



PSEUDAMNICOLA EXILIS (FRAUENFELD, 1863) IN SOUTHERN GREECE: A REMNANT OF A FLOCK OF SPECIES (RISSEOIDEA: HYDROBIIDAE)?

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ABSTRACT: The morphology of shell, penis, and female reproductive organs was studied in five populations of *Pseudamnicola exilis* (Frauenfeld) from southern Peloponnese and Kithira Island (Greece). No interpopulation differences were found in any of the characters. Thirty eight sequences of mitochondrial cytochrome oxidase subunit I (COI) and nuclear ribosomal 18S rRNA genes were analysed. In COI 19 haplotypes, high haplotypic diversity, low nucleotide diversity in each population, and restricted gene flow between populations were found. NCA indicated allopatric fragmentation for all populations, and long-distance colonisation and/or past fragmentation for populations 4 and 5. Mismatch distribution in the most polymorphic population 4 reflected a bottleneck followed by population growth. The values of K2P interpopulation distances, though relatively low, pointed to congeneric distinct species within the Risssooidea. The monophyly of *Pseudamnicola/Adrioinsulana* clade was confirmed. Most probably the studied populations of *Pseudamnicola* were part of a flock of vicariant species little differentiated in morphology and ecology, many of which must have disappeared due to human impact.

KEY WORDS: *Pseudamnicola*, morphology, COI, 18S rRNA, population, diversity, gene flow, phylogeny

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Pseudamnicola* Paulucci, 1878, with its type species *Paludina macrostoma* Küster, 1853 (KABAT & HERSHLER 1993), once contained dozens of taxa. The representatives of all those taxa shared a small, ovate-conical, umbilicate shell, and a radula (THIELE 1929) the characteristics of which could be ascribed to many rissoid gastropods. The species assigned to this genus were known from the British Isles, the Netherlands, and Spain, through France, Italy and the Balkans, to Romania and Cyprus. Anatomical studies, most of which considered the reproductive organs, proved that “*Pseudamnicola*” was a collection of several evolutionary lineages whose relationships were not necessarily close (RADOMAN 1973, 1983, GIUSTI & PEZZOLI 1980). These are now assigned to various genera such as *Mercuria*, *Sadleriana*, *Orientalina*, *Grossuana*, *Polinskiola*, *Ohridohauffenia*, *Ohrigocea*, *Dolapia*, *Graecorientalia*, *Belgrandia*, *Lyhnia*, *Adriohydrobia*, etc. (WAGNER 1927, RADOMAN 1973, 1983, GLÖER 2002). Within the literature on the

Greek malacofauna (see BUTOT & WELTER-SCHULTES 1994) there are some reports on the occurrence of *Pseudamnicola*. However, most of these reports, as not based on anatomy, are not reliable. Shell characters are often positively misleading within the Risssooidea (e.g. SZAROWSKA & WILKE 2004).

BOETERS (1971) described the anatomy of *Pseudamnicola lucensis* (Issel, 1866) from the type locality in Italy. RADOMAN (1972) described the anatomy of *P. conovula* (Frauenfeld, 1863) from the Pag Island in Croatia; next he described a new monotypic genus *Adrioinsulana* for that species (RADOMAN 1978). SZAROWSKA et al. (2006) did not confirm the distinctness of the genus *Adrioinsulana*. According to RADOMAN (1983, 1985) not all the species of *Pseudamnicola* mentioned from the Balkans (the territory of the former Yugoslavia, in particular) belong to this genus. It must be noted that even with *Adrioinsulana conovula* as a representative of *Pseudamnicola*, the range of this genus in the former

Yugoslavia is restricted to a few islands and the adjacent mainland in northern Croatia. Thus the known range of *Pseudamnicola* is not continuous. The Italian and West European taxa are separated from the Greek ones.

GIUSTI & PEZZOLI (1980) distinguished three species of *Pseudamnicola* in Italy: *P. lucensis*, *P. moussoni* (Calcara, 1841) and *P. conovula*, and illustrated their reproductive organs. SCHÜTT (1980) distinguished seven taxa of *Pseudamnicola* in Greece. Out of these, he assigned four species to the islands, and two species and one subspecies to continental Greece and Evvoia. However, he distinguished all those taxa based on the shell alone, and only for two species he illustrated (not described) the anatomy. Moreover, the drawings are of poor quality (figs 4–5 in SCHÜTT 1980). Following strictly the geographical concept of speciation, like in the case of his “*Belgrandiella*”, “*Semisalsa*” or *Bythinella*, in *Pseudamnicola* he divided the territory into separate parts that harboured one “species” of the genus each. Accordingly (SCHÜTT 1980), the southern part of Peloponnese was inhabited by *P. exilis* (Frauenfeld, 1863). FALNIOWSKI & SZAROWSKA (1995a, b) described the shell surface and internal structure in *Pseudamnicola cf. moussoni* [=

P. macrostoma (Küster, 1853): SZAROWSKA et al. (2006)] from Vravra. The shell, radula and anatomy of *P. macrostoma* from two localities in Attica, and *P. negropontina* (Clessin, 1878) from Evvoia were described by SZAROWSKA et al. (2006). Based on cytochrome oxidase subunit I (COI) of mtDNA, the latter study confirmed that the Greek *P. negropontina* belonged to the same genus as the Italian *P. lucensis* (SZAROWSKA et al. 2006).

During our extensive sampling of springs in continental Greece (including the islands Lefkas, Evvoia and Kithira) in 2003, 2007, 2008 and 2009, we found that many of the *Pseudamnicola* localities known from the literature had been destroyed (SZAROWSKA & FALNIOWSKI 2004, SZAROWSKA 2006, SZAROWSKA, et al. 2006). The snails became scarce: we found *Pseudamnicola* only at five localities in the southern Peloponnese and Kithira. All the localities were within the distribution range of *P. exilis*.

