

CHAPTER OVERVIEW

8: Dark Matter

Chapter 8 focuses on applying the law of gravity to the motions of astronomical systems to determine how much matter is present and how it is distributed. In the first half of the chapter, you will develop models of rotating systems for various velocity and mass distributions. Next you will explore the evidence for dark matter in galaxies and galaxy clusters by comparing the luminous mass and total gravitational mass. You will also explore models for what dark matter might be and why its nature remains so elusive.

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[8.1: Making Models for Rotation](#)

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