Two new species and the molecular phylogeography of the freshwater crab genus *Bottapotamon* (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura: Potamidae) (#36419)

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Two new species and the molecular phylogeography of the freshwater crab genus *Bottapotamon* (Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura: Potamidae)

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Bottapotamon chenzhouense sp. n. and *B. luxiense* sp. n. are described from Hunan Province and Jiangxi Province, respectively.These species both have diagnostic features of the genus *Bottapotamon* and discernible characteristics as new species. *B. chenzhouense* sp. n. can be distinguished from congeners by features such as the G1, which has a fold covering the surface of the entire subterminal article with a transparent distal region. *B. luxiense* sp. n. has an elliptical carapace, and a sturdy and blunt terminal article of G1. The molecular phylogeny and biogeography of the genus *Bottapotamon* (Decapoda: Brachyura: Potamidae) were studied, using mitochondrial cytochrome oxidase I, 16S rRNA and nuclear histone H3 gene fragments. The results support the assignment of the two new species to the genus *Bottapotamon*. In addition, the divergence time of the genus *Bottapotamon* was estimated to be 3.49-1.08 mya, which coincided with various vicariant and dispersal events that occurred in the geological area where the genus *Bottapotamon* is commonly distributed. Mountains appear to have played an important role in the distribution of the genus. The Wuyi Mountains gradually formed offshore and inland of southeastern China by the compression of the Pacific plate and the Indian plate in the Neogene-Quaternary, and the Luoxiao Mountains formed continuously in the continued forming in the north-south direction because of neotectonic movement. Thus, the geographical distribution pattern of the genus *Bottapotamon* formed gradually.

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Abstract

Bottapotamon chenzhouense sp. n. and *B. luxiense* sp. n. are described from Hunan Province and Jiangxi Province, respectively.These species both have diagnostic features of the genus *Bottapotamon* and discernible characteristics as new species. *B. chenzhouense* sp. n. can be distinguished from congeners by features such as the G1, which has a fold covering the surface of the entire subterminal article with a ~~transparent~~ distal region. *B. luxiense* sp. n. has an elliptical carapace, and a sturdy and blunt terminal article of G1. The molecular phylogeny and biogeography of the genus *Bottapotamon* (Decapoda: Brachyura: Potamidae) were studied, using mitochondrial cytochrome oxidase I, 16S rRNA and nuclear histone H3 gene fragments. The results support the assignment of the two new species to the genus *Bottapotamon*. In addition, the divergence time of the genus *Bottapotamon* was estimated to be 3.49-1.08 mya, which coincided with various vicariant and dispersal events that occurred in the geological area where the genus *Bottapotamon* is commonly distributed. Mountains appear to have played an important role in the distribution of the genus. The Wuyi Mountains gradually formed offshore and inland of southeastern China by the compression of the Pacific plate and the Indian plate in the Neogene-Quaternary, and the Luoxiao Mountains formed continuously in the continued forming in the north-south direction because of neotectonic movement. Thus, the geographical distribution pattern of the genus *Bottapotamon* formed gradually.

Introduction

The genus *Bottapotamon* is a unique genus of freshwater crabs from the China mainland. In 1997, three species of the genus *Malayopotamon*on (*Bott R*, *1967*; *Cheng YZ*, *JX Lin & XQ Luo*, *1993*; *Dai AY et al.*, *1979*) and one new species were identified as *Bottapotamon* on the basis of its morphological characteristics, such as the form of carapace and first gonopod (G1) (*Türkay & Dai, 1997*).Until the current study, the genus *Bottapotamon* contained *B. fukiense*, *B.*

engelhardti, *B. yonganense*, *B. lingchuanense* (*Türkay & Dai, 1997*), *B. youxiense* (*Cheng et al*. 2010) and *B. nanan* (*Zhou, Zhu, and Naruse. 2008*).

The relatively low fecundity and poor dispersal abilities of freshwater crabs (*Daniels et al*., *2003*; *Yeo et al*., *2008*) mean that these crabs are easily isolated by barriers such as mountains or seas. Geographically isolated populations then become genetically distinct and result in allopatric speciation (*Shih et al*., *2006*; *Yeo et al*., *2007*). In mainland China, the distribution of the genus *Bottapotamon* is restricted within the area of the Wuyi Mountain Range; *B. engelhardti*, *B. yonganense*, *B. youxiense* and *B. nanan* are distributed east of the Wuyi Mountain Range, *B. fukiense* occurs on both sides of the Wuyi Mountains (Fujian and Jiangxi Provinces), and only *B. lingchuanense* has been isolated in the Nanling Mountain Range (*Dai*, *1997*) (*Fig. 1*). The geographic barrier separating the Wuyi Mountains from the Nanling Mountains is the Luoxiao Mountain Range, which is the highest range in the area, exceeding 2120 m in height (*Gong HL, Zhuang WY, Liao WB, 2016*). The terrain the genus *Bottapotamon* now inhabits is geologically relatively stable and experienced little orogenic activity during the Cenozoic (*Yi, 1996; Zhou and Li, 2000*). Therefore, we hypothesize that the distribution of the genus *Bottapotamon* in mainland China was caused by the emergence of these mountains.

By organizing specimens deposited at the Department of Parasitology of the Medical College of Nanchang University (NCU MCP) and newly collected specimens, the ~~author~~ discovered two new species in Chenzhou City, Hunan Province, and Luxi County, Jiangxi Province. This paper compares the morphological features of eight species including two new species of the genus *Bottapotamon*, as well as 16S rRNA (*Crandall et al. 1996*), mtDNA COI (*Folmer et al. 1994*) and nuclear histone H3 (*Colgan et al. 1998*) gene fragments were used to support the establishment of new species in the genus *Bottapotamon.* The phylogenetic relationship, distribution pattern and possible association with major geological and historical events are also discussed.

Materials & Methods

Specimen collection

Specimens from Jiangxi, Zhejiang, Fujian and Guangxi, were recently collected and preserved in 95% ethanol. The remaining specimens used in this study were from and deposited at the Department of Parasitology of the Medical College of Nanchang University (NCU MCP), Jiangxi Province, China. The author compared specimens with holotypes of the Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences. All 26 specimens were used for mtDNA COI, 16S rRNA and histone H3 gene fragment amplification (*Table 1*).

Phylogenetic analyses and Divergence time estimation

Genomic DNA was extracted from leg muscle tissue with an OMEGA EZNA™ Mollusc DNA Kit. The 16S rRNA, mtDNA COI, and histone H3 regions were selected for amplification by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) (*Table 2*). The amplification products were sent to the Beijing Genomics Institute for bidirectional sequencing, and the sequencing results were spliced manually to obtain the sequence data. DNA sequences of *B.yonganense* specimens collected

from the suburb of Sanming City, Fujian Province, China, could not be amplified due to poor preservation.

After searching the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) database, we ~~finally~~ selected the sequences of four individuals with the same primer sequences as the outgroups (*Candidiopotamon rathbunae* (GenBank accession numbers: mtDNA COI-AB290649, 16S rRNA-AB208609, histone H3-AB290668), *Geothelphusa dehaani* (GenBank accession numbers: mtDNA COI-AB290648, 16S rRNA-AB290630, histone H3-AB290667), *Himalayapotamon atkinsonianum* (GenBank accession numbers: mtDNA COI-AB290651, 16S rRNA-AB290632, histone H3-AB290670), and *Ryukyum yaeyamense* (GenBank accession numbers: mtDNA COI-AB290650, 16S rRNA-AB290631, histone H3-AB290669)). After comparing and selecting the conservative regions, each sequence was 1323 bp in length. According to the Akaike information criterion (AIC), MrMTGui: ModelTest and MrModelTest (phylogenetic analysis using parsimony (PAUP)) determined the best models was GTR+I+G; MEGA 6.06 (*Tamura et al. 2013*)was used to establish a phylogenetic tree based on the maximum likelihood (ML) (*Trifinopoulos et al. 2016*). The Bayesian inference (BI) tree was established using MrBayes (*Ronquist & Huelsenbeck 2003*).

The divergence times of genus *Bottapotamon* were estimated from the combined 16S rRNA and mtDNA COI sequences, based on the Bayesian evolutionary analysis sampling trees (BEAST) program, and four calibration points were used. The Potamidae family has divided into two major subfamilies, Potamiscinae and Potaminae, estimated to have a divergence time of 20.9-24.7 mya, which was set as calibration point 1 in our study (*Shih et al. 2010*). The Parathelphusidae subfamily, *Somanniathelphusa taiwanensis*, which is distributed in Taiwan Island and separated from *Somanniathelphusa amoyensis*, which is distributed in Fujian Province, approximately 0.27-1.53 mya (*Jia et al. 2018*). ~~The results are~~ consistent with the quaternary glacial period and interglacial period and agree with the separation of Taiwan Island and Fujian Province; this time point was set as calibration point 2. In the geological area where genus *Bottapotamon* is distributed, the Wuyi Mountains gradually formed by the compression of the Pacific plate and the Indian plate in the Neogene-Quaternary (1.64-23.3 mya) (*Li, 1984)*); this time point was set as calibration point 3. A Yule speciation model was constructed for speciation within the genus *Bottapotamon*. We used a GTR+G model with parameters obtained from MrMTGui: ModelTest and MrModelTest (PAUP) for each gene. Seventeen independent MCMC chains were run for 200,000,000 generations, and every 20,000 generations were sampled. The convergence of the 17 combined chains was determined by the evolutionary stable strategy (ESS) (>200 as recommended) for each parameter in Tracer after the appropriate burn-in and cutoff (default of 10% of sampled trees). Trees in the 17 chains were combined using LogCombiner (v. 1.6.1, distributed as part of the BEAST package) and were assessed using TreeAnnotator (v. 1.6.1, distributed as part of the BEAST package). A chronogram was constructed by FigTree.

