

1    ***Wolbachia* modifies thermal preference in *Drosophila melanogaster***

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21        Running Title: *Wolbachia* and host thermal preferences

22 **ABSTRACT**

23

24 Environmental variation can have profound and direct effects on fitness, fecundity, and host-  
25 symbiont interactions. Replication rates of microbes within arthropod hosts, for example, are  
26 correlated with incubation temperature but less is known about the influence of host-symbiont  
27 dynamics on environmental preference. Hence, we conducted thermal preference ( $T_p$ ) assays  
28 and tested if infection status and genetic variation in endosymbiont bacterium *Wolbachia*  
29 affected temperature choice of *Drosophila melanogaster*. We demonstrate that isogenic flies  
30 infected with *Wolbachia* preferred lower temperatures compared to uninfected *Drosophila*.  
31 Moreover,  $T_p$  varied with respect to three investigated *Wolbachia* variants (*wMel*, *wMelCS*  
32 and *wMelPop*). While uninfected individuals preferred 24.4°C, we found significant shifts of -  
33 1.2°C in *wMel*- and -4°C in flies infected either with *wMelCS* or *wMelPop*. We, therefore,  
34 postulate that *Wolbachia*-associated  $T_p$  variation within a host species might represent a  
35 behavioral accommodation to host-symbiont interactions and trigger behavioral self-  
36 medication and bacterial titer regulation by the host.

37

## 38 INTRODUCTION

39 Environmental variations through intrinsic (e.g. physiology, reproduction, metabolism) and  
40 extrinsic (e.g. food sources, predation risk, immunity) factors impose a strong impact on the  
41 fitness of all organisms (e.g., Levins 1968; Endler 1977; 1986; Fox *et al.* 2001). Temperature  
42 is one of the most important environmental abiotic factors that affect the physiology and life  
43 history traits in many organisms (Huey and Berrigan 2001; Hoffmann 2010; Bozinovic *et al.*  
44 2011; Amarasekare and Savage 2012). Ectotherms, such as terrestrial insects, depend on  
45 ambient conditions to maintain their body temperature within a thermoregulatory range  
46 (Angilletta *et al.* 2004). For example, thermal preference ( $T_p$ ) in *Drosophila melanogaster*, a  
47 dipteran model species of world-wide distribution, varies with geography and elevation, and  
48 is thus potentially shaped by selection (Martin and Huey 2008; Dillon *et al.* 2009; Garrity *et*  
49 *al.* 2010; Hoffmann & Sgrò 2011; Huey *et al.* 2012; Rajpurohit and Schmidt 2016). In  
50 addition, variation in temperature can have fundamental effects on ecological interactions  
51 among organisms and their symbiotic microbes. Titers of endosymbiotic *Wolbachia* bacteria  
52 are highly temperature-dependent in various arthropod hosts. For example, some *Wolbachia*  
53 strains have increased replication rates at warmer temperatures (Clancy and Hoffmann 1998;  
54 Hurst *et al.* 2000; Mouton *et al.* 2006; Correa and Ballard 2012; Strunov *et al.* 2013a), while  
55 others are highly sensitive to heat stress (van Opijnen and Breeuwer 1999;  
56 Wiwatanaratatanabutr and Kittayapong 2009).

57 Endosymbionts of the genus *Wolbachia* are widespread and found in more than 50% of all  
58 investigated terrestrial and some aquatic insects (Zug and Hammerstein 2012; Weinert *et al.*  
59 2015; Sazama *et al.* 2017). *Wolbachia* have garnered extensive interest due to reproductive  
60 manipulations they can inflict on their hosts, i.e., inducing parthenogenesis, male killing,  
61 feminization, and cytoplasmic incompatibility (CI). By acting as reproductive parasites these  
62 bacteria boost their own transmission (reviewed by Werren *et al.* 2008). However, *Wolbachia*  
63 can also behave as facultative or obligate mutualists (reviewed by Zug and Hammerstein

64 2015) by enhancing host fecundity and fitness (Dedeine *et al.* 2001; Hosokawa *et al.* 2010;  
65 Miller *et al.* 2010) and by providing protection against RNA viruses (Hedges *et al.* 2008;  
66 Teixeira *et al.* 2008; Moreira *et al.* 2009; Osborne *et al.* 2009). Several closely related genetic  
67 variants of *Wolbachia* have been isolated from natural and laboratory populations of *D.*  
68 *melanogaster*. *wMel*, *wMelCS*, and *wMelPop*, which represent three of the most well-studied  
69 *Wolbachia* variants in *D. melanogaster* (Riegler *et al.* 2005), cause very weak, if any, CI in  
70 their native host (Hoffmann 1988; Reynolds *et al.* 2003; Veneti *et al.* 2003; Fry *et al.* 2004;  
71 Yamada *et al.* 2007), but provide virus protection to varying degrees (Chrostek *et al.* 2013;  
72 Martinez *et al.* 2014). Both *wMel* and *wMelCS* infect natural populations of *D. melanogaster*.  
73 Historically, *wMelCS* existed globally at higher prevalence, but in the recent past *wMel* has  
74 almost completely replaced the more ancestral *wMelCS* strain in world-wide populations  
75 (Riegler *et al.* 2005; Nunes *et al.* 2008; Richardson *et al.* 2012; Ilinsky 2013; Early and Clark  
76 2014). In contrast, *wMelPop* was isolated from a laboratory stock of *D. melanogaster* during a  
77 survey of genetic mutations and represents a pathogenic variant of *wMelCS* (Min and Benzer  
78 1997; Richardson *et al.* 2012; Chrostek *et al.* 2013). Depending on rearing temperature,  
79 *wMelPop* infections can lead to a strong reduction of host lifespan with respect to uninfected  
80 controls (Min and Benzer 1997; McGraw *et al.* 2002; Reynolds *et al.* 2003; Chrostek *et al.*  
81 2013). This detrimental effect is caused by over-proliferation in host tissues, such as the brain,  
82 retina, and muscles (Min and Benzer 1997; Strunov *et al.* 2013b). Importantly, not only  
83 *wMelPop* but also its natural predecessor *wMelCS* have significantly higher cellular densities  
84 and growth rates than *wMel* when assayed in the same fly genetic background at 25°C (**Table**  
85 **1**; Chrostek *et al.* 2013). While high *Wolbachia* densities result in augmented antiviral  
86 protection, they also have negative effects by reducing their host's lifespan. Accordingly, it  
87 has been proposed that the higher titer - and hence more costly - *wMelCS* variant was  
88 replaced by the low-titer *wMel* variant in natural *D. melanogaster* populations (Chrostek *et al.*  
89 2013). Thereby, flies infected with the more recent *wMel* variant have higher fitness due to

