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1 Mismatch-induced growth reductions in a clade of Arctic-breeding shorebirds are rarely

2 mitigated by increasing temperatures

- 3 Running title: mismatches reduce growth in shorebird chicks
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In seasonal environments subject to climate change, organisms typically show phenological changes. 28 29 As these changes are usually stronger in organisms at lower trophic levels than those at higher trophic 30 levels, mismatches between consumers and their prey may occur during the consumers' reproduction 31 period. While in some species a trophic mismatch induced reductions in offspring growth, this is not 32 always the case. This variation may be caused by relative strength of the mismatch, or by mitigating 33 factors like increased temperature reducing energetic costs. We investigated the response of chick 34 growth rate to arthropod abundance and temperature for six populations of ecologically similar 35 shorebirds breeding in the Arctic and sub-Arctic (four subspecies of Red Knot Calidris canutus, Great Knot C. tenuirostris and Surfbird C. virgata). In general, chicks experienced growth benefits 36 (measured as a condition index) when hatching before the seasonal peak in arthropod abundance, and 37 38 growth reductions when hatching after the peak. The moment in the season at which growth reductions 39 occurred varied between populations, likely depending on whether food was limiting growth before or 40 after the peak. Higher temperatures led to faster growth on average, but could only compensate for 41 increasing trophic mismatch for the population experiencing the coldest conditions. We did not find 42 changes in the timing of peaks in arthropod availability across the study years, possibly because our 43 series of observation was relatively short; timing of hatching displayed no change over the years 44 either. Our results suggest that a trend in trophic mismatches may not yet be evident; however, we 45 show Arctic-breeding shorebirds to be vulnerable to this phenomenon and vulnerability to depend on 46 seasonal prey dynamics.

47 Key words: arthropods, Great Knot, Red Knot, shorebirds, Surfbird, trophic mismatch

48 1. Introduction

As a response to rapid climate warming, many species in seasonal environments are advancing 49 activities such as the onset of reproduction (Post et al., 2018). Organisms at lower trophic levels 50 typically advance their phenology at a faster rate than their consumers (Thackeray et al., 2010, 2016). 51 52 The difference in response rate can result in trophic mismatches between the consumers' demands and 53 their food resources (Both et al., 2009; Renner & Zohner, 2018; Visser & Gienapp, 2019). Examples include trophic mismatches between bird reproduction and the timing of mass emergence of their 54 insect prey (Kwon et al., 2019; Visser et al., 2004), and between arrival of migratory herbivores and 55 the timing of peak quality of forage plants (Post & Forchhammer, 2008; Lameris et al., 2018). In 56 57 environments where food is limited outside a narrow period of peak occurrence (Visser et al. 2005), advancements of the food peak can effectively reduce the amount of food available to organisms 58 59 during periods of high demand, for example, the offspring development stage (Drent & Daan, 1980). The resulting trophic mismatches can impact offspring growth (Doiron et al., 2015; Senner et al., 60 2017), survival (Lameris et al., 2018; Saalfeld et al., 2021) and recruitment (Reed et al., 2013). Such 61 62 changes in species interactions due to a warming climate are considered an important threat to animal populations (Ockendon et al., 2014). 63

64 While an increasing number of studies have identified trophic mismatches for a large suite of species (Renner & Zohner, 2018; Thackeray et al., 2016), there are substantially fewer reports on their 65 66 impacts on fitness (Visser et al., 2012). Those that have done so indicate large variation in effect size 67 (Knudsen et al., 2011; Visser & Gienapp, 2019). Recently, some studies have revealed mismatches 68 that do not impact fitness (Corkery et al., 2019; Machín et al., 2018; Reneerkens et al., 2016) and in a 69 recent review study, Zhemchuzhnikov et al. (2021) were unable to establish a clear link between the 70 extent of a trophic mismatch and fitness. The absence of a clear relationship between trophic mismatch 71 and population dynamics may be influenced by the large variation in the effect sizes of trophic 72 mismatches. Therefore, further studies to pin down why populations vary in sensitivity to trophic 73 mismatch are needed (Miller-Rushing et al., 2010).

In theory, assuming that food is limiting fitness outside peaks in resource availability, 74 75 reductions in fitness can be expected when the consumer's demands are highest either after or before 76 these peaks (Drent, 2006; Kharouba & Wolkovich, 2020; Perrins, 1970). Many studies on trophic 77 mismatch focus on timing of reproduction, where the mismatch is expressed as the difference between the seasonal time of birth or hatch and the time of a single peak in resource availability (this is the 78 79 'relative hatch/birth date'). Single resource peaks are probably rather rare, with multiple peaks 80 throughout a season being much more common (e.g. Tulp & Schekkerman, 2008). Still, timing of 81 hatch relative to a peak or period of high resource abundance (including multiple peaks) appears to be 82 an important determinant of fitness (e.g. Reed et al., 2013; Samplonius et al., 2016). In general, highest fitness is reached at hatch dates falling shortly before or coinciding with the peak in resource 83 84 availability (Fig. 1a), although multiple peaks during the season can drive more complicated patterns 85 in fitness rewards (Machín et al., 2018). Variation in relative hatch date can explain variation in fitness within a population, as well as between populations (Fig. 1a). Assuming the advancement of food 86 87 peaks in a warming climate, populations with current hatch/birth dates after the food peak will face 88 greater fitness reductions, while populations with current hatch/birth dates before the peak will have 89 some leeway before fitness is reduced (and may even initially benefit from a later relative hatch date). 90 However, food availability is often not the only factor affecting fitness (Visser & Gienapp, 2019). For example, it has been suggested that in cold Arctic and alpine environments, growth 91 92 reductions due to trophic mismatches can be mitigated by positive direct effects of increasing 93 temperature (McKinnon et al., 2013). Below certain threshold levels (Kersten & Piersma, 1987) higher 94 temperatures will reduce the cost of thermoregulation for endotherms such as birds. Especially for

95 precocial chicks that forage independently immediately after hatching, the cost of thermoregulation

can be considerable (Bakken et al., 2002; Schekkerman & Visser, 2001). By brooding their offspring,

97 birds can reduce the chicks' costs of thermoregulation (Klaassen et al., 1989) and mitigate the effects

- of low temperature in the first week(s) after hatching (Schekkerman et al., 2003). An increase in
- temperature will not only reduce thermoregulatory costs, but also brooding time, allowing precocial
- 100 chicks and their parents more time to forage. Furthermore, higher temperatures may also increase the

101 activity, availability and detectability of arthropod prey (Schekkerman et al., 2003; Tulp & 102 Schekkerman, 2008), potentially negating the short-term impact of a trophic mismatch. Such 103 mechanisms increase the potential for growth and may (partially) compensate for the impacts of 104 trophic mismatch in a warming climate (Fig. 1b, McKinnon et al., 2013). However, as 105 thermoregulatory costs are only one component of the energy budgets of chicks (Schekkerman & 106 Visser, 2001), the variation therein is probably smaller than the variation in energy intake, which fully 107 depends on prey availability that can vary by more than an order of magnitude on a short timescale 108 (hours to days). A reduction in thermoregulation costs due to higher temperatures may therefore be unlikely to fully compensate for negative effects of trophic mismatch. 109

110 Arctic-nesting shorebirds represent a particularly suitable system to study response to mismatch and temperature increase, as these birds inhabit a region characterised by low temperatures 111 112 but yet the highest rates of climate change. Owing to climate feedbacks, the Arctic is warming faster 113 than any other region on the globe (Serreze & Barry, 2011). In the last 50 years, summer temperatures 114 in the Arctic have increased by 1.8°C and the date of snowmelt has advanced by 15.5 days on average 115 (Box et al., 2019). With such steep warming, organisms at low levels in the food chain likely show 116 stronger responses to climate change than anywhere else on Earth. The phenology of arthropod emergence, the primary food for shorebird chicks (Holmes & Pitelka, 1968), is advancing at a higher 117 pace in the Arctic than elsewhere (Post et al., 2018). However, most studied species of Arctic-nesting 118 119 shorebirds have not adjusted their laying dates (Reneerkens et al., 2016; Saalfeld & Lanctot, 2017; 120 Meltofte et al. 2021, but see Rakhimberdiev et al., 2018), which can result in trophic mismatch (Kwon 121 et al., 2019; Zhemchuzhnikov et al., 2021).

