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Keywords:	Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii, Aphanizomenon ovalisporum, climate change, competition, ecophysiology



Competitiveness of invasive and native cyanobacteria from temperate

freshwaters under various light and temperature conditions

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Abstract

Some tropical cyanobacteria have spread to temperate freshwaters during the last decades. To evaluate their further development in temperate lakes we studied the temperature, and light, dependent growth of three invasive (Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii, Anabaena bergii, Aphanizomenon aphanizomenoides) and three native (Aphanizomenon gracile, Aphanizomenon flos-aquae, Anabaena macrospora) cyanobacterial species (Nostocales) from German lakes. We also included one potentially invasive (Aphanizomenon ovalisporum) Nostocales species. We conducted semi-continuous culture experiments and a microcosm experiment along a natural light gradient. Temperature data were used to design a model to simulate the development of selected species according to three temperature scenarios (past, present and future). Native species had significantly higher growth rates than invasive species and the potential invader A. ovalisporum at low temperatures ($\leq 10^{\circ}$ C), while the opposite was true at high temperatures (≥ 35°C). Maximum growth rates of A. ovalisporum, A. aphanizomenoides and C. raciborskii were clearly higher than those of A. bergii and the native species. Regarding light-dependent growth, significant differences were found between single species but not between all native and invasive species. The model simulation demonstrates a shift in dominance from the native A. gracile in the historic scenario to C. raciborskii populations in the future scenario, in which also the potential invader A. ovalisporum is able to establish populations in temperate lakes. Our findings suggest that any further temperature increase would promote the growth and development of Nostocales species in general, and that of the invasive species in particular, and would enable a more northward expansion of A. ovalisporum.

Introduction

In the course of global warming, many species could expand their range from lower to higher latitudes (Parmesan, 2006). In the case of prokaryotes including freshwater cyanobacteria it has been stated that 'Everything is everywhere, but, the environment selects' (Baas Becking, 1934), from which it was concluded that cyanobacteria were cosmopolitan (Fogg et al., 1973). Nowadays, it is well established that not only cosmopolitan cyanobacterial species, but also species with holarctic or pantropical distributions exist (Komárek, 1994; Hoffmann, 1996). Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii (Woloszynská) Seenayya & Subba Raju 1972 is a prime example of a cyanobacterial species that has spread from tropical and subtropical to temperate latitudes of the northern and southern hemisphere over the last decades (Padisák, 1997: Wiedner et al., 2007). In Germany, C. raciborskii is now widespread (Stüken et al., 2006) and accounts for a considerable proportion of the phytoplankton biovolume (Nixdorf et al., 2003; Mischke, 2003). Two other cyanobacteria,

Anabaena bergii Ostenfeld 1908 and Aphanizomenon aphanizomenoides (Forti) Horecká &

- Komáreck 1979, were recently reported for the first time in German freshwaters (Stüken et al., 2006) and other temperate regions, e.g. North Carolina/USA (Moisander et al., 2002), Slovakia (Hindák, 2000) and Poland (Stefaniak and Kokocinski, 2005). These three invasive cyanobacteria of the order Nostocales are able to fix molecular nitrogen and can survive unfavourable conditions as akinetes (resting stages). Such invasive species are of general ecological interest as they can have a major impact on community composition and ecosystem processes (Sala et al., 2000; Strayer et al., 2006). The successful establishment of an invasive species in a new habitat depends on its invasive potential and the invasibility of the native community (Lonsdale et al., 1999). In this context, the competitive potential of invasive species against native species that are overlapping in an ecological niche is of crucial importance. Since all three invasive species belong to the order Nostocales, their niche most likely overlaps with that of native Nostocales species. In temperate freshwaters, the invasive species are most abundant in polymictic shallow lakes (Stüken et al., 2006), where they co-exist with a great variety of native Nostocales of the genus Anabaena and Aphanizomenon, among which 27 84 Aphanizomenon gracile is the most frequent and abundant (Mischke and Nixdorf, 2003; Rücker et 29 85 al., 2007). However, the invasive species can also be found, albeit less abundantly, in stratified lakes (Stüken et al., 2006), where the most frequent Nostocales are Aphanizomenon flos-aquae and several taxa of the genus Anabaena. Temperature and light intensity, the two abiotic factors that vary most between latitudes, are key 34 88 factors in the regulation of Nostocales growth and, presumably, of range expansion of tropical and subtropical species. Previous studies have shown that light is the main growth-limiting factor of Nostocales populations in temperate freshwaters, where they were out-competed by Oscillatoriales under light limitation and high nutrient conditions (Zevenboom, 1982; Scheffer, 1998; Wiedner et al., 2002). Light is also a growth-limiting factor for C. raciborskii populations in temperate waters 43 93 (Wiedner et al., 2007). Ecophysiological studies show that C. raciborskii require high light intensities (80 to 120 µmol photons m⁻² s⁻¹) for maximum growth (Shafik et al., 2001; Briand et al., 2004); this is similar to the light intensities (100 to 110 µmol photons m⁻² s⁻¹) required by Aphanizomenon species (Gentile and Maloney, 1969; Uehlinger, 1981). However, Padisák and 50 97 52 98 Reynolds (Padisák and Reynolds, 1998) consider C. raciborskii a shade-tolerant species due to its low light saturation parameter (I_K) . ⁵⁵ 100 Cyanobacteria are known to have higher temperature optima than other phytoplankton species (Reynolds and Walsby, 1975; Paerl and Huisman, 2009). However, our knowledge about species
- 57 101 specific differences in the temperature requirements within the cyanobacteria community is still 59 102 incomplete. Temperature plays an important role in the onset of Nostocales akinete germination in spring (Kim et al., 2005; Rücker et al., 2009) and in their vegetative growth during the season.

