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PIONEER-10: THE NEXT 862,000 YEARS -- Schematic drawing of the flight path of America's Pioneer-10 shows its closest approach to 10 stars. Each increment on the path represents 50 million million kilometers. Time in passing each star is measured since the launching of the spacecraft from Florida in 1972. The stars are: 1) Proxima Centauri in 26,135 years, 2) Ross 248 in 32,610 years, 3) Lamda Serpens in 173,227 years, 4) G 96 in 219,532 years, 5) Altair in 227,075 years, 6) G 181 in 292,472 years, 7) G 638 in 351,333 years, 8) D+19 5036 in 423,291 years, 9) G 172.1 in 847,919 years, and 10) D+25 1469 in 862,075 years. Distances of the stars from the flight path are distorted.

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