The aims of this study were as follows: (1) to check morphological characters of the shell and reproductive organs of *P. exilis*; (2) based on mitochondrial COI and nuclear 18S rRNA sequences, to infer the phylogenetic relationships and intra- and interpopulation diversity of the five populations.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The material was collected in 2007 and 2009, from five localities in southern Greece (Fig. 1):

- 1 – near Agio Theodori, between Belitseika and Koutiveika, western part of N. Taigetos Mts, Peloponnese; 36°56'55.6"N, 22°10'0.7"E, 238 m a.s.l.;
- 2 – W of Nomia, Nisis Monemvasia, SE. Peloponnese; 36°39'18.1"N, 22°59'43.6"E, 70 m a.s.l.;
- 3 – W of Ayios Niron, Nisis Sfondili, SE. Peloponnese; 36°27'09.2"N, 23°07'07.1"E, 87 m a.s.l.;
- 4 – spring at Karavas, N of Kithira Island; 36°20'50.4"N, 22°56'57.8"E, 66 m a.s.l.;
- 5 – spring at Viaradika, central Kithira Island; 36°14'24"N, 22°59'48.6"E, 203 m a.s.l.

The snails were collected with a sieve, or by hand. For molecular studies they were washed twice in 80% ethanol and left to stand in it for ca. 12 hours. Afterwards, the ethanol was changed twice in 24 hours and finally, after a few days, the 80% solution was exchanged for a 96% one, stored at –20°C.

For morphological studies the material was fixed in 4% formalin and stored in 80% ethanol. The shells were cleaned in an ultrasonic cleaner and photographed with a CANON EOS 50D digital camera. Ten adults (five males, five females) out of each population were dissected using a NIKON SMZ-U stereomicroscope with a NIKON drawing apparatus, and a NIKON DS-5 digital camera. In each male or female, the penis or the pallial section of the female reproductive organs was drawn, accordingly.

DNA was extracted from foot tissue of each snail. The tissue was hydrated in TE buffer (3 × 10 min.) and total genomic DNA was extracted with the SHERLOCK extracting kit (A&A Biotechnology). The final product was dissolved in 20 µl TE buffer. The PCR reaction was performed with the following primers: LCOI490 (5'-GGTCAACAAATCATAAAGATATTG G-3') and COR722b (5'-TAAACTTCAGGGTGACCAA AAAATYA-3') for the cytochrome oxidase subunit I

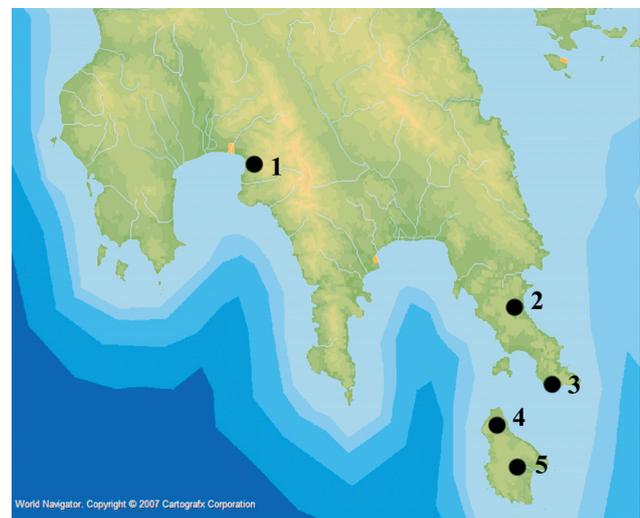


Fig. 1. Sampling localities of *Pseudamnicola*. Figure made using Cartografx Professional Software

(COI) mitochondrial gene (FOLMER et al. 1994), and SWAM18SF1 (5'-GAATGGCTCATTAAATCAGTCCGAGGTTTCCTTAGATGATCCAAATC-3'), and SWAM18SR1 (5'-ATCCTCGTTAAAGGGTTTAAAGTGTACTCATTCCAATTACGGAGC-3') for the 18S rRNA nuclear gene (18S) (PALUMBI 1996). The PCR conditions were as follows: COI: initial denaturation step of 4 min. at 94°C, followed by 35 cycles of 1 min. at 94°C, 1 min. at 55°C, 2 min. at 72°C, and a final extension of 4 min. at 72°C; 18S: initial denaturation step of 4 min. at 94°C, followed by 40 cycles of 45 s at 94°C, 45 s at 51°C, 2 min. at 72°C. After all cycles were completed, an additional elongation step of 4 min. at 72°C was performed. The total volume of each PCR reaction mixture was 50 µl. To check the quality of the PCR products 10 µl of the PCR product was run on 1% agarose gel. The PCR product was purified using Clean-Up columns (A&A Biotechnology) and the purified PCR product was amplified in both directions (HILLIS et al. 1996) using BigDye Terminator v3.1 (Applied Biosystems), following the manufacturer's protocol and with the primers described above. The sequencing reaction products were purified using ExTerminator Columns (A&A Biotechnology); DNA sequences then underwent electrophoresis on an ABI Prism sequencer. All the sequences were deposited in GenBank.

In the phylogeny reconstruction, sequences of nine rissoid taxa from GenBank were used (Table 1). The COI sequences were aligned by eye using BioEdit 5.0.0 (HALL 1999) and edited with MACCLADE 4.05 (MADDISON & MADDISON 2002). For 18S, an initial alignment was performed using CLUSTALX 1.82 (THOMPSON et al. 1997) and edited with MACCLADE. For COI haplotype diversity h and nucleotide diversity π with DNASP (ROZAS et al. 2003), and θ_S (WATTERSON 1975, TAJIMA 1989) and θ_π (TAJIMA 1983) with Arlequin 3.1 (EXCOFFIER et al. 2005), were computed. To estimate gene flow between the populations, AMOVA (EXCOFFIER et al. 1992, WEIR 1996) was calculated with estimates of gene flow with Arlequin 3.1 (EXCOFFIER et al. 2005): F_{st} , N_m and coancestry coefficient (REYNOLDS et al. 1983); significance tests were

run with 20,000 permutations. Mismatch distribution (ROGERS & HARPENDING 1992, HARPENDING 1994, ROGERS 1995, ROGERS & JORDEY 1995, SCHNEIDER & EXCOFFIER 1999, HARPENDING & ROGERS 2000, EXCOFFIER 2004) analyses were conducted using DnaSP 4.0 (ROZAS et al. 2003) and Arlequin (EXCOFFIER et al. 2005), with 20,000 permutations.