Earlier increases in water temperatures in spring as well as a rise in the entire temperature amplitude were found to promote the development of C. raciborskii in temperate freshwaters (Wiedner et al., 2007). Minimum temperatures, for example, required for growth of C. raciborskii, as determined in field and laboratory studies, range from 15°C to 22°C (Dokulil and Mayer, 1996; Shafik et al., 2001; Mischke et al., 2003). The optimum growth temperature (T_{opt}) for C. raciborskii, as determined in culture experiments, ranges from 29 to 31°C (Shafik et al., 2001; Briand et al., 2004), which is slightly higher than that for Aphanizomenon and Anabaena species, namely, 20 to 28°C (Foy et al., 1976; Uehlinger, 1981). However, as the published results are based on a mixture of different field and culture studies and culture methods, data comparisons are difficult. So far, no direct comparison of C. raciborskii with other Nostocales species in terms of temperature and lightdependent growth has been published. Moreover, there are only few studies available on the ecology of A. aphanizomenoides (Moisander et al., 2002; Stefaniak and Kokocinski, 2005), and none for A. bergii. Data about temperature-dependent growth of Aphanizomenon ovalisporum, a potentially invasive Nostocales species currently restricted to the Mediterranean region of Europe (Gkelis et al., 2005; Quesada et al., 2006), are restricted to strains from Lake Kinneret (Israel), where Hadas and co-workers (Hadas et al., 2002) estimated that its T_{opt} ranges between 26 and 30°C. In summary, current knowledge about the temperature and light-dependent growth of invasive and potentially invasive species in relation to native Nostocales species is insufficient to assess their competitive potential and predict their development in temperate freshwaters as a consequence of climate change. Therefore, the aim of the present study was to determine the temperature and lightdependent growth of three invasive and three native Nostocales species from German freshwater as

(i) Semi-continuous culture experiments to study temperature and light-dependent growth of one to four different strains of each species

well as of one potentially invasive species. Three approaches were used:

- (ii) Microcosm experiment to assess the growth of one strain of each native and invasive species along a natural light gradient in a shallow lake
- (iii) A simple mathematical model based on growth as a function of temperature (as determined in the culture experiments) was created to simulate the seasonal course of biovolume development and community composition for one native species (*A. gracile*), one invasive species (*C. raciborskii*) and one potentially invasive species (*A. ovalisporum*) at three different temperature scenarios: past, present and future.

Method

139 Strains

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Strains of three invasive species (Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii, Anabaena bergii,

Aphanizomenon aphanizomenoides) and three native species (Aphanizomenon gracile,

Aphanizomenon flos-aquae, Anabaena macrospora) from Northeast Germany and one potentially

invasive Spanish species (A. ovalisporum) were used (Table I). German strains were isolated as

described by Preußel (Preußel et al., 2006), and the Spanish strain as described by Wormer

(Wormer et al., 2008).

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Culture experiments

16 17 Temperature dependent growth of one strain of each species (Table I) was determined at seven

temperatures between 10°C and 35°C at 80 µmol photons m⁻² s⁻¹ for all species, and additionally at

40°C for A. aphanizomenoides (22C4-9) and A. ovalisporum (UAM290). Light dependent growth

of all strains was determined at six or more light intensities between 17 and 57 µmol photons m⁻² s⁻¹

23 24 152 at 15°C and 20°C (Table I).

25 153 Growth experiments were performed using 100 mL culture volume in 250 mL Erlenmeyer flasks, 26

which were continuously shaken at 80-100 rpm. Z8-medium (Haande et al., 2008) modified with

164 nM biotin, 30 nM cyanocobalamine and 119 nM thiamine hydrochloride was used for

culturing. The experiments were carried out in growth chambers (BINDER, KBW 400, Germany)

with dimmable illumination (OSRAM, Lumilux 18W/865XT Cool Daylight, Germany) simulating

34 158 12 h:12 h light:dark photoperiods. The cultures were grown in a semi-continuous fashion according

to the turbidostat principle (Paasche, 1975; Nicklisch, 1992). The biovolume was measured every

second day and the every second day increase of biovolume was removed by dilution with Z8. The

biovolume determination was carried out using a UV/VIS spectrophotometer (Lambda 2, Perkin

Elmer, USA) at 750 nm. The cultures were diluted every second day to an optical density (OD) of

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Growth rate and curve fitting

⁴⁸ 166 49 As biomass is correlated to OD, the specific growth rate (μ) was calculated from the change of

50 167 biomass over time (Δt): 51

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$$\mu = \ln\left(\frac{X_{\Delta t}}{X_0}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{\Delta t} , \qquad (1)$$

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where $X_{\Delta t}$ is biomass after cultivation time t, X_0 is biomass after dilution and Δt is the time between two dilutions.

