Taxonomic redefining of Pyramidula jaenensis (Clessin, 1882) (Gastropoda: Pyramidulidae) based on an integrative taxonomy approach

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ABSTRACT: The genus Pyramidula presents a Palearctic geographical distribution, being described in Spain four species not distinguishable from an anatomical point of view. In the present study, we compare our samples along with the previously recognized species P. rupestris, P. saxatilis, P. pusilla, P. cephalonica; P. jaenensis, and P. chorismenostoma by means of molecular studies. Also, we compared P. jaenensis from the studied locality with P. rupestris according to the shell shape by means of geometric morphometric methods. The analysis of the Thin-Plate Spline graph showed that P. jaenensis presented an expansion on the growth to the first whorls and the apex, whereas the height of the body whorl was moderately contracted, while in P. rupestris the opposite was found. We found significant differences between both species based on shell shape. We also provide new information about morphological features that could be used in future studies of this genus attempting to establish a baseline to test whether the Spanish species are cryptic species or not. The present study also extends the distribution of Pyramidula to Madrid, Spain, establishing for the first time the presence of P. jaenensis in this Spanish province.

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Таксономическое переопределение Pyramidula jaenensis (Clessin, 1882) (Gastropoda: Pyramidulidae), основанное на интегративном таксономическом подходе

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Introduction

The land snail genus *Pyramidula* Fitzinger, 1833 is mainly distributed in Europe, Mediterranean area, Central Asia and Japan, inhabiting limestone rocks from elevations ranging from sea level to 3800 m.a.s.l (Schileyko, Balashov, 2012; Razkin et al., 2017). In Spain four species had been described, *P. jaenensis* (Clessin, 1882) occurring mainly to the South and East and *P. pusilla* (Vallot, 1801), *P. rupestris* (Draparnaud, 1801 and *P. umbilicata* (Montagu, 1803) occurring mainly to the North. According to Martínez-Ortí et al. (2007), peninsular species cannot be distinguished by the analysis of its genitalia due to the anatomical simplicity. In spite of this, in other European species, this does not happen (see Mylonas, 1982; Schileyko, Balashov, 2012). To make it more complex, sympatric distribution had been mentioned for several species (Razkin et al., 2017). This, along with the species identification based only on shell characters (e.g., Gittenberger, Bank, 1996; Martínez-Ortí et al., 2007) makes the taxonomy of this group a jigsaw, leading to the idea that *Pyramidula* is a cryptic species complex (Razkin et al., 2017).

The Autonomous Community of Madrid, located at the centre of the Iberian Peninsula comprises an area of ca 8000 km² that presents high complexity in terms of landscape and geology (Karampaglidis et al., 2015). To the north, we can find the highest elevation, and series of Paleozoic granitic and metamorphic bedrocks.
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Despite this panorama, Aparicio (2006) cited a diversity of 47 species and 18 families of molluscs within Madrid, undoubtedly surpassed by many other regions of Spain. So, studies that reveal the presence of new species in Madrid, will be interesting for malacology in general, at the time that increases the diversity of this region.

Recent studies have revealed the phylogenetic relationship of most of the European species of the genus and also provided a framework for future identifications, and species delimitation based on molecular data (COI + 16S) applying the phylogenetic species concept. It’s noteworthy that the shell characters used to define *Pyramidula* through the morphological species concept is not reliable (Razkin et al., 2016, 2017). Nevertheless, anatomical studies still are needed to redefine the species based on integrative taxonomy.

with a transition to a plateau relief formed by depositional blocks of evaporitic rocks, sand rocks, clays and loams with scarce carbonate shelves (Yagüe, 1979).

The presence of carbonates and the availability of calcium is a necessary condition for a good development of land snail communities basically because the shell is mostly composed of calcium carbonate, and it is essential for reproduction and other physiological processes (Welter-Schultes, Williams, 1999; Hotopp, 2002; Juříčková et al., 2008).

Due to this, the species richness of molluscs on Madrid could be determined by those zones with an appropriate level of calcium, which according to Allas et al. (2001), are located more to the south, and at some limestone chunks surrounded by the metamorphic-granitic bedrocks to the north.

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Fig. 1. Map of the studied populations of *Pyramidula* spp. in Spain. VEG — Vegacervera, León, Spain; JAR — Jaraba, Aragón; ARA — Arañones, Aragón; PAM — Patones, Madrid; POM — Pontón de la Oliva, Madrid.

