

1 Title (117 characters): **Transmission of West Nile and other temperate mosquito-borne**
2 **viruses peaks at intermediate environmental temperatures**

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20
21 **Keywords:** *Culex pipiens*, *Culex tarsalis*, *Culex quinquefasciatus*, West Nile virus, Western
22 Equine Encephalitis virus, Eastern Equine encephalitis virus, St. Louis Encephalitis virus, Rift
23 Valley Fever virus, Sindbis virus, Ockelbo disease, mosquito-borne disease, infectious disease,

24 temperature

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26

27 *Availability of data and material*: Upon acceptance, all data and code will be submitted to Dryad
28 repository and the appropriate web link will be listed here for publication.

29 *Authors' contributions*: EAM, LRJ, and MSS conceived of and designed the study. MN, AV, HS,
30 FEM, and MSS collected trait data. MN and MSS fit models. JC compiled West Nile virus case
31 data and climate data. JC and MSS analyzed West Nile virus case data. MSS wrote the first draft
32 of the manuscript. All authors revised and approved the manuscript.

33 **ABSTRACT (150 WORDS = LIMIT)**

34 The temperature-dependence of many important mosquito-borne diseases has never been
35 quantified. These relationships are critical for understanding current distributions and predicting
36 future shifts from climate change. We used trait-based models to characterize temperature-
37 dependent transmission of 10 vector–pathogen pairs of mosquitoes (*Culex pipiens*, *Cx.*
38 *quinquefasciatus*, *Cx. tarsalis*, and others) and viruses (West Nile, Eastern and Western Equine
39 Encephalitis, St. Louis Encephalitis, Sindbis, and Rift Valley Fever viruses), most with
40 substantial transmission in temperate regions. Transmission is optimized at intermediate
41 temperatures (23–26°C) and often has wider thermal breadths (due to cooler lower thermal
42 limits) compared to pathogens with predominately tropical distributions (in previous studies).
43 The incidence of human West Nile virus cases across US counties responded unimodally to
44 average summer temperature and peaked at 24°C, matching model-predicted optima (24–25°C).
45 Climate warming will likely shift transmission of these diseases, increasing it in cooler locations
46 while decreasing it in warmer locations.

47 **INTRODUCTION**

48 Temperature is a key driver of transmission of mosquito-borne diseases because the
49 mosquitoes and pathogens are ectotherms whose physiology and life histories depend strongly on
50 environmental temperature [1–8]. These temperature-dependent traits drive the biological
51 processes required for transmission. For example, temperature-dependent fecundity,
52 development, and mortality of mosquitoes determine whether vectors are present in sufficient
53 numbers for transmission. Temperature also affects the mosquito biting rate on hosts and
54 probability of becoming infectious.

55 Mechanistic models based on these traits and guided by principles of thermal biology
56 predict that the thermal response of transmission is unimodal: transmission peaks at intermediate
57 temperatures and declines at extreme cold and hot temperatures [2–12]. This unimodal response
58 is predicted consistently across mosquito-borne diseases [2–8] and supported by independent
59 empirical evidence for positive relationships between temperature and human cases in many
60 settings [5,13–16], but negative relationships at extremely high temperatures in other studies
61 [2,16–19]. Accordingly, we expect increasing temperatures due to climate change to shift disease
62 distributions geographically and seasonally, as warming increases transmission in cooler settings
63 but decreases it in settings near or above the optimal temperature for transmission [20–23]. Thus,
64 mechanistic models have provided a powerful and general rule describing how temperature
65 affects the transmission of mosquito-borne disease. However, thermal responses vary among
66 mosquito and pathogen species and drive important differences in how predicted transmission
67 responds to temperature, including the specific temperatures of the optimum and thermal limits
68 for each vector–pathogen pair [2–7]. We currently lack a framework to describe or predict this
69 variation among vectors and pathogens.

70 Filling this gap requires comparing mechanistic, temperature-dependent transmission
71 models for many vector–pathogen pairs. However, models that incorporate all relevant traits are
72 not yet available for many important pairs for several reasons. First, the number of relevant
73 vector–pathogen pairs is large because many mosquitoes transmit multiple pathogens and many
74 pathogens are transmitted by multiple vectors. Second, empirical data are costly to produce, and
75 existing data are often insufficient because experiments or data reporting were not designed for
76 this purpose. Here, we address these challenges by systematically compiling data and building
77 models for understudied mosquito-borne disease systems, including important pathogens with
78 substantial transmission in temperate areas like West Nile virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine
79 Encephalitis virus (EEEV). Accurately characterizing the thermal limits and optima for these
80 systems is critical for understanding where and when temperature currently promotes or
81 suppresses transmission and where and when climate change will increase, decrease, or have
82 minimal effects on transmission.

83 In this study, we model the effects of temperature on an overlapping suite of widespread,
84 important mosquito vectors and viruses that currently lack complete temperature-dependent
85 models. These viruses include: West Nile virus (WNV), St. Louis Encephalitis virus (SLEV),
86 Eastern and Western Equine Encephalitis viruses (EEEV and WEEV), Sindbis virus (SINV), and
87 Rift Valley fever virus (RVFV) [24–28] (summarized in Table 1). All but RVFV sustain
88 substantial transmission in temperate regions [24–28]. We selected this group because many of
89 the viruses share common vector species and several vector species transmit multiple viruses
90 (Table 1, Fig 1). All the viruses cause febrile illness and severe disease symptoms, including
91 long-term arthralgia and neuroinvasive syndromes with a substantial risk of mortality in severe
92 cases [24–28]. Since invading North America in 1999, WNV is now distributed worldwide

93 [21,24] and is the most common mosquito-borne disease in the US, Canada, and Europe. SLEV,
94 EEEV, and WEEV occur in the Western hemisphere (Table 1), with cases in North, Central, and
95 South America [28–30]. For EEEV, the North American strains are genetically distinct and more
96 virulent than the Central and South American strains [28]. An unusually large outbreak of EEEV
97 in the United States last year (2019) has yielded incidence four times higher than average (31
98 cases, resulting in 9 fatalities) and brought renewed attention to this disease [31]. SINV occurs
99 across Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia, with substantial transmission in northern Europe and
100 southern Africa [26,28]. RVFV originated in eastern Africa and now also occurs across Africa
101 and the Middle East [27]. These pathogens primarily circulate and amplify in wild bird reservoir
102 hosts (except RVFV, which primarily circulates in livestock). For all six viruses, humans are
103 dead-end or unimportant reservoir hosts [28,32], in contrast to pathogens like malaria, dengue
104 virus, yellow fever virus, and Ross River virus, which sustain infection cycles between humans
105 and mosquitoes [28,33,34]. Most transmission of RVFV to humans occurs through direct contact
106 with infected livestock (that are infected by mosquitoes), and to a lesser extent via the mosquito-
107 borne transmission from infected vectors [32].

Vector / Pathogen	WNV	SLEV	EEEV	WEEV	SINV	RVFV
<i>Cx. pipiens</i>	hatched				hatched	grey
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i>	PDR only	grey				grey
<i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	hatched	grey		hatched		
<i>Cx. univittatus</i>	hatched				grey	
<i>Cx. torrentium</i>					grey	
<i>Cx. theileri</i>					grey	grey
<i>Cx. poicilipes</i>						grey
<i>Cx. tritaeniorhynchus</i>					grey	
<i>Ae. taeniorhynchus</i>					hatched	hatched
<i>Ae. triseratus</i>			hatched			
<i>Ae. sollicitans</i>			grey			
<i>Ae. vexans</i>						grey
<i>Ae. mcintoshi</i>						
<i>Ae. ochraceus</i>						grey
<i>Cq. perturbans</i>					grey	grey
<i>Cu. melanura</i>			grey	grey		

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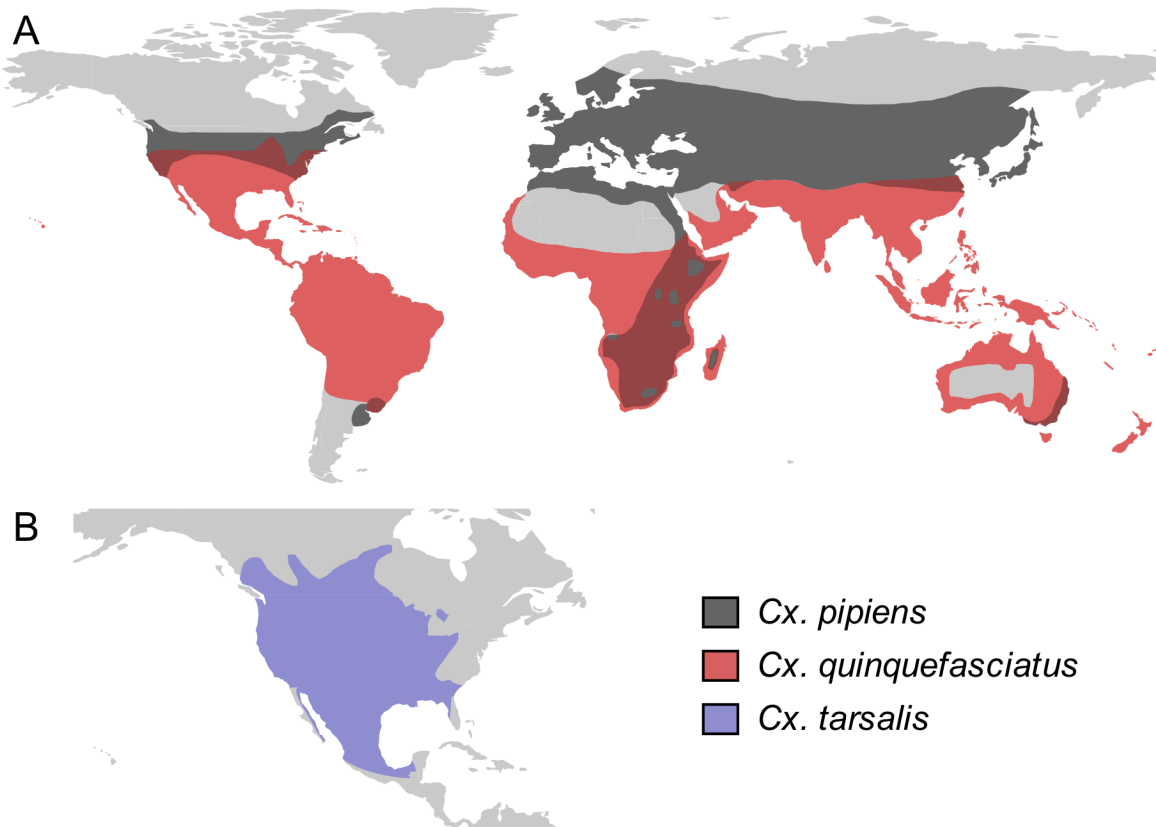
109 **Figure 1: Viruses transmitted by a community of vectors.** The six viruses in this study (WNV
110 = West Nile virus, SLEV = St. Louis Encephalitis virus, EEEV = Eastern Equine Encephalitis
111 virus, WEEV = Western Equine Encephalitis virus, SINV = Sindbis virus, RVFV = Rift Valley
112 Fever virus) and the *Culex* (*Cx.*), *Aedes* (*Ae.*), *Coquillettidia* (*Cq.*), and *Culiseta* (*Cs.*) vectors
113 that are important for sustaining transmission to humans. Grey shading indicates an important
114 vector-virus pair; hatching indicates available temperature-dependent data for infection traits
115 (parasite development rate [*PDR*] and vector competence [*bc* or *b* and *c*]). The importance of
116 each vector for transmission may vary over the geographic range of the virus. Infection data were
117 available for SINV and RVFV in *Ae. taeniorhynchus*, although this North American mosquito
118 does not occur in the endemic range of these pathogens. Data sources: [25–27,32,76].

TABLE 1:

Virus (<i>genus</i>)	Primary vector <i>spp.</i>	Geographic range	Presentation & mortality	Epidemiology & Ecology
West Nile virus (WNV, <i>Flavivirus</i>)	<i>Cx. pipiens</i> , <i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i> , <i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	Globally distributed	Febrile illness and encephalitis. 10% mortality in neuro-invasive cases. Long-term physical & cognitive disabilities.	The most common mosquito-borne disease in North America. Since invading in 1999, 7 million estimated infections, 22,999 neuro-invasive cases, and 2,163 deaths in US; 5,614 reported cases in Canada. Typically 100-300 cases annually in Europe, but over 1500 in 2018. Poor surveillance in Africa, but seroprevalence ~80% in some areas. Birds are main reservoir/amplification hosts.
St. Louis Encephalitis virus (SLEV, <i>Flavivirus</i>)	<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i> , <i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	Western hemisphere; western, midwestern, & southern US	Encephalitis. 5-15% mortality in diagnosed cases.	92 cases and 6 deaths recorded in US from 2009-2018. Birds are main reservoir/amplification hosts.
Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus (EEEV, <i>Alphavirus</i>)	<i>Ae. triseriatus</i> , <i>Cs. melanura</i>	Western hemisphere; eastern & midwestern US	Febrile illness and encephalitis. 33% mortality in diagnosed cases. Long-term cognitive disabilities.	73 cases and 30 deaths recorded in US from 2009-2018. Birds are main reservoir/amplification hosts.
Western Equine Encephalitis virus (WEEV, <i>Alphavirus</i>)	<i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	Western hemisphere; western & midwestern US	Febrile illness and encephalitis. Low mortality, except in infants.	The CDC does not report WEEV infection. Birds are main reservoir/amplification hosts. WEEV is derived from a recombinant event between the ancestors of EEEV and SINV.
Sindbis virus (SINV, <i>Alphavirus</i>), also called Pogosta, Ockelbo, & Karelian Fever	<i>Cx. torrentium</i> , <i>Cx. pipiens</i> , <i>Cx. univittatus</i>	Europe, Africa, Asia & Australia, primarily northern Europe & southern Africa	Febrile illness, rash, and joint pain. No mortality, but long-term disability.	Poor surveillance except in Finland, where annual incidence is 2-26 per 100,000 people and seroprevalence can reach ~40%. Birds are main reservoir/amplification hosts. Long-distance migratory birds may spread the virus between temperate zones in Northern and Southern hemispheres.
Rift Valley Fever virus (RVFV, <i>Phlebovirus</i>)	<i>Ae. mcintoshi</i> , <i>Ae. ochraceus</i> , <i>Ae. vexans</i> , <i>Cx. pipiens</i> , <i>Cx. poicilipes</i> , <i>Cx. theileri</i> and many more	Africa & the Middle East	Febrile illness and encephalitis. <1% mortality in total cases. 50% mortality in hemorrhagic cases, permanent blindness in 50% of ocular cases (<2% of cases).	Livestock are main reservoir/amplification hosts, and suffer mortality and abortion after being infected by mosquitoes. Most transmission to humans occurs via direct contact with infected livestock. Vertical transmission in vectors (via dormant eggs) can initiate epidemics. In eastern and southern Africa, there are large epidemics every 5-15 years driven by rainfall and blooms of <i>Ae. spp.</i> from low-lying flooded areas known as <i>dambos</i> .

119
 120 **Table 1: Properties of six viruses transmitted by an overlapping network of mosquito**
 121 **vectors.** Sources: WNV [24,25,140,147–150]; SLEV [25,29]; EEEV [25,30]; WEEV [25]; SINV
 122 [26]; RVFV [27,32,76,151].

123 We primarily focus on *Culex pipiens*, *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, and *Cx. tarsalis*, well-studied
124 species that are important vectors for many of the viruses and for which appropriate temperature-
125 dependent data exist for nearly all traits relevant to transmission. Although the closely-related
126 *Cx. pipiens* and *Cx. quinquefasciatus* overlap in their home ranges in Africa, they have expanded
127 into distinct regions globally (Fig 2) [35]. *Cx. pipiens* occurs in higher-latitude temperate areas in
128 the Northern and Southern hemisphere, while *Cx. quinquefasciatus* occurs in lower-latitude
129 temperate and tropical areas (Fig 2A). By contrast, *Cx. tarsalis* is limited to North America but
130 spans the tropical-temperate gradient (Fig 2B). In this system of shared pathogens and vectors
131 with distinct geographical distributions, we also test the hypothesis that differences in thermal
132 performance underlie variation in vector and pathogen geographic distributions, since temperate
133 environments have cooler temperatures and a broader range of temperatures than tropical
134 environments. We also include thermal responses from other relevant vector or laboratory model
135 species in some models: *Aedes taeniorhynchus* (SINV and RVFV), *Ae. triseriatus* (EEEV), *Ae.*
136 *vexans* (RVFV), *Cx. theileri* (RVFV), and *Culiseta melanura* (EEEV). Additionally, we compare
137 our results to previously published models [2–4,6,7] for transmission of more tropical diseases
138 by the following vectors: *Ae. aegypti*, *Ae. albopictus*, *Anopheles* spp., and *Cx. annulirostris*.



139

140 **Figure 2: *Culex* spp. vectors of West Nile and other viruses have distinct but overlapping**

141 **geographic distributions.** The geographic distribution of the primary vectors of West Nile

142 virus: (A) *Culex pipiens* (dark grey) and *Cx. quinquefasciatus* (red), adapted from [35,83]; (B)

143 *Cx. tarsalis* (blue), northern boundary from [84], southern boundary based on data from the

144 Global Biodiversity Information Facility. Figure created by Michelle Evans for this paper.

145

146 We use a mechanistic approach to characterize the effects of temperature on vector–virus

147 pairs in this network using the thermal responses of traits that drive transmission. Specifically,

148 we use experimental data to measure the thermal responses of the following traits: vector

149 survival, biting rate, fecundity, development rate, competence for acquiring and transmitting

150 each virus, and the extrinsic incubation rate of the virus within the vector. We ask: (1) Do these

151 vectors have qualitatively similar trait thermal responses to each other, and to vectors from

152 previous studies? (2) Is transmission of disease by these vectors predicted to be optimized and
153 limited at similar temperatures, compared to each other and to other mosquito-borne diseases in
154 previous studies? (3) How do the thermal responses of transmission vary across vectors that
155 transmit the same virus and across viruses that share a vector? (4) Which traits limit transmission
156 at low, intermediate, and high temperatures? Broadly, we hypothesize that variation in thermal
157 responses is predictable based on vectors' and viruses' geographic ranges.

158 Mechanistic models allow us to incorporate nonlinear effects of temperature on multiple
159 traits, measured in controlled laboratory experiments across a wide thermal gradient, to
160 understand their combined effect on disease transmission. This approach is critical when making
161 predictions for future climate regimes because thermal responses are almost always nonlinear,
162 and therefore current temperature–transmission relationships may not extend into temperatures
163 beyond those currently observed in the field. We use Bayesian inference to quantify uncertainty
164 and to rigorously incorporate prior knowledge of mosquito thermal physiology to constrain
165 uncertainty when data are sparse [3]. The mechanistic modeling approach also provides an
166 independently-generated, *a priori* prediction for the relationship between temperature and
167 transmission to test with observational field data on human cases, allowing us to connect data
168 across scales, from individual-level laboratory experiments, to population-level patterns of
169 disease transmission, to climate-driven geographic variation across populations. Using this
170 approach, we build mechanistic models for 10 vector–virus pairs by estimating thermal
171 responses of the traits that drive transmission. We validate the models using observations of
172 human cases in the US over space (county-level) and time (month-of-onset). The validation
173 focuses on WNV because it is the most common of the diseases we investigated and has the most
174 complete temperature-dependent trait data.

175 **MODEL OVERVIEW**

176 To understand the effect of temperature on transmission and to compare the responses
177 across vector and virus species, we used R_0 —the basic reproduction number [36]. We use R_0 as a
178 static, relative metric of temperature suitability for transmission that incorporates the nonlinear
179 effects of temperature on multiple traits [1,8,37] and is comparable across systems, rather than
180 focusing on its more traditional interpretation as a threshold for disease invasion into a
181 susceptible population. Temperature variation creates additional nonlinear effects on
182 transmission [38–41] that are not well-captured by R_0 , [10,36,42–44] but could be incorporated
183 in future work by integrating the thermal performance curves fit here over the observed
184 temperature regime.

185 The basic R_0 model (eq. 1) [37] includes the following traits that depend on temperature
186 (T): adult mosquito mortality (μ , the inverse of lifespan [l]), biting rate (a , proportional to the
187 inverse of the gonotrophic [oviposition] cycle duration), pathogen development rate (PDR , the
188 inverse of the extrinsic incubation period: the time required for exposed mosquitoes to become
189 infectious), and vector competence (bc , the proportion of exposed mosquitoes that become
190 infectious). Vector competence is the product of infection efficiency (c , the proportion of
191 exposed mosquitoes that develop a disseminated infection) and transmission efficiency (b , the
192 proportion of infected mosquitoes that become infectious, with virus present in saliva). Three
193 parameters do not depend on temperature: mosquito density (M), human density (N), the rate at
194 which infected hosts recover and become immune (r).

$$195 \quad \text{Basic } R_0: R_0(T) = \left(\frac{a(T)^2 bc(T) e^{-\frac{\mu(T)}{PDR(T)}} M}{N r \mu(T)} \right)^{1/2} \quad \text{eq. 1}$$

196 As in previous work [2–4,6–8,10], we extend the basic R_0 model to account for the effects of
197 temperature on mosquito density (M) via additional temperature-sensitive life history traits (eq.
198 2): fecundity (as eggs per female per day, EFD), egg viability (proportion of eggs hatching into
199 larvae, EV), proportion of larvae surviving to adulthood (pLA), and mosquito development rate
200 (MDR , the inverse of the development period).

201 Full R_0 : $R_0(T) = \left(\frac{a(T)^2 bc(T) e^{-\frac{\mu(T)}{PDR(T)}} EFD(T) EV(T) pLA(T) MDR(T)}{N r \mu(T)^3} \right)^{1/2}$ eq. 2

202 Fecundity data were only available as eggs per female per gonotrophic cycle ($EFGC$; for *Cx.*
203 *pipiens*) or eggs per raft (ER ; for *Cx. quinquefasciatus*). Thus, we further modified the model to
204 obtain the appropriate units for fecundity: we added an additional biting rate term to the model
205 (to divide by the length of the gonotrophic cycle, eqs. S1 and S2) and for *Cx. quinquefasciatus*
206 we also added a term for the proportion of females ovipositing (pO ; eq. S2).

207 We parameterized a temperature-dependent R_0 model for each relevant vector–virus pair
208 using previously published data. We conducted a literature survey to identify studies that
209 measured the focal traits at three or more constant temperatures in a controlled laboratory
210 experiment. From these data, we fit thermal responses for each trait using Bayesian inference.
211 This approach allowed us to quantify uncertainty and formally incorporate prior data [3] to
212 constrain fits when data for the focal species were sparse or only measured on a limited portion
213 of the temperature range (see *Material and Methods* for details).

214 For each combination of trait and species, we selected the most appropriate of three
215 functional forms for the thermal response. As in previous work [2–4,6–8], we fit traits with a
216 symmetrical unimodal thermal response with a quadratic function (eq. 3) and traits with an
217 asymmetrical unimodal thermal response with a Brière function [45] (eq. 4). For some

218 asymmetrical responses (e.g., *PDR* for most vector–virus pairs), we did not directly observe a
219 decrease in trait values at high temperatures due to a limited temperature range. In these cases,
220 we chose to fit a Brière function based on previous studies with wider temperature ranges [2,4–6]
221 and thermal biology theory [46]; the upper thermal limit for these fits did not limit transmission
222 in the R_0 models, and therefore did not impact the results. Unlike in previous work, lifespan data
223 for all vectors here exhibited a monotonically decreasing thermal response over the range of
224 experimental temperatures available. We fit these data using a linear function (eq. 5) that
225 plateaued at coldest observed data point to be conservative. To overwinter, *Cx. pipiens* and *Cx.*
226 *tarsalis* enter reproductive diapause and hibernate [47,48], and *Cx. pipiens* can survive
227 temperatures at or near freezing (0°C) for several months [47]. *Cx. quinquefasciatus* enters a
228 non-diapause quiescent state [48,49] and is likely less tolerant of cold stress, but we wanted a
229 consistent approach across models and other traits constrained the lower thermal limit of the *Cx.*
230 *quinquefasciatus* R_0 model to realistic temperatures.

231 Quadratic function: $f(T) = -q(T - T_{min})(T - T_{max})$ eq. 3

232 Brière function: $f(T) = q \cdot T(T - T_{min})\sqrt{(T_{max} - T)}$ eq. 4

233 Linear function: $f(T) = -mT + z$ eq. 5

234 In the quadratic and Brière functions of temperature (T), the trait values depend on a lower
235 thermal limit (T_{min}), an upper thermal limit (T_{max}), and a scaling coefficient (q). In the linear
236 function, the trait values depend on a slope (m) and intercept (z).

237 The fitting via Bayesian inference produced posterior distributions for each parameter in
238 the thermal response functions (eqs. 3–5) for each trait–species combination. These posterior
239 distributions represent the estimated uncertainty in the parameters. We used these parameter
240 distributions to calculate distributions of expected mean functions for each trait over a

241 temperature gradient (from 1–45°C by 0.1°C increments). Then we substituted these samples
242 from the distributions of the mean thermal responses for each trait into eq. 2 to calculate the
243 posterior distributions of predicted R_0 over this same temperature gradient for each vector–virus
244 pair (see *Material and Methods* and S1 Text for details). Thus, the estimated uncertainty in the
245 thermal response of each trait is propagated through to R_0 and combined to produce the estimated
246 response of R_0 to temperature, including the uncertainty in $R_0(T)$.

247 Because the magnitude of realized R_0 depends on system-specific factors like breeding
248 habitat availability, reservoir and human host availability, vector control, species interactions,
249 and additional climate factors, we focused on the relative relationship between R_0 and
250 temperature [8]. We rescaled the R_0 model results to range from 0 to 1 (i.e., ‘relative R_0 ’),
251 preserving the temperature-dependence (including the absolute thermal limits and thermal
252 optima) while making each model span the same scale. To compare trait responses and R_0
253 models, we quantify three key temperature values: the optimal temperature for transmission
254 (T_{opt}) and the lower and upper thermal limits (T_{min} and T_{max} , respectively) where temperature is
255 predicted to prohibit transmission ($R_0 = 0$).

256

257 **RESULTS**

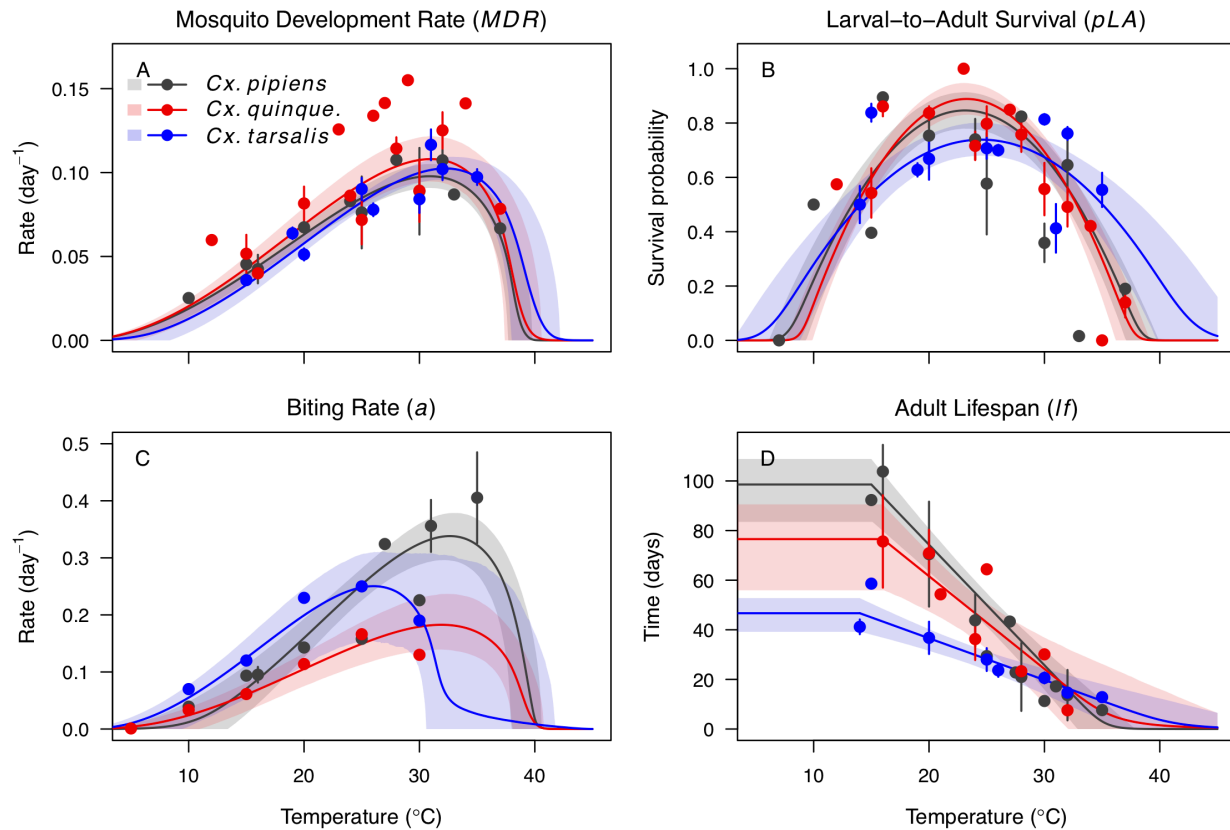
258 *Trait thermal responses*

259 We fit thermal response functions from empirical data for most of the vector and virus
260 traits that affect transmission (Table S1 and Fig 1). All mosquito traits were temperature-
261 sensitive (three main *Culex* species: Fig 3, Fig 4; *Ae. taeniorhynchus*, *Ae. triseriatus*, *Ae. vexans*,
262 *Cx. theileri*, and *Culiseta melanura*: Fig S1). For most species, the extensive data for larval traits
263 (mosquito development rate [MDR] and survival [pLA]) produced clear unimodal thermal

264 responses with relatively low uncertainty (Fig 3A,B, Fig S1A,B). For biting rate (a) and
265 fecundity traits (pO , $EFGC$, ER , EV), trait data were often more limited and fits were more
266 uncertain, but still consistent with the expected unimodal thermal responses based on previous
267 studies [2,4–6] and theory [46] (Fig 3C, Fig 4, Fig S1C-F). However, adult lifespan (lf) data
268 clearly contrasted with expectations from previous studies of more tropical mosquitoes. Lifespan
269 decreased linearly over the entire temperature range of available data (coldest treatments: 14–
270 16°C, Fig 3D; 22°C, Fig S1D) instead of peaking at intermediate temperatures (e.g., previously
271 published optima for more tropical species: 22.2–23.4°C) [2–4,6,7].

