

# Cryptic diversity and speciation in endemic *Cytherissa* (Ostracoda, Crustacea) from Lake Baikal

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**Abstract** Lake Baikal (Siberia) is the most ancient and deepest of all ancient lakes on Earth. It holds a (mostly endemic) diversity of thousands of animal species, including a speciose radiation of ostracods of the genus *Cytherissa*. Applying molecular tools to this crustacean group reveals that several morphological species are actually species clusters. Based on combined 16S and 28S DNA sequence data from thirteen classic *Cytherissa* species and one subspecies sensu

Mazepova (1990), we recognize 26 different genetic *Cytherissa* species, 18 with morphological variation and eight truly cryptic species. These results suggest that the actual specific diversity of *Cytherissa* in Lake Baikal might easily be double of what is presently known. Baikalian endemic species most likely live in the cradle in which they originated and this opens perspectives to infer modes of speciation. Our current distribution data of *Cytherissa* species provide first indications for both geographic (lakes basins and shores) and ecological (sediment type, water depth) separation. Our present data thus provide the first steps towards future, rigorous testing of focussed hypotheses on the causality of speciation through either allopatric isolation or parapatric ecological clines.

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Isa Schön and Valentina Pieri share the position as first authors.

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## Introduction

Ancient lakes are natural laboratories for evolutionary studies on the tempo and mode of speciation of their endemic fauna and flora (Martens, 1997). There are only a couple of dozens of these lakes on the globe and they are hotspots of biodiversity, because of their high endemism and their importance for generating diversity in surrounding areas (Schön & Martens, 2012). Non-marine ostracods are not only an important ecological component of ancient lake taxa, but ancient lakes also contribute up to 25% of all known non-marine specific ostracod diversity (Martens et al., 2008).

On a global scale, Lake Baikal is the oldest extant lake with an estimated age of 25–30 myr (Sherbakov, 1999; Müller et al., 2001) as well as the deepest lake with a maximal depth of more than 1600 m (Sherstyankin & Kuimova, 2006). About 2500 animal (morpho) species occur in Lake Baikal, of which 1455 are endemic (Timoshkin, 2001). Concerning non-marine Ostracoda, more than 90% of Baikalian ostracods are endemic to the lake, and the *Cytherissa* species flock has the highest specific diversity (Mazepova, 1990). This species flock is probably an example of explosive radiation and has originated 5–8 million years ago (Schön & Martens, 2012), at a time when Lake Baikal's cold, oxygenated abyss was formed (Sherbakov, 1999).

With the availability of molecular tools, the last twenty years have seen an ever-increasing number of studies detecting so-called cryptic diversity (Bickford et al., 2007), i.e. lineages that are morphologically similar but fulfil all criteria to be different genetic species (Vogler & Monaghan, 2007) according to the phylogenetic species concept (Eldredge & Cracraft (1980), but see also overview in Zhang et al., 2013) or the evolutionary genetic species concept (Birky & Barraclough, 2009). There is mounting evidence that cryptic species occur widely and that their presence is, at least in part, linked to specific types of habitat. For example, freshwater taxa show significantly more cryptic diversity than either terrestrial or marine taxa (Poulin & Pérez-Ponce de León, 2017).

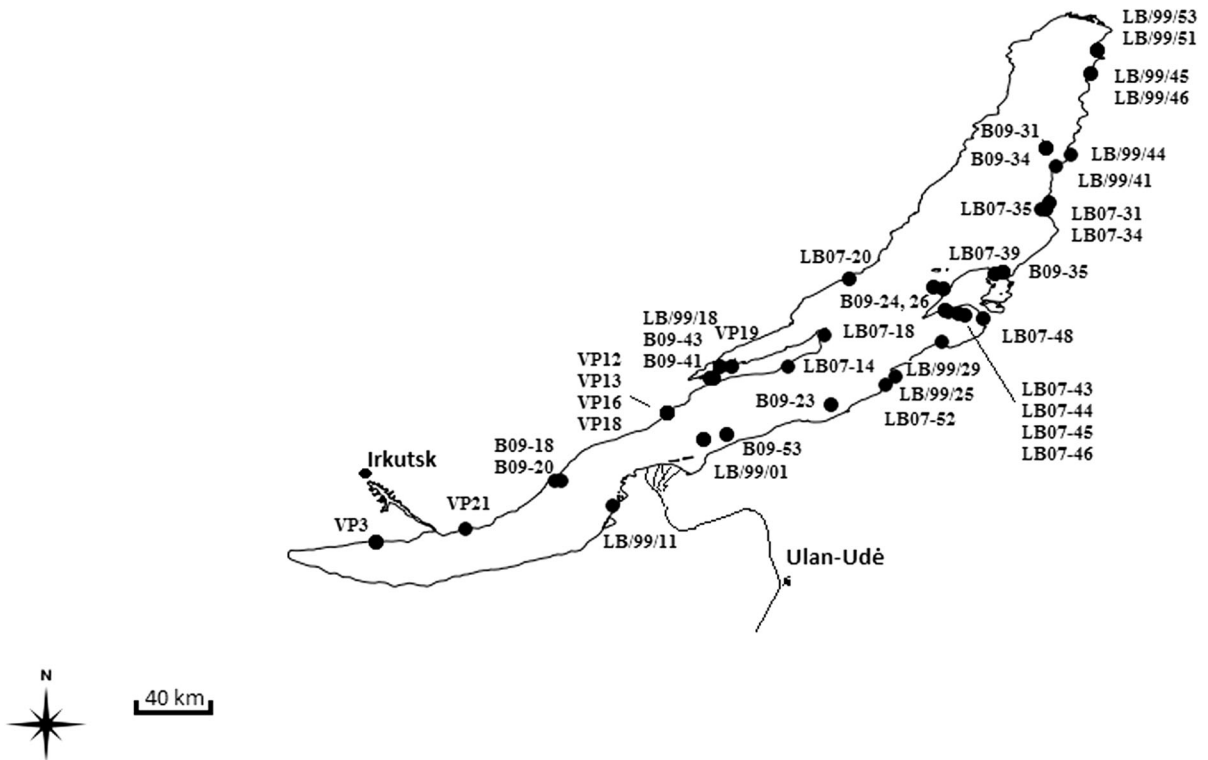
Also in non-marine ostracods, cryptic species have been detected, varying between eight in a putative ancient asexual darwinulid species (Schön et al., 2012) to more than 35 in a single Holarctic temporary pool species (Bode et al., 2010). Likewise, cryptic species have been found in endemic *Romecytheridea* ostracods from Lake Tanganyika, the second most ancient lake in the world (Schön et al., 2014). The discovery of cryptic lineages throughout all metazoan phyla (Beheregaray & Caccione, 2007; Pfenninger & Schwenk, 2007) is not only important for fundamental science and systematics, but has also profound implications for conservation and management (examples in Brown et al., 2007; Elmer et al., 2007; Fontaneto et al., 2008; Gustafsson et al., 2009; Marrone et al., 2010), especially in unique environments such as ancient lakes. Indeed, if genetic diversity is cryptic, it is equally difficult to recognize it and to protect it from extinction.

Here, we use mitochondrial and nuclear DNA sequence data to test for the presence of cryptic species within 14 known morphological *Cytherissa* species and subspecies. Our samples come from all three basins of Lake Baikal, from both eastern and western shores and from both different water depths and different types of sediments, enabling us to assess the recent distribution patterns of these ostracods. Our research provides preliminary indications on the causal importance of allopatric isolation (different basins or shores) and parapatric ecological speciation (depth, sediment types) for the past radiation of endemic *Cytherissa* species in Lake Baikal.

