Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

Spatial distribution of environmental indicators in surface sediments of Lake Bolshoe Toko, Yakutia, Russia

Boris K. Biskaborn[1*], Larisa Nazarova[1,2,3], Lyudmila A. Pestryakova[4], Liudmila Syrykh[5], Kim Funck[1,6], Hanno Meyer[1], Bernhard Chapligin[1], Stuart Vyse[1], Ruslan Gorodnichev[4], Evgenii Zakharov[4,7], Rong Wang[8], Georg Schwamborn[1,9], Bernhard Diekmann[1,2]

*Corresponding author's Email: boris.biskaborn@awi.de

1 Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research, Potsdam, Germany
2 University of Potsdam, Potsdam, Germany
3 Kazan Federal University
4 North-Eastern Federal University of Yakutsk, Russia
5 Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia, St. Petersburg, Russia
6 Humboldt University Berlin, Germany
7 Institute for Biological Problems of Cryolithozone Siberian Branch of RAS, Yakutsk, Russia
8 Key Laboratory of Submarine Geosciences, State Oceanic Administration, Hangzhou, China
9 Free University of Berlin, Berlin, Germany

Manuscript status:
Approved by all authors. English proofread.

Keywords:
Diatoms, chironomids, XRF elements, XRD minerals, grain-size distribution, oxygen isotopes, organic carbon

Abstract

Rapidly changing climate in the northern hemisphere and associated socio-economic impacts require reliable understanding of lake systems as important freshwater resources and sensitive sentinels of environmental changes. To better understand time-series data in lake sediment cores it is necessary to gain information on within-lake spatial variabilities of environmental indicator data. Therefore, we retrieved a set of 38 samples from the sediment surface along spatial habitat gradients in the boreal, deep, and yet pristine Lake Bolshoe Toko in southern Yakutia, Russia. Our methods comprise laboratory analyses of the sediments for multiple proxy parameters including diatom and chironomid taxonomy, oxygen isotopes from diatom silica, grain size distributions, elemental compositions (XRF), organic carbon contents, and mineralogy (XRD). We analysed the lake water for cations, anions and isotopes. Our results show that the diatom assemblages are strongly influenced by water depth and dominated by planktonic species, i.e.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

Pliocaenicus bolshetokoensis. Species richness and diversity is higher in the northern part of the lake basin, associated with the availability of benthic, i.e. periphytic, niches in shallower waters. $\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$ values are higher in the deeper south-western part of the lake probably related to water temperature differences. The highest amount of the chironomid taxa underrepresented in the training set used for palaeoclimate inference was found close to the Utuk river and at southern littoral and profundal sites. Abiotic sediment components are not symmetrically distributed in the lake basin but vary along restricted areas of differential environmental forcings. Grain size and organic matter is mainly controlled by both, river input and water depth. Mineral (XRD) data distributions are influenced by the methamorphic lithology of the Stanovoy mountain range, while elements (XRF) are intermingled due to catchment and diagenetic differences. We conclude that the lake represents a suitable system for multiproxy environmental reconstruction based on diatoms (including oxygen isotopes), chironomids and sediment-geochemical parameters.

1 Introduction

Over the past few decades, the atmosphere in boreal and high elevation regions has warmed faster than anywhere else on Earth (Pepin et al., 2015;Huang et al., 2017). Dramatic socio-economic and ecological consequences are expected (AMAP, 2017) as well as substantial feedbacks from thawing permafrost and associated release of greenhouse gas in the global climate system (Schuur et al., 2015). Boreal Russia, as compared to the rest of the world, has been reported as a hot-spot region, where air temperature increases lead to substantial ground warming over the last decade (Biskaborn et al., 2019). Estimations of the accurate amplitude of environmental impact suffer from imprecise understanding of ecological indicators of past environmental conditions (Miller et al., 2010). Lake ecosystems, whose development is archived in their sediments, act as sensitive sentinels of environmental changes (Adrian et al., 2009), but rely on careful interpretation of suitable proxy data. Proxy information on present and past ecological conditions is provided by various biological and physicochemical properties of the sediment components (Meyer et al., 2015;Solovieva et al., 2015;Nazarova et al., 2017a). However, the spatial within-lake distributions of preserved remnants of ecosystem inhabitants and associated sediment-geochemical properties, depend on habitat differences between the epilimnion and the hypolimnion (Raposeiro et al., 2018), and are therefore expected to be non-uniform. Accordingly, precise paleolimnological reconstruction of past environmental variability requires a profound understanding of the recent within-lake heterogeneity.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

Our approach comprises commonly applied sedimentological variables that help to gain a holistic view on a lake's depositional history, including diatom and chironomid taxonomy, $\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$, grain size distributions, elemental compositions, organic carbon contents, and mineralogy. Abiotic sediment preferences represent signals that result from external input of material and lake-internal conditions during deposition as well as post-sedimentary diagenetic processes near the sediment surface (Biskaborn et al., 2013b;Bouchard et al., 2016). To reliably identify true environmental signals, it is therefore necessary to apply multiproxy approaches that enable an understanding of lake-internal filters between original external forcing and the resulting preferences of the sediment deposition (Cohen, 2003).

Diatoms (unicellular, siliceous microalgae) represent a major part of the aquatic primary producers. They appear ubiquitous and their opaline frustules are well preserved in the sedimentary record, allowing exact identification down to sub-species level by high-resolution light microscope analysis (Battarbee et al., 2001). Diatoms are among the most applied bioindicators for past and present ecosystem changes in boreal environments (Miller et al., 2010;Pestryakova et al., 2012;Hoff et al., 2015;Herzschuh et al., 2013;Biskaborn et al., 2012;Biskaborn et al., 2016;Palagushkina et al., 2017;Douglas and Smol, 2010). Widespread responses of planktonic diatoms to recent climate change prove that lakes in the northern hemisphere often have already crossed important ecological thresholds (Smol and Douglas, 2007;Rühland et al., 2008). The very rapid life cycles of the specimen of days to weeks (Round et al., 1990) enables changes in diatom assemblages on very short time-scales in response to changes in environmental circumstances, e.g. cooling or warming (Anderson, 1990). The link between climate change and diatoms, however, cannot easily be addressed via simple temperature-inference models. The situation demands a more complete understanding of the interactions between the aquatic ecosystem with lake habitat preferences, hydrodynamics and catchment properties (Anderson, 2000;Palagushkina et al., 2012;Biskaborn et al., 2016;Bracht-Flyr and Fritz, 2012;Hoff et al., 2015). It is thus necessary to identify the relationship between diatom species occurrence, the isotopic composition of their opaline valves, and internal physico-limnological factors (Heinecke et al., 2017) within spatial heterogenic lake systems before drawing direct inferences about external climatic driven factors from single core studies.

Chironomid larvae (Insecta: Diptera) can make up to 90% of the aquatic secondary production (Herren et al., 2017;Nazarova et al., 2004) and hence their preserved head capsules represent well the aquatic heterotrophic bottom-dwelling ecosystem component (Nazarova et al., 2008;Syrykh et al., 2017;Brooks et al., 2007). Furthermore, literature reports a net mutualism of chironomids and benthic algae between the primary consumer and primary producer trophic levels in benthic ecosystems (Specziar et al., 2018;Zinchenko et al., 2014). Factors influencing the spatial distribution of chironomids within single lakes are water temperature (Nazarova et al., 2011;Luoto and Ojala, 2018), sedimentological habitat characteristics (Heling et al., 2018) and/or water depth and nutrients (Yang et al., 2017), as well as hypolimnetic oxygen (Stief et al., 2005) and the availability of water plants (Raposeiro et al., 2018;Wang et al., 2012b).

Secondary factors influencing the spatial distribution of subfossil assemblages are selective transitions from living communities to accumulation of dead remains. Both, biological remains and physico-chemical properties are influenced by sediment resuspension and redistribution processes described as sediment focusing (Hilton et al., 1986) which mainly depend on slope steepness (Hakanson, 1977) or, in shallow areas, wind-induced bottom shear stress (Bennion et al., 2010;Yang et al., 2009). Nevertheless, it already has been proven for other lake sites that within-lake bioindicator distributions are laterally non-uniform, contradicting the assumption that mixing processes cause homogenous microfossil assemblages before deposition (Anderson, 1990;Wolfe, 1996;Anderson et al., 1994;Earle et al., 1988;Kingston et al., 1983;Puusepp and Punning, 2011;Stewart and Lamoureux, 2012;Yang et al., 2009). However, many palaeolimnological studies have hitherto ignored that single-site approaches using only one sediment core do not encompass the full spatial extent and natural variability of the entire lake sediment archive. Heggen et al. (2012) reported that sediment cores from the deep centre of small and shallow lakes with high spatial proxy variability in the littoral zones contain representative bioindicator assemblages. The authors also conclude, that in larger and deeper lakes similar multi-site studies are necessary to make recommendations about the “ideal” coring positions for multi-proxy palaeolimnological studies.

In this respect, our general research question was: how spatially reliable are palaeolimnological proxy data in a complex lake system? To answer this question, we set up our research hypotheses: (1) Bioindicators will respond to different habitat properties and hence vary spatially in a complex lake system. (2) Water depth and sediment-geochemical parameters will correlate with species assemblages at different locations within a lake basin.

An analysis of spatio-temporal within-lake bioindicator distribution requires a suitable and large lake system with an anthropogenically untouched ecosystem and sufficient variability in water depth, catchment setting, and the sedimentological regime. These demands are met by Lake Bolshoe Toko which was considered as the deepest lake in Yakutia (Zhirkov et al., 2016), located in the Sakha Republic, Russia (Fig. 1). Our study aims to gain a better local understanding of proxy data for planned palaeoenvironmental analyses of long sediment cores from Bolshoe Toko. Therefore, our objectives are (1) to detect the spatial variability of abiotic (elements, minerals, grain size) and biotic (diatoms, chironomids, organic carbon) components of the lake’s surface sediments, (2) to reveal the causal relationship between the

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

distribution of aquatic microfossils, lake basin features, and sedimentary parameters, and (3) to attribute proxy variability to stressors and factors of the lake basin and its catchment.

2 Study site

The maximum diameter of Lake Bolshoe Toko (56°15'N, 130°30'E, 903 m.a.s.l) is 15.4 km, the maximum width is 7.6 km, the maximum water depth is 78 m (average 30.5 m), the surface area 8500 Ha, and the water transparency is 9.8 m and the lake was indexed as "clean oligotrophic water" (Zhirkov et al., 2016). The north eastern lake basin is shallower (<30 m) compared to the south western part of the lake (up to 80 m). The Utuk river runs through Lake Maloe Toko and brings water from the southern igneous catchment. The Lake Maloe Toko (called "small Toko", size 2.7 x 0.9 km, 168 m depth, tectonic origin) is located between high mountains south of Bolshoe Toko. The river inflow south of Bolshoe Toko forms deltaic sediments. The bay in the southeast is called Zaliv Rybachiy ("Fishing bay"). It is partly separated from the main basin and supplied with water by a small creek that itself is connected to a small lake (Fig. 1). The bay is reported to have a somewhat different fauna as compared to the Bolshoe Toko main basin, i.e. occurrence of fish that is typical for small lakes and not found out of the basin (Semenov, 2018). The "Banya lake" in the northeast is completely separated from Bolshoe Toko and was hence not considered in this study. The Mulam river is the lake's predominant outflow towards the northern direction along the south eastern border of Yakutia flowing into the Uchur, Aldan and finally into the Lena rivers.

There are no permanent settlements in the study area. During the time of field work there was a temporary mining settlement (built in 2011) located 17 km northwest from Bolshoe Toko in the upper course of the Elga river. This settlement was accessible by off-road vehicles we used to reach the lake, partly along temporary winter roads (frozen rivers and lakes) in March 2013. The exploitation of the El'ginsky coal deposits, planned for a productivity of 15-20 million tons year^{-1} (Konstantinov, 2000), will strongly affect the lake and its catchment. The territory of the watershed will increasingly be damaged and contaminated by off road vehicles and rain fall will produce muddy water which potentially can cause lake pollution (Sobakina and Solomonov, 2013).

The lake basin is adjoined to the northern slope of the eastern Stanovoy mountain range in a depression of tectonic and glacial origin between two northwest-trending right-lateral strike-slip faults (Imaeva et al., 2009). A southward thrust fault runs along the southern border of the lake separating the Precambrian igneous rocks in the south from sandstones and mudstones of the Mesozoic Tokinski Plateau in the north. The Stanovoy mountain range in the southern catchment of the lake consists mainly of highly mafic granulites and other high-pressure metamorphic rock types (Rundqvist and Mitrofanov, 1993). At its north-eastern margins the lake is bordered by moraines of three different glacial sub-periods (Kornilov, 1962) (Fig. 2).

The study area is situated within the East Siberian continental temperate climate zone exhibiting taiga vegetation (boreal forests) and fragments of steppes and a predominant westerly wind system (Shahgedanova, 2002). The meteorological station in Yakutsk has recorded historical climate data (Gavrilova, 1993). In the 19th Century the mean annual temperature was circa -11° to -11.5°C. During the 20th Century temperatures have increased to around -10.2°C, in parallel with an increase in precipitation from 205 to 250 mm per year. The meteorological station "Toko" located approximately 10 km northeast of the lake, however, recorded mean annual air temperatures of -11.2°C (January min. -65°C, July max. +34°C, annual precipitation 276-579 mm). Measurements taken directly at the lake were lower, indicating the influence of cold water from the Stanovoy mountain range in summer and the high volume of ice during wintertime (Konstantinov, 2000). Since the average air temperature in southern Yakutia increases with height (temperature inversion of ~2°C 100 m^{-1}), permafrost can be locally discontinuous where taliks (unfrozen zones) underneath topographically high and deep lakes penetrate the permafrost zone (Konstantinov, 1986). As observed in 1971 (Konstantinov, 2000) ice cover lasts at least partly until mid-July.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

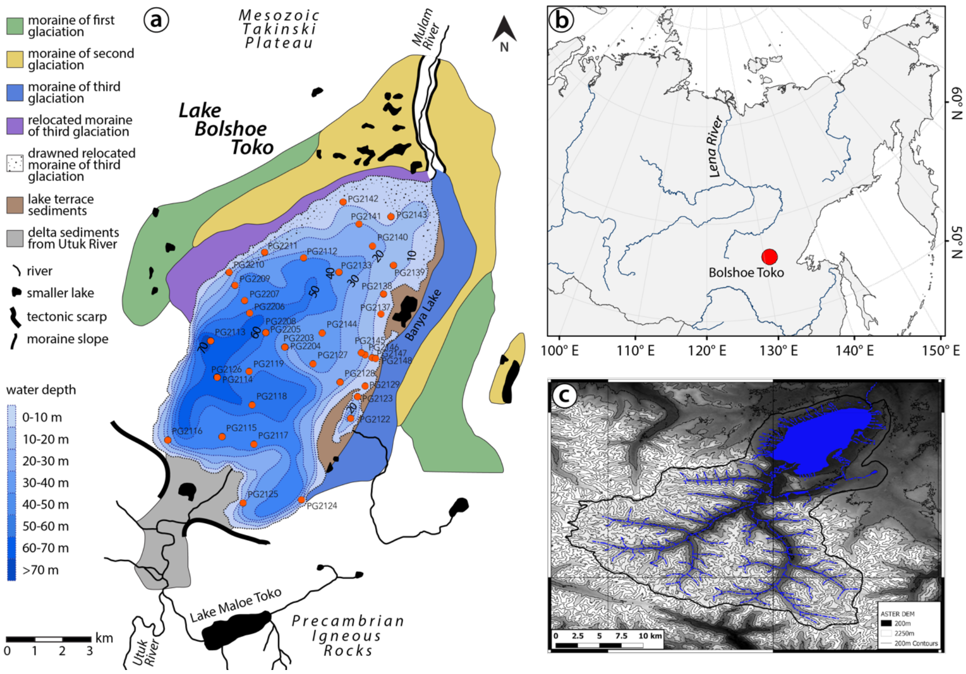


Fig. 1 Lake Bolshoe Toko study site. **a** Geological map, bathymetry and moraines. Map compiled using data from Konstantinov (2000) and Kornilov (1962). **b** Overview map of Siberia. World Borders data are derived from http://thematicmapping.org/downloads/world_borders.php and licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0. **c** Catchment area around Bolshoe Toko delineated from the ASTER GDEM V2 model between the latitudes N54° and N56° and longitudes E130° to E131° (1) (Meyer et al., 2011) and a corresponding multispectral Landsat 8 OLI TIRS satellite image using QGIS (QGIS-Team, 2016). Most of the river catchment is located in the igneous Precambrian Stanovoy mountain range supplying the southern part of the lake with water and sediment. The shallower northeastern part of the lake is influenced by the surrounding moraines and Mesozoic sand- and mudstones.

3 Materials and methods

3.1 Field work

Field work was conducted during the German-Russian expedition "Yakutia 2013" between March 19th to April 14th 2013 by the Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI) and the North Eastern Federal State University in Yakutsk (NEFU). Lake basin bathymetry was measured with a portable Echo Sounder. Water samples for hydrochemical analyses of the water column and the ice layer were collected prior to sediment coring using a UWITEC water sampler. Water samples were analysed in situ using a WTW Multilab 340i for pH, conductivity, and oxygen values at the day of retrieval during field work. A sub-sample of the original water was passed through a 0.45 µm cellulose-acetate filter, stored and transported in 60-ml Nalgene polyethylene bottles for subsequent anion

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

and cation analyses in AWI laboratories in autumn 2013. Cation samples were acidified during field work with HNO_3, suprapure (65%) to prevent microbial conversion processes and adsorptive accretion.

At 42 sites within the lake, short cores containing intact sediment surface material were retrieved using an UWITEC gravity corer. Water depth at sampling sites was measured using either a hand-held HONDEX PS-7 LCD digital sounder and/or the cord of the coring device when the lake ice cover disturbed the signal. The sediment was identified as clayish silt deposits with predominant dark (black) color and a weak smell of hydrogen sulphide, a sticky and viscous mud mixed with plant and other organic residues. The uppermost ca. 2 cm at some sites had a dark red colouring indicating the redox boundary between oxygenated and anoxic sediments. We identified the uppermost 0.5 cm of short cores as surface sediments and subsampled these layers onsite during fieldwork to avoid sediment mixture during transport. Sediment samples were transported in sterile "Whirl-Pak" bags and sediment cores were transported in plastic liners to the AWI laboratories in Potsdam, Germany, and stored at 4°C in a dark room for further analyses and as back-up.

3.2 Laboratory analyses

3.2.1 Hydrochemistry

From the water samples anions were analysed using ion chromatography (Dionex DX 320) and cations were determined using inductively coupled plasma–optical emission spectrometry (ICP-OES, Perkin-Elmer Optima 8300DV Perkin-Elmer – Optical Emission Spectrometer. Hydrogen carbonate concentrations were measured by titration with 0.01 M HCl using an automatic titrator (Metrohm 794 Basic Titrino).

Stable hydrogen and oxygen isotope analyses were carried out with Finnigan MAT Delta-S mass spectrometers with two equilibration units using common equilibration techniques (Meyer et al., 2000), and given as $\delta^{18}O$ and δD in ‰ vs. VSMOW (Vienna Standard Mean Ocean Water). The d excess ($d = \delta D - 8\delta^{18}O$) is indicative for evaporation conditions in the moisture source region (Dansgaard, 1964;Merlivat and Jouzel, 1979).

