

Pekka T. Lehtinen: A biography to mark his 80th birthday Пекка Т. Лехтинен: биографический очерк по случаю 80-летия

Biographic data

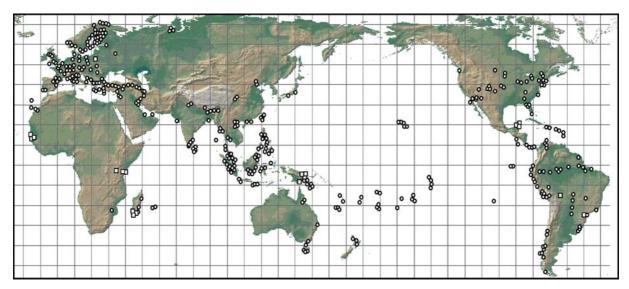
Pekka T. Lehtinen was born on the 5th of April 1934 in a small village, Parainen, in the archipelago of SW-Finland. His childhood home was a small farmhouse in a Swedish-speaking area where Finnish-speakers, like the Lehtinens, were a contemptuous minority (Finland is a bilingual country). His father worked hard in a local brickyard or in the construction of houses and a local dock. Pekka lost his father at the age of nineyears-old, and from then on the life of his family was hard and poor. He went to a private primary school for Finnish-speaking children founded by his father in 1938, although Pekka's parents themselves had no possibility for attending any school. Pekka got the permission from his teacher not to follow the teaching, but only to participate in the examinations (as she was sure that Pekka could use his time more effectively by reading books from the school library). The biodiversity of the surrounding natural environments was excellent for a young field biologist, manifesting itself first as an interest in ornithology and higher plants, and with a quite early dream (at 5 years of age!) to become a scientist in biology (if there would become a possibility to attend secondary school, at least).

Pekka graduated from a senior high school in Turku in 1952. In the same year he entered the University of Turku and, after an exceptionally short time (2.5 years), was awarded an MSc degree (2nd February 1955).

After graduating from the University he did military service for one year. He was trained in the reserve officer's school and was given the rank of Second Lieutenant. After that he worked as an assistant lecturer in the Department of Zoology and in the Faculty of Medicine (preclinical courses) of the University of Turku (1956–1967).

After working for several years with a different theme for his PhD thesis, in 1967 Pekka Lehtinen published his fundamental work "Classification of the Cribellate spiders and some allied families, with notes on the evolution of the suborder Araneomorpha" and defended his submission for the degree of PhD in September. This work was done without a real supervisor, although, according to Pekka, he got practical help from Prof. Ernst Palmén from the University of Helsinki (who later acted as Rector and then Chancellor of the University).

In January 1968 he was nominated as the Head Curator at the Zoological Museum of the University of Turku. Pekka worked at this position until his retire-



Map 1. Expeditions and trips by Pekka T. Lehtinen. Squares refer to trips made after 2004.

Карта. Экспедиции и поездки Пекки Лехтинена. Квадратами отмечены поездки после 2004 г.

ment in 1999. Also in 1968 he obtained the position of Docent of Zoology at the universities of Turku and Helsinki. Pekka gave lectures and conducted practical courses (mainly in Helsinki, as there was no funding for separately budgeted advanced teaching in Turku) especially in taxonomy, zoogeography, soil zoology, scanning electron microscopy and other research techniques. The junior author (SK) listened to several lectures and courses by him at the University of Turku. He was a good and much-liked teacher; thanks to Pekka, SK changed his focus from entomology to arachnological studies.

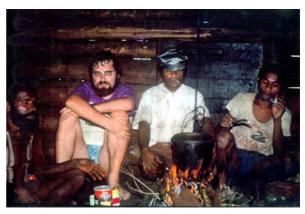
Pekka Lehtinen was a leader in the Finnish academic labor unions, being the first Chairman of the "Association of assistant lecturers in Turku University" (1966) and first Vice Chairman of the Association of assistant lectures of Finland and the Chairman of the Union of docents of the University of Turku (1972–1987). For 20 years he was a Council member of the Finnish union of associations of the university docents, at the beginning he was also the Vice Chairman. He was the convener of the meeting in 1967, where the current "Association of Finnish Scientists" was created, although originally with the name "Union of university assistant lecturers of Finland", which then also was the labour union for all other scientific members of the university staff outside the union of professors.

