

1 Recent sympatric speciation involving habitat-associated nuptial colour polymorphism in a crater lake  
2 cichlid

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18

19 ABSTRACT

20 Whereas the idea that modes of speciation other than allopatric speciation are possible in nature is  
21 now widespread, compelling examples of ecological speciation in sympatry remain rare. We studied  
22 an undescribed radiation of haplochromine cichlids in a young crater lake in western Uganda, and in  
23 the small river that is nearby but has currently no known surface connection to the lake. We describe  
24 two different modes of speciation that occurred in this cichlid lineage within the past 1'500-10'000  
25 years. Not constrained by gene flow, allopatric divergence between river and lake cichlids affects  
26 many different morphological traits as well as nuptial coloration – muted in the river, but intensified  
27 and polymorphic in lake cichlids – and neutral genetic differentiation. More surprisingly, we  
28 demonstrate a case for sympatric speciation within the small lake that is associated with dramatic  
29 differences in male breeding colouration (yellow with bright red-chest versus bright blue) and subtle  
30 differences in microhabitat, feeding regime and morphology. Reproductive isolation by assortative  
31 mating is suggested by significant differentiation between yellow and blue males in neutral markers  
32 of gene flow despite complete sympatry. We hypothesize speciation is mediated by divergent  
33 selection on sexual signalling between microhabitats.

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## 43 INTRODUCTION

44 For many decades, allopatric speciation was the only widely accepted mode of speciation (Futuyma  
45 & Mayer, 1980). This view has been increasingly challenged by theoretical and empirical studies, and  
46 evidence that other geographical modes of speciation are possible in nature is strong (Nosil, 2008;  
47 Santini et al., 2012). However, there is still much debate regarding the conditions promoting these  
48 alternative modes of speciation (Bolnick & Fitzpatrick, 2007; Santini et al., 2012; Feder et al., 2013;  
49 Seehausen et al., 2014). Defining the spatial scale of speciation does not in itself constitute a  
50 characterization of the mechanisms (Crow et al., 2010). Thus, identification of the driving force for  
51 divergence (e.g., divergent ecological or sexual selection between habitats, disruptive natural  
52 selection or disruptive sexual selection) is critical (Butlin et al., 2008). In this context, the diversity of  
53 cichlid fish in lakes of various size and isolation and with diverse ecological conditions, provides a  
54 suitable study system for intraspecific divergence and sympatric speciation. Cichlid fishes combine  
55 great richness of sympatric species with substantial phenotypic divergence between species and  
56 evidence for rapid speciation (Kocher, 2004; Barluenga et al., 2006; Seehausen, 2006; Elmer et al.  
57 2010; Malinsky et al., 2015; Kautt et al. 2016b; Meier et al., 2017b; Moser et al. 2018). The East  
58 African Great Lakes (Victoria, Malawi, Tanganyika), with their extraordinarily rich cichlid faunas have  
59 been extensively studied and provide great opportunities for studying speciation and adaptive  
60 radiation (Muschick et al., 2012; Wagner et al., 2014). However, the large size of these lakes, and  
61 their historical and ecological complexity make it difficult to ask questions specifically about the role  
62 of space in speciation (Kisel & Barraclough, 2010; Nosil, 2012).

63 Small crater lakes that constitute young and relatively isolated habitats but host endemic  
64 monophyletic species pairs or clades, provide powerful model systems for studying the role of space  
65 in cichlid speciation. Source populations can be identified, introgression from non-sister taxa can be  
66 tested, and the spatial scale of population differentiation can be explicitly measured (Malinsky et al.,  
67 2015; Kautt et al., 2016 a&b). Endemics of crater lakes are considered among the strongest empirical  
68 examples of sympatric speciation (Schliewen et al., 1994; Coyne & Orr, 2004; Barluenga et al. 2006).  
69 To date, sympatric cichlid speciation in crater lakes has been invoked in the genus *Sarotherodon* (two  
70 crater lakes in Cameroon), in the genus *Coptodon* (two crater lakes in Cameroon), the genus  
71 *Amphilophus* (several crater lakes in Nicaragua), and the genus *Astatotilapia* (one crater lake in  
72 Tanzania). Although recent work revealed that many of these lakes have been colonized more once  
73 (Martin et al. 2015; Kautt et al. 2016 a&b), the data are still consistent with intra-lake speciation,  
74 albeit perhaps with genetic input from outside. Whether the gene flow from outside the lake has  
75 facilitated this intralacustrine speciation remains to be investigated. With one exception (Malinsky et  
76 al. 2015), sympatric speciation in crater lakes has been demonstrated in lineages that are not part of  
77 the repeated large-scale radiations in East Africa. Whereas rapid speciation in the haplochromine

78 cichlids of the Great Lakes is often attributed to the action of divergent sexual selection and its  
79 interaction with ecology (Allender et al. 2003; Seehausen et al. 2008; Wagner et al. 2012), sympatric  
80 speciation in the crater lakes has been attributed mainly to disruptive ecological selection (Schliewen  
81 et al. 2001; Barluenga et al. 2006) and indeed many of the crater lake cichlids do not show bright  
82 sexually selected coloration, have monogamous mating systems and no strong sexual dichromatims.  
83 Several authors have studied crater lake populations of haplochromine cichlids, but found no  
84 evidence of speciation (Sato et al. 2003, Samonte et al. 2007, Machado-Schiaffino et al. 2015). To  
85 what extent mode and mechanism of speciation within the non-haplochromine crater lake cichlids  
86 can inform us about mechanisms operating in the Great Lakes radiations therefore remained an open  
87 question. To our knowledge, Malinsky et al. (2015) is the only study to show sympatric speciation in a  
88 crater lake population of haplochromine cichlids, and this study found patterns of divergence similar  
89 to those among sister species in the Great Lake radiations (Seehausen et al. 2008), i.e. divergence  
90 mainly in male nuptial coloration associated with habitat. In this paper we summarize our evidence  
91 for a second case of crater lake speciation in a haplochromine.

92 Lake Saka is a young and small crater lake in western Uganda (Fig. 1) that is situated within  
93 the catchment of lakes Edward and George on the slopes of the Rwenzori Mountains North of Lake  
94 George. The lake formed in a shallow depression around a small explosion crater. The latter is 12 m  
95 deep but barely 20 m in diameter, and the water is anoxic in the explosion crater below 2-3 m depth  
96 (Mills, 2009). The lake around it is only about 4 m deep with a surface of 0.64 km<sup>2</sup> (Mills, 2009). Lake  
97 Saka is part of the Fort Portal volcanic field that is thought to be upper-Pleistocene to Holocene in  
98 origin (Nixon & Hornung, 1973) but perhaps just 6000-4000 yrs old (Vinogradov et al., 1978). The  
99 paleolimnology of the lake is not well resolved, but work on other crater lakes in western Uganda  
100 suggest major droughts as recently as 1500 and 1750 years ago (Russell et al., 2007). The lake is  
101 home to a population of haplochromine cichlids with conspicuously bright and polymorphic male  
102 nuptial coloration that closely resembles polymorphisms classically associated with speciation in Lake  
103 Victoria cichlids (Seehausen & van Alphen, 1999; Seehausen & Schluter, 2004; Seehausen et al.,  
104 2008). These include two common morphs, one with bright metallic blue males and one with yellow  
105 males that have a bright red-chest, and a third but rare morph that is yellow with an orange dorsum.  
106 Lake Saka is so small (approx. 1.3 x 0.4 km) and shallow (average 3.4 m, 12 m max) that ongoing  
107 speciation would have to be sympatric. We investigated ecology, morphology, population genetics,  
108 and phylogeography of the two common colour morphs of Lake Saka cichlids and of cichlids from two  
109 sites in the nearby Mpanga river to evaluate if the diversity of the cichlids in Lake Saka might result  
110 from sympatric speciation. First, using two mitochondrial DNA markers, we examined whether the  
111 colour morphs of Lake Saka constitute a monophyletic mitochondrial lineage within the  
112 haplochromine cichlid fishes of the Lake Victoria region superflock (Verheyen et al., 2003; Meier et

113 al., 2017a); and we examined their relationship to the Mpanga River cichlids. Second, we assessed  
114 genetic and morphological divergence between cichlids of Lake Saka and cichlids inhabiting the  
115 Mpanga River. Third, we evaluated genetic, ecological, and morphological divergence among the  
116 sympatric colour morphs within Lake Saka, using mtDNA, microsatellite DNA, sequences of the LWS  
117 opsin gene, morphometric data, and habitat use data. Finally we tested whether spawning time  
118 allochrony could explain reproductive isolation among the sympatric colour morphs.

