

Contents

Part I Biological Evolution

1. Introduction	3
1.1 Living Nature	3
1.2 The Theory of Evolution	8
1.3 Physics and Biology	23
1.4 Concerning Anti-Reductionism	36
2. Evolutionary Methods	38
2.1 Palaeontology	38
2.2 Species	43
2.3 Gradualism and Punctualism	48
2.4 Macroevolution	56
2.5 The History of the Eye	62
3. Directionality of Evolution	69
3.1 Constraints on Natural Selection	69
3.2 Ontogeny	77
3.3 The Time Factors of Embryogenesis	83
3.4 Theoretical Approaches to Developmental Dynamics	91
3.5 Nomogenesis	98
4. Adaptation	105
4.1 Fitness	105
4.2 Biochemical Adaptation	110
4.3 Adaptability	117
4.4 Non-adaptiveness	120

Part II

Molecular Basis of Evolution

5. Proteins	127
5.1 The Protein Structure	127
5.2 Dynamics and Function	135
5.3 Modelling of Proteins	144
5.4 The Primary and Spatial Structures of Proteins	156
5.5 Evolution of Proteins	162
5.6 Protein Engineering	167
5.7 The Role of Metals	171
6. Neutrality of Point Mutations	178
6.1 The Neutral Theory	178
6.2 Quantitative Relationships	190
6.3 The Molecular Clock of Evolution and Neutral Theory	198
6.4 Pseudoneutral Mutations	205
6.5 Extinction of Species	215
7. The Molecular Drive	219
7.1 Genomes	219
7.2 Instability of the Genome	226
7.3 Gene Duplication	229
7.4 Unequal Crossing-Over and Gene Conversion	233
7.5 Molecular Drive	237
7.6 Molecular Evolution	247

Part III

Physics of Biological Evolution

8. Physical Theory of Molecular Evolution	253
8.1 The Eigen Theory	253
8.2 The Quasispecies and the Hypercycle	261
8.3 Quasispecies in Sequence Space	267
8.4 The Eigen Theory and Viruses	278
8.5 The Importance and Prospects of the Eigen Theory	286
9. Chaos and Order in Evolution	295
9.1 Chaos	295
9.2 Biology and Dynamical Chaos	307
9.3 Instabilities in Mendelian Systems	312

9.4 Speciation and Bifurcations	319
9.5 Motion in the Fitness Landscape	324
9.6 Directionality of Evolution and Synergetics	328
10. Informational Aspects of Evolution	335
10.1 Order, Information and Entropy	335
10.2 Information and Evolution	340
10.3 The Value of Information	344
10.4 Information Value, Indispensability and Complexity	349
10.5 The Value of Amino-Acid Residues	352
10.6 Game Models of Evolution	359
10.7 Information Theory, Synergetics, and Biology	364
References	367
Author Index	383
Subject Index	389