Molecular phylogeny of Parabathynellidae (Crustacea, Bathynellacea), and three new species from Thai caves

Ana I. Camacho1,2, Paloma Mas-Peinado1, Santi Watiroym2, Anton Brancelj3,4, Elia Bandari5, Beatriz A. Dorda6, Adrián Casado6, Isabel Rey6

2 Division of Biology, Faculty of Science, Nakhon Phanom University, Nakhon Phanom 48000, Thailand.
3 National Institute of Biology, Večna pot 111, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia.
4 School for Natural Sciences, University of Nova Gorica, Vipavska c. 13, 5000 Nova Gorica, Slovenia.
5 Department of Zoology, Government Degree College, Pithapuram 533450, India.
6 Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales (CSIC), Colección de Tejidos y ADN, C/ José Gutiérrez Abascal 2, 28006-Madrid, Spain.
7 E-mail: mcnac22@mncn.csic.es

Keywords: Biogeography, morphology, molecular phylogeny, Thai cave fauna, Parabathynellidae, 18S, Cox1

Abstract

A preliminary molecular phylogenetic framework for 12 genera (23 species) of the family Parabathynellidae from Europe, Australia, North Africa and India is presented based on mitochondrial and nuclear markers (Cox1 and 18S). The generated hypothesis places the Southeast Asia genus Paraeobathynella closer to European genera (Iberobathynella, Paraiberobathynella and Parabathynella) than to the Australian (Brevisomabathynella, Atopobathynella, Billibathynella, Octobathynella, Arkaroolabathynella and Lockyerenuella) or Indian genera (Habrobathynella), or to the cosmopolitan genus Hexabathynella (Spain and Australia). Three new species of the genus Paraeobathynella from Thailand, P. ratensis n. sp., P. siemensis n. sp. and P. hanjavanitiana n. sp., are described based on morphological and molecular features. This is the first record of the genus from Thailand and extends its range of distribution within Asia, where it was previously known only from Vietnam. The new species are clearly separated as independent units at least since the Middle Miocene.

Introduction

Thailand (Fig.1) parabathynellids were found in three different locations. These taxa represent three new species of the family Parabathynellidae Noodt, 1965, which is widespread around the world, with 45 genera and 209 species described thus far (Camacho et al., 2017). The family has been poorly studied in Asia, where 17 genera and 74 species occur (see Appendix 2) (Bandari et al., 2016, 2017; Camacho, 2005a; Camacho et al., 2006, 2011; Cho et al., 2008, 2015; Morimoto, 2002; Nam and Cho, 2014; Park and Cho, 2008, 2013, 2015, 2016; Ranga Reddy, 2002, 2004, 2006; Ranga Reddy and Schminke, 2005, 2009; Ranga Reddy et al., 2008, 2014; Ranga Reddy and Totakura, 2010, 2015; Schminke, 1973, 2011; Serban, 1994; Totakura and Reddy, 2014). Two of these genera, Allobathynella Morimoto and Miura, 1957, and Habrobathynella Schminke, 1973, account for half (37) of all the Asian species of parabathynellids known, 23 and 14 species, respectively.

Here we couple molecular sequence data with morphological features to analyze the phylogenetic
Figure 1. A: Map of the area in Thailand where the three studied caves are located; B: Type localities of the three new species: Khao Krot Cave (blue dot), Rat Cave (green dot), Khao Krot Plu Cave (red dot); C: Habitat of *Paraeobathynella siamensis* n. sp.; D: Habitat of *Paraeobathynella ratensis* n. sp.; E: Habitat of *Paraeobathynella hanjavanitiana* n. sp.
relationships among Asian parabathynellids. The only previous study on the relationships among members of this family was based only on morphological features and included only six genera of the so-called “Iberobathynella group” (Camacho et al., 2000). Parabathynellids - and bathynellaceans in general - express a high degree of morphological convergence as a result of their common exposure to the same subterranean life conditions. This reflects on the frequent occurrence of species crypticism (Camacho et al., 2012), which complicates even more the resolution of phylogenetic relationships based exclusively on morphological features.

In this study we: (i) describe three new species of the genus *Paraeobathynella* Camacho, 2005, from Thailand based on morphological and molecular features; (ii) provide a preliminary molecular phylogenetic analysis of the family Parabathynellidae as a framework to establish future comparisons; (iii) suggest a paleobiogeographic framework to explain the current distribution of the studied genera; and (iv) update the distribution of the 17 Asian genera of the family Parabathynellidae known to date (Appendix 2).

**Material and methods**

**Study area and sampling methods**

The specimens used in morphological and genetic analyses were collected in drip water pools at three tourist caves located in the Nakhon Si Thammarat mountain range (Nakhon Si Thammarat Province, southern Thailand; Fig. 1A, B).

Rat Cave (Kapang subdistrict; Thung Song district; 08°02’48.24”N 99°43’42.48”E; altitude: 89 m a.s.l.) is a horizontal cave that harbors a chamber about 100 m high. A sample of about 10 l was collected on 29.10.2015 from a sinter pool located in the dark zone (Fig. 1D).

Khao Krot Plu Cave (Kuanthong subdistrict; Khanom district; 08°01΄22.50˝N 99°34΄36.09˝E; altitude: 45 m a.s.l.) is a horizontal gallery about 40 m long. A sample of about 1 l was collected on 23.10.2015 from a small concrete pool placed in the dark zone (Fig. 1E).

Khao Plu Cave (Khao Ro subdistrict; Thung Song district; 09°14’22.00”N 99°48’72.00”E; altitude: 56 m a.s.l.) is a horizontal cave about 10 m long registered as an archaeological site. It is located about 25 km from Rat Cave. A sample of 20 l was collected on 29.10.2015 from a large pool placed in the dark zone (Fig. 1C).

Samples from each location were filtered through a plankton net of 60 µm mesh size, transferred into 120 ml plastic bottles and preserved immediately in the field. All specimens were collected by the 3rd author.

**Molecular analysis**

All specimens used in analyses were stored in ethanol 95% (at -20°C) (Gilbert et al., 2007). To examine the phylogenetic relationships among taxa, we used partial sequences of the mtDNA gene cytochrome oxidase 1 (Cox1) (505 bp) and the nuclear 18S rRNA (1372 bp) from a total of 36 specimens (23 species in 12 genera). We included 25 specimens of 6 genera of non-Asian Parabathynellidae as outgroups (*Iberobathynella* Schminke, 1973, *Paraiberobathynella* Camacho and Serban, 1998, *Parabathynella* Chappuis, 1926, *Hexabathynella* Schminke, 1972, *Habrobathynella* and *Paraeobathynella*) sequenced previously by us, plus GenBank sequences of nine specimens of six Australian genera (*Brevisomabathynella* Cho, Park and Ranga Reddy, 2006, *Billibathynella* Cho, 2005, *Atopobathynella* Schminke, 1973, *Octobathynella* Camacho and Hancock, 2010, *Lockyerenella* Camacho and Little, 2016 and *Arkaroolabathynella* Abrams and King, 2013) and one of the cosmopolitan genus *Hexabathynella* (also from Australia; Table 2). The species *Vejdovskybathynella edelweiss* Camacho, 2007, from Spain—a representative of the Parabathynellidae’s sister lineage Bathynellidae Grobben, 1905 (Camacho et al., 2017)—, and *Anaspides tasmaniae* Thomson, 1893, from Tasmania, were chosen as more distant outgroups.

**DNA extraction and PCR amplification**

Whole specimens were placed in 0.5 ml digestion buffer (Gilbert et al., 2007), and incubated overnight at 55°C with gentle agitation. Buffer consisted of 5 mM CaCl₂, 2% sodium dodecyl sulphate (SDS), 40 mM dithiotreitol (DTT), 250 mg/ml proteinase K, 10 mM Tris buffer pH 8, 2.5mM EDTA (Ethylene-Diamine-Tetra-Acetic acid) pH 8.0, and 10 mM NaCl (final concentrations). After incubation, nucleic acids were extracted from the digestion buffer using a Qiaquick PCR purification kit (QIAGEN), (Alda et al., 2007).

