

1 **Title**

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3 Ocean acidification increases susceptibility to sub-zero air temperatures in ecosystem engineers

4 (*Mytilus* sp.): a limit to poleward range shifts

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32 Blue mussel; Intertidal; Fatty acids; LLT₅₀; Multiple stressors; Thermal tolerance

33

34 **Abstract**

35 Ongoing climate change has caused rapidly increasing temperatures, and an unprecedented decline
36 in seawater pH, known as ocean acidification. Increasing temperatures are redistributing species
37 towards higher and cooler latitudes which are most affected by ocean acidification. Whilst the
38 persistence of intertidal species in cold environments is related to their capacity to resist sub-zero air
39 temperatures, studies have never considered the interacting impacts of ocean acidification and freeze
40 stress on species survival and distribution. A full-factorial experiment was used to study whether
41 ocean acidification increases mortality in *Mytilus* spp. following sub-zero air temperature exposure.
42 We examined physiological processes behind variation in freeze tolerance using ¹H NMR
43 metabolomics, analyses of fatty acids, and amino acid composition. We show that low pH conditions
44 (pH = 7.5) significantly decrease freeze tolerance in both intertidal and subtidal populations of
45 *Mytilus* spp. Under current day pH conditions (pH = 7.9), intertidal *M. trossulus* were more freeze
46 tolerant than subtidal *M. trossulus* and *M. galloprovincialis*. Opposite, under low pH conditions,
47 subtidal *M. trossulus* was more freeze tolerant than the other groups. We observed a marked shift
48 from negative to positive metabolite-metabolite correlations across species under low pH conditions,
49 but there was no evidence that the concentration of individual metabolites or amino acids affected
50 freeze tolerance. Finally, pH-induced changes in the composition of cell membrane phospholipid
51 fatty acids had no effect on survival. These results suggest that ocean acidification can offset the
52 poleward expanding facilitated by warming, and that reduced freeze tolerance could result in a niche
53 squeeze if temperatures become lethal at the equatorward edge.

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62 **1. Introduction**

63 The rapid rise in atmospheric CO₂ concentration since the industrial revolution has increased global
64 air and water temperatures and caused ocean pH to decline (a process termed ocean acidification
65 [OA]) at rates unprecedented in the geological history (Hönisch et al., 2012). These environmental
66 changes are causing species range shifts and cascading ecological effects across the globe, resulting
67 in regime shifts and altered food web structures (Kortsch et al., 2012; Wernberg et al., 2016). For
68 example, the fish assemblage around the Svalbard archipelago, located in the Arctic Ocean (78°N),
69 is borealizing as Arctic species have retracted northwards to cooler areas while boreal species have
70 become dominant (Fossheim et al., 2015). Co-occurring OA is, furthermore, predicted to have severe
71 consequences for marine organisms and communities, and a large body of research has shown a wide
72 range of negative effects. Decreased pH weakens shell production (MacLeod and Poulin, 2015) and
73 increases dissolution in calcifying organisms, which are therefore generally more vulnerable to OA
74 compared to other organisms (Kroeker et al., 2010). Ocean acidification has also been found to
75 increase heart rates in some invertebrate species (Lim and Harley, 2018) and alter benthic community
76 structure (Brown et al., 2018). Elevated temperatures and OA have furthermore been observed to
77 interact in various ways, causing heterogenic physiological responses across species, depending on
78 taxon and life-stage (Harvey et al., 2013). Indeed, these two stressors may disproportionately alter
79 species interactions and biodiversity in marine ecosystems (Franzova et al., 2019; Nagelkerken and
80 Munday, 2016).

81 While the vast majority of OA and climate change research has focused on lower latitude systems,
82 studies have rarely considered the impacts on species at their poleward edge. The poleward edge of
83 subtidal ectotherms is determined by low water temperatures (Sunday et al., 2012), however the
84 distribution of intertidal species is also controlled by their capacity to tolerate sub-zero air
85 temperatures during emersion (Kennedy et al., 2020; Reid and Harley, 2021; Thyrring et al., 2019).

86 On rocky shores, canopy-forming macroalgae shelter the understory communities from extreme sub-
87 zero air temperatures (Sejr et al., 2021), and where cold enough, an ice foot forms on the rocky
88 surface, creating a warmer protective microhabitat increasing survivorship of intertidal organisms
89 residing below (Scrosati and Eckersley, 2007; Thyrring et al., 2017a). However, as temperatures
90 increase at the northern range edge where ice forms, organisms face sub-zero air temperatures when
91 emerged at low tides as the ice foot melts, offsetting the otherwise facilitative effect of ocean warming
92 on range expansions.

93 To survive sub-zero air temperature exposure, ectothermic animals depend on various freeze
94 tolerance mechanisms (Storey and Storey, 1996; Toxopeus and Sinclair, 2018), yet despite the
95 principle importance of freeze tolerance in sessile intertidal species, the underlying physiological
96 processes remain poorly understood (Kennedy et al., 2020). Suggested mechanisms behind freeze
97 mortality are excessive osmotic stress and structural damage to cell membranes, as ice forms in the
98 extracellular water, dehydrating the cell and destabilizing the membrane (Meryman, 1971; Storey and
99 Storey, 1988). To avoid cell dehydration, some species accumulate cryoprotectants, such as
100 metabolites (low molecular weight cryoprotectants), to protect against intracellular osmotic stress as
101 water is lost to the extracellular space. In intertidal bivalves, metabolites and anaerobic byproducts
102 such as trimethylamine n-oxide (TMAO), betaine, taurine and strombine, likely to act as
103 cryoprotectants, increasing freeze tolerance (Kennedy et al., 2020; Loomis et al., 1988). While under-
104 explored, it also appears that many intertidal species may have an array of ice binding proteins that
105 help manage ice growth and propagation (Box et al., 2022).

106 Freeze tolerance in some ectotherms is also associated with the composition of the cell membrane
107 phospholipid fatty acids, which are sensitive to temperature variation (Hazel, 1995). Functional
108 membranes must exist in a fluid liquid-crystalline phase maintained by the composition of the
109 phospholipids. Low temperatures decrease membrane fluidity, and the membrane becomes partly

110 dysfunctional, losing selective properties and leaking cell contents (Hazel 1995). Ectotherms can
111 counteract this effect by desaturating the membrane (increasing the proportion of unsaturated
112 phospholipids) and adjusting cholesterol levels. This mechanism, termed homeoviscous adaptation,
113 has been shown in a wide range of marine and terrestrial animals (Storey and Storey, 1988), and
114 intertidal bivalves can remodel phospholipids in response to temperature changes (Pernet et al., 2007;
115 Thyrring et al., 2017c; Williams and Somero, 1996). Despite this progress on the mechanisms of cold
116 and freeze tolerance in intertidal species, it is completely unknown whether OA interacts with these.
117 High latitude cold water is able to absorb significantly more CO₂ than lower latitude warmer water,
118 and therefore seawater pH is decreasing most rapidly at these latitudes (Fassbender et al., 2017).
119 Ocean acidification decreases pH in osmoconformers with a low capacity to regulate internal pH
120 levels (e.g., bivalves), which could lead to disruption of cellular processes, and shifts in osmotic
121 balance (Wittmann and Pörtner, 2013; Zhao et al., 2020). Thus, OA may decrease freeze tolerance
122 and increase animal vulnerability to sub-zero air temperature exposure, yet the interaction between
123 OA and freeze tolerance interactions remains to be explored.

124 Bivalves of the genus *Mytilus* are distributed in intertidal habitats in both the Northern and Southern
125 Hemisphere (Hilbish et al., 2000; Mathiesen et al., 2017). *Mytilus* sp. are commercially, and
126 ecologically important ecosystem engineers creating habitats for a diverse associated fauna and are
127 widely used as model organisms for studying impacts of various stressors (Barrett et al., 2022;
128 Telesca et al., 2019; Thyrring et al., 2015). *Mytilus* sp. can survive tissue freezing, and are expanding
129 at higher latitudes in response to global warming (Thyrring et al., 2017a), however, the performance
130 and survival of *Mytilus* sp. at their poleward edge remain poorly understood.

131 The focus of this study is two *Mytilus* spp. found in British Columbia, Canada; the invasive
132 Mediterranean mussel *M. galloprovincialis*, and the native bay mussel *M. trossulus*, allowing a
133 comparison of responses among native and invasive species. By investigating the effects of OA on

134 freeze tolerance in these species, we test the hypothesis that OA will generally increase mortality in
135 intertidal species living near their poleward range edge due to an increased susceptibility to sub-zero
136 air temperatures during emersion. Mussels from both the intertidal and subtidal realm were
137 investigated to detect whether previous exposure to air has any effects on freeze tolerance.
138 Specifically, we predict that (1) intertidal animals are more freeze tolerant than subtidal conspecifics,
139 (2) native *M. trossulus* is more freeze tolerant than *M. galloprovincialis*, and (3) OA will increase
140 freeze mortality in both species. Finally, we hypothesize that mechanistic processes including (I) a
141 destabilized cell membrane caused by variation in the unsaturation state of membrane phospholipids,
142 (II) and variation in the composition and concentration of selected molecular cryoprotectants will
143 explain variation in freeze tolerance.

144

145 **2. Materials and Methods**

146 *2.1 Animal collection and holding conditions*

147 Three categories of *Mytilus* mussels were collected on 8–10 December 2019 in the strait of Georgia,
148 British Columbia, Canada; 1) subtidal *M. galloprovincialis* obtained from an aquaculture farm at
149 Saltspring Island, 2) subtidal *M. trossulus* collected from floating docks at the Jericho Royal
150 Vancouver Yacht Club in the Burrard Inlet, and 3) intertidal *M. trossulus* collected at low tide from
151 Tower Beach in the Burrard Inlet (Collection permit number XMCFR 7 2019; Fisheries and Oceans
152 Canada). Intertidal *M. galloprovincialis* was not considered as no intertidal populations are
153 established in region. All mussels were kept for a 72-hour adjustment period in aerated aquaria of
154 similar environmental conditions as the collection site measured on the days of collection (7°C, pH
155 = 7.9, and salinity 20.5). No mussels died during the adjustment period.

156 Prior to sub-zero air temperature exposure, mussels were maintained in low (7.50 pH) or control (7.90
157 pH) conditions for 10 days using three incubators (Panasonic MIR 154, Panasonic, Japan) for low pH

158 conditions and three for control conditions (no mussels died during the 10 days). Each incubator was
159 set to 7°C and contained three 5L glass aquarium that held three envelopes of 0.5cm gauge, rigid
160 plastic mesh (25×24cm) that separated the three categories of mussel but allowed easy flow through
161 of seawater (salinity 20-21). Each envelope was marked with a different colored zip tie to indicate
162 which category of mussel it contained.