119

## 120 MATERIALS & METHODS

### 121 *Morphological analyses*

122 Specimens for morphological analysis were collected in 2003 by OS from the crater lake Saka (N=145)  
123 and the Mpanga River (N=11; see Fig. 1) and in 2000 by LJC, CAC and OS (N: 83 blue and 103 yellow  
124 males). Fishing in the lake was done using gill nets and minnow traps (baited with bread) and the  
125 Mpanga River was fished by small seine net and minnow traps. Fish were euthanized immediately  
126 after capture with MS-222 and fixed in 10% buffered formalin until manipulation. Lake fish were  
127 sexed and males were classified according to their nuptial colour as either yellow with bright red  
128 chest or bright blue (Fig. 1). Males of the blue morph varied from bright metallic blue to blue with  
129 bright red chest while males of the yellow morph varied from yellow, yellow with bright red chest to  
130 yellow orange. Established morphometric distances that capture subtle eco-morphological variation  
131 among haplochromine cichlids were collected on preserved specimens using a digital calliper. These  
132 included: standard length, body depth, head length, head width, lower jaw length, lower jaw width,  
133 snout length, snout width, eye length, inter orbital width, and cheek depth (see Barel et al., 1977).  
134 For the analysis, we pooled the 18 blue males and the 41 yellow males captured in 2003 with fish  
135 captured in 2000. In total we have 83 blue and 103 yellow males. For 20 blue males and 19 yellow  
136 males captured in 2000, snout length, snout width, head width and cheek depth were not measured  
137 but the number and size of egg dummies on the anal fin of the males were recorded. For 45 blue  
138 males and 43 yellow males, also caught in 2000, eye depth and pre-orbital depth were recorded in  
139 addition to the distances described above (Table 1).

140 A multivariate analysis of covariance (MANCOVA) was used to assess the overall  
141 morphological differentiation between river and lake fish as well as between male colour morphs of  
142 the lake population. Sex, standard length and fish origin (lake vs. river) were included sequentially in  
143 the model. To compare colour morphs, the model included respectively the sampling event, standard  
144 length and colour morph. Residuals of each response variable were visually checked for normality  
145 and heteroscedasticity. All morphological distances were further analysed separately. Each distance  
146 was regressed against standard length or against standard length in interaction with sampling event

147 for datasets with more than one sampling event to correct for size heterogeneity among individuals.  
148 Standardized residuals from these regressions as well as standard length were used as response  
149 variables for individual morphological analyses. Due to heteroscedasticity across lake and river fish in  
150 standard length (Fligner-Killeen test:  $\chi^2_1 = 27.32$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ), a Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test (hereafter  
151 KW test) was used to compare standard length between lake and river fish. The size correction based  
152 on univariate regressions resolved the problem of heterogeneity of variance across groups for all  
153 other morphometric distances (Fligner-Killeen test: all  $\chi^2_1 < 3.46$ , all  $P > 0.06$ ). Variance in standard  
154 length between colour morphs within Lake Saka did not deviate from homogeneity (Fligner-Killeen  
155 test:  $\chi^2_1 = 2.84$ ,  $P = 0.09$ ). Therefore all morphological variables were analysed using a one-way  
156 ANOVA, except for standard length when comparing lake and river fish and for number of egg  
157 dummies which were analysed using a KW test. All  $p$ -values were corrected for multiple testing with  
158 a sequential Bonferroni procedure (Rice, 1989).

159

## 160 ***Ecological analyses***

### 161 ***(1) Stomach content analysis***

162 A subset of fish collected in 2003 was analysed for stomach contents ( $N_{\text{Stream}}=10$ ,  $N_{\text{Lake}}=46$ ; male  
163 colour morphs:  $N_{\text{Blue}}=11$ ,  $N_{\text{Yellow}}=14$ ; plus an additional 21 female lake fish). A few yellow males with  
164 orange-dorsum were pooled with all others yellow morphs for the ecological analyses. All these fish  
165 were collected on a single day between 12 am and 3 pm. Stomach contents were placed in a petri  
166 dish and examined under a dissection microscope at Makerere Biological Field Station on the same  
167 day. Stomach fullness was assessed using a 5-point scale ranging from 1 (empty) to 5 (full). When  
168 stomachs were empty, intestines were dissected to identify their contents using the same procedure  
169 as for stomachs. Eight categories of food items were identified: filamentous algae, planktonic green  
170 algae, planktonic blue-green algae, diatoms, zooplankton, macrophytes, insects, and miscellaneous  
171 (e.g. fish larvae, sand or fungus). Stomach fullness was compared across groups using a generalized  
172 linear model with Poisson distribution and fish origin (lake or stream) or colour morph as an  
173 explanatory variable. The volumetric percentage of each item contained in the stomach (or intestine)  
174 was determined using the points method (Hyslop, 1980) and analysed using a generalized linear  
175 mixed model (GLMM) with binomial distribution. Fish origin (lake or stream) or colour morph, food  
176 items and their interaction were included as fixed effects and individual identity as a random effect.  
177 The significance of diet difference between river and lake fish was assessed by testing the interaction  
178 between food items and fish origin (lake or river) with a likelihood ratio test comparing models (with  
179 and without interaction) fitted using maximum likelihood. The food items that differed between fish  
180 groups were determined using z-tests associated with fixed effect parameters of the model fitted  
181 with restricted maximum likelihood. Fish with stomach parasites and/or heavily digested food items

182 that precluded identification were excluded from diet analysis producing comparisons between 10  
183 river and 36 lake fish respectively. A permutational MANOVA provided similar results suggesting that  
184 the use of GLMM did not lead to inflated type II errors despite our low sample size. However due to  
185 difference in the diurnal feeding cycle (see results), unevenly affecting the accuracy with which we  
186 could identify dietary items, comparison of diet between color morphs was not performed.

187

### 188 **(2) Habitat segregation**

189 To test for possible habitat segregation between male nuptial colour morphs, three different inshore  
190 habitats were identified within Lake Saka based on the main vegetation (*Cladium*, *Potamogeton*,  
191 *emergent Phragmites*) and the abundance of colour morphs within these three inshore habitats and  
192 the offshore open water habitat was quantified in May 2000. Over three days, 30m long benthic gill  
193 nets (four panels: 25.4 mm, 50.8 mm, 76.2 mm, 101.6 mm stretched mesh, and 1.5 m in depth) were  
194 set for approximately 1 hour at 14 sites, randomly distributed around the lake. *Cladium* and  
195 *Potamogeton* habitats were approximately 0.5 to 1.5 m deep, whereas the depth of emergent  
196 *Phragmites* habitat ranged from 1.6 to 2.75 m and that of the open water habitat from 2.75 to 3.35  
197 m depth. A minimum of eight males was collected from each site except for two sites within the  
198 *Cladium*-habitat where no mature males were caught. These two sites were excluded from the  
199 analyses and, thus we had data for three sites of each of four habitat types. The vertical position of  
200 fish in the net (bottom, middle and top) was recorded. The presence and vertical position of a total of  
201 328 males in nuptial colouration were recorded, pooled by habitat type, and analysed using a  
202 generalized linear model with Poisson distribution. Differences in habitat use between colour morphs  
203 were assessed by testing the three-way interaction among habitat type, vertical position and colour  
204 morph while habitats and positions that differed between colour morphs were identified using z-  
205 tests associated with model parameters. Females could not be included in this analysis because there  
206 is no way to assign them to colour morph (or species, see results).

207

### 208 **(3) Spawning seasonality**

209 Between November 1998 and September 1999, fish were sampled approximately monthly,  
210 euthanized by emersion in buffered MS 222 and preserved in formalin. In the laboratory, they were  
211 transferred to 70% ethanol, dissected, and their gonads examined to determine the stage of maturity  
212 under a dissecting microscope. Stages of maturation were classified as follows: I, immature; II,  
213 developing; III, maturation; IV, ripe; V, spawning (running); VI, spent (Seehausen et al., 1998). Mean  
214 gonad stage and proportion of reproductively active fish (stages IV and V) were analysed using a  
215 general linear model and a generalized linear model with binomial distribution where month and  
216 colour morph were included as categorical explanatory variables, respectively. A difference in

217 spawning seasonality between colour morphs was assessed by testing the interaction between  
218 month and colour morph, while differences between colour morphs by month were determined  
219 using t/z-tests associated with model parameters. Samples with less than five males within one  
220 morph were excluded from analyses. Overall, the gonad stage of 107 blue males and 78 yellow red  
221 chest males was assessed for a total of seven months. Females could not be included in this analysis  
222 because there is no way to assign them to colour morph. All statistical analyses were done in R 3.0.2.

223

## 224 ***Molecular analyses***

### 225 ***(1) Samples and DNA extraction.***

226 Adult *haplochromines* from Lake Saka and the Mpanga River used for molecular genetic analyses are  
227 a subsample of the collections made in 2000 and 2003 (see morphology and stomach content  
228 analysis). Additional samples were collected by LIC and CAC from River Mpanga in 2008 for  
229 population genetic analyses (Fig. 1). Samples from other lakes in the region for phylogenetic analyses  
230 were collected during several sampling expeditions (see Table S1 for a list of all samples included for  
231 mitochondrial sequencing). Fin clips and muscle tissue from each fish were preserved in 100%  
232 ethanol for DNA analyses. Total DNA was extracted using the QIAGEN BioSprint (Qiagen, Zug,  
233 Switzerland) DNA animal tissue kit on a Qiagen-BioSpring96 robot. DNA concentrations were  
234 adjusted to 50 ng/ $\mu$ l.

