

# **Ecological data representation - moving beyond species occurrences (5 Credits – 2nd-3rd year bachelor students):**

## *Submodule 1: from species to communities*

- 1) *Collecting and processing species occurrence data*
- 2) *From occurrences to species ranges*
- 3) *From species to local communities*
- 4) *From species distribution to functional and environmental space*
- 5) *Light introduction to ecological niche modelling*

## *Submodule 2: from communities to metacommunities*

- 1) *Representing metacommunities using presence/absence species/locality matrices*
- 2) *Finding patterns in metacommunity matrices*
- 3) *Light introduction to null model analysis*
- 4) *Species area curves and links to island theory of biogeography*
- 5) *Practical implications/relevance of the topic for conservation*

## **Submodule 3: Ecological networks**

- 1) Introduction to ecological networks**
- 2) Bipartite ecological networks (plant-pollinator, host-parasite...) vs food webs
- 3) Measuring structure in ecological networks
- 4) How/where to get species interaction data
- 5) Making network visualization meaningful



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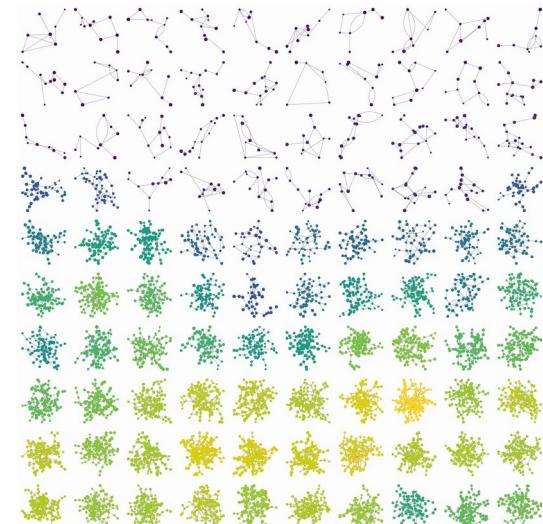


## *Ecological Data Representation – SubModule 3*

# Introduction to Ecological Networks

**Giovanni Strona**

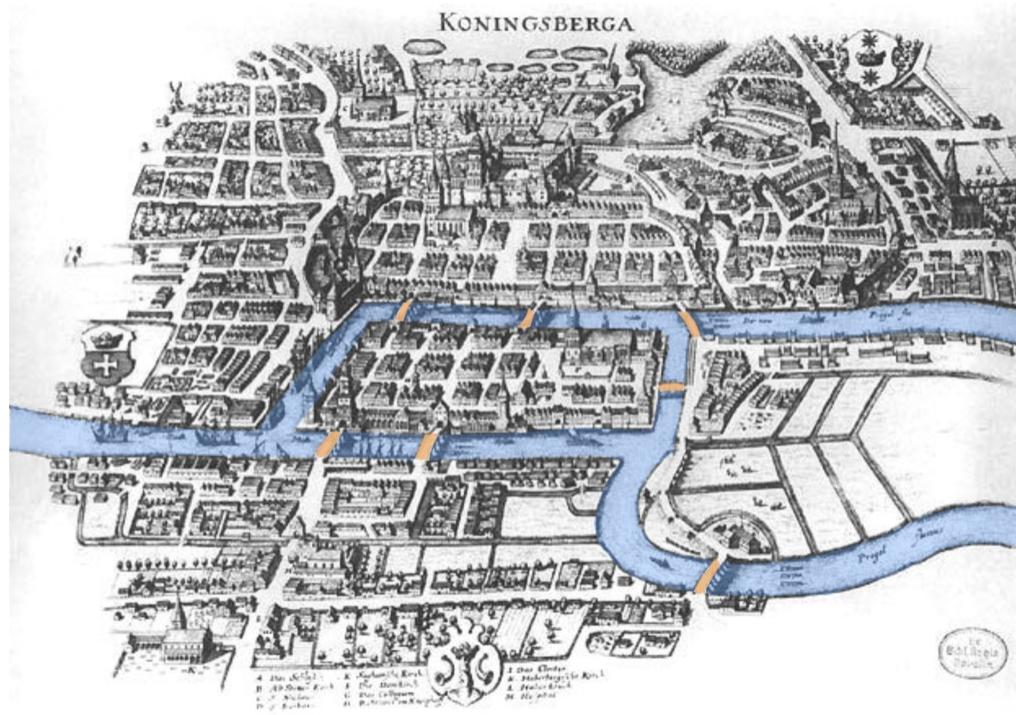
*[giovanni.strona@helsinki.fi](mailto:giovanni.strona@helsinki.fi)*



# Objectives

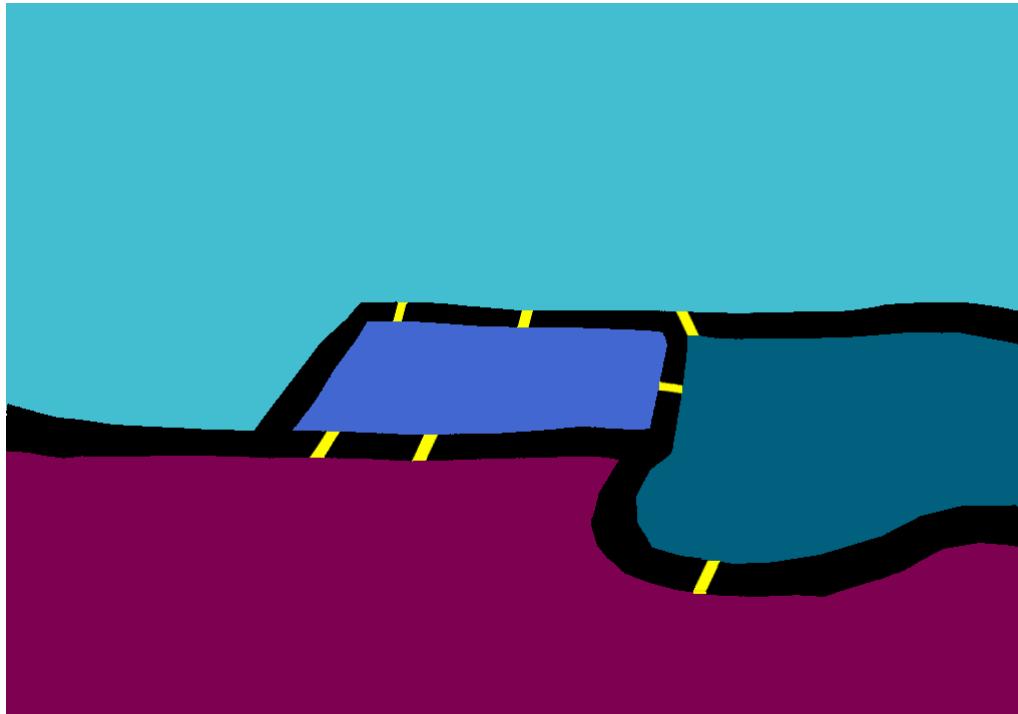


# The Seven Bridges of Königsberg



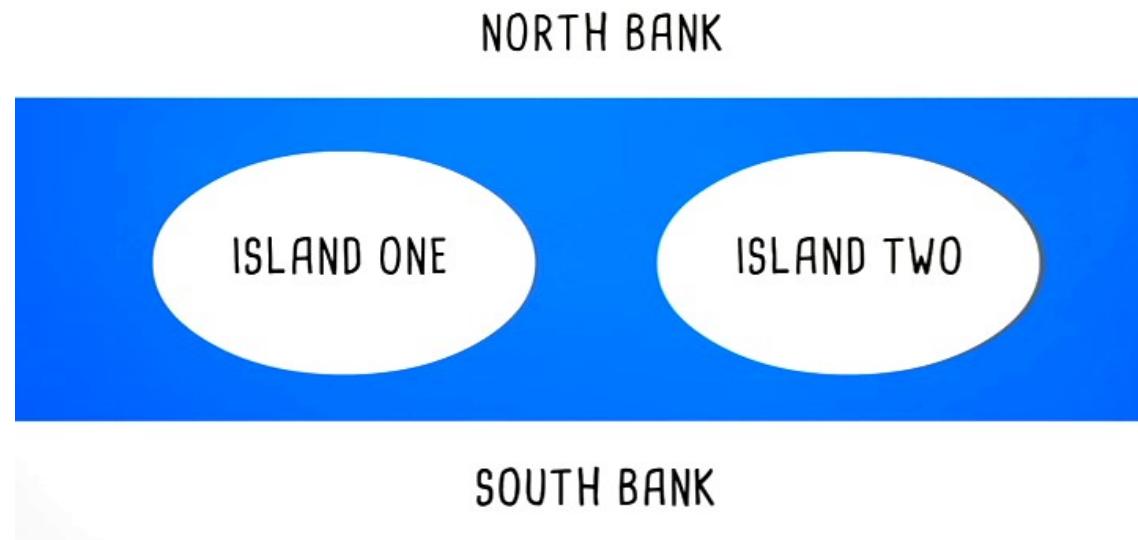
**Problem:** identify a path through the city that would cross each of the bridges once and only once.

