

Branching Networks I

Last updated: 2021/10/07, 17:43:36 EDT

Principles of Complex Systems, Vols. 1 & 2
CSYS/MATH 300 and 303, 2021-2022 | @pocsvox

Prof. Peter Sheridan Dodds | @peterdodds

Computational Story Lab | Vermont Complex Systems Center
Vermont Advanced Computing Core | University of Vermont



Licensed under the *Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 License*.

PoCS
@pocsvox
Branching
Networks I

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



These slides are brought to you by:

PoCS
@pocsvox

Branching
Networks I

Sealie & Lambie Productions



Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

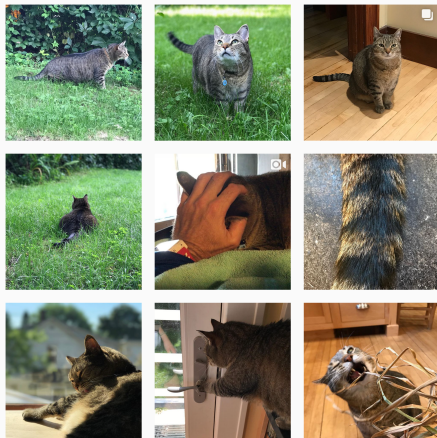
Nutshell

References



These slides are also brought to you by:

Special Guest Executive Producer



 On Instagram at [pratchett_the_cat](https://www.instagram.com/pratchett_the_cat) 

PoCS
@pocsvox

Branching
Networks I

Introduction

- Definitions
- Allometry
- Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



Outline

PoCS
@pocsvox

Branching
Networks I

Introduction

Definitions

Allometry

Laws

Introduction

Definitions

Allometry

Laws

Stream Ordering

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

Horton's Laws

References

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell







References








Introduction

Branching networks are useful things:

-  Fundamental to material **supply and collection**
-  **Supply:** From one source to many sinks in 2- or 3-d.
-  **Collection:** From many sources to one sink in 2- or 3-d.
-  Typically observe hierarchical, recursive self-similar structure

Examples:

-  River networks (our focus)
-  Cardiovascular networks
-  Plants
-  Evolutionary trees
-  Organizations (only in theory ...)

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



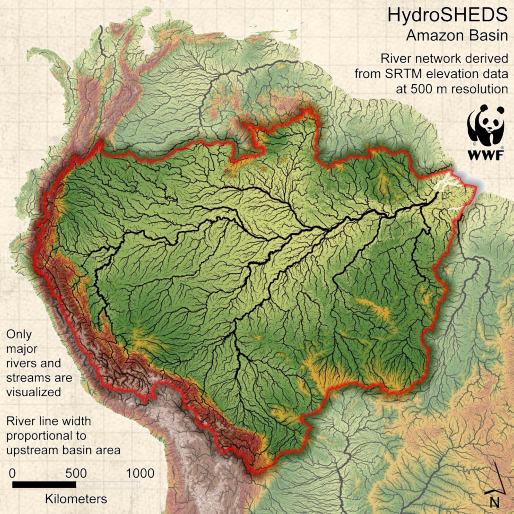
Branching networks are everywhere ...

PoCS
@pocsvox

Branching
Networks I

HydroSHEDS Amazon Basin

River network derived
from SRTM elevation data
at 500 m resolution



Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



<http://hydrosheds.cr.usgs.gov/>



Branching networks are everywhere ...

