

1 **Rapid shifts in the thermal sensitivity of growth but not development rate**
2 **causes temperature-size response variability during ontogeny in**
3 **arthropods**

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15

16 **ABSTRACT**

17 Size at maturity in ectotherms commonly declines with warming. This near-universal
18 phenomenon, formalised as the temperature-size rule, has been observed in over 80% of tested
19 species, from bacteria to fish. The proximate cause has been attributed to the greater
20 temperature dependence of development rate than growth rate, causing individuals to develop
21 earlier but mature smaller in the warm. However, few studies have examined the ontogenetic
22 progression of the temperature-size response at high resolution. Using marine planktonic
23 copepods, we experimentally determined the progression of the temperature-size response over
24 ontogeny. Temperature-size responses were not generated gradually from egg to adult, contrary
25 to the predictions of a naïve model in which development rate was assumed to be more

26 temperature-dependent than growth rate, and the difference in the temperature dependence of
27 these two rates remained constant over ontogeny. Instead, the ontogenetic progression of the
28 temperature-size response in experimental animals was highly episodic, indicating rapid
29 changes in the extent to which growth and development rates are thermally decoupled. The
30 strongest temperature-size responses occurred temporally mid-way through ontogeny,
31 corresponding with the point at which individuals reached between ~5- 25% of their adult mass.
32 Using the copepod *Oithona nana*, we show that the temperature-dependence of growth rate
33 varied substantially throughout ontogeny, whereas the temperature dependence of development
34 rate remained constant. The temperature-dependence of growth rate even exceeded that of
35 development rate in some life stages, leading to a weakening of the temperature-size response.
36 Our analyses of arthropod temperature-size responses from the literature, including crustaceans
37 and insects, support these conclusions more broadly. Overall, our findings provide a better
38 understanding of how the temperature-size rule is produced over ontogeny. Whereas we find
39 support for the generality of developmental rate isomorphy in arthropods (shared temperature
40 dependence of development rate across life stages), this concept should not apply to growth
41 rates.

42

43 **Key words:** Body size, Plasticity, Warming

44

45 **DECLARATIONS**

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58

59 **Author Contributions**

60 All authors designed the study and wrote the paper. CRH carried out the experimental work,
61 collected the data and performed the statistical analyses.

62

63 **Conflicts of Interest**

64 No conflicts of interest declared.

65

66 **INTRODUCTION**

67 Body size is directly linked to organism fitness. Metabolism, reproduction, and survival, as
68 well as the structure of food webs, predator-prey interactions, and population productivity can
69 all be influenced by body size (Kleiber, 1947; Peters, 1983; Brown *et al.*, 2004; Hirst *et al.*,
70 2014; Sentis *et al.*, 2017). Consequently, shifts in the size of animals and size-spectra of
71 biological communities, such as those arising from environmental warming, are likely to have
72 ecological and economic impacts (e.g. Vanni, 1987; Greenleaf *et al.*, 2007; Sheridan &
73 Bickford, 2011; Osmond *et al.*, 2017). For these reasons, understanding what drives body size
74 variation is of fundamental biological importance.

75

76 In ectotherms, species frequently grow to a smaller size-at-stage with increasing temperature
77 under controlled laboratory conditions (Atkinson, 1994). This intra-specific, phenotypically
78 plastic response, formalised as the temperature-size rule, has been observed in a diverse range
79 of taxa including protists, rotifers, arthropods, cnidarians, tunicates, chaetognaths, fish,
80 amphibians and plants (Atkinson, 1994; Forster *et al.*, 2012; Horne *et al.*, 2015). Systematic
81 differences in the magnitude and direction of adult temperature-size responses have been
82 identified between taxa and environments, suggesting that the selective pressures driving body
83 size change with warming differ between groups with different life histories (Forster *et al.*,
84 2012; Horne *et al.*, 2015; Horne *et al.*, 2016; Horne *et al.*, 2017). Similarly, temperature-size
85 responses can also vary between different life stages within a species, but relatively few studies
86 have examined temperature-size responses over ontogeny at such high resolution (although see
87 Gulbrandsen & Johnsen, 1990; Leandro *et al.*, 2006a; Forster *et al.*, 2011a).

88

89 Examining temperature-size responses over ontogeny is valuable because it can provide
90 important insight into the processes underlying ontogenetic growth and development. Body
91 size-at-stage is ultimately dependent upon growth and development rates, as well as the initial
92 progeny size. The proximate mechanisms by which temperature-size responses are achieved
93 can be attributed to differences in the temperature dependence of both growth and development
94 rates (van der Have & de Jong, 1996; Forster *et al.*, 2011a; Forster *et al.*, 2011b; Forster *et al.*,
95 2013). For metazoans, one proposed mechanism lies in DNA replication having a greater
96 sensitivity to temperature (associated with differentiation and therefore development) than
97 protein synthesis (associated with growth). Specifically, diffusion, the speed of which is
98 relatively insensitive to temperature, may be less rate-limiting in DNA replication than in
99 protein synthesis (van der Have & de Jong, 1996). This mechanism has been proposed to

100 underlie the greater temperature dependence of differentiation than growth rate. As temperature
101 increases, development rate increases faster than growth rate, causing individuals to develop
102 earlier but mature smaller (Forster *et al.*, 2011a; Forster *et al.*, 2011b).

103

104 In the few studies that have examined temperature-size responses over ontogeny, most report
105 highly non-linear patterns or episodic shifts in the progression of the temperature-size response
106 over the course of development. Progeny size often shows comparatively little or no response
107 to rearing temperature relative to the greater size response of adults, but the strength of the
108 temperature-size response can both increase and decrease between distinct life stages
109 (Gulbrandsen & Johnsen, 1990; Leandro *et al.*, 2006a; Forster *et al.*, 2011a). The irregular
110 progression of the temperature-size response suggests that the extent to which growth and
111 development rates are thermally decoupled may vary over ontogeny, which challenges
112 conventional assumptions regarding rate isomorphy. In arthropods for example, including
113 insects and crustaceans, many species are assumed to have developmental rate isomorphy
114 (commonly referred to as ‘equiproportional development’ in zooplankton). This describes how
115 the temperature dependence of development rate is shared across distinct ontogenetic stages
116 (Hart, 1990; Jarošík *et al.*, 2004). A similar concept can also be hypothesized for growth rate,
117 i.e. an assumption that mass-specific growth rate of any particular juvenile stage has the same
118 temperature dependence as all other juvenile stages. Variation in the temperature-size response
119 over ontogeny challenges one or both of these assumptions, but whether this variation generally
120 arises from changes in the temperature dependence of growth rate, development rate, or a
121 combination of both, is unknown.

122

123 Here we examine the progression of the temperature-size response over ontogeny in copepods,
124 to determine how the temperature dependence of growth and development rate varies between

125 life stages. Copepods globally represent a primary food resource for invertebrate and vertebrate
126 predators, including fish, and are one of the most abundant metazoans on the planet (Humes,
127 1994; Ware & Thomson, 2005). In general, the postembryonic development of planktonic
128 copepods is characterized by six naupliar stages (N1-N6), five copepodite stages (C1-C5), and
129 the adult stage (C6), all of which can be distinguished based on external morphological
130 features. This makes copepods an excellent model organism in which to investigate patterns in
131 the temperature-size response over ontogeny. In particular, we aim to determine whether:

- 132 i. the degree to which growth and development rates are thermally decoupled is constant,
133 or rather varies during ontogeny.
- 134 ii. the episodic progression of the temperature-size response results from variation in the
135 temperature dependence of growth rate, development rate, or a combination of both.
- 136 iii. the pattern of change in the thermal sensitivities of growth and development rate during
137 ontogeny is comparable, or dissimilar, among species.

138

139 To address these objectives, we construct a naïve model to predict the progression of the
140 temperature-size response over ontogeny, using a wide range of realistic values of copepod
141 growth rate, development rate, and their temperature dependence. When making these
142 predictions, we assume that development rate is more temperature-dependent than growth rate
143 (van der Have & de Jong, 1996; Forster *et al.*, 2011b), and the temperature dependence of each
144 of these two rates does not vary among life stages (i.e. that both growth and development
145 exhibit rate isomorphy). Next, we experimentally determine the stage-to-stage progression of
146 the temperature-size response over the course of a single generation in several planktonic
147 copepod species, comparing patterns from our empirical data with those predicted by the
148 model. We then quantify stage-specific development and growth rates, to determine their

149 temperature dependence. Finally, we analyse data from the literature for other arthropod
150 species, including crustaceans and insects, to test the generality of our results within this phyla.