# The Seven Bridges of Königsberg



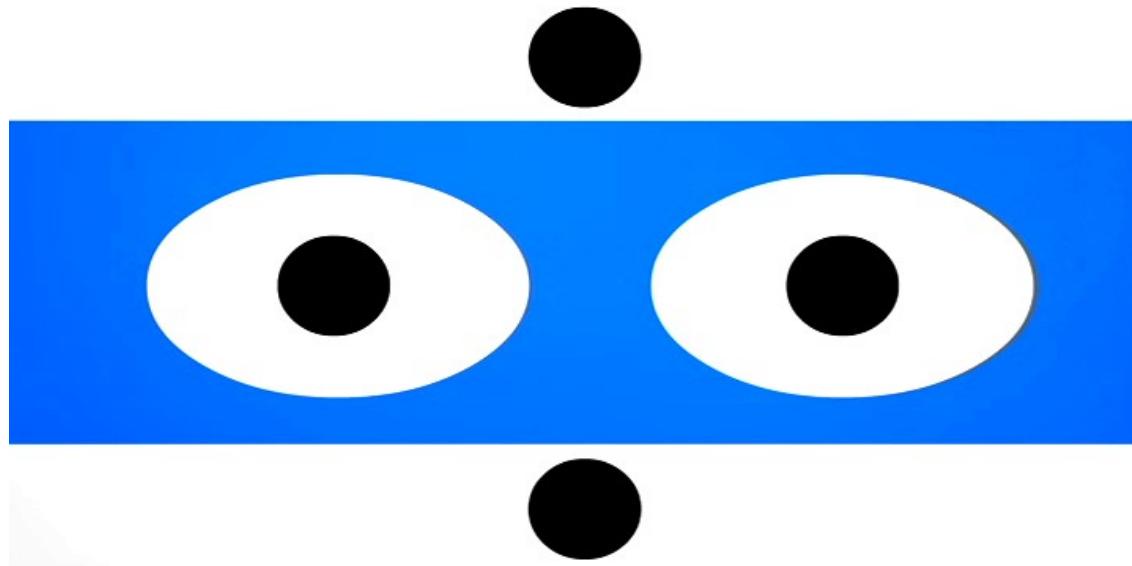
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# Euler and the Seven Bridges of Königsberg



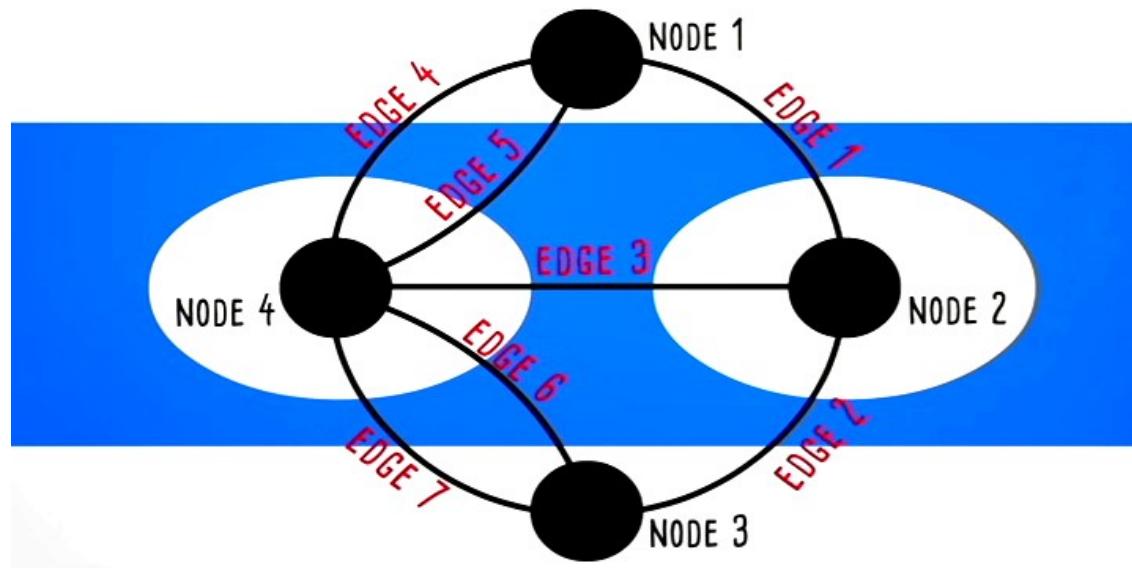
Euler, L., 1741. Solutio problematis ad geometriam situs pertinentis. Commentarii academiae scientiarum Petropolitanae, pp.128-140 (before publication, the solution was presented to the St. Petersburg Academy in 1735).

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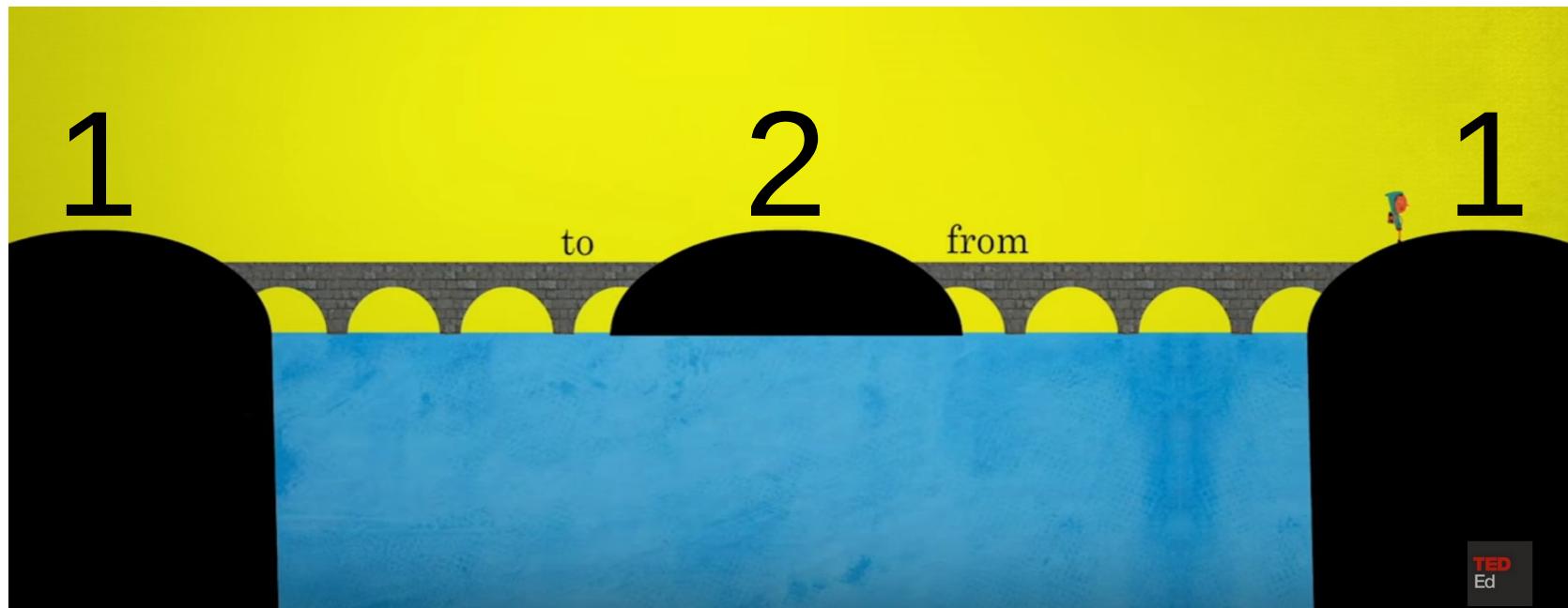
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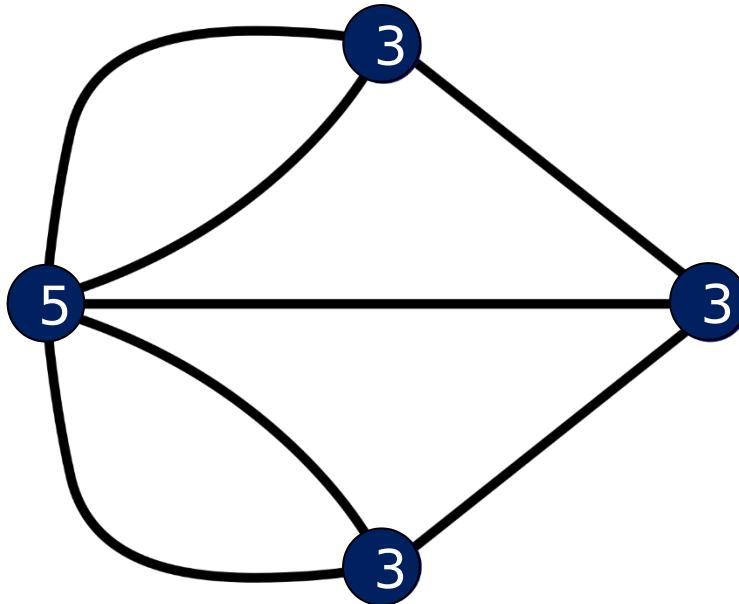
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# Euler and the Seven Bridges of Königsberg