235

### 236 ***(2) Mitochondrial DNA sequencing.***

237 Two regions of the mitochondrial genome were sequenced: 973 bp of the control region (D-Loop)  
238 using the primers FISHL15926-F 5'-GAG CGC CGG TCT TGT AA-3' and FISH12s-R 5'-TGC GGA GAC TTG  
239 CAT GTG TAA G-3' (Kocher et al., 1989) and 1071 bp of the NADH Dehydrogenase Subunit 2 (ND2)  
240 using primers ND2Met-F 5'-CAT ACC CCA AAC ATG TTG GT-3' and ND2Trp-R 5'-GTS GST TTT CAC TCC  
241 CGC TTA-3' (Kocher et al., 1995). The PCR products were Sanger sequenced on a CEQ 8000  
242 Automated Capillary Sequencer (Beckman Coulter, Switzerland). Sequences were aligned using  
243 Sequencher v. 4.9 (Gene Codes Corporation, Ann Arbor, MI USA) and alignments verified by eye. The  
244 alignment was collapsed into the representative haplotypes of 1678bp and a haplotype network was  
245 constructed in TCS 1.2 (Clement et al., 2000), excluding gaps. To infer the colonization process of the  
246 isolated crater Lake Saka, we included in the haplotype network ten representative haplotypes from  
247 Lake Victoria, eight from Lake Edward, nine from Lake Albert and four from Lake Kivu, besides the  
248 haplotypes from Lake Saka and the Mpanga River and their frequencies.

249

### 250 ***(3) Microsatellite analyses.***



251 To estimate neutral genetic variation among and differentiation between river and lake fish, and  
252 between the male colour morphs in Lake Saka, individuals from Lake Saka and Mpanga River were  
253 genotyped at nine microsatellite loci. Additionally we genotyped 12 individuals from Lake Edward at  
254 the same loci ( $N_{\text{Total}}=12$ ), representing the four Lake Edward species that most closely resemble  
255 phenotypically the colour morphs of Lake Saka (OS personal observation).

256 The loci, developed for other cichlids, were amplified using two multiplexing PCR reactions  
257 with the QIAGEN Multiplex PCR kit (i.e., Ppun5, Ppun7, Ppun17, Ppun21 and Ppun32 then Osu16,  
258 Osu19, Osu20 and Tmo5). Detailed marker description and PCR conditions can be found in  
259 Magalhaes *et al.* (2010). Fragment length was analysed with an internal size marker of 400-bp  
260 (Beckman Coulter) on a CEQ 8000 and scored with GENEMARKER v. 1.75 (SoftGenetics, USA). Overall,  
261 150 individuals (119 Lake Saka, 19 Mpanga River and 12 Lake Edward) were successfully genotyped  
262 for the nine microsatellites.

263 Genotypes were checked for scoring errors using MICRO-CHECKER v. 2.3 (Van Oosterhout *et al.*,  
264 2004). Neutrality of microsatellite markers (excluding individuals from Lake Edward) was tested using  
265 BAYESCAN 2.1 using default settings (Foll *et al.* 2008) and a false discovery rate (FDR) of 0.01.  $F_{IS}$ , allelic  
266 richness (AR) and gene diversity (GD) were compiled for each group (i.e. crater lake, river and each  
267 crater lake colour morph separately) using FSTAT v.2.9.3 (Goudet, 2002). Departure from Hardy-  
268 Weinberg equilibrium was calculated on the overall dataset as well as on the two Saka colour morphs  
269 in FSTAT. Finally, linkage disequilibrium was tested for all possible pairs of loci in each group using  
270 ARLEQUIN 3.5.1.2 (Excoffier & Lischer, 2010) and  $P$ -values were corrected for multiple testing with a  
271 sequential Bonferroni procedure (Rice, 1989). Global  $F_{ST}$  between lake and river fish and between  
272 colour morphs within Lake Saka were assessed with a locus-by-locus AMOVA. To further infer the  
273 genetic relationships among groups, a neighbour joining tree was calculated from Cavalli-Sforza  
274 chord distances among groups based on microsatellite allele frequencies. Statistical support for each  
275 node of the inferred tree was obtained using a bootstrap procedure with 1000 replicates in PHYLIP  
276 3.695 (Felsenstein 2017). Finally, a factorial correspondence analysis of individual diploid genotypes  
277 was performed with GENETIX v. 4.05 (Belkhir *et al.* 1996-2002) to visualize clustering of groups.

278

#### 279 **(4) LWS opsin gene sequencing.**

280 To test for divergent selection on the visual system, a 346 bp fragment of the long wavelength  
281 sensitive (LWS) opsin gene containing the variable and informative exons 4-6 was amplified using  
282 primers F3 and R4 from Carleton & Kocher (2001). The PCR cycle included an initial 5 min denaturing  
283 step at 95°C, followed by 35 cycles of 95°C for 0.5 min, 58°C for 0.5 min and 72°C for 1 min and a final  
284 10 min extension at 72°C. Sanger sequencing was conducted on an ABI 3130xl sequencer (Applied  
285 Biosystems, Switzerland). Electropherograms were aligned in BIOEDIT 7.2.5 (Hall, 1999). Five

286 polymorphic SNPs in exons 4 and 5 that are associated with divergent adaptation between sister  
287 species of Lake Victoria cichlids with red and blue nuptial colouration (Seehausen et al., 2008) were  
288 used to assign the alleles present in Lake Saka. Identification of heterozygote individuals was based  
289 on visual inspection of the shape and the size of peaks. Sixteen blue and 32 yellow red chest Lake  
290 Saka males as well as 17 river fish were sequenced. A haplotype network including all major *LWS*  
291 haplotypes known from Lake Victoria (n=21 species; Seehausen et al., 2008) and Lake Edward (n=9  
292 species; Meier et al. 2017a) as well as the representative haplotype of *Astatoreochromis alluaudi* (5  
293 individuals), a species that does not belong to the endemic Lake Victoria region species flock, but  
294 belongs to an older lineage occurring in the region (including Lake Saka) was constructed with TCS  
295 excluding gaps. Differentiation between Lake Saka and river cichlids as well as between the two Lake  
296 Saka colour morphs was assessed with an AMOVA in ARLEQUIN.

297

298 All raw data as well as sequence alignments are deposited on ZENODO: doi:XXXXXXX.

299

## 300 RESULTS

301

### 302 ***A monomorphic Lake Saka mitochondrial haplotype originated from an ancient Mpanga River*** 303 ***lineage***

304 The haplotype network approach based on two segments of the mitochondrial genome was used to  
305 infer genealogical relationships between haplotypes found in Lake Saka and the Mpanga River in  
306 relation to haplotypes from members of the Lake Victoria ‘superflock’ in all other larger lakes of the  
307 region. The haplotype network showed that all haplotypes from Lake Victoria formed a single  
308 monophyletic group, connected to the lineages of the western rift lakes, Lakes Edward, Albert, and  
309 Kivu via five haplotypes that we found in Mpanga River and (just one of them) in Lake Saka (Fig. 2A).  
310 Reducing our sequence data set to only 782 bp D-loop allowed us to place our sequences into the  
311 larger haplotype network of the Lake Victoria Region superflock (Verheyen et al. 2003,  
312 Supplementary Method 1). This revealed that the haplotype of Lake Saka that is also dominant in the  
313 Mpanga River is shared with all large lakes in the region and is rather central in the haplotype  
314 network of the entire ‘superflock’ radiation, connecting Lake Victoria to the older western rift lakes,  
315 but closer to the haplotypes of the western rift lakes. Interestingly, the single haplotype that we  
316 found in Lake Saka was shared with two thirds of the fish from Mpanga River, where additional  
317 haplotypes (two based on the 782 bp D-loop and four on the 1678bp segment) were also identified,  
318 mostly closely related to the Saka haplotype.

319 Based on five polymorphic SNPs in exons 4-6 of the *LWS* opsin gene, we identified two major  
320 alleles that occurred both in Lake Saka and Mpanga River and were described previously from

321 cichlids living in Lakes Victoria and Edward (Seehausen et al., 2008). The first corresponds to the so-  
322 called “H-type” class of alleles (overlapping with alleles I, II, IV and V in Seehausen et al., 2008) and is  
323 part of the larger “class I” of LWS haplotypes (Sugawara et al. 2002; Terai et al. 2002). The other one  
324 corresponds to the “A2-type” class of alleles (overlapping with alleles 12, ed2 or yp2) and is part of  
325 the “class II” of LWS haplotypes (Terai et al. 2002). Using a genomic DNA fragment of 346bp including  
326 13 SNPs, sequenced in 32 species collected in Mpanga River, Lake Saka, Lake Victoria and Lake  
327 Edward to build an haplotype network, fish of each lake and those of Mpanga river were split into  
328 two main groups corresponding to the LWS class I and class II described above (Fig. 2B). Meier et al.  
329 (2017a) have shown that these haplotype classes derive from two distantly related haplochromine  
330 species, that this polymorphism in the radiation is due to an ancient hybridization event between  
331 those species prior to the formation of the Lake Victoria Region Superflock (LVRS), and that a  
332 polymorphic hybrid population seeded all lakes in the region including Lake Saka (Meier et al. 2017a).  
333 The LWS haplotype of *Astatoreochromis alluaudi*, a much older and only distantly related species  
334 that occurs in lakes Victoria, Edward and Saka, took a central position between the two LVRS groups  
335 in the network.

