

In 1687, Newton reported that the same laws could describe Galileo's data on balls rolling down ramps and Brahe's data

cies interactions (competition, predation, and disease) determine whether a species thrives or withers in a given environment (10–12). The final factor is habitat: Cottonwoods grow throughout the southwestern United States, but only along rivers. Which of these factors are most important?

It is becoming clear that the answer depends on scale. Competition is played out at small scales through interactions between