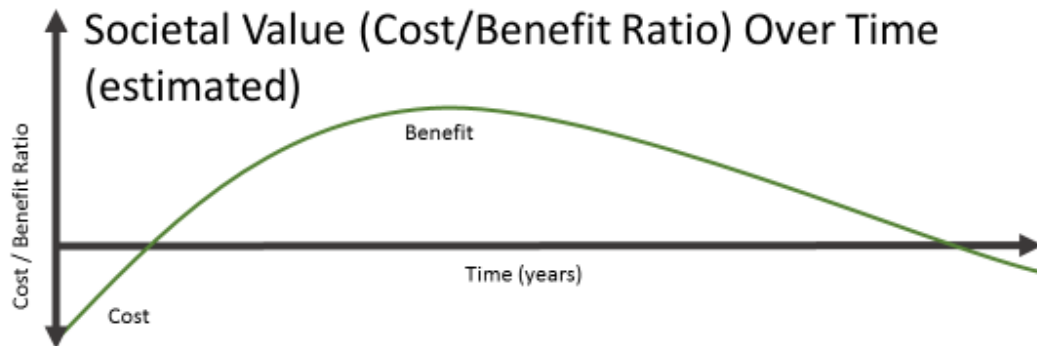
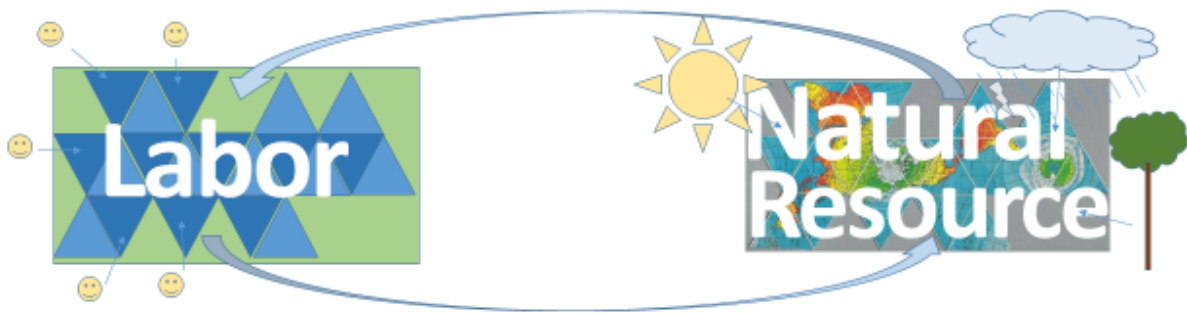


Imagine a hill-shaped function that represents how much value a person provides society over time. As children, people are a societal cost, represented by the section of the function below the axis. As they mature, people produce societal benefits that outweigh their costs. At some point their capability peaks- age 40, for example- before slowly declining. Eventually, as an elder, they might require more resources than they can help create, again becoming more of a cost than a benefit. Generally, however, people are a great benefit to society- this is the part of the function above the axis.

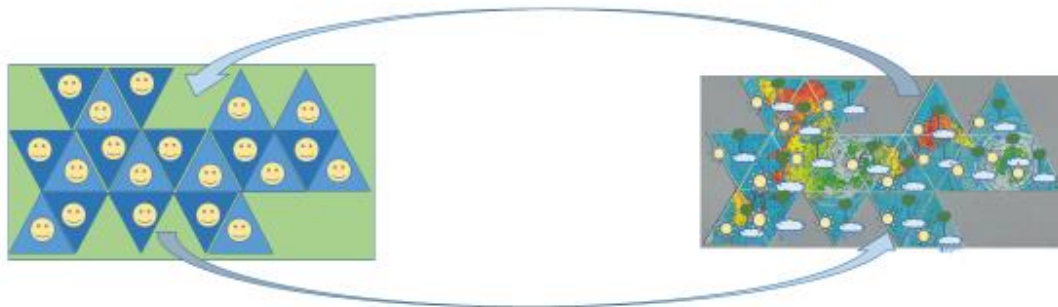


Consider that labor and natural resources are mutually dependent (i.e. interdependent). Individuals (i.e. labor) form organizations known as corporations, while natural resources exist in artificial forms as countries. More generally, natural resources exist in natural form as Earth. Any number of corporations may co-exist simultaneously and any number of countries may exist simultaneously, but as yet we experience a fixed amount of Earth that forms a maximum limit on our claim to resources.

