THE TIP OF THE RED GIANT BRANCH DISTANCES TO TYPE Ia SUPERNOVA HOST GALAXIES. III. NGC 4038/39 AND NGC 5584

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ABSTRACT
We present the tip of the red giant branch (TRGB) distances to Type Ia supernova (SNe Ia) host galaxies NGC 4038/39 and NGC 5584. Based on the deep images constructed using archival Hubble Space Telescope data, we detect red giant branch stars in each galaxy. VI photometry of the resolved stars and corresponding I-band luminosity functions show the TRGB to be at $I_{TRGB} = 27.67 \pm 0.05$ for NGC 4038/39 and $I_{TRGB} = 27.77 \pm 0.04$ for NGC 5584. From these estimates, we determine the distance modulus to NGC 4038/39 to be $(m-M)_0 = 31.67 \pm 0.05$ (random) $\pm 0.12$ (systematic) (corresponding to a linear distance of $21.58 \pm 0.50 \pm 1.19$ Mpc) and the distance modulus to NGC 5584 to be $(m-M)_0 = 31.76 \pm 0.04$ (random) $\pm 0.12$ (systematic) (corresponding to a linear distance of $22.49 \pm 0.41 \pm 1.24$ Mpc). We derive a mean absolute maximum magnitude of SNe Ia of $M_V = -19.27 \pm 0.08$ from the distance estimates of five SNe Ia (including two SNe in this study and three SNe Ia from our previous studies), and we derive a value of $M_V = -19.19 \pm 0.10$ using three low-reddened SNe Ia among the five SNe Ia. With these estimates, we derive a value of the Hubble constant, $H_0 = 69.8 \pm 2.6$ (random) $\pm 3.9$ (systematic) km s$^{-1}$ Mpc$^{-1}$ and 72.2 $\pm 3.3$ (random) $\pm 4.0$ (systematic) km s$^{-1}$ Mpc$^{-1}$, respectively. The value from the five SNe is similar to those from the cosmic microwave background analysis, and not much different within errors, from those of recent Cepheid calibrations of SNe Ia. The value from the three SNe is between the values from the two methods.

Key words: galaxies: distances and redshifts – galaxies: individual (NGC 4038/39, NGC 5584) – galaxies: stellar content – supernovae: general – supernovae: individual (SN 2007sr, SN 2007af)

1. INTRODUCTION

Type Ia supernovae (SNe Ia) are one of the most powerful distance indicators for distant galaxies in the cosmic expansion dominated field ($d \gtrsim 100$ Mpc). Three advantages of SNe Ia—a bright peak luminosity, a small luminosity dispersion, and a homogeneity in the universe—have enabled us to investigate the cosmic expansion rate ($H_0$) (Freedman et al. 2001, 2012; Sandage et al. 2006; Riess et al. 2011) and the cosmic acceleration rate ($\Lambda$) (Riess et al. 1998; Perlmutter et al. 1999). Although great progress has been made over the last two decades, more accurate calibration of peak luminosity of SNe Ia is needed to derive more accurate values of cosmological parameters.

Recently, two large projects, Supernovae and $H_0$ for the equation of state (SH0ES, Riess et al. 2011) and Carnegie Hubble Program (Freedman et al. 2012), have been working on the calibration of SNe Ia to improve the measurement of cosmological parameters. They performed the luminosity calibration of SNe Ia based on the Cepheid distance estimates of eight SNe Ia host galaxies and derived similar values of the Hubble constant: $74.8 \pm 3.1$ km s$^{-1}$ Mpc$^{-1}$ (Riess et al. 2011) and $74.3 \pm 2.1$ km s$^{-1}$ Mpc$^{-1}$ (Freedman et al. 2012).

However, these values of the Hubble constant are somewhat larger than those based on recent analysis of the cosmic microwave background radiation (CMBR). Bennett et al. (2013) derived the cosmological parameters from the analysis of the angular power spectrum of CMBR in WMAP9 assuming a flat $\Lambda$CDM cosmology, and presented $H_0 = 69.32 \pm 0.80$ km s$^{-1}$ Mpc$^{-1}$. Later, the Planck Collaboration lead to an even smaller value of the Hubble constant, $H_0 = 67.8 \pm 0.9$ km s$^{-1}$ Mpc$^{-1}$, using new CMBR data from the Planck satellite (Planck Collaboration 2014, 2015). Thus the traditional
2007sr and NGC 5584 hosting SN 2007af. NGC 4038/39 are a well known pair of galaxies showing early stage merger of disk galaxies. In 2007, a supernova was discovered near the southern tidal tail of this galaxy, SN 2007sr (Drake et al. 2007). Spectroscopic observations confirmed that it is a SN Ia (Naito et al. 2007; Umbrico et al. 2007). Photometric follow-up observations were made from optical to near-infrared (Schweizer et al. 2008; Hicken et al. 2009). Light curve fits on this SN suggested that its internal reddening is expected to be small, $A_V \sim 0.2$ (Schweizer et al. 2008; Phillips et al. 2013).

