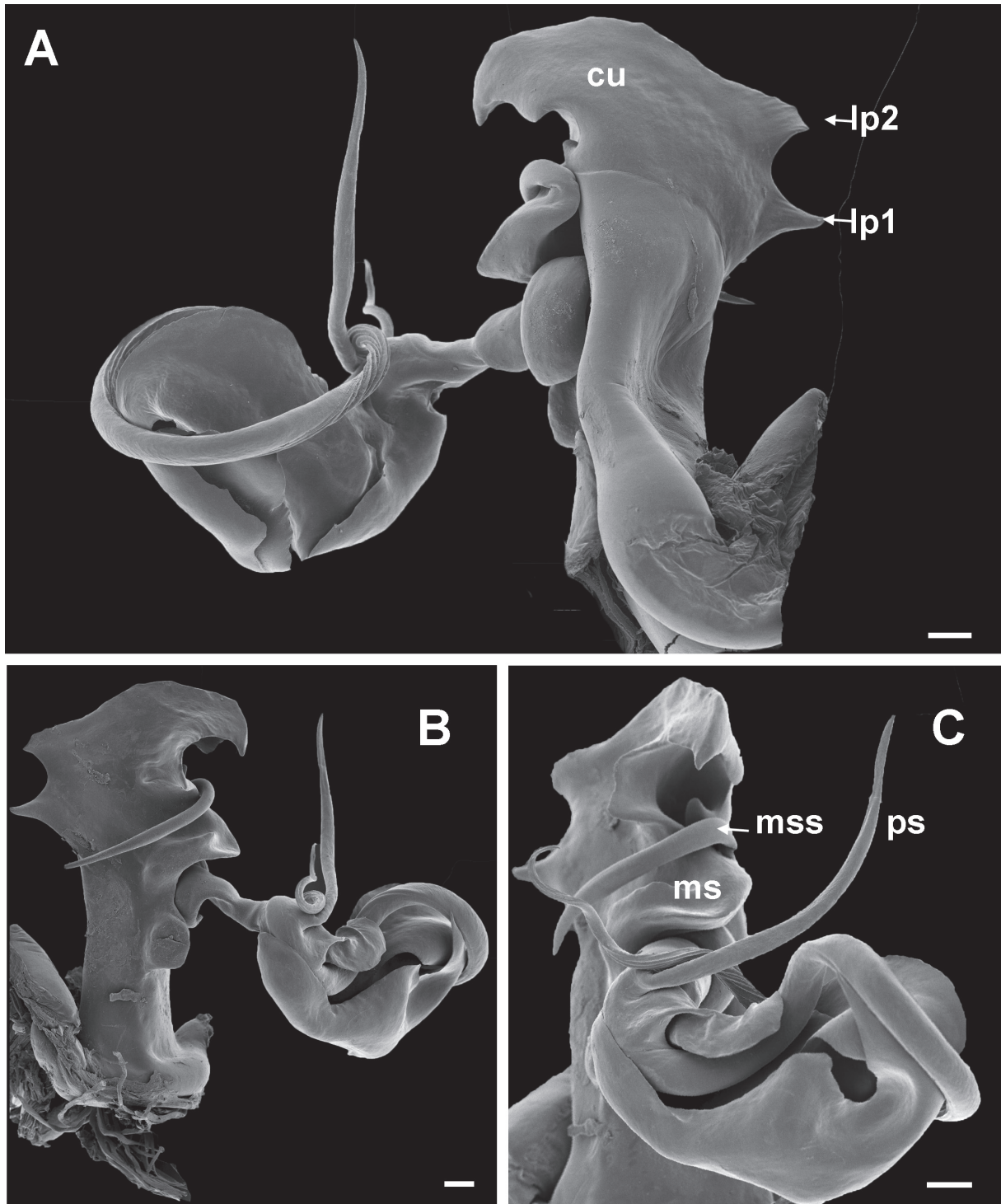


Fig. 18. *Chaleponcus basiliscus* sp. nov., right gonopod. **A.** Anterior view. **B.** Posterior view. **C.** Mesal view. *cu* = cucullus, *lp1* and *lp2* = lateral coxal processes, *ms* = metapical shelf, *mss* = metapical shelf-spine, *ps* = proximal spine of solenomere. Scales 0.1 mm.

Species without an obvious lateral coxal process in which the metaplical shelf-spine (mss) is long and projects ± mesad

Chaleponcus kraii sp. nov.

[urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:751A38C1-6F20-4375-A119-79C08025F6C5](https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-10000000/v1)

Figs 4, 9, 19

Diagnosis

Large. Gonopod coxa (Fig. 9) without a lateral process; metaplical shelf-spine long, stout. Telomere with characteristically shaped anterior lamella divided into a horizontal lobe with deeply lacinate edges and a long, straight, distal spine-like part.

Etymology

The name honours Otto Kraus in recognition of his extremely valuable monographs on Odontopygidae; the name is constructed on a pretended Latin origin of his surname.

Material studied (total: 6 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Iringa District, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°05' 37.9" S, 35°54' 05.6" E, fallow/cultivation, 1900–1920 m asl, plot FP, casual, 26–28 Nov. 2000, Frontier Tanzania UMPS leg. (ZMUC).

Paratypes

All from TANZANIA, Iringa Region, Iringa District: 2 ♂♂, data as holotype (ZMUC); 3 ♂♂, Kalimbazi Mtn, near Mazombe, 2000–2100 m asl, forest floor, Jan. 1984, Jan Kielland (VMNH).

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Iringa District, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°05' 37.9" S, 35°54' 05.6" E, fallow/cultivation, 1900–1920 m asl.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 3.0–3.2 mm, 51 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 12 years in alcohol faded, with traces of pale dorsal band, bordered by dark paramedian bands.

ANAL VALVES. Each with a long, slightly curving dorsal spine and a well-developed ventral one; marginal rim raised, setiferous tubercles on 'ravelins'.

LIMBUS (Fig. 4G). With low, apically truncated and strongly serrated lobes; lobes less than half as long as wide, indistinctly striate on external surface.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 19). Almost 4 × as long as wide. Lateral margin regularly convex from base to tip; cucullus (*cu*) small, triangular in outline. Metaplical flange ending in long, triangular process (*mfp*), pointing distad. Metaplical shelf (*ms*) regularly rounded, projecting posteriad as well as mesad just distal to arculus. Metaplical shelf-spine (*mss*) originating from anterior-mesal end of *ms*, massive, long, regularly curved, first antieriad, then disto-mesad, *in situ* crossing over with opposite *mss*.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 19). Solenomere with very long, straight proximal spine (*ps*), distally with three branches:

- an anterior lamella (*al*) divided into a horizontal lobe with deeply lacinate edges and a long, straight, distal spine-like part,

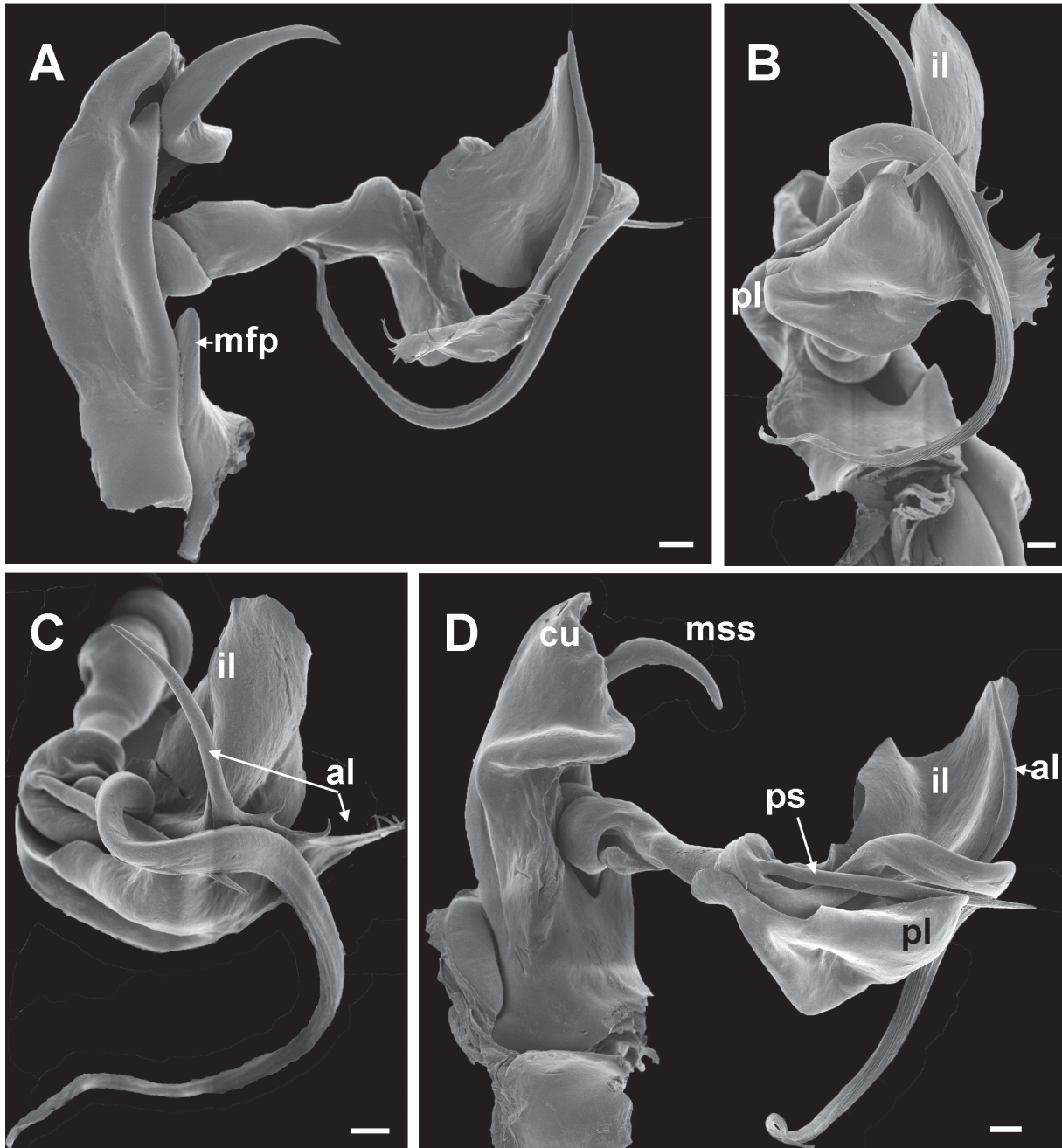


Fig. 19. *Chaleponcus krai* sp. nov., gonopods. Specimens from New Dabaga-Ulangambi (A) and Kalimbazi Mtn (B–D). A. Left gonopod, anterior view. B–D. Right gonopod. B. Mesal-dorsal view. C. Telopodite, mesal view. D. Posterior view. *al* = anterior lobe of telomere, *cu* = cucullus, *il* = intermediate lobe of telomere, *mfp* = metaplical flange process, *mss* = metaplical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior lobe of telomere, *ps* = proximal spine of solenomere. Scales 0.1 mm.

- a large, simple intermediate lamella (*il*), projecting distad and closely appressed to spine-like part of *al*,
- a small, inconspicuous, rounded posterior lamella (*pl*).

Distribution and habitat

Known from New Dabaga-Ulangambi FR and from Kalimbazi Mtn, near Mazombe. Altitudinal range: 1900–2100 m asl. Habitat: fallow/cultivation; forest floor.

Coexisting species

In New Dabaga-Ulangambi FR *C. gracilior* sp. nov. was found in the same sample as *C. krai* sp. nov. In addition, *C. vilici* sp. nov., *C. teres* sp. nov., *C. termini* sp. nov., *C. netus* sp. nov., *C. nectarinia* sp. nov., *C. malleolus* sp. nov., *C. mwabvui* sp. nov., *C. dabagaensis* and *C. vandenspiegeli* sp. nov. occur in New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR. *C. gracilior* sp. nov. also occurs on Kalimbazi Mtn.

Note

The anterior telomerical lamella of *C. krai* sp. nov. is remarkably similar to the posterior lamella in *C. nectarinia* sp. nov., cf. note in the general description of the *C. dabagaensis* group.

Chaleponcus nectarinia sp. nov.

[urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:CA316ECB-0AD5-450C-B2A8-ED38EEE4DA87](https://zoobank.org/act:CA316ECB-0AD5-450C-B2A8-ED38EEE4DA87)

Figs 6, 9, 20

Diagnosis

Medium-sized. Gonopod coxa (Fig. 9) without a lateral process; metapical shelf-spine long. Telomere with characteristically shaped posterior lamella divided into a horizontal lobe with spinose edges and a long, straight, distal spine-like part.

Etymology

The name (noun in apposition) refers to the somewhat sunbird (*Nectarinia*)-like profile of the gonopod coxal tip.

Material studied (total: 6 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°03' 34.9" S, 35°54' 41.9" E, montane, 1955 m asl, plot 24, casual, 2 Nov. 2000, Frontier Tanzania leg. (ZMUC).

Paratypes

All from TANZANIA, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, all collected by Frontier Tanzania, all in ZMUC: 2 ♂♂, 08°03' 34.9" S, 35°54' 41.9" E, montane, 1955 m asl, plot 24, casual, 2 Nov. 2000; 1 ♂, 08°03' 39.9" S, 35°54' 41.9" E, montane, 1945 m asl, plot 24, 29 Oct. 2000; 1 ♂, 08°04' 05.7" S, 35°54' 13.8" E, montane, 1940 m asl, plot 1, sample 1 of 3, 16 Oct. 2000; 1 ♂, 08°04' 05.7" S, 35°54' 18.8" E, montane, 1930-1950 m asl, plot 1, casual, 16–19 Oct. 2000.

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°03' 34.9" S, 35°54' 41.9" E, montane, 1955 m asl.

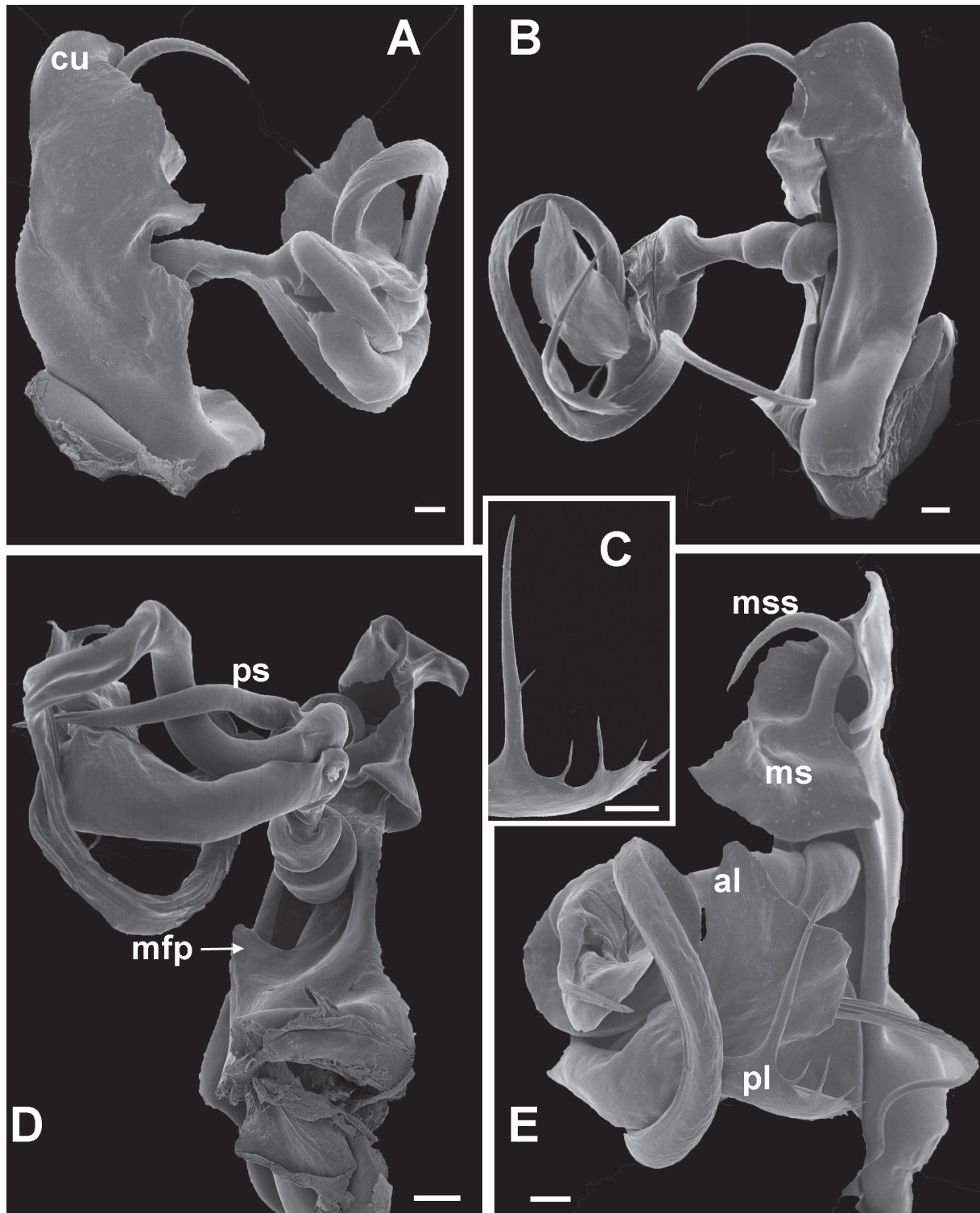


Fig. 20. *Chaleponcus nectarinia* sp. nov., gonopods. **A.** Right gonopod, posterior (-lateral) view. **B.** Right gonopod, anterior view. **C.** Tip of posterior lamella of telomere. **D.** Left gonopod, mesal (-posterior) view. **E.** Right gonopod, mesal view. *al* = anterior lobe of telomere, *cu* = cucullus, *mfp* = metapical flange process, *ms* = metapical shelf, *mss* = metapical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior lobe of telomere, *ps* = proximal spine of solenomere. Scales 0.1 mm.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 2.3–2.4 mm, 48–49 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 13 years in alcohol still with a broad light middorsal band, dorsolaterally dark brownish, laterally brownish-yellow.

