



Original article

*Tanochenia* nov. gen., a new generic name for the radiolarian species  
*Stylotrochus asteros* Tan & Chen, 1999

*Tanochenia* nov. gen., un nouveau nom générique pour l'espèce de radiolaire *Stylotrochus asteros*  
Tan & Chen, 1999

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**Abstract**

The structural study of several Quaternary specimens of the radiolarian species *Stylotrochus asteros* Tan and Chen, 1999 proves that this species does not belong to this genus or to other Cenozoic genera so far known. This species has a large lenticular lattice cortical shell with one face convex and the other one concave or flat, and an initial skeleton inside it consisting of a small tumour-shaped spongy structure attached to the convex side. Given these peculiarities of this species, the author erects for it the genus *Tanochenia* nov. gen.

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*Keywords:* Radiolaria; Spumellaria; Taxonomy; Quaternary; Pacific Ocean

**Résumé**

L'étude structurelle de plusieurs spécimens de l'espèce de radiolaires *Stylotrochus asteros* Tan et Chen, 1999 démontre que cette espèce n'appartient pas à ce genre ou à d'autres genres cénozoïques décrits jusqu'à présent. Cette espèce a une grande coque corticale lenticulaire grillagée avec une face convexe et une autre plane ou concave et, à l'intérieur, un petit squelette initial spongieux ayant la forme d'une tumeur attachée à la face convexe. Étant donné ces particularités, l'auteur décrit pour cette espèce le nouveau genre *Tanochenia* nov. gen.

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*Mots clés :* Radiolaires ; Spumellaires ; Taxonomie ; Quaternaire ; Océan Pacifique

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**1. Introduction**

In their monograph on *Radiolaria offshore China*, Tan and Chen (1999) described, among other species, a new lens-shaped radiolarian species that they called *Stylotrochus asteros* Tan & Chen. According to their description, this species, from which they probably had a single specimen, bears nine conical and thin peripheral spines, one of which is four times as long as the diameter of the disk; it displays no concentric circular rings and no sieve-plates, but it is darker in the centre than in its peripheral

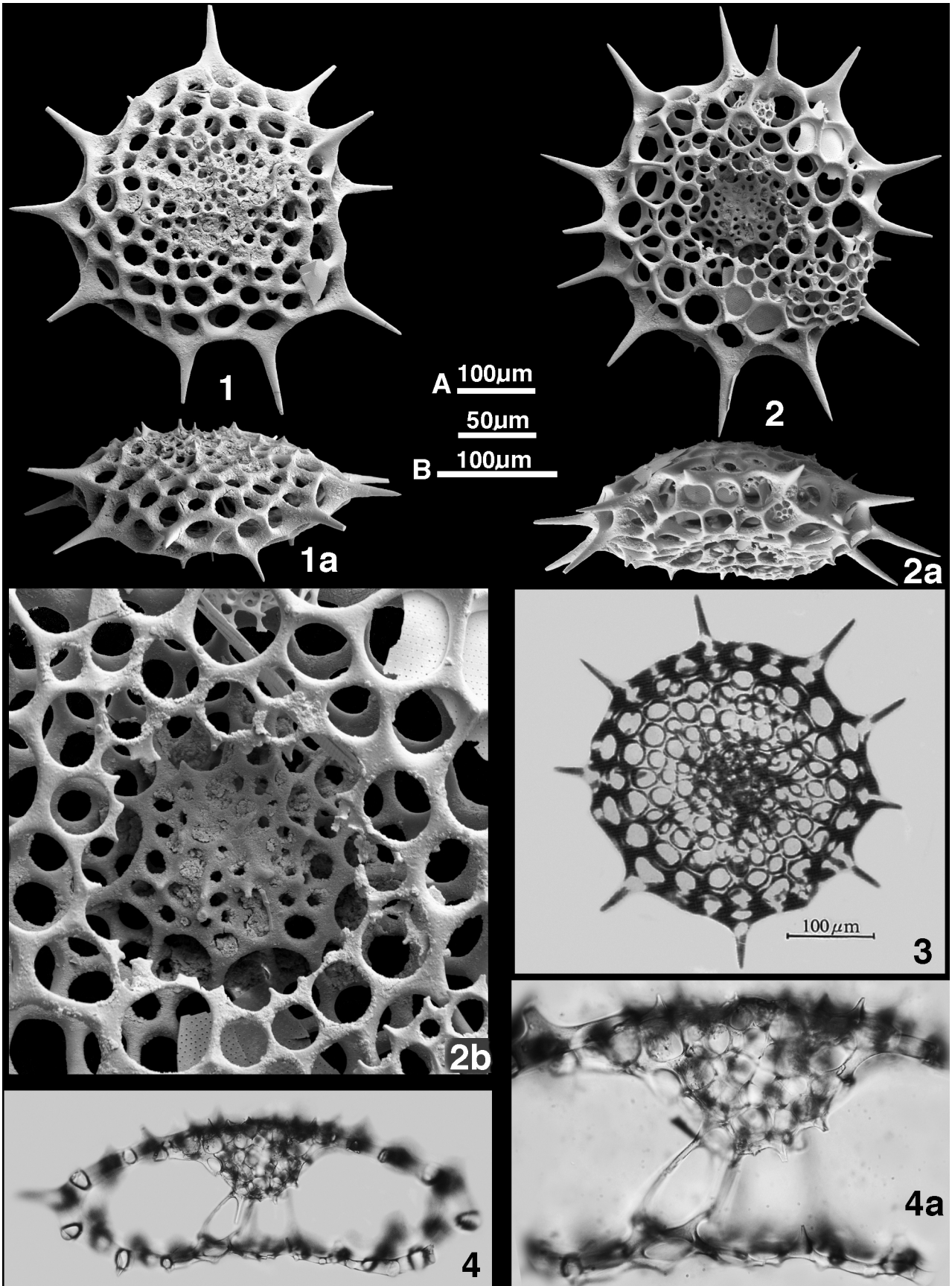
part. The opportunity was given to me to find several specimens of the same species, in several surface sediment samples coming from the Northeastern Pacific; a revised description of this species, including a detailed description of its internal structure, allows to discuss its systematic status which is important for a better understanding of the generic diversity of Quaternary radiolarians.

**2. Material studied**

The material on which this article is based comes from a few Quaternary samples of surface sediments from the

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