

*Global Biogeochemical Cycles*

Supporting Information for

**Impact of Lagrangian Sea Surface Temperature Variability on Southern Ocean  
Phytoplankton Community Growth Rates**

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## 24    **Introduction**

25    This supplemental material contains the results of the sensitivity analyses we performed on  
26    reaction norm width, final SST in the idealized simulations, and the magnitude of the imposed  
27    minimum biomass, as well as the statistical analysis to determine the significance, or lack of, the  
28    differences between the sensitivity tests and the results in the main text. Also included are figures  
29    to supplement the findings in the main text such as results for the broad shaped reaction norms  
30    and the decrease  $\Delta$ SST results for the skewed reaction norms. Tables containing SST variability  
31    analyses as well as data on acclimation rates can also be found here.

## **S.1 Impact of final temperature in the idealized simulations**

To assess the sensitivity of our choice of final SST of 15°C for the idealized simulations, we performed 100 idealized simulations with final SSTs of 10°C and 20°C with the same rates and magnitudes of temperature change as presented in the main text. Specifically, we compared the percent difference between the individual-based model and the Eppley growth model, relative to Eppley ( $[\text{Eppley} - \text{phenotype model}]/\text{Eppley}$ ), at the timestep when SST stabilizes, as well as the length of time it took for the community growth rates to equilibrate to steady conditions, referred to as the memory length in the main text.

The final SST of the idealized profiles did not impact the results of our study. The offset between the Eppley growth model and the phenotype model were not different, statistically (95% CI, see section S.7 for description of statistical analyses) for all the simulations (Figure S2). Additionally, because the results are presented in terms of generations rather than absolute time, the length of the memory effect is also statistically not different (95% CI) for all simulations (Figure S3).

## S.2 Impact of reaction norm width in idealized simulations

The width of the reaction norm, or thermal niche, had a varying, but predictable, impact on the percent difference from the Eppley growth model, relative to the Eppley model (calculated as in S.1.). To test the impact of the reaction norm width, we ran 100 simulations of the same idealized SST profiles as in the main text with both narrower and wider reaction norms for the individuals. Making the thermal niche narrower (10.5°C) relative to the simulations in the main text (thermal niche = 14°C) did not have a significant (95% CI) impact on the percent difference between the individual-based model and the Eppley growth model, for either shape of reaction norm (Figure S4, left column). Increasing the thermal niche from 14°C to 20.5°C (Figure S4, right column) also did not have a significant impact on the offset from the Eppley growth model for skewed reaction norms (95% CI) but did for the broad reaction norms (95% CI). A wider reaction norm for the broad reaction norms decreased the percent difference from the Eppley growth model by an average of 10.1% with simulations in which  $\Delta$ SST changed over 7 days experiencing the largest decreases (up to 29.4%).

The width of the thermal niche in conjunction with the magnitude of SST change impacted the time lag in the community response, i.e., the memory length. For small (2-3°C) and large (8-9°C) SST changes, wider thermal niches produced shorter memory effects (95% CI) by an average of 2.1 generations  $\pm$  3.4 generations ( $1\sigma$ ) for the broad reaction norms and 0.6 generations  $\pm$  1.6 generations ( $1\sigma$ ) for the skewed reaction norms. Conversely, wider thermal niches that experienced moderate SST changes (4-7°C) had longer memory effects than the default thermal niches by 1.8 generations  $\pm$  4.0 generations ( $1\sigma$ ) for the broad and 0.5 generations  $\pm$  1.0 generations ( $1\sigma$ ) for the skewed reaction norms. This was seen across both sets of simulations for the broad reaction norms (Figure S5, bottom row). For skewed reaction norms, decreasing the thermal niche width relative to the default width did not have a significant impact on the memory length (95% CI) (Figure S5, top row). Regardless of reaction norm width, the overall relationship between memory length and the rate and magnitude of SST change was not different from the simulations in the main text and did not change our results or conclusions.

For broad shaped reaction norms, wider reaction norms meant that individuals were able to continue to grow over a larger span of SSTs on either side of their optimum growth temperature ( $T_{opt}$ ) compared to individuals with narrower reaction norms. When temperature changes were small (2-3°C), the biomass weighted community growth rate was able to better track small changes in SST because the SST did not go outside of the thermal niche. Similarly, for large SST changes (8-9°C), the community was able to respond to the SST changes more quickly than a community with a narrower reaction norm because more individuals were able to grow at the final SST. When SST changes were more moderate (4-6°C), the individuals in the original environment could continue to grow over a larger range of temperatures past their  $T_{opt}$  which meant that those best suited for the new environment had more biomass to overcome before



85 making a significant contribution to the biomass-weighted community growth rates compared to  
86 individuals in a community with narrow reaction norms.

87 The memory length for the skewed reaction norms was less affected by the width of the reaction  
88 norm due to the asymmetry of the reaction norm shape. By increasing the width the reaction  
89 norm, but keeping the maximum growth rate and  $T_{opt}$  the same, the part of the reaction norm that  
90 was extended corresponded to relatively low growth rates. So even though individuals could  
91 grow at a larger temperature range, that growth did not have a large impact on the memory  
92 length.

93  
94 The impact of reaction norm width on the difference from the Eppley growth model and the  
95 length of the memory effect did not change any of the conclusions of the manuscript. Across all  
96 the simulations, larger and faster SST changes resulted in the largest offsets between the  
97 phenotype model and the Eppley growth model and moderate SST changes induced the longest  
98 memory effects.

### 99 S.3 Model sensitivity to minimum biomass parameter

100 In the main text, we imposed a minimum biomass of  $0.001 \text{ mmol C m}^{-3}$  such that no individual  
101 was allowed to go extinct, akin to the “everything is everywhere” principle (Hutchinson, 1961).  
102 To test the sensitivity of our results to this parameter, we ran 100 simulations with the same  
103 idealized SST profiles with a minimum biomass of  $0.0001 \text{ mmol C m}^{-3}$ , an order of magnitude  
104 smaller. For both the skewed shaped and broad shaped reaction norms, lower minimum biomass  
105 generally increased both the offset from  $Q_{10}$  simulated growth rates (95% CI, Figure S5) and the  
106 memory length (95% CI, Figure S6). The difference from  $Q_{10}$  increased by an average of  $1.5\%$   
107  $\pm 8.6\%$  ( $1\sigma$ ) for the broad and  $2.6\% \pm 8.9\%$  ( $1\sigma$ ) for skewed shaped reaction norms, but ranged as  
108 high as  $31.7\%$  (broad) and  $27.3\%$  (skewed). For small  $\Delta\text{SSTs}$  ( $2\text{-}3^\circ\text{C}$ ), lower minimum biomass  
109 slightly decreased the difference between  $Q_{10}$  simulated growth but as  $\Delta\text{SSTs}$  increased, so did  
110 the offset. Memory lengths increased by an average of  $4.0 \pm 4.1$  ( $1\sigma$ ) generations for the broad  
111 reaction norms and  $3.0 \pm 3$  ( $1\sigma$ ) generations for the skewed reaction norms, but ranged as high as  
112  $12.6$  generations (broad) and  $10.6$  generations (skewed) longer for the smaller minimum  
113 biomass. A lower minimum biomass meant that individuals with the minimum biomass  
114 contributed less to the overall biomass-weighted community growth rate, resulting in lower  
115 growth rates and larger departures from  $Q_{10}$ . This also meant that those individuals best suited  
116 for the new environment started growing with lower biomass and thus took longer to overcome  
117 the previously accumulated biomass from the initial conditions which resulted in longer memory  
118 lengths. As such, the results presented in the main text are a conservative estimate of the  
119 difference from  $Q_{10}$  and memory length.

120 The overall patterns remained the same between both minimum biomass simulations. The  
121 direction of the  $\Delta\text{SST}$  change did not impact the memory length for the broad reaction norms  
122 whereas decreasing  $\Delta\text{SSTs}$  yielded longer memory lengths for the skewed reaction norms for  
123 both sets of simulations. In both sets of simulations, the moderate  $\Delta\text{SSTs}$  resulted in the longest  
124 memory lengths.

## S.4 Comparison of Ecosystem Model Choice

We compared the community growth rates from several different models to ensure that the results we found were not the result of our choice of model. We found that all models showed similar responses in community growth rate. Below is a description of each of the models used in this comparison.

The biomass of each individual ( $P_i$ , in  $\text{mmol C m}^{-3}$ ) was calculated as

$$\frac{dP_i}{dt} = \mu_i * P_i - \text{loss} \quad \text{Eq. S1}$$

where  $\mu_{i,t}$  ( $\text{day}^{-1}$ ) is the individual growth rate at time  $t$ . Here we investigated different formulations for the loss term.

### Linear Mortality

We started with simple linear mortality, where loss scales linearly with biomass, similar to Moisan et al. (2002).

$$\frac{dP_i}{dt} = \mu_i * P_i - m * P_i \quad \text{Eq. S2}$$

We found that, the mortality had to be set to unrealistic values (approx. equal to  $Q_{10}$  values) in order to keep biomass from exponentially increasing. However, this model does still show a dip in community growth rates with changes in SST that is described in the main text.

### Quadratic Mortality (used in the main text)

A more common approach is to represent loss as a quadratic mortality:

$$\frac{dP_i}{dt} = \mu_i * P_i - m * P_i^2 \quad \text{Eq. S3}$$

Simulating phytoplankton loss as quadratic mortality showed the same dip in community growth rates as SSTs begin to as described in the main text. The overall magnitude of the loss term is consistent with the other models also.

### Simple Ecosystem

We also tested a more complex ecosystem model with linear mortality and loss due to grazing.

$$\frac{dP_i}{dt} = (\mu_i - m) * P_i - g * \frac{P_i}{P} * Z * P_i \quad \text{Eq. S4}$$

where  $g$  is the temperature dependent grazing ( $\text{m}^3 \text{mmol C}^{-1} \text{day}^{-1}$ ) and  $Z$  is the total zooplankton biomass ( $\text{mmol C m}^{-3}$ ). To keep our phytoplankton and zooplankton growth internally consistent, we simultaneously solve for the change in total phytoplankton biomass ( $P$ ) and zooplankton biomass ( $Z$ ) over time (where  $P = \sum P_i$  for individuals whose biomass is greater than the minimum) using the following equations:

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \lambda * P - g * Z * P \quad \text{Eq. S5}$$

$$\frac{dZ}{dt} = 0.3 * g * Z * P - m_z * Z \quad \text{Eq. S6}$$

where  $\lambda$  ( $\text{day}^{-1}$ ) is the biomass weighted community growth rate from all  $P_i > \text{minimum biomass}$ , 0.3 is the zooplankton efficiency, and  $m_z$  is the zooplankton mortality rate ( $\text{day}^{-1}$ ). Re-solving for total  $P$  instead of using the sum of the individual biomasses allowed us to avoid issues with resetting low biomass individuals to the minimum biomass which constantly adds biomass to the system. This resulted in predator-prey oscillations (Figure S7) but also showed the dip in community growth rates as SSTs began to change.

### Constant grazing

This model followed the same equations outlined for the Simple Ecosystem model above, but instead of solving for how zooplankton biomass changes over time, we calculate  $Z$  for each timestep as:

$$Z = -0.0187 * \lambda + 5 * \frac{\lambda}{a} \quad \text{Eq. S7}$$

where  $\lambda$  ( $\text{day}^{-1}$ ) is the community growth rate defined in the main text (Equation 5) and  $a$  ( $\text{day}^{-1}$ ) is the growth rate from the  $Q_{10}$  parameter (Equation 2). This formulation provided a relatively constant grazing pressure which prevented predator-prey oscillations. As seen with the other formulations, this resulted in a decrease in community growth rates as SSTs change.

## S.5 Statistics Calculations for Sensitivity Tests

To calculate the potential significance of results from the sensitivity tests, we performed Type II linear regression and tested the significance of the slope against a value of 1. The regression was performed using the *lsqfitma* function in Matlab made available from the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (<https://www.mbari.org/index-of-downloadable-files/>). This provided a slope and the uncertainty on that slope. Using these data, we then calculated the Z test statistic as:

$$Z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma \sqrt{\frac{1}{N}}} \quad \text{Eq. S8}$$

where  $x$  is the slope to test against, here set to one,  $\mu$  is the slope from the Type II regression,  $\sigma$  is the standard deviation on the slope, and  $N$  is the number of independent tests to find  $\mu$ , which is one for the *lsqfitma* regression. Once  $Z$  is calculated, we compare this to the standard score based on a 95% confidence interval which corresponds to a standard score of  $\pm 1.96$ . If  $Z$  is outside of this range, we reject the null hypothesis that the slope,  $\mu$  is equal to one. Otherwise, we fail to reject the null hypothesis.

## S.6 Nitrate limitation model

Phytoplankton growth is often co-limited by multiple factors. To test the impact of temperature and nutrient co-limitation on the results presented in this study, we conducted an additional set of model simulations. Specifically, we test the impact of including both temperature and nitrate limitation on growth. To our knowledge, there is no source of high-resolution mixed-layer nitrate data along a Lagrangian trajectory in the Southern Ocean. While Bio-ARGO floats measure nitrate, these floats do not accurately quantify the environmental variability experienced by phytoplankton as they rest at depth and so are transported by deep, rather than surface, currents. Here we leverage the predictable relationship between nitrate and temperature (Figure S9) to generate a companion high-resolution nitrate dataset to the drifter SST dataset. Specifically, nitrate concentrations are estimated based on the observed relationship between SST and nitrate in the upper 50m from profiling Bio-ARGO floats in the Southern Ocean (8805 data points,  $R^2=0.95$ ,  $p<0.001$ ). Data was Bio-ARGO accessed through the Southern Ocean Carbon and Climate Observations and Modeling (SOCCOM) Project website (<https://www.mbari.org/science/upper-ocean-systems/chemical-sensor-group/floatviz/> Accessed: 03/08/2021).

We modify the model equations (Eq. 1 in the main text) to include nitrate limitation as:

$$\mu(T) = ae^{bT} \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{T-T_{opt}}{w/2} \right)^2 \right] N_{lim} \quad \text{Eq. S9}$$

where nitrate limitation ( $N_{lim}$ ) is calculated as:

$$N_{lim} = \frac{C_{nit}}{0.5 + C_{nit}} \quad \text{Eq. S10}$$

and  $C_{nit}$  is the nitrogen concentration.

When temperatures are less than 14°C, the inclusion of both temperature and nitrate limitation produced similar results to the model simulations with temperature only (Figure S11, Example Trajectory 1). This is because nitrogen limitation is moderate ( $N_{lim}>0.82$ ) for these temperatures and acts to decrease growth rates only slightly. For regions warmer than 14°C, nitrate limitation can become substantial. Due to the non-linear relationship between nutrient concentration and growth limitation, the onset of severe nutrient limitation is rapid (Figure S11, Example Trajectory 2). Transition from mild nutrient limitation to severe nutrient limitation results in a rapid drop in growth rates, as expected. However, once the populations are fairly uniformly limited (i.e. stay in waters with low nitrate) the model dynamics are once again similar to temperature limitation alone albeit with much lower growth rates and therefore much longer memory lengths (Figure S11, Example Trajectory 3).

