

Evolution of African barbs from the Lake Victoria drainage system, Kenya (#29067)

1

First submission

Editor guidance

Please submit by **17 Jul 2018** for the benefit of the authors (and your \$200 publishing discount).



Structure and Criteria

Please read the 'Structure and Criteria' page for general guidance.



Custom checks

Make sure you include the custom checks shown below, in your review.



Raw data check

Review the raw data. Download from the [materials page](#).



Image check

Check that figures and images have not been inappropriately manipulated.

Privacy reminder: If uploading an annotated PDF, remove identifiable information to remain anonymous.

Files

Download and review all files from the [materials page](#).

8 Figure file(s)

2 Table file(s)

2 Raw data file(s)

! Custom checks

DNA data checks

- ! Have you checked the authors [data deposition statement](#)?
- ! Can you access the deposited data?
- ! Has the data been deposited correctly?
- ! Is the deposition information noted in the manuscript?

Vertebrate animal usage checks


- ! Have you checked the authors [ethical approval statement](#)?
- ! Were the experiments necessary and ethical?
- ! Have you checked our [animal research policies](#)?



Structure your review

The review form is divided into 5 sections. Please consider these when composing your review:

1. BASIC REPORTING
2. EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN
3. VALIDITY OF THE FINDINGS
4. General comments
5. Confidential notes to the editor

 You can also annotate this PDF and upload it as part of your review

When ready [submit online](#).

Editorial Criteria

Use these criteria points to structure your review. The full detailed editorial criteria is on your [guidance page](#).

BASIC REPORTING

-  Clear, unambiguous, professional English language used throughout.
-  Intro & background to show context. Literature well referenced & relevant.
-  Structure conforms to [PeerJ standards](#), discipline norm, or improved for clarity.
-  Figures are relevant, high quality, well labelled & described.
-  Raw data supplied (see [PeerJ policy](#)).

EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

-  Original primary research within [Scope of the journal](#).
-  Research question well defined, relevant & meaningful. It is stated how the research fills an identified knowledge gap.
-  Rigorous investigation performed to a high technical & ethical standard.
-  Methods described with sufficient detail & information to replicate.

VALIDITY OF THE FINDINGS

-  Impact and novelty not assessed. Negative/inconclusive results accepted. *Meaningful* replication encouraged where rationale & benefit to literature is clearly stated.
-  Data is robust, statistically sound, & controlled.
-  Speculation is welcome, but should be identified as such.
-  Conclusions are well stated, linked to original research question & limited to supporting results.

Standout reviewing tips

3



The best reviewers use these techniques

Tip

Support criticisms with evidence from the text or from other sources

Example

Smith et al (J of Methodology, 2005, V3, pp 123) have shown that the analysis you use in Lines 241-250 is not the most appropriate for this situation. Please explain why you used this method.

Give specific suggestions on how to improve the manuscript

Your introduction needs more detail. I suggest that you improve the description at lines 57- 86 to provide more justification for your study (specifically, you should expand upon the knowledge gap being filled).

Comment on language and grammar issues

The English language should be improved to ensure that an international audience can clearly understand your text. Some examples where the language could be improved include lines 23, 77, 121, 128 – the current phrasing makes comprehension difficult.

Organize by importance of the issues, and number your points

1. Your most important issue
2. The next most important item
3. ...
4. The least important points

Please provide constructive criticism, and avoid personal opinions

I thank you for providing the raw data, however your supplemental files need more descriptive metadata identifiers to be useful to future readers. Although your results are compelling, the data analysis should be improved in the following ways: AA, BB, CC

Comment on strengths (as well as weaknesses) of the manuscript

I commend the authors for their extensive data set, compiled over many years of detailed fieldwork. In addition, the manuscript is clearly written in professional, unambiguous language. If there is a weakness, it is in the statistical analysis (as I have noted above) which should be improved upon before Acceptance.

Evolution of African barbs from the Lake Victoria drainage system, Kenya

Violet M Ndeda^{1,2}, Mariana Mateos^{Corresp., 1}, Luis A Hurtado^{Corresp. 1}

¹ Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, United States of America

² Department of Zoology, , Kenya, Maseno University, Maseno, Kenya

Corresponding Authors: Mariana Mateos, Luis A Hurtado

Email address: marianamateos@gmail.com, lhurtado@tamu.edu

The Lake Victoria drainage basin (LVD) in Kenya is home to ten nominal species of small barbs (*'Barbus'*) and one of large barbs (*Labeobarbus altianalis*). A recent molecular study genetically characterized small barbs in this region and found evidence of introgression between certain species, further complicating the taxonomy and species identification of these fishes. This study aimed to extend our understanding on the evolution of these fishes by: (1) examining the phylogenetic relationships of small barbs of the Kenyan LVD with those reported from other ichthyological provinces of Africa; (2) testing the sister relationship between *'Barbus' profundus*, endemic to Lake Victoria, and *'Barbus' radiatus*, also found in Lake Victoria, which had been previously synonymized; (3) determining whether putatively pure individuals of *'Barbus' cercops* are found in the Kenyan LVD, as a previous study only found hybrid individuals of this species in this region; and (4) examining the phylogenetic relationships of *Labeobarbus altianalis* with other *Labeobarbus* species. To this end, we obtained mitochondrial Cytochrome b and nuclear Growth Hormone (GH) intron 2 gene sequences of nine *'Barbus'* species from the LVD in Kenya, as well as cytochrome b sequences for *L. altianalis*. We conducted Maximum likelihood and Bayesian phylogenetic analyses to establish their evolutionary relationships in relation to many other barbs specimens from Africa. Phylogenetic analyses did not reveal instances of hybridization/introgression among the individuals sequenced by us. A sister relationship between *'B'. profundus* and *'B'. radiatus* was not found. This latter species shows instead a sister relationship with a lineage comprised of two species from West Africa. Other sister relationships between taxa from the East coast and other ecoregions from Africa are observed, suggesting that past drainage connections and vicariant events contributed to the diversification of this group. Finally, only a single haplotype was recovered among the *L. altianalis* individuals examined, which is most similar to a specimen from Lake Edward in Uganda.

EVOLUTION OF AFRICAN BARBS FROM THE LAKE VICTORIA DRAINAGE SYSTEM, KENYA

Violet M. Ndeda^{1,2}, Mariana Mateos¹, Luis A. Hurtado^{1*}

¹ Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

² Present address: Department of Zoology, Maseno University, Kenya

*Corresponding author:

Luis A. Hurtado, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, 534
John Kimbrough Blvd., Wildlife Fisheries Ecological Sciences, Building #1537, Suite 278,
College Station, TX 77843-2258, USA.

Tel: +1-979-458-9878; Fax: +1-979-845-4096; E-mail: lhurtado@tamu.edu

ABSTRACT

The Lake Victoria drainage basin (LVD) in Kenya is home to ten nominal species of small barbs ('*Barbus*') and one of large barbs (*Labeobarbus altianalis*). A recent molecular study genetically characterized small barbs in this region and found evidence of introgression between certain species, further complicating the taxonomy and species identification of these fishes. This study aimed to extend our understanding on the evolution of these fishes by: (1) examining the phylogenetic relationships of small barbs of the Kenyan LVD with those reported from other ichthyological provinces of Africa; (2) testing the sister relationship between '*Barbus*' *profundus*, endemic to Lake Victoria, and '*Barbus*' *radiatus*, also found in Lake Victoria, which had been previously synonymized; (3) determining whether putatively pure individuals of '*Barbus*' *cercops* are found in the Kenyan LVD, as a previous study only found hybrid individuals of this species in this region; and (4) examining the phylogenetic relationships of *Labeobarbus altianalis* with other *Labeobarbus* species. To this end, we obtained mitochondrial Cytochrome b and nuclear Growth Hormone (GH) intron 2 gene sequences of nine '*Barbus*' species from the LVD in Kenya, as well as cytochrome b sequences for *L. altianalis*. We conducted Maximum likelihood and Bayesian phylogenetic analyses to establish their evolutionary relationships in relation to many other barbs specimens from Africa. Phylogenetic analyses did not reveal instances of hybridization/introgression among the individuals sequenced by us. A sister relationship between '*B.* *profundus*' and '*B.* *radiatus*' was not found. This latter species shows instead a sister relationship with a lineage comprised of two species from West Africa. Other sister relationships between taxa from the East coast and other ecoregions from Africa are observed, suggesting that past drainage connections and vicariant events contributed to the diversification of this group. Finally, only a single haplotype was recovered among the *L.*

44 *altianalis* individuals examined, which is most similar to a specimen from Lake Edward in
 45 Uganda.

1. INTRODUCTION

Barbs constitute a significant component of the freshwater fish fauna of Africa, and represent the most species-rich group of cyprinids in this continent ([Hayes and Armbruster, 2017](#); [Leveque and Daget, 1984](#); [Ren and Mayden, 2016](#); [Skelton, 1988](#); [Skelton, 1993](#); [Skelton et al., 1991](#)). Molecular characterization of African barbs from different regions has greatly contributed to our understanding on the diversity and evolution of these fishes ([Beshera et al., 2016](#); [De Graaf et al., 2007](#); [Hayes and Armbruster, 2017](#); [Muwanika et al., 2012](#); [Ren and Mayden, 2016](#); [Schmidt et al., 2017](#); [Yang et al., 2015](#)). A large dataset of DNA sequences (particularly of the mitochondrial Cytochrome b gene) of African barbs from different regions has accrued, providing a resource for performing phylogenetic analyses across regions, which will enhance knowledge on the systematics, evolution, and biogeographic history of this important group.

Although they were treated as part of *Barbus* Cuvier and Cloquet, 1816, which included >800 species distributed across Eurasia and Africa ([Berrebi et al., 1996](#); [Skelton, 2012](#); [Skelton et al., 1991](#)), molecular phylogenetic studies have corroborated that this taxonomically complex and heterogeneous assemblage is a polyphyletic group ([Ren and Mayden, 2016](#); [Tsigenopoulos et al., 2002](#); [Yang et al., 2015](#)). The large hexaploid African barbs are now classified as *Labeobarbus* (tribe Torini; [Tsigenopoulos et al., 2010](#); [Yang et al., 2015](#)), whereas the large tetraploid African barbs are classified as *Pseudobarbus* (tribe Smiliogastrini; [Yang et al., 2015](#)). The small, diploid, African barbs have also been assigned to the tribe Smiliogastrini, and [Yang et al. \(2015\)](#) proposed to include all of them within the genus *Enteromius*, the oldest available genus-group name for these fishes, even though they do not appear to correspond to a monophyletic group. This proposal is controversial, with some authors supporting it ([Hayes and Armbruster, 2017](#)), whereas others proposing that this group be referred to as '*Barbus*' to reflect

its taxonomic uncertainty ([Schmidt and Bart, 2015](#); [Stiassny and Sakharova, 2016](#)). To minimize confusion with a previous study that was conducted in the same area as the present study ([Schmidt et al., 2017](#)), hereafter we generally refer to them as ‘*Barbus*’ in the main text. Nonetheless, in figures and references to figures, we generally use the genus and species name that was used by the original contributor of the corresponding sequence.

