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Book Review: 3-D Atlas of Stars and Galaxies

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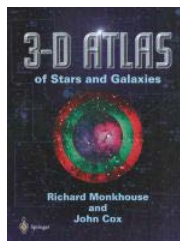
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3-D atlas of stars and galaxies



[Monkhouse, Richard.](#) by Richard Monkhouse and John Cox Springer, 2000

95p, 1-85233-189-5 \$42.00

LC Call Number: [QB65](#)

Monkhouse (Univ. of London) and Cox (Univ. of Cambridge, UK) offer three full-sky map sets in red-green stereographic form: Local Space (out to about 25 parsecs), Regional Space (naked-eye stars), and Distant Space (more than 20,000 galaxies). The maps are derived from the latest Hipparcos satellite data and other resources. Most people will find it difficult to focus on at least some of the images. Users should also note that the authors have chosen a severely compressed distance scale to accommodate the eye's close-up focusing ability. In addition, nearby stars are rendered with larger dots than distant stars rather than keyed to brightness and star color. These choices result in views that are not true representations of the sky. The atlas will appeal to the curiosity rather than the practical needs of the amateur astronomer, its intended audience. It does not contain much useful tabular or textual information, nor are its maps of comparable utility to those in classic references such as *Norton's Star Atlas* (17th ed., 1978). It does provide a valuable, though limited, three-dimensional glimpse of the solar neighborhood, and of the structure of the universe beyond. Recommended for amateur astronomers. General readers; lower-division undergraduates; two-year technical program students.

Summing Up:

Reviewer: [T. D. Oswalt](#), Florida Institute of Technology

Recommendation:

Readership Level: General Readers, Lower-division Undergraduates, Two-Year Technical Program Students

Interdisciplinary Subjects:

Subject: [Science & Technology - Astronautics & Astronomy](#)

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