234 Table S1. Table S1. Results of SST<sub>max</sub> variability analysis.

	7 days	21 days	45 days	90 days
# of data points	729,262	465,785	273,997	1593
Mean $\Delta$ SST <sub>max</sub> , °C	0.9	1.7	2.7	4.2
Standard Deviation, °C	0.7	1.0	1.5	2.0
Median $\Delta$ SST <sub>max</sub> , °C	0.7	1.5	2.4	3.9
Mode $\Delta$ SST <sub>max</sub> , °C	0.4	1.1	2.0	2.0
Skewness $\Delta$ SST <sub>max</sub>	2.5	1.6	0.9	0.9

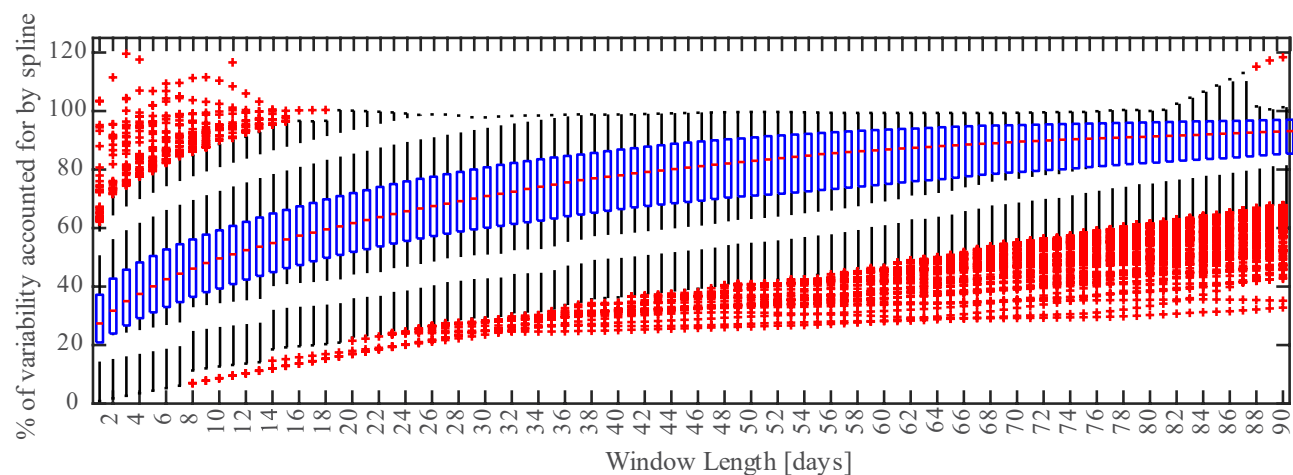
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Table S2. Estimates of acclimation times (lower bounds) for the polar diatom *F. cylindrus* for lab-cultures initiated at 2.5 °C and then exposed to first to either cooling or warming of ~1.5 °C and 3 °C for the first acclimation, and then subsequent step increases or decreases in temperature, as part of the preparation for a thermal reaction norm experiment (Strzepek et al., in prep). The estimates growth rates were used in conjunction with the change in temperature to compute the range of acclimation times presented. For further information contact philip.boyd@utas.edu.au.

Growth Temperature (°C)	Condition	Temperature Change (°C)	Growth rate (day <sup>-1</sup> ) after 4 generations	Acclimation rate (°C day <sup>-1</sup> )
-1.4	Shift down	-1.3	0.20	0.26
-0.1	Initial		0.24	
-0.1	Shift down	-1.5	0.24	0.36
1.4	Initial		0.26	
1.4	Shift down	-1.4	0.26	0.36
2.8	Initial		0.26	
4.1	Shift up	1.3	0.27	0.36
4.1	Initial		0.27	
5.3	Shift up	1.2	0.29	0.35
5.3	Initial		0.29	
6.5	Shift up	1.2	0.22	0.28





246  
 247 Figure S1. Box plots of the percent of the SST variability in the drifter trajectory that is  
 248 accounted for by the smoothed spline. Each of the 2,190 90-day drifter and spline trajectories  
 249 was broken up into windows in 1-day increments from 1 to 90 days. The standard deviation of  
 250 the drifter trajectory is the sum of the standard deviation of the smoothed spline plus some noise  
 251 term. From this, the variability accounted for by the spline for each window, for each trajectory  
 252 was recorded with the results shown. As expected, over longer window lengths the spline  
 253 accounts for higher percentage of the overall variability.

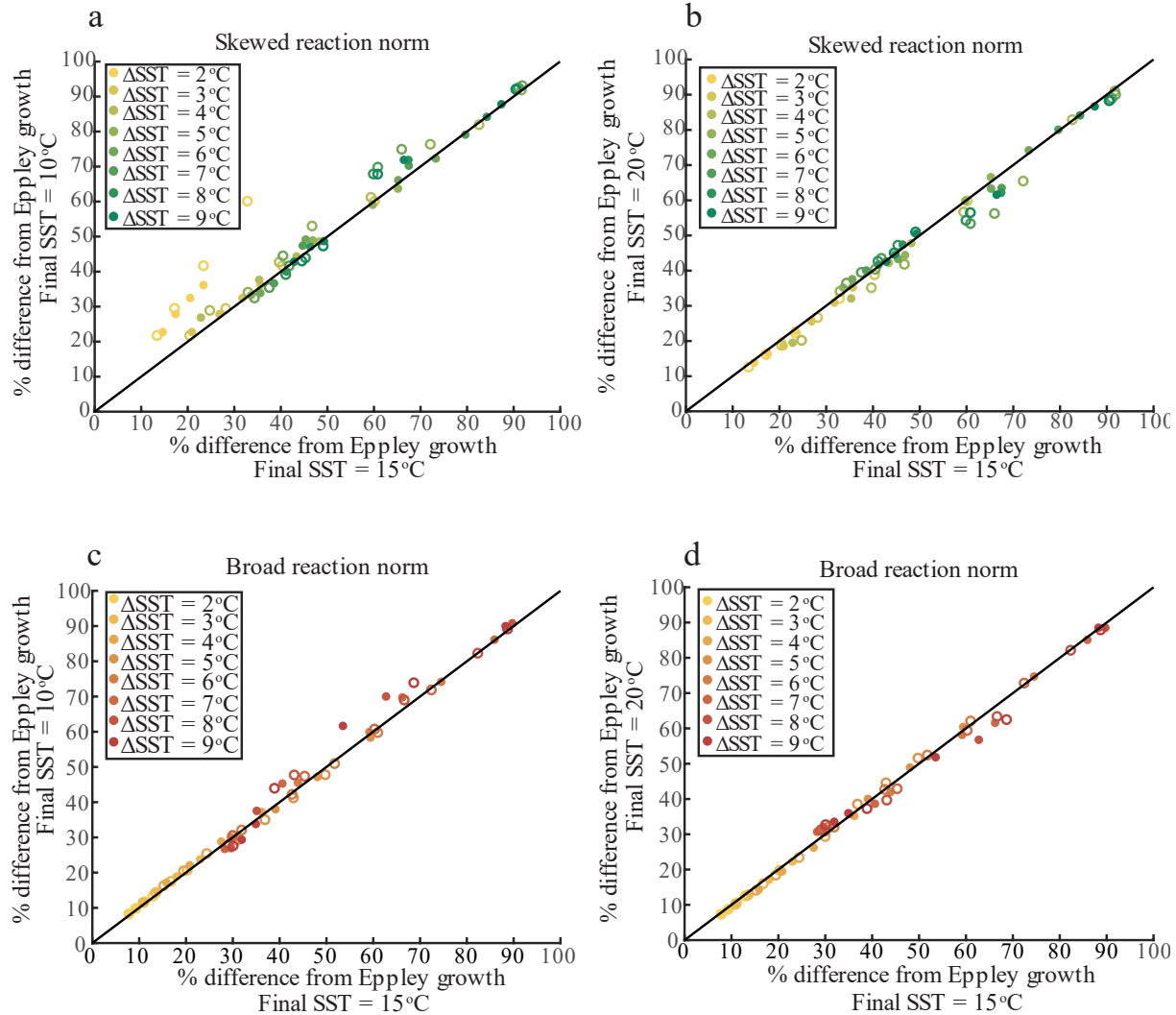


Figure S2. The impact of final SST on percent difference between the individual based model and the Eppley growth model, relative to Eppley growth ( $[\text{Eppley} - \text{phenotype}]/\text{Eppley}$ ). The results from the simulations in the main text are compared to simulations with final SSTs of 10°C (a,c) and 20°C (b,d) for both the skewed (top row) and broad (bottom row) shaped reaction norms. Open data points represent decreasing  $\Delta\text{SSTs}$  and filled in data are increasing  $\Delta\text{SSTs}$ . The black line indicates the 1-1 line. There is no statistical difference between simulations with differing final SSTs (95% CI).

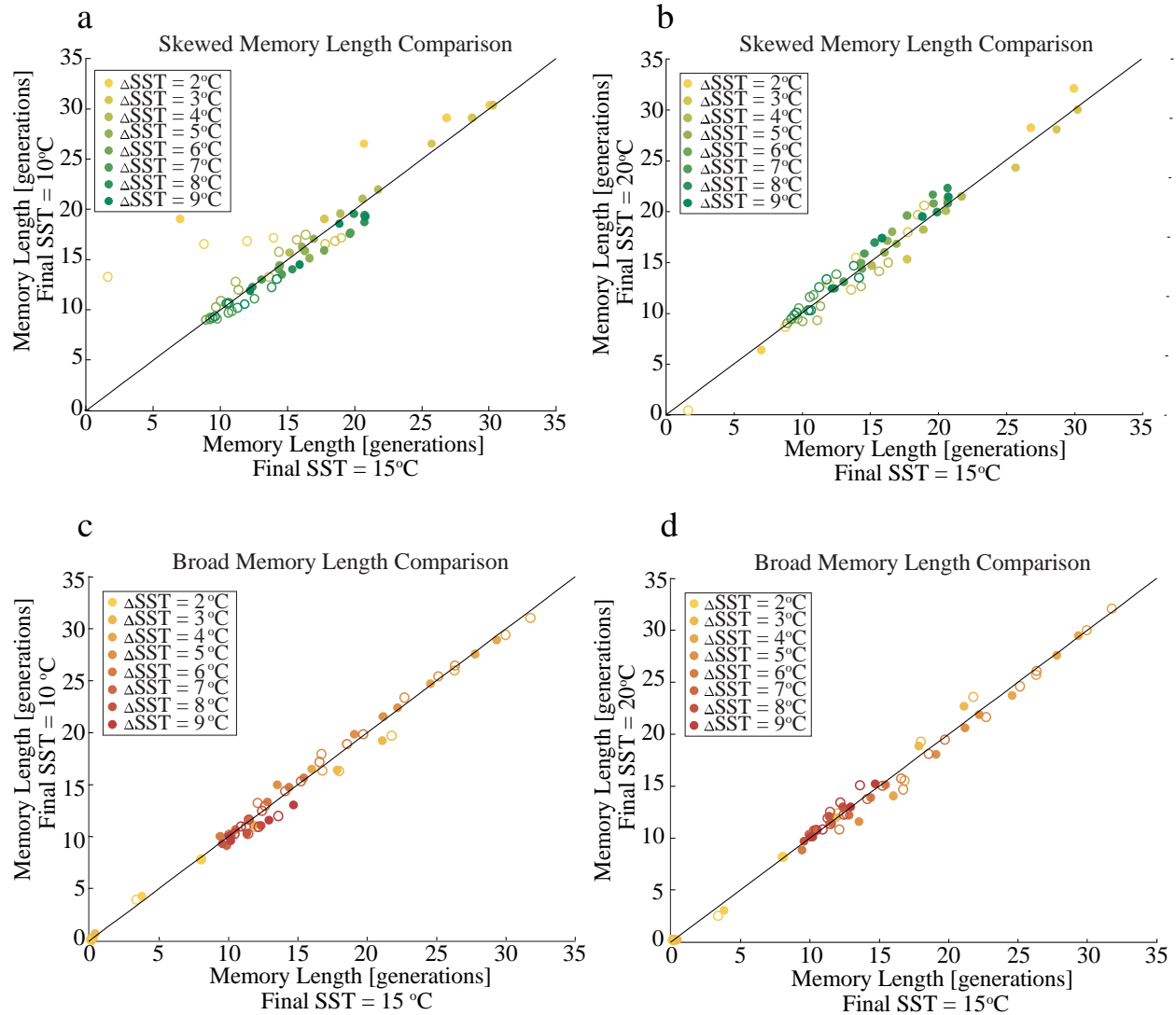


Figure S3. The impact of final SST on memory length. The results from the simulations in the main text are compared to simulations with final SSTs of 10°C (a,c) and 20°C (b,d) for both the skewed (top row) and broad (bottom row) shaped reaction norms. Open data points represent decreasing  $\Delta$ SSTs and filled in data are increasing  $\Delta$ SSTs. The black line is the 1-1 line. There is no statistical difference between simulations with differing final SSTs (95% CI).

