

## **4. Effects of population structure on dynamics**

**a. Sex ratio**

**b. Age structure**

**c. Life tables**

**d. Life history**

**1) Survivorship patterns**

**2) Age-specific birth rates**

**3) Life history diversity**



# Ecology

the study of the  
distribution and  
abundance of organisms

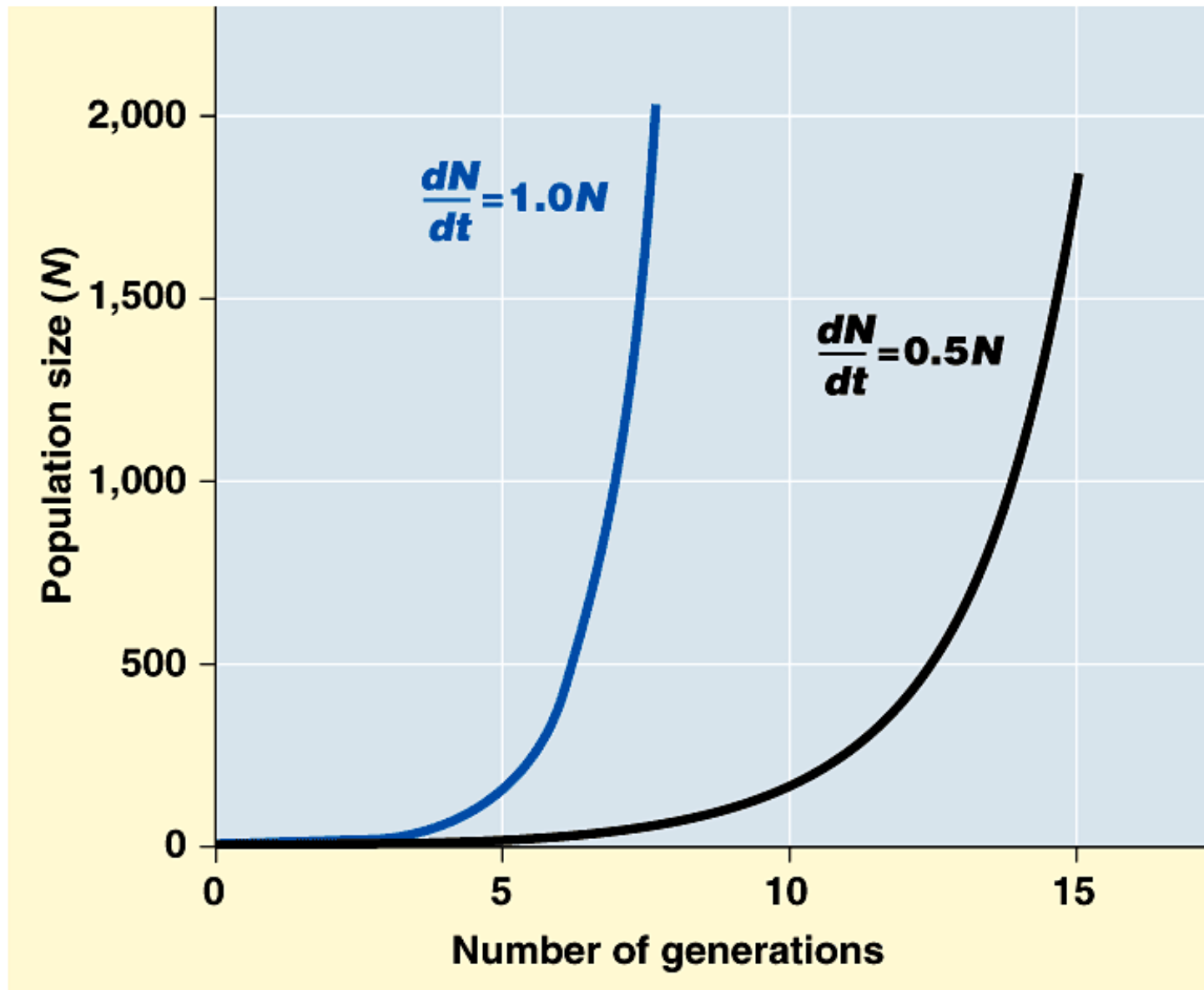
$$dN/dt = rN$$

$r > 0$       population will grow

$r = 0$       population won't change

$r < 0$       population will shrink

Fig. 52.8 The exponential model for population growth