A 505 base pair (bp) region of the Cox1 gene was amplified with the primers Cl-J-1718 (5’-GGAGGATTGTGAAATTGATAGTTC-3’) and HCO2198 (5’-TAAACTTCAGGGTGACCAAAAATCA-3’) (Folmer et al., 1994; Simon et al., 1994) for all specimens.
Table 1. Specimens of the three new species of the genus *Paraeobathynella* Camacho, 2005 with corresponding morphological slides (MNCN/ARTP20.04) and DNA extracts (MNCN/ADN) deposited in the collections of the Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales (CSIC) of Madrid, Spain. Number in brackets = number of the specimen from Table 2 used in the molecular analysis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species (Number specimen Table 2)</th>
<th>Voucher slides</th>
<th>Voucher extract</th>
<th>Length (mm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Paraeobathynella ratensis</em> n. sp.</td>
<td></td>
<td>54672</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td></td>
<td>54673</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(18)</td>
<td></td>
<td>54674</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(19)</td>
<td></td>
<td>54675</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td></td>
<td>54676</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(20) Holotype</td>
<td>19825 male</td>
<td>54678</td>
<td>1.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19826 male</td>
<td>54679</td>
<td>1.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(21)</td>
<td>19827 female</td>
<td>54680</td>
<td>1.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td></td>
<td>54681</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19828 female</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19829 male</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19830 female</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19831 male</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(22)</td>
<td>19832 male</td>
<td>54682</td>
<td>1.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19833 male</td>
<td>54683</td>
<td>1.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(23)</td>
<td>19834 female</td>
<td>54684</td>
<td>1.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19835 female</td>
<td>54685</td>
<td>1.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19836 female</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Paraeobathynella siamensis</em> n. sp.</td>
<td></td>
<td>54686</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td></td>
<td>54687</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(24)</td>
<td></td>
<td>54688</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(25)</td>
<td></td>
<td>54689</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td></td>
<td>54690</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td></td>
<td>54691</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19837 male</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19838 male</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19839 male</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19840 male</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19841 male</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19842 male</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holotype</td>
<td>19843 male</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19844 female</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19845 female</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19846 female</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19847 female</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19848 female</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19849 female</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>19850 female</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A 1372 bp fragment of the 18S rRNA region was amplified in three fragments, using the primers 1F (5’-TACCTGGTTGATCCTGCCAGTAG-3’) and 3R (5’-AGGCTCCCTCTCCGGAATCGAAC-3’); 3F (5’-GTTCGATTCCGGAGAGGGA-3’) and 5R (5’-CTTGGCAAATGCTTTCGC-3’); and 5F (5’-GCGAAAGCATTTGCCAAGAA-3’) and 9R (5’-GATCCTTCCGCAGGTTCACCTAC-3’) (Giribet et al., 1996). Sequences of Australian specimens obtained from GenBank had a shorter 18S rRNA fragment (777 bp). 3 μl of DNA solution was used as a template. Other components of the 25 μl PCR reaction included 1x of the corresponding buffer (75 mM Tris HCl, pH 9.0; 50 mM KCl and 20 mM (NH₄)₂SO₄, 2 mM MgCl₂, 10 mM dNTPs mix, 0.1 μM of both primers, 0.02% BSA, and 0.125 units AmpliTaq Gold® DNA Polymerase (Applied Biosystems). The PCR program consisted of an initial denaturation step of 95ºC for 10 min, followed by 60 amplification cycles (95ºC for 30s, 45ºC-49ºC for 45s and 72ºC for 45s) and a final elongation step of 72ºC for 10 min. PCR were run on an Eppendorf Mastercycler. 5 μl of PCR product were electrophoresed through a 1.5% agarose gel and visualized with SYBR SafeTM DNA Gel Satin (Invitrogen) under ultraviolet light. PCR products were purified by treatment with ExoSAP-IT (USB Amersham, Buckinghamshire, UK) and incubated at 37ºC for 45 min, followed by 80ºC for 15 min. to inactivate the enzyme. Purified PCR product was then sequenced in both directions using the BigDye Terminator v3.1 sequencing kit (Applied Biosystems Inc., Foster City, USA) in a 10 μL volume, containing 15 - 20 ng purified product and 3 pmol primer (Camacho et al., 2015). Sequences obtained were then compared with sequences from GenBank using Blast (Altschul et al., 1997).

DNA was extracted from 26 specimens from Thailand, including 14 specimens from Rat cave (seven whole and the abdomen of seven adults); six whole specimens from Khao Krot Plu cave; and six specimens from Khao Plu cave (see Table 2). All DNA extracts are part of the type series of their respective species, and are deposited in the Tissues and DNA Collection of the Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, Madrid (MNCN) (Table 1). Cox1 and 18S rRNA sequences were obtained from 14 of these specimens (Table 2), and were used together with those of the other 22 specimens (included two outgroups) in the analyses. Sequences were aligned with MAFFT (Katoh and Toh, 2008) and checked in Mesquite v3.04 (Maddison and Maddison, 2015) to correct the final alignments. All
Table 2. Specimens used in the molecular analyses. * TL= Type Locality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family/Species</th>
<th>Locality</th>
<th>Coordinates</th>
<th>Voucher MNCN/ ADN</th>
<th>GB-AN</th>
<th>GB-AN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PARABATHYNELLIDAE Noodt, 1965</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Iberobathynella immuiniensis Camacho, 1987</td>
<td>*Torca Morteros Cave, Burgos, Spain</td>
<td>43.14786 -3.59539</td>
<td>1285</td>
<td>29166</td>
<td>KC469528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Iberobathynella ortizi Camacho, 1989</td>
<td>*Rei Cintolo Cave, Lugo, Spain</td>
<td>43.39364 -7.36786</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>54616</td>
<td>MF436209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Iberobathynella parasturiensis Camacho &amp; Serban, 1998</td>
<td>*CO 209 Cave, Cantabria, Spain</td>
<td>43.26725 -5.90858</td>
<td>1132</td>
<td>29556</td>
<td>KC999699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Iberobathynella cornejoensis Camacho, 2005</td>
<td>*Redonda Cave, Burgos, Spain</td>
<td>43.03236 -3.62913</td>
<td>668</td>
<td>29946</td>
<td>KP999701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Iberobathynella burgalensis Camacho, 2005</td>
<td>*Ojo Guareña Cave (OG09), Burgos, Spain</td>
<td>43.03188 -3.65821</td>
<td>724</td>
<td>29520</td>
<td>HQ659862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Iberobathynella celiana Camacho, 2003</td>
<td>Viar stream, Sevilla, Spain.</td>
<td>37.71374 -5.87772</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>29452</td>
<td>HQ659859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Paraiberobathynella cf fagei (Delamare Deboutteville &amp; Angelier, 1950)</td>
<td>Pileta Cave, Málaga, Spain</td>
<td>36.69133 -5.26981</td>
<td>729</td>
<td>54581</td>
<td>KP999743</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Paraiberobathynella maghrebensis (Boutin &amp; Coineau, 1987)</td>
<td>well, Nador, Maghreb, Morocco</td>
<td>34.95238 -2.59795</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>29935</td>
<td>KC469532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Parabathynella sp</td>
<td>Poltarica spring, Slovenia</td>
<td>45.88681 14.7684</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>54669</td>
<td>MF436211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Hexabathynella sevillaensis Camacho, 2005</td>
<td>*Santiago Grande Cave, Sevilla, Spain</td>
<td>38.03013 -5.90429</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>29545</td>
<td>KC469526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Hexabathynella sp1</td>
<td>*Port Kenny, South Australia, Australia</td>
<td>-33.1564 134.6445</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>JQ446049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Brevisomabathynella uramurdahensis Cho &amp; Humphreys, 2006</td>
<td>Bubble well, West Australia, Australia</td>
<td>-26.56073 120.4048</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>JQ446073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Billibathynella sp2</td>
<td>Moorarie, West Australia, Australia</td>
<td>-27.41337 117.7112</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>JQ446059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Aropebathynella hinziae Cho, Humphreys &amp; Lee, 2006</td>
<td>Depot spring, West Australia, Australia</td>
<td>-27.93010 120.0584</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>JQ446051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Octobathynella peelensis Camacho &amp; Hancock, 2010</td>
<td>*Peel river, New South Wales, Australia</td>
<td>-30.9561 150.8017</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>54673</td>
<td>MG321597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Paraceobathynella ratensis n. sp.</td>
<td>*Rat Cave, Thung Song (Kapang), Thailand</td>
<td>8.04672 99.72847</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>54767</td>
<td>MG321598</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Paraceobathynella ratensis n. sp.</td>
<td>*Rat Cave, Thung Song (Kapang), Thailand</td>
<td>8.04672 99.72847</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>54678</td>
<td>MG321599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Paraceobathynella ratensis n. sp.</td>
<td>*Rat Cave, Thung Song (Kapang), Thailand</td>
<td>8.04672 99.72847</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>54680</td>
<td>MG321600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Paraceobathynella ratensis n. sp.</td>
<td>*Rat Cave, Thung Song (Kapang), Thailand</td>
<td>8.04672 99.72847</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>54682</td>
<td>MG321601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Paraceobathynella ratensis n. sp.</td>
<td>*Rat Cave, Thung Song (Kapang), Thailand</td>
<td>8.04672 99.72847</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>54684</td>
<td>MG321602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Paraceobathynella ratensis n. sp.</td>
<td>*Rat Cave, Thung Song (Kapang), Thailand</td>
<td>8.04672 99.72847</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>54686</td>
<td>MG321603</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
sequences used in analyses were submitted to GenBank (see Tab. 2 for locality, collection voucher number and GenBank Accession Number for each specimen). We calculated the nucleotide substitution model for both genes using the Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) and the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) (Posada and Buckley, 2004) implemented in JModelTest v2. (Darriba et al., 2012).

**Phylogenetic analyses**

Were carried out using Maximum Likelihood (ML) and Bayesian Inference (BI) methods. Maximum Likelihood analysis was implemented in RAxML (Stamatakis et al., 2014) using 10,000 bootstrap replicates to assess node support. Bayesian Inference analysis was run in MrBayes v.3.2.2 (Ronquist et al., 2012). We explored the substitution model space with the option lset nst=mixed rates=invgamma. We ran different analyses with the partition scheme suggested in PartitionFinder (Lanfear et al., 2012, 2014) for 100x10^6 generations, discarding the first 25% generations as burnin, and synthesizing the resulting trees in a 50% majority rule consensus tree. The consensus phylogenetic tree was then edited in FigTree v.1.4.2. (http://tree.bio.ed.ac.uk/software/figtree).

