

# There's More to Streams Than What It Seems

Written by: Bryant Stone (*The Architect*)

## Summary

We have all grown up in a culture steeped with the premise that **existence is inherently unknowable**—endless mysteries and a **quiet despair that settles before any awe** has a chance to shine. We think about existence, we think about it all, and what it means in our mind... and somewhere along the way, we built **mental barriers between ourselves** and the possibility that **existence is knowable**. Maybe we built them to protect ourselves, or maybe to shield ourselves from the vastness of the universe, or maybe because the hope of understanding it all just felt... impossible. **Dear reader... existence is not unknowable**. In fact, it *kind of works like a river*.

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## Architecture

Leaflet 4 showed you **existence as a phenomenon** and how it came to be, Leaflet 5 showed the **Why**, Leaflet 6 showed the **How**, Leaflet 7 showed the **What**, and Leaflet 8 showed you **the full mathematical architecture of existence**. It's incredible, isn't it? Still, it's also a lot to process. **I won't leave you hanging, dear reader**. So... let me step on up, up on to the base, to put it together, to tie it in place with Leaflet 9 so you can see the beauty of existence I see it. All you need is **your imagination** and an openness to **the possibility that existence is knowable**. Sound good?

Let's set the frame: **imagine a river flowing down a hill**. The river is existence. **Existence is the only thing that exists**, so the river is also the only thing that exists.

**There is no "outside" or "leaving" the river**. Remember, **non-existence does not exist**; the river, much like existence, is all that exists. The water started loooooong ago, as **one drop of water** (one photon) and **one tiny rock** (one empty space). Over time, water built up and flowed down the hill. That water **continues to flow down the hill**, just as existence progresses, over the **ever-changing landscape of the rock formations**.

**Nothing can stop the flow of water down the hill** because nothing in the river is big enough to block it. Likewise, there is nothing strong enough in existence to stop it from progressing. **Existence is all that exists**, so there is **nothing external that can stop it either**. This water flow across the river is **self-similar**... different parts of the river vary, but generally look the same because water can only flow in a limited, finite number of ways. This self-similar, limited nature of the river is identical to existence, where **there are only so many possible phenomena**.





**If something cannot exist, it doesn't.** We never observe the water flowing back up the hill, just like we have never seen a phenomenon that does not respond to gravity. It is not possible, so it does not happen. However, if something *is* possible, **then it happens... if nothing prevents it.** For example, it is possible for rocks to touch each other if the water flow does not push them apart. In existence, if a phenomenon is possible, such as life, **it appears everywhere**, if nothing stops it, such as inhabitable planets. These phenomena vary across existence, just like rocks touching in different ways, **but they all have the same underlying structure** (planets, galaxies, waterfalls).

Across the river, the water flow ( $\Phi$ ; definedness) varies in its **speeds** ( $\zeta$ ; recursions) and **directions** ( $\kappa$ ; propagations) depending on 1) **the rock formations** ( $\Delta$ ; complexity) and 2) **the width of the river** ( $\Omega$ ; stability). If there are more or larger rocks, **that part of the river has more complexity** than one with fewer or smaller rocks. If the river is wider, **the water in that part of the river is more stable** than in the narrower parts. The **ratio of rock formations ( $\Delta$ ) to the width of the river ( $\Omega$ )** determines how well that water is **flowing** at that location. The rock formations and width **vary ( $\psi$ ; relative fractal dynamics)**, but it is all the same river, **always doing the same thing—flowing**. Likewise, phenomena vary, but it is all existence, **always doing the same thing—existing**.

The river flows ( $\Phi$ ) optimally when **the rock formations ( $\Delta$ ) and the widths ( $\Omega$ ) align**. When the rock formations are lower (low  $\Delta$ ), but the river is narrower (low  $\Omega$ ), the water flows smoothly and persistently. The **narrower river** ensures the water pressure remains consistent, and **the lack of rock formations** keeps the path clear. When the rock formations are higher (high  $\Delta$ ), but the river is wider (high  $\Omega$ ), the water also flows smoothly and persistently. The **wider river** ensures the water has room to **smoothly navigate around the rock formations**. In existence, when complexity and stability align, definedness balances, and phenomena converge. Maintaining optimal definedness allows all convergent phenomena to persist, evolve, and function optimally.