Scientific Activities

The activity of Pekka Lehtinen has been dealt with briefly by Koponen [2011] and Marusik [2011], and more comprehensively by Marusik [2004, in Russian].

Pekka Lehtinen started his career as a malacologist, his MSc thesis dealt with terrestrial gastropods in the Finnish archipelago. In addition to gastropods, he also actively studied millipedes, centipedes, and terrestrial isopods of the SW-archipelago and worked for many years for a planned doctoral thesis concerning the colonization of this unique archipelago by terrestrial invertebrates. He collected his first arachnological samples in 1957, and in 1962 Pekka published his first (faunistic) paper on spiders. Subsequently, he changed the theme of his PhD to the taxonomy of spiders, because he soon realized that there were a lot of unsolved large-scale problems.

From the time Pekka started to work on his PhD thesis up until the present, he has visited almost all the leading museums in the world (he visited the MNHN in Paris 11 times) and/or loaned types and comparative material in order to study poorly available faunas collected from remote islands and territories. To date he has visited over 60 museums! After gaining a permanent position at the University of Turku, Pekka started to carry out extensive expeditions world-wide, a practice which he has continued to the present. Since 1969



Pekka Lehtinen in Mt Albert Edward (ca. 2200 m), Papua New Guinea (1974).

П. Лехтинен на горе Альберт Эдуард (2200 м), Папуа Новая Гвинея (1974).



Pekka Lehtinen in Chile (1996). П. Лехтинен в Чили (1996)

he has visited over 70 countries (see Map 1) in search for spiders, mites, harvestmen, pseudoscorpions, terrestrial isopods, myriapods, molluscs and other invertebrates. Some of the countries he visited four or even more times, for example India, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and French Polynesia. His first expedition to the Tropics was to Sri Lanka (1969) and his most recent expeditions were to Gambia-Senegal (2011), Kenya-Mauritius (2012) and Tahiti-Moorea (2013). Most of the expeditions and congress trips have been done without any funding from his home country, mostly supported from his own salary or pension. All materials collected during these expeditions (spiders and other invertebrates) were sorted and properly labelled by himself. All spiders were sorted to families, and most of them to genera. It seems that nobody in the history of arachnological studies can be compared with Pekka in respect to the number of expeditions, and their geography. Some arachnologists call Pekka an "illustrious E. Simon" (referring to the fact that Simon also traveled a lot, surveyed all spider families, although published rather few figures).

Pekka Lehtinen has participated in all international congresses of arachnology: the pre-CIDA Congress in Frankfurt am Main (1965), and then in Paris (1968), Brno (1971), Amsterdam (1974), Exeter, UK (1977, as an invited speaker), Vienna (1980), Panama (1983), Jaca, Spain (1986), Turku (1989), Brisbane (1992), Geneva (1995), Chicago (1998), Badplaas, South Africa (2001, as an invited speaker), Gent, Belgium (2003), Saõ Pedro, Brazil (2007), Siedlee, Poland (2010) and Kenting, Taiwan (2013). He acted as the chairman of the Organizing Committee of the Turku Congress, 1989, and was one of the editors of its Proceedings. He has also attended two European Colloquia (Aarhus and St. Petersburg).

In 2001 during the ISA congress held in South Africa, he was elected as an Honorary Member of the International Society of Arachnology. Interestingly, in 2007 at another congress, Pekka was again elected as



Pekka discuss taxonomic problems with Petr Dolejš (Siedlce, Poland, 2010).

Пекка обсуждает таксономические проблемы с Петром Долейш (Седлице, Польша, 2010).

an Honorary Member. Currently he is only arachnologist who is a 'twofold' Honorary Member of the ISA. Since 1965, Pekka represented Finland in CIDA (Centre International de Documentation Arachnologique), until this organization was transformed to the ISA (International Society of Arachnology) in 1998.

Pekka has always been active in nature conservation projects, both in field studies and (from 1983) as a member of different committees and working groups, for example, in compiling the Finnish Red Data Books. Ministers of the Environment in French Polynesia, the Cook Islands and Mauritius have also consulted him in



Pekka Lehtinen with his wife Maija in Kenting (Taiwan, 2013). П. Лехтинен с супругой Маей на конгрессе в Тайване (2013).

matters of nature conservation. Part of his acarological studies have concerned national projects in medical acarology (mite allergy 1987–90 — the only totally funded project during his whole carrier and borreliosis 1991–2009).