Рис. 1. Карта, показывающая локализацию исследованных популяций видов рода *Pyramidula* в Испании. VEG — Vegacervera, León, Spain; JAR — Jaraba, Aragón; ARA — Arañones, Aragón; PAM — Patones, Madrid; POM — Pontón de la Oliva, Madrid.
Table 1. List of the material used for this study.

| Sample   | Species           | Date       | Locality               | Collectors*   |
|----------|-------------------|------------|------------------------|---------------|
| JPM-246  | *P. jaenensis*    | 06/01/2020 | Pontón de la Oliva, Madrid. Spain | JPM, GCG     |
| JPM-247  | *P. jaenensis*    | 06/01/2020 | Pontón de la Oliva, Madrid. Spain | JPM, GCG     |
| JPM-248  | *P. jaenensis*    | 06/01/2020 | Pontón de la Oliva, Madrid. Spain | JPM, GCG     |
| JPM-170  | *P. jaenensis*    | 24/03/2019 | Patones, Madrid. Spain | JPM, MCP     |
| JPM-201  | *P. jaenensis*    | 01/11/2019 | Pontón de la Oliva, Madrid. Spain | JPM, MCP, GCG |
| JPM-425  | *P. rupestris*    | 14/09/2020 | Vegacervera, León, Spain | JPM           |
| JPM-200  | *P. rupestris*    | 10/04/2019 | Jaraba, Aragon. Spain | JPM, FGG     |
| JPM-301  | *P. rupestris*    | 03/11/2018 | Jaraba, Aragon. Spain | JPM, MCP, JMR |
| MNCN 15.15/25310 | *P. jaenensis* |            | Ubeda, Jaen, Spain |               |
| MNCN 15.15/25033 | *P. pusilla*      |            | Arañones, Aragon, Spain | FAM          |

* JPM — Jonathan P. Miller; MCP — Miguel Carrillo Pacheco; FGG — Fernando García Guerrero; GCG — Gerson Cárdenas García; JMR — José María Requena; FAM — Florentino Azpeitia Moros.

On this work we aim to taxonomically redefine *P. jaenensis* on the basis of molecular and morphological data, using geometric morphometrics to best characterize the shell shape, joining all these sources of information to provide a general characterization for the species by means of an integrative taxonomy approach. At the same time, we extend the distribution of *Pyramidula* within the Autonomous Community of Madrid, Spain, mentioning for the first time the presence of *P. jaenensis* for the region.

**Material and Methods**

Two populations were found in Madrid, Spain (Fig. 1) collected during 2018–2020 (Table 1) in the isolated outcrops of calcareous rocks present in the area. In order to compare these populations with other species of the genus, we incorporated to the study samples from the type locality for the *P. jaenensis*. We also included the species *P. rupestris* and *P. pusilla* being some of the material, dry, from the National Museum of Natural History, Spain collection (Table 1).

The animals were drowned in water for 24h and then fixed using Bouin (saturated picric acid, formaldehyde, and acetic acid solution), except for those designated to molecular studies, that were directly stored in ethanol 96%. Posteriorly from the Bouin solution, they were transferred to ethanol 80% and stored at room temperature. The fixation with Bouin solution helps to maintain cellular structure for future histological studies, also it gives consistency to the tissues in order to dissect the animals.

The shells of the samples designated for anatomical dissection were removed using a decalcifying 5% aqueous dilution of ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA). Anatomical characters and terminology will be followed as proposed by Schileyko (1998) for the genus.

**Molecular species identification**

Primary species identification was conducted using the phylogenetic species concept (El-
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dredge, Cracraft 1980; Cracraft, 1983), as previous studies for this genus have provided consistent multilocus phylogenies (Razkin *et al.*, 2017) recording all the sequenced material on GenBank where it is available for other molecular studies. In our case, the lack of fresh samples reduced the scope of the research, including only *P. jaenensis* and *P. rupestris*. *P. pusilla* was not previously validated by any molecular data.

Due to the small size of the animals, DNA was extracted using the whole body. Nine individuals were analysed, corresponding to Patones (3), Jaraba (3) and Vegacervera (3). Isolation was conducted using a DNeasy Blood and Tissue kit (QIAGEN, Hilden, Germany). For DNA amplification Cytochrome Oxidase I (COI) was used with the following primers: LCO1490 (Folmer *et al.*, 1994) and COR722b (Wilke *et al.*, 2000).