151

152 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

153 *Modelling the Progression of the Temperature-Size Response Over Ontogeny*

154 We constructed a naïve model to predict stage-specific variation in body mass with temperature
155 over ontogeny in planktonic copepods, using a wide range of realistic values of copepod
156 development rate, growth rate, and their temperature dependence (outlined below and
157 summarised in Table S1 of our Supporting Information). This allowed us to model the
158 progression of the temperature-size response across life stages and through time.

159

160 To begin, development time between life stages was initially assumed to be isochronal (i.e.
161 each juvenile stage having the same time duration), whilst also having a constant degree of
162 temperature dependence that did not change over ontogeny - an implicit assumption of the
163 equiproportional development concept in zooplankton (Hart, 1990). We estimated
164 development time at different temperatures using a Bělehrádek function, defined as:

165

$$166 \quad D_t = 675 (T + 2.7)^{-2.05} \quad (1)$$

167

168 where D_t is the stage-specific median development time (days) and T is the temperature (°C).

169 We chose to fix the shape of the response using a scaling exponent of 2.05, which is assumed
170 to be relatively conserved among different species within a copepod taxon (McLaren, 1995).

171 The remaining parameter values were chosen to ensure that our estimations of D_t corresponded
172 with realistic development times reported in the literature (e.g. Leandro *et al.*, 2006a; Almeda
173 *et al.*, 2010).

174

175 Many copepods have near exponential growth over much of ontogeny under non-limiting food
176 conditions (e.g. *Acartia*, *Oithona* and many other genera) (Miller *et al.*, 1977; Almeda *et al.*,
177 2010), and thus mass was assumed to increase exponentially over time, i.e., have a constant
178 mass-specific growth rate throughout ontogeny. Based on realistic values reported in Kiørboe
179 and Sabatini (1995), mass-specific growth rate was initially set at 0.2 d⁻¹ at 15°C. These initial
180 values were used to calculate mass-specific growth rate at a range of different temperatures,
181 assuming a fixed Q₁₀ temperature coefficient of 2.5 (i.e. for every 10°C increase in temperature,
182 growth rate increased 2.5-fold), chosen based on realistic Q₁₀ values reported in Hirst and
183 Bunker (2003). Specifically:

184

$$185 \quad GR_{T_2} = GR_{T_1} \times Q_{10}^{(T_2-T_1)/10} \quad (2)$$

186

187 where GR_{T_1} is the initial mass-specific growth rate at temperature T_1 (i.e. 0.2 d⁻¹ at 15°C),
188 $Q_{10}=2.5$, and GR_{T_2} is the mass-specific growth rate at temperature T_2 (calculated for
189 temperatures between 0 and 30°C).

190

191 We combined our estimates of development time and growth rate to determine stage-specific
192 body mass (M_{i+1}) at different temperatures, ranging from 0 to 30°C, defined as:

193

$$194 \quad M_{i+1} = M_i \times \exp^{(GR \times D_t)} \quad (3)$$

195

196 where M_i is the mass of the previous life stage (egg mass in the first instance), and GR and D_t
197 are the mass-specific growth rates and median development times between stage i and $i+1$ at a
198 given temperature. We assigned egg mass a value representative of small neritic copepod

199 species (0.043 μ g dry mass), and assumed egg mass to have no temperature-size response
200 (Forster *et al.*, 2011a).

201

202 Using these estimates, we determined the slopes of ordinary least-squares (OLS) regressions
203 of ln-transformed body mass vs. temperature for each life stage. This exponential (log-linear)
204 equation form has consistently been found to be the best for modelling temperature-size
205 responses (Forster *et al.*, 2012; Horne *et al.*, 2015; Horne *et al.*, 2017). These stage-specific
206 slopes were transformed into percentage change in mass per degree Celsius, using the formula
207 ($\exp^{(\text{slope})} - 1$)*100 = % change in mass per °C (Forster *et al.*, 2012). Lastly, we converted these
208 stage-specific temperature-size responses to a proportion of the final adult response, allowing
209 us to model the progression of the temperature-size responses across life stages and through
210 time (Figure 1).

211

212 Whereas mass often increases exponentially over time under non-limiting food conditions in
213 many copepods (Miller *et al.*, 1977; Almeda *et al.*, 2010), some copepods grow slower in later
214 life stages (Hirst & Bunker, 2003). Some copepods also commonly have longer development
215 times in later copepodite stages (Landry, 1983). We therefore generated a range of realistic
216 alternative model outputs, to explore how variation in growth and development rates over
217 ontogeny might impact the progression of the temperature-size response (the range of
218 predictions from these alternative model outputs are encompassed by the shaded area in Figure
219 1). These alternative trajectories allowed for both non-exponential growth (up to a 10% decline
220 in growth rate per stage over ontogeny) and increases in stage duration (up to a 25% increase
221 in stage duration per stage). We also varied the initial growth rate set at 15°C, ranging between
222 0.1 to 0.4 d⁻¹ (based on values reported in Kiørboe and Sabatini (1995)), as well as its
223 temperature dependence, with Q₁₀ values ranging from 1.5 to 4 (based on values reported in

224 Hirst and Bunker (2003)). Importantly, in all our models the temperature dependence of both
225 growth and development rate was kept constant over ontogeny. These predictions were then
226 compared with empirical temperature-size data for planktonic copepods. Note that body size
227 decreased with warming in all our model trajectories; hence, development rate always
228 increased faster than growth rate with temperature, resulting in earlier development at a smaller
229 size in the warm. Consequently, whilst the temperature dependence of the Bělehrádek function
230 used to model development rate (i.e. equation 1) cannot be equated to a standard Q_{10}
231 temperature coefficient, our predictions always followed the assumption that development rate
232 is on average more temperature-dependent than growth rate (van der Have & de Jong, 1996;
233 Forster et al., 2011b). A summary of all the model components and range of parameter values
234 is presented in Table S1 of our Supporting Information.

235

236 *Experimentation and Data Collection*

237 Three calanoid copepod species (*Acartia tonsa*, *Centropages hamatus*, and *Temora*
238 *longicornis*) and one cyclopoid species (*Oithona nana*), were reared from egg or nauplii stage
239 1 to maturity under saturating food conditions at three constant temperature treatments (10, 15,
240 20°C). All four species were reared separately throughout the experiment using two replicates
241 per temperature, resulting in 24 experimental cultures.

242

243 Copepods were obtained from continuous laboratory cultures at Danish Technical University
244 DTU-AQUA. Stock cultures were maintained at ~16°C. Specimens of *A. tonsa*, *C. hamatus*
245 and *T. longicornis* were originally isolated from the Skagerrak strait (North Sea, Sweden) and
246 Øresund strait (North Sea, Denmark). *O. nana* were obtained from the Port of Gijon
247 (Cantabrian Sea, Spain). All four species are widely distributed, but particularly common in
248 temperate coastal regions (Razouls *et al.*, 2005-2018). Annual temperature variability is

249 typically $>10^{\circ}\text{C}$ in these regions (Horne *et al.*, 2017). Thus, temperature treatments were chosen
250 to reflect considerable but realistic seasonal variation in temperature, thereby also increasing
251 the likelihood of detecting significant changes in body size with warming.

252

253 Given that the temperature-size response is a phenotypically plastic response, we chose not to
254 acclimate organisms to the test temperatures before the start of the experiment, but rather to
255 measure the response within a single generation. Eggs of *C. hamatus* (starting density of ~ 700
256 eggs L^{-1}) and *T. longicornis* (starting density ~ 150 eggs L^{-1}), and stage 1 nauplii (N1) of *O.*
257 *nana* (starting density ~ 1875 individuals L^{-1}) were harvested directly from stock cultures and
258 immediately transferred to each temperature treatment. *O. nana* cultures were established using
259 nauplii instead of eggs, because in this species females carry the eggs until hatching. *A. tonsa*
260 cultures were seeded with eggs held for long periods at 4°C , at which temperature they do not
261 hatch (starting density ~ 5300 eggs L^{-1} , assuming 25% hatch success (Drillet *et al.*, 2011)).

