

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910784740103321
Autore	Davis Lance Edwin
Titolo	In pursuit of Leviathan : technology, institutions, productivity, and profits in American whaling, 1816-1906 // Lance E. Davis, Robert E. Gallman, Karin Gleiter
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chicago : , : University of Chicago Press, , 1997
ISBN	1-281-22328-X 9786611223281 0-226-13790-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (566 pages) : illustrations
Collana	NBER series on long-term factors in economic development
Altri autori (Persone)	GallmanRobert E GleiterKarin
Disciplina	338.3/7295/097309034
Soggetti	Whaling - Economic aspects - United States Whaling - United States - History - 19th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 523-538) and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Preface -- 1. In Prospect -- 2. Whales and Whaling -- 3. Data Sets and Sources -- 4. Natural Resources -- 5. Labor -- 6. Capital -- 7. Technology -- 8. Productivity -- 9. Product Markets -- 10. Agents, Captains, and Owners -- 11. Profits -- 12. The Americans Replace the British -- 13. Modern Whaling -- 14. In Retrospect -- References -- Name Index -- Subject Index
Sommario/riassunto	In Pursuit of Leviathan traces the American whaling industry from its rise in the 1840's to its precipitous fall at the end of the nineteenth century. Using detailed and comprehensive data that describe more than four thousand whaling voyages from New Bedford, Massachusetts, the leading nineteenth-century whaling port, the authors explore the market for whale products, crew quality and labor contracts, and whale biology and distribution, and assess the productivity of the American fleet. They then examine new whaling techniques developed at the end of the nineteenth century, such as modified clippers and harpoons, and the introduction of darting guns. Despite the common belief that the whaling industry declined due to a fall in whale stocks, the authors argue that the industry's collapse was related to changes in technology

and market conditions. Providing a wealth of historical information, In Pursuit of Leviathan is a classic industry study that will provide intriguing reading for anyone interested in the history of whaling.
