

Stellar Physics.

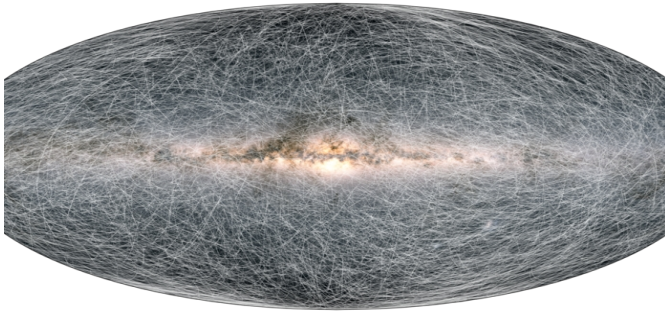


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Stellar physics has traditionally been a central research field within the AAM Section, covering studies on stellar evolution (including their final stages), binary star systems (including stellar mergers), stellar variability, asteroseismology, star clusters, and stellar populations within our Galaxy and its satellites. The European Space Agency's (ESA) Gaia mission, launched in 2013 and still operational, has significantly impacted the field of stellar astrophysics by

providing precise distances for billions of stars, along with data on their spatial motion, variability, binary systems, and numerous derived astrophysical parameters. The Gaia era has revolutionized our understanding of the structure and evolution of the Milky Way and galaxies within the Local Group. Members of the research team have been involved in the Gaia mission since its preparatory stages and continue to play an active role in the Gaia Data Processing and Analysis Consortium (DPAC). The team leading ESA's Gaia project was awarded the Lancelot M. Berkeley Prize in 2023. The Athens team is committed to collaborating with DPAC through 2030, when Gaia's final data release is scheduled.

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