In this paper we aim to quantify the response of chick growth to trophic mismatch and temperature in a clade of Arctic and sub-Arctic nesting Calidrine shorebirds (Gibson & Baker, 2012; Thomas et al., 2004) (Fig. 2): Red Knots (*Calidris canutus*), Great Knots (*C. tenuirostris*) and Surfbirds (*C. virgata*). Together, these species have an almost circumpolar distribution, yet breed at different latitudes and elevations, thereby experiencing varying rates of climate change with potentially different impacts on chick growth. Using comparisons between and within populations, we

study (1) how populations vary in the response of chick growth to potential trophic mismatch, and (2) 128 129 whether effects of mismatch can be mitigated by temperature increases. Given that Arctic-nesting 130 shorebirds live in an environment where food is limiting outside a narrow peak of abundance 131 (Reneerkens et al., 2016; Saalfeld et al. 2019), we expect a positive effect of later hatch dates on chick growth for populations hatching before this food peak, but negative effects for populations hatching 132 after the food peak. We expect that temperature increases may partially mitigate such effects, 133 134 especially for populations breeding in the coldest conditions. Finally, we explore (3) potential 135 vulnerability of populations to climate warming, by analysing trends in temperature and the trophic 136 mismatch over time.

137 2. Methods

138 2.1 Study populations and sites

139 We used data on hatch dates and chick growth from six breeding populations of Red Knots, Great 140 Knots and Surfbirds. Great Knots and Surfbirds are monotypic, while Red Knots encompass six 141 subspecies (reviewed in Piersma, 2007), of which four subspecies are included in our study, C.c. islandica, C.c. canutus, C.c. rogersi and C.c. roselaari. In our analyses we made comparisons between 142 and within subspecies (for Red Knots) and species (for Great Knots and Surfbirds), totalling 6 143 144 populations. Red Knots, Great Knots and Surfbirds are all medium-sized shorebirds, with adult body masses ranging between 122-154g. Females lay a four-egg clutch, which is incubated by both parents, 145 146 after which chick care is provided by the male (Red Knot and Great Knot) or by both parents (Surfbird) (Loktionov et al., 2015; Tomkovich, 1995; Tomkovich et al., 1998). Renesting attempts are 147 148 rare but may occur after nest failure early in the season (Tomkovich, 1991, P. Tomkovich, J. Johnson, 149 pers. comm.). During 21 summer seasons (range 3-10 per population, summing up to a total of 36 150 'study years', Table 1) between 1980 and 2019, these populations were studied at eight study sites 151 with an almost circumpolar distribution (Fig. 2), including sub-Arctic, low-Arctic and high-Arctic 152 sites (Meltofte, 2013). Breeding habitats are characterized by low vegetation, classified as either montane dwarf shrub tundra (Turquoise Lake, Kigluaik Mountains and Upper Anadyr River), coastal 153

plain with dry dwarf shrub and lichen tundra (Meinypilgyno) and Arctic tundra (Knipovich Bay, CapeSterlegov, Alert, Princess Marie Bay).

156 2.2 Data collection

157 2.2.1 Hatch dates and biometric data of chicks

Between May and August (exact dates varying between study sites) we searched for nests, revisited
nests and floated eggs (Liebezeit et al., 2007) to determine hatch dates, and searched for broods.
Chicks were banded upon their first capture (either in the nest or later when found as brood). At each
capture we measured culmen, tarsus and 10th primary length (to the nearest 0.1 mm), wing length (to
the nearest mm) using callipers or a ruler, and body mass (to the nearest 1 g) using a spring or
electronic scale. For more details on methods for locating nests and broods, and on determining hatch
dates see Supporting information.

165 2.2.2 Arthropod abundance data

166 Arthropods are the main prey of shorebirds and their chicks on their breeding grounds (Holmes & Pitelka, 1968). We used abundance of surface-active arthropods as a measure of prey availability for 167 shorebird chicks, which was measured for five of our study populations. Sampling methods differed 168 169 between sites, but generally comprised a series of pitfall traps placed in the habitat where shorebirds 170 foraged, which were emptied at a regular basis (daily to weekly, see Table S1 for details on methods). Trapped arthropods were counted and identified in the lab at the family level, except at Upper Anadyr 171 River and Turquoise Lake where the total number of trapped arthropods was counted in the field. At 172 173 all sites, larval stages, Lepidoptera and bumblebees (Apidae) were excluded from the arthropod data as 174 these are not available as prey for chicks (the former dwell underground and the latter two are too 175 large). Collembola were also excluded, as these were not registered at all study sites and are difficult 176 to quantify accurately with the trapping methods used. In addition, the energetic profitability of 177 collembola is low and preliminary data show that they hardly occur in the diet of Red Knot ssp. 178 *canutus* chicks (M.K. Zhemchuzhnikov, pers. comm.). Abundance values were corrected for the 179 number and diameter of pitfall traps, as well as the interval in days between measurements (Table S1).

When the interval between trapping dates was more than one day, we corrected the trapping date as the median date of the trapping period. Arthropod abundance was measured at seven of the eight study sites (with the exception of Meinypilgyno), and not in all years. For our analysis on chick growth in relation to prey availability and relative hatch date, this meant that data were available from 5 populations and 13 study years (Table 1). For all other analyses we used all available data for all 6 populations and 36 study years (Table 1).

186 2.2.3 Temperature data

Modelled air temperature at 2 m above surface for all study locations between 1980 and 2019 were
downloaded at six-hour resolution, for the period between 1 April and 30 September from the NCEP
reanalysis numerical weather model (spatial resolution 1.875° x 1.875° gaussian grid, (Kalnay et al.,
1996), using the R package 'RNCEP' (Kemp et al., 2012)). The modelled temperature data were
evaluated against daily average temperature records collected from a weather station (Vantage Pro2,
Davis Instruments) at Knipovich Bay in 2018 and 2019, which resulted in a 0.85 Pearson correlation
coefficient (Fig. S1).

All data on bird biometrics, arthropod abundance data and modelled air temperature areavailable online in Lameris et al., (2021a) and Gill Jr. (2022).

196 *2.3 Data preparation*

197 2.3.1 Estimating age of chicks with unknown hatch date

198 Nests of our study species are relatively difficult to find (Tomkovich & Loktionov 2020) and many 199 chicks were first encountered when they had already left the nest. To estimate age of such chicks with 200 unknown hatch dates, relationships between age and biometrics for chicks with a known age were 201 used (see Table S2 for sample sizes). As a proxy of age we used either the 10th primary length, or wing 202 length (for Red Knot ssp. *islandica*, and Red Knot ssp. *canutus* at Cape Sterlegov). We fitted logistic 203 growth models predicting 10th primary or wing length from age separately for every population, across

different years (Fig. S2, Table S3), and used these to predict age and hatch date of chicks withunknown hatch dates. Complete methods are described in the Supporting information.

206 2.3.2 Modelling chick growth

207 Growth models of body mass increase were fitted on data from individuals with known age together 208 with individuals with predicted age. These models were constructed per population using 3-parameter 209 von Bertalanffy growth models as outlined in Tjørve & Tjørve (2017), as these outcompeted logistic 210 and Gompertz growth models (Table S4), and 4-parameter Unified-Richards models would not 211 converge. As chicks usually have not yet reached adult body mass at fledging (Lindström et al., 2002), 212 we set a fixed upper asymptote A using mean adult body mass (see Appendix S1 for sources of these 213 data). Measurements of chicks younger than 1-day old were excluded, as chicks typically lose body 214 mass during the first day after hatch. As some chicks were captured more than once, we included chick 215 identity as a random effect on growth-rate parameter k. We estimated model parameters (growth-rate k216 and horizontal placement of inflexion point T) from non-linear least squares, using the package 'nlme' 217 (Pinheiro et al., 2017) in R 3.4.0 (R Development Core Team, 2020). For each individual chick we calculated a 'chick condition index' (Schekkerman et al., 2008), by extracting the residuals from the 218 219 population-specific von Bertalanffy growth models on chick body mass and dividing these residuals by 220 the body mass at that age predicted from the same model.

