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A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF SAP BEETLES FROM BOLIVIA (COLEOPTERA: NITIDULIDAE)

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ABSTRACT

The paper deals with description of *Bolivitoxus diffusopunctatus*, gen. et sp. n. from Bolivia, which belongs to the *Pocadius*-complex of genera of the tribe Nitidulini (Nitidulidae). Taxon *Pseudothalykra* Howden, 1962 is considered as a subgenus of the genus *Thalykra* Erichson, 1843, stat. nov. New conception of the *Pocadius*-complex of genera involving also former *Thalykra*-complex is proposed.

Key words: Bolivia, Coleoptera, new genus, new species, Nitidulidae, Nitidulini, *Pocadius*-complex of genera

РЕЗЮМЕ

В статье дано описание *Bolivitoxus diffusopunctatus*, gen. et sp. n. из Боливии, который относится к комплексу родов, близких к *Pocadius*, из трибы Nitidulini (Nitidulidae). Таксон *Pseudothalykra* Howden, 1962 рассматривается как подрод рода *Thalykra* Erichson, 1843, stat. nov. Предложена новая трактовка комплекса *Pocadius*-комплекс, включающего также прежний комплекс родов, близких к *Thalykra*.

INTRODUCTION

The Neotropical Region seems to be present the area with entomofauna least known at the moment and it is needed to be studied in the first turn. During recent decades many entomologists visited to this region and collected many specimens among which there are a lot of new unexpected forms. One of them is here described. It belongs to the *Pocadius* complex of genera of the subfamily Nitidulinae. This complex is particularly abundant and diverse there (Jelínek 1975, 1977, 1982, 1999; Kirejtshuk and Leschen 1998; Kirejtshuk 2006, 2008 et al.), although there is a lot of things to do in order to reach a level of knowledge on the sap beetles of the Neotropical fauna comparable with that of the faunas of other regions. However, in general the nitiduline lineage has the greatest diversity in the recent fauna in the South and Central America. The new genus here described is important to point out a variability of structures in the complex and understand the reasonableness to regard the genera formerly treated as members of the

Pocadius- and *Thalykra*-complexes (Howden 1961; Audisio and Kirejtshuk 1983; Kirejtshuk and Lawrence 1992 et al.) in the composition of one group because of absence of any proper hiatus between them. The holotype and two paratypes of the new species are deposited in the Natural History Museum in London and one paratype is in the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

SYSTEMATICS

Family Nitidulidae Latreille, 1802

Subfamily Nitidulinae Latreille, 1802

Tribe Nitidulini Latreille, 1802

Genus *Bolivitoxus*, gen. nov.

Type species: *Bolivitoxus diffusopunctatus*, sp. nov.

Etymology. The name of this genus is formed from the name of the country of origin (Bolivia) and the suffix “*toxus*”; masculine gender.

Included species. The new genus includes the only species.

Diagnosis. This new genus shares the peculiarities of the *Pocadius*- and *Thalycra*-complexes in the sense proposed in previous publications (see above) and is characterized by the oval and rather convex body, diffuse puncturation of dorsum, sparse pubescence with longitudinal rows of hairs on elytra, pronotum arcuately narrowed as anteriorly as posteriorly, nearly complete elytra, subparallel and distinct antennal and parasubmental grooves, comparatively narrow prosternal process with subacute apex, narrow tibiae, narrowly lobed tarsi, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex without styli. The arcuate pronotal posterior angles of *Bolivitoxus diffusopunctatus*, sp. nov. are like those in the most members of the former *Thalycra*-complex. On the other hand, the narrowly lobed tarsi and structure of ovipositor are as in the most members of the *Pocadius*-complex in the previous sense. However, the characters are shared by most members of one “complex” occur also in some representatives of another. Thus, these unusual combinations of characters and peculiarities of the genus under consideration demonstrate the reason to unite both mentioned groups in one complex of genera. The body shape and legs are somewhat similar to those in the species of *Atarphia*. The unique characters of this new genus consist in the deep, wide and subrectilinear antennal and parasubmental grooves slightly convergent posteriorly, and also in three shallow excisions of labrum. At the same time, some Neotropical groups have labrum somewhat similar to that in the new genus (*Teichostethus* Sharp, 1891 and *Hyleopocadius* Jelínek, 1977). Besides, the new genus and all other genera considered below display some previously undescribed peculiarities in the structure of their mouthparts.

