



The role of species in networks

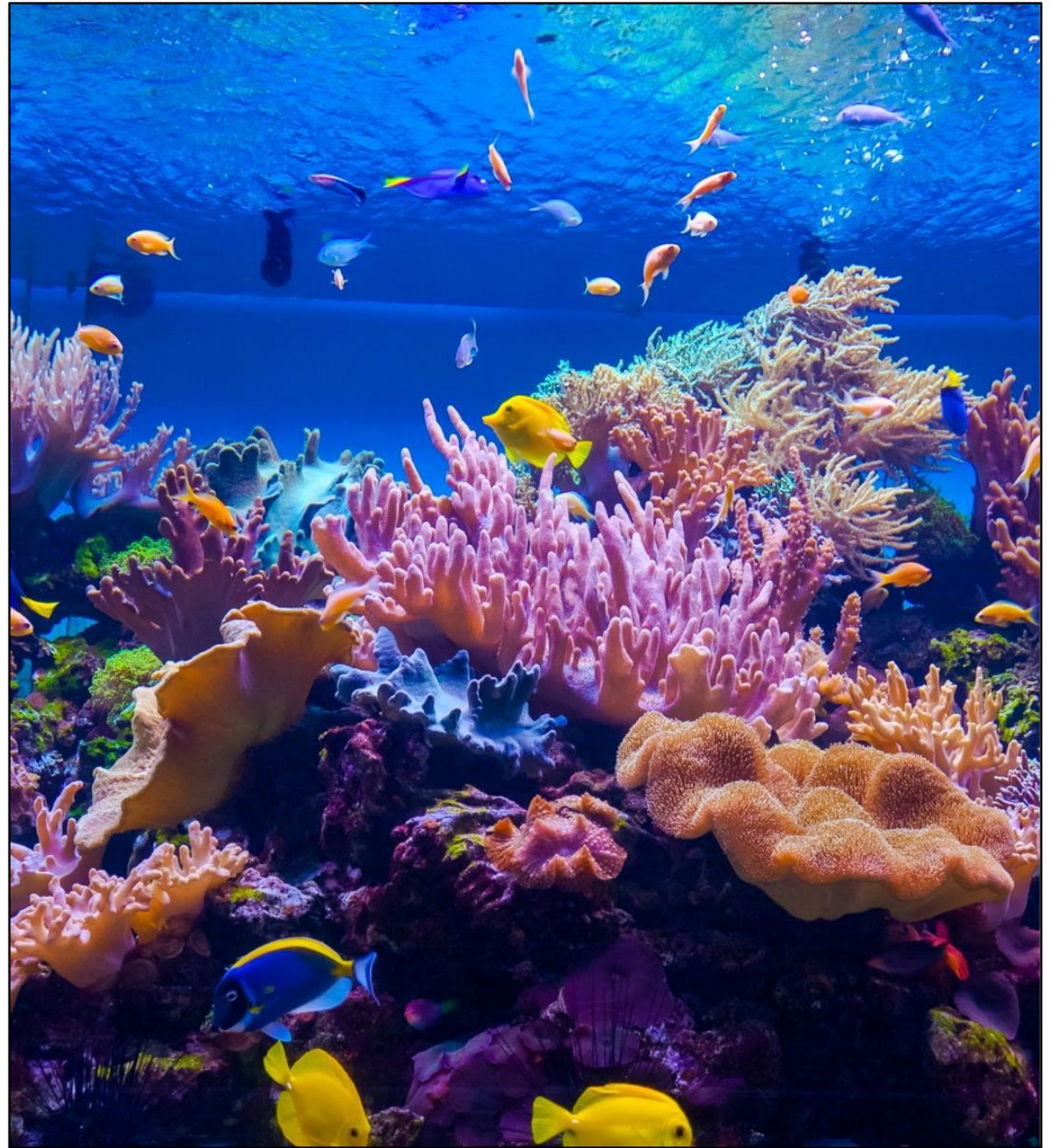
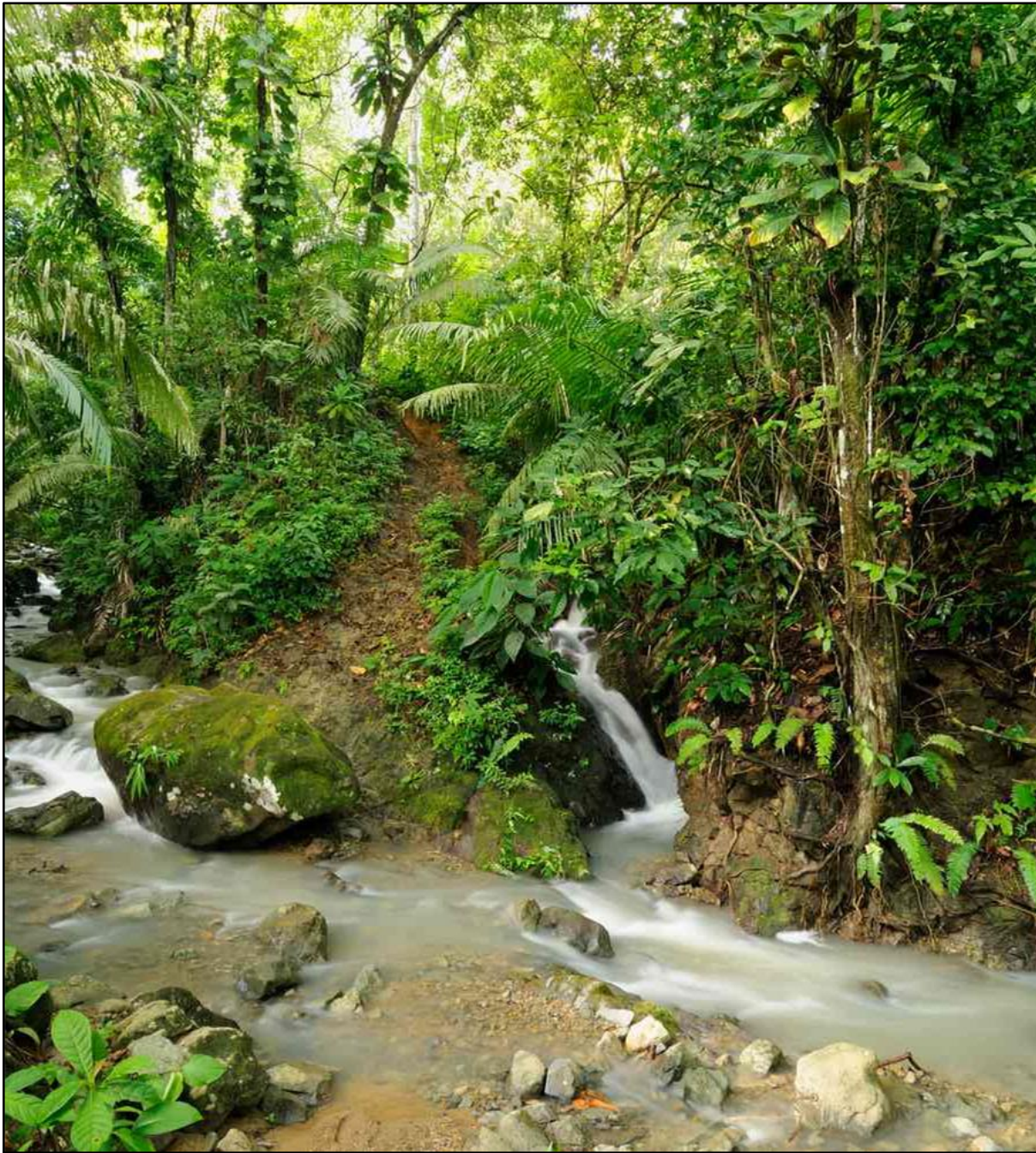
BIO365 – Ecological Networks

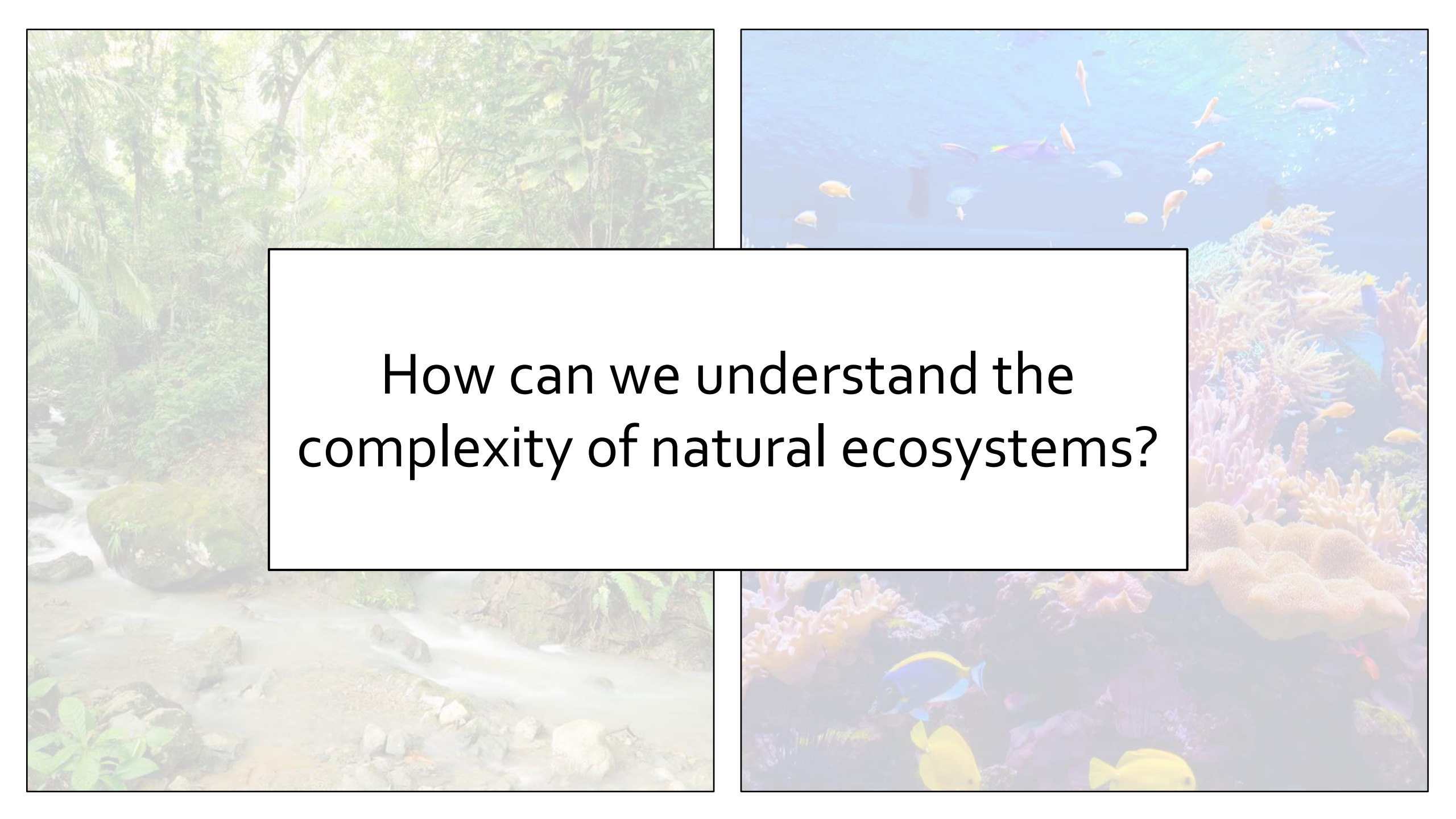
Leandro G. Cosmo

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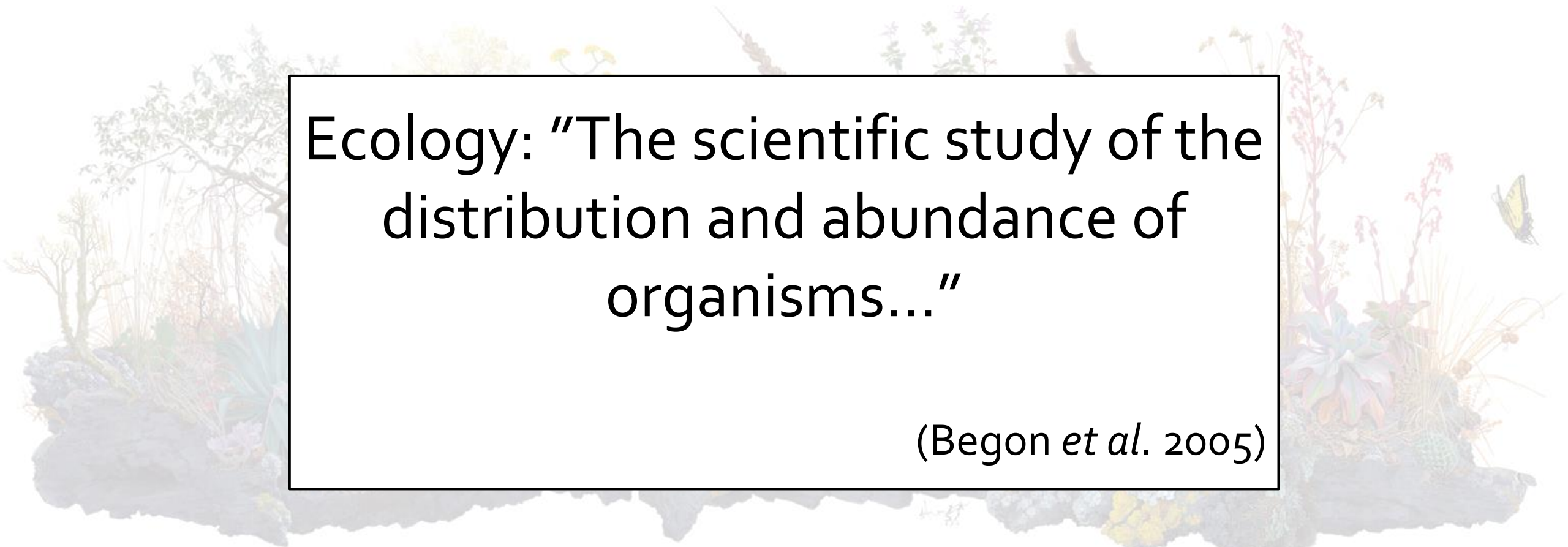




The image is a collage of four nature scenes. The top-left panel shows a lush green forest with a stream flowing over rocks. The top-right panel shows a vibrant coral reef with various colorful fish swimming in clear blue water. The bottom-left panel shows a close-up of a stream with water cascading over rocks. The bottom-right panel shows a close-up of a coral reef with several yellow and blue fish swimming near the coral. In the center, a white rectangular box with a black border contains the text: "How can we understand the complexity of natural ecosystems?".

How can we understand the complexity of natural ecosystems?





Ecology: "The scientific study of the distribution and abundance of organisms..."

(Begon *et al.* 2005)



Richness and abundance of species: species diversity



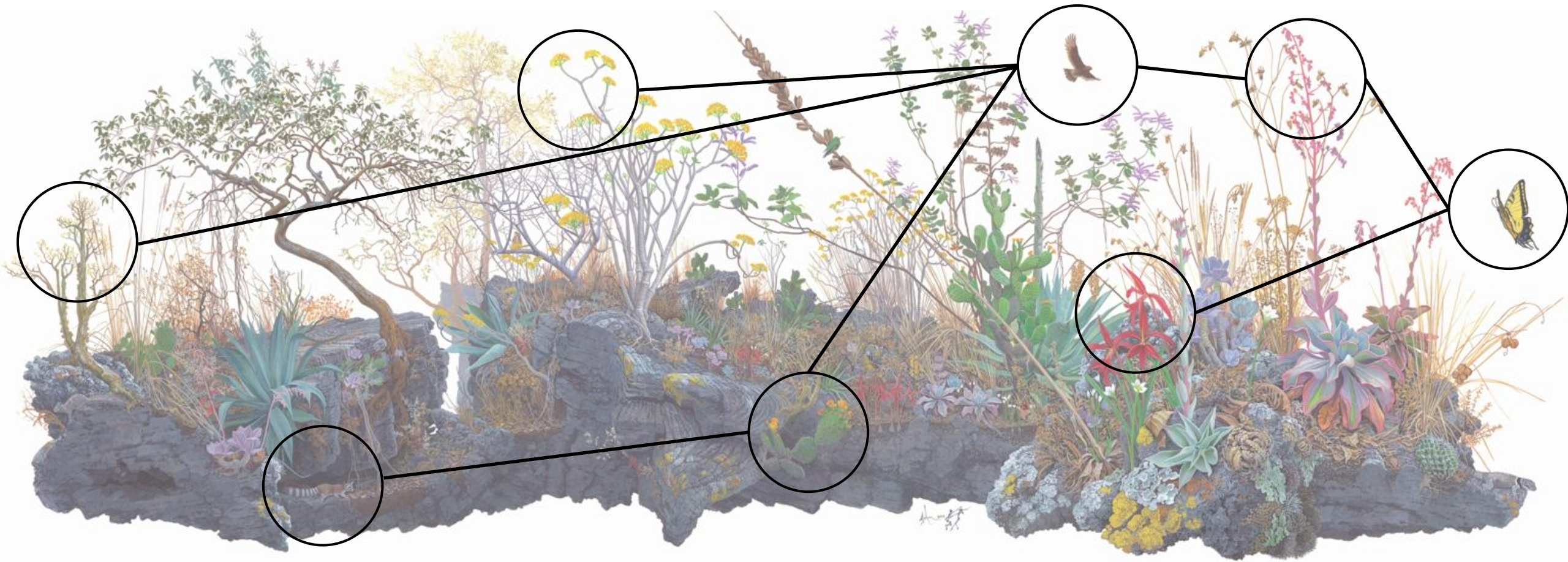
Is quantifying species diversity is enough?



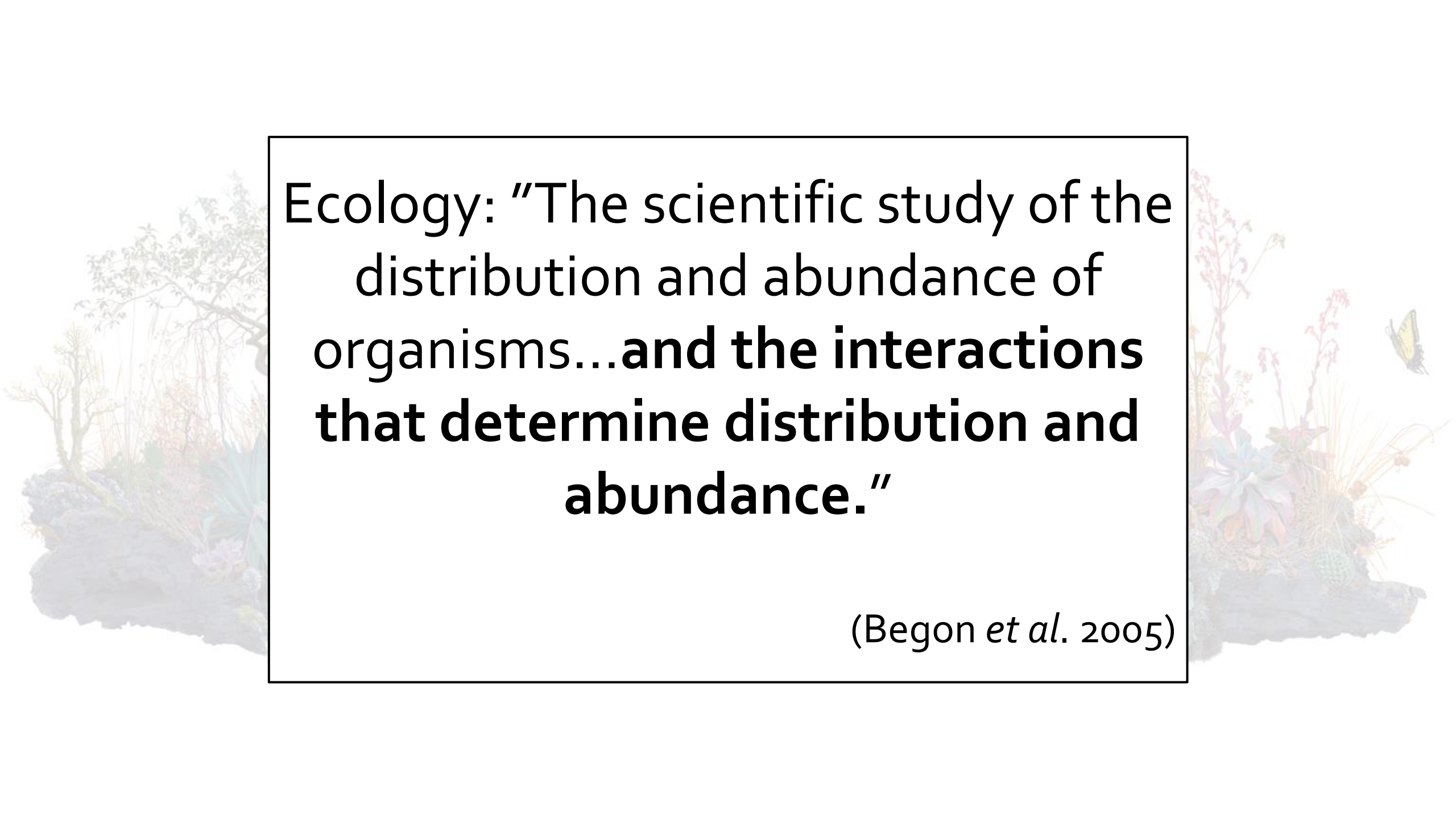
Species are not independent from each other!



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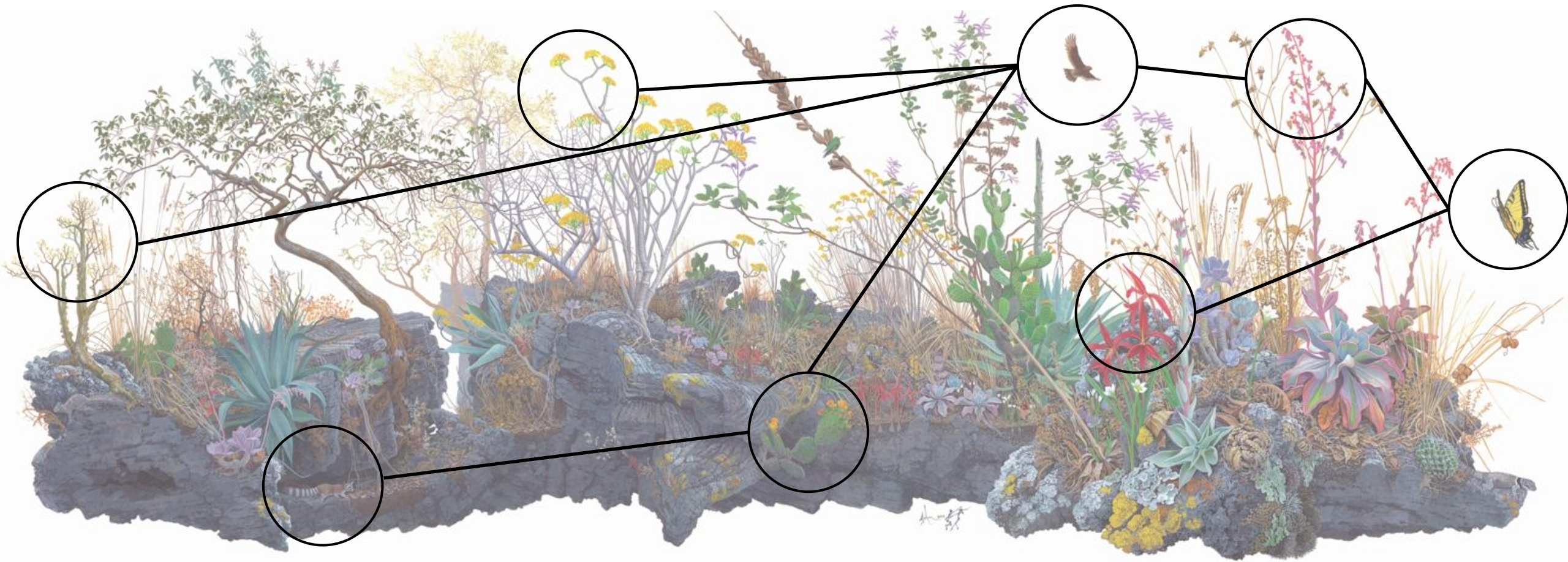


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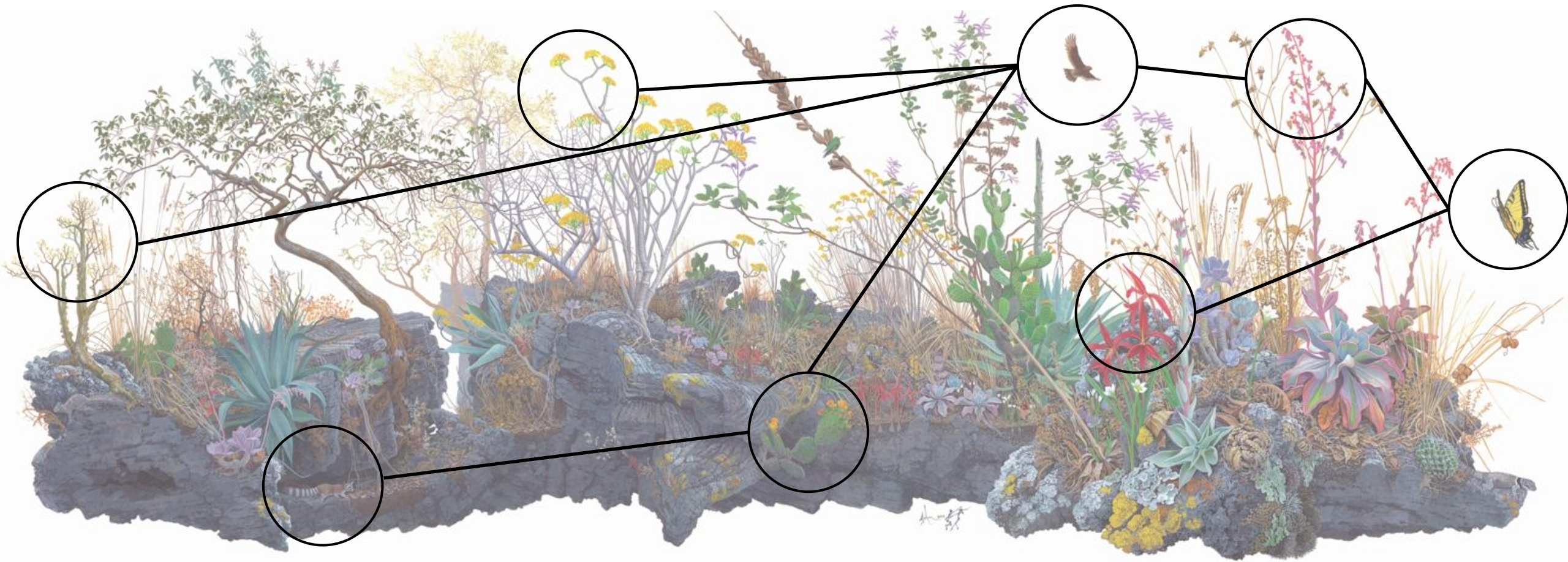


Ecology: "The scientific study of the distribution and abundance of organisms...**and the interactions that determine distribution and abundance.**"

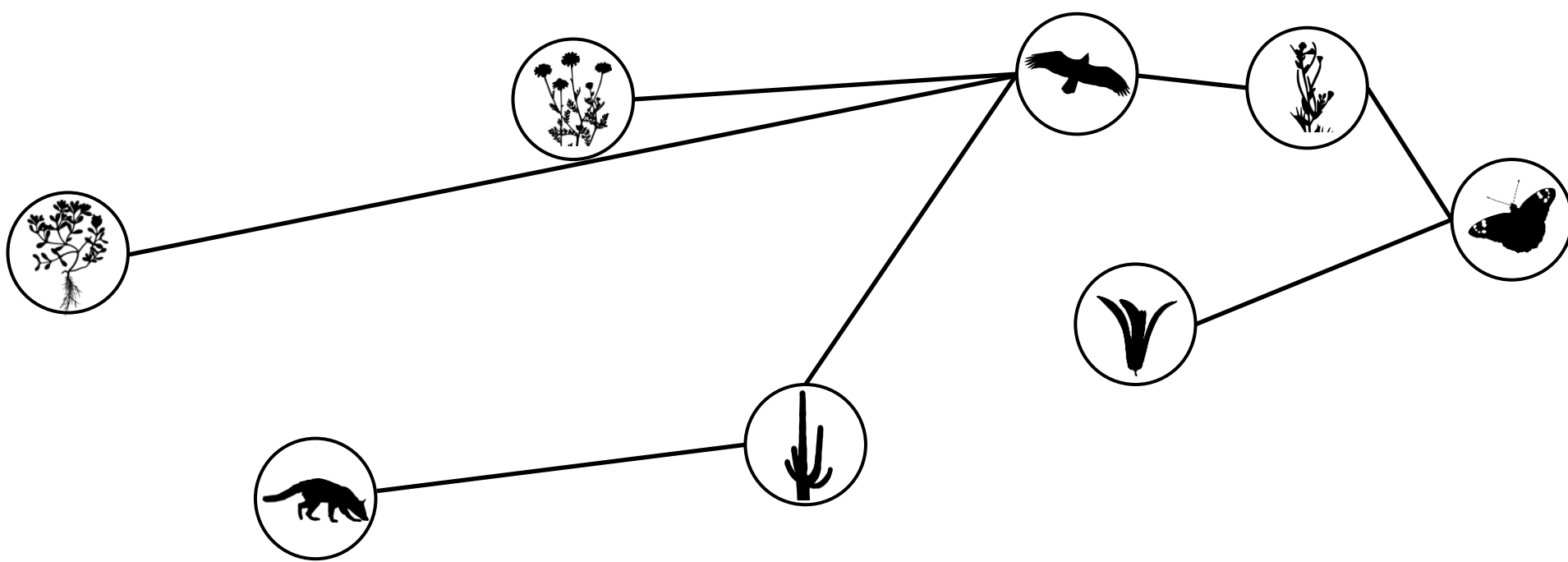
(Begon *et al.* 2005)

