

Interactive comment on “Ostracods as ecological and isotopic indicators of lake water salinity changes: The Lake Van example” by Jeremy McCormack et al.

Anonymous Referee #3

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General comments:

The presented new dataset provides a useful addition of previous investigations of the lake Van (Turkey). Previous studies of the two cores, containing in total 600.000 years lake history, mainly focused on pollen and geochemical data provides a very excellent geo-bio-climate archive and is unique over the world. Ostracod investigations are a very important tool to figure out lake history and at least climate record of these huge archive. Authors used not only the species diversity (poorly in this case) but also valve morphology and shell geochemistry. These are powerful tools, especially if the ostracod diversity is very poor like in this case. If the authors could show that nodding of

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the limnocytherids is (also) environmental controlled that's really important. It's a pity that the authors only investigated the upper 150 ky. It would be exciting to see what happened in the older sections.

Specific comments:

The authors should distinguish between noded *Limnocythere* sp. and *Limnocythere inopinata* to exclude species depending nodding. The authors should present a cross plot of oxygen isotopes and nodding to present this very important context. The authors only mentioned the three dominant taxa and refer to a subsequent paper treating the limnocytherid fauna. However, it is important to have information about the ostracod diversity in the current contribution. However, congratulation to this very nice study!

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