Integrative Taxonomy Reveals Two New Species of Stalked Barnacle (Cirripedia, Thoracica) From Seamounts of the Western Pacific With a Review of Barnacles Distributed in Seamounts Worldwide

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Dozens of samples of stalked barnacles were collected from deep-sea seamounts of the tropical western Pacific by remotely operated vehicles during two expeditions in 2017 and 2018. Integrative taxonomy indicates that they represent two new species belonging to the families Scalpellidae and Poecilasmatidae, respectively. In terms of morphology, *Arcoscalpellum angularum* sp. nov. is distinguished from congeners by the angular processes on the dorsum of its soft body and the absence of a caudal appendage, whereas *Glyptelasma robustum* sp. nov. differs from its congeners in its robust peduncle, semicircular concaved carina, and long filamentary appendages. The validity of the two new species is supported by genetic analyses inferred from COI gene sequences and geographic distribution. To date, very few seamounts in the oceans have been investigated for scientific purposes, and records about barnacles inhabiting seamounts are chaotic. A literature search reveals about 125 barnacle species recorded in seamounts mainly in the eastern and western regions of the Pacific Ocean. Existing data are insufficient for research on species speciation and diffusion; still more credible data on the distribution of barnacles in seamounts should be collected.

Keywords: barnacle, *Arcoscalpellum*, *Glyptelasma*, seamount, integrative taxonomy

INTRODUCTION

Seamounts are widespread on the seafloors of oceans, in particular around oceanic ridges and submarine trenches. Their distinctive environmental conditions, such as their spatial features, hydrological characteristics, sedimentary characteristics, and so on, make seamounts unique habitats for the deep-sea marine benthos. However, because they are influenced by the surrounding environment, seamount habitats are highly heterogeneous and breed various...
ecosystems (Kvile et al., 2014). On account of their distinct ecosystems, seamounts attract great curiosity and interest from scholars of oceanology, ecology, and biology exploring the biodiversity, origin, diffusion, and connectivity of seamount biocenoses (Wilson and Kaufmann, 1987; Rogers, 1994; Stocks, 2004; Shank, 2010; Miller and Gunasekera, 2017). Seamounts are thought to be life oases or stepping-stones in the spread of marine organisms (Newman, 1986; Worm et al., 2003). To date, more than 2700 valid species have been identified inhabiting seamounts in the oceans, according to the Ocean Biodiversity Information System (OBIS)1. Nevertheless, most records have focused on Cnidaria, Porifera, and Echinodermata; compared with these groups, the numbers of barnacle species distributed in seamounts are very low.

In recent years, the systematic and evolutionary biology of Cirripedia have developed substantially. Evidence from mineralogy, paleontology, shell morphology, and molecular analysis presents great challenges to the current system of classifying higher taxa in Thoracica (Lin et al., 2015; Gale, 2016a, 2019; Gale et al., 2019). In the meantime, many species collected from the deep sea have been found and identified (Chan et al., 2014; Shalaeva and Newman, 2016), and the deep-sea adaptation of barnacles has been explored (Gan et al., 2020). As one of the most species-rich taxa in the family Scalpellidae, the genus *Arcoscalpellum* contains 43 extant species inhabiting depths from 40 to 5250 m; they are mainly distributed in the deep water around the oceans, excluding the Arctic (Shalaeva and Boxshall, 2014). The genus *Glyptelasma* is a typical deep-sea inhabitant group of the family Poecilasmatidae with 11 valid species mainly attached to urchin, sponge, or hard substrata and distributed in the deep-sea seafloor of subtropical and tropical seas (Jones and Hosie, 2016; Gan and Li, 2019b).