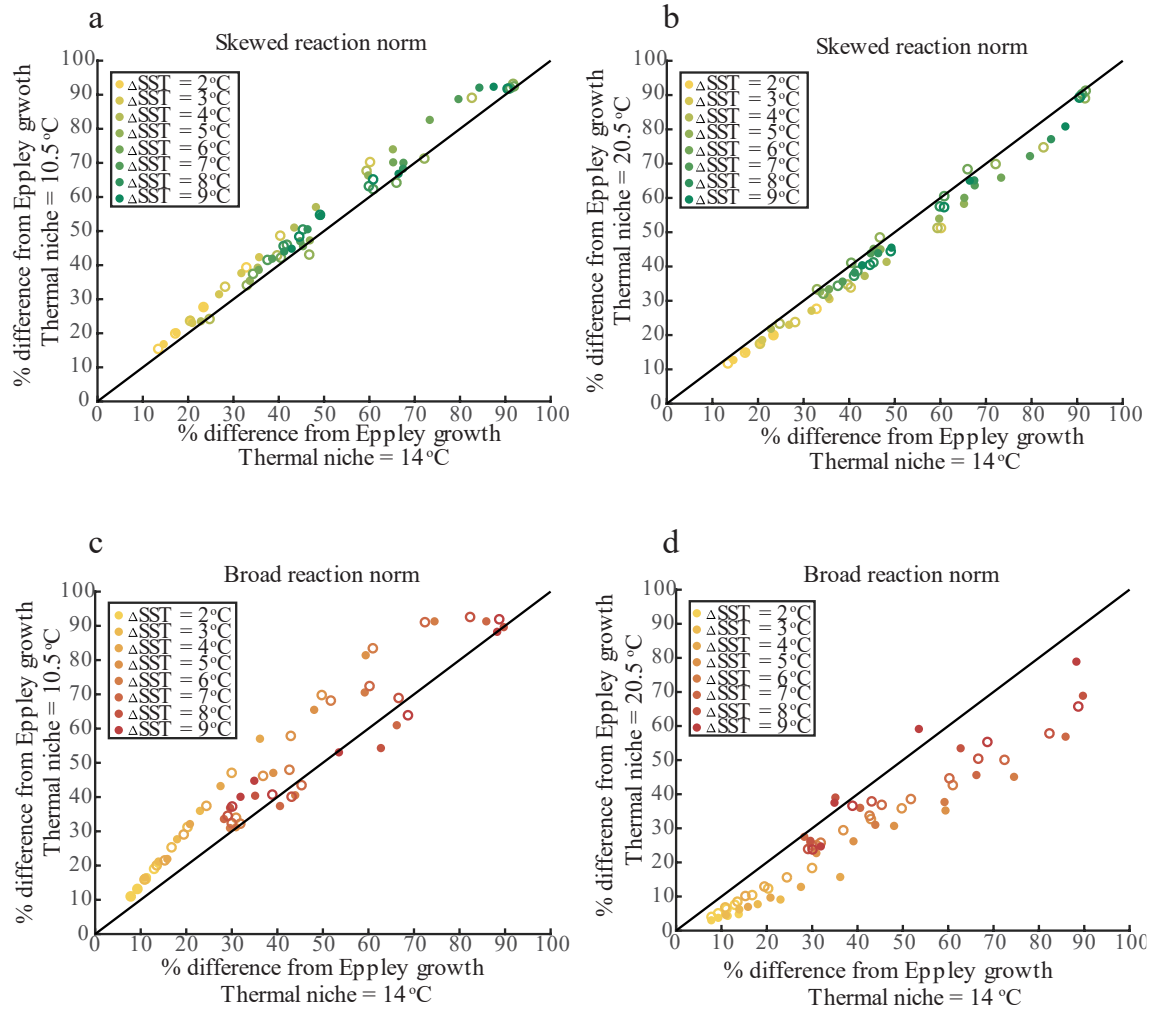
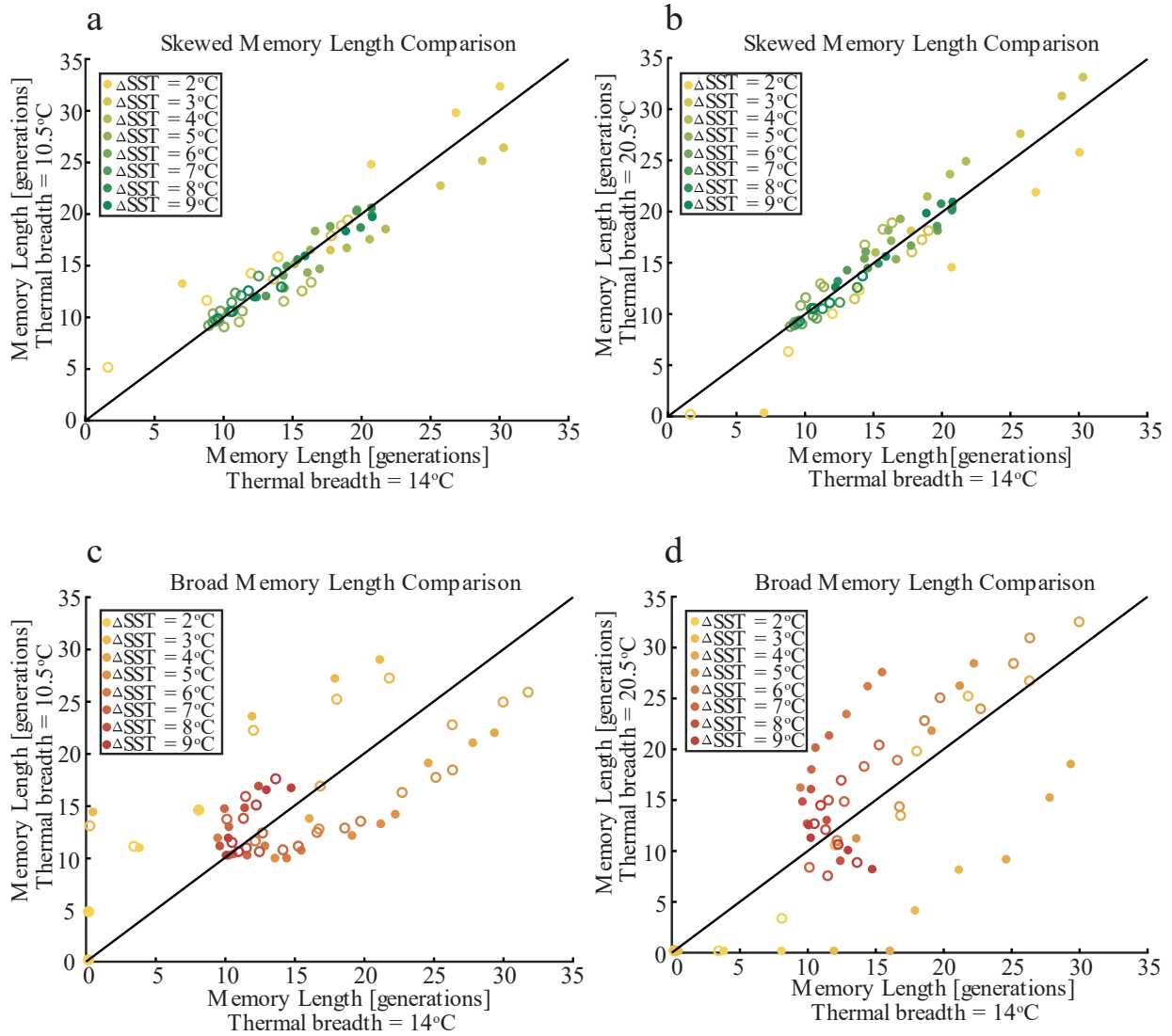


Figure S4. The impact of reaction norm width on percent difference from the Eppley growth model. The results from the simulations in the main text are compared to simulations with narrower (a,c) and wider (b,d) reaction norms for both the skewed (top row) and broad (bottom row) shaped reaction norms. The black line is the 1-1 line. Closed data points represent increasing  $\Delta SST$ s and open circles represent decreasing  $\Delta SST$ s. For broad reaction norms, increasing the reaction norm width increases the difference between the phenotype model and the Eppley growth model. There was no significant difference between the simulations for skewed reaction norms.



279

280 Figure S5. The impact of reaction norm width on memory length. The results from the  
 281 simulations in the main text are compared to simulations with narrower (left column) and wider  
 282 (right column) reaction norm widths for both the skewed (top row) and broad (bottom row)  
 283 shaped reaction norms. The black line is the 1-1 line. Closed data points represent increasing  
 284  $\Delta\text{SST}$ s and open circles represent decreasing  $\Delta\text{SST}$ s. Broad reaction norms are most affected by  
 285 reaction norm width, but increasing the reaction norm width had a significant (95% CI) impact  
 286 on the memory length for the skewed reaction norms as well. For small  $\Delta\text{SST}$ s (2-3°C), narrower  
 287 reaction norms have longer memory lengths. When  $\Delta\text{SST}$ s are large (8-9°C), the memory length  
 288 is shorter for communities with more narrow reaction norms. For moderate  $\Delta\text{SST}$  changes, (4-  
 289 6°C), the width of the reaction norm has minimal impact on the memory length. The memory  
 290 lengths associated with moderate  $\Delta\text{SST}$ s are typically the longest memory lengths, just as in the  
 291 main text.

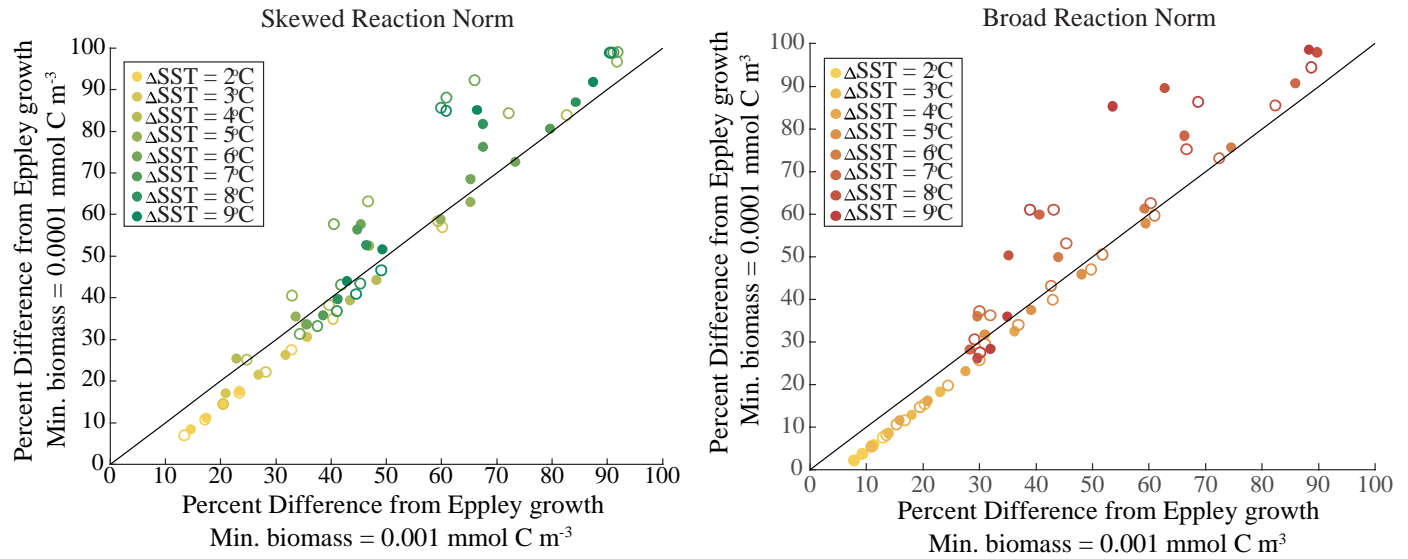


Figure S6. The impact of minimum biomass on deviation from  $Q_{10}$ . The results from the simulations in the main text (x-axis) are compared to simulations with an order of magnitude smaller minimum biomass for both skewed (left) and broad (right) shaped reaction norms. The black line is the 1-1 line. Filled in data points represent increasing  $\Delta$ SSTs and open data points are decreasing  $\Delta$ SSTs. The minimum biomass impact is significant at the 95% CI with an average increase in offset from  $Q_{10}$ , for both reaction norm shapes.

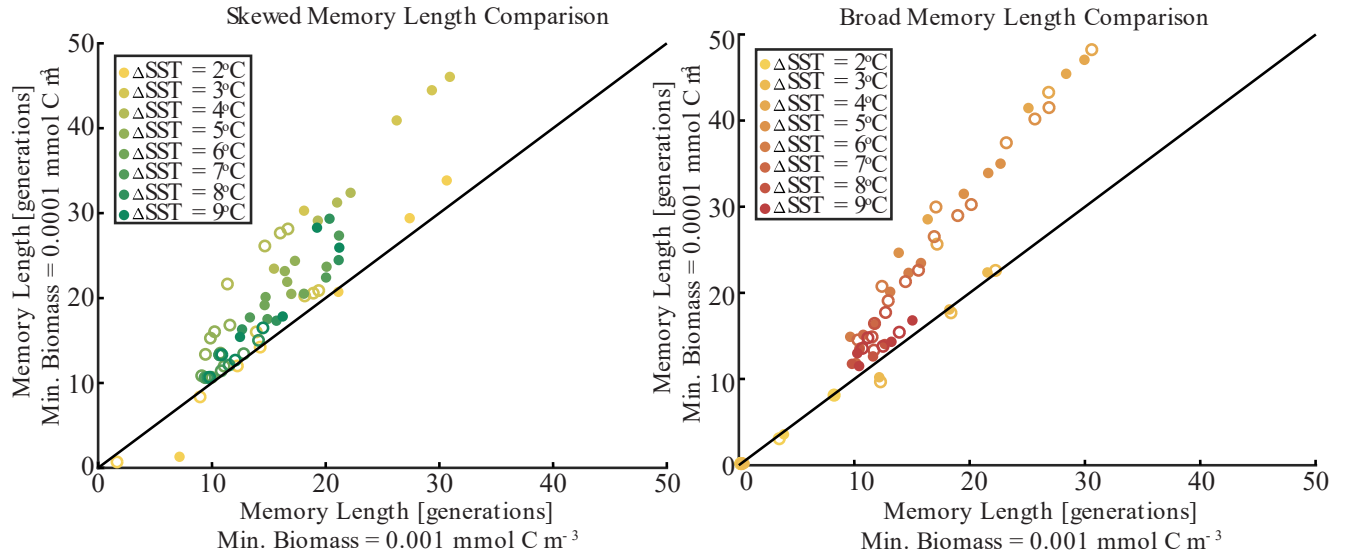
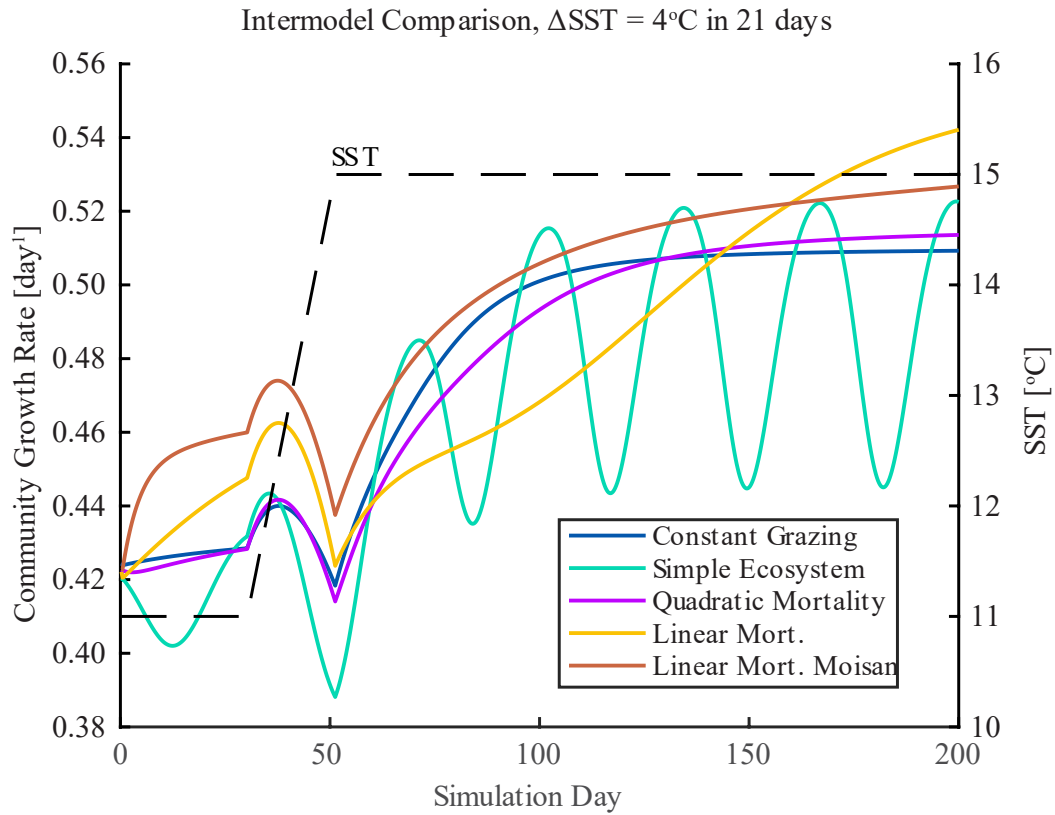