336

### 337 ***Comparison between crater lake and river fish***

338 ***Genetic population structure*** – Using microsatellites, we found populations from Lake Saka and  
339 Mpanga River were well separated from those of Lake Edward in the multilocus genotype space (Fig.  
340 3A). Despite the smaller sample size, our samples from Lake Edward were a lot more diverse than  
341 those from Mpanga River and Lake Saka (Fig. 3A). Indeed, 83 private alleles (out of 107 private alleles  
342 from the pooled Mpanga River and Lake Saka dataset) occurred only in Lake Edward in our nine  
343 markers (i.e., an average of 9.22 private alleles per marker). Out of the 24 private alleles within  
344 Mpanga River/Lake Saka when comparing to Lake Edward, seven each were unique to Lake Saka and  
345 Mpanga River (ten were shared between Lake Saka and Mpanga River), leading to on average 0.78  
346 private alleles per marker in Lake Saka as well as in Mpanga River when compared to Lake Edward,  
347 and 1.56 private alleles per marker for both when comparing Lake Saka with Mpanga River. Overall,  
348 40 alleles were shared between the 12 individuals from Lake Edward and the 138 individuals from  
349 Lake Saka and Mpanga River, corresponding to 32.5% of the alleles in Lake Edward and 62.5% of  
350 those in Lake Saka/ Mpanga River. The 19 fish from Mpanga River shared 72% of their alleles with  
351 Lake Saka fish, and the 119 fish from Lake Saka also shared 72% of their alleles with fish from  
352 Mpanga River. Gene diversity approximated 0.758 and 0.684 for Mpanga River and Lake Saka  
353 respectively (Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test:  $P = 0.02$ ), with an allelic richness of 5.55 and 4.23 (based on  
354 19 individuals; Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test:  $P = 0.008$ , Fig. 3D). Therefore fish from Mpanga River  
355 were hence genetically more diverse than Lake Saka fish (Fig. 3B). None of the 36 pairs of loci were in

356 significant linkage disequilibrium after sequential Bonferroni correction and no marker showed a  
357 significant pattern of selection in BAYESCAN. Lake Saka fish and Mpanga River fish were significantly  
358 genetically differentiated ( $F_{ST} = 0.033$ ,  $P = 0.001$ ). The neighbour-joining tree supports this genetic  
359 differentiation between lake and stream populations (Fig.3E).

360 **Morphology** – Although lake and river fish did not significantly differ in standard length ( $N_{Lake}$   
361 = 145,  $N_{River} = 11$ ; KW test:  $\chi^2_1 = 0.39$ ,  $P = 0.53$ ), sexual size dimorphism differed between lake and  
362 river ( $N_{Female Lake} = 76$ ,  $N_{Female River} = 6$ ,  $N_{Male Lake} = 63$ ,  $N_{Male River} = 5$ ; KW test:  $\chi^2_3 = 12.85$ ,  $P = 0.005$ ).  
363 Sexual size dimorphism was significant in Lake Saka, where males were larger than females ( $N_{Female}$   
364  $Lake = 76$ ,  $N_{Male Lake} = 63$ ; Median:  $SL_{Female Lake} = 6.10$  cm,  $SL_{Male Lake} = 6.20$  cm; KW test:  $\chi^2_1 = 4.82$ ,  $P =$   
365  $0.03$ ). In contrast, sexual size dimorphism was not significant in the river population, but males  
366 tended to be smaller than females ( $N_{Female River} = 6$ ,  $N_{Male River} = 5$ ; Median:  $SL_{Female River} = 6.83$  cm,  $SL$   
367  $Male River = 4.49$  cm; KW test:  $\chi^2_1 = 2.70$ ,  $P = 0.10$ ). Overall, males in Lake Saka were larger than males in  
368 Mpanga River (KW test:  $\chi^2_1 = 7.36$ ,  $P = 0.007$ ) whereas females did not differ between lake and river  
369 (KW test:  $\chi^2_1 = 2.43$ ,  $P = 0.12$ ). After correction for sex and standard length, lake and river fish were  
370 differentiated in shape (MANCOVA: Sex:  $F_{20, 286} = 3.60$ , SL:  $F_{10, 142} = 192.00$ , fish origin:  $F_{10, 142} = 10.80$ ,  
371 all  $P < 0.001$ ). Out of the 10 eco-morphological distances measured on both lake and river fish, body  
372 depth, head width, cheek depth, inter orbital width and eye length were different between lake and  
373 river fish after sequential Bonferroni correction (Table 1).

374 **Diet** – While stomach fullness did not differ between lake and river fish (dispersion  
375 parameter = 0.99,  $\chi^2_1 = 0.27$ ,  $P = 0.60$ ), their diet was strongly differentiated (LR  $\chi^2_6 = 1911.50$ ,  
376  $P < 0.001$ , Schoener's niche overlap index = 0.36). Filamentous algae, planktonic green algae, and  
377 planktonic blue-green algae were found in larger proportions in stomachs and intestines of lake fish  
378 (all  $P < 0.002$ ), whereas zooplankton, macrophytes, and insects were found in larger proportions in  
379 stomachs and intestines of river fish (all  $P < 0.001$ ).

380

### 381 **Comparison between colour morphs within Lake Saka**

382 **Habitat segregation** – Male colour morphs differed in their distribution over habitats and  
383 water depth (Fig. 4;  $\chi^2_6 = 18.58$ ,  $P = 0.005$ ). Blue males were found more often than yellow-red chest  
384 males on the bottom in open water ( $P = 0.01$ ) whereas yellow-red chest males were found more  
385 often than blue males in *Cladium* at intermediate depth ( $P = 0.01$ ) and in emergent *Phragmites* near  
386 the surface ( $P = 0.05$ ).

387 **Diet** – Stomachs of all blue males were empty, whereas only 3 out of 14 yellow-red chest  
388 males had an empty stomach ( $N_{Blue males} = 11$ ,  $N_{Yellow males} = 14$ ; dispersion parameter = 0.42,  $\chi^2_1 =$   
389  $11.94$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ) suggesting a difference between the morphs in the timing of feeding (all fish for this  
390 analysis were collected between 12am and 3pm).

391 **Morphology** – Difference in SL between the colour morphs was not influenced by the  
392 sampling event ( $F_{2,180} = 1.89$ ,  $P = 0.15$ ), although average SL (of both morphs) differed among  
393 sampling events ( $F_{2,182} = 7.53$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ). After correction for sampling event, yellow-red chest males  
394 were significantly smaller than blue males (Table 1), but did not differ in multivariate shape  
395 (MANCOVA: sampling event:  $F_{10, 134} = 339.40$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ; SL:  $F_{10, 142} = 37.10$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ; colour morph:  $F_{10,$   
396  $142} = 1.00$ ,  $P = 0.44$ ). Two eco-morphological distances, body depth and eye length, as well as the size  
397 of the second egg dummy differed between colour morphs after accounting for differences in SL  
398 (Table 1): blue males tended to have larger eyes, deeper bodies, and a larger second egg dummy  
399 than yellow-red chest males. However, none of these differences remained significant after applying  
400 a sequential Bonferroni correction.

401 **Genetic population structure** – Both colour morphs had similar levels of genetic diversity at  
402 microsatellite markers (Fig. 3C;  $AR_{\text{Blue males}} = 4.55$  and  $AR_{\text{Yellow-red chested males}} = 4.62$ ,  $P = 0.40$  based on 35  
403 individuals;  $GD_{\text{Blue males}} = 0.665$  and  $GD_{\text{Yellow-red chested males}} = 0.682$ ,  $P = 0.43$ ). There was no significant  
404 linkage disequilibrium between pairs of loci after sequential Bonferroni correction. Colour morphs  
405 were differentiated at microsatellite markers ( $F_{ST} = 0.007$ ,  $P = 0.02$ ) but not at the *LWS* opsin gene ( $F_{ST}$   
406  $= -0.006$ ,  $P = 0.55$ ). Global genetic differentiation was statistically significant but subtle, i.e. we did  
407 not see a clear differentiation in the factorial analysis (Fig. 3C). The subtle global genetic  
408 differentiation may have resulted from differentiation at two out of nine microsatellite loci; yet on  
409 their own these loci are not significant after sequential Bonferroni correction. Finally the frequency  
410 of the *LWS* class I (H-type) allele was exactly 0.5 in blue males, it was 0.41 in yellow-red chested  
411 males. There was a trend for this to differ between the morphs (Fig. 3D, One side  $\chi^2_1 = 1.89$ ,  $P = 0.08$ ).  
412 Both colour morphs were in Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium at the *LWS* locus ( $P = 0.34$ ,  $P = 0.71$  for blue  
413 and yellow-red chested males, respectively).