221 2.3.3 Calculating prey availability and relative hatch date

222 As we were interested in the effect of a trophic mismatch on chick growth, we calculated 1) a direct 223 measure of prey availability for individual chicks, as well as 2) the relative hatch date (relative to the 224 peak in arthropod abundance) for further analyses. To this end, we first modelled dynamics of 225 arthropod abundance over the season using general additive models for every study site and year. We 226 included a thin plate regression spline for the smoothing basis function with day number as predictor 227 variable, and the number of knots ranging between 4 and the maximum number of observations 228 collected throughout the season, from which the best performing model was selected. We determined 229 the peak date in arthropod abundance (per site and year) as the date at which maximum arthropod

abundance was found in the general additive models (Fig. 3). We further used the predictions of
arthropod abundance from the general additive models as values for daily arthropod abundance, which
we log-transformed for further analyses (Schekkerman et al., 2003).

233 1) To calculate prey availability for individual chick observations, we first determined the period of average arthropod abundance which most impacted chick condition, by determining the best 234 235 performing sliding window using the R package 'climwin' (Bailey & van de Pol, 2016). Using a dataset of selected observations of chicks which were at least 15 days old, and a potential window size 236 of 15 days before the day of capture, we found an optimal sliding window of average arthropod 237 abundance between the day of capture and 3 days before (see Supporting information for details on the 238 239 analysis). We used this time window to calculate average arthropod abundance for individual chick 240 observations.

241 2) We calculated relative hatch date for individual chicks as the difference (in days) between 242 hatch date and arthropod peak date for that site and year. However, the shape and steepness of 243 arthropod peaks, as well as their height varied strongly between sites and years (Fig. 3), and in order to conduct a meaningful analysis across sites and years we needed to correct for this. To this end, relative 244 hatch date was multiplied with a rescaling factor that represents the same loss of arthropod availability 245 246 compared to the availability at the peak date in all sites and years. We calculated this rescaling factor 247 per individual hatch date, as the difference between the maximum arthropod abundance within the 248 season (as predicted from general additive models) and the mean arthropod abundance during the 20-249 day period of growth, starting at the individual chick's hatch date (black line in Fig. 3). This 20-day 250 period was chosen as chicks become volant and independent at about 20 days (Schekkerman et al., 251 2003). When arthropod abundance data was not available for the entire 20-day period, the average was 252 calculated up to the last date of available arthropod abundance data. We chose this rescaling factor 253 based on the assumptions that I) hatch date relative to the food peak can be a reliable proxy for chick 254 food availability (Ramakers et al., 2019), yet II) when chicks grow up under roughly the same food 255 conditions as around the peak, they will not differ in condition from chicks hatching around the peak. 256 For clarity, we illustrate the rescaled relative hatch dates in an example. Red Knot ssp. islandica

chicks in Alert experience strong variability in prey dynamics around the peak arthropod date. For
example, chicks hatching 5 days after the arthropod peak in 1993 face a much steeper decrease in
available prey (relative to the peak) compared to chicks hatching 5 days after the peak in 1999 (Fig. 3).
The rescaling factors for these hatch dates and years are 13.6 in 1993 (mean abundance of 5.4
compared to peak abundance of 19.0) and 2.4 in 1999 (3.6 compared to 6.0), resulting in a rescaled
relative hatch date of 68 (5 * 13.6) and 12 (5 * 2.4), respectively.

We further needed to correct for annual differences in arthropod availability and the height of the arthropod peak, by including these factors in statistical models explaining chick condition (see below). We used the output from the general additive models on arthropod abundance to calculate average arthropod abundance, as the average abundance during the 20-day period of chick growth, starting on the annual average hatch date, and peak height, as the maximum predicted arthropod abundance in the season.

269 2.3.4 Determining time windows for temperature dependencies

270 We used modelled temperature data as a predictor variable in analyses on chick condition, as well as to analyse temperature dependencies of hatch dates and arthropod peak dates. As we aimed to compare 271 272 the impacts of prey availability and temperature on growth, we calculated the average temperature for 273 analyses on chick condition using the same sliding window as found for average arthropod abundance (a 3-day period before the day of capture). As we expected an effect of temperature on condition 274 275 mostly within populations (with higher condition for chicks growing up under higher temperatures) 276 rather than between populations (where faster growth is associated with lower temperatures, Tjørve et 277 al., 2009), we standardized temperature during growth by subtracting the population-average 278 temperature from individual values.

To analyse whether nest initiation dates and arthropod peak dates were impacted by temperatures prior to these dates, we first had to find which period of average temperature most impacted hatch date and arthropod peak date. We analysed this in a sliding-window analysis in the climwin package, using a dataset of annual average nest initiation dates (calculated as 24 days before

hatch date, which is the average length of the period required for laying and incubating a typical Red 283 Knot clutch of four eggs; Nettleship., 1974; M.Y. Soloviev, pers. comm.) and a potential window size 284 285 of 20 days before the site-specific average hatch date. We found an optimal sliding window of average 286 temperature between 16 and 7 days before hatch date (see Supporting information for details on the 287 analysis). This time window was used to calculate average temperature before nest initiation for every 288 site and year. Using the dataset of arthropod peak dates and a potential window size of 20 days before 289 the site-specific average peak date, we found that a base model (with no temperature time window 290 included) performed best, meaning that none of the tested temperature windows significantly impacted 291 arthropod peak dates (see Supporting information for details on the analysis).

To analyse trends in temperature during chick growth, we also calculated average temperature for individual chicks during the chick growth period (20 days starting on individual chick hatch date), as well as annual average temperature during the chick growth period (20 days starting on the annual average hatch date at the site).

296 2.4 Statistical analyses

297 In the statistical analyses we used linear regression models, linear mixed effects regression models and 298 growth models, constructed in R. We constructed models including all possible combinations of 299 predictor variables of interest and compared model performance using Akaike's information criterion 300 corrected for small sample sizes (AICc, Burnham & Anderson, 2004). The model with the lowest AICc was chosen as our final model. Models within 2 Δ AICc of the final model were considered as 301 302 competitive as long as these did not contain extra, potentially uninformative, parameters compared to 303 the final model (Arnold, 2010), and in these cases we used averaged parameter estimates of 304 competitive models. Hereafter the specifics for each model used for the different analyses are described. 305

306 2.4.1 Variation in growth rate between populations

307 To analyse how growth rate between populations was impacted by prey availability and temperature,
308 we first modelled population-specific growth rate parameters *k* in a single *von Bertalanffy* growth

309 model, including data of all populations, with a common parameter value for T but population-specific parameters for k (predicted by including a random effect of population on parameter k). Furthermore, a 310 311 population-specific parameter A was included as well as chick identity as a random effect on k, nested 312 within population. The performance of this model was compared to a second model that did not 313 include population as a random effect on k. We used linear regression models to analyse how population-specific k-parameters were affected by either population-average temperature during the 314 315 chick growth period, rescaled relative hatch date, average arthropod abundance or arthropod peak 316 height, which were included as predictor variables in separate models.