Barbs are an important biodiversity component of the Lake Victoria drainage Basin (LVD) in Kenya, and play a significant role in food security and socioeconomic development of the local community ([Ochumba and Many Ala, 1992](#); [Okeyo, 2014](#)). A recent multilocus study ([Schmidt et al., 2017](#)), molecularly characterized most of the small barbs nominal species present in this region. Phylogenetic relationships among them were analyzed, and high levels of genetic divergence within some recognized species were uncovered. Further complicating the taxonomy and species identification within this group, this study revealed evidence of introgression involving five small barbs species. Several important phylogenetic questions, however, still remain to be answered for Kenyan LVD barbs.

First, phylogenetic relationships of small barbs from this region, which belong to the East Coast province, with those from other ichthyological provinces of Africa have not been examined. Numerous sequences, mostly of the Cytb gene, are available for other small barbs from the East Coast, as well as the Nilo-Sudan, Upper Guinea, Lower Guinea, Congo, and Southern provinces (as defined by [Levêque et al., 2008](#); [Roberts, 1975](#)). The African continent has had a complex and dynamic geological history, in which past hydrological connections may have enabled exchange of taxa from different regions ([Salzburger et al., 2014](#); [Stewart, 2001](#)).


Second, [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#) did not include ‘*B. profundus*’ in their study, a species endemic to Lake Victoria, for which molecular analyses can help to clarify its evolutionary

history and taxonomy. [Greenwood \(1970\)](#) originally described '*B. profundus*' as a subspecies of '*B. radiatus*', another species found in Lake Victoria and other localities in Kenya. He considered '*B. radiatus*' was comprised of three subspecies: *B. radiatus profundus*, *B. radiatus radiatus* and *B. radiatus aurantiacus*. [Stewart \(1977\)](#), however, based on meristic and morphometric analyses concluded '*B. profundus*' is a separate species from '*B. radiatus*'; but did not find a basis for the separation of the other two subspecies. The two species occupy different depths in Lake Victoria; '*B. profundus*' is distributed at depths between 16 and 65 m ([Greenwood, 1970](#)), whereas '*B. radiatus*' occupies shallower waters ([Stewart, 1977](#)). Molecular analyses are thus needed to examine the relationship between '*B. profundus*' and '*B. radiatus*'.

Third, due to mitochondrial introgression from other species (i.e., '*B. neumayeri*' or '*B. c.f. paludinosus*' "Jipe"), [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#) were not able to obtain Cytb sequences that could be attributed to the '*B. cercops*' lineage. It is thus unclear whether pure populations of this species exist in the Kenyan LVD, which is important for conservation. Lack of Cytb sequences also limits examination of the evolutionary relationships of '*B. cercops*' with the other small African barbs for which Cytb sequences are available.

Finally, Cytb sequences for the large barb *Labeobarbus altianalis* in the Kenyan LVD have not been examined. This species has historically constituted an important fishery in this region ([Whitehead, 1959](#)), but overfishing has severely decimated its populations ([Ochumba and Many Ala, 1992](#)). Genetic diversity for this species in the Kenyan LVD has been studied with the mitochondrial control region, which revealed some population structure ([Chemoiwa et al., 2013](#)). [Muwanika et al. \(2012\)](#) examined partial Cytb sequences for *L. altianalis* from different localities in Uganda, including the Lake Victoria and Albertine basins. Therefore, obtaining Cytb sequences from this species in the Kenyan LVD will allow examination of differences


among the populations from both countries. In addition, a large dataset of Cytb sequences exists for *Labeobarbus* from different regions in Africa, which has not been analyzed with this species ([Beshera et al., 2016](#)).

Herein,  obtained Cytb sequences from eight species of small barbs and the large barb *L. altianalis* from different localities in the Kenyan LVD, and conducted phylogenetic analyses of these with a large dataset of reported sequences of small and large African barbs. We also obtained sequences of the nuclear GH intron and conducted phylogenetic analyses to help determine whether individuals were pure or exhibited evidence of hybridization/introgression ([Schmidt et al., 2017](#)). Our main objectives were to: (1) examine the phylogenetic relationships of small barbs of the Kenyan LVD with those reported from other ichthyological provinces of Africa; (2) test the sister relationship between '*B. profundus*' and '*B. radiatus*'; (3) determine whether putatively pure individuals of '*B. cercops*' are found in the Kenyan LVD; and (4) examine the phylogenetic relationships of *L. altianalis* with other *Labeobarbus* species.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1 Tissue source for DNA

We used ethanol-preserved fin clips from nine species (*Labeobarbus altianalis*, '*B. apleurogramma*', '*B. profundus*', '*B. cercops*', '*B. nyanzae*', '*B. kerstenii*', '*B. jacksoni*', '*B. neumayeri*', and '*B. paludinosus*') loaned by the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Institute (KMFRI).

 The remainder of the specimens is stored in formalin at KMFRI. These specimens were originally identified by fish taxonomists from KMFRI using morphological identification keys according to [Greenwood \(1962\)](#). They were obtained from sixteen localities in the Lake Victoria drainage area (LVD) in Kenya, which included Lake Victoria, rivers draining to the lake and

associated dams [represented by triangles in Fig. 1; circles indicate the approximate location of specimens from [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#) included in our analyses].

2.3 DNA isolation, PCR amplification and sequencing

Genomic DNA was extracted using the DNeasy Blood and Tissue Kit (QIAGEN Inc.). The quality of extracted DNA was examined by visualization on a 1.5% agarose electrophoresis gel, and quantified with a NanoDrop® ND-1000 spectrophotometer. Fragments of one mitochondrial (Cytochrome *b*; *Cytb*; ~1140bp) and one nuclear (Growth Hormone Intron 2; GH; ~520bp) gene were PCR amplified from 1- 4 individuals per locality. PCR was performed in a 25 µl reaction containing 19.9 µl ultrapure water, 0.5 µl dNTP mix (2.5 mM), 2.5 µl of 10X buffer, 0.5 µl of each 10µM primer, 0.1 µl *Taq* polymerase (OneTaq, New England Biolabs, Inc), and 1 µl of DNA template. *Cytb* was amplified with primers *Cytb* L15267 (5'AATGACTTGAAGAACCACCGT3') and H16461 (5'CTTCGGATTACAAGACC3'), following [Briolay et al. \(1998\)](#). GH intron 2 was amplified using primers GH102F (5'TCGTGTACAACACCTGCACCAGC-3'), GH148R (5' TCCTTTCCGGTGGGTGCCTCA-3'), from [Mayden et al. \(2009\)](#). PCR amplification included a denaturation step of 2 min at 95°C followed by 35 cycles of 1 min at 95°C, 30 s at 58–60°C (*Cytb*)/ 55°C (GH) and 1 min at 72°C followed in turn by a final extension of 6 min at 72°C. Successful amplification was verified by running the PCR amplicons alongside a standard Lambda ladder on a 1.5% agarose gel stained with GelRed™ (Biotium Inc., Hayward, CA, USA). Products were sequenced bi-directionally using the amplification primers in an ABI 3730 capillary sequencer.

2.5 Sequence assembly and alignment

Nucleotide sequences were assembled and edited with Sequencher 4.8 (Gene Codes, Ann Arbor, MI, USA). Newly generated Cytb of ‘*Barbus*’ were combined with publicly available sequences of African ‘*Barbus*’ and their allies (*Systomus*, *Barboides*, *Clypeobarbus*, *Pseudobarbus*, *Labeobarbus*), including sequences from [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#). Sequences were aligned with MAFFT v.6.0 ([Katoh and Toh, 2008](#)). Cytb aligned sequences were translated into amino acids to verify the alignments and to rule out the occurrence of frameshifts and early stop codons that could be indicative of pseudogenes or sequencing errors. Species from the family Catostomidae, which represent a group of tetraploids thought to have arisen due to a hybridization event early (60 million years) in the history of the cypriniform fishes, were initially used as outgroups ([Uyeno and Smith, 1974](#)). Following preliminary analyses, the dataset was pruned to retain only taxa relevant to this study: the newly generated sequences; small barbs closely related to the taxa in this study; close relatives of *Labeobarbus altianalis*, and four appropriate outgroup taxa (*Pethia ticto*, *Hampala macrolepidota*, *Puntigrus tetrazona*, and *Systomus sarana*; following [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#)). The GH dataset included the newly generated sequences, representatives of seven *Barbus* species from the same region, and sequences of *Pethia* and *Garra* were used as outgroups.

2.6 Phylogenetic analyses

Phylogenetic analyses were performed using maximum likelihood ([Stamatakis, 2014](#)), and Bayesian inference ([Huelsenbeck et al., 2001](#)). Appropriate models of sequence evolution for these analyses were determined using PARTITIONFINDER v2.7 ([Guindon et al., 2010](#); [Lanfear et al., 2012](#); [Lanfear et al., 2017](#)) and JModeltest 2.1.10 ([Darriba et al., 2012](#)) under the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC), corrected AIC(c), and Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) (Table 1).

Bayesian analyses were performed in MrBayes 3.2.6 ([Ronquist et al., 2012](#)) via the CIPRES Science Gateway ([Miller et al., 2010](#)). We used the model indicated by the BIC criterion of JModeltest or the closest more complex model available in MrBayes. The analysis was run for 10,000,000 generations consisting of four independent Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) chains sampled at every 1000 generations. TRACER v1.6 was used to assess MCMC stationarity and to ensure adequate effective sampling size values (>200) were achieved. The first 25% of the sampled trees were discarded as burn-in, whereas the remaining sampled trees were summarized with “sumt” command implemented in MrBayes.

Maximum Likelihood (ML) analysis was implemented in RaxML v 8.2.6 ([Stamatakis, 2014](#)) using rapid bootstrap and GTRGAMMA model via the CIPRES Science Gateway ([Miller et al., 2010](#)) to generate a maximum likelihood tree. Clade support was examined by a nonparametric bootstrap analysis of 200 replicates and summarized with 50% majority rule consensus tree computed using the SUMTREES script (v.3.3.1) ([Sukumaran and Holder, 2010](#)).

