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Cen A and its distant cousin NGC 3998

Comparison between Cen A (left) and NGC 3998 (right) L-band continuum emission. We use the ATCA image from Feain et al (2011). The Cen A image has been made 10x smaller, and placed at the distance of NGC 3998 for the sake of comparison. The NGC 3998 image was produced using deep observations observations with WSRT.

We see a striking similarity between the morphology of NGC 3998 and the distant, smaller Cen A. One might speculate that NGC 3998 and Cen A are analogues of each other. The morphology of Cen A has been interpreted as a result of episodes of activity (Morganti et al. (2010), Struve et al. (2010)). This may also be the case with NGC 3998.

References

Feain I. et al., 2011, ApJ 740:17 /Morganti R. et al., 2010, PASA, 27, 463 / Struve et al., 2010, A&A, 523, A75