## Materials and methods

### Sampling

During four expeditions on Lake Baikal, in 1999, 2007, 2009 and 2011, several dozens of samples for ostracods were collected by SCUBA diving, trawling, dredging and with the oceanographic Reineck box-corer, from various locations in Lake Baikal (Fig. 1), including both the eastern and western shore and all three basins and at depths as from 20 m in the littoral photic zone (0–100 m) to deep water habitats of more than 500 m. Ostracods were sorted alive under a light microscope on the research vessels, were fixed in cold 95% pure ethanol for subsequent analyses and separated into preliminary taxonomic groups using the



**Fig. 1** Approximate position of sampling stations in Lake Baikal. Labels refer to the sampling stations in Table 1

valve outlines of Mazepova (1990) and the hemipenis outlines by Van Mulken et al. (in prep.). We also sampled *Cytherissa lacustris*, the recent extra-lacustrine spin-off of the Baikalian *Cytherissa* flock (Schön & Martens, 2012), from Semerwater in the UK (see Table 1 for more details).

#### DNA extraction, PCR and sequencing

For most specimens, valves were removed for scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and the remaining soft parts were used to extract DNA from individual ostracods with a slightly modified protocol of the DNA Easy Blood and Tissue kit (Qiagen), adjusting the elution volumes because of the small size of individual ostracods. We estimated the concentration of the obtained DNA extractions with the Nanodrop and used the eluate with the highest concentration for all subsequent steps of the molecular analysis. With polymerase chain reaction (PCR), we amplified part of the mitochondrial 16S ribosomal region with specific primers (16S-F3 TTAATTCAACATCGAGGTCAA and 16S-R2 GAGTAAACGGCTGCAGTA)

and the DID2 part of the nuclear Large Subunit (28S) with universal primers (DID2Fw1 5'-AGCGGAGGAAAAGAACTA-3') and (DID2Rev1 5'-TACTAGAAGGTTTCGATTAGTC-3') (Sonnenberg et al., 2007). Both regions have been successfully sequenced in other studies on non-marine ostracods (Bode et al., 2010; Koenders et al., 2012; Schön et al., 2014), and have also been used for the detection of cryptic species. PCRs were conducted in a T personal Thermoblock (Biometra) with 25 µl volumes of the Qiagen HotStar Mastermix (1.5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 200 µM dNTP, Tris-Cl, KCl, (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, 1.25 U Taq), 0.1 µM of each primer and the following cycling conditions: 15 min at 95°C, followed by 40–42 cycles of 1 min at 95°C, 1 min at 44°C (16S) and 48°C (28S) and 1 min at 72°C, followed by a final extension step of 72°C for 10 min. We used agarose gel electrophoresis and stained gels with GelRed to check if PCR amplifications were successful. Positive amplicons were purified with the GFX PCR DNA and gel band purification kit (GE Healthcare) kit and sequenced in both directions using the PCR primers and the Big Dye kit (ABI) on

**Table 1** Overview of samples

Specimen	Genbank 16S	Genbank 28S	Species	Locality code	Locality name	Lat	Long
BK1		X	<i>C. parva</i>	LB07-14	Olkhon island	53.1269	107.4868
BK3		MF405057	<i>C. parallela</i>	LB07-18	Uzury	53.3592	107.7698
BK4		X	<i>C. parallela</i>	LB07-20	Kocherikovskiy cape	53.7795	107.9465
BK5		X	<i>C. parallela</i>	LB07-20	Kocherikovskiy cape	53.7795	107.9465
BK6	MF404990	X	<i>C. sernovi insularis</i> II	LB07-31	Davcha Bay	54.3611	109.4709
BK7	MF404991	MF405058	<i>C. parva</i>	LB07-31	Davcha Bay	54.3611	109.4709
BK8	MF404992	X	<i>C. tuberculata</i> <i>tuberculata</i> II	LB07-34	Davcha Bay	54.3101	109.4546
BK10	MF404993	MF405059	<i>C. sp. 3</i>	LB07-34	Davcha Bay	54.3101	109.4546
BK11	MF404994	X	<i>C. golyschkiniae</i> II	LB07-35	Davcha Bay	54.3183	109.4105
BK12	MF404995	X	<i>C. excelsiformis</i>	LB07-39	Chivirkuy Bay	53.8255	109.0546
BK13	MF404996	X	<i>C. excelsiformis</i>	LB07-39	Chivirkuy Bay	53.8255	109.0546
BK14	MF404997	X	<i>C. lata</i> II	LB07-43	Barguzin Bay	53.5547	108.6814
BK15	MF404998		<i>C. tuberculata</i> <i>tuberculata</i> I	LB07-43	Barguzin Bay	53.5547	108.6814
BK16		X	<i>C. tuberculata</i> <i>tuberculata</i>	LB07-43	Barguzin Bay	53.5547	108.6814
BK19	MF404999		<i>C. tuberculata</i> <i>tuberculata</i> III	LB07-44	Barguzin Bay	53.5419	108.6987
BK20	MF405000		<i>C. sp. 4</i>	LB07-45	Barguzin Bay	53.5259	108.7770
BK21	MF405001	MF405060	<i>C. tuberculata</i> <i>tuberculata</i> IV	LB07-45	Barguzin Bay	53.5259	108.7770
BK22	MF405002		<i>C. sinistrodentata</i> I	LB07-46	Barguzin Bay	53.5173	108.8256
BK23	MF405003		<i>C. lata</i> II	LB07-46	Barguzin Bay	53.5173	108.8256
BK25	MF405004		<i>C. lacustris</i> II	LB07-48	Barguzin Bay	53.4803	108.9635
BK26	MF405005	MF405061	<i>C. lacustris</i> II	LB07-48	Barguzin Bay	53.4803	108.9635
BK28	MF405006		<i>C. pterygota</i>	LB07-52	Goryachinsk	52.9839	108.2299
BL3	MF405007		<i>C. verrucosa</i>	LB/99/51	Frolika Bay. S corner	55.5217	109.8453
BL10	MF405008	X	<i>C. cf. parallela</i> II	LB/99/51	Frolika Bay. S corner	55.5217	109.8453
BL11	MF405009	MF405062	<i>C. pterygota</i>	LB/99/45	S part of Khakusy Bay	55.3497	109.7861
BL12	MF405010	X	<i>C. parallela</i> I	LB/99/45	S part of Khakusy Bay	55.3497	109.7861
BL13	MF405011	MF405063	<i>C. golyschkiniae</i> I	LB/99/44	Severny Birakan	54.7394	109.6394
BL14	MF405012	X	<i>C. parva</i>	LB/99/53	Frolika Bay. S corner	55.5217	109.8453
BL15	MF405013	MF405064	<i>C. golyschkiniae</i> I	LB/99/41	3 km N of Kabanij Cape	54.6500	109.5278
BL16	MF405014	MF405065	<i>C. interposita</i>	LB/99/46	S part of Khakusy Bay	55.3497	109.7861
BL17		X	<i>C. lacustris</i>	LB/99/01	Selenga delta. S of middle arm	52.5722	106.8500
BL18	MF405015	X	<i>C. lacustris</i> II	LB/99/01	Selenga delta. S of middle arm	52.5722	106.8500
BL19		X	<i>C. lacustris</i>	LB/99/01	Selenga delta. S of middle arm	52.5722	106.8500
BL20		X	<i>C. parva</i>	LB/99/53	Frolika Bay. S corner	55.5217	109.8453
BL21		X	<i>C. lacustris</i>	LB/99/01	Selenga delta. S of middle arm	52.5722	106.8500
BL22		X	<i>C. lacustris</i>	LB/99/01	Selenga delta. S of middle arm	52.5722	106.8500
BL23		X	<i>C. tuberculata</i> <i>tuberculata</i>	LB/99/25	Bezmyannaya Bay	53.0528	108.3133
BL24		X	<i>C. parva</i>	LB/99/53	Frolika Bay. S corner	55.5217	109.8453