PCR was realized under the following conditions: each tube contained 1 µl DNA, 2.5 µl of 10x Buffer, 0.6 µl dNTPs mix, 0.25 µl MgCl₂ 25mM solution, 0.6 of each primer (10 mM), 0.4 µl Taq DNA polymerase (5 U/µl – Takara) and 17 µl purified distilled water. The cycling conditions were 94 ºC for 4 min, one cycle; 94 ºC for 45 secs, 48 ºC (COI), 72 ºC for 45 secs, 35 cycles; 72 ºC for 10 min for the final extension, after that kept at 4ºC.

One microlitre of the PCR product was analysed to determine the quantity of DNA obtained from the PCR. It was verified using 1% agarose gel with SYBR Safe (Invitrogen, USA) to visualize it under UV light. After that 10 µl of the PCR product was cleaned using EXOSAP (ThermoFisher, USA), and then 5 µl of PCR product plus primer (5 mM – Forward and Reverse) were sequenced at Macrogen (Macrogen, Korea) based in Madrid.

The sequences, previously obtained, were edited using SEQUENCER v.5.4.6 (Gene Codes, Ann Arbor, MI, USA). Sequences available from Genbank (Clark *et al.*, 2016) were downloaded using R 3.5.3 (Core-Team, 2017) with the ape (Paradis, Schliep, 2018), seqinr (Charif, Lobry, 2007) and rentrez (Winter, 2017) packages. Posteriorly, all the sequences were aligned manually using MEGA v.7.0.14 (Kumar *et al.*, 2016) and the species *Orcula dolium* (Draparnaud, 1801) was used as outgroup.

The Bayesian Inference (BI) analysis was conducted using Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) sampling in MrBayes v3.2.2 (Huelsenbeck, Ronquist, 2001; Ronquist, Huelsenbeck, 2003) for 20 x 10⁶ generations, four parallel chains, sampling a tree every 1000 generations. The first 10% of the sampled trees were discarded as burn-in. The convergence of the chain was monitored by ensuring a standard deviation of the split frequency < 0.01. The Bayesian posterior probabilities (BPPs) were used as a measure of the robustness of the inferred tree. The branch supports as well as all the tree editing were done with FigTree v.1.4.3 (Rambaut, 2012).

The Maximum Likelihood (ML) analyses were computed using RAxML-HCP v.8 (Stamatakis, 2014) through The Cyber Infrastructure for Phylogenetic Research – CIPRES (Miller *et al.*, 2010), using the GTR (Tavaré, 1986) + I + Δ model. A non-parametric bootstrapping was assessed to determine the robustness of the analyses and the majority-rule criterion was selected to indicate the program to halt bootstrapping automatically.

Geometric morphometrics of the shell

All the pictures and measures were taken using a Leica MZ16 stereomicroscope with a Leica DFC550 camera using the Leica Application Suite (LAS) V4.6. For Geometric Morphometric (GM) analysis a total of 212 shells were photographed, corresponding to *P. rupestris* (70), *P. jaenensis* (114) and *P. pusilla* (28). The last species was included in the GM analysis but as it comes from a museum collection, we assumed a correct identification of the sample. The rest of the localities used for GM, were previously identified in the molecular section.

In order to extract the information about the shape of the shell, a total of five landmarks and 13 semi landmarks were placed (Fig. 2). The data with the coordinates were subjected to a Procrustes superimposition (Gower, 1975) as a way of removing the effect of size, orientation and position from the information gathered by
Fig. 2. A — configuration of landmarks (orange dots) and semilandmarks (red dots) used for the geometric morphometric analysis; B–C — measures used for conchological comparisons. Abbreviations: SH — shell height; SW — shell width; UD — umbilicus diameter.

The cytochrome oxidase I dataset covered a total of six species of Pyramidula, yielding a matrix of 655 bp. By both BI and ML P. rupes-tris, P. saxatilis, P. pusilla, and P. cephalonica (Westerlund, 1898), as well as the relation among them, were well supported (p > 0.95, and bootstrapping the landmark’s configurations. As a mean to plot the morphological similarity among species a Principal Component Analysis (PCA) was performed (Jolliffe, 2002). The analyses were conducted using PAST v.3.0 (Hammer et al., 2020) and TPSdig 2.0 (Rohlf, 2006).

Differences between species were tested using a PERMANOVA analysis with adjustment of Euclidean distance (Anderson, 2005). This is a non-parametric analysis used to perform a comparison between groups instead of using parametric methods. In this case, the algorithm tests the significance utilizing permutations of distance matrices, being the significance criterion p < 0.05.

