

# Branching Networks I

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Complex Networks | @networksvox  
CSYS/MATH 303, Spring, 2019

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## Sealie & Lambie Productions



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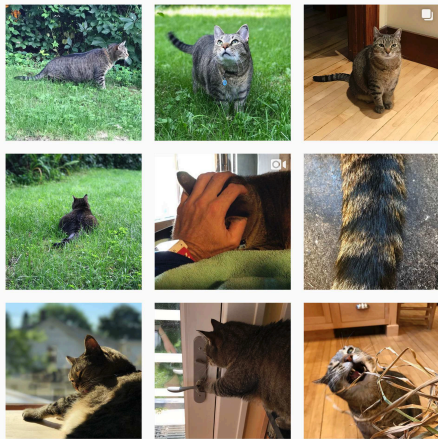


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## Special Guest Executive Producer



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 On Instagram at [pratchett\\_the\\_cat](https://www.instagram.com/pratchett_the_cat) 



# Outline

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# 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 ...)

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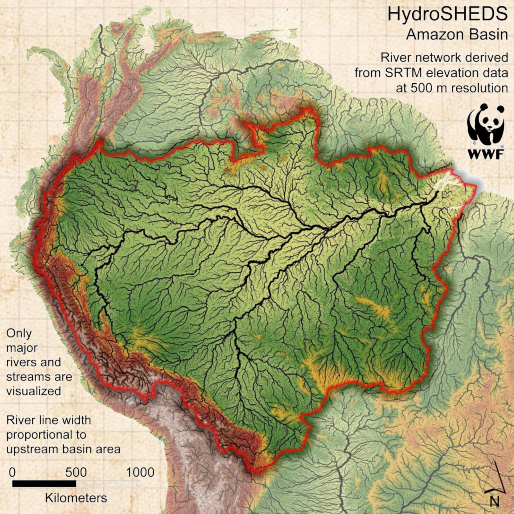
# Branching networks are everywhere ...

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## HydroSHEDS Amazon Basin

River network derived  
from SRTM elevation data  
at 500 m resolution



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



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

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# An early thought piece: Extension and Integration

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## "The Development of Drainage Systems: A Synoptic View"

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

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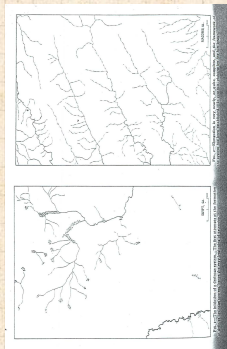
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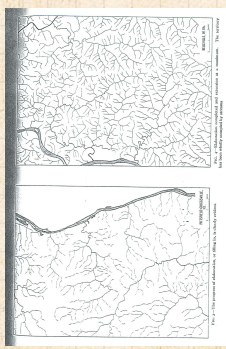
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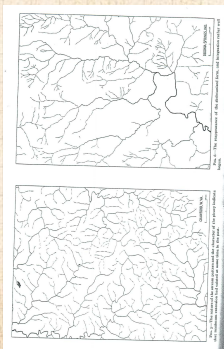
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Initiation,  
Elongation



Elaboration,  
Piracy.



Abstraction,  
Absorption.



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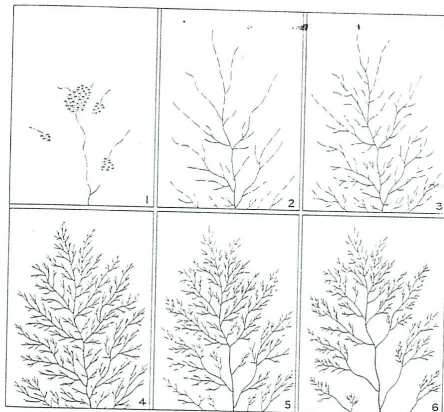


FIG. 8—An ideal diagrammatic summary of the development of a drainage system given for purposes of comparison only. The first four parts show extension, thus: 1, initiation; 2, elongation; 3, elaboration; and 4, maximum extension. Parts 5 and 6 represent steps during integration.

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.



# Shaw and Magnasco's beautiful erosion simulations:<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Unpublished!

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<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 ...

