

# Branching Networks II

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Principles of Complex Systems, Vols. 1, 2, & 3D  
CSYS/MATH 6701, 6713, & a pretend number, 2024–2025

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The PoCverse  
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Horton  $\Leftrightarrow$  Tokunaga

Reducing Horton

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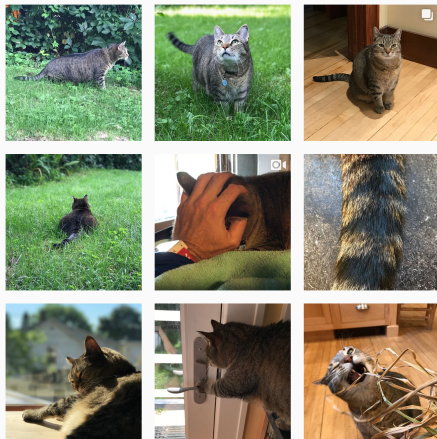
Nutshell



References



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# Outline

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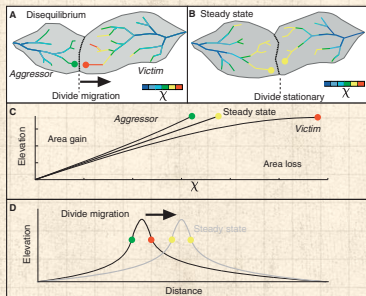




# Piracy on the high $\chi$ 's:





“Dynamic Reorganization of River Basins”   
Willett et al.,  
Science, **343**, 1248765, 2014. <sup>[21]</sup>

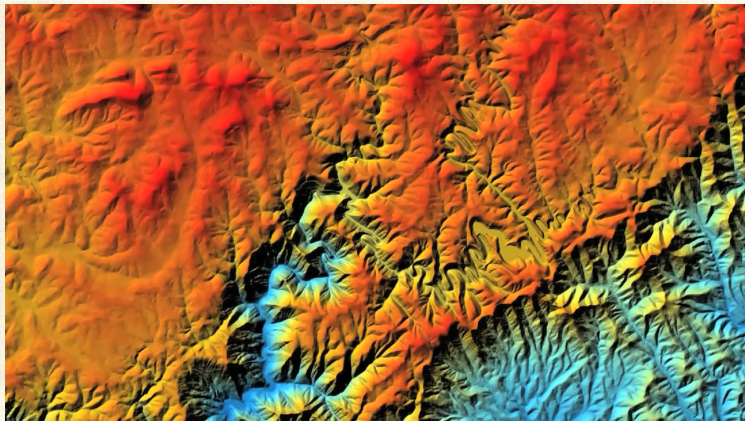


$$\frac{\partial z(x, t)}{\partial t} = U - K A^m \left| \frac{\partial z(x, t)}{\partial x} \right|^n$$

$$z(x) = z_b + \left( \frac{U}{K A_0^m} \right)^{1/n} \chi$$

$$\chi = \int_{x_b}^x \left( \frac{A_0}{A(x')} \right)^{m/n} dx'$$

Piracy on the high  $\chi$ 's:  



Story: How river networks move across a landscape  (Science Daily)

Source: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FnroL1\\_-12c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FnroL1_-12c) 

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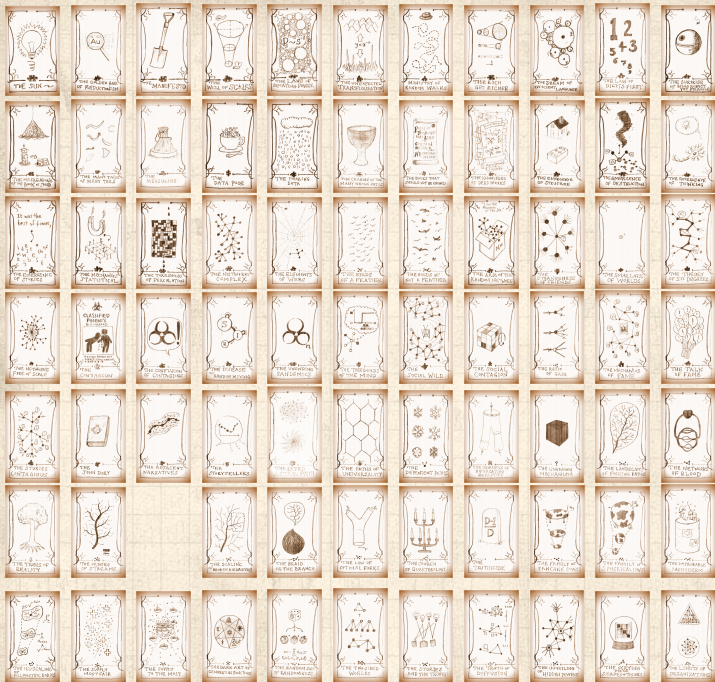
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# Can Horton and Tokunaga be happy?

## Horton and Tokunaga seem different:

-  In terms of network architecture, Horton's laws appear to contain less detailed information than Tokunaga's law.
-  Oddly, Horton's laws have **four** parameters and Tokunaga has **two** parameters.
-   $R_n$ ,  $R_a$ ,  $R_\ell$ , and  $R_s$  **versus**  $T_1$  and  $R_T$ . One simple redundancy:  $R_\ell = R_s$ .  
Insert assignment question 
-  To make a connection, clearest approach is to start with Tokunaga's law ...
-  Known result: Tokunaga  $\rightarrow$  Horton <sup>[18, 19, 20, 9, 2]</sup>



# Let us make them happy

We need one more ingredient:

## Space-fillingness


- 🧱 A network is **space-filling** if the average distance between adjacent streams is roughly constant.
- 🧱 Reasonable for river and cardiovascular networks
- 🧱 For river networks:  
**Drainage density**  $\rho_{dd}$  = inverse of typical distance between channels in a landscape.
- 🧱 In terms of basin characteristics:

$$\rho_{dd} \simeq \frac{\sum \text{stream segment lengths}}{\text{basin area}} = \frac{\sum_{\omega=1}^{\Omega} n_{\omega} \bar{s}_{\omega}}{a_{\Omega}}$$





# More with the happy-making thing

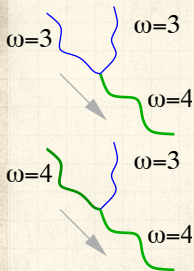
Start with Tokunaga's law:  $T_k = T_1 R_T^{k-1}$

 Start looking for Horton's stream number law:

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

 Estimate  $n_\omega$ , the number of streams of order  $\omega$  in terms of other  $n_{\omega'}$ ,  $\omega' > \omega$ .