PoCS
@pocsvox

Branching
Networks I



<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Applebox.JPG>

Introduction

Definitions

Allometry

Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References




An early thought piece: Extension and Integration

PoCS
@pocsvox

Branching
Networks I



“The Development of Drainage Systems: A Synoptic View” 

Waldo S. Glock,
The Geographical Review, **21**, 475–482,
1931. [2]

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

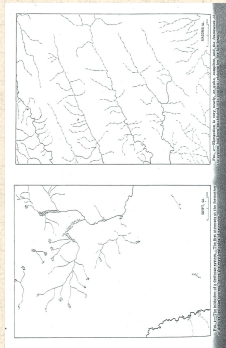
Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

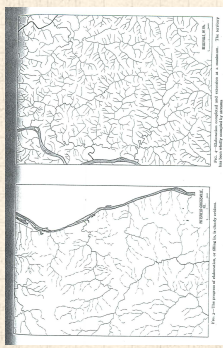
Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

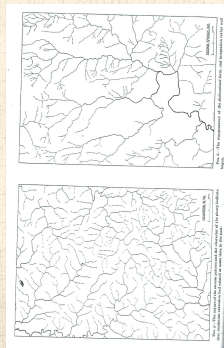
References



Initiation,
Elongation



Elaboration,
Piracy.



Abstraction,
Absorption.



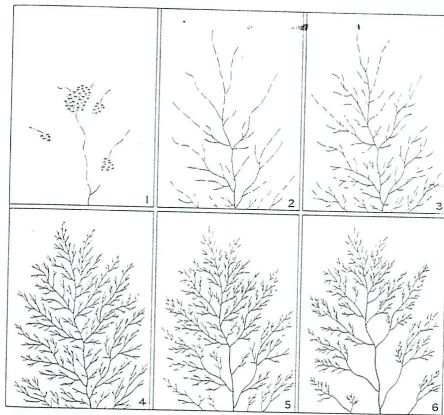


FIG. 8—An ideal diagrammatic summary of the development of a drainage system given for purposes of comparison only. The first four parts show extension, thus: 1, initiation; 2, elongation; 3, elaboration; and 4, maximum extension. Parts 5 and 6 represent steps during integration.

The sequential stages recognized in the evolution of a drainage system are “extension” and “integration”; the first, a stage of increasing complexity; the second, of simplification.

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



Shaw and Magnasco's beautiful erosion simulations:^a

^aUnpublished!

PoCS
@pocsvox

Branching
Networks I

Introduction

Definitions

Allometry

Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell








References



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4DW-Dxzj7xQ?rel=0>



Definitions

-  **Drainage basin** for a point p is the complete region of land from which overland flow drains through p .
-  Definition most sensible for a point in a stream.
-  **Recursive structure:** Basins contain basins and so on.
-  In principle, a drainage basin is defined at every point on a landscape.
-  On flat hillslopes, drainage basins are effectively linear.
-  We treat subsurface and surface flow as following the gradient of the surface.
-  Okay for large-scale networks ...

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

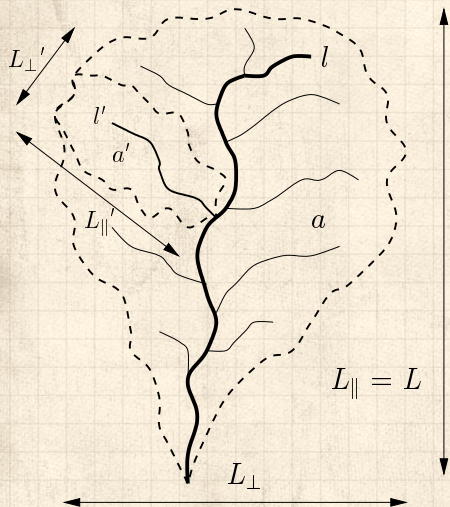
Tokunaga's Law



Nutshell


References




Basic basin quantities: a , l , L_{\parallel} , L_{\perp} :



-  a = drainage basin area
-  l = length of longest (main) stream (which may be fractal)

