Goldilocks Hypothesis

The Goldilocks Fairy Tale for Children

"Goldilocks and the Three Bears" is one of the most popular fairy tales in the English language.

A papa bear, a mama bear, and a wee little baby bear live together in a house in the woods. They are very good-natured, trusting, harmless, tidy, and hospitable. Each of these bears has his own porridge bowl, chair, and bed. One day they make porridge for breakfast, but it's too hot to eat, so they take a walk in the woods while their porridge cools. A young girl with golden hair (golden locks) approaches the bears' house. She looks through a window, peeps through the keyhole, and lifts the latch. Assured that no one is home, she walks in.

➢ The girl tastes the Mama Bear's porridge, but it is **TOO HOT** to eat.
➢ Then she tastes the Papa Bear's porridge, but it is **TOO COLD** to eat.
➢ Then she tastes the Baby Bear's porridge, and it is "**JUST RIGHT**", so she gobbles it all up.

… The story goes on from there. She sits in the chair of the Baby Bear and accidentally breaks it. She sleeps in the bed of the Baby Bear, and is found there, when the bears return.

Goldilocks Hypothesis

The Goldilocks Hypothesis
(A key component of the PoMPE)

- **<u>Assumption:</u> For every flow of benefits, there are inputs which are consumed in the process of producing that flow. (E.g. # of workers)**
- **<u>Hypothesis:</u> For every such input, there is an optimum rate of consumption for which the rate of production of benefits is optimized, the consumption of all other inputs being held constant.**
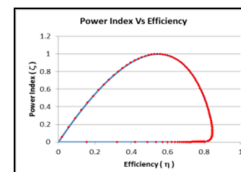
The Goldilocks Hypothesis

(A key component of the PoMPE)

EXAMPLE:

- **In a city of 1 million people, crime has a daily cost.**
- **Police officers reduce the crime daily, creating a daily flow of benefits from reduced crime.**
  - **One police officer is not enough.**
  - **10,000 police officers is too many.**
  - **There is an optimum number of police that will optimize the rate of flow of benefits (the USEFUL power).**

BENEFITS →

POLICE →

1   10,000
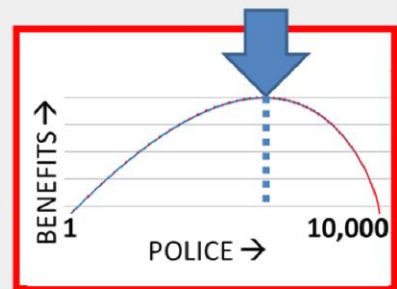
Under the PoMPE all municipal police forces will evolve, over time, to a manning level (number of police) for which the power of the benefits (rate of flow of benefits) approaches the maximum possible. Cities will not want to hire too few police. Neither will they want to hire too many police.

In the same way, all persistent (profitable) corporations or other organizations evolve to function with the correct mix of inputs to allow them to function at a point close to the maximum rate of access to profits, or benefits.

Goldilocks Curves

I called them "Goldilocks Curves" because, due to the effects of the "Odum/Pinkerton" Principle of Maximum Preservation of Energy (PoMPE), all persistent transformations of energy within a trophic web evolve to towards the point of maximum preservative power at some intermediate efficiency. That is, they evolve towards a point for which they are **NOT TOO INEFFICIENT**, and **NOT TOO EFFICIENT**, but have an efficiency that is **JUST RIGHT**.

Goldilocks Curves

(Plot of P_{useful} versus η)
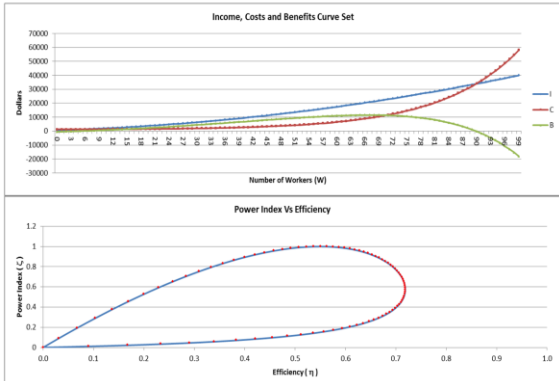
Gallery of Goldilocks Curves

(Plot of P_{useful} versus η)