There are three distance estimates to NGC 4038/39 based on the TRGB in the literature. Saviane et al. (2004) analyzed Hubble Space Telescope (HST)/Wide Field Planetary Camera 2 (WFPC2) images of a field on the southern tidal tail and derived a TRGB distance, $(m - M)_0 = 30.70 \pm 0.25 (d = 13.8 \pm 1.7 \text{ Mpc})$. This value is significantly smaller than previous estimates based on radial velocities of NGC 4038/39 $(d \sim 20 \text{ Mpc} = 1400 \text{ km s}^{-1}, \text{assuming } H_0 \sim 70 \text{ km s}^{-1}\text{Mpc}^{-1})$. Later, Saviane et al. (2008) presented a similar distance estimate, $(m - M)_0 = 30.62 \pm 0.17 (d = 13.3 \pm 1.0 \text{ Mpc})$, using the new HST/Advanced Camera for Surveys (ACS) image data. However, Schweizer et al. (2008) presented a significantly larger value, $(m - M)_0 = 31.51 \pm 0.17 (d = 20.0 \pm 1.6 \text{ Mpc})$, based on the same ACS image data used in Saviane et al. (2008). On the other hand, Riess et al. (2011) detected Cepheid variables in the main bodies of NGC 4038/39 and derived a distance modulus, $(m - M)_0 = 31.66 \pm 0.08 (d = 21.5 \pm 0.6 \text{ Mpc})$. This is similar to the value in Schweizer et al. (2008), but much larger than the value given by Saviane et al. (2008).

NGC 5584 is a moderately inclined ($\beta = 42.7^\circ$) spiral galaxy hosting SN 2007af, which is one of the most well monitored SNe Ia. Before its pre-maximum, spectroscopic and photometric observations from optical to near infrared have been made (Hamuy et al. 2006; Hicken et al. 2009). Moreover the internal reddening for SN 2007af is known to be small, $A_V \sim 0.39 \pm 0.06$ (Simon et al. 2007). Thus, SN 2007af is an ideal target for the luminosity calibration of SNe Ia. Previous distance estimates based on the Tully–Fisher relation show a wide range of values with large uncertainty: $(m - M)_0 = 31.12 \sim 31.59$ with uncertainties of $\sim 0.4$ (Thureau et al. 2007; Springob et al. 2009; Sorce et al. 2012). Riess et al. (2011) detected 94 Cepheid variables based on the optical/near-infrared image data taken with HST/WFC3, and derived a distance, $(m - M)_0 = 31.72 \pm 0.07 (d = 22.1 \pm 0.7 \text{ Mpc})$. This value is much larger than those based on the Tully–Fisher relations. To date, there is no TRGB distance estimate for NGC 5584.

This paper is composed as follows. Section 2 describes data reduction. Section 3 presents color–magnitude diagrams (CMDs) and distance estimates for each galaxy. Implications of our results are discussed in Section 4.

### 2. DATA AND DATA REDUCTION

The image data for NGC 4038/39 and NGC 5584 were acquired from the HST archive. Table 1 lists the information for the HST image data used in this study. The image data for NGC 4038/39 covering the southern tidal tail, as shown in Figure 1(a), were taken with the ACS in Wide Field Channel (WFC) mode (Proposal ID: 10580) with exposure times of $4 \times 2700$ for F606W and $3 \times 2700$ s for F814W. Corresponding total exposure times were 10,870 and 8136 s for F606W and F814W, respectively. Charge transfer efficiency (CTE) corrected and flat fielded images (indicated by suffix _flc.fits) were combined to make a single drizzled image using the DrizzlePac. Because individual _flc images were severely contaminated by cosmic rays, the automatic image aligning tool, TweakReg task, failed to provide fine solutions. Thus, we used an alternative strategy, as described in the following.

First, we performed an aperture photometry on the _flc images with aperture radii of 0"040 and 0"125 using DAOPHOT in the IRAF package. The magnitude difference between these two aperture radii is defined as the concentration index, $C$. Next, sources with $0.9 < C \leq 1.6$ were selected. Through this process, sources with abnormally narrow (e.g., cosmic rays) or abnormally broad (e.g., background galaxies) radial profiles were rejected. Second, we converted image coordinates for the selected sources to the World Coordinate System (WCS) based on the information listed in the header. The WCS coordinates for a pair of _flc images were matched with a matching criteria of 0"005 (1 pixel). This process rejects most non-stellar objects such as cosmic rays and hot pixels. Finally, the files to be used with the TweakReg task were created. These files contain source coordinates and flux counts. Using these files, the TweakReg task output better solutions of $\Delta X$ and $\Delta Y$ with a rms value of $\sim 0.06$ pixel (0"003).

The aligned images were combined into a single drizzled images using the AstroDrizzle task. The _pixfrac and final _scale values used are 1.0 and 0"04 pixel$^{-1}$, respectively. Output images show FWHM of 2.64 pixels (0"106) for F606W and 2.38 pixels (0"095) for F814W.

Observations for NGC 5584 were done with the Wide Field Camera 3 (WFC3) in Ultraviolet-visible (UVIS) mode with the primary aim of detecting Cepheid variables (Proposal ID: 11570). Centered on NGC 5584, the 2\'7 × 2\'7 field covering the main body and inner halo of the galaxy, as shown in Figure 1(b), was observed with exposure times of 76 $\times$ 600 s for F555W and 24 $\times$ 600 s for F814W. Total exposure times are 45,540 and 14,400 s for F555W and F814W, respectively. The _flc images were made from the flat-fielded images (indicated by suffix _flt.fits) and the raw images (indicated by suffix _raw.fits) by applying pixel-based CTE correction software. Derived _flc images were aligned in the same way as was done for NGC 4038/39 images. Mean rms values for $\Delta X$ and $\Delta Y$ from the TweakReg task are $\sim 0.08$ pixels ($\sim 0"0032$) for both filters. Aligned _flc images were then combined using the AstroDrizzle task with a final _pixfrac value of 0.7 and a final _scale value of 0"025 pixel$^{-1}$, rms values of weight images for each filter are smaller than 4% of the median value. FWHMs for point sources in the