This genus, except the 3-excised anterior edge of labrum, characteristic antennal and parasubmental grooves, differs:

– from *Atarphia* Reitter, 1884 in the less convex body with even and smoothed dorsal integument, sparser puncturation, longer and sparser dorsal hairs, lack of both brushes of hairs on the dorsum and ciliation along the pronotal and elytral sides, outline of the pronotum, not explanate sides of the pronotum and elytra, somewhat shorter labrum, narrower prosternal process with acute apex, emarginate posterior edge of the metaventricle between coxae, longer aedeagus with widely rounded apex of the penis trunk and subtruncate apex of the tegmen, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex without styli;

– from *Australycra* Kirejtshuk et Lawrence, 1992 in the shorter body, coarser and sparser dorsal puncturation, lack of longitudinal rows of small punctures on the elytra, much longer and much sparser pubescence on the dorsum, pronotum strongly narrowing posteriorly and with the distinct basal border, somewhat projecting anterior angles of the pronotum (not subtruncate anterior edge of pronotum), nearly complete elytra, greater distances between meso- and metacoxae, emarginate posterior edge of the metaventricle (not angularly excised), much wider and subhorizontal epipleura, narrower tibiae and narrowly lobed tarsi, shorter aedeagus with widely rounded apex of the penis trunk and subtruncate apex of the tegmen, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex without styli;

– from *Hebasculinus* Kirejtshuk, 1992 in the more convex and not regularly oval body, clear puncturation on elytra (not dislodged microtuberculation), lack of erect long hairs on the dorsum and longitudinal rows of subrecumbent hairs on the elytra, arcuate outline of posterior angles of the pronotum and distinct basal border, lack of ciliation of the lateral edges of pronotum and elytra, not explanate pronotal and elytral sides, nearly complete elytra (only with a small elytral angle), somewhat narrower epipleura, not modified antennal club, medially convex prosternal process (not flattened), emarginate posterior edge of the metaventricle (not truncate), outline of submesocoxal lines following close the posterior edge of coxae, narrower tibiae (particularly protibiae) and tarsi, shorter aedeagus with widely rounded apex of the penis trunk, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex (without subapical thickening);

– from *Hebascus* Erichson, 1843 (including subgenus *Teichostethus*) in the more convex and not regularly oval body, sparser dorsal pubescence without suberect hairs, arcuate outline of posterior angles of the pronotum and distinct basal border, lack of clear ciliation of the lateral sides of pronotum and elytra, not modified antennal club, presence of distinct parasubmental grooves, shorter prosternum, not carinate mesoventricle, emarginate posterior edge of the metaventricle (not truncate), longer aedeagus with widely rounded apex of the penis trunk, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex (without subapical thickening);

– from *Hyleopocadius* in the much more convex body, more clear puncturation on the dorsum and absence of longitudinal rows of punctures, arcuate

outline of posterior angles of the pronotum, not explanate pronotal and elytral sides, nearly complete elytra (but not conjointly projecting), submetacoxal lines following close the posterior edge of coxae, narrowly lobed (not almost simple) tarsi, longer penis trunk with widely rounded apex, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex (not forked);

– from *Kryzhanovskiiella* Kirejtshuk, 2006 in the more convex and not regularly oval body, clear punctation on the elytra (not dislodged microtuberculation), lack of erect long hairs or brushes of hairs on dorsum, arcuate outline of the posterior angles of pronotum, not explanate pronotal and elytral sides, nearly complete elytra (with a small elytral angle), markedly narrower epipleura, convex (not flattened) and much narrower prosternal process, emarginate posterior edge of the metaventricle (not truncate), outline of submesocoxal and submetacoxal lines following close the posterior edge of coxae, narrowly lobed (not almost simple) tarsi, shorter aedeagus with widely rounded apex of the penis trunk and with widely short apex of the tegmen, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex without styli;