317 2.4.2 Variation in growth rate within populations

318 We tested the impacts of trophic mismatch and temperature on chick condition by using either our 319 direct measures of prey availability or rescaled relative hatch date. In these analyses we excluded 320 chicks younger than 2 days old, as up to 2 days after hatching chicks mostly survive on their yolk 321 sacks (Starck & Ricklefs, 1998) and variation in condition up to this age is unlikely to be related to 322 prey availability. First, generalized linear mixed effect models were applied to test whether chick condition was affected by prey availability, temperature during the chick growth period, and 323 population. We included interactions of prey availability and temperature with population, and 324 325 included population-specific year and chick identity as a random intercept. We standardized all predictor variables by dividing them by 2 standard deviations (Gelman, 2008). 326

327 Hereafter we used generalized linear mixed effect models to test whether chick condition was 328 affected by the predictor variables population, rescaled relative hatch date, rescaled relative hatch date 329 squared (given our prediction of a unimodal response in fitness, Fig. 1a), temperature during the chick 330 growth period, and arthropod peak height or annual average arthropod abundance (as these variables 331 were strongly correlated, Pearson's correlation 0.79, t = 25.6, p < 0.01). We standardized all predictor 332 variables as explained above. We included interactions of all predictor variables with population, and 333 included chick identity and population-specific year as a random intercept. Model assumptions of 334 linearity, normality, independence and equality of variance were met, based on visual assessment of

residual plots, Q-Q plots and correlograms. Variance Inflation Factors ranged between 1.1 and 2.7,
suggesting no problematic multicollinearity (Zuur et al., 2010). We analysed whether temperature
increases could mitigate effects of trophic mismatch by comparing population-specific Cohen's D
effect sizes of rescaled relative hatch date and temperature, for a model including only the predictor
variables rescaled relative hatch date, temperature during chick growth, population and the interactions
with population.

341 2.4.3 Correlations between temperature and relative hatch dates

Potential for temperature to mitigate effects of trophic mismatch is only possible when either years or 342 343 individuals with larger mismatches (due to a later relative hatch date) also experience higher 344 temperatures during chick growth (as suggested in the concept of Fig. 1b). To test this, we used linear 345 regression models to predict temperature during chick growth, with rescaled relative hatch date as 346 predictor variable. Specifically, we used 1) annual average values for rescaled relative hatch date and 347 temperature to test whether mitigation was possible between years, and 2) individual values, year and 348 the interaction with rescaled relative hatch date as additional predictor variable, to test whether 349 mitigation was possible within years.

350 2.3.4. Change in temperature and relative hatch dates over years

To analyse if climate warming already affects trophic mismatch, we explored whether trophic
mismatches and temperatures increased during the overall study period. First, we analysed how
modelled annual average temperatures (before nest initiation and during the chick growth period, see
above) changed over the period 1990–2019. We analysed time trends using linear regressions models,
including year (as continuous variable), study site and their interaction as predictor variables.

We then explored potential changes in relative hatch date over time, by analysing how annual variation in hatch dates were affected by temperature. For each site linear regression models were constructed relating hatch date with temperature before nest initiation as predictor variable. Thereafter, we also included study site as predictor variable in all models, as well as interactions between study site and temperature, to assess changes within study sites. We did not test whether annual variation in

arthropod peak dates were affected by temperature, as none of the temperature windows had a
significant effect (see above). For Red Knot ssp. *roselaari*, *rogersi*, *islandica* at Alert and *canutus* at
Knipovich Bay at least four years of data on hatch dates were available, and we tested whether hatch
dates advanced over the years in linear regression models including year and study site as predictor
variables.

366 3. Results

367 *3.1 Variation in growth rate between populations*

Growth rate parameters *k* for Red Knot, Great Knot and Surfbird populations strongly differed from
each other (difference between model with one *k*-parameter and population-specific *k*-parameters was
274 AIC) reflecting large variation in growth rate between populations (Fig. 4, Table 2). Body mass
growth rates of chicks were not explained by arthropod peak height, temperature during the chick
growth period, rescaled relative hatch date or average arthropod abundance (intercept-only model
performed best, Table S6).

374 *3.2 Variation in growth rate within populations*

375 Chick condition increased with prey availability (average $\beta \pm$ standard error: 0.11 ± 0.05 [95% 376 confidence intervals: -0.14; 0.05]; difference between model with and without prey availability 52 377 AIC, Table S7, S8), with slopes differing between populations (difference between model with and 378 without interaction prey availability and population 24 AIC, Table S7, S8). On average, chick 379 condition increased by 3.8% for every additional arthropod per trap per day. Chick condition showed a 380 unimodal response with rescaled relative hatch date (average β rescaled relative hatch date: 0.32 ± 381 0.29 [CI: -6.39; 7.01]; average β rescaled relative hatch date squared; -16.26 ± 6.09 [CI: -28.24; -382 5.65]; Fig. 5, Table 3, 4), with slopes and shapes of this relationship differing between populations (Fig. 5; difference between model with and without interaction rescaled relative hatch date and 383 population 21 AIC; Table 3, 4). Red Knot ssp. islandica, Great Knot and Surfbird showed an initial 384 385 increase in chick condition (on average 2.7% increase in condition per later day of hatch) followed by 386 a reduction (on average 10.7% decrease in condition per later day of hatch squared). Red Knot ssp.

387 canutus and roselaari showed an initial reduction in growth (on average 1.2 % reduction in condition 388 per later day of hatch) followed by a slight increase (on average 0.3% increase in condition per later 389 day of squared hatch). Chick condition increased with higher temperature during the chick growth 390 period for some populations (average β : 0.11 ± 0.07 [CI: -0.03; 0.25], difference between model with and without temperature 3.3 AIC, Table 3, 4), with slopes differing between populations (difference 391 392 between model with and without interaction temperature and population 13.9 AIC). On average, chick 393 condition increased by 1.4% per °C, and notably, the increase in condition with temperature was 394 strongest for Red Knot ssp. *islandica* (6.7% increase in condition per °C; β : 0.37 ± 0.15 [CI: 0.07; 395 0.67], Table 4). In addition, years with higher average arthropod abundance positively affected chicks' 396 condition in Red Knot ssp. *islandica* (1.8% increase in condition per additional arthropod per trap per 397 day), yet negatively in Red Knot ssp. *canutus* and Surfbird (on average 1.6% reduction in condition 398 per additional arthropod per trap per day; difference between model with and without average 399 arthropod abundance 35.1 AIC, difference between model with and without interaction average 400 arthropod abundance and population 32.9 AIC, Table 3, 4).

A comparison of population-specific Cohen's D effect sizes for temperature during chick growth and rescaled relative hatch date showed that only for Red Knot ssp. *islandica* the effect size of temperature (0.83) was larger than the negative effect of relative hatch date (-0.32), while for other populations the effect size of temperature (average 0.13) was smaller than the negative effect of relative hatch date (average -0.39).

406 *3.3 Correlations between temperature and relative hatch date*

Between years, we found no trend between temperature and rescaled relative hatch date (interceptonly model performed best, Table S10, Fig. 6a). There were significant year-specific positive trends
between temperature and rescaled relative hatch date for most populations, with the exception of Red
Knot ssp. *islandica* (Table S10, S11, Fig. 6b).

411 *3.4 Changes in temperature and relative hatch date over years*

412 Between 1990 and 2019, temperature during the period of chick growth $(0.053 \pm 0.012 \text{ °C/year})$ and 413 before nest initiation $(0.046 \pm 0.012 \text{ °C/year})$ increased, with no differences between study sites in 414 rates of increase (Table S12).

Hatch dates differed among populations, with populations characterised by earlier hatch dates experiencing higher temperatures before nest initiation (average $\beta \pm$ standard error: -3.62 ± 0.57 [CI: -4.78; -2.47], difference between model including temperature and model without 25.94 AIC, Fig. 6c). Within study sites and between years, hatch dates were not affected by temperatures before nest initiation (model without temperature had less degrees of freedom and 1.82 lower AIC compared to model with, Fig. 6c, Table S13). Hatch dates of Red Knots (all spp.) did not change over time (difference between model with and without year was 3.32 AIC, Table S13, Fig. 6d).

422 **4. Discussion**

Using comparisons between and within populations, we found that chick condition was importantly impacted by prey availability, and was highest for chicks hatching early in the season or close to the seasonal food peak. A reduction in chick condition with hatch dates falling later than the food peak signals vulnerability to trophic mismatch in almost all populations. While chick condition generally increased with higher temperatures, temperature increases only mitigated for the effect of later relative hatch date on condition in the population of Red Knot ssp. *islandica* (Table 4), which also experienced the lowest temperatures during chick growth (Fig. 5a).

