

#####

Newsletter #62, December 31st 2018

#####

If the newsletter does not look good in your email, check the pdf [here!](#)

News from the engineering team (Report by Roger Smith)

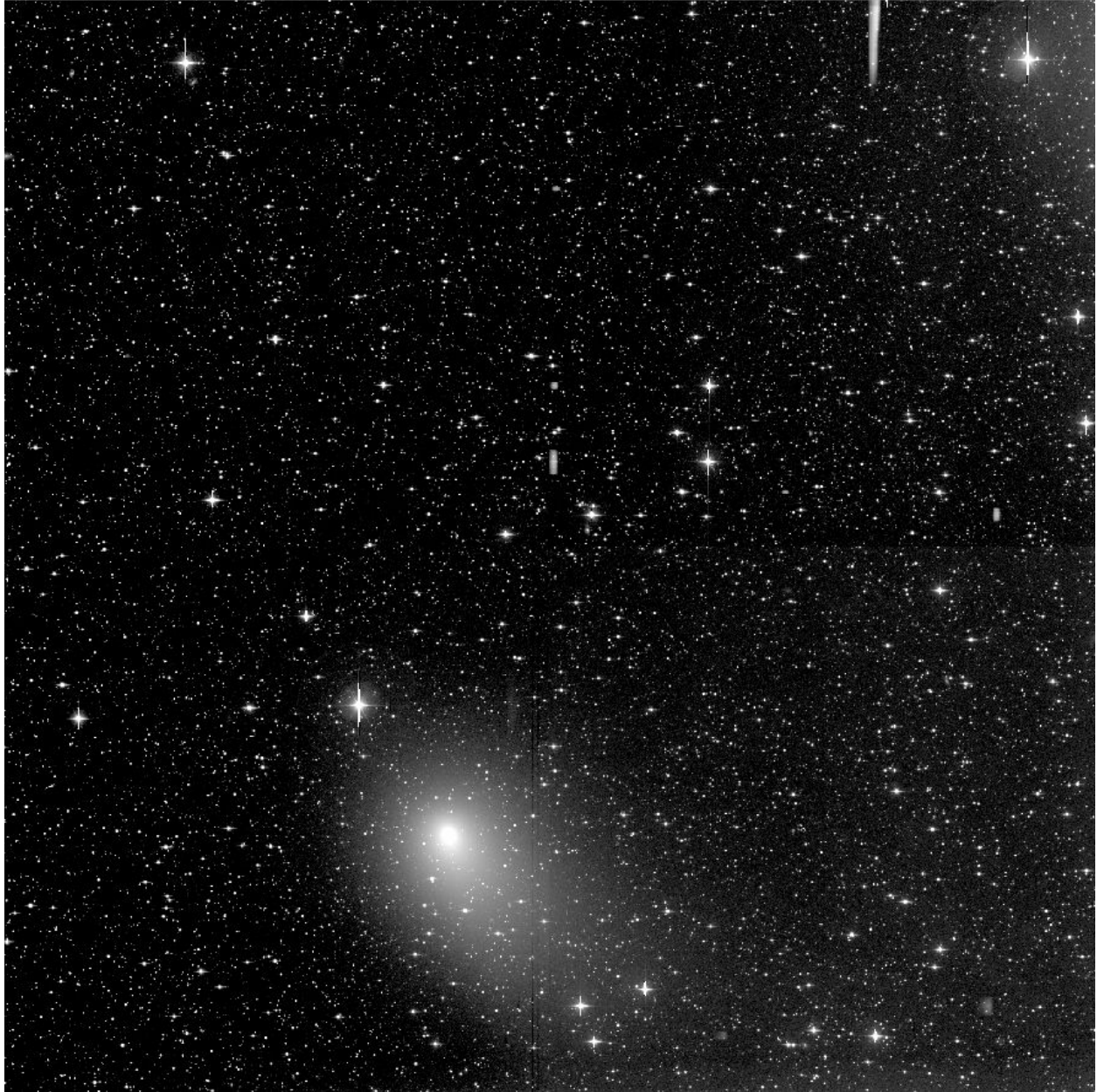
“Evidently we got onto Santa’s “naughty” list, since he left us with an entirely *new* problem on the same Southwest cooling head which had been cleaned (twice!).

