

***Brachionus angularis* Gosse, 1851**

Most likely ID: n.a.

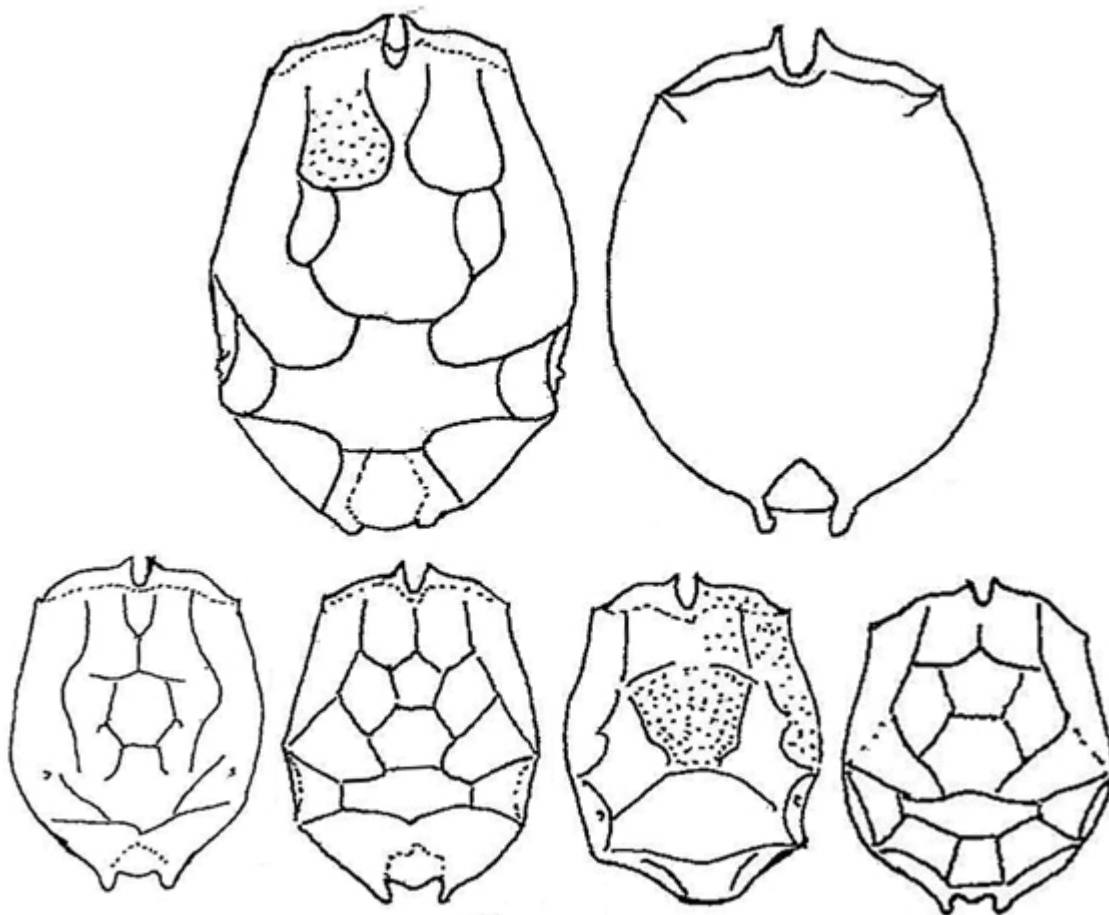
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling locations: [Hagstaffel pond](#), [Mühlweiher Litzelstetten](#), [Lake Constance](#), [Mühlhalden pond](#), Oder

Phylogenetic tree: [Brachionus angularis](#)

Diagnosis:

- lorica oval
- shape of lorica rather variable
- lorica smooth, granulated or faceted
- length 90–210 µm, width 60–160 µm
- anterior dorsal margin with two spines
- anterior ventral margin undulate
- lateral and posterior spines absent
- foot opening U-shaped with two bluntly pointed protuberances
- foot long, partly curled, toes short
- one eyespot (sometimes doubled)
- planktonic lifestyle



after Ahlstrom

Brachionus angularis

Brachionus angularis is a very common rotifer that I find with plankton in many of my sampling locations. The species has an almost oval lorica that, however, appears somewhat angular. In contrast to many other planktonic rotifers with a lorica, this species has no spines, with the exception of two small spines on the anterior margin on the dorsal side (s. fig. 3 b). The anterior margin on the ventral side is slightly wavy, without spines (s. fig. 4 a). The ventral side of the lorica is usually granulated. The dorsal side, on the other hand, is often faceted, though not always (s. fig. 3 a). In general, this species is very variable.