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⁵⁹ 171 If biomass increase was equal to biomass loss after dilution, steady state was assumed. The mean

172 specific growth rate as well as the standard deviation was calculated from at least three consecutive measurements of the specific growth rates per steady state. This was done for each strain and at all

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combinations of light and temperature. 175 Curve fitting of light-dependent growth rate was performed according to the exponential model of

Mitscherlich (Mitscherlich, 1909) modified using a β -factor describing photoinhibition:

 $\mu(I) = A \cdot \left(1 - \exp\left(-\frac{(\alpha + \beta) \cdot (I - I_0)}{A}\right)\right) - \beta(I - I_0)$ (2)

 $A = \mu \max \left\{ \frac{\alpha + \beta}{\alpha + \beta \cdot \ln \left(\frac{\beta}{\alpha + \beta} \right)} \right\},$ (3)

where μ is the specific growth rate, μ_{max} the maximum specific growth rate, α the initial slope at I = I_0 with light intensity I and compensation light intensity I_0 . If the factor of photoinhibition, β , is

 $\beta = 0$, then $A = \mu_{max}$ and the enhanced exponential model reduces to the model of Mitscherlich.

Irradiance at onset of light saturation, I_K , was calculated as $I_K = \mu_{max} / \alpha$.

Curve fitting of the temperature-dependent growth rates was performed according to Jöhnk (Jöhnk

et al. 2008):

 $\mu(T) = \mu_{\max} \cdot \left(1 + b_i \left((R_{1i}^{T - T_{opt,i}} - 1) - \frac{\ln(R_{1i})}{\ln(R_{2i})} \cdot (R_{2i}^{T - T_{opt,i}} - 1) \right) \right),$ (4)

where $\mu(T)$ is the specific growth rate at temperature T, μ_{\max} the maximum specific growth rate at optimal growth temperature $T_{opt,i}$ and b_i , R_{1i} R_{2i} are parameters describing the form of the optimum

growth curve.

The slope, $\alpha(T) = \partial \mu / \partial T$, of the temperature-dependent growth curves was determined at

 $T = 10^{\circ}C$. The Q10 value, $Q10 = \mu(T+10)/\mu(T)$, is the rate of change as a consequence of increasing the

temperature by 10°C with $\mu(T+10)$ is the specific growth rate at a temperature increase of 10°C

and $\mu(T)$ is specific growth rate at initial temperature.

Microcosm experiment

The microcosm experiment was carried out using a mixed culture including three native and three invasive species (Table I). Pre-cultures were grown as batch cultures in 500 mL Erlenmeyer flasks with a culture volume of 300 mL. Z8 medium was used as described above. The pre-cultures were incubated at 21°C under $59 \pm 15 \mu mol$ photons m⁻² s⁻¹ provided by daylight fluorescent tubes

(Phillips TL-D 36W/25-740) with 10 h:14 h light:dark photoperiod.

Approximately equal parts of biovolume (assessed from correlations between OD and biovolume, data not shown) of the pre-cultures were mixed and diluted to a final biovolume of $28 \text{ mm}^3 \text{ L}^{-1}$. The pooled sample was filled in 2-L bottles (Nalgene) and incubated for four days at depths of 0.1, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, 1.0 and 1.6 m in a shallow experimental pond in the Scharmützelsee region. The bottles were aerated daily. Subsamples from the starting suspensions and from each bottle were taken after 4 days of incubation and preserved for phytoplankton biovolume analyses. The biovolume was determined according to the method of Utermöhl (Utermöhl, 1958). The mean water temperature during the experiment was $19.7 \pm 0.4^{\circ}\text{C}$. Global radiation was measured with a cosine-corrected quantum sensor (MQS-B, Heinz Walz GmbH, Germany). The vertical attenuation coefficient (K_d) was calculated using photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) measurements obtained at two defined depths with two spherical quantum sensors (LI-193 SA, LI-COR Bioscience, USA). PAR at different depths was calculated from K_d , light intensity at the water surface (I_0) and depth (z).

The specific growth rate (μ) was determined as the change in biovolume from beginning to end of the experiment as described above (Eq. 1). Curve-fitting of light-dependent growth rates was performed using Equation 2. The negative growth rate of *A. flos-aquae* at 254 μ mol photons m⁻² s⁻¹ was not included in the fit. *A. macrospora* growth rates were not fitted as Eq. (2) was not suitable for them.

Simulation model

We used a simple model to point out the effects of differences in growth rates for different Nostocales species on the seasonal course of population biovolume. In contrast to a simulation model describing the full life cycle of Nostocales cyanobacteria (Jöhnk et al., 2010, unpublished data), we only included temperature-dependent growth (neglecting nutrient and light limitation) and mortality rates from that model. Changes in pelagic population, C [mm³ L¹], are thus described by growth and loss processes:

$$227 \qquad \frac{\mathrm{d}C}{\mathrm{d}t} = \mu(T)C - [m + m_{\mathrm{dens}}C]C \ . \tag{5}$$

Temperature-dependent growth was simulated using growth functions $\mu(T)$ for three species, A. gracile, C. raciborskii, and A. ovalisporum, determined by laboratory experiments (Eq. 4). Model calibration provided a mortality rate $m = 0.06 \,\mathrm{d}^{-1}$ and a density-dependent loss rate, $m_{\mathrm{dens}}C$, with $m_{\mathrm{dens}} = 0.01 \,\mathrm{d}^{-1} \,\mathrm{L} \,\mathrm{mm}^{-3}$, which is equivalent to a carrying capacity of $K = \mu/m_{\mathrm{dens}}$. Loss rates are in good agreement with data published by Reynolds (1984). Changing the mortality rates within a feasible range does not significantly change the characteristics of the dynamics described afterwards, although the size of the population densities changes in response to changing carrying