The PERMANOVA method could be affected by the effect of the dispersion in the data cloud (Anderson, Walsh, 2013), thus we performed a test for homogeneity of multivariate dispersions (PERMDISP, Anderson, 2014) over the same dataset to test the homoscedasticity of the data. These analyses were conducted using R v.4.0.0 (Core-Team, 2017) statistical environment using the vegan package (Oksanen et al., 2013) and for both analyses, 999 replicates.

ABBREVIATIONS: SH — Shell length; SW — Shell width; UD — Umbilicus diameter; CV — Coefficient of variation; Max — Maximum; Min — Minimum; bp — Base pairs.

Results

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Fig. 3. Phylogenetic relationships of *Pyramidula* spp. inferred by maximum likelihood (ML) and Bayesian Inference (BI) analyses of the COI. Bootstrap and/or Bayesian posterior probability supports >75% and >0.95, respectively, are shown above the species level (topology of the tree from ML analysis) indicated with “*”. Sequences obtained in this study are shown in red.
Table 2. Uncorrected pairwise distances (percentages) among COI sequences from *Pyramidula* species.

|   | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 | *P. cephalonica* | –    |     |     |     |     |
| 2 | *P. jaenensis* | 9.2  | –    |     |     |     |
| 3 | *P. rupestris* | 10.2 | 10.9 | –    |     |     |
| 4 | *P. saxatilis* | 8.5  | 8.4  | 5.3  | –    |     |
| 5 | *P. chorismenostoma* | 7.0  | 7.4  | 8.5  | 6.8  | –    |
| 6 | *P. pusilla* | 9.2  | 9.7  | 7.0  | 5.9  | 8.4  | –    |

trap > 75%), while for *P. jaenensis* and *P. chorismenostoma* (Westerlund, Blanc, 1879) the relation with the other congener was not supported by any of the analysed methods (Fig. 3). The genetic distance between species based on the uncorrected pairwise distance among COI sequences ranged from 5.3 and 10.9% (Table 2). Samples from Jaraba, Aragon, Spain and Vegacervera, León, Spain (Fig. 3, coded as JPM425-1,2 and JPM200-1,2,3) were found to cluster with *P. rupestris*, while samples from Patones, and Pontón de la Oliva, Madrid, Spain (Fig. 3, coded as JPM170-1 to JPM170-4) clustered with *P. jaenensis*.
A total of 212 pictures from six localities were analysed, scoring the morphological similarity among species of *Pyramidula* based on the GM analysis of the shell shape. The PCA (Fig. 4) accounted in the first two components a total 64.9% of the shell shape variation, and including the third component the accounted variation was the 71.9% of the shell shape variation. The first three components can differentiate between *P. rupestris* and *P. jaenensis*, nevertheless, the samples labelled as *P. pusilla*, proceeding from Arañones, Canfranc, Spain clustered with *P. rupestris*. The included topotypes of *P. jaenensis* were found to cluster with the samples from Madrid.

The analysis of the Thin-Plate Spline graph showed that *P. jaenensis* presented an expansion on the growth to the first whorls and the apex, while the height of the body whorl was moderately contracted, while in *P. rupestris* the opposite was found, a major expansion factor to the body whorl and compression to the first whorls and apex. In *P. pusilla* we found only an expansion factor to the centre of the body whorl (Fig. 4).

The PERMANOVA test showed overall statistical significance (p-value = 0.0001, F = 81.077) and the pairwise comparison determined statistical differences between *P. jaenensis* and *P. rupestris* (p-value = 0.003, R² = 0.36); *P. jaenensis* and *P. pusilla* (p-value = 0.003, R² = 0.33); *P. rupestris* and *P. pusilla* (p-value = 0.012, R² = 0.05). Despite these results, the PERMDISP was also significant (p-value = 0.001, F = 33.011) depicting significant dispersion on the dataset.

**Systematics**

Class Gastropoda Cuvier, 1795  
Subclass Heterobanchia Burmeister, 1837  
Order Stylommatophora Schmidt, 1855  
Superfamily Pupilloidea W. Turton, 1831  
Family Pyramidulidae Kennard et B.B. Woodward, 1914

*Pyramidula jaenensis* (Clessin, 1882)

*Helix (Patula) jaenensis* Clessin, 1882: 187
Fig. 5. Shells of *Pyramidula jaenensis*. A — Ubeda, Jaén, Spain; B–C — Patones, Madrid, Spain; D–E — Pontón de la Oliva, Madrid, Spain; K — apical view of the shell; L — umbilical view; O — details of the protoconch. Shells of *Pyramidula rupestris*. F–J — Jaraba, Aragón, Spain; M — apical view of the shell; N — umbilical view; P — details of the protoconch. Scale bars: A–N — 1 mm; O–P — 500 µm.