ANAL VALVES (Fig. 6A, E). Each with a long, slightly curving dorsal spine and a well-developed, triangular ventral one; marginal rim raised, setiferous tubercles well developed, on ‘ravelins’.

LIMBUS. With long, triangular, apically rounded lobes; lobes *ca.* twice as long as broad, striate on external surface.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 20). About 4 × as long as wide. Lateral margin slightly convex, continuous with convex apical margin; cucullus (*cu*) hence regularly rounded; propical lobe in anterior view hidden by projecting baso-mesal corner of cucullus. Metapical flange ending in approximately equilateral triangular process (*mfp*); metapical mesal margin basally shallowly concave, with semicircular incision at level of arculus. Metapical shelf (*ms*) projecting mainly mesad, with approximately right-angled meso-posterior corner. Metapical shelf-spine (*mss*) medium length, arising from distal surface of *ms*, first directed apicad, then curving mesad almost in one plane, tip pointing meso-basad.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 20). Solenomere with a long, gently curved, proximal spine (*ps*) originating next to a wrinkled area. Telomere distally with two branches, both curving antieriad:

- a broad anterior lamella (*al*) with approximately smooth edges,
- a slender posterior lamella (*pl*) dividing into a long apicad spine and an antieriad lobe with spinose edge.

Distribution and habitat

Known only from New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR. Altitudinal range: 1930–1955 m asl. Habitat: montane forest.

Coexisting species

C. malleolus sp. nov., *C. netus* sp. nov., *C. teres* sp. nov., *C. termini* sp. nov., and *C. vilici* sp. nov. were found in the same samples as *C. nectarinia* sp. nov. In addition, *C. dabagaensis*, *C. gracilior* sp. nov., *C. krai* sp. nov., *C. mwabvui* sp. nov. and *C. vandenspiegelii* sp. nov. occur in New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR.

Note

The posterior telomer lamella of *C. nectarinia* sp. nov. is remarkably similar to the anterior lamella in *C. krai* sp. nov., *cf.* note in the general description of the *C. dabagaensis* group.

Chaleponcus circumvallatus sp. nov.

[urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:67292AA6-2D3C-4DE4-BCF0-55719766C6E7](https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-10000000/v1)

Figs 4–6, 9, 21

Diagnosis

Large. Gonopod coxa (Fig. 9) without a lateral process; metapical shelf-spine long. Telomere with a smooth anterior lamella and a posterior lamella ending in two long spines. Claws of walking legs surrounded by ‘palisade’ of setae, a character shared only with *C. ibis* sp. nov.

Etymology

The name is a Latin adjective meaning "surrounded by palisade" and refers to the 'palisade' of setae surrounding the claws.

Material studied (total: 2 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Tanzania, Iringa Region, Udzungwa Mts, Udzungwa Scarp FR, above Chita village, 1600–1650 m, 8–12 Nov. 1984, montane rain forest, N. Scharff leg. (ZMUC).

Paratype

TANZANIA: 1 ♂, Iringa Region, Iringa District, West Kilombero Scarp FR, 07°50' 38.4" S, 36°22' 17.6" E, montane forest, 1390–1410 m asl, plot Paradiso, 18 Nov. 2000, Frontier Tanzania UMPS leg. (ZMUC).

Type locality

TANZANIA: Tanzania, Iringa Region, Udzungwa Mts, Udzungwa Scarp FR, above Chita village, 1600–1650 m, montane rain forest.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 2.8 mm, 48 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 14 years in alcohol uniform straw yellow, metazonites slightly darker, no traces of a dorsal light band.

ANAL VALVES (Fig. 6B). Each with a very long and stout, slightly curving dorsal spine and a very long and slender ventral one; marginal rim raised; setiferous tubercles well developed, on small 'ravelins'.

LIMBUS (Fig. 4J). Almost rectilinear, with just the slightest indication of lobes.

TARSAL SETATION (Fig. 5 B–C). Unusual: claws surrounded and almost hidden by numerous stiff setae, accessory claw much longer than claw.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 21). Stout, *ca.* 3 × as long as wide. Lateral margin slightly convex in basal $\frac{2}{3}$, then straight, then continuing in smooth curve in apical margin; cucullus (*cu*) hence regularly rounded. Metapical flange ending in long triangular process (*mfp*); metaplica posterior-mesally with large triangular process (*mp*), delimiting semicircular sinus together with base of metapical shelf. Metapical shelf (*ms*) regularly rounded, projecting mesad as well as posteriad. Metapical shelf-spine (*mss*) originating from anterior-mesal end of *ms*, massive, long, regularly curved, first anteriad, then disto-mesad.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 21). Solenomere with a very long, straight, mesad proximal spine (*ps*). Telomere distally with two branches, both curving anteriad:

- a rounded anterior lamella (*al*) with small, rectangular accessory lamella (*al'*) on its mesal surface,
- a posterior lamella (*pl*) ending in an apicad and a basad-anteriad spine.

Distribution and habitat

Known from West Kilombero Scarp FR and Udzungwa Scarp FR. Altitudinal range 1390–1650 m asl. Habitat: montane forest.

Coexisting species

C. hamerae sp. nov. and *C. nikolajscharffi* sp. nov. also occur in Udzungwa Scarp FR. In West Kilombero Scarp FR *C. netus* sp. nov. was found in the same sample as *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov. In addition, *C. basiliscus* sp. nov., *C. gracilior* sp. nov., *C. ibis* sp. nov. and *C. tintin* sp. nov. occur in West Kilombero Scarp FR.

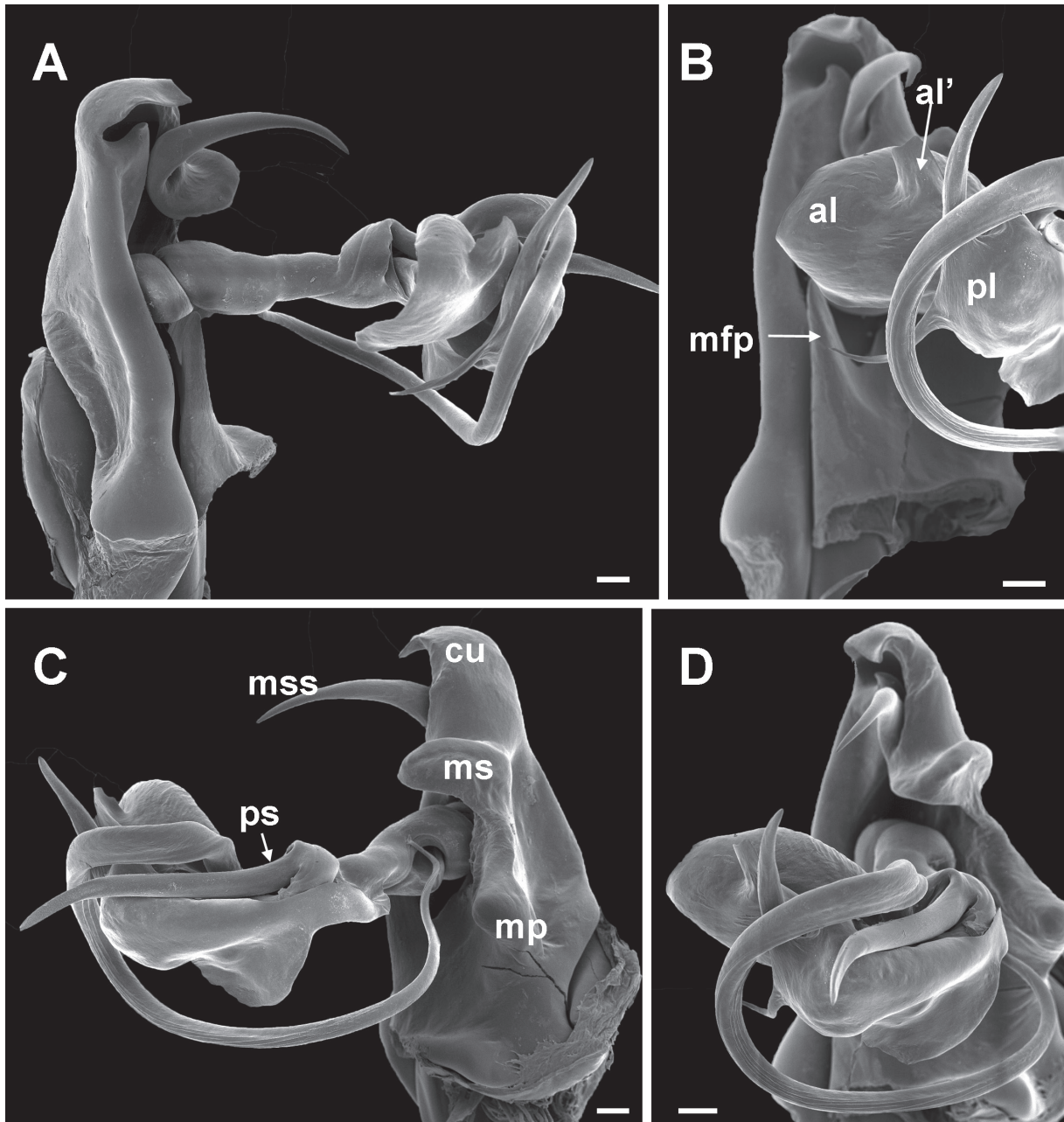


Fig. 21. *Chaleponcus circumvallatus* sp. nov., left gonopod. **A.** Anterior view. **B.** Mesal-anterior view. **C.** Posterior view. **D.** Mesal-posterior view. *al* = anterior lobe of telomere, *al'* = accessory lamella, *cu* = cucullus, *mfp* = metaplical flange process, *mp* = mesal metaplical process, *ms* = metaplical shelf, *mss* = metaplical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior lobe of telomere, *ps* = proximal spine of solenomere. Scales 0.1 mm.

Notes

Resembles the smaller *C. nectarinia* sp. nov. and the similar-sized *C. krai* sp. nov. in gonopod morphology, including in the possession of a telomerical lobe with a long spine. Differs from these species in the detailed shape of this lobe. Differs from all other species in the *C. dabagaensis* group except *C. ibis* sp. nov. by the peculiar distal setation of the walking leg tarsi. Although females are generally not considered in this study, it deserves mention that a female specimen found together with the male *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov. from West Kilombero Scarp FR and sharing its size and general morphology, also has the strange tarsal setation. The function of this is uncertain; maybe it is an adaptation for walking on soft substrates (I.B. Enghoff pers. comm.).

Chaleponcus ibis sp. nov.

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:E6764255-8F2F-4B2D-8F3C-26F40FA01EBO

Figs 9, 22

Diagnosis

Large. Gonopod coxa (Fig. 9) without a lateral process; metaplical shelf-spine very long. Telomere with a rugged anterior lamella and posterior lamella ending in short, parallel, elongate lobes. Claws of walking legs surrounded by ‘palisade’ of setae, a character shared only with *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov.

Etymology

The name is a noun in apposition and refers to the somewhat ibis bill-like metaplical shelf-spine.

Material studied (total: 1 ♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, West Kilombero FR, Udekwa village, Nyambanito Mt., Ukami Forest, 07° 42'49" S, 36°25'15" E, Jul.–Nov. 1994. D. Moyer leg. (ZMUC).

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, West Kilombero FR, Udekwa village, Nyambanito Mt., Ukami Forest, 07° 42'49" S, 36°25'15" E.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 3.5 mm, 54 podous rings (the largest of all species in the group).

COLOUR. After 20 years in alcohol ground colour greyish, posterior part of metazonites yellow-brownish; traces of a broad dorsal *dark* stripe (most other species have traces of a light stripe).

ANAL VALVES. Each with a strong, apparently broken dorsal and smaller, but well-developed ventral spine. Margin raised, setiferous tubercles on ravelins.

LIMBUS. With triangular lobes; lobes *ca.* as long as wide, margin micro-dentate, outer surface striate.

TARSAL SETATION. Unusual: claws surrounded and almost hidden by numerous stiff setae, accessory claw much longer than claw (as in *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov., Fig. 5B, C).

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 22). Stout, *ca.* 3 × as long as wide. Lateral margin irregularly convex, continuing in smooth curve in apical margin; cucullus (*cu*) hence regularly rounded. Metaplica postero-mesally with triangular process (*mp*). Metaplical shelf (*ms*) relatively small, giving rise to very long, slightly curved metaplical shelf-spine (*mss*).

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 22). Solenomere with a very long, straight, mesad proximal spine (*ps*). Telomere distally with two branches, both curving anteriorad:

- an irregular shaped anterior lamella (*al*) with coarsely dentate proximal part and a smooth, subrectangular distal part (which maybe corresponds to the accessory lobe, *al'*, in *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov.),
- a posterior lamella (*pl*) ending in two short, parallel, elongate lobes.

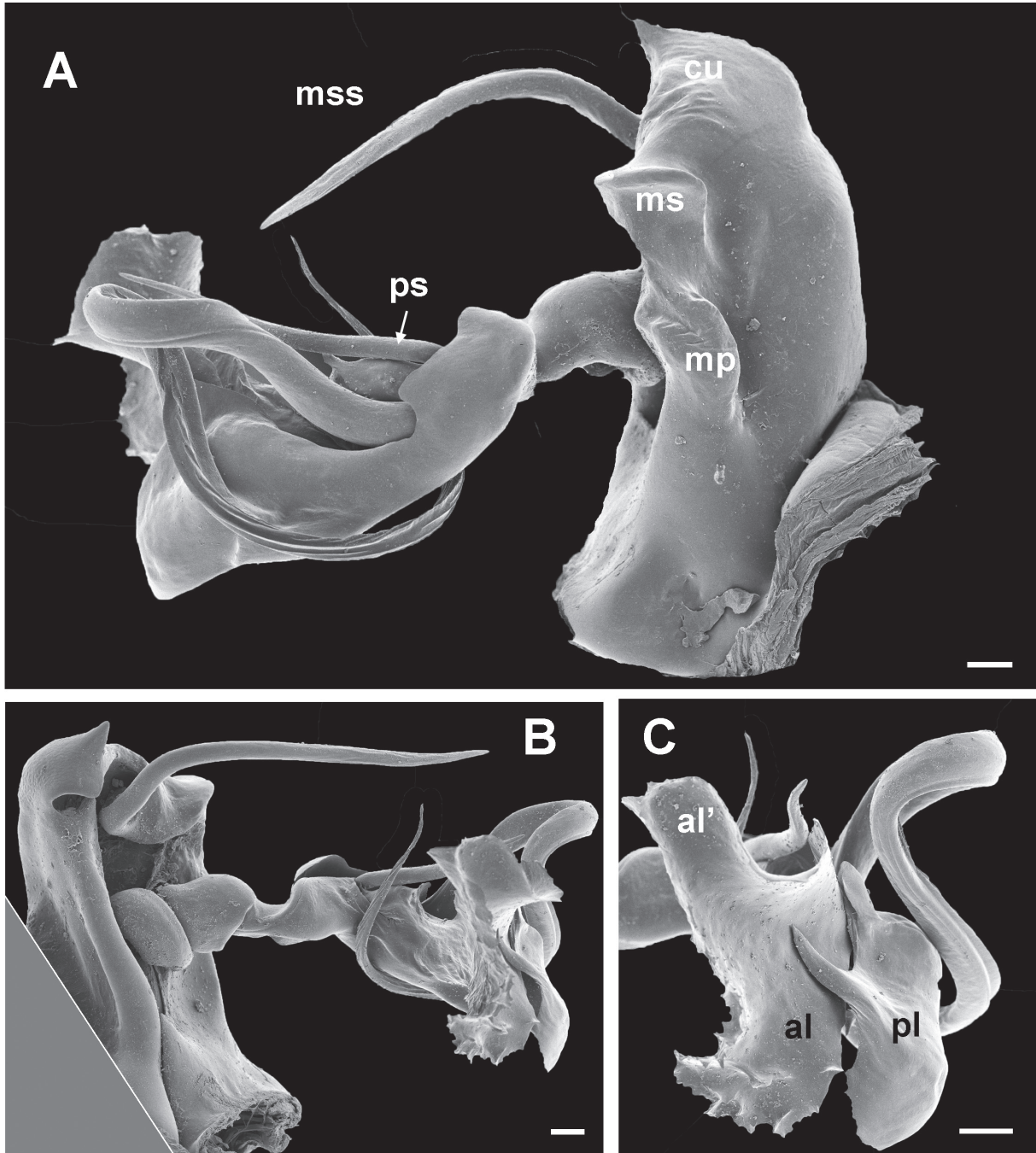


Fig. 22. *Chaleponcus ibis* sp. nov., left gonopod. **A.** Posterior view. **B.** Anterior view. **C.** Telopodite, mesal-anterior view. *al* = anterior lobe of telomere, *al'* = accessory lamella?, *cu* = cucullus, *mp* = mesal metapical process, *ms* = metapical shelf, *mss* = metapical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior lobe of telomere, *ps* = proximal spine of solenomere. Scales 0.1 mm.