414 **Spawning seasonality** – The proportions of reproductively active and quiescent fish did not  
415 differ between colour morphs over the year ( $\chi^2_6 = 10.42$ ,  $P = 0.11$ ). The proportion of mature males  
416 among blue males caught was lower in September than in other months (all z-values  $> 2.10$ , all  $P <$   
417  $0.04$ ) while in yellow-red chest males, the proportion of mature males in September was significantly  
418 lower only compared to that in March (March: 0.82 vs September: 0.33, z-value = 2.11,  $P = 0.035$ ).  
419 February was the only month where we found the proportion of mature males to differ significantly  
420 between colour morphs (Blue morph: 0.80 vs Yellow-red chest morph: 0.40, z-value = 2.10,  $P = 0.04$ ).  
421 A similar pattern was found for mean gonad stage: mean gonad stage in blue males was significantly  
422 lower in September than in other months (all t-tests  $> 4.96$ , all  $P < 0.001$ ) while mean gonad stage in  
423 yellow-red chest males did not differ significantly between any of our monthly samples (all t-tests  
424  $< 1.78$ , all  $P > 0.07$ ). Overall mean gonad stage between colour morphs differed through time ( $F_{6,171} =$   
425  $3.02$ ,  $P = 0.008$ ) but this was due to an effect of the low proportion of mature males among the blue

426 morph in September and after exclusion of fish caught in September, there was no longer any  
427 difference in breeding seasonality between the morphs ( $F_{5,148} = 1.66, P = 0.15$ ).

428

## 429 DISCUSSION

### 430 *Two modes of speciation*

431 The most extensive recent species radiations of animals have occurred in one evolutionary lineage of  
432 the cichlid fish family, the haplochromines. Indeed haplochromines account for more than 80% of all  
433 species of African lake cichlids (Seehausen 2006). The rich literature on speciation and adaptive  
434 radiation in haplochromines in the Great Lakes of Africa contrasts with a relative paucity of studies of  
435 speciation of the same lineage in small geographically well-confined lakes. We are aware of only four  
436 studies dealing with haplochromines in crater lakes (Sato et al. 2003, Samonte et al. 2007, Machado-  
437 Schiaffino et al. 2015, Malinsky et al. 2015). With a single exception (Malinsky et al. 2015), no  
438 evidence of speciation was reported, and all previous studies that found evidence of sympatric  
439 speciation of cichlids within crater lakes dealt with lineages that did not radiate much in the Great  
440 Lakes. This raises important questions. The difference between the lineages in their evidence for  
441 speciation in crater lakes could be due to study bias or different frequencies of occurrence in crater  
442 lakes between these lineages. Alternatively, it is possible that the speciation mechanisms that are  
443 important in the haplochromine species radiations require spatial population structure and therefore  
444 do not operate in narrow sense sympatry in crater lakes (Kisel and Barraclough 2010).

445 Here, we studied two modes of divergence in haplochromines in the same young crater lake  
446 system: allopatric divergence between the crater lake and the river from which the lake was  
447 colonized and sympatric speciation involving male nuptial colour polymorphism within the lake.  
448 Given the support for monophyly of the Mpanga River/Lake Saka clade in our data presented here,  
449 and the additional support from published genetic and genomic data (Supplementary Figure 1 in  
450 Meier et al. 2017a, Verheyen et al. 2003), divergence both between and within these populations can  
451 only have begun after Lake Saka formed between 12'000 and 4'000 years ago (Nixon & Hornung,  
452 1973; Vinogradov et al., 1978). Major droughts affected the crater lakes in the region as recently as  
453 1500 and 1750 years ago (Russell et al., 2007). Given the shallow bathymetry of Lake Saka and the  
454 tiny size of the deeper explosion crater, it is entirely possible that the lake was dry at this time.  
455 Speciation is hence very unlikely to be older than 10'000 years and may have started as recently as  
456 just 1500-1700 years ago.

457 It is impossible to infer whether, and to what extent, speciation has happened when  
458 populations are completely allopatric as is the case for the divergence between the Mpanga River  
459 and the Lake Saka populations. On the other hand, we can infer with confidence that speciation has  
460 progressed to an advanced stage between the colour morphs within Lake Saka. Both morphs are

461 found all around the lake in full sympatry. Yet we find significant genetic differentiation at neutral  
462 markers of gene flow as well as subtle, but significant, ecological and size differences between them.  
463 Given the extent of phenotypic and genetic differentiation between the river population and both  
464 lake morphs, including traits that matter to mate choice, it seems reasonable to suggest that the  
465 allopatric divergence process observed qualifies as incipient speciation too. Laboratory mate choice  
466 experiments could confirm or reject this hypothesis in the future (Selz et al. 2016).

467

#### 468 *Sympatric speciation from an ancient hybrid stock*

469 A prerequisite to infer sympatric speciation is the demonstration of origin from a common  
470 ancestor as opposed to sympatric character displacement following secondary contact between  
471 populations that had previously diverged in allopatry. Consistent with an origin from a single  
472 ancestral population, we found that Lake Saka haplochromines were fixed for a single mitochondrial  
473 haplotype (based on a 1678bp segment from D-loop and ND2 regions combined), which was shared  
474 between both colour morphs (Fig. 2A). Although this haplotype was otherwise shared exclusively  
475 with cichlids of the nearby Mpanga River, our reconstruction of haplotype networks from D-loop  
476 alone for which larger sample sizes from other lakes were available revealed that this haplotype is  
477 shared with all lakes in the region (supplementary figure S1A). Interestingly, it is the only haplotype  
478 known that occurs in all lakes in the region and it takes a central position in the haplotype network of  
479 the regional cichlid fish superflock, connecting the haplotype radiations in the western rift lakes with  
480 that in Lake Victoria but isolated from the latter by several mutations (Fig. 2A and supplementary  
481 figure S1). The cichlids of the Mpanga River were more variable than those in Lake Saka, having four  
482 different mitochondrial haplotypes. Given that populations in crater Lake Saka and the Mpanga River  
483 are fixed or nearly fixed respectively for a mitochondrial haplotype that is shared between all lakes in  
484 the region and central in the haplotype network implies that the cichlids of Mpanga/Saka may  
485 represent a population close to the ancestral population of the Lake Victoria Region Superflock. The  
486 LVRS has evolved from an ancient hybrid population but fixed just one of the parental mitochondrial  
487 lineages, the Congolese lineage (Meier et al. 2017a). Consistent with an origin of the Lake  
488 Saka/Mpanga cichlids from that same hybrid population, and much like in the radiations of lakes  
489 Victoria and Edward, we find two anciently divergent haplotypes at the long wavelength sensitive  
490 opsin gene (*LWS*) within Lake Saka/Mpanga, each of which is close to one of the haplotypes of either  
491 the Congolese or the Upper Nile lineage (Fig. 2C). Earlier work on the LVRS had already shown that  
492 the cichlids of Lake Saka share the same genomic admixture proportions between these two lineages  
493 as the cichlids of all Albertine rift lakes (Albert, Edward, Kivu; Meier et al., 2017a). That earlier study  
494 had also revealed that Lake Saka/Mpanga forms a genomically monophyletic group within the  
495 superflock, most closely related to some Lake Edward species.

496 Our microsatellite data showed little overlap of alleles between Lake Saka or Mpanga River  
497 and species from Lake Edward (Fig. 3A). We had chosen to include individuals of those Lake Edward  
498 species that in our earlier study (Meier et al. 2017a) appeared the most closely related to  
499 Saka/Mpanga haplochromines. The clear differentiation that we observed suggests that Lake Saka  
500 and the Mpanga River did not receive much recent gene flow from the larger lakes in the region.  
501 Several lines of evidence support a recent colonization of Lake Saka and subsequent isolation from  
502 the nearby Mpanga River: i) The fixation of a single mitochondrial haplotype in Lake Saka that takes a  
503 central position in the haplotype network of the entire LVRS, and is also the most common haplotype  
504 in the Mpanga River. ii) The low genetic diversity at microsatellite markers (Fig. 3A). iii) The close  
505 phylogenetic relationship to Mpanga River haplochromines, based on microsatellites. iv) And lastly,  
506 the monophyly of the Lake Saka morphs to the exclusion of Mpanga River populations supported by  
507 our microsatellite allele frequency-based neighbour-joining tree (Fig. 3D).

508

509 *Different modes of speciation are associated with different phenotypic dimensions of divergence*

510 Clear differences in eco-morphology and diet support the hypothesis that divergent  
511 ecological selection initiated or is driving divergence between Lake Saka and Mpanga River fish, as  
512 has also been suggested for other crater lakes in the Uganda region (Machado-Schiaffino et al. 2015).  
513 Interestingly the extent of sexual dimorphism in size and colouration was very different between  
514 Lake Saka and Mpanga River suggesting that sexual selection may play a role in the divergence  
515 between lake and stream populations, but more importantly that sexual selection is much stronger in  
516 the lake than the river. Lake males grow larger than females and show dramatic bright nuptial  
517 coloration, whereas females are cryptic light brownish. River males in contrast tend to stay smaller  
518 than river females and show only muted nuptial coloration (Figure 1). This is the first case we know  
519 of, where different prevalence of evidence for sexual selection has been shown between direct sister  
520 taxa of cichlids that occupy riverine versus lacustrine habitat.

