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a comprehensive overview of earth s biosphere written with scientific rigor and essay like flair in his latest book vaclav smil tells the story of the earth s biosphere from its origins to its near and long term future he explains the workings of its parts and what is known about their interactions with essay like flair he examines the biosphere s physics chemistry biology geology oceanography energy climatology and ecology as well as the changes caused by human activity he provides both the basics of the story and surprising asides illustrating critical but often neglected aspects of biospheric complexity smil begins with a history of the modern idea of the biosphere focusing on the development of the concept by russian scientist vladimir vernadsky he explores the probability of life elsewhere in the universe life s evolution and metabolism and the biosphere s extent mass productivity and grand scale organization smil offers fresh approaches to such well known phenomena as solar radiation and plate tectonics and introduces lesser known topics such as the quarter power scaling of animal and plant metabolism across body sizes and metabolic pathways he also examines two sets of fundamental relationships that have profoundly influenced the evolution of life and the persistence of the biosphere symbiosis and the role of life s complexity as a determinant of biomass productivity and resilience and he voices concern about the future course of human caused global environmental change which could compromise the biosphere s integrity and threaten the survival of modern civilization

the biosphere which is also known as the ecosphere is the global sum of all ecosystems it can also be characterized as the closed system on earth which is the zone of life and a system which is largely self regulating earth s biosphere is an ecological system that integrates all living beings and their relationships it also includes their interactions with the elements of the lithosphere geosphere hydrosphere and atmosphere the biosphere is divided into a variety of biomes on the basis of latitudes all biomes are inhabited by diverse species of flora and fauna this book unravels the recent studies on the earth s biosphere it presents researches and studies performed by experts across the globe this book aims to

equip students and experts with the advanced topics and upcoming concepts in this area

this ambitious book considers social scientific topics such as identity community sexual difference self and ecology from a microbial perspective harnessing research and evidence from earth systems science and microbiology and particularly focusing on symbiosis and symbiogenesis the book argues for the development of a microontology of life

this book outlines the development and perspectives of the anthropocene concept by paul j crutzen and his colleagues from its inception to its implications for the sciences humanities society and politics the main text consists primarily of articles from peer reviewed scientific journals and other scholarly sources it comprises selected articles on the anthropocene published by paul j crutzen and a selection of related articles mostly but not exclusively by colleagues with whom he collaborated closely in the year 2000 nobel laureate paul j crutzen proposed the anthropocene concept as a new epoch in earth s history comprehensive collection of articles on the anthropocene by paul j crutzen and his colleagues unique primary research literature and crutzen s comprehensive bibliography paul crutzen s scientific investigations into human influences on atmospheric chemistry and physics the climate and the earth system leading to the conception of the anthropocene reflections on the anthropocene and its implications bibliometric review of the spread of the use of the anthropocene concept in the natural and social sciences humanities and law

the groundbreaking encyclopedia of ecology provides an authoritative and comprehensive coverage of the complete field of ecology from general to applied it includes over 500 detailed entries structured to provide the user with complete coverage of the core knowledge accessed as intuitively as possible and heavily cross referenced written by an international team of leading experts this revolutionary encyclopedia will serve as a one stop shop to concise stand alone articles to be used as a point of entry for undergraduate students or as a tool for active researchers looking for the latest information in the field entries cover a range of topics including behavioral ecology ecological processes ecological modeling ecological engineering ecological indicators ecological informatics ecosystems ecotoxicology evolutionary

ecology general ecology global ecology human ecology system ecology the first reference work to cover all aspects of ecology from basic to applied over 500 concise stand alone articles are written by prominent leaders in the field article text is supported by full color photos drawings tables and other visual material fully indexed and cross referenced with detailed references for further study writing level is suited to both the expert and non expert available electronically on sciencedirect shortly upon publication

the study of the biosphere the term biosphere first appeared in the works of the french biologist l b lamarck and the austrian geologist e suess in the 19th century in the 20th century the study of the biosphere attracted considerable attention largely due to the research of v i vernadsky 1863 1945 the results of vernadsky's investigations have appeared in a number of publications including the monograph the biosphere published in 1926 this work consists of two parts the biosphere in cosmos and the zone of life written in a form of speculation and reflection that is rarely used in modern studies this work concerns the distinguishing properties of the space occupied by organisms and the exceptional importance of the activities of these organisms in the formation of their environment in this and subsequent studies vernadsky has laid the foundations of the science of the biosphere which today plays an important role in the many branches of science concerned with the earth several terms have been suggested for the science of the biosphere including global ecology a discipline studying the global ecological system whose meaning is close to that of the biosphere one of the most prominent predecessors of vernadsky was his teacher v

astrobiology is a remarkably interdisciplinary field this reference serves as a key to understanding technical terms from the different subfields of astrobiology including astronomy biology chemistry the geosciences and the space sciences

hierarchic electrodynamics and free electron lasers concepts calculations and practical applications presents intriguing new fundamental concepts in the phenomenon of hierarchical electrodynamics as a new direction in physics concentrating on the key theory of hierarchic oscillations and waves this book focuses on the numerous applications of

nonlinear theory in different types of high current free electron lasers fel including their primary function in the calculation methods used to analyze various multi resonant multi frequency nonlinear fel models this is considered the first book to completely and systematically describe the foundation of hierarchical electrodynamics as a new direction of physics fully represent the physics of high current fel and associated models from the hierachic oscillation wave perspective cover the multi harmonic nonlinear theory of new types of electronic devices such as plasma beam and two stream fel formulate and substantiate the concept of cluster femtosecond fel analyze practical prospects for a new generation of a global star wars strategic defense systems these subjects involve a wide range of disciplines using numerous real world examples to illustrate information and concepts the book offers a mathematical foundation to explore fel applications as well as analyze hierachic plasma like electrodynamic systems and femto second clusters of electromagnetic energy assembling fragmented concepts from existing literature the author re examines classic approaches in order to develop new insights and achieve scientific breakthroughs

the description for this book earth s earliest biosphere its origin and evolution will be forthcoming

the authors of this book have studied the changes in the chemi cal composition of the atmosphere during geological history with regard to its close relationship to the evolution of the earth s sedimentary shell beginning in 1977 the initial results of this study have been published as articles and parts of several monographs since new material clarifying atmospheric evolution have been obtained recently the necessity has arisen to write a book treating the major results of investigations of the history of the atmosphere in this book much consideration is given to the interrelation between the evolution of animate nature and changes in atmospheric composition it proved be necessary to study the history of the two components of atmospheric air carbon dioxide and oxygen attempts have been made to repre sent quantitatively the conclusions drawn here i e to determine by calculation the changes in the amount of carbon dioxide and oxygen over much of the history of the atmosphere these calculations performed in most detail for the phanerozoic and to a lesser degree for the late precambrian are supplemented with estimates of changes in the chemical composition of the

atmosphere in the early precambrian comparisons have been drawn between the changes in the chemical composition of the atmosphere and the development of animate nature a close relationship being found to exist between the stages of the evolution of organisms and variations in the chemical composition of the atmosphere

vols for 1964 v 2 no 1 1965 include selected articles translated from geochemical papers from other languages but primarily from russian german french and japanese

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