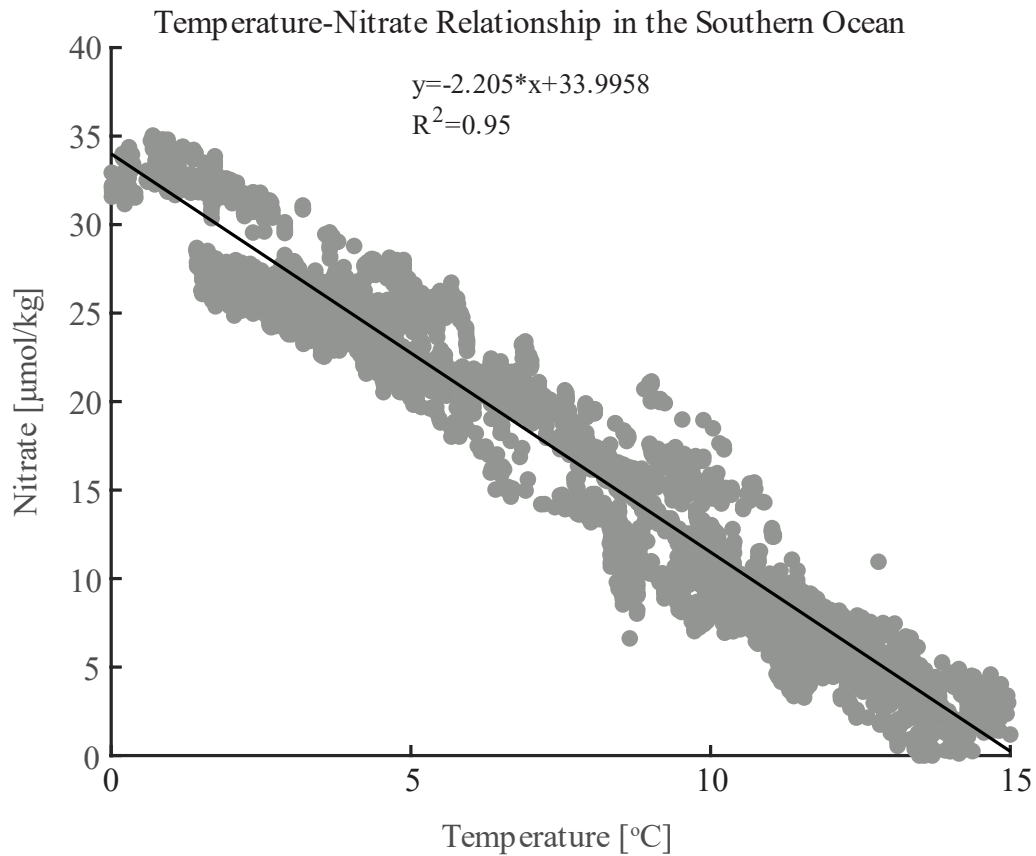
Figure S7. The impact of minimum biomass on memory length. The results from the simulations in the main text (x-axis) are compared to simulations with an order of magnitude smaller minimum biomass for both skewed (left) and broad (right) shaped reaction norms. The black line is the 1-1 line. Filled in data points represent increasing  $\Delta$ SSTs and open data points are decreasing  $\Delta$ SSTs. The minimum biomass impact is significant at the 95% CI with an average increase in memory length for both reaction norm shapes. However, the pattern of moderate  $\Delta$ SSTs exhibiting the longest memory effects were robust across all simulations.



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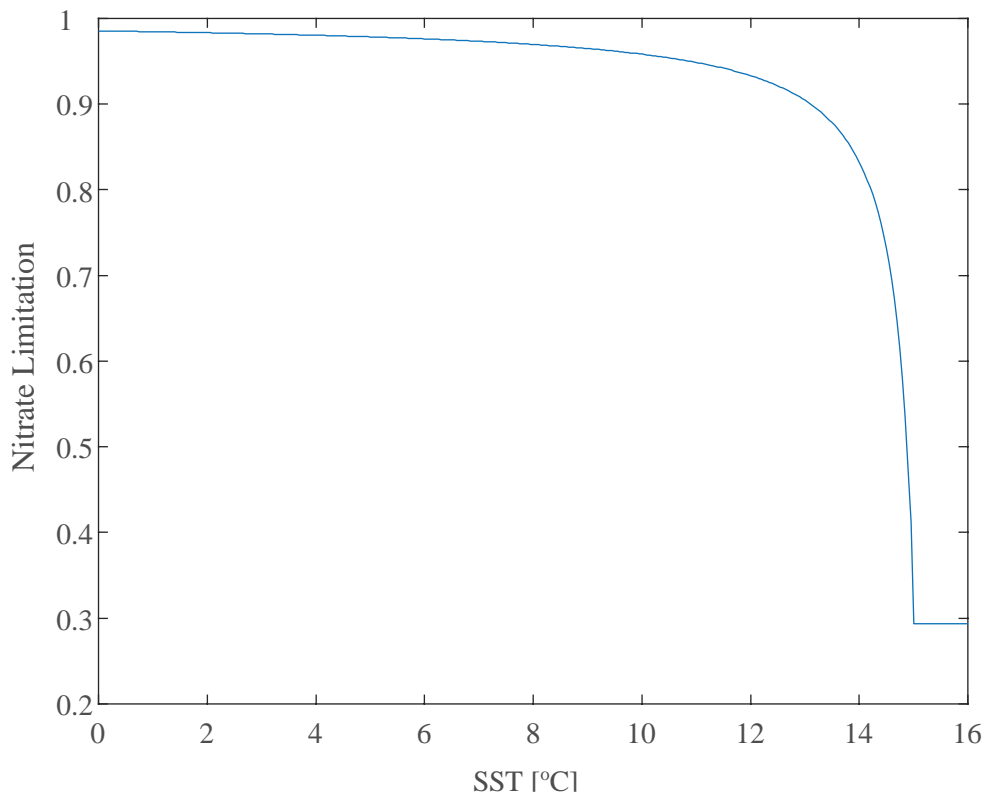
308 Figure S8. Comparison between different ecosystem model results for community growth for an  
 309 idealized simulation with an increase of 4 °C over 21 days. For community growth rates, all  
 310 models show similar qualitative results indicating a decrease in growth rate over the transient  
 311 conditions culminating in a growth rate minimum when SSTs stabilize.





312

313 Figure S9. Nitrate-temperature relationship. Relationship between temperature and nitrate in the  
314 Southern Ocean as measured by Bio-ARGO floats. Data was collected from the Southern Ocean  
315 Carbon and Climate Observations and Modeling (SOCCOM) Project funded by National Science  
316 Foundation, Division of Polar Programs (NSF PLR -1425989), supplemented by NOAA and  
317 NASA.



318

319 Figure S10. Nitrate limitation versus temperature. Due to the non-linear relationship, for  
320 temperatures greater than 14°C, nitrate concentrations minimally impact growth rates. Once SST  
321 goes above 14°C, the limitation rapidly decreases to the minimum which results in large growth  
322 rate decreases.

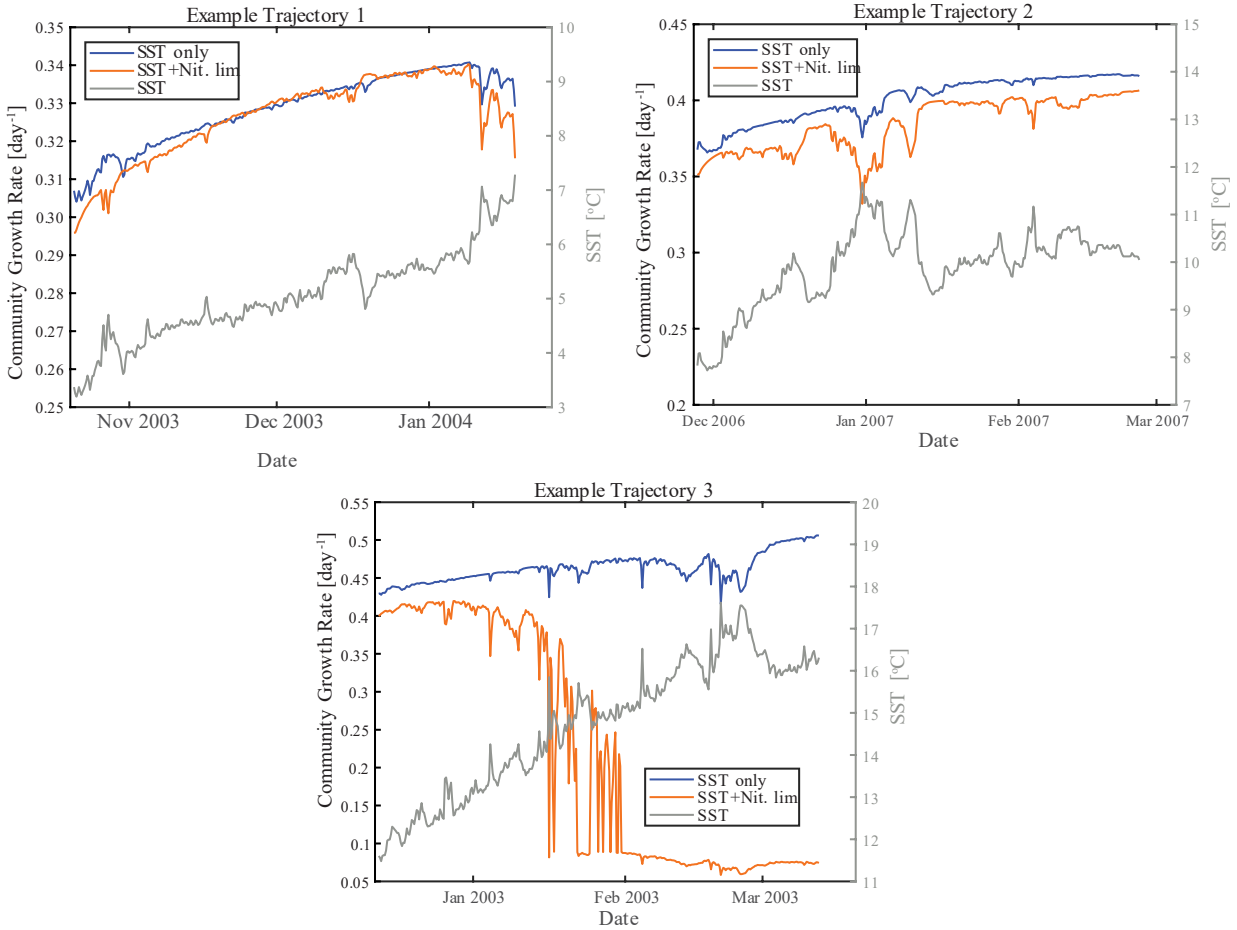
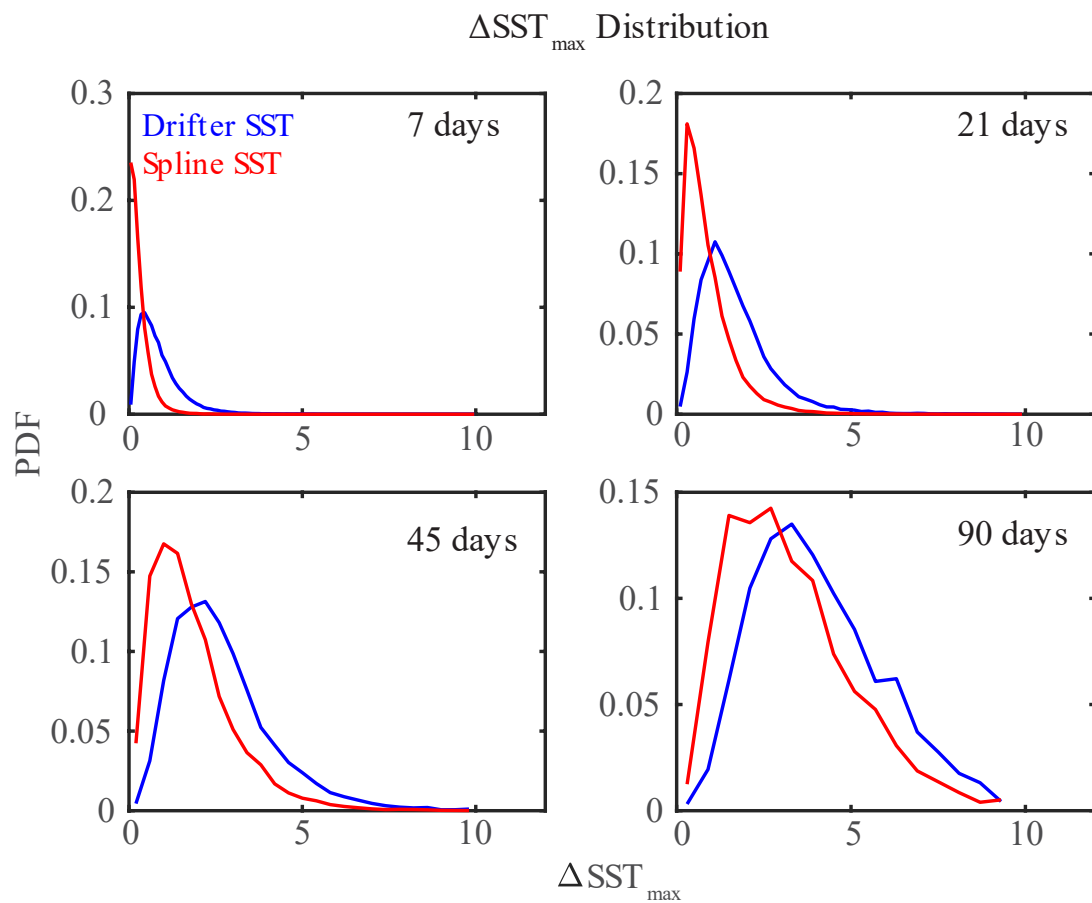


Figure S11. Examples of the impact of nitrate limitation on community growth rates. When SSTs are below 14°C, the growth rate with nitrate limitation and that without limitation are nearly identical (Example Trajectory 1). As growth rates approach 14°C, the growth rate dynamics become more variable but follow the same pattern as that with temperature only limitation (Example Trajectory 2). When SSTs exceed 14°C, the growth rate dynamics are muted due to lower overall growth rates but still mimic those of the temperature limited only growth rates (Example Trajectory 3).

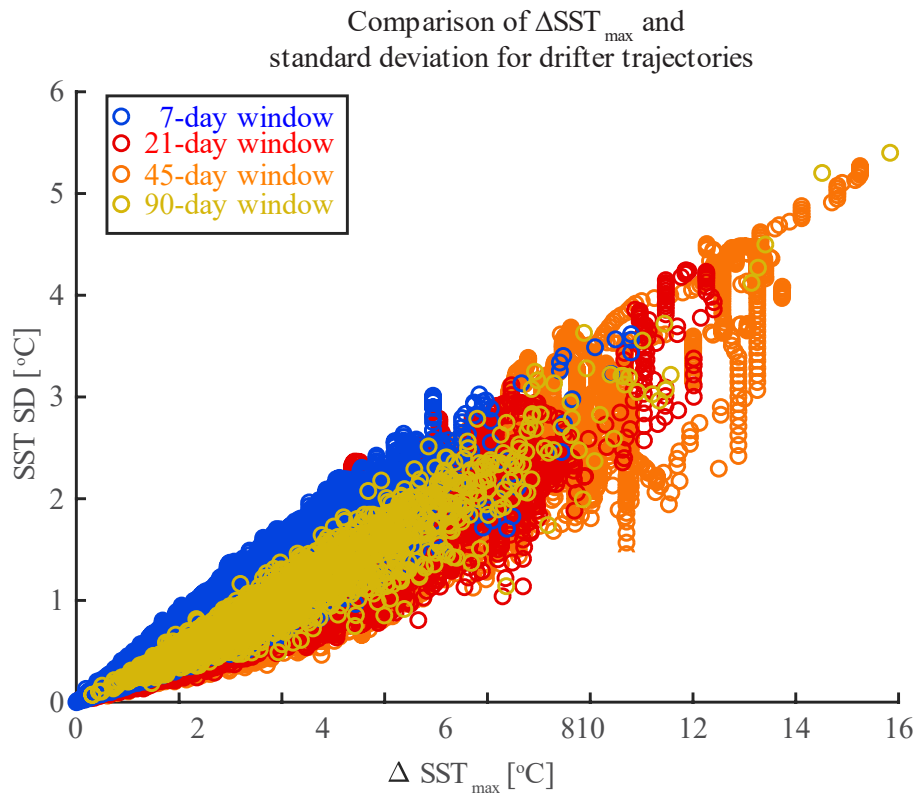
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332

333 Figure S12. Probability density functions of the absolute value of the maximum change in SST  
 334 over 7, 21, 45, and 90 days for the drifter trajectories (blue) and the smoothed splines of the  
 335 trajectory SSTs (red).