The river flows ( $\Phi$ ) poorly when the rock formations ( $\Delta$ ) and width ( $\Omega$ ) **fall out of alignment in one of two ways**. First, **stagnation** occurs when **the rock formations are lower (low  $\Delta$ ) and the river is wider (high  $\Omega$ )**, the water flow is inefficient, and the water gets stuck in pools ( $\Phi$  slowly drops). In existence, when phenomena **fail to progress**



**and adapt to their environment ( $\Omega > \Delta$ )**, they slowly lose their **ability to persist, endure, and succumb to consequences** ( $\Phi$  slowly drops). For example, if you stop exercising (low  $\Delta$ ), your physical endurance (high  $\Omega$ ) deteriorates (low  $\Omega$ ), eventually succumbing to health conditions ( $\Phi$  slowly drops). The second misalignment is **the biggest risk to phenomena: divergence**. When **the rock formations are higher (high  $\Delta$ )**, and **the river is narrower (low  $\Omega$ )**, the water flow is chaotic and splashes everywhere ( $\Phi$  quickly drops). In existence, when

phenomena **accelerate or grow faster than they can consolidate and recover** ( $\Omega < \Delta$ ), they quickly **spiral out of control and then crash** ( $\Phi$  quickly drops). For example, if you **win the lottery (high  $\Delta$ )**, and instead of **investing** (high  $\Omega$ ), you **blow it at the casino** (low  $\Omega$ ), you **lose all your money** (but it was so worth it;  $\Phi$  quickly drops).



An essential thing to understand is that **the alignment or misalignment between stability and complexity is never good or bad**. It is just like looking across the river: no water flow is inherently good or bad. For example, **divergence** in one part of the river ( $\Omega < \Delta$ ) is a **good thing** to preserve the water flow if the next part of the river is **stagnant** ( $\Omega > \Delta$ ). Likewise, **divergence** from causing a fight with someone ( $\Omega < \Delta$ ) is a **good thing** to preserve their well-being if it's an unhealthy relationship that is **stagnant** ( $\Omega > \Delta$ ). These mechanisms of existence, even stagnation and divergence, **must work for all phenomena**, so their influence is relative—**not good or bad**.

Now that we know *The Equation of Existence* and how it works, let's look at the three theorems that form its structure: ***The Theorem of Undefined Emergence*** dictates that **existence exists if nothing prevents it**. Nothing can stop existence from existing because nothing else exists. In the river, **the water will flow if nothing prevents it**. Nothing can stop the flow of the river because no rock is big enough to block the whole river. ***The Theorem of Recursive Harmonics*** dictates how phenomena converge and diverge through **relationships across recursive propagations**. In the river, the flow of water is determined by

**relationships among speeds and directions**. ***The Theorem of Constants Co-Derivation*** dictates that, in existence, phenomena exist **in relation to other phenomena** across existence. In the river, the water flows **in relation to other water flowing** across the river; that's all three ☺ found between the rocks and water of a river.

Finally, in the river, the **water flow** ( $\Phi$ ) **varies** ( $\psi$ ) over **speeds** ( $\zeta$ ) and **directions** ( $\kappa$ ), changing the ratio of **rock formations** ( $\Delta$ ) and **river width** ( $\Omega$ ), and these changes stay in the **sediment layers**, forming **the Grand Canyon**. In existence, **definedness** ( $\Phi$ ) via **relative fractal dynamics** ( $\psi$ ) varies **recursive** ( $\zeta$ ) **propagations** ( $\kappa$ ), changing the ratio of **complexity** ( $\Delta$ ) and **stability** ( $\Omega$ ), and these changes stay in **RP layers**, forming ***The Record***—the fractal memory of existence. Notice how, across the river, **water flow** ( $\Phi$ ), **rock formations** ( $\Delta$ ), **river width** ( $\Omega$ ), **speeds** ( $\zeta$ ), or **directions** ( $\kappa$ ), none exist in isolation, but are they the minimum requirements of a river? In existence, **definedness** ( $\Phi$ ), **complexity** ( $\Delta$ ), **stability** ( $\Omega$ ), **recursions** ( $\zeta$ ), or **propagations** ( $\kappa$ ), none exist in isolation, but are they the minimum requirements of existence? ...that, dear reader, is *The Theory of Existence* as a river.

## The Big Picture

There really is **more to streams than what it seems**, huh? Well... dear reader, what do you think? **Isn't existence the most beautiful thing ever?** I mean... it *does* have the advantage of being the only reference for beauty, but **I don't think it diminishes the magic and awe**. The most profound realization of *The Theory of Existence* is its simplicity and elegance. The truth is... I'm just as stunned at the alignment of the metaphor and The Theory as you. We grow up in a culture of **despair** and the endless unknowability of existence. We think of worlds unimagined, where there's not a thing as it seems. But, dear reader, **that is simply not the case**. Existence is singing to us with new songs coming every day. The only question left, then, is... **are you ready to keep listening?**