3.2.2 X-ray fluorescence and X-ray diffractometry

The elemental composition of 20 freeze-dried and milled surface samples was semi-quantitatively analysed by X-ray fluorescence (XRF) using a novel single sample modification for the AVAATECH XRF core scanner at AWI Bremerhaven. A Rhodium X-ray tube was warmed up to 1.75mA and 3 mA with a detector count time of 10s and 15s for elemental analysis at 10kV (No filter) and 30kV (Pd-Thin filter) respectively. The average modelled chi square values (χ^2) of measured peak intensity curve fitting for the relevant elements were variable, but generally low (Zr = 0.92, Mn = 1.49, Fe = 2.32, Ti = 1.53, Br = 3.65, Sr = 4.79, Rb = 4.98, Si = 16.11). Values above 3 were ascribed to suspiciously high count rates from sample PG2133 which was subsequently excluded from XRF interpretation. The relatively low amount of total sample material available did not facilitate the removal of organic matter before prior to sample measurement and may have contributed to the variable modelled chi square values.

As interpretation of raw device obtained element intensities (in counts per second, cps) is problematic due to non-linear matrix effects and variations in sample density, water content and grain-size (Tjallingii et al., 2007), cps values were transformed using a centred-log ratio transformation (CLR). Element ratios were calculated from raw cps values and transformed using an additive-log ratio transformation (ALR) (Weltje and Tjallingii, 2008).

The mineralogical composition of 32 freeze-dried and milled samples was analysed by standard X-ray diffractometry (XRD) using a Philips PW1820 goniometer at AWI Bremerhaven applying Cobalt-Potassium alpha (CoKα) radiation (40 kV, 40 mA) as outlined in Petschick et al. (1996). The intensity of diffracted radiation was calculated as counts of peak areas using XRD processing software MacDiff 4.0.7 (freeware developed by R. Petschick in 1999). Individual mineral contents were expressed as percentages of bulk sediment XRD counts (Voigt, 2009). Mineral inspection focused on quartz, plagioclase and K-feldspar, hornblende, mica, and pyrite. Clay minerals involved kaolinite, smectite and chlorite. Accuracy of the semi-quantitative XRD method is estimated to be between 5 and 10% (Gingele et al., 2001).

3.2.3 Grain-size, carbon and nitrogen analyses

In order to gain high-resolution information on the grain-size distribution, organic material was removed from 32 surface sediment samples by hydrogen peroxide oxidation over four weeks on a platform shaker. Two homogenised subsamples were weighted and 93 subclasses between 0.375 and 2000 µm were measured using a Coulter LS 200 Laser Diffraction Particle Analyser. Grain-size fractions coarser than 2 mm were sieved out, weighted and added to the volume percentage data afterwards to indicate the proportion of gravel.

Total carbon (TC) and total nitrogen (TN) of 35 freeze-dried and milled samples was quantified by heating the material in small tin capsules using a Vario EL III CNS analyser and total organic carbon (TOC) was measured using a Vario MAX C in per cent by weight (wt%). The measurement accuracy was 0.1 wt% for TOC and TN, and 0.05 wt% for TC. TOC and TN were compared to calculate the TOC/TN_{atomic}

ratio by multiplying with the ratio of atomic weights of nitrogen and carbon following Meyers and Teranes (2002).

The stable carbon isotope composition $\delta^{13}C$ of the total organic carbon fraction was measured in 15 samples using a Finnigan Delta-S mass spectrometer. Dried, milled and carbonate-free (HCl treated) samples were combusted in tin capsules to CO_2. Results are expressed as $\delta^{13}C$ values relative to the PDB standard in parts per thousand (‰) with an error of ±0.15%.

3.2.4 Diatoms

23 samples were prepared for diatom analysis following the standard procedure described by Battarbee et al. (2001). To calculate the diatom valve concentration (DVC) $5x10^6$ microspheres were added to each sample following organic removal with hydrogen peroxide. Diatom slides were prepared on a hot plate using Naphrax mounting medium. For the identification of diatoms to the lowest possible taxonomic level we used several diatom flora including Lange-Bertalot et al. (2011), Lange-Bertalot and Metzeltin (1996), Krammer and Lange-Bertalot (1986-1991) and Lange-Bertalot and Genkal (1999). For rare taxa (i.e. *Pliocaenicus*) literature research was applied in scientific papers, including Cremer and Van de Vijver (2006) and Genkal et al. (2018). A minimum of 300 (and up to 400) diatom valves were counted in each sample using a Zeiss AXIO Scope.A1 light microscope with a Plan-Apochromat 100×/1.4 Oil Ph3 objective at 1000x magnification. Identification of small diatom species was verified using a scanning electron microscope (SEM) at the GeoForschungsZentrum Potsdam.

During counting of diatom valves, chrysophycean stomatocysts and *Mallomonas* were counted but not further taxonomically identified. Count numbers were used to estimate the chrysophyte cyst to diatom index (C:D) and *Mallomonas* to diatom index (M:D) relative to counted diatom cells (Smol, 1984;Smol and Boucherle, 1985).

3.2.5 Oxygen isotopes of diatom silica

To analyze the oxygen isotope composition from diatom silica ($\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$) from 9 representative surface samples, a purification procedure including wet chemistry (to remove organic matter and carbonates) and heavy liquid separation was applied for the fraction <10 µm following the method described in Chapligin et al. (2012). After freeze-drying the samples were treated with H_2O_2 (32%) and HCl (10%) to remove organic matter and carbonates and wet sieved into <10 µm and >10 µm fractions. Four multiple heavy liquid separation (HLS) steps with varying densities (from 2.25 to 2.15 g/cm3) were then applied using a sodium polytungstate (SPT) solution before being exposed to a mixture of $HClO_4$ (65%) and HNO_3 (65%) for removing any remaining micro-organics.

To remove exchangeable hydrous groups from the diatom valve structure (amorphous silica SiO_2 * nH_2O), inert Gas Flow Dehydration was performed (Chapligin et al., 2010). Oxygen isotope analyses were performed on dehydrated samples using laser fluorination technique (with BrF_5 as reagent to liberate O_2) and then directly measured against an oxygen reference of known isotopic composition using a PDZ Europa 2020 mass spectrometer (MS2020, now supplied by Sercon Ltd., UK). The long-term analytical reproducibility (1σ) is ±0.25 ‰ (Chapligin et al., 2010).

Every fifth sample was a biogenic working standard to verify the quality of the analyses. For this, the biogenic working standard BFC calibrated within an inter-laboratory comparison was used (Chapligin, 2011). With a $\delta^{18}O$ value of +29.0±0.3 ‰ (1σ) BFC (this study: +28.7±0.17 ‰, n=49) is the closest diatom working standard to the Bolshoe Toko samples ($\delta^{18}O$ values range between +22 and +24 ‰) available. A contamination correction was applied to $\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$ using a geochemical mass-balance approach (Chapligin et al., 2012;Swann et al., 2007) determining the contamination end-member by analysing the heavy fractions after the first heavy liquid separation resulting in Al_2O_3=16.2±1.3 % (via EDX; n=9) and $\delta^{18}O$=8.5±0.8 ‰ (n=6).

3.2.6 Chironomids

Treatment of 18 sediment samples for chironomid analysis followed standard techniques described in Brooks et al. (2007). Subsamples of wet sediments were deflocculated in 10 % KOH, heated to 70 °C for up to 10 minutes, to which boiling water was added and left to stand for up to another 20 minutes. The sediment was passed through stacked 225 and 90 μm sieves. Chironomid larval head capsules were picked out of a grooved Bogorov sorting tray under a stereomicroscope at 25-40x magnifications and were mounted in Hydromatrix two at a time, ventral side up, under a 6 mm diameter cover slip. From 48 to 117 chironomid larval head capsules were extracted from each sample, to capture the maximum diversity of the chironomid population. Chironomids were identified to the highest taxonomic resolution possible with reference to Wiederholm (1983) and Brooks et al. (2007). Information on the ecology of chironomid taxa and groups was taken from Brooks et al. (2007), Pillot (2009) and Nazarova et al., (2011;2015;2008;2017b)). Ecological information of the taxa associated to biotopes (littoral, profundal), water velocity (standing, running water), and relation to presence of macrophytes were taken from Brooks et al. (2007) and Pillot (2009). T July optima of chironomids were taken from Far East (FE) chironomid-based temperature inference model (Nazarova et al., 2015). The Far East (FE) chironomid-based temperature inference model (WA-PLS, 2 components; r^2 boot = 0.81; RMSEP boot = 1.43 °C) was established from a modern calibration data set of 88 lakes and 135 taxa from the Russian Far East (53–75°N, 141–163°E, T July range 1.8 – 13.3 °C). Mean July air temperature for the lakes from the calibration data set was derived from (New et al., 2002). All modern and chironomid-inferred temperatures were corrected to 0 m.a.s.l. using a modern July air temperature lapse rate of 6 °C km^{-1} (Livingstone et al., 1999;Heiri et al., 2014).

3.3 Statistical analyses

Species richness and the Simpson diversity on diatom and chironomid data were estimated after sample-size normalization using a rarefaction analysis in the iNext package in R. Diatom valve preservation was measured and calculated as the f-index (Ryves et al., 2001). Diatom valve concentration was estimated as the number of valves per gram dry sediment following Battarbee and Kneen (1982).

Detrended Correspondence Analysis (DCA) with detrending by segments was performed on the chironomid and diatom data (rare taxa downweighted) to determine the lengths of the sampled environmental gradients, from which we decided whether unimodal or linear statistical techniques would be the most appropriate for the data analysis (Birks, 1995). For diatom data the gradient lengths of the species scores were 2.07 and 1.49 standard deviation units (SDU) for DCA 1 and 2, respectively, suggesting that lineal numerical methods should be used. A Principal Component Analysis (PCA) was used to explore the main taxonomic variation of the data (ter Braak and Prentice, 1988). The gradient lengths of chironomid species scores were 3.78 and 4.12 SDU indicating that numerical methods based on a unimodal response model should be more appropriate to assess the variation structure of the chironomid assemblages (ter Braak, 1995). However, test PCA performed on chironomid data showed that lineal method captures more variance of species data (ESM, Table a) therefore we further applied lineal methods for both, chironomid and diatom data. In order to summarize the response of lacustrine biota to abiotic, physicochemical explanatory variables, a redundancy analysis (RDA) was performed on diatom and chironomid data in comparison to environmental variables (Fig. 2 and 3).

Initially, all environmental variables shown in the Table 1 were used in RDA to assess the relationships between the distribution of bioindicator taxa and abiotic habitat parameters. Additionally we include in the analysis the presence/absence of the submerged vegetation, distances of the sampling stations from the shore and from the inflowing rivers. Variance inflation factors (VIF) were used to identify intercorrelated variables. Environmental variables with a VIF greater than 20 were eliminated, beginning with the variable with the largest inflation factor, until all remaining variables had values < 20 (ter Braak and Smilauer, 2012). A set of RDAs was performed on chironomid and diatom data with each environmental variable as the sole constraining variable. The percentage of the variance explained by each variable was calculated and statistical significance of each variable was tested by a Monte Carlo permutation test with 999 unrestricted permutations. Significant variables ($P \leq 0.05$) were retained for further analysis.

DCA, PCA and RDA were performed using CANOCO 5.04 (ter Braak and Smilauer, 2012).

Percentage abundances of the chironomid taxa that are absent or rare in the modern calibration data set were calculated at each sampling site in order to see the distribution of the taxa that could potentially hamper a T July reconstruction in case of palaeoclimatic study that could be done at each of the sampling sites. It is known that less reliability should be placed on the samples in which more than 5% of the taxa are not represented in the modern calibration data or more than 5% of the taxa are rare in the modern calibration dataset (i.e. Hill's N2 less than 5) (Heiri and Lotter, 2001;Self et al., 2011).

To assess the relative contribution of different sedimentary processes to the bulk sediment, such as fluvial or aeolian transport (Wang et al., 2015;Biskaborn et al., 2013b) a statistical end-member analysis on grain-size data was performed using the MATLAB modelling algorithm of Dietze et al. (2012). In this method, individual grain-size populations identified as end-member loadings (vol%, Fig. 4) as well as their contributions to the bulk composition identified as scores (%) were derived by eigenspace analysis, weight transformation, Varimax rotations and different scaling procedures.

A Pearson correlation matrix of the main important variables (Fig. 5) was calculated using the basic R core (R Core Team, 2012) and plotted using *corrplot*. A p-value adjustment was applied to only assign colours to values that revealed $p < 0.05$. To identify the pattern, the correlation matrix was reordered according to the correlation coefficient. Exceptional sites within the heterogenic lake system lead to disturbance of good correlation coefficients within areas along natural borders, e.g. water depth isobaths.

To guarantee the sustained availability of our research (Elger et al., 2016), the data will be uploaded and freely accessible in the PANGAEA repository.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

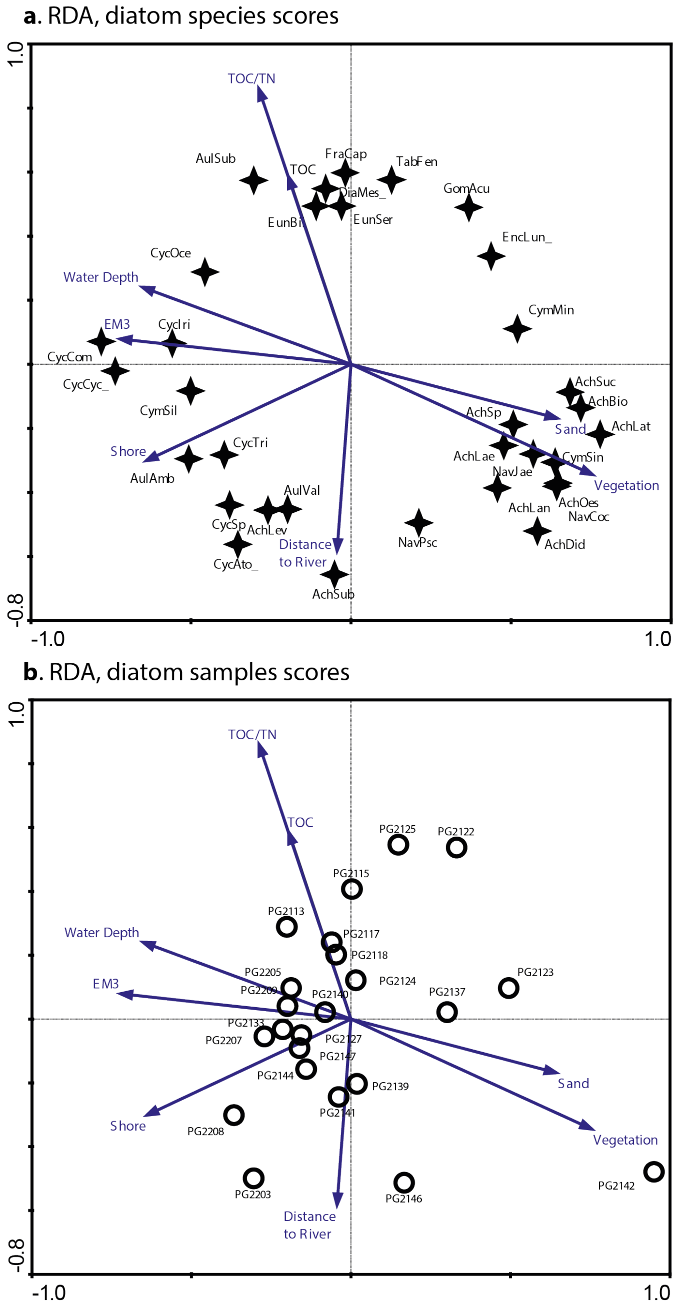


Fig. 2 RDA biplots of diatoms in the surface sediments of Lake Bolshoe Toko. (a) Common diatom taxa and significant environmental variables. (b) Diatom sampling sites and significant environmental variables.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

Biogeosciences
Discussions
Open Access

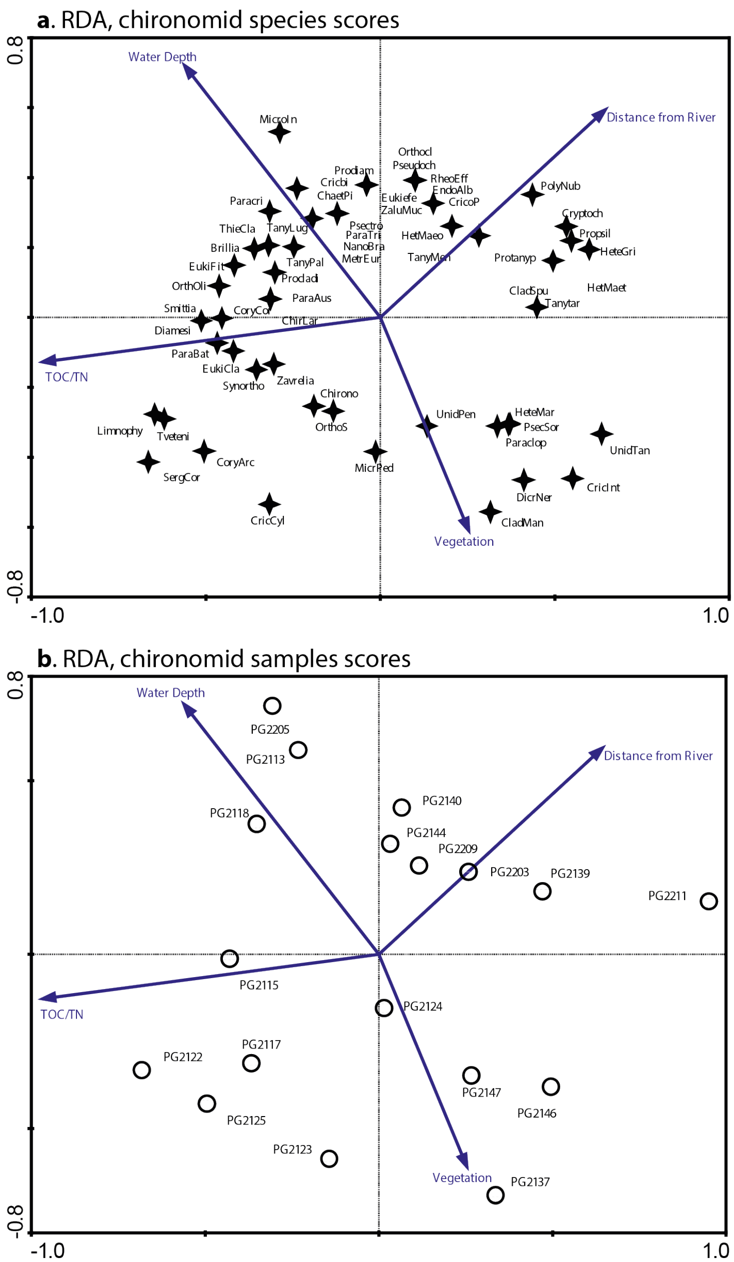


Fig. 2 RDA biplots of chironomids in the surface sediments of Lake Bolshoe Toko. (a) Common chironomid taxa and significant environmental variables. (b) Chironomid sampling sites and significant environmental variables.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

