

Strenghts	Weakness
The proposing team has a strong experience in this kind of analysis and in the use of this specific kind of data. The companion proposal in the NIR would strengthen the results obtainable with this proposal.	The authors say that among the ~800 DCEPs in the Gaia sample (contaminants already removed), one third have already a measurement of the needed quantities. This would mean a sample of ~270 DCEPs. It is not clear what would be the improvement in the analysis if they add 12 data points. For instance, although they mention that they will re-submit the same proposal for other 12 DCEPs in the following semester, a total of 24 DCEPs would increase the sample of ~10%. It is not specified if this proposal is only a pilot. From the scientific aims, it seems that DCEPS which will be found to have a companion will not be used to derive the PL/PW relations. Given that it is expected that at least half of the DCEPs have a companion (Box 10), it is not clear how the authors have selected the DCEPs to be targeted: is there a way to pre-select (roughly) candidate DCEPs without companions? More in general, it is not said how the 12 targets have been selected, even if it is not possible to make educated guesses on the possible presence of companions.
Ideal targets for accurate calibration of PL/PW relations of Cepheids (crucial for H0 measurement) exploiting Gaia astrometric information. Well motivated use of both NIR photometry (accompanying proposal) and high-resolution spectroscopy.	Not clear how much the proposed observations, in terms of number of objects observed, will improve on the current literature (e.g. not well explained for how many objects the information required in these proposal -metallicity, duplicity, parallaxes- is already known, hence not clear whether these 12 DCEPs will make a difference).
Proposal is reasonably interesting and well written.	It is however not very compelling and the authors fail to build a strong case to support the time request. More details on the specific role of the required data would have been appreciated.
These observations would add more DCEP samples for the accurate determination of PL/PW relationship and therefore useful for improving the cosmic distance ladder in combination with Gaia parallaxes. The combination with REM observation is a further strength of the project. Observation and analysis techniques are pretty standard.	The scientific impact of the project is rather marginal, in the sense that it could help to reduce the noise in the PL/PW relationship but no dramatic impact on our knowledge can be envisaged. In particular, it is doubtful that acquiring less noise in the PL/PW relationship may solve the disagreement with H_0 derived from CBR analysis.
Expert and productive team. Timely science. Potentially important contribution to the current issue of the 'tension' between cosmic distance ladder and Ho inferred from Planck observations (plus lambda-CDM model).	Would have been useful to know something about the period range spanned by the spectroscopic targets. As I mentioned for the companion proposal, I found the reference to Genovali paper a bit confusing. I suppose metallicity and duplicity information about these 12 targets is not contained in that paper.

Calibration of cosmological candles. Hubble constant.	it is not estimated the chance the program will have to solve the 3.5sigma disagreement regarding H_0
Very important basic science with cosmological implications.	none