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1 **Natural selection on plasticity of thermal traits in a highly seasonal**
2 **environment**

3

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24 **Abstract**

25 This preprint has been reviewed and recommended by Peer Community In Evolutionary
26 Biology (<http://dx.doi.org/10.24072/pci.evolbiol.100048>). For ectothermic species with broad
27 geographical distributions, latitudinal/altitudinal variation in environmental temperatures
28 (averages and extremes) are expected to shape the evolution of physiological tolerances and the
29 acclimation capacity (i.e., degree of phenotypic plasticity) of natural populations. This can create
30 geographical gradients of selection in which environments with greater thermal variability (e.g.,
31 seasonality) tend to favour individuals that maximize performance across a broader range of
32 temperatures compared to more stable environments. Although thermal acclimation capacity
33 plays a fundamental role in this context, it is unknown whether natural selection targets this trait
34 in natural populations. Here we addressed such an important gap in our knowledge by measuring
35 survival, through mark recapture integrated into an information-theoretic approach, as a function
36 of the plasticity of critical thermal limits for activity, behavioural thermal preference and the
37 thermal sensitivity of metabolism in the northernmost population of the four-eyed frog
38 *Pleurodema thaul*. Overall, our results indicate that thermal acclimation in this population is not
39 being targeted by directional selection, although there might be signals of selection on individual
40 traits. According to the most supported models, survival decreased in individuals with less
41 tolerance to cold when cold-acclimated (probably because daily low extremes are frequent
42 during the cooler periods of the year) and increased with body size. However, in both cases, the
43 directional selection estimates were non-significant.

44

45 **Keywords:** Amphibians, natural selection, physiological plasticity, acclimation, *Pleurodema*
46 *thaul*, Atacama Desert

47 **Introduction**

48 It is well known that environmental temperature (T_a) is the abiotic factor with major
49 incidence in the evolution, ecology and physiology of most of the biodiversity in the planet
50 (Angilletta 2009 and references therein). The effects of T_a are particularly relevant for
51 ectotherms as their body temperature depends on T_a and therefore any change in T_a affects their
52 fitness and performance (e.g. behaviour, growth, reproduction, metabolism). This relationship
53 between performance and temperature has been described by a thermal performance curve (TPC)
54 (Huey & Berrigan 2001; Angilletta 2009) which has often been used to describe the thermal
55 ecology and evolution of ectotherms (Gilchrist 1995; Huey & Kingsolver 1989), their phenotypic
56 plasticity (Schulte et al. 2011), and to predict their responses to climate change (Clusella-Trullas
57 et al. 2011; Sinclair et al. 2016). The TPC is best captured by three parameters: a minimum
58 critical temperature (CT_{Min}), which represents T_a below which performance is minimum; a
59 maximum critical temperature (CT_{Max}), which represents T_a above which performance is also
60 minimum and an optimum temperature (T_{Opt}), which represents T_a at which performance is
61 maximum. Most of these parameters can exhibit geographic variation depending on the
62 particular environmental context (e.g., local climate) and genetic background of populations
63 (Gilchrist 1996; Kingsolver et al. 2004; Latimer et al. 2011). Furthermore, this geographic
64 variation has the potential to create gradients of selection for TPCs across the species distribution
65 (Kingsolver & Gomulkiewicz 2003) shaping thermal sensitivities, tolerances and thermal
66 acclimation capacities (i.e., thermal plasticity) of local populations (Seebacher et al. 2012;
67 Gaitan-Espitia et al. 2014).

68 Different climate-related hypotheses have been proposed to explain how physiological
69 tolerances, capacities and their plasticity affect the distributional ranges of species (Bozinovic et

70 al. 2011). One of them, the climate variability hypothesis (CVH), offers a powerful conceptual
71 framework to explore the interactions between environmental variability and physiological
72 performance of ectotherms (e.g., Gaitan-Espitia et al. 2013; 2014). The CVH predicts that
73 organisms inhabiting more variable environments should have broader ranges of environmental
74 tolerance and/or greater physiological plasticity that enable them to cope with the fluctuating
75 environmental conditions (e.g., seasonality) (Ghalambor et al. 2006; Gaitan-Espitia et al. 2017).
76 In agreement with this hypothesis, other theoretical models have explored the evolutionary
77 mechanisms underlying local thermal adaptation across heterogeneous environments (e.g.,
78 Generalist-Specialist models). For instance, the model developed by Lynch and Gabriel (1987),
79 predicts that temporal environmental heterogeneity selects for more broadly adapted individuals,
80 whereas in more constant environments the model developed by Gilchrist (1995), predicts that
81 selection should favor thermal specialists with narrow performance breadth. The mechanistic
82 understanding of these conceptual frameworks has improved with recent studies showing how in
83 thermally variable environments directional selection acts on TPC's parameters favoring
84 organisms that maximize performance across a broader range of temperatures (Logan et al. 2014)
85 despite the ability of ectotherms to thermoregulate behaviorally (Buckley et al. 2015).
86 Notwithstanding this progress, whether natural selection targets thermal acclimation capacity
87 (i.e., plasticity) itself in natural populations remains unknown.

88 In addition to increasing mean temperatures, it is known that climate change is changing
89 the frequency and intensity of extreme temperatures and events (Rahmstorf & Coumou 2011;
90 Wang & Dillon 2014; Vazquez et al. 2016). This, in turn, suggests that both averages and
91 variances will have an important impact on different performance related traits (e.g. Lardies et al.

92 2014; Vasseur et al. 2014; Bartheld et al. 2017). Nevertheless, we still do not know whether
93 selection might also target traits as a function of those extremes.

94 In this context, populations inhabiting highly seasonal environments characterized also by
95 daily extreme temperatures, provide a natural laboratory to evaluate the role of natural selection
96 on the plasticity of critical thermal limits and preferences. We addressed such important gaps in
97 our knowledge by measuring for the first time survival as a function of the plasticity of thermal
98 critical temperatures (CT_{Max} and CT_{Min}), preferred temperature (T_{Pref}) and thermal sensitivity of
99 metabolism (Q_{10} ; the magnitude of change in metabolic rate for a 10°C change in T_a) after
100 acclimation to 10°C and 20°C in the northernmost population of the four-eyed frog *Pleurodema*
101 *thaul*. We tested four predictions regarding phenotypic selection and plasticity that built up from
102 previous findings showing that acclimation to warmer temperatures produces an increase in the
103 upper but not in the lower limits of the thermal performance curve (Ruiz-Aravena et al. 2014)
104 (Fig. 1). First, the high seasonality should select for plasticity in TPC parameters and therefore,
105 the plasticity itself should currently be under directional selection. Second, if daily high extreme
106 temperatures were frequent, then we would expect positive directional selection on CT_{max} when
107 warm as well as cold acclimated. Third, if daily low extremes were frequent, then we would
108 expect negative directional selection on CT_{min} during the cooler periods of the year. Fourth, as
109 energy inputs are limited, the energetic definition of fitness indicates that individuals with higher
110 maintenance costs (i.e. resting metabolic rate) would have less energy available to allocate to
111 growth, reproduction and/or performance. The main prediction of this principle is that natural
112 selection should maximize the residual available energy, and therefore, higher maintenance costs
113 would be associated with lower fitness if no compensations in other functions occur (Bacigalupe

114 & Bozinovic 2002; Artacho & Nespolo 2009). Thus, our final prediction is that Q_{10} is not under
115 directional selection.