521 The difference in the hue of male nuptial coloration was the most striking difference  
522 between the sympatric incipient species within Lake Saka, suggesting an important role of divergent  
523 sexual selection in this intra-lacustrine diversification. In the large Lake Victoria cichlid radiation,  
524 those closely related species that have fully sympatric distribution ranges differ more often than  
525 others dramatically in male nuptial coloration with either yellow-red or blue males. Sexual selection  
526 on yellow-red/blue male colour variation had, therefore been proposed to be involved in sympatric  
527 speciation in Lake Victoria (Seehausen & van Alphen, 1999; Seehausen & Schluter, 2004; Seehausen  
528 et al., 2008; Meier et al., 2017a). However, in a large lake it is very difficult to rule out past periods of  
529 spatial isolation. Because such periods between the morphs in tiny and recent crater Lake Saka can



530 effectively be ruled out, our Lake Saka data are consistent with the hypothesis of truly sympatric  
531 speciation involving divergent sexual selection on yellow-red/blue male breeding colouration.

532 Sexual selection often interacts with ecology either because divergent sexual selection is  
533 mediated by differences in habitats (Endler and Basolo 1998; Boughman 2002; Seehausen et al.  
534 2008), because both sexual and ecological selection tend to be divergent between the same habitats  
535 (Boughman 2001; van Rijssel et al. 2018), or because sexual selection targets different indicator traits  
536 of ecological performance in different habitats (Maan and Seehausen 2011). The differences in  
537 habitat use and the subtle morphological differences between males of the two colour morphs in  
538 Lake Saka suggest that this is the case in this system. The blue morph was significantly associated  
539 with more open water and slightly deeper habitat, whereas the yellow-red morph dominated  
540 shallower habitat with macrophyte cover. It further appeared that morphs were differentiated in the  
541 diurnal feeding rhythm, with yellow-red morphs having freshly filled stomachs during mid-day at a  
542 time when most blue males had empty stomachs. Blue males tended to have larger eyes, deeper  
543 bodies and a larger second egg dummy than yellow males (Table 1). Although these differences were  
544 subtle, and significance was lost after sequential Bonferroni correction, the direction of differences  
545 would be consistent with a pattern of adaptation. Larger eyes and larger egg dummies are typical  
546 adaptations to living in deeper waters in Lake Victoria (Goldschmidt et al., 1990).

547

#### 548 *Speciation by selection on polymorphic male nuptial coloration*

549 The kind of colour polymorphism that characterizes the Lake Saka cichlids is widespread among the  
550 cichlids of Lake Victoria (Seehausen et al. 1999 a&b), and is likely to have a relatively simple genetic  
551 basis but is not a simple Mendelian trait (Magalhaes and Seehausen 2010). It is often divergently  
552 resolved and fixed between sister species during speciation (Seehausen and Schluter 2004). It is also  
553 widespread among the cichlids of lakes Edward and Kivu (Seehausen pers. obs). Future population  
554 genomic work will need to address the question if the nature of the yellow-red/blue polymorphism is  
555 due to recurrent mutation or an ancient genetic polymorphism.

556 In Lake Victoria, species divergence into a species with yellow-red and one with blue male  
557 breeding dress is often associated with correlated divergence at the LWS opsin gene and both are  
558 often associated with divergence between habitats with alternative light conditions (Seehausen et  
559 al., 2008; Carleton et al. 2005). LWS class II haplotypes are generally associated with relatively more  
560 red shifted, turbid and/or deep water conditions, whereas class I haplotypes can be found in a range  
561 of different light environments (Meier et al. 2017a). In Lake Saka we found both colour morphs to be  
562 polymorphic for both haplotype classes, a situation that is uncommon among Lake Victoria cichlids  
563 where most populations have been shown to be fixed for one or the other (Terai et al. 2002; Terai et

564 al. 2006; Seehausen et al. 2008). Both haplotype classes were present also in the Mpanga River  
565 cichlids. It seems therefore likely that the LWS polymorphism was present in the founding population  
566 of Lake Saka.

567         Contrary to work on speciation in the Lake Victoria cichlid genus *Pundamilia* (Seehausen et  
568 al., 2008), we found no associations between LWS haplotype class and blue versus yellow-red nuptial  
569 colouration in Lake Saka. We take this as suggesting that incipient speciation between yellow-red and  
570 blue colour morphs is possible without LWS-sequence divergence. Reproductive isolation and neutral  
571 genetic differentiation did not seem to be explained by sampling site, and hence likely not by  
572 spawning site, nor by spawning time segregation. It seems therefore likely that behavioural mating  
573 preferences are present but are not mediated by sequence variation at the LWS opsin gene. Such  
574 mating preferences may be mediated by differences in the sequences of other opsin genes, in the  
575 expression of opsin genes, and/or by divergence at other mating preference genes. In theory,  
576 reproductive isolation between yellow-red and blue male nuptial colour morphs could also be due to  
577 strong disruptive ecological selection without strongly divergent female mate preferences (vanDoorn  
578 et al. 2009), but this seems very unlikely given that only very subtle ecological differences between  
579 the morphs were found.

580         Besides female mate choice, yellow-red/blue male nuptial colour polymorphisms in  
581 haplochromine cichlids can be under disruptive sexual selection by male-male competition. The  
582 fitness consequences of the latter can be negatively frequency dependent (Dijkstra et al., 2007),  
583 thereby promoting the maintenance of colour variation (Seehausen & Schluter 2004; Dijkstra et al.  
584 2010). Aggression biases towards the most frequent male type may facilitate the initial establishment  
585 of novel colour phenotypes and aggression bias towards their own phenotype may promote  
586 intraspecific polymorphism as well as coexistence among reproductively isolated species (Seehausen  
587 & Schluter, 2004; van Doorn et al., 2004; Dijkstra et al., 2007).

588         Albeit some of our sample sizes are small, we describe a promising new model system for  
589 sympatric speciation in haplochromines. Importantly, the subtle genetic, morphological and  
590 ecological differentiation between the Lake Saka incipient species would not have been detectable  
591 without good record of live coloration of each individual and a priori knowledge of the colour  
592 morphs. Further work is now needed to provide genomic insights into the demography and genome-  
593 wide signature of speciation in this system as well as behavioural experiments to determine the  
594 degree of assortative mating by direct mate choice and the phenotypic basis for divergent mating  
595 preferences.

596

597 Conclusions

598 In conclusion, we described a case of likely sympatric speciation involving divergent sexual selection  
599 on male nuptial coloration in a population of haplochromine cichlid fish in a small crater lake. We  
600 also described allopatric divergence between the crater lake species and the closely related river  
601 population. Both divergence events are age-constrained by the geological history of the crater lake  
602 and may be as recent as 1'500 years, but are very unlikely to be older than 10'000 years old. The  
603 phenotypic dimensions of divergence are completely different. Not constrained by gene flow,  
604 allopatric divergence involves many different morphological traits and the degree of expression of  
605 nuptial coloration (muted in the river, but dramatic in the lake cichlids), in addition to strong neutral  
606 genetic differentiation. On the contrary, sympatric divergence within the crater lake is associated  
607 with dramatic differences in male breeding colouration, but only subtle differences in ecology and  
608 morphology and shallow neutral genetic differentiation.

609

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619

620

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Table 1: Morphological differences between lake and river fish, and between colour morphs. Comparisons between lake and river fish were based on fish caught in 2003 and comparisons between colour morphs were based on samples from 1998-2003 (see main text for details). Sample sizes (N) are indicated for each comparison. Morphological comparisons included measurements of size (SL - standard length), eco-morphological distances (HL – head length, HW – head width, BD – body depth, LJL – lower jaw length, LJW – lower jaw width, SnL – snout length, SnW – snout width, CD – cheek depth, IOW – inter orbital width, EyD – eye diameter, Eyl – eye length, POD – preorbital depth; absolute average and standard residuals in brackets; see materials and methods) and egg dummies (number (N eggD), size of the first egg dummy (EggD S1), size of the second egg dummy (EggD S2)). Indicated in bold are significant effects. In bold and italics are effects that remained significant after Bonferroni correction.

