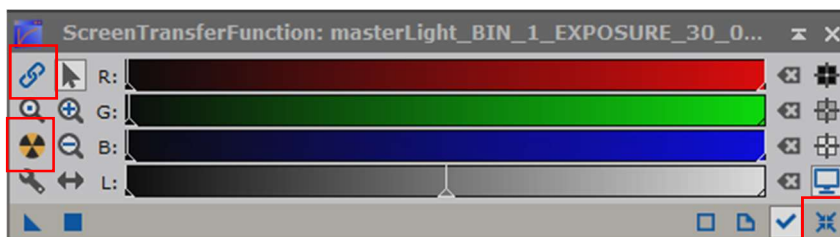**Crop the images with PixInsight (version 1.8)**

After stacking, the images are cropped and, if available, the Ha and O-III images from the external program SiriL are adjusted to the crop. For this purpose, all images (RGB image, filter image, Ha image, O-III image) must be loaded into PixInsight.

After opening the images, the 'ScreenTransferFunction' from the menu point 'Process' should be opened. Deactivate the chain symbol in the upper left corner, otherwise the image will have "distorted" colors, and then click on the icon with the atomic symbol. This will automatically stretch the images.

The reset sign at the very bottom right restores the original state of the stacked image.
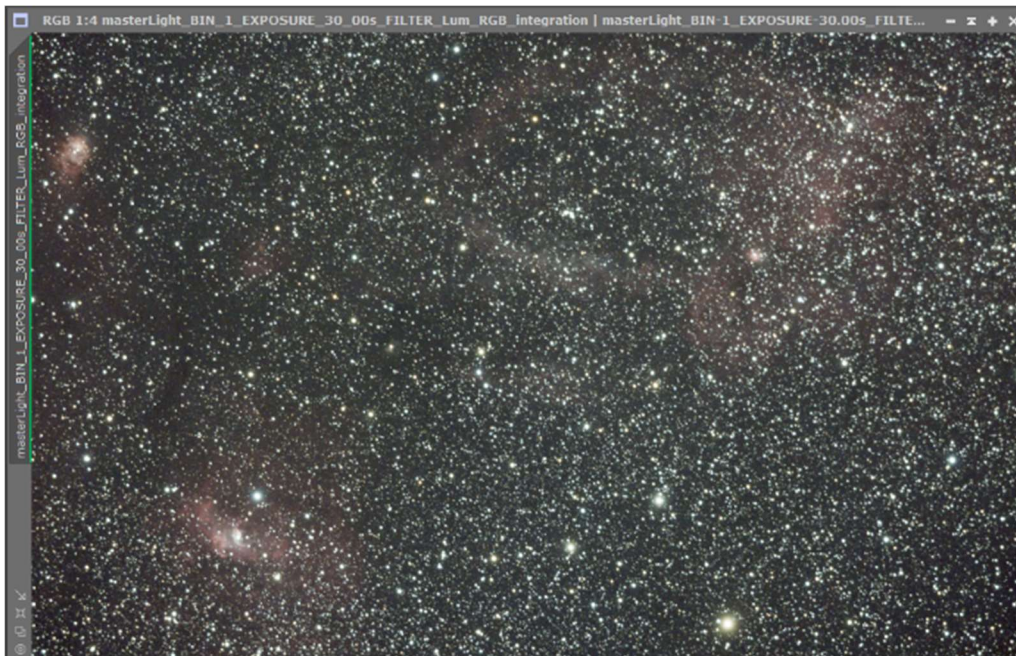
After stacking, it often happens that image edges have to be cut off, or images are twisted because they were taken on different nights, and due to manual filter changes the camera no longer had the exact same position.
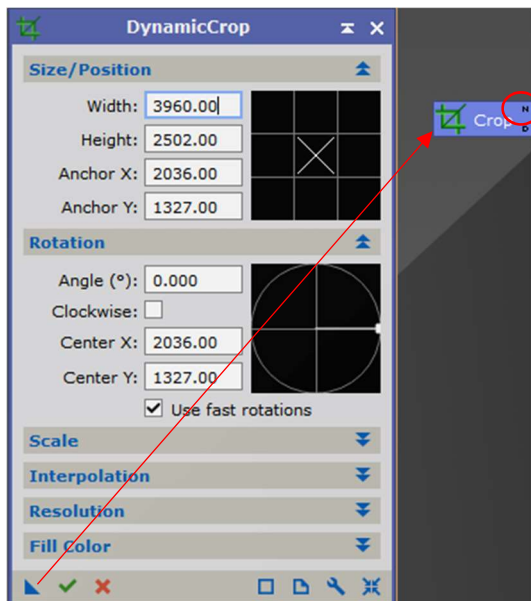

