

# MEASURING MAGNETIC FIELDS IN GALAXY CLUSTERS THROUGH RADIO OBSERVATIONS

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Hamburg University

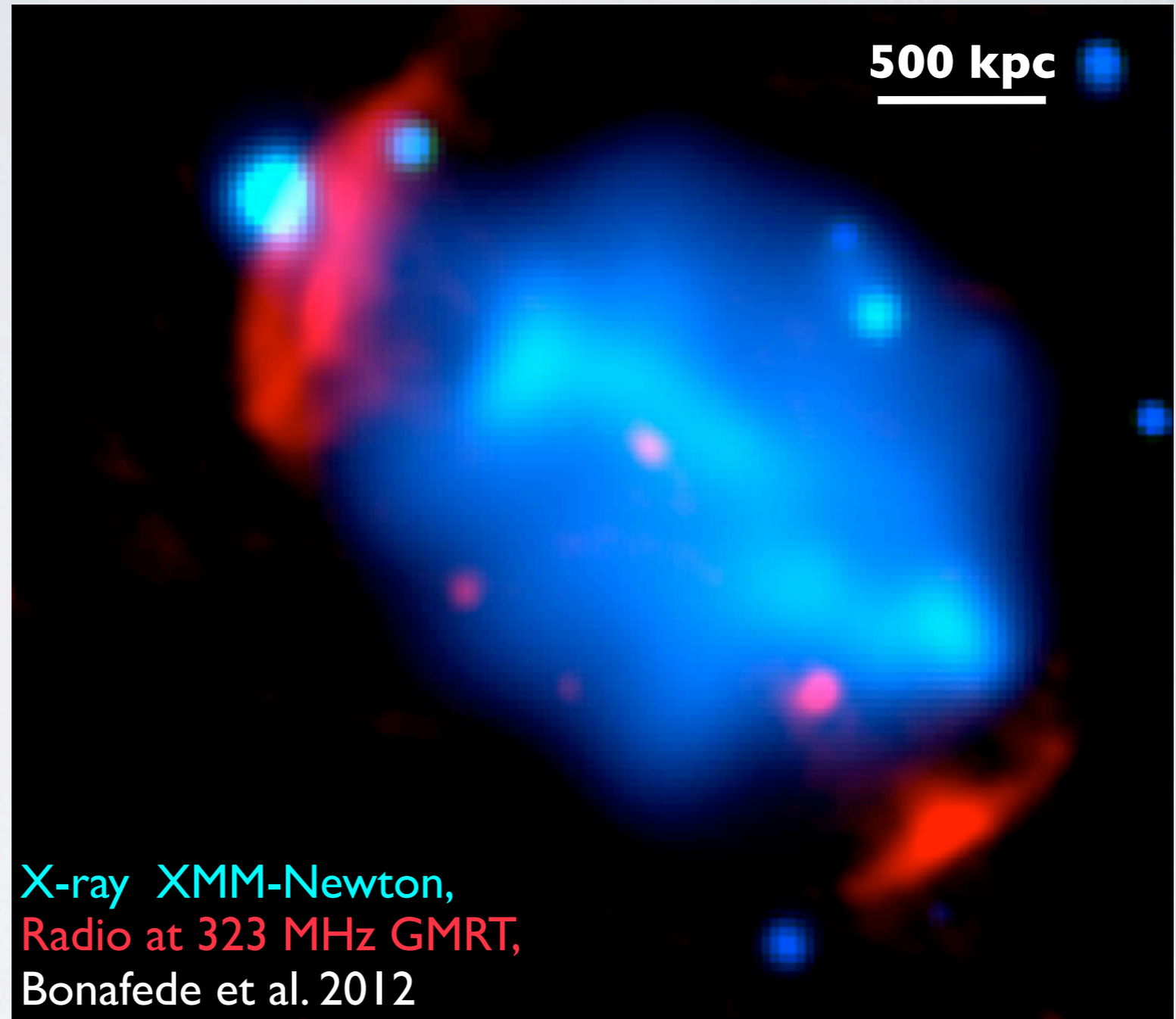
# OUTLINE

- Clusters & magnetic fields
- Methods: I The Faraday Rotation
- Results on the Coma clusters & ALP
- Methods: II Depolarisation analysis
- Limits of Faraday rotation approach
- SKA perspectives

# GALAXY CLUSTERS

## Dark Matter

Revealed by  
gravitational lensing  
~80% of the Mass



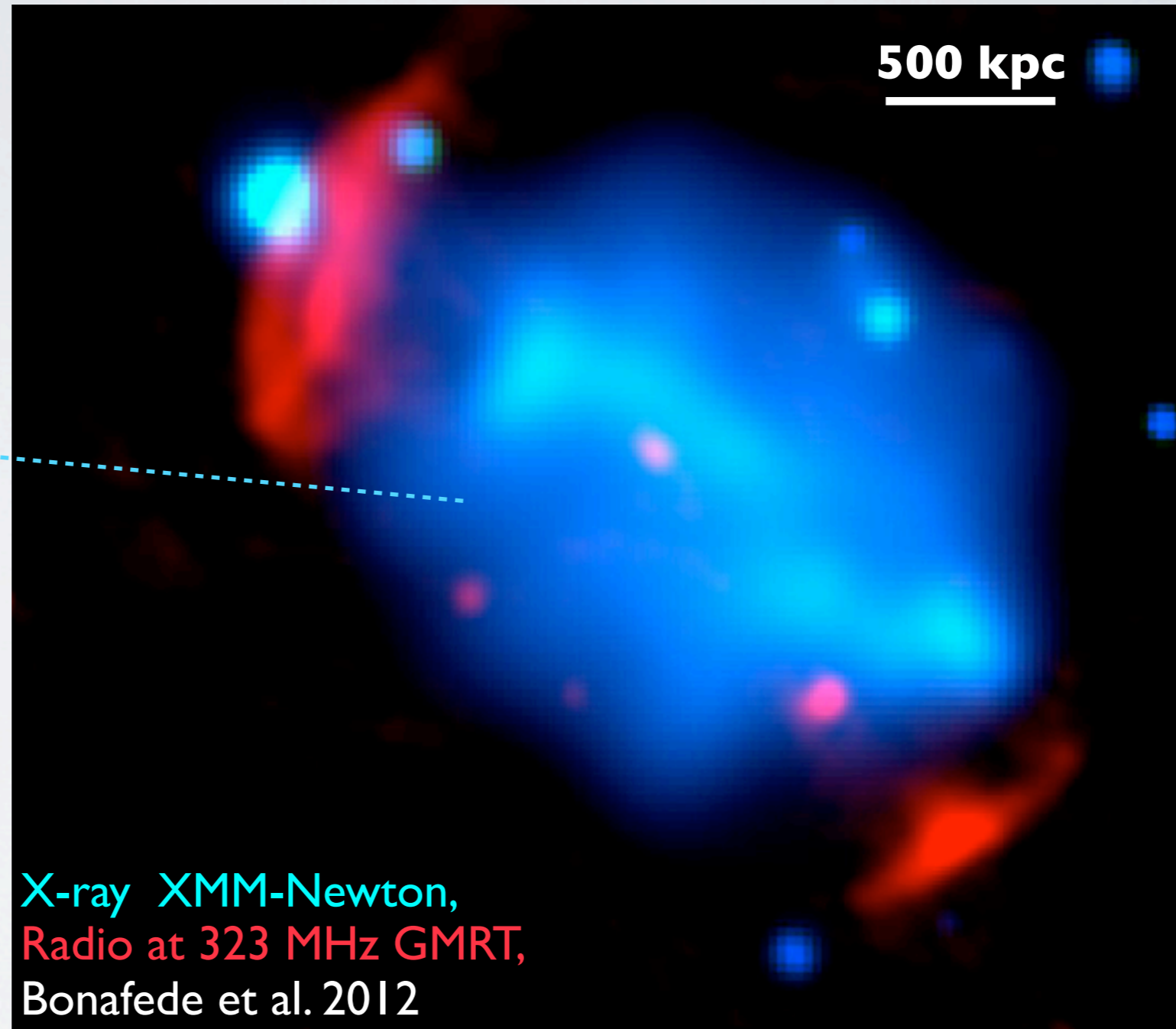
# GALAXY CLUSTERS

## Dark Matter

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## Hot Gas ( $10^7 - 10^8$ °K)

Bremsstrahlung emission  
Soft X  
~15% of the Mass



# GALAXY CLUSTERS

## Dark Matter

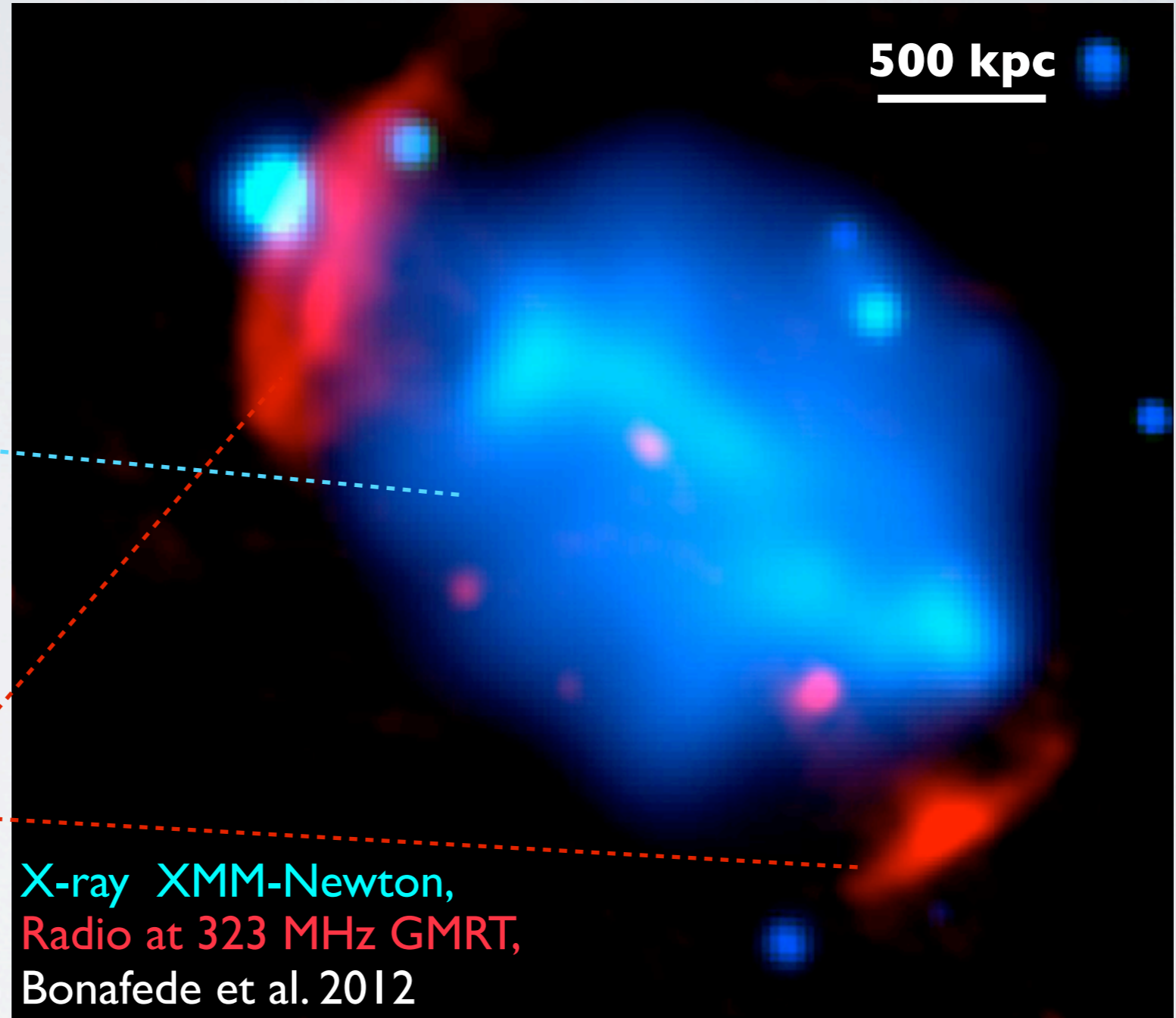
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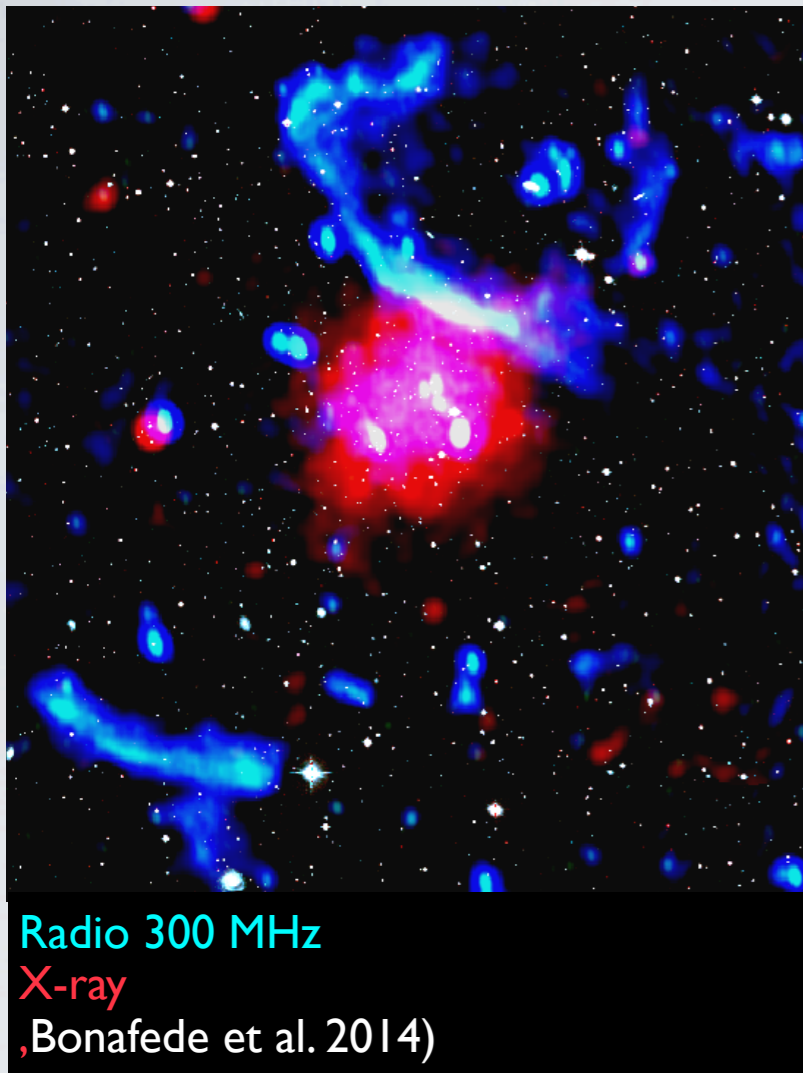
## Magnetic fields and relativistic e

Radio synchrotron  
emission Mpc scale  
Radio relics and  
radio halos

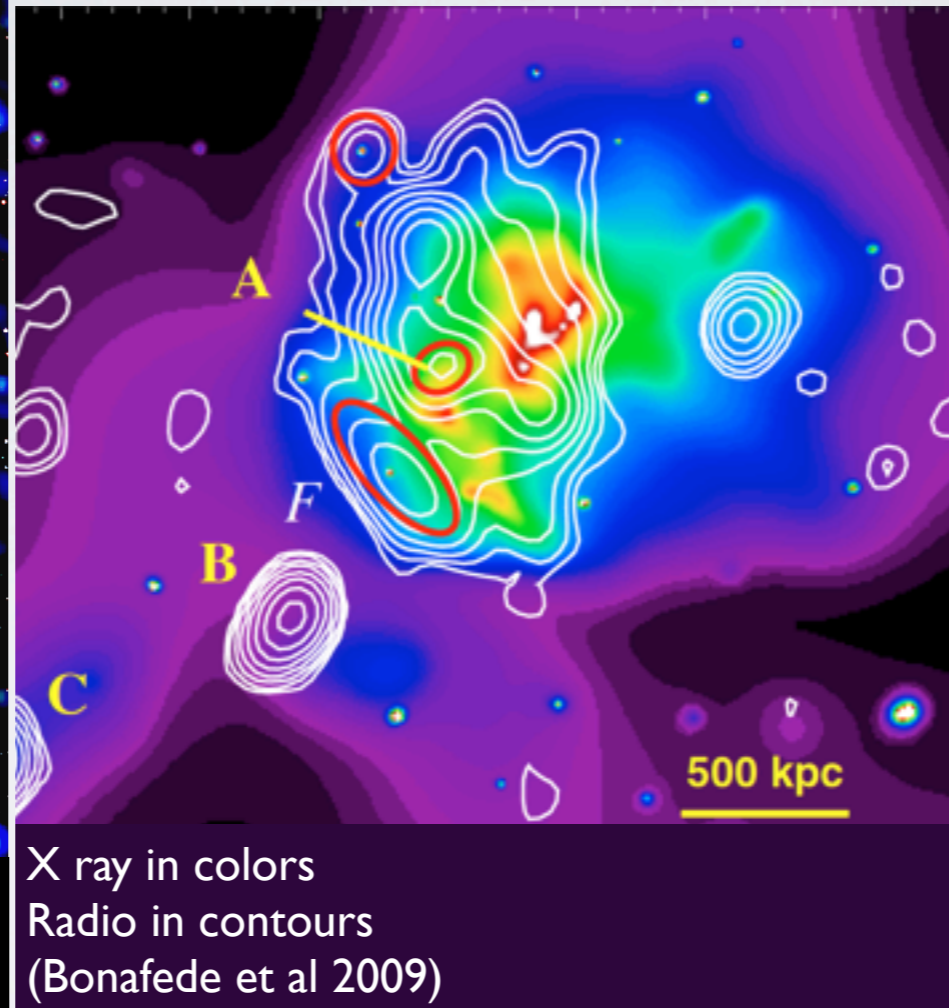


# RADIO HALOS AND RELICS

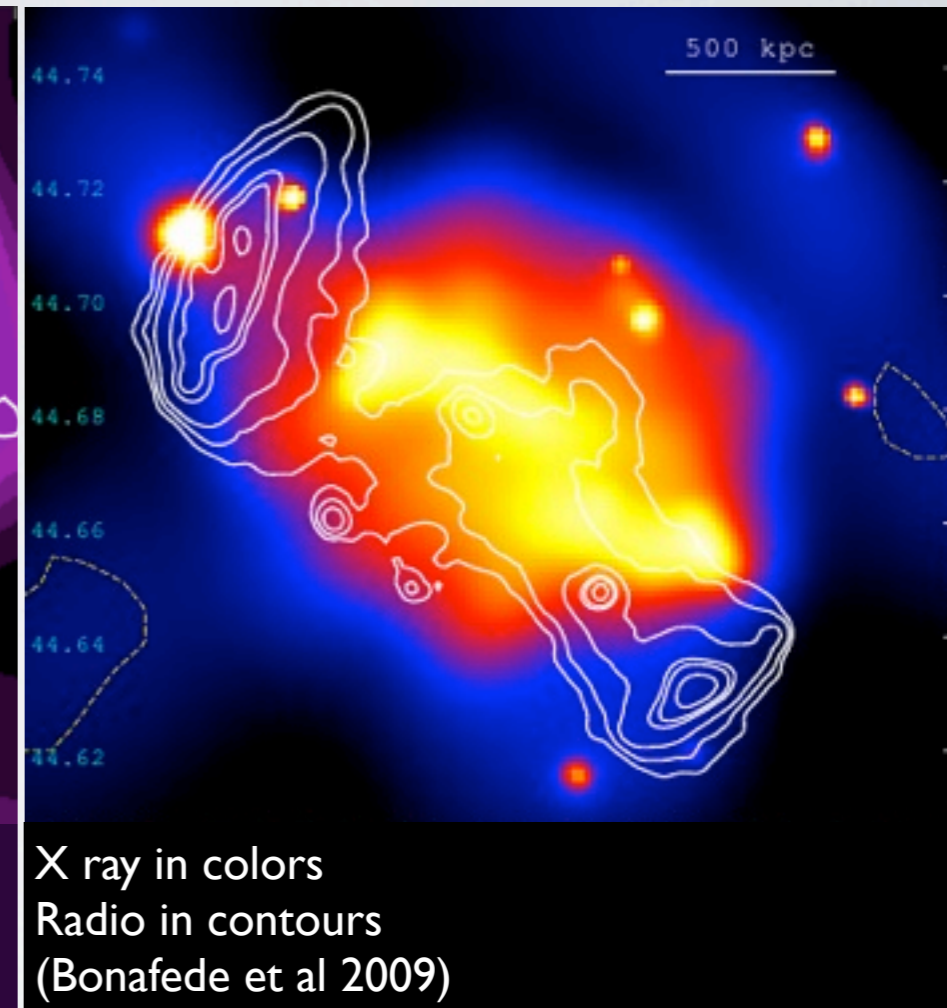
## Radio relics



## Radio halo



## Radio halo and 2 relics



Magnetic fields on Mpc-scale in the Intra-cluster medium

# RADIO HALOS AND RELICS: ORIGIN?

cluster-cluster merger

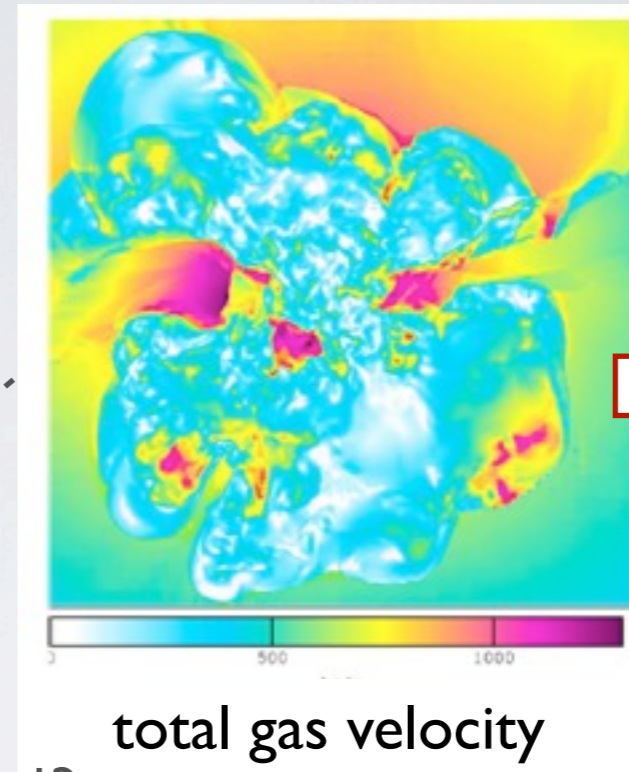
$$E \sim 10^{64} \text{ erg}$$



Turbulence

B amplified?