272 In general, the adult mosquito traits (biting rate, lifespan, and fecundity [a , lf , pO , $EFGC$,
273 ER , EV]) varied more among species than the larval traits (development rate and survival [MDR
274 and pLA]), although the high degree of uncertainty resulted in overlapping 95% credible intervals
275 (CIs) between species for most traits (Fig 3, Fig 4, Fig S1), with two exceptions. First, the
276 thermal response for lifespan (lf) for *Cx. tarsalis* was significantly less steep than the response
277 for *Cx. pipiens* (Fig 3D; 95% CIs for slope coefficients: *Cx. tarsalis* = 1.12–2.24, *Cx. pipiens* =
278 3.83–5.84). Second, the symmetry of the unimodal functional form was generally consistent for
279 each trait across species, with the exceptions that the thermal responses for the proportion
280 ovipositing (pO) and egg viability (EV) were symmetrical for *Cx. pipiens* and asymmetrical for
281 *Cx. quinquefasciatus* (Fig 4 A,C). The lifespan pattern (thermal response of *Cx. tarsalis* less
282 steep than *Cx. pipiens*) did not match any *a priori* prediction, but the differences for pO and EV
283 matched predictions based on the geographic ranges of the vectors: lower-latitude *Cx.*
284 *quinquefasciatus* performed better at warmer temperatures for pO (Fig 3A), and higher-latitude

285 *Cx. pipiens* performed better at cooler temperatures for *EV* (Fig 3C).



286

287 **Figure 3: *Culex* spp. mosquito traits respond strongly and consistently to temperature.** The
288 thermal responses of mosquito traits for the North American vectors of West Nile virus: *Culex*
289 *pipiens* (dark grey), *Cx. quinquefasciatus* (red), and *Cx. tarsalis* (blue). (A) Mosquito
290 development rate (*MDR*), (B) larval-to-adult survival (*pLA*), (C) biting rate (*a*), and (D) adult
291 lifespan (*lf*). Points without error bars are reported means from single studies; points with error
292 bars are averages of means from multiple studies (+/- standard error, for visual clarity only;
293 thermal responses were fit to reported means, see Figs S2–5). Solid lines are posterior means;
294 shaded areas are 95% credible intervals of the trait mean. See Fig S1 for thermal responses for
295 *Aedes taeniorhynchus*, *Aedes triseriatus*, *Ae. vexans*, *Culiseta melanura*.

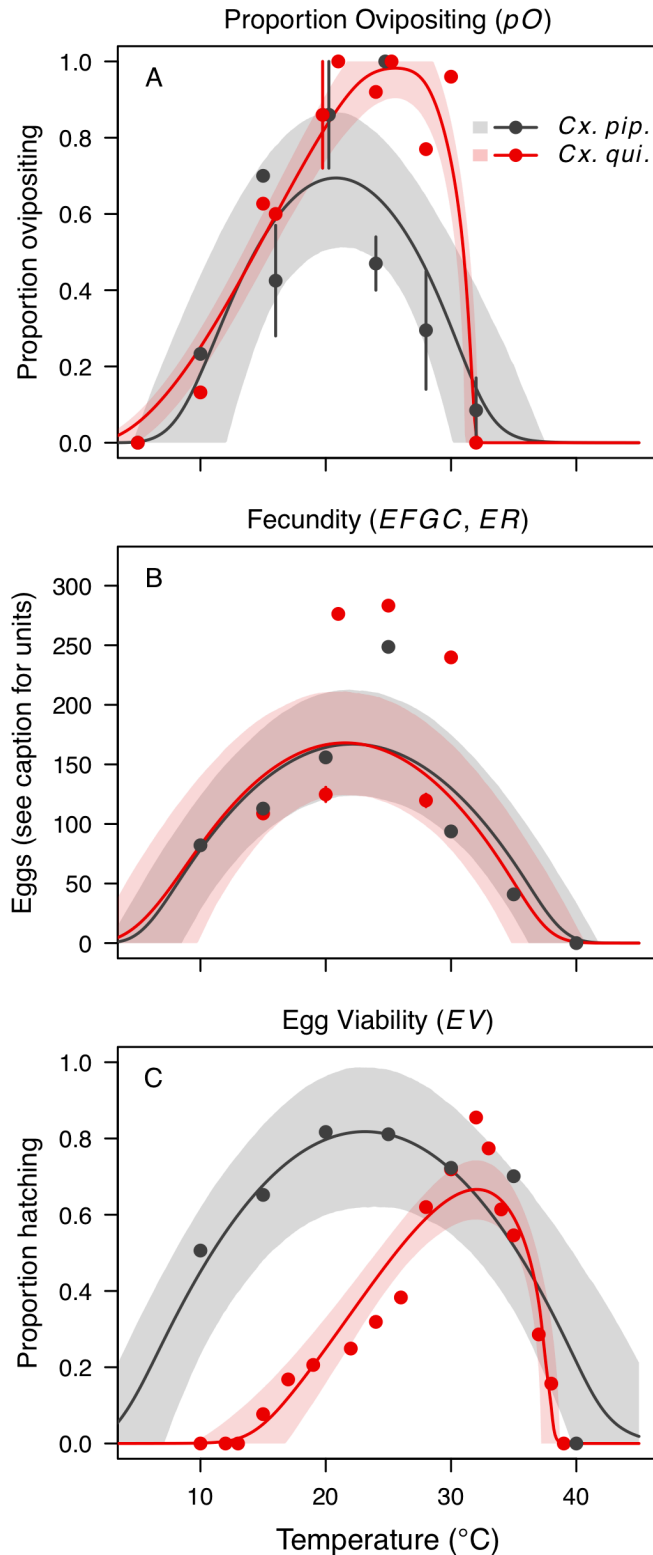


Figure 4: *Culex pipiens* and *Cx. quinquefasciatus* fecundity traits respond strongly to temperature but with different functional forms. The thermal responses of mosquito traits for the primary vectors of West Nile virus: *Culex pipiens* (dark grey) and *Cx. quinquefasciatus* (red). (A) Proportion ovipositing (pO), (B) fecundity (eggs per female per gonotrophic cycle, $EFGC$, or eggs per raft, ER), and (C) egg viability (EV). Points without error bars are reported means from single studies; points with error bars are averages of means from multiple studies (\pm standard error, for visual clarity only; thermal responses were fit to reported means, see Fig S6). Solid lines are posterior distribution means; shaded areas are 95% credible intervals of the trait mean. See Fig S1 for thermal responses for *Ae. vexans*, *Cx. theileri*, and *Culiseta melanura*.

525

324 The thermal responses for pathogen development rate were similar among most vector–
325 virus pairs (Fig 5), with a few notable exceptions: WNV in *Cx. quinquefasciatus* had a warmer
326 lower thermal limit (Fig 5A); WNV in *Cx. univittatus* had a cooler optimum and upper thermal
327 limit (Fig 5A); and SINV in *Ae. taeniorhynchus* had limited data that indicated very little
328 response to temperature (Fig 5C). By contrast, the thermal response of vector competence varied
329 substantially across vectors and viruses (Fig 6). For example, infection efficiency (*c*) of *Cx.*
330 *pipiens* peaked at warmer temperatures for WNV than for SINV (Fig 6A,G; 95% CIs: SINV =
331 14.1–30.5°C, WNV = 31.9–36.1°C), transmission efficiency (*b*) of *Cx. tarsalis* peaked at warmer
332 temperatures for WNV and SLEV than for WEEV (Fig 6B,E,H; CIs: WEEV = 19.2–23.2°C,
333 SLEV = 23.5–29.7°C, WNV = 23.9–29.3°C), and the lower thermal limit for vector competence
334 (*bc*) for WNV was much warmer in *Cx. pipiens* than in *Cx. univittatus* (Fig 6C; CIs: *Cx.*
335 *univittatus* = 1.5–7.1°C, *Cx. pipiens* = 15.0–17.9°C). Infection data for RVFV were only
336 available in *Ae. taeniorhynchus*, a New World species that is not a known vector for the virus in
337 nature.

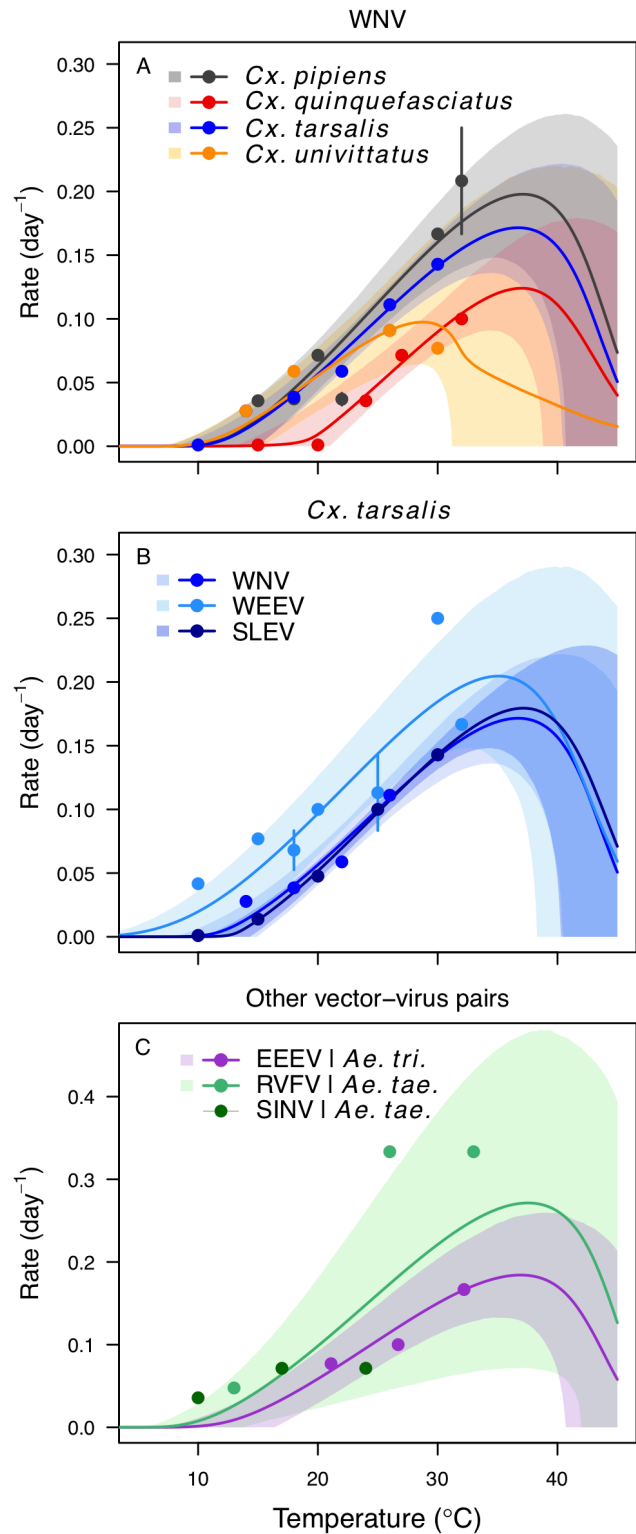
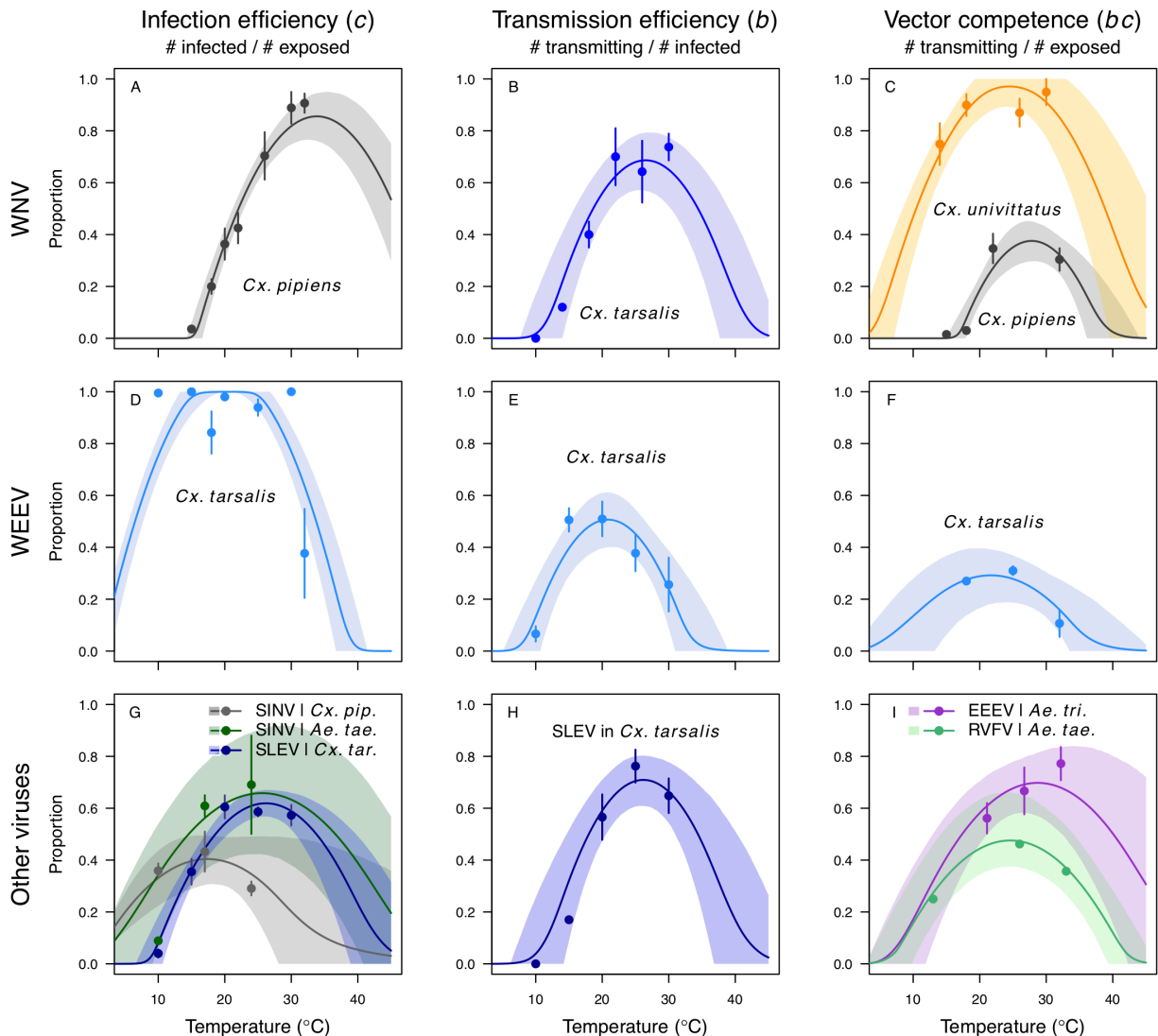


Figure 5: Pathogen development rates

have high thermal optima. Thermal responses of pathogen development rate (PDR). (A) West Nile virus in *Culex pipiens* (dark grey), *Cx. quinquefasciatus* (red), *Cx. tarsalis* (blue), and *Cx. univittatus* (orange). (B) Three viruses in *Cx. tarsalis*: West Nile virus (same as in A, blue), Western Equine Encephalitis virus (light blue), and St. Louis Encephalitis virus (dark blue). (C) Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus in *Aedes triseriatus* (violet), Rift Valley Fever virus in *Ae. taeniorhynchus* (light green), Sindbis virus in *Ae. taeniorhynchus* (dark green). We did not fit a thermal response for Sindbis virus in *Ae. taeniorhynchus* because the limited data responded weakly to temperature and did not match our priors. We used informative priors based on thermal biology theory and data from other systems to fit the decrease at high temperatures (see *Model Overview*); other traits determined the upper limits of the R_0 models. Points without error bars are reported means from single studies; points with error bars are averages of means from multiple studies (+/- standard error, for visual clarity only; thermal responses were fit to reported means, see Fig S7). Solid lines are posterior distribution

367 means; shaded areas are 95% credible intervals of the trait mean.

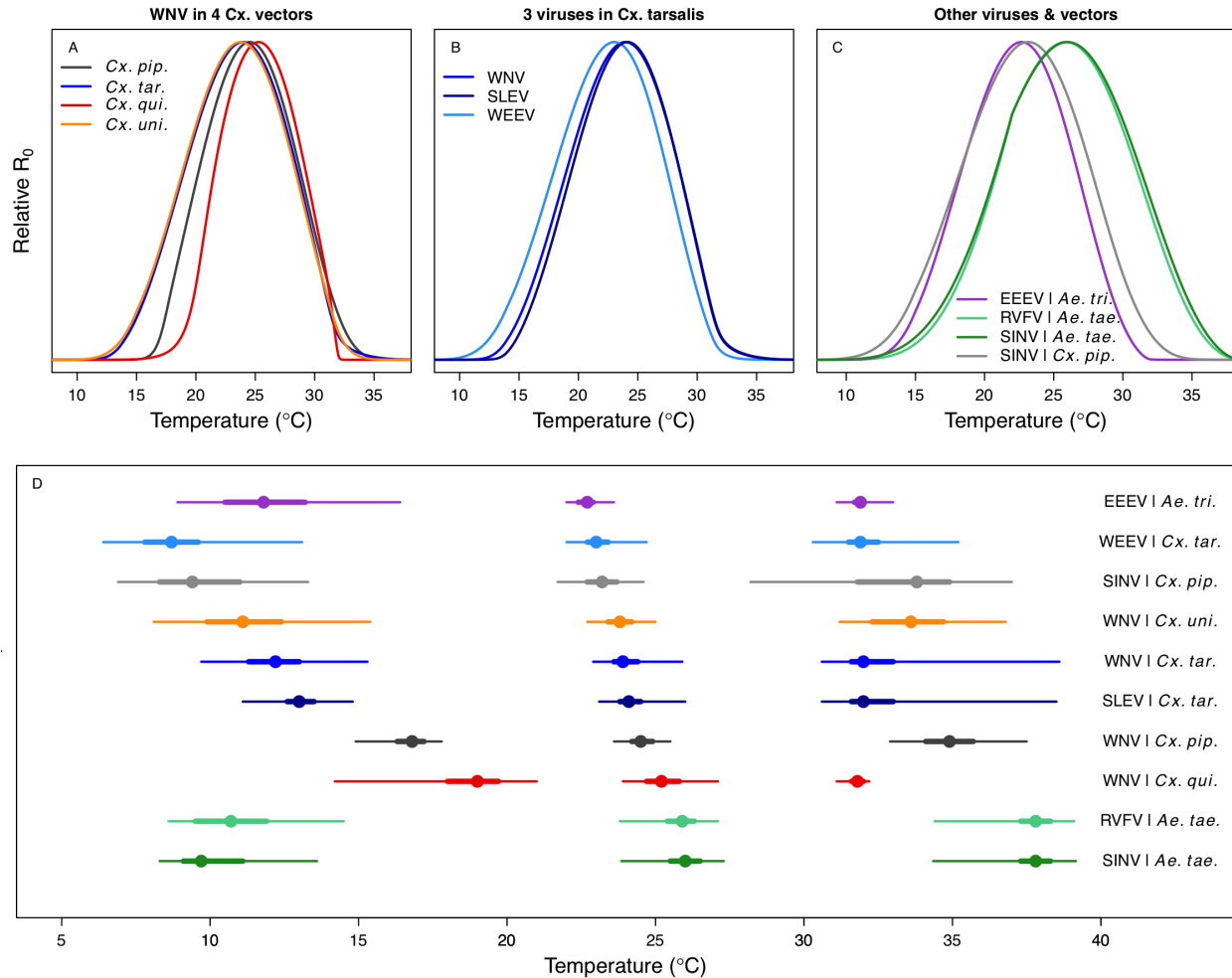


368
 369 **Figure 6: Vector competence responds strongly to temperature and varies across vector**
 370 **and virus species.** Thermal responses of infection efficiency (*c*, # infected / # exposed; first
 371 column), transmission efficiency (*b*, # transmitting / # infected; second column) or vector
 372 competence (*bc*, # infected / # exposed; third column) for vector–virus pairs. First row (A,B,C):
 373 West Nile virus in *Culex pipiens* (dark grey), *Cx. tarsalis* (blue), and *Cx. univittatus*
 374 (yellow/orange). Second row: (D,E,F) Western Equine Encephalitis virus in *Cx. tarsalis* (light
 375 blue). Third row (G,H,I): Sindbis virus in *Aedes taeniorhynchus* (dark green), Sindbis virus in
 376 *Cx. pipiens* (light gray), St. Louis Encephalitis virus in *Cx. tarsalis* (dark blue), Eastern Equine
 377 Encephalitis virus in *Ae. triseriatus* (violet), and Rift Valley Fever virus in *Ae. taeniorhynchus*
 378 (light green). Points are means of replicates from single or multiple studies (+/- standard error,
 379 for visual clarity only; thermal responses were fit to replicate-level data, see Fig S8, Fig S9).
 380 Solid lines are posterior distribution means; shaded areas are 95% credible intervals of the trait
 381 mean.

382 *Temperature-dependent R_0 models*

383 Relative R_0 responded unimodally to temperature for all the vector–virus pairs, with
384 many peaking at fairly cool temperatures (medians: 22.7–26.0°C, see Table 2 for CIs; Fig 7). The
385 lower thermal limits (medians: 8.7–19.0°C, see Table 2 for CIs; Fig 7) were more variable than
386 the optima or the upper thermal limits (medians: 31.9–37.8°C, see Table 2 for CIs; Fig 7),
387 although confidence intervals overlapped in most cases because lower thermal limits also had
388 higher uncertainty (Fig 7). The *Ae. taeniorhynchus* models were clear outliers, with much
389 warmer distributions for the upper thermal limits, and optima that trended warmer as well.

390 Differences in relative R_0 stemmed from variation both in vector traits (e.g., in Fig 7A,
391 with WNV in different vector species) and in virus infection traits (e.g., in Fig 7B, with different
392 viruses in *Cx. tarsalis*). The upper thermal limit was warmer for WNV transmitted by *Cx. pipiens*
393 (34.9°C [CI: 32.9–37.5°C]) than by *Cx. quinquefasciatus* (31.8°C [CI: 31.1–32.2°C]), counter to
394 the *a priori* prediction based on vector geographic ranges. This result implies that warming from
395 climate change may differentially impact transmission by these two vectors. Additionally, the
396 lower thermal limit for WNV varied widely (but with slightly overlapping 95% CIs) across
397 different vector species (Fig 7D), from 19.0°C (14.2–21.0°C) in *Cx. quinquefasciatus* to 16.8°C
398 (14.9–17.8°C) in *Cx. pipiens* to 12.2°C (9.7–15.3°C) in *Cx. tarsalis* to 11.1°C (8.1–15.4°C) in *Cx.*
399 *univittatus* (an African and Eurasian vector; Table 2). Based on these trends in the thermal limits
400 of R_0 , the seasonality of transmission and the upper latitudinal and elevational limits could vary
401 for WNV transmitted by these different species.



402

403 **Figure 7: Unimodal thermal responses of transmission (relative R_0) for ten vector-virus**
 404 **pairs.** Posterior mean relative R_0 for (A) West Nile virus (WNV) in *Culex pipiens* (dark grey),
 405 *Cx. tarsalis* (blue), *Cx. quinquefasciatus* (red), and *Cx. univittatus* (orange); (B) three viruses in
 406 *Cx. tarsalis*: WNV (same as in A, blue), Western Equine Encephalitis virus (WEEV, light blue),
 407 and St. Louis Encephalitis virus (SLEV, dark blue); (C) Sindbis virus (SINV) in *Aedes*
 408 *taeniorhynchus* (dark green) and *Cx. pipiens* (light grey), Rift Valley Fever virus (RVFV) in *Ae.*
 409 *taeniorhynchus* (light green), and Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus (EEEV) in *Ae. triseriatus*
 410 (violet). (D) Posterior median and uncertainty estimates for the lower thermal limit, optimum,
 411 and upper thermal limit. Points show medians, thick lines show middle 50% density, thin lines
 412 show 95% credible intervals. Models are ordered by increasing median optimal temperature.

TABLE 2:

R_0 Model	T_{min} (°C)	Optimum (°C)	T_{max} (°C)	Thermal breadth (°C)
<i>From this study:</i>				
EEEV in <i>Ae. triseriatus</i>	11.7 (8.8 – 16.3)	22.7 (22.0 – 23.6)	31.9 (31.1 – 33.0)	20.0 (15.4 – 23.0)
WEEV in <i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	8.6 (6.3 – 13.0)	23.0 (22.0 – 24.7)	31.9 (30.3 – 35.2)	23.3 (18.2 – 27.0)
SINV in <i>Cx. pipiens</i>	9.4 (6.9 – 13.3)	23.2 (21.7 – 24.6)	33.8 (28.2 – 37.0)	23.8 (17.3 – 28.6)
WNV in <i>Cx. univittatus</i>	11.0 (8.0 – 15.3)	23.8 (22.7 – 25.0)	33.6 (31.2 – 36.9)	22.5 (18.2 – 26.3)
WNV in <i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	12.1 (9.6 – 15.2)	23.9 (22.9 – 25.9)	32.0 (30.6 – 38.6)	20.1 (16.3 – 26.7)
SLEV in <i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	12.9 (11.0 – 14.8)	24.1 (23.1 – 26.0)	32.0 (30.6 – 38.5)	19.2 (16.5 – 25.6)
WNV in <i>Cx. pipiens</i>	16.8 (14.9 – 17.8)	24.5 (23.6 – 25.5)	34.9 (32.9 – 37.6)	18.2 (15.8 – 21.2)
WNV in <i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i>	19.0 (14.1 – 20.9)	25.2 (23.9 – 27.1)	31.8 (31.1 – 32.2)	12.7 (10.6 – 17.6)
RVFV in <i>Ae. taeniorhynchus</i>	10.6 (8.6 – 14.4)	25.9 (23.8 – 27.1)	37.8 (34.4 – 39.1)	27.0 (21.8 – 29.7)
SINV in <i>Ae. taeniorhynchus</i>	9.7 (8.3 – 13.6)	26.0 (23.9 – 27.3)	37.8 (34.4 – 39.2)	27.7 (22.6 – 30.0)
<i>From previous studies:</i>				
Falciparum malaria [3]	19.1 (16.0 – 23.2)	25.4 (23.9 – 27.0)	32.6 (29.4 – 34.3)	13.2 (8.3 – 17.1)
DENV in <i>Ae. albopictus</i> [4]	16.2 (13.0 – 19.8)	26.4 (25.4 – 27.6)	31.4 (29.5 – 34.0)	15.2 (11.2 – 19.3)
Ross River virus [6]	17.0 (15.8 – 18.0)	26.4 (26.0 – 26.6)	31.4 (30.4 – 33.0)	14.2 (12.8 – 16.2)
ZIKV in <i>Ae. aegypti</i> [7]	22.8 (20.5 – 23.8)	28.9 (28.2 – 29.6)	34.5 (34.1 – 36.2)	11.7 (10.4 – 14.5)
DENV in <i>Ae. aegypti</i> [4]	17.8 (14.6 – 21.2)	29.1 (28.4 – 29.8)	34.5 (34.1 – 35.8)	16.7 (13.2 – 20.2)

413

414 **Table 2: Thermal optima and limits for transmission of mosquito-borne pathogens.** Median
 415 temperature of the lower thermal limit (T_{min}), optimum, and upper thermal limit (T_{max}), with 95%
 416 credible intervals in parentheses.

417

418 Different traits determined the lower and upper thermal limits and optimum for
 419 transmission across vector–virus pairs. The lower thermal limit for transmission was most often
 420 determined by parasite development rate (PDR ; WNV and SLEV in *Cx. tarsalis*, WNV in *Cx.*
 421 *quinquefasciatus*) or biting rate (a ; WNV in *Cx. univittatus*, WEEV in *Cx. tarsalis*, EEEV in *Ae.*
 422 *triseriatus*, RVFV and SINV in *Ae. taeniorhynchus*, SINV in *Cx. pipiens*; Figs S12–20), which
 423 tend to respond asymmetrically to temperature, with high optima. However, vector competence
 424 (bc) determined the lower limit for WNV in *Cx. pipiens* (Fig S11). The upper thermal limit was
 425 determined by biting rate (a) for the three *Cx. tarsalis* models and by adult lifespan (lf) for all
 426 others, although proportion ovipositing (pO) was also important for WNV in *Cx.*
 427 *quinquefasciatus* (Figs S11–S20). In all models, lifespan (lf) and biting rate (a) had the strongest
 428 impact on the optimal temperature for transmission, with biting rate increasing transmission at

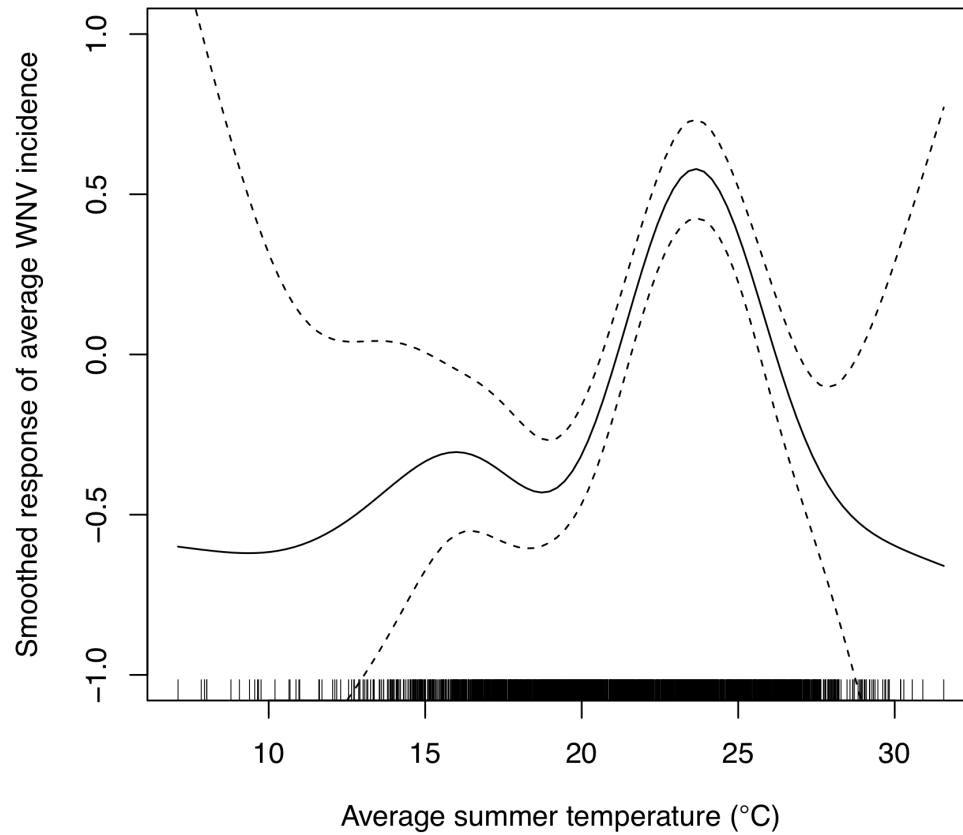
429 low temperatures and lifespan decreasing transmission at high temperatures (Figs S11-S20). This
430 result is consistent with previous mechanistic models of tropical mosquito-borne diseases,
431 despite the qualitative difference in the shape of the lifespan thermal response between those
432 tropical mosquitoes and the more temperate mosquitoes investigated here [2–4,6,7].

