

THE LOFAR HBA SURVEYS

Reinout van Weeren

Leiden Observatory, Leiden University

on behalf of the LOFAR Surveys team

Special thanks to Tim Shimwell

Outline

- LOFAR
- HBA: High Band Antenna
- HBA surveys
- Calibration
- LoTSS
- LoTSS-deep
- Working with HBA data
- Extraction-selfcal
- Ongoing and future work

LOFAR



LOFAR; van Haarlem et al. (2013)

The LOFAR core: 24 stations in the north of NL. There are also 14 remote stations and 14 international stations.

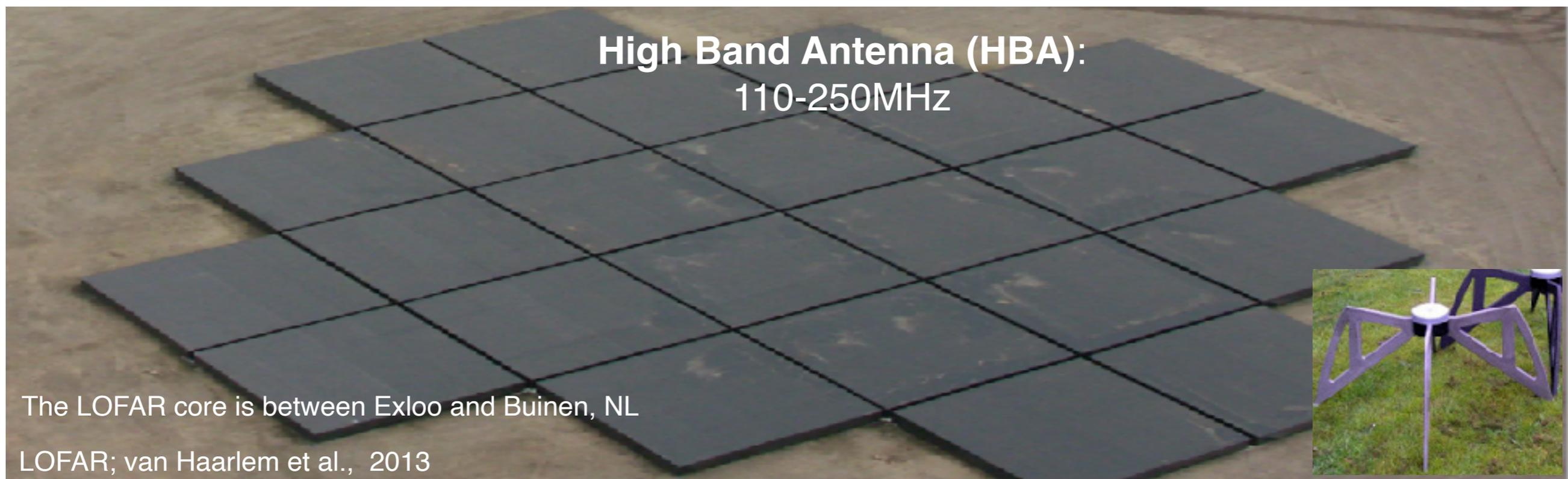
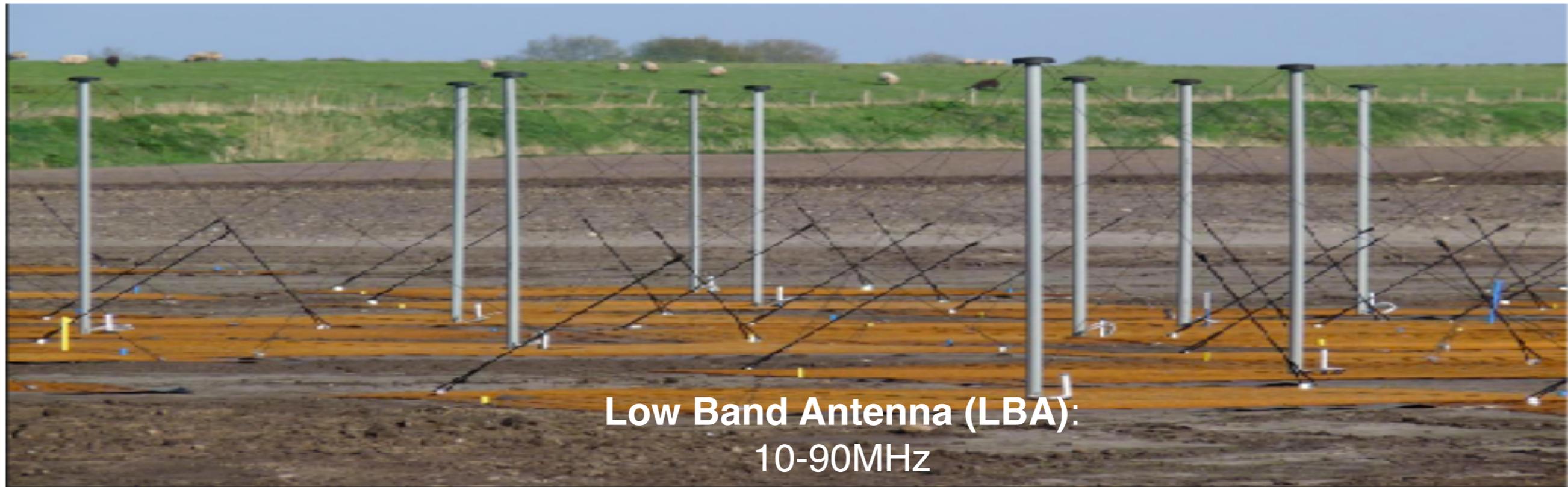
LOFAR **Low** (10-80 MHz) **band antenna**. Stations have 96 antenna. Presently only 1/2 antennas can be used at once for core and remote stations.



LOFAR **High** (110-250 MHz) **band antenna**. Core ones are 24 antenna arranged with 30.8m diameter, remote ones are 48 antenna with 41m diameter, international ones are 96 antenna with 56m diameter.



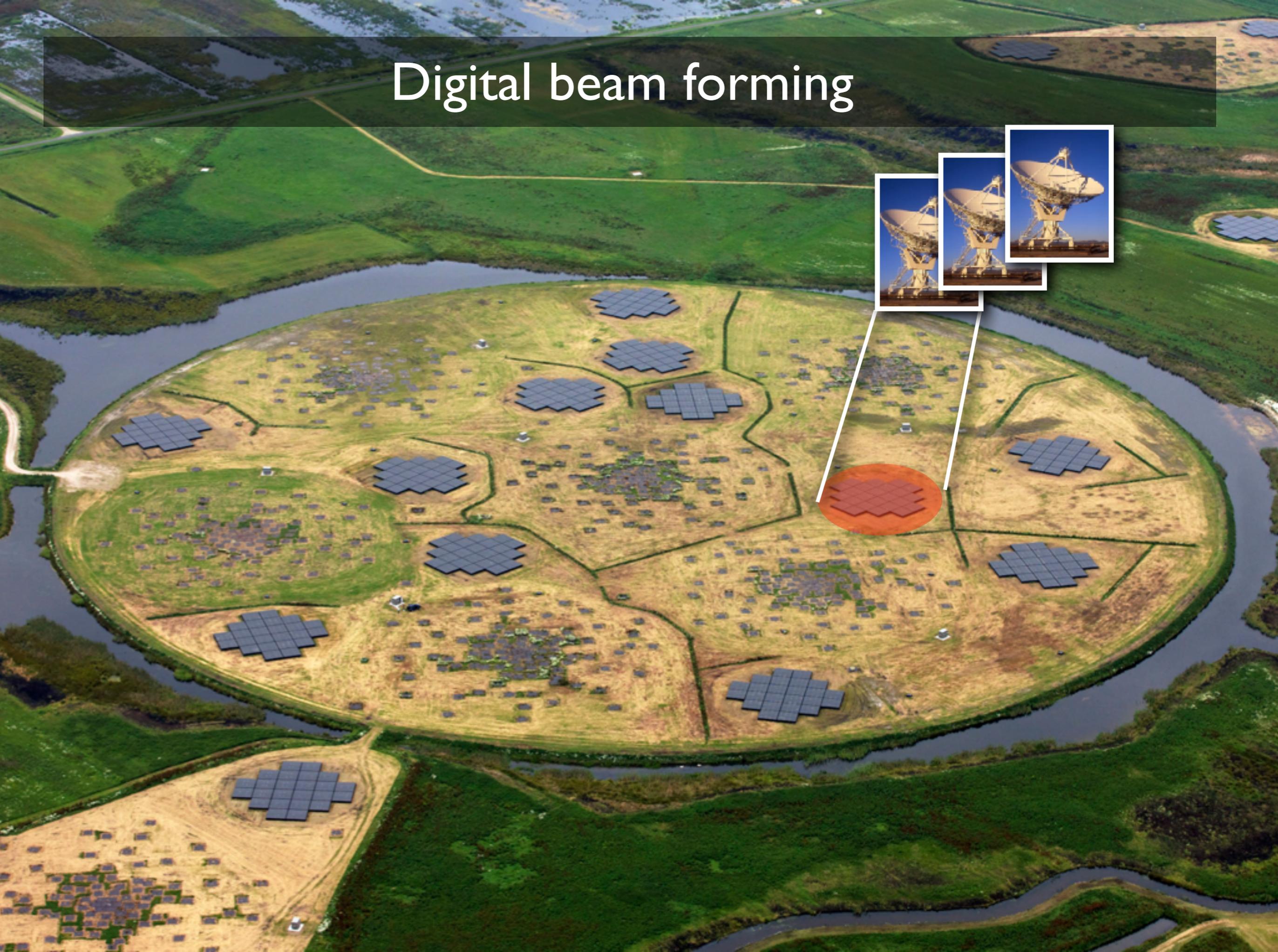
Low and High band antennas : 10-250 MHz



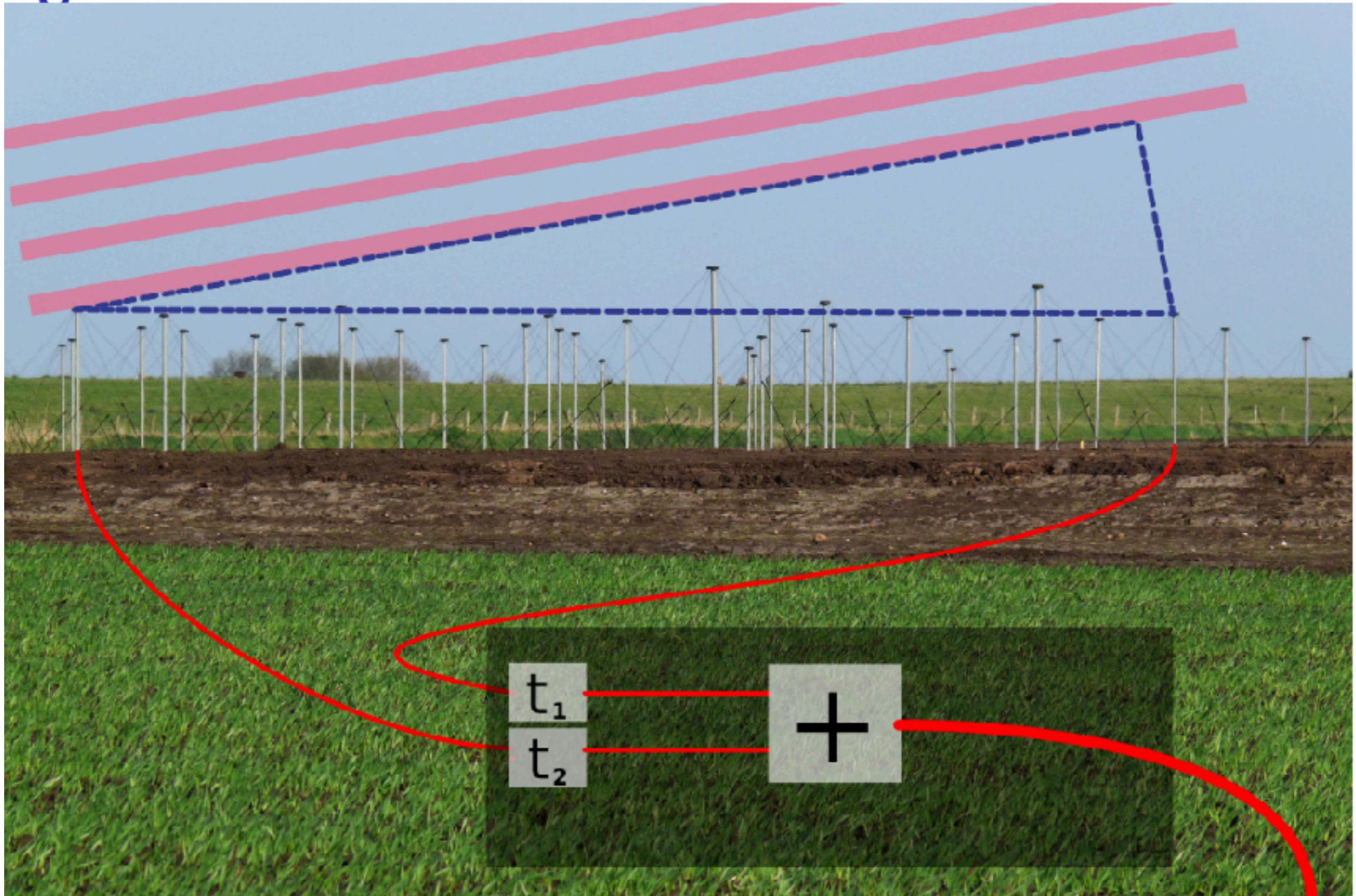
The LOFAR core is between Exloo and Buinen, NL

LOFAR; van Haarlem et al., 2013

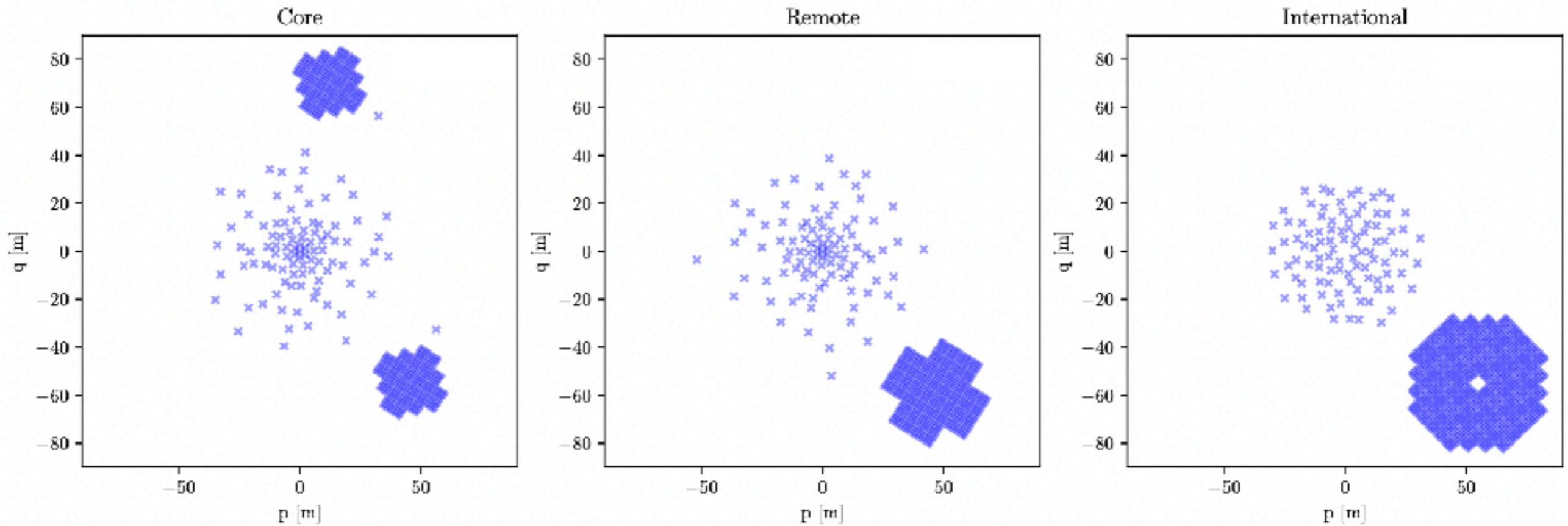
Digital beam forming



Beam forming

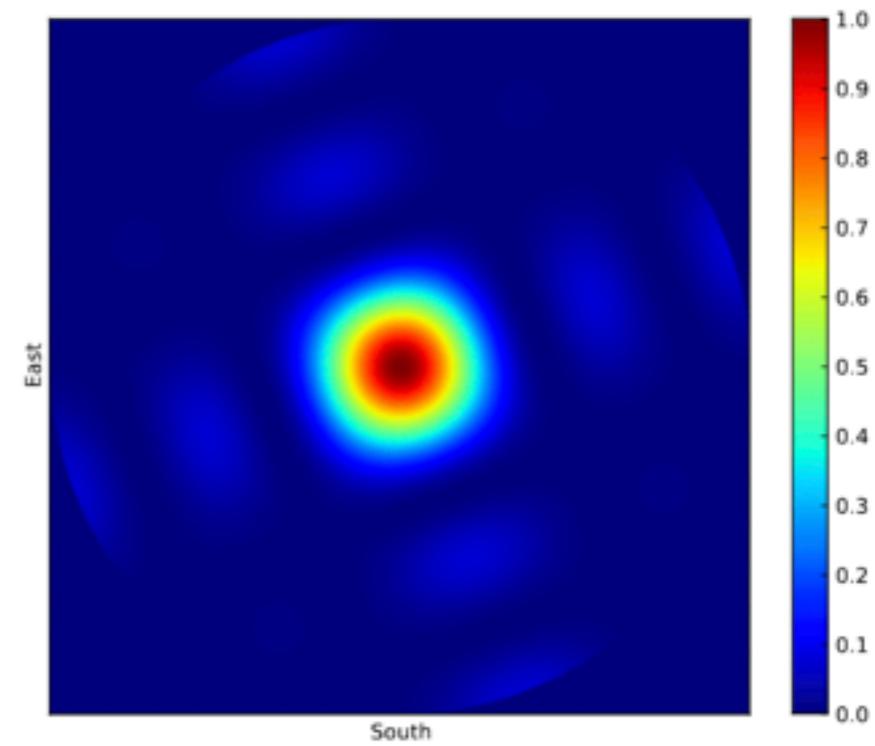
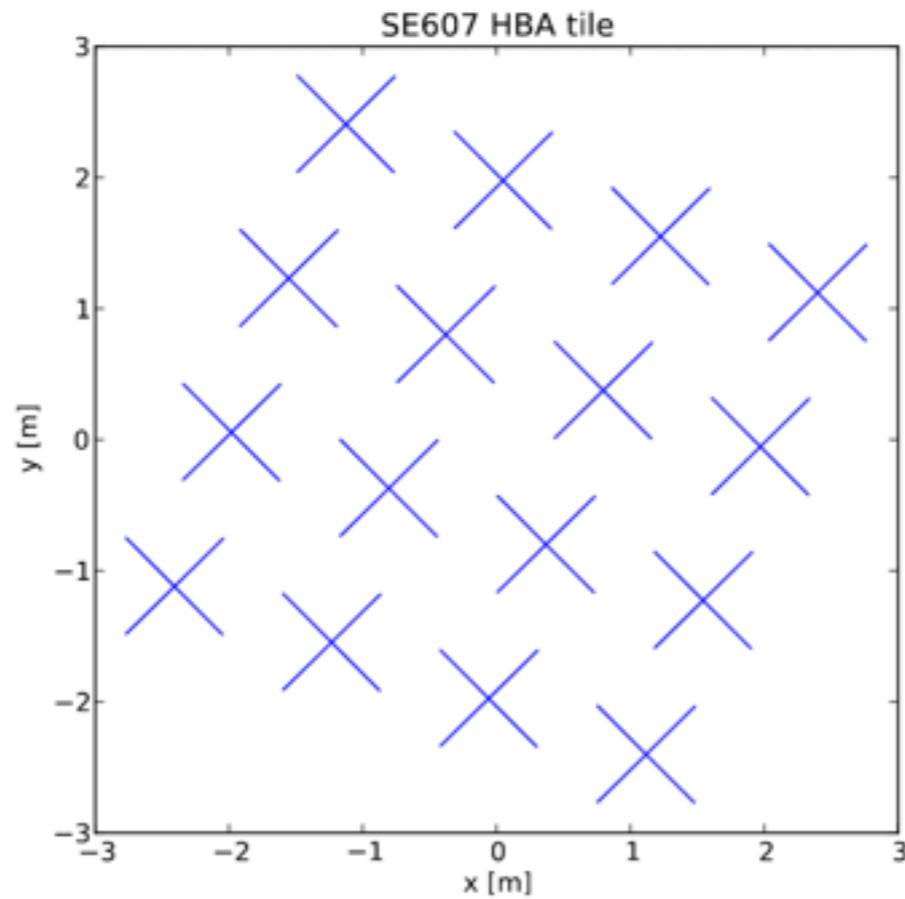


Station types



Analog tile beam

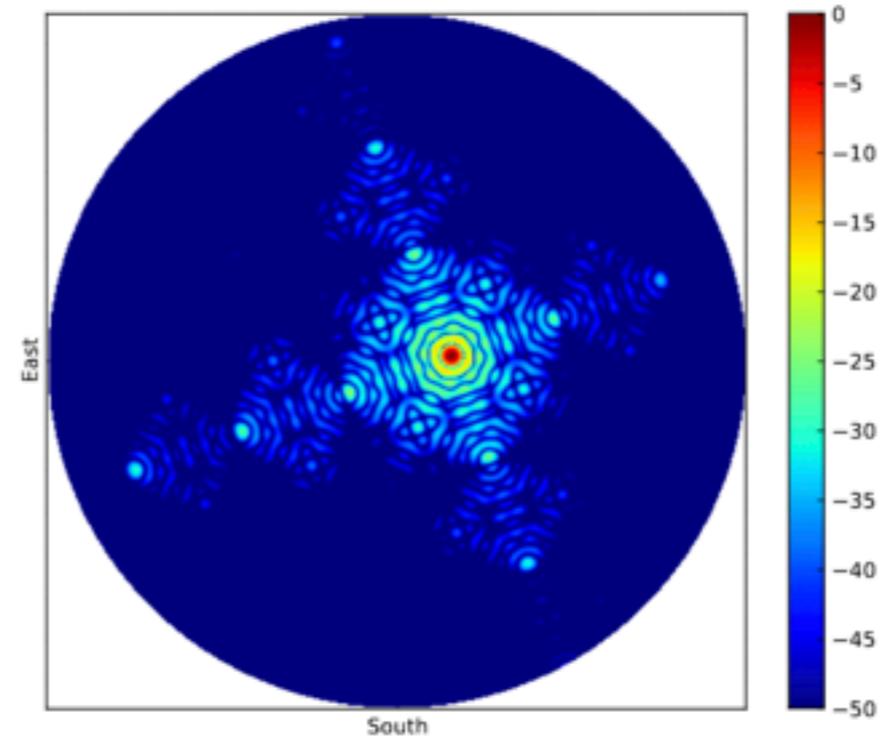
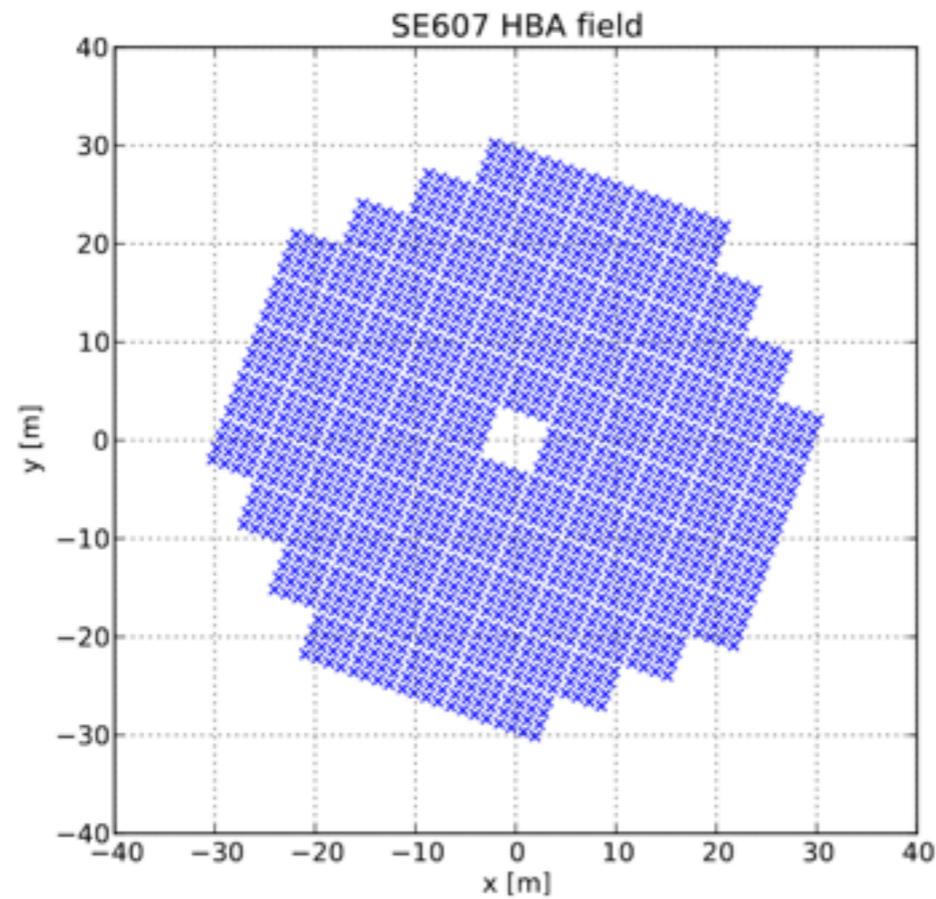
HBA analogue tile beam 150 MHz



Lofar school 2021

Station beam

HBA station beam tracking 150 MHz (dB)



Lofar school 2021

LOFAR



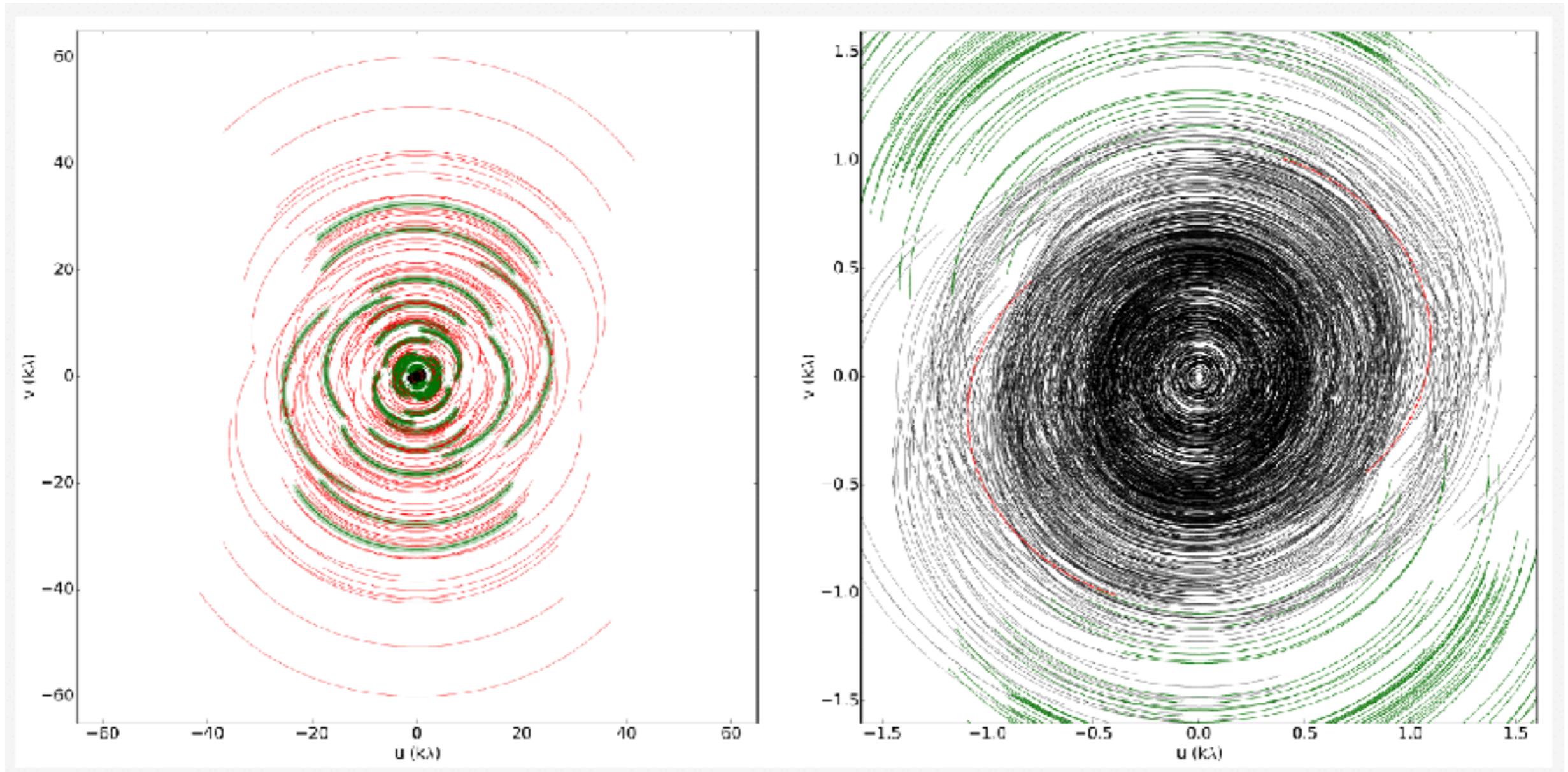
120km (Netherlands only array)

1989km (Full international array)

Example properties at 150MHz in 8hrs observing.

- ~13 square degree coverage (FWHM)
- 48MHz bandwidth and 2 pointings simultaneously
- 0.1 mJy/beam sensitivity
- Up to ~0.3 arcsec resolution (requiring ~14 billion pixels)
- About 10TB of data
- Presently about 250,000 core hours for full resolution processing or 20,000 for Netherlands only stations...