Nomenclatural note

The electronic version of this article in Portable Document Format (PDF) will represent a published work according to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN), and hence the new names contained in the electronic version are effectively published under that Code from the electronic edition alone. This published work and the nomenclatural acts it contains have been registered in ZooBank, the online registration system for the ICZN. The ZooBank LSIDs (Life Science Identifiers) can be resolved and the associated information viewed through any standard web browser by appending the LSID to the prefix http://zoobank.org/. The LSID for this publication is: [urn: lsid: zoobank.org: pub:211926FF-6950-4DFE-95C4-F5247CA9E0BA]. The online version of this work is archived and available from the following digital repositories: PeerJ, PubMed Central and CLOCKSS.

Results

Systematics

Potamidae Ortmann, 1896

Bottapotamon Tüerkay et Dai, 1997

***Bottapotamon chenzhouense* sp.n., *Bottapotamon luxiense* sp.n.**

***Bottapotamon chenzhouense* sp. n. (*Fig. 2-6*)**

urn: lsid zoobank. org: art: E43C4BBB-E429-4C17-8ACD-E4295F426BCB

Materials examined

Holotype: 1 ♂ (25.72 × 15.69 mm) (NCU MCP 643), Huangcao Village, Chenzhou City, Hunan Province, China, 25°39′24.60″N, 113°30′4.07″E, 141 m asl. Coll. Dingmei Luo, July 26th 2006. Paratypes: 1 ♀ (18.7 × 13.7 mm) (NCU MCP 643), the same data as the holotype.

Comparative materia

B. fukiense (*Türkay & Dai*, *1997*): 4 ♂ (25.21 × 15.02 mm, 25.03 × 14.97 mm) (NCU MCP 4089), Xiapu Village, Ningde County, Fujian; (26.08 × 15.45 mm) (NCUMCP4156), Shangshan Village, Zhenghe County, Fujian; (26.08 × 15.45 mm) (NCUMCP4090), Siqian Village, Shouning County, Fujian; 1 ♀ (26.01 × 15.57 mm) (NCU MCP 4156), Shangshan Village, Zhenghe County, Fujian. *B. engelhardti* (*Türkay & Dai*, *1997*): 5♂ (23.01 × 14.03 mm, 24.68 × 15.69 mm, 24.81 × 15.87 mm, 25.02 × 15.47 mm) (NCU MCP 4157), Tangsan Village, Youxi County, Fujian; (25.21 × 15.16 mm) (NCU MCP 4091), Chimu Village, Youxi County, Fujian; 1 ♀ (26.01 × 16.35 mm) (NCU MCP 4091),Chimu Village, Youxi County, Fujian. *B. yonganense* (*Türkay & Dai, 1997*): 1♂ (25.87 × 15.95 mm) (NCU MCP 4096), Sanming City, Fujian; *B. lingchuanense* (*Türkay & Dai, 1997*), *3*♂(24.78 × 14.89 mm, 25.04 × 15.06 mm) (NCU MCP4076), Yuanpu Village, Gongcheng County, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region; (25.25 × 15.11 mm) (NCU MCP 3281), Bindong Village, Lingchuan County, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region; 3♀ (25.48 × 14.92 mm, 25.14 × 15.09 mm, 25.78 × 14.79 mm), (NCU

MCP 3281), Bindong Village, Lingchuan County, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. *B. youxiense* (*Cheng et al.*, *2010*): (24.91 × 15.72 mm) (NCU MCP 4092), (25.11 × 15.16 mm) (NCU MCP 4158), (25.34 × 15.52 mm) (NCU MCP 4059), Xiwei Village, Youxi County, Fujian; 1♀ (26.04 × 14.92 mm) (NCU MCP 4059), Xiwei Village, Youxi County. *B. nanan* (*Zhou et al.*, *2008*):6♂（26.26 × 15.72 mm, 26.03 × 15.55 mm）(NCU MCP4090), Siqian Village, Shouning County, Fujian; (26.15 × 15.43 mm, 26.16 × 15.32 mm) (NCU MCP4038), Yongjia County, Zhejiang; (26.25 × 15.36 mm, 26.06 × 15.52 mm) (NCU MCP4039), Yongjia County, Zhejiang; 1♀(26.11 × 15.12 mm) (NCU MCP4039), Yongjia County, Zhejiang.

Diagnosis

Carapace approximately about 1.6 times broader than long, dorsal surface gently convex longitudinally and transversely; cervical groove indistinct, H-shaped groove between gastric and cardiac regions distinct. Male pleon triangular, sixth somite width 2.5 times length; telson triangular, tip rounded, with proximal width 1.7 times length. G1 long, tip of terminal segment reaching suture between thoracic sternites 4, 5 in situ; subterminal segment 1.3 times as long as terminal segment; terminal segment slightly ~~elongated inward~~, distal part of terminal segment elongated with ~~ventrally~~ directed semicircular lobe. Female vulvae partially exposed anteriorly to the thoracic sternites 5, 6 in situ, ovate, deep, posteromesial margin with a ~~law~~ raised rim, opened inward.

Description

Carapace approximately about 1.6 times broader than long, dorsal surface gently convex, surface slightly pitted. Cervical groove shallow, indistinct. H-shaped groove between the gastric region and cardiac region shallow but distinct. Postfrontal lobe blunt, separated medially by a Y-shaped groove extending to frontal region; postorbital crest indistinct, postorbital region slight concave. Frontal region deflexed downwards. Dorsal orbital margin ridged, external orbital angle triangular outer margin smooth; Anterolateral margin cristate, epibranchial tooth pointed, indistinct, clearly demarcated from external orbital tooth (*Fig. 2*).

Third maxilliped merus about 1.3 times as broad as long; Ischium about 1.5 times as long as broad, with distinct median sulcus; exopod reaching proximal third of merus length, without flagellum (*Fig. 3A*).

The male sternum is relatively flat ~~and has granular~~ small pits. The first section is triangular and the second to fourth sections are fused. The interruption between sternite sutures is intermediate in depth and wide. The median longitudinal sutures of sternites 7/8 are shorter; the tubercle of abdominal lock is on the medial side of the fifth male ventral nail (*Fig. 4*).

Cheliped slightly unequal; margins crenulated; carpus with sharp spine on inner distal angle, with spinule at base; outer surface of manus with convex granules, manus about 1.6 times as long as high, slightly longer than movable finger, gape wide when fingers closed, cutting edge lined with low teeth (*Fig. 3C*).

Ambulatory legs slender; margins of propodus smooth; last leg with propodus about 1.8 times as long as broad, slightly shorter than dactylus (*Fig. 3B*).

G1 slender, a fold covering the surface of the entire subterminal article with a transparent distal region.tip of terminal segment slightly reaching beyond sternal press-button in situ,

subterminal segment about 1.3 times as long as terminal segment. G1 slightly curved ventrolaterally; distal part of G1 terminal segment distinctly broader than proximal part. G2 subterminal segment about 2.3 times as long as terminal segment (*Fig. 5A, 6A*).

Remarks

The new species fits well within the morphological definition of the hitherto monotypic *Bottapotamon* (*Türkay & Dai*, *1997*; *Cheng et al.*, *2010*; *Zhou et al*., *2008*): G1 is slender, tip of terminal segment reaching suture between thoracic sternites 4, 5 in situ; terminal segment slightly elongated inward (*Table. 3*). Nonetheless, the new species can be distinguished from comparative specimens, by the Carapace surface gently convex, cervical groove indistinct; H-shaped groove shallow but distinct. epibranchial tooth pointed and indistinct, third maxilliped without flagellum; chelipeds carpus with sharp spine on inner distal angle; G1 is sturdy and blunt (*Table. 3*).

Etymology

The species is named after the type locality: Chenzhou city, Hunan Province, China.

Distribution

B. chenzhouense sp. n. was found under stones in a mountain stream in Huangcao village, Chenzhou city, Hunan Province, China**.**

***Bottapotamon luxiense* sp.n. (*Fig. 5-10*)**

urn: lsid zoobank. org: art: 1C1CC520-193A-405E-9A2D-DC79E7D4AA87.

Materials examined

Holotype: 1 ♂ (18.72×15.69 mm) (NCU MCP 4200), Yixiantian Wugongshan Mountain, Luxi county, Pingxiang city, Jiangxi Province, China, 27°28′56.16″N, 114°10′27.51″E, 1331 m asl. Coll. Jiexin Zou, May 6th 2019. Paratypes: 1♂ (19.22 × 16.38 mm) (NCU MCP 4200). Others: 12 ♀ (16.7 × 15.7 mm, 15.41x15.36 mm, 14.23×12.98 mm, 15.63×14.52 mm, 16.13×15.86 mm, 16.23×14.97 mm, 13.65×12.33 mm, 14.56×13.15 mm, 15.27×14.10 mm, 16.02×15.43 mm, 15.89×15.01 mm, 13.13×12.46 mm) (NCU MCP 4200), 12♂ (15.66×13.89 mm, 14.21×13.11mm, 13.69×12.01 mm, 14.23×13.69 mm, 15.17×14.31 mm, 14.19×13.69 mm, 14.69×13.54 mm, 14.73×13.52 mm, 12.87×11.36 mm, 13.00×12.13 mm, 13.58×12.29 mm, 15.26×14.36 mm) (NCU MCP 4200), same data as holotype.