	Lake vs River <sup>a</sup>						Male nuptial colour morphs					
	N River	N Lake	River	Lake	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>	N Blue	N Yellow	Blue	Yellow	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>
SL	11	145	56.48	61.43	0.39	0.53	83	103	63.44	62.13	<b>11.63</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
HL	11	145	20.71 (0.035)	19.13 (-0.003)	0.01	0.9	83	103	20.58 (-0.006)	20.26 (0.008)	0.01	0.92
HW	11	145	10.33 (-0.793)	9.22 (0.058)	<b>7.67</b>	<b>0.006</b>	63	84	9.57 (0.089)	9.63 (-0.064)	0.88	0.35
BD	11	145	20.92 (-1.535)	17.92 (0.113)	<b>33.14</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	83	103	21.65 (0.171)	20.92 (-0.134)	<b>4.47</b>	<b>0.04</b>
LJL	11	145	7.48 (0.419)	6.99 (-0.031)	2.07	0.15	83	103	7.56 (0.051)	7.35 (-0.040)	0.4	0.52
LJW	11	145	5.19 (-0.562)	4.48 (0.041)	<b>3.77</b>	<b>0.05</b>	83	103	4.15 (-0.089)	4.37 (0.073)	1.23	0.27
SnL	11	145	6.19 (0.121)	5.71 (-0.01)	0.17	0.68	63	84	5.46 (-0.107)	5.65 (0.079)	1.28	0.26
SnW	11	145	7.19 (-0.619)	6.33 (0.045)	<b>4.57</b>	<b>0.03</b>	63	84	6.05 (-0.001)	6.29 (-0.001)	0	0.99



CD	11	145	3.77 (1.035)	3.66 (-0.078)	<b>13.62</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	63	84	4.29 (-0.051)	4.11 (0.04)	0.3	0.53
IOW	11	145	4.92 (1.105)	4.82 (-0.081)	<b>15.53</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	83	103	4.73 (-0.033)	4.70 (0.026)	0.16	0.69
EyD <sup>b</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	43	6.79 (0.171)	6.58 (-0.179)	2.73	0.1
EyL	11	145	6.38 (-1.368)	5.18 (0.100)	<b>25.14</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	83	103	6.74 (0.181)	6.41 (-0.144)	<b>5.02</b>	<b>0.03</b>
POD <sup>b</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	43	2.36 (-0.038)	2.35 (0.038)	0.12	0.73
N eggD <sup>c</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	18	2.1	1.972	1.14	0.28
EggD S1 <sup>b</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	17	0.26	-0.282	2.69	0.11
EggD S2 <sup>b</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	17	0.398	-0.402	<b>6.19</b>	<b>0.02</b>

a: comparison including males and females

b: comparison based on 1 sampling event.

c: variables analysed with a Kruskal Wallis test due to the violation of normality (N eggD) or homoscedasticity (SL).

Table 2:  $F_{ST}$  statistics of the locus-by-locus AMOVA between lake and river fishes and male nuptial colour morphs of haplochromine cichlids of Lake Saka.

Locus	Lake vs. River		Colour morphs	
	$F_{ST}$	$P$ -value	$F_{ST}$	$P$ -value
Tmo5	<b>0.027</b>	<b>0.037</b>	-0.008	0.802
Osu20	<b>0.066</b>	<b>0.001</b>	0.009	0.160
Osu16	<b>0.031</b>	<b>0.027</b>	0.001	0.381
Osu19	0.010	0.166	<b>0.021</b>	<b>0.018</b>
Ppun32	<b>0.168</b>	<b>0.001</b>	0.013	0.165
Ppun21	<b>0.054</b>	<b>0.002</b>	0.005	0.283
Ppun17	0.011	0.154	<b>0.038</b>	<b>0.006</b>
Ppun7	-0.002	0.485	-0.001	0.489
Ppun5	-0.007	0.684	-0.009	0.874

In bold, significant  $F_{ST}$  at  $\alpha = 0.05$

## Figures

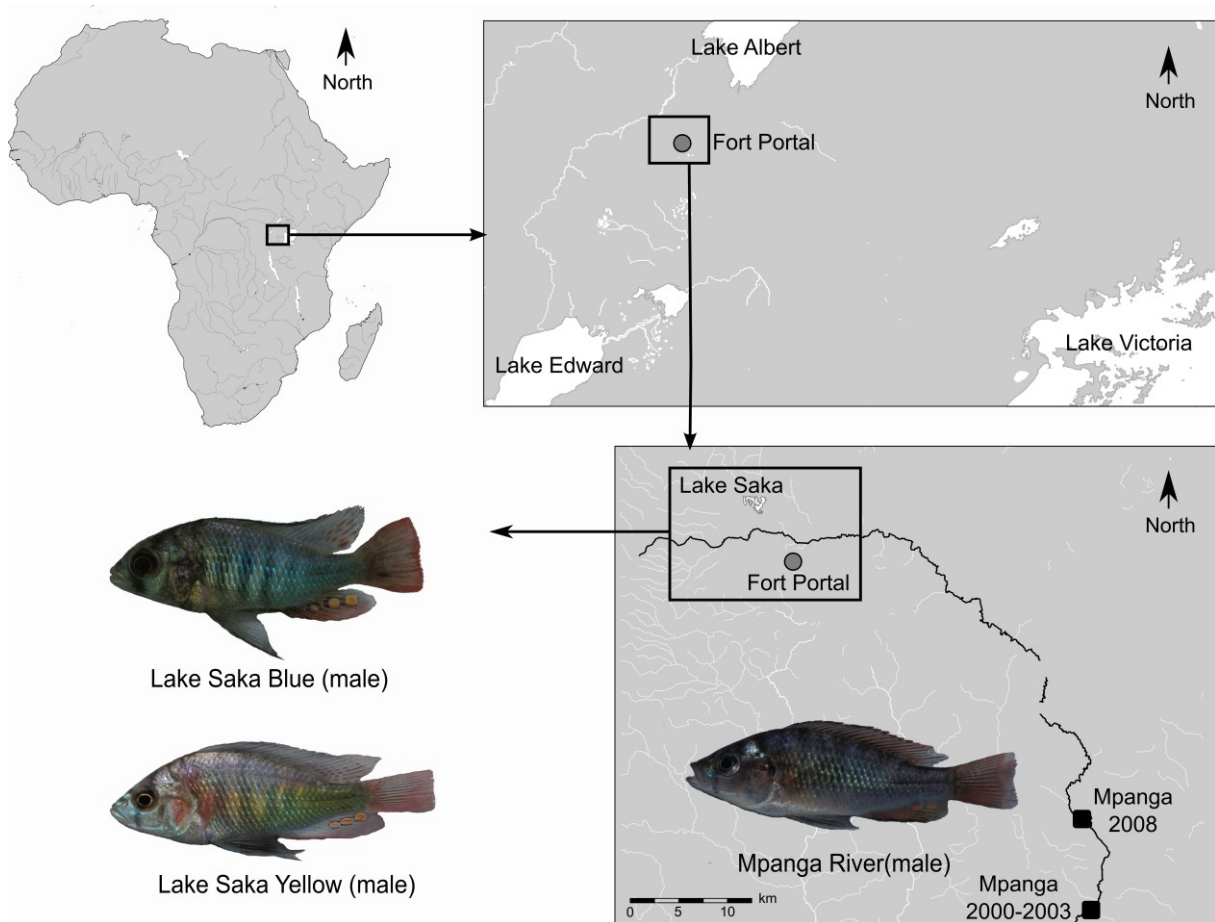


Figure 1. Map of Africa with inlets showing on the location of Lake Saka in relation to the major lakes of the Lake Victoria region. Sampling locations within the Mpanga River are indicated. Two common nuptial colour morphs of males are found in Lake Saka (blue and yellow morphs) whereas river fish did not express colour polymorphism.