433

434 *Model validation with human case data*

435 We validated the R_0 models for WNV with independent data on human cases because the
436 temperature-dependent trait data for those models were relatively high quality and because
437 human case data were available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention across a
438 wide climatic gradient in the contiguous United States. We averaged county-level incidence and
439 mean summer temperatures from 2001–2016 to estimate the impact of temperature over space,
440 while ignoring interannual variation in disease that is largely driven by changes in host immunity
441 and drought [5]. We used generalized additive models (GAMs, which produce flexible,
442 smoothed responses) to ask: does average incidence respond unimodally to mean summer
443 temperature? If so, what is the estimated optimal temperature for transmission? Can we detect
444 upper or lower thermal limits for transmission? Incidence of human neuroinvasive West Nile
445 disease responded unimodally to average summer temperature and peaked at 24°C (23.5–24.2°C
446 depending on the spline settings; Fig 8, Fig S24), closely matching the optima from the
447 mechanistic models for the three North American *Culex* species (23.9–25.2°C; Table 2).
448 However, the human disease data did not show evidence for lower or upper thermal limits: mean
449 incidence remained positive and with relatively flat slopes below ~19°C and above ~28°C,
450 although sample size was very low above 28°C and below 15°C resulting in wide confidence
451 intervals (Fig 8, Fig S24).

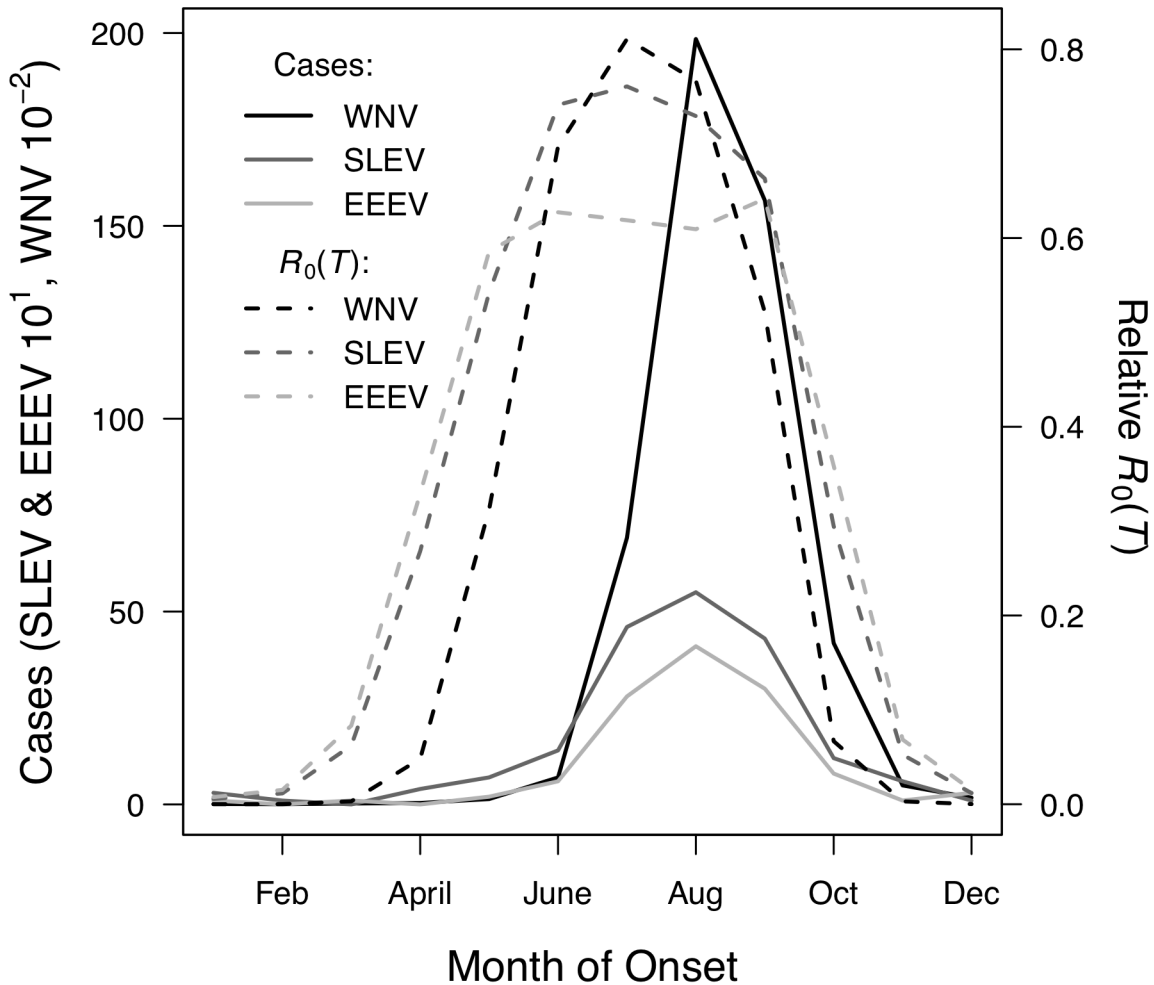
452 We used national month-of-onset data for WNV, EEEV, and SLEV to ask: is the
453 seasonality of incidence consistent with our models for temperature-dependent transmission?
454 The month-of-onset for cases of WNV was consistent with predicted transmission, $R_0(T)$ (Fig 9).
455 As expected (based on previous studies and the time required for mosquito populations to
456 increase, become infectious, and bite humans, and for humans to present symptoms and seek
457 medical care [4,6]), there was a two-month lag between initial increases in $R_0(T)$ and incidence:
458 cases began rising in June to the peak in August. The dramatic decline in transmission between
459 September and October corresponds also closely to the predicted decline in relative R_0 , but
460 without the expected lag. In general, the seasonal patterns of SLEV and EEEV incidence were
461 similar to WNV, but differed by three orders of magnitude from ~20,000 cases of WNV to ~40-
462 50 cases of EEEV and SLEV during the peak month (Fig 9). However, transmission of SLEV
463 and EEEV are predicted to begin increasing one month earlier than WNV (March versus April,
464 Fig 9), because the mechanistic models predict that the lower thermal limits for SLEV and EEEV
465 are cooler than those for WNV in two of the three North American vectors (*Cx. pipiens* and *Cx.*
466 *quinquefasciatus*, Fig 7). The month-of-onset data partially support this prediction, as cases of
467 SLEV (but not EEEV) disease begin to increase earlier in the year than WNV, relative to the
468 summer peak.



469

470 **Figure 8: Incidence of human neuro-invasive West Nile disease across US counties**
471 **responds unimodally to temperature, peaking at 24°C.** A generalized additive model (GAM)
472 was fit to county-level data ($n = 3,109$) of mean temperature from May-September and incidence
473 of neuro-invasive West Nile disease, both averaged from 2001-2016. See Fig S24 for fits across
474 a range of smoothing parameters.

475



476

477 **Figure 9: Temperature shapes the seasonal pattern of human cases of mosquito-borne viral**

478 **diseases.** Incidence (solid lines) lags behind predicted temperature-dependent R_0 (dashed lines)

479 for human cases of neuro-invasive disease caused by West Nile virus (WNV, black), St. Louis

480 encephalitis virus (SLEV, dark gray), and Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus (EEEV, light gray)

481 by 2 months. This lag matches patterns in other mosquito-borne diseases, and is caused by the

482 time required for mosquito populations to increase, become infectious, and bite humans, and for

483 humans to present symptoms and seek medical care.

484

485 **DISCUSSION**

486 As climate changes, it is critical to understand how changes in temperature will affect the
487 transmission of mosquito-borne diseases. Toward this goal, we developed temperature-
488 dependent, mechanistic transmission models for 10 vector–virus pairs. The viruses—West Nile
489 virus (WNV), St. Louis Encephalitis virus (SLEV), Eastern and Western Equine Encephalitis
490 viruses (EEEV and WEEV), Sindbis virus (SINV), and Rift Valley fever virus (RVFV)—sustain
491 substantial transmission in temperate areas (except RVFV), and are transmitted by shared vector
492 species, including *Cx. pipiens*, *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, and *Cx. tarsalis* (except EEEV; Fig 1).
493 Although most traits responded unimodally to temperature, as expected [2–4,6–8], lifespan
494 decreased linearly with temperature over the entire temperature range of available data (> 14°C)
495 for these *Culex* vectors (Fig 3). Transmission responded unimodally to temperature, with the
496 thermal limits and optima for transmission varying among some of the focal mosquito and virus
497 species (Fig 7, Table 2), largely due to differences in the thermal responses of mosquito biting
498 rate, lifespan, vector competence, and parasite development rate. Human case data for WNV
499 disease across the US exhibited a strong unimodal thermal response (Fig 8), and month-of-onset
500 data for three viruses was consistent with the predicted seasonality of transmission (Fig 9). Thus,
501 the mechanistic models captured geographical and seasonal patterns of human incidence, despite
502 the complexity of the enzootic cycles and spillover into humans. Our analysis was somewhat
503 limited by the lack of data for several trait-species combinations, or by data that were sparse,
504 particularly at high temperatures. However, our key results—maximal transmission at
505 intermediate temperatures—are unlikely to change, and underscore the importance of
506 considering unimodal thermal responses when predicting how climate change will impact
507 mosquito-borne disease transmission.

508 The monotonically decreasing thermal responses for lifespan in these more temperate
509 mosquitoes (Fig 3D) contrast with unimodal responses of more tropical species [2,4,6,8], and
510 may reflect differing thermal physiology between species that use diapause or quiescence, two
511 forms of dormancy, to persist over winter and those that do not (see *Model Overview*) [47–49].
512 *Ae. albopictus*, a species that occurs in both tropical and temperate zones, exhibits a latitudinal
513 gradient in the United States in which more temperate populations diapause while sub-tropical
514 populations do not [50]. Experiments could test this hypothesis by measuring whether the
515 functional form of the thermal response for lifespan differs between northern and southern US
516 *Ae. albopictus* populations. Despite the difference in the shape of the thermal response, lifespan
517 played a similarly important role here as in previous studies of mosquito-borne pathogens,
518 strongly limiting transmission at high temperatures (Figs S11–20). Nonetheless, the linear
519 thermal responses for lifespan ultimately promotes higher transmission at relatively cool
520 temperatures because unlike in more tropical species, lifespan did not decline at cool
521 temperatures within the range measured ($> 14^{\circ}\text{C}$). At more extreme temperatures expected to be
522 fatal even for diapausing mosquitoes (i.e., below 0°C), we expect lifespan to eventually decline,
523 so that the response over broader temperature ranges is likely unimodal.

524 Predicted transmission for many of the diseases in this study peaked at and extended to
525 cooler temperatures than for previously studied diseases with more tropical distributions (see Fig
526 7 and Table 2 for 95% credible intervals)[8]. Here, the optimal temperatures for transmission
527 varied from $22.7\text{--}25.2^{\circ}\text{C}$ (excluding *Ae. taeniorhynchus* models, Fig 7). By contrast, models
528 predict that transmission peaks at 25.4°C for malaria [2,3], 26.4°C for Ross River virus [6] and
529 dengue in *Ae. albopictus* [4], 28.9°C for Zika in *Ae. aegypti* [4], and 29.1°C for dengue in *Ae.*
530 *aegypti* [4,7]. Many models also had cooler lower thermal limits (medians: $8.7\text{--}19.0^{\circ}\text{C}$) than

531 those of diseases with more tropical distributions (medians: 16.0–17.8°C)[8]. In combination
532 with similar upper thermal limits (see below), these patterns led to wider thermal breadths (18.2–
533 27.7°C; Fig 7) for most of the viruses here compared to the more tropical pathogens (11.7–
534 16.7°C), excepting WNV in *Cx. quinquefasciatus* (12.7°C), the vector most restricted to lower
535 latitude, sub-tropical geographic areas (Fig 2). These results match a previous finding that
536 temperate insects had wider thermal breadths than tropical insects [51], and likely reflect thermal
537 adaptation to greater variation in temperature in temperate areas compared to tropical areas [52].
538 Additionally, SINV—a virus with substantial transmission at very high latitudes in Finland
539 [26]—had the second coolest lower thermal limit (Fig 7, Table 2). Further, lower-latitude *Cx.*
540 *quinquefasciatus* outperformed higher-latitude *Cx. pipiens* at warmer temperatures for proportion
541 ovipositing (pO ; Fig 3A), while the reverse occurred at cooler temperatures for egg viability (EV ;
542 Fig 3C). Collectively, these results imply that, to some extent, measurements of physiological
543 traits can predict geographic patterns of vectors or disease transmission at broad scales.
544 However, geographic range differences (Fig 2) did not consistently predict variation in thermal
545 responses among the *Culex* species in this study (e.g., biting rate [a , Fig 3C] and adult lifespan
546 [lf , Fig 3D]), indicating that life history and transmission trait responses at constant temperatures
547 do not always predict the geographic distributions of species. Instead, the ability to tolerate
548 temperature extremes may limit species distributions more than their performance at average or
549 constant temperatures [53]. Moreover, although diseases like malaria and dengue are generally
550 considered to be “tropical”, historically their distributions extended further into temperate
551 regions [54,55]. Thus, current distributions of disease may reflect a realized niche restricted by
552 social factors more than a fundamental niche based on ecological factors like temperature.

553 In contrast to the optima, lower thermal limits, and thermal breadths, the upper thermal
554 limits for the vector–virus pairs in this study (31.9–34.9°C, excluding *Ae. taeniorhynchus*
555 models; Fig 7D, Table 2) closely matched those of more tropical diseases (31.5–34.7°C) [2–
556 4,6,7]. This similarity likely arises because maximum summer temperatures in temperate areas
557 can match or even exceed maximum temperatures in tropical areas [52]. Accordingly, there may
558 be a fundamental upper thermal constraint on transmission that applies similarly to all
559 mosquitoes-borne diseases, driven by short mosquito lifespans at high temperatures. The
560 relatively high upper thermal limits in both *Ae. taeniorhynchus* transmission models were driven
561 by the thermal response of lifespan, which was fit to few data points; more data are needed to
562 determine if it reflects the true thermal response in that species [Fig S1]. These results indicate
563 that as temperatures rise due to climate change, temperate diseases are unlikely to be displaced
564 by warming alone, although they may also expand toward the poles, even as tropical diseases
565 may expand farther into temperate zones.

566 Independent human case data support unimodal thermal responses for transmission and
567 the importance of temperature in shaping geographic patterns of mosquito-borne disease. Human
568 cases of WNV [56–62] and SINV [63,64] are often positively associated with temperature. Here,
569 we found incidence of neuroinvasive WNV disease peaked at intermediate mean summer
570 temperatures across counties in the US (Fig 8) that matched the optima predicted by our models.
571 This result adds to prior evidence for reduced transmission of WNV [65] and other mosquito-
572 borne diseases [2,16–19] at high temperatures. Although we did not detect lower or upper
573 thermal limits (Fig 8), this result is unsurprising based on fundamental differences between the
574 types of temperature data used to parameterize and validate the models. The R_0 model prediction
575 is derived from data collected in a controlled laboratory environment at constant temperatures,

576 while average incidence in the field reflects temperatures that vary at a variety of temporal scales
577 (daily, seasonal, and interannual). Thus, we hypothesize that temperature variation over time
578 may sustain transmission in regions with otherwise unsuitable mean summer temperatures by
579 providing time windows that are suitable for transmission [38,39,41].

580 The temperature-dependent models also predict the seasonality of human cases of WNV,
581 EEEV, and SLEV (Fig 9). The 2-month lag between climate suitability and the onset of human
582 cases, which matches previous results from other mosquito-borne diseases [4,6], arises from the
583 time following the onset of suitable conditions required for mosquito populations to increase
584 [66], become infectious, and bite humans, and for humans to present symptoms and seek medical
585 care [67,68]. Transmission of the more temperate viruses here may incur additional lags because
586 human cases only result from enzootic transmission and multiple rounds of amplification within
587 reservoir hosts may be required before prevalence is sufficiently high to spill over into humans.
588 Additionally, as wild birds disperse in late summer, both *Cx. pipiens* and *Cx. tarsalis* shift their
589 feeding preferences from birds to humans, increasing transmission to people and influencing the
590 seasonal dynamics of WNV [69]. Drought, precipitation, and reservoir immunity also strongly
591 drive transmission of WNV [5,59,60,62] and may interact with temperature. SLEV, EEEV, and
592 WEEV are less common in nature, and thus less well-studied, but the lower thermal limits in our
593 study support previous findings that transmission WEEV is favored over SLEV in cooler
594 conditions [70]. Additionally, the seasonal patterns of incidence data (Fig 9) provide some
595 support for the model prediction that SLEV transmission is possible at cooler temperatures than
596 WNV by North American vectors (Table 2). By contrast, mean temperature is not associated
597 with outbreaks of RVFV, although they are highly predictable based on precipitation driven by
598 El Niño–Southern Oscillation cycles [71,72]. Thus, disease dynamics depend on the interaction

599 between temperature and other environmental factors, and the relative importance of temperature
600 versus other drivers varies across systems.

601 Most prior studies with mechanistic models for temperature-dependent transmission of
602 WNV do not capture the unimodal thermal response that our mechanistic models predict and that
603 we observe in the human case data (Table 3). Two previous models predicted that transmission
604 of WNV would increase up to the warmest temperatures they considered, 28°C [73] and 35°C
605 [74]. In both cases, the daily survival rates estimated from lab experiments were far less sensitive
606 to temperature than our measure of adult lifespan, and neither model was validated with field
607 data. A third study with models for *Cx. pipiens*, *Cx. quiquefasciatus*, and *Cx. tarsalis*, like our
608 study, predicted unimodal thermal responses for transmission, with very similar optima but with
609 lower thermal limits that were ~5°C warmer, resulting in much narrower thermal breadths (Fig
610 S22) [5]. This previous model [5] was validated with annual, state-level WNV human case data
611 (in contrast to our county-level data averaged over multiple years), and detected a positive effect
612 of temperature, with no decline at high temperatures [5]. The best spatial and temporal scales for
613 validating temperature-dependent transmission models and detecting the impacts of temperature
614 remain an open question. For instance, different approaches may be necessary to detect thermal
615 optima and thermal limits. Critically, differences in modeling and validation approaches can lead
616 to strongly divergent conclusions and predictions for the impact of climate change.

TABLE 3:

R_0 Model	Optimum (°C)
<i>From this study:</i>	
WNV in <i>Cx. pipiens</i>	24.5
WNV in <i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i>	25.2
WNV in <i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	23.9
WNV in <i>Cx. univittatus</i>	23.8
<i>From previous studies:</i>	
WNV in <i>Cx. pipiens</i> [5]	24.9
WNV in <i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i> [5]	24.3
WNV in <i>Cx. tarsalis</i> [5]	24.9
WNV in <i>Cx. pipiens</i> [70]	28
WNV in <i>Cx. pipiens molestus</i> [70]	28
WNV in <i>Cx.</i> and <i>Ae. spp.</i> [71]	35

617

618 **Table 3: Predicted optima for transmission of West Nile virus.** Predicted optima for
619 transmission from this study and previous models.

620

621 Given the unimodal relationship between temperature and transmission of these
622 temperate mosquito-borne pathogens, we expect climate warming to lead to predictable shifts in
623 disease transmission [20,22,23]. Warming should extend the transmission season earlier into the
624 spring and later into the fall and increase transmission potential in higher latitudes and altitudes,
625 although this prediction may be impacted by changes in bird migrations. However, the thermal
626 optima for these temperate vector–virus pairs are relatively cool, so in many locations, warming
627 could result in summer temperatures that exceed the thermal optima for transmission more
628 frequently, reducing overall transmission or creating a bimodal transmission season [75]. Based
629 on the average summer temperature data (2001–2016) in our analysis (Fig 8), currently the
630 majority of people (70%) and counties (68%) are below the optimal temperature for transmission
631 (23.9 °C, fit by the GAM), while 30–32% are above the optimum. The numbers are similar when
632 restricted to counties with observed West Nile virus cases: 69% and 70%, respectively. Thus, all
633 else being equal, we might expect a net increase in transmission of West Nile virus in response to

634 the warming climate, even as hot temperatures suppress transmission in some places. Still,
635 warming is unlikely to eliminate any of these more temperate pathogens since the upper thermal
636 limits for transmission are well above temperatures pathogens regularly experience in their
637 current geographic ranges. More generally, our results raise concerns about the common practice
638 of extrapolating monotonic relationships between temperature and disease incidence fit from
639 observational data into warmer climate regimes to predict future cases [59,61].

640 While the data-driven models presented here represent the most comprehensive synthesis
641 to date of trait thermal response data and their impact on transmission for these mosquito–
642 pathogen systems with substantial transmission in temperate regions, additional temperature-
643 dependent trait data would increase the accuracy and decrease the uncertainty in these models
644 where data were sparse or missing. Our data synthesis and uncertainty analysis suggest
645 prioritizing parasite development rate (*PDR*) and vector competence (*bc*) data and biting rate (*a*)
646 data because those thermal responses varied widely among vector–virus pairs and determined the
647 lower thermal limits and optima for transmission in many models. Additionally, vector
648 competence and/or parasite development rate data were missing in many cases (WNV in *Cx.*
649 *quinquefasciatus*, EEEV in *Cs. melanura*, RVFV in vectors from endemic areas, transmission
650 efficiency [*b*] for SINV) or sparse (EEEV and WNV in *Cx. univittatus*), as were biting rate data
651 (*Cx. univittatus*, RVFV vectors). Lifespan data—key for determining transmission optima and
652 upper thermal limits—were the missing for *Ae. triseriatus*, *Cs. melanura*, *Cx. univittatus*, and
653 RVFV vectors, and at temperatures below 14 °C for all vector species, so it was unclear which
654 functional form these thermal responses should take (linear or quadratic). While the other
655 mosquito demographic traits did not determine thermal limits for transmission in models here,
656 fecundity (typically as *EFD*), larval-to-adult survival (*pLA*), and egg viability (*EV*) determined

657 thermal limits for malaria [2] and Ross River virus [6]. Thus, more fecundity data (missing for
658 *Cx. tarsalis*, *Cx. univittatus*, and *Ae. triseriatus*; sparse for *Cx. pipiens* and *Cx. quinquefasciatus*)
659 would also reduce model uncertainty. New data are particularly important for RVFV, which has
660 a tropical distribution but for which the model depends on traits measured in *Cx. pipiens*
661 collected from temperate regions and infection traits measured in *Ae. taeniorhynchus*, a North
662 American species. RVFV is transmitted by a diverse community of vectors across the African
663 continent, but experiments should prioritize hypothesized primary vectors (e.g., *Ae.*
664 *circumluteolus* or *Ae. mcintoshi*) or secondary vectors that already have partial trait data (e.g.,
665 *Ae. vexans* or *Cx. theileri*) [27,76]. Although temperature itself does not predict the occurrence of
666 RVFV outbreaks, it may affect the size of epidemics once they are triggered by precipitation.
667 Additionally, the thermal response of vector competence may vary across vector populations
668 [77] and/or virus isolates even within the same species, so more data may also improve the
669 accuracy of models without missing data.

670 As carbon emissions continue to increase and severe climate change becomes
671 increasingly inevitable [78], it is critical that we understand how temperature will shape
672 transmission of mosquito-borne diseases in a warmer future world. While data gaps are still
673 limiting, the comparative approach is powerful for predicting similarities and differences across
674 vectors and viruses, including differences between primarily tropical and temperate diseases [8].
675 Accounting for the effects of temperature variation [38,41,79] is an important next step for using
676 these models to accurately predict transmission. Additionally, the potential for evolution to
677 warmer climates is uncertain because of limited knowledge on the level of genetic variation in
678 thermal responses for most vectors or mosquito-borne pathogens within or between populations
679 (but see [80,81]). Further, vectors and pathogens may experience different selective pressures, as

680 mosquito populations may depend on either increased fecundity or longevity at high
681 temperatures, while pathogens require longer vector lifespans [8]. Thus, future trajectories of
682 these diseases will depend not just on suitability of mean temperatures but also on temperature
683 variation, thermal adaptation of vectors and viruses, land use (which governs mosquito–wildlife–
684 human interactions), vector control activities, human and wildlife immune dynamics, and
685 potential future emergence and spread of new vectors and viruses.

686

687 MATERIALS AND METHODS

688 All analyses were conducted using R 3.1.3 [82].

689

690 *Vector species range maps*

691 The distributions of *Cx. pipiens* and *Cx. quinquefasciatus* are georectified maps adapted
692 from [35,83]. The northern boundary of *Cx. tarsalis* was taken from [84]. For the southern
693 boundary, we drew a convex polygon using five datasets [85–89] in the Global Biodiversity
694 Information Facility (<https://www.gbif.org/>).

695

696 *Temperature-dependent Trait Data*

697 We found 38 studies with appropriate temperature-dependent trait data from controlled
698 laboratory experiments [5,56,80,81,90–124]. When necessary, we digitized the data using Web
699 Plot Digitizer [125], a free online tool. When lifespan data were reported by sex, only female
700 data were used. Vector competence trait data (*b*, *c*, or *bc*) were only included if time at sampling
701 surpassed the estimated extrinsic incubation period (*EIP*, the inverse of *PDR*) at that
702 temperature, which resulted in the exclusion of some studies [126,127].

703

704 *Fitting Thermal Responses*

705 We fit trait thermal responses with a Bayesian approach using the ‘r2jags’ package [128],
706 an R interface for the popular JAGS program [129] for the analysis of Bayesian graphical models
707 using Gibbs sampling. It is a (near) clone of BUGS (Bayesian inference Using Gibbs Sampling)
708 [130]. In JAGS, samples from a target distribution are obtained via Markov Chain Monte Carlo
709 (MCMC). More specifically, JAGS uses a Metropolis-within-Gibbs approach, with an Adaptive
710 Rejection Metropolis sampler used at each Gibbs step (for more information on MCMC
711 algorithms see [131]).

712 For each thermal response being fit to trait data, we identified the most appropriate
713 functional form (quadratic, Brière, or linear; eqs. 3–5) for that specific trait–species combination
714 [8]. For traits with ambiguous functional responses, we fit the quadratic and Briere and used the
715 deviance information criterion (DIC) [132] to pick the best fit. We assumed normal likelihood
716 distributions with temperature-dependent mean values described by the appropriate function
717 (eqs. 3–5) and a constant standard deviation described by an additional fitted parameter ($\tau =$
718 $1/\sigma^2$). The 95% credible intervals in Figs. 3-6 estimate the uncertainty in the mean thermal
719 response; 95% prediction intervals that incorporate the estimated standard deviation in the data
720 are shown in Figs S2-9.

721 We set all thermal response functions to zero when $T < T_{min}$ and $T > T_{max}$ (for eq. 3 and 4)
722 or when $T > -z/m$ (eq. 5) to prevent trait values from becoming negative. For traits that were
723 proportions or probabilities, we also limited the thermal response functions at 1. For the linear
724 thermal responses, we calculated the predicted thermal response in a similarly piecewise manner
725 in order to be conservative: for temperatures at or above the coldest observed data point, we used

726 the trait values predicted by the fitted thermal response (i.e., the typical method); for
727 temperatures below the coldest observed data point, we substituted the trait estimate at the
728 coldest observed data point (i.e., forcing the thermal response to plateau, rather than continue
729 increasing beyond the range of observed data).

730 For the fitting process, we ran three concurrent MCMC chains for 25000 iterations each,
731 discarding the first 5000 iterations for burn-in (convergence was checked visually). We thinned
732 the resultant chains, saving every eighth step. These settings resulted in 7500 samples in the full
733 posterior distribution that we kept for further analysis.

734

735 *Generation of Priors*

736 We used data-informed priors to decrease the uncertainty in our estimated thermal
737 responses and constrain the fitted thermal responses to be biologically plausible, particularly
738 when data were sparse. These priors used our total dataset, which contained temperature-
739 dependent trait data for all of the main species in the analysis (but with the focal species
740 removed, see below), as well as from additional temperate *Aedes* and *Culex* species
741 [92,94,102,106,111,112,133–138].

742 We fit each thermal response with a sequential two-step process, where both steps
743 employed the same general fitting method (described above in *Fitting Thermal Responses*) but
744 used different priors and data. In step 1, we generated high-information priors by fitting a
745 thermal response to data from all species except the focal species of interest (i.e., a ‘leave-one-
746 out’ approach). For example, for the prior for biting rate for *Cx. pipiens*, we used the biting rate
747 data for all species except *Cx. pipiens*. For this step, we set general, low-information priors that
748 represented minimal biological constraints on these functions (e.g., typically mosquitoes die if

749 temperatures exceed 45°C, so all biological processes are expected to cease; T_{min} must be less
750 than T_{max}). The bounds of these uniformly distributed priors were: $0 < T_{min} < 24$, $26 < T_{max} < 45$
751 (quadratic) or $28 < T_{max} < 45$ (Brière), $0 < q < 1$, $-10 < m < 10$, and $0 < b < 250$. Then in step 2,
752 we fit a thermal response to data from the focal species using the high-information priors from
753 step 1.

754 Because we cannot directly pass posterior samples from JAGS as a prior, we modified
755 the results from step 1 to use them in step 2. We used the ‘MASS’ package [139] to fit a gamma
756 probability distribution to the posterior distributions for each thermal response parameter (T_{min} ,
757 T_{max} , and q [eq. 3 and 4]; or m and z [eq. 5]) obtained in step 1. The resulting gamma distribution
758 parameters can be used directly to specify the priors in the JAGS model. Because the prior
759 datasets were often very large, in many cases the priors were too strong and overdetermined the
760 fit to the focal data. In a few other cases, we had philosophical reasons to strongly constrain the
761 fit to the focal data even when they were sparse (e.g., to constrain T_{max} to very high temperatures
762 so that other traits with more information determine the upper thermal limit for R_0). Thus, we
763 deflated or inflated the variance as needed (i.e., we fixed the gamma distribution mean but
764 altered the variance by adjusting the parameters that describe the distribution accordingly). See
765 S1 Text for more details and specific variance modifications for each thermal response.

766

767 *Constructing R_0 Models*

768 When data were missing for a vector–virus pair, we used two criteria to decide which
769 thermal response to use as a substitute: 1) the ecological similarity (i.e., geographic range
770 overlap) of species with available thermal responses, and 2) how restrictive the upper and lower
771 bounds of the available thermal responses were. All else being equal, we chose the more

772 conservative (i.e., least restrictive) option so that R_0 would be less likely to be determined by trait
773 thermal responses that did not originate from the focal species. See S1 Text for more information
774 about specific models.

775 When there was more than one option for how to parameterize a model (e.g., vector
776 competence data for WEEV in *Cx. tarsalis* were available in two forms: separately as b and c ,
777 and combined as bc), we calculated R_0 both ways. The results were very similar, except for the
778 model for RVFV with lifespan data from *Cx. pipiens* lifespan in place of *Ae. taeniorhynchus* (Fig
779 S21). See S1 Text for sensitivity and uncertainty methods and S1 Fig S11-20 for results.

780

781 *Model validation: spatial analysis*

782 We obtained county-level neuroinvasive WNV disease data from 2001-2016 for the
783 contiguous US ($n = 3,109$) through the CDC's county-level disease monitoring program [140].
784 Data were available as total human cases per year, which we adjusted to average cases per 1,000
785 people (using 2010 US county-level census data) to account for population differences. We
786 averaged cases across years beginning with the first year that had reported cases in a given
787 county to account for the initial spread of WNV and the strong impact of immunity on
788 interannual variation [5]. Ninety-eight percent of human cases of WNV in the US occur between
789 June and October (data described below), and cases of mosquito-borne disease often lag behind
790 temperature by 1–2 months [6,66]. Thus, we extracted monthly mean temperature data between
791 the months of May–September for all years between 2001-2016 and averaged the data to
792 estimate typical summer conditions for each county. Specifically, we took the centroid
793 geographic coordinate for every county in the contiguous US with the 'rgeos' package [141] and

794 extracted corresponding historic climate data (Climate Research Unit 3.1 rasters) [142] from
795 $0.5^{\circ 2}$ cells (approx. 2,500-3,000 km²) using the ‘raster’ package [143].