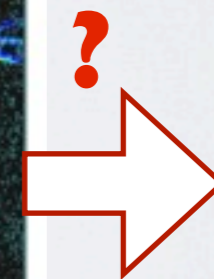
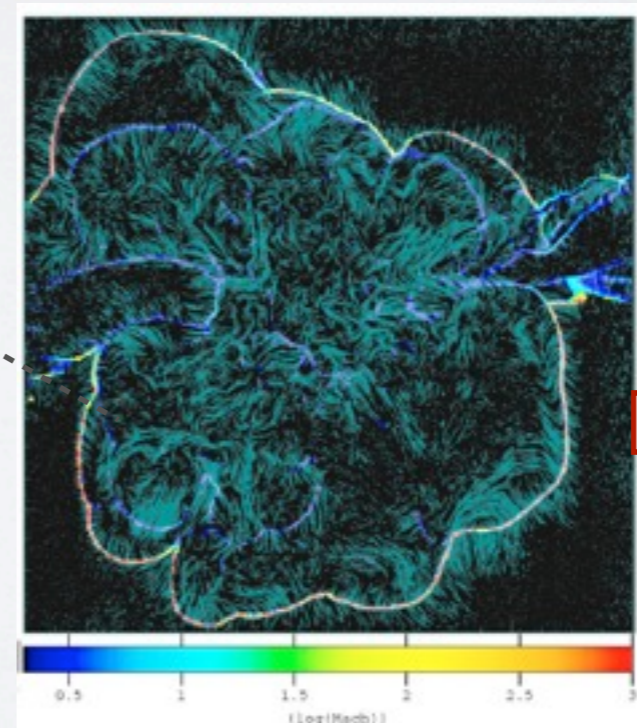
Shocks



**Vazza et al. 2009**



Halos



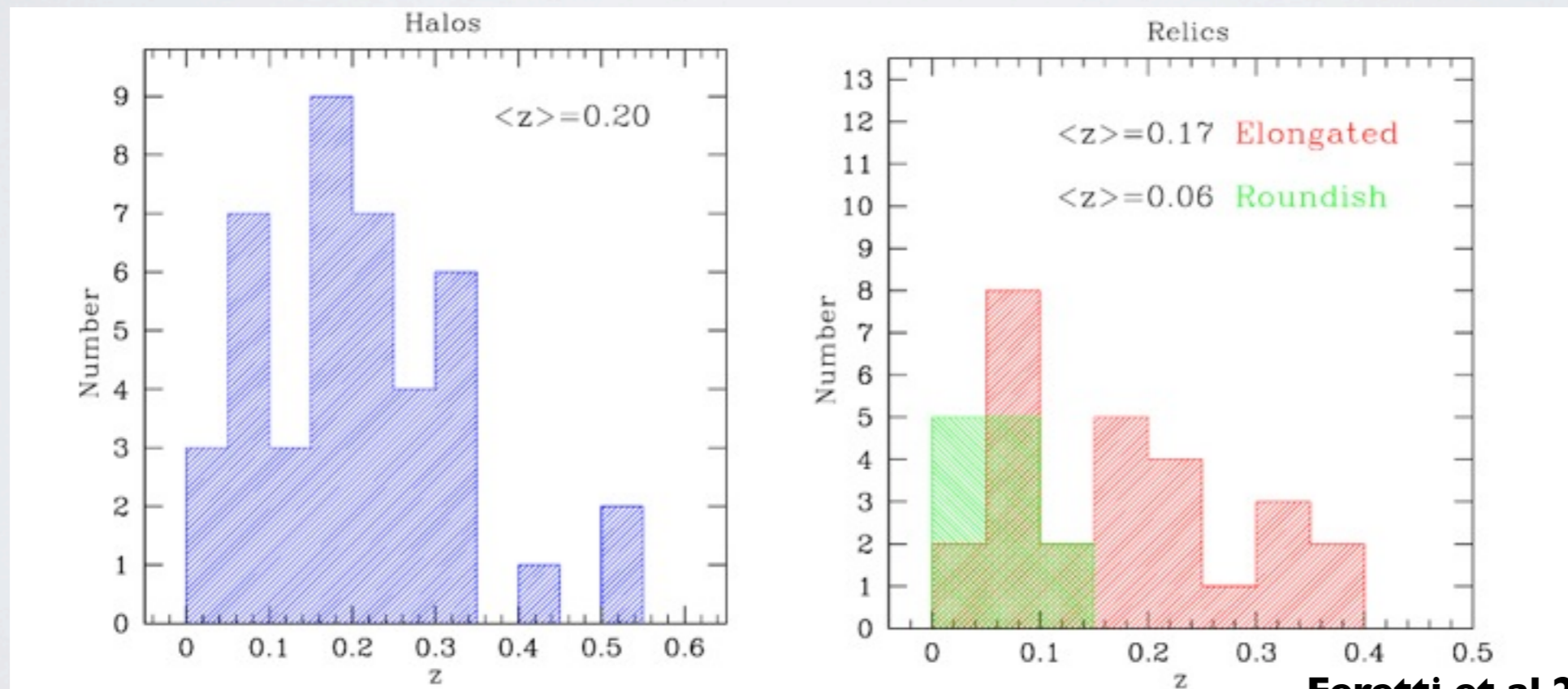
Relics

# RADIO HALOS AND RELICS: HOW MANY?

Steep spectrum and low surface brightness at  $\nu \sim \text{GHz}$



Detection limited



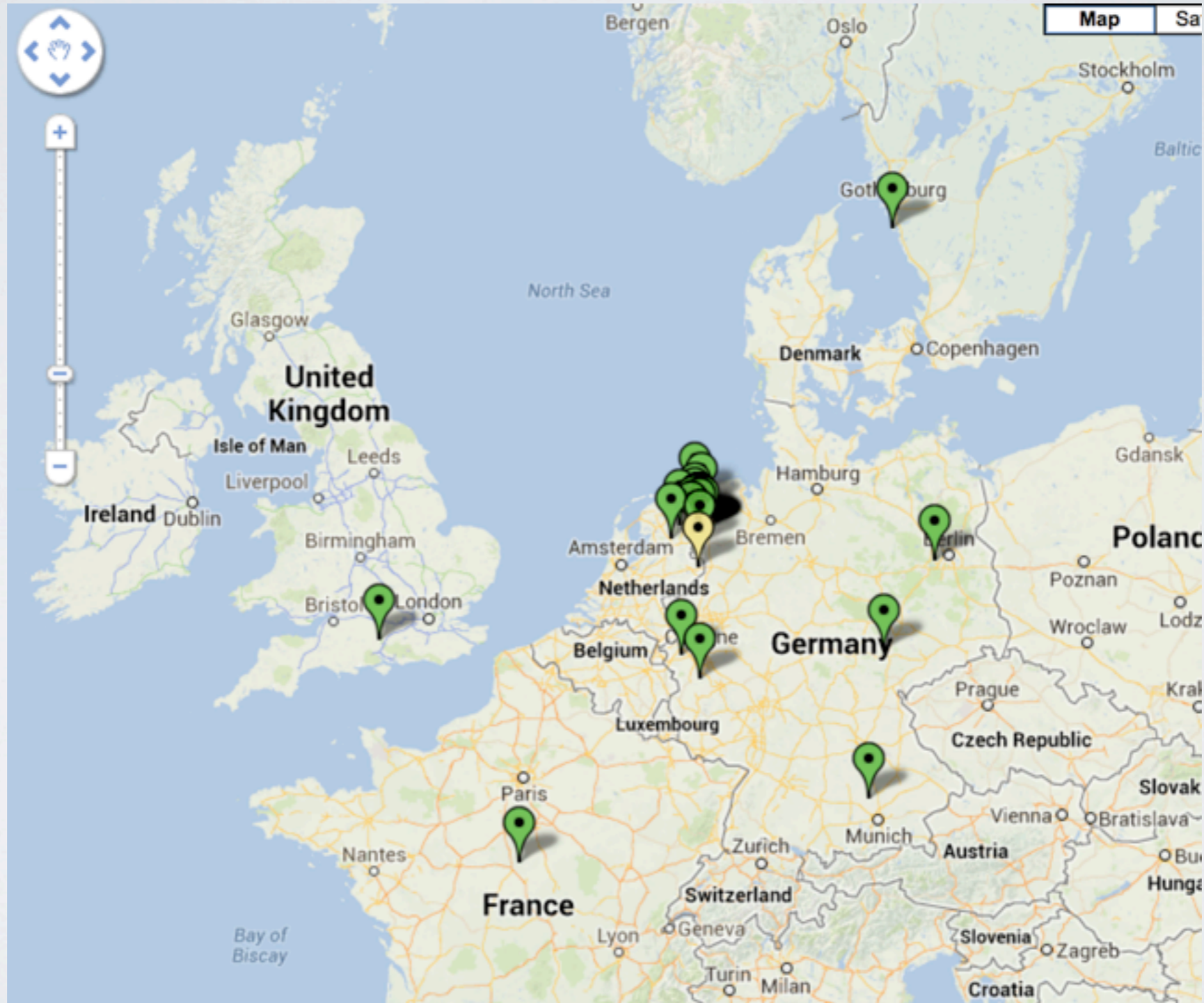
Feretti et al. 2012

About 60 halos/relics



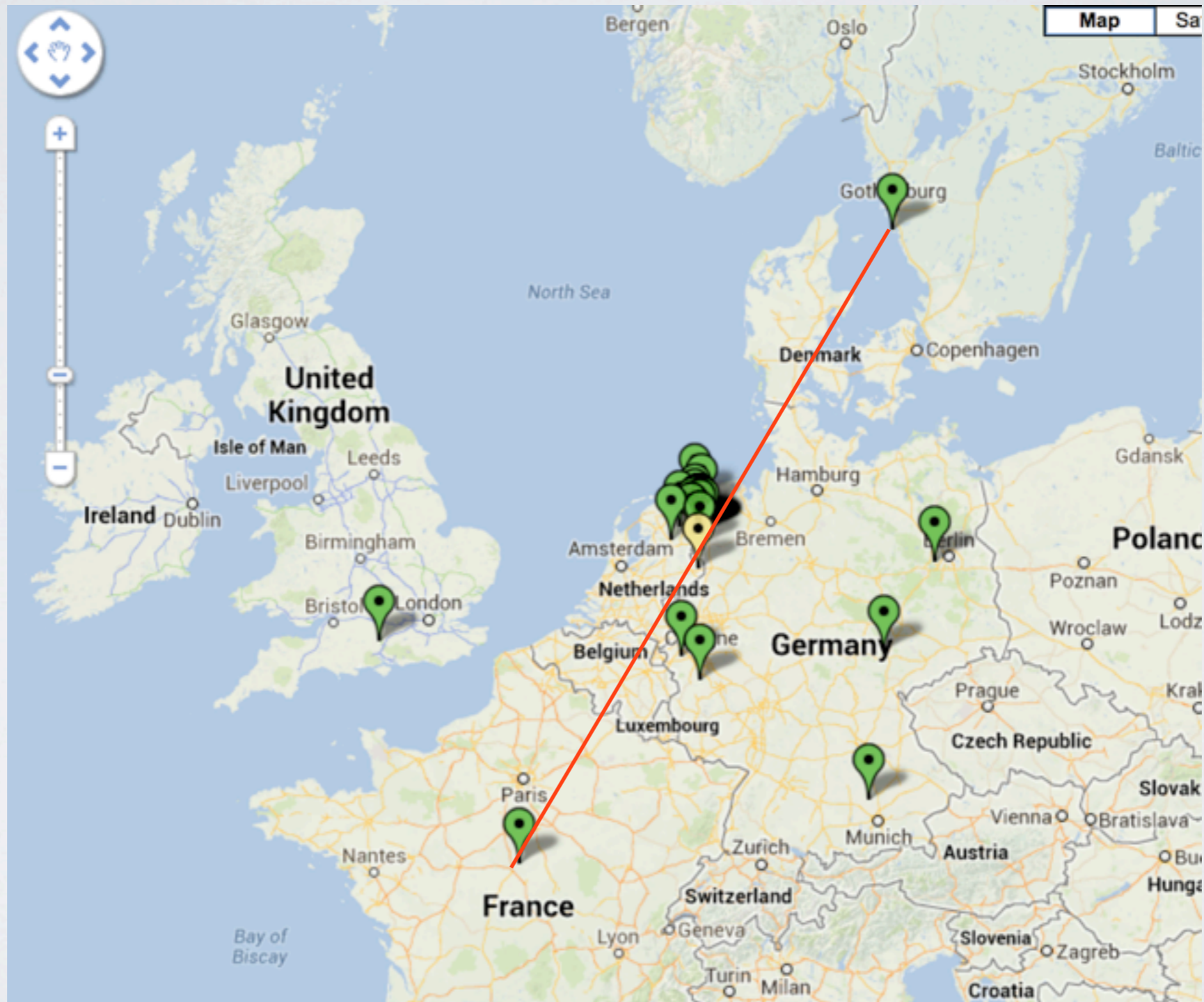
# THE LOW FREQUENCY ARRAY - LOFAR

- New observational window 15-250 MHz
- Expected discovery of 100s halos/relic



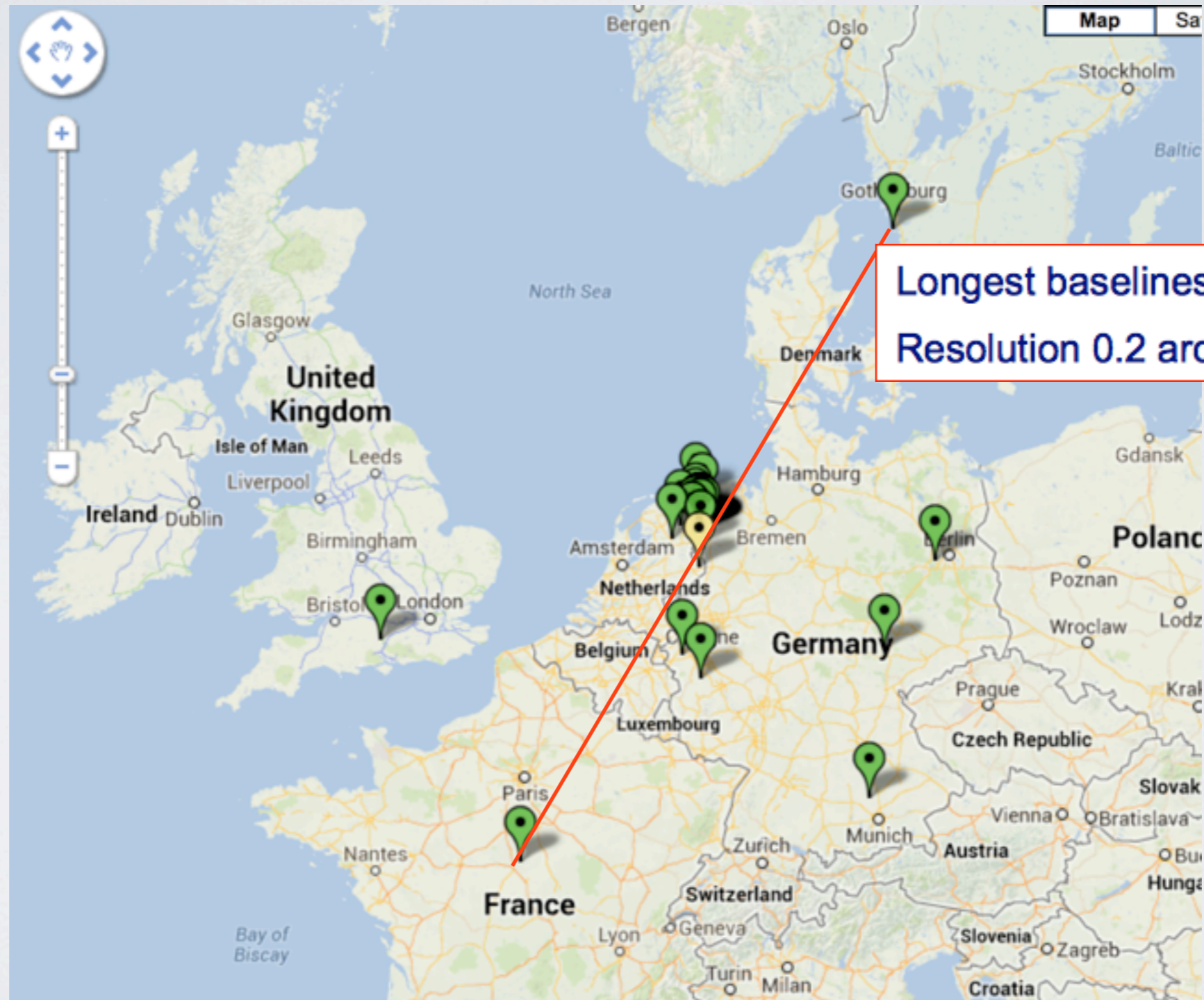
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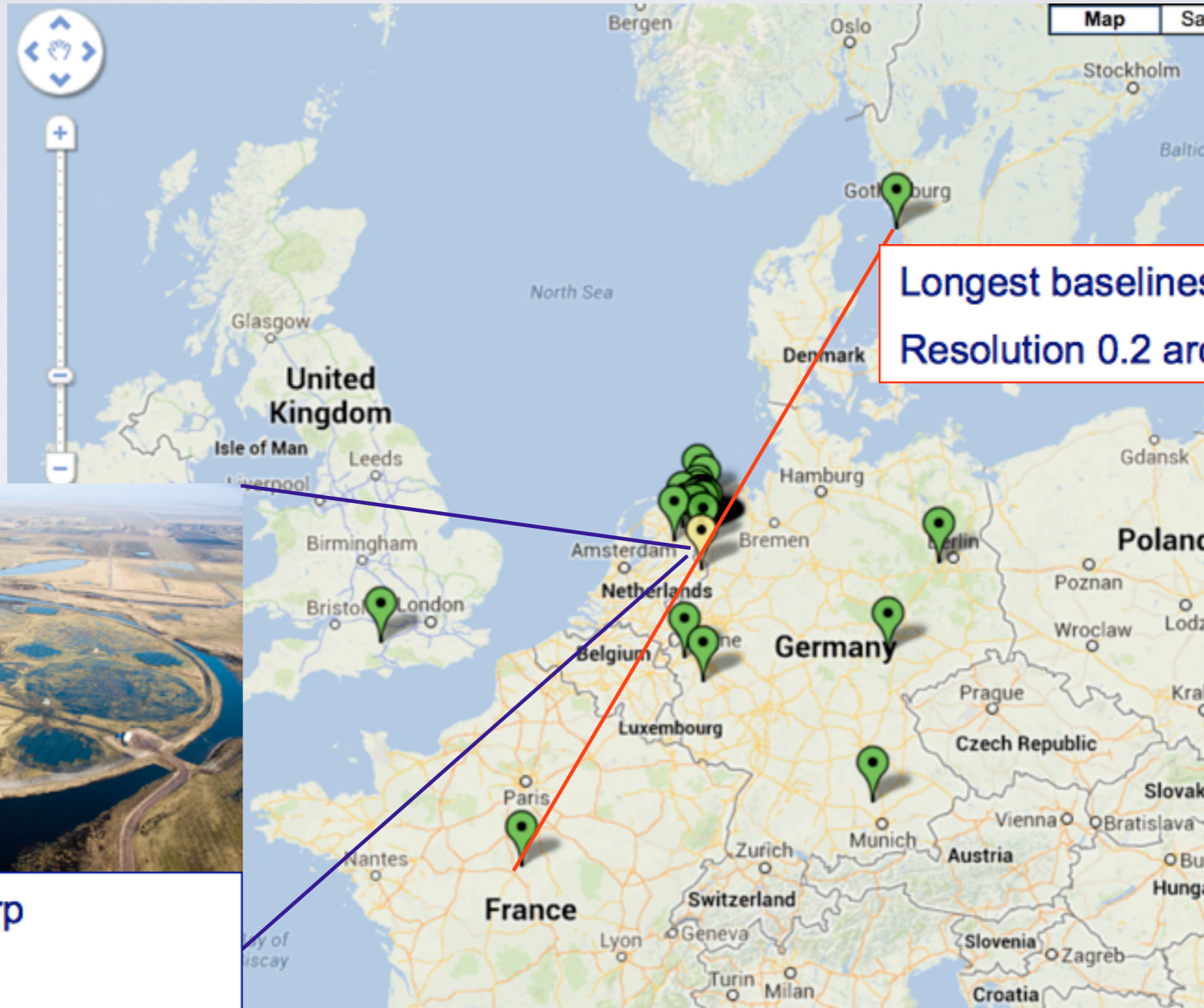
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**Longest baselines ~1000 km**  
**Resolution 0.2 arcsec**