 Observe that each stream of order  $\omega$  terminates by either:



1. Running into another stream of order  $\omega$  and generating a stream of order  $\omega + 1$  ...

▶  $2n_{\omega+1}$  streams of order  $\omega$  do this

2. Running into and being absorbed by a stream of higher order  $\omega' > \omega$  ...

▶  $n_{\omega'} T_{\omega'-\omega}$  streams of order  $\omega$  do this



# More with the happy-making thing

Putting things together:



$$n_{\omega} = \underbrace{2n_{\omega+1}}_{\text{generation}} + \sum_{\omega'=\omega+1}^{\Omega} \underbrace{T_{\omega'-\omega}n_{\omega'}}_{\text{absorption}}$$



Use Tokunaga's law and manipulate expression to find Horton's law for stream numbers follows and hence obtain  $R_n$ .



Insert assignment question 



Solution:

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

(The larger value is the one we want.)



# Finding other Horton ratios

## Connect Tokunaga to $R_s$

- Now use uniform drainage density  $\rho_{dd}$ .
- Assume side streams are roughly separated by distance  $1/\rho_{dd}$ .
- For an order  $\omega$  **stream segment**, expected length is

$$\bar{s}_\omega \simeq \rho_{dd}^{-1} \left( 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\omega-1} T_k \right)$$

- Substitute in Tokunaga's law  $T_k = T_1 R_T^{k-1}$ :

$$\bar{s}_\omega \simeq \rho_{dd}^{-1} \left( 1 + T_1 \sum_{k=1}^{\omega-1} R_T^{k-1} \right) \propto R_T^\omega$$



# Horton and Tokunaga are happy

Altogether then:



$$\Rightarrow \bar{s}_\omega / \bar{s}_{\omega-1} = R_T \Rightarrow R_s = R_T$$



Recall  $R_\ell = R_s$  so

$$R_\ell = R_s = R_T$$








And from before:

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



# Horton and Tokunaga are happy

## Some observations:


-   $R_n$  and  $R_\ell$  depend on  $T_1$  and  $R_T$ .
-  Seems that  $R_a$  must as well ...
-  Suggests Horton's laws must contain some redundancy
-  We'll in fact see that  $R_a = R_n$ .
-  Also: Both Tokunaga's law and Horton's laws can be generalized to relationships between non-trivial statistical distributions. [3, 4]





# Horton and Tokunaga are happy

## The other way round

 Note: We can invert the expressions for  $R_n$  and  $R_\ell$  to find Tokunaga's parameters in terms of Horton's parameters.



$$R_T = R_\ell,$$



$$T_1 = R_n - R_\ell - 2 + 2R_\ell/R_n.$$

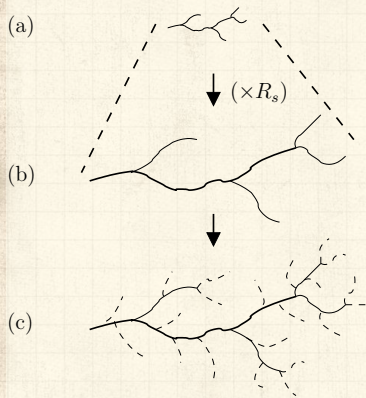



Suggests we should be able to argue that Horton's laws imply Tokunaga's laws (if drainage density is uniform) ...





# Horton and Tokunaga are friends


From Horton to Tokunaga [2]



 Assume Horton's laws hold for number and length

 Start with picture showing an order  $\omega$  stream and order  $\omega - 1$  generating and side streams.

 Scale up by a factor of  $R_\ell$ , orders increment to  $\omega + 1$  and  $\omega$ .

 Maintain drainage density by adding new order  $\omega - 1$  streams



# Horton and Tokunaga are friends

...and in detail:

- Must retain same drainage density.
- Add an extra  $(R_\ell - 1)$  first order streams for each original tributary.
- Since by definition, an order  $\omega + 1$  stream segment has  $T_\omega$  order 1 side streams, we have:


$$T_k = (R_\ell - 1) \left( 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} T_i \right).$$

- For large  $\omega$ , Tokunaga's law is the solution—let's check ...



# Horton and Tokunaga are friends

Just checking:

 Substitute Tokunaga's law  $T_i = T_1 R_T^{i-1} = T_1 R_\ell^{i-1}$  into

$$T_k = (R_\ell - 1) \left( 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} T_i \right)$$



$$T_k = (R_\ell - 1) \left( 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} T_1 R_\ell^{i-1} \right)$$

$$= (R_\ell - 1) \left( 1 + T_1 \frac{R_\ell^{k-1} - 1}{R_\ell - 1} \right)$$

$$\simeq (R_\ell - 1) T_1 \frac{R_\ell^{k-1}}{R_\ell - 1} = T_1 R_\ell^{k-1} \quad \dots\text{yep.}$$



# Horton's laws of area and number:

Horton  $\Leftrightarrow$  Tokunaga

Reducing Horton

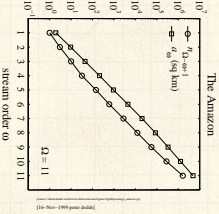
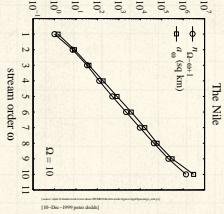
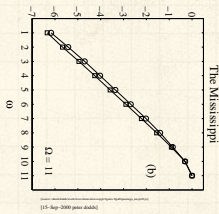
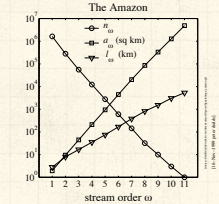
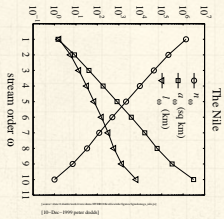
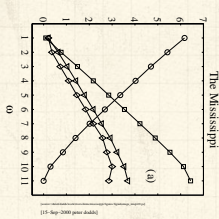
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In bottom plots, stream number graph has been flipped vertically.



Highly suggestive that  $R_{\omega} \equiv R_{\omega-1}$



# Measuring Horton ratios is tricky:



How robust are our estimates of ratios?



Rule of thumb: discard data for two smallest and two largest orders.