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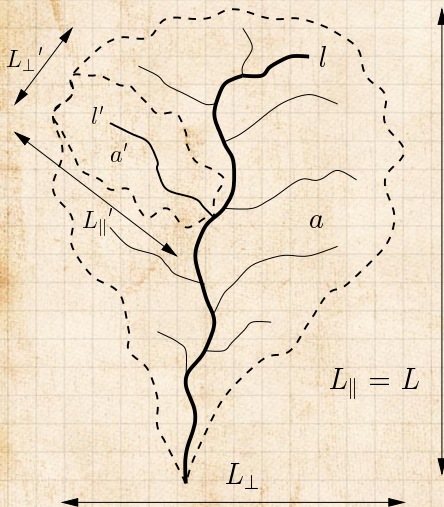
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# Basic basin quantities: $a$ , $l$ , $L_{\parallel}$ , $L_{\perp}$ :



  $a$  = 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

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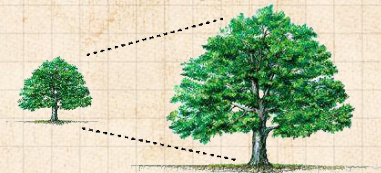
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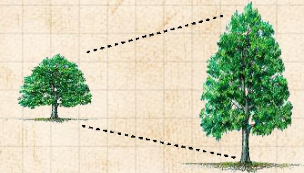




**Isometry:**  
dimensions scale  
linearly with each  
other.

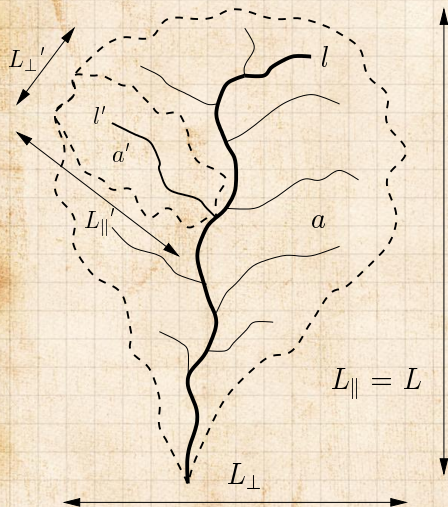


**Allometry:**  
dimensions scale  
nonlinearly.





# Basin allometry



## Allometric relationships:



$$l \propto a^h$$



$$l \propto L^d$$



Combine above:

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

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# 'Laws'

 Hack's law (1957)<sup>[3]</sup>:


$$\ell \propto a^h$$

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': <sup>[1]</sup>

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

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# Reported parameter values: [1]

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
$d$	$1.1 \pm 0.01$
$D$	$1.8 \pm 0.1$
$h$	0.50–0.70
$\tau$	$1.43 \pm 0.05$
$\gamma$	$1.8 \pm 0.1$
$H$	0.75–0.80
$\beta$	0.50–0.70
$\varphi$	$1.05 \pm 0.05$

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# 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 ...**





# Stream Ordering:





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## Method for describing network architecture:

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



# Stream Ordering:

## 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.

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# 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 =  $\Omega$ )
4. Basin is said to be of the order of the last stream removed.
5. Example above is a basin of order  $\Omega = 3$ .

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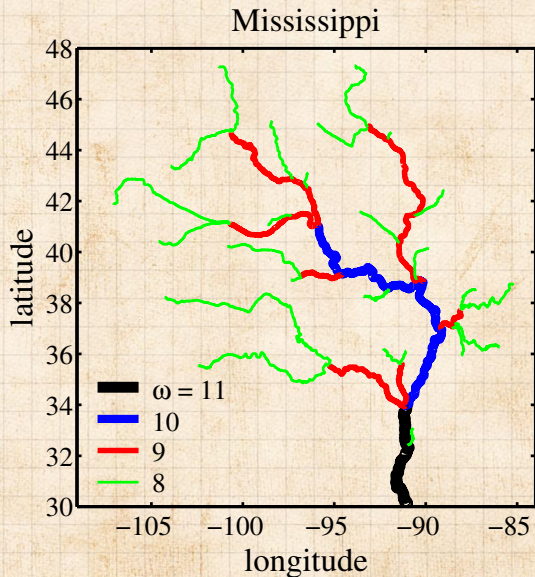
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# Stream Ordering—A large example:

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# Stream Ordering:

Another way to define ordering:

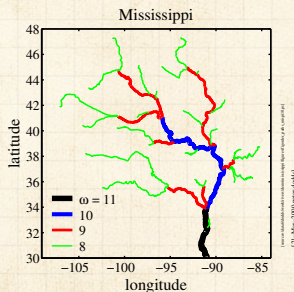
- As before, label all **source streams** as **order  $\omega = 1$** .
- Follow all labelled streams downstream
- Whenever two streams of the same order ( $\omega$ ) meet, the resulting stream has order incremented by 1 ( $\omega + 1$ ).

