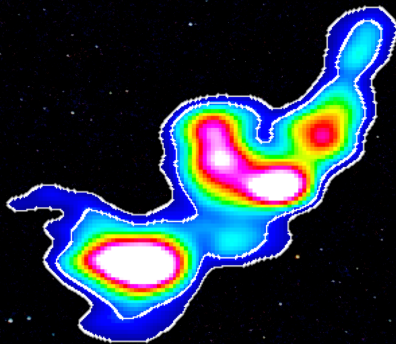


# Abell 1682

## An Ultra Steep Spectrum Radio Halo



Alex Clarke

MANCHESTER  
1824

# Abell 1682

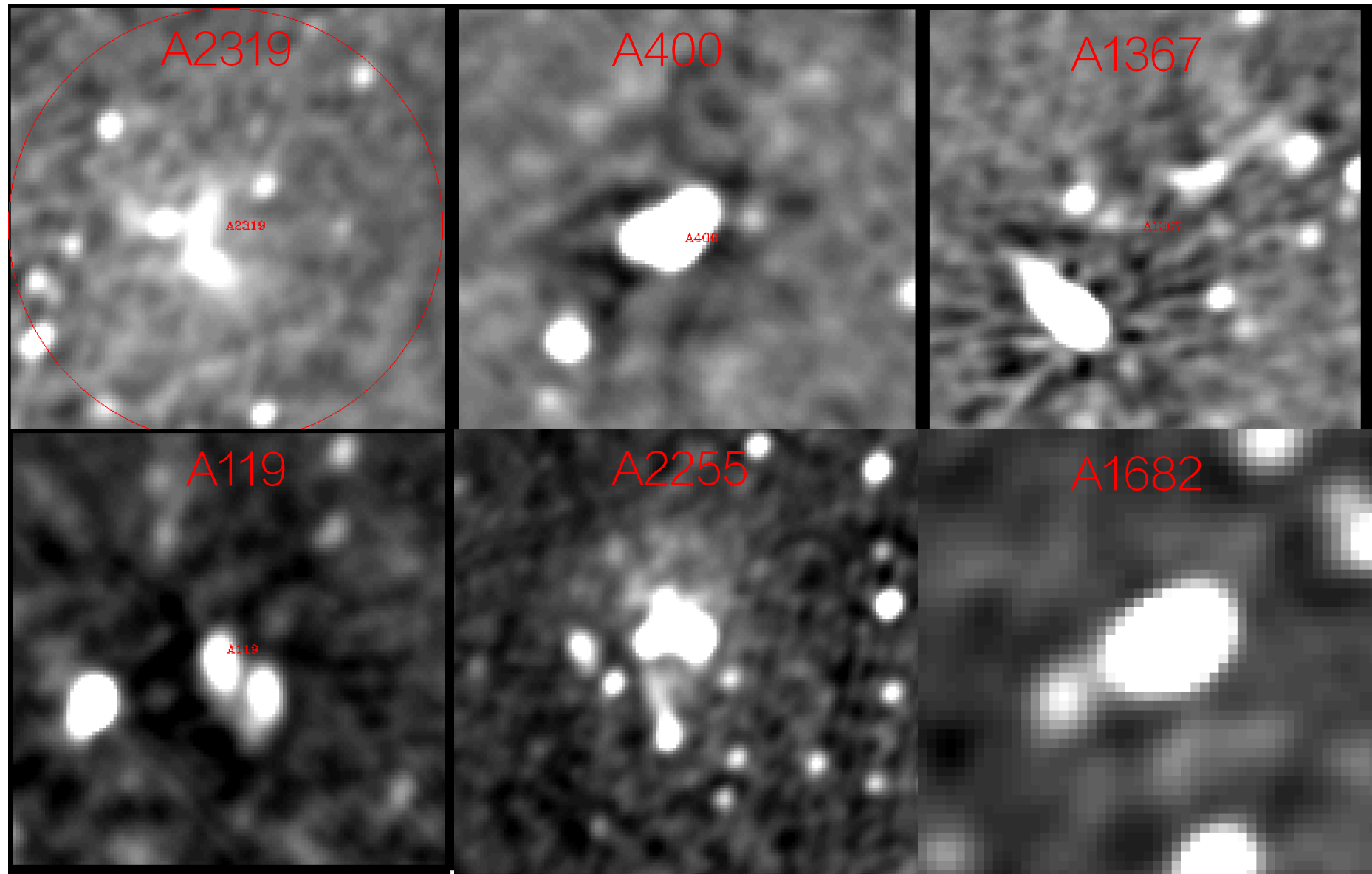
## An Ultra Steep Spectrum Radio Halo



# Galaxy Clusters

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MSSS detections



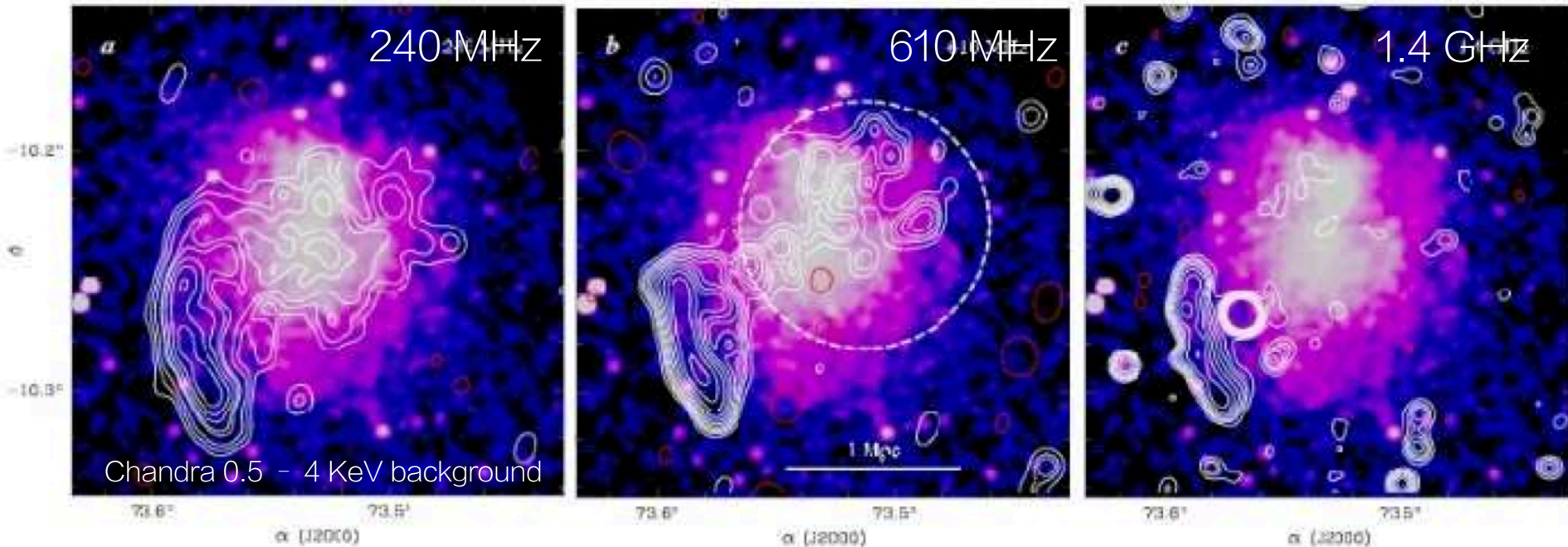
# Radio Halos

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- A) Require that the emitting electrons are accelerated in situ (by turbulence)
- B) Electrons injected (as secondary particles) by proton collisions

Found in clusters with complex dynamics

# Ultra Steep Halos



Abell 521 was the 1<sup>st</sup> ultra steep spectrum halo:  $\alpha = -2.1$

(Brunetti et al 2008 – Nature)

Rule out injection from secondary particles by energy arguments  
for the protons

Strongly favor relativistic particle re-acceleration by turbulence

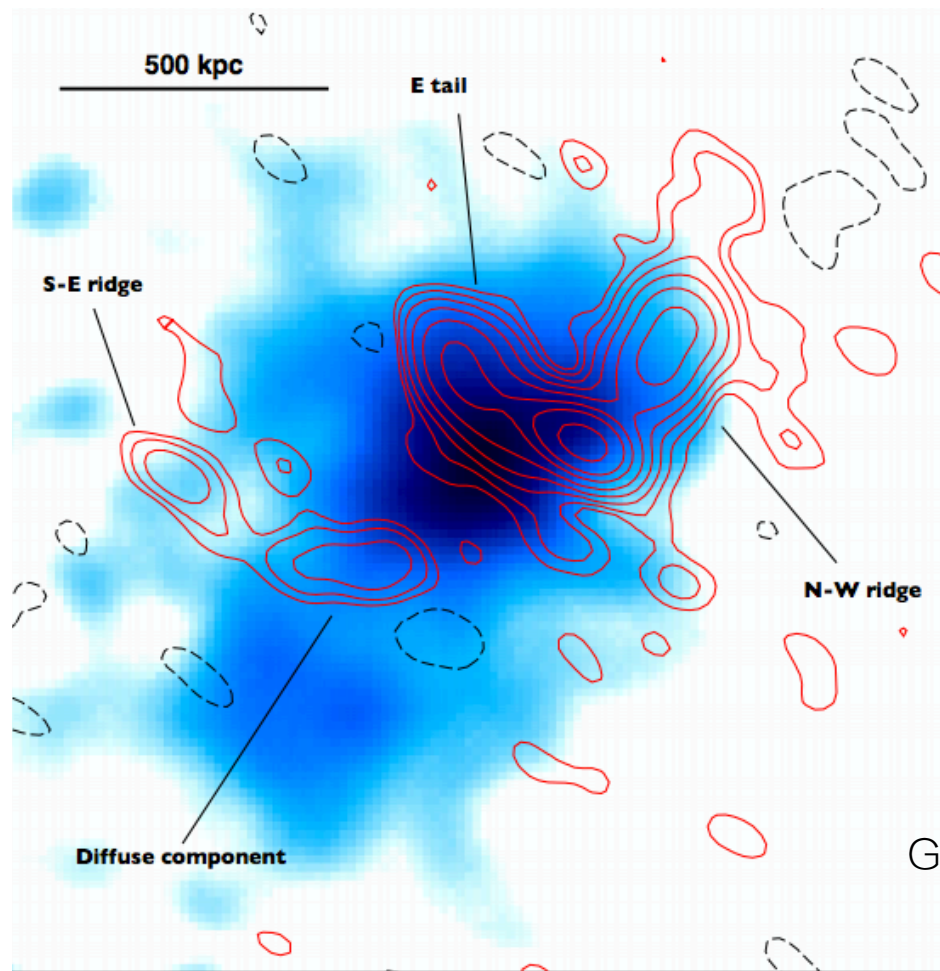
Occurs on timescales of  $\sim 100$  MYears

