

**Formulas**

*discrete time growth:*

- $N_T = N_0\lambda^T$
- $\lambda = f + p$
- $\mathcal{R} = f/(1 - p)$

*continuous time growth:*

- $N(t) = N(0) \exp(rt)$
- $r = b - d$
- $\mathcal{R} = b/d$

Use this information for the next two questions. A microbial population grows in a flask with discrete, non-overlapping generations (i.e., survival to next generation  $p = 0$ ), and finite rate of increase  $\lambda = 2$ . Its generation time is 1 day. The population takes 20 days to fill 100% of the flask.

1. How much of the flask is filled after 19 days?

- A. 5%
- B. 50%
- C. 67%
- D. 95%
- E. There is not enough information to tell

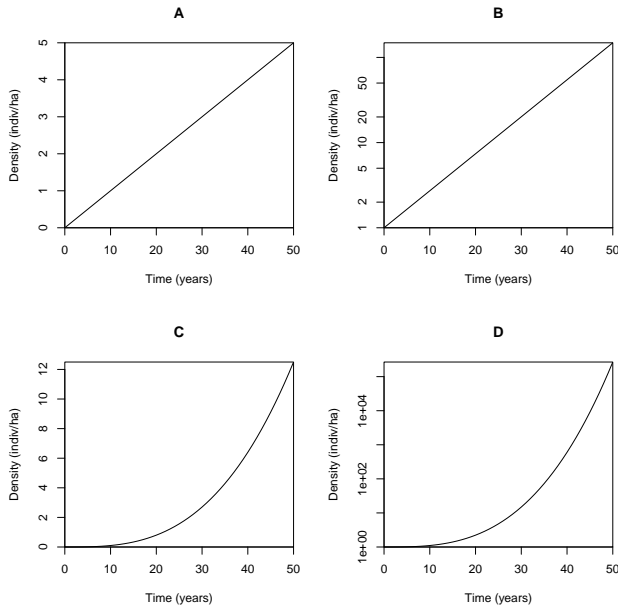
2. Which of the following *most* accurately describes the instantaneous growth rate  $r$  for this population?

- A.  $r < 0$
- B.  $r > 0$
- C.  $0 < r < 1$
- D.  $r > 1$
- E. There is not enough information to tell

3. Which of the following *most* accurately describes the reproductive number  $\mathcal{R}$  for this population?

- A.  $\mathcal{R} > 1$
- B.  $1 < \mathcal{R} < 2$
- C.  $\mathcal{R} = 2$
- D.  $\mathcal{R} > 2$
- E. There is not enough information to tell

4. The long-term average finite rate of growth  $\lambda$  of a successful species should be:
- A. Very close to 0
  - B. Substantially greater than 0, but substantially less than 1
  - C. Very close to 1
  - D. Substantially greater than 1
5. An ecologist believes that a population's fecundity decreases when crowded following the equation  $f(N) = (N/N_e)^{-k}$ . If  $N$  is measured in units of indiv/ha, then:
- A.  $N_e$  and  $k$  are also in [indiv/ha]
  - B.  $N_e$  is unitless, and  $k$  is in [indiv/ha]
  - C.  $N_e$  is in [indiv/ha], and  $k$  is unitless
  - D.  $N_e$  and  $k$  are both unitless
6. Which of the following processes is necessary for population cycles?
- A. Regulation
  - B. Allee effects
  - C. Stochasticity
  - D. Predator-prey dynamics
  - E. Age structure
7. *One* of the four pictures below shows a population growing exponentially – which one?



Use this information for the following two questions. A population of small plants has discrete, overlapping generations. Adults survive each year with a probability of  $3/4$  (and thus they have an average lifespan of four years). Each reproducing adult produces an average of 10 seeds *each year*, of which an average of 8% survive to reproduce in the next year. We model this population using a discrete-time model with time step of 1 year, and we count individuals just before reproduction.