116

117 **METHODS**

118 *Study organism and laboratory maintenance*

119 Eighty-three adults individuals of *P. thaul* were captured during September 2012 on two
120 small ponds at Carrera Pinto (27°06'40.2'' S, 69°53'44.3'' W; 2,000 m.a.s.l.), a small oasis in the
121 Atacama Desert that is known to be the northernmost population of the species (Correa et al.
122 2007). In both ponds, we performed an exhaustive search across microhabitats (below rocks, in
123 the vegetation and in the water). All individuals were transported to the laboratory (Universidad
124 Austral de Chile, Valdivia) within 2 – 3 days of capture. Following capture all animals were
125 marked by toe clipping and maintained in the laboratory for one month at a temperature of $20^{\circ} \pm$
126 2°C and with a photoperiod 12D:12L. Animals were housed ($N = 5$) in terraria (length x width x
127 height: 40 x 20 x 20 cm) provided with a cover of moss and vegetation and a small recipient
128 filled with water. Individuals were fed once a week with mealworms (*Tenebrio sp.* larvae) and
129 Mazuri® gel diets.

130

131 *Acclimation and thermal traits*

132 After one month at maintenance conditions, in a split cross design half the frogs were
133 acclimated to either 10°C or 20°C for two weeks before measuring thermal traits. Frogs were
134 randomly assigned to the first acclimation temperature using a coin. Next they were acclimated
135 to the other temperature and again measured thermal traits. We chose these acclimation
136 temperatures because they are close to the mean minimum temperatures during the breeding

137 season (August - October, 10°C) and to the mean temperatures during the active period of the
138 species (20°C) at Carrera Pinto (www.cr2.cl). None of the investigators were blinded to the
139 group allocation during the experiments.

140 Critical temperatures were determined as the environmental temperature at which an
141 individual was unable to achieve an upright position within 1 minute (Ruiz-Aravena et al. 2014).
142 Each individual was placed in a small chamber inside a thermo-regulated bath (WRC-P8,
143 Daihan, Korea) at 30°C (CT_{Max}) or 5°C (CT_{Min}) for 15 minutes, after which the bath temperature
144 was increased (or decreased) at a rate of 0.8°C per minute (Rezende et al. 2011). Every minute or
145 at every 1°C change, the chamber was turned upside down and we observed if the animal was
146 able to return to the upright position. When an animal was unable to achieve an upright position
147 within 1 minute it was allowed to recover at ambient temperature (CT_{Min}) or for 30 minutes in a
148 box with ice packs (CT_{Max}). Body mass (a proxy of body size) was obtained before each trial
149 using a Shimadzu TX323L electronic balance.

150 Preferred temperature (T_{Pref}) was determined simultaneously for five individuals in five
151 open-top terraria (length x width x height: 85 x 12 x 30 cm). Each terrarium had a thermal
152 gradient between 10°C and 30°C produced by an infrared lamp overhead (250 W) on one end,
153 and ice packs on the other. The organic gardening soil was moisturized at the beginning of each
154 trial to prevent the desiccation of the frogs. Five individuals were placed at the centre of each one
155 of the terraria and 45 minutes later we registered T_{Pref} as the dorsal body temperature (T_b) using a
156 UEi INF155 Scout1 infrared thermometer. Dorsal and cloacal T_b are highly associated ($r_P =$
157 0.99) (see Ruiz-Aravena et al. 2014 for details). Body mass was obtained before each trial using
158 a Shimadzu TX323L electronic balance.

159 Standard metabolic rate, measured through oxygen consumption at 20°C and 30°C was
160 measured continuously using an infrared O₂ - CO₂ analyzer (LI-COR LI6262, Lincoln, NV,
161 USA). The analyzer was calibrated periodically against a precision gas mixture. Although there
162 was almost no difference between calibrations, baseline measurements were performed before
163 and after each recording. Flow rates of CO₂ – free air was maintained at 100 ml min⁻¹ ± 1% by a
164 Sierra mass flow controller (Henderson, NV, USA). We used cylindrical metabolic chambers (60
165 ml) covered by metal paper. O₂ consumption was recorded during 45 minutes per individual.
166 Each record was automatically transformed by a macro program recorded in the ExpeData
167 software (Sable Systems), to (1) transform the measure from % to mlO₂ min⁻¹, taking into
168 account the flow rate and (2) to eliminate the first 5 min of recordings. For each individual, the
169 metabolic sensitivity (Q₁₀) was calculated as the ratio between metabolic rate measured at 30°C
170 and metabolic rate measured at 20°C.

171

172 *Selection on thermal traits*

173 After the experiments, all frogs were put back to 20°C for at least one month before
174 releasing them. Marked frogs were released at Carrera Pinto in April 2013 and their survival was
175 monitored on three separate recapture efforts (13th October 2013, 13th June and 9th September
176 2014). As the desert surrounds these two small ponds dispersal was not a concern.
177 The relationship between trait plasticity and survival was analyzed using a Cormack-Jolly-Seber
178 (CJS) framework in Program MARK. An overall goodness of fit test was run using U-Care to
179 ensure the data were consistent with the assumed structure of the CJS model and to obtain a
180 value for the over dispersion parameter (c-hat). The time interval between capture occasions (as
181 a fraction of 1 year and considering also the original capture event) was included in the analysis

182 to accommodate the unequal intervals. The resulting resighting and survival estimates were
183 therefore corrected to annual estimates. Survival and resighting parameters were obtained in a
184 two-stage process. First, the best-fit resighting model was identified from three candidate models
185 (constant, time dependent, and a linear trend). The fit of the three candidate resighting models
186 was compared using survival modeled as both a constant and a time-dependent rate, to ensure
187 that selection of the best-fit resighting model was not influenced by choice of survival model.
188 Once the best-fit resighting model was identified (using AICc), it was then retained for all
189 candidate models. A model selection and an information-theoretic approach (Burnham &
190 Anderson 2003) was employed to contrast the adequacy of different working hypotheses (the
191 candidate models) of selection on trait plasticity. The number of candidate models was kept to a
192 minimum to minimize the likelihood of spurious results (Burnham & Anderson 2003; Lucaks et
193 al. 2010). Body mass showed a positive relationship with CT_{Max_20} ($r_P = 0.47$) and with T_{Pref_10}
194 ($r_P = 0.24$) but was not associated with any other trait (results not shown). Therefore, we tested
195 only for a null model (i.e. neither trait under selection), a model with body mass and models with
196 directional selection for each trait separately and also for correlational selection (interaction of
197 trait combinations) in the same trait at both acclimation temperatures, which indicates plasticity.
198 Body mass was included as a covariate in the case of CT_{Max_20} and T_{Pref_10} (Table 1). All analyses
199 were performed in R version 3.1.3 employing package RMark (Laake 2013). No transformation
200 was required to meet assumptions of statistical tests. Survival in relation to each covariate was
201 obtained as the model averaged value across all candidate models weighted by individual model
202 probability (Table 1).