– from *Neothalycra* Grouvelle, 1899 and *Thalycrinella* Kirejtshuk in Kirejtshuk and Leschen (1998) in the shorter and markedly wider body, lack of longitudinal rows of punctures on the elytra, much longer and much sparser dorsal pubescence, lack of ciliation along pronotal and elytral sides, pronotum with the distinct basal border, nearly complete elytra leaving exposed only the pygidial apex (not the whole or a most part of pygidium), greater distances between meso- and metacoxae, emarginate posterior edge of the metaventricle (not angularly excised), much wider and subhorizontal epipleura, longer aedeagus with widely rounded apex of the penis trunk and subtruncate apex of the tegmen, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex without styli; and from the first also in the significantly smaller body, narrowly lobed tarsi and simple tarsal claws; and from the second also in the somewhat projecting anterior angles of the pronotum (not subtruncate anterior edge of pronotum), considerably narrower tibiae without projecting subapical angles;

– from *Niliodes* Murray, 1868 in the more convex and not regularly oval body with even integument on dorsum, clear punctation on dorsum, lack of erect long hairs or brushes of hairs on dorsum, arcuate outline of posterior angles of the pronotum, not widely subexplanate pronotal and elytral sides,

nearly complete elytra (with a small elytral corner), subhorizontal and markedly narrower epipleura, medially convex and much narrower prosternal process not strongly curved distally, rectilinearly oriented metacoxae, narrowly lobed (not widely lobed) tarsi;

– from fossil *Omositoidea* Schaufuss, 1891 in the smaller, more oval and more convex body, sparser dorsal pubescence without subtransverse brushes, presence of basal border of the pronotum, not explanate lateral sides of the pronotum and elytra, not widely and separately rounded elytral apices, wider epipleura, not modified antennal club, shallowly emarginate posterior edge of the metaventricle (not angularly excised), not evenly pubescent tibiae and narrowly lobed tarsi;

– from *Parapocadius* Kirejtshuk, 2008 and *Pocadius* Erichson, 1843 in the wider and usually more convex body, lack of longitudinal rows of punctures on the elytra, longer and sparser dorsal pubescence, outline of the pronotum more narrowing posteriorly, longer elytral apices leaving exposed only the pygidial apex (not most part of pygidium), somewhat wider and subhorizontal epipleura, not modified antennal club, longer aedeagus with widely rounded apex of the penis trunk and subtruncate apex of the tegmen, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex without styli; also from the first in the distinct parasubmental grooves, lack of clear intermesocoxal line behind the mesocoxae, somewhat wider tibiae; also from the second in the often shallowly emarginate posterior edge of the metasternum between coxae, lack of outer subapical processes of tibiae and longer metatarsi;

– from *Physoronia* Reitter, 1884 (= *Lordyrodus* Reitter, 1884; *Pocadioides* Ganglbauer, 1899; *Osotima* Rebmann, 1944) in the more convex and wider body, coarse and clear punctation on the dorsum, arcuate outline of posterior angles and distinct basal border of the pronotum, not (sub) explanate pronotal sides, subhorizontal and wider epipleura, somewhat narrower and curved prosternal process (not subflattened), outline of submesocoxal lines following close the posterior edge of coxae, longer aedeagus with widely rounded apex of the penis trunk and with widely subtruncate apex of the tegmen, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex without styli (not forked and not gently narrowing as in *P. intermedia* Kirejtshuk, 2006);

– from *Pleuoneces* Olliff, 1891 in the shorter and robust body, much longer, subrecumbent and more conspicuous dorsal pubescence, nearly complete elytra leaving uncovered only pygidial apex (but not

most part of pygidium), lack of adsutural lines on the elytra, submesocoxal and submetacoxal lines following close the posterior edge of cavities, much wider and subhorizontal epipleura, narrower tibiae and without projecting subapical angles, narrowly lobed tarsi, longer aedeagus with widely rounded apex of the penis trunk and subtruncate apex of the tegmen, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex without styli;

