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A STUDY OF U.S. POPULATION GROWTH - A CALCULUS APPROACH

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Two well-known models of population growth are investigated. One is the Thomas Malthus model, which assumes that the population will grow at a rate that is proportional to its size, and the other, the Pearl - Reed model, which contends that the population of any confined geographic area must have an upper bound beyond which the population will not grow. The validity of these models is discussed and several predictions about population size in the near future are made.