**Species tree and divergence time estimates**

A multilocus species tree analysis of Thailand populations was carried out using the concatenated matrix (Cox1 + 18S) and the multispecies coalescent method *BEAST implemented in BEAST v.1.8.4 (Drummond et al., 2012). Based on the results of ML and BI analyses together with the morphological data we incorporated as a priori information the three predefined groups (Thai species). In addition, we estimated divergence times between lineages...
following a Bayesian-coalescence approach as implemented in BEAST 1.8.4. The analysis relies on the use of relaxed molecular clocks to reconstruct the genealogy of the samples under study together with different demographic and temporal parameters. To calibrate the molecular clock we used the substitution rates estimated for insects in Papadopoulou et al., (2010), with a prior on the substitution rates of the mitochondrial genes ranging from 1.5 % my−1 to 2.3 % my−1, and from 0.05 % my−1 to 0.1 % my−1 for the nuclear genes. We specified as a speciation tree prior a Birth-Death Incomplete Sampling (Stadler, 2009), and examined the trace plots and Effective Sample Size (ESS) value in Tracer v.1.5 to evaluate the convergence of the Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC). The results were summarized and annotated in a maximum clade credibility tree (MCC) generated in TreeAnnotator (Drummond et al., 2012), removing previously the first 25% of the topologies as burnin.

Morphological studies

Twelve specimens of the Rat Cave population (Paraeobathynella ratensis n. sp.; six females and six males); 14 specimens from Khao Krot Plu Cave (P. siamensis n. sp.; seven females and seven males); and 12 specimens from Khao Plu Cave (P. hanjavanitiana n. sp.; five females and seven males) were used for morphological study (see Table 1 for specimen vouchers). These specimens constitute the morphological type series of the three new species described herein. A complete dissection of all appendages in all specimens was done and the resultant parts preserved as permanent slides (special metal slides, glycerine-gelatine stained with methylene blue and paraffin as mounting medium; see Perina and Camacho, 2016). Morphological examination was performed using an oil immersion lens (at 1000x magnification) with a Zeiss interference microscope equipped with a drawing tube. Photographs were taken with a Leica camera (LEICA MC170 HD) attached to the microscope with 400X magnification. These photographs cannot replace the drawings in which all the planes are integrated offering the overall image, but allow observation of details in a realistic way. The material is deposited in the Collection of Arthropoda of the Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales de Madrid (Spain)


Abbreviations

Morphology. Al: antennule; AI: antenna; End: endopod; Exp: exopod; Md: mandible; Mx.I: maxillule; Mx.II: maxilla; sgt: segment; Th I-VIII: Thoracopods I-VIII; Symp: Sympod; Urp: uropod.

Distribution. Ha: Habitat; TL: Type Locality.

Acronyms. MNCN: Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales de Madrid (Spain); CSIC: Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (Spain); ARTP: Arthropods collection of the MNCN; MNCN/ADN: Tissues and DNA collection of the MNCN; GB-AN: Genbank accession number.

Results

Phylogenetic analyses, species tree and divergence time estimates

The concatenated data set for the Cox1 and 18S consisted of 1182 bp derived from 36 sequences. PartitionFinder recognized four partitions under the BIC criterion, three separate codon positions for the Cox1 fragment and a separate partition for the whole 18S fragment (p1=1-505\3; p2=2-503\3; p3=3-504\3 and p4=506-1882). The details of the nucleotide substitution model identified by JModelTest are Cox1 TVM+I+G and 18S GTR+I+G according to the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC); and Cox1 GTR+I+G and 18S TrNef+I+G according to the Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC).

The phylogenetic analyses under Maximum Likelihood (ML) (bootstrap support, BS) and Bayesian Inference (BI) (posterior probabilities, PP) yielded identical topologies (Fig. 2). Based on these analyses, the Parabathynellidae appear as a monophyletic family (PP=1 BS=84) composed of four well-supported major clades. One clade, A (Fig. 2) (PP=1 BS=100) includes the three new species of the genus Paraeobathynella from Thailand. P. siamensis n. sp. (PP=1 BS=100), located in the north of the Nakhon Si Thammarat province (Khao Krot cave), is sister to the other two species from the south region: P. ratensis n. sp. (Rat cave) and P. hanjavanitiana n. sp. (Khao Plu cave). The second sister clade (B) according to Bayesian analyses (PP=0.96) includes the European and North African genera Iberobathynella, Paraiberobathynella and Parabathynella (PP=1 BS=99). Parabathynella from Slovenia was recovered as the sister genus (PP=1 BS=94) to the taxa from the Iberian Peninsula and
Figure 2. Phylogenetic relationships within the family Parabathynellidae. Bayesian phylogenetic tree based on 1882 bp of mtDNA and nDNA sequences (Cox1 and 18S). The same topology was recovered under a Maximum Likelihood approach. Support for each node is represented by the Posterior probabilities (PP) resulting from the Bayesian Inference analysis and the Bootstrap support values (BS) obtained for the Maximum Likelihood tree (PP/BS). Colored squares encode distribution of their respective taxa in adjacent map. Species remarked with asterisk appear represented in respective adjacent photos. The numbers in brackets correspond to the number of Thai specimens that appear in Table 2.
The recovered time for the most recent common ancestor (TMRCA) of the Parabathynellidae fell during Eocene, 38.1 Mya (95% HPD: 25.98-51.8) (Fig. 3). The TMRCA for the Paraeobathynella from Thailand suggests a Late Miocene diversification, at 17.28 Mya (95% High Probability Density: 10.52-25.51). The split between the species P. hanjavantiana n. sp. and P. ratensis n. sp. took place during the Tortonian, at 11.84 Mya (95% HPD: 6.79-17.94) (Fig. 3).

The analysis of the species tree based on Cox1 and 18S genes using *BEAST, recovered with a strong support (PP=1) the specimens from the three populations of Thailand as different species (Fig. 3).
4A). Mitochondrial DNA (Cox1) and nuclear (18S) haplotypes networks of Thailand lineages support these three different species and recover the higher haplotypic diversity within Khao Plu cave (Fig. 4B).

Discussion

The discovery of the genus *Paraeobathynella* in Thailand, previously known only from Vietnam, reflects the paucity of knowledge of the diversity of the groundwater fauna of Asia. Only South Korea, India and Japan have been relatively well sampled for parabathynellids, with 28, 20 and 11 species known, respectively. *Allobathynella*, *Eobathynella* and *Nipponbathynella* Schminke, 1973, present in Japan and South Korea, account for half of the known species (36) in the region (74). Many Asian genera are very similar in morphology and some of their diagnoses are incomplete and/or share many presumed diagnostic traits, resulting in a questionable generic assignment of many species. For example, the provisional diagnosis by Schminke (2011) of *Allobathynella* is also applicable to *Paraeobathynella*, *Eobathynella*, *Sketinella*. Unfortunately, there are no Cox1 or 18S sequences available for Asian genera such as *Allobathynella*, *Eobathynella*, *Kampucheabathynella* or *Sketinella*, or for the type species of the genus *Paraeobathynella* (*P. vietnamensis*), to assess how close are all these taxa to the three new species described herein. These three new species differ significantly in terms of morphological (Appendix 1) and molecular features, and are easily identified based on these traits (Clade A; Fig. 2). They share with the type species of the genus

![Figure 4](image-url)

**Figure 4.** (A) Species tree consensus and posterior density of species trees (blue cladogram) from *BEAST* analyses of 1877pb (concatenated Cox1 and 18S). Support for each node in the species tree is represented by posterior probabilities (PP). Darker areas in the cladogram represent the regions of tree space where the majority of trees agree in topology. (B) Mitochondrial DNA (Cox1) and nuclear (18S) haplotype networks of Thailand lineages. The size of the circles (haplotypes) is proportional to the number of individuals presenting that haplotype.
the common display of a crest on the basipod of male Th VIII with a distinctive shape, which unites them in the genus *Paraeobathynella*. But each one displays a unique combination of characters on their own, especially with regard to dimensions and appearance of both the outer lobe and the basipod of the male Th VIII (Appendix 1). Other more subtle differences between them pertain to the length of both setae and teeth present on mouthparts, the density of secondary setation, and the relative proportions of thoracopodal segments, antennae and uropods. All these features are certainly subjective and can sometimes be deformed by fixation and mounting of the animals. It is therefore essential to perform molecular analyses to complement the species diagnoses, and the partial sequences of cytochrome oxidase I (Cox1) and 18S of the three new species obtained herein complement their traditional morphological taxonomic description.

Our phylogeny demonstrates the existence of at least three highly divergent clades in the Parabathynellidae, corresponding to (i) the European and North African genera (*Iberobathynella*, *Paraiberobathynella* and *Parabathynella*) (B in Fig. 2) plus the three new Asian species (A in Fig. 2); (ii) the Australian genera together with *Habrobathynella* (Asian genus) (C in Fig. 2); and (iii) the cosmopolitan genus *Hexabathynella* (D in Fig. 2). The three new species from Thailand undoubtedly belong to the same genus. *Paraeobathynella siamensis* n. sp. is the sister species to the other two new species (Figs 2, 3), which agrees with the results of the morphological study. Furthermore, our study recovers *Parabathynella* from Slovenia as sister to *Iberobathynella* and *Paraiberobathynella*, two genera from the Iberian Peninsula and Morocco. *Paraiberobathynella* was created by Camacho and Serban (1998) to accommodate the “*fagei*” (Delamare Deboutteville and Angelier, 1950) and the ”*magrebensis*” (Boutin and Coineau, 1987) species-groups of *Iberobathynella* because they were morphologically different from the rest of the species in the genus. These subdivisions should be reconsidered now since our molecular data do not support the retention of *Paraiberobathynella* as a distinct genus.

