

1 **Title:** Hot and sick: impacts of warming and oomycete parasite infection on endemic dominant  
2 zooplankton of Lake Baikal.

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47 **Abstract**

48 Climate warming impacts ecosystems through multiple interacting pathways, including via direct  
49 thermal responses of individual taxa and the combined responses of closely interacting species.  
50 In this study we examined how warming and infection by an oomycete parasite affect the  
51 dominant zooplankter of Russia's Lake Baikal, the endemic cold-adapted stenotherm *Epischura*  
52 *baikalensis* (Copepoda). We used a combination of laboratory experiments, long-term  
53 monitoring data and population modeling. Experiments showed large thermal mismatch between  
54 host and parasite, with strong negative effects of warm temperatures on *E. baikalensis* survival  
55 and reproduction and a negative synergistic effect of *Saprolegnia* infection. However,  
56 *Saprolegnia* infection had an unexpected positive effect on *E. baikalensis* reproductive output,  
57 which may be consistent with fecundity compensation by infected females. Long-term  
58 monitoring data showed that *Saprolegnia* infections were most common during the warmest  
59 periods of the year and that infected individuals tended to accumulate in deep water. Population  
60 models, parameterized with experimental and literature data, correctly predicted the timing of  
61 *Saprolegnia* epizootics, but overestimated the negative effect of warming on *E. baikalensis*  
62 populations. Models suggest that diel vertical migration may allow *E. baikalensis* to escape the  
63 negative effects of increasing temperatures and parasitism and enable *E. baikalensis* to persist as  
64 Lake Baikal warms. Our results contribute to understanding of how multiple interacting stressors  
65 affect warming pelagic ecosystems of cold lakes and oceans and show that the population-level  
66 consequences of thermal mismatch between hosts and parasites can vary seasonally, interannual  
67 and spatially.

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## 70 **Introduction**

71       The ecological effects of climate warming are manifested through multiple interacting  
72 physical, chemical and biological mechanisms (Adrian et al. 2009; Larsen et al. 2011; Zarnetske  
73 et al. 2012; O'Reilly et al. 2015; Kraemer et al. 2017). Among these mechanisms are the thermal  
74 tolerances of not only individual species but also the combined temperature responses of closely  
75 interacting taxa. The ecological significance of combined temperature responses has been shown  
76 for mutualistic, competitive and exploitative interactions (Kordas et al. 2011; Rafferty et al.  
77 2015; Altizer et al. 2013; Cohen et al. 2017; Gehman et al. 2018). The effect of climate on these  
78 interactions is often idiosyncratic and affected by the specific life-histories of interacting  
79 organisms (Altizer et al. 2013; Warren and Bradford 2014; Cohen et al. 2017; Gehman et al.  
80 2018) and by aspects of the abiotic environment, such as habitat spatial structure and the  
81 presence of refugia (Decaestecker et al. 2002; Araújo and Luoto 2007; Duffy 2007; Schweiger et  
82 al. 2008; Penczykowski et al. 2011). This complexity makes it challenging to predict how  
83 specific systems will respond to future climate changes and requires system-specific knowledge.

84       Parasites and diseases of phytoplankton and zooplankton provide examples of such  
85 complex interactions. They are common in lakes and oceans and can strongly affect the  
86 populations of the interacting species as well as ecosystem processes (Burns 1989; Ebert 2005;  
87 Duffy 2007; Ibelings et al. 2011; Valois and Poulin 2015; Valois and Burns 2016). Most of the  
88 work on freshwater parasites of zooplankton has involved *Daphnia* species and their bacterial  
89 and fungal parasites in small lakes and ponds (e.g., Ebert 2005, Duffy 2007; Wolinska et al.  
90 2008; Hall et al. 2010; Duffy and Hunsberger 2018). Freshwater copepods are also affected by  
91 various parasites (Burns 1989; Miao and Nauwerck 1999; Valois and Burns 2016), but much less  
92 is known about their host-parasite interactions. While *Daphnia* often dominate zooplankton

93 communities in small, warm and productive lakes and ponds, copepods are more important  
94 members of the pelagic plankton in large and cold lakes as well as in the world's oceans  
95 (Gallienne and Robins 2001; Barbiero et al. 2019; Moore et al. 2019). Large lakes contain a  
96 disproportionate amount of global surface fresh water and support important ecosystem services,  
97 including valuable commercial fisheries. It is thus important to improve understanding of how  
98 temperature changes affect freshwater copepods through both direct effects and their interactions  
99 with parasites.

100       The pelagic food web of Russia's Lake Baikal, the world's oldest, most voluminous and  
101 most biologically diverse lake (Kozhov 1963; Moore et al. 2009), is dominated by a single  
102 species of zooplankton, the endemic calanoid copepod *Epischura baikalensis* Sars. *E. baikalensis*  
103 often comprises more than 90% of the pelagic zooplankton biomass in the cold waters of open  
104 Lake Baikal throughout the year but is conspicuously absent from the lake's shallow bays during  
105 summer months, where cosmopolitan species of cladocerans, cyclopoids and calanoids are  
106 abundant (Kozhov 1963; Bowman 2014). Field data-based correlations and limited laboratory  
107 research have shown that *E. baikalensis* is a cold-adapted stenotherm that does not tolerate  
108 temperatures above ca. 15°C (Kozhov 1963; Afanasyeva 1977). Given recent warming trends in  
109 Lake Baikal and other large lakes (Shimaraev and Domysheva 2013, O'Reilly et al. 2015), there  
110 is concern that changes in the abundance of key species such as *E. baikalensis* may greatly alter  
111 lake food webs (Hampton et al. 2008; Moore et al. 2009). Warming temperatures may also affect  
112 copepods such as *E. baikalensis* through the negative impacts of parasites. As early as 1926,  
113 Lake Baikal researchers documented occasional mass epizootics of a fungal parasite, putatively  
114 identified as *Saprolegnia* sp. (Oomycota), that could impact almost the entire population of *E.*  
115 *baikalensis*, leading to large reductions in its abundance (Afanasyeva 1977). These epizootics

116 were reported to occur during the summer months of particularly warm years and were believed  
117 to be at least partially temperature-related (Kozhov 1963; Afanasyeva 1977). Despite the  
118 potentially important effect of this parasite on *E. baikalensis*, no published detailed experimental  
119 or field studies have been conducted on the interactions between *E. baikalensis* and *Saprolegnia*.

120 The main objectives of this study were to assess the effects of temperature and parasite  
121 infection on an endemic dominant species in one of the world's largest lakes and, more  
122 generally, to contribute to improved understanding of the impacts of climate change on the  
123 ecology of zooplankton in cold pelagic ecosystems. To achieve these objectives, we used lab  
124 experiments to assess the individual and combined responses of *E. baikalensis* and their  
125 oomycete parasite to a range of environmentally-relevant temperatures. Results of experiments  
126 were used to parameterize a population model that examined how different realistic temperature  
127 scenarios may affect *E. baikalensis* in open Lake Baikal and some of its warm bays and whether  
128 diel vertical migration (DVM) can offer *E. baikalensis* a thermal refuge during warm summer  
129 months. Long-term monitoring data were used to assess whether our population models  
130 produced realistic patterns of *E. baikalensis* abundance and parasite infection. We tested 5  
131 specific hypotheses: H1) survival and reproduction of *E. baikalensis* will decrease with  
132 increasing temperatures; H2) prevalence and virulence of *Saprolegnia* will increase with  
133 increasing temperatures; H3) warmer temperatures and *Saprolegnia* exposure will interact  
134 synergistically, leading to larger reduction in *E. baikalensis* fitness than either factor alone; H4)  
135 *E. baikalensis* abundance will be lower under warmer conditions and in shallow, warm regions  
136 of Lake Baikal as revealed by long-term monitoring data and predicted by population models;  
137 H5) Population models will show that DVM provides a refuge for *E. baikalensis* from warm  
138 temperatures and parasitism.

## 139 **Methods**

### 140 Study system

141 *Lake Baikal*: Lake Baikal is located in Central Siberia and spans 600 km along its longest  
142 axis (Fig. S1). Due to the cold regional climate, Lake Baikal is frozen for up to 5 months of the  
143 year (January–May). The lake’s upper 300-m water layer is dimictic with a relatively short  
144 stratified summer season. Surface waters warm above 4°C around late June and cool below that  
145 temperature around mid-November, although stratification is typically unstable during early  
146 summer and fall, with large-scale hypolimnetic upwelling events occurring throughout the  
147 summer (Kozhov 1963). In the open lake, surface temperatures seldom exceed 15°C and the  
148 depth of the warm surface mixed layer is typically less than 30 m. The bays of the lake (Fig. S1)  
149 warm rapidly after ice-off in May, remain stratified for much longer than open Baikal, and reach  
150 higher summer surface temperatures (up to 20-26°C) compared to the offshore.

151 *Epischura baikalensis*: As the dominant pelagic consumer in Lake Baikal, *E. baikalensis*  
152 represents a key energy link in the food web of the lake (Yoshii et al. 1999; Moore et al. 2019).  
153 *E. baikalensis* completes two generations per year in Lake Baikal: a winter and a summer  
154 generation (Afanasyeva 1977). The nauplii of the winter generation hatch in late-fall through  
155 early winter and reach sexual maturity over ca. 180 days. The adults of the winter generation  
156 give rise to a summer generation, the nauplii of which hatch in July and mature over ca. 90 days,  
157 beginning to reproduce in the fall. Sexually mature *E. baikalensis* females can produce up to 10  
158 egg sacks during their lifetime, with an average of 22 eggs per egg sack (Afanasyeva 1977). The  
159 interval between egg sacks is ca. 10 days for females of the winter generation (which reproduce  
160 in the summer) and ca. 20 days for females of the summer generation (which reproduce in late  
161 fall and winter). The majority of *E. baikalensis* individuals are found in the top 250 m layer of

162 the water column throughout the year. During summer stratification, individuals of all ages  
163 perform diel vertical migration (DVM), with much of the population spending parts of the night  
164 in the epilimnion and descending below the thermocline during the day (Afanasyeva 1977).