796 We fit a generalized additive model (GAM) for average incidence as a function of
797 average summer temperature using the ‘mgcv’ package [144]. We used a gamma distribution
798 with a log-link function to restrict incidence to positive values and capture heteroskedasticity in
799 the data (i.e., higher variance with higher predicted means), adding a small, near-zero constant
800 (0.0001) to all incidence values to allow the log-transformation for counties with zero incidence.
801 GAMs use additive functions of smooth predictor effects to fit responses that are extremely
802 flexible in the shape of the response. We restricted the number of knots to minimize overfitting
803 ($k = 5$; see Fig S24 for results across varying values of k). For comparison, we also used the
804 ‘loess’ function in base R ‘stats’ package [82] to fit locally estimated scatterplot smoothing
805 (LOESS) regressions of the same data. LOESS regression is a simpler but similarly flexible
806 method for estimating the central tendency of data. See Fig S25 for LOESS model results.

807

808 *Model validation: seasonality analysis*

809 We calculated monthly temperature-dependent relative R_0 to compare with month-of-
810 onset data for neuro-invasive WNV, EEEV, and SLEV disease aggregated nationwide from
811 2001-2016 [140,145,146], using the same monthly, county-level temperature data as above. For
812 WNV, we used the subset of counties with reported cases (68% of counties). For SLEV and
813 EEEV we used all counties from states with reported cases (16 and 20 states, respectively). We
814 weighted each county $R_0(T)$ by its population size to calculate a national estimate of $R_0(T)$. For
815 WNV, the county-level estimates of $R_0(T)$ used models for three *Culex* species (*Cx. pipiens*, *Cx.*
816 *quinquefasciatus*, and *Cx. tarsalis*) weighted according to the proportion of WNV-positive

817 mosquitoes reported at the state level, reported in [5]. SLEV and EEEV both only had one R_0
818 model. The estimated monthly temperature-dependent relative R_0 values and month-of-onset data
819 were compared visually.

820

821 *Funding*

822 EAM, MSS, JC, LRJ, and MN were supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF,
823 DEB-1518681; <https://nsf.gov/>). LRJ was supported by the NSF (DMS-1750113). AV and MN
824 were supported by the Stanford Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education Summer Research
825 Program in the Biology Department; MN was supported by the Introductory Seminars Program
826 at Stanford University. HS was supported by a Luther and Alice Hamlett Undergraduate
827 Research Scholarship at Virginia Tech. EAM was also supported by the National Institutes of
828 Health (NIGMS R35 MIRA: 1R35GM133439-01), Stanford Woods Institute for the
829 Environment (<https://woods.stanford.edu/research/environmental-venture-projects>), the Hellman
830 Fellowship (<http://www.hellmanfellows.org/>), and the Terman Fellowship.

831

832 *Acknowledgements*

833 We gratefully acknowledge the students of the Spring 2017 Stanford University
834 Introductory Seminar course BIO 2N: Global Change and the Ecology and Evolution of
835 Infectious Diseases, who helped with preliminary literature searches, data collection, and model
836 fitting: Uche Amakiri, Michelle Bach, Isabelle Carpenter, Phillip Cathers, Audriana Fitzmorris,
837 Alex Fuentes, Margaux Giles, Gillian Gittler, Emma Leads Armstrong, Erika Malaspina, Elise
838 Most, Stephen Moye, Jackson Rudolph, Simone Speizer, William Wang, and Ethan Wentworth.
839 We thank the Stanford University Introductory Seminars program for support. We thank

840 Michelle Evans for creating Figure 2. We thank Marc Fischer, Nicole Lindsey, and Lyle
841 Peterson at the CDC for providing the month-of-onset case data, and Sara Paull for providing
842 state-level data for proportion of WNV vectors. We thank Nicholas Skaff for guidance with
843 EEEV vector ecology.
844
845 *Competing interests:* The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL for

Shocket et al. ‘Transmission of West Nile virus and other temperate mosquito-borne viruses peaks at intermediate environmental temperatures’

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R_0 Model Specifications

The equation for R_0 (eq. 2 in main text) as a function of temperature (T) that was used in previous analyses [1–6] has fecundity measured as eggs per female per day (EFD):

$$\text{Full } R_0: R_0(T) = \left(\frac{a(T)^2 bc(T) e^{-\frac{\mu(T)}{PDR(T)}} EFD(T) EV(T) pLA(T) MDR(T)}{N r \mu(T)^3} \right)^{1/2} \quad \text{eq. 2}$$

Fecundity data were not available directly as eggs per female per day, so we had to transform the available data to obtain the quantities needed for these models. The data for *Cx. pipiens* were reported as eggs per female per gonotrophic cycle ($EFGC$). To obtain EFD , we needed to divide $EFGC$ by the length of the gonotrophic cycle. In general, the gonotrophic cycle is assumed to be approximately the inverse of the biting rate. In fact, our ‘biting rate’ (a) data were observations of gonotrophic cycle duration. Accordingly, $EFD = EFGC * a$, resulting in the following equation for R_0 :

$$R_0(T) = \left(\frac{a(T)^3 bc(T) e^{-\frac{\mu(T)}{PDR(T)}} EFGC(T) EV(T) pLA(T) MDR(T)}{N r \mu(T)^3} \right)^{1/2} \quad \text{eq. S1}$$

All but two of the vector–virus parameterizations used this form (eq. S1) of the R_0 model (see Table S1, exceptions described below).

The fecundity data for *Cx. quinquefasciatus* were reported as eggs per raft (ER). Females lay rafts once per gonotrophic cycle. Thus, in order to obtain an approximation to EFD (eggs per female per day), we again divide by the number of days per gonotrophic cycle and, further, we multiply by the proportion of females ovipositing (pO), since not every female lays an egg raft.

These changes result in the following equation for R_0 :

$$R_0(T) = \left(\frac{a(T)^3 bc(T) e^{-\frac{\mu(T)}{PDR(T)}} ER(T) pO(T) EV(T) pLA(T) MDR(T)}{N r \mu(T)^3} \right)^{1/2} \quad \text{eq. S2}$$

The *Cx. quinquefasciatus*–WNV model used eq. S2.

The *Ae. triseriatus*–EEEV also used eq. S2 (i.e., included pO) but substituted the *Cx. pipiens* thermal response for *EFGC* in place of the *Cx. quinquefasciatus* thermal response for *ER* for the following reasons. There were no fecundity trait data available for *Ae. triseriatus*. (*Ae. triseriatus* was chosen as the focal species for the EEEV model because it is the only species with temperature-dependent vector competence data available, and it is a possible bridge vector for EEEV transmission to humans). *Cs. melanura* is the primary vector for maintaining enzootic cycles of EEEV in birds [7], more often cited in the literature in association with EEEV (e.g., [8]), and had data for pO (proportion ovipositing) available. Thus, we chose to include this thermal response in model because it contained information that could affect the upper and lower bounds of transmission (even though most models did not include pO [proportion ovipositing], because they use the *Cx. pipiens* EFGC [eggs per female per gonotrophic cycle] thermal response that includes pO implicitly). Then we needed to choose which egg production metric to include. We chose the *Cx. pipiens* EFGC thermal response over the *Cx. quinquefasciatus* ER thermal response because the former was the better choice according to both criteria: *Cx. pipiens* has a more similar species range to *Ae. triseriatus* and *Cs. melanura* and its thermal response was slightly more conservative (less restrictive = cooler lower thermal limit and warmer upper thermal limit). Although technically the units are not correct (see above), the thermal responses for *Cx. pipiens* EFGC and *Cx. quinquefasciatus* ER are so similar despite having different units (Fig 4B), we decided that the other two criteria were more important than being strict with regard to the units, as it is feasible to have an ER thermal response that is quite similar to the EFGC thermal response. Ultimately, because the thermal responses for EFGC and ER are so similar,

this decision only has a small impact on the R_0 results (see Fig S21A comparing four alternative model specifications / parameterizations for the *Ae. triseriatus*-EEEV model).

In eqs. 2, S1, and S2, the remaining parameters that depend on temperature (T) are: adult mosquito mortality (μ , the inverse of lifespan [lf]), pathogen development rate (PDR , the inverse of the extrinsic incubation period: the time required for exposed mosquitoes to become infectious), egg viability (proportion of eggs hatching into larvae, EV), proportion of larvae surviving to adulthood (pLA), and mosquito development rate (MDR , the inverse of the development period), and vector competence (bc , the proportion of exposed mosquitoes that become infectious). Vector competence is the product of infection efficiency (c , the proportion of exposed mosquitoes that develop a disseminated infection) and transmission efficiency (b , the proportion of infected mosquitoes that become infectious, with virus present in saliva). The form of vector competence varied between models based on the availability of data: $bc(T)$ [reported a single parameter], $c(T)*b(T)$ [both parameters reported separately], $c(T)$ only, or $b(T)$ only (see Table S1). The two remaining parameters do not depend on temperature: human density (N) and the rate at which infected hosts recover and become immune (r).

Table S1: Trait thermal responses used in transmission (R_0) models. Viruses: West Nile (WNV), Eastern and Western Equine Encephalitis (EEEV and WEEV), St. Louis Encephalitis (SLEV), Sindbis (SINV), and Rift Valley Fever (RVFV). *Ae. vex.* = *Ae. vexans*, *Cs. mel.* = *Culiseta melanura*; all other vectors (*Cx.* = *Culex*) listed under model names. Traits are: fecundity (as eggs/female/gonotrophic cycle [EFGC] or eggs per raft*proportion ovipositing [ER*pO]), egg viability (EV), larval-to-adult survival (pLA), mosquito development rate (MDR), lifespan (lf), biting rate (a), vector competence (bc, b*c, b, or c, as available), and parasite development rate (PDR). The WNV–*Cx. quinquefasciatus* model uses eq. S2 (ER*pO); the EEEV–*Ae. triseriatus* model uses EFGC from *Cx. pipiens* and pO from *Cs. melanura*; all other models use eq. S1 (EFGC). When data were missing for a vector–virus pair, we substituted the most conservative (i.e., least restrictive of transmission) trait thermal response from a vector that occurs within the geographic range of disease transmission. Several models had multiple potentially valid choices for traits; we explain and show compare these alternative models with the main text versions in Fig S21. Checkmarks indicate a thermal response from the vector in the model name. The parasite development rate data for SINV was insensitive to temperature (Fig 4), so the trait thermal response was omitted from the SINV models (‘NA’).

Model: virus–vector	EFGC or ER*pO	EV	pLA	MDR	lf	a	bc, c*b c, or b	PDR
WNV– <i>Cx. pipiens</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (bc)	✓
WNV– <i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	<i>Cx. uni.</i> (c*b)	✓
WNV– <i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (b)	✓
WNV– <i>Cx. univittatus</i>	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	✓ (bc)	✓
WEEV– <i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (c*b)	✓
SLEV– <i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (c*b)	✓
EEEV– <i>Ae. triseriatus</i>	<i>Cx. pip.</i> , <i>Cs. mel.</i>	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	✓	✓	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	<i>Cs. mel.</i>	✓ (bc)	✓
SINV– <i>Cx. pipiens</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (c)	NA
SINV– <i>Ae. taeniorhynchus</i>	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	<i>Ae. vex.</i>	<i>Ae. vex.</i>	<i>Ae. vex.</i>	✓	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	✓ (c)	NA
RVFV– <i>Ae. taeniorhynchus</i>	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	<i>Cx. the.</i>	<i>Ae. vex.</i>	<i>Ae. vex.</i>	✓	<i>Cx. pip.</i>	✓ (bc)	✓

Table S2: Trait thermal response functions, data sources, and posterior estimates: biting rate and fecundity traits. Asymmetrical responses fit with Brière function (**B**): $B(T) = qT(T - T_{min})(T_{max} - T)^{1/2}$; symmetrical responses fit with quadratic function (**Q**): $Q(T) = -q(T - T_{min})(T - T_{max})$. Median function coefficients and optima (with 95% credible intervals).

Trait / Species [data source]	F(x)	q (CIs)	T_{min} (CIs)	T_{max} (CIs)	T_{opt} (CIs)
Biting rate (a)					
<i>Cx. pipiens</i> [9–12]	B	1.70·10 ⁻⁴ (1.18–2.29·10 ⁻⁴)	9.4 (2.8–13.4)	39.6 (37.9–40.6)	32.7 (31.3–33.6)
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i> [9,13]	B	7.28·10 ⁻⁵ (5.31–11.8·10 ⁻⁵)	3.1 (0.1–10.9)	39.3 (38.0–40.8)	31.9 (30.6–33.3)
<i>Cx. tarsalis</i> [13]	B	1.67·10 ⁻⁴ (0.87–2.56·10 ⁻⁴)	2.3 (0.1–9.4)	32.0 (30.6–41.7)	25.9 (24.8–33.9)
<i>Cs. melanura</i> [14]	B	1.87·10 ⁻⁴ (1.49–2.31·10 ⁻⁴)	7.8 (5.5–11.4)	31.8 (31.0–33.4)	26.4 (25.7–27.9)
Fecundity					
<i>Cx. pipiens</i> (EFGC) [12]	Q	5.98·10 ⁻¹ (4.31–7.91·10 ⁻¹)	5.3 (2.6–8.5)	38.9 (36.2–41.8)	22.1 (20.1–24.4)
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i> (ER) [15,16]	Q	6.36·10 ⁻¹ (4.50–9.05·10 ⁻¹)	5.0 (1.3–9.8)	37.7 (34.8–40.7)	21.4 (18.9–24.4)
Proportion ovipositing (pO)					
<i>Cx. pipiens</i> [9,17]	Q	4.45·10 ⁻³ (2.54–7.77·10 ⁻³)	8.2 (4.6–12.1)	33.2 (30.1–37.5)	20.8 (18.6–23.4)
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i> [9,15,17]	B	6.67·10 ⁻⁴ (5.80–7.91·10 ⁻⁴)	1.7 (0.2–4.8)	31.8 (31.1–32.2)	24.9 (21.8–26.0)
<i>Cs. melanura</i> [14]	Q	6.31·10 ⁻³ (4.52–7.89·10 ⁻³)	8.7 (6.9–10.4)	33.6 (32.5–35.4)	20.7 (16.9–22.3)
Egg viability (EV)					
<i>Ae. vexans</i> [18]		1.24·10 ⁻³ (0.73–1.95·10 ⁻³)	0 (0–1.6)	55.5 (45.9–74.1)	27.6 (20.4–34.0)
<i>Cx. pipiens</i> [12]	Q	2.11·10 ⁻³ (1.36–3.05·10 ⁻³)	3.2 (0.5–7.1)	42.6 (39.7–48.3)	23.0 (20.7–26.3)
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i> [15,19]	B	0.47·10 ⁻³ (0.34–0.62·10 ⁻³)	13.6 (9.3–16.8)	38.0 (37.2–38.7)	32.1 (31.3–32.7)
<i>Cx. theileri</i> [20]	Q	2.54·10 ⁻³ (1.86–3.41·10 ⁻³)	5.5 (2.6–8)	45.4 (42.4–49.0)	23.6 (18.2–27.0)

Additional data sources for other species used for fitting priors only (priors were fit using all data except that of the focal species). Fecundity (ER): *Cx. pipiens molestus* [15], *Cx. pipiens pallens* [16], and *Ae. dorsalis* [21]. Proportion ovipositing (pO): *Cx. pipiens molestus* [15] and *Ae. dorsalis* [21]. Egg viability (EV): *Cx. pipiens molestus* [15], *Aedes dorsalis* [22], and *Ae. nigromaculis* [23]. See *Supplemental Methods: Priors for trait thermal responses*.

Table S3: Trait thermal response functions, data sources, and posterior estimates: larval traits. Asymmetrical responses fit with Brière function (**B**): $B(T) = qT(T - T_{min})(T_{max} - T)^{1/2}$; symmetrical responses fit with quadratic function (**Q**): $Q(T) = -q(T - T_{min})(T - T_{max})$. Median function coefficients and optima (with 95% credible intervals).

<i>Trait / Species</i> [data source]	<i>F(x)</i>	<i>q</i> (CIs)	<i>T_{min}</i> (CIs)	<i>T_{max}</i> (CIs)	<i>T_{opt}</i> (CIs)
Mosquito Dev. Rate (MDR)					
<i>Ae. triseriatus</i> [24]	B	$4.30 \cdot 10^{-5}$ ($3.01-5.83 \cdot 10^{-5}$)	0.8 (0-7.5)	36.5 (34.6-39.5)	29.3 (27.8-31.9)
<i>Ae. vexans</i> [25,26]	B	$4.33 \cdot 10^{-5}$ ($3.34-5.50 \cdot 10^{-5}$)	1.9 (0.1-10.5)	38.2 (37.0-39.5)	30.9 (29.8-32.2)
<i>Cx. pipiens</i> [9-11,17,27-29]	B	$3.76 \cdot 10^{-5}$ ($3.36-4.47 \cdot 10^{-5}$)	0.1 (0-4.0)	38.5 (37.6-39.8)	30.9 (30.2-31.9)
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i> [9,17,24,30,31]	B	$4.14 \cdot 10^{-5}$ ($3.46-5.26 \cdot 10^{-5}$)	0.1 (0-5.5)	38.6 (37.4-40.6)	31.0 (30.0-32.6)
<i>Cx. tarsalis</i> [32-34]	B	$4.12 \cdot 10^{-5}$ ($3.15-5.47 \cdot 10^{-5}$)	4.3 (0-8.4)	39.9 (37.9-42.2)	32.3 (31.0-34.0)
<i>Cs. melanura</i> [7]	B	$2.74 \cdot 10^{-5}$ ($1.64-4.72 \cdot 10^{-5}$)	8.6 (0-16.8)	37.6 (35.1-40.4)	31.1 (28.7-33.7)
Larval survival (p_{LA})					
<i>Ae. triseriatus</i> [24,35]	Q	$3.26 \cdot 10^{-3}$ ($1.95-5.18 \cdot 10^{-3}$)	8.3 (4.9-11.4)	35.7 (32.9-39.7)	22.0 (19.9-24.6)
<i>Ae. vexans</i> [25,26]	Q	$3.29 \cdot 10^{-3}$ ($2.65-4.24 \cdot 10^{-3}$)	9.1 (8.1-10.6)	40.8 (38.4-43.6)	25.0 (23.9-26.2)
<i>Cx. pipiens</i> [9-11,17,27-29]	Q	$3.60 \cdot 10^{-3}$ ($2.96-4.42 \cdot 10^{-3}$)	7.8 (6.1-9.3)	38.4 (37.1-39.9)	23.1 (22.2-24.0)
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i> [9,16,17,24,30,31,36]	Q	$4.26 \cdot 10^{-3}$ ($3.51-5.17 \cdot 10^{-3}$)	8.9 (7.6-9.9)	37.7 (36.2-39.2)	23.3 (22.5-24.0)
<i>Cx. tarsalis</i> [32-34]	Q	$2.12 \cdot 10^{-3}$ ($1.52-3.08 \cdot 10^{-3}$)	5.9 (3.0-8.8)	43.1 (39.8-47.5)	24.6 (22.9-26.4)
<i>Cs. melanura</i> [7]	Q	$3.03 \cdot 10^{-3}$ ($1.55-5.68 \cdot 10^{-3}$)	10.1 (5.7-15.1)	36.2 (32.8-40.7)	23.2 (20.4-26.5)

Additional data sources for other species used for fitting priors only (priors were fit using all data except that of the focal species). Mosquito Development Rate (*MDR*): *Cx. pipiens molestus* [37,38], *Cx. pipiens pallens* [37], *Cx. restuans* [10,24,33,39], *Cx. salinarius* [24], *Ae. sollicitans* [24], and *Ae. nigromaculis* [25]. Larval survival (*p_{LA}*): *Cx. pipiens molestus* [36,38], *Cx. pipiens pallens* [16], *Cx. restuans* [10,17,24,33,39], *Cx. salinarius* [24], *Ae. sollicitans* [24], *Ae. nigromaculis* [25]. See *Supplemental Methods: Priors for trait thermal responses*.

Table S4: Trait thermal response functions, data sources, and posterior estimates: vector competence traits. Asymmetrical responses fit with Brière function (**B**): $B(T) = qT(T - T_{min})(T_{max} - T)^{1/2}$; symmetrical responses fit with quadratic function (**Q**): $Q(T) = -q(T - T_{min})(T - T_{max})$. Median function coefficients and optima (with 95% credible intervals).

Trait / Species [data source]	F(x)	q (CIs)	T_{min} (CIs)	T_{max} (CIs)	T_{opt} (CIs)
Transmission efficiency (b)					
SLEV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i> [40]	Q	2.98·10 ⁻³ (1.63–5.31·10 ⁻³)	10.8 (6.2–14.2)	41.6 (36.8–49.1)	26.2 (23.5–29.7)
WEEV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i> [40]	Q	3.17·10 ⁻³ (1.65–5.06·10 ⁻³)	8.2 (5.1–10.7)	33.5 (31.0–38.9)	20.9 (19.2–23.2)
WNV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i> [41]	Q	2.94·10 ⁻³ (1.91–4.48·10 ⁻³)	11.3 (7.6–14.0)	41.9 (37.7–47.0)	26.6 (23.9–29.3)
Infection efficiency (c)					
SINV <i>Ae. taeniorhynchus</i> [42]	Q	1.24·10 ⁻³ (0.75–2.17·10 ⁻³)	1.4 (0–9.1)	48.4 (40.8–57.1)	25.4 (21.0–31.1)
SINV <i>Cx. pipiens</i> [43]	Q	1.33·10 ⁻³ (0.47–2.30·10 ⁻³)	0 (0–0)	35.0 (28.1–61.1)	17.5 (14.1–30.5)
WNV <i>Cx. pipiens</i> [44,45]	Q	2.56·10 ⁻³ (2.05–3.19·10 ⁻³)	15.6 (14.3–16.6)	52.2 (48.4–56.6)	33.9 (31.9–36.1)
SLEV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i> [40]	Q	2.03·10 ⁻³ (1.28–3.07·10 ⁻³)	8.8 (6.6–10.6)	43.7 (38.9–51.4)	26.2 (24.2–29.7)
WEEV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i> [40,46]	Q	3.04·10 ⁻³ (2.52–3.68·10 ⁻³)	1.3 (0.4–2.9)	38.8 (36.7–41.5)	15.5 (13.4–19.7)
Vector competence (bc)					
RVFV <i>Ae. taeniorhynchus</i> [47]	Q	1.51·10 ⁻³ (1.03–2.05·10 ⁻³)	7.1 (2.8–9.8)	42.3 (39.3–46.5)	24.7 (22.0–27.0)
EEEV <i>Ae. triseriatus</i> [48]	Q	1.51·10 ⁻³ (0.96–2.24·10 ⁻³)	7.0 (2.9–11.9)	50.3 (42.3–63.1)	28.8 (23.6–35.8)
WNV <i>Cx. pipiens</i> [44]	Q	3.05·10 ⁻³ (1.68–4.87·10 ⁻³)	16.8 (15–17.9)	38.9 (36.1–44.1)	27.8 (26.6–30.1)
WEEV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i> [46]	Q	1.17·10 ⁻³ (0.55–2.36·10 ⁻³)	5.1 (0.6–13.3)	37.0 (33.5–46.0)	21.4 (18.1–27.3)
WNV <i>Cx. univittatus</i> [49]	Q	2.32·10 ⁻³ (1.58–3.68·10 ⁻³)	4.2 (1.5–7.1)	45.2 (39.6–53.0)	23.7 (19.4–27.3)

Table S5: Trait thermal response functions, data sources, and posterior estimates: parasite development rate. Asymmetrical responses fit with Brière function (**B**): $B(T) = qT(T - T_{min})(T_{max} - T)^{1/2}$; symmetrical responses fit with quadratic function (**Q**): $Q(T) = -q(T - T_{min})(T - T_{max})$. Median function coefficients and optima (with 95% credible intervals).

<i>Trait / Species</i> [data source]	<i>F(x)</i>	<i>q</i> (CIs)	<i>T_{min}</i> (CIs)	<i>T_{max}</i> (CIs)	<i>T_{opt}</i> (CIs)
Parasite Dev. Rate (PDR)					
RVFV <i>Ae. taeniorhynchus</i> [47]	B	8.84 · 10 ⁻⁵ (2.51–15.5 · 10 ⁻⁵)	9.0 (5.4–13.8)	45.9 (41.9–50.3)	37.8 (34.5–41.3)
EEEV <i>Ae. triseriatus</i> [48]	B	7.05 · 10 ⁻⁵ (5.21–9.68 · 10 ⁻⁵)	11.6 (7.0–16.4)	44.8 (40.6–49.4)	37.2 (33.8–41.1)
WNV <i>Cx. pipiens</i> [44,45]	B	7.38 · 10 ⁻⁵ (5.38–9.94 · 10 ⁻⁵)	11.4 (7.3–15.0)	45.2 (40.7–50.3)	37.5 (33.8–41.6)
WNV <i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i> [50]	B	7.12 · 10 ⁻⁵ (4.58–10.2 · 10 ⁻⁵)	19.0 (12.9–21.0)	44.1 (38.8–50.4)	37.7 (33.6–42.7)
SLEV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i> [40]	B	7.11 · 10 ⁻⁵ (5.60–8.95 · 10 ⁻⁵)	12.8 (10.3–14.3)	45.2 (40.2–51.5)	37.7 (33.8–42.6)
WEEV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i> [40,46]	B	6.43 · 10 ⁻⁵ (4.44–10.4 · 10 ⁻⁵)	4.0 (0–12.6)	44.0 (38.3–50.9)	35.7 (31.0–41.4)
WNV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i> [41]	B	6.57 · 10 ⁻⁵ (5.11–8.85 · 10 ⁻⁵)	11.2 (7.9–14.9)	44.7 (40.4–49.4)	37.0 (33.6–40.9)
WNV <i>Cx. univittatus</i> [49]	B	7.54 · 10 ⁻⁵ (4.13–11.1 · 10 ⁻⁵)	10.2 (7.1–15.3)	34.4 (31.2–51.1)	28.8 (26.1–42.5)
SINV <i>Ae. taeniorhynchus</i> [42]	NA	Not fitted because lack of temperature sensitivity			

Table S6: Trait thermal response functions, data sources, and posterior estimates: lifespan. Responses fit with a linear function (**L**): $L(T) = -mT + z$. Median function coefficients and T_{max} (with 95% credible intervals).

<i>Trait / Species</i> [data source]	<i>F(x)</i>	<i>m</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>T_{max} = z/m</i>
Lifespan (lf)				
<i>Ae. taeniorhynchus</i> [51]	L	2.02 (1.59–3.19)	85.9 (73.8–117.6)	42.7 (34.5–48.5)
<i>Cx. pipiens</i> [11,17,52]	L	4.86 (3.83–5.84)	169.8 (142.1–195.6)	34.9 (32.9–37.9)
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i> [17,36]	L	3.80 (1.85–5.29)	136.3 (86.8–174.0)	35.9 (32.1–48.5)
<i>Cx. tarsalis</i> [32]	L	1.69 (1.12–2.24)	69.6 (55.8–83.5)	41.3 (36.6–50.8)

Additional data sources for other species used for fitting priors only (priors were fit using all data except that of the focal species). Lifespan (*lf*): *Cx. pipiens molestus* [36,37], *Cx. pipiens pallens* [37], and *Cx. restuans* [17]. See *Supplemental Methods: Priors for trait thermal responses*.

Table S7: Priors for trait thermal response functions: mosquito traits with unimodal responses. Gamma distribution parameters (α [shape] and β [rate]) for priors for fitting thermal response parameters (T_{min} , T_{max} , and q). Scaled variances are noted in parentheses, either by the system name (applied to all parameters) or by individual parameters. See *Supplemental Methods: Priors for trait thermal responses*.

Trait / System	$q: \alpha$	$q: \beta$	$T_{min}: \alpha$	$T_{min}: \beta$	$T_{max}: \alpha$	$T_{max}: \beta$
Biting rate (a)						
<i>Cx. pipiens</i> (0.5)	8.84	64200	1.91	0.367	103	3.00
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i>	39.1 (0.1)	234133 (0.1)	8.82 (0.1)	0.997 (0.1)	2992	75.8
<i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	40.1 (0.05)	227752 (0.05)	18.7 (0.05)	1.745 (0.05)	unif.	unif.
<i>Cs. melanura</i>	35.4 (0.75)	229694 (0.75)	7.77 (0.75)	0.895 (0.75)	2714 (0.1)	68.5 (0.1)
Fecundity						
<i>Cx. pipiens</i> (EFGC) (3)	9.23	15.6	2.38	0.419	139	3.52
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i> (ER)	19.1	30.44	2.87	0.600	486	13.2
Prop. ovipositing (pO)						
<i>Cx. pipiens</i> (0.5)	9.50	1823	14.8	1.495	263	7.14
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i>	32.9	55242	1.41	0.397	3346	106
<i>Cs. melanura</i>	14.4	2635	22.0	2.254	588	16.8
Egg viability (EV)						
<i>Ae. vexans</i> (0.01)	26.6	12259	11.6	1.916	486	10.8
<i>Cx. pipiens</i> (0.2)	29.4	14525	8.83	1.579	514	11.1
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i> (0.1)	101	262268	1.08	1.032	1361	34.9
<i>Cx. theileri</i>	5.86	2266	4.46	0.591	266	6.06
Mos. dev. rate (MDR)						
<i>Ae. triseriatus</i> (0.2)	118	2697528	1.93	0.703	5542	145
<i>Ae. vexans</i> (0.5)	119	2739401	1.89	0.689	6661	174
<i>Cx. pipiens</i> (0.1)	71.9	1545915	2.03	0.596	2912	76.5
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i> (0.1)	113	2569782	1.81	0.651	5900	155
<i>Cx. tarsalis</i> (0.1)	129	2940582	1.49	0.660	6431	169
<i>Cs. melanura</i> (0.1)	129	2941063	1.78	0.685	6915	181
Larval survival (p_{LA})						
<i>Ae. triseriatus</i> (0.05)	163	46723	231	27.3	4667	122
<i>Ae. vexans</i> (0.05)	135	37701	210	24.6	4040	107
<i>Cx. pipiens</i> (0.1)	102	27382	217	24.2	2872	76.7
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i> (0.1)	88.8	26461	123	14.8	2608	68.4
<i>Cx. tarsalis</i> (0.025)	94.6	23240	237	26.2	2564	69.5
<i>Cs. melanura</i> (0.05)	148.9	41533	239	27.8	4391	116

Table S8: Priors for trait thermal response functions: infection traits. Gamma distribution parameters (α [shape] and β [rate]) for priors for fitting thermal response parameters (T_{min} , T_{max} , and q). Scaled variances are noted in parentheses, either by the system name (applied to all parameters) or by individual parameters. See *Supplemental Methods: Priors for trait thermal responses*.