– from *Pocadiolyca* Kirejtshuk et Leschen, 1998 in the somewhat shorter and more robust body, lack of longitudinal rows of small punctures on the elytra, much longer and more conspicuous dorsal pubescence, pronotum strongly narrowing posteriorly and with distinct basal border, somewhat projecting anterior angles of the pronotum (not subtruncate anterior edge of pronotum), nearly complete elytra leaving uncovered only the pygidial apex, somewhat curved prosternal process (not subflattened), lack of intermesocoxal line, submesocoxal and submetacoxal lines following close the posterior edge of cavities, much wider and subhorizontal epipleura, narrower tibiae without strongly projecting subapical angles, longer aedeagus with widely rounded apex of the penis trunk and subtruncate apex of the tegmen, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex without arrow-like subapical thickenings;

– from *Pocadionta* Lucas, 1920 (= *Pocadiopsis* Gro- uvelle, 1898, non Fairmaire, 1896) in the shorter and much more robust body, sparser puncturation and smoothed sculpture of the dorsum, much finer and sparser punctures on metaventricle, much longer and more conspicuous dorsal pubescence, distinct basal border of the pronotum, not explanate pronotal and elytral sides, nearly complete (but not complete) elytra with apices leaving uncovered only the pygidial apex, not modified antennal club, much wider and subhorizontal epipleura, lack of strongly projecting subapical angles of the tibiae, longer aedeagus with widely rounded apex of the penis trunk and subtruncate apex of the tegmen;

– from *Pocadites* Reitter, 1884 in the much more convex and not regularly oval body, sparser dorsal puncturation on the dorsum and without a trace of seriation of punctures, sparser hairs on the dorsum, arcuate outline of posterior angles of the pronotum, not (sub) explanate pronotal and elytral sides, markedly narrower epipleura, convex (not flattened) and much narrower prosternal process, emarginate posterior edge of the metaventricle (not truncate), outline of submesocoxal and submetacoxal lines following

close the posterior edge of coxae, narrowly lobed (not almost simple) tarsi, longer aedeagus with widely subtruncate apex of the tegmen, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex without styli;

– from *Quadrifrons* Blatchley, 1916 in the shorter and robust body, smoothed and not microtuberculate integument of the dorsum with clear punctures, longer and sparse pubescence, lack of clear ciliation along the pronotal and elytral sides, pronotum strongly narrowing posteriorly and with the arcuate posterior angles and distinct basal border, not modified antennal club, subtriangular scutellum, somewhat curved prosternal process (not subflattened), narrower tibiae not so curved and without strongly projecting subapical angles, narrowly lobed tarsi, longer aedeagus with widely rounded apex of the penis trunk and subtruncate apex of the tegmen, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex;

– from *Rixerodes* Kirejtshuk et Lawrence, 1992 in the much shorter and robust body, coarser and sparser dorsal puncturation, lack of longitudinal rows of punctures on the elytra, longer and much sparser pubescence on the dorsum, lack of clear ciliation along pronotal and elytral sides, pronotum strongly narrowing as anteriorly as posteriorly and with wider and more clear basal border, nearly complete elytra leaving uncovered only the apex of pygidium, smaller antennal club, moderately developed antennae, much less developed eyes, not strongly widened apex of the prosternal process, greater distances between meso- and metacoxae, emarginate posterior edge of the metaventricle (not angularly excised), submetacoxal lines following close the posterior edge of cavities, much wider and subhorizontal epipleura, narrowly lobed tarsi, shorter aedeagus with widely rounded apex of the penis trunk and subtruncate apex of the tegmen, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex without styli;

– from *Tagmolyca* Kirejtshuk et Leschen, 1998 in the shorter and robust body, lack of longitudinal rows of small punctures on the elytra, much longer and more conspicuous pubescence, distinct basal border of the pronotum, somewhat more projecting anterior angles of the pronotum (not subtruncate anterior edge of pronotum), nearly complete elytra leaving uncovered only the pygidial apex, comparatively smaller antennal club, somewhat curved prosternal process (not subflattened), much wider and subhorizontal epipleura, narrower tibiae, somewhat wider tarsi, longer aedeagus with widely rounded apex of

the penis trunk and subtruncate apex of the tegmen, transverse base of ovipositor gonocoxites;