 $L = L_{\parallel} =$
longitudinal length of basin

 $L = L_{\perp} =$ width of basin

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering


Horton's Laws

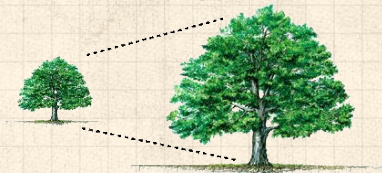
Tokunaga's Law


Nutshell

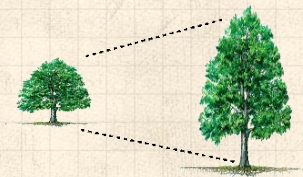
References



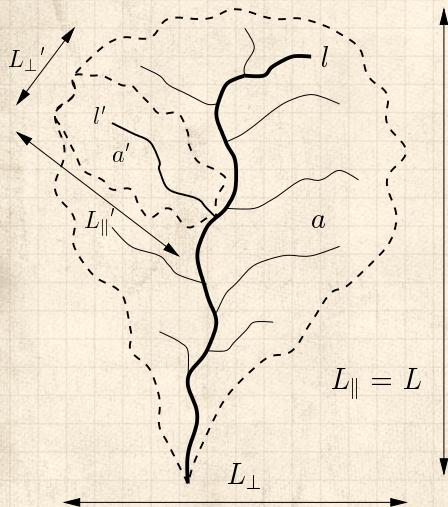
 **Isometry:**
dimensions scale
linearly with each
other.



 **Allometry:**
dimensions scale
nonlinearly.



Basin allometry



Allometric relationships:



$$l \propto a^h$$



$$l \propto L^d$$



Combine above:

$$a \propto L^{d/h} \equiv L^D$$

Introduction

Definitions

Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws


Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References




'Laws'

 Hack's law (1957) ^[3]:


$$\ell \propto a^h$$

reportedly $0.5 < h < 0.7$

 Scaling of main stream length with basin size:

$$\ell \propto L_{\parallel}^d$$

reportedly $1.0 < d < 1.1$

 Basin allometry:

$$L_{\parallel} \propto a^{h/d} \equiv a^{1/D}$$

$D < 2 \rightarrow$ basins elongate.

There are a few more 'laws': [1]

Relation: Name or description:

$$T_k = T_1 (R_T)^{k-1}$$
$$\ell \sim L^d$$

Tokunaga's law
self-affinity of single channels

$$n_{\omega} / n_{\omega+1} = R_n$$
$$\ell_{\omega+1} / \ell_{\omega} = R_{\ell}$$

Horton's law of stream numbers
Horton's law of main stream lengths

$$\bar{a}_{\omega+1} / \bar{a}_{\omega} = R_a$$

Horton's law of basin areas

$$\bar{s}_{\omega+1} / \bar{s}_{\omega} = R_s$$

Horton's law of stream segment lengths

$$L_{\perp} \sim L^H$$

scaling of basin widths

$$P(a) \sim a^{-\tau}$$

probability of basin areas

$$P(\ell) \sim \ell^{-\gamma}$$

probability of stream lengths

$$\ell \sim a^h$$

Hack's law

$$a \sim L^D$$

scaling of basin areas

$$\Lambda \sim a^{\beta}$$

Langbein's law

$$\lambda \sim L^{\varphi}$$

variation of Langbein's law

roduction
tions
etry

am Ordering

on's Laws

inaga's Law

hell

rences



Reported parameter values: [1]

PoCS
@pocsvox

Branching
Networks I

Parameter:	Real networks:
R_n	3.0–5.0
R_a	3.0–6.0
$R_\ell = R_T$	1.5–3.0
T_1	1.0–1.5
d	1.1 ± 0.01
D	1.8 ± 0.1
h	0.50–0.70
τ	1.43 ± 0.05
γ	1.8 ± 0.1
H	0.75–0.80
β	0.50–0.70
φ	1.05 ± 0.05

Introduction

Definitions

Allometry

Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



Kind of a mess ...

Order of business:

1. Find out how these relationships are connected.
2. Determine most fundamental description.
3. Explain origins of these parameter values

For (3): **Many attempts: not yet sorted out ...**

Introduction

Definitions

Allometry

Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



Stream Ordering:

Method for describing network architecture:

- Introduced by Horton (1945)^[4]
- Modified by Strahler (1957)^[7]
- Term: Horton-Strahler Stream Ordering^[5]
- Can be seen as **iterative trimming** of a network.