262

263 All experimental cultures were reared in open-top 2L Duran bottles containing filtered seawater
264 (salinity 32 psu). Cultures were incubated at each constant temperature treatment by placing
265 the bottles into high-density polyethylene water baths, each connected via a water pump to a
266 closed loop temperature control system equipped with a digital thermostat (TECO *TK2000*
267 aquarium chiller; $\pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$). Insulating foam was placed around the connecting tubing to reduce
268 heat transfer. Cultures were permanently aerated by bubbling a constant low flow of
269 atmospheric air directly into each bottle. All species were fed the dinoflagellate *Oxyrrhis*
270 *marina* obtained from stock cultures kept at 16°C . Food levels in the copepod cultures were
271 maintained at ≥ 3000 cells ml^{-1} (≥ 1500 cells ml^{-1} for the much smaller *O. nana*,) to ensure
272 saturated food conditions (Leandro *et al.*, 2006a; Saage *et al.*, 2009; Almeda *et al.*, 2010;
273 Gonçalves *et al.*, 2014). Food concentrations were measured either daily, or every 48h at 10°C ,

274 using a Beckman Coulter Multisizer™ 3 Coulter Counter® and adjusted accordingly to
275 maintain saturation and avoid possible confounding effects of food limitation.

276

277 To measure body size of the different developmental stages throughout ontogeny, an 80 mL
278 sample was collected from each culture every 24h and filtered through a 40- μ m mesh. The
279 collected individuals were then preserved in 0.5% Lugol's solution for staging and sizing. Due
280 to the much lower stocking density of *T. longicornis* in our experimental cultures, samples of
281 this species were collected and preserved from only three time points (nauplii stage 6,
282 copepodite stage 1 and the adult stage), determined by regularly staging and then returning a
283 sub-sample of individuals from each culture. On average, total development time (egg to adult)
284 ranged from 17 days at 20°C to 45 days at 10°C. All species were successfully reared to
285 maturity at each temperature treatment, except for *O. nana*, which did not reach maturity at
286 10°C within our experimental period. Thus, *O. nana* individuals reared at 10°C were excluded
287 from our analyses.

288

289 All preserved individuals were staged under an inverted microscope using taxonomic guides
290 (e.g. Conway, 2006). To determine body size, digital pictures of ~30 random individuals from
291 each temperature treatment and developmental stage (separated by sex in later copepodite
292 stages) were taken with a camera attached to an inverted microscope. Total body length without
293 spines (μ m) for nauplii, and prosome length (μ m) for copepodites (anterior margin of the head
294 to between the first and second segments of the slender posterior portion in the cyclopoid *O.*
295 *nana*) were measured using image analysis software (Volocity® v.5.3.1, PerkinElmer) and
296 subsequently converted to dry mass using previously published nauplii- and copepodite-
297 specific length-mass regressions for each species (see Data Set S1 in Supporting Information
298 for the raw body size data, length-mass regressions and their sources). A total of 5,620 body

299 size measurements were recorded across all four copepod species, developmental stages and
300 treatments. Arithmetic mean body masses for each species at each life stage and rearing
301 temperature are available in Table S2 of our Supporting Information.

302

303 We also recorded the daily frequency distribution (based on the first 20 individuals per sample)
304 of developmental stages in our *O. nana* cultures (due to time constraints, we were unable to
305 collect this data for our other experimental species). This allowed us to obtain quantitative data
306 on stage-specific development and growth rates, and to determine their temperature
307 dependence. Stage-specific development times (days) were calculated as the median
308 development times, i.e., from the point at which 50% of individuals reached stage i to the point
309 at which 50% of individuals reached stage $i + 1$ (following Peterson & Painting, 1990). We
310 plotted the arcsine square root-transformed cumulative proportion of each stage against time,
311 and used an OLS regression to estimate the point at which 50% of individuals had reached each
312 stage (Peterson & Painting, 1990) (see Figure S1 in Supporting Information). Although logit
313 transformation of proportional data is usually favoured over arcsine square root transformation
314 (Warton & Hui, 2011), our data included proportional values of both 0 and 1, making the range
315 of the logit scale problematic. Stage-specific development rate (day^{-1}) was calculated as the
316 reciprocal of stage duration. We also obtained average stage durations at 15°C for *A. tonsa*, *C.*
317 *hamatus* and *T. longicornis* from relevant literature sources (Breteler *et al.*, 1982; Leandro *et*
318 *al.*, 2006a). This allowed us to estimate the progression of the temperature-size response over
319 ontogeny as a proportion of the total development time (assuming equiproportional
320 development (Hart, 1990).

321

322 Mass-specific growth rates from one stage to the next were calculated for *O. nana* by
323 combining data on arithmetic mean masses of each stage, and development times across

324 consecutive stages, following Hirst *et al.* (2005) (their equation 22). Importantly, this method
325 accounts for the time interval between arithmetic mean mass at stage i and $i + 1$, which is a
326 combination of the duration of stage i and $i + 1$. Note that, whereas our predictive model is
327 defined in terms of individual mass, it is generally not possible to incubate and follow
328 individual copepods over time, hence we followed a population in our experiments. The
329 methodological issues and assumptions of the growth equations we applied to the population
330 are explored in detail in Hirst *et al.* (2005).

331

332 *Statistical Analyses*

333 All statistical analyses were conducted in R (R Core Team, 2014). For each species, we first
334 determined the OLS slopes of ln-transformed mass vs. temperature for each life stage (upper
335 panels in Figure 2). These stage-specific OLS regressions were calculated using all the raw
336 individual-level data (i.e. $n=30$ at each temperature and life stage), but for simplicity, we only
337 show the mean body mass ($\pm 95\%$ CIs) at each temperature and life stage in Figure 2. These
338 stage-specific slopes were transformed into percentage change in mass per degree Celsius, as
339 described above. A negative percentage change indicates a decrease in body size with
340 increasing temperature, following the temperature-size rule. Stage-specific temperature-size
341 responses ($\pm 95\%$ CIs) were also converted to a proportion of the final adult response, allowing
342 us to compare the progression of the temperature-size response to that predicted by our model.

343

344 The effect of temperature on *O. nana* growth and development rates was modelled using an
345 exponential equation form (i.e. ln-transformed rate vs. temperature), which is consistent with
346 the exponential function used to estimate growth rate in our predictive model (equation 2). This
347 ln-transformation also helped to ensure the data were normally distributed. Using either ln-
348 transformed mass-specific growth rate or development rate as the response variable in a linear

349 model, we modelled the effect of temperature, developmental stage and, importantly, their
350 interaction, to determine whether the temperature dependence of growth rate or development
351 rate varied significantly between life stages (two-way ANOVA using the `anova` function in R).
352 Where there was a significant interaction, we used Tukey's HSD post-hoc test to determine
353 which life stages differed significantly from one another in their temperature dependence of
354 growth or development rate. For each life stage, we also calculated the ratio between the slopes
355 of ln-transformed mass-specific growth rate vs. temperature and ln-transformed development
356 rate vs. temperature. This provided a measure of the extent to which growth and development
357 rates were thermally decoupled in the life stage. We also used these stage-specific ratios to
358 calculate a mean slope ratio across the whole of ontogeny.

359

360 To assess the generality of our results we evaluated whether growth and developmental rates
361 showed a constant temperature dependence throughout ontogeny in other arthropod species,
362 using data available in the published literature. Of the few studies that have examined the
363 progression of the temperature-size response at such high resolution, Forster & Hirst (2012)
364 provided examples from the literature of temperature-size responses through ontogeny in
365 several crustacean species. We therefore revisited these data and their original sources, and
366 using the same methodology as described above, were able to test for ontogenetic changes in
367 the temperature dependence of growth and development rates in five of these species (*A. tonsa*,
368 *Calanus finmarchicus*, *Calanus sinicus*, *Paracalanus* sp. and *Sinocalanus tenellus*). We also
369 searched published literature on the Web of Science database
370 (<http://apps.webofknowledge.com/>) for examples that provided laboratory data on stage-
371 specific size, growth and development rate responses to temperature over ontogeny in insects.
372 The primary search term combinations used were: "insect" AND "body size" AND
373 "temperature" AND ("growth" OR "development"). We consequently tested for ontogenetic

374 changes in the temperature dependence of growth and development rate in four insect species
375 (*Aedes aegypti*, *Aphis fabae*, *Culex quinquefasciatus* and *Heliothis virescens*). A list of these
376 species and their data sources, as well as the outcomes from statistical tests, are provided in
377 Table 1.