Distribution and habitat

Known only from Nyambanito Mt. in West Kilombero Scarp FR. No altitude or habitat information.

Coexisting species

C. basiliscus sp. nov. was found in the same sample as *C. ibis* sp. nov. In addition, *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov., *C. gracilior* sp. nov., *C. netus* sp. nov. and *C. tintin* sp. nov. were found in West Kilombero Scarp FR.

Notes

Resembles the almost similar-sized *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov. both in the unusual tarsal setation and in gonopod structure. *C. ibis* sp. nov. differs from *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov., i.a., in having distinct lobes on the limb, in having the metapical shelf-spine (*mss*) much longer, in having the proximal part of the anterior telomer lobe (*al*) coarsely dentate, and in having two relatively short, parallel elongate lobes on the posterior telomer lamella, as opposed to the two very long, diverging spines in *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov.

Chaleponcus vandenspiegeli sp. nov.

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:A2C22BA2-915D-47DC-A49C-9EE26F52F8D9

Figs 9, 23

Diagnosis

Medium-sized. Gonopod coxa (Fig. 9) without a lateral process; metapical shelf-spine long. Telomere with an anterior lamella ending in two short, parallel processes and a posterior lamella with serrate margin.

Etymology

The name honours Didier VandenSpiegel in recognition of his taxonomic work on Afrotropical millipedes.

Material studied (total: 1 ♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Iringa District, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°05' 34.5" S, 35°55' 31.5" E, montane, 1800–1900 m asl, plot 16, casual, 15–16 Nov. 2000, Frontier Tanzania leg. (ZMUC).

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°05' 34.5" S, 35°55' 31.5" E, 1800–1900 m asl.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 2.0 mm, 44 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 14 years in alcohol generally straw-yellow, with a broad, light middorsal stripe formed by an hourglass-shaped spot on each body ring; stripe flanked by dark paramedian zones.

ANAL VALVES. Each with a small dorsal and a very small ventral denticle; mesal margin raised, setiferous tubercles not on ravelins.

LIMBUS. With slender triangular lobes; lobes *ca.* twice as long as broad.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 23). About $3\frac{1}{2} \times$ as long as broad. Metapical flange ending in rounded, projecting lobe (*mfp*); metaplica with large rounded process (*mp*) just basal to arcus. Metapical shelf (*ms*) relatively small. Metapical shelf-spine (*mss*) medium-long, directed mesad, bent at *ca.* 120° at midlength.

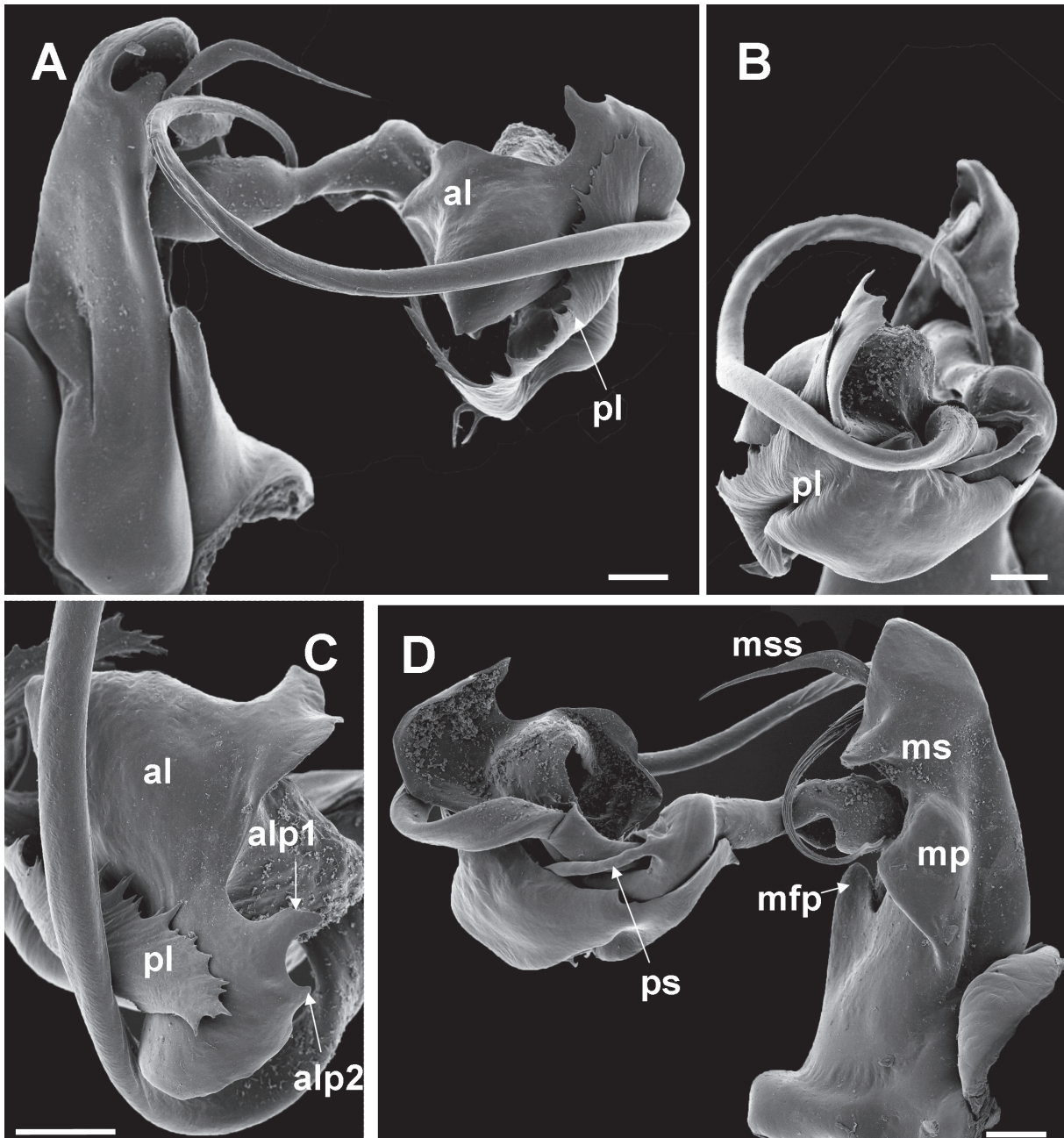


Fig. 23. *Chaleponcus vandenspiegeli* sp. nov., left gonopod. **A.** Anterior view. **B.** Mesal view. **C.** Tip of telomere and part of solenomere, ventral view. **D.** Posterior view. *al* = anterior lamella of telomere, *alp1* and *alp2* = processes from *al*, *mfp* = metapical flange process, *mp* = mesal metapical process, *ms* = metapical shelf, *mss* = metapical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior lamella of telomere, *ps* = proximal spine of solenomere. Scales 0.1 mm.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 23). Solenomere with a medium-long proximal spine (*ps*). Telomere distally with two branches which both bend anteriad:

- a relatively simple anterior lamella (*al*) with a number of lobes etc. along its margin, including two short, parallel processes (*alp1*, *alp2*),
- a strongly convoluted posterior lamella (*pl*) which because of its bending over is largely visible in anterior view; margin of *pl* strongly serrate.

Distribution and habitat

Known only from Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR. Altitudinal range: 1800–1900 m asl. Habitat: montane forest.

Coexisting species

C. gracilior sp. nov., *C. netus* sp. nov. and *C. termini* sp. nov. were found in the same sample as *C. vandenspiegeli* sp. nov. In addition, *C. dabagaensis*, *C. kraii* sp. nov., *C. malleolus* sp. nov., *C. mwabvui* sp. nov., *C. nectarinia* sp. nov., *C. teres* sp. nov. and *C. vilici* sp. nov. occur in New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR.

Note

The gonopods of *C. vandenspiegeli* sp. nov. somewhat resemble those of the much bigger species *C. kraii* sp. nov. The two processes of the anterior telopodal lamella in *C. vandenspiegeli* sp. nov. are in almost the same position in relation to the rest of the gonopod as the two parallel lobes on the *posterior* telopodal lamella in *C. ibis* sp. nov.

Species without an obvious lateral coxal process in which the metapical shelf-spine (mss) is not long and projecting ± mesad

(*C. vilici* sp. nov. has the lateral side of the coxa somewhat angled which reminds of a small lateral process)

Chaleponcus vilici sp. nov.

[urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:F44D3A63-1E8A-4D6E-AE7D-6BC61723D34F](https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-1000000/v1)

Figs 8–9, 24

Diagnosis

Medium-sized. Differs from all other species of the *C. dabagaensis* group by the two-levelled metapical shelf and the course of the metapical shelf-spine, which fits between the two levels of the shelf. Gonopod coxa (Fig. 9) without a lateral process; metapical shelf-spine long.

Etymology

The name honours Richard L. Hoffman (1927–2012) global grand-master of diplopodology through much of the last half of the previous, as well as the first decade of the present century. *Vilici* is the genitive case of the Latin noun *vilicus*, meaning ‘steward’, which is also the original meaning of the name Hoffman.

Material studied (total: 37 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Iringa District, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°04' 05.7" S, 35°54' 18.8" E, montane, 1930–1950 m asl, plot 1, casual, 16–19 Oct. 2000, Frontier Tanzania leg. (ZMUC).

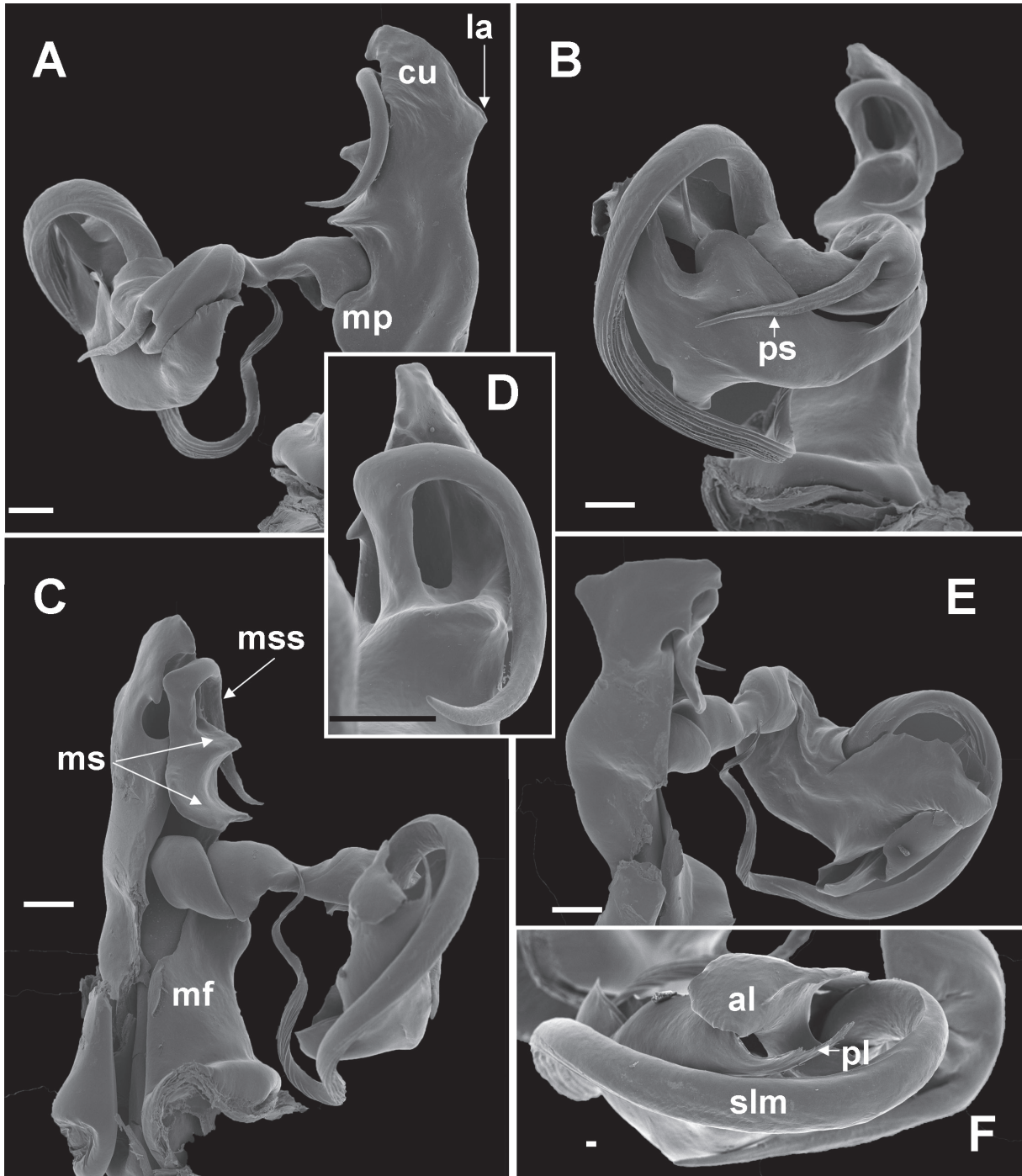


Fig. 24. *Chaleponcus vilici* sp. nov., left gonopod. **A.** Posterior view. **B.** Mesal view. **C.** Mesal-anterior view. **D.** Close-up of metaplical shelf-spine, mesal view. **E.** Anterior (and slightly apical/ventral) view. **F.** Telopodite, distal view, showing solenomere and the two distal telomere branches. *al* = anterior lamella of telomere, *cu* = cucullus, *la* = lateral angle of coxa, *mf* = metaplical flange, *mp* = mesal metaplical process, *ms* = metaplical shelf, *mss* = metaplical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior lamella of telomere, *slm* = solenomere. Scales: 0.1 mm (A–D), 0.01 mm (E–F).

Paratypes

All from TANZANIA, Iringa Region, Iringa District, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, all collected by Frontier Tanzania, all in ZMUC: 23 ♂♂, 08°04' 05.7" S, 35°54' 18.8" E, montane, 1930–1950 m asl, plot 1, casual, 16–19 Oct. 2000; 3 ♂♂, 08°00' 26.6" S, 35°56' 06.1" E, montane forest, 1910 m asl, plot Kinyonga, casual, 24 Oct. 2000; 1 ♂, 08°00' 26.5" S, 35°56' 06.1" E, scrub/thicket/bush, 1908 m asl, plot Kinyonga, 19 Oct. 2000; 1 ♂, 08°04' 05.7" S, 35°54' 13.8" E, montane, 1940 m asl, plot 1, sample 1 of 3, 16 Oct. 2000; 7 ♂♂, 08°03' 34.9" S, 35°54' 41.9" E, montane, 1955 m asl, plot 24, casual, 2 Nov. 2000; 1 ♂, 08°04' 05.6" S, 35°54' 20.4" E, montane, 1930 m asl, plot 6, sample 3 of 3, 27 Oct. 2000.

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°04' 05.7" S, 35°54' 18.8" E, montane, 1930–1950 m asl.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 2.0–2.1 mm, 46–49 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 12 years in alcohol pale brown below ozopores, blackish above, dorsally with a light band with a thin dark midline, telson blackish.

ANAL VALVES. Each with a long, slightly curving dorsal spine, no ventral spine; marginal rim raised, setiferous tubercles on 'ravelins'.

LIMBUS. With long, triangular, apically rounded lobes, *ca.* 1½ times longer than wide, lobes striate on external surface.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 24). About 3 × as long as wide. Lateral margin shallowly S-shaped: slightly convex in middle, then slightly concave, subdistally with a protruding angle (*la*), apical margin starting from *la* oblique, shallowly sinuous; cucullus (*cu*) hence triangular, apically with small mesad process. Metapical flange (*mf*) ending in blunt, rounded angle, no process; metapical mesal margin with 3 processes: a rounded, semicircular process (*mp*) basal to arculus and two processes, formed by metapical shelf, distal to arculus. Metapical shelf (*ms*) massive, with two levels separated by concavity into which tip of metapical shelf-spine (*mss*) fits. *mss* long, slender, originating from distal surface of *ms*, from there first projecting distad, then turning posteriad at right angles and curving smoothly basad, and then anteriad, fitting between two levels of *ms*, in mesal view (Fig. 24D) almost forming a letter D (*mss* frequently broken).

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Figs 8B, 24). Solenomere (*slm*) with a long, straight proximal spine (*ps*). Telomere distally with two relatively small branches, folded around each other somewhat like a pair of one-fingered hands, the 'finger' of the anterior lamella (*al*) having smooth edges, that of the slenderer posterior lamella (*pl*) having jagged edges.

Distribution and habitat

Known only from Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR. Altitudinal range: 1908–1955 m asl.

Coexisting species

C. gracilior sp. nov., *C. malleolus* sp. nov., *C. nectarinia* sp. nov., *C. netus* sp. nov., *C. teres* sp. nov. and *C. termini* sp. nov. were found in the same samples as *C. vilici* sp. nov. In addition, *C. dabagaensis*, *C. krai* sp. nov., *C. mwabvui* sp. nov. and *C. vandenspiegeli* sp. nov. occur in New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR.

Chaleponcus teres sp. nov.

[urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:F4EB8A22-2F19-438F-8C65-DB6091867337](https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-1111111/v1)

Figs 4, 6, 9, 25

Diagnosis

Medium-sized. Differs from all other group members, except *C. malleolus* sp. nov., by the absence of a dorsal spine on each anal valve. Further characterized by the subquadratic outline of the cucullus and the structure of the telomere, especially the presence of a slender, sinuous, spine-like branch. Gonopod coxa (Fig. 9) without a lateral process; metapical shelf-spine long.

Etymology

The name is a Latin adjective meaning “smooth” and refers to the spineless anal valves.