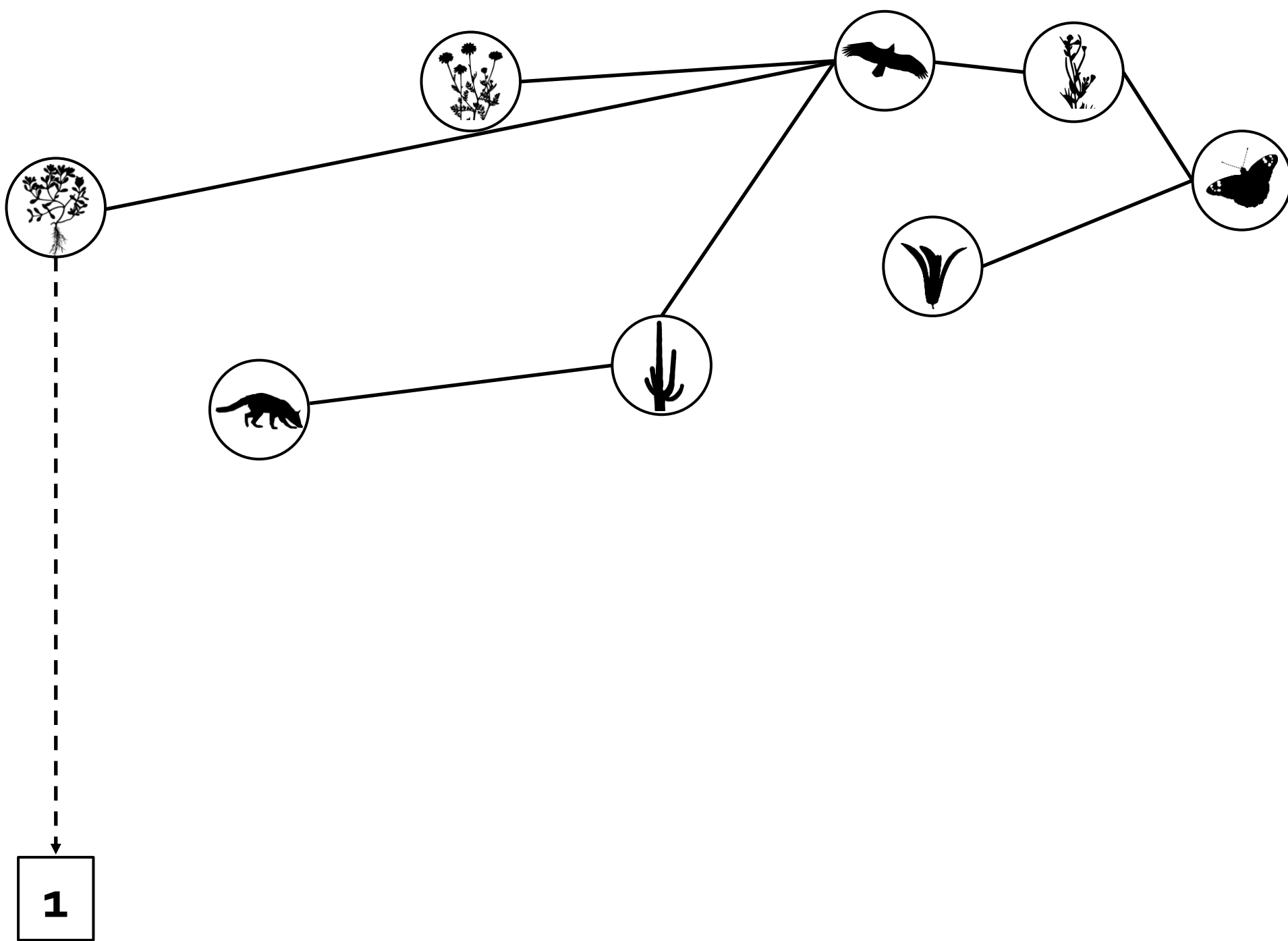


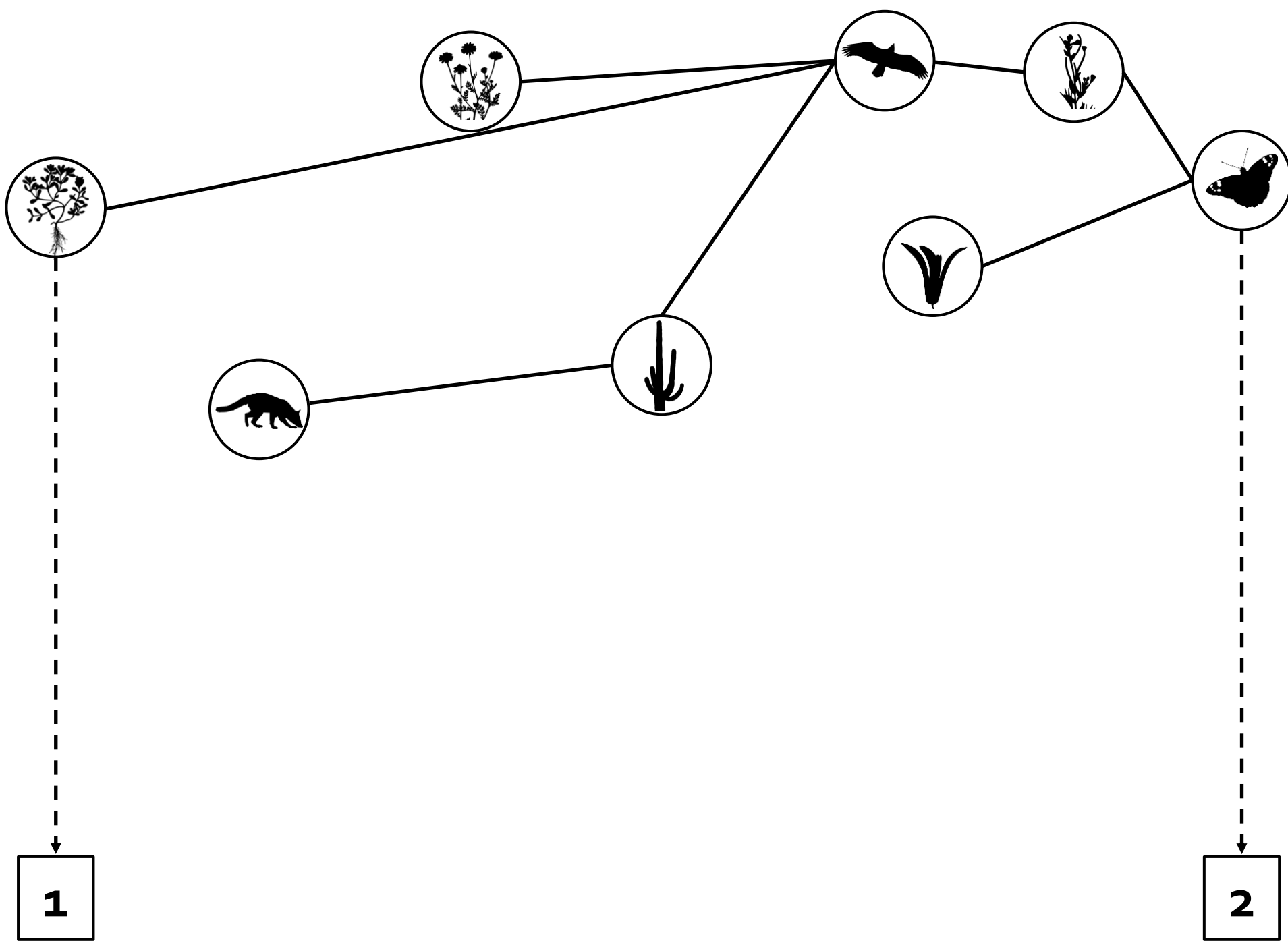
How can we quantify patterns of interactions?

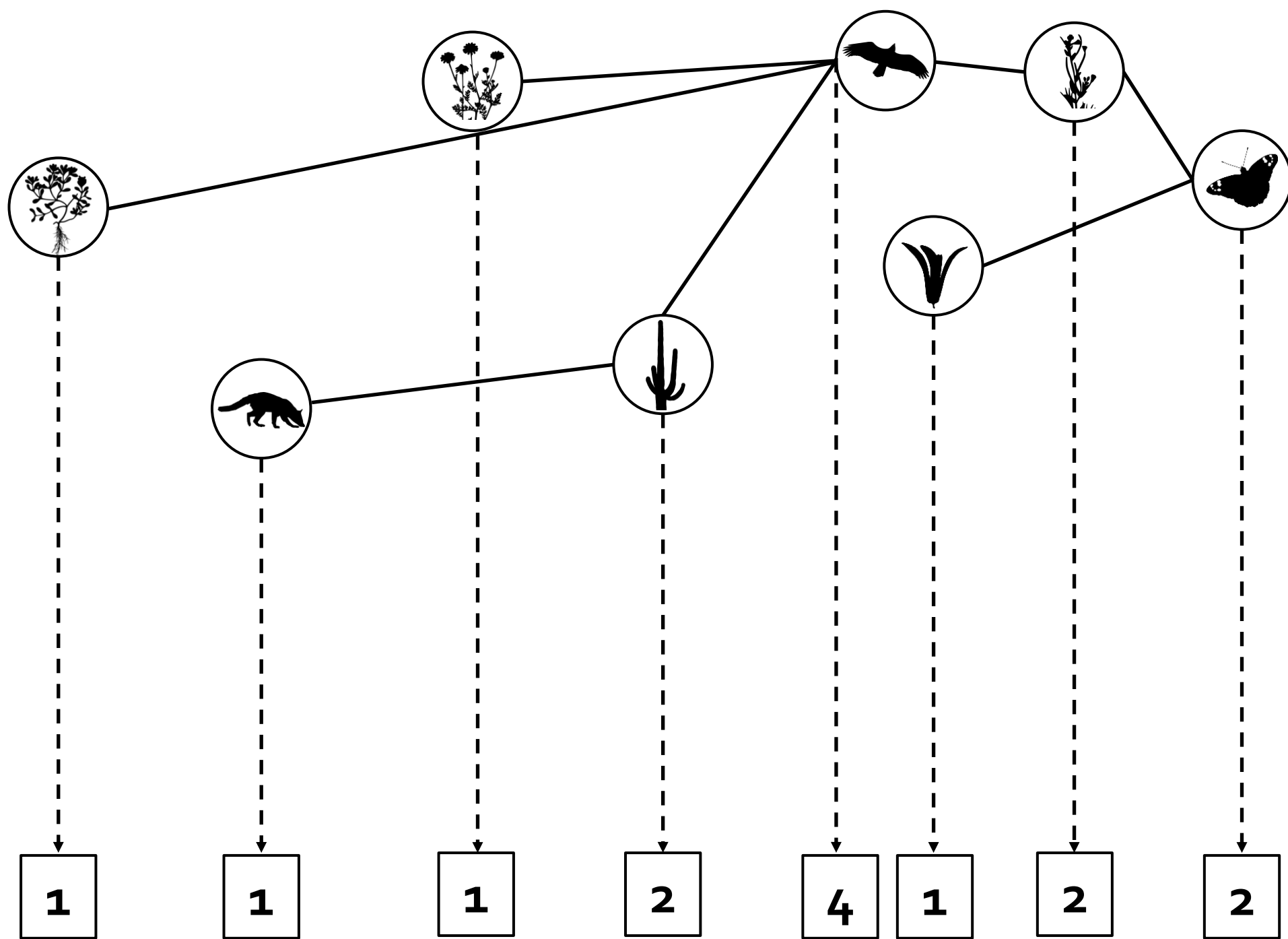


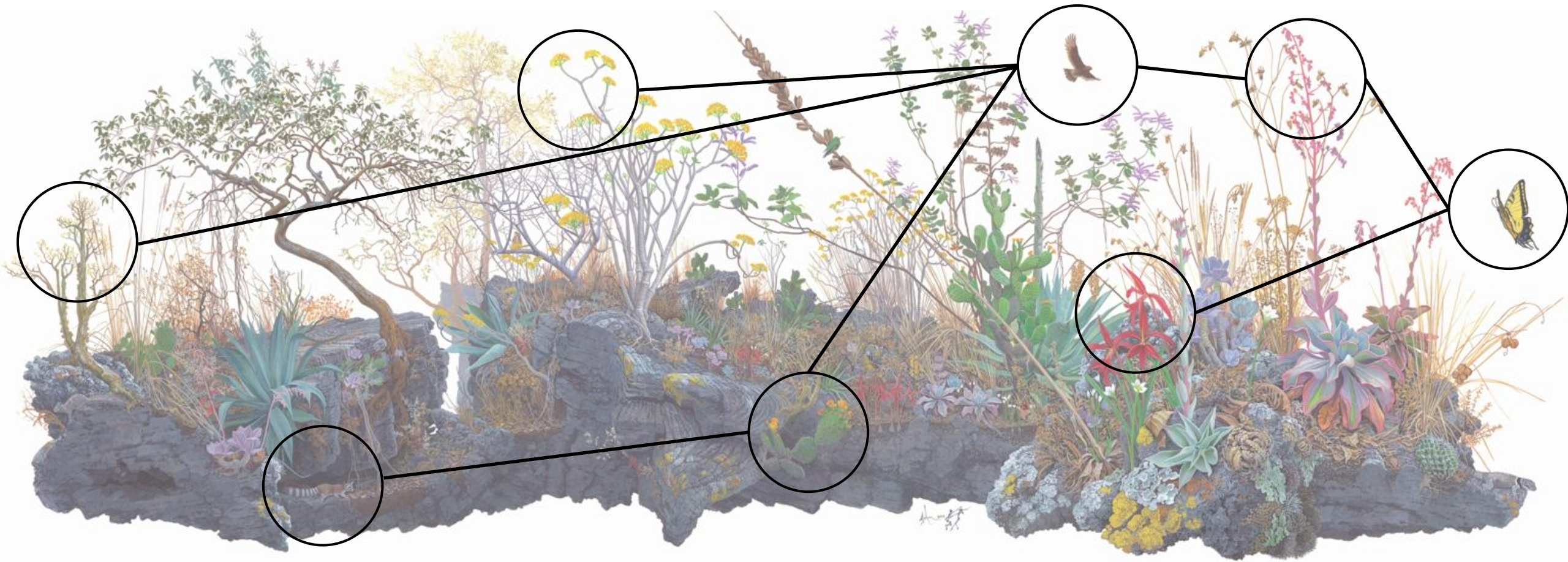
How many interactions each species establish?



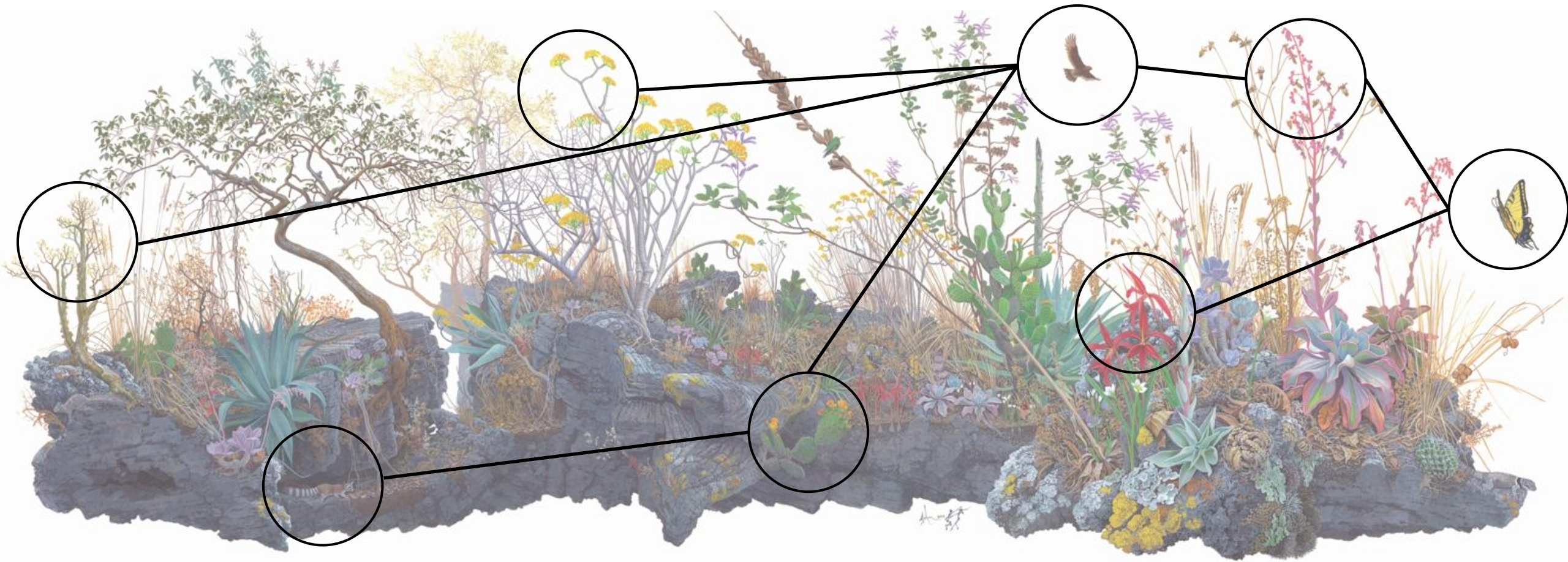




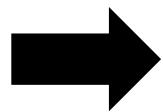
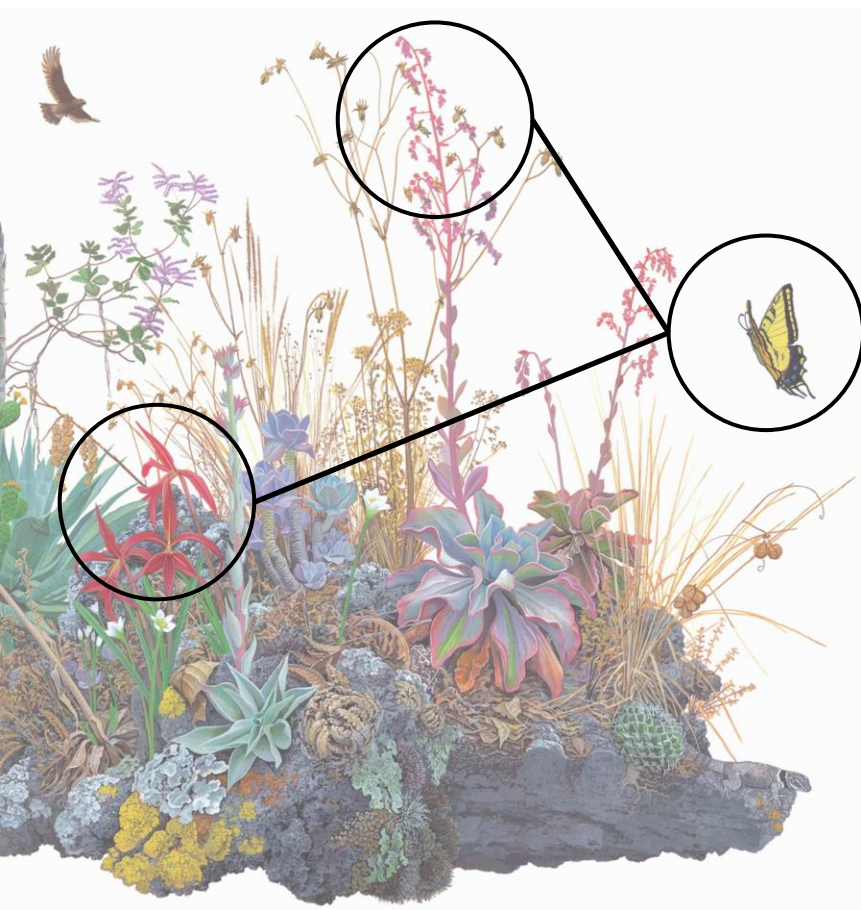




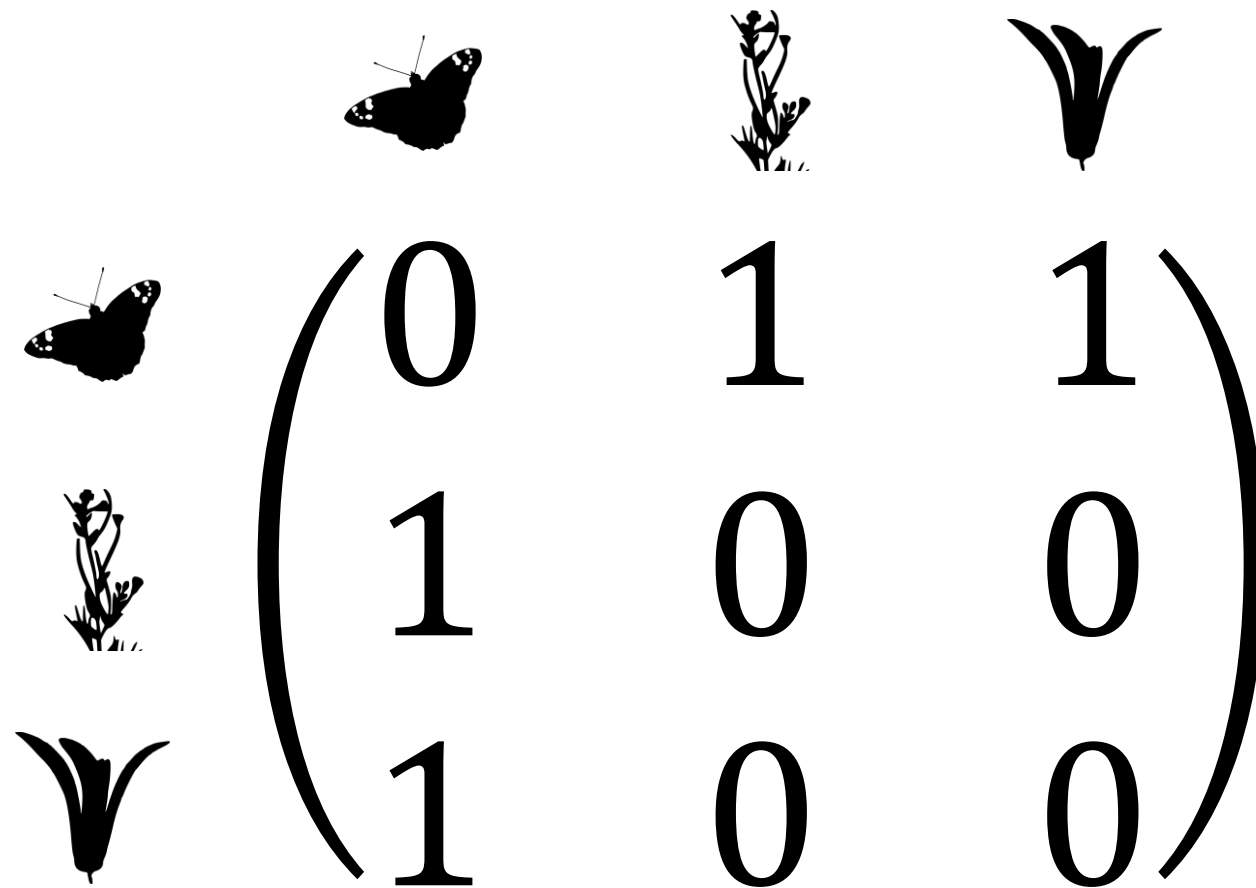
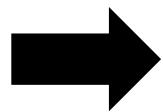
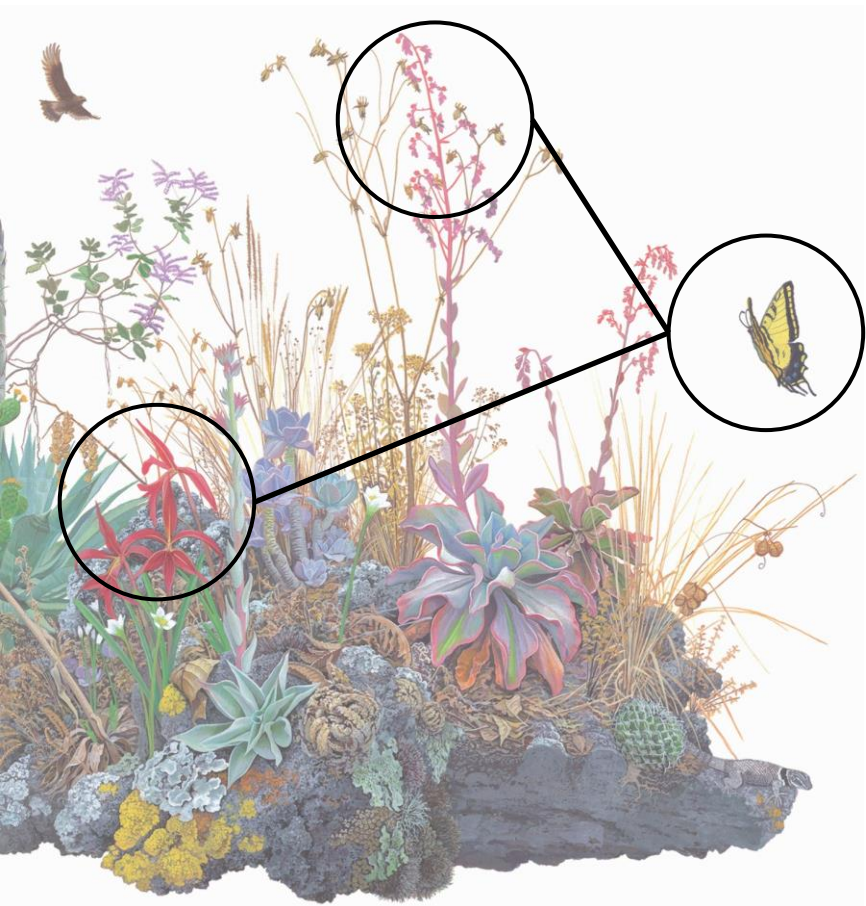
Number of interactions of each species: *species degree*



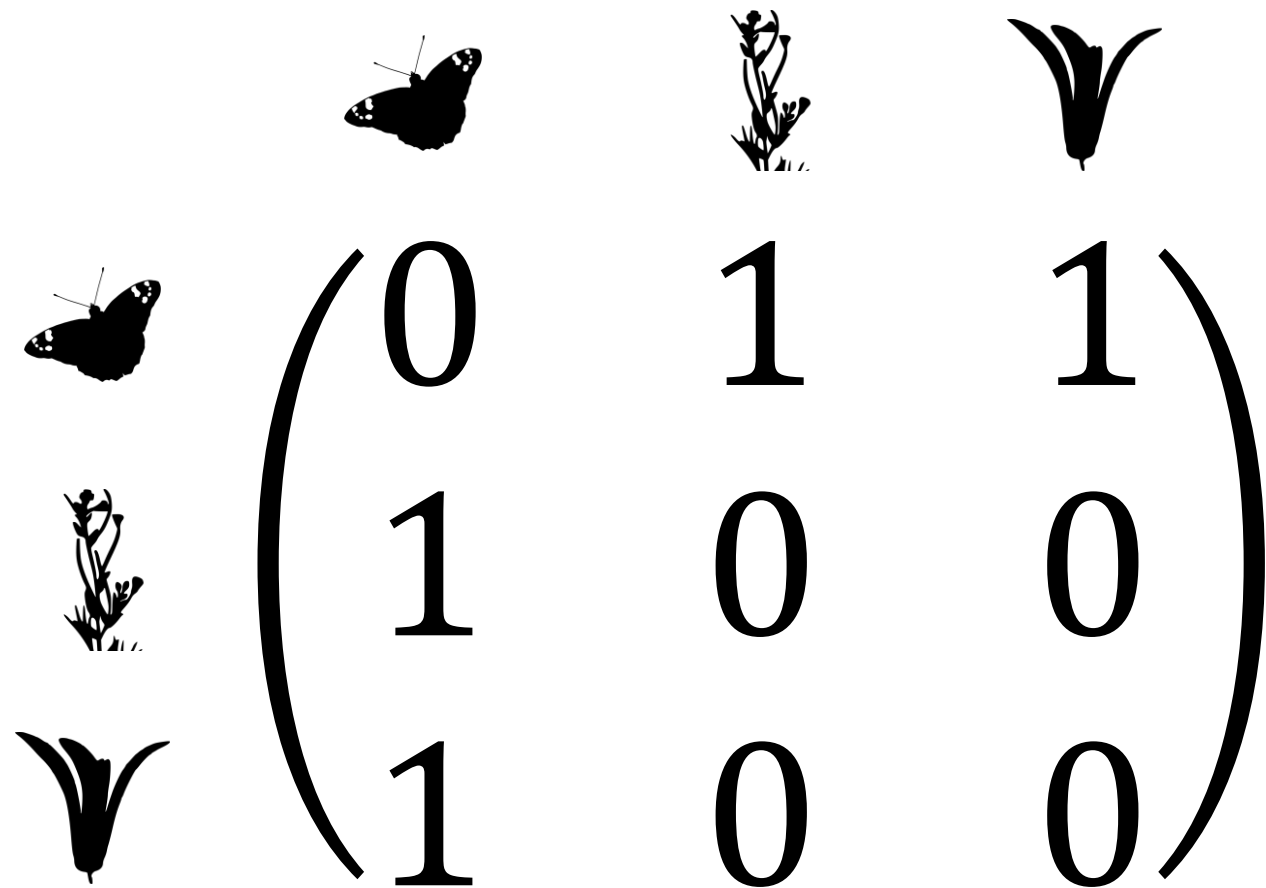
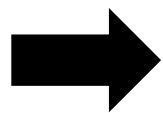
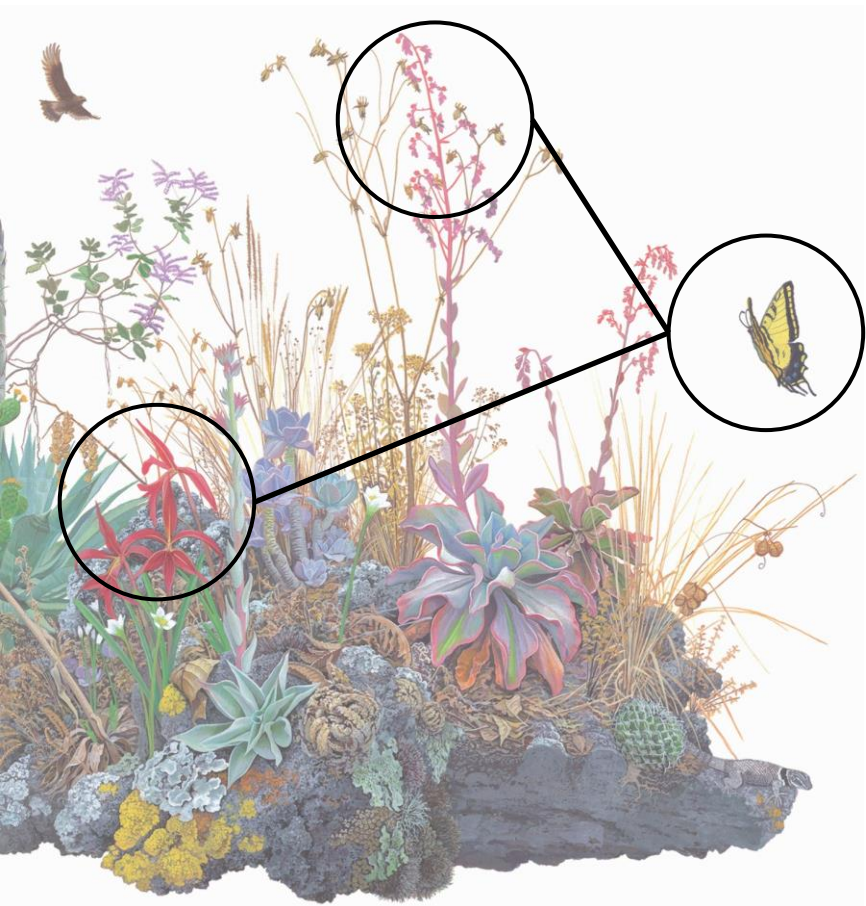
We can quantify degree from the interaction matrix