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

We obtained new Cytb sequences for 48 specimens and new GH sequences for 34 specimens (overlap = 26; see Supporting Table S1; GenBank Accession Nos. MH484522-MH484603). Alignments are available as nexus files under Datasets S1 and S2. Phylogenetic reconstructions using GH and Cytb DNA sequences are shown in Figures 2 and 3–8, respectively. In our trees, we generally retained the genus and species name given by the original contributors of the sequences. With the exception of '*B. cercops*' Cytb sequences (see below), for the seven '*Barbus*' species that overlapped between our study and that of [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#) within the

LVD region, the Cytb haplotypes and GH alleles that we obtained were identical or very similar to those reported by [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#) (Figs. 2–8).

Comparison of Cytb and GH trees based on our sequences alone does not suggest instances of introgression or hybridization. All of the eight putative '*B. 'cercops*' specimens examined (localities 1, 5, 9; Fig. 1) had a GH sequence identical to the single allele reported by [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#) for 15 '*B. 'cercops*' specimens in the same area (i.e., localities 5, 16, 21, 23–25). The '*B. 'cercops*' GH allele is distinct from alleles found in specimens assigned to all other species examined to date. Based on GH, the '*B. 'cercops*' lineage (red branches in Fig. 2) forms a monophyletic group with '*B. 'sp. "Jipe"*' and a clade comprised of '*B. 'jacksoni*', '*B. 'trispilopleura*', and one specimen assigned to *B. trimaculatus* (Fig. 2).

The Cytb sequences of our '*B. 'cercops*' specimens (n = 6) formed a distinct lineage (red branches in Fig. 4) that excluded the five '*B. 'cercops*' specimens reported by [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#) and all other reported sequences to date [with the exception of GenBank record AF180841; identified as *Barbus nyanzae* from Kenya ([Tsigenopoulos et al., 2002](#)); discussed below]. Maximum Cytb divergence within this clade was 0.39% (K2P). This '*B. 'cercops*' Cytb lineage was part of a larger clade (Clade A; Figs. 3 and 4) that included the closest relatives of '*B. 'cercops*' according to the GH gene (see above), as well as additional lineages assigned to several other species. The Cytb sequence of the five putative '*B. 'cercops*' specimens examined by [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#), including four for which they also obtained GH sequences, clustered with the Cytb sequences of other species. Four of their '*B. 'cercops*' Cytb sequences clustered with a clade made up mostly of '*B. 'neumayeri*' specimens (brown branches; Figs. 3 and 5; found in localities 5 and 25; Fig. 1), whereas one of their '*B. 'cercops*' Cytb sequences (from locality 23) clustered with individuals belonging to a subclade (i.e., "Jipe") of specimens assigned to '*B. 'cercops*'

231 cf. *paludinosus* (Clade D; green branches; Figs. 3 and 5). Therefore, whereas [Schmidt et al.](#)
 232 [\(2017\)](#) detected evidence consistent with mitochondrial introgression from other species (i.e.,
 233 '*B.*' *neumayeri* and '*B.*' cf. *paludinosus*) into all five of the '*B.*' *cercops* specimens that they
 234 characterized for Cytb as well as for morphology or GH, we found no evidence of introgression
 235 among our specimens. Whether GenBank record AF180841 (Fig. 4) is an error or a result of
 236 introgression of '*B.*' *cercops* mitochondria into '*B.*' *nyanzae* cannot be determined [although
 237 [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#) did not detect such introgression], because information about the nuclear
 238 genetic background is not available for this specimen. Similarly, the identity of '*B.*' *cercops*
 239 voucher 1550 [blue taxon label in Fig. 2; from [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#)] is questionable, as its Cytb
 240 sequence (KX178183) is very divergent (not shown). A MegaBLAST search ([Morgulis et al.,](#)
 241 [2008](#); [Zhang et al., 2000](#)) against the non-redundant NCBI nucleotide database indicates that this
 242 sequence, along with records KX178138 and KX178111 also labeled as '*B.*' *cercops*, belong to a
 243 different fish order (i.e., Siluriformes), implying a labeling or contamination error.

244 [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#) also detected a pattern suggestive of introgression in '*B.*' *kerstenii*.
 245 They assigned 30 specimens to '*B.*' *kerstenii* based on morphology, and characterized 16 of these
 246 for GH and 28 for Cytb (15 for both genes). The 16 GH sequences grouped into a distinct clade
 247 that excluded specimens assigned to other species (Fig. 2). In contrast, for Cytb, 11 grouped
 248 within the '*B.*' *neumayeri* clade (Fig. 5), one grouped with specimens assigned to '*B.*' *nyanzae*
 249 (purple in Fig. 6), and the remaining 17 formed a highly distinct clade that excluded specimens
 250 assigned to other species (magenta in Fig. 6). The latter presumably represent "purple" '*B.*'
 251 *kerstenii* specimens, as the phylogenetic position of this unique clade (i.e., as a close relative of
 252 '*B.*' *nyanzae*) is generally congruent between the two genes. Based on this criterion, the four

‘*B. ’ kerstenii*’ specimens for which we obtained both GH and Cytb sequences represent “pure” individuals.

Our study is the first to report Cytb and GH DNA sequences from ‘*B. ’ profundus*’, a species endemic to Lake Victoria ([Greenwood, 1970](#)). Each of the four specimens examined had a different Cytb haplotype (max. within clade divergence = 0.59% K2P), and formed a well supported clade (Fig. 7). The ‘*B. ’ profundus*’ lineage falls within Clade B, which contains mostly species distributed in the Nilo-Sudan (North) and Upper Guinea (West) provinces, as well as ‘*B. ’ radiatus*’. A sister relationship between ‘*B. ’ profundus*’ and ‘*B. ’ radiatus*’, however, was not recovered in our Cytb or GH analyses, despite the fact that these species had been previously synonymized ([Greenwood, 1970](#)) and co-occur in Lake Victoria, albeit at different depths ([Stewart, 1977](#)). Instead, the Cytb phylogenetic reconstruction (Fig. 7) shows a sister relationship between ‘*B. ’ radiatus*’ and a lineage comprised of two species from West Africa (in the Lower Guinea ichthyological province): ‘*B. ’ aspilus*’ (from Cameroon) and ‘*B. ’ cf. guirali*’ (the sample is from Gabon; ‘*B. ’ guirali*’ is reported from Cameroon, Gabon and Congo). This is congruent with the results of [Ren and Mayden \(2016\)](#), who examined the same sequences for these taxa, but lacked ‘*B. ’ profundus*’. Therefore, ‘*B. ’ profundus*’ and ‘*B. ’ radiatus*’ do not appear to constitute sister taxa, but phylogenetic analyses with additional taxa and markers are necessary to identify their closest relatives.

By including sequences from independent studies, our Cytb analyses revealed previously unknown relationships involving LVD species. ‘*B. ’ yongei*’ was sister (~12% K2P divergent) to a lineage comprised of two almost identical haplotypes from Guinea identified as *Enteromius sp.* and *Enteromius stigmatopygus* in [Hayes and Armbruster \(2017\)](#), which implies an East vs. West Africa divergence (Fig. 4). Another sister relationship involving LVD taxa uncovered by our

analyzes was that of '*B. nyanzae*' (LVD) and '*B. laticeps*' (from Tanzania) (Fig. 6), which were ~9% divergent (K2P).

A single haplotype was recovered among the six *L. altianalis* individuals examined (Fig. 8), representing five localities. This haplotype is identical to GenBank record KX178106, submitted as part of the [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#) study PopSet (Accession No. 1187422681), but erroneously labeled as '*B. cercops*' (Fig. 8). The lack of Cytb diversity among our *L. altianalis* specimens sharply contrasts with a previous study of this species in this area that reports high haplotype diversity for the mitochondrial control region ([Chemoiwa et al. \(2013\)](#)). Although our phylogenetic analyses provide little resolution within *Labeobarbus*, they suggest that our *L. altianalis* haplotype is most similar to GenBank record JN983691 (627 bp; K2P distance = 1.2%); a specimen from Uganda (Lake Edward; Albertine drainage; ~200 km West of Lake Victoria) contributed by [Muwanika et al. \(2012\)](#). The other *Labeobarbus* specimens examined by [Muwanika et al. \(2012\)](#) from LVD and the Albertine drainage in Uganda were 2.2–4.5% (K2P) divergent from our *L. altianalis* haplotype. [Banister \(1973\)](#) proposed, based on morphology, two groups within *Labeobarbus*: the *Labeobarbus intermedius* complex (*L. intermedius*, *L. altianalis*, '*Barbus*' *acuticeps*, and '*B. ruasae*') and the *Labeobarbus bynni* complex (*L. bynni*, *L. gananensis*, *L. oxyrhynchus*, and '*B. longifilis*'). Cytb phylogenetic reconstructions in this study, however, do not support the separation of these two groups, which is congruent with the findings of a previous phylogenetic analyses that lacked *L. altianalis* sequences ([Beshera et al., 2016](#)). Nonetheless, Cytb may be too conserved to adequately assess these relationships.

Several interesting broad-scale phylogeographic patterns are apparent with the available Cytb data on African small barbs. Continental Africa is divided into nine ichthyological

provinces ([reviewed in Levêque et al., 2008](#)). The Lake Victoria Drainage belongs to the East Coast province. From our analyses, the following East Coast vs. West splits can be inferred: (1) '*B. radiatus* (LVD) vs. '*B.*' cf. *guirali* + '*B.*' *aspilus* (West: Lower Guinea province); (2) '*B. profundus* (LVD) vs. one or more of the members of Clade B (all are from western Africa except '*B. radiatus*); and (3) '*B. yongei* (LVD) vs. *E. stigmatopygus* (West: Niger River). One or more additional East vs. West splits will be identified within clades A and C once relationships within these are resolved. Two East Coast vs. Southern ecoregion splits are inferred: (1) '*B. trimaculatus* (South Africa) vs. '*B. jacksoni* + '*B. perince* + '*B. trispilopleura* (including specimens assigned to '*B. tanapelagius* and '*B. humilis*; Fig. 4); and (2) the basal split within Clade D ('*B.*' cf. *paludinosus*). The multiple divergences between the East Coast and other provinces suggest that the dynamic and complex geological history of Africa provided opportunities, through hydrological connections, for exchange of lineages from different regions ([Salzburger et al., 2014](#); [Stewart, 2001](#)).

