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Systematics of stellar standard candles for an accurate distance ladder and H_0

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The extragalactic distance ladder measures the Hubble constant using type-Ia supernovae whose absolute calibration relies on stellar standard candles, such as classical Cepheids and the TRGB method. Understanding the implications of the Hubble constant tension requires careful consideration of the systematics of stellar standard candles. This presentation reviews recent improvements in the quantification and mitigation of systematics affecting stellar standard candle distances. In turn, I make the case that both TRGB and Cepheids provide consistent H_0 values that are in significant tension with Planck.

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