90 lower *Wolbachia* titers compared to flies infected with *w*MeCS. Alternatively, the highly  
91 protective *w*MeCS variant may have been replaced by *w*Me independent of the symbiont's  
92 capacity for virus resistance but because of better adaptation to viruses at the host level  
93 (Martins *et al.* 2014). In line with this hypothesis, a recent study failed to find correlations  
94 between RNA virus prevalence and *Wolbachia* frequency in natural populations of *D.*  
95 *melanogaster* (Webster *et al.* 2015). However, the main causalities explaining the well-  
96 documented global almost complete replacement of *w*MeCS by *w*Me in worldwide  
97 populations of *D. melanogaster* remains elusive.

98 Host-symbiont conflicts may arise from disparities between physiological requirements of  
99 *Wolbachia* and those of their hosts. For example, some insects induce behavioral fever (Louis  
100 *et al.* 1986) or behavioral chill (Fedorka *et al.* 2016) as an immune strategy to fight bacterial  
101 pathogen infections. Conversely, some bacterial symbionts are known to alter their host's  
102 thermal tolerance range in an adaptive manner (Russell and Moran 2006; Dunbar *et al.* 2007;  
103 reviewed by Wernegreen 2012). We, therefore, speculate that additional ecological and  
104 behavioral factors, such as host temperature preference, may play a pivotal role in  
105 determining *Wolbachia* prevalence and the dynamics of their strain replacement in natural *D.*  
106 *melanogaster* populations.

107 To test our hypothesis, we conducted laboratory-based temperature preference assays using  
108 isogenic *D. melanogaster* *w*<sup>1118</sup> strains that are either uninfected (*w*-) or infected with one of  
109 the three common *Wolbachia* strains *w*Me, *w*MeCS\_b, and *w*MePop (Teixeira *et al.* 2008;  
110 Chrostek *et al.* 2013) and determined if *Wolbachia* affects the temperature preference of its  
111 native host *D. melanogaster*. To this end, we built a custom thermal gradient apparatus and  
112 determined the temperature preference of replicated fly populations with varying *Wolbachia*  
113 infection statuses along the thermal gradient ranging from 17°C to 32°C. Our experiments  
114 demonstrate that the temperature preference of *D. melanogaster* is neither sex- nor age-  
115 dependent, but is highly dependent on the *Wolbachia* infection status and on the symbiont

116 genotype. Our results provide compelling evidence that *Wolbachia* infections can affect host  
117 thermal preference behavior, at least under strict laboratory conditions in *D. melanogaster*  
118 strains.

119

120 **RESULTS**

121 To determine whether  $T_p$  of adult *D. melanogaster* varies with *Wolbachia* infection status and  
122 *Wolbachia* genotype, we conducted lab-based experiments using a custom-built temperature  
123 gradient apparatus for assaying flies of the isogenic lab-strain  $w^{1118}$  that were either  
124 uninfected ( $w$ -) or infected with one of the *Wolbachia* strains *wMel*, *wMelCS*, or *wMelPop*  
125 (**Supporting Information Fig. S1-4**). We first investigated whether age (3-4, 5-7 or 10-14  
126 days post eclosion) and *Wolbachia* infections, or sex (males or females) and *Wolbachia*  
127 infections had an influence on  $T_p$  by means of two-way mixed-effect Poisson regressions. We  
128 neither found significant effects of age or sex nor significant interactions of either factor with  
129 *Wolbachia* infections (see **Fig. 1A+B** and **Table 2A+B** and **Supporting Information Fig.**  
130 **S5**; Poisson regression:  $P > 0.05$  for factors age and sex and both interaction terms,  
131 respectively). In contrast, both two-way regressions revealed highly significant effects of  
132 *Wolbachia* infections on  $T_p$  (Poisson regression  $P < 0.001$  for factor *Wolbachia* in both  
133 analyses). Since both aforementioned analyses were carried out on different subsets of the  
134 data which did not include all four infection types ( $w$ -, *wMel*, *wMelCS* and *wMelPop*), we  
135 further investigated all data jointly irrespective of sex and host age and evaluated the effect of  
136 symbiont genetic variation on  $T_p$  by means of post-hoc pairwise comparisons based on  
137 Tukey's honestly significant differences (HSD). We found that temperature preference of *D.*  
138 *melanogaster* strongly depended on (1) the infection status of the flies and (2) on the  
139 *Wolbachia* strain used for infections: Uninfected flies ( $w$ -) exhibited the highest mean  $T_p$  at  
140 24.4°C (Median: 25°C; Mode: 26°C), while *wMel*-infected flies preferred average  
141 temperatures at 23.2°C (Median: 24°C; Mode: 24°C), which is 1.2°C lower than uninfected

142 (*w*-) flies. In contrast, flies infected with *w*MelCS or *w*MelPop showed highly similar thermal  
143 preferences at 20.6°C and 20.5°C (Median: 19°C and Mode: 18°C for both) respectively,  
144 which were both approximately 4°C lower than to *w*- (see **Fig. 1C**, **Table 2C** and **Table 3**).

