

University of Groningen

Spiral galaxies

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Document Version

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Publication date:

1995

[Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

de Jong, R. S. (1995). Spiral galaxies: the light and color distributions in the optical and near-infrared
Groningen: s.n.

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Spiral Galaxies

The light and color distributions in the optical and near-infrared

Proefschrift

ter verkrijging van het doctoraat in de
Wiskunde en Natuurwetenschappen
aan de Rijksuniversiteit Groningen
op gezag van de
Rector Magnificus Dr. F. van der Woude
in het openbaar te verdedigen op
vrijdag 24 maart 1995
des namiddags te 2.45 uur precies

door

Roelof Sybe de Jong

geboren op 26 mei 1965
te Leeuwarden

Promotor: Prof. Dr. P.C. van der Kruit

'I love this place at night
... the stars. . .
There is no right
or wrong in them
They're just there'

Willem Dafoe as Sgt. Elias
in Vietnam-movie Platoon

On the cover:

A true color image of spiral galaxy Messier 100 (NGC 4321 or UGC 7450) with its companion, composed from *B*, *V* and *I* images obtained with the William Herschel telescope at La Palma. The bright circular dots around the galaxy are foreground stars from our own Galaxy, the Milky Way, the fuzzy orange features are background galaxies.

Bij de omslag:

Een kleurenfoto van het spiraal sterrenstelsel Messier 100 (ook wel NGC 4321 of UGC 7450 genoemd) met een begeleidend stelsel. De foto werd gemaakt van afzonderlijke rode, gele en blauwe afbeeldingen, welke werden gemaakt met de William Herschel teleskoop op La Palma. De heldere punten om het sterrenstelsel heen zijn voorgrond sterren behorend tot ons eigen sterrenstelsel, de Melkweg, de vage oranje vlekjes zijn sterrenstelsels op de achtergrond.

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