163

164 *2.2 Seawater manipulation*

165 The two selected pH conditions covered a realistic range of pH values currently observed or predicted
166 for the Southern Strait of Georgia; a control (pH = 7.9) and a low pH treatment (pH = 7.5) (Ianson et
167 al., 2016). The low pH treatment was established by using two Smart-Trak® mass flow controllers
168 (Sierra Instruments, Inc., CA, USA) to mix 100% CO₂ (PraxAir Canada Inc., CB, Canada) and CO₂-
169 free air, which was then bubbled into three acidified seawater aquaria to achieve target values of 7.50
170 pH. CO₂-free air was generated by using a small compressor to pump ambient air through a 500 mL
171 Nalgene canister that contained Soda Lime (Ormond Veterinary Supply Ltd., ON, Canada). A flow
172 rate of 3.3 cm³/s of 100% CO₂ gas and 4.11 L/min of CO₂-free air was used to reach the target pH.
173 Our system also removed moisture from ambient air to protect the mass flow controllers from water
174 damage. This was achieved by running the ambient-air gas lines through a small refrigerator to reduce
175 air temperature and cause water to precipitate into a water trap, and by installing a second 500 mL
176 Nalgene containing desiccant (WA Hammond Drierite, OH, USA) in series with the soda lime
177 container. Control conditions (7.90 pH) were maintained by mixing ambient air and CO₂-free air. The
178 use of CO₂-free air was necessary as ambient air was artificially high in CO₂ due to poor ventilation
179 in the lab. As with the low pH treatment, ambient air was pumped through a Soda Lime-filled 500
180 mL Nalgene canister using a small compressor before being connected to a three-way splitter and
181 bubbled into seawater aquaria, while ambient air was bubbled into the control aquaria using a second

182 set of tubes connected to low power aquarium air pumps (Fusion 700 Air Pump). Air flow from the
183 small aquarium pumps was fine-tuned by placing an adjustable clamp on the flexible tubing which
184 connected pump and air stone to increase or decrease the flow of CO₂ enriched ambient air to achieve
185 7.90 pH. Carbon dioxide in ambient “lab” air was monitored constantly using a Qubit S151 CO₂ gas
186 analyzer (Qubit Systems, ON, Canada), which showed that CO₂ fluctuated during the day between
187 400 ppm and 600 ppm CO₂ reaching the maximum during the day while people were working in the
188 lab. Consequently, the input of ambient air into control tanks was monitored and adjusted daily
189 (mainly during the day) to maintain target pH values. Prior to adjusting seawater pH, we mixed
190 filtered seawater (provided by the Vancouver Aquarium and transported by the City of Vancouver)
191 with de-chlorinated distilled fresh water to create a 20-21 ppt solution which was the salinity recorded
192 at the collection sites. Mussels were able to feed on phytoplankton naturally occurring in the water,
193 and we replaced 50% of the seawater from each tank daily to prevent the buildup of faeces and
194 maintain uniform seawater chemistry parameters.

195

196 *2.3 Carbonate chemistry*

197 Seawater pH was measured daily in all aquaria using a hand-held pH meter (Table 1 - Oakton pH 450
198 (± 0.01 pH), Oakton Instruments, IL, USA) calibrated with two saltwater buffers, as described in
199 (MacLeod et al., 2015) to provide pH measurements on the Total Hydrogen Ion Scale (pH_T). To
200 further characterize the seawater carbonate chemistry, seawater samples (300 mL) were collected
201 from one randomly selected aquarium in each incubator at the start and end of the experiment. These
202 samples were fixed with a saturated solution of mercuric chloride (RICCA Chemical Company, TX,
203 USA) and analyzed using the “burke-o-lator” at Hakai Institute (Quadra Island, BC, Canada) (for
204 details of this system see (Evans et al., 2019)). This analysis generated values for DIC and pCO₂
205 which were then used in combination with temperature and salinity data to calculate all relevant

206 carbonate parameters (Supplementary Table S1) using the MATLAB version of CO2SYS (van
207 Heuven et al., 2011).

208

209 2.4 Sub-zero temperature exposure

210 After 10 days, mussels were exposed to seven sub-zero air temperatures (-5, -6, -7, -8, -9, -12, -15
211 °C) for two hours by placing animals in individual plastic tubes inserted in wells drilled into a
212 precooled aluminum block cooled by refrigerated circulation baths (Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.,
213 MA, USA). Fifteen mussels (mean shell length 37.69 mm \pm 3.14 s.d.) from each mussel category
214 (subtidal *M. galloprovincialis* and *M. trossulus*, and intertidal *M. trossulus*) and pH condition (pH
215 =7.9 and pH = 7.5) were used at every temperature for a total of 720 mussels. Individual body
216 temperatures were recorded at 0.5 s intervals using Type-T thermocouples (Omega, QC, Canada)
217 placed next to the shell inside the plastic tube and connected to TC-08 thermocouples interfaces (Pico
218 Technology, United Kingdom) that interfaced to a computer running PICOLOG software (Picotech,
219 United Kingdom), which continuously monitored body temperatures. Continuously body temperature
220 monitoring allowed us to determine any exothermic release of heat owing to ice formation. The lowest
221 temperature prior to this event is termed the supercooling point (SCP), and the SCP indicates that
222 internal ice formation occurred. After two hours of sub-zero air exposure, all mussels were transferred
223 back to their respective pre-freezing pH condition aquaria for recovery where they were monitored
224 daily for five days to record mortality. Mortality was checked daily with mussels considered dead if
225 they did not close their shells when touched. Dead mussels were immediately removed from the
226 aquaria, and had their shell length measured to nearest mm.

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230 *2.5 Amino acid analysis*

231 Total amino acid analysis was performed on gill tissue from mussels collected after 10 days of pH
232 exposure (mean dry weight = 15.46 mg \pm 0.61 s.d., $n = 5$) at the Proteomics, Analytics, Robotics &
233 Chemical Biology Centre (SPARC - [https://lab.research.sickkids.ca/sparc-molecular-](https://lab.research.sickkids.ca/sparc-molecular-analysis/services/amino-acid-analysis/)
234 [analysis/services/amino-acid-analysis/](https://lab.research.sickkids.ca/sparc-molecular-analysis/services/amino-acid-analysis/)), Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, ON, Canada, using the
235 Water Pico-Tag System (Water Corporation, WA, USA). The final concentration of each amino acid
236 was calculated in $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{mg}^{-1}$ and then expressed as relative concentration (% of total amino acids). It
237 should be noted that this amino acid analysis did not allow discrimination between Asn/Asp and
238 Gln/Glu.

239

240 *2.6 Fatty acid analysis*

241 Fatty acid (FA) analyses were performed on gills (collected after 10 days of pH exposure), a tissue
242 exposed directly to temperature changes (mean wet weight = 0.38g \pm 0.1 s.d., $n = 5$). Total lipids
243 were extracted by grinding in a dichloromethane: methanol (2:1, v/v) solution following a slightly
244 modified Folch procedure (Parrish, 1999). Lipid extracts were separated into neutral and polar
245 fractions by column chromatography on silica gel micro-columns (30 \times 5 mm i.d., packed with
246 Kieselgel 60, 70–230 mesh; Merck, Germany) using chloroform: methanol (98:2, v/v) to elute neutral
247 lipids, followed by methanol to elute polar lipids (Marty et al., 1992). Fatty acid profiles were
248 determined on fatty acid methyl esters (FAMES) using sulphuric acid:methanol (2:98, v/v) and
249 toluene. FAMES of neutral and polar fractions were concentrated in hexane, and the neutral fraction
250 was purified on an activated silica gel with 1 ml of hexane:ethyl acetate (1:1 v/v) to eliminate free
251 sterols. FAMES were analyzed in the full scan mode (ionic range: 60–650 m/z) on a Polaris Q ion
252 trap coupled multi-channel gas chromatograph 'Trace GC ultra '(Thermo Scientific, USA) equipped
253 with an auto sampler model Triplus, a PTV injector and a mass detector model ITQ900 (Thermo

254 Scientific, USA). The separation was performed with an Omegawax 250 (Supelco) capillary column
255 with high-purity helium as a carrier gas. Data were treated using Xcalibur v.2.1 software (Thermo
256 Scientific, USA). Methyl nondecanoate (19:0) was used as an internal standard. FAMES were
257 identified and quantified using known standards (Supelco 37 Component FAME Mix and menhaden
258 oil; Supelco) and were further confirmed by mass spectrometry (Xcalibur v.2.1 software).

259

260 2.7 ¹H NMR analysis

261 One-dimensional, 600 MHz proton nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (¹H NMR) was used to
262 measure the metabolite profiles of gill tissue (collected after 10 days of pH exposure). ¹H NMR is
263 ideal for measuring low molecular weight, polar metabolites such as osmolytes and anaerobic
264 byproducts. Sample preparation was based on (Cappello et al., 2013). A 100 mg sample of gill tissue
265 was excised ($n = 5$), dried with a Kimwipe to remove excess water and frozen at -80°C . Frozen tissue
266 was homogenized in 400 μl cold methanol and 85 μl cold water-xylitol solution (5 mM xylitol as an
267 internal control) using a bead homogenizer (Bullet Blender 50 Gold Model: BBX24, Next Advance)
268 with approximately 200 μl of 3.2 mm round stainless steel beads, for 10 min at setting 8 in 1.5 ml
269 microcentrifuge vials. After adding 400 μl chloroform and 200 μl water to the samples, they were
270 vortexed for 60 s, left on ice for 10 min for phase separation, and centrifuged for 5 min at 2000 rpm.
271 The upper methanol layer (600 μl) containing the polar metabolites was transferred into new vials,
272 dried in a centrifugal vacuum concentrator (Eppendorf 5301), and then stored at -80°C . Immediately
273 prior to ¹H NMR analysis, the dried polar extracts were resuspended in 600 μl of 0.1 mol/l sodium
274 phosphate buffer (pH 7.0, 50% deuterium oxide, Sigma-Aldrich) containing 1 mmol/l 2,2-dimethyl-
275 2-sila-pentane-5-sulfonate (DSS; Sigma-Aldrich) as internal reference. The mixture was vortexed for
276 60 s and transferred to a 5 mm NMR tube.

277 ¹H NMR spectra were acquired using Bruker Avance 600 with cryoprobe and Bruker Avance III 600
278 spectrometers. TopSpin software version 2.1 (Bruker) was used to process spectra collected with the
279 Bruker Avance 600 spectrometer with cryoprobe, and TopSpin version 3.5 (Bruker) was used with
280 the Bruker Avance III 600 spectrometer. Experiments required 15 minutes of acquisition time and
281 were performed at room temperature.

282 Peak identification of the NMR spectra was performed with Chenomx NMR Suite 9.0 (Chenomx,
283 AB, Canada) that uses the Human Metabolome Database compound spectral reference library
284 (Wishart et al., 2018). First, line broadening of 2.5 Hz, automatic phase correction, and manual
285 baseline correction were performed with Chenomx Processor (within the Chenomx NMR Suite
286 software). Then, determination of metabolite concentrations was performed using Chenomx Profiler,
287 which determines the concentrations of individual metabolites using the concentration of a known
288 DSS signal. Metabolite concentrations are reported as mmol/100 mg gill wet mass.