430 *4.1. Varying responses in chick growth to trophic mismatch between populations*

We had predicted the effect of later hatching on chick growth to vary between populations, depending
on whether the average chick in a population hatched before or after the food peak. However, hatching
before or after the peak did not sufficiently explain differences in response between populations,

despite strong variation in response of chick condition to relative hatch date between populations (with

unimodal relationships in three out of five populations, and other populations either experiencing a

436 seasonal decline in chick condition or a decline followed by an increase in condition). While chicks of

437 Red Knot ssp. *canutus*, Surfbird, and partially also Red Knot ssp. *roselaari*, were in highest condition

when hatching *before* the food peak, chicks of Red Knot ssp. *islandica* and Great Knot were in highestcondition when hatching *shortly after* the food peak.

440 Given that we also find a positive effect of prey availability on chick condition, the moment in the season when condition peaks likely depends on the extent to which food is limiting growth before 441 442 or after the food peak. For example, chicks of Red Knot ssp. *canutus* experience a seasonal decline in 443 condition that sets in at hatch dates before the food peak, suggesting food to be limiting growth for all but the earliest hatching chicks. While we do not know at which age chicks would be most sensitive to 444 variations in food availability, energetic costs and therefore required energy intake for chicks increase 445 with age (Schekkerman et al., 2003; Williams et al., 2007), which makes it profitable to hatch before 446 447 the food peak (Saalfeld et al., 2019; Schekkerman et al., 2003). On the other hand, chicks of Red Knot ssp. islandica, which showed a distinct peak in condition shortly after the food peak, likely faced food 448 449 limitations when hatching before as well as after the food peak. Such food limitations prior to the food peak also applied to Red Knot ssp. roselaari, which hatched relatively far in front of the food peak. 450

451 These population-specific responses of chick condition to later hatch dates signify the importance of periods with adequate food availability, when availability exceeds some minimum 452 threshold that is crucial for rapid chick growth (Reneerkens et al., 2016; Saalfeld et al., 2019; Vatka et 453 454 al., 2014). The length of this period is likely to be a key determinant in fitness response to trophic mismatches. For such a measure, one would ideally use data on required energy intake (Schekkerman 455 456 et al., 2003) to estimate a threshold when food would be limiting growth, and calculate a 'peak width' 457 from arthropod data available for the entire summer season (e.g. Reneerkens et al., 2016; Visser et al. 458 2005). This would also help to better capture multiple peaks in resource availability throughout the 459 season rather than the oversimplification of determining a single peak. However, this could not be 460 done for the present data set, because most site-year combinations did not cover the entire summer.

461 Our study faces other limitations which may reduce the strength of the analysis. First, while
462 we have assumed that chicks feed on all available arthropods, they might be more specific in their diet.
463 If chicks are specifically selecting for certain prey, this will have an important impact on the relevant

peak in prey availability, and peak date of all arthropods may be an inappropriate yardstick (Visser & 464 465 Both, 2005). Incorporating specific knowledge on shorebird diet in these analyses via e.g., DNA 466 analyses of feces (Wirta et al., 2015), is an important (next) step in studying trophic mismatches 467 (Cholewa & Wesołowski, 2011; Samplonius et al., 2016; 2021; Zhemchuzhnikov et al. 2021). Another limitation of our study is the use of arthropod numbers rather than biomass (as this data was not 468 469 available for all populations), and the relatively low number of years with data on arthropods. These 470 limitations may also explain the surprising result that for Surfbird and Red Knot ssp. canutus we found 471 a negative relationship between annual average arthropod abundance and chick condition. With only 3 472 years of data available for these populations, this effect may well be explain by other factors varying between years. Moreover, for Red Knot ssp. roselaari and Great Knot, we have only one year of 473 474 combined bird and arthropod data, and population and study site are confounding factors for most 475 populations. Also, large variation exists in the years of data collection, with data from some 476 populations only available for the 1990's, while data for other populations is only available from the 477 last decade. This may limit the potential for comparative analyses. It is also noteworthy that our 478 method of estimating age is only valid under the assumption that structural growth is unregulated by environmental conditions. Although we found strong correlations between known age and 10th primary 479 480 / wing length, environmental conditions have been shown to also impact structural growth (Lloyd and 481 Martin 2004; Auer and Martin 2017). However, even if chicks with smaller structural sizes are 482 incorrectly estimated to be of younger age, this would lead to an underestimation of the effects of 483 temperature and relative hatch date of chick condition index due to smaller residual estimates.

484 *4.2. Little potential for temperature mitigating negative effects of mismatches*

We found a positive effect of temperature on chick condition for some populations, with the strongest effect found for Red Knot ssp. *islandica*, yet little effect for other populations. In general, effects of temperature on avian growth appear to be variable (Sauve et al., 2021). When considering Arcticnesting shorebirds, some studies found positive effects of temperature on growth (McKinnon et al., 2013; Schekkerman et al., 1998, 2003; Tjørve et al., 2007) while other studies did not (Machín et al., 2018; Saalfeld et al., 2019) or found an effect in one year but not in the next due to annual differences

in observed temperature ranges (Tulp 2007). Physiologically, a positive effect of temperature would
be expected, given that temperatures at times fall below the thermoneutral zone (below the lower
critical temperature, which is 19.9 °C for adult Red Knots; Wiersma & Piersma, 1994, but probably
higher for chicks; Bakken et al. 2002; Visser & Ricklefs 1993; Visser 1998). Chicks require more
energy when facing low temperatures (Bakken et al., 2002), but may be protected from such
conditions by the use of microhabitats with protective cover (Wiersma & Piersma, 1994) or by being
brooded by their parents (Krijgsveld et al., 2003; Schekkerman et al., 2003).

Chicks of Red Knot ssp. islandica grow up under the coldest conditions relative to other 498 populations in this study (1.27° C compared to 10.01° C for all other populations). Under such 499 500 conditions, low temperatures probably become a limiting factor for growth, which explains the strong positive effect of temperature on chick condition in this population. In fact, we find that in this 501 502 population the effect of temperature on chick condition is larger than that of rescaled relative hatch 503 date, meaning that increasing temperatures may compensate for the effect of a mismatch. However, 504 temperatures appear to be rather stable throughout the growing period of chicks, which means that 505 there is little potential for a mitigating effect of temperatures within the season, as previously 506 suggested (McKinnon et al., 2013). Instead, it appears that for chicks of Red Knot ssp. islandica 507 mitigation can take place between years, as in years in which the trophic mismatch is larger, 508 temperatures during growth are also higher (Fig. 7, Pearson's correlation between temperature and 509 rescaled relative hatch = 0.93, p = 0.07). While for most populations, food availability will be a more 510 important determinant of energetics and growth (Schekkerman & Visser, 2001; Schekkerman et al., 511 2003; Senner et al., 2017) as well as survival (Saalfeld et al. 2021), temperatures appear to have an 512 important effect on condition for chicks growing up in the coldest conditions. This means that temperatures may compensate for growth reductions induced by a trophic mismatch only under 513 514 specific conditions (see also McKinnon et al., 2013), but it is unlikely that this applies as a general 515 rule.