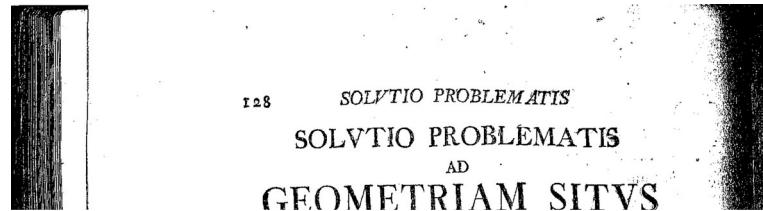


**Eulerian Path:** visits every edge exactly once (allowing for revisiting vertices).

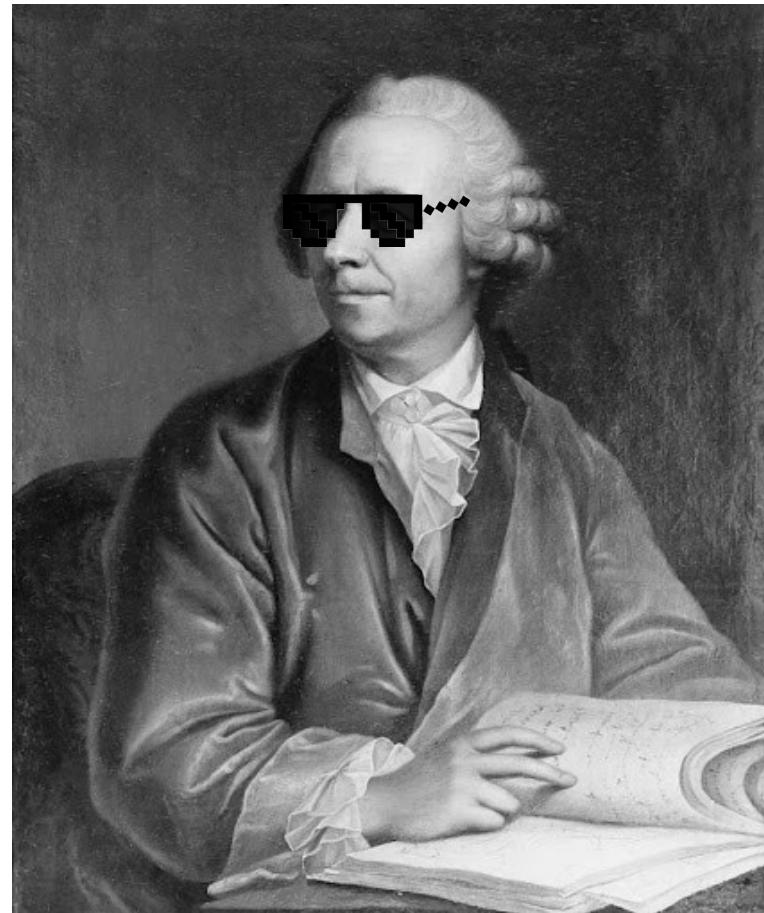
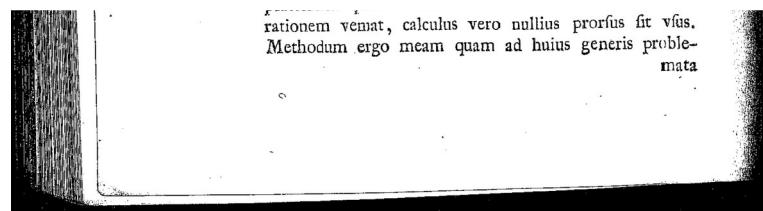
**Condition for an “Eulerian Path”:**

Exactly two nodes have an odd number of connections to other nodes in the graph.  
Path has to start from one of the two nodes with odd connections and end to the other one.

# Euler and the Seven Bridges of Königsberg

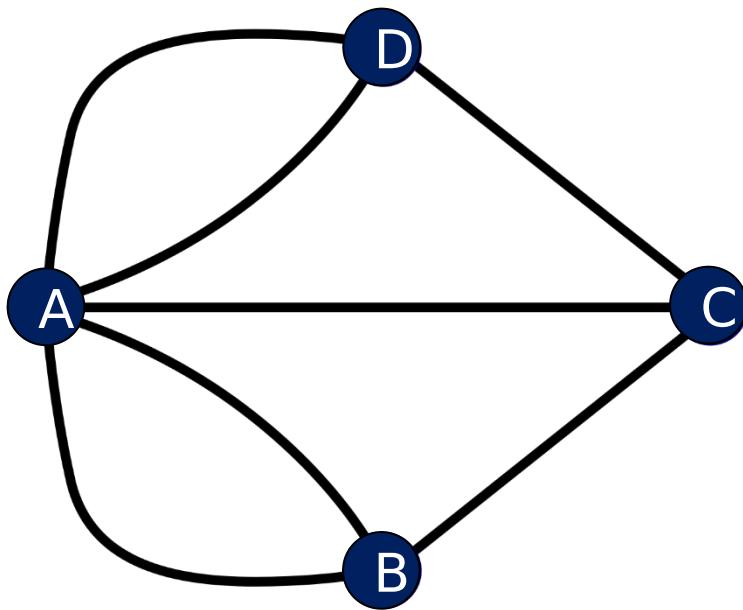


- First theorem of graph theory
- First true proof in network theory
- Intuition that key information in how nodes are connected and not their spatial position anticipated the development of topology



Euler, L., 1741. *Solutio problematis ad geometriam situs pertinentis*. *Commentarii academiae scientiarum Petropolitanae*, pp.128-140 (before publication, the solution was presented to the St. Petersburg Academy in 1735).

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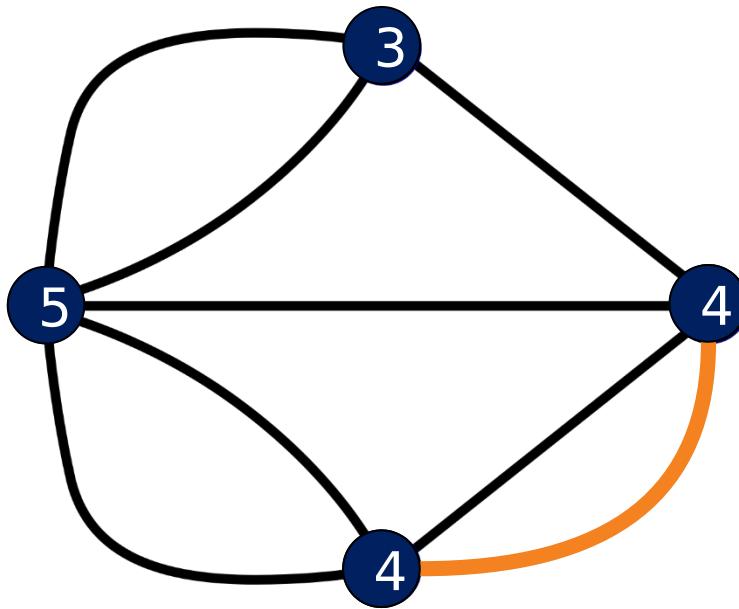


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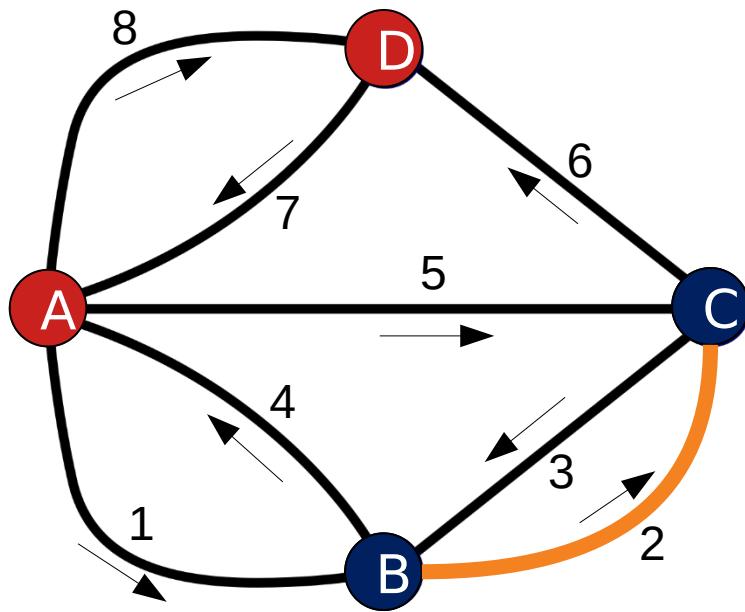


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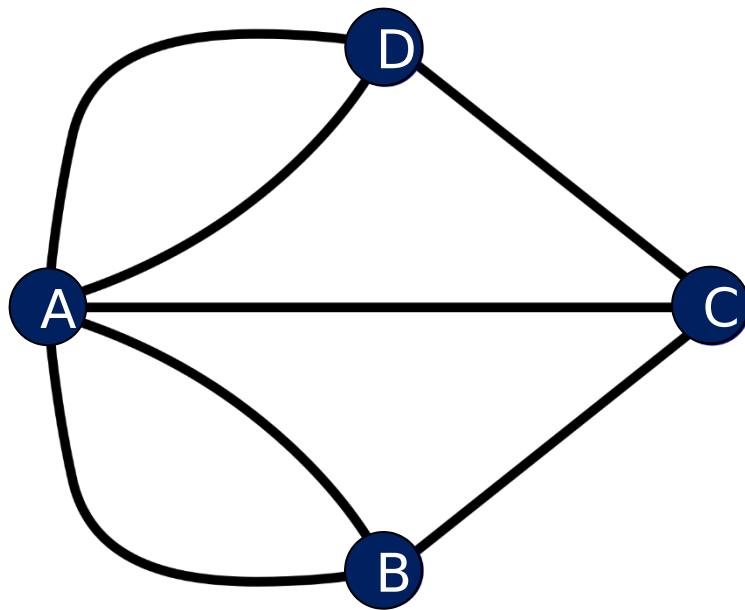


**Eulerian Path:** visits every edge exactly once (allowing for revisiting vertices).

**Condition for an “Eulerian Path”:**

Exactly two nodes have an odd number of connections to other nodes in the graph.  
Path has to start from one of the two nodes with odd connections and end to the other one.