378

379 **RESULTS**

380 *Progression of the Temperature-Size Response Over Ontogeny*

381 Early naupliar stages generally showed a weak or inverse temperature-size response,
382 particularly in *A. tonsa* and *O. nana*, whereas later naupliar stages exhibited stronger reductions
383 in body size with increasing temperature (Figure 2). In all species except for *O. nana*, the
384 strongest temperature-size response did not occur in the transition to the adult stage, but rather
385 in the transition from nauplii (N6) to copepodite (C1), which corresponds with a radical shift
386 in body form. Subsequent copepodite stages tended to show a reduction in the strength of the
387 temperature-size response into adulthood, although all species still adhered to the temperature-
388 size rule as adults, maturing at a smaller size with increasing rearing temperature. Controlling
389 for species as a random effect on the intercept in a linear mixed effects model (using package
390 lmer in R), there was no significant interaction between temperature and sex acting on body
391 size, suggesting that the strength of the temperature-size response did not differ between males
392 and females (two-way ANOVA: $F_{1,2065}=0.18$, $p=0.67$; also see Figure 2).

393

394 Our empirical observations deviate considerably from the predictions of our naïve model, as
395 inferred from no overlap of the 95% CIs with the range of model trajectories in Figure 3. These
396 predictions were specifically based on the assumption that development rate is more
397 temperature-dependent than growth rate, but that the temperature dependence of each of these
398 two rates does not vary between life stages (i.e. rate isomorphy), resulting in the gradual onset

399 of the temperature-size response from egg to adult. When this naïve model is compared against
400 experimental data, the contrast highlights the inadequacies of the simple assumptions in the
401 model. Specifically, the progression of the temperature-size response in our experimental
402 species was episodic, both strengthening and weakening over the course of development, with
403 the strongest temperature-size responses occurring mid-way through the ontogenetic time
404 period (Figure 3a), on average corresponding with the point at which individuals reached
405 between ~5- 25% of their adult mass (Figure 3b). In contrast to the model assumptions, this
406 episodic progression of the temperature-size response suggests that the degree to which growth
407 and development rates are thermally decoupled is not constant over ontogeny. Instead, growth
408 rate, development rate, or both must differ in their temperature dependence between life stages
409 in our experimental species.

410

411 *Temperature Dependence of Growth and Development Rates in O. nana*

412 On average across all life stages, the slope of ln-transformed mass-specific growth rate vs.
413 temperature was weaker than that of development rate, such that the mean ratio between these
414 two slopes was <1 (mean slope ratio= 0.81 ± 0.43 ; 95% CI). However, this ratio varied
415 substantially over ontogeny, caused by variation in the temperature dependence of growth rate,
416 but not development rate, among life stages (Figure 4). Specifically, there was an interactive
417 effect of temperature and life stage on ln-transformed mass-specific growth rate (two-way
418 ANOVA: $F_{7,16}=3.50$, $p=0.02$), indicating that the temperature dependence of growth rate
419 differed significantly between life stages. In contrast, we found no interactive effect of
420 temperature and life stage on ln-transformed development rate (two-way ANOVA: $F_{8,18}=0.19$,
421 $p=0.99$), indicating that the temperature dependence of development rate was rather conserved
422 over ontogeny.

423

424 Patterns in the temperature-size response closely matched changes in slope ratio (Figure 4).
425 For example, where the slope ratio was considerably less than 1, the temperature dependence
426 of growth rate was much weaker than that of development rate, and the temperature-size
427 response strengthened between life stages, i.e. the temperature-size response became more
428 negative (e.g. N5-N6 in Figure 4, slope ratio=0.14). Conversely, when the slope ratio was >1
429 this indicated that the slope of mass-specific growth rate vs. temperature was stronger than that
430 of development rate, leading to a weakening of the temperature-size response between life
431 stages, i.e. the temperature-size response became less negative (e.g. C2-C3 in Figure 4, slope
432 ratio=1.58). These findings provide evidence that the highly irregular progression of the
433 temperature-size response over ontogeny in *O. nana*, and hence variation in the extent to which
434 growth and development rates are thermally decoupled, appears to be caused by variation in
435 the temperature dependence of growth rate, as opposed to development rate.

436

437 *Further Examples from the Literature*

438 We also tested for ontogenetic changes in the temperature dependence of growth and
439 development rates in other arthropod species from the literature. In addition to the examples
440 presented in Forster and Hirst (2012), we also found evidence for similar episodic patterns in
441 the progression of the temperature-size response in insects (Figure 5). The temperature
442 dependence of growth rate varied significantly among life stages in eight of the nine species of
443 zooplankton and insects analysed, whereas the temperature dependence of development rate
444 varied significantly among life stages in only one species (Table 1). These findings suggest
445 that variation in the temperature-size response over ontogeny in arthropods is generally caused
446 by rapid changes in the temperature dependence of growth rate, rather than development rate.

447

448 **DISCUSSION**

449 Our work highlights how the temperature-size response observed in adults does not arise from
450 the gradual onset of size responses over ontogeny, as predicted by our naïve model in which
451 development rate is assumed to be more temperature-dependent than growth rate, and the
452 temperature dependence of each of these two rates does not vary among life stages (Figure 1).
453 Instead, the progression of the temperature-size response over ontogeny is episodic and at times
454 reverses (Figure 3), indicating that the extent to which growth and development rates are
455 thermally decoupled can change rapidly from one life stage to the next.

456

457 It was possible to identify specific contributions of growth and development rates to observed
458 temperature-size patterns in *O. nana* (Figure 4). Whereas the temperature dependence of
459 development rate was consistent throughout the life cycle, the temperature dependence of
460 growth rate varied considerably over ontogeny. Crucially, our analyses of ontogenetic
461 temperature-size responses in other arthropod species from the literature, including both
462 crustaceans and insects, largely support these conclusions (Table 1). These findings have
463 important implications for understanding the mechanisms of the temperature-size rule, and
464 provide evidence to suggest that, whereas developmental rate isomorphy (or equiproportional
465 development) is often assumed for arthropods, this rule should not be assumed for growth.

466

467 *Explaining Variation in the Temperature-Dependence of Growth Rate*

468 It has been suggested that the temperature dependence of DNA replication (i.e. differentiation)
469 is greater than the temperature dependence of protein synthesis (i.e. growth), resulting in earlier
470 maturation at a smaller size in the warm (van der Have & de Jong, 1996). Whilst on average
471 we find that development rate is more temperature dependent than growth rate, the prediction
472 is contradicted by the episodic progression of the temperature-size response over ontogeny,
473 and importantly, by the sometimes greater temperature dependence of growth rate than

474 development rate. Additionally, following the logic of Forster and Hirst (2012), the fact that
475 many terrestrial univoltine insects show a positive temperature-size response (i.e. an increase
476 in size with increasing temperature) (Horne *et al.*, 2015), suggests that growth rate would be
477 more temperature sensitive than development rate in these organisms (assuming the size of
478 progeny is invariant with temperature). In any case, it is challenging: i) to explain why the
479 thermal sensitivity of rates, particularly growth rate, varies over ontogeny, and ii) to determine
480 whether this variation is systematic and therefore predictable. Despite observing similarities in
481 the progression of the temperature-size response among our experimental species, the pattern
482 itself is somewhat inconsistent.