The foot is long and ringed (s. fig. 1 c). The toes have distinct, thin claws (hard to see). When swimming, the foot usually remains retracted. It is only extended for a short time under slight coverslip pressure.

More images and information on *Brachionus angularis*: [Michael Plewka-Freshwater life-Brachionus angularis](#)

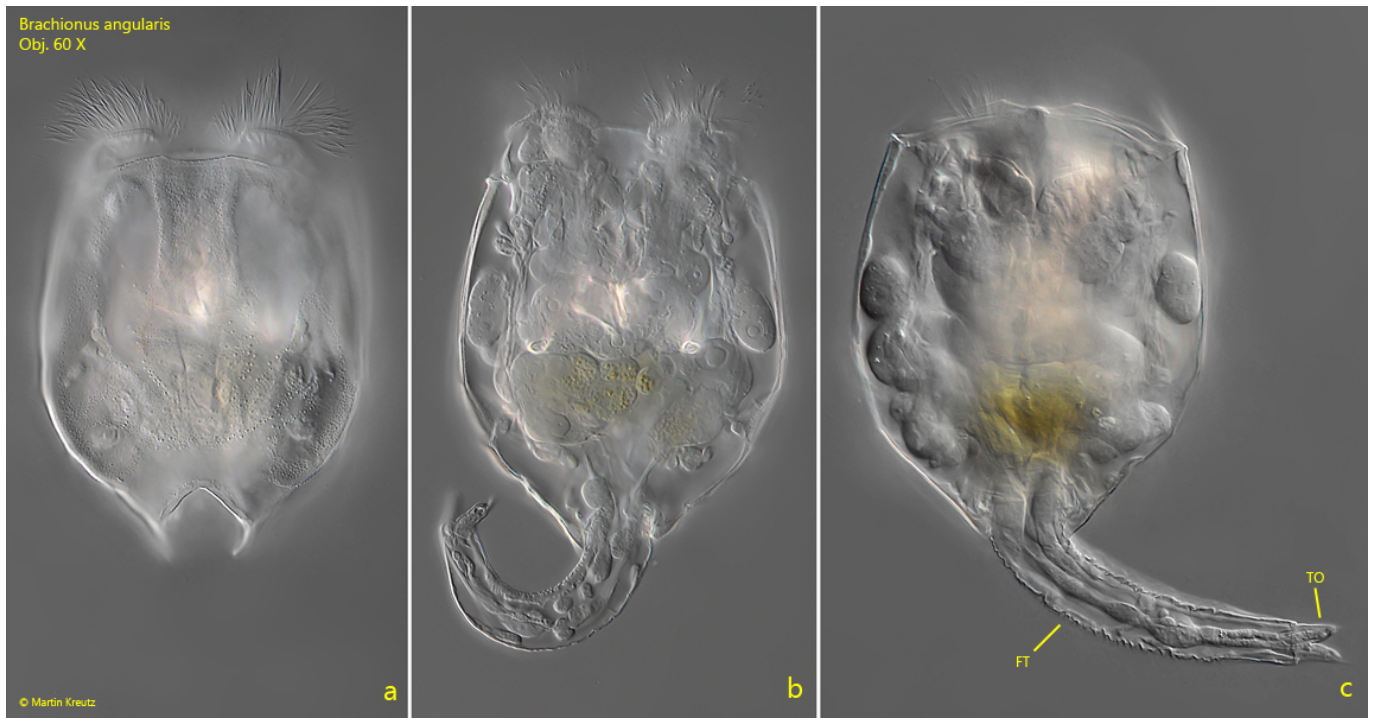


Fig. 1 a-c: *Brachionus angularis*. L = 108 μ m (without foot). A slightly squashed specimen from ventral. FT = foot, TO = toes. Obj. 60 X.