# What is Abell 1682?

A massive **merging galaxy cluster**

( $z=0.226$ ,  $LX[0.2 - 2.4\text{keV}] = 7.02 \times 10^{44} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ )

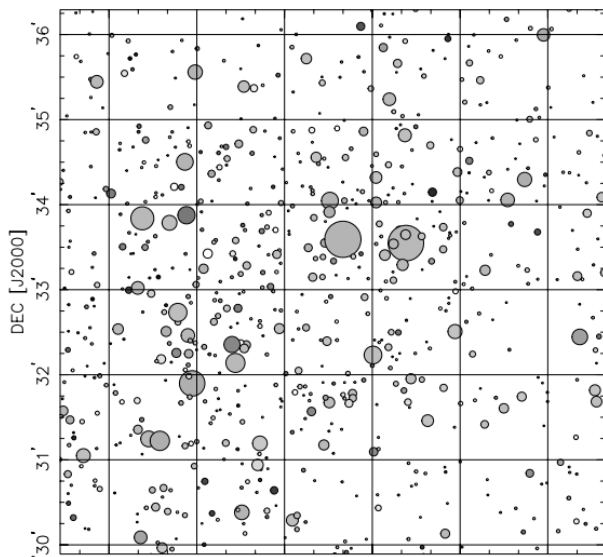
Radio emission is dominated by a strong central **radio galaxy**



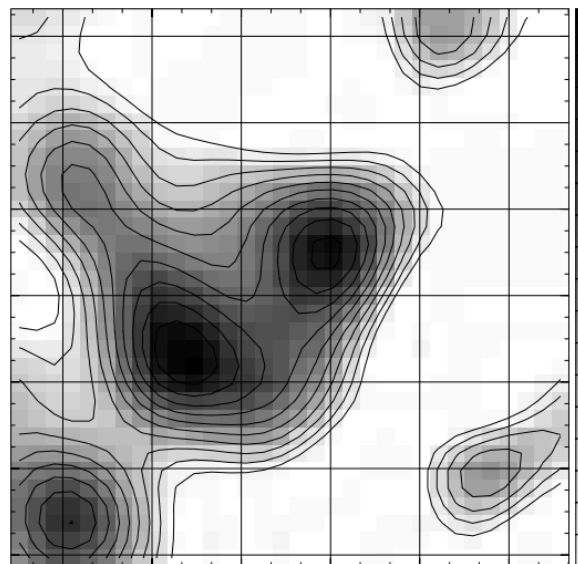
G. Macario et al 2013:  
GMRT 150 MHz contours  
overlaid on Chandra

# Bimodal mass distribution

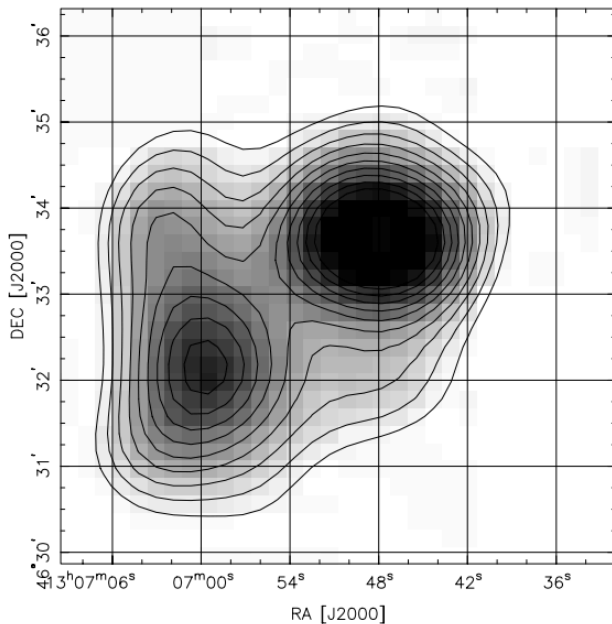
Galaxy  
Distribution



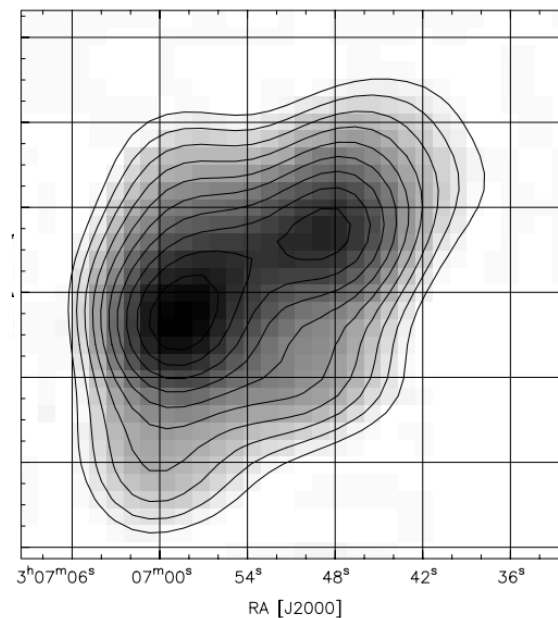
Projected  
mass density  
from lensing



Projected  
mass  
density from  
galaxies



Galaxy  
number  
density



# Previous GMRT work

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Giant Meterwave Radio Telescope

Good resolution ( $\sim 30\text{km}$  baselines): 5 arcsec

Short baselines (*much RFI*) to detect extended emission

A1682 studies:

T. Venturi et al 2011

G. Macario et al 2013

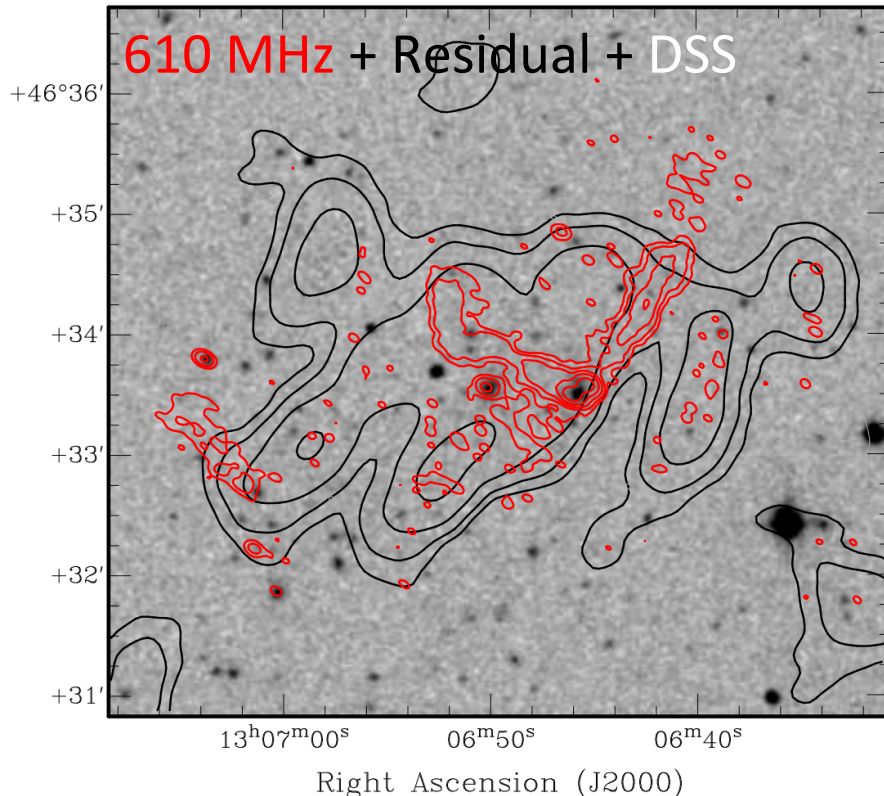


# Previous GMRT work

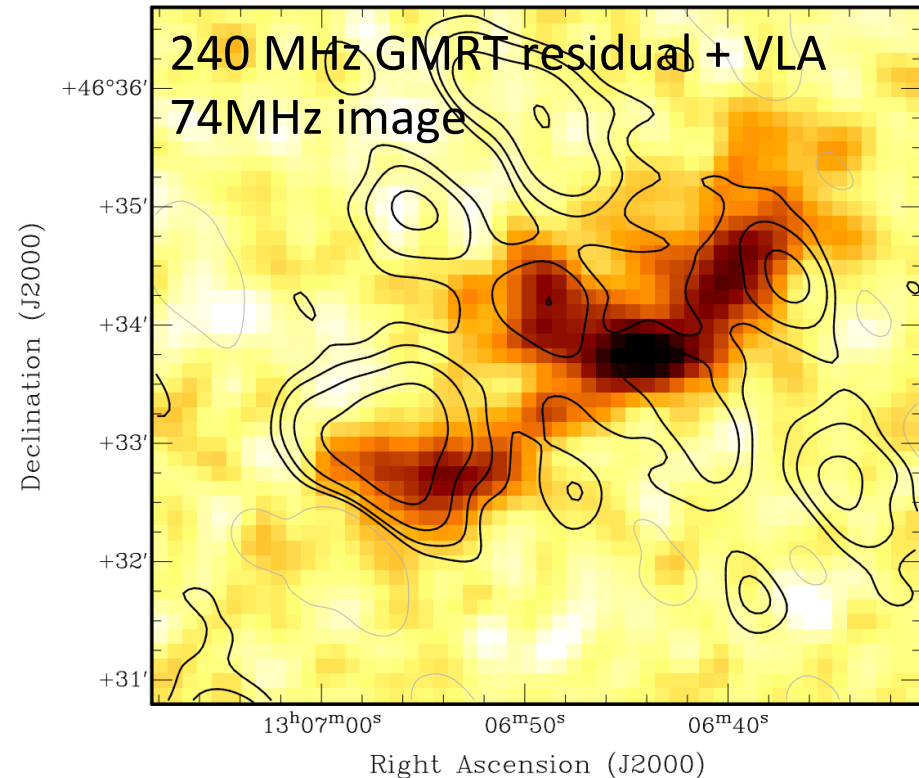
High resolution GMRT maps enabled them to subtract the radio galaxy and relics

Leaves behind a radio halo?