$$dN/dt = r N [(K - N)/K]$$

For:  $r=0.1$      $K=100$

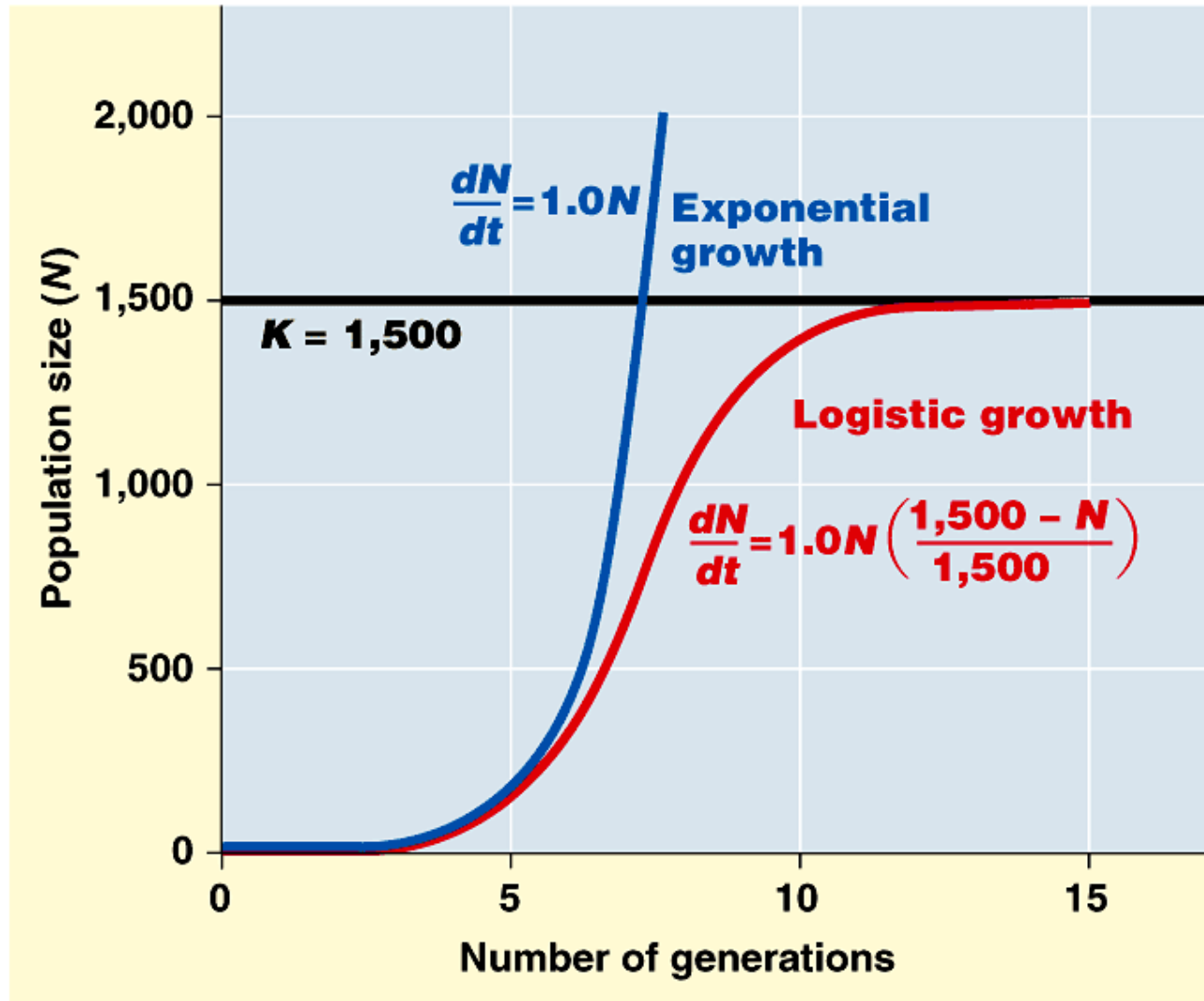
if  $N = 10$

$$\begin{aligned} dN/dt &= .1 (10) [(100 - 10)/100] \\ &= .1 (10) (.9) \\ &= .9 \end{aligned}$$

if  $N = 99$

$$\begin{aligned} dN/dt &= .1 (99) [(100 - 99)/100] \\ &= .1 (99) (.01) \\ &= .099 \end{aligned}$$

Fig. 52.11 The patterns of exponential and logistic population growth



# What do I need to know about these models?

## Exponential

Pattern: J-shaped

Equation\*:  $dN/dt = rN$

Assumptions: -growth rate constant

-unlimited env.