145

## 146 **DISCUSSION**

147 In this study, we, for the first time, investigated the relationship between temperature  
148 preference of *D. melanogaster* and *Wolbachia* infection under laboratory conditions. Using a  
149 custom-built thermal gradient apparatus, we conducted temperature preference assays and  
150 showed that the  $T_p$  of *D. melanogaster* is shifted to lower temperatures when flies are infected  
151 with *Wolbachia*. Uninfected *D. melanogaster* flies preferred an average temperature of  
152 24.4°C, whereas *w*Mel-infected flies preferred 23.2°C, and both *w*MelCS- and *w*MelPop-  
153 infected flies preferred 20.6°C and 20.5°C respectively.

154  $T_p$  can vary significantly between populations of the same species (Matute *et al.* 2009;  
155 Rajpurohit and Schmidt 2016) and can have profound effects on immune function, fitness,  
156 and fecundity (Huey and Berrigan 2001; Martin and Huey 2008; Hoffmann 2010). Recent  
157 population analyses of *Wolbachia* and mitochondria from *D. melanogaster* have provided  
158 evidence that over the past few thousand years, the *w*MelCS variant is being globally replaced  
159 by the *w*Mel -variant (Riegler *et al.* 2005; Nunes *et al.* 2008; Richardson *et al.* 2012; Early  
160 and Clark 2013). Rare cases of the *w*MelCS infection type were recently detected in the wild  
161 (Nunes *et al.* 2008; Ilinsky 2013), thus replacement by *w*Mel is still incomplete. Although the  
162 reason for the worldwide turn-over remains elusive, it has been hypothesized that *w*Mel,  
163 which persists in hosts at significantly lower densities than *w*MelCS at 25°C (Chrostek *et al.*  
164 2013), has better adapted to *D. melanogaster*. Accordingly, *w*Mel infections are less costly to  
165 the host compared to the more ancestral *w*MelCS variant (Chrostek *et al.* 2013; reviewed by  
166 Miller 2013).

167 Insects can actively reduce or avoid costs of potentially fitness-reducing symbionts or  
168 parasites by behavioral adjustments such as changing egg deposition (Kacsoh *et al.* 2013) or  
169 mating behavior (reviewed by Wedell 2013). We find compelling evidence for *Wolbachia*-  
170 induced behavioral changes in host  $T_p$ , which may provide an alternative explanation for the  
171 recent global replacement of *wMelCS* by *wMel* independent of density costs or anti-viral  
172 effects: we propose that *wMel* is less costly for the host than *wMelCS*-infections because flies  
173 harboring *wMel* exhibit thermal preferences that are closer to uninfected flies under natural  
174 conditions compared to flies infected with *wMelCS*. Since *Drosophila* development is strictly  
175 temperature dependent (approximately 14 days of egg-to-adult development at 20°C and 9  
176 days at 24°C; Ashburner 1989), flies infected with *wMel* should have shorter generation times  
177 and thereby produce more generations per year resulting in higher net fecundity compared to  
178 *wMelCS* infected flies.

179 Small fluctuations in temperature can cause considerable modifications to host-symbiont  
180 interactions (Blanford and Thomas 1999). Pathogenicity of *wMelPop* is attributed to its active  
181 proliferation in host tissues at temperatures  $\geq 19^\circ\text{C}$ . The increase of *wMelPop* density confers  
182 strong anti-viral protection but leads to a significant reduction in host lifespan at 25°C  
183 (Chrostek *et al.* 2013). However, at temperatures  $< 19^\circ\text{C}$ , pathogenicity of *wMelPop* is  
184 eliminated (Reynolds *et al.* 2003). Similarly, but less dramatically *wMelCS*, the progenitor of  
185 *wMelPop*, is also costly by reducing host lifespan due to high symbiont densities at 25°C  
186 (Chrostek *et al.* 2013). We, therefore, speculate that the adjustment of lower temperature  
187 preference in *D. melanogaster* as a response to the *wMelCS* and *wMelPop* infections  
188 represents a physiological self-medicating behavior or behavioral chill (Fedorka *et al.* 2016)  
189 to attenuate the fitness costs associated with deleterious effects of *Wolbachia* over-  
190 proliferation and high cell densities (Chrostek *et al.* 2013; Strunov *et al.* 2013a; Strunov *et al.*  
191 2013b).

192 *Wolbachia*'s ability to provide anti-viral protection to their hosts has emerged as the most  
193 promising approach to combatting insect-vector borne pathogens that pose serious health risks  
194 to humans, such as dengue fever and Zika (Moreira *et al.* 2009; Iturbe-Ormaetxe *et al.* 2011;  
195 Dutra *et al.* 2016). However, because the strength of anti-viral protection is associated with  
196 higher *Wolbachia* densities (Chrostek *et al.* 2013; Martinez *et al.* 2014) and bacterial titers are  
197 a temperature sensitive trait (Hoffmann *et al.* 1990; Reynolds *et al.* 2003; Mouton *et al.* 2006;  
198 Mouton *et al.* 2007; Bordenstein & Bordenstein 2011; Correa and Ballard 2012; Chrostek *et*  
199 *al.* 2013; Strunov *et al.* 2013a; Strunov *et al.* 2013b; Murdock *et al.* 2014; Versace *et al.*  
200 2014), it is feasible that under certain thermal conditions such as lower environmental  
201 temperatures, *Wolbachia*-induced virus protection could be attenuated or absent (Chrostek  
202 2014). Furthermore, our findings, as demonstrated in a highly inbred lab strain of *D.*  
203 *melanogaster*, need to be tested first in different host backgrounds, which are naturally or  
204 artificially infected with the endosymbiont.