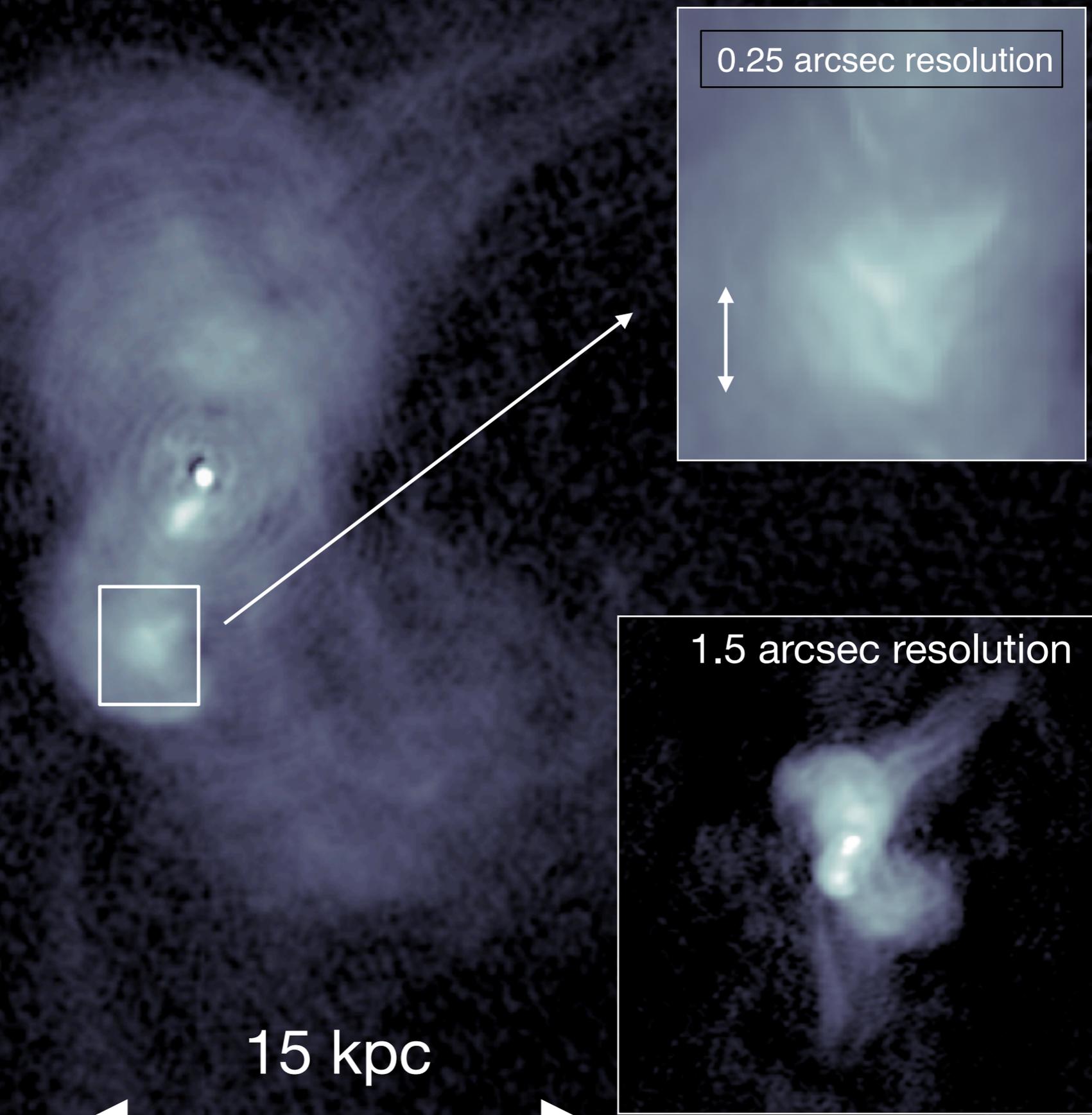
LOFAR uv-coverage



The uv-coverage of the LOFAR core + remote stations gives high angular resolution (6" at 140 MHz or 15" at 50 MHz) combined with excellent surface brightness sensitivity for recovering very extended emission.

0.5 arcsec resolution

3C84



0.25 arcsec resolution

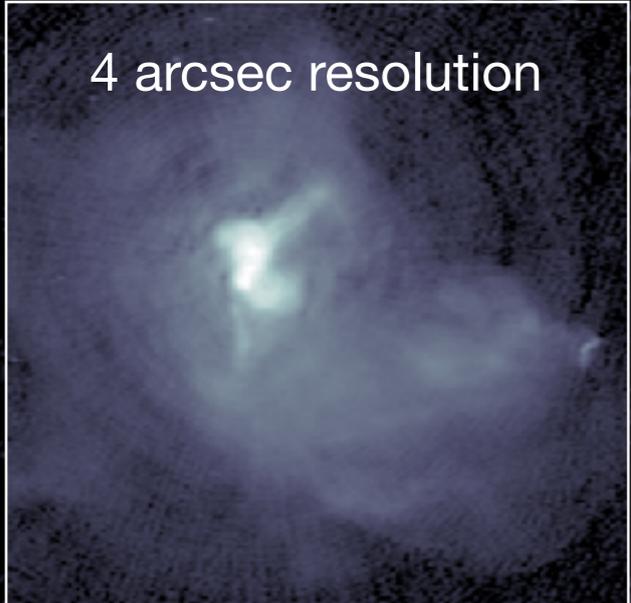


1.5 arcsec resolution

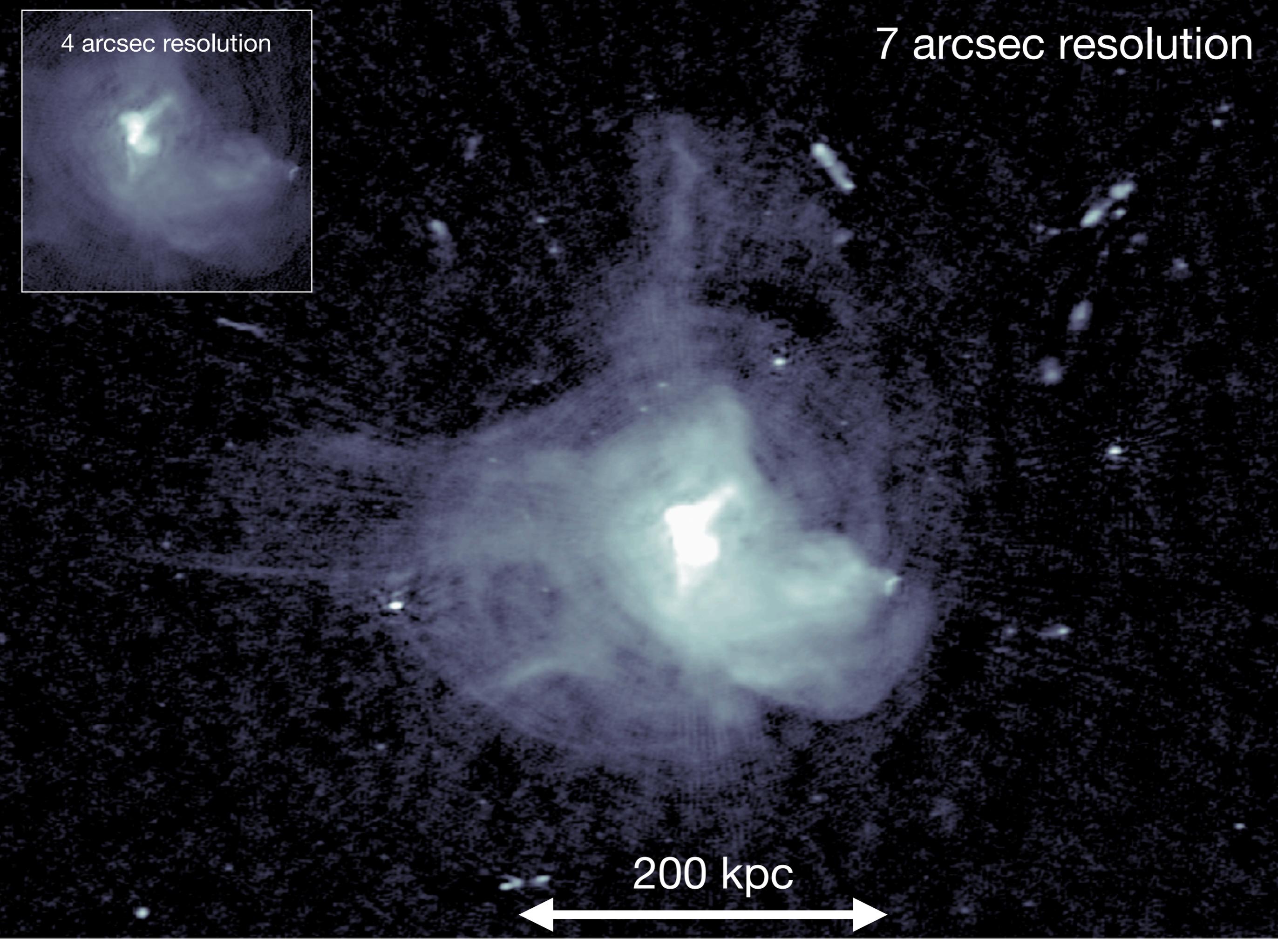
15 kpc

also see Timmerman+ (2022)

4 arcsec resolution



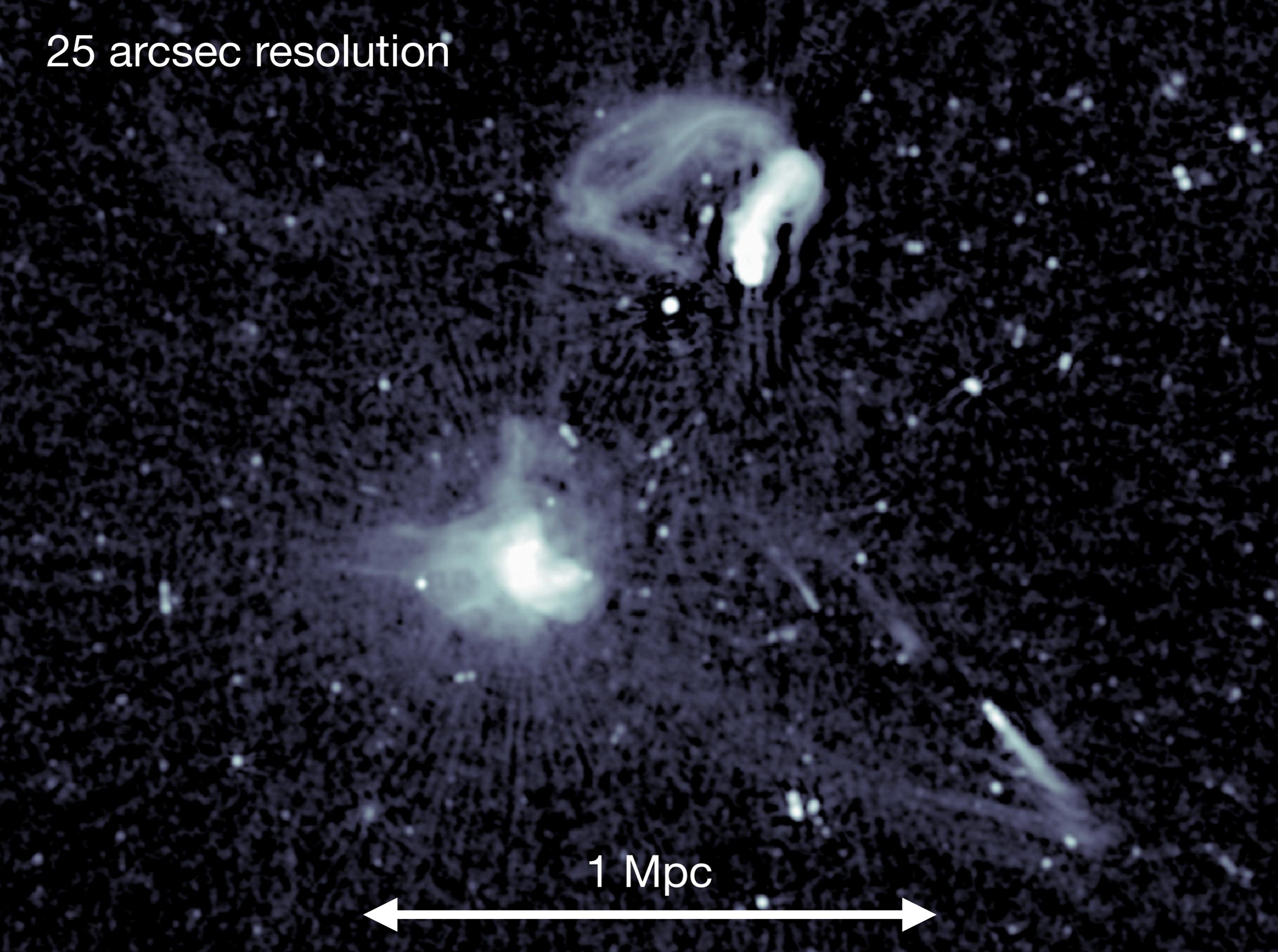
7 arcsec resolution



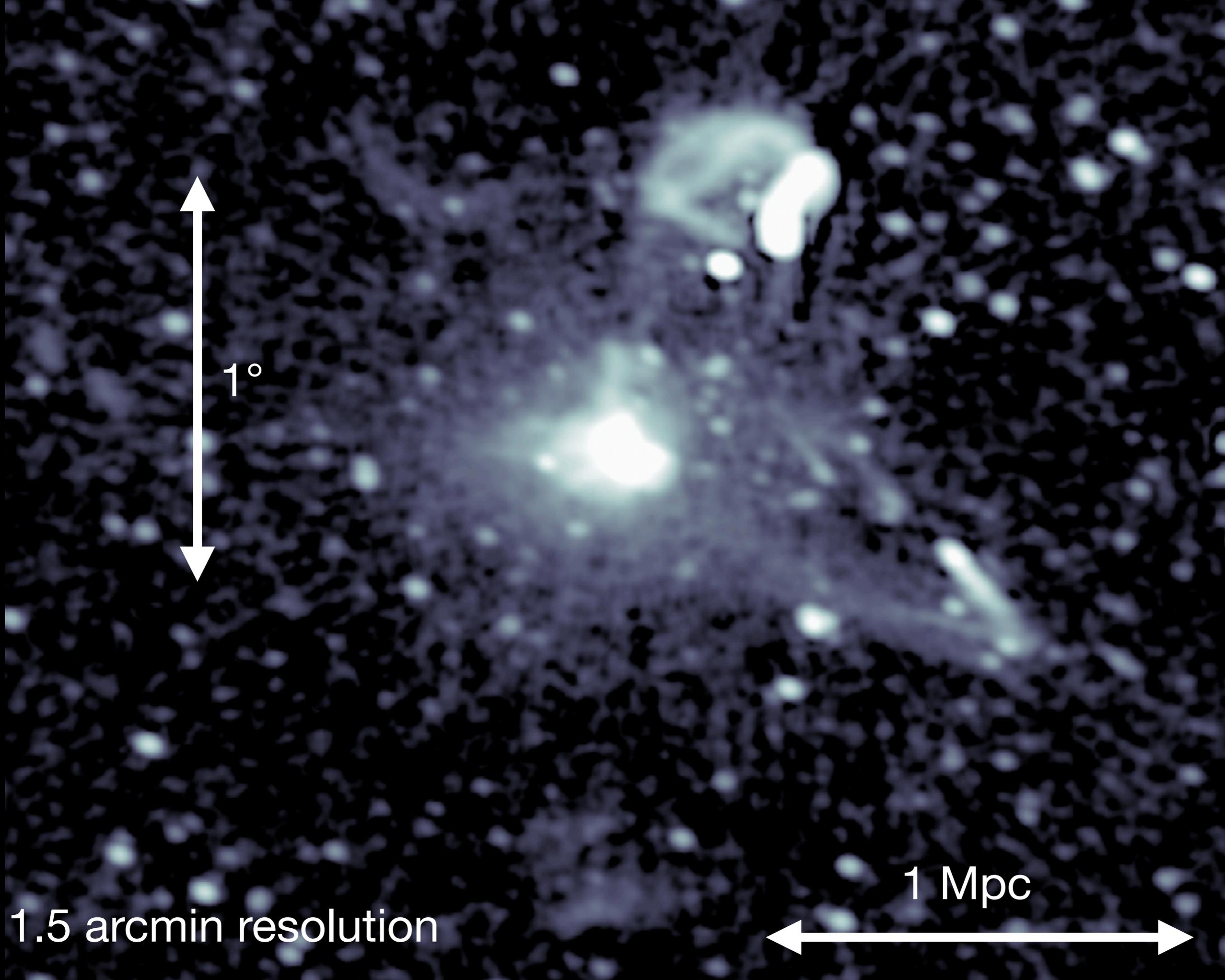
200 kpc



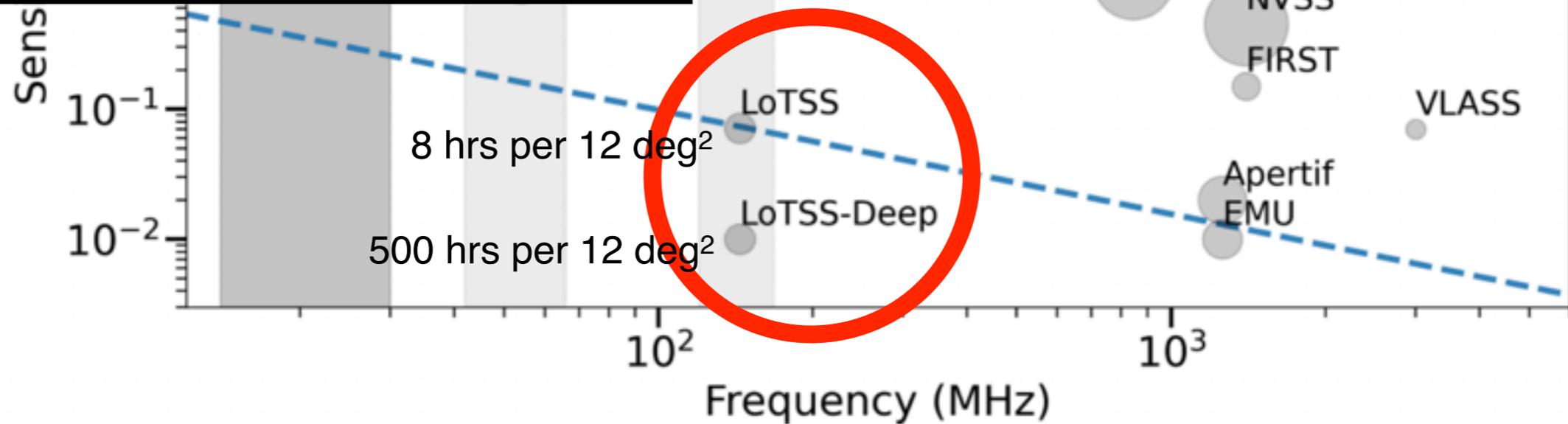
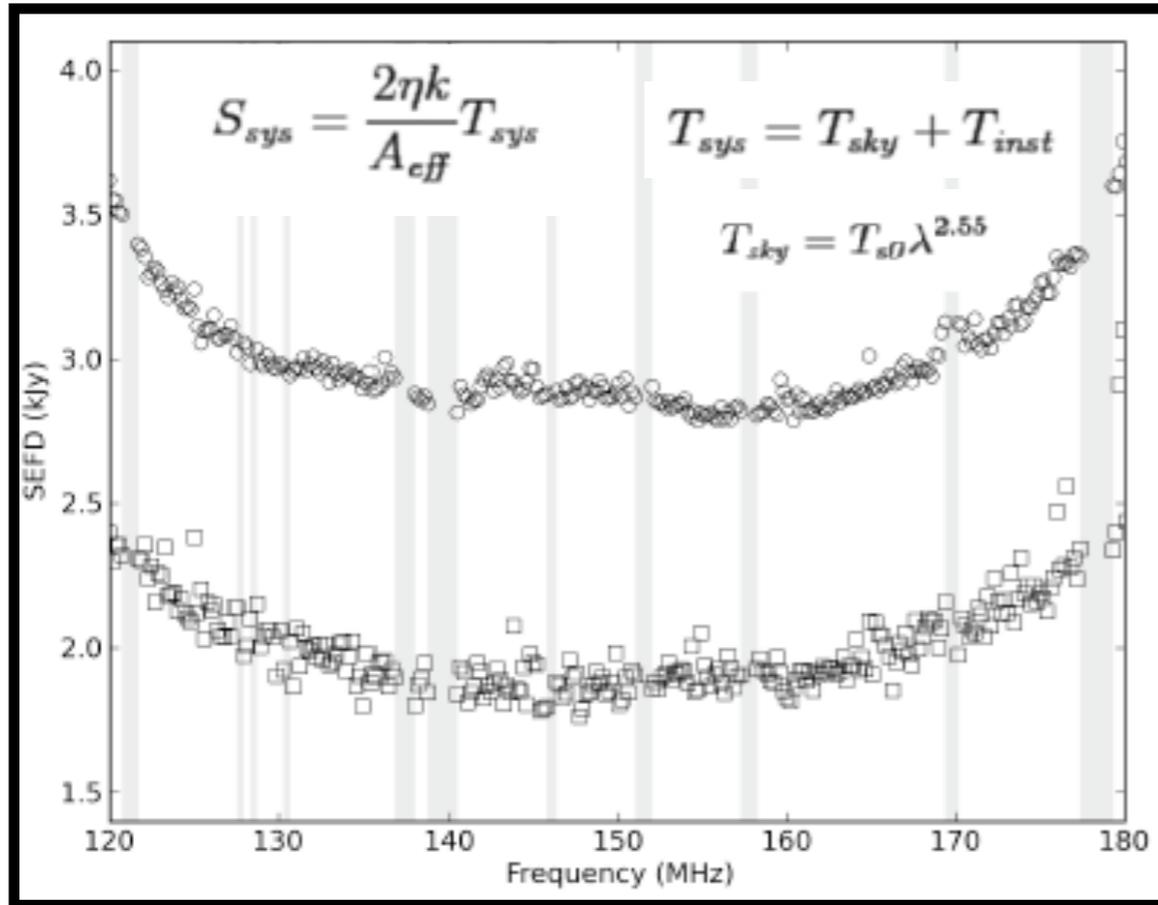
25 arcsec resolution



1 Mpc



The LOFAR surveys: Overview



- LoTSS: Shimwell et al., 2017 & 2019, 2022 Williams et al., 2019, Duncan et al 2019
- LoTSS-Deep: Tasse et al., Sabater et al., Kondapally et al., Duncan et al., all 2021
- ILoTSS: Morabito et al., Sweijen et al., 2022

- LoLSS: de Gasperin et al., 2021
- LoLSS-Deep: Williams et al., 2021

Scientific aims of the LOFAR surveys

PI: Röttgering. About 300 collaboration members.

Scientific working groups

- Highest redshift radio sources: George Miley
- Clusters and cluster halo sources: Reinout van Weeren, Gianfranco Brunetti, Marcus Brüggen
- Evolution of AGN and star forming galaxy populations: Philip Best
- Detailed studies of low-redshift AGN: Raffaella Morganti & Martin Hardcastle
- Nearby Galaxies: Krzysztof Chyzy & John Conway
- Galactic radio sources: Glenn White, Marijke Haverkorn, Harish Vedantham
- Cosmological studies: Dominik Schwarz

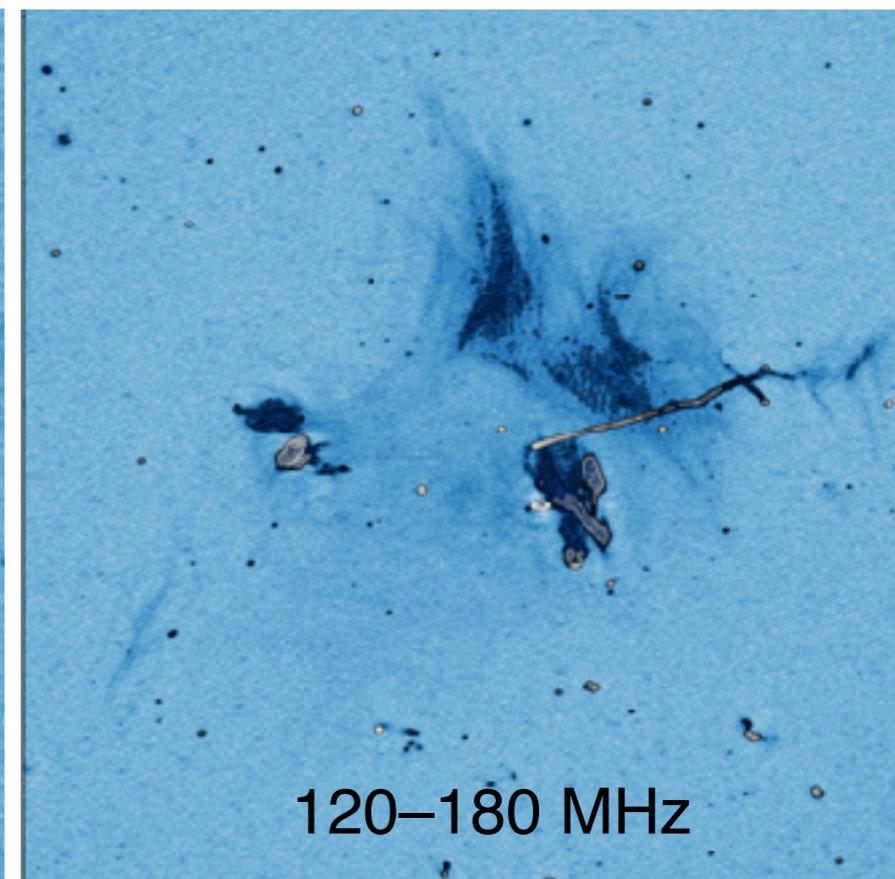
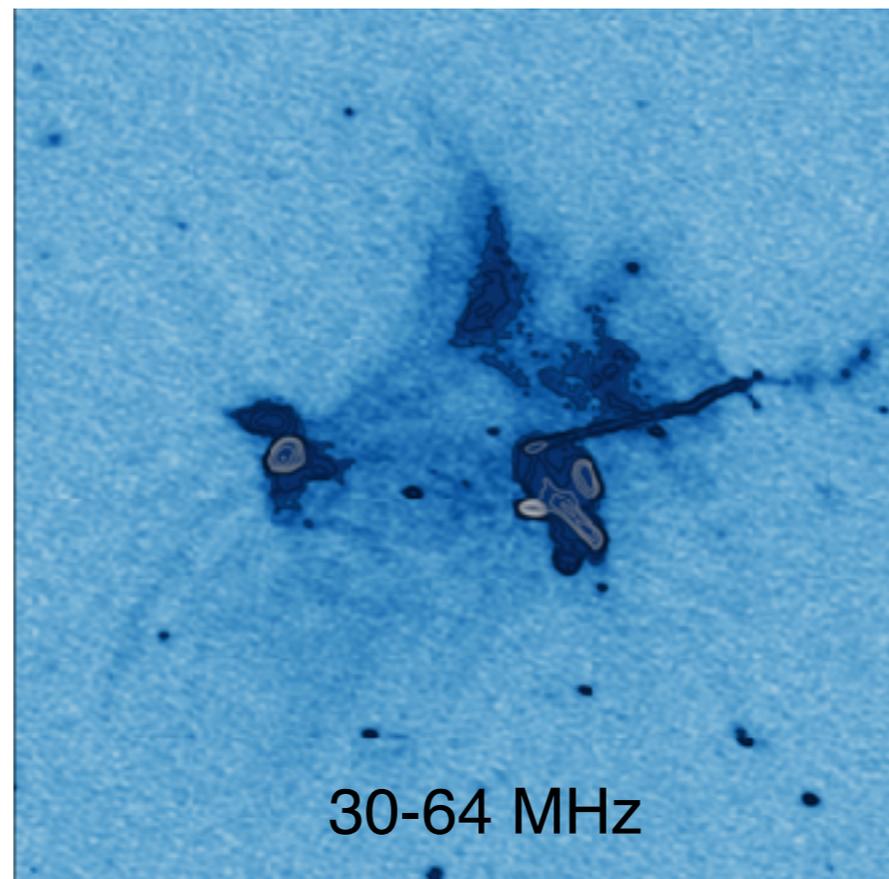
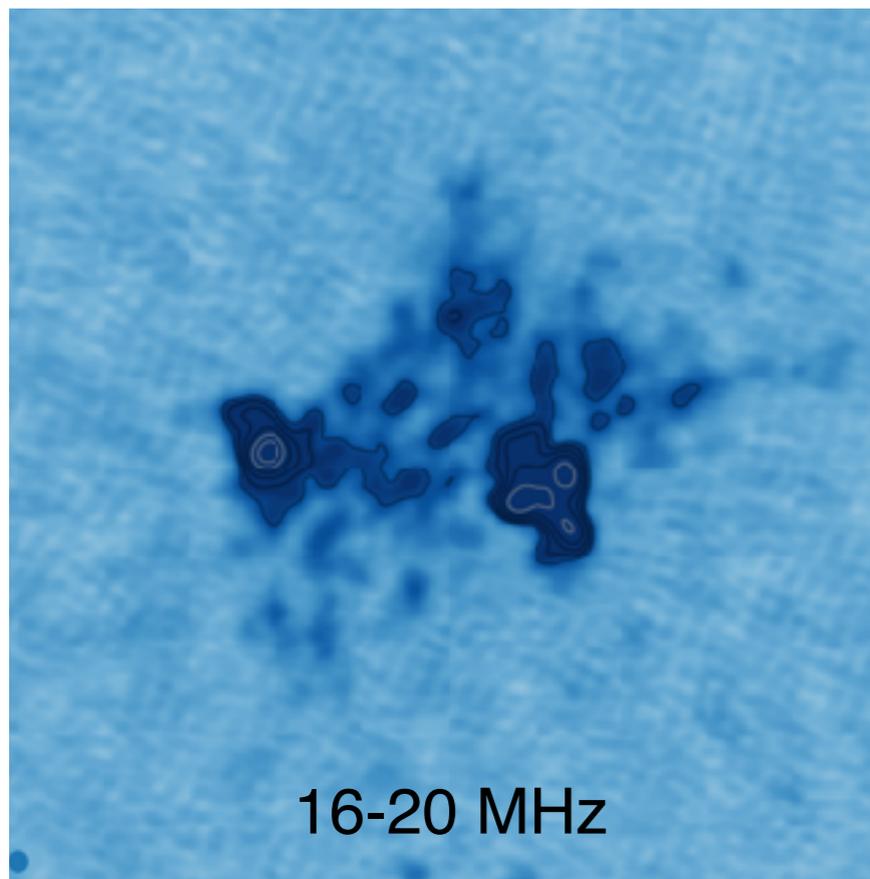
Technical working groups

