

Interactive comment on “Testing the spatial and temporal framework of speciation in an ancient lake species flock: the leech genus *Dina* (Hirudinea: Erpobdellidae) in Lake Ohrid” by S. Trajanovski et al.

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We would like to thank the referee for his/her efforts in reviewing our manuscript. The comments are greatly appreciated. We carefully considered these comments and we have adjusted the manuscript accordingly. In the following, we list the individual comments of the referee as well as our replies.

1. Introduction: Not everyone is familiar with leeches. As far as possible the authors should at least add a few words about the biology and ecology of the *Dina* species.

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According to the suggestion of the referee, we added in the Introduction information on the biology and ecology of *Dina* spp. We also added photographs from a live specimen as well as from a habitat in Lake Ohrid.

2. Page 5018, 10: How many haplotypes have been found within the 109 sequenced individuals? How were these haplotypes distributed across the sampling sites?

We added this information on page 10.

3. Test for genetic structure, page 520, 16-24: More details are needed: How many individuals have been analysed within each group? How many haplotypes have been found within each group? Is it wise to arrange all springs into one group? Springs are isolated habitats and hence gene flow among springs may be strongly reduced.

We added information for the test on genetic structure on page 9 as well as in Table 2. As for the springs in the Ohrid watershed, they are very close to the lake and studies have shown that they become inundated even with slight lake level increases. Moreover, if we would consider individual springs, sample sizes would become very low. Therefore we prefer to retain our grouping.

4. Page 5023, 9-12 and page 5025: I do not understand why there is no significant difference in population structure between profundal and littoral although the authors state that these sites never share haplotypes?

This is because haplotypes from the profundal and littoral do not form distinct phylogeographical groups but cluster together (see Fig. 4). Therefore, our test for genetic structure does not indicate significant differences, though these two groups share no haplotypes.

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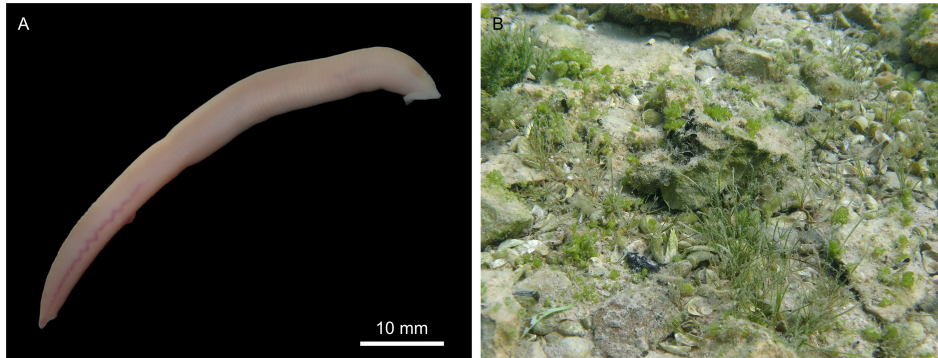


Fig. 1. Fig. 1. (A) Live specimen of endemic *Dina lyhnida* from Lake Ohrid, (B) Habitat photograph

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