# Euler and the Seven Bridges of Königsberg



**Eulerian circuit or Eulerian cycle:**  
**Eulerian trail that starts and ends on the same nodes.**

**Condition for “Eulerian Cycle”:**

All of nodes have an even number ( $>0$ ) of connections to other nodes in the graph.

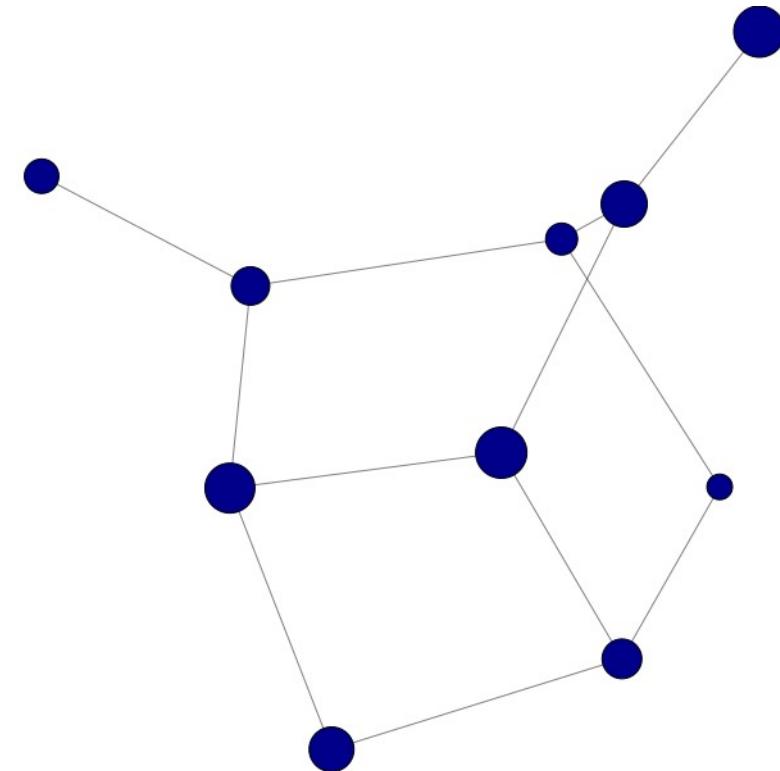


<https://d3gt.com/unit.html?degree-of-vertex>

# Basic Definitions

nodes/vertices 

edges/links 



<b>Network</b>	<b>Nodes</b>	<b>Edges</b>
Internet	Routers	Internet connections
WWW	Webpages	Hyperlinks
Social networks	Individuals	Social relations
Airport network	Airports	Direct flights
Protein interaction networks	Proteins	Binding interactions
Citation networks	Publications	Citations
Collaboration networks	Scientists	Coauthorship
Power grids	Power plants	Cables