- LOFAR international baselines (Leah Morabito, Neal Jackson)
- WEAVE-LOFAR (Daniel Smith)
- LOFAR Low-Band Antenna (Francesco de Gasperin)
- LOFAR High-Band Antenna (Tim Shimwell & Cyril Tasse)

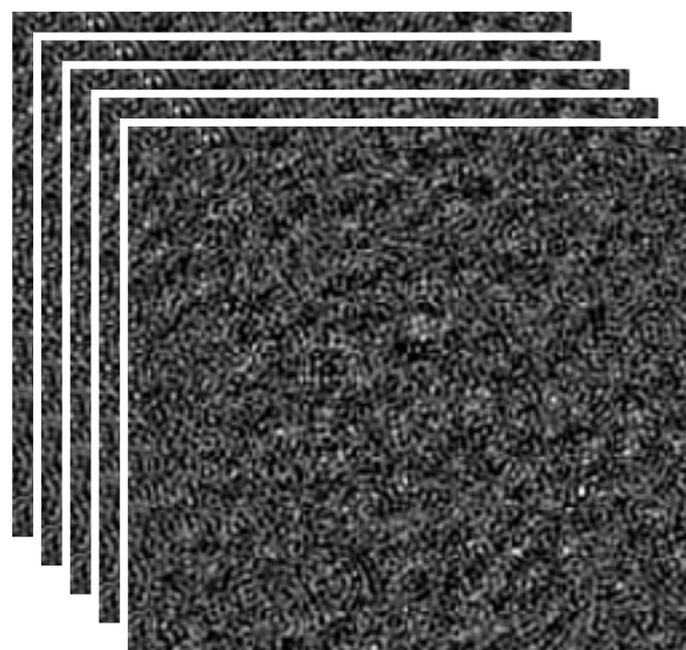
Data sharing memorandum of understanding

- LOFAR magnetism key science project
- WEAVE
- Apertif surveys
- eBOSS cosmology
- Many others for particular projects

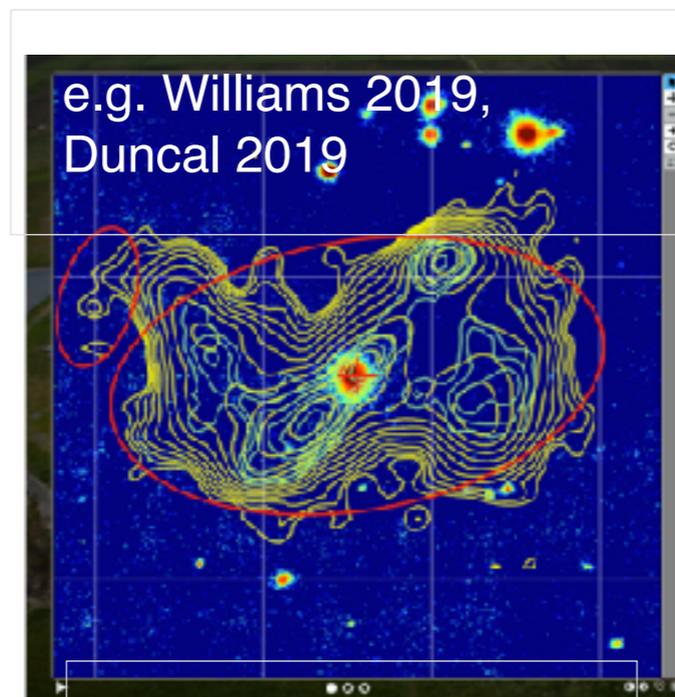
The LOFAR surveys: Overview



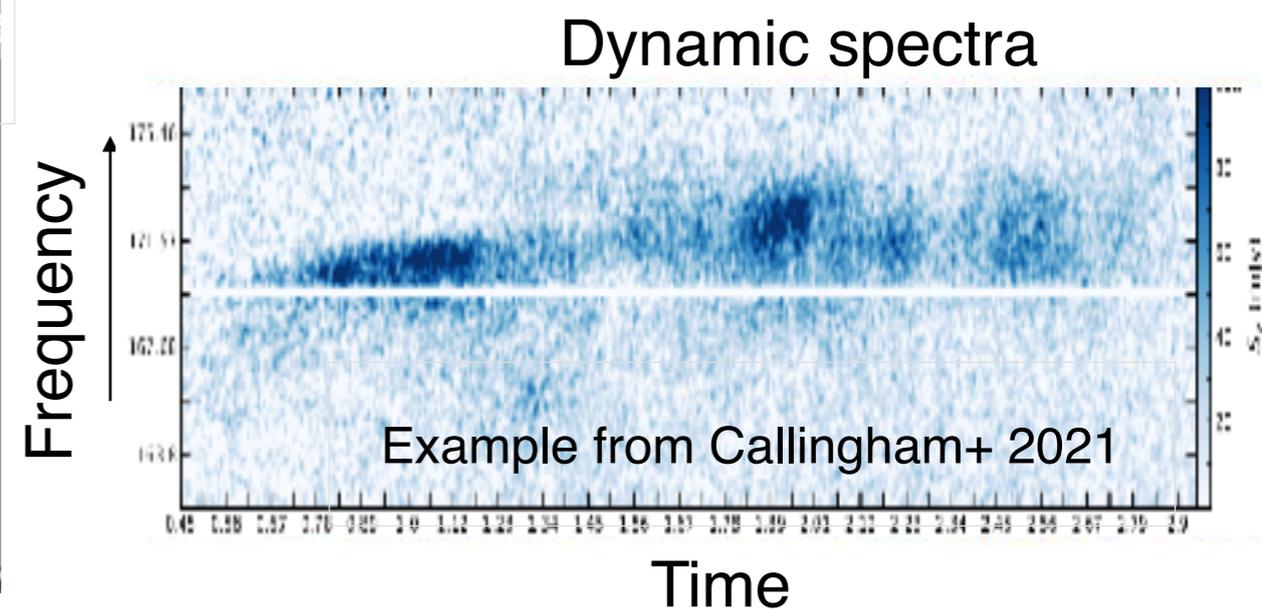
Images from Osinga, van Weeren+

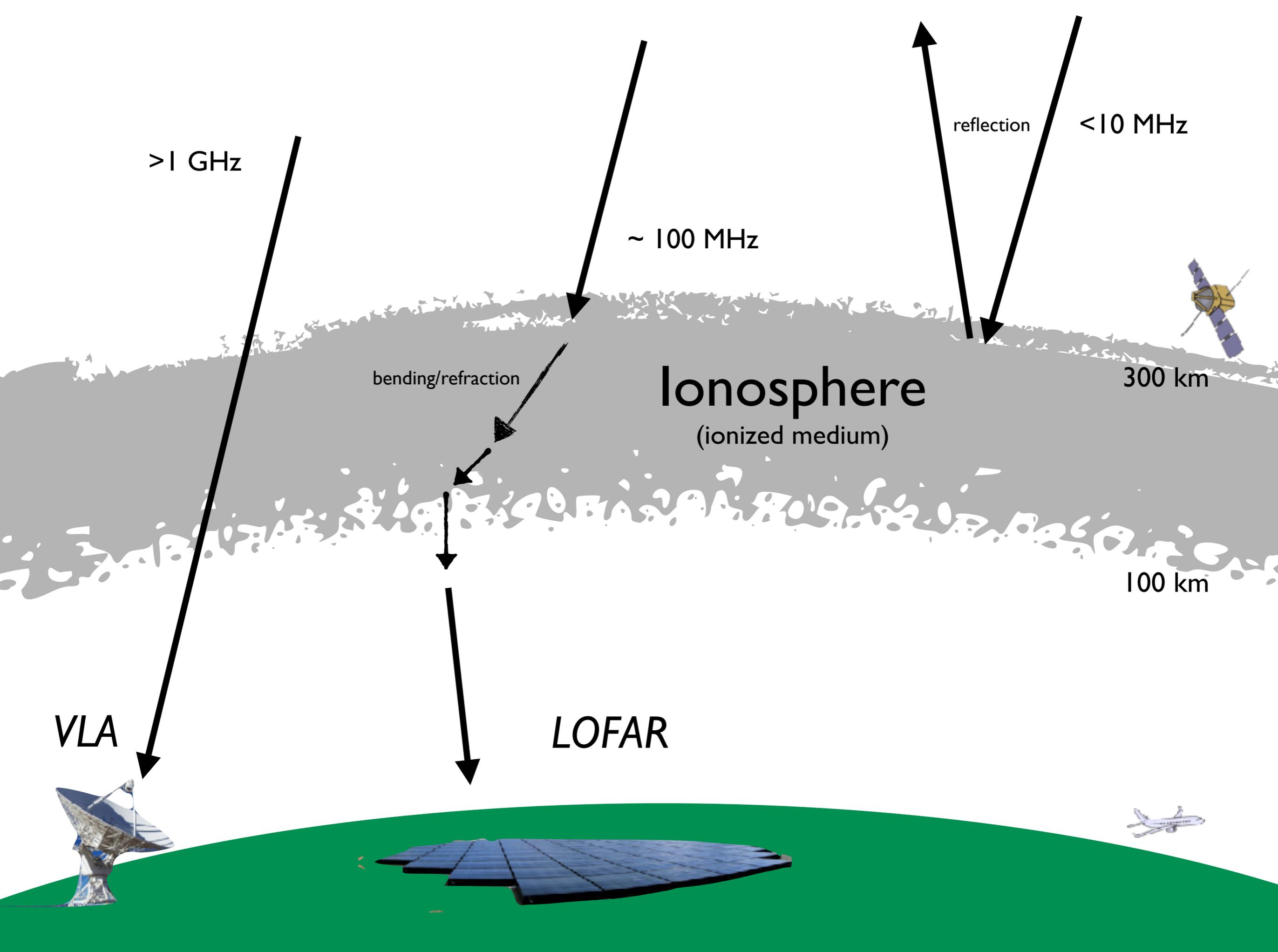


Polarisation cubes



Cross matching





> 1 GHz

~ 100 MHz

reflection

< 10 MHz

bending/refraction

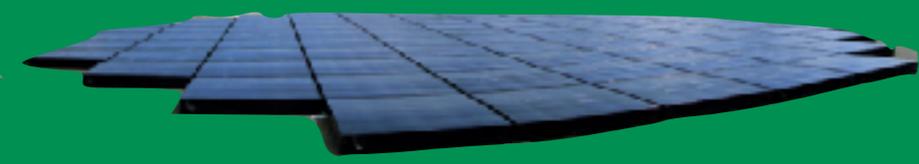
Ionosphere
(ionized medium)

300 km

100 km

VLA

LOFAR



The challenge



The challenge



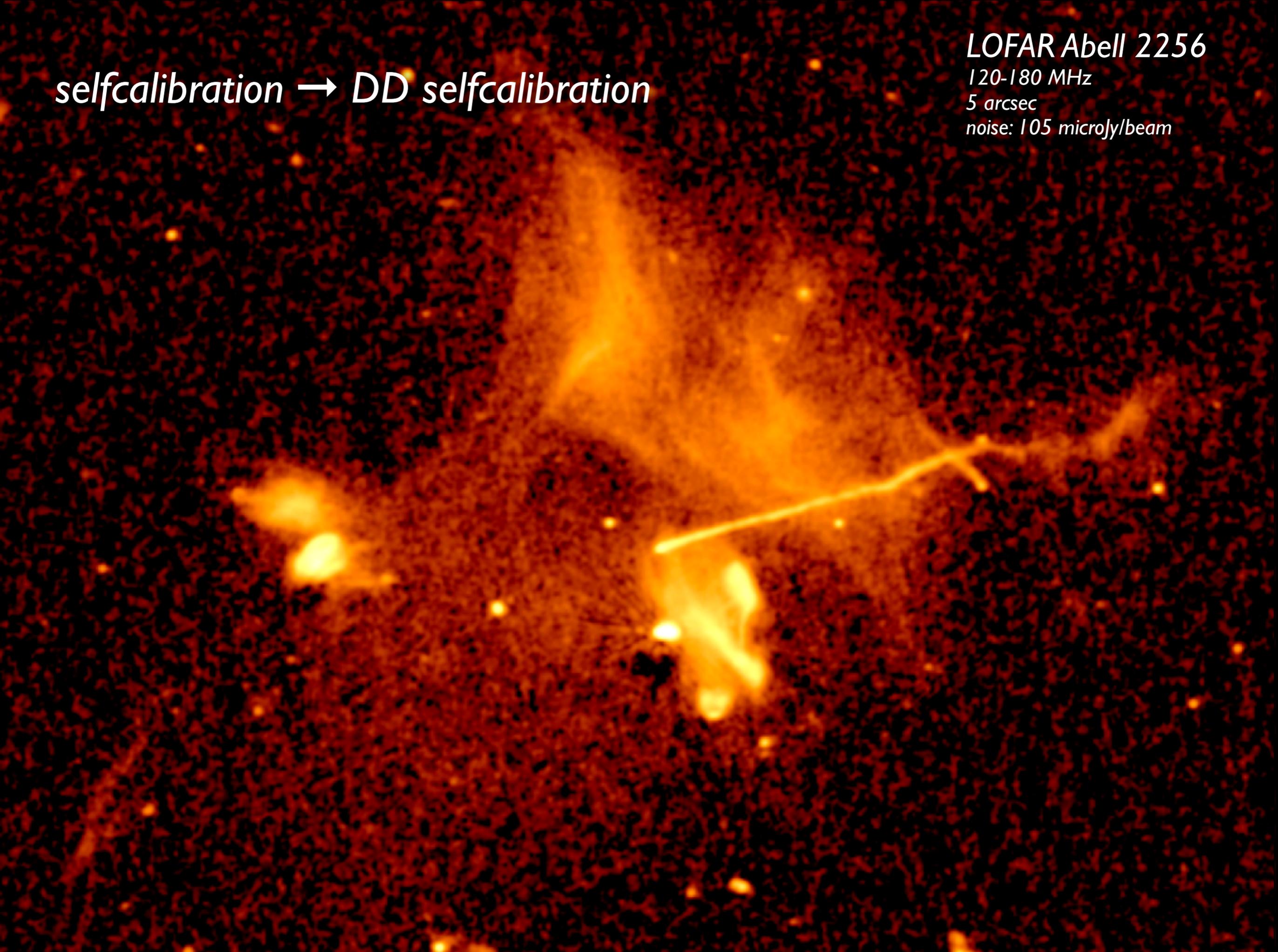
selfcalibration → *DD selfcalibration*

LOFAR Abell 2256

120-180 MHz

5 arcsec

noise: 105 microJy/beam



The LOFAR surveys: Status

Many technical developments required to process large quantities of data with complex processing strategies.

Current processing **pipelines** includes:

- HBA Netherlands only resolution processing: Tasse+ 2021, van Weeren+ 2016, Williams+ 2019, Mechev+ 2019, Drabent+ 2019, de Gasperin+ 2019, Sabater+ 2021, van Weeren+ 2021, Shimwell+ 2022, O' Sullivan+., prep
- HBA International baseline resolution processing: Morabito+2022, Sweijen+, 2022; van Weeren+ 2021
- LBA Netherlands only processing: de Gasperin 2019, 2021; van Weeren+ 2021

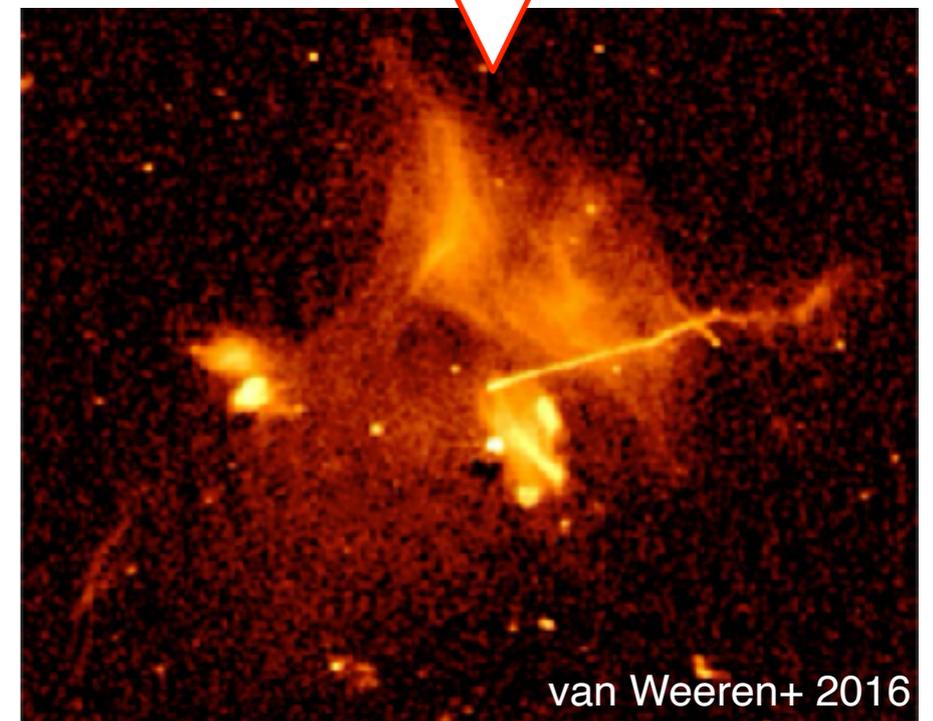
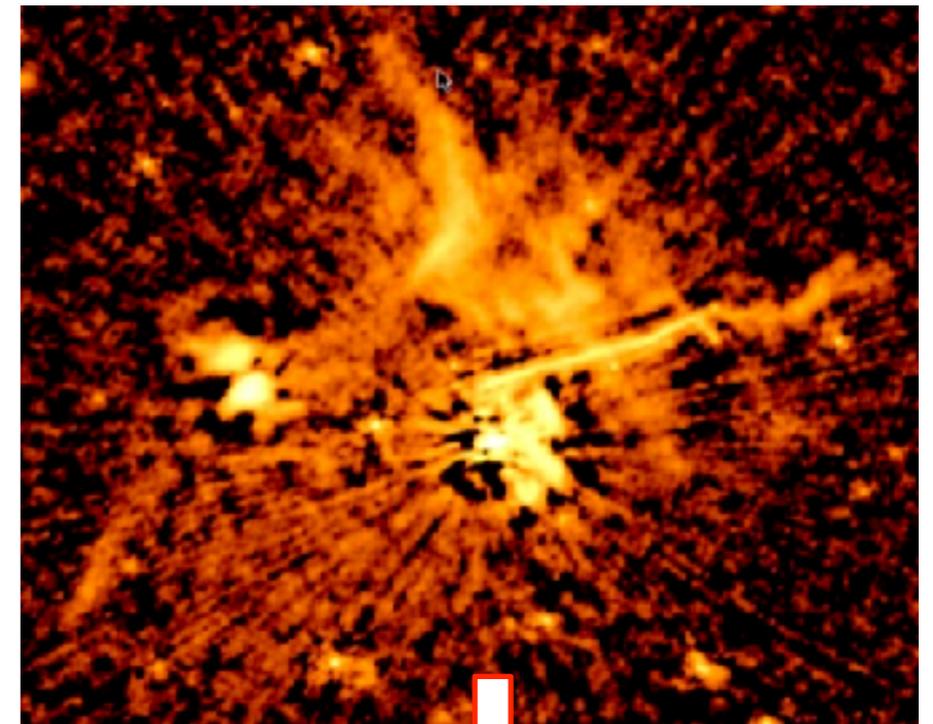
And uses many **software** packages including:

van Diepen+ 2019, de Gasperin+ 2019, Offringa+ 2012, 2014, 2016, van der Tol+ 2018, Tasse+ 2014, 2018, Smirnov+ 2015

There are also many other ongoing efforts to improve calibration, imaging and processing techniques



To-date we have accumulated ~30PB of data



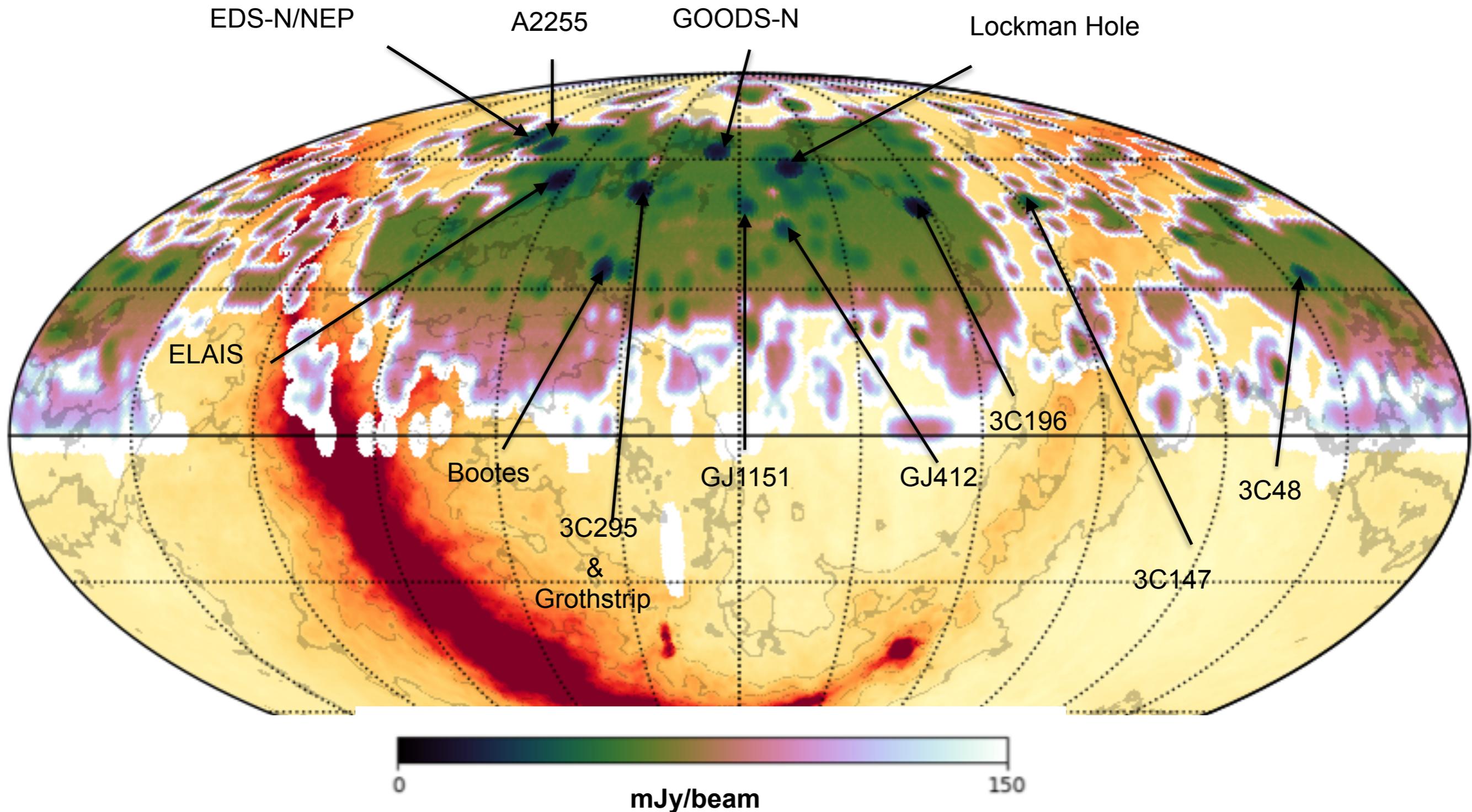
van Weeren+ 2016

LOFAR data requires extensive processing.

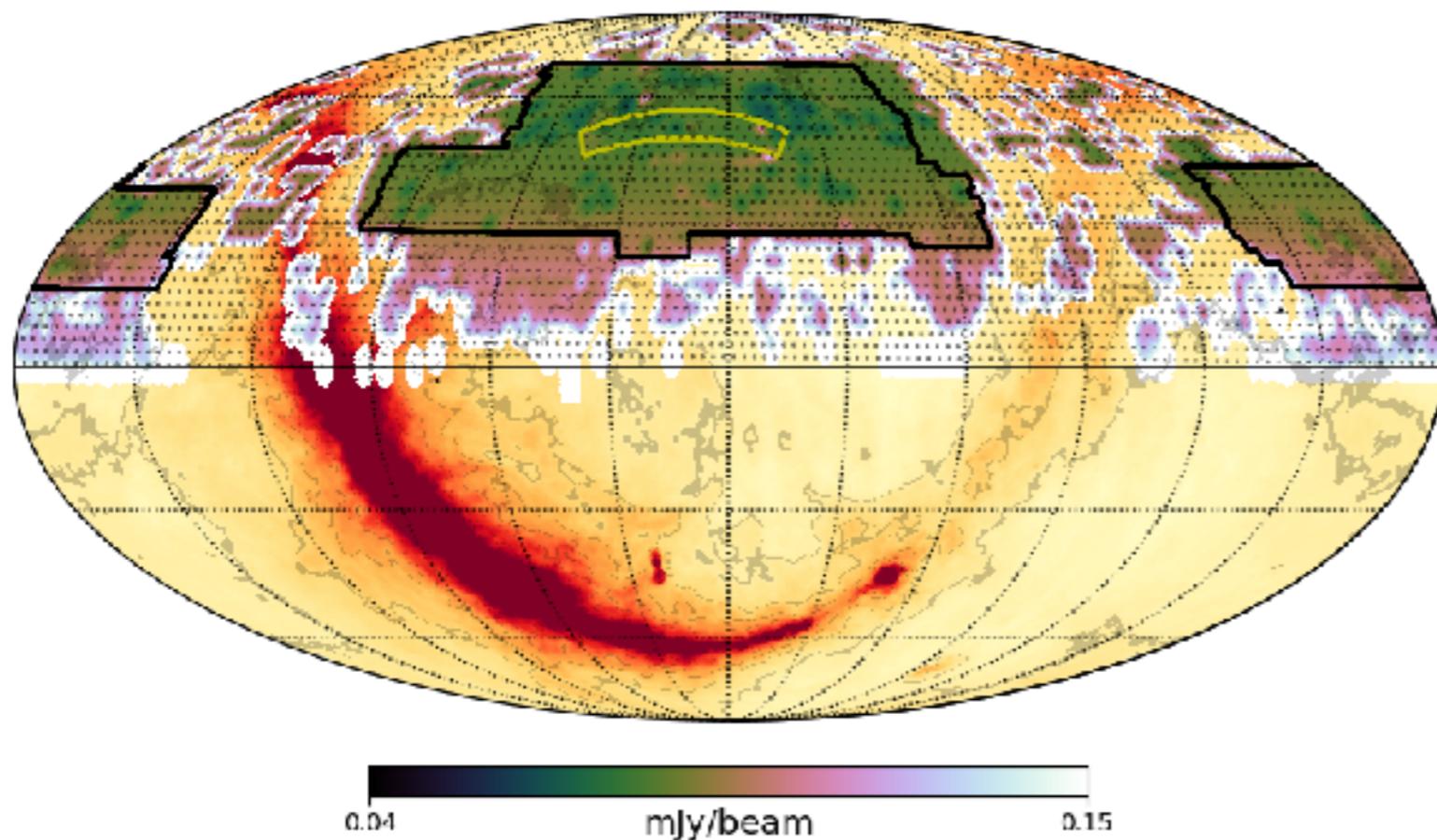
The LOFAR HBA surveys

The LOFAR HBA surveys: Status

LOFAR HBA imaging data (almost all with full international LOFAR) - next 1 year to 85% coverage and deep fields complete.



