Recent improvements in photometry and astrometry in crowded fields



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Real bogus and transients in crowded fields before reprocessing



- Sky2night3:
 - 1-2 hour cadence
 - ~450 sqd.
 - Iow Galactic latitude
 - over 8 nights
- Goal: <u>fast Galactic transients</u>
- Result:
 - 10 dwarf novae (3 had counterpart in ref image)
 - 2 supernovae
 - 1 AGN
 - 1 M-star flare

Is this expected?

Real bogus and difference imaging in crowded fields before reprocessing



- Tens of M-star flares were expected -> Almost all were missed
- A factor of 5 10 too few dwarf novae

 A large number of difference image failures in the inner Plane

Reprocessing fixed the astrometry Field at I=55 deg, b=0.5 deg



The PTF high-cadence survey



- High cadence observations of 30 Galactic plane fields in summer 2016
 - I = 55 88 deg, b < |5| deg
- Each field has about 60 70 consecutive exposures

The PTF high-cadence survey - Performance

- 100% of the science images were successfully reprocessed
- We find about 12 Mio individual sources
- About 5 10% are blended









- Blending is easy to filter
- For completeness difference imaging preferred



- 100% of the science images were successfully reprocessed
- 85% of the epochs have difference images created
- out of 330 CCDs about 35 CCDs have no difference images created



- Extracted about 1.9 Mio individual sources
- 1.5 Mio have PanSTARRS colors
- Higher density towards inner Galactic Plane

The PTF high-cadence survey - PTF1 J2042+3657

SDSS

PTF





- Not detected in individual PTF images due to blending
- Was detected as short period variable from difference imaging
- Relatively blue: g-r ~ 0 mag

The PTF high-cadence survey - PTF1 J2042+3657



 Follow-up observations revealed a new cataclysmic variable near the period minimum with a period of 84.5min

Summary

- We observed 200 sqd. with continuous 2hr lightcurves
- <u>100%</u> of the science images were successfully processed
 About <u>5-10%</u> of the sources are blended
- Difference imaging was successfully performed on 85% of the images
 - We are still working to understand the remaining 15%
- About <u>1.9 Mio</u> individual variable sources were extracted from difference images
 - 1.4 Mio had PanSTARRS colors

Summary

- We observed 200 sqd. with continuous 2hr lightcurves
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Bottomline: The processing of the Galactic Plane is acceptable and we expect it to be improved even more in the future

The fast and the furious - a fast cadence survey in the Galactic Plane with ZTF



- Gaia provides distances and proper motions in spring 2018
- PanSTARRS, IPHAS provide colors
- ZTF will provide the time domain data

The fast and the furious - a fast cadence survey in the Galactic Plane with ZTF



• <u>Coverage:</u>

- Galactic latitude |b|< 7 deg
- Galactic longitude 10 < I < 230 deg
- Full coverage: 3080 deg² 15x coverage of OmegaWhite

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