The Afrotropical family Gomphodesmidae is a clearly defined and homogeneous group of polydesmodan Diplopoda that currently encompasses 146 species or subspecies in 54 genera [Hoffman, 2005]. The genus Tymbodesmus Cook, 1899 is known to contain five recognized and one dubious species, the former keyed. The generic distribution ranges across Sub-Saharan Central Africa, covering an area bounded by the Niger Uele and Nile rivers [Hoffman, 2005]. The only species definitely known to occur in Cameroon is hitherto been T. figlinus Cook, 1899, the type-species of the genus, whereas T. viadus Cook, 1899, also reported from Cameroon, remains dubious. The present note puts on record a new species of Tymbodesmus from Cameroon, which is markedly distinct from congeners in gonopod conformation and several somatic characters. In addition, fresh material of T. figlinus coming from a rainforest region of Cameroon is illustrated.

Material and methods
Most of the material treated here derives from the collection of the Laboratory of Zoology of the University of Yaoundé 1, Cameroon (LZUYC) and the Musée Royal de l’Afrique Centrale (MRAC), Tervuren, Belgium, with only a few duplicates donated to the Zoological Museum, State University of Moscow (ZMUM), Russia. The samples are stored in 70% ethanol. Specimens for scanning electron microscopy (SEM) were air-dried, mounted on aluminium stubs, coated with gold and studied using a JEOL JSM-6480LV scanning electron microscope. Photographs were taken with a Leica digital camera Leica DFC 500 mounted on a Leica MZ16A stereo microscope. Images were processed with Leica Application Suite software.

Taxonomic part
Genus Tymbodesmus Cook, 1899
The genus Tymbodesmus is diagnosed within the tribe Aulodesmini by the following characters (adapted from Hoffman [2005]): Antennae with four apical sensory cones. Sternum 6th with a large median process. Apical tarsal pads present on legs 1–6. Hypoproct with small paramedian tubercles, median projection scarcely evident. Elevated posterior rim of gonopod aperture with a broad, deep, postcoxal emargination. Gonopods notably large and robust, coxa with a dorsal and a paracannular setal fields; entire lateral side of prefemoral region deeply excavate; telopodite predominantly endonal, nodus variable in size, usually with one or two nodal spines on mesal side and a like number on lateral one; process M slender, straight, lateral process L, when present, usually larger and longer, postnodal telopodite merging gradually and only gradually curved, slender and flagelliform, with some apical modification, but no lobes on the length.

KEY TO SPECIES OF TYMBODESMUS (after Hoffman [2005], modified):

1(4) Sternal process of 6th segment cuneate, broadest at base, distally narrowed; sterna without transverse cariniae, 15 without paxillae; postnodal telopodite broad nearly to apex, distal sixth notably narrowed
2(3) Lateral nodal process (L) absent

T. golovatchi sp.n.

3(2) lateral nodal process (L) present

4(1) Sternal process of 6th segment elongated, narrowed near midlength, broadest at apex; sterna with four conspicuously cariniae and a triangular paxillus

T. barryi

5(6) Postnodal telopodite relatively short, very abruptly recurved at base of nodus, thence curved lateral with apex on ventrolateral side of nodal region

T. vibikae

6(5) Postnodal region of telopodite longer and more slender, at base nearly coaxial with nodus, thence curved ventral with apex on median side of nodus

7(8) Endonodus produced ventrad in a simple acute cone, at most with one small accessory spine

T. figlinus

8(7) Endonodus more massive, armed with several subequal spines

9(10) Distal half of postnodal telopodite relatively broad; solenomere with a small triangular process at base

T. orestes

10(9) Distal half of telopodite slender; solenomere with neither a triangular process nor a lobe at base

T. falcatus

Survey of the species
The following list provides details concerning all known species currently referred to Tymbodesmus:
2. Tymbodesmus falcatus (Karch, 1881). Holotype ♂, 14 ♀ paratypes, all from Serba Ghattas, Djur (Bahr-el-Ghazal region), Sudan. 1 ♀ (AMNH), from Medje (2.25N, 27.30E), Oriental Province, Zaire; Lang-Chapin Expedition.
3. Tymbodesmus falcatus Cook, 1899. Holotype ♂, from Cameroon (ZMB 629), 1 ♀ (ZMUC), from Idanre Hills (7.06N, 51’E 011), Ondo State, Nigeria.
4. Tymbodesmus falcatus sp.n., ♂ paratype.

Reference