– from *Thalycra* Erichson, 1843 (= *Perthalycra* Horn, 1879 and including subgenus *Pseudothalycra* Howden, 1962, stat. nov.) in the shorter and more robust body, coarser and sparser dorsal puncturation, usually much longer and much sparser dorsal pubescence, lack of clear ciliation along the pronotal and elytral sides, pronotum strongly narrowing posteriorly and with the wider and more clear basal border, nearly complete elytra leaving uncovered only the apex of pygidium, not modified antennal club, greater distances between meso- and metacoxae, shallower emargination of posterior edge of the metaventrite, much wider and subhorizontal epipleura, narrower tibiae without strongly projecting outer subapical angles, shorter aedeagus with widely rounded apex of the penis trunk and subtruncate apex of the tegmen, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex without styli; and also from the subgenus *Pseudothalycra* in the not tuberculate integument of the dorsum;

– from *Thalycrodes* Blackburn, 1891 in the somewhat shorter and robust body, coarser and sparser dorsal puncturation, somewhat longer and much sparser subrecumbent pubescence, nearly complete elytra leaving uncovered only the apex of pygidium, not modified antennal club, greater distances between meso- and metacoxae, shallower emargination of posterior edge of the metaventrite, much wider and subhorizontal epipleura, narrower tibiae without strongly projecting outer subapical angles, sharply acuminate ovipositor apex without styli.

Note. The taxa *Thalycra* Erichson, 1843 and *Pseudothalycra* Howden, 1962 should be regarded in the composition of the same genus because a rather small level of differences between them (see Kirejtshuk and Leschen, 1998) (stat. nov.).

***Bolivitoxus diffusopunctatus*, sp. nov.**

(Figs. 1–14)

Holotype. Male – “Bolivia: Santa Cruz, Ambo-ro National Park, Los Volcanes, c. 1000 m, S18°06′: W63°36′, 20/xi–12/xii/2004”, “general collecting, Barclay M.V.I. & Mendel H.”