This process is called crop. For this, the menu point 'Process' - 'DynamicCrop' is selected and a suitable rectangle is applied to the stacked RGB image.
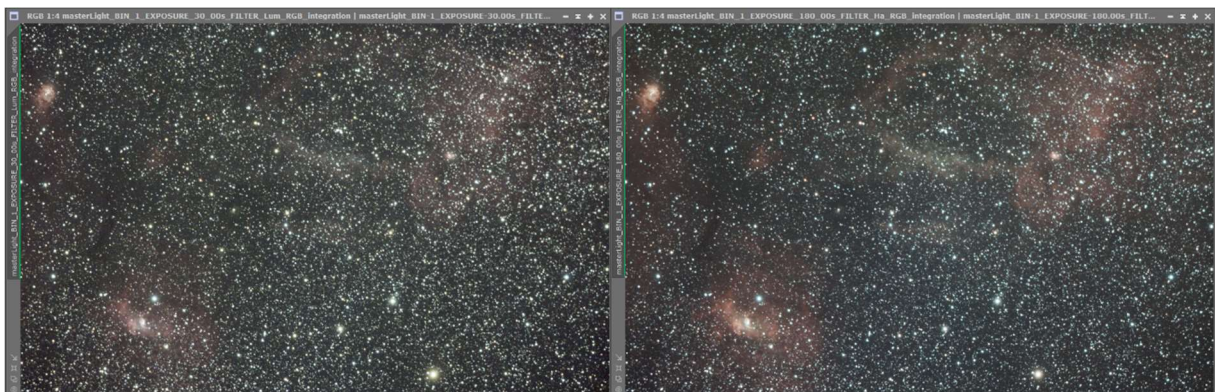
This rectangle must now be applied to all the other images (filter image, Ha image, O-III image) to enable merged processing. To do this, apply the blue triangle icon to the filter image and the separated monochrome narrow band images. They will then be cropped absolutely the same way, and the images will fit over each other. **Only then click on the green check mark and the RGB image will be cropped.**
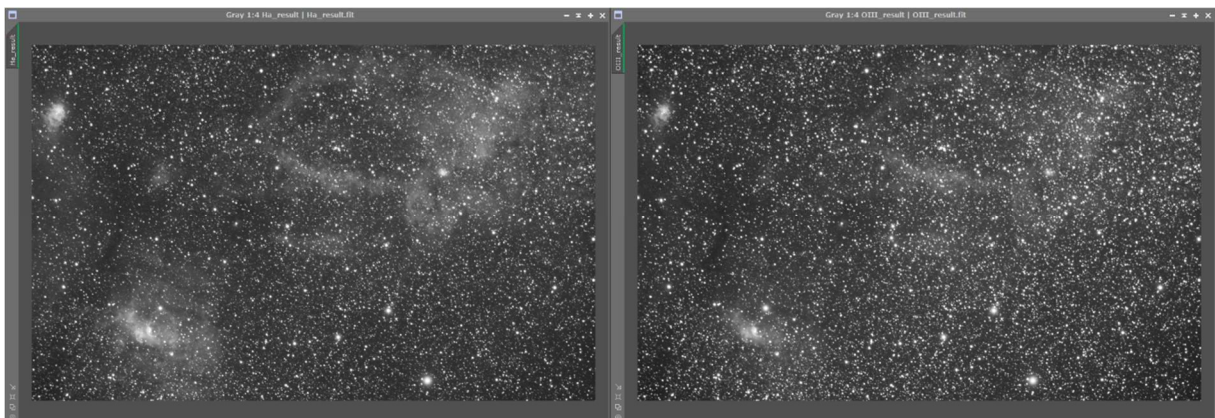

The triangle can also be used to drag the crop operation to the workspace screen, allowing it to be recalled again and again with exactly these settings. By clicking on the icon in the upper right corner, a name (e.g. Crop) can be assigned. This operation can also be performed with all other processes, so that a project process can also be performed again and again for other objects.

Cropped RGB image (left) and filter image (CSL, right):

Cropped narrow band images (left Ha, right OIII):

The filter images can be moved to another workspace for the moment (right click on the upper respective image label 'To Workspace').

If the images are not exactly the same after cropping due to the different stacking methods, so that there is still no total match when the edges are cropped away, the 'StarAlignment' process can be used. To do this, the RGB image is selected as the reference image and dragged onto the target image with the blue arrow.