

# The maths of train delays

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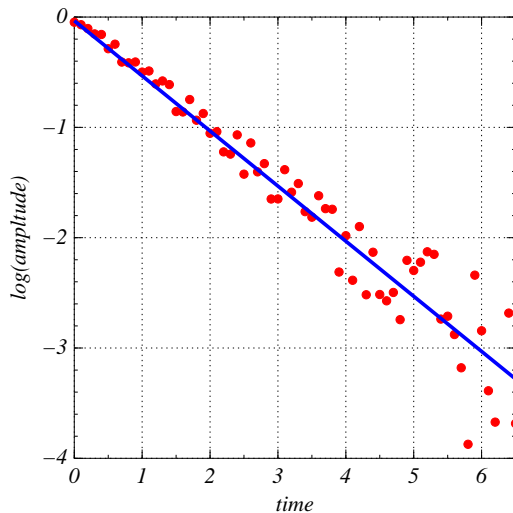
<http://keithbriggs.info>



WIDOH 2008-11-10 14:00

# Exponential decay law

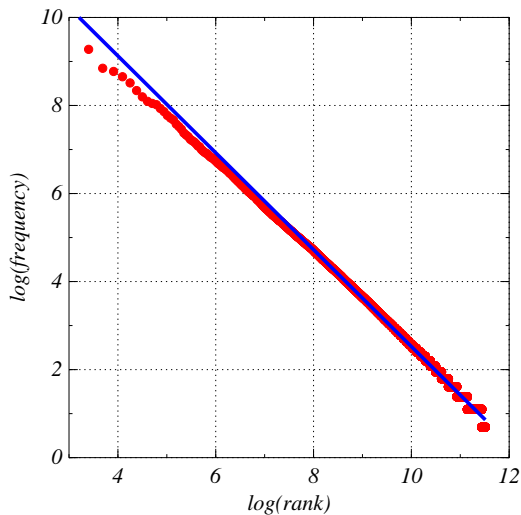
$\log(\text{amplitude})$   
vs. time is a  
straight line.



# Zipf's law

*Old English corpus*

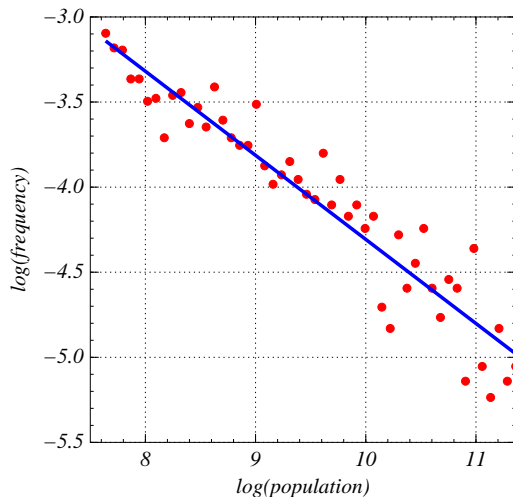
$\log(\text{frequency})$   
vs.  $\log(\text{rank})$   
is a straight  
line.



# Population distribution

## *UK towns and villages*

$\log(\text{frequency})$   
vs.  
 $\log(\text{population})$   
is a straight  
line.



## The $q$ -exponential law

- $e_{q,\beta}(x) := (1 + \beta(q-1)x)^{1/(1-q)}$

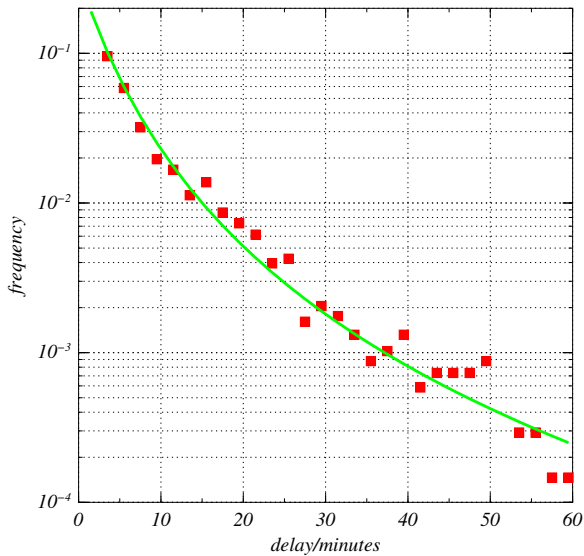
## The $q$ -exponential law

- $e_{q,\beta}(x) := (1 + \beta(q-1)x)^{1/(1-q)}$
- $\lim_{q \rightarrow 1} e_{q,\beta}(t) = \exp(-\beta t)$

## The $q$ -exponential law

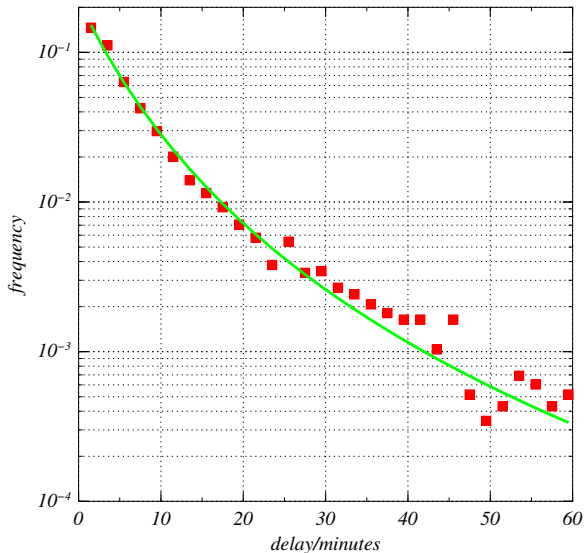
- $e_{q,\beta}(x) := (1 + \beta(q-1)x)^{1/(1-q)}$
- $\lim_{q \rightarrow 1} e_{q,\beta}(t) = \exp(-\beta t)$
- large  $q$  gives a power-law (long tail)

## Ipswich to London





## Ipswich to Norwich



# Newcastle to Edinburgh