203

204

205 **RESULTS**

206 All measured traits including critical thermal limits (CT_{Max} , CT_{Min}), thermal preference
207 (T_{Pref}) and sensitivity of metabolic rate to temperature (Q_{10}) showed high variance among
208 individuals (Fig. 2). In addition, for all traits some individuals shifted their thermal traits to
209 higher values when acclimated to high temperatures, but other individuals showed the reverse
210 response, that is their traits shifted to lower values after acclimation at higher temperatures (Fig.
211 3).

212 Only 5 out of 28 correlations between physiological traits were statistically significant,
213 and these involved mostly critical thermal limits. In particular $CT_{Max_{20}}$ was negatively correlated
214 with $CT_{Min_{10}}$ ($r_P = -0.57$) and $CT_{Max_{10}}$ ($r_P = -0.41$) whilst it was positively correlated with $Q_{10_{20}}$
215 ($r_P = 0.26$). Additionally, $CT_{Max_{10}}$ was positively correlated with $CT_{Min_{10}}$ ($r_P = 0.31$) and
216 negatively correlated with $CT_{Min_{20}}$ ($r_P = -0.25$).

217 The overall goodness of fit measure for the CJS model indicated a moderate level of
218 over-dispersion ($c\text{-hat} = 2.65$, $P = 0.103$), however with only 3 recapture occasions it was not
219 possible to identify an alternative starting model and the basic CJS model was adopted as the
220 basis for subsequent model fitting, with unexplained over-dispersion controlled using the $c\text{-hat}$
221 adjustment. A constant resighting rate was the best-fit model irrespective of whether survival
222 was modeled as a constant or time dependent rate (Table 1). Consequently, the constant rate-
223 resighting model was retained for subsequent modeling of survival. The model selection
224 procedure indicated that from the 13 candidate models tested, there was not a single best-fit one
225 (Table 1). In particular, the null model was the most supported (Akaike weight of 0.220), whilst
226 models including only directional selection on single traits still had some support, with a
227 cumulative Akaike weight of almost 60% (Table 1). Models including correlational selection

228 (i.e. plasticity) showed rather weak empirical support (Table 1). Overall, survival decreased as
229 values of most of the traits increased in both, warm and cold acclimated conditions (Table 2,
230 Figure 4).

231

232 **DISCUSSION**

233 To understand how organisms adapt to highly fluctuating environments and whether they will be
234 able to adaptively respond to current climate change, we need to evaluate whether selection in
235 nature targets plasticity itself. Populations inhabiting highly seasonal environments that also
236 experience daily extreme temperatures, provide excellent opportunities to test predictions of the
237 fitness consequences of such thermal variation on the plasticity of critical thermal limits and
238 preferences. Here, to the best of our knowledge for the first time, we studied natural selection on
239 thermal acclimation capacity of performance (CT_{Max} and CT_{Min}), metabolism (Q_{10}) and
240 behaviour (T_{Pref}). Our results indicate that thermal acclimation in this population is not being
241 targeted by directional selection, although there might be signals of selection on individual traits.
242 In part, the relatively weak evidence for natural selection on this system might be a consequence
243 of the small sample size we used ($N = 83$), the few recaptures we carried out ($n = 3$) and the
244 relatively high value of \hat{c} in the analyses, which penalizes models on the basis of parameter
245 number. This prevented us not only from evaluating more complex models (i.e. non linear
246 selection) but also resulted in estimates of directional selection with rather large SEs and
247 therefore with 95% confidence intervals that contained the zero in all cases.

248 Some theoretical models of thermal adaptation across heterogeneous environments (e.g.,
249 climate variability hypothesis, generalist-specialist models) suggest that temporal environmental
250 heterogeneity selects for more broadly adapted individuals (Lynch and Gabriel, 1987; Gilchrist

251 1995), favoring increased plasticity particularly in thermal tolerance traits (Gunderson &
252 Stillman 2015). Based on these models we predicted that the high seasonality should select for
253 high plasticity in thermal traits and therefore, the plasticity itself should currently be under
254 directional selection. Our prediction turned out to be incorrect as models including plasticity
255 showed relatively weak support.

256 Frogs of *P. tahul* in the Atacama Desert, the northernmost population of this species, are
257 exposed to large daily and seasonal oscillations in environmental temperatures. The ratio
258 between daily and annual thermal ranges (O'Donnell & Ignizio 2012) experienced by this
259 extreme population (0.65) is ca. 15% higher than that of a population 2,000 km south (0.52),
260 which experiences narrower daily environmental temperatures at the center of the species'
261 distribution (Barria & Bacigalupe 2017). This means that the studied population experiences a
262 daily variation that is almost 65% of its seasonal variation. This high daily variation, in
263 combination with the fact that climate change is already changing the frequency and intensity of
264 extreme temperatures (Rahmstorf & Coumou 2011; Wang & Dillon 2014; Vasquez et al. 2017),
265 made us wonder whether selection in nature might also target thermal traits as a function of daily
266 extremes. As the cooler end of the thermal performance curve did not change through acclimation
267 to warmer temperatures (Ruiz-Aravena et al. 2014) we expected negative directional selection on
268 CT_{min} during the cooler but not the warmer periods of the year. Our results are in agreement with
269 the trend specified by this prediction, as survival decreased as CT_{min} increased (i.e. less tolerance
270 to cold) when cold-acclimated (albeit the estimate was non-significant), which was the second
271 most supported model (Table 1).

272 Although acclimation produced an increase in the upper limits of the thermal
273 performance curve in this population (Ruiz-Aravena et al. 2014), we expected positive

274 directional selection on CT_{max} when warm as well as cold-acclimated if daily high extreme
275 temperatures were frequent. Our results do not offer support for this prediction: there was a slight
276 trend for survival to decrease as CT_{max} increased under warm as well as under cold-acclimated
277 conditions. However, in both cases estimates were not statistically different from zero.
278 Nevertheless, this might suggest that selection could be favouring individuals that avoid hot
279 microhabitats, possibly by means of behavioural responses (Ruiz-Aravena et al. 2014). Indeed,
280 behavioural thermoregulation has been proposed as one key factor that prevents an evolutionary
281 response to selection to raising temperatures (Kearney et al. 2009; Huey et al. 2012; Buckley et
282 al. 2015). The fact that CT_{Max_20} was negatively correlated with CT_{Min_10} indicates that
283 individuals with higher cold tolerance might be the ones avoiding hot microhabitats, which opens
284 very interesting questions for further research.