<i>Trait / System</i>	$q: \alpha$	$q: \beta$	$T_{min}: \alpha$	$T_{min}: \beta$	$T_{max}: \alpha$	$T_{max}: \beta$
Transmission efficiency (b)	7.72	3202	9.97	1.268	114	2.9
SLEV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i> (0.5)	9.49	2373	79.6	6.181	153	3.74
WEEV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i> (0.1)	8.46	3056	12.1	1.455	134	3.5
WNV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	7.72	3202	9.97	1.268	114	2.9
Infection efficiency (c)						
SINV <i>Ae. taeniorhynchus</i> (0.1)	61.7	45102	2.49	0.815	1214	25.1
SINV <i>Cx. pipiens</i> (0.01)	57.3	40236	2.64	0.799	1124	23.28
WNV <i>Cx. pipiens</i>	28.5	15944	1.44	0.852	237	5.393
SLEV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	65.2	46656	1.67	0.692	1071	22.2
	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.1)	(0.1)
WEEV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i> (0.01)	82.2	35791	392	30.502	1264	26.1
Vector competence (bc)						
RVFV <i>Ae. taeniorhynchus</i> (2)	8.4	4775	2.316	0.421	147	3.39
EEEV <i>Ae. triseriatus</i>	6.68	3612	2.027	0.383	119	2.86
	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(0.01)	(0.01)
WNV <i>Cx. pipiens</i> (0.5)	17.6	7857	1.403	0.534	219	5.42
WEEV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i> (0.5)	9.56	5344	3.021	0.498	180	4.05
WNV <i>Cx. univittatus</i>	13.7	2327	380	22.434	527	14.4
	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.1)	(0.1)
Parasite dev. rate (PDR)						
RVFV <i>Ae. taeniorhynchus</i>	20.2	331065	8.69	0.893	227	4.96
	(0.2)	(0.2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
EEEV <i>Ae. triseriatus</i> (2)	13.2	167635	6.76	0.609	183	4.05
WNV <i>Cx. pipiens</i>	8.71	113904	3.51	0.356	140	3.17
	(2)	(2)	(5)	(5)	(2)	(2)
WNV <i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i>	15.8	201154	8.09	0.772	202	4.44
SLEV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	11.8	151149	6.31	0.584	179	3.97
WEEV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	10.3	117795	9.97	0.768	162	3.62
			(0.05)	(0.05)		
WNV <i>Cx. tarsalis</i> (2)	11.7	148079	5.92	0.541	169	3.77
WNV <i>Cx. univittatus</i>	12.3	146439	9.02	0.773	174	3.87
			(3)	(3)	(0.2)	(0.2)

Table S9: Priors for trait thermal response functions: lifespan. Gamma distribution parameters (α [shape] and β [rate]) for priors for fitting thermal response parameters (m and z). Scaled variances are noted in parentheses, either by the system name (applied to all parameters) or by individual parameters. See *Supplemental Methods: Priors for trait thermal responses*.

<i>Trait / System (var.)</i>	<i>m: α</i>	<i>m: β</i>	<i>z: α</i>	<i>z: β</i>
Lifespan (<i>lf</i>)				
<i>Ae. taeniorhynchus</i> (0.01)	119	52.9	268	3.19
<i>Cx. pipiens</i> (0.01)	117	42.4	238	2.39
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i> (0.01)	110	32.9	207	1.78
<i>Cx. tarsalis</i> (0.1)	124	43.0	249	2.42

Supplemental Methods: Priors for trait thermal responses

We used gamma distribution parameters (α [shape] and β [rate]) for informative priors for each thermal response parameter (Brière and quadratic functions: T_{min} , T_{max} , and q); linear functions: m and z). First, we fit a thermal response function (with uniform priors) to all the *Aedes* and *Culex* data for a given trait except that of the focal vector species or vector–virus pair (i.e., the parameters for the priors for a for *Culex pipiens* were fit to the a data for all species except *Cx. pipiens*). Then we used the ‘MASS’ package in R to fit a gamma distribution hyperparameters to the distribution from each thermal response parameters.

The mean of the gamma distribution is equal to α/β , while the variance is determined by the magnitude of the parameters (smaller values = higher variance). When fitting thermal responses, the appropriate strength for the priors depends on the amount of data used to fit the priors and the amount of the data for the focal trait. Prior strengths can be modified by scaling the variance (i.e., multiplying the gamma parameters by <1 to increase the variance or >1 to decrease the variance) without impacting the mean. In many cases we had to increase the variance because of the large number of data points used to fit priors. In a few cases, we had to decrease the variation (e.g., to constrain T_{max} for Briere functions for *PDR* where we had no observations at high temperatures, in order to make it so *PDR* would not constrain R_0 where there was no data). For biting rate (a) for *Culex tarsalis*, we used a likelihood function where T_{min} and q had data informed priors and T_{max} had uniform priors (as used to fit the priors) in order to best capture the thermal response of the data.

Supplemental Methods: Sensitivity and uncertainty analyses

We performed two sensitivity analyses and one uncertainty analysis to understand what traits were most important for determining and contributing to uncertainty in the thermal limits and optima. For the first sensitivity analysis, we calculated the partial derivatives of R_0 with respect to each trait across temperature (T) and multiplied it by the derivative of the trait with temperature (i.e., the slope of the thermal response). Equations S3-S6 (below) apply to both versions of the R_0 model (eqs. S1 and S2). Equation S3 is for all traits (x) that appear once in the numerator. Equation S4, for biting rate (a), differs from previous analyses [2–6] because biting rate was cubed to account for fecundity measured per gonotrophic cycle rather than per day. Equation S5 is for parasite development rate (PDR), and equation S6 is for lifespan (lf).

$$\frac{\partial R_0}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial T} = \frac{R_0}{2x} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial T} \quad \text{eq. S3}$$

$$\frac{\partial R_0}{\partial a} \cdot \frac{\partial a}{\partial T} = \frac{3R_0}{2a} \cdot \frac{\partial a}{\partial T} \quad \text{eq. S4}$$

$$\frac{\partial R_0}{\partial PDR} \cdot \frac{\partial PDR}{\partial T} = \frac{R_0}{2 lf PDR^2} \cdot \frac{\partial PDR}{\partial T} \quad \text{eq. S5}$$

$$\frac{\partial R_0}{\partial lf} \cdot \frac{\partial lf}{\partial T} = \frac{R_0(1+3PDR)}{2 PDR lf^2} \cdot \frac{\partial lf}{\partial T} \quad \text{eq. S6}$$

For the second sensitivity analysis, we held single traits constant while allowing all other traits to vary with temperature. For the uncertainty analysis, we calculated the ‘total uncertainty’ across temperature as the width of the 95% highest posterior density (HPD) interval across temperature for the full model. Then, we calculated the HPD for ‘uncertainty for each trait’ by fixing all traits except the focal trait at their posterior median value across temperature, while keeping the full posterior sample of the focal trait. Then, we divided the uncertainty for each trait by the total uncertainty, calculated across temperature, to estimate the proportion of uncertainty in R_0 that was due to the uncertainty in the focal trait.

Figure S1: Thermal responses for mosquito traits in additional vector species: *Ae. taeniorhynchus* (green), *Ae. triseriatus* (violet), *Aedes vexans* (teal), *Cx. theileri* (pink), and *Culiseta melanura* (brown). (A) Mosquito development rate (*MDR*), (B) larval-to-adult survival (*pLA*), and (C) biting rate (*a*), (D) lifespan (*lf*), (E) proportion ovipositing (*pO*) and (F) egg viability (*EV*). Points without error bars are reported means from single studies; points with error bars are averages of means from multiple studies (+/- standard error, for visual clarity only; thermal responses were fit to reported means). Solid lines are posterior distribution means; shaded areas are 95% credible intervals.

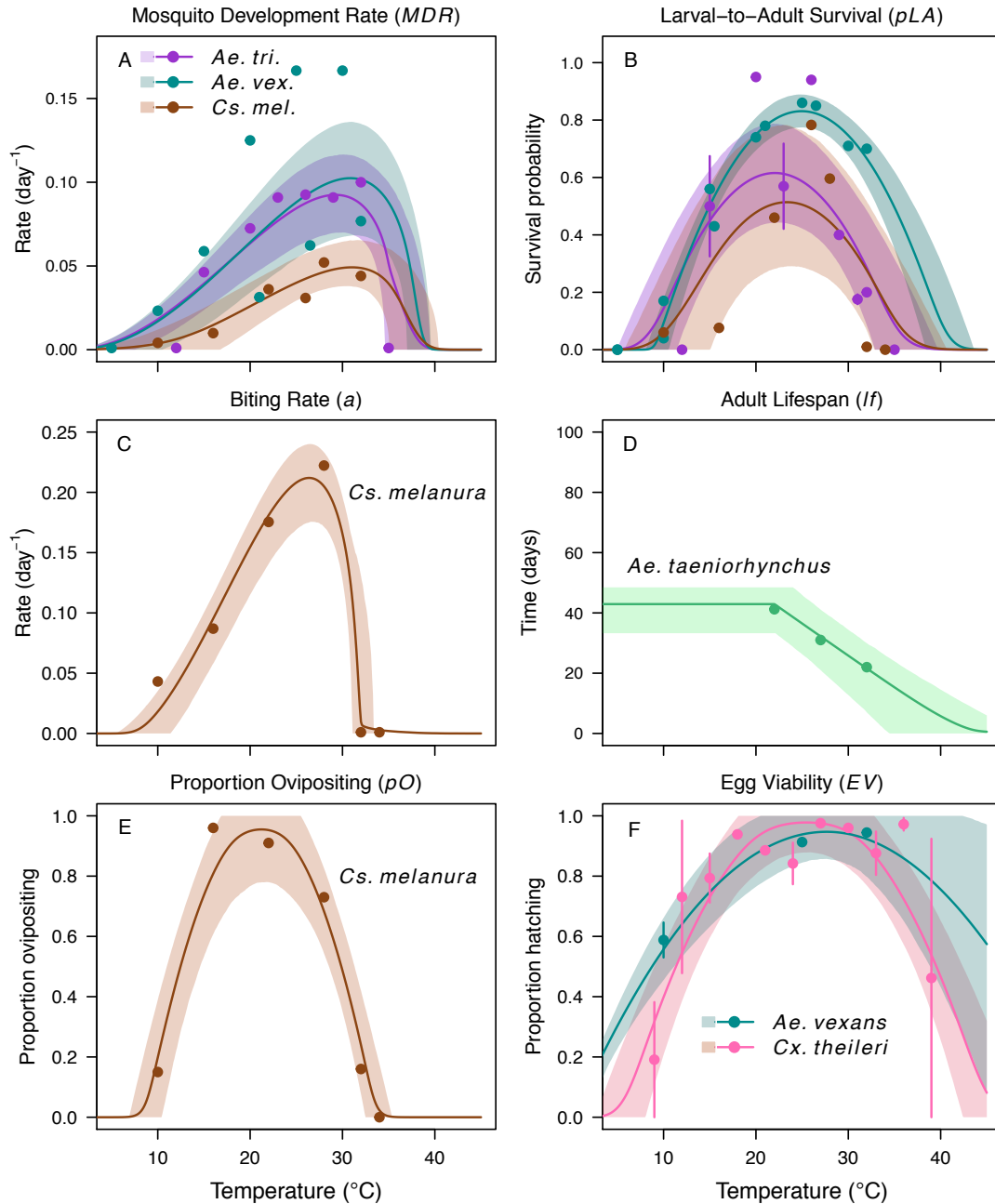


Figure S2: Thermal responses for biting rate (a) showing individual data points. (A) *Culex pipiens*, (B) *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, (C) *Cx. tarsalis*, and (D) *Culiseta melanura*. Solid lines are posterior distribution means for the mean thermal response; black dashed lines are 95% credible intervals for the mean thermal response; red dashed lines are 95% prediction intervals for observed data (incorporating the fitted variance).

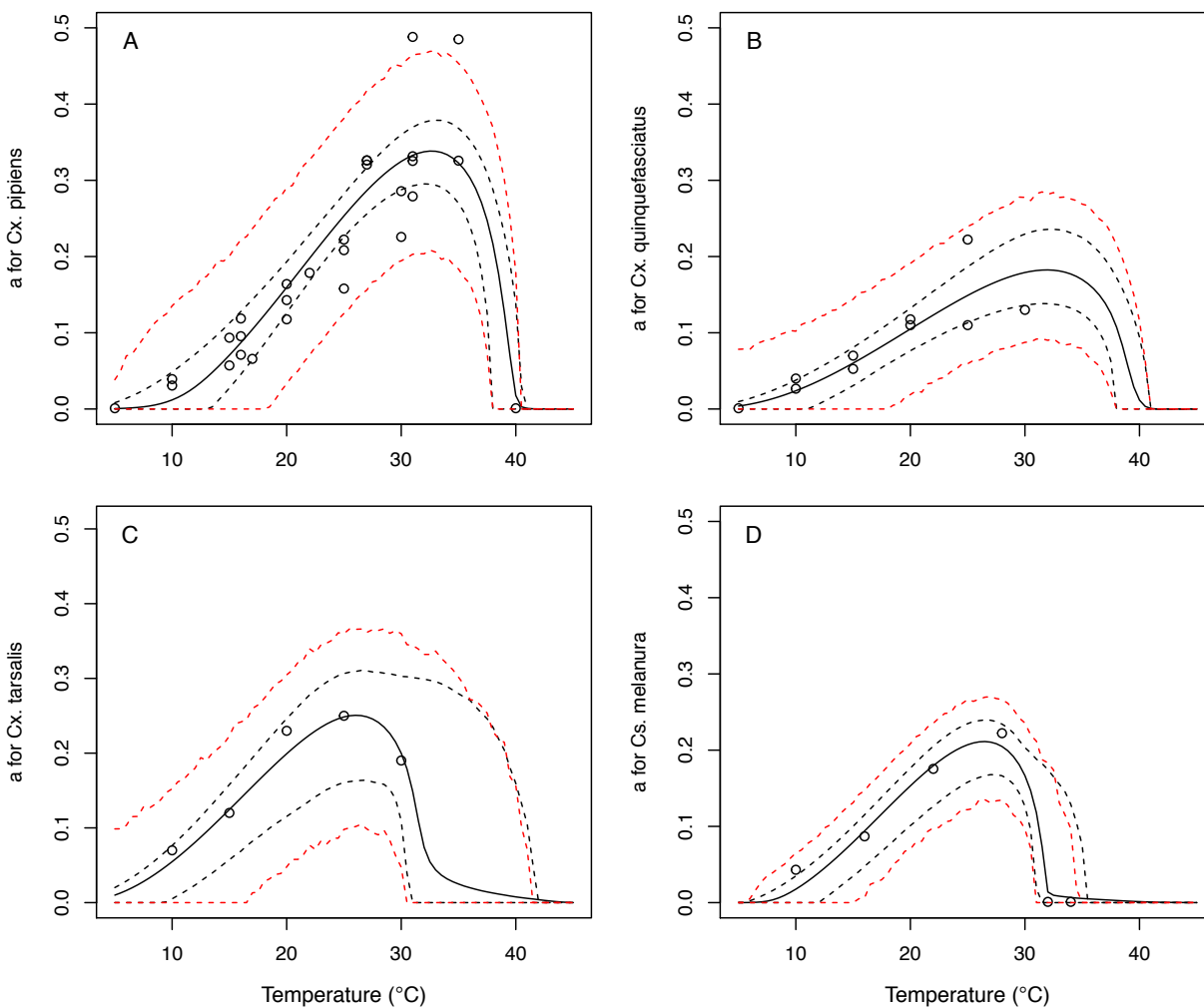


Figure S3: Thermal responses for larval-to-adult survival (pLA) showing individual data points. (A) *Culex pipiens*, (B) *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, (C) *Cx. tarsalis*, (D) *Aedes vexans*, (E) *Ae. triseriatus*, and (F) *Culiseta melanura*. Solid lines are posterior distribution means for the mean thermal response; black dashed lines are 95% credible intervals for the mean thermal response; red dashed lines are 95% prediction intervals for observed data (incorporating the fitted variance).

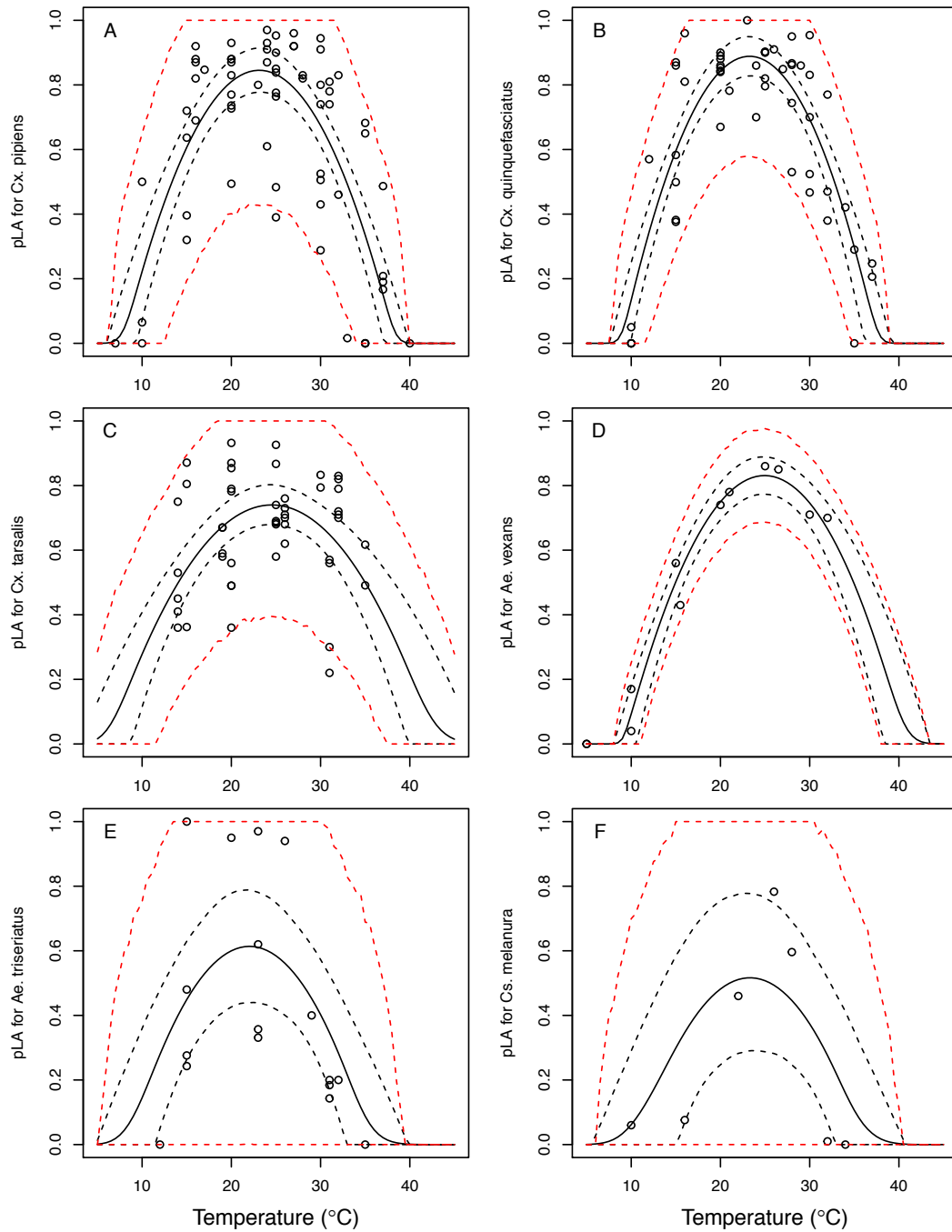


Figure S4: Thermal responses for mosquito development rate (*MDR*) showing individual data points. (A) *Culex pipiens*, (B) *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, (C) *Cx. tarsalis*, (D) *Aedes vexans*, (E) *Ae. triseriatus*, and (F) *Culiseta melanura*. Solid lines are posterior distribution means for the mean thermal response; black dashed lines are 95% credible intervals for the mean thermal response; red dashed lines are 95% prediction intervals for observed data (incorporating the fitted variance).

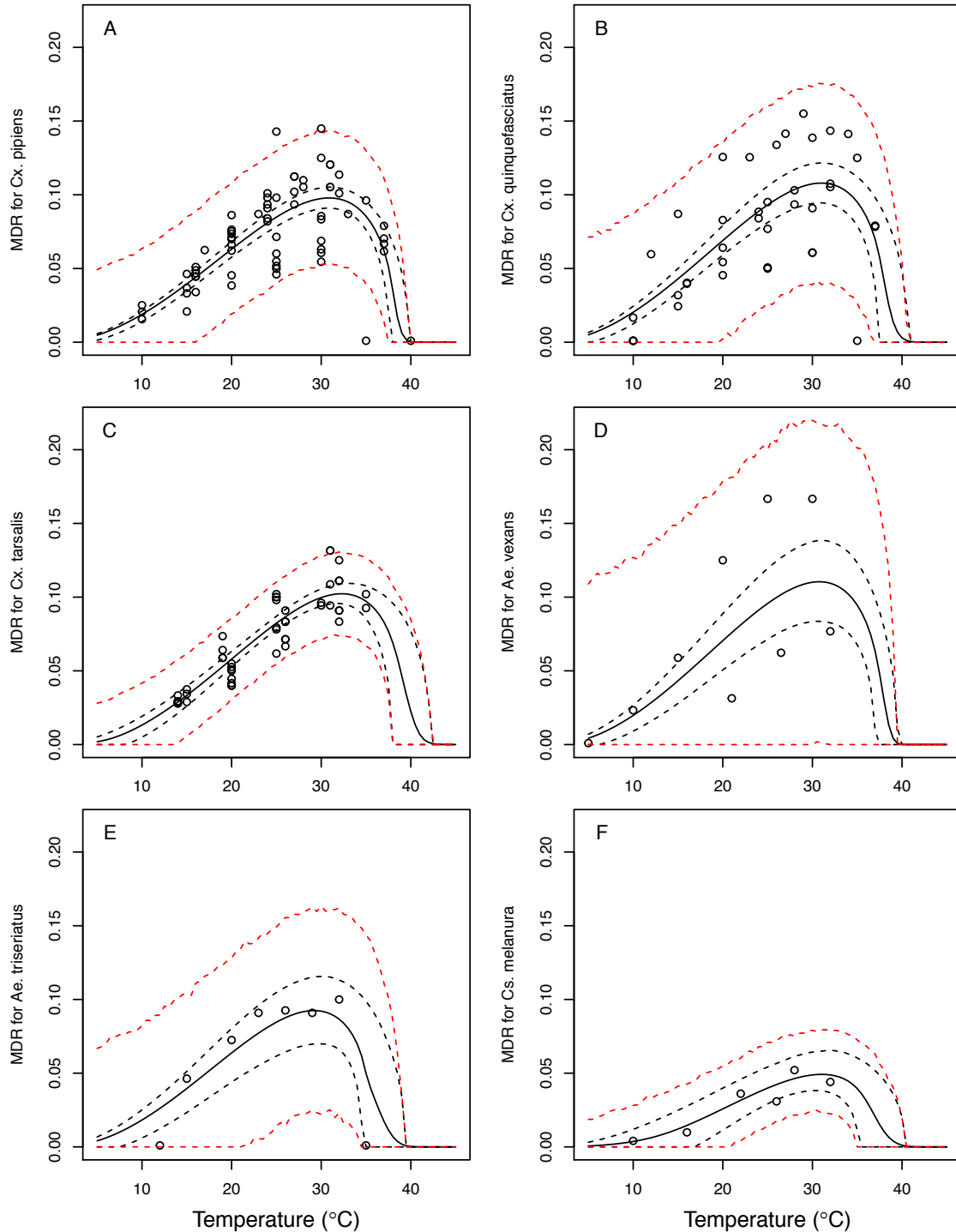


Figure S5: Thermal responses for adult mosquito lifespan (*lf*) showing individual data points. (A) *Culex pipiens*, (B) *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, (C) *Cx. tarsalis*, and (D) *Aedes taeniorhynchus*. When data were reported by sex, only female data were used. Solid lines are posterior distribution means for the mean thermal response; black dashed lines are 95% credible intervals for the mean thermal response; red dashed lines are 95% prediction intervals for observed data (incorporating the fitted variance).

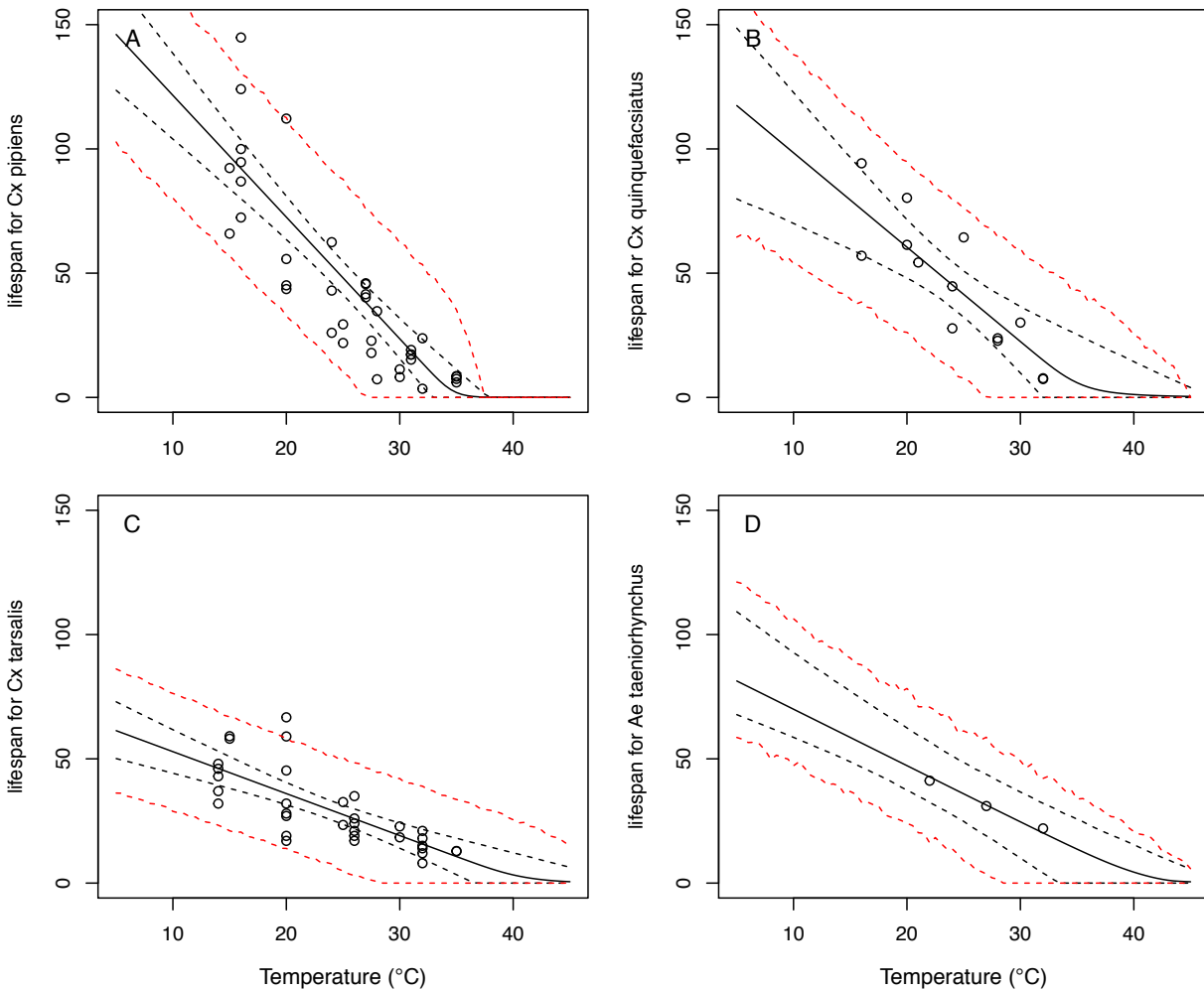


Figure S6: Thermal responses for fecundity traits showing individual data points. Traits: (A) Reproduction measured as eggs per female per gonotrophic cycle (*EFGC*), (B) reproduction measured as eggs per raft (*ER*) (C–E) proportion ovipositing (*pO*), and (F–I) egg viability (*EV*). Vector species: (A,C,F) *Culex pipiens*, (B,D,G), *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, (E) *Culiseta melanura*, (H) *Cx. theileri*, and (I) *Aedes vexans*. Solid lines are posterior distribution means for the mean thermal response; black dashed lines are 95% credible intervals for the mean thermal response; red dashed lines are 95% prediction intervals for observed data (incorporating the fitted variance).

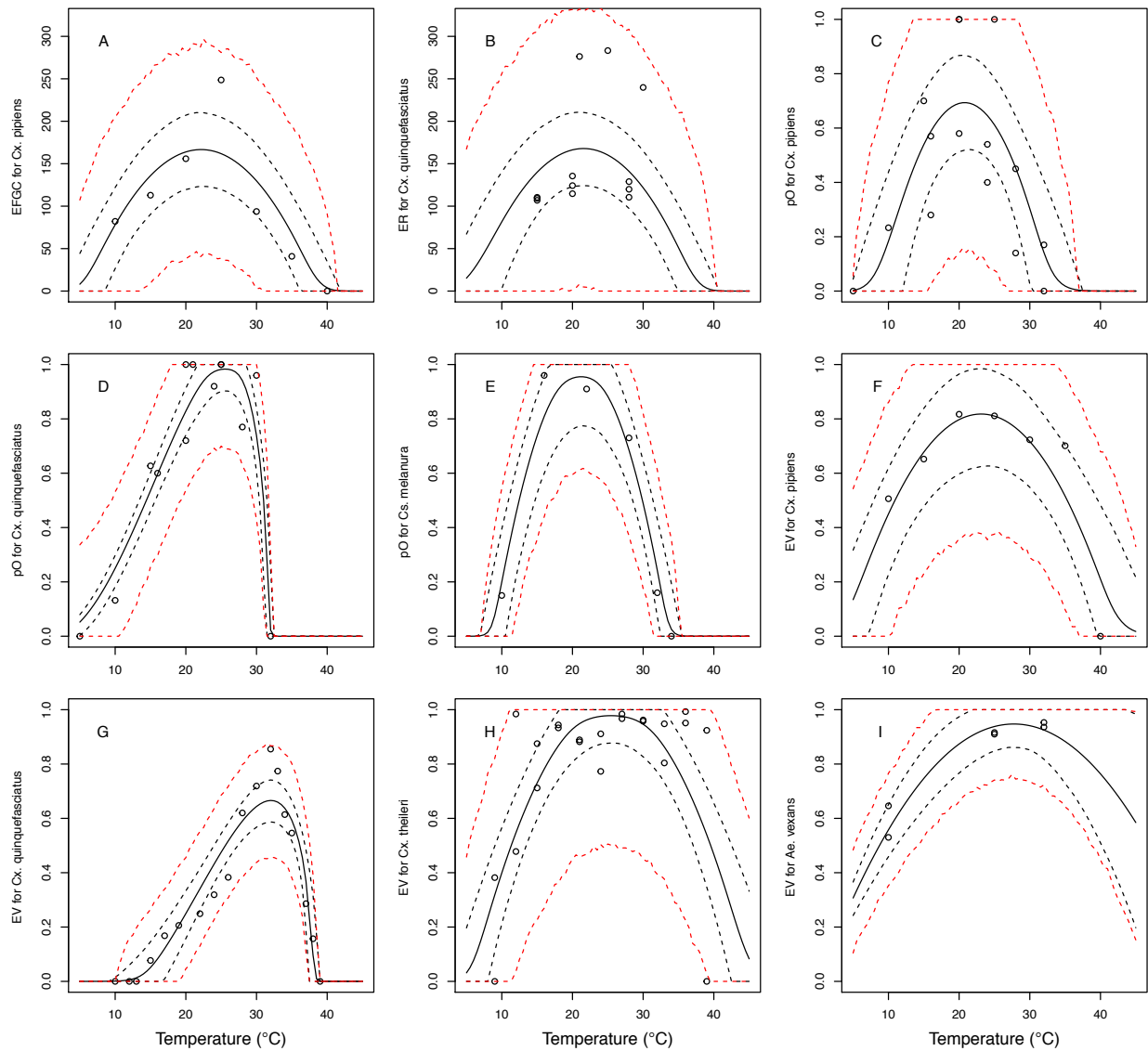


Figure S7: Thermal responses for pathogen development rate (PDR) showing individual data points. (A) West Nile virus (WNV) in *Culex pipiens*, (B), WNV in *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, (C) WNV in *Cx. tarsalis*, (D) WNV in *Cx. univittatus*, (E) St. Louis Encephalitis virus (SLEV) in *Cx. tarsalis*, (F) Western Equine Encephalitis virus (WEEV) in *Cx. tarsalis*, and (G) Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus (EEEV) in *Aedes triseriatus*. Solid lines are posterior distribution means for the mean thermal response; black dashed lines are 95% credible intervals for the mean thermal response; red dashed lines are 95% prediction intervals for observed data (incorporating the fitted variance).