Comparative materia

Same as *Bottapotamon chenzhouense* sp. n.

Diagnosis

Carapace about 1.4 times broader than long, dorsal surface gently convex longitudinally and transversely; cervical groove distinct, H-shaped groove between gastric and cardiac regions distinct. Male pleon triangular, sixth somite width 2.3 times length; telson triangular, tip rounded, with proximal width 1.6 times length. G1 long, tip of terminal segment reaching suture between thoracic sternites 4, 5 in situ; subterminal segment 1.2 times as long as terminal segment; terminal segment slightly elongated inward, distal part of terminal segment elongated

with ventrally directed semicircular lobe. Female vulvae partially exposed anteriorly to the thoracic sternites 5, 6 in situ, ovate, deep, posteromesial margin with a law raised rim, opened inward.

Description

Carapace nearly ellipse, about 1.4 times broader than long, dorsal surface gently convex, surface slightly pitted. Cervical groove distinct. H-shaped groove between the gastric region and cardiac region shallow but distinct. Postfrontal lobe blunt; postorbital crest indistinct, postorbital region slight concave. Frontal region deflexed downwards. Dorsal orbital margin ridged, external orbital angle triangular, outer margin smooth. Anterolateral margin cristate, epibranchial tooth pointed (*Fig. 7*).

Third maxilliped merus about 1.4 times as broad as long, trapezoidal; ischium about 1.5 times as long as broad, with distinct median sulcus; exopod reaching proximal third of merus length, with flagellum (*Fig. 8A*).

Thoracic sternum pitted; sternites 1, 2 completely fused to form triangular structure;sternites 2, 3 separated by continuous suture; boundary between sternites 3, 4 present, indistinct. Sterno-pleonal cavity broad, shallow, with narrow median interruption in sutures 4/5, 5/6, 6/7 ;median line between sternites 7, 8 moderately long (*Fig. 9*).

The male sternum is relatively flat and has granular small pits. The first section is triangular and the second to fourth sections are fused. The interruption between sternite sutures is medium in depth and wide. The median longitudinal sutures of sternites 7/8 are shorter; the tubercle of abdominal lock is on the medial side of the fifth male ventral nail (*Fig. 6B*).

Chelipeds slightly unequal; margins crenulated; outer surface of manus with convex granules, manus about 1.5 times as long as high, slightly longer than movable finger, gape wide when fingers closed, cutting edge lined with low teeth (Fig. 8B).

Ambulatory legs slender; margins of propodus smooth; last leg with propodus about 1.7 times as long as broad, slightly shorter than dactylus (Fig. 8C).

G1 is sturdy and blunt.tip of terminal segment slightly reaching beyond sternal press-button in situ, subterminal segment about 1.4 times as long as terminal segment. G1 slightly curved ventrolaterally; distal part of G1 terminal segment distinctly broader than proximal part. G2 subterminal segment about 2.2 times as long as terminal segment (*Fig. 5B. 6B*).

Remarks

The new species fits well within the morphological definition of the hitherto monotypic *Bottapotamon* (*Türkay & Dai*, *1997*; *Cheng et al.*, *2010*; *Zhou et al.*, *2008*): ~~cervical groove indistinct, H-shaped groove between gastric and cardiac regions distinct, G1 long, tip of terminal segment reaching suture between thoracic sternites 4, 5 in situ; terminal segment slightly elongated inward (*Table. 3*).~~ Nonetheless, the new species can be distinguished from comparative specimens, by the Carapace surface gently convex, cervical groove shallow and indistinct; H-shaped groove shallow but distinct. epibranchial tooth pointed and indistinct, third maxilliped without flagellum; chelipeds carpus with sharp spine on inner distal angle, with spinule at base; G1,a fold covering the surface of the entire subterminal article with a transparent distal region (*Table. 3*).

Etymology

The species is named after the type locality: Yixiantian Wugongshan Mountain, Luxi county, Pingxiang city, Jiangxi Province, China.

Living color

The dorsal surfaces of the carapace and pereopods are dark purple-red, and the joints of the cheliped merus and carpus the ambulatory legs are bright red. The inner surface of the immovable finger and distal part of the movable finger are almost milky.

Distribution

B.luxiense sp. n. was found under stones in a mountain stream in Yixiantian Wugongshan Mountain, Luxi county, Pingxiang city, Jiangxi Province, China (*Fig. 10*).

Ecology

B. chenzhouense sp. n. and *B. luxiense* sp. n.were collected in the Luoxiao mountains. This region has a humid subtropical monsoon climate and is in the Xiangjiang River and Ganjiang River watershed, which has rich biodiversity (*Wang, 1998*). Similar to the natural habitat of other *Bottapotamon* species, *B. chenzhouense* sp. n. and *B. luxiense* sp. n. can be found under small rocks in sandy creek beds in narrow mountain streams or highway drains with clear, slow flowing and cool water surrounded by dwarf shrubs or grasse (*Fig. 10*).

Phylogenetic analyses and Divergence time estimation

The combined mtDNA COI, 16S rRNA and nuclear histone H3 phylogenetic trees were constructed by ML analysis, and the corresponding support values were calculated by ML and BI analyses, both of which had high support values. The results showed that the genus *Bottapotamon* is monophyletic, and confirmed that *B. chenzhouense* sp. n. and *B. luxiense* sp. n. are new species of genus *Bottapotamon* and supported the relationship of the genus *Bottapotamon* (*Fig. 11*). *B. engelhardti*, *B. yonganense* and *B. nanan*, which are mostly distributed in the Wuyi Mountain Range, form a clade; *B. luxiense* sp. n. forms a sister clade to the clade of *B. engelhardti*, *B. yonganense* and *B. nanan*. The next sister clade is composed of *B. chenzhouense* sp. n., which is distributed in the Luoxiao Mountain Range, and the furthest sister clade is composed of *B. lingchuanense,* which is distributed in the Nanling Mountain Range. *B. fukiense* and *B. youxiense* are also distributed in the Wuyi Mountain Range, but they do not assemble with *B. engelhardti*, *B. yonganense* and *B. nanan.*

The divergence time estimation results are consistent with the four calibration points. The genus *Bottapotamon* diverged approximately 3.49-1.08 mya, *B. fukiense* and *B. youxiense* diverged 1.96 mya (95% confidence interval =2.65-1.31 mya), *B. luxiense* diverged 1.90 mya (95% confidence interval =2.05-1.09 mya), *B. lingchuanense* and *B. chenzhouense* sp. n. diverged 1.51 mya (95% confidence interval =1.6-0.7 mya); *B. engelhardti* and *B. nanan* diverged 1.08 mya (95% confidence interval =1.76-0.80 mya).(*Fig. 12*)

Discussion

In mainland China, the genus *Bottapotamon* is primarily distributed in the Wuyi Mountain Range area; *B. luxiense* sp. n., *B. youxiense, B. nanan, B. engelhardti* and *B. yonganense* are

restricted within an area east of the Wuyi Mountain Range (*Fig. 1*). There is no record of any of these five species in Jiangxi, despite extensive surveys of this area by the authors and their colleagues over many years (*Dai, 1999*; *Shi, 2012*). The altitude of the Wuyi Mountain Range is clearly high enough to prevent these species from reaching Jiangxi. *B. fukiense* occurs on both sides of the Wuyi Mountain Range (Fujian and Jiangxi Provinces) and is able to disperse across these mountains. The divergence time of *B. fukiense* and *B. youxiense* is 1.96 mya (95% confidence interval =2.65-1.31 mya) (*Fig. 12*), which agrees well with records of the Pacific plate and Indian plate extrusion in the Neogene-Quaternary (1.64-23.3 mya) (*Li, 1984*). Therefore, these geological events may explain the distribution pattern of the genus *Bottapotamon* in the Wuyi Mountain Range. The ancestor of the genus *Bottapotamon* originated in an area close to the Wuyi Mountains, as the Wuyi Mountain Formation and smaller-scale mountain deformations resulted in sufficient geographic barriers to isolate populations; thus, the two species-groups were separated by the Wuyi Mountains.

In the Nanling mountain range, unique karst formation and the south Asian subtropical humid monsoon climate conditions provide a good living environment for all types of wildlife, including freshwater crabs. However, only one species of the genus *Bottapotamon*, *B. lingchuanense*, was isolated in this area, and there is an 830 km gap between *B. lingchuanense* and other species distributed within the Wuyi Mountain Range (*Fig. 1*), which has always been the focus of researches on the genus *Bottapotamon*. This study reports two new species of genus *Bottapotamon*, *B. chenzhouense* sp. n., Which was first discovered in Chenzhou City, Hunan Province, in south of Luoxiao Mountains, and *B.luxiense* sp. n., which is distributed in north of the Luoxiao Mountains (*Fig. 1*). Divergence time estimation results suggested that *B. chenzhouense* sp. n., *B. luxiense* sp. n., and *B. lingchuanense* were isolated at almost the same time (*B. luxiense* sp. n. diverged 1.90 mya, and *B. lingchuanense* and *B. chenzhouense* sp. n. diverged at 1.51 mya) (*Fig. 12*). The authors speculated that the Luoxiao Mountains continuously rose due to neotectonic movement and gradually became the Xiangjiang River and Ganjiang River watershed(*Wang, 1998*). The ancestors of the genus *Bottapotamon* occurred on both sides of the Luoxiao Mountains durng the mountains formation process , and under the influence of karst landforms and the Danxia landform, gradually isolated *B. luxiense* sp. n., *B. chenzhouense* sp. n and *B. lingchuanense* ~~was gradually isolated~~. In addition, the climatic conditions in this area are ideal for *Bottapotamon.* The authors speculate that many new species of the genus *Bottapotamon* are likely to exist in the region from the Wuyi Mountain Ranges to the Nanling Mountain Range.

