

AGN jets and the apparent superluminal motion of jet particles proceeds from the aberration of starlight, a phenomenon that is familiar to observers.

A great contribution of the book is its clear description of the many types of AGNs. Both the text and an appendix set out the defining features of the multiple and often overlapping classifications astronomers use. Despite the common underlying nature of AGN activity as described in unified models, differences in intensity and viewing geometry lead to a variety of observational characteristics. A central feature of the models is the presence of a toroidal distribution of dust in the nuclear region. Although the text makes it clear that differing views relative to the torus are responsible for many of the observational distinctions, the corresponding figures erroneously suggest that the torus is necessarily aligned with the disk of the host galaxy.

Overall, the text is direct. A few stories of key episodes in understanding galaxies reveal the path of scientific discovery. For example, the book's first chapter tells of Edwin Hubble's confirmation that there exist galaxies outside the Milky Way. Unfortunately, the development of main ideas is sometimes lost when the straightforward writing becomes choppy. Even before the reader has learned the significance of Hubble's discovery, the text is diverted for a seven-page box on spectroscopy. More significantly, the connections between chapters are often weak. For example, some outstanding problems in the field are identified, but with no indication of likely solutions. Other chapters, though, describe recent developments that may answer those very questions. The book's coherence would be further strengthened if the author more deeply explored the relationship between starburst and accretion activity, a subject occasionally hinted at in the text.

The scarcity of equations is intentional, but a few more would be helpful, particularly for use in a college course—even one geared toward non-scientists. Equations could succinctly describe the quantitative information that is listed in tables, such as the aberration angle as a function of velocity or the Schwarzschild radius as a function of black hole mass. The topics covered are of interest to students, and to the best of my knowledge, no other book provides a similar focus at a comparable level. Although the concepts may be familiar to amateur observers, university students need an explicit introduction to angular sizes and the relation-

ships between angular and physical dimensions.

AGNs and starbursts are areas of vigorous ongoing research, and Kitchin's book contains current results. Many controversies and questions, however, are not yet resolved conclusively, so more information about the latest work would be useful. In a general-interest book, references to professional publications are not necessarily appropriate, but identifying the key researchers by name would allow the reader to keep up with their results. Graduate students are not Kitchin's intended audience, but with the addition

of specific supplemental references, *Galaxies in Turmoil* would make an excellent introduction for beginning research students.

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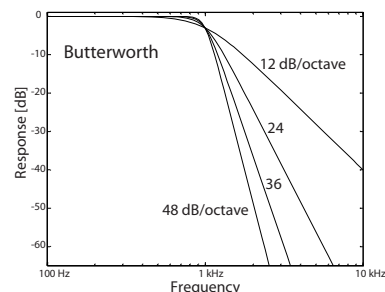
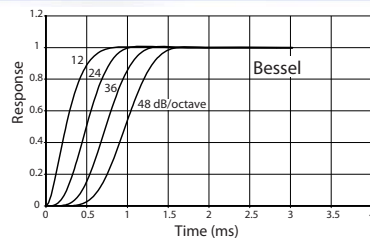


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