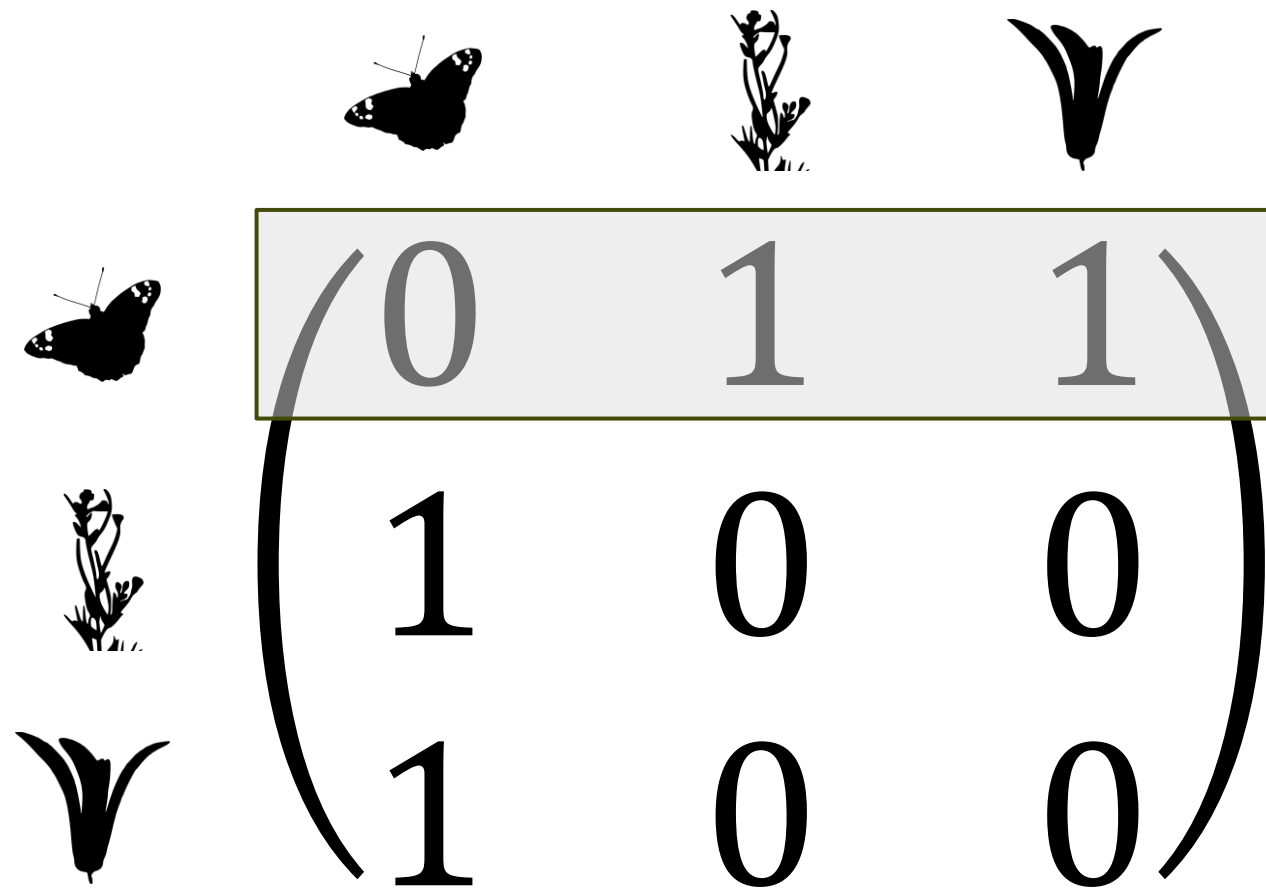
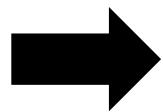
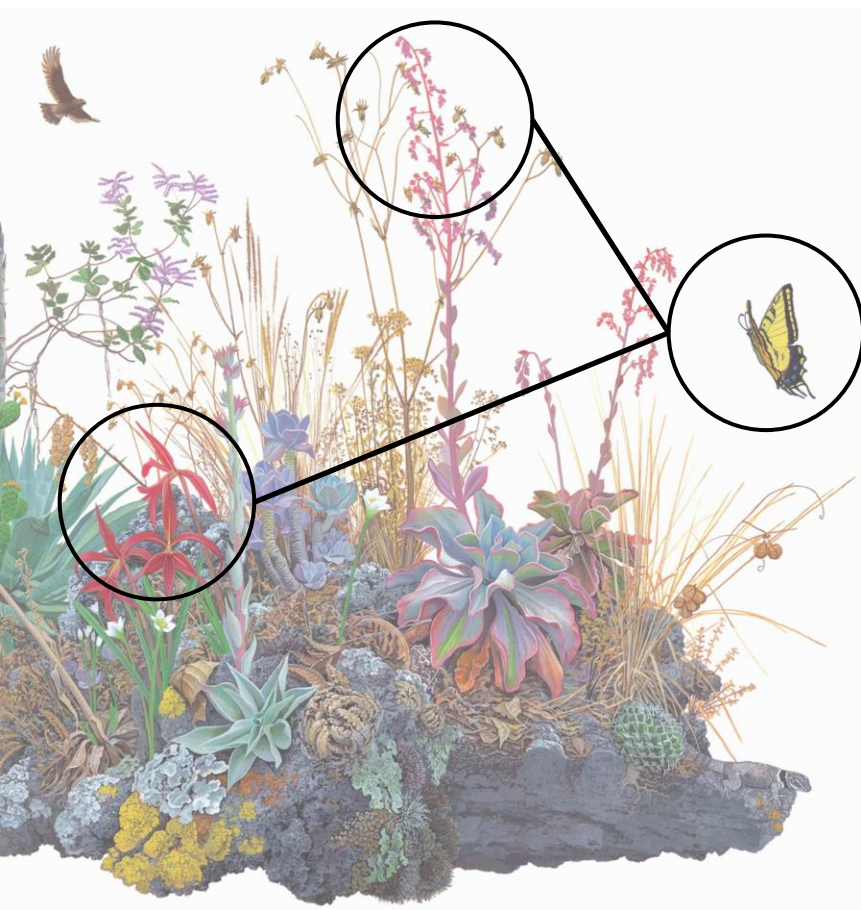
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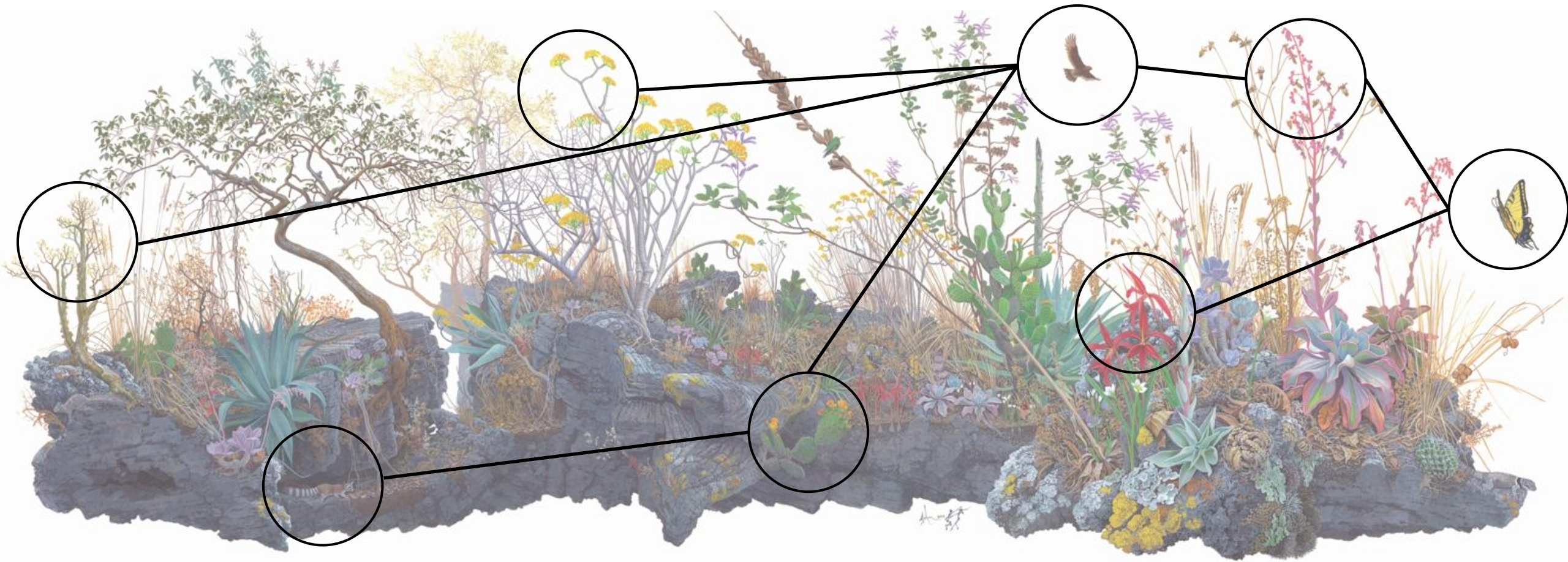
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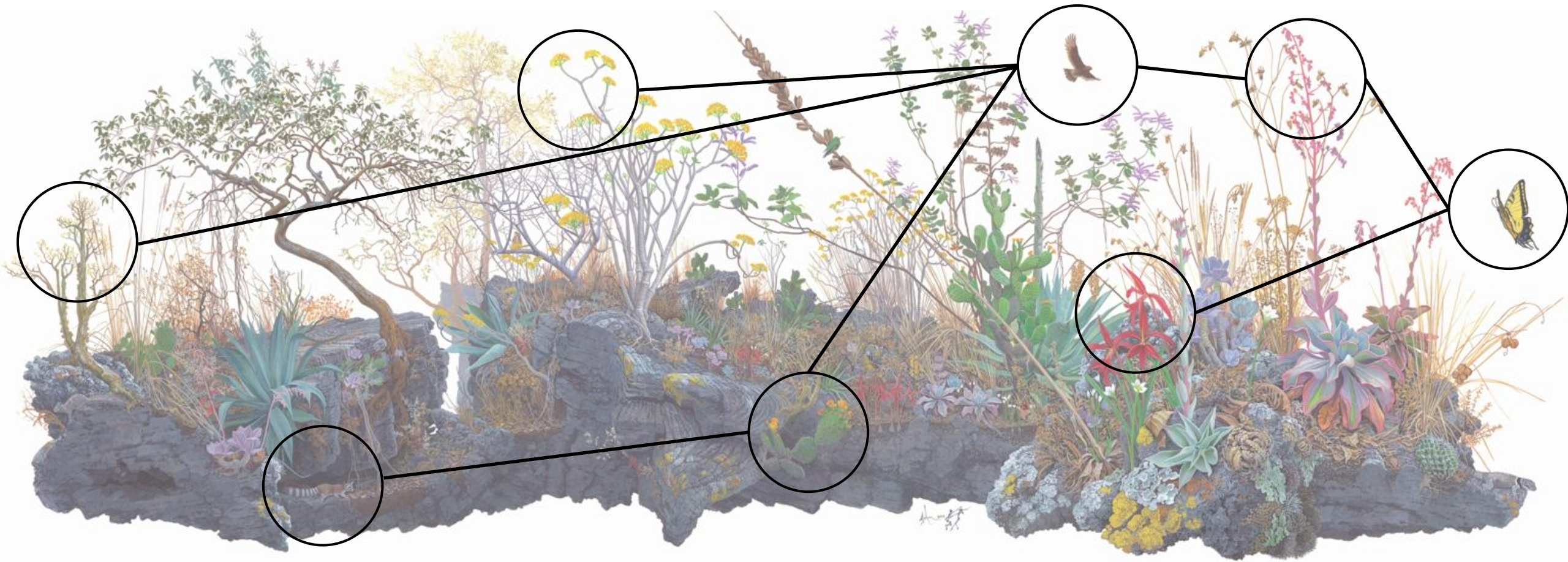
Matrix \mathbf{A} , with entries $a_{ij} = \mathbf{1}$ if species i interact with j



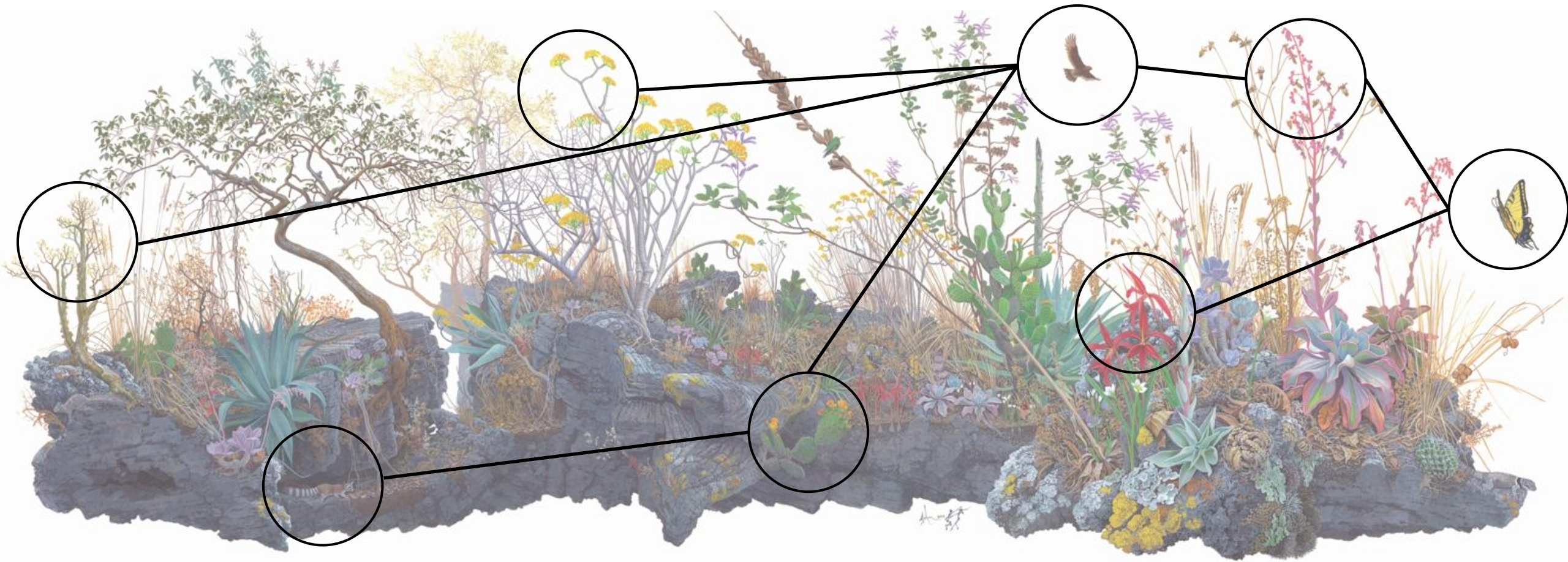
Degree = sum of the values within a row



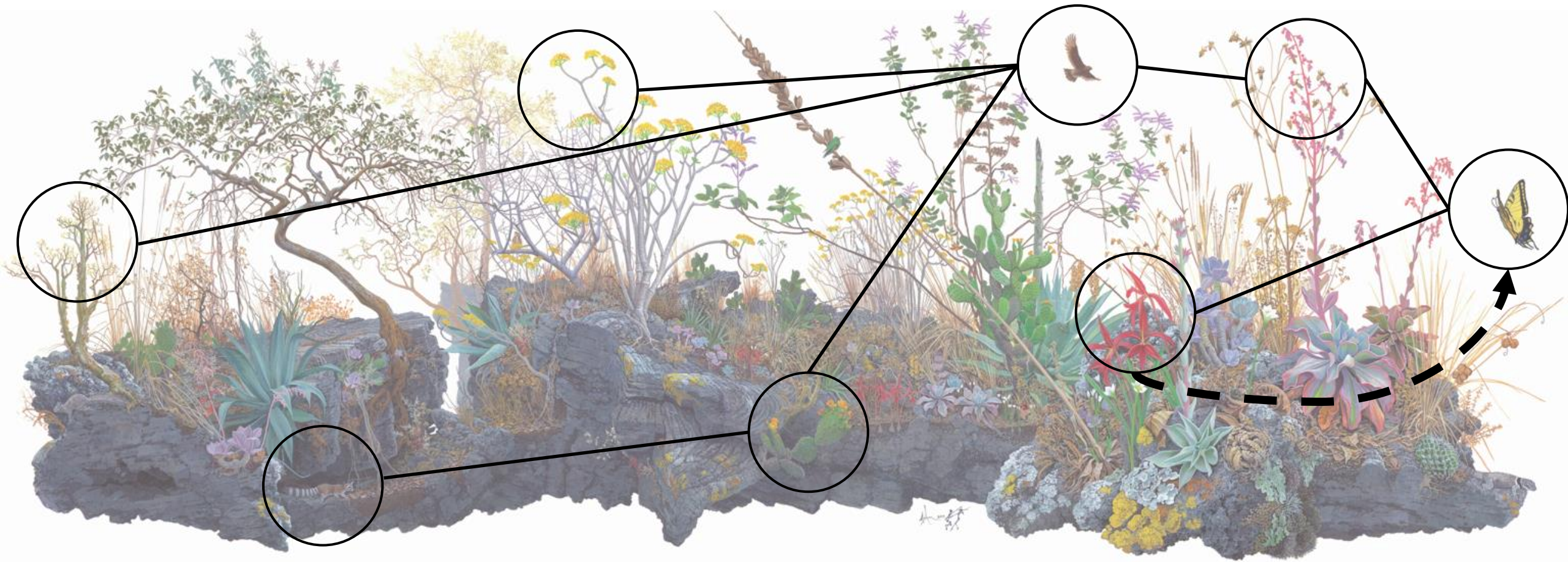
Degree is a measure of direct interactions



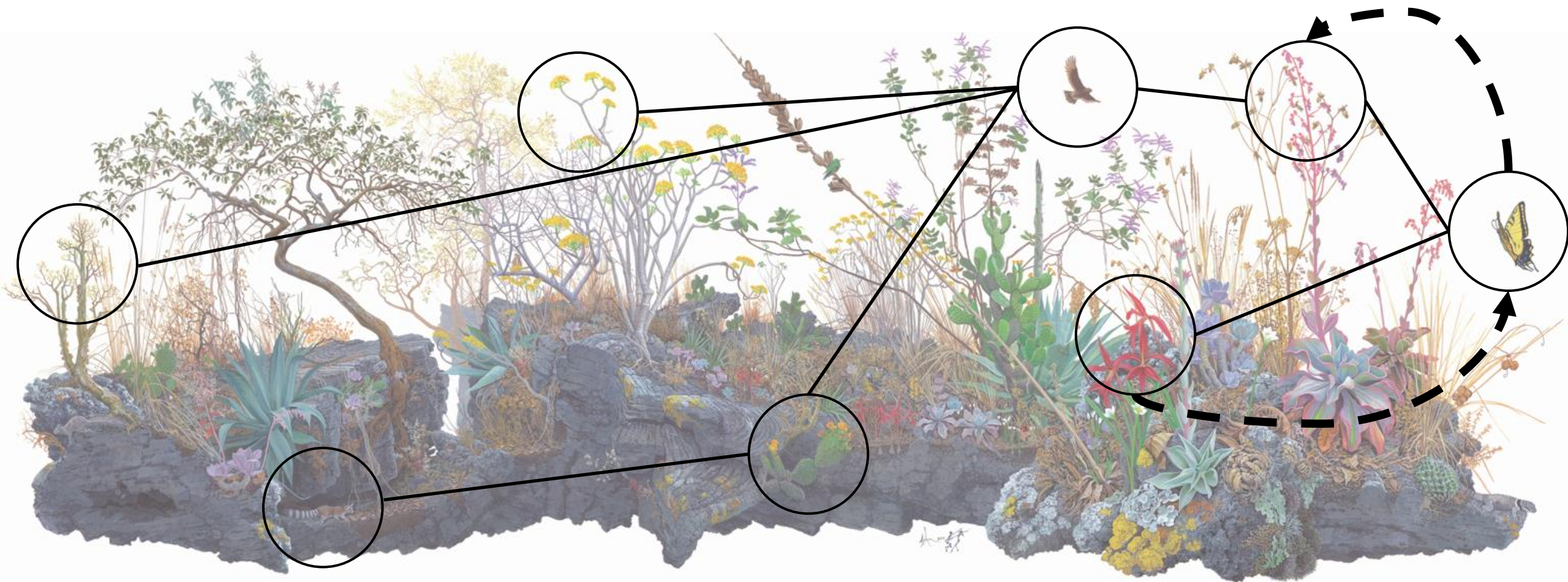
Main consequence of being part of a network?



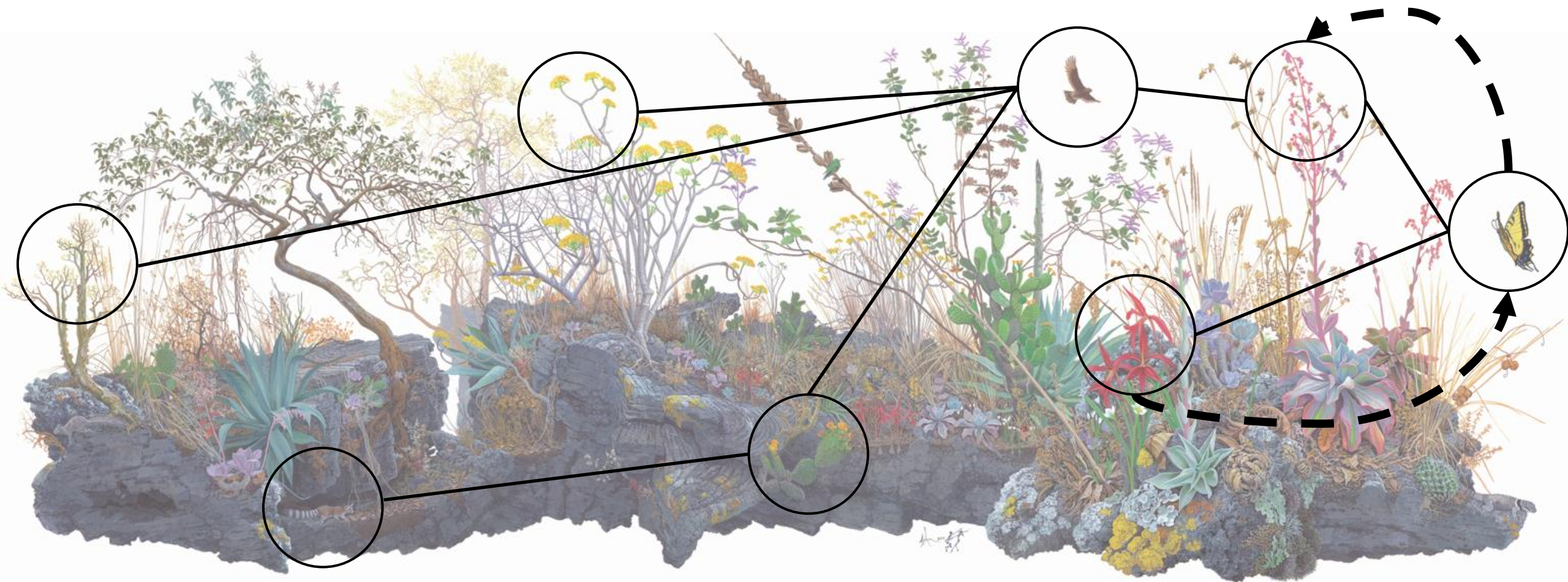
Species can interact both directly and indirectly!



Species can interact both directly and indirectly!



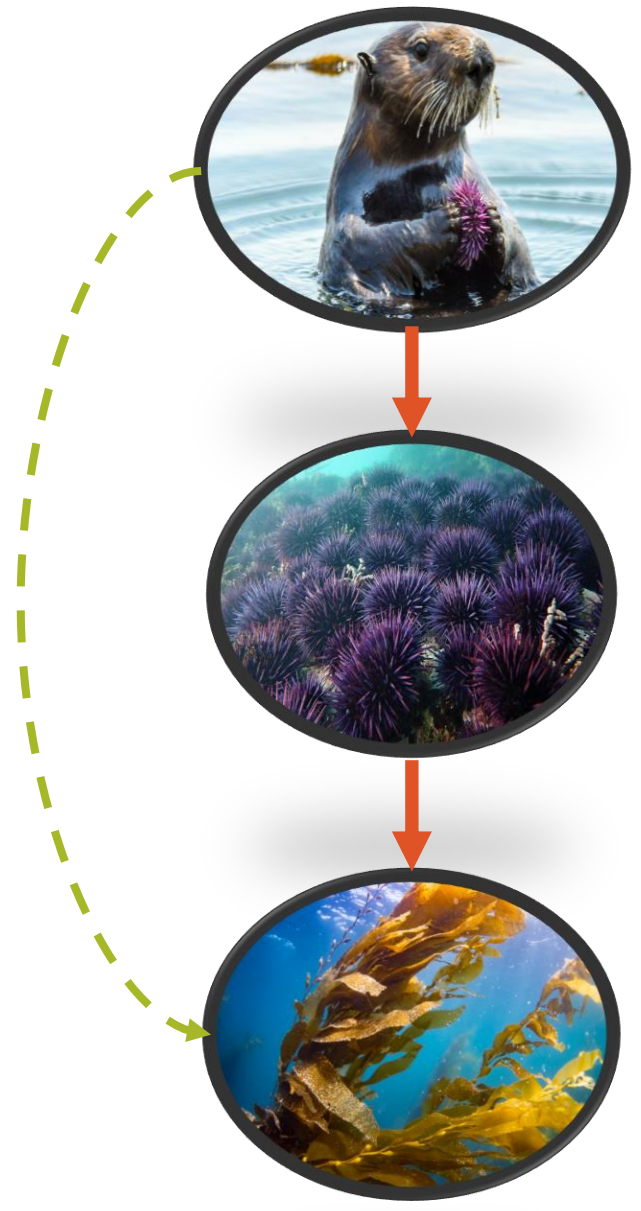
Species can interact both directly and indirectly!

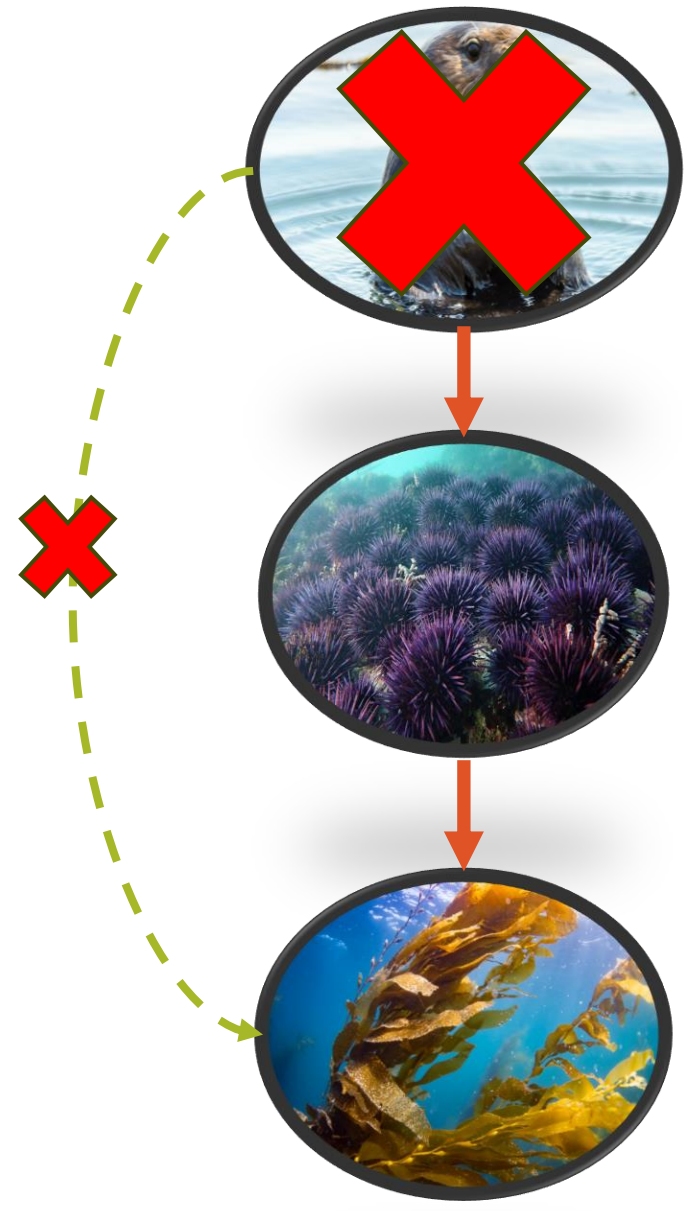


Do indirect interactions matter?