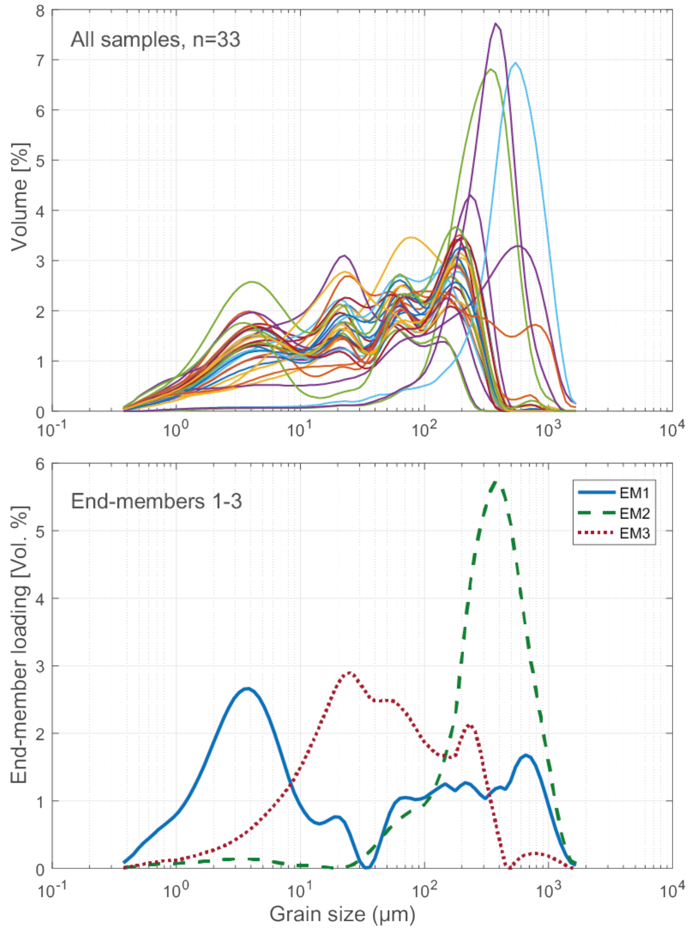


Fig. 4 Endmember analysis grain-size distributions in 33 samples from Lake Bolshoe Toko.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

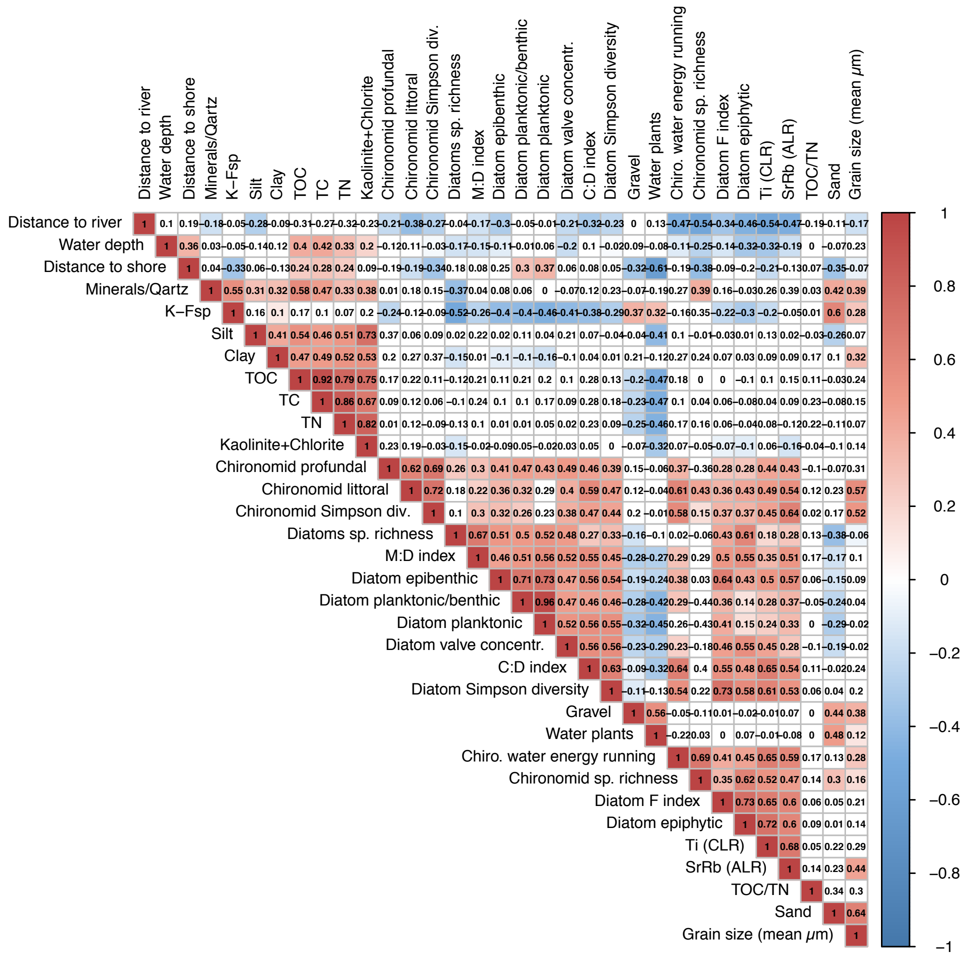


Fig. 5 Pearson correlation matrix of selected environmental parameters. Positive correlations indicated in red, negative correlations indicated in blue. A p values adjustment was applied and only values of <0.05 used to assign colours.

4 Results

4.1 Water chemistry

The sampled surface waters of Bolshoe Toko (Table 1) are well saturated in O_2 (101-113 %) with a pH-value in the neutral range (6.8 – 7.2). The electrical conductivity is very low for all waters, though the lagoon shows a slightly higher conductivity (67.8 μS/cm) than the rest of the samples (35.1 – 39.1 μS/cm). Traces of Al (mean 72 μg/L), Fe (mean 46.6 μg/L), and Sr (mean 37.1 μg/L) were found. However, there was no evidence for significant concentrations of environmental relevant elements (Pb, Cr, V, Co, Ni, Cu). The concentrations of sulfate (SO_4^{2-}) was 2.35 mg/l on average but lower in the lagoon (0.51 mg/l). The concentrations of nitrate (NO_3^-) was 0.76 mg/l, but lower in the lagoon (0.29 mg/l). HCO_3^- was 37.52 mg/l in the lagoon and 14.9 mg/l on average in the rest of the samples. There was no phosphorus found in any of the samples. Overall the water can be characterized as water of the Ca-Mg-HCO3 type.

The mean stable isotope composition of Bolshoe Toko lake surface waters at the six coring positions is -18.7‰ for $\delta^{18}O$, -140.2‰ for δD and 9.5‰ for d-excess, respectively. A relatively uniform isotopic composition of $\delta^{18}O$ = -18.58±0.15‰ (δD = -139±0.7‰) was observed for the main Bolshoe Toko waters, whereas the lagoon (PG2122) displays slightly more negative $\delta^{18}O$ (δD) values of -19.2‰ (-145‰). Water depth profiles were taken during the March 2013 expedition from the deepest part of the lake (PG2108, water depth 70m) and in the lagoon (PG2122, 18m) as well as in August 2012 (sample site near the western shoreline, 37m). The temperature was determined in the field and the samples analysed for isotopes ($\delta^{18}O$, δD, see Fig. 6). The mean isotopic composition of the water profile at PG2208 stabilizes from 10 m downward ($\delta^{18}O$ = -18.2 ± 0.2 ‰) and is slightly heavier than the surface samples ($\delta^{18}O$ = -18.6) due to isotopic fractionation during ice formation. In contrast, the lagoon shows a lighter isotope composition ($\delta^{18}O$ = -18.9 ± 0.2 ‰) than the main lake basin. Samples taken in August 2012 close to the western shoreline show a similar mean value down the water column ($\delta^{18}O$ = -18.2 ±0.3 ‰) but no change in the upper samples as seen in PG2208. A similar mean isotopic composition indicates negligible evaporation effects and no strong seasonal change. This is typical for through-flow lakes (Mayr et al., 2007). Generally, a higher variation is observed in the August record. Meteorological data from the nearby weather station (Toko RS, 10 km northward) recorded heavy rainfall for August 2012 (25 mm above the long term mean of 83 mm). Such precipitation events could cause temporary isotopic stratification or a variation in the isotopic signal throughout the water column. Due to ongoing mixing, these variations are then evened. In conclusion, variations in the isotopic composition throughout the August profile are more a temporal phenomenon and not characteristic for Bolshoe Toko. All samples are positioned close to the global mean water level (GMWL, Fig. 6) indicating an unaltered precipitation signal without significant evaporation.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

Table 1: Hydrochemical parameters from surface water samples of Lake Bolshoe Toko.

	Unit	PG2207	PG2208	PG2122*	PG2124	PG2125	PG2126	Average
pH		6.95	6.81	6.99	7.05	7.24	7.13	**7.03**
Conductivity	µS/cm	38.40	35.10	67.80	37.90	39.10	36.60	**42.48**
Oxygen	%	100.9	110.9	108.4	110.4	108.9	113.1	**108.8**
Al	µg/L	82.18	79.88	43.19	75.54	73.31	77.62	**71.95**
Ba	µg/L	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	**< 20**
Ca	mg/L	5.00	4.73	9.01	4.68	4.91	4.70	**5.51**
Fe	µg/L	24.56	26.90	147.56	24.96	33.13	22.22	**46.55**
K	mg/L	0.37	0.36	0.40	0.36	0.40	0.37	**0.38**
Mg	mg/L	1.16	1.09	2.71	1.07	1.13	1.10	**1.38**
Mn	µg/L	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	**< 20**
Na	mg/L	0.74	0.78	1.61	0.77	0.79	0.76	**0.91**
P	mg/L	< 0,10	< 0,10	< 0,10	< 0,10	< 0,10	< 0,10	**< 0,10**
Si	mg/L	2.11	1.93	3.01	1.98	2.05	2.05	**2.19**
Sr	µg/L	27.40	25.86	90.57	26.28	26.29	26.07	**37.08**
Pb	µg/L	< 25	< 25	< 25	< 25	< 25	< 25	**< 25**
Cr	µg/L	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	**< 20**
V	µg/L	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	**< 20**
Co	µg/L	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	**< 20**
Ni	µg/L	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	**< 20**
Cu	µg/L	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	**< 20**
Zn	µg/L	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	**< 20**
Fluoride	mg/l	< 0,05	< 0,05	< 0,05	< 0,05	< 0,05	< 0,05	**< 0,05**
Chloride	mg/l	0.51	0.51	0.55	0.60	0.60	0.58	**0.56**
Sulfate	mg/l	2.72	2.47	0.51	2.66	2.95	2.77	**2.35**
Bromide	mg/l	< 0,10	< 0,10	< 0,10	< 0,10	< 0,10	< 0,10	**< 0,10**
Nitrate	mg/l	0.82	0.82	0.29	0.82	0.88	0.89	**0.76**
Phosphate	mg/l	< 0,10	< 0,10	< 0,10	< 0,10	< 0,10	< 0,10	**< 0,10**
HCO3-	mg/l	15.71	13.58	37.52	14.80	15.41	15.10	**18.69**
δ18O	‰ VSMOW	-18.72	-18.5	-19.21	-18.63	-18.43	-18.71	**-18.70**
δD	‰ VSMOW	-140.2	-138.5	-145.3	-139.4	-138.2	-139.3	**-140.15**
d-excess	‰ VSMOW	9.6	9.4	8.4	9.7	9.2	10.4	**9.45**

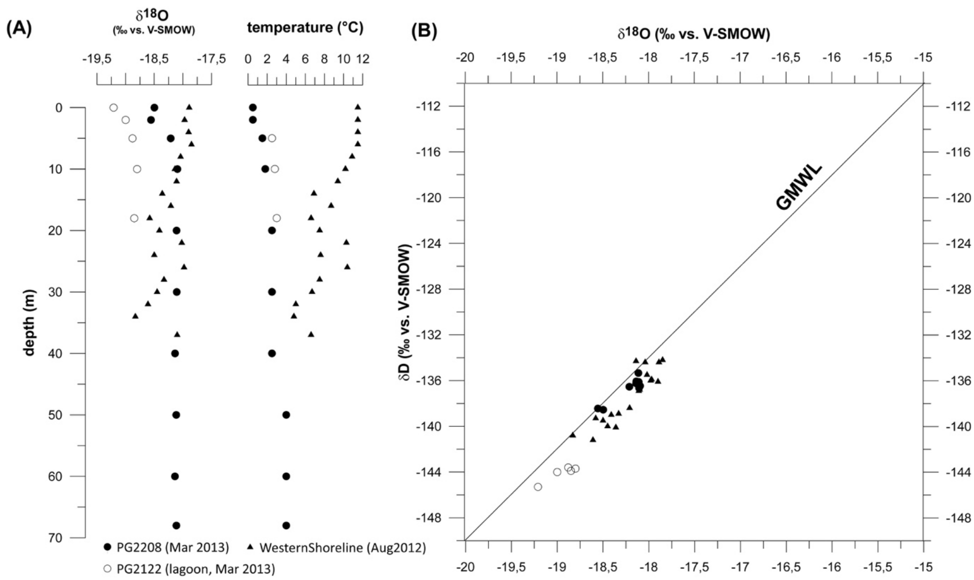


Fig. 6: (A) Profiles of water isotopes ($\delta^{18}O$) and temperature from different locations taken in August and March. (B) $\delta^{18}O$-δD diagram for various water samples. GMWL is the Global Meteoric Water Line (black line),

4.2 Physicochemical sediment composition

The typical surficial lake bottom sediments consist of either brown organic-enriched gyttja or sandy, organic-poor siliciclastic material. Sand contents ranged between 10.2 % and 96.2 % (mean 45.9 %, Fig. 7); silt contents ranged from 3.6 % to 83.3 % (mean 47.1 %); clay contents ranged from 0.2 % to 11.3 % (mean 5.8 %). Gravel was found only in four samples at the north eastern near-shore areas with contents of up to 13.1 %. The mean grain size ranged from 12 to 479 μm (mean 72 μm). The mean grain size generally correlated negatively with water depth (r -0.45). Mineral grains are composed mainly of quartz (32.7-76.2 %, mean 55.4 %), plagioclase (13.4-39.5 %, mean 26.2 %), K-feldspar (0.0-9.8 %, mean 5.6 %), and, to a smaller degree of pyrite (0.2-5.5 %, mean 3.3 %), hornblende (0.5-10.8 %, mean 3.1 %), mica (0.3-2.4 %, mean 1.1 %), and the clay minerals smectite, kaolinite and chlorite (together 0.0-4.6 %, mean 2.0 %). The spatial distribution of minerals (Fig. 7) revealed a generally decreasing gradient of minerals relative to quartz starting from the Utuk river delta (proximal) towards the northern areas (distal).

The CLR transformed XRF data (Fig. 8) revealed high proportions of Zr and intermediate to high Ti near the Utuk river inflow and at the northern and eastern shore proximal areas. Zr values are seen to decrease with increasing water depth towards the lake centre with the exception of the shallow lagoon where low values are observed. Mn values are highest in the lake centre and at the very deep site at the western steep subaquatic slope, and intermediate at shallow areas close to the shore. A minimum in Mn is seen in the lagoon. Fe tends to be highest in the southern part of the lake basin, in the very shallow site in the north, and in the lagoon. Br demonstrates an unclear distribution; however high values are found at 2 sites within the eastern lagoon that correspond to high TOC contents.

Additive log ratios (ALR) of Mn/Fe were variable with intermediate values found at sites surrounding the Utuk river inflow and low values within the lagoon and at basin central sites. High values were located at the deepest lake site as well as in the shallow north eastern region. Both Sr/Rb and Zr/Rb ratios demonstrated significantly high values directly in front of the Utuk river inflow that diminished with distance towards the basin center. Both Sr/Rb and Zr/Rb possessed intermediate to high values in the north eastern lake region and suppressed values within the lagoon. Si/Ti ratio values showed a trend from low in the southern lake region and lagoon to high in the northern lake region.

The contents of total organic carbon (TOC, Fig. 9) ranged from 0.1 % to 12.3 % (mean 4.9 %). Highest values appeared in the eastern area, intermediate values in the central parts, and lowest contents in the northern shallow water areas. The difference between TOC and total carbon is within the error of the devices and hence no inorganic carbon was detected. TOC contents and the TOC/TN ratios are highest near the Utuk river inflow in the southern part of the lake, in the lagoon, and in proximity to the eastern shoreline. $\delta^{13}C$ was exemplary measured in 15 samples and revealed maximum values at the eastern shore (-25.7 ‰) and minimum values everywhere else (-27.8 ‰).

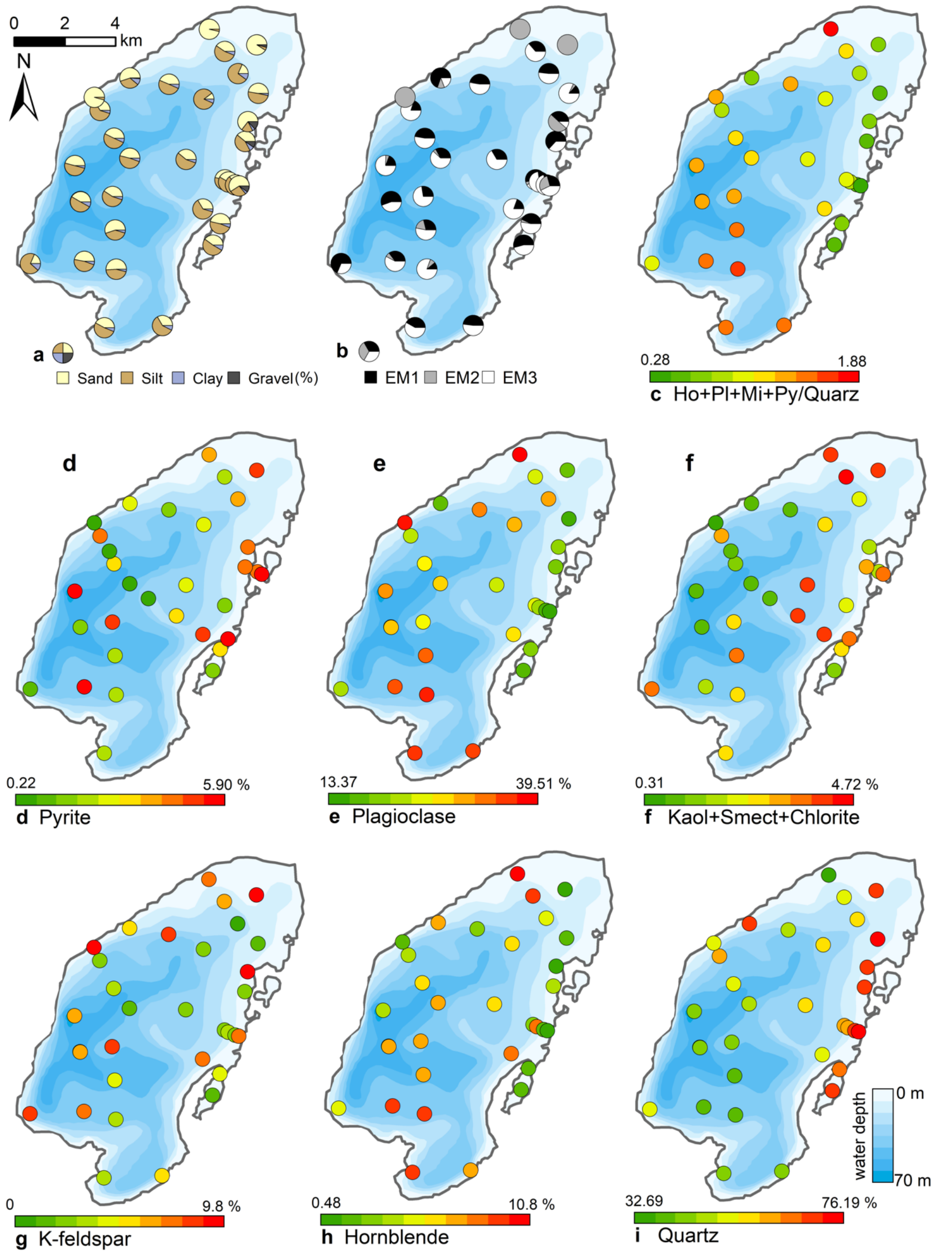


Fig. 7 Spatial distribution of the grain-size and mineral compositions of the surface sediments of Lake Bolshoe Toko.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