**Table 1** continued

Specimen	Genbank 16S	Genbank 28S	Species	Locality code	Locality name	Lat	Long
BL26		MF405066	<i>C. verrucosa</i>	LB/99/29	Barguzin Bay. opposite Cape Kholodyanka	53.3142	108.6564
BL27	MF405016	X	<i>C. sp. 1</i>	LB/99/18	Ogoi Island. Male Morje	53.1316	106.9790
BL28	MF405017	MF405067	<i>C. sp. 1</i>	LB/99/18	Ogoi Island. Male Morje	53.1316	106.9790
BL32		X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i>	LB/99/11	Selenga delta. opposite Posol'ski village	52.0672	106.1656
BT1		X	<i>C. sp. 6</i>	B09-18	Peschanaya Bay	52.2617	105.7189
BT2		X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i>	B09-20	in front of Peschanaya Bay	52.2670	105.7736
BT3		X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i>	B09-23	Near Gremyachinsk town	52.8329	107.8130
BT4		X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i>	B09-23	Near Gremyachinsk town	52.8329	107.8130
BT5	MF405018	X	<i>C. lata</i> II	B09-24	Near Svyatoy Nos (The Holy Nose) peninsula	53.7220	108.6010
BT6		X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i>	B09-26	Near Svyatoy Nos (The Holy Nose) peninsula	53.7080	108.6660
BT7	MF405019	X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> III	B09-26	Near Svyatoy Nos (The Holy Nose) peninsula	53.7080	108.6660
BT8	MF405020	X	<i>C. sinistrodentata</i> I	B09-26	Near Svyatoy Nos (The Holy Nose) peninsula	53.7080	108.6660
BT9	MF405021	X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> III	B09-31	Near Urbikan cape	54.7875	109.4422
BT10	MF405022	X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> III	B09-31	Near Urbikan cape	54.7875	109.4422
BT11	MF405023	X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> III	B09-31	Near Urbikan cape	54.7875	109.4422
BT12		MF405068	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i>	B09-31	Near Urbikan cape	54.7875	109.4422
BT13		X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i>	B09-34	Near Kabaniy cape	54.6646	109.3927
BT14	MF405024	X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> III	B09-34	Near Kabaniy cape	54.6646	109.3927
BT15		X	<i>C. sp. 4</i>	B09-35	Near Chivyrkuy bay	53.8363	109.1185
BT16	MF405025	X	<i>C. sp. 4</i>	B09-35	Near Chivyrkuy bay	53.8363	109.1185
BT17		X	<i>C. sp. 4</i>	B09-35	Near Chivyrkuy bay	53.8363	109.1185
BT18	MF405026	X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> V	B09-35	Near Chivyrkuy bay	53.8363	109.1185
BT19		X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i>	B09-35	Near Chivyrkuy bay	53.8363	109.1185
BT20	MF405027	X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> V	B09-35	Near Chivyrkuy bay	53.8363	109.1185
BT21	MF405028	X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> III	B09-24	Near Svyatoy Nos (The Holy Nose) peninsula	53.7220	108.6010
BT22	MF405029	X	<i>C. cf. parallela</i> II	B09-24	Near Svyatoy Nos (The Holy Nose) peninsula	53.7220	108.6010
BT23	MF405030	X	<i>C. sinistrodentata</i> II	B09-41	Olkhon gate strait	53.0308	106.9226
BT24		MF405069	<i>C. sernovi sernovi</i>	B09-41	Olkhon gate strait	53.0308	106.9226

**Table 1** continued

Specimen	Genbank 16S	Genbank 28S	Species	Locality code	Locality name	Lat	Long
BT25	MF405031	MF405070	<i>C. sernovi sernovi</i>	B09-41	Olkhon gate strait	53.0308	106.9226
BT26	MF405032	X	<i>C. sernovi sernovi</i>	B09-41	Olkhon gate strait	53.0308	106.9226
BT27	MF405033	X	<i>C. parallela</i> I	B09-43	Olkhon gate strait	53.0384	106.9024
BT28	MF405034	X	<i>C. sernovi insularis</i> I	B09-43	Olkhon gate strait	53.0384	106.9024
BT29	MF405035	X	<i>C. sernovi insularis</i> I	B09-43	Olkhon gate strait	53.0384	106.9024
BT30	MF405036	X	<i>C. parallela</i> III	B09-43	Olkhon gate strait	53.0384	106.9024
BT31	MF405037	X	<i>C. glomerata</i>	B09-53	Near Suchaya village	52.5996	107.0218
BT32	MF405038		<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> III	B09-53	Near Suchaya village	52.5996	107.0218
BT33	MF405039	X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> III	B09-53	Near Suchaya village	52.5996	107.0218
VPB3		MF405071	<i>C. sernovi insularis</i>	VP3	Polovinnaya	51.7956	104.3665
VPB4		MF405072	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i>	VP12	Bay Anga	52.7780	106.5834
VPB5		X	<i>C. sp. 6</i>	VP13	Bay Anga	52.7780	106.5834
VPB8		X	<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i>	VP19	Semesosennaya	53.1246	107.0622
VPB9	MF405040		<i>C. parallela</i> III	VP19	Semesosennaya	53.1246	107.0622
VPB10	MF405041	MF405073	<i>C. lata</i> I	VP16	Bay Anga	52.7780	106.5834
VPB11		X	<i>C. sinistrodentata</i>	VP16	Bay Anga	52.7780	106.5834
VPB14	MF405042		<i>C. cf. golyshkinae</i> IV	VP3	Polovinnaya	51.7956	104.3665
VPB15	MF405043		<i>C. cf. golyshkinae</i> IV	VP3	Polovinnaya	51.7956	104.3665
VPB16	MF405044		<i>C. cf. golyshkinae</i> IV	VP3	Polovinnaya	51.7956	104.3665
VPB17	MF405045		<i>C. golyshkinae</i> III	VP3	Polovinnaya	51.7956	104.3665
VPB18	MF405046		<i>C. golyshkinae</i> III	VP3	Polovinnaya	51.7956	104.3665
VPB20	MF405047		<i>C. sp. 2</i>	VP21	Bay Bolshiye Katy	51.9005	105.0766
VPB22	MF405048		<i>C. sinistrodentata</i> II	VP18	Bay Anga	52.7780	106.5834
VPB23	MF405049		<i>C. sinistrodentata</i> II	VP18	Bay Anga	52.7780	106.5834
VPB24	MF405050		<i>C. sernovi sernovi</i>	VP18	Bay Anga	52.7780	106.5834
VPB25	MF405051		<i>C. sernovi sernovi</i>	VP18	Bay Anga	52.7780	106.5834
VPB26		X	<i>C. sernovi sernovi</i>	VP18	Bay Anga	52.7780	106.5834
VPB27	MF405052	X	<i>C. sinistrodentata</i> II	VP18	Bay Anga	52.7780	106.5834
VPB28		X	<i>C. sernovi sernovi</i>	VP18	Bay Anga	52.7780	106.5834
VPB29	MF405053		<i>C. lata</i> I	VP18	Bay Anga	52.7780	106.5834
VPB30		X	<i>C. lacustris</i>	VP13	Bay Anga	52.7780	106.5834
VPB31	MF405054	X	<i>C. lacustris</i> I	VP13	Bay Anga	52.7780	106.5834
CL1	MF405055		<i>C. lacustris</i> II		Semerwater, UK	54.2806	−002.1250
CL14	MF405056		<i>C. lacustris</i> II		Semerwater, UK	54.2806	−002.1250
CL15		X	<i>C. lacustris</i>		Semerwater, UK	54.2806	−002.1250
CL16		X	<i>C. lacustris</i>		Semerwater, UK	54.2806	−002.1250
CL17		X	<i>C. lacustris</i>		Semerwater, UK	54.2806	−002.1250
CL18		X	<i>C. lacustris</i>		Semerwater, UK	54.2806	−002.1250

**Table 1** continued

Specimen	Genbank 16S	Genbank 28S	Species	Locality code	Locality name	Lat	Long
CL19		X	<i>C. lacustris</i>		Semerwater, UK	54.2806	−002.1250
Outgroup	KF061156	KF061166	<i>Romecytheridea ampla</i>		Lake Tanganyika, Tanzania		

Specimen numbers and species identities are given as in the 16S phylogeny (Fig. 2). “Genbank” indicates the Genbank submission numbers of each specimen and marker (16S or 28S). Locality codes and names refer to sample localities during the four expeditions on Lake Baikal, except for the locality in the UK. *S* south, *Lat* latitude, *Long* longitude

an ABI 3130x1 capillary DNA sequencer (Life Technologies).

