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The Hubble Tension

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Over the past several years, a foremost development in cosmology has been the rise of the so-called Hubble tension. This refers to the disagreement between the measurements of the expansion rate of the universe the Hubble constant (H0). Direct measurements of H0 using the astronomical "distance ladder" find H0 of about 67 km/s/Mpc, while the analysis of the cosmic microwave background anisotropies finds 74 km/s/Mpc, with both measurement errors small enough to make the discrepancy highly statistically significant. I will explain the ingredients that go into the two measurements, and the difficulty of explaining the tension with unaccounted-for systematic errors.

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