In September 2017 and April 2018, two comprehensive survey cruises were executed at the Weijia Guyot and Huangyanxi seamount of the western Pacific by the Guangzhou Marine Geological Survey and Tongji University using the ROV *Haima* and ROV *Ropos* remotely operated vehicles (ROVs), respectively. During these cruises, dozens of specimens of stalked barnacle were collected. The specimens captured in Weijia Guyot show characters of the genus *Arcoscalpellum*, and the specimens captured in the Huangyanxi seamount present features of the genus *Glyptelasma*. Examination and integrative research indicate that they are new species to science.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

**Sample Collection and Morphological Examination**

*Arcoscalpellum* specimens were collected from the roof deck of Weijia Guyot by the ROV *Haima*, and specimens of *Glyptelasma* were captured from the brae of the Huangyanxi seamount by the ROV *Ropos* (Figure 1). All specimens were preserved in 75% ethanol when taken on board and then deposited in the Sample Repository of the Second Institute of Oceanography (SRSIO), Ministry of Natural Resources of the People’s Republic of China, Hangzhou.

Specimens were dissected with a stereomicroscope (SMZ1500, Nikon, Japan) and photographed with a microscope (AZ100, Nikon). Specimen measurements are as follows: capitular length (CL), capitular width (CW), peduncular length (PL).

**DNA Extraction, Sequencing, and Phylogenetic Analyses**

Total genomic DNA was extracted from prosoma of specimens with a Marine Animals gDNA Purification Kit (Biomiga, San Diego, CA, United States) following the manufacturer’s instructions. Mitochondrial COI and 16S rRNA gene fragments were amplified from the diluted DNA with primers L1490/H2198 and 16S-AR/1472, respectively (Folmer et al., 1994; Crandall and Fitzpatrick, 1996). Polymerase chain reactions were performed in a 50 µL volume containing 25 µL Premix Taq (TaKaRa, Kusatsu, Japan), 1 µL each of the forward and reverse primers (10 µM), 3 µL DNA template, and 20 µL ultrapure water. The reaction profile consisted of initial denaturation at 94°C for 5 min, 35 cycles of denaturation at 94°C for 30 s, annealing at 50–52°C for 40 s, elongation at 72°C for 50 s, and a final extension at 72°C for 10 min. The reaction products were purified with a QIAquick Gel Extraction Kit (Qiagen, Hilden, Germany) and bidirectionally sequenced with the same primers with an ABI 3730xl Analyzer (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA, United States). Sequences were checked and proofread by ContigExpress 6.0 (a component of Vector NTI Suite 6.0, LifeTechnologies, Carlsbad, CA, United States).

As the 16S rRNA sequence is scarce in relatives of the target species, genetic analyses are mainly based on the COI sequence, which includes 38 sequences with *Ibla cumingi* as the out-group. The sequence data were aligned with MUSCLE 3.8 (Edgar, 2004) and amended manually. The best fitting nucleotide base substitution model (GTR + I + G) for the alignment data were determined with Modeltest 3.7 (Posada and Crandall, 1998). A maximum likelihood tree was constructed using PhyML 3.1 (Guindon et al., 2010) with 1000 bootstrap reiterations. A Bayesian inference tree was constructed with MrBayes 3.2.7 (Ronquist et al., 2012); the Markov chains were run for 3,000,000 generations, sampled every 3000 generations. The first 25% of trees were discarded as burn-in, and the remaining trees were used to construct the 50% majority rule consensus tree with posterior probabilities. Kimura’s 2-parameter genetic distances among scalpellid species were calculated with MEGA X (Kumar et al., 2018).

**RESULTS**

**Taxonomy of Arcoscalpellum angularum sp. nov.**

Infraclass Cirripedia Burmeister, 1834
Superorder Thoracica Darwin, 1854
Order Scalpelliformes Buckridge & Newman, 2006
Family Scalpellidae Pilsbry, 1907

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1https://obis.org/dataset/af9bc19f-f98a-4278-ab99-c6d8ef4966c7
Genus *Arcoscalpellum* Hoek, 1907

*Arcoscalpellum angularum* sp. nov. (Figures 2–4).

**ZooBank Registration LSID**
urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:3530D998-F4B1-4DD6-990D-2DCCE9565AD3.

