

# Optimal Supply Networks I: Branching

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

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## Outline

Optimal transportation

Optimal branching  
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## Optimal supply networks

What's the best way to distribute stuff?

- ☛ Stuff = medical services, energy, people, ...
- ☛ Some fundamental network problems:
  1. Distribute stuff from a **single source** to **many sinks**
  2. Distribute stuff from **many sources** to many sinks
  3. **Redistribute** stuff between nodes that are both sources and sinks

☛ Supply and Collection are equivalent problems

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## Single source optimal supply

Basic question for distribution/supply networks:

☛ How does flow behave given cost:

$$C = \sum_j I_j^\gamma Z_j$$

where

$I_j$  = current on link  $j$

and

$Z_j$  = link  $j$ 's impedance?

☛ Example:  $\gamma = 2$  for electrical networks.

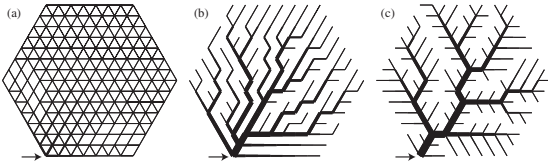
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## Single source optimal supply

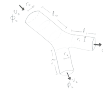


- (a)  $\gamma > 1$ : **Braided** (bulk) flow
  - (b)  $\gamma < 1$ : Local minimum: **Branching** flow
  - (c)  $\gamma < 1$ : Global minimum: **Branching** flow
- 🌀 Note: This is a single source supplying a region.

From Bohn and Magnasco [3]  
 See also Banavar *et al.* [1]: "Topology of the Fittest Transportation Network"; focus is on presence or absence of loops—same story

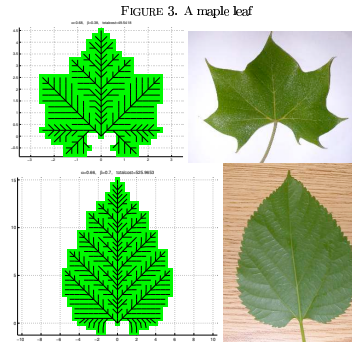
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## Growing networks: [20]



- 🌀 Top:  $\alpha = 0.66, \beta = 0.38$ ; Bottom:  $\alpha = 0.66, \beta = 0.70$

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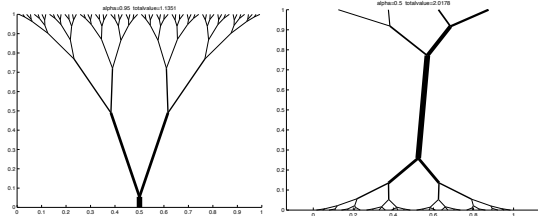
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## Single source optimal supply

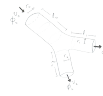
Optimal paths related to transport (Monge) problems [4]:



"Optimal paths related to transport problems" [4]  
 Qinglan Xia,  
 Communications in Contemporary  
 Mathematics, 5, 251–279, 2003. [19]

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## Single source optimal supply

An immensely controversial issue ...

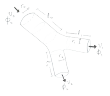
- 🌀 The form of natural branching networks:  
 Random, optimal, or some  
 combination? [6, 18, 2, 5, 4]
- 🌀 River networks, blood networks, trees, ...

Two observations:

- 🌀 Self-similar networks appear everywhere in nature for single source supply/single sink collection.
- 🌀 Real networks differ in **details of scaling** but reasonably agree in **scaling relations**.

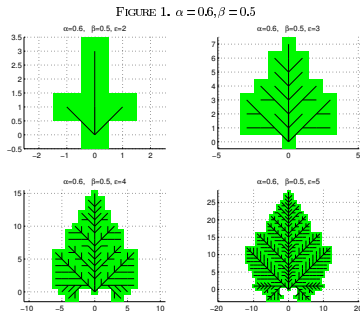
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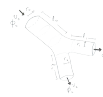
## Growing networks—two parameter model: [20]



- 🌀 Parameters control impedance ( $0 \leq \alpha < 1$ ) and angles of junctions ( $0 < \beta$ )
- 🌀 For this example:  $\alpha = 0.6$  and  $\beta = 0.5$

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## River network models

Optimality:

- 🌀 Optimal channel networks [13]
- 🌀 Thermodynamic analogy [14]

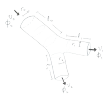
versus ...