Introduction





Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws
Tokunaga's Law
Nutshell
References



Some definitions:

-  A **channel head** is a point in landscape where flow becomes focused enough to form a stream.
-  A **source stream** is defined as the stream that reaches from a channel head to a junction with another stream.
-  Roughly analogous to capillary vessels.
-  Use symbol $\omega = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ for stream order.

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws
Tokunaga's Law
Nutshell
References



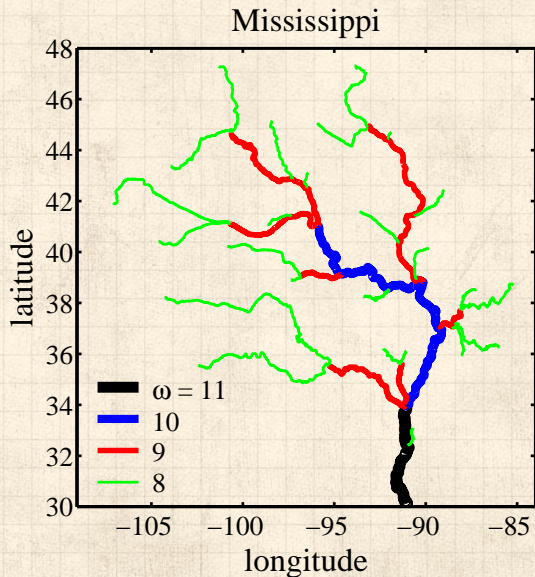
Stream Ordering:



1. Label all **source streams** as **order $\omega = 1$** and remove.
2. Label all **new** source streams as **order $\omega = 2$** and remove.
3. Repeat until one stream is left (order = Ω)
4. Basin is said to be of the order of the last stream removed.
5. Example above is a basin of order $\Omega = 3$.



Stream Ordering—A large example:



Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws
Tokunaga's Law


Nutshell


References





Stream Ordering:


Another way to define ordering:

 As before, label all **source streams** as **order $\omega = 1$** .

 Follow all labelled streams downstream

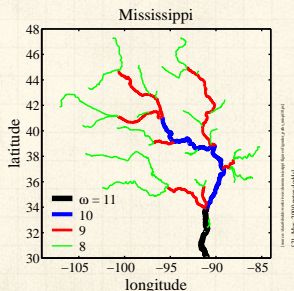
 Whenever two streams of the same order (ω) meet, the resulting stream has order incremented by 1 ($\omega + 1$).

 If streams of different orders ω_1 and ω_2 meet, then the resultant stream has order equal to the largest of the two.

 Simple rule:

$$\omega_3 = \max(\omega_1, \omega_2) + \delta_{\omega_1, \omega_2}$$

where δ is the Kronecker delta.



Stream Ordering:

One problem:

- Resolution of data messes with ordering
- Micro-description changes (e.g., order of a basin may increase)
- ...but relationships based on ordering appear to be robust to resolution changes.

Utility:

- Stream ordering helpfully discretizes a network.
- Goal: understand **network architecture**

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws
Tokunaga's Law
Nutshell

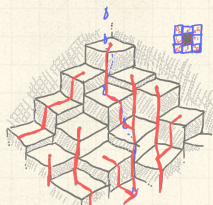
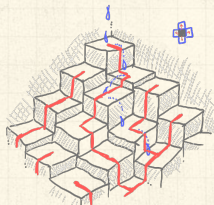
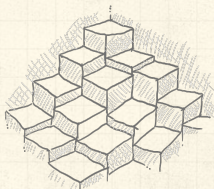
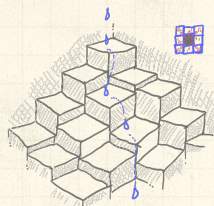
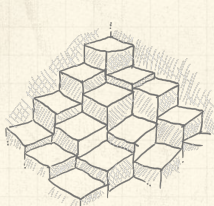
References



Basic algorithm for extracting networks from Digital Elevation Models (DEMs):