285 Regarding the sensitivity of metabolism to temperature (Q_{10}) we expected that Q_{10} not to
286 be under directional selection. Our results are in (partial) agreement with that expectation, as the
287 rate at which survival changed with changes in Q_{10} was very small (Fig. 4, Table 2), although the
288 models with Q_{10} still showed some support (Table 1). Finally, we also expected no directional
289 selection on T_{Pref} as we have previously shown that acclimation to warmer temperatures
290 produced an increase in this trait (Ruiz-Aravena et al. 2014). Nevertheless, we found a non-
291 significant trend showing that survival decreased, although at a very low rate, as T_{Pref} increased,
292 which might suggest that selection favours those individuals that are able to avoid hot
293 microhabitats.

294 Our results indicate a positive trend of survival with body size (although the directional
295 selection estimate was non-significant), something that has been previously reported in the
296 literature (Aubin-Horth et al. 2005; Iida & Fujisaki 2007; Crosby & Latta 2013; Delaney &

297 Warner 2017). This is somewhat unsurprising, given that body mass is known to be positively
298 associated with several physiological traits that enhance performance (Castellano et al. 1999;
299 Madsen & Shine 2000; Hurlbert et al. 2008; Shepherd et al. 2008; Luna et al. 2009) including
300 plasticity itself (Whitman & Ananthakrishnan 2009). Our oasis population inhabits two highly
301 isolated ponds where other anuran competitors have not been observed, but there might be a risk
302 of predation by herons (*L.D.B. personal observation*), which could explain the positive selection
303 for body size. Nevertheless, further experimental work is needed to evaluate this possibility.

304 It is important to mention that we here measured plasticity in only one life stage. Likely
305 other ecological and physiological traits are also plastic in this species, and their responses to
306 acclimation might differ, also among different life stages. However, we still consider our results
307 show a signal and provide the first evidence that phenotypic plasticity is not an actual target of
308 selection in nature, but that daily climate extremes might be selecting for higher tolerance.
309 Nevertheless, further work including multiple traits and life stages and also in other populations,
310 should help to strengthen the trends found here into further generic hypotheses to clarify the role
311 of plasticity for the viability of ectotherm populations in nature.

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316 **Data:** data is available for download from the CSIRO Data Access Portal
317 (<https://data.csiro.au/dap/landingpage?pid=csiro:29733>) Doi: 10.4225/08/5a9727318bd0f

318

319 **Competing interests.** We declare we have no competing interests

320 **Author Contributions.** L.D.B conceptualized the study, designed the experimental procedures
321 and carried out the experiment with A.M.B., A.G.M., M.R.A. and J.D.G.E; M.T., B.S. and L.D.
322 B. analyzed the data and L.D.B., B.S. and J.D.G. wrote the paper with input from A.M.B and
323 M.R.A.

324

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328

329 **Ethics.** This study did not involve endangered or protected species and was carried out in strict
330 accordance with the recommendations in the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
331 of the Comisión Nacional de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica de Chile (CONICYT). All
332 experiments were conducted according to current Chilean law. The protocol was approved by the
333 Committee on the Ethics of Animal Experiments of the Universidad Austral de Chile.

