***Population-Adjusted Egalitarianism and resource management***

Abstract:
Egalitarianism focuses on the wellbeing of the worst-off person. It has attracted a lot of attention in economic theory, for instance when dealing with the sustainable intertemporal allocation of resources. Economic theory has formalized egalitarianism through the Maximin and Leximin criteria, but it is not clear how they should be applied when population size may vary. In this paper, I present possible justifications of egalitarianism when considering populations with variable sizes. I then propose new versions of egalitarianism that encompass many views on how to trade-off population size and wellbeing. I discuss some implications of egalitarianism for optimal population size in a model with a renewable resource. I first show how population ethical views affects population growth. I then show that utilitarianism always recommend a larger population than egalitarianism in two polar yet prominent population ethics views: the average and the total views.