

## ROBIN HANSON

is an associate professor of economics at George Mason University, and a research associate at the Future of Humanity Institute of Oxford University. Professor Hanson has master's degrees in physics and philosophy from the University of Chicago, nine years' experience in artificial intelligence research at Lockheed and N.A.S.A., a doctorate in social science from California Institute of Technology, 3050 citations, and sixty academic publications.

"Robin Hanson brings intelligence, imagination, and courage to some of the most profound questions humanity will be dealing with in the middle-term future. *The Age of Em* is a stimulating and unique book that will be valuable to anyone who wants to look past the next ten years to the next hundred and the next thousand."

SEAN CARROLL, Professor of Physics, California Institute of Technology, author of The Big Pictur

"What happens when a first-rate economist applies his rigor, breadth, and curiosity to the sci-fi topic of whole brain emulations? This book is what happens. There's nothing else like it, and it will blow your (current) mind."

ANDREW McAFEE, Professor of Business, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

"A highly provocative vision of a technologically advanced future that may or may not come true—but if it does, we'll be glad Robin wrote this book."

MARC ANDREESSEN, cofounder Netscape, Andreessen Horowitz

"In this brilliant analysis, Robin Hanson shows that our hyper-smart 'downloaded'—or emulated—heirs will still have ambitions, triumphs and thwarted desires. They'll make alliances, compete, cooperate... and very-likely love... all driven by immutable laws of nature and economics. Super intelligence may be a lot more like us than you imagined." DAVID BRIN, two times *Hugo* award winner

emulation is widespread. Drawing on physics, economics, sociology, history, and a host of other disciplines, he describes a world that is wonderfully strange and yet strikingly familiar. Far out? Yes. Fascinating? That too."

HAL VARIAN, chief economist Google, Emeritus Professor of Economics, U.C. Berkeley

"A fascinating thought experiment about the future, written with clarity and verve by somebody who thinks very deeply and freely."

MATT RIDLEY, columnist The Times

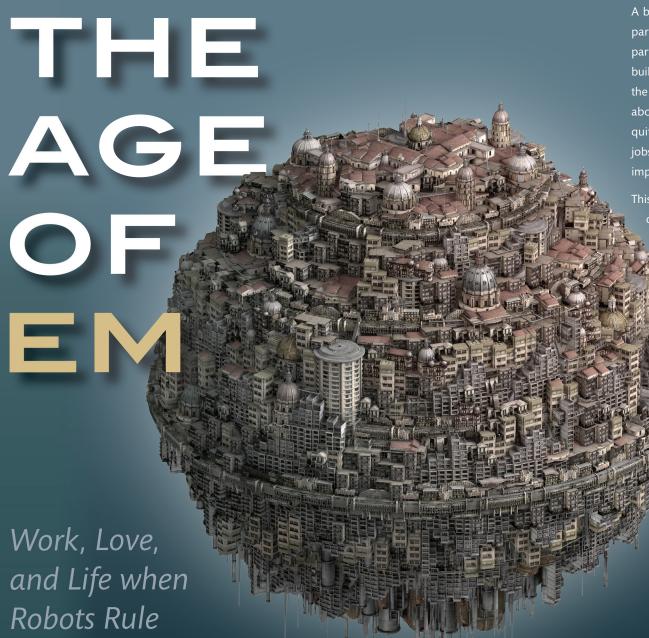
"Robin Hanson provides a richly detailed portrait of a future society where brain

HANSON

Ц

the Earth

## ROBIN HANSON



A brain emulation, or "em," results from taking a particular human brain, scanning it to record its particular cell features and connections, and then building a computer model that processes signals in the same way. Ems will probably be feasible within about a hundred years. They are psychologically quite human, and could displace humans in most jobs. If fully utilized, ems could have a monumental impact on all areas of life on Earth.

This book shows you just how strange our electronic descendants may be. Read about changes in computer architecture, energy use, mind speeds, body sizes, security strategies, virtual reality, labor market organization, management focus, job training, career paths, wage competition, identity, status relations, co-worker and friend relations, aging, retirement, death, life cycles, reproduction, mating, conversation habits, wealth inequality, city sizes, cooling infrastructure, growth rates, coalition politics, governance, law, and war.

Ambitious and encyclopedic in scope, The Age of Em offers a completely unique window into our future. A must read for those curious about the technological destiny of our planet.

Jacket artwork: "Habitat" by Till Nowak, www.framebox.com.