



The Galaxy

The Galaxy is that unique grouping of stars and worlds which is the home of Humaniti (as well as of many other sophonts).



The Galaxy is naturally divided into three distinct regions: the Core, the several Arms, and the Rifts between the Arms.

The Core. The Core of the Galaxy, approximately 3000 parsecs in radius, holds the majority of the galaxy's mass and stars.

The Core has two important characteristics:

It is dominated by high levels of radiation (including high constant levels, and even higher periodic levels). Habitable planets are rare and native life (intelligent or not) are even rarer.

The Core is densely packed with stars, strongly interfering with jump drives. In some parts of the Core, jump is impossible; in other regions, jump is restricted to short distances (often a tenth of a parsec).

The Spiral Arms. Outside of the Core, the Arms are concentrations of stars naturally endowed with plants and naturally hospitable to life.

The Rifts. The Rifts between the Arms have a lower stellar density, and their stars are the dimmer and less useful (typically K and M stars).