#### Analyses of DNA sequence data

We visualized sequencing chromatograms and generated consensus sequences for each specimen with Bioedit (Hall, 1999). Sequence ambiguities were checked by eye and corrected manually, sequences were aligned with MAFFT (Katoh & Standley, 2013) on <http://www.ebi.ac.uk> and trimmed to equal lengths in BioEdit. Sequence identity was confirmed by BLAST searches in Genbank (Altschul et al., 1997). As outgroup, we used sequence data from *Romecytheridea ampla*, an ostracod species from Lake Tanganyika belonging to the same subfamily and from which both 16S and 28S sequence data were available (Table 1). We also combined the DNA sequence data from both markers into a congruent dataset with sequence matrix (Vaidya et al., 2011). We trimmed the final alignment for each dataset with the outgroup (Table 1) to equal length and selected the best-fitting evolutionary model in jModeltest 2 (Darriba et al., 2012) using model filtering, the corrected Akaike information criterion (AICc) and 88 different nucleotide substitution models. The parameters of the best-fitting evolutionary models were used in phylogenetic reconstructions with maximum likelihood (ML) (PHYML; Guindon & Gascuel, 2003) and Bayesian approaches (MrBayes 3.2; Ronquist et al., 2012). Not all models selected by jmodeltest2 are implemented in MrBayes and we therefore had to pick the closest ones for Bayesian analyses. For 16S, the TIM1 + I + G model was selected with freqA = 0.2927; freqC = 0.2296; freqG = 0.1968; freqT = 0.2810; [AC] = 1.0000; [AG] = 5.4559; [AT] = 0.6273; [CG] = 0.6273; [CT] = 3.1987;

[GT] = 1.0000; p-inv = 0.2280; gamma shape = 0.4750. For 28S, the TPM3uf + G model was selected with the following parameters: freqA = 0.1981; freqC = 0.2286; freqG = 0.3059; freqT = 0.2675; [AC] = 0.0000; [AG] = 3.6775; [AT] = 1.0000; [CG] = 0.0000; [CT] = 3.6775; [GT] = 1.0000; gamma shape = 0.3010. For the combined dataset, the TIM1 + I + G model was selected with freqA = 0.2632; freqC = 0.2145; freqG = 0.2316; freqT = 0.2907; [AC] = 1.0000; [AG] = 5.3221; [AT] = 0.5999; [CG] = 0.5999; [CT] = 3.5948; [GT] = 1.0000; p-inv = 0.4740; gamma shape = 0.3080. In all cases, we constructed ML trees in PHYML with these parameters and 1000 bootstraps. We also constructed ML trees without bootstrap support and outgroups and from haplotype sequences only for the Poisson Tree Processes (PTP) algorithm (Zhang et al., 2013) to delimitate genetic species (see below). For Bayesian approaches, we ran MrBayes with two MCMC chains and 20 million generations, applying the GTR + I+G model for 16S and the combined dataset and the HKY85 + G model for 28S, and sampling trees every 1000 generations. After inspecting the results, we eliminated the first 20000 trees as burn-in and calculated the 50% majority rule consensus tree. All trees were visualized and manipulated with MEGA 6.0 (Tamura et al., 2013) and FigTree (Rambaut, 2017).

#### Networks

To obtain the best graphic representation of haplotypes and their connectivity at the population level, we also constructed minimum spanning (Bandelt et al., 1999) networks from the 16S and 28S data with popart 1.2 (<http://popart.otago.ac.nz>) colour-coding the geographic origin (lake basin) as traits.



## Delimitating genetic species

We used two different methods for quantitative delimitations of genetic species based on the evolutionary genetic species concept (Birky & Barraclough, 2009), nl. the 4 $\theta$  (theta) rule (Birky et al., 2010; Birky, 2013) and the PTP algorithm (Zhang et al., 2013). For applying the 4 $\theta$  rule, we first identified well-supported phylogenetic sister clades from the ML and Bayesian phylogenies with a bootstrap support of more than 75% or a posterior probability of more than 0.8. Within and between the sister clades, we then calculated genetic distances in MEGA 6.0 using the appropriate model for molecular evolution. As with Bayesian analyses, not all models selected by jmodeltest2 are available in MEGA and we chose the closest ones for the calculation of genetic distances. Next,  $\pi$  (nucleotide diversity) and  $\theta$  (population mutation rate) were calculated taking sampling size of each sister clade into account. Finally, we calculated D (distance between sister clades) and the ratio between  $\theta$  and D. If the resulting ratio is greater than 4, sister clades are considered to be different evolutionary species (Birky et al., 2010).

We also used a Poisson tree processes (PTP) model to delimit genetic species. This algorithm is based on a shift of the Poisson distributions of substitution rates of branches within and between species in a phylogenetic tree (Zhang et al., 2013) The ML trees of 16S, 28S and the combined 16S/28S dataset were uploaded on the website of bPTP (<http://sco.h-its.org/exelixis/web/software/PTP>) without outgroups and bootstraps and only representing individual haplotypes. The statistical support of potential genetic species was calculated with the maximal possible number of 500,000 MCM generations and the default burn-in of 10%.

For comparisons, we also applied a third approach for genetic species delimitations, the automatic barcode gap discovery method (ABGD; Puillandre et al., 2012) which calculates genetic distances between all sequences and does not require any phylogenetic information.

## Statistical analyses of current distribution data

We summarize current distribution data of all genetic species defined by the congruent molecular datasets regarding ecological (sediment type, water depth), and geographic (different lake basins, different shores) factors. We also compare our ecological distribution data to the much larger dataset of Mazepova (1998) on

**Fig. 2** Congruent phylogeny based on 16S and 28S. This phylogeny has been constructed with Maximum Likelihood and Bayesian methods on DNA sequences of 922 nucleotides each. Statistical support is shown above (PHYML, bootstrap values) and below (MrBayes, posterior probabilities) branches, respectively. *C. sp. 1* to *C. sp. 4* are new species still awaiting formal description. Roman numbers refer to genetic species according to Table 2. Species printed in *bold* also show morphological differences. The *coloured columns* next to the tree show the type of sediment (**A**), depth (**B**), basin (**C**) and shore (**D**). Missing data are indicated in *black*

different sediment types and water depths of morphological *Cytherissa* species and subspecies.

We then generated a presence–absence matrix for each genetic species from the combined molecular dataset for the four distribution variables, using our geographic and ecological data and the ecological data of Mazepova (1998). This data matrix was used for ordination analyses in PAST (Hammer et al., 2001). More specifically, we conducted a Principal Coordinate Analysis (PCoA) with the jaccard similarity index, and the default transformation exponent of 2. This kind of analyses plots the distribution of genetic *Cytherissa* species in a coordination system where the axes are linked to the different distribution variables.