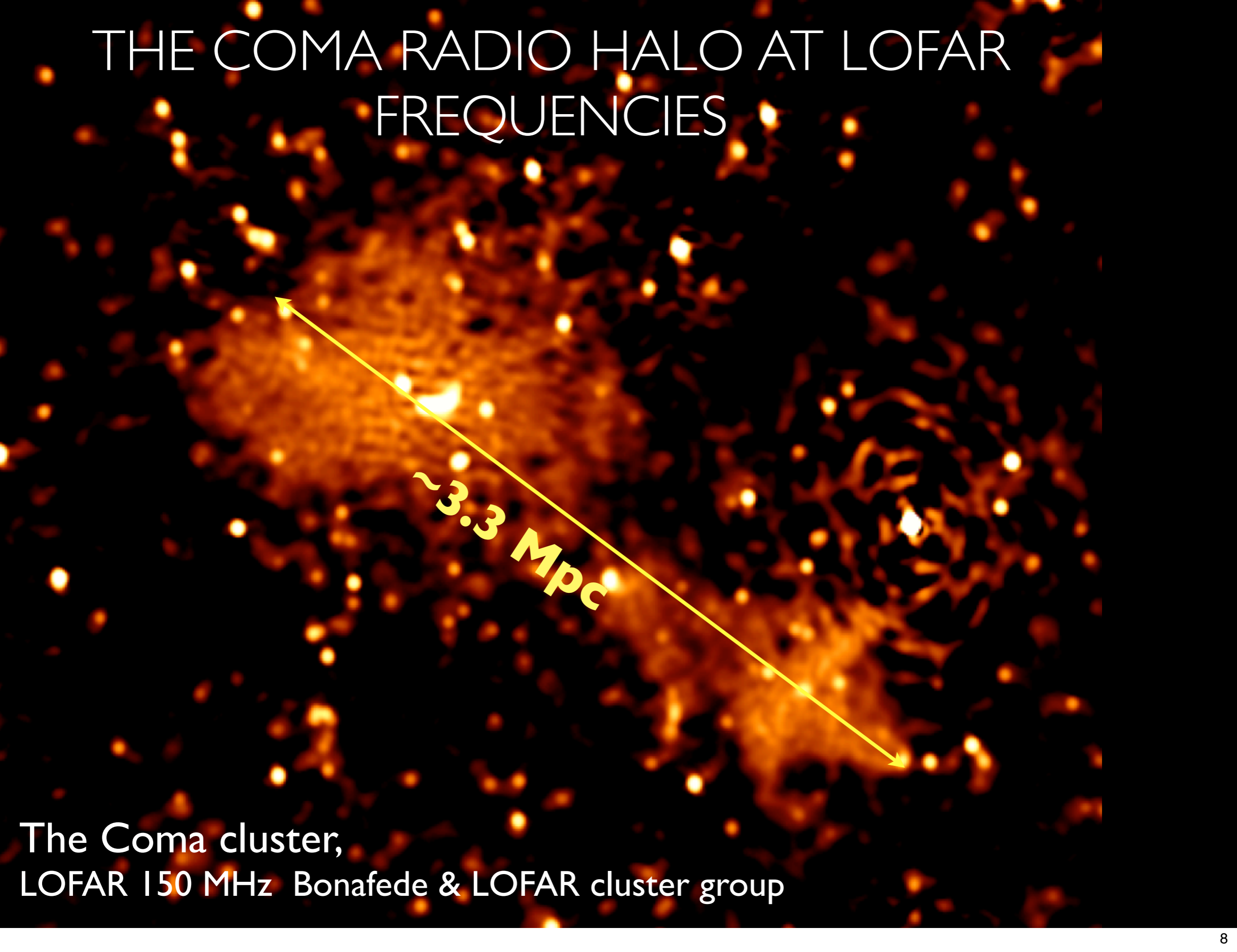


**The LOFAR super terp**  
**6 stations, 320 m**  
**Sensitivity to Large angular scale**

# THE COMA RADIO HALO AT LOFAR FREQUENCIES

The Coma cluster,  
LOFAR 150 MHz Bonafede & LOFAR cluster group

# THE COMA RADIO HALO AT LOFAR FREQUENCIES

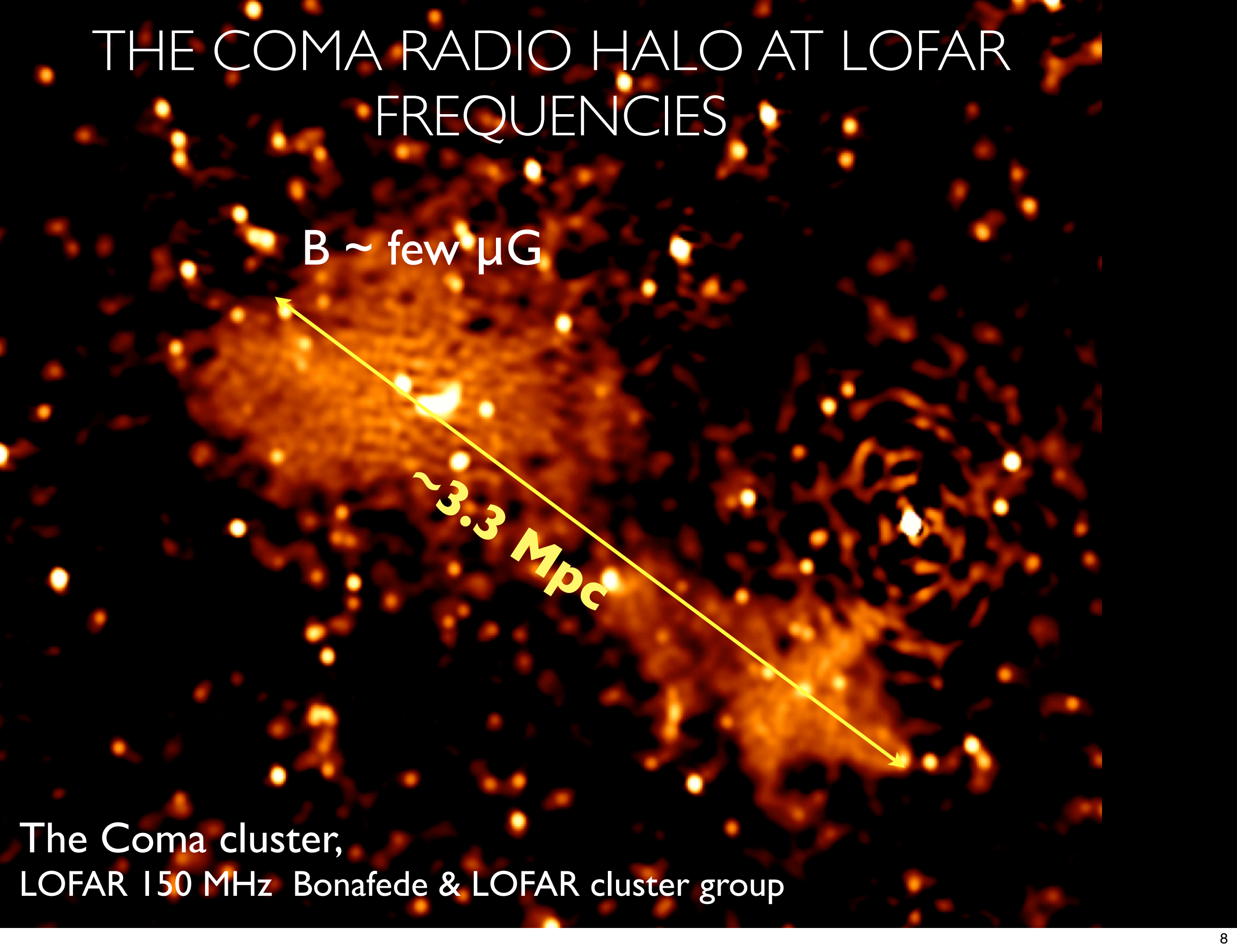


The Coma cluster,  
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# THE COMA RADIO HALO AT LOFAR FREQUENCIES

$B \sim \text{few } \mu\text{G}$

$\sim 3.3 \text{ Mpc}$

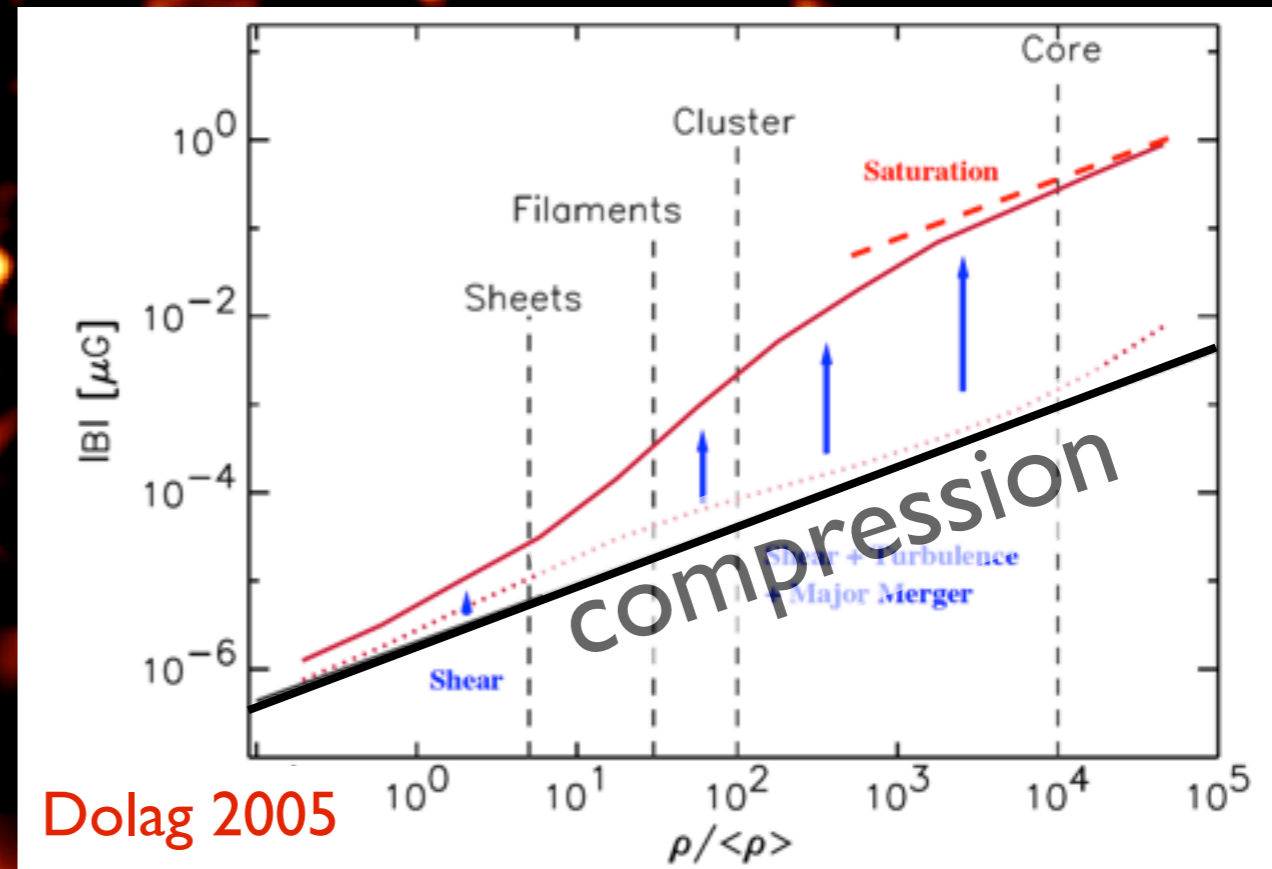


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The Coma cluster,  
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# B IN CLUSTERS AND ALPS (WHY I AM SPEAKING HERE TODAY)

- $B \sim \mu\text{G}$  but on Mpc scale; coherence length 1-100 kpc

$$P_{a \rightarrow \gamma} = \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{B_{\perp} L}{M} \right)^2$$

- X-ray UV excess in clusters (e.g. Lieu et al 1996, Bonamente et al. 2002)  $\Rightarrow$  conversion of Cosmic Axion Background to photons in the cluster B (Conlon et al. 2013)
- Other possible origins (e.g. IC from relativistic CRe, WHIM, thermal)

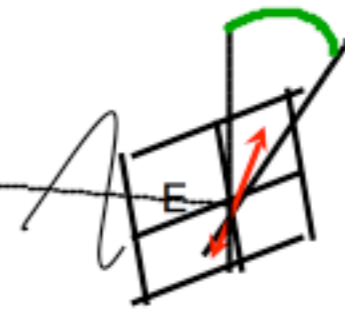
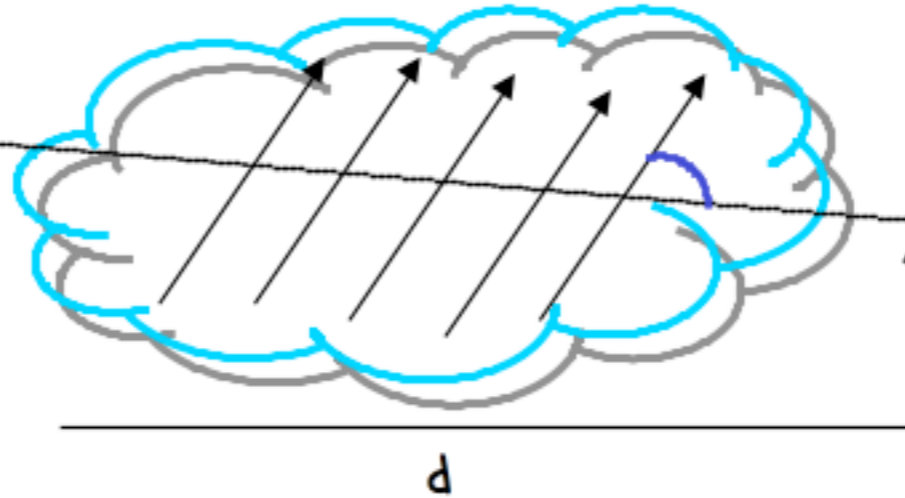
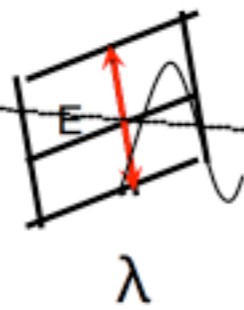
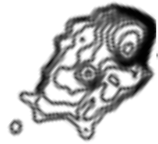
# THE FARADAY ROTATION

Radio galaxy

$\Phi_{\text{int}}$

Galaxy cluster

$\Phi_{\text{obs}}$



Observer

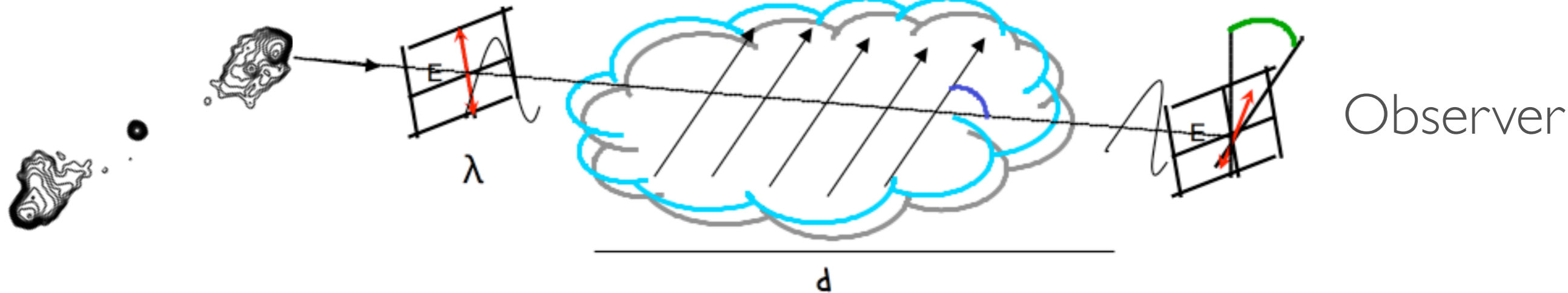
# THE FARADAY ROTATION

Radio galaxy

$\Phi_{int}$

Galaxy cluster

$\Phi_{obs}$



Rotation Measure  
RM

$$\Phi_{obs} = \Phi_{int} + RM\lambda^2$$

$$RM = \int_0^d B_{los} n dl$$

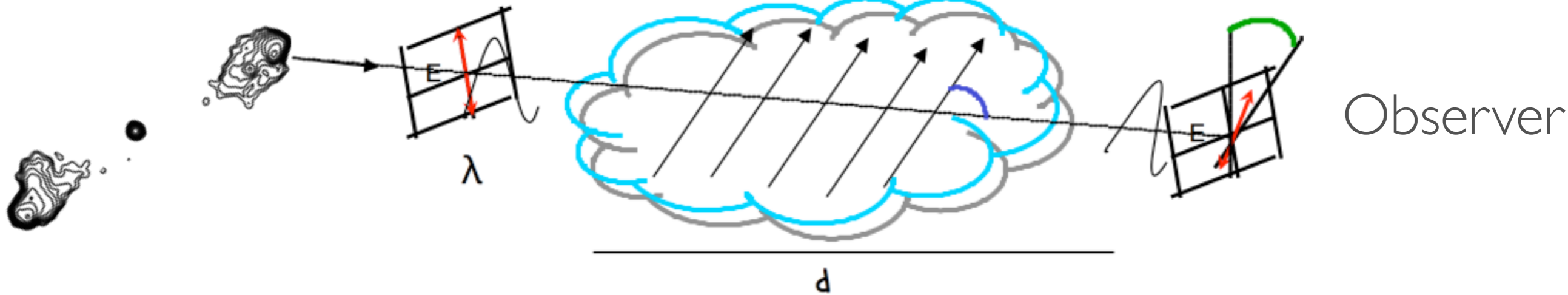
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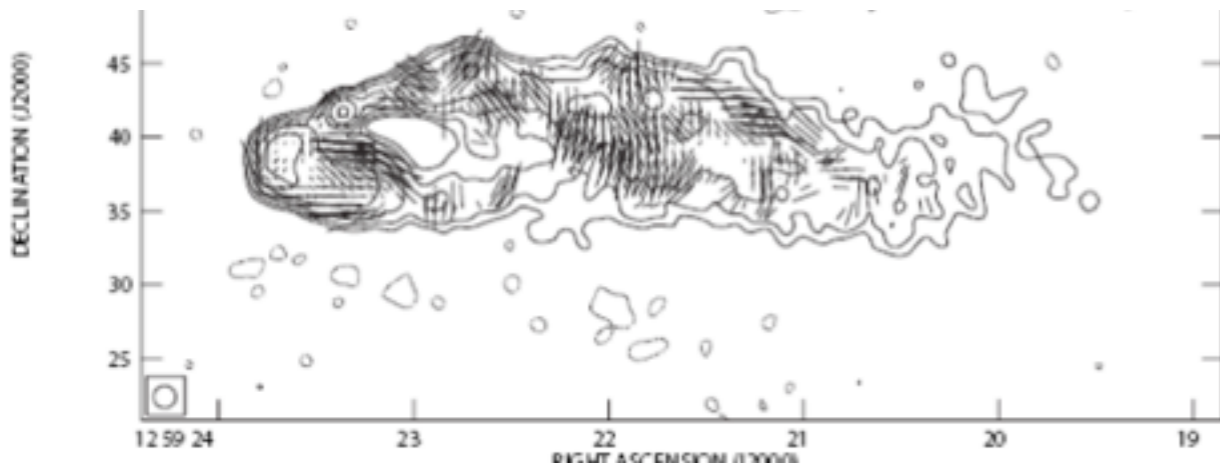


Rotation Measure  
RM

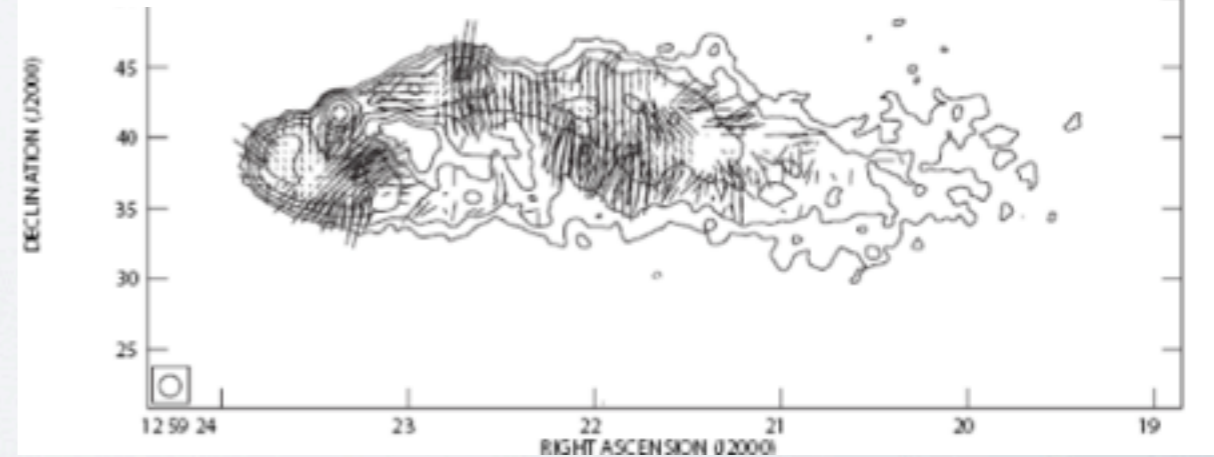
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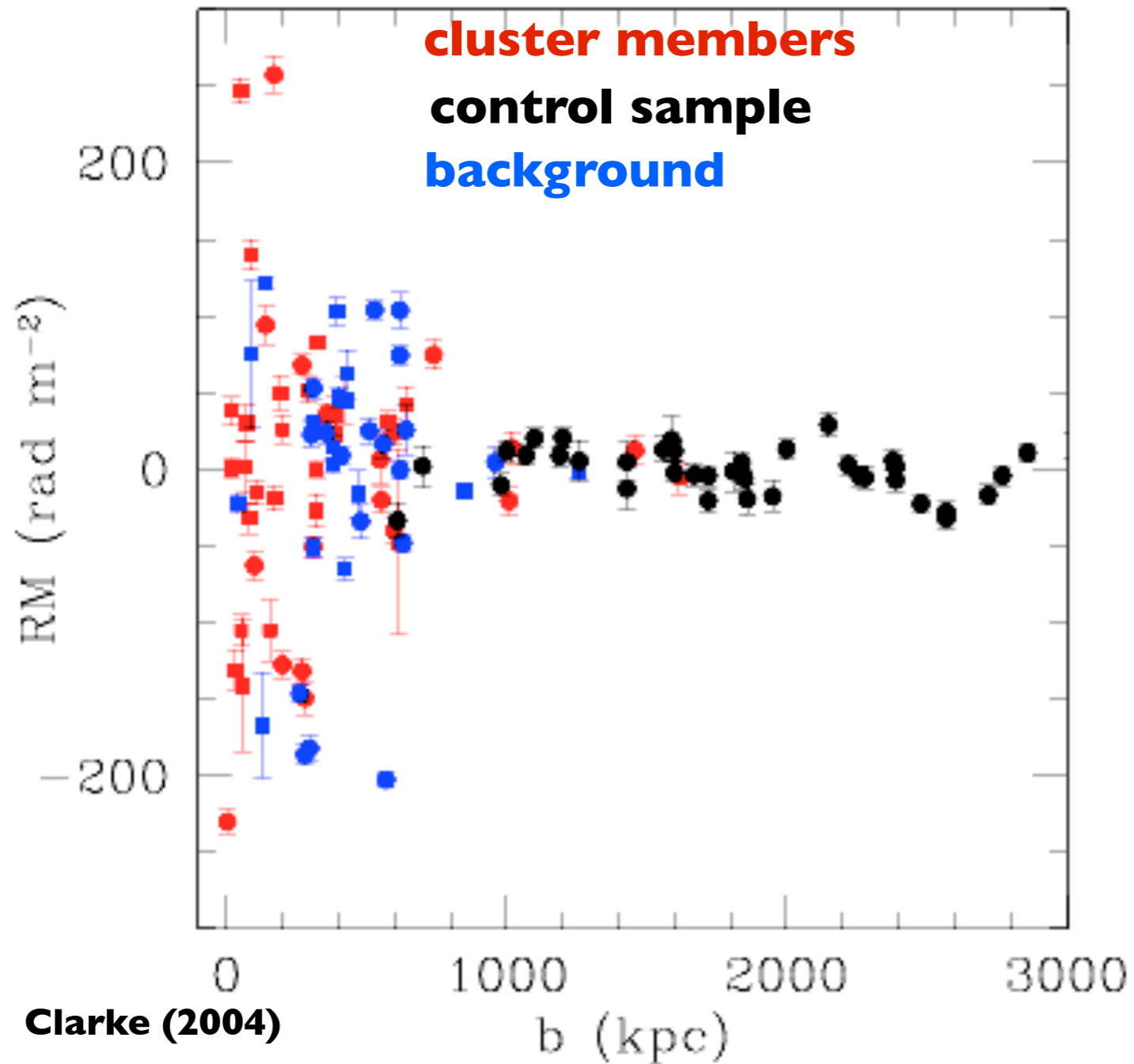
E vectors at  $\lambda = 6\text{cm}$