205 In conclusion, we present experimental support for a potential ecological conflict between  
206 host and symbiont that may have profound effects on host physiology. Our results provide a  
207 novel conceptual platform from which to further investigate host temperature preference, or  
208 behavioral chill, in other *Wolbachia*-infected insect hosts. Future studies should examine if  
209 host temperature preference has a direct impact on *Wolbachia* density regulation.  
210 Additionally, it is important to determine any effects that host  $T_p$  has on the strength of anti-  
211 viral protection that *Wolbachia* provide to some hosts.

212

## 213 **EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES**

### 214 **Fly Lines**

215 For all assays, we used *D. melanogaster* without *Wolbachia* (*w*-) as well as flies infected  
216 with one of three genetic variants of the *Wolbachia* *w*Mel-strain; *w*Mel, *w*MelCS\_b, and

217 *w*MelPop all set in the DrosDel *w*<sup>1118</sup> isogenic background, which were kindly provided by  
218 Luis Teixeira and previously described by Teixeira *et al.* (2008) and Chrostek *et al.* (2013).

219 We used biological replicates of approximately 30 flies per vial, independently rearing  
220 each vial of flies at 25°C, in a 12:12 light - dark cycle with constant 45% humidity. Flies were  
221 raised on *Drosophila* Formula 4-24® Instant Medium (Carolina®, NC) that was  
222 supplemented with fresh yeast. Approximately equal numbers of male and female flies were  
223 used in each assay except for assays that explicitly tested sex-class  $T_p$  differences (see  
224 **Supporting Information Table S1 and Supporting Information File 1**). In addition to  
225 testing for sex-class  $T_p$  differences, we performed assays to test for age-specific  $T_p$   
226 differences, thus all fly lines were segregated into three age-classes – 3-4 days, 5-7 days, and  
227 10-14 days post eclosion. Due to fitness costs to the host associated with infection by  
228 *w*MelPop at 25°C, possibly due to the onset of the life reducing phenotype (Min and Benzer  
229 1997) or increase in copy numbers of the Octomom repeat (Chrostek and Teixeira 2015), our  
230 *w*MelPop-infected fly line did not produce enough flies to conduct all three age-class assays.  
231 Therefore, we excluded *w*MelPop from the statistical analyses of age-specific effects (see  
232 **Supporting Information Table S1** and the description of statistical analyses).

233

#### 234 **Genotyping of *Wolbachia* strains**

235 Genome sections that contain hypervariable loci or hypervariable regions covering tandem  
236 repeats were used as genetic markers to differentiate *Wolbachia* strains and strain variants  
237 (O'Neill *et al.* 1992; Werren *et al.* 1995; Zhou *et al.* 1998; Riegler *et al.* 2012). To confirm  
238 *Wolbachia*-infection status, we performed diagnostic PCR amplification using primers for a  
239 gene that encodes the *Wolbachia* surface protein, *wsp* (Jeyaprakash and Hoy 2000), and for an  
240 intergenic region with 141bp tandem repeats, VNTR-141 loci (Riegler *et al.* 2005). The PCR  
241 reactions for *wsp* amplification were carried out in a total volume of 10µl containing 2µl  
242 Promega 5x Green GoTaq buffer, 4mM Promega MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.8µM of forward and reverse

243 primers, 35 $\mu$ M of each dNTP, 0.04 U Promega GoTaq DNA Polymerase, and 1 $\mu$ l of genomic  
244 DNA template. Diagnostic VNTR-141 PCR reactions were each a total of 10 $\mu$ l comprised of  
245 the following: 2 $\mu$ l Promega 5x Green GoTaq buffer, 1.5mM Promega MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.3 $\mu$ M of  
246 forward and reverse primers, 35 $\mu$ M of each dNTP, 0.04 U Promega GoTaq DNA Polymerase,  
247 and 1 $\mu$ l of genomic DNA template. PCR products were visualized on a 1% agarose gel.  
248 Presence/absence of the *wsp* signal and the size of the diagnostic VNTR-141 locus confirmed  
249 their respective infection type (Riegler *et al.* 2012). The proper infection status of the  
250 *wMelPop* isoline was verified by assaying flies for early mortality at 29°C.

251

## 252 **Thermal gradient apparatus**

253 Temperature preference assays were performed using a custom made thermal gradient  
254 apparatus that allowed the flies to move in a three-dimensional space (adapted from  
255 Rajpurohit and Schmidt 2016; **Supporting Information Fig. S2**). An aluminum rod (length  
256 74.93cm, diameter 3.02cm; Part #R31-316 Metals Depot, Winchester, KY) was encased  
257 within a 58.76cm long and 6.35cm inside diameter polycarbonate tube, creating an enclosed  
258 chamber allowing for three-dimensional movement. Constant voltage was applied to Peltier  
259 devices on each end of the aluminum rod to create a temperature gradient inside the thermal  
260 preference chamber. Temperatures along the gradient were measured at seven points that  
261 were 8.39cm apart using K-type thermocouples and two four-channel thermocouple recorders.  
262 We recorded temperatures on the aluminum rod and inside polycarbonate tube surfaces  
263 (bottom, top, and mid-point between the top and bottom surfaces; **Supporting Information**  
264 **Fig. S3**). The average temperatures from each thermocouple point on all surfaces from 57  
265 different assays are depicted in **Supporting Information Fig. S1**. Mean temperatures  
266 increased linearly and ranged from 12°C at the coldest point to 40°C at the hottest point of the  
267 aluminum rod, 58.76 cm distance (**Supporting Information Fig. S4**). Along the aluminum

268 rod, for every 4.2cm from cold to hot, the temperature increased by 2°C. Temperatures along  
269 each of the measured polycarbonate tube surfaces (bottom, mid-point, and top) increased 1°C  
270 every 4.2cm from cold to hot. The gradient reached thermal stability after approximately 20  
271 minutes and remained stable for at least 3 hours. Assays were conducted once the device had  
272 attained thermal stability.