The analysis shows also that the eight Australian species form a monophyletic group that includes also a species from India. It is interesting to remark also that the two species included in the analysis of the cosmopolitan genus *Hexabathynella*, from places as distant as Spain and Australia, meet in a clade that is sister to the rest of the clades obtained.

Bathynellaceans are obligate groundwater inhabitants and are distributed worldwide. On a large scale, the distribution of both fossil and recent syncarids seems to respond to a biogeographic model of double vicariance (Boutin and Coineau, 1990; Coineau and Boutin, 1992) triggered by plate tectonics and periods of positive marine eustatism (Coineau and Camacho, 2013). Syncarida were already diversified in the Paleozoic (Schram, 1977; Camacho and Coineau, 1989; Coineau and Camacho, 2013), and constituted an important element of the crustacean communities present in brackish and freshwater environments on the margins of Laurentia during the Carboniferous (Andrew 2005; Camacho and Valdecasas, 2008). Brooks (1962) writes that Bathynellacea are probably descendents of the archaic ancestors of all Syncarida and Serban (1972) pointed out that Bathynellacea has a “bathynelloïde” structure that differentiate them from Malacostraca and Syncarida, separating them into a higher group Podophallocarida; Schram and Hof (1998) found Bathynellacea sorting separately from Anaspidacea as an ancestor of the Malacostraca (including the Anaspidacea). Camacho et al., 2002 summarized the result of Brooks, Serban and Schram and Hof and renewed the old controversies on the systematic position of Bathynellacea within Malacostraca with the first molecular data. It may be that Serban’s (1972) proposal of a new superorder “Podophallocarida” for the Bathynellacea, outside the Syncarida, is worth reconsidering. With this argument it could be that the origin of Podophallocarida/Bathynellacea was pre-Pangaea. They could have spread across Pangea, including a substantial Gondwanan colonization from which the taxa currently found in Australia and Brazil were derived (Schram, 1981, 1984). This occupation of Gondwana took place in the Permian-Triassic (250-200 Mya), before the break-up of Pangea (175 Mya) (Golonka and Gaweda, 2012; Coineau and Camacho, 2013; Hutchison, 2014).

The fragmentation of Pangea (150 Mya) in the Mesozoic (Golonka, 2007) led to the current disjunct distribution of syncarids (Schram, 1977) and Bathynellacea, and induced their independent evolution on each landmass. Thus, the break-up of eastern Gondwana separated Madagascar from northwestern Australia in the mid-Cretaceous (90 Mya) (Gibbons et al., 2012). India began to move away from Australia about 130 Mya in the Early Cretaceous, and from Madagascar about 90 Mya (Late Cretaceous) (Raval and Veeraswamy, 2003). This scenario would explain the occurrence of *Habrobathynella* in India and Madagascar and its closer kinship to the Australian
The split between the species *P. hanjavanitiana* n. sp. and *P. ratensis* n. sp. took place during the Tortonian Stage probably resulting from local geologic events.

**Acknowledgements**

We gratefully acknowledge C. Puch who has helped us in different ways. Thanks also to Damián Jaume who has provided us with specimens of three species for molecular analysis. Thanks to Arabia Sánchez for the help in the producing of microscope photographs. We thank the reviewers Damián Jaume, Fred Schram, Nicole Coineau, and one anonymous person for their constructive comments. This work was supported by CGL2015-66571-P, MINECO/FEDER project and the National Research Council of Thailand (Grant No. 2559A13402007).

**References**


Brooks HK. 1962. On the fossil Anaspidacea, with a revisión...


Chappuis PA. 1926. *Parabathynella stygia* n.g. n.sp. nouveau crustacé cavernicole de la Serbie Orientale. *Buletinul Societatii de Stiinte din Cluj* II: 7-10.


Gilbert MT, Moore W, Melchior L, Worobey M. 2007. DNA extraction from dry museum beetles without conferring


Received: 4 May 2018
Revised and accepted: 3 September 2018
Published online: 9 November 2018
Editor: R. Vonk
Appendix 1

Systematic account

The three new species described here belong to the genus *Paraeobathynella*. Previously only the type species *P. vietnamensis* Camacho, 2005 was known from the Hang Trinh Nu cave in Vietnam. The three new species from Thailand were found: *P. ratensis* n. sp. 29.10.2015 in the Rat cave, 55 specimens (14 males, 16 females and 25 juveniles); *P. siamensis* n. sp. 23.10.2015 in the Khao Krot cave, 41 specimens (22 males, 17 females and two juveniles) and *P. hanjavanitiana* n. sp. 29.10.2015 in the Khao Plu cave, 47 specimens (21 males, 19 females and seven juveniles).

The morphological descriptions are based on the holotype (male) and type series. Molecular analysis is based on DNA extract (whole specimens and abdomen of the specimens used in morphological study) all of these are part of the type series (see Tables 1, 2).

*Paraeobathynella Camacho, 2005*

Amended diagnosis (after Camacho, 2005)

Antennule (AI) 7- to 9-segmented, with subterminal aesthetasc on terminal segment. Antenna (AII) 7-segmented; fourth segment naked. Mandible (Md) pars molaris protruding. Maxillule (Mx.I) proximal endite with four claws; distal endite with seven teeth. Exopod of thoracopods (Th I-VII) with more than two segments (3- to 9-segmented); basipod of Th I with two setae. Male Thoracopod VIII large; basipod trapezoidal with a crest-like protuberance on the inner lateral edge; endopod well developed, with two terminal setae; exopod very large, longer than wide, overhanging basipod and positioned distally; inner lobe completely integrated into basal region, not exceeding dentate lobe; rounded outer lobe not

Figure 5. Habitus of *Paraeobathynella ratensis* n. sp. Male. *Scale bar*: in mm.

Figure 6. *Paraeobathynella ratensis* n. sp. Male holotype. A: Antennule; B: Antenna; C: Labrum; D: Mandible; E: Maxillule; F: Maxilla; G: Thoracopod I; H: Female Thoracopod VIII. *Scale bar*: in mm.

Figure 7. *Paraeobathynella ratensis* n. sp. Male holotype; A: Thoracopod II; B: Thoracopod III; C: Thoracopod IV; D: Thoracopod V; E: Thoracopod VI; F: Thoracopod VII. *Scale bar*: in mm.
Contributions to Zoology, 87 (4) – 2018

Series contains 11 slides (five males and six females; ARTP Collection MNCN20.04/19826-19836) together with DNA extractions of seven whole specimens and seven abdomens (DNA types: MNCN/ADN54672-54685). Description is based on all adult specimens of the type series. All drawings in description correspond to the male holotype except the female Th VIII paratype. Short diagnosis: 8-segmented AI; 7-segmented AII; Md, pars incisiva 5 teeth, pars molaris 7 teeth; MxII, setal formula, 3/3/11/4; basipod Th III-VII, 1 seta; exopod Th I, 3-4 segmented; exopod Th II-VII, 4-6 segmented; absent pleopods; uropod, 7-9 similar spines on sympod, 6 setae on exopod, 2 spines and 4 setae on endopod; furca, 4-5 spines; protruded small anal operculum.

Description

Body: Total length of holotype 1.66 mm. Total length of males (n=6): 1.21-1.72 mm; females (n=6): 1.29-1.86 mm. Body elongate (Fig. 5. Head longer than broad.

Antennule (Fig. 6A): 8-segmented, not sexually-dimorphic; length of proximal four segments combined higher than four distal segments combined; segment 2 short, almost square; inner flagellum almost triangular; three distal segments similar in length; segment 5 short, lacking aesthetascs; segment 6 with 2 aesthetascs; segments 7 and 8 each with three aesthetascs; aesthetascs on terminal segment disposed subdistally, one of them longer than rest. Setation on segments as figured.

Antenna (Fig. 6B): Slightly longer than first four antennulary segments combined. 7-segmented: proximal three segments short; segments 4, 6 and 7 similar in length; segment 5 as 2/3 length of segment 4; Setal formula as: 0/0/1+0/1+1/0/0+2/4(1).

Labrum (Fig. 6C): Concave, with 13 teeth; all teeth unicuspid except outermost tooth at each side, which are bicusped and more slender than rest. Ventral surface with several rows of spinules.

Mandible (Fig. 6D): Pars incisiva with 5 well developed teeth and one small proximal spine-like tooth; pars molaris with 7 claws, 5 of them strong and denticulate, 2 most proximal joined basally, setulose and more slender than rest; mandibular palp unsegmented, with long simple seta not exceeding pars incisiva.

Maxillule (Fig. 6E): Proximal endite with 4 of unequal claws; distal endite with 7 claws, of which two more distal smooth, rest denticulate; 3 simple setae implanted subdistally on outer margin of endite as figured.

Type species: Paraeobathynella vietnamensis Camacho, 2005

Paraeobathynella ratensis Camacho and Watiroyram n. sp. (Figs 5-8)
http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:AF660AB2-7274-42D1-A8C0-20C0174BAB1D

Material examined (Tables 1, 2)

Type material. The specimens were collected at Rat Cave, Kapang subdistrict, Thung Song district, Nakhon Si Thammarat province, Southern Thailand (08°02’48.24”N 99°43’42.48”E; 89 m a.s.l) on 29.10.2015. Holotype male (ARTP Collection MNCN20.04/19825) collected together with 14 males, 16 females and 25 juveniles. The morphological type fused with basipod. Female Th VIII large, almost square, with or without small denticles and with 2 long terminal setae. Pleopods not developed. Ventral seta of pleotelson placed near base of furca. Sympod of uropod with subequal spines; endopod with two spines and two apical setae.