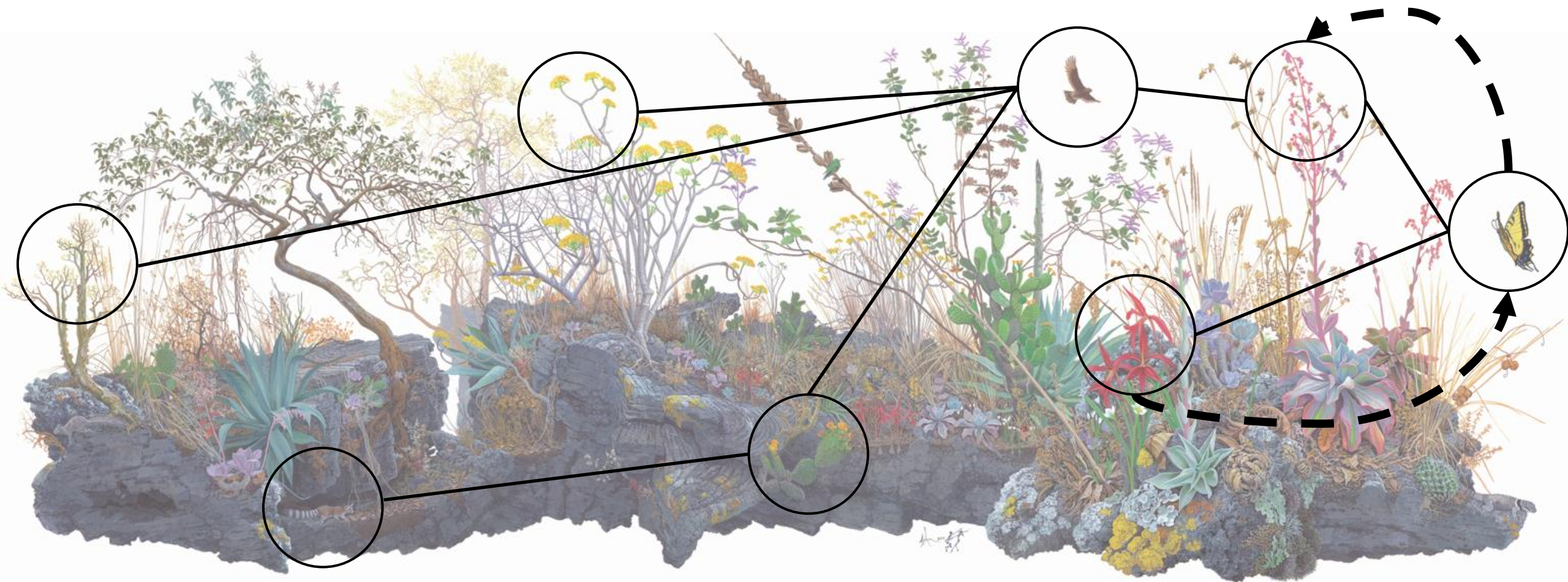




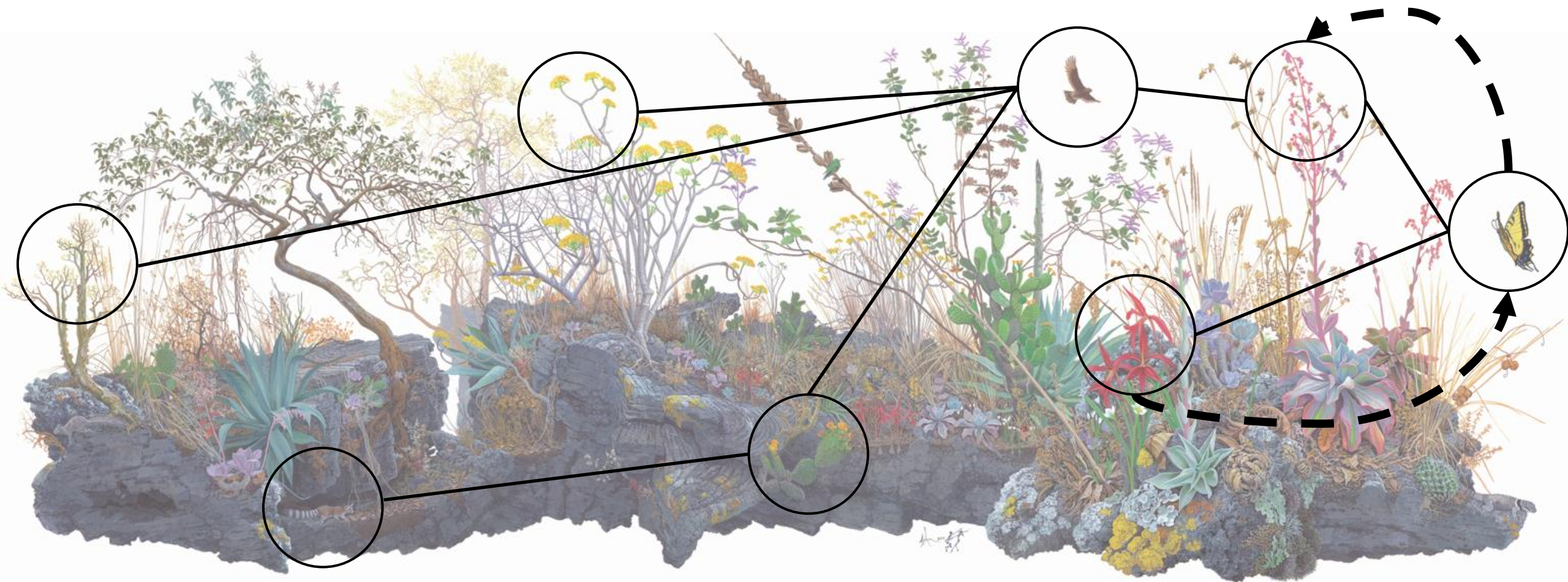




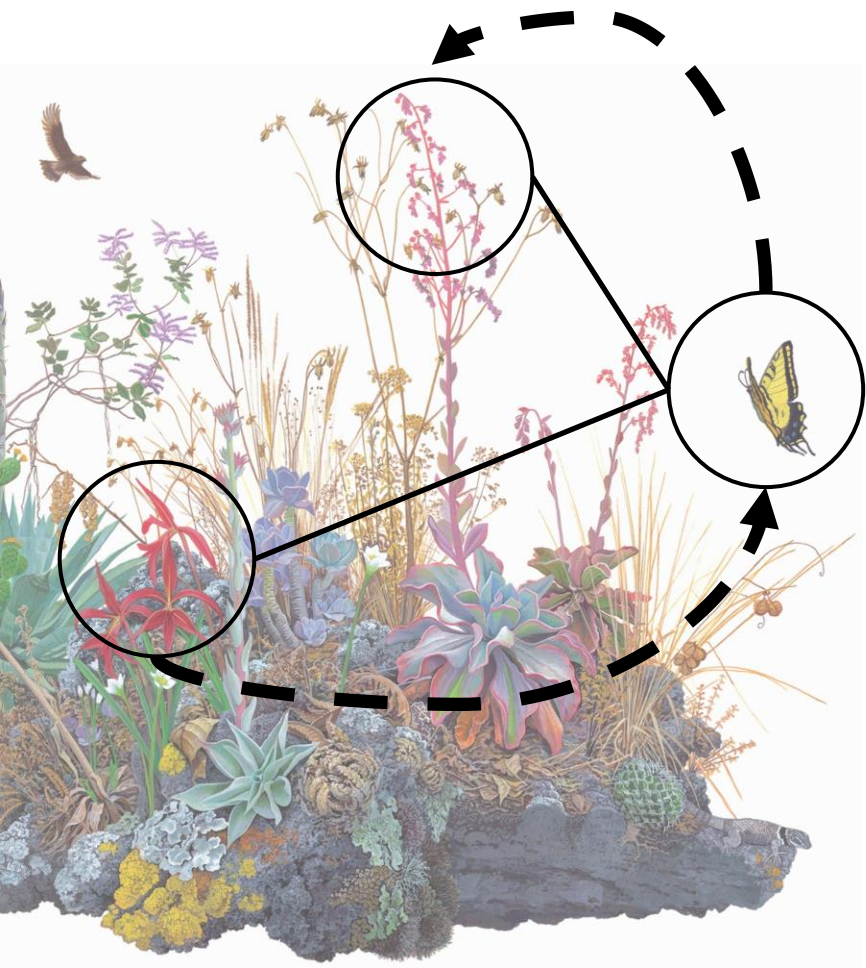




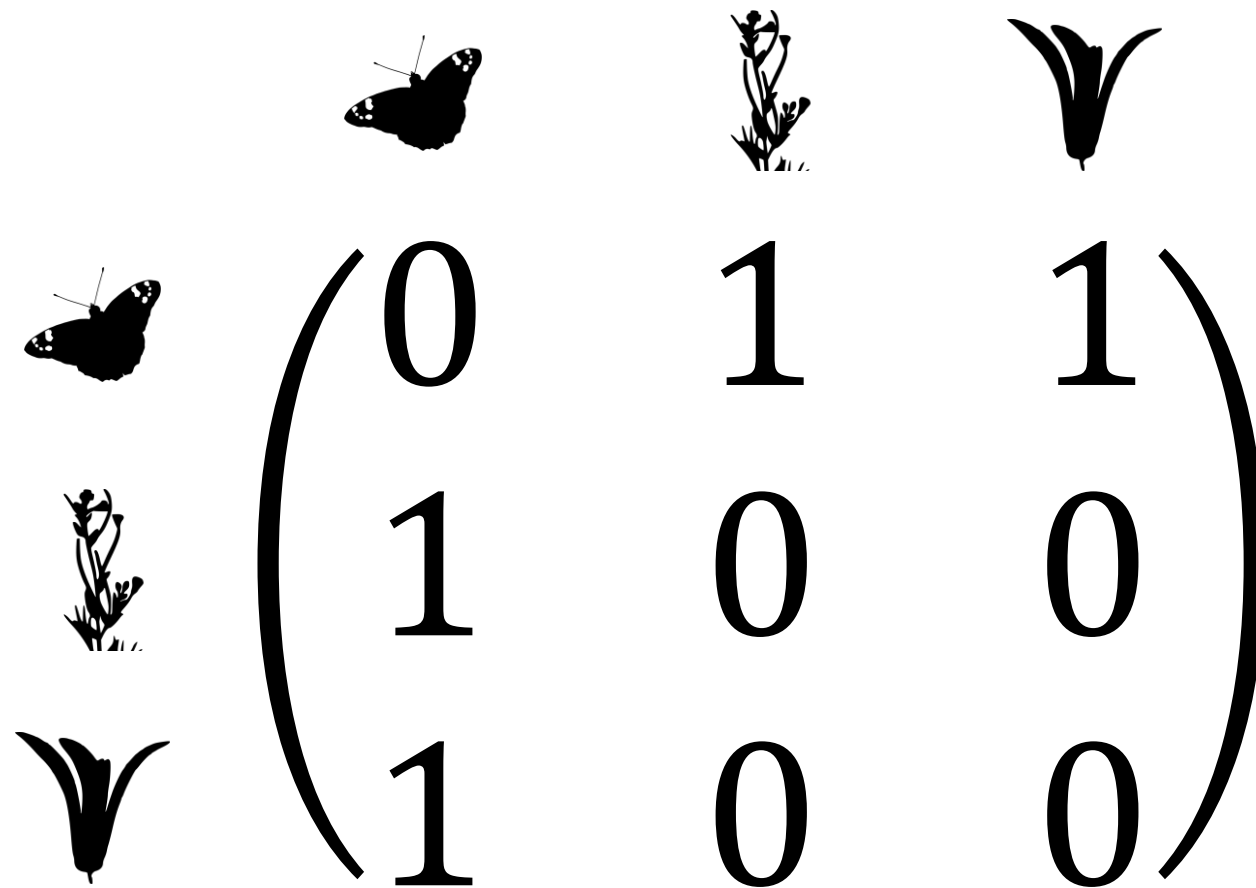
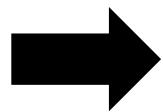
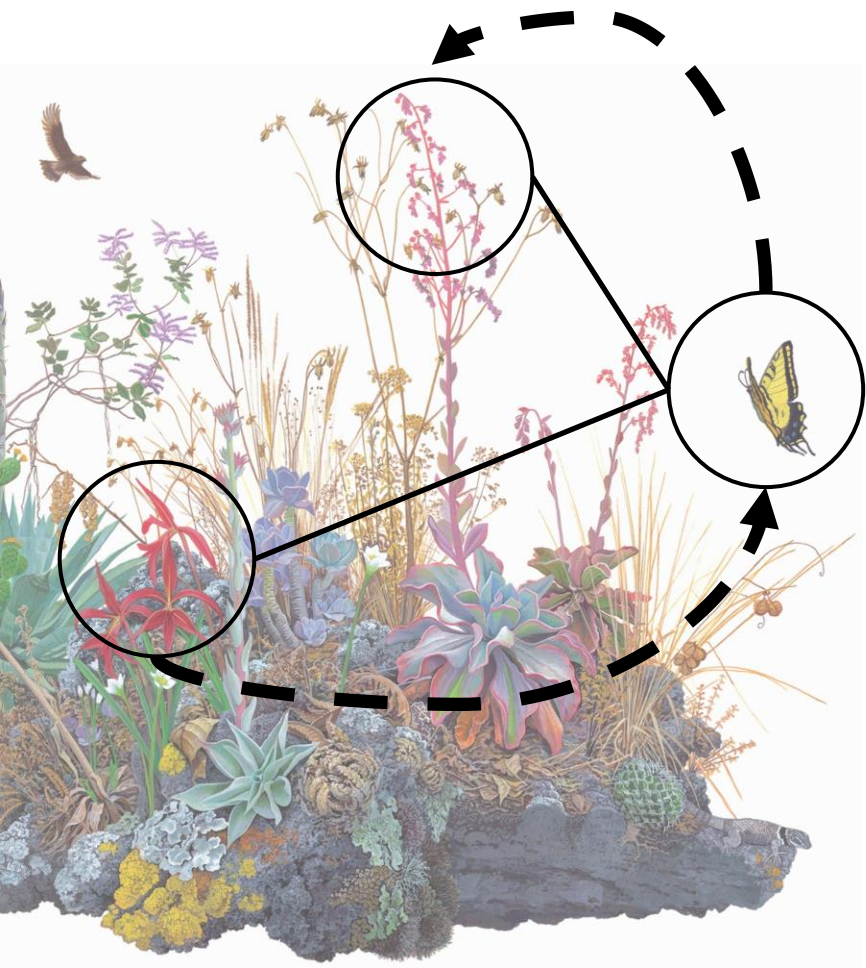
How can we quantify direct and indirect interactions?



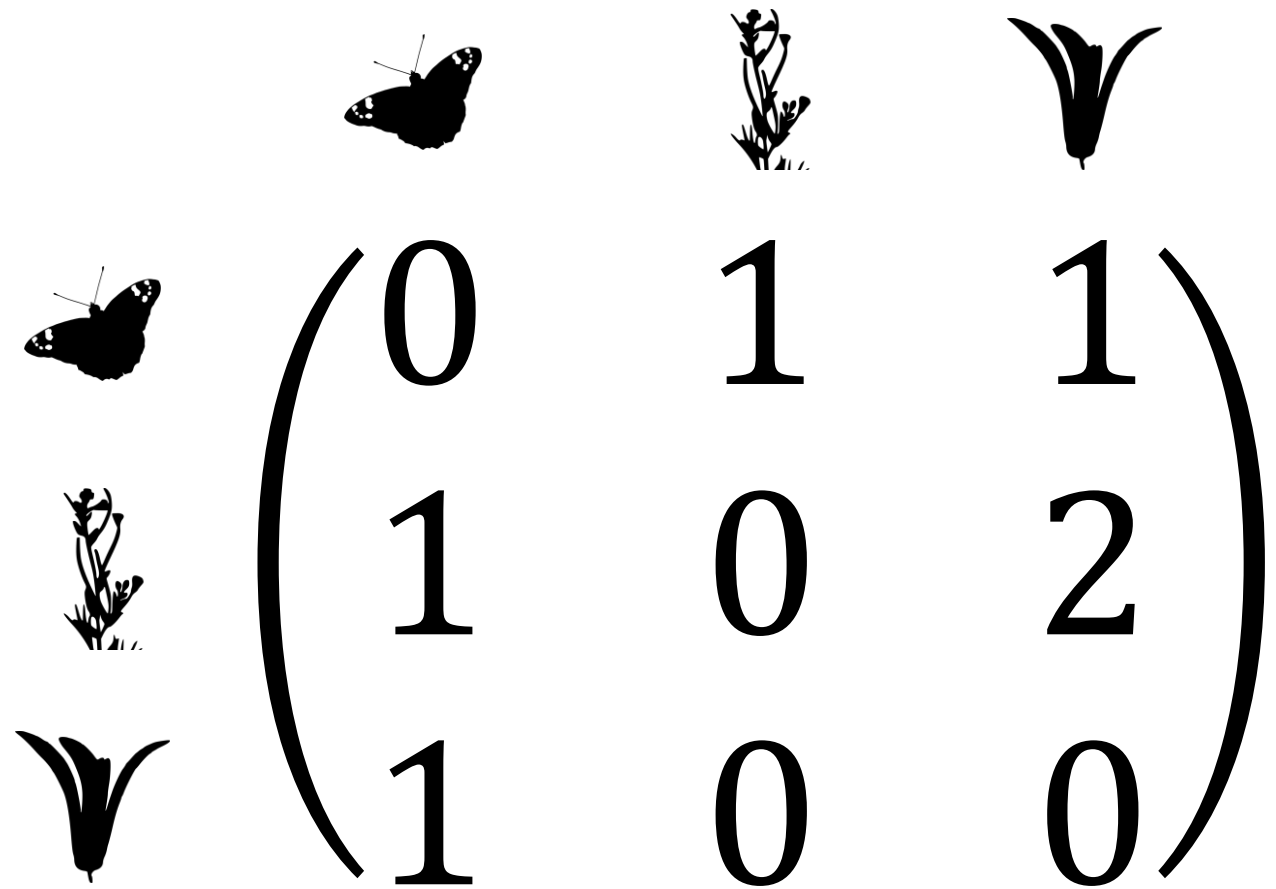
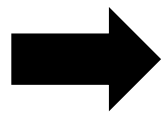
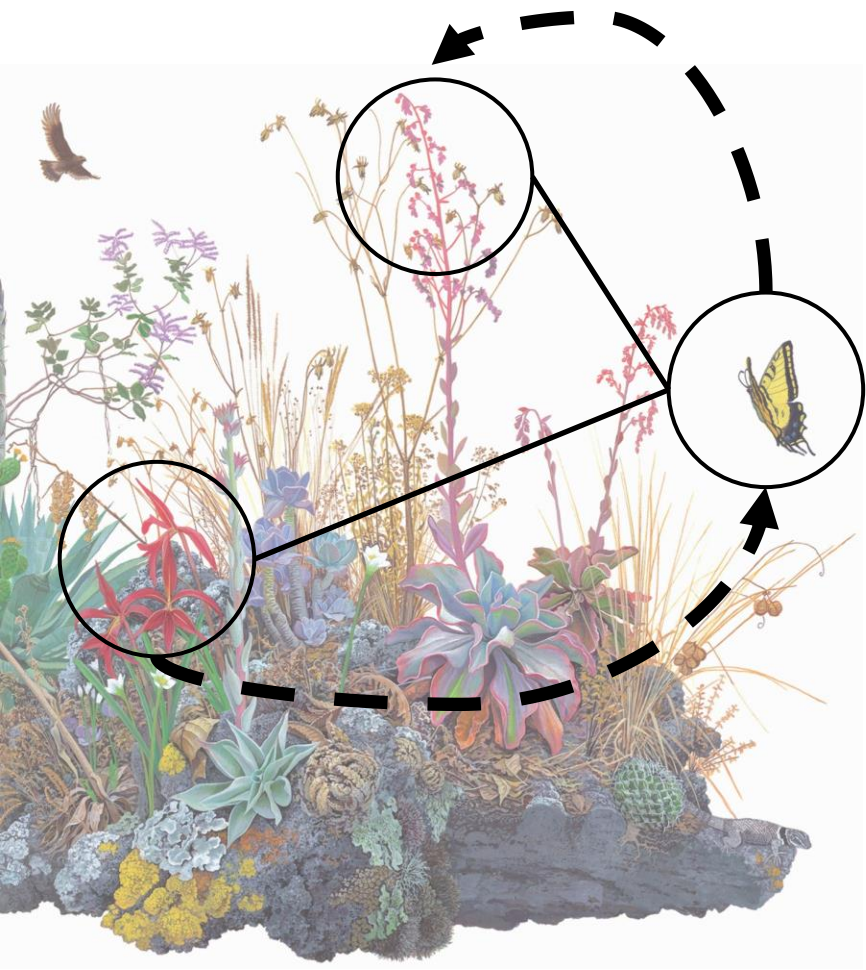
Taking indirect interactions into account: shortest paths



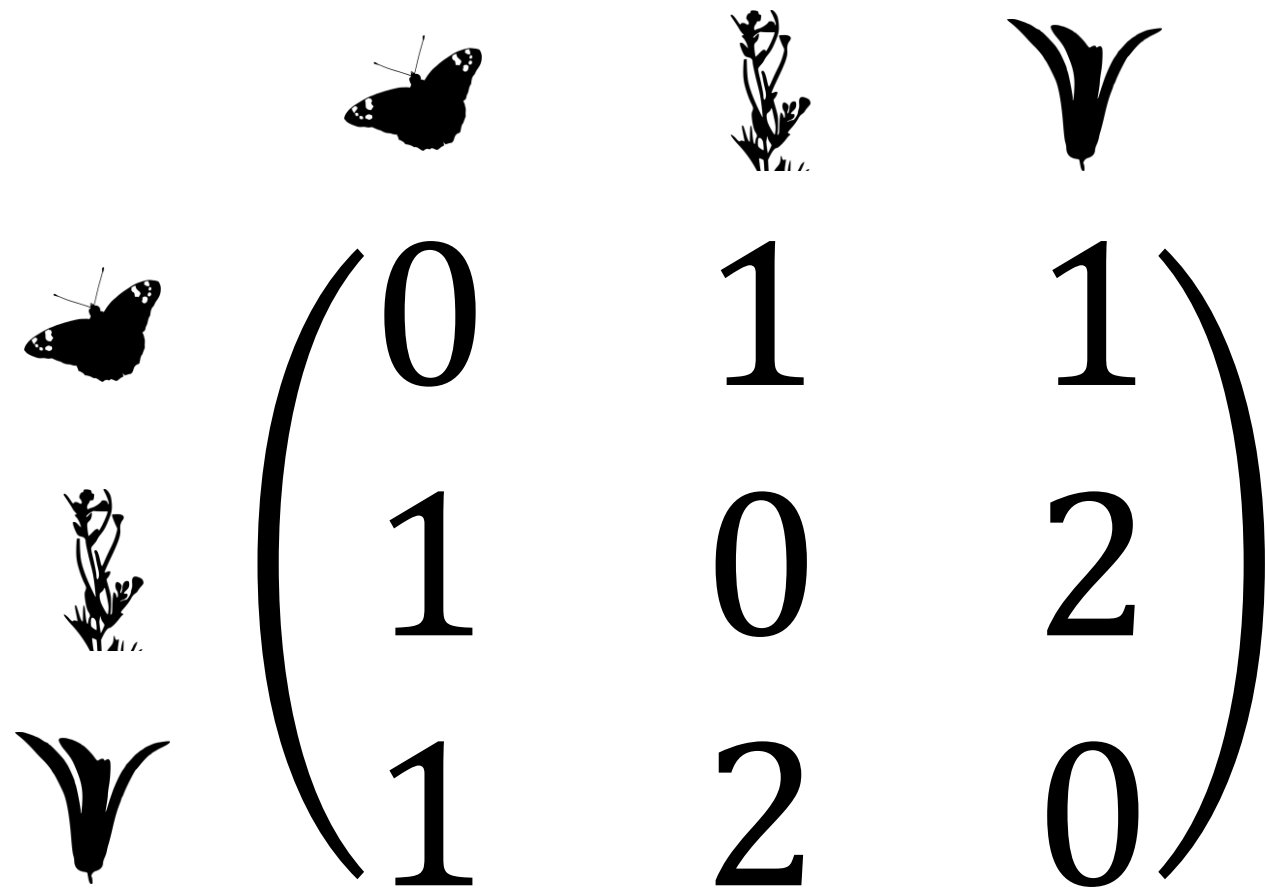
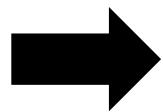
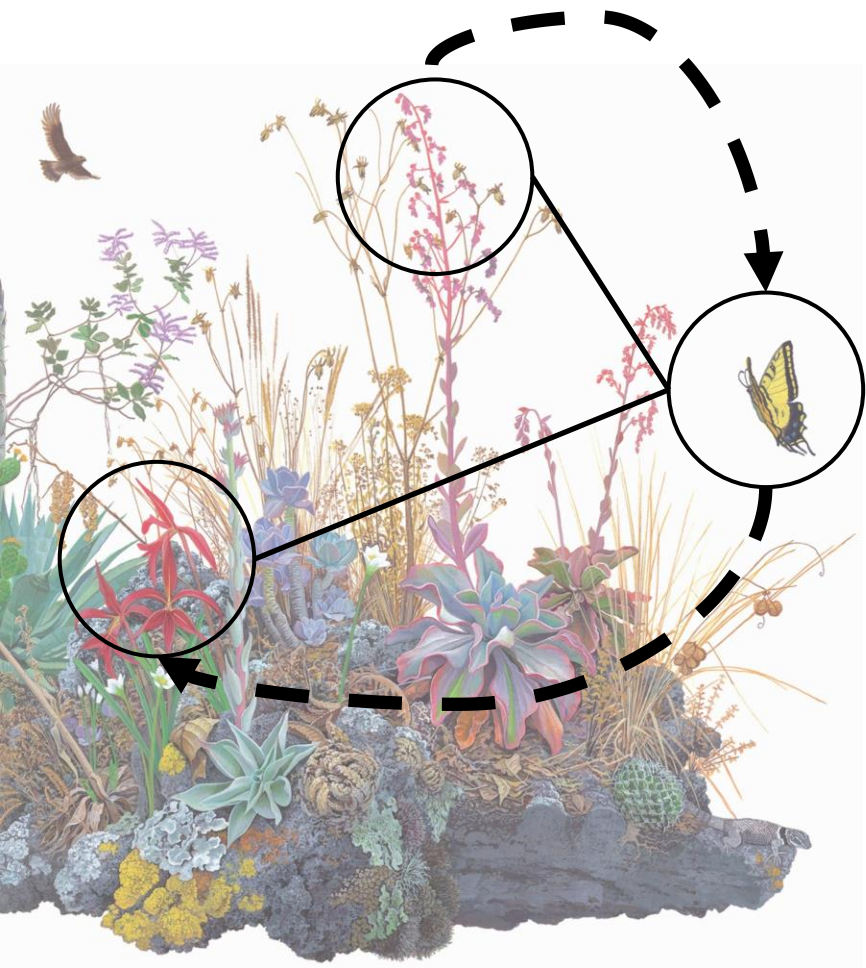
Distance matrix, \mathbf{D} , with entries d_{ij} = shortest path length between species i and j



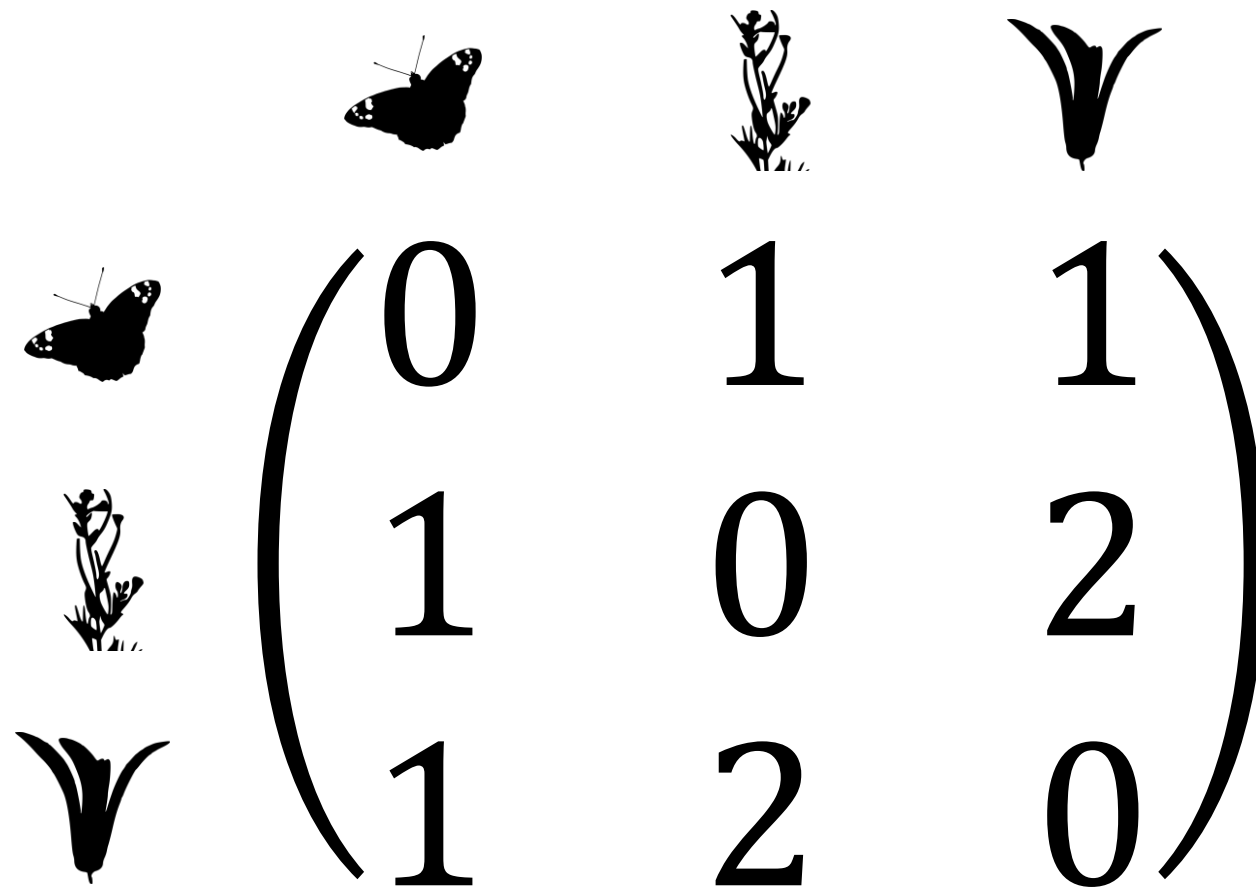
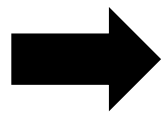
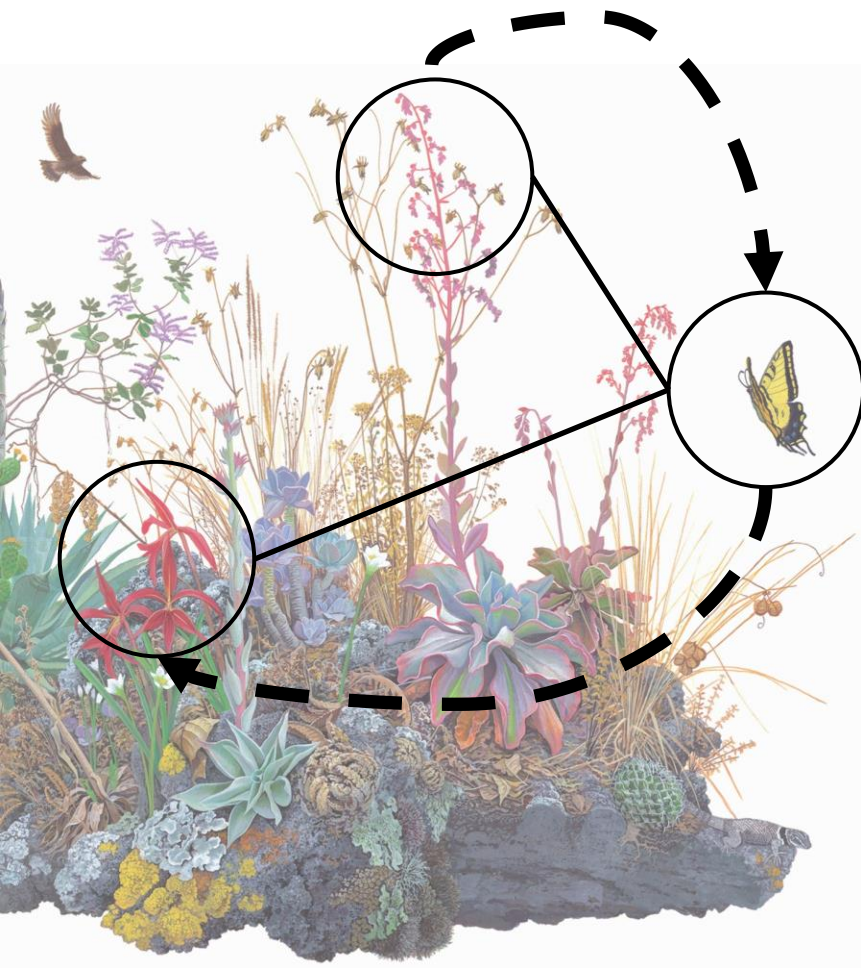
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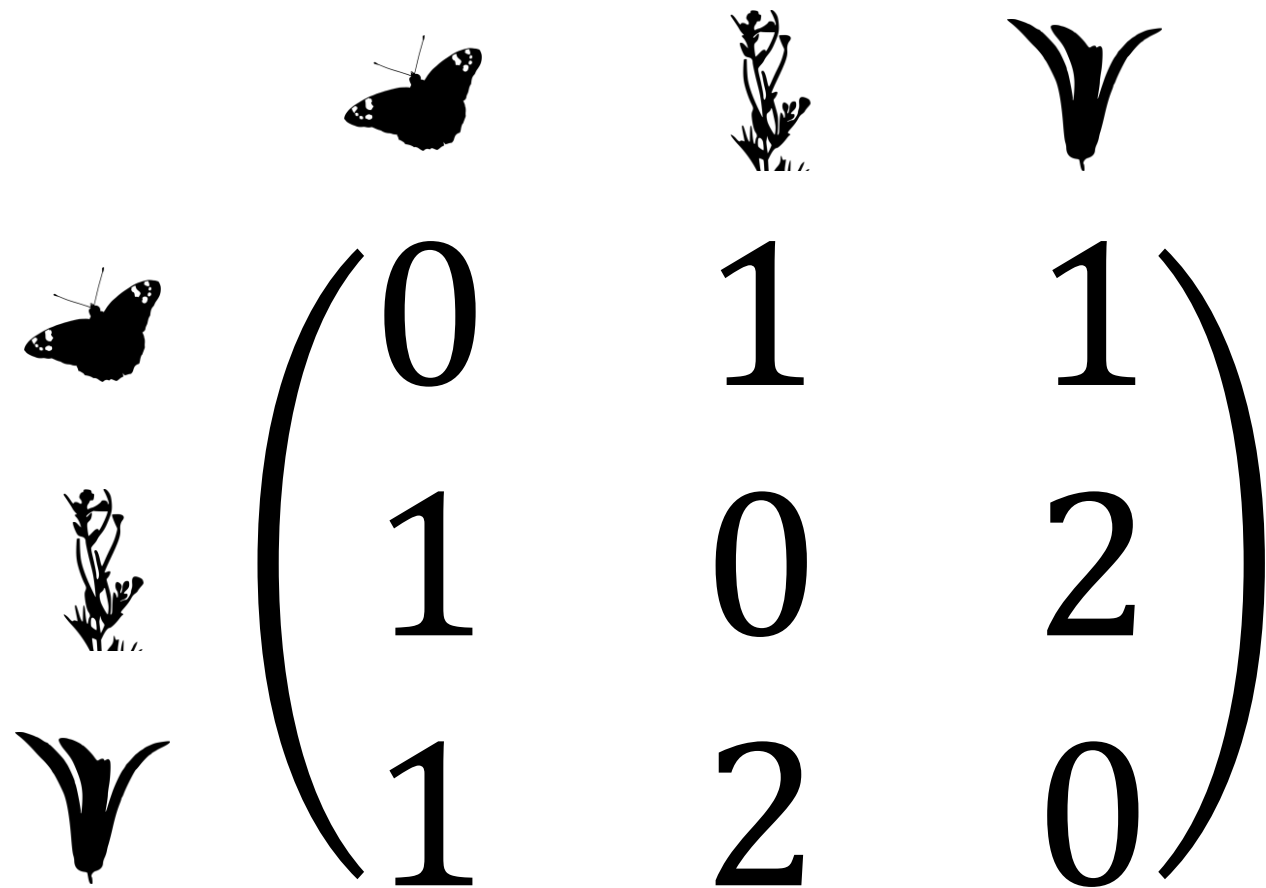
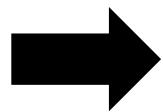
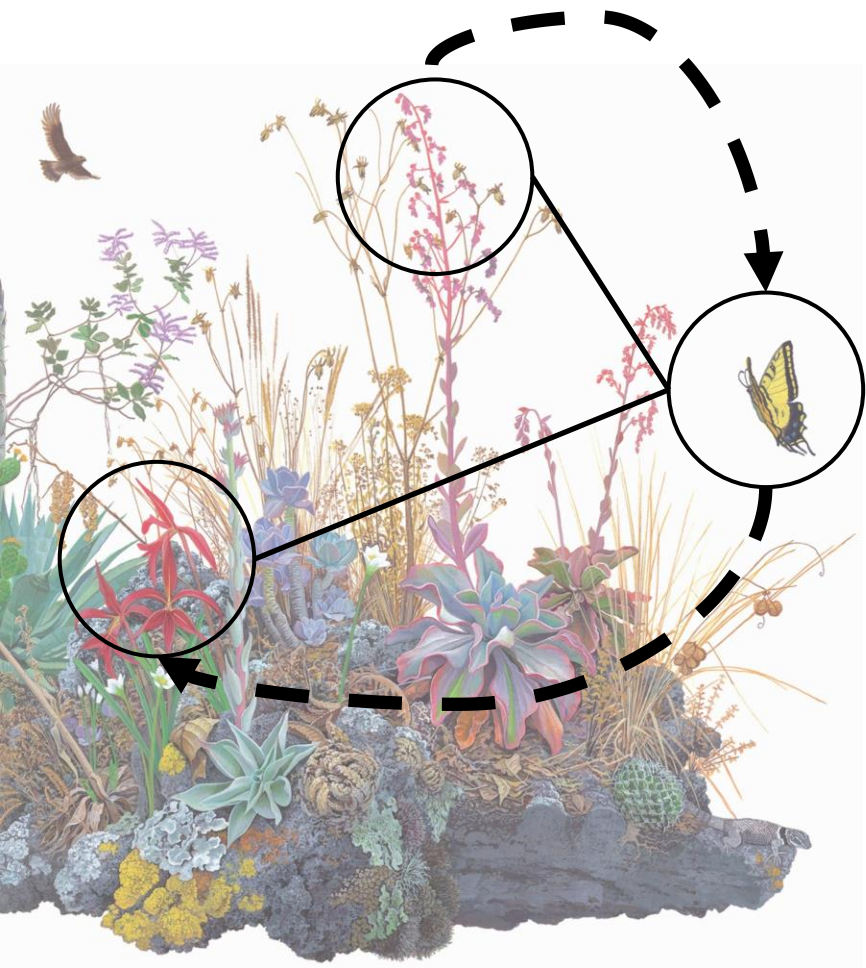
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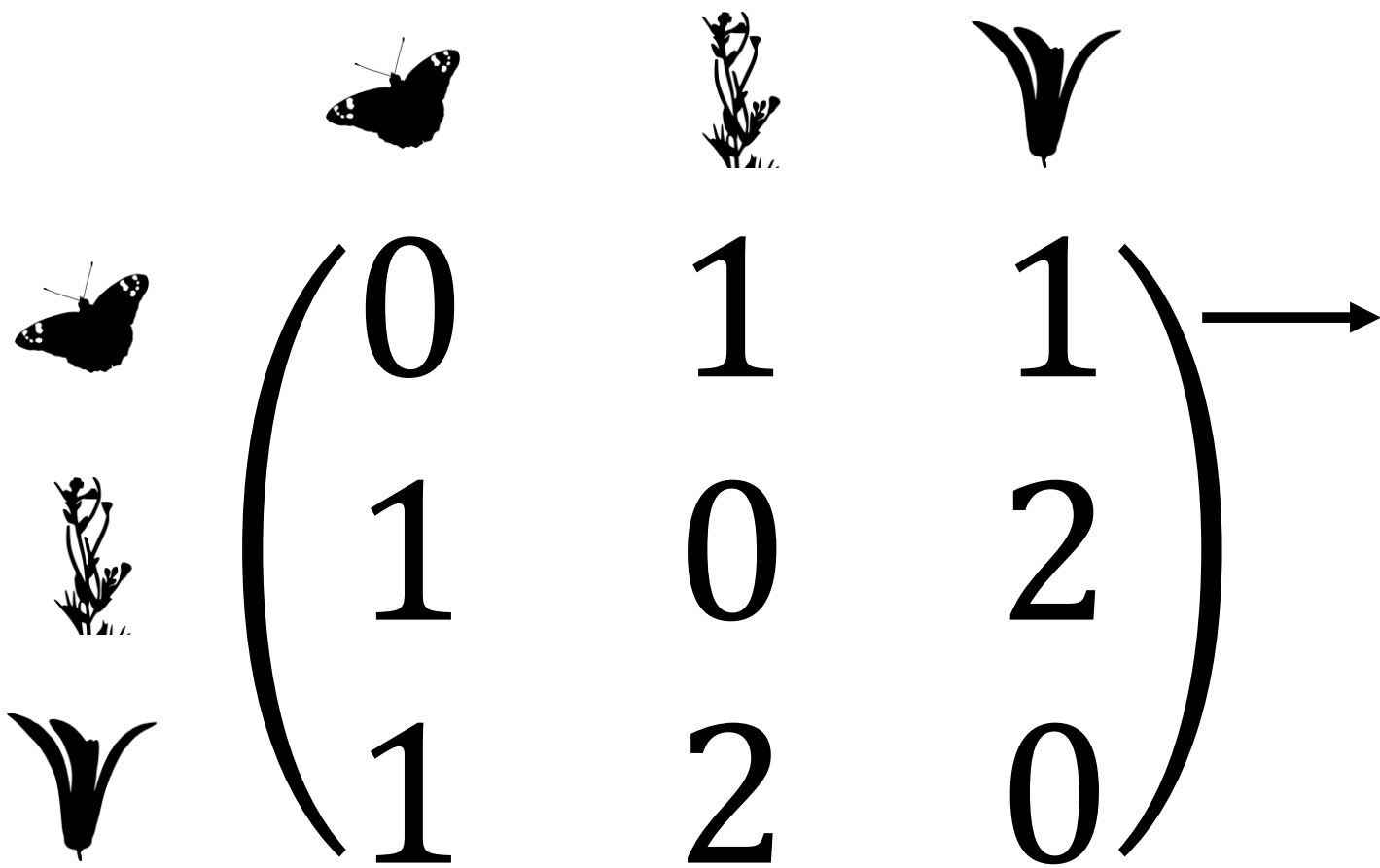
Distance matrix, \mathbf{D} , with entries d_{ij} = shortest path length between species i and j