165 *Saprolegnia*: *Saprolegnia* spp. are necrotrophic and saprotrophic fungal-like protists of the  
166 class Oomycota. Many genera of oomycetes, including *Saprolegnia*, are economically important  
167 pathogens of plants and aquatic organisms (Walker and van West 2007). *Saprolegnia* grows on  
168 and in its hosts as fine hyphae and transmission occurs through motile, biflagellate zoospores  
169 released from club-shaped sporangia (Fig. 1). Zoospores can remain viable for a few hours,  
170 undergoing repeated cycles of encystment and excystment in their search for a suitable host  
171 (Walker and van West 2007). When infecting a new host, zoospores attach externally to the host  
172 and hatch into hyphae that penetrate the integument of the host. In *E. baikalensis*, *Saprolegnia*  
173 infection can only be diagnosed 1–2 days after death, when hyphae break through the carapace  
174 and form a “halo” of hyphae that eventually produce sporangia and zoospores (Fig. 1).

#### 175 *Saprolegnia* isolation and culture

176 Growth of hyphae putatively identified as *Saprolegnia* was noted on dead *E. baikalensis*  
177 adults collected at an open water, long-term monitoring station (Stn. #1, depth ca. 800 m, Fig.  
178 S1) in the south basin of Lake Baikal in summer 2012. Infected individuals were placed on  
179 modified potato-starch, beef-broth agar at 15°C and hyphae growing from a single individual of  
180 *E. baikalensis* were isolated and grown on Sabourad agar (Wolinska et al. 2008); all subsequent  
181 work was performed with material from this strain (“Strain A”). *Saprolegnia* cultures were  
182 maintained at 15°C on a 12:12 hour light-dark cycle in incubation chambers on 35-mm petri  
183 plates. Agar plugs (5-mm diameter) from colonized plates were transferred to new agar plates  
184 every 2–3 weeks. Phylogenetic analysis of the isolated *Saprolegnia* stain (“Strain A”) was



185 accomplished using mitochondrial-encoded Cytochrome Oxidase I (COI) and nuclear-encoded  
186 internal transcribed spacer (ITS) sequencing. Detailed methods and results for the phylogenetic  
187 analysis are provided in the supplementary information section.

#### 188 *Saprolegnia* growth on agar

189 Lab experiments were conducted to determine the effect of temperature on the growth of  
190 *Saprolegnia* “Strain A” on agar at 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25°C. To initiate the experiment, 5-mm  
191 circular plugs of agar and mycelia were cut from fully colonized Sabourad agar plates and placed  
192 in the center of fresh Sabourad agar plates; 3 replicate plates were used for each temperature.  
193 Plates were incubated at a 12:12 hour light-dark cycle at experimental temperatures for 72 hours;  
194 colony diameter was measured on each plate 8 times throughout the experiment to the nearest  
195 mm (as average of two perpendicular measurements). Results were expressed as average growth  
196 rate in mm/hr.

197 The relationship between temperature and *Saprolegnia* growth rate was explored using  
198 linear regression between average daily colony growth (mm) and temperature. Simple linear  
199 regression and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> order polynomial regression model fits were compared using F-tests  
200 and Akaike’s Information Criterion (Crawley 2013).

#### 201 Effects of temperature and *Saprolegnia* infection on *E. baikalensis* survival and reproduction

202 In summer of 2013, we conducted lab experiments to assess the effect of temperature and  
203 *Saprolegnia* infection on survival and reproduction of *E. baikalensis*. Fully factorial experiments  
204 were conducted with *E. baikalensis* adult females and nauplii at 5, 10, 15 and 20°C, with and  
205 without exposure to *Saprolegnia* zoospores. *E. baikalensis* adult females and nauplii used in  
206 experiments were collected using slow zooplankton net tows from 50 m depth to the surface at  
207 an offshore station (Station #1, Fig. S1). Individuals were kept at lake surface water temperature

208 until return to the lab, then transferred to GF/F-filtered Lake Baikal water and live-sorted to  
209 obtain enough adult females and nauplii for experiments. Only adult females with well-  
210 developed, dark ovaries and nauplii of the III-V naupliar stage were selected for the experiment.  
211 After sorting, adult females and nauplii were placed in 3-L jars with 2.5 L of GF/F-filtered lake  
212 water at ambient surface water temperature and the jars were placed in temperature-controlled  
213 chambers at 5, 10, 15 and 20°C for 4 hours to slowly bring animals to experimental  
214 temperatures.

215 After the 4-hour acclimation, live adults were transferred into 6-well plates with 6 mL of  
216 GF/F- filtered water at experimental temperature in each well (1 individual per well); nauplii  
217 were transferred to 24-well plates with 2 mL of GF/F filtered water per well. Plates were divided  
218 into 3 groups (18 adults or 24 nauplii per group): a *Saprolegnia* treatment group and two control  
219 groups – a *Saprolegnia* sporulation medium control group and a “true” control group. Wells in  
220 the *Saprolegnia* treatment group received 0.4 mL/well of *Saprolegnia* sporulation medium (see  
221 below) with active zoospores, aiming for a final concentration of 60 zoospores/mL. Wells in the  
222 sporulation medium control group received 0.4 mL/well of filtration-sterilized (triple filtration  
223 through 0.2- $\mu$ m syringe filters) sporulation medium and wells in the “true” control group  
224 received 0.4 mL of GF/F-filtered lake water. The sporulation medium control group was used to  
225 account for potential negative effects of the sporulation medium or dissolved toxins produced by  
226 *Saprolegnia* on *E. baikalensis* survival and reproduction. Zoospore production by cultured  
227 *Saprolegnia* was induced using methods similar to those described in Wolinska et al. (2008).  
228 Briefly, 5-mm plugs of agar from fully-colonized Sabourad agar plates were placed in 100 mL of  
229 GF/F-filtered and boil-sterilized water at 15°C. The sporulation medium was inspected under a  
230 compound microscope for presence of zoospores and replaced every 24 hours until sporangia

231 and live (actively swimming) zoospores were observed. Spore concentrations were determined  
232 by counting subsamples of the sporulation medium preserved and stained with Lugol's iodine in  
233 a hemocytometer.

234 All experiments were checked at least every 24 hours (more frequently during the first few  
235 days of the experiment). The following information was recorded about all adult females at each  
236 check: live or dead, presence of visible *Saprolegnia* growth, presence of egg sack, presence of  
237 *Saprolegnia* hyphae on egg sack, and presence and number of newly hatched nauplii. In  
238 experiments with nauplii, we recorded whether individuals were live or dead and whether  
239 *Saprolegnia* hyphae were present. To minimize handling of *Epischura* and to reduce the  
240 possibility of algal overgrowth or algal medium toxicity to *E. baikalensis* during the experiment,  
241 animals were not fed and water was not replaced during experiments.

242 We used parametric survival analysis to assess the effect of *Saprolegnia* infection status  
243 and temperature on the survival of *E. baikalensis* adults and juveniles. Prior to analysis, we  
244 determined whether survival differed significantly between "true" control treatments and  
245 *Saprolegnia* sporulation medium control treatments. No differences in survival between the two  
246 controls were found for either adults or juveniles, so we used the data from both controls  
247 treatments as the control group for subsequent analyses. Choice of error distribution for survival  
248 analysis was assessed using Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) and model comparison  
249 (Crawley 2013; George et al. 2014); exponential or Weibull distributions were identified as most  
250 appropriate in all cases (see results for details). Survival models were parameterized with  
251 temperature, infection status and their interaction as predictor variables. Survival analysis was  
252 implemented using the *survreg()* function in the 'survival' package for R (version 2.40-1;

253 Therneau and Lumley 2014). Predicted survival times for use in the population model (see  
254 below) were extracted using the *predict()* function.

255       Effects of temperature and *Saprolegnia* exposure on *E. baikalensis* reproductive parameters  
256 were tested using ANOVA (Type III sum of squares) with temperature, infection status and their  
257 interaction as predictor variables. The response variables were time from start of the experiment  
258 to production of 1<sup>st</sup> egg sack, time from egg sack production to hatching of 1<sup>st</sup> nauplii, and total  
259 number of live nauplii produced per egg sack. Prior to conducting the analysis, we tested  
260 whether any of the three response parameters differed significantly between the two control  
261 treatments. We found no differences for any of the response variables, so data from both control  
262 treatments were used as the control group in subsequent analyses. In the *Saprolegnia* exposure  
263 treatment, we observed that some egg sacks developed visible hyphae and some did not.  
264 Consequently, we carried out the statistical analysis twice: once without separating egg sacks in  
265 the *Saprolegnia* treatment based on whether they showed hyphae and once separating them  
266 based on this parameter.

267 Long term data:

268       To examine the seasonal dynamics of *Saprolegnia* infection prevalence in *E. baikalensis* as  
269 well as the seasonal dynamics of *E. baikalensis* abundance in relation to temperature, we used  
270 long term monitoring data. Data were collected by researchers from Irkutsk State University at a  
271 pelagic station (Station #1; Fig. S1) in the southern basin of Lake Baikal between 1945 and 2003  
272 at a sub-monthly frequency. Samples were collected with zooplankton closing nets; typical depth  
273 intervals for sampling were 0–10, 10–25, 25–50, 50–100, 100–150, 150–250 and 250–500 m.  
274 These rich data have recently been used to examine long-term trends in the ecology of the lake

275 (Hampton et al. 2008; Izmet'seva et al. 2011; Izmet'seva et al. 2016; Silow et al. 2016) and  
276 additional information about sampling and data is available in those papers.

277 Data on presence of visibly *Saprolegnia*-infected *E. baikalensis* were recorded for 16 years.  
278 It is unknown whether *Saprolegnia*-infected individuals were recorded on every occasion they  
279 were present (i.e., *Saprolegnia* infection was only present in 16 years between 1945 and 2003),  
280 or at the discretion of researchers working with the samples in particular years. However, it  
281 appears that in years when *Saprolegnia* was noted, the number of individuals with infection was  
282 counted in all samples such that the data robustly indicate the prevalence of infection at each  
283 depth and year. Given the uncertainty associated with sample processing, these data should be  
284 interpreted with caution, but still enable some insight into seasonal and depth patterns of  
285 infection prevalence. We used these data to examine patterns in the depth distribution of  
286 infection prevalence for the 0–500 m layer, seasonal patterns in infection prevalence, and the  
287 relationship between surface water temperature and infection prevalence. It is important to point  
288 out that infection can only be diagnosed reliably after death, once *Saprolegnia* hyphae break  
289 through the body wall and become visible. Additionally, there is a delay (1–2 days in our  
290 experiments) between death and appearance of visible hyphae. Thus, these data provide  
291 somewhat indirect and probably conservative estimates of infection prevalence.

