

Contents

Preface	xi
1 Reading the history of life	1
1.1 Things and processes	1
1.2 Questions about origins	2
1.2.1 Uncertain origins	2
1.2.2 Independent origins	3
1.2.3 Mixed origins	6
1.3 Idola theatri	7
1.3.1 The ladder of nature	7
1.3.2 Morphoclines and Williston's law	8
1.3.3 Finalism, adultocentrism, and division of labour	8
2 Animal phylogenetics	10
2.1 The Hennigian foundations of phylogenetics	10
2.2 Stem group and crown group	12
2.3 Characters	13
2.4 Phylogenetic analysis of molecular data	14
2.4.1 Star phylogenies	14
2.4.2 Gene and genome duplications	14
2.4.3 Horizontal gene transfer	15
2.4.4 Gene loss and genome compactation	15
2.4.5 Mitochondrial genomes	16
2.4.6 The molecular clock	17
2.4.7 Controversial results	18
3 Metazoans enter the stage	19
3.1 Multicellularity	19
3.2 Competition and synergy, or molecules and organelles	20
3.3 Choanoflagellates, the closest relatives of animals	21
3.4 Late Precambrian fossils	23
3.4.1 Vendobionts or Vendian metazoans?	23
3.4.2 Doushantuo embryos	25
3.5 The Cambrian 'explosion'	26

4 Deep branches of the metazoan tree	30
4.1 The Metazoa, our largest monophylum	30
4.1.1 Complexity and phylogeny	31
4.1.2 Germ layers and metazoan phylogeny	32
4.1.3 Dating early branchings	32
4.2 Metazoan phylogeny	33
4.2.1 Epitheliozoa and Eumetazoa	34
4.2.2 Radiata versus Bilateria? A problem of symmetry and body axes	34
4.2.3 Two versus three germ layers	43
4.2.4 A cnidarian–deuterostome connection?	44
4.2.5 The basal branches of the eumetazoan tree	45
4.3 The sponges: Silicea, Homoscleromorpha, and Calcarea	46
4.3.1 Sponge paraphyly	46
4.3.2 Hexactinellida	48
4.3.3 Homoscleromorpha	48
4.3.4 Calcarea	48
4.4 Placozoa	49
4.5 Ctenophora	50
4.6 Cnidaria	50
5 The entangled phylogeny of the Bilateria	53
5.1 The Bilateria	53
5.2 Urbilateria	56
5.3 The main branches	59
5.3.1 Nephrozoa	59
5.3.2 Protostomia	59
5.3.3 Platyzoa	59
5.3.4 Gnathifera	59
5.3.5 Spiralia=Trochozoa	59
5.3.6 Mesozoa	60
5.3.7 Lophotrochozoa	60
5.3.8 Eutrochozoa	61
5.3.9 Neotrochozoa	61
5.3.10 Ecdysozoa	61
5.3.11 Introverta=Cycloneuralia <i>sensu</i> Ahlrichs (1995)	65
5.3.12 Scalidophora=Cephalorhyncha	65
5.3.13 Vinciplicata	65
5.3.14 Nematoida	66
5.3.15 Panarthropoda	66
5.3.16 Deuterostomia	66
5.3.17 Ambulacraria	66
5.4 Other phylogenetic hypotheses	67
5.4.1 Acoelomorpha	67
5.4.2 Plathelminthomorpha	68