## Results

### DNA extraction

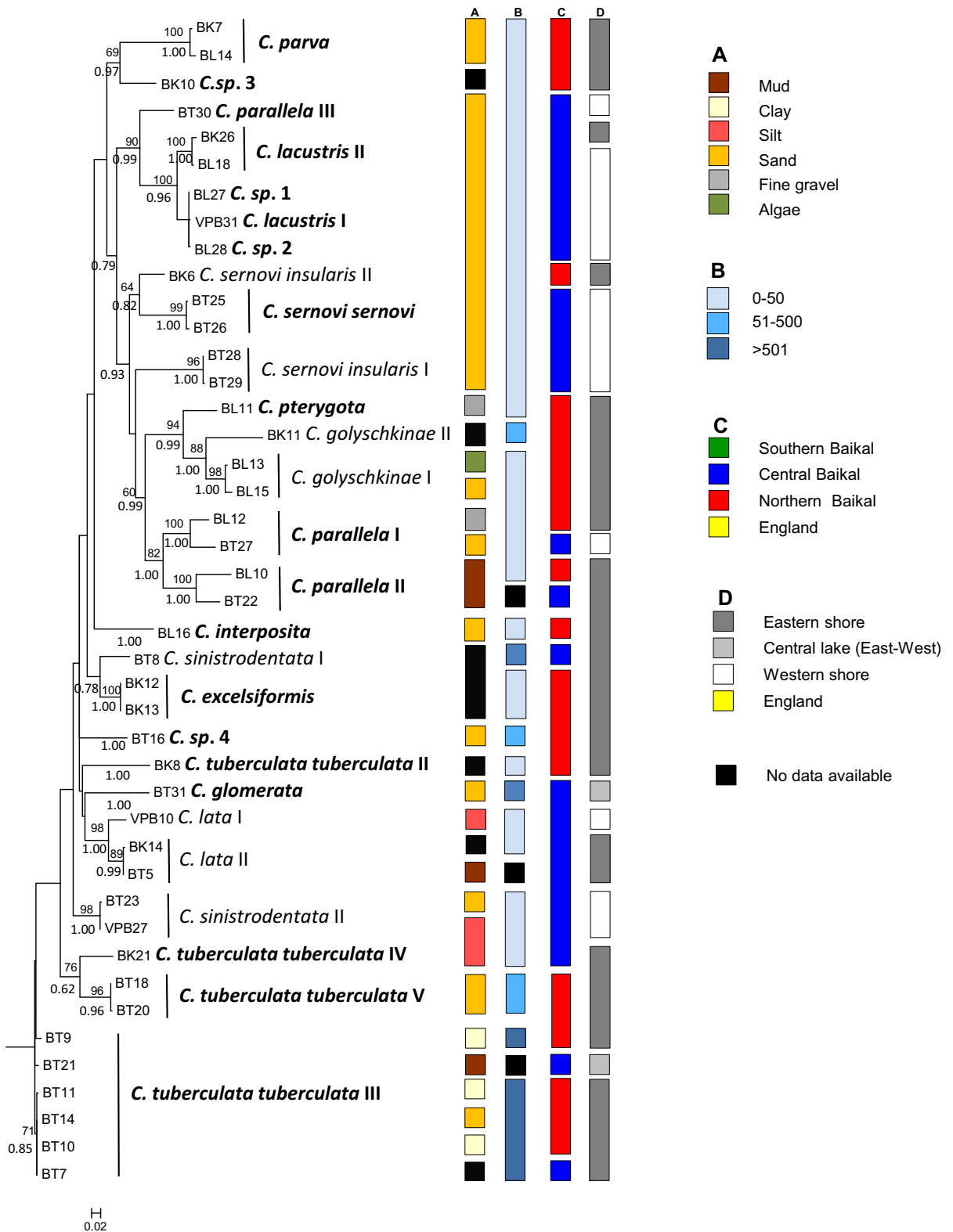
We have extracted DNA from more than 100 specimens, and have been successful in obtaining 68 sequences for 16S and 83 sequences of 28S, respectively (Table 1). Developing suitable primers for 16S has been a major obstacle and has involved several rounds of redesigning both forward and reverse primers. Problems with the primers are also the reason why we could not successfully follow the approach of Schön & Martens (2012) in acquiring more COI sequences from the same species and localities, which would have been very useful for further comparisons. Also, the specimens or DNA extractions of Schön & Martens (2012) were no longer available to be included in the current study.

### Molecular taxonomy

#### *Combined molecular datasets*

Combining both molecular datasets has resulted in phylogenetic trees with some higher support for





deeper nodes in the upper part of the tree (Fig. 2) than the phylogenies that were based only on 16S (Fig. S1) or 28S (Fig. S2). The terminal branches in Fig. 2 are generally well supported with bootstrap values of 75% or more and posterior probabilities of more than 0.8. In the combined 16S/28S tree, such well-supported clades consist of sister groups (*C. lacustris* I and II; *C. golyschkiniae* I and II; *C. parallela* I and II) but also of clusters of different morphological (sub)species (*C. parva* and *C. sp. 3*; *C. parallela* III and both *C. lacustris* I and II; *C. sernovi insularis* I and *C. sernovi sernovi*). The remaining part of the tree, however, still contains many polytomies, especially at the deeper nodes. With the exception of *C. lata* I and II and *C. tuberculata tuberculata* IV and V, respectively, the phylogenetic relationships of the eight other clades remains unresolved.

The 16S and 28S DNA sequences come from 13 known morphological species and one subspecies sensu Mazepova (1990) plus four new species that await formal description elsewhere. With the combined molecular data, we identified 26 well-supported phylogenetic clades (Fig. 2). Many of these are congruent with morphological species (*C. parva*, *C. pterygota*, *C. interposita*, *C. excelsiformis*, *C. glomerata* and four yet undescribed species (*C. spec. 1* to 4) plus one subspecies (*C. sernovi sernovi*). There are an additional five morphospecies with multiple, well-supported phylogenetic clades or with phylogenetically distant sister clades, both indicating possible cryptic species. *Cytherissa tuberculata tuberculata* splits into four such clades and *C. parallela* into three, while two each are found in *C. lacustris*, *C. sernovi insularis*, *C. golyschkiniae*, *C. sinistrodentata*, and *C. lata* (Fig. 2).

We have used two different methods to test if these phylogenetic clades fulfil the criteria to be considered different evolutionary genetic species. Because of the more limited number of specimens for which DNA sequence data are available from both genomic regions, the number of singletons in the congruent phylogeny (Fig. 2) is larger than in the 16S tree (Fig. S1). Singletons cause potential problems when applying the 4 $\theta$  rule (see below). Still, this method supports 17 genetic species within morphospecies (Tables 2, S1) plus another eight morphospecies (Fig. 2). The PTP algorithm recognizes all of the clades from the 4 $\theta$  rule (Table 2) and additionally splits *C. parallela* I and II into two different genetic species with one singleton each (Table 2). The ABDG

method delimitates the same species as PTP (when using the 16S data for ABDG; not shown, data are available from IS on request). We take a conservative approach in delimitating species, using support from all three methods and therefore regard the two clades of *C. parallela* I and II for now as two genetic species. We can then recognize a total of 26 different genetic species from the combined molecular data. For most of these genetic species, we find variation in valve characters (indicated in bold in Fig. 2), thus providing morphological support for genetic species boundaries. Many of these species are also the same as in Mazepova (1990). We also found four new morphological species (*C. sp. 1–4*) that are, with the exception of *C. sp. 1*, also fully supported by the combined molecular data. Other genetic species resemble the species sensu Mazepova (1990) to some extent but show additional valve differences. These species are still awaiting a formal taxonomic description and are for now indicated with Roman numbers after the original species name in Fig. 2 (*C. parallela* I–III and *C. tuberculata tuberculata* II–V—see Fig S3, SEM plate). However, in the other instances of genetic species with Roman numbers in Fig. 2, no clear morphological differences are found and these eight remaining lineages are here considered to be true cryptic species.

### 16S results

Because we could obtain more sequence data from this marker than could be used for the combined dataset, numbers of genetic species are slightly different. If we apply the PTP algorithm or the ABDG method (not shown, data are available from IS on request), we can identify 35 genetic species (Fig. S1). With the 4 $\theta$  rule, the result is, with 36 genetic species, rather similar, but individual species delimitations are incongruent for morphospecies with several genetic species (Table S3).

When comparing the 16S species boundaries to morphological variability as we did for the combined molecular dataset, we find a total of nine truly cryptic species in the 16S dataset (Fig. S1), one more than with the 16S/28S data.