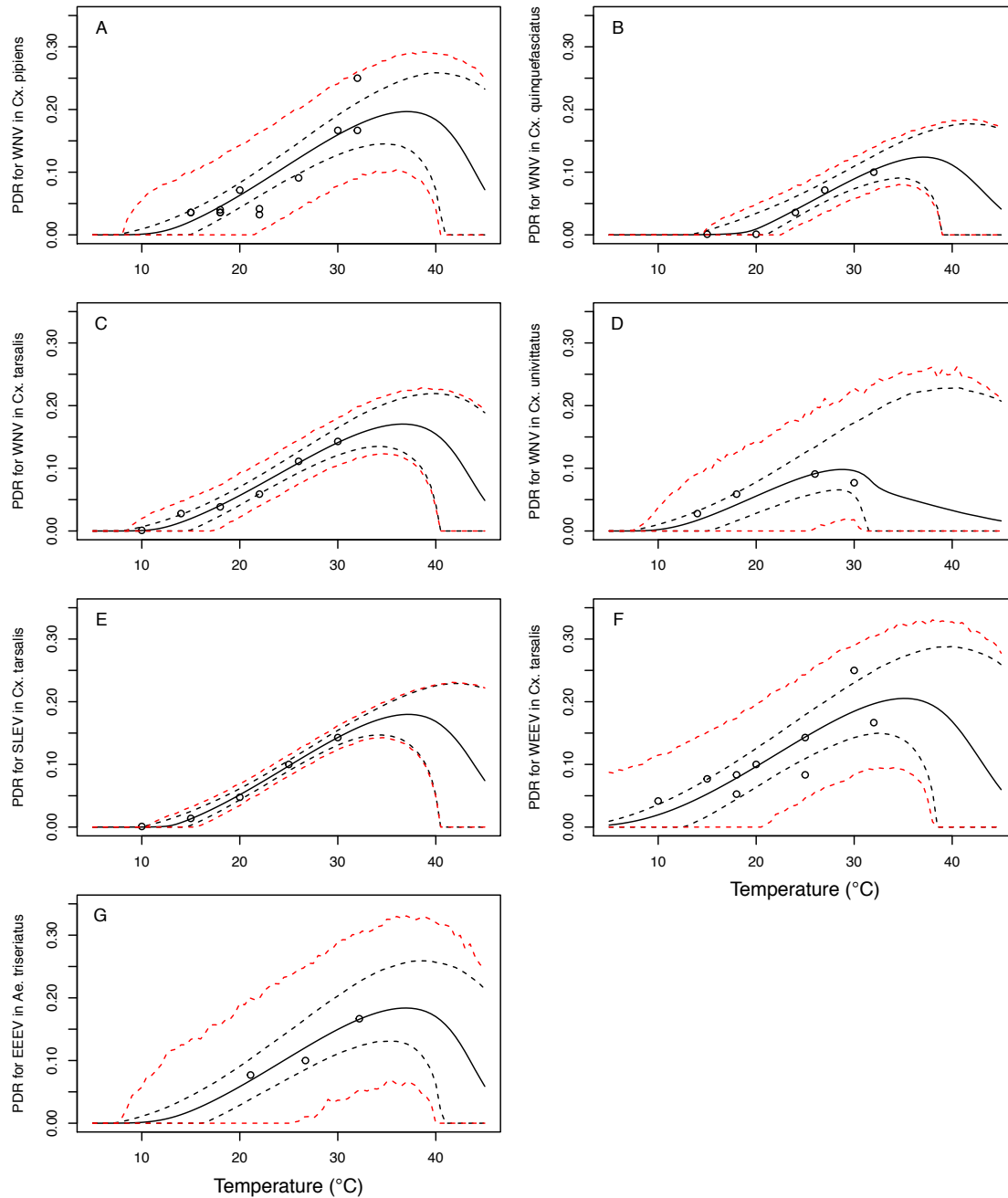


Figure S8: Thermal responses for vector competence traits in *Culex tarsalis*, showing individual data points. Traits: (A,B,F) transmission efficiency (b , # transmitting / # infected), (C,E) infection efficiency (c , # infected / # exposed), and (D) vector competence (bc , # infected / # exposed). Viruses: (A) West Nile virus (WNV), (B–D) Western Equine Encephalitis virus (WEEV), (E,F) St. Louis Encephalitis virus (SLEV). Solid lines are posterior distribution means for the mean thermal response; black dashed lines are 95% credible intervals for the mean thermal response; red dashed lines are 95% prediction intervals for observed data (incorporating the fitted variance).

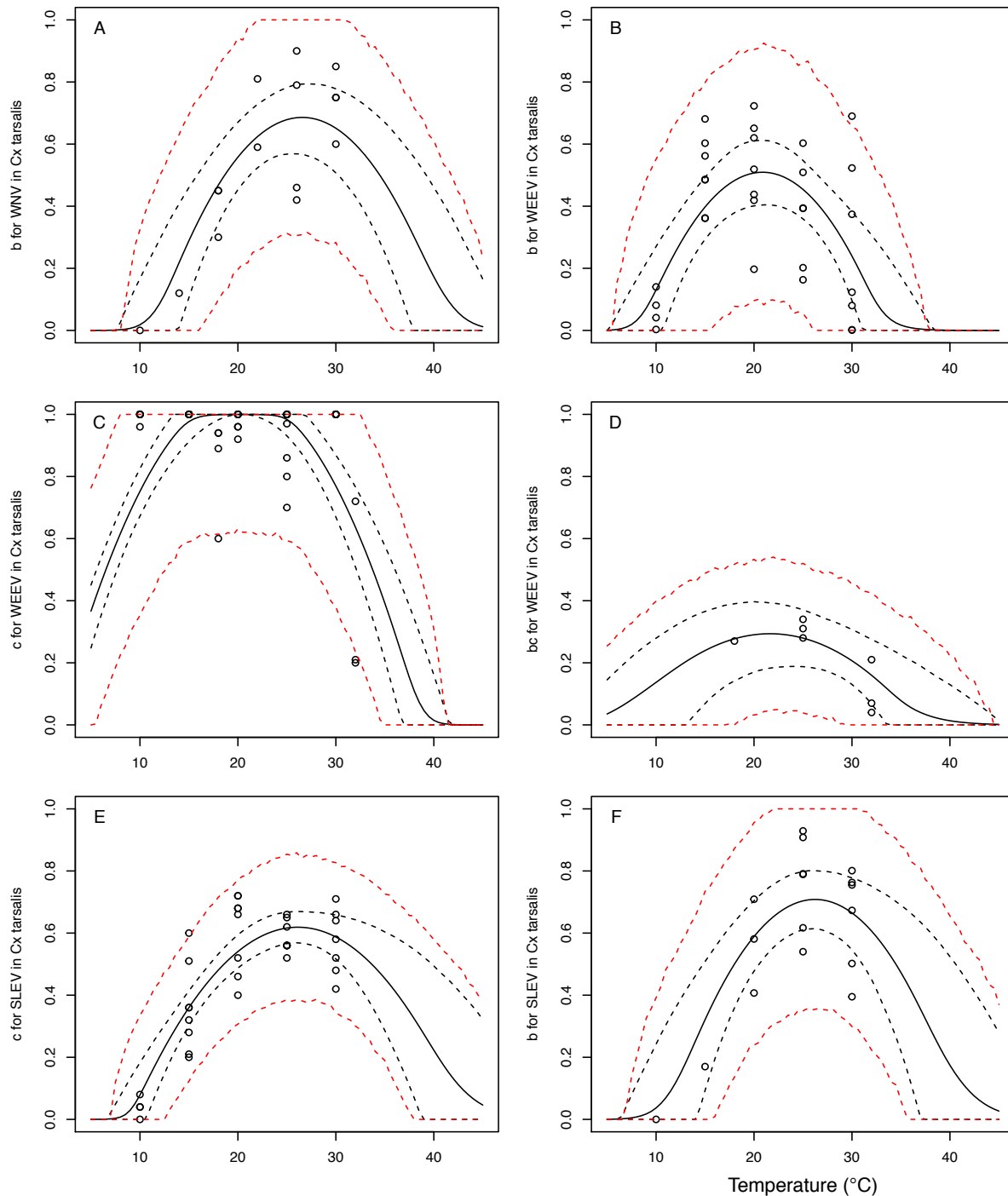


Figure S9: Thermal responses for vector competence traits showing individual data points.

Traits: (A,E,F) infection efficiency (c , # infected / # exposed) and (B,C,D,G) vector competence (bc , # infected / # exposed). Viruses and vectors: (A,B) West Nile virus (WNV) in *Culex pipiens*, (C) WNV in *Cx. univittatus*, (D) Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus (EEEV) in *Ae. triseriatus*, (E) Sindbis virus (SINV) in *Culex pipiens*, (F) SINV in *Aedes taeniorhynchus*, and (G) Rift Valley Fever virus (RVFV) in *Ae. taeniorhynchus*. Solid lines are posterior distribution means for the mean thermal response; black dashed lines are 95% credible intervals for the mean thermal response; red dashed lines are 95% prediction intervals for observed data (incorporating the fitted variance).

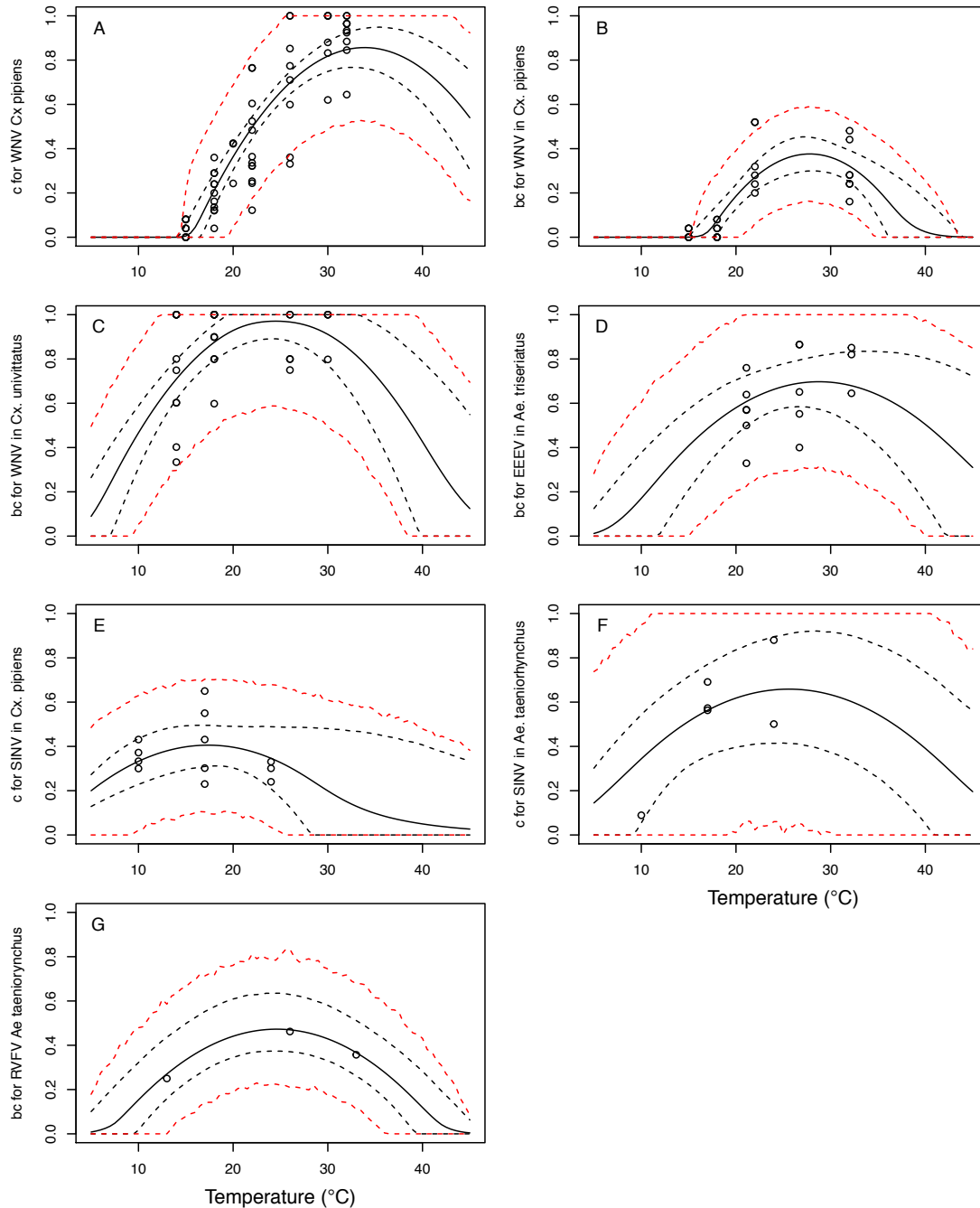


Figure S10: Medians & 95% credible intervals for thermal limits and optima of R_0 models across temperate and tropical mosquito-borne disease systems. Models in order from top to bottom: Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus (EEEV) in *Aedes triseriatus* (dark purple; this paper), Western Equine Encephalitis virus (WEEV) in *Culex tarsalis* (light purple; this paper), Sindbis virus (SINV) in *Cx. pipiens* (dark blue; this paper), West Nile virus (WNV) in *Cx. univittatus* (medium blue; this paper), WNV in *Cx. tarsalis* (light blue, this paper), St. Louis Encephalitis virus (SLEV) in *Cx. tarsalis* (dark teal; this paper), WNV in *Cx. pipiens* (light teal; this paper), WNV in *Cx. quinquefasciatus* (dark green; this paper), *Plasmodium falciparum* malaria in *Anopheles* spp. (light green; [3]), Rift Valley Fever virus (RVFV) in *Ae. taeniorhynchus* (yellow; this paper), SINV in *Ae. taeniorhynchus* (light orange; this paper), Ross River virus (RRV) in *Cx. annulirostris* (medium orange, [5]), dengue virus (DENV) in *Ae. albopictus* (dark orange; [4]), Murray Valley Encephalitis virus (MVEV) in *Cx. annulirostris* (light red, [5]), Zika virus (ZIKV) in *Ae. aegypti* (medium red; [6]), DENV in *Ae. aegypti* (dark red; [4]). Figure modified from [53].

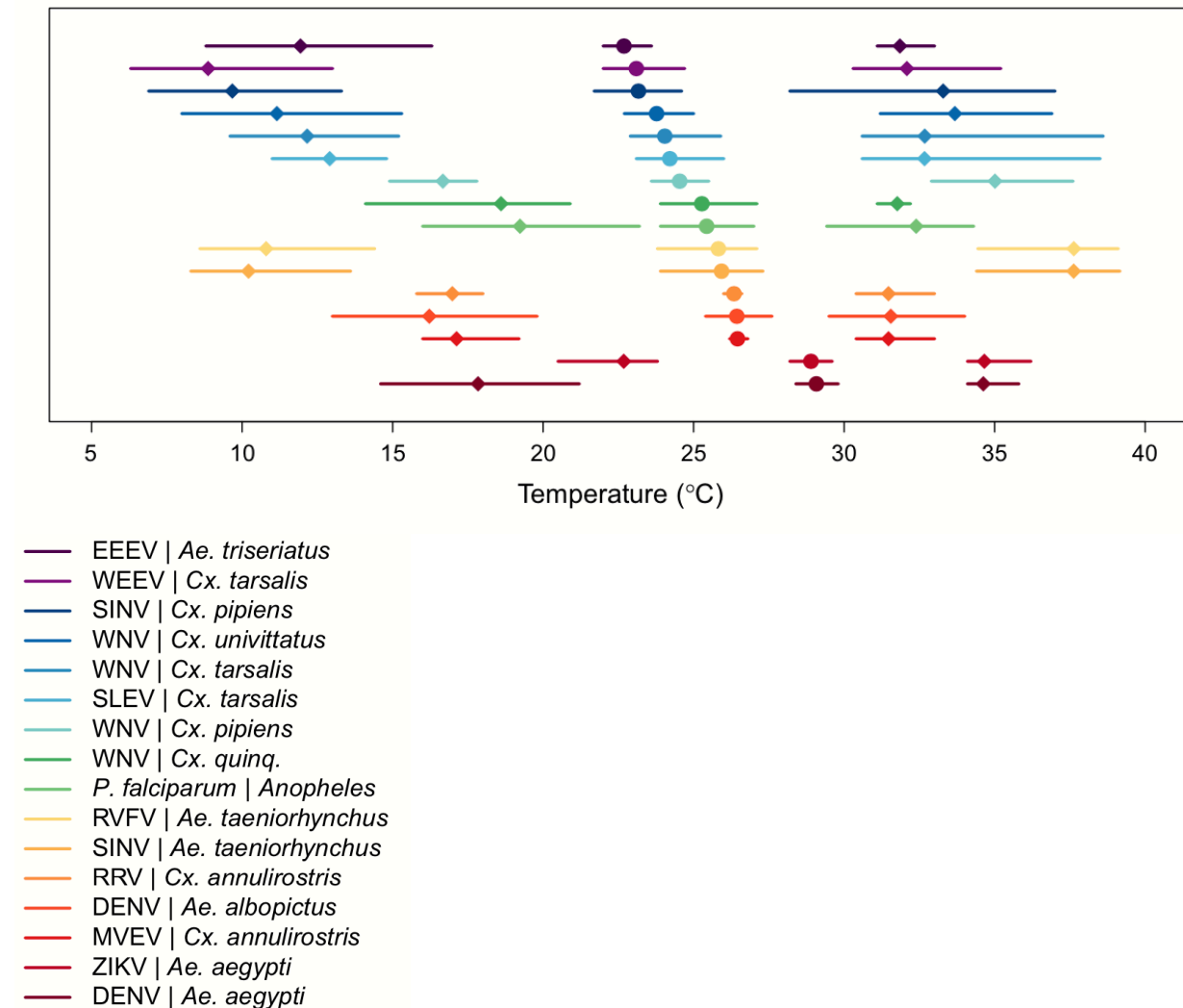


Figure S11: Temperature-dependent R_0 , sensitivity analyses, and uncertainty analysis for model of West Nile Virus (WNV) in *Culex pipiens*. (A) Median temperature-dependent R_0 (black line) with 95% credible intervals (dashed red lines). (B) Sensitivity analysis #1: derivative with respect to temperature for R_0 (black) and partial derivatives with respect to temperature for each trait. (C) Sensitivity analysis #2: relative R_0 calculated with single traits held constant. (D) Uncertainty analysis using highest posterior density (HPD) interval widths: the proportion of total uncertainty due to each trait. (B-D) Trait colors: biting rate (a , red), vector competence (bc , orange), adult lifespan (lf , green), parasite development rate (PDR , cyan), fecundity ($EFGC$, light blue), egg viability (EV , dark blue), larval survival (pLA , purple), and mosquito development rate (MDR , pink). All traits from *Cx. pipiens*.

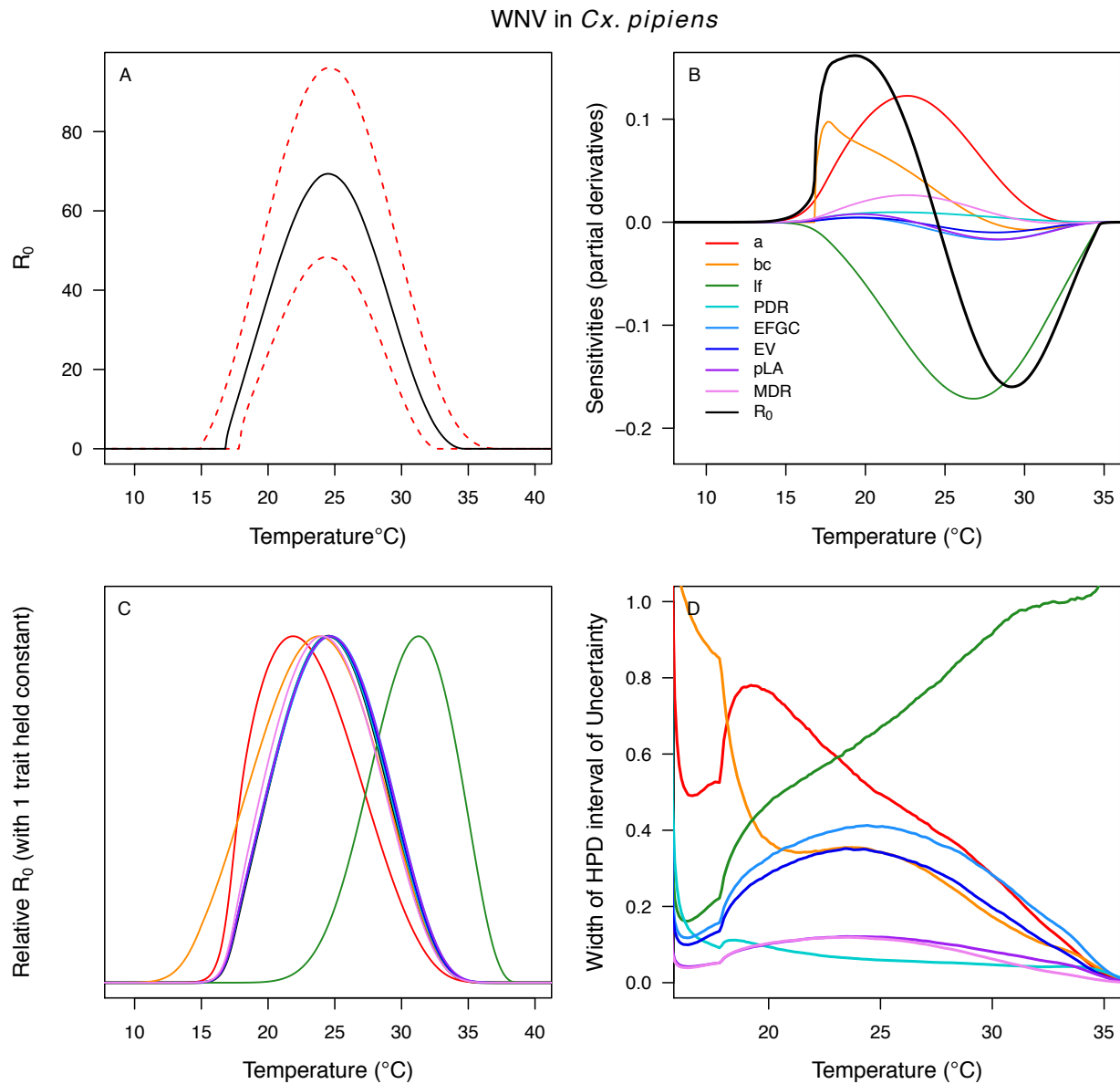


Figure S12: Temperature-dependent R_0 , sensitivity analyses, and uncertainty analysis for model of West Nile Virus (WNV) in *Culex quinquefasciatus*. (A) Median temperature-dependent R_0 (black line) with 95% credible intervals (dashed red lines). (B) Sensitivity analysis #1: derivative with respect to temperature for R_0 (black) and partial derivatives with respect to temperature for each trait. (C) Sensitivity analysis #2: relative R_0 calculated with single traits held constant. (D) Uncertainty analysis using highest posterior density (HPD) interval widths: the proportion of total uncertainty due to each trait. (B-D) Trait colors: biting rate (a , red), vector competence (bc , orange), adult lifespan (lf , green), parasite development rate (PDR , cyan), fecundity ($EFGC$, light blue), egg viability (EV , dark blue), larval survival (pLA , purple), mosquito development rate (MDR , pink), and proportion ovipositing (pO , grey). Vector competence (bc) from *Cx. univitattus*; all other traits from *Cx. quinquefasciatus*.

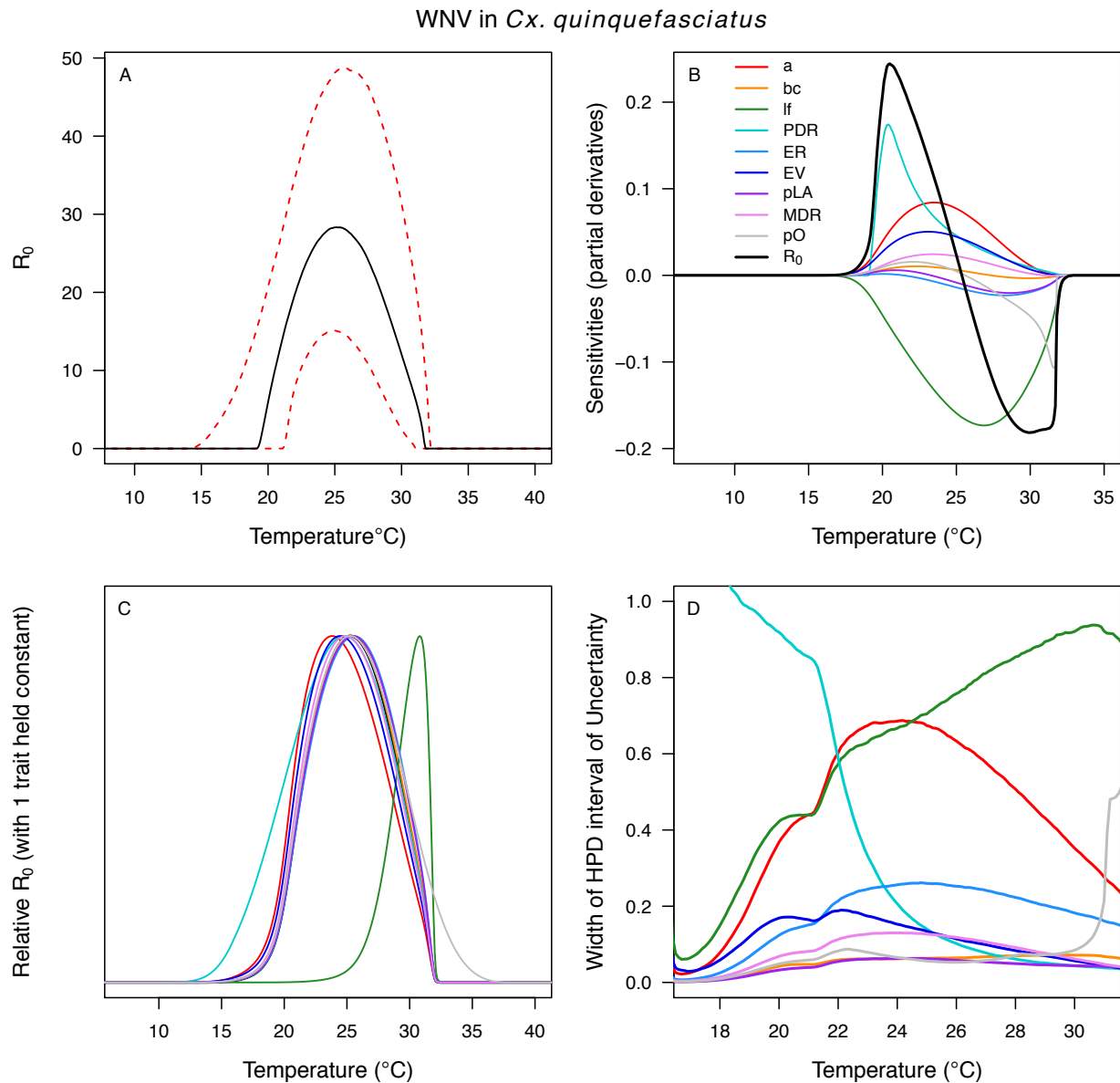


Figure S13: Temperature-dependent R_0 , sensitivity analyses, and uncertainty analysis for model of West Nile Virus (WNV) in *Culex tarsalis*. (A) Median temperature-dependent R_0 (black line) with 95% credible intervals (dashed red lines). (B) Sensitivity analysis #1: derivative with respect to temperature for R_0 (black) and partial derivatives with respect to temperature for each trait. (C) Sensitivity analysis #2: relative R_0 calculated with single traits held constant. (D) Uncertainty analysis using highest posterior density (HPD) interval widths: the proportion of total uncertainty due to each trait. (B-D) Trait colors: biting rate (a , red), transmission efficiency (b , orange), adult lifespan (lf , green), parasite development rate (PDR , cyan), fecundity ($EFGC$, light blue), egg viability (EV , dark blue), larval survival (pLA , purple), and mosquito development rate (MDR , pink). Fecundity ($EFGC$) and egg viability (EV) from *Cx. pipiens*; all other traits from *Cx. tarsalis*.