T. Venturi et al 2011



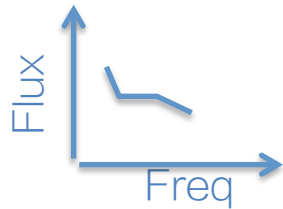
610 MHz: Red contours  $\pm 0.15, 0.6, 2.4$  mJy/b  
Black: residual image:  $\pm 0.3, 0.6, 1.2, 2.4$  mJy/b, ( $1\sigma \sim 0.1$ )



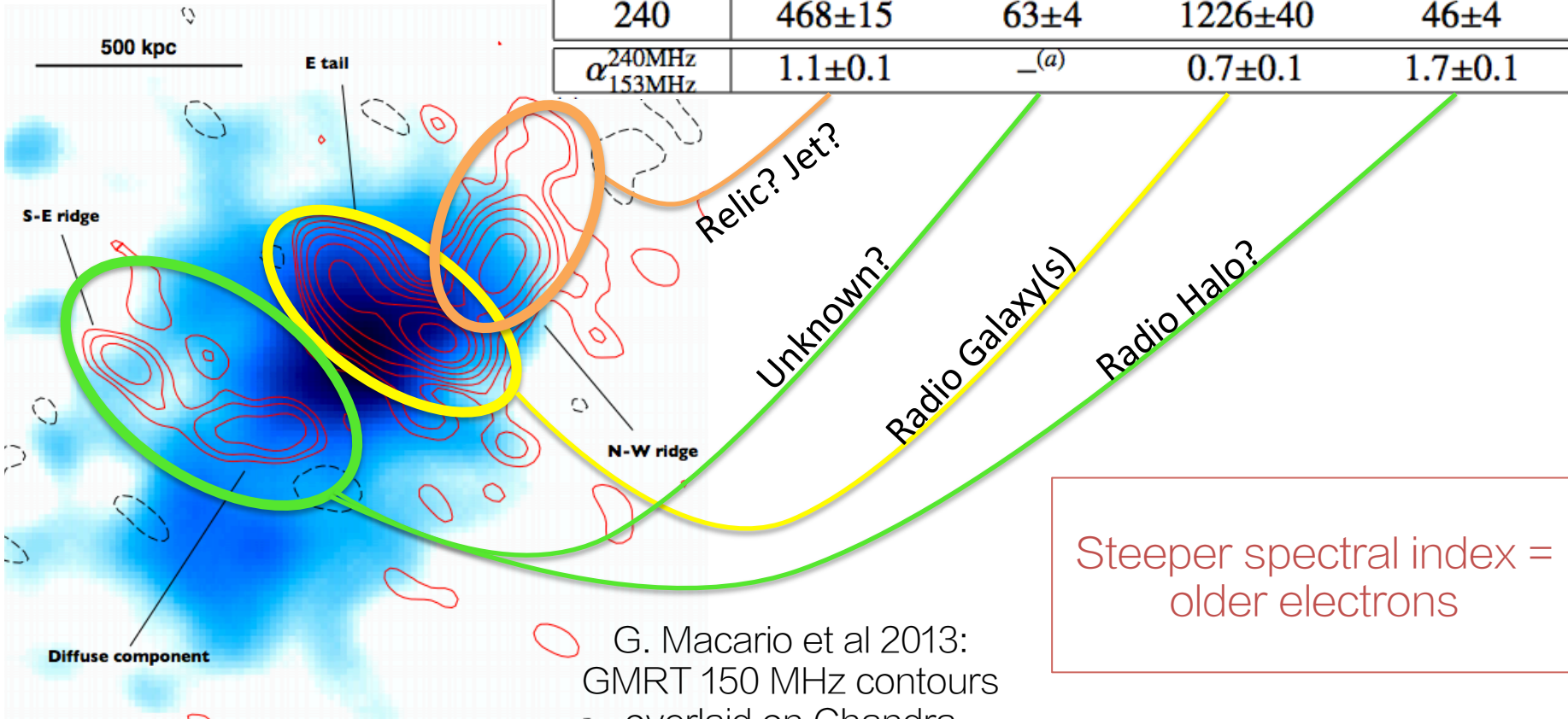
240 MHz: Black contours  $\pm 0.6, 1.2, 2.4, 4.8$  mJy/b, ( $1\sigma \sim 0.3$  mJy/b)

# Previous GMRT work

- Spectral index maps help tell us the nature of the radio emission



$\nu$ [MHz]	$S(\nu)$ [mJy]			
	N-W ridge	S-E Ridge	E Tail	Diff. Comp.
153	$746 \pm 149$	$62 \pm 12$	$1710 \pm 342$	$98 \pm 20$
240	$468 \pm 15$	$63 \pm 4$	$1226 \pm 40$	$46 \pm 4$
$\alpha_{\frac{240\text{MHz}}{153\text{MHz}}}$	$1.1 \pm 0.1$	— <sup>(a)</sup>	$0.7 \pm 0.1$	$1.7 \pm 0.1$



Steeper spectral index = older electrons

G. Macario et al 2013:  
GMRT 150 MHz contours  
overlaid on Chandra

# LOFAR Observational Setup

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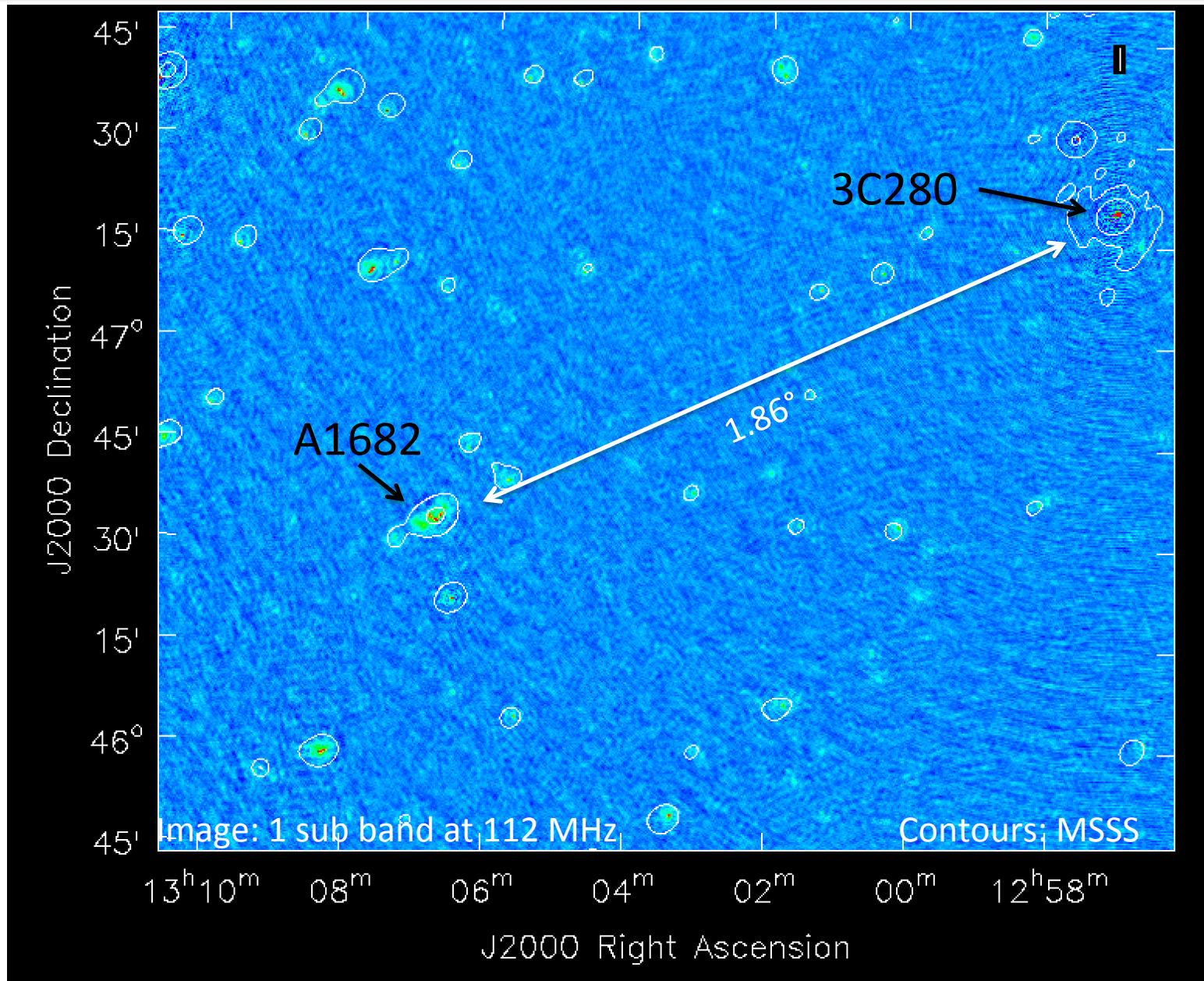
## HBA