292 To assess seasonal patterns in the abundance of *E. baikalensis* in relation to surface  
293 temperature, we analyzed 52 years of the long-term data using generalized additive mixed  
294 models (GAMMs). We separated *E. baikalensis* individuals into juveniles (nauplii and  
295 copepodites) and adults, expressing densities as number of individuals per m<sup>2</sup> in the 0–250 m  
296 layer. Maximum monthly summer temperatures in the 0–25 m layer were used to classify years  
297 as ‘cold’ (0–10<sup>th</sup> percentile), ‘cool’ (10<sup>th</sup>–35<sup>th</sup> percentile), ‘average’ (35<sup>th</sup>–65<sup>th</sup> percentile), ‘warm’

298 (65<sup>th</sup>–90<sup>th</sup> percentile) and ‘hot’. GAMMs of abundance vs. day of year (DOY) were used to fit  
299 curves for years in each temperature category, with individual years as a random factor using the  
300 ‘mgcv’ package in R (version 1.8-12; Wood 2001). We created separate models for adults and  
301 juveniles and, for each age category, separate models for full year abundance (DOY 1–365) and  
302 for the period where surface temperatures typically exceed 4°C (DOY 180–320 across the time  
303 series), which we defined as the “stratified season”. We asked whether there was a significant  
304 seasonal variation in densities and whether the pattern of variation differed with year types  
305 (‘cold’, ‘cool’, etc.). *E. baikalensis* densities were cube root transformed to satisfy assumptions  
306 of normal distribution of residuals and equal variance.

307 We also examined the effect of summer temperatures on *E. baikalensis* adult and juvenile  
308 densities using linear regression analysis. We regressed average “stratified season” (DOY 180–  
309 320) densities of adults and juveniles (cube root-transformed) against maximum annual surface  
310 water (0–25 m layer) temperatures. We also regressed densities of adults and juveniles in fall and  
311 early winter (DOY 320–365) against maximum annual temperatures to assess how “stratified  
312 season” temperature affected density in the following season.

### 313 Model:

314 To examine the population-level effects of water temperature and *Saprolegnia* infection on  
315 *E. baikalensis*, we constructed a population model for *E. baikalensis* (see supplementary  
316 information section for detailed explanation of model; Fig. S2). The model included healthy  
317 (uninfected) adults, infected adults, healthy juveniles and infected juveniles. The model was  
318 parameterized using a combination of experimentally-determined and literature-estimated values  
319 for life stage- and infection status-specific mortality ( $m$ ), reproduction ( $r$ ), maturation ( $g$ ), and  
320 infection transmission rates ( $\beta$ ) (Table 1, supplementary information section). We used long-term

321 surface water (0–25 m) temperature data (1948–2002) from a pelagic station in Lake Baikal to  
322 construct seasonal temperature scenarios representative of ‘cold’, ‘cool’, ‘average’, ‘warm’ and  
323 ‘hot’ years in the pelagic zone (same definitions of temperature categories as in the long-term  
324 data analysis). We also used seasonal temperature data to simulate conditions in a warm shallow  
325 bay (Proval Bay) and a large, deep bay (e.g., Barguzin or Chivyrkuy Bay). To examine the effect  
326 of DVM on *E. baikalensis* populations under different temperature and infection scenarios, we  
327 created models where *E. baikalensis* spent half of the day in the hypolimnion and models where  
328 *E. baikalensis* were restricted to the epilimnion (as might be the case in shallow regions of the  
329 lake).

330 The infection rate parameter ( $\beta$ ) is difficult to determine even for well-studied systems, and  
331 the choice of  $\beta$  can have large effects on model outcomes (Kirkeby et al. 2017). Given that the *E.*  
332 *baikalensis* – *Saprolegnia* host-parasite relationship has received no study, the choice of the  
333 value for  $\beta$  used in the model was difficult. We therefore compared the output of model scenarios  
334 parameterized with three different  $\beta$ -temperature functional relationships. The first scenario  
335 assumed a temperature-independent  $\beta$  (“temperature-invariant  $\beta$ ” scenario). In the other two  
336 scenarios  $\beta$  increased with temperature; in one the  $\beta$ -temperature relationship was based on the  
337 temperature-specific growth rates of *Saprolegnia* on agar (“agar  $\beta$ ” scenario) and in the second  
338 on the change in mortality rates of *Saprolegnia*-infected *E. baikalensis* at different temperatures  
339 (“mortality  $\beta$ ” scenario). Additional details on these scenarios is presented in the supplementary  
340 information section.

341 Since our primary interest was to explore the effect of temperature variation on *E.*  
342 *baikalensis* populations, models were ran only for the duration of the stratified summer season,  
343 when surface temperatures were  $>4^{\circ}\text{C}$ . This period differed for different temperature scenarios,

344 ranging from DOY 170–330 (Jun. 19–Nov. 27) in the “cold pelagic” scenario to DOY 129–303  
345 (May 9–Nov. 1) in the “Proval Bay” (warm water) scenario.

346

## 347 **Results**

### 348 Saprolegnia identification and growth rate

349 COI- and ITS-based phylogenies confirm that the oomycete parasite infecting *E.*  
350 *baikalensis* belongs to the genus *Saprolegnia* (Fig. S3). Mismatches between phylogenetic  
351 relationships and species boundaries (i.e., for several *Saprolegnia* species, strains of the same  
352 species did not form monophyletic groups) make it difficult to unambiguously identify our strain  
353 to species level. However, both the single-gene ITS and COI trees and the phylogeny  
354 reconstructed from concatenated data (either with IQtree or RaxML) suggest the parasite is  
355 closely related to *S. diclina* (see supplementary information for more detail).

356 *Saprolegnia* growth rate increased significantly with temperature (simple linear model,  
357  $R^2=0.93$ ,  $p<0.001$ ). A simple linear fit was more parsimonious than 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> order polynomials  
358 for the temperature - *Saprolegnia* growth rate relationship, although visual inspection of results  
359 suggests that growth rates may have begun reaching a plateau near 25°C (Fig. 2).

### 360 Survival of *E. baikalensis*

361 Temperature and *Saprolegnia* infection status significantly affected survival rate of *E.*  
362 *baikalensis* nauplii and adults, with no statistically significant interaction between the two terms  
363 (Table 2). Survival decreased with increasing temperature and exposure to *Saprolegnia* (Fig. 3;  
364 Table S1). None of the individuals that died in control treatments showed growth of *Saprolegnia*  
365 hyphae after death. In contrast, many individuals that died in the *Saprolegnia* treatment showed  
366 visible growth of *Saprolegnia* hyphae after death (40% across all temperatures), with the



367 proportion of individuals showing growth of hyphae increasing with temperature (Table 3). For  
368 adult and juvenile individuals that showed *Saprolegnia* growth after death, the average time  
369 between death and visible development of external hyphae averaged 1.26 ( $\pm 1.26$  SD) days across  
370 all temperatures (Table 3).

### 371 Reproduction of *E. baikalensis*

372 Temperature and *Saprolegnia* exposure had different effects on reproductive parameters of  
373 *E. baikalensis* (Fig. 4; Table 4; Table S2). Time to production of first egg sack was not affected  
374 by *Saprolegnia* exposure and decreased significantly with increasing temperature; however,  
375 warming temperature ultimately limited egg production, as no egg sacks were produced at 20°C.  
376 Time between egg sack production and hatching was also unaffected by *Saprolegnia* exposure  
377 and decreased significantly from 5°C to 10°C; no eggs produced at 15°C and 20°C hatched.  
378 Number of nauplii hatching from egg sacks varied both with temperature and *Saprolegnia*  
379 exposure. Results of analysis differed depending on whether we combined results for all  
380 *Saprolegnia* exposed adults or separated them based on presence of hyphae on egg sacks. When  
381 combining results of all *Saprolegnia*-exposed adults we saw a negative effect of increasing  
382 temperature on number of hatched nauplii, a significant positive effect of *Saprolegnia* exposure  
383 on number of hatched nauplii and a significant interaction between the predictors, where the  
384 positive effect of *Saprolegnia* exposure was larger at 5°C than 10°C. When *Saprolegnia*-exposed  
385 individuals were separated based on presence of hyphae on egg sacks, increasing temperature  
386 still had a significant negative effect on number of live nauplii, but there were significant  
387 differences depending on whether hyphae were present or not on egg sacks of *Saprolegnia*-  
388 exposed adults. Egg sacks of individuals exposed to *Saprolegnia*, but not showing hyphal  
389 growth, yielded the most nauplii, followed by egg sacks showing hyphal growth. Egg sacks of

390 control individuals yielded the fewest nauplii. This pattern was not strongly different across  
391 temperature (interaction  $p=0.06$ ).

### 392 *Saprolegnia* prevalence in *E. baikalensis* populations

393 Results from years in which *Saprolegnia* presence was recorded in the long-term data  
394 reveal several patterns related to *Saprolegnia* infection prevalence (Fig. 5). First, while the  
395 majority of *E. baikalensis* individuals are concentrated in the top 100 m of the water column, the  
396 abundance of visibly *Saprolegnia*-infected individuals peaks lower in the water column (100–  
397 150 m), and the prevalence of infected individuals increases with depth (Fig. 5A–C). Second,  
398 infection prevalence seems to increase with temperature, peaking in late summer and early fall  
399 (Fig. 5D–E). More than 5% of the population in the 0–500 m layer were visibly infected on  
400 several dates between August and November.

### 401 Seasonal patterns of *E. baikalensis* abundance

402 GAMM analysis showed that abundance of adult *E. baikalensis* varied significantly  
403 through the year as well as through the stratified season, but without a significant difference in  
404 the seasonal pattern of fluctuation between years in different temperature categories (Table S3).  
405 Across all years, *E. baikalensis* adults increased in abundance through winter and spring,  
406 decreasing in abundance after the onset of stratification (Figs. 6, S4). Juvenile *E. baikalensis*  
407 (nauplii and copepodites) also varied in abundance though both the entire year and within just  
408 the stratified season, increasing through winter and peaking in summer, later than adult densities  
409 (in August). There was a significant difference in the pattern of variation in juvenile densities in  
410 years in different temperature categories, with apparently earlier and larger peaks in abundance  
411 in warmer than cooler years (Table S3; Figs. 6, S4).

412 Regression analysis showed no significant relationship between maximum annual lake  
413 surface temperature and the stratified season abundance of adults ( $R^2=0.0$ ,  $p=0.38$ ) and a weak  
414 but significant positive relationship between lake surface temperature and juvenile densities  
415 during the stratified season ( $R^2=0.11$ ,  $p=0.02$ ). A similar pattern (Fig. 6) occurred for the  
416 relationship between maximum temperature and fall/early winter densities of adults ( $R^2=0.11$ ,  
417  $p=0.55$ ) and juveniles ( $R^2=0.09$ ,  $p=0.03$ ).