Material studied (total: 29 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°04' 05.7" S, 35°54' 18.8" E, montane, 1930–1950 m asl, plot 1, casual, 16–19 Oct. 2000, Frontier Tanzania leg. (ZMUC).

Paratypes

All from TANZANIA, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, all collected by Frontier Tanzania, all in ZMUC: 27 ♂♂, 08°04' 05.7" S, 35°54' 18.8" E, montane, 1930–1950 m asl, plot 1, casual, 16–19 Oct. 2000; 1 ♂, 08°04' 05.7" S, 35°54' 13.8" E, montane, 1940 m asl, plot 1, sample 3 of 3, 19 Oct. 2000.

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°04' 05.7" S, 35°54' 18.8" E, montane, 1930–1950 m asl.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 1.9–2.2 mm, 45–47 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 12 years in alcohol yellowish, with dark spots at ozopores and paramedian dark dorsal bands flanking a mid-dorsal light stripe; paramedian dark colouration sometimes extending down flanks on metazonites, giving the body a ringed appearance; body rings 6 and 7 darker than the others.

ANAL VALVES (Fig. 6D). Entirely *without* dorsal and ventral spines; marginal rim not raised, setae not on tubercles.

LIMBUS (Fig. 4H). With low, broad, rounded lobes, separated by parabolic sinuses; each lobe *ca.* 4 times broader than long, margin densely and finely serrate, lobes indistinctly striate on external surface.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 25). About 3½ × as long as wide. Lateral margin straight in basal ⅔, then shallowly concave, angle between lateral and apical margins 90°, sharp; cucullus (*cu*) hence subquadratic. Metapical flange (*mf*) smoothly rounded, no angle, no process; metapical mesal margin straight up to level of arcus. Metapical shelf (*ms*) forming subrectangular process just distal to arcus, followed by very deep incision (*in*) separating cucullus from basal part of metaplica; *ms* proximally stout, continuing

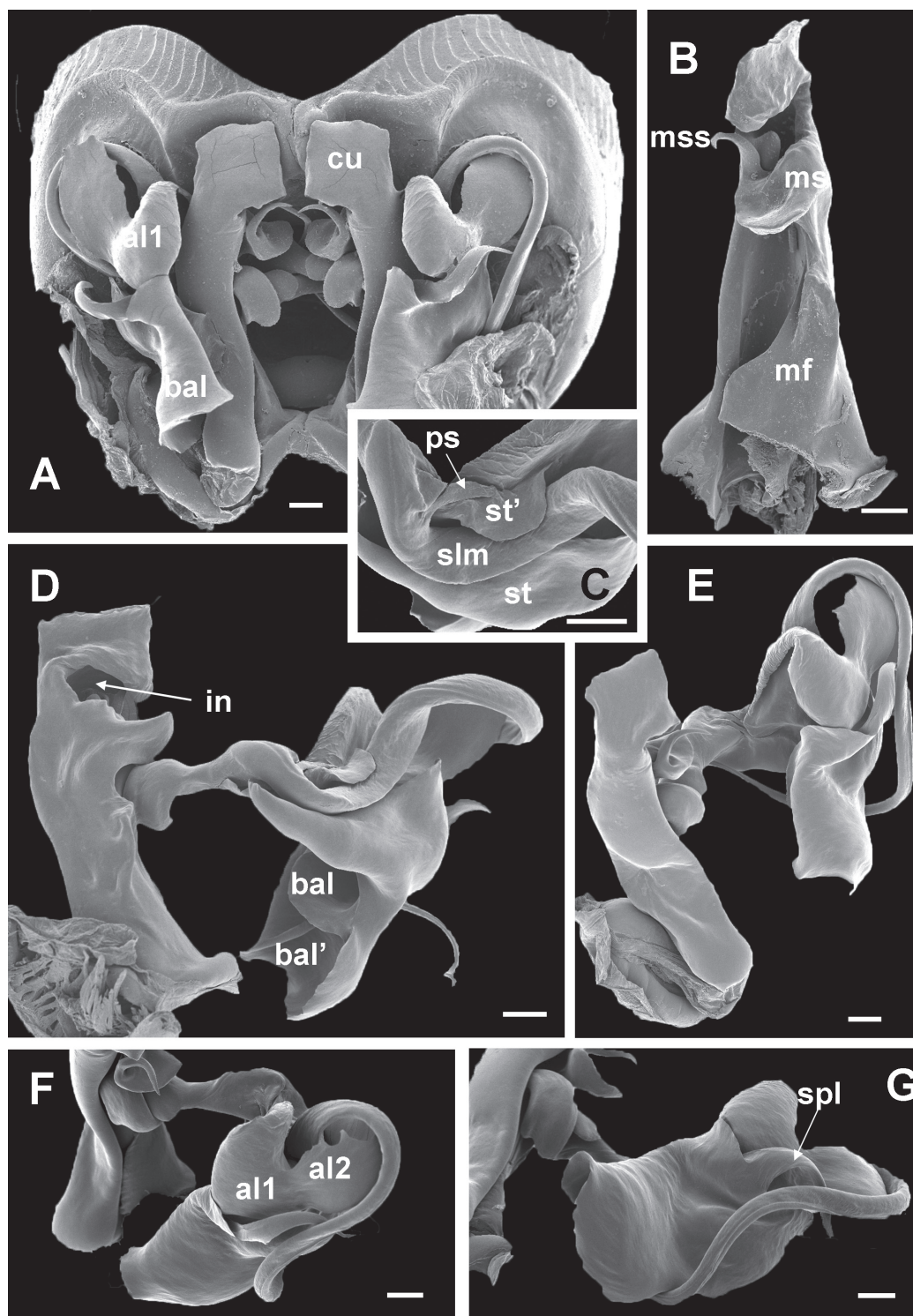


Fig. 25. *Chaleponcus teres* sp. nov., gonopods. **A.** Gonopods *in situ* in seventh body ring, anterior view. **B.** Left gonopod, mesal view. **C.** Right gonopod, base of solenomere and telomere, ventral view. **D.** Right gonopod, posterior view. **E.** Left gonopod, anterior(-lateral-ventral) view. **F.** Right telopodite, mesal-anterior-ventral view. **G.** Right telopodite, mesal-anterior view. *al1*, *al2* = branches of apical telomeral lamella, *bal*, *bal'* = basal lamella of telomere, *cu* = cucullus, *in* = metaplical incision, *mf* = metaplical flange, *ms* = metaplical shelf, *mss* = metaplical shelf-spine, *ps* = proximal spine of solenomere, *slm* = solenomere, *spl* = spine-like lamella of telomere, *st*, *st'* = main stem of telomere. Scales 0.1 mm.

in metapical shelf-spine (*mss*) with no clear demarcation. *mss* medium long, originating from anterior-distal surface of *ms*, first projecting distad, then curving mesad, and then slightly basad.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 25). Solenomere with a small, inconspicuous, irregular proximal spine (*ps*). Telomere without a separate proximal lobe but posterior margin of proximal part of main stem (*st'*) lying closely against base of solenomere (*slm*). Telomere distally with three branches:

- A large, roughly rectangular basal lamella (*bal*) carrying a secondary lamella (*bal'*) on its lateral side,
- A distal spine-like branch, slender and sinuous (*spl*),
- An irregular apical lamella dividing in two branches, proximal branch (*all*) with smooth margins, the distal branch (*al2*) with irregularly serrated margin. *all* and *bal* *in situ* curving around opposite coxa (Fig. 25A).

Distribution and habitat

Known only from Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR. Altitudinal range: 1930–1950 m asl. Habitat: montane forest.

Coexisting species

C. termini sp. nov. and *C. vilici* sp. nov. were found in the same samples as *C. teres* sp. nov. In addition, *C. dabagaensis*, *C. gracilior* sp. nov., *C. krai* sp. nov., *C. malleolus* sp. nov., *C. mwabvui* sp. nov., *C. nectarinia* sp. nov., *C. netus* sp. nov. and *C. vandenspiegelii* sp. nov. occur in New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR.

Notes

The gonopods somewhat resemble those of *C. hamerae* sp. nov.

Chaleponcus hamerae sp. nov.

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:E27E3FB0-22E6-46EF-81CB-447DA44E3090

Figs 9, 26

Diagnosis

Medium-sized. Characterized by the sub-rectangular outline of the cucullus, resembling *C. teres* sp. nov. in this character, but differing by having a dorsal spine on each anal valve. Telomerical lamellae largely smooth. Gonopod coxa (Fig. 9) without a lateral process; metapical shelf-spine long.

Etymology

The name honours Michelle Hamer in recognition of her work on the taxonomy and conservation of African millipedes.

Material studied (total: 9 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Udzungwa Mts, Udzungwa Scarp FR, above Chita village, 1600–1650 m, 8–13 Nov. 1984, pitfall traps, montane rain forest, N. Scharff leg. (ZMUC).

Paratypes

All from TANZANIA, Iringa Region, Udzungwa Mts, Udzungwa Scarp FR, all in ZMUC: 4 ♂♂, above Chita village, 1600–1650 m, 8–13 Nov. 1984, pitfall traps, montane rain forest, N. Scharff leg.; 4 ♂♂, 11 km SE of Masisiwe village, Kihanga Stream, 1800 m, 08°22' 05.7" S, 35°58' 41.6" E, 17–27 May 1997. ZMUC & SI Exp.

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Udzungwa Mts, Udzungwa Scarp FR, above Chita village, 1600–1650 m, rain forest.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 2.1–2.3 mm, 46–47 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 30 years in alcohol (brownish) yellow, traces of broad light dorsal stripe flanked by dorsolateral dark stripes, narrow lateral dark line at ozopore level.

ANAL VALVES. Each with a small dorsal spine and a very small ventral spine; marginal rim raised, setiferous tubercles on ravelins.

LIMBUS. With broadly rounded to spatulate, apically finely serrate lobes; lobes as broad as long or slightly broader, separated by rounded incisions much narrower than width of lobes, or by short stretches of straight, finely serrulate margin.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 26). About $3\frac{1}{2}$ –4 × as long as wide. Lateral margin basally slightly sinuous, basally convex, *ca.* at level of propical lobe (*prl*) concave and then again convex, meeting oblique, straight apical margin under blunt angle; cucullus (*cu*) hence subrectangular in outline. Metapical flange (*mf*) ending in blunt, rounded angle, no process; metapical mesal margin slightly concave up to level of *prl*, distally tucked in, on posterior side sinuous: first concave, then convex, then concave again up to level of metapical shelf (*ms*). *ms* very prominently projecting mesad but not notably posteriad. Metapical shelf-spine (*mss*) short, originating from anterior-mesal part of *ms*, projecting distad, slightly curved.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 26). Solenomere without a proximal spine. Telomere distally with two distal branches, both curving anteriad:

- anterior lamella (*al*) broad, twisted, mostly with smooth edges but with terminal, subrectangular lobe (*al'*) with dentate terminal edge,
- posterior lamella (*pl*) situated basal to *al* and rest of telopodite, large, smoothly curved, with smooth edges and subterminally with long, apical spine (*pls*).

Distribution and habitat

Known only from Udzungwa Mts, Udzungwa Scarp FR. Altitudinal range: 1600–1800 m asl. Habitat: montane rain forest.

Coexisting species

C. nikolajscharffi sp. nov. was found in the same samples as *C. hamerae* sp. nov. In addition, *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov. was found in Udzungwa Scarp FR.

Notes

The gonopods quite resemble those of *C. teres* sp. nov.

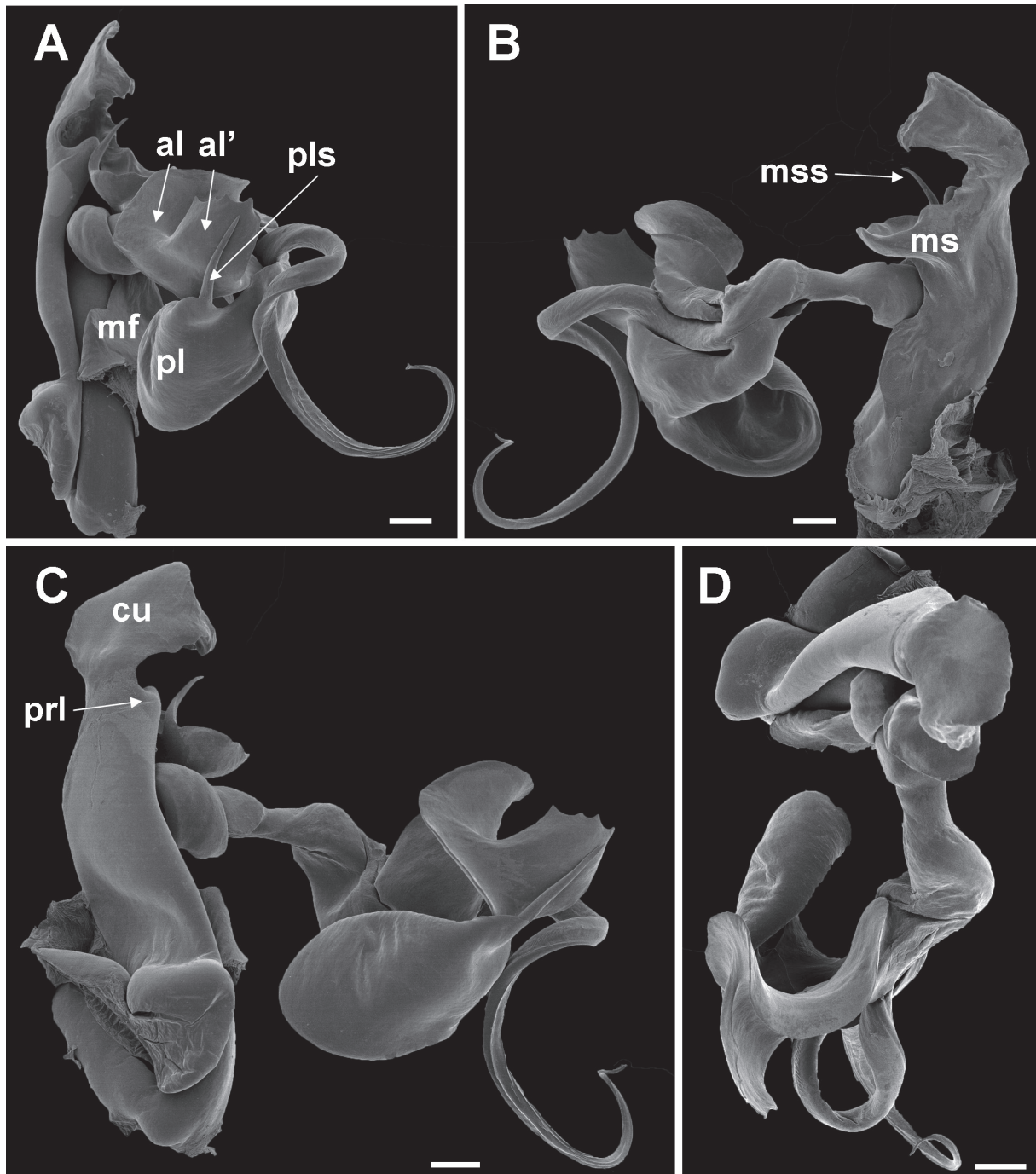


Fig. 26. *Chaleponcus hamerae* sp. nov., left gonopod. **A.** Mesal-anterior view. **B.** Posterior view. **C.** Anterior view. **D.** Ventral view. *al*, *al'* = anterior telomer lamella, *cu* = cucullus, *mf* = metapical flange, *ms* = metapical shelf, *mss* = metapical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior telomer lamella, *prl* = propical lobe, *pls* = spine on *pl*. Scales 0.1 mm.

Chaleponcus termini sp. nov.

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:C7102566-C098-434C-A419-652D26ED1738

Figs 7–9, 27

Diagnosis

Medium-sized. Characterized by the two-lobed, strongly serrate anterior telomer lamella. Gonopod coxa (Fig. 9) without a lateral process; metapical shelf-spine long.

Etymology

The name is the genitive case of the Latin noun terminus which means frontier, and the name honours the NGO Frontier Tanzania.

Material studied (total: 28 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°04' 5.7" S, 35°54' 18.8" E, montane, 1930–1950 m asl, plot 1, casual, 16–19 Oct. 2000, Frontier Tanzania leg. (ZMUC).

Paratypes

All from TANZANIA, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, all collected by Frontier Tanzania, all in ZMUC: 4 ♂♂, 08°05' 34.5" S, 35°55' 31.5" E, montane, 1800–1900 m asl, plot 16, casual, 15–16 Nov. 2000; 1 ♂, 08°06' 47.4" S, 35°56' 50.4" E, montane, 1800–1955 m asl, plot MS – plot A, 29 Oct. 2000; 10 ♂♂, 08°05' 34.5" S, 35°55' 31.8" E, montane, 1885 m asl, plot 16, sample 2 of 3, 15 Nov. 2000; 1 ♂, 08°04' 05.6" S, 35°54' 20.4" E, montane, 1930 m asl, plot 6, sample 1 of 3, 28 Oct. 2000; 1 ♂, 08°04' 05.6" S, 35°54' 20.4" E, montane, 1930 m asl, plot 6, sample 2 of 3, 27 Oct. 2000; 2 ♂♂, 08°04' 05.6" S, 35°54' 20.4" E, montane, 1930 m asl, plot 6, sample 3 of 3, 27 Oct. 2000; 7 ♂♂, 08°04' 5.7" S, 35°54' 18.8" E, montane, 1930–1950 m asl, plot 1, casual, 16–19 Oct. 2000; 1 ♂, 08°04' 05.7" S, 35°54' 13.8" E, montane, 1940 m asl, plot 1, sample 1 of 3, 16 Oct. 2000.

