



A Catalog of Galaxies in the Direction of the Perseus Cluster

Carolin Wittmann¹ , Ralf Kotulla² , Thorsten Lisker¹ , Eva K. Grebel¹ , Christopher J. Conselice³ , Joachim Janz^{4,5}, and Samantha J. Penny⁶

¹ Astronomisches Rechen-Institut, Zentrum für Astronomie der Universität Heidelberg, Mönchhofstraße 12-14, D-69120 Heidelberg, Germany
carolin@dwarfgalaxies.net

² Department of Astronomy, University of Wisconsin at Madison, 475 North Charter Street, Madison, WI 53706-1582, USA

³ School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Nottingham, Nottingham NG7 2RD, UK

⁴ Astronomy Research Unit, University of Oulu, Pentti Kaiteran katu 1, FI-90014 Oulu, Finland

⁵ Finnish Centre of Astronomy with ESO (FINCA), University of Turku, Väisälantie 20, FI-21500 Piikkiö, Finland

⁶ Institute of Cosmology and Gravitation, University of Portsmouth, Burnaby Road, Portsmouth PO1 3FX, UK

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Abstract

We present a catalog of 5437 morphologically classified sources in the direction of the Perseus galaxy cluster core, among them 496 early-type low-mass galaxy candidates. The catalog is primarily based on V -band imaging data acquired with the William Herschel Telescope, which we used to conduct automated source detection and derive photometry. We additionally reduced archival Subaru multiband imaging data in order to measure aperture colors and perform a morphological classification, benefiting from $0.^{\circ}5$ seeing conditions in the r -band data. Based on morphological and color properties, we extracted a sample of early-type low-mass galaxy candidates with absolute V -band magnitudes in the range of -10 to -20 mag. In the color–magnitude diagram, the galaxies are located where the red sequence for early-type cluster galaxies is expected, and they lie on the literature relation between absolute magnitude and Sérsic index. We classified the early-type dwarf candidates into nucleated and nonnucleated galaxies. For the faint candidates, we found a trend of increasing nucleation fraction toward brighter luminosity or higher surface brightness, similar to what is observed in other nearby galaxy clusters. We morphologically classified the remaining sources as likely background elliptical galaxies, late-type galaxies, edge-on disk galaxies, and likely merging systems and discussed the expected contamination fraction through non-early-type cluster galaxies in the magnitude-size surface brightness parameter space. Our catalog reaches its 50% completeness limit at an absolute V -band luminosity of -12 mag and a V -band surface brightness of 26 mag arcsec^{-2} . This makes it the largest and deepest catalog with coherent coverage compared to previous imaging studies of the Perseus cluster.

Key words: catalogs – galaxies: clusters: individual (Perseus) – galaxies: dwarf – galaxies: photometry

Supporting material: machine-readable tables

1. Introduction

Galaxy clusters are the densest regions with the highest galaxy number densities in the universe. They contain a wide variety of stellar systems, ranging from the cluster central galaxy, which is typically the most luminous cluster member, to over all kinds of early- and late-type galaxies from the giant to the dwarf scale; to very small stellar systems like compact elliptical galaxies, ultracompact dwarf galaxies, and globular clusters.

Galaxy clusters continuously grow by accreting individual galaxies, as well as entire galaxy groups. At the same time, they transform or even destroy the newly arrived members. Ram pressure, exerted by the intracluster medium, leads to stripping and depletion of an infalling galaxy’s gas reservoir (Gunn & Gott 1972), preventing the fueling of further star formation and turning the galaxy red in color due to its aging stellar population. Tidal stripping or heating induced by the overall cluster potential or close passages of massive cluster galaxies may result in a perturbation or even the destruction of the stellar galaxy component (e.g., Moore et al. 1998; Gnedin 2003; Bialas et al. 2015; Smith et al. 2015). These cluster environmental processes result in different properties for cluster and field galaxies and are thought to give rise to the observed relations between morphology and color with environmental density (Dressler 1980; Binggeli et al. 1987;

Bamford et al. 2009), where red non-star-forming early-type galaxies (ETGs) dominate in high-density regions and blue star-forming late-type galaxies (LTGs) are preferentially located in lower-density environments.

Although dwarf galaxies only make up a minor fraction of the total luminosity and mass content of all cluster galaxies, they are the dominant cluster population by numbers. This makes them ideal tracers of a cluster’s assembly history. Signatures of their infall and accretion history will still be imprinted in their spatial and velocity distribution after several gigayears, since dwarf galaxies are insensitive to dynamical friction (Vijayaraghavan et al. 2015). Dwarf galaxies are also valuable indicators to study cluster environmental processes. Due to their low masses and shallow gravitational potential wells, dwarf galaxies are thought to be particularly sensitive to external influences (e.g., Penny et al. 2014a).

Pioneering work in cataloging and studying dwarf populations in galaxy clusters was carried out by Binggeli et al. (1985) in the Virgo cluster and Ferguson (1989) in the Fornax cluster. Until today, these two environments constituted the best-studied nearby clusters in terms of their galaxy populations, from which a lot of insight was gained with regard to understanding galaxy evolution. Also, the more distant Coma galaxy cluster generated a lot of interest, leading to a well-studied galaxy population in an even more massive cluster

environment compared to Virgo and Fornax (e.g., Godwin et al. 1983; Carter et al. 2008; Michard & Andreon 2008). Recent deep wide-field imaging surveys of Virgo (Next Generation Virgo Cluster Survey; Ferrarese et al. 2012), Fornax (Fornax Deep Survey (FDS); Venhola et al. 2018; Next Generation Fornax Cluster Survey; Muñoz et al. 2015), and Coma (Koda et al. 2015) pushed the detection limits to very faint luminosities and surface brightnesses, allowing one to detect dwarf galaxy members even in the regime of Local Group dwarf spheroidals.

The Perseus galaxy cluster is another nearby rich galaxy cluster at a distance of ~ 70 Mpc. With a virial mass on the order of $8.5 \times 10^{14} M_{\odot}$ (Mathews et al. 2006), it is clearly more massive than Fornax and Virgo and a factor of ~ 1.5 less massive than the more distant Coma cluster. There are signs that Perseus is a dynamically young environment, like Virgo, with indications of ongoing assembly (Andreon 1994; Brunzendorf & Meusinger 1999). The cluster has a variety of interesting properties, for example, the peculiar central galaxy NGC 1275, very bright X-ray emission, and a high cluster velocity dispersion (see Conselice et al. 2002). This makes Perseus stand out as another unique rich cluster environment in the nearby universe with interesting prospects to study environmental influences on its galaxy population. Nevertheless, Perseus has not yet been studied in similar detail as Virgo, Fornax, and Coma.

The Perseus cluster is partly covered by the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS; Ahn et al. 2012), but the data do not probe far into the dwarf galaxy luminosity and size regime at the distance of Perseus, due to the rather shallow depth and comparably low spatial resolution of the data. Brunzendorf & Meusinger (1999) presented a catalog of 660 brighter galaxies, with $B_{25} < 19.5$ mag, which they detected on a 10 deg^2 area of the Perseus cluster based on digitized Schmidt plates. Deeper and higher-resolution imaging studies of a $0.3 \times 0.3 \text{ Mpc}^2$ region of the cluster core were conducted by Conselice et al. (2002, 2003), based on multiband imaging data acquired with the WIYN 3.5 m telescope, revealing a sample of 53 dwarf galaxy candidates. About 30 possible and confirmed dwarf cluster members, partly overlapping with the above sample, were studied in detail based on observations with the *Hubble Space Telescope (HST)* by De Rijcke et al. (2009) and Penny et al. (2009). A deep wide-field survey conducted with the William Herschel Telescope (WHT) was presented in Wittmann et al. (2017). Their observations cover $0.7 \times 0.7 \text{ Mpc}^2$ of the central cluster region and reach a 5σ V-band depth of ~ 27 mag arcsec^{-2} , which allowed them to identify a population of 89 faint low surface brightness galaxy candidates with a mean effective V-band surface brightness fainter than 25 mag arcsec^{-2} .

In this study, we present a new catalog of sources in the direction of the Perseus cluster core based on the WHT V-band data described in Wittmann et al. (2017). It is a collection of both likely cluster members and sources in the background, with our primary focus being extracting a sample of early-type low-mass galaxy candidates. We used the WHT V-band mosaic to perform an automated source detection with SExtractor (Bertin & Arnouts 1996), which we tuned to be most efficient at detecting faint extended sources. The most reliable approach in discriminating cluster from background galaxies is based on radial velocity measurements. However, in the faint luminosity regime of dwarf galaxies, so far only a handful of sources have

been spectroscopically confirmed in Perseus (Penny & Conselice 2008). We therefore performed a morphological analysis of all sources detected in our WHT V-band mosaic. Selecting early-type dwarf galaxies based on their morphological appearance has been demonstrated to be quite successful, e.g., by Binggeli et al. (1985) and Conselice et al. (2002). However, the success of a correct morphological classification greatly depends on the spatial resolution of the imaging data in order to reveal the substructure of possible background galaxies. Therefore, we examined archival Subaru HyperPrimeCam (HSC) data with very good seeing conditions that overlap with our WHT V-band footprint, allowing us to perform a very high quality morphological classification even for small and faint sources.

This paper is structured as follows. In Section 2 we characterize the data sets used for this study. In Section 3 we outline the source detection and give a quantitative completeness estimate for the catalog. The photometric measurements are described in Section 4. In Section 5 we explain the morphological classification. Our final catalog is presented in Section 6. We provide a discussion on the parameter distributions of the morphologically classified sources in Section 7 and perform a literature comparison in Section 8. We summarize the results of this study in Section 9.

Throughout the paper, we adopt a distance of 72.3 Mpc to the Perseus cluster and a scale of $20.32 \text{ kpc arcmin}^{-1}$ (Struble & Rood 1999, using the “cosmology-corrected” quantities from the NASA/IPAC Extragalactic Database (NED), with $H_0 = 73.0 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$, $\Omega_{\text{matter}} = 0.27$, $\Omega_{\text{vacuum}} = 0.73$).

2. Data

We performed the source detection and photometry in our V-band mosaic of the Perseus cluster core, which we presented and described in Wittmann et al. (2017; see their Figure 1 and Figure 1 in this paper). The mosaic is based on imaging data acquired with the prime focus imaging platform at the WHT (program 2012B/045; PI: T. Lisker). It covers a region of 0.27 deg^2 , which corresponds to 0.41 Mpc^2 at the distance of Perseus and extends to a clustercentric distance of 0.57° (≈ 0.70 Mpc). The mosaic is characterized by an image depth of 27 mag arcsec^{-2} in the V band at a signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) of 1 pixel $^{-1}$, with a pixel scale of $0.237 \text{ arcsec pixel}^{-1}$. The average seeing FWHM corresponds to $0''.9$.

The WHT data constitute our primary data set that we used to establish the catalog. When starting to work on the catalog, we had the fully reduced WHT V-band mosaic already in hand, and we were convinced that the data would be well suited for automated source detection and photometry based on our experience in Wittmann et al. (2017), where we used the data for visual detection and photometry of faint low surface brightness galaxy candidates. We additionally reduced archival Subaru HSC data in the g , r , and z bands, which served as an auxiliary data set to improve the quality of the catalog. This allowed us to benefit from the $0''.5$ seeing conditions in the Subaru r -band data for the morphological analysis, as well as to obtain color information by deriving $g - r$ and $r - z$ aperture colors.

A full description of the reduction details for the Subaru data set is presented in a forthcoming paper by Kotulla et al., so we only present a short overview to provide critical information. The HSC data set was compiled from a number of mostly overlapping observations taken under two different proposals

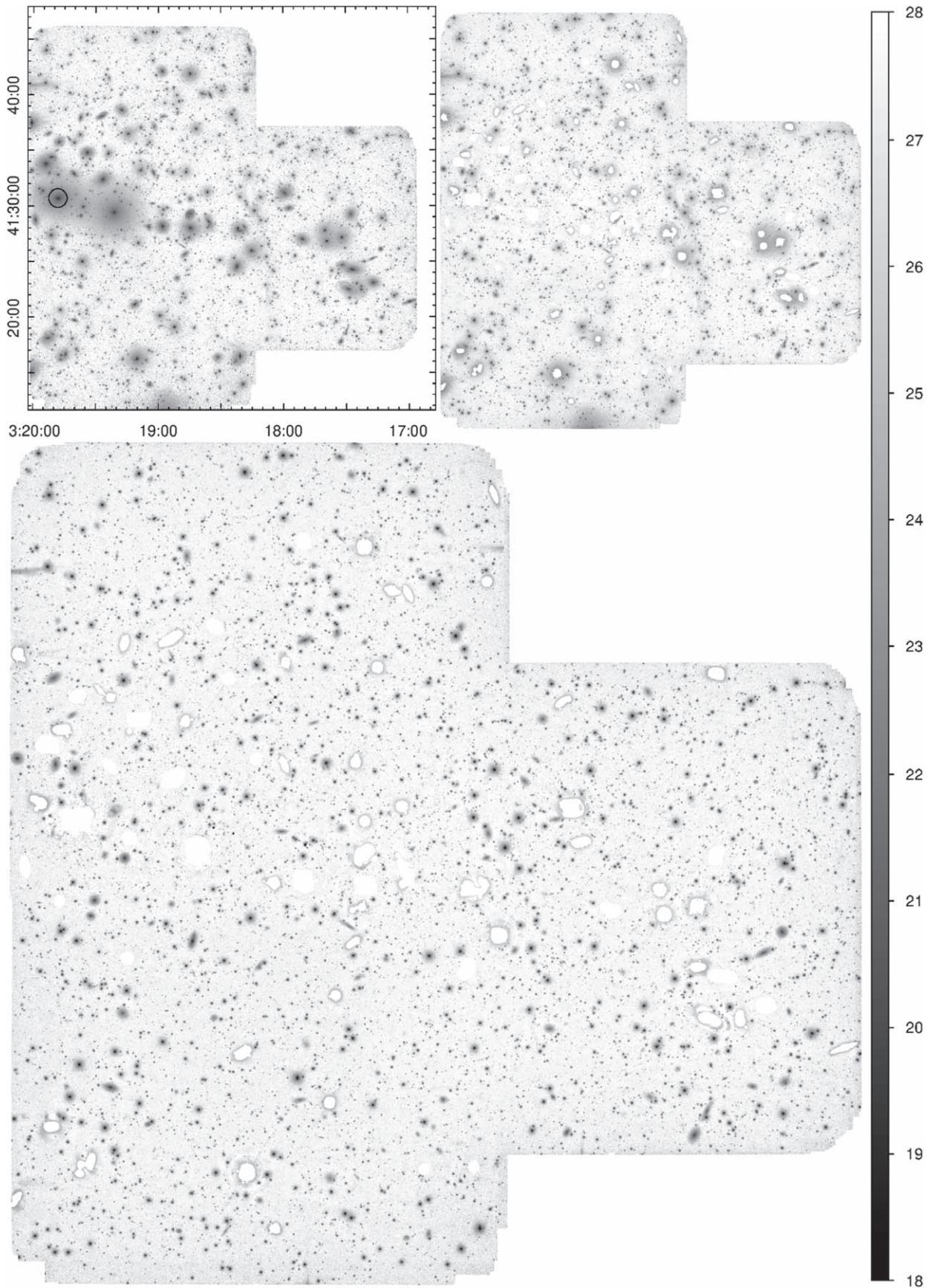


Figure 1. Top left: reduced WHT V -band mosaic of the Perseus cluster core. The x - and y -axes correspond to R.A. and decl., respectively. The black circle marks NGC 1275. Top right: partly object-subtracted mosaic with overlaid mask indicating the excluded inner regions of extended high surface brightness sources. Bottom: mosaic with subtracted SExtractor background map (`BACK_SIZE = 64 pixels`) and the high surface brightness object mask used for source detection. The gray-scale bar indicates the surface brightness in mag arcsec^{-2} . North is up, and east is to the left.

Table 1
Summary of Image Statistics for the Subaru HSC Data

Filter	Exposure Time (s)	FWHM (")	Limiting Magnitude ^a	Surface Brightness ^b
HSC- <i>g</i>	23,760	0.64	27.6	28.8
HSC- <i>r</i>	4320	0.46	26.5	27.6
HSC- <i>z</i>	2880	0.60	24.9	25.9

Notes.

^a Magnitude for point sources detected at $\geq 10\sigma$ (i.e., with photometric uncertainties < 0.1 mag).

^b Limiting surface brightness in mag arcsec $^{-2}$ pixel $^{-1}$ (pixel size 0."/237).

in 2014 September and November, obtained from the Subaru-Mitaka-Okayama-Kiso Archive (SMOKA; Baba et al. 2002). Data reduction, including bias, dark, and flat-field correction, followed by astrometric and photometric calibration, was performed using the HSC pipeline (Version 5.4). All detrended and calibrated images were then aligned and coadded into a deep stack. To measure aperture colors, we coaligned all bandpasses to the same pixel grid of the WHT data, allowing us to reuse masks and photometry apertures consistently across all bands and thus limiting systematic uncertainties and biases. This was done using SWARP (Bertin et al. 2002) to match pixel scale, pointing, and field of view. Some statistics describing these observations are summarized in Table 1. For the morphological analysis, we used the *r*-band data with the native HSC pixel scale of 0.168 arcsec pixel $^{-1}$.

We publicly release the mosaics used in this study through the German Astrophysical Virtual Observatory (GAVO); see Section 6.

