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

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

### 43 INTRODUCTION

For many decades, allopatric speciation was the only widely accepted mode of speciation (Futuyma 44 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 alternative modes of speciation (Bolnick & Fitzpatrick, 2007; Santini et al., 2012; Feder et al., 2013; 48 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 radiation (Muschick et al., 2012; Wagner et al., 2014). However, the large size of these lakes, and 60 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 monophyletic species pairs or clades, provide powerful model systems for studying the role of space 64 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 examples of sympatric speciation (Schliewen et al., 1994; Coyne & Orr, 2004; Barluenga et al. 2006). 68 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. Several authors have studied crater lake populations of haplochromine cichlids, but found no 83 evidence of speciation (Sato et al. 2003, Samonte et al. 2007, Machado-Schiaffino et al. 2015). To 84 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 (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 96 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 from sympatric speciation. First, using two mitochondrial DNA markers, we examined whether the 110 colour morphs of Lake Saka constitute a monophyletic mitochondrial lineage within the 111 haplochromine cichlid fishes of the Lake Victoria region superflock (Verheyen et al., 2003; Meier et 112

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

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# 120 MATERIALS & METHODS

### 121 Morphological analyses

122 Specimens for morphological analysis were collected in 2003 by OS from the crater lake Saka (N=145) and the Mpanga River (N=11; see Fig. 1) and in 2000 by LJC, CAC and OS (N: 83 blue and 103 yellow 123 124 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 included: standard length, body depth, head length, head width, lower jaw length, lower jaw width, 132 133 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 has 83 blue and 103 yellow males. For 20 blue males and 19 yellow males captured in 2000, snout length, snout width, head width and cheek depth were not measured 136 137 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).

A multivariate analysis of covariance (MANCOVA) was used to assess the overall morphological differentiation between river and lake fish as well as between male colour morphs of the lake population. Sex, standard length and fish origin (lake vs. river) were included sequentially in the model. To compare colour morphs, the model included respectively the sampling event, standard length and colour morph. Residuals of each response variable were visually checked for normality and heteroscedasticity. All morphological distances were further analysed separately. Each distance 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 standard length (Fligner-Killeen test:  $\chi^2_1$ = 27.32, P<0.001), a Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test (hereafter 150 KW test) was used to compare standard length between lake and river fish. The size correction based 151 152 on univariate regressions resolved the problem of heterogeneity of variance across groups for all other morphometric distances (Fligner-Killeen test: all  $\chi^2_1 < 3.46$ , all P>0.06). Variance in standard 153 length between colour morphs within Lake Saka did not deviate from homogeneity (Fligner-Killeen 154 155 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 dummies which were analysed using a KW test. All *p*-values were corrected for multiple testing with 157 158 a sequential Bonferroni procedure (Rice, 1989).

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### 160 Ecological analyses

### 161 (1) Stomach content analysis

A subset of fish collected in 2003 was analysed for stomach contents (N<sub>Stream</sub>=10, N<sub>Lake</sub>=46; male 162 163 colour morphs: N<sub>Blue</sub>=11, N<sub>Yellow</sub>=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 linear model with Poisson distribution and fish origin (lake or stream) or colour morph as an 172 173 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 and without interaction) fitted using maximum likelihood. The food items that differed between fish 179 180 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 that precluded identification were excluded from diet analysis producing comparisons between 10 river and 36 lake fish respectively. A permutational MANOVA provided similar results suggesting that the use of GLMM did not lead to inflated type II errors despite our low sample size. However due to difference in the diurnal feeding cycle (see results), unevenly affecting the accuracy with which we could identify dietary items, comparison of diet between color morphs was not performed.

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## 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 set for approximately 1 hour at 14 sites, randomly distributed around the lake. Cladium and 194 195 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).

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### 208 (3) Spawning seasonality

209 Between November 1998 and September 1999, fish were sampled approximately monthly, euthanized by emersion in buffered MS 222 and preserved in formalin. In the laboratory, they were 210 transferred to 70% ethanol, dissected, and their gonads examined to determine the stage of maturity 211 212 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 gonad stage and proportion of reproductively active fish (stages IV and V) were analysed using a 214 general linear model and a generalized linear model with binomial distribution where month and 215 216 colour morph were included as categorical explanatory variables, respectively. A difference in spawning seasonality between colour morphs was assessed by testing the interaction between month and colour morph, while differences between colour morphs by month were determined using t/z-tests associated with model parameters. Samples with less than five males within one morph were excluded from analyses. Overall, the gonad stage of 107 blue males and 78 yellow red chest males was assessed for a total of seven months. Females could not be included in this analysis because there is no way to assign them to colour morph. All statistical analyses were done in R 3.0.2.

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## 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.