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°04' 5.7" S, 35°54' 18.8" E, montane, 1930–1950 m asl.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 1.6–1.9 mm, 41–43 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 12 years in alcohol yellowish, with dark spots at ozopores and paramedian dark dorsal bands flanking a mid-dorsal light stripe.

ANAL VALVES. Each with a long, slightly curving dorsal spine and a well-developed, triangular ventral one; marginal rim raised, no setiferous tubercles.

LIMBUS. With rounded-triangular, longitudinally furrowed denticles separated by parabolic sinuses, lobes *ca.* as long as wide, striate on external surface.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 7, 9, 27). Almost 4 × as long as wide. Lateral margin regularly convex from base up to just below level of *prl*, at this place turning slightly laterad and forming blunt, rounded angle with oblique apical margin; cucullus (*cu*) hence subtriangular, apically rounded. Metapical flange (*mf*) ending

in long, triangular process pointing anteriad-mesad-distad; metaplical mesal margin straight up to level of arculus. Metaplical shelf (*ms*) forming subrectangular-rounded process just distal to arculus, followed by triangular incision separating cucullus from basal part of metaplica. *ms* simple, proximally stout, continuing in metaplical shelf-spine (*mss*) with no clear demarcation. *mss* medium long, originating from anterior-distal surface of *ms*, first projecting distad, then curving mesad, and then slightly basad.

GONOPOD TELEPODITE (Figs 8A, 27). Solenomere with a small, irregular proximal spine (*ps*). Telomere distally with two branches:

- a large anterior lamella dividing into two triangular lobes (*al1* and *al2*) with strongly lacinate margins; basalmost lobe (*al2*) folded laterad and *in situ* visible in front of opposite coxa,
- a large posterior lamella (*pl*) first directed distad then folding back and delimiting an empty space together with *al2*.

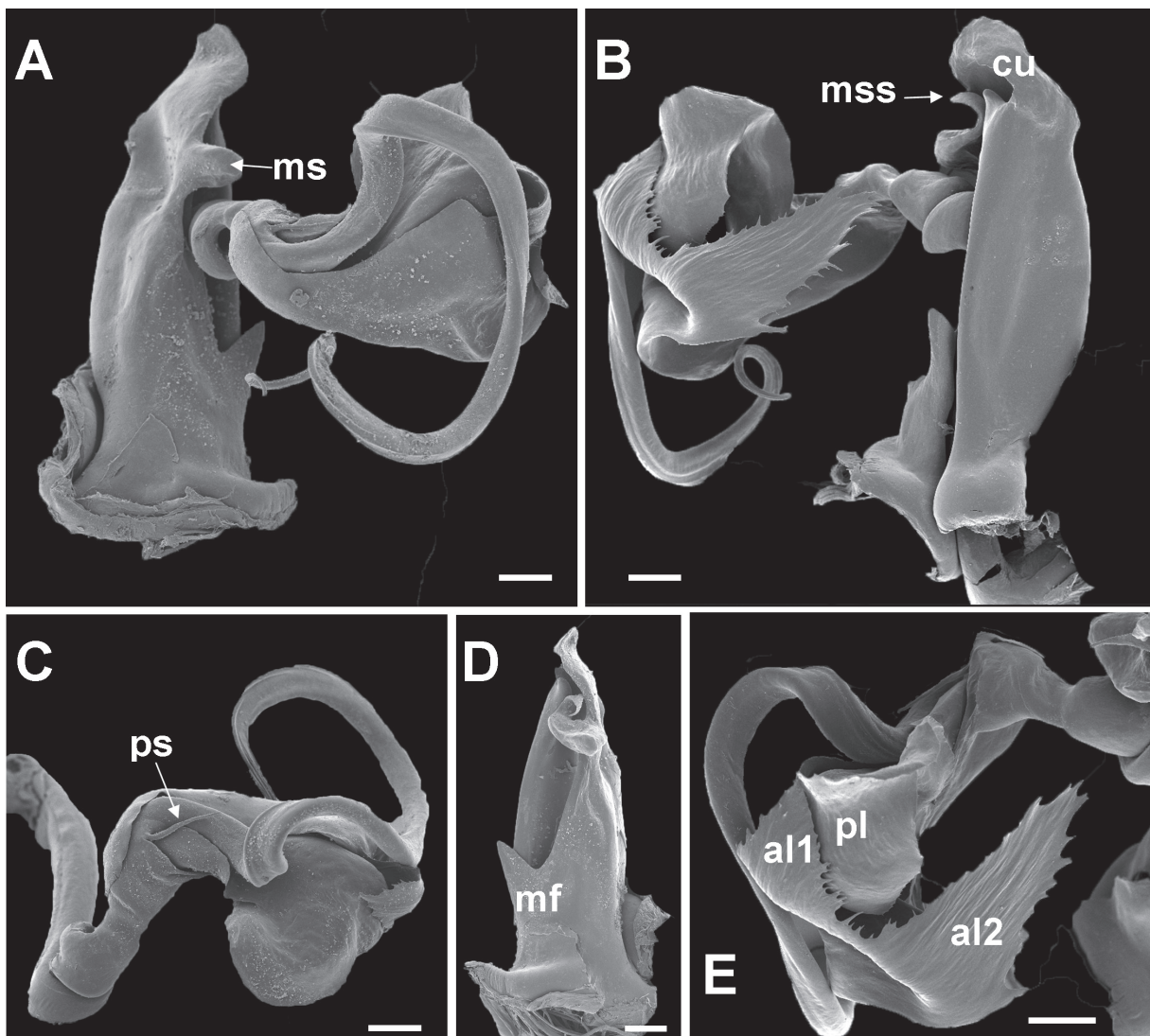


Fig. 27. *Chaleponcus termini* sp. nov., gonopods. **A.** Right gonopod, posterior view. **B.** Right gonopod, anterior view. **C.** Left telopodite, mesal-ventral view. **D.** Left coxite, mesal view. **E.** Right telopodite, anterior-ventral view. *al1*, *al2* = anterior telomeral lobe, *cu* = cucullus, *mf* = metaplical flange, *ms* = metaplical shelf, *mss* = metaplical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior telomeral lamella, *ps* = proximal spine on solenomere. Scales 0.1 mm.

Distribution and habitat

Known only from Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR. Altitudinal range: 1800–1955 m asl. Habitat: montane forest.

Coexisting species

C. gracilior sp. nov., *C. mwabvui* sp. nov., *C. nectarinia* sp. nov., *C. netus* sp. nov., *C. teres* sp. nov. and *C. vilici* sp. nov. were found in the same samples as *C. termini* sp. nov. In addition, *C. dabagaensis*, *C. kraai* sp. nov., *C. malleolus* sp. nov. and *C. vandenspiegelii* sp. nov. occur in New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR.

Chaleponcus gracilior sp. nov.

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:85282955-A517-4E67-8848-F2C3C880DEC6

Figs 4, 9, 28

Diagnosis

Slender, but with more podous rings than other small species. Easily recognizable by the subrectangular cucullus profile, by the conspicuous ‘inflated’ distal telomerical process and by the unique ‘string-of-beads’-like appearance of the limbus. Gonopod coxa (Fig. 9) without a lateral process; metapical shelf-spine short.

Etymology

The name is a Latin adjective meaning “more slender” and refers to the small body diameter in relation to the number of body rings.

Material studied (total: 84 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°05′ 37.9″ S, 35°54′ 05.6″ E, fallow/cultivation, 1900–1920 m asl, plot FP, casual, 26–28 Nov. 2000, Frontier Tanzania leg. (ZMUC).

Paratypes

All from TANZANIA, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, all collected by Frontier Tanzania, all in ZMUC: 1 ♂, 08°05′ 34.5″ S, 35°55′ 31.5″ E, montane, 1800–1900 m asl, plot 16, casual, 15–16 Nov. 2000; 1 ♂, 08°06′ 47.4″ S, 35°56′ 50.4″ E, montane, 1800–1955 m asl, plot MS – plot A, 29 Oct. 2000; 2 ♂♂, 08°03′ 39.9″ S, 35°54′ 05.6″ E, fallow/previously disturbed, 1900 m asl, plot FF, sample 2 of 3, 28 Nov. 2000; 18 ♂♂, 08°05′ 37.9″ S, 35°54′ 05.6″ E, fallow/cultivation, 1900–1920 m asl, plot FP, casual, 26–28 Nov. 2000; 3 ♂♂, 08°00′ 26.5″ S, 35°56′ 06.1″ E, scrub/thicket/bush, 1908 m asl, plot Kinyonga, 19 Oct. 2000; 3 ♂♂, 08°00′ 26.6″ S, 35°56′ 06.1″ E, montane forest, 1910 m asl, plot Kinyonga, casual, 24 Oct. 2000; 2 ♂♂, 08°03′ 39.9″ S, 35°54′ 05.6″ E, fallow/previously disturbed, 1915 m asl, plot FF, casual, 27 Nov. 2000; 1 ♂, 08°00′ 26.6″ S, 35°56′ 06.1″ E, scrub/thicket/bush, 1915 m asl, plot Kinyonga, 18 Oct. 2000; 1 ♂, 08°03′ 43.6″ S, 35°53′ 54.2″ E, plantation, 1980 m asl, plot pine, sample 1 of 3, 13 Oct. 2000.

Referred non-type material

TANZANIA: 47 ♂♂, Iringa Region, Iringa District, West Kilombero Scarp FR, 07°45′ 34.2″ S, 36°26′ 37.4″ E, (open) woodland, 1510 m asl, plot Acacia, casual, 5–8 Dec. 2000, Frontier Tanzania UMPS leg. (ZMUC); 1 ♂, Udzungwa Mts, 1500 m, Kiranzi-Kitungulu FR, 08°09′ S, 35°05′ E, forest, Jan. 1996, M. Andersen, P. Gravlund, A. Jakobsen leg. (ZMUC); 3 ♂♂, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Kalimbazi Mtn, 2000–2100 m asl, 10 km S of Mazombe, forest floor, Jan Kielland leg. (VMNH).

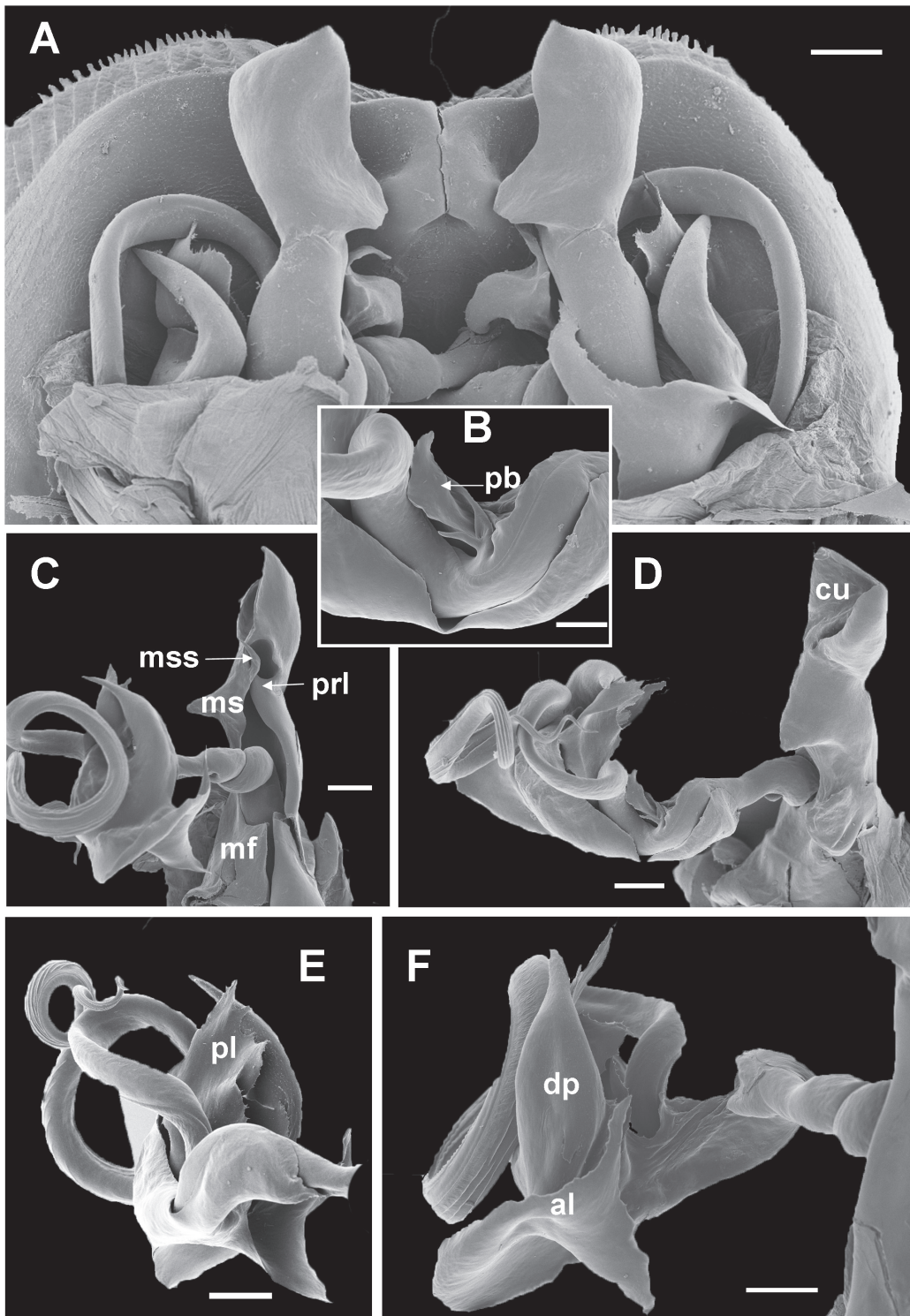


Fig. 28. *Chaleponcus gracilior* sp. nov., gonopods. **A.** Gonopods *in situ* in body ring 7, anterior view. **B.** Right gonopod, detail of base of solenomere, showing basal side branch consisting of a tiny, spine-like part and a larger, irregularly lamellate one. **C.** Right gonopod, anterior-mesal view. **D.** Left gonopod, posterior view. **E.** Left telopodite, posterior-lateral view. **F.** Right telopodite, anterior view. *al* = anterior telomer lamella, *cu* = cucullus, *dp* = distal telomer process, *mf* = metaplical flange, *ms* = metaplical shelf, *mss* = metaplical shelf-spine, *pb* = proximal side branch of solenomere, *pl* = posterior telomer lamella, *prl* = proplical lobe. Scales: 0.1 mm (A, C–F), 0.05 mm (B).

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Iringa District, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°05' 37.9" S, 35°54' 05.6" E, fallow/cultivation, 1900–1920 m asl.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 1.5–1.8 mm, 45–49 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 12 years in alcohol faded, uniform pale brown, no traces of a dorsal stripe.

ANAL VALVES. Each with a long dorsal spine, no ventral spines; marginal rim barely raised, setiferous tubercles inconspicuous.

LIMBUS (Fig. 4F). Lobes spatulate, about as long as wide, separated by stretches of straight margin *ca.* same length as width of lobe; body ring surface between lobes forming shallow concavity behind straight margin; lobes deeply striate on external surface. The unique limbus gives the body ring posterior margins a characteristic 'string-of-beads'-like appearance, visible even on undissected specimens.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 28). About 4 × as long as wide. Lateral margin almost straight, slightly indented at level of propodeal lobe (*prl*) and metapical shelf (*ms*), forming a *ca.* 100° angle with straight apical margin; cucullus (*cu*) subrectangular. Metapical flange (*mf*) ending in a rather sharp 90° angle, no process; metapical mesal margin shallowly concave up to level of arcus, then abruptly turning mesad at right angles at base of metapical shelf (*ms*), then turning apicad at right angles, margin from then on shallowly concave, meeting apical margin under a *ca.* 80° angle. Metapical shelf (*ms*) regularly rounded, projecting posteriad as well as mesad. Metapical shelf-spine (*mss*) originating from anterior-mesal end of *ms*, short, directed apicad, slightly and simply curved.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 28). Solenomere with a small proximal side branch (*pb*) originating on distal surface and consisting of a tiny spine-like part and a larger, irregularly lamellate one. Telomere distally with three branches:

- an anterior, irregularly triangular, twisted lamella (*al*) with undulate edges,
- a large, smooth, pointed, slightly curved distal process (*dp*) with an 'inflated' appearance,
- an irregularly shaped posterior lamella (*pl*).

Distribution and habitat

Known from four areas in the Udzungwa Mts: New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, West Kilombero Scarp FR, Kiranzi-Kitungulu FR and Kalimbazi Mtn. Altitudinal range: 1500–2100 m asl. Habitat: montane forest, fallow/previously disturbed/cultivation, scrub/thicket/bush, plantation, (open) woodland. This species seems much more euryoecious than any other species in the *C. dabagaensis* group.

Coexisting species

In line with its comparatively wide distribution, *C. gracilior* sp. nov. co-occurs with many other species of the *C. dabagaensis* group. Thus, *C. dabagaensis* was found in the same sample as *C. gracilior* sp. nov. in Kiranzi-Kitungulu FR, and *C. dabagaensis*, *C. krai* sp. nov., *C. malleolus* sp. nov., *C. mwabvui* sp. nov., *C. netus* sp. nov., *C. termini* sp. nov. and *C. vilici* sp. nov. were found in the same samples as *C. gracilior* sp. nov. in New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR. In addition, *C. krai* sp. nov. also occurs on Kalimbazi Mtn, *C. nectarinia* sp. nov., *C. teres* sp. nov., and *C. vandenspiegelii* sp. nov. also occur in New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR., and *C. basiliscus* sp. nov., *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov., *C. ibis* sp. nov., *C. netus* sp. nov., and *C. tintin* sp. nov. also occur in West Kilombero FR.