E vectors at  $\lambda = 3\text{cm}$



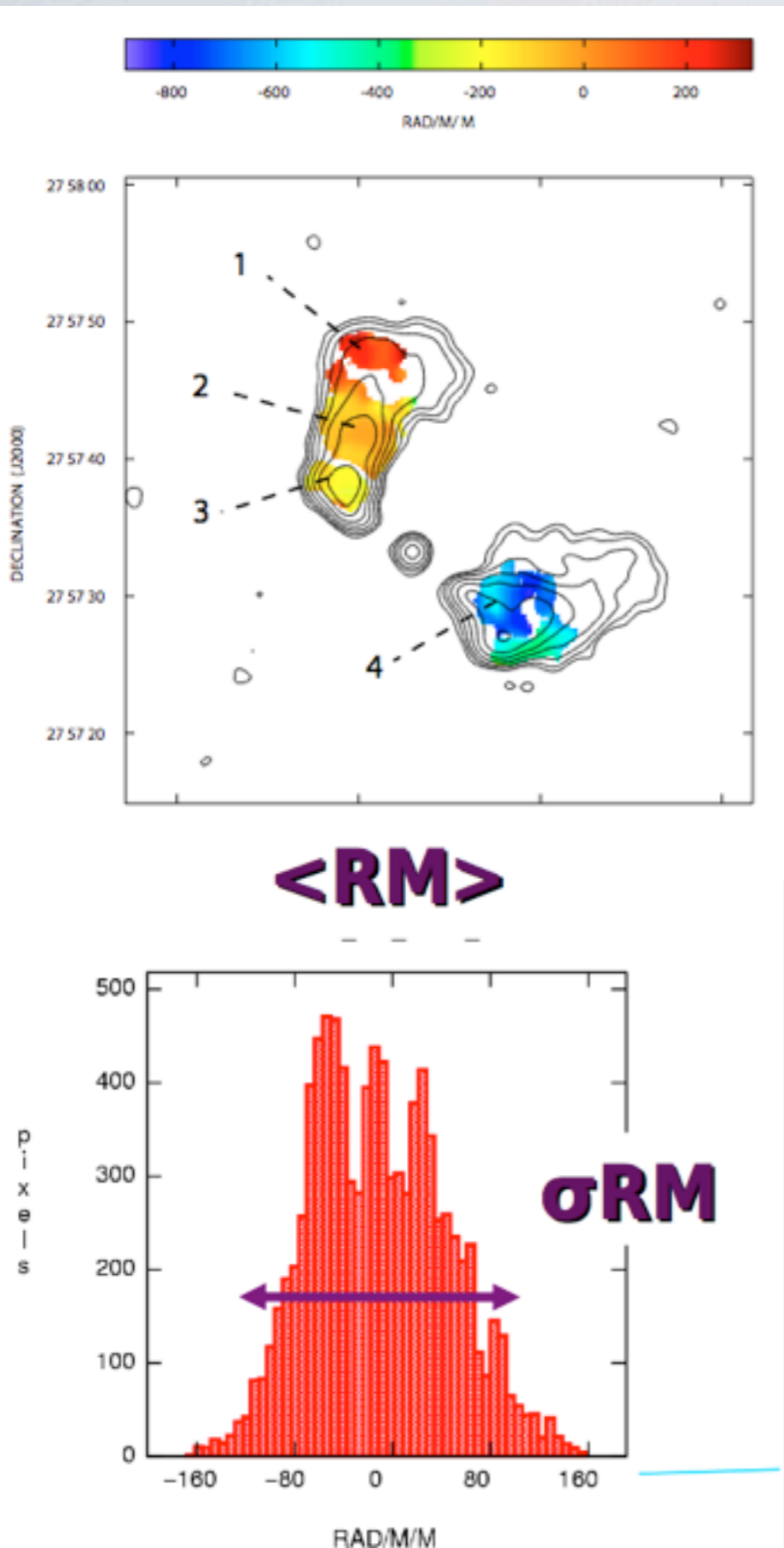
# THE FARADAY ROTATION MEASURE (RM)



$$\Phi_{obs} = \Phi_{int} + RM\lambda^2$$

$$RM = \int_0^d B_{los} n dl$$

# THE FARADAY ROTATION MEASURE (RM)



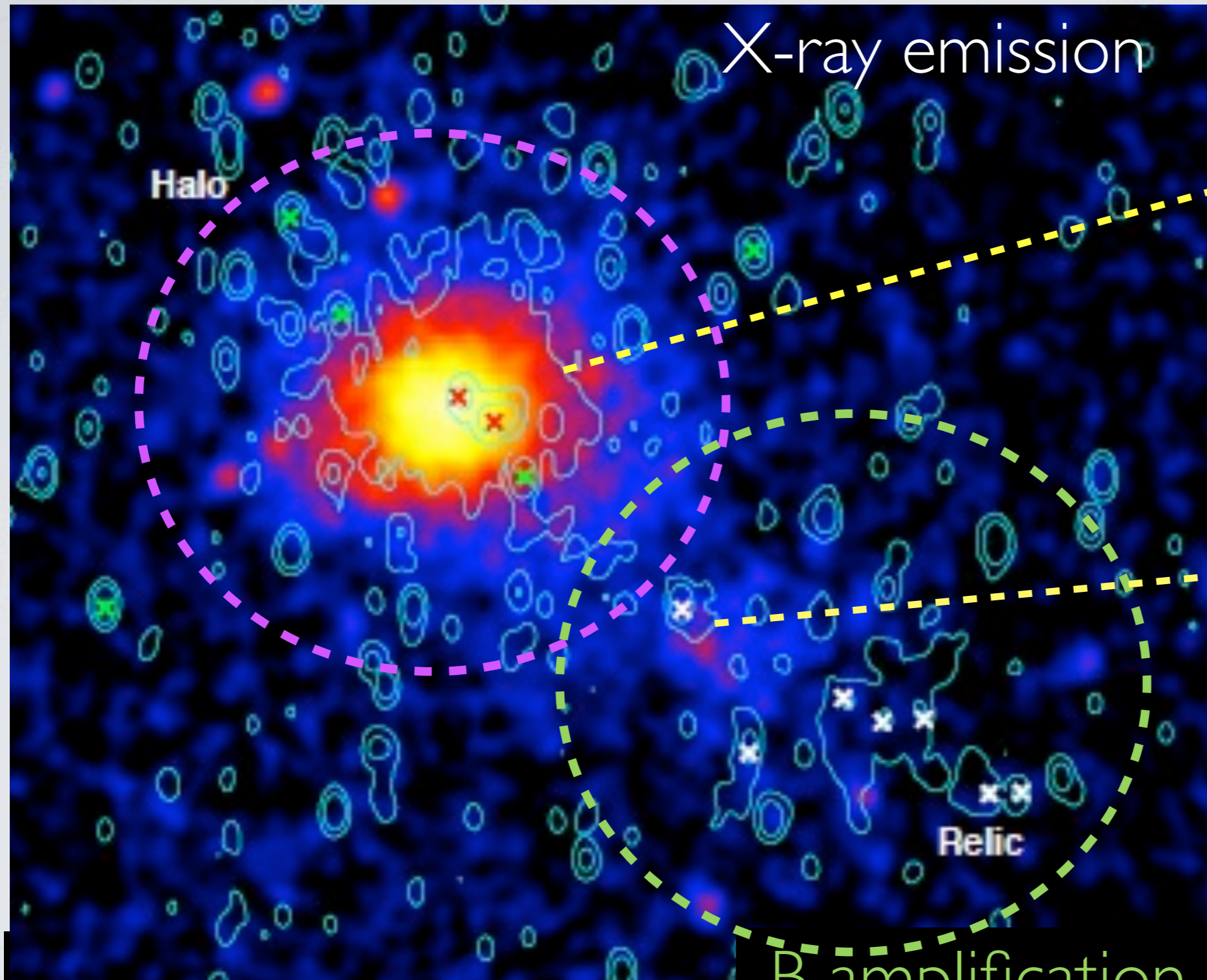
$$RM = \int_0^d B_{los} n dl$$

Extract B properties  
from RM images:

- RM distribution
- autocorrelation function
- structure function

RM power spectrum proportional  
to B power spectrum

# COMA CLUSTER



Coma cluster

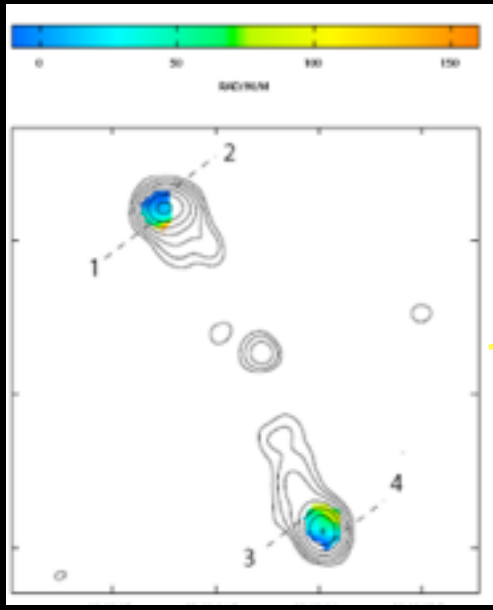
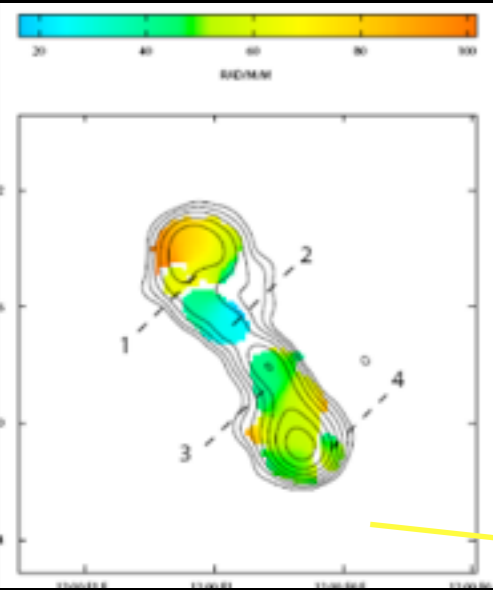
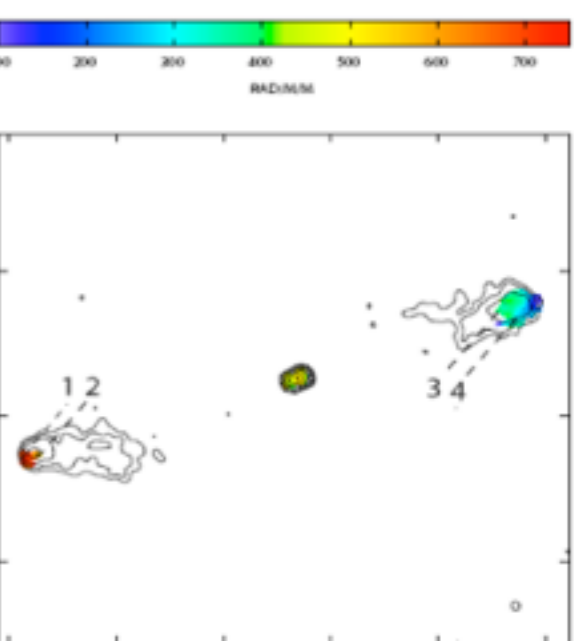
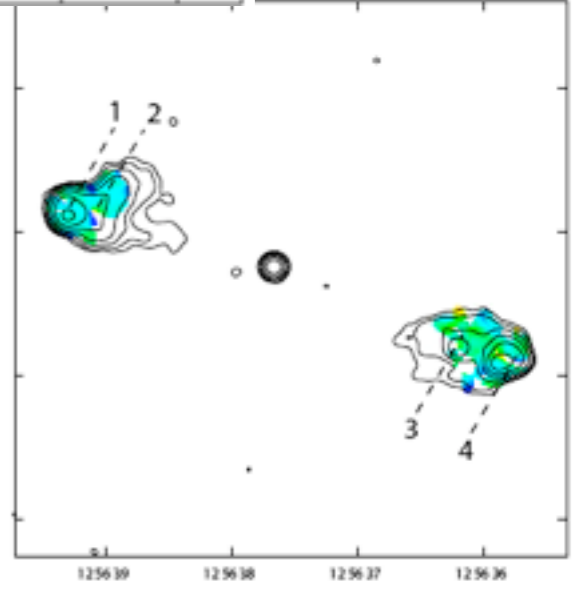
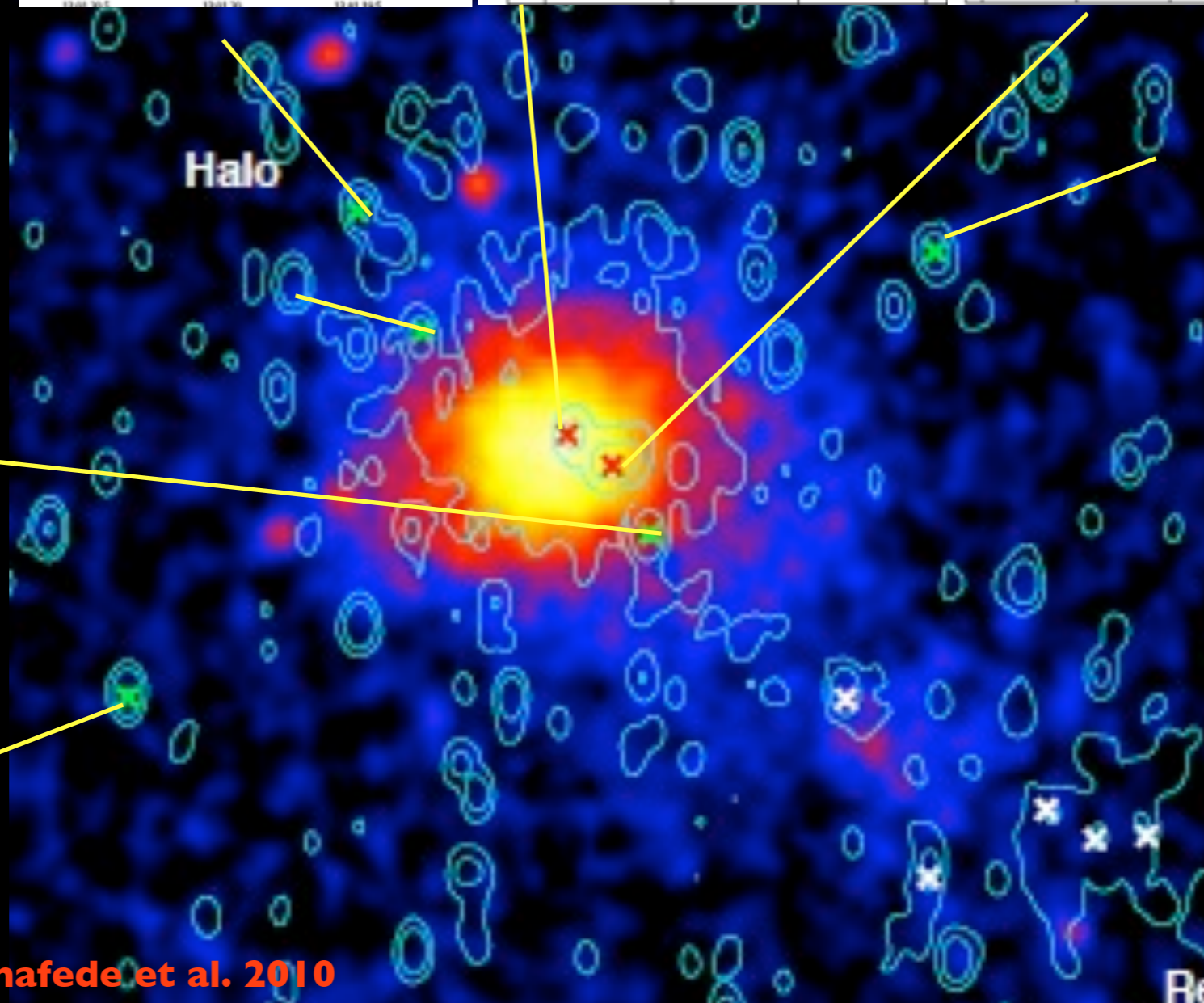
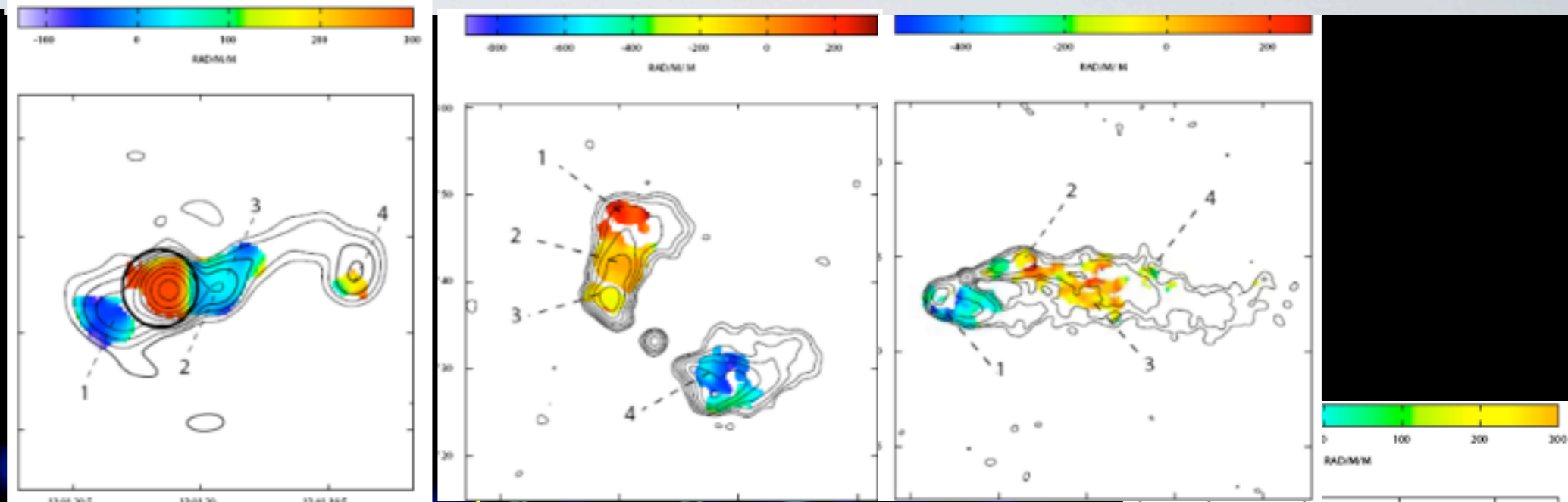
Sub-group  
accreting

B in the cluster

B amplification  
in the relic?