Pekka is well known not only amongst arachnologists, but also amongst the wider zoological community. Since August 1980 up until the Congress in Athens 2000 he was a member of the ICZN (International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature). In 1990 he became a council member and participated in preparing of the new Code. While working for the ICZN Committee he attended the following meetings: Ottawa, 1982, Budapest, 1985, Canberra, 1988, Washington, 1990 (special meeting for adoption of the new Code), Amsterdam, 1991, Paris, 1994, Taipei, 1998 and Athens, 2000. Pekka was active on the world forum several times, for example, as a member of the Organizing Committee of the ICSEB (International Congress of Systematic and Evolutionary Biology) held in 1990 in Washington, D.C. and in 1996 in Budapest, when he served as a member of the IOSEB Council (International Organization for Systematic and Evolutionary Biology).

Contributions to Arachnology

Most arachnologists know Pekka's fundamental monograph published in 1967, as well as his global revision of the Tetrablemmidae, his several works on supraspecific and suprageneric classification of Lycosidae, Nesticidae, Scytodidae, Thomisidae, etc. But besides these, he has published either global or regional revisions of several mite groups: Holothyrida, Opilioacarida, Uropodina, Antennophorina, Sejina and Zerconina

In our opinion, his most important contribution to arachnology was his first taxonomic publication in 1967: Classification of the Cribellate spiders and some allied families, with notes on the evolution of the suborder Araneomorpha. Until this work, the classification of spiders was based exclusively upon the morphological approaches established by E. Simon at the end of the 19th and in the beginning of the 20th centuries. Before Simon, the classification of spiders was based on an eclectic mixture of ecological and morphological characters [cf. Marusik, 2011]. Pekka was the first person to introduce evolutionary (phylogenetic) ideas into spider taxonomy. He was the first to use the phrase "Phylogenetic classification of Araneomorpha", and showed that plesiomorphic (he has not used this term) characters (such as the presence of the cribellum, or three claws) cannot be used for the creation of suprageneric taxa (Note: before 1967 spiders were divided into Cribellate and Ecribellate, Dionycha and Trionycha). He was able to show, for example, that the cribellate family Oecobiidae and the ecribellate Urocteidae, each placed in different superfamiles, should be synonymized, and he highlighted similar cases in other groups of spiders. He drew the first cladograms in arachnology [Lehtinen, 1967: figs 1–7] and presented simple matrices for each family and subfamily that he analyzed.

It is worth mentioning that when he used the term phylogenetic classification he did not mean a cladistic classification (many modern authors considered term "cladistic" as synonym of "phylogenetic"), but rather a current approximation of the correct phylogeny based on all available methods.

In addition, he demonstrated the importance of the copulatory organs, first of all the male palps, in tracing the relationships between different taxa. It seems that before Pekka, there was only one work [Wagner, 1888] in which copulatory organs were considered to be a suitable character for diagnosing families. Another thing that makes his monograph highly important and his conclusions well argued is the unprecedented number of taxa that he studied and illustrated.

The new approach allowed him to recognize two new families (see below). Besides this he described nine subfamilies (list given at the end of the text). Several of Simon's subfamilies were then elevated by Lehtinen to families, or this happened later, e.g. Drymusidae Simon, 1896 [Lehtinen, 1986] and Synaphridae Wunderlich, 1986 [Marusik & Lehtinen, 2003].

Although many aspects of the classification of spiders have changed since 1967, including more than 40 new families recognized or described, and several groups (poorly known in the 1960s) have changed their position in classification schemes, the basic pattern of classification established by Pekka has not changed. It is really amazing, how it was possible in the pre-computer era, and even the pre-"Xerox" (photocopying) era to study and analyze so many types, so many taxa from all over the world, stored in numerous museums and to write a monograph that remains relevant and important today. During the preparation of his fundamental work Pekka engaged in much correspondence with the late Ray Forster, from New Zealand. In the sixties Forster was the only other arachnologist who was interested and productive in research on the suprageneric classification of spiders.