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- 2 235 capacities. The populations were initialized at a threshold temperature of $T_{\text{threshold}} = 12^{\circ}\text{C}$, when
- 4 236 overwintering akinetes in the sediments are germinating (Rücker et al., 2009). In our simplified
 - 237 model, this is represented by a starting population of

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$$C(t_{\text{start}}) = C_0$$
, where $t_{\text{start}} = \text{day}(T \ge T_{\text{threshold}})$. (6)

- 10 239 Inoculum values, C₀, for the three species were chosen as ratios of 1 to 1/3 to 1/10 of 10⁻⁴ mm³ L⁻¹,
- representing spring conditions. 12
- 13241 The model is driven by seasonal changes in water temperature of a lake. Here, we chose the mean 14
- 15242 seasonal course (averaged over a period of 14 years, 1994 – 2007) of Lake Melangsee (Table I).
- 16 17 243 Simulations for current mean water temperatures (CWT) were complemented by scenarios for
- 18 19 historic (CWT minus 2°C) and future mean water temperatures (CWT plus 4°C) representing
- 20 245 possible future climate change conditions. 21

Statistical analysis

- ²⁵₂₆ 248 The investigated species were divided into four groups, native (A. gracile, A. flos-aquae,
- 27 249 A. macrospora), invasive (C. raciborskii, A. bergii, A. aphanizomenoides), deep oligotrophic lake 28
- 29250 (A. flos-aquae and A. macrospora) and shallow eutrophic to polytrophic lake species (A. gracile and 30
- 31251 invasive species), for the statistical analysis. A. ovalisporum was not included in the statistical
- 32 33 252 analysis. Statistically significant differences between the groups were assessed using the t-test for
- independent samples and the Welch test of non-homogeneous variance. The Mann-Whitney U-test 35
- 36 254 was used to compare growth rates at 35°C. All statistical tests were two-tailed.

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Results

42257 **Culture experiments**

- $^{43}_{44}258$ Temperature-dependent growth
- 45 46 259 Native and invasive species differed significantly in their growth rates at very low (10°C) and very
- high (35°C) temperatures (Fig. 1). At 10°C, native cyanobacteria grew at rates of 0.06 to 0.15 d⁻¹, 47 260 48
- 49261 whereas invasive cyanobacteria did not grow. At 35°C, native cyanobacteria ceased to grow,
- 50 51 262 whereas the invasive cyanobacteria grew at rates of 0.09 to 0.32 d⁻¹.
- $\begin{smallmatrix} 52\\53 \end{smallmatrix} 263$ The growth curves of A. aphanizomenoides, C. raciborskii and A. bergii exceeded those of
- 54 264 A. gracile, the main competitor of these invasive species in shallow lakes, at 16°C, 20°C and 31°C
- (Fig. 1). Below these temperatures A. gracile grew faster than invasive species. Aphanizomenon 56 265
- 58 266 aphanizomenoides and C. raciborskii had clearly higher maximum growth rates than native species
- ⁵⁹₆₀267 (Table II).
 - The invasive cyanobacteria had significantly higher Q10 values between 15 to 25°C ranging from 268
 - 2.0 to 3.2 than native cyanobacteria with values of 1.4 to 1.7 (df = 4; t = 3.025; p \leq 0.05). Their 269

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- 2 270 growth curves had significantly higher initial slopes ($\alpha = 0.024$ to 0.035) than growth curves of native cyanobacteria ($\alpha = 0.010$ to 0.011) (df = 4; t = 5.151; p \leq 0.01). Native and invasive species 4 271 6 272 did not differ significantly in their Q10 values between 20 to 30° C (df = 2.210; t = 1.936; p > 0.05) 273 and their T_{opt} (df = 4; t = 1.999; p > 0.05). Optimal growth temperatures of native and invasive 9 10²⁷⁴ species were not significantly different (df = 4; t = 1.999; p > 0.05). The lowest T_{opt} was measured 11 275 for the two species from the deepest lake (A. flos-aquae and A. macrospora) (Table II). 13276 The Spanish strain (A. ovalisporum) did not grow at 10°C like the invasive species. Compared to 15277 all other species its growth curve is characterized by a low initial slope ($\alpha = 0.014$), by the highest $\frac{16}{17}278$ growth rate at 35°C ($\mu = 0.34$), by the highest T_{opt} ($T_{opt} = 32.8$ °C) and highest Q10 values between 18₂₇₉ 15 to 25° C (Q10 = 3.6) (Table II). 20280 22281 Light-dependent growth $\begin{smallmatrix}23\\24\,282\end{smallmatrix}$ The highest maximum growth rates at 15°C were achieved by strains of A. gracile (Figs. 2 A and ²⁵₂₆ 283 3). Growth rates of all invasive species were significantly lower than those of A. gracile (df = 9; ²⁷₂₂284 t = 3.781; $p \le 0.01$) but equivalent to those of A. flos-aquae and A. macrospora (df = 9; t = 0.667; p > 0.05). The highest growth rates among the invasive species were achieved by the A. aphanizomenoides strains. 32 33 287 Initial slopes of the growth curves and I_K values did not differ significantly for the invasive species

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 - and A. gracile (p > 0.05) but significantly for A. flos-aquae and A. macrospora (p \leq 0.05). Initial
- 36289 slopes of the growth curves of the species from the oligotrophic deep lake were slightly higher than
- 38290 those of the species from eutrophic shallow lakes, and their I_K values were lower (Fig. 3).
- At 20°C, A. flos-aquae and A. macrospora had significantly lower maximum growth rates, higher α 40291
 - and lower I_K values than the other species (p \leq 0.001) (Figs. 2 B and 3).
 - A. gracile did not differ significantly from invasive cyanobacteria in their maximum growth rates at
- 45 294 20°C (df = 8; t = -0.891; p > 0.05) as well as in their α and I_K values (p > 0.05).