**Material Examined**

Holotype: SRSIO17090311, Stn. MICROV06, 156°41′15.72″E, 12°47′22.2″N, depth 1935 m, roof deck of Weijia Guyot, attaching to shell fragment, coll. crew of ROV Haima, Dayang 41B cruise, September 21, 2017, measurements CL 8.6 mm, CW 4.5 mm, PL 3.2 mm. Paratype: SRSIO17090312, five specimens, same information as the holotype collected, attaching to shell fragment or clastic rocks, measurements CL 7.2–10.2 mm, CW 3.6–4.9 mm, PL 2.5–3.8 mm.

**Diagnosis**

Small-sized scalpellid barnacle. Capitulum elongated, 14 fully calcified capitular plates, all plates with strong longitudinal ridges on surface. Inframedian latus triangular, very narrow, umbo apical. Carinolatus pentagonal, higher than wide, umbo sub-basal of carina, thickened, slightly exceeding beyond carina, two carinolatus intersected once at the middle (Figures 2A,C). Carina equally arched, tectum with V-shape and longitudinal ridges, basal triangular (Figures 2A,D). Rostrum rectangle, covered by paired rostrolatus obliquely (Figures 2B,E). Peduncle short, covered by laterally elongated and produced scales (Figure 2A).

Inner edge of labrum with single row of teeth (Figure 3A). Palp small with long setae along apical margin (Figure 3B). Mandible with three large acute teeth, the one near base largest and far away from others, inferior angle blunt, armed with closely long spicules (Figures 3C,D). Maxillule cutting edge stair-like, furnished with long cuspidate setae (Figure 3E). Anterior margin of maxillae without notch, upper and anterior margins with long setae (Figure 3F).

Soft body without penis (Figure 4A) with two pairs of angular processes on dorsum of thorax, acutely pointed (Figures 3B,C). Cirrus I shorter than cirri II–VI, anterior ramus slightly shorter than posterior, 9 segments, posterior ramus 10 segments, both rami furnishing with long setae (Figures 4A,D). Cirri II–VI with...
FIGURE 2 | Arcoscalpellum angularum sp. nov. holotype. (A) Lateral views. (B) Rostrum in situ. (C) Carinal view of carinolatus. (D) Carina. (E) Rostrum.

FIGURE 3 | Arcoscalpellum angularum sp. nov. holotype. (A) Inner edge of labrum. (B) Palp. (C) Mandible. (D) Inferior angle of mandible. (E) Maxillule. (F) Maxilla.

rami nearly equal, each rami segment armed with three pairs of long setae and one pair of proximal short setae on inner edge with one pair of setae on outer margin of joint (Figures 4E–I). Basal surface of cirrus VI protopodite smooth, caudal appendages absent (Figure 4J).

Dwarf male oval, without plates, located at inner occludent margin of scutum, attaching to mantle (Figure 4K). Egg olive shape, egg mass located at dorsum of soft body (Figure 4A).

Habitat and Distribution
Roof deck of deep-sea mount, attaching to shell fragments or rocks. Currently only known from the type locality, Weijia Guyot.

GenBank Accession Numbers of Holotype
MT675948 (COI), MT668953 (16S rRNA).

Etymology
The specific name *angularum* derived from the word “angular,” referring to the angular process located at the dorsum of the soft body.

Remarks
Like most of the *Arcoscalpellum* species, *A. angularum* sp. nov. is dioecious; its dwarf male is extremely vestigial and small,
attaching to the mantle of the female. In general, the filamentary appendage is absent from the *Arcoscalpellum* species even from the scalpellid species (Zevina, 1981b). However, the current species has two pairs of angular processes on the dorsum of the thoracic body; this kind of process is only reported in *Litoscalpellum spinosus* (Chan et al., 2010). In contrast, nearly all *Arcoscalpellum* species have a single- or multi-segment caudal appendage (Zevina, 1978). Even if it is vestigial, some trace should be observed, such as *Arcoscalpellum ciliatum* and *Arcoscalpellum gryllum*, but no vestigial trace was observed in the present species under the microscope.