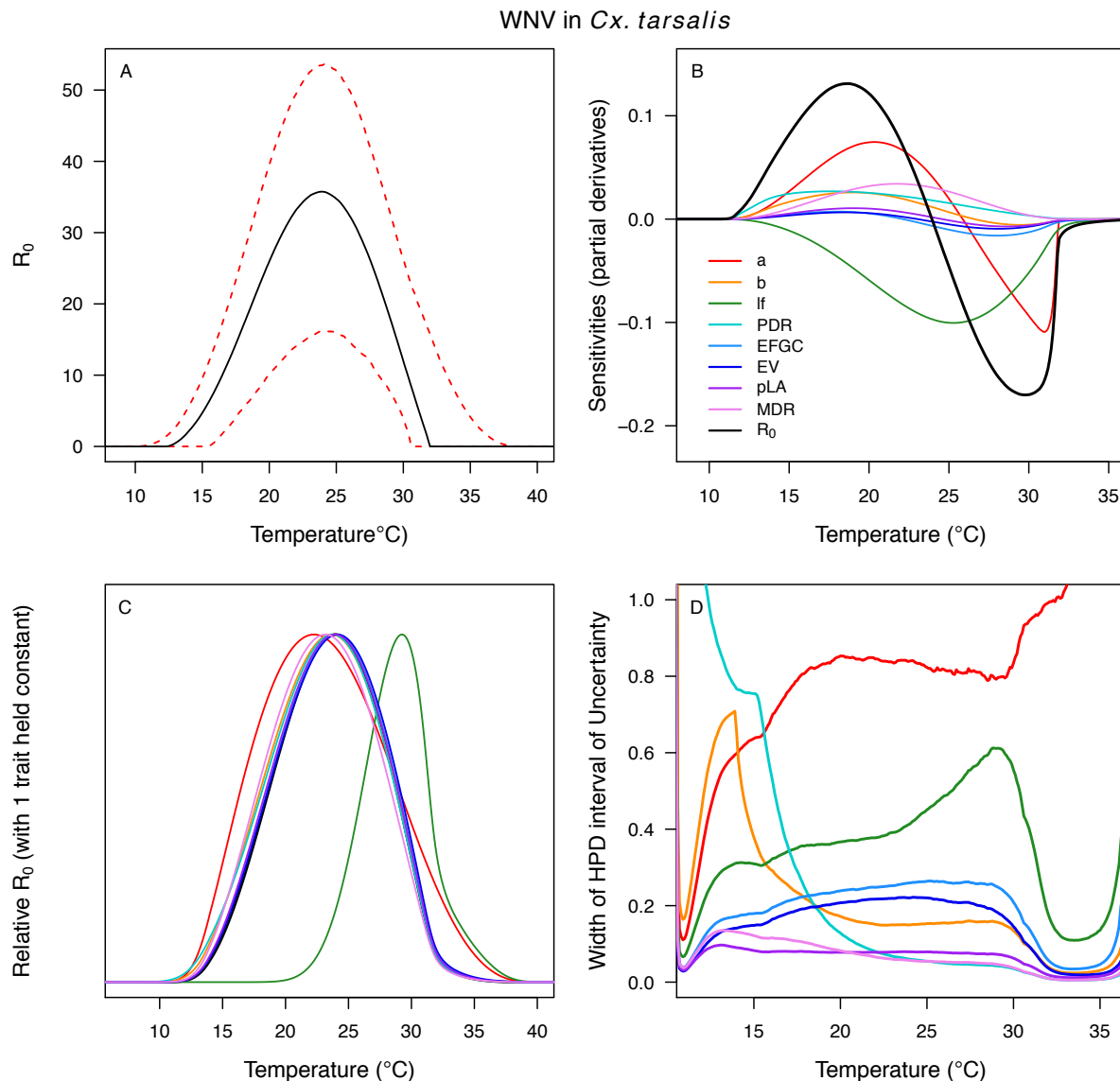


Figure S14: Temperature-dependent R_0 , sensitivity analyses, and uncertainty analysis for model of West Nile Virus (WNV) in *Culex univittatus*. (A) Median temperature-dependent R_0 (black line) with 95% credible intervals (dashed red lines). (B) Sensitivity analysis #1: derivative with respect to temperature for R_0 (black) and partial derivatives with respect to temperature for each trait. (C) Sensitivity analysis #2: relative R_0 calculated with single traits held constant. (D) Uncertainty analysis using highest posterior density (HPD) interval widths: the proportion of total uncertainty due to each trait. (B-D) Trait colors: biting rate (a , red), vector competence (bc , orange), adult lifespan (lf , green), parasite development rate (PDR , cyan), fecundity ($EFGC$, light blue), egg viability (EV , dark blue), larval survival (pLA , purple), and mosquito development rate (MDR , pink). Infection traits (bc and PDR) from *Cx. univittatus*; all other traits from *Cx. pipiens*.

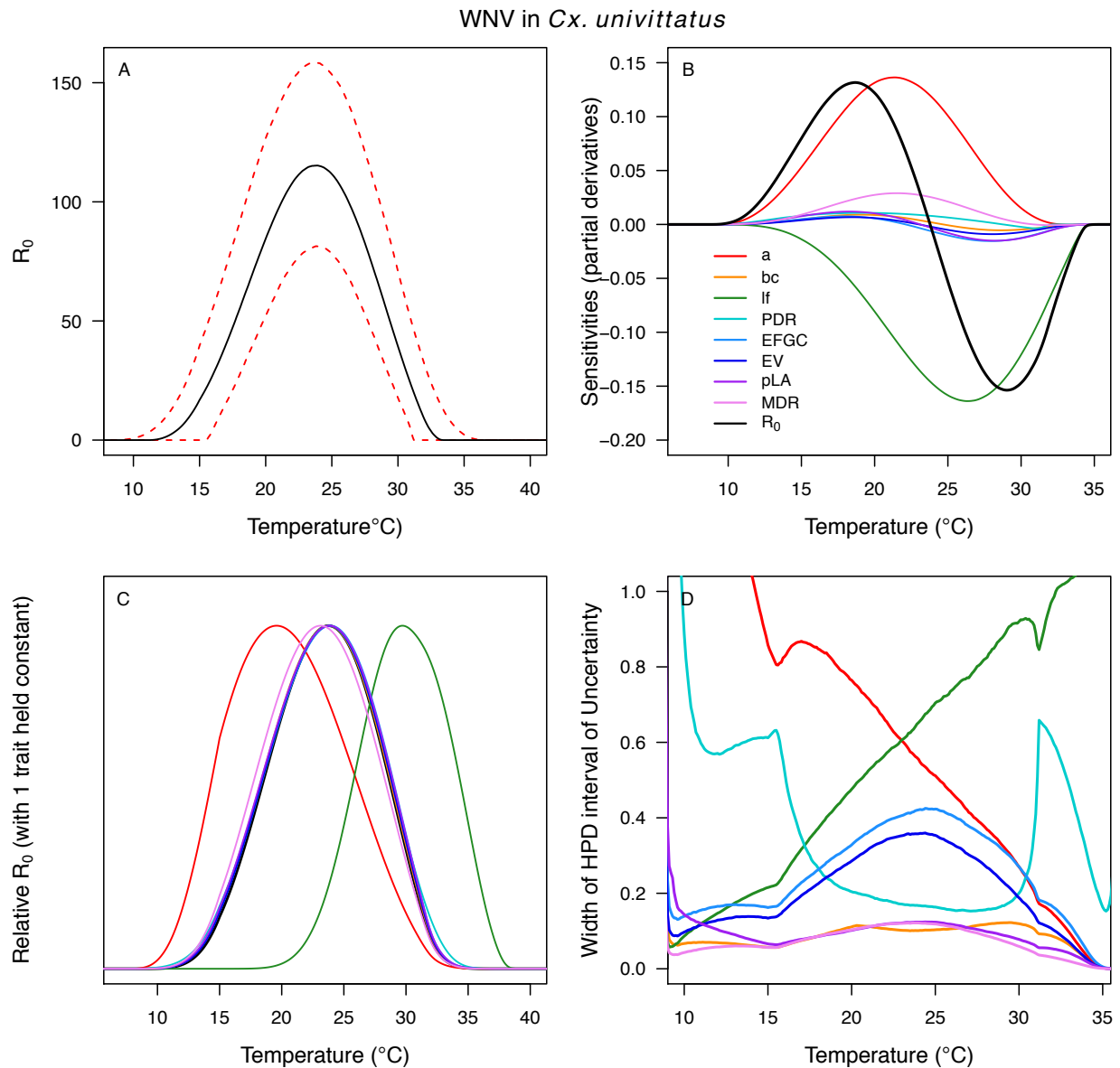


Figure S15: Temperature-dependent R_0 , sensitivity analyses, and uncertainty analysis for St. model of St. Louis Encephalitis Virus (SLEV) in *Culex tarsalis*. (A) Median temperature-dependent R_0 (black line) with 95% credible intervals (dashed red lines). (B) Sensitivity analysis #1: derivative with respect to temperature for R_0 (black) and partial derivatives with respect to temperature for each trait. (C) Sensitivity analysis #2: relative R_0 calculated with single traits held constant. (D) Uncertainty analysis using highest posterior density (HPD) interval widths: the proportion of total uncertainty due to each trait. (B-D) Trait colors: biting rate (a , red), transmission efficiency (b , orange), infection efficiency (c , brown), adult lifespan (lf , green), parasite development rate (PDR , cyan), fecundity ($EFGC$, light blue), egg viability (EV , dark blue), larval survival (pLA , purple), and mosquito development rate (MDR , pink). Fecundity ($EFGC$) and egg viability (EV) from *Cx. pipiens*; all other traits from *Cx. tarsalis*.

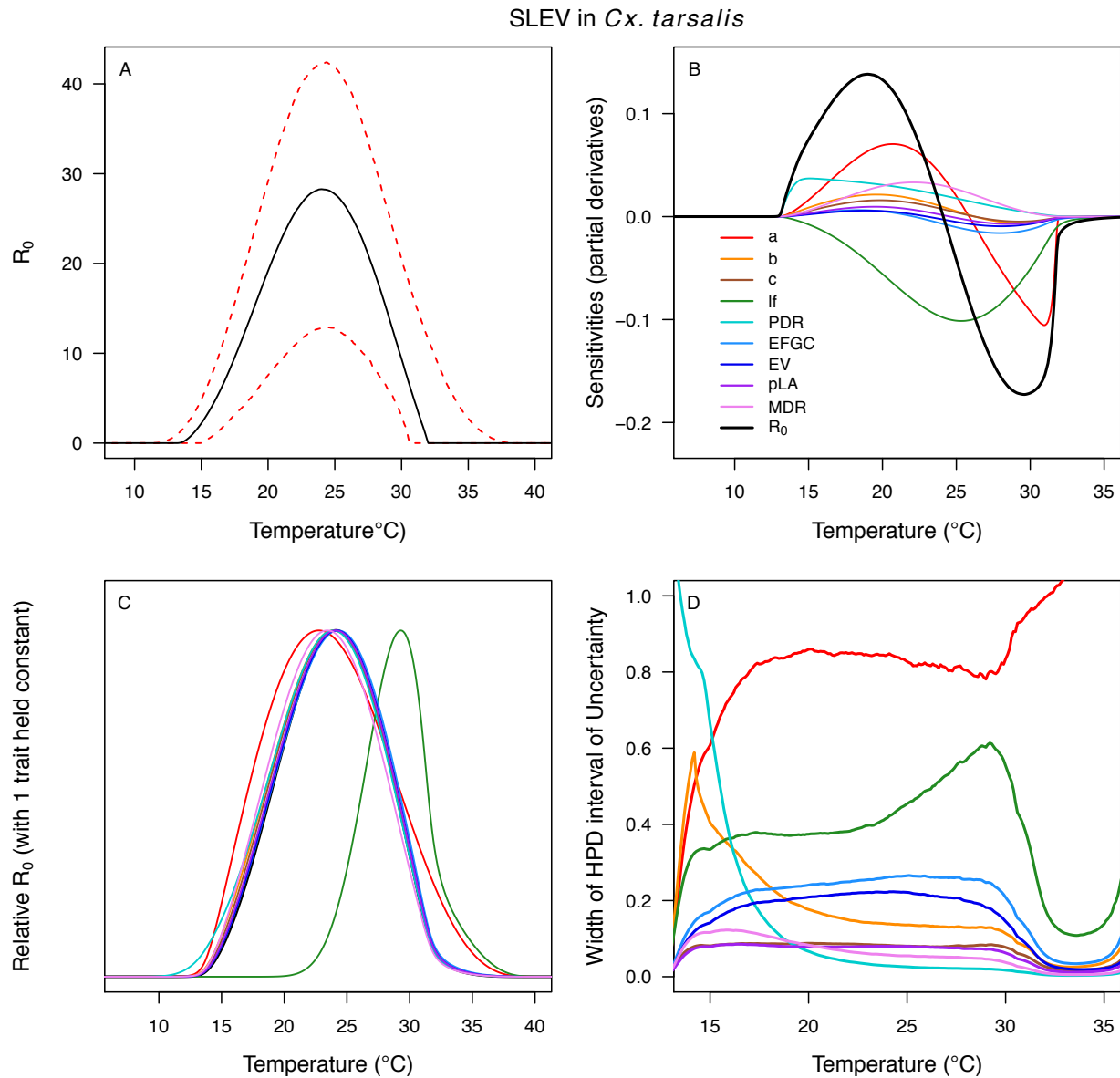


Figure S16: Temperature-dependent R_0 , sensitivity analyses, and uncertainty analysis for model of Western Equine Encephalitis Virus (WEEV) in *Culex tarsalis*. (A) Median temperature-dependent R_0 (black line) with 95% credible intervals (dashed red lines). (B) Sensitivity analysis #1: derivative with respect to temperature for R_0 (black) and partial derivatives with respect to temperature for each trait. (C) Sensitivity analysis #2: relative R_0 calculated with single traits held constant. (D) Uncertainty analysis using highest posterior density (HPD) interval widths: the proportion of total uncertainty due to each trait. (B-D) Trait colors: biting rate (*a*, red), transmission efficiency (*b*, orange), infection efficiency (*c*, brown), adult lifespan (*lf*, green), parasite development rate (*PDR*, cyan), fecundity (*EFGC*, light blue), egg viability (*EV*, dark blue), larval survival (*pLA*, purple), and mosquito development rate (*MDR*, pink). Fecundity (*EFGC*) and egg viability (*EV*) from *Cx. pipiens*; all other traits from *Cx. tarsalis*.

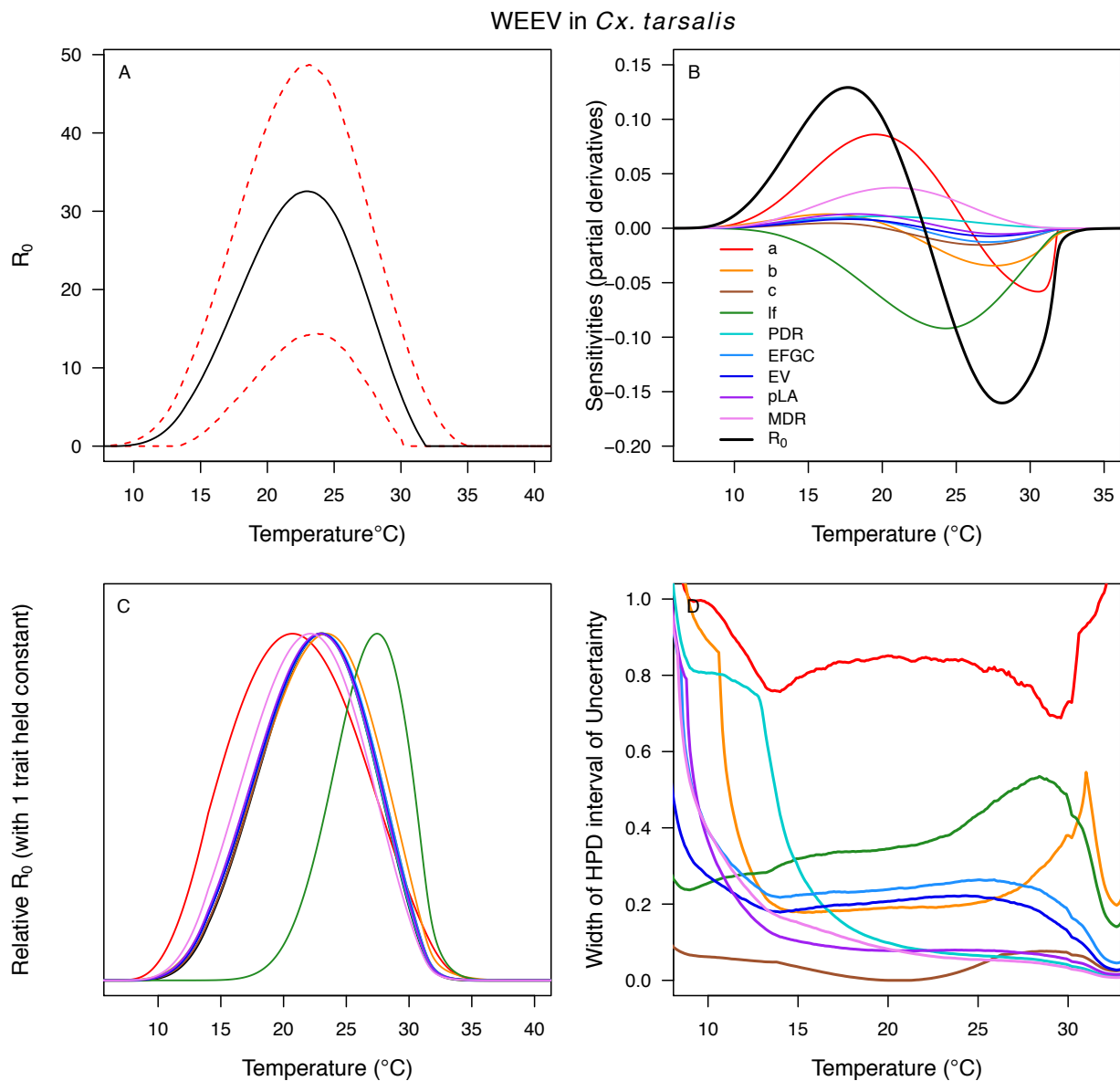


Figure S17: Temperature-dependent R_0 , sensitivity analyses, and uncertainty analysis for model of Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus in *Aedes triseriatus*. (A) Median temperature-dependent R_0 (black line) with 95% credible intervals (dashed red lines). (B) Sensitivity analysis #1: derivative with respect to temperature for R_0 (black) and partial derivatives with respect to temperature for each trait. (C) Sensitivity analysis #2: relative R_0 calculated with single traits held constant. (D) Uncertainty analysis using highest posterior density (HPD) interval widths: the proportion of total uncertainty due to each trait. (B-D) Trait colors: biting rate (a , red), vector competence (bc , orange), adult lifespan (lf , green), parasite development rate (PDR , cyan), fecundity ($EFGC$, light blue), egg viability (EV , dark blue), larval survival (pLA , purple), mosquito development rate (MDR , pink), and proportion ovipositing (pO , grey). Fecundity ($EFGC$), egg viability (EV), and lifespan (lf) from *Cx. pipiens*; biting rate (a) and proportion ovipositing (pO) from *Culiseta melanura*; all other traits from *Ae. triseriatus*. Note: technically fecundity as eggs per female per gonotrophic cycle ($EFGC$) has already accounted for the proportion ovipositing (pO). However, we selected this trait fit because it was very similar to the ER thermal response from *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, but slightly wider (more conservative).

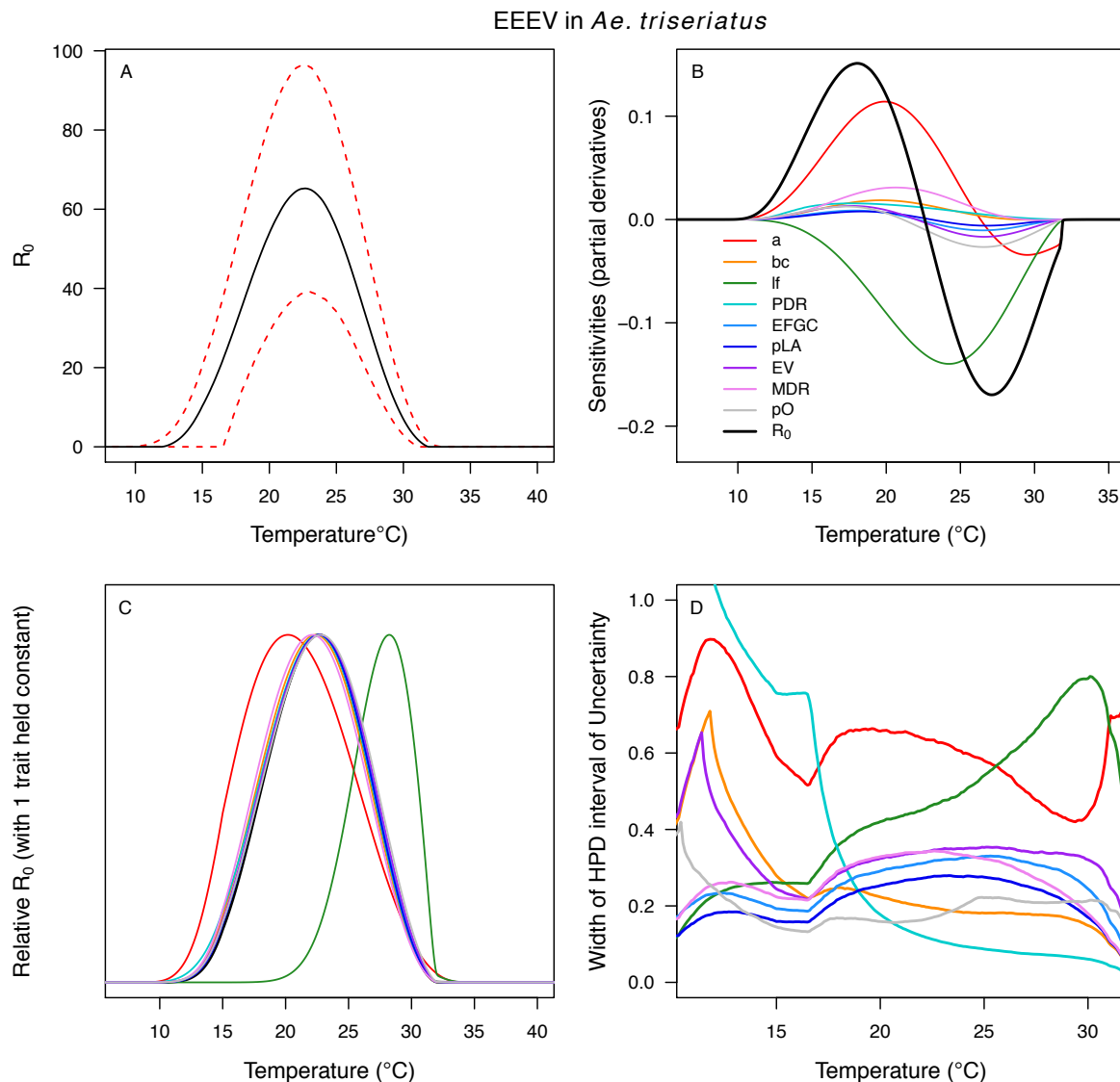


Figure S18: Temperature-dependent R_0 , sensitivity analyses, and uncertainty analysis for model of Sindbis Virus in *Culex pipiens*. (A) Median temperature-dependent R_0 (black line) with 95% credible intervals (dashed red lines). (B) Sensitivity analysis #1: derivative with respect to temperature for R_0 (black) and partial derivatives with respect to temperature for each trait. (C) Sensitivity analysis #2: relative R_0 calculated with single traits held constant. (D) Uncertainty analysis using highest posterior density (HPD) interval widths: the proportion of total uncertainty due to each trait. (B-D) Trait colors: biting rate (a , red), infection efficiency (c , brown), adult lifespan (lf , green), fecundity ($EFGC$, light blue), egg viability (EV , dark blue), larval survival (pLA , purple), and mosquito development rate (MDR , pink). All traits from *Cx. pipiens*. NOTE: The raw R_0 calculation used $PDR = 1$, which is not biologically reasonable trait value.

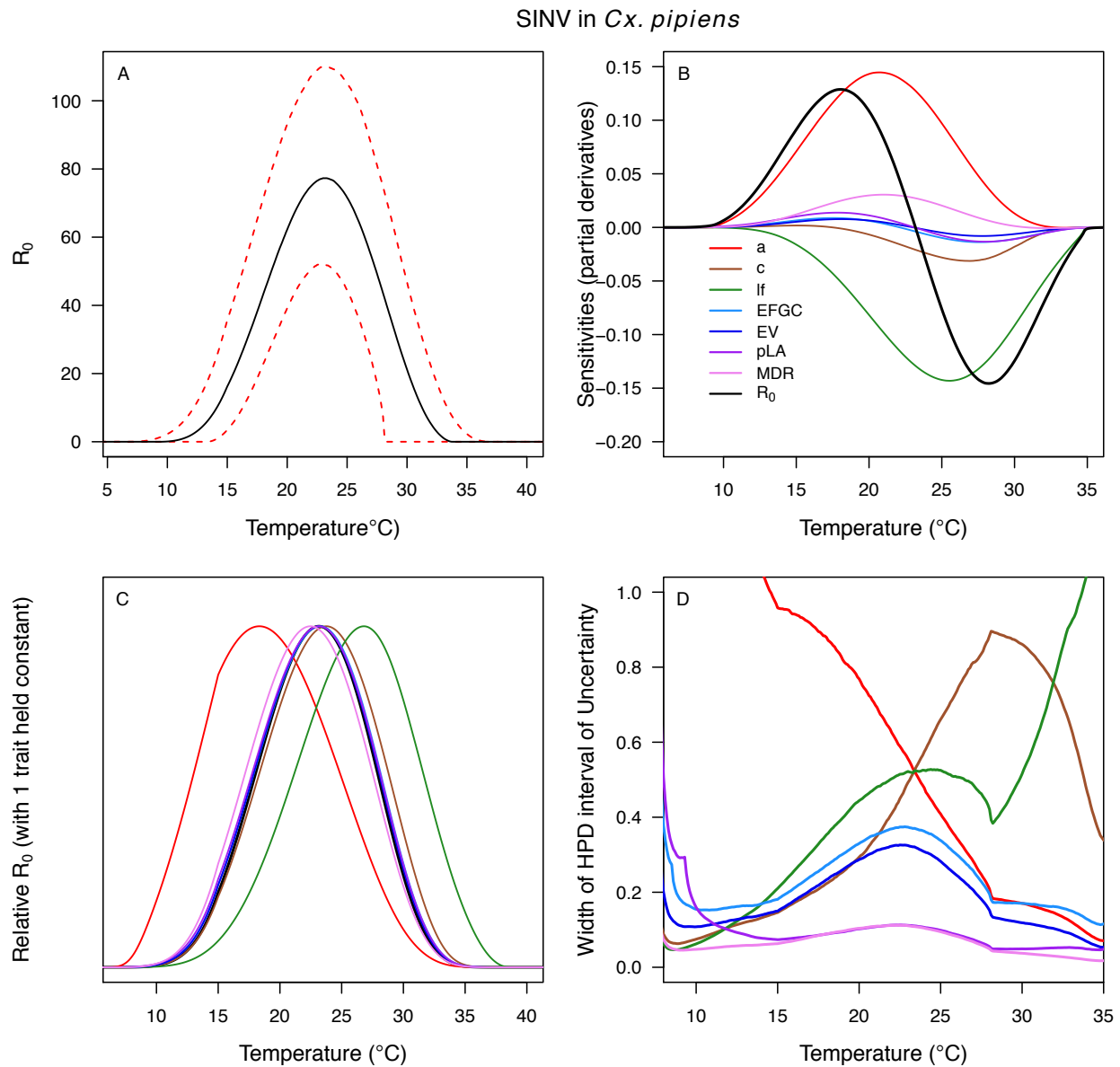


Figure S19: Temperature-dependent R_0 , sensitivity analyses, and uncertainty analysis for model of Sindbis Virus in *Aedes taeniorhynchus*. (A) Median temperature-dependent R_0 (black line) with 95% credible intervals (dashed red lines). (B) Sensitivity analysis #1: derivative with respect to temperature for R_0 (black) and partial derivatives with respect to temperature for each trait. (C) Sensitivity analysis #2: relative R_0 calculated with single traits held constant. (D) Uncertainty analysis using highest posterior density (HPD) interval widths: the proportion of total uncertainty due to each trait. (B-D) Trait colors: biting rate (a , red), infection efficiency (c , brown), adult lifespan (lf , green), fecundity ($EFGC$, light blue), egg viability (EV , dark blue), larval survival (pLA , purple), and mosquito development rate (MDR , pink). Fecundity ($EFGC$) and biting rate (a) from *Culex pipiens*; egg viability (EV) and larval traits (pLA and MDR) from *Ae. vexans*; all other traits from *Ae. taeniorhynchus*. NOTE: The raw R_0 calculation used $PDR = 1$, which is not biologically reasonable trait value.

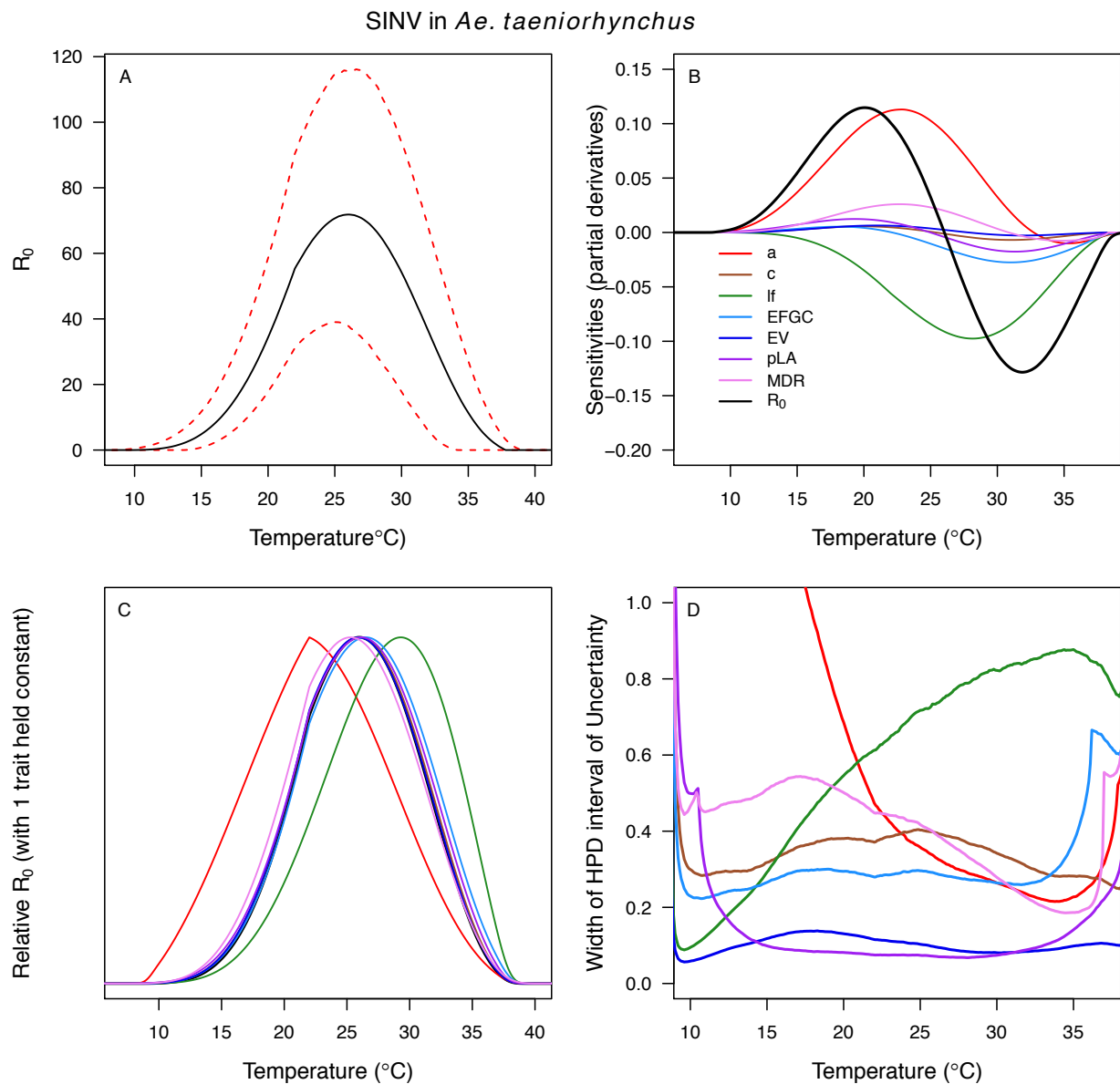


Figure S20: Temperature-dependent R_0 , sensitivity analyses, and uncertainty analysis for model of Rift Valley Fever Virus in *Aedes taeniorhynchus*. (A) Median temperature-dependent R_0 (black line) with 95% credible intervals (dashed red lines). (B) Sensitivity analysis #1: derivative with respect to temperature for R_0 (black) and partial derivatives with respect to temperature for each trait. (C) Sensitivity analysis #2: relative R_0 calculated with single traits held constant. (D) Uncertainty analysis using highest posterior density (HPD) interval widths: the proportion of total uncertainty due to each trait. (B-D) Trait colors: biting rate (a , red), vector competence (bc , orange), adult lifespan (lf , green), parasite development rate (PDR , cyan), fecundity ($EFGC$, light blue), egg viability (EV , dark blue), larval survival (pLA , purple), and mosquito development rate (MDR , pink). Fecundity ($EFGC$) and biting rate (a) from *Culex pipiens*; egg viability (EV) from *Cx. theileri*; larval traits (pLA and MDR) from *Ae. vexans*; all other traits from *Ae. taeniorhynchus*.

