

Homework

- Given that the female grizzly bear population was 44 in 1959 and 34 in 1975, estimate the reproductive ratio (λ) during this time.
- Starting from 1975, if there were no interventions (i.e., λ did not change) how many female grizzly bears would there be after 5 years (rounding to the nearest individual)?
- In the same scenario of no interventions in 1975, and assuming an equal sex ratio, in which year would the total Yellowstone population first drop below two individuals?
- Consider a population in a reserve with year-round births ($b=0.2$ offspring per individual per year), deaths ($d=0.16$ per individual per year), and emigration ($a=0.5$ per individual per year). Will this population grow or decline?
- Now, suppose emigration is eliminated by the construction of a barrier around the reserve. Does this change the qualitative behavior of the population (i.e., growth versus decline)?
- If the population size at the time the barrier is constructed is $n_0 = 10$, what will the population size be in 50 years?

① From EQN 11

$$\log \lambda = \frac{\ln(34/44)}{1975-1959} = -0.016114$$

Q3 Hint: equation 10 can be used to determine a time interval. What biological factors might contribute to the answer being an over-estimate?

$$\hat{\lambda} = 0.982$$

② In class (and on slides) we calculated $\lambda = 0.984$ (circled) using $N_t = \lambda^t N_0$ we know $N_0 = 34$ (in 1975) and we want to project $t=5$ yrs forward. $N_5 = (0.984)^5 \times 34 = 31.3 \sim 31$ (circled) to nearest individual. THIS ANSWER COMES FROM ROUNDING 34/44 TO 3 PLACES EITHER WAY

[1 mark for correct formula, 1 mark for correct implementation]

④ "year-round births" implies continuous time fundamental equation:

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = (b - d - a)n = -0.46n \quad \therefore \text{pop. will decline}$$

[1 mark for correct formula, 1 mark for correct implementation/conclusion]

⑤ "barrier" implies no emigration $\therefore a = \emptyset$. Now

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = (b - a)n = +0.04n \quad \therefore \text{pop. will grow}$$

[1 mark for correct answer]

⑥ Using $n_t = n_0 e^{rt}$ (Chapter 2, equation 2)

$$n_t = 10 \times e^{0.04 \times 50} = 73.9 \sim 73 \text{ or } 74$$

[1 mark for correct formula, 1 mark for correct implementation]

(3) Assuming an equal sex ratio, then the total population declining to 2 individuals is equivalent to the censused female populations declining to 1 individual. In 1974, there were 34 females (N_0) and $\lambda \sim 0.984$. Using the formula $\log(\lambda) = \log(N_t/N_0)/t$ we seek the value of t corresponding to $N_t=1$. Rearranging, we get $t = \log(N_t/N_0)/\log(\lambda)$. Putting in the relevant numbers we get: $t = \log(1/34)/\log(0.984) = 218$ years, which is approximately the year 2192.