289

290 *2.8 Statistical analysis*

291 *2.8.1 Survival*

292 Statistical analyses were performed using the R software (R version 3.5.2). A logistic regression
293 model was used to calculate LLT₅₀ values (the lower lethal temperature where 50% of the population
294 survived). A binomial generalized linear model (GLM) with a logit link function, was used to
295 determine the effects of air temperature and pH treatment on survival within each mussel category,
296 and the difference in LLT₅₀ were estimated using 95% confidence intervals (CI) with non-overlapping
297 CI indicating a significant difference (Deere et al., 2006). Differences in the supercooling point (SCP)
298 among mussel categories and pH treatment was analyzed using a two-way ANOVA. Final models
299 were validated by plotting residuals versus fitted values, versus each covariate in the model (Zuur
300 and Ieno, 2016).

301 2.8.2 *Metabolomics and fatty acids*

302 Generalized linear models and ANOVAs were used to determine which metabolites and fatty acids
303 differed significantly after low pH exposure. Pearson's correlations were furthermore used to detect
304 alternations in metabolite-metabolite associations following low pH conditions (Jahagirdar and
305 Saccenti, 2020), and relationships were visualized using heat maps. The fatty acids explaining most
306 of the dissimilarity between mussel categories and pH treatments were identified using a SIMPER
307 analysis (See the full list of FA founds in Supplementary Table S2). This analysis revealed that 13
308 fatty acids explained ~90% of the Bray–Curtis dissimilarity amongst fatty acid profiles between the
309 control and low pH environment (Table 2). We therefore focused all subsequent fatty acid analyses
310 on these 13 fatty acids. Principle component analysis (PCA) was used to the interpretation of
311 differences in the metabolomic composition among mussel categories. ANOVAs were used to
312 evaluate differences in the concentrations of amino acids, and GLMs to evaluate the distribution of
313 saturated fatty acids (SFA), monounsaturated fatty acids (MUFAs), polyunsaturated fatty acids
314 (PUFAs), and the unsaturation index (UI), which is an index for the number of double bonds per 100
315 molecules of fatty acids, among the three mussel categories and pH Treatment. Post-hoc pair-wise
316 tests were used to compare significant treatment effects ($P < 0.05$). Detailed data exploration was
317 carried out prior to any analysis (Zuur et al., 2010). Once valid models were identified, we re-
318 examined the residuals to ensure all model assumptions were acceptable.

319

320 **3. Results**

321 *3.1 Survival*

322 Validation of ANOVAs and GLM models indicated no violation of model assumptions. There were
323 no significant effects of pH conditions (ANOVA; $p > 0.05$) or mussel categories (ANOVA; $p > 0.05$)

324 on the SCP, and freezing of the tissue was observed in all mussels exposed to temperatures below -
325 7°C.

326 We investigated the effect of pH and sub-zero air temperature on survival using GLMs. There were
327 no significant interactions between the effect of pH and air temperature on any mussel category, and
328 the interaction term was excluded in the final GLM models. Lower sub-zero air temperature
329 significantly decreased the survival of mussel in all three categories exposed to both control and low
330 pH conditions (Fig. 1; Supplementary Table S3). Under control conditions (pH = 7.9), the lower lethal
331 temperature at which 50% of the population perish (LLT₅₀) was significantly lower in intertidal *M.*
332 *trossulus* (-10.56 °C ± 0.80 CI) compared to subtidal *M. trossulus* (-9.12°C ± 0.48 CI) and subtidal
333 *M. galloprovincialis* (-7.62 °C ± 0.49 CI), which was the least freeze tolerant species (Fig. 1).
334 Following exposure to low pH (pH = 7.5), survival significantly decreased after sub-zero air exposure
335 in all three mussel categories (Fig. 1; Supplementary Table S3). Accordingly, the LLT₅₀ of intertidal
336 *M. trossulus* was -7.53°C ± 0.26 CI, while the LLT₅₀ was -8.04°C ± 0.32 CI and -6.69°C ± 0.17 CI
337 for subtidal *M. trossulus* and subtidal *M. galloprovincialis*, respectively. Thus, subtidal *M. trossulus*
338 was the most freeze tolerant category under low pH conditions. It should be noted that only one *M.*
339 *galloprovincialis* (6.66%) survived exposure to -8°C.

340

341 3.2 Metabolomics and fatty acids

342 We compared the composition of metabolites using PCA plots, which showed that the three mussels
343 categories clustered together, suggesting no differentiation in their metabolic profiles (Supplementary
344 Fig. S1). The predominate osmolytes were alanine, aspartate, betaine, glycine, malonate, taurine,
345 trimethylamine and trimethylamine n-oxide (TMAO) (see Supplementary Table S4 for full list of all
346 metabolites obtained from the ¹H NMR analysis), but we detected no significant changes in their
347 concentration among the two pH treatments or mussel categories (Fig. 2). Likewise, were there no

348 significant differences in the concentration of any amino acids among mussel categories or pH
349 treatment (Table 3). A metabolite-metabolite Pearson correlation analysis of the predominate
350 osmolytes revealed that each mussel category had a unique metabolite-metabolite relationship under
351 control pH conditions (Fig. 3 Upper panel). Low pH conditions changed the metabolite-metabolite
352 relationship in all three mussel categories (Fig. 3 Lower panel); A marked shift from negative to
353 positive correlations was observed across all metabolites in *M. trossulus* where the number of positive
354 correlations increased by circa 53% in intertidal *M. trossulus* and 109% in subtidal *M. trossulus*. In
355 *M. galloprovincialis*, the number of positive metabolite-metabolite correlations decreased from 11 to
356 10 (Fig. 3).

357 Thirteen fatty acids contributed ~90% of the difference in membrane composition between the
358 control and low pH treatment mussels (Table 2). While the fatty acid profiles in intertidal *M. trossulus*
359 were unaffected by low pH exposure (Table 2; Fig. 4), the low pH treatment caused an increase in
360 the amount of SFA and a decrease of PUFA in subtidal *M. galloprovincialis* and *M. trossulus* (Fig.
361 4), which resulted in a significant decrease in the degree of unsaturation (GLMs; $p < 0.05$; Table 2;
362 Fig. 4). Accordingly, the unsaturation index (UI) was significantly higher in intertidal than subtidal
363 *M. trossulus* after pH exposure (TukeyHSD, $p = 0.0002$).

364

365

366 3.3 Seawater chemistry

367 Mean pH measurements from the hand-held pH meter showed relatively good agreement with our
368 target acidified treatment ($7.5 \text{ pH}_T \pm 0.03\text{-}0.06 \text{ s.d.}$), although there was a greater degree of variability
369 in the control treatments ($7.9 \text{ pH}_T \pm 0.12\text{-}0.19 \text{ s.d.}$) due to fluctuating ambient pCO_2 (Table 1;
370 Supplementary Fig. S2). There was also some disagreement between our measured pH_T and pH
371 calculated using DIC and pCO_2 data (Supplementary Table S5). The discrepancies in our control
372 treatments were the result of the highly variable ambient pCO_2 and the corresponding adjustments

373 we frequently made to our gas delivery system. On average, these fluctuations did not cause
374 significant deviations from our target pH values, as shown by our hand-held pH_T data (Table 1), but
375 were more pronounced in the data taken from discrete, single time-point water samples. In all but one
376 instance, the difference between directly measured and calculated pH for a single time point, i.e. the
377 direct pH_T measurement made at the time the discrete water sample was taken, was within the
378 standard deviation of mean pH measurements taken over the two-week period. The regulation of OA
379 simulation systems with potentiometric pH meters has been shown to be reliable (MacLeod et al.,
380 2015), and therefore it is likely that the discrepancy between discrete and hand-held pH_T data was not
381 indicative of substantial deviations in seawater chemistry target values.

382 The addition of CO₂ free air to the controls also resulted in lower-than-expected pCO₂ values in both
383 start and end point data from those treatments (Supplementary Table S1 and S5). We also observed
384 some anomalous values for end point total alkalinity and DIC in our control treatment which were
385 attributed to shell calcification and insufficient water replacement rates (Supplementary Table S1 and
386 S5). These values were not indicative of the seawater chemistry parameters over the entire
387 experimental period, as described above, but are included for completeness.

388

389 *3.4 Seawater chemistry variability*

390 In contrast to open oceans where pH is stable (Hofmann et al., 2011), daily and seasonal fluctuations
391 can exceed 0.7 pH units in coastal ecosystems (Baumann et al., 2015; Hofmann et al., 2011;
392 Menéndez et al., 2001; Santos et al., 2011; Semesi et al., 2009), where dense blue mussel beds have
393 been found in areas characterized by $\Omega_{\text{arag}} < 0.5$ (Duarte et al., 2020). Specifically, along the intertidal
394 rocky shoreline of the Northwest Pacific, where mussels for this study was collected, pH values
395 naturally decline below 7.6 (Ianson et al., 2016; Kroeker et al., 2016). Thus, while pH conditions in
396 our aquariums fluctuated (control 7.84 ± 0.19 – 7.92 ± 0.12 | acidified 7.49 ± 0.05 – 7.55 ± 0.03), the

397 variability was within the range of *in situ* fluctuation rates. Our control conditions therefore represent
398 actual *in situ* conditions, and the final average difference in pH between the control (7.88) and
399 acidified (7.52) represented our target values (7.9 pH and 7.5 pH). The natural variation in coastal
400 pH also challenges the common belief that Ω_{arag} should be >1 (non-corrosive conditions) to represent
401 control conditions in OA experiments. Instead, we argue that control conditions should reflect actual
402 pH levels on the site of collections, regardless of the Ω_{arag} level. While we acknowledge that our
403 regulation of seawater chemistry could be improved, we believe that changes in mussel survival were
404 caused by changes in average pH, rather than variation in pH or other parameters. Our rationale is
405 supported by the fact that intertidal mussels exhibited the largest decrease in survival upon exposure
406 to reduced pH plus freezing, and as they are typically exposed to much greater variability in seawater
407 chemistry and temperature than subtidal mussel populations, it is highly unlikely that variability had
408 the most pronounced and negative affect on this group.