We inferred haplotype networks for COI with TCS 1.21 (CLEMENT et al. 2000), with the connection limit excluding homoplastic changes conventionally set to 95%. There is no reliable technique of analysing phylogeographical data (KNOWLES & MADDISON 2002). Nested clade analysis (NCA) introduced by TEMPLETON (TEMPLETON et al. 1987, 1992, TEMPLETON & SING 1993, TEMPLETON 2008) lacks statistical inference (KNOWLES & MADDISON 2002), simulations proved that it often does not find a realistic interpretation of the data, although those simulations are also criticised as not necessarily realistic (PANCHAL & BEAUMONT 2007, PETIT 2007, 2008, GARRICK et al. 2008, TEMPLETON 2008). Thus we inferred the NCA approach with the ANeCA (automation of nested clade phylogeographical analysis: PANCHAL 2007), implementing the construction of haplotype networks (with TCS), nesting of clades, calculation of summary statistics with tests of significance applying GeoDis 2.5 (POSADA et al. 2000), and the interpretation of results with an inference key (TEMPLETON 2008). To carry out tests of significance, 10,000 random permutations of geographical locations of individuals were run.

PAUP*4.0b10 (SWOFFORD 2002) was used to calculate K2P (KIMURA 1980) distances for the COI data. This distance is widely used in the literature for COI data, thus it is useful for comparisons of levels of differentiation.

Mutational saturation for the COI dataset was examined by plotting observed (uncorrected) pairwise distances (p-distances) versus estimated distances using the maximum likelihood parameters chosen with Modeltest, as described below. Saturation was also examined, plotting the numbers of transitions and transversions for all the codon positions and separ-

Table 1. Taxa used for phylogenetic analyses, with their GenBank Accession Numbers and references

Species	18S GB#	COI GB#	References
<i>Adriohydrobia gagatinella</i> (Küster, 1852)	AF367657	AF317881	WILKE & FALNIOWSKI (2001)
<i>Adrioinzulana conovula</i> (Frauenfeld, 1863)	AF367656	AF367628	WILKE et al. (2001)
<i>Dianella thiesseana</i> (Kobelt, 1878)	AY676125	AY676127	SZAROWSKA et al. (2005)
<i>Hydrobia acuta</i> (Draparnaud, 1805)	AF367680	AF278808	WILKE & DAVIS (2000)
<i>Pseudamnicola lucensis</i> (Issel, 1866)	AF367687	AF367651	WILKE et al. (2001)
<i>Pseudamnicola negropontina</i> (Clessin, 1878)		EF061915	SZAROWSKA et al. (2006)
<i>Pyrgula annulata</i> (Linnaeus, 1767)	AY676124	AY341258	SZAROWSKA et al. (2005)
<i>Rissoa labiosa</i> (Montagu, 1803)	AY676126	AY676128	SZAROWSKA et al. (2005)
<i>Ventrosia ventrosa</i> (Montagu, 1803)	AF367681	AF118335	WILKE & DAVIS (2000)

ately for the 3rd position against the percentage sequence divergence with DAMBE 5.2.9 (XIA 2000). We used DAMBE 5.2.9 also to perform saturation test of XIA et al. (2003).

For each maximum likelihood (ML) analysis, we used the best fit model of sequence evolution found by Modeltest v3.06 (POSADA & CRANDALL 1998, POSADA 2003). Following the recommendations of POSADA & BUCKLEY (2004) and SOBER (2002), the best model for each dataset was chosen using the Akaike Information Criterion (AKAIKE 1974). ML analyses were performed in PAUP*4.0b10 (SWOFFORD 2002), using a heuristic search strategy with stepwise addition of taxa, 10 random-sequence