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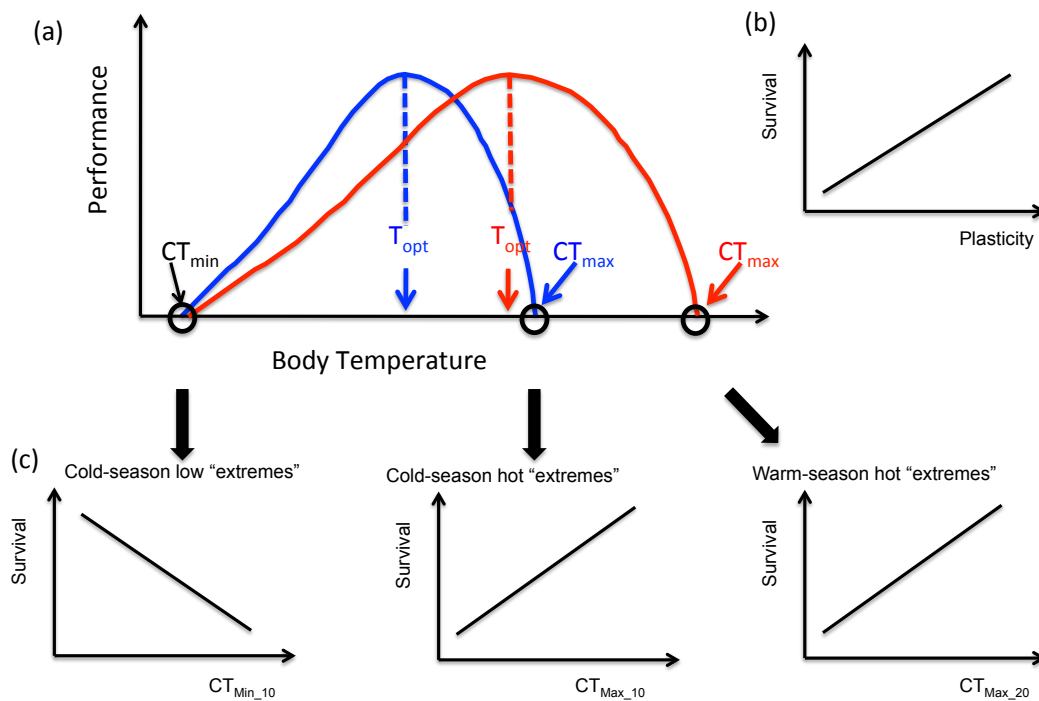
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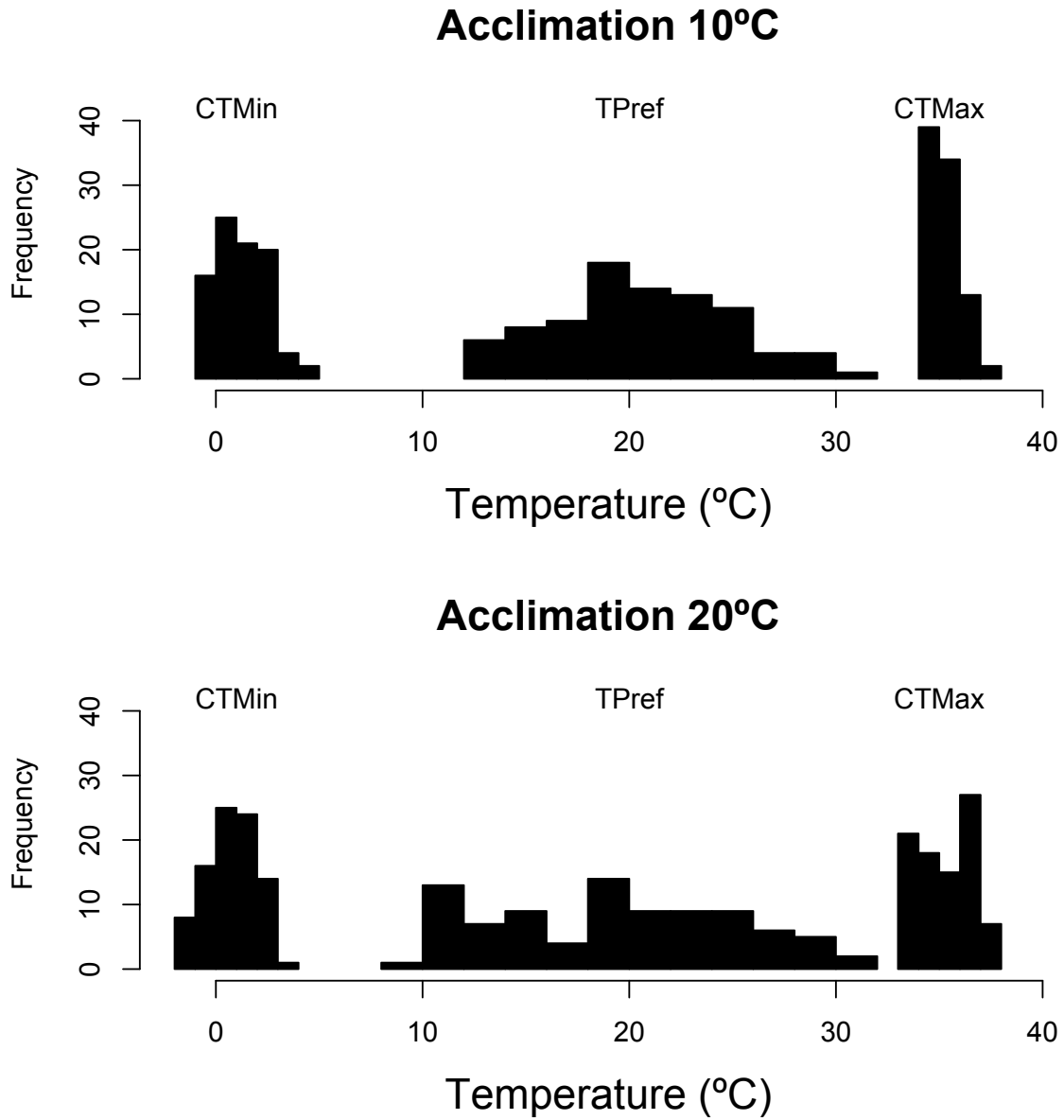
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507 **Figure 1.** Graphical representation of the theory tested in this study. (a) Predictions built up from
 508 findings showing that acclimation to warmer temperatures produces an increase in the upper but
 509 not in the lower limits of the thermal performance curve (Ruiz-Aravena et al. 2014). (b) The high
 510 seasonality should selected for plasticity and therefore, plasticity of all traits should currently be
 511 under directional selection. (c) If daily low extremes are frequent, negative directional selection
 512 on CT_{Min} during the cooler periods of the year is expected (left panel). If daily high extreme
 513 temperatures are frequent, positive directional selection on CT_{Max} during the warmer periods
 514 (right panel) as well as the cooler periods of the year is expected (middle panel). We predict no
 515 directional selection on T_{Pref} and Q_{10} at both acclimation temperatures and on CT_{Min} when warm
 516 acclimated. Cold acclimation is indicated by a $_{10}$ subscript while warm acclimation is indicated
 517 by a $_{20}$ subscript.



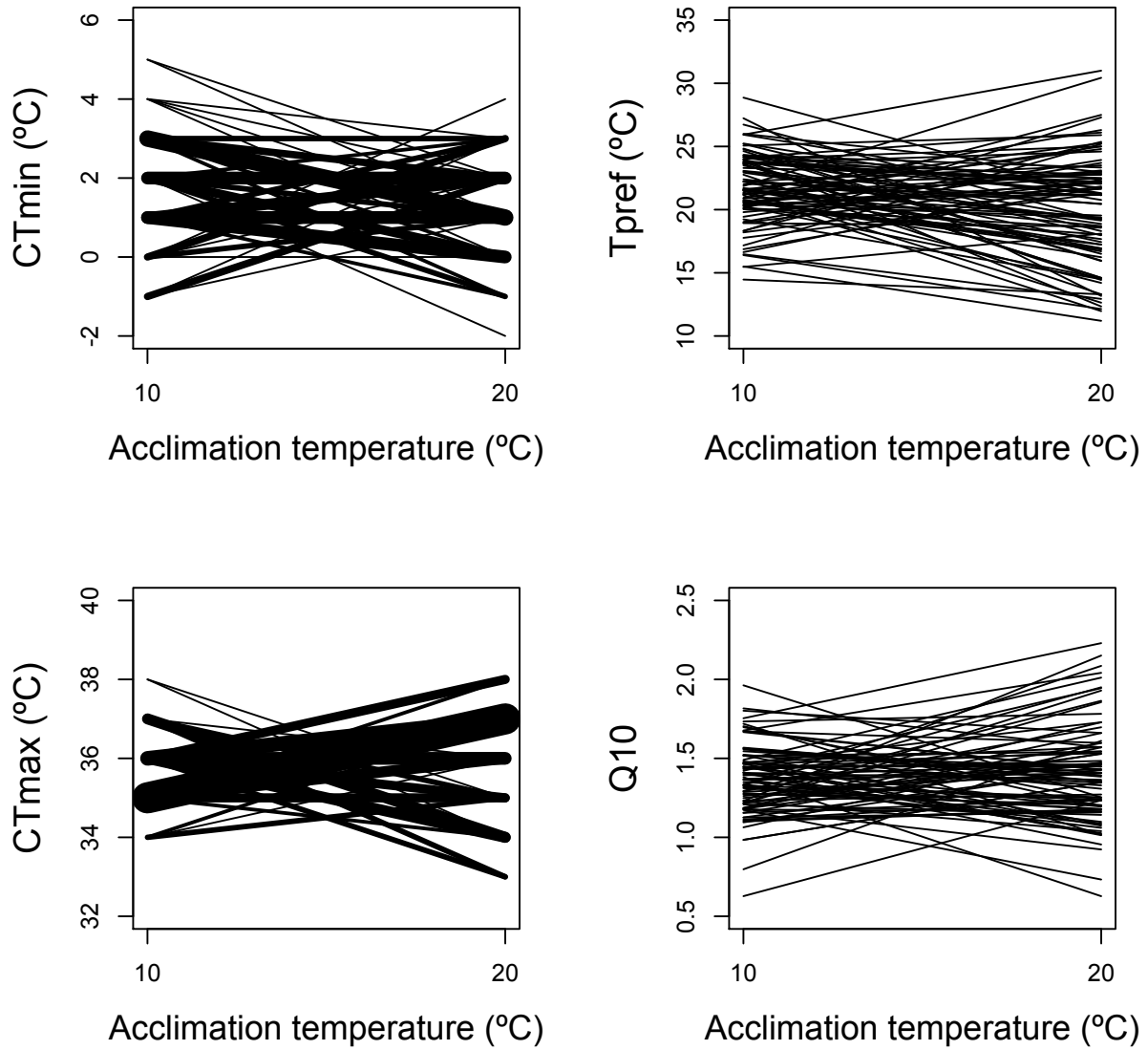
519 **Figure 2.** Frequency distribution of CT_{Min} , T_{Pref} and CT_{Max} of the four-eyed frog when
520 acclimated to 10°C and 20°C.