How easily species can "access" others in the network?



Taking the inverse of distance, $\frac{1}{d_{ij}}$, and computing the average









																
	(0	1	1)	→	(+	(=	2					
		1	0	2)	+	(=	2
		1	2	0))	=	2	







The diagram illustrates a matrix operation. The matrix is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

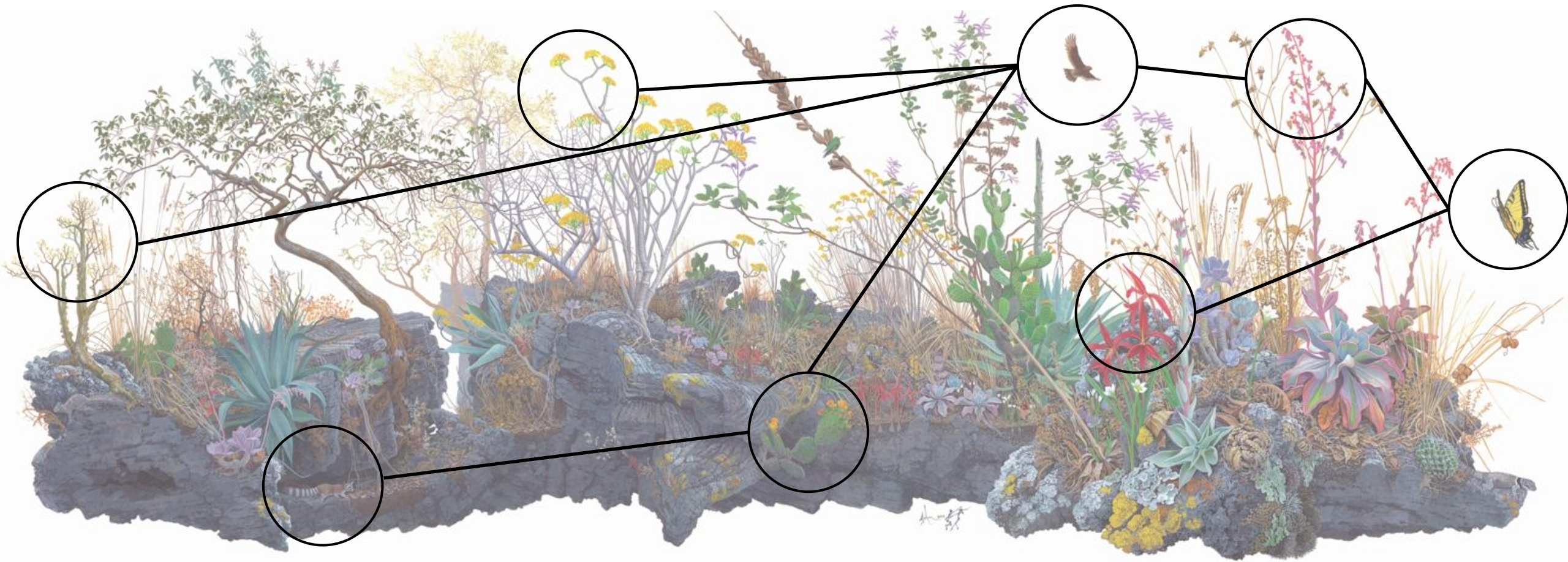
An arrow points to the calculation:

$$\left(\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{1}\right) = 2 \rightarrow \frac{2}{2} = 1$$

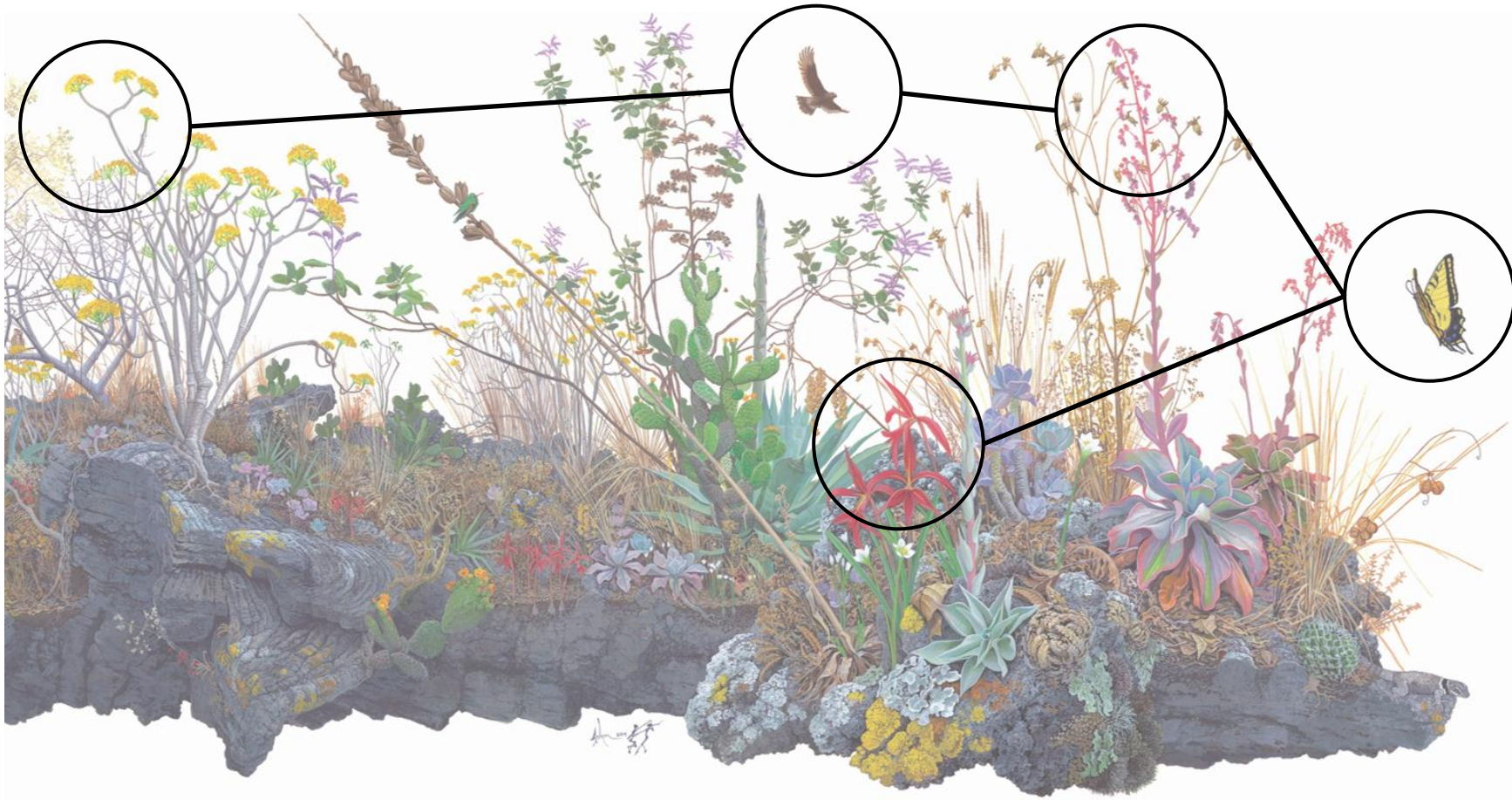
					→	$\left(\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{1}\right) = 2 \rightarrow \frac{2}{2} = 1$
	(0	1	1	→	$\left(\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2}\right) = 1.5 \rightarrow \frac{1.5}{2} = 0.75$
		1	0	2	→	$\left(\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2}\right) = 1.5 \rightarrow \frac{1.5}{2} = 0.75$
		1	2	0	→	

					
		)	→	$\left(\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{1}\right) = 2 \rightarrow \frac{2}{2} = 1$
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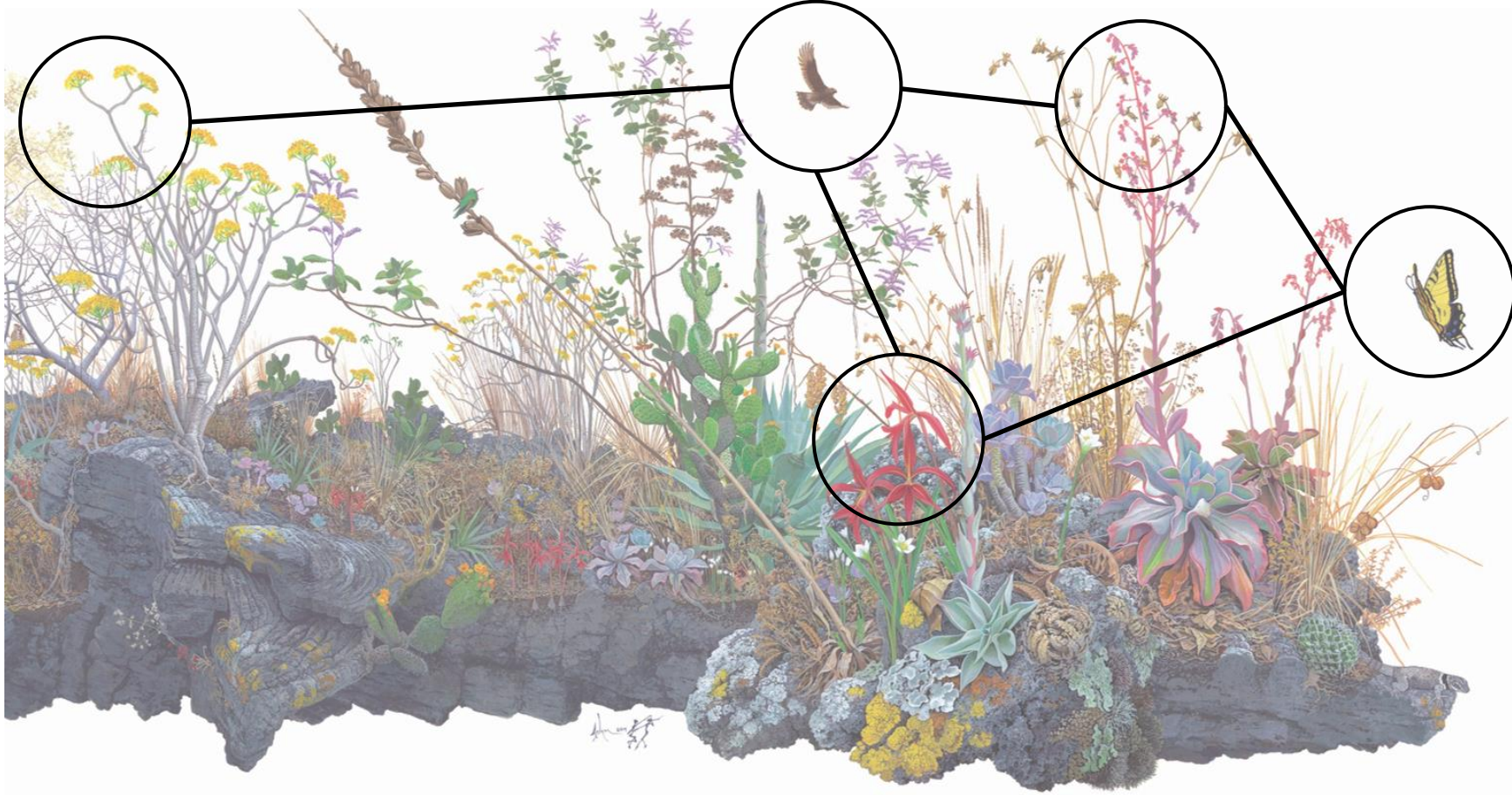
A general equation:
$$\mathbf{C}_i = \frac{\left(\sum_{j \neq i}^N \frac{1}{d_{ij}}\right)}{N-1}$$



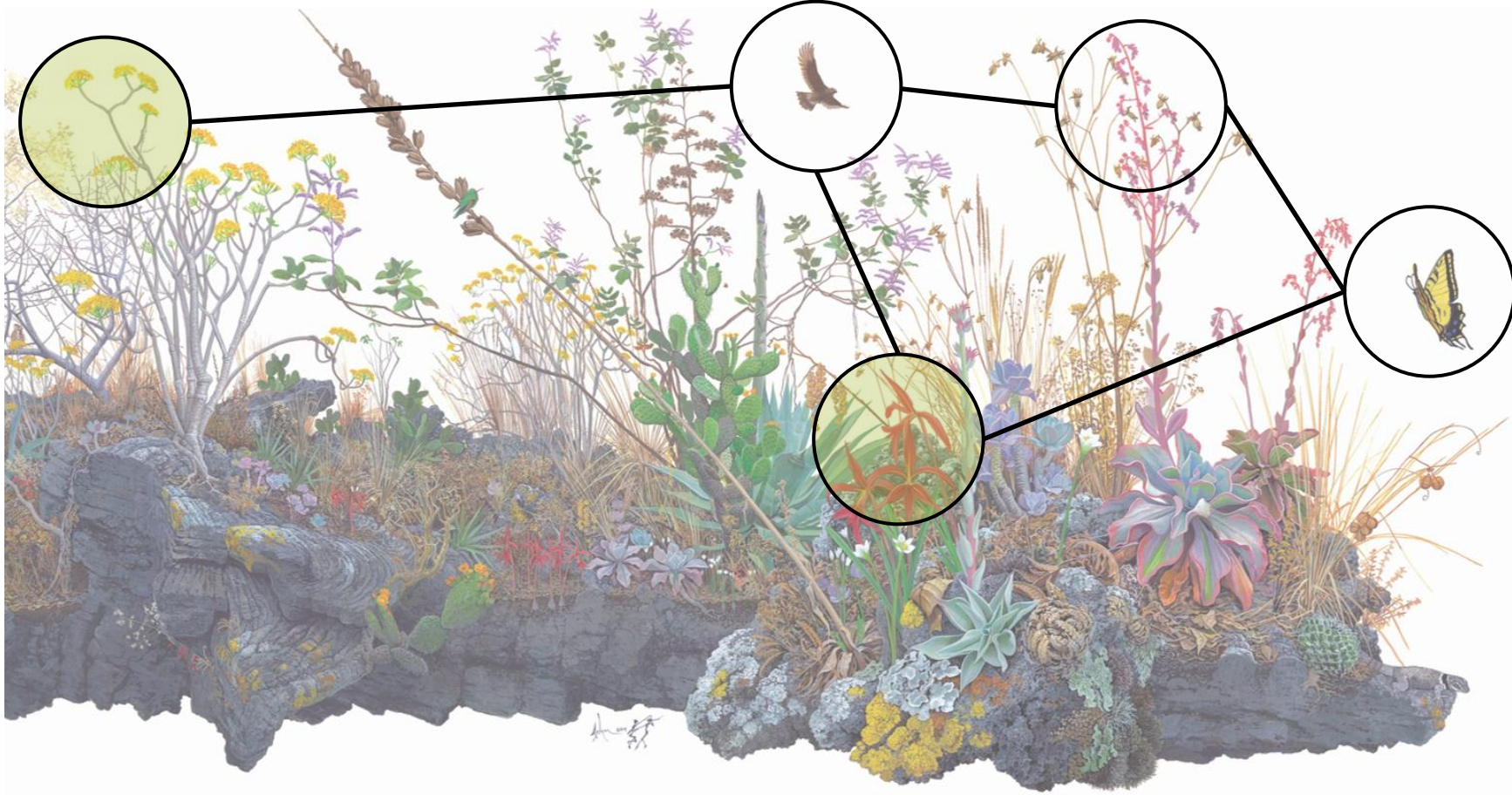
Are shortest paths the only ones that matter?



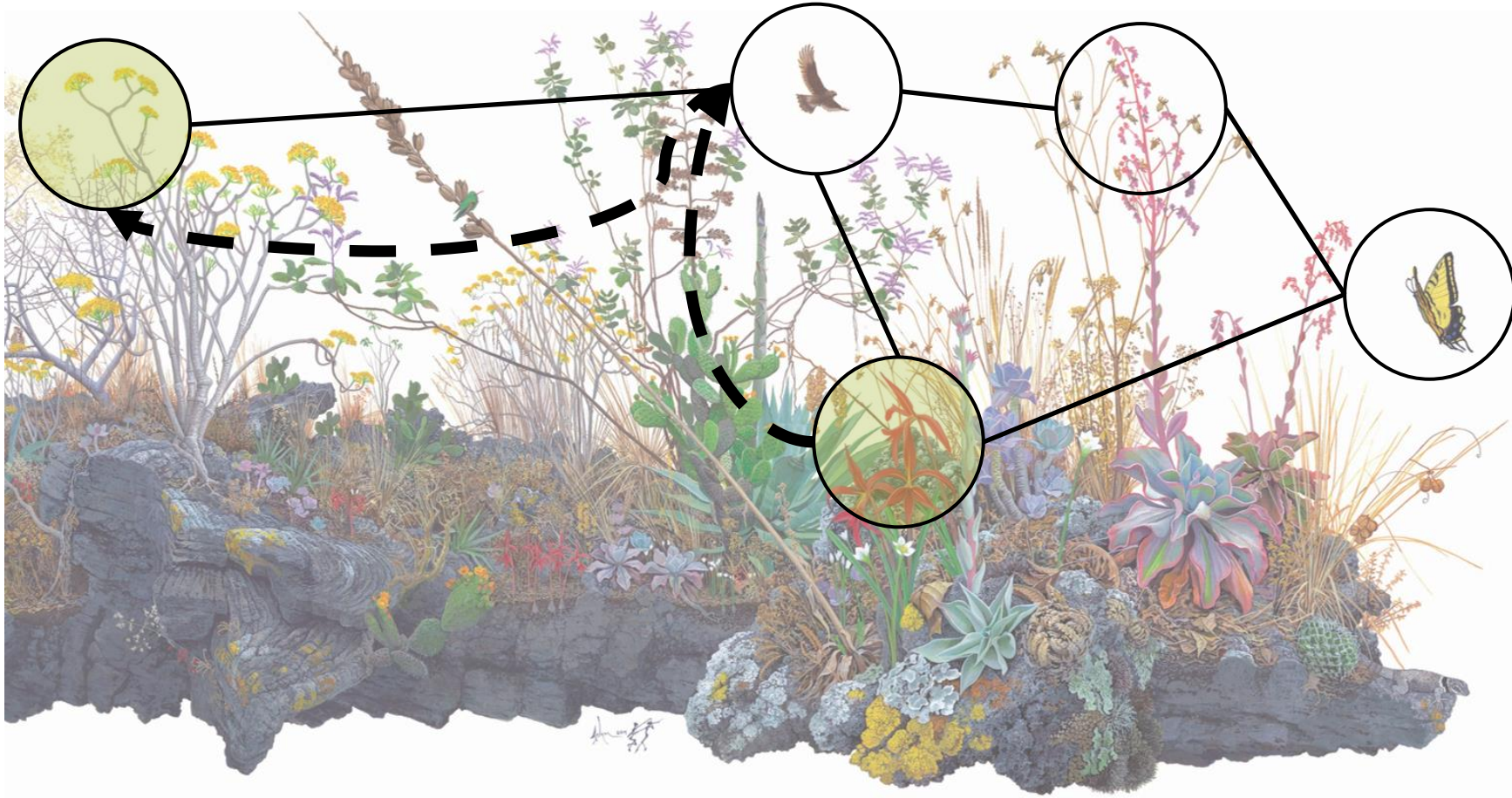
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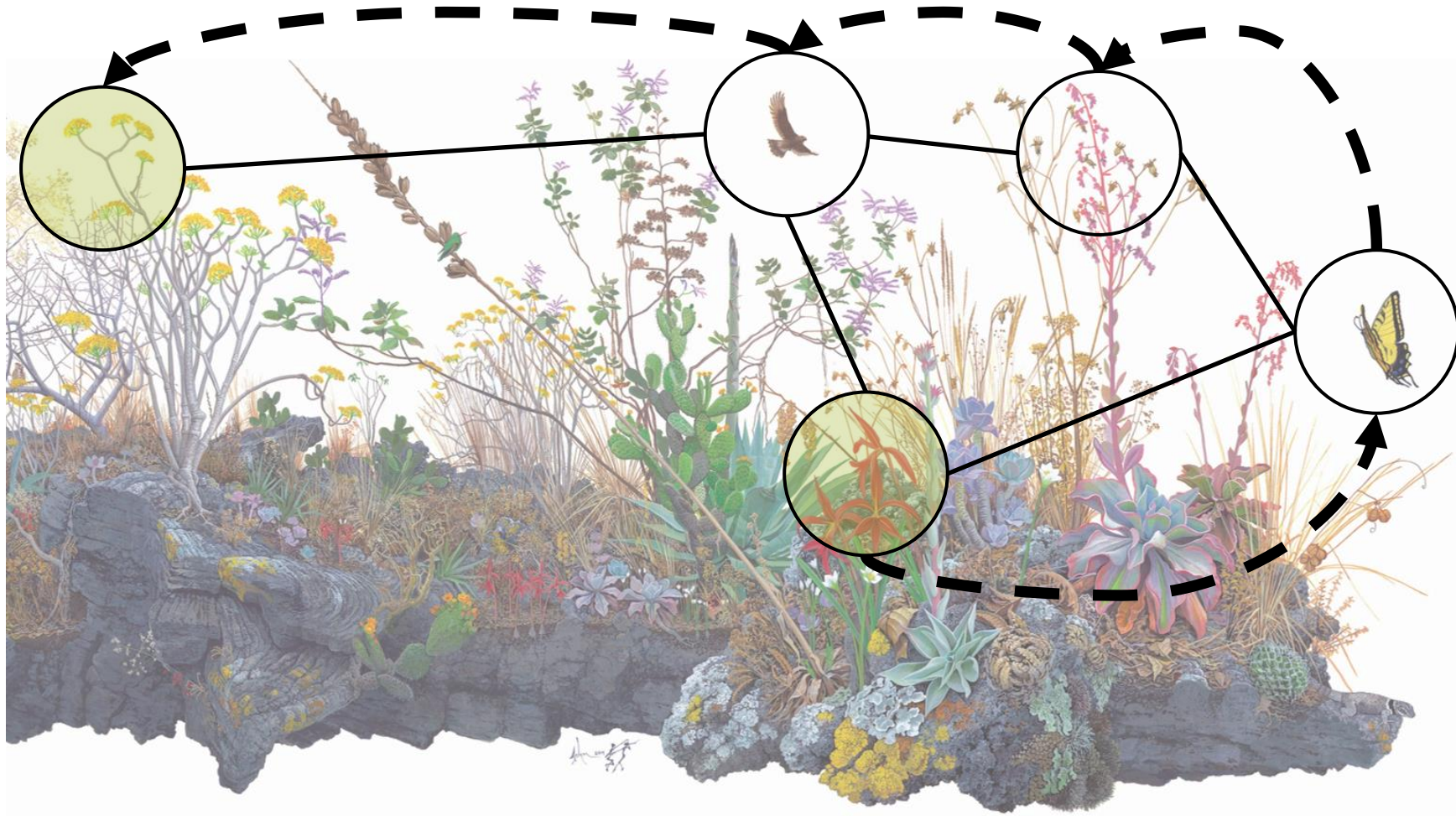
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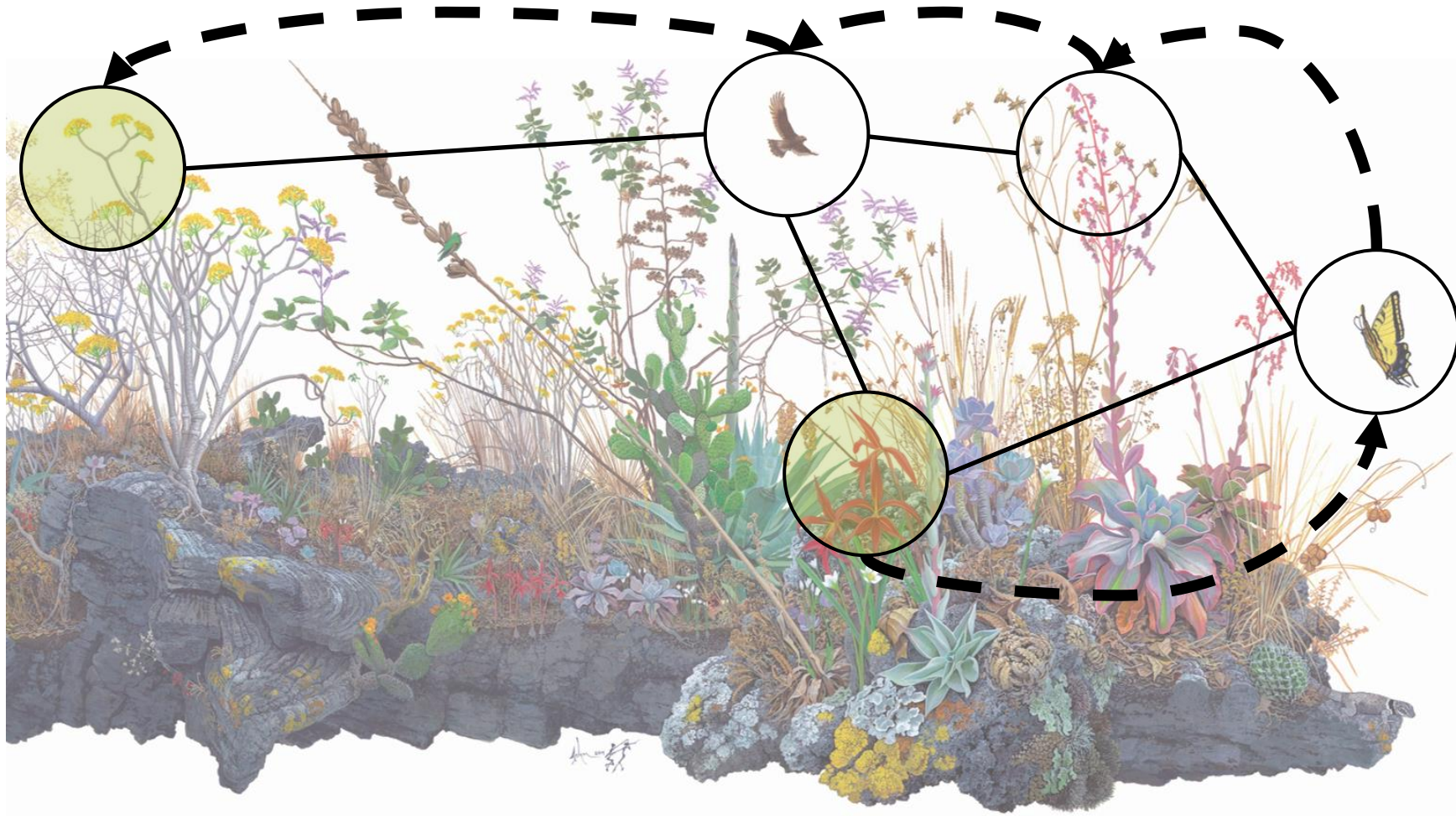
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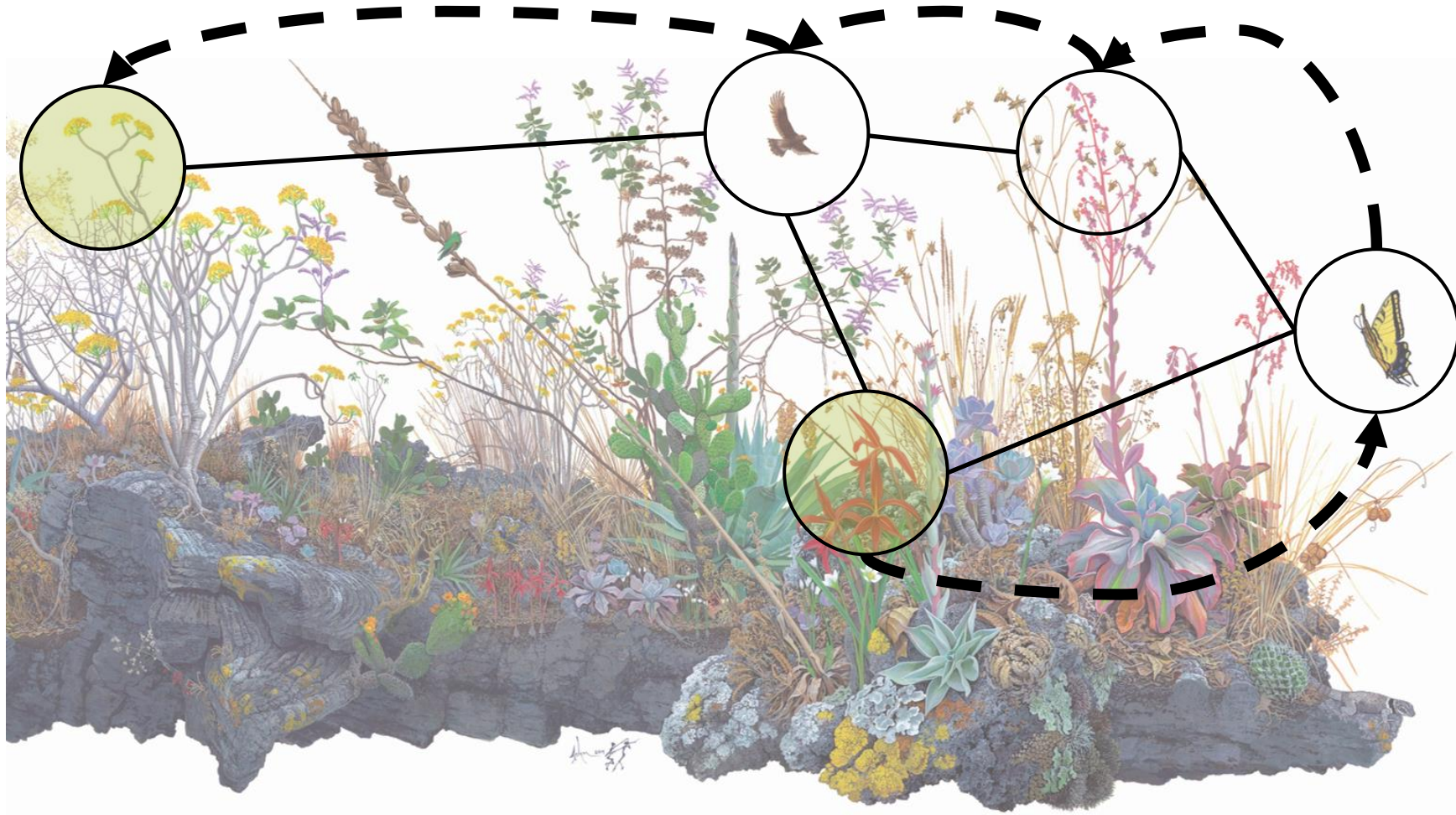
Shortest path: length 2



Alternative, longer pathway: length 4



Species can affect each other through longer pathways!