| R.A.(2000) | Decl.(2000) | Prop. ID. | Detector | Exposure, $V$ | Exposure, $I$ |
|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| 12°01′27.45 | −18°59′28.7 | 10580 | ACS/WFC | F606W (45,540 s) | 8136 s, F814W (14,400 s) |
| $14°22′23′′.62$ | $−0°0′23′′.72$ | 11570 | WFPC3/UVIS | F555W | F814W |
The final drizzled images are 3.00 pixels (0.075") for F555W and 3.22 pixels (0.081") for F814W. Figure 2 shows 5" × 5" sections of the output F814W images of NGC 4038/39 (a) and of NGC 5584 (b). Point sources and extended sources (mostly background galaxy) can be clearly seen in the images.

PSF photometry was done on the drizzled images using the standard routine: Daofind, Phot, and Allstar tasks in IRAF/DAOPHOT (Stetson 1987). Initial aperture photometry with aperture radii of 0.040" and 0.125" were done to derive the concentration index for each stellar object. With this combination of aperture radii, point sources show mean concentration index values of $C = 1.25$ for NGC 4038/39 and $C = 1.05$ for NGC 5584. PSF images were constructed for each galaxy based on ~50 bright, isolated, and 1.25 or 1.05 stellar objects. Source coordinates to be used in the photometry were determined from F814W-band images for each galaxy with a detection threshold of 2. We used revised photometric zeropoints for ACS/WFC (26.416 for F606W and 25.529 for F814W) and WFC3/UVIS (25.81 for F555W and 24.67 for F814W), provided by STScI. 3,4 Aperture correction values to the aperture radii of 0.5" (for ACS/WFC) or 0.4" (for WFC3/UVIS) were calculated by checking the curve of growth for bright isolated stars. Derived values are −0.162, −0.157 for F606W, F814W on ACS/WFC and −0.139, −0.229 for F555W, F814W on WFC3/UVIS with an uncertainty of 0.02. Additional aperture corrections up to the infinite aperture radius were also applied. Corresponding values derived from the enclosed energy curves provided by STScI 5,6 are: −0.095, −0.098 for F606W, F814W on ACS/WFC and

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3. http://www.stsci.edu/hst/acs/analysis/zeropoints/zpt.py
4. http://www.stsci.edu/hst/wfc3/phot_zp_hbn
5. http://www.stsci.edu/hst/acs/analysis/apcorr
6. http://www.stsci.edu/hst/wfc3/uviss ce_model smov.dat
We calibrated raw image data to standard Johnson–Cousins magnitudes using the photometric transformation equations listed in Sirianni et al. (2005). Finally, ACS magnitudes were converted to their mean offsets are estimated to be ~0.01 for ACS/WFC data and ~0.01 for WFC3/UVIS data. For blue stars with redder colors than ACS/WFC data, WFC3/UVIS data shows slightly bluer color than ACS/WFC data. This trend is seen in both globular clusters. In order to compare the difference quantitatively, we selected bright and non-saturated stars in the shaded regions (18.5 < F814WACS < 21.0 for NGC 2419, and 19.0 < F814WACS < 21.5 or 19.5 < F814WACS < 22.5 for 47 Tuc) of Figure 4 and compared them in Figure 5.

Table 2

A Summary of HST Observations of NGC 2419 and 47 Tuc from the Archive

|            | ACS/WFC | WFC3/UVIS | ACS/WFC | WFC3/UVIS |
|------------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| R.A.(2000) | 07°38′08″27″ | 07°38′08″54″ | 00°22′38″52″ | 00°22′35″92″ |
| Decl.(2000)| 38°51′36″3″  | 38°52′40″6″  | −72°04′01″1″ | −72°04′05″3″ |
| Prop ID.   | 9666     | 11903     | 10048, 11677 | 11903, 11452 |
| Exposure, F555W | 720 s     | 1160 s   | 2139 s     | 1160 s     |
| Exposure, F606W | 676 s     | 800 s   | 163,676 s | 18,376 s |
| Exposure, F814W | 676 s     | 1300 s | 184,242 s | 3400 s |

Figure 3. Finding charts for ACS/WFC fields (solid square in (a) and polygon in (b)) and WFC3/UVIS fields (dashed-line squares) of NGC 2419 (a) and 47 Tuc (b) overlaid on Digitized Sky Survey images. The center of each star cluster is indicated by a white cross. Only point sources in the hatched region of each cluster (R ≥ 1′ for NGC 2419 and R ≥ 7′ for 47 Tuc) were used for the photometric transformation.

2.1. Photometric Transformations

The photometric systems for ACS/WFC and WFC3/UVIS are not the same. There is no TRGB calibration for the WFC3/UVIS system yet. To apply the TRGB calibration, and to facilitate comparisons of the two galaxies in this study and those in our previous studies (Lee & Jang 2012, 2013), we derived photometric transformations from the WFC3/UVIS system to the ACS/WFC system as follows. We used archival image data for two Milky Way globular clusters, NGC 2419 and 47 Tuc, which were observed using both ACS/WFC and WFC3/UVIS, as listed in Table 2 and shown in Figure 3. These two globular clusters have been used for the photometric transformation from the ACS/WFC system to the Johnson–Cousin system in Sirianni et al. (2005), Harris et al. (2007), and Saha et al. (2011). We calibrated raw image data to construct CTE corrected drizzled images and carried out PSF photometry as described in Section 2. We then matched the photometric catalogs from ACS/WFC and WFC3/UVIS image data.