#### 418 Model

419 Our population model generally reproduced the seasonal pattern of *E. baikalensis*  
420 abundance and correctly predicted the timing of peak *Saprolegnia* prevalence during late  
421 summer (Figs. 5–7). The model also correctly predicted the absence of *E. baikalensis* from  
422 shallow bays, a prediction that is supported by observations reported in the literature (e.g.,  
423 Kozhov 1963, Bowman 2014). On the other hand, the model overestimated the negative effect of  
424 warm pelagic temperatures on *E. baikalensis* densities; while the model predicted large decreases  
425 in *E. baikalensis* abundance from cold to hot years, long-term observations show a slight positive  
426 relationship between summer surface temperatures and late fall *E. baikalensis* densities in the  
427 pelagic region of the lake (Fig. 6).

428 Across all modeled temperature scenarios (cold to hot years in pelagic, and typical years in  
429 deep and shallow bays), our temperature-driven population model predicted an S-shaped  
430 seasonal pattern of *E. baikalensis* abundance during the stratified season (Figs. 7, S5–S8).  
431 Abundances increased during the first part of the stratified season, followed by a decrease during  
432 peak temperatures and, in the cooler scenarios, an increase in abundance during the final part of  
433 the stratified season as surface temperatures decreased. The model predicted large differences in  
434 *E. baikalensis* abundance among the different temperature and infection scenarios, with a strong

435 pattern of decreased *E. baikalensis* abundance with increasing surface temperatures. Scenarios  
436 where *E. baikalensis* were able to perform DVM had higher predicted *E. baikalensis* abundances  
437 across all temperature and *Saprolegnia* scenarios. Several model scenarios predicted extinction  
438 of *E. baikalensis* during the open-water period; extinction was predicted for the warmer  
439 scenarios, where *E. baikalensis* were unable to perform DVM (Fig. 7). DVM allowed *E.*  
440 *baikalensis* to persist (albeit at low densities) even under the warmest scenarios.

441       The presence of *Saprolegnia* had a negative effect on *E. baikalensis* densities across all  
442 temperature scenarios, although the magnitude of the effect varied with the relationship between  
443 the infection rate parameter ( $\beta$ ) and temperature. The shape of the relationship between  $\beta$  and  
444 temperature also had a large effect on modeled infection prevalence. The “temperature-invariant  
445  $\beta$ ” scenario predicted the lowest overall infection prevalence of the three scenarios and, unlike  
446 the other two scenarios, predicted higher rates of infection prevalence for the lower temperature  
447 scenarios. On the other hand, the two scenarios where  $\beta$  increased with temperature (“mortality”  
448 and “agar” scenarios) predicted higher overall infection prevalence, as well as a positive  
449 relationship between infection prevalence and temperature. The non-linear relationship between  
450  $\beta$  and temperature in the “mortality” scenario resulted in interesting differences for predicted  
451 infection prevalence between different temperature scenarios. Under the “mortality” and “agar”  $\beta$   
452 scenarios, infection prevalence could be high, with several scenarios predicting infection of the  
453 majority of the population. Interestingly, the scenarios with high infection rate prevalence did not  
454 result in dramatically different predictions of *E. baikalensis* abundance compared to similar  
455 temperature scenarios with lower infection rates.

## 456 **Discussion**

457 This study provides a detailed description of a previously unstudied host-parasite system  
458 and illustrates how multiple stressors affect a cold-adapted dominant organism in one of the  
459 world's largest lakes. Results of experiments, modeling and long-term monitoring suggest that  
460 the thermal mismatch (Cohen et al. 2017) between *E. baikalensis* hosts and their oomycete  
461 parasites can lead to negative synergistic effects on the hosts under warming temperatures.  
462 Modeling also shows that DVM can provide an important thermal refuge to *E. baikalensis* from  
463 both the direct negative effects of temperature and the impacts of parasitism. These results are  
464 broadly relevant to understanding how future climate warming will affect pelagic ecosystems of  
465 cold lakes and oceans.

#### 466 Effects of temperature and parasitism: experimental results

467 Our experimental studies show a large mismatch between the thermal optima of *E.*  
468 *baikalensis* and their oomycete parasite *Saprolegnia* (Figs. 2-4). These results support our  
469 hypotheses (H1-H3) that increasing temperatures will decrease fitness of *E. baikalensis*, both  
470 directly and via the negative effects of *Saprolegnia*. Studies on various strains of *Saprolegnia*  
471 have consistently shown that the thermal optimum for this genus occurs around 25°C (Oláh and  
472 Farkas 1978, Hatai et al. 1990). Our results closely match these findings, showing highest growth  
473 rates on agar at 25°C. The thermal optimum for *E. baikalensis* is nearer to 5°C; survival was  
474 highest at this temperature for both adults and juveniles, and average survival times decreased  
475 rapidly at 15 and 20°C compared to 5 and 10°C. Temperature also had a dramatic effect on the  
476 fitness of *E. baikalensis* through effects on reproductive output, with complete reproductive  
477 failure at 15 and 20°C. While we are not aware of other published experimental results for *E.*  
478 *baikalensis*, Kozhov (1963) and Afanasyeva (1977), both cite field observations showing that *E.*  
479 *baikalensis* does not tolerate temperatures above 15°C.

480 An unexpected finding that contradicts our hypotheses about the impact of *Saprolegnia*  
481 (H3) was the apparent increase in reproductive output (as number of nauplii hatching per egg  
482 sack) of *E. baikalensis* exposed to *Saprolegnia* (Fig. 4). We are unsure whether this effect is a  
483 function of increased number of eggs per egg sack in *Saprolegnia*-exposed individuals or of  
484 lower egg mortality rates of exposed females. This result is especially surprising given that the  
485 few other studies that examined effects of oomycete parasites (*Aphanomyces* spp.) on freshwater  
486 copepods have found high brood mortality associated with parasitism (Burns 1989; Miao and  
487 Nauwerck 1999; Valois and Burns 2016). This finding also contrasts with most other studies on  
488 the effect of parasites in terrestrial and aquatic host-parasite systems, where negative impacts of  
489 infection on fecundity are typical (Stirnadel and Ebert 1997; Hurd 2001, Ebert 2005; Duffy and  
490 Hall 2008; Cohen et al. 2017).

491 One possible explanation for the increased reproductive output of infected *E. baikalensis*  
492 individuals is compensation by infected mothers for their infection-associated shorter lifespan, an  
493 idea known as the “terminal investment hypothesis” or “fecundity compensation”. Results  
494 congruent with fecundity compensation have been demonstrated for diverse organisms infected  
495 with parasites or diseases, including snails, birds, amphibians and freshwater *Daphnia*  
496 (Minchella and Loverde 1981, Velando et al. 2006; Vale and Little 2012; Brannelly et al. 2016).  
497 While more study is needed to conclusively establish a positive effect of *Saprolegnia* on *E.*  
498 *baikalensis* reproduction, the *E. baikalensis*-*Saprolegnia* interaction may represent an interesting  
499 system for the study of host-parasite evolution.

#### 500 Modeling results and comparison to long-term field data

501 Our population model reproduced some aspects of field observations on densities of *E.*  
502 *baikalensis* and *Saprolegnia* infection prevalence, providing partial support for our hypothesis

503 that warmer temperatures will have negative population-level impacts on *E. baikalensis* (H3,  
504 H4). There were, however, also important differences between the predictions of our model and  
505 field data that contrast with our hypotheses H3 and H4. While all formulations of our model  
506 predict lower densities of pelagic *E. baikalensis* populations under warmer conditions, the long-  
507 term data show no significant differences in the density of adult *E. baikalensis* between years of  
508 different temperatures and a possible positive effect of temperature on juvenile densities (Figs. 6,  
509 7). This mismatch may be due to the way we modeled DVM behaviour of *E. baikalensis*. In our  
510 model, all *E. baikalensis* performed DVM, spending half of the day in the hypolimnion and half  
511 of the day in the epilimnion, regardless of epilimnetic temperatures. In the model, DVM was  
512 shown to provide a “thermal refuge” for *E. baikalensis*, allowing it to escape some of the  
513 negative effects of warming and persist even under warm conditions (supporting hypothesis H5).  
514 Detailed studies of DVM in Lake Baikal (Afanasyeva 1977) and other systems (e.g., Haney  
515 1988; Hays et al. 2001) show that DVM behaviour of copepods is much more nuanced than  
516 simulated in our model, with copepod DVM responding to various cues, including food, light,  
517 temperature, and predators and also differing for different life stages. In Lake Baikal,  
518 Afanasyeva (1977) showed that *E. baikalensis* tended to avoid migrating into the upper part of  
519 the epilimnion (0–5 m) when its water temperature exceeded 11–14°C.

520 The hypothesis that zooplankton modify their DVM behaviour to maximize fitness while  
521 balancing different environmental pressures (including predation, food availability, damage from  
522 UV radiation and thermal stress) has received wide support (Haney 1988; Loose and  
523 Dawidowicz 1994; Williamson et al. 2011). It appears that *E. baikalensis* in Lake Baikal may  
524 also adjust their DVM behaviour in response to temperature. The positive relationship between  
525 *E. baikalensis* juvenile densities and surface temperature may be a function of such fine-tuning



526 of DVM behaviour, where in warm years *E. baikalensis* have a wider range of thermal regimes  
527 in which to maximize feeding, growth, gonad maturation, reproduction and longevity. It is also  
528 possible that other factors, for which we did not account in our model, are responsible for a lack  
529 of a negative effect of warm temperatures on *E. baikalensis*. For example, primary production  
530 rates may be higher during warm years providing more food to *E. baikalensis* and compensating  
531 for the negative effects of temperature; Yoshida et al. (2003) found higher primary production  
532 rates in the surface water of Lake Baikal in warmer periods of the year and Izmet'yeva et al.  
533 (2011) showed a positive correlation between surface temperature and chlorophyll  
534 concentrations using long term monitoring data (1979-2002). Reduced cropping of *E. baikalensis*  
535 by cold-adapted invertebrate (the pelagic amphipod *Macrohectopus branickii* Dyb.) and  
536 vertebrate (various species of endemic fish, mainly *Comephorus baikalensis* Pallas, *C. dybowskii*  
537 Kototneff, *Cottocomephorus grewihgki* Dybowski, *C. inermis* Jakowlew) predators of Lake  
538 Baikal represents another possible explanation for the mismatch between model predictions and  
539 observations. Nonetheless, both our model and field observations indicate that the ability to  
540 perform (and possibly fine tune) DVM behaviour provides an important thermal refuge,  
541 potentially enabling *E. baikalensis* to persist in the pelagic region of the lake in the face of  
542 moderate warming.