The structure of the 16S minimum spanning network (Fig. S4) matches the well-supported phylogenetic clades in Fig. S1. We find 58 different haplotypes that are separated from each other by more than 20 mutational steps. Within evolutionary genetic species

**Table 2** Results of species delimitations with the PTP and the 4 theta method combining 16S and 28S data

	<i>C. t. tuberculata</i> II	<i>C. t. tuberculata</i> III	<i>C. t. tuberculata</i> IV	<i>C. t. tuberculata</i> V
<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> II	<i>1.00</i>			
<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> III	39.11	<i>0.91</i>		
<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> IV	*	35.20	<i>1.00</i>	
<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> V	127.92	35.75	72.90	<i>1.00</i>
	<i>C. parallela</i> I	<i>C. parallela</i> II	<i>C. parallela</i> III	
<i>C. parallela</i> I	<i>0.99 (IA<sup>S</sup>) 0.99 (IB<sup>S</sup>)</i>			
<i>C. parallela</i> II	4.16	<i>1.00 (IIA<sup>S</sup>) 1.00 (IIB<sup>S</sup>)</i>		
<i>C. parallela</i> III	5.59	4.91		<i>1.00</i>
	<i>C. golyschkiniae</i> I			<i>C. golyschkiniae</i> II
<i>C. golyschkiniae</i> I		<i>0.84</i>		
<i>C. golyschkiniae</i> II		13.21		<i>1.00</i>
	<i>C. sernovi insularis</i> I			<i>C. sernovi insularis</i> II
<i>C. sernovi insularis</i> I		<i>1.00</i>		
<i>C. sernovi insularis</i> II		98.63		<i>0.86</i>
	<i>C. lacustris</i> I			<i>C. lacustris</i> II
<i>C. lacustris</i> I		<i>0.83</i>		
<i>C. lacustris</i> II		9.43		<i>0.90</i>
	<i>C. sinistrodentata</i> I			<i>C. sinistrodentata</i> II
<i>C. sinistrodentata</i> I		<i>1.00</i>		
<i>C. sinistrodentata</i> II		57.69		<i>0.86</i>
	<i>C. lata</i> I			<i>C. lata</i> II
<i>C. lata</i> I		<i>0.98</i>		
<i>C. lata</i> II		38.46		<i>0.98</i>

Results of the PTP algorithm are given in italics for each phylogenetic clade in the diagonal line. The results of the 40 rule for comparisons between phylogenetic clades are shown below the diagonal. Phylogenetic clades printed in *bold* fulfil the criteria of both methods. *t. tuberculata*

For the PTP method, the statistical support for each particular phylogenetic group of individuals is provided. For the 40 rule, only the ratio for the genetic distance between phylogenetic clades is shown here; other calculations on which these ratios are based, are detailed in Table S1 (supplementary material)

\* Singletons, to which the 40 method cannot be applied

<sup>S</sup> Additional evolutionary genetic species detected with the PTP method

such as for example *C. tuberculata tuberculata* III, *C. lacustris* II or *C. golyschkiniae* IV, we also find haplotypes differing only by small numbers of mutational steps.

### 28S results

The nuclear ribosomal 28S region shows very little genetic variability amongst Baikalian *Cytherissa*

species. Consequently, the phylogenetic tree is unresolved with very few exceptions (see Fig. S2). There are only 18 haplotypes in the minimum spanning network, with a maximum of four mutation steps (Fig. S5) although more than 80 specimens from have been sequenced from the entire lake. The network shows three very common 28S haplotypes (Fig. S5). The most frequent one is present in more than ten different morphospecies and subspecies. Except for

one specimen of *C. golyshkinae* and *C. verrucosa* each that are separated by four mutation steps from the next haplotype (Fig. S5), all other single 28S haplotypes are only one or two mutational steps away from the three most common haplotypes or from each other. Because of the limited genetic diversity of 28S, we did not use these DNA sequence data to delimitate genetic species boundaries.

#### Current distribution of genetic *Cytherissa* species

Our sampling scheme contains habitats with different ecological (sediment type, water depth) and geographic features (south, central and northern basin; and east and west shores), which could have contributed to different distributions of the genetic *Cytherissa* species. Because our sample numbers are somewhat limited, we have compared our distribution data to the larger dataset of Mazepova (1998; Table S2). It seems that certain morphological (sub)species have previously been found on more sediment types than in our study (e.g. *C. golyshkinae*, *C. tuberculata tuberculata*, *C. excelsiformis* and *C. glomerata*; Table S2). Mazepova (1998) also reported a wider depth distribution for these three morphological (sub)species as well as for *C. sinistrodentata*. For the remaining seven genetic species, our data match the depth distributions of Mazepova (1998) well.

Table 3 summarizes the distribution data of all genetic species from the congruent molecular dataset, arranged in pairs of genetic sister clades to allow easy comparisons. A PCoA analysis of these data shows that most genetic species are well separated from each other (Fig. 3), also the species pairs from Table 3 and the various cryptic species (see above). The first axis with an eigenvalue of 1.5139 explains 35.6% of the overall variation and the second one 22.03%, which are relatively high scores.

## Discussion

### Phylogenetic and network structures

We have sequenced two different genetic markers, namely part of the mitochondrial 16S and part of the nuclear 28S ribosomal region from 18 morphological (sub)species of *Cytherissa*. The molecular phylogenies from both genomic regions show many

polytomies, especially of the deeper nodes, regardless of the methods used for phylogenetic reconstructions (Figs. 2, S1, S2) and when using the two datasets either separately or combined (Figs. 2, S1, S2). In our 16S and combined 16S/28S trees, only the terminal nodes and some deeper nodes (16S/28S) are statistically well supported (Fig. 2), whereas almost the entire 28S phylogeny remains unresolved (Fig. S2). Our phylogenetic results thus resemble those of Schön & Martens (2012), as also in their study, the mitochondrial phylogeny of Baikalian *Cytherissa* ostracods based on COI had many polytomies, and only the terminal nodes were well supported in the mitochondrial gene (COI), while the nuclear phylogeny (from the ITS1 region) was not resolved at all. Similar incongruences in genetic variability between mitochondrial and nuclear markers have also been reported from other studies on ostracods (Schön et al., 1998, 2010, 2012, 2014; Brandao et al., 2010; Koenders et al., 2012), and on meiofauna in general (Tang et al., 2012), resulting in low phylogenetic resolution and polytomies. One potential causality for this discrepancy is that nuclear ribosomal regions in non-marine ostracods generally seem to evolve at a much slower pace than mitochondrial regions (Schön et al., 2003). Even more relevant here is the detection of explosive speciation in Baikalian *Cytherissa* (Schön & Martens, 2012), which explains best why our phylogenies are unresolved at the base of the trees.

The topology of our combined tree (Fig. 2) reveals certain similarities with the trees in Schön & Martens (2012), as *C. tuberculata* is closest to the root of the *Cytherissa* flock and *C. parva* forms a well-supported clade with *C. sp. 3*, apart from the other *Cytherissa* species. However, in our present results, we cannot detect the four well-supported clades from the COI tree of Schön & Martens (2012). These inconsistencies could be owing to differences in genetic variability between 16S and COI and the fact that our dataset is not fully congruent with the data of Schön & Martens (2012). Because these authors used other specimens, it is also not possible to combine and re-analyse all existing molecular data of *Cytherissa*. The problem of resolving the Baikalian *Cytherissa* phylogenies urgently calls for the development of more suitable, large scale molecular markers such as sequencing entire mitogenomes (Schön & Martens, 2016) or large scale genomic data from multiple markers, such as those Meyer et al. (2015) developed for cichlid fish.

**Table 3** Current ecological and geographic distribution of genetic *Cytherissa* species. Distribution data on sediment and depth are based on Mazepova (1998) for the morphological species in question.

Genetic species and their pairs were defined from well-supported clades in the combined phylogenetic trees (using congruent sequence data from both 16S and 28S; Fig. 2). Distribution data differentiating sister pairs are printed in bold. *na* no data available, *N* North, *E* Eastern, *C* Central, *S* Southern, *W* Western. Depth is water depth in meters