Taxonomy of *Glyptelasma robustum* sp. nov.

Infraclass Cirripedia Burmeister, 1834
Superorder Thoracica Darwin, 1854
Order Lepadiformes Buckeridge & Newman, 2006
Family Poecilasmatidae Annandale, 1909
Genus *Glyptelasma* Pilsbry, 1907
*Glyptelasma robustum* sp. nov.
(Figures 5–7).

ZooBank Registration LSID urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:C9242D9A-7356-4D64-8D60-2F73064017E1.

Material Examined
Holotype: SRSIO18040310, Stn. R2055, 117°34.8684′E, 15°16.9688′N, depth 2987 m, brae of Huangyanxi seamount, attaching to coral limb, coll. crew of ROV *Ropos*, April 27, 2018, measurements CL 29.8 mm, CW 13.6 mm, PL 26.0 mm.
Paratype: SRSIO18040311, 12 specimens, same information as the holotype collected, measurements CL 29.8 mm, CW 13.6 mm, PL 26.0 mm.

Diagnosis
Large-sized poecilasmatid barnacle. Capitulum with five fully calcified plates. Basal margins of scutum and carina consecutive, straight. Lower half of carina expanded laterally; basal margin semicircular concaved. Peduncle robust, more than half the length of capitulum. Dorsum of soft body with one pair of long tapering filamentary appendages.
Description

Capitulum leaf-like, slightly swollen bilaterally, bottom margin straight, surface smooth, composed of five closely connected plates, white, growth lines visible, none serrated (Figures 5A–C). Tergum quadrilateral, all margins straight other than carinal margin slightly concave, apex acute, apico-bottom ridge bland (Figures 5D,E). Scutum wing-shaped, tergal margin straight, occcludent margin arcuate, carinal margin sigmoid, basal margin straight, longer than and forming a straight line with the basal margin of carina, apico-unmo ridge distinct, ridge from umbo to tergal-carinal angle faint (Figures 5D,E). Carina slightly arched, two sides of tectum curved inward, lower half of carina evenly expanded bilaterally, basal margin semicircular concaved, inner septum with upper margin semicircular concaved (Figures 5F–H). Peduncle long and robust, about 0.62–0.87 times as long as capitulum, width only slightly shorter than the bottom margin of capitulum, without scales, with annular wrinkles (Figures 5A,B).

Labrum with single row of sub-quadrate teeth on inner edge (Figure 6A). Palp broad, with long setae along apical and interior margin (Figure 6B). Mandible with four acute teeth excluding inferior angle, first tooth largest and third one smallest, inferior angle with one blunt tooth upper, apex rough (Figures 6C,D). Maxillule cutting edge with notch, one long spine and two cuspidate setae above notch, a dozen long cuspidate setae below notch (Figure 6E). Anterior margin of maxilla without notch, surface furnished with long setae (Figure 6F).

Soft body with one pair of long tapering filamentary appendages on dorsum (Figure 7A). Cirrus I shorter than and away from cirri II–VI, both rami sub-equal, anterior ramus 11 segments, posterior ramus 13 segments, surface furnished with long setae, basal portion of cirrus I without filamentary process (Figure 7B). Cirri II–VI with rami nearly equal, each rami segment armed with five or six pairs of long setae on inner edge (Figures 7C–G). Caudal appendages short, thumb-like, one segment, with nine terminal setae (Figures 7H, I). Penis long, tapering, surface with annular wrinkles and pervasive setae (Figure 7I).

Habitat and Distribution

Brae of Huangyanxi seamount, attaching to coral limb. Currently only known from the type locality, Huangyanxi seamount.

GenBank Accession Numbers of Holotype

MT675949 (COI), MT668952 (16S rRNA).
**Etymology**
The specific name *robustum* derived from the word “robust,” referring to the thick and strong form of the new species, especially the robust peduncle.

