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Description of a new species of *Uroballus* Simon, 1902 (Araneae: Salticidae) from Malaysia, with the longest spinnerets of any known jumping spider

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Abstract

A new species *Uroballus koponeni* sp. n. (♀) from Malaysia (Borneo) is diagnosed, illustrated and described. The genus is unusual for jumping spiders in having extremely long spinnerets.

Key words: Arachnida, jumping spiders, *Uroballus*, new species, Borneo

Introduction

Uroballus Simon, 1902 is a poorly studied Oriental genus belonging to the group Simaethinae (*sensu* Simon 1903) and contains three species (Platnick 2014): *U. henicurus* Simon, 1902 (♀) and *U. octovittatus* Simon, 1902 (♂♀) from Sri Lanka (no exact localities) and *U. peckhami* Żabka, 1985 (♀) from northern Vietnam (Ha Noi); the type species is *U. octovittatus*. All these species are known from the original descriptions and from the type localities only (Map 1). The genus *Uroballus* is characterised by the extremely long posterior lateral spinnerets (Figs 4–5), reaching 40–50% of the abdomen length, a very unusual feature in the Salticidae (Simon 1902, 1903: fig. 993; Prószyński 1987: p. 107–108; Żabka 1985: fig. 638); within the RTA-clade only the representatives of Hersiliidae possess longer spinnerets than the newly described *Uroballus* species. The possible function of such long spinnerets in *Uroballus* remains unknown, as there are no available observations of these spiders in the field. It would certainly be something worthy of investigation, particularly as behaviour can be included as a character in phylogenetic analysis.

The aim of the present paper is to describe a new *Uroballus* species from Malaysia.

Material and methods

The material studied in this paper was borrowed from the Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, Genève, Switzerland (MHNG; curator: Dr P. Schwendinger). Digital photographs were taken using an Olympus E-520 camera attached to an Olympus SZX16 stereomicroscope, and prepared using CombineZP image stacking software. Photographs were taken with the specimens secured in dishes with paraffin on the bottom. Abbreviations used in the text and figures are as follows: *Eyes*: AME—anterior median eye, ALE—anterior lateral eye, PME—posterior median eye, PLE—posterior lateral eye. *Leg segments*: Fm—femur, Pt—patella, Tb—tibia, Mt—metatarsus, Tr—tarsus. *Position of leg spines*: ap—apical, pr—prolateral, v—ventral. For the leg spination the system adopted is that used by Ono (1988). The sequence of leg segments in measurement data is as follows: femur + patella + tibia + metatarsus + tarsus (total). All measurements are in mm.

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