3. The Source Catalog

3.1. Source Detection

We established a catalog of sources in the direction of Perseus based on detection with SExtractor⁷ on our WHT V-band mosaic. Prior to detection, we fitted and subtracted the light profiles of most of the bright galaxies and stellar halos using IRAF⁸ *ellipse*. We additionally excluded the inner regions of all subtracted sources, since they often show pronounced residuals, as well as the bright centers of remaining sources that were not subtracted. We therefore masked all regions that were detected with SExtractor in the original Perseus mosaic (where no sources were subtracted) when requiring a detection threshold above 5σ and more than 10,000 connected pixels. We note that this results in a bright *V*-band magnitude limit of -20 mag for our catalog and a reduced detection efficiency for the larger sources with absolute *V*-band magnitudes brighter than -19 mag (see Figure 4 and Section 3.3). The masked regions in the partly object-subtracted WHT mosaic are indicated in Figure 1 (top right and bottom panels).

We used a set of model galaxies inserted into our data to tailor the SExtractor parameter configuration especially to the detection of faint galaxies. We generated a set of 69 model galaxies spanning the parameter range of faint low-mass galaxies from compact elliptical to faint low surface brightness galaxies

with absolute *V*-band magnitudes $M_{V,0} = -10$ to -19 mag ($m_{V,0} = 24.3$ – 15.3 mag), half-light radii $r_{50} = 0.2$ – 7.8 kpc ($r_{50} = 0."/6$ – $23."/0$), and effective surface brightnesses $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} = 16$ – 27 mag arcsec $^{-2}$ at the distance of Perseus. In the following, we denote extinction-corrected magnitudes by adding the subscript “0”. For the model galaxies, we assumed an extinction of $A_V = 0.5$ mag, which is the average value for the region covered by the WHT mosaic footprint. For all nonartificial sources, we obtained the extinction values at the position of the respective source (see Sections 4.3 and 4.4).

We realized all model galaxies with a one-component Sérsic $n = 1$ profile and an ellipticity of $\epsilon = 0.1$ and convolved them with a Gaussian kernel adopting our average WHT *V*-band seeing point-spread function (PSF) FWHM of 0."/9. For each model, we generated one copy of our mosaic where we inserted about 80 duplicates, requiring that they do not overlap with each other or fall on one of the masked regions indicated in Figure 1. The total number of models inserted into 69 different mosaic copies amounts to 5478.

We ran SExtractor several times with varying parameter settings on the mosaics with the inserted model galaxies in order to test which parameter configuration yields the highest detection fractions. In particular, the parameters DT and DMIN, specifying the minimum number of connected pixels (DMIN) above a certain detection threshold (DT) that are required to result in a detection, control which kind of sources will be detected.

Figure 2 shows that with a parameter configuration of DT = 1.3σ and DMIN = 25 pixels, we are able to detect more than 90% of all model galaxies with $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} \leq 24$ mag arcsec $^{-2}$. A lower detection threshold of DT = 0.8σ with the same DMIN parameter improves the detection of fainter surface brightness sources with $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} > 24$ mag arcsec $^{-2}$. However, although both SExtractor configurations yield similar detection fractions for sources with $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} \leq 24$ mag arcsec $^{-2}$, the derived photometry of the DT = 0.8σ detections often turns out to be less reliable. For example, sources with diffuse halos, which would be detected as single objects with the DT = 1.3σ configuration, are frequently split up into multiple detections with the DT = 0.8σ parameter setting. Therefore, we adopted a two-pass detection, where we first ran SExtractor with a detection threshold of DT1 = 1.3σ and then with a detection threshold of DT2 = 0.8σ . We merged the source catalogs of both runs, where we considered all sources from the DT1 run and additional sources from the DT2 run that were not detected with the DT1 SExtractor parameter setting.⁹ In both cases, we ran SExtractor with internal filtering prior to source detection, adopting a Gaussian filter with FWHM = 4 pixels, which is on the order of the average WHT *V*-band seeing PSF FWHM. To take into account the noise properties of our mosaic during the detection process, we furthermore provided a weight image generated from our data, which is described in Wittmann et al. (2017).

The detection of faint sources close to or superimposed with brighter sources is very sensitive to the SExtractor deblending parameters, as well as the subtracted background map, which is internally generated by SExtractor. For the deblending, we used a very low deblending contrast (DEBLEND_MINCONT = 0.00001) together with a high number of deblending thresholds (DEBLEND_NTHRESH = 64). This ensures that a bright source is split up into a sufficient

⁷ SExtractor version 2.8.6.

⁸ IRAF is distributed by the National Optical Astronomy Observatory, which is operated by the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy (AURA) under a cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation.

⁹ We considered a model galaxy as nondetected if its position did not match any source detected by SExtractor within 1."/5.

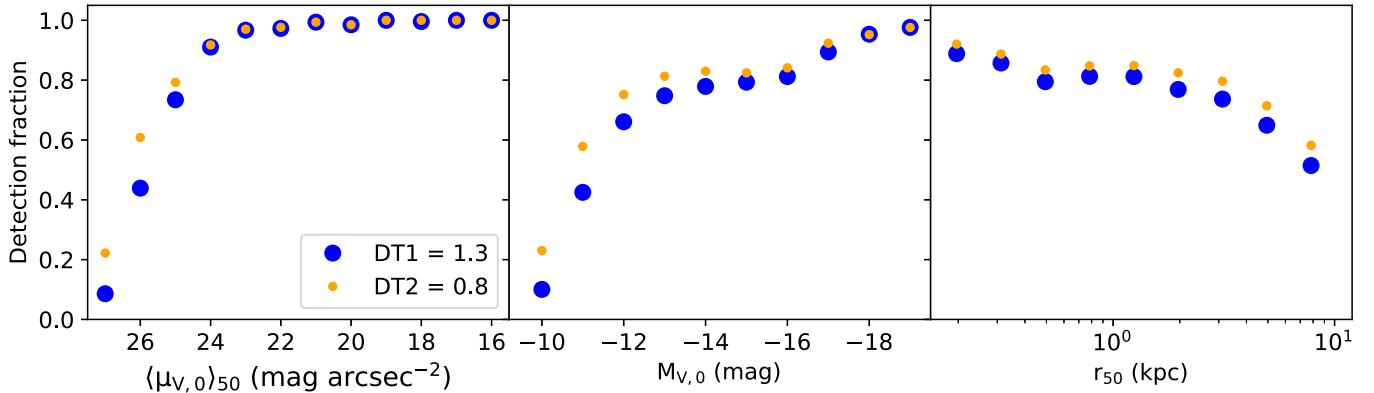


Figure 2. Comparison of the detection fractions of the inserted model galaxies for the two considered SExtractor configurations with detection thresholds of $DT1 = 1.3\sigma$ and $DT2 = 0.8\sigma$, respectively, as a function of intrinsic model parameters. All other SExtractor configuration parameters were adopted as given in Table 2. Models are considered as detected if their position matches a SExtractor detection within $1''$.

number of subdetections, allowing us to recognize superimposed faint sources as separate detections. We note that this may also lead to splitting up extended low surface brightness sources. Multiple detections of a single source were, however, rejected later through visual inspection.

The properties of the subtracted SExtractor background map are regulated by the parameters `BACK_SIZE`, specifying the size of the region within which the mean background is estimated, and `BACK_FILTERSIZE`, denoting the width of the filter that is used to smooth the background map. When the size of the background box becomes comparable to the size of a certain object in the data, part of the object flux will be incorporated into the background map and subtracted. Thus, the `BACK_SIZE` parameter should be small enough to subtract most of the light from extended halos of bright sources, enabling the detection of underlying faint sources, but at the same time larger than the size of the typical sources of interest. We therefore adopted a `BACK_SIZE` parameter of 64 pixels, corresponding to about $15''$ or 5 kpc at the distance of Perseus, and a `BACK_FILTERSIZE` of 3. We show the mosaic with the subtracted SExtractor-generated background map that we used for source detection in Figure 1 (bottom panel).

A summary of our adopted SExtractor parameters is given in Table 2. In total, we detected 29,111 sources, from which 7899 sources were only detected with the $DT1 = 0.8\sigma$ SExtractor run. We excluded sources whose centers fall onto a masked region or are located at the edge of our mosaic with centers falling outside of the observed mosaic region.

3.2. Working Sample

We cleaned our source catalog from unresolved starlike sources using the SExtractor stellarity index `CLASS_STAR`. The index can take values between zero and 1, where a value close to zero indicates an extended galaxy-like source and a value close to 1 indicates a compact, starlike source. Figure 3 illustrates the `CLASS_STAR` distribution of the inserted model galaxies and the real sources as a function of the maximal surface brightness $\mu_{V,0,\max}$ measured by SExtractor. The majority (97%) of our inserted model galaxies with an intrinsic $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} \geq 20 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$ seem to be well described by $CLASS_STAR \leq 0.3$. Among the more compact model galaxies with an intrinsic $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} < 20 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$ and $r_{50} > 200 \text{ pc}$, 83% have $CLASS_STAR \leq 0.8$. Of the compact model galaxies with $r_{50} = 200 \text{ pc}$, however, 74% have

Table 2
Summary of the Adopted SExtractor Parameters for Source Detection

Parameter	Value
<code>DT1</code>	1.3σ
<code>DT2</code>	0.8σ
<code>DMIN</code>	25 pixels
<code>FILTER</code>	Gauss, $\text{FWHM} = 4 \text{ pixels}$
<code>DEBLEND_MINCONT</code>	0.00001
<code>DEBLEND_NTHRESH</code>	64
<code>BACK_SIZE</code>	64 pixels
<code>BACK_FILTERSIZE</code>	3

Note. We built our source catalog on two SExtractor runs. Here $DT1$ denotes the detection threshold for the first run, and $DT2$ denotes the detection threshold for the second run (see Section 3.1).

`CLASS_STAR` > 0.8 and are indistinguishable from unresolved point sources. Thus, for all real detected sources, we consider all sources with SExtractor output parameters in the regime $\mu_{V,0,\max} \geq 20 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$ and $CLASS_STAR \leq 0.3$, as well as sources with $\mu_{V,0,\max} < 20 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$ and $CLASS_STAR \leq 0.8$. This reduced our source catalog to a total of 13,132 sources, where 3980 sources were detected by the SExtractor $DT2$ run.

We only included sources in our catalog with SExtractor flags ≤ 3 , corresponding to unflagged sources, sources with close neighbors, and sources that were originally blended with another object. In total, 15 sources have flags > 3 and were not considered in the catalog. Since for very faint sources, the photometry uncertainties and background contamination significantly increase, we furthermore excluded sources that had an extinction-corrected SExtractor Petrosian magnitude (Petrosian 1976) fainter than $M_{V,0,p} = -11 \text{ mag}^{10}$ at the distance of Perseus. Our final working sample comprises a total of 7255 sources. The parameter cuts defining the working sample are summarized in Table 3.

3.3. Completeness

Figure 4 displays a completeness estimate of our catalog based on the inserted model galaxies. Shown are the detection fractions, which are the ratios of the number of detected models

¹⁰ Using a definition of $\eta = 1/0.2$ for the Petrosian radius implemented in SExtractor and setting the aperture at two Petrosian radii.

Table 3
Definition of the Working Sample Based on SExtractor Parameters

Parameter Criterion
$(\mu_{V,0,\max} \geq 20 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2} \text{ and } \text{CLASS_STAR} \leq 0.3) \mid (\mu_{V,0,\max} < 20 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2} \text{ and } \text{CLASS_STAR} \leq 0.8)$
SEXTRACTOR flag ≤ 3
$M_{V,0,p} \leq -11 \text{ mag}$

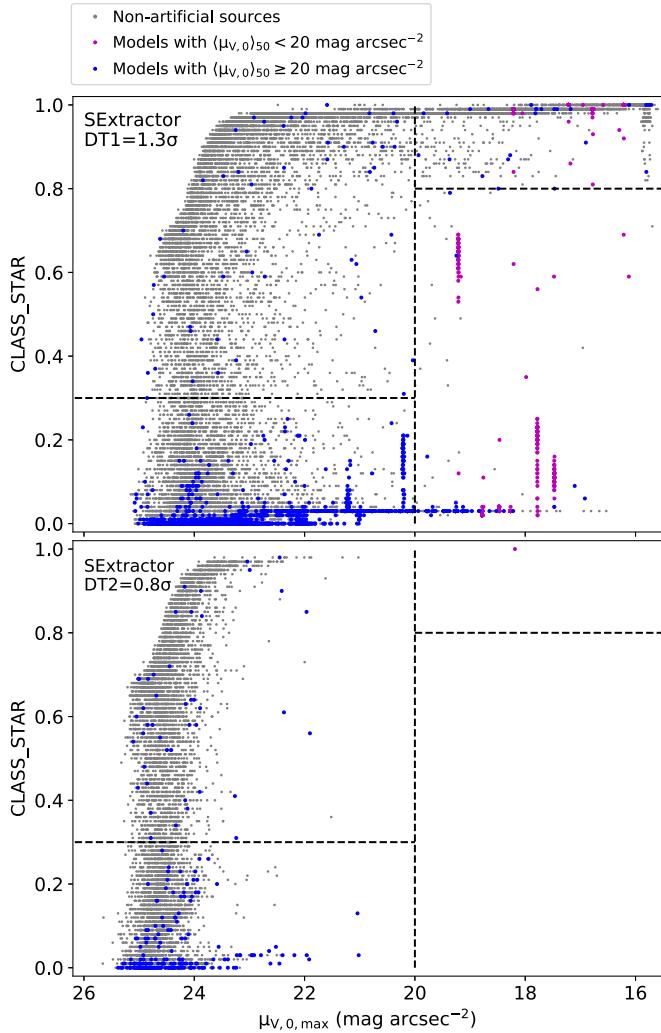


Figure 3. Separation between galaxy- and starlike sources. The figure shows the SExtractor parameters CLASS_STAR plotted vs. $\mu_{V,0,\max}$ for detected model galaxies (colored dots) and nonartificial sources (gray dots). Low CLASS_STAR values indicate extended galaxy-like sources, and high values denote compact starlike sources. Here $\mu_{V,0,\max}$ denotes the maximal surface brightness measured by SExtractor, and $\langle\mu_{V,0}\rangle_{50}$ corresponds to the intrinsic surface brightness of the models, according to which they are color-coded. The top panel shows the resulting detection from the SExtractor run with $\text{DT1} = 1.3\sigma$, and the bottom panel shows additional detections from the SExtractor $\text{DT2} = 0.8\sigma$ run, which were not detected with the DT1 setting. The dashed lines indicate the CLASS_STAR parameter cuts below which we considered the detected sources for our catalog. The cuts correspond to $\text{CLASS_STAR} \leq 0.3$ for sources with $\mu_{V,0,\max} \geq 20 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$ and $\text{CLASS_STAR} \leq 0.8$ for sources with $\mu_{V,0,\max} < 20 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$.

to the total number of inserted models, as a function of the model input parameters. For the completeness estimate, we extended the parameter range of the inserted models to brighter

magnitudes of $M_{V,0} = -20 \text{ mag}$ and smaller sizes of $r_{50} = 50 \text{ pc}$ in order to cover the full observed parameter range of our final catalog. In total, 101 models with different parameters contribute to the completeness estimate, where each model type was inserted several times into one copy of the mosaic, amounting to a total of 8015 inserted models.

In the first row of Figure 4, we show the detection fractions achieved with the combined SExtractor runs with $\text{DT1} = 1.3\sigma$ and $\text{DT2} = 0.8\sigma$. It can be seen that the completeness drops below 50% for models with $\langle\mu_{V,0}\rangle_{50} = 27 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$ and $M_{V,0} = -10 \text{ mag}$. The second row displays the resulting detection fractions after having applied the source rejection criteria to define our working sample (see Sections 3.1 and 3.2). Removing starlike sources by applying the CLASSSTAR parameter cut results in detection fractions lower than 50% for the models with the smallest sizes ($r_{50} < 150 \text{ pc}$) and the brightest surface brightnesses ($\langle\mu_{V,0}\rangle_{50} \leq 17 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$). Excluding sources with $M_{V,0,p} > -11 \text{ mag}$ measured by SExtractor implies detection fractions lower than 50% for models with intrinsic $M_{V,0} = -11 \text{ mag}$, since SExtractor tends to underestimate the magnitudes of the detected models. Rejecting sources that would get masked, and therefore excluded, with the bright object mask displayed in Figure 1 affects the brightest and largest sources with $M_{V,0} \leq -19 \text{ mag}$ and $r_{50} > 2 \text{ kpc}$, where the average detection fraction is lower than 50%. In summary, the average completeness of our catalog is 92% in the parameter range $-12 \text{ mag} \geq M_{V,0} \geq -18 \text{ mag}$, $18 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2} \leq \langle\mu_{V,0}\rangle_{50} \leq 26 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$, and $0.2 \text{ kpc} \leq r_{50} \leq 7.8 \text{ kpc}$.

4. Photometry

Our aim was to use GALFIT (Peng et al. 2002, 2010) for measuring the photometry and structural parameters of our working sample in the WHT V-band mosaic. We first derived Petrosian magnitudes, half-light radii, and concentration values, which we used as first-guess parameters for GALFIT, since the photometry provided by SExtractor is often inaccurate for extended sources. We visually examined all sources to check the performance of our photometric measurements,¹¹ thereby rejecting too-heavily contaminated sources and false detections.

We performed the photometric measurements on the partly object-subtracted WHT mosaic (see Figure 1, top right panel) and cut out a postage stamp image for each source with a size of 701×701 pixels. We then generated masks of neighboring sources using SExtractor. We ran SExtractor on the entire mosaic, adopting the same parameter settings as specified in Table 2 using DT1 but with a larger BACK_SIZE parameter of 256 pixels, since this results in larger masked

¹¹ Done by C.W.

