

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	ix
<i>Symbols</i>	xi
<i>Numerical values</i>	xv
1. Introduction	1
2. Observations of the Galaxy	20
3. Properties of external galaxies	52
4. Stellar dynamics	89
5. Masses of galaxies	110
6. The interstellar medium in our Galaxy	128
7. The chemical evolution of galaxies	147
8. Galaxies and the Universe	172
9. Concluding remarks	192
Appendix 1. Some factors influencing stellar spectra	197
Appendix 2. The Virial Theorem	199
Appendix 3. Gravitational fields due to spheres and ellipsoids	202
<i>Suggestions for further reading</i>	204
<i>Index</i>	206