Construced CMDs for resolved stars in NGC 2419 and 47 Tuc are shown in Figure 4. To reduce the uncertainty due to relatively low density environments at RNGC2419 ≥ 1′ and R47Tuc ≥ 7′, indicated by the hatched lines in Figure 3. CMDs from ACS/WFC data (open squares) and WFC3/UVIS data (filled squares) look very similar. Stars with F555W − F814W ≥ 0.8, WFC3/UVIS data show in general redder colors than ACS/WFC data. For blue stars with F555W − F814W ∼ 0.0, however, WFC3/UVIS data shows slightly bluer color than ACS/WFC data. This trend is seen in both globular clusters. In order to compare the difference quantitatively, we selected bright and non-saturated stars in the shaded regions (18.5 < F814WACS < 21.0 for NGC 2419, and 19.0 < F814WACS < 21.5 or 19.5 < F814WACS < 22.5 for 47 Tuc) of Figure 4 and compared them in Figure 5.

Figure 5 shows comparisons of magnitudes between the two photometric systems in terms of their colors. F555WACS − F814WACS colors range from 0.0 to 2.2, and their mean offsets are ~ −0.04 for F555W and ~0.01 for F814W. We plot isochrones, as a reference, for the 12 Gyr age and [Fe/H] = −1.4, which is a mean metallicity of NGC 2419 and 47 Tuc, provided by Dartmouth group (Dotter et al. 2008). Data points and stellar isochrones are in good agreement, mean offsets are estimated to be ~0.01 in both filters. We derive a photometric transformation as follows: F555WACS = F555W_WFC3 − (0.0137 ± 0.0044) − (0.0178 ± 0.0030)(color), and F814WACS = F814W_WFC3 + (0.0145 ± 0.0036) − (0.0053 ± 0.0024)(color) where color = F555WACS − F814WACS.
Note that the amount of correction is very small: 0.05 mag in $F_{555}$ and smaller than 0.01 mag in $F_{814}$ for color $\sim 2.0$.

We applied this photometric transformation to the photometry of NGC 5584. Transformation uncertainties are estimated to be $\sim 0.01$ mag considering uncertainties of aperture corrections, although the fitting uncertainties are much smaller than 0.01 mag.

We derived the same photometric transformation for the $F_{606}$ band for the future studies.

$$F_{606}^{\text{ACS}} = F_{606}^{\text{WFC3}} (0.0016 \pm 0.0021) - (0.0322 \pm 0.0019)\text{(color)} + (0.0060 \pm 0.0020)\text{(color)} - \Delta\text{I},$$

where $F_{color}^{606}^{\text{ACS}} = F_{814}^{\text{ACS}} - I_{814}$.

2.2. Artificial Star Test

We checked the photometric completeness and systematic errors of our photometry through the artificial star experiment. To do this, we selected test fields with a size of 0.5 × 1.0′ from the hatched regions in Figure 1. Next, we added about 150 and 300 artificial stars into the test fields of NGC 4038/39 and NGC 5584, which correspond to $\sim 10\%$ of the total amount of stars detected in each field. These added stars were uniformly distributed throughout the fields and had a magnitude range of $26 \leq I \leq 29$. We set $(V-I) \sim 1.7$ for input artificial stars in order to make them similar to the estimated median $(V-I)$ color at the TRGB magnitude (see Section 3.2). Then, we performed PSF photometry on the fields in the same way as done on the original images. We then checked recovery rates and photometric systematics. We iterated this process 600 and 300 times for NGC 4038/39 and NGC 5584, respectively, to keep a larger number of artificial stars and to reduce statistical uncertainties. In total, about 100,000 artificial stars were used for each field in the test.

Figures 6(a) and (d) show the recovery rates for artificial stars as a function of input $I$-band magnitudes for these two galaxies. About 90% and 70% of stars are expected to be recovered at the TRGB magnitude of NGC 4038/39 ($I_{\text{TRGB}} = 27.67 \pm 0.05$) and NGC 5584 ($I_{\text{TRGB}} = 27.77 \pm 0.04$). The 50% recovery rates are estimated to be $I \sim 28.3$ for NGC 4038/39 and $I \sim 28.2$ for NGC 5584. It is noted that, although exposure times of NGC 4038/39 are much shorter than those of NGC 5584, the recovery rates are higher in the same magnitude range. This can be explained as follows. First, the field used in the analysis of NGC 4038/39 is much farther from the center of the host galaxy than that of NGC 5584, so that the expected stellar density is much lower. Second, NGC 4038/39 was observed with ACS/WFC, which has higher sensitivity than the WFC3/UVIS at longer wavelengths of $\sim 400$ nm. Third, NGC 4038/39 was observed with $F_{606}$-band, which has a much wider spectral window than the $F_{555}$-band used for NGC 5584.

Figures 6(b), (c), (e) and (f) show random uncertainties and systematic offsets of $I$-band magnitudes ($\Delta I = I_{\text{input}} - I_{\text{output}}$).
and $V - I$ colors ($\Delta(V - I) = (V - I)_{\text{input}} - (V - I)_{\text{output}}$) for the two galaxies. Random uncertainties increase gradually, being proportional to the input $I$-band magnitudes. Systematic offsets are noted. For $I_{\text{input}} \gtrsim 28.0$ in (b) and (e), $\Delta I$ values are positive. This means that those faint stars are measured slightly brighter than their intrinsic brightness. At the TRGB magnitude of NGC 4038/39 and NGC 5584, such magnitude and color offsets are smaller than 0.02 mag, so we ignored these offsets.