Figure 8. Paraeobathynella ratensis n. sp. Male holotype. A: Thoracopod VIII (lateral internal view); B: Thoracopod VIII (latero-external view); C: Thoracopod VIII (latero-frontal view); D: Thoracopod VIII (latero-caudal view); E: Uropod (lateral view); F: Pleotelson and furca (dorsal view). Scale bar: in mm.
Maxilla (Fig. 6F): 4-segmented, with 3 setae on proximal segment; second segment with 2 long and one shorter setae; third segment elongate with 11 setae; distal segment with one strong terminal, one subterminal and 2 lateral setae.

Thoracopods I-VII (Figs. 6G; 7A-F): Well developed, length slightly increasing from Th I to Th III; last 5 Ths similar in size. Coxopod with well developed epiopodite on Th II-VII, latter reaching slightly more than half length of corresponding basipod. Basipod similar in length in all thoracopods except Th I, which is slightly shorter than rest; basipod of Th I-II with 2 lateral setae and only one on rest of thoracopods. Exopod of Th I 3-segmented (Fig. 6G), 4-segmented on Th II (Fig. 7A), 5-segmented on rest of thoracopods (Fig. 7B to F); exopod shorter than corresponding endopod in Th I-II, of similar length in Th III-VI, and longer in Th VII; all exopodal segments with 2 barbed setae except in Th I, which bears 3 on first segment; one cluster of ctenidia at base of each seta of exopod as figured. Endopod 4-segmented; first segment similar in all Ths, half length of second segment; second and third segments long and similar in length in all Ths except Th I, which is shorter than rest; fourth segment reduced, with 2 strong smooth claws of unequal length and one simple seta. Setal formula of endopods as: Th I, 3+1/3+1/2+1/3(1); Th II, 1+1/2+1/3+1/3(1); Th III, 1+1/3+1/2+1/3(1); Th IV-VII, 1+1/2+1/2+1/3(1); outer seta on first and second segment of Th I-VII plumose.

Male Thoracopod VIII (Fig. 8A-D): Large, massive, almost square; basal region massive; inner lobe completely integrated into basal region, barely exceeding distal end of dentate lobe; basipod with one distal protuberance resembling a crest with 2 small teeth on the inner lateral edge, which exceeds end of internal lobe. Endopod large and almost square, with 2 long barbed setae. Exopod large, longer than wide, overhanging basipod and outer lobe; outer lobe rectangular, not fused with basipod and not exceeding end of outer side of basipod; dentate lobe overlapped by inner lobe, with large teeth on rounded distal end.

Female Thoracopod VIII (Fig. 6H): Large with smooth cuticle, rounded, with 2 long distal barbed setae and 2 small teeth.

Pleotelson (Fig. 8F): Anal operculum slightly pronounced, with rounded tip; ventral seta barbed, reaching up to midway of furcal ramus.

First pleopods: Absent.

Uropod (Fig. 8E): Sympod longer than rami, 3.5 times as long as wide, with 8 barbed spines of similar size along distal half of inner margin. Endopod slightly shorter than exopod, with 2 strong barbed spines, 2 barbed setae and one strong denticle on distal margin, and with 2 plumose setae along outer margin, latter two exceeding in length distal end of endopod; three groups of ctenidia on medial margin of segment as figured. Exopod with 2 barbed setae distally and 4 barbed setae along outer margin; one group of ctenidia on distomedial angle of segment.

Furca (Fig. 8F): Each ramus almost square, with 4 strong barbed spines, 2 terminal ones slightly longer and thicker than rest. Dorsal side of furcal rami each with the 2 plumose setae—characteristic of family Parabathynellidae—of unequal length, one of which reaching tip of terminal spine.

Etymology. The specific name, ratensis, refers to Rat Cave, where the new species was found. The epitheton is a noun in the genitive singular masculine.

Paraeobathynella siamensis Camacho and Watiroyram n. sp. (Figs 9–14)

Material examined (Tables 1, 2)

Type material: The specimens were collected at Khao Krot Cave, Kuanthong subdistrict, Khanom district, Nakhon Si Thammarat province, Southern Thailand (08°01΄22.50˝N 99°34΄36.09 E; 45 m a.s.l.) on 23.10.2015. Holotype male (ARTP Collection MNCN20.04/19843) collected together with 41 specimens (22 males, 17 females and two

Figure 9. Habitus of Paraeobathynella siamensis n. sp. Scale bar: in mm.
Figure 10. *Paraeobathynella siamensis* n. sp. Male holotype. A: Antennule; B: Antenna; C: Labrum; D: Mandible; E: Maxillule; F: Maxilla. *Scale bar:* in mm.

Figure 12. *Paraeobathynella siamensis* n. sp. Male holotype. A: Thoracopod V; B: Thoracopod VI; C: Thoracopod VII. *Scale bar:* in mm.

Figure 11. *Paraeobathynella siamensis* n. sp. Male holotype. A: Thoracopod I; B: Thoracopod II; C: Thoracopod III; D: Thoracopod IV. *Scale bar:* in mm.

Figure 13. *Paraeobathynella siamensis* n. sp. Male holotype. A: Thoracopod VIII (lateral internal view); B: Thoracopod VIII (lateral-external view); C: Thoracopod VIII; D: Thoracopod VIII; E: Female Thoracopod VIII; F: Uropod (lateral view); G: Pleotelson and furca (dorsal view). *Scale bar:* in mm.
Figure 14. *Paraeobathynella siamensis* n. sp. Male holotype. A: Antennule, detail of aesthetascs; B: Mandible; C: Thoracopod III, detail of second segment of endopod; D: Labrum; E: Thoracopod VIII (lateral internal view); F: Maxilla, detail of distal part; G: Pleotelson, furca and uropod.
The morphological type series contains 13 slides (seven males and seven females; ARTP Collection MNCN20.04/19837-19842 and 19844-19850) together with DNA extractions (six whole specimens; DNA types: MNCN/ADN54686-54691) (see Tab. 1 and 2. The description is based on all adult specimens of the type series. All drawings aside the female Th VIII correspond to the male holotype.

Short diagnosis: 9-segmented AI; 7-segmented AII; Md, *pars incisiva* 8 teeth, *pars molaris* 15 teeth; MxII, setal formula, 3/3/12/4; basipod Th III-VII, 2 setae; exopod Th I, 4-5 segmented; exopod Th II-VII, 5-9 segmented; absent pleopods; uropod, 10-13 different spines on sympod, 8 setae on exopod, 2 spines and 4 setae on endopod; furca, 6-7 spines; protruded extra large size anal operculum.

**Description**

**Body:** Total length of holotype 2.62 mm. Total length of males (n=7): 1.70-2.60 mm; females (n=7): 1.84-2.40 mm. Body elongate (Fig. 9). Head longer than broad.

**Antennule** (Fig. 10A): 9-segmented, not sexually-dimorphic; length of proximal 4 segments combined similar to distal 5 combined; segment 2 short, half length of first segment, almost square; inner flagellum rectangular; segments 4 and 5 short, similar in length; last 4 segments similar in length, segments 6 and 7 slightly longer than distal 2; setation as in Fig. 10A; segments 6 and 7 with two aesthetascs, segments 8 and 9 with three aesthetascs; aesthetascs on last segment placed subdistally, one longer than rest (Figs 10A; 14A).

**Antenna** (Fig. 10B): Slightly shorter than first 6 antennulary segments combined, 7-segmented: first 3 segments short; fourth and last 2 segments similar in length; fifth segment slightly longer than 2/3 length of sixth; last segment with 3 simple and one plumose terminal setae; segments 1, 2 and 5 naked; setation on other segments as in Fig. 7B. Setal formula: 0/0/1+0/1+0/1/0/2+2/4(1).

**Labrum** (Figs 10C; 14D): Concave, with 16 teeth, of which outer 4 at each side smaller than rest; ventral surface with several rows of fine spinules.

**Mandible** (Figs 10D; 14B): *Pars incisiva* with 8 well developed teeth, 2 small denticles and 2 proximal seta-like teeth; *pars molaris* with 14 claws, 12 of which strong and denticulate, 2 more proximal setulose, smaller and joined basally; mandibular palp not exceeding *pars incisiva*.

**Maxillule** (Fig. 10E): Proximal endite with 4 unequal claws; distal endite with 7 claws, apical one smooth, rest denticulate; 3 simple setae implanted subdistally on outer margin of endite as figured.

**Maxilla** (Figs 10F; 14F): 4-segmented; setal formula: 3, 4, 12, 4.

**Thoracopods I-VII** (Figs 11; 12; 14C): Well developed, length slightly increasing from Th I to Th III, Th IV-VII similar in size; well developed coxal epipod on Th II-VII, reaching little more than half length of basipod. Basipods all similar in length except in Th I-Th II, which are slightly shorter than rest; all basipods with 2 lateral setae. Exopod of Th I 5-segmented (Fig. 11A), 6-segmented on Th II (Fig. 11B), 7-segmented on Th III and 8-segmented on Th IV-VII (Figs. 11D; 12A-C); exopod of Th I shorter than corresponding endopod, rami similar in length in Th II-III, and exopod longer than endopod in Th IV-VII; all exopodal segments with 2 barbed setae and groups of ctenidia both at base of setae and along segments (see Figs 11; 12). Endopod 4-segmented in all thoracopods, with proximal segment half length of second segment, second and third segments similar in length, both with clusters of strong spinules along outer margin; fourth segment reduced, with 2 strong claws and one simple seta. Setal formula of endopod as: Th I, 4+1/4+1/4+1/3(1); Th II, 2+1/4+1/5+1/3(1); Th III, 1+1/4+1/5+1/3(1); Th IV+1/4+1/5+1/3(1); Th V, 1+1/4+1/4+1/3(1); Th VI, 1+1/3+1/4+1/3(1); Th VII, 1+1/3+1/2+1/3(1); outer seta on first and second segments of Th I-VII plumose.