Wide area 150 MHz— LoTSS



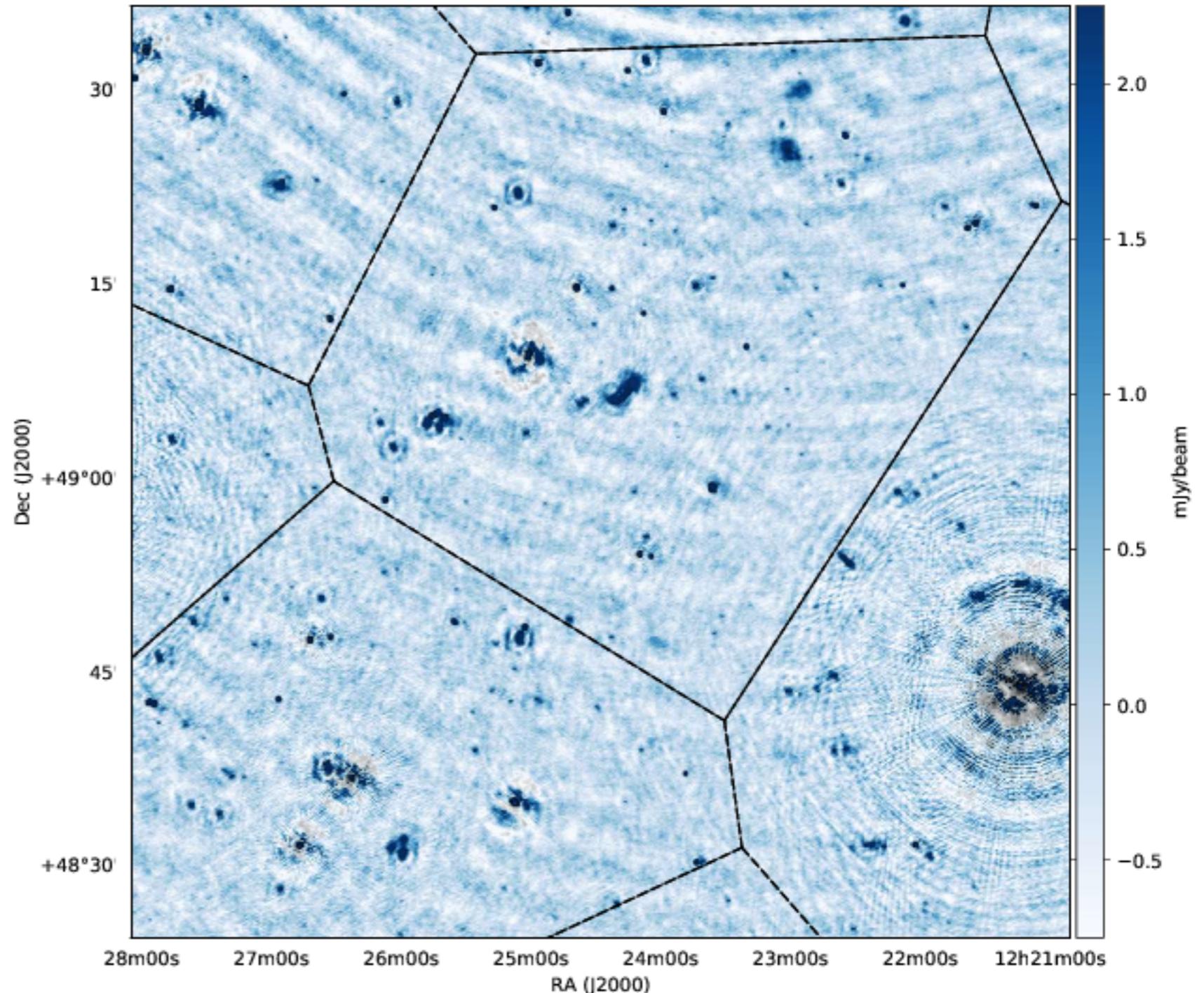
- Northern sky 120-168 MHz
- 3170 pointings of 8 hrs
- 0.1 PB raw data/pointing
- 6 arcsec resolution
- 0.08 mJy beam⁻¹ noise
- GRID processing
- 5 deep fields (300-500 hrs)

LoTSS-DR1 (outlined in yellow) and LoTSS-DR2 (outlined in black) are fully public. This contains **4,395,448** radio components. It consists of 7.6PB of data from 26 different projects processed using ~9million cpu hours. LoTSS-DR2 is **26%** of the Northern sky at sensitivity of **0.08 mJy/beam** and resolution of **6''**.

LoTSS is initially processed with PreFactor/LINC (van Weeren 2016, Williams 2016, de Gasperin 2019) before direction dependent calibration with DDF-pipeline (<https://github.com/mhardcastle/ddf-pipeline>; Tasse+ 2021)

LoTSS processing

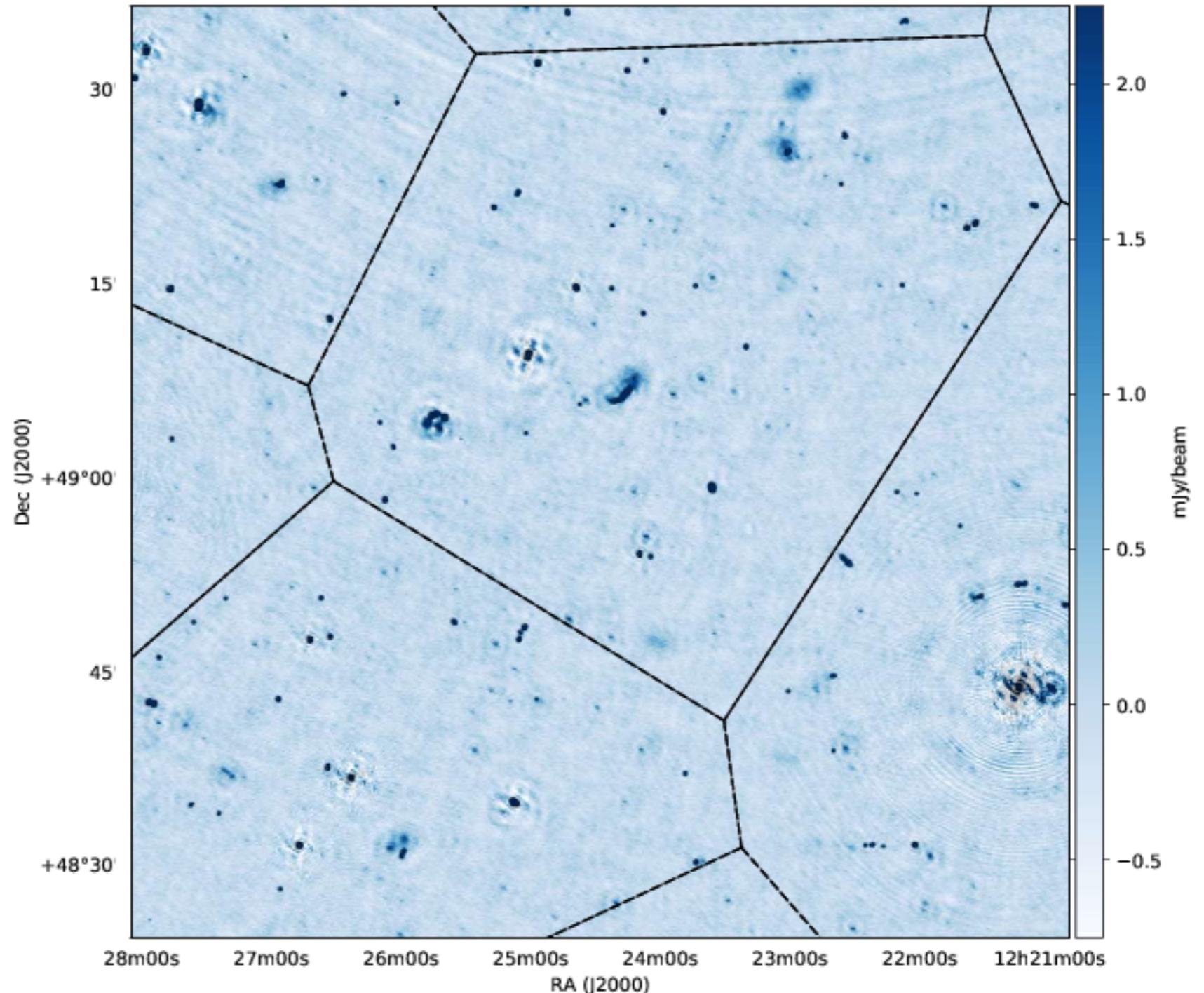
- Wide field image created covering 8x8 deg field of view (20,000 x 20,000 pixels)
- Image tessellated to define facets.
- Calibration solutions obtained for all directions simultaneously using the model from entire wide field image.
- Imaging repeated with direction dependent calibration solutions applied and a better model constructed.
- Direction independent polarization corrections
- Several self calibration cycles performed.



DDF-pipeline is public. It makes use of DDFacet and kMS for calibration and imaging (Tasse+ 2014, Smirnov+ 2015, and Tasse+ 2017). It produces science quality images in 4-6 days of processing.

LoTSS processing

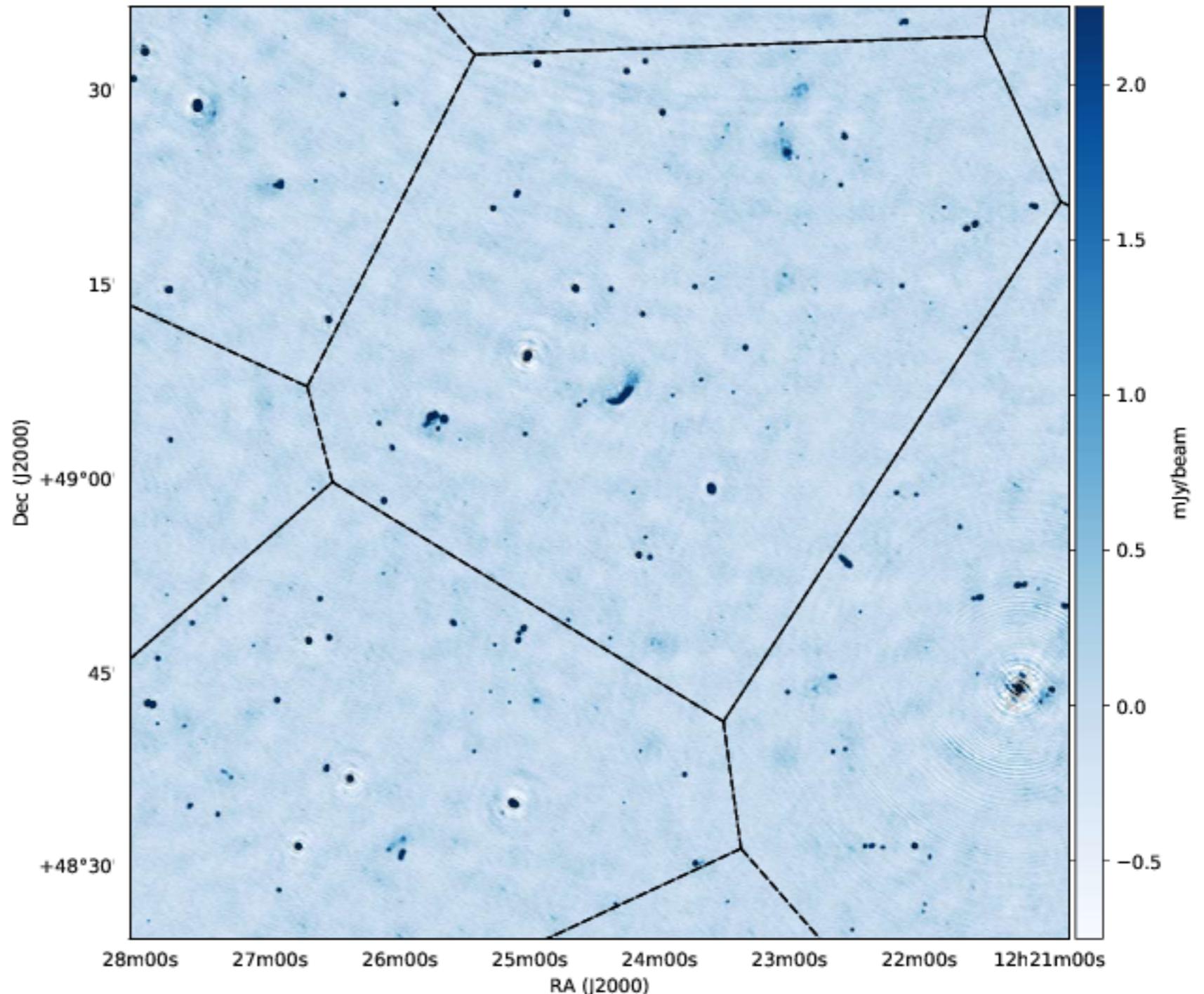
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LoTSS processing

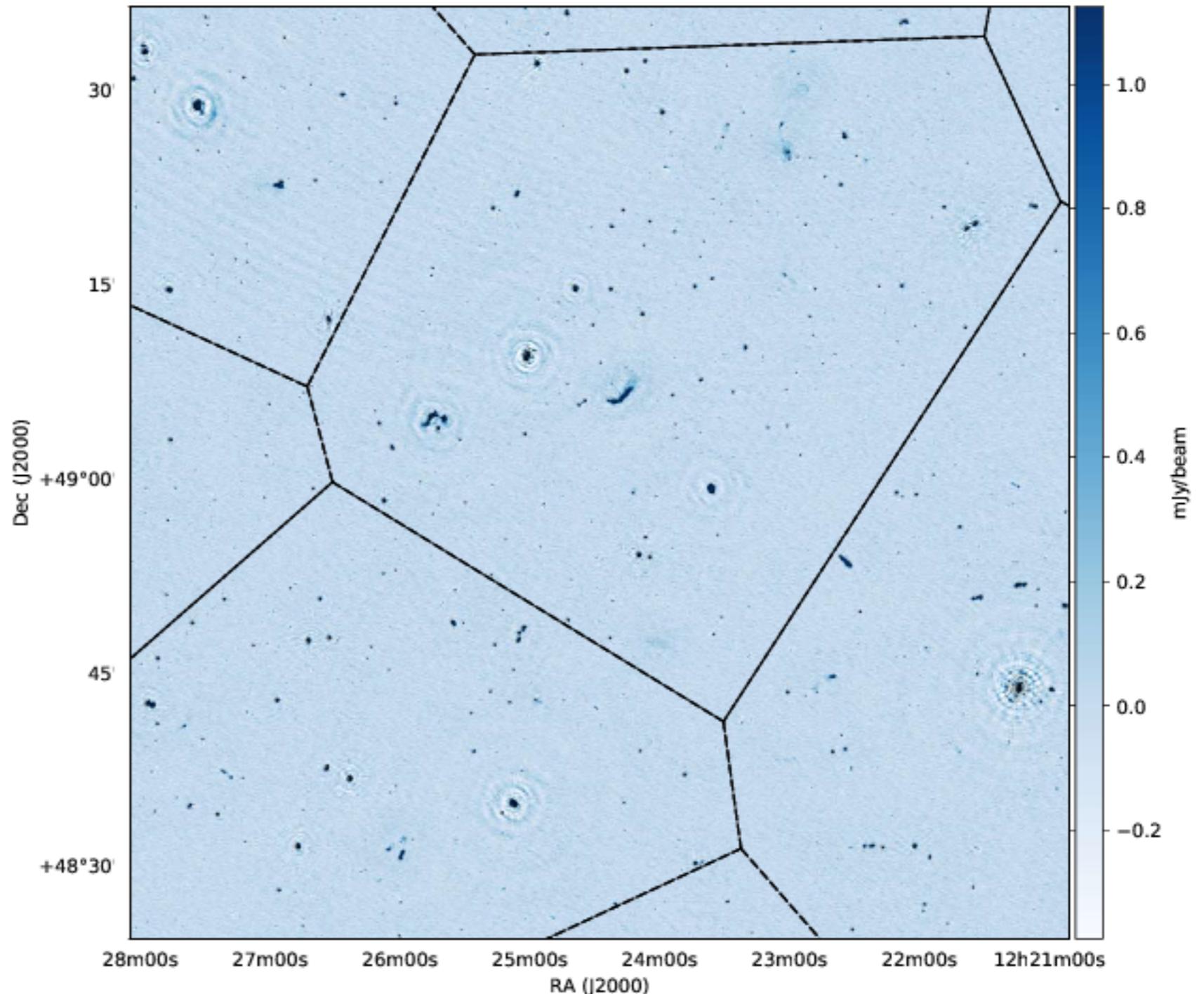
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LoTSS processing

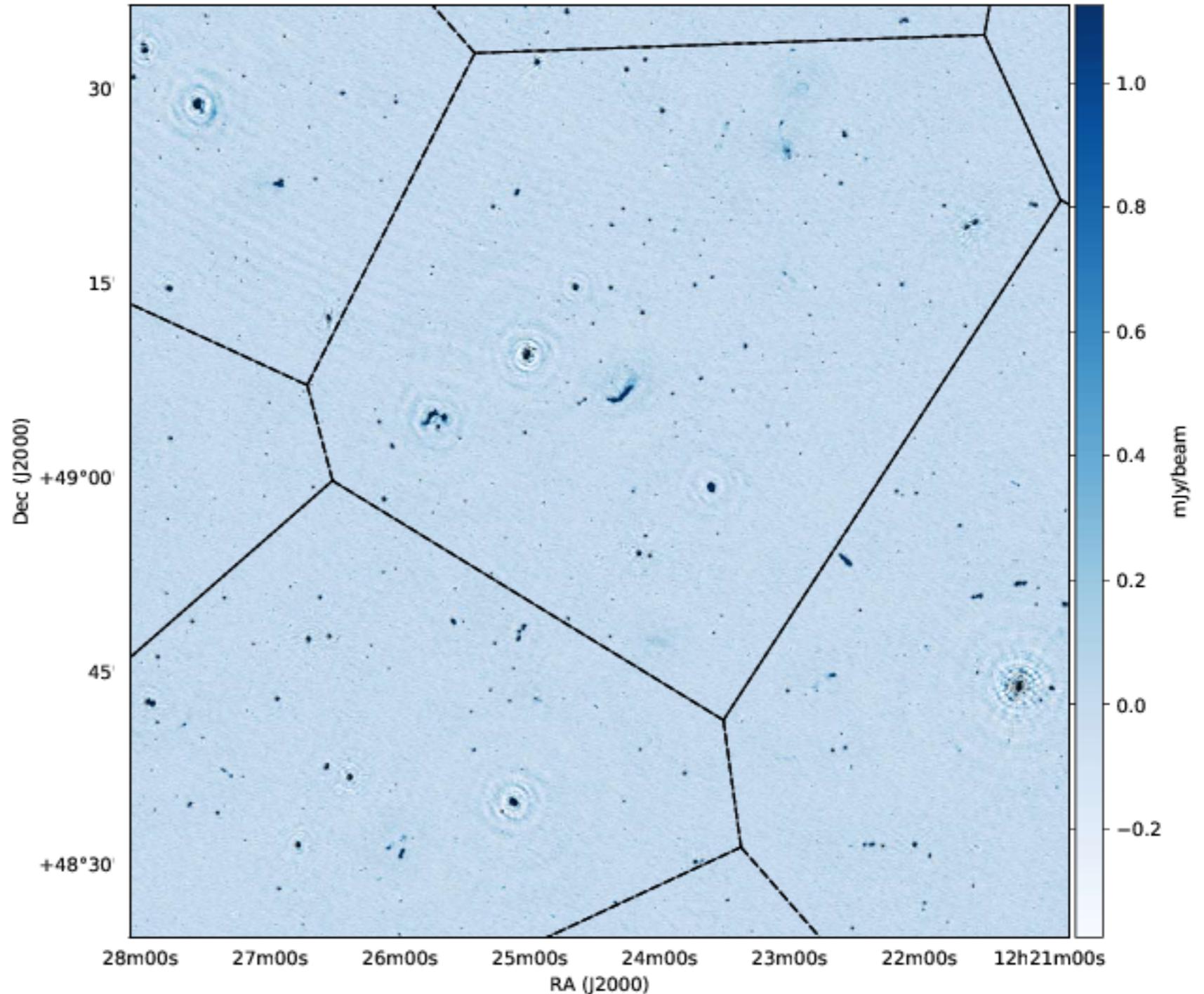
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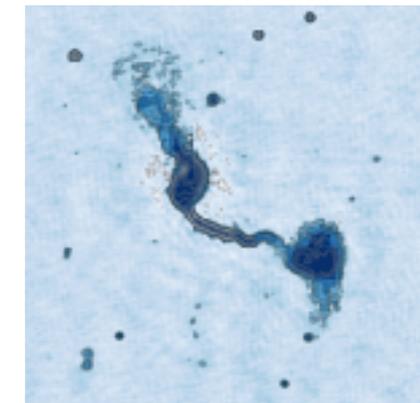
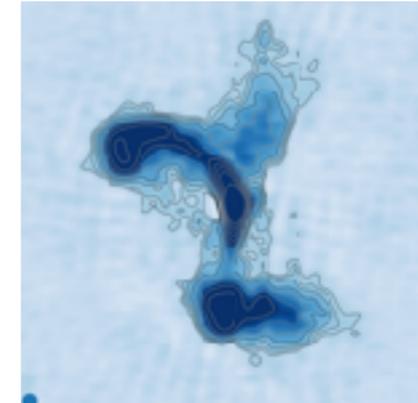
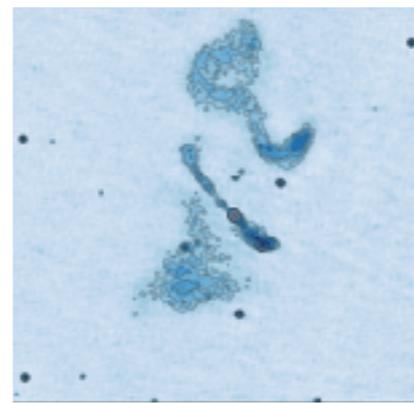
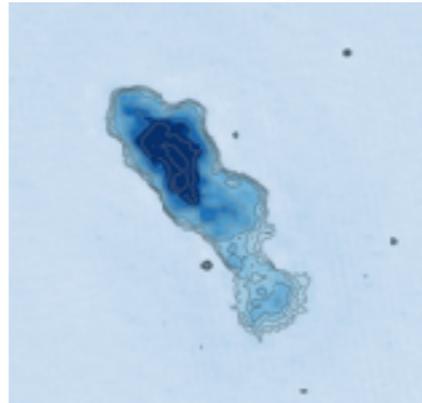
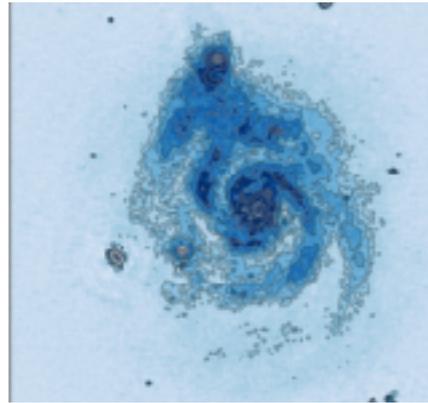
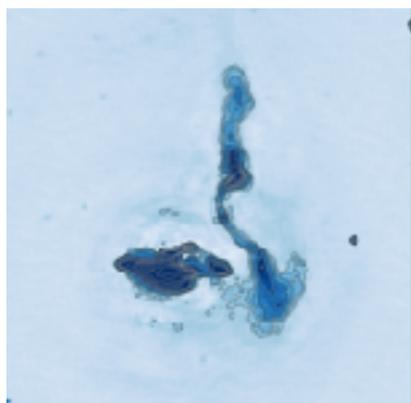
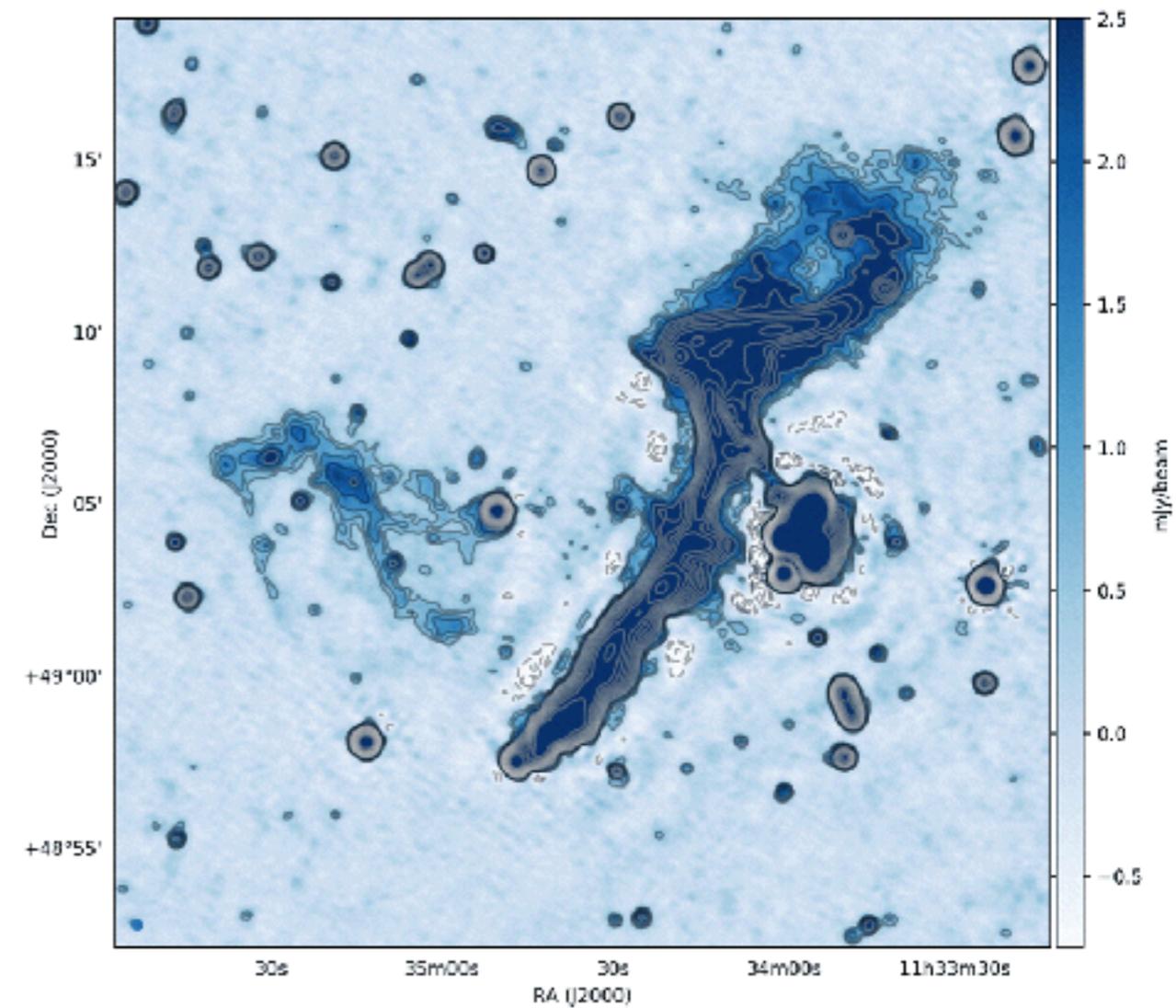
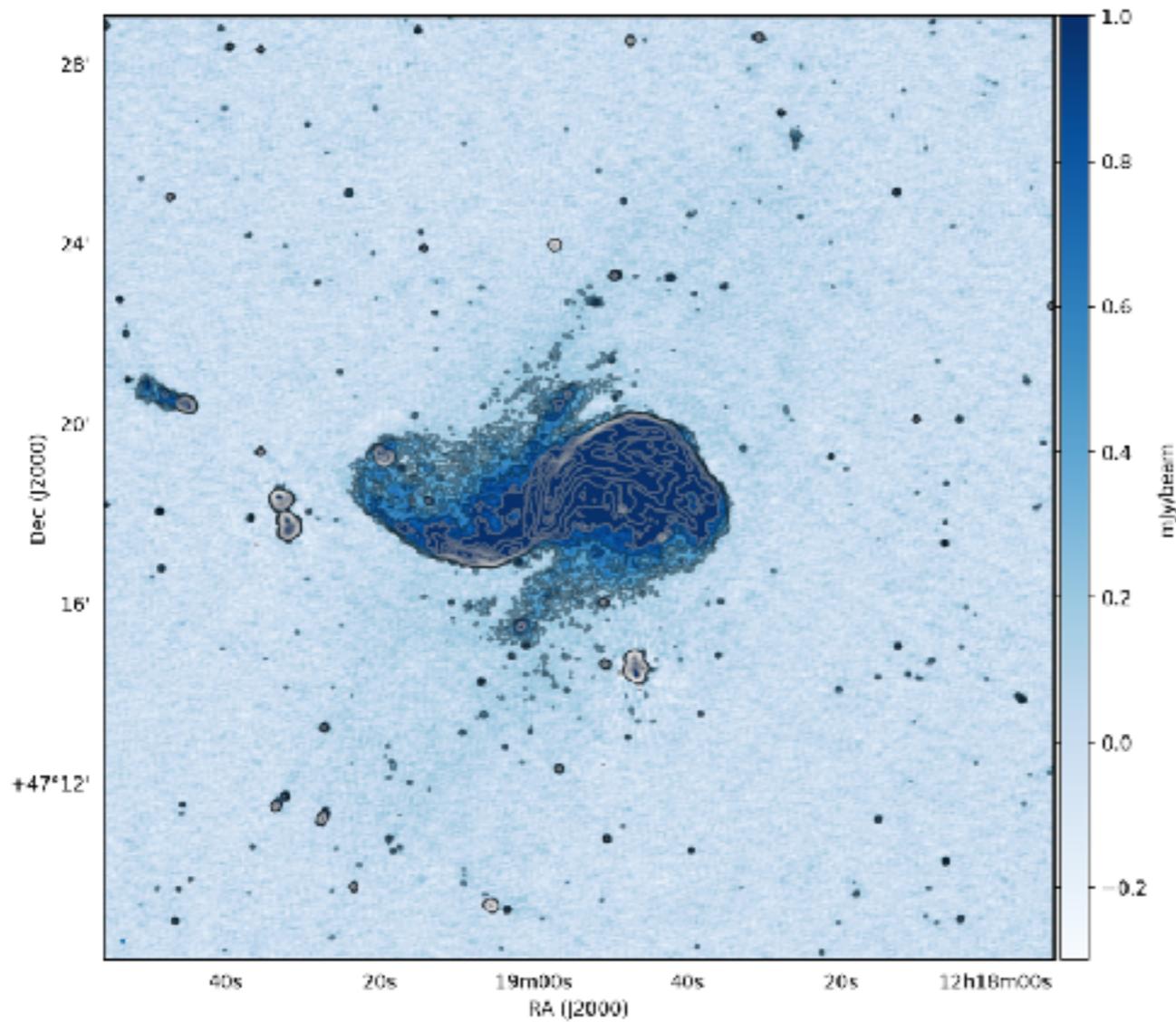
LoTSS processing remarks

- Polarization correction is not DD, assumes general source population is unpolarized
- If there is a bright polarized source in the field the polarization calibration is affected (rare)
- SSD(2) deconvolution (this is not CLEAN). Determines flux & spectral index (and curvature for SSD2)
- No multiscale deconvolution, sources are modeled with delta functions
- Inner uv-cut of 100 meters used

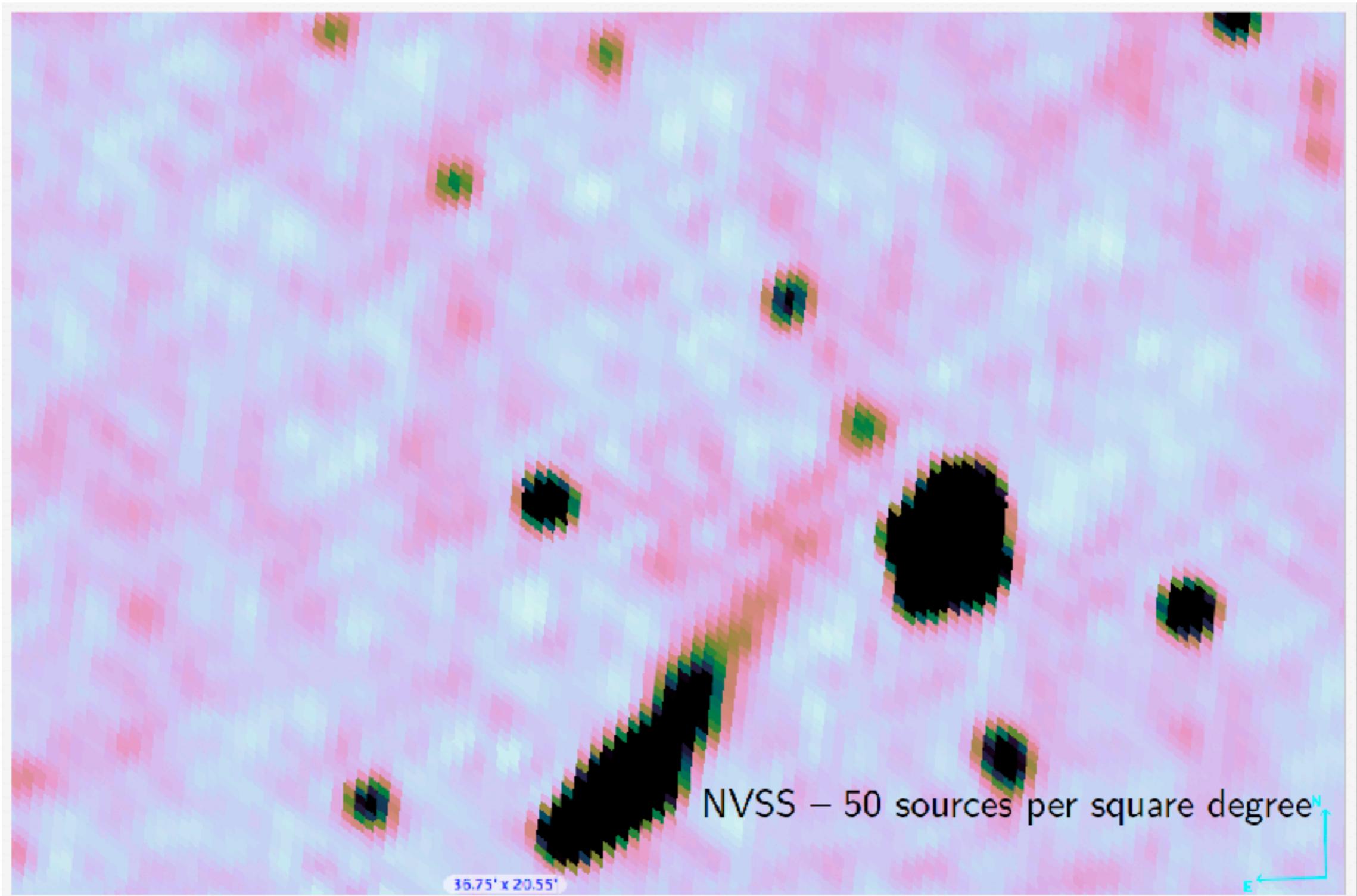


DDF-pipeline is public. It makes use of DDFacet and kMS for calibration and imaging (Tasse+ 2014, Smirnov+ 2015, and Tasse+ 2017). It produces science quality images in 4-6 days of processing.