# Mississippi:

$\omega$ range	$R_n$	$R_a$	$R_\ell$	$R_s$	$R_a/R_n$
[2, 3]	5.27	5.26	2.48	2.30	1.00
[2, 5]	4.86	4.96	2.42	2.31	1.02
[2, 7]	4.77	4.88	2.40	2.31	1.02
[3, 4]	4.72	4.91	2.41	2.34	1.04
[3, 6]	4.70	4.83	2.40	2.35	1.03
[3, 8]	4.60	4.79	2.38	2.34	1.04
[4, 6]	4.69	4.81	2.40	2.36	1.02
[4, 8]	4.57	4.77	2.38	2.34	1.05
[5, 7]	4.68	4.83	2.36	2.29	1.03
[6, 7]	4.63	4.76	2.30	2.16	1.03
[7, 8]	4.16	4.67	2.41	2.56	1.12
mean $\mu$	4.69	4.85	2.40	2.33	1.04
std dev $\sigma$	0.21	0.13	0.04	0.07	0.03
$\sigma/\mu$	0.045	0.027	0.015	0.031	0.024



# Amazon:


$\omega$ range	$R_n$	$R_a$	$R_\ell$	$R_s$	$R_a/R_n$
[2, 3]	4.78	4.71	2.47	2.08	0.99
[2, 5]	4.55	4.58	2.32	2.12	1.01
[2, 7]	4.42	4.53	2.24	2.10	1.02
[3, 5]	4.45	4.52	2.26	2.14	1.01
[3, 7]	4.35	4.49	2.20	2.10	1.03
[4, 6]	4.38	4.54	2.22	2.18	1.03
[5, 6]	4.38	4.62	2.22	2.21	1.06
[6, 7]	4.08	4.27	2.05	1.83	1.05
mean $\mu$	4.42	4.53	2.25	2.10	1.02
std dev $\sigma$	0.17	0.10	0.10	0.09	0.02
$\sigma/\mu$	0.038	0.023	0.045	0.042	0.019





## Reducing Horton's laws:

Rough first effort to show  $R_n \equiv R_a$ :

  $a_\Omega \propto$  sum of all stream segment lengths in a order  $\Omega$  basin  
(assuming uniform drainage density)

 So:

$$\begin{aligned} a_\Omega &\simeq \sum_{\omega=1}^{\Omega} n_\omega \bar{s}_\omega / \rho_{dd} \\ &\propto \sum_{\omega=1}^{\Omega} \underbrace{R_n^{\Omega-\omega} \cdot \hat{1}^{n_\Omega}}_{n_\omega} \underbrace{\bar{s}_1 \cdot R_s^{\omega-1}}_{\bar{s}_\omega} \\ &= \frac{R_n^\Omega}{R_s} \bar{s}_1 \sum_{\omega=1}^{\Omega} \left( \frac{R_s}{R_n} \right)^\omega \end{aligned}$$




## Reducing Horton's laws:

Continued ...



$$\begin{aligned} a_{\Omega} &\propto \frac{R_n^{\Omega}}{R_s} \bar{s}_1 \sum_{\omega=1}^{\Omega} \left( \frac{R_s}{R_n} \right)^{\omega} \\ &= \frac{R_n^{\Omega}}{R_s} \bar{s}_1 \frac{R_s}{R_n} \frac{1 - (R_s/R_n)^{\Omega}}{1 - (R_s/R_n)} \\ &\sim R_n^{\Omega-1} \bar{s}_1 \frac{1}{1 - (R_s/R_n)} \text{ as } \Omega \nearrow \end{aligned}$$


 So,  $a_{\Omega}$  is growing like  $R_n^{\Omega}$  and therefore:


$$R_n \equiv R_a$$




# Reducing Horton's laws:

Not quite:

 ...But this only a rough argument as Horton's laws do not imply a strict hierarchy


 Need to account for sidebranching.


 Insert assignment question 




# Equipartitioning:


## Intriguing division of area:

 Observe: Combined area of basins of order  $\omega$  independent of  $\omega$ .

 Not obvious: basins of low orders not necessarily contained in basin on higher orders.

 Story:

$$R_n \equiv R_a \Rightarrow \boxed{n_\omega \bar{a}_\omega = \text{const}}$$

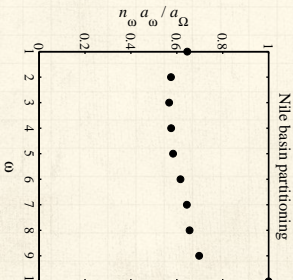
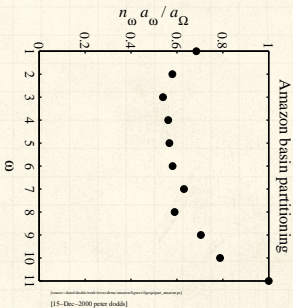
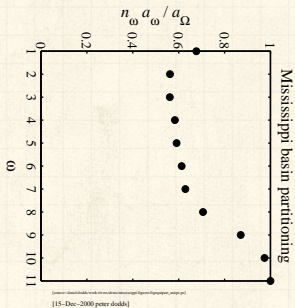
 Reason:

$$n_\omega \propto (R_n)^{-\omega}$$
$$\bar{a}_\omega \propto (R_a)^\omega \propto n_\omega^{-1}$$



# Equipartitioning:

Some examples:



Horton  $\Leftrightarrow$  Tokunaga

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# Neural Reboot: Fwoompf

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5mUs70SqD4o?rel=0> 





# Scaling laws


## The story so far:


 Natural branching networks are **hierarchical, self-similar** structures

 Hierarchy is **mixed**

 Tokunaga's law describes detailed architecture:  
$$T_k = T_1 R_T^{k-1}.$$

 We have connected Tokunaga's and Horton's laws

 Only two Horton laws are independent ( $R_n = R_a$ )

 Only **two** parameters are **independent**:  
$$(T_1, R_T) \Leftrightarrow (R_n, R_s)$$



# Scaling laws

## A little further ...

- Ignore stream ordering for the moment
- Pick a random location on a branching network  $p$ .
- Each point  $p$  is associated with a basin and a longest stream length
- Q:** What is probability that the  $p$ 's drainage basin has area  $a$ ?  
 $P(a) \propto a^{-\tau}$  for large  $a$
- Q:** What is probability that the longest stream from  $p$  has length  $\ell$ ?  $P(\ell) \propto \ell^{-\gamma}$  for large  $\ell$
- Roughly observed:  $1.3 \lesssim \tau \lesssim 1.5$  and  $1.7 \lesssim \gamma \lesssim 2.0$










## Probability distributions with power-law decays



We see them everywhere:

-  Earthquake magnitudes (Gutenberg-Richter law)
-  City sizes (Zipf's law)
-  Word frequency (Zipf's law) [22]
-  Wealth (maybe not—at least heavy tailed)
-  Statistical mechanics (phase transitions) [5]



A big part of the story of complex systems



Arise from **mechanisms**: growth, randomness, optimization,







...



Our task is always to illuminate the mechanism ...




## Connecting exponents


-  We have the detailed picture of branching networks (Tokunaga and Horton)
-  Plan: Derive  $P(a) \propto a^{-\tau}$  and  $P(\ell) \propto \ell^{-\gamma}$  starting with Tokunaga/Horton story <sup>[17, 1, 2]</sup>
-  Let's work on  $P(\ell)$  ...
-  Our first fudge: assume Horton's laws hold throughout a basin of order  $\Omega$ .
-  (We know they deviate from strict laws for low  $\omega$  and high  $\omega$  but not too much.)
-  Next: place stick between teeth. Bite stick. Proceed.



# Scaling laws

## Finding $\gamma$ :

 Often useful to work with **cumulative distributions**, especially when dealing with power-law distributions.