8. What are the values for survival  $p$  and fecundity  $f$  for this model?

- A.  $p = 1/4$  and  $f = 10$
- B.  $p = 3/4$  and  $f = 10$
- C.  $p = 1/4$  and  $f = 0.8$
- D.  $p = 3/4$  and  $f = 0.8$

9. The reproductive number  $\mathcal{R}$  for this population is:

- A. 1.05
- B. 1.55
- C. 3.2
- D. 10.25
- E. 13.33

10. In simple, continuous-time models of a single species competing for resources, we often see population cycles:

- A. In models where competition is contest-like
- B. In models where competition is scramble-like
- C. In models without competition
- D. We don't see population cycles in simple continuous-time models

11. In this class, the professor argued that populations cannot increase or decline exponentially for long, and that high population densities must:

- A. have direct positive effects on their own growth rate
- B. have either indirect or direct positive effects on their own growth rate
- C. have direct negative effects on their own growth rate
- D. have either indirect or direct negative effects on their own growth rate

12. When studying insect populations with non-overlapping generations, researchers often use the time when insects are pupating as their census time because

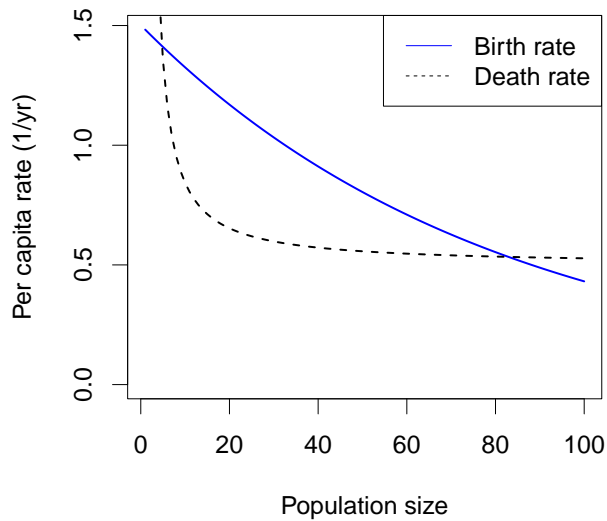
- A. pupae are easy to find and count accurately
- B. counting just before reproduction gives the most detailed information about the population
- C. counting just before reproduction gives the simplest accurate model of the population
- D. counting just after reproduction gives the most detailed information about the population
- E. counting just after reproduction gives the simplest accurate model of the population

13. Consider a discrete-time, regulated population model with  $p = 0$  and  $f = f_0 \exp(-N/N_c)$  with  $N_c = 50$  indiv/ha and  $f_0 = 10$  What is  $R(0)$ ?

- A. 5
- B. 10
- C.  $\exp(-5)$
- D.  $10 * \exp(-5)$
- E.  $5 * \exp(-10)$

14. Plotting how population changes through time *on a log scale* reflects a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ perspective, because \_\_\_\_\_ changes through time reflect \_\_\_\_\_ rates of birth and death

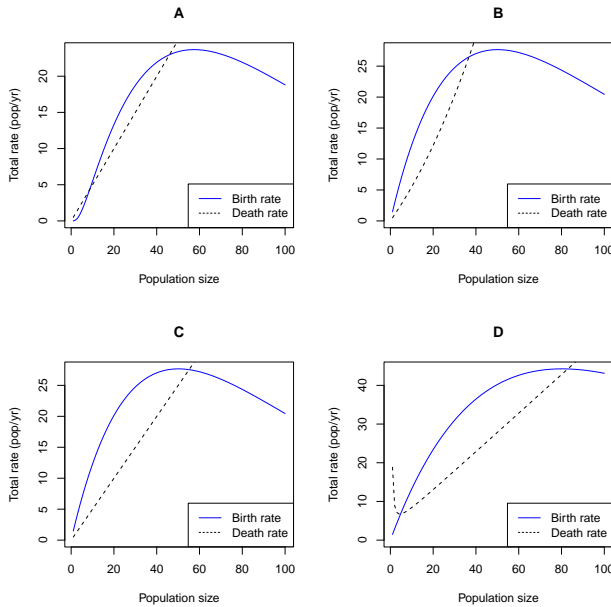
- A. individual; additive; per capita
- B. individual; multiplicative; per capita
- C. population; additive; total
- D. population; multiplicative; total