4. CONCLUSION

The taxonomy and evolutionary history of the African barbs, including the role of hybridization, is far from resolved, and will require a much broader sampling of taxa, geographic locations, and genetic markers than what is presently available. Nonetheless, our analyses, which included most (if not all) available Cytb and GH sequences for this group, revealed several key insights. First, apparently pure '*B. cercops*' individuals do occur at the three localities where we obtained this species, including the Kendu Bay area (locality 5), where [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#) reported a '*B. cercops*' specimen harboring a '*B. neumayeri*' mitochondrion. Secondly, '*B. radiatus*' does

not appear to be sister to '*B. profundus*', with which it was previously synonymized. Thirdly, we found evidence of several sister relationships between taxa from the East Coast and other ecoregions of Africa, suggesting that past drainage connections and vicariant events contributed to the diversification of this group. Finally, only a single haplotype was recovered among the *L. altianalis* individuals examined, which is most similar to a specimen from Lake Edward than to specimens from other localities in Uganda.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI) provided the samples analyzed in this study. James Woolley provided suggestions and comments regarding this work. Cecilia Smith at Texas A&M University Libraries helped with the elaboration of the study area map. M.Sc. studies of VN were supported by fellowships from Fulbright and the American Association of University Women.

REFERENCES CITED

- Banister, K. E. 1973. A revision of the large *Barbus* (Pisces, Cyprinidae) of east and central Africa. Studies on African Cyprinidae. Part II. Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History), Zoology 26:1–148.
- Berrebi, P., M. Kottelat, P. Skelton, and P. Rab. 1996. Systematics of *Barbus*: state of the art and heuristic comments. Inst Vertebrate Biology AS CR KVVETNA 8, BRNO 603 65, CZECH REPUBLIC.
- Beshera, K. A., P. M. Harris, and R. L. Mayden. 2016. Novel evolutionary lineages in *Labeobarbus* (Cypriniformes; Cyprinidae) based on phylogenetic analyses of mtDNA sequences. Zootaxa 4093:363-81. 10.11646/zootaxa.4093.3.4
- Briolay, J., N. Galtier, R. M. Brito, and Y. Bouvet. 1998. Molecular Phylogeny of Cyprinidae Inferred from Cytochrome b DNA Sequences. Mol. Phylogenet. Evol. 9:100-108. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1006/mpev.1997.0441>
- Chemoiwa, E. J., R. Abila, A. Macdonald, J. Lamb, E. Njenga, and J. E. Barasa. 2013. Genetic diversity and population structure of the endangered ripon barbel, *Barbus altianalis* (Boulenger, 1900) in Lake Victoria catchment, Kenya based on mitochondrial DNA sequences. J. Appl. Ichthyol. 29:1225-1233. 10.1111/jai.12313
- Darriba, D., G. L. Taboada, R. Doallo, and D. Posada. 2012. jModelTest 2: more models, new heuristics and parallel computing. Nat. Methods 9:772. 10.1038/nmeth.2109
- De Graaf, M., H.-J. Megens, J. Samallo, and F. A. Sibbing. 2007. Evolutionary origin of Lake Tana's (Ethiopia) small *Barbus* species: indications of rapid ecological divergence and speciation. Anim. Biol. 57:39-48.
- Greenwood, P. H. 1962. A revision of certain *Barbus* species (Pisces, Cyprinidae) from East, Central and South Africa. Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History). Zoology
- Greenwood, P. H. 1970. A revision of the cyprinid species *Barbus* (*Enteromius*) *radiatus* Peters, 1853, with a note on the synonymy of the subgenera *Beirabarbus* and *Enteromius*. Rev. Zool. Bot. Afr. 82:1-13.
- Guindon, S., J. F. Dufayard, V. Lefort, M. Anisimova, W. Hordijk, and O. Gascuel. 2010. New algorithms and methods to estimate Maximum-Likelihood phylogenies: assessing the performance of PhyML 3.0. Syst. Biol. 59:307-321. Doi 10.1093/Sysbio/Syq010
- Hayes, M. M., and J. W. Armbruster. 2017. The taxonomy and relationships of the African small barbs (Cypriniformes: Cyprinidae). Copeia 105:348-362.
- Huelsenbeck, J. P., F. Ronquist, R. Nielsen, and J. P. Bollback. 2001. Bayesian inference of phylogeny and its impact on evolutionary biology. Science 294:2310-4. 10.1126/science.1065889
- Katoh, K., and H. Toh. 2008. Improved accuracy of multiple ncRNA alignment by incorporating structural information into a MAFFT-based framework. BMC Bioinformatics 9:212. 10.1186/1471-2105-9-212
- Lanfear, R., B. Calcott, S. Y. W. Ho, and S. Guindon. 2012. PartitionFinder: combined selection of partitioning schemes and substitution models for phylogenetic analyses. Mol. Biol. Evol. 29:1695-1701. 10.1093/molbev/mss020
- Lanfear, R., P. B. Frandsen, A. M. Wright, T. Senfeld, and B. Calcott. 2017. PartitionFinder 2: new methods for selecting partitioned models of evolution for molecular and

- 380 morphological phylogenetic analyses. *Mol. Biol. Evol.* 34:772-773.
- 381 10.1093/molbev/msw260
- 382 Leveque, C., and L. Daget. 1984. Cyprinidae. In J. Daget, J. P. Gosse & van den Audenaerde T.
- 383 (Eds) Check List of the Freshwater Fishes of Africa. Pp. 217–342, Paris: Tervuren &
- 384 Orstom.
- 385 Levêque, C., T. Oberdorff, D. Paugy, M. Stiassny, and P. A. Tedesco. 2008. Global diversity of
- 386 fish (Pisces) in freshwater. *Hydrobiologia* 595:545-567.
- 387 Mayden, R. L., W. J. Chen, H. L. Bart, M. H. Doosey, A. M. Simons, K. L. Tang, R. M. Wood,
- 388 M. K. Agnew, L. Yang, M. V. Hirt, M. D. Clements, K. Saitoh, T. Sado, M. Miya, and
- 389 M. Nishida. 2009. Reconstructing the phylogenetic relationships of the earth's most
- 390 diverse clade of freshwater fishes--order Cypriniformes (Actinopterygii: Ostariophysi): a
- 391 case study using multiple nuclear loci and the mitochondrial genome. *Mol. Phylogenet.*
- 392 *Evol.* 51:500-14. 10.1016/j.ympev.2008.12.015
- 393 Miller, M. A., W. Pfeiffer, and T. Schwartz. 2010. Creating the CIPRES Science Gateway for
- 394 inference of large phylogenetic trees. Gateway Computing Environments Workshop
- 395 (GCE), 2010, 1-8.
- 396 Morgulis, A., G. Coulouris, Y. Raytselis, T. L. Madden, R. Agarwala, and A. A. Schaffer. 2008.
- 397 Database indexing for production MegaBLAST searches. *Bioinformatics* 24:1757-64.
- 398 10.1093/bioinformatics/btn322
- 399 Muwanika, V., M. Nakamya, J. Rutaisire, B. Sivan, and C. Masembe. 2012. Low genetic
- 400 differentiation among morphologically distinct *Labeobarbus* species (Teleostei:
- 401 Cyprinidae) in the Lake Victoria and Albertine basins, Uganda: insights from
- 402 mitochondrial DNA. *Afr. J. Aquat. Sci.* 37:143-153.
- 403 Ochumba, P. B. O., and J. O. Many Ala. 1992. Distribution of fishes along the Sondu-Miriu
- 404 River of Lake Victoria, Kenya with special reference to upstream migration, biology and
- 405 yield. *Aquac. Res.* 23:701-719.
- 406 Okeyo, D. O. 2014. Artisanal and commercial fishing gear and practices in the Lake Victoria
- 407 basin drainage systems of Kenya: A photodiagrammatic verification. *Lakes &*
- 408 *Reservoirs: Research & Management* 19:192-205.
- 409 Ren, Q., and R. L. Mayden. 2016. Molecular phylogeny and biogeography of African diploid
- 410 barbs, '*Barbus*', and allies in Africa and Asia (Teleostei: Cypriniformes). *Zool. Scripta*
- 411 45:642-649.
- 412 Roberts, T. R. 1975. Geographical distribution of African freshwater fishes. *Zool. J. Linnean*
- 413 *Soc.* 57:249-319.
- 414 Ronquist, F., M. Teslenko, P. van der Mark, D. L. Ayres, A. Darling, S. Höhna, B. Larget, L.
- 415 Liu, M. A. Suchard, and J. P. Huelsenbeck. 2012. MrBayes 3.2: efficient Bayesian
- 416 phylogenetic inference and model choice across a large model space. *Syst. Biol.* 61:539-
- 417 542. 10.1093/sysbio/sys029
- 418 Salzburger, W., B. Van Bocxlaer, and A. S. Cohen. 2014. Ecology and evolution of the African
- 419 Great Lakes and their faunas. *Annu. Rev. Ecol. Evol. Syst.* 45:519-545. 10.1146/annurev-
- 420 *ecolsys*-120213-091804
- 421 Schmidt, R. C., and H. L. Bart, Jr. 2015. Nomenclatural changes should not be based on
- 422 equivocally supported phylogenies: Reply to Yang et al. 2015. *Mol. Phylogenet. Evol.*
- 423 90:193-4. 10.1016/j.ympev.2015.05.025

