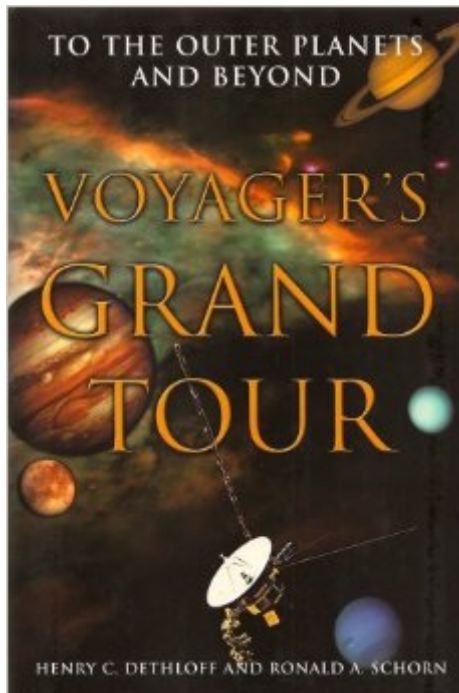


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Voyager's Grand Tour: To The Outer Planets And Beyond



Synopsis

Voyager 1 and Voyager 2 were launched in 1977. Since then they have traveled farther than any human object. Voyager 1 is now over 10 billion miles from the sun and is headed to the utmost boundary of our solar system. This book originally published under the auspices of the Smithsonian Institution tells the story of their journey through the solar system and beyond. The authors unparalleled access to NASA archives and imagery make this authoritative work on the subject. The book includes an 8 pages of photographs and computer generated imagery and black and white photos throughout.

Book Information

Hardcover: 292 pages

Publisher: Konecky & Konecky; No Additional Printings Listed edition (March 9, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1568527152

ISBN-13: 978-1568527154

Product Dimensions: 8.9 x 6.3 x 1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,140,019 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #99 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Astronomy & Space Science > Solar System

Customer Reviews

"Voyager's Grand Tour: To the Outer Planets and Beyond," is an excellent book that tells the fascinating story of an overwhelmingly significant pair of probes that went to the outer planets of the Solar System, one of which is still providing scientific data as it reaches our heliopause. The Voyager project was one of the most important in the history of NASA and the first to visit the outer planets of Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. It originated during the early 1960s when astronomers realized that once every 176 years both the Earth and all the giant planets of the Solar System gather on one side of the Sun. This geometric line-up made possible close up observation of all the planets in the outer solar system (with the exception of Pluto) in a single flight, the "Grand Tour." The flyby of each planet would bend the spacecraft's flight path and increase its velocity enough to deliver it to the next destination. This would occur through a complicated process known as "gravity assist," something like a slingshot effect, whereby the flight time to Neptune could be reduced from 30 to 12 years. NASA launched these missions from Cape Canaveral, Florida: Voyager 2 lifting off

on August 20, 1977, with Voyager 1 entered space on a faster, shorter trajectory on September 5, 1977. These spacecraft would take a spectacular windshield tour of the outer Solar System gas giant planets. The scientific results of the Voyager mission were astounding, essentially rewriting the textbooks on the Solar System. Over a period of more than a decade the probes explored all the giant outer planets, 48 of their moons, and the unique systems of rings and magnetic fields that those planets possess.

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