516 *4.3.* Vulnerability to trophic mismatch in a warming climate

While temperature as a mitigating factor may be only relevant for populations growing up in what now 517 518 are extremely cold conditions, and may therefore become less relevant in a world that warms up, 519 trophic mismatches will potentially increase in frequency and extent (Renner & Zohner, 2018). This is 520 because organisms at higher trophic levels appear to generally respond slower to climatic changes than 521 their prey at lower trophic levels (Both et al., 2009; Thackeray et al., 2010). Whereas we did find that 522 populations living in warmer environments have earlier hatching dates, we found no response of hatch 523 dates to temperatures within populations, nor did we find a change in hatch dates over the years for 524 Red Knots (ssp. islandica, canutus, rogersi and roselaari). It is noteworthy, however, that hatch dates in this study were based solely on successful nests, which may create a bias towards later nests 525 (Verhoeven et al., 2020) if early nests are more prone to predation (Reneerkens et al., 2016). 526

527 On the one hand, a lack of change in hatch dates over longer time periods could reflect little 528 change in arthropod peak dates. We find that temperatures alone cannot predict arthropod peak dates, 529 which aligns with the idea that phenology of arthropod emergence as well as activity is caused by a 530 combination of interacting climatic variables (Koltz et al., 2018; Shaftel et al., 2021; Tulp & 531 Schekkerman, 2008) and therefore difficult to predict. Moreover, the importance of climatic variables 532 in determining phenology may differ between invertebrate taxa (Koltz et al., 2018). Phenological 533 advancements in arthropod emergence have nevertheless been shown in some time series (Høye et al., 534 2007; Rakhimberdiev et al., 2018, but see Meltofte et al. 2021) and predicted from climatic 535 dependencies (Shaftel et al., 2021; Tulp & Schekkerman, 2008). How such advancements impact food 536 available for shorebird chicks will also depend on climate-induced changes in arthropod community 537 composition (Høye et al., 2021; Koltz et al., 2018), body size (Tseng et al., 2018) activity (Høye & 538 Forchhammer, 2008), and variation in abundance outside of the peak (Machín et al., 2018; Saalfeld et al., 2019). Therefore, whether the occurrence of trophic mismatches is increasing for Arctic-nesting 539 540 shorebirds is currently unclear.

On the other hand, even with advancing arthropod peaks, a lack of response in timing of
reproduction is not unexpected and is found in many migratory bird species (Knudsen et al., 2011;
Samplonius et al., 2018), including many Arctic-nesting bird species (Lameris et al., 2019; Meltofte et

al. 2021; Reneerkens et al., 2016; Saalfeld & Lanctot, 2017; but see Rakhimberdiev et al., 2018). This
may be explained by the fact that migrants are unable to forecast changing conditions on the breeding
grounds from their distant wintering grounds (Kölzsch et al., 2015; Piersma et al. 1990; Winkler et al.,
2014). Also, birds may be too time-constrained to advance their timing of migration (Lameris et al.,
2018; 2021b; Lindström et al. 2019, Rakhimberdiev et al., 2018), are forced to delay egg-laying in
years with high snow cover (Schmidt et al., 2019) or face larger nest predation danger when initiating
nests early (Borgmann et al., 2013; Byrkjedal 1980; Meltofte et al. 2021; Reneerkens et al., 2016).

Although it remains unclear if trophic mismatches have population-level consequences 551 (Franks et al., 2017; Miller-Rushing et al., 2010), reductions in growth rate, as we find in our study, 552 553 may lead to reductions in chick survival (Sedinger et al., 1995), and lower chick survival has also been associated with trophic mismatch (Lameris et al. 2018; Saalfeld et al. 2021). In addition, growth 554 555 reductions may carry over to later life stages via smaller biometrics impacting foraging efficiency and 556 survival in wintering areas (van Gils et al., 2016), or via reductions in survival and longevity as a 557 consequence of compensatory growth with accompanying accumulation of cellular damage (Mangel & Munch, 2005). We find also strong population differences in growth reduction with later hatch dates, 558 559 which are likely explained by the moment when arthropod abundance becomes a limiting factor for 560 growth. Therefore, the shape of seasonal arthropod dynamics appears to be an essential determinant 561 explaining variation in the vulnerability of populations to trophic mismatch, at least for Arctic-562 breeding shorebirds. Moreover, we find that mismatch-induced growth reductions are only compensated for by temperature increases for chicks growing up under extremely low temperatures. In 563 most areas the potential benefit of increased temperature is dwarfed by reductions in food due to 564 565 mismatches. Together, this implies that it will be mostly knowledge on annual and seasonal fluctuations in food availability that will aid in assessing the vulnerability of populations to trophic 566 567 mismatch.

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Center Animal Care and Use Committee protocols for the "Pacific Shorebird Migration Project." Any
use of trade, product, or firm names is for descriptive purposes only and does not imply endorsement
by the U.S. Government.

595 Data availability statement

- 596 The data that support the findings of this study are openly available in Mendeley Data at
- 597 http://doi.org/10.17632/3sfrd695hf.3 and from the U.S. Geological Survey at

598 https://doi.org/10.5066/P9VDI8RZ.

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894 Tables

895 Table 1: Study populations, their respective study locations and study years (with years for which 896 arthropod data was available marked in bold), with average hatch date, arthropod peak date, relative 897 hatch date, arthropod peak height, average arthropod abundance (arthropods per trap per day) and 898 average temperature during chick growth. When averages are taken over multiple years, standard 899 deviations are given.

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Population	Location	Years	Hatch date	Arthropod peak date	Relative hatch date / rescaled	Peak height	Average abundance	Temperature during growth (°C)
Red Knot C.c. islandica	Princess Marie Bay, CA 79°29'N, 75°48'E	1980 , 1981	7 July ± 9	14 July (1980)	-1 / 2	27.0	16.7	0.72 ± 0.06
	Alert, CA 82°30'N, 62°20'E	1992, 1993, 1994, 1999	8 July ± 8	13 July ± 10	5 ± 8 / 22 ± 8	13.2 ± 6.6	7.3 ± 3.4	1.55 ± 0.70
Red Knot C.c. canutus	Cape Sterlegov, RU 75°25'N, 88°59'E	1994	16 July	17 July (1994)	-1 / -10	14.4	6.1	2.28
	Knipovich Bay, RU 76°04'N, 98°32'E	1990, 1991, 2018 , 2019	11 July ± 1	11 July ± 14	$0 \pm 16 /$ -6 ± 161	24.2 ± 4.5	13.6±0.3	5.19 ± 1.00
Red Knot C.c. rogersi	Meinypilgyno, RU 62°32'N, 177°03'E	2010 - 2019	28 June ± 3	-	-	-	-	10.94 ± 0.97
Red Knot C.c. roselaari	Kigluaik Mountains, USA 64°50'N, 165°57'W	2010 – 2012; 2014 – 2019 (2016)	19 June ± 3	17 July (2016)	-27 / -187	12.4	6.3	10.79 ± 1.08
Great Knot C. tenuirostris	Upper Anadyr River, RU 64°55'N,168°35'E	1993, 1994, 1995	29 June ± 0	21 June (1995)	8 / 23	7.2	4.4	11.82 ± 1.58
Surfbird <i>C. virgata</i>	Turquoise Lake, USA 60°48'N, 154°00'W	1997 - 1999	20 June ± 8	29 June ± 5	-9 ± 8 / -43 ± 71	13.4 ± 6.7	7.7 ± 2.6	11.73 ± 1.18

- 902**Table 2**: (I) Parameter values for population-specific *von Bertalanffy* growth models on body mass.903The upper asymptote A is fixed to mean adult body mass per population, other parameter values904(growth rate parameter k and inflexion point T) are estimated by the model. Relative growth rate k is905converted to the maximum absolute growth rate K (g per day) as K = (4*k/9)*A (Tjørve & Tjørve,9062017). (II) Estimated model parameter values for one overall *von Bertalanffy* growth model, using set907upper asymptote values as in (I), with one overall estimated parameter T (= 6.97) and population-908specific estimated parameters k.
 - (II) Overall Population (I) Population-specific von Bertalanffy models model Т k K K A k C.c. islandica 130 0.092 5.30 0.086 6.97 4.97 C.c. canutus 127 0.121 6.82 7.03 5.14 0.125 C.c. rogersi 122 0.113 6.12 0.110 6.24 5.93 C.c. roselaari 3.72 122 7.34 0.076 4.14 0.069 C. tenuirostris 139 7.01 0.087 5.34 0.082 5.08 C. virgata 6.29 154 6.45 0.094 6.41 0.092

- **Table 3**: Generalized linear mixed models ($\Delta AIC > 10$) of the chick condition index (CC) explained
- 912 by relative hatch date (RHD), relative hatch date squared (RHD^2), temperature during the period of
- growth (TG), arthropod peak height (APH), average arthropod abundance (APA) and population (P),
- 914 including interactions (e.g. RHDxP) as fixed effects and year (Y) as a random effect. Models are
- 915 ordered from smallest to highest Δ AICc. The best performing model is marked in **bold**, models within
- 916 2 \triangle AICc are marked in *italics*. Models with a \triangle AIC > 4 can be found in Table S9, model coefficients
- 917 of the best performing model can be found in Table 4.