It seems that Pekka was the first spider taxonomist publishing results about use of SEM in arachnid taxonomy. Thanks to SEM studies he was definitely the first who understood the importance of the study of ultrastructure of the chitinous surfaces of spiders. Pekka discovered a fundamental difference between the Araneoidea and the other Araneomorphae in microsculpture of the cuticle in which the former group has a scale structure of the cuticle and the latter have furrows (or a fingerprint-structure). These results he first presented in 1971 in Brno. This approach soon became fundamental method for phylogenetic studies in spiders, although often ignored by cladists. Pekka himself consider this discovery as a most important in his career.

After publishing his monograph Pekka started to revise, one by one, different groups of spiders, chiefly

from the Oriental and Pacific regions. In particular, the Polynesian region was very poorly known and Pekka developed a special interest in it. After initially studying spiders from this area he extended his revisions to a global scale. As a result of these studies he published revisions of the Nesticidae, Tetrablemmidae, Stenochilidae, two subfamilies of Lycosidae, and made a survey of the evolution of the Scytodidae. He usually studied one family for one to three years and then turned to another. Since 1992 he has worked on the Theridiidae, Caponiidae, Filistatidae, and the Lycosidae. However, during the last 17 years he has chiefly studied the Thomisidae. Many, if not most of his studies, may remain unpublished.

Pekka's ability to critically approach large-scale problems was facilitated by his phenomenal memory, particularly his ability to recall names and where figures were published, especially before his brain operation in 1999.

As mentioned above, Pekka has described two spider families, nine subfamilies, more than 80 genera and some 90 new species of spiders. He has dedicated more than a dozen genera to his colleagues (*Benoitia*, *Polenecia*, *Ledouxia*, *Shearella*, *Unzickeria*, etc.), and many of his generic names are derived from Indian (*Devendra*, *Pandava*), Mayan (*Kukulcania*) or other mythologies and gods of aboriginal peoples from different regions. Two genera were named after the famous actresses Marilyn Monroe (*Marilynia*) and Brigitte Bardot (*Brigittea*). According to Pekka's own definition, these names are modern divinities! In addition, he described the mite family Neothyridae (1981) and nine genera and 14 species of Holothyrida.

Apart from the direct contribution to taxonomy provided by his publications and collecting efforts, Pekka has made a great contribution to arachnology by effectively managing and guiding the Zoological Museum. Thanks to the scanning electron microscope JEOL JSM-5200 that was obtained for the museum through Pekka's efforts, many projects have been carried out by the museum staff (Ritva Penttinen, Michael I. Saaristo, S. Koponen) and the numerous visitors from Azerbaijan, China, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Ukraine, etc. He also initiated the acquisition of the first SEM-device for the use of 22 departments at the University of Turku. Material collected by Pekka from his numerous expeditions has been, and still is, frequently used by other colleagues for revisional studies.

The SEM has allowed Pekka to make thousands of figures of various ultrastructures (details of trichoboth-rial bases, tarsal organs, types of normal and sensory hairs, structure of the cuticle, serrulae, etc.) of almost all spider families, and a great number of micrographs of copulatory organs. In the beginning of Pekka's career, thousands of figures (including type specimens) were made by his temporary assistant Maija Mustonen and the late Michael Saaristo. Unfortunately, the majority of these figures may remain unpublished, and

very likely will never appear in print. Pekka has started new projects with great enthusiasm, but has not always completed them.

Currently, Pekka continues to study the phylogeny of all spider groups based on ultrastructure, the taxonomy of the Thomisidae, the phylogenetic relationships of the Filistatidae (together with Sergei Zonstein), the taxonomic ties between the subfamilies of the Pisauridae (Pisaurinae and Dolomedinae) and several other projects dealing with redelimitation and rearrangement of araneomorph families.

Pekka shared his knowledge and experience with many junior colleagues who have worked, or are working in the Museum and for several decades formed the arachnological team at Turku University (H. Hippa, S. Koponen, R. Mannila, I. Oksala, R. Penttinen, R. Pyhälä, M.I. Saaristo) or who visited Turku (F. Ballarin, M.M. Kovblyuk, D.V. Logunov, Yu.M. Marusik, K.G. Mikhailov, A.V. Tanasevitch and many others). Many of his ideas have been disseminated during arachnological congresses and have become a basis for studies conducted by other arachnologists.