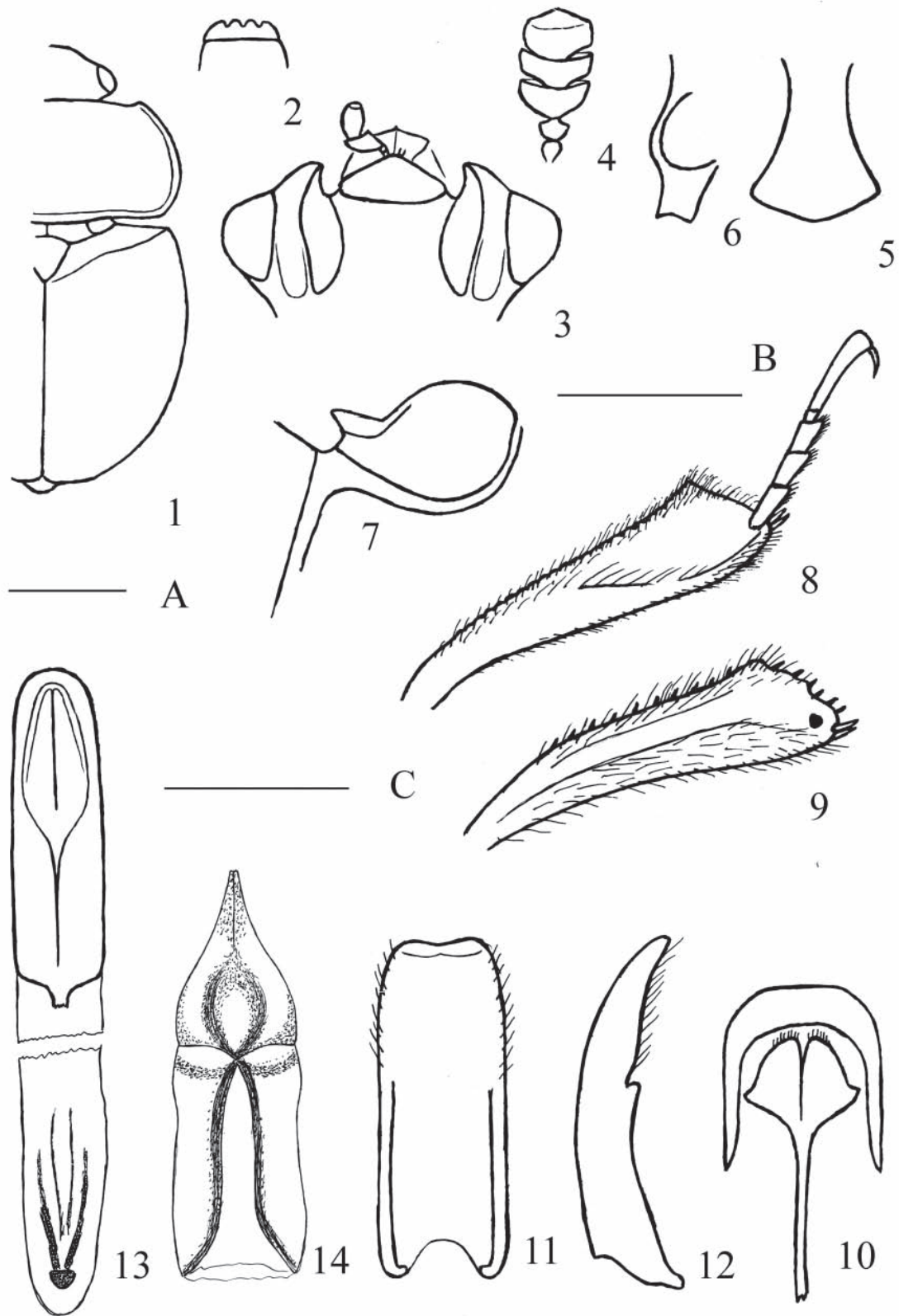
Paratypes. 3 male and females – “Bolivia: Santa Cruz, Ambo-ro National Park, Los Volcanes, c. 1000 m, S18°06′: W63°36′, 20/xi–12/xii/2004”, “Flight Intercept Trap, Mendel H. & Barclay M.V.I.”

Etymology. The epithet of this new species is formed from “*diffusus*” (scattered; dissipated; dispersed, diffused, spread) and “*punctatus*” (punctured, pricked, dotty, punctate), and refers to the character of elytral puncturation.

Description of male (holotype). Length 4.6, breadth 3.0, height 1.8 mm. Strongly convex dorsally and moderately convex ventrally; dark pitchy brown; head with appendages, anterior legs, meso- and metatarsi brownish and antennal flagella almost reddish; somewhat shining; dorsum with fine and sparse subrecumbent to suberect hairs 3–4 times as long as distance between their insertions (on elytra arranged in longitudinal rows without association with rows of punctures); underside with much shorter, less conspicuous and much denser hairs slightly longer than distance between their insertions.

Head and pronotum with large, shallow, well outlined and irregular punctures, 1.5–3.0 times as large as eye facets in diameter, interspaces between them on head about as great as a puncture diameter or somewhat greater and those on pronotum mostly greater than two diameters of puncture, smooth to slightly alutaceous. Elytra with somewhat smaller, denser and shallower punctures than those on head and pronotum, interspaces between them 2–4 times as great as a puncture diameter and finely alutaceous. Pygidium with small, partly elongate and distinct punctures (with smaller diameter about 1.5 times as great as eye facets in diameter), interspaces between them less than a puncture diameter and very smoothly microreticulated. Prosternum with reduced puncturation and smoothly alutaceous; its process with distinct oval punctures smaller than eye facets in diameter, interspaces between them less than a puncture diameter and smoothly alutaceous. Metaventrite in the middle with so small punctures as on prosternal process, but much sparser and shallower, separated by 2–4 puncture diameters. Sides of metaventrite and abdominal ventrites with punctures compared with those on head and pronotum, but markedly denser and less smoothed.