**Male Thoracopod VIII** (Figs 13A-D; 14E): Large, almost square; basal region massive; inner lobe completely integrated into basal region, barely exceeding distal end of dentate lobe; basipod with one very long distal protuberance on inner edge, like a vertical crest, which exceeds both the end of inner lobe and the exopod; endopod almost square, with 2 long barbed setae distally; exopod large, longer than wide, overhanging both basipod and outer lobe; outer lobe large, trapezoidal, not fused with basipod and exceeding end of outer side of latter; dentate lobe with rounded distal end, with few teeth, overlapped by inner lobe.

**Female Thoracopod VIII** (Fig. 13E): Large, with smooth cuticle, apple-like in appearance, with 2 long barbed setae distally.

**Pleotelson** (Fig. 13G;14G): Anal operculum narrow and elongate, triangular, more than 2/3 as long as furcal ramus; ventral seta barbed, reaching up to midway of furcal ramus.

**First pleopods:** Absent.
**Uropod** (Figs 13F; 14G): Sympod 4.6 times as long as wide, with 12 barbed spines along distal half of outer margin, 2 distalmost spines about 1/3 longer than rest. Endopod shorter than exopod, with 2 strong barbed spines, 1 strong denticle and 2 unequal plumose setae distally, and with 2 plumose setae along outer margin; many clusters of ctenidia on dorsal face of segment as figured. Exopod with 2 barbed distal setae, one of them very elongate, and 6 barbed setae along outer margin; each seta with group of ctenidia at base.

**Furca** (Figs 13G; 14G): Rami each with 6 barbed spines (2 terminal ones much longer and thicker than rest). Dorsal face of rami each with the two setae characteristic of members of the family Parabathynellidae placed at 2/3 of its length; both setae barbed and about half as long as ramus.

**Variability.** There is variation in the number of spines on the furca (6-7) and the sympod of the uropod (11-13), as well as on the number of segments of AI (8-9) and of exopod of thoracopods (Th I, 4-5; Th II, 5-7; Th III, 6-7; Th IV-VII, 7-9). Furthermore, there is some variation in the setal formula of the endopod of thoracopods: Th I, 4+1/4-5+1/4-5+1/3(1); Th II, 2-3+1/4-5+1/5+1/3(1); Th III, 1+1/4-5+1/5+1/3(1); Th IV-V, 1+1/4-5+1/3+1/3(1); Th VI, 1+1/3-4+1/4+1/3(1); Th VII, 1+1/3-4-1/2-3+1/3(1). Sometimes the variability occurs in appendages of the same specimen (left and right counterparts).

**Etymology.** Species name refers to the former name of Thailand, i.e. Siam, where it was discovered for the first time. The epitheton is a noun in the genitive singular masculine.

*Paraeobathynella hanjavanitiana* Camacho and Watiroyram n. sp. (Figs 15–19)
http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:A1003D2E-F2BA-422C-821C-A43704FC72AE

---

**Figure 15.** Habitus of *Paraeobathynella hanjavanitiana* n. sp.  
*Scale bar:* in mm.

**Figure 16.** *Paraeobathynella hanjavanitiana* n. sp. Male holotype.  
A: Antennule; B: Antenna; C: Labrum; D: Mandible; E: Maxillule; F: Maxilla.  
*Scale bar:* in mm.

**Figure 17.** *Paraeobathynella hanjavanitiana* n. sp. Male holotype.  
A: Thoracopod I; B: Thoracopod II; C: Thoracopod III; D: Thoracopod IV.  
*Scale bar:* in mm.
Material examined (Tables 1, 2)

Type material: The specimens were collected at Khao Plu Cave, Khao Ro subdistrict, Thung Song district, Nakhon Si Thammarat province, Southern Thailand (09°14'22.00"N 99°48’72.00"E; 56 m a.s.l.) on 29.10.2015. Holotype male (ARTP Collection MNCN20.04/19855) collected together with 46 specimens (20 males, 19 females and seven juveniles). The morphological type series contains 12 slides (seven males and five females; ARTP Collection MNCN20.04/19851-19854 and 19856-19862) together with DNA extractions from six whole specimens (DNA types MNCN/ADN54692-54697) (see Tabs. 1 and 2). The description is based on all adult specimens of the type series. All drawings correspond to the male holotype except the female Th VIII.

Short diagnosis: 8-9-segmented AI; 7-segmented AII; Md, pars incisiva 8 teeth, pars molaris 10 teeth; MxII, setal formula, 3/3/11/4; basipod Th III-VII, 2 setae; exopod Th I, 4 segmented; exopod Th II-VII, 5-6 segmented; absent pleopods; uropod, 9-12 different spines on sympod, 6 setae on exopod, 2 spines and 4 setae on endopod; furca, 5-7 spines; protruded medium size anal operculum.

Description

Body: Total length of holotype 1.79 mm. Total length of males (n=6): 1.23-1.72 mm; females (n=6): 1.41-1.66 mm. Body elongate (Fig. 15). Head longer than broad.

Antennule (Fig. 16A): Not sexually-dimorphic, 9-segmented; length of first 4 segments combined almost similar to last 5 combined; first segment largest, fifth smallest; segment 2 almost square; inner flagelum trapezoidal; third, sixth and seventh segments similar in size, small; segments 6 and 7 with two aesthetascs, segments 8 and 9 with three aesthetascs; aesthetascs on segment 9 subdistal, one of them longer than rest. Setation on segments as figured.

Antenna (Fig. 16B): A little longer than first 6 antennulary segments combined. 7-segmented: first 3 segments short; segments 4, 6 and 7 similar in length; segment 5 as long as 2/3 length of fourth segment; terminal segment with 3 simple and one plumose distal setae; segments 1, 2 and 5 naked; setation on other segments as figured. Setal formula: 0/0/1+0/1+1/0/0+4/2/4(1).

Labrum (Fig. 16C): Slightly concave, with 12 teeth of which 8 medial multi-cuspidate whereas 2 lateral at each side smaller and unicuspid; ventral surface with several rows of fine spinules.

Mandible (Fig. 16D): Pars incisiva with 6 well

Figure 18. Paraeobathynella hanjavanitiana n. sp. Male holotype. A: Thoracopod V; B: Thoracopod VI; C: Thoracopod VII. Scale bar: in mm.

Figure 19. Paraeobathynella hanjavanitiana n. sp. Male holotype. A: Thoracopod VIII (lateral internal view); B: Thoracopod VIII (latero-external view); C: Thoracopod VIII (latero-frontal view); D. Thoracopod VIII (latero-caudal view); F: Female Thoracopod VIII; G: Uropod (lateral view); H: Pleotelson and furca (dorsal view). Scale bar: in mm.
Maxilla (Fig. 16F): 4-segmented; first and second segments with 3 setae each, setae unequal in length, longest plumose, other 2 simple; third segment elongate, with 11 setae, two of them much stronger than rest; fourth segment with a strong terminal seta and one subterminal and 2 lateral slender setae.

Thoracopods I-VII (Figs 17; 18): Well developed, length slightly increasing from Th I-IV, last four Ths similar in size. Well developed epipod on Th II-VII, reaching more than half length of corresponding developed teeth and one small proximal spine-like tooth; pars molaris with 11 claws, of which 8 more proximal and denticulate, distal 3 more slender, setulose and joined at base; mandibular palp not exceeding pars incisiva.

Maxillule (Fig. 16E): Proximal endite with 4 unequal claws; distal endite with 7 claws, of which 2 distalmost smooth, rest with strong spines; 3 subterminal simple setae on outer distal margin of endite as figured.

### Table 3. Character variability in Asian genera of the family Parabathynellidae.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A I: N sgt</td>
<td>6–8</td>
<td>6/7</td>
<td>7–9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>male antennal organ</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A II: N sgt</td>
<td>5–7</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>6–7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mx I: N claws (dist.endt.)</td>
<td>5–8</td>
<td>4/6/7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th I: epipod</td>
<td>A/P</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp: N sgt</td>
<td>2–4</td>
<td>1–2</td>
<td>3–5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th II: epipod</td>
<td>A/P</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A/P</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp: N sgt</td>
<td>2–6</td>
<td>2–3</td>
<td>4–7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th III epipod</td>
<td>A/P</td>
<td>A/P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp: N sgt</td>
<td>2–7</td>
<td>2–3</td>
<td>5–7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th IV-V epipod</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th VIII: N setae end</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th VIII female (seg)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleopod seg/seta</td>
<td>1seg or A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>as seta</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urp: Symp: spines</td>
<td>5/18</td>
<td>5/10</td>
<td>7–13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>type spines</td>
<td>Hom/Inh</td>
<td>Hom/Inh</td>
<td>Hom/Inh</td>
<td>Inh</td>
<td>Hom/Inh</td>
<td>Inh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp: N setae</td>
<td>3–6</td>
<td>2–4</td>
<td>6–8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End: N spines</td>
<td>0/2/5/6</td>
<td>0/1/3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4/3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N setae</td>
<td>2–5</td>
<td>2–4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furca: N spines</td>
<td>3–8</td>
<td>3–5</td>
<td>4–7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>7–8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anal operculum</td>
<td>Pr (S–L)/A</td>
<td>Pr (S–M)/A</td>
<td>Pr (S–XL)</td>
<td>Pr (M)</td>
<td>Pr(S)</td>
<td>Pr(S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length max</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habitat</td>
<td>W/C</td>
<td>W/R</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contributions to Zoology, 87 (4) – 2018

Male segments plumose.