Microcosm experiment

- In mixed culture, A. aphanizomenoides clearly reached the highest growth rates, followed by the
- 52298 other two invasive species, C. raciborskii and A. bergii, as well as by the native species, A. gracile,
- 54299 which had comparable growth rates (Fig. 4 A). The two species from the deep oligotrophic lake,
- 56 300 A. flos-aquae and A. macrospora, had the lowest growth rates. A similar pattern in growth was
- 57 58 301 found in the laboratory experiment at 20°C (Fig. 2 B). Slight differences between the two
- ⁵⁹302 approaches were reflected in the shape of the growth curves: The initial slope of the growth curve
 - of A. aphanizomenoides was distinctly higher and that of A. flos-aquae was distinctly lower in the 303
 - 304 microcosm experiment (Fig. 4 B). Unlike the invasive species, the growth rates of the native species

experiments. Growth rates of all strains determined in the microcosm experiment were lower than

declined at high irradiance levels. This kind of grouping was not observed in the laboratory

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Simulation of seasonal dynamics

those determined in the laboratory culture experiments.

Simulations show that compared to A. gracile, the biovolume of C. raciborskii is much lower at lower historic temperatures (Fig. 5, upper panel), nearly equal at current temperatures (Fig. 5, middle panel), and higher at higher future temperatures (Fig. 5, lower panel). The potential invader A. ovalisporum is virtually absent in the colder scenario, reaching (undetectable) low values at current temperatures and blooms during future temperature increases, as can be expected based on its higher T_{opt} (Table II). In the future scenario, the vegetation time of all three species is increased.

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Discussion

The aim of this study was to determine which of the native, invasive and potentially invasive species are stronger competitors under various temperature and light conditions. Our culture experiments clearly demonstrated that native cyanobacterial species were superior competitors at low temperatures and invasive cyanobacterial species at high temperatures. The T_{opt} of native and invasive Nostocales species do not differ significantly. The T_{opt} of 27.8°C for

C. raciborskii coincided with values of 28 to 31°C reported for C. raciborskii isolates from different latitudes (Briand et al., 2004). This also holds true for the two native Aphanizomenon species, the T_{opt} of which were 24.7°C and 27.1°C in this study compared 25°C reported for A. flos-aquae RALFS f. gracile LEMM. (Foy et al., 1976) and 28°C reported for A. flos-aquae var. klebahnii ELENK. (Uehlinger, 1981) in other studies. In this study, A. ovalisporum had the highest T_{opt} of 32.8°C, which is also higher than T_{opt} of 26 to 30°C reported for strains from Lake Kinneret (Hadas

et al., 2002). This high T_{opt} is advantageous as ponds and reservoirs in the Mediterranean region can reach temperatures over 30°C during summer months (A. Quesada, Madrid, personal

48 49 331 communication).

Overall, high T_{opt} values suggest that Nostocales tolerate the low temperatures of their habitats rather than are adapted to them. Tang and co-workers (Tang et al., 1997) published similar observations for cyanobacteria from polar freshwater ecosystems. The T_{opt} of all Nostocales were higher than the mean water temperatures of their habitats during their vegetation period. Therefore, all Nostocales would benefit from rising temperatures. This is in agreement with the recently confirmed concept of global expansion of cyanobacterial blooms favoured by global and regional warming (Paerl and Huisman, 2009). Cylindrospermospis raciborskii, A. aphanizomenoides and

A. ovalisporum achieved the highest maximum growth rates at high temperatures. Hence, these

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three species would benefit most from any increase in water temperature. Below 20°C the lowest growth rates were measured for A. ovalisporum. This may be the reason why A. ovalisporum is not present in German freshwaters yet. Contrary to our assumption, the invasive Nostocales species are not superior competitors for light. Values of their light-dependent growth parameters (α , I_K) were similar to those of A. gracile. I_K values for C. raciborskii (38 to 101 µmol photons m⁻² s⁻¹) were much higher in the present study than those (15 to 26 μ mol photons m⁻² s⁻¹) reported in the literature (Shafik et al., 2001; Briand et al., 2004). This might be due to differences in culturing methods since the low I_K values in the literature resulted from the exponential growth phase of batch cultures started at a much lower trichome density (OD 750 nm ~ 0.002) and determined at higher temperatures (25°C and 27°C) than those in the semi-continuous culture experiments of our study. As we considered the relative differences between native and invasive species, these absolute differences played a minor role in our overall conclusions. Aphanizomenon flos-aquae and A. macrospora, the two species isolated from a deep oligotrophic lake, had a significantly lower optimal light intensity and were more stenoecious in regard to light than the species from the eutrophic shallow lakes. The results of the microcosm experiment (at 19°C) are consistent with the main results of the culture experiments (at 20°C): The most powerful competitors were A. aphanizomenoides, followed by C. raciborskii, A. gracile and A. bergii; A. flos-aquae and A. macrospora could not compete with the other species. This shows that results obtained for single strains using artificial irradiance in the laboratory can be transferred to community level where species co-occur under natural light conditions. Although this study is restricted to the effects of light and temperature on cyanobacterial growth and competition, it can be noted that buoyancy enables the co-occurrence of Nostocales species with different light requirements. For example, under stratified conditions, Anabaena species can adjust their buoyancy to maintain a near surface position, while C. raciborskii can compete more effectively by remaining at greater depths. In shallow turbid waters, Nostocales species can regulate their buoyancy only under calm weather conditions. Since there is increasing evidence that cyanobacterial populations are composed of different ecotypes or subpopulations (Becker et al., 2002; Johnson et al., 2006; Rohrlack et al., 2008), we included different strains of each species (except for A. macrospora) in the light experiment to estimate the variance in growth between strains. Figure 2 clearly illustrates that strains of some species such as A. aphanizomenoides or A. flos-aquae show a nearly identical growth response at different light intensities while others, such as A. gracile vary considerably in their growth,