- 2013 dual beam observation  
(calibrated from infield calibrator)
- Calibrator: 3C 280  
(created my own model from VLA snapshots)
- Calibrator–Target separation:  $1.86^\circ$   
(useful for self–calibration and potentially mosaicking)

## LBA

- Observation in 2014  
(10 subbands processed at 45 MHz & using infield calibrator)

# 3C 280: Non standard calibrator

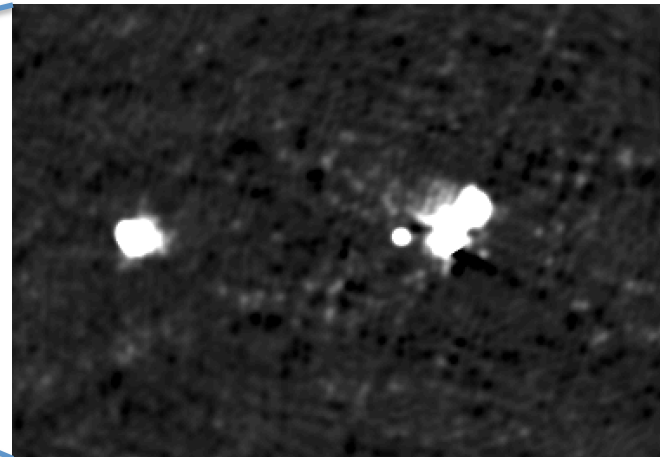
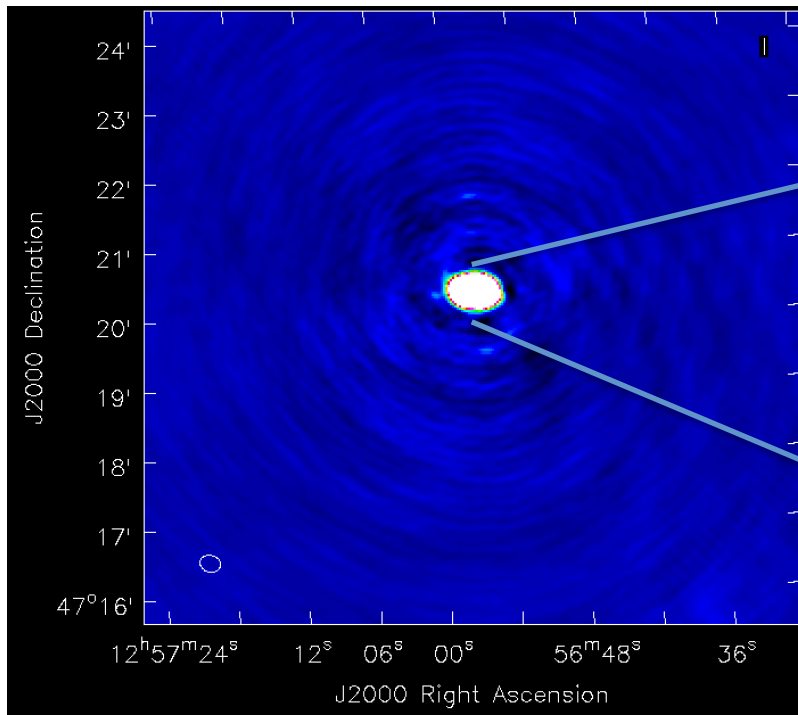


# 3C 280: Non standard calibrator

- **Spatial** model created using 5GHz VLA snapshots
- **Spectral** model built up using the 3C catalogue

K. I. Kellerman and I. I. K Pauliny-Toth (1968)

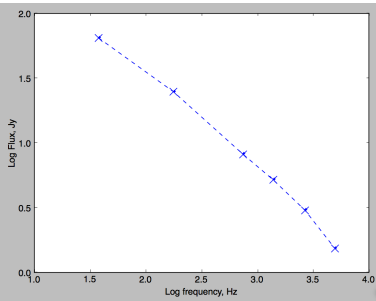
Source	S <sub>38</sub>	S <sub>178</sub>	S <sub>750</sub>	S <sub>1400</sub>	S <sub>2695</sub>	S <sub>5000</sub>	Notes
3C 280	62 b	23.7 a	7.7 a	4.9 a	2.83 a	1.53 a	



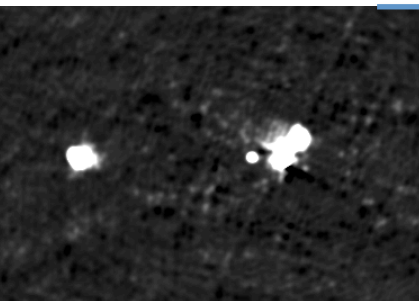
15 arc seconds

# HBA & LBA Calibration

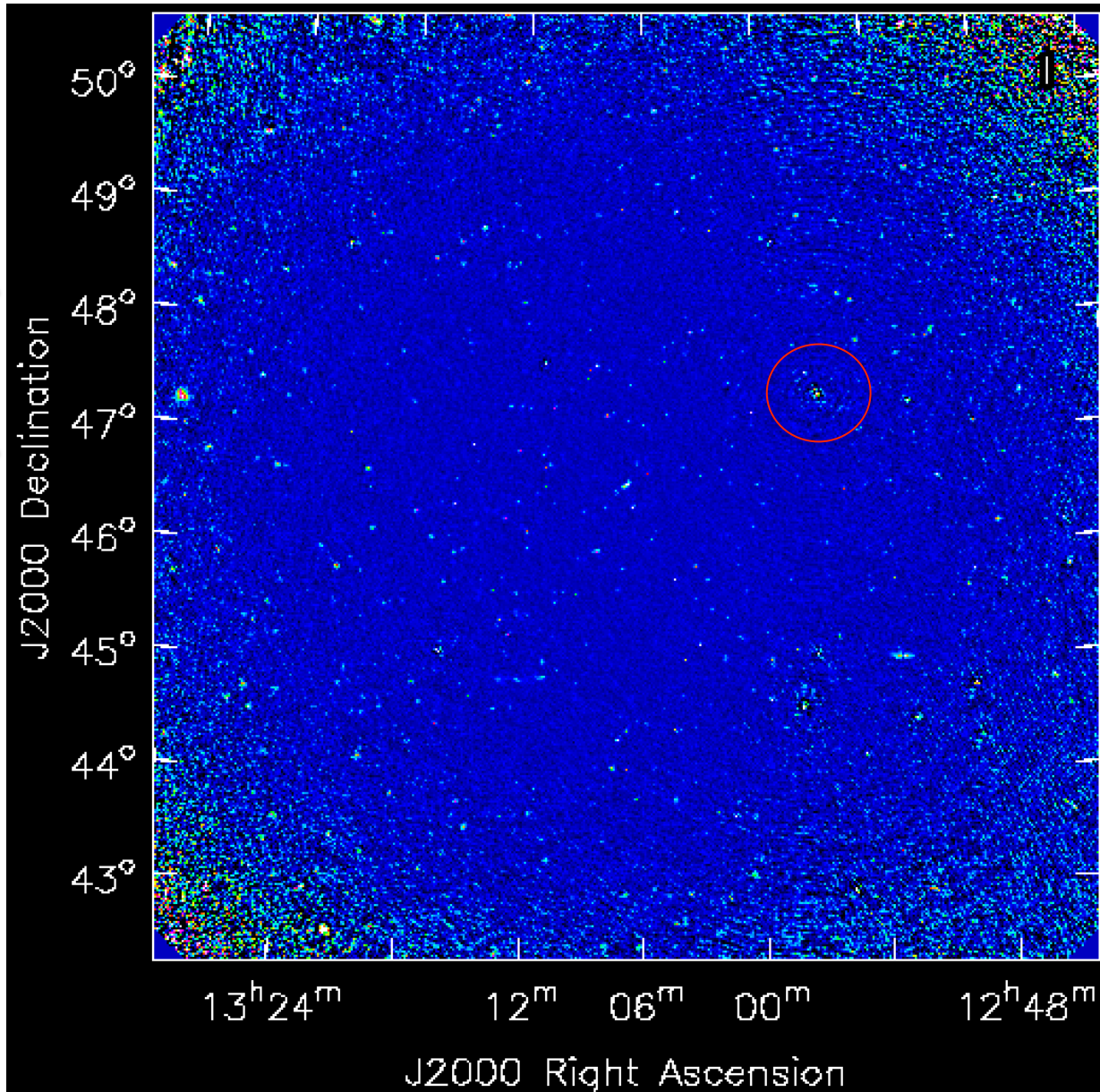
Calibrate **target** beam using 3C280 model



Amp + phase  
calibration



Initial tests show 5% fluctuation in fluxes, as compared to transferring amplitude gain solutions from calibrator beam