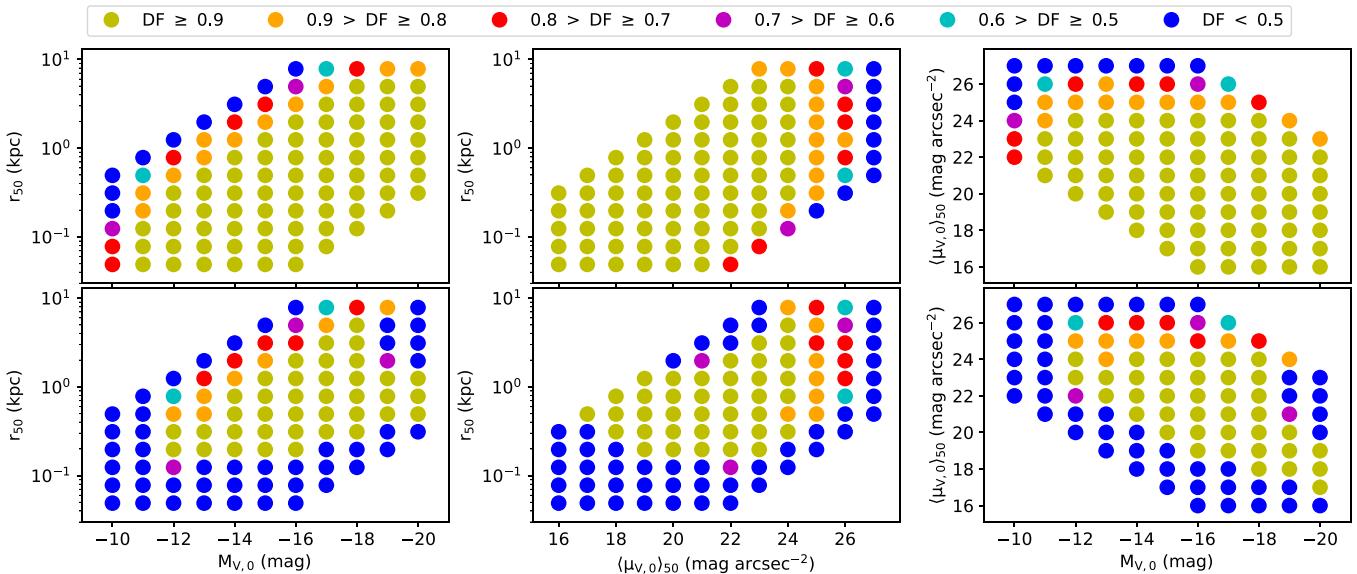


Figure 4. Completeness estimate based on the detection of model galaxies in the WHT V -band mosaic. The plots show the detection fractions (DF) of detected-to-inserted model galaxies as a function of model input parameters. In total, 8015 models were inserted into 101 copies of the mosaic. The first row displays the completeness achieved with the SExtractor source detection. The second row illustrates the completeness after having applied the rejection criteria to define our working sample (see Sections 3.1 and 3.2).

areas for extended sources. For each source, we generated a postage stamp mask, where we unmasked the respective source.

4.1. Petrosian Photometry

For the photometric measurements, we defined the Petrosian radius R_p such that the Petrosian index $\eta(R_p) = \langle I \rangle_{R_p} / I(R_p) = 1/0.3$, where $\langle I \rangle_{R_p}$ denotes the average intensity within R_p , and $I(R_p)$ gives the isophotal intensity at R_p (Graham et al. 2005). We adopted a value of $\eta(R_p) = 1/0.3$ instead of the more commonly used $\eta(R_p) = 1/0.2$, since the former proved to be more robust for low surface brightness sources to prevent contamination through close neighbor objects or uneven background. We measured the total flux within a circular aperture of $1.5 R_p$ and derived the corresponding half-light radius from it. We estimated Sérsic indices from the measured concentration values r_{90}/r_{50} , where we matched the observed concentration values to the values calculated for analytic Sérsic profiles with $n = 0.5\text{--}4.0$. For observed concentration values lower or higher than the calculated ones, we adopted a Sérsic index of $n = 0.5$ or 4, respectively.

As a rough estimate for the local background underlying a source, we used SExtractor-generated background maps. For sources without close bright and extended neighbor sources, we applied a SExtractor background map with a large BACK_SIZE parameter of 256 pixels, corresponding to $60''.7$ or 20.6 kpc. For small sources in the vicinity of bright extended sources, we used a background map with a smaller BACK_SIZE parameter of 32 pixels, corresponding to $7''.6$ or 2.6 kpc, in order to remove the background gradient of the neighboring source.¹² In the case of larger sources with contaminating neighbors, we fitted and subtracted the light distribution of the respective neighbor source with IRAF *ellipse*

in order to avoid the SExtractor background map, which may subtract part of the source flux.

We carefully inspected the measured Petrosian apertures visually for each of the 7255 sources from our working sample in order to identify cases in which the aperture is obviously too large with regard to the visible extent of the source. Most often, problems arose due to imperfect masking, when either the automated unmasking of the source failed, such that large parts of the source were still masked, or neighboring sources contaminated the flux measurement, since they were insufficiently masked. We therefore manually adjusted the masks of all affected sources and measured the Petrosian parameters again.

In the following cases, we entirely excluded a source from any further analysis.

1. The source is heavily blended into another source where neither a larger mask nor a SExtractor background subtraction with BACK_SIZE = 32 pixels would result in reliable photometric measurements. We note that the majority of sources in this category appeared very small in size, being possible interlopers suffering from wrong SExtractor photometry and/or CLASS_STAR measurements. In the case of extended galaxy-like sources, we tried our best to fit and subtract the contaminating neighboring source.
2. The source is barely visible in our data, although it has been given a SExtractor magnitude of $M_{V,0,p} \leq -11$ mag.
3. The source forms part of another source, i.e., the stripped material or spiral arms of luminous cluster galaxies, that is not a subject of this study.
4. The source is likely an artifact resulting from reflections or stray light in the data.
5. In the case of multiple detections of a single source, we derived Petrosian photometry for the detection that visually appeared best centered on the source and rejected the remaining duplicate detections.

¹² In total, we applied the BACK_SIZE = 32 pixel background subtraction to 1962 sources. These all have Petrosian half-light radii of $r_{50,p} = 3''.6$ ($\cong 1.34$ kpc) and all sources having $r_{50,p} \leq 0''.85$ ($\cong 290$ pc).

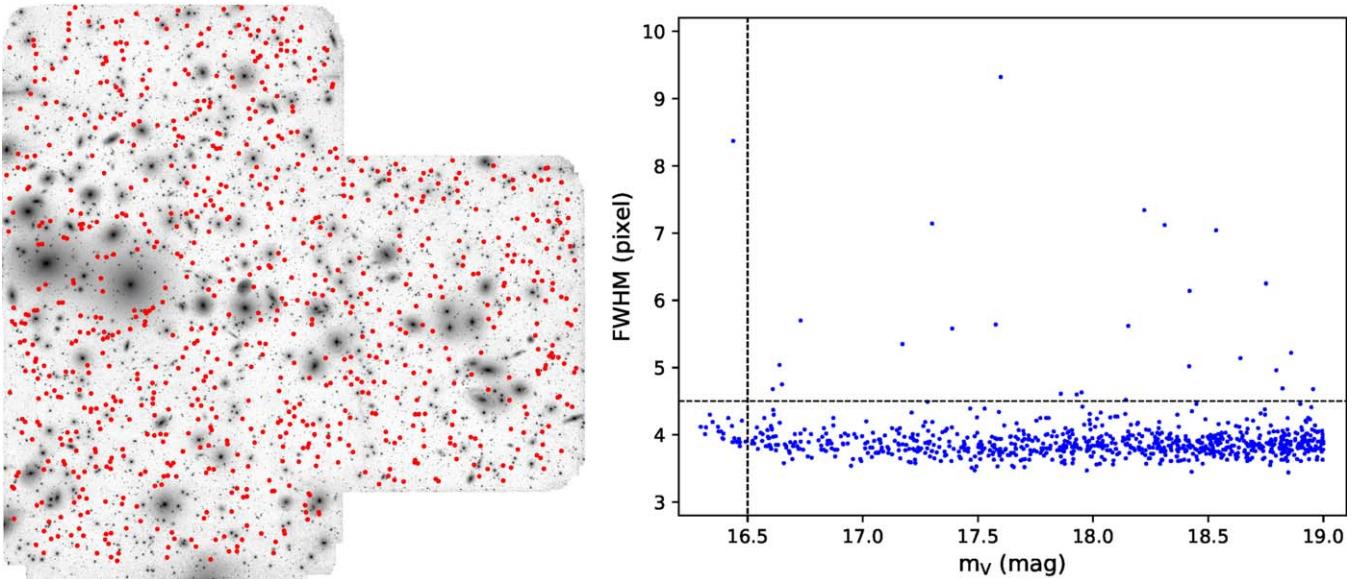


Figure 5. Left: distribution of PSF star candidates (red dots) in the WHT V -band mosaic. Right: FWHM measured by SExtractor vs. apparent magnitude measured by IRAF *phot*. For the average stacked PSF used by GALFIT, we considered all stars with $\text{FWHM} < 4.5$ pixels and $m_V > 16.5$ mag, as indicated by the dashed lines.

In total, we successfully derived Petrosian photometry for 6038 sources and excluded 1217 sources from further analysis.

4.2. WHT V -band PSF

In order to run GALFIT with PSF deconvolution, we first generated a PSF from our data using routines from the IRAF package DAOPHOT. We ran SExtractor tuned to detect small and compact sources¹³ and selected PSF star candidates by requiring that the sources have `CLASS_STAR > 0.9` and not be flagged. We furthermore rejected sources that are superimposed on bright extended sources by excluding all PSF star candidates that overlap with a mask generated with SExtractor.¹⁴ This mask is much larger than the one shown in Figure 1 in order to yield the cleanest possible sample of PSF star candidates. We also excluded PSF star candidates that fall on very low S/N regions in our mosaic, where the pixels have a weight lower than 200, corresponding to $\sigma \sim 0.07$ ADU. We subsequently ran the IRAF task *phot* to perform aperture photometry¹⁵ and selected all stars with apparent V -band magnitudes brighter than $m_V = 19$ mag that were not saturated. This resulted in a selection of 845 PSF stars in our mosaic. In Figure 5, we display their spatial and FWHM distribution. The FWHM distribution indicates a few outliers among the selected stars with large FWHM values. A visual examination revealed that most of them are partly unresolved double sources. We therefore rejected sources with $\text{FWHM} > 4.5$ pixels. In addition, Figure 5 shows a slight upward trend in FWHM toward brighter magnitudes. As a consequence, we only considered stars with $m_V > 16.5$ mag. The final sample of PSF stars comprises 797 stars with an average FWHM of 3.86 pixels, as measured by SExtractor. We used this PSF

¹³ With the configuration `DT = 2.5σ`, `DMIN = 5` pixels, `DEBLEND_NTHRESH = 32`, `DEBLEND_MINCONT = 0.01`, `BACK_SIZE = 64` pixels, and `BACKFILTER_SIZE = 3`.

¹⁴ Using the configuration `DT = 5σ`, `DMIN = 10,000` pixels, `DEBLEND_NTHRESH = 32`, `DEBLEND_MINCONT = 0.01`, `BACK_SIZE = 256` pixels, and `BACKFILTER_SIZE = 3`.

¹⁵ Using an aperture with a radius of $r = 5$ pixels ($\approx 1.\overset{\prime}{2}$) and a background annulus with a width of 5 pixels at $r = 15$ pixels.

star sample to construct a model PSF with the IRAF task *psf*, which consists of an analytic component obtained by a fit to all of the stars in the sample plus a lookup table quantifying the deviations of the analytic function from the empirical PSF.

4.3. GALFIT Photometry

We derived structure parameters with GALFIT for the 6038 nonexcluded sources from our working sample. We ran GALFIT for each source with PSF deconvolution, object masks, and a σ image generated from the corresponding weight image of the WHT mosaic, where $\sigma = 1/\sqrt{\text{weight}}$. We fitted each source with a one-component Sérsic profile and used the derived Petrosian magnitude, half-light radius, and estimated Sérsic index, as well as the SExtractor source position, axis ratio, and position angle, as first-guess parameters for GALFIT. We simultaneously fitted the sky component, which can account for both a background offset and a gradient. For sources where we previously subtracted the SExtractor-generated background map with a `BACK_SIZE` of 32 pixels, we adopted this background instead of fitting the background with GALFIT, since only the former eliminates small-scale background variations introduced by contaminating neighboring sources (see Section 3.1). For 25 sources, we used the previously subtracted SExtractor `BACK_SIZE = 256` pixel background map for GALFIT, since simultaneously fitting the source and background did not succeed. We specify the applied background subtraction method in the final catalog.

In the first iteration with GALFIT, we performed the Sérsic fit with seven free parameters¹⁶ but constrained the Sérsic index to $n \leq 4$. We note that due to the limited resolution of our data, we are not capable of reliably discriminating between a source with a Sérsic index around $n = 4$ and a larger value, due to the small change in the profile shape for large Sérsic n (see, e.g., Graham & Driver 2005, Figure 1). We visually examined all fitted models by comparing them to the respective source, as well as the residual images. Some sources showed significant

¹⁶ This included the x -, y -position, magnitude, half-light radius, Sérsic index, axis ratio, and position angle.

Table 4
Photometry Processing Overview of Our Working Sample

Photometry Processing	Number of Sources	pflag
GALFIT: Sérsic fit with free parameters	3161	1
GALFIT: Sérsic fit with free parameters but constrained $n = 4$	80	2
GALFIT: Sérsic fit with fixed n	1238	3
GALFIT: Sérsic fit with fixed n and position	19	4
GALFIT: Sérsic fit with fixed n and b/a	92	5
GALFIT: Sérsic fit with fixed n , r_{50} , and b/a	332	6
GALFIT: Sérsic fit with fixed n , b/a , and position	6	7
GALFIT: Sérsic fit with fixed n , r_{50} , b/a , and position	17	8
Petrosian M_v , r_{50} , n	492	9
No photometry ^a	1818	...

Notes. Here “pflag” denotes the photometry flag given in the final catalog.

^a We do not provide photometric measurements for sources excluded according to the criteria specified in Section 4.1, sources with $M_{V,0} > -10$ mag, or sources that were excluded or revealed as double sources in the Subaru imaging data (see Section 5).

residuals after the subtraction of the model, although the fitted model seemed to provide a good description of the overall shape of the source. We adopted the photometric parameters but flagged the respective sources in the final catalog. For about one-third of the sample, the Sérsic model with free parameters did not provide a good fit, or the fit did not converge.

In these cases, we performed a second iteration with GALFIT where we held the Sérsic index fixed at the value estimated from the concentration r_{90}/r_{50} (see Section 4.1) to stabilize the fit. Subsequent visual inspection yielded good solutions for about 1200 of the sources. We also compared the models of all sources that were previously fitted with free parameters but constrained $n = 4$ and adopted the solution, which yielded less pronounced residuals.

We refitted all sources where our fitting attempts had not succeeded in a third iteration with GALFIT. In this iteration, we held the x -, y -position fixed, in addition to the Sérsic index. This succeeded for another 19 sources. For the remaining sources, the GALFIT solutions did not converge, since the half-light radius and/or axis ratio fell below the lowest parameters of $r_{50} = 0.5$ pixels and $b/a = 0.1$ accepted by GALFIT to fit a source. We therefore ran GALFIT in a fourth iteration by adopting the fixed lowest values for r_{50} and/or b/a in addition to the fixed Sérsic index. For sources that were fitted with a fixed $r_{50} = 0.5$ pixels, we also adopted a fixed axis ratio of $b/a = 1$ due to the high uncertainties of the latter at these small sizes.

For 270 sources, it was not possible to obtain a good fit with GALFIT, but the derived Petrosian parameters seemed to provide a good estimate of the structural parameters. In most of these cases, the affected sources were very faint or showed strong residuals due to a very complex structure where a single Sérsic fit might not be a good approximation. We also adopted Petrosian photometry for 222 sources fitted with GALFIT but that have statistical uncertainties in $m_{V,0}$ and/or $\langle\mu_{V,0}\rangle_{50}$ larger than 1 mag. These are almost exclusively very faint sources, with 90% of them having $M_{V,0} > -12$ mag. We note that the half-light radii derived from Petrosian photometry only provide upper size limits for small sources, since the measurements did not involve a PSF deconvolution. We entirely excluded sources

with absolute V -band magnitudes fainter than $M_{V,0} = -10$ mag from our catalog. For the position angle measurements, we only list values for sources with $b/a < 0.9$, due to the high uncertainties for nearly round sources. We provide an overview of the photometry processing of our working sample in Table 4 and include the photometric measurements in the final catalog.

We calculated the effective surface brightness $\langle\mu_V\rangle_{50}$ within the half-light radius from the measured parameters and obtained the Galactic foreground extinction A_V at the position of each source from the IRSA Galactic Reddening and Extinction Calculator,¹⁷ with reddening maps from Schlafly & Finkbeiner (2011).

We provide the statistical uncertainties estimated by GALFIT based on the pixel noise in the final catalog. The uncertainties in $\langle\mu_V\rangle_{50}$ were calculated from error propagation, accounting for uncertainties in $m_{V,0}$ and r_{50} . Parameters that were held fixed during a fit have no error estimates, as well as sources where we adopted the Petrosian photometry. We provide an estimate of the typical uncertainties of the Petrosian photometry in Figure 17 in Appendix A.

4.4. Aperture Colors

We derived $(g - r)$ and $(r - z)$ aperture colors from the Subaru data set, which we resampled to match the WHT mosaic pixel scale of $0.^{\prime\prime}237$. For all sources, we used our previously generated object masks from the WHT data but extended them,¹⁸ since the Subaru data are deeper than the WHT data and object flux becomes visible beyond the masked areas.