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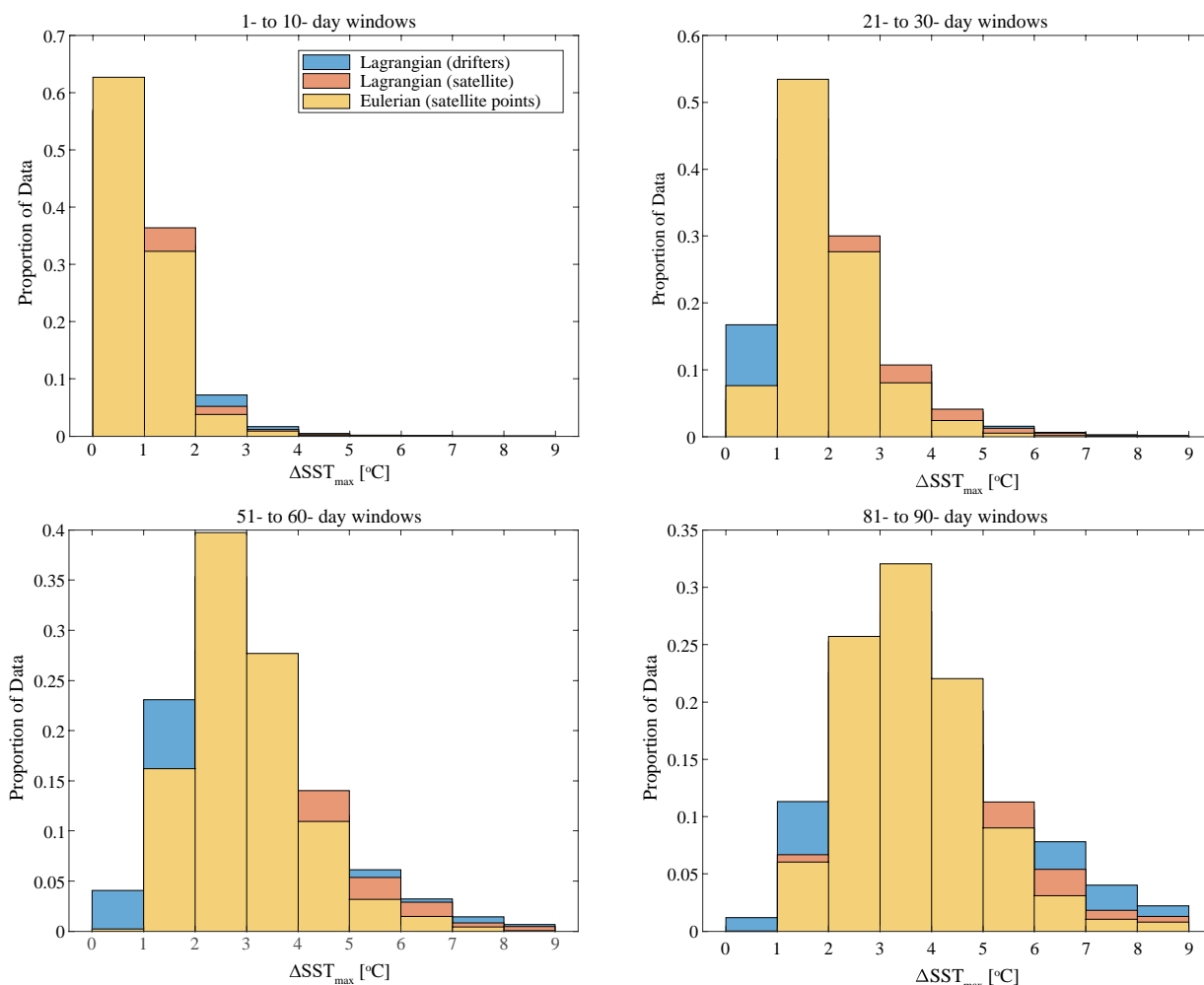
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338 Figure S13. The standard deviation ( $1\sigma$ ) as a function of  $\Delta \text{SST}_{\text{max}}$  over different  $\Delta t_{\text{max}}$  windows.

339  $\Delta \text{SST}_{\text{max}}$  drives the variability across the  $\Delta t_{\text{max}}$  window lengths.

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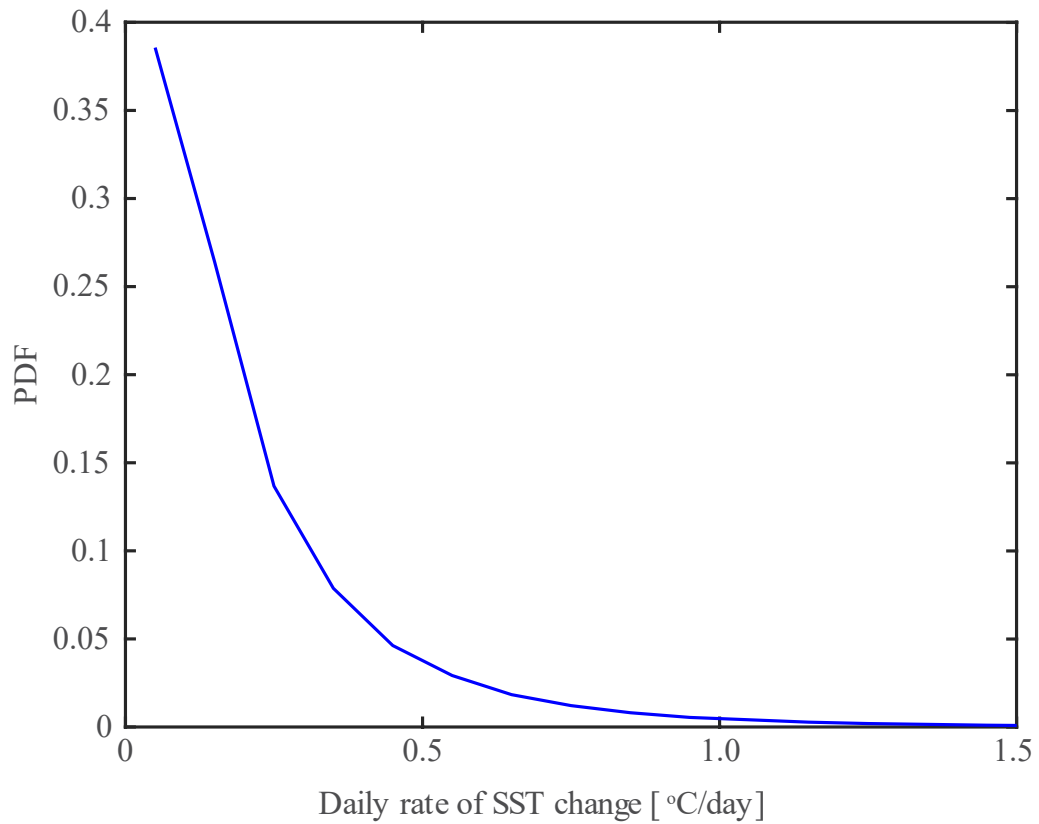
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342

343 Figure S14. Results from SST variability analyses for the drifter (left) and satellite trajectories  
 344 (right) showing most common SST changes for each time window. Data are presented as total  
 345 percent of data that fall within that  $\Delta SST$  bin for the window length. Each row sums to 100%.  
 346 Although the magnitudes of variability are similar, the nature of that variability is different with  
 347 the Lagrangian reference frame experiencing more variability consistent with longer memory  
 348 effects.

349



350

351 Figure S15. Daily rates of SST change for drifter trajectories. The rates of change were  
352 calculated as the range of the recorded SST values over a 1-day moving window for a total of  $n =$   
353 781,749 data points for 197,100 days.

354

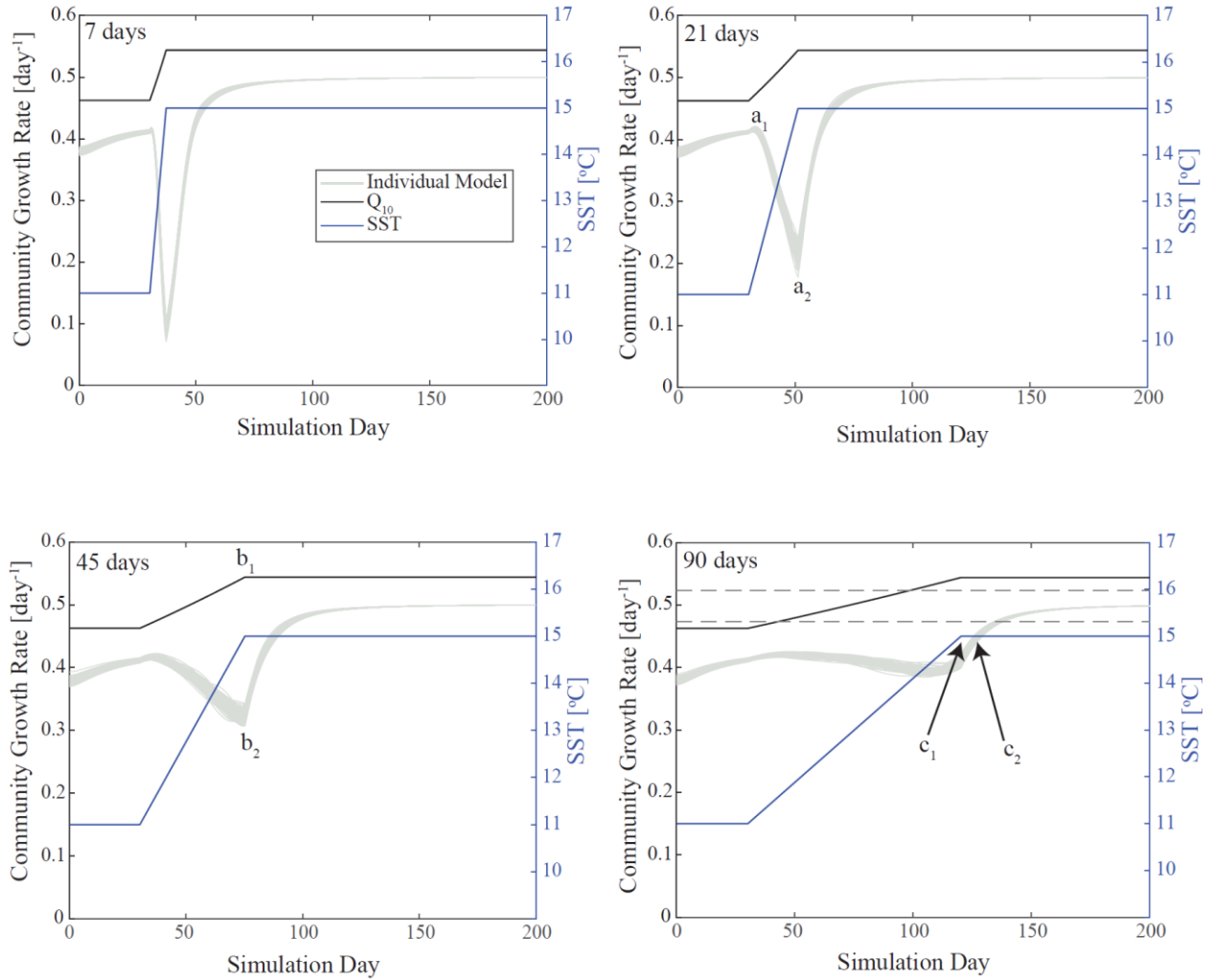


Figure S16. Community growth rates for each of the 100 simulations (grey lines) for an increase of 4°C over 7, 21, 45, and 90 days for skewed shaped reaction norms. The black line is the  $Q_{10}$  simulated community growth rate and the blue line is the SST profile for the simulation. The locations marked  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  in the 21-day panel represent the timesteps used to calculate the percent change in growth rate associated with transient SSTs as shown in Figures 2b. This metric was calculated as  $(a_1 - a_2) \cdot 100 / a_1$ . The locations marked  $b_1$  and  $b_2$  in the 45-day panel represent the timesteps used to calculate the percent difference in growth rates between the  $Q_{10}$  parameterized growth and the phenotype model as shown in Figure 2c, S11. This metric was calculated as  $(b_1 - b_2) \cdot 100 / b_1$ . The locations marked  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  in the 90-day panel point to the timesteps used to calculate the memory length. The dashed grey lines represent  $\pm 5\%$  of the final, stabilized community growth rate which was used as the threshold for the memory effect which was defined as the time in days between  $c_1$  when SSTs stabilize and  $c_2$  when the community growth rate crosses the threshold.



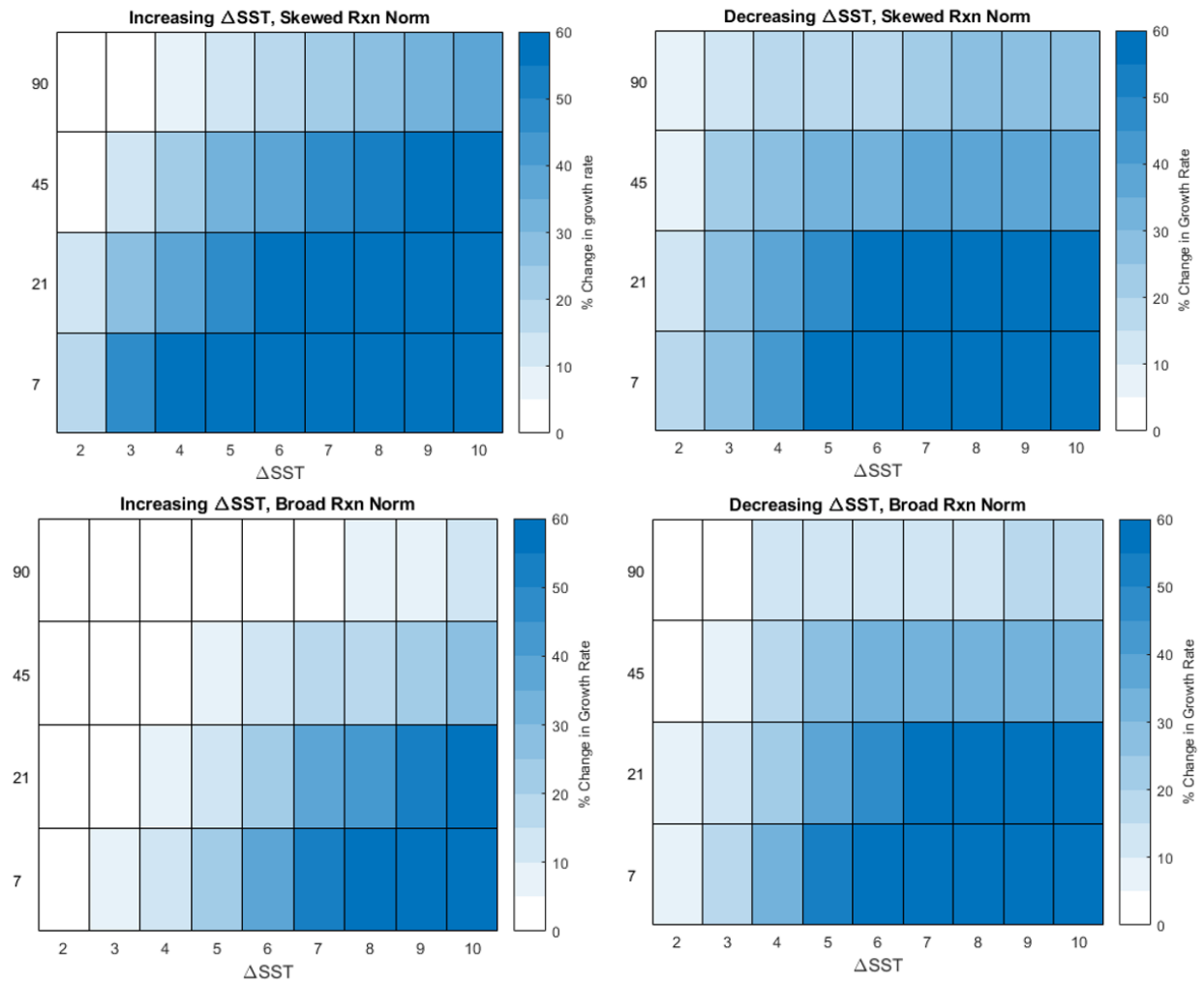


Figure S17. Full results for the change in growth rate in the idealized simulations for the skewed shaped reaction norms (top row) and the broad shaped reaction norms (bottom row) under both increasing SSTs (left column) and decreasing SSTs (right column).