543 In addition to providing a refuge from the direct negative effects of warm temperatures,  
544 DVM may also provide *E. baikalensis* with a partial refuge from impacts of *Saprolegnia*  
545 infection. Regulation of body temperature by poikilothermic hosts to slow the growth of  
546 parasites has been demonstrated in insects (Müller and Schmid-Hempel 1993; Inglis et al. 1996)  
547 and modeling suggests that it may be important in our study system. *Saprolegnia* growth and  
548 lethality increase with temperature, and the ability to spend a portion of the day in the cold



549 hypolimnion may slow the progress of disease in infected individuals. This finding contrasts with  
550 some studies on parasites of *Daphnia* in shallow lakes, where DVM may actually increase  
551 infection prevalence by increasing the spatial overlap between hosts and parasites spores, which  
552 are concentrated in the hypolimnion (Decaestecker et al. 2002). Thus, the role of DVM as a  
553 refuge from warm-loving parasites likely depends on both the individual thermal tolerances of  
554 the host and parasite as well as the route of parasite transmission in the system, possibly being  
555 most important in deep lakes or the ocean.

#### 556 Population-level significance of *Saprolegnia* infection

557 Reports from the Russian-language literature (Kozhov 1963, Afanasyeva 1977) and long-  
558 term monitoring data suggest that, at least in some years, *Saprolegnia* can infect and kill a large  
559 fraction of the pelagic *E. baikalensis* population. Despite the potential ecological importance of  
560 *Saprolegnia* in the pelagic ecosystem of Lake Baikal, many questions about the impacts of  
561 *Saprolegnia* on *E. baikalensis* are unanswered. For example, it is unclear how frequently  
562 outbreaks occur. As mentioned earlier, we are unsure whether *Saprolegnia* presence was  
563 recorded systematically in the long-term monitoring data or only during some outbreak years. It  
564 is also unclear what triggers *Saprolegnia* outbreaks. While some authors hypothesized a link to  
565 warm temperatures (Kozhov 1963; Afanasyeva 1977), the years in which *Saprolegnia* presence  
566 was recorded in the long-term data were not unusually warm. The spatial extent and dynamics of  
567 *Saprolegnia* epizootics are also entirely unexplored and are impossible to evaluate with the long-  
568 term data, since these data come from only one sampling station.

569 Another important knowledge gap concerns the transmission of *Saprolegnia* among *E.*  
570 *baikalensis*. Oomycete infections are transmitted by motile zoospores with limited lifespans  
571 (Walker and Van West 2007). In infected *E. baikalensis*, zoospores are not released until days

572 after the death of infected individuals, by which point many of the infected individuals sink out  
573 of the upper water layers where most susceptible hosts are concentrated (Fig. 5). This suggests  
574 that epizootics may be likelier to start during turbulent conditions when dead individuals remain  
575 in the upper layers longer or when zoospores are mixed into the upper water layers (storms or  
576 deep convective mixing periods), or in shallow areas of the lake where contact between  
577 infectious dead and susceptible individuals is maximized. Transport of spores of the parasitic  
578 yeast *Metschnikowia* from nearshore areas by storms and density currents have been  
579 hypothesized to play a role in initiating epizootics in *Daphnia* (Cáceres et al. 2006; Hall et al.  
580 2010), and such mechanisms may be also important for *Saprolegnia* epizootics in Lake Baikal.

581 Among the most challenging aspects of modeling epizootics is estimation of the  
582 transmission rate parameter ( $\beta$ ), which includes the movement of parasites among hosts as well  
583 as the probability of infection once a host is encountered. Estimating  $\beta$  is a non-trivial task even  
584 in well-studied host-parasite systems (Kirkeby et al. 2017). We had very little information to  
585 guide parameterization of  $\beta$  or assess whether  $\beta$  is temperature-dependent. Given this  
586 uncertainty, we sought to explore the consequences of varying  $\beta$  and its temperature dependence  
587 for *E. baikalensis* for its heuristic, rather than strictly predictive value.

588 Research on host-parasite interactions in aquatic systems often predicts higher incidence of  
589 infection with warmer temperatures (Marcogliese 2008; Karvonen et al. 2010). However, this is  
590 not always the case; for example, Hall et al. (2006), showed that interactions between the thermal  
591 optima of parasites and their hosts (as well as of host's predators) can result in diverse  
592 temperature-infection prevalence relationships. We found that the shape of the  $\beta$  - temperature  
593 relationship had large and opposite effects on predicted infection prevalence under different  
594 temperature scenarios (Fig. 7). In a temperature-independent  $\beta$  scenario, the highest rates of

595 infection and greatest negative impacts of *Saprolegnia* were predicted under the coldest  
596 temperature scenarios. This result is a function of the higher densities of susceptible individuals  
597 under colder scenarios and density-dependent transmission of *Saprolegnia* in the model.  
598 Interestingly, the highest incidence of infection was still predicted for the warmer periods of the  
599 year, likely because of increased temperature-driven mortality of infected individuals. Allowing  
600  $\beta$  to increase with temperature resulted in a different pattern of modeled infection prevalence  
601 relative to the “constant- $\beta$ ” scenario. Both the “mortality rate”- and “growth on agar”-based  
602 temperature- $\beta$  relationships predicted higher incidence of infection for the warmer scenarios; the  
603 steeper slope of the temperature- $\beta$  relationship in the latter scenario resulted in higher incidence  
604 of infection across all temperature scenarios relative to the “mortality-rate”-based temperature- $\beta$   
605 relationship.

606 Deciding which of our temperature- $\beta$  scenarios is more realistic, and hence better simulates  
607 the infection processes that occur in Lake Baikal, is difficult. We have shown that the time  
608 between exposure and death (and hence ability to release infective zoospores) may decrease with  
609 increasing temperature. On the other hand, the sinking of dead individuals prior to zoospore  
610 release means that spore maturation and host-seeking may occur in the deep and cold  
611 hypolimnion, and hence  $\beta$  would be independent of surface temperature. Given the large  
612 differences in prediction of different temperature-  $\beta$  scenarios, determining which scenario is  
613 more realistic will enable better predictions of how *Saprolegnia* may affect the Lake Baikal  
614 ecosystem in the future.

615 Some of the temperature-dependent  $\beta$  scenarios predicted very high infection prevalence by  
616 *Saprolegnia* in the *E. baikalensis* population. Interestingly, infection-prevalence did not have a  
617 linear relationship with the negative effect of the infection. This result is likely because of the

618 non-linear relationships between temperature, infection rates and the mortality rates of infected  
619 and uninfected adults and juveniles. These findings suggest an interesting possibility: since  
620 infection can only be diagnosed after death, it is possible for a large proportion of the *E.*  
621 *baikalensis* population to be infected with *Saprolegnia* without showing strong negative effects  
622 under normal temperature conditions, and for the negative impacts to become rapidly manifested  
623 during temperature increases. However, we believe this scenario is unlikely to be the norm in  
624 Lake Baikal. In dozens of experiments that we conducted with *E. baikalensis* in 2012 and 2013,  
625 the development of *Saprolegnia* hyphae after death was observed in only a small number of  
626 individuals that were not intentionally exposed to *Saprolegnia* zoospores. Thus, *Saprolegnia*  
627 epizootics are probably an episodic occurrence in the lake rather than a regular feature of the  
628 pelagic ecosystem. Additional study is needed to determine the frequency, causes and  
629 consequences of *Saprolegnia* epizootics in the simple pelagic food web of Lake Baikal.

### 630 Implications in the context of environmental change

631 Lake Baikal is frequently regarded as a unique ecosystem due to its old age, high volume,  
632 and notable biodiversity and endemism, yet most of the threats it now faces are not unique  
633 (Hampton et al. 2018). In the vast majority of the world's lakes for which data are available,  
634 significant warming has occurred (O'Reilly et al. 2015). This warming has been suggested to  
635 negatively affect the endemic taxa that have evolved in both the warmest and the coldest of these  
636 ecosystems (Hampton et al. 2018). In the relatively hot African Rift Lakes that harbor  
637 extraordinary endemic biodiversity, fish and other endemic organisms may already be living near  
638 the limits of their thermal tolerances (O'Reilly et al. 2015) and it is unclear how long the  
639 endemic stenotherms of cold systems can be sustained in thermal refugia (Moore et al. 2009).

640 Surface temperatures of Lake Baikal have been rising for decades (Shimaraev and  
641 Domysheva 2013). Piccolroaz and Toffolon (2018) predict a mean and maximum increase in  
642 summer surface temperatures of 1.9 and 4°C for Lake Baikal by the middle of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.  
643 Our model and long-term monitoring data suggests that the negative effects of this temperature  
644 increase may be moderated by the ability of *E. baikalensis* to fine-tune their DVM behaviour.  
645 However, the direct negative effects of temperature on *E. baikalensis* will likely interact with  
646 other aspects of their environment. Besides potential for increased parasitism by *Saprolegnia*,  
647 interactions with cosmopolitan species of warm-loving competitors (*Daphnia*) and predators (the  
648 cyclopoid copepod *Cyclops kolensis*) – the densities of which have been increasing in recent  
649 decades (Hampton et al. 2008; Izmet'seva et al. 2016; Silow et al. 2016) – may have negative  
650 consequences for *E. baikalensis*.

651 In summary, our experimental, field and modelling results show a large thermal mismatch  
652 between cold-adapted freshwater copepods and their oomycete parasites in Lake Baikal.  
653 The negative effects of parasites are shown to vary seasonally and potentially between cold and  
654 warm years as the importance of the hot-parasite thermal mismatch varies. Modelling suggests  
655 that DVM by *E. baikalensis* may provide not only more optimal temperature for survival and  
656 reproduction but also a potential refuge from the negative effects of parasites. This hypolimnetic  
657 refuge may allow populations of *E. baikalensis* and other cold-loving copepods in lakes and  
658 oceans to persist even while surface temperatures rise above the optimum range for these  
659 organisms. However, temperature-mediated changes in behavior as well as the presence of  
660 asymmetric temperature responses for closely interacting species, such as those considered here,  
661 are very likely to alter interaction strengths in food webs with unknown impacts on aquatic  
662 resources.