483

484 One potential explanation for the observed variation in the temperature dependence of growth
485 rate is that measurements of whole organism growth reflect different processes at the cellular
486 level, encompassing not just individual cell growth but also cell differentiation. Given that the
487 biological rates underlying these two processes may have a different temperature dependence
488 (van der Have & de Jong, 1996), variation in the temperature dependence of growth rate at the
489 whole organism level may reflect changes in the prevalence of cell growth vs. cell
490 differentiation over ontogeny. Copepods are generally considered to be eutelic (i.e., have a
491 determinate number of somatic cells at maturity) (McLaren & Marcogliese, 1983; Escribano
492 *et al.*, 1992), but the extent to which growth occurs by cell division (likely in earlier life stages),
493 or by individual cell growth (likely in later life stages) may vary from one life stage to the next.
494 For example, during earlier life stages one might predict that cell differentiation (assumed to
495 be more sensitive to temperature than individual cell growth via protein synthesis) is likely to
496 account for a relatively greater proportion of whole organism growth, particularly around the
497 time of metamorphosis, which encompasses the differentiation of new cell types, tissues and
498 organs (Gilbert, 2013). We find support for this hypothesis in our experimental species, in

499 which most of the temperature-size response appears to be generated in earlier life stages
500 approaching 'metamorphosis' (the transition from nauplii to copepodites), when individuals on
501 average reached between 5 and 25% of their adult mass (Figure 3b).

502

503 Just as we observe variation in the magnitude of adult temperature-size responses between
504 organisms with different life histories (e.g. aquatic vs. terrestrial, univoltine vs. multivoltine)
505 (Forster *et al.*, 2012; Horne *et al.*, 2015; 2017), we should also consider that the selective
506 pressures acting on body size may differ within species over ontogeny. Indeed, differences in
507 the temperature dependence of growth rate among life stages, and consequently variation in
508 the temperature-size response, suggests that a species' ability to cope with temperature change
509 can vary over its life cycle. For instance, limiting factors other than temperature, such as
510 resource availability, may constrain growth more strongly at certain life stages than others,
511 thereby confounding the effects of temperature on growth rate, as well as other physiological
512 rates and processes (Forster *et al.* 2011b; Boukal *et al.* 2015). These considerations are
513 particularly pertinent in light of a recent review by Sinclair *et al.* (2016), who emphasise the
514 importance of accounting for variation in thermal performance curves between life stages when
515 predicting climate change impacts.

516

517 Another alternative explanation for the observed patterns is that the episodic progression of the
518 temperature-size response arises from a mismatch between ontogenetic demands on energy
519 (and thus scope for growth) in the laboratory versus those expected in nature. Should an
520 organism find itself growing bigger in the laboratory than would be 'expected' given its
521 evolutionary history in the field, for example because it is investing less in locomotion
522 or 'defence', or because food quality and quantity are much greater than those encountered in
523 typical field conditions, then feeding rates and size around the time of moult may be adjusted

524 in subsequent life stages. However, this may be somewhat less significant here given that the
525 experimental animals used in our study were obtained from well-established stock cultures
526 maintained in the laboratory for a great many generations.

527

528 *Additional Implications and Observations*

529 Our findings support the proposal that developmental rate isomorphy is common among
530 arthropods (Jarošík *et al.*, 2002; Jarošík *et al.*, 2004), whereas a similar concept should not be
531 presumed for growth rate. We note that, due to assumptions hidden in the conventional
532 methodology used to study development rate isomorphy, violation of this concept in insects
533 and copepods may be more frequent than previously believed, as highlighted by Boukal *et al.*
534 (2015). More specifically, conventional analyses often fail to account for the inherent
535 proportional structure of the data, and/or tend to group larval instars together (Boukal *et al.*,
536 2015). We were therefore interested to test the reliability of our own methodology, applying it
537 to the raw data for *Notonecta glauca* reported in Boukal *et al.* (2015); a species in which their
538 methodology detected variation in the temperature dependence of developmental rate, whereas
539 standard analysis failed to do so. Reassuringly, when tested using the approach adopted herein,
540 we also found that the temperature dependence of development rate was significantly
541 dependent on life stage (two-way ANOVA: $F_{4,190}=13.09$, $p<0.001$). This gives us confidence
542 in our approach, not just in assessing developmental rate isomorphy, but also in assessing
543 ontogenetic variation in the temperature dependence of growth rate.

544

545 Patterns in adult temperature-size responses observed in our own study are also consistent with
546 those previously reported in the literature. Our findings support the broader patterns in
547 temperature-size responses observed in the laboratory, in which over 83% of ectotherms tested
548 appear to adhere to the temperature-size rule (Atkinson, 1994). Similar patterns have also been

549 observed in the field, where 90% of copepod species matured at a smaller size in warmer
550 compared to colder seasons (Horne *et al.*, 2016). In our study, *T. longicornis*, the largest species
551 we cultured, exhibited the greatest adult temperature-size response ($-4.16\% \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$), followed by
552 *C. hamatus* ($-2.41\% \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$) and *A. tonsa* ($-2.10\% \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$), whereas the weakest adult temperature-
553 size response was observed in the cyclopoid *O. nana* ($-1.82\% \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$). This parallels the seasonal
554 patterns described by Horne *et al.* (2016), in which current-feeding calanoids, particularly *T.*
555 *longicornis*, exhibited the strongest seasonal reductions in body size with temperature, whereas
556 ambush-feeding cyclopoids exhibited relatively weaker seasonal temperature-size responses.
557 Finally, we observe similar temperature-size responses in males and females within a species,
558 as is typically the case for Arthropoda, including copepods (Hirst *et al.*, 2015).

559

560 *Conclusions*

561 To better understand the mechanisms producing temperature-size responses, we analysed the
562 progression of the temperature-size response over the ontogeny of well-studied crustaceans and
563 insects. Importantly, we demonstrate how adult temperature-size responses are not established
564 progressively and cumulatively from egg to adult, and that ontogenetic variation in the
565 temperature-size response in arthropods is most likely driven by variation in the temperature
566 dependence of growth rate, rather than of development rate. Thus, whereas developmental rate
567 isomorphy is often assumed for arthropods, our results indicate that this rule should not be
568 assumed for growth. Furthermore, we find that the slope of mass-specific growth rate vs.
569 temperature is at times steeper than that of development rate, leading us to question the general
570 applicability of the van der Have and de Jong (1996) model, which suggests that the
571 mechanistic basis of the temperature-size rule lies in the greater thermal sensitivity of DNA
572 replication (associated with differentiation) than protein synthesis (associated with growth).
573 Although this model seems to be supported on average across the whole of ontogeny, it does

574 not appear to account for rapid shifts in the temperature dependence of growth and
575 development rates between life stages, leading to variation in the extent to which these rates
576 are thermally decoupled. Ultimately, if we are to understand how and why the temperature-size
577 rule evolved, we require a greater awareness of the processes underlying the division and
578 enlargement of cells, and how their numbers change in organisms during ontogeny. This
579 includes how resources are partitioned and utilised over the course of development.

580

581 **DATA AVAILABILITY**

582 Data used in this study are available in the Supporting Information and will also be deposited
583 in Dryad.

584

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729

730 **Table 1.** Examples from the literature of ontogenetic variation in the temperature dependence of growth and development rates in other arthropod
 731 species, including insects and crustaceans.

732 **Temperature dependence varies significantly between life stages?**

733		Growth rate	Development rate	Source
	Crustaceans			
734	<i>Acartia tonsa</i>	Yes ($F_{8,18}=3.20, p=0.02$)	Yes ($F_{10,22}=2.76, p=0.02$)	Leandro <i>et al.</i> 2006b
	<i>Calanus finmarchicus</i>	Yes ($F_{5,6}=14.24, p<0.01$)	No ($F_{11,12}=0.35, p=0.96$)	Campbell <i>et al.</i> 2001
735	<i>Calanus sinicus</i>	Yes ($F_{9,30}=4.44, p<0.001$)	No ($F_{11,36}=1.11, p=0.38$)	Uye 1988
	<i>Paracalanus sp.</i>	Yes ($F_{9,30}=2.55, p=0.03$)	No ($F_{11,36}=1.85, p=0.08$)	Uye 1991
736	<i>Sinocalanus tenellus</i>	Yes ($F_{10,43}=4.63, p<0.001$)	No ($F_{11,48}=1.92, p=0.06$)	Kimoto <i>et al.</i> 1986
	Insects			
737	<i>Aedes aegypti</i>	No ($F_{3,12}=1.35, p=0.30$)	No ($F_{4,15}=0.84, p=0.52$)	Rueda <i>et al.</i> 1990
738	<i>Aphis fabae</i>	Yes ($F_{3,16}=94.16, p<0.001$)	N/A ⁺	Li & Mills 2004
	<i>Culex quinquefasciatus</i>	Yes ($F_{3,16}=10.77, p<0.001$)	No ($F_{4,20}=0.67, p=0.62$)	Rueda <i>et al.</i> 1990
739	<i>Heliothis virescens</i>	Yes ($F_{5,6}=11.36, p<0.01$)	No ($F_{6,7}=0.84, p=0.57$)	Nadgauda & Pitre 1983

740

741 Note: ‘Yes’ denotes a significant interactive effect of temperature and life stage on either ln-transformed mass-specific growth rate or development
 742 rate. Test statistics (two-way ANOVA F test) and p values are given in brackets.