Chaleponcus mwabvui sp. nov.

[urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:C1BCCEF3-3247-47D9-BA27-663385735829](https://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:C1BCCEF3-3247-47D9-BA27-663385735829)

Figs 6, 9, 29

Diagnosis

Medium-sized. Gonopod coxa (Fig. 9) without a lateral process; cucullus small. Distinguished from other species, i.a., by the characteristically shaped posterior telomer lamella (Fig. 29).

Etymology

The name honours Tarombera Mwabvu in recognition of his work on the taxonomy of African millipedes.

Material studied (total: 11 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°06' 47.4" S, 35°56' 50.4" E, montane, 1800–1955 m asl, plot MS – plot A, 29 Oct. 2000, Frontier Tanzania leg. (ZMUC).

Paratypes

All from TANZANIA, Iringa Region, Udzungwa Mts: 2 ♂♂, Iringa District, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°06' 47.4" S, 35°56' 50.4" E, montane, 1800–1855 m asl, plot MS – plot A, sample 3 of 3, 11 Nov. 2000, Frontier Tanzania leg. (ZMUC); 5 ♂♂, Iringa District, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°06' 47.4" S, 35°56' 50.4" E, montane, 1800–1955 m asl, plot MS – plot A, 29 Oct. 2000, Frontier Tanzania leg. (ZMUC); 3 ♂♂, Mufindi, Kigogo Forest Reserve, 1900 m, 7–15 Oct. 1984, pitfall traps in montane rain forest, N. Scharff leg. (ZMUC).

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, 08°06' 47.4" S, 35°56' 50.4" E, montane, 1800–1955 m asl.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 1.8–1.9 mm, 43–45 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 13 years in alcohol brownish yellow, dorsolaterally dark brown, a broad middorsal pale stripe, a narrow blackish lateral stripe at ozopore level.

ANAL VALVES (Fig. 6C, F). Each with a long, slightly curving dorsal spine and a small, triangular ventral one; marginal rim raised, setiferous tubercles barely developed, not on 'ravelins'.

LIMBUS. With long, slender, apically denticulate lobes, separated by wider sinuses.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 29). About 4 × as long as wide; lateral margin evenly convex in distal 2/3; cucullus (*cu*) small, smoothly rounded, without processes. Metaplical flange (*mf*) ending in triangular, apicad process; metaplical mesal margin straight, but with triangular process (*mp*) just below level of arculus. Metaplical shelf (*ms*) regularly rounded, projecting posteriad as well as mesad, continuing without transition in metaplical shelf-spine (*mss*). Metaplical shelf-spine (*mss*) of medium length, curving first mesad, then distad, then pointing mesad again; in specimen prepared for SEM pointing obliquely basad, tip reaching beyond basomere.

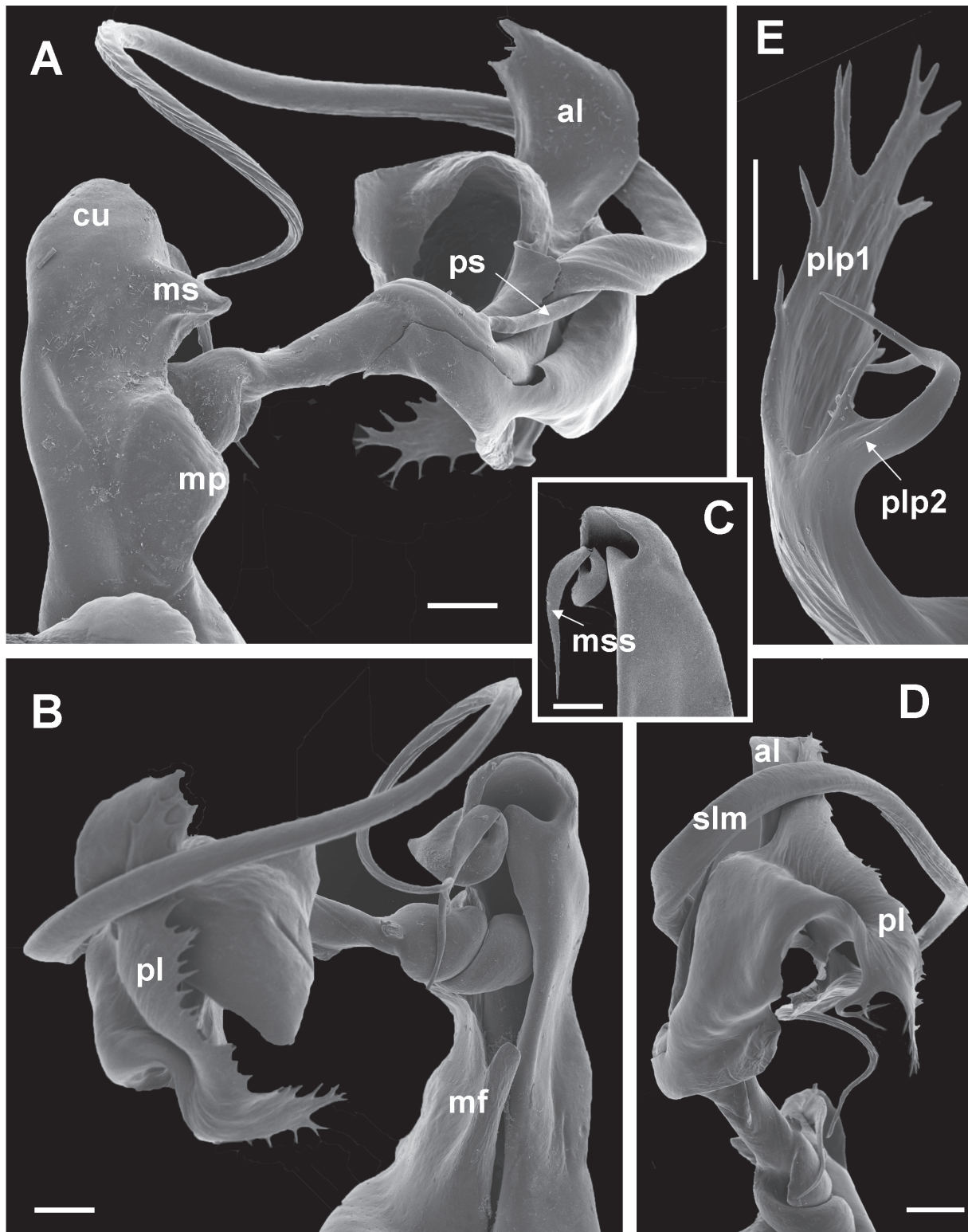


Fig. 29. *Chaleponcus mwabvui* sp. nov., right gonopod. **A.** Posterior view. **B.** Anterior-mesal view. **C.** Coxa, tip, anterior view. **D.** Telopodite, apical-dorsal view. **E.** Process *plp* of telomere. *al* = anterior telomeral lamella, *cu* = cucullus, *mf* = metapical flange, *mp* = mesal metapical process, *ms* = metapical shelf, *mss* = metapical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior telomeral lamella, *plp1*, *plp2*, posterior telomeral lamella processes, *ps* = proximal spine on solenomere, *slm* = solenomere. Scales: 0.1 mm (A–D), 0.05 mm (E).

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 29). Solenomere with a long, straight, mesad, proximal spine (*ps*). Telomere distally with two branches:

- a large, convoluted anterior lamella (*al*) with smooth edges except for a few distal denticulations,
- a posterior-distal lamella (*pl*); distal margin of *pl* deeply lacinate in apical part, basally produced in slender process furcating into larger branch (*plp1*) with long-spinose margins and smaller, slender branch (*plp2*) with large spine at base and terminally bifurcating.

Distribution and habitat

Known from two forest reserves in the Udzungwa Mts: New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR and Kigogo FR. Altitudinal range: 1800–1955 m asl. Habitat: montane forest.

Coexisting species

All four species known from Kigogo FR, i.e., *C. quasimodo* sp. nov., *C. scopus* sp. nov., *C. howelli* sp. nov. and *C. mwabvui* sp. nov., were found in the same samples. In New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR, *C. dabagaensis*, *C. gracilior* sp. nov., *C. netus* sp. nov. and *C. termini* sp. nov. were found in the same samples as *C. mwabvui* sp. nov. In addition, *C. krai* sp. nov., *C. malleolus* sp. nov., *C. nectarinia* sp. nov., *C. teres* sp. nov., *C. vandenspiegeli* sp. nov. and *C. vilici* sp. nov. occur in New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR.

Chaleponcus howelli sp. nov.

[urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:F7D97CB8-4791-4584-AD89-F2BCC6589590](https://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:F7D97CB8-4791-4584-AD89-F2BCC6589590)

Figs 4, 9, 30

Diagnosis

Medium-sized. Gonopod coxa (Fig. 9) without a lateral process; cucullus small. Distinguished from other species, i.a., by the presence of a spine (*sts*) on the main stem of the telomere in combination with the large distal spine (*als*) on the anterior telomeral lamella.

Etymology

The name honours Kim Howell in recognition of his huge efforts to increase the knowledge of Tanzanian millipedes.

Material studied (total: 100 ♂♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa Region, Udzungwa Mts, Mufindi, Kigogo Forest Reserve, 1900 m, 7–15 Oct. 1984, pitfall traps in montane rain forest, N. Scharff leg. (ZMUC).

Paratypes

TANZANIA: 61 ♂♂, Iringa Region, Udzungwa Mts, Mufindi, Kigogo Forest Reserve, 1700 m, 8–10 Oct. 1984, pitfall traps in montane rain forest, N. Scharff leg. (ZMUC); 38 ♂♂, same data as holotype (ZMUC).

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa Region, Udzungwa Mts, Mufindi, Kigogo Forest Reserve, 1900 m, montane rain forest.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 2.0–2.2 mm, 44–47 podous rings.

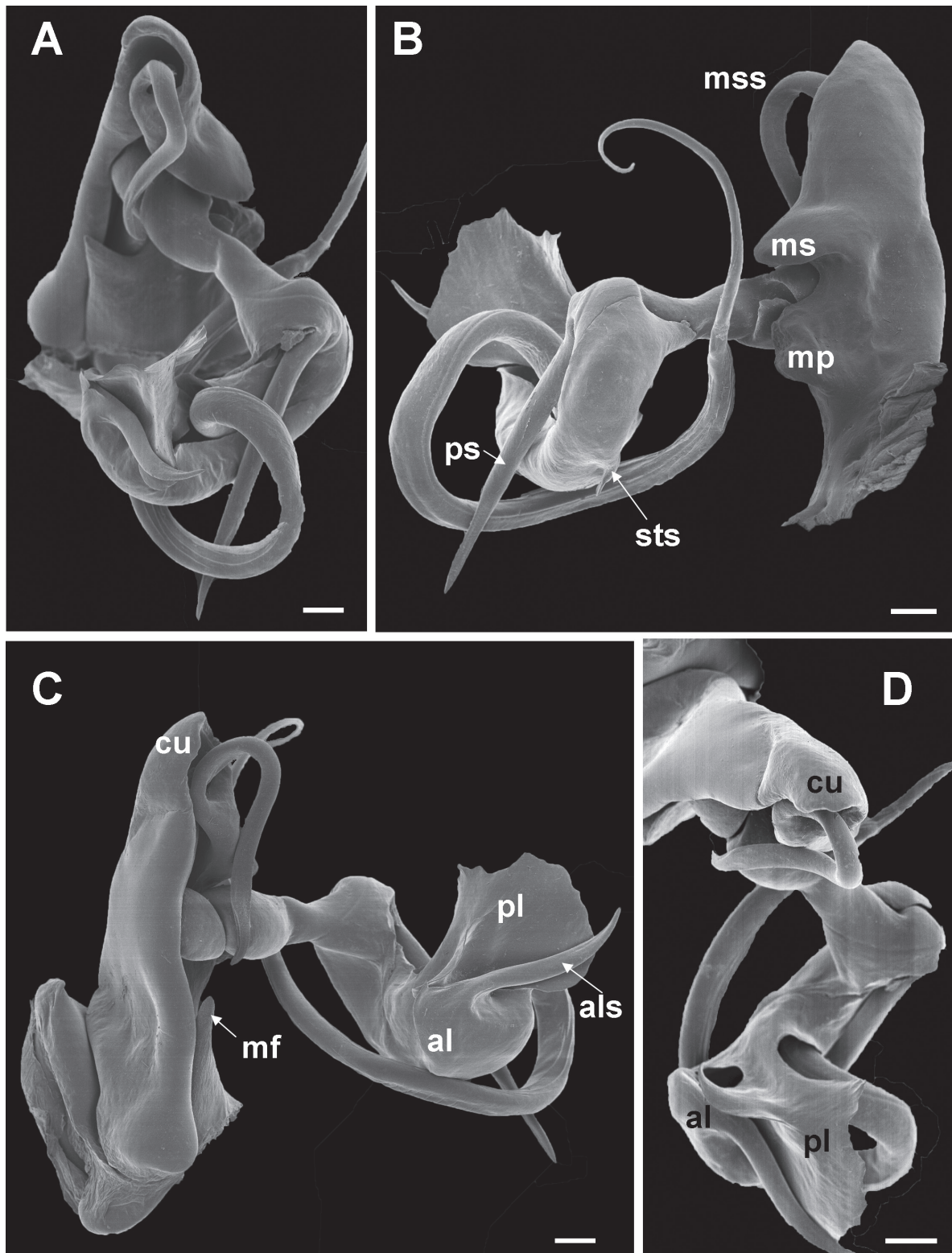


Fig. 30. *Chaleponcus howelli* sp. nov., left gonopod. **A.** Mesal-ventral (-anterior) view. **B.** Posterior view. **C.** Anterior view. **D.** Ventral (-anterior) view. *al* = anterior telomeral lamella, *als* = spine on *al*, *cu* = cucullus, *mf* = metapical flange, *mp* = mesal metapical process, *ms* = metapical shelf, *mss* = metapical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior telomeral lamella, *ps* = proximal spine on solenomere, *sts* = spine on telomeral main stem. Scales 0.1 mm.

COLOUR. After 30 years in alcohol almost uniform pale brown, with faint traces of a light dorsal stripe, sometimes with a thin dark line in midline.

ANAL VALVES. Each with a long, dorsal spine and a well-developed, but small, triangular ventral one; marginal rim raised, setiferous tubercles well developed, on 'ravelins'.

LIMBUS (Fig. 4B). With long, slender triangular lobes, separated by rounded sinuses; lobes striate on external surface.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal.

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 30). About $3\frac{1}{2}$ × as long as wide. Lateral margin almost straight, towards apex gently curving mesad and continuous with apical margin; cucullus (*cu*) an almost perfect hollow hemisphere. Metapical flange (*mf*) ending in blunt, equilateral triangular process; metapical mesal margin with large rounded process (*mp*) delimiting semicircular sinus together with base of metapical shelf. Metapical shelf (*ms*) simple, regularly rounded, mostly projecting laterad. Metapical shelf-spine (*mss*) of medium length, originating from anterior-mesal part of *ms*, projecting disto-mesad, then basad, reaching beyond telopodital basomere.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 30). Solenomere with a very long, straight, meso-basad, proximal spine (*ps*). Main stem of telomere with a small spine (*sts*) *ca.* in middle of basal surface. Telomere distally with two branches:

- a rounded anterior lamella (*al*) ending in a long, gently sinuous mesad spine (*als*),
- a large, irregular posterior lamella (*pl*).

Distribution and habitat

Known only from Udzungwa Mts, Kigogo FR. Altitudinal range: 1700–1900 m. Habitat: montane rain forest.

Coexisting species

All four species known from Kigogo FR, i.e., *C. quasimodo* sp. nov., *C. scopus* sp. nov., *C. howelli* sp. nov. and *C. mwabvui* sp. nov., were found in the same samples.

Chaleponcus tintin sp. nov.

[urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:E350A221-3166-45FA-B897-F5A36A31A900](https://zoobank.org/act:E350A221-3166-45FA-B897-F5A36A31A900)

Figs 9, 31, 34

Diagnosis

Small. Distinguished from all other species in the *C. dabagaensis* group by the hook-like tip of the gonopod coxa (Fig. 9). Gonopod coxa without a lateral process; metapical shelf-spine long.

Etymology

The name is a noun in apposition and refers to a cartoon character developed by the Belgian author Hergé because of the (somewhat remote) resemblance of the shape of the gonopod cucullus to Tintin's hairstyle.

Material studied (total: 1 ♂)

Holotype

TANZANIA: ♂, Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, Chervemba, Mufu forest, Ndundulu forest, Udekwa village, 2100 m, montane evergreen forest, in dead wood, 6 Sep. 1991, Louis Hansen leg. (ZMUC).