409

410 **Discussion**

411 Climate change is redistributing species towards cooler environments but understanding how
412 different drivers interact to shape species distribution ranges is essential for predicting patterns and
413 rates of change. At higher latitudes, expanding species face a suite of novel abiotic conditions
414 including low temperatures, and a decreasing seawater pH (Fassbender et al., 2017). The goals of this
415 study were to investigate the combined effect of low seawater pH and sub-zero air temperature stress
416 on survival of two *Mytilus* spp. and compare the responses between a native and invasive congener.
417 Intertidal individuals of the native bay mussel *M. trossulus* were significantly more freeze tolerant
418 than subtidal *M. trossulus* individuals which were in turn more freeze tolerant than the invasive
419 Mediterranean mussel *M. galloprovincialis*. Following exposure to acidified seawater, our data
420 demonstrated a significant negative effect on freeze tolerance and survival across all species-habitat

421 combinations. Interestingly, the intertidal population of *M. trossulus* was most impacted by
422 acidification, while subtidal *M. trossulus* was the least affected, becoming most freeze tolerant.
423 Cellular accumulation of metabolites and reconfiguration of membrane fatty acids were uncorrelated
424 with the observed variation in survival among mussel categories under both control and acidified
425 conditions, which could be related to short term exposure. The homeoviscous adaptation related to
426 the inverse relationship between the unsaturation index (UI) and acclimation temperature was mainly
427 related to 22:6 ω 3 and 20:5 ω 3 levels (Pernet et al., 2007), thus the more than two time lower content
428 of 22:6 ω 3 and 20:5 ω 3 in subtidal *M. trossulus* in low pH condition, could suggest that long term
429 exposure to low pH decrease the cold acclimation capacity for this group of mussels. Although, we
430 were unable to explain the observed variation in survival, we show that exposure to acidified water
431 changed metabolite-metabolite associations in all three mussel categories, indicating that
432 perturbations in seawater chemistry induce molecular alterations in these species.

433 Under present-day conditions (our control pH treatment), both the intertidal and subtidal *M. trossulus*
434 category of the native *M. trossulus* were more freeze tolerant than the invasive *M. galloprovincialis*.
435 This corresponds to their geographic distribution where *M. trossulus* predominantly inhabit
436 shorelines at higher latitude where winter sub-zero air temperatures are common, while *M.*
437 *galloprovincialis* dominate on warmer low latitude shores (Hilbish et al., 2000). However, the
438 physiological processes behind inter- and intraspecific variation in freeze tolerance remains poorly
439 understood. In *Mytilus* spp., the accumulation of intracellular low molecular weight osmolytes
440 increases freeze tolerance (Kennedy et al., 2020, Williams, 1970), but the accumulation of these
441 putative cryoprotectants can only partly explain survival after sub-zero temperature exposure. For
442 example, although individuals of *M. trossulus* living in the upper intertidal zone are more freeze
443 tolerant than individuals from the low zone, a recent study found no differences in the concentration
444 of metabolites among the shore levels (Kennedy et al., 2020), and no differences in the concentration

445 of cryoprotectants were observed among our three mussel categories, despite large variation in freeze
446 tolerance. Likewise, after ten days of exposure to acidified water that significantly reduced freeze
447 tolerance in all three mussel categories, with the survival of the intertidal population most affected,
448 the low pH exposure had no effect on metabolite concentration in any mussel category, offering no
449 explanation for the observed decrease in freeze tolerance. The fact that the intertidal category was
450 most affected by low pH support our notion that decreased survival was caused by changes in average
451 pH, and not pH variation (see result section 3.4) because animals from more unstable environments
452 (i.e. the intertidal) are generally more resilient to changing environmental conditions (Clark et al.,
453 2018).

454 Another proposed driver of freeze tolerance is the composition of the membrane's phospholipid where
455 a positive relationship between survival and membrane unsaturation state (i.e., higher number of
456 double bonds in the membrane) has been shown in some species (Bindesbøl et al., 2005; Slotsbo et
457 al., 2016). We hypothesized that freeze tolerance in *Mytilus* mussels would also be correlated to
458 unsaturation state, but we observed no significant differences in UI among mussel categories under
459 control pH conditions, and our data show that PUFA and UI in subtidal *M. trossulus* and *M.*
460 *galloprovincialis* decreased in response to OA, yet they were the least affected in terms of freeze
461 tolerance. Meanwhile, intertidal *M. trossulus* had the highest unsaturation stage, but the lowest
462 survival. The phospholipid membrane composition changes have been regarded primarily as an
463 adaptation related to seasonal temperature variability and at our knowledge only one study showed
464 hourly membrane lipids restructuring related to temperature for a cyprinid fish (Carey and Hazel,
465 1989). Our results support that phospholipid composition is of limited importance for freeze tolerance
466 in *Mytilus* mussels, while membrane reconfiguration seems to be important for keeping membranes
467 functional in cold water environments (Pernet et al., 2007; Thyrring et al., 2017c), thus membrane
468 reconfiguration may be important for species to inhabit cold subtidal environments.

469 While we were unable to explain the variation in freeze tolerance under present-day and acidified
470 conditions, variation in freeze tolerance among populations and congeners may be explained by high
471 molecular weight cryoprotectants, e.g., ice binding proteins, not measured here. Indeed, the influence
472 of antifreeze proteins on freeze tolerance in *Mytilus* ought to be explored further as their potential
473 role seems to vary among populations (Box et al., 2022; Loomis, 1995). Furthermore, thermal
474 tolerance variation may be explained at the gene level (Clark et al., 2021; Peck et al., 2015). A recent
475 study highlighted that differences in the expression of heat shock genes and aquaporins plays a central
476 role in determining freeze tolerance in northern barnacles species (Marshall et al., 2018), and heat
477 shock proteins (HSPs) have been linked to sub-zero temperature survival in insects (Rinehart et al.,
478 2007). Populations from variable environments (such as the intertidal zone or polar regions) are
479 regularly exposed to unpredictable conditions, which can introduce a front-loading of stress genes
480 that enable individuals to better cope with unfavorable conditions. For example, exposure to variable
481 temperatures increases the overall thermal tolerance in the limpet *Lottia digitalis* (Drake et al., 2017),
482 and studies have revealed animals from benign static environments are more vulnerable to
483 unpredictable thermal stress (Marshall et al., 2021; Wang et al., 2020). Front-loading of genes is
484 known from other marine species (Clark et al., 2008; Drake et al., 2017), and freeze tolerant *Mytilus*
485 populations may also have front-loaded genes (e.g. HSPs, aquaporins) that are constantly at a higher
486 expression level, which transfer into resilience through faster production of stress mediating proteins
487 (Barshis et al., 2013). Thus, since the intertidal population of *M. trossulus* are used to daily air
488 exposure, compared to subtidal *M. trossulus* and *M. galloprovincialis*, constantly increased gene
489 expressions may provide an explanation to the difference observed in survival following sub-zero air
490 exposure. Similarly, the subtidal *M. trossulus* mussels were collected in the Burrard Inlet, Vancouver,
491 where the abiotic conditions are variable (Marshall et al., 2021). The exposure to these fluctuating
492 abiotic conditions may also trigger a front-loading of relevant stress genes, and activate the cellular

493 stress response systems (i.e. activating stress proteins such as HSPs (Kültz, 2020)), pre-increasing
494 tolerance to low pH exposure in subtidal *M. trossulus*. *Mytilus galloprovincialis* is known to express
495 the stress regulating gene HSPA12 in response to stressful conditions (You et al., 2013). HSPA12
496 belongs to the HSP70 family, and through a process of gene duplication, HSPA12 acquired subtly
497 different functions, collectively working as a stress regulator (Clark et al., 2021). These stress
498 regulators could, among other things, explain the limited effect of OA on freeze tolerance, and
499 generally the capacity of *M. galloprovincialis* to establish in novel environments. The expression of
500 HSPA12 as a thermal stress mediator was also recently demonstrated in *M. edulis* (Clark et al., 2021),
501 and it is likely that *M. trossulus* also express this protective gene family. Still, intertidal *M. trossulus*
502 may be the most affected by OA because intertidal species generally already live close to their
503 physiological limits and have a limited capacity to adapt to new conditions. The large increase in
504 mortality following low pH exposure may indicate that accommodating this additional environmental
505 stressor exceeds their physiological ability to cope with external stressors. A molecular investigation
506 could reveal the molecular processes behind variation in freeze tolerance among populations and
507 species, and investigations into the underlying genetic mechanisms accounting for our observations
508 would be interesting for future research.

509 Overall, *Mytilus* sp. are excellent at adapting to local environments (Riginos and Cunningham, 2005),
510 making them highly stress tolerant and capable of enduring large ranges of salinities and temperatures
511 (Barrett et al., 2022; Nielsen et al., 2021). Combined with a long pelagic larval period, they have a
512 strong potential to invade new regions (Cárdenas et al., 2020; Thyrring et al., 2017b). This is the first
513 study to investigate the effect of OA on freeze tolerance, an important trait necessary for a poleward
514 shift in the intertidal zone. While intertidal *M. trossulus* populations are found as far north as northern
515 Greenland (Mathiesen et al., 2017), the northern distribution limit of the invasive *M. galloprovincialis*
516 in the Northwest Pacific is set around Canada. At their range edge in the waters of British Columbia,

517 Canada, subtidal populations face intense predation by seastars, excluding mussels from the subtidal
518 and low intertidal (Harley, 2011). The near future pH scenario tested here (pH = 7.5) revealed that
519 acidification weakens freeze tolerance across *Mytilus* spp. (LLT₅₀ ~ 7.38 – 7.53°C in intertidal *M.*
520 *trossulus* and *M. galloprovincialis*), and since winter low tides predominantly occurs at nighttime in
521 the Northwest Pacific, occasionally exposing sessile intertidal organisms to air temperatures down to
522 -10°C (Kennedy et al., 2020), significant annual freeze mortality events could occur in both species
523 inhabiting the intertidal if pH continues to decline. Thus, an ongoing poleward expansion in the
524 intertidal (where predation is less intense) could be hindered, offsetting the poleward expanding
525 facilitated by warmer waters. Consequently, if temperatures become too high for survival at a species
526 equatorward edge, the combined effects of predation and limited freeze tolerance could result in a
527 niche squeeze (rather than an expansion), substantially threatening persistence of this species in some
528 regions.

529

530 **Data availability**

531 All data necessary for reproducing this work is freely available from the Borealis dataverse
532 Repository (<https://borealisdata.ca>; DOI available upon acceptance).

533

534 **Declaration of competing interest**

535 The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships
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546

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829

830 **Figure captions**

831

832 **Figure 1:** Proportion survival in intertidal *Mytilus trossulus*, subtidal *M. trossulus* and subtidal *M.*

833 *galloprovincialis* after subjection to two pH treatments for 10 days and seven sub-zero air

834 temperatures. Lines indicate fitted logistic regression models; Solid black line represent control

835 conditions (pH =7.9) and dashed blue line represent acidified conditions (pH =7.5). Dots represent

836 actual survival and shades areas indicate 95% confidence intervals of the fitted model.

837

838 **Figure 2:** The concentration of common gill tissue osmolytes in intertidal *Mytilus trossulus*, subtidal

839 *M. trossulus* and subtidal *M. galloprovincialis* after subjection to control (pH = 7.9) and acidified (pH

840 = 7.5) conditions (n = 5). The horizontal line in each boxplot is the median, the boxes define the

841 hinges (25–75% quartile) and the whisker is 1.5 times the hinges. Black dots represent data outside

842 this range.

