



## Tanaidaceans from Brunei, V. The Leptocheliidae (Crustacea: Peracarida: Tanaidacea), with four new species

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### Abstract

Leptocheliid material from sublittoral sandy substrata in the South China Sea off the coast of Brunei has been analyzed. Four species, all new to science, are described, all apparently interstitial in habitat. One is the second species to be described in the genus *Catenarius* (*C. magdae*); the others represent three new genera, one in each of the subfamilies Konariinae (*Brunarus colekamus*), Catenariinae (*Ektraleptochelia phoxops*) and Leptocheliinae (*Nuberis areolaticola*). As a result of the new information on the morphology of catenariins, the Andaman Sea species *Leptochelia elongata* is transferred to a new genus (*Larsmentia*) in the Catenariinae.

**Key words:** Leptocheliidae, *Brunarus*, *Nuberis*, *Ektraleptochelia*, *Larsmentia*, Catenariinae, Konariinae, South China Sea

### Introduction

The tanaidacean component of the benthos of the South China Sea off the northern coastline of Borneo is both diverse and dominant (Bamber 1999), including a number of presently endemic species as well as species also known from off the South China Sea coast of Viet Nam. Numerous samples made available from recent environmental impact assessment surveys have been the subject of ongoing study, and their tanaidacean fauna is being described largely by family or higher taxon (Bamber 2013a and references therein).

The present paper presents the analysis of the leptocheliid species from this region. Tanaidomorphs are rare in the sandy substrata of this region: other than the species described herein, they have included only a single manca of *Pseudotanais* Sars, 1882 and a damaged individual of *Paragathotanis* Lang, 1971, neither of which were appropriate for further analysis.

The records of leptocheliids in 0.5 mm-sieved samples were also infrequent. It was therefore surprising to find that this material represented four species, all new to science, including three new genera, and from three different subfamilies. The morphology of some of these species has allowed revisionary interpretation of the sub-family Catenariinae Bamber, 2013.

### Methods

The samples were collected in March 2009 using either a 0.1 m<sup>2</sup> van Veen grab or a box-corer, fixed in 5% formalin, and stained with Rose Bengal. Samples were sieved through a 0.5 mm mesh. Depths of the samples examined ranged from 0 to 90 m. Sediments were all sandy, although full granulometric analysis is not available.

Morphological terminology and measurement techniques are as described by Bamber *et al.* (2012). Measurements are made axially, dorsally on the body and antennae, laterally on other appendages. Body length is measured from the tip of the rostrum to posterior of the pleotelson; body width is measured across the second

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