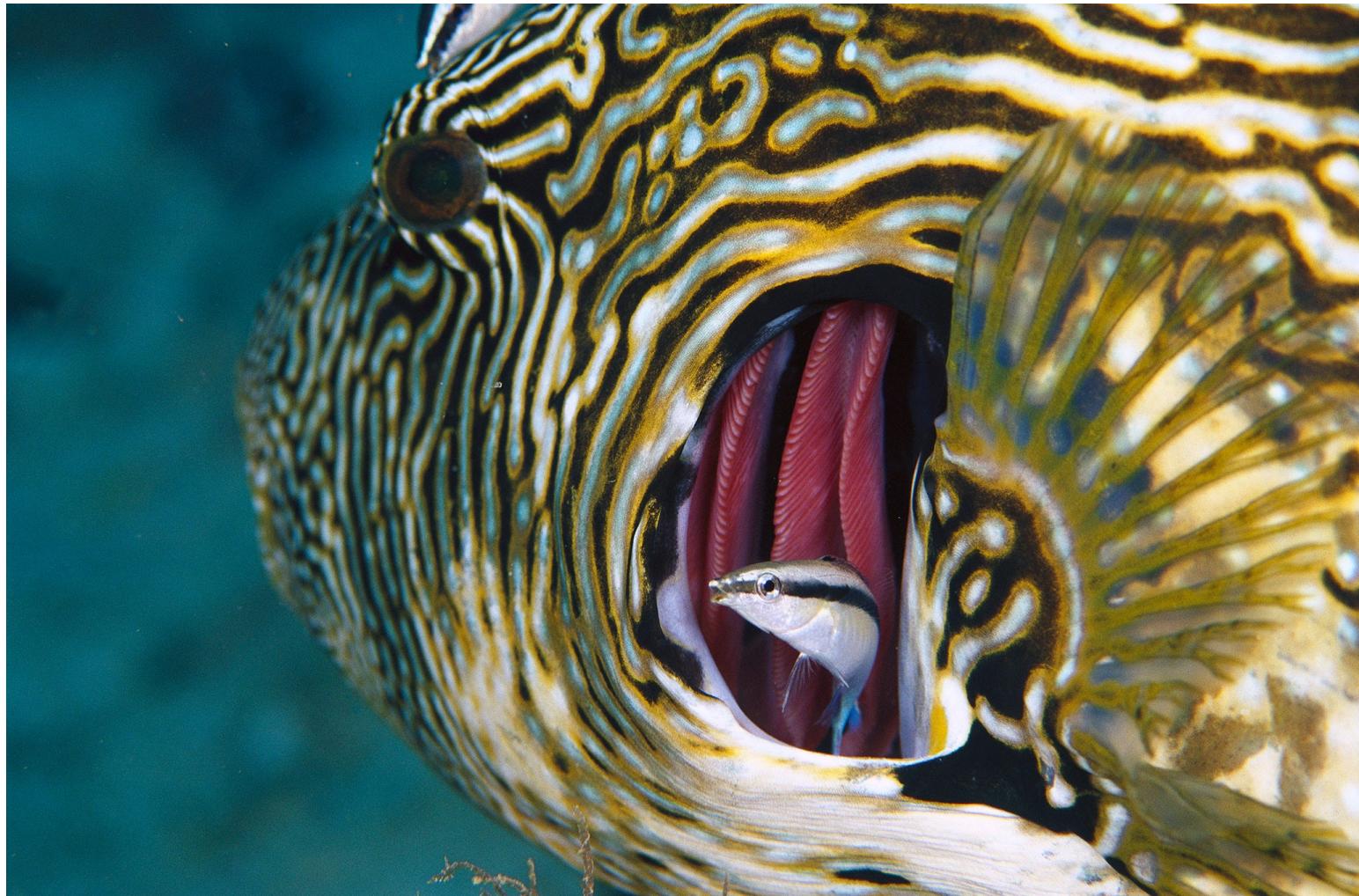
# **Ecological Networks**



**plant-pollinator networks**



**seed-disperser networks**



**cleaning-symbiosis networks**

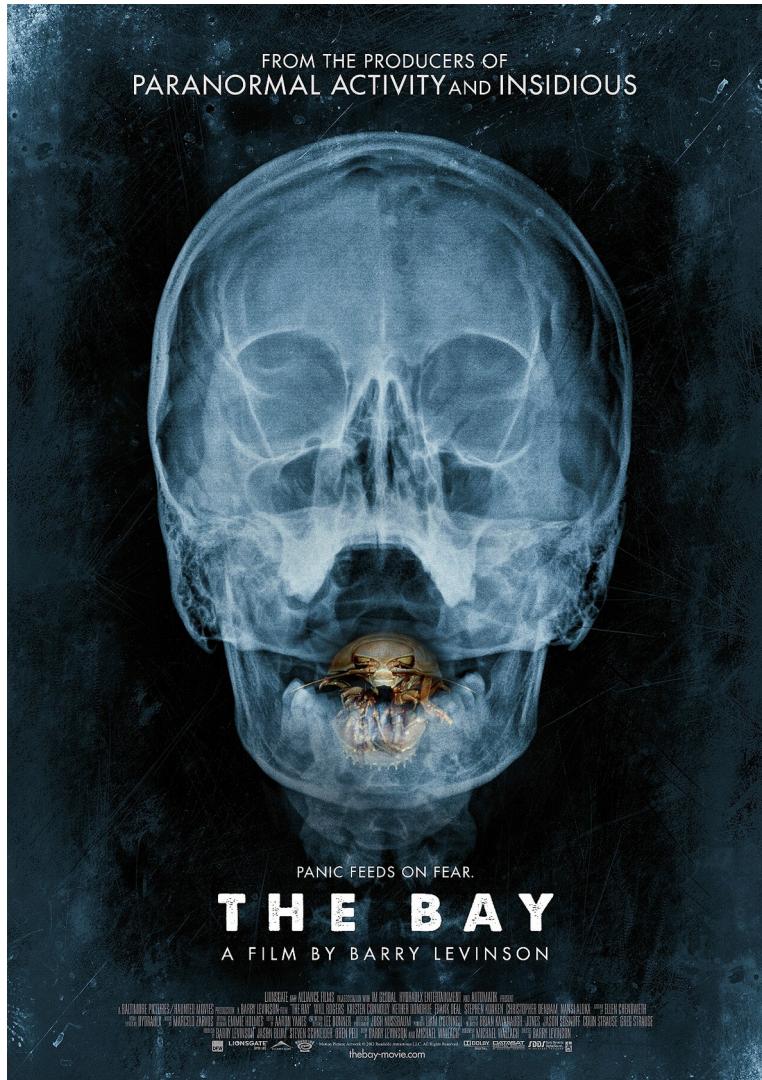


**dung beetle-mammal networks**



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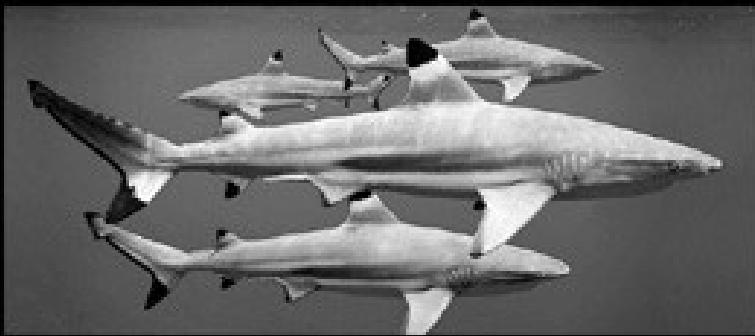
# host-parasite networks



# host-parasite networks

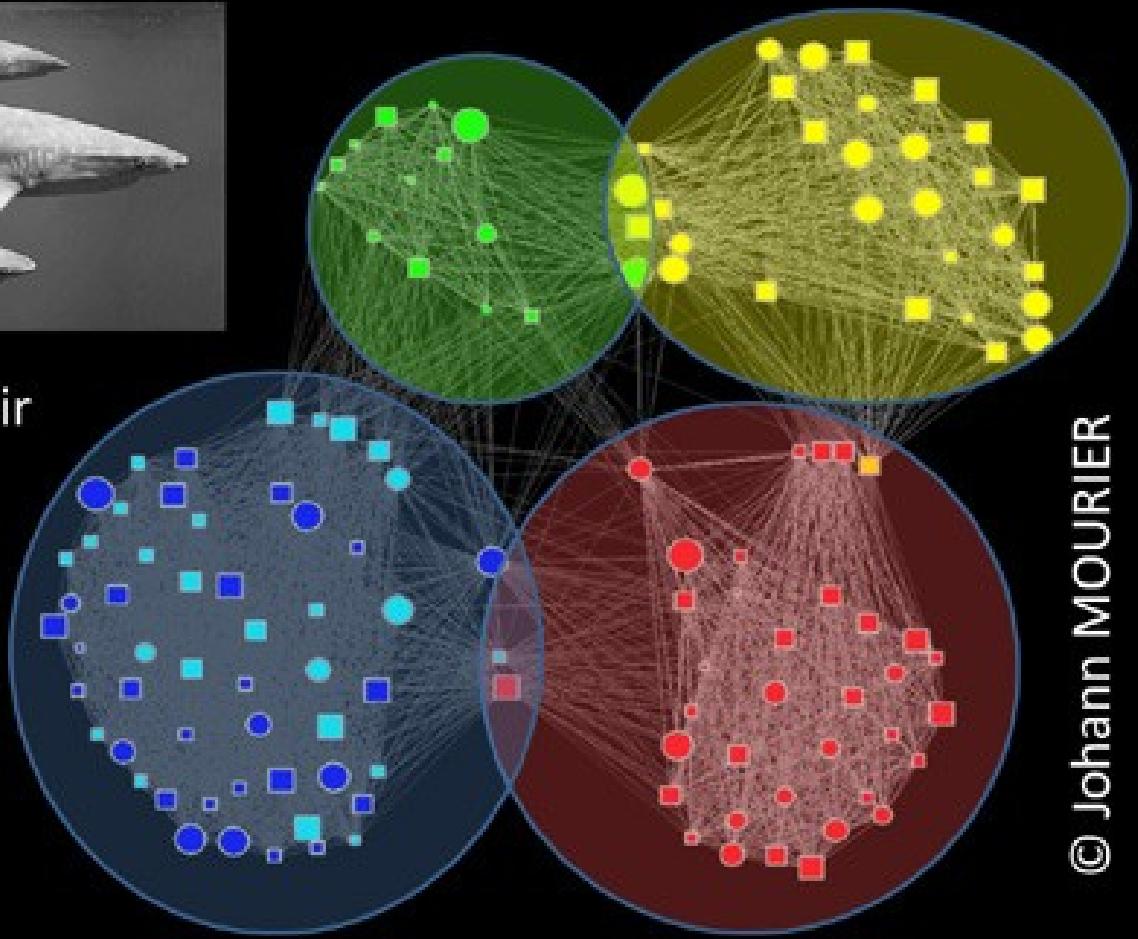


**trophic networks (food-webs)**



Sharks also have their  
social network!

(adapted from  
Mourier et al. 2012 in  
Animal Behaviour)

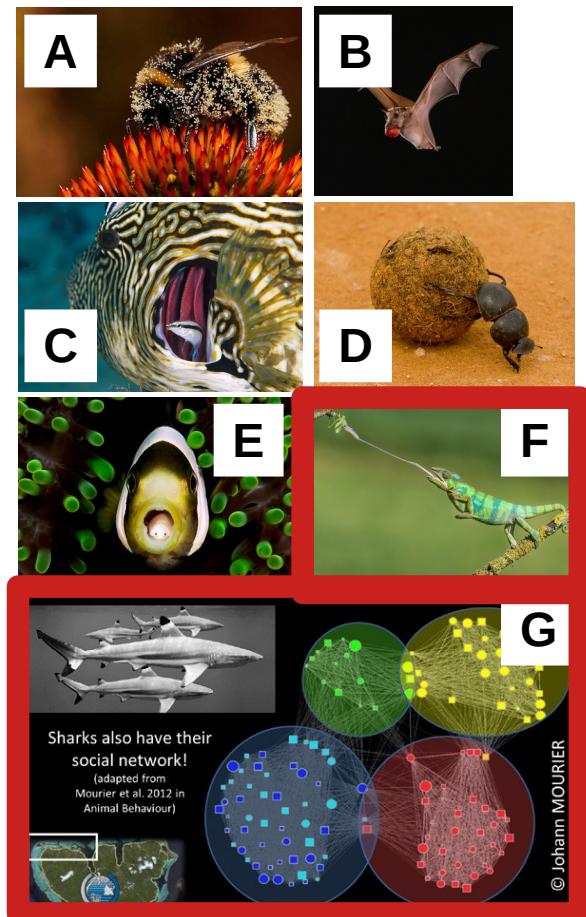
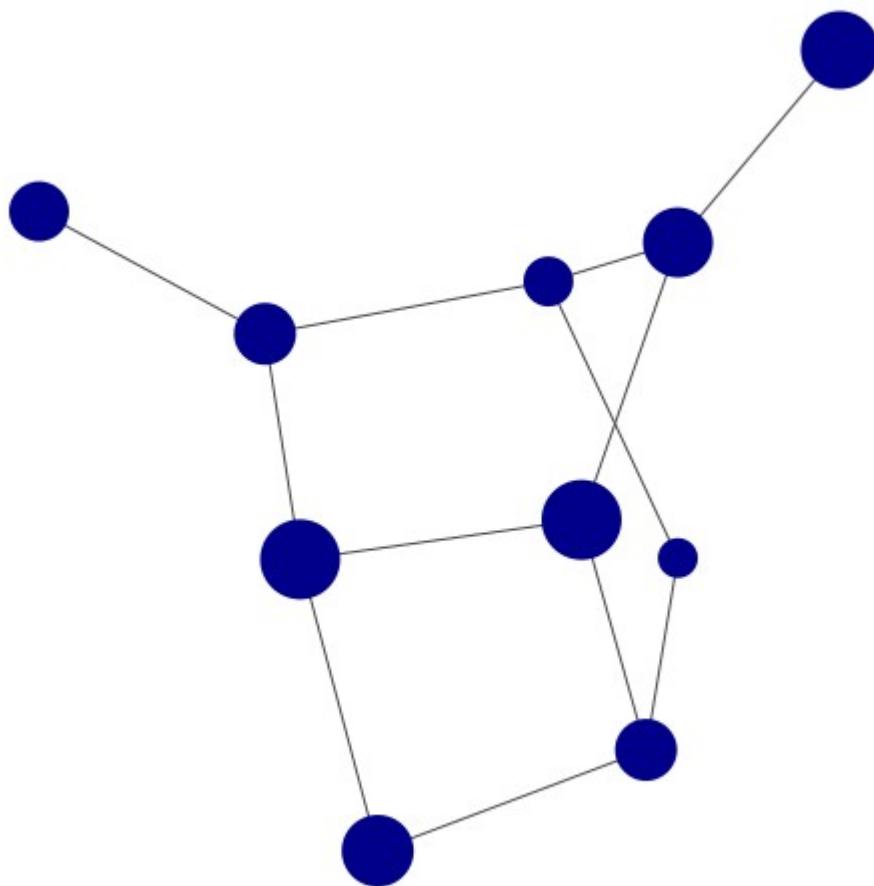