843

844 **Figure 3:** Metabolite-metabolite correlation analysis of gill tissue in intertidal *Mytilus trossulus*,

845 subtidal *M. trossulus* and subtidal *M. galloprovincialis*. Upper panel: metabolite associations after

846 subjection to the control (pH = 7.9) conditions. Lower panel: metabolite associations after subjection

847 to the acidified (pH = 7.5) conditions. Positive correlations are shown in blue; negative correlations
848 are shown in red.

849 **Figure 4:** The molar percentage of saturated fatty acids (SFA), monounsaturated fatty acids (MUFA),
850 polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA) of gill tissue in intertidal *Mytilus trossulus*, subtidal *M. trossulus*
851 and subtidal *M. galloprovincialis* after subjection to control (pH = 7.9) and acidified (pH = 7.5)
852 conditions (n = 5). The horizontal line in each boxplot is the median, the boxes define the hinges (25–
853 75% quartile) and the whisker is 1.5 times the hinges. Black dots represent data outside this range.

854

855 Tables

856 **Table 1:** Mean (\pm standard deviation) pH_T and temperature measured directly in aquaria in each
857 incubator.

Incubator	Control			Acidified		
	1	2	3	4	5	6
pH	7.84 \pm 0.19	7.92 \pm 0.12	7.87 \pm 0.13	7.55 \pm 0.03	7.49 \pm 0.05	7.51 \pm 0.06
Temperature	6.67 \pm 0.27	6.95 \pm 0.36	6.86 \pm 0.19	7.17 \pm 0.26	7.08 \pm 0.54	6.89 \pm 0.13

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862 **Table 2:** Mean percentage (\pm standard deviation) of 13 fatty acids contributing ~90% of the
863 differences in fatty acid composition after subjection to control (pH = 7.9) and acidified (pH = 7.5)
864 conditions (n = 5). UI = unsaturation index. Bold numbers indicate significant differences among the
865 control and low pH treatment within a mussel category (p < 0.05).

Fatty acid	Intertidal - <i>M. trossulus</i>		Subtidal - <i>M. trossulus</i>		Subtidal - <i>M. galloprovincialis</i>	
	Acidified	Control	Acidified	Control	Acidified	Control
16:0	9.53 \pm 0.89	8.72 \pm 1.21	16.56 \pm 6.62	10.21 \pm 1.21	12.95 \pm 5.17	8.83 \pm 1.44
18:0	2.57 \pm 0.34	2.53 \pm 0.17	4.30 \pm 1.98	2.28 \pm 0.38	3.38 \pm 1.26	2.53 \pm 0.67
16:1ω7	1.01 \pm 0.1	1.2 \pm 0.22	1.58\pm0.33	0.97\pm0.19	1.71\pm0.33	1.07\pm0.27
17:1 ω 7	1.71 \pm 0.63	4.07 \pm 4.16	1.94 \pm 1.14	1.43 \pm 1.1	2.26 \pm 1.63	2.04 \pm 2.15
18:1ω7	1.48 \pm 0.12	1.37 \pm 0.37	1.91\pm0.52	1.21\pm0.2	2.08 \pm 0.58	1.5 \pm 0.34
20:1ω9	4.31 \pm 0.3	4.12 \pm 0.46	6.21\pm1.13	4.86\pm0.61	5.43 \pm 1.32	4.37 \pm 0.48

18:2 ω 6	0.91 \pm 0.1	0.94 \pm 0.35	1.46 \pm 0.67	1.31 \pm 0.25	0.79 \pm 0.36	0.64 \pm 0.14
18:3 ω 3	1.12 \pm 0.07	1.21 \pm 0.5	1.04 \pm 0.57	1.52 \pm 0.19	0.31 \pm 0.1	0.36 \pm 0.09
20:2	9.41 \pm 0.76	8.82 \pm 1.05	11.96\pm1.21	9.87\pm0.58	9.78 \pm 1.79	8.67 \pm 1.41
20:4 ω 6	9.70 \pm 1.1	9.81 \pm 0.9	3.76 \pm 2.61	6.07 \pm 0.76	6.95 \pm 2.43	9.7 \pm 1.37
20:5ω3	9.78 \pm 1.15	10.74 \pm 1.97	4.87\pm3.59	12.19\pm1.05	7.0 \pm 2.98	10.21 \pm 1.68
22:2-NMI	11.54 \pm 0.84	10.86 \pm 1.5	12.72\pm0.95	9.55\pm0.66	13.53 \pm 1.5	12.19 \pm 1.14
22:6ω3	14.13 \pm 0.99	13.73 \pm 0.69	6.36\pm4.86	16.22\pm0.48	9.7\pm4.61	15.88\pm2.06
UI	234.73 \pm 6.14	238.84 \pm 8.75	150.94\pm55.19	244.97\pm4.59	187.59\pm46.35	242.92\pm8.78

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871 **Table 3:** Mean (\pm standard deviation) amino acid composition (% total amino acid content) of gill

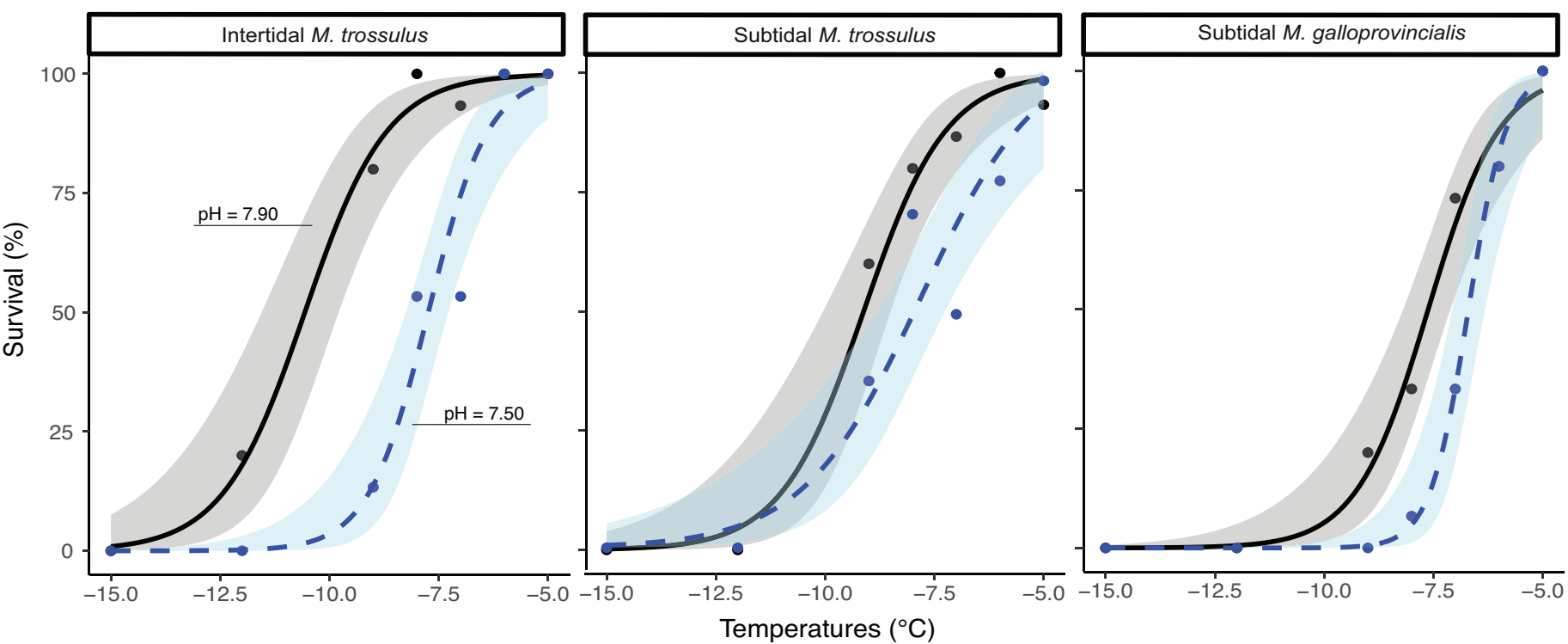
872 tissue in intertidal *Mytilus trossulus*, subtidal *M. trossulus* and subtidal *M. galloprovincialis* after

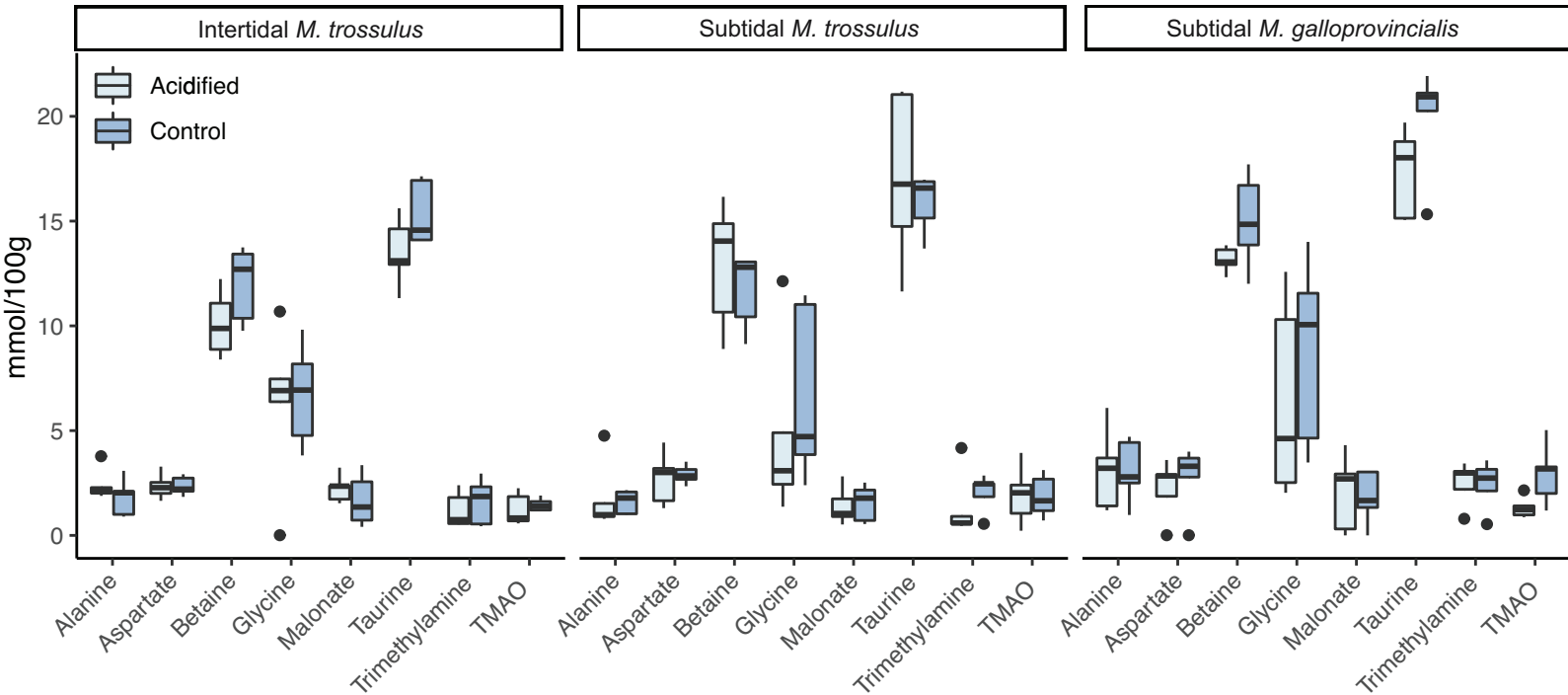
873 subjection to control (pH = 7.9) and acidified (pH = 7.5) conditions (n = 5)