# OBSERVED ROTATION MEASURE IMAGES

**RM images**  
**4.3, 4.8, 8.0, 8.5 GHz**  
**Very Large Array**  
**Resolution  $\sim 1$  kpc**

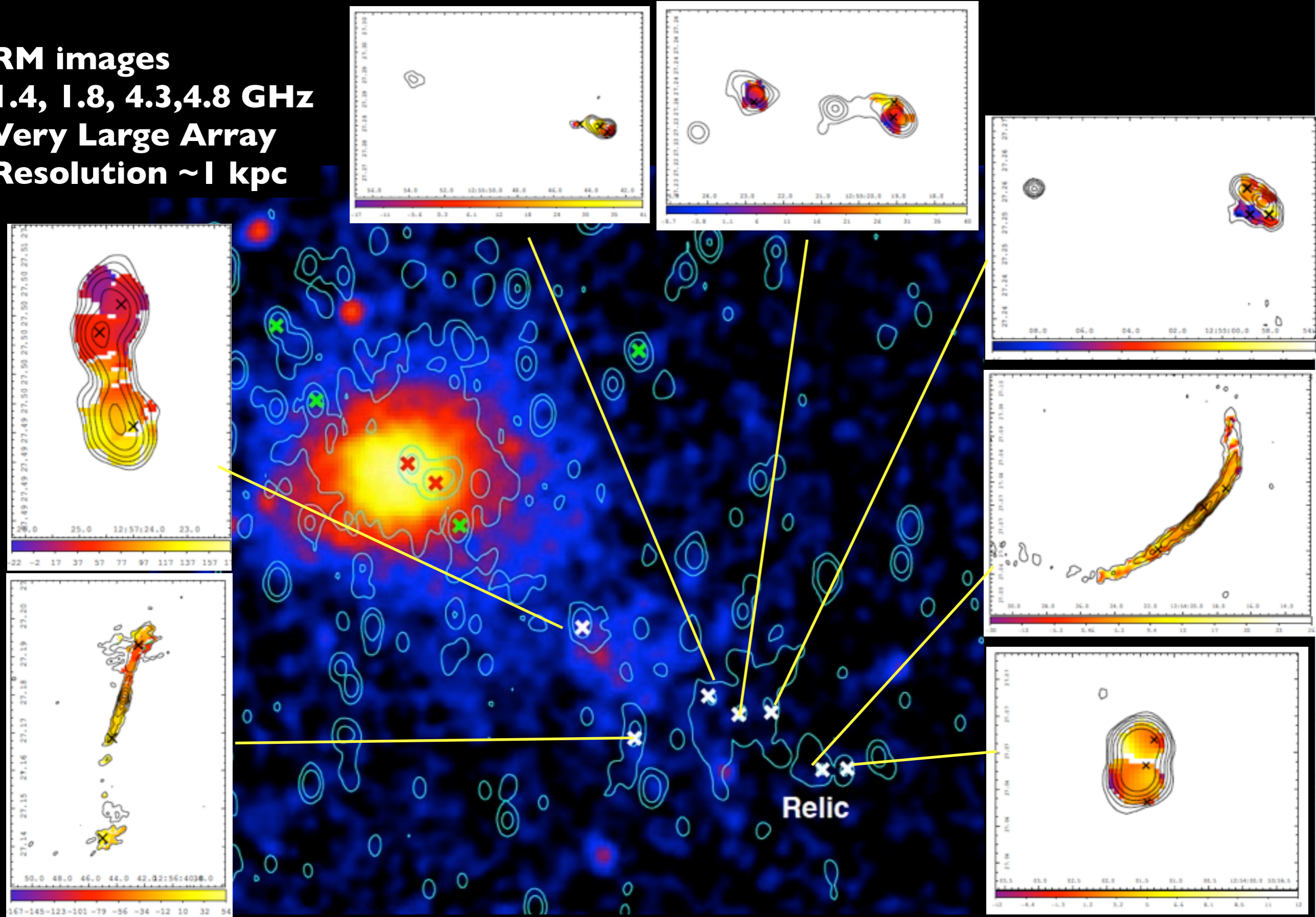


**Bonafede et al. 2010**



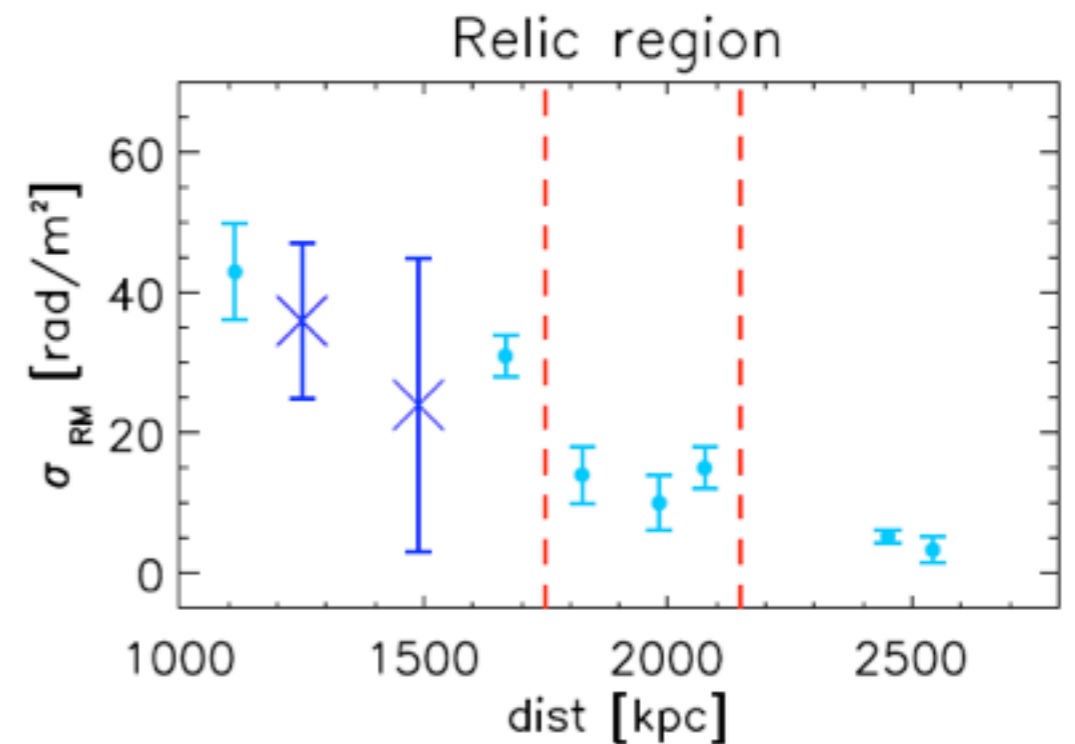
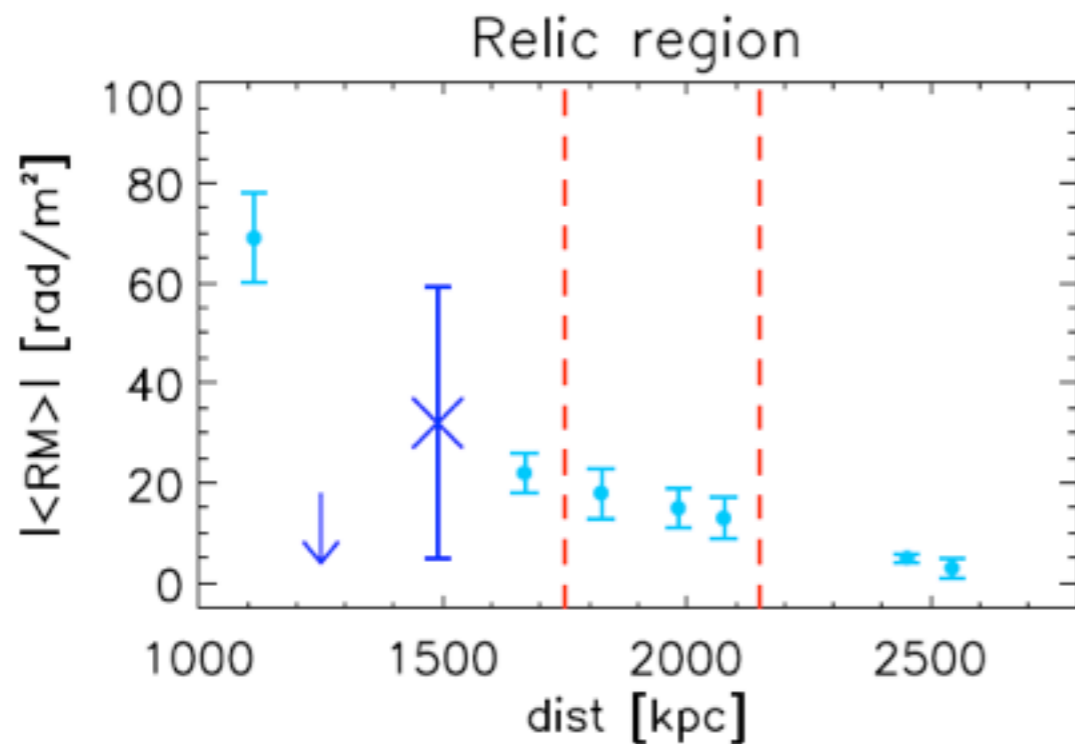
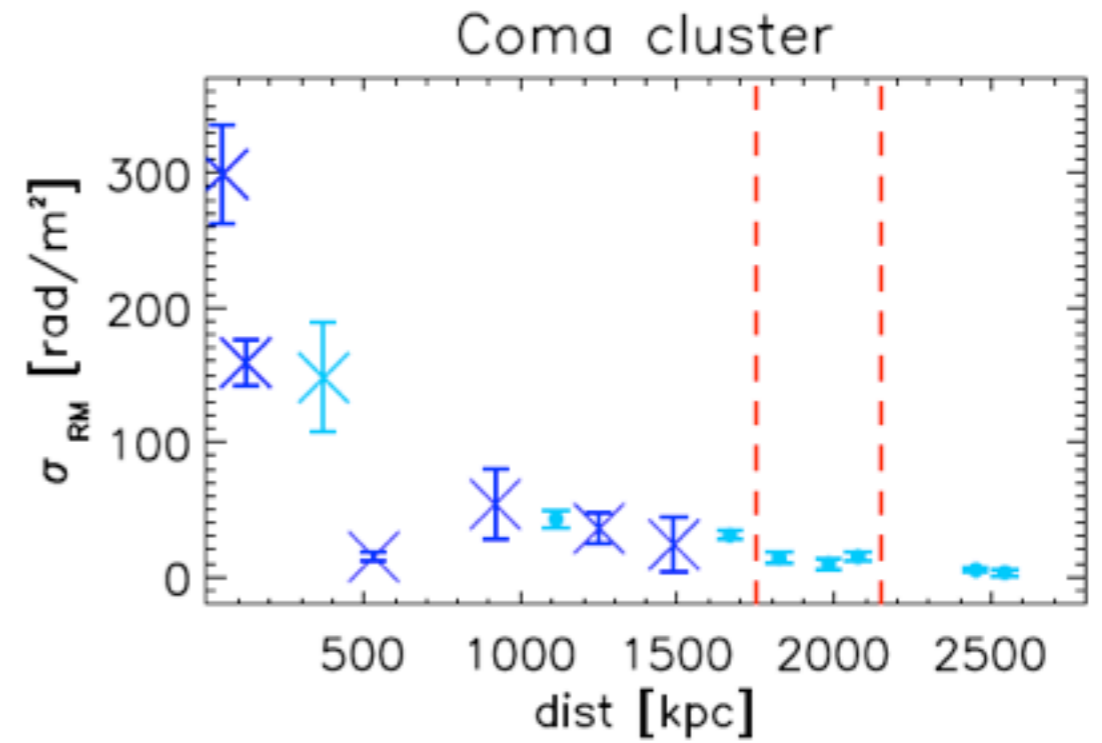
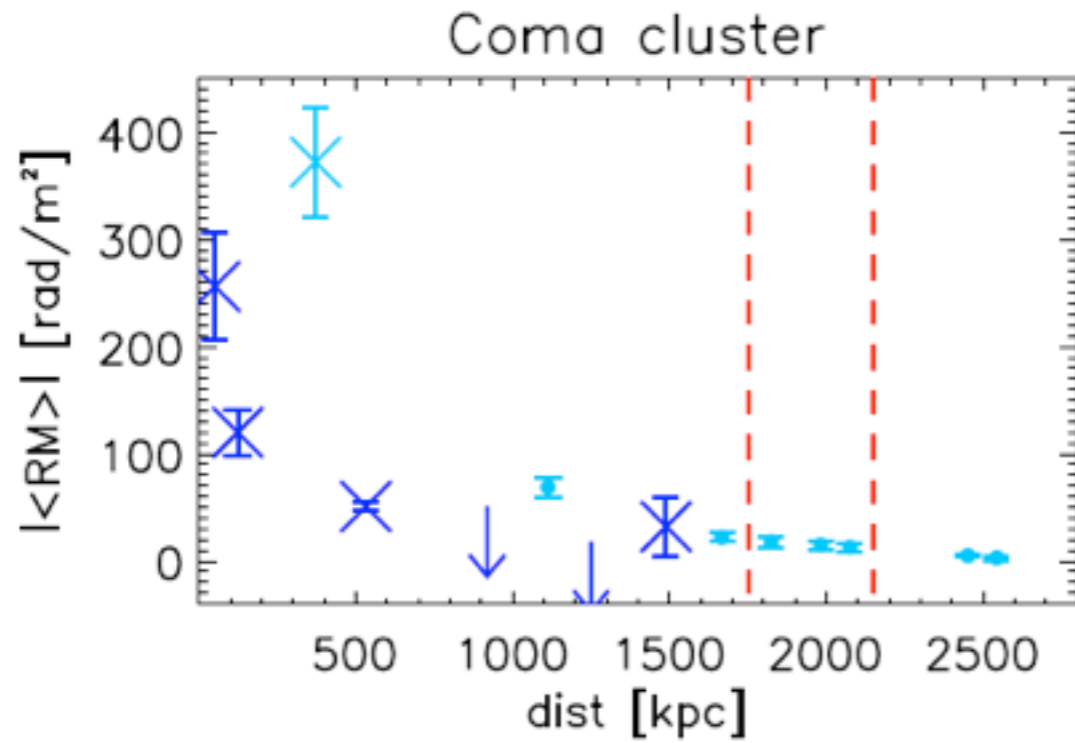
# OBSERVED ROTATION MEASURE IMAGES

**RM images**  
**1.4, 1.8, 4.3, 4.8 GHz**  
**Very Large Array**  
**Resolution  $\sim 1$  kpc**



**Bonafede et al. 2013**

# OBSERVED ROTATION MEASURE TREND



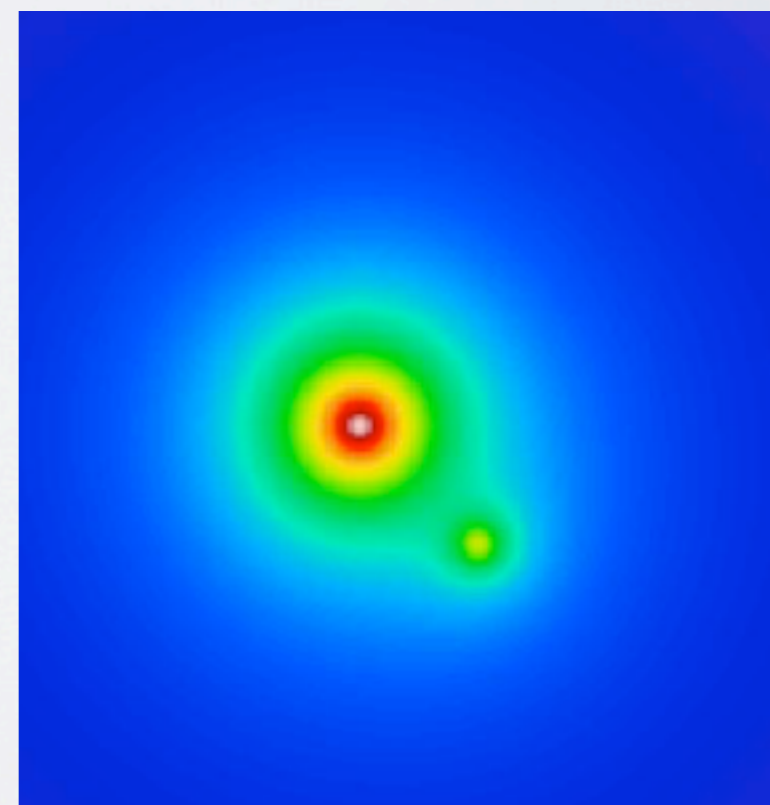
# OBTAINING MOCK ROTATION MEASURE IMAGES

observed  $RM = \int_0^d B_{los} n dl$

# OBTAINING MOCK ROTATION MEASURE IMAGES

observed  $RM = \int_0^d B_{los} n dl$  model for gas distribution

2 isothermal gas spheres  
in equilibrium  
matching X-ray  
observations



# OBTAINING MOCK ROTATION MEASURE IMAGES

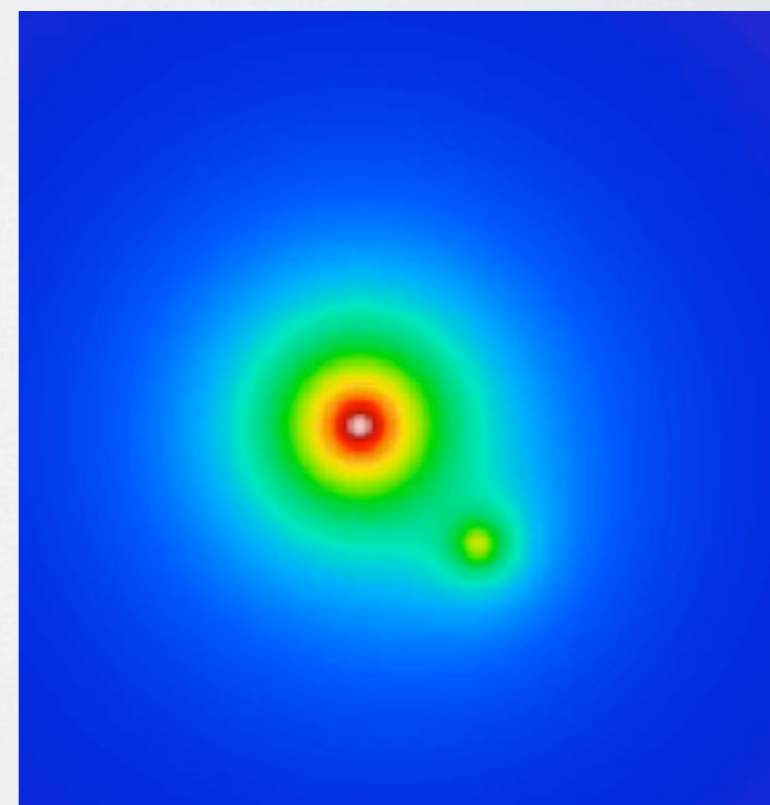
observed  $RM = \int_0^d B_{los} n dl$  model for gas distribution

3D model for the magnetic field

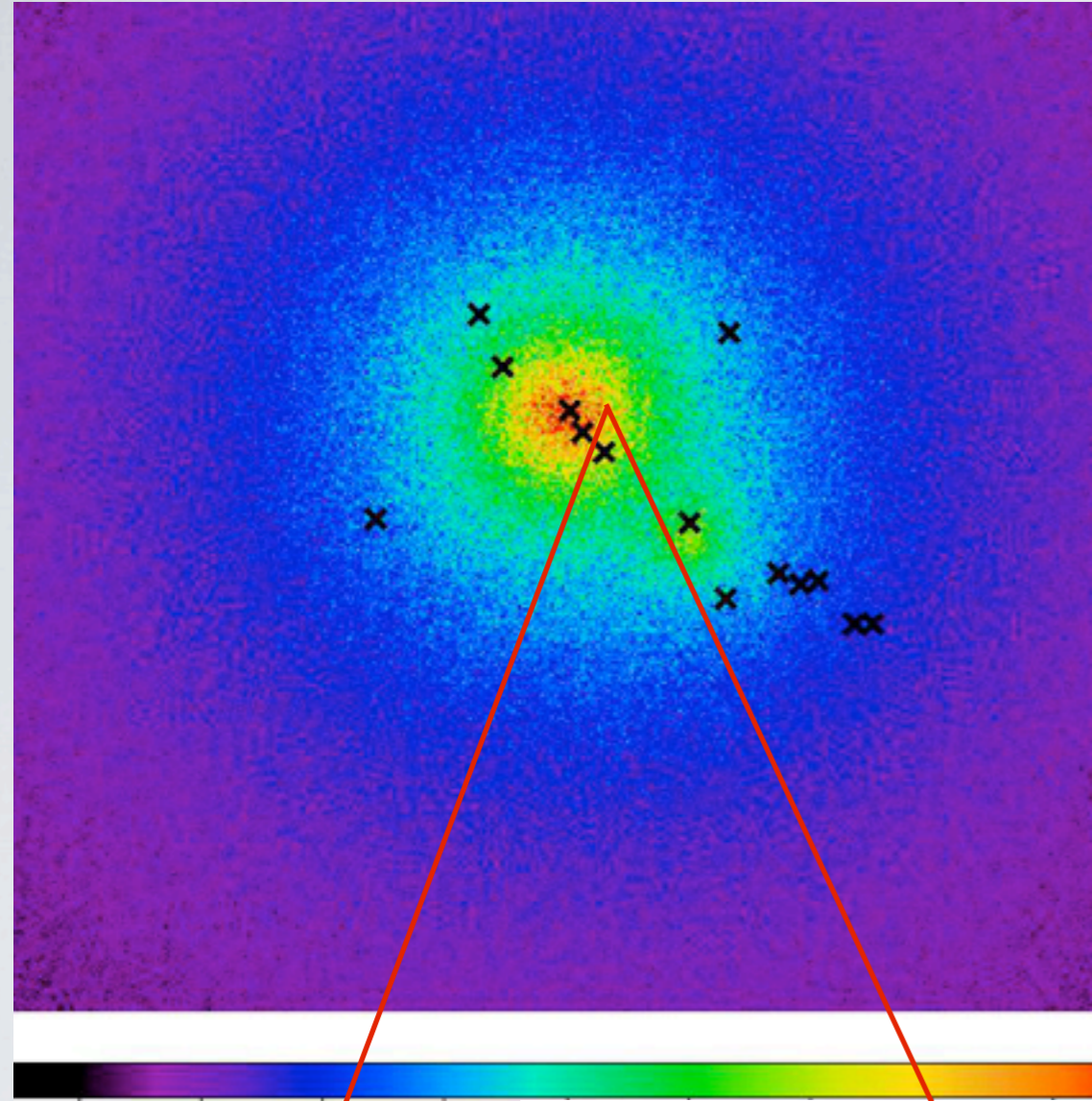
2 isothermal gas spheres in equilibrium matching X-ray observations