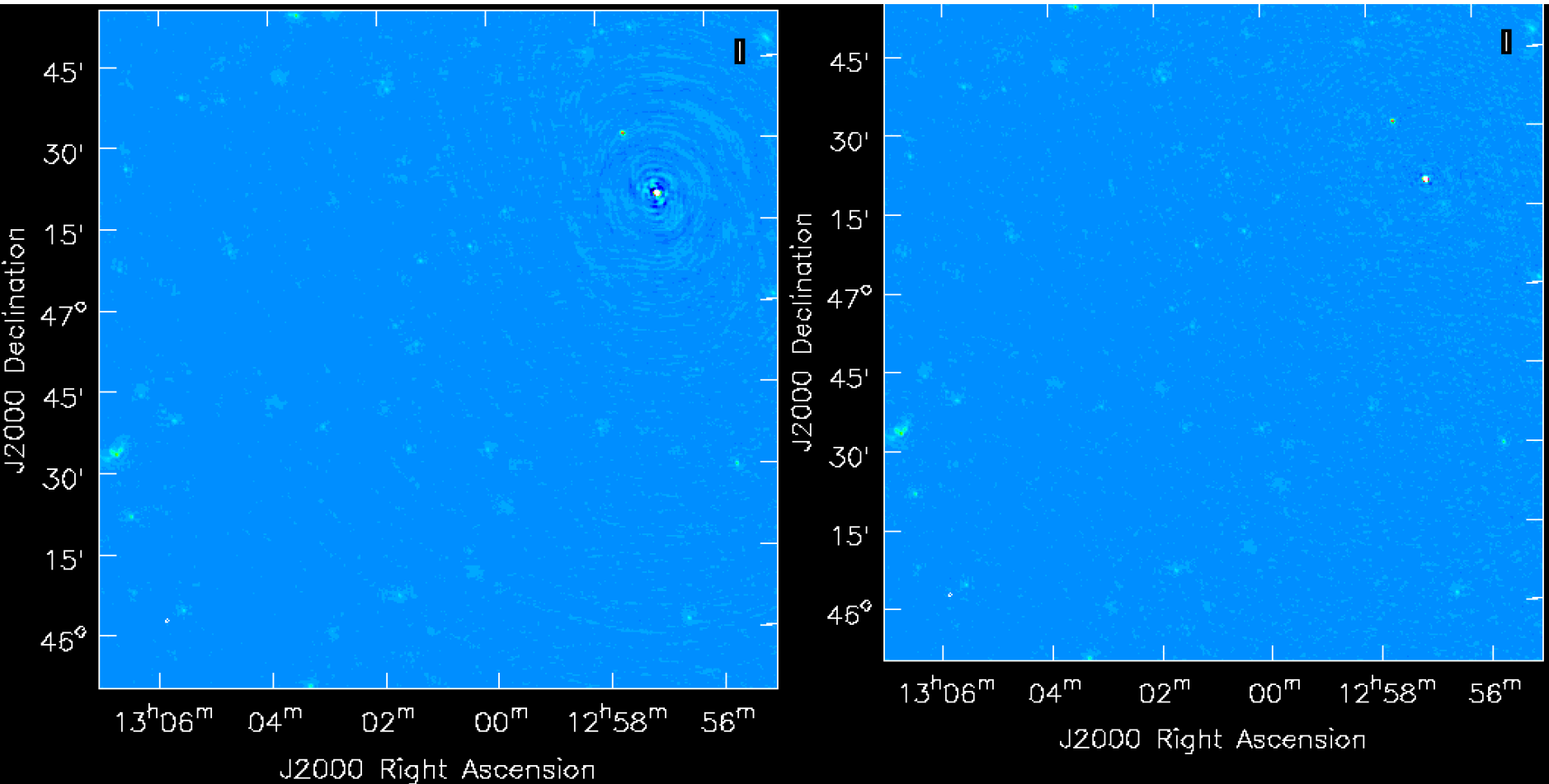
# HBA & LBA Calibration

Calibrate **target** beam using 3C280 model

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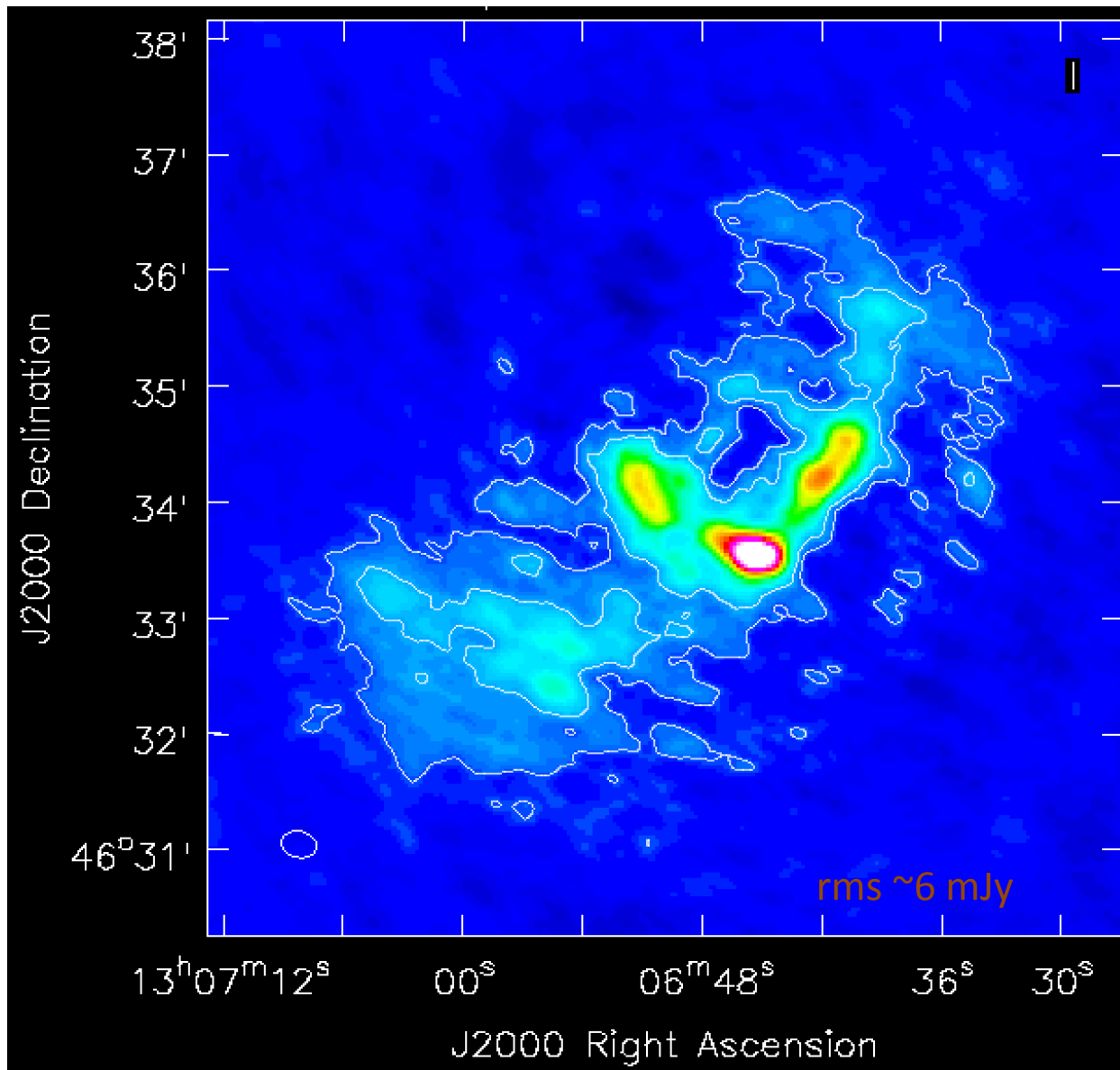
- Gain amp transfer from cal beam
- Phase cal on 3C280

- Direct Amp+Phase solve for target beam



# LOFAR HBA Results

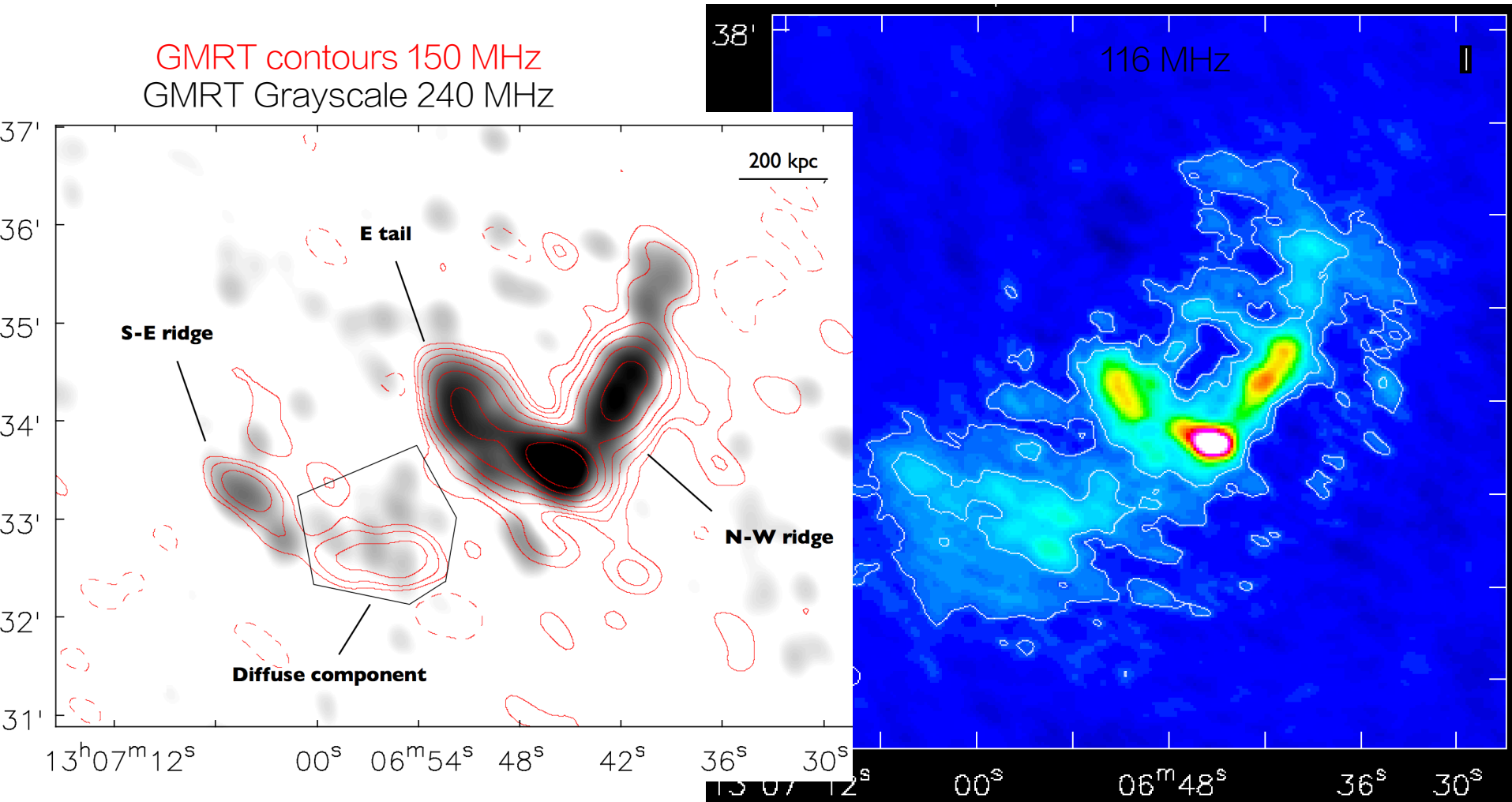
116 MHz, robust 0, contours at  $5 \sigma$  &  $10 \sigma$ ,  $15''$  beam