743 ⁺ Unable to test for variation in the temperature dependence of development rate between life stages, as ANOVA F tests on an essentially perfect
 744 fit are unreliable (i.e. $n = 2$).

745 **FIGURES**

746

747 **Figure 1.** Model predicting the progression of the temperature-size response (expressed as a
748 proportion of the adult response) over ontogeny in copepods, both as a function of total
749 development time (panel A) and of adult mass at 15°C (panel B). Predictions are based on a
750 wide range of realistic values of copepod growth rate, development rate, and their temperature
751 dependence. The initial model output (black circles) assumes isochronal development and
752 exponential growth throughout ontogeny (growth rate=0.2 day⁻¹ at 15°C; Q₁₀=2.5). The shaded
753 area encompasses a range of realistic alternative model outputs. These alternative trajectories
754 allow for non-exponential growth (declining growth rate over ontogeny), increases in stage
755 duration over ontogeny, and variation in the initial growth rate as well as its temperature
756 dependence, with Q₁₀ values ranging from 1.5 to 4 (see Methods). Development rate was
757 always assumed to have a greater temperature dependence than growth rate, with neither
758 having a temperature dependence that varied over ontogeny. In all cases, the temperature-size
759 response gradually strengthens over ontogeny, culminating with the strongest response in the
760 adult stage. Note the reversed y-axes for ease of comparison with empirical data, as
761 temperature-size responses are predicted to become more negative over ontogeny.

762

763 **Figure 2.** Stage-specific OLS regressions of dry body mass (µg) (log₁₀ scale) vs. temperature
764 for nauplii (N1-N6; black symbols), copepodites and adults (C1-C5 and C6; open symbols),
765 and associated temperature-size responses (percentage change in mass per °C) for *A. tonsa*
766 (panels A and B), *C. hamatus* (panels C and D), *O. nana* (panels E and F; nauplii begin at stage
767 N2) and *T. longicornis* (panels G and H; stages N6, C1 and C6 only). Note that stage-specific
768 OLS regressions and temperature-size responses were generated using the raw individual-level
769 data; however, for simplicity we plot mean body mass (±95% CIs) at each temperature and

770 stage for males and females combined (upper panels). Where body size measurements were
771 separated by sex in later copepodite stages, temperature-size responses in the lower panels are
772 depicted for males (grey symbols) and females separately.

773

774 **Figure 3.** The ontogenetic progression of the temperature-size response (expressed as a
775 proportion of the adult response) vs. time (represented as a proportion of total development
776 time at 15°C) and mass (represented as a proportion of adult mass at 15°C) for *A. tonsa* (panels
777 A and B), *C. hamatus* (panels C and D) and *O. nana* (panels E and F). Data points ($\pm 95\%$ CIs)
778 represent different life stages. Note the reversal of the y-axes. The shaded area represents the
779 range of realistic model predictions as defined in Figure 1.

780

781 **Figure 4.** A) Variation in the temperature dependence of mass-specific growth rate (black
782 symbols and solid line) and development rate (open symbols and dashed line) between life
783 stages in *O. nana*. Slope values were derived from stage-specific OLS regressions of ln-
784 transformed rate vs. temperature, where data from both experimental replicates were combined.
785 Error bars denote standard error. B) Ontogenetic variation in the slope ratio (i.e. the ratio
786 between the slopes of ln-transformed mass-specific growth rate vs. temperature and ln-
787 transformed development rate vs. temperature; left-hand y-axis). Error bars denote standard
788 error. Variation in the temperature-size response (encompassing 95% CIs) is also shown for
789 comparison, represented by the shaded area (right-hand y-axis). Whilst the slope of mass-
790 specific growth rate vs. temperature is on average weaker than that of development rate, the
791 ratio of these slopes varies substantially over ontogeny, caused by significant variation in the
792 temperature dependence of growth rate, but not development rate, between life stages.

793

794 **Figure 5.** Examples from the literature of stage-specific temperature-size responses
795 (percentage change in mass per °C) in insects. Data for *A. aegypti* and *C. quinquefasciatus*
796 (panels A and B) adapted from Rueda *et al.* (1990). Data for *A. fabae* (panel C) adapted from
797 Li and Mills (2004). Data for *H. virescens* (panel D) adapted from Nadgauda and Pitre (1983).
798 Error bars denote standard error. In each case note the episodic progression of the temperature-
799 size response over ontogeny, indicative of changes in the extent to which growth and
800 development rates are thermally decoupled (see Table 1).

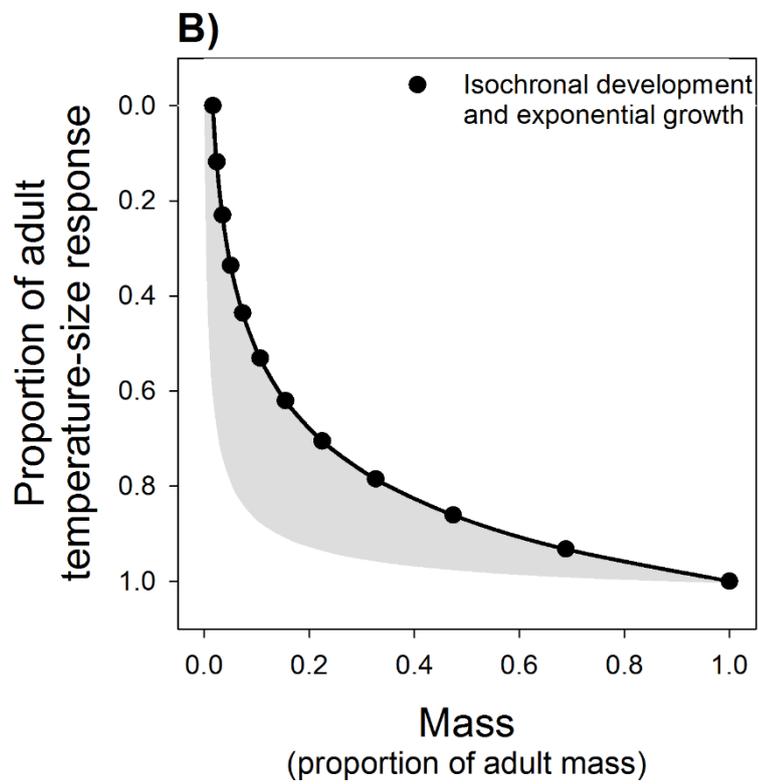
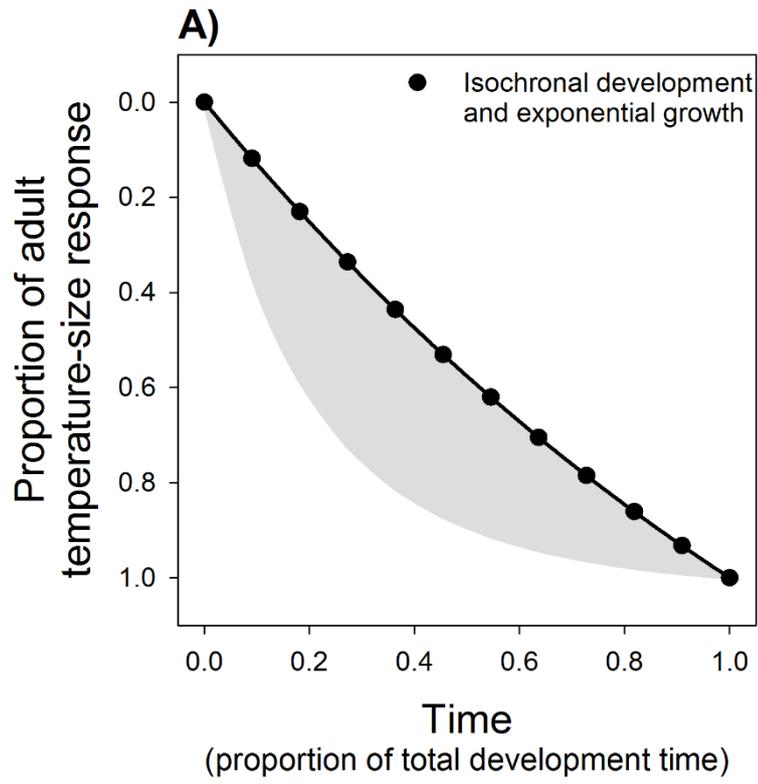