### 3. RESULTS

#### 3.1. Color–Magnitude Diagrams

The HST fields used in this study cover the tidal tail in NGC 4038/39, and the disk and bulge in NGC 5584. Therefore the CMDs of these fields show various populations of stars, such as young main sequence, blue and red super giant, asymptotic giant branch (AGB) and RGB stars. These mixed populations increase uncertainties in determining the TRGB. In order to reduce the contamination due to multiple stellar populations and to sample the RGB population as much as possible, we selected regions with the lowest sky background level, avoiding spiral arms and tidal tails. Chosen regions are marked by the hatched regions in Figure 1.

Figure 7 shows the CMDs of resolved stars in the selected regions of NGC 4038/39 (a), and NGC 5584 (b). We calculated the expected number of galactic foreground stars in each CMD using the TRILEGAL program provided by the Padova group (Girardi et al. 2005). Derived numbers of stars are smaller than ten for both figures, indicating that a contamination by the foreground stars is negligible. We also checked the background galaxy contamination by comparing our CMD with the CMD of the Hubble eXtreme Deep Field (HXDF), where background galaxies are dominated. We used $F606W$ and $F814W$ combined images provided by Illingworth et al. (2013). Total exposure times are 174,400 s for $F606W$, and 50,800 s for $F814W$. We then carried out the PSF photometry in the same method as for NGC 4038/39 and NGC 5584. Constructed CMD for the point sources in the entire field of HXDF is shown in Figure 7 (c). Most of sources are expected to be unresolved background galaxies. We then count the number of sources inside the slanted boxes of each panel, which will be used in the TRGB determination (see next section): 5247 sources for NGC 4038/39, 4491 sources for NGC 5584, and 318 sources for HXDF. After the correction for the field area differences (4.9 arcmin$^2$ for NGC 4038/39 field, 1.0 arcmin$^2$ for NGC 5584 field, and 10.8 arcmin$^2$ for HXDF), we conclude that the background contaminations in the CMDs are very small: $\sim$3% for NGC 4038/39 and $\sim$1% for NGC 5584. We ignored this contamination in the following analysis.

The CMDs for NGC 4038/39 and NGC 5584 show clear RGB populations as well as relatively weak main sequence and AGB populations. Both CMDs show a clear number density enrichment of RGB stars at $I \sim 27.7$ for NGC 4038/39, and $I \sim 27.8$ for NGC 5584, which correspond to the TRGB.
3.2. Distance Estimation

Our photometry of NGC 4038/39 and NGC 5584 are deep enough to reach more than one magnitude below the TRGB. This enables us to measure distances with the TRGB, a known precise distance indicator (Lee et al. 1993; Freedman & Madore 2010). We derived $I$-band luminosity functions for resolved stars inside the slanted boxes of Figure 7, designed to preferentially select the blue RGB stars.

The use of the blue RGB stars in the analysis has several advantages, as noted in Jang & Lee (2014). First, the TRGB for the bluer RGB stars is less curved than that of the redder RGB stars in the $I - (V - I)$ CMD. Second, the bluer RGB stars have a relatively higher photometric recovery rate than the redder RGB stars. Third, the bluer RGB stars are relatively less affected by the host galaxy reddening.

Figure 8 shows derived $I$-band luminosity functions and corresponding edge-detection responses. We used the logarithmic form of edge-detection algorithm (Sakai et al. 1996; Méndez et al. 2002), which is described by

$$E(I) = \sqrt{\Phi[I - \log[\Phi(I + \sigma_I)] - \log[\Phi(I - \sigma_I)]]},$$

where $\Phi(I)$ is gaussian-smoothed luminosity function and $\sigma_I$ is the mean photometric error.

Edge-detection response functions show strong peaks at $I \sim 27.7$ for NGC 4038/39 and $I \sim 27.8$ for NGC 5584, as well as relatively weak peaks at between $I = 26.4$ and 27.0. In a galaxy that contain various stellar populations, the number of AGB stars is much smaller than that of the RGB stars. Therefore, it is expected that the luminosity function of the red giant stars shows a weak jump at the AGB tip, and a much stronger jump at the RGB tip. We determined the prominent peaks to be the TRGB of each galaxy. The relatively weaker peaks in the brighter part of the TRGB are thought to be the tips from intermediate AGB populations or noise. We derive our best estimates of the TRGB magnitudes and their measurement errors from ten thousand simulations of bootstrap resampling. Derived values are $I = 27.67 \pm 0.05$ for NGC 4038/39 and $I = 27.77 \pm 0.04$ for NGC 5584.

We adopted the TRGB calibration suggested by Rizzi et al. (2007), $M_{TRGB} = -4.05 + 0.217[(V - I) - 1.6]$, which was also used in our previous studies (Lee & Jang 2012, 2013; Jang & Lee 2014). Median TRGB colors estimated from ~200 RGB stars in the ±0.03 mag range of the TRGB are $1.62 \pm 0.02$ for NGC 4038/39 and $1.66 \pm 0.02$ for NGC 5584. We adopted foreground extinction values, $E(B-V) = 0.037$ for NGC 4038/39 and $E(B-V) = 0.035$ for NGC 5584 from Schlafly & Finkbeiner (2011). Host galaxy extinctions for the blue RGB stars are expected to be very small, so they are ignored. By combining the TRGB magnitudes, extinction values, and the TRGB calibration, we obtained values of the distance moduli, $(m - M)_0 = 31.67 \pm 0.05$ (random) ± 0.12 (systematic) for NGC 4038/39, and $(m - M)_0 = 31.76 \pm 0.04$ (random) ± 0.12 (systematic) for NGC 5584, as summarized in Table 3.