Conclusions

B. chenzhouense sp. n. and *B. luxiense* sp. n., two new species from the Luoxiao Mountains were reported in this paper. These two new species compensated for the geographical gap in the genus *Bottapotamon*, and confirm the independence and intra- and interspecific relationships of

genus *Bottapotamon*. Combined with estimates of divergence times, this paper suggests that the genus *Bottapotam*on was formed at 3.49-1.08 mya. Molecular evidence further supports the scientific hypothesis of the authors that genus *Bottapotamon* originated on both sides of the Wuyi Mountains and Luoxiao Mountains. In the geological area where the genus *Bottapotamon* is distributed, the Wuyi Mountains gradually formed offshore and inland of southeastern China by the compression of the Pacific plate and the Indian plate in the Neogene-Quaternary, and the Luoxiao Mountains formed continuously in the north-south direction because of neotectonic movement. Thus, the geographical distribution patterns of the genus *Bottapotamon* formed gradually.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND DECLARATIONS

Acknowledgements

We thank Mao-rong Cai, Yi-yang Xu, Yu-Jie Zhao and Hua Guo for collecting the specimens of the new species. Special thanks is expressed to Xin-nan Jia and Shu-xin Xu for for their help and advice on the manuscript. We would also like to thank Professor Xian-min Zhou for his guidance in this study.

Data Availability

Regarding data availability: all specimens in this study are housed in the permanent collections at the Department of Parasitology, Medical College of Nanchang University (NCU MCP), and the raw DNA data are included in the supplemental files.

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Table 1(on next page)

Specimens and GenBank accession numbers of genus *Bottapotamon*.

1

	Localities	Museum catalogue No.	Haplotypes	COI Accession No.	16S Accession No.	H3 Accession No.
Bottapotamon fukiense	Shangshan Village, Zhenghe County, Fujian	NCU MCP4156	Bfj1	MK920086	MK795653	MK952581
	Siqian Village, Shouning County, Fujian	NCU MCP4090	Bfj2	MK920097	MK795654	MK952582
	Xiapu Village, Ningde County, Fujian	NCU MCP4089	Bfj3	MK920088	MK795655	MK952583
		NCU MCP4089	Bfj4	MK920089	MK795656	MK952584
Bottapotamon youxiense	Xiwei Village, Youxi County, Fujian	NCU MCP4092	Byx1	MK920099	MK795666	MK952594
	Xiwei Village, Youxi County, Fujian	NCU MCP4158	Byx2	MK920100	MK795667	MK952595
	Xiwei Village, Youxi County, Fujian	NCU MCP4159	Byx3	MK920101	MK795668	MK952596
Bottapotamon engelhardti	Chimu Village, Youxi County, Fujian	NCU MCP4091	Bes1	MK920081	MK795648	MK952576
	Tangsan Village, Youxi County, Fujian	NCU MCP4157	Bes2	MK920082	MK795649	MK952577
		NCU MCP4157	Bes3	MK920083	MK795650	MK952578
		NCU MCP4157	Bes4	MK920084	MK795651	MK952579
		NCU MCP4157	Bes5	MK920085	MK795652	MK952580
Bottapotamon nanan	Siqian Village, Shouning County, Fujian	NCU MCP4090	Bna1	MK920093	MK795660	MK952588
		NCU MCP4090	Bna2	MK920094	MK795661	MK952589
	Yongjia County, Zhejiang	NCU MCP4038	Bna3	MK920095	MK795662	MK952590
		NCU MCP4038	Bna4	MK920096	MK795663	MK952591
	Yongjia County, Zhejiang	NCU MCP4039	Bna5	MK920097	MK795664	MK952592
		NCU MCP4039	Bna6	MK920098	MK795666	MK952593
	Bindong Village, Lingchuan	NCU MCP3281	Blc1	MK920090	MK795657	MK952585

Bottapotamon lingchuanense	County, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region					
	Yuanpu Village, Gongcheng County, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	NCU MCP4076	Blc2	MK920091	MK795658	MK952586
		NCU MCP4076	Blc3	MK920092	MK795659	MK952587
***Bottapotamon chenzouense* sp.n.**	Zixing County, Chenzhou City, Hunan	NCU MCP643	Bcz1	MK920079	MK795646	MK952574
		NCU MCP643	Bcz2	MK920080	MK795647	MK952575
***Bottapotamon luxiense* sp.n.**	Yixiantian Wugongshan Mountain, Luxi County, Pingxiang City, Jiangxi	NCU MCP4200	Blx1	MK993542	MK981408	MK993544
		NCU MCP4200	Blx2	MK993543	MK981409	MK993545
~~***Bottapotamon yonganense***~~	~~Sanming City, Fujian~~	~~NCUMCP4096~~		~~Lack of sequence~~		

2

Table 2(on next page)

Primer sequences used in this study.

Gene	Primer name	Sequence (5'–3')	sequence length	Reference
COI	COI-1490	GGTCAACAAATCATAAAGATATTGG	750bp	Folmer et al., 1994
	COI-2198	TAAACTTCAGGGTGACCA AAAAATCA		
16S rRNA	16S-1471	CCTGTTTANCAAAAACAT	550bp	Crandall and Fitzpatrick, 1996.
	16S-1472	AGATAGAAACCAACCTGG		
H3	H3-F	ATGGCTCGTACCAAGCAGACVGC	374bp	Colgan et al.,1998
	H3-R	ATATCCTTRGGCATRATRGTGAC		

1
2

Table 3(on next page)

Differences between *Bottapotamon* species.

	B. fukiense	***B. yonganense***	***B. engelhardti***	***B. nanan***	***B. youxiense***	***B. lingchuanense***	***B. chenzhouense* sp. n**	***B. luxiense* sp. n.**
Carapace	Flat, cervical groove indistinct	Swollen,cervical groove distinct	Swollen,cervical groove indistinct	Swollen, cervical groove distinct.	Swollen, cervical groove indistinct	Swollen, cervical groove indistinct	Swollen, cervical groove indistinct	Swollen, cervical groove distinct.
Exorbital angle	Blunt	Triangle	Blunt	Blunt	Triangle	Triangle	Triangle	Triangle
Third maxilliped ischium	Length to width ratio 1.5	Length to width ratio 1.4	Length to width ratio 1.5	Length to width ratio 1.3	Length to width ratio 1.2	Length to width ratio 1.5	Length to width ratio 1.0	Length to width ratio 1.1
Third maxilliped merus	Length to width ratio 1.3	Length to width ratio 1.1	Length to width ratio 1.2	Length to width ratio 1.4	Length to width ratio 1.1	Length to width ratio 1.2	Length to width ratio 1.3	Length to width ratio 1.4
Male abdomen	Triangular	Narrow and long triangular	Triangular	Triangular	Triangular	Triangular	Narrow and long Triangular	Triangular
Male abdomen pleonal somite 6	Width to length ratio 2.1	Width to length ratio 1.9	Width to length ratio 2.2	Width to length ratio 2.0	Width to length ratio 1.8	Width to length ratio 2.1	Width to length ratio 2.5	Width to length ratio 2.5
Male abdomen telson	Width to length ratio 1.5	Width to length ratio 1.3	Width to length ratio 1.3	Width to length ratio 1.4	Width to length ratio 1.5	Width to length ratio 1.2	Width to length ratio 1.3	Width to length ratio 1.3
Immovable finger	Length to width ratio 1.3	Length to width ratio 1.7	Length to width ratio 1.4	Length to width ratio 1.7	Length to width ratio 1.7	Length to width ratio 1.4	Length to width ratio 1.4	Length to width ratio 1.8
Immovable finger and movable finger	Length ratio 1.4	Length ratio 1.3	Length ratio 1.2	Length ratio 1.7	Length ratio 1.6	Length ratio 1.2	Length ratio 1.7	Length ratio 1.6
G1	Stout, straight	Distal Segment tabular arcuate	Slender, distal dorsal lobe convex	Slender, distinct longitudina groove	Slender, distal segment spacious and strong	Slender, terminal Segment tortuous slightly	slender, ventral flap with transparent protrusion	Sturdy and blunt

1

Figure 1

Collection sites for the genus *Bottapotamon* from the Chinese coastal provinces used in this study.

Mark the the main mountain. The regional map comes from https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Atlas_of_the_world and http://landsatlook.usgs.gov/; the map was edited with Adobe Photoshop CS6.