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854 **Figure legends:**

855 Figure 1: Dead *Epischura baikalensis* adult (A), nauplius (B) and egg sack (C) showing  
856 *Saprolegnia* hyphae. Club-shaped sporangia are visible in the top portion of panel A

857 Figure 2: Growth rates of *Saprolegnia* on Sabourad agar at experimentally manipulated  
858 temperatures (5, 10, 15, 20, and 25°C), with linear regression fit shown ( $R^2 = 0.93$ ).

859 Figure 3: Survival curves of *Epischura baikalensis* nauplii (top panels) and adults (lower  
860 panels panels) in control (blue dashed lines) and *Saprolegnia* exposure treatments (red solid  
861 lines) at 5, 10, 15 and 20°C. + symbols indicate censoring events (loss of individual from  
862 experiment not due to death or survival to end of experiment). Shaded regions represent 95 %  
863 confidence intervals. Numbers represent average survival times in days ( $\pm$  SD) for control (C)  
864 and *Saprolegnia*-exposed (S) groups.

865 Figure 4: Effect of temperature and *Saprolegnia* on reproduction of *Epischura baikalensis*,  
866 including time to production of 1<sup>st</sup> egg sack (A), time from egg sack production to first hatch (B)  
867 and number of live nauplii per egg sack (C). Blue circles= control treatments, red squares=  
868 individuals exposed to *Saprolegnia* spores but not showing development of hyphae on egg sack,  
869 green triangles= individuals exposed to *Saprolegnia* spores and showing development of hyphae  
870 on egg sack. Lines connect average values within categories.

871 Figure 5: Patterns of *Saprolegnia* infection in pelagic zone of Lake Baikal based on 16  
872 years of data (collected 1945–1999) in which *Saprolegnia* presence was recorded. Depth  
873 distribution of A) total *Epischura* abundance, B) number of visibly infected *Epischura* per liter,  
874 and C) prevalence of visibly infected *Epischura* plotted across all sampling dates. Black lines in  
875 A-C represent a LOESS smoother. D) Prevalence of visibly infected *Epischura* in the 0–500 m  
876 layer plotted against max. monthly temperature in the 0–50m water layer. E) Prevalence of

877 visibly infected *Epischura* in the 0–500 m layer by month. In panels A, B and C vertical bars  
878 represent densities for net hauls from different depth intervals. Color corresponds to maximum  
879 monthly temperature in top 50 m for each sample.

880 Figure 6: Seasonality and temperature dependence of adult and juvenile *Epischura*  
881 abundance in 0–250 m layer in pelagic zone of Lake Baikal based on 48 years of data. A)  
882 LOESS smoothers fitted to year-round densities in cold (dark blue), cool (light blue), average  
883 (green), warm (orange) and hot (red) years (see results section for detail on year classification).  
884 B) same as in A but for stratified season only. C) annual average summer-time (DOY 180–320)  
885 densities of *Epischura* plotted against max summer lake surface temperatures. D) annual average  
886 fall-winter (DOY > 320) densities of *Epischura* plotted against max summer surface  
887 temperatures.

888 Figure 7: Summary of model output showing the effect of water temperature and  
889 *Saprolegnia* infection on total abundance of *Epischura* (adults and juveniles) and percent of  
890 individuals infected with *Saprolegnia* for the stratified period under different temperature  
891 scenarios. Temperature scenarios (from coldest to hottest) include cold, cool, average, warm and  
892 hot years in the pelagic zone, and typical years in a large bay and a small shallow bay of Lake  
893 Baikal. Different colors correspond to different temperature scenarios (blue= coldest, red=  
894 warmest). Model runs were performed for theoretical populations performing DVM and  
895 theoretical populations not performing DVM. Four different *Saprolegnia* infection scenarios  
896 were examined: one with no *Saprolegnia* present, and three with different infection rate ( $\beta$ ) –  
897 temperature relationships. Details of the  $\beta$  – temperature relationships used in the model can be  
898 found in the text.

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900 **Tables:**

901 Table 1: Terms and values used in population model. For details on infection rate scenarios, see  
 902 methods and supplementary information sections.

Term	Definition	Value 5°C	Value 10°C	Value 15°C	Value 20°C	Notes
$A_H$	Density of healthy adults (thous. ind. $m^{-2}$ )	22.8 (initial)	--	--	--	Estimated from long-term data
$A_I$	Density of infected adults (thous. ind. $m^{-2}$ )	0.5 (initial)	--	--	--	Estimated from long-term data
$J_H$	Density of healthy juveniles (thous. ind. $m^{-2}$ )	482.7 (initial)	--	--	--	Estimated from long-term data
$J_I$	Density of infected juveniles (thous. ind. $m^{-2}$ )	5 (initial)	--	--	--	Estimated from long-term data
$m_{AH}$	Mortality rate for healthy adults ( $day^{-1}$ )	0.09	0.144	0.756	4.608	Experimentally determined, temperature-dependent
$m_{AI}$	Mortality rate for infected adults ( $day^{-1}$ )	0.108	0.45	1.17	11.97	Experimentally determined, temperature-dependent
$m_{JH}$	Mortality rate for healthy juveniles ( $day^{-1}$ )	0.011	0.017	0.034	0.075	Experimentally determined, temperature-dependent
$m_{JI}$	Mortality rate for infected juveniles ( $day^{-1}$ )	0.013	0.018	0.04	0.109	Experimentally determined, temperature-dependent
$g$	Growth/maturation rate ( $day^{-1}$ )	0.0056	0.011	0.011	0.011	Estimated from literature (Afanasyeva 1977)
$r_H$	Reproduction rate for healthy adults ( $day^{-1}$ )	0.36	0.241	0	0	Experimentally determined, temperature-dependent
$r_I$	Reproduction rate for infected adults ( $day^{-1}$ )	0.36	0.241	0	0	Experimentally determined, temperature-dependent
$\beta$	Transmission	0.0008	0.0008	0.0008	0.0008	Estimated from

	rate (thous. ind. m <sup>-2</sup> day <sup>-1</sup> ); constant scenario					long-term data and experiments; temperature - dependent and temperature-independent scenarios compared
β	Transmission rate thous. ind. m <sup>-2</sup> day <sup>-1</sup> ); “mortality” scenario	0.0008	0.001	0.0031	0.028	Estimated from long-term data and experiments; temperature - dependent and temperature-independent scenarios compared
β	Transmission rate thous. ind. m <sup>-2</sup> day <sup>-1</sup> ); “agar” scenario	0.0008	0.0089	0.017	0.0251	Estimated from long-term data and experiments; temperature - dependent and temperature-independent scenarios compared

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Table 2: Results of parametric survival analysis for *Epischura baikalensis* nauplii and adults, examining effect of temperature and *Saprolegnia* exposure treatments.

Group	Probability distribution	p-value
<i>Epischura</i> nauplii	Weibull	
Temperature		<0.001
Treatment		0.011
Interaction		0.12
<i>Epischura</i> adults	Exponential	
Temperature		<0.001
Treatment		<0.001
Interaction		0.71

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Table 3: Proportion of *Epischura baikalensis* adults and nauplii that showed *Saprolegnia* growth after death and average time between death and noticeable *Saprolegnia* growth.

Group	Number w hyphae/ total dead; proportion	Average days (±SD) between death and appearance of hyphae
Adult 5°C	0 of 0; 0	NA
Adult 10°C	1 of 11; 0.09	1
Adult 15°C	9 of 18; 0.5	1.9 ±1.9
Adult 20°C	18 of 18; 1.0	1.5 ±0.8
Nauplii 5°C	3 of 15; 0.2	1.7 ±1.5
Nauplii 10°C	4 of 24; 0.17	2.0 ±0.8
Nauplii 15°C	19 or 24; 0.79	0.9 ±1.4
Nauplii 20°C	12 of 24; 0.5	0.6 ±0.7

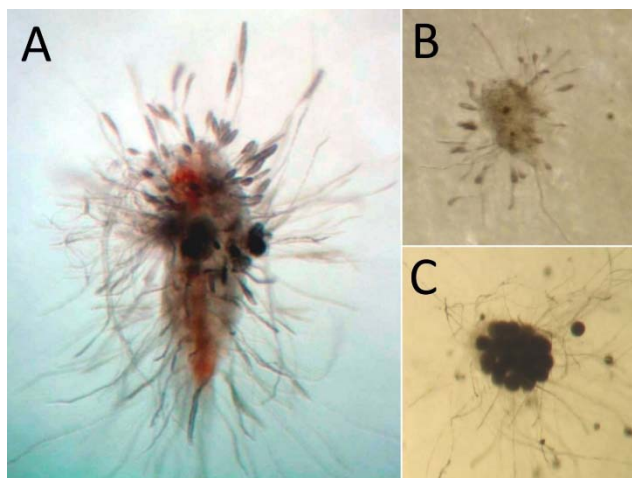
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Table 4: Results of ANOVA on effect of temperature and *Saprolegnia* exposure on *Epischura baikalensis* reproductive parameters. Results for two analyses are shown: combining all results from *Saprolegnia*-exposed adults (Treatment: control vs. *Saprolegnia*-exposed) and separating *Saprolegnia*-exposed adults based on whether visible hyphae were present on the egg sack (Treatment: control vs. *Saprolegnia*-exposed without hyphae vs. *Saprolegnia*-exposed with hyphae). Tukey HSD codes: 5, 10, 15: temperature (°C) treatments, C: control, S: all *Saprolegnia*-exposed adults, SN: *Saprolegnia*-exposed, but no hyphae on egg sack, SH: *Saprolegnia*-exposed and hyphae present. Treatments with different superscripted letters are significantly different ( $p < 0.05$ ) according to the Tukey HSD test.