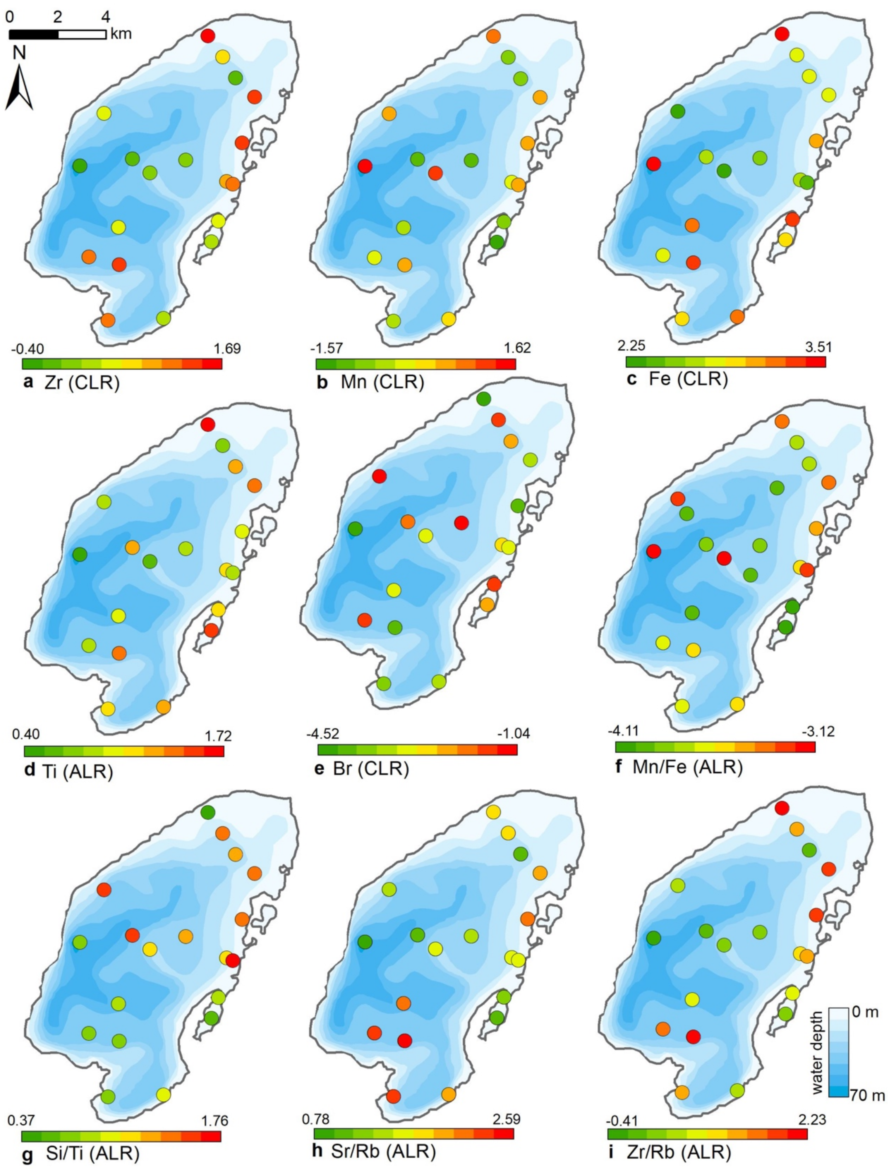


Fig. 8 Spatial distribution of elements obtained from XRF measurements of surface sediments of Lake Bolshoe Toko.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

4.3 Diatoms

The diatom species assemblage in the analysed surface samples was generally represented by boreal and arcto-alpine types and varied distinctly within Lake Bolshoe Toko. In total, 142 diatom taxa were found in 23 sites, dominated by planktonic species *Pliocaenicus bolshetokoensis (Genkal et al., 2018)* (0.0-27.9 %, mean 14.7 %), *Cyclotella comensis* (0.0-23.1 %, mean 10.9 %), and benthic species *Achnanthidium minutissimum* (0.0-38.0 %, mean 11.8 %). The relative content of planktonic species (Fig. 9) was 2.0-73.7 % (mean 54.2 %), epiphytic species 19.2-83.9 % (mean 36.4 %), and epibenthic species 2.6-23.0 % (mean 9.3 %). The spatial distribution of the main taxa are shown in Fig. 10. Small benthic fragilarioid species are represented by 0.0-27.6 % (mean 7.4 %), Naviculoid species ranged from 3.3 % to 12.9 % (mean 7.2 %), and *Aulacoseira* species ranged from 0.0 % to 10.8 % (mean 4.5 %). *Pliocaenicus bolshetokoensis* maximal appearance was in the areas with deepest water depth in the southern part of the lake and in the eastern lagoon. *Cyclotella* species were more frequent in the central part of the lake and were not as strictly bound to water depth as *Pliocaenicus*. *Aulacoseira* species were distributed without clear patterns in the central part and less abundant in the northern shallow water areas. *Tabellaria* species were more frequent in shallow near-shore areas than in central and deep-water areas.

Achnanthoid (monoraphid) species were most abundant in near-shore areas, especially near the eastern lake terrace. Fragilarioid (araphid) species were common in the southernmost part near the inflow as well as in the lagoon. Other benthic species, i.e. *Navicula*, *Cymbella*, and *Eunotia* were generally more abundant in shallow near-shore areas than in deeper water areas.

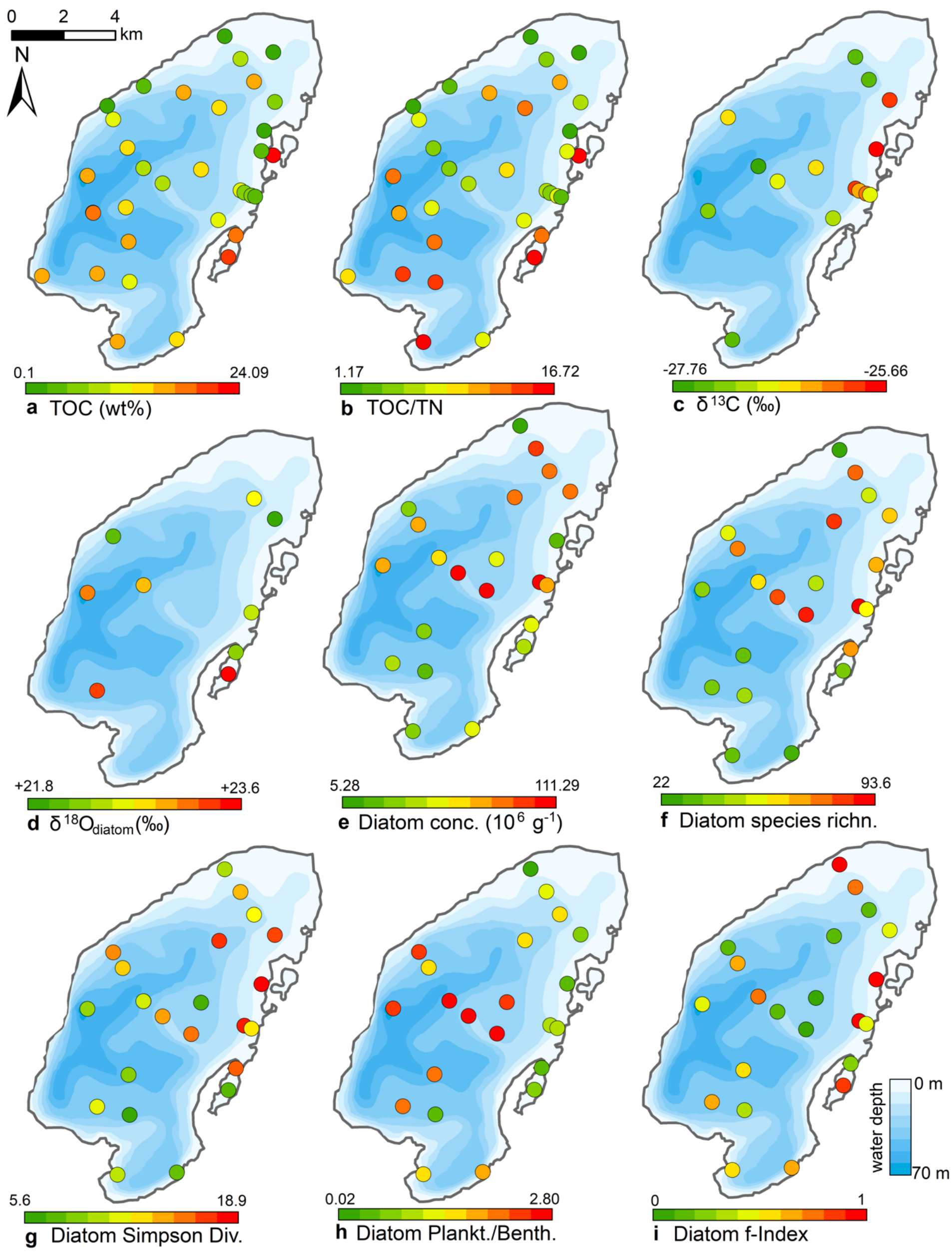
In pelagic areas planktonic diatoms were generally more abundant principally in pelagic areas than epiphytic and epibenthic species. Epiphytic species, however, predominated in some shallow areas in the north and east parts of the lake. Epibenthic species occurred in smaller abundancies in shallow lake littorals. Together with an increased amount of non-planktonic species, the Simpson diatom species diversity was higher in northern and eastern parts of the lake. The chrysophytes index was higher near the river inflow in the south and along the river-like bathymetrical structure and in the lagoon, where another small river runs into the lake. The *Mallomonas* index was high near the inflow and in the central part, and it was low at near-shore areas in the north and east. Highest f-index, representing the best valve preservation, was found in the near shore areas, whereas lowest values were found at a shallow bathymetrical structure in the central part of the lake. The highest valve concentrations were observed in the central and northern lake basin.

The initial RDA with all environmental variables showed that the axes 1 and 2 explained 39.6 % of variance of diatom species data. After deleting all intercorrelated variables, 13 parameters with VIFs <20 were left for manual selection with Monte-Carlo test. It revealed 8 statistically significant ($p \leq 0.05$) explanatory variables: TOC/TN, TOC, water depth, distance from River, distance from the shore, presence of vegetation, Sand, and EM3, (ESM diatoms, Fig. 2). Eigenvalues for RDA axes 1 and 2 constrained by eight significant environmental variables constitute 81% and 59%, respectively, of the initial RDA, suggesting that the selected significant variables explain the major variance in the diatoms data. The RDA biplots of the species scores and sample scores (Fig. 2) show that diatom species and sites are grouped according to the main environmental forcing responsible for their spatial distribution. The clearest environmental signals in the RDA are related to water depth, habitat preferences and river influence. The upper left quarter of the biplot is strongly influenced by water depth, grain size (EM3), and the ratio between TOC and TN. The species found next to water depth are planktonic *Cyclotella* taxa, whereas *Aulacoseira* is closer to TOC/TN and the total carbon content. In the lower right quarter epiphytic and benthic taxa prevail, i.e. achnanthoid, naviculoid and cymbelloid taxa, associated to the presence of vegetation and coarser (sand) substrate conditions. The distances to river and to shore are crossing the lower left quarter and are associated to different planktonic Cyclotella and achnanthoid taxa, while in the opposite direction, with increasing Utuk river influence, fragilarioid taxa, *Eunotia, Tabellaria, and Gomophonema* prevail, next to the high influence of TOC/TN.

The $\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$ averages +22.8 ‰ (min. +21.9 ‰, max. +2.6 ‰, n=9, Fig. 9) with a spatial distribution of higher values around 23.3 ‰ in the deeper south-western part of lake (PG2113, 2115, 2005) where as lowervalues of app. 22.3 ‰ prevail in the shallower northern lake basin (PG2139, 2140, 2147, 2209). The two samples from the lagoon show 22.2 ‰ in the shallower northern area and 23.6 ‰ in the deeper part. Generally, the surface sediment $\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$ show a standard deviation of ± 0.6 ‰ (1σ). Four samples from the southern part could not be purified well enough and show contamination corrections >2 ‰.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

Biogeosciences Discussions



674
675 **Fig. 9** Spatial distribution of organic properties and statistical parameters inferred from diatom assemblages in
676 the surface sediments of Lake Bolshoe Toko.
677

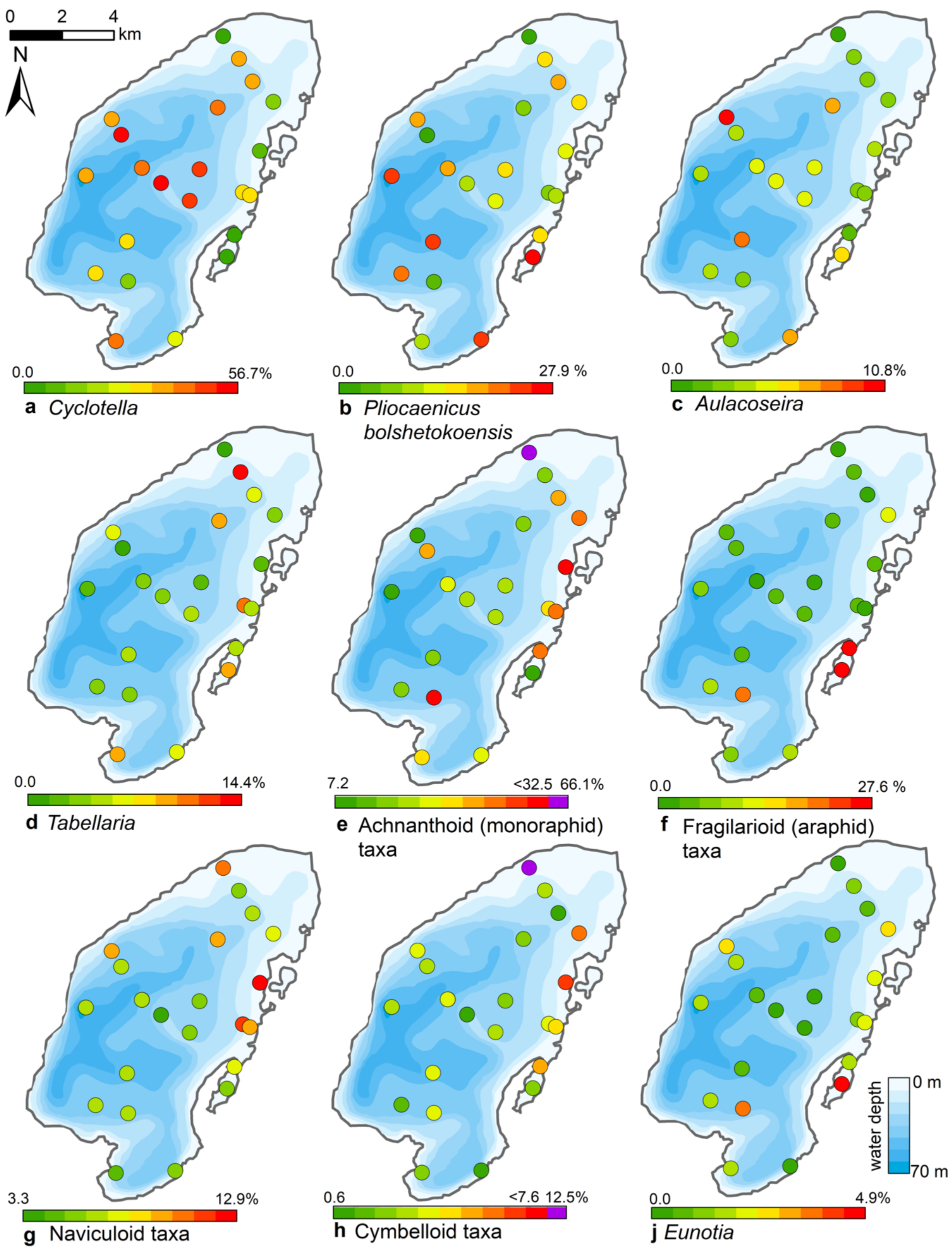


Fig. 10 Spatial distribution of main diatom taxa in the surface sediments of Lake Bolshoe Toko.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

4.4 Chironomids

In the surface sediment samples, we identified in total 79 chironomid taxa of which 48 belonged to subfamily Orthocladiinae, 25 to subfamily Chironominae (15 from the triba Tanitarsini and 10 from the triba Chironomini), 4 taxa were from subfamily Diamesinae and 2 from Tanypodinae.

The initial RDA with all environmental variables shows that the RDA axes 1 and 2 explained 46.7% of variance in taxon data. Most of the environmental parameters appeared to be intercorrelated and after deleting one by one all redundant variables, eight parameters with VIFs <20 remained for the further analysis. The manual selection with Monte-Carlo test selection revealed 4 statistically significant ($p \leq 0.05$) explanatory variables: TOC/N, water depth (WD), distance from River, and presence of vegetation (Table 2). Eigenvalues for RDA axes 1 and 2 constrained by four significant environmental variables were 0.200 and 0.150, respectively. They constitute 70 and 85 % of the RDA performed on all environmental variables (0.289 and 0.177, respectively). This minor difference suggests that the four selected variables sufficiently explain the major gradients in the chironomid data.

The RDA biplot of the sample scores shows that sites are grouped by their location in relation to the major environmental variables (Fig. 11) and distribution of chironomid taxa along the RDA axes reflects their ecological spectra. Table 2 and Fig. 11 show median values of eco-taxonomical chironomid groups and their relation to environmental parameters.

Sites most strongly influenced by the inflowing rivers are grouped in the lower left quarter of the biplot, as the vector in the upper right quarter shows an increase of the distance from the river mouth. In total 64 chironomid taxa have been found in this group of sites, and of these 33 have been found only here. Chironomid fauna is represented by mainly phytophilic littoral taxa from the Orthocladiinae genera *Cricotopus, Orthocladius, Eukiefferiella,* and *Parakiefferiella* etc. (Fig. 11). Another important feature of the fauna here is the presence of a relatively high amount of the taxa characteristic for lotic environments, among which are several *Diamesa* taxa, *Rheocricotopus effusus*-type, *Synorthocladius, Brillia*, and for lotic-lentic environments like *Parakiefferiella bathophila*-type, P*. triguetra*-type, *Nanocladius rectinervis*-type, *N. branchicolus*-type, several *Eukiefferiella* taxa, and *Stictochironomus*.

The group in the opposite upper right quarter represents the northern part of the lake situated far from the inflowing rivers. Here, mainly profundal taxa prevail, i.e. *Procladius*, *Polypedilum nubeculosum*-type, *Cryptochironomus* (eurytopic*)*, and *Heterotrissocladius maeaeri*-type 1 (acidophilic).

The lower right group of sites represent eastern shallow littoral with presence of macrophytes. Species richness and proportion of semiterrestrial and littoral taxa in this group is generally low. 29 chironomid taxa were found here and 5 taxa were found only in this group of sites. Littoral taxa here are generally phytophilic: *Cricotopus intersectus*-type, *C. cylindraceus*-type, *Dicrotendipes nervosus*-type (mesotrophic), and *Cladotanytarsus mancus*-type and *Psectrocladius sordidellus*-type (acid-tolerant mesotrophic). Most abundant profundal taxa here belong to the acid-tolerant *Heterotrissocladius* genera represented by *H. macridus*-type, *H. maeaeri*-type 1 and 2, *H. grimschawi*-type (acidophilic), and to the subfamily Tanypodinae represented by *Procladius*. The sites grouped in the opposing upper left quarter represent lotic and lotic-lentic taxa (*Diamesinae, Thenimaniella clavicornis*-type, *Eukiefferiella claripennis*-type, *Eukiefferiella fittkaui*-type, several *Orthocladius* taxa).

Table 2. Median representation of ecological chironomid groups in the modern FE chironomid based training set (Nazarova et al., 2015) in relation to mean July temperature, biotopes, water velocity, and presence of macrophytes (vegetation) in groups of sites reveled by the RDA. UN- unknown (all specimens that were identified to subfamily level only due to bad heads preservation or no information available); ST – semiterrestrial; L - littoral; P – profundal; R – river (lotic); S – standing water (lentic); F – phytophilic; N – neutral.