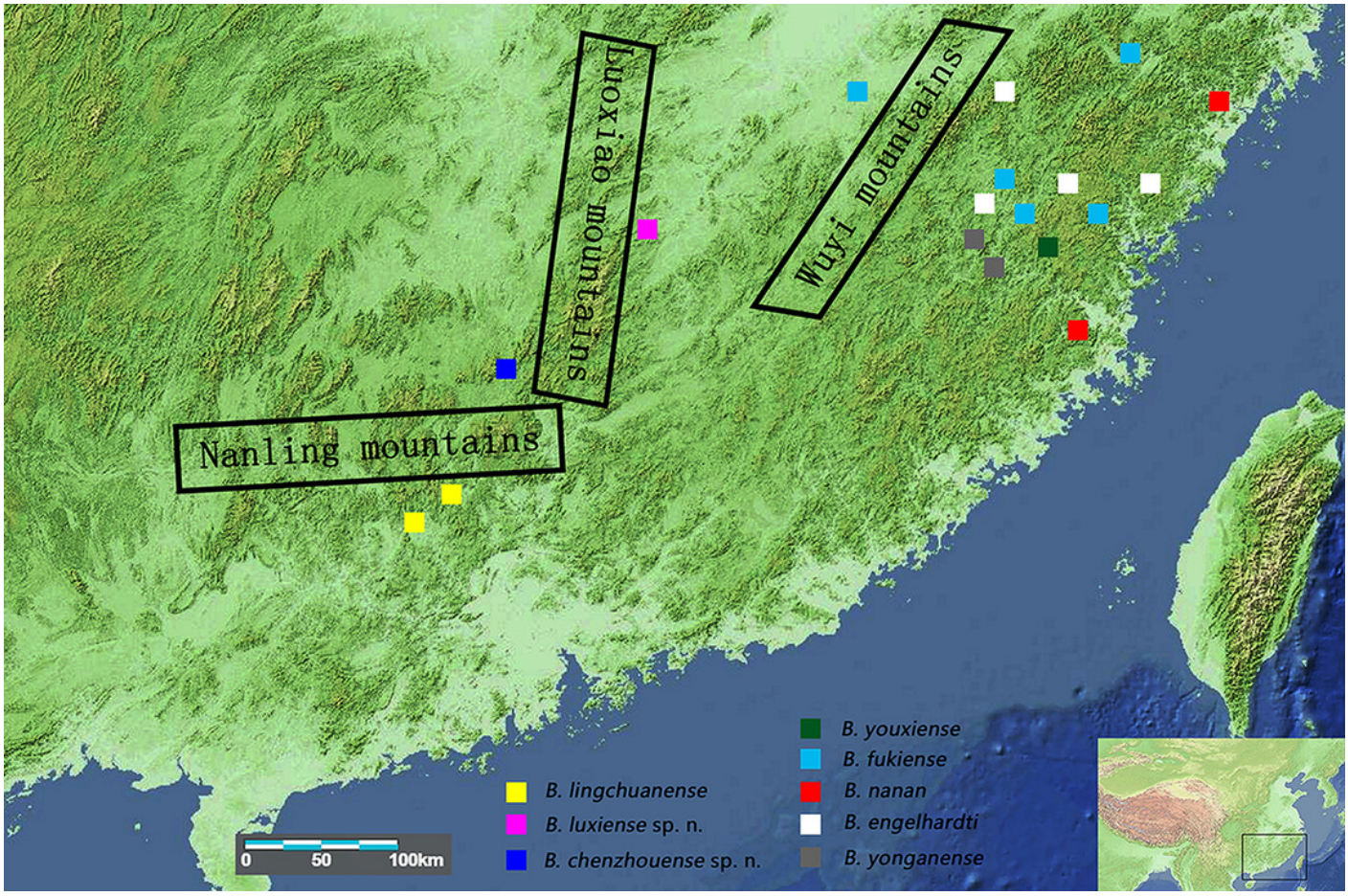

Figure 2

B. chenzhouense sp. n. Holotype male (20.7 × 15.7 mm) (NCU MCP 643-1) .

(A) Overall habitus; (B) frontal view of cephalothorax. Photograph courtesy of Jie-Xin Zou, November 2018.

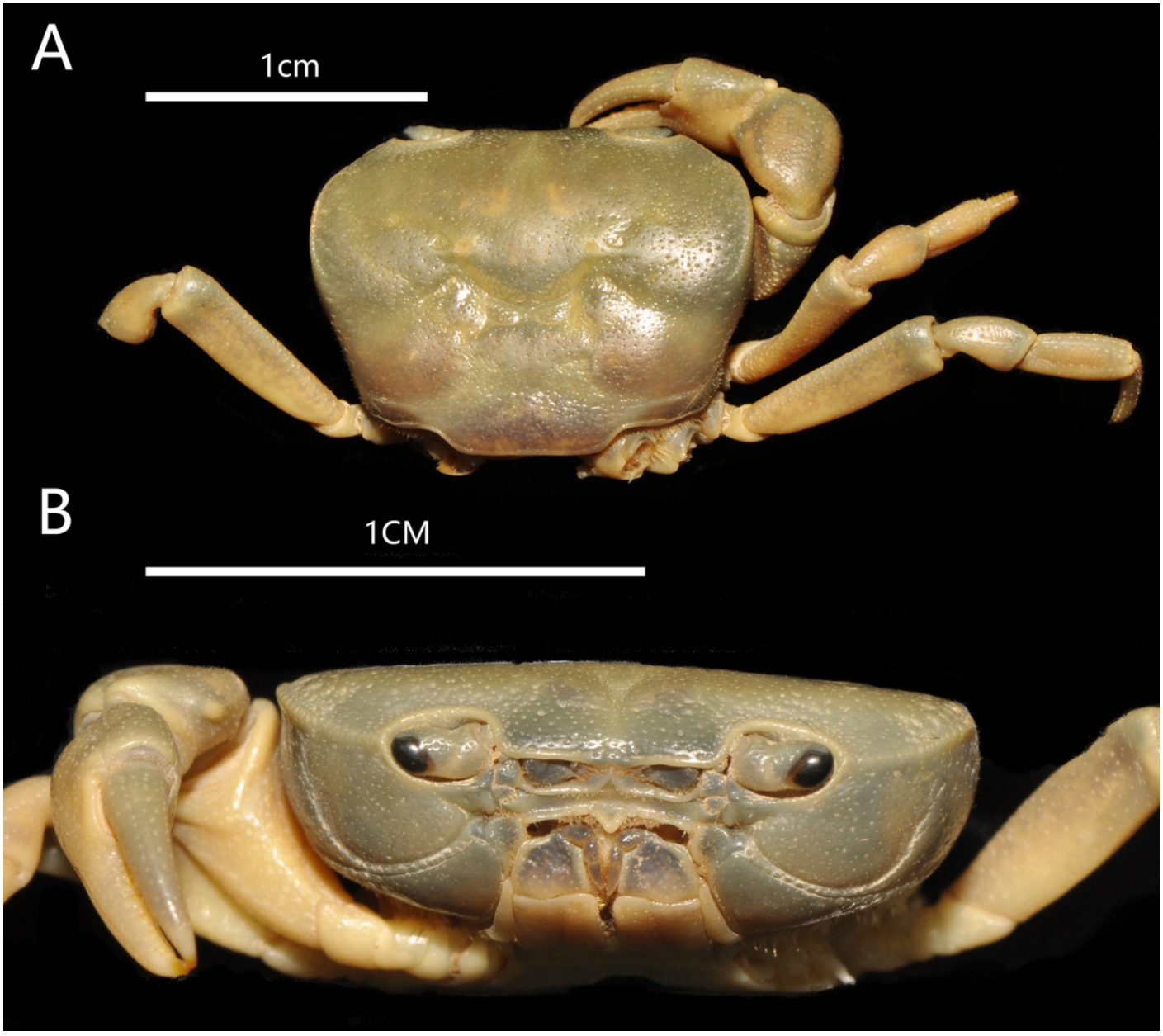

Figure 3

B.chenzhouense sp. n. Holotype male (20.7 × 15.7 mm) (NCU MCP 643-1).

(A) left third maxilliped; (B) right fourth ambulatory leg; (C) outer view of chelipeds.

Photograph courtesy of Jie-Xin Zou, November 2018.

