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# Variable Income Equivalence Scales

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Book Condition: New. Publisher/Verlag: Physica-Verlag | An Empirical Approach | 1.1 A Brief Overview An extensive body of empirical and theoretical literature deals with the measurement of social welfare. This body can be decomposed in several different but related topics, all of which have implications for empirical studies in welfare economics. One of these topics are household equivalence scales which help to compare welfare levels across households that differ in composition. An equivalence scale relates the income of any arbitrary household type to the income of a reference household such that both households are equally well-off. Differences in household needs arise from differences in the household's demographic composition which is, for instance, given by the number, age, and sex of the household members. The increase of household needs is not necessarily proportional to the increase in the number of household members. Such a non-proportionality, for example, results from differences in the needs of adults and children, economies of scale arising from the division of fixed costs among the household members, welfare gains from household production, and from common consumption of commodities bearing a within-household public good component. | 1.1 A Brief Overview.- 1.2 Objective of the Thesis.- 1.3 Structure of the...



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