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# animal social networks

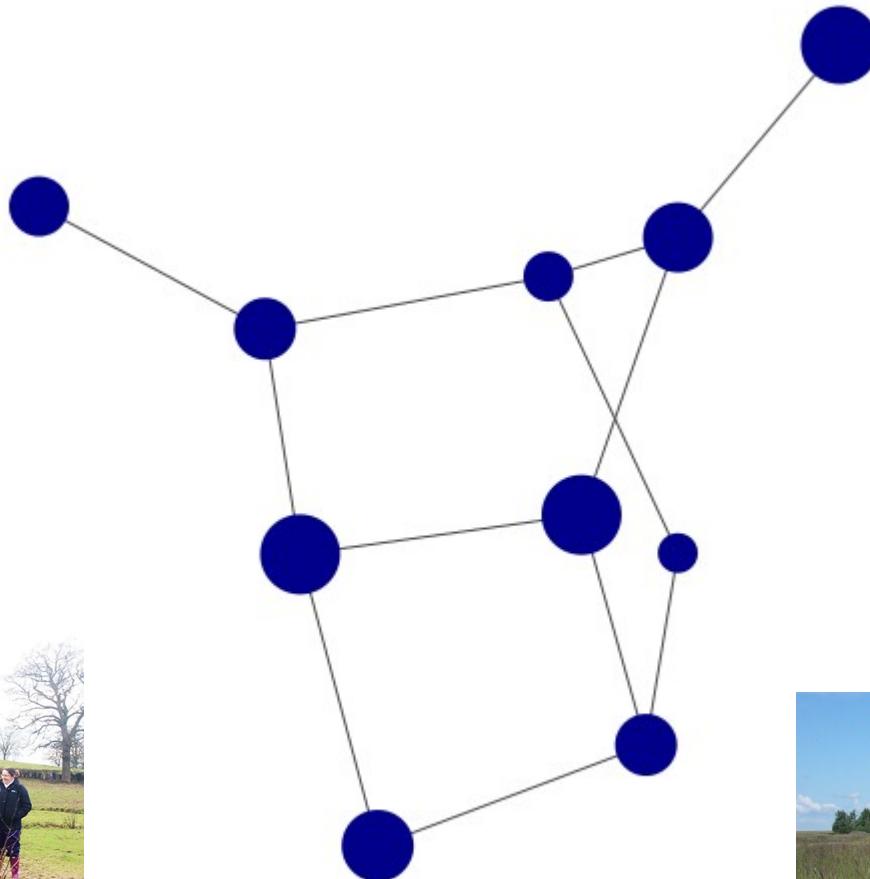
# Network Classes

## Undirected vs. Directed



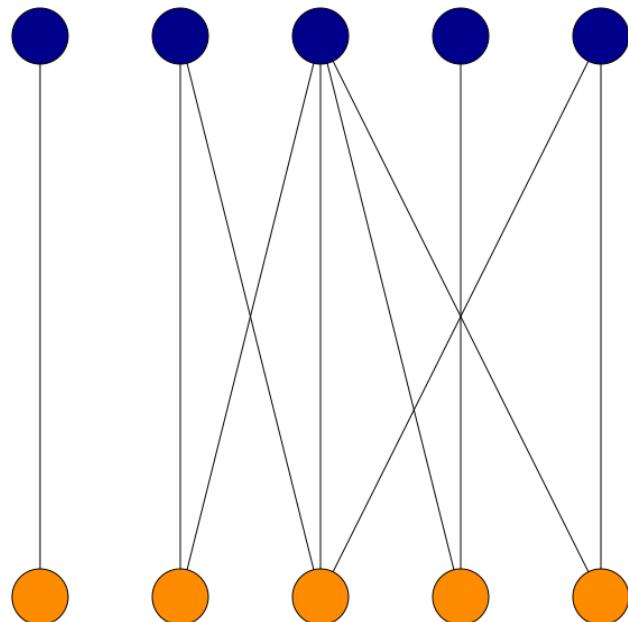
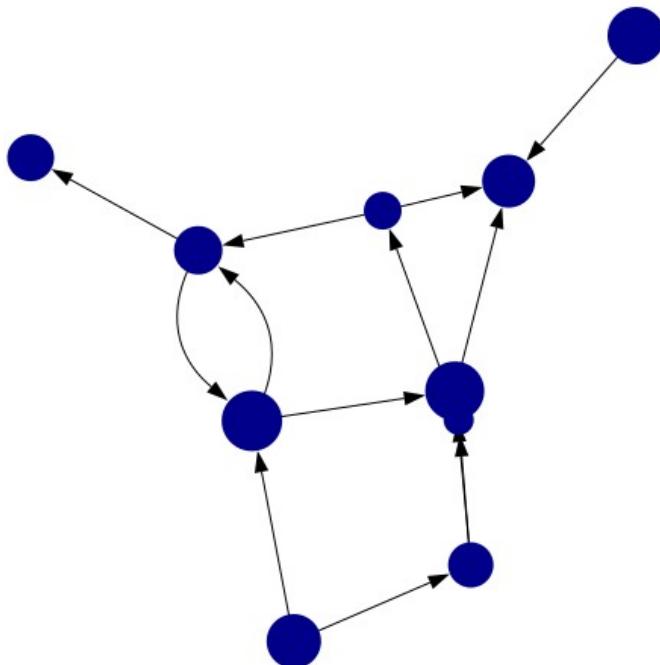
# Network Classes