If streams of different orders  $\omega_1$  and  $\omega_2$  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  $\delta$  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**

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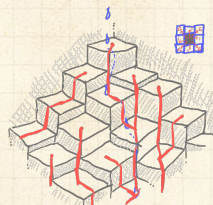
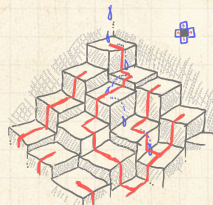
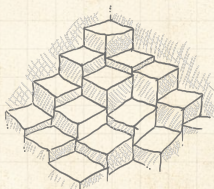
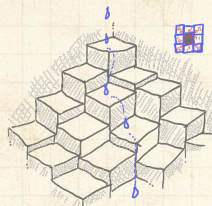
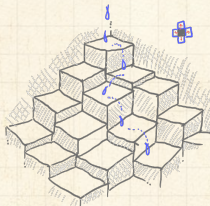
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# Basic algorithm for extracting networks from Digital Elevation Models (DEMs):

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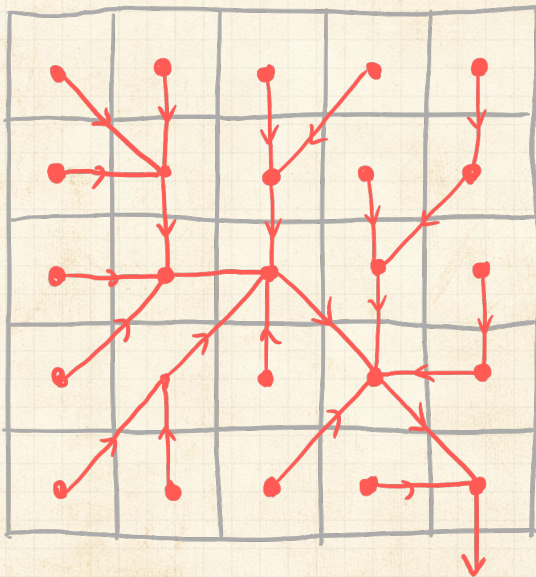
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Also:

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





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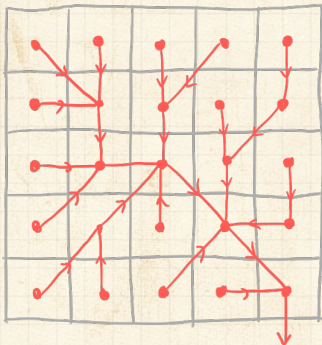
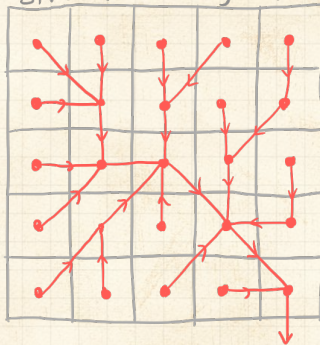
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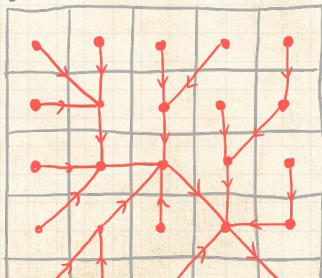
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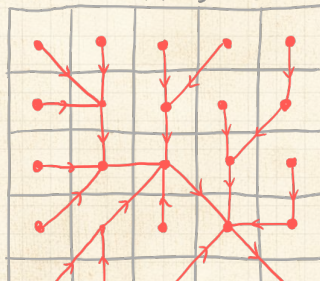
stream ordering  $\omega$ :




basin area  $a$ :





main stream length  $l$ :





## Resultant definitions:

 A basin of order  $\Omega$  has  $n_\omega$  streams (or sub-basins) of order  $\omega$ .

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

 An order  $\omega$  basin has **area**  $a_\omega$ .

 An order  $\omega$  basin has a **main stream length**  $\ell_\omega$ .

 An order  $\omega$  basin has a **stream segment length**  $s_\omega$

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

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# Horton's laws


## Self-similarity of river networks

 First quantified by Horton (1945)<sup>[4]</sup>, expanded by Schumm (1956)<sup>[6]</sup>


### 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:

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

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# 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**:

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

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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 ...





A bonus law:

 Horton's law of stream segment lengths:

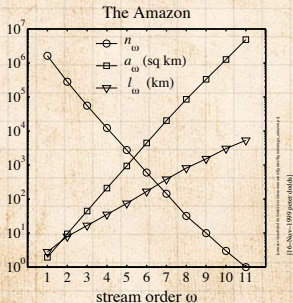
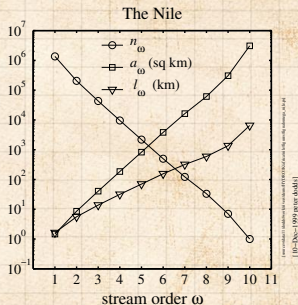
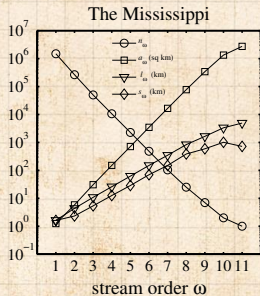
$$\bar{s}_{\omega+1}/\bar{s}_{\omega} = R_s > 1$$

 Can show that  $R_s = R_\ell$ .