We measured the colors as flux ratios within apertures with a radius of $r_{\text{aper}} = r_{50}$ and a shape defined by the previously derived ellipticity and position angle. For very small sources with $r_{50} < 4$ pixels, we adopted circular apertures with $r_{\text{aper}} = 4$ pixels, since for smaller apertures, seeing effects start to influence the color values. For sources with $r_{50} \geq 4$ pixels, we additionally measured an “outer” color, defined as a flux ratio within an aperture with a radius of $r_{\text{aper}} = 2 r_{50}$.

Prior to measuring the colors, we determined and subtracted the local background around each source in each of the bands. For the sources with fixed apertures of $r_{\text{aper}} = 4$ pixels, we calculated the median background level within a circular annulus with an inner radius of 12 pixels and a width of 4 pixels. For sources with apertures scaling with their half-light radius, we adopted a background annulus following the shape of the color aperture and with a width of 1 r_{50} . We set the inner radius of the background annulus depending on the surface brightness of the respective source. Adopting the same background annulus for all sources would result in a background annulus that covers a significant amount of object flux for the high surface brightness sources due to their smaller half-light radii, whereas for the low surface brightness sources, it would be located too far from the source center due to their larger half-light radii. Therefore, we set the inner radius of the background annulus for low surface brightness sources with $\langle\mu_{V,0}\rangle_{50} \geq 24 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$ at $3 r_{50}$, sources with $22 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2} \leq \langle\mu_{V,0}\rangle_{50} < 24 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$ at

¹⁷ We acknowledge the use of the NASA/ IPAC Infrared Science Archive, which is operated by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, under contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

¹⁸ By smoothing the mask images, which contain only values of zero and 1, with a Gaussian kernel with $\sigma = 1$ pixel and then generating new masks based on the smoothed ones where all pixels with values larger than 0.01 are masked.

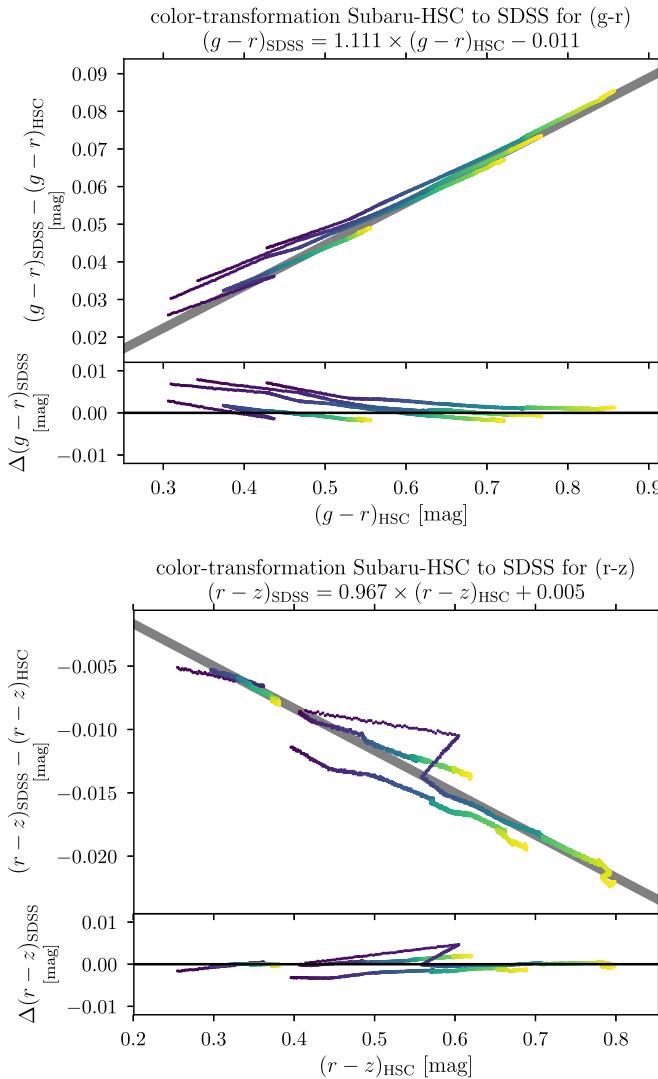


Figure 6. Color transformations from the native Subaru HSC system into the standard SDSS system for $(g - r)$ (top panel) and $(r - z)$ (bottom panel). The top part of each plot shows the difference in colors as a function of the native HSC color, while the smaller bottom part shows the residuals after accounting for the best-fit linear color transformation.

4 r_{50} , and high surface brightness sources with $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} \leq 22$ mag arcsec $^{-2}$ at 5 r_{50} .

We calculated statistical uncertainties for the $(g - r)$ and $(r - z)$ colors based on standard error propagation as

$$\Delta(g - r) = \sqrt{\left(\frac{2.5}{I_g \ln 10} \Delta I_g\right)^2 + \left(\frac{2.5}{I_r \ln 10} \Delta I_r\right)^2}, \quad (1)$$

where I_r and I_g are the aperture flux in the r and g band, respectively, and ΔI_r and ΔI_g are estimated from the Subaru r- and g-band variance image,¹⁹ accounting for the statistical uncertainty in the object and background flux. The same applies for $\Delta(r - z)$. We only included sources with $\Delta(g - r) \leq 1$ mag and $\Delta(r - z) \leq 1$ mag and without saturated pixels within 3'' from the respective source center in our catalog. We included but flagged all sources that contain pixels

¹⁹ Where the same regions as in the object image are masked.

with bleeding trails of bright stars within 3'' and may have contaminated colors.

To enable comparison of our measured galaxy colors with data from the literature, we transformed all observed $(g - r)$ and $(r - z)$ colors from the native Subaru HSC system to the standard SDSS system. Color terms were derived synthetically using a set of GALEV stellar population models (Kotulla et al. 2009) as template spectra. These were convolved with both the SDSS filters as presented by Doi et al. (2010) and the HSC filter curves. Based on the derived colors, we computed the following color transformation equations (also see Figure 6 for color comparisons and residuals):

$$(g-r)_{SDSS} = 1.111 \times (g-r)_{HSC} - 0.011, \quad (2)$$

$$(r-z)_{SDSS} = 0.967 \times (r-z)_{HSC} + 0.005. \quad (3)$$

We performed an extinction correction for all three Subaru bands using the NED extinction calculator, which is based on the reddening maps of Schlafly & Finkbeiner (2011) that we also used for the extinction correction in the V -band data.

5. Morphological Analysis

As already realized by Binggeli et al. (1985), the early-type dwarf galaxy population of a galaxy cluster can be relatively well separated from early-type background ETGs or LTGs due to their distinct morphological properties. Dwarf ellipticals (dEs) differ from giant ellipticals in that their light distribution is more diffuse, with a generally lower Sérsic index. Thus, even though a background giant and cluster dE galaxy may be indistinguishable in terms of their apparent luminosity and smooth morphology, the dwarf galaxy will stand out due to its more diffuse appearance. In contrast, LTGs can appear similarly diffuse as dEs, being as well characterized by a lower Sérsic index. However, in this case, the dEs can be discriminated due to their smooth and featureless morphology.

In the following, we present a morphological analysis of our working sample based on our auxiliary Subaru data set. We used the Subaru r -band data with a pixel scale of 0.168 arcsec pixel $^{-1}$ due to the excellent image quality with a 0''.5 seeing PSF FWHM, allowing us to identify substructures even in relatively small sources. In addition, we generated $(g - r)_0$ color maps for each source in order to better separate between background ellipticals and more compact cluster dEs that are harder to discriminate based on morphology alone but clearly differ in color, with the background galaxies being redder.²⁰ The color maps also helped to distinguish between LTGs and early-type cluster candidates in the small size and faint luminosity regime, where morphological substructure in LTGs may be unrecognized due to resolution limits. While the majority of cluster dEs are commonly characterized by shallow color gradients of $g - r \lesssim \pm 0.1$ mag (Urich et al. 2017), LTGs often display stronger gradients, indicative of the presence of young stars within the galaxy (Gonzalez-Perez et al. 2011).

We established the following categories according to the morphological and color properties of our working sample.

1. dE/ETG cluster candidate (496 sources).

The source is characterized by a smooth morphology and diffuse optical appearance. It has a regular, symmetric shape and does not show substructure like

²⁰ We note that compact elliptical galaxies can have very red colors, too, and likely will be classified as background galaxies by our approach (also see Section 7.1).

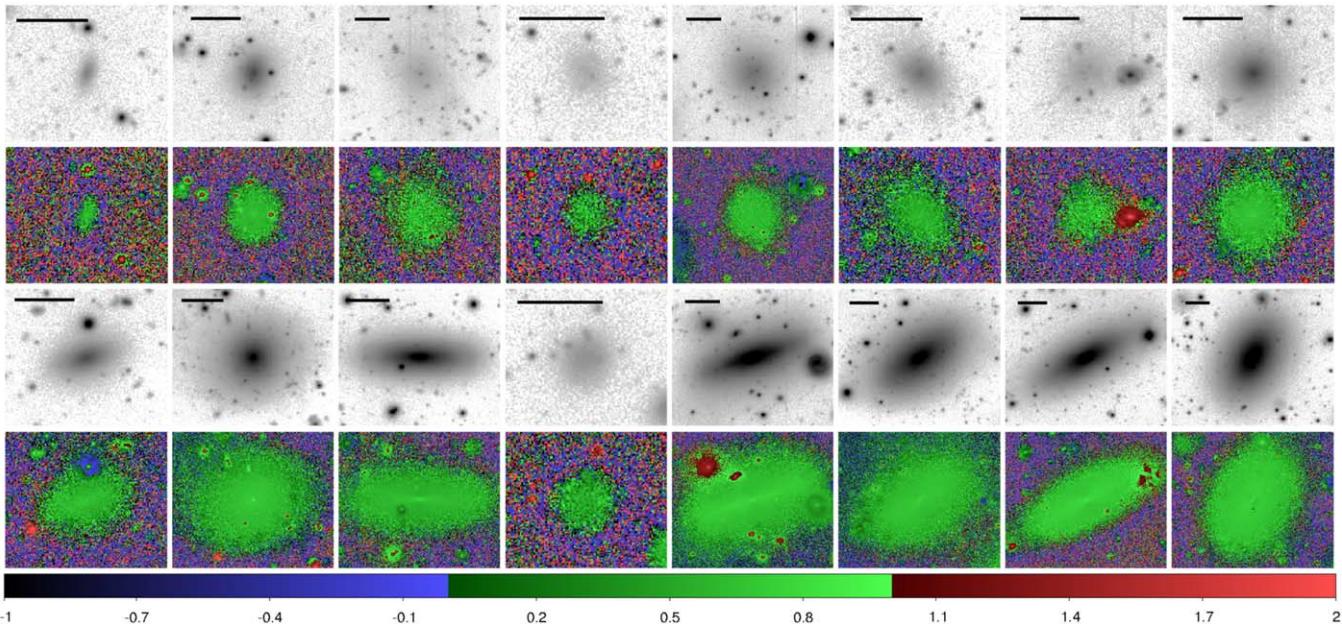


Figure 7. Perseus cluster dE/ETG candidates. For each candidate, we show the Subaru r-band image in the top panel and the $(g - r)_0$ color map in the bottom panel. The scale bar in each r-band image corresponds to a length of $10''$. The color bar at the bottom of the figure indicates the $(g - r)_0$ values shown in the color maps. The candidates displayed in the fifth through eighth panels in the bottom row have $M_{V,0} < -18$ mag, whereas the other candidates in the figure are fainter.

spiral arms or clumps. The source may, however, contain a disk, bulge, or nucleus. The $(g - r)_0$ color map indicates a color of $(g - r)_0 \lesssim 1$, typical for early-type cluster galaxies (cf. Janz & Lisker 2009), without obvious color substructure. We furthermore distinguished between likely (398) and possible (98) dE/ETG cluster candidates, where the latter includes less convincing candidates based on either morphological or color properties. We note that 18 candidates have $M_{V,0} < -18$ mag. We did not, however, want to generate separate classes for giant and dwarf ETGs, since it is difficult to separate galaxies brighter and fainter than a given luminosity limit from each other based on a visual classification.

2. Likely background ETG or source with unresolved substructure (3008 sources).

The source has an early-type morphological appearance but is either characterized by a very red color, indicative of being a massive elliptical galaxy in the background, or shows a color substructure, such as a very red center with bluer outskirts. The latter might point to a face-on disk galaxy with a star-forming bluer disk where the substructure is unresolved. Also, sources with very small sizes fall into this category, where insufficient resolution limits a morphological analysis.

3. Cluster or background galaxy with late-type morphology (384 sources).

The source shows clear LTG features like spiral arms or clumpy morphology. Some sources have a very asymmetric or irregular shape.

4. Cluster or background galaxy with possibly weak substructure (477 sources).

The source does not unambiguously have enough substructure to be part of category 3, but it is also not smooth enough to be part of class 2. Either the source may contain only weak substructure or the substructure may not be revealed as clearly as in category 3 due to the small size of the source and the limited resolution in the data.

Table 5
Morphological Classification of Our Working Sample

Morphological Category	Number of Sources
(1) dE/ETG cluster candidate	496
-10 mag $> M_{V,0} \geq -18$ mag	478
-18 mag $> M_{V,0} \geq -20.2$ mag	18
(2) Likely background ETG or source with unresolved substructure	3008
(3) Cluster or background galaxy with late-type morphology	384
(4) Cluster or background galaxy with possibly weak substructure	477
(5) Likely cluster or background edge-on disk galaxy	1049
(6) Likely merging system in the background	23
(7) Excluded source	283

5. Likely cluster or background edge-on disk galaxy (1049 sources).

The source is characterized by a very elongated shape, indicative of being an edge-on disk galaxy. The color map of these sources often shows a characteristic substructure with a red center and bluer outskirts, possibly pointing to a late-type star-forming disk galaxy. This category might, however, also contain early-type disk galaxies, since the edge-on view often does not allow one to robustly distinguish between the two morphological classes. There might be some overlap with category 2, with some sources possibly being very elongated background elliptical galaxies.

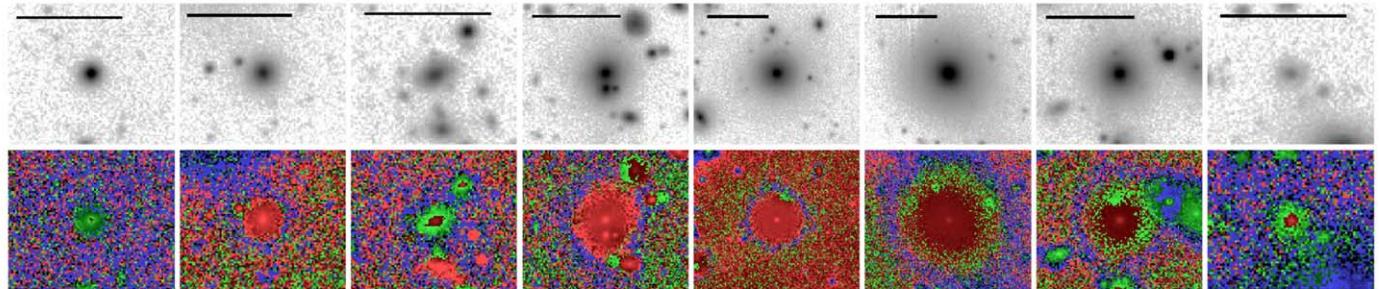
6. Likely merging system in the background (23 sources).

The source seems to be merging or interacting with another source.

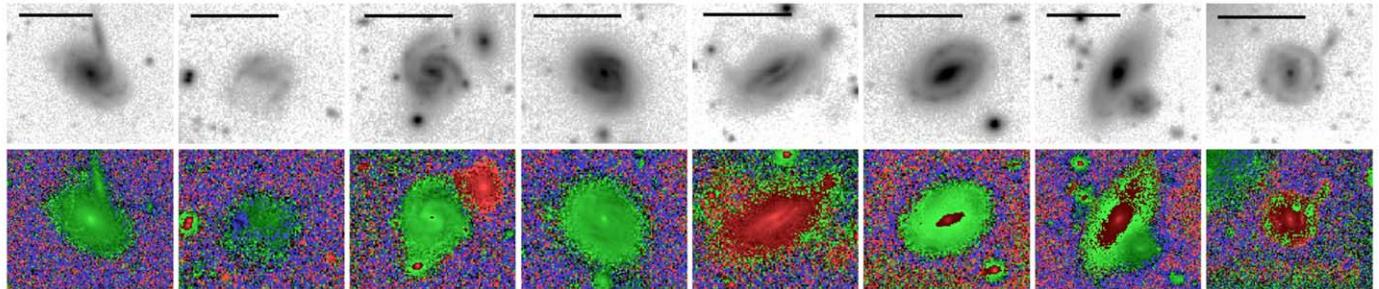
7. Excluded source (283 sources).

