

HIGH, MIDDLE OR LOW?

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Kromholz:

- And as you can see I don't use any razor. One question about sensitivity analyses. You mentioned in the beginning you did a sensitivity analysis on the data themselves. To what extent, if at all, have you considered doing a sensitivity analysis on the base of the astronomical structure? Stretching it and compressing it in different ways to see if things have shifted and if our astronomical view projecting backwards from now is in fact 100% reliable.

Huber:

- That is one of the very tricky parts. The trickiest is the rotation of the earth. The empirical evidence for the rotation of the earth is reliable back to about 400 B.C. (mainly based on Late Babylonian eclipse observations), and everything else is extrapolation. Fortunately, if we test the agreement between observed and calculated month-lengths, we simultaneously also test the reliability of the extrapolation.