**Remarks**
There are 11 valid *Glyptelasma* species listed in the World Register of Marine Species (WoRMS) at present. *Glyptelasma annandalei*, *Glyptelasma hamatum*, *Glyptelasma orientale*, *Glyptelasma pilsbryi*, and *Glyptelasma rectum* were once reported from seamount habitat (Rao and Newman, 1972; Young, 1998a; Mironov and Krylova, 2006). The present new species is the first *Glyptelasma* species described from a deep-sea seamount habitat. However, if it is endemic to the seamount, more investigation and extensive collection from the deep sea is needed in the future. Moreover, most *Glyptelasma* species mainly attach to urchins; some can attach to sponges, cables, and hard substrata (Pilsbry, 1907; Jones and Hosie, 2016). The present new species and *Glyptelasma carinatum* attach to corals.

**Genetic Results**
The COI and 16S rRNA sequences of the holotypes of the two new species have been deposited in GenBank. The phylogenetic tree recovers *G. robustum* sp. nov. with well-supported values in the Poecilasmatidae clade and *A. angularum* sp. nov. with less supported values in the Scalpellidae clade (Figure 8). Obviously, the monophyly of genus *Arcoscalpellum* is not supported by the phylogenetic tree; a similar result was obtained by Linse et al. (2013) and Lin et al. (2015). A complete matrix of Kimura's 2-parameter genetic distances among scalpellid species can be found in Supplementary Table 1.

**DISCUSSION**
**Systematic State of Arcoscalpellum angularum sp. nov.**
The Scalpellidae is the most diverse group among the order Lepadiformes, but its current taxonomy is in a state of flux, especially for the genus *Scalpellum* and its closely related genera, such as *Arcoscalpellum*, *Trianguloscalpellum*, *Litoscalpellum*, and so on, the monophyly of these genera were rejected by recent phylogenetic analyses (Linse et al., 2013; Lin et al., 2015; Gale, 2016b). One of the reasons for this problem is that the taxonomy is based on a few morphological characters of plates. Integrative taxonomy is a promising method of overcoming the defects of traditional morphological taxonomy. It can use any information about a taxon, like morphology, genetics, ecological niche, auxology, physiology, distribution, habitat, and so on. Nevertheless, encompassing everything may result in less efficient, even unsustainable taxonomic research. Even so, using an approach that integrates morphology, molecular sequence, habitat, and distribution is a realizable and reliable method of describing new taxa, in particular for cryptic species (Gan and Li, 2019a).