This time there was a refrigerant leak which occurred only at some telescope pointings. This immediately suggested the joint between the 50’ and 25’ lines where we had installed a 2nd charcoal adsorber to trap any contaminants. It happens that a hose coupling was placed in the section which flexes as the telescope moves in RA. To our surprise the torque produced by RA motion was slowly unscrewing the connection and in fact had accumulated 2 full turns on the retention nut.

There was no scheduled observing on the 24th and 25th so we warmed the dewar in preparation for an emergency run to Palomar by Feeny and Smith on the 26th. We confirmed the leak with a gas sniffer, re-tightened the coupling and moved it out of the cable “festoon” to a point which doesn’t flex, recharged both coolers and started cooldown. Observing restarted on the 27th, albeit on the warm side. It will be interesting to hear whether dark current was noticeable against the sky background. By the 28th dark current was back to negligible levels. At this time cooling power margin is fine notwithstanding the low ambient temperatures which degrade cooling system performance.”

Comet 46P/Wirtanen (from the solar system group):

The ZTF Partnership Survey imaged bright comet 46P/Wirtanen three times in December. Attached is a full-frame CCD image (1.9 deg across) from Dec 29 UT (1.08 au from the Sun, 0.11 au = 1.6e7 km from Earth). The image is log-scaled to enhance the contrast between the coma and tail. Although the integrated visual magnitude of the comet was about 4th, the comet does not saturate in ZTF images due to the very large size.



The papers corner: Please let us know one a paper has been accepted!

Reminder: March collaboration meeting:

A kind reminder to please register to the coming ZTF meeting if you plan to attend (this is not committing and no costs involved).The meeting website is [here](#). For registration go [here](#). Also, the organisers would like to start to collect and organise the potential contributions, so please begin sending in your proposed talks (via your meeting account or by replying to this email), even if there's no abstract yet.

As mentioned in Ofer Yaron's email, the talks will be scheduled to the following general sessions:

- **Survey engineering/technical updates, operations and methodologies**
- **Pipelines and utilities**
- **Reviews from the various working groups**
- **Scientific highlights & results (incl. session on unique events; e.g. 18cow)**
- **Future activities/plans**
- **Workshops/discussions (Friday potential sessions)**

Reminder: IMPORTANT: We (still) need your help for the ZTF FAQs page! (and would love to remove this item from the newsletter)

During several weeks, we have listed the questions that people across the collaboration would like to have in the [FAQs](#) page. Now it is time to add answers. Please help us fill the voids (and elaborate on the answers already there).

More reminders:

- Public Alerts: There is a [link](#) to the alerts archive on the [website](#)!
- Please help us keeping track of all the available softwares! A preliminary list is available on the [twiki](#). Let us know if you are building a software which you think could benefit (or be relevant to) a large portion of the collaboration.
- **ZTF general slack channel**: Please join through this [link](#)!
- If you want to get access to the **ZTF data** via the IRSA interface, please request data access to the communication coordinators: ztf.communication.coordinators@gmail.com
- **Archive GUI** now ready! The interactive image search, filtering and visualization tool is now ready ().
- The **ZTF Twitter account** is now active! <https://twitter.com/ztfsurvey> Re-tweet @ztfsurvey!
- To use the **url shortener** (e.g. during telecons, talks, in emails), navigate to <http://zwicky.tf/shorten> (username: ztf password:16chips) and type in the URL you want shortened.
- The **Wiki page** is active! Check it out at <http://zwicky.tf/wiki> . To request access, please email us at ZTF.communication.coordinators@gmail.com

Happy New Year!

"An optimist stays up to see the New Year in.

A pessimist waits to make sure the old one leaves." Bill Vaughan

Have a great and productive week!

Thomas and Maayane