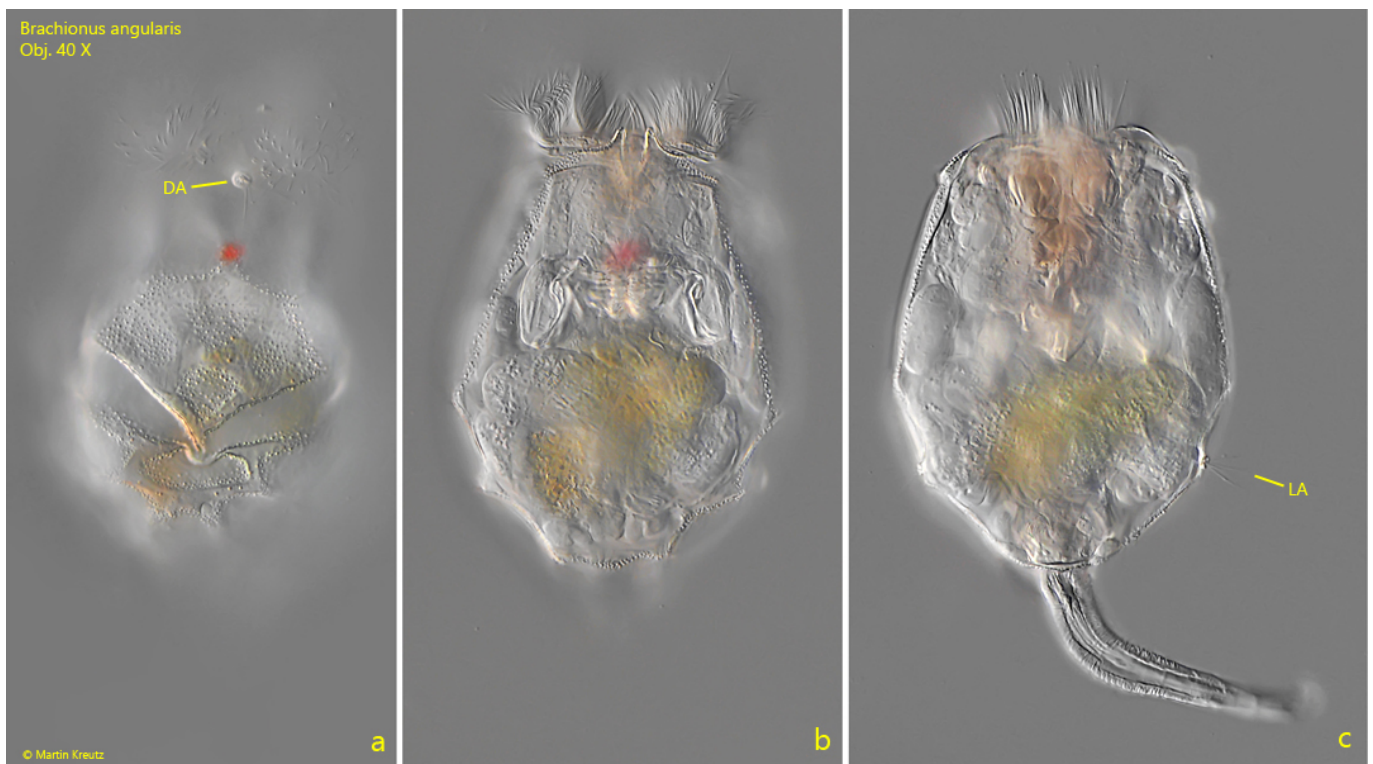


Fig. 2 a-c: *Brachionus angularis*. L = 115 μ m (without foot). A second slightly squashed specimen from dorsal. DA = dorsal antenna, LA = lateral antenna. Obj. 40 X.



Fig. 3 a-b: *Brachionus angularis*. L = 108 μm (without foot). A slightly squashed specimen with a faceted lorica from dorsal. Note the two anterior spines (DS). ES = eyespot. Obj. 60 X.

Brachionus angularis
Obj. 60 X



Fig. 4 a-b: *Brachionus angularis*. L = 106 μ m (without foot). A slightly squashed specimen from ventral (a) and from left. PP = posterior protuberances. Obj. 60 X.