We checked the effect of TRGB color selection to the TRGB distance estimates. We divided the RGBs into four (for NGC 4038/39) and three (for NGC 5584) subregions with different $V - I$ ranges. The TRGB colors of these subregions cover $1.2 < V - I < 2.4$ for NGC 4038/39 and $1.2 < V - I < 2.1$ for NGC 5584, in steps of 0.3 mag. We then derived the TRGB distances for each subregion by applying the same method as done for the blue RGB stars. The TRGB distances for four subregions of NGC 4038/39 show similar values: $(m - M)_0 = 31.60 - 31.77$ with uncertainties of 0.04–0.09. A weighted mean of these four estimates is $(m - M)_0 = 31.64 \pm 0.03$, which is in good agreement with the estimate from the blue RGB stars, $(m - M)_0 = 31.67 \pm 0.05$. The three subregions of NGC 5584 also show similar values: $(m - M)_0 = 31.71 - 31.78$ with uncertainties of 0.04–0.06. A weighted mean of these estimates is $(m - M)_0 = 31.77 \pm 0.03$, showing an excellent agreement.
with the estimate from the blue RGB stars, \((m - M)_0 = 31.76 \pm 0.04\). Therefore, we conclude that the TRGB distance estimation depends little on the color selection of RGB stars.

4. DISCUSSION

4.1. Comparison with Previous Distance Estimates

Tables 4 and 5 summarize the distance estimates for each galaxy in this study and in previous studies. Distance estimates for NGC 4038/39 show a large range: \((m - M)_0 = 30.62 - 31.76\). Riess et al. (2011) presented a distance estimate of \((m - M)_0 = 31.66 \pm 0.08\) from the photometry of 35 Cepheid variables. They derived periods of the Cepheid variables from the image data taken with the HST/WFPC2 and apparent magnitudes from the F160W image data taken with the HST/WFC3. Later, Fiorentino et al. (2013) applied their theoretical model to the observational data in Riess et al. (2011), and derived a similar value, \((m - M)_0 = 31.55 \pm 0.06\).

Saviane et al. (2004, 2008) reported relatively short distance estimates based on the TRGB method: \((m - M)_0 = 30.70 \pm 0.25\) from the WFPC2 (Saviane et al. 2004), and \((m - M)_0 = 30.62 \pm 0.17\) from the ACS image data (Saviane et al. 2008). However, Schweizer et al. (2008) reported a much larger value of the TRGB distance, \((m - M)_0 = 31.51 \pm 0.17\) from the same ACS image data as used in Saviane et al. (2008). This \(-0.9\) mag difference comes from the different TRGB magnitudes: \(F814W_{\text{TRGB}} = 26.59 \pm 0.09\) in Saviane et al. (2008) and \(T_{\text{RGB}} = 27.46 \pm 0.12\) in Schweizer et al. (2008). Schweizer et al. (2008) derived even larger values for the distance moduli: \((m - M)_0 = 31.74 \pm 0.27\) from the peak luminosity of SN Ia, SN 2007sr, and \((m - M)_0 = 31.76 \pm 0.27\) from the systematic recession velocity relative to the Local Group, applying the large scale flow model by Tonry et al. (2000).

By considering the distance moduli from three independent methods, Schweizer et al. (2008) suggested to use a conservative value, \(D = 22 \pm 3\) Mpc \((m - M)_0 = 31.7 \pm 0.3\) as the distance to NGC 4038/39.

Our best estimate of the TRGB distance to NGC 4038/39 is \((m - M)_0 = 31.67 \pm 0.05\). It is roughly one mag larger than that found in Saviane et al. (2008). Our estimate is not much different, within errors, from the TRGB distance given by Schweizer et al. (2008) \((m - M)_0 = 31.51 \pm 0.17\). We investigate any cause for the small difference of 0.16 mag between our best estimate and that of Schweizer et al. (2008). There are three differences in the methods between the two studies. First, Schweizer et al. (2008) used relatively redder RGB stars \((1.6 < (V - I)_0 < 2.6)\) than those used in this study. Second they used the entire ACS/WFC field, including tidal tail regions, while we used only the region with low sky values, avoiding tidal tail regions. Third, Schweizer et al. (2008) applied \(T\) mag \((= I_0 - 0.20((V - I)_0 - 1.5))\), while we used \(I\) mag. Using the same \(T\) mag as used in Schweizer et al. (2008), we derived the TRGB magnitude of \(T_{\text{RGB}} = 27.47 \pm 0.05\), which is almost the same as the value given by Schweizer et al. (2008) \((T_{\text{RGB}} = 27.46 \pm 0.12)\). When we used the stars in the lowest sky background regions, avoiding tidal tail regions, as shown in Figure 1(a), we obtained a 0.05 mag fainter value, \(T_{\text{RGB}} = 27.52 \pm 0.05\). When we used the blue RGB stars \((1.2 < V - I \lesssim 2.0)\), inside the slanted box of Figure 7 in the lowest sky background regions, we derive another 0.05 mag fainter value, \(T_{\text{RGB}} = 27.57 \pm 0.05\). The corresponding distance modulus is \((m - M)_0 = 31.62 \pm 0.05\), which is in agreement with our best estimate, \((m - M)_0 = 31.67 \pm 0.05\), within an uncertainty. Thus, within the 0.16 mag difference between our best estimate and that of Schweizer et al. (2008), 0.06 mag comes from field selection, 0.05 mag comes from the TRGB color selection, and 0.05 mag comes from the measurement error. Our estimate is

![Figure 7](image-url)
consistent with the Cepheid estimate by Riess et al. (2011) 

\((m - M)_0 = 31.66 \pm 0.08\).