$$|B_k|^2 \propto k^{-n}$$

$$B(r) = B_0 \left( \frac{n_e}{n_0} \right)^\eta$$

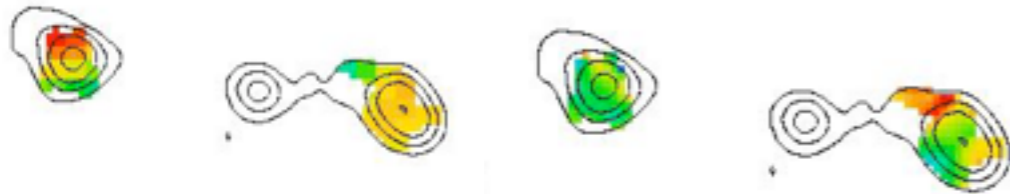


# MOCK ROTATION MEASURE OBSERVATIONS



observed

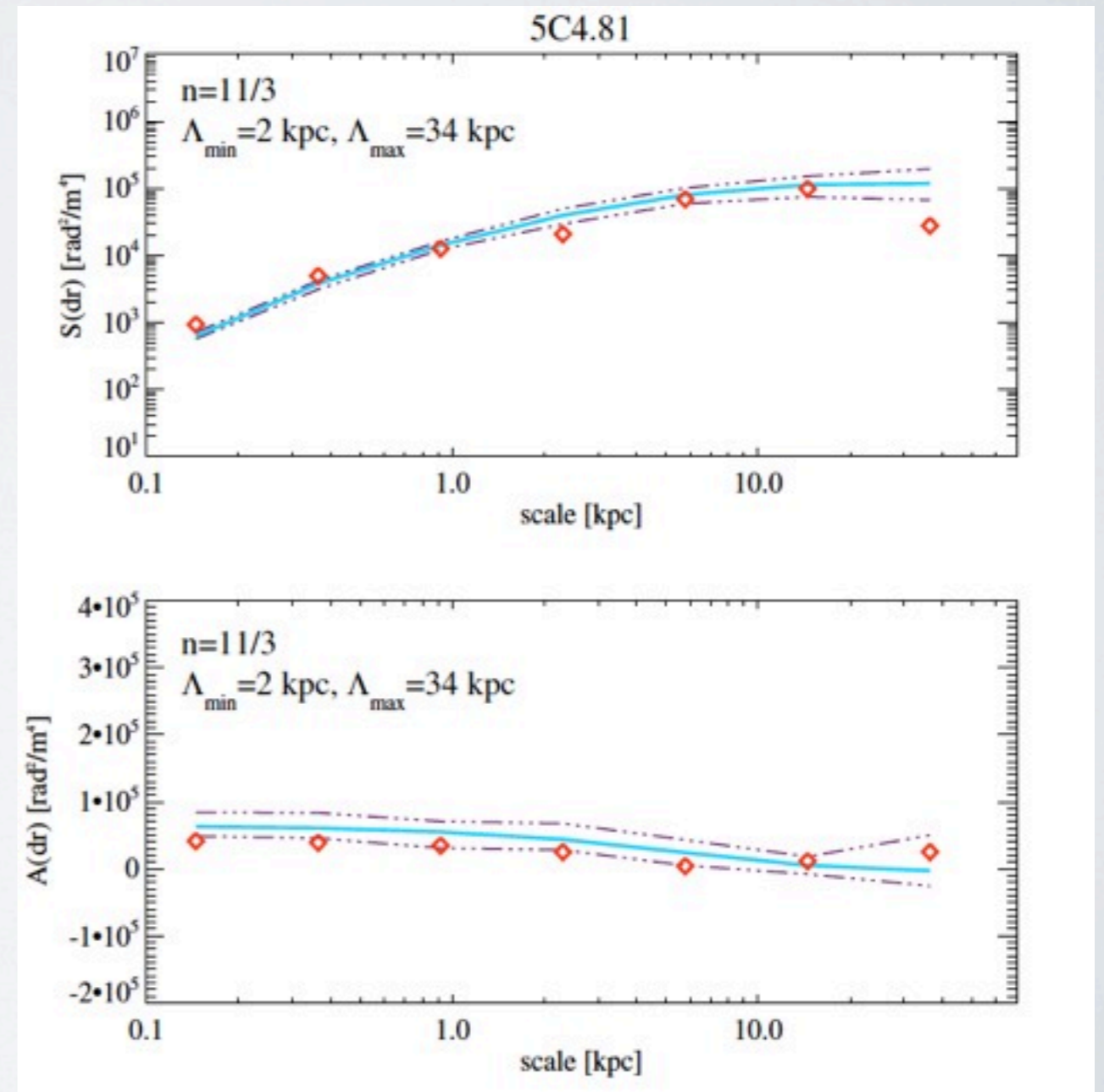
mock



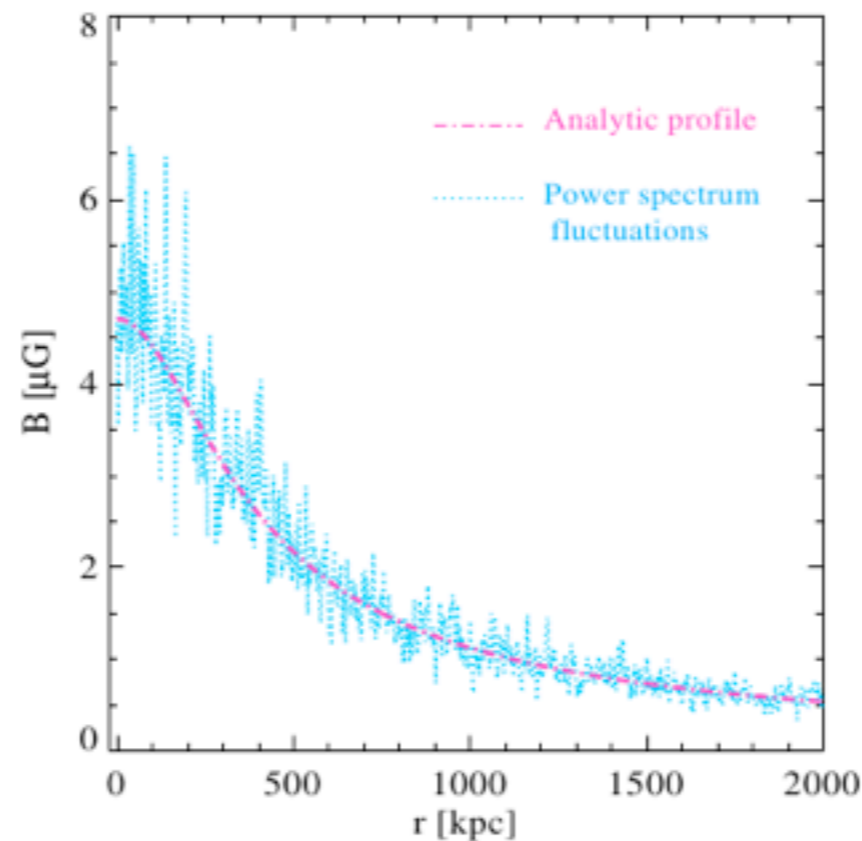
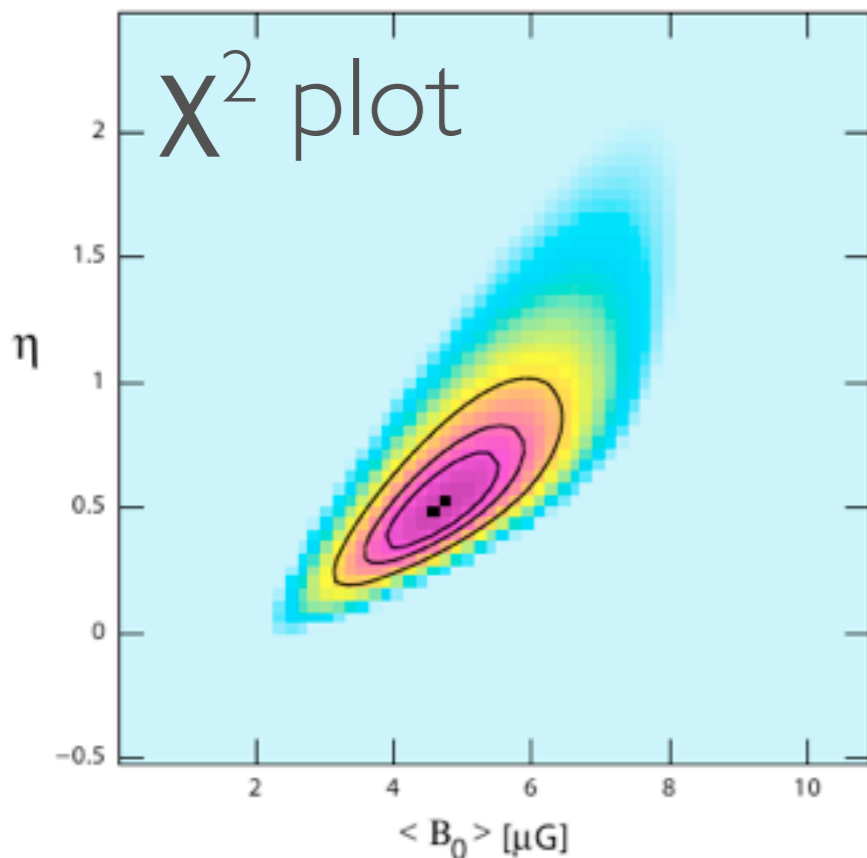
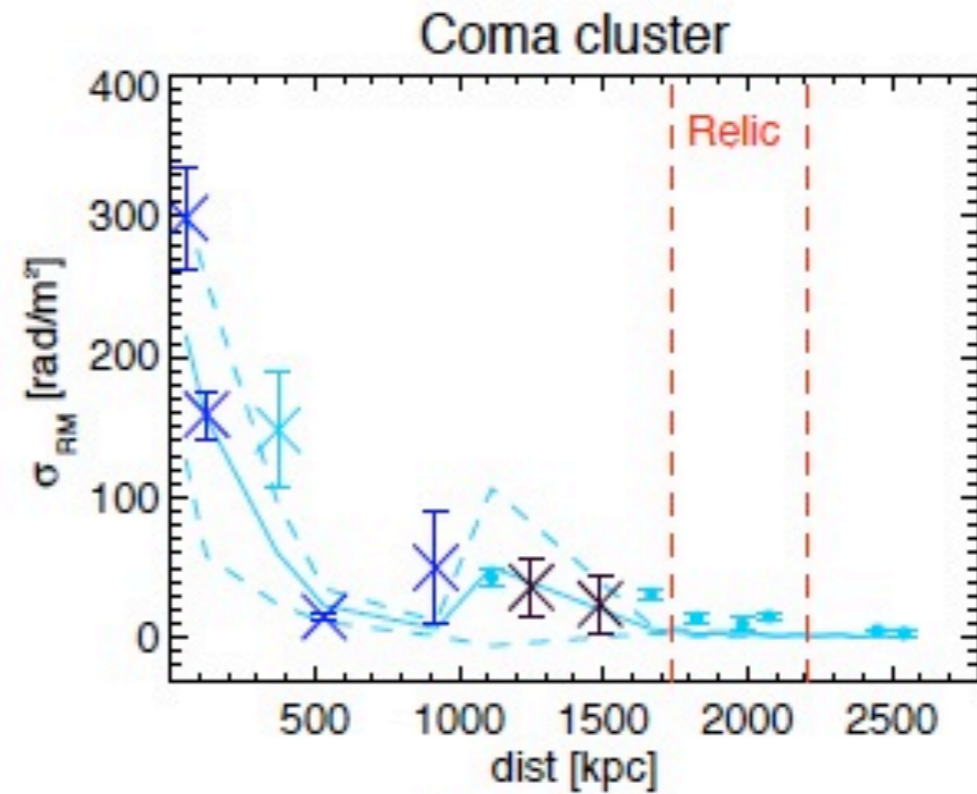
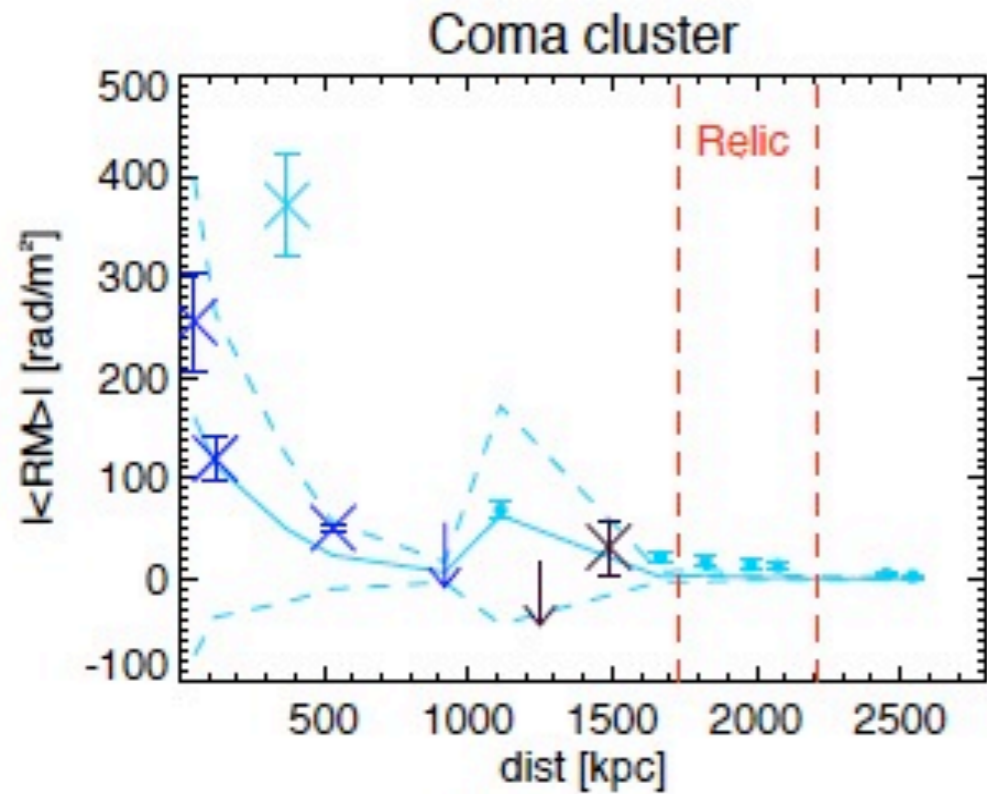
$$B(r) = B_0 \left( \frac{n_e}{n_0} \right)^\eta$$

$$|B_k|^2 \propto k^{-n}$$

Fit of Structure function  
and  
autocorrelation function



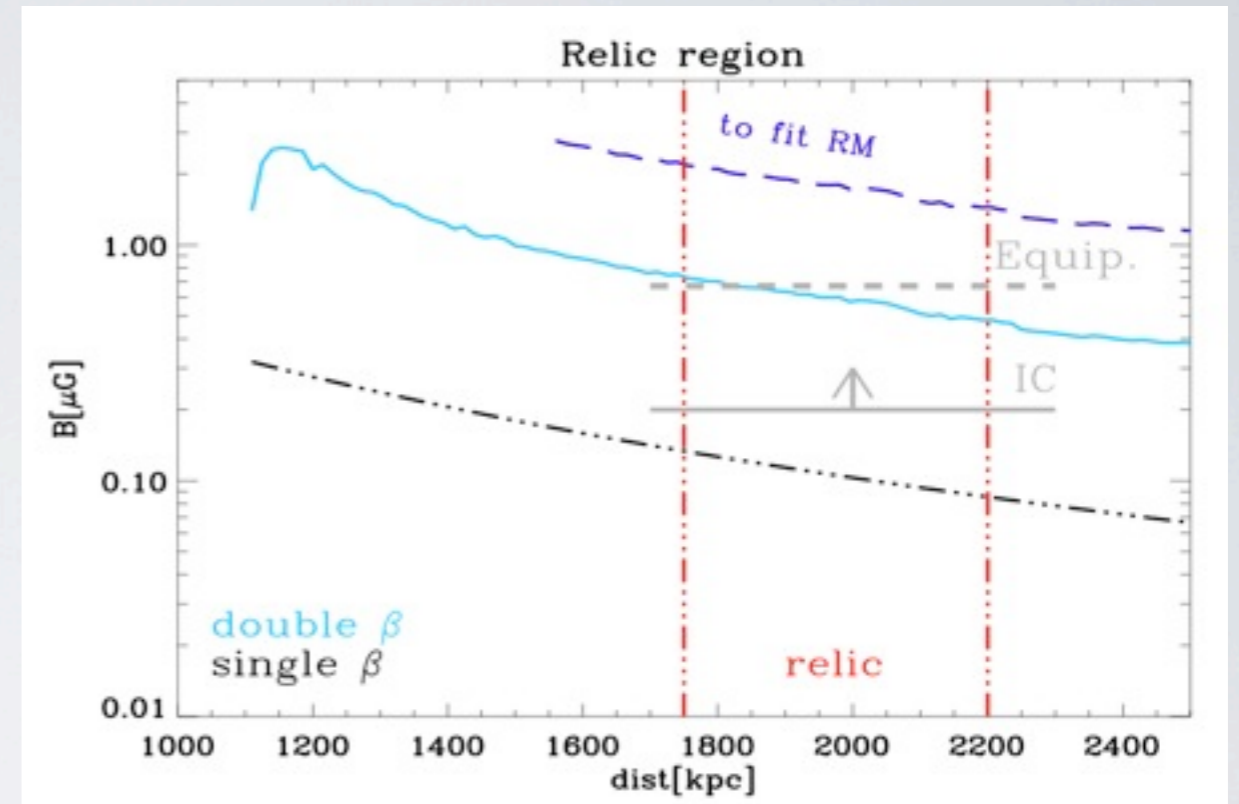
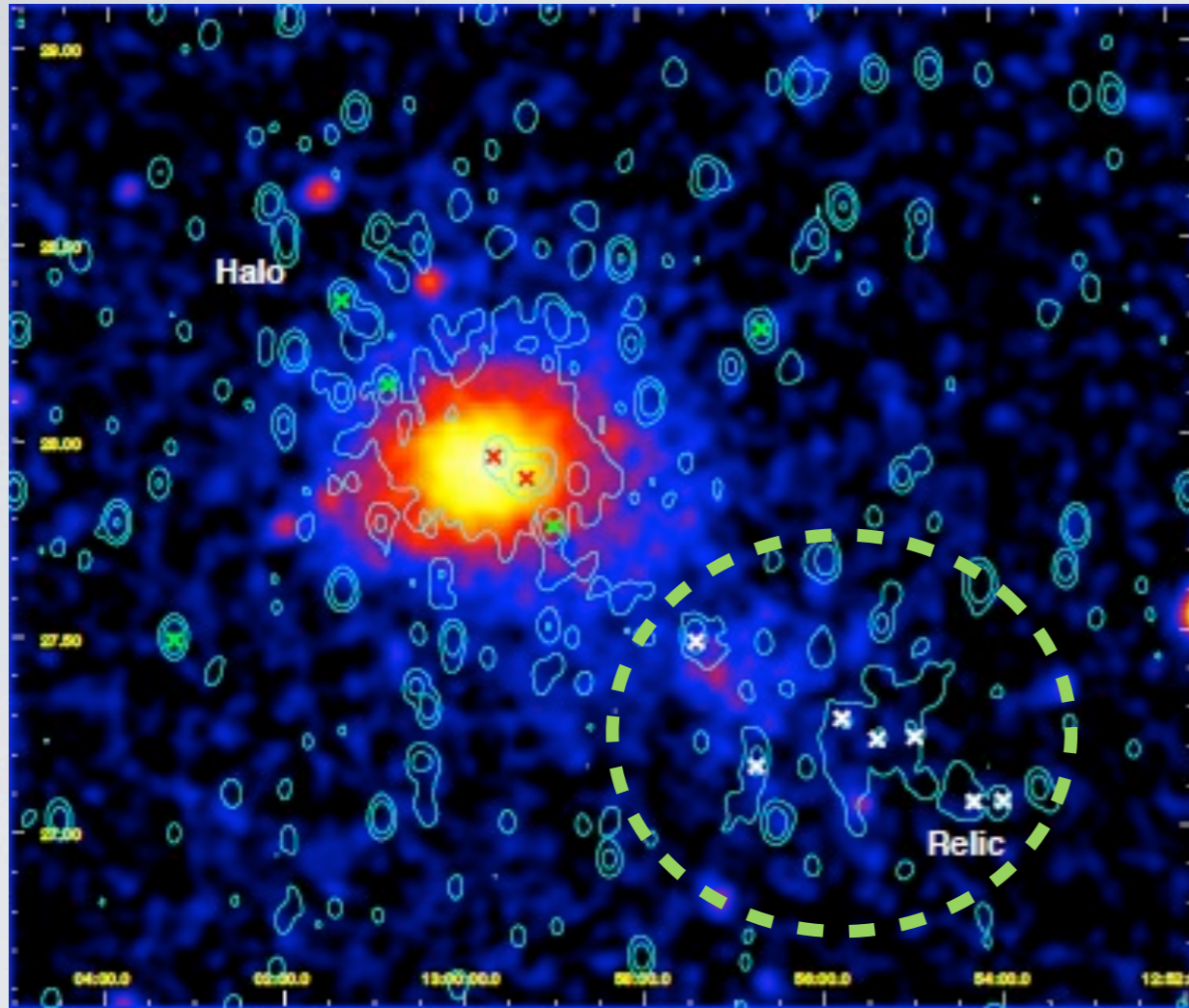
# MAGNETIC FIELD IN THE COMA CLUSTER



$$B \propto B_0 n_{gas}^\eta$$

$B_0 = 4.7 \mu\text{G},$   
 $\eta = 0.5$

# B AMPLIFICATION IN THE RELIC?



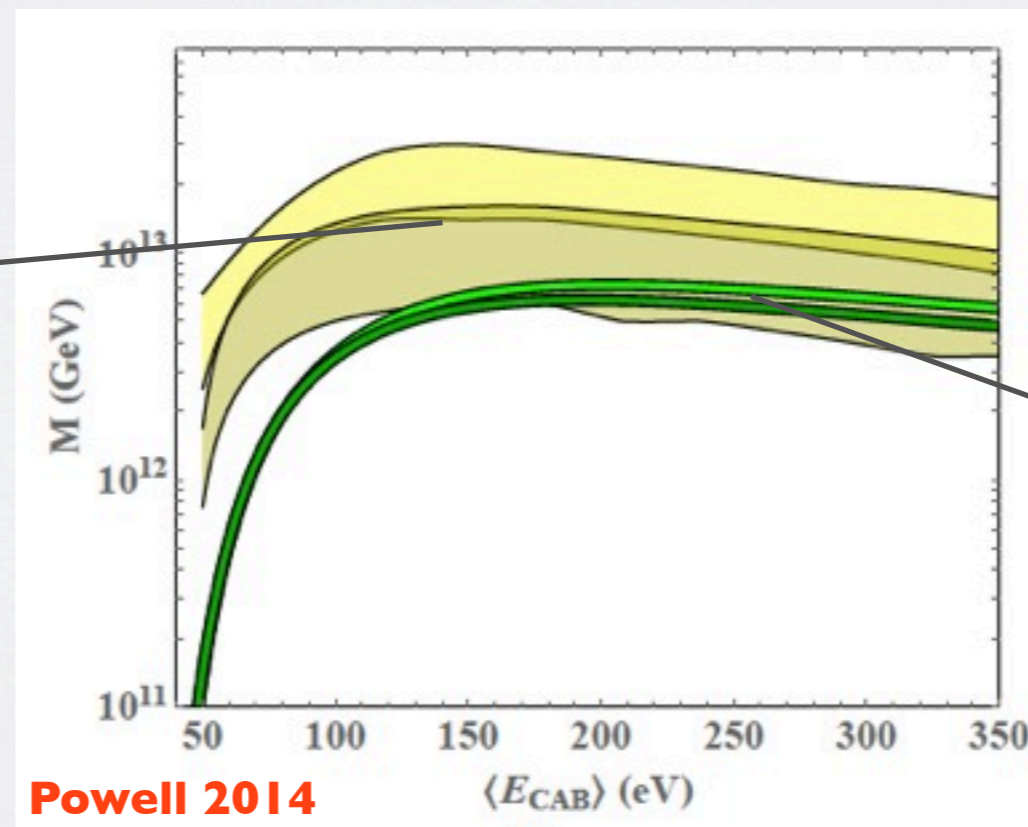
- Magnetic field amplified by a factor 3 in the relic region
- no Jump at the relic (shock)
- filament?