 The complementary cumulative distribution turns out to be most useful:

$$P_{>}(l_*) = P(l > l_*) = \int_{l=l_*}^{l_{\max}} P(l) dl$$



$$P_{>}(l_*) = 1 - P(l < l_*)$$





Also known as the exceedance probability.



# Scaling laws

## Finding $\gamma$ :

 The connection between  $P(x)$  and  $P_{>}(x)$  when  $P(x)$  has a power law tail is simple:

 Given  $P(l) \sim l^{-\gamma}$  large  $l$  then for large enough  $l_*$

$$P_{>}(l_*) = \int_{l=l_*}^{l_{\max}} P(l) dl$$

$$\sim \int_{l=l_*}^{l_{\max}} l^{-\gamma} dl$$





$$= \frac{l^{-(\gamma-1)}}{-(\gamma-1)} \Big|_{l=l_*}^{l_{\max}}$$

$$\propto l_*^{-(\gamma-1)} \quad \text{for } l_{\max} \gg l_*$$




# Scaling laws

## Finding $\gamma$ :

-  **Aim:** determine probability of randomly choosing a point on a network with main stream length  $> \ell_*$
-  Assume some spatial sampling resolution  $\Delta$
-  Landscape is broken up into grid of  $\Delta \times \Delta$  sites
-  Approximate  $P_{>}(\ell_*)$  as

$$P_{>}(\ell_*) = \frac{N_{>}(\ell_*; \Delta)}{N_{>}(0; \Delta)}.$$


where  $N_{>}(\ell_*; \Delta)$  is the number of sites with main stream length  $> \ell_*$ .

-  Use Horton's law of stream segments:  $\bar{s}_\omega / \bar{s}_{\omega-1} = R_s \dots$




# Scaling laws


## Finding $\gamma$ :


 Set  $l_* = \bar{l}_\omega$  for some  $1 \ll \omega \ll \Omega$ .



$$P_{>}(\bar{l}_\omega) = \frac{N_{>}(\bar{l}_\omega; \Delta)}{N_{>}(0; \Delta)} \simeq \frac{\sum_{\omega'=\omega+1}^{\Omega} n_{\omega'} \bar{s}_{\omega'} / \cancel{\Delta}}{\sum_{\omega'=1}^{\Omega} n_{\omega'} \bar{s}_{\omega'} / \cancel{\Delta}}$$

  $\Delta$ 's cancel

 Denominator is  $a_\Omega \rho_{\text{dd}}$ , a constant.


 So ...using Horton's laws ...

$$P_{>}(\bar{l}_\omega) \propto \sum_{\omega'=\omega+1}^{\Omega} n_{\omega'} \bar{s}_{\omega'} \simeq \sum_{\omega'=\omega+1}^{\Omega} (1 \cdot R_n^{\Omega-\omega'}) (\bar{s}_1 \cdot R_s^{\omega'-1})$$




# Scaling laws


## Finding $\gamma$ :


 We are here:

$$P_{>}(\bar{\ell}_{\omega}) \propto \sum_{\omega'=\omega+1}^{\Omega} (1 \cdot R_n^{\Omega-\omega'}) (\bar{s}_1 \cdot R_s^{\omega'-1})$$

 Cleaning up irrelevant constants:

$$P_{>}(\bar{\ell}_{\omega}) \propto \sum_{\omega'=\omega+1}^{\Omega} \left( \frac{R_s}{R_n} \right)^{\omega'}$$

 Change summation order by substituting  $\omega'' = \Omega - \omega'$ .

 Sum is now from  $\omega'' = 0$  to  $\omega'' = \Omega - \omega - 1$  (equivalent to  $\omega' = \Omega$  down to  $\omega' = \omega + 1$ )



# Scaling laws

Finding  $\gamma$ :



$$P_{>}(\bar{\ell}_\omega) \propto \sum_{\omega''=0}^{\Omega-\omega-1} \left(\frac{R_s}{R_n}\right)^{\Omega-\omega''} \propto \sum_{\omega''=0}^{\Omega-\omega-1} \left(\frac{R_n}{R_s}\right)^{\omega''}$$



Since  $R_n > R_s$  and  $1 \ll \omega \ll \Omega$ ,

$$P_{>}(\bar{\ell}_\omega) \propto \left(\frac{R_n}{R_s}\right)^{\Omega-\omega} \propto \left(\frac{R_n}{R_s}\right)^{-\omega}$$


again using  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a^i = (a^n - 1)/(a - 1)$







# Scaling laws

## Finding $\gamma$ :

 Nearly there:

$$P_{>}(\bar{\ell}_\omega) \propto \left( \frac{R_n}{R_s} \right)^{-\omega} = e^{-\omega \ln(R_n/R_s)}$$

 Need to express right hand side in terms of  $\bar{\ell}_\omega$ .

 Recall that  $\bar{\ell}_\omega \simeq \bar{\ell}_1 R_\ell^{\omega-1}$ .




$$\bar{\ell}_\omega \propto R_\ell^\omega = R_s^\omega = e^{\omega \ln R_s}$$




# Scaling laws


Finding  $\gamma$ :

 Therefore:


$$P_{>}(\bar{l}_\omega) \propto e^{-\omega \ln(R_n/R_s)} = (e^{\omega \ln R_s})^{-\ln(R_n/R_s)/\ln(R_s)}$$




$$\propto \bar{l}_\omega^{-\ln(R_n/R_s)/\ln R_s}$$



$$= \bar{l}_\omega^{-(\ln R_n - \ln R_s)/\ln R_s}$$



$$= \bar{l}_\omega^{-\ln R_n/\ln R_s + 1}$$




$$= \bar{l}_\omega^{-\gamma + 1}$$




# Scaling laws

## Finding $\gamma$ :


 And so we have:


$$\gamma = \ln R_n / \ln R_s$$

 Proceeding in a similar fashion, we can show

$$\tau = 2 - \ln R_s / \ln R_n = 2 - 1/\gamma$$

Insert assignment question 

 Such connections between exponents are called **scaling relations**

 Let's connect to one last relationship: Hack's law





# Scaling laws

Hack's law: [6]




$$l \propto a^h$$

 Typically observed that  $0.5 \lesssim h \lesssim 0.7$ .

