1. Record Nr. UNINA9910456544603321 Autore Wilson Malcolm <1961-> Titolo Aristotle's theory of the unity of science / / Malcolm Wilson Pubbl/distr/stampa Toronto, [Ontario];; Buffalo, [New York];; London, [England]:,: University of Toronto Press., 2000 ©2000 **ISBN** 1-4426-7099-1 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (286 p.) Phoenix Supplementary Volumes;;38 Collana Disciplina 185 Science - Philosophy Soggetti Science - Methodology Science, Ancient Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and indexes. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Abbreviations --Introduction -- 1. Genus, Abstraction, and Commensurability -- 2. Analogy in Aristotle's Biology -- 3. Analogy and Demonstration -- 4. The Structure of Focality -- 5. Metaphysical Focality -- 6. Mixed Uses of Analogy and Focality -- 7. Cumulation -- Bibliography -- Index Locorum -- General Index -- Backmatter Sommario/riassunto Aristotle was the first philosopher to provide a theory of autonomous scientific disciplines and the systematic connections between those disciplines. This book presents the first comprehensive treatment of these systematic connections: analogy, focality, and cumulation. Wilson appeals to these systematic connections in order to reconcile Aristotle's narrow theory of the subject-genus (described in the Posterior Analytics in terms of essential definitional connections among terms) with the more expansive conception found in Aristotle's scientific practice. These connections, all variations on the notion of abstraction, allow for the more expansive subject-genus, and in turn are based on concepts fundamental to the Posterior Analytics. Wilson thus treats the

connections in their relation to Aristotle's theory of science and shows how they arise from his doctrine of abstraction. The effect of the

argument is to place the connections, which are traditionally viewed as marginal, at the centre of Aristotle's theory of science. The scholarly work of the last decade has argued that the Posterior Analytics is essential for an understanding of Aristotle's scientific practice. Wilson's book, while grounded in this research, extends its discoveries to the problems of the conditions for the unity of scientific disciplines.