

## The Malthusian Model

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- A Simplistic Model, but a guide to how economists use models.

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## Key Assumptions

- Resources, if they grow at all, tend to grow at an arithmetic rate.


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- Developed by Thomas Robert Malthus in On Population, 1798.
- A Simplistic Model, but a guide to how economists use models.
- Indeed, the model is still used in many public policy discussions.

KENTSTATE $\operatorname{STH}_{i=1}^{*} \quad$ The Malthusian Model

## Key Assumptions

- Resources, if they grow at all, tend to grow at an arithmetic rate.
- Population, unchecked by famine, will grow at a geometric rate.


## A Graphical Interpretation

- Diminishing returns to proportion
- Double the number of workers, you get more output, but not twice as much


## A Graphical Interpretation

- Diminishing returns to proportion
- Population unchecked by famine grows at a geometric rate.
- There is a minimum subsistence budget s .
- Again, we will not attempt to quantify this budget.

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## The Basic Graph

Out $\quad$.
-The more people (workers), the higher the level of output.
-But output rises at a lower rate than population.
-That is, there is a positive but diminishing marginal physical product.



The Basic Graph


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The Malthusian Model

The Basic Graph


## The Basic Graph



## The Basic Graph



## The Basic Graph



## The Basic Graph



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