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### 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 isolated crater Lake Saka, we included in the haplotype network ten representative haplotypes from 246 247 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.

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# 250 (3) Microsatellite analyses.

To estimate neutral genetic variation among and differentiation between river and lake fish, and between the male colour morphs in Lake Saka, individuals from Lake Saka and Mpanga River were genotyped at nine microsatellite loci. Additionally we genotyped 12 individuals from Lake Edward at the same loci (N<sub>Total</sub>=12), representing the four Lake Edward species that most closely resemble phenotypically the colour morphs of Lake Saka (OS personal observation).

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

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# 279 (4) LWS opsin gene sequencing.

To test for divergent selection on the visual system, a 346 bp fragment of the long wavelength sensitive (*LWS*) opsin gene containing the variable and informative exons 4-6 was amplified using primers F3 and R4 from Carleton & Kocher (2001). The PCR cycle included an initial 5 min denaturing 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 10 min extension at 72°C. Sanger sequencing was conducted on an ABI 3130xl sequencer (Applied 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 Saka colour morphs was assessed with an AMOVA in ARLEQUIN. 296

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

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## 300 RESULTS

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# A monomorphic Lake Saka mitochondrial haplotype originated from an ancient Mpanga River 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 larger haplotype network of the Lake Victoria Region superflock (Verheyen et al. 2003, 311 312 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, mostly closely related to the Saka haplotype. 318

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

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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.

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# 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 those in Lake Saka/ Mpanga River. The 19 fish from Mpanga River shared 72% of their alleles with 350 351 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 respectively (Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test: P = 0.02), with an allelic richness of 5.55 and 4.23 (based on 353 19 individuals; Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test: P = 0.008, Fig. 3D). Therefore fish from Mpanga River 354 were hence genetically more diverse than Lake Saka fish (Fig. 3B). None of the 36 pairs of loci were in 355

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

360 Morphology – Although lake and river fish did not significantly differ in standard length (N<sub>Lake</sub> = 145, N<sub>River</sub> = 11; KW test:  $\chi_1^2$  = 0.39, P = 0.53), sexual size dimorphism differed between lake and 361 river (N <sub>Female Lake</sub> = 76, N <sub>Female River</sub> = 6, N <sub>Male Lake</sub> = 63, N <sub>Male River</sub> = 5; KW test:  $\chi^2_3$  = 12.85, P = 0.005). 362 Sexual size dimorphism was significant in Lake Saka, where males were larger than females (N Female 363 <sub>Lake</sub> = 76, N <sub>Male Lake</sub> = 63; Median: SL <sub>Female Lake</sub> = 6.10 cm, SL <sub>Male Lake</sub> = 6.20 cm; KW test:  $\chi^2_1$  = 4.82, P = 364 365 0.03). In contrast, sexual size dimorphism was not significant in the river population, but males tended to be smaller than females (N Female River = 6, N Male River = 5; Median: SL Female River = 6.83 cm, SL 366 <sub>Male River</sub> = 4.49 cm; KW test:  $\chi_1^2$  = 2.70, P = 0.10). Overall, males in Lake Saka were larger than males in 367 Mpanga River (KW test:  $\chi_{1}^{2}$  = 7.36, P = 0.007) whereas females did not differ between lake and river 368 (KW test:  $\chi^2_1$  = 2.43, P = 0.12). After correction for sex and standard length, lake and river fish were 369 370 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).

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

380

# 381 Comparison between colour morphs within Lake Saka

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

**Diet** – Stomachs of all blue males were empty, whereas only 3 out of 14 yellow-red chest males had an empty stomach (N <sub>Blue males</sub> = 11, N <sub>Yellow males</sub> = 14; dispersion parameter = 0.42,  $\chi^2_1$  = 11.94, *P* < 0.001) suggesting a difference between the morphs in the timing of feeding (all fish for this 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<sub>10, 134</sub> = 339.40, P<0.001; SL: F<sub>10, 142</sub> = 37.10, P<0.001; colour morph: F<sub>10</sub>, 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 Blue males = 4.55 and AR Yellow-red chested males = 4.62, P = 0.40 based on 35 403 individuals; GD <sub>Blue males</sub> = 0.665 and GD <sub>Yellow-red chested males</sub> = 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 males. There was a trend for this to differ between the morphs (Fig. 3D, One side  $\chi^2_1$  = 1.89, P = 0.08). 411 Both colour morphs were in Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium at the LWS locus (P = 0.34, P = 0.71 for blue 412 413 and yellow-red chested males, respectively).

