



From Aristotle to Modern Biological Classification



The Chaos of Biological Diversity



Instinctive Classification

Early civilizations grouped organisms based entirely on human utility—**food, shelter, and clothing**.

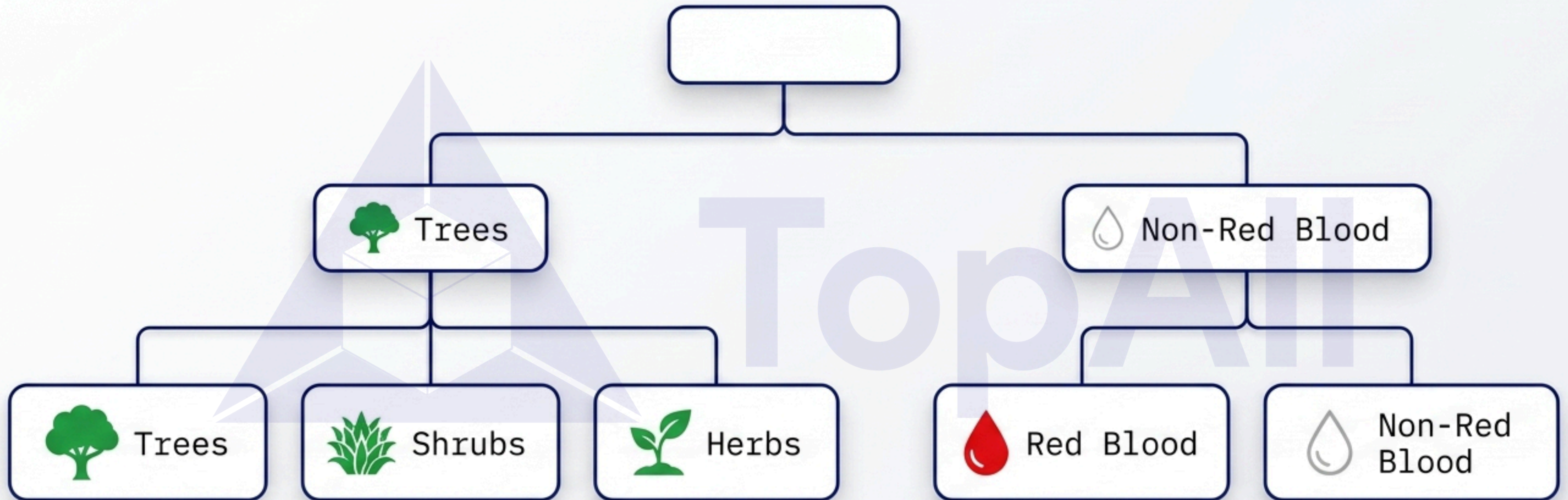


The Scientific Need

True biological study requires a **standardized, systematic framework** to navigate **millions of diverse organisms**.

Aristotle's Morphological Approach

The Earliest Scientific Basis



Relied entirely on simple, observable physical characteristics.



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$$E=mc^2$$



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Linnaeus' Two Kingdom System

Plantae

(Contains all known plants)

Animalia

(Contains all known animals)



Easy to understand, but ultimately incomplete. All known organisms were forced into these two rigid categories.

Why Two Kingdoms Failed

System Crash: A large number of organisms did not fall into either category.



Gap Analysis

Failed to distinguish cellular architecture:

Eukaryotes



Prokaryotes

Failed to distinguish cellular count:

Unicellular
e.g., Chlamydomonas



Multicellular
e.g., Spirogyra

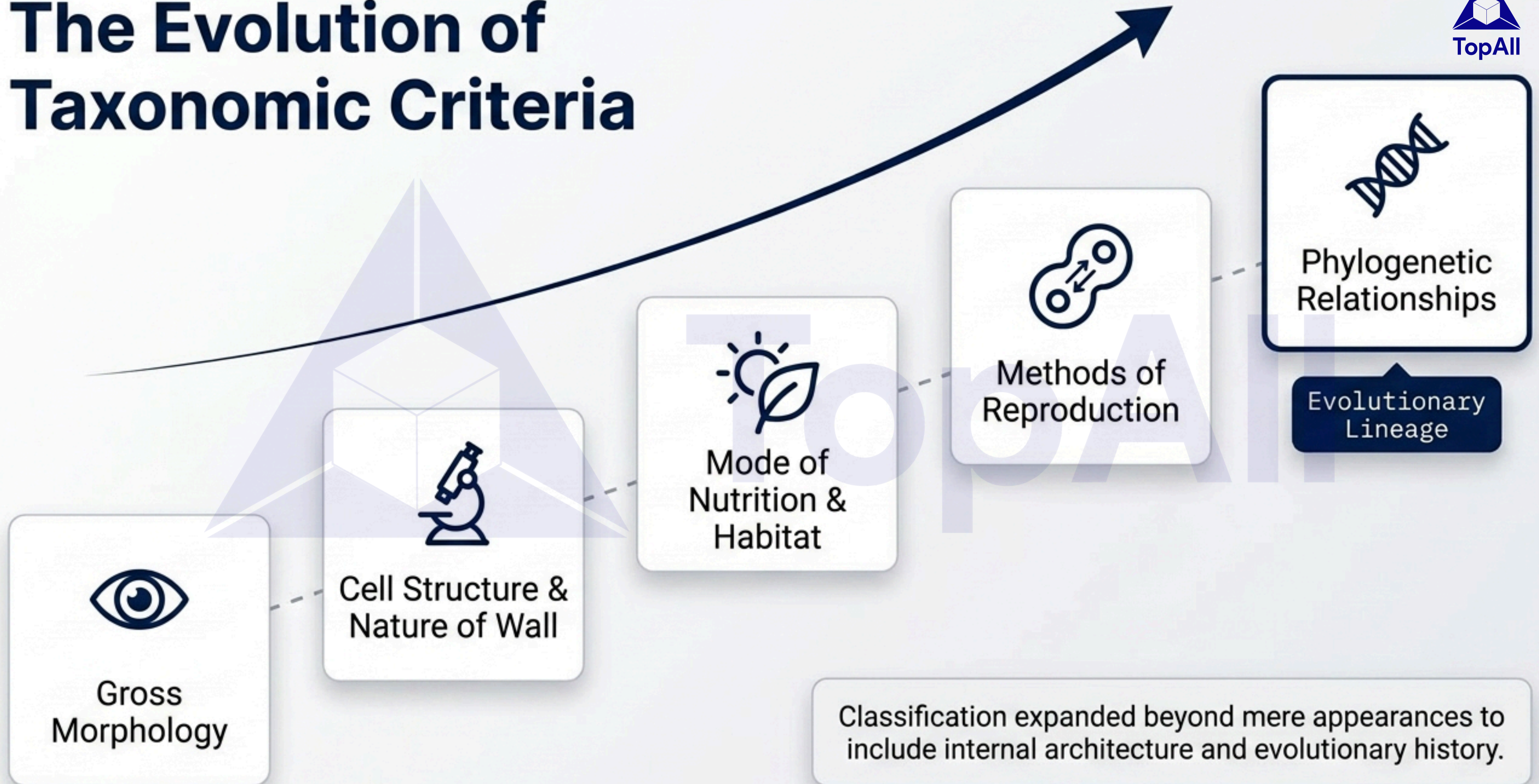
Failed to distinguish metabolic mode:

Photosynthetic
Green algae



Non-photosynthetic
Fungi

The Evolution of Taxonomic Criteria



Key Takeaways: The Evolution of Taxonomy



Classification is Dynamic

Systems changed continuously as scientific understanding and observational technologies improved.

Criteria Expanded

The basis of grouping evolved from simple outward morphology to complex, invisible phylogenetic relationships.

Kingdoms are Not Static

While Plantae and Animalia remained constant names, the understanding of exactly which organisms belong inside them fundamentally shifted.



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