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Gravitational light bending: a powerful astrophysical tool

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Originally being the first crucial test of General Relativity, light deflection in a gravitational field has become one of the prime tool for astrophysics and cosmology, with applications ranging from the detection of extra-Solar planets, the study of the (dark) matter distribution in galaxies and galaxy clusters, the use as natural telescopes which come for free, the biasing properties of galaxies, to constraining the equation-of-state of dark energy and testing the law of gravity on cosmic scales. In this talk, a selection of recent research highlight will be presented, and prospects for future developments will be given.