



## Modeling Extinction (Paperback)

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By M. E. J. Newman, R.G. Palmer

Oxford University Press Inc, United States, 2003. Paperback.  
Book Condition: New. 232 x 156 mm. Language: English Brand  
New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Developed after a  
meeting at the Santa Fe Institute on extinction modeling, this  
book comments critically on the various modeling approaches.  
In the last decade or so, scientists have started to examine a new  
approach to the patterns of evolution and extinction in the fossil  
record. This approach may be called statistical paleontology,  
since it looks at large-scale patterns in the record and attempts  
to understand and model their average statistical features,  
rather than their detailed structure. Examples of the patterns  
these studies examine are the distribution of the sizes of mass  
extinction events over time, the distribution of species lifetimes,  
or the apparent increase in the number of species alive over the  
last half a billion years. In attempting to model these patterns,  
researchers have drawn on ideas not only from paleontology,  
but from evolutionary biology, ecology, physics, and applied  
mathematics, including fitness landscapes, competitive  
exclusion, interaction matrices, and self-organized criticality. A  
self-contained review of work in this field.



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