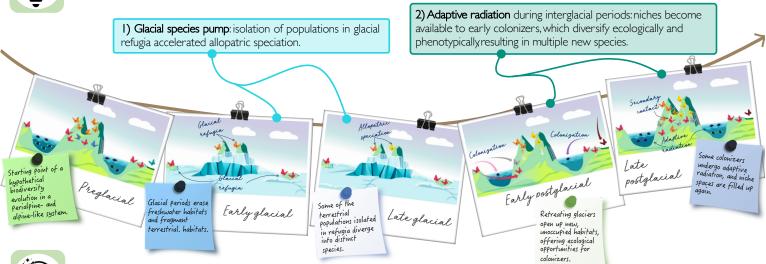


HISTORICAL SIGNATURES OF TERRESTRIAL AND FRESHWATER BIODIVERSITY ASSEMBLY IN THE EUROPEAN ALPS

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Quaternary climate fluctuations may have affected biodiversification assembly in two non-exclusive ways:





PREDICTIONS

We predicted that a species age structure (SAD) analysis supports two scenarios:

1) Dominance of glacial species pump for the origin of endemism in terrestrial groups, with species dating to the Pleistocene.

2) Prominent role of postglacial adaptive radiation for groups that depends on surface water habitats, i.e. fishes.

> **Endemics** Non-endemics

non-endemic species

Species age distribution (SAD) or median time of speciation of endemic and non-

endemic species of amphibians, amphipods,

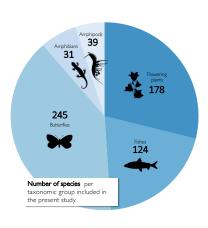
charts show the proportion of endemic and

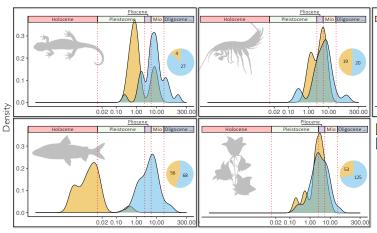
butterflies, fishes and flowering plants. Pie



RESULTS

- Endemics emerged in two time-windows: Holocene (i.e. postglacial origin) and Pleistocene (i.e. during glacial cycles).
- A fraction of non-endemics also emerged in the Pleistocene, but most are from the Miocene.
- Endemic fishes are younger (Holocene) than the remaining taxa (mainly Pleistocene).





Estimated time since divergence (Ma)



DISCUSSION

The time of speciation pattern observed here may be related to the role played by the following drivers:

- Alpine orogenesis (on Miocene non-endemic species).
- Pleistocene glacial cycles (on Pleistocene species).
- Postglacial adaptive radiations (on Holocene species).

Postglacial speciation dominates in fishes likely because of:

- Lack of open water habitat during glacial periods (extinguishing fish populations), whereas terrestrial or underground refugia allowed other taxa to survive.
- Fishes slowly recolonized the region postglacially, while surviving populations in refugia allowed terrestrial groups, to expand and colonize faster (offering fewer opportunities for local adaptive radiation to first colonists).

CONCLUSIONS

1)Terrestrial endemics emerged mostly in the Pleistocene, suggesting that glacial species pump played an important role on their diversification.

2) Endemic fishes emerged in the region mostly after the Last Glacial Maximum (~20 ky) and predominantly through adaptive radiation.

Ecosystem changes may affect the regional biodiversity differently:

- Given that aquatic groups have a higher fraction of endemics, population extirpation will more often cause global extinction in these groups.
- Fish diversity will be the most vulnerable as these species have locally arisen through adaptation to specific habitats.













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