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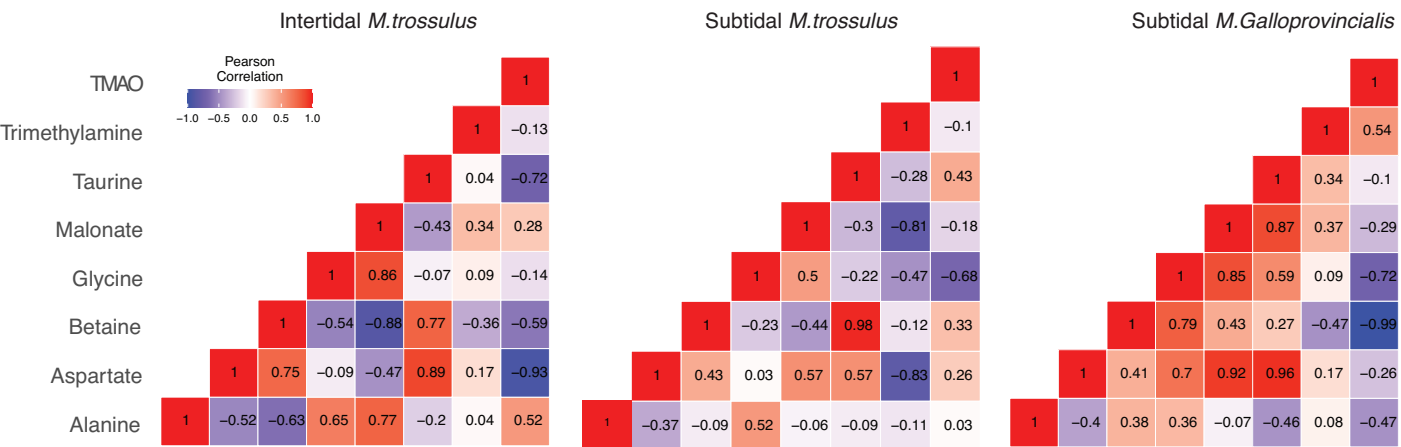
Amino acid	Intertidal - <i>M. trossulus</i>		Subtidal - <i>M. trossulus</i>		Subtidal - <i>M. galloprovincialis</i>	
	Acidified	Control	Acidified	Control	Acidified	Control
Asx	11.18 \pm 0.44	11.39 \pm 0.25	11.07 \pm 0.30	11.34 \pm 0.86	11.07 \pm 0.30	11.01 \pm 0.33
Ala	5.50 \pm 0.22	5.74 \pm 0.35	5.54 \pm 0.21	5.47 \pm 0.33	5.54 \pm 0.21	5.56 \pm 0.13
Arg	7.92 \pm 0.85	7.11 \pm 0.10	7.07 \pm 0.07	7.08 \pm 0.11	7.07 \pm 0.07	7.22 \pm 0.19
Glx	14.08 \pm 0.99	14.97 \pm 0.16	15.07 \pm 0.12	14.81 \pm 0.46	15.07 \pm 0.12	14.97 \pm 0.17
Gly	9.37 \pm 0.91	9.15 \pm 0.62	9.15 \pm 0.61	9.39 \pm 1.43	9.15 \pm 0.61	9.31 \pm 0.7
His	2.03 \pm 0.04	2.15 \pm 0.12	2.04 \pm 0.07	2.09 \pm 0.10	2.04 \pm 0.07	2.05 \pm 0.05
Ile	4.16 \pm 0.18	4.14 \pm 0.09	4.03 \pm 0.16	4.10 \pm 0.26	4.03 \pm 0.16	3.97 \pm 0.19
L-Dopa	0.14 \pm 0.01	0.17 \pm 0.02	0.09 \pm 0.01	0.14 \pm 0.03	0.09 \pm 0.01	0.11 \pm 0.01
Leu	6.49 \pm 0.18	6.53 \pm 0.09	6.30 \pm 0.25	6.42 \pm 0.34	6.30 \pm 0.25	6.3 \pm 0.3
Lys	7.65 \pm 1.60	7.06 \pm 0.33	6.51 \pm 0.37	6.69 \pm 1.16	6.51 \pm 0.37	6.47 \pm 0.36
Met	2.55 \pm 0.12	2.60 \pm 0.08	2.76 \pm 0.05	2.64 \pm 0.10	2.76 \pm 0.05	2.68 \pm 0.08
Phe	4.26 \pm 0.19	4.36 \pm 0.12	4.16 \pm 0.15	4.31 \pm 0.44	4.16 \pm 0.15	4.08 \pm 0.18
Pro	5.25 \pm 0.48	5.26 \pm 0.27	5.92 \pm 0.31	5.59 \pm 0.61	5.92 \pm 0.31	6.03 \pm 0.24
Ser	5.06 \pm 0.21	4.85 \pm 0.15	4.81 \pm 0.10	4.87 \pm 0.14	4.81 \pm 0.10	4.77 \pm 0.1
Thr	4.36 \pm 0.16	4.38 \pm 0.04	4.72 \pm 0.07	4.50 \pm 0.13	4.72 \pm 0.07	4.75 \pm 0.05
Tyr	5.12 \pm 0.47	5.25 \pm 0.28	5.62 \pm 0.10	5.55 \pm 0.44	5.62 \pm 0.10	5.63 \pm 0.15
Val	5.03 \pm 0.24	5.06 \pm 0.11	5.22 \pm 0.10	5.13 \pm 0.11	5.22 \pm 0.10	5.21 \pm 0.08

875 Abbreviations: Asx, aspartic acid/asparginine; Ala, alanine; Arg, arginine; Glx, glutamic acid/glutamine; Gly, glycine; His, histidine;
876 Ile, isoleucine; Leu, leucine; Lys, lysine; Met, methionine; Phe, phenylalanine; Pro, proline; Ser, serine; Thr, threonine; Tyr, tyrosine;
877 Val, valine.

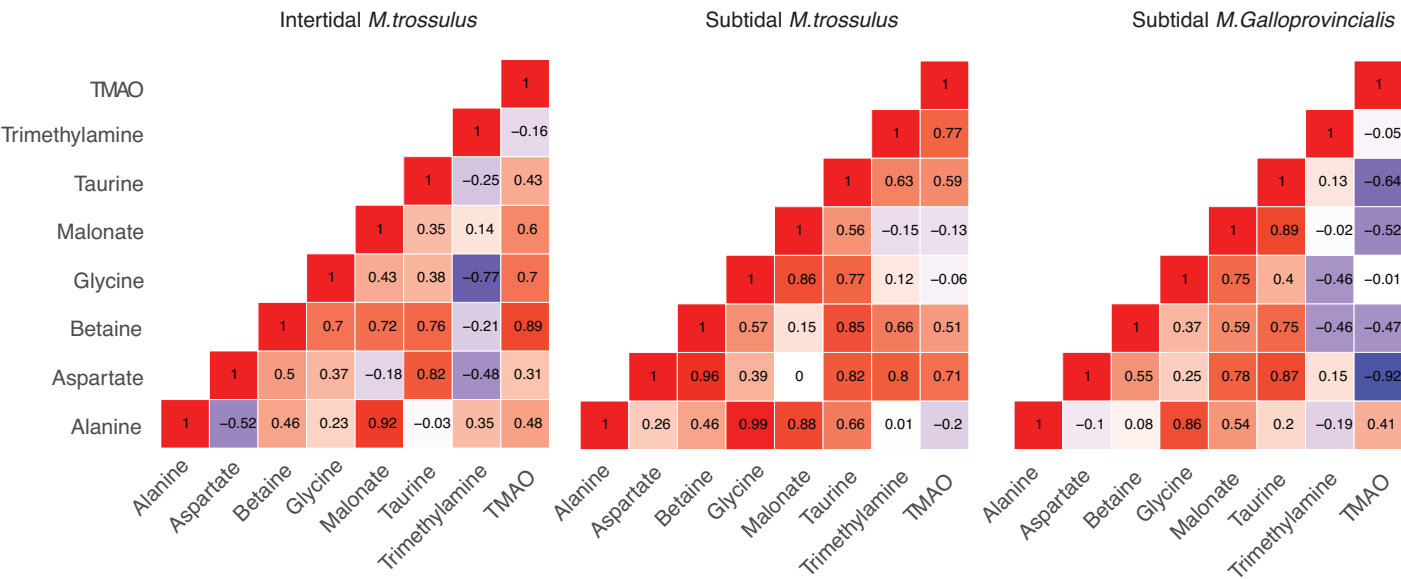


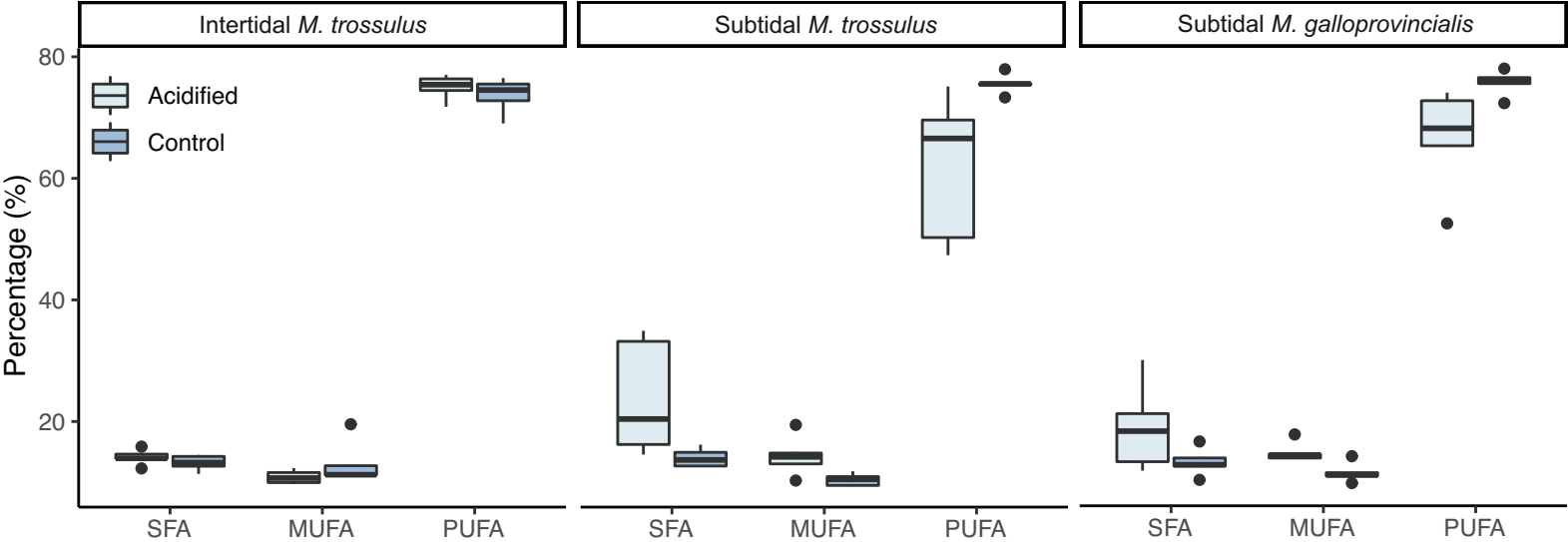


Control



Acidified





Title

Ocean acidification increases susceptibility to sub-zero air temperatures in ecosystem engineers (*Mytilus* sp.): a limit to poleward range shifts