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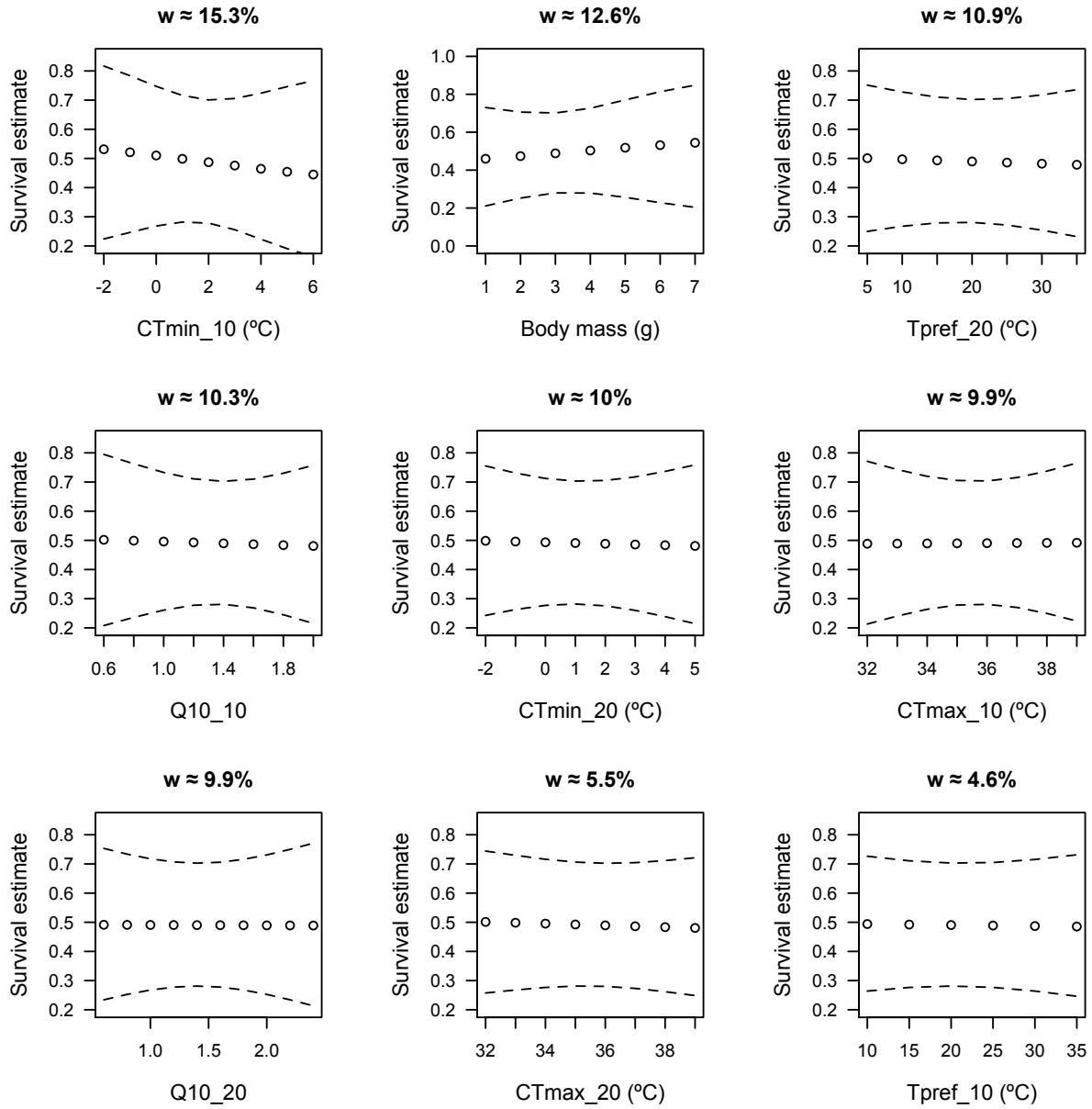
523 **Figure 3.** Individual plasticity in CT_{Min} , T_{Pref} , CT_{Max} and Q_{10} in response to 10 and 20°C
524 acclimation treatments. Each line represents the individual value of the given trait at each
525 acclimation temperature. For CT_{Min} and CT_{Max} the width of the line is directly proportional to the
526 number of individuals that showed that specific response.



527
528

529 **Figure 4.** Directional survival selection on various thermal traits sorted by model probabilities.

530 w : Akaike weights of the model.



531

532 **Table 1.** Candidate models ordered accordingly to their Akaike weights. Single term models
 533 represent directional selection (e.g. CT_{Max}) and correlational selection represents plasticity (e.g.
 534 $CT_{Max_10} * CT_{Max_20}$). CT_{Min} = minimum critical temperature; CT_{Max} = maximum critical
 535 temperature; T_{Pref} = preferred temperature; Q_{10} = thermal sensitivity of metabolism; MB = body
 536 mass. Cold acclimated is indicated by a $_10$ subscript while warm acclimated is indicated by a
 537 $_20$ subscript.
 538

Models	K	AICc	$\Delta AICc$	w_i
1 Null model	2	130.17	0	0.220
2 CT_{Min_10}	3	131.40	1.23	0.119
3 MB	3	131.78	1.61	0.098
4 T_{Pref_20}	3	132.08	1.90	0.085
5 Q_{10_10}	3	132.18	2.01	0.081
6 CT_{Min_20}	3	132.25	2.08	0.078
7 CT_{Max_10}	3	132.26	2.08	0.078
8 Q_{10_20}	3	132.26	2.09	0.077
9 $CT_{Min_10} + CT_{Min_20} + CT_{Min_10} * CT_{Min_20}$	5	133.38	3.21	0.044
10 MB + CT_{Max_20}	4	133.44	3.27	0.043
11 MB + T_{Pref_10}	4	133.82	3.64	0.036
12 $Q_{10_10} + Q_{10_20} + Q_{10_10} * Q_{10_20}$	5	134.17	4.00	0.030
13 MB + $T_{Pref_10} + T_{Pref_20} + T_{Pref_10} * T_{Pref_20}$	6	137.16	6.99	0.007
14 MB + $CT_{Max_10} + CT_{Max_20} + CT_{Max_10} * CT_{Max_20}$	6	137.62	7.45	0.005