I, 3+1/3+1/3+1/3(1); Th II, 2+1/2+1/2+1/3(1); Th III-VII: all exopodal segments with 2 barbed setae and one cluster of ctenidia at base of each seta. Endopod 4-segmented, first segment similar in barbed setae and one cluster of ctenidia at base of each seta. Setal formula of endopods: Th I, 3+1/3+1/3+1/3(1); Th II, 2+1/2+1/2+1/3(1); Th III-VII, 1+1/2+1/2+1/3(1): outer seta on first and second segments plumose.

Male Thoracopod VIII (Fig. 19A-D): Large, almost square; basal region massive; inner lobe completely integrated into basal region, barely exceeding distal end of dentate lobe; basipod with one crest-like protuberance distally on inner lateral edge exceeding end of internal lobe. Endopod large, trapezoidal, with 2 long barbed setae. Exopod longer than wide and overhanging both basipod and outer lobe, with 2 distal teeth; rounded outer lobe fused with basipod, exceeding outer side of basipod; dentate lobe overlapped by inner lobe, with large teeth and rounded distal end.

Female Thoracopod VIII (Fig. 19E): Large, rounded, cuticle smooth, with 2 long strong barbed setae distally and 2 teeth at base.

Pleotelson (Fig. 19G): anal operculum triangular, about half as long as furcal rami; ventral seta barbed, reaching up to midway of furcal ramus.

First pleopods: Absent.

Uropod (Fig. 19F): Sympod 4.0 times as long as wide, with 11 barbed spines along distal half of margin, 3 distalmost setae longer than rest; sympod longer than both endopod and exopod. Endopod attaining about 0.75 length of exopod, with 2 strong barbed spines on distal end, 2 unequal barbed setae and one strong denticle distally; 2 plumose setae along outer margin of segment; 3 groups of ctenidia on dorsal face. Exopod with 2 distal barbed setae similar in length, and with 4 shorter barbed setae along outer margin.

Furca (Fig. 19G): Rami rectangular, each with 5 barbed spines, 2 terminal ones slightly longer and thicker than rest. Dorsal side of rami each with the 2 setae characteristic of members of the family Parabathynellidae barbed and unequal in length, longer one reaching tip of terminal spine.

Etymology: The new species is named after Assoc. Prof. Chutima Hanjavanit, supervisor when younger co-author (SW) was a bachelor student. The epitheton is a noun in the genitive singular masculine.

Taxonomic remarks

The three new species described herein belong to a group of Asian genera characterized by the common display of a large body size (length of specimens close to 2 mm) non-sexually dimorphic AI with 7 or more segments, AII with more than 5 segments, and Th II-VII with exopods composed of more than 2 segments (Table 3). This group includes Allobathynella; Eobathynella Birstein and Ljovuschkin, 1964; Kampucheabathynella Cho, Kry and Chhnen, 2015; Paraeobathynella; Sinobathynella Camacho et al., 2006 and Sketinella Camacho, 2005. Paraeobathynella and Sketinella, originally described from Vietnam, are closely related as discussed at the time (Camacho, 2005a). The three new species described herein fit well in Paraeobathynella and display a number of features that separate them from the monotypic Sketinella trontelji Camacho, 2005 (Tables 3; 4). Namely: lack of pleopods (versus pleopod I present but reduced to a single seta in Sketinella); AII 7-segmented; labrum with more than 11 teeth; epipod present on Th II; exopod of Ths 3- to 8-segmented; basipod of some Ths with 2 setae; and male Th VIII with a large exopod and a large crest-like protuberance on basipod. The 6 genera mentioned above are nevertheless very close morphologically and some of their diagnoses overlap in many features. For example, the diagnosis of Allobathynella by Schminke (2011) for could also stand for Paraeobathynella, Eobathynella and Sketinella.

Comparison among the four species of the genus Paraeobathynella (Tables 4 and 5) reveals that 2 of them, P. ratensis n. sp. and P. hanjavanitiana n. sp., are similar in body size and slightly larger than the type species P. vietnamensis, whereas they are considerably smaller than P. siamensis n. sp. (Table 4). The species with the largest number of segments on AI, P. siamensis n. sp., is also the largest in body size, together with the medium-sized P. hanjavanitiana n. sp. Setaion in AI varies slightly among species with P. siamensis n. sp. displaying the highest number of setae. In all 4 species of the genus Paraeobathynella, the aesthetascs on the terminal segment of AI are positioned subdistally, a feature shared also with Sketinella and most of other Asian genera (Allobathynella, Sinobathynella,
Table 4. Character variability in species of *Skeninella* Camacho, 2005 and *Paraeobathynella* Camacho, 2005. **Abbreviations:** A = Absent; AI = Antennule; AII = Antenna; dist.endt = distal endite; End = Endopod; Exp = Exopod; Hom = Homonomous; Inh = Inhomonomous; M = Medium-sized; N = Number of; NPr = Not Pronounced; P = Present; Pr = Pronounced; S = Small; Symp = Sympod; Th = Thoracopod; Th I = Thoracopod 1; Th VIII = Thoracopod 8; XL = Extra large.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>S. trontelji</th>
<th>P. vietnamensis</th>
<th>P. ratensis n.sp.</th>
<th>P. siamensis n.sp.</th>
<th>P. hanjavaniitana n.sp.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A I: N segments</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>male antennal organ</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A II: N segments</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>setal formula</td>
<td>0/0+1/1+0/1/0+1/4</td>
<td>0/0+1/1+0/2+0/4</td>
<td>0/0/0+1/1+0/2+0/4</td>
<td>0/0+1/1+0/2+2/4</td>
<td>0/0+0/1+1/0+0/2+0/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labrum</td>
<td>2+8+2</td>
<td>3+8+3</td>
<td>2+4+1+4+2</td>
<td>4+8+4</td>
<td>3+8 (three cuspidated)+3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Md: pars incisiva (N teeth)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pars molaris (N claws)</td>
<td>8 (5+3)</td>
<td>10 (8+2)</td>
<td>7 (5+2)</td>
<td>15 (13+2)</td>
<td>10 (8+2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mx I: N claws (dwist.endt)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th I: basipod (N setae)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epipod</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp.: N segments</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>4-5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th II: basipod (N setae)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epipod</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp: N segments</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4-5</td>
<td>5-7</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th III: basipod (N setae)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp: N segments</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th IV: basipod (N setae)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp: N segments</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7-8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th V: basipod (N setae)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp: N segments</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7-8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th VI-VII: basipod (N setae)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp: N segments</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7-9</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th VIII male: N setae end</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th VIII female: N segments</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp: N segments</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleopod</td>
<td>P as seta</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uropod: Symp: N spines</td>
<td>10+2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7-9</td>
<td>8-11+2</td>
<td>6-9+3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>type spines</td>
<td>Inh</td>
<td>Inh</td>
<td>Hom</td>
<td>Inh</td>
<td>Inh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp: N setae</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End: N spines</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N setae</td>
<td>2+2</td>
<td>2+2</td>
<td>2+2</td>
<td>2+2</td>
<td>2+2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp/End</td>
<td>Exp=End</td>
<td>Exp=End</td>
<td>Exp=End</td>
<td>Exp=End</td>
<td>Exp=End</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furca: N. spines</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4-5</td>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>5-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>setae</td>
<td>2 similar</td>
<td>2 similar</td>
<td>2 different</td>
<td>2 similar</td>
<td>2 different</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anal operculum</td>
<td>Pr (M)</td>
<td>Pr (M)</td>
<td>Pr (S)</td>
<td>Pr (XL)</td>
<td>Pr (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleotelson: ventral seta</td>
<td>Short, half furca</td>
<td>Medium, as furca</td>
<td>Short, half furca</td>
<td>Short, less half furca</td>
<td>Medium, as furca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length (maximum) (mm)</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habitat</td>
<td>Cave</td>
<td>Cave</td>
<td>Cave</td>
<td>Cave</td>
<td>Cave</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Whereas *P. vietnamensis* displays only one seta on the basipod in all thoracopods, the three new species bear 2 setae on the basipod of Th I-II. Furthermore, *P. hanjavanitiana* displays 2 setae also on the basipod of Th III-IV, whereas *P. siamensis* on Th II-VI. Male Th VIII is more rectangular in *P. hanjavanitiana* n. sp. and more square in the rest of species (basipod height variable). There are differences in size of the basipod crest (it is longer and straighter in *P. siamensis* n. sp.); the size and shape of the outer lobe and length and curvature of the exopod, which is larger and less curved in *P. siamensis* n. sp. (see Figs 8A-D; 13A-B; 14E; 19A-D).

The female Th VIII has only 1 seta in *P. vietnamensis* versus 2 setae in the rest of species; furthermore there are 2 small teeth in all species except *P. siamensis* n. sp. which lacks teeth.