Group of sites	T optima, °C				Biotope				Water velocity				Vegetation			Represen-tation in the modern FE training set
	14-17	11-13	7-10	UN	L-ST	L	P	UN	R	R-S	S	UN	F	N	UN	
River	8.51	53.57	13.83	12.50	1.79	59.83	32.34	10.71	8.64	27.66	52.13	10.71	46.25	41.25	10.71	80.78
Eu Littoral	16.50	57.43	12.33	16.93	0.00	38.98	36.31	16.93	0.00	14.64	68.67	16.93	34.85	49.49	16.93	91.69
Sub Littoral	12.08	81.67	2.08	4.17	0.00	15.00	59.58	4.17	0.00	2.08	91.25	4.17	12.50	83.75	4.17	100
Profundal	0.00	72.73	0.00	22.73	0.00	9.09	50	18.18	0.00	9.09	72.73	18.18	9.09	72.73	18.18	78.03

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

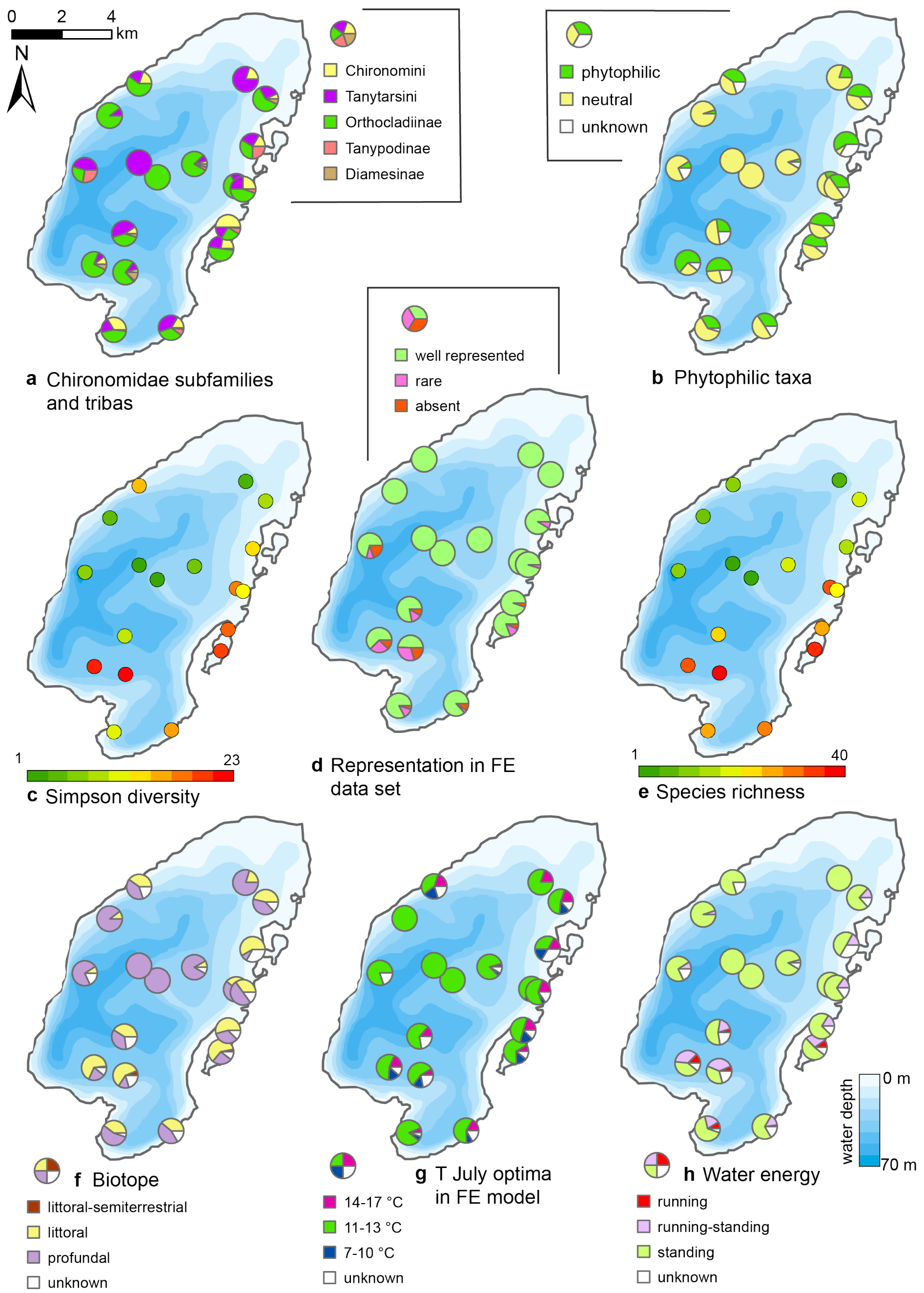


Fig. 11 Spatial distribution of chironomid taxa and inferred statistical parameters in the surface sediments of Lake Bolshoe Toko.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

5 Discussion

5.1 Spatial control of abiotic and biogeochemical sediment components

Physical properties of particles within the surface sediments of Bolshoe Toko depend chiefly on transportation processes and the characteristics and availability of clastic compounds in the source areas in the lake catchment. The main catchment comprises the Stanovoy mountain range in the south channelled through the Utuk river into Bolshoe Toko. Accordingly, the lake experiences annual input of suspended material through a single source at the Utuk river mouth that likely is at its maximum during spring snow melt (Bouchard et al., 2013). The grain-size data and its end-members (Fig. 4 and 7) show that the proportions of sand, silt, and clay remain somewhat constant in proximity to the Utuk river inflow but change towards the north and at the lake shoreline. Whereas in the central northern lake basin the amount of silt increases, the proportions of sand increase along the northern shoreline on top of the drowned moraine. Gravel is only present in samples near the lake terraces in the east. The constant distribution in the south-central lake basin reflects the river input. Decreasing river influence and hence decreasing water transport energy with increasing distance from the river mouth leads to the observed predominance of finer grain-sizes (silt dominated) samples in the northern central parts of the lake. Sandy samples along the shoreline reflect direct input from the moraines around the northern part of the lake. Other relevant within-lake sedimentary processes include shore-erosion and inwash and winnowing of fine sediment grains by surface currents as well as alluvial processes and debris flows which continue basin ward as subaquatic flows. The restriction of gravel at the eastern shore can be attributed to the availability of source material and suitable transport pathways of coarser clasts from the third moraine. In consequence to the described lateral transport trajectories and local control factors within the lake, there is only weak negative correlation between mean grain size and water depth (r -0.45, Fig. 7 and 12).

The modelled end-member loadings of the observed grain-size classes (Fig. 4 and 7) indicate EM1 having the major peak in fine silt representing mainly fluvial sediment input. EM2 having its peak values in fine to medium sandy grain-size fractions and in the northern part of the lake points to depositional processes associated with the erosion of moraines distal from the river inflow, where the hydrological dynamics in the lake basin are weak. As shown by a weak positive correlation between EM3 and the concentration of diatom valves (r 0.44), EM3 likely represents both in-situ diatom valves, that could not be removed from the allochthonous sediment particles during our sample processing, and possibly ice-rafted debris that is transported over the lake after ice break up (Wang et al., 2015).

Intermediate concentration of TOC and high ratios of TOC/TN in the south as compared to the north suggest differences in catchment characteristics, i.e. a considerable allochthonous contribution of terrestrial plant material from the Utuk river. This assumption is supported by previous findings that showed that non-vascular plants, i.e. phytoplankton and other algae, usually have TOC/TN ratios between ca. 5 and 10 while organic matter from vascular land plants has higher values of about 20 (Meyers and Teranes, 2002). High values of TOC/TN in lake sediment surfaces at river inflows have also been observed in other studies (Vogel et al., 2010). $\delta^{13}C$ was generally low on average (-26.8) and only slightly higher at the eastern shore (-25.7), suggesting a strong overall dominance of C_3 plants and phytoplankton in the bulk organic matter fraction (Meyers, 2003). It is yet unclear to what degree old and reworked organic carbon, e.g. from charcoal deposits, is transported to the lake.

The distribution of elements from the XRF scanning data suggests strong abiotic relationships to grain-size and mineral distributions. We focus on heavier elements because lighter elements, even though they are commonly present in higher concentrations, show potential contribution from multiple sources. Sr/Rb ratios and Zr are negatively correlated with Kaolinite/Chlorite (r -0.73 and -0.85, respectively). As described in Kalugin et al. (2007), Rb substitutes for K in clay minerals. The Sr/Rb ratios do not show however a significant correlation with grain-size parameters as found in other studies (Biskaborn et al., 2013b). We assume therefore that Sr, as substituent for Ca, is influenced by multiple minerals represented in different grain-size fractions, i.e. K-feldspar (r 0.45) and Hornblende (r 0.24). Associated to high metamorphic grades in the Stanovoy mountains, Sr is preferentially taken into the K-feldspar phase (Virgo, 1968). The Zr/Rb ratio on the other hand, correlates well with the sand fraction (r 0.50) and with the mean grain size (r 0.49), but negatively with silt (r -0.54) and clay (r -0.39). We explain this effect by a higher diversity of minerals caused by the input of the Utuk river supplying the lake basin with mafic Ca-rich metamorphic rocks from the Stanovoy mountains. The strong influence of the Utuk river in the spatial distribution of physicochemical sediment components is demonstrated by the decreasing gradient of minerals relative to quartz starting from the Utuk river towards the northern lake basin (Fig. 7). The most representative indicator of grain size variations in surface sediments is given by clr transformed values of Ti which correlate well with the sand fraction (r 0.74) and the mean grain size (r 0.88).

Si/Ti ratios have been used previously as a proxy for the biogenic silica content of sediments (Melles et al., 2012). This stems from the fact that Ti is generally attributed to detrital influx and Si to both detrital and biogenic (diatom) origins. At Bolshoe Toko somewhat positive correlations between Si/Ti ratios, diatom valve concentrations (r 0.36) and the ratio of planktonic to benthic diatoms (r 0.42)

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

suggests that Si/Ti may be useful to trace the relative portion of diatom valves in intermediate grain-size fractions. Moreover, the Si/Ti ratio correlates significantly with silt (r 0.81).

Mn/Fe ratios have often been ascribed to redox dynamics associated to bottom water oxygenation processes (Naeher et al., 2013). In Bolshoe Toko, however, the detrital input of ferrous minerals, i.e. pyrite, suggests that the Mn/Fe ratios cannot directly be used effectively to track redox processes in the surface sediments. This is supported by the correlation of Fe with the sand fraction (r 0.6) and grain-size (r 0.59). Accordingly, we found no significant correlations between Mn/Fe and other abiotic or biotic proxies.

There is an uncertainty in the spatial distribution of elements measured by XRF techniques. We attribute this lack of clear patterns to two main reasons: (1) methodological hurdles to apply XRF techniques to surface sediments commonly rich in water and organic material, and (2) multiple sources of the same elements coming from minerogenic input, grain-size differences in individual samples and different intensities of redox processes at different habitat settings. The high variance of elements therefore should be seen as a representation of the high complexity of this lake system rather than unequivocal validations or falsifications of the applicability of XRF scanner data as an environmental proxy at Bolshoe Toko.

5.2 Factors explaining the spatial diatom distribution

Given the fact that diatoms react rapidly to environmental changes, different driving factors influence the diatom distribution at different sites including hydrochemical parameters, water depth, nutrients, and catchment vegetation type (Pestryakova et al., 2018). Planktonic diatom species have appeared to have spread over the entire Lake Bolshoe Toko, with a distinct tendency of the ratio between planktonic and benthic species to greater water depths (r 0.74, Fig. 5 and 12), due to the limited availability of light for benthic species, as reported in other lakes (Gushulak et al., 2017;Raposeiro et al., 2018). Especially *Aulacoseira* species were never abundant along the shallower northern and eastern shorelines. The main difference between the two most abundant genera in the lake was that *Pliocaenicus* showed highest abundancies in proximity to the inflow and in the southeastern lagoon, whereas *Cyclotella* valves were more frequent in the lake center and absent in the lagoon. There is yet little known about the new species *Pliocaenicus bolshetokoensis (Genkal et al., 2018).* Our findings suggest factors other than water depth (r 0.39), such as proximity (e.g. nutrient supply) to the Utuk river and small streams, as controlling parameters for bloom intensities of this species. *Cyclotella*, however, is restricted to stratification of the water column and hence is more abundant at distance from the river mouth, where incoming water causes turbulence (Rühland et al., 2003;Smol et al., 2005). *Cyclotella* is therefore also believed to benefit from recent air temperature warming trends and will likely increase in abundance (Paul et al., 2010). *Aulacoseira* is a heavier, rapidly-sinking tychoplanktonic group of species requiring water turbulence to remain in the photic zone (Rühland et al., 2008;Rühland et al., 2015), which explains the lower abundancies in the northern and quitter zones within the lake. *Tabellaria* species are known to occur in a planktonic lifestyle with the help of zigzag colonies and relatively lightly silicified frustules. However, they also can appear as short-valved populations, which are believed to represent benthic forms (Lange-Bertalot et al., 2011;Biskaborn et al., 2013a;Krammer and Lange-Bertalot, 1986-1991). In our study, the spatial within-lake distribution of *Tabellaria* forms in Bolhsoe Toko indicates benthic habitats rather than planktonic lifestyle.

The most common non-planktonic species in Bolshoe Toko belong to achnanthoid (monoraphid) genera, of which most species are epiphytic. Epiphytic species showed a stronger negative correlation to water depth (r -0.68), than epibenthic species (r -0.4), indicating that water plants, controlled by water transparency, pH, water depth and nutrient status (Valiranta et al., 2011), represent an important function in the lake ecosystem (Fig. 12). The highest amount of achnanthoid and cymbelloid valves was found in at 400 m distance to the northern shore at a water depth of 0.5 m.

Fragilarioid species are adapted to rapidly changing environments and thus higher ecosystem variability (Wischnewski et al., 2011). The peak occurrences of *Staurosira* species, which are pioneering small benthic fragilarioids (Biskaborn et al., 2012), therefore indicates the formation of a new ecosystem habitat type in the lagoon at the south-eastern lake basin. We assume that this basin is successively being separated from the main basin and eventually will form a separated small remnant lake following the example of the small "Banya" lake four kilometres from the lagoon towards northeast (Fig. 1). High productivity of epiphytic species and low detrital input suggested by elemental and grain-size data, together with higher organic contents (High TOC and Br), indicate a calm sedimentological regime with high bioproductivity. Similar neutral pH values measured in water samples from the central basin and the lagoon (Table 1) questions pH as a main driving factor of the *Eunotia* peak in the lagoon. However, Barinova et al. (2011) suggest 5.0-5.8 pH range for the identified *Eunotia* species, which rather indicates that the pH values obtained during April in 2013 are not representative for the annual average and the specific catchment of the lagoon, which likely will differ from this point measurement. The ice break-up during spring and transport of water from the catchment restricted to the lagoon likely leads to milieu differences in the lagoon relative to the main basin.

The RDA biplot of diatoms (Fig. 2) suggests that both, water depth and distance to river are important lake attributes that explain the species distibutions across the lake. Especially *Eunotia*, fragilarioids, *Tabellaria*, and also *Aulacoseira subarctica* appear more frequently at sites that are close to the Utuk river mouth (e.g. PG2113, PG2115, PG2117, PG2118). The high TOC/TN ratios in these samples illustrates the strong riverine input of allochthonous material. In the biplots, high water depth is primarily associated to *Cyclotella* species (and *Aulacoseria*), while *Aulacoseira* species tend to be additionally influenced by incoming rivers and also thrive closer to the shorelines. Areas close to river mouths are usually dominated by river taxa and species that prefer higher nutrient contents related to river input and associated early ice cover melting (Kienel and Kumke, 2002). Accordingly, the influx of diatoms from wetlands in the lake catchment is an important additional factor influencing the spatial diatom distribution (Earle et al., 1988). As compared to conductivity, water depth and nutrients, analyses on the direct relationship between temperature and diatom species is poorly understood in Yakutian lake systems (Pestryakova et al., 2018) and should be omitted.

Our RDA also shows that a high diversity of benthic, and especially epiphytic diatom species, i.e. several achnanthoid species and some naviculoid taxa plot in the opposite direction from water depth together with vegetation and the coarse grain-size fraction. Kingston et al. (1983), revealed spatial diatom variability in the Laurentian Great Lakes, where the stability of diatom assemblages increased with water depth. In shallower marginal waters of the Great Lakes, the availability of diverse habitats, including benthic and periphytic niches, leads to high species diversity. According to our data in Bolshoe Toko, the Simpson index suggests higher beta-diversities associated to increased habitat complexity (Kovalenko et al., 2012), i.e. availability of water plants and benthic substrates in shallower depths along the eastern and northern shore. The higher productivity in this area can be explained by differential catchment preferences. However, it can be assumed that due to lesser water supply rates from the small northern part of the catchment (Fig. 1), a single spot at the north eastern lake margin will likely not receive significantly higher loadings of nutrients as compared to the Utuk river coming from the igneous mountain range. Nevertheless, moraine deposits typically contain high amounts of silt and clay which can more easily be weathered and altered to fertilizing substances that are transported into the calm and shallower northern part of the basin.

The indices of crysophyte cysts and *Mallomonas* relative to diatom cells exhibited indistinct patterns in the spatial distribution but a slight tendency towards high water depths. Although crysophyte cysts commonly represent planktonic algae (Smol, 1988a), periphytic taxa are also common in boreal regions (Douglas and Smol,

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

1995) with cool and oligotrophic conditions (Gavin et al., 2011). *Mallomonas* was reported as an indicator of lake eutrophication and acidification (Smol et al., 1984).

Taphonomic effects on the preservation of subfossil assemblages are generally influenced by clastic transport mechanisms depending on the lake morphology (Raposeiro et al., 2018). The preservation of diatom valves in Bolshoe Toko was lowest in samples from a plateau-like feature at the central part of the lake bottom, which indicates increased re-working associated to bottom currents and/or increased dissolution of diatom valves due to lesser accumulation rates, and/or increased grazing activity of herbivorous organisms (Flower and Ryves, 2009;Ryves et al., 2001).

The spatial distribution of $\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$ from the sediment surface showed higher $\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$ values at the deeper, south-western part of the lake with a difference of app. 1‰ compared to lower $\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$ values in the shallower northern part. This could be due to $\delta^{18}O_{water}$ variations, a difference in the average water temperature or a varying species composition assuming a species-effect exists. Several studies gave evidence that a species effect does not exist for this proxy (Bailey et al., 2014). Additionally, the sieving step reduces the assemblage before the isotope analysis to only a small size interval resulting in a similar species-composition. Regarding variations in the isotope composition of the lake water surface waters sampled at the same time in different parts of the lake show a very uniform isotopic composition (within ±0.15‰) suggesting a well-mixed lake system and no strong seasonal intermittency. As this is a one-time recording, slight seasonal variation between shallower and deeper parts (for example due to evaporation) cannot be completely excluded and could account for part of the differences in ^{18}O. An evaporation driven heavier water isotope composition in the shallower parts would however result in higher $\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$ values.

The lake temperature in which the diatoms grow has an impact of ca. -0.2‰/°C on the oxygen isotope signal (Brandriss et al., 1998;Dodd et al., 2012;Moschen et al., 2005). Shallower areas heat up faster especially in the photic zone. The temperature profile near to the western shoreline taken in August 2012 (Fig. 6) shows 12°C at the surface with an average of app. 10°C in the first 15m of the water column decreasing to app. 6°C in 30m depth. Although a spatial difference of 5°C in the photic zone for causing a 1‰ shift is rather unlikely, this could account for part of the variation in surface $\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$.