539 K = number of parameters.
 540 AICc: AIC values corrected for small sample sizes.
 541 w_i : Akaike weights.
 542

543 **Table 2.** Directional selection estimates from single terms models with their standard errors (SE)
 544 and 95% confidence intervals (95% CI). CT_{Min} = minimum critical temperature; CT_{Max} =
 545 maximum critical temperature; T_{Pref} = preferred temperature; Q_{10} = thermal sensitivity of
 546 metabolism; MB = body mass. Cold acclimation is indicated by a $_{10}$ subscript while warm
 547 acclimation is indicated by a $_{20}$ subscript.
 548

Trait	Estimate	SE	95% CI
MB	0.209	0.212	-0.206 – 0.625
$CT_{Min_{10}}$	-0.248	0.187	-0.616 – 0.119
$CT_{Min_{20}}$	-0.030	0.181	-0.384 – 0.324
$T_{Pref_{10}}$	-0.025	0.059	-0.140 – 0.090
$T_{Pref_{20}}$	-0.026	0.042	-0.109 – 0.056
$CT_{Max_{10}}$	0.026	0.257	-0.477 – 0.530
$CT_{Max_{20}}$	-0.192	0.195	-0.575 – 0.191
$Q_{10_{10}}$	-0.475	1.140	-2.709 – 1.759
$Q_{10_{20}}$	-0.048	0.795	-1.607 – 1.510

549

Figure 1. Graphical representation of the predictions tested in this study. (a) Predictions built up from findings showing that acclimation to warmer temperatures produces an increase in the upper but not in the lower limits of the thermal performance curve (Ruiz-Aravena et al. 2014). (b) The high seasonality should have selected for plasticity and therefore, plasticity of all traits should not currently be under directional selection. (c) If daily low extremes are frequent, we expect negative directional selection on CT_{Min} during the cooler periods of the year (left panel). If daily high extreme temperatures are frequent, we expect positive directional selection on CT_{Max} during the warmer periods (right panel) as well as the cooler periods of the year (middle panel). We predict no directional selection on T_{Pref} and Q_{10} at both acclimation temperatures and on CT_{Min} when warm acclimated. Cold acclimated is indicated by a $_{10}$ subscript while warm acclimated is indicated by a $_{20}$ subscript.

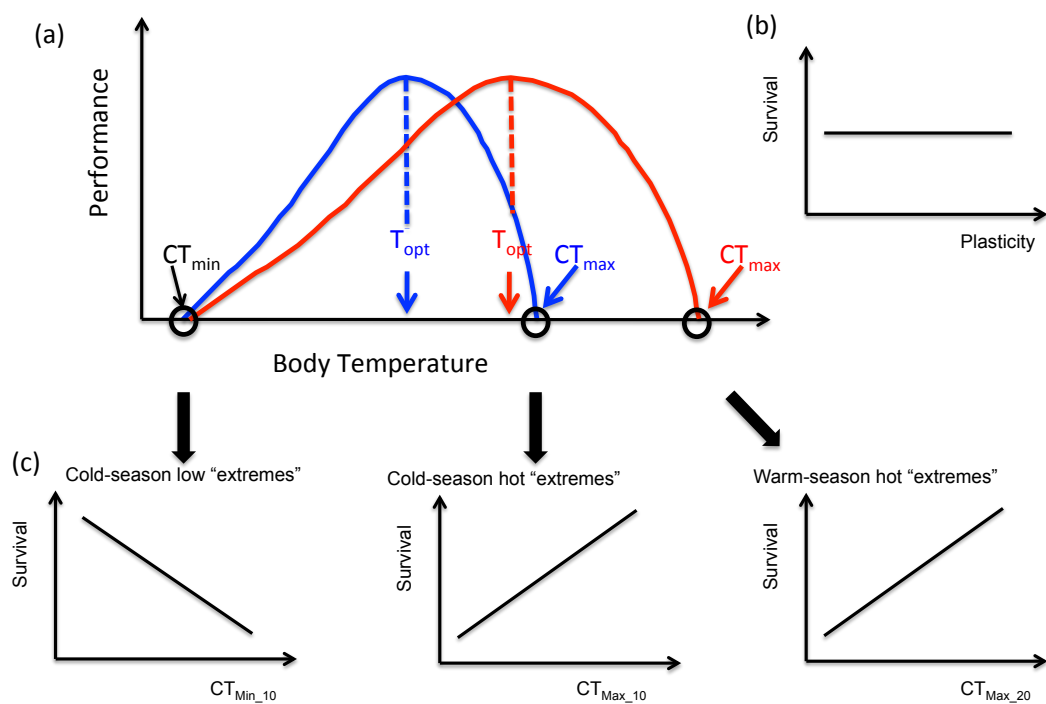


Figure 2. Frequency distribution of CT_{Min} , T_{Pref} and CT_{Max} of the four-eyed frog when acclimated to 10°C and 20°C.