 Use Horton laws to connect  $h$  to Horton ratios:

$$\bar{l}_\omega \propto R_s^\omega \text{ and } \bar{a}_\omega \propto R_n^\omega$$

 Observe:

$$\bar{l}_\omega \propto e^{\omega \ln R_s} \propto (e^{\omega \ln R_n})^{\ln R_s / \ln R_n}$$

$$\propto (R_n^\omega)^{\ln R_s / \ln R_n} \propto \bar{a}_\omega^{\ln R_s / \ln R_n} \Rightarrow h = \ln R_s / \ln R_n$$



# We mentioned there were a good number of ‘laws’: [2]

Relation:	Name or description:
-----------	----------------------

$T_k = T_1 (R_T)^{k-1}$	Tokunaga's law
-------------------------	----------------

$\ell \sim L^d$	self-affinity of single channels
-----------------	----------------------------------

$n_\omega / n_{\omega+1} = R_n$	Horton's law of stream numbers
---------------------------------	--------------------------------

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



# Connecting exponents

Only 3 parameters are independent:  
e.g., take  $d$ ,  $R_n$ , and  $R_s$

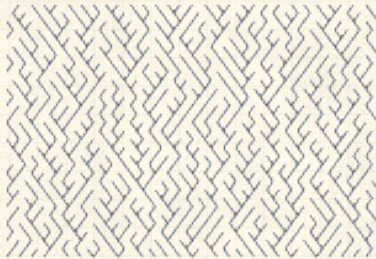
relation:	scaling relation/parameter: [2]
$\ell \sim L^d$	$d$
$T_k = T_1(R_T)^{k-1}$	$T_1 = R_n - R_s - 2 + 2R_s/R_n$ $R_T = R_s$
$n_\omega/n_{\omega+1} = R_n$	$R_n$
$\bar{a}_{\omega+1}/\bar{a}_\omega = R_a$	$R_a = R_n$
$\bar{\ell}_{\omega+1}/\bar{\ell}_\omega = R_\ell$	$R_\ell = R_s$
$\ell \sim a^h$	$h = \ln R_s / \ln R_n$
$a \sim L^D$	$D = d/h$
$L_\perp \sim L^H$	$H = d/h - 1$
$P(a) \sim a^{-\tau}$	$\tau = 2 - h$
$P(\ell) \sim \ell^{-\gamma}$	$\gamma = 1/h$
$\Lambda \sim a^\beta$	$\beta = 1 + h$
$\lambda \sim L^\varphi$	$\varphi = d$



# Scheidegger's model

- The PoCverse
- Branching Networks II
- 47 of 85
- Horton  $\Leftrightarrow$  Tokunaga
- Reducing Horton
- Scaling relations
- Fluctuations
- Models
- Nutshell
- References

## Directed random networks [11, 12]



$$P(\searrow) = P(\swarrow) = 1/2$$



Functional form of all scaling laws exhibited but exponents differ from real world [15, 16, 14]



Useful and interesting test case

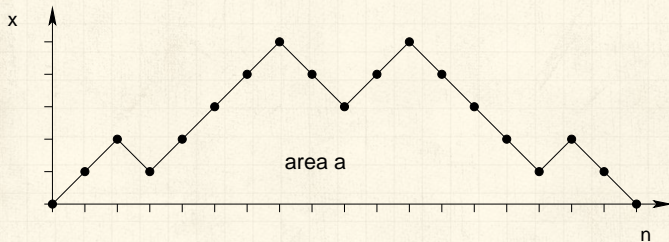


# A toy model—Scheidegger's model

## Random walk basins:

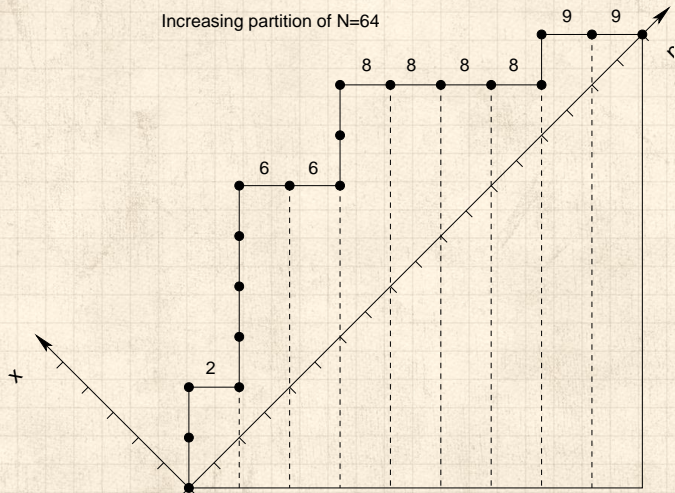


Boundaries of basins are random walks





# Scheidegger's model



The PoCverse  
Branching Networks  
II

49 of 85

Horton  $\Leftrightarrow$  Tokunaga

Reducing Horton

Scaling relations

Fluctuations

Models

Nutshell

References



# Scheidegger's model

Prob for first return of a random walk in (1+1) dimensions  
(from CSYS/MATH 300):



$$P(n) \sim \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi}} n^{-3/2}.$$

and so  $P(\ell) \propto \ell^{-3/2}$ .



Typical area for a walk of length  $n$  is  $\propto n^{3/2}$ :

$$\ell \propto a^{2/3}.$$



Find  $\tau = 4/3$ ,  $h = 2/3$ ,  $\gamma = 3/2$ ,  $d = 1$ .



Note  $\tau = 2 - h$  and  $\gamma = 1/h$ .

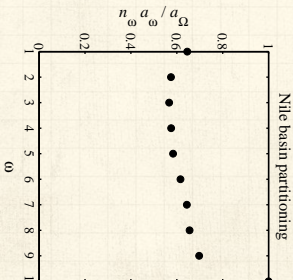
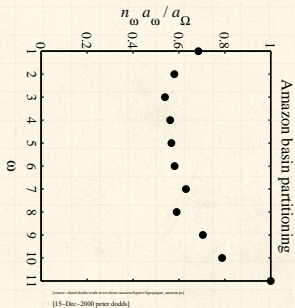
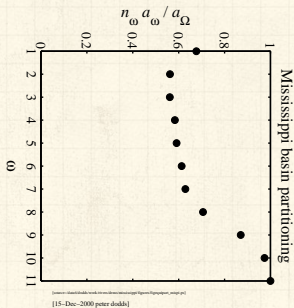


$R_n$  and  $R_\ell$  have not been derived analytically.




# Equipartitioning reexamined:


Recall this story:




# Equipartitioning


 What about

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

 Since  $\tau > 1$ , suggests no equipartitioning:

$$aP(a) \sim a^{-\tau+1} \neq \text{const}$$

  $P(a)$  overcounts basins within basins ...

 while stream ordering separates basins ...



## Moving beyond the mean:

- Both Horton's laws and Tokunaga's law relate average properties, e.g.,

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

- Natural generalization to consider relationships between **probability distributions**
- Yields rich and full description of branching network structure
- See into the heart of randomness ...