# MAGNETIC FIELD IN COMA AND ALP

- Numerical simulations of ALP-photon conversion (central 0.5deg) 0.1 -1 keV + Coma magnetic field (Bonafede et al 2010)  $\Rightarrow$  match the observed X-ray excess (Conlon et al. 2013)
- X-ray excess in the outskirts of Coma consistent ALP-photon conversion simulations + B field in the outskirts (Kraljic et al, 2014, Powell 2014)

**Best fit  
regions for  
Coma  
outskirts**



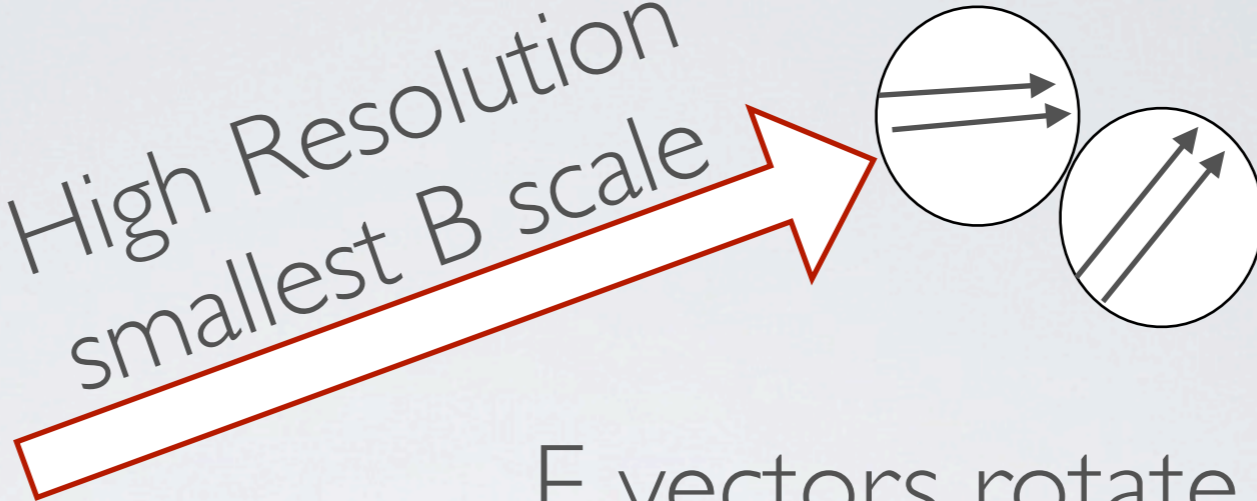
**Best fit  
regions for  
Coma  
centre**

# MAGNETIC FIELD THROUGH DEPOLARISATION

$$\Phi_{obs} = \Phi_{int} + RM\lambda^2$$

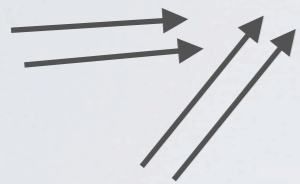
$$RM = \int_0^d B_{los} n dl$$

High Resolution  
smallest B scale

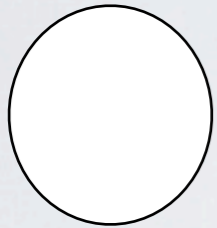


no change  
in  
polarisation

E vectors rotate  
by  $RM\lambda^2$



E vectors



resolution

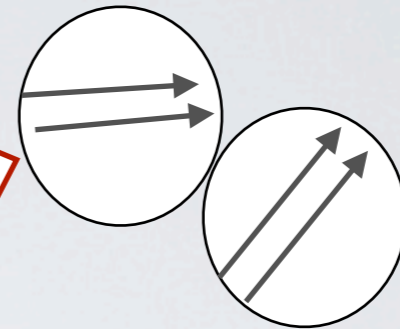
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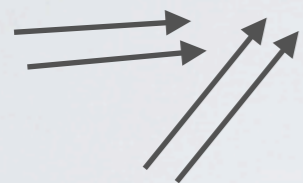
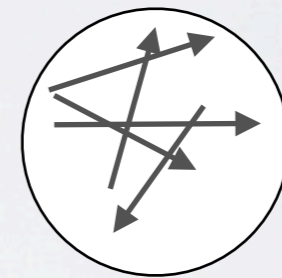
High Resolution  
smallest B scale



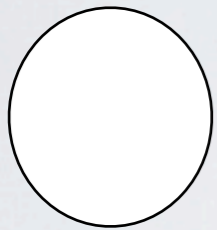
E vectors rotate  
by  $RM\lambda^2$

net  
polarisation  
becomes  
smaller

Low resolution  
psf > smallest B  
scale



E vectors



resolution

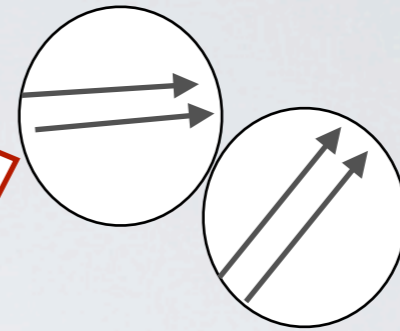
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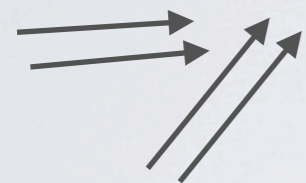
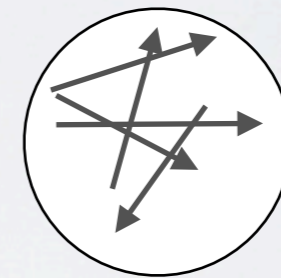
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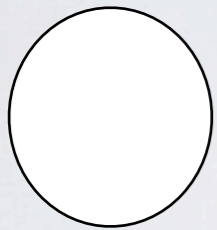
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E vectors

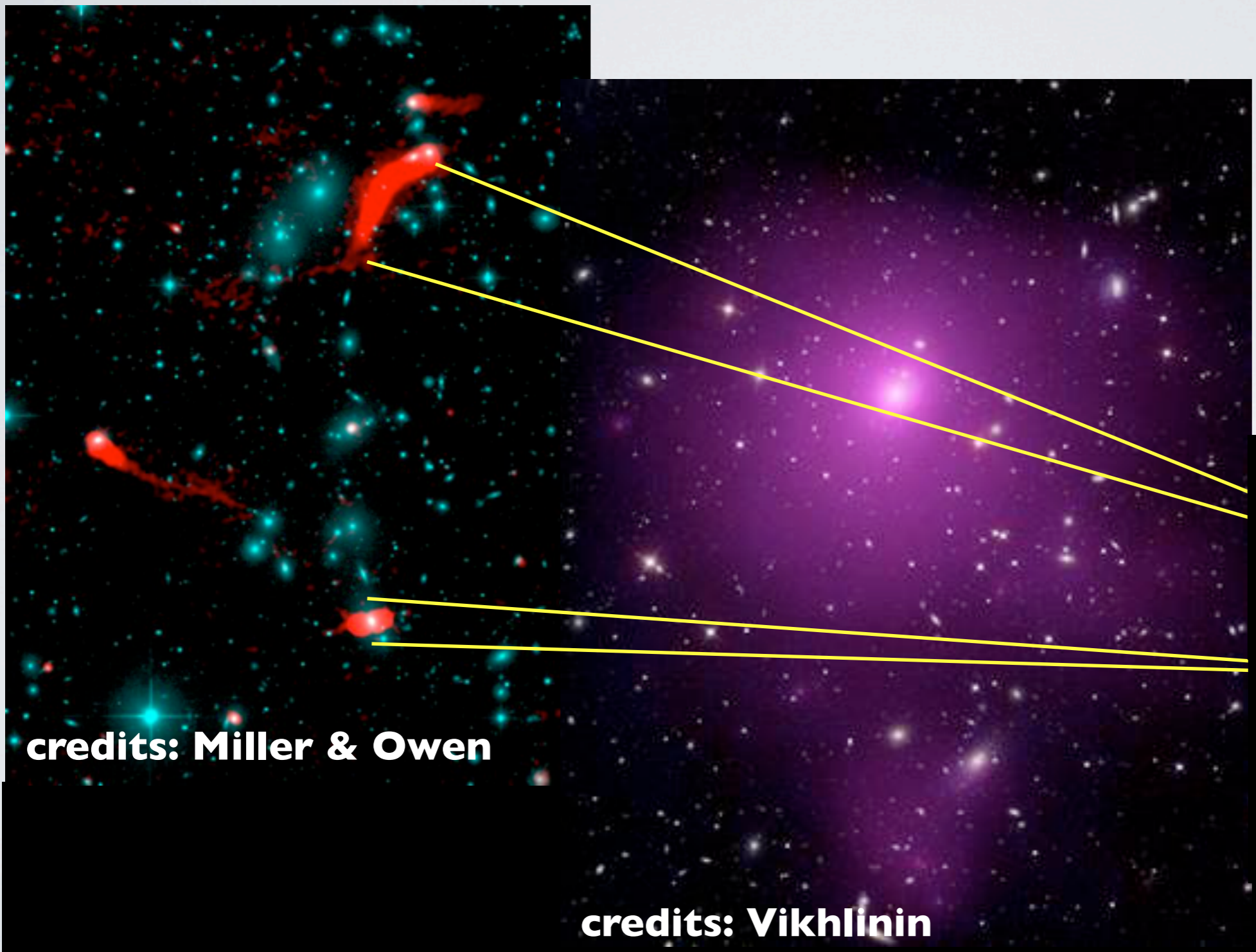


resolution

Low resolution  $\Rightarrow$  lower polarisation

Lower level of polarisation tracks regions with higher RM

# MAGNETIC FIELD THROUGH DEPOLARISATION



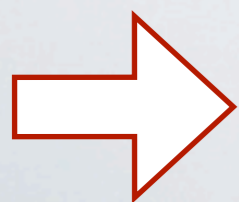
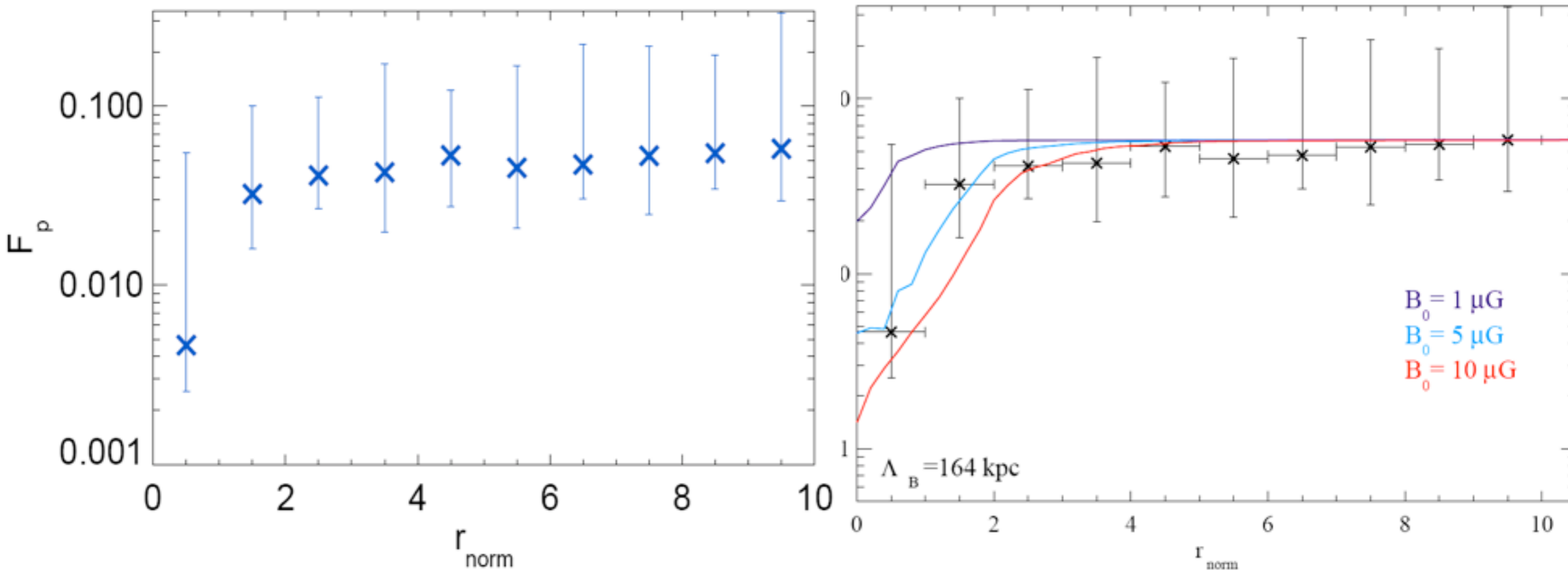
credits: Miller & Owen

credits: Vikhlinin

Higher RM  
lower fractional  
polarisation  
lower RM  
higher fractional  
polarisation

# MAGNETIC FIELD THROUGH DEPOLARISATION

Sample of 32 massive galaxy clusters from HIFLUGCS (Reiprich & Boehringer 2002)  
Northern VLA Sky Survey 1.4 GHz, 45'' resolution



Magnetic field common constituent of clusters  
best fit with  $B_0 = 5 \mu\text{G}$

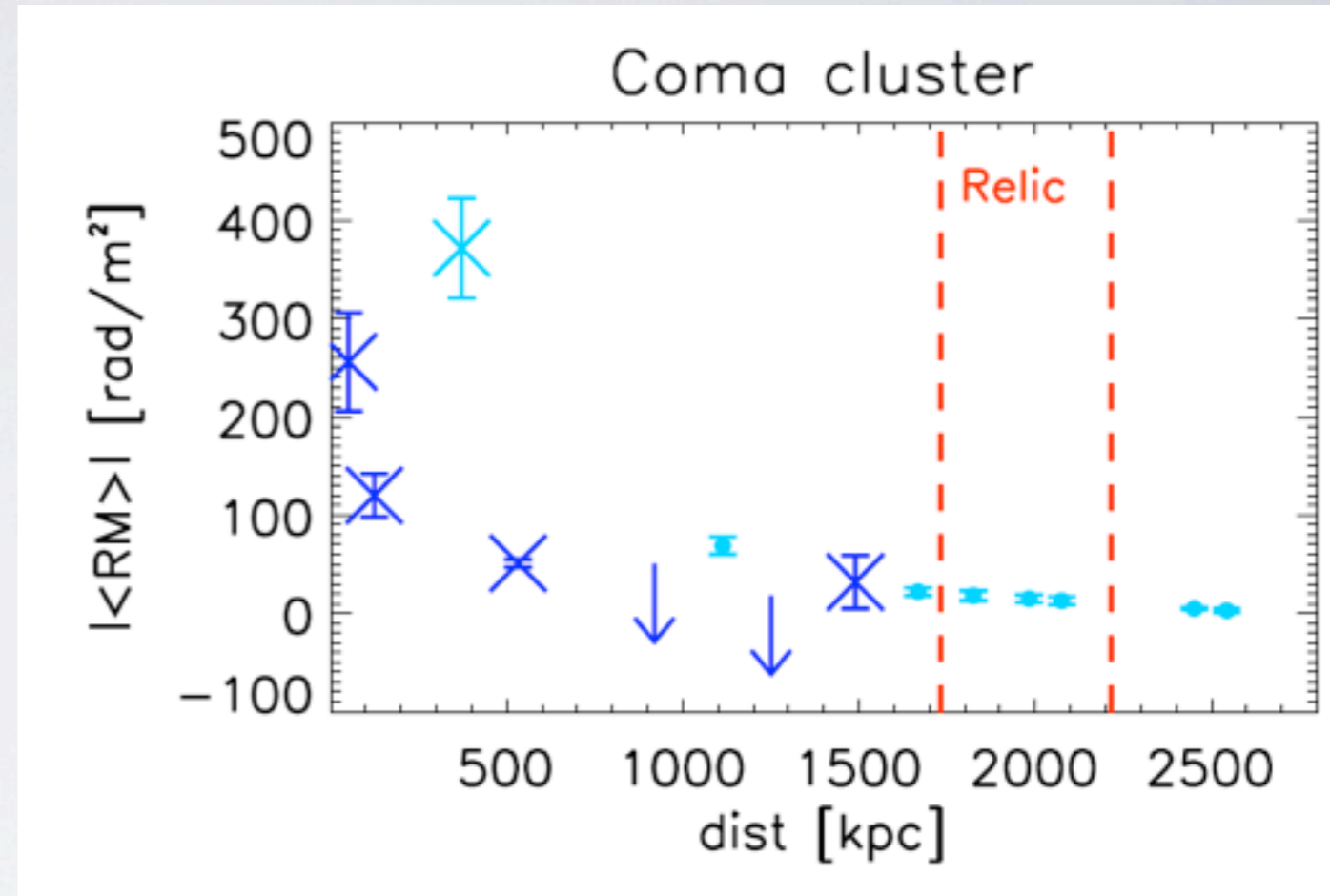
# LIMITS

1) Main limit to B studies in clusters today: Number of sources detectable through the cluster



14 sources  
~ 150h observing time

2) Cluster members: local effect?



# FUTURE PROSPECTS

## THE SQUARE KILOMETER ARRAY

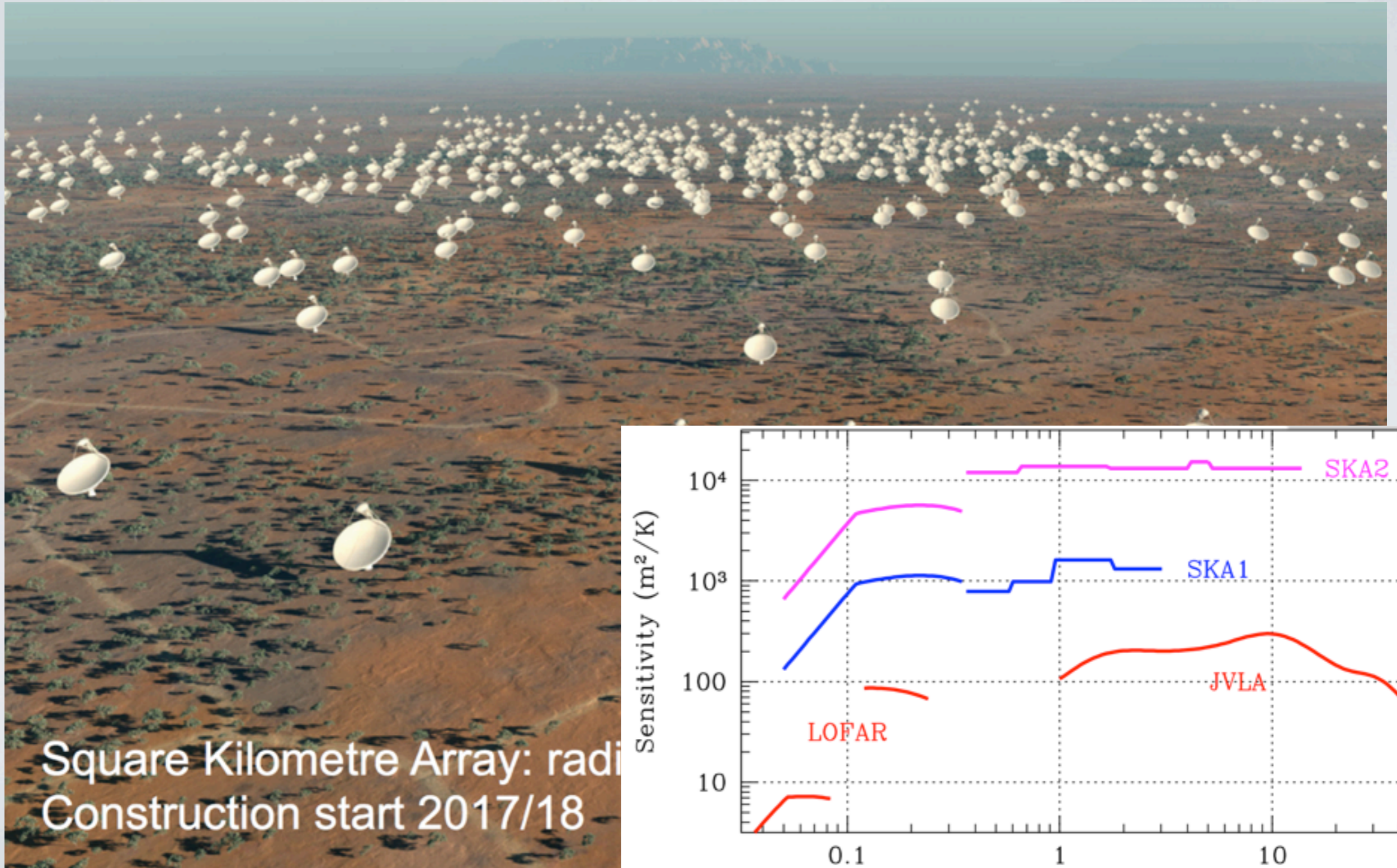


Square Kilometre Array: radio  
Construction start 2017/18



# FUTURE PROSPECTS

## THE SQUARE KILOMETER ARRAY

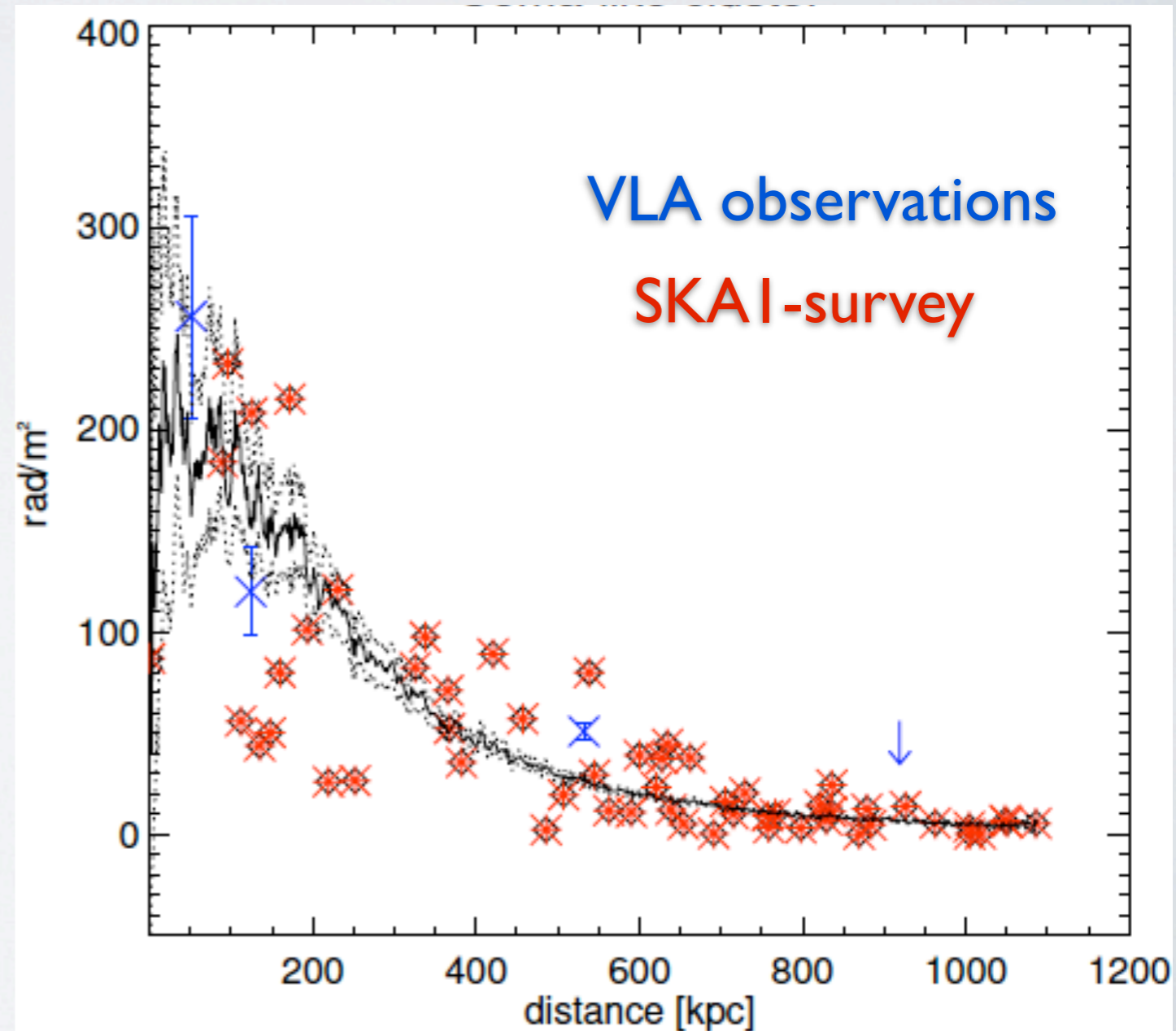
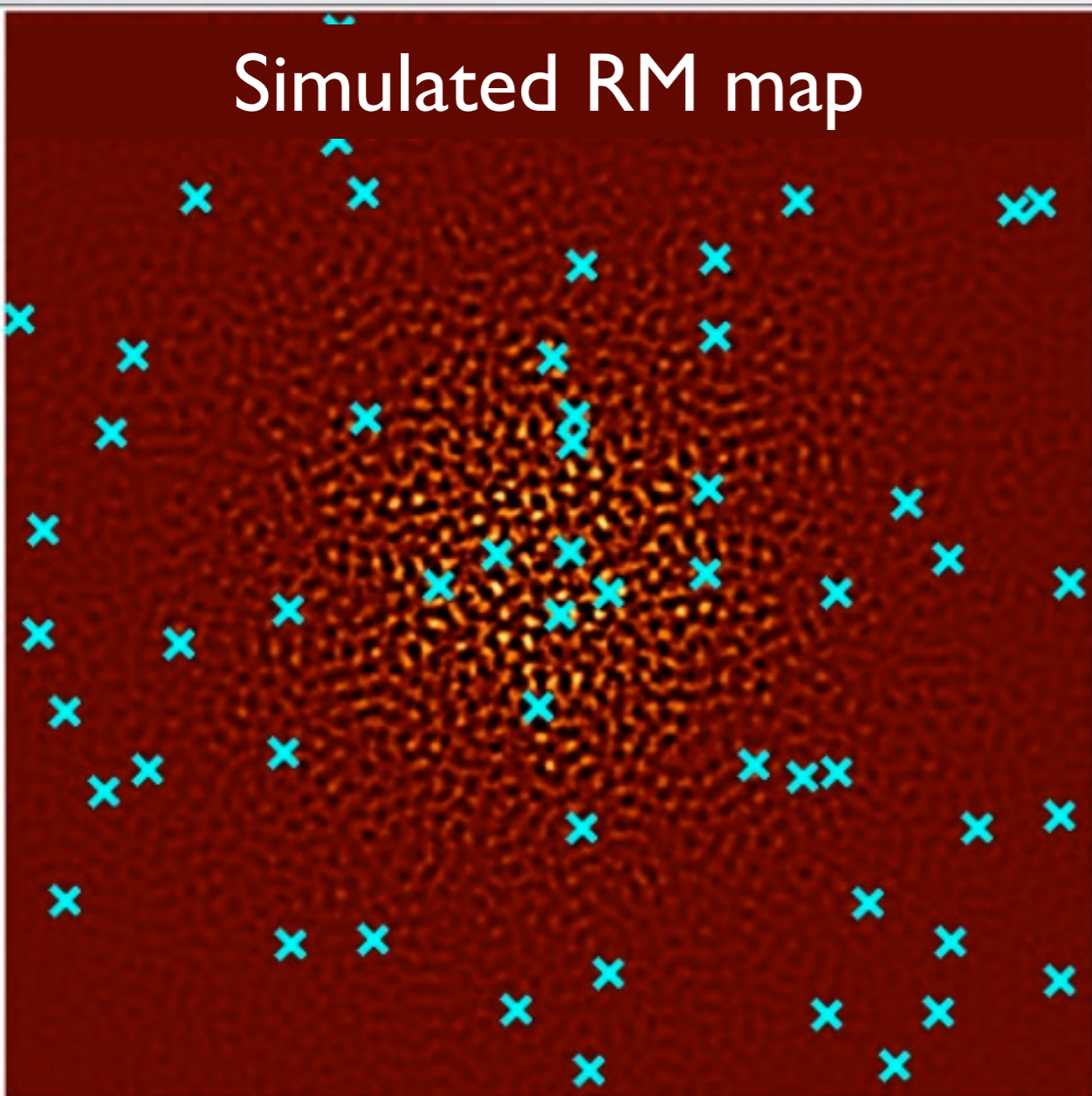