Randomness:

- 🌀 Scheidegger's directed random networks
- 🌀 Undirected random networks

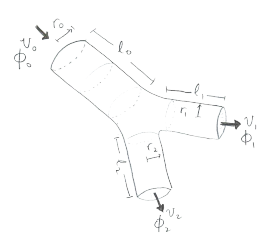
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## Optimization—Murray's law



Murray's law (1926) connects branch radii at forks: [11, 10, 12, 7, 16]

$$r_0^3 = r_1^3 + r_2^3$$

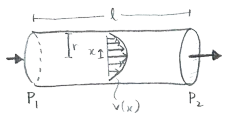
where  $r_0$  = radius of main branch, and  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  = radii of sub-branches.

- Holds up well for outer branchings of blood networks.
- Also found to hold for trees [12, 8] when xylem is not a supporting structure [9].
- See D'Arcy Thompson's "On Growth and Form" for background and general inspiration [15, 16].

• Use hydraulic equivalent of Ohm's law:

$$\Delta p = \Phi Z \Leftrightarrow V = IR$$

where  $\Delta p$  = pressure difference,  $\Phi$  = flux.



• Fluid mechanics: Poiseuille impedance for smooth Poiseuille flow in a tube of radius  $r$  and length  $\ell$ :

$$Z = \frac{8\eta\ell}{\pi r^4}$$

- $\eta$  = dynamic viscosity (units:  $ML^{-1}T^{-1}$ ).
- Power required to overcome impedance:

$$P_{\text{drag}} = \Phi \Delta p = \Phi^2 Z.$$

- Also have rate of energy expenditure in maintaining blood given metabolic constant  $c$ :

$$P_{\text{metabolic}} = cr^2\ell$$

## Optimization—Murray's law

Aside on  $P_{\text{drag}}$

- Work done =  $F \cdot d$  = energy transferred by force  $F$
- Power =  $P$  = rate work is done =  $F \cdot v$
- $\Delta p$  = Force per unit area
- $\Phi$  = Volume per unit time = cross-sectional area  $\cdot$  velocity
- So  $\Phi \Delta p$  = Force  $\cdot$  velocity

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## Optimization—Murray's law

Murray's law:

• Total power (cost):

$$P = P_{\text{drag}} + P_{\text{metabolic}} = \Phi^2 \frac{8\eta\ell}{\pi r^4} + cr^2\ell$$

• Observe power increases linearly with  $\ell$

• But  $r$ 's effect is nonlinear:

- increasing  $r$  makes flow easier **but increases metabolic cost** (as  $r^2$ )
- decreasing  $r$  decrease metabolic cost **but impedance goes up** (as  $r^{-4}$ )

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## Optimization—Murray's law

Murray's law:

• Minimize  $P$  with respect to  $r$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial P}{\partial r} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( \Phi^2 \frac{8\eta\ell}{\pi r^4} + cr^2\ell \right) \\ &= -4\Phi^2 \frac{8\eta\ell}{\pi r^5} + c2r\ell = 0 \end{aligned}$$

• Rearrange/cancel/slap:

$$\Phi^2 = \frac{c\pi r^6}{16\eta} = k^2 r^6$$

where  $k$  = constant.

## Optimization—Murray's law

Murray's law:

• So we now have:

$$\Phi = kr^3$$

• Flow rates at each branching have to add up (else our organism is in serious trouble ...):

$$\Phi_0 = \Phi_1 + \Phi_2$$

where again 0 refers to the main branch and 1 and 2 refers to the offspring branches

• All of this means we have a groovy cube-law:

$$r_0^3 = r_1^3 + r_2^3$$

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## Optimization

### Murray meets Tokunaga:

$\Phi_\omega$  = volume rate of flow into an order  $\omega$  vessel segment

Tokunaga picture:

$$\Phi_\omega = 2\Phi_{\omega-1} + \sum_{k=1}^{\omega-1} T_k \Phi_{\omega-k}$$

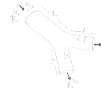
Using  $\phi_\omega = kr_\omega^3$

$$r_\omega^3 = 2r_{\omega-1}^3 + \sum_{k=1}^{\omega-1} T_k r_{\omega-k}^3$$

Find Horton ratio for vessel radius  $R_r = r_\omega / r_{\omega-1} \dots$

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## Optimization

### Murray meets Tokunaga:

Find  $R_r^3$  satisfies same equation as  $R_n$  and  $R_v$  ( $v$  is for volume):

$$R_r^3 = R_n = R_v$$

Is there more we could do here to constrain the Horton ratios and Tokunaga constants?

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## Optimization

### Murray meets Tokunaga:

Isometry:  $V_\omega \propto \ell_\omega^3$

Gives

$$R_\ell^3 = R_r^3 = R_n = R_v$$

We need one more constraint ...

West *et al.* (1997)<sup>[18]</sup> achieve similar results following Horton's laws (but this work is disaster).

So does Turcotte *et al.* (1998)<sup>[17]</sup> using Tokunaga (sort of).

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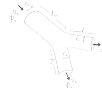
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