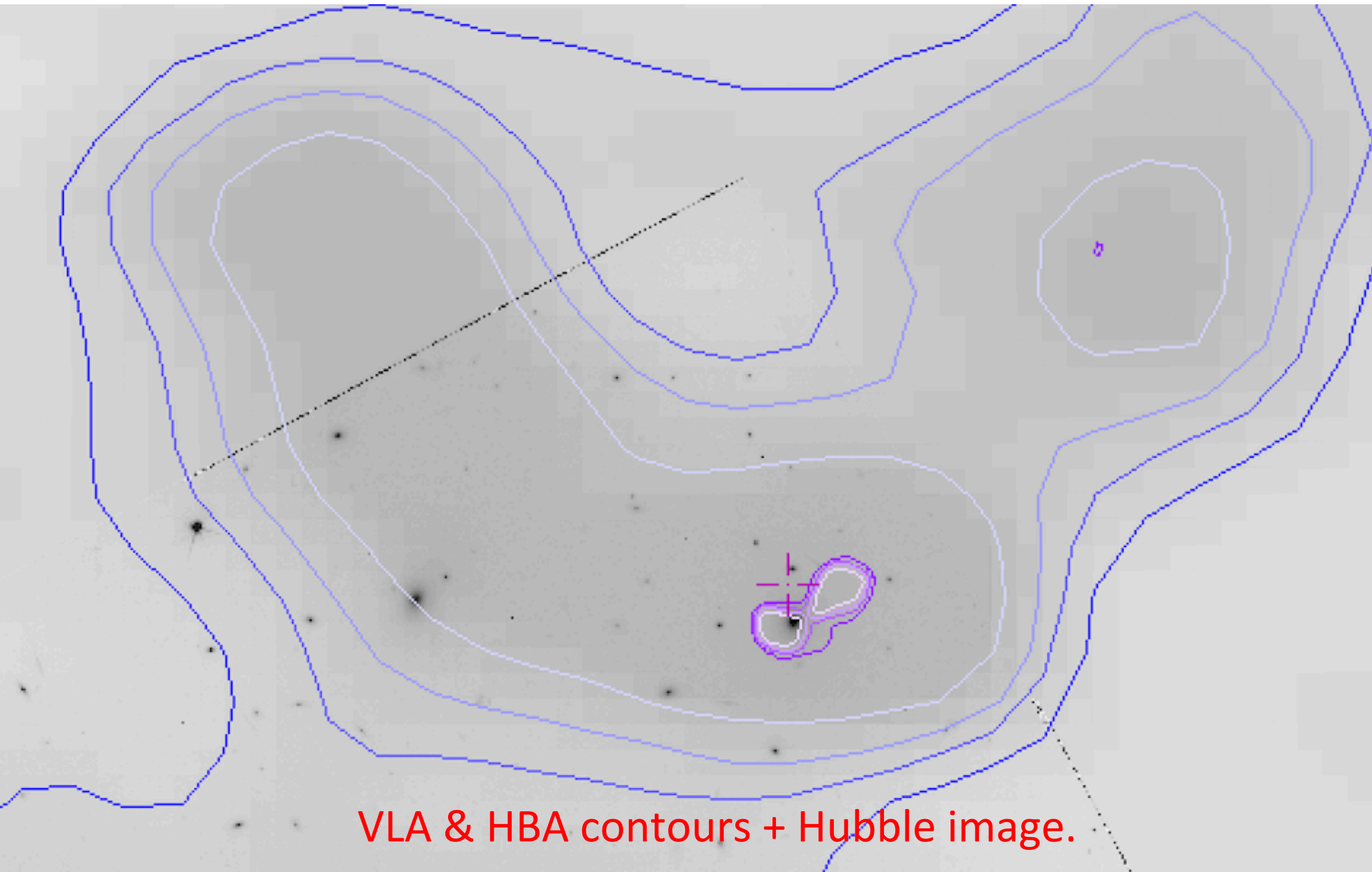
# LOFAR HBA Results

+ GMRT



# Jet resolved with VLA

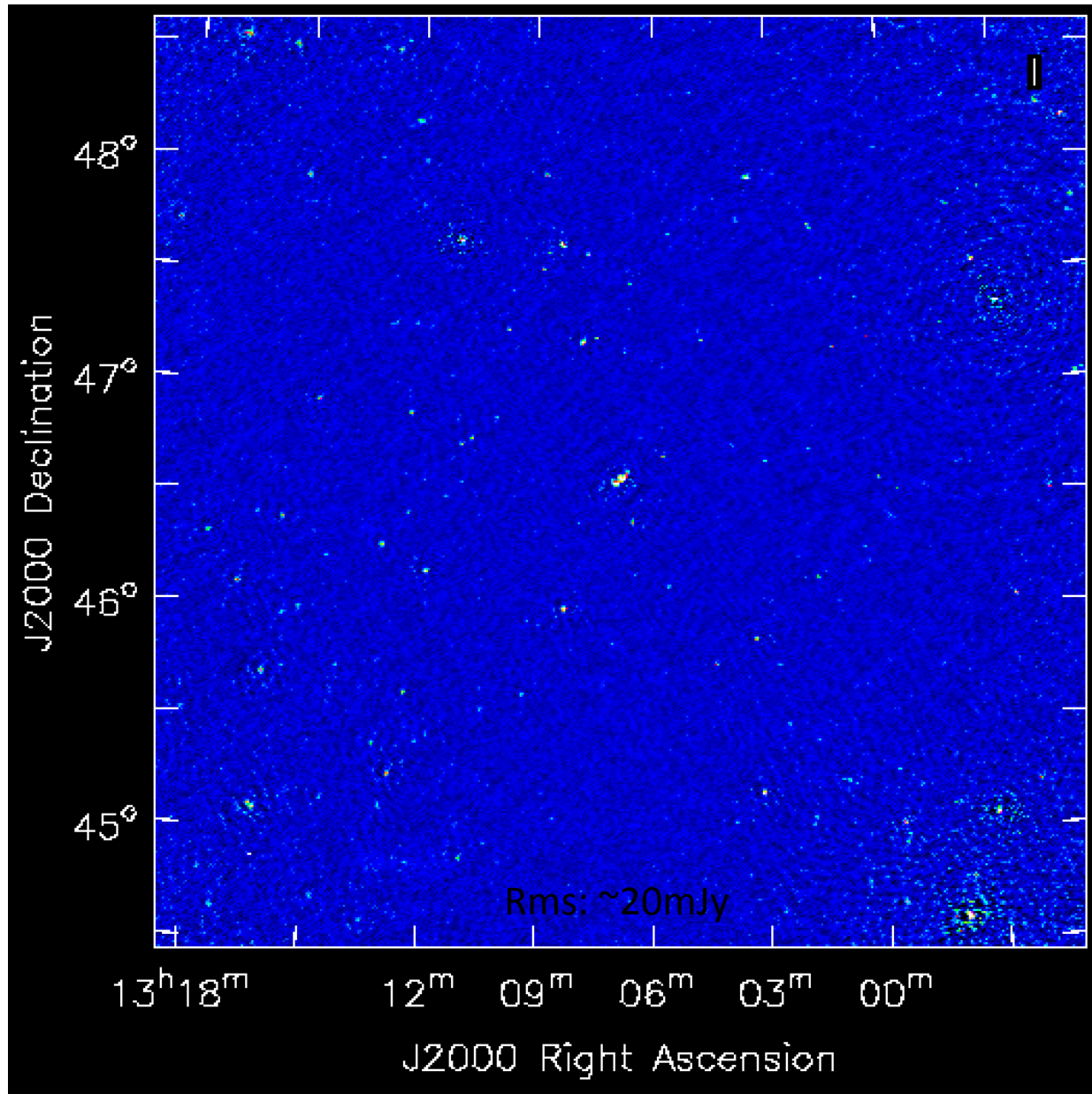
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VLA & HBA contours + Hubble image.

