Constants and conversions:

$$1 \text{ M}_{\odot} = 2.0 \times 10^{30} \text{ kg}$$

$$1 L_{\odot} = 3.8 \times 10^{26} \text{ W}$$

$$R_{\odot} = 7.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m}$$

$$c = 3 \times 10^8 \, \mathrm{m \, s^{-1}}$$

$$G = 6.7 \times 10^{-11} \ \mathrm{N \, m^2 \, kg^{-2}} = 4.3 \times 10^{-6} \ \mathrm{kpc} \ (\mathrm{km \, s^{-1}})^2 \ \mathrm{M_{\odot}}^{-1}$$

$$h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \, \mathrm{J \, s}, \, \hbar = h/2\pi$$

$$m_p \approx m_n \approx m_H = 1.7 \times 10^{-27} \,\mathrm{kg}$$

$$m_e \approx m_p/1800 = 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \,\mathrm{kg}$$

$$1 \text{ eV} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

$$1 \text{ pc} = 3.1 \times 10^{16} \text{ m}$$

$$1 \text{ yr} = 3.2 \times 10^7 \text{ s}$$

1 radian = 206265 arcsec

Redshift

$$z = \frac{\lambda_{\text{obs}} - \lambda_{\text{em}}}{\lambda_{\text{em}}} \tag{1}$$

Doppler shift

$$\frac{\Delta\lambda}{\lambda} = \frac{v_r}{c} \tag{2}$$

z = v/c for small z

Hubble law

$$v = H_0 d (3)$$

 $H_0 = 70.4^{+1.3}_{-1.4} \, \mathrm{km \ s^{-1} \ Mpc^{-1}}$, Hubble time $t_H = 1/H_0 = 13.8 \, \mathrm{Gyr}$

Magnitudes and fluxes: $m_2 - m_1 = 2.5 \log(F_1/F_2)$

Distance modulus: $m - M = 5 \log(d/10 \text{ pc})$

Kepler's third law:

$$P^2 = \frac{4\pi^2}{G(m_1 + m_2)} a^3,\tag{4}$$

Schwarzchild radius:

$$R_{\rm Sch} = \frac{2GM_{\rm BH}}{c^2} \tag{5}$$

Exponential surface brightness profile (scale height h, central surface brightness Σ_0): $\Sigma(r) = \Sigma_0 e^{-r/h}$

or

$$\mu(r) = \mu_0 + 1.086 \, \frac{r}{h}.\tag{6}$$

with surface brightness in magnitudes.

de Vaucouleurs or $r^{1/4}$ profile:

$$\mu(r) = \mu_0 + 8.33 \left(\frac{r}{r_e}\right)^{1/4} \tag{7}$$

where r_e is the effective radius, the radius which encloses half of the total light.

Sérsic profile:

$$\mu(r) = \mu_0 + 8.33 \left[\left(\frac{r}{r_e} \right)^{1/n} - 1 \right]. \tag{8}$$

Circular velocity

$$v_c^2 = \frac{GM}{r} \tag{9}$$

Isothermal density profile of dark matter halos

$$\rho(r) = \frac{v_c^2}{4\pi G r^2}.\tag{10}$$

Tully-Fisher relation, $L \propto v^4$; in magnitudes and km s⁻¹:

$$M_B = -10.2\log v_{\text{max}} + 2.71\tag{11}$$

(this is in the *B*-band, and for Sb galaxies).

Virial theorem

$$-2\langle KE\rangle = \langle PE\rangle. \tag{12}$$

and virial mass

$$M = \frac{5R\sigma^2}{G} \tag{13}$$

Faber-Jackson relation $L \propto \sigma^4$, fundamental plane $L \propto \sigma^{2.65} \, r_e^{0.65}$

Galaxy interactions

Tidal radii

$$l_1 = a \left[0.500 - 0.227 \log \left(\frac{M_2}{M_1} \right) \right]$$
 (14)

$$l_2 = a \left[0.500 + 0.227 \log \left(\frac{M_2}{M_1} \right) \right],$$
 (15)

where a is the distance between M_1 and M_2 .

Dynamical friction

$$f_d = C \frac{G^2 M^2 \rho}{v_M^2} \tag{16}$$

AGN luminosity and accretion rate (where η is the efficiency):

$$\dot{M} = \frac{L}{\eta c^2} = 0.018 \,\mathrm{M}_{\odot} \,\mathrm{yr}^{-1} \left(\frac{L}{10^{37} \,\mathrm{W}}\right) \left(\frac{\eta}{0.1}\right)^{-1}$$
 (17)

Eddington limit

$$\dot{M}_E = \frac{L_E}{\eta c^2} = 2 \,\mathrm{M}_{\odot} \,\mathrm{yr}^{-1} \left(\frac{M_{\rm bh}}{10^8 \,\mathrm{M}_{\odot}}\right) \left(\frac{\eta}{0.1}\right)^{-1}$$
 (18)