

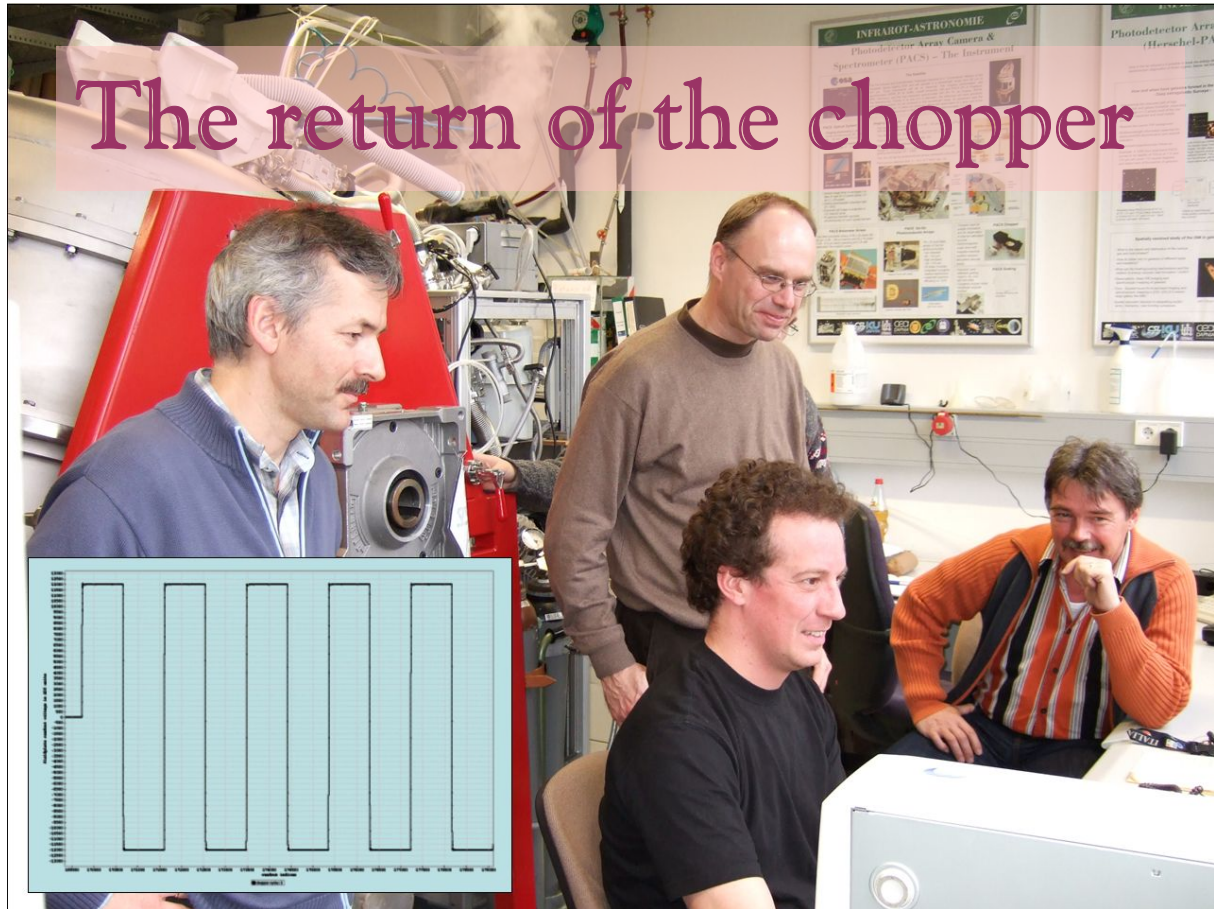


# PACS Newsletter

Nr. 16, 2 March 2007



## The PACS Picture of the Week



*Fig.1: Chop chop hurray! It took a while, and everyone's nerves were stressed, but the chopper seems to be working very well, now.*

### Status

We did it, we started the PACS FM ILT phase II ! The DECMEC FM was delivered in time and we were able to start the test sequence as planned. Because of the problems with the previous chopper in phase I we were extra cautious in switching on and operating the new chopper (the original FM). It took a while to optimise the control parameters, and this procedure is not quite finished yet, but as you can see in figure 1 the performance is now really approaching its optimum. We are roughly within the planned test schedule, and we are running double shifts and work on Saturdays to ensure that we can cover most of our planned test until delivery in April. This means an enormous load on the ICC, but everyone is determined to go the extra mile and make PACS a success.



*Fig.2: Every day, at around 14:00, when Shift 1 hands over to Shift 2, we have a briefing. As you can see, the PACS operations room ("opera" for short) is really getting crowded these days.*

And finally:

**The PACS Number of the Week: 22000**

the estimated population of polar bears world wide (source: WWF).

So there is roughly as many polar bears on earth as astronomers (i.e. potential PACS users).  
One more reason to sympathise with polar bears...

The PACS Newsletter is edited by:  
Dr. Eckhard Sturm (PACS ICC Deputy Manager)  
[sturm@mpe.mpg.de](mailto:sturm@mpe.mpg.de)  
Chief Photographer and Photo Editor:  
Dr. Albrecht Poglitsch (PACS PI)