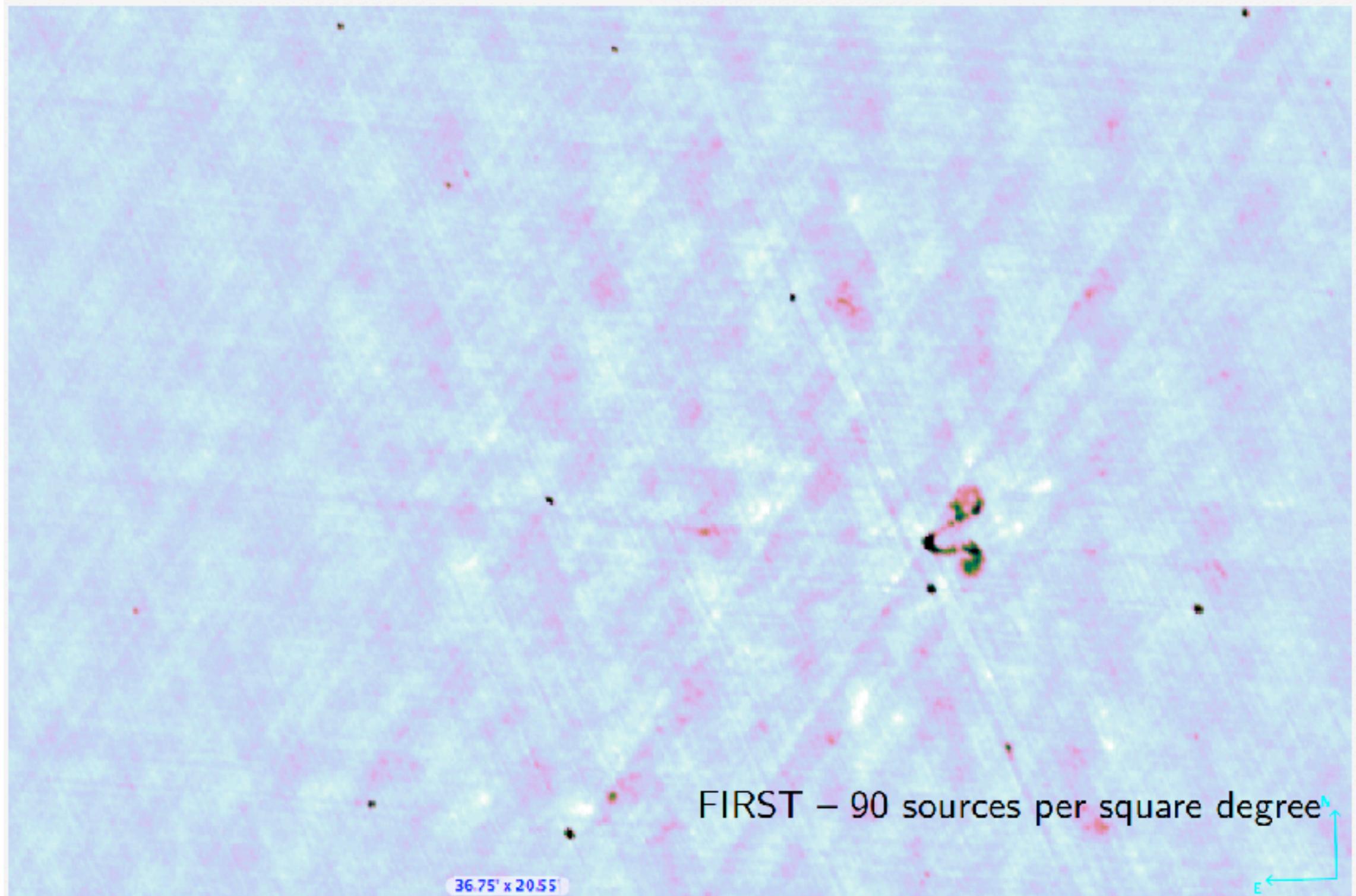
LoTSS DR2 - example images



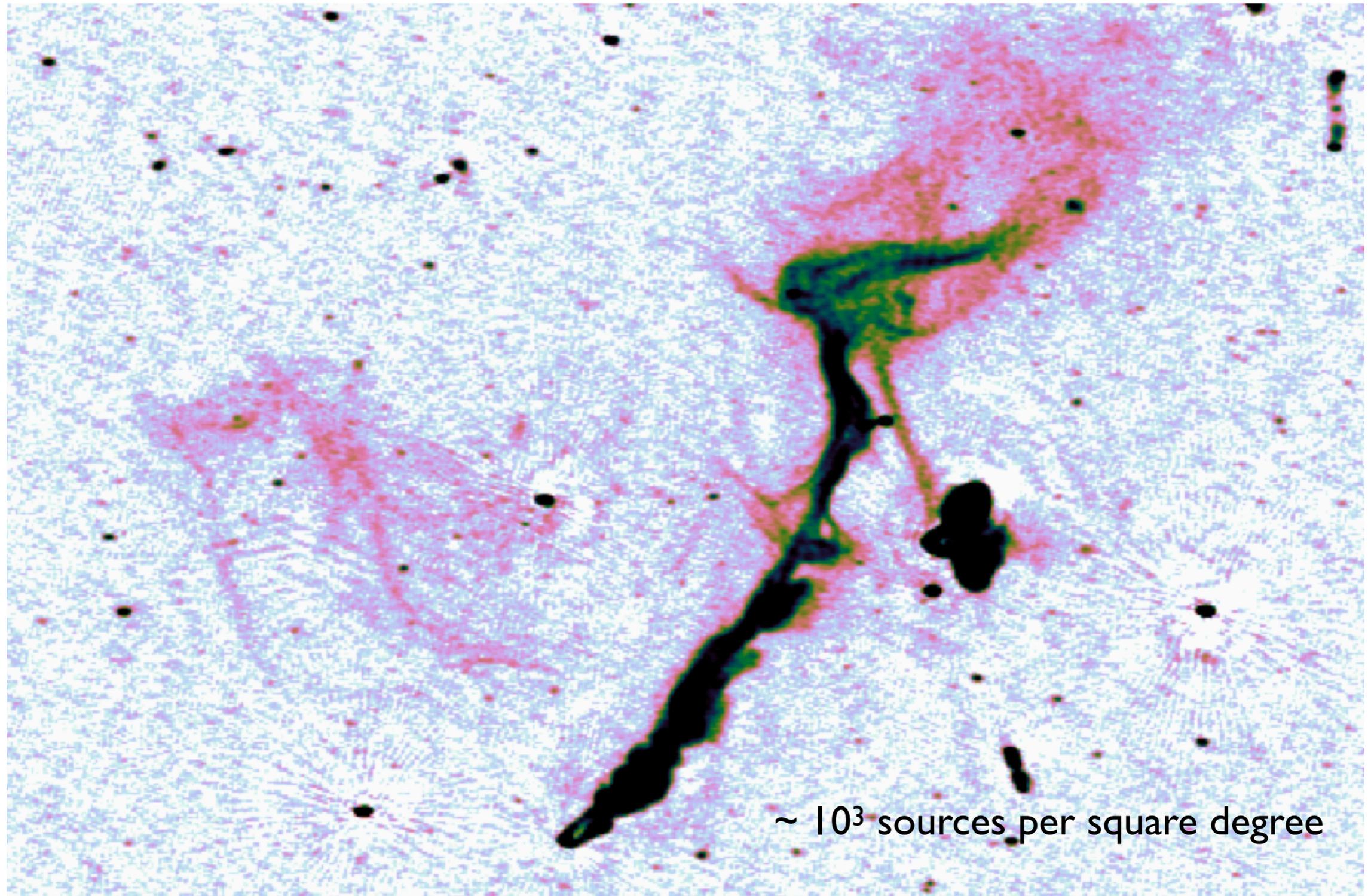
NVSS (1.4 GHz)



FIRST (1.4 GHz)



LoTSS (144 MHz)



THE LOFAR HBA SURVEYS

Reinout van Weeren

Leiden Observatory, Leiden University

on behalf of the LOFAR Surveys team

Special thanks to Tim Shimwell

Summary

- The LOFAR HBA allows deep imaging of the northern sky at a nominal resolution of 6".
- LOFAR Two-metre Sky Survey (LoTSS): Northern sky HBA survey at 0.1 mJy/beam - 8 hrs (85% observed)
- LoTSS-DR2 covers 26% of the Northern sky and contains 4,395,448 sources. This includes the best regions of the sky for LOFAR imaging and is large enough for almost all statistical studies.
- 200TB of I, Q, U, V images, catalogues and uv-data are available through lofar-surveys.org
- LoTSS positional accuracy: $< 0.5''$
- LoTSS flux density scale uncertainty: $\sim 10\%$

Outline

- ✓ LOFAR
- ✓ HBA: High Band Antenna
- ✓ HBA surveys
- ✓ Calibration
- ✓ LoTSS
- LoTSS-deep & characterization
- Working with HBA data
- Extraction-selfcal
- Ongoing and future work

LoTSS-deep



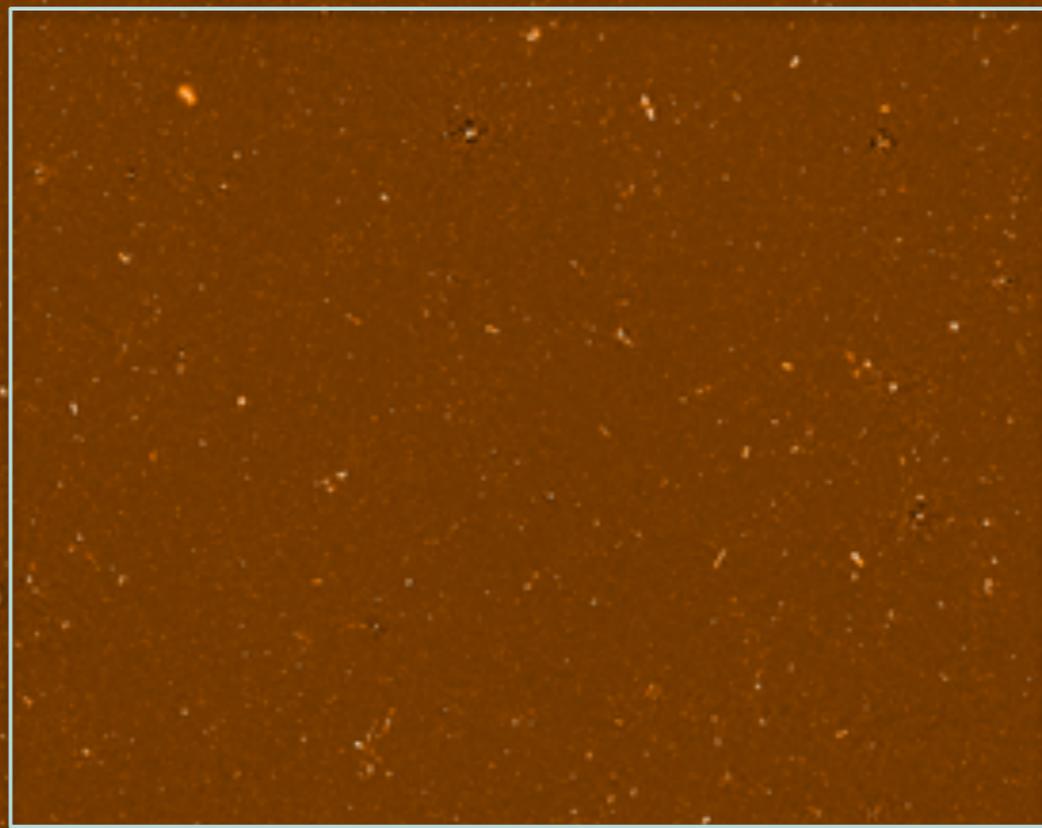
1 degree

ELAIS-N1 ($< 20 \mu\text{Jy}/\text{beam}$)
(Sabater+ 2021; Tasse+ 2021)

LoTSS-deep



1 degree



ELAIS-N1 ($< 20 \mu\text{Jy}/\text{beam}$)
(Sabater+ 2021; Tasse+ 2021)

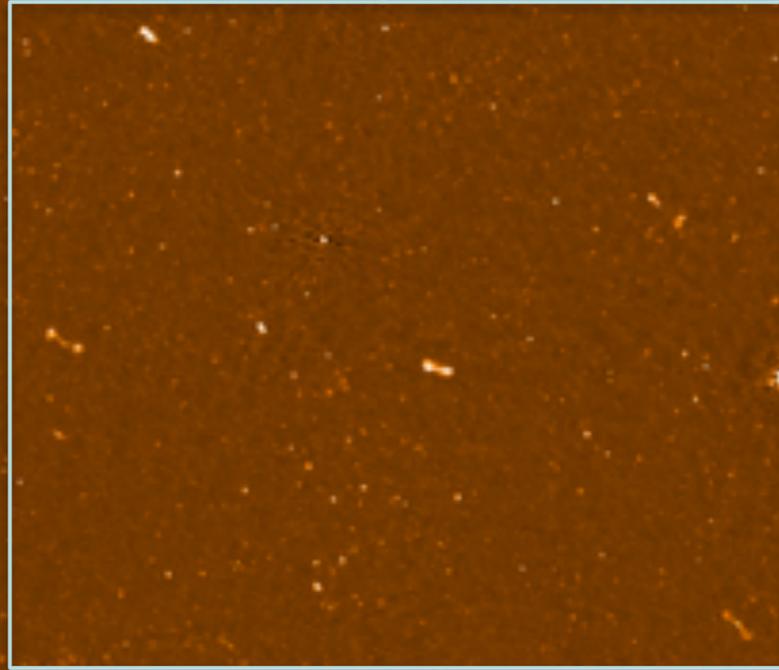
LoTSS-deep



15 arcmin

ELAIS-N1 ($< 20 \mu\text{Jy}/\text{beam}$)
(Sabater+ 2021; Tasse+ 2021)

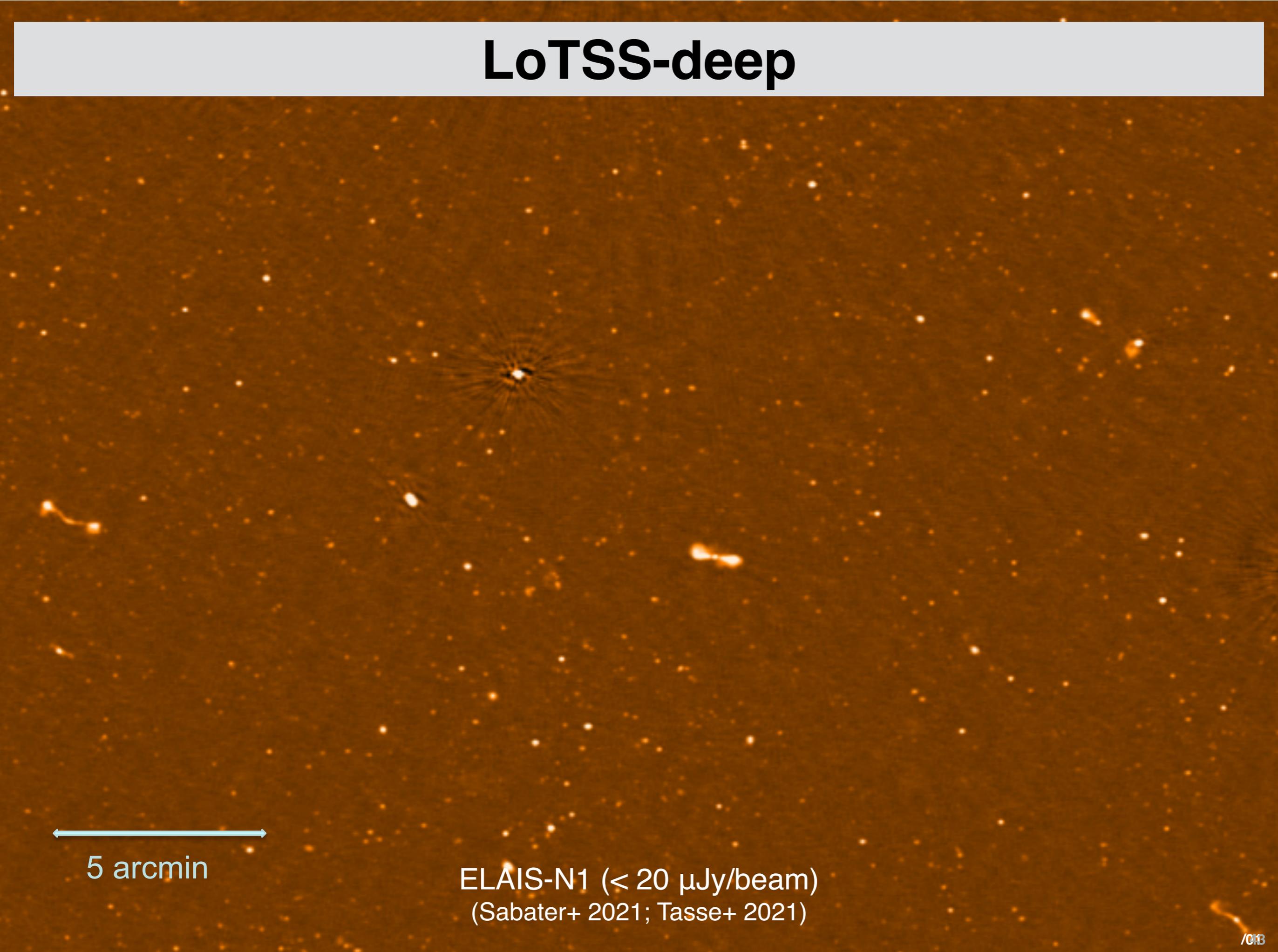
LoTSS-deep



15 arcmin

ELAIS-N1 ($< 20 \mu\text{Jy}/\text{beam}$)
(Sabater+ 2021; Tasse+ 2021)

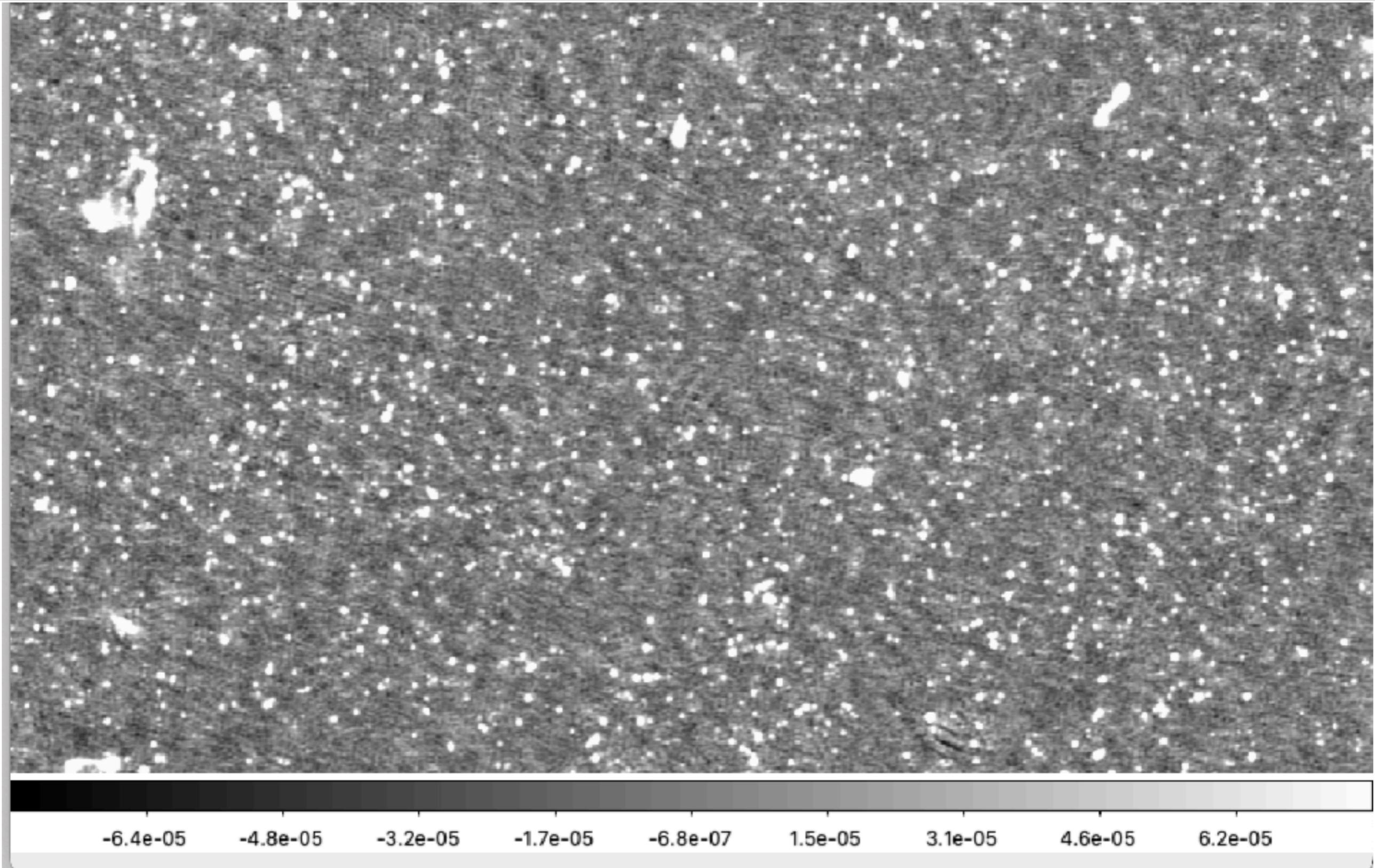
LoTSS-deep



5 arcmin

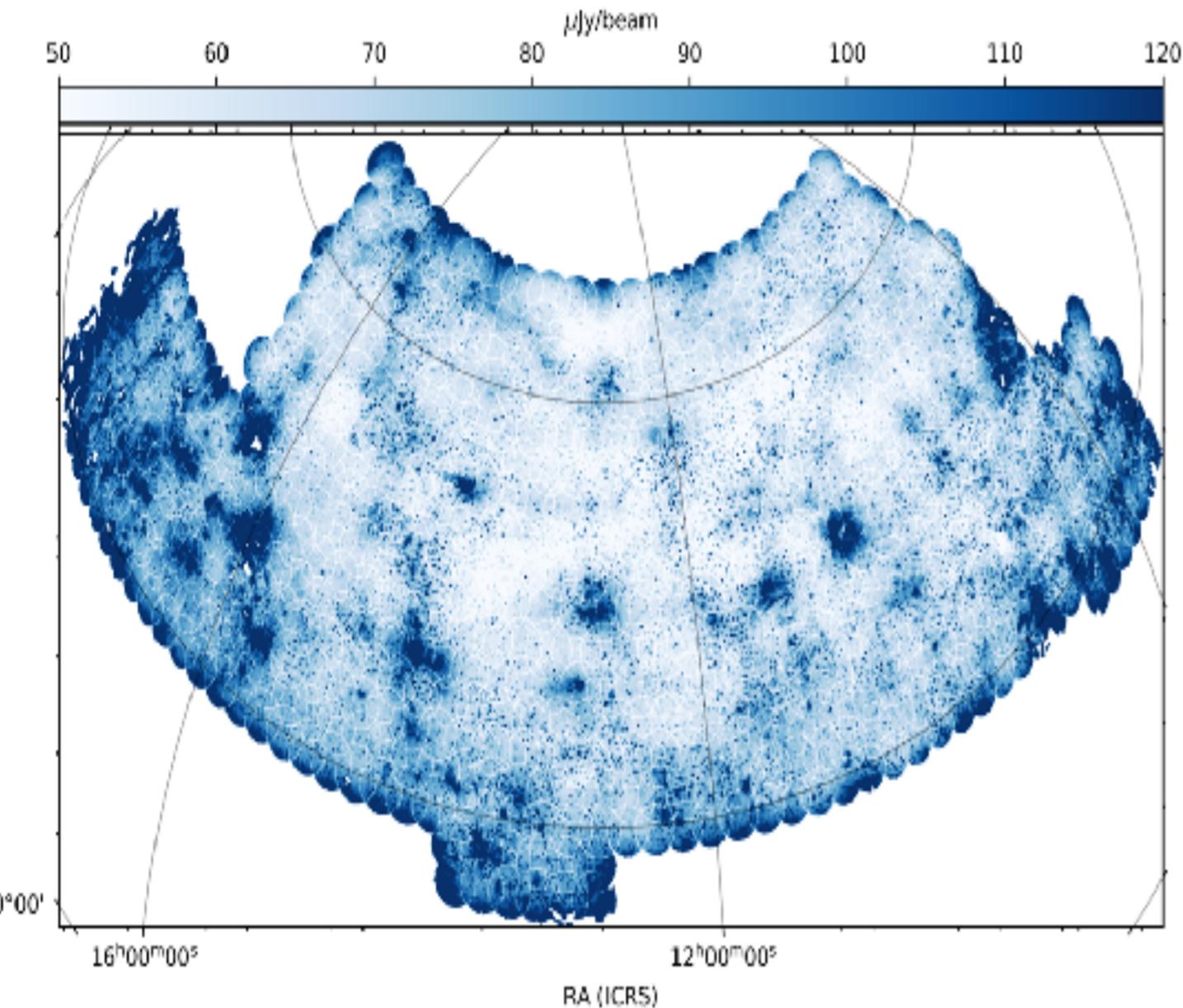
ELAIS-N1 ($< 20 \mu\text{Jy}/\text{beam}$)
(Sabater+ 2021; Tasse+ 2021)

Next: Deeper field (550hrs on ELAIS-N1)



Around 10-12 $\mu\text{Jy}/\text{beam rms}$ at 6" resolution. Final images produced but not yet fully released.

LoTSS - example images



LoTSS-DR2 Stokes I products:

Mosaiced 6" and 20" resolution maps

Individual observation 6" and 20" resolution maps (plus model, residual, mask images)

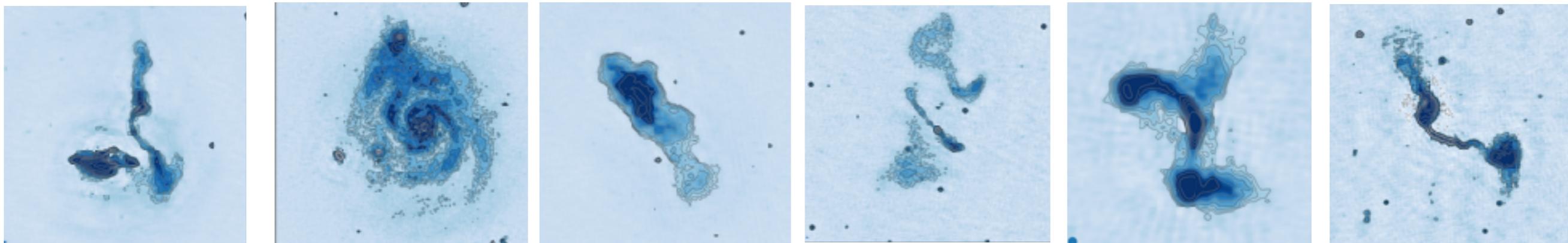
6" in-band (128, 144, and 160MHz) images

Catalogue of 4.4 million sources.

