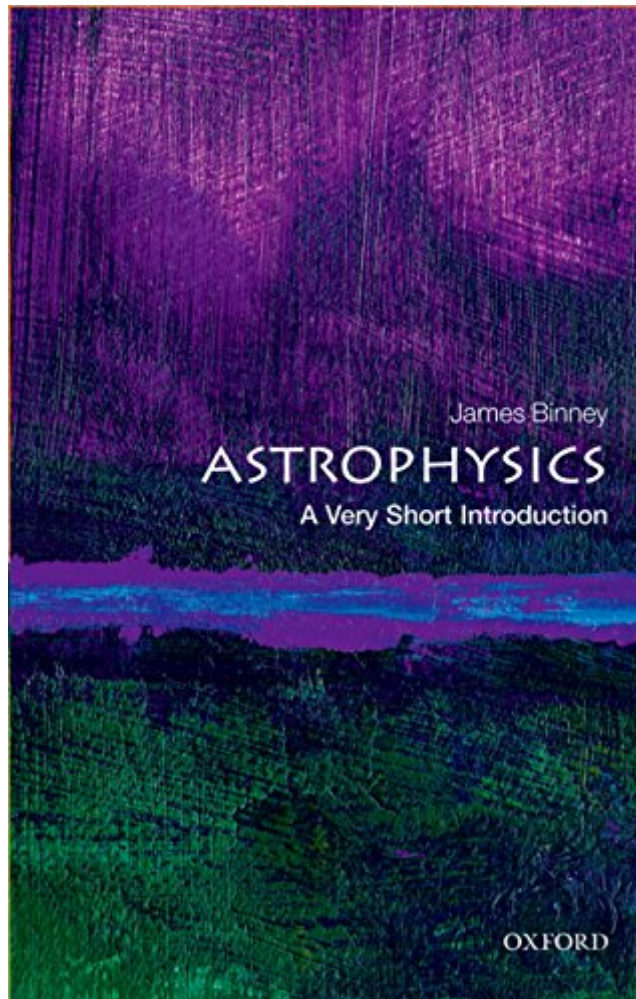


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Astrophysics: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)



Synopsis

Astrophysics is the physics of the stars, and more widely the physics of the Universe. It enables us to understand the structure and evolution of planetary systems, stars, galaxies, interstellar gas, and the cosmos as a whole. In this Very Short Introduction, the leading astrophysicist James Binney shows how the field of astrophysics has expanded rapidly in the past century, with vast quantities of data gathered by telescopes exploiting all parts of the electromagnetic spectrum, combined with the rapid advance of computing power, which has allowed increasingly effective mathematical modelling. He illustrates how the application of fundamental principles of physics - the consideration of energy and mass, and momentum - and the two pillars of relativity and quantum mechanics, has provided insights into phenomena ranging from rapidly spinning millisecond pulsars to the collision of giant spiral galaxies. This is a clear, rigorous introduction to astrophysics for those keen to cut their teeth on a conceptual treatment involving some mathematics. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable

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There are so many good insights woven across each chapter. It's like a feast of understanding of stars, interstellar medium, and galaxies. Just the right mixture of data and equations that someone looking for more than an introduction to Astronomy will love. Nothing but praise for the author, who clearly explains each topic and how they relate to our current understanding of stellar evolution, galaxies, and the universe. If you are interested in Astronomy, and want more than just introductions, buy this, and read it. The author does a great job of sharing his deep understandings of the topic, so that even a lay person can understand. Well worth the journey!

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