Distance estimates for NGC 5584 in the previous studies also show a large range from \((m - M)_0 = 31.12 - 32.30\). Distance estimates using the Tully–Fisher relation give a large range \((m - M)_0 = 31.12 \sim 31.59\) with large uncertainties (Theureau et al. 2007; Springob et al. 2009; Courtois & Tully 2012; Sorce et al. 2012, 2014; Lagattuta et al. 2013). SN Ia distance estimates show a much larger range from \((m - M)_0 = 31.40 - 32.30\), depending on the selection of the light curve fitting tool, the total to selective extinction ratio \((R_V)\), and the value of the Hubble constant. Riess et al. (2011) found 94 cepheid variables from the \(HST/WFC3\) image data and derived a distance modulus of \((m - M)_0 = 31.72 \pm 0.07\). Distance modulus derived in this study, the first distance estimate using the TRGB method, is \((m - M)_0 = 31.76 \pm 0.04\). This is in good agreement with the Cepheid estimate by Riess et al. (2011), considering measurement errors. To date, NGC 5584 is the most distant galaxy among the galaxies to which distances were measured using the TRGB method.

4.2. The Calibration of SNe Ia and the Hubble Constant

The TRGB distance estimates of SNe Ia host galaxies in this study and our previous studies are very useful in determining the peak luminosity of SNe Ia and the Hubble constant. M101 (NGC 5457) is a nearby face-on spiral galaxy hosting one SN Ia, SN 2011fe, the nearest low-reddened SN Ia with modern photometry. It was discovered just 4 hr after its explosion, so complete monitoring observations have been made. Thus, it is an ideal target for the calibration of SNe Ia. Lee & Jang (2012) investigated nine \(HST/ACS\) fields around the inner region of M101 and derived a TRGB distance of \((m - M)_0 = 29.30 \pm 0.12\) (random) \pm 0.12\) (systematic).

M66 (NGC 3627) and M96 (NGC 3368) are nearby spiral galaxies in the Leo I group hosting SNe Ia, SN 1989B and SN 1998bu, respectively. The host galaxy extinction values of these two SNe Ia are known to be relatively high \((A_V \gtrsim 1)\). However, since they are nearby and their optical light curves from before their maximum magnitudes are available, they are still useful for the calibration of SNe Ia. Lee & Jang (2013) presented new TRGB distances to M66 and M96 based on the deep \(HST/ACS\) images : \((m - M)_0 = 30.12 \pm 0.03\) (random)
± 0.12 (systematic) for M66 and \((m - M)_0 = 30.15 \pm 0.03\) (random) ± 0.12 (systematic) for M96. We included the TRGB distance estimates for these three galaxies in the luminosity calibration of SNe Ia as well as the two galaxies in this study, NGC 4038/39 and NGC 5584.

We compiled optical light curves of five SNe Ia in the following literature: \(UBVri\) photometric data for SN 2007sr and SN 2007af from the Carnegie Supernova Project\(^7\) \((u\text{-band})\) and Hicken et al. (2009) \((BVi\text{bands})\), \(UBVRi\) photometric data for SN 2011fe, SN 1989B and SN 1998bu from Pereira et al. (2013), Wells et al. (1994), and Jha et al. (1999), respectively. We added three \(V\text{-band}\) data points before the pre-maximum of SN 2007sr, given by the All-Sky Automated Survey and Riess et al. (2011). All the photometric data for these five SNe Ia were done with CCD detectors, not photoelectric detectors. Then we ran MLCS2k2 (version 0.07) (Jha et al. 2007) to derive their light curve parameters. We set the total to selective extinction ratio, \(R_V = 3.1\) for the Milky Way and \(R_V = 2.5\) for SN Ia host galaxies, to be consistent with Riess et al. (2011). We added 0.08 mag as a light curve fit error, and 10% of the Milky Way and host galaxy extinction values as extinction errors in the error propagation. We also included the intrinsic luminosity dispersion of SNe Ia of 0.14 mag (Jha et al. 2007) in the error calculation.

The values of the parameters derived from the light curve fits are summarized in Table 6. Our light curve fit results are consistent with those in Jha et al. (2007) and Riess et al. (2011), within fitting uncertainty. Figure 9 shows a comparison of TRGB distance estimates, \(V\text{-band}\) absolute peak magnitudes, and host galaxy extinction values of the five SNe Ia. Two features are noted. First, the host galaxy extinction values for other three SNe Ia is 0.21 mag, slightly larger than those of the other three SNe Ia. Thus the derived light curve parameters fitting uncertainty. Then we ran MLCS2k2 (version 0.07) (Jha et al. 2007) to derive their light curve parameters. We set the total to selective extinction ratio, \(R_V = 3.1\) for the Milky Way and \(R_V = 2.5\) for SN Ia host galaxies, to be consistent with Riess et al. (2011). We added 0.08 mag as a light curve fit error, and 10% of the Milky Way and host galaxy extinction values as extinction errors in the error propagation. We also included the intrinsic luminosity dispersion of SNe Ia of 0.14 mag (Jha et al. 2007) in the error calculation.