Although *P. vietnamensis* displays only 7-segmented in the three new species, it is only 6-segmented in the type species *P. vietnamensis*. However, setation is similar in the 3 smaller species, while the largest species *P. siamensis* n. sp. displayss 2 additional setae on the sixth segment. There is no correlation between body size and number of teeth and/or spines present on the Md: *P. siamensis* n. sp. and *P. hanjavanitiana* n. sp. each have 8 teeth in the *pars incisiva* while the other two smaller species have 5; in the *pars molaris* the larger species has more spines than the rest, but the one with the least, *P. ratensis* n. sp., is not the smallest (*P. vietnamensis* is smaller). The three new species display an epipod on Th II while the type species does not, as *S. trontelji*. The highest number of segments on thoracopodal exopods occurs in the largest species (between 4 and 9), whereas the lowest occurs in the smaller species (between 3 and 5).

**Table 5.** Character variability in thoracopods of *Paraeobathynella* Camacho, 2005. **Abbreviations:** End = Endopod; Exp = Exopod; N = Number of; Th = Thoracopod; Th I = Thoracopod 1; Th VII = Thoracopod 7.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><em>P. vietnamensis</em></th>
<th><em>P. ratensis</em> n.sp.</th>
<th><em>P. siamensis</em> n.sp.</th>
<th><em>P. hanjavanitiana</em> n.sp.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Th I: Exopod/endopod</td>
<td>Exp&lt;End</td>
<td>Exp&lt;End</td>
<td>Exp&lt;End</td>
<td>Exp&lt;End</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endopod: setal formula</td>
<td>3+1/3+1/3+1/3(1)</td>
<td>3+1/3+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
<td>4+1/4-5+1/4-5+1/3(1)</td>
<td>3+1/3+1/3+1/3(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp.: N segments</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>4-5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th II: Exopod/endopod</td>
<td>Exp&lt;End</td>
<td>Exp&lt;End</td>
<td>Exp=End</td>
<td>Exp&lt;End</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endopod: setal formula</td>
<td>1+1/3+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
<td>1+1/2+1/3+1/3(1)</td>
<td>2-3+1/3-5+1/3-5+1/3(1)</td>
<td>2+1/2+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp.: N segments</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5-7</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th III: Exopod/endopod</td>
<td>Exp=End</td>
<td>Exp=End</td>
<td>Exp=End</td>
<td>Exp=End</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endopod: setal formula</td>
<td>1+1/3+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
<td>1+1/3+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
<td>1-2+1/4-5+1/3-5+1/3(1)</td>
<td>1+1/2+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp.: N segments</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th IV: Exopod/endopod</td>
<td>Exp&gt;End</td>
<td>Exp&gt;End</td>
<td>Exp&gt;End</td>
<td>Exp&gt;End</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endopod: setal formula</td>
<td>1+1/2+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
<td>1+1/2+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
<td>1+1/3-5+1/2-5+1/3(1)</td>
<td>1+1/2+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp.: N segments</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7-8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th V: Exopod/endopod</td>
<td>Exp&gt;End</td>
<td>Exp=End</td>
<td>Exp&gt;End</td>
<td>Exp&gt;End</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endopod: setal formula</td>
<td>1+1/2+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
<td>1+1/2+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
<td>1+1/3-5+1/2-5+1/3(1)</td>
<td>1+1/2+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp.: N segments</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7-8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th VI: Exopod/endopod</td>
<td>Exp&gt;End</td>
<td>Exp&gt;End</td>
<td>Exp&gt;End</td>
<td>Exp&gt;End</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endopod: setal formula</td>
<td>1+1/2+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
<td>1+1/2+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
<td>1+1/3-5+1/3-4+1/3(1)</td>
<td>1+1/2+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp.: N segments</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>7-9</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th VII: Exopod/endopod</td>
<td>Exp&gt;End</td>
<td>Exp&gt;End</td>
<td>Exp&gt;End</td>
<td>Exp&gt;End</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endopod: setal formula</td>
<td>1+1/2+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
<td>1+1/2+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
<td>1+1/2-4+1/2-4+1/3(1)</td>
<td>1+1/2+1/2+1/3(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exp.: N segments</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>7-9</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length (maximum) (mm)</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Whereas AII is 7-segmented in the three new species, it is only 6-segmented in the type species *P. vietnamensis*. However, setation is similar in the 3 smaller species, while the largest species *P. siamensis* n. sp. displays 2 additional setae on the sixth segment. There is no correlation between body size and number of teeth and/or spines present on the Md: *P. siamensis* n. sp. and *P. hanjavanitiana* n. sp. each have 8 teeth in the *pars incisiva* while the other two smaller species have 5; in the *pars molaris* the larger species has more spines than the rest, but the one with the least, *P. ratensis* n. sp., is not the smallest (*P. vietnamensis* is smaller). The three new species display an epipod on Th II while the type species does not, as *S. trontelji*. The highest number of segments on thoracopodal exopods occurs in the largest species (between 4 and 9), whereas the lowest occurs in the smaller species (between 3 and 5).
most spines, respectively, are longer than the rest. In *P. vietnamensis* the 2 distal-most spines are the smallest. *P. siamensis* n. sp. has 8 setae on the exopod of uropod, whereas the other three species of the genus display 6. The furcal ramus has between 5 and 7 spines and is between triangular to square in three new species and in *P. vietnamensis* (see Table 4). The two ventral setae of the pleotelson characteristic for the family Parabathynellidae are similar in length in seven species and is between triangular to square in three other species. The anal operculum is very pronounced in *P. siamensis* n. sp., small in *P. ratensis* n. sp. and medium-sized in *P. vietnamensis* and *P. hanjavanittiana* n. sp.

**Appendix 2**

**Distribution of Asian species of the family Parabathynellidae**

The current distribution of the 74 Asian species within the family Parabathynellidae covers only 11 out of the 48 countries from four regions of Asia: East Asia (Japan, South Korea, China), Southeast Asia (Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia), Central Asia (Kirghizistan and Uzbekhistan) and South Asia (India) (Fig. 20). Species belong to 17 genera whose distribution is uneven (see Camacho, 2005; 2006; Camacho et al., 2011; Ranga Reddy, 2006; Ranga Reddy and Schminke, 2005; Ranga Reddy and Totakura, 2010). Seven genera are monospecific, while the genus *Allobathynella* is one of the most diverse genera of the family, with 23 species and it is equal to the cosmopolitan genus *Hexabathynella* (with 23 species) and *Iherobathynella* (22 species restricted to the Iberian Peninsula and the Balearic Islands only). Recently there have been found in India species of genera known so far only from other continents: Africa (*Habrobathynella* Schminke, 1973) and Australia and South America (*Chilibathynella* NooDtt, 1963; *Atopobathynella* Schminke, 1973) (Ranga Reddy, 2002, 2004, 2006; Ranga Reddy and Schminke, 2005, 2009; Ranga Reddy et al., 2008; Ranga Reddy et al., 2014; Bandari et al., 2016). Also, in the last two decades new genera have been found in Asian countries where no Syncarida were known, such as Vietnam (Camacho, 2005), China (Camacho et al., 2006), Thailand (Camacho et al., 2011) or Cambodia (Nam and Cho, 2014; Cho et al., 2015) whereas in Japan and Korea new species of *Nipponbathynella* Schminke, 1973 (Morimoto, 2002; Cho et al., 2008; Cho et al., 2009; Park and Cho, 2015) and *Allobathynella* Morimoto and Miura, 1957 (Park and Cho, 2008, 2016) have been found as well as new genera *Arisubathynella* Park and Eun, 2012 and *Hangangbathynella* Park and Cho, 2013.

Some genera like *Allobathynella*, *Nipponbathynella* or *Eobathynella* that have been considered to be restricted only to Japan and/or South Korea have been found recently also in Kirghizistan and Uzbekhistan. The genus *Paraebathynella* that was previously known only from Vietnam now contains three new species, described in this paper. It is the second genus known from Thailand, and *Siambathynella* is the only other genus known from this country (Fig. 20). There are still many unexplored areas in Asia, and around the world, that undoubtedly harbour many new genera and species.

The distribution of the 17 Asian genera and the 74 species (and subspecies) known is as follows (TL = Type Locality; Ha = Habitat):

**Allobathynella** Morimoto and Miura, 1957

**Synonym:** *Parabathynella* Chappuis, 1926 (partim) and *Eobathynella* Birstein and Ljovuschkin, 1964 (partim).


**Arisubathynella** Park and Eun, 2012

**Atopobathynella** Schminke, 1973
Dori, Yeoju county, Kyunggi-Do, South Korea. Ha: unknown.

**Habrobathynella** Schminke, 1973
Synonym: *Parabathynella* Chappuis, 1926 (partim).

**Hangangbathynella** Park and Cho, 2013

**Issykkulibathynella** Serban, 1994
Synonym: *Parabathynella* Chappuis, 1926 (partim) and *Eobathynella* Birstein and Ljovuschkin, 1964 (partim).
59. *Mekongbathynella* Nam and Cho, 2014

**Nipponbathynella** Schminke, 1973
Synonym: *Parabathynella* Chappuis, 1926 (partim).
60. *N. donggangensis* Park and Cho, 2015. TL: Donggang stream, a tributary of The Han-River,


*Sabahbathynella* Schminke, 1988


*Siambathynella* Camacho, Watiroyram and Brancelj, 2011


*Sinobathynella* Camacho, Trontelj and Zagmajster, 2006

73. *S. decamera* Camacho, Trontelj and Zagmajster, 2006. “Si Haizi Dong” cave (Four Children’s Cave), some 300 m south from Qiantian village, Changjiang County, Hainan Island, China. Ha: cave.

*Skeinella* Camacho, 2005