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Book Review: The Road to Galaxy Formation 2nd Ed

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The road to galaxy formation 2nd ed



Keel, William C. Springer/Praxis, 2007

262p, 9783540725343 \$99.00

LC Call Number: QB857

How the large structures of the universe formed is a key question at the cutting edge of modern astronomical research. At these scales cosmology meets fundamental physics. The process of galaxy building seems to be tied to the mysterious nature of dark matter, dark energy, and structure that must have developed in the currently unobservable "dark ages" of the early universe before the first generation of stars began to shine. Recent discoveries also suggest that feedback from the massive black holes at the centers of active galaxies, and interactions between galaxies, played major roles in sculpting the galaxies seen today. Keel (Univ. of Alabama) writes from an observer's point of view in this second edition (1st ed., 2002). The work is clearly a labor of love. It immerses the reader in a thorough explanation of the latest data from modern ground- and space-based observatories. From Hubble's original galaxy classification system to the standard cosmological model, it is all here. This is a well-organized, well-paced, and thoroughly referenced "golden review" of galactic formation and evolution--a must have for any serious student or scientist in the field.

Summing Up: Essential. Upper-division undergraduate through professional collections.

Reviewer: T. D. Oswalt, Florida Institute of Technology

Recommendation: Essential

Readership Level: Upper-division Undergraduates, Graduate Students, Researchers/Faculty,

Professionals/Practitioners Interdisciplinary Subjects:

Subject: Science & Technology - Astronautics & Astronomy

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