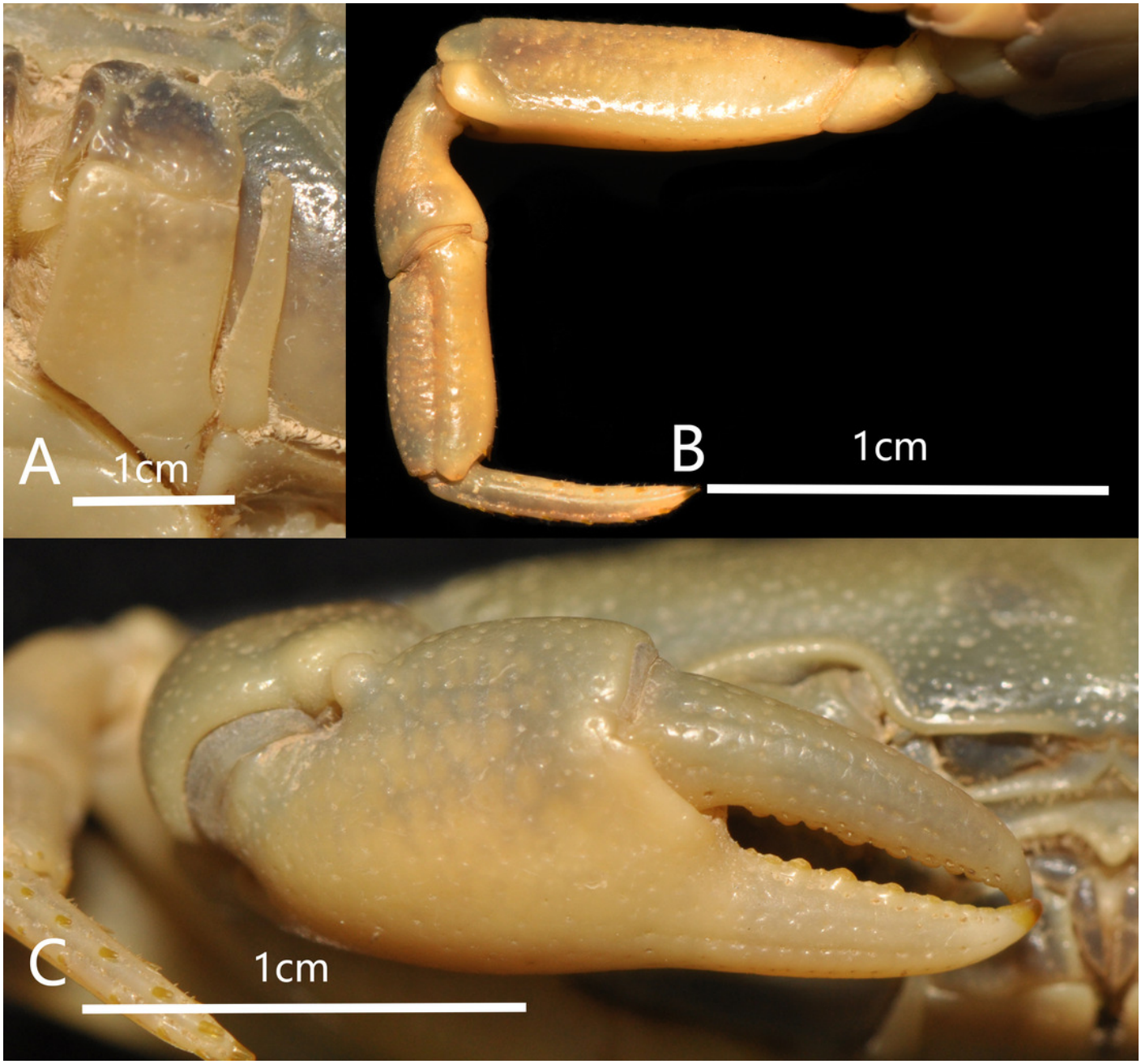

Figure 4

B. chenzhouense sp. n. Holotype male (20.7 × 15.7 mm) (NCU MCP 643-1).

(A) male sternum. Interruption between sutures of sternites 4/5, 5/6, 6/7;tubercle of abdominal lock. (B) median logitudinal suture of sternites7, 8. Photograph courtesy of Jie-Xin Zou, November 2018.

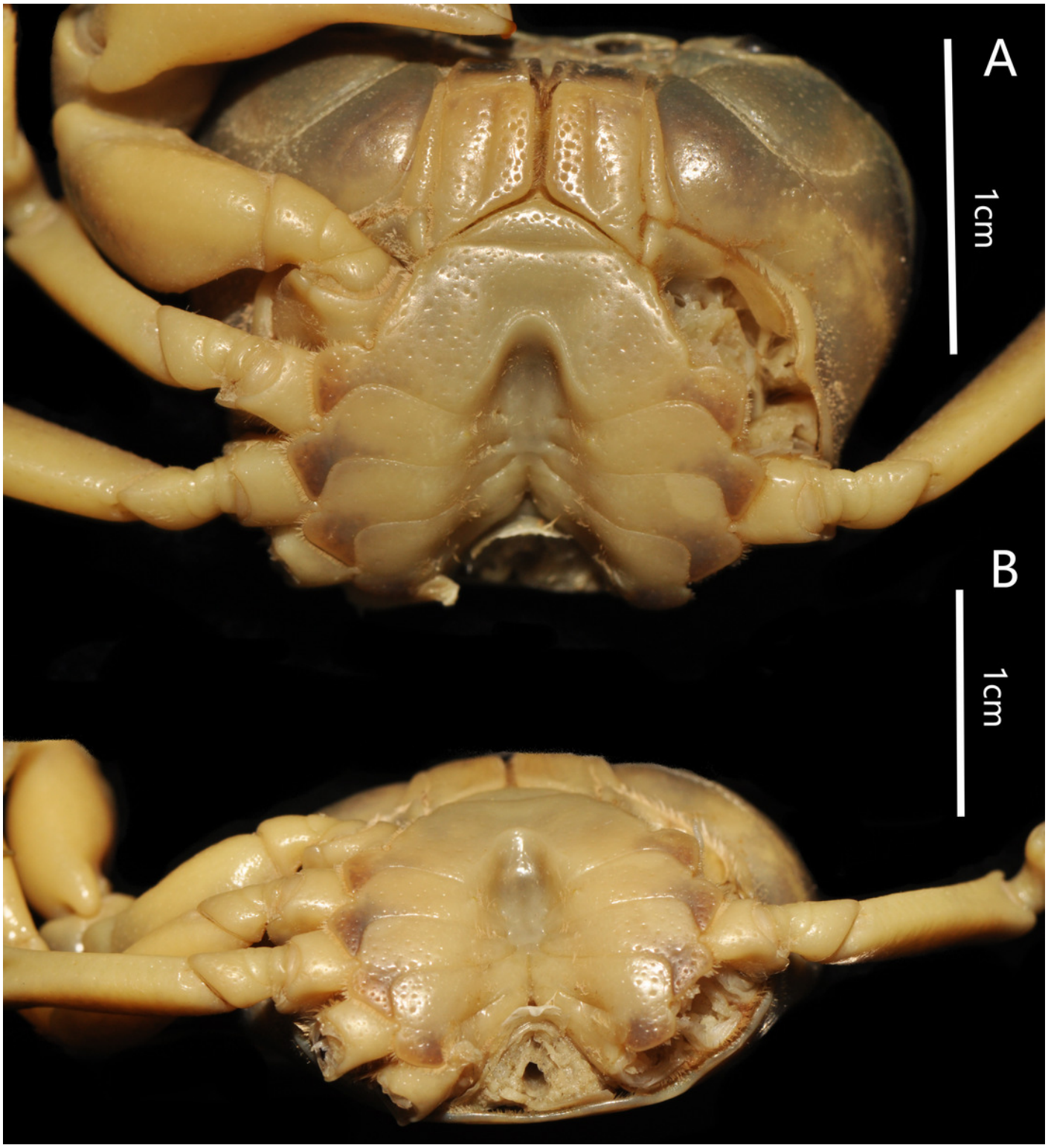
A
1cm
B
1cm

Figure 5

Natural position of male G1 and median longitudinal suture of sternites 7,8 ~~*Bottapotamon*~~.

(A) *B. chenzhouense* sp. n. Holotype male (20.7 × 15.7 mm) (NCU MCP 643-1); (B) *B. luxiense* sp. n. Holotype male (18.72 × 15.69 mm) (NCU MCP 4200-Blx1).

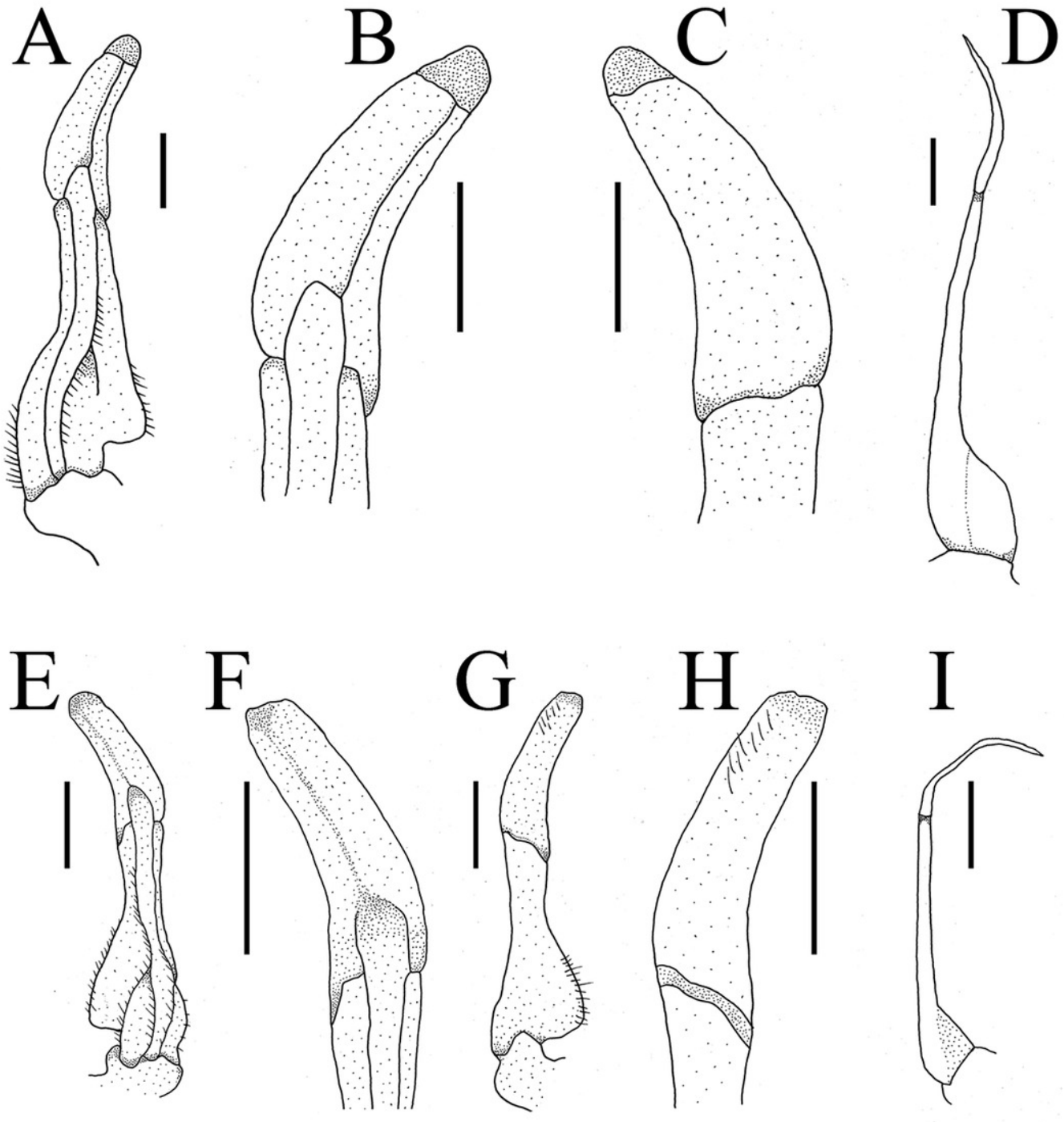
A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H
I

