1. Record Nr. UNINA9910818013203321 Autore Field Alexander J Titolo A great leap forward: 1930s Depression and U.S. economic growth // Alexander J. Field Pubbl/distr/stampa New Haven, : Yale University Press, c2011 **ISBN** 1-283-09622-6 9786613096227 0-300-16875-6 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource Yale series in economic and financial history Collana Disciplina 330.973/0917 Depressions - 1929 - United States Soggetti United States Economic conditions 1918-1945 United States Economic conditions 20th century Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- Introduction -- 1. The Most Technologically Progressive Decade of the Century -- 2. The Interwar Years -- 3. The Second World War -- 4. The Golden Age and Beyond --5. The Information Technology Boom -- 6. Fin De Siècle: The Late Nineteenth Century in the Mirror of the Twentieth -- 7. Procyclical TFP -- 8. The Equipment Hypothesis -- 9. General-Purpose Technologies -- 10. Financial Fragility and Recovery -- 11. Uncontrolled Land Development and the Duration of the Depression -- 12. Do Economic Downturns Have A Silver Lining? -- Epilogue -- Appendix: A Brief Description of Growth Accounting Methods -- Notes -- Bibliography --Index Sommario/riassunto This bold re-examination of the history of U.S. economic growth is built around a novel claim, that productive capacity grew dramatically across the Depression years (1929-1941) and that this advance provided the foundation for the economic and military success of the United States during the Second World War as well as for the golden age (1948-1973) that followed. Alexander J. Field takes a fresh look at growth data and concludes that, behind a backdrop of double-digit

unemployment, the 1930's actually experienced very high rates of

technological and organizational innovation, fueled by the maturing of a privately funded research and development system and the government-funded build-out of the country's surface road infrastructure. This significant new volume in the Yale Series in Economic and Financial History invites new discussion of the causes and consequences of productivity growth over the last century and a half and on our current prospects.