Honors and Awards

Besides his "twofold" honorary membership in ISA he has received:

- 1) A Prize from the national medical society Duodecim for the best review article 1992 (together with Dr. Med. Matti Viljanen) on the biological and medical aspects of borreliosis.
- 2) The Annual Prize 2005 of the Risto Tuomikoski private fund for taxonomy, for the best taxonomic publications and productivity in Finland 2003–2004.
- 3) Knight, First Class, of the Order of the Lion of Finland

Mensa International: charter member of Finnish Mensa (non-profit organization open to people who score at the 98th % or higher on a standardized, supervised IQ or other approved intelligence test) in 1966, Chairman of Finnish Mensa 1967–69.

Suprageneric taxa described by P.T. Lehtinen

Families

Megadictynidae Lehtinen, 1967 (=Megadictyninae in Nicodamidae Simon, 1897¹)

Phyxelididae Lehtinen, 1967 (originally as Phyxelidinae)

Titanoecidae Lehtinen, 1967 Neothyridae Lehtinen, 1981 (Holothyrida)

Subfamilies

Altellopsinae Lehtinen, 1967 Cybaeolinae Lehtinen, 1967

¹ It is very likely that two families are not related to each other [Agnarsson et al., 2013] and Megadictynidae will be revalidated.

Eutichurinae Lehtinen, 1967 Litisedinae Lehtinen, 1967 Machadoniinae Lehtinen, 1967 Metaltellinae Lehtinen, 1967 Phyxelidinae Lehtinen, 1967 (=Phyxelididae) Tricholathysinae Lehtinen, 1967 Uliodoninae Lehtinen, 1967

Taxa elevated to family level

Dolomedidae Simon, 1898 (not generally accepted) Drymusidae Simon, 1893 [Lehtinen, 1986] Miturgidae Simon, 1885 [Lehtinen, 1967] Liocraniidae Simon, 1897 [Lehtinen, 1967] Synaphridae Wunderlich, 1995 [Marusik & Lehtinen, 2003]

Taxa named after Pekka Lehtinen

Ajmonia lehtineni Marusik et Koponen, 1998;

One genus, 22 species of spiders and two members of other arachnid orders have been described in honour of Pekka Lehtinen (including six species in the current issue).

Aranei

Colopea lehtineni Zheng, Marusik et Li, 2009; Colyttus lehtineni Żabka, 1985; Devade lehtineni Esyunin et Efimik, 2000; Filistata lehtineni Marusik et Zonstein, 2014; Geraesta lehtineni Benjamin, 2011; Hahnia lehtineni Brignoli, 1978; Heteropoda pekkai Jäger, 2014; Indophantes lehtineni Saaristo et Tanasevitch, 2003; Lathys lehtineni Kovblyuk, Kastrygina et Omelko, 2014; Lehtinenia Tong et Li, 2008; Lycosoides lehtineni Marusik et Guseinov, 2003; Lyssomanes lehtineni Logunov, 2000; Malthonica lehtineni Guseinov, Marusik et Koponen, 2005; Maro lehtineni Saaristo, 1971; Qiyunia lehtineni Song et Yu, 1989;

Styloctetor lehtineni Marusik et Tanasevitch, 1998; Synagelides lehtineni Logunov et Hereward, 2000; Synaphris lehtineni Marusik, Gnelitsa et Kovblyuk, 2005; Titanoeca lehtineni Fet, 1986; Typhochrestus pekkai Bosmans et Oger, 2014; Xysticus lehtineni Fomichev, Marusik et Koponen, 2014.

