

limit of selection???

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I've seen various lists dealing with "limits of selection"; reasons why natural selection would not result in perfect (or optimal) adaptation. (Dawkins, Mark Ridley, Mayr).

The following reason is, i believe, not in those lists:

because an adaptation is caused by its selection pressure, it can not escape its selection pressure.

Again:

The adaptation is linked to whatever selects it, it can not outperform it.

Again:

an example: a prey will never be able to definitely outperform its predator, because there is no selection beyond what's actually doing the selecting (the predator).

This link between selection and adaptation is, i believe, a big part of the reason why ecosystems don't fall apart, so it's important....