5.3 Factors explaining the spatial chironomid distribution

The RDA performed on chironomid data suggested that the most important factor driving the spatial distribution of chironomids in the Bolshoe Toko was influence of the tributary rivers. Influenced sites demonstrate high species richness with the highest diversity being found at the site 2117 situated just opposite of the Utuk river inflow and at the site PG2122, that is situated in the SE lagoon that gets water from a small inflowing stream. Semiterrestrial taxa, like *Smittia-Parasmittia, Pseudosmittia, Limnophies-Paralimnophies*, have been found only here with the highest abundancies of 6 and 3.2% at the sites opposite of the inflowing rivers (PG2117 and PG2122) suggesting that those taxa were transported from the dump or marshy river deltas.

Species at lentic sites with no tributary influence were mainly controlled by water depth. Deep profundal sites of the lake have much lower taxonomic richness of chironomid communities. Higher taxonomic richness at site PG2118 can be explained by an enriching riverine influence. High proportions of lotic and lotic-lentic taxa lead to a high taxonomic similarity of this profundal site to litoral sites in the S and SE. Similarly, in relation to temperature, sublittoral and profundal sites both have much higher representation of the taxa characteristic of semi-warm conditions and lower abundancies of the taxa preferring warm and cold conditions. However, high depths of the sublittoral and profundal sites lead to the development of a poor chironomid fauna at these sites. High distance from the shore and presumably only weak transportation of chironomid remains of littoral fauna to the profundal zone could be another limiting factor for diversity of chironomid communities in the profundal.

Eastern relatively shallow littorals are inhabited by more diverse, phytophilic, mesotrophic and partly acidophilic fauna with absence of lotic taxa, related to a less disturbed and turbulent environments and presence of macrophytes. This fauna has higher abundance of the semi-warm and warm taxa. The presence of meso- to eutrophic and acidophilic taxa can be attributed to paludification of the shore zone and decomposition of macrophytes and submerged vegetation in the shallow littoral (Nazarova et al., 2017b).

It is still debated how spatial and local environmental processes influence the distribution of chironomids at a small spatial scale in a lake (Luoto and Ojala, 2018;Yang et al., 2017). It is known that even within one water body the concentration of chironomid head capsules may vary from zero to several thousand per 1 cm^3 of sediments (Kalinkina and Belkina, 2018;Walker et al., 1997), depending on the various ecological factors including the water depth, rate of sediment accumulation, the hydrological conditions, or anthropogenic influence. Water depth is a major driving factor of chironomid assemblages in many studies (Ali et al., 2002;Luoto, 2012;Vemeaux and Aleya, 1998) and depth optima of several species prove to be consequent across broad spatial scales (Nazarova et al., 2011). Taphonomy assumes that the assemblage of chironomid remains from the deepest zones of lake represents an assemblage of elements of profundal necrocenosis (Hofmann, 1971) mixed with secondary components of littoral fauna transported with in-lake hydrological and sedimentary processes into the profundal from outside. Profundal necrocenosis therefore are supposed to include the assemblage of remains of organism that inhabited the whole lake and are therefore the most reliable indicators of ecological conditions in palaeoecological research (Brooks et al., 2007).

The redeposition of littoral taxa into the profundal zone is an important factor that affects the final composition and abundance of fossil assemblages and thus further ecological information that can be derived from the assemblage. In small lakes, fossil assemblages from the profundal zone quite adequately reflect the fauna of the entire water body (Brooks and Birks, 2001;Walker and Mathewes, 1990). Our findings support the hypothesis that in large lakes taphonomy of chironomid communities seems to be more complex (Yang et al., 2017;Árva et al., 2015).

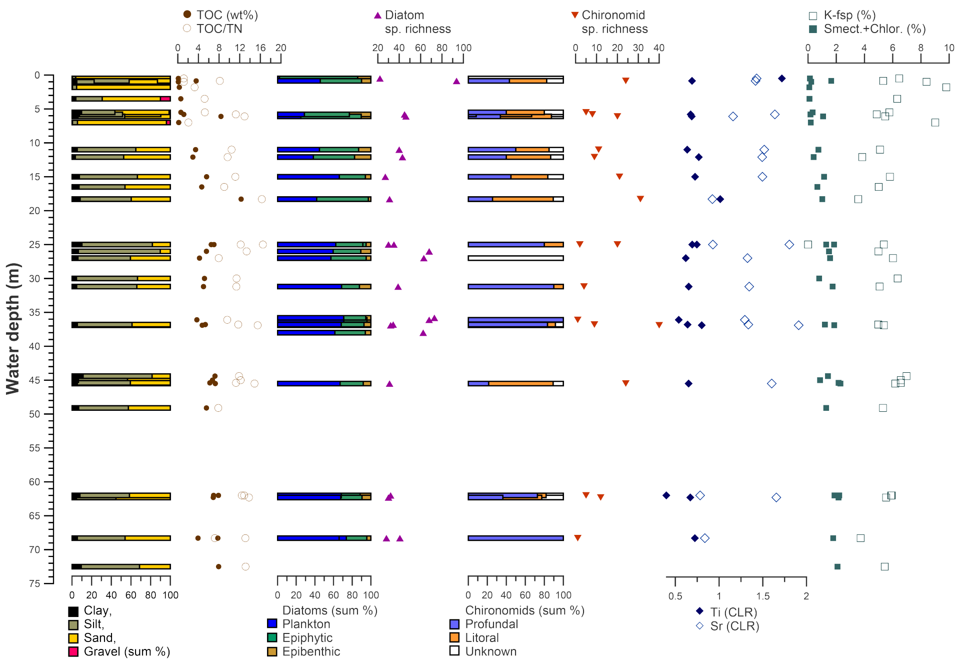


Fig. 12 Distribution grain size, organic carbon and nitrogen indices, diatom and chironomid parameters, and selected elements and minerals in dependence to lake water depth.

5.4 Lake Bolshoe Toko as a site for palaeoclimate reconstructions

Compared to small lowland lakes of Central and Northern Yakutia sedimentary processes and diatoms assemblages are quite different in Bolshoe Toko. One obvious reason for this is the lack of thaw slumps, subsidence, and other permafrost related phenomena (Biskaborn et al., 2013b) that are typical for shallow thermokarst

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

lake settings across northern permafrost regions (Biskaborn et al., 2016;Bouchard et al., 2016;Biskaborn et al., 2012;Schleusner et al., 2015;Biskaborn et al., 2013a;Subetto et al., 2017;Biskaborn et al., 2013b).

The mineral composition in Bolshoe Toko was mainly influenced by the Utuk river and only the samples in extremely shallow areas were influenced by direct shoreline input. The grain-size signal was influenced by dissolution effects associated to organic matter and by in situ growth of diatom valves. The coarser fractions varied parallel to minerogenic compositions and water depth. Accordingly, the grain-size distribution originated from multiple processes and should only be considered as an environmental proxy in combination with biotic indicators.

Diatoms were distributed mainly according to their preferential habitats. Aside of the spatial habitat conditions associated to the basin morphology, an additional principal determinant of shifting diatom assemblages in cold environments is the annual duration of lake ice-cover (Keatley et al., 2008;Smol, 1988b). Heavily silicified planktonic diatoms (e.g. *Aulacoseira*) cannot survive below the lake ice-cover because of the absence of wind-driven water turbulence. Nevertheless, planktonic and benthic diatom species have strategies to survive in ice-covered lakes, growing in benthic mode or attached to the bottom of the ice-cover (D'souza, 2012). Hence, in many lakes, the presence or absence of the ice-cover influences blooms of different species which can result in changes of both the species distribution and the ratio of planktonic to benthic diatoms (Wang et al., 2012a).

The applicability of chironomids for temperature reconstructions reveals clear spatial constraints. 22% of the taxa found in sites with riverine influence are absent or rare from the FE mean July chironomid-based temperature inference model (Nazarova et al., 2015), whereas the sum of the taxa that are rare and absent in FE data set is much lower in the central and northern littoral, sublittoral and profundal part of the lake (Fig. 4). However, low taxonomic richness of the profundal zone as well hampers palaeoclimatic inferences. The number of chironomid head capsules were generally lower here in relation to littoral sites. The highest taxonomic richness in areas influenced by lake tributaries can be explained not only by a taxonomic enrichment from the lake catchment but as well by more favorable oxygen and nutrient conditions.

The applicability of $\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$ as a proxy of past hydroclimate conditions at Bolshoe Toko is generally facilitated by the fact that the main controls influencing on $\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$ in a lake are (1) the lake water temperature (T_{lake}) and (2) lake water isotope composition ($\delta^{18}O_{lake}$) (Dodd and Sharp, 2010;Leng and Barker, 2006;Labeyrie, 1974;Leclerc and Labeyrie, 1987). The fractionation between lake water and biogenic opal can be calculated when comparing $\delta^{18}O_{lake}$ (mean: –18.7‰) with recent surface sediments of Bolshoe Toko lake and their respective mean $\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$ (of +22.8‰) using this isotope fractionation correlation between fossil

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

Biogeosciences Discussions Open Access EGU

diatom silica and water as determined by Leclerc and Labeyrie (1987). The mean T_{lake} can be estimated to ca. 6°C for the photic zone/diatom bloom. This estimate is at the lower end of summer temperatures between 4.8 and 12°C. The corresponding derived mean isotope fractionation factor for the system diatom silica–water α = 1.0424 is matching the fractionation factor for fossil sediments proposed by Juillet-Leclerc and Labeyrie (1987) well ($\alpha_{(silica\text{-}water)}$ = 1.0432).

As the lake water isotope composition ($\delta^{18}O_{lake}$) is further governed by precipitation intermittency in the catchment, $\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$ will react on changing isotopic composition in precipitation produced along the pathway of air masses to the study area, seasonality patterns and influenced by air temperature changes. Despite the observed slight spatial shifts in the surface samples $\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$ changes over time at a single site will yield insights into the air temperature and precipitation history of the area.

Positive feedback mechanisms were previously described between benthic algae and chironomid larvae in benthic ecosystems (Herren et al., 2017). Chironomids in Bolshoe Toko, however, showed less significant correlations with benthic diatom species, but weak correlations with planktonic species and lake attributes associated to benthic habitats and water depth, highlighting the potential of chironomids for independent water depth and temperature reconstruction in future sediment core studies (Nazarova et al., 2011).

High correlation coefficients between organic carbon and *Pliocaenicus bolshetokoensis* (0.66), and silt (0.65) suggest that the accumulation of organic matter, and the intermediate grain-size fraction, is to a certain degree controlled by the productivity of siliceous microalgae (Biskaborn et al., 2012). A strong contribution of plankton indicates that TOC/TN ratios can provide insights in the relative influx between land and water plants (Meyers and Teranes, 2002). The relatively weak correlation between TOC/TN ratios and water depth (0.51 r), demonstrates the accuracy limits of TOC/TN as a proxy for relative lake level changes. This is caused by transport and accumulation of allochthonous organic matter in proximity to the Utuk river. Furthermore, correlations between TOC/TN and TOC, as well as negative correlations with grain size indicators suggest diagenetic alteration (i.e. loss) of nitrogen in the surface sediments (Galman et al., 2008).

The distinct difference between two samples along the subaquatic slope near the western shore (diatoms, minerals, organics) indicates redistribution of sediment. Downslope transport of surface layers over the time could lead to redistribution of old material into the deepest parts of the basin. Due to higher accumulation rates, a sediment core from the deepest part of the basin would potentially provide a higher temporal resolution, but also a higher risk of repositioned sediment layers. On top of redistribution processes, hump-shaped relations between lake depth and species diversity observed in other studies suggest that the total subfossil species

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

assemblages is better represented at intermediate depths than at the maximum depth (Raposeiro et al., 2018). A coring position at intermediate depth in the northern shallower and sedimentologically calm part of the basin would enable the tracking of different intensities of river influence and glacial activity using sediment-geochemical indicators and offers greater chances of undisturbed successions of bioindicator time series.

6 Conclusions

Our study on the within-lake variance of environmental indicator data and its attribution to habitat factors improves the understanding of lake-internal filters between environmental forcing and the resulting sediment parameters of Lake Bolshoe Toko and comparable boreal, cold, and deep lakes. We found that the spatial variabilities of biotic ecosystem components are mainly explained by static habitat preferences as water depth and river distance. Abiotic sediment features are not symmetrically distributed in the basin but vary along restricted areas of differential environmental forcings (e.g. river input, rocky shore, steep shore, shallow shore). They depend, in addition to water depth and riverine activity, to multiple interacting factor, such as catchment characteristics, geochemical sediment diagenesis and hydrochemical dynamics. Our main findings can be highlighted as follows:

- The lake water of Bolshoe Toko can be characterized as Ca-Mg-HCO3-Type water. It is well saturated in O2, neutral to slightly acidic, showing a low conductivity and corresponding ion concentrations suggesting unpolluted freshwater conditions. Lake Bolshoe Toko is likely a cold, polymictic, oligotrophic, open through-flow lake system and due to all stated aspects regarded as an undisturbed ecosystem.
- Water depth is a strong factor explaining the variability of diatoms and chironomids. The proportions of planktonic to benthic diatoms as well as profundal to littoral chironomids serve as a reliable lake level proxy.
- The diatom assemblage is dominated by planktonic species, i.e. *Pliocaenicus bolshetokoensis*, which is unique for this lake, and more common plankton such as *Cyclotella* and *Aulacoseira*, as well as non-planktonic taxa, such as *Achnanthidium*. Diatom species richness and diversity is higher in surface sediments in the northern part of the basin, associated to shallower waters and the availability of benthic and periphytic niches.
- The $\delta^{18}O_{diatom}$ values (22.8±0.6‰) show slight spatial variations with higher values in the deeper south-western part of the lake probably related to water temperature differences in the photic zone during the main diatom bloom.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

The silica–water fractionation is suitable for further downcore investigations for assessing paleo-hydrological information and potential air-temperature changes in the region.

- The water of Bolshoe Toko is well mixed and does not show significant isotopic stratification apart from lake ice-cover formation where thermal stratification prevents mixing. The isotopic lake water composition ($\delta^{18}O$ = 18.2 ± 0.2 ‰) correspond with the GMWL and do not show evaporative enrichment. Both isotopic and hydrochemical data indicate atmospheric precipitation (and meltwater run-off) as the main water source. Accordingly, $\delta^{18}O_{lakewater}$ is directly linked to $\delta^{18}O_{precipitation}$.
- The highest amount of the chironomid taxa underrepresented in the FE training set used for palaeoclimate inference was found close to the Utuk river and at southern littoral and profundal sites. Poor chironomid communities from the deep profundal zone would also hamper palaeoclimate reconstruction. Cold-stenotherm chironomid taxa were influenced by river proximity while taxa preferring warm conditions were more frequent at shallow littorals of the lake.
- Weak negative correlation between mean grain size and water depth is explain by end-members revealing influences of river input and diatom valves in the grain-size composition.
- Observed TOC values (mean 4.9 %) and TOC/TN ratios indicate strong allochthonous supply of organic matter from the Utuk river. $\delta^{13}C$ (mean -26.8 ‰) indicate dominance of C_3 plants and phytoplankton in the bulk organic matter fraction.
- Elemental (XRF) data and mineral (XRD) distribution is influenced by the methamorphic lithology of the Stanovoy mountain range. Ratios of minerals relative to quartz decrease from the Utuk river towards the northern lake basin. Ti correlates well with mean grain size. There is no clear pattern in Mn/Fe ratios, due to mixture of allochthonous elements and differential intensities of redox processes in the lake basin.

Data Availability

All data used in this study will be available online at PANGAEA.

Supplement

The supplementary material related to this study will be available online at Copernicus.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

Author contributions

BKB conceiced the study concept, conducted or led the laboratory analyses and led the writing of the manuscript. LN conducted statistical analyses and contributed with ecological chironomid expertise. LAP led the Russian team during field work and contributed with ecological diatom expertise. LS conducted chironomid analysis. KF conducted diatom analyses. HM conducted water chemistry analyses. BC analysed diatom opal oxygen isotopes. SV conducted the XRF analysis. RG and EZ retrieved surface samples during field work and helped with translation of Russian literature and geographical expertise of the study area. RW conducted grain-size analyses including end-member modelling. GS conducted XRD analyses. BD was the leader of German expedition team and contributed with sedimentological expertise.

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

Acknowledgements

The expedition Yakutia 2013 was financed and conducted by the Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research in Potsdam, Germany in collaboration with the North Eastern Federal University in Yakutsk, Russia. Parts of the study was financed by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) in the PALMOD project (#01LP1510D) and grant #5.2711.2017/4.6, the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR grant #18-45-140053 r_a), and the Project of the North-Eastern Federal University (Regulation SMK-P-1/2-242-17 ver. 2.0, order No. 494-OD), Russian Science Foundation (#16-17-10118), and Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft DFG (#NA 760/5-1 and #DI 655/9-1). We thank Almut Dressler and Clara Biskaborn for help with diatom microscopy and Thomas Löffler for help with mineral analyses. We thank the anonymous reviewers for their voluntary efforts to assure the quality of this study.

References

Adrian, R., O'Reilly, C. M., Zagarese, H., Baines, S. B., Hessen, D. O., Keller, W., Livingstone, D. M., Sommaruga, R., Straile, D., Van Donk, E., Weyhenmeyer, G. A., and Winder, M.: Lakes as sentinels of climate change, Limnology and Oceanography, 54, 2283-2297, 10.4319/lo.2009.54.6_part_2.2283, 2009.

Ali, A., Frouz, J., and Lobinske, R. J.: Spatio-temporal effects of selected physico-chemical variables of water, algae and sediment chemistry on the larval community of nuisance Chironomidae (Diptera) in a natural and a man-made lake in central Florida, Hydrobiologia, 470, 181-193, 2002.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

AMAP: Snow, Water, Ice and Permafrost in the Arctic (SWIPA) 2017, Oslo, Norway, 1-269, 2017.

Anderson, N. J.: Variability of diatom concentrations and accumulation rates in sediments of a small lake basin, Limnology and Oceanography, 35, 497-508, 1990.

Anderson, N. J., Korsman, T., and Renberg, I.: Spatial heterogeinity of diatom stratigraphy in varved and non-varved sediments of a small, boreal-forest lake, Aquatic Sciences, 56, 40-58, 10.1007/bf00877434, 1994.

Anderson, N. J.: Diatoms, temperature and climatic change, European Journal of Phycology, 35, 307-314, doi:null, 2000.

Árva, D., Tóth, M., Horváth, H., Nagy, S. A., and Specziár, A.: The relative importance of spatial and environmental processes in distribution of benthic chironomid larvae within a large and shallow lake, Hydrobiologia, 742, 249-266, 2015.

Bailey, H. L., Henderson, A. C. G., Sloane, H. J., Snelling, A., Leng, M. J., and Kaufman, D. S.: The effect of species on lacustrine δ18Odiatom and its implications for palaeoenvironmental reconstructions, Journal of Quaternary Science, 29, 393-400, 10.1002/jqs.2711, 2014.

Barinova, S., Nevo, E., and Bragina, T.: Ecological assessment of wetland ecosystems of northern Kazakhstan on the basis of hydrochemistry and algal biodiversity, 2011.

Battarbee, R. W., and Kneen, M. J.: The use of electronically counted microspheres in absolute diatom analysis, Limnology and Oceanography, 27, 184-188, 1982.

Battarbee, R. W., Jones, V. J., Flower, R. J., Cameron, N. G., Bennion, H., Carvalho, L., and Juggins, S.: Diatoms, in: Tracking Environmental Change Using Lake Sediments, edited by: Smol, J. P., Birks, H. J. B., and Last, W. M., Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht, Netherlands, 155–202, 2001.

