

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910953850503321
Titolo	Space science in the twenty-first century : imperatives for the decades 1995 to 2015 : report of the study steering group / / Space Science Board, Commission on Physical Sciences, Mathematics, and Resources, National Research Council
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Washington, D.C., : National Academy Press, 1988
ISBN	1-280-21485-6 9786610214853 0-309-59474-X 0-585-08584-6
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (149 p.)
Disciplina	520
Soggetti	Space sciences Astronomy Cosmic physics Space biology Planets - Exploration Relativity (Physics)
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Support for this project was provided by Contract NASW-3482 between the National Academy of Sciences and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
Nota di contenuto	Space Science in the Twenty-First Century: Imperatives for the Decades 1995 To 2015 -- Copyright -- Foreword -- Contents -- 1 Introduction -- 2 Scientific Objectives -- SOLAR PHYSICS -- PHYSICS OF THE HELIOSPHERE -- MAGNETOSPHERIC PHYSICS -- UPPER ATMOSPHERIC PHYSICS -- SOLAR-TERRESTRIAL COUPLING -- COMPARATIVE PLANETARY STUDIES -- 3 Status Expected in 1995 -- SOLAR AND HELIOSPHERIC PHYSICS -- MAGNETOSPHERIC PHYSICS -- Sources of Plasma -- Sources of Power -- Generation of Plasma Waves and Radio Emissions -- The Terrestrial Magnetosphere as a System -- Solar-Terrestrial Research -- UPPER ATMOSPHERE SCIENCE -- Global Electric Circuit -- PLANETARY SPACE PHYSICS -- Interaction with

Unmagnetized, Atmosphereless Bodies -- Deflection by Planetary  
 Magnetospheres -- Plasma-Atmosphere Interactions -- SUMMARY -- 4  
 New Initiatives: 1995 to 2015 -- SOLAR AND HELIOSPHERIC PHYSICS --  
 Local Measurements in the Solar Atmosphere -- High-Latitude Solar  
 Studies -- Outer Coronal Physics -- 1-AU Observing Network --  
 Additional Solar and Heliospheric Studies -- Interstellar Probe --  
 Scientific Measurements -- TERRESTRIAL MAGNETOSPHERIC PHYSICS --  
 Imaging of the Earth's Magnetosphere -- Plasma-Dust Interactions --  
 Active Experiments: Gas-Plasma Interactions -- Injections of Plasma  
 Waves and Particle Beams -- TERRESTRIAL ATMOSPHERIC PHYSICS --  
 Upper Atmosphere Science -- Space Station Atmospheric Studies --  
 Global Current Missions -- PLANETARY SCIENCE -- Mars's Aeronomy  
 and Magnetosphere -- Mercury's Magnetosphere -- Jupiter's  
 Ionosphere/Magnetosphere and Tail -- SUMMARY OF TECHNOLOGY  
 DEVELOPMENT NEEDS -- 5 Summary of Technology Development  
 Needs -- SOLAR AND HELIOSPHERIC -- MAGNETOSPHERIC PHYSICS --  
 Appendixes -- Appendix A Workshop on Imaging of the Earth's  
 Magnetosphere -- Workshop Participants -- Contents -- A.1  
 Introduction.  
 A.2 Imaging of the Auroral Oval: Present Status and Future Needs -- A.  
 3 Prospects for Extreme Ultraviolet Imaging of Plasma in the  
 Magnetosphere -- Plasmaspheric and Magnetospheric Boundaries --  
 Locations for Observing Stations -- Lidar -- A.4 Prospects for Neutral  
 Particle Imaging of Planetary Magnetospheres -- Background --  
 Expected Results -- A.5 Conclusions and Recommendations --  
 Appendix B Excerpts from the Final Report of the Jupiter Polar Orbiter  
 Workshop -- B.1 Motivation, Goals, and Conclusions and  
 Recommendations -- Major Conclusion -- Major Recommendations --  
 B.2 Mission Design Options: Orbits, Lifetimes, and Science Capabilities  
 -- B.3 Science Issues -- Introduction -- Io and Europa -- Io's  
 Aeronomy -- Io-Torus Coupling -- High-Energy Particles -- Sources  
 -- Acceleration -- Precipitation, Aurora, and the Stably Trapped Limit  
 -- Satellite Sweeping Signatures -- Io and Its Torus -- Inner Zone --  
 Radio Astronomy -- Rings -- Jovian Aeronomy -- Jovian Atmosphere  
 -- Jupiter's Interior-Magnetic Field -- Jovian Interior: Gravitational Field  
 -- B.4 Conclusions and Recommendations -- Scientific Justification --  
 Mission Design Feasibility -- Major Measurement Objectives (Moving  
 from Outermost to Innermost) -- Instrument Requirements --  
 Recommendations -- Appendix: List of Participants -- Workshop  
 Organizers -- Workshop Sponsors -- JPO Workshop Participants and  
 Post-Workshop Contributors -- Appendix C Excerpts from the Draft  
 Report of the Workshop on Plasma Physics Research on the Space  
 Station -- Plasma Processes Laboratory -- Appendix D Probing  
 Fundamental Astrophysical Scales with High-Resolution Observations  
 of the Sun: Prospects for the... -- Introduction -- The Role of Small-  
 Scale Processes in the Solar Atmosphere -- Examples on the Sun of  
 Small-Scale Processes of Astrophysical Importance.  
 Atmospheric Dynamics and Magnetic Fields on Small Spatial Scales --  
 Fine Structure and Dynamics of Flares -- Plasma Heating and  
 Microflares -- Observational Considerations -- High-Resolution  
 Imaging in the EUV -- Detectors -- Multilayer Coatings for Normal  
 Incidence Optics -- High-Resolution Imaging -- Spectroscopy and  
 Spectroscopic Imaging -- Glancing Incidence Optics -- Primary Figure  
 Correction and Control -- Resolution Enhancement Techniques --  
 Aperture Synthesis (AS) -- Speckle Imaging -- Deconvolution --  
 Interferometry -- Pointing Systems -- Siting -- Near-Sun Orbit --  
 Heliosynchronous Orbit -- Lunar Basing -- Solar Orbit at 1 AU -- Earth  
 Orbit-Free Flyer -- Manned Vehicles-Space Shuttle -- Space Station --

Prospects and Limitations of Ground-Based observations -- Radio Interferometry -- High-Angular-Resolution Optical Imaging from the Ground -- Long-Baseline Optical Interferometry -- Summary and Conclusions -- Appendix: List of Participants.

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## Sommario/riassunto

From the interior of the Sun, to the upper atmosphere and near-space environment of Earth, and outward to a region far beyond Pluto where the Sun's influence wanes, advances during the past decade in space physics and solar physics--the disciplines NASA refers to as heliophysics--have yielded spectacular insights into the phenomena that affect our home in space. Solar and Space Physics, from the National Research Council's (NRC's) Committee for a Decadal Strategy in Solar and Space Physics, is the second NRC decadal survey in heliophysics. Building on the research accomplishments realized during the past decade, the report presents a program of basic and applied research for the period 2013-2022 that will improve scientific understanding of the mechanisms that drive the Sun's activity and the fundamental physical processes underlying near-Earth plasma dynamics, determine the physical interactions of Earth's atmospheric layers in the context of the connected Sun-Earth system, and enhance greatly the capability to provide realistic and specific forecasts of Earth's space environment that will better serve the needs of society. Although the recommended program is directed primarily at NASA and the National Science Foundation for action, the report also recommends actions by other federal agencies, especially the parts of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration charged with the day-to-day (operational) forecast of space weather. In addition to the recommendations included in this summary, related recommendations are presented in this report.

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