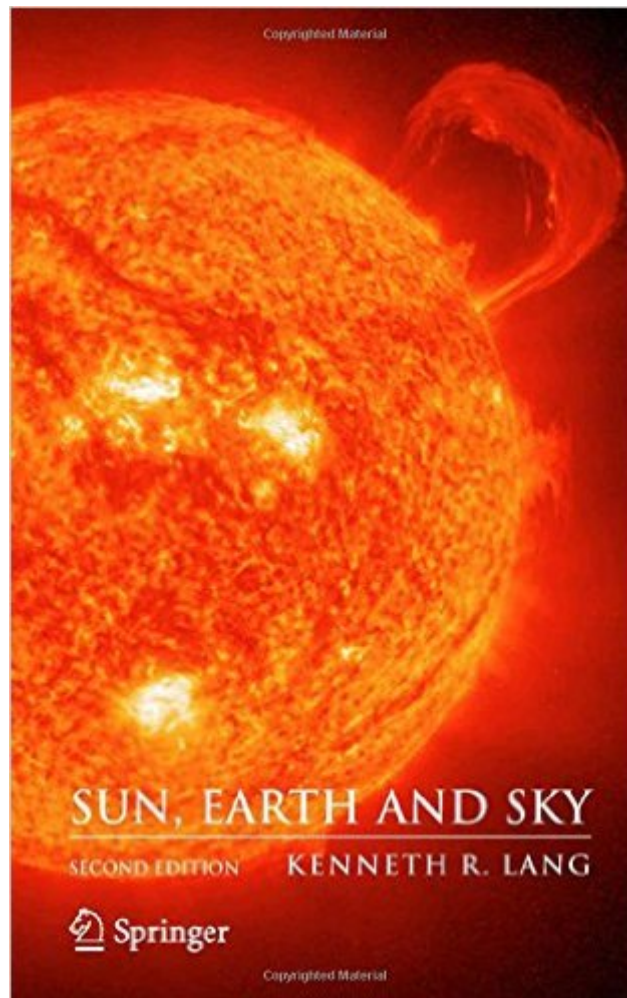


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Sun, Earth And Sky



Synopsis

Written in a light and friendly style, this lavishly illustrated book introduces the Sun and its physics, and describes all aspects of the Sun's interaction with us on Earth. The second edition of this book updates the popular text by providing comprehensive accounts of the most recent discoveries made by five modern solar spacecraft during the past decade. It contains a number of images never before seen in print. Breakthrough observations with the underground Sudbury Neutrino Observatory are also included. The new edition further provides modern interpretations of ozone depletion and global warming.

Book Information

Hardcover: 284 pages

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Customer Reviews

Celebrate Sun-Earth Day on March 18th by reading this very accessible and beautiful book by Tufts University Astronomy Professor Kenneth R. Lang. (Science teachers if you're not already familiar with Sun-Earth Day, check out NASA's website at sunearth.gsfc.nasa.gov. The theme this year is 'Live from the Aurora'). A relatively small-scale transient event on our Sun could mean life or death on Earth. "Sun, Earth and Sky" will teach you about sunspots, solar flares, and coronal mass ejections: chunks of the Sun's outer atmosphere that blow off into space and can strike the Earth, causing aurorae and disrupting power grids and satellite communications. We humans actually live within the Sun's atmosphere, so it should come as no surprise that this medium-size star plays a dominant role in our lives. One of this book's main themes, as can be guessed from its title, is the interaction between the Sun and the Earth's atmosphere through radiation and high-energy

particles. As with all astronomy texts, "Sun, Earth and Sky" went out-of-date immediately after publication in 1995 and does not contain recent discoveries such as solar tornadoes (first imaged by SOHO in 1998), the Solar Max 2000 research, or the data from RHESSI (Reuven Ramaty High Energy Solar Spectroscopic Imager) space probe, launched in early 2002. However, that's no excuse not to read this book. I originally bought it to learn more about the interaction between solar flares and the Earth's magnetosphere (very lucidly explained), but soon found myself leafing through it just to look at the beautiful pictures (133 including 61 in color). Dr. Lang starts out by describing the Sun as a cosmic laboratory--a site to test physical theories under conditions not readily attainable on Earth. He proceeds painlessly, i.e.

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