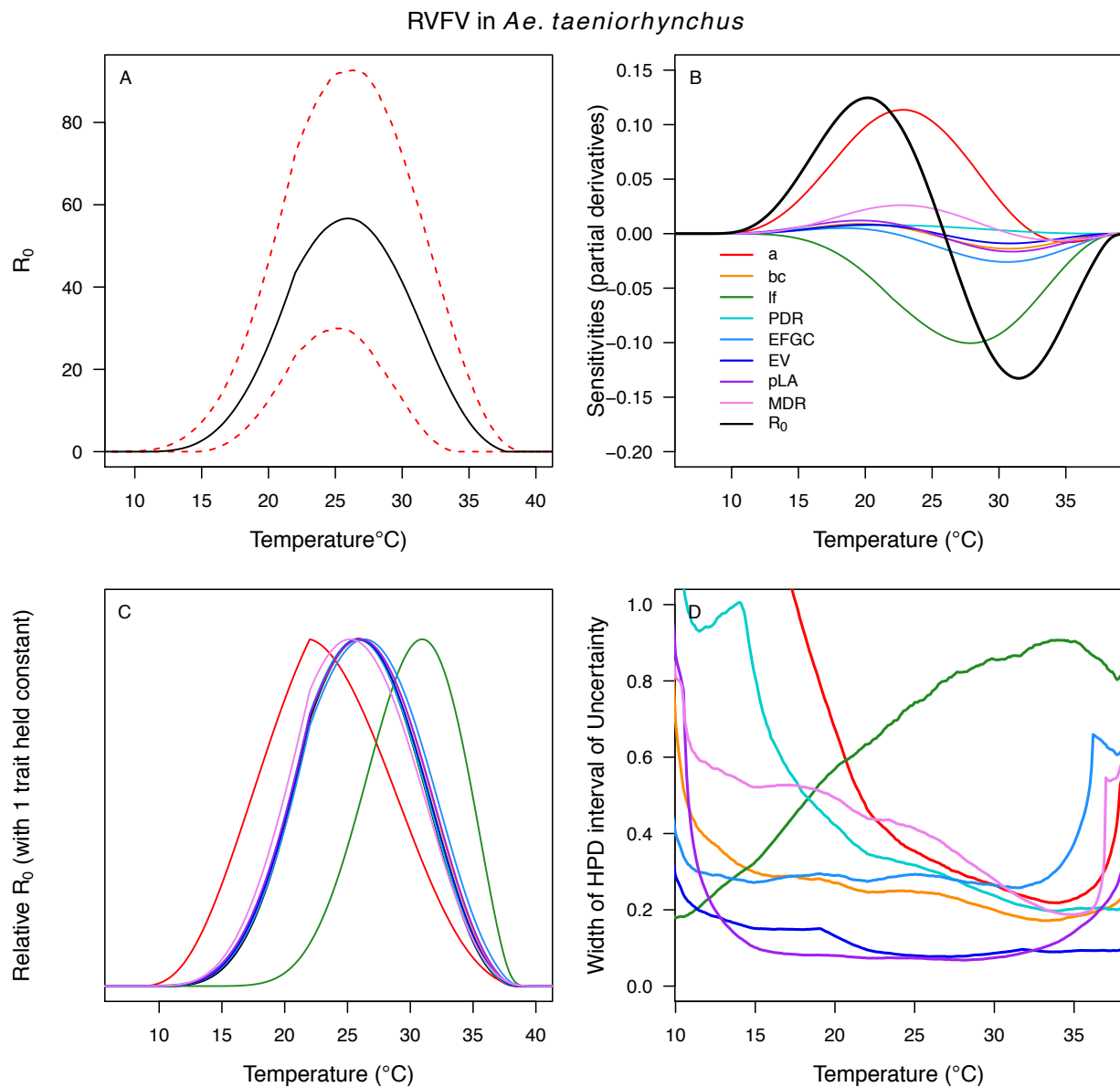


Figure S21: Histograms of T_{min} , optimum, and T_{max} for transmission (R_0) models. T_{min} (left column), optimum (center column), and T_{max} (right column). Top row (A-C): West Nile virus (WNV) in four vectors: *Culex pipiens* (grey), *Cx. quinquefasciatus* (red), *Cx. tarsalis* (blue), and *Cx. univittatus* (orange). Middle row (D-F): three viruses in *Cx. tarsalis*: WNV (same as in top row, bright blue), Western Equine Encephalitis virus (WEEV, light blue), and St. Louis Encephalitis virus (SLEV, dark blue). Bottom row (H-J): Sindbis virus (SINV) in *Aedes taeniorhynchus* (grey), SINV in *Cx. pipiens* (dark green), Rift Valley Fever virus (RVFV) in *Ae. taeniorhynchus* (light green), and Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus (EEEV) in *Ae. triseriatus* (purple).

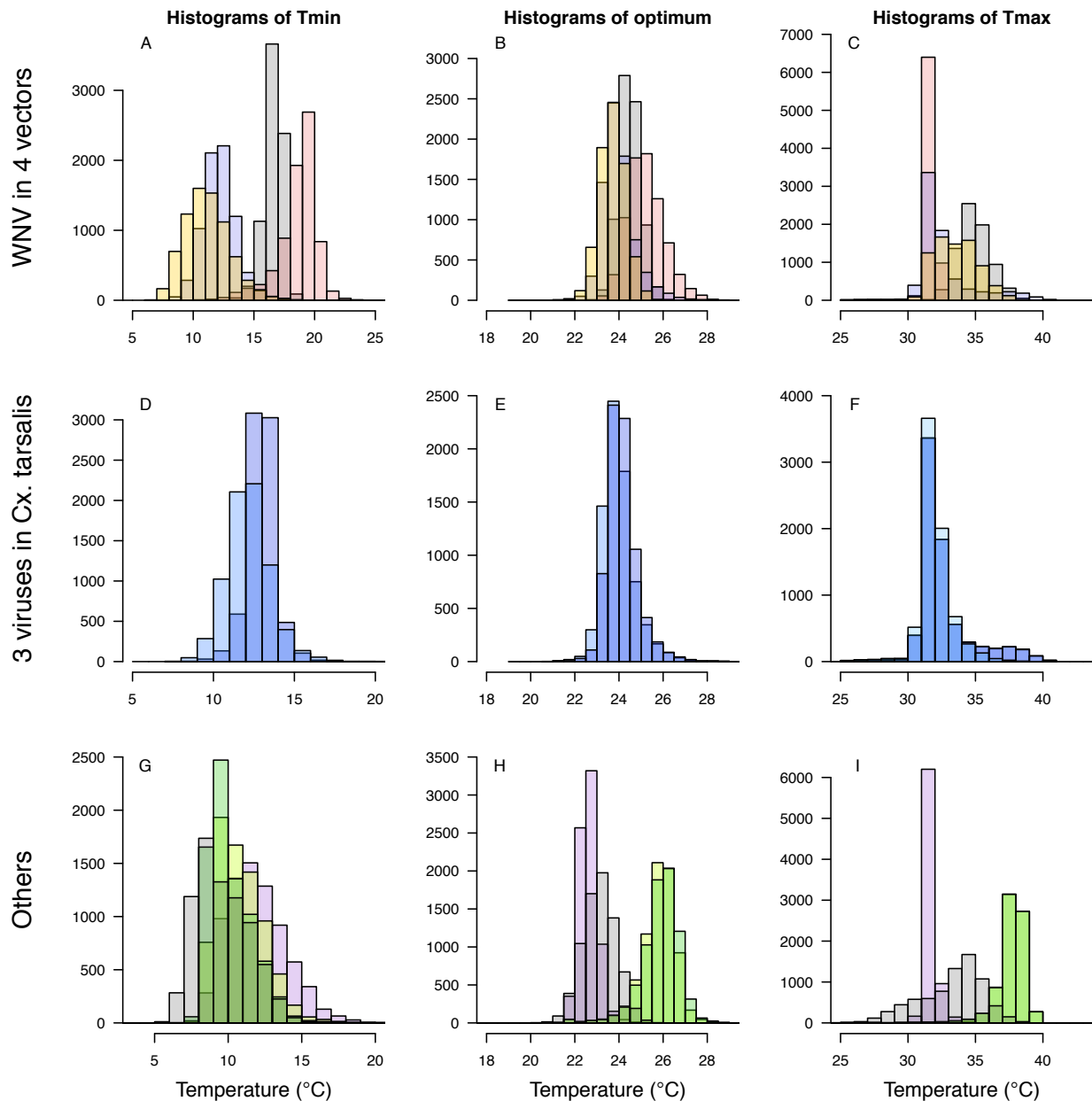


Figure S22: Comparing alternative model parameterizations. Several models had multiple potentially valid choices for traits; we show these alternative models here (dashed lines; base models from main text in solid lines) to show that they make very little difference, except in D. (A) Models for EEEV in *Ae. triseriatus* with larval traits (larval-to-adult survival [pLA] and mosquito development rate [MDR]) from *Ae. triseriatus* (violet, from the main text) and larval traits from *Cs. melanura* (black). We also show larval traits from *Cs. melanura* without proportion ovipositing (pO) in the model (grey), since the thermal responses for EF_{CG} (eggs per female per gonotrophic cycle, in *Cx. pipiens*) and ER (eggs per raft, in *Cx. quinquefasciatus*) were nearly identical even though the units were different, probably because the ER data were not very informative and the priors strongly shaped the thermal response. (B) Models for WNV in *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, with (light red, from the main text) and without (dark red) the thermal response for fecundity (as eggs per raft, ER), for the same reason as in A. (C) Models for WEEV in *Cx. tarsalis* with vector competence estimated by infection efficiency (c , Fig 6D) and transmission efficiency (b , Fig 6E) measured separately (blue, from the main text) or by vector competence measured as a single trait (bc , Fig 6F; light blue). (D) Models for RVFV in *Ae. taeniorhynchus* with lifespan from *Ae. taeniorhynchus* (light green, from the main text) or from *Cx. pipiens* (dark green). We chose the *Ae. taeniorhynchus* version for the main text because it is the same species the infection traits (PDR , bc) were measured in, and that choice strongly impacted the results.

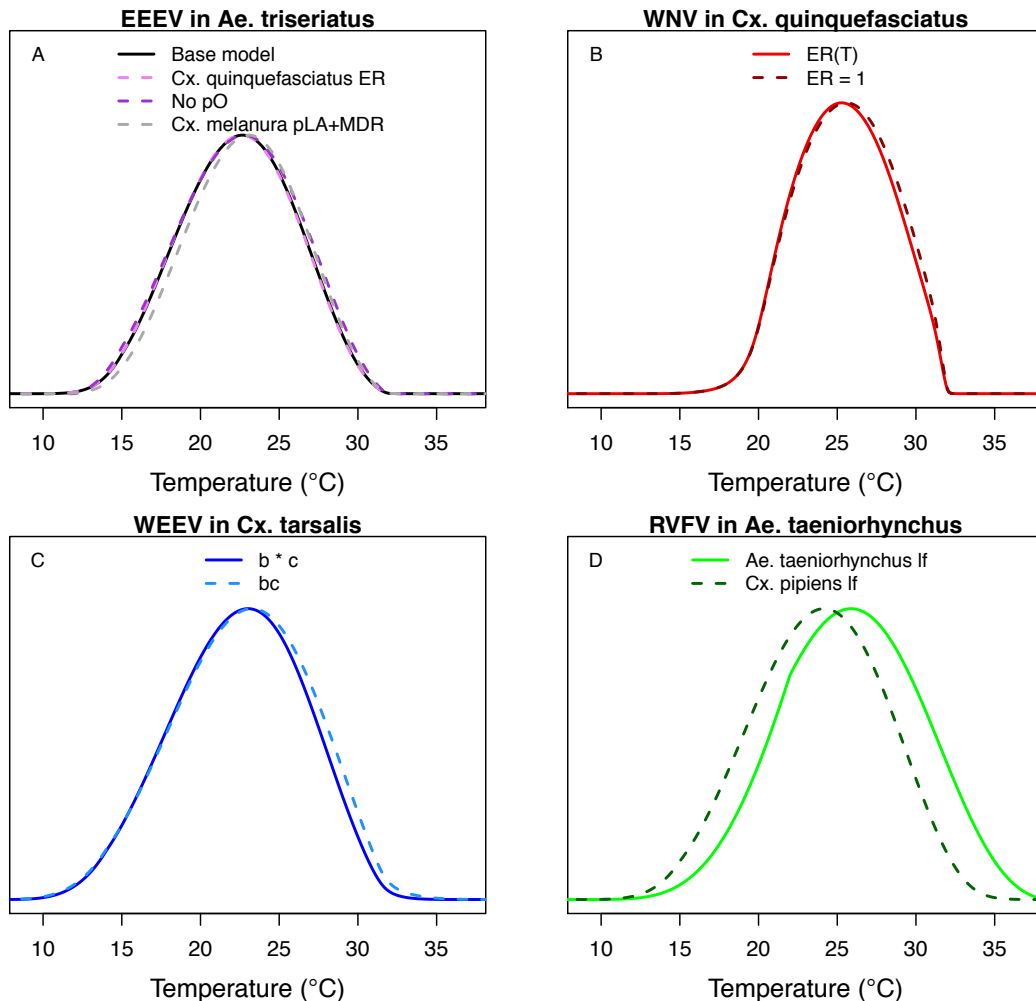


Figure S23: Comparison with previous R_0 models for transmission of West Nile virus.

Models taken from this paper (solid lines: *Cx. pipiens* [grey], *Cx. quinquefasciatus* [red], *Cx. tarsalis* [blue], and *Cx. univittatus* [orange]), from Paull et al. 2017 [50] (dashed lines: *Cx. pipiens* [grey], *Cx. quinquefasciatus* [red], and *Cx. tarsalis* [blue]), from Vogels et al. 2017 [54] (*Cx. pipiens* [grey] and *Cx. pipiens molestus* [black]), and from Kushmaro et al. 2015 [55] (not species specific, dot-dashed line [brown]).

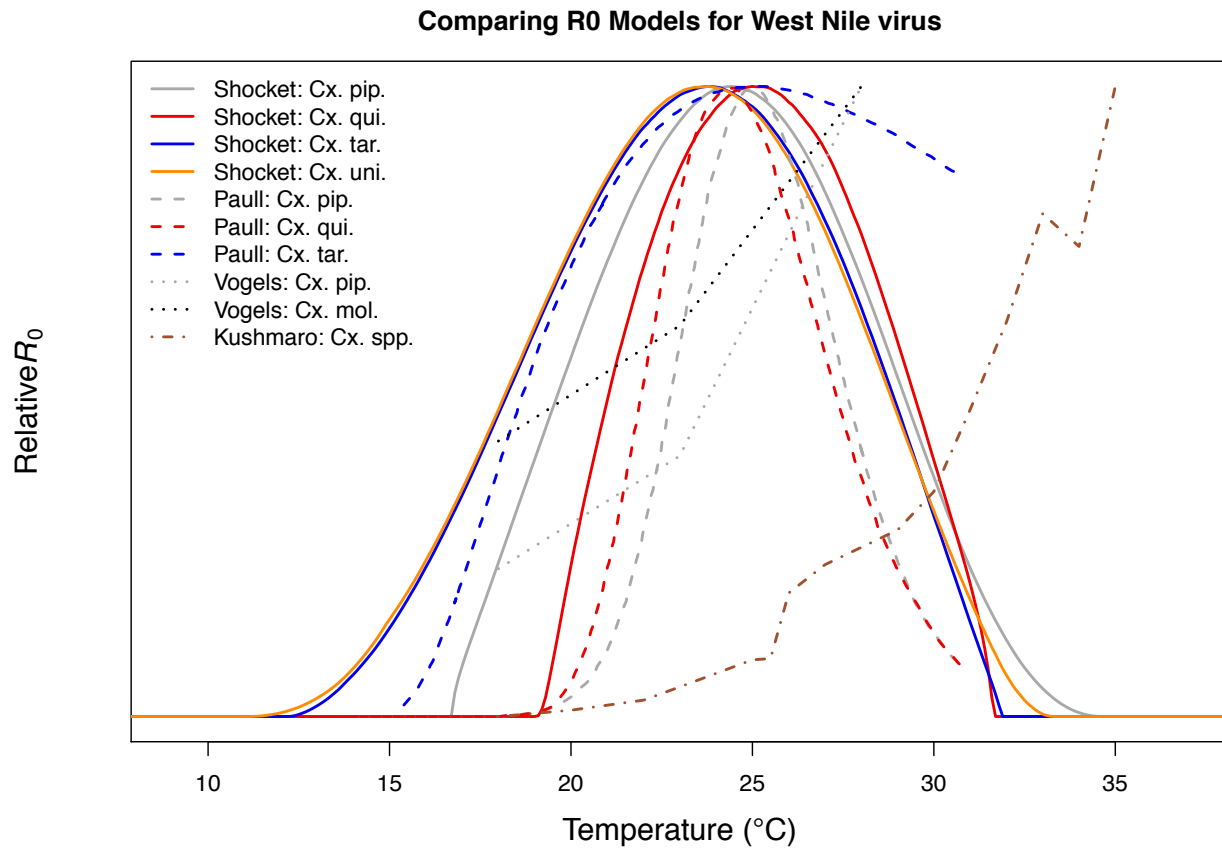


Figure S24: GAM models of mean WNV incidence as a function of average summer temperature. (A-F) Models are fit with differing numbers of knots (4–9). In all models, incidence peaks around 24°C ($T_{opt} = 23.5\text{--}24.2^\circ\text{C}$).

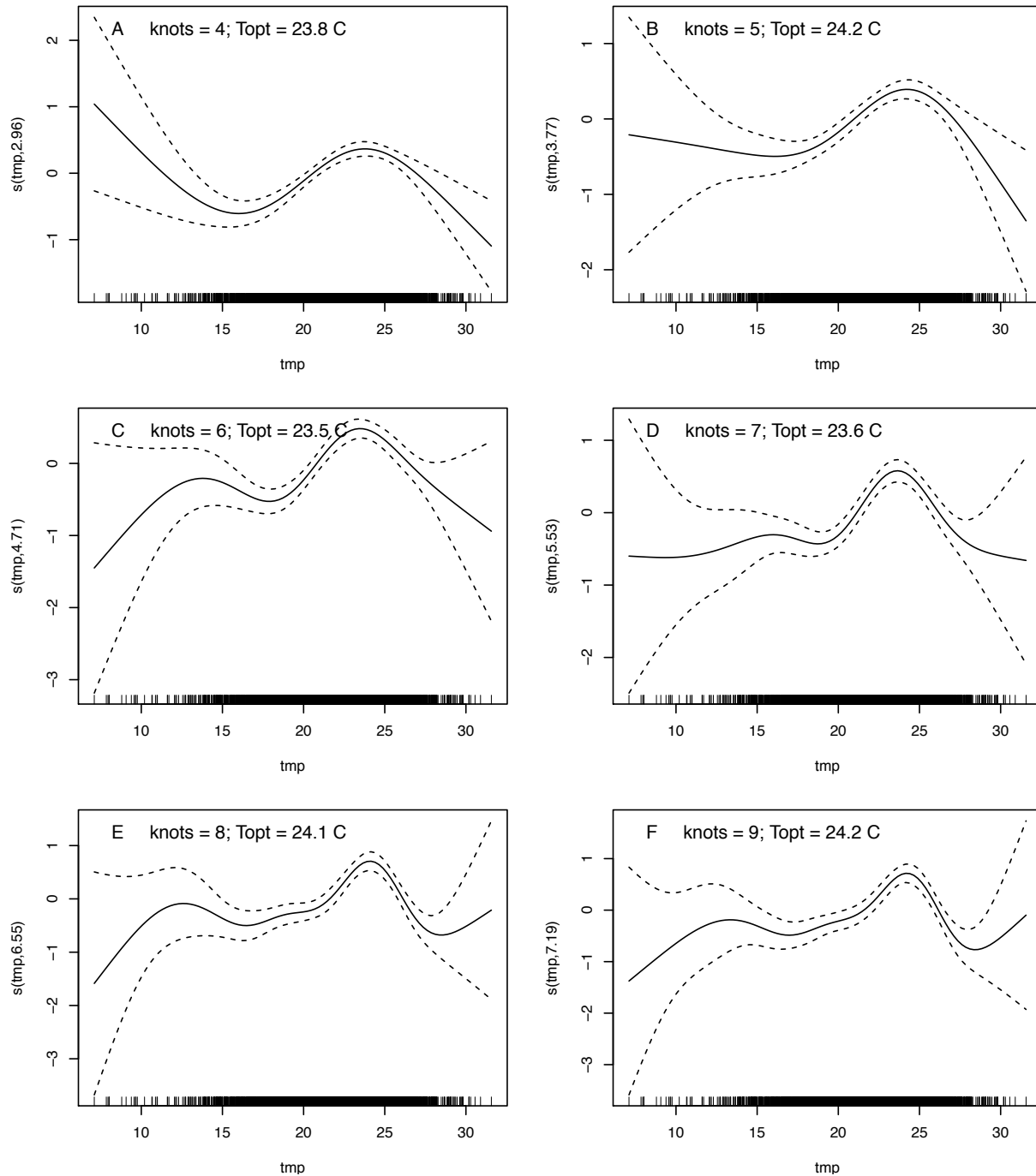


Table S10: GAM models of mean WNV incidence as a function of average summer temperature. Statistics for models fit with differing numbers of knots: edf (estimated degrees of freedom), Ref-df, F , and p -value refer to the smoothed temperature term (see Fig S24 for plots). Dev. exp. = percent deviance explained. T_{opt} = temperature of peak incidence.

Panel in Fig S24	# knots	edf	Ref-df	F	p -value	Adj. R^2	Dev. exp. (%)	T_{opt}
A	k = 4	2.96	2.99	15.87	$4.03 \cdot 10^{-10}$	0.018	2.33	23.8°C
B	k = 5	3.77	3.97	11.11	$4.64 \cdot 10^{-9}$	0.019	2.44	24.2°C
C	k = 6	4.71	4.96	11.97	$4.77 \cdot 10^{-11}$	0.022	2.85	23.5°C
D	k = 7	5.53	5.92	11.01	$1.31 \cdot 10^{-11}$	0.024	3.11	23.6°C
E	k = 8	6.55	6.93	11.12	$2.73 \cdot 10^{-13}$	0.026	3.62	24.1°C
F	k = 9	7.19	7.80	10.06	$3.17 \cdot 10^{-13}$	0.026	3.67	24.2°C

Figure S25: LOESS models of mean WNV incidence as a function of average summer temperature. Points are means for bins of 42 counties (+/- SE). Lines are locally estimated scatterplot smoothing (LOESS) regression models with different smoothing (span) parameters: 0.1 (red), 0.25 (orange), 0.5 (green), 0.6 (cyan), 0.75 (light blue), 1 (dark blue), and 2 (violet). Models were fit to raw county-level data (n = 3,109, binned for visual clarity). The best model (span = 0.6, which appropriately balances overfitting and underfitting the data) estimates that incidence peaks at 23.9°C.

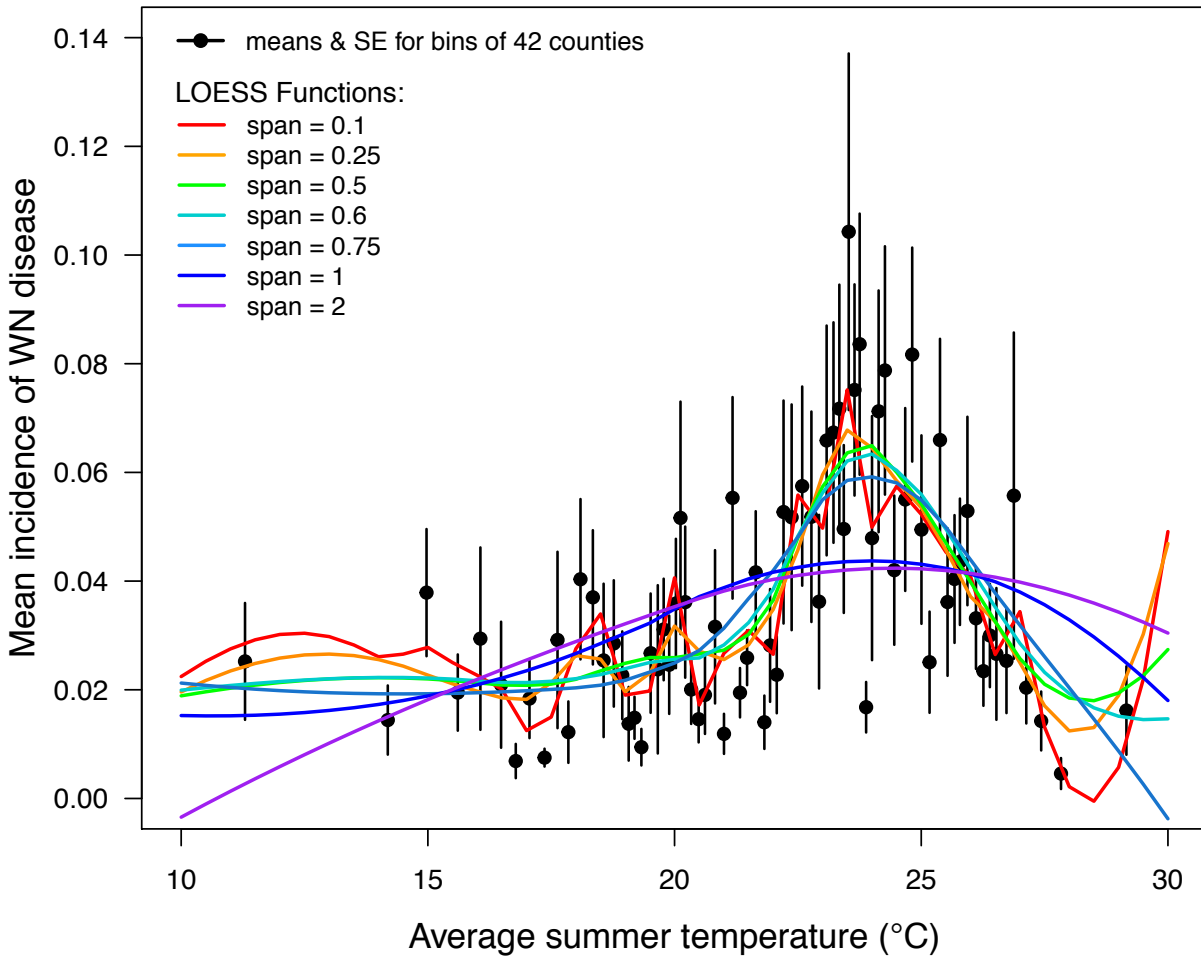
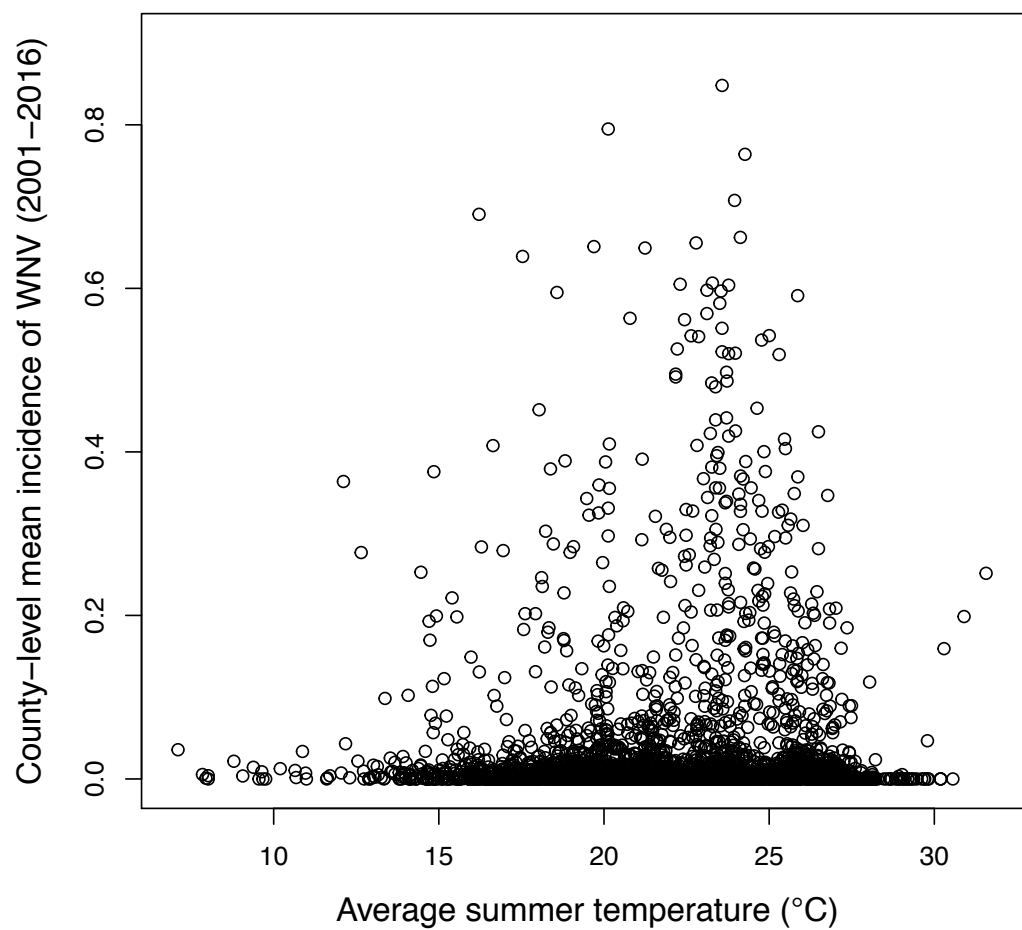


Figure S26: Raw county-level data for mean WNV incidence (2000-2016) as a function of average summer temperature (n = 3,109).



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