Model	degrees of	Log-	AICc	Δ AICc	Model
	freedom	likelihood			weight
$CC \sim P + RHD + RHD2 + TG + APA +$	26	533.15	-1012.08	0.00	0.45
RHDxP + RHD2xP + TGxP + APAxP + (Y) +					
(CI)					
$CC \sim P + RHD + RHD2 + TG + APA + RHDxP$	22	528.14	-1010.69	1.39	0.23
+ RHD2xP + APAxP + (Y) + (CI)					
$CC \sim P + RHD + RHD2 + TG + APH +$	22	527.84	-1010.10	1.98	0.17
RHDxP + RHD2xP + APHxP + (Y) + (CI)					
$CC \sim P + RHD + RHD2 + APA + RHDxP +$	21	525.74	-1008.04	4.04	0.06
RHD2xP + APAxP + (Y) + (CI)					
$CC \sim P + RHD + RHD2 + TG + APH + RHDxP$	26	530.99	-1007.77	4.31	0.05
+ RHD2xP + TGxP + APHxP + (Y) + (CI)					
$CC \sim P + RHD + RHD2 + APH + RHDxP +$	21	525.37	-1007.30	4.78	0.04
RHD2xP + APHxP + (Y) + (CI)					

- **Table 4**: β coefficients and 95% confidence intervals from the top model explaining chick condition
- 921 with rescaled relative hatch date (RHD), rescaled relative hatch date squared, temperature during chick
- 922 growth (TG) and average arthropod abundance (APA) and interactions with population. Cohen's D
- 923 effect sizes are given for a simpler model, including only RHD, TG and interactions with population.

Population	β and 95% confi	idence intervals		Cohen's	s D	
	RHD	RHD squared	TG	APA	RHD	TG
C.c. islandica	0.73 ± 0.23	-24.88 ± 6.77	0.37 ± 0.15	0.18 ± 0.03	-0.34	0.83
	[0.27;1.18]	[-38.21;-11.56]	[0.07;0.67]	[0.11;0.26]		
C.c. canutus	-0.07 ± 0.05	0.21 ± 0.28	0.04 ± 0.02	-0.11 ± 0.04	-0.31	0.21
	[-31.01;30.87]	[-0.36;0.78]	[0.01;0.07]	[-740.92;740.7]		
C.c. roselaari	0.21 ± 0.21	1.36 ± 1.09	-0.05 ± 0.05	-	-0.28	0.06
	[-0.21;0.63]	[-0.78;3.5]	[-0.16;0.06]			
C. tenuirostris	1.25 ± 0.61	-57.07 ± 18.64	0.02 ± 0.03	-	-0.76	0.16
	[0.04;2.46]	[-93.75;-20.4]	[-0.04;0.07]			
C. virgata	-0.58 ± 0.24	-4.35 ± 1.91	0.00 ± 0.03	-0.2 ± 0.1	-0.23	0.09
	[-1.07;-0.09]	[-8.12;-0.57]	[-0.05;0.05]	[-0.49;0.08]		

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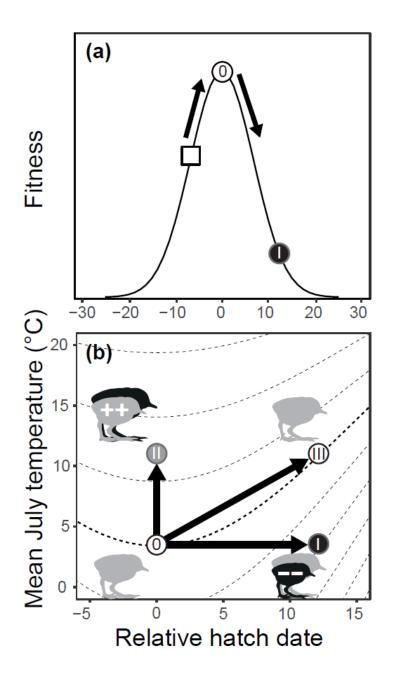
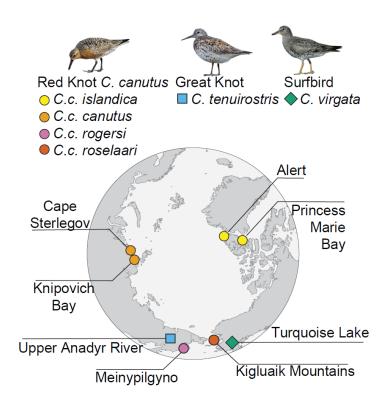
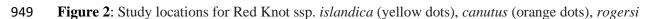


Figure 1: (A) We expect a unimodal relationship between relative hatch date (relative to peak food availability) and fitness (black line), with lower fitness rewards at relative hatch dates before and after an optimal match between hatch date and peak food availability (at a relative hatch date of 0). The unimodal relationship may explain differences between populations in sensitivity to trophic mismatches; populations normally hatching before the peak in food availability (white rectangle) will initially gain fitness with later hatch dates, while populations hatching currently at the peak in food availability (white dot, 0) will lose fitness with later hatch dates (black dot, I). (B) At the same time,

936 increases in temperature may ameliorate some fitness aspects such as chick growth, potentially 937 mitigating negative effects of a later hatch dates. Iso-lines show the conceptual combined effect of 938 relative hatch date and July temperature on chick growth, with faster growth towards the top-left (with 939 higher temperatures and at a relative hatch date of 0), and slower growth towards the bottom-right (later relative hatch dates, lower temperatures). Under climate warming, trophic mismatches (relative 940 hatch dates > 0) as well as temperatures are predicted to increase. If growth variation is driven only by 941 942 relative hatch dates as in Fig. 1a, the growth rate of a chick currently hatching at the food peak (white 943 dot, 0) is expected to decrease (black dot I, smaller black chick). However, if growth variation is only 944 driven by temperatures, growth rate would increase in a warming climate (grey dot II, larger black chick). If growth rate is driven by both factors, growth rates could remain constant under climate 945 946 warming, where higher temperatures mitigate the effect of later relative hatch dates (white dot III, grey 947 chick equal in size).







950 (purple dot) and *roselaari* (red dot), Great Knot (blue square) and Surfbird (green diamond).

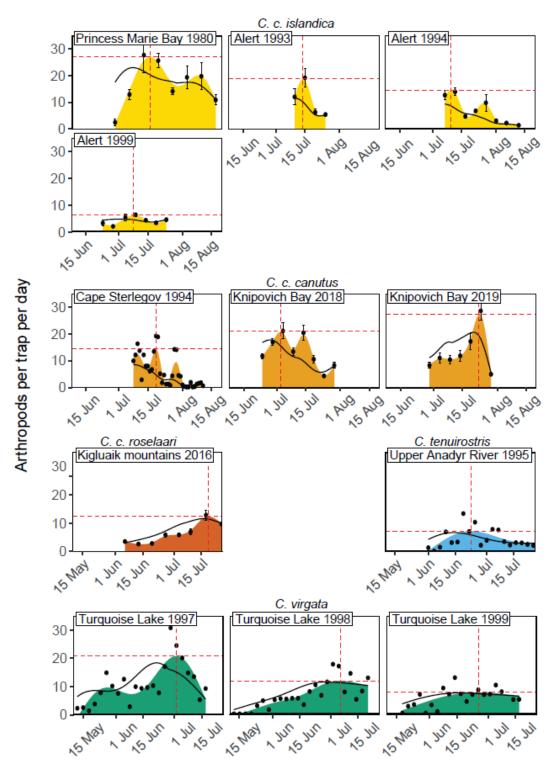


Figure 3: Observed number of arthropods per trap per day (black dots with error bars showing
standard errors) and predicted number of arthropods from general additive models (coloured surface),
shown per year and study site for Red Knots ssp. *islandica* (yellow), *canutus* (orange) and *roselaari*(red), Great Knots (blue) and Surfbird (green). Average abundance over a 20-day chick growth period,
which is used to calculate a rescaling factor, is shown by the black lines. Arthropod peak dates (date of

957 maximum predicted abundance) are depicted by vertical red lines, and arthropod peak height

958 (maximum abundance) is depicted by horizontal red lines.