Figure 1

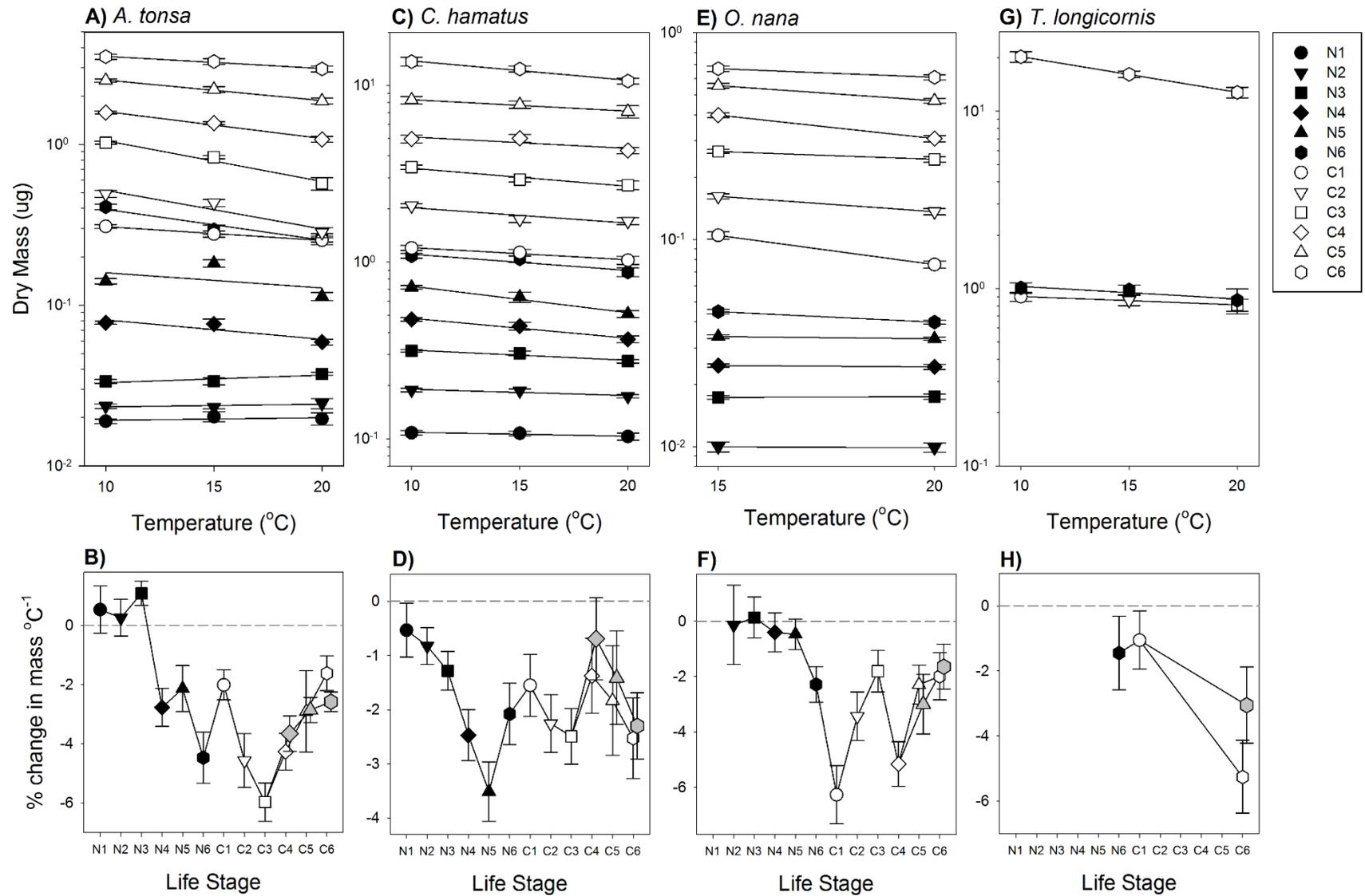


Figure 2

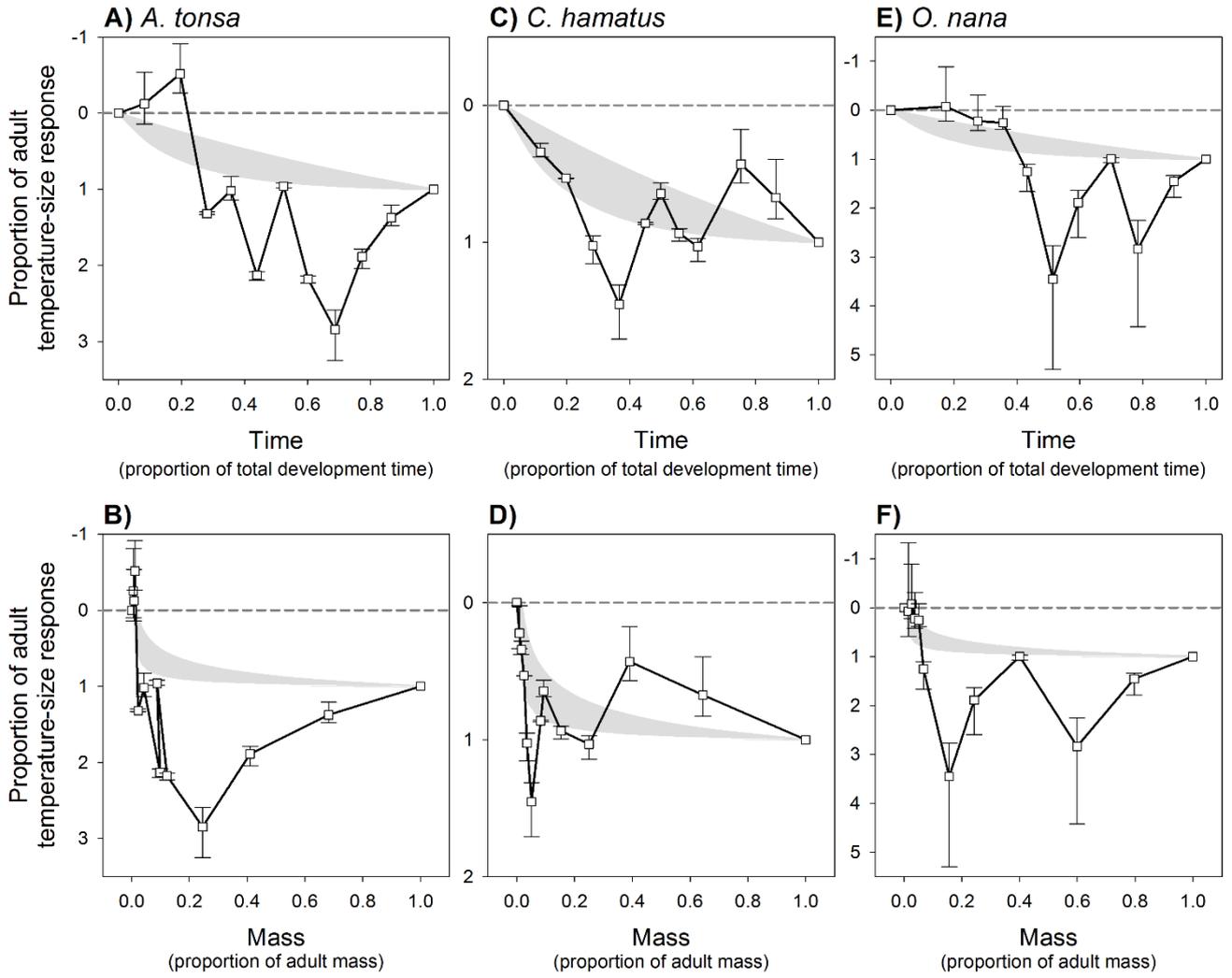