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Keywords

Blue mussel; Climate Change, Interactions, Intertidal; Fatty acids; LLT₅₀; Multiple stressors;

Survival; Thermal tolerance

Figure S1: PCA plot based on (1) ^1H NMR identified metabolites and (2) standard amino acids in intertidal *Mytilus trossulus*, subtidal *M. trossulus* and subtidal *M. galloprovincialis* after subjection to control (pH = 7.9) and low (pH = 7.5) pH treatment (n = 5).

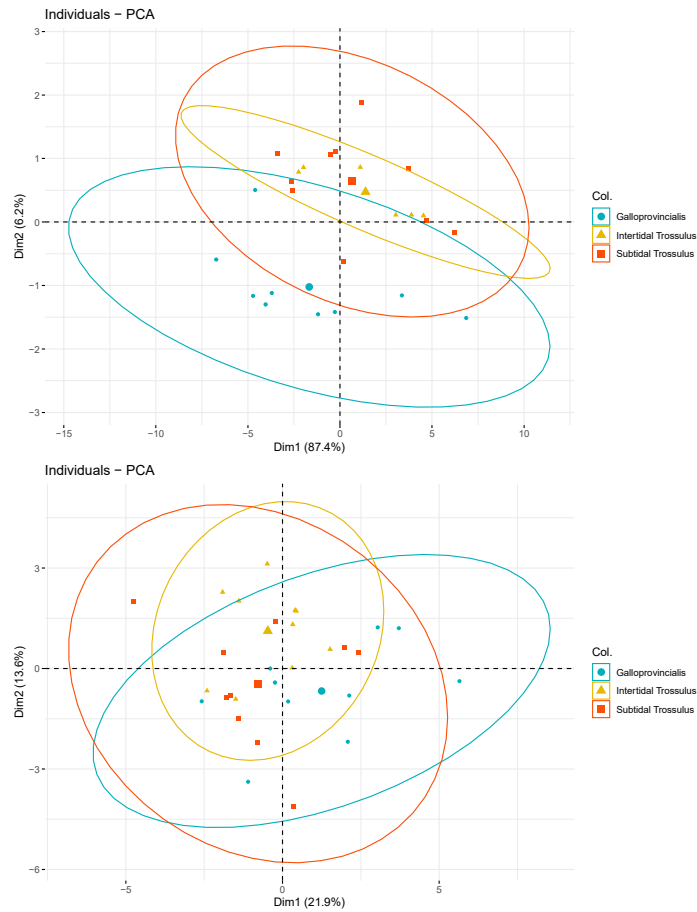


Figure S2: pH measurements from each incubator during the observation period. Incubators 1-3 were set to control conditions (pH = 7.9), while incubators 4-6 were set to acidified conditions (pH = 7.5).

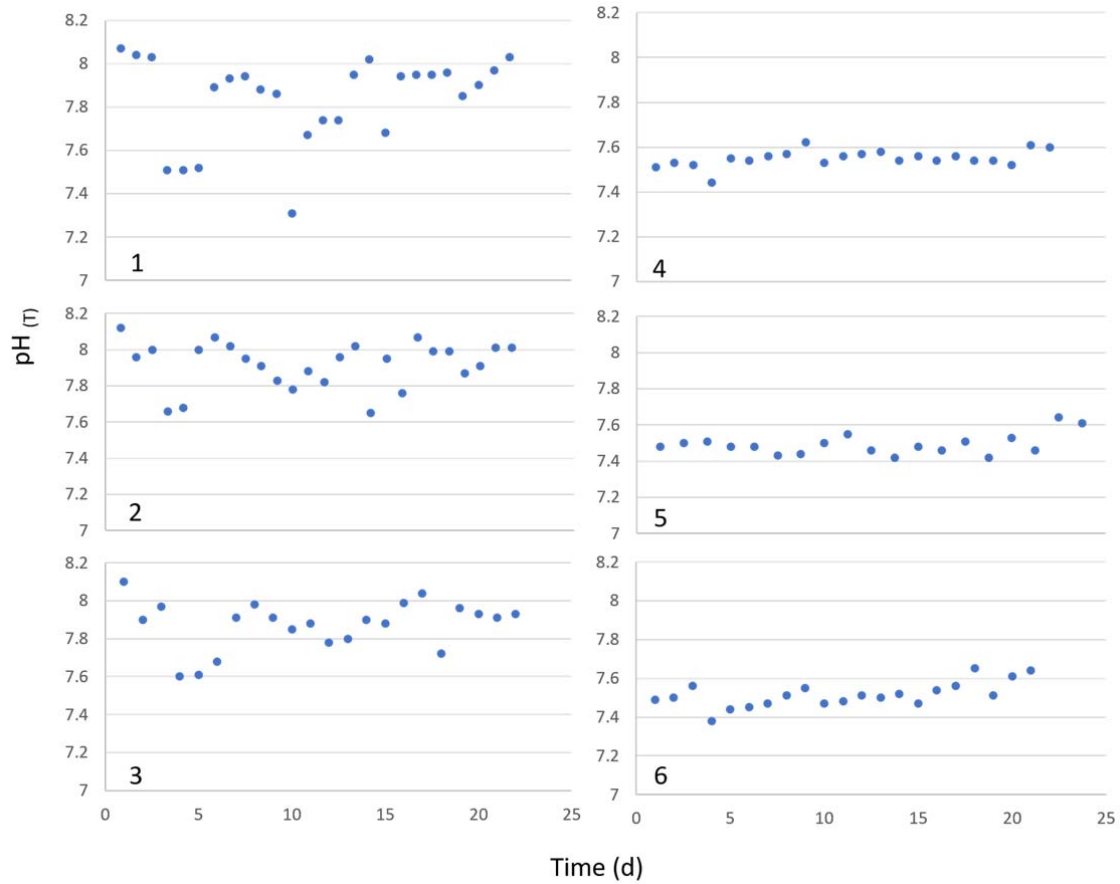


Table S1: Carbonate measurement data from the burke-o-lator system at Hakai Institute.

Bold numbers indicate anomalous values.

Treatment	Incubator	DIC ($\mu\text{mol/kg}$)	TA ($\mu\text{mol/kg}$)	pCO ₂ (μatm)	pH (total)	Aragonite (Ω)	Calcite (Ω)
Control (start)	3	1230.64	1335.34	176.67	8.19	1.07	1.76
Control (start)	1	1260.26	1362.46	188.24	8.17	1.06	1.74
Control (start)	2	1272.46	1316.33	361.12	7.90	0.58	0.96
Control (end)	3	916.80	986.24	170.48	8.08	0.63	1.04
Control (end)	2	705.92	776.96	115.85	8.13	0.55	0.90
Control (end)	1	798.98	883.86	118.12	8.17	0.69	1.13
Acidified (start)	5	1421.88	1433.95	621.42	7.71	0.42	0.70
Acidified (start)	6	1516.80	1455.56	1548.91	7.34	0.19	0.31
Acidified (start)	4	1599.63	1607.00	735.82	7.69	0.45	0.75
Acidified (end)	5	1620.13	1637.31	678.28	7.73	0.52	0.85
Acidified (end)	4	1712.32	1653.04	1600.13	7.37	0.24	0.39
Acidified (end)	6	1380.71	1357.44	985.94	7.49	0.26	0.42

Table S2: Mean percentage (\pm standard deviation) of all fatty acids after subjection to control (pH = 7.9) and acidified (pH = 7.5) conditions (n = 5). The summarized degree of SFA, MUFA and PUFA is presented.