especially at high light intensities. In our study differences between species were more pronounced

- than differences between strains. However, variability between strains should be taken into account when extending results obtained for one strain to the whole population.

 An interesting result of our study is the fact that *A. aphanizomenoides* reached the highest growth rates in all experiments. This is contradictory to its low abundance in the field (Stüken et al., 2006). Therefore, the development of *A. aphanizomenoides* field populations may be limited by other factors as nutrients, or it may just be at the beginning of its population development in German freshwaters.

 Overall, our study showed that temperature has a major impact on the competition between native and invasive cyanobacteria. Our results suggest that native species can begin to build up populations earlier during the season. This is confirmed by field studies showing that populations of *A. gracile* occur earlier in the season from temperatures of 13°C (J. Rücker, Bad Saarow, personal communication), while populations of C. *raciborskii* occur later in the season when the water
- communication), while populations of C. *raciborskii* occur later in the season when the water temperature exceeds 17°C (Mischke, 2003; Wiedner et al., 2007; Dokulil and Mayer, 1996). Our results also suggest that *C. raciborskii* could outcompete *A. gracile* in summer when temperatures rise above 20°C. So far the population size of *C. raciborskii* does not exceed that of *A. gracile* (Wiedner et al., 2008). However, this could change if the water temperature increases by a further 4.0°C in the future (scenario A1F1, IPCC 2007). Our simulation clearly demonstrates a shift from past dominance by *A. gracile* to *C. raciborskii* in the future. The simulation also indicates that the Mediterranean species *A. ovalisporum* could undergo massive population growth under future climate conditions. Moreover, the simulation illustrates that the seasonal growth period of all

Nostocales will be prolonged in the future scenario.

- Other factors, such as nutrient concentration must also be considered in regulating the growth and competition of cyanobacteria. For example during eutrophication of Lake Balaton (Hungary) in the 1970s, populations of *A. gracile* disappeared while first populations of *C. raciborskii* and *A. aphanizomenoides* had been established. After re-eutrophication *A. gracile* reappeared and now co-occurs with the two invasive species (Padisák and Reynolds, 1998). In general, Nostocales are superior competitors under nitrogen shortage, because they can fix atmospheric nitrogen. However, it is unknown whether they differ in their ability to fix N₂ or to use dissolved nitrogen. Concerning the efficiency of phosphate use, *C. raciborskii* is known to be a strong competitor under phosphate limitation (Isvánovics et al., 2000; Spröber et al., 2003; Posselt et al., 2009). However, to complete the picture on the competitiveness of invasive and native cyanobacteria their growth under various nutrient concentrations must be compared in further laboratory studies.
 - Finally changes in the cyanobacterial community are of concern, because cyanobacteria can produce different toxins. For example, a survey in German lakes showed that hepatotoxic microcystins, which are manly produced by *Microcystis* or *Planktothrix* occur in high

concentrations, while neurotoxic as saxitoxins or anatoxins, which are produced by Nostocales, occur less frequent and in much lower concentrations (Fastner et al., 1999). More recently it was shown that also the toxin cylindrospermopsin is widely distributed in German lakes (Fastner et al., 2007), where it is produced by *A. flos-aquae* and *A. gracile* (Preußel et al., 2006) and occurs in concentrations that are in the same order of magnitude as those of microcystins (Rücker et al., 2007). An increase in the abundance of Nostocales species could result in an increase of anatoxin, saxitoxin and cylindrospermopsin concentrations. Moreover, an introduction of the Mediterranean *A. ovalisporum* could massively enhance cylindrospermopsin concentrations in temperate lakes, because all isolated strains of this species produce cylindrospermopsin (Banker et al., 1997; Quesada et al., 2006), whereas only a very small portion of *A. flos-aquae* and *A. gracile* isolated from German lakes can produce this toxin.

Conclusion

In summary, we conclude that any further increase in water temperature would promote the development of all of the investigated Nostocales species in general, and that of the invasive species in particular, and would enable a more northward expansion of *A. ovalisporum*.

A shift in the portion and abundance towards Nostocales in cyanobacterial communities would most likely be accompanied by a shift in the predominating cyanotoxins.