273

274 **Thermal preference assays**

275 All assays were conducted in a room with a constant temperature of 24°C and constant  
276 40% humidity. During several trial runs, we established that 75-100 flies for each assay  
277 resulted in distributions along the thermal gradient that avoided over-crowding in preferred  
278 temperature ranges, eliminating potential counting errors during analysis. Flies were  
279 introduced by aspiration into the thermal gradient chamber through a small hole located  
280 halfway along the top of the polycarbonate tube, where the temperature consistently averaged  
281 25°C. Flies used for thermal preference assays were never anesthetized because of the strong  
282 effects from CO<sub>2</sub> treatment on *Drosophila* behavior (Barron 2000). Each assay was conducted  
283 for thirty minutes. Between assays, the temperature gradient chamber was taken apart and  
284 thoroughly cleaned to avoid contamination from any pheromone particles. All aluminum parts  
285 were cleaned using 95% ethanol. Because ethanol and polycarbonate are chemically  
286 incompatible, the polycarbonate tube and end caps were cleaned using hot water and soap,  
287 followed by a four-minute rinse with hot water to ensure that surfaces were free of soap  
288 residue.

289

290 **Data collection**

291 Using three GoPro HERO3+ cameras, we collected data for each assay in the form of  
292 digital images. To capture images of the entire thermal gradient and the flies within it, we  
293 mounted the cameras above, lateral to, and below the apparatus, capturing images every 30

294 seconds for the duration of each treatment (30 minutes). Images were analyzed using Adobe  
295 Photoshop CS6. All 60 images from each assay were reviewed, from which we determined  
296 that A) the flies were highly active, retaining the ability to relocate as necessary, for the entire  
297 assay, and B) after being introduced to the thermal gradient, actively flew around for up to 15  
298 mins before they settled on either the aluminum rod or polycarbonate tube surfaces.  
299 Therefore, we selected images for analysis of fly distribution at the 20-minute time point as  
300 representative of the 30-minute experiment. For each assay, we manually counted flies and  
301 marked the location of flies on a custom grid that delineated gradient surfaces and surface  
302 temperatures.

303

#### 304 **Statistical analyses**

305 We calculated generalized linear mixed models (GLMM) with a Poisson error structure  
306 using the *R* (R Development Core Team 2009) package *lme4* (Bates *et al.* 2015) to account  
307 for the statistical properties of count data from flies observed at different temperatures. To test  
308 for significance of a given predictor variable, we compared the full model including all  
309 factors to a reduced model excluding the given factor by analysis of deviance with  $\chi^2$  tests  
310 using the *R* function *anova* (see **Supporting Information File 1** for full *R* code).

311 At first, we excluded flies infected with *wMelPop*, since we failed to obtain sufficient flies  
312 to test for age-specific  $T_p$  at all three age-classes (3-4 days, 5-7 days and 10-14 days post  
313 eclosion; **Supporting Information Table S1**) and tested for age- and *Wolbachia*-specific  
314 differences in thermal preference with a two-way GLMM of the form:  $T_i = wol + age + wol \times$   
315  $age + Rep + \varepsilon_i$ . Here,  $T$  is the continuous response variable “Temperature”, *age* is a nominal  
316 fixed factor with three levels each (*age*: 3-4 days, 5-7 days and 10-14 days post eclosion), *wol*  
317 is a nominal fixed factor “*Wolbachia*” with three levels (un-infected, *wMel* and *wMelCS*), *wol*  
318  $\times$  *age* is the interaction term, *Rep* is a nominal random factor “Replicate” for replicate trials  
319 and  $\varepsilon_i$  is the error (**Table 2A**, **Fig. 1A**). In a complementary analysis, we removed all flies of

320 the age class 3-4 days and repeated the abovementioned analysis including all *Wolbachia*  
321 strains on two age classes (5-7 days and 10-14 days post eclosion) only. This latter analysis  
322 yielded qualitatively similar results to the former analysis including all age classes without  
323 wMelPop (**Supporting Information Table S2**).

324 Next, we censored flies with undetermined sex status and excluded uninfected flies (*w*-),  
325 since we failed to obtain sufficient replication to test for male-specific  $T_p$  for uninfected flies  
326 (**Supporting Information Table S1**). We then tested for sex- and *Wolbachia*-specific  
327 differences in thermal preference with a two-way GLMM of the form:  $T_i = wol + sex + wol \times$   
328  $sex + Rep + \varepsilon_i$  Here,  $T$  is the continuous response variable “Temperature”, *sex* is a nominal  
329 fixed factor with two levels (male and female), *wol* is a nominal fixed factor “*Wolbachia*”  
330 with three levels (wMel, wMelCS, and wMelPop), *wol*  $\times$  *age* is the interaction term, *Rep* is a  
331 nominal random factor “Replicate” for replicate trials and  $\varepsilon_i$  is the error (**Table 2B; Fig. 1B**).