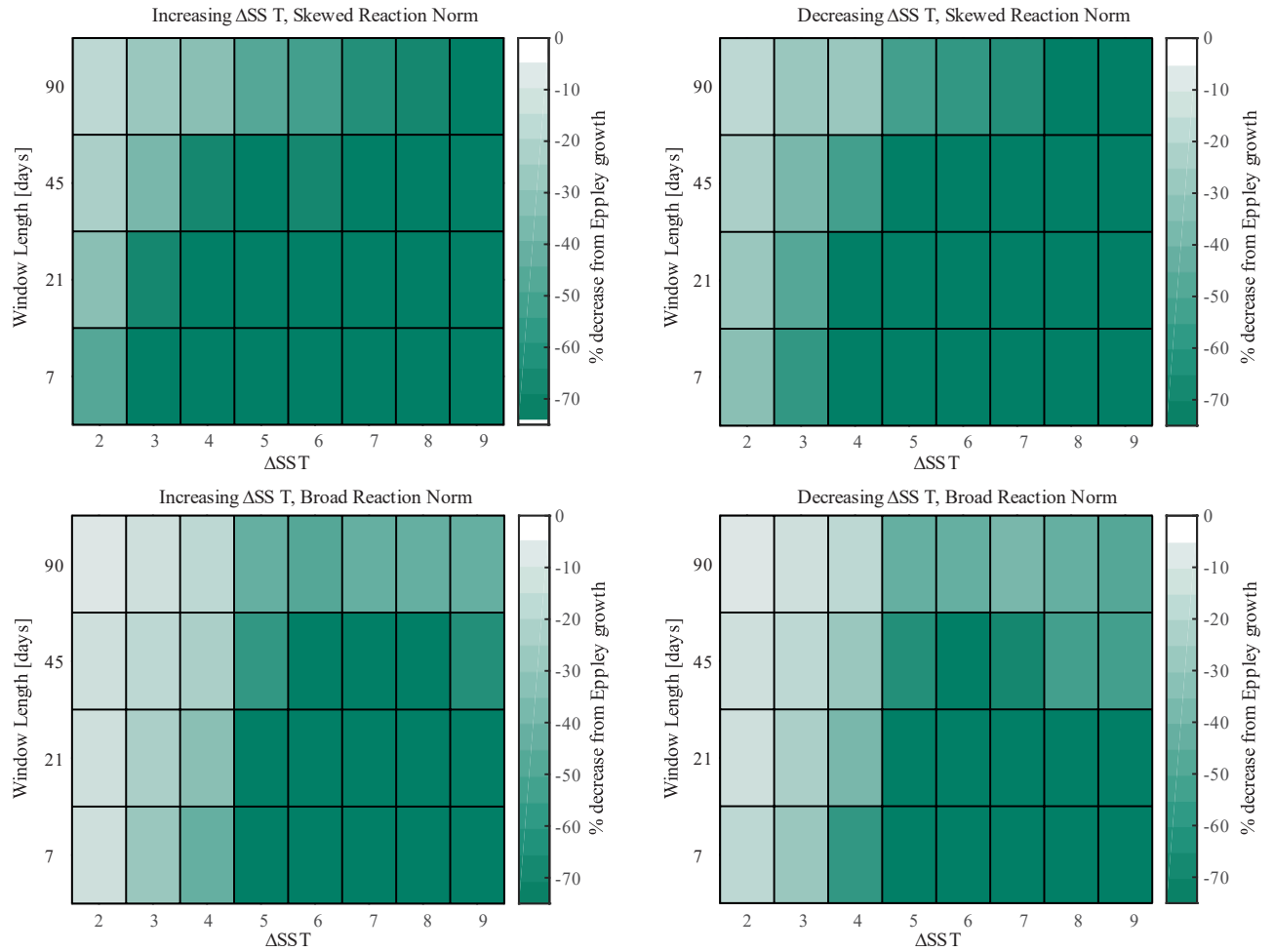


Figure S18. Full results for the percent difference from the Eppley growth approximation at the timestep when SSTs stabilize in the idealized simulations for the skewed shaped reaction norms (top row) and the broad shaped reaction norms (bottom row) under both increasing SSTs (left column) and decreasing SSTs (right column).

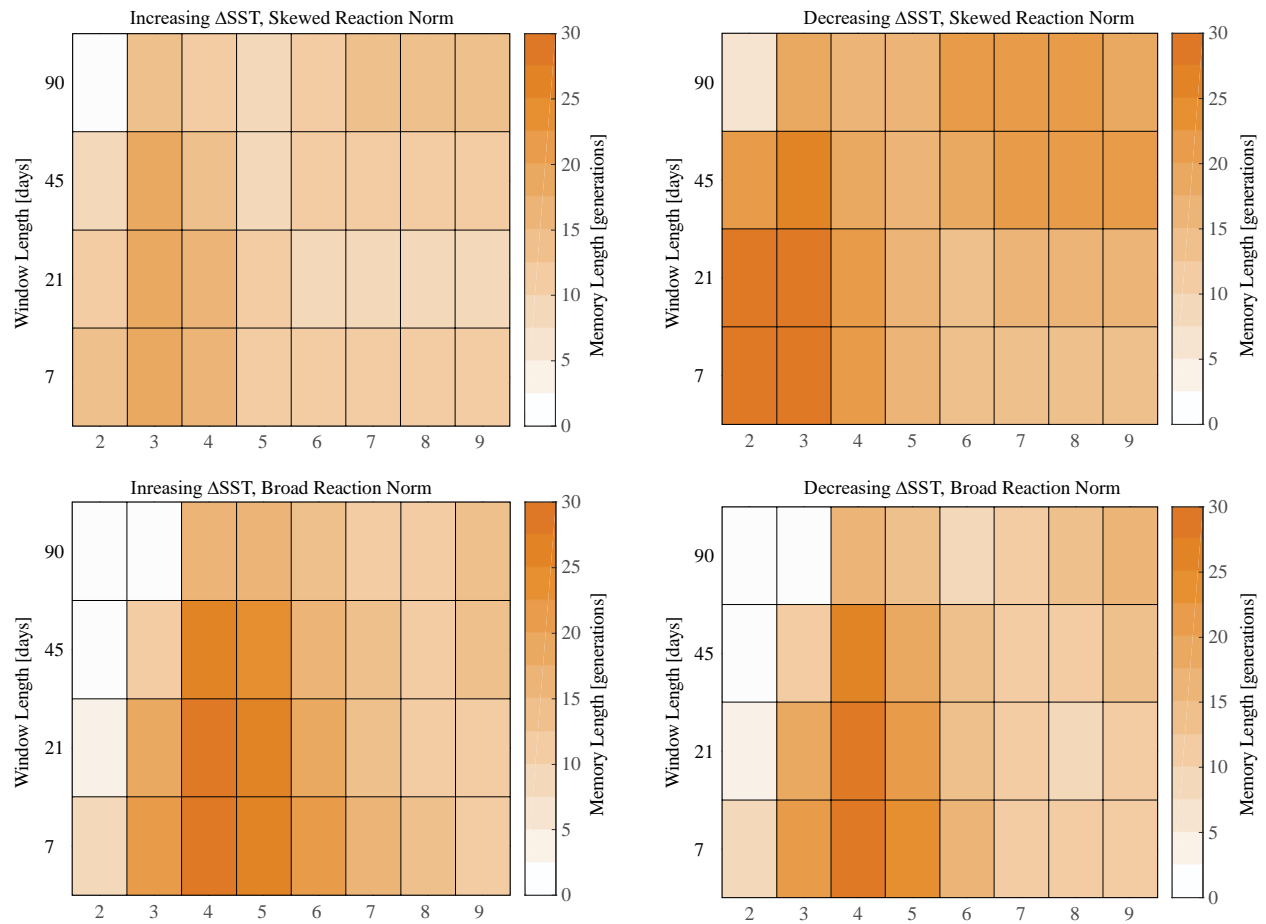


Figure S19 Full results for the length of the memory effect in the idealized simulations for the skewed shaped reaction norms (top row) and the broad shaped reaction norms (bottom row) under both increasing SSTs (left column) and decreasing SSTs (right column).

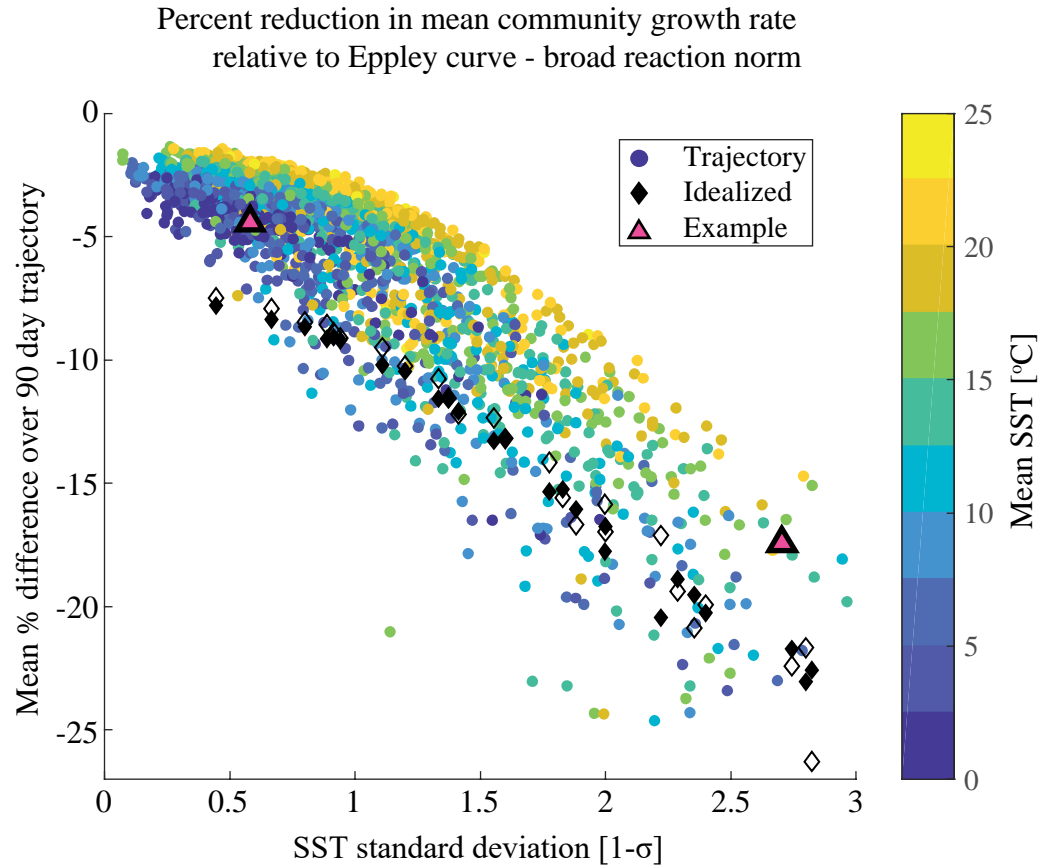


Figure S20. The 90-day average percent difference between community growth rates determined via the  $Q_{10}$  method and the phenotype-based model versus standard deviation ( $1\sigma$ ) of SST over the 90-day trajectory. Drifter data are represented by circles colored according to their mean SST. Black diamonds represent the first 90 days of the idealized trajectories; filled diamonds are the idealized trajectories for which SSTs increase and open black diamonds are idealized trajectories with decreasing SSTs. Pink triangles represent the two example trajectories from Figure 1 in the main text.

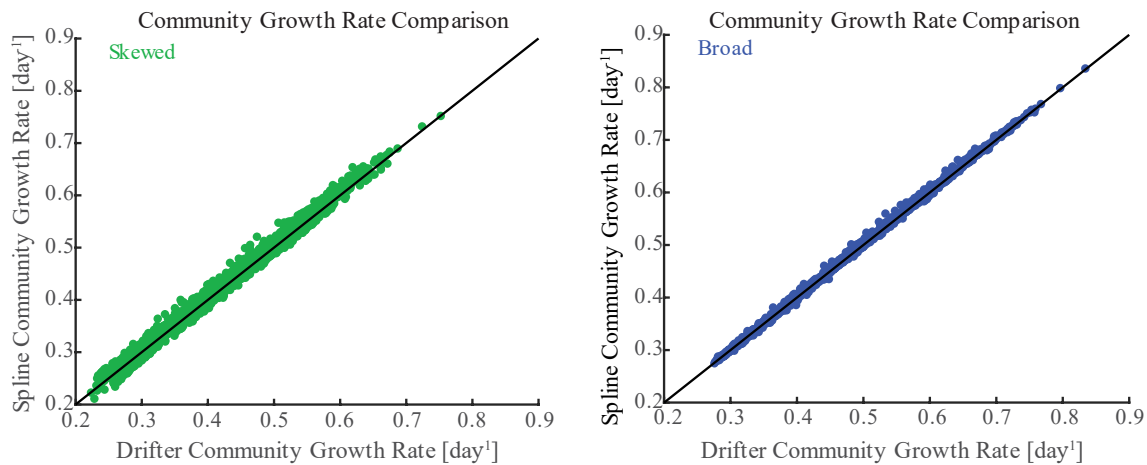
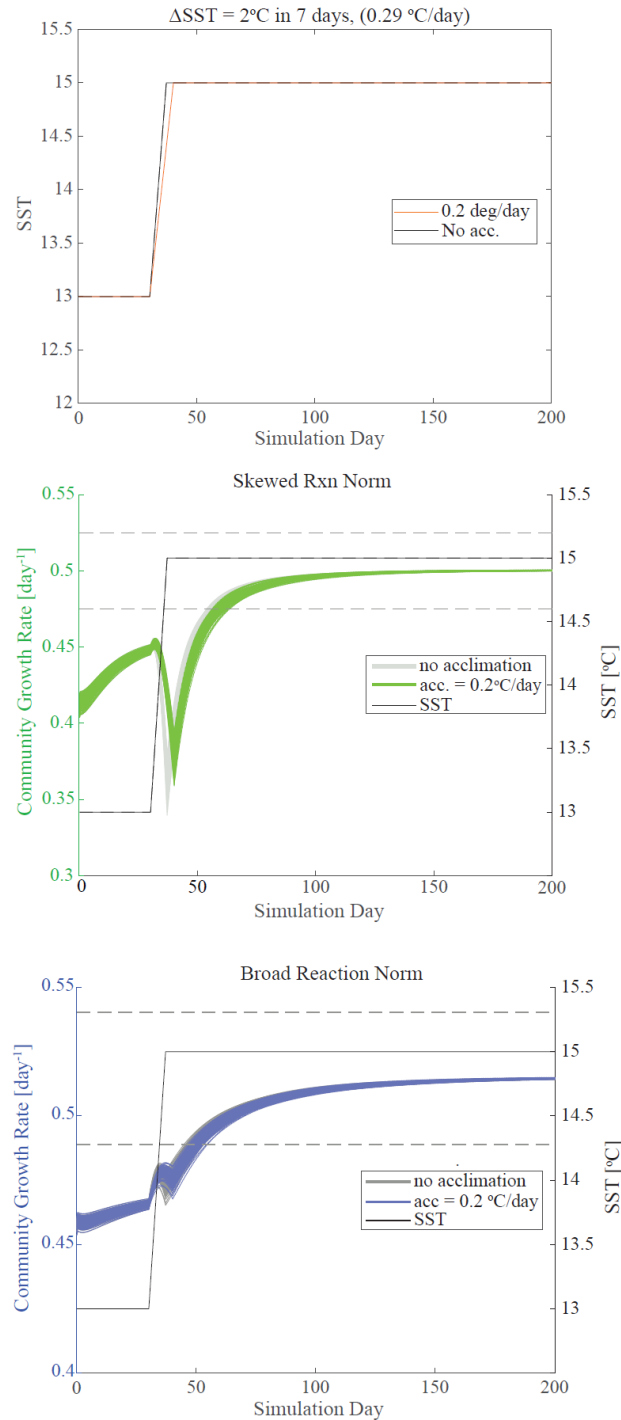


