

Key to the species of the *Americhelidium* recorded by SCAMIT

Dean Pasko, August 2005

males & females

1. Rostrum downturned at roughly 45°; uropod 3 peduncle short, approximately one-third of rami length, rami reaching to mid-point of uropod 2 *Americhelidium micropleon*
— Rostrum downturned at roughly 90°; uropod 3 peduncle long, subequal to rami, rami reaching nearly to end of uropod 2 2
2. Gnathopod 2, propodus densely setose along dorsal and ventral margins (setae \geq width of propodus, propodus relative elongate and narrow; gnathopod 1 distinctly oblique; pleonites without paired setae along dorsal margin *Americhelidium "shoemakeri"*¹
Gnathopod 2, propodus weakly setose (ventral margin with 0–5 short setae, \leq ½ the width of propodus), propodus relatively robust; gnathopod 1 transverse or oblique; one or more pleonites with paired setae along dorsal margin 3
3. Pereopod 7, article 2 without distinct posto-distal lobe, posterior margin densely setose with long setae; uropod 3 peduncle with two or more long setae
..... *Americhelidium rectipalium*
— Pereopod 7, article 2 with distinct posto-distal lobe 4
4. Gnathopod 2 with long seta emanating from anterior distal margin of propodus and running length of dactyl; posterior marginal setae of pereopod 7 with at least some long setae (i.e., equal to or $>$ ½ basal lobe width); pleonite 2 subacute postero-distally
..... *Americhelidium* sp SD1
— Gnathopod 2 without long seta along dactyl, but with one short seta and one seta emanating from mid-point of anterior (dorsal) margin of dactyl; setae along posterior marginal setae of pereopod 7 short (i.e., $<$ ¼ basal lobe width); pleonite 2 quadrate or rounded postero-distally *Americhelidium* sp SD4

Figure out our
Americhelidium
(look @ specimen 5)

DRAFT

¹ A complex of species is likely represented in the Southern California Bight (SCB), but various attempts by members of SCAMIT have been unsuccessful at distinguishing among the different forms. For the most part, all specimens with oblique gnathopod 1 palms have historically been referred to *A. shoemakeri* (Mills). See Bousfield and Chevrier (1996). Specimens from San Diego appear to resemble *A. millsi*, but cannot be confidently distinguished from *A. pectinatum*, *A. variabilum*, *A. setosum*, or *A. shoemakeri*.