 Insert question from assignment 1 



# Horton's laws in the real world:



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## 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.





# Data from real blood networks

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Network	$R_n$	$R_r$	$R_\ell$	$-\frac{\ln R_r}{\ln R_n}$	$-\frac{\ln R_\ell}{\ln R_n}$	$\alpha$
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) <sup>[11]</sup>	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

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## 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.

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## 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.





## Definition:

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

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

  $\mu \geq \nu + 1$

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

 These generating streams are not considered side streams.

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## 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:

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

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# Tokunaga's law—an example:

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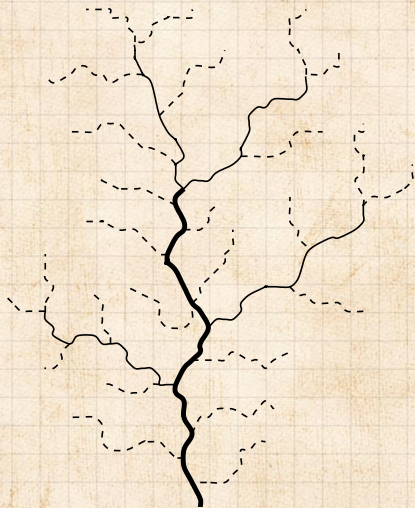
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$$T_1 \simeq 2$$

$$R_T \simeq 4$$

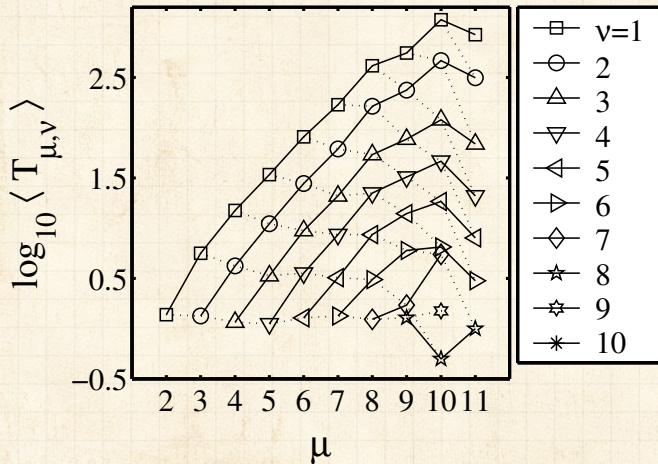


# The Mississippi

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A Tokunaga graph:



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- 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:

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

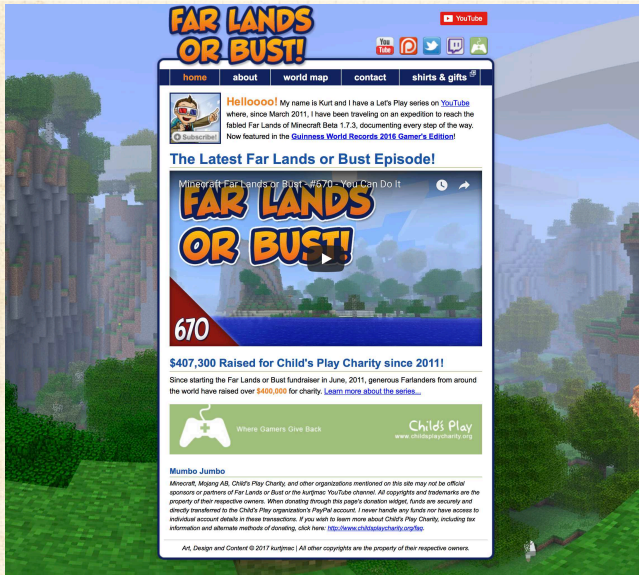




# Crafting landscapes—Far Lands or Bust

COcoNuTS  
@networksvox

Branching  
Networks I



The screenshot shows the website for "Far Lands or Bust". At the top, the title "FAR LANDS OR BUST!" is written in large, stylized orange and blue letters. Below the title are social media icons for YouTube, YouTube, YouTube, YouTube, and YouTube. A navigation bar contains links for "home", "about", "world map", "contact", and "shirts & gifts". The main content area features a "Helloooo!" message from Kurt, a "The Latest Far Lands or Bust Episode!" section with a video player showing a Minecraft landscape, and a "\$407,300 Raised for Child's Play Charity since 2011!" section. The bottom of the page includes a "Child's Play" logo and a disclaimer.

**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**

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