Although the status of genus *Arcoscalpellum* is under question, it is retained to encompass the scalpellid species that have an apical umbo, a triangular inframedian latus reaching to the upper latus and a carinolatus with the umbo in the middle of the carinal edge. Thus, the present new species is assigned to *Arcoscalpellum* based on diagnostic characters of the genus, and
the validity of the species is supported by morphological and molecular data. In terms of morphology, *A. angularum* sp. nov. is closely related to *Arcoscalpellum compositum*, *Arcoscalpellum floccidum*, *Arcoscalpellum galapaganum*, *Arcoscalpellum gryllum*, and *Arcoscalpellum radiatum*. They all have well-ridged plates, a lengthened triangular inframedian latus, a high carinolatus, and a vestigial caudal appendage. *A. angularum* sp. nov. differs from *A. compositum* in its inframedian latus (well ridged vs. smooth in *A. compositum*), its rectangle rostrum (large vs. small), and its peduncle (encompassing elongated and produced scales vs. scattering small oval scales); furthermore, *A. compositum* is distributed in the Puerto Rico Trench in the North Atlantic at a depth of more than 5000 m (Zevina, 1975, 1981a; Poltarukha, 2011). The new species differs from *A. floccidum* and *A. galapaganum* in the ornamentation of the inframedian latus and rostrolatus (with vs. without longitudinal ridges) and the linkage of the bilateral carinolatus (single-intersected vs. multi-intersected). It also differs from *A. floccidum* in the inferior angle of the mandible (with bunched blunt spicules vs. with dispersive acute spines) (Pilsbry, 1907; Zevina, 1975, 1981a). *A. floccidum* is also distributed in the Puerto Rico Trench in the North Atlantic at a depth of more than 5000 m (Zevina, 1975, 1981a), and *A. galapaganum* has only been reported in the Galapagos Islands in the southeastern Pacific at a depth of 1141 m (Pilsbry, 1907; Zevina, 1981b; Jones, 2007). *A. angularum* sp. nov. can be distinguished from *A. gryllum* by the linkage of the bilateral carinolatus (single-intersected vs. multi-intersected), the inferior angle of the mandible (with bunched blunt spicules vs. bifid, with dispersive small teeth), and the peduncle (encompassing elongated and produced scales vs. scattering small oval scales); moreover, *A. gryllum* is endemic to Australia and is found at a depth of 4850 m (Zevina, 1981b; Jones, 2012). The new species can be distinguished from *A. radiatum* by the ornamentation of the inframedian latus (with vs. without longitudinal ridges), the linkage of the bilateral carinolatus (single-intersected vs. multiply interdigitated), and the inferior angle of the mandible (with bunched blunt spicules vs. strongly denticulate); *A. radiatum* was reported in the Mid-Pacific Mountains (18°30′N, 179°36′W) and the Clarion-Clipperton region (13°55.612′N, 129°05.519′W) at a depth of 1413–4680 m (Rao and Newman, 1972; Poltarukha and Mel’nik, 2012). In addition, *A. angularum* sp. nov. is distinguishable from all congeneric species by the angular processes on the dorsum of its soft body and the absence of a caudal appendage.
The molecular analyses support *A. angularum* sp. nov. being a distinct species both in the phylogenetic tree (Figure 8) and in terms of genetic distance (Supplementary Table 1). The genetic divergence of the COI sequence between *A. angularum* sp. nov. and closely related species ranges from 26.73% (*Arcoscalpellum chiliense*) to 37.69% (*Arcoscalpellum africanum*). The average genetic divergence between *A. angularum* sp. nov. and closely related species is 31.10%, greater than the average interspecific genetic divergence (28.00%, calculated from all the scalpellid species in this study).

**Systematic State of *Glyptelasma robustum* sp. nov.**

Based on features of the carina and scutum, *Glyptelasma* species can be divided into two groups. *G. robustum* sp. nov. belongs to the group with basal margins of the carina and scutum organized in a straight line. In this group, the capitulum of *G. robustum* sp. nov. closely resembles that of *G. carinatum*, *G. hamatum*, *G. orientale*, and *Glyptelasma subcarinatum*. However, the new species differs from these species in its long and robust peduncle, which is unique among all *Glyptelasma* species as well. *G. robustum* sp. nov. is further distinguished from *G. carinatum* by its carina (basal margin semicircular concaved vs. medially convex) and filamentary appendage (two long filamentary appendages vs. dozens of filamentary appendages) (Hoek, 1883; Zevina, 1982; Young, 1999). The distinctions between *G. robustum* sp. nov. and *G. hamatum* are also in the carina (basal margin semicircular concaved vs. convex) and filamentary appendage (two long filamentary appendages vs. two short hook-like processes) (Calman, 1919). The filamentary appendages of *G. orientale* are most similar to those of *G. robustum* sp. nov., but *G. orientale* also has a pair of short finger-like appendages at the base of the first cirrus that are absent from *G. robustum* sp. nov.; furthermore, the basal margin of the carina in *G. orientale* and *G. subcarinatum* is straight, unlike that of *G. robustum* sp. nov. (Pilsbry, 1907; Calman, 1919).

In terms of distribution and habitat, *G. carinatum* and *G. subcarinatum* were originally described in the western Atlantic Ocean; *G. subcarinatum* attached to the spines of a sea urchin at a depth of 2894 m, whereas *G. carinatum* was found at 713–768 m (Hoek, 1883; Pilsbry, 1907). The type locality of *G. hamatum* and *G. orientale* was the southwestern Pacific Ocean at a depth ranging from 700 to 2700 m, and they attached to deep-sea telegraph cables (Calman, 1919). In subsequent reports, *G. carinatum* and *G. hamatum* were also recorded in the Indian Ocean and Atlantic Ocean (Young, 1999; Jones and Hosie, 2016), and the former can attach to corals (Pilsbry, 1907).
Moreover, although the DNA sequence resource of *Glyptelasma* species is rare at present, the validity of *G. robustum* sp. nov. is supported by the present phylogenetic tree (Figure 8).