Schizomida

Kenyazomus pekkai Armas, 2014

Ranguma lehtineni Wunderlich, 1976;

Mesostigmata

Ameroseius lehtineni Huhta et Karg, 2010

Collecting trips and expeditions [congresses given in brackets]

1954 Norway, Sweden (since than almost all European countries, not mentioned below).

Non European:

1967 USA

1969 Sri Lanka

1970 Canary Islands, Western Sahara, USA & Canada

1971 Turkey, Iran, Iraq & Syria

1972 Sri Lanka

1973 Turkey

1974 Papua New Guinea, New Caledonia, Vanuatu (New Hebrides), Fiji, Tahiti, Peru

1975 USA & Canada

1976 Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia & Singapore

1977 Ecuador, Galapagos Islands, Peru, Venezuela

1978 Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia, Pakistan, Martinique, Haiti, USA

1979 Nepal, India, Indonesia, Philippines

1980 Burma, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia 1981 Philippines, Taiwan, Japan, Hawaii, Micronesia:

1982 USA, Canada

1983 Peru, Paraguay, Brazil & Panama

1984 Sri Lanka, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia

1987 Malaysia, Taiwan, Hongkong, Macau, China

1988 Cook Islands, Tahiti, French Polynesia, Easter Island, New Zealand, Australia

1990 Hawaii, New Caledonia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Australia, USA

1991 Hawaii, Western Samoa, American Samoa

1992 Tonga, New Zealand, Australia

1994 Russia (Polar Ural)

1995 Tahiti, Moorea, Uapou & Nukuhiva, French Polynesia

1996 Argentina, Chile

1997 Philippines, Taiwan

1998 [USA], Thailand & Malaysia

1999 Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Indonesia, Taiwan

2000 Mauritius & Reunion

2001 India, Madagascar, South Africa

2003 [Russia],

2004 [Belgium],

2005 Madagascar

2006 New Caledonia

2007 Bolivia & [Brazil]

2009 Mexico

2010 [Poland], Papua New Guinea

2011 Gambia & Senegal

2012 Mauritius, Kenya

2013 Tahiti & Moorea, [Taiwan]

Publications

The publications by Pekka T. Lehtinen until 2004 have been listed in Marusik [2004]. The following are his main publications:

Lehtinen P.T. 1967. Classification of the Cribellate spiders and some allied families, with notes on the evolution of the suborder Araneomorpha // Ann. Zool. Fenn. Vol.4. No.3. P.199–468

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Family

Pekka is the father of two daughters Soile (1961) and Heli (1967), a practical scientific worker in nature conservation, and a son Aki (1969), the coordinator of a research project in the philosophy of economics at the Academy of Finland. Pekka has five grandchildren.

Quotes of colleagues about Pekka Lehtinen

David J. Court "I was with Ray Forster at the Otago Museum at a time when he and Pekka were actively corresponding. Ray would always share Pekka"s views with me. Ray had a great respect for Pekka's opinions although not ALWAYS agreeing. In fact sometimes DISAGREEING quite actively!

To be honest I think that they both "needed each other". They were fascinated with each other's thoughts and they were some of the few people on earth who understood the issues that they were dealing with at hand!"

Norman I. Platnick "Pekka Lehtinen had the courage to challenge some of arachnology"s classic dogmas (such as the Cribellata), at a time when neither he nor anyone else in the field had the advantage of the clarity provided by cladistics. Without that clarity, it is scarcely surprising that so much still remained opaque."

Søren Toft "When I started to join the arachnological congresses I frequently experienced the often heated debates between Pekka and fellow systematicists. As an ecologist I hardly understood a word of what it was all about. It was not Pekka's scientific work or his scientific viewpoints that inspired me the most, but his extreme enthusiasm. Though he has always stood on his scientific opinions, Pekka is an

open-minded and open-hearted person. His interest in my work was a great support in the early days of my career."

Griswold et al. [2005: 76]: "Forty years ago Pekka Lehtinen and Ray Forster started a revolution in spider taxonomy. They brought a worldwide perspective to the subject and focused on the tropics and especially the austral regions. This revolution continues, and the importance of taxa and data from the southern hemisphere suggests that a continued focus on the austral regions will be crucial to understanding spider evolution."

Charles Griswold "Back in the 1970's, when I started studying spiders, my professor (Evert Schlinger) was a Dipterist, and had no preconceived ideas. We had Kaston, Gertsch, Bristowe. Evert said: "and then there's Lehtinen..." I could first hand studies of obscure taxa from all over the world; a completely novel approach to taxonomy; the brilliant insight that understand of the cribellates could lead to a short cut to understand the whole order. Pekka's 1967 paper was a thrill and inspiration for me. His insight still guides us today. And, I think that the 1967 paper is the single most important work on spider evolution since Simon."

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