Spawning seasonality - The proportions of reproductively active and quiescent fish did not 414 differ between colour morphs over the year ( $\chi^2_6$  = 10.42, *P* = 0.11). The proportion of mature males 415 416 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 between colour morphs (Blue morph: 0.80 vs Yellow-red chest morph: 0.40, z-value = 2.10, P = 0.04). 420 421 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

The most extensive recent species radiations of animals have occurred in one evolutionary lineage of 431 432 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-Schiaffino et al. 2015, Malinsky et al. 2015). With a single exception (Malinsky et al. 2015), no 437 438 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. Speciation is hence very unlikely to be older than 10'000 years and may have started as recently as 455 456 just 1500-1700 years ago.

It is impossible to infer whether, and to what extent, speciation has happened when populations are completely allopatric as is the case for the divergence between the Mpanga River and the Lake Saka populations. On the other hand, we can infer with confidence that speciation has progressed to an advanced stage between the colour morphs within Lake Saka. Both morphs are found all around the lake in full sympatry. Yet we find significant genetic differentiation at neutral markers of gene flow as well as subtle, but significant, ecological and size differences between them. Given the extent of phenotypic and genetic differentiation between the river population and both lake morphs, including traits that matter to mate choice, it seems reasonable to suggest that the allopatric divergence process observed qualifies as incipient speciation too. Laboratory mate choice 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

effectively be ruled out, our Lake Saka data are consistent with the hypothesis of truly sympatricspeciation 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

The kind of colour polymorphism that characterizes the Lake Saka cichlids is widespread among the cichlids of Lake Victoria (Seehausen et al. 1999 a&b), and is likely to have a relatively simple genetic basis but is not a simple Mendelian trait (Magalhaes and Seehausen 2010). It is often divergently resolved and fixed between sister species during speciation (Seehausen and Schluter 2004). It is also widespread among the cichlids of lakes Edward and Kivu (Seehausen pers. obs). Future population genomic work will need to address the question if the nature of the yellow-red/blue polymorphism is 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 of different light environments (Meier et al. 2017a). In Lake Saka we found both colour morphs to be 561 562 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 al. 2006; Seehausen et al. 2008). Both haplotype classes were present also in the Mpanga River
cichlids. It seems therefore likely that the LWS polymorphism was present in the founding population
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 expression of opsin genes, and/or by divergence at other mating preference genes. In theory, 575 576 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 haplochromine cichlids can be under disruptive sexual selection by male-male competition. The 581 582 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 without good record of live coloration of each individual and a priori knowledge of the colour 591 592 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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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	F	Р	N Blue	N Yellow	Blue	Yellow	F	Р
SL	11	145	56.48	61.43	0.39	0.53	83	103	63.44	62.13	11.63	<0.001
HL	11	145	20.71	19.13	0.01	0.9	83	103	20.58	20.26	0.01	0.92
			(0.035)	(-0.003)					(-0.006)	(0.008)		
HW	11	145	10.33	9.22	7.67	0.006	63	84	9.57	9.63	0.88	0.35
			(-0.793)	(0.058)					(0.089)	(-0.064)		
BD	11	145	20.92	17.92	33.14	<0.001	83	103	21.65	20.92	4.47	0.04
			(-1.535)	(0.113)					(0.171)	(-0.134)		
LJL	11	145	7.48	6.99	2.07	0.15	83	103	7.56	7.35	0.4	0.52
			(0.419)	(-0.031)					(0.051)	(-0.040)		
LJW	11	145	5.19	4.48	3.77	0.05	83	103	4.15	4.37	1.23	0.27
			(-0.562)	(0.041)					(-0.089)	(0.073)		
SnL	11	145	6.19	5.71	0.17	0.68	63	84	5.46	5.65	1.28	0.26
			(0.121)	(-0.01)					(-0.107)	(0.079)		
SnW	11	145	7.19	6.33	4.57	0.03	63	84	6.05	6.29	0	0.99
			(-0.619)	(0.045)					(-0.001)	(-0.001)		

CD	11	145	3.77	3.66	13.62	<0.001	63	84	4.29	4.11	0.3	0.53
			(1.035)	(-0.078)					(-0.051)	(0.04)		
IOW	11	145	4.92	4.82	15.53	<0.001	83	103	4.73	4.70	0.16	0.69
			(1.105)	(-0.081)					(-0.033)	(0.026)		
EyD <sup>b</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	43	6.79	6.58	2.73	0.1
									(0.171)	(-0.179)		
EyL	11	145	6.38	5.18	25.14	<0.001	83	103	6.74	6.41	5.02	0.03
			(-1.368)	(0.100)					(0.181)	(-0.144)		
POD <sup>b</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	43	2.36	2.35	0.12	0.73
									(-0.038)	(0.038)		
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	6.19	0.02

a: comparison including males and females

b: comparison based on 1 sampling event.

c: variables analysed with a Kruskall 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

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

colour morphs of haplochromine cichlids of Lake Saka.

In bold, significant  $F_{\rm ST}$  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.