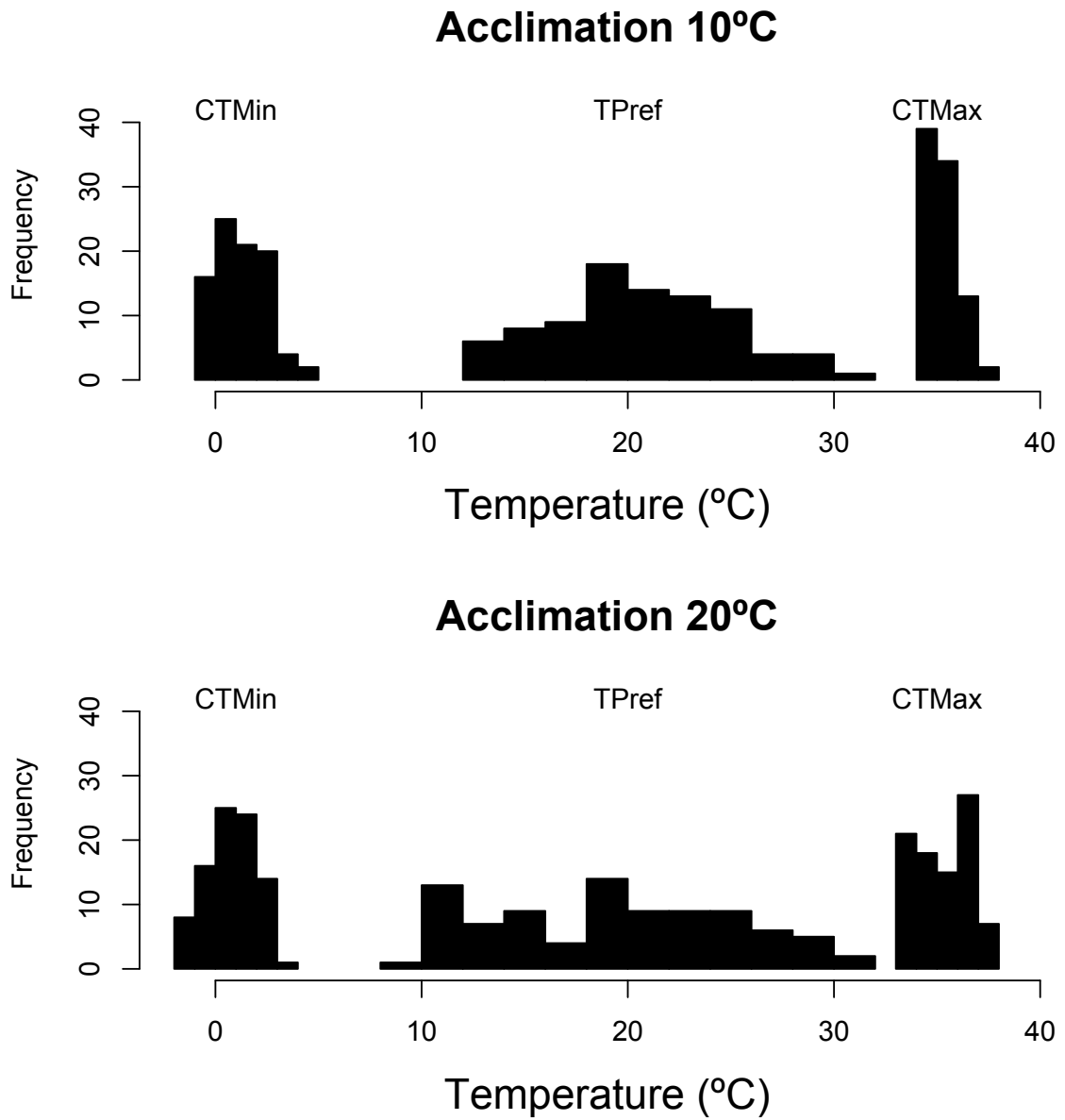


Figure 3. Individual plasticity in CT_{Min} , T_{Pref} , CT_{Max} and Q_{10} to 10 and 20°C acclimation treatments. Each line represents the individual value of the specific traits at each temperature. For CT_{Min} and CT_{Max} the width of the line is directly proportional to the number of individuals that showed that specific response.

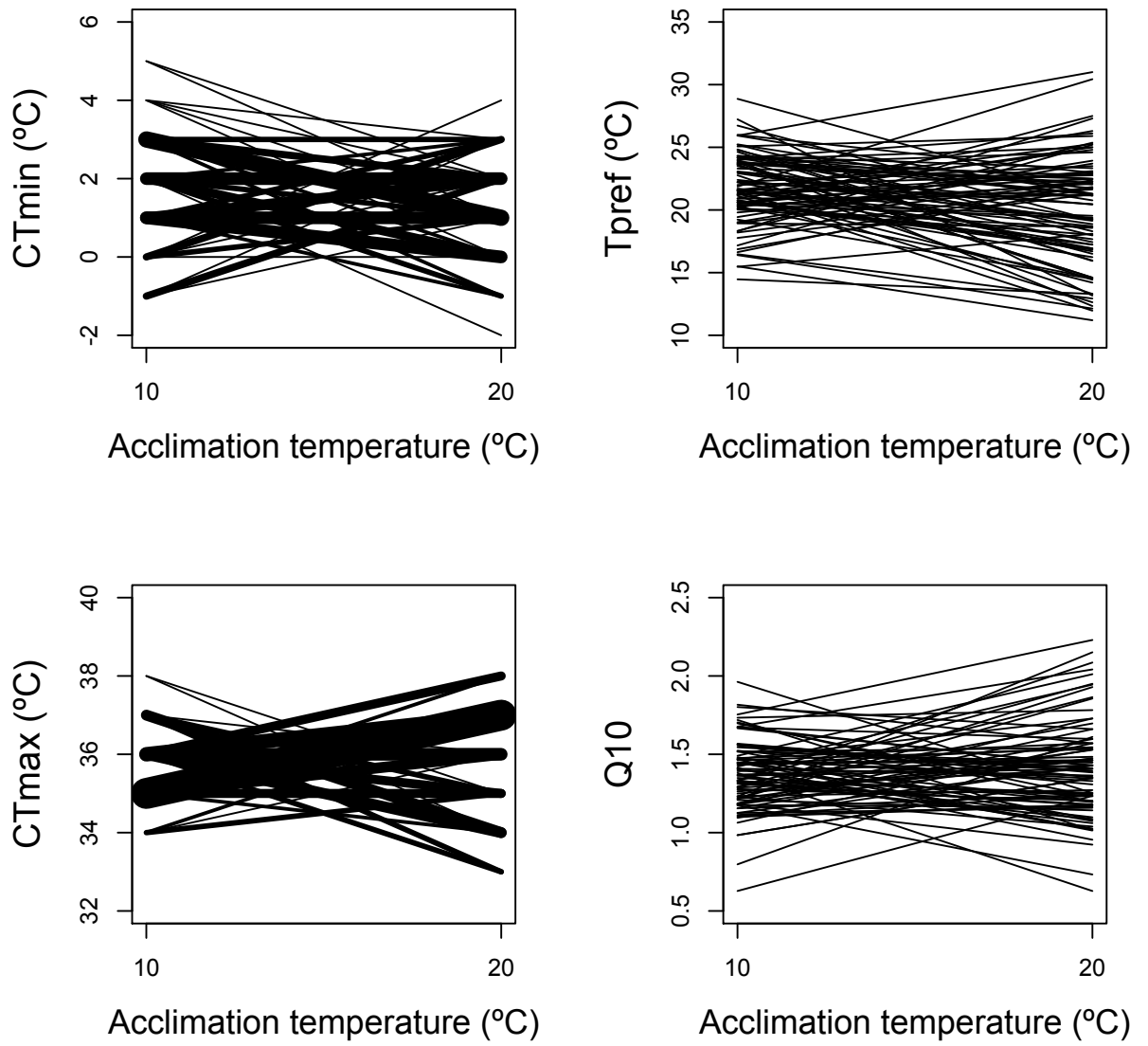


Figure 4. Survival estimates of simple directional selection sorted by model probabilities.

w : Akaike weights of the model.

