Sufficiency and the Threshold Question

In this paper I address the objection to sufficientarianism posed by Paula Casal and Richard Arneson, that it is hard to conceive of a sufficiency threshold such that distribution is required just below it, and not required at all just above it. In order to address this objection, I elaborate on the idea that sufficientarianism structurally may be seen to require two separate thresholds, which may or may not overlap. I then argue that some version of such a view may indeed be plausible. Lastly, I distinguish this view from related proposals in the literature and defend it against some objections.