The source is identified as a double or multiple source in the higher-resolution Subaru data (264 sources) or

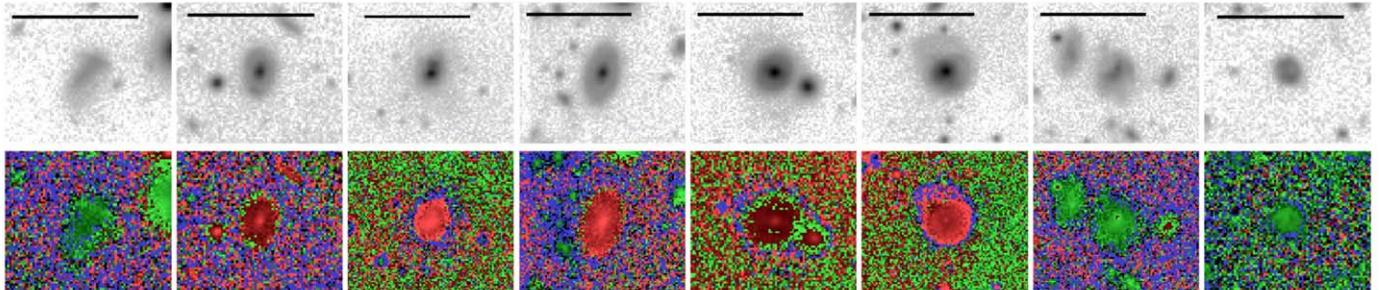
2) Likely background ETG or source with unresolved substructure



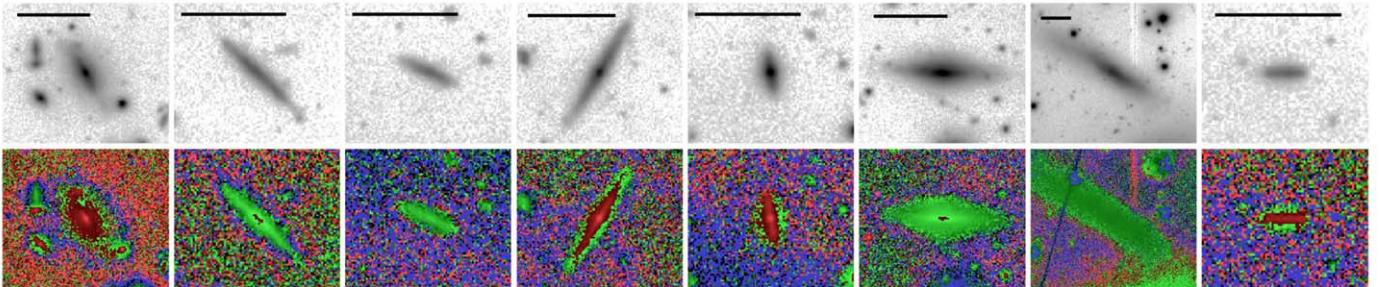
3) Cluster or background LTG



4) Cluster or background galaxy with possibly weak substructure



5) Likely cluster or background edge-on disk galaxy



6) Likely merging system in the background

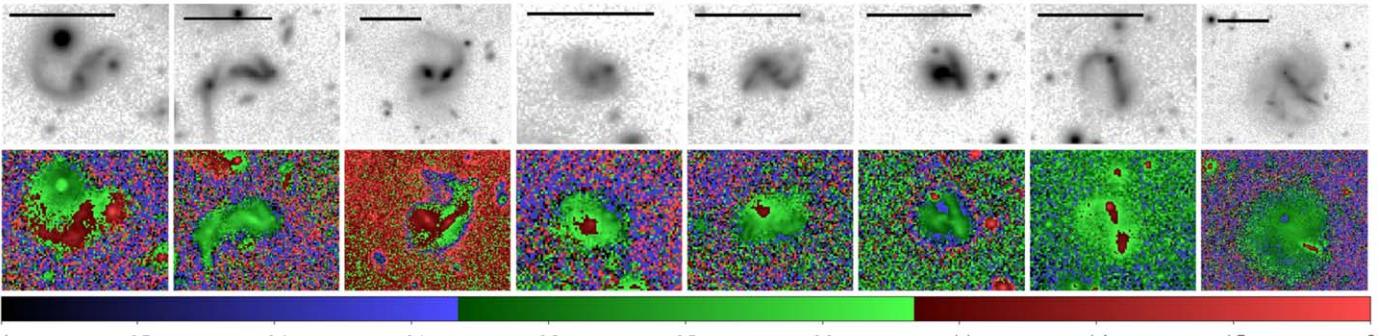


Figure 8. Sources in the direction of the Perseus cluster. Shown are the morphological categories (2) likely background ETG or source with unresolved substructure, (3) cluster or background LTG, (4) cluster or background galaxy with possibly weak substructure, (5) likely cluster or background edge-on disk galaxy, and (6) likely merging system in the background. For each source, we display the Subaru r -band image in the top panel and the $(g - r)_0$ color map in the bottom panel. The scale bar in each r -band image corresponds to a length of $10''$. The color bar at the bottom of the figure indicates the $(g - r)_0$ values shown in the color maps.

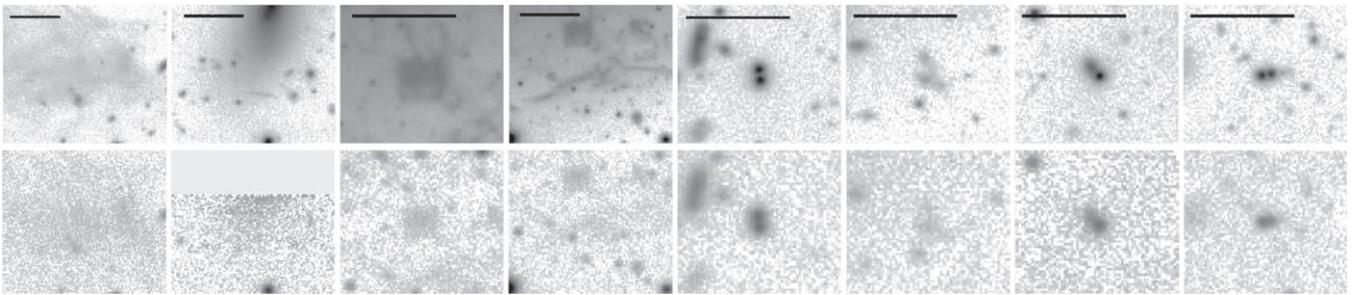


Figure 9. Excluded sources based on their appearance in the Subaru r -band images (top panels). For comparison, we show the WHT V -band images in the bottom panels. The scale bar in each r -band image corresponds to a length of $10''$.

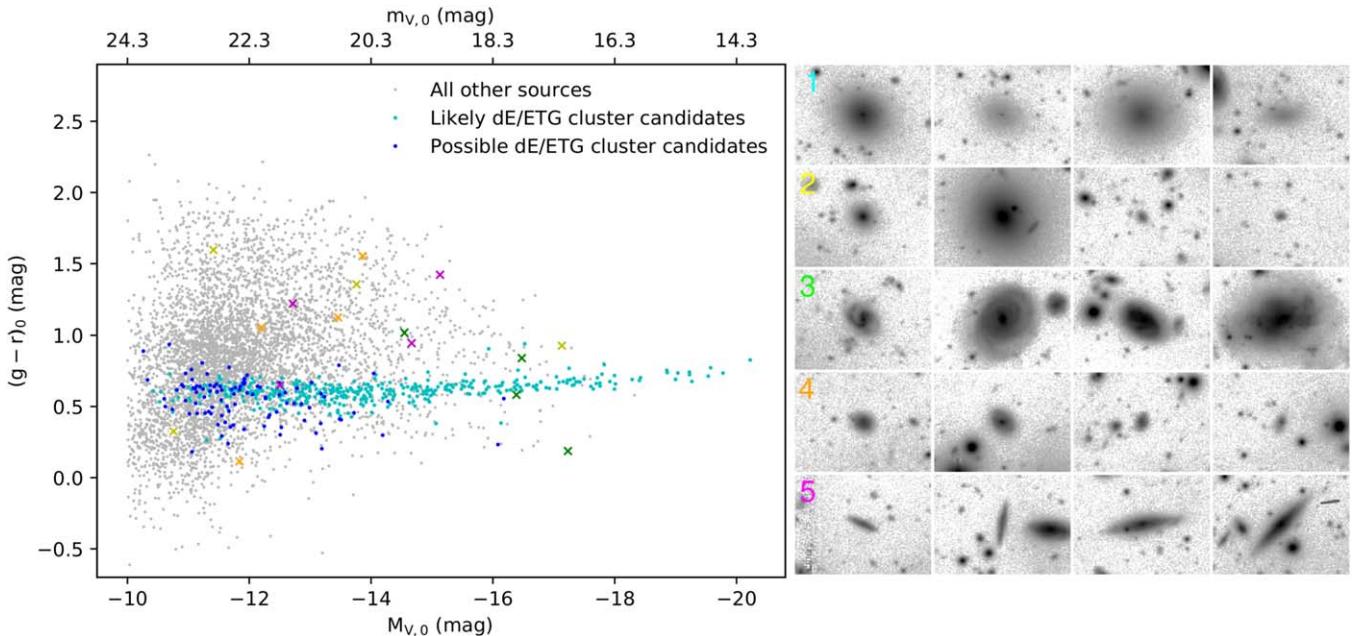


Figure 10. Left panel: color–magnitude diagram for the morphological categories (1) dE/ETG cluster candidates (highlighted with cyan and blue dots), (2) likely background ETGs or sources with unresolved substructure, (3) cluster or background LTGs, (4) cluster or background galaxies with possibly weak substructure, and (5) likely cluster or background edge-on disk galaxies. Right panel: images of the galaxies marked with the colored crosses in the left panel and some examples of the dE/ETG candidates. All images have a size of $25 \times 18''$ and show the Subaru r -band data. We show the $(r-z)_0$ vs. $M_{V,0}$ diagram in Figure 19 in Appendix C.

revealed as an image artifact in the WHT data, confusion with Galactic cirrus, or part of the star-forming filaments of the NGC 1275 system (19 sources). The double or multiple sources could be either physically close sources, which are possibly merging at high redshift, or projections. We excluded all sources of this class from our final catalog.

We provide an overview of the number of sources in each category in Table 5, and we show a selection of the classified sources in Figures 7–9. We discuss the described color substructure in a more quantitative way by measuring the color gradients in Figure 18 in Appendix B.

Figure 10 illustrates the performance of our morphological classification in the color–magnitude diagram, highlighting the sample of dE/ETG cluster candidates. It can be seen that the dE/ETG candidates condense out as a tight red sequence, characteristic of an early-type cluster population (e.g., Roediger et al. 2017). The broad distribution of all other sources is a mixture of different categories, as illustrated by the image stamps in the figure. A detailed analysis of the Perseus cluster

dE/ETG color–magnitude relation will be the subject of a forthcoming paper.

5.1. Nucleation Classification of the dE/ETG Cluster Candidates

We analyzed the dE/ETG cluster candidates for the presence of nuclei based on the Subaru r -band images. We classified a dE/ETG candidate as nucleated if we detected an unresolved high surface brightness point source centered on the respective galaxy. We identified nuclei in 182 of the candidates. In the brighter luminosity regime, 34 of the candidates show possible bulges or bright central sources that appear more extended compared to typical dE nuclei. For 38 dE/ETG candidates, we could not unambiguously classify the source as nucleated or nonnucleated. Four sources show an accumulation of several brighter unresolved point sources near their center or slightly offset from it.²¹ The majority of the uncertain candidates show

²¹ PCC 4867, PCC 2251, PCC 4304, PCC 5111.

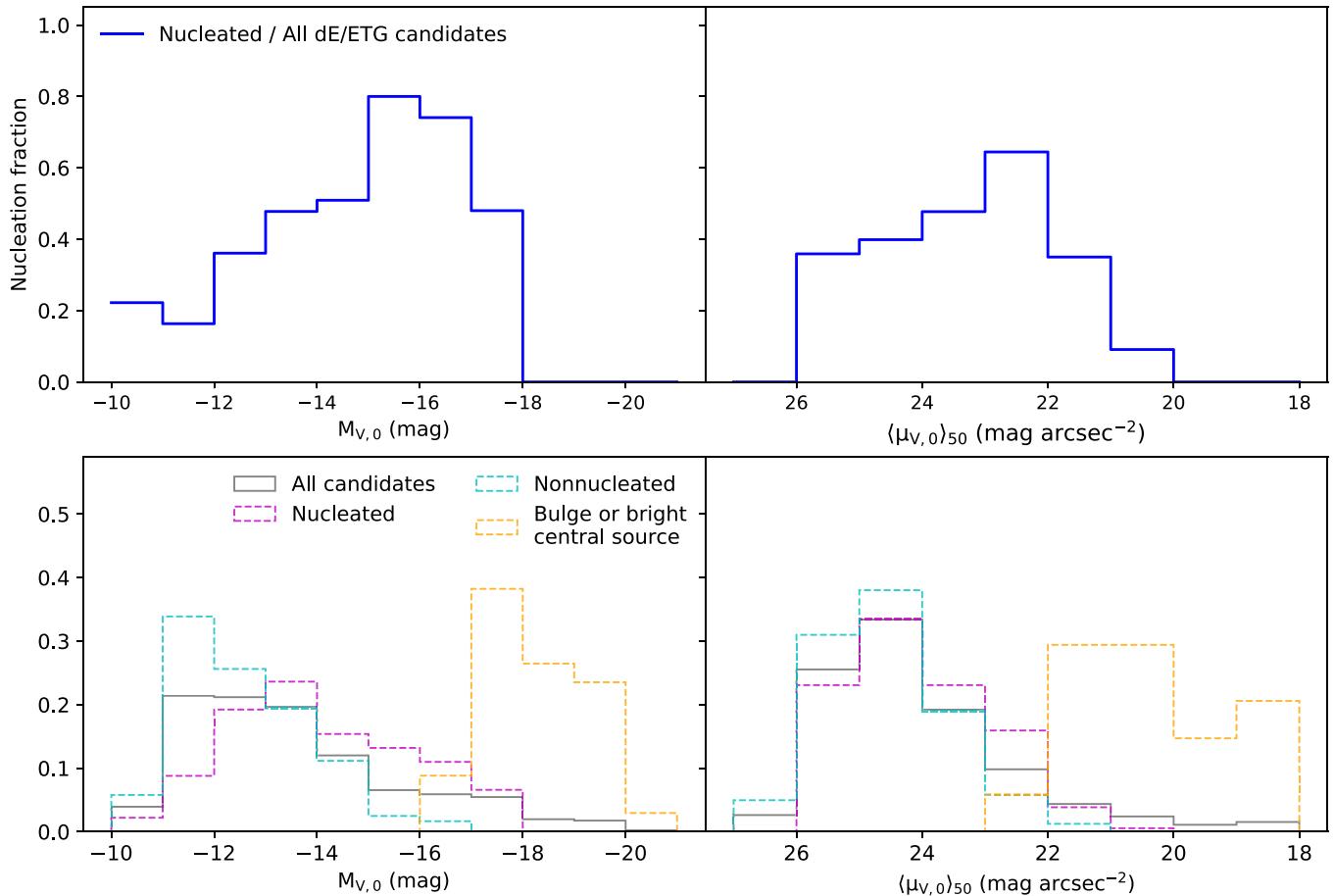


Figure 11. Top panels: nucleation fraction of Perseus dE/ETG candidates as a function of absolute magnitude or surface brightness, excluding the 38 candidates with unsure nucleation classification. Bottom panels: luminosity distribution of nucleated and nonnucleated candidates and candidates with bulges or bright central sources in comparison to the entire dE/ETG subsample.

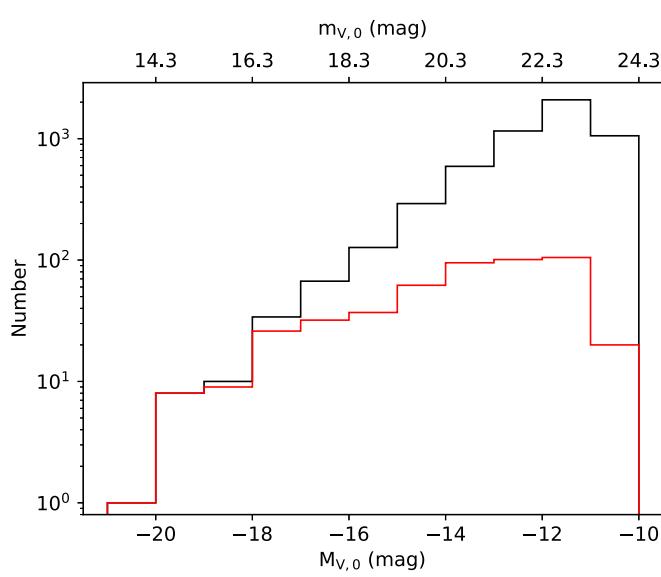


Figure 12. Luminosity distribution of the full PCC (black histogram) and the dE/ETG candidate subsample (red histogram).

a central light concentration that could harbor a nucleus, but the potential nucleus does not stand out clearly as a distinct point source. In 242 dE/ETG candidates, we could not identify a

nucleus in our data and classified them as nonnucleated. We note, however, that nuclei could be missed in very faint sources or more compact sources with a low brightness contrast between the nucleus and the galaxy main body.

Figure 11 summarizes the nucleation properties of our sample. We found an average nucleation fraction of 47% in the luminosity range $-10 \text{ mag} \geq M_{V,0} \geq -18 \text{ mag}$ when excluding the dE/ETG candidates with unsure nucleation classification. The nucleation fraction increases toward brighter luminosities and surface brightnesses, with a peak at $M_{V,0} = -15$ to -16 mag^{22} and $\langle\mu_{V,0}\rangle_{50} = 22\text{--}23 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$. At brighter luminosities and surface brightnesses, the nucleation fraction drops again due to an increase in the fraction of dE/ETG candidates harboring brighter central sources or bulges. The increase of the nucleation fraction with luminosity for faint ETGs is consistent with observations in other nearby clusters, like Fornax, Virgo, and Coma (Sandage et al. 1985; Côté et al. 2006; den Brok et al. 2014; Ordóñez-Briceño et al. 2018a; Venhola et al. 2019).

6. The Catalog

Our final Perseus Cluster Catalog (PCC) includes the photometry and morphological classification of 5437 sources

²² We note that the nucleation fraction continuously increases as a function of luminosity when only considering the likely dE/ETG candidates.