Рис. 5. Раковины *Pyramidula jaenensis*. A — Убеда, Хаэн, Испания; B–C — Патонес, Мадрид, Испания; D–E — Понтон де ла Олива, Мадрид, Испания; K — апикальный вид раковины; L — вид со стороны пупка раковины; O — детали строения протоконха. Раковины *Pyramidula rupestris*. F–J — Хараба, Арагон, Испания; M — апикальный вид раковины; N — вид со стороны пупка раковины; P — детали строения протоконха. Масштабный штрих: A–N — 1 мм; O–P — 500 мкм.
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Fig. 6. Anatomy of *Pyramidula jaenensis* from Patones, Madrid, Spain. A–B — complete animal, without the shell, showing the buccal tentacles (B); C — digestive system; D — genitalia with the uterus empty; E — details of the penial caecum and epiphallus; F — ventral view of the oesophageal neural ring; G — dorsal view of the oesophageal neural ring. Scale bars: A, D, F–G — 500 µm; E — 200 µm.

Abbreviations: Ag — albumen gland; CC — cerebral commissure; CG — cerebral ganglia; Ep — epiphallus; Int — intestine; PaG — parietal ganglia; Pc — penial caecum; PeG — pedal ganglia; PiG — pleural ganglia; Oes — oesophagus; Pro — prostate; Rs — reservoir of spermatheca; Sto — stomach; VG — visceral ganglion;

Рис. 6. Анатомия *Pyramidula jaenensis* из Патонеса, Мадрид, Испания. A–B — целое животное без раковины с букальными щупальцами (B); C — пищеварительная система; D — половая система с пустой маткой; E — детали строения пениального выроста и эпифаллоса; F — нервное кольцо пищевода, вид с вентральной стороны; G — нервное кольцо пищевода, вид с дорсальной стороны. Масштабные штрихи: A, D, F–G — 500 мкм; E — 200 мкм.

Сокращения: Ag — белковая железа; CC — церебральная комиссура; CG — церебральный ганглий; Ep — эпифаллус; Int — кишечник; PaG — парietальный ганглий; Pc — пениальный вырост; PeG — педальный ганглий; PiG — плевральный ганглий; Oes — пищевод; Pro — простата; Rs — резервуар сперматеки; Sto — желудок; VG — висцеральный ганглий.

V-shaped, with a rounded cusp; lateral teeth bicuspid; ectocone small triangular, endocone large, V-shaped with a rounded cusp; marginal teeth range from 6–11. Oesophagus long and narrow, connecting to the proximal part of the stomach; stomach cylindrical, 4–5 times longer than wide (Fig. 6C), darkly pigmented. Oesophageal neural ring composed by nine ganglia interconnected by short connectives; darkly pigmented; cerebral commissure short, its length is less than the width of the cerebral ganglia or about the same size. Left parietal ganglion separated from the pleural ganglion and visceral ganglion by short connectives. Right parietal ganglion separated by a short connective from the right pleural ganglion and fused to the visceral ganglion (Fig. 6F–G).

**DISTRIBUTION:** According to Razkin *et al.* (2017) the species occurs in Southwestern Europe and North Africa, these areas correspond mainly to the Iberian Peninsula, Southern France and Apennine peninsula (Fig. 8). In this study, we extend the distribution area of the species to the central zone of the Iberian Peninsula.
REMARKS: This species is different in shape from the rest of the species here studied, this will be further discussed. According to the radula, we have found differences between *P. jaenensis* and *P. rupestris*. Bowell (1915) cited for *P. rupestris* a radular formula 11–7(8) –1–7(8) –11, while we have found on *P. jaenensis* half number of the marginal teeth (6). Also, according to the sculpture of the protoconch we have found differences between both species. We found a rugose sculpture changing to moderate striated in *P. jaenensis* while the sculpture in *P. rupestris* is smooth with a lesser prominent transition to the striated sculpture (Fig. 5 O, P). Further studies are needed, fathoming out the morphological characters here studied to find suitable ways to delimit the species of this genus in the Iberian Peninsula.