5.4.3 Cycloneuralia	68
5.4.4 Parenchymia	68
5.4.5 Vermizoa	68
5.4.6 Schizocoelia=Teloblastica	68
5.4.7 Lophophorata	69
5.4.8 Articulata	69
5.4.9 Cyrtotreta	70
6 A gallery of the major bilaterian clades	71
6.1 Acoela	71
6.2 Nemertodermatida	72
6.3 Gastrotricha	72
6.4 Micrognathozoa	73
6.5 Syndermata	73
6.6 Gnathostomulida	74
6.7 Catenulida and Rhabditophora	74
6.7.1 Catenulida	75
6.7.2 Rhabditophora	75
6.8 Cyclophora	75
6.9 Ectoprocta	76
6.10 Entoprocta	77
6.11 Orthonectida	78
6.12 Rhombozoa	78
6.13 Nemertea	78
6.14 Phoronozoa	78
6.15 Mollusca	79
6.16 Annelida	82
6.17 Sipuncula	86
6.18 Priapulida	86
6.19 Loricifera	87
6.20 Kinorhyncha	87
6.21 Nematoda	87
6.22 Nematomorpha	87
6.23 Tardigrada	88
6.24 Onychophora	88
6.25 Arthropoda	89
6.25.1 Cambrian arthropod-like animals and stem-group Euarthropoda	90
6.25.2 Problems with segments and eyes	91
6.25.3 Pycnogonida	93
6.25.4 The main arthropod clades	93
6.25.5 Pancrustacea=Tetraconata versus Paradoxopoda=Myriocheolata	94
6.25.6 Trilobita and Euthycarcinoida	96
6.25.7 Chelicerata	97

6.25.8	Myriapoda	97
6.25.9	Crustacea	98
6.25.10	Hexapoda	100
6.26	Chaetognatha	102
6.27	Xenoturbellida	103
6.28	Echinodermata	104
6.29	Hemichordata	104
6.30	Chordata	105
6.30.1	Cephalochordata	106
6.30.2	Urochordata	107
6.30.3	Vertebrata	107
7	The life cycle and its evolution	110
7.1	Cells and tissues	112
7.1.1	The cell as a building block of the animal body	112
7.1.2	Syncytia	113
7.1.3	Cell division	116
7.1.4	Apoptosis	117
7.1.5	Tissues	118
7.2	Reproduction and sexuality	119
7.2.1	Convergence and co-option	119
7.2.2	The one-cell bottleneck	122
7.2.3	Free cells, or unicellular metazoans	123
7.2.4	Asexual reproduction and regeneration	123
7.2.5	Gametes	127
7.3	Development	130
7.3.1	What is development?	130
7.3.2	Everything everywhere, or a principle of developmental inertia	133
7.3.3	Development for the development	135
7.3.4	Generic mechanisms of development	136
7.3.5	Parent-offspring competition and the developmental origins of individuality	139
7.3.6	Set-aside cells	141
7.3.7	The germ layers	142
7.3.8	Embryonic development	145
7.3.9	Growth	146
7.3.10	Morphogenesis and morphostasis	147
7.3.11	Fusion	149
7.4	The life cycle	150
7.4.1	Plasticity	152
7.4.2	Maximum life-cycle complexity	154
7.4.3	The life cycle as a unit of evolution	155
7.4.4	Periodization	157
7.4.5	The larva	160

7.5 Genes and animal development	166
7.5.1 Genotype–phenotype mapping	171
7.5.2 Developmental genes	175
7.5.3 Gene duplication, co-option, and paramorphism	180
8 The evolution of animal body architecture	184
8.1 The body	184
8.1.1 The main body axis	184
8.1.2 Symmetry	190
8.1.3 The ‘double animal’	192
8.1.4 From one to many axes: appendages and paramorphism	194
8.1.5 Segments	197
8.2 Organs	202
8.2.1 Organogenesis	202
8.2.2 Epithelia and epidermis	204
8.2.3 The cuticle	205
8.2.4 The nervous system	205
8.2.5 The digestive system	213
8.2.6 Body cavities	215
8.2.7 Respiratory organs	217
8.2.8 The circulatory system	218
8.2.9 The muscles	218
8.2.10 Skeletons and biomineralization	219
8.2.11 The excretory system and osmoregulatory devices	220
8.2.12 The immune system	222
8.2.13 Somatic structures involved in reproduction	222
9 The overall picture	223
9.1 Evolutionary novelties	224
9.1.1 Apomorphies versus innovations	224
9.1.2 Factoriality	225
9.1.3 Evolvability and constraints	226
9.2 Evolutionary trends	228
9.2.1 Evolutionary trends: facts or fiction?	228
9.2.2 Miniaturization	229
9.2.3 Ecological trends	232
9.3 Intercalary evolution	234
9.4 Patterned polyphenism	237
9.5 Hierarchies, or not	239
9.6 Summing up	241
References	245
Author index	311
Subject index	321