- Schmidt, R. C., H. L. Bart, and W. D. Nyingi. 2017. Multi-locus phylogeny reveals instances of mitochondrial introgression and unrecognized diversity in Kenyan barbs (Cyprininae: Smiliogastrini). *Mol. Phylogenet. Evol.* 111:35-43.
- Skelton, P. H. 1988. A taxonomic revision of the redfin minnows (Pisces, Cyprinidae) from southern Africa. Cape Provincial Museums.
- Skelton, P. H. 1993. Scientific and common names of southern African freshwater fishes. *LB Smith Institute of Ichthyology* 56:34.
- Skelton, P. H. 2012. A Complete Guide to the Freshwater Fishes of Southern Africa. Southern Book Publishers
- Skelton, P. H., D. Tweddle, and P. Jackson. 1991. Cyprinids of Africa. Pp. 211-239. *Cyprinid Fishes*. Springer.
- Stamatakis, A. 2014. RAxML version 8: a tool for phylogenetic analysis and post-analysis of large phylogenies. *Bioinformatics* 30:1312-3. 10.1093/bioinformatics/btu033
- Stewart, D. J. 1977. Geographical distribution of *Barbus radiatus* Peters, a widely distributed African cyprinid fish. *Environ. Biol. Fishes* 1:13–125.
- Stewart, K. M. 2001. The freshwater fish of Neogene Africa (Miocene–Pleistocene): systematics and biogeography. *Fish and Fisheries* 2:177-230.
- Stiassny, M. L. J., and H. Sakharova. 2016. Review of the smiliogastrin cyprinids of the Kwilu River (Kasai Basin, central Africa), revised diagnosis for *Clypeobarbus* (Cyprinidae: Cyprininae: Smiliogastrini) and description of a new species. *J. Fish Biol.* 88:1394-1412. doi:10.1111/jfb.12901
- Sukumaran, J., and M. T. Holder. 2010. DendroPy: a Python library for phylogenetic computing. *Bioinformatics* 26:1569-71. 10.1093/bioinformatics/btq228
- Tsigenopoulos, C., P. Kasapidis, and P. Berrebi. 2010. Phylogenetic relationships of hexaploid large-sized barbs (genus *Labeobarbus*, Cyprinidae) based on mtDNA data. *Mol. Phylogenet. Evol.* 56:851-856. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2010.02.006>
- Tsigenopoulos, C., P. Ráb, D. Naran, and P. Berrebi. 2002. Multiple origins of polyploidy in the phylogeny of southern African barbs (Cyprinidae) as inferred from mtDNA markers. *Heredity* 88:466-473.
- Uyeno, T., and G. Smith. 1974. Tetraploid origin of the karyotype of catostomid fishes. Pp. 112 in J. P. Wourms, ed. *Genetic Studies of Fish*. Ardent Media, New York.
- Whitehead, P. J. P. 1959. The anadromous fishes of Lake Victoria. *Rev. Zool. Bot. Afr.* 59:329-63.
- Yang, L., T. Sado, M. Vincent Hirt, E. Pasco-Viel, M. Arunachalam, J. Li, X. Wang, J. Freyhof, K. Saitoh, A. M. Simons, M. Miya, S. He, and R. L. Mayden. 2015. Phylogeny and polyploidy: resolving the classification of cyprinine fishes (Teleostei: Cypriniformes). *Mol. Phylogenet. Evol.* 85:97-116. 10.1016/j.ympev.2015.01.014
- Zhang, Z., S. Schwartz, L. Wagner, and W. Miller. 2000. A greedy algorithm for aligning DNA sequences. *J. Comput. Biol.* 7:203-14. 10.1089/10665270050081478

FIGURE LEGENDS

Figure 1. Localities of specimens sampled in this study (triangles). Circles represent localities within the Lake Victoria Drainage (LVD) sampled by [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#) that were not sampled in our study (locations are approximate based on their description of locality, as coordinates were not reported). The map was developed with ArcMap version 10.3—a part of the ESRI ArcGIS® Desktop suite. Localities where each species was sampled for our study are as follows: '*B.*' *apleurogramma* [2]; '*B.*' *cercops* [1, 5, 7, 9]; '*B.*' cf. *paludinosus* [13]; '*B.*' *jacksoni* [7]; '*B.*' *kerstenii* [1, 6, 14]; '*B.*' *neumayeri* [3]; '*B.*' *nyanzae* [7, 10]; '*B.*' *profundus* [8]; and *L. altianalis* [4, 5, 10, 11, 12].

Figure 2. Inferred relationships based on the GH gene. RaxML bootstrap consensus (60% majority rule) tree. Bold-faced taxon labels indicate sequences generated by the present study. Asterisks by taxon names indicate Cytb sequence was also generated in present study. Numbers in brackets correspond to localities in Fig. 1. Node support values from Bayesian (above) and ML below are given by nodes; an asterisk indicates support > 97% in all corresponding analyses. For visual clarity, several node support labels have been omitted. Red taxon labels indicate specimens identified by [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#) as introgressed. Blue taxon label indicates specimen whose cytb sequence is falls within the order Siluriformes. Clade labels and colors correspond to those in other figures. The dashed line of Clade A indicates those lineages that were not found monophyletic with the rest of Clade A members (as defined by the cytb tree; Figs. 3 and 4).

Figure 3. Inferred relationships among the major clades in this study based on the Cytb gene, and general distribution (East, West, or South Africa; where applicable). RaxML Bootstrap consensus (60% majority rule). Specific clades are expanded in Figs. 4–8). Numbers by nodes represent ML Bootstrap support values. For visual clarity, several node support labels have been omitted. Each taxon label contains the GenBank Accession Number and/or the citation and voucher ID.

Figure 4. Inferred relationships within Clade A (expanded from Fig. 3) based on the Cytb gene. RaxML bootstrap consensus (60% majority rule) tree. All taxa except those with grey shading are found in East Africa. Each taxon label contains the GenBank Accession Number and/or the citation and voucher ID, as well as locality label [if they were from the Lake Victoria Drainage (LVD); in bracket] corresponding to labels in Fig. 1. Bold-faced taxon labels indicate sequences generated by the present study. Asterisks by taxon names indicate GH sequence was also generated in present study. Asterisks by nodes represent support values > 97% for all analyses.

Figure 5. Inferred relationships within the clades of '*B.* *neumayeri*', '*B.* *apleurogramma*', and '*B.* *cf. paludinosus*' (Clade D) (expanded from Fig. 3) based on the Cytb gene. RaxML bootstrap consensus (60% majority rule) tree. All taxa except the one with grey shading are found in East Africa. Bold-faced taxon labels indicate sequences generated by the present study. Asterisks by taxon names indicate GH sequence was also generated in present study. Numbers in brackets correspond to localities in Fig. 1. Node support values from Bayesian (above) and ML below are given by nodes; an asterisk indicates support > 97% in all corresponding analyses.

For visual clarity, several node support labels have been omitted. Red taxon label indicates putatively introgressed individuals from [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#).

Figure 6. Inferred relationships within Clade C (expanded from Fig. 3) based on the Cytb gene. RaxML bootstrap consensus (60% majority rule) tree. All taxa except those with grey shading are found in East Africa. Bold-faced taxon labels indicate sequences generated by the present study. Asterisks by taxon names indicate GH sequence was also generated in present study. Numbers in brackets correspond to localities in Fig. 1. Node support values from Bayesian (above) and ML below are given by nodes; an asterisk indicates support > 97% in all corresponding analyses. For visual clarity, several node support labels have been omitted. Red taxon label indicates specimen from [Schmidt et al. \(2017\)](#) assigned to '*B. 'kerstenii*' based on morphology and GH sequence, but with a Cytb sequence that falls within '*B. 'nyanzae*'.

Figure 7. Inferred relationships within Clade B (expanded from Fig. 3) based on the Cytb gene. RaxML bootstrap consensus (60% majority rule) tree. All taxa except those '*B. 'radiatus*' and '*B. 'profundus*' (boldface taxon labels) are distributed in West Africa. Asterisks by taxon names indicate GH sequence was also generated in present study. Numbers in brackets correspond to localities in Fig. 1. Node support values from Bayesian (above) and ML below are given by nodes; an asterisk indicates support > 97% in all corresponding analyses. For visual clarity, several node support labels have been omitted.

Figure 8. Inferred relationships within the clades "*Labeobarbus* and allies" (expanded from Fig. 3) based on the Cytb gene. RaxML bootstrap consensus (60% majority rule) tree. Boldfaced

532 taxon labels correspond to our specimens of *L. altianalis*. Numbers in brackets correspond to
 533 localities in Fig. 1.

534

SUPPORTING INFORMATION DESCRIPTIONS

Table S1. Specimen information for samples sequenced in this study including geographic coordinates and GenBank Accession Numbers. Locality numbers match labels in Figures. Blue font indicates specimens for which both the Cytb and GH sequence were obtained.

Dataset S1. Cytochrome b gene alignment. Annotated nexus-formatted file of the Cytochrome b gene sequence alignment used in this study.

Dataset S2. GH intron gene alignment. Annotated Nexus-formatted file of the GH gene sequence alignment used in this study.

Figure 1(on next page)

Localities of specimens sampled in this study (triangles).

Circles represent localities within the Lake Victoria Drainage (LVD) sampled by Schmidt et al. (2017) that were not sampled in our study (locations are approximate based on their description of locality, as coordinates were not reported). The map was developed with ArcMap version 10.3—a part of the ESRI ArcGIS® Desktop suite. Localities where each species was sampled for our study are as follows: '*B.*' *apleurogramma* [2]; '*B.*' *cercops* [1, 5, 7, 9]; '*B.*' cf. *paludinosus* [13]; '*B.*' *jacksoni* [7]; '*B.*' *kerstenii* [1, 6, 14]; '*B.*' *neumayeri* [3]; '*B.*' *nyanzae* [7, 10]; '*B.*' *profundus* [8]; and *L. altianalis* [4, 5, 10, 11, 12].

- △ This study
○ Schmidt et al. (2017)

0°0'0"

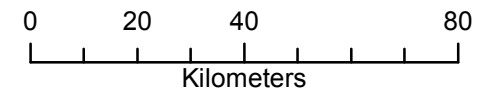
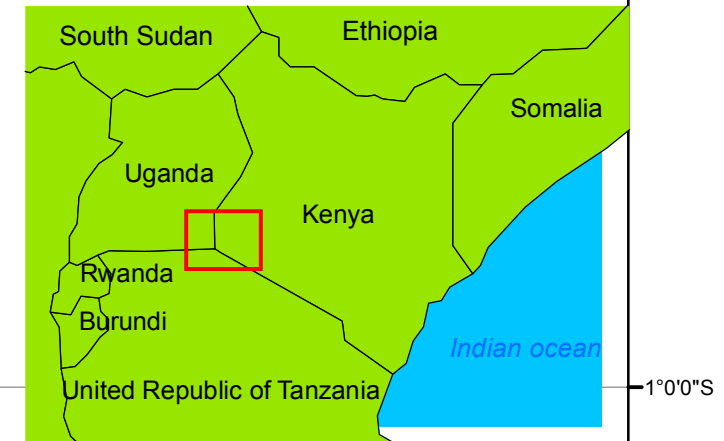
0°0'0"