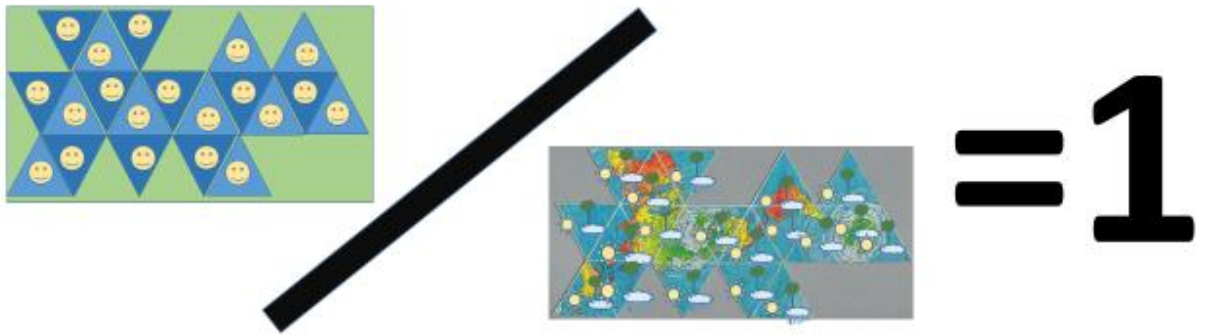
Assuming that each individual has free will and the free market for labor exists, individuals choose to sell, or *invest*, their labor to the corporation that offers the best benefit/cost ratio. All individuals can maximize their benefit/cost ratio. In order to maximize their benefit/cost ratio, corporations must offer each employee up to [a hypothetical-1-cent-less-than] their estimated benefit/cost ratio. Again, we must assume that the labor corporation would not issue an offer to an employee that loses money, nor would an employee accept an offer that was second best.



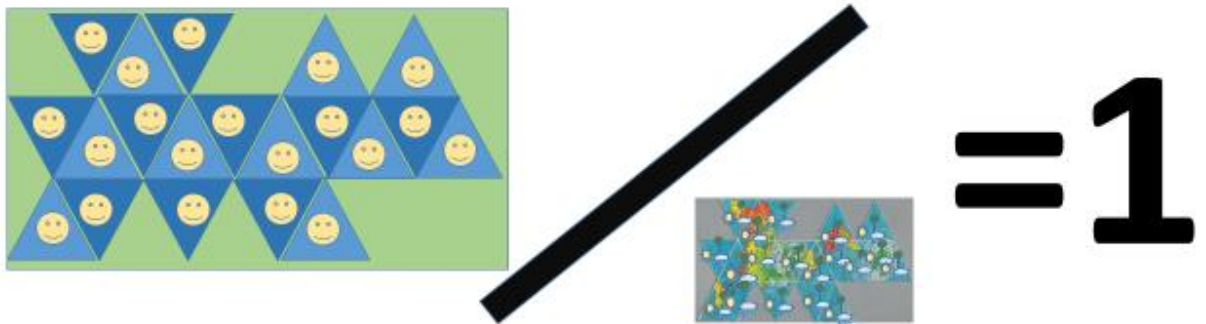
Labor creates demand on itself and on natural resources while supplying both itself and natural resources. For example, the amount of labor it takes to clean an office depends on how many people the office employs. Natural resource also creates demand for itself and labor while supplying both itself and labor. For example, the amount of natural resource used to build a passenger jet depends on the heavy machinery that build the jet. A sustainable system ensures that future demand of resources per person necessarily does not exceed the future supply of resources at any future time.