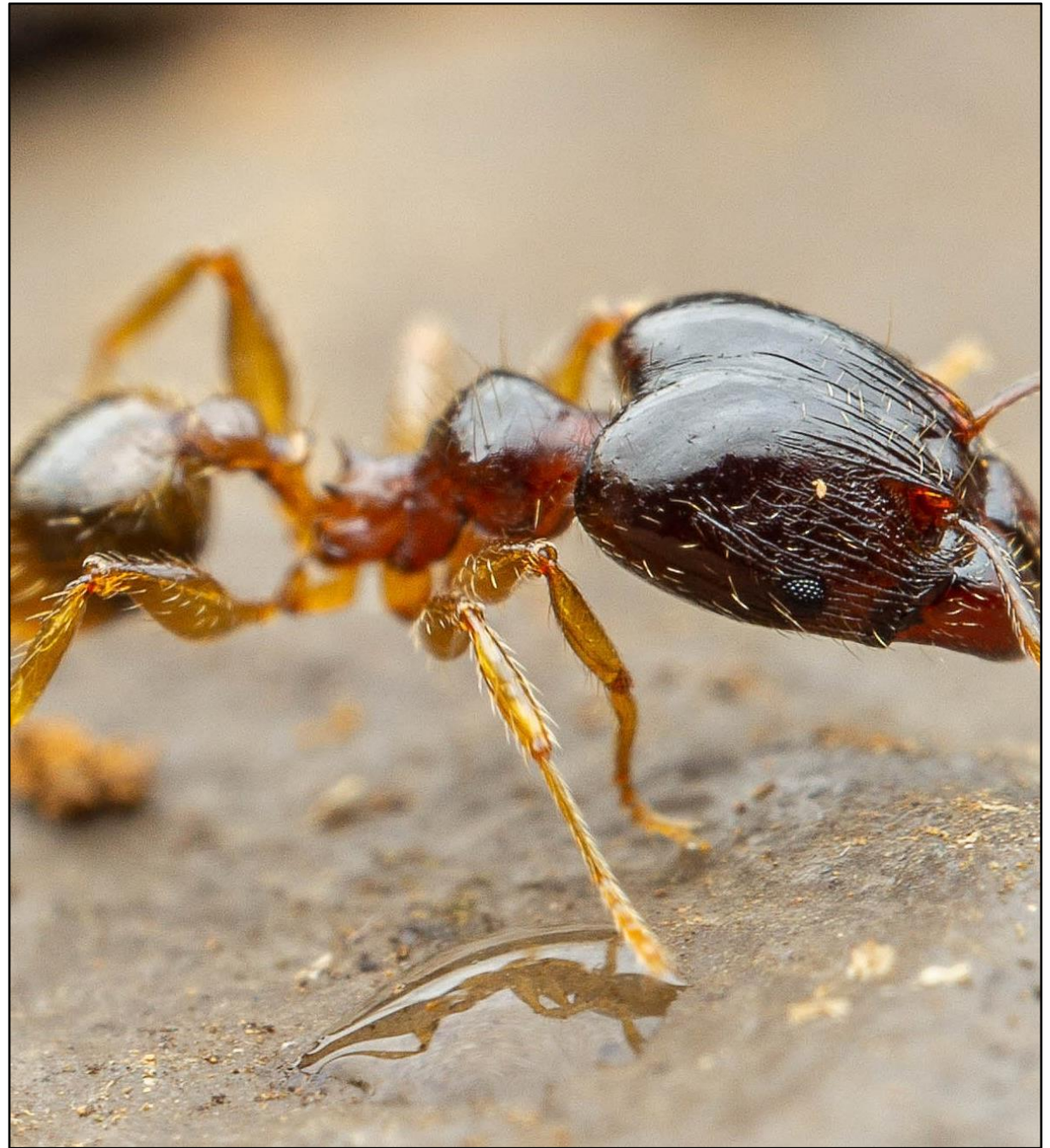


How important are these longer pathways?





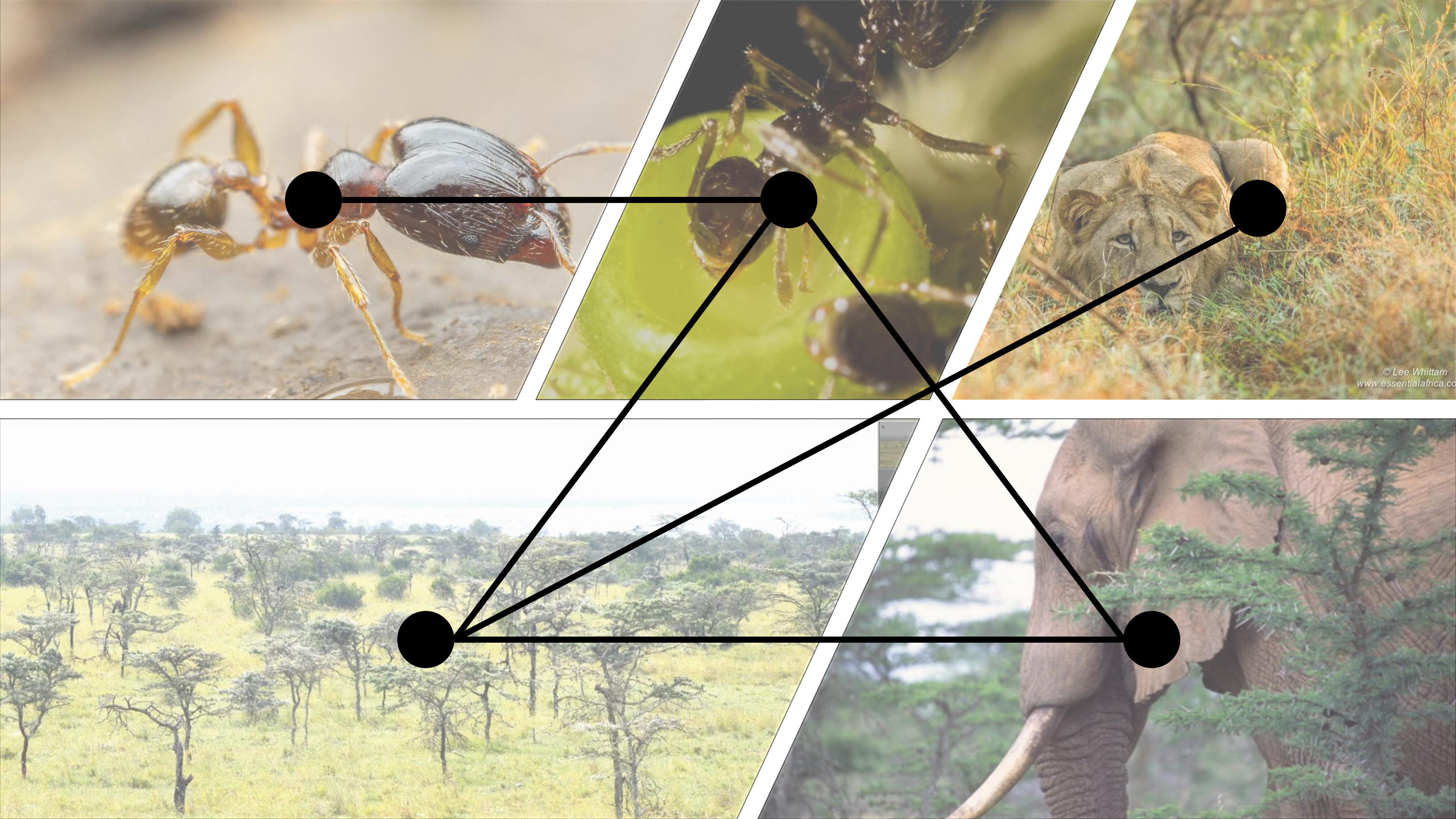




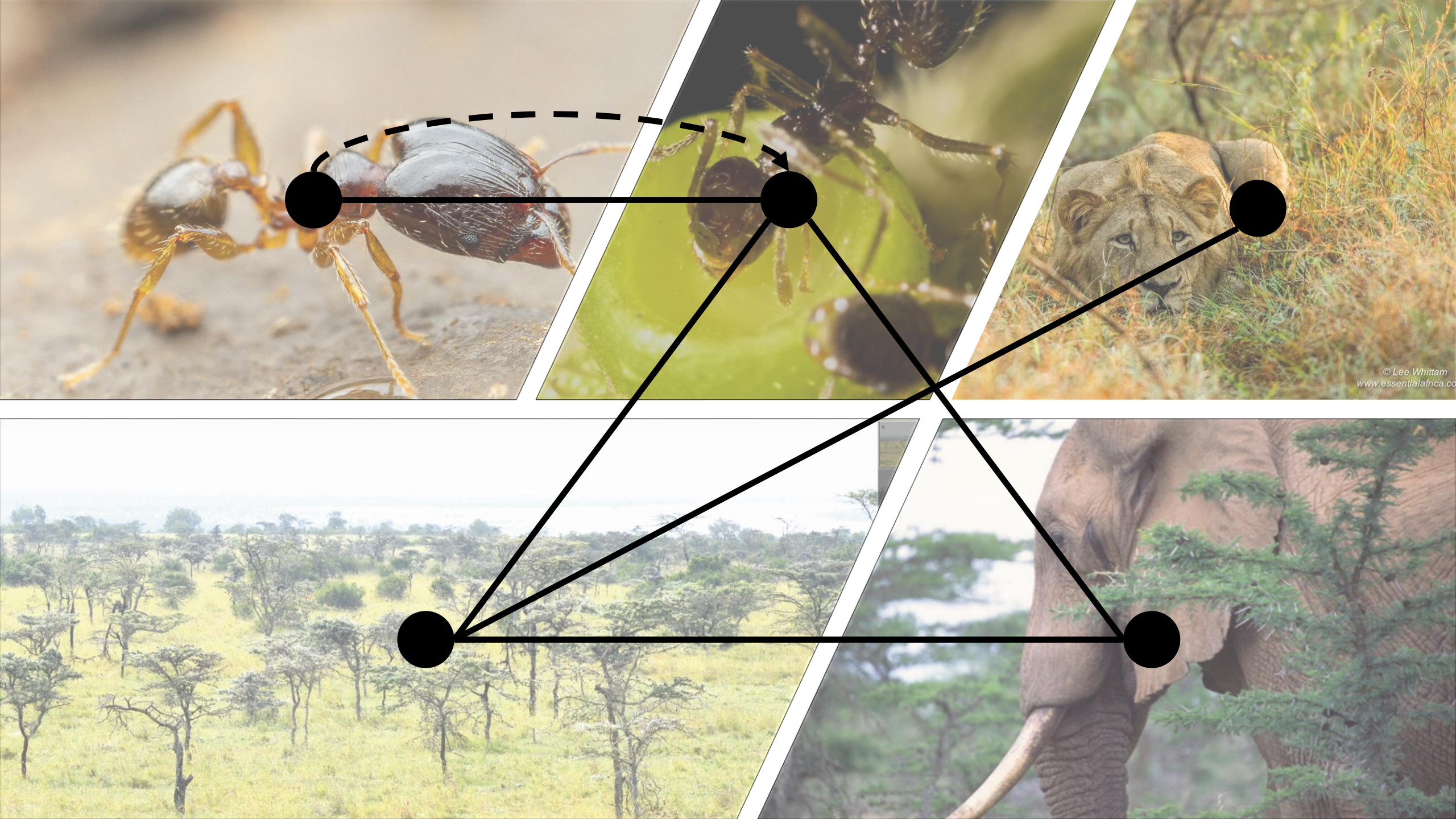


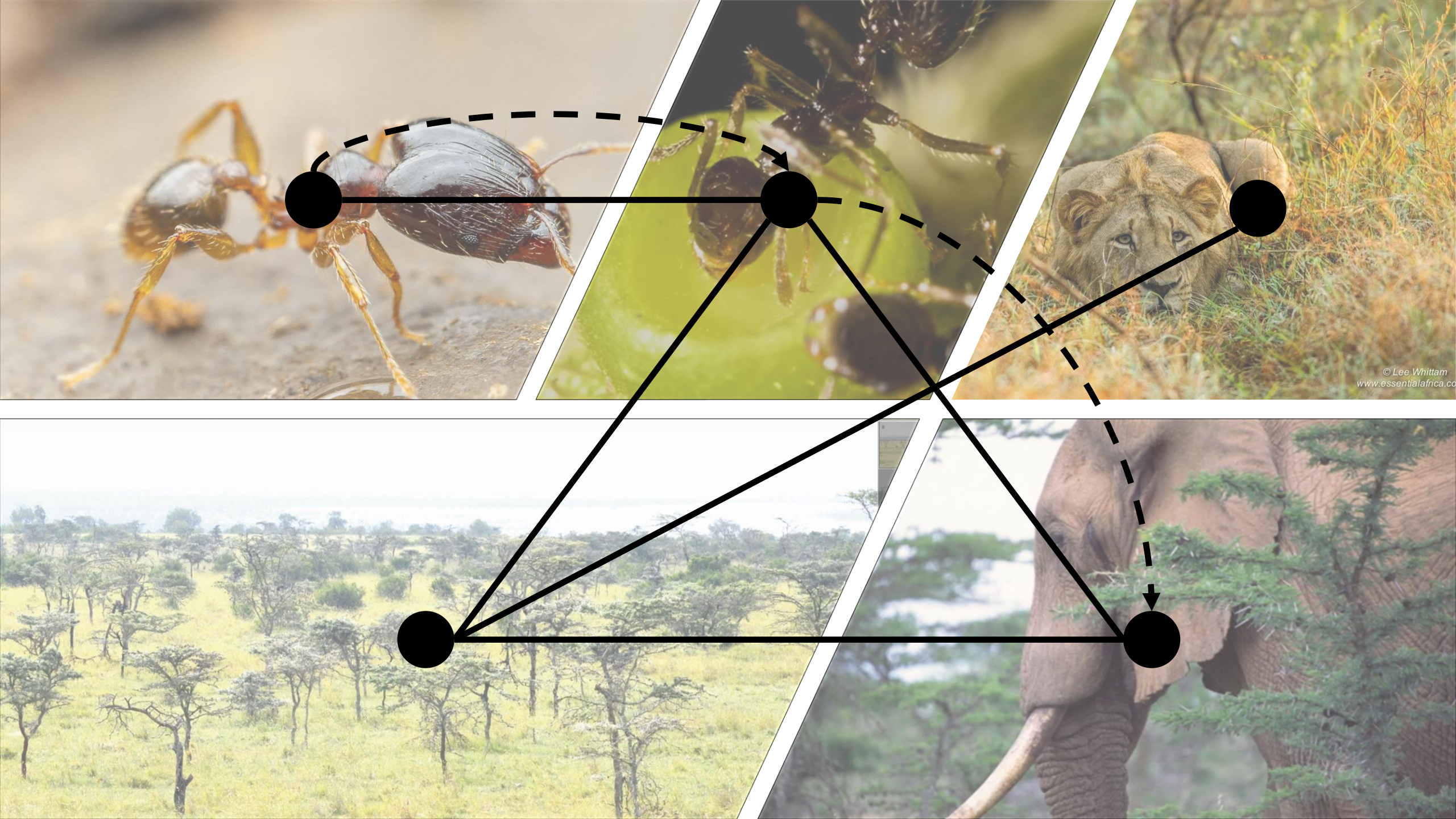


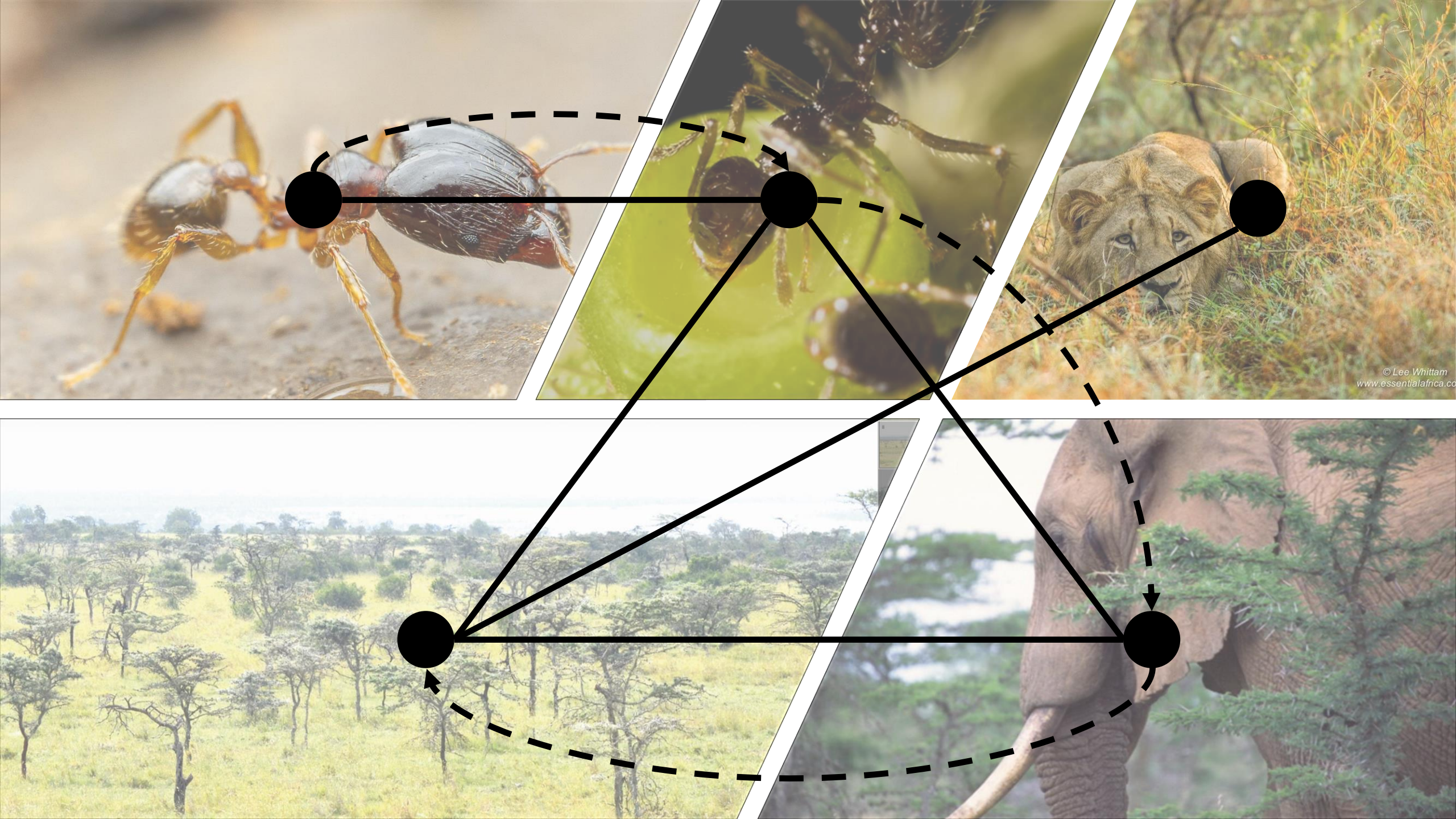


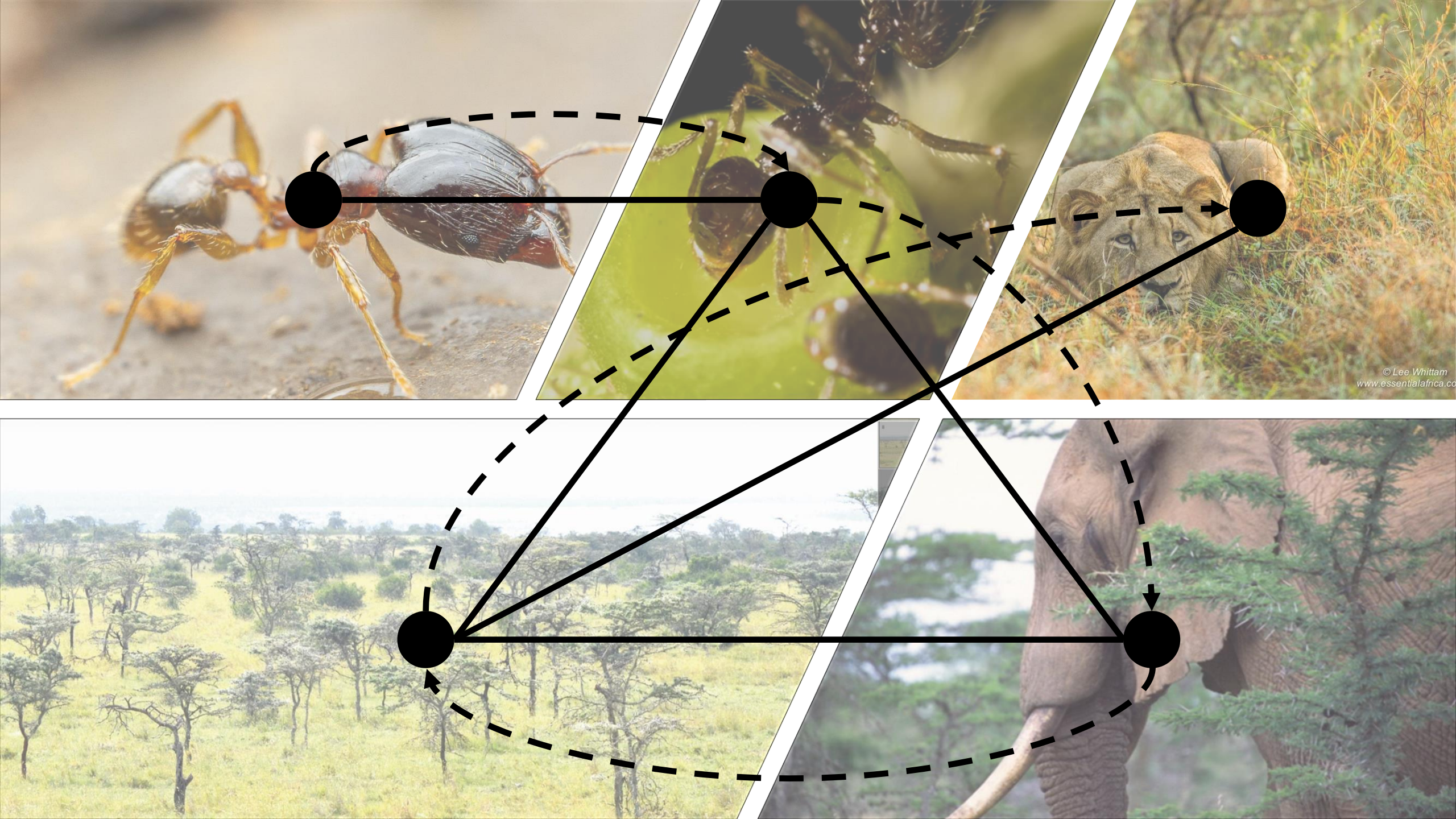


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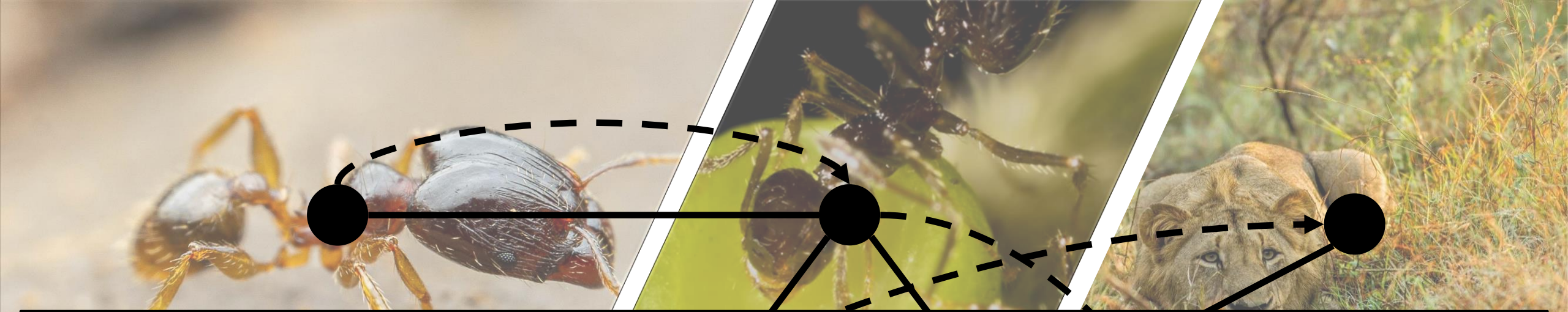




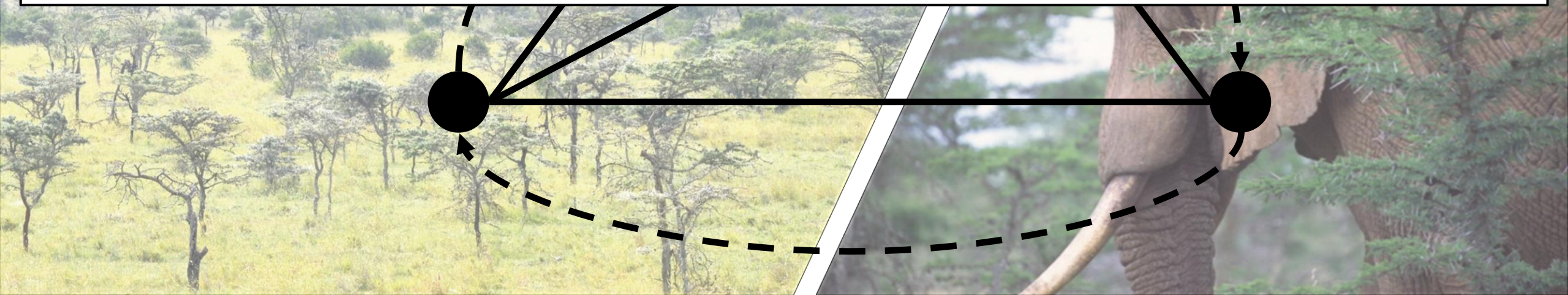


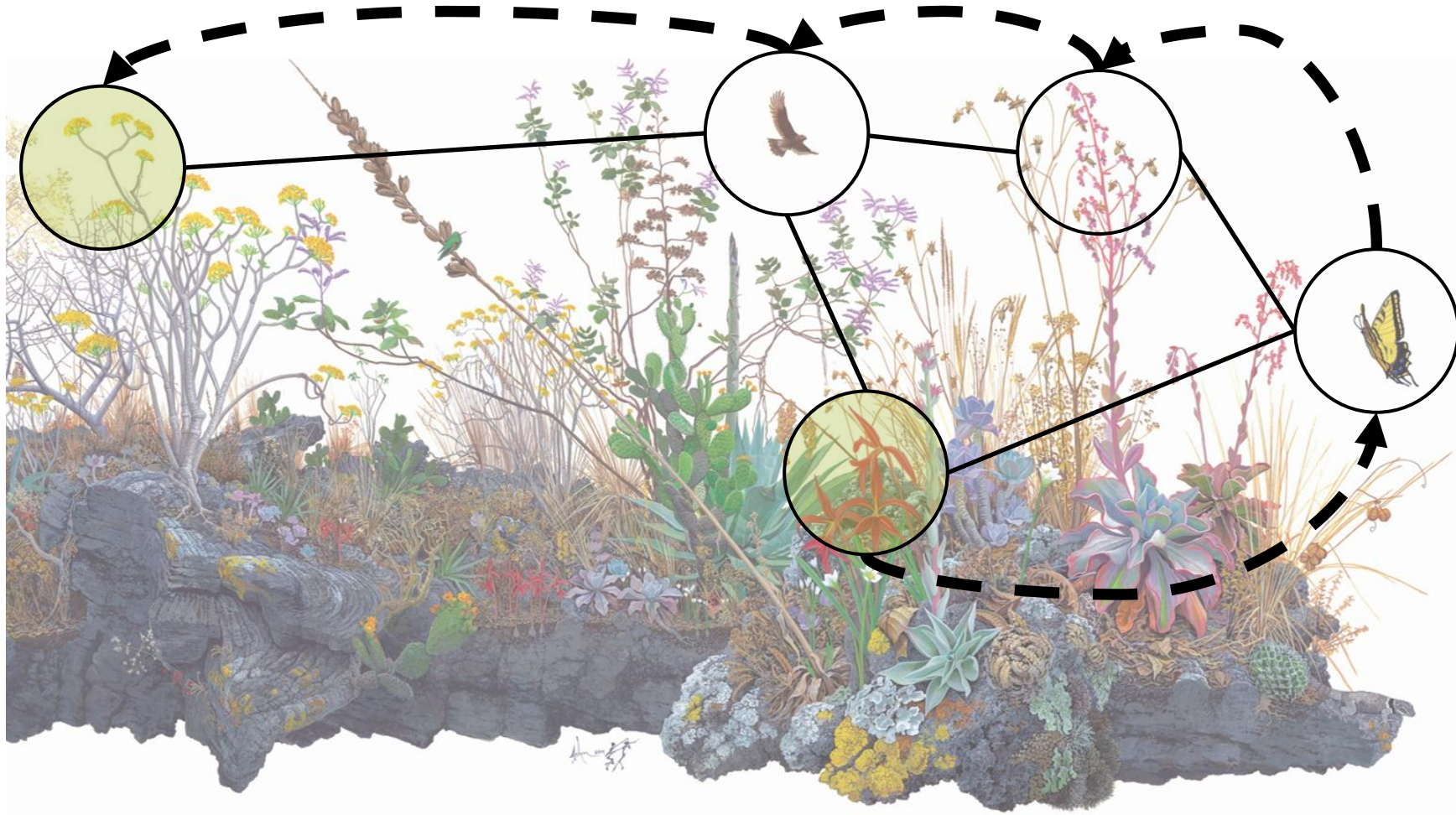


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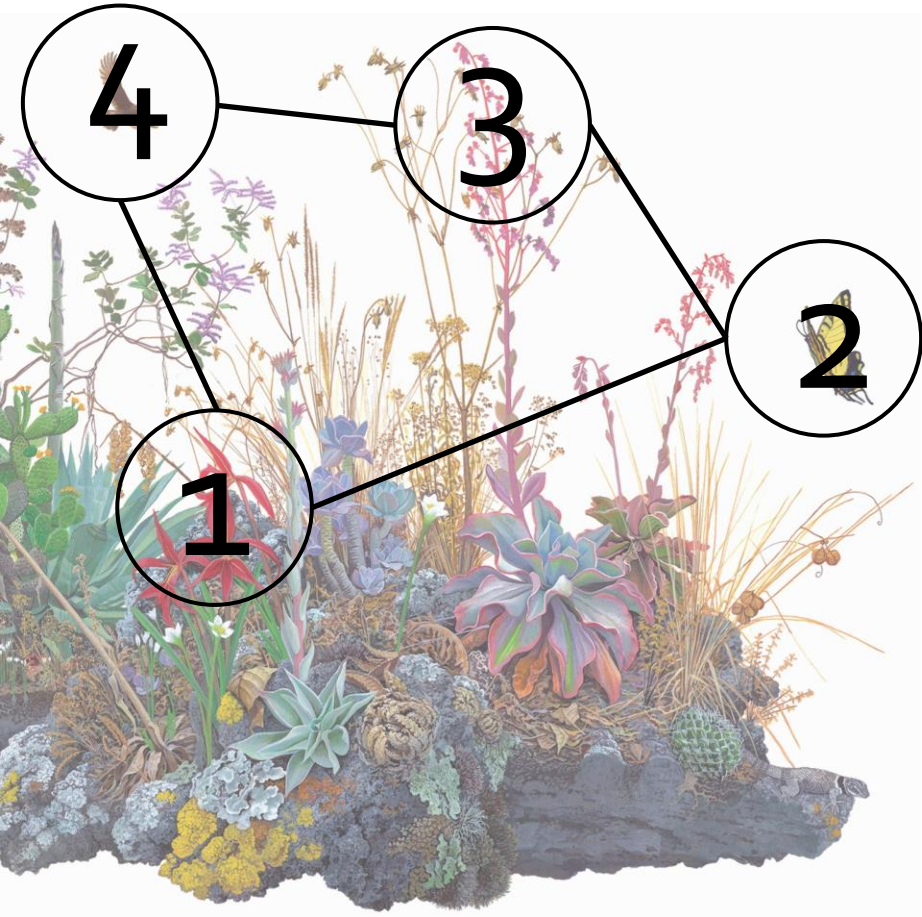