## Logistic

S-shaped

$dN/dt = rN[(K-N)/K]$

growth rate decreases

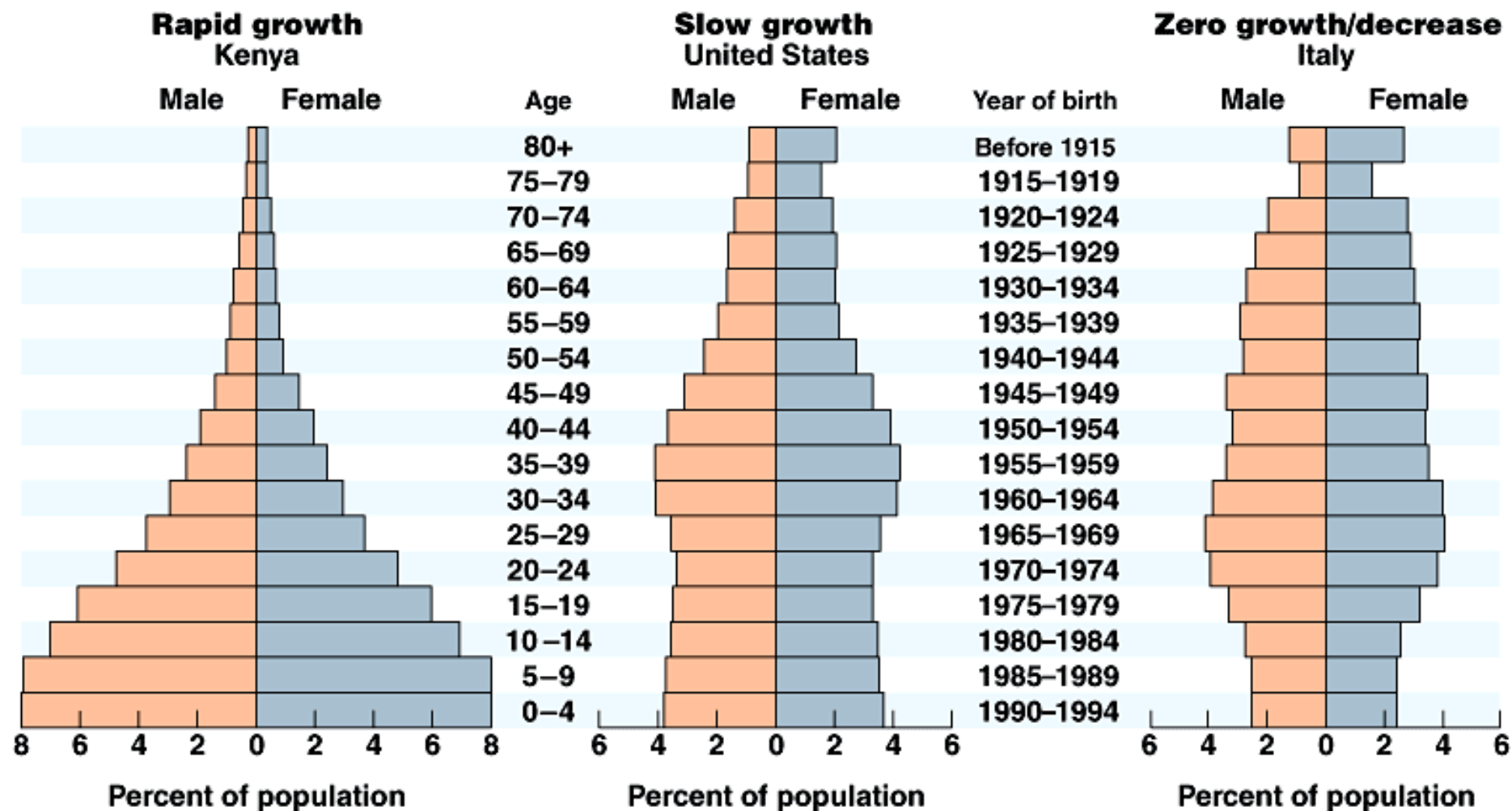
with pop size

carrying capacity

\* Know what each term means and how changes in the terms affect the pattern of population growth.