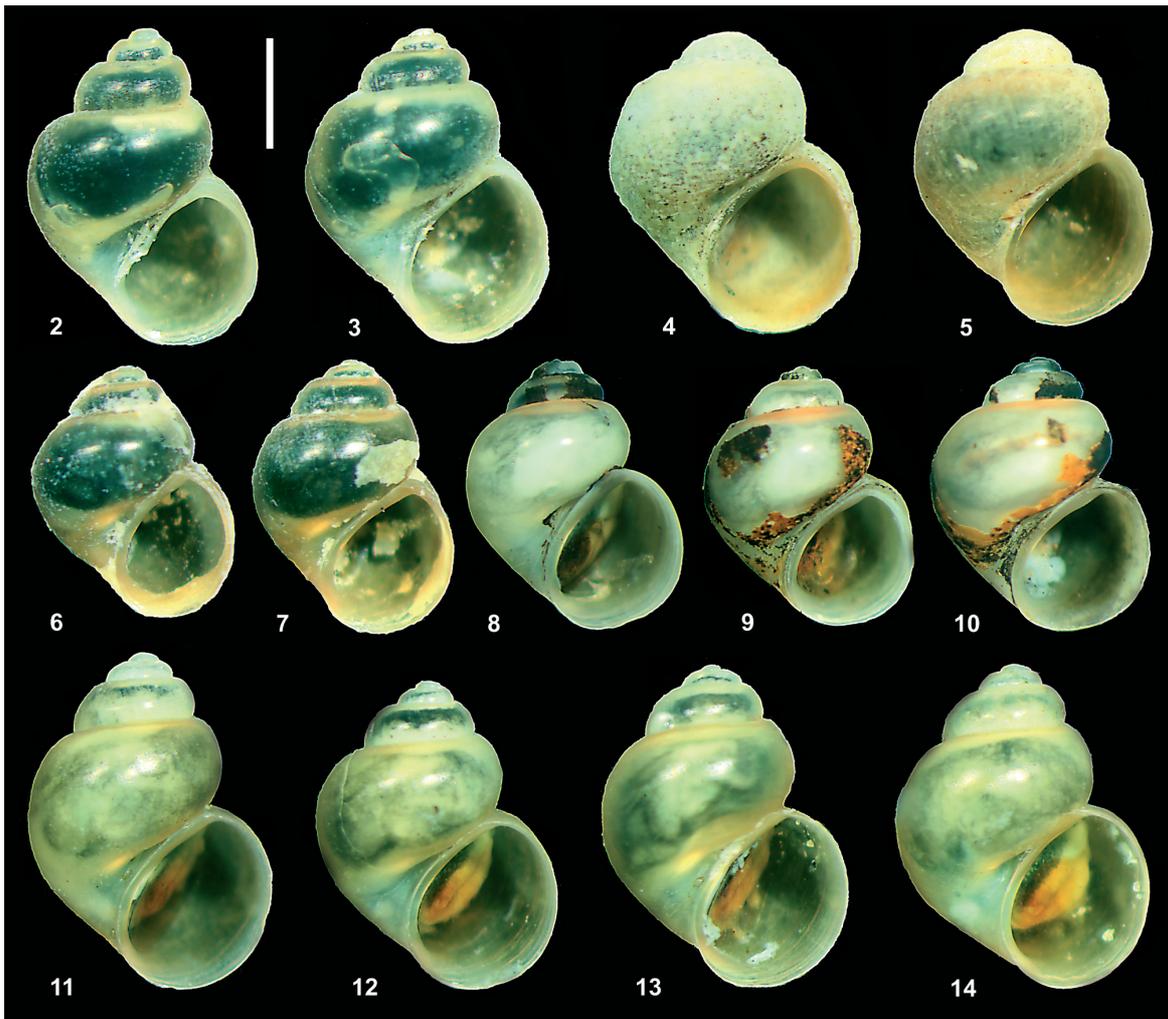
addition replicates, and tree-bisection-reconnection (TBR) branch swapping (SWOFFORD et al. 1996). Nodal support was estimated using the bootstrap approach (FELSENSTEIN 1985). Bootstrap values for ML trees were calculated using 2,000 bootstrap replicates, the “fast” heuristic search algorithm, and the same model parameters as for each ML analysis. The phylogeny was inferred separately for COI and 18S. Next, the partition homogeneity test (FARRIS et al. 1995) was performed (1,000 replicates) with PAUP*, to check whether the two genes could be analysed together. The maximum likelihood heuristic search strategy described above was then run for the combined molecular data.