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and the HST key project (\(M_V = \pm 19.46\), Sandage et al. 2006). If we adopt three low-reddened SNe (SN 2007sr, SN 2007af, and SN 2011fe), then the absolute peak magnitude would be slightly fainter, \(M_V = \pm 19.19 \pm 0.10\), getting closer to the estimate given by Riess et al. (2011).

Riess et al. (2011) presented the relation between the absolute magnitude of SNe Ia and the Hubble constant based on the MLCS2k2 fits of 140 SNe Ia at \(0.023 < z < 0.1\):

\[
\log H_0 = \frac{M_V^0 + 5a_V + 25}{5} \quad \text{and} \quad a_V = 0.697 \pm 0.002.
\]

Using the absolute magnitudes derived in this study to the above equation, we derived a Hubble constant: \(H_0 = 69.8 \pm 2.6\) (random) \(\pm 3.9\) (systematic) \(\text{km s}^{-1}\) \(\text{Mpc}^{-1}\) from the five SNe, and \(H_0 = 72.2 \pm 3.3\) (random)\(\pm 4.0\) (systematic) \(\text{km s}^{-1}\) \(\text{Mpc}^{-1}\) from the three low-reddened SNe. Our estimate based on the five SNe is similar to the values from the CMBR analysis, \(H_0 \approx 69\) \(\text{km s}^{-1}\) \(\text{Mpc}^{-1}\) (Bennett et al. 2013; Planck Collaboration 2015) and not much different, within the errors, from those of recent Cepheid calibrations of SNe Ia, \(H_0 \approx 74\) \(\text{km s}^{-1}\) \(\text{Mpc}^{-1}\) (Riess et al. 2011; Freedman et al. 2012). Our estimate based on the three low-reddened SNe is between the values from the two independent methods.

### Table 6

| Galaxy       | SN Ia  | Filters | \(\Delta^a\) | \(A_V^a\) | \(m_0^{\text{b}}\) | Distance Modulus | TRGB | \(M_V^b\) |
|--------------|--------|---------|--------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------|------|-----------|
| NGC 4038/39  | SN 2007sr | uBVri  | −0.086       | 0.349     | 12.404            | 31.67 ± 0.05    |      | −19.266±0.176 |
| NGC 5584     | SN 2007af | uBVri  | −0.038       | 0.346     | 12.810            | 31.76 ± 0.04    |      | −18.950±0.171 |
| M101 (NGC 5457) | SN 2011fe | UBVRI  | −0.154       | 0.157     | 9.955             | 29.30 ± 0.01    |      | −19.345±0.162 |
| M66 (NGC 3627) | SN 1989B | UBVRI  | 0.060        | 1.242     | 10.591            | 30.12 ± 0.03    |      | −19.529±0.217  |
| M06 (NGC 3368) | SN 1998bu | UBVRI  | −0.021       | 1.025     | 10.793            | 30.15 ± 0.03    |      | −19.357±0.199  |

**Notes.**

\(\Delta^a\), \(A_V^a\), and \(m_0^{\text{b}}\) denote the luminosity/light-curve shape parameter, the host galaxy extinction, and the corrected apparent peak magnitude described in Jha et al. (2007), respectively.

We added 0.08 mag as an MLCS2k2 fitting uncertainty, 10% of the Milky Way and the host galaxy extinction value as an extinction uncertainty, and 0.14 mag as an intrinsic luminosity dispersion of SNe Ia.
5. SUMMARY

We present the TRGB distance estimates for SN Ia host galaxies NGC 4038/39 and NGC 5584 from the PSF photometry of archival HST images. A summary of the main results in this study is as follows.

1. We detected RGB stars in the outer region of NGC 4038/39 and NGC 5584 based on the combined archival ACS/WFC and WFC3/UVIS image data.

2. We derived photometric transformation between F555W and F814W bands of WFC3/UVIS and that of ACS/WFC, by comparing the photometry of the resolved stars in two Milky Way globular clusters, NGC 2419 and 47 Tuc.

3. We found I-band TRGB magnitudes to be at $I_{TRGB} = 27.67 \pm 0.05$ for NGC 4038/39 and $I_{TRGB} = 27.77 \pm 0.04$ for NGC 5584. From these, we derived the TRGB distance estimates of $(m-M)_0 = 31.67 \pm 0.05 \pm 0.12$ for NGC 4038/39 and $(m-M)_0 = 31.76 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.12$ for NGC 5584.

4. Based on distance estimates for the two SNe derived in this study and that of the three SNe in our previous studies, we calibrate the V-band peak absolute magnitude of SNe Ia.

5. From the mean absolute magnitude of five SNe Ia, the Hubble constant is determined to be $H_0 = 69.8 \pm 2.6 \pm 3.9$ km s$^{-1}$ Mpc$^{-1}$, which is similar to the values from the CMBR analysis, $H_0 \sim 69$ km s$^{-1}$ Mpc$^{-1}$ (Bennett et al. 2013; Planck Collaboration 2015). Our estimate is slightly smaller, but agrees within errors, with the values from the recent calibrations of SNe Ia with the Cepheid variables, $H_0 \approx 74$ km s$^{-1}$ Mpc$^{-1}$ (Riess et al. 2011; Freedman et al. 2012). If we adopt three low-reddened SNe, corresponding the Hubble constant is slightly increased, $H_0 = 72.2 \pm 3.3$ (random) $\pm 4.0$ (systematic) km s$^{-1}$ Mpc$^{-1}$.

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