

## **An Appraisal of the Pro Transfer-sensitive Measures of Economic Inequality with Left-leaning Considerations**

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*An inequality measure is said to be pro transfer-sensitive when the diminution in index value following transfer between the poorer pair of individuals is greater than the diminution in index value following transfer between the richer pair of individuals. This property conforms to the prime but latent objective of studying economic inequality, which prioritises the claim of the worse-off of the two groups. However, such measures are either much less frequently employed or lesser known. This paper makes an appraisal of some of them synchronising various approaches and perspectives with an overt objective of making them popular.*

### **I Introduction**

Inequality measures under the Lorenz curve framework, considering the transfer sensitivity property, may broadly be classified into three categories: (i) anti transfer-sensitive, (ii) transfer-neutral, and (iii) pro transfer-sensitive. We may imagine that a given rank-preserving progressive transfer of income takes place between two pairs of individuals or groups such that the individuals or groups in each pair are separated by both a fixed number and a fixed income. In that case, following Subramanian (2015), we can say that an inequality measure is anti transfer-sensitive / transfer-neutral / pro transfer-sensitive, depending on whether the diminution in index value following the transfer between the poorer pair of individuals is lesser than / the same as / greater than the diminution in index value following the transfer between the richer pair of individuals. It follows that while the underlying weighting schemes of the first and the third are to favour the richer and poorer sections towards the right and left wings of the Lorenz curve respectively, that of the middle is balanced treating everybody equally. It is well understood that the third group only conforms to the left-leaning considerations and sounds in accordance with the prime but latent objective of studying economic inequality, which prioritises the claim of the worse-off of the two groups after any transfer. However, measures under this category are either much less frequently employed or less known. On the contrary, application of the transfer-neutral Gini coefficient is immensely vast irrespective of the nature of income distributions. Its

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I am grateful to the anonymous referee for valuable comments and suggestions. Responsibility for any error rests on me.