Genetic species	Sediment	Depth	Basin	Shore
<i>C. golyschkiniae</i> I	Algae/sand	0–50	N	E
<i>C. golyschkiniae</i> II	na	<b>51–500</b>	N	E
<i>C. parallela</i> I	Fine gravel/sand	0–50	C, N	E, W
<i>C. cf. parallela</i> II	<b>Mud</b>	0–50/na	C, N	E
<i>C. sernovi insularis</i> II	Sand	0–50	C	E
<i>C. sernovi sernovi</i>	Clay/sand	0–50	C	<b>W</b>
<i>C. lacustris</i> I	Mud	0–50	C	<b>W</b>
<i>C. lacustris</i> II	Mud/na	0–50	C	E
<i>C. parva</i>	Mud	0–50	N	E
<i>C. sp. 3</i>	na	0–50	N	E
<i>C. sinistrodentata</i> I	na	0–50, <b>&gt;501</b>	C	E
<i>C. excelsiformis</i>	na	0–50	N	E
<i>C. lata</i> I	Silt/na	0–50	C	<b>W</b>
<i>C. lata</i> II	<b>Mud</b> /na	0–50, na	C	E
<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> IV	Silt	0–50	C	E
<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> V	<b>Sand</b>	<b>51–500</b>	N	E
<i>C. sernovi insularis</i> I	Sand	0–50	C	W
<i>C. sinistrodentata</i> II	Silt/mud	0–50	C	<b>W</b>
<i>C. glomerata</i>	Sand	>501	C	C
<i>C. interposita</i>	Sand	0–50	N	E
<i>C. parallela</i> III	Mud	0–50	C	W
<i>C. pterygota</i>	Fine gravel/na	0–50	C, N	E
<i>C. sp. 4</i>	Sand/mud	0–50, 51–500	C, N	C, E
<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> II	na	0–50	N	E
<i>C. tuberculata tuberculata</i> III	Sand/clay/silt/mud/na	51–500, >501, na	C, N	E

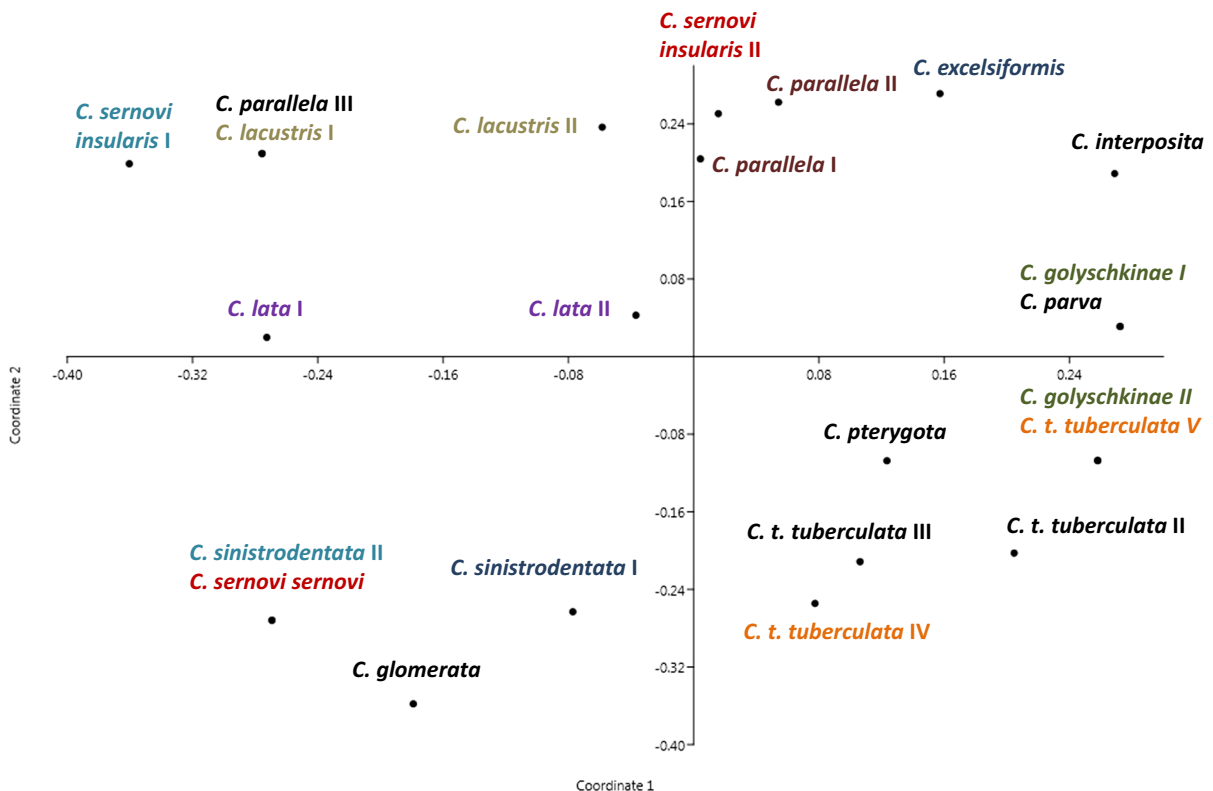
### Diversity of Baikalian *Cytherissa*

Our results show that the actual biodiversity of endemic *Cytherissa* in Lake Baikal is higher than previously thought. Mazepova (1990) recognized a total of 47 species and 10 subspecies of *Cytherissa* based on valve characters. We have used SEM (see above and Fig. S3) to study differentiation of valve morphology in all specimens and also characterized hemipenis morphology for selected *Cytherissa* species (Van Mulken et al. in prep.). Both methods provide a much finer resolution of morphological differentiation, as is illustrated by the four (16S/28S combined) to five (16S) new *Cytherissa* species that we found and that are confirmed with our genetic data. Also, in three *Cytherissa* morphospecies sensu Mazepova (1990), we can distinguish nine genetic *Cytherissa* species with clear differences in valve morphologies, that also

fulfil the criteria of the evolutionary genetic species concept using the combined DNA sequence data (*C. parallela* I–III, *C. lacustris* I & II, *C. tuberculata tuberculata* II–V; see Fig. S3 for the latter).

We have furthermore detected several truly cryptic species (without any apparent morphological differentiation), which supports the first indications reported by Schön & Martens (2012) for cryptic speciation in Baikalian ostracods. Using the combined molecular data set, we identify eight cryptic species (nine when only using the 16S; see Fig. S1). When applying two different statistical methods to delimitate evolutionary genetic species, the 4θ rule and the PTP algorithm, the overall estimate was for the combined dataset relatively similar with 26 and 27 species, respectively.

However, our combined 16S/28S tree has many well supported clades with singletons (Fig. 2), and the genetic diversity within such clades is zero.



**Fig. 3** Results of the principal coordinate analysis of genetic species defined by the congruent molecular dataset and their ecological and geographic distributions. Identities of genetic species are similar to Fig. 2. Species pairs from Table 3 are indicated by *similar colours*. Unpaired species are shown in *black*. If dots are labelled with several species names, these species share the same space in the coordination system. For all

species shown, ecological data on sediment type and water depth were taken from Mazepova (1998; see Table S2 for details), and geographical distribution data according to Table 3. Note that the new species *C. sp. 4* from Table 3 was not included in the analyses because no data on sediment type and water depth were available for this species from Mazepova (1998). *t. tuberculata*

Consequently, the ratios would have to be divided by zero and can thus not be calculated (Table S1). The results of the PTP algorithm are probably more robust as this method can also be used for singletons and we found furthermore the same genetic species when applying the ABDG method and this for both 16S and the combined molecular dataset. We could not increase the number of specimens in our study, because of the difficulties to obtain more 16S sequences (see above) and because of low densities of non-marine ostracods in Lake Baikal, especially at greater depths.

In total, we can identify 26 different genetic species with the combined molecular data set, representing 14 morphological (sub)species sensu Mazepova (1990). Our data thus almost double the previously known diversity of endemic *Cytherissa* species from Lake

Baikal. Our sampling includes all three basins of Lake Baikal, five different sediment types and water depths ranging from shallow habitats (c 20 m) to more than 500 m, covering most of the habitat and geographical diversity of Lake Baikal. Extrapolating our results on morphological and cryptic diversity to the entire Baikalian *Cytherissa* species flock (26 genetic species in 14 morphospecies sensu Mazepova (1990)) implies that we can expect almost twice as many (cryptic) *Cytherissa* species from Lake Baikal as previously known, with therefore one hundred species, including cryptic ones, being a more realistic estimate than the 47 morphological (sub)species sensu Mazepova (1990) previously known. Studies on ostracods from other ancient lakes have also reported the presence of cryptic species, thus considerably increasing classic diversity estimates (Schön et al., 2014; Karanovic, 2015).

Likewise, cryptic species have also been found in Baikalian amphipods (Vainola & Kamaltynov, 1999) and in Baikalian sponges (Itskovich et al., 2015).