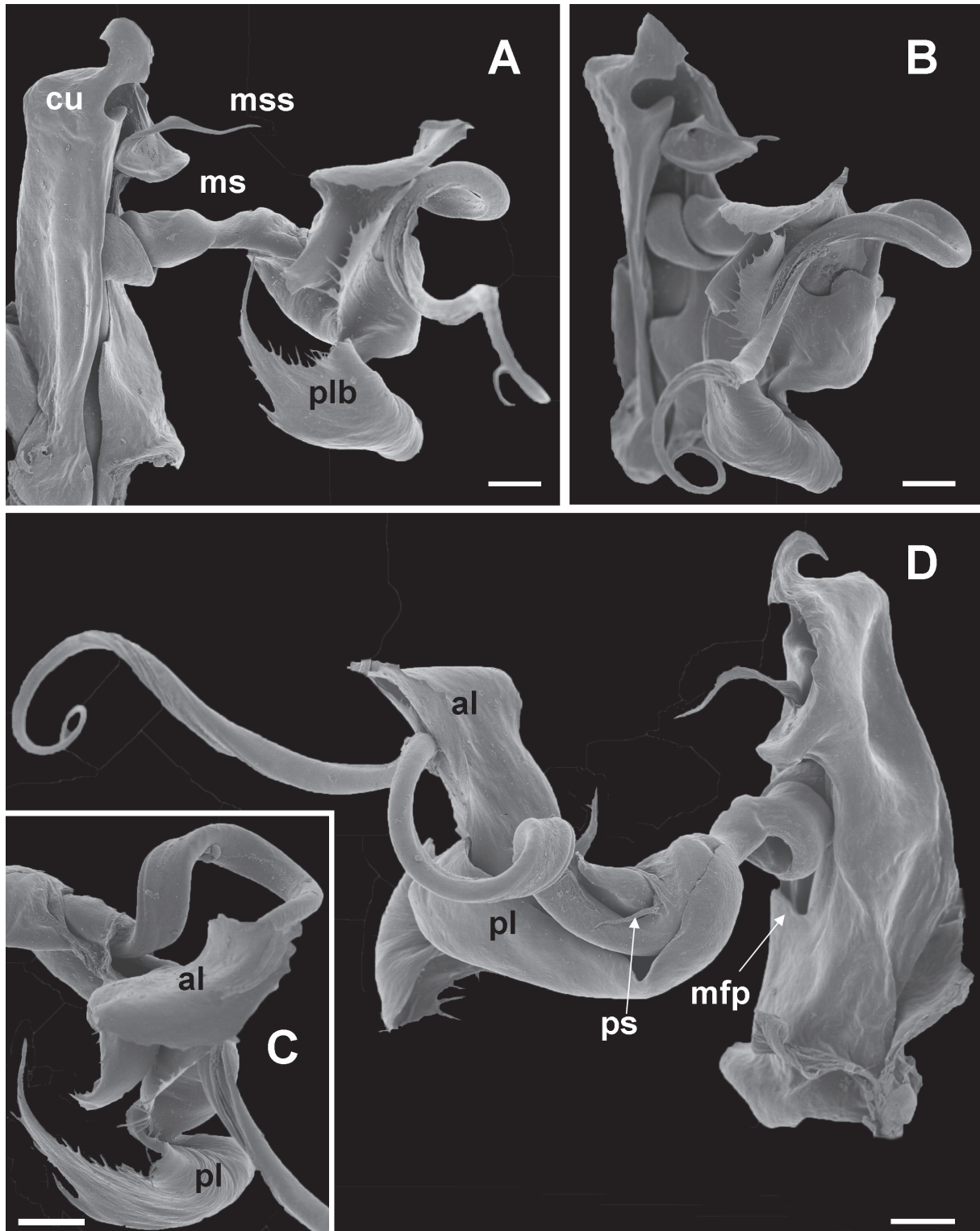


Fig. 31. *Chaleponcus tintin* sp. nov., left gonopod. **A.** Anterior view. **B.** Mesal-anterior view. **C.** Ventral (-anterior) view. **D.** Posterior (-mesal) view. *al* = anterior telomer lamella, *cu* = cucullus, *mfp* = metapical flange process, *ms* = metapical shelf, *mss* = metapical shelf-spine, *pl* = posterior telomer lamella, *plb* = basal branch of *pl*, *ps* = proximal spine on solenomere. Scales 0.1 mm.

Type locality

TANZANIA: Iringa District, Udzungwa Mts, Chervemba, Mufu forest, Ndundulu forest, Udekwa village, 2100 m, montane evergreen forest.

Description (male)

DIAMETER. 1.6 mm, 41 podous rings.

COLOUR. After 23 years in alcohol almost uniform pale brownish, with traces of a pale dorsal band.

ANAL VALVES. Each with a strong dorsal spine and a very small ventral one; marginal rim raised, setiferous tubercles inconspicuous, not on ‘ravelins’.

LIMBUS. With triangular lobes; lobes slightly longer than wide, striate on outer surface.

TARSAL SETATION. Normal

GONOPOD COXA (Figs 9, 31). About 3 × as high as wide. Lateral margin straight, apically curving mesad at right angles, cucullus (*cu*) produced in characteristic laterad-curving hook. Metapical flange ending in triangular process (*mfp*). Metapical shelf (*ms*) small and simple; metapical shelf-spine (*mss*) short, thin, sinuous, pointing mesad.

GONOPOD TELOPODITE (Fig. 31). Solenomere with a very small proximal spine (*ps*). Telomere with two branches:

- a relatively small, subrectangular anterior lamella (*al*),
- a more elaborate posterior lamella (*pl*) with strongly spiny margins and with a basal branch (*plb*) ending in long spine; *pl* including *plb* curving anteriorad and best visible in anterior view.

Distribution and habitat

The unique holotype was found in Udzungwa Mts, Chervemba, Mufu forest, Ndundulu forest, Udekwa village. Altitude: 2100 m asl (the highest accurate record of the *C. dabagaensis* group). Habitat: montane evergreen forest, in dead wood.

Coexisting species

No further species of the *C. dabagaensis* group is known from Ndundulu forest. However, *C. basiliscus* sp. nov., *C. circumvallatus* sp. nov., *C. gracilior* sp. nov., *C. ibis* sp. nov. and *C. netus* sp. nov. also occur in West Kilombero FR to which Ndundulu forest belongs.

Key to species of the *Chaleponcus dabagaensis* group

The 21 known species of the *C. dabagaensis* group are almost all quite distinctive in gonopod morphology. A key to the species is given below, but comparison with the gonopod coxa profiles in Fig. 9 will often lead directly to the right species. As new species of the group are likely to be discovered, and as the species in the key may prove to be more variable with regard to number of podous rings and body diameter, any identification should be checked against the detailed gonopod description and illustrations, and the size (no. of podous rings vs. body diameter) should be compared with the diagrams, Figs. 2–3. The limbus (Fig. 4) offers additional diagnostic characters.

The key is based on adult males.

- 1. Body diameter > 2.5 mm2
- Body diameter < 2.5 mm5

2. Gonopod coxa with two lateral processes	<i>basiliscus</i> sp. nov.
– Gonopod coxa without lateral processes	3
3. Anterior lamella of telomere divided into a horizontal lobe with deeply laciniate edges and a long, straight, distal spine-like part (Fig. 19C). Setation of walking leg tarsi normal (as Fig. 5A) ...	<i>krai</i> sp. nov.
– Anterior lamella of telomere different. Setation of walking legs unusual: claws surrounded by dense ‘palisade’ of setae (Fig. 5B–C)	4
4. Posterior lamella of telomere ending in two long spines. Anterior lamella of telomere with small accessory lamella, otherwise with smooth edges (Fig. 21B)	<i>circumvallatus</i> sp. nov.
– Posterior lamella of telomere ending in two short processes. Anterior lamella of telomere with a coarsely dentate basal part (Fig. 22C)	<i>ibis</i> sp. nov.
5 45–49 podous rings. Body diameter 1.5–1.8 mm (Fig. 2). Cucullus of gonopod coxa subrectangular (Fig. 28). Limbus with spatulate lobes (Fig. 4F)	<i>gracilior</i> sp. nov.
– < 45 body rings and/or body diameter \geq 1.9 mm. Cucullus and limbus different	6
6 Gonopod coxa with a lateral process	7
– Gonopod coxa without a lateral process	14
7 < 40 body rings. Body diameter 1.7–1.8 mm. No dorsal spine on anal valves. Lateral process of gonopod coxa a strongly bent hook (Fig. 14)	<i>malleolus</i> sp. nov.
– > 40 body rings. Body diameter \geq 1.8 mm. Each anal valve with a dorsal spine. Lateral process of gonopod coxa different	8
8 Metapical shelf of gonopod coxa in two levels between which metapical shelf-spine fits. Lateral process of gonopod coxa small to inconspicuous (Fig. 24)	<i>vilici</i> sp. nov.
– Metapical shelf in one level. Metapical shelf-spine and lateral process different	9
9 Lateral margin of gonopod coxa basal to lateral process pronouncedly ‘hunch-backed’ (Figs 12–13)	10
– Lateral margin of gonopod coxa basal to lateral process not pronouncedly ‘hunch-backed’	11
10 Main stem of telomere with thumblike process (Fig. 12D)	<i>dabagaensis</i>
– Main stem of telomere without thumblike process (Fig. 13)	<i>quasimodo</i> sp. nov.
11 Proximal lobe of telomere with long, fluted spine (Figs 10A, 11E)	<i>netus</i> sp. nov.
– Proximal lobe of telomere without a spine	12
12 Lateral process of gonopod coxa small. Cucullus without a large mesal extension (Fig. 17)	<i>mwanihanensis</i> sp. nov.
– Lateral process of gonopod coxa larger. Cucullus with a large mesal extension (Figs 15–16) ...	13
13 Lateral process of gonopod coxa pointed (Figs. 15A)	<i>scopus</i> sp. nov.
– Lateral process of gonopod coxa broadly rounded, irregularly dentate (Fig. 16B)	<i>nikolajscharffi</i> sp. nov.
14 Metapical shelf-spine of gonopod coxa long, projecting \pm mesad (Figs 20A–B, 23A, D)	15
– Metapical shelf-spine not long, projecting \pm mesad	16
15 Posterior lamella of telomere divided into a horizontal lobe with spinose edges and a long, straight, distal spine-like part (Fig. 20C, E)	<i>nectarinia</i> sp. nov.

-
- Posterior lamella of telomere with strongly lacinate edges but without a long, straight, spine-like part *vandenspiegelii* sp. nov.
 - 16 Metapical shelf of gonopod coxa in two levels between which metapical shelf-spine fits. Gonopod coxa with a small to inconspicuous lateral process (Fig. 24) *vilici* sp. nov.
 - Metapical shelf in one level. Metapical shelf-spine different 17
 - 17 Gonopod coxa with distal hook-like extension (Fig. 31A). 41 podous rings, body diameter 1.6 mm *tintin* sp. nov.
 - Gonopod coxa without distal hook-like extension. Mostly >41 podous rings and/or body diameter >1.6 mm 18
 - 18 Anal valves without dorsal spines (Fig. 6D) *teres* sp. nov.
 - Each anal valve with a dorsal spine 19
 - 19 Cucullus of gonopod coxa subrectangular in outline (Fig. 26B–C) *hamerae* sp. nov.
 - Outline of cucullus more rounded 20
 - 20 Anterior lamella of gonopod telomere with long, smooth spine (Fig. 30C–D) *howelli* sp. nov.
 - No such spine 21
 - 21 Anterior lamella of gonopod telomere divided into two triangular lobes with serrate margins (Fig. 27B, E). Posterior lamella simple *termini* sp. nov.
 - Anterior lamella of gonopod telomere simple. Posterior lamella with a slender, spinose branch with a long, thin, bifurcate side branch (Fig. 29E) *mwabvui* sp. nov.

Distribution and habitat

Fig. 32 shows the distribution of the 21 species of the *Chaleponcus dabagaensis* group plotted on a semi-diagrammatic map of the Forest Reserves (FR) from which species of the group have been collected. Fifteen of the species have been collected in only one FR, with New Dabaga/Ulangambi FR being the richest (6 exclusive species, 11 species in all).

Five species are shared between two FR, and *C. gracilior* sp. nov. even occurs in four FR, being clearly the most widespread of the species. The easternmost FR, Mwanihana, does not share any species with any other FR.

As Fig. 1 clearly shows, there are several forested areas in the Udzungwa Mts where the *C. dabagaensis* group has not been collected. This is probably due to a collecting bias, since the very comprehensive millipede material from the Udzungwa Mts kept in ZMUC largely derives from the FRs where the *C. dabagaensis* group is now known to occur. Additional collection effort, especially in the large southern-central Matundu forest, is likely to reveal several additional species of the group. Even renewed collecting in the forest reserves already sampled is likely to reveal new species, since three (*ibis* sp. nov., *vandenspiegelii* sp. nov., *tintin* sp. nov.) out of the 21 species are singletons and one (*circumvallatus* sp. nov.) is a doubleton (Fig. 33).

The *Chaleponcus dabagaensis* group consists of high-altitude species, all material having been collected at 1390–2100 m asl, and with the highest species diversity above 1700 m (Table 2). The vast majority of specimens was collected in montane forest, but some species were found in disturbed habitats as well, e.g., the relatively widespread *C. gracilior* sp. nov. Very often several (up to 5) species were represented in a sample, but whether such coexisting species occupy different microhabitats is not known.

Two notes on general morphology

Torsion of the gonopod telopodite

Torsion of the gonopod telopodite is characteristic of the majority of species of Odontopygidae and the related family Spirostreptidae (Kraus 1966, Hoffman 2008) and is important for the function of the gonopod (Barnett & Telford 1996). In all odontopygids examined by me the torsion always begins with an anterior bend, i.e., the torsion is clockwise when followed from coxa towards the gonopod tip and viewed from a mesal point of view on the RIGHT gonopod. Published drawings by, e.g., Kraus (1966) and Frederiksen (2013a,b) confirm the generality of this pattern.

Intercalary cuticular microscutes

Very small (*ca.* 1 µm) circular microstructures were frequently observed between cuticular microscutes on body rings (Fig. 34). Similar structures were reported by Akkari & Enghoff (2011) from several

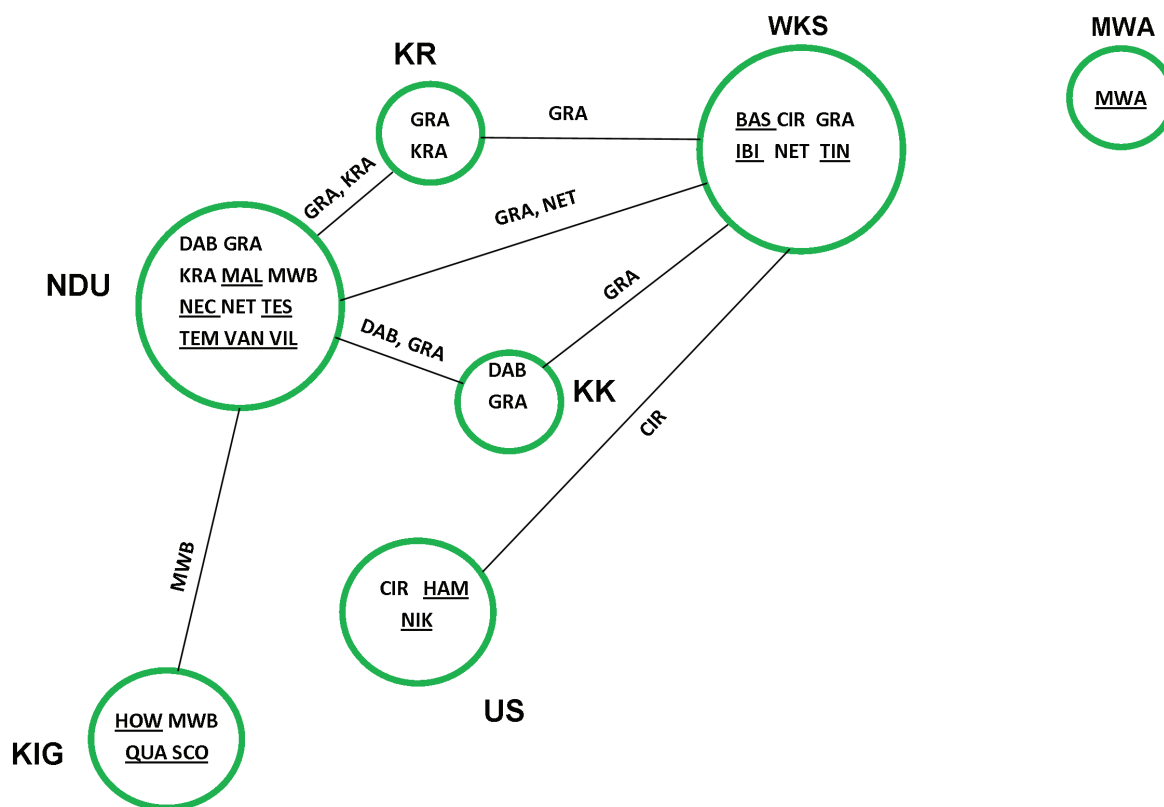


Fig. 32. Distribution of species of the *Chaleponcus dabagaensis* group in Forest Reserves of the Udzungwa Mts. The position of the Forest Reserves in relation to each other approximately corresponds to their true relative positions, cf. Fig. 1. Underlined species acronyms denote species known only from one Forest Reserve. Shared species are shown on lines connecting the circles. – Forest Reserve acronyms: KIG = Kigogo, KK = Kiranzi/Kitunguli, KR = Kisinga/Rugaro, MWA = Mwanihana, NDU = New Dabaga/Ulangambi, US = Udzungwa Scarp, WKS = West Kilombero Scarp. – Species acronyms: BAS = *basiliscus*, CIR = *circumvallatus*, DAB = *dabagaensis*, GRA = *gracilior*, HAM = *hamerae*, HOW = *howelli*, IBI = *ibis*, KRA = *krai*, MAL = *malleolus*, MWB = *mwabvui*, MWN = *mwanihanensis*, NEC = *nectarinia*, NET = *netus*, NIK = *nikolajscharffi*, QUA = *quasimodo*, SCO = *scopus*, TES = *teres*, TEM = *termini*, TIN = *tintin*, VAN = *vandenspiegeli*, VIL = *vilici*.