**Barnacles (Thoracica) Distributed in Seamounts**

Except for a few groups, such as genera *Lepas*, *Coronula*, *Chelonibia*, and so on, which can passively migrate with their hosts, most barnacles cannot move or have slight movement along substrate in their adult stage (Moriarty et al., 2008). Meanwhile, deep-sea barnacles are indicated that have a slow growth rate (Yusa et al., 2018) and long larval development (Ozaki et al., 2008), which might result in greater population and larger geographical distribution. Thus, barnacles are excellent materials for researching speciation and diffusion in the ocean. Researching barnacles in seamounts is even more informative as seamounts play a crucial role in the speciation and diffusion of marine organisms (Newman, 1986; Worm et al., 2003). However, data on barnacles distributed in seamounts are incomplete and scattered. Of the 18,153 records in the OBIS database (i.e., the Seamounts Online version 2005-1 data set), we only found 196 referring to barnacles, and some names of taxa are invalid from the current taxonomic schedule. Compiling from the OBIS database and other publications (Zullo and Newman, 1964; Rao and Newman, 1972; Newman, 1979; Zevina, 1981a, 1983; Jones, 1993; Young, 1998a,b, 1999, 2001, 2002; Buckeridge, 2000, 2009; Southward and Jones, 2003; Stocks, 2004; Tunnicliffe and Southward, 2004; Yamaguchi et al., 2004; Southward, 2005; Mironov and Krylova, 2006; Pollarukha and Zevina, 2006; Newman and Jones, 2011; Buckeridge et al., 2013; Kolbasov et al., 2017; Lobo and Tuaty-Guerra, 2017), there are approximately 125 barnacle species distributed in seamounts up to now, including the present two new species (Supplementary Table 2), and most occurrence records focus on the seamounts in the eastern and western regions of the Pacific Ocean (Figure 1). The family Scalpellidae is the dominant group, with 31 species distributed in seamounts, and the Meteor seamounts have the greatest number of barnacle species: about 12.

Wilson and Kaufmann (1987) indicate that the seamount biota can be classified into four main biogeographic categories, i.e., provincial, widespread to cosmopolitan, exotic, and endemic. On the basis of the present data (Supplementary Table 2), *Arcoscalpellum michelottianum* and *Metaverruca recta* are undoubtedly cosmopolitan species occurring in the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Oceans. But it is premature to determine the categories of other species, especially endemic species, because no more than 5% of seamounts have been investigated at present (Kville et al., 2014), and the investigated data referring to barnacles are merely preliminary, most of the data were only obtained from few sampling sites in a seamount. The lack of data presents challenges for research on the speciation and diffusion of barnacle species, as having more information enables researchers to make more credible conclusions. Therefore, the current priority is to accumulate sufficient knowledge of the distribution of barnacles in seamounts.

**DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT**

The datasets presented in this study can be found in online repositories. The names of the repository/repositories and accession number(s) can be found below: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genbank/, MT675949; https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genbank/, MT668952; https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genbank/, MT675948; https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genbank/, MT668953.

**AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

XL and CW conceived and coordinated the project. ZG performed the morphological work and molecular analyses. ZG and PX drafted the manuscript. XL and CW revised the manuscript. All authors approved the final manuscript.

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**SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL**

The Supplementary Material for this article can be found online at: https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fmars.2020.582225/full#supplementary-material

Supplementary Table 1 | Kimura’s 2-parameter genetic distances based on COI sequence among scalpellid species.

Supplementary Table 2 | List of Thoracica barnacle species occurring in the seamounts worldwide.

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Conflict of Interest: The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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