

**File S1.** Description of paratype. Meristic bilateral values are presented as left/right. Adult male, exhibiting a fully everted hemipenis, snout–vent length (SVL) 339 mm, tail length (TL) 149 mm (44% SVL); head moderately distinct from body; head length 16.0 mm from rostral scale to posterior tip of mandibles; head width 8.0 mm (50% head length) taken at widest point posterior to the orbit; interocular distance 6.9 mm; snout–orbit distance 3.7 mm (0.54 times interocular distance); rostral 4.8 mm wide, slightly visible in dorsal view; each internasal 2.4 mm wide and 1.6 mm long; internasal suture positioned slightly sinistral with respect to prefrontal suture; each prefrontal 3.1 mm long and 3.3 mm wide, not in contact with orbit; frontal hexagonal, 4.8 mm long and 3.7 mm wide; supraocular 5.2 mm long; each parietal 7.0 mm long and 4.1 mm wide, about as long as wide; nasal entire; loreal single, rectangular, 2.0 mm long as well as high; loreal in contact with orbit on the left side, obstructed by a tiny preocular on the right side; two preoculars, one above and one below the loreal, plus one very small scale on the right side; eye diameter 3.8 mm; postoculars 2/2; upper postocular ca. two times as high than lower one; temporal formula 2+3; middle second row temporal on the left side fused with the uppermost scale in the third row and in contact with the parietal, and lower second row temporal fused with the lower third row temporal; supralabials 8/9, with 4<sup>th</sup> + 5<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> + 6<sup>th</sup> contacting orbit; mental (= symphysial) 3.4 mm wide; infralabials 9/8, 1<sup>st</sup> pair in contact posterior mental scale; 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> infralabials contacting first pair of chinshields (= genials), and 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> contacting second pair of chinshields; two pairs of chinshields, first pair longer than wide, second pair slightly longer than wide; a third row consists of three scales arranged in a triangle and flanked by gulars, separating them from infralabials, and positioned anterior to the first ventral scale; dorsal scales in 15/15/15 rows; all dorsal scales smooth and no apical pits visible; slightly enlarged (ca. 40%) vertebral scale row; ventrals 179 plus one entire anal plate and one preventral; subcaudals 110, divided plus one tail tip or terminal spine.

The color pattern of the paratype, fresh dead and before preservation, is depicted in Figures 1C, D; 7A; 8A, B of the main article. Pupil black; dorsal surface of head fading from brown to yellow on chin and labials; seven large black pileus blotches with yellow borders on parietals to prefrontals and supraoculars, and several small black spots between the larger blotches and posterior to the parietals; no markings on supralabials; dorsum ground color dark to light brown with 26/23 (left/right) triangular-shaped dorsal blotches on the body and 16/15 blotches on the tail; nuchal collar (= first dorsal blotch) in the form of a large triangle with thick black border 2–3 scales wide, framed by a thinner yellow line of one scale width; entire nuchal collar 10–11 scales long at the first scale row next to the ventrals, and two scales long on the vertebral scale row, hence, fused with the other side's triangle, and thus, forming a butterfly shape; nuchal collar is not contacting parietals, but does contact rictus; all dorsal blotches are formed by a thick black border with a light center from yellowish to brownish, and are separated from the ground dorsal color by a thin (one scale size) yellow-cream border that increasingly fades in blotches more posteriorly; blotches do not contact on the paravertebral region; interspaces on the body almost immaculate with only a few irregular dark brown streaks anteriorly; interspaces a little wider (4–5 scales) than the blotches (2–3 scales) on the fourth scale row, but with a constant width throughout the body; ventral color cream with a fine stippling increasing towards the tail tip to become almost uniformly brown; pattern consists of bilateral groups of 2–6 small, squarish dark brown spots, arranged longitudinally with one spot per ventral scale; a group of spots close to the ventral flanks is often alternating with a group closer to mid-venter (Fig. S1).

The color pattern in the preserved specimen essentially remained the same, except for a general fading of yellow to cream. Hence, the borders of the dorsal triangular blotches and the large dark cephalic marks, as well as the chin and venter color have faded. Furthermore, the black of the cephalic blotches have turned dark brown in the preserved specimen.



**Figure S1.** Paratype. Left: Dorsal head and body; Right: Ventral head and body. Scale bar = 10 mm.