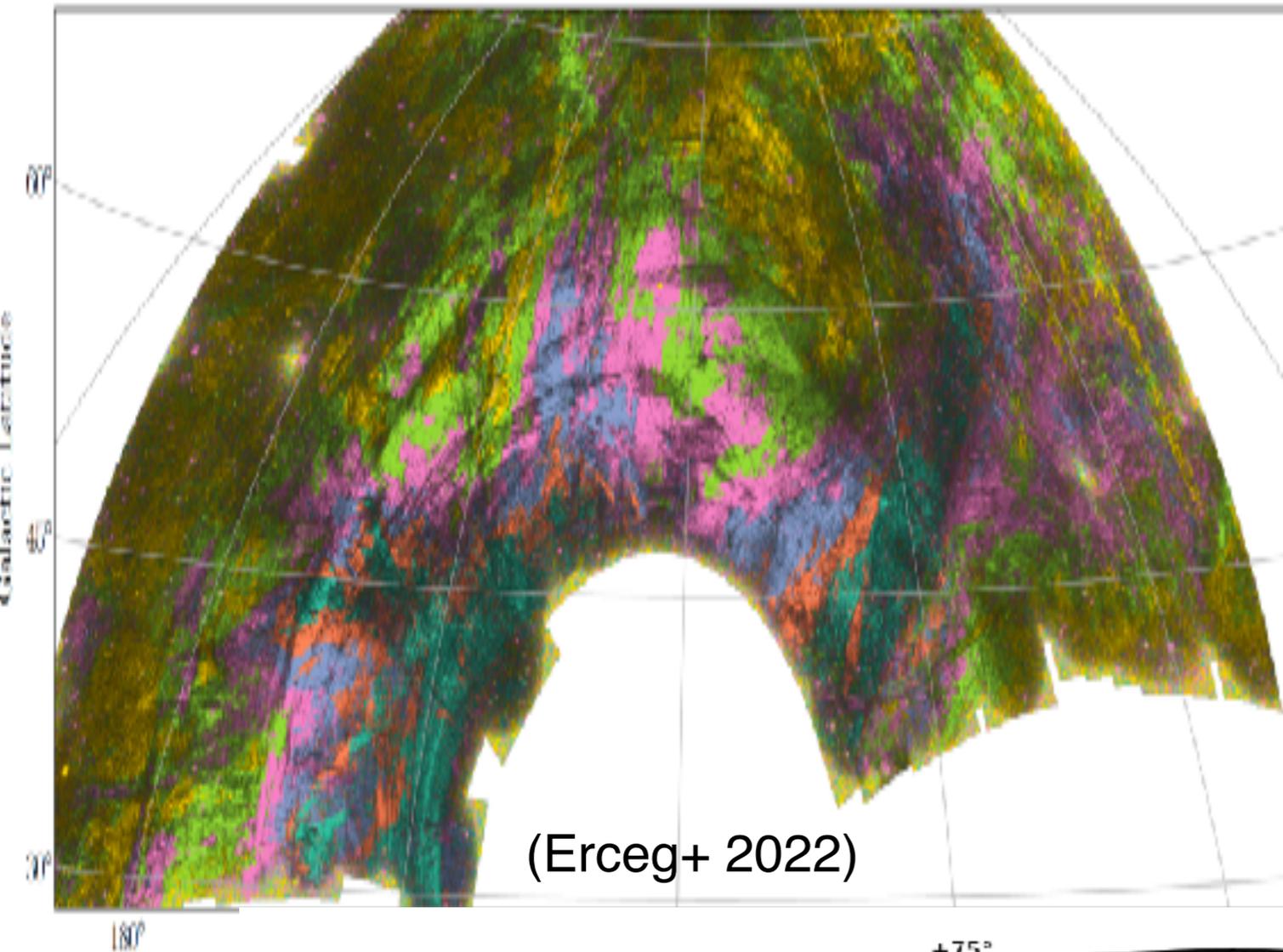
HIPS file for visualization

uv-data and full direction dependent calibration solutions (enabling full reimaging and flexible post processing)

Coming soon: optical identifications for 84% of LoTSS-DR2 sources and 57% with z estimate.
Hardcastle+ in prep



LoTSS - example images



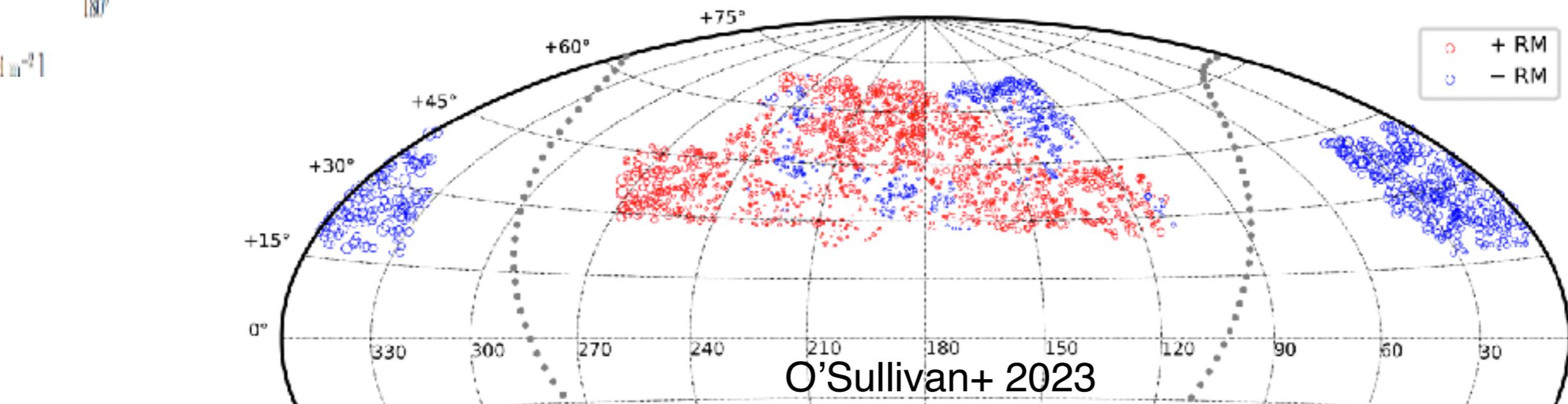
LoTSS-DR2 other products:

Stokes QU 480-plane image cubes at 20" containing 2,461 sources (O'Sullivan+ 2023)

Stokes QU 480-plane image cubes at 4' resolution containing our galaxy (Erceg+ 2022)

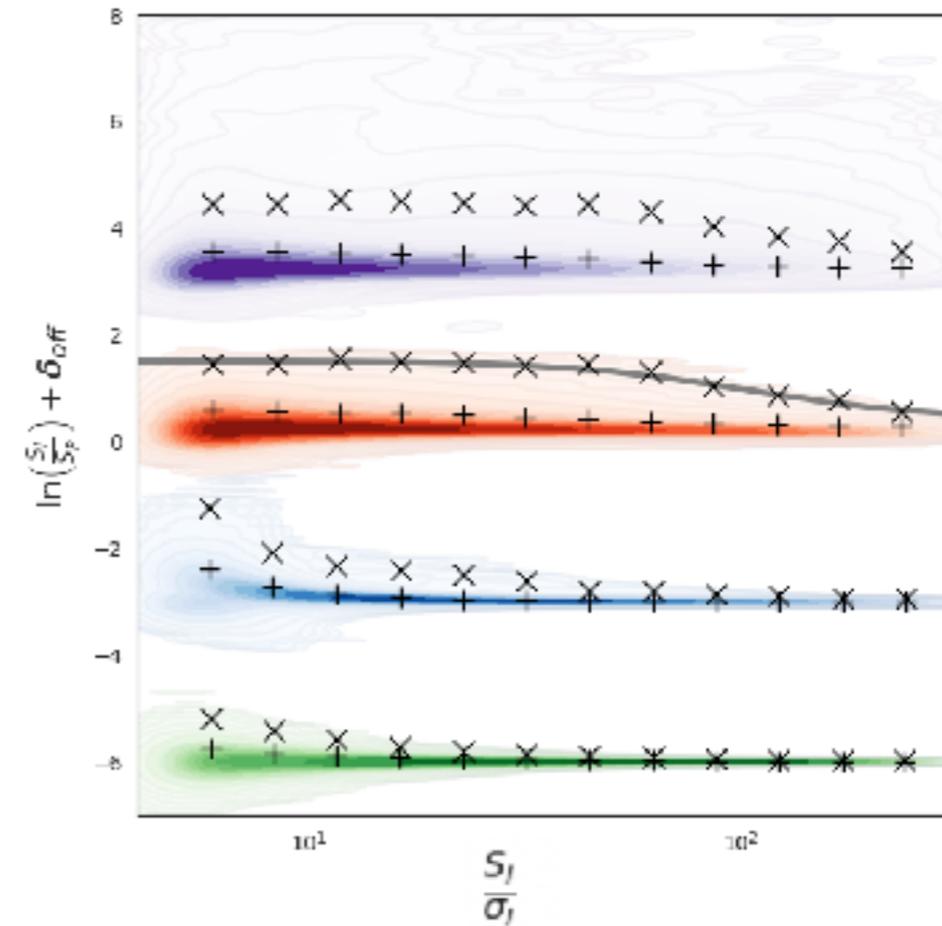
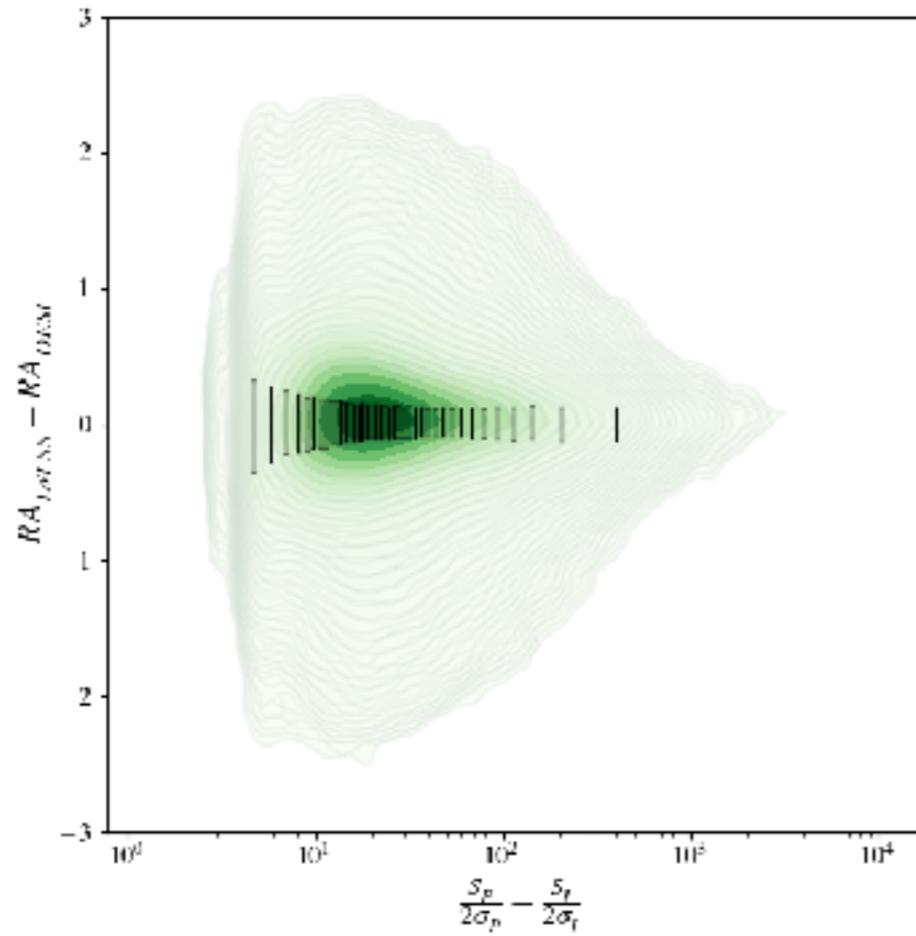
Stokes V 20" resolution images containing 68 sources (Callingham+ 2023)

Note: No deconvolution for polarized LoTSS images

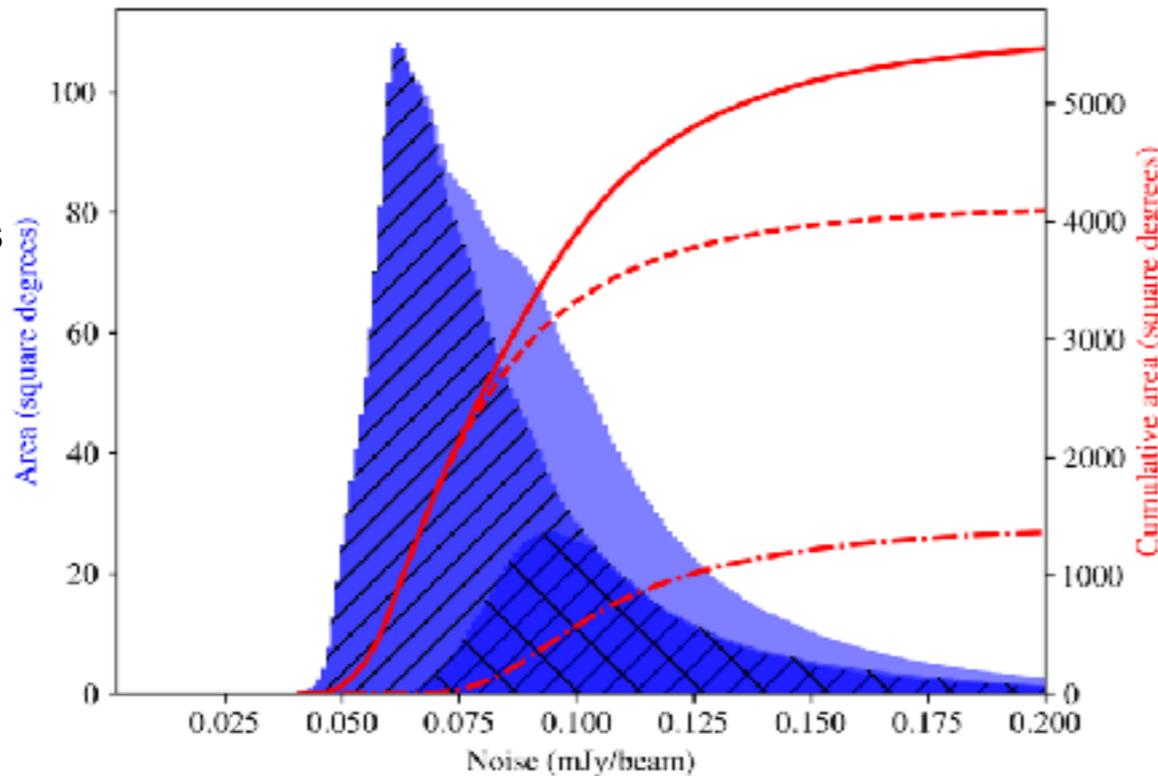


LoTSS-DR2 – Characterization

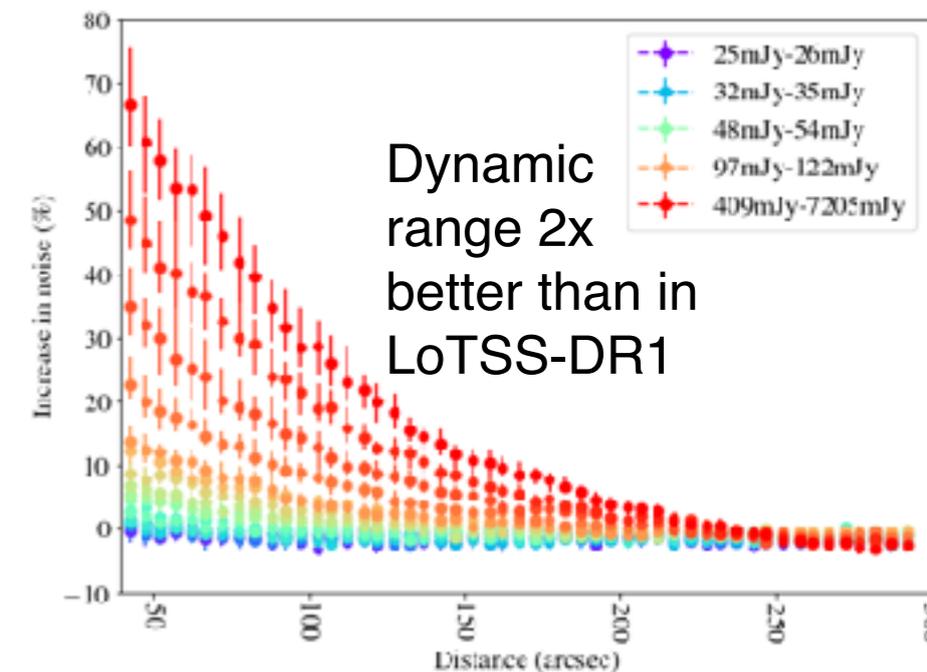
Astrometry about 0.2" in RA and in DEC increasing to 0.5" at low SNR.



8.4% of sources resolved

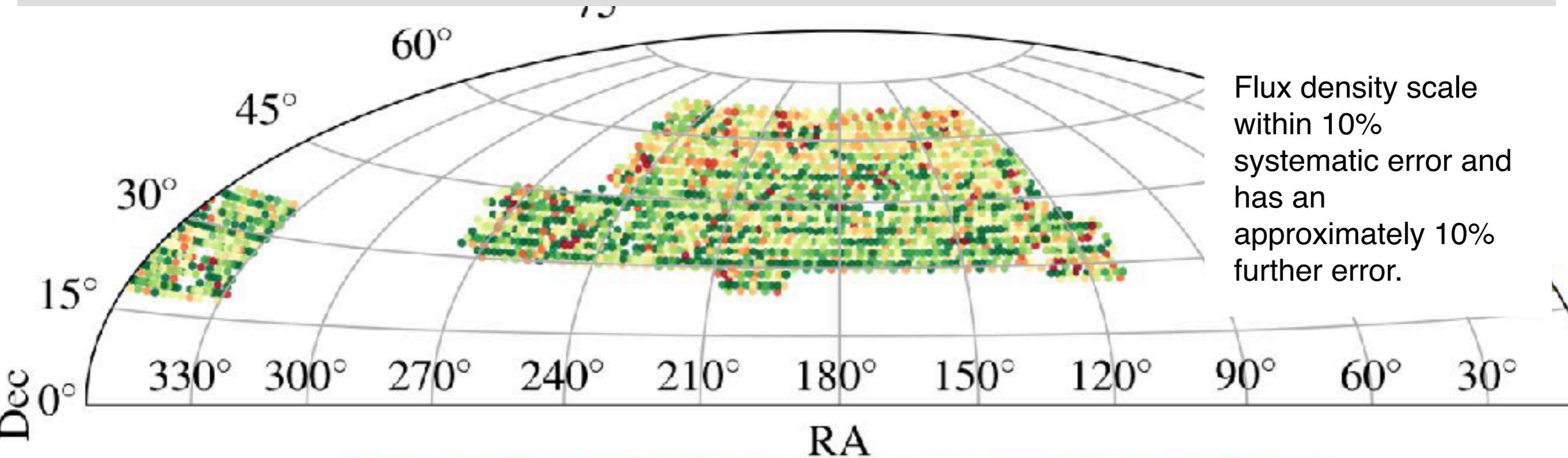


Median sensitivity is 83uJy/beam. Individual pointing sensitivity scales as $\sim \cos(\text{elevation})^{-2}$

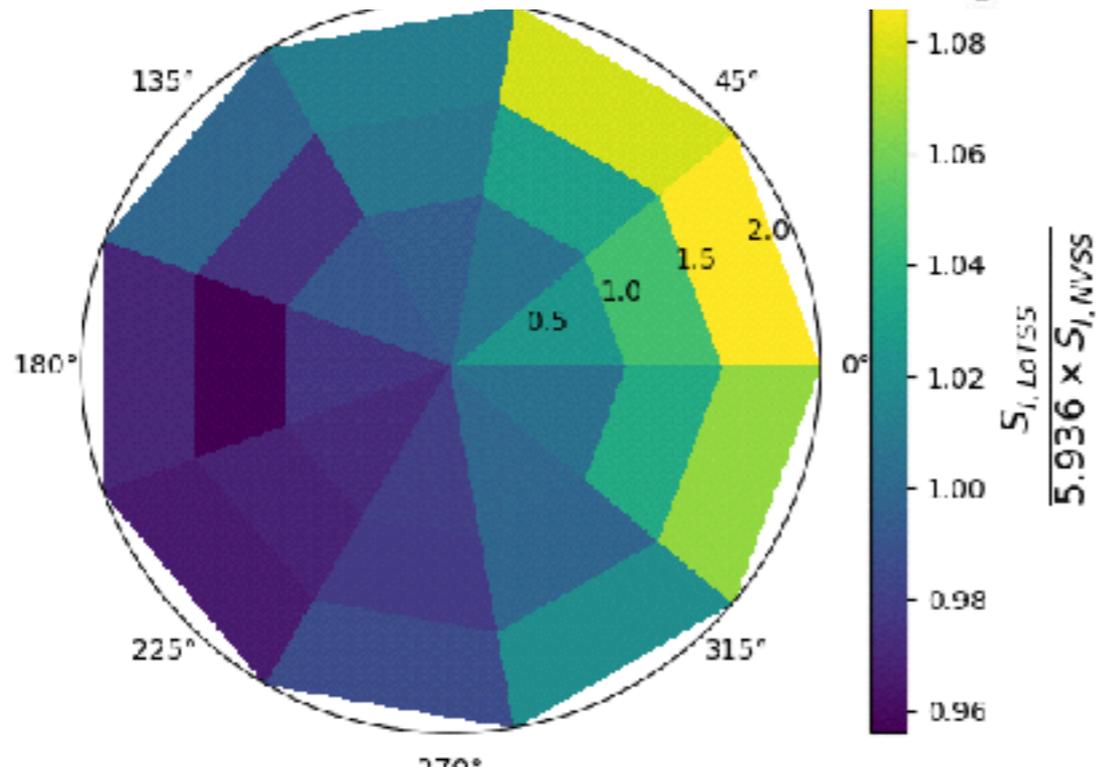
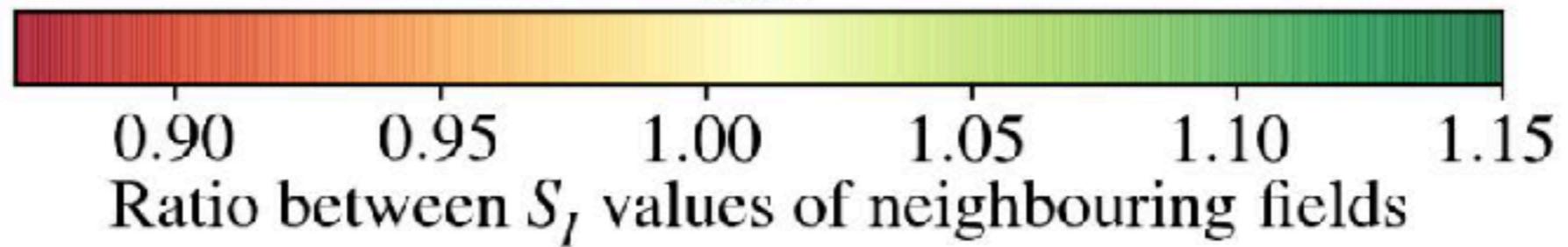


Dynamic range 2x better than in LoTSS-DR1

LoTSS-DR2 – Characterization



Flux density scale within 10% systematic error and has an approximately 10% further error.



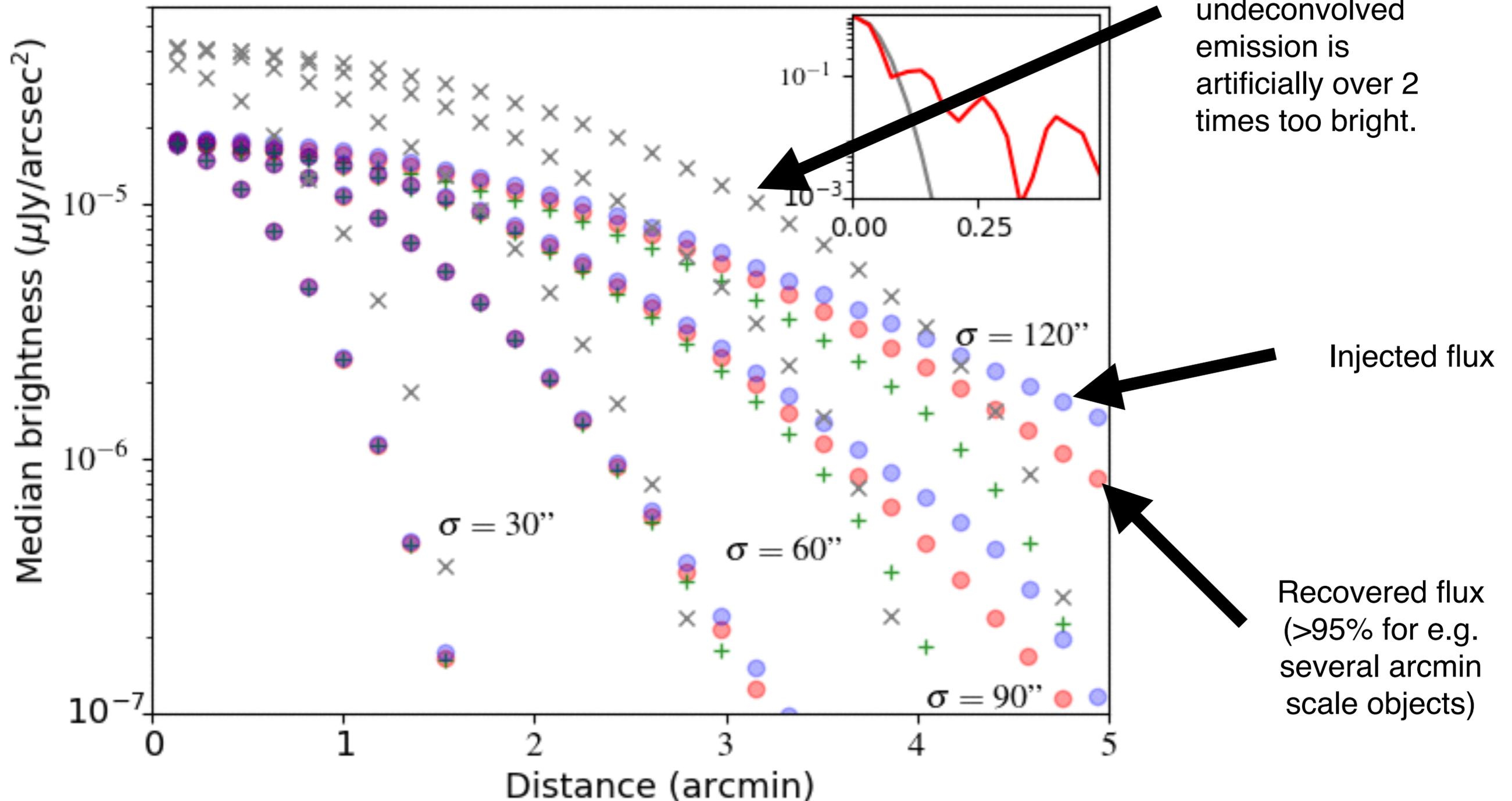
Northern region of a given pointing systematically brighter than southern region.