# A toy model—Scheidegger's model

## Directed random networks [11, 12]



$$P(\searrow) = P(\swarrow) = 1/2$$



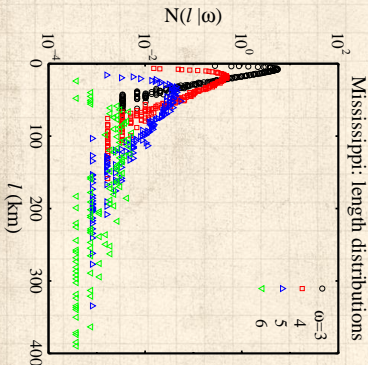
Flow is directed downwards



# Generalizing Horton's laws

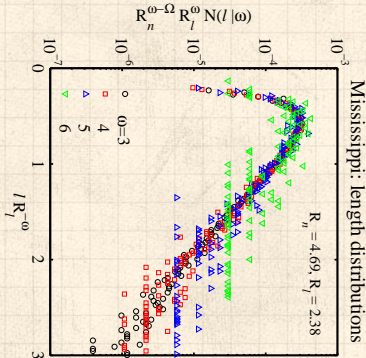
$$\bar{\ell}_\omega \propto (R_\ell)^\omega \Rightarrow N(\ell|\omega) = (R_n R_\ell)^{-\omega} F_\ell(\ell/R_\ell^\omega)$$

$$\bar{a}_\omega \propto (R_a)^\omega \Rightarrow N(a|\omega) = (R_n^2)^{-\omega} F_a(a/R_n^\omega)$$



[source: daniel dodds, work/courses/branchingnetworks/figures/figure\_10/figure\_10\_2.pdf]

[09-Dec-1999 peter dodds]



[source: daniel dodds, work/courses/branchingnetworks/figures/figure\_10/figure\_10\_2.pdf]


[09-Dec-1999 peter dodds]

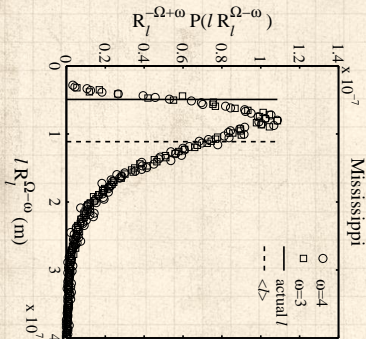
Scaling collapse works well for intermediate orders

All **moments** grow exponentially with order




# Generalizing Horton's laws

 How well does overall basin fit internal pattern?




[10-Dec-1999 peter dodds]

 Actual length = **4920 km** (at 1 km res)

 Predicted Mean length = **11100 km**

 Predicted Std dev = **5600 km**

 Actual length/Mean length = **44 %**

 Okay.





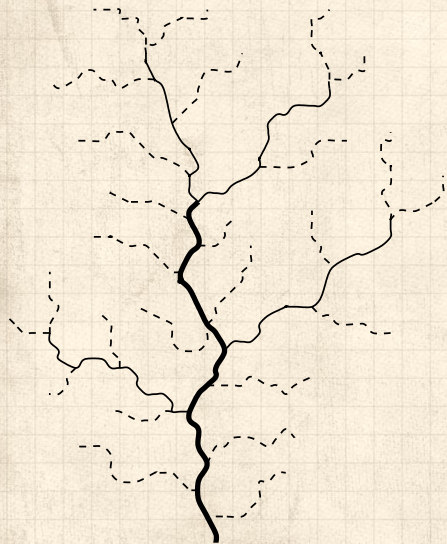
# Generalizing Horton's laws

Comparison of predicted versus measured main stream lengths for large scale river networks (in  $10^3$  km):

basin:	$l_\Omega$	$\bar{l}_\Omega$	$\sigma_l$	$l_\Omega/\bar{l}_\Omega$	$\sigma_l/\bar{l}_\Omega$
Mississippi	4.92	11.10	5.60	0.44	0.51
Amazon	5.75	9.18	6.85	0.63	0.75
Nile	6.49	2.66	2.20	2.44	0.83
Congo	5.07	10.13	5.75	0.50	0.57
Kansas	1.07	2.37	1.74	0.45	0.73
	$a_\Omega$	$\bar{a}_\Omega$	$\sigma_a$	$a_\Omega/\bar{a}_\Omega$	$\sigma_a/\bar{a}_\Omega$
Mississippi	2.74	7.55	5.58	0.36	0.74
Amazon	5.40	9.07	8.04	0.60	0.89
Nile	3.08	0.96	0.79	3.19	0.82
Congo	3.70	10.09	8.28	0.37	0.82
Kansas	0.14	0.49	0.42	0.28	0.86



# Combining stream segments distributions:



Stream segments sum  
to give main stream  
lengths




$$l_{\omega} = \sum_{\mu=1}^{\mu=\omega} s_{\mu}$$



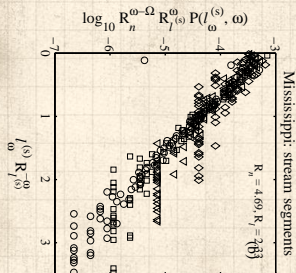
$P(l_{\omega})$  is a  
convolution of  
distributions for the  
 $s_{\omega}$



# Generalizing Horton's laws

 Sum of variables  $\ell_\omega = \sum_{\mu=1}^{\mu=\omega} s_\mu$  leads to convolution of distributions:

$$N(\ell|\omega) = N(s|1) * N(s|2) * \dots * N(s|\omega)$$




$$N(s|\omega) = \frac{1}{R_n^\omega R_l^\omega} F(s/R_l^\omega)$$

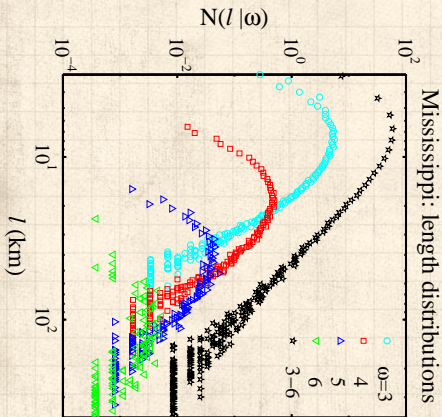
$$F(x) = e^{-x/\xi}$$




Mississippi:  $\xi \approx 900$  m.



# Generalizing Horton's laws

 Next level up: Main stream length distributions must combine to give overall distribution for stream length



-   $P(l) \sim l^{-\gamma}$
-  Another round of convolutions <sup>[3]</sup>
-  Interesting ...