# SKA I A COMA-LIKE CLUSTER

300 polarised  
sources/sq deegree

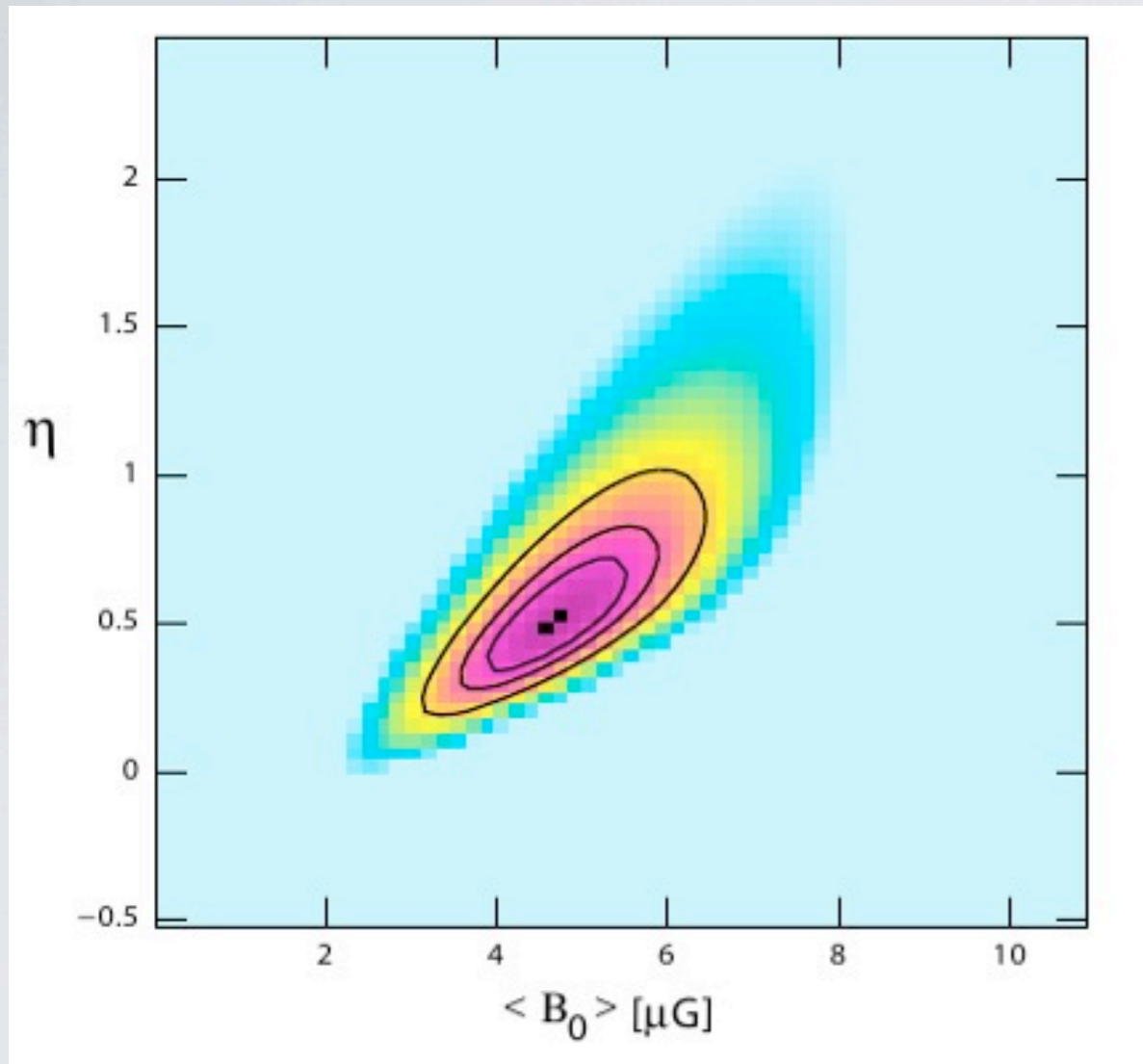
$$B \propto B_0 n_{gas}^\eta$$

Simulated RM map



# SKA I A COMA-LIKE CLUSTER

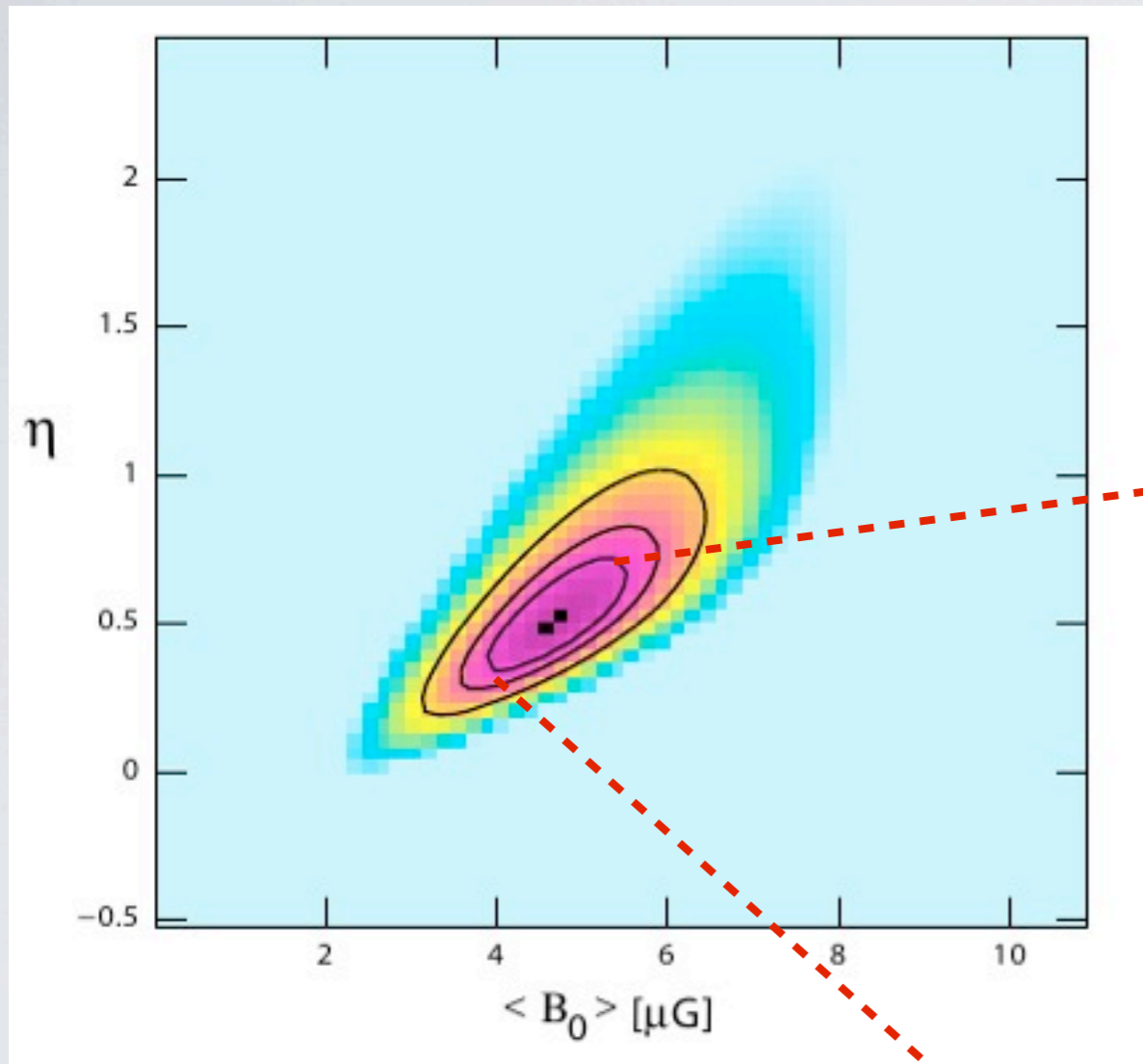
VLA data  $\rightarrow \chi^2$  plane



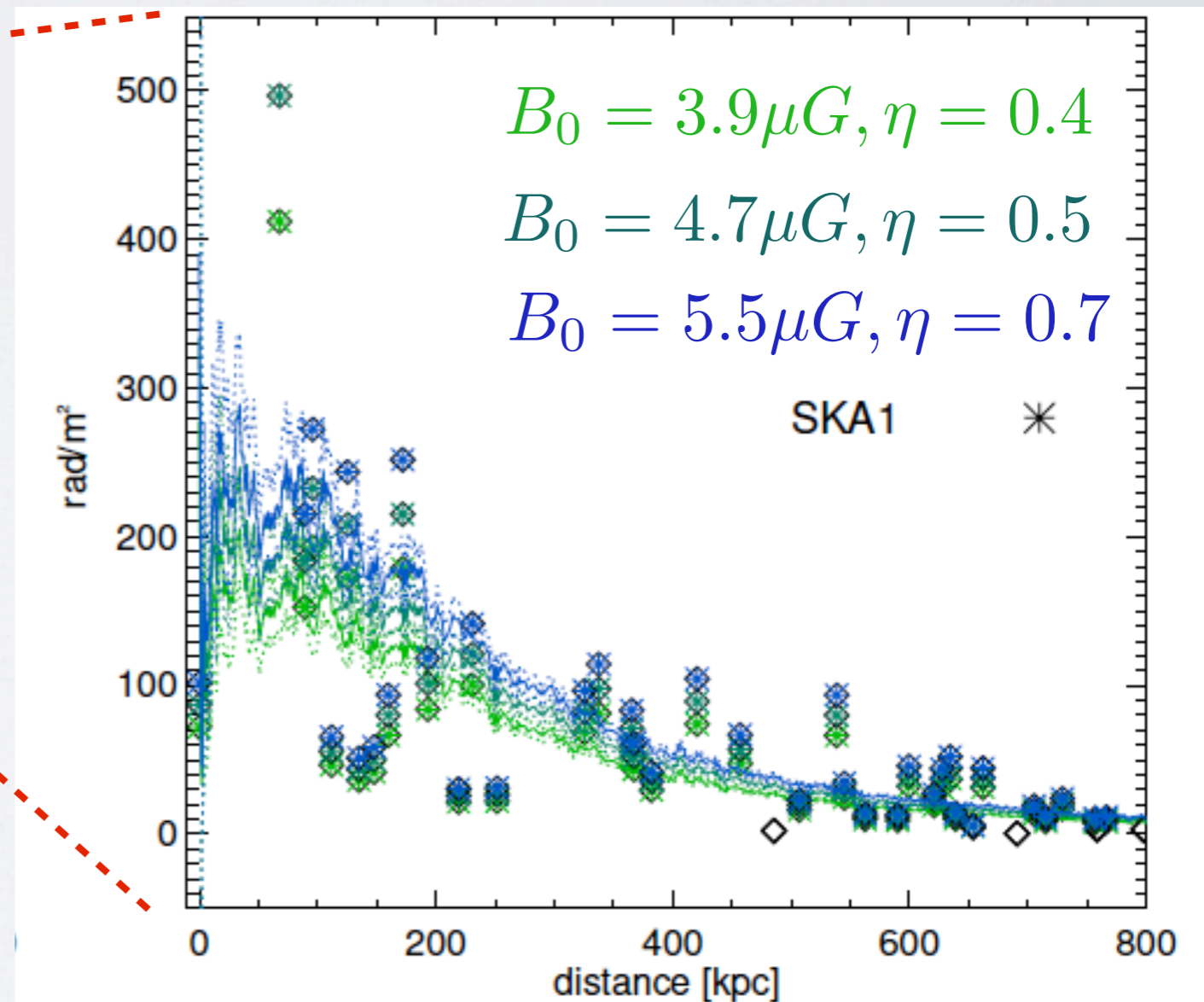
$$B \propto B_0 n_{gas}^\eta$$

# SKA1 A COMA-LIKE CLUSTER

VLA data  $\rightarrow \chi^2$  plane



$$B \propto B_0 n_{gas}^\eta$$

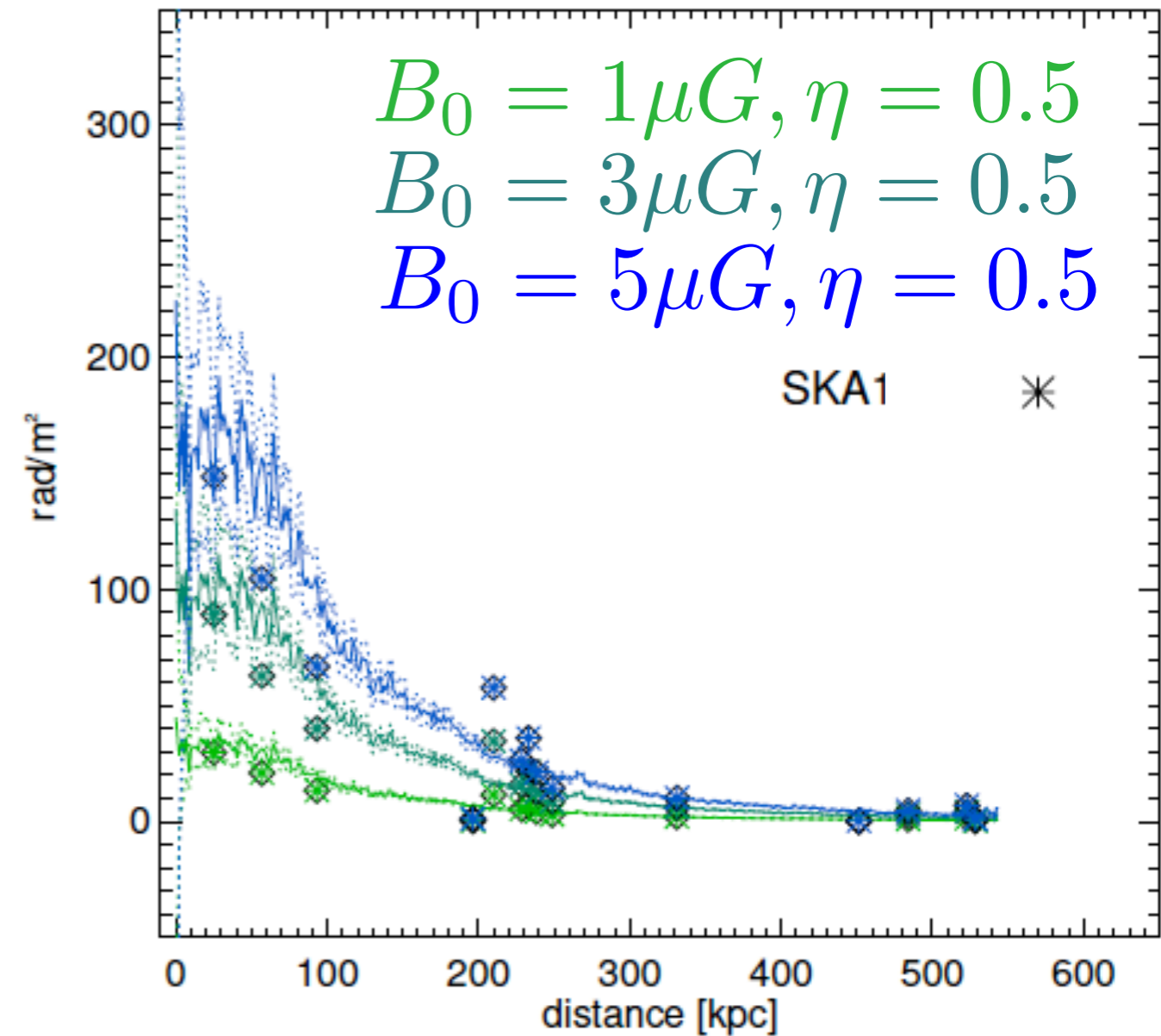
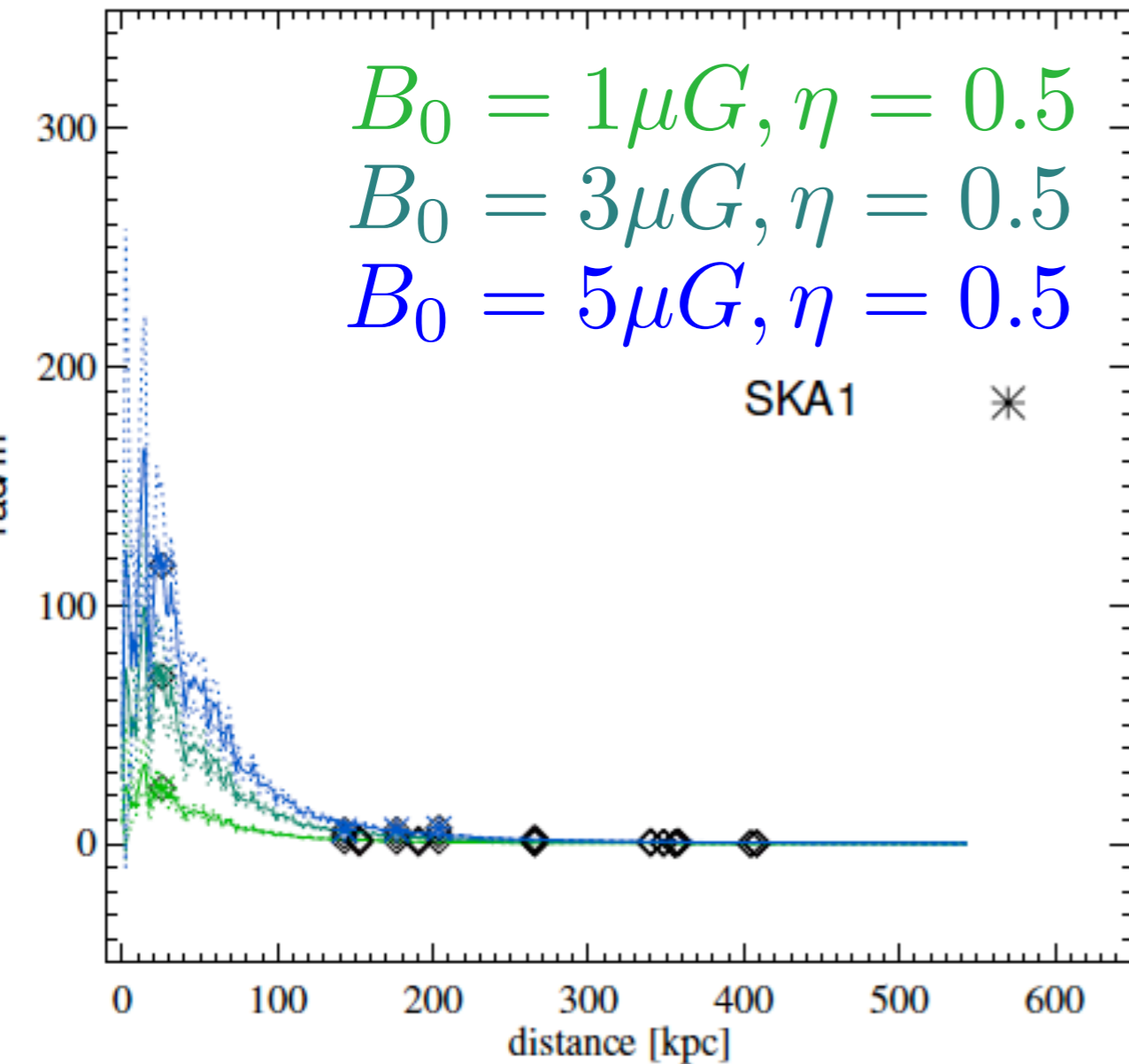


# SKA1 LOWER MASS CLUSTERS AND GROUPS

$$B \propto B_0 n_{gas}^\eta$$

$$M \approx 10^{13} M_\odot$$

$$M \approx 10^{15} M_\odot$$



# CONCLUSIONS

- Galaxy clusters: B on Mpc scale - best place to search for ALP
- Faraday Rotation most powerful technique
- Future is bright: SKA B in samples of clusters and groups