Complicates flux scale and apparently more severe at lower dec. Still being investigated but fortunately largely cancels out in mosaicing

LoTSS-DR2 – Characterization

Uv-plane injection of Gaussians

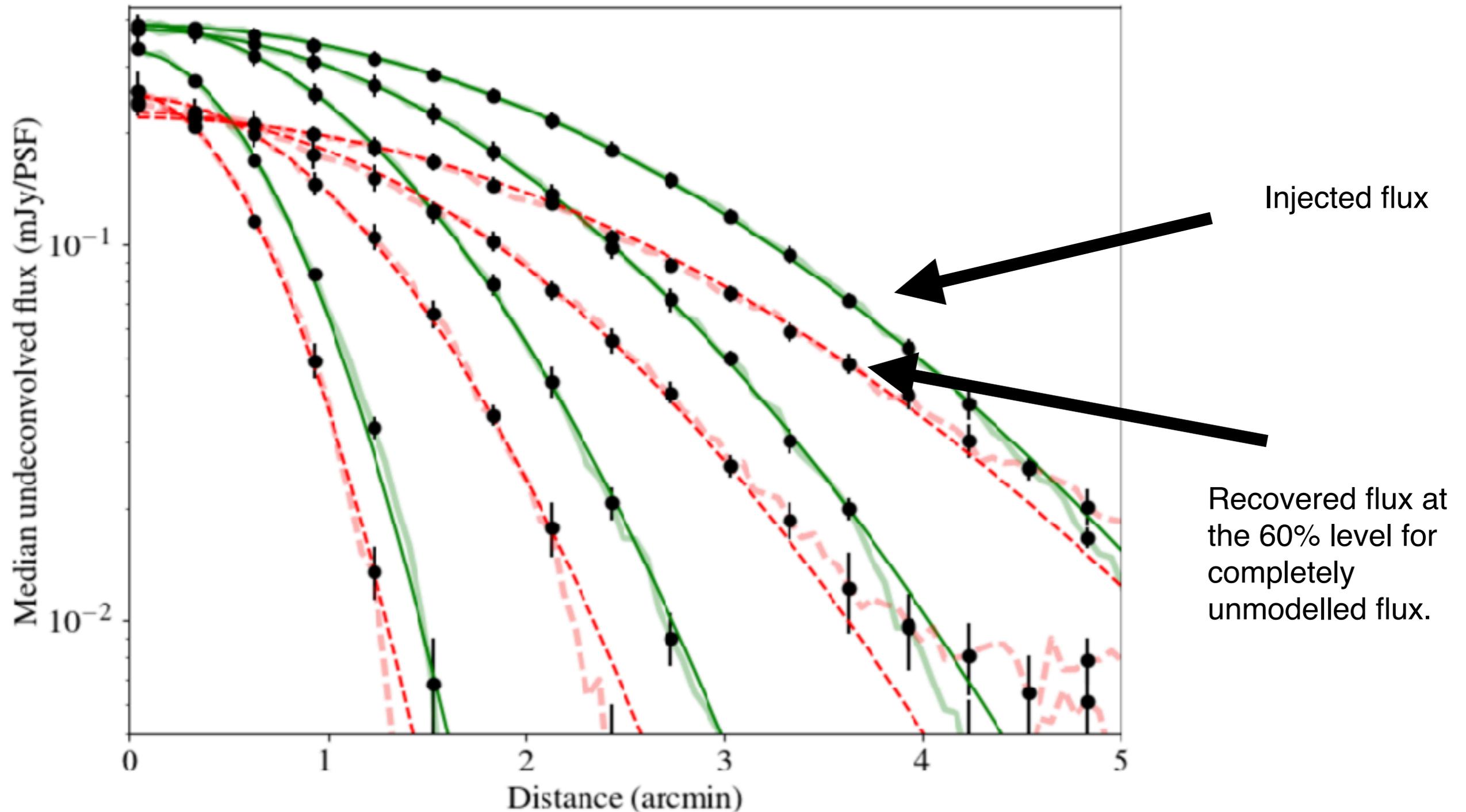
Injecting after calibration



LoTSS-DR2 – Characterization

Uv-plane injection of Gaussians

Injecting prior to calibration (worst case scenario absorption)



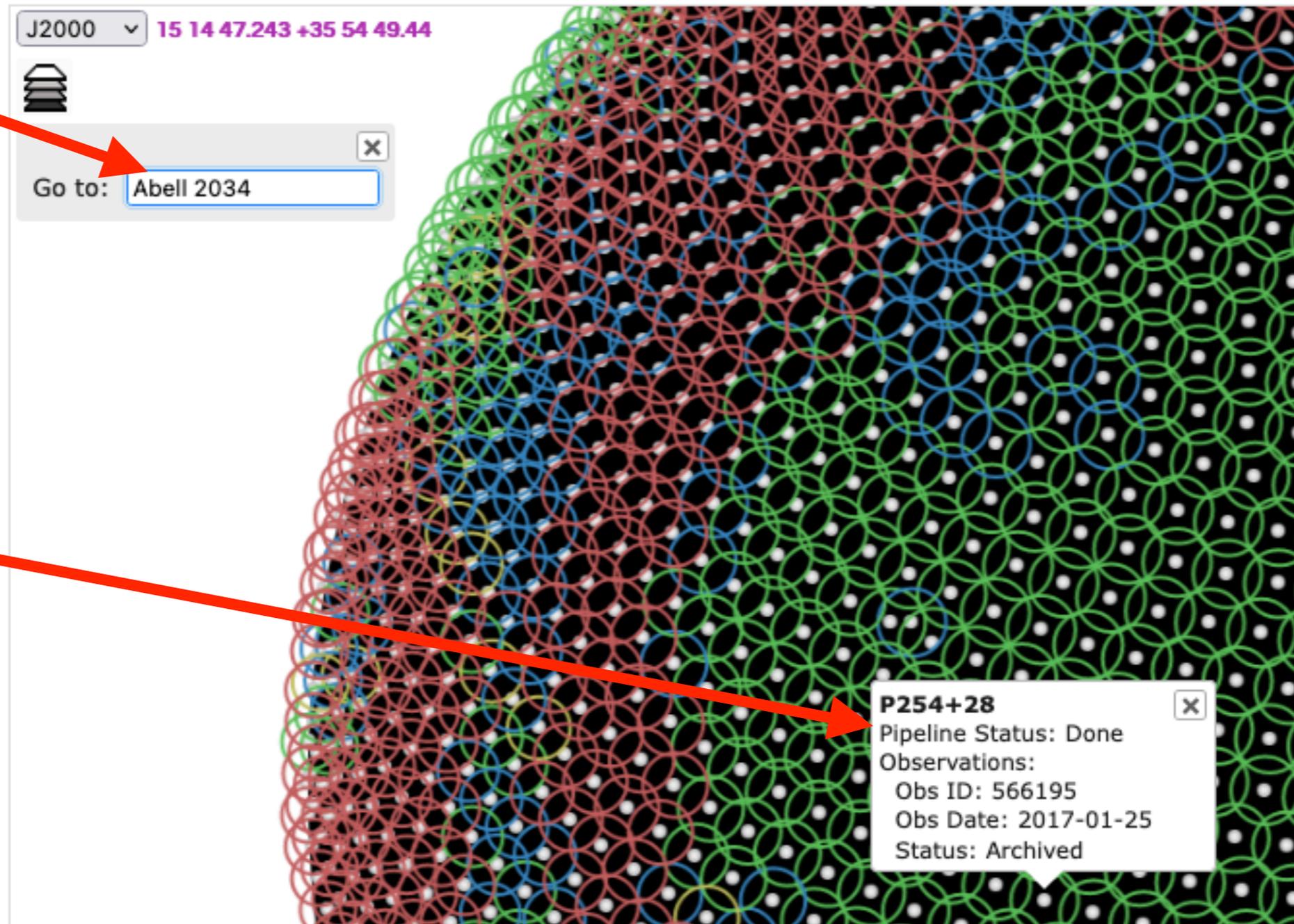
Working with HBA/LoTSS data

Using LoTSS

Status of observing and processing

<https://lofar-surveys.org/lotss-tier1.html>

Enter target name or RA/DEC.



The screenshot displays the LoTSS web interface. At the top, there is a search bar with a dropdown menu set to 'J2000' and the coordinates '15 14 47.243 +35 54 49.44'. Below this is a 'Go to:' input field containing 'Abell 2034'. The main area shows a pointing map with a grid of colored circles (red, green, blue) and white dots. A tooltip for observation 'P254+28' is visible in the bottom right corner, showing details such as 'Pipeline Status: Done', 'Observations: Obs ID: 566195', 'Obs Date: 2017-01-25', and 'Status: Archived'. Two red arrows point from the text on the left to the search bar and the tooltip.

See observations of a pointing and status of data processing.

Using LoTSS

Status of observing and processing

<https://lofar-surveys.org/lotss-tier1.html>

Fields database: <https://lofar-surveys.org/fields.html>

Observations database: <https://lofar-surveys.org/observations.html>

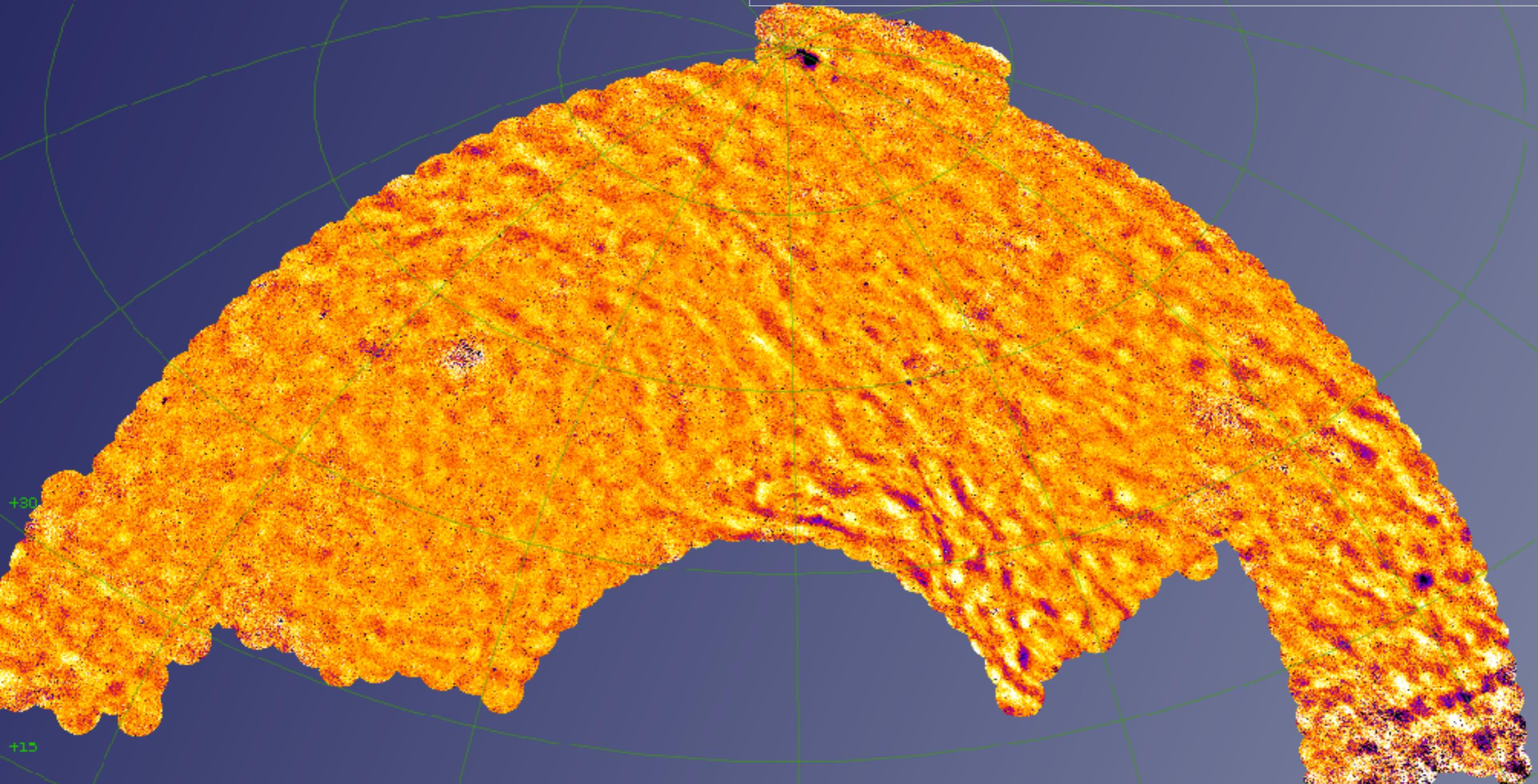
ID	Field	Status	Project code	Location	Integration	dt	nchan	nsb	Date
868300	P034+11	Archived	LT16_012	Juelich	4.0	1.001	16	231	2022-08-22 01:45:04
868096	P310+13	READY	LT16_012	Juelich	4.0	1.001	16	231	2022-08-21 20:10:43
868098	P311+08	Archived	LT16_012	Juelich	4.0	1.001	16	231	2022-08-21 20:10:43

Calibrator ID	Calibrator dt	Calibrator nchan	Calibrator nsb	Calibrator name	Calibrator date	Bad baselines	international stations	Priority	Int. processed?
868100	1.001	16	231	3C48	2022-08-22 00:11:43		14	1	None
868094	1.001	16	231	3C295	2022-08-21 19:59:43		14	-10	None
868094	1.001	16	231	3C295	2022-08-21 19:59:43		14	418	None

LoTSS - reprocessing example

sub_hips_out 300

Oei+ in prep - LoTSS reprocessing without 100m uv-cut; Large scale galactic emission in total intensity



Using LoTSS

Retrieving images and catalogues:

Public data:

https://lofar-surveys.org/dr2_release.html

Contains links to uv-data, images, mosaics, catalogues, HIPS, polarization products

To bulk download uv-data, images etc use ddf-pipeline (<https://github.com/mhardcastle/ddf-pipeline>).

```
export SDR_TOKEN=c49c6bb3-d074-a44d-4fca-1d3f7458055d
```

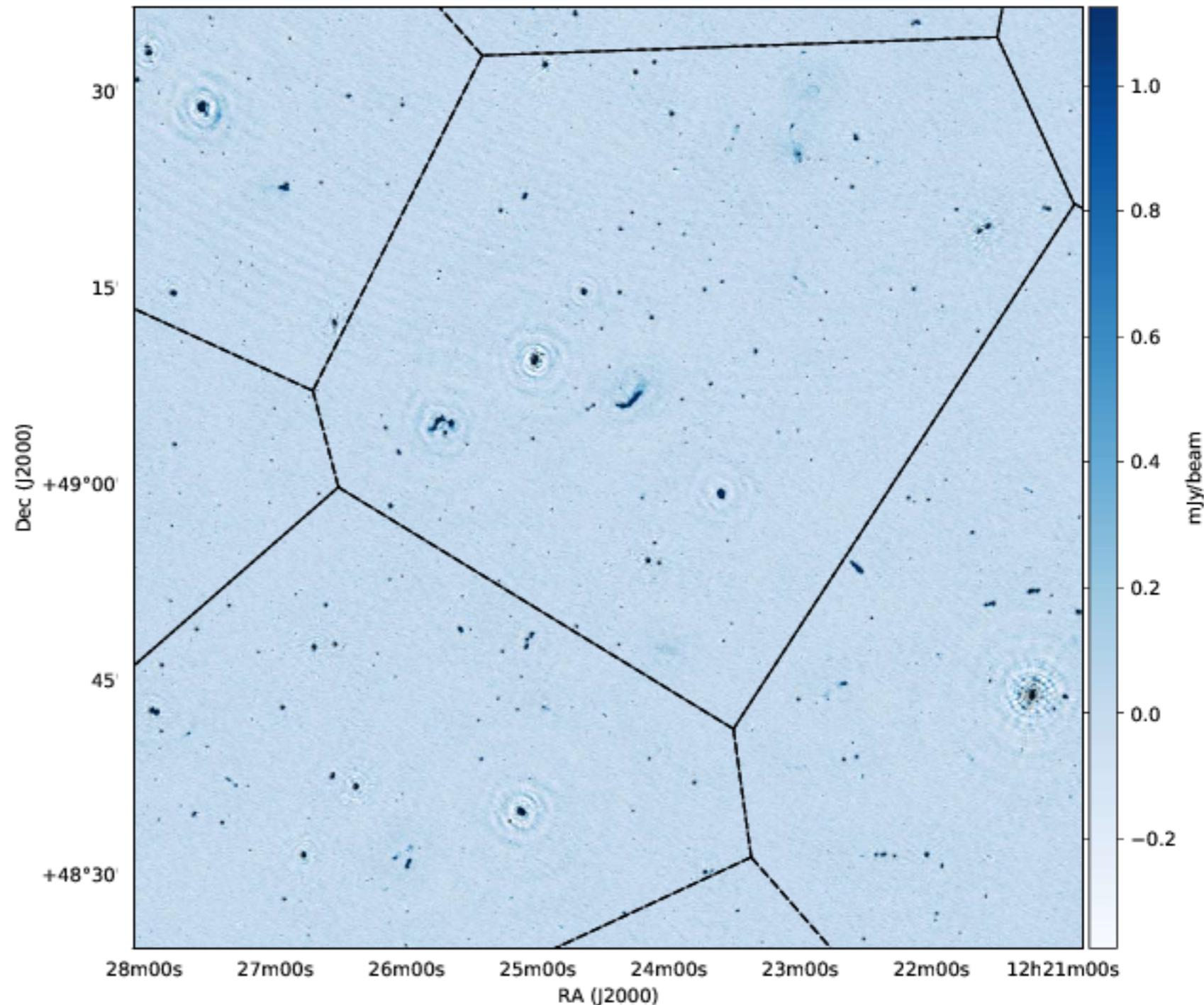
```
from reprocessing_utils import *  
do_sdr_and_rcclone_download(fieldname, processingdir)
```

Post-postprocessing with `facetselfcal.py`

van Weeren+ 2021 (& significant number of further improvements since then)

https://github.com/rvweeren/lofar_facet_selfcal

- Facet layout can be non-optimal for target-of-interest
- Joint deconvolution of obs. with different pointing centers
- Improved deconvolution (e.g., multiscale)
- Fast re-imaging with different settings for science (uv-tapers, weightings, etc.)
- Improved calibration quality
- Q, U, and V deconvolutio.



Using LoTSS

Studying individual targets of interest - extract pipeline:

1) Download field (as before) and subtract sources away from target (e.g. using ddf-pipeline script:

```
sub-sources-outside-region.py -b Abell2034.ds9.reg -p Abell2034)
```

2) Self calibrate (direction independent) on the resulting data:

https://github.com/rvweeren/lofar_facet_selfcal

Then e.g.

```
python facetselfcal.py --auto -b Abell2034.ds9.reg -i Abell2034  
P228+32subtractedfile.ms P226+35subtractedfile.ms
```

Produces msfiles calibrated in direction of target with beam taken out. Can be reimaged again however you like.

Step 1: “extract”

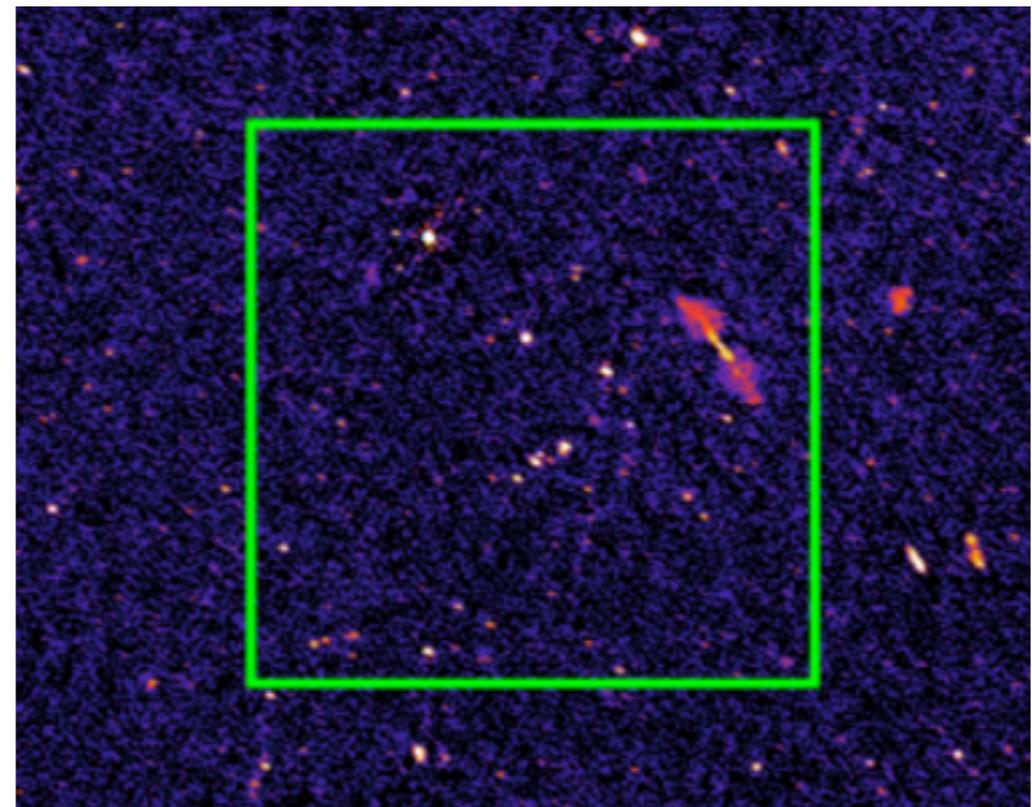
van Weeren+ 2021 (& significant number of further improvements since then)

https://github.com/rvweeren/lofar_facet_selfcal

`sub-sources-outside-region.py`

Requirements:

1. Box not too large, avoid beam variations across the box (0.5° to 1.0°)
2. Box not too large, avoid calibration to vary across the box (0.5° to 1.0°)
3. Enough flux in the box for calibration (≥ 0.2 Jy compact source Dutch-HBA)



large beam variations can be handled using
`--idg` option in `facetselfcal.py`, but note
point 2.

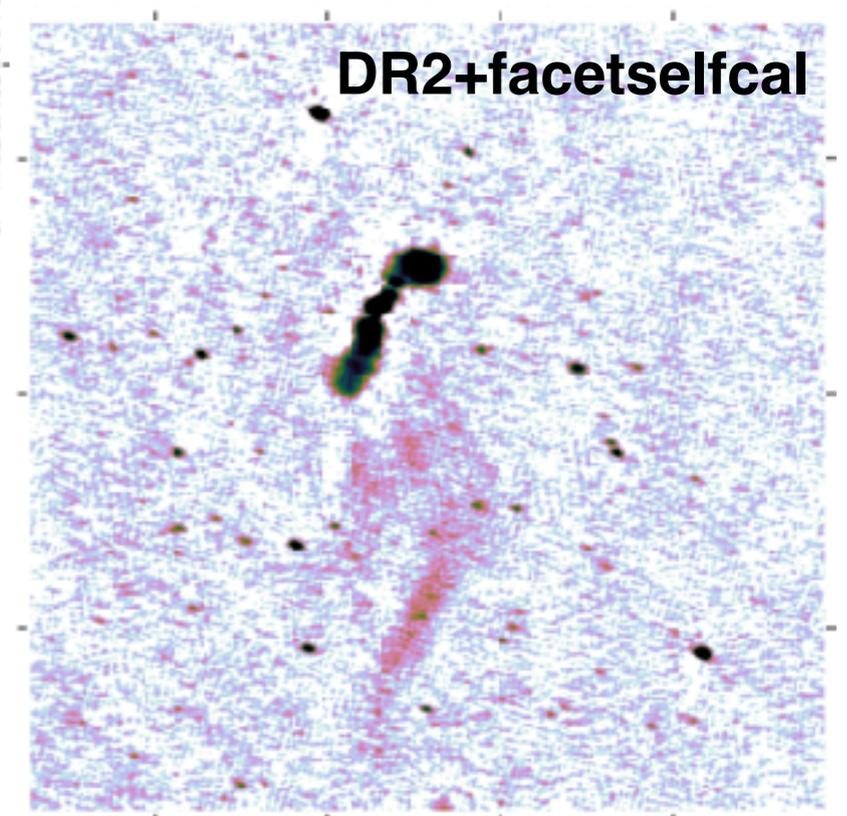
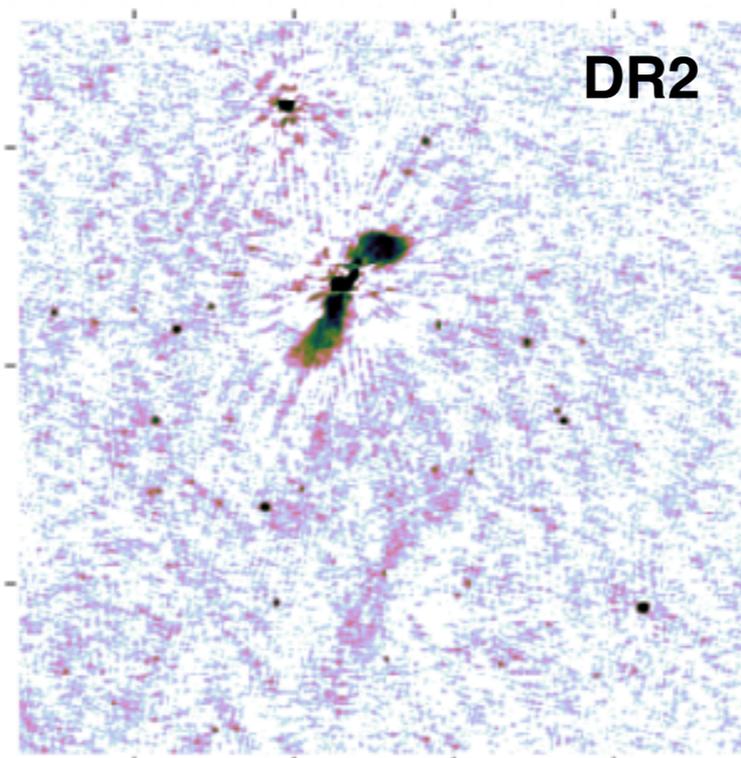
Step 1: “facetselfcal”

van Weeren+ 2021 (& significant number of further improvements since then)

https://github.com/rvweeren/lofar_facet_selfcal

facetselfcal.py

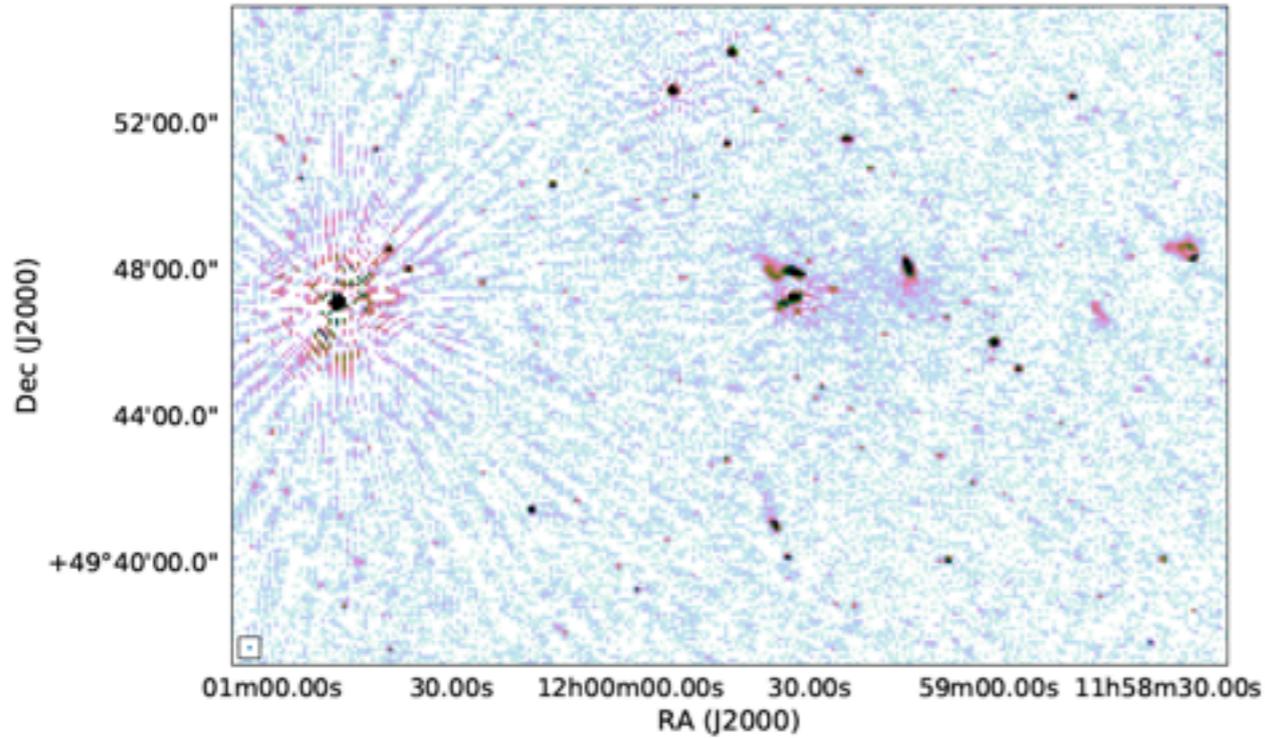
1. Easiest to use the `--auto` setting (determines solution interval and effects to solve for)
2. Script can handle many types of LOFAR data, Dutch-HBA, ILT-HBA, LBA, ILT-LBA, LBA-low (but `--auto` only available for commonly used modes, e.g. not ILT-LBA)
3. Script has many options for tuning



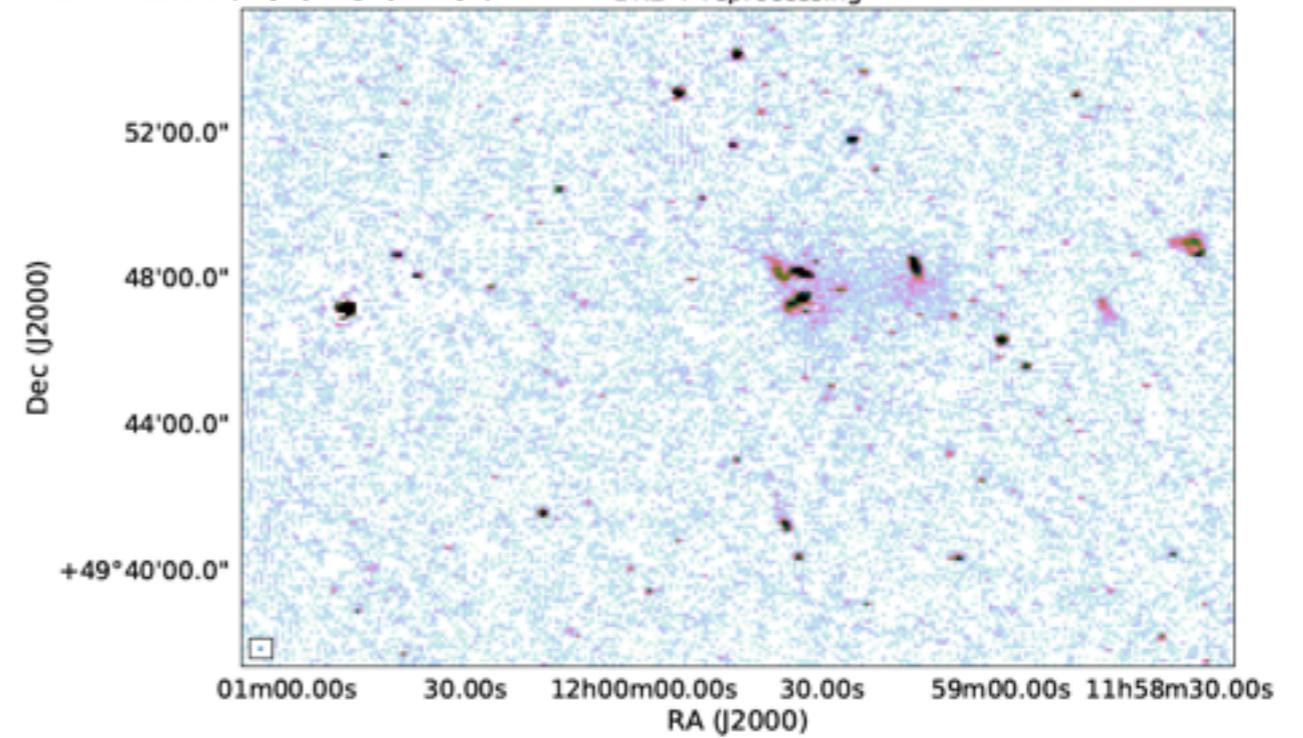
- improved calibration
- multiscale clean
- no uvmin cut