Fig. 52.22





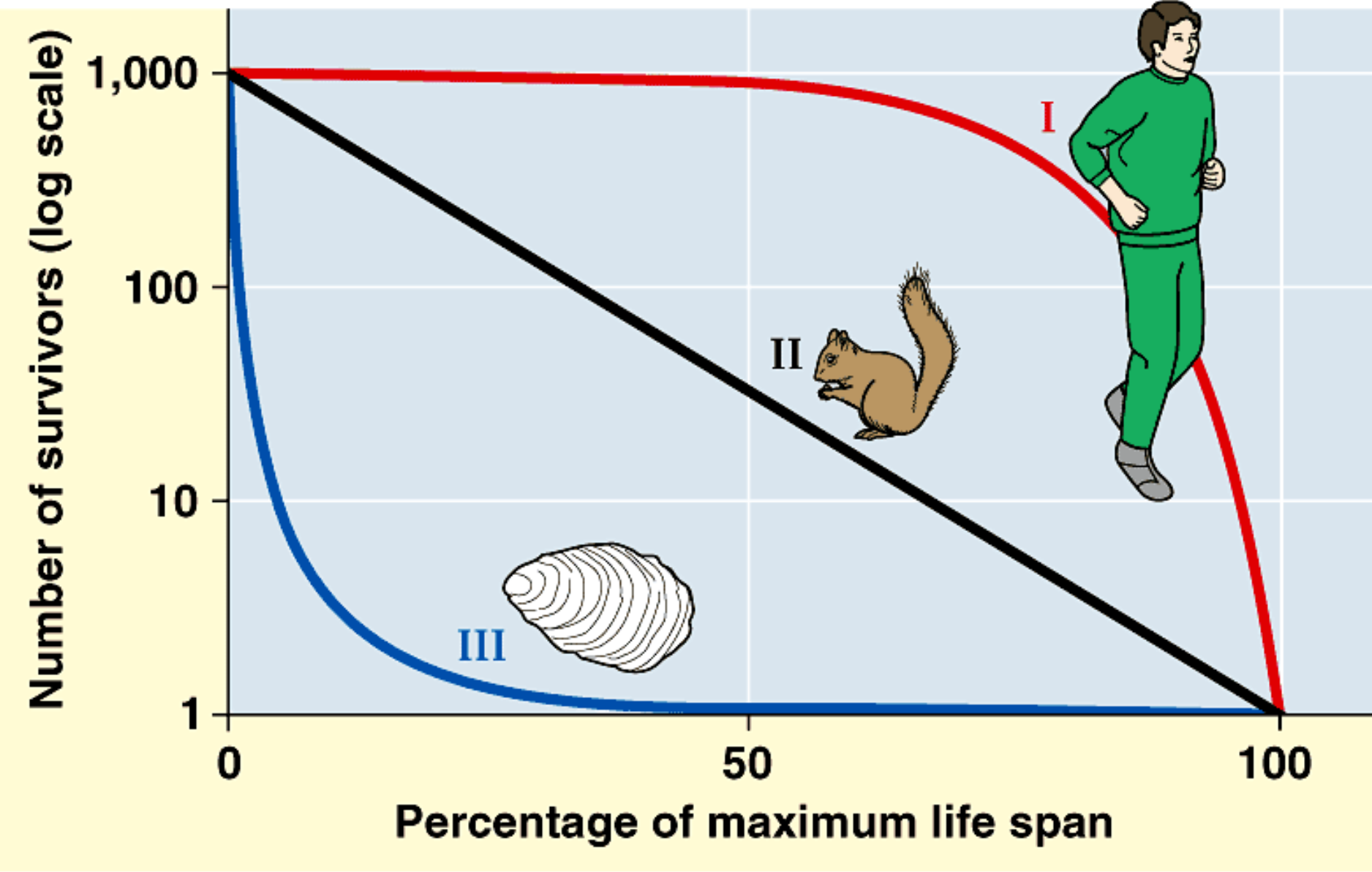
# A Life Table

Age	Number aged x	Probability of survival to x	#Offspring born to females aged x
0	600	1.0	0
1	300	0.5	0
2	240	0.4	2
3	60	0.1	3
4	30	0.05	5

**A model for growth of an age-structured population:**

$$N_{t+1} / N_t = \Sigma (\text{probability of survival to } x)(\text{\#offspring at } x)$$

Fig. 52.3



# Variation in life history among plants

Live long, reproduce once and die



Live not so long, reproduce early



Live long, begin reproduction late