RESULTS

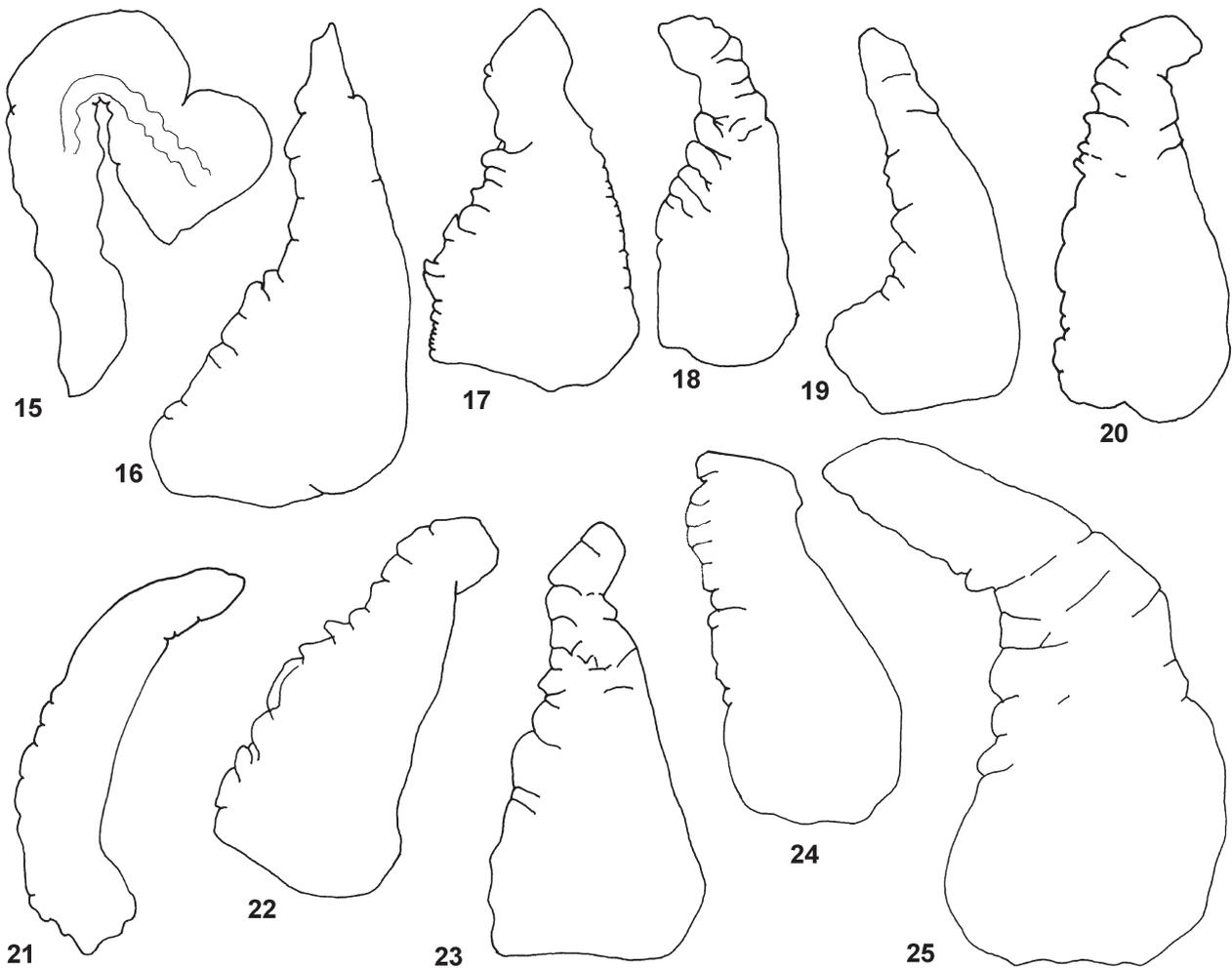
MORPHOLOGY

The shells of the studied *Pseudamnicola* differed among populations in size but not in shape (Figs

2–14). The same concerns the penes (Figs 15–25). Simple (without lobes on the left edge) and massive, their vas deferens visible only in some specimens (Fig. 15), they did not differ among populations. Fig. 26



Figs 2–14. Shells of *Pseudamnicola*: 2–3 – locality 1, 4–5 – locality 3, 6–7 – locality 2, 8–10 – locality 4, 11–14 – locality 5. Scale bar 1 mm



Figs 15–25. Penes of *Pseudamnicola*: 15–17 – locality 1, 18–19 – locality 2, 20–21 – locality 3, 22–23 – locality 4, 24–25 – locality 5

shows the pallial and renal section of the female reproductive organs with one seminal receptacle and bursa copulatrix, and a dark-pigmented spiral of the oviduct. Like in the shell and penis, there was no difference among populations in these organs.

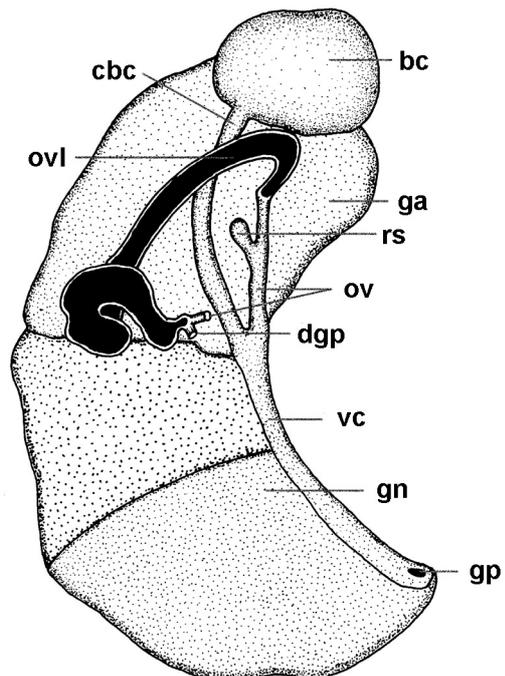


Fig. 26. Renal and pallial section of female reproductive organs of *Pseudamnicola* from locality 1; abbreviations: bc – bursa copulatrix, cbc – duct of bursa copulatrix, dgp – gonopericardial duct, ga – albumen gland, gn – capsule gland, gp – gonoporus, ov – oviduct, ovl – coil (spiral) of (renal) oviduct, rs – seminal receptacle, vc – ventral channel

MOLECULAR INTRA- AND INTERPOPULATION DIFFERENTIATION

In total, 38 sequences of mitochondrial cytochrome oxidase subunit I (COI, GenBank Accession Numbers: JF921885-JF921922), and 38 sequences of nuclear ribosomal 18S RNA (GenBank Accession Numbers: JF921877-JF921884) genes were used for phylogeny reconstruction. COI was used for molecular genetic studies as well.

In COI, 19 haplotypes were found (Table 2): two in population 1, eight in population 4, and three in the remaining three populations. In all the populations high values of haplotype diversity h and low values of

nucleotide diversity π were detected. The highest values of both parameters were found in population 4, the smallest in population 1, the same concerning both θ_s and θ_π (Table 2).

The pairwise values of F_{st} (Table 3) were all statistically highly significant. The pairwise coancestry coefficients (Table 4) and inferred pairwise Nm estimates (Table 4) indicated, in general, low levels of gene flow between the studied populations of *Pseudamnicola*.

In population 4, which harboured eight haplotypes, mismatch distribution markedly differed from the expected one (Fig. 27), left-skewed and with three peaks. The haplotype networks of populations 1, 2 and 3 consisted of 2–3 haplotypes each; they were not

Table 2. Intrapopulation genetic differentiation indices for the studied populations of *Pseudamnicola* from south Greece. N – number of specimens sequenced, n – number of haplotypes, h – haplotype diversity, π – nucleotide diversity

Population	N	n	h	π	θ_s	θ_π
1	8	2	0.25000 ±0.180	0.00078 ±0.00057	0.77135 ±0.59339	0.50000 ±0.53730
2	7	3	0.52381 ±0.209	0.00164 ±0.00080	1.22449 ±0.83590	1.04762 ±0.89901
3	6	3	0.73333 ±0.155	0.00146 ±0.00081	0.87591 ±0.68388	0.93333 ±0.85201
4	8	8	1.00000 ±0.063	0.00834 ±0.00100	3.85675 ±1.98624	5.32143 ±3.27238
5	9	3	0.66667 ±0.105	0.00209 ±0.00036	1.10381 ±0.73845	1.14196 ±1.03240
all	38	19	0.93314 ±0.019	0.03842 ±0.00259	1.56649 ±1.15631	1.78887 ±1.77989

Table 3. Interpopulation differentiation in the five populations of *Pseudamnicola* from South Greece. Below diagonal: F_{st} values, above diagonal: p values of F_{st} , with standard deviations, computed with 20,000 permutations