Table 2. Altitudinal range of species of the *Chaleponcus dabagaensis* group, based on “maximal ranges”, see Material and methods. No altitude data are available for *C. basiliscus* and *C. ibis*.

Altitude (m)	1390–1499	1500–1599	1600–1699	1700–1799	1800–1899	1900–1999	2000–2099	2100–2199
<i>netus</i>	x				x	x		
<i>dabagaensis</i>				x	x	x	x	
<i>quasimodo</i>				x		x		
<i>malleolus</i>						x		
<i>scopus</i>				x		x		
<i>nikolajsharffi</i>	x	x	x		x			
<i>mwanihanensis</i>					x			
<i>krai</i>						x	x	
<i>nectarinia</i>						x		
<i>circumvallatus</i>	x		x					
<i>vandenspiegeli</i>					x			
<i>vilici</i>						x		
<i>teres</i>						x		
<i>hamerae</i>			x		x			
<i>termini</i>					x	x		
<i>gracilior</i>		x			x	x	x	
<i>mwabvui</i>					x	x		
<i>howelli</i>				x		x		
<i>tintin</i>								x

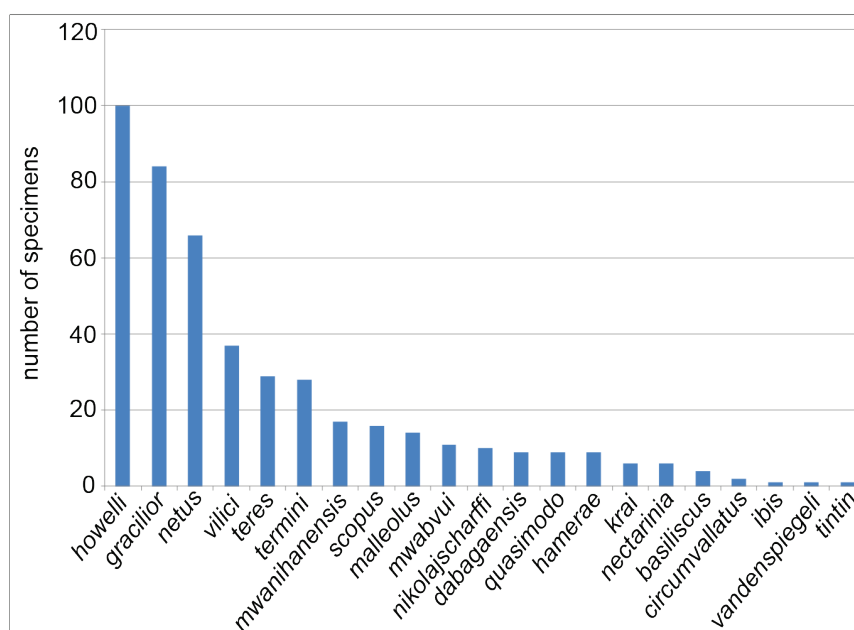


Fig. 33. The number of studied specimens (males) per species.

families of the order Polydesmida and have also been observed on *Lusitanipus alternans* (Verhoeff, 1893) (Callipodida: Dorypetalidae) (HE and S. Reboleira unpublished), but have not been recorded from other millipede orders. Such intercalary cuticular microscutes are, however, discernible on fig. 8 of Frederiksen (2013a) (*Chaleponcus parensis* Frederiksen, 2013), as well as on fig. 1 of Frederiksen (2013b) (*Lamelloramus rhombiformis* Frederiksen, 2013b). They have also been observed on a species of the genus *Aquattuor* Frederiksen, 2013, and may be widespread in Odontopygidae. The nature of the microscutes is unknown. In a preparation of *C. nikolajsharffi* sp. nov. some of the microscutes give

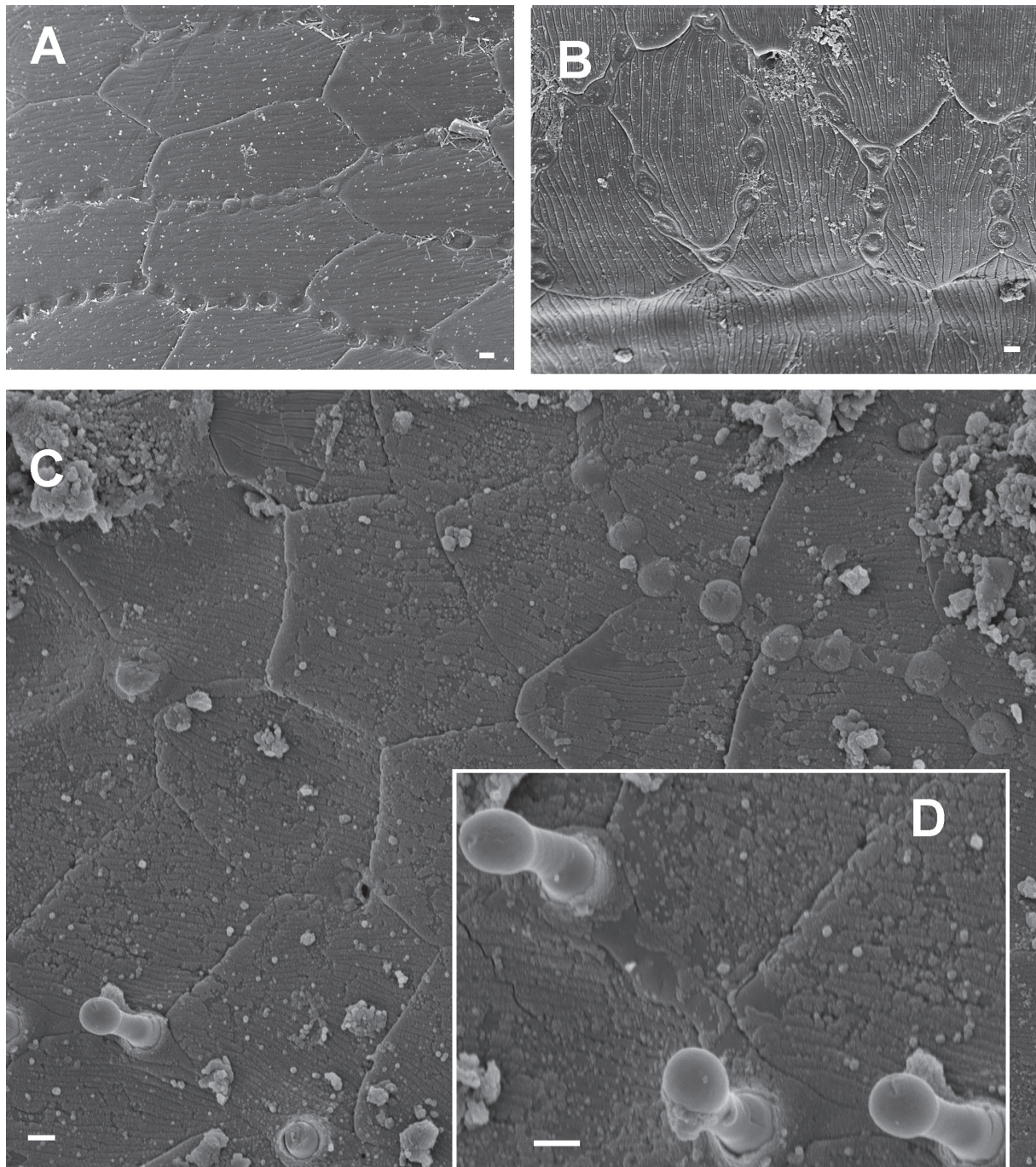


Fig. 34. Intercalary cuticular microscutes in *Chaleponcus* spp. **A.** *C. netus* sp. nov. **B.** *C. tintin* sp. nov. **C–D.** *C. nikolajsharffi* sp. nov. Fig. D shows fungus-like outgrowths from scutes. Scales 0.001 mm.

rise to projecting, club-shaped outgrowths of a few μm length (Fig. 34D) which may represent parasitic fungi of a kind?

Discussion

The high diversity of odontopygids, *in casu* the genus *Chaleponcus*, in forests at high elevations in the Udzungwa Mountains is impressive and somewhat unexpected: odontopygids in general “do not seem to be especially abundant at higher elevations” (Hoffman 1993). Collections of odontopygids at hand from other Eastern Arc mountain blocks are much less diverse.

All 21 Udzungwan *Chaleponcus* species belong to the morphologically well-defined *C. dabagaensis* group which is most probably monophyletic as suggested by the unique, potentially autapomorphic spine-bearing shelf on the gonopod coxa. No species referable to this group is known from elsewhere, and the *C. dabagaensis* group can therefore be regarded as an endemic high altitude Udzungwan ‘species swarm’. To my knowledge, there are no similar examples of taxa which have radiated ‘sympatrically’ *within* the Udzungwa Mountains.

Too little microhabitat information is available to support a hypothesis of adaptive radiation similar to that observed in certain insular species swarms of millipedes (Enghoff 1983, 2011b; Enghoff & Báez 1993). However, the frequent occurrence of multiple species in a sample (Table 1), in combination with the considerable inter-specific differences in body size (Figs 2–3), as well as the unusual tarsal setation of a few species (*C. circumvallatus* sp. nov., *C. ibis* sp. nov.), indicates that adaptive radiation may indeed have taken place.

Acknowledgements

This work would not have been possible at all without the impressive collections made by Frontier Tanzania. My sincere thanks are due to this NGO, as well as to Nikolaj Scharff and other colleagues at the Natural History Museum of Denmark who have also collected important material and have provided various advices. Further thanks are due to Judith Marshall and her colleagues in the Virginia Museum of Natural History for taking good care of me during my visit and for arranging loan of specimens from the collection of the late Richard Hoffman, to Luca Bartolozzi for loaning specimens from the Firenze museum, to Andy Marshall for advice, and to Nesrine Akkari and Sergei Golovatch for very useful comments on the manuscript.

References

- Akkari N. & Enghoff H. 2011. On some surface structures of potential taxonomic importance in families of the suborders Polydesmidea and Dalodesmidea (Polydesmida, Diplopoda). *ZooKeys* 156: 1–24. <http://dx.doi.org/10.3897/zookeys.156.2134>
- Barnet M. & Telford S. 1996. Sperm competition and the evolution of millipede genitalia. *Mémoires du Muséum national d’Histoire naturelle* 169: 331–339.
- Burgess N., Butinsky T.M., Cordeiro N.J., Doggart N.H., Fjeldså J., Howell K.M., Kilahama F.B., Loader S.P., Lovett J.C., Mbilinyi B., Menegon M., Moyer D.C., Nashanda E., Perkin A., Rovero F., Stanley W.T. & Stuart S.N. 2007. The biological importance of the Eastern Arc Mountains of Tanzania and Kenya. *Biological Conservation* 134: 209–231. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2006.08.015>
- Enghoff H. 1983. Adaptive radiation of the millipede genus *Cylindroiulus* on Madeira: habitat, body size, and morphology (Diplopoda, Julida: Julidae). *Revue d’Écologie et de Biologie du Sol* 20: 403–415.
- Enghoff H. 2011a. East African giant millipedes of the tribe Pachybolini (Diplopoda, Spirobolida, Pachybolidae). *Zootaxa* 2753: 1–41.

Enghoff H. 2011b. The millipede genera *Cylindroiulus* and *Dolichoiiulus* as examples of Macaronesian species swarms. In: Serrano A.R.M., Borges P.A.V., Boieiro M. & Oromí P. (eds) *Terrestrial Arthropods of Macaronesia – Biodiversity, Ecology and Evolution*: 231–247. Sociedade Portuguesa de Entomologia, Lisboa.

Enghoff H. & Báez M. 1993. Evolution of distribution and habitat patterns in endemic millipedes of the genus *Dolichoiiulus* (Diplopoda: Julidae) on the Canary Islands. With notes on distribution patterns of other Canarian species swarms. *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* 49: 277–301. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1095-8312.1993.tb00906.x>

Enghoff H., Howell K.M. & Hoffman R.L. in prep. Checklist of the millipedes (Diplopoda) of Tanzania.

Frederiksen S.B. 2013a. East African odontopygid millipedes 2: A new, geographically disjunct species of *Chaleponcus* (Attems 1914) from the Pare Mts, Tanzania (Diplopoda, Spirostreptida, Odontopygidae). *Zootaxa* 3636: 597–600. <http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3636.4.7>

Frederiksen S.B. 2013b. East African odontopygid millipedes 3: Two new genera; *Lamelloramus* and *Aquattuor* proposed to contain three new species (Diplopoda, Spirostreptida, Odontopygidae). *Zootaxa* 3694: 59–66. <http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3694.1.4>

Frederiksen S.B. & Enghoff H. 2012. East African odontopygid millipedes 1: Five new species of *Xystopyge* (Attems, 1909) and a proposal for a new gonopod terminology (Diplopoda; Spirostreptida; Odontopygidae). *Zootaxa* 3485: 69–82.

Hoffman R.L. 1990. Myriapoda 4. Polydesmida: Oxydesmidae. *Das Tierreich* 107: i–xv + 1–512.

Hoffman R.L. 1991. What is *Odontopyge*? A solution to a long standing nomenclatorial enigma in the Diplopoda (Spirostreptida Odontopygidae). *Tropical Zoology* 4: 65–73. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03946975.1991.10539475>

Hoffman R.L. 1993. Biogeography of East African montane forest millipedes. In: Lovett J. & Wasser S.K. (eds) *Biogeography and Ecology of the Rain Forests of Eastern Africa*: 103–114. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Hoffman R.L. 2005a. *Monograph of the Gomphodesmidae, a Family of African Polydesmoid Millipedes*. Verlag des Naturhistorischen Museums, Vienna.

Hoffman R.L. 2005b. Two new prepodesmine millipedes, genus *Callistocilla*, from Tanzania (Polydesmida: Chelodesmidae). *Myriapodologica* 8: 49–58.

Hoffman R.L. 2008. Two new genera of spirostreptid millipedes from central Africa, with a new terminology for male genitalia in the family Spirostreptidae (Diplopoda Spirostreptida). *Tropical Zoology* 21: 167–186.

Hoffman R.L. & Howell K.M. 1985. A new Tanzanian genus and species of paradoxosomatid millipedes with medusiform gonopods (Diplopoda: Paradoxosomatidae). *Revue de Zoologie africaine* 99: 57–61.

Hoffman R.L. & Howell K.M. 1996. Synopsis of Macrolenostreptini, a new tribe of Tanzanian spirostreptid millipedes (Diplopoda Spirostreptida). *Tropical Zoology* 9: 441–453. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03946975.1996.10539322>

Jolivet P. 1986. Le millepatte de Santo Antao (Iles du Cap Vert) ou comment une espèce inoffensive peut devenir un ravageur! *L'Entomologiste* 42: 45–56.

Kraus O. 1958. Myriapoden von Ostafrika (Tanganyika Territory). *Veröffentlichungen des Überseemuseums in Bremen, Reihe A* 3(1): 1–16.

Kraus O. 1960. Äthiopische Diplopoden I. Monographie der Odontopygidae-Odontopyginae (Diplopoda, Spirostreptoidea). *Annalen van het Koninklijk Museum van Belgisch-Congo* 82: 1–207.

- Kraus O. 1966. Phylogenie, Chorologie und Systematik der Odontopygoideen (Diplopoda, Spirostreptomorpha). *Abhandlungen der Senckenbergischen naturforschenden Gesellschaft* 512: 1–143.
- Marshall A.R., Brink H. & Topp-Jørgensen J.E. 2001a. Millipede diversity and distribution – West Kilombero Scarp Forest Reserve. *In*: Doody K.Z., Howell K.M., & Fanning E. (eds) *West Kilombero Scarp Forest Reserve – Zoological Report*: 124–132. Report for the Udzungwa Mountains Forest Management and Biodiversity Conservation Project, MEMA, Iringa, Tanzania.
- Marshall A.R., Brink H. & Topp-Jørgensen J.E. 2001b. Millipede diversity and distribution in New Dabaga/Ulangambi Forest Reserve. *In*: Doody K.Z., Howell K.M., & Fanning E. (eds) *New Dabaga/Ulangambi Forest Reserve – Zoological Report*: 108–116. Report for the Udzungwa Mountains Forest Management and Biodiversity Conservation Project, MEMA, Iringa, Tanzania.
- Marshall A.R., Jørgensbye H.I.O., Rovero F., Platts P.L., White P.C.L. & Lovett J.C. 2010. The species–area relationship and confounding variables in a threatened monkey community. *American Journal of Primatology* 72: 325–336. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/ajp.20787>
- Myers N., Mittermeier R.A., Mittermeier C.G., da Fonseca G.A.B. & Kent J. 2000. Biodiversity hotspots for conservation priorities. *Nature* 403: 853–858. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/35002501>
- Nascimento B. 2012. Applied research on millipede *Bandeirenica caboverdus* (Diplopoda, Odontopygidae) and the end of quarantine restrictions. *Acta Horticulturae* 934: 417–420.
- Vohland K. & Hamer M. 2013. A review of the millipedes (Diplopoda) of Namibia, with identification keys and descriptions of two new genera and five new species. *African Invertebrates* 54: 251–304.

Manuscript received: 11 August 2014

Manuscript accepted: 24 September 2014

Published on: 24 October 2014

Topic editor: Rudy Jocqué

Desk editor: Kristiaan Hoedemakers

Printed versions of all papers are also deposited in the libraries of the institutes that are members of the *EJT* consortium: Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France; Botanic Garden Meise, Belgium; Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren, Belgium; Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom; Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels, Belgium; Natural History Museum of Denmark, Copenhagen, Denmark.