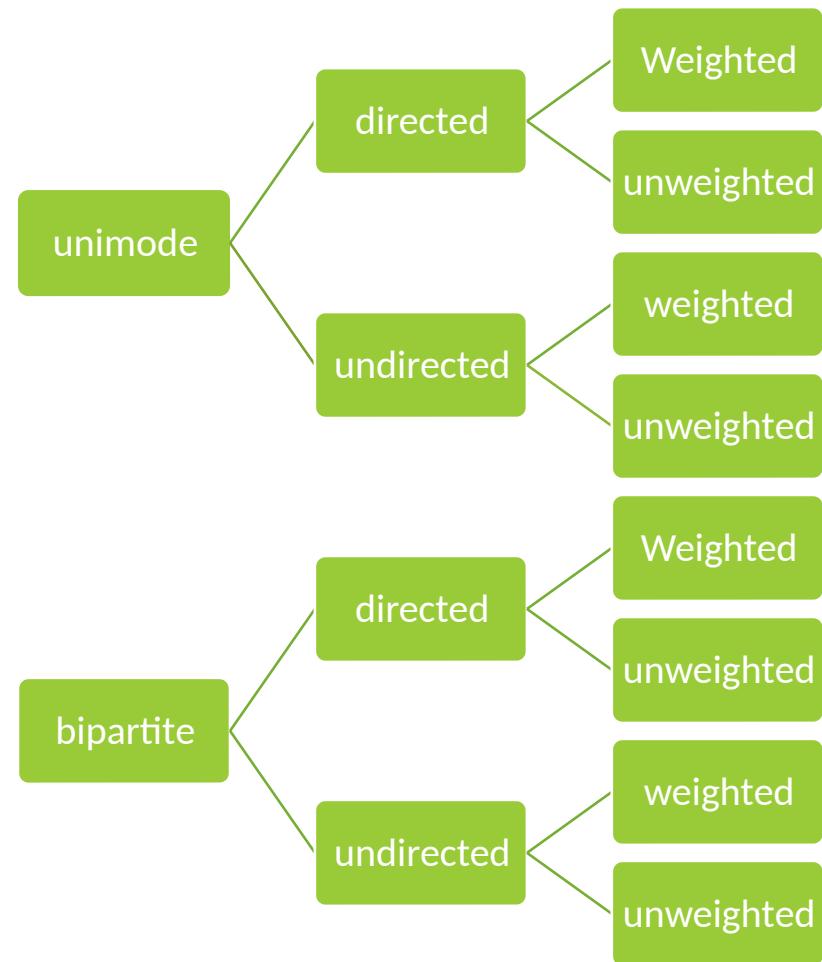
## Unweighted vs. Weighted

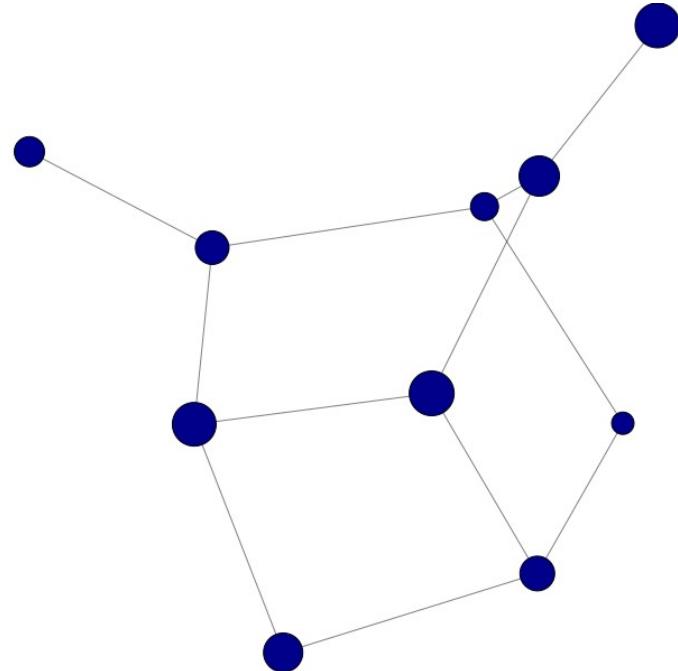
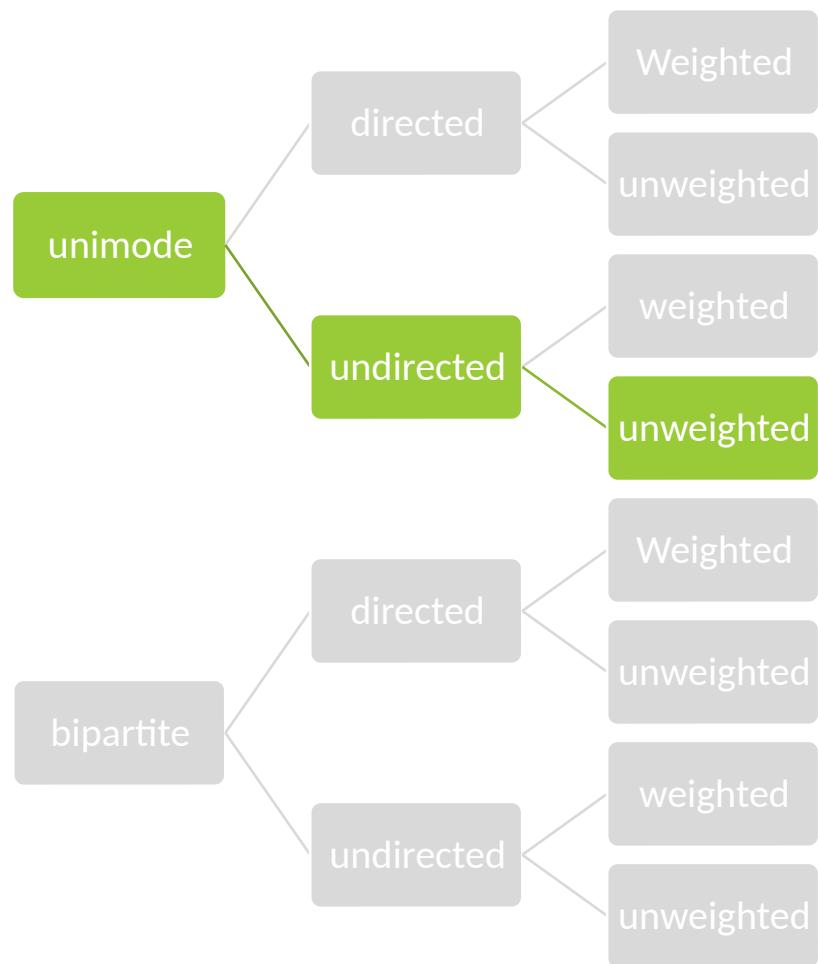


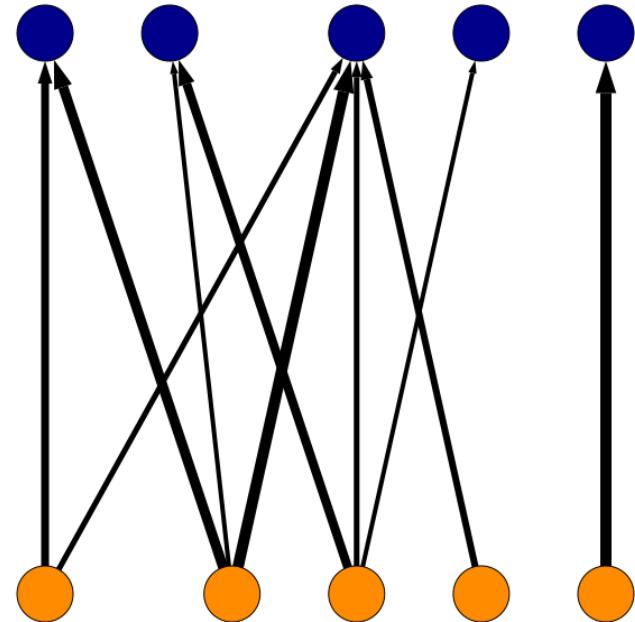
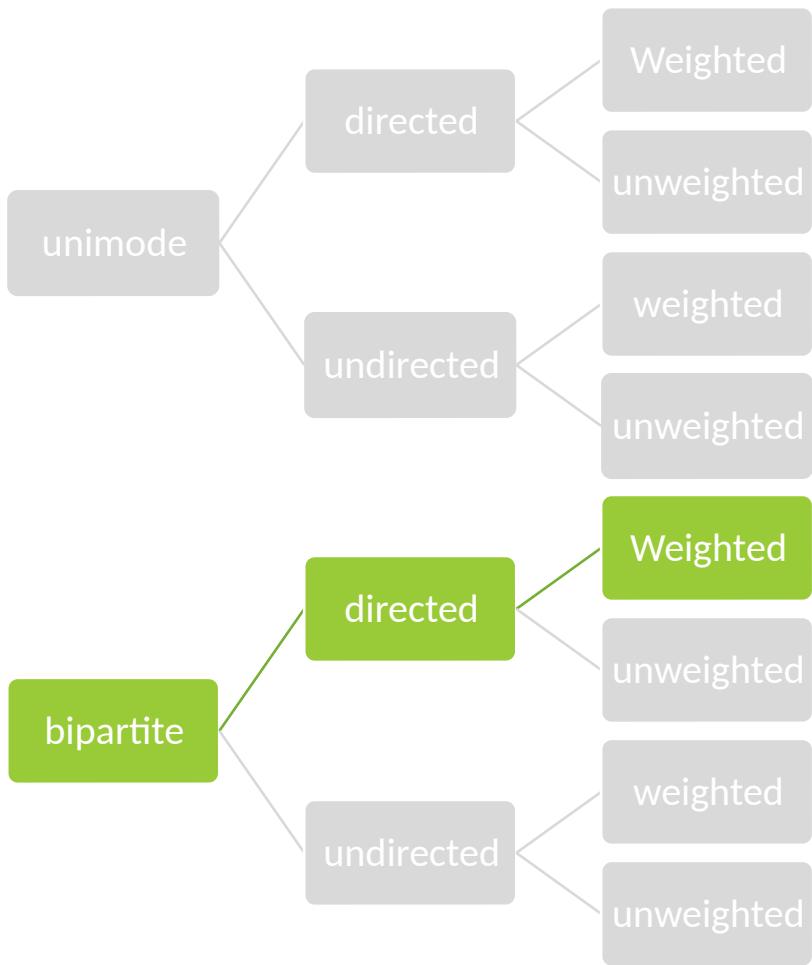
# Network Classes