[source: /data/dodds/work/streams/data/mississippi/figures/fig8\_powerlawmain\_missipr.pdf]

[22-Mar-2000 peter dodds]



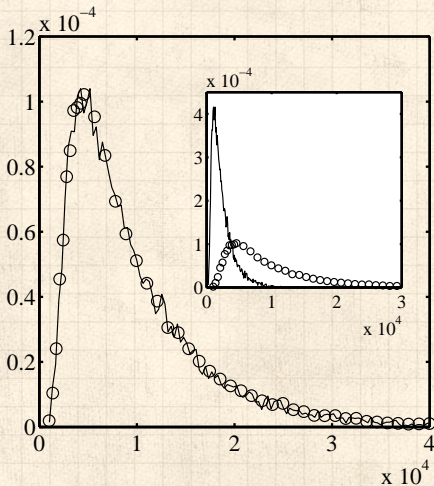
# Generalizing Horton's laws



Number and area distributions for the Scheidegger model [3]

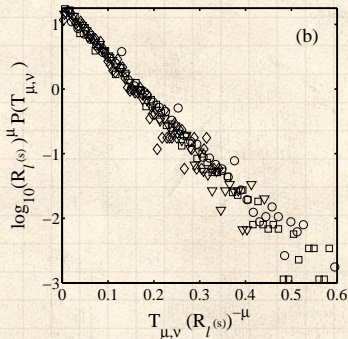
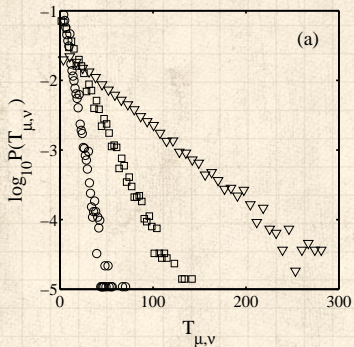


$P(n_{1,6})$  versus  $P(a_6)$  for a randomly selected  $\omega = 6$  basin.



# Generalizing Tokunaga's law

Scheidegger:



Observe exponential distributions for  $T_{\mu,\nu}$

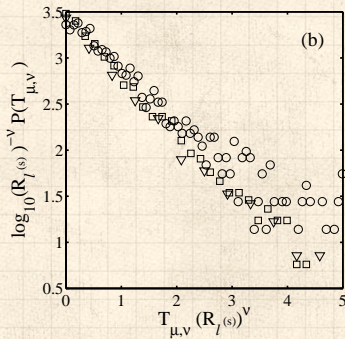
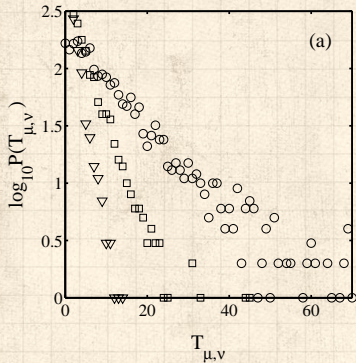


Scaling collapse works using  $R_s$



# Generalizing Tokunaga's law

Mississippi:



Same data collapse for Mississippi ...



# Generalizing Tokunaga's law


So


$$P(T_{\mu,\nu}) = (R_s)^{\mu-\nu-1} P_t [T_{\mu,\nu}/(R_s)^{\mu-\nu-1}]$$

where

$$P_t(z) = \frac{1}{\xi_t} e^{-z/\xi_t}.$$

$$P(s_\mu) \Leftrightarrow P(T_{\mu,\nu})$$

 Exponentials arise from randomness.


 Look at joint probability  $P(s_\mu, T_{\mu,\nu})$ .




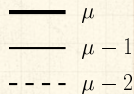


# Generalizing Tokunaga's law

## Network architecture:

 Inter-tributary lengths exponentially distributed

 Leads to random spatial distribution of stream segments



# Generalizing Tokunaga's law


- Follow stream segments downstream from their beginning
- Probability (or rate) of an order  $\mu$  stream segment terminating is **constant**:

$$\tilde{p}_\mu \simeq 1/(R_s)^{\mu-1} \xi_s$$

- Probability decays exponentially with stream order
- Inter-tributary lengths exponentially distributed
- $\Rightarrow$  random spatial distribution of stream segments





# Generalizing Tokunaga's law


 Joint distribution for generalized version of Tokunaga's law:


$$P(s_\mu, T_{\mu,\nu}) = \tilde{p}_\mu \binom{s_\mu - 1}{T_{\mu,\nu}} p_\nu^{T_{\mu,\nu}} (1 - p_\nu - \tilde{p}_\mu)^{s_\mu - T_{\mu,\nu} - 1}$$

where

  $p_\nu$  = probability of absorbing an order  $\nu$  side stream


  $\tilde{p}_\mu$  = probability of an order  $\mu$  stream terminating

 Approximation: depends on distance,  $\nu$  units of  $s_\mu$


 In each unit of distance along stream, there is one chance of a side stream entering or the stream terminating.




# Generalizing Tokunaga's law

 Now deal with this thing:

$$P(s_\mu, T_{\mu,\nu}) = \tilde{p}_\mu \left( \frac{s_\mu - 1}{T_{\mu,\nu}} \right) p_\nu^{T_{\mu,\nu}} (1 - p_\nu - \tilde{p}_\mu)^{s_\mu - T_{\mu,\nu} - 1}$$

 Set  $(x, y) = (s_\mu, T_{\mu,\nu})$  and  $q = 1 - p_\nu - \tilde{p}_\mu$ , approximate liberally.

 Obtain


$$P(x, y) = Nx^{-1/2} [F(y/x)]^x$$

where

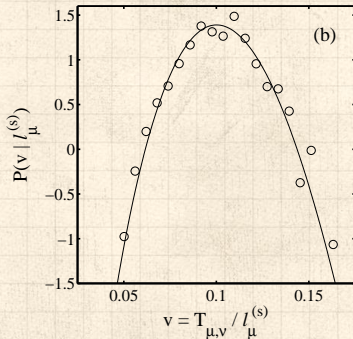
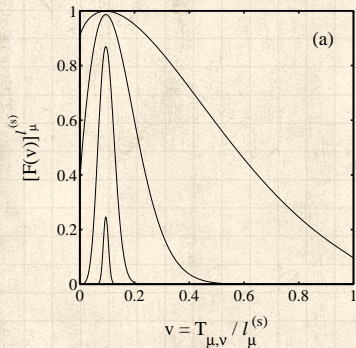
$$F(v) = \left( \frac{1-v}{q} \right)^{-(1-v)} \left( \frac{v}{p} \right)^{-v}.$$




# Generalizing Tokunaga's law

 Checking form of  $P(s_\mu, T_{\mu,\nu})$  works:

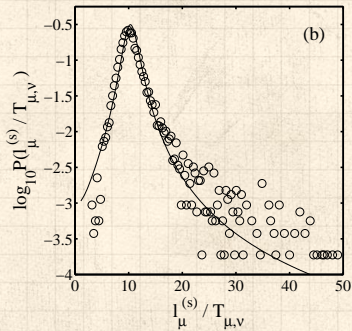
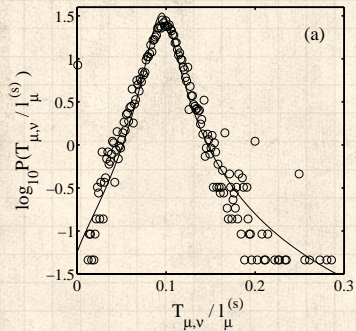
Scheidegger:




# Generalizing Tokunaga's law

 Checking form of  $P(s_\mu, T_{\mu,\nu})$  works:

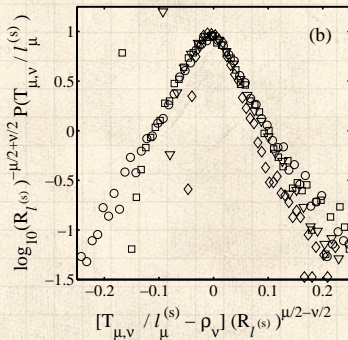
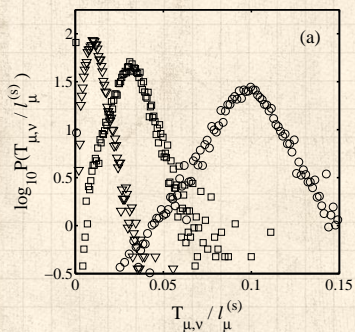
Scheidegger:




# Generalizing Tokunaga's law

 Checking form of  $P(s_\mu, T_{\mu,\nu})$  works:

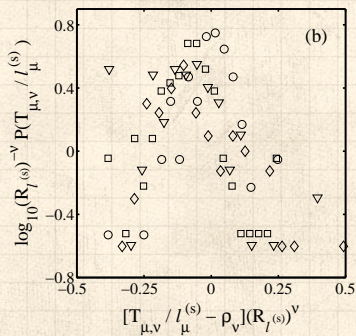
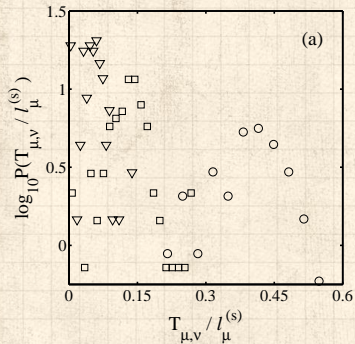
Scheidegger:



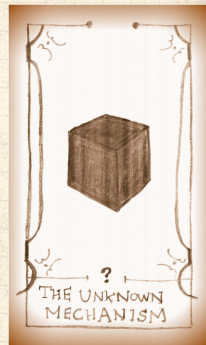
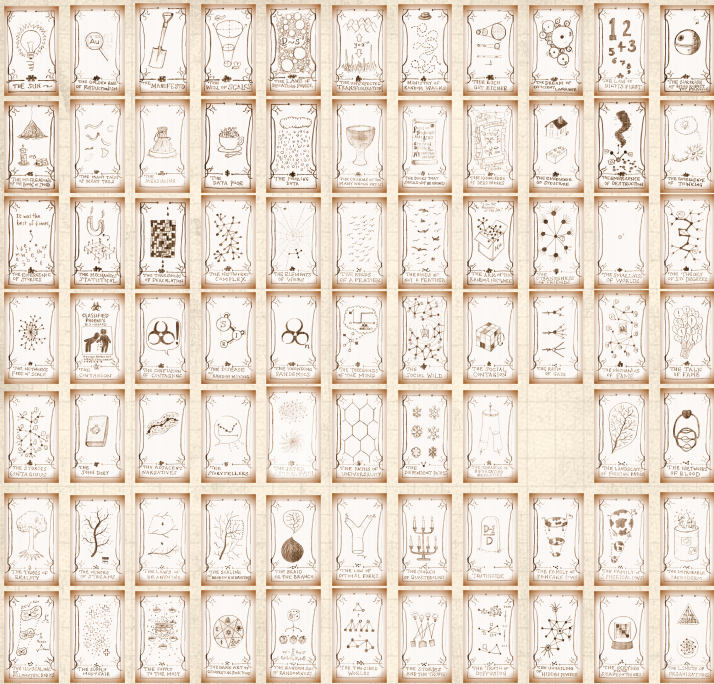
# Generalizing Tokunaga's law

 Checking form of  $P(s_\mu, T_{\mu,\nu})$  works:

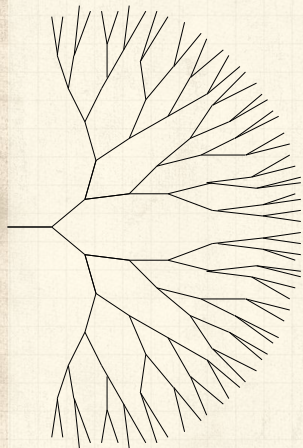
Mississippi:













## Random subnetworks on a Bethe lattice <sup>[13]</sup>

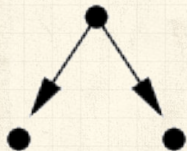


-  Dominant theoretical concept for several decades.
-  Bethe lattices are fun and tractable.
-  Led to idea of “Statistical inevitability” of river network statistics <sup>[7]</sup>
-  But Bethe lattices unconnected with surfaces.
-  In fact, Bethe lattices  $\simeq$  infinite dimensional spaces (oops).
-  So let's move on ...



# Scheidegger's model

## Directed random networks <sup>[11, 12]</sup>



$$P(\searrow) = P(\swarrow) = 1/2$$




Functional form of all scaling laws exhibited but exponents differ from real world <sup>[15, 16, 14]</sup>





# Optimal channel networks


Rodríguez-Iturbe, Rinaldo, et al. <sup>[10]</sup>

 Landscapes  $h(\vec{x})$  evolve such that energy dissipation  $\dot{\epsilon}$  is minimized, where

$$\dot{\epsilon} \propto \int d\vec{r} \text{ (flux)} \times \text{ (force)} \sim \sum_i a_i \nabla h_i \sim \sum_i a_i^\gamma$$

 Landscapes obtained numerically give exponents near that of real networks.

 **But:** numerical method used matters.

 **And:** Maritan et al. find basic universality classes are that of Scheidegger, self-similar, and a third kind of random network <sup>[8]</sup>



# Theoretical networks

## Summary of universality classes:

<b>network</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>d</b>
Non-convergent flow	1	1
Directed random	2/3	1
Undirected random	5/8	5/4
Self-similar	1/2	1
OCN's (I)	1/2	1
OCN's (II)	2/3	1
OCN's (III)	3/5	1
Real rivers	0.5–0.7	1.0–1.2

$$h \Rightarrow \ell \propto a^h \text{ (Hack's law).}$$

$$d \Rightarrow \ell \propto L_{\parallel}^d \text{ (stream self-affinity).}$$







## Branching networks II Key Points:

- 🧱 Horton's laws and Tokunaga's law all fit together.
- 🧱 For 2-d networks, these laws are 'planform' laws and ignore slope.
- 🧱 Abundant scaling relations can be derived.
- 🧱 Can take  $R_n$ ,  $R_\ell$ , and  $d$  as three independent parameters necessary to describe all 2-d branching networks.
- 🧱 For scaling laws, only  $h = \ln R_\ell / \ln R_n$  and  $d$  are needed.
- 🧱 Laws can be extended nicely to laws of distributions.
- 🧱 Numerous models of branching network evolution exist: nothing rock solid yet ...?



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


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