High cryptic diversity and cryptic speciation in ancient lakes somewhat negates the recent findings by Poulin & Pérez-Ponce de León (2017), who attributed the higher cryptic diversity in freshwater as compared to terrestrial and marine habitats, to the greater heterogeneity of freshwater habitats. This hypothesis mostly refers to the patchiness and isolation of the many freshwater pools, lakes and rivers. However, in the case of ancient lakes, their long evolutionary history, large size and unusual depth are probably more important for generating cryptic diversity than providing many heterogeneous habitats.

Based on classic morphological species boundaries, ancient lakes have already been identified as major hotspots for non-marine ostracod diversity as, for example, they contribute 25% of all known freshwater ostracod species (Martens et al., 2008). The increase of the known diversity through the discovery of cryptic species from our and other studies emphasises the importance of ancient lakes as biodiversity hot spots, not only for ostracods. This has major implications for the conservation and protection of these lakes and their unique fauna and flora, even outside the lakes themselves (Schön et al., 2000; Schön & Martens, 2012).

#### Factors linked to speciation in Baikalian *Cytherissa*

Ancient lakes are in situ laboratories for evolutionary studies in general, and to investigate the factors that have promoted and caused speciation, giving rise to the impressive endemic diversity of these lakes in particular. Mayr (1942, 1963) regarded geographic isolation as the most important driver for (allopatric) speciation and this view dominated the field for a long time. Meanwhile, also the importance of intrinsic factors for sympatric speciation in ancient lakes has been recognized (see, for example, Schön & Martens, 2004 and Cristescu et al., 2010), with cichlid fish still being the most prominent example (e.g. Muschick et al., 2012). Martens (1994, 1997) furthermore reiterated the term “parapatric speciation”, describing isolation and gene flow along an ecological or geographical gradient, which is highly applicable to Lake Baikal with its deep, fully oxygenated abyss (down to 1600 m), and its north–south length of more

than 600 km (Martin, 1994). Because our study detected at least 26 genetic species of *Cytherissa*, including some cryptic species, and because our sample scheme included all three basins of Lake Baikal from the eastern and western shore, depths ranging from shallow to deep water habitats and five sediment types, we can make a first attempt to assess how recent *Cytherissa* species could be ecologically and geographically separated. Because of the limited number of molecular data currently available and the lack of extensive, dated phylogenies, our analyses can only provide the very first steps towards future, rigorous testing of hypotheses on allo- or parapatric speciation of non-marine ostracods in Lake Baikal in general and of selected *Cytherissa* clades in particular.

#### Geographic and ecological separation

Geographic separation because of historical vicariance might to some extent have shaped *Cytherissa* diversity, and possibly, also speciation in Lake Baikal. Our PCoA illustrates that most genetic *Cytherissa* species are clearly separated by extrinsic factors (Fig. 3), even if we use the (wider) ecological distribution data of Mazepova (1998) for water depths and sediment for morphological species and subspecies without being able to differentiate further according to our genetic species (see Table S2). What is more difficult to assess is the extent to which each factor might have contributed to the current ecological and geographic distribution and to speciation in the past. We find several examples where different (cryptic) *Cytherissa* species seem to be limited in their geographic distribution to a single Baikalian basin or shore (species pairs: *C. lacustris* I & II; *Cytherissa sernovi insularis* II & *C. sernovi sernovi*, *C. lata* I & II, *C. tuberculata tuberculata* IV & V; see Table 3). Distribution patterns potentially resulting from allopatric speciation amongst basins have also been described from Lake Tanganyika for ostracods (Schön et al., 2014) and cichlid fish (Snoeks et al., 1994; Rüber et al., 1999, 2001; Sturmhuber et al., 2001; Nevado et al., 2009, 2011). Keeping the lack of ancestral reconstructions and thus rigorous testing of this hypothesis in mind, our preliminary indications for allopatric speciation in Lake Baikal are still noteworthy as only one other case of supposed allopatric speciation from this lake is documented up to now, namely the case of *Eulimnogammarus*



*cyaneus* versus *E. messerschmidii* (Bedulina et al., 2014).

Other examples in our dataset show that besides geographic separation, also ecological factors like water depths or sediment types might have further contributed to the current disjunct distribution of certain *Cytherissa* species (e.g. the species pairs *C. parallela* I & II; *C. lata* I & II and *Cytherissa tuberculata tuberculata* IV & V, see Table 3).

For most of the genetic *Cytherissa* species, our depth ranges match the ones of Mazepova (1998) remarkably well. Exceptions include *C. glomerata* but also the common morphospecies *C. sernovi*, *C. sinistrodentata* and *C. tuberculata tuberculata*, for which Mazepova (1998) reported much wider depth distributions than we found for our different genetic species constituting these classic morphospecies (Table S2). Whether or not there is indeed a clear separation between the genetic/cryptic species by water depths and/or by sediment type (as in snails from Lake Tanganyika; Michel et al., 1992) still has to be further tested with more extensive sampling and subsequent genetic characterization.

#### Potential intrinsic factors

We can currently not assess at all to which extent intrinsic factors or adaptive evolution has caused sympatric ostracod speciation. To investigate trophic niches, for example, detailed morphological investigations of the appendages involved in food processing or stable isotope analyses would be needed. Preliminary analyses of soft part morphology in *Cytherissa* offer no indication for trophic specialization in the relevant head appendages (Danielopol & Tétart, 1990).

To study other intrinsic mechanisms, like for example hybridization or introgression which are common in cichlids from African ancient lakes (Koblmüller et al., 2007; Nevado et al., 2009, 2011; Cristescu et al., 2010; Genner & Turner, 2011; Anseeuw et al., 2012; Meier et al., 2017), is not possible to date as no suitable molecular tools are as yet available for ostracods. It remains therefore uncertain whether the large number of 28S haplotypes shared between different *Cytherissa* species (Fig. S5) is a first indication for hybridization or is merely a reflection of the low variability of this nuclear region.

Sexual selection has often been cited as a major driver in ancient lake speciation, and the best documented examples are of course (again) the cichlid fish (reviewed in Wagner et al., 2012). Sexual selection in ostracods has previously been documented in both freshwater (Martens, 2000) and marine groups (Tsukagoshi, 1988), and is often detectable by wide morphological differences in copulatory structures (hemipenes, prehensile palps) between otherwise closely related species. However, the study by Van Mulken et al. (in prep.) shows that the copulatory appendages in Baikalian *Cytherissa* species, albeit quite elaborate, are very similar amongst otherwise different species.

*Cytherissa lacustris* II is found in both Lake Baikal and in the UK (Table 1; Fig. S4; Schön & Martens, 2012) and has different reproductive modes. In Lake Baikal, its “sors” (shallow lagunas associated with the lake) and in Lake Huvsgul (Mazepova, 2006) it is fully sexual, while in the rest of the Holarctic it is obligate asexual (Schön et al., 2000; Schön & Martens, 2012). This variation in reproductive mode indicates that such intrinsic factors might also be relevant for ostracod speciation in ancient lakes (Martens, 1994) and elsewhere, and need to be studied with suitable tools.

#### Conclusions

To summarize, we found strong evidence from two molecular markers and morphological variation that the *Cytherissa* diversity from Lake Baikal is probably twice as large as previously known. Our preliminary data also indicate that the 26 genetic species are to some extent separated by ecological (sediment types, water depths) as well as geographic (basin, shore) factors. We argue that these separations might have been causal to allopatric and parapatric speciation along gradients without complete isolation. In the case of Lake Baikal, such gradients include the vast geographic distances among the three basins, between the two shores (east and west) and the large ecological gradient in water depth down to c 1600 m. These hypotheses will need to be rigorously tested in future research.

Other external factors possibly promoting speciation, such as multiple invasions, have already been documented (Schön & Martens, 2012), while also

adaptive and intrinsic components are expected to have further contributed to generating the high diversity of Baikalian ostracods and other endemic taxa. We hope that with the increasing availability of various “omics” techniques, also applicable to ostracods (Schön & Martens, 2016), future studies will be able to answer these fundamental questions of evolutionary biology, and in particular on speciation in ancient lakes.

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