Table 6
Excerpt of the PCC Containing 5437 Morphologically Classified Sources in the Direction of the Perseus Galaxy Cluster

ID	R.A. (J2000) (deg)	Decl. (J2000) (deg)	$m_{V,0}$ (mag)	r_{50} ('')	$\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50}$ (mag arcsec $^{-2}$)	n	b/a	θ (deg)	A_V (mag)	pflag	resflag
PCC 0001	49.2355	+41.5722	20.51 ± 0.04	1.44 ± 0.10	20.80 ± 0.16	1.07	0.10	-64.5 ± 1.7	0.41	5	0
PCC 0002	49.2366	+41.4013	20.44 ± 0.04	2.18 ± 0.14	21.96 ± 0.15	0.79	0.14 ± 0.02	47.7 ± 1.3	0.42	3	0
PCC 0003	49.2370	+41.4336	21.58 ± 0.04	1.11 ± 0.07	22.41 ± 0.15	0.07 ± 0.30	0.28 ± 0.06	58.4 ± 3.7	0.41	1	0
PCC 0004	49.2377	+41.5285	21.03 ± 0.06	1.08 ± 0.10	23.14 ± 0.21	0.69 ± 0.16	0.96 ± 0.07	...	0.40	1	0
PCC 0005	49.2380	+41.4346	20.27 ± 0.02	1.24 ± 0.04	21.94 ± 0.08	0.80 ± 0.08	0.48 ± 0.02	-47.5 ± 1.9	0.41	1	0
PCC 0006	49.2388	+41.4631	19.03 ± 0.00	0.69 ± 0.01	19.28 ± 0.02	1.35 ± 0.06	0.43 ± 0.01	86.9 ± 0.6	0.40	1	1
bgflag	$(g-r)_{0,\text{aper}1}$ (mag)	$(r-z)_{0,\text{aper}1}$ (mag)	$(g-r)_{0,\text{aper}2}$ (mag)	$(r-z)_{0,\text{aper}2}$ (mag)	$(g-r)$ -flag	$(r-z)$ -flag	A_g (mag)	A_r (mag)	A_z (mag)	mflag	nuc
0	0.69 ± 0.01	0.25 ± 0.02	0.63 ± 0.02	0.28 ± 0.03	0	0	0.50	0.35	0.19	5	...
2	1.53 ± 0.02	1.01 ± 0.02	1.38 ± 0.04	0.97 ± 0.03	1	1	0.52	0.36	0.20	5	...
0	1.25 ± 0.03	0.71 ± 0.03	1.19 ± 0.04	0.67 ± 0.05	0	0	0.50	0.35	0.19	5	...
2	0.58 ± 0.03	0.25 ± 0.07	0.42 ± 0.06	0.15 ± 0.14	0	0	0.50	0.34	0.19	2	...
0	0.70 ± 0.01	0.50 ± 0.02	0.53 ± 0.03	0.48 ± 0.05	0	0	0.50	0.35	0.19	5	...
0	0.39 ± 0.00	-0.11 ± 0.01	0	0	0.50	0.34	0.19	6	...

Note. The columns list the following quantities. ID: identifier of the catalog source sorted by increasing R.A. R.A.: right ascension. Decl.: declination. $m_{V,0}$: apparent V-band magnitude corrected for extinction. r_{50} : half-light radius. $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50}$: effective V-band surface brightness within the half-light radius corrected for extinction. n : Sérsic index. b/a : axis ratio. θ : position angle measured north over east, where north is up and east is to the left. A_V : V-band extinction based on the reddening maps of Schlafly & Finkbeiner (2011). pflag: photometry processing flag given in Table 4. resflag: residual flag for sources fitted with GALFIT, where resflag = 1 flags sources with significant residuals after subtraction of the GALFIT model and resflag = 0 denotes no obvious residuals. bgflag: background flag, where bgflag = 0 indicates that the local background was fitted and subtracted by GALFIT, bgflag = 1 denotes that a SExtractor-generated background map with a BACK_SIZE parameter of 256 pixels was subtracted, and bgflag = 2 refers to a subtracted SExtractor background map with a BACK_SIZE parameter of 32 pixels. $(g-r)_{0,\text{aper}1}$: $g-r$ aperture color corrected for extinction measured within aperture 1, where $r_{\text{aper}1} = 1 r_{50}$ for sources with $r_{50} > 4$ pixels and $r_{\text{aper}1} = 4$ pixels for sources with $r_{50} \leq 4$ pixels. $(r-z)_{0,\text{aper}1}$: $r-z$ aperture color measured within aperture 1 corrected for extinction. $(g-r)_{0,\text{aper}2}$: $g-r$ aperture color corrected for extinction measured only for sources with $r_{50} > 4$ pixels within aperture 2, where $r_{\text{aper}2} = 2 r_{50}$. $(r-z)_{0,\text{aper}2}$: $r-z$ aperture color measured within aperture 2 corrected for extinction. $(g-r)$ -flag: flag indicating whether the source contains pixels of bleeding trails from bright stars within 3'' from the source center that may contaminate the color (($g-r$)-flag = 1) or not (($g-r$)-flag = 0). $(r-z)$ -flag: similar to ($g-r$)-flag but with respect to ($r-z$). A_g : g -band extinction. A_r : r -band extinction. A_z : z -band extinction. Here A_g , A_r , and A_z are based on the reddening maps of Schlafly & Finkbeiner (2011). mflag: morphology flag according to Table 5, where mflag = 11 indicates dE/ETG candidates classified as possible candidates only. nuc: nucleation flag for sources with mflag = 1 or 11, where nuc = 1 denotes nucleated sources, nuc = 2 nonnucleated sources, nuc = 3 unsure cases, and nuc = 4 sources with a bulge or bright central source.

(This table is available in its entirety in machine-readable form.)

in the direction of the Perseus cluster core. The catalog is available in the electronic version of the paper and the GAVO data center at <http://dc.g-vo.org/pcc/q/cone/form>, including r -band postage stamp images²³ of the objects identified. We show an excerpt of the catalog in Table 6.

Figure 12 shows the luminosity distribution of the complete catalog, as well as the dE/ETG candidate subsample. Both distributions show a turnover in their number counts at $m_{V,0} = 22.3$ mag ($M_{V,0} = -11$ mag), illustrating that the catalog is not complete at luminosities fainter than this. We note that the completeness estimate with the inserted model galaxies (see Section 3.3) indicates a 50% completeness limit already at $M_{V,0} = -12$ mag.

Our catalog is the largest and deepest catalog with a coherent coverage of 0.3 deg^2 that exists to date in the direction of the Perseus galaxy cluster core. Compared to the imaging survey of faint galaxies in the Perseus core region presented in Conselice et al. (2002, 2003), our data cover an area larger by roughly a factor of 6 and have a turnover magnitude in the luminosity distribution fainter than about 0.5 mag. This allowed us to identify almost 10 times more low-mass galaxy candidates. Figure 13 shows the coverage of our catalog in comparison to the Perseus cluster imaging

studies of Conselice & Gallagher (1999), Branzendorf & Meusinger (1999), Conselice et al. (2003), Penny et al. (2012), and Wittmann et al. (2017). We provide the IDs of all PCC sources that were previously cataloged in Table 7, as well as available radial velocity measurements that we compiled from NED (also see Section 8.2).

The PCC is clearly deeper than the well-established Virgo Cluster Catalog (VCC; Binggeli et al. 1985) and the Fornax Cluster Catalog (FCC; Ferguson 1989) with regard to their limiting magnitude of $m_{B_T} = 18$ mag. However, both catalogs cover a much larger area of the respective cluster, reaching even beyond the virial radius, whereas our catalog only covers about one-third of the Perseus cluster virial radius.

Compared to more recent imaging surveys, like the FDS Fornax cluster dwarf galaxy catalog (Venhola et al. 2018), which covers the Fornax cluster to its virial radius, our catalog reaches a similar 50% completeness limit with regard to surface brightness. The 50% completeness limit is, however, shallower by more than 1 mag with regard to luminosity. This is likely explained by the faint magnitude cut we apply to define our working sample (see Section 3.2). We provide a summary of the latest member catalogs focusing on faint galaxies of the Perseus, Fornax, Virgo, and Coma clusters in Table 8.

²³ Subaru r band with a pixel scale of $0.168 \text{ arcsec pixel}^{-1}$.

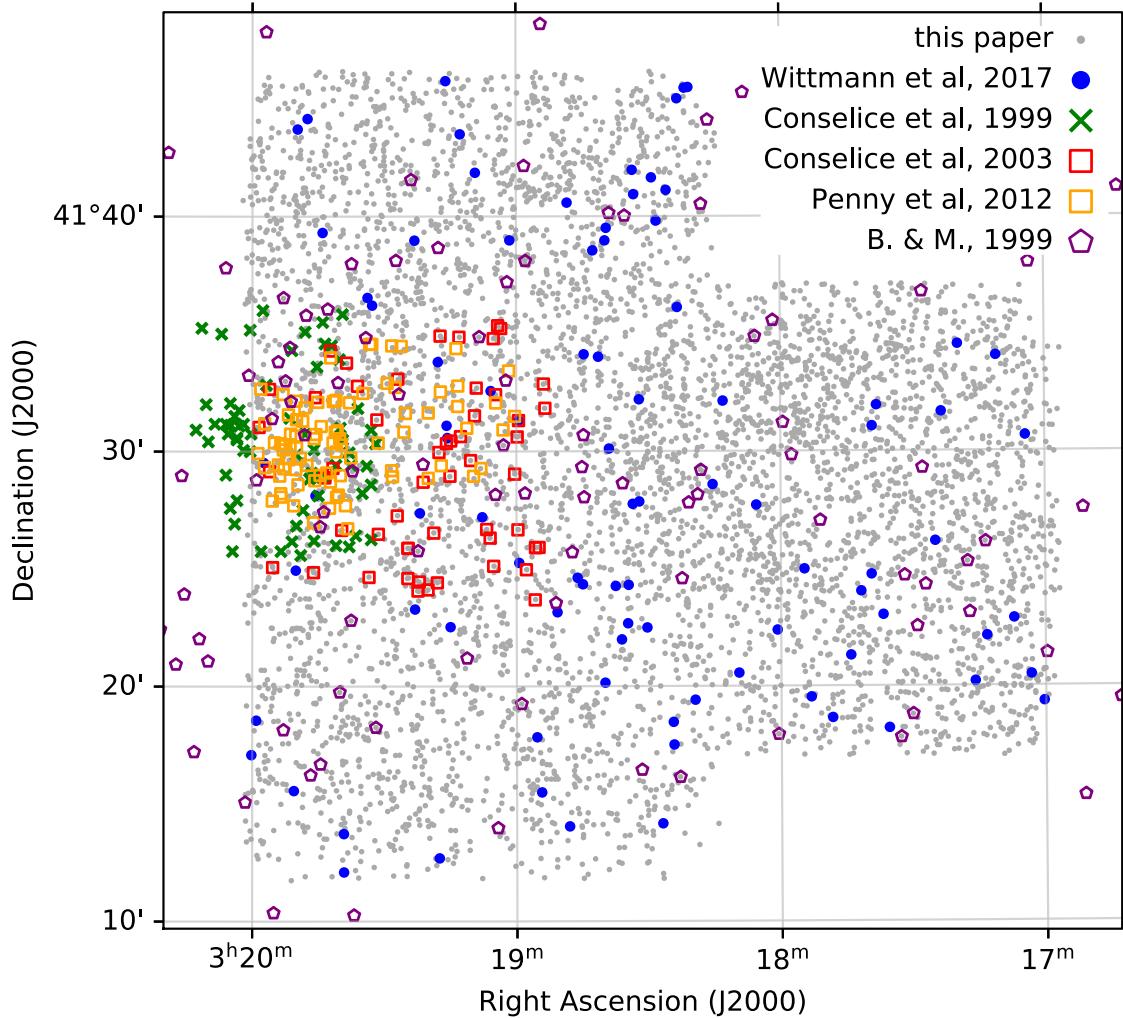


Figure 13. Coverage of the PCC (gray dots) in comparison to the Perseus cluster studies of Wittmann et al. (2017), Conselice & Gallagher (1999), Conselice et al. (2003), Penny et al. (2012), and Brunzendorf & Meusinger (1999), with the corresponding symbols detailed in the legend.

7. Parameter Distributions of the Morphological Subclasses

A morphological analysis, together with color information, provides a valuable tool to disentangle cluster dE/ETG candidates from late-type and background galaxies. If, however, one only has a data set at hand without subarcsecond resolution and lacking color information, the question is how large the contamination through noncluster sources will be in a certain parameter range. In the following, we use our morphologically categorized sample to investigate the $m_{V,0} - \langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} - r_{50} - n$ parameter distributions of the different subsamples and discuss which parameter ranges yield the highest fraction of cluster dE/ETG candidates.

7.1. $m_{V,0} - r_{50} - \langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50}$ Distribution

Figure 14 shows the $m_{V,0} - r_{50} - \langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50}$ distribution of morphological subclasses 1–5, defined in Table 5, as well as the dE/ETG candidate fraction with respect to all other sources. It can be seen that the highest dE/ETG fraction, and thus lowest contamination through other sources, is reached at the largest sizes at a given luminosity or surface brightness and at the brightest luminosities. For sources with $m_{V,0} > 16$ mag, the dE/ETG fraction is, on average, above 50% for sources with $r_{50} \gtrsim 1.^{\prime\prime}6$, with an increasing dE/ETG fraction toward

larger sizes. For sources with $m_{V,0} < 16$ mag, the dE/ETG fraction is close to 100%. We note that the fraction of the dE/ETG candidates classified as possible candidates increases toward fainter luminosities and smaller sizes, likely reflecting a more uncertain morphological classification in this parameter regime.

At the smallest sizes, below $r_{50} \sim 1''$, sources from category 2 dominate, including unresolved sources where the morphological characterization breaks down. The larger sources are likely background ellipticals. A few sources in the parameter range $M_{V,0} \lesssim -14$ mag ($m_{V,0} = 20.3$ mag) and $r_{50} \gtrsim 100$ pc ($\gtrsim 0.^{\circ}3$) may, however, also be cluster compact elliptical galaxies (e.g., Smith Castelli et al. 2008; Norris et al. 2014). Among the faint and small sources, a few could be Perseus cluster ultracompact dwarf galaxies (Penny et al. 2012, 2014b). Indeed, six of our sources were identified as ultracompact dwarf candidates by Penny et al. (2012) based on *HST* imaging data. The sources of categories 3–5, including LTGs, galaxies with possibly weak substructure, and edge-on disk galaxies, are mainly found at the intermediate size range. Some of these might be true Perseus cluster members. However, for these categories, it is not possible to discriminate between cluster and background galaxies based on morphology and color alone, requiring spectroscopic confirmation.

Table 7
Excerpt of the PCC Literature Crossmatch

ID	R.A. (PCC) (deg)	Decl. (PCC) (deg)	LIT1	R.A. (LIT1) (deg)	Decl. (LIT1) (deg)	LIT2	R.A. (LIT2) (deg)	Decl. (LIT2) (deg)
PCC 0027	49.2475	41.3259
PCC 0040	49.2516	41.3224
PCC 0093	49.2636	41.3414
PCC 0124	49.2684	41.5109
LIT3	R.A. (LIT3) (deg)	Decl. (LIT3) (deg)	LIT4	R.A. (LIT4) (deg)	Decl. (LIT4) (deg)	LIT5	R.A. (LIT5) (deg)	Decl. (LIT5) (deg)
...
...
...
...
LIT6	R.A. (LIT6) (deg)	Decl. (LIT6) (deg)		NED		R.A. (NED) (deg)	Decl. (NED) (deg)	v (NED) (km s $^{-1}$)
...		2MASS J03165939+4119332		49.248	49.248	39557
1	49.2516	49.2516	
2	49.2636	49.2636	
3	49.2684	49.2684	

Note. The full table contains 139 entries and is available in the electronic version of the paper. Listed are the identifiers and coordinates of all PCC sources that could be matched to at least one of the following literature sources. LIT1: identifier given in Conselice & Gallagher (1999). LIT2: identifier given in Brunzendorf & Meusinger (1999). LIT3: identifier given in Conselice et al. (2003). LIT4: identifier given in Penny & Conselice (2008). LIT5: identifier given in Penny et al. (2012). LIT6: identifier given in Wittmann et al. (2017). NED: identifier given in NED.

(This table is available in its entirety in machine-readable form.)

7.2. $M_{V,0}$ –Sérsic Distribution

It is known that there exists a well-defined relationship between galaxy luminosity and Sérsic index, where brighter galaxies have a higher Sérsic index (e.g., Jerjen & Binggeli 1997; Graham & Guzmán 2003; Gavazzi et al. 2005). For faint galaxies, various studies showed that this relation breaks down, leveling off to a constant value of Sérsic index $n \sim 1$ (e.g., De Rijcke et al. 2009; Misgeld et al. 2009; Lieder et al. 2012).

In Figure 15, we display the $M_{V,0}$ – n distribution of morphological subclasses 1–5, together with the literature $M_{V,0}$ – n relation. One can see that the vast majority of the sources classified as dE/ETG cluster candidates follow the $M_{V,0}$ – n relation. At bright luminosities ($M_{V,0} < -14.6$ mag), the dE/ETG fraction is above 50% within an interval of $n + 1$ from the literature relation, with an increasing dE/ETG fraction toward brighter luminosities. At fainter luminosities, however, the contamination by other sources increases dramatically.

A relation between Sérsic index and luminosity is also seen for the sources classified as LTGs. This might also indicate that a significant fraction of these are cluster members rather than background galaxies. The sources of the other three morphological categories show no $M_{V,0}$ – n relation, likely indicating that they are distributed across a wide range of redshifts.