Figure 6

Gonopods. (A–I)

(A-D) *B. chenzhouense* sp .n. Holotype male (20.7 × 15.7 mm) (NCU MCP 643-1); (E-I) *B. luxiense* sp. n. Holotype male (18.72 × 15.69 mm) (NCU MCP 4200-Blx1).

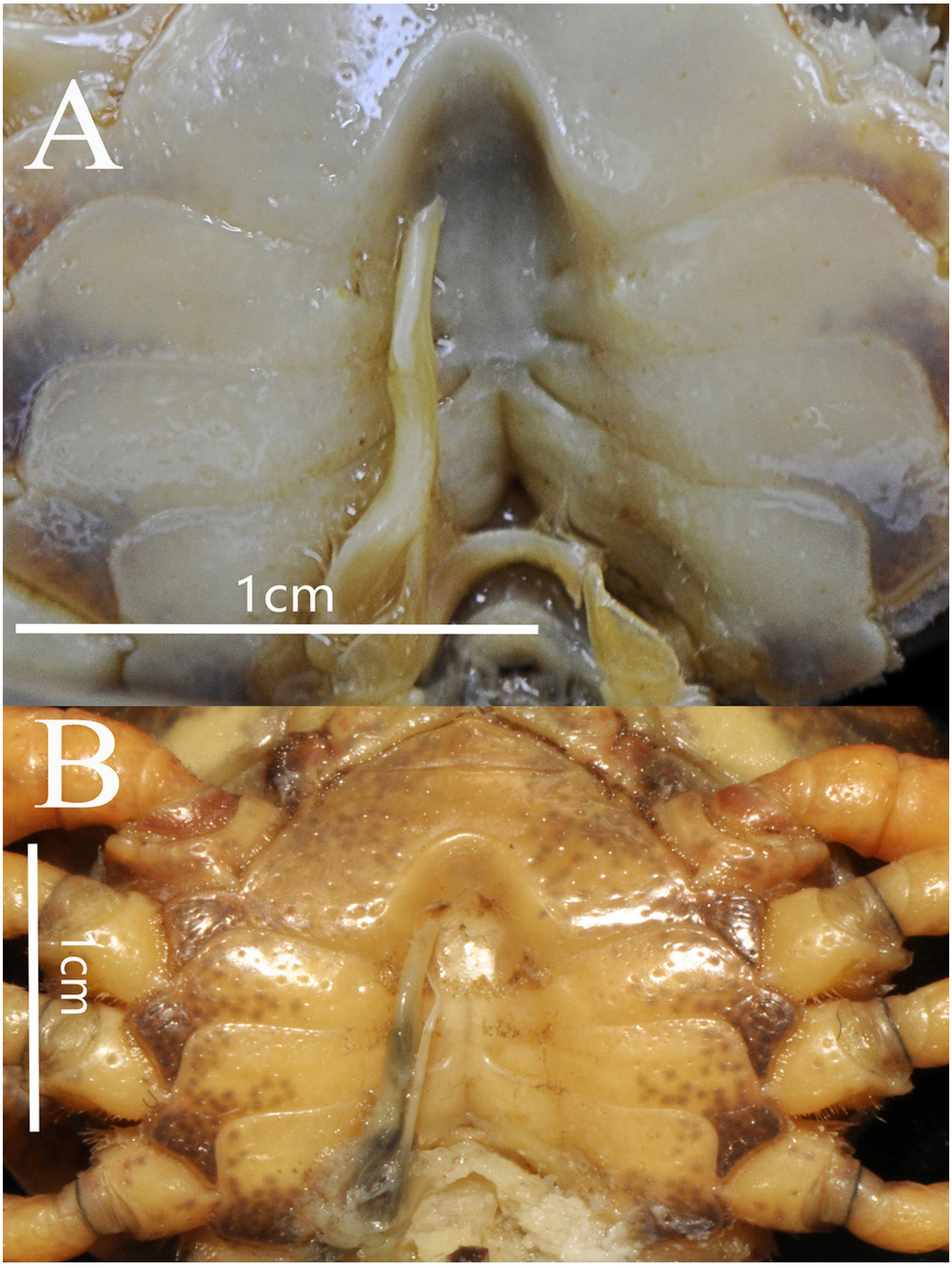
A
1cm
B
1cm

Figure 7

B. luxiense sp. n. Holotype male (18.72x15.69 mm) (NCU MCP 4200-Blx1).

Overall habitus. Photograph courtesy of Jie-Xin Zou, May 2019.

Figure 8

B. luxiense sp. n. Holotype male (18.72x15.69 mm) (NCU MCP 4200-Blx1).

(A) left third maxilliped; (B) outer view of chelipeds; (C) right fourth ambulatory leg.

Photograph courtesy of Jie-Xin Zou, May 2019.

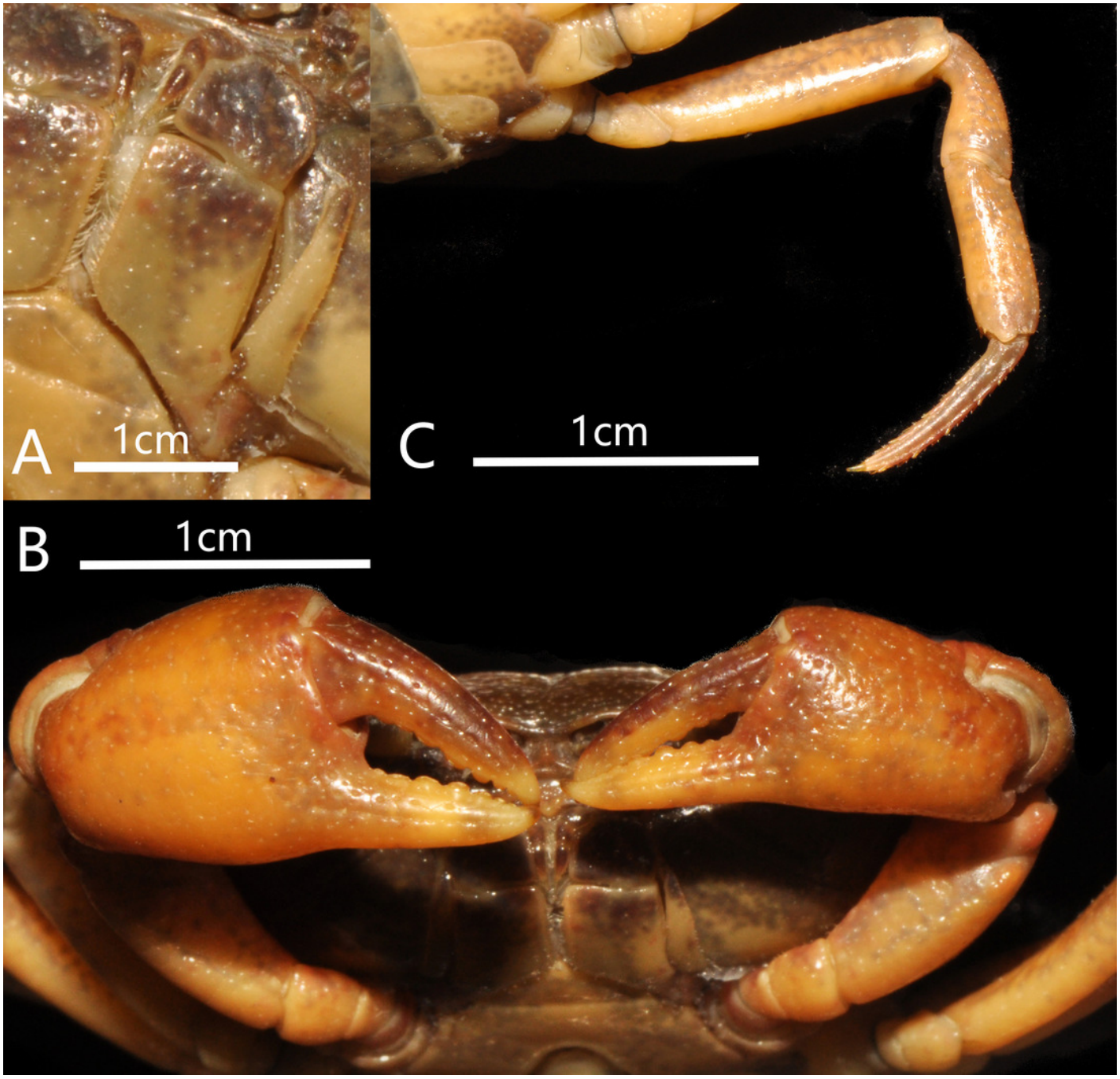

Figure 9

B. luxiense sp. n. Holotype male (18.72x15.69 mm) (NCU MCP 4200-Blx1).

Male sternum. Photograph courtesy of Jie-Xin Zou, May 2019.