	1	2	3	4	5
1	*.*****	0.00085 ±0.00020	0.00090 ±0.00020	0.00165 ±0.00030	0.00010 ±0.00010
2	0.53495	*.*****	0.00449 ±0.00050	0.00280 ±0.0003	0.00230 ±0.00030
3	0.62063	0.37671	*.*****	0.00769 ±0.0006	0.00025 ±0.00010
4	0.37500	0.12528	0.23035	*.*****	0.00934 ±0.00070
5	0.53282	0.30372	0.39923	0.17061	*.*****

Table 4. Interpopulation differentiation in the five populations of *Pseudamnicola* from South Greece. Below diagonal: pairwise coancestry coefficients [$t/M = -\ln(1-F_{st})$] (REYNOLDS et al. 1983); above diagonal: pairwise M (=Nm for haploid data)

	1	2	3	4	5
1	*.*****	0.43466	0.30563	0.83333	0.43840
2	0.76562	*.*****	0.82727	3.49091	1.14623
3	0.96924	0.47275	*.*****	1.67059	0.75242
4	0.47000	0.13386	0.26182	*.*****	2.43066
5	0.76105	0.36201	0.50954	0.18707	*.*****

connected between populations with an assumed level of 95% difference. Only the network for populations 4 and 5 from Kithira (Fig. 28) was complex. Nested clade analysis (NCA) together with inference key indicated allopatric fragmentation for total cladogram, and long-distance colonisation and/or past fragmentation for populations 4 and 5.

The pairwise *p*-distances and K2P distances among the five studied populations, and the other rissoid taxa considered, are listed in Table 5. The intrapopulation K2P distances varied from 0.00079 in population 1 to 0.00731 in population 4 (Table 5). The interpopulation K2P distances (Table 5) varied from 0.01882 (between populations 4 and 5) to 0.05568 (between populations 1 and 3). The K2P distances among the other *Pseudamnicola* and *Adrioinsulana* species (Table 5) ranged from 0.07561 to 0.09356.

MOLECULAR PHYLOGENY

The plots of the observed (uncorrected) pairwise distances (*p*-distances) versus estimated distances using the maximum likelihood parameters chosen with Modeltest showed no saturation within the studied sequences of *Pseudamnicola* and *Adrioinsulana*. Similar results were obtained by plotting the numbers of transitions and transversions for all the codon positions and separately for the 3rd position against the percentage sequence divergence with DAMBE, and saturation test of Xia et al. (2003).

The partition homogeneity test showed that the two genes could be analysed together.

For the combined data set Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) with ModelTest selected the model HKY+I+ Γ , with base frequencies: A=0.2677, C=0.2007, G=0.2045, T=0.3270; substitution model: ti/tv ratio=3.6876, proportion of invariable sites: (I)=0.6602, and Γ distribution with the shape parameter =0.6175.

The inferred ML phylogeny (Fig. 29) based on combined data sets was similar to the one inferred with COI (not presented). The clade that clustered

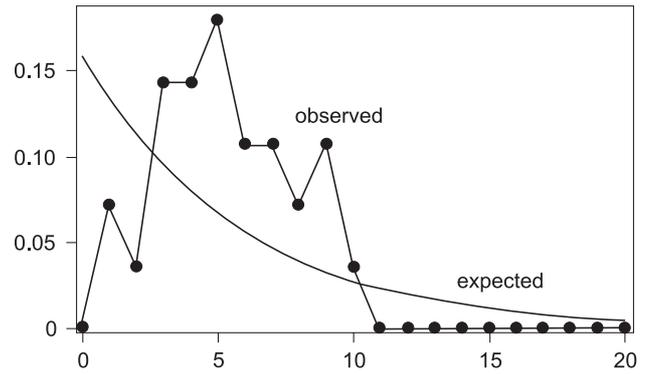


Fig. 27. Mismatch distribution for population 4: horizontal axis represents number of pairwise differences

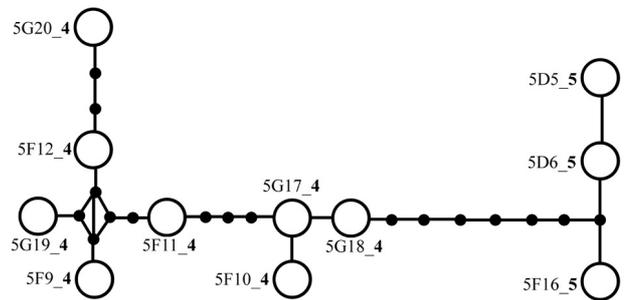


Fig. 28. Haplotype networks for COI, populations 4 and 5, connection limit excluding homoplastic changes set to 95%; haplotype labels as in cladogram

all the *Pseudamnicola* and *Adrioinsulana* was rather highly (78) supported. Fig. 29 shows that populations 1–3 form well supported clades each, the Italian *Pseudamnicola lucensis* being the sister clade to population 1. This grouping is not well supported (<50); the same concerns the placement of *P. negropontina* from the Evvoia Island as the sister clade to the clade grouping all the specimens from populations 4 and 5, shown in Fig. 29. Like in the haplotype networks (Fig. 28), the greatest differences are seen in these two populations.