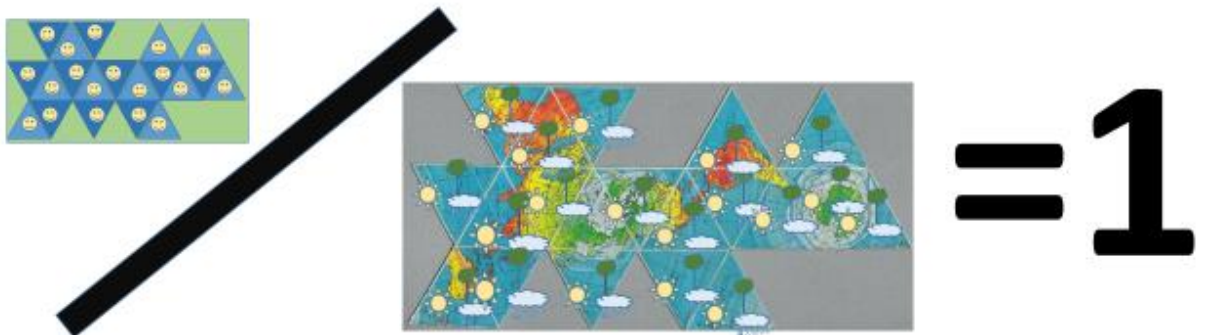
With the lower bound of supply being the entire planet's natural resources and the upper bound of demand being the entire number of people on earth, we can think of each corporation and, by extension, each person on the globe as owning a small patch of resources. We admit that regardless of how many corporations or people the planet hosts in increasingly smaller patches, the only sustainable solution is one in which the average corporation doesn't demand more natural resources than they own, and by extension the average person doesn't demand more than the natural resources that they own. Moreover, should any entity demand more than the average amount of natural resource supplied, there should exist an entity who willingly settles for less than the average amount of natural resource supplied.



As the demand for natural resources per person decreases (i.e. work efficiency increases), the value of labor necessarily increases; corporations plan to do more work. Corporations must raise their pay in order to encourage their employees to work additional hours.



As the demand per person for natural resources increases, the value of labor decreases. As a result, corporations plan to work less. Corporations lower their pay in order to discourage their employees from working.



There are three possible strategies that corporations can use to optimize their returns on investment: benefit maximization, cost minimization, or some optimal point on the benefit/cost ratio curve. Benefit maximization and cost minimization can be excluded as viable strategies due to the law of diminishing returns. For example, benefit-maximizing corporations would struggle to control costs while competing to provide increasingly large benefits to capture potential employees. Alternately, cost-minimizing corporations would struggle to provide benefits while competing to offer increasingly small workloads to their employees. Therefore, we would expect corporations to create a benefit/cost ratio to satisfy employees.

In order to maintain benefit/cost ratios in stable equilibrium (i.e. efficient market) benefits and costs must be completely uncorrelated. While it might be theoretically possible to create a system that operated on a single currency, it seems far more likely that such a system operate on two separate currencies: one for labor and the other for natural resources.

As the resources cannot actually think for themselves and therefore estimate value, some people will become owners of the resources. This is not a problem in and of itself, but it does create a conflict of interests wherein owners of resources attempt to encourage extra spending of resources in order to raise the price of the resources. The only way to resolve this conflict is for corporations to increasingly value their employees' labor while simultaneously cutting their overhead expenses, thus devaluing the natural resource by definition.

Given that the overwhelming majority of the population supports the value of labor while a small but powerful minority supports the value of natural resources, and each currency is an input to valuing itself, we can conclude that the only stable system is one in which individual corporations voluntarily lower the price of their labor when they judge that the value of natural resource is too high. The natural response to this is an increase in demand for labor and a corresponding decrease in demand for natural resource, and vice versa.

Since individuals can maximize their utility by choosing a corporation that provides the best ratio of benefits to costs and corporations maximize their utility by regulating the exchange rate between the currencies that represent their organic labor and natural resource, the resultant system includes an automatic counter-balancing effect that constantly levels the income distribution, thereby creating a voluntary system that encourages maximum economic growth.

While capitalism corrects itself by allowing the government to redistribute funds as the income distribution becomes increasingly skewed, and socialism corrects itself by allowing the black market to redistribute goods and services as the income distribution becomes increasingly level, we consider the possibility that the dual-currency system contemplated here encourages maximum economic growth via a balanced income distribution by allowing organizations and their members to choose either savings or spending of labor or resources as each sees fit.