Record Nr. UNINA9910450325603321 Autore Ofek Haim <1936-> Titolo Second nature: economic origins of human evolution / / Haim Ofek [[electronic resource]] Cambridge:,: Cambridge University Press,, 2001 Pubbl/distr/stampa 1-107-11513-2 **ISBN** 1-280-41897-4 0-511-17484-5 0-511-01798-7 0-511-15493-3 0-511-32853-2 0-511-75493-0 0-511-05074-7 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (254 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) Disciplina 306.3/093 Soggetti Human evolution Economics, Prehistoric Commerce, Prehistoric **Economic history** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Monografia Livello bibliografico Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). Note generali Cover; Half -title; Title; Copyright; Contents; Acknowledgments; 1 Nota di contenuto Introduction: Part 1 Bioeconomics: Part 2 Paleoeconomics: References: Index Sommario/riassunto Was exchange an early agent of human evolution or is it merely an artefact of modern civilisation? Spanning two million years of human evolution, this book explores the impact of economics on human evolution and natural history. The theory of evolution by natural selection has always relied in part on progress in areas of science outside biology. By applying economic principles at the borderlines of biology, Haim Ofek shows how some of the outstanding issues in human evolution, such as the increase in human brain size and the

expansion of the environmental niche humans occupied, can be

answered. He identifies distinct economic forces at work, beginning with the transition from the feed-as-you-go strategy of primates, through hunter-gathering and the domestication of fire to the development of agriculture. This highly readable book will inform and intrigue general readers and those in fields such as evolutionary biology and psychology, economics, and anthropology.