332 Finally, we included all flies, irrespective of age and sex status, and tested for the effect of  
333 infection status and *Wolbachia* strain variation on thermal preference with a GLMM of the  
334 form:  $T_i = wol + Rep + \varepsilon_i$ , where  $T$  is the continuous response variable “Temperature”, *wol* is  
335 a nominal fixed factor “*Wolbachia*” with four levels (un-infected, wMel, wMelCS, and  
336 wMelPop), *Rep* is the nominal random factor “Replicate” and  $\varepsilon_i$  is the error (**Table 2C; Fig.**  
337 **1C**). Here, we further tested for significant pair-wise comparisons among the level of the  
338 factor “*Wolbachia*” with Tukey’s honestly significant difference (HSD) post-hoc tests using  
339 the *R* package *multcomp* (**Table 3**). We conservatively applied Bonferroni corrections to the  $\alpha$   
340 threshold ( $\alpha' = 0.05/3 = 0.017$ ) to account for multiple testing.

341

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346

347 **Author contributions:**

348 A.T. and W.J.M. conceived and planned the study, A.T. performed the experiment, A.T.,

349 R.K., and M.K. analyzed the data and A.T., W.J.M., and M.K. wrote the paper.

350

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586 **TABLE AND FIGURE LEGENDS**

587

588 **Table 1.** Comparison of strain type titer levels, growth rates, and effects on host's lifespan at  
589 25°C.

590

591 **Table 2:** Table showing the results of three analyses based on generalized linear mixed  
592 models with a Poisson error structure to account for the statistical properties of count data.  
593 The columns show ID's for the different analyses (A-C), the models, the individual factors  
594 and interactions tested, the samples size, the degrees of freedom for the  $\chi^2$  test of the analysis  
595 of deviance, the  $\chi^2$  value and the corresponding *P*-value. Note that analyses with significant  
596 effects after Bonferroni correction (adjusted  $\alpha = 0.017$ ) are highlighted in bold.