	Combined <i>Saprolegnia</i> results				Separated by hyphal presence			
	df	F-value	p-value	Tukey HSD	df	F-value	p-value	Tukey HSD
(Time to 1 <sup>st</sup> egg sack) <sup>0.5</sup>								
Temperature	2	7.36	0.0009	5 <sup>a</sup> , 10 <sup>b</sup> , 15 <sup>c</sup>	2	6.32	0.0023	5 <sup>a</sup> , 10 <sup>b</sup> , 15 <sup>c</sup>
Treatment	1	0.22	0.64		2	0.98	0.38	
Interaction	2	0.77	0.47		4	1.18	0.32	
Time to hatch								
Temperature	1	146.18	<<0.0001	5 <sup>a</sup> , 10 <sup>b</sup>	1	146.69	<<0.0001	5 <sup>a</sup> , 10 <sup>b</sup>
Treatment	1	0.029	0.96		2	0.12	0.89	
Interaction	1	0.01	0.92		2	0.35	0.71	
(Number of nauplii) <sup>0.5</sup>								
Temperature	1	4.1	0.046	5 <sup>a</sup> , 10 <sup>b</sup>	1	4.40	0.038	5 <sup>a</sup> , 10 <sup>b</sup>
Treatment	1	39.16	<<0.001	C <sup>a</sup> , S <sup>b</sup>	2	23.29	<<0.0001	C <sup>a</sup> , SN <sup>b</sup> ,
Interaction	1	4.9	0.029		2	2.92	0.058	SH <sup>c</sup>

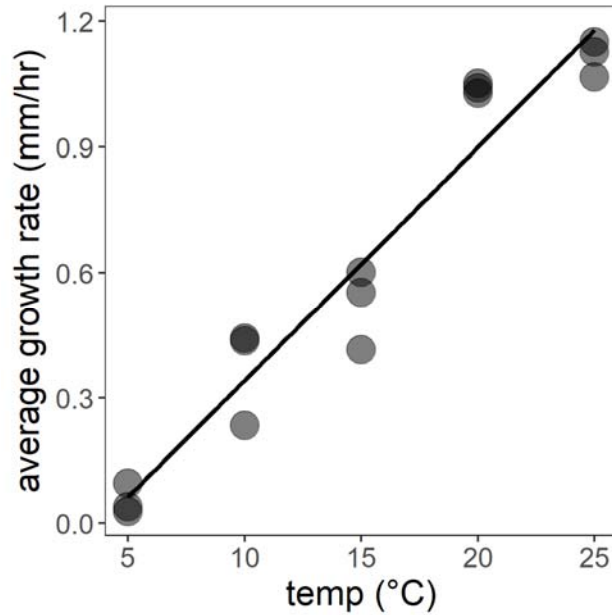
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**Figures:**

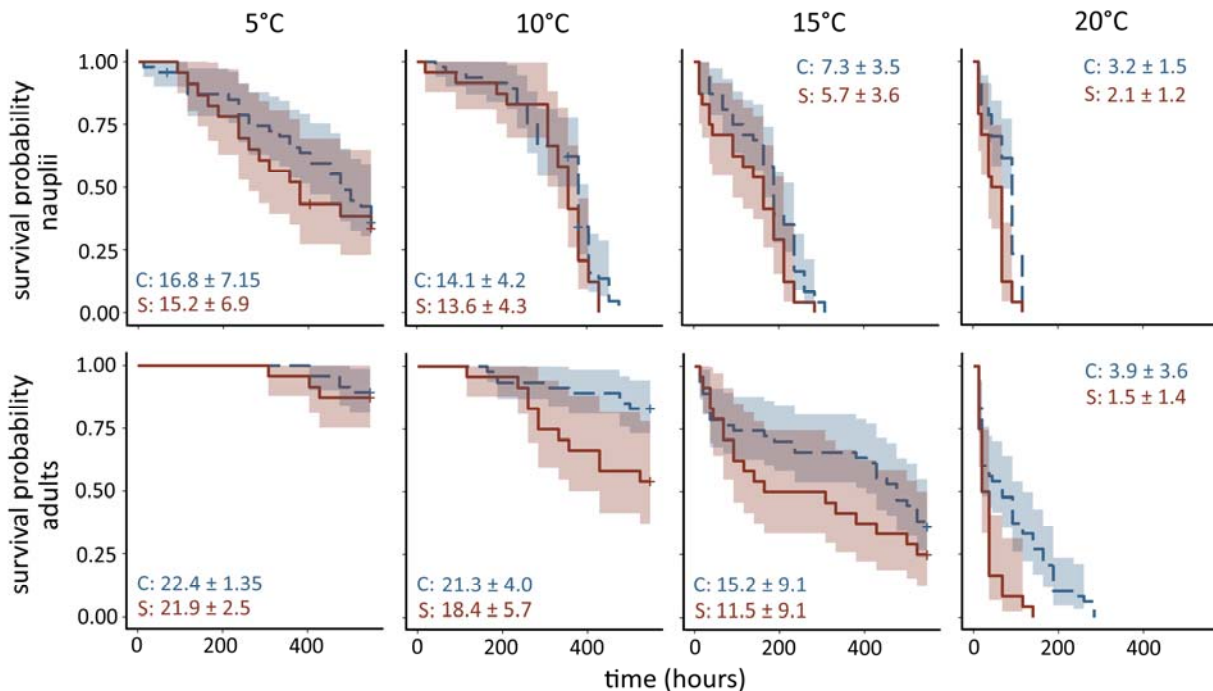


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929 Figure 1: Dead *Epischura baikalensis* adult (A), nauplius (B) and egg sack (C) showing  
930 *Saprolegnia* hyphae. Club-shaped sporangia are visible in the top portion of panel A.  
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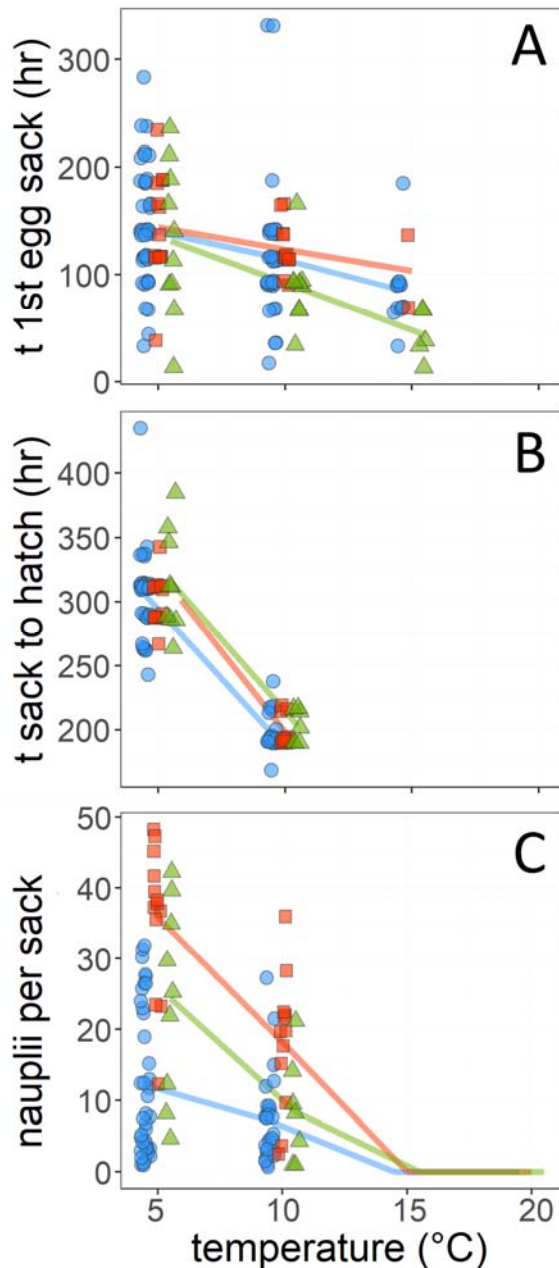


934 Figure 2: Growth rates of *Saprolegnia* on Sabourad agar at experimentally manipulated  
935 temperatures (5, 10, 15, 20, and 25°C), with linear regression fit shown ( $R^2 = 0.93$ ).  
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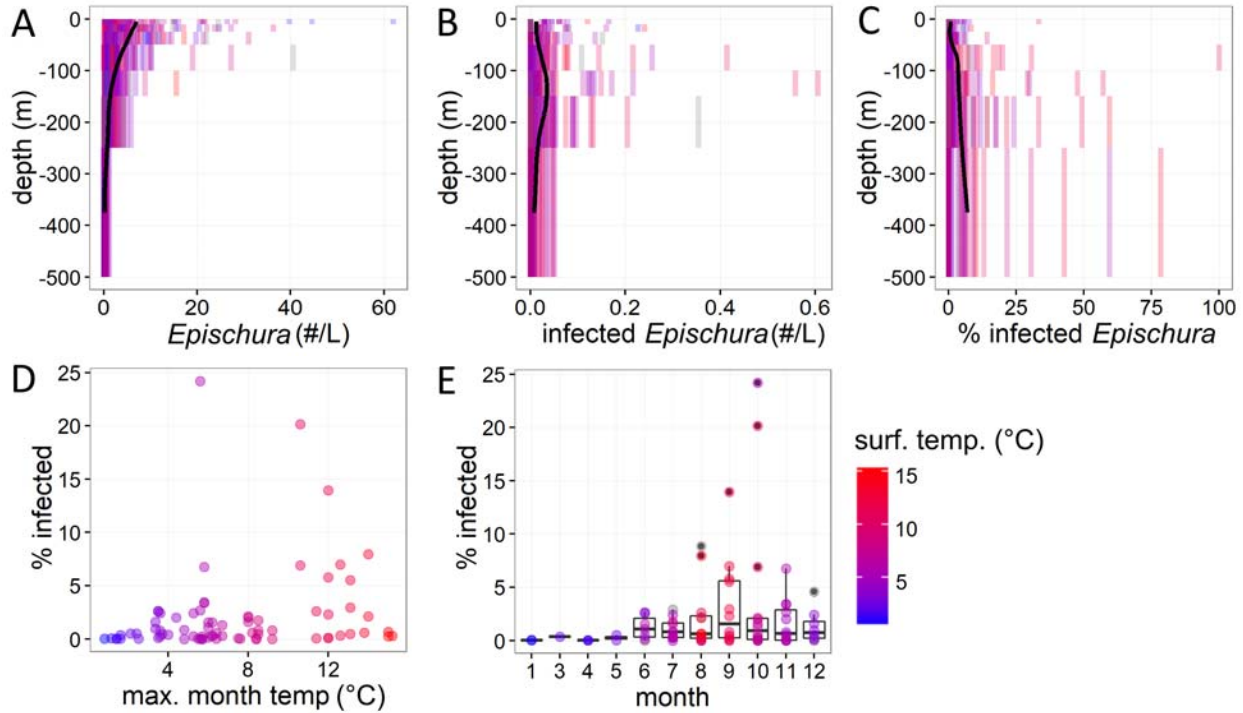