LoTSS DR2 re-processing

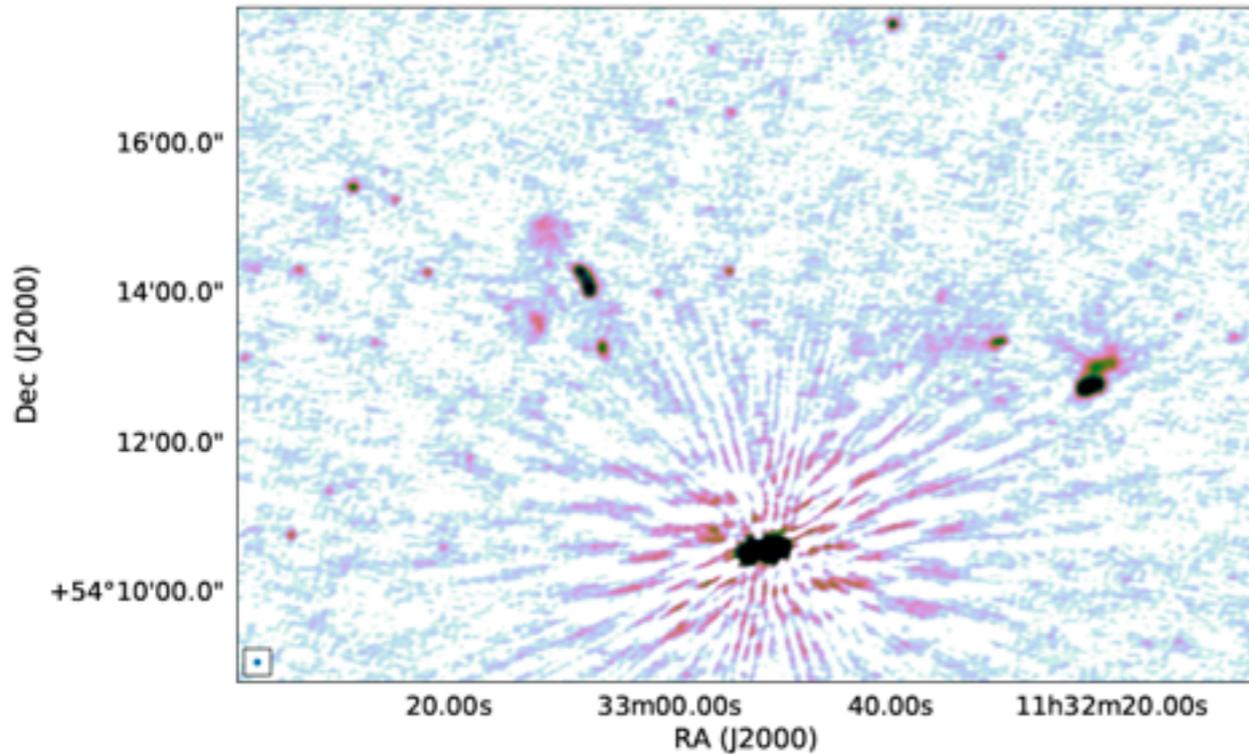
DR2



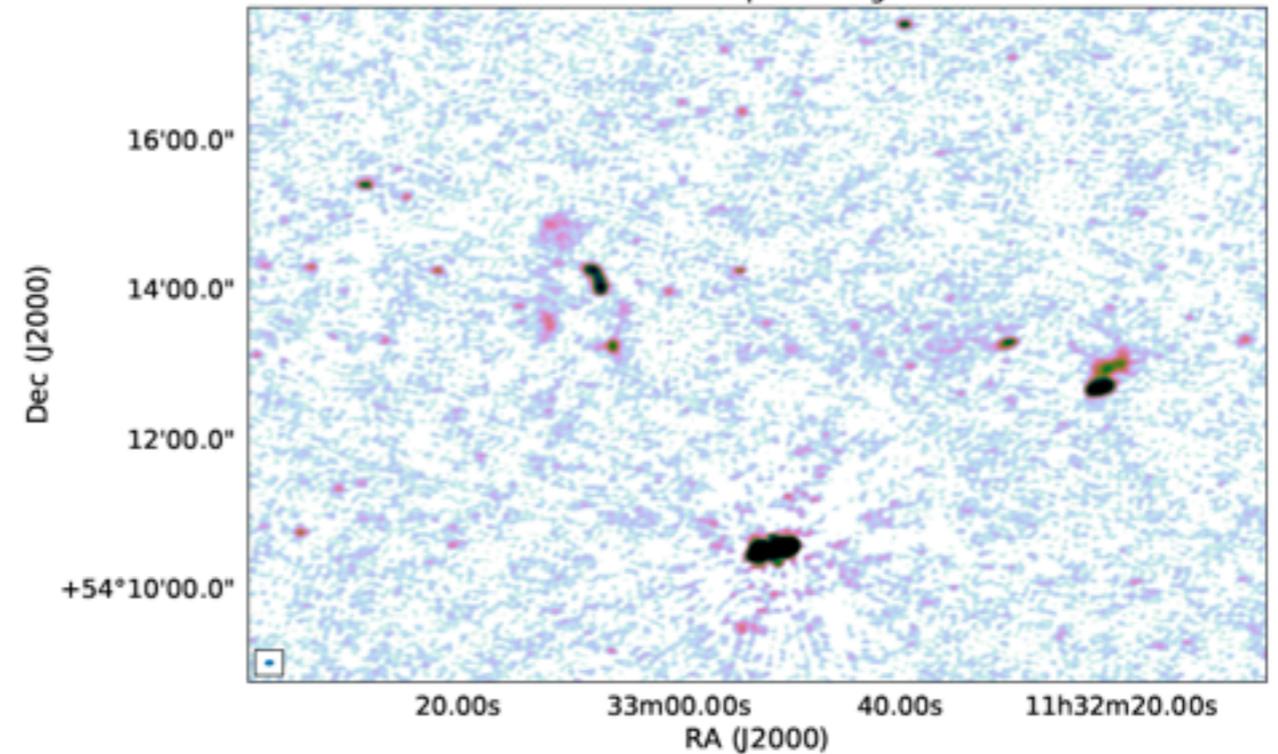
DR2+facetselfcal



DR2

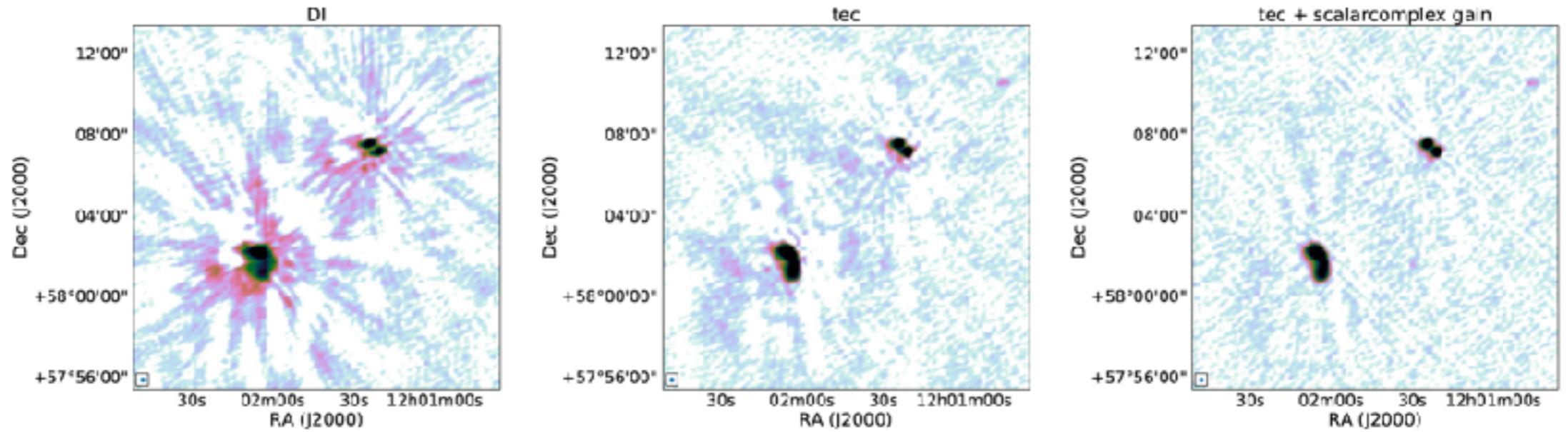


DR2 + reprocessing

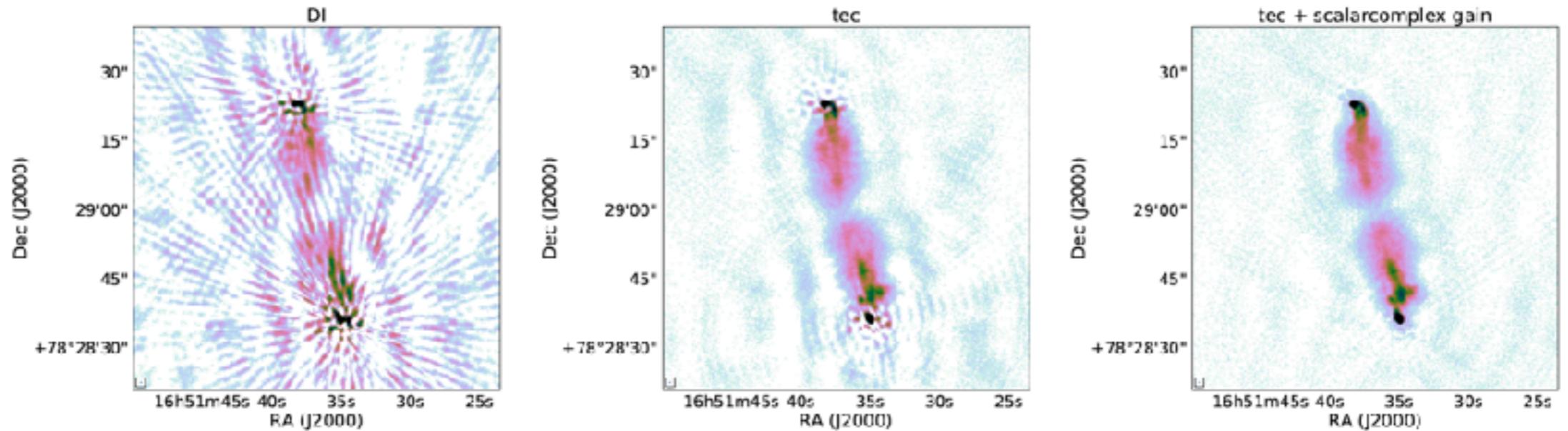


HBA European baselines & LBA

LBA



ILT-HBA



facetselfcal.py does the corrections for the infield (LBCS) delay calibrator + facet calibrators for widefield ILT imaging

Facetselfcal

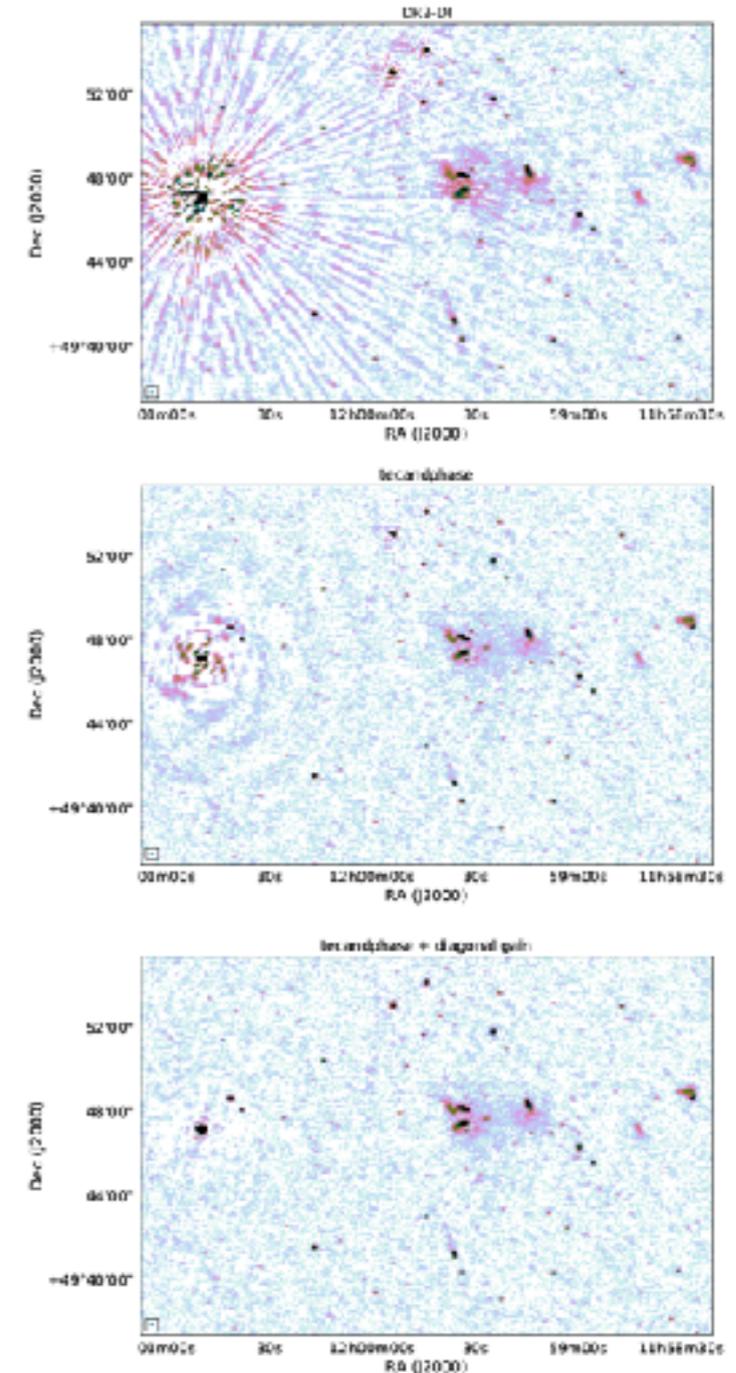
1. Perturbative solves (non-DDE)
2. Start with biggest effect first, usually tec/phase
3. Continue with longer time interval gain solve
4. Solution interval computed via visibilities (signal and noise estimation)
5. WSClean is the default imager (DDFacet can also be used)

Standard DR2 HBA re-processing example

```
facetselfcal.py --auto -b mytargetbox.ds9.reg  
-i myimagername myms1.ms myms2.ms mymsN.ms
```

Advanced tuned example (delay calibrator)

```
facetselfcal.py --robust=-1.5 --uvminim=1500 --skymodel=7C1604+5529.skymodel  
--soltype-list="['scalarphasediff','scalarphase','scalarphase','scalarphase','scalarcomplexgain','fulljones']"  
--soltypecycles-list="[0,0,0,0,0,0]" --solint-list="['8min','32s','32s','2min','20min','20min','40min']"  
--nchan-list="[1,1,1,1,1]" --smoothnessconstraint-list="[10.0,1.25,10.0,20.,7.5,5.0]" --normamps=False  
--smoothnessreffrequency-list="[120.,120.,120.,120,0.,0.]"  
--antennaconstraint-list="['core',None,None,None,None,'alldutch']" --forwiefield --avgfreqstep='488kHz'  
--avgtimestep='32s' --docircular --resetsols-list="[None,'alldutch','core',None,None,None]" *.ms
```



facetselfcal.py -h

Self-Calibrate a facet from a LOFAR observation

```
positional arguments:
  ms                msfile(s)
                    using --uvminim. Typically values between 1.5 and 4.0
                    give good results. The default is None.
optional arguments:
  -h, --help            show this help message and exit
  --imager IMAGER       Imager to use WSClean or DDFACET. The default is
                        WSCLEAN.
  -i IMAGENAME, --imasename IMAGENAME
                        Prefix name for image. This is by default "image".
  --imsize IMSIZE       Image size, required if boxfile is not used. The
                        default is None.
  -n NITER, --niter NITER
                        Number of iterations. This is computed automatically
                        if None.
  --maskthreshold MASKTHRESHOLD
                        Mask noise thresholds used from image 1 to 10 made by
                        MakeMask.py. This is by default [5.0,4.5,4.5,4.5,4.0].
  --removenegativefrommodel REMOVENEGATIVEFROMMODEL
                        Remove negative clean components in model predict.
                        This is by default turned off at selfcalcycle 2. See
                        also option autoupdate-removenegativefrommodel.
  --autoupdate-removenegativefrommodel AUTOUPDATE_REMOVENEGATIVEFROMMODEL
                        Turn off removing negative clean components at
                        selfcalcycle 2 (for high dynamic range imaging it is
                        better to keep all clean components). The default is
                        True.
  --fitsmask FITSMASK  Fits mask for deconvolution (needs to match image
                        size). If this is not provided automasking is used.
  --robust ROBUST       Briggs robust parameter. The default is -0.5.
  --multiscale-start MULTISCALE_START
                        Start multiscale deconvolution at this selfcal cycle.
                        This is by default 1.
  --deepmultiscale      Do extra multiscale deconvolution on the residual.
  --uvminim UVMINIM    Inner uv-cut for imaging in lambda. The default is 80.
  --pixelscale PIXELSCALE, --pixelsize PIXELSCALE
                        Pixels size in arcsec. Typically, 3.0 for LBA and 1.5
                        for HBA (these are also the default values).
  --channelsout CHANNELSOUT
                        Number of channels out during imaging (see WSClean
                        documentation). This is by default 6.
  --multiscale          Use multiscale deconvolution (see WSClean
                        documentation).
  --multiscalescalebias MULTISCALESCALEBIAS
                        Multiscalescale bias scale parameter for WSClean (see
                        WSClean documentation). This is by default 0.8.
  --usewgridder USEWGRIDDER
                        Use wgridder from WSClean, mainly useful for very
                        large images. This is by default True.
  --paralleldeconvolution PARALLELDECONVOLUTION
                        Parallel-deconvolution size for WSClean (see WSClean
                        documentation). This is by default 0 (no parallel
                        deconvolution). Suggested value for very large images
                        is about 2000.
  --parallelgridding PARALLELGRIDDING
                        Parallel-gridding for WSClean (see WSClean
                        documentation). This is by default 1.
  --deconvolutionchannels DECONVOLUTIONCHANNELS
                        Deconvolution channels value for WSClean (see WSClean
                        documentation). This is by default 0 (means
                        deconvolution-channels equals channels-out).
  --idg                 Use the Image Domain gridder (see WSClean
                        documentation).
  --fitspectralpol FITSPECTRALPOL
                        Use fit-spectral-pol in WSClean (see WSClean
                        documentation). The default is True.
  --fitspectralpolorder FITSPECTRALPOLORDER
                        fit-spectral-pol order for WSClean (see WSClean
                        documentation). The default is 3.
  --gapchanneldivision Use the -gap-channel-division option in wsclean
                        imaging and predicts (default is not to use it)
  --taperinnertukey TAPERINNERTUKEY
                        Value for taper-inner-tukey in WSClean (see WSClean
                        documentation), useful to suppress negative bowls when
                        using --uvminim. Typically values between 1.5 and 4.0
                        give good results. The default is None.
  --wscleanskymodel WSCLEANSKYMDEL
                        WSClean basename for model images (for a WSClean
                        predict). The default is None.
  --avgfreqstep AVGFREQSTEP
                        Extra DP3 frequency averaging to speed up a solve.
                        This is done before any other correction and could be
                        useful for long baseline infield calibrators. Allowed
                        are integer values or for example '195.3125kHz';
                        options for units: 'Hz', 'kHz', or 'MHz'. The default
                        is None.
  --avgtimestep AVGTIMESTEP
                        Extra DP3 time averaging to speed up a solve. This is
                        done before any other correction and could be useful
                        for long baseline infield calibrators. Allowed are
                        integer values or for example '16.1s'; options for
                        units: 's' or 'sec'. The default is None.
  --msinnchan MSINNCHAN
                        Before averaging, only take this number of input
                        channels. The default is None.
  --msinntimes MSINNTIMES
                        DP3 msinntimes setting. This is mainly used for
                        testing purposes. The default is None.
  --autofrequencyaverage-calspeedup
                        Try extra averaging during some selfcalcycles to speed
                        up calibration.
  --autofrequencyaverage
                        Try frequency averaging if it does not result in
                        bandwidth smearing
  --phaseupstations PHASEUPSTATIONS
                        Phase up to a superstation. Possible input: 'core' or
                        'superterp'. The default is None.
  --phaseshiftbox PHASESHIFTBOX
                        DS9 region file to shift the phasecenter to. This is
                        by default None.
  --weightspectrum-clipvalue WEIGHTSPECTRUM_CLIPVALUE
                        Extra option to clip WEIGHT_SPECTRUM values above the
                        provided number. Use with care and test first manually
                        to see what is a fitting value. The default is None.
  -u UVMIN, --uvmin UVMIN
                        Inner uv-cut for calibration in lambda. The default is
                        80 for LBA and 350 for HBA.
  --uvminscalarphasediff UVMINSCALARPHASEDIFF
                        Inner uv-cut for scalarphasediff calibration in
                        lambda. The default is equal to input for --uvmin.
  --update-uvmin        Update uvmin automatically for the Dutch array.
  --update-multiscale  Switch to multiscale automatically if large islands of
                        emission are present.
  --soltype-list SOLTYPE_LIST
                        List with solution types. Possible input:
                        'complexgain', 'scalarcomplexgain', 'scalaramplitude',
                        'amplitudeonly', 'phaseonly', 'fulljones', 'rotation',
                        'rotation+diagonal', 'tec', 'tecanphase',
                        'scalarphase', 'scalarphasediff', 'scalarphasediffFR',
                        'phaseonly_phmin', 'rotation_phmin', 'tec_phmin',
                        'tecanphase_phmin', 'scalarphase_phmin',
                        'scalarphase_slope', 'phaseonly_slope'. The default is
                        [tecanphase,tecanphase,scalarcomplexgain].
  --solint-list SOLINT_LIST
                        Solution interval corresponding to solution types (in
                        same order as soltype-list input). The default is
                        [1,1,120].
  --nchan-list NCHAN_LIST
                        Number of channels corresponding to solution types (in
                        same order as beamtype-list input). The default is
                        [1,1,10].
  --smoothnessconstraint-list SMOOTHNESSCONSTRAINT_LIST
                        List with frequency smoothness values (in same order
                        as soltype-list input). The default is [0.,0.,5.].
  --smoothnessreffrequency-list SMOOTHNESSREFFREQUENCY_LIST
                        List with optional reference frequencies (in MHz) for
                        the smoothness constraint (in same order as soltype-
                        list input). When unequal to 0, the size of the
                        smoothing kernel will vary over frequency by a factor
                        of smoothnessreffrequency*(frequency^smoothnessspectra
                        lexponent). The default is [0.,0.,0.].
  --smoothnessspectralexponent-list SMOOTHNESSSPECTRALEXPONENT_LIST
                        If smoothnessreffrequency is not equal to zero then
                        this parameter determines the frequency scaling law.
                        It is typically useful to take -2 for scalarphasediff,
                        otherwise -1 (1/nu). The default is [-1.,-1.,-1.].
  --smoothnessrefdistance-list SMOOTHNESSREFDISTANCE_LIST
                        If smoothnessrefdistance is not equal to zero then
                        this parameter determines the frequency smoothness
                        reference distance in units of km, with the smoothness
                        scaling with distance. See DP3 documentation. The
                        default is [0.,0.,0.].
  --antennaconstraint-list ANTENNACONSTRAINT_LIST
                        List with constraints on the antennas used (in same
                        order as soltype-list input). Possible input:
                        'superterp', 'coreandfirstremotes', 'core', 'remote',
                        'all', 'international', 'alldutch', 'core-remote',
                        'coreandallbutmostdistantremotes',
                        'alldutchbutnoST001'. The default is [None,None,None].
  --resetsols-list RESETSOLS_LIST
                        Values of these stations will be rest to 0.0 (phases),
                        or 1.0 (amplitudes), default None, possible settings
                        are the same as for antennaconstraint-list (alldutch,
                        core, etc). The default is [None,None,None].
  --soltypecycles-list SOLTYPECYCLES_LIST
                        Selfcalcycle where step from soltype-list starts. The
                        default is [0,999,3].
  --BLsmooth            Employ BLsmooth for low S/N data.
  --dejumpFR           Dejump Faraday solutions when using scalarphasediffFR.
  --usemodeldataforsolints
                        Determine solints from MODEL_DATA.
  --preapplyH5-list PREAPPLYH5_LIST
                        List of H5 files to preapply (one for each MS). The
                        default is [None].
  --iontimefactor IONTIMEFACTOR
                        BLsmooth ionfactor. The default is 0.01. Larger is
                        more smoothing (see BLsmooth documentation).
  --ionfreqfactor IONFREQFACTOR
                        BLsmooth tefactor. The default is 1.0. Larger is more
                        smoothing (see BLsmooth documentation).
  --blscalefactor BLSCALEFACTOR
                        BLsmooth blscalefactor. The default is 1.0 (see
                        BLsmooth documentation).
  -b BOXFILE, --boxfile BOXFILE
                        DS9 box file. You need to provide a boxfile to use
                        --startfromtgss. The default is None.
  --skymodel SKYMODEL  Skymodel for first selfcalcycle. The default is None.
  --skymodelsource SKYMODELSOURCE
                        Source name in skymodel. The default is None (means
                        the skymodel only contains one source/patch).
  --skymodelpointsource SKYMODELPOINTSOURCE
                        If set, start from a point source in the phase center
                        with the flux density given by this parameter. The
                        default is None (means do not use this option).
  --predictskywithbeam
                        Predict the skymodel with the beam array factor.
  --startfromtgss      Start from TGSS skymodel for positions (boxfile
                        required).
  --startfromvlass    Start from VLASS skymodel for ILT phase-up core data
                        (not yet implemented).
  --tgssfitsimage TGSSEFITSIMAGE
                        Start TGSS fits image for model (if not provided use
                        SkyView). The default is None.
  --beamcor BEAMCOR    Correct the visibilities for beam in the phase center,
                        options: yes, no, auto (default is auto, auto means
                        beam is taken out in the current phase center,
                        tolerance for that is 10 arcsec)
  --losotobeamcor-beamlib LOSOTOBEAMCOR_BEAMLIB
                        Beam library to use when not using DP3 for the beam
                        correction. Possible input: 'stationreponse',
                        'lofarbeam' (identical and deprecated). The default is
                        'stationreponse'.
  --docircular         Convert linear to circular correlations.
  --dolinear          Convert circular to linear correlations.
  --forwiefield       Keep solutions such that they can be used for
                        widefield imaging/screens.
  --doflagging DOFLAGGING
                        Flag on complexgain solutions via rms outlier
                        detection (True/False, default=True). The default is
                        True (will be set to False if --forwiefield is set).
  --clipsolutions      Flag amplitude solutions above --clipsolhigh and below
                        --clipsolow (will be set to False if --forwiefield
                        is set).
  --clipsolhigh CLIPSOLHIGH
                        Flag amplitude solutions above this value, only done
                        if --clipsolutions is set.
  --clipsolow CLIPSOLLOW
                        Flag amplitude solutions below this value, only done
                        if --clipsolutions is set.
  --dysco DYSCO        Use Dysco compression. The default is True.
  --restoreflags       Restore flagging column after each selfcal cycle, only
                        relevant if --doflagging=True.
  --remove-flagged-from-startend
                        Remove flagged time slots at the start and end of an
                        observations. Do not use if you want to combine DD
                        solutions later for widefield imaging.
  --flagslowamprms FLAGSLLOWAMP RMS
                        RMS outlier value to flag on slow amplitudes. The
                        default is 7.0.
  --flagslowphaserms FLAGSLLOWPHASERMS
                        RMS outlier value to flag on slow phases. The default
                        is 7.0.
  --doflagslowphases DOFLAGSLLOWPHASES
                        If solution flagging is done also flag outliers phases
                        in the slow phase solutions. The default is True.
  --useaoflagger       Run AOfagger on input data.
  --useaoflaggerbeforeavg USEAOFLAGGERBEFOREAVG
                        Flag with AOfagger before (True) or after averaging
                        (False). The default is True.
  --normamps NORMAMPS
                        Normalize global amplitudes to 1.0. The default is
                        True (False if fulljones is used).
  --normampsskymodel NORMAMPSSKYMDEL
                        Normalize global amplitudes to 1.0 when solving
                        against an external skymodel. The default is False
                        (turned off if fulljones is used).
  --resetweights      If you want to ignore weight_spectrum_solve.
  --start START       Start selfcal cycle at this iteration number. The
                        default is 0.
  --stop STOP         Stop selfcal cycle at this iteration number. The
                        default is 10.
  --stopafterskysolve
                        Stop calibration after solving against external
                        skymodel.
  --noarchive         Do not archive the data.
  --skipbackup        Leave the original MS intact and work and always work
                        on a DP3 copied dataset.
  --helperscriptspath HELPERSCRIPTSPATH
                        Path to file location pulled from
                        https://github.com/rvweeren/lofar_facet_selfcal.
  --helperscriptspathsmerge HELPERSCRIPTSPATHSMERGE
                        Path to file location pulled from
                        https://github.com/jurjen93/lofar_helpers.
  --auto              Trigger fully automated processing (HBA only for now).
  --delaycal         Trigger settings suitable for ILT delay calibration,
                        HBA-ILT only - still under construction.
  --targetcalILT TARGETCALILT
                        Type of automated target calibration for HBA
                        international baseline data when --auto is used.
                        Options are: 'tec', 'tecanphase', 'scalarphase'. The
                        default is 'tec'.
  --makeimage-ILTlowres-HBA
                        Make 1.2 arcsec tapered image as quality check of ILT
                        1 arcsec imaging.
  --makeimage-fullpol
                        Under development, make Stokes IQUV version for
                        quality checking.
  --blsmooth_chunking_size BLSMOOTH_CHUNKING_SIZE
                        Chunking size for blsmooth. Larger values are slower
                        but save on memory, lower values are faster. The
                        default is 8.
  --tecfactorsolint TECFACTOR SOLINT
                        Experts only.
  --gainfactorsolint GAINFACTOR SOLINT
                        Experts only.
  --phasefactorsolint PHASEFACTOR SOLINT
                        Experts only.
```