Lake Victoria

Winam Gulf

1°0'0"S

1°0'0"S



34°0'0"E

35°0'0"E

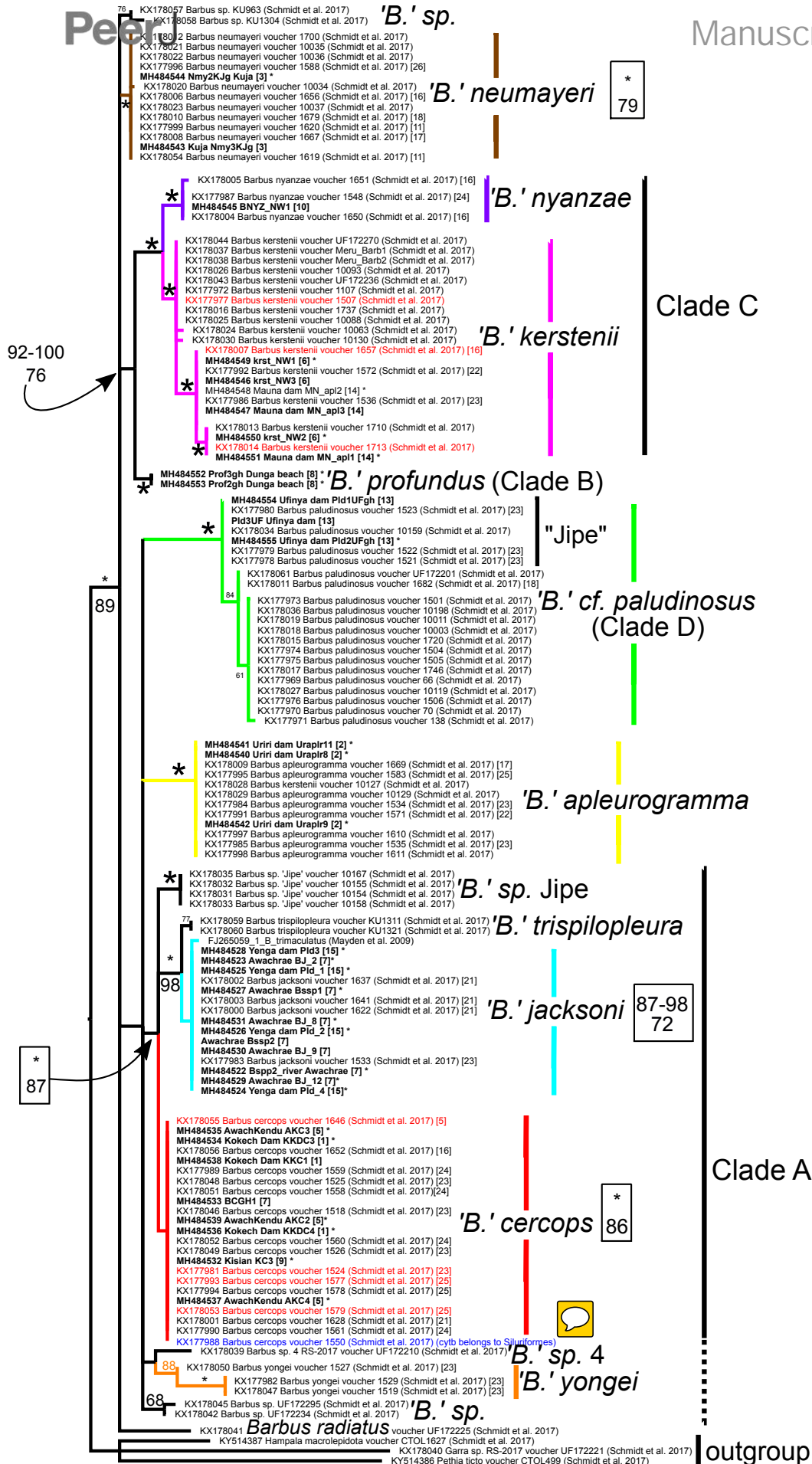
36°0'0"E

37°0'0"E

Figure 2(on next page)

Inferred relationships based on the GH gene.

RaxML bootstrap consensus (60% majority rule) tree. Bold-faced taxon labels indicate sequences generated by the present study. Asterisks by taxon names indicate Cytb sequence was also generated in present study. Numbers in brackets correspond to localities in Fig. 1. Node support values from Bayesian (above) and ML below are given by nodes; an asterisk indicates support > 97% in all corresponding analyses. For visual clarity, several node support labels have been omitted. Red taxon labels indicate specimens identified by Schmidt et al. (2017) as introgressed. Blue taxon label indicates specimen whose cytb sequence is falls within the order Siluriformes. Clade labels and colors correspond to those in other figures. The dashed line of Clade A indicates those lineages that were not found monophyletic with the rest of Clade A members (as defined by the cytb tree; Figs. 3 and 4).



Clade C

"Jipe"

'B.' cf. paludinosus
(Clade D)

'B.' apleurogramma

'B.' sp. Jipe

'B.' trispilopleura

'B.' jacksoni

'B.' cercops

'B.' sp. 4

'B.' yongei

'B.' sp.

Barbus radiatus

Clade A

outgroup

Node support (%)
Bayesian PP (above)
ML Bootstrap (below)
* > 97% in all analyses

Figure 3(on next page)

Inferred relationships among the major clades in this study based on the Cytb gene, and general distribution (East, West, or South Africa; where applicable).

RaxML Bootstrap consensus (60% majority rule). Specific clades are expanded in Figs. 4-8). Numbers by nodes represent ML Bootstrap support values. For visual clarity, several node support labels have been omitted. Each taxon label contains the GenBank Accession Number and/or the citation and voucher ID.

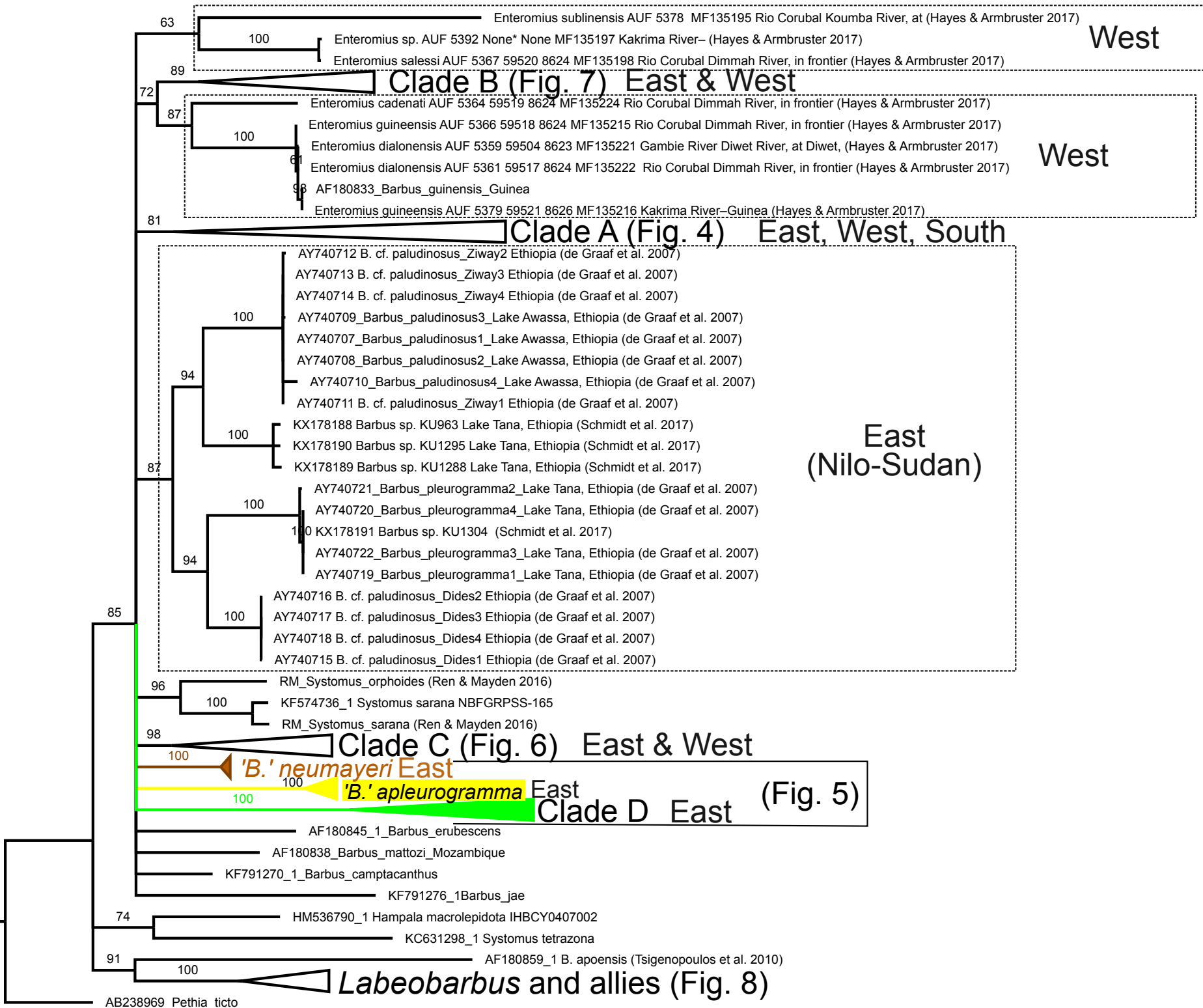


Figure 4

Inferred relationships within Clade A (expanded from Fig. 3) based on the Cytb gene.

RaxML bootstrap consensus (60% majority rule) tree. All taxa except those with grey shading are found in East Africa. Each taxon label contains the GenBank Accession Number and/or the citation and voucher ID, as well as locality label [if they were from the Lake Victoria Drainage (LVD); in bracket] corresponding to labels in Fig. 1. Bold-faced taxon labels indicate sequences generated by the present study. Asterisks by taxon names indicate GH sequence was also generated in present study. Asterisks by nodes represent support values > 97% for all analyses.

