

Rationality as the Foundation of Life

Series: Fundamental Principles of eWo

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1 Introduction: In Search of the Origin of Life

Life is more than biochemical motion; it is the tendency of matter to sustain itself against entropy. Where disorder prevails, life creates structure. This capacity to preserve form, to choose optimal paths of survival, reveals rationality as the underlying mechanism of living systems.

2 Rationality as a Universal Principle of Evolution

Evolution is the progressive rationalization of matter. Cells form boundaries, metabolism optimizes exchange, and symbiosis transforms conflict into cooperation. Each evolutionary step reduces entropy by discovering more efficient configurations of energy and information.

3 Freedom of Choice as the Criterion of Life

Deterministic systems behave rationally but without choice. Life introduces deviation: plants turn to light, animals adapt strategies, humans act with meaning. Life is rationality endowed with the freedom to transcend inertia for the sake of self-preservation.

4 The Consolidation of Rationality: From Reflex to Consciousness

Rationality accumulates through evolution. Instinct is rationality rendered automatic; consciousness is rationality aware of itself. Each stage expands the domain of order, transforming reaction into reflection.

5 Rationality Against Entropy: Meaning as Stability

Life counters entropy through meaning—structure, coordination, coherence. Organisms, cultures, and knowledge embody the same drive: to organize energy and information into stable patterns. Higher rationality yields greater resilience.

6 Conclusion: Rationality as the Language of Evolution

Evolution is not chaos but the search for rational solutions encoded in matter. Consciousness extends this process, forming a bridge between biological and synthetic rationality. Rationality is the universe's language of self-organization, expressed through life.