15. The figure above shows \_\_\_\_\_ in the birth rate and \_\_\_\_\_ in the death rate

- A. density dependence; density dependence
- B. Allee effects; density dependence
- C. Allee effects; Allee effects
- D. density dependence; Allee effects

16. Which of the four pictures below was generated by the same model as the large picture?



- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D

17. This population has a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ equilibrium at 0 individuals and a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ equilibrium at 80 individuals

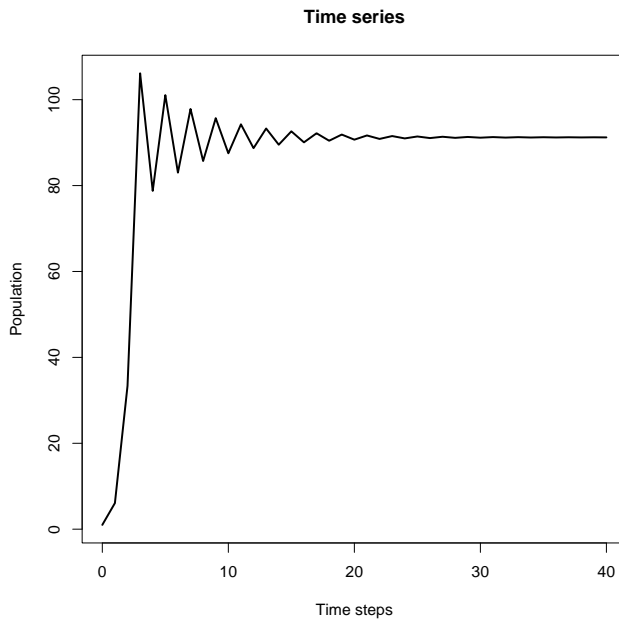
- A. stable; stable
- B. stable; unstable
- C. unstable; stable
- D. unstable; unstable

18. A population is changing in continuous time, according to the equation  $dN/dt = r(N)N$ . What are the conditions for this population to be in equilibrium at a non-zero value?

- A.  $r(N) = 0$
- B.  $0 < r(N) < 1/\text{yr}$
- C.  $r(N) = 1/\text{yr}$
- D.  $r(N) = 1$

19. If a simple model assumes individuals are independent of each other, then \_\_\_\_\_ death rates should \_\_\_\_\_ with the size of the population.

- A. per capita; increase
- B. per capita; decrease
- C. total; increase
- D. total; decrease



20. The picture above illustrates a time series that is:

- A. Converging smoothly to a stable equilibrium
- B. Converging with oscillations to a stable equilibrium
- C. Converging with oscillations to an unstable equilibrium
- D. Oscillating without convergence around an unstable equilibrium

### Short-answer questions

Answer questions *in pen*. *Briefly* show necessary work and equations. Points may be *deducted* for wrong information, even when the correct information is also there.

**21.** (4 points) A population of sea turtles was observed to decline from 1300 breeding females in the year 2007 to 1000 in 2020. The instantaneous death rate  $d$  was estimated at 0.035/year. The sea turtle population has a 1:1 sex ratio. For the purposes of this question, assume the population is changing exponentially, on average.

a) Why does  $d$  have units of [1/year] only (no turtles)?

b) What is the instantaneous rate of change  $r$  for this population?

c) What is the instantaneous birth rate  $b$ ?

d) What is the lifetime reproductive number  $\mathcal{R}$ ?

**22.** Give one plausible reason for density dependence in a population of seed-eating birds