8. Literature Comparisons

8.1. HST Data Comparison for the dE/ETG Cluster Candidates

We visually examined the sources classified as dE/ETG cluster candidates in archival *HST* imaging data in order to check whether we missed intrinsic substructure. In total, we checked 11 *HST* ACS/WFC3 frames, including 70 of our candidates. The vast majority (59) show a smooth dE-like

appearance in the *HST* images. Five candidates are only barely seen, and four are undetected. Two candidates look suspicious and might be in the background, although clear substructure is not revealed. The generally positive comparison with the *HST* data further supports our classification of the sources as dE/ETG candidates. We summarize the *HST* comparison in Table 9 in Appendix D.

8.2. Spectroscopically Confirmed Sources and Background Source Estimation

We checked which sources in our catalog have available radial velocity measurements. For this, we used NED to compile all sources classified as galaxies that fall on our WHT mosaic footprint (see Section 6). We identified 49 sources that match a source in our catalog. Of the matched sources, 28 have velocities within 2σ of the Perseus cluster mean velocity $v_{\text{Perseus}} = 5370 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ (Struble & Rood 1999), where $\sigma = 1300 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ (Kent & Sargent 1983). All of these are in the category of likely dE/ETG cluster candidates, thus confirming our morphological classification. Two sources have radial velocities within 2σ – 3σ of the cluster mean velocity, of which one source is classified as a likely dE/ETG candidate and the other as a likely background ETG or unresolved source.

The remaining 19 sources are not cluster members, having $v > v_{\text{Perseus}} + 3\sigma \text{ km s}^{-1}$. They fall into the morphological categories of likely background ETGs or unresolved sources (seven sources), cluster or background galaxies with late-type morphology (five sources), cluster or background galaxies with possible weak substructure (four sources), and cluster and background edge-on disk galaxies (one source). Two sources²⁴ were morphologically classified as dE/ETG candidates. They

²⁴ PCC 314 and PCC 1628.

Table 8
Summary of the Latest Member Catalogs of the Perseus, Fornax, Virgo, and Coma Clusters

Cluster	Focus	No. of Galaxies	Magnitude Range (mag)	Coverage (deg ²)	Completeness	Reference
Perseus	Faint ETGs	496	$-10.3 \geq M_V \geq -20.2$	0.3	$M_V = -12$ mag, $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} = 26$ mag arcsec ⁻² ^a	(1)
Perseus	Faint LSBGs ^b	89	$-11.8 \geq M_V \geq -15.5$	0.3	...	(2)
Perseus	Faint ETGs	53	$-12.5 \geq M_B \geq -16.0$	0.05	$M_B = -10.7$ mag ^c	(3), (4)
Fornax	Faint galaxies	470 ETGs, 94 LTGs	$-8.9 \geq M_r \geq -18.7$	26	$M_r = -10.5$ mag, $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} = 26$ mag arcsec ⁻² ^a	(5)
Fornax	Faint LSBGs ^d	205	$-8.9 \geq M_r \geq -15.8$	4	...	(6)
Fornax	Faint galaxies	384	$-8.8 \geq M_i \geq -18.8$	9.5	...	(7)
Fornax	Faint galaxies	258	$-9.4 \geq M_i \geq -18.5$	3.1	...	(8)
Virgo	Galaxies	380 ETGs, 24 LTGs	$-7.4 \geq M_g \geq -22.2$	3.7	$M_g = -9.1$ mag, $\langle \mu_g \rangle_{50} \simeq 27$ mag arcsec ⁻² ^a	(9), (10)
Coma	Faint LSBGs ^e	854	$-10.9 \geq M_R \geq -16.9$	4.6	...	(11)
Coma	Faint ETGs	200	$-12.4 \geq M_{F814W} \geq -19.0$	0.08	...	(12)
Coma	Galaxies	234 ETGs, 239 LTGs	$-14.0 \geq M_B \geq -22.4$	0.6	$M_B = -14$ mag ^a	(13)

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Notes.^a 50% completeness limit.^b LSBGs: low surface brightness galaxies with $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} \geq 24.8$ mag arcsec⁻².^c Luminosity distribution turnover.^d With a central surface brightness of $\mu_{r,c} \geq 23$ mag arcsec⁻².^e With $\mu_{R,c} \geq 22.4$ mag arcsec⁻².

References. (1) Wittmann et al. 2019, (2) Wittmann et al. (2017), (3) Conselice et al. (2002), (4) Conselice et al. (2003), (5) Venhola et al. (2018), (6) Venhola et al. (2017), (7) Ordenes-Briceño et al. (2018b), (8) Egenthaler et al. (2018), (9) Sánchez-Janssen et al. (2019), (10) Ferrarese et al. (2016), (11) Yagi et al. (2016), (12) den Brok et al. (2014), (13) Michard & Andreon (2008).

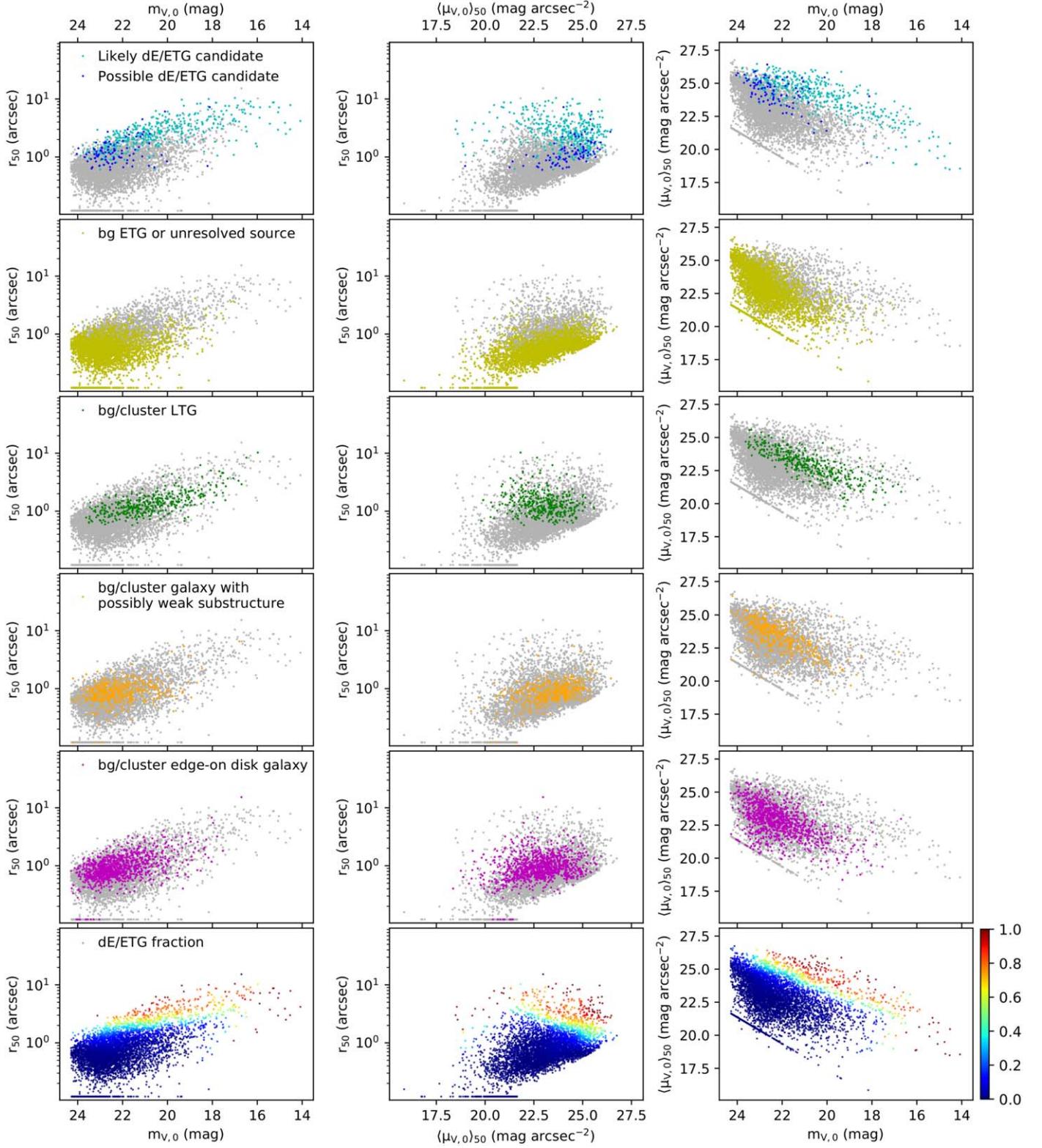


Figure 14. The $m_{V,0} - r_{50} - \langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50}$ distribution of morphological categories 1–5, defined in Table 5. In each row, we highlight one subclass and show the respective other sources as gray symbols. The last row displays the fraction of dE/ETG candidates in the respective parameter range. We calculated the dE/ETG fraction at the $M_{V,0}, r_{50}, \langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50}$ position of each source in intervals of $m_{V,0} \pm 0.5$ mag, $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} \pm 0.5$ mag arcsec $^{-2}$, and $\log(r_{50}) \pm 0.3$. The label “bg” in the legends refers to “background.”

are likely more distant ETGs, although they are characterized by a smooth morphology and lie close to the red sequence in the color-magnitude diagram, with $(g-r)_0 = 0.7$ and 0.8 mag, respectively.

From the comparison of our visual classification for sources with radial velocity measurements, we can also get a rough estimate of the expected contamination through background galaxies in our dE/ETG candidate sample. Of the sources

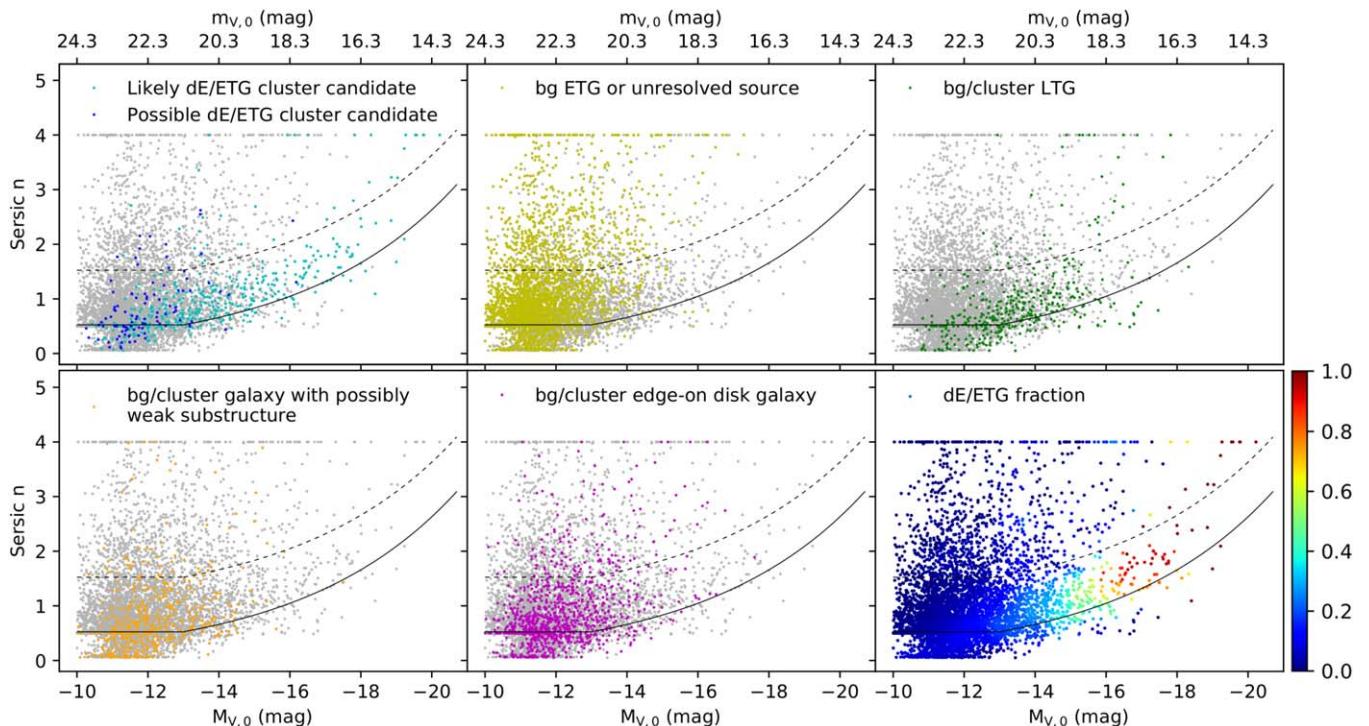


Figure 15. The $M_{V,0}$ -Sérsic distribution of morphological subclasses 1–5, defined in Table 5. In each panel, we highlight one subclass and show the respective other sources as gray symbols. The solid black curve in each panel shows the $M_{V,0}-n$ relation from Graham & Guzmán (2003) for $M_{V,0} \leq -13$ mag. For fainter magnitudes, the value of n at $M_{V,0} = -13$ mag is adopted (see Section 7.2). The dashed black curve indicates the $n + 1$ interval with respect to the $M_{V,0}-n$ relation. The bottom right panel displays the dE/ETG fraction at the $M_{V,0},n$ position of each source in intervals of $M_{V,0} \pm 0.5$ mag and $n \pm 0.25$. The label “bg” in the legends refers to “background.”

visually classified as dE/ETG candidates, 28 are confirmed cluster members, whereas two are confirmed background systems. This results in a contamination rate of 7%. Thus, 35 of the 496 sources classified as dE/ETG candidates might be background contaminants.

We also performed an order-of-magnitude comparison to the background galaxy number density for Perseus estimated by Weinmann et al. (2011; see their Appendix A4). The authors derived a background galaxy number density of 45 Mpc^{-2} for galaxies with $-16.7 \text{ mag} \geq M_r \geq -19 \text{ mag}$ by extrapolating the radial number density profile based on SDSS data. Considering sources in the same magnitude regime from our catalog that are not classified as dE/ETG candidates and thus should be dominated by background sources, we derive an average number density of 70 Mpc^{-2} within 700 kpc. The value, higher by a factor of 1.6 compared to the one in Weinmann et al. (2011), might be caused by cluster LTGs contaminating our background galaxy number estimate, since we did not visually distinguish between cluster and background systems for LTGs. The order-of-magnitude agreement, however, further strengthens our performed visual classification approach.

8.3. Faint Low Surface Brightness Galaxies

8.3.1. Visual versus Automated Detection

Wittmann et al. (2017) established a sample of faint low surface brightness galaxy candidates in the Perseus cluster core based on a visual detection in the WHT V -band data, which we also used in this work. In the following, we discuss how many of the visually identified sources were also detected with the

automated detection method applied in this study. We found that 77 of the 89 faint low surface brightness galaxy candidates were successfully detected with our automated approach.²⁵ The 12 missed sources are all faint, with $M_{V,0} > -14$ mag, and occupy the low surface brightness regime, with nine sources having $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} > 26 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$.

This demonstrates that our automated SExtractor-based source detection generally works well to extract sources with $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} \lesssim 26 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$ from the WHT data. For fainter surface brightness sources, however, a visual detection seems more reliable. This is also expected, given that our completeness estimate indicates that we miss more than 50% of all sources with $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} > 26 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$ (see Section 3.3). In contrast, according to the completeness estimate given in Wittmann et al. (2017; see their Figure 2), the detection rate of visually identified sources with $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} = 26\text{--}27 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$ is still in the range of 70%–90%.

8.3.2. New Ultradiffuse Galaxy Candidates

Our dE/ETG sample also includes two candidates in the parameter regime $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} \geq 25 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$ and $r_{50} \geq 1.5 \text{ kpc}$ that fall into the category of ultradiffuse galaxies and that were not previously reported. We note, however, that both objects are classified as possible candidates only, due to their not entirely smooth morphological appearance. We show both candidates in Figure 16.

²⁵ We note that two of them were excluded in this study, since one was revealed as cirrus and the other is only barely visible in the Subaru r -band data. These are sources ID = 31 and 57, which are listed as possible low surface brightness galaxy candidates in Wittmann et al. (2017).

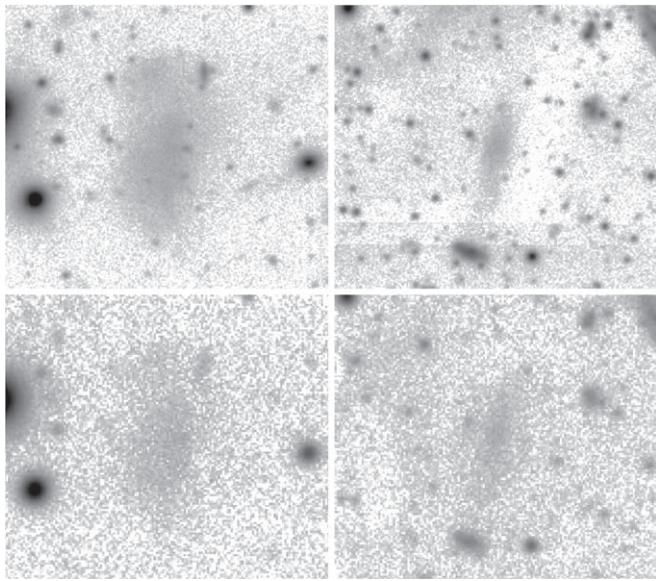


Figure 16. New ultradiffuse galaxy candidates. The top panels show candidates PCC 2262 (left) and PCC 4017 (right) in the Subaru r -band data. In the top right panel, we additionally subtracted a SExtractor-generated background map with a BACK_SIZE of 45 pixels in order to reveal the candidate in the extended halo of a bright neighbor galaxy. The bottom panels show both candidates in the WHT V -band data. The width of each panel corresponds to 38''.