ECOLOGY: This species is widely distributed by all carbonated areas of the Iberian Peninsula, being the availability of carbonated rocks conditioning the presence of this species. It occurs in calcareous walls occasionally sympatric with other *Pyramidula* species, being found often also inhabiting sympatrically with species of the family Chondrinidae Steenberg, 1925, in this case, we find it occurring with *Granopupa granum* (Draparnaud, 1801).
Discussion

Our molecular analysis confirmed the taxonomical position of our new records within *P. jaenensis*. Also, when examining morphological data these populations presented values in shell size very close to the typical *P. jaenensis* values described by Martínez-Ortí *et al.* (2007). Although Almodovar *et al.* (1996) cited the presence of *Pyramidula* in Madrid, we think that this is a misidentified sample. Those authors pointed out that they found the species occurring under nearby poplar leaf litter on the margins of the Tagus river and in the holes of limestone on the edge of a rain-fed crop. This habitat does not correspond with what has been observed in *Pyramidula*. Instead, we think it could be a juvenile of any other species of Pupillidae W. Turton, 1831, that tends to have a more similar habitat to the one described by those authors.

Our comparison with *P. rupestris*, according to the geometric morphometric analysis, revealed also significant differences between both species (Fig. 4). The PCA delimited *P. jaenensis* and *P. rupestris* as separated well-defined clusters which presented statistical significance according to the PERMANOVA with a p-value = 0.003. The Thin-Plate Spline graph (Fig. 4) also depicted high differences in the patterns of shell shape. While *P. jaenensis* presented an expansion factor to the apex, *P. rupestris* presented the same expansion but more to the columellar axis in the first whorl and the aperture. This method could reveal morphological differences between closely related species or cryptic species that for bared eye could pass unnoticed (Stone, 1998; Kirchner *et al.*, 2016; Vergara *et al.*, 2017).

When we compared *P. rupestris* with *P. pusilla*, we found that the geometric morphometric analysis clustered both species with overlapping (Fig. 4). Although the PERMANOVA revealed significant differences (p-value = 0.012), this could be a consequence of the lack of homogeneity on the dataset (PERM-DISP, p-value = 0.001) as suggested by Anderson (2001); Anderson *et al.* (2006) and Anderson (2005).

So far, we did not confirm previously by molecular methods the species *P. pusilla* because it is a dry collection material. Consequently, we assume it is more likely to be a case of samples misidentified. This lot (MNCN 15.15/25033) was initially identified by the collector as *P. rupestris*, later on another researcher changed it to *P. pusilla* (Fig. 7) Now our analyses revealed that when analysing the shells there is no difference between what occurs in Arañones, Aragón and our samples identified as *P. rupestris*.

Most of the time we assumed that museum samples are identified perfectly. On the contrary, in many cases this assumption is not warranted (Elphick, 2008). Proper species identification can get stuck by morphology as in *Pyramidula* (Razkin *et al.*, 2016, 2017) and also by observer-level factors such as expertise (Sauer *et al.*, 1994). It is common to find examples of the same problem in literature (e.g., Shea *et al.*, 2011, Barbanera *et al.*, 2016, Kitchener *et al.*, 2020) and this case opens the opportunity of new questions about both species that could be addressed in future research.

As species of *Pyramidula* had been mentioned to occur sympatrically (Gittenberger, Bank, 1996), we found in geometric morphometrics a consistent tool for species delimitation through shell shape (Cardini, Elton, 2011; Rohlf, 2002). This kind of analysis along with the use of other sources of information such as DNA, morphology, ecology or ethology will achieve the goal of integrative taxonomy (Dayrat, 2005).

Preceding studies of this genus have focused only on one source of information. While Gittenberger & Bank (1996) and Martínez-Ortí *et al.* (2007) focused strictly on conchological data, the studies of Razkin *et al.*, (2017) were focused more on molecular data. This introduced a valuable framework as they defined molecularly the species. Nevertheless, the species boundaries in some cases were inconclusive as they delimited species based only on shell dimensions.

If we take the idea that *Pyramidula* is a complex of cryptic species as suggested by...
Martínez-Ortí et al. (2007) and Razkin et al. (2017), it would be very interesting to review what we understand by *P. jaenensis*. According to Razkin et al. (2017), their molecular species delimitation showed two well-supported clades (5A and 5C) and one unsupported group (5B). However, when analysing the distribution of the populations that were analysed, it shows nearly no spatial overlap between groups (Fig. 8). This leads us to wonder if *P. jaenensis* is occurring in southern Europe by the Mediterranean slope from Portugal to the Balkans, or if we have considered three biological entities as just one. The answer to this question requires further studies where morphology is analysed in-depth, using integrative taxonomy.

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