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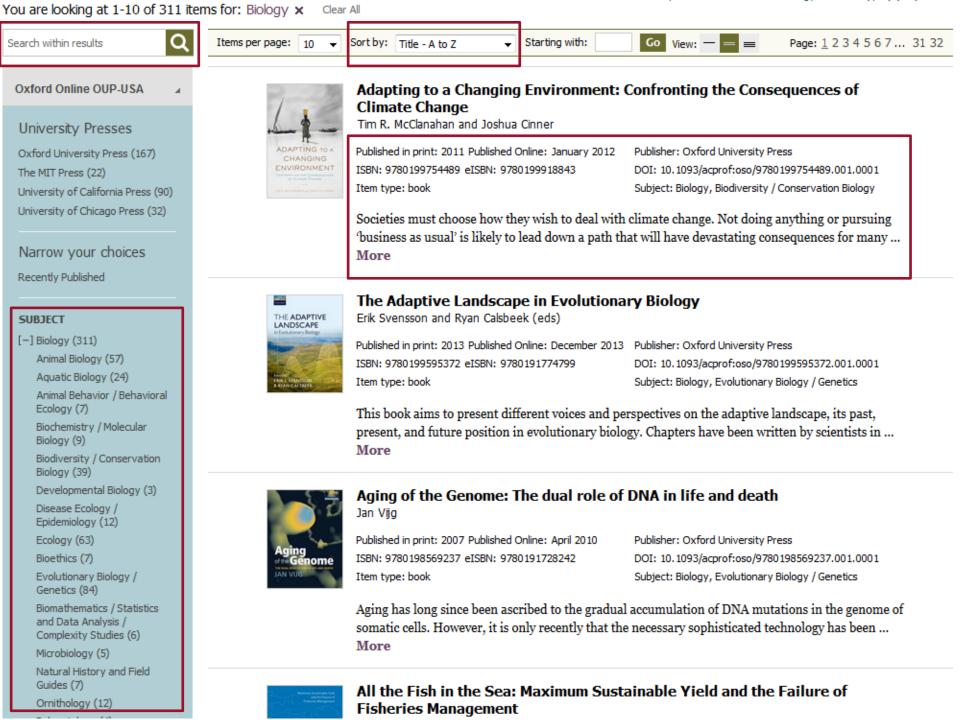
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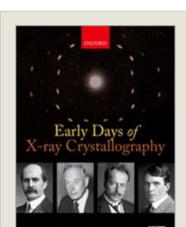
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ANDRÉ AUTHIER

Early Days of X-ray Crystallography André Authier

ABSTRACT

2012 marked the centenary of one of the most significant discoveries of the early twentieth century: the discovery of X-ray diffraction in March 1912 by Laue, Friedrich, and Knipping, and of the birth of X-analysis with Bragg's law in November 1912. The discovery of X-ray diffraction confirmed the wave nature of X-rays and the space-lattice hypothesis. The book stresses the unique role played by X-ray diffraction in the analysis of the structure of atoms and in the determination of the atomic structure of materials. It relates the discovery itself and the context in which it was made: the loca ... More 🔻

Keywords: atomic structure, Bragg's law, X-ray diffraction, Laue, X-ray analysis, X-ray crystallography, X-ray spectroscopy, X-rays

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Erik Svensson and Rvan Calsbeek

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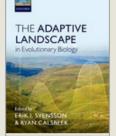
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Landscapes, Surfaces, and Morphospaces: What Are They Good For? Massimo Pigliucci

DOI:10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199595372.003.0003

[-] Abstract and Keywords

The adaptive landscape metaphor is one of the most persistent in evolutionary biology, and has generated much theoretical debate (if far less empirical investigation). This chapter briefly traces the history of the concept since its introduction by Sewall Wright in the 1930s. It then distinguishes four types of landscapes pertinent to evolutionary theory: fitness landscapes, adaptive landscapes, fitness surfaces, and morphospaces. These are more or less loosely related to each other, and sometimes the relationship is complex and difficult to explore empirically. The chapter argues that some versions of the landscape metaphor have lost their utility and should be replaced by more sophisticated metaphors, or abandoned altogether. It suggests that somewhat surprisingly — the most useful type of landscape may turn out to be the morphospace, a concept that allows for a productive bridge between theoretical analyses and empirical results, especially in fields such as palaeontology and evolutionary developmental biology. In particular, the chapter discusses examples from the paleontological literature that constitute instances of truly (and stunningly) predictive theoretical analysis in what is often considered an entirely descriptive historical science.

Keywords: Sewall Wright, adaptive landscapes, fitness surfaces, morphospaces, palentology

3.1 Introduction

Few metaphors in biology are more enduring than the idea of Adaptive Landscapes, originally proposed by Sewall Wright (1932) as a way to visually present to an audience of typically nonmathematically savvy biologists his ideas about the relative role of natural selection and genetic drift in the course of evolution. The



Questions?

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