PoCS
@pocsvox

Branching
Networks I



Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

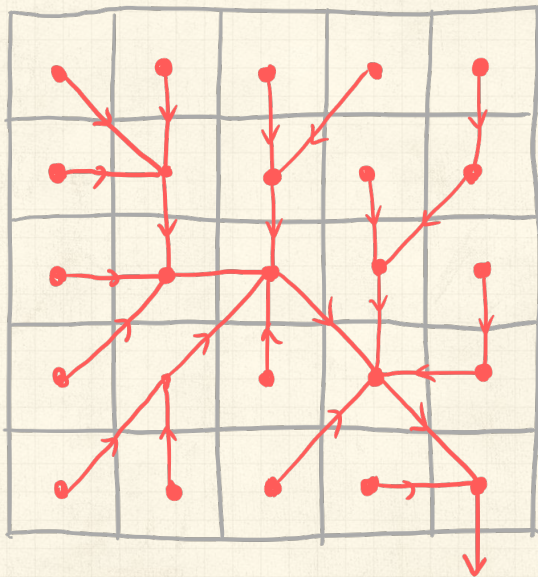
References



Also:

/Users/dodds/work/rivers/1998dems/kevinlakewaster





Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws
Tokunaga's Law
Nutshell

References



Introduction

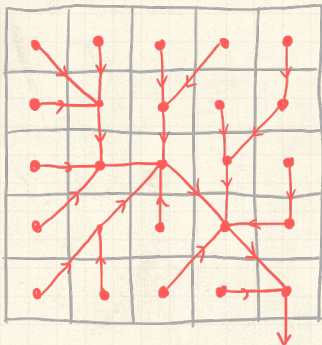
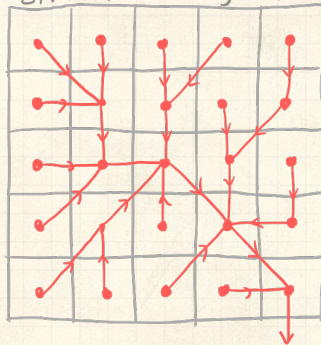
Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

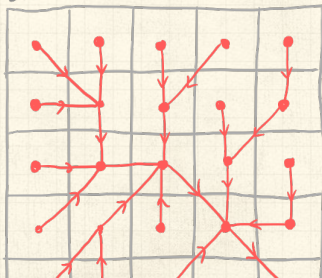
Horton's Laws
Tokunaga's Law
Nutshell

References

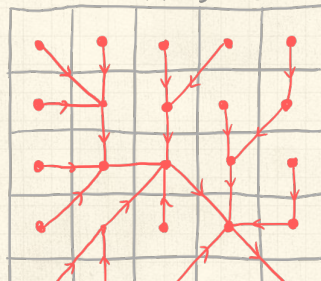
stream ordering ω :




basin area a :





main stream length l :





Resultant definitions:

 A basin of order Ω has n_ω streams (or sub-basins) of order ω .

 $n_\omega > n_{\omega+1}$

 An order ω basin has **area** a_ω .

 An order ω basin has a **main stream length** ℓ_ω .

 An order ω basin has a **stream segment length** s_ω

1. an order ω stream segment is only that part of the stream which is actually of order ω
2. an order ω stream segment runs from the basin outlet up to the junction of two order $\omega - 1$ streams

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws
Tokunaga's Law


Nutshell

References




Horton's laws


Self-similarity of river networks

 First quantified by Horton (1945)^[4], expanded by Schumm (1956)^[6]


Three laws:

 Horton's law of stream numbers:

$$n_{\omega} / n_{\omega+1} = R_n > 1$$

 Horton's law of stream lengths:

$$\bar{\ell}_{\omega+1} / \bar{\ell}_{\omega} = R_{\ell} > 1$$

 Horton's law of basin areas:

$$\bar{a}_{\omega+1} / \bar{a}_{\omega} = R_a > 1$$

Introduction

Definitions

Allometry

Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



Horton's laws

Horton's Ratios:

So ...laws are defined by three ratios:

$$R_n, R_\ell, \text{ and } R_a.$$

Horton's laws describe **exponential decay or growth**:

$$\begin{aligned}n_\omega &= n_{\omega-1}/R_n \\ &= n_{\omega-2}/R_n^2 \\ &\vdots \\ &= n_1/R_n^{\omega-1} \\ &= n_1 e^{-(\omega-1)\ln R_n}\end{aligned}$$

Introduction

Definitions

Allometry

Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



Similar story for area and length:



$$\bar{a}_\omega = \bar{a}_1 e^{(\omega-1)\ln R_a}$$



$$\bar{l}_\omega = \bar{l}_1 e^{(\omega-1)\ln R_\ell}$$



As stream order increases, **number drops** and **area and length increase**.



A few more things:

- 🧱 Horton's laws are laws of averages.
- 🧱 Averaging for number is **across** basins.
- 🧱 Averaging for stream lengths and areas is **within** basins.
- 🧱 Horton's ratios go a long way to defining a branching network ...
- 🧱 But we need one other piece of information ...

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws


Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell


References





A bonus law:

 Horton's law of stream segment lengths:

$$\bar{s}_{\omega+1}/\bar{s}_{\omega} = R_s > 1$$

 Can show that $R_s = R_\ell$.

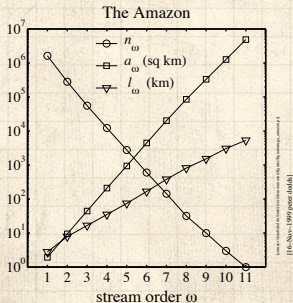
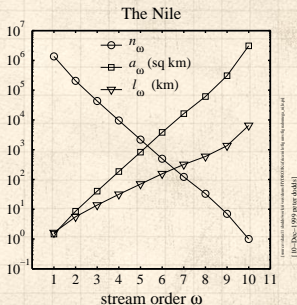
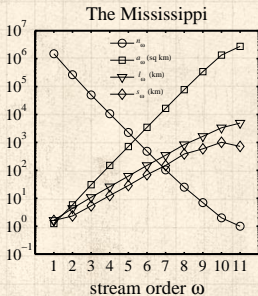
 Insert question from assignment 1 



Horton's laws in the real world:

PoCS
@pocsvox

Branching
Networks I



Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



Blood networks:

- 🧱 Horton's laws hold for sections of cardiovascular networks
- 🧱 Measuring such networks is tricky and messy ...
- 🧱 Vessel diameters obey an analogous Horton's law.

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



Data from real blood networks

PoCS
@pocsvox

Branching
Networks I

Network	R_n	R_r	R_ℓ	$-\frac{\ln R_r}{\ln R_n}$	$-\frac{\ln R_\ell}{\ln R_n}$	α
West <i>et al.</i>	-	-	-	1/2	1/3	3/4
rat (PAT)	2.76	1.58	1.60	0.45	0.46	0.73
cat (PAT) ^[11]	3.67	1.71	1.78	0.41	0.44	0.79
dog (PAT)	3.69	1.67	1.52	0.39	0.32	0.90
pig (LCX)	3.57	1.89	2.20	0.50	0.62	0.62
pig (RCA)	3.50	1.81	2.12	0.47	0.60	0.65
pig (LAD)	3.51	1.84	2.02	0.49	0.56	0.65
human (PAT)	3.03	1.60	1.49	0.42	0.36	0.83
human (PAT)	3.36	1.56	1.49	0.37	0.33	0.94

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law


Nutshell

References



Horton's laws


Observations:


 Horton's ratios vary:


$$R_n \quad 3.0-5.0$$

$$R_a \quad 3.0-6.0$$

$$R_\ell \quad 1.5-3.0$$

 No accepted explanation for these values.

 Horton's laws tell us how quantities vary from level to level ...

 ...but they don't explain how networks are structured.