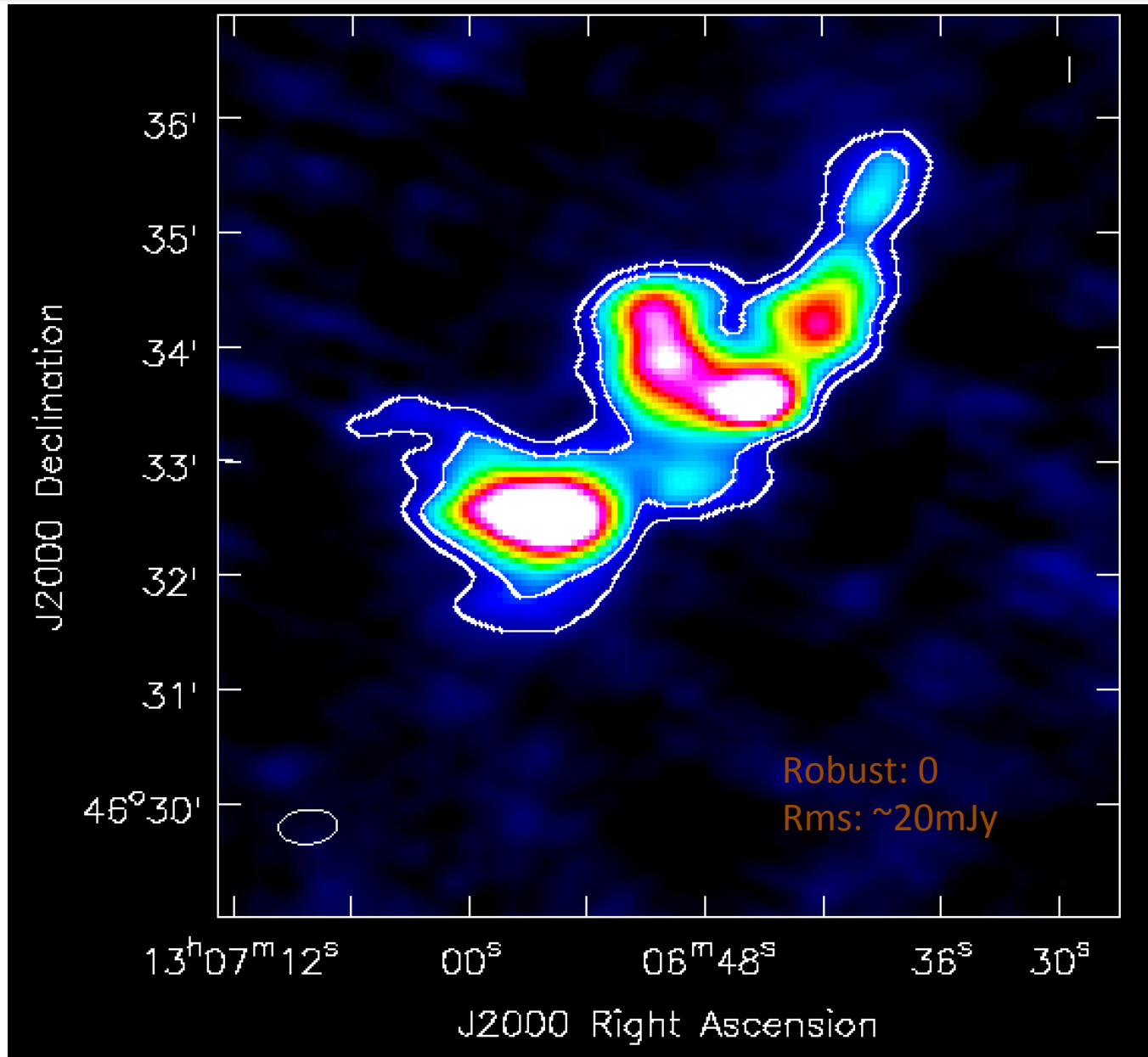
# LOFAR LBA Results

44 MHz, robust 0, contours at 5 & 10  $\sigma$ , 20" x 30" beam



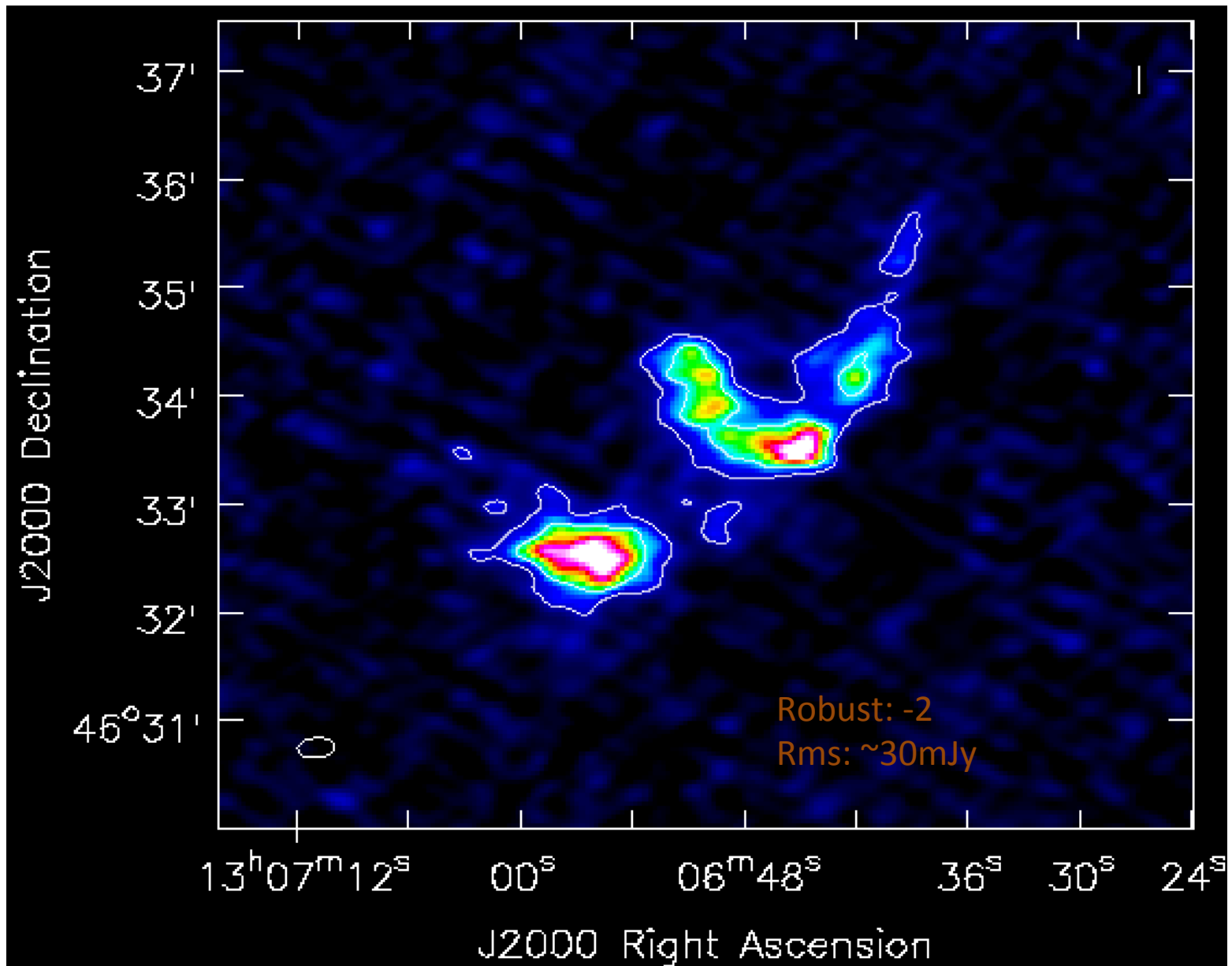
# LOFAR LBA Results

44 MHz, robust 0, contours at 5 & 10  $\sigma$ , 20" x 30" beam



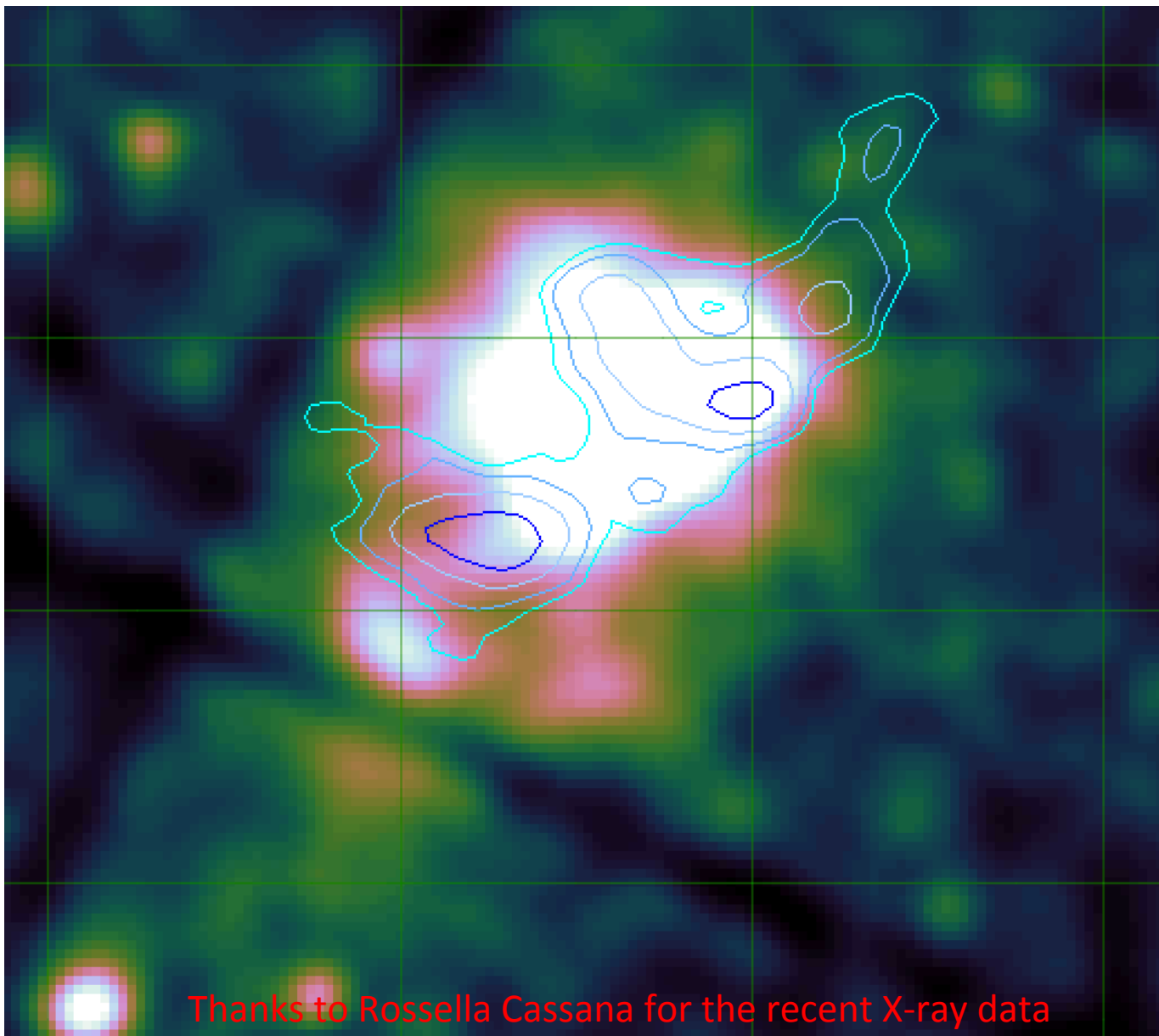
# LOFAR LBA Results

44 MHz, robust 0, contours at 5 & 10  $\sigma$ , 10"x20" beam



# LOFAR LBA + 20 ksec Chandra X-ray

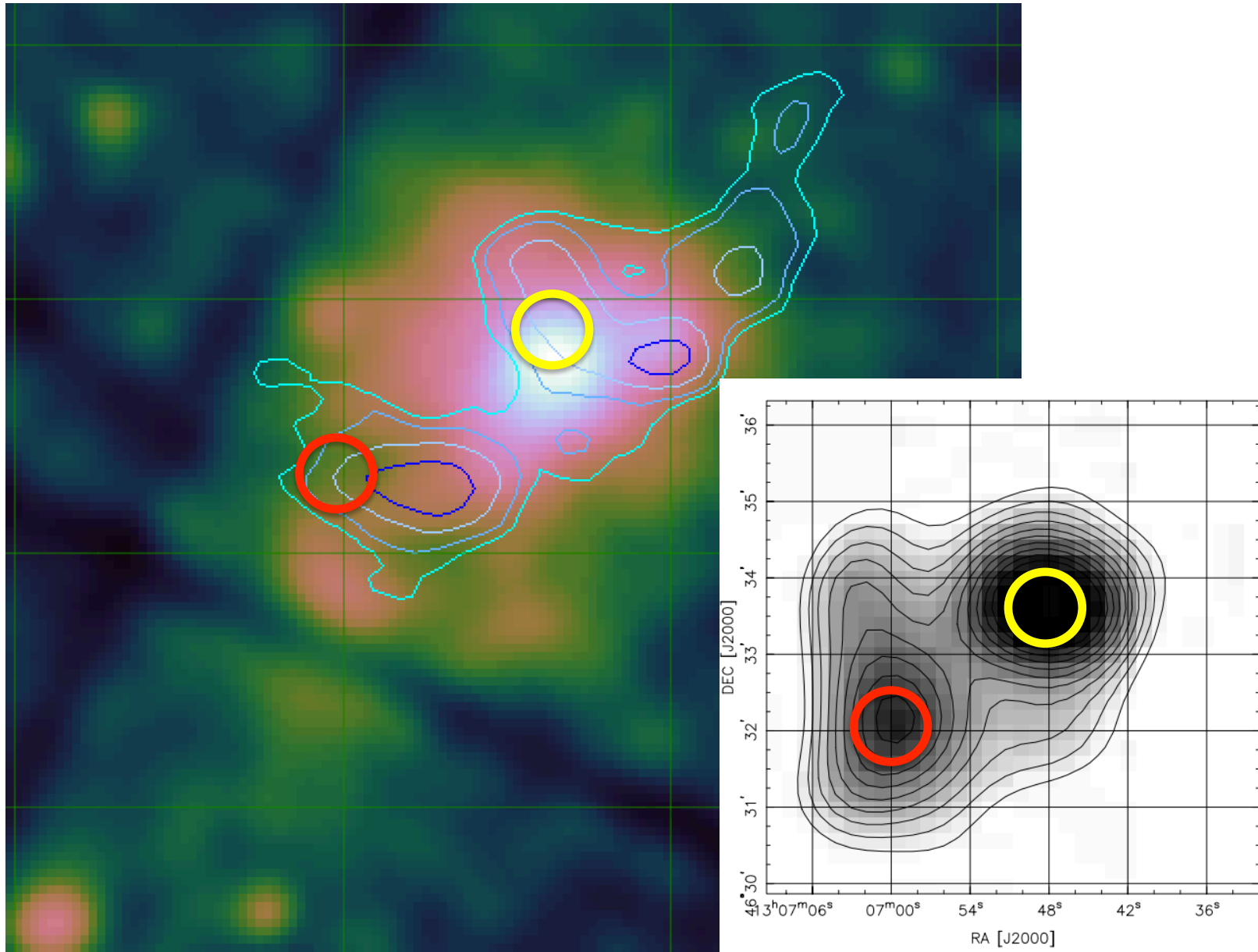
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Thanks to Rossella Cassana for the recent X-ray data

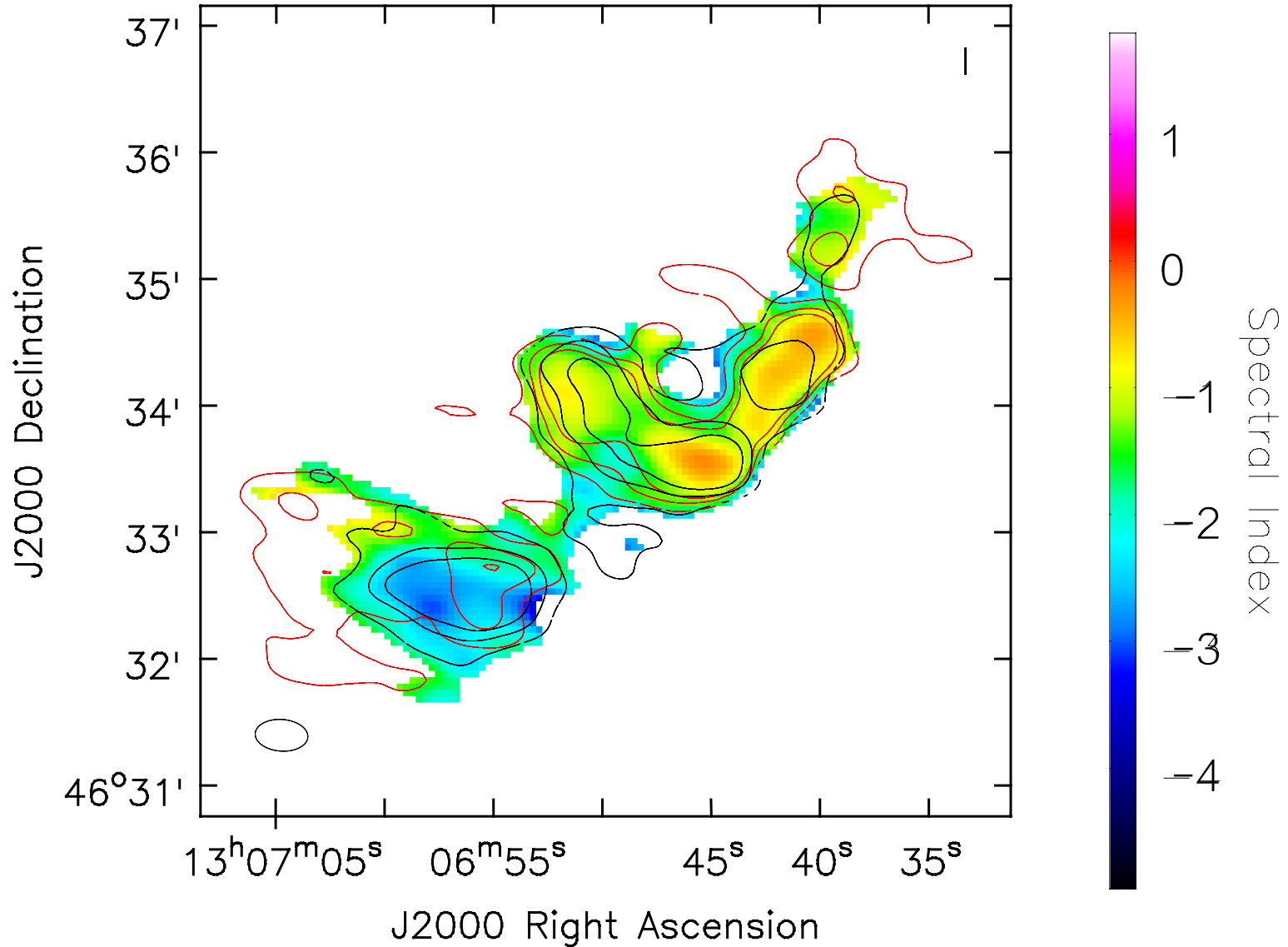