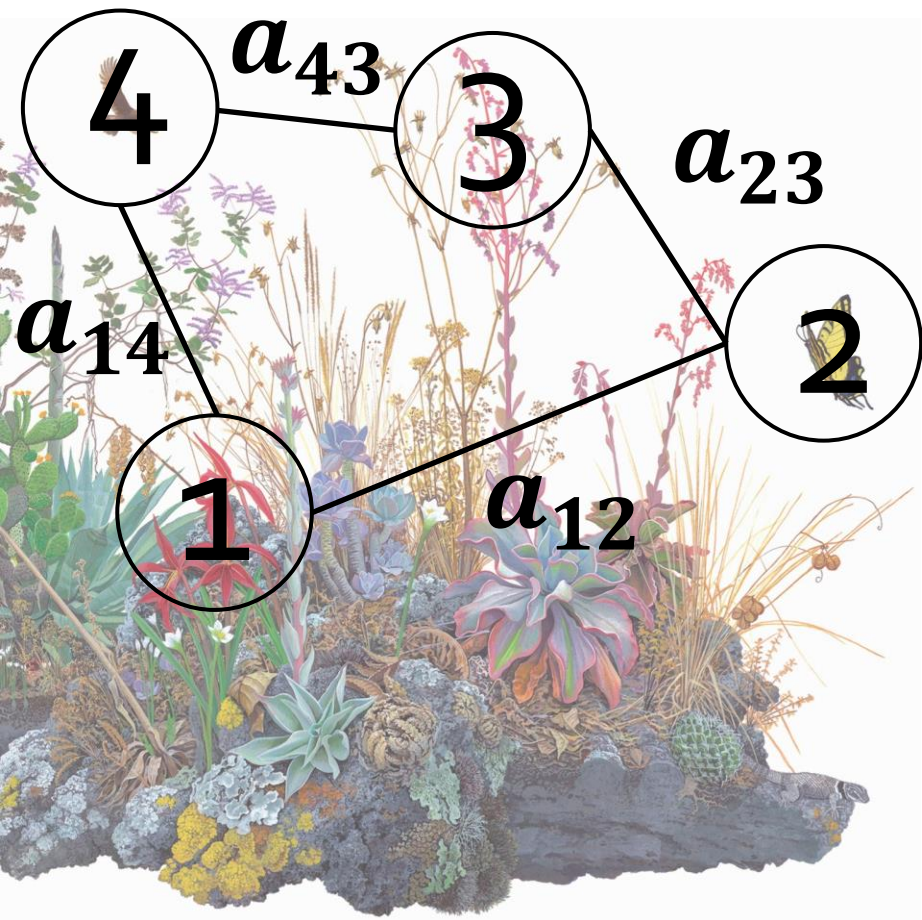
How to quantify the number of pathways through which one species can affect all others?

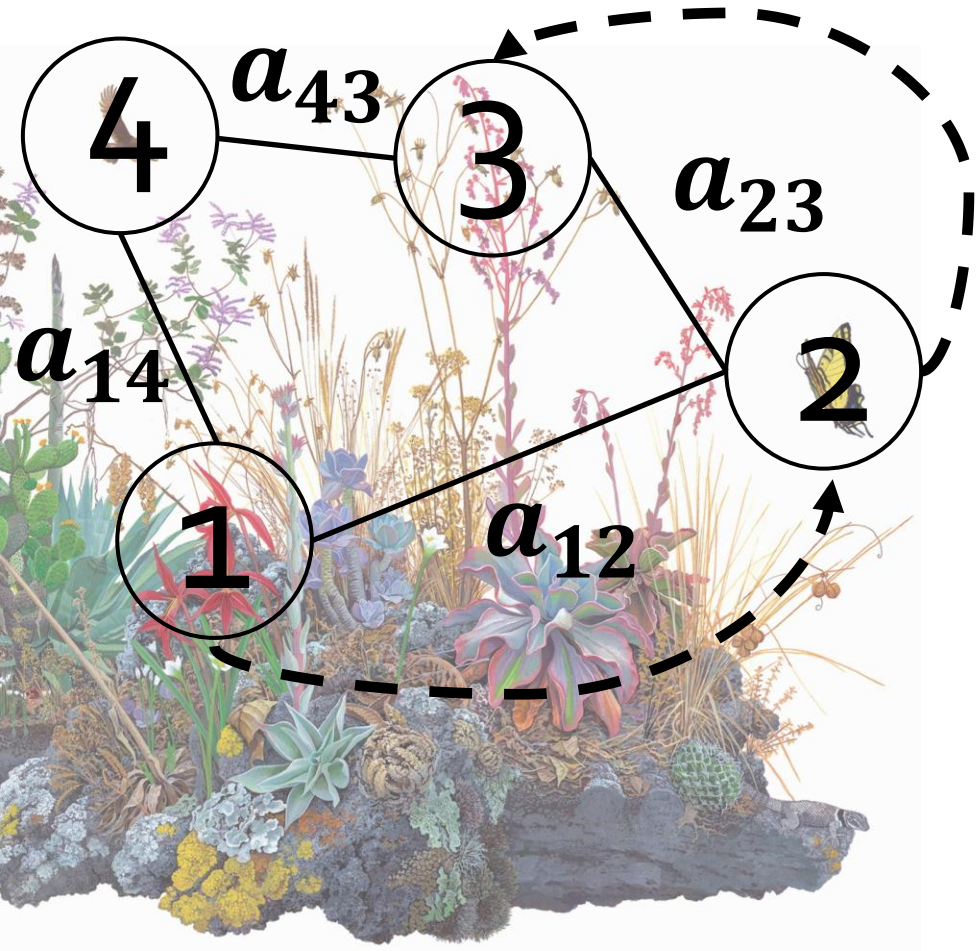


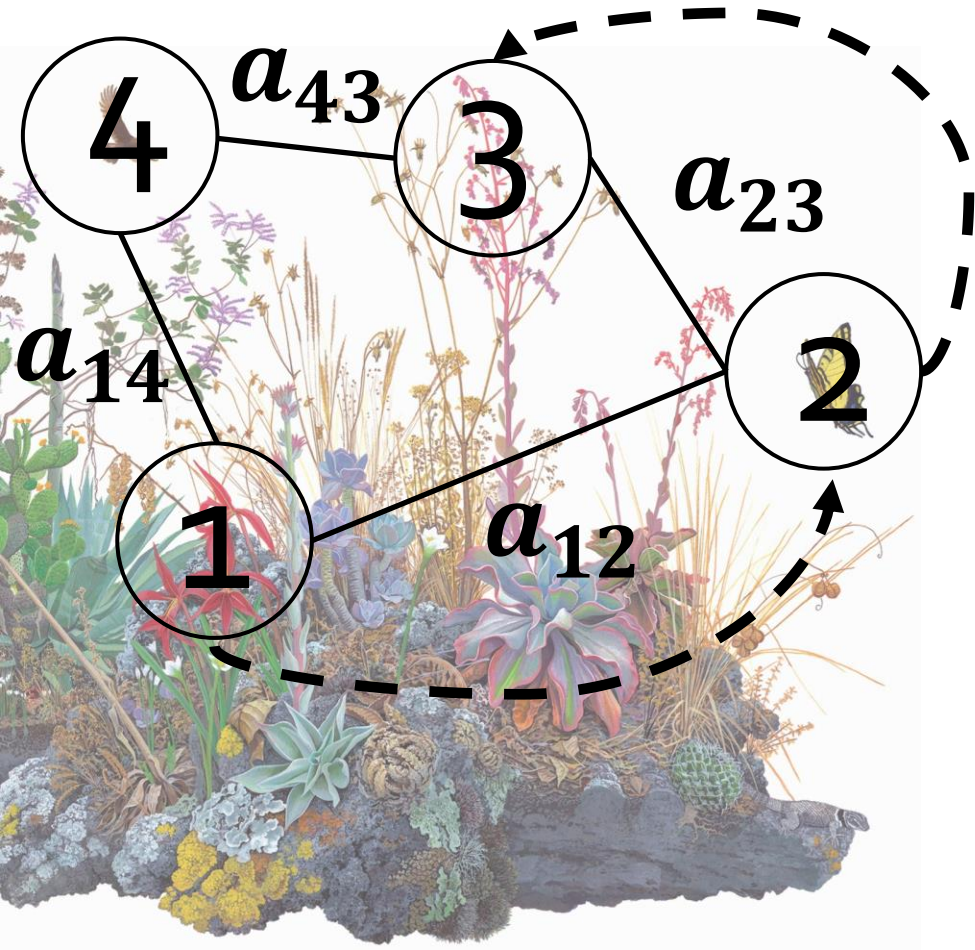


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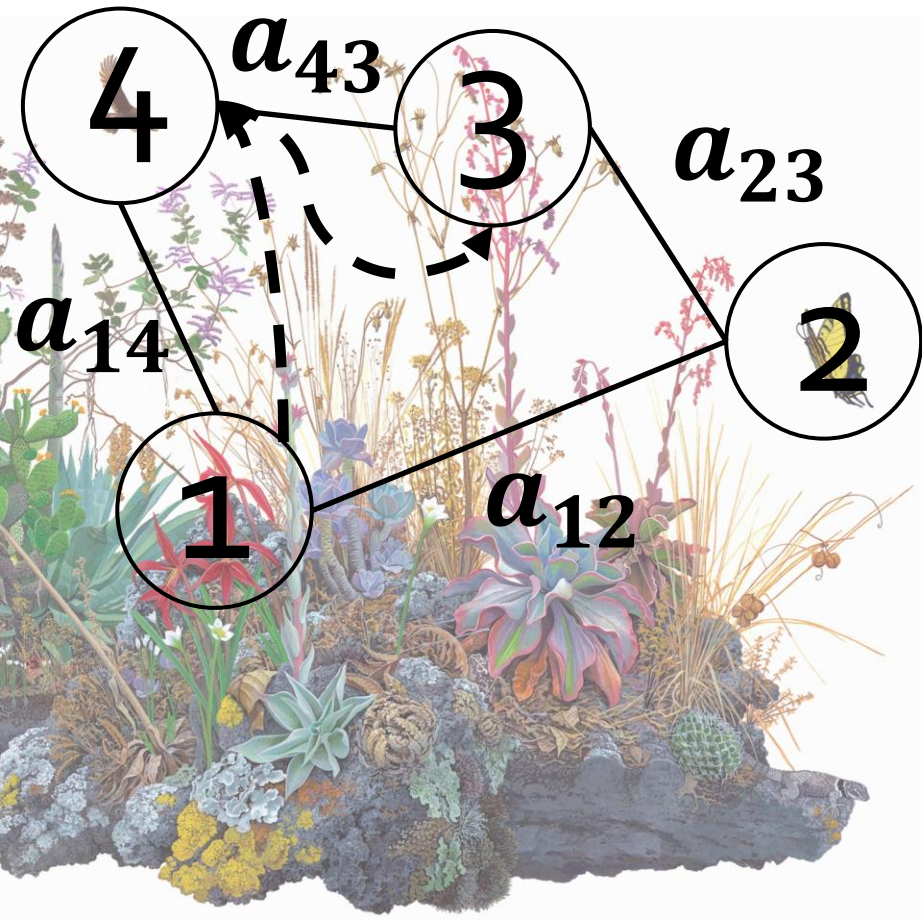






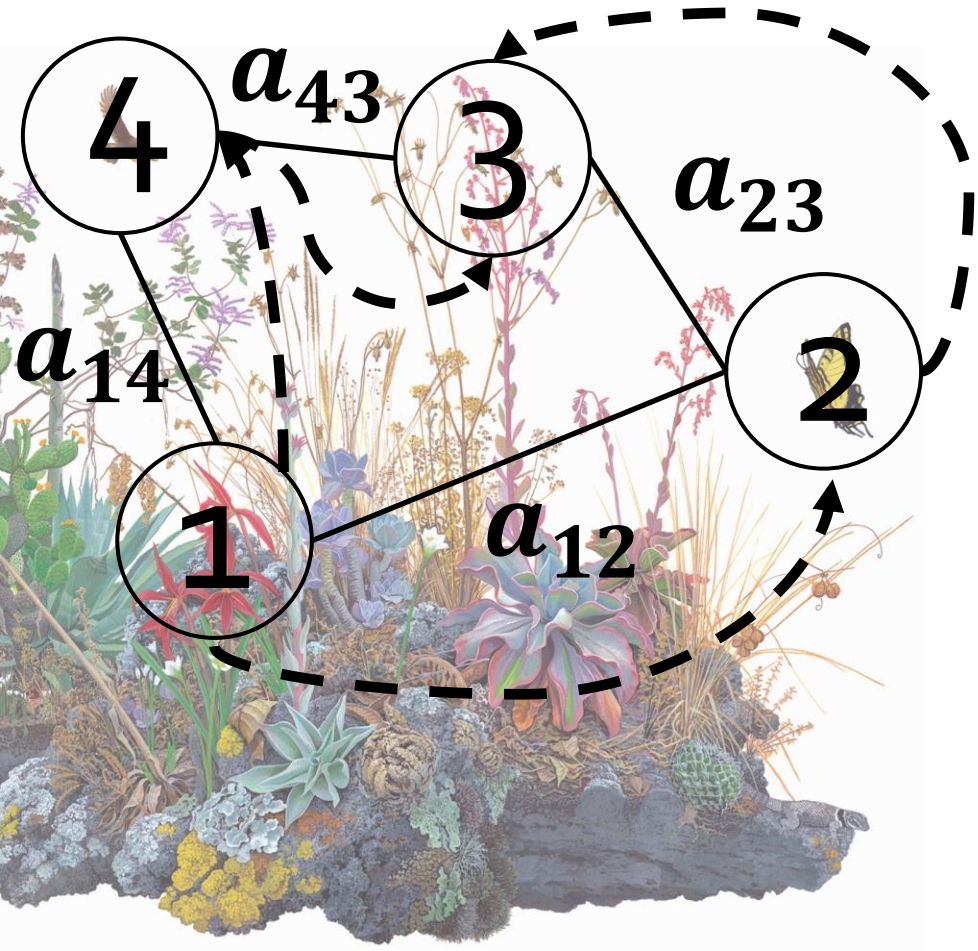
$$a_{12}a_{23}$$

One pathway of length 2
Links species 1 and 3



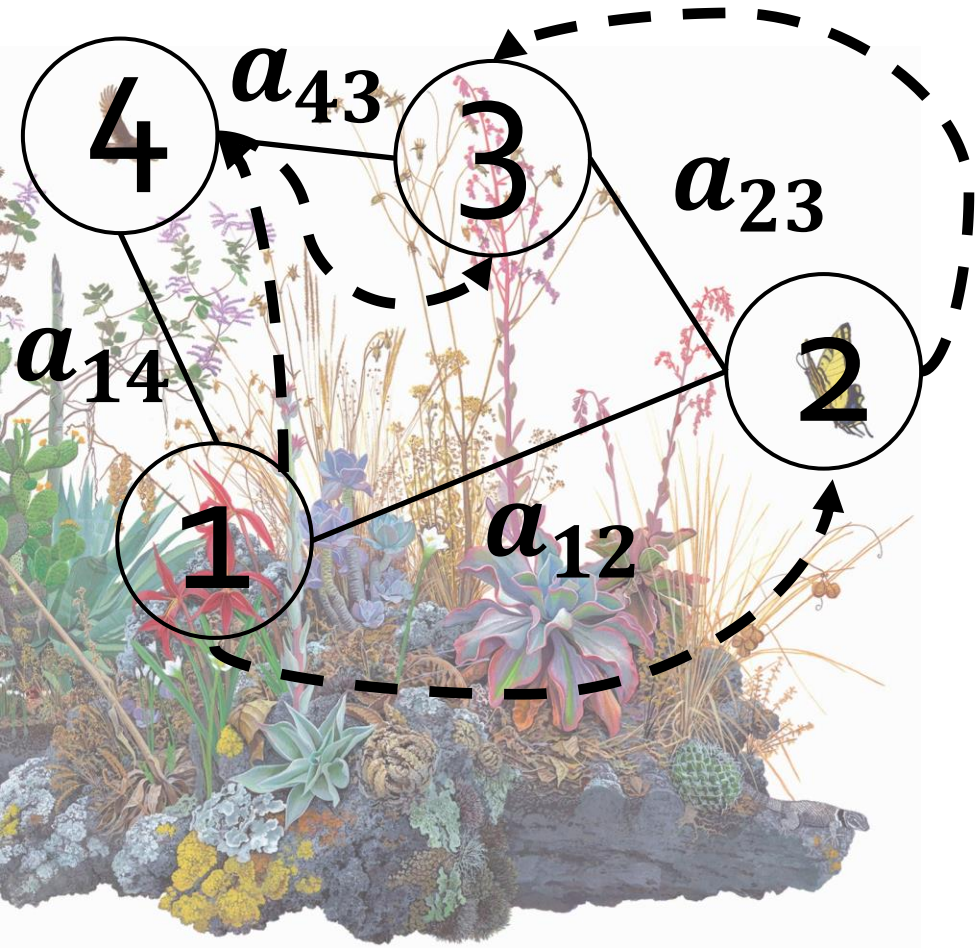
$$a_{14}a_{43}$$

Another pathway of length 2
Links species 1 and 3



$$a_{12}a_{23} + a_{14}a_{43}$$

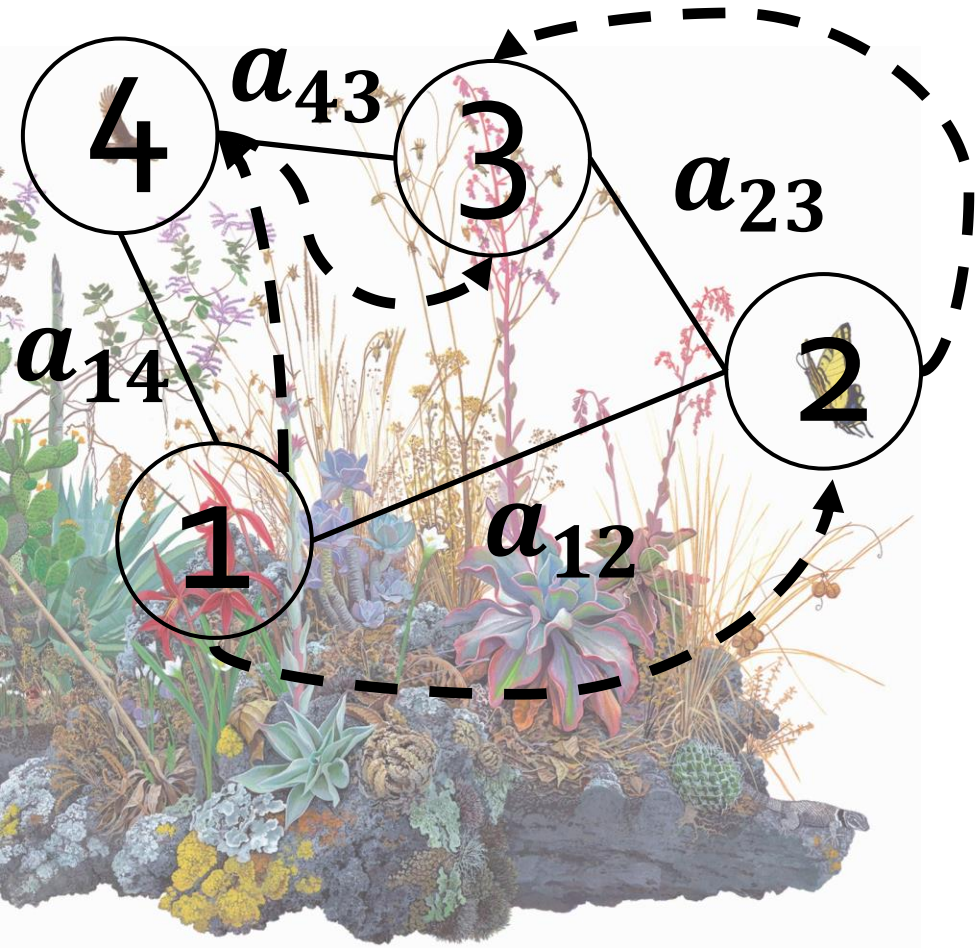
Sum of the pathways of length 2
Links species 1 and 3



$$a_{12}a_{23} + a_{14}a_{43}$$

Sum of the pathways of length 2
Links species 1 and 3

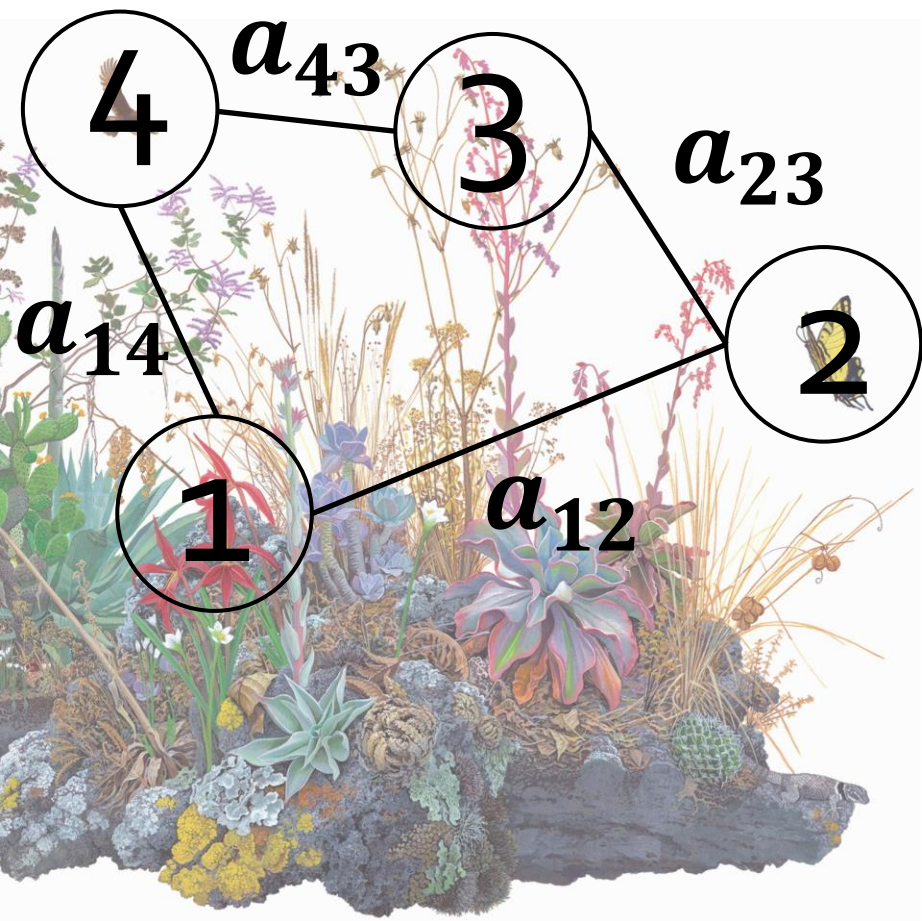
Do we need to do everything by
hand?



$$a_{12}a_{23} + a_{14}a_{43}$$

Sum of the pathways of length 2
Links species 1 and 3

Thankfully not! Matrix
multiplication does exactly that!



$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & 0 & a_{23} & 0 \\ 0 & a_{32} & 0 & a_{34} \\ a_{41} & 0 & a_{43} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & 0 & a_{23} & 0 \\ 0 & a_{32} & 0 & a_{34} \\ a_{41} & 0 & a_{43} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & 0 & a_{23} & 0 \\ 0 & a_{32} & 0 & a_{34} \\ a_{41} & 0 & a_{43} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

What happens when we multiply **A** by itself, or perform the operation **A**²?

$$\begin{pmatrix}
 0 & a_{12} & 0 & a_{14} \\
 a_{21} & 0 & a_{23} & 0 \\
 0 & a_{32} & 0 & a_{34} \\
 a_{41} & 0 & a_{43} & 0
 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix}
 0 \\
 a_{21} \\
 0 \\
 a_{41}
 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix}
 a_{12} & 0 & a_{14} \\
 0 & a_{23} & 0 \\
 a_{32} & 0 & a_{34} \\
 0 & a_{43} & 0
 \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{pmatrix}
 0 & a_{12} & 0 & a_{14} \\
 a_{21} & 0 & a_{23} & 0 \\
 0 & a_{32} & 0 & a_{34} \\
 a_{41} & 0 & a_{43} & 0
 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix}
 0 \\
 a_{21} \\
 0 \\
 a_{41}
 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix}
 a_{12} & 0 & a_{14} \\
 0 & a_{23} & 0 \\
 a_{32} & 0 & a_{34} \\
 0 & a_{43} & 0
 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$0 \cdot 0 + a_{12} a_{21} + 0 \cdot 0 + a_{14} a_{41} = \\
 a_{12} a_{21} + a_{14} a_{41}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & 0 & a_{23} & 0 \\ 0 & a_{32} & 0 & a_{34} \\ a_{41} & 0 & a_{43} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & 0 & a_{23} & 0 \\ 0 & a_{32} & 0 & a_{34} \\ a_{41} & 0 & a_{43} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

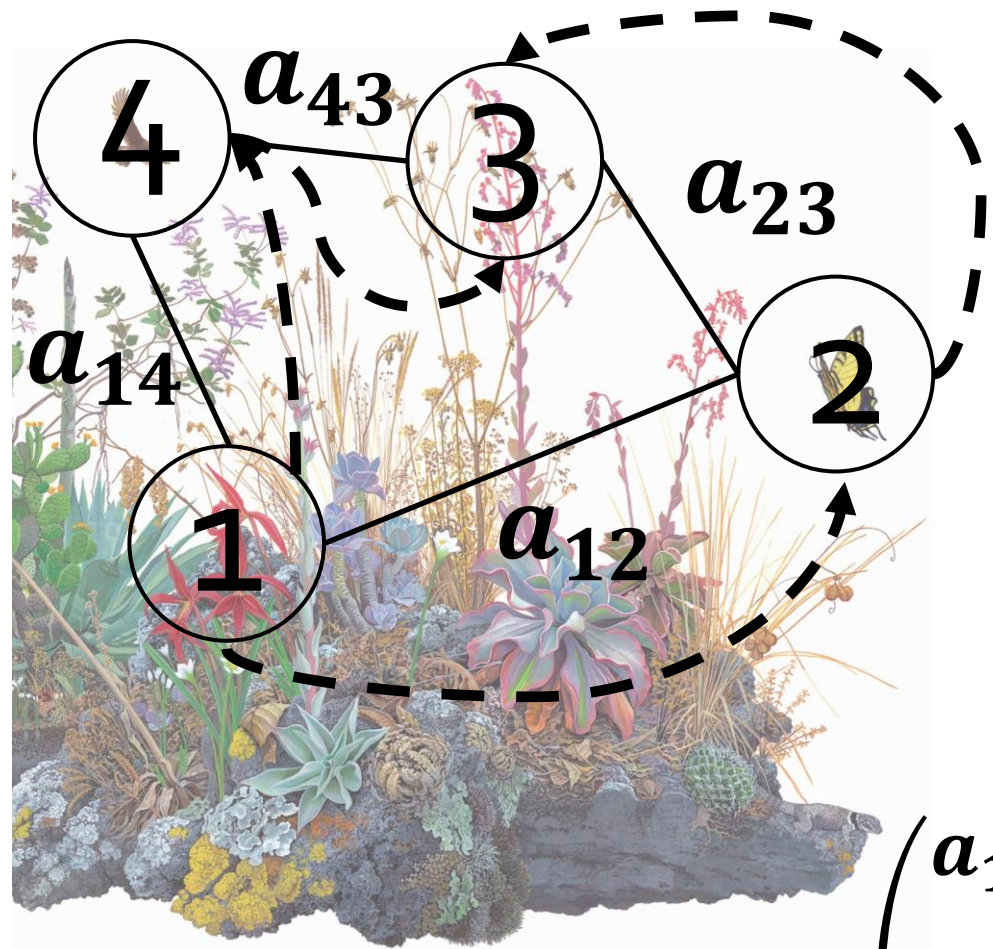
$$0 \cdot a_{12} + a_{12} \cdot 0 + 0 \cdot a_{32} + a_{14} \cdot 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & 0 & a_{23} & 0 \\ 0 & a_{32} & 0 & a_{34} \\ a_{41} & 0 & a_{43} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & 0 & a_{23} & 0 \\ 0 & a_{32} & 0 & a_{34} \\ a_{41} & 0 & a_{43} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$0 \cdot 0 + a_{12} \cdot a_{23} + 0 \cdot 0 + a_{14} \cdot a_{43} = \\ a_{12} \cdot a_{23} + a_{14} \cdot a_{43}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & 0 & a_{23} & 0 \\ 0 & a_{32} & 0 & a_{34} \\ a_{41} & 0 & a_{43} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & 0 & a_{23} & 0 \\ 0 & a_{32} & 0 & a_{34} \\ a_{41} & 0 & a_{43} & 0 \end{pmatrix} =$$