Introduction

Definitions

Allometry

Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



Delving deeper into network architecture:

- 🧱 Tokunaga (1968) identified a clearer picture of network structure [8, 9, 10]
- 🧱 As per Horton-Strahler, use **stream ordering**.
- 🧱 **Focus:** describe how streams of different orders connect to each other.
- 🧱 Tokunaga's law is also a law of averages.

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws


Tokunaga's Law


Nutshell


References





Definition:

 $T_{\mu,\nu}$ = the average number of **side streams of order ν** that enter as tributaries to streams of **order μ**

 $\mu, \nu = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

 $\mu \geq \nu + 1$

 Recall each stream segment of order μ is 'generated' by two streams of order $\mu - 1$

 These generating streams are not considered side streams.

Introduction

Definitions

Allometry

Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws


Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell


References




Tokunaga's law

-  Property 1: Scale independence—depends only on difference between orders:

$$T_{\mu,\nu} = T_{\mu-\nu}$$

-  Property 2: Number of side streams grows exponentially with difference in orders:

$$T_{\mu,\nu} = T_1(R_T)^{\mu-\nu-1}$$

-  We usually write Tokunaga's law as:

$$T_k = T_1(R_T)^{k-1} \quad \text{where } R_T \simeq 2$$

Introduction

Definitions

Allometry

Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



Tokunaga's law—an example:

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

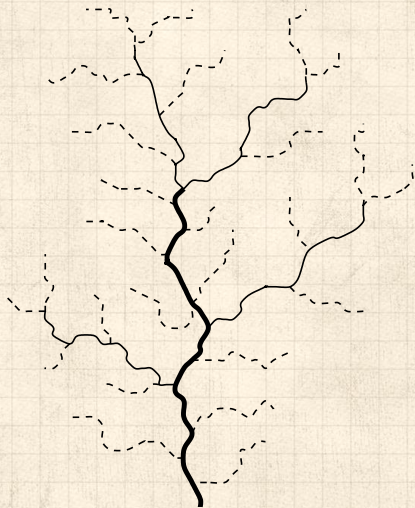
Nutshell

References

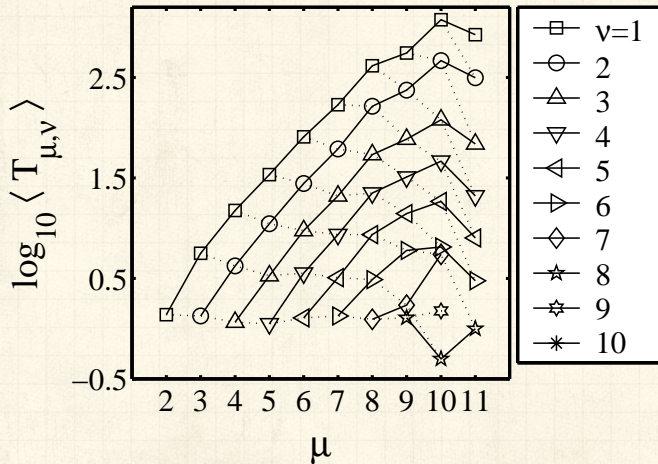


$$T_1 \simeq 2$$

$$R_T \simeq 4$$



A Tokunaga graph:



Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



Nutshell:

- Branching networks show remarkable **self-similarity** over many scales.
- There are many interrelated scaling laws.
- Horton-Strahler **Stream ordering** gives one useful way of getting at the architecture of branching networks.
- Horton's laws** reveal self-similarity.
- Horton's laws can be misinterpreted as suggesting a pure hierarchy.
- Tokunaga's laws** neatly describe network architecture.
- Branching networks exhibit a mixed hierarchical structure.
- Horton and Tokunaga can be connected analytically.
- Surprisingly:

$$R_n = \frac{(2 + R_T + T_1) + \sqrt{(2 + R_T + T_1)^2 - 8R_T}}{2}$$

PoCS
@pocsvox

Branching
Networks I

Introduction

Definitions

Allometry

Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



Crafting landscapes—Far Lands or Bust



FAR LANDS OR BUST!

home about world map contact shirts & gifts

Helloooo! My name is Kurt and I have a Let's Play series on YouTube where, since March 2011, I have been traveling on an expedition to reach the fabled Far Lands of Minecraft Beta 1.7.3, documenting every step of the way. Now featured in the Guinness World Records 2016 Gamer's Edition!