Acknowledgments

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Table and Figure legends
Table I: Studied strains: their origin (poly = polymictic; di = dimictic) and the experiments in which
they were used (T = temperature-dependent growth, L = light-dependent growth, M = microcosm
experiment).
(a) Isolated as described by Preußel (2007). (b) Isolated as A. flos-aquae but designated here
A. gracile as its morphology in culture is similar to that of 16D11 and ZIE23AFA. (c) Maximum
depth. (d) Northern Bay of Scharmützelsee, which can be considered a separated water body
(Christen 2006)
Table II: Parameters of temperature-dependent growth calculated using Equation (4), where R^2 is
the coefficient of determination, μ_{max} the maximum growth rate, T_{opt} the optimum growth
temperature, α the slope at 10°C [d ⁻¹ μ mol photons ⁻¹ m ² s], and Q 10 the temperature coefficient
between 15 to 25°C and 20 to 30°C, respectively.
Fig. 1 Temperature-dependent growth rates and growth curves at 80 μmol photons m ⁻² s ⁻¹ . The
growth rate of A. aphanizomenoides at 40°C was not included in curve fitting. Error bars represent
standard deviation of the mean growth rate. Each symbol represents one strain.
Fig. 2 Light-dependent growth rates and growth curves at 15°C (A) and 20°C (B). Error bars
represent standard deviation of the mean growth rate. Each symbol represents one strain.
Fig. 3 Maximum growth rate (μ_{max}) , initial slope (α) and light saturation parameter (I_K) for
individual strains of each species from light-dependent growth curves at 15°C (left) and 20°C
(right).
Fig. 4 (A) Microcosm experiment: Growth rates and growth curves (dashed lines) along a natural
light gradient. In the case of A. macrospora, growth rates without curve fitting are shown. (B)
Comparison of light-dependent growth curves derived from microcosm (dashed lines) versus laboratory experiment at 20°C (solid lines).
Fig. 5 Simulated population dynamics. Upper panel: Historical scenario with seasonal water
temperature 2°C below current mean values. Middle panel: Presence scenario using seasonal mean

water temperatures. Lower panel: Future scenario with water temperature 4°C above current temperatures.



Tables

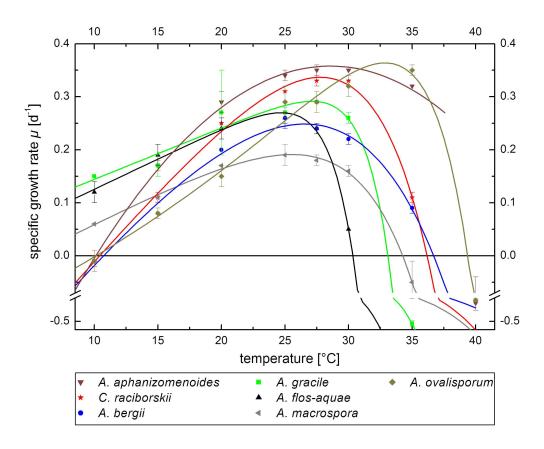
Table I: Studied strains: their origin (poly = polymictic; di = dimictic) and the experiments in which they were used (T = temperature-dependent growth, L = light-dependent growth, M = microcosm experiment).

Species	Strain	Lake of origin	Mean lake depth [m]	Mixis type	Exp. per- formed	
Invasive species						
C. raciborskii	19F6 ^a	Melangsee (13°59′18″ E, 52°09′40″ N)	1.7	Poly	L	
C. raciborskii	ZIE11CR	Zierker See (13°02′12″ E, 53°21′44″ N)	1.6	Poly	L	
C. raciborskii	24G7 ^a	Werbellinsee (12°56′37″ E, 52°55′27″ N)	3.5°	Poly	L, T, M	
C. raciborskii	26D9 ^a	Rangsdorfer See (13°24′14″ E, 52°17′19″ N)	1.5	Poly	L	
A. bergii	LIE02AB	Lieps (13°09'30" E, 53°27'07" N)	2.3	Poly	L, T, M	
A. bergii	ZIE26AB	Zierker See	1.6	Poly	L	
A. aphanizomenoides	22C4-9 ^a	Heiliger See (13°04′18″ E, 52°24′44″ N)	6.6	Di/ Poly	L, T, M	
A. aphanizomenoides	22F6-1 ^a	Heiliger See	6.6	Di/ Poly	L	
Native species				•		
A. gracile	ZIE23AFA	Zierker See	1.6	Poly	L	
A. gracile	30D11 ^{a, b}	Petersdorfer See (14°04′27″ E, 52°18′52″ N)	1.9	Poly	L	
A. gracile	16D11 ^a	Scharmützelsee, Northern Bay ^d (14°02'46" E, 52°14'22" N)	7.9°	Di/ Poly	L, T, M	
A. flos-aquae	ST115AF	Stechlin (13°01'40" E, 53°09'08" N)	22.8	Di	L, T, M	
A. flos-aquae	ST86AF	Stechlin	22.8	Di	L	
A. macrospora	ST195AS	Stechlin	22.8	Di	L, T, M	
Potentially invasive species						
A. ovalisporum	UAM290	Juan Carlos First Park, Spain (3°36′59″ W, 40°27′42″ N)	1.5	Poly	T	