Table 5. Below diagonal: Kimura 2-parameter (K2P) distances, along diagonal: within population K2P distances (in italics), above diagonal: p-distances

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<i>Rissua</i>	*.****	0.16220	0.20315	0.18110	0.20630	0.20630	0.17953	0.19685	0.19843	0.18602	0.18740	0.18875	0.18878	0.18740
<i>Adriohydrobia</i>	0.18442	*.****	0.12283	0.11811	0.14803	0.15591	0.14173	0.14646	0.16063	0.15472	0.14777	0.16018	0.15039	0.15188
<i>Hydrobia</i>	0.23976	0.13617	*.****	0.11969	0.15433	0.15748	0.15591	0.16220	0.17323	0.15472	0.14777	0.15793	0.15453	0.15521
<i>Ventrosia</i>	0.21040	0.12999	0.13171	*.****	0.15118	0.14803	0.15906	0.16378	0.16693	0.16260	0.15407	0.15726	0.15984	0.15958
<i>Pyrgula</i>	0.24481	0.16752	0.17524	0.17137	*.****	0.04882	0.15591	0.14803	0.16693	0.15630	0.15696	0.15793	0.15256	0.15153
<i>Dianella</i>	0.24525	0.17735	0.17983	0.16752	0.05082	*.****	0.14016	0.14646	0.16378	0.15157	0.14908	0.15636	0.15276	0.15206
<i>Adrioinsulana</i>	0.20782	0.15843	0.17770	0.18063	0.17735	0.15691	*.****	0.07087	0.08661	0.07283	0.04987	0.06772	0.07224	0.07559
<i>P. lucensis</i>	0.23198	0.16468	0.18570	0.18715	0.16675	0.16468	0.07561	*.****	0.07244	0.05866	0.05617	0.06862	0.06240	0.06019
<i>P. negropontina</i>	0.23345	0.18231	0.19976	0.19079	0.19144	0.18748	0.09356	0.07733	*.****	0.06614	0.05774	0.05714	0.05453	0.04269
<i>Pseudamnicola 1</i>	0.21644	0.17528	0.17559	0.18553	0.17769	0.17171	0.07787	0.06200	0.07011	<i>0.00079</i>	0.03294	0.05326	0.05079	0.04762
<i>Pseudamnicola 2</i>	0.21856	0.16626	0.16655	0.17401	0.17877	0.16828	0.05222	0.05930	0.06074	0.03392	<i>0.00165</i>	0.03660	0.03668	0.03587
<i>Pseudamnicola 3</i>	0.22065	0.18226	0.17988	0.17807	0.17988	0.17777	0.07181	0.07293	0.05999	0.05568	0.03774	<i>0.00147</i>	0.04395	0.04147
<i>Pseudamnicola 4</i>	0.22024	0.16950	0.17547	0.18147	0.17296	0.17291	0.07711	0.06617	0.05718	0.05304	0.03789	0.04568	<i>0.00731</i>	0.01848
<i>Pseudamnicola 5</i>	0.21838	0.17153	0.17625	0.18119	0.17168	0.17206	0.08108	0.06374	0.04426	0.04961	0.03706	0.04303	0.01882	<i>0.00211</i>

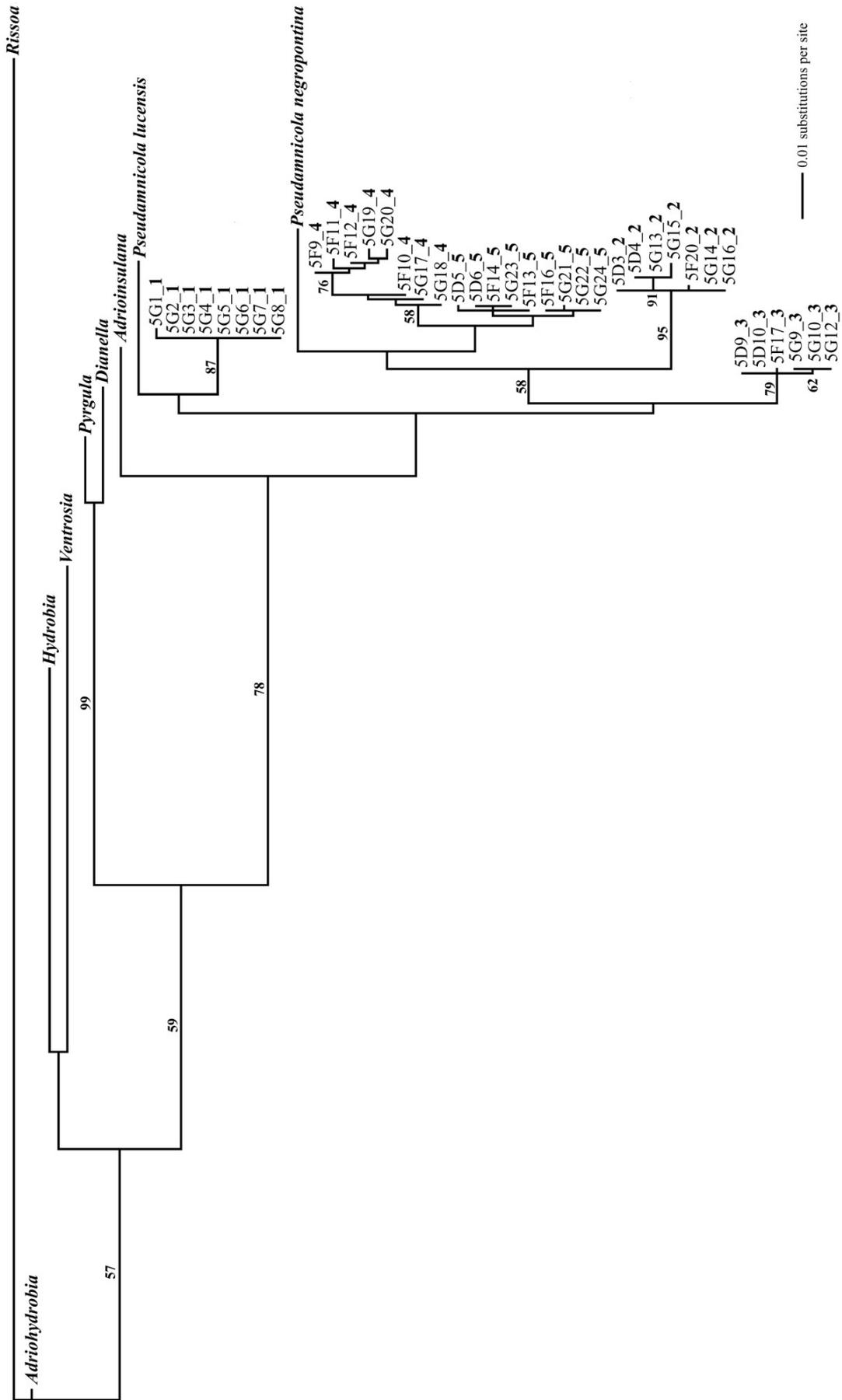


Fig. 29. Maximum likelihood phylogenetic tree for combined 18S rRNA and COI sequences, bootstrap support (2,000 replicates) given if >50