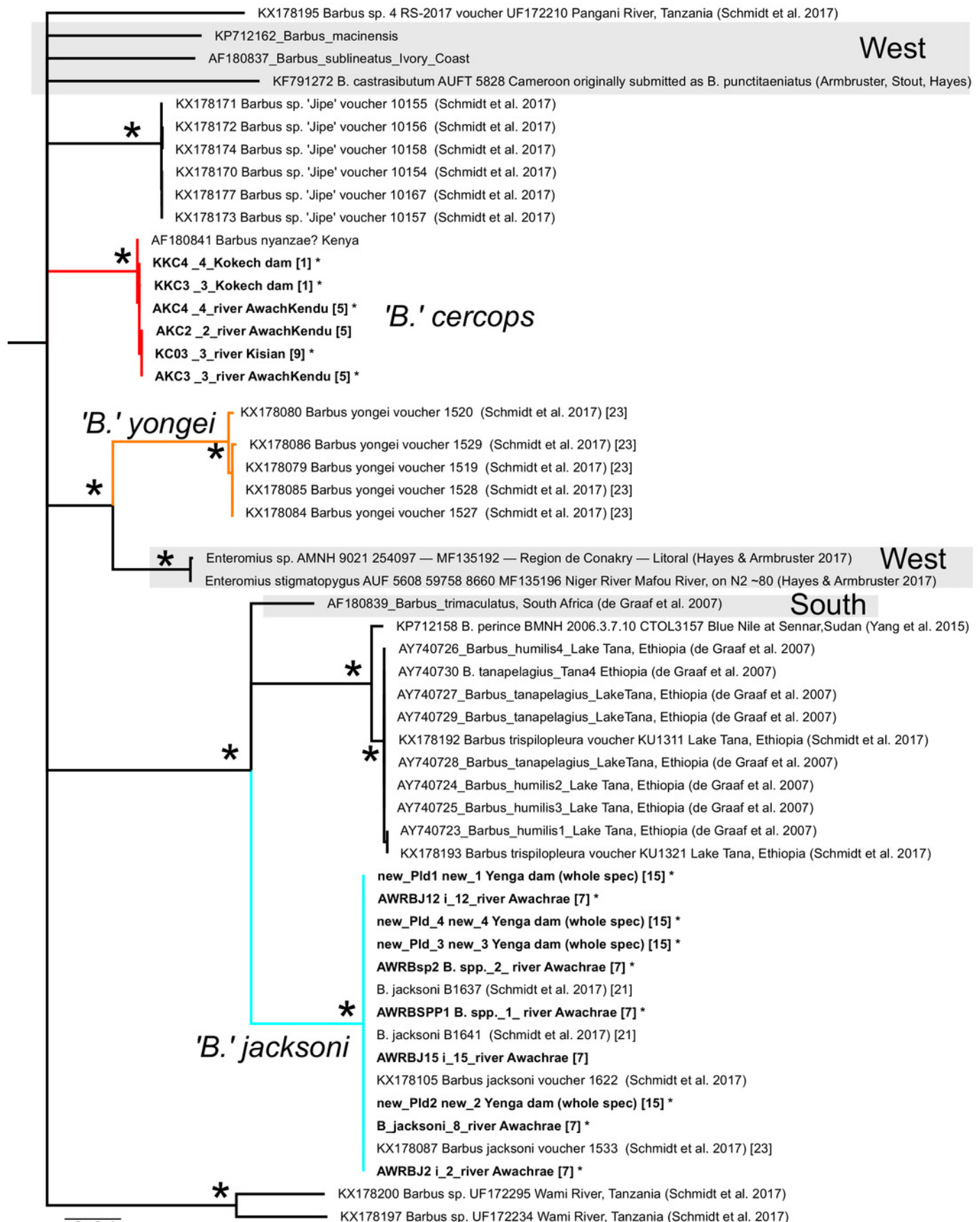


Figure 5

Inferred relationships within the clades of '*B.*' *neumayeri*, '*B.*' *apleurogramma*, and '*B.*' cf. *paludinosus* (Clade D) (expanded from Fig. 3) based on the Cytb gene.

RaxML bootstrap consensus (60% majority rule) tree. All taxa except the one with grey shading are found in East Africa. Bold-faced taxon labels indicate sequences generated by the present study. Asterisks by taxon names indicate GH sequence was also generated in present study. Numbers in brackets correspond to localities in Fig. 1. Node support values from Bayesian (above) and ML below are given by nodes; an asterisk indicates support > 97% in all corresponding analyses. For visual clarity, several node support labels have been omitted. Red taxon label indicates putatively introgressed individuals from Schmidt et al. (2017) .



Figure 6(on next page)

Inferred relationships within Clade C (expanded from Fig. 3) based on the Cytb gene.

RaxML bootstrap consensus (60% majority rule) tree. All taxa except those with grey shading are found in East Africa. Bold-faced taxon labels indicate sequences generated by the present study. Asterisks by taxon names indicate GH sequence was also generated in present study. Numbers in brackets correspond to localities in Fig. 1. Node support values from Bayesian (above) and ML below are given by nodes; an asterisk indicates support > 97% in all corresponding analyses. For visual clarity, several node support labels have been omitted. Red taxon label indicates specimen from Schmidt et al. (2017) assigned to '*B.*' *kerstenii* based on morphology and GH sequence, but with a Cytb sequence that falls within '*B.*' *nyanzae*.

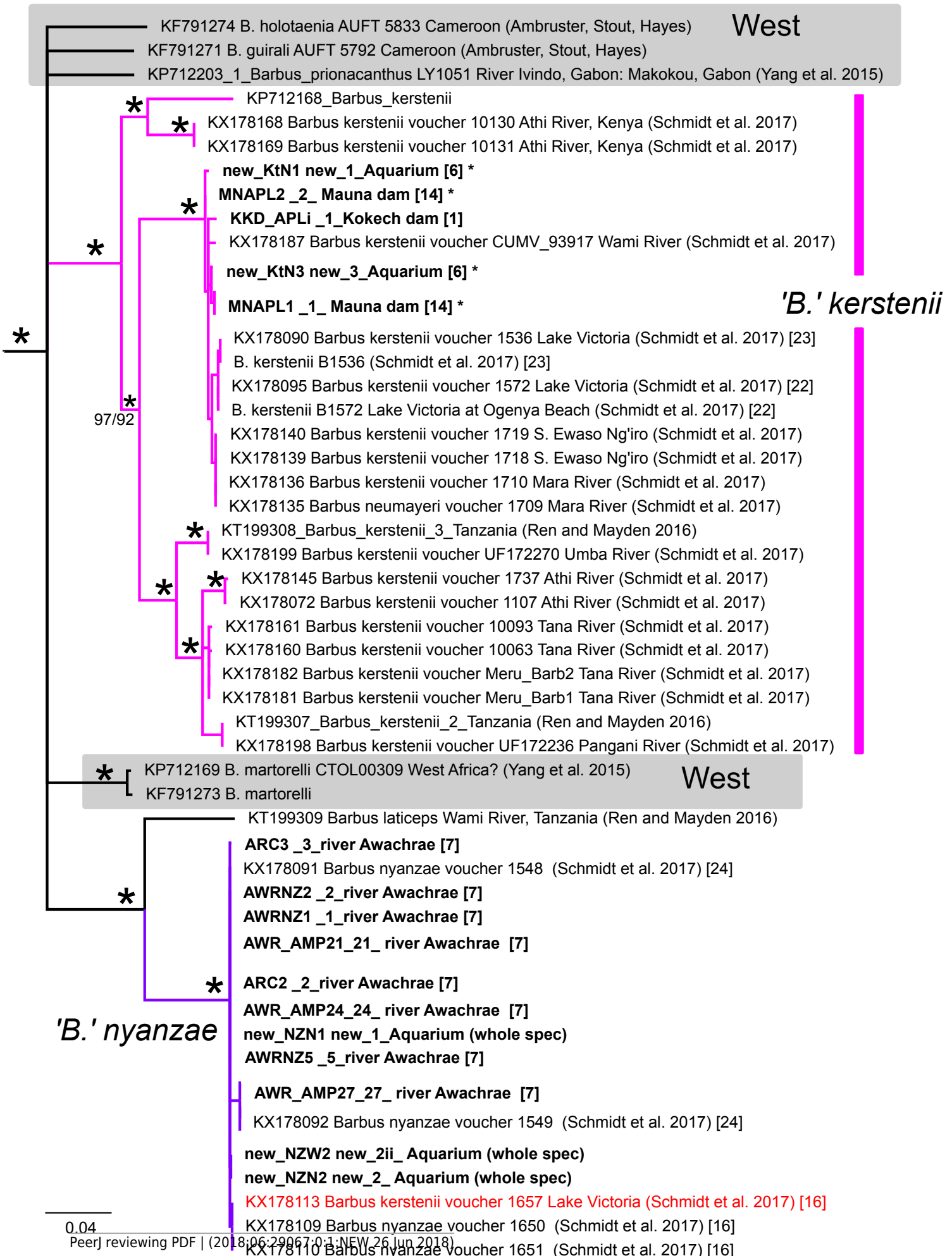


Figure 7 (on next page)

Inferred relationships within Clade B (expanded from Fig. 3) based on the Cytb gene.

RaxML bootstrap consensus (60% majority rule) tree. All taxa except those '*B.*' *radiatus* and '*B.*' *profundus* (boldface taxon labels) are distributed in West Africa. Asterisks by taxon names indicate GH sequence was also generated in present study. Numbers in brackets correspond to localities in Fig. 1. Node support values from Bayesian (above) and ML below are given by nodes; an asterisk indicates support > 97% in all corresponding analyses. For visual clarity, several node support labels have been omitted.

