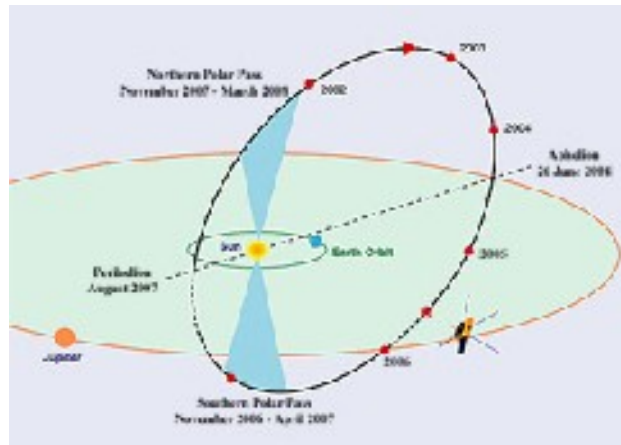


Bigger Picture 3



The paper below relates to my “Bigger Picture 1” in which I highlighted the launch of the Ulysses satellite, the first to orbit the sun from a polar orbit. The sun's poles had been observed by Ulysses in 1994/95 and 2000/1 but on this occasion it's at maximum latitude, 204 million miles beneath the south pole. Enjoy the article.

[Http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2007/07feb_southpole.htm?list887279](http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2007/07feb_southpole.htm?list887279)

Talking of satellites, Stereo A and B are now in their correct orbits and will shortly be sending the first data and pictures of the sun to JPL/NASA.

Stereo was launched on the 25th October 2006 on board a Delta 11 launch vehicle. On the 1st December 2006, on the second lunar swingby, Stereo A was placed in position ahead of the earth. With the third lunar swingby on the 21st January 2007 Stereo B was on station behind the earth.

Their separation in orbit is 45 degrees, which we are told, equates to a 3D image. So we should be seeing the first results in April with some impressions of depth to the pictures.

Alan Buck