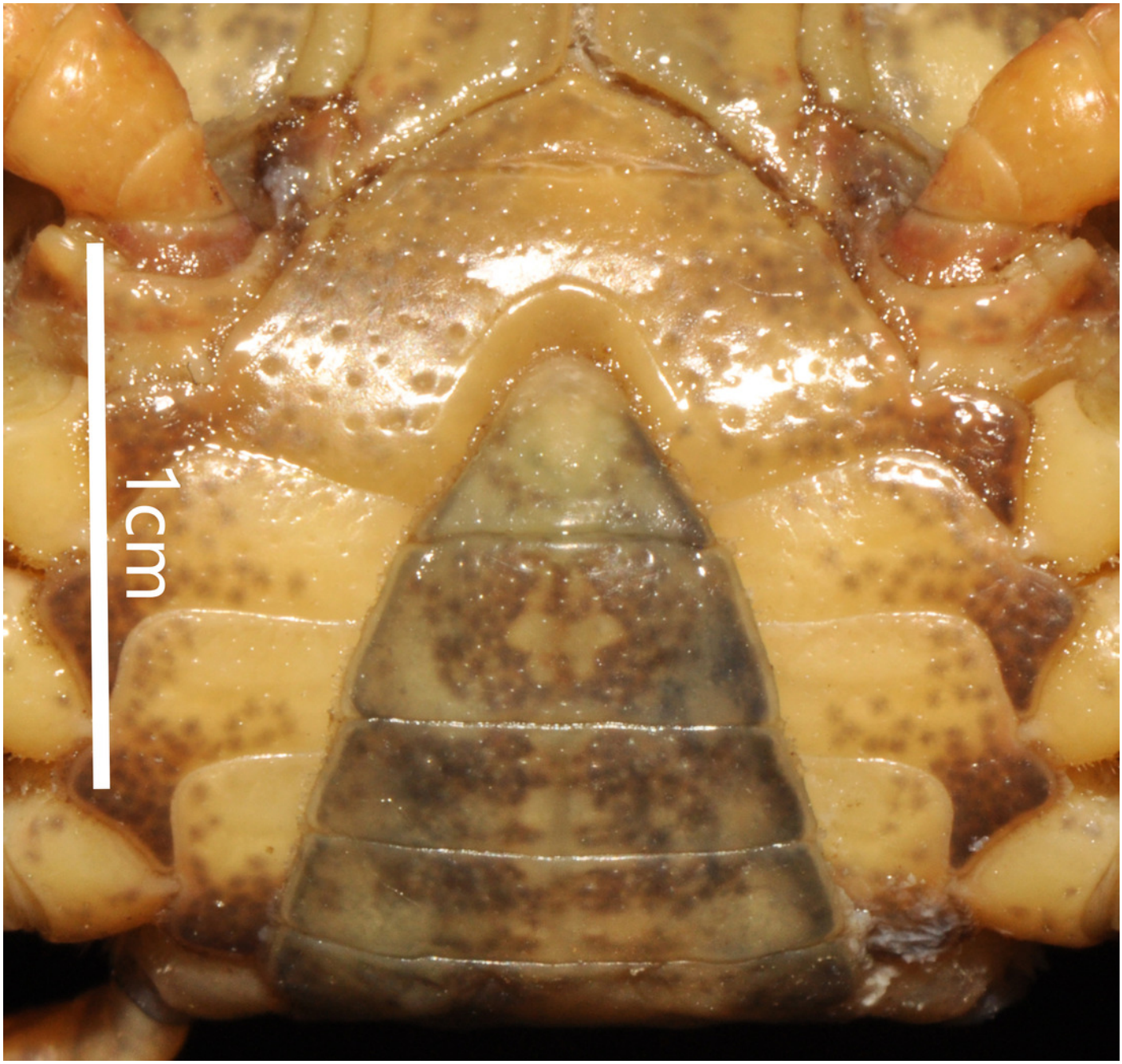

Figure 10

The type locality of *B. luxiense* sp. n.

Photo taken by Jie-Xin Zou, May 2019

Figure 11

Phylogenetic tree of *Bottapotamon*

A maximum likelihood (ML) tree of the genus *Bottapotamon*from the Chinese coastal provinces, and outgroups, based on the combined mtDNA COI, 16S rRNA and nuclear histone H3 genes (length=1404bp). Support values(P≧50%) for ML, BI is represented at the nodes. Locality names in Table 1 are parenthesized behind specimens.

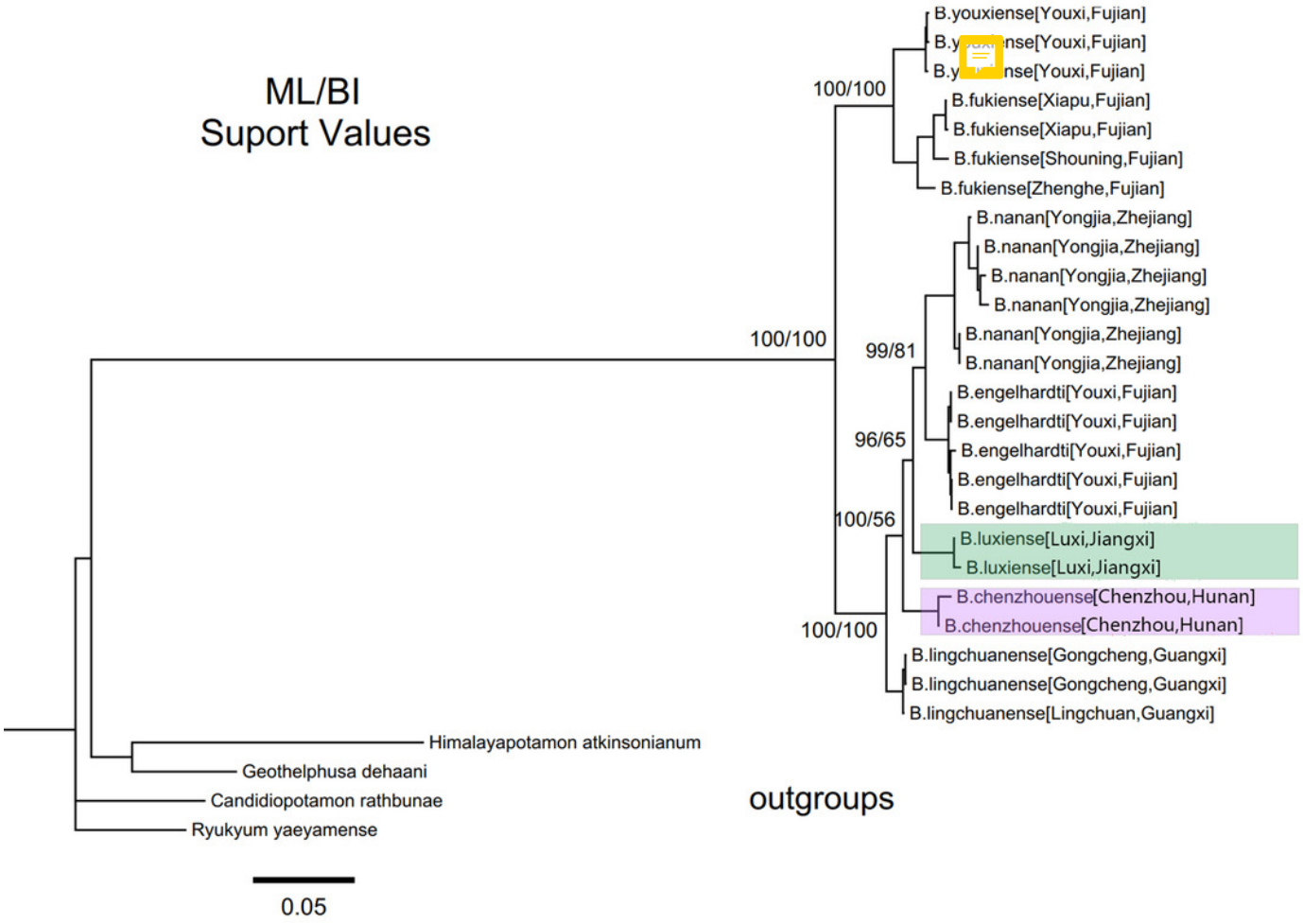

Figure 12

A chronogram of the genus *Bottapotamon* from the Chinese coastal provinces.

Based on the mtDNA COI, 16S rRNA genes. Calibration point 1 was set for the divergence time between subfamily Potamiscinae and subfamily Potaminae; Calibration point 2 was set for the glacial periods in Taiwan Strait; Formation time of Wuyi mountains was set for Calibration point 3. The divergence times estimated are shown in the main nodes.