Bennion, H., Sayer, C. D., Tibby, J., and Carrick, H. J.: Diatoms as Indicators of Environmental Change in Shallow Lakes, in: The Diatoms: Application for the Environmental and Earth Sciences, edited by: Smol, J. P., and Stoermer, E. F., Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 152-173, 2010.

Birks, H. J. B.: Quantitative palaeoenvironmental reconstructions, Statistical modelling of quaternary science data. Technical guide, 5, 161-254, 1995.

Biskaborn, B., Herzschuh, U., Bolshiyanov, D., Savelieva, L., Zibulski, R., and Diekmann, B.: Late Holocene thermokarst variability inferred from diatoms in a lake sediment record from the Lena Delta, Siberian Arctic, Journal of Paleolimnology, 49, 155-170, 10.1007/s10933-012-9650-1, 2013a.

Biskaborn, B., Herzschuh, U., Bolshiyanov, D., Schwamborn, G., and Diekmann, B.: Thermokarst Processes and Depositional Events in a Tundra Lake, Northeastern Siberia, Permafrost and Periglacial Processes, 24, 160-174, 10.1002/ppp.1769, 2013b.

Biskaborn, B. K., Herzschuh, U., Bolshiyanov, D., Savelieva, L., and Diekmann, B.: Environmental variability in northeastern Siberia during the last similar to 13,300 yr inferred from lake diatoms and sediment-geochemical parameters, Palaeogeography Palaeoclimatology Palaeoecology, 329, 22-36, 10.1016/j.palaeo.2012.02.003, 2012.

Biskaborn, B. K., Subetto, D. A., Savelieva, L. A., Vakhrameeva, P. S., Hansche, A., Herzschuh, U., Klemm, J., Heinecke, L., Pestryakova, L. A., Meyer, H., Kuhn, G., and Diekmann, B.: Late Quaternary vegetation and lake system dynamics in north-eastern Siberia: Implications for seasonal climate variability, Quaternary Science Reviews, 147, 406-421, 10.1016/j.quascirev.2015.08.014, 2016.

Biskaborn, B. K., Smith, S. L., Noetzli, J., Matthes, H., Vieira, G., Streletskiy, D. A., Schoeneich, P., Romanovsky, V. E., Lewkowicz, A. G., Abramov, A., Allard, M., Boike, J., Cable, W. L., Christiansen, H. H., Delaloye, R., Diekmann, B., Drozdov, D., Etzelmüller, B., Grosse, G., Guglielmin, M., Ingeman-Nielsen, T., Isaksen, K., Ishikawa, M., Johansson, M., Johannsson, H., Joo, A., Kaverin, D., Kholodov, A., Konstantinov, P., Kröger, T., Lambiel, C., Lanckman, J.-P., Luo, D., Malkova, G., Meiklejohn, I., Moskalenko, N., Oliva, M., Phillips, M., Ramos, M., Sannel, A. B. K., Sergeev, D., Seybold, C., Skryabin, P., Vasiliev, A., Wu, Q., Yoshikawa, K., Zheleznyak, M., and Lantuit, H.: Permafrost is warming at a global scale, Nature Communications, 10, 264, 10.1038/s41467-018-08240-4, 2019.

Bouchard, F., Turner, K. W., MacDonald, L. A., Deakin, C., White, H., Farquharson, N., Medeiros, A. S., Wolfe, B. B., Hall, R. I., Pienitz, R., and Edwards, T. W. D.: Vulnerability of shallow subarctic lakes to evaporate and desiccate when snowmelt runoff is low, Geophysical Research Letters, 40, 6112-6117, 10.1002/2013gl058635, 2013.

Bouchard, F., MacDonald, L. A., Turner, K. W., Thienpont, J. R., Medeiros, A. S., Biskaborn, B. K., Korosi, J., Hall, R. I., Pienitz, R., and Wolfe, B. B.: Paleolimnology of thermokarst lakes: a window into permafrost landscape evolution, Arctic Science, 10.1139/AS-2016-0022, 2016.

Bracht-Flyr, B., and Fritz, S. C.: Synchronous climatic change inferred from diatom records in four western Montana lakes in the U.S. Rocky Mountains, Quaternary Research, 77, 456-467, 10.1016/j.yqres.2011.12.005, 2012.

Brandriss, M. E., O'Neil, J. R., Edlund, M. B., and Stoermer, E. F.: Oxygen Isotope Fractionation Between Diatomaceous Silica and Water, Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta, 62, 1119-1125, 10.1016/S0016-7037(98)00054-4, 1998.

Brooks, S. J., and Birks, H. J. B.: Chironomid-inferred air temperatures from Lateglacial and Holocene sites in north-west Europe: progress and problems, Quaternary Science Reviews, 20, 1723-1741, 2001.

Brooks, S. J., Langdon, P. G., and Heiri, O.: The identification and use of Palaearctic Chironomidae larvae in palaeoecology, Quaternary Research Association, 2007.

Chapligin, B., Meyer, H., Friedrichsen, H., Marent, A., Sohns, E., and Hubberten, H. W.: A high-performance, safer and semi-automated approach for the δ 18O analysis of diatom silica and new methods for removing exchangeable oxygen, Rapid Communications in Mass Spectrometry, 24, 2655-2664, 2010.

Chapligin, B.: From method development to climate reconstruction - oxygen isotope analysis of biogenic silica from Lake El'gygytgyn, NE Siberia, PhD thesis, Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, University of Potsdam, Potsdam, 196 pp., 2011.

Chapligin, B., Meyer, H., Bryan, A., Snyder, J., and Kemnitz, H.: Assessment of purification and contamination correction methods for analysing the oxygen isotope composition from biogenic silica, Chemical Geology, 300, 185-199, 10.1016/j.chemgeo.2012.01.004, 2012.

Cohen, A. S.: Palaeolimnology - The History and Evolution of Lake Systems, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 500 pp., 2003.

Cremer, H., and Van de Vijver, B.: On Pliocaenicus costatus (Bacillariophyceae) in Lake El'gygytgyn, East Siberian, European Journal of Phycology, 41, 169-178, 10.1080/09670260600621932, 2006.

D'souza, N. A.: Psychrophilic diatoms in ice-covered lake Erie, Bowling Green State University, 158 pp., 2012.

Dansgaard, W.: Stable Isotopes in Precipitation, Tellus, 16, 436-468, 1964.

Dietze, E., Hartmann, K., Diekmann, B., Ijmker, J., Lehmkuhl, F., Opitz, S., Stauch, G., Wünnemann, B., and Borchers, A.: An end-member algorithm for deciphering modern detrital processes from lake sediments of Lake Donggi Cona, NE Tibetan Plateau, China, Sedimentary Geology, 243–244, 169-180, 10.1016/j.sedgeo.2011.09.014, 2012.

Dodd, J. P., and Sharp, Z. D.: A laser fluorination method for oxygen isotope analysis of biogenic silica and a new oxygen isotope calibration of modern diatoms in freshwater environments, Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta, 74, 1381-1390, 2010.

Dodd, J. P., Sharp, Z. D., Fawcett, P. J., Brearley, A. J., and McCubbin, F. M.: Rapid post-mortem maturation of diatom silica oxygen isotope values, Geochemistry, Geophysics, Geosystems, 13, 10.1029/2011GC004019, 2012.

Douglas, M. S. V., and Smol, J. P.: Paleolimnological Significance of observed Distibution Patterns of Chrysophyte Cysts in Arctic Pond Environments, Journal of Paleolimnology, 13, 79-83, 1995.

Douglas, M. S. V., and Smol, J. P.: Freshwater Diatoms as Indicators of Environmental Change in the High Arctic, in: The Diatoms: Application for the Environmental and Earth Sciences, edited by: Smol, J. P., and Stoermer, E. F., Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 249-266, 2010.

Earle, J. C., Duthie, H. C., Glooschenko, W. A., and Hamilton, P. B.: Factors affecting the spatial-distribution of diatoms on the surface sediments of 3 Precambrian shield lakes, Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, 45, 469-478, 10.1139/f88-056, 1988.

Elger, K., Biskaborn, B. K., Pampel, H., and Lantuit, H.: Open research data, data portals and data publication–an introduction to the data curation landscape, Polarforschung, 85, 119-133, 2016.

Flower, R. J., and Ryves, D. B.: Diatom preservation: differential preservation of sedimentary diatoms in two saline lakes, Acta Botanica Croatica, 68, 381-399, 2009.

Galman, V., Rydberg, J., de-Luna, S. S., Bindler, R., and Renberg, I.: Carbon and nitrogen loss rates during aging of lake sediment: Changes over 27 years studied in varved lake sediment, Limnology and Oceanography, 53, 1076-1082, DOI 10.4319/lo.2008.53.3.1076, 2008.

Gavin, D. G., Henderson, A. C. G., Westover, K. S., Fritz, S. C., Walker, I. R., Leng, M. J., and Hu, F. S.: Abrupt Holocene climate change and potential response to solar forcing in western Canada, Quaternary Science Reviews, 30, 1243-1255, 10.1016/j.quascirev.2011.03.003, 2011.

Gavrilova, K.: Climate and Permafrost, Permafrost and Periglacial Processes, 4, 99-111, 1993.

Genkal, S., Gabyshev, V., Kulilovskiy, M., and Kuznetsova, I.: Pliocaenicus bolshetokoensis–a new species from Lake Bolshoe Toko (Yakutia, Eastern Siberia, Russia), Diatom Research, 1-9, 2018.

Gingele, F. X., De Deckker, P., and Hillenbrand, C.-D.: Clay mineral distribution in surface sediments between Indonesia and NW Australia—source and transport by ocean currents, Marine Geology, 179, 135-146, 2001.

Gushulak, C. A. C., Laird, K. R., Bennett, J. R., and Cumming, B. F.: Water depth is a strong driver of intra-lake diatom distributions in a small boreal lake, Journal of Paleolimnology, 58, 231-241, 10.1007/s10933-017-9974-y, 2017.

Hakanson, L.: Influence of Wind, Fetch, and Water Depth on Distribution of Sediments in Lake Vanern, Sweden, Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences, 14, 397-412, 10.1139/e77-040, 1977.

Heggen, M. P., Birks, H. H., Heiri, O., Grytnes, J. D., and Birks, H. J. D.: Are fossil assemblages in a single sediment core from a small lake representative of total deposition of mite, chironomid, and plant macrofossil remains?, Journal of Paleolimnology, 48, 669-691, 2012.

Heinecke, L., Mischke, S., Adler, K., Barth, A., Biskaborn, B. K., Plessen, B., Nitze, I., Kuhn, G., Rajabov, I., and Herzschuh, U.: Climatic and limnological changes at Lake Karakul (Tajikistan) during the last similar to 29 cal ka, Journal of Paleolimnology, 58, 317-334, 10.1007/s10933-017-9980-0, 2017.

Heiri, O., and Lotter, A. F.: Effect of low count sums on quantitative environmental reconstructions: an example using subfossil chironomids, Journal of Paleolimnology, 26, 343-350, 2001.

Heiri, O., Brooks, S. J., Renssen, H., Bedford, A., Hazekamp, M., Ilyashuk, B., Jeffers, E. S., Lang, B., Kirilova, E., and Kuiper, S.: Validation of climate model-inferred regional temperature change for late-glacial Europe, Nature communications, 5, 4914, 2014.

Heling, C. L., Stelzer, R. S., Drecktrah, H. G., and Koenigs, R. P.: Spatial variation of benthic invertebrates at the whole-ecosystem scale in a large eutrophic lake, Freshwater Science, 37, 605-617, 10.1086/699386, 2018.

Herren, C. M., Webert, K. C., Drake, M. D., Vander Zanden, M. J., Einarsson, A., Ives, A. R., and Gratton, C.: Positive feedback between chironomids and algae creates net mutualism between benthic primary consumers and producers, Ecology, 98, 447-455, 10.1002/ecy.1654, 2017.

Herzschuh, U., Pestryakova, L. A., Savelieva, L. A., Heinecke, L., Boehmer, T., Biskaborn, B. K., Andreev, A., Ramisch, A., Shinneman, A. L. C., and Birks, H. J. B.: Siberian larch forests and the ion content of thaw lakes form a geochemically functional entity, Nature Communications, 4, 10.1038/ncomms3408, 2013.

Hilton, J., Lishman, J. P., and Allen, P. V.: The dominant processes of sediment distribution and focusing in a small, eutrophic, monomictic lake, Limnology and Oceanography, 31, 125-133, 1986.

Hoff, U., Biskaborn, B. K., Dirksen, V. G., Dirksen, O., Kuhn, G., Meyer, H., Nazarova, L., Roth, A., and Diekmann, B.: Holocene environment of Central Kamchatka, Russia: Implications from a multi-proxy record of Two-Yurts Lake, Global and Planetary Change, 134, 101-117, 10.1016/j.gloplacha.2015.07.011, 2015.

Hofmann, W.: Zur taxonomie und palokologie subfossiler Chironomiden (Dipt.) in seesedimenten, Ergebnisse der Limnologie, 1971.

Huang, J., Zhang, X., Zhang, Q., Lin, Y., Hao, M., Luo, Y., Zhao, Z., Yao, Y., Chen, X., Wang, L., Nie, S., Yin, Y., Xu, Y., and Zhang, J.: Recently amplified arctic warming has contributed to a continual global warming trend, Nature Climate Change, 7, 875-879, 10.1038/s41558-017-0009-5, 2017.

Imaeva, L., Imaev, V., Koz'min, B., and Mackey, K.: Formation dynamics of fault-block structures in the eastern segment of the Baikal-Stanovoi seismic belt, Izvestiya-Physics of the Solid Earth, 45, 1006-1011, 10.1134/S1069351309110081, 2009.

Kalinkina, N., and Belkina, N.: Dynamics of benthic communities state and the sediment chemical composition in Lake Onega under the influence of anthropogenic and natural factors, Principy èkologii, 7, 56–74, 10.15393/j1.art.2018.7643, 2018.

Kalugin, I., Daryin, A., Smolyaninova, L., Andreev, A., Diekmann, B., and Khlystov, O.: 800-yr-long records of annual air temperature and precipitation over southern Siberia inferred from Teletskoye Lake sediments, Quaternary Research, 67, 400-410, 10.1016/j.yqres.2007.01.007, 2007.

Keatley, B. E., Douglas, M. S. V., and Smol, J. P.: Prolonged ice cover dampens diatom community responses to recent climatic change in High Arctic lakes, Arctic Antarctic and Alpine Research, 40, 364-372, 10.1657/1523-0430(06-068)[keatley]2.0.co;2, 2008.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

Kienel, U., and Kumke, T.: Combining ordination techniques and geostatistics to determine the patterns of diatom distributions at Lake Lama, Central Siberia, Journal of Paleolimnology, 28, 181-194, 2002.

Kingston, J. C., Lowe, R. L., Stoermer, E. F., and Ladewski, T. B.: Spatial and Temporal Distribution of Benthic Diatoms in Northern Lake Michigan, Ecology, 64, 1566-1580, 10.2307/1937511, 1983.

Konstantinov, A. F.: Problems of Water-Resources Development in Southern Yakutia (in Russian), Yaf Sib. Otd. Akad., Nauk SSSR, Yakutsk, 136 pp., 1986.

Konstantinov, A. F.: Environmental problems of lake Bolshoe Toko (in Russian), Lakes of Cold Environments, part V: Resource Study, Resource Use, Ecology and Nature Protection Issue, Yakutsk, Russia, 2000, 85-93,

Kornilov, B. A.: Relief: The southeast suburbs of Aldan Mountains (in russian), Publishing House of Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Moscow, 1962.

Kovalenko, K. E., Thomaz, S. M., and Warfe, D. M.: Habitat complexity: approaches and future directions, Hydrobiologia, 685, 1-17, 10.1007/s10750-011-0974-z, 2012.

Krammer, K., and Lange-Bertalot, H.: Bacillariophyceae Band 2/2, Süßwasserflora von Mitteleuropa, 2, Gustav Fischer Verlag, Stuttgart, 1986-1991.

Labeyrie, L.: New approach to surface seawater palaeotemperatures using 18O/16O ratios in silica of diatom frustules, Nature, 248, 40-42, 10.1038/248040a0, 1974.

Lange-Bertalot, H., and Metzeltin, D.: Indicators of Oligotrophy, Iconographia Diatomologica, 2, Koeltz Scientific Books, 390 pp., 1996.

Lange-Bertalot, H., and Genkal, S. I.: Diatomeen aus Sibirien I, Iconographia Diatomologica, 6, Koeltz Scientific Books, 271 pp., 1999.

Lange-Bertalot, H., Hofmann, G., and Werum, M.: Diatomeen im Süßwasser - Benthos von Mitteleuropa, Ganter Verlag, 908 pp., 2011.

Leclerc, A. J., and Labeyrie, L.: Temperature dependence of the oxygen isotopic fractionation between diatom silica and water, Earth and Planetary Science Letters, 84, 69-74, 1987.

Leng, M. J., and Barker, P. A.: A review of the oxygen isotope composition of lacustrine diatom silica for palaeoclimate reconstruction, Earth-Science Reviews, 75, 5, 2006.

Livingstone, D. M., Lotter, A. F., and Walkery, I. R.: The decrease in summer surface water temperature with altitude in Swiss Alpine lakes: a comparison with air temperature lapse rates, Arctic, Antarctic, and Alpine Research, 31, 341-352, 1999.

Luoto, T. P.: Spatial uniformity in depth optima of midges: evidence from sedimentary archives of shallow Alpine and boreal lakes, Journal of Limnology, 71, e24-e24, 2012.

Luoto, T. P., and Ojala, A. E. K.: Controls of climate, catchment erosion and biological production on long-term community and functional changes of chironomids in High Arctic lakes (Svalbard), Palaeogeography Palaeoclimatology Palaeoecology, 505, 63-72, 10.1016/j.palaeo.2018.05.026, 2018.

Mayr, C., Lücke, A., Stichler, W., Trimborn, P., Ercolano, B., Oliva, G., Ohlendorf, C., Soto, J., Fey, M., and Haberzettl, T.: Precipitation origin and evaporation of lakes in semi-arid Patagonia (Argentina) inferred from stable isotopes (δ 18O, δ 2H), Journal of Hydrology, 334, 53-63, 2007.

Melles, M., Brigham-Grette, J., Minyuk, P. S., Nowaczyk, N. R., Wennrich, V., DeConto, R. M., Anderson, P. M., Andreev, A. A., Coletti, A., Cook, T. L., Haltia-Hovi, E., Kukkonen, M., Lozhkin, A. V., Rosén, P., Tarasov, P., Vogel, H., and Wagner, B.: 2.8 Million Years of Arctic Climate Change from Lake El'gygytgyn, NE Russia, Science, 337, 315, 10.1126/science.1222135, 2012.

Merlivat, L., and Jouzel, J.: Global climatic interpretation of the deuterium-oxygen 18 relationship for precipitation, Journal of Geophysical Research: Oceans, 84, 5029-5033, 1979.

Meyer, D., Tachikawa, T., Kaku, M., Iwasaki, A., Gesch, D., Oimoen, M., Zheng, Z., Danielson, J., Krieger, T., and Curtis, W.: ASTER global digital elevation model version 2–summary of validation results, Japan-US ASTER Science Team, 1-26, 2011.

Meyer, H., Schönicke, L., Wand, U., Hubberten, H.-W., and Friedrichsen, H.: Isotope studies of hydrogen and oxygen in ground ice-experiences with the equilibration technique, Isotopes in Environmental and Health Studies, 36, 133-149, 2000.

Meyer, H., Chapligin, B., Hoff, U., Nazarova, L., and Diekmann, B.: Oxygen isotope composition of diatoms as Late Holocene climate proxy at Two-Yurts Lake, Central Kamchatka, Russia, Global and Planetary Change, 134, 118-128, 2015.