938 Figure 3: Survival curves of *Epischura baikalensis* nauplii (top panels) and adults (lower panels)  
939 in control (blue dashed lines) and *Saprolegnia* exposure treatments (red solid lines) at 5,  
940

941 10, 15 and 20°C. + symbols indicate censoring events (loss of individual from experiment not  
942 due to death or survival to end of experiment). Shaded regions represent 95 % confidence  
943 intervals. Numbers represent average survival times in days ( $\pm$  SD) for control (C) and  
944 *Saprolegnia*-exposed (S) groups.  
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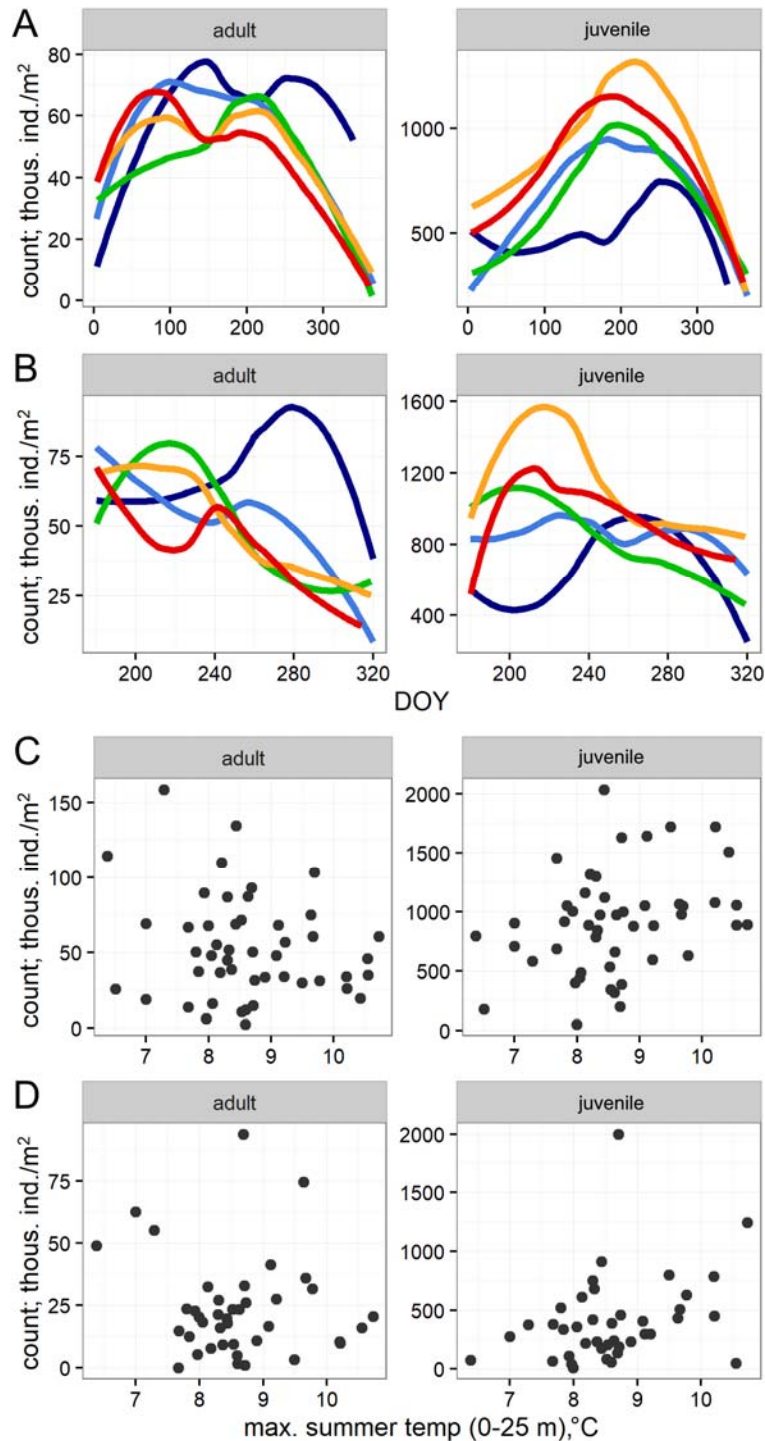
946  
947 Figure 4: Effect of temperature and *Saprolegnia* on reproduction of *Epischura baikalensis*,  
948 including time to production of 1<sup>st</sup> egg sack (A), time from egg sack production to first hatch (B)  
949 and number of live nauplii per egg sack (C). Blue circles= control treatments, red squares=  
950 individuals exposed to *Saprolegnia* spores but not showing development of hyphae on egg sack,  
951 green triangles= individuals exposed to *Saprolegnia* spores and showing development of hyphae  
952 on egg sack. Lines connect average values within categories.



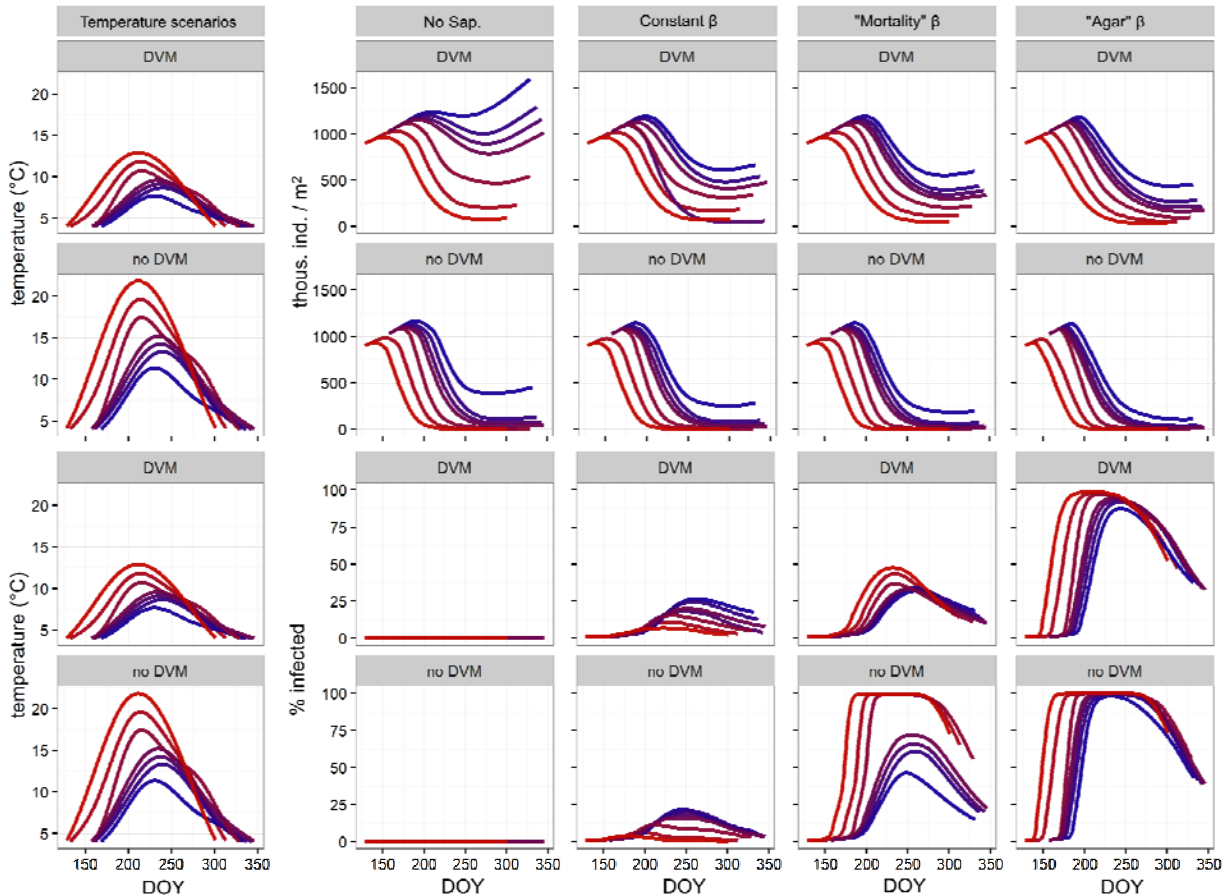
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Figure 5: Patterns of *Saprolegnia* infection in pelagic zone of Lake Baikal based on 16 years of data (collected 1945–1999) in which *Saprolegnia* presence was recorded. Depth distribution of A) total *Epischura* abundance, B) number of visibly infected *Epischura* per liter, and C) prevalence of visibly infected *Epischura* plotted across all sampling dates. Black lines in A–C represent a LOESS smoother. D) Prevalence of visibly infected *Epischura* in the 0–500 m layer plotted against max. monthly temperature in the 0–50m water layer. E) Prevalence of visibly infected *Epischura* in the 0–500 m layer by month. In panels A, B and C vertical bars represent densities for net hauls from different depth intervals. Color corresponds to maximum monthly temperature in top 50 m for each sample.





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 964 Figure 6: Seasonality and temperature dependence of adult and juvenile *Epischura* abundance in  
 965 0–250 m layer in pelagic zone of Lake Baikal based on 48 years of data. A) LOESS smoothers  
 966 fitted to year-round densities in cold (dark blue), cool (light blue), average (green), warm  
 967 (orange) and hot (red) years (see results section for detail on year classification). B) same as in A  
 968 but for stratified season only. C) annual average summer-time (DOY 180–320) densities of  
 969 *Epischura* plotted against max summer lake surface temperatures. D) annual average fall-winter  
 970 (DOY > 320) densities of *Epischura* plotted against max summer surface temperatures.



971  
 972 Figure 7: Summary of model output showing the effect of water temperature and *Saprolegnia*  
 973 infection on total abundance of *Epischura* (adults and juveniles) and percent of individuals  
 974 infected with *Saprolegnia* for the stratified period under different temperature scenarios.  
 975 Temperature scenarios (from coldest to hottest) include cold, cool, average, warm and hot years  
 976 in the pelagic zone, and typical years in a large bay and a small shallow bay of Lake Baikal.  
 977 Different colors correspond to different temperature scenarios (blue= coldest, red= warmest).  
 978 Model runs were performed for theoretical populations performing DVM and theoretical  
 979 populations not performing DVM. Four different *Saprolegnia* infection scenarios were  
 980 examined: one with no *Saprolegnia* present, and three with different infection rate ( $\beta$ ) –  
 981 temperature relationships. Details of the  $\beta$  – temperature relationships used in the model can be  
 982 found in the text.  
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