Figure 3

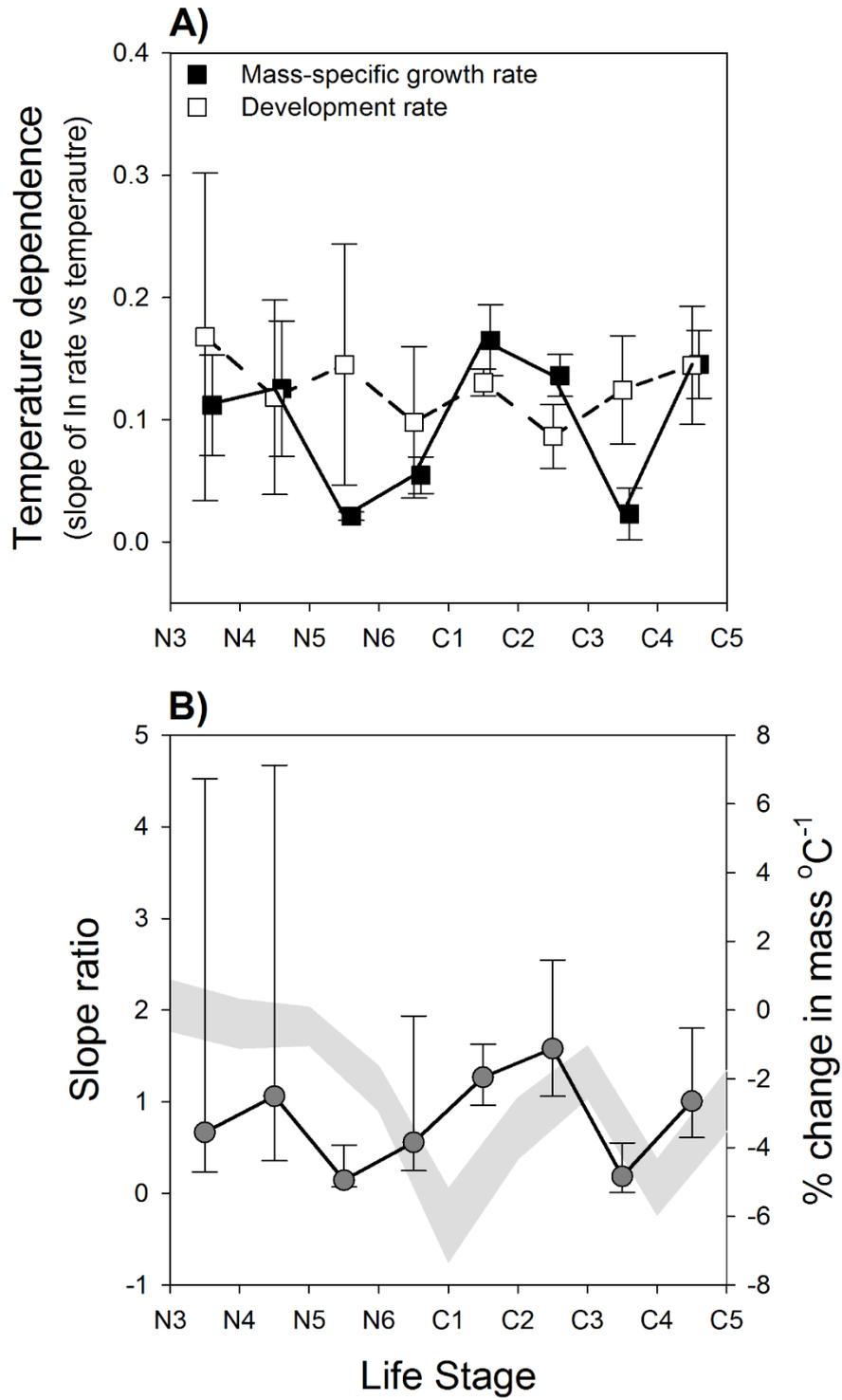


Figure 4

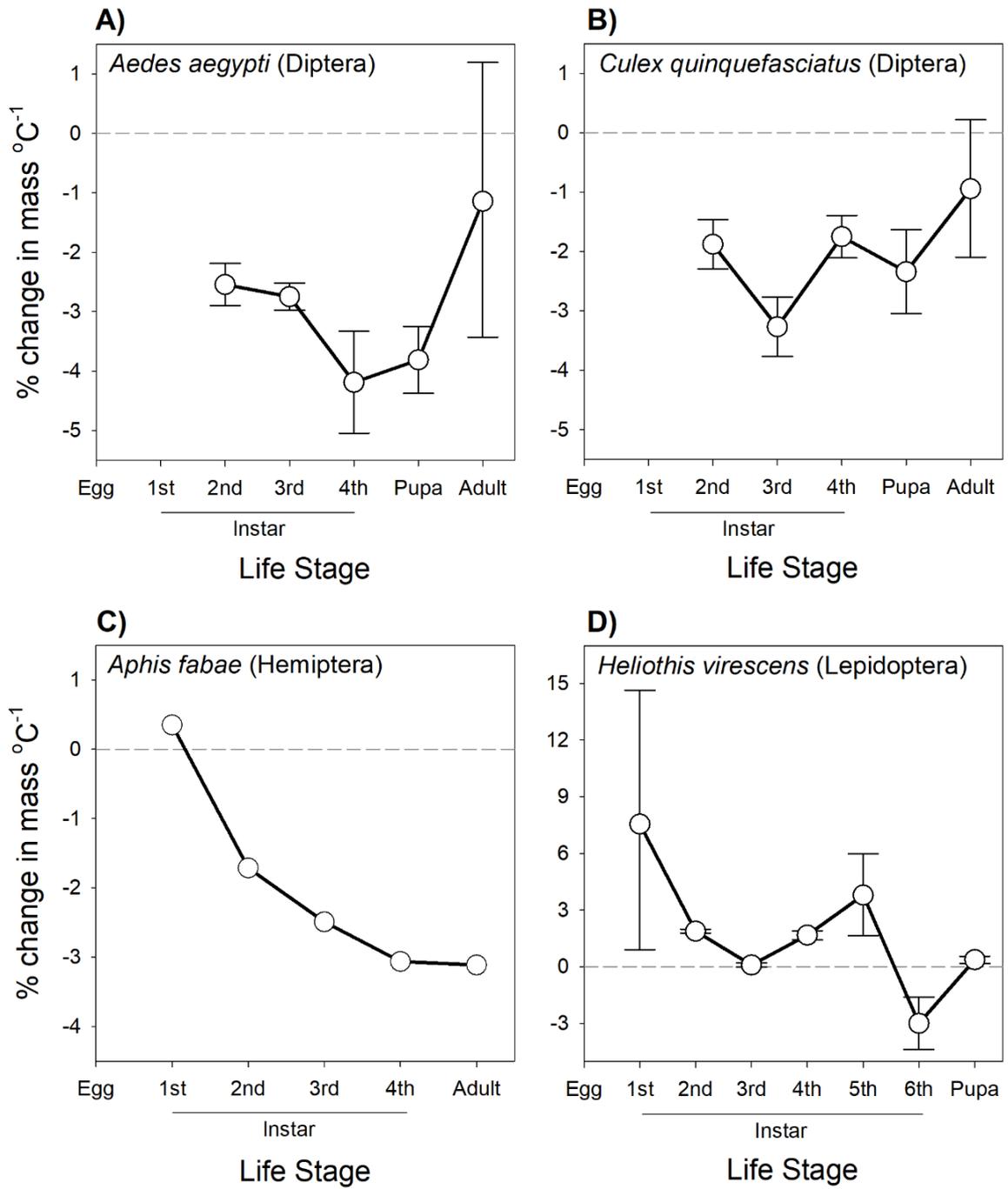


Figure 5