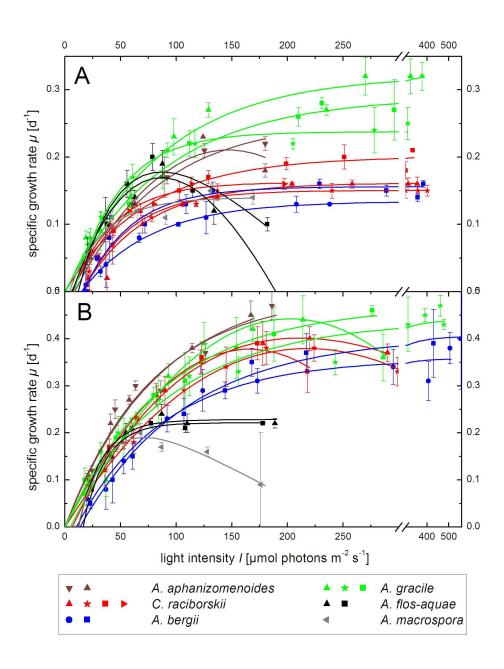
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- Maximum depth. (d) Northern Bay of Scharmützelsee, which can be considered a separated
- water body (Christen 2006)

Table II: Parameters of temperature-dependent growth calculated using Equation (4), where R^2 is the coefficient of determination, μ_{max} the maximum growth rate, T_{opt} the optimum growth temperature, α the slope at 10°C [d⁻¹ μ mol photons⁻¹ m² s], and Q10 the temperature coefficient between 15 to 25°C and 20 to 30°C, respectively.

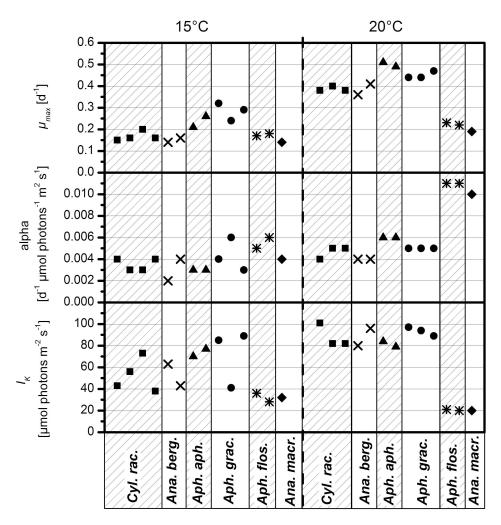
Species	R^2	μ_{max} [d ⁻¹]	T_{opt} [°C]	α(10°C)	Q10 (15:25°C)	Q10 (20:30°C)
C. raciborskii	0.99	0.34 ± 0.01	27.8 ± 0.9	0.024	3.2	1.1
A. bergii	0.96	0.25 ± 0.01	26.5 ± 1.3	0.026	2.8	1.3
A. aphanizomenoides	0.98	0.36 ± 0.01	28.8 ± 2.0	0.035	2.0	1.2
A. gracile	0.99	0.29 ± 0.02	27.1 ± 1.2	0.010	1.6	1.0
A. flos-aquae	0.96	0.27 ± 0.01	24.7 ± 0.8	0.011	1.4	0.2
A. macrospora	0.99	0.19 ± 0.01	25.5 ± 0.5	0.011	1.7	0.9
A. ovalisporum	0.99	0.36 ± 0.02	32.8 ± 0.9	0.014	3.6	2.1



228x185mm (300 x 300 DPI)



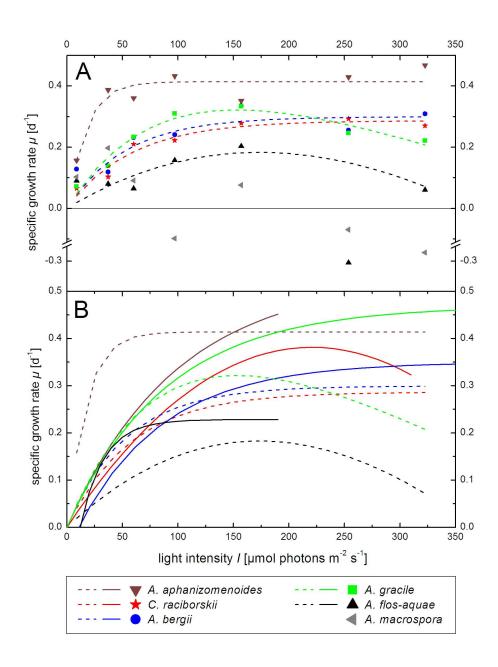
150x195mm (300 x 300 DPI)



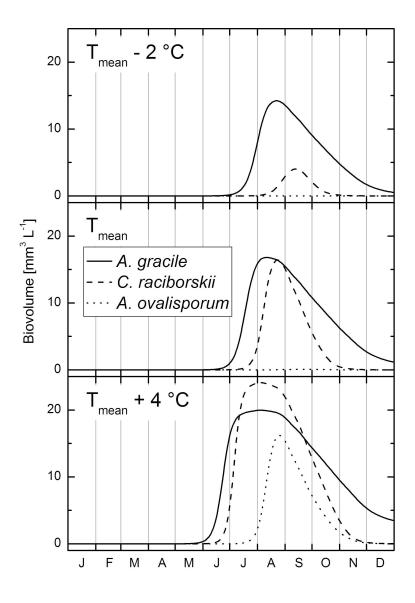
- A. aphanizomenoides
- C. raciborskii
- × A. bergii

- A. gracile
- * A. flos-aquae
- ♦ A. macrospora

237x270mm (300 x 300 DPI)



149x194mm (300 x 300 DPI)



187x275mm (300 x 300 DPI)