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Titolo	The historical evolution of world-systems [[electronic resource] /] / edited by Christopher Chase-Dunn and E.N. Anderson
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Altri autori (Persone)	Chase-DunnChristopher K AndersonEugene N <1941-> (Eugene Newton)
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Nota di contenuto	Cover; Contents; List of Tables and Figures; About the Authors; Preface; One: The Rise and Fall of Great Powers; Two: Eurasian C-Wave Crises in the First Millennium B.C.; Three: From Harappa to Mesopotamia and Egypt to Mycenae: Dark Ages, Political-Economic Declines, and Environmental/Climatic Changes 2200 B.C.-700 B.C.; Four: Power is in the Details: Administrative Technology and the Growth of Ancient Near Eastern Cores; Five: Power and Size: Urbanization and Empire Formation in World-Systems Since the Bronze Age Six: Lamb, Rice, and Hegemonic Decline: The Mongol Empire in the Fourteenth Century Seven: The Rise of European Hegemony: The Political Economy of South Asia and Europe Compared, A.D. 1200-A.D. 1500; Eight: Contentious Peasants, Paternalist State, and Arrested Capitalism in China's Long Eighteenth Century; Nine: Space, Matter, and Technology in Globalization of the Past and Future; Index
Sommario/riassunto	The rise and decline of great powers remains a fascinating topic of vigorous debate. This book brings together leading scholars to explore the historical evolution of world systems through examining the ebb and flow of great powers over time, with particular emphasis on early

time periods. The book advances understanding of the regularities in the dynamics of empire and the expansion of political, social and economic interaction networks, from the Bronze Age forward. The authors analyze the expansion and contraction of cross-cultural trade networks and systems of competing and allying political groupings. In premodern times, theses ranged from small local trading networks (even the very small ones of hunting-gathering peoples) to the vast Mongol world-system. Within such systems, there is usually one, or a very few, hegemonic powers. How they achieve dominance and how transitions lead to systems change are important topics, particularly at a time when the United States' position is in flux. The chapters in this book review several recent approaches and present a wealth of new findings.