Figure S21. Comparison of mean community growth rate over the entire 90-day trajectory for the real trajectories and their spline simulations for skewed (left) and broad (right) shaped reaction norms. With each reaction norm shape, smoothing the small-scale noise did not impact overall biomass-weighted community growth rates (95% CI, t-test) further supporting that small-scale noise does not induce a memory effect.



405

406 Figure S22. Example of impact of acclimation. (Top) Example idealized SST trajectory of  
 407 changing 2 °C in 7 days with acclimation rates of 0.2 °C day<sup>-1</sup> and 0.3°C day<sup>-1</sup>. Other acclimation  
 408 rates not shown as they plot along the No Acclimation line because those rates are faster than the  
 409 rate of change. (Middle) Community growth rates for skewed reaction norms over each of the  
 410 simulations for the no acclimation simulations (grey lines) and the simulations with an  
 411 acclimation rate of 0.2°C day<sup>-1</sup> (green lines). Dashed lines represent the thresholds used to  
 412 calculate the memory length. (Bottom) Same as the middle panel but for broad reaction norms.

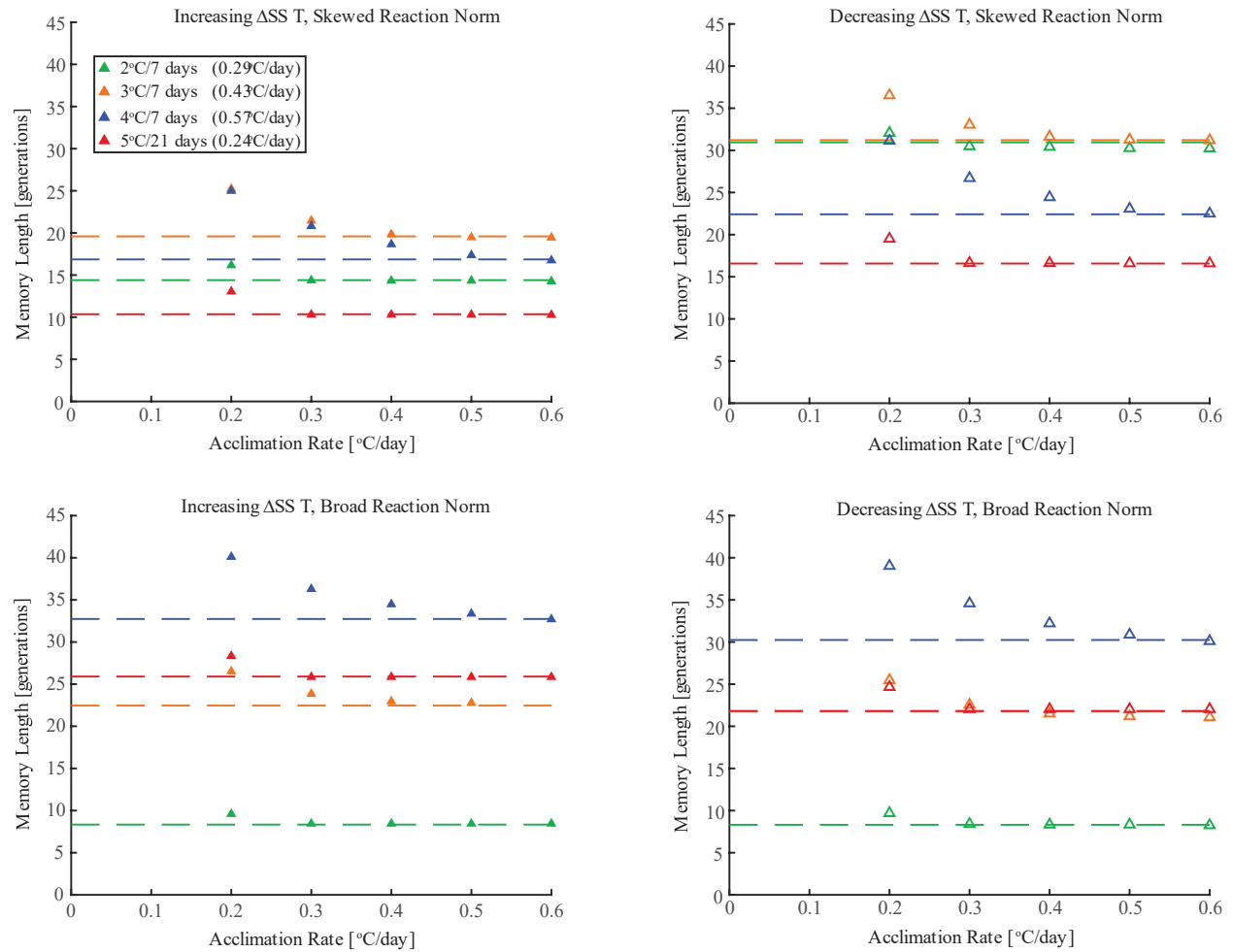


Figure S23. Impact of acclimation on memory length on the skewed reaction norms (top row) and the broad reaction norms (bottom row) in both the increasing (left column) and decreasing (right column)  $\Delta$ SST directions. Dashed lines represent the memory lengths calculated for the simulations that did not incorporate acclimation. When acclimation rates are greater than or equal to the rate of SST change, there is no difference between the simulations that incorporated acclimation and those that did not.

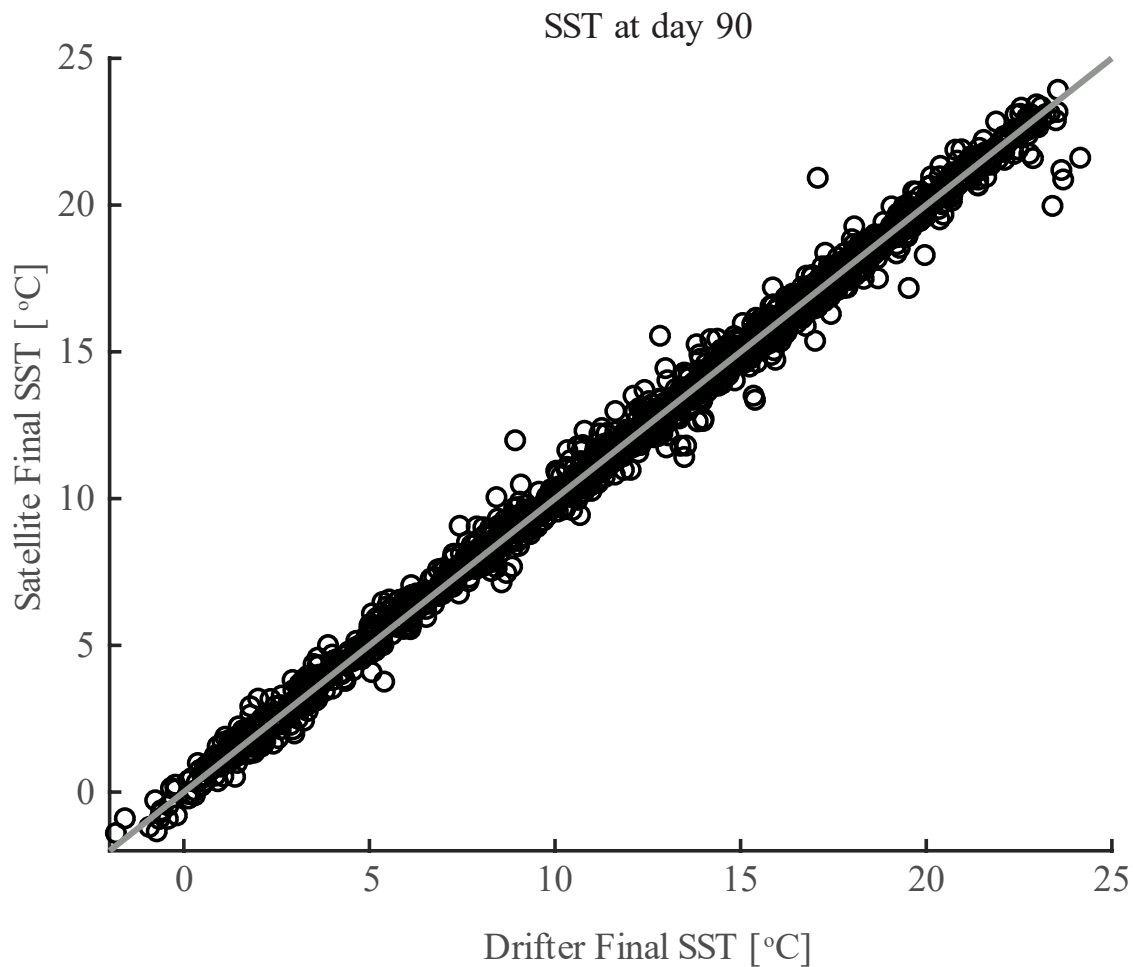


Figure S24. Comparison of the final SST for the drifter and the satellite data. The data from both sources represent the same location in space and time so the data should be similar and in fact, are not statistically different from one another (ttest, 95% CI). The grey line represents the 1-1 line.



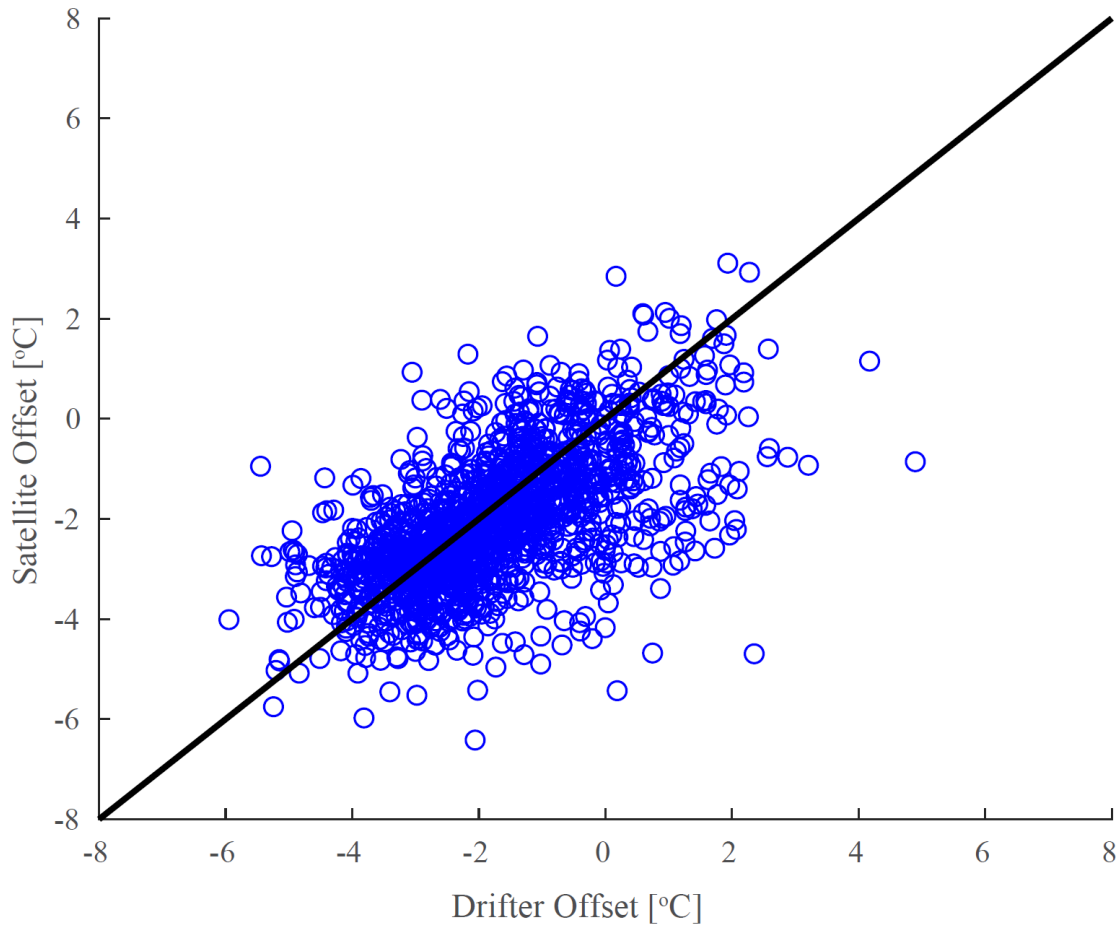
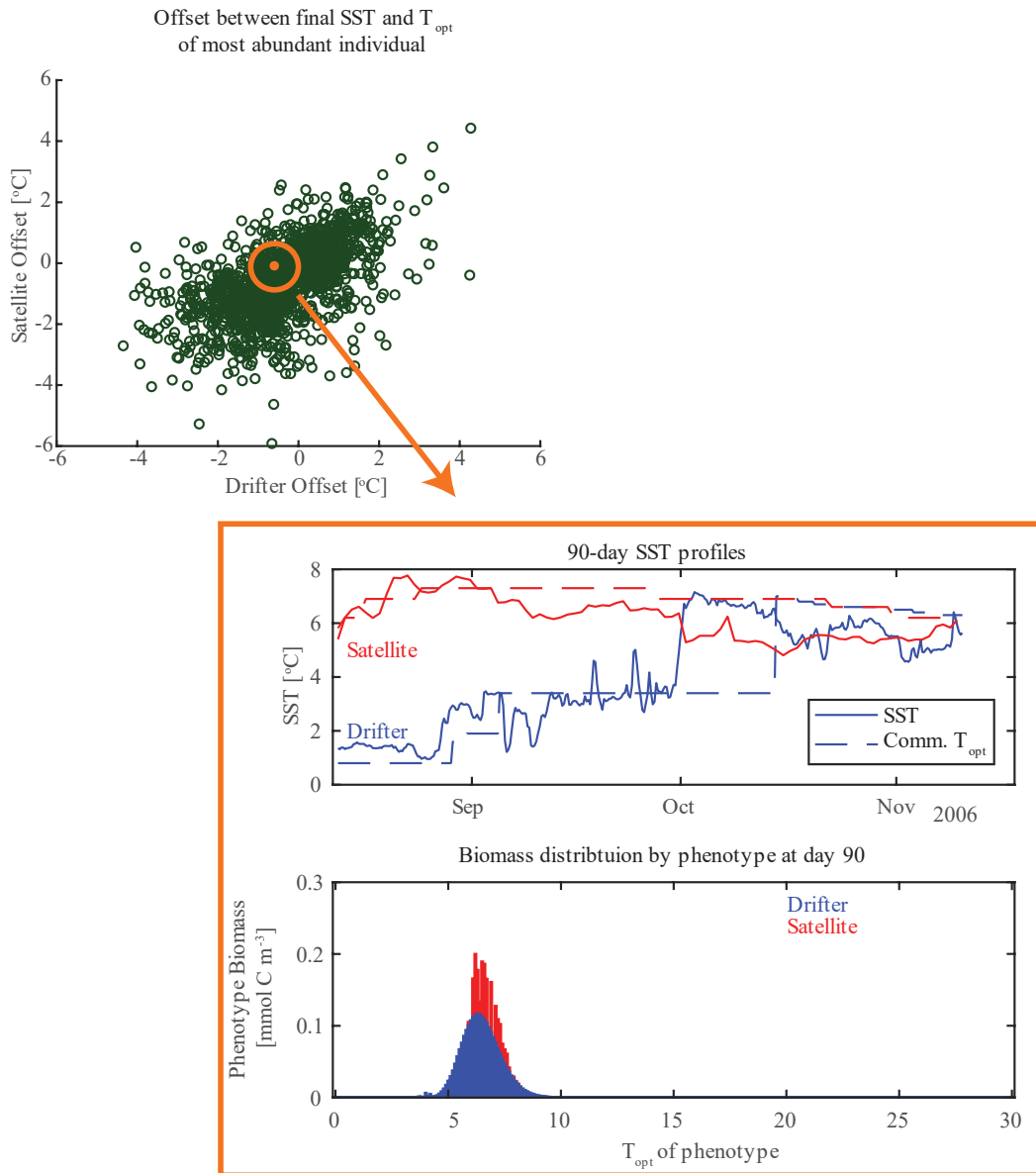