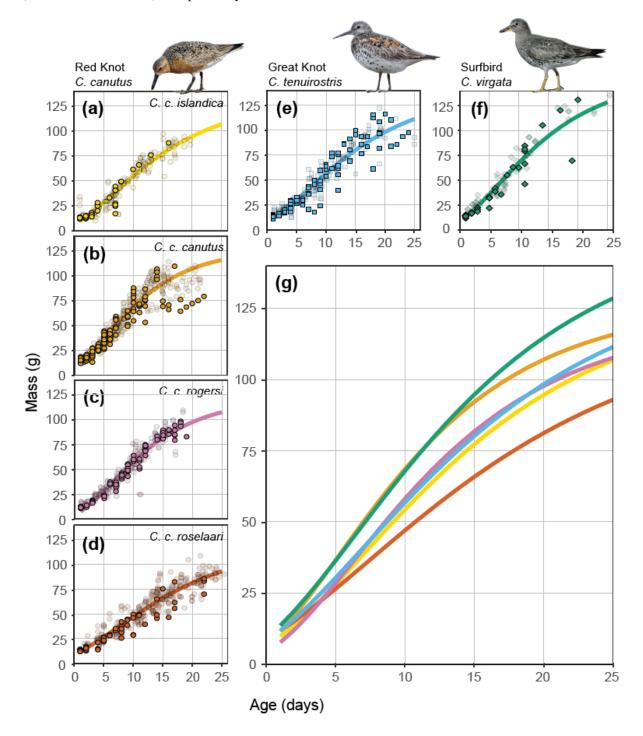
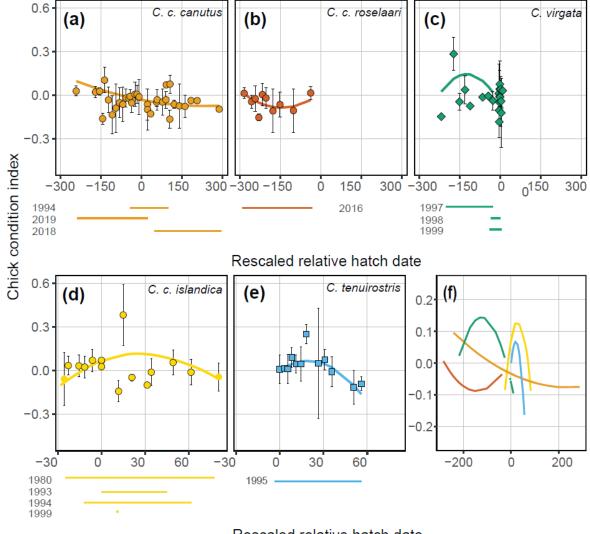


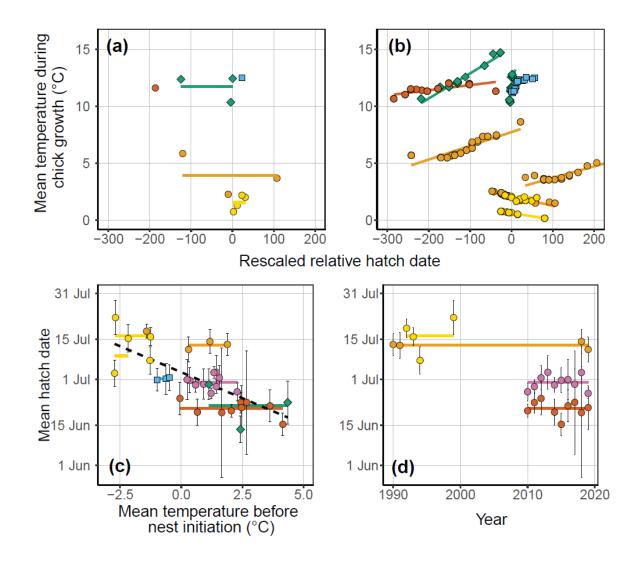
Figure 4: Coloured lines show body mass growth of chicks described by population-specific *von Bertalanffy* growth models, for Red Knots ssp. *islandica* (A), *canutus* (B), *rogersi* (C), *roselaari* (D),
Great Knots (E), Surfbirds (F), and population-specific models of all populations plotted together (G).
Solid points show measurements of chicks with known age, shaded dots show measurements of chicks



965

Rescaled relative hatch date

Figure 5: Chick condition index plotted against the rescaled relative hatch date (plots for non-rescaled relative hatch date in Fig. S4), for Red Knots ssp. *canutus* (A), *roselaari* (B), and Surfbird (C) above, and Red Knots ssp. *islandica* (D) and Great Knots (E) below. Points show average values per day of relative hatch date, error bars show standard errors. Lines show year-specific linear regressions from model output. The distribution of rescaled relative hatch dates in different years is shown below each graph. (F) shows year-specific linear regressions for all populations for comparison. Note the different scaling in A-C, D-E and F.



973

974 Figure 6: (A) Rescaled relative hatch date averaged per year and population plotted against the annual 975 mean temperature during chick growth, with coloured lines showing the population average 976 temperature. (B) Rescaled relative hatch date and temperature during chick growth (20-day period) per 977 individual, with coloured lines showing correlations, plotted per year. (C) Annual average hatch date 978 per population and year with error bars showing standard deviations, plotted in relation to average 979 temperature during the period of chick growth, with coloured lines showing population-specific 980 averages and the black line showing across-population linear regression. (D) Annual average hatch 981 dates for Red Knots ssp. islandica, canutus, rogersi and roselaari, plotted over years, with colours 982 lines showing population-specific averages. Population-specific colouring and symbols in all plots are 983 similar to Fig. 2.

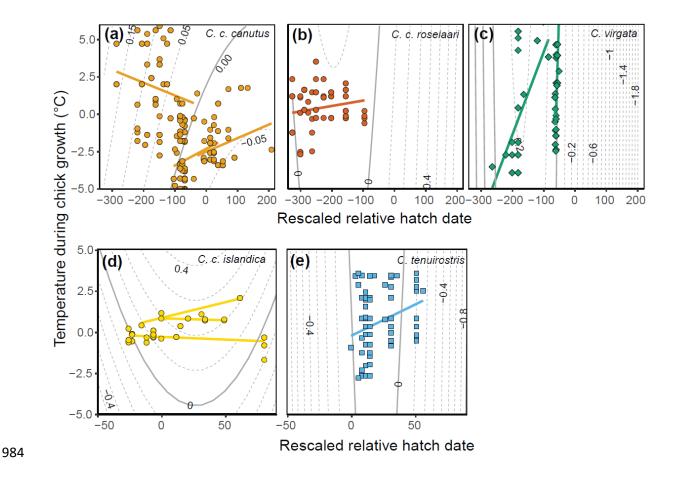


Figure 7: (A-E) Population-specific predictions of chick condition (grey lines dotted lines, with solid
line being a chick condition of 0) as predicted from the top model for values of rescaled relative hatch
and temperature during chick growth for a 14 day old chick. Points show values of rescaled relative
hatch date and temperature as measured for individual chicks, with population-specific colouring and
symbols similar to Fig. 2. Lines show correlations between temperature and rescaled RHD, plotted per
year.