DISCUSSION

The studied shells resembled those of typical *Pseudamnicola* (BOETERS 1971, GIUSTI & PEZZOLI 1980, SCHÜTT 1980, SZAROWSKA et al. 2006). Within the Rissooidea, shell characters are very variable and need not differ among species (FALNIOWSKI 1987, 1990, WILKE & FALNIOWSKI 2001, SZAROWSKA & WILKE 2004, FALNIOWSKI et al. 2009). In the studied populations, the penis and female reproductive organs did not differ from those of typical *Pseudamnicola* known from the literature (BOETERS 1971, 1998, RADOMAN 1973, 1978, 1983, GIUSTI & PEZZOLI 1980, SCHÜTT 1980, SZAROWSKA 2006, SZAROWSKA et al. 2006). Contrary to rather common opinions expressed in the earlier studies (e.g. BOETERS 1973, see FALNIOWSKI 1990 for discussion), the anatomical characters (like the most often considered characters of the reproductive organs) need not differ among rissooid species (e.g. FALNIOWSKI et al. 2009). Morphostatic evolution, as defined by DAVIS (1992), is often a result of non-adaptive radiation marked by the rapid proliferation of species without ecological differentiation (GITTEBERGER 1991). This will produce a flock of species which are neither morphologically nor ecologically differentiated. Such may be the case of the studied *Pseudamnicola*. Although traditionally neglected, non-adaptive radiation seems to be not a rare phenomenon which occurs in gastropods (CAMERON 1992, CAMERON et al. 1996). SZAROWSKA (2006) and SZAROWSKA & FALNIOWSKI (2008) demonstrated that, unexpectedly, the 'lock-and-key' mechanism is a stabilising factor above species level. Such structures as penis outgrowths and seminal receptacles/bursae copulatrix are thus conservative traits. Nevertheless, some details of their morphology that have been widely used in the species-level taxonomy, are prone to wide variation.

The high h and low π , found in all five populations, may suggest a rapid population growth from an ancestral population with a small N_e , if time was sufficient for haplotype variation to recover through mutation, yet insufficient for large sequence differences to accumulate (AVISE 2000). Both θ_s and θ_π suggest (assuming the same mutation rate u in all the studied populations, which seems justified) that the evolutionarily effective population size was about three to five times larger in population 4 than in the other populations (since $\theta = 2Nu$ for haploid data: EXCOFFIER et al. 2005). This contrasts with the low number of specimens found at this locality, which is due to the common instability of populations inhabiting springs (e.g. FALNIOWSKI et al. 1999, SZAROWSKA 2000, FALNIOWSKI et al. 2009).

In general, the observed pairwise values of F_{st} and coancestry coefficient, as well as Nm , indicate low levels of gene flow in the studied *Pseudamnicola*. The low values of F_{st} and coancestry coefficient (and the

high values of Nm) were found between populations 4 and 5, but the lowest (and highest, respectively) values were noted between populations 2 and 4. In the former case the two localities in Kithira (4 and 5) were situated close to each other, whereas locality 2, situated at SE. Peloponnese was geographically distant from locality 4 and separated from it by the sea. This indicates once more that estimates of gene flow based on the analytic theory are not in all cases realistic (for discussion see FALNIOWSKI et al. 1999, 2002, 2004, FALNIOWSKI & SZAROWSKA 2004).

The pattern shown by mismatch distribution in population 4 may reflect a bottleneck followed by a population growth (e.g. ROGERS & JORDEY 1995, HARPENDING & ROGERS 2000). In fact, in the huge complex of springs at Karavas, the size of which was not compared with any of the other four studied springs, the number of individuals was relatively low but they were represented as many as eight haplotypes.

The values of K2P interpopulation distances are characteristic rather of congeneric distinct species (BICHAIN et al. 2007, FALNIOWSKI et al. 2007, SZAROWSKA et al. 2007, FALNIOWSKI et al. 2009). However, these values are relatively low for pairs of distinct species.

The monophyly of the clade *Pseudamnicola/Adrioinsulana* was confirmed, and *Adrioinsulana* should rather be included in *Pseudamnicola*, as suggested by SZAROWSKA et al. (2006). Again, the Italian *P. lucensis* is congeneric with the Greek *Pseudamnicola*. According to SCHÜTT (1980), the southern part of Peloponnese is inhabited by *P. exilis*. However, based on the K2P distances, as well as the inferred phylogeny, our five populations certainly do not represent one species. However, we can hardly answer the question: how many species are represented by the studied populations? Most probably we deal with a part of a flock of allopatric species which are morphologically and ecologically uniform (as suggested above). In such a case it is not easy to make decisions concerning taxonomy. Unfortunately, the majority of this flock probably do not exist any longer because of human impact and habitat destruction in Greece (SZAROWSKA & FALNIOWSKI 2004), thus we can hardly expect much more data to support our understanding of this pattern. It is evident that population 1 from the Taigetos Mts can be regarded as a distinct species. According to SCHÜTT (1980), the lectotypes of *P. exilis* were collected in Lakonia, thus population 1 should be classified as *P. exilis* (Frauenfeld, 1863). Most probably, population 3 from Nisis Sfondi represents another distinct species. The two populations from Kithira (4 and 5) may represent a third, highly polymorphic species, which is close to *P. negropontina*. Population 2 from Nisis Monemvasia is probably a fourth distinct species.



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