

# Prediction in Selectionist Evolutionary Theory

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## Abstract

Selectionist evolutionary theory has often been faulted for not making novel predictions that are surprising, risky, and correct. I argue that it in fact exhibits the theoretical virtue of predictive capacity in addition to two other virtues: explanatory unification and model fitting. Two case studies show the predictive capacity of selectionist evolutionary theory: parallel evolutionary change in *E. coli*, and the origin of eukaryotic cells through endosymbiosis.

**Keywords:** Prediction, Evolutionary Theory, Explanatory Unification, Model-Fitting, Theoretical Virtue, Endosymbiosis, Bacterial Evolution

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