

Bern, April 11, 2023

Submission of manuscript for publication

To whom it may concern

Herewith we submit our manuscript on the *Microtomographic investigation of a large corpus of cichlids* as an original contribution to PLOS ONE.

The manuscript presents how we efficiently and non-destructively acquired three-dimensional tomographic data from a large collection of cichlids from Lake Victoria in Africa. We imaged the oral and pharyngeal jaws and the whole skull of these fishes as a preparation work for in-depth morphological description. In the manuscript we describe our method and present an outlook on analyzing the acquired data; a morphological description of the oral and pharyngeal jaws of the fishes, a three-dimensional geometric morphometrics analysis of landmark features on the skulls, and a robust method to automatically extract the otoliths of the fishes from the tomographic data.

A preprint of the manuscript is available on bioRxiv with the DOI:10.1101/2023.03.30.534917.

We are looking forward to your positive feedback.

Yours sincerely



David Haberthür