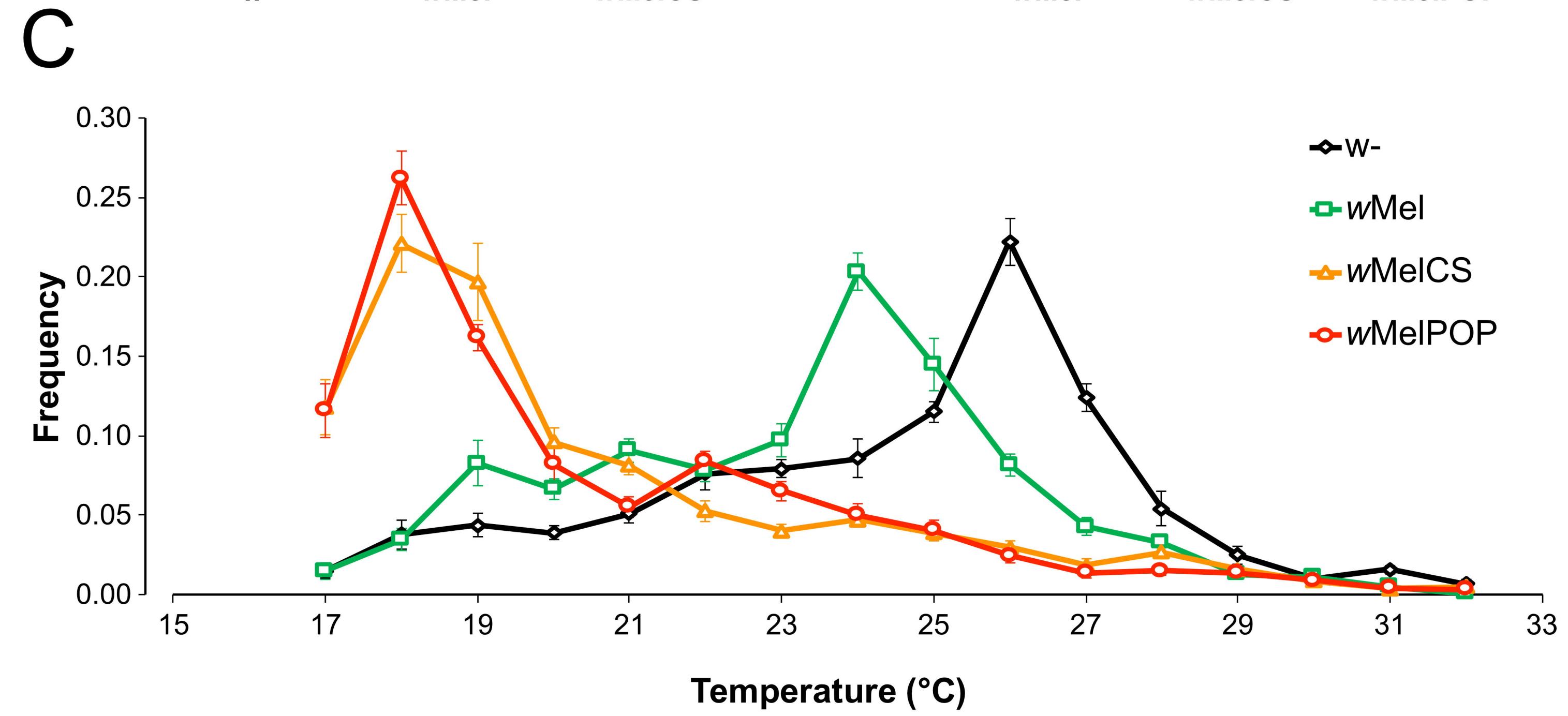
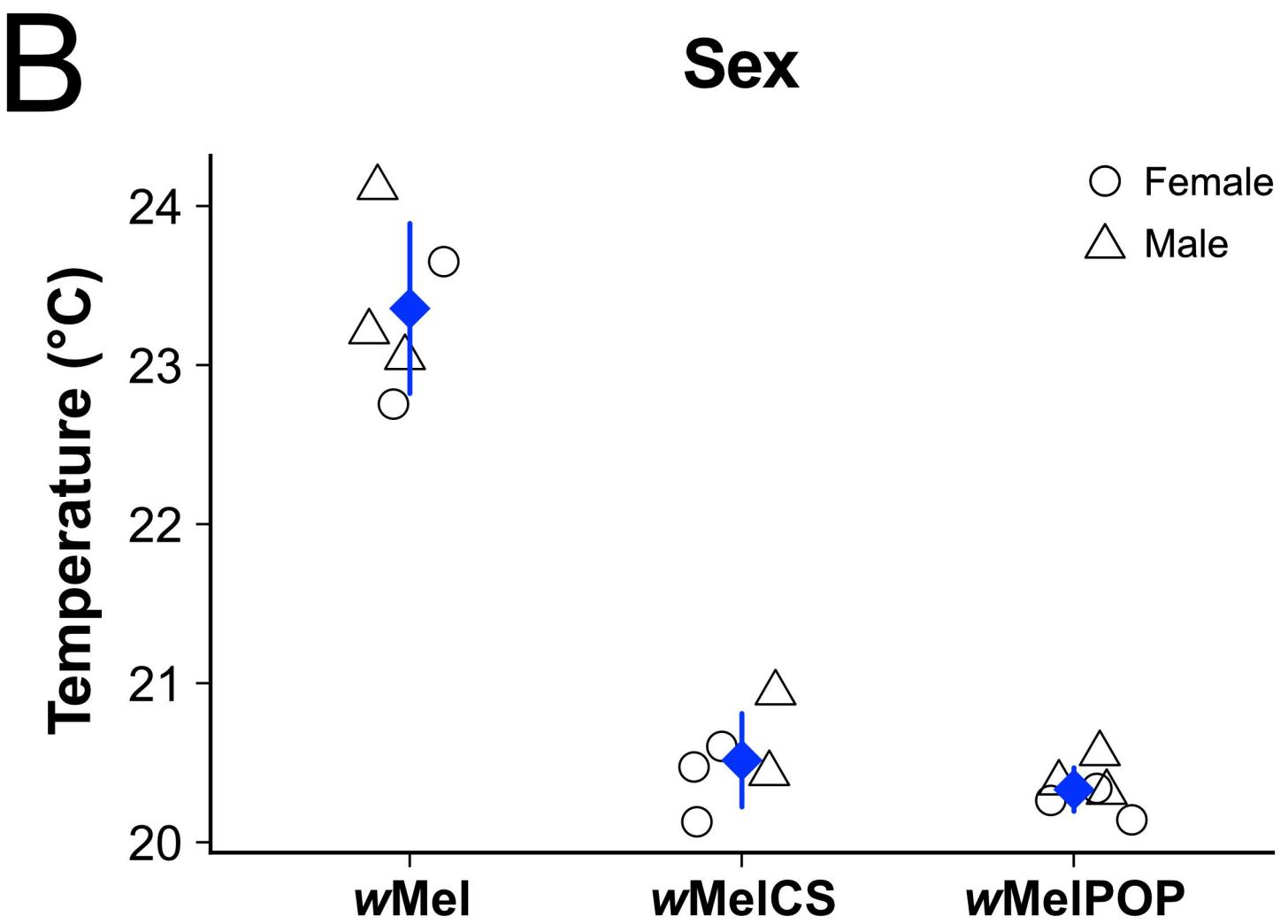
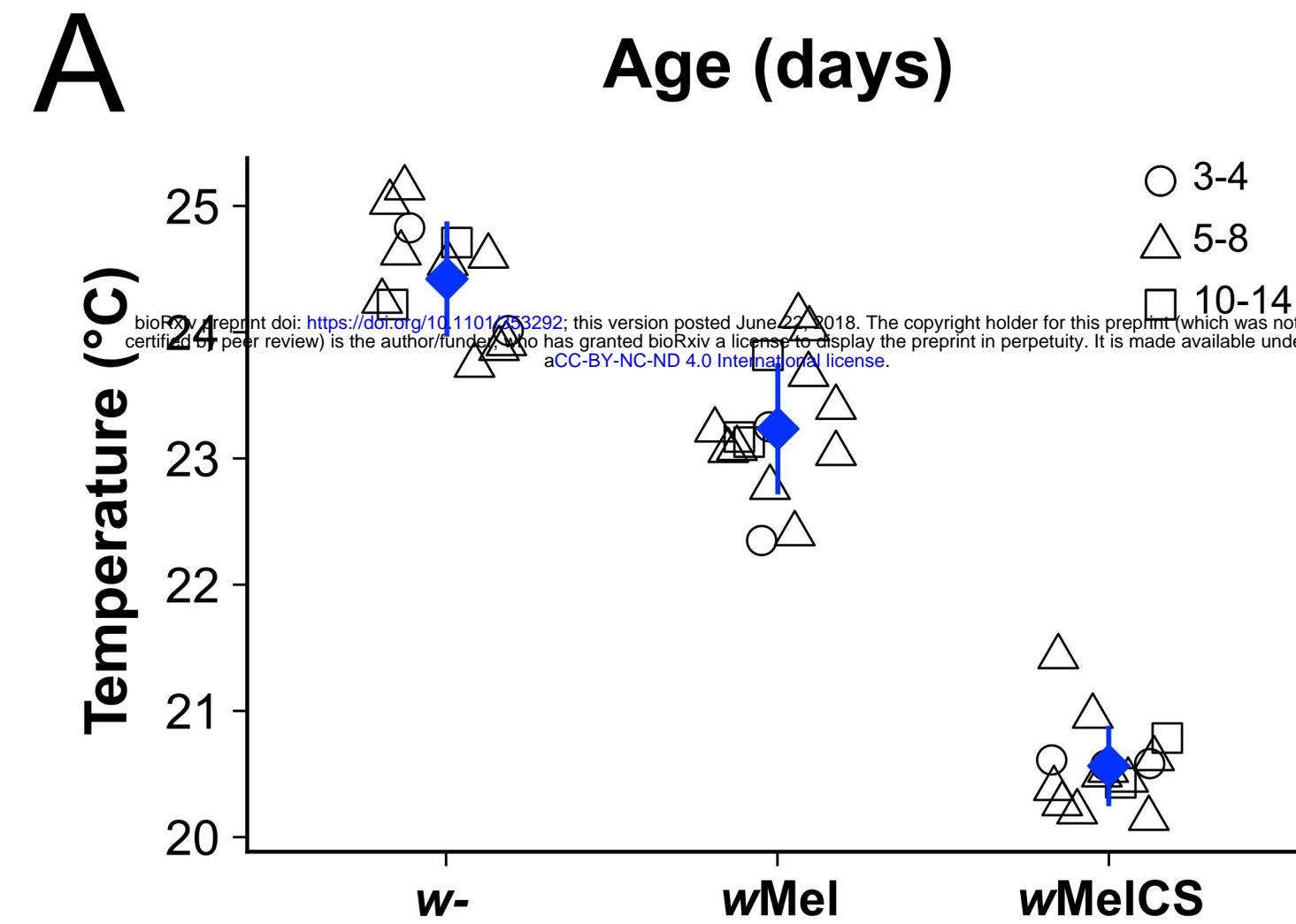
597