The Latest Far Lands or Bust Episode!

Minecraft Far Lands or Bust - #570 - You Can Do It

FAR LANDS OR BUST!

670

\$407,300 Raised for Child's Play Charity since 2011!

Since starting the Far Lands or Bust fundraiser in June, 2011, generous Farlanders from around the world have raised over **\$400,000** for charity. [Learn more about the series...](#)

Where Gamers Give Back

Child's Play
www.childsplaycharity.org

Mumbo Jumbo

Minecraft, Mojang AB, Child's Play Charity, and other organizations mentioned on this site may not be official sponsors or partners of Far Lands or Bust or the kurtmc YouTube channel. All copyrights and trademarks are the property of their respective owners. When donating through this page's donation widget, funds are securely and directly transferred to the Child's Play organization's PayPal account. I never handle any funds nor have access to individual account details in these transactions. If you wish to learn more about Child's Play Charity, including tax information and alternate methods of donating, click here: <http://www.childsplaycharity.org/faq>

Art, Design and Content © 2017 kurtmc | All other copyrights are the property of their respective owners.

PoCS
@pocsvox
Branching
Networks I

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws




Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



References I

- [1] P. S. Dodds and D. H. Rothman.
Unified view of scaling laws for river networks.
[Physical Review E, 59\(5\):4865–4877, 1999. pdf](#) 
- [2] W. S. Glock.
The development of drainage systems: A synoptic
view.
[The Geographical Review, 21:475–482, 1931.](#)
[pdf](#) 
- [3] J. T. Hack.
Studies of longitudinal stream profiles in Virginia
and Maryland.
[United States Geological Survey Professional
Paper, 294-B:45–97, 1957. pdf](#) 

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References





References II

- [4] R. E. Horton.
Erosional development of streams and their drainage basins; hydrophysical approach to quantitative morphology.
[Bulletin of the Geological Society of America](#), 56(3):275–370, 1945. pdf ↗
- [5] I. Rodríguez-Iturbe and A. Rinaldo.
[Fractal River Basins: Chance and Self-Organization](#).
Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, 1997.
- [6] S. A. Schumm.
Evolution of drainage systems and slopes in badlands at Perth Amboy, New Jersey.
[Bulletin of the Geological Society of America](#), 67:597–646, 1956. pdf ↗



References III

- [7] A. N. Strahler.
Hypsometric (area altitude) analysis of erosional topography.
[Bulletin of the Geological Society of America](#),
63:1117–1142, 1952.
- [8] E. Tokunaga.
The composition of drainage network in Toyohira River Basin and the valuation of Horton's first law.
[Geophysical Bulletin of Hokkaido University](#),
15:1–19, 1966. [pdf](#) 
- [9] E. Tokunaga.
Consideration on the composition of drainage networks and their evolution.
[Geographical Reports of Tokyo Metropolitan University](#), 13:G1–27, 1978. [pdf](#) 

Introduction

Definitions

Allometry

Laws

Stream Ordering


Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References



- [10] E. Tokunaga.
Ordering of divide segments and law of divide
segment numbers.
[Transactions of the Japanese Geomorphological
Union, 5\(2\):71–77, 1984.](#)
- [11] D. L. Turcotte, J. D. Pelletier, and W. I. Newman.
Networks with side branching in biology.
[Journal of Theoretical Biology, 193:577–592, 1998.](#)
[pdf](#) 

Introduction

Definitions
Allometry
Laws

Stream Ordering

Horton's Laws

Tokunaga's Law

Nutshell

References