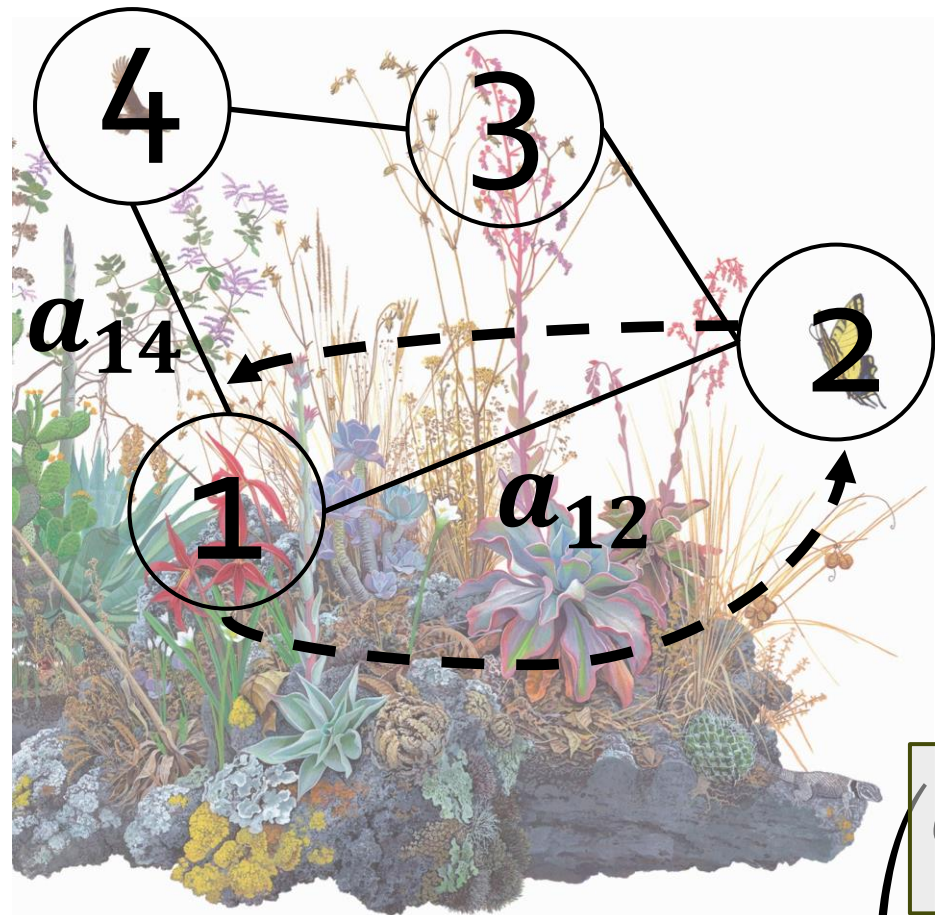
$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{12}a_{21} + a_{14}a_{41} & 0 & a_{12}a_{23} + a_{14}a_{43} & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{pmatrix}$$



$$a_{12}a_{23} + a_{14}a_{43}$$

Sum of the pathways of length 2
Linking species 1 and 3

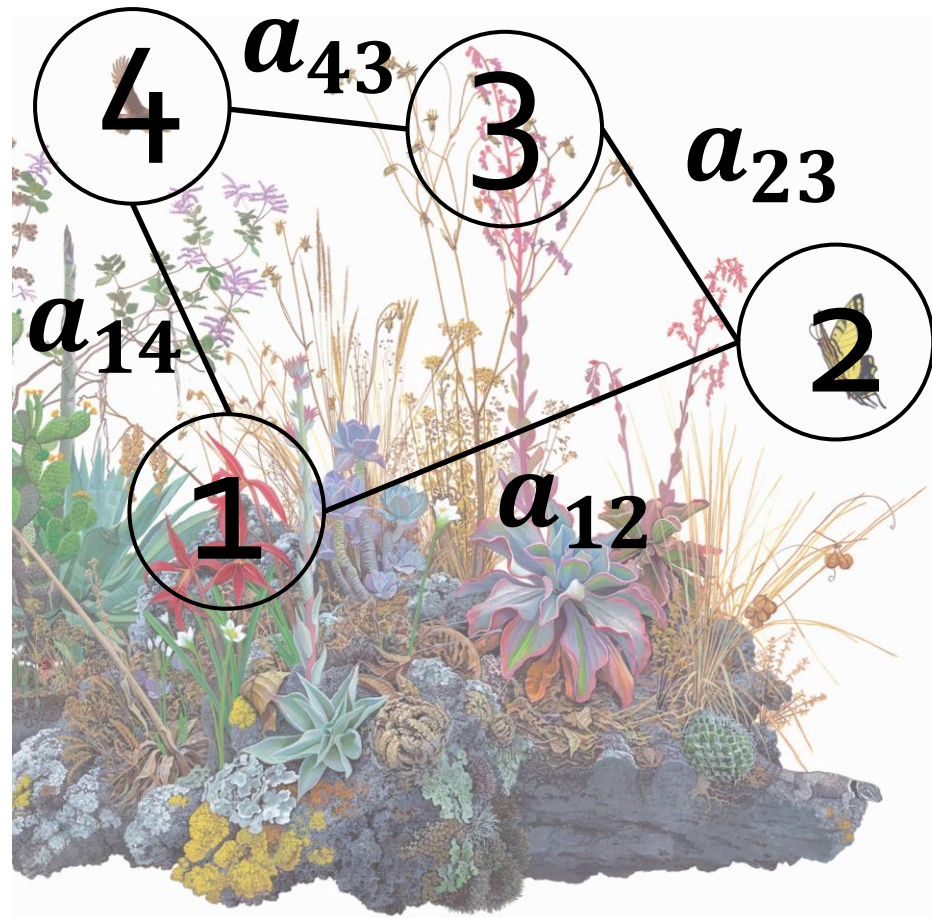
$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{12}a_{21} + a_{14}a_{41} & \mathbf{0} & a_{12}a_{23} + a_{14}a_{43} & \mathbf{0} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{pmatrix}$$



$$a_{12}a_{21} + a_{14}a_{41}$$

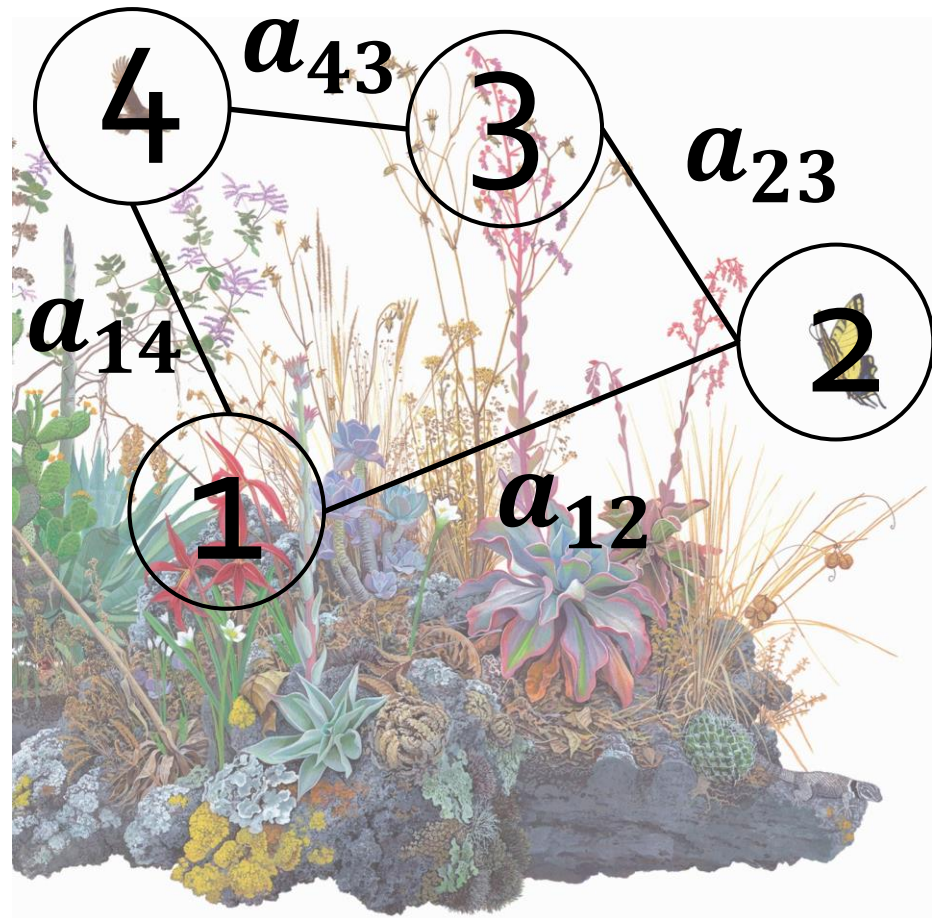
Sum of the pathways of length 2
Linking species 1 to itself!

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{12}a_{21} + a_{14}a_{41} & 0 & a_{12}a_{23} + a_{14}a_{43} & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{pmatrix}$$



$$A^2$$

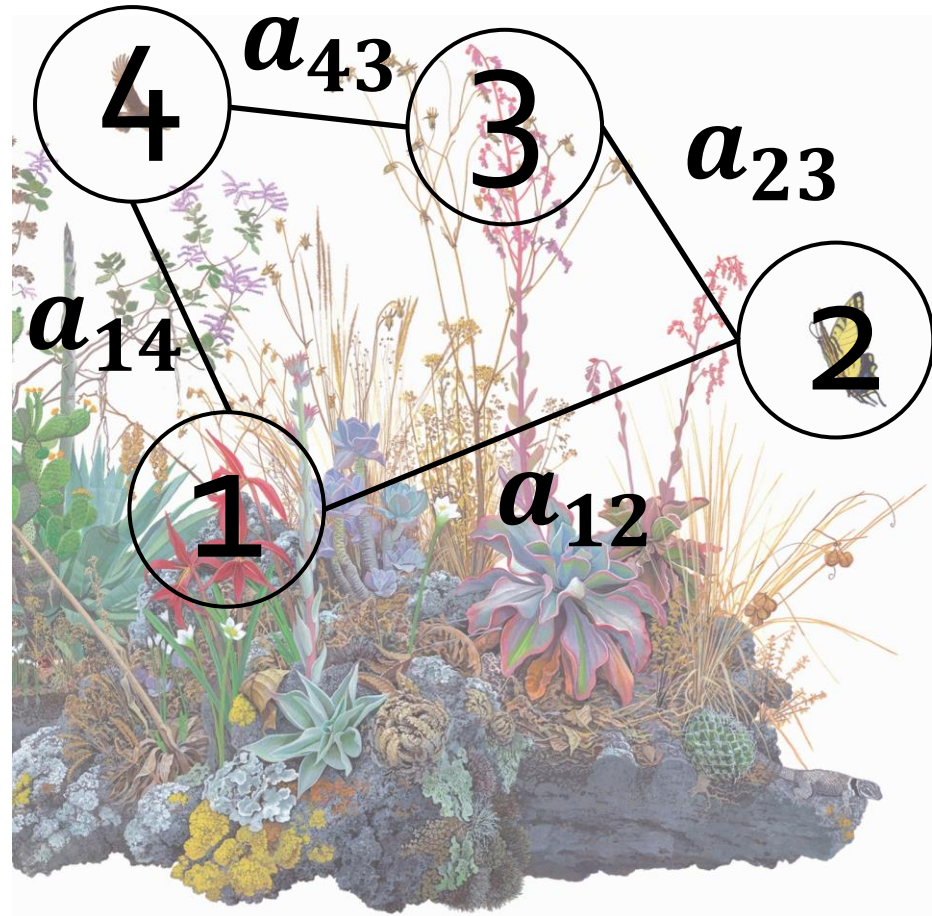
Sum of the pathways of length 2
Linking species in the network



$$A + A^2$$

Sum of the pathways of
length 1 and 2

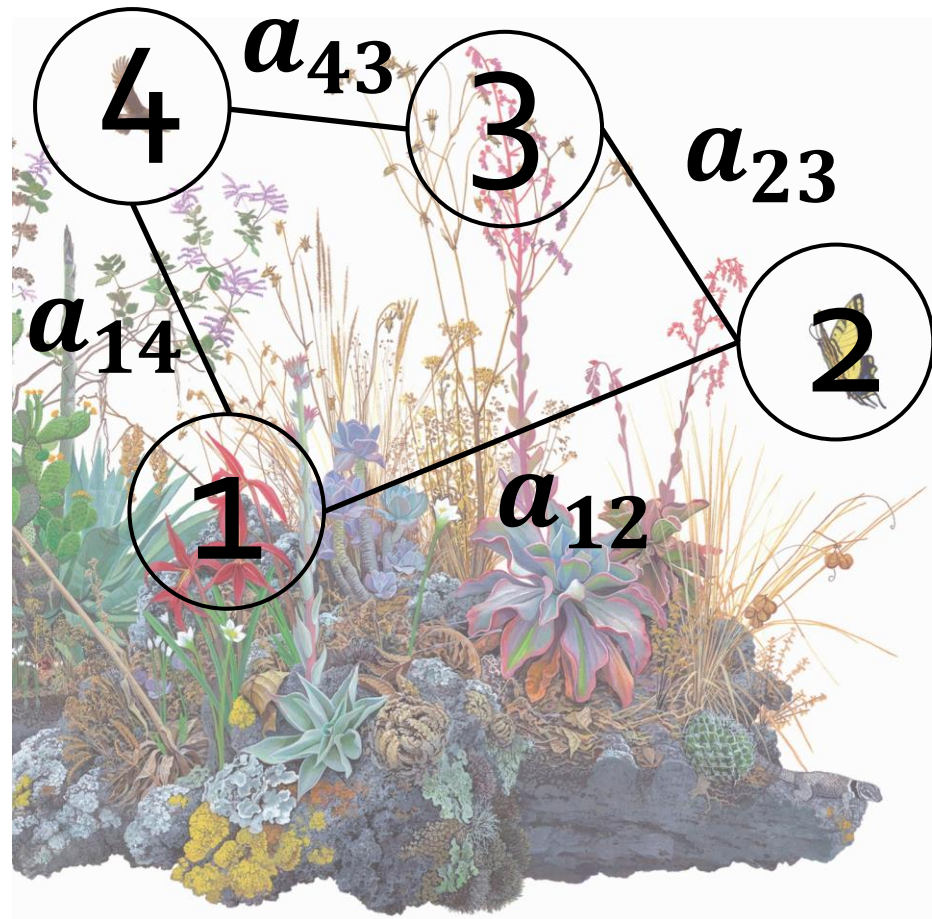
Linking species in the network



$$A + A^2 + A^3$$

Sum of the pathways of
length 1, 2 and 3

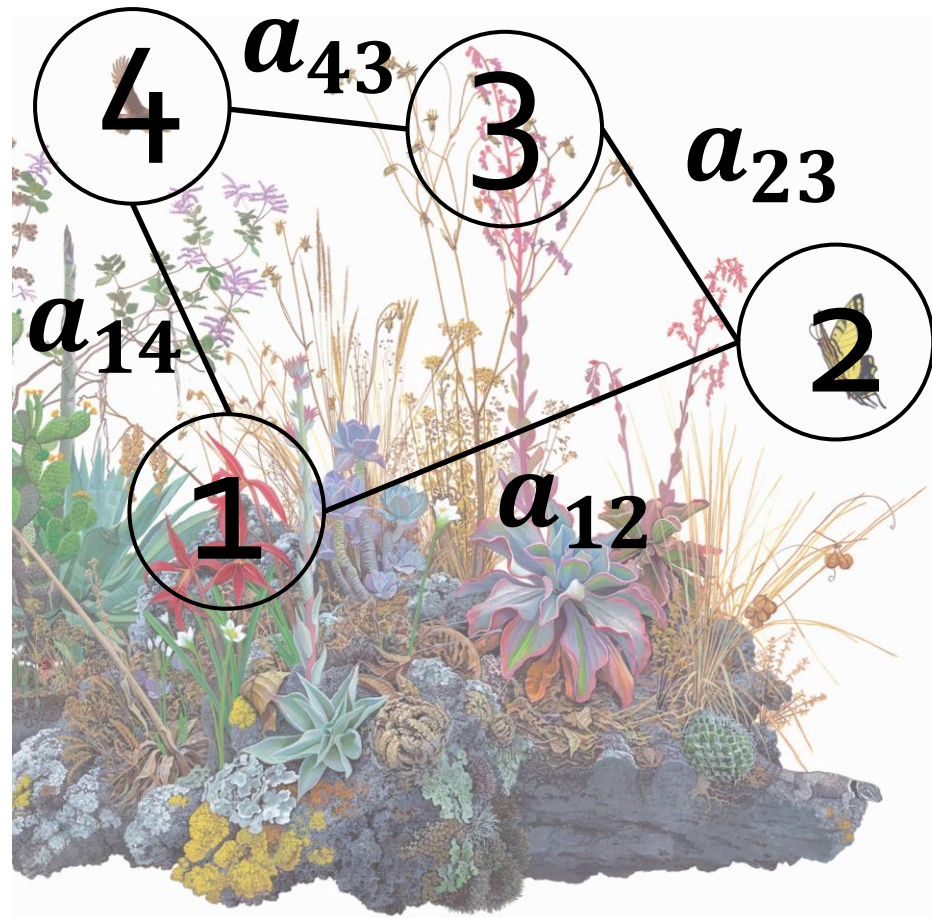
Linking species in the network



$$A + A^2 + A^3 \dots$$

Sum of the pathways of
all possible lengths?

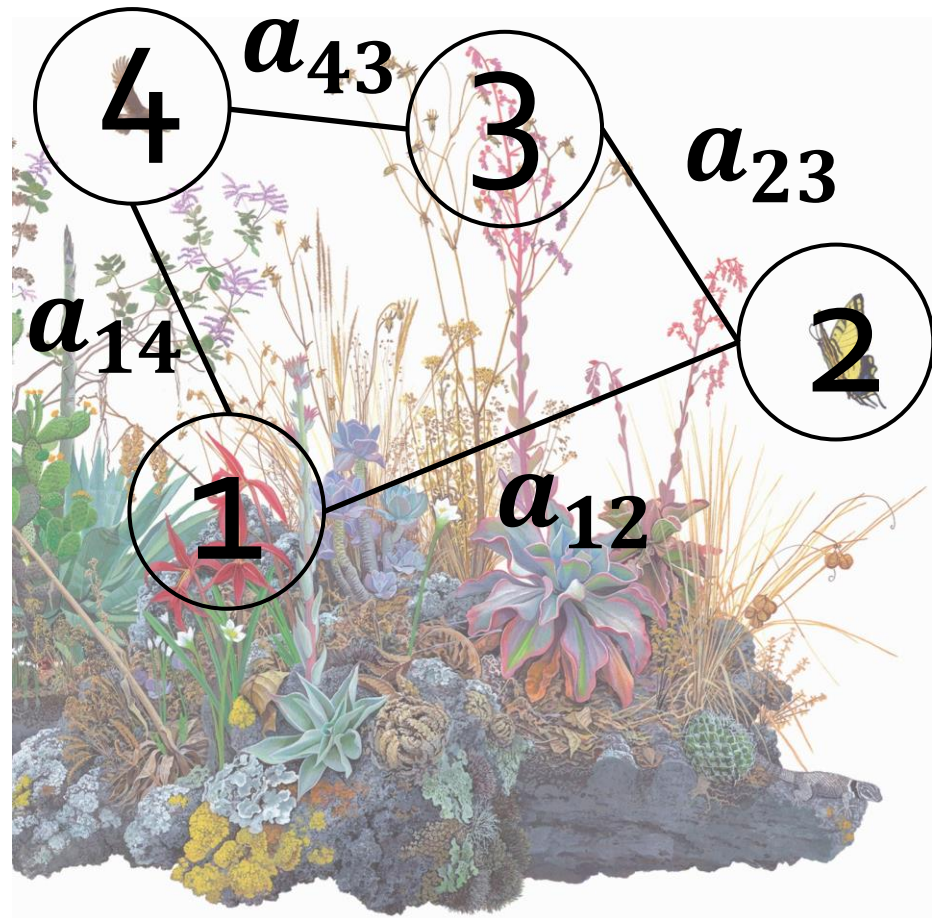
Linking species in the network



$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A^k = (I - A)^{-1}$$

Sum of the pathways of
all possible lengths?

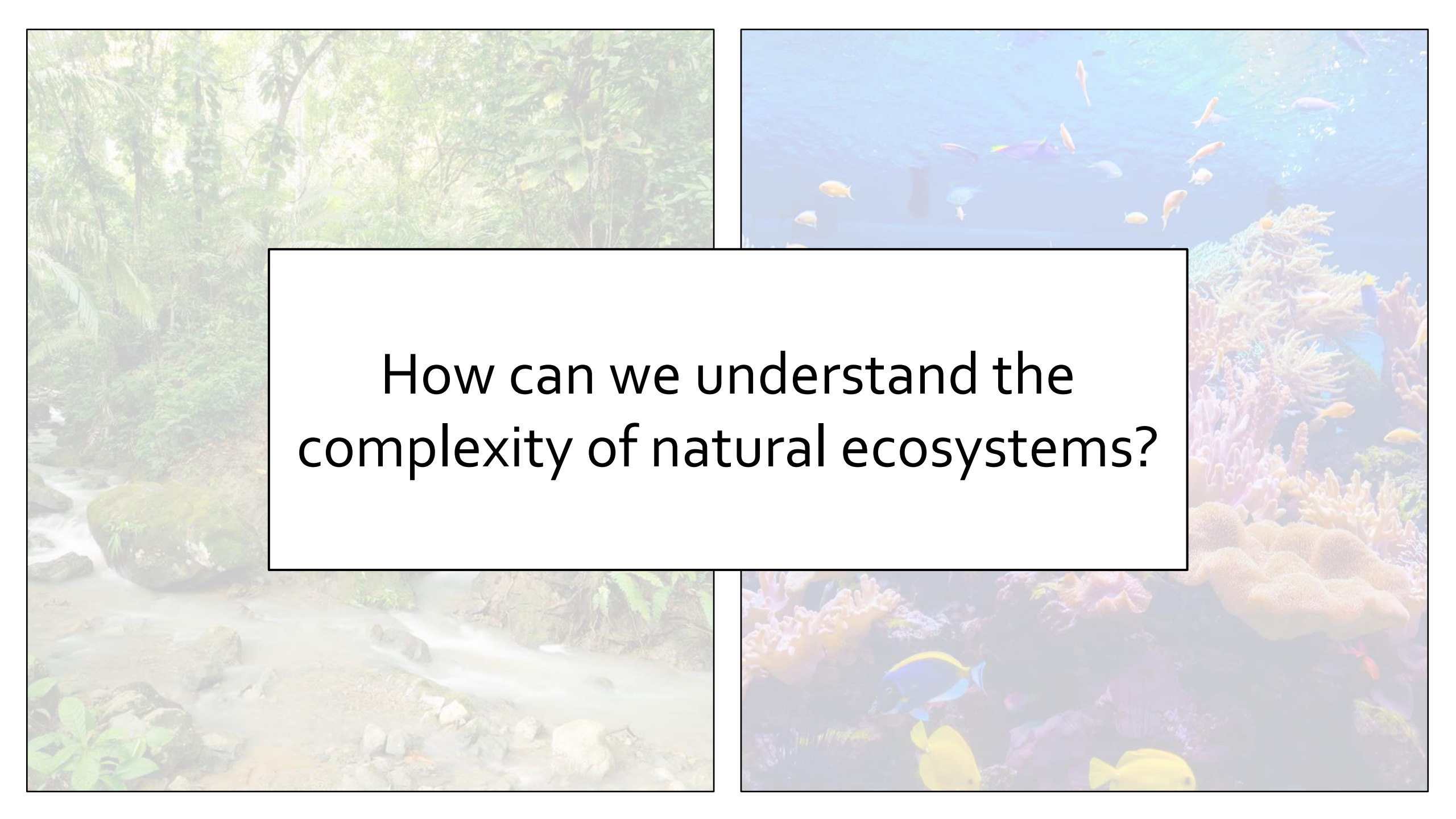
Sum of the rows of matrix $(I - A)^{-1}$




$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A^k = (I - A)^{-1}$$

Sum of the pathways of
all possible lengths?

Katz centrality

The image is a collage of four nature scenes. The top-left panel shows a lush green forest with a stream flowing over rocks. The top-right panel shows a vibrant coral reef with various colorful fish swimming around. The bottom-left panel shows a close-up of a stream with water cascading over rocks. The bottom-right panel shows a close-up of a coral reef with several yellow and blue fish. In the center, a white rectangular box contains the text "How can we understand the complexity of natural ecosystems?".

How can we understand the complexity of natural ecosystems?




Quantifying interactions and understanding the role of species:

Direct interactions (degree)

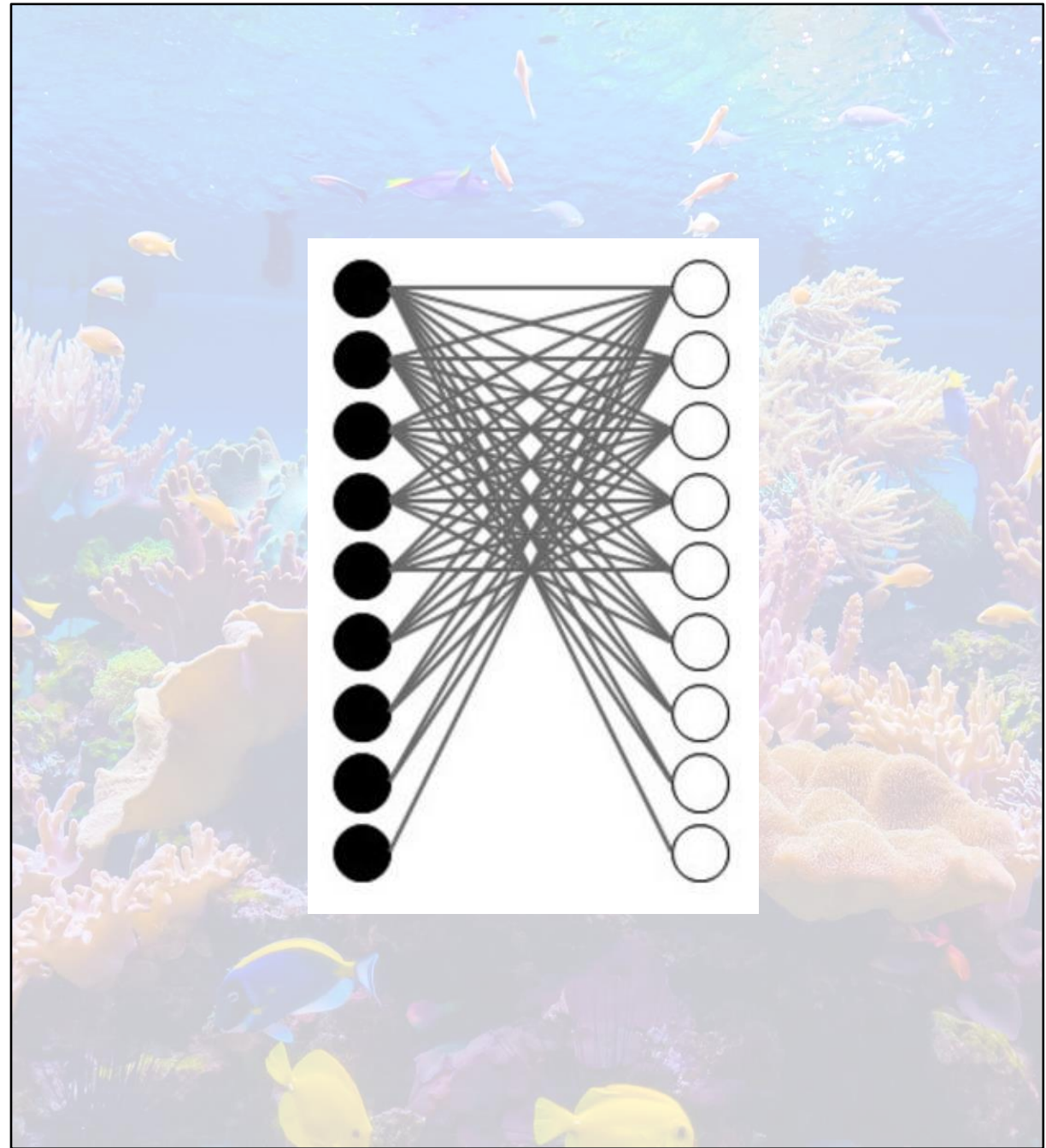
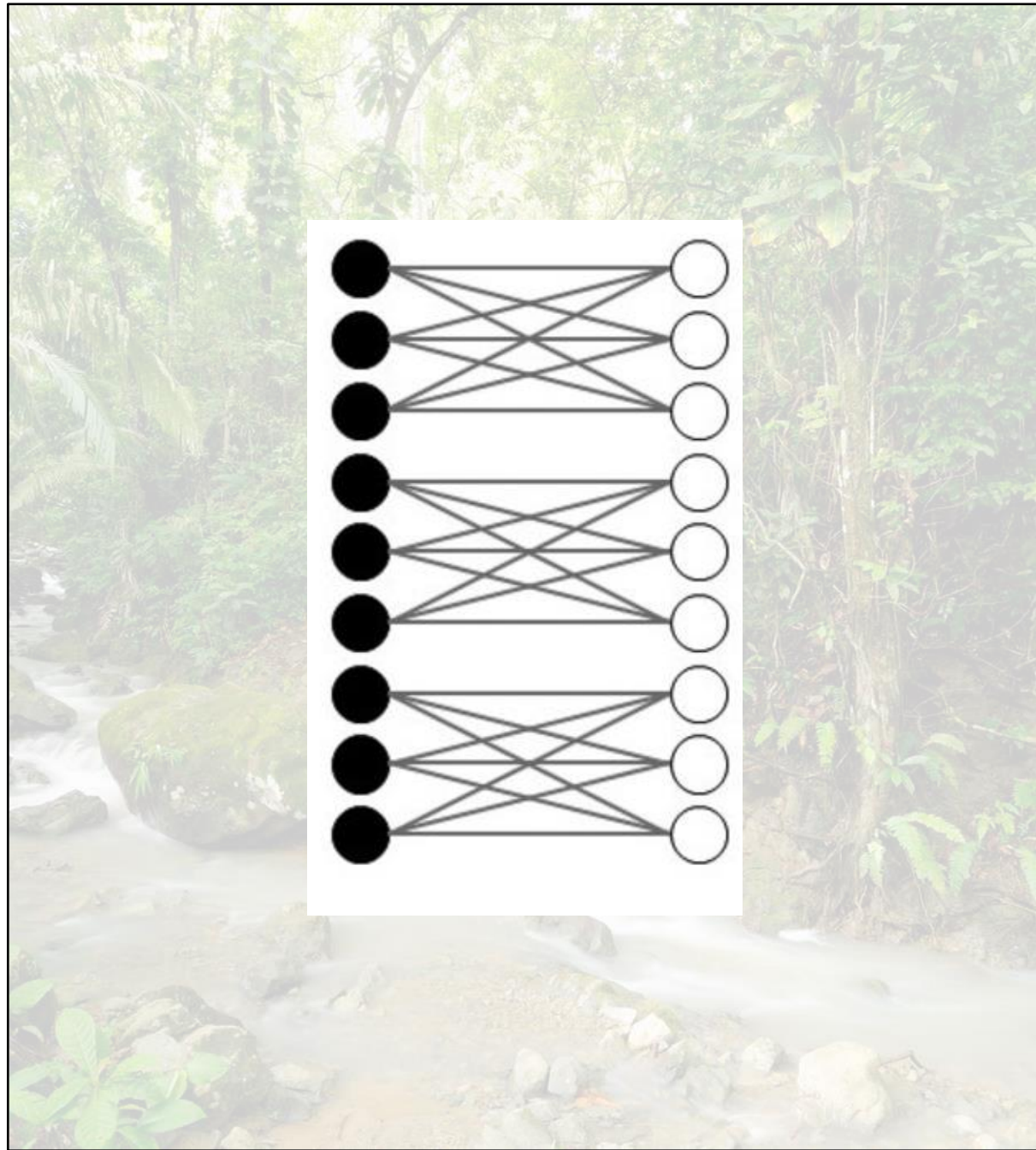
Indirect interactions through shortest pathways (closeness)

Indirect interactions through all possible pathways (Katz)





Are all networks the same?





The role of species in networks

BIO365 – Ecological Networks

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