9. Summary

In this study, we established a new catalog of sources in the direction of the Perseus galaxy cluster core, with a focus on extracting low-mass galaxy cluster members. Our catalog covers an area of 0.3 deg^2 and includes 5437 sources, among them 496 early-type low-mass galaxy candidates that were selected based on their morphological appearance. The catalog reaches its 50% completeness limit at $M_{V,0} = -12 \text{ mag}$ and $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} = 26 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$. This makes it the largest and deepest catalog with coherent coverage compared to previous imaging studies of the Perseus galaxy cluster.

The source detection and photometry is based on WHT V -band imaging data covering $0.7 \times 0.7 \text{ Mpc}^2$ ($0.58 \times 0.58 \text{ deg}^2$) of the cluster core region. We used SExtractor to carry out an automated source detection and derived photometry for all detected sources with GALFIT.

To perform the morphological classification and measure aperture colors, we reduced archival Subaru g -, r -, and z -band data. We used the r -band data for the morphological analysis, where we classified the sources into (1) dE/ETG cluster candidates, (2) likely background ETGs or sources with unresolved substructure, (3) cluster or background LTGs, (4) cluster or background galaxies with possibly weak substructure, (5) cluster or background edge-on disk galaxies, and (6) likely background merging systems.

We found that the dE/ETG cluster candidates form a tight red sequence in the color–magnitude diagram and follow the literature relation between absolute luminosity and Sérsic index, strengthening our morphological classification as early-type cluster members. The sources of the remaining morphological classes show a broad scatter in their parameter distributions, indicative of many of them being in the background of Perseus, at a wide range of redshifts.

We classified the dE/ETG candidates as nucleated or nonnucleated galaxies and confirmed the trend of increasing nucleation fraction toward brighter luminosity or higher surface brightness in the regime of $M_{V,0} \geq -16 \text{ mag}$ and $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} \geq 23 \text{ mag arcsec}^{-2}$, which is also seen for the early-type populations in other nearby galaxy clusters. At even higher luminosities and surface brightnesses, the nucleation fraction quickly declines due to the increasing fraction of galaxies harboring bulges.

In the $m_{V,0} - r_{50} - \langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} - n$ parameter space, the dE/ETG candidates show a significant overlap with the other morphological classes. We found, however, that the dE/ETG fraction is above 50% in the largest size range of $r_{50} \gtrsim 1''.6$ and along the literature $M_{V,0}-n$ relation for $M_{V,0} < -14.6 \text{ mag}$. This information may be useful for studies using data sets where a morphological classification is limited due to poor resolution of the data or for wide-field surveys covering large fractions on the sky, where a morphological analysis might be too time-consuming.

This work is based on data acquired at the William Herschel Telescope, which is operated on the island of La Palma by the Isaac Newton Group of Telescopes in the Spanish Observatorio del Roque de los Muchachos of the Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias (program 2012B/045). We thank Daniel Bialas for his help with the observations, as well as Simone Weinmann and Stefan Lieder for useful comments when preparing the WHT observing proposal. This work is based in part on data collected at the Subaru Telescope and obtained from the SMOKA, which is operated by the Astronomy Data Center, National Astronomical Observatory of Japan. We gratefully acknowledge the investigators proposing and executing the Subaru observations, Nozomu Tominaga (Subaru project S14B-048) and Toshifumi Futamase (S14B-030), and their co-observers, Okabe-san, Hada-san, and Morokuma-san, as well as the staff of the Subaru/SMOKA help desk for their fast and helpful support at several points throughout the work with the Subaru data. We thank Markus Demleitner for his help with the GAVO data release. C.W. is supported by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG; German Research Foundation) through project 394551440. R.K. gratefully acknowledges partial funding support from the National Science Foundation under project AST-1664362 and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration under project 80NSSC18K1498. This research has made use of the NASA/IPAC Extragalactic Database (NED), which is operated by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, under contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. *Software:* HSC pipeline (Version 5.4), SWARP (Bertin et al. 2002), SExtractor (Bertin & Arnouts 1996), IRAF (Tody 1986, 1993), GALFIT (Peng et al. 2002, 2010).

Appendix A Petrosian Photometry Uncertainties

We give an estimate of typical Petrosian photometry uncertainties based on model galaxies inserted into the WHT V -band data. For the estimate, we used the inserted model galaxies that we generated for the SExtractor parameter tuning and the completeness estimate (see Sections 3.1 and 3.3), selecting models in the parameter range $M_{V,0} = -10$ to -19 mag ,

$r_{50} = 0.2\text{--}5.0$ kpc, and $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50} = 19\text{--}27$ mag arcsec $^{-2}$. We derived Petrosian photometry in the same way as for our working sample of real detected sources described in Section 4.1 and compared the intrinsic to the measured model parameters.

Figure 17 shows the mean parameter offsets between intrinsic and measured parameters, as well as the average scatter of the measured parameters at a given surface brightness. The offsets and scatter in magnitude and half-light radius increase toward fainter surface brightnesses, with the measured magnitudes being, on average, fainter and the measured half-light radii, on average, smaller than the intrinsic parameters. The measured surface brightnesses are, on average, brighter than the intrinsic values for low surface brightness sources and slightly fainter for high surface brightness sources, while the scatter remains roughly constant. The offsets are likely caused by an underestimate of the intrinsic half-light radius for the low surface brightness sources and a slight overestimate of the

intrinsic half-light radius for the high surface brightness sources due to lacking PSF deconvolution.

Appendix B Color Gradients of the Morphological Subclasses

We measured the color gradient as the difference between the outer aperture color with $r = 2r_{50}$ and the inner aperture color with $r = 1r_{50}$ for all catalog sources with $r_{50} > 4$ pixels. We show the color gradient as a function of luminosity and its distribution in Figure 18.

The vast majority of the dE/ETG candidates show no or only a mild color gradient, with about 80% having a color gradient less than ± 0.05 mag. This may be expected for faint galaxies with early-type stellar populations (Urich et al. 2017). All other subsamples, in particular those classified as LTGs, galaxies with possible substructure, and edge-on disk galaxies, show a clear offset in their distribution toward a negative gradient, with the

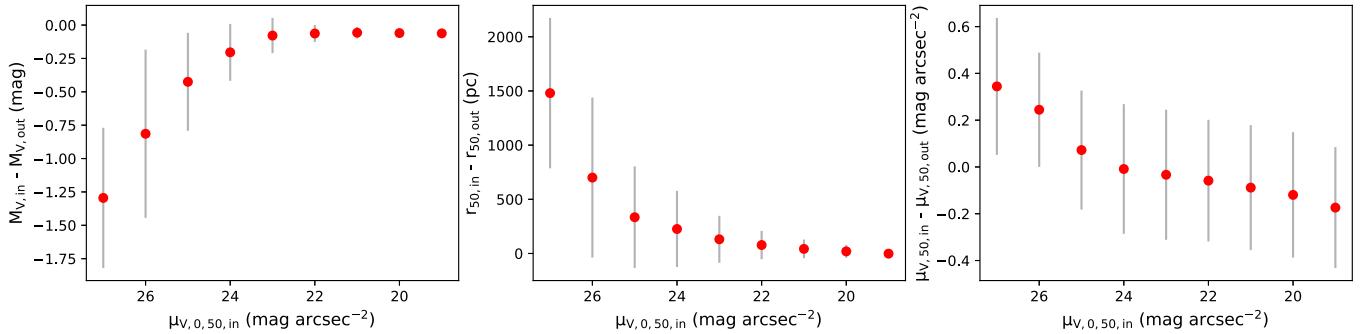


Figure 17. Uncertainty estimate for Petrosian $M_{V,0}$, r_{50} , and $\langle \mu_{V,0} \rangle_{50}$ based on a comparison of intrinsic to measured parameters of a set of model galaxies inserted into the WHT V-band data. The red dots correspond to the mean offset between intrinsic (in) and measured (out) parameters at a given surface brightness. The gray error bars indicate the average scatter of the measured parameters in the respective surface brightness bin.

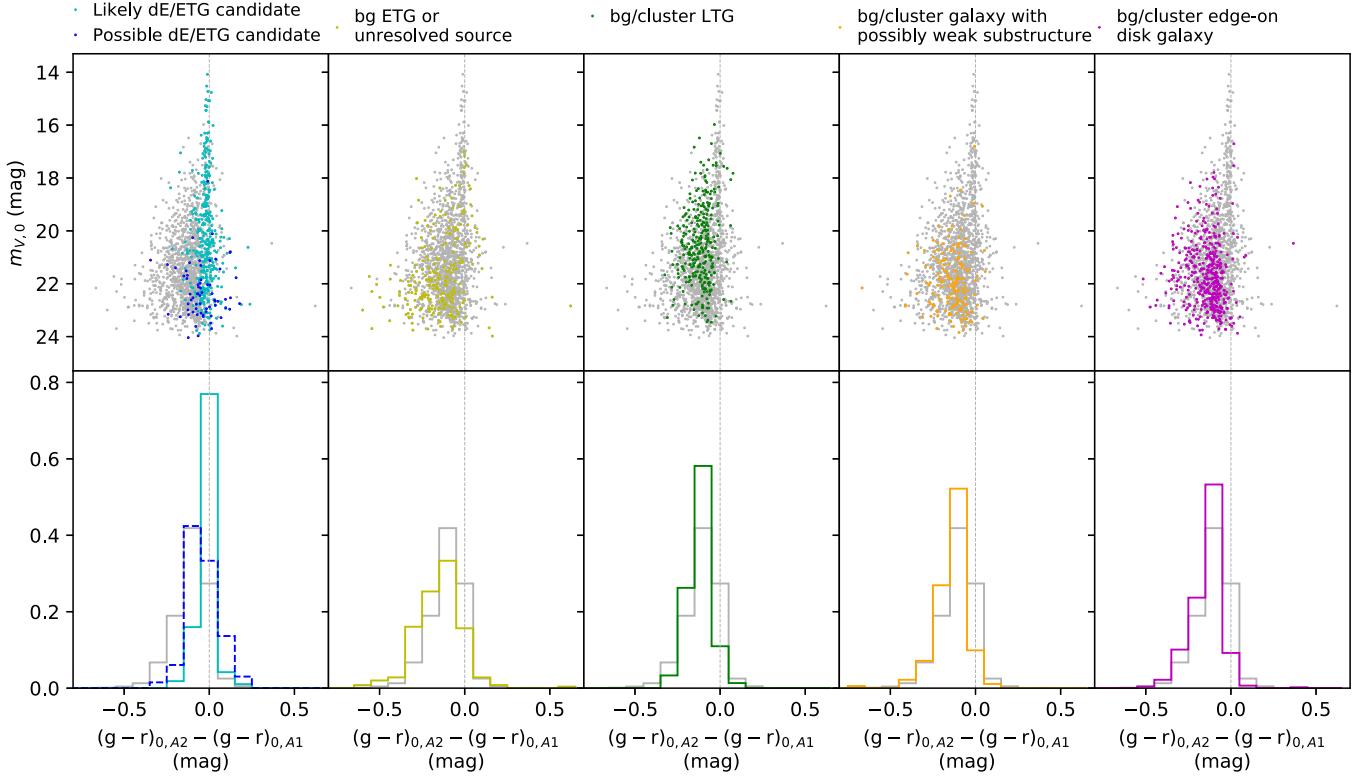


Figure 18. Color gradient vs. apparent luminosity (upper panels) and color gradient distribution (lower panels) for morphological subclasses 1–5, defined in Table 5. In each panel, we highlight one subclass and show the respective other sources as gray symbols. The color gradient is measured as the difference between the aperture 2 (A2) color with $r = 2 r_{50}$ and the aperture 1 (A1) color with $r = 1 r_{50}$. The figure only includes sources with $r_{50} \geq 4$ pixels.

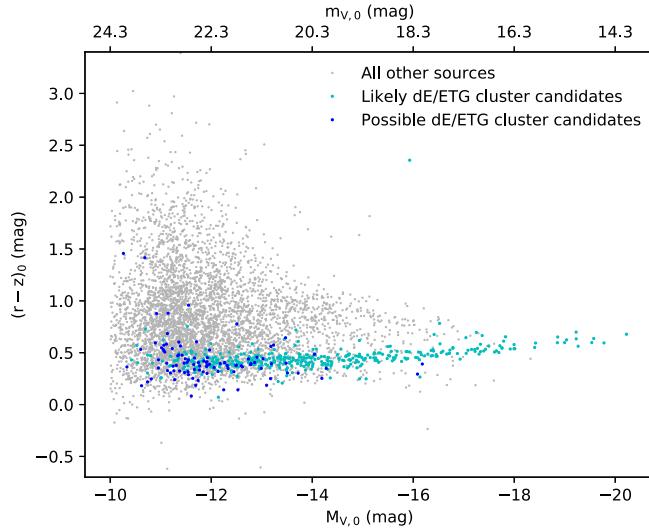


Figure 19. Color–magnitude diagram for the Perseus cluster dE/ETG candidates (highlighted with cyan and blue dots) and other PCC sources (gray dots), including the morphological categories likely background ETGs or sources with unresolved substructure, cluster or background LTGs, cluster or background galaxies with possibly weak substructure, and likely cluster or background edge-on disk galaxies. Same as Figure 10 (left panel) but showing $M_{V,0}$ vs. $(r-z)_0$.

majority of the sources being bluer in their outskirts. This may support the point that some of them are star-forming disk galaxies, as discussed in Section 5.

Appendix C Color–Magnitude Diagram: $M_{V,0}$ – $(r-z)_0$

Figure 19 shows the color–magnitude diagram of our morphologically classified sources, highlighting the

dE/ETG subsample. Figure 19 is similar to Figure 10 but shows $(r-z)_0$ as a function of magnitude, instead of $(g-r)_0$.

Appendix D *HST* Data Comparison

Table 9 summarizes the *HST* data comparison for the Perseus dE/ETG candidates explained in Section 8.1.

Table 9*HST* Data Comparison for Perseus dE/ETG Candidates (see Section 8.1)

ID	Comment	<i>HST</i> Frame
PCC 0040	dE/ETG-like	5
PCC 0093	dE/ETG-like	5
PCC 0156	dE/ETG-like	5
PCC 0219	dE/ETG-like	5
PCC 0349	dE/ETG-like	4
PCC 0419	dE/ETG-like	4
PCC 1047	dE/ETG-like	5
PCC 1101	dE/ETG-like	4
PCC 1113	dE/ETG-like	5
PCC 1159	dE/ETG-like	5
PCC 1574	dE/ETG-like	6
PCC 1630	dE/ETG-like	6
PCC 1682	dE/ETG-like	4
PCC 1684	dE/ETG-like	5
PCC 1796	dE/ETG-like	7, 8, 6
PCC 1842	dE/ETG-like	7, 8, 6
PCC 1870	dE/ETG-like	3
PCC 1884	dE/ETG-like	2
PCC 1918	dE/ETG-like	7
PCC 1925	dE/ETG-like	3
PCC 1944	dE/ETG-like	2
PCC 3414	dE/ETG-like	3
PCC 3421	dE/ETG-like	3
PCC 3444	dE/ETG-like	2
PCC 3529	dE/ETG-like	7
PCC 3538	dE/ETG-like	2
PCC 3558	dE/ETG-like	3
PCC 3613	dE/ETG-like	2
PCC 3623	Undetected/barely seen	7, 8
PCC 3687	dE/ETG-like	7, 8
PCC 3697	dE/ETG-like	7, 8
PCC 3749	dE/ETG-like	3
PCC 3759	dE/ETG-like	1, 8
PCC 3806	dE/ETG-like	1, 7
PCC 3832	dE/ETG-like	7
PCC 3851	dE/ETG-like	3
PCC 3915	dE/ETG-like	1, 8
PCC 3943	dE/ETG-like	1, 8
PCC 3950	dE/ETG-like	9
PCC 3960	dE/ETG-like	9
PCC 4008	Undetected/barely seen	2
PCC 4017	Undetected/barely seen	1
PCC 4060	dE/ETG-like	9
PCC 4375	dE/ETG-like	9
PCC 44	dE/ETG-like	1
PCC 4551	dE/ETG-like	9
PCC 4554	dE/ETG-like	1
PCC 4666	dE/ETG-like	1
PCC 46	Maybe background	1
PCC 4719	dE/ETG-like	9
PCC 4750	dE/ETG-like	9
PCC 4752	dE/ETG-like	9
PCC 4780	Undetected/barely seen	11
PCC 4784	dE/ETG-like	11
PCC 4811	dE/ETG-like	11
PCC 4816	dE/ETG-like	10
PCC 4826	dE/ETG-like	10
PCC 4855	dE/ETG-like	10
PCC 4862	dE/ETG-like	10
PCC 4876	dE/ETG-like	10
PCC 4900	dE/ETG-like	10

Table 9

(Continued)

ID	Comment	<i>HST</i> Frame
PCC 4942	Undetected/barely seen	4
PCC 4979	Undetected/barely seen	4
PCC 48	Undetected/barely seen	3
PCC 5047	Undetected/barely seen	3
PCC 5118	dE/ETG-like	7
PCC 5121	dE/ETG-like	9
PCC 5136	Maybe background	9
PCC 5163	dE/ETG-like	9
PCC 5305	Undetected/barely seen	11

Note. ID: identifier as given in Table 6. Comment: visual appearance in the *HST* frame specified in the third column. *HST* frame: 1 = HST#J91601010, 2 = HST#J91603010, 3 = HST#J91604010, 4 = HST#J91605010, 5 = HST#J91606010, 6 = HST#J9BB01010, 7 = HST#J9BB02010, 8 = HST#J9BB04010, 9 = HST#JDKB13010, 10 = HST#JDKB12010, 11 = HST#JDKB13030.

ORCID iDs

- Carolin Wittmann <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2588-8862>
Ralf Kotulla <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4460-9892>
Thorsten Lisker <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6807-5856>
Eva K. Grebel <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1891-3794>
Christopher J. Conselice <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1949-7638>
Samantha J. Penny <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5703-7531>

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