Fatty acid	<i>M. trossulus</i> - intertidal		<i>M. trossulus</i> - subtidal		<i>M. galloprovincialis</i> - subtidal	
	Acidified	Control	Acidified	Control	Acidified	Control
14:0	0.40 \pm 0.07	0.4 \pm 0.09	0.54 \pm 0.24	0.3 \pm 0.05	0.62 \pm 0.14	0.37 \pm 0.07
15:0	0.52 \pm 0.04	0.51 \pm 0.05	0.69 \pm 0.21	0.41 \pm 0.05	0.63 \pm 0.26	0.44 \pm 0.09
15:0iso	0.07 \pm 0.06	0.09 \pm 0.1	0.2 \pm 0.19	0.16 \pm 0.06	0.00	0.08 \pm 0.05
16:0	9.53 \pm 0.89	8.72 \pm 1.21	16.56 \pm 6.62	10.21 \pm 1.21	12.95 \pm 5.17	8.83 \pm 1.44
17:0	0.45 \pm 0.05	0.43 \pm 0.04	0.88 \pm 0.58	0.38 \pm 0.05	0.61 \pm 0.28	0.41 \pm 0.09
17:0iso	0.3 \pm 0.07	0.29 \pm 0.05	0.29 \pm 0.13	0.12 \pm 0.02	0.24 \pm 0.07	0.19 \pm 0.02
17:0ante	0.17 \pm 0.03	0.14 \pm 0.02	0.19 \pm 0.09	0.08 \pm 0.01	0.17 \pm 0.06	0.12 \pm 0.03
18:0	2.57 \pm 0.34	2.53 \pm 0.17	4.30 \pm 1.98	2.28 \pm 0.38	3.38 \pm 1.26	2.53 \pm 0.67
18:0iso	0.11 \pm 0.01	0.1 \pm 0.02	0.21 \pm 0.011	0.08 \pm 0.01	0.21 \pm 0.07	0.17 \pm 0.03
ΣSFA	14.12\pm1.31	13.2\pm1.27	23.86\pm9.57	14.03\pm1.53	18.81\pm7.26	13.12\pm2.3
16:1n7	1.01 \pm 0.1	1.2 \pm 0.22	1.58 \pm 0.33	0.97 \pm 0.19	1.71 \pm 0.33	1.07 \pm 0.27
17:1n7	1.71 \pm 0.63	4.07 \pm 4.16	1.94 \pm 1.14	1.43 \pm 1.1	2.26 \pm 1.63	2.04 \pm 2.15
18:1n7	1.48 \pm 0.12	1.37 \pm 0.37	1.91 \pm 0.52	1.21 \pm 0.2	2.08 \pm 0.58	1.5 \pm 0.34
18:1n9	1.04 \pm 0.16	1.01 \pm 0.24	1.23 \pm 0.32	1.07 \pm 0.29	1.2 \pm 0.33	0.97 \pm 0.26
20:1n7	0.65 \pm 0.1	0.60 \pm 0.14	0.75 \pm 0.2	0.34 \pm 0.06	0.97 \pm 0.27	0.61 \pm 0.12
20:1n9	4.31 \pm 0.3	4.12 \pm 0.46	6.21 \pm 1.13	4.86 \pm 0.61	5.43 \pm 1.32	4.37 \pm 0.48
20:1n11	0.67 \pm 0.14	0.74 \pm 0.19	0.74 \pm 0.15	0.53 \pm 0.08	1.14 \pm 0.19	0.82 \pm 0.15
ΣMUFA	10.87\pm1.1	13.13\pm3.68	14.36\pm3.33	10.41\pm1.02	14.78\pm1.65	11.39\pm1.63
18:2n6	0.91 \pm 0.1	0.94 \pm 0.35	1.46 \pm 0.67	1.31 \pm 0.25	0.79 \pm 0.36	0.64 \pm 0.14
18:3n3	1.12 \pm 0.07	1.21 \pm 0.5	1.04 \pm 0.57	1.52 \pm 0.19	0.31 \pm 0.1	0.36 \pm 0.09
18:4n3	0.76 \pm 0.19	1.07 \pm 0.41	0.67 \pm 0.25	1.09 \pm 0.28	0.39 \pm 0.13	0.33 \pm 0.11
20:2n6	0.44 \pm 0.09	0.46 \pm 0.18	0.51 \pm 0.22	0.67 \pm 0.08	0.32 \pm 0.09	0.3 \pm 0.04
20:2n	9.41 \pm 0.76	8.82 \pm 1.05	11.96 \pm 1.21	9.87 \pm 0.58	9.78 \pm 1.79	8.67 \pm 1.41
20:3n6	0.11 \pm 0.02	0.12 \pm 0.04	0.00	0.09 \pm 0.02	0.16 \pm 0.03	0.12 \pm 0.02
20:4n6	9.7 \pm 1.1	9.81 \pm 0.9	3.76 \pm 2.61	6.07 \pm 0.76	6.95 \pm 2.43	9.7 \pm 1.37
20:5n3	9.78 \pm 1.15	10.74 \pm 1.97	4.87 \pm 3.59	12.19 \pm 1.05	7.0 \pm 2.98	10.21 \pm 1.68
22:2NMI	11.54 \pm 0.84	10.86 \pm 1.5	12.72 \pm 0.95	9.55 \pm 0.66	13.53 \pm 1.5	12.19 \pm 1.14
22:6n3	14.13 \pm 0.99	13.73 \pm 0.69	6.36 \pm 4.86	16.22 \pm 0.48	9.7 \pm 4.61	15.88 \pm 2.06
TMTD	0.14 \pm 0.19	0.1 \pm 0.1	0.51 \pm 0.52	0.09 \pm 0.07	0.17 \pm 0.12	0.12 \pm 0.11
PUFA0	1.19 \pm 0.23	0.98 \pm 0.1	1.51 \pm 0.7	2.36 \pm 0.42	0.72 \pm 0.07	0.81 \pm 0.17
PUFA1	2.62 \pm 0.52	2.47 \pm 0.25	2.84 \pm 1.49	4.06 \pm 0.34	1.37 \pm 0.42	1.72 \pm 0.42
PUFA2	0.93 \pm 0.26	0.86 \pm 0.23	0.4 \pm 0.11	0.38 \pm 0.08	0.91 \pm 0.33	1.09 \pm 0.12
PUFA3	0.68 \pm 0.11	0.64 \pm 0.07	0.46 \pm 0.1	0.52 \pm 0.05	0.77 \pm 0.18	1.14 \pm 0.22
PUFA4	11.54 \pm 0.8	10.86 \pm 1.5	12.72 \pm 0.95	9.55 \pm 0.66	13.52 \pm 1.5	12.19 \pm 1.14
ΣPUFA	75.0\pm2.05	73.67\pm2.93	61.78\pm12.27	75.56\pm1.65	66.4\pm8.57	75.49\pm2.1

Table S3: Estimated regression parameters, standard errors, z-values and p-values for the binomial generalized linear models (GLM).

GLM Model (Binomial distribution)	Estimate	s.e	z-value	p-value
Subtidal <i>Mytilus galloprovincialis</i> (Explained deviance = 95.37%)				
Intercept	11.96	1.81	6.59	< 0.0001
Air temperature	1.58	0.24	6.63	< 0.0001
Low pH	-1.42	0.50	-2.82	< 0.0001
Subtidal <i>Mytilus trossulus</i> (Explained deviance = 91.49%)				
Intercept	8.11	1.13	7.20	< 0.0001
Air temperature	0.88	0.13	6.84	< 0.0001
Low pH	-1.31	0.43	-3.05	< 0.0001
Intertidal <i>Mytilus trossulus</i> (Explained deviance = 93.94%)				
Intercept	12.71	1.83	6.93	< 0.0001
Air temperature	1.21	0.17	6.79	< 0.0001
Low pH	-3.29	0.70	-4.73	< 0.0001
Survival among mussel categories (Explained deviance = 90.7%)				
Intercept	7.08	0.79	11.15	< 0.0001
Air temperature	0.99	0.10	11.32	< 0.0001
Intertidal <i>Mytilus trossulus</i>	1.80	0.34	5.97	< 0.0001
Subtidal <i>Mytilus trossulus</i>	1.25	0.32	4.45	< 0.0001

Table S4: Mean (\pm standard deviation) metabolite concentration (nmol / 100 g ww gill tissue) detected from the H^1 NMR analysis after subjection to control (pH = 7.9) and acidified (pH = 7.5) conditions (n = 5).

Metabolites	<i>M. trossulus</i> - intertidal		<i>M. trossulus</i> - subtidal		<i>M. galloprovincialis</i> - subtidal	
	Acidified	Control	Acidified	Control	Acidified	Control
Acetate	0.41 \pm 0.09	0.42 \pm 0.16	0.46 \pm 0.09	0.36 \pm 0.12	0.40 \pm 0.16	0.50 \pm 0.16
Acetoacetate	0.2 \pm 0.13	0.12 \pm 0.12	0.05 \pm 0.07	0.14 \pm 0.15	0.11 \pm 0.15	0.20 \pm 0.22
Alanine	2.43 \pm 0.78	1.82 \pm 0.90	1.79 \pm 1.68	1.61 \pm 0.56	3.12 \pm 1.98	3.08 \pm 1.53
AMP	0.47 \pm 0.47	0.37 \pm 0.12	0.54 \pm 0.22	0.55 \pm 0.45	0.70 \pm 0.36	0.56 \pm 0.24
Arginine	0.46 \pm 1.04	0	0	0	0.36 \pm 0.8	0
Asparagine	0	0	0.21 \pm 0.48	0	0	0
Aspartate	2.35 \pm 0.62	2.36 \pm 0.45	2.72 \pm 1.26	2.90 \pm 0.45	2.24 \pm 1.4	2.75 \pm 1.60
Betaine	10.09 \pm 1.58	12.0 \pm 1.82	12.93 \pm 3.04	11.70 \pm 1.81	13.15 \pm 0.61	15.03 \pm 2.26
Glutamate	2.52 \pm 4.60	0.35 \pm 0.53	0.56 \pm 0.87	0	0.13 \pm 0.28	0
Glycine	6.29 \pm 3.90	6.70 \pm 2.45	4.79 \pm 4.30	6.69 \pm 4.24	6.41 \pm 4.76	8.75 \pm 4.52
Guanidoacetate	0.18 \pm 0.29	0.025 \pm 0.06	0.16 \pm 0.26	0	0.07 \pm 0.09	0
Lactate	0.22 \pm 0.16	0.38 \pm 0.34	0.04 \pm 0.06	0.16 \pm 0.10	0.47 \pm 0.35	0.53 \pm 0.24
Lysine	0.15 \pm 0.34	0	0	0	0.25 \pm 0.56	0.41 \pm 0.91
Malate	0.42 \pm 0.93	0	1.04 \pm 1.44	0	0.36 \pm 0.81	0
Malonate	2.24 \pm 0.67	1.70 \pm 1.25	1.40 \pm 0.91	1.54 \pm 0.88	2.05 \pm 1.84	1.82 \pm 1.28
Proline	0.55 \pm 0.76	0	0	0.27 \pm 0.60	0.67 \pm 0.92	0
Succinate	0.31 \pm 0.10	0.16 \pm 0.11	0.36 \pm 0.26	0.35 \pm 0.24	0.30 \pm 0.24	0.41 \pm 0.21
Taurine	13.52 \pm 1.66	15.36 \pm 1.54	17.07 \pm 4.11	15.85 \pm 1.42	17.34 \pm 2.14	19.91 \pm 2.62
Trimethylamine	1.21 \pm 0.85	1.62 \pm 1.10	1.33 \pm 1.59	2.04 \pm 0.90	2.49 \pm 1.05	2.43 \pm 1.19
TAMO	1.24 \pm 0.76	1.46 \pm 0.30	1.93 \pm 1.41	1.87 \pm 1.01	1.32 \pm 0.50	2.93 \pm 1.46
β -Alanine	0.87 \pm 0.34	0.68 \pm 0.56	0.26 \pm 0.43	0.54 \pm 0.43	0.55 \pm 0.67	0.45 \pm 0.35

Table S5: Mean (\pm standard deviation) carbonate measurements taken from discrete water samples at the start and end of the exposure period.

		PSU	pH	Alkalinity	pCO ₂	DIC	Ω aragonite	Ω calcite
Control	Start	22.43 \pm 0.06	8.09 \pm 0.16	1338.04 \pm 23.18	242.01 103.32	1254.45 \pm 21.50	0.90 \pm 0.28	1.49 \pm 0.46
	End	23.23 \pm 0.32	8.13 \pm 0.05	882.35 \pm 104.65	134.82 \pm 30.91	807.24 \pm 105.68	0.62 \pm 0.07	1.03 \pm 0.12
Low pH	Start	22.53 \pm 0.06	7.58 \pm 0.21	1498.84 \pm 94.29	968.71 \pm 505.71	1412.77 \pm 88.94	0.36 \pm 0.15	0.59 \pm 0.24
	End	23.57 \pm 0.23	7.53 \pm 0.18	1549.26 \pm 166.31	1088.12 \pm 469.34	1571.05 \pm 171.16	0.34 \pm 0.16	0.55 \pm 0.26