Figure S25. Same as Figure 4 in the main text but for broad shaped reaction norms. The impact of Lagrangian and Eulerian variability on community composition. Here we plot the difference between the T<sub>opt</sub> of the most abundant phenotype at the end of each 90-day trajectory and the final SST for the drifter trajectory (x-axis) and the satellite data (y-axis). The final SSTs for the drifter and satellite data are statistically identical (t-test, 95% CI). Therefore, deviations from the 1:1 line demonstrate the impact of a Lagrangian versus Eulerian reference frame on community composition.



448

449 Figure S26. The impact of SST variability on community composition. (Top) An example 90-  
 450 day drifter trajectory and the satellite SST data for the final location of the drifter over the same  
 451 90 days shown as solid lines. The dashed lines are the  $T_{opt}$  of the most abundant phenotype at  
 452 each timestep. (Bottom) The biomass of each phenotype with a skewed shaped reaction norms at  
 453 day 90 for the satellite and drifter trajectories. In this example, the offset between the final SST  
 454 is  $-0.60^{\circ}\text{C}$  for the drifter and  $-0.09^{\circ}\text{C}$  for the satellite data. The difference in the magnitude of the  
 455 offset between the two data sets represents the difference in the variability of the SSTs.  
 456 However, in this example, the satellite SSTs stay relatively constant whereas the drifter SSTs  
 457 experience a rapid increase of  $3.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  in 4 days beginning Sept. 29. Because the drifter SSTs  
 458 remain relatively constant through the end of the 90 days, the community is able to adjust to the  
 459 new environment before the end of the simulation which results a community  $T_{opt}$  that reflects  
 460 the SSTs at day 90 for both the satellite and the drifters.

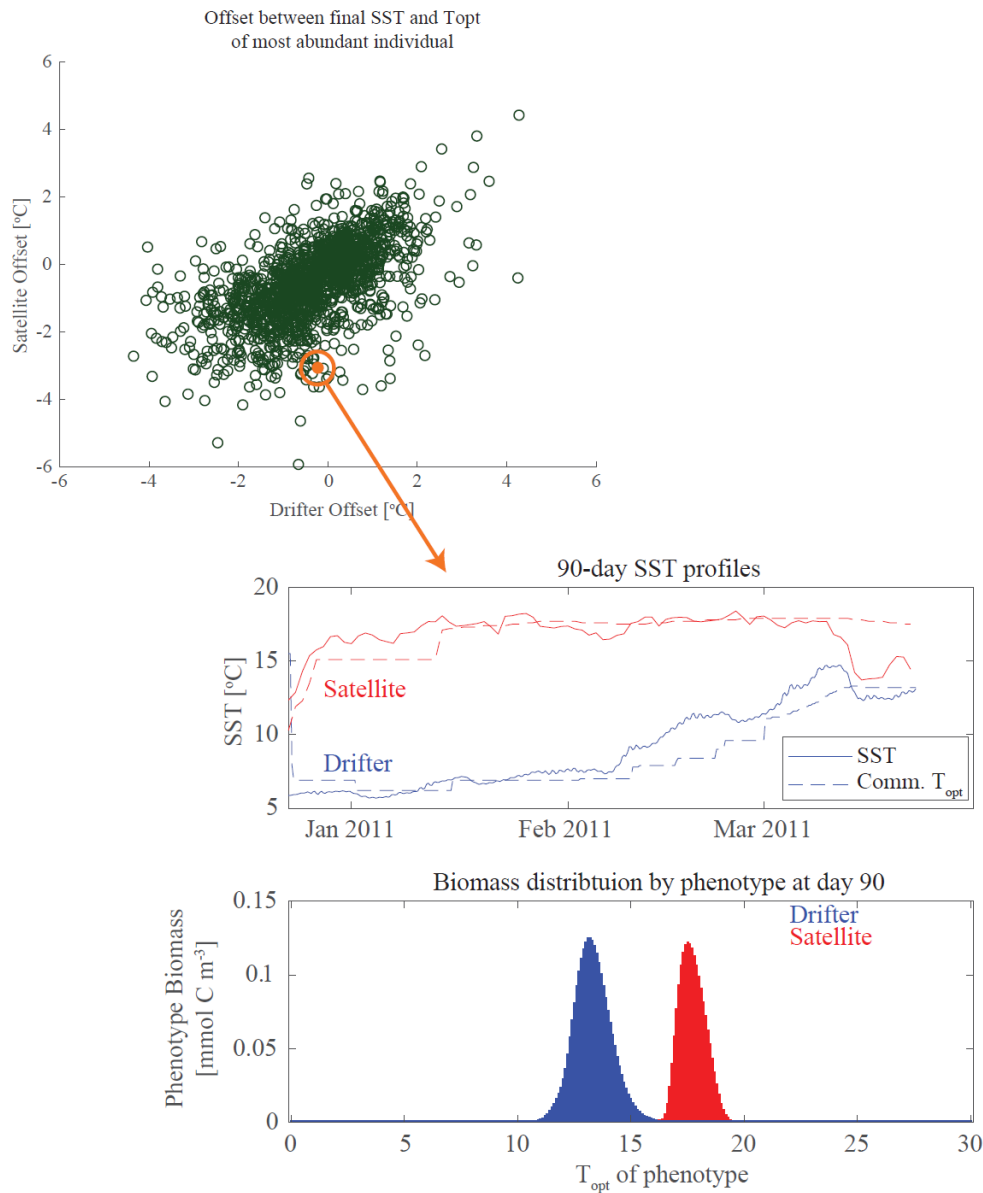


Figure S27. The impact of SST variability on community composition. (Top) An example 90-day drifter trajectory and the satellite SST data for the final location of the drifter over the same 90 days shown as solid lines. The dashed lines are the  $T_{opt}$  of the most abundant phenotype at each timestep. (Bottom) The biomass of each phenotype with a skewed shaped reaction norms at day 90 for the satellite and drifter trajectories. In this example, the offset between the final SST is  $-0.23^{\circ}\text{C}$  for the drifter and  $-3.1^{\circ}\text{C}$  for the satellite data. The difference in the magnitude of the offset between the two data sets represents the difference in the variability of the SSTs. Here, the drifter SSTs gradually increase over the 90 days which allows the community to continuously track the changes in SST whereas the satellite SSTs are relatively stable and then rapidly decrease from  $17.7^{\circ}\text{C}$  on March 10 to  $13.8^{\circ}\text{C}$  on March 17. Due to the long memory effect associated with this rate and magnitude of change, the community was not able to track the SST

change which resulted in a large offset between the final SST and the  $T_{opt}$  of the most abundant phenotype at day 90.

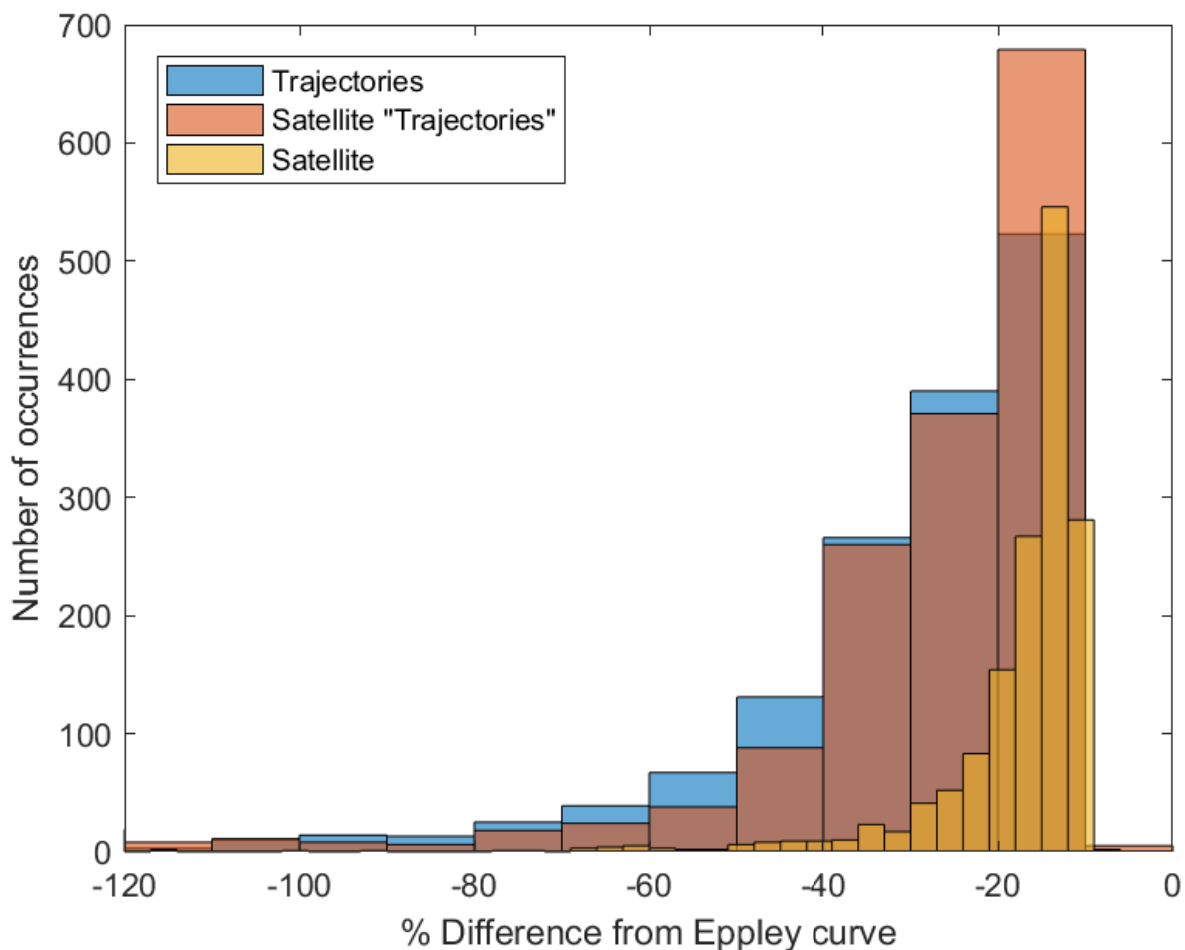
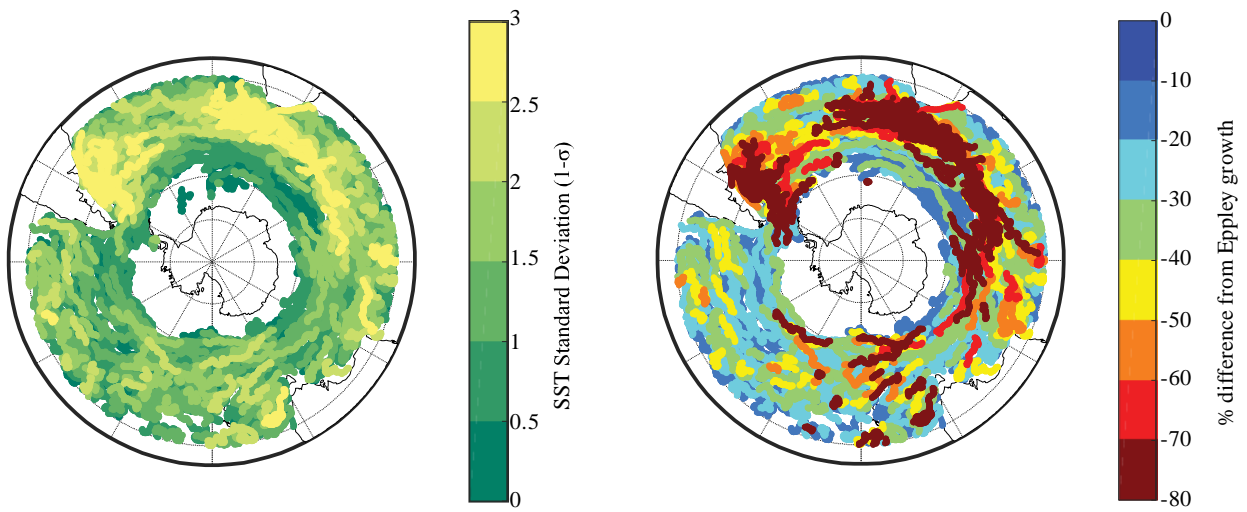


Figure S28. Percent reduction in community growth rate from the phenotype model from the Eppley growth model for the drifters, the satellite derived trajectories, and the satellite point data. In the Lagrangian reference frame (both sets of trajectories) the community growth rate from the phenotype model is lower than in the Eulerian reference frame (satellite point data) as a result of the different SST variability encountered in each reference frame.



483

484 Figure S29. Full drifter results from Figure 9 in the main text. This figure includes drifter  
 485 trajectories that do not overlap in time with the satellite data. The spatial patterns are the same as  
 486 in the main text.