

Interactive comment on “Sediment core fossils in ancient Lake Ohrid: testing for faunal change in molluscs since the Last Interglacial period” by C. Albrecht et al.

F. Wesselingh (Referee)

frank.wesselingh@ncbnaturalis.nl

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This is a very sound paper of the methodological most thorough groups of researchers dealing with long-lived lake faunas and evolution. The main finding, namely apparently extreme stability in long-lived lakes faunas over an entire glacial cycle, is very important and surprising but well documented. In general the paper is sound and the methodology very well executed. My suggestions are therefore merely suggestions.

(1) I would like to see a discussion about faunal change or stability in other long-lived lake systems. For example, in the Caspian Sea two and possibly three successive faunas developed in the last glacial cycle. So why so much stability in Ohrid?

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(2) Under 2.5 Sampling molluscan material. . . A slight problem is introduced with "complete or near complete shells". This is somewhat arbitrary. Without suggesting to redo analyses (not at all!) I would like to suggest to the authors to consider other possible treatments, such as using fragments of bivalves with more than half of the hinge and gastropods with the columella, for those that are identifiable. Are valves counted as one or a half?

(3) Under 3.3. I just wondered why the fossil fauna has not been compared by means of DCA or NMDS analyses to modern shelly assemblages.

(4) You may consider to call the Last Interglacial period either marine isotope stage (MIS) 5e or "Eemian"

(5) When looking at the depthranges in Figure 5 it strikes to me that much more precise depth estimate is possible, namely a very small zone where virtually all boxes overlap or nearly overlap at around 12 m depth. Such a precision might also be useful to compare the fossil fauna in more detail to modern faunas, it is namely in the deeper part of the Intermediate Layer.

(6) I'd say that the wording of the conclusion fits more a titles such as "perspectives"

Great paper, I look forward to it being published. Sincerely yours Frank Wesselingh

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