Head subflattened and about as long as the distance between rather large eyes (consisting of rather fine facets), with temples constricted behind eyes. Labrum as far anteriorly projecting as 1/4 of width of labrum and with 3 excision. Mandibles slightly exposed from under lobes of labrum. Antennae somewhat shorter than head wide, scape elongate oval, about as long as antennomeres 2 and 3 combined;



their club composing about 2/7 of total antennal length, suboval, about 1 and 1/5 as long as wide and with ultimate antennomere slightly longer than each of antennomeres 9 and 10. Pronotum with maximum width slightly behind the middle, regularly rounded as anteriorly as posteriorly, with strongly vaulted disk and steeply sloping sides, anterior edge moderately trapezium-likely excised, posterior edge rather convex with shallow sinuations at each side of scutellum, anterior angles with nearly distinct top and posterior angles widely rounded, with distinct wide border along side and base. Elytra about 6/7 as long as wide combined, with maximum width in anterior third, distally gradually narrowing to separately and widely rounded apices, which are forming a very shallow sutural angle, strongly convex and steeply sloping to very narrowly subexplanate lateral edges, adsutural lines distinct at distal 1/5. Pygidium subflattened, slightly expanded behind elytral apices and narrowly rounded at apex. Arcuate apex of anal sclerite without any pubescence and not exposed from under pygidial apex.

Labial palpi small, last labial palpomere oval and about 1.5 times as long as thick. Mentum subtriangular, widest at base and about three times as wide as long. Antennal and parasubmental grooves wide, sharply outlined, rather deepened, slightly and recitilinearly convergent posteriorly. Prosternum gently convex with process somewhat curved along coxae and moderately widened before subangular apex, its maximum width about 2/3 of mentum and about 1.5 times of antennal club width. Mesosternum rather excavate and moderately convex at bottom. Distance between mesocoxae subequal to and that between metacoxae about 1.5 times as broad as that between procoxae. Metaventrite steeply sloping between mesocoxae and subflattened behind them, with very distinct submesocoxal line following close the posterior edge of cavity and deviating only at outer angle of metaventrite, about as long as prosternum with process, its anterior edge between coxae subtruncate and posterior one between coxae shallowly emarginated. Submetacoxal line distinct and following close

posterior edge of cavity. Abdominal ventrite 1 about as long as ventrites 2 and 3 combined and markedly longer than hypopygidium, which subangular at apex. Epipleura gradually narrowing distally, subhorizontal and about 1.5 times as wide as antennal club at base.

Tibiae rather narrow (slightly wider than antennal club) and rather long (metatibia longest), gradually widened to apex and with more or less distinct subapical outer angle (protibia almost with slightly projecting subapical angle), meso- and metatibiae with sparse rows of small stout setae and moderately long thin setae along outer edge, spurs comparatively small and stout. Femora with usual outline, profemur slightly wider, mesofemur 1.5 times as wide as and metafemur nearly twice wider than corresponding tibiae. Tarsi rather long (about 3/5 as long as tibiae), tarsomeres 1–4 very narrowly lobed, claw simple and narrow, and with short unisetose empodium between.

Aedeagus. Well sclerotized; sides of tegmen with short and fine hairs and its transverse apex thickened.

Female. Externally differs from male only in widely rounded apex of hypopygidium. Ovipositor moderately sclerotized.

Variations. Length 4.6–4.8 mm. Small variation is observed in coloration, puncturation and sculpture of integument.

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Figs. 1–14. *Bolivitoxus diffusopunctatus*, sp. nov.: 1 – body outline, dorsal; 2 – anterior part of frons and labrum, anterodorsal; 3 – mentum, labial palp, parasubmental grooves and antennal grooves, ventral; 4 – antennal club; 5 – prosternal process, ventral; 6 – idem, lateral; 7 – mesocoxa and submesocoxal line, ventral; 8 – protibia, dorsal; 9 – mesotibia, dorsal; 10 – anal sclerite, ventral plate and *spiculum ventrale*, ventral; 11 – tegmen, ventral; 12 – idem, lateral; 13 – penis trunk and armature of inner sac, dorsal; 14 – ovipositor, ventral. Scale bars: A – to fig. 1, bar 1.0 mm; B – to figs. 2–9, bar 0.5 mm; C – to figs. 10–14, bar 0.5 mm.

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