The Case Has Been Made for Uranus

• The Uranus system is incredibly exciting, and offers a rich trove of science. Most of our knowledge is still from the 1986 Voyager flyby, and it’s time to revisit the system, using a long-lived orbiter, with modern instrumentation, to place Uranus in the context of what we know about the rest of the solar system, and exoplanets.

• Uranus Orbiter with Probe (UOP) addresses a diverse range of science. The science case has been made, and the mission has broad support from the community, the Decadal, NASA, and the Administration.

• The Decadal and numerous previous studies have found that the broad UOP approach is mature:
  • Flagship-class mission
  • An orbiter plus a single atmospheric entry probe
  • Investigations targeted toward the Uranus system -- including atmosphere, magnetosphere, satellites, and rings/dust.
The FY25 Presidential budget request includes a plan for NASA to start the UOP mission in FY27.

**Planetary Decadal Future**

The most recent Planetary Science Decadal Survey recommended a Uranus Orbiter and Probe as the highest priority flagship mission to begin this decade. NASA intends to begin formulation studies in FY 2027 to define the science objectives and explore potential mission architectures. NASA will use the results of these studies to inform future decisions and planning.
NASA’s Plans for Uranus Flagship

• NASA has received input from representatives from three centers (JPL, APL, GSFC). NASA is not ready to identify a lead center, partnering opportunities, or an acquisition strategy.
  • NASA has had early-stage talks with ESA about broad approaches to collaboration on a mission.
  • It is possible that NASA may select a portion of the science team in the near future (details TBD).
  • NASA is creating a plan for studies to explore mission scope as well specific technical trades.
NASA looks forward to the valuable input from this workshop!