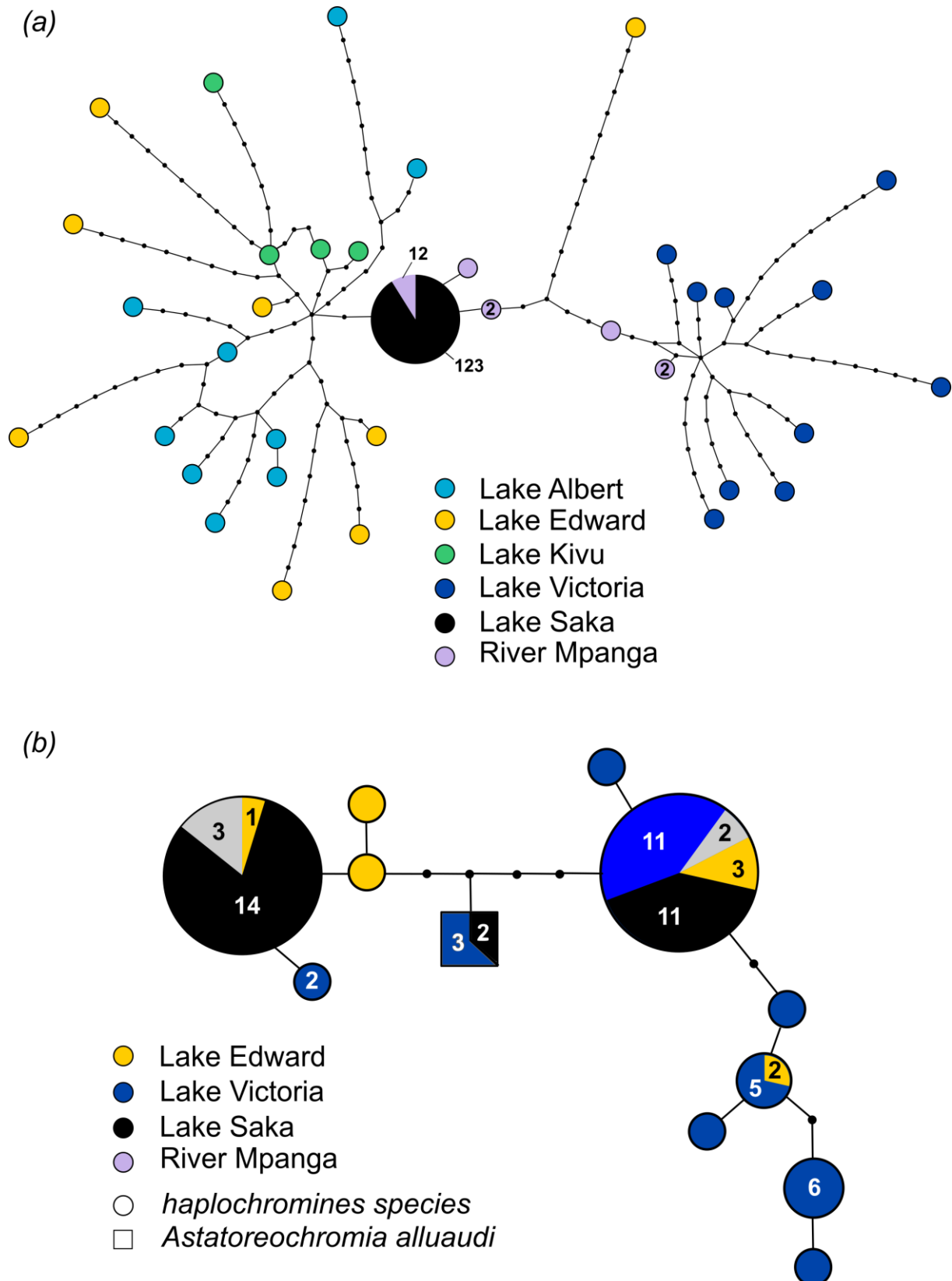


Figure 2. Haplotype networks based on (a) mtDNA (collapsed ND2 and D loop) sequences and (b) LWS opsin gene in the Lake Victoria region. Each dot represents 1 individual except for haplotypes where the number of individuals is indicated.

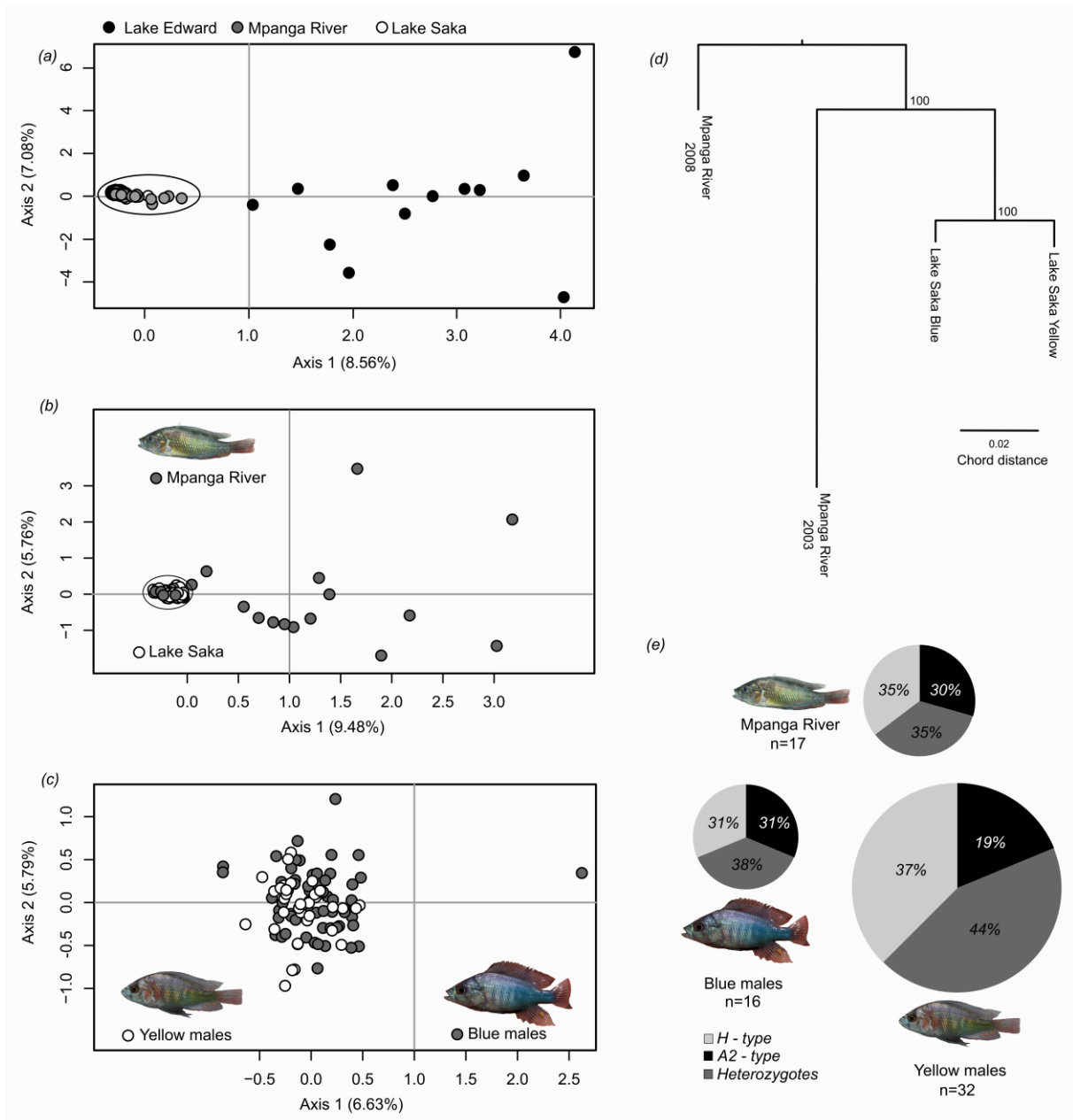


Figure 3. Genetic diversity and differentiation within Lake Saka region. Results of a factorial correspondence analysis of microsatellite diversity for (a) populations from Lake Edward (n = 12), Lake Saka (n = 119) and Mpanga River (n = 19). (b) populations from Lake Saka and Mpanga River. (c) Lake Saka color morphs (35 blue males and 62 yellow males). Circles indicate region of the maps which would be zoomed in. (d) Phylogram showing the genetic relationship among populations based on Cavalli-Sforza Chord distances. Numbers indicate statistical support based on 1000 bootstrap replicates. (e) Allele frequency and heterozygote proportion at the LWS opsin gene in Mpanga River and within Lake Saka by colour morphs.

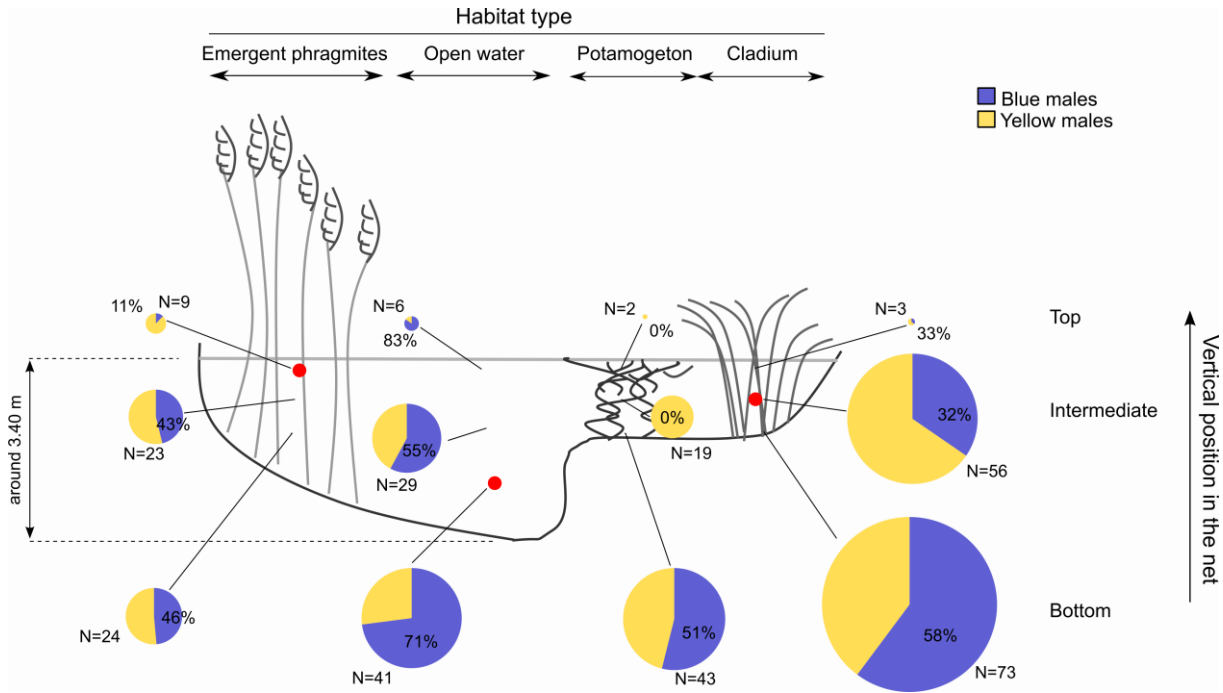


Figure 4. Habitat and depth association between colour morphs. Pies represent the proportions of blue and yellow males in each habitat by vertical position. Proportions are corrected for the total number of blue and yellow males caught (respectively N = 155 and 173). Red dots indicate significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ) between blues and yellows males.