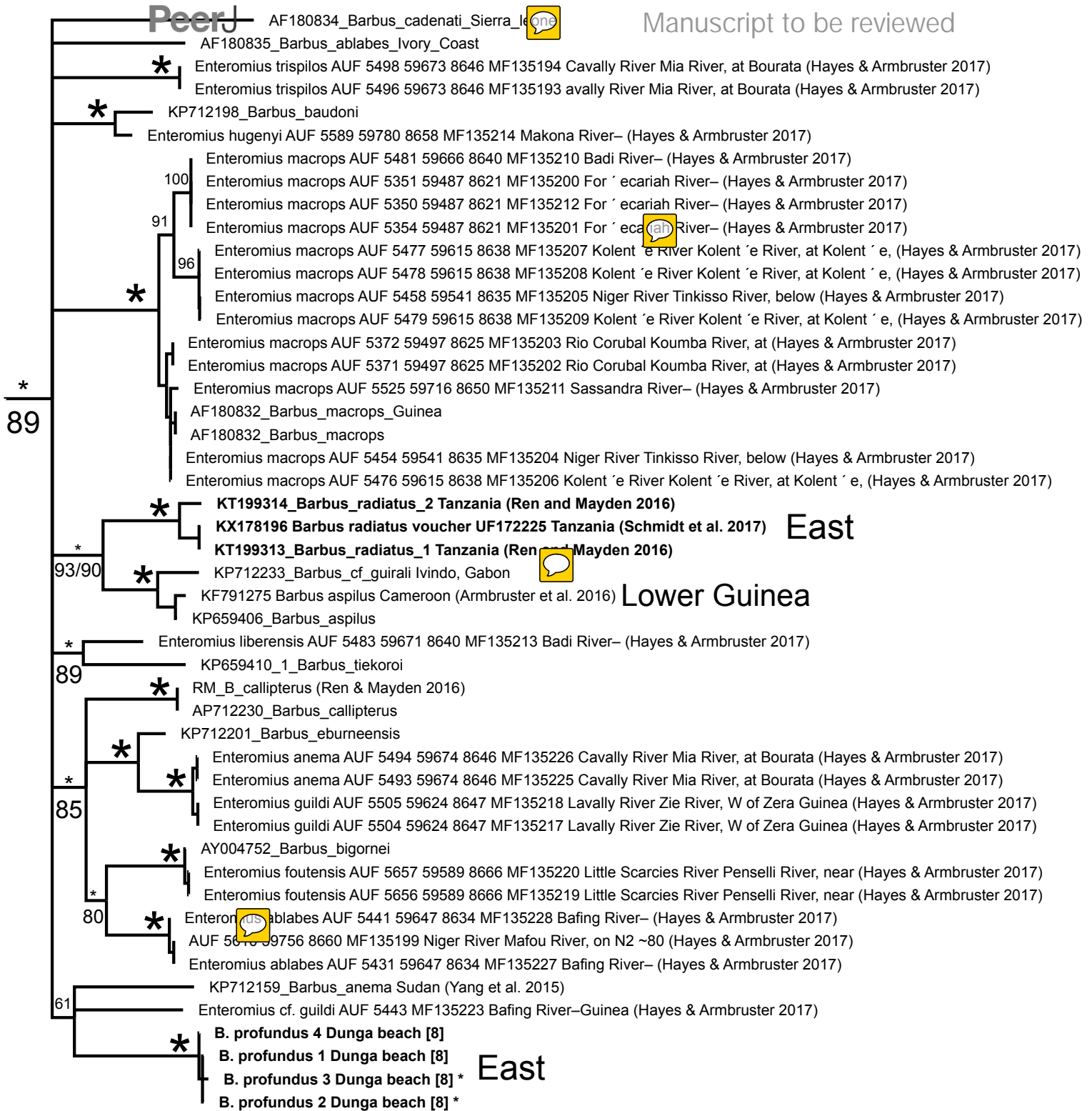


Figure 8

Inferred relationships within the clades “*Labeobarbus* and allies” (expanded from Fig. 3) based on the Cytb gene.

RaxML bootstrap consensus (60% majority rule) tree. Boldfaced taxon labels correspond to our specimens of *L. altianalis*. Numbers in brackets correspond to localities in Fig. 1

100

ies

0.04

57:0.1:NEW 26 Jun 2019

AF145946 1. Barbus reinii
AF145947 1. Barbus canis
AF145948 1. Barbus julius
KP712262 1. Carassobarbus lituus
KF876026 1. Arabobarbus gypsus
KP712266 1. Arabobarbus gypsus
KF876029 1. Arabobarbus gypsus
KF876025 1. Arabobarbus gypsus
KF160855 1. Barbus harteri
AF297430 1. Barbus fritschii_2
AF160856 1. Barbus fritschii
AF160857 1. Arabobarbus, paysoni
AF160863 1. V. manae (Tsigonopoulos et al. 2010)
AF160870 1. B. bynni occidentalis (Tsigonopoulos et al. 2010)
AF160869 1. B. taberner (Tsigonopoulos et al. 2010)
AF160863 1. V. manae (Tsigonopoulos et al. 2010)
AF160865 1. V. standenchari (Tsigonopoulos et al. 2010)
JX097076 1. Arabobarbus, caudovittatus
KP712234 1. Labeobarbus, sp. Lucien
KP712200 1. Labeobarbus, congnieri
AF160867 1. B. johnstonii (Tsigonopoulos et al. 2010)
AF160874 1. Barbus, oxyrhynchus oxyrhynchus
JN887035 1. V. jubae hap. 44 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887037 1. B. gananiensis hap. 46 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887036 1. Barbus, gananiensis
JN887036 1. B. gananiensis hap. 45 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
AF160868 1. Barbus, scaratus
AF160820 1. Barbus, petiti
AF160875 1. B. petiti (Tsigonopoulos et al. 2010)
JN886992 1. FLB0834KA255 Kazanga Channel (Mwankana et al. 2012)
GQ853256 1. L. intermedius L56 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853212 1. L. gorgensis L12 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
JN887004 1. L. intermedius hap. 13 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887033 1. L. megastoma hap. 44 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
GQ853208 1. Labeobarbus, crassibarbus
GQ853225 1. Labeobarbus, nedia
GQ853206 1. L. crassibarbus L06 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853211 1. L. gorgensis L11 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853225 1. L. nedia L25 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853229 1. Labeobarbus, surkus
GQ853219 1. Labeobarbus, macrophthalmus
GQ853213 1. Labeobarbus, gorgensis
GQ853233 1. L. tsanensis L33 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853217 1. L. macrophthalmus L17 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853207 1. L. crassibarbus L07 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853213 1. L. gorgensis L13 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853229 1. L. surkus L29 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853208 1. L. crassibarbus L08 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853219 1. L. macrophthalmus L19 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
JN887034 1. L. gorgensis hap. 13 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN886992 1. L. intermedius hap. 1 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887005 1. L. intermedius hap. 14 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887006 1. L. intermedius hap. 15 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
AF160872 1. Barbus, intermedius australis
JN886999 1. L. intermedius hap. 2 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887032 1. L. platydorsus hap. 41 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN886993 1. L. intermedius hap. 2 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN886995 1. L. intermedius hap. 4 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
GQ853216 1. Labeobarbus, longissimus
GQ853216 1. L. longissimus L16 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853237 1. L. intermedius L37 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853203 1. L. acutirostris L03 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853222 1. L. megastoma L22 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853220 1. L. megastoma L20 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853235 1. Labeobarbus, tsanensis
GQ853232 1. L. trutifrons L32 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853203 1. Labeobarbus, acutirostris
GQ853222 1. Labeobarbus, megastoma
GQ853228 1. L. platydorsus L28 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853228 1. Labeobarbus, platydorsus
GQ853235 1. L. tsanensis L35 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853232 1. Labeobarbus, trutifrons
GQ853226 1. L. platydorsus L26 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853231 1. L. trutifrons L31 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853202 1. L. acutirostris L02 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853238 1. L. intermedius L38 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853201 1. L. acutirostris L01 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853230 1. L. trutifrons L30 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
AF145948 1. Barbus, intermedius
JN887029 1. L. gorgensis hap. 38 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887003 1. L. intermedius hap. 12 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887007 1. L. intermedius hap. 16 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887002 1. L. intermedius hap. 11 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887015 1. L. intermedius hap. 24 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887016 1. L. intermedius hap. 25 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887020 1. L. intermedius hap. 29 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887017 1. L. intermedius hap. 26 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887018 1. L. intermedius hap. 27 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887019 1. L. intermedius hap. 28 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887025 1. L. intermedius hap. 34 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
AF142466 2. B. intermedius
JN887024 1. L. intermedius hap. 33 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN883685 1. FLB08359KY036 Lake Kopya (Mwankana et al. 2012)
JN883689 1. FLB08368AL16 Lake Abert (Mwankana et al. 2012)
JN883684 1. FLB08367KA213 Kazanga Channel (Mwankana et al. 2012)
JN883682 1. FLB08334NL14 NLF7 = Lake Victoria without lip flaps (Mwankana et al. 2012)
JN883681 1. FLB0834KA255 Kazanga Channel (Mwankana et al. 2012)
JN883683 1. FLB0835EDW07 Lake Edward (Mwankana et al. 2012)
KP712252 1. Barbus, bynni isolate
JN887014 1. L. intermedius hap. 23 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN883690 1. FLB08314EDW13 Lake Edward (Mwankana et al. 2012)
JN887027 1. L. intermedius hap. 36 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
GQ853241 1. L. intermedius L41 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853239 1. L. intermedius L39 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853242 1. L. intermedius L42 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853240 1. L. intermedius L40 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
JN887026 1. L. intermedius hap. 35 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887028 1. L. intermedius hap. 37 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
GQ853245 1. L. intermedius L45 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
JN887008 1. L. intermedius hap. 17 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887012 1. L. intermedius hap. 21 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887009 1. L. intermedius hap. 18 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887011 1. L. intermedius hap. 20 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887013 1. L. intermedius hap. 22 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887010 1. L. intermedius hap. 19 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
GQ853244 1. L. intermedius L44 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853271 1. L. intermedius L71 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853243 1. L. intermedius L43 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
JN887022 1. L. intermedius hap. 31 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887021 1. L. intermedius hap. 30 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
JN887023 1. L. intermedius hap. 32 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
GQ853247 1. L. intermedius L47 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853246 1. L. intermedius L46 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
JN887031 1. L. nedia hap. 40 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
GQ853224 1. L. nedia L24 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853205 1. L. brevicephalus L05 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853205 1. Labeobarbus, brevicephalus
GQ853227 1. L. platydorsus L27 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
JN886997 1. L. intermedius hap. 6 (Beshera & Harris 2014)
AF160871 1. Barbus, zapfiri
GQ853267 1. L. intermedius L67 (de Graaf et al. 2009)
GQ853256 1

L. altianalis

Table 1(on next page)

Description of characters and substitution models identified by model selection analyses.

Best model selected by: (a) jModeltest 2.1.10 v20160303 (Darriba et al., 2012) according to each criterion (AICc, AIC, BIC) and its corresponding weight (on a fixed BioNJ tree); and (b) the best partitioning scheme according to the BIC implemented in PartitionFinder 2.7 (Guindon et al., 2010 ; Lanfear et al., 2012 ; Lanfear et al., 2017) : branchlengths = linked; and search = greedy.

Table 1. Description of characters and substitution models identified by model selection analyses. Best model selected by: (a) jModeltest 2.1.10 v20160303 ([Darriba et al., 2012](#)) according to each criterion (AICc, AIC, BIC) and its corresponding weight (on a fixed BioNJ tree); and (b) the best partitioning scheme according to the BIC implemented in PartitionFinder 2.7 ([Guindon et al., 2010](#); [Lanfear et al., 2012](#); [Lanfear et al., 2017](#)): branchlengths = linked; and search = greedy.

Gene	Non-redundant taxa	Characters used	Parsimony informative	Partitioning Scheme	AICc (weight)	AIC (weight)	BIC (weight)
GH	46	201	63	1	TPM2uf (0.36)	TVM (0.22)	TVM (0.24)
Cytb	291	1023	507	1	TIM2+I+G (0.99)	TIM2+I+G (0.61)	TIM2+I+G (0.99)
				3 (by codon)			
				Codon 1			SYM+I+G
				Codon 2			HKY+I+G
				Codon 3			GTR+G