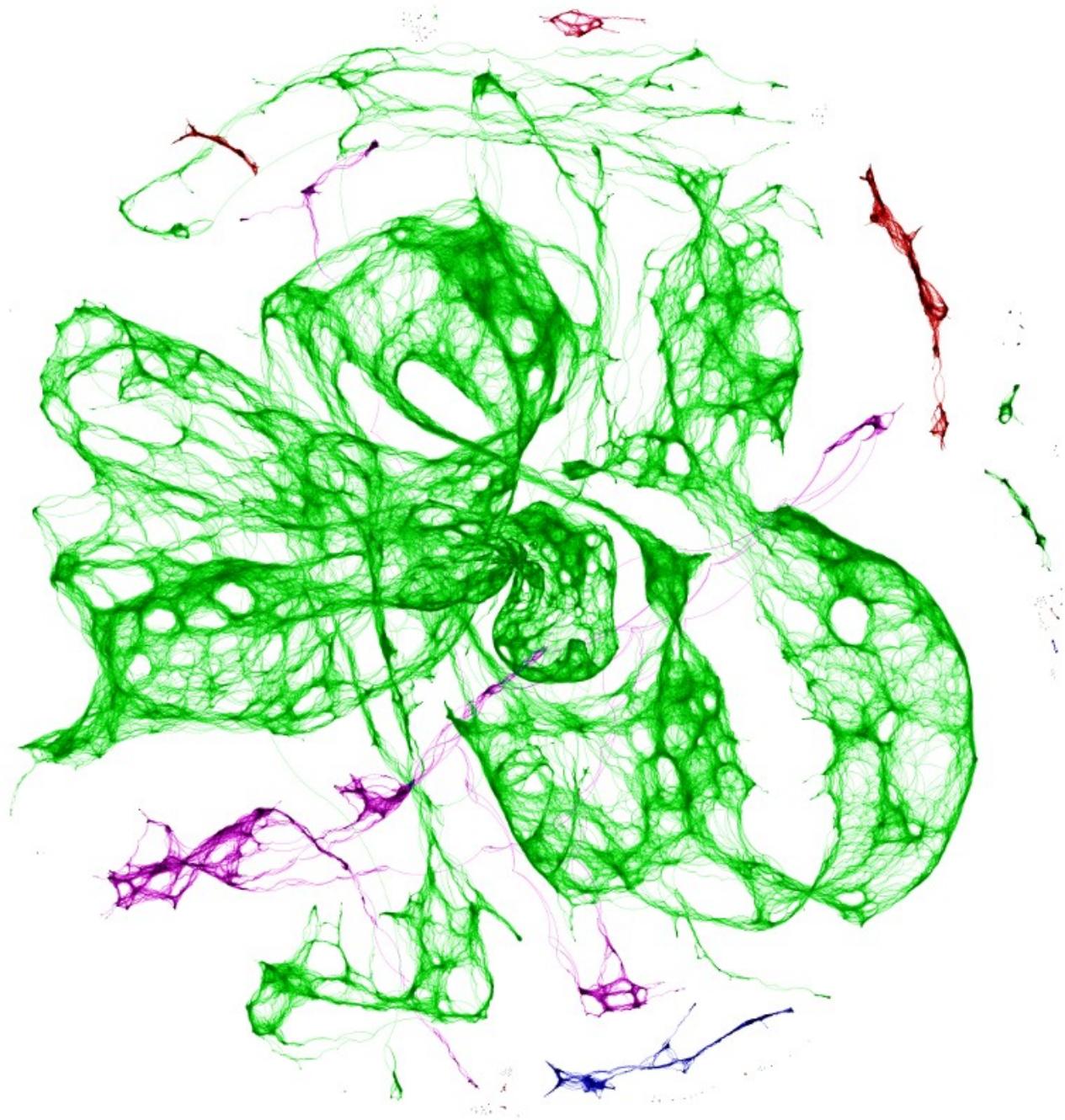
## Unimode vs. Bipartite



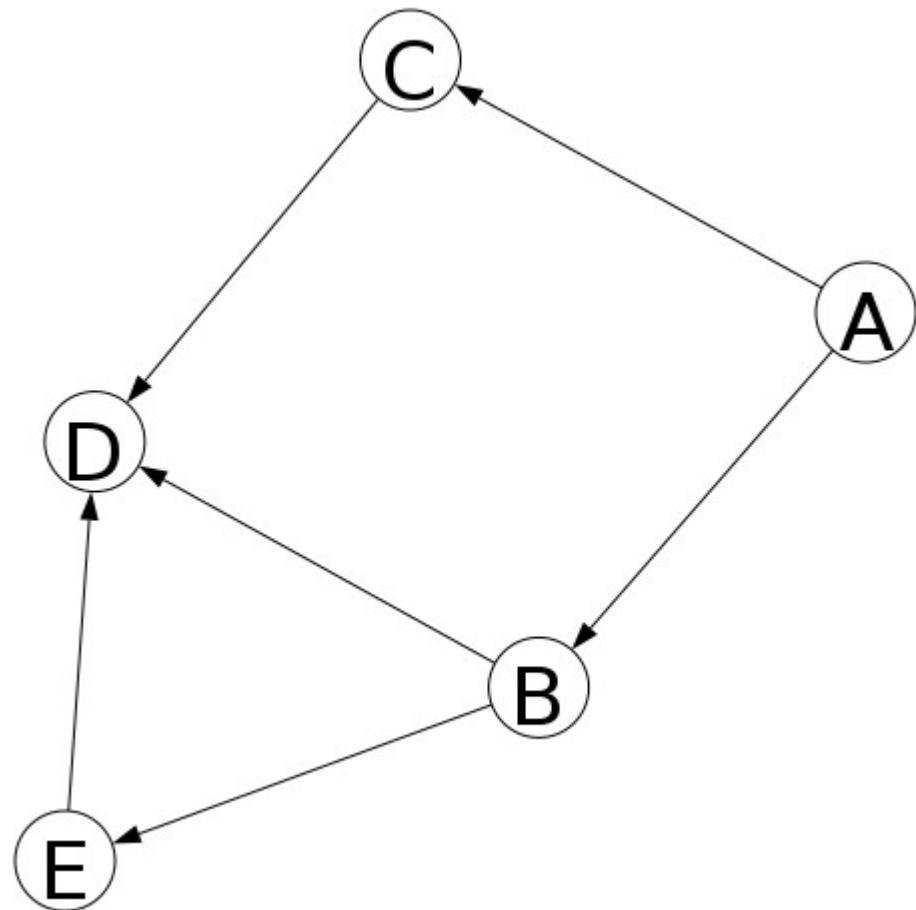








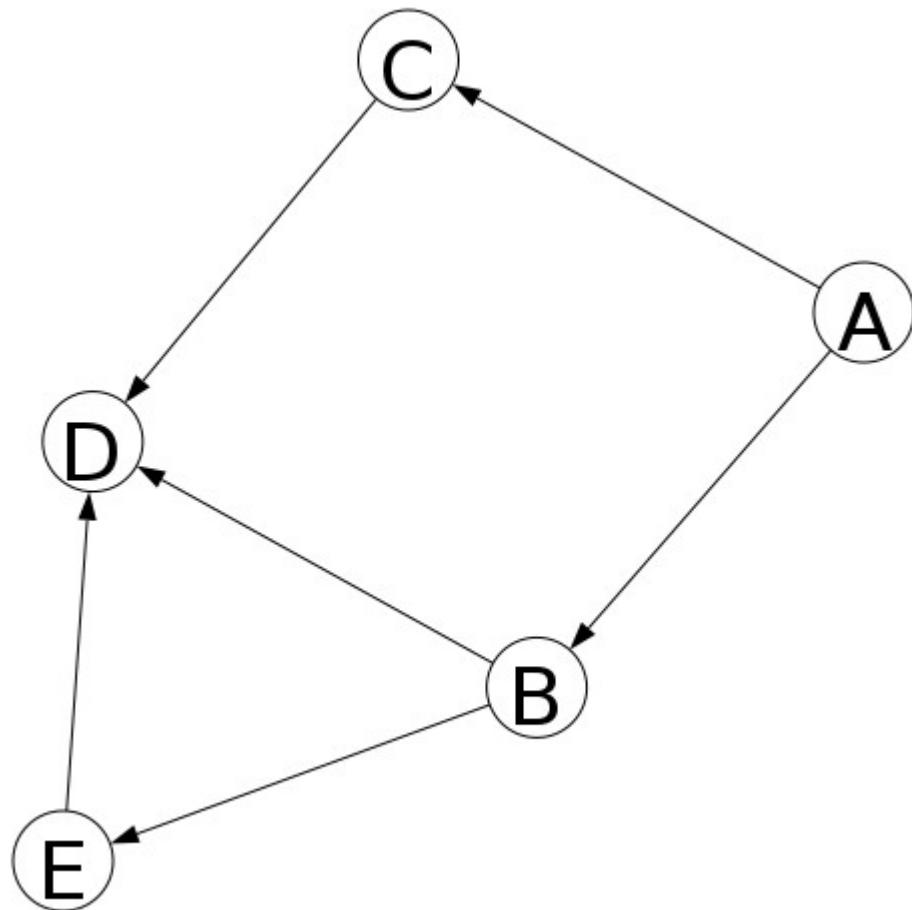
# Network Representation - Edgelist



(A, B)  
(A, C)  
(B, D)  
(B, E)  
(C, D)  
(E, D)

# Network Representation -Matrix

## Unimode Networks



	A	B	C	D	E
A	0	1	1	0	0
B	0	0	0	1	1
C	0	0	0	1	0
D	0	0	0	0	0
E	0	0	0	1	0



## Assignment:

- Think at/look for some unusual/ poorly investigated class of ecological interactions that might be represented in form of a network
- Identify which kind of network (directed/undirected, weighted unweighted, bipartite/unimode) would be more suitable to represent the selected interaction.
- If possible/not too time consuming, try to arrange some of the interactions in either an edgelist or a matrix (or both).

Montano S, ..., **Strona G** (2017) Corals hosting symbiotic hydrozoans are less susceptible to predation and disease. Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences. 284(1869):20172405.

**Slides, additional material, suggested reading:**

<https://github.com/giovannistrona/Ecological-Data-Representation>

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