

# Species are not theoretical objects, or, On what there is in biology

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## Abstract

It is often claimed that species are the units of evolution, but this is not defined or clearly explained. In this paper I will argue that species are phenomenal objects that stand in need of explanation, but that they are not objects required by any theory of biology. I further define, or rather describe, species as the genealogical cluster of various lineages at the genetic, haplotype, genomic, organismic, and population level, in keeping with my previous discussions.

**Subjects:** [Specific Sciences: Biology: Systematics](#)  
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