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COVER

False-color image of Venus at 2068 angstroms. Image was obtained by the University of Colorado's ultraviolet spectrometer experiment on the Pioneer Venus orbiter, 4 January 1979 (orbit 31). Yellow represents the brightest regions, blue the darkest. Venus's spin axis is tilted 30° toward the observer, with the north pole on the terminator at the top center. The markings are due to variations in the structure of Venus's cloud tops and in the distribution of sulfur dioxide in the atmosphere. See page 777.