Meyers, P. A., and Teranes, J. L.: Sediment organic matter, in: Tracking Environmental Change using Lake Sediments. Volume 2: Physical and Geochemical Methods, edited by: Last, W. M., and Smol, J. P., Kluwer Academic Publisher, Dordrecht, 239-269, 2002.

Meyers, P. A.: Applications of organic geochemistry to paleolimnological reconstructions: a summary of examples from the Laurentian Great Lakes, Organic Geochemistry, 34, 261-289, 2003.

Miller, G. H., Brigham-Grette, J., Alley, R. B., Anderson, L., Bauch, H. A., Douglas, M. S. V., Edwards, M. E., Elias, S. A., Finney, B. P., Fitzpatrick, J. J., Funder, S. V., Herbert, T. D., Hinzman, L. D., Kaufman, D. S., MacDonald, G. M., Polyak, L., Robock, A., Serreze, M. C., Smol, J. P., Spielhagen, R., White, J. W. C., Wolfe, A. P., and Wolff, E. W.: Temperature and precipitation history of the Arctic, Quaternary Science Reviews, 29, 1679-1715, DOI: 10.1016/j.quascirev.2010.03.001, 2010.

Moschen, R., Lucke, A., and Schleser, G. H.: Sensitivity of biogenic silica oxygen isotopes to changes in surface water temperature and palaeoclimatology, Geophysical Research Letters, 32, L07708
10.1029/2004gl022167, 2005.

Naeher, S., Gilli, A., North, R. P., Hamann, Y., and Schubert, C. J.: Tracing bottom water oxygenation with sedimentary Mn/Fe ratios in Lake Zurich, Switzerland, Chemical Geology, 352, 125-133, 10.1016/j.chemgeo.2013.06.006, 2013.

Nazarova, L., Pestryakova, L., Ushnitskaya, L., and Hubberten, H.-W.: Chironomids (Diptera: Chironomidae) in lakes of central Yakutia and their indicative potential for paleoclimatic research, Contemporary Problems of Ecology, 1, 335, 2008.

Nazarova, L., Herzschuh, U., Wetterich, S., Kumke, T., and Pestryakova, L.: Chironomid-based inference models for estimating mean July air temperature and water depth from lakes in Yakutia, northeastern Russia, Journal of Paleolimnology, 45, 57-71, 2011.

Nazarova, L., Self, A. E., Brooks, S. J., van Hardenbroek, M., Herzschuh, U., and Diekmann, B.: Northern Russian chironomid-based modern summer temperature data set and inference models, Global and Planetary Change, 134, 10-25, 2015.

Nazarova, L., Grebennikova, T. A., Razjigaeva, N. G., Ganzey, L. A., Belyanina, N. I., Arslanov, K. A., Kaistrenko, V. M., Gorbunov, A. O., Kharlamov, A. A., and Rudaya, N.: Reconstruction of

Holocene environmental changes in Southern Kurils (North-Western Pacific) based on palaeolake sediment proxies from Shikotan Island, Global and Planetary Change, 159, 25-36, 2017a.

Nazarova, L. B., Semenov, V. F., Sabirov, R. M., and Efimov, I. Y.: The state of benthic communities and water quality evaluation in the Cheboksary Reservoir, Water Resources, 31, 316-322, 2004.

Nazarova, L. B., Self, A. E., Brooks, S. J., Solovieva, N., Syrykh, L. S., and Dauvalter, V. A.: Chironomid fauna of the lakes from the Pechora river basin (east of European part of Russian Arctic): Ecology and reconstruction of recent ecological changes in the region, Contemporary Problems of Ecology, 10, 350-362, 10.1134/s1995425517040059, 2017b.

New, M., Lister, D., Hulme, M., and Makin, I.: A high-resolution data set of surface climate over global land areas, Climate research, 21, 1-25, 2002.

Palagushkina, O., Wetterich, S., Biskaborn, B. K., Nazarova, L., Schirrmeister, L., Lenz, J., Schwamborn, G., and Grosse, G.: Diatom records and tephra mineralogy in pingo deposits of Seward Peninsula, Alaska, Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology, 2017.

Palagushkina, O. V., Nazarova, L. B., Wetterich, S., and Schirrmeister, L.: Diatoms of modern bottom sediments in Siberian arctic, Contemporary Problems of Ecology, 5, 413-422, 10.1134/s1995425512040105, 2012.

Paul, C. A., Rühland, K. M., and Smol, J. P.: Diatom-inferred climatic and environmental changes over the last 9000 years from a low Arctic (Nunavut, Canada) tundra lake, Palaeogeography Palaeoclimatology Palaeoecology, 291, 205-216, 10.1016/j.palaeo.2010.02.030, 2010.

Pepin, N., Bradley, R. S., Diaz, H. F., Baraer, M., Caceres, E. B., Forsythe, N., Fowler, H., Greenwood, G., Hashmi, M. Z., Liu, X. D., Miller, J. R., Ning, L., Ohmura, A., Palazzi, E., Rangwala, I., Schoner, W., Severskiy, I., Shahgedanova, M., Wang, M. B., Williamson, S. N., Yang, D. Q., and Mt Res Initiative, E. D. W. W. G.: Elevation-dependent warming in mountain regions of the world, Nature Climate Change, 5, 424-430, 10.1038/nclimate2563, 2015.

Pestryakova, L. A., Herzschuh, U., Wetterich, S., and Ulrich, M.: Present-day variability and Holocene dynamics of permafrost-affected lakes in central Yakutia (Eastern Siberia) inferred from diatom records, Quaternary Science Reviews, 51, 56-70, 2012.

Pestryakova, L. A., Herzschuh, U., Gorodnichev, R., and Wetterich, S.: The sensitivity of diatom taxa from Yakutian lakes (north-eastern Siberia) to electrical conductivity and other environmental variables, Polar Research, 37, 10.1080/17518369.2018.1485625, 2018.

Petschick, R., Kuhn, G., and Gingele, F.: Clay mineral distribution in surface sediments of the South Atlantic: sources, transport, and relation to oceanography, Marine Geology, 130, 203-229, 1996.

Pillot, H. K. M. M.: Chironomidae Larvae of the Netherlands and adjacent lowlands: biology and ecology of the chironomini, KNNV publishing, 2009.

Puusepp, L., and Punning, J. M.: Spatio-temporal variability of diatom assemblages in surface sediments of Lake Peipsi, Journal of Great Lakes Research, 37, 33-40, 10.1016/j.jglr.2010.11.018, 2011.

QGIS-Team: QGIS geographic information system, Open Source Geospatial Foundation Project, 2016.

R Core Team: R: A language and environment for statistical computing. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria, 2012. ISBN 3-900051-07-0, 2012.

Raposeiro, P. M., Saez, A., Giralt, S., Costa, A. C., and Goncalves, V.: Causes of spatial distribution of subfossil diatom and chironomid assemblages in surface sediments of a remote deep island lake, Hydrobiologia, 815, 141-163, 10.1007/s10750-018-3557-4, 2018.

Round, F. E., Crawford, R. M., and Mann, D. G.: The Diatoms. Biology & Morphology of the Genera, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 747 pp., 1990.

Rühland, K., Priesnitz, A., and Smol, J. P.: Paleolimnological evidence from diatoms for recent environmental changes in 50 lakes across Canadian arctic treeline, Arctic Antarctic and Alpine Research, 35, 110-123, 10.1657/1523-0430(2003)035[0110:pefdfr]2.0.co;2, 2003.

Rühland, K., Paterson, A. M., and Smol, J. P.: Hemispheric-scale patterns of climate-related shifts in planktonic diatoms from North American and European lakes, Global Change Biology, 14, 2740-2754, 10.1111/j.1365-2486.2008.01670.x, 2008.

Rühland, K. M., Paterson, A. M., and Smol, J. P.: Lake diatom responses to warming: reviewing the evidence, Journal of Paleolimnology, 1-35, DOI: 10.1007/s10933-015-9837-3, 2015.

Rundqvist, D. V., and Mitrofanov, F. P.: *Precambrian Geology of the USSR*, 1-528 pp., 1993.

Ryves, D., Juggins, S., Fritz, S., and Battarbee, R.: Experimental diatom dissolution and the quantification of microfossil preservation in sediments, Palaeogeography Palaeoclimatology Palaeoecology, 172, 99-113, 2001.

Schleusner, P., Biskaborn, B. K., Kienast, F., Wolter, J., Subetto, D., and Diekmann, B.: Basin evolution and palaeoenvironmental variability of the thermokarst lake El'gene-Kyuele, Arctic Siberia, Boreas, 44, 216-229, 10.1111/bor.12084, 2015.

Schuur, E. A. G., McGuire, A. D., Schadel, C., Grosse, G., Harden, J. W., Hayes, D. J., Hugelius, G., Koven, C. D., Kuhry, P., Lawrence, D. M., Natali, S. M., Olefeldt, D., Romanovsky, V. E., Schaefer, K., Turetsky, M. R., Treat, C. C., and Vonk, J. E.: Climate change and the permafrost carbon feedback, Nature, 520, 171-179, 10.1038/nature14338, 2015.

Self, A. E., Brooks, S. J., Birks, H. J. B., Nazarova, L., Porinchu, D., Odland, A., Yang, H., and Jones, V. J.: The distribution and abundance of chironomids in high-latitude Eurasian lakes with respect to temperature and continentality: development and application of new chironomid-based climate-inference models in northern Russia, Quaternary Science Reviews, 30, 1122-1141, 10.1016/j.quascirev.2011.01.022, 2011.

Semenov, S. G.: Current state of ichthyofauna of Lake Bolshoe Toko, South of Russia-Ecology Development, 13, 32-42, 2018.

Shahgedanova, M.: Climate at Present and in the Historical Past, in: The Physical Geography of Northern Eurasia, edited by: Shahgedanova, M., Oxford University Press, Oxford, 70-102, 2002.

Smol, J. P.: The Statospore of Mallomonas Pseudocoronata (Mallomonadaceae, Chrysophyceae), Nord J Bot, 4, 827-831, DOI 10.1111/j.1756-1051.1984.tb02014.x, 1984.

Smol, J. P., Charles, D. F., and Whitehead, D. R.: Mallomonadacean Microfossils Provide Evidence of Recent Lake Acidification, Nature, 307, 628-630, DOI 10.1038/307628a0, 1984.

Smol, J. P., and Boucherle, M. M.: Postglacial changes in algal and cladoceran assemblages in Little Round Lake, Ontario, Archiv Fur Hydrobiologie, 103, 25-49, 1985.

Smol, J. P.: Chrysophycean microfossils in paleolimnological studies, Palaeogeography Palaeoclimatology Palaeoecology, 62, 287-297, 1988a.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

Smol, J. P.: Paleoclimate proxy data from freshwater arctic diatoms, Verh. Internat. Verein. Limnol., 23, 837-844, 1988b.

Smol, J. P., Wolfe, A. P., Birks, H. J. B., Douglas, M. S. V., Jones, V. J., Korhola, A., Pienitz, R., Rühland, K., Sorvari, S., Antoniades, D., Brooks, S. J., Fallu, M. A., Hughes, M., Keatley, B. E., Laing, T. E., Michelutti, N., Nazarova, L., Nyman, M., Paterson, A. M., Perren, B., Quinlan, R., Rautio, M., Saulnier-Talbot, E., Siitoneni, S., Solovieva, N., and Weckstrom, J.: Climate-driven regime shifts in the biological communities of arctic lakes, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, 102, 4397-4402, 10.1073/pnas.0500245102, 2005.

Smol, J. P., and Douglas, M. S. V.: Crossing the final ecological threshold in high Arctic ponds, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, 104, 12395-12397, 10.1073/pnas.0702777104, 2007.

Sobakina, I., and Solomonov, N.: To the study of zooplankton of Lake Bolshoe Toko, International Journal of applied and fundamental research, 8, 180-182, 2013.

Solovieva, N., Klimaschewski, A., Self, A. E., Jones, V. J., Andrén, E., Andreev, A. A., Hammarlund, D., Lepskaya, E. V., and Nazarova, L.: The Holocene environmental history of a small coastal lake on the north-eastern Kamchatka Peninsula, Global and Planetary Change, 134, 55-66, 2015.

Specziar, A., Arva, D., Toth, M., Mora, A., Schmera, D., Varbiro, G., and Eros, T.: Environmental and spatial drivers of beta diversity components of chironomid metacommunities in contrasting freshwater systems, Hydrobiologia, 819, 123-143, 10.1007/s10750-018-3632-x, 2018.

Stewart, K. A., and Lamoureux, S. F.: Seasonal and microhabitat influences on diatom assemblages and their representation in sediment traps and surface sediments from adjacent High Arctic lakes: Cape Bounty, Melville Island, Nunavut, Hydrobiologia, 683, 265-286, 10.1007/s10750-011-0965-0, 2012.

Stief, P., Nazarova, L., and de Beer, D.: Chimney construction by Chironomus riparius larvae in response to hypoxia: microbial implications for freshwater sediments, Journal of the North American Benthological Society, 24, 858-871, 2005.

Subetto, D. A., Nazarova, L. B., Pestryakova, L. A., Syrykh, L. S., Andronikov, A. V., Biskaborn, B., Diekmann, B., Kuznetsov, D. D., Sapelko, T. V., and Grekov, I. M.: Paleolimnological studies in Russian northern Eurasia: A review, Contemporary Problems of Ecology, 10, 327-335, 10.1134/s1995425517040102, 2017.

Swann, G. E. A., Leng, M. J., Sloane, H. J., Maslin, M. A., and Onodera, J.: Diatom oxygen isotopes: Evidence of a species effect in the sediment record, Geochemistry Geophysics Geosystems, 8, 10.1029/2006gc001535, 2007.

Syrykh, L. S., Nazarova, L. B., Herzschuh, U., Subetto, D. A., and Grekov, I. M.: Reconstruction of palaeoecological and palaeoclimatic conditions of the Holocene in the south of the Taimyr according to an analysis of lake sediments, Contemporary Problems of Ecology, 10, 363-369, 10.1134/s1995425517040114, 2017.

ter Braak, C. J. F., and Prentice, I. C.: A theory of gradient analysis, in: Advances in ecological research, Elsevier, 271-317, 1988.

ter Braak, C. J. F.: Ordination, in: Data analysis in community and landscape ecology, Cambridge University Press, 91-274, 1995.

ter Braak, C. J. F., and Šmilauer, P.: Canoco reference manual and user's guide: software for ordination, version 5.0, Microcomputer power, 2012.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

Tjallingii, R., Rohl, U., Kolling, M., and Bickert, T.: Influence of the water content on X-ray fluorescence core-scanning measurements in soft marine sediments, Geochemistry Geophysics Geosystems, 8, Q02004 10.1029/2006gc001393, 2007.

Valiranta, M., Weckstrom, J., Siitonen, S., Seppa, H., Alkio, J., Juutinen, S., and Tuittila, E. S.: Holocene aquatic ecosystem change in the boreal vegetation zone of northern Finland, Journal of Paleolimnology, 45, 339-352, 10.1007/s10933-011-9501-5, 2011.

Vemeaux, V., and Aleya, L.: Spatial and temporal distribution of chironomid larvae (Diptera: Nematocera) at the sediment—water interface in Lake Abbaye (Jura, France), in: Oceans, Rivers and Lakes: Energy and Substance Transfers at Interfaces, Springer, 169-180, 1998.

Virgo, D.: Partition of Strontium between Coexisting K-Feldspar and Plagioclase in Some Metamorphic Rocks, The Journal of Geology, 76, 331-346, 10.1086/627332, 1968.

Vogel, H., Wessels, M., Albrecht, C., Stich, H. B., and Wagner, B.: Spatial variability of recent sedimentation in Lake Ohrid (Albania/Macedonia), Biogeosciences, 7, 3333-3342, 2010.

Voigt, C.: Data report: semiquantitative determination of detrital input to ACEX sites based on bulk sample X-ray diffraction data, in: Proceedings of the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program, Volume 302, edited by: Backman, J., Moran, K., McInroy, D.B., Mayer, L.A., and the Expedition 302 Scientists, Edinburgh, 2009.

Walker, I. R., and Mathewes, R. W.: Early postglacial chironomid succession in southwestern British Columbia, Canada, and its paleoenvironmental significance, in: Paleolimnology and the Reconstruction of Ancient Environments, Springer, 147-160, 1990.

Walker, I. R., Levesque, A. J., Cwynar, L. C., and Lotter, A. F.: An expanded surface-water palaeotemperature inference model for use with fossil midges from eastern Canada, Journal of Paleolimnology, 18, 165-178, 1997.

Wang, L., Rioual, P., Panizzo, V. N., Lu, H., Gu, Z., Chu, G., Yang, D., Han, J., Liu, J., and Mackay, A. W.: A 1000-yr record of environmental change in NE China indicated by diatom assemblages from maar lake Erlongwan, Quaternary Research, 78, 24-34, 10.1016/j.yqres.2012.03.006, 2012a.

Wang, Q., Yang, X. D., Hamilton, P. B., and Zhang, E. L.: Linking spatial distributions of sediment diatom assemblages with hydrological depth profiles in a plateau deep-water lake system of subtropical China, Fottea, 12, 59-73, 2012b.

Wang, R., Zhang, Y., Wuennemann, B., Biskaborn, B. K., Yin, H., Xia, F., Zhou, L., and Diekmann, B.: Linkages between Quaternary climate change and sedimentary processes in Hala Lake, northern Tibetan Plateau, China, Journal of Asian Earth Sciences, 107, 140-150, 10.1016/j.jseaes.2015.04.008, 2015.

Weltje, G. J., and Tjallingii, R.: Calibration of XRF core scanners for quantitative geochemical logging of sediment cores: Theory and application, Earth and Planetary Science Letters, 274, 423-438, 10.1016/j.epsl.2008.07.054, 2008.

Wiederholm, T.: Chironomidae of Holarctic region: keys and diagnoses. Part 1, Larvae Entomol Scand Suppl, 19, 1-457, 1983.

Wischnewski, J., Mackay, A. W., Appleby, P. G., Mischke, S., and Herzschuh, U.: Modest diatom responses to regional warming on the southeast Tibetan Plateau during the last two centuries, Journal of Paleolimnology, 46, 215-227, 10.1007/s10933-011-9533-x, 2011.

Biogeosciences Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2019-146
Manuscript under review for journal Biogeosciences
Discussion started: 16 May 2019

Wolfe, A.: Spatial patterns of modern diatom distribution and multiple paleolimnological records from a small arctic lake on Baffin Island, Arctic Canada, Canadian Journal of Botany-Revue Canadienne De Botanique, 74, 435-449, 1996.

Yang, H., Flower, R. J., and Battarbee, R. W.: Influence of environmental and spatial variables on the distribution of surface sediment diatoms in an upland loch, Scotland, Acta Botanica Croatica, 68, 367-380, 2009.

Yang, L. W., Chen, S. Y., Zhang, J., Yu, S. Y., and Deng, H. G.: Environmental factors controlling the spatial distribution of subfossil Chironomidae in surface sediments of Lake Dongping, a warm temperate lake in North China, Environmental Earth Sciences, 76, 10.1007/s12665-017-6858-4, 2017.

Zhirkov, I., Trofimova, T., Zhirkov, K., Pestryakova, L., Sobakina, I., and Ivanov, K.: Current geoecological state of Lake Bolshoe Toko, International Journal of applied and fundamental research, 8, 208-213, 2016.

Zinchenko, T. D., Gladyshev, M. I., Makhutova, O. N., Sushchik, N. N., Kalachova, G. S., and Golovatyuk, L. V.: Saline rivers provide arid landscapes with a considerable amount of biochemically valuable production of chironomid (Diptera) larvae, Hydrobiologia, 722, 115-128, 2014.