# LOFAR LBA + 20 ksec Chandra X-ray

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# HBA-LBA Spectral Index Map

LOFAR 44 (black) to 113 (red) MHz – 5,10,15 sigma contours





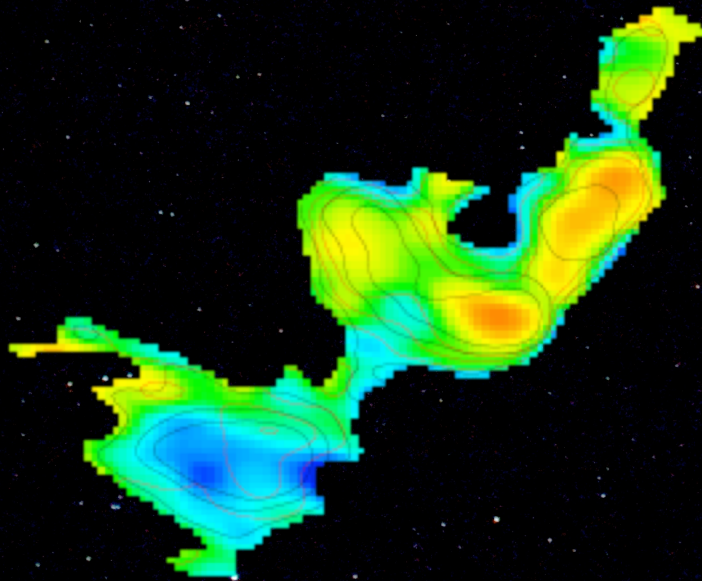
# Conclusions

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Need rigorous calibration to achieve very low noise  
(direction dependent/facet calibration)

- This would confirm it's **giant** size
  - As the **largest** and **steepest** spectrum halo discovered
- Confirms the re-acceleration model for halo formation

Thanks for listening!



Alex Clarke