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Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	The early history of space flight -- Rockets and propulsion -- Planets -- Orbits -- Military space operations -- Mercury -- Gemini -- Apollo -- Space stations -- The space shuttle -- Spacecraft systems -- Russian space history.
Sommario/riassunto	This book offers a comprehensive look at the history of space exploration, the technology that makes it possible, and the continued efforts that promise to carry us into the future. It goes through the history of space exploration, from the earliest sub-orbital and orbital missions to today's deep-space probes, to provide a close look at past and present projects, then turns its attention to programs being planned today and to the significance of future exploration. Both the novice and the advanced student of space exploration stand to profit from the author's engaging and insightful discussio