598 **Table 3:** Table showing z-values from post-hoc pairwise comparisons with Tukey's HSD for  
599 the factor Wolbachia (Analysis C; see Experimental Procedures) with four levels (non-  
600 infected, wMel, wMelCS, and wMelPop). Bold type indicates significance after Bonferroni  
601 correction (adjusted  $\alpha' = 0.017$ ). \*  $p < 0.05$ ; \*\*  $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ .

602

603 **Figure 1: Thermal preference of *Drosophila* with and without *Wolbachia* infections.**  
604 Panels A and B show average  $T_p$  (blue diamonds) with respect to age (3-4, 5-7 or 10-14 days  
605 post eclosion, n=4370 excluding flies infected with wMelPop) and sex (male or female;  
606 n=1718, excluding uninfected flies), respectively. Each symbol represents the average  $T_p$  for a  
607 replicate at a given factor level of either age (circle: 3-4 days, triangle: 5-8 days and square:  
608 10-14 days) or sex (circle: females, triangle: males). Panel C shows line plots with relative  
609 proportions of flies observed at a given temperature. Each line represents the average  
610 proportion of flies which were either uninfected (w-; black), or infected with wMel (red),  
611 wMelCS (blue) or wMelPop (green). The error bars represent standard errors for average

612 frequencies at a given temperature across all replicated experiments carried out for each  
613 infection type. We found that infected flies exhibit significantly lower thermal preference  
614 compared to uninfected flies.



**Table 1.**

Strain type	Relative amount of <i>Wolbachia</i>	Effects on host's lifespan
<i>w</i> Mel	Lowest titer level and growth rate	No reduction
<i>w</i> MelCS	Approximately double the titer level compared to <i>w</i> Mel and higher growth rate	Some reduction
<i>w</i> MelPop	Titer level 20 times higher compared to <i>w</i> MelCS	Reduction by approximately half

Note: Information on titer levels, growth rate, host's lifespan effects for *w*Mel and *w*MelCS from Chrostek *et al.* 2013, information on *w*MelPop's effects on host's lifespan from Reynolds *et al.* 2003.

**Table 2**

<b>Analysis</b>	<b>Model</b>	<b>Factor</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>Df</b>	<b><math>\chi^2</math></b>	<b>P-value</b>
<b>A</b>	<i>wol + age + wol x age</i>	<i>wol</i>	<b>4370</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>119.71</b>	<b>1.87E-23</b>
A	<i>wol + age + wol x age</i>	<i>age</i>	4370	6	2.10	0.91
A	<i>wol + age + wol x age</i>	<i>wol x age</i>	4370	4	1.31	0.86
<b>B</b>	<i>wol + sex + wol x sex</i>	<i>wol</i>	<b>1718</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>61.19</b>	<b>2.58E-11</b>
B	<i>wol + sex + wol x sex</i>	<i>sex</i>	1718	4	2.12	0.71
B	<i>wol + sex + wol x sex</i>	<i>wol x sex</i>	1718	3	1.90	0.59
<b>C</b>	<i>wol</i>	<i>wol</i>	<b>5717</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>168.69</b>	<b>2.44E-36</b>

1

2

3 **Table 3**

	<i>w</i> -	<i>w</i> Mel	<i>w</i> MelCS	<i>w</i> MelPop
<i>w</i> -	-			
<i>w</i> Mel	<b>-6.76***</b>	-		
<i>w</i> MelCS	<b>-21.93***</b>	<b>-15.49***</b>	-	
<i>w</i> MelPop	<b>-21.5***</b>	<b>-15.35***</b>	-0.6	-

4