Brachionus angularis
Obj. 100 X

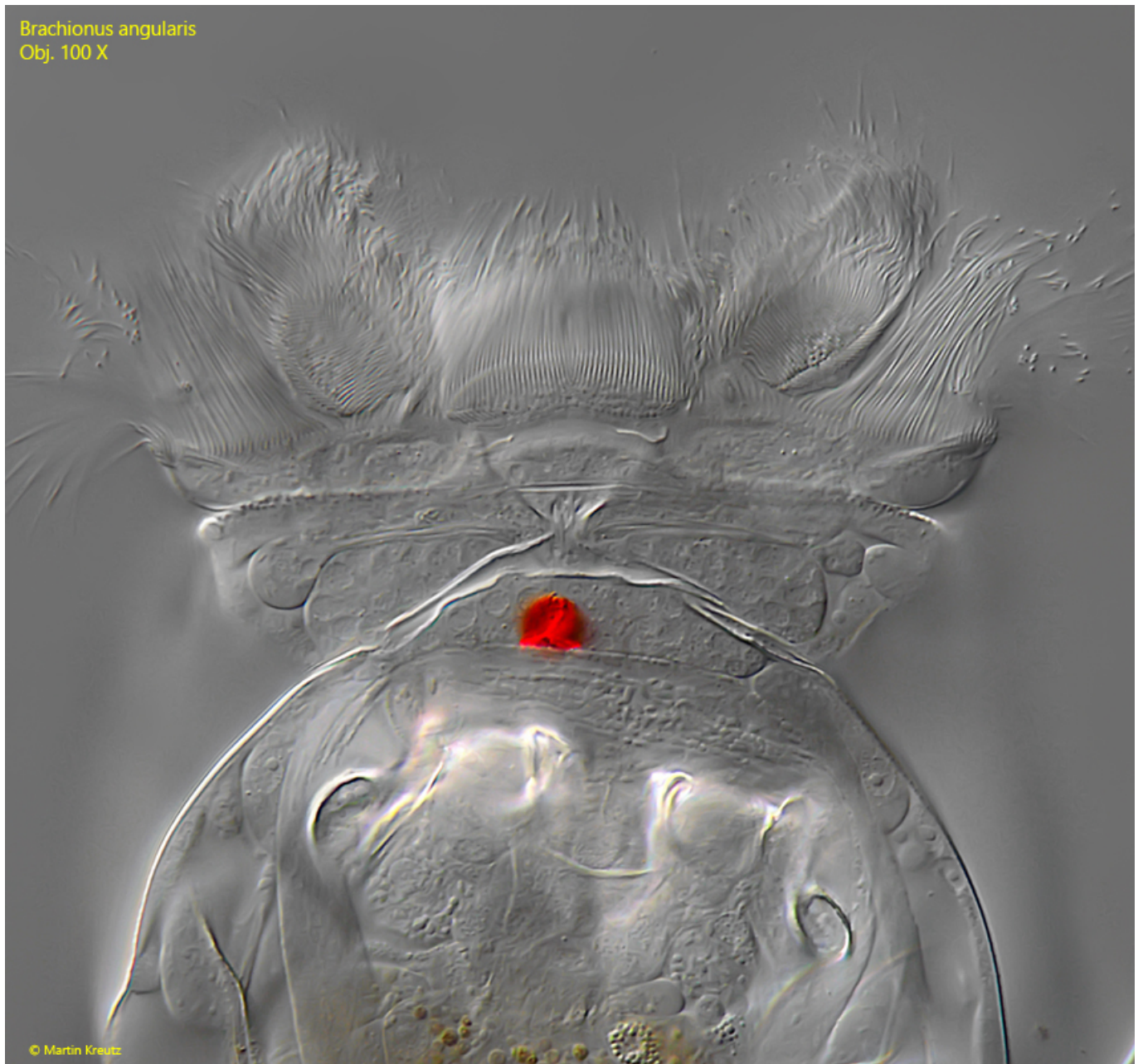


Fig. 5: *Brachionus angularis*. The corona from dorsal in detail. Obj. 100 X.