



Massive star formation feedback with **e-MERLIN and the SKA**

Katharine G. Johnston (University of Leeds)

Melvin Hoare, Wouter Vlemmings
and the MSF e-MERLIN Legacy Project team

eMERLIN



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MSF = Massive Star Formation



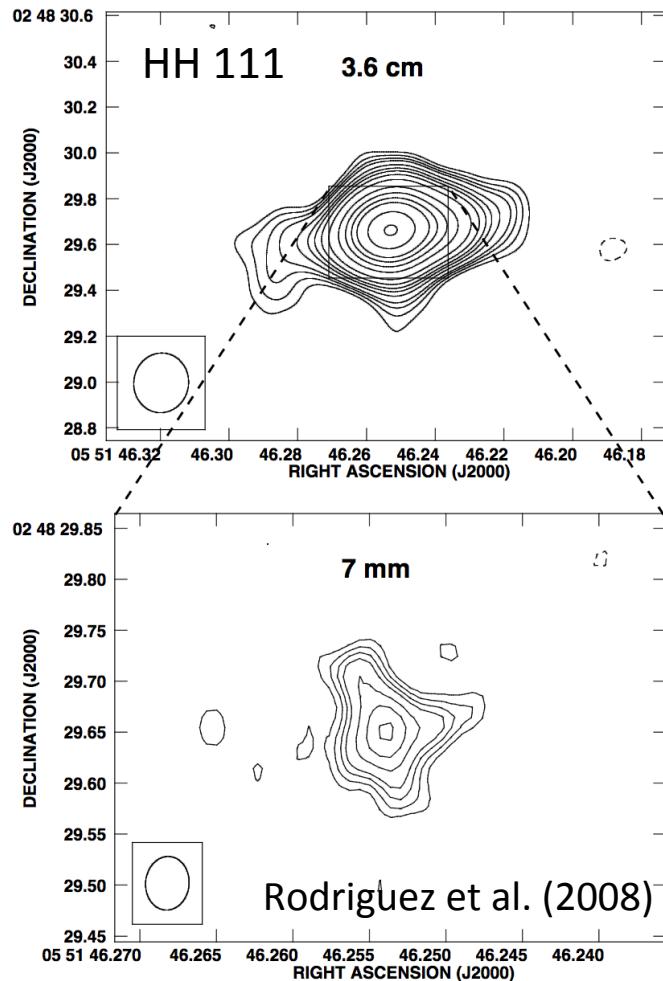
MERLIN

The MERLIN logo features the word "MERLIN" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. A stylized, light-blue "M" is positioned to the left of the text, with a small, five-pointed starburst or spark icon at its top right corner.

Ionized jets from low-mass stars



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Flux density of sources **~1mJy**

Trace the **base of the outflow** phenomenon

Give upper limits to the **jet width / collimation**

Proper motions give the velocity of the jet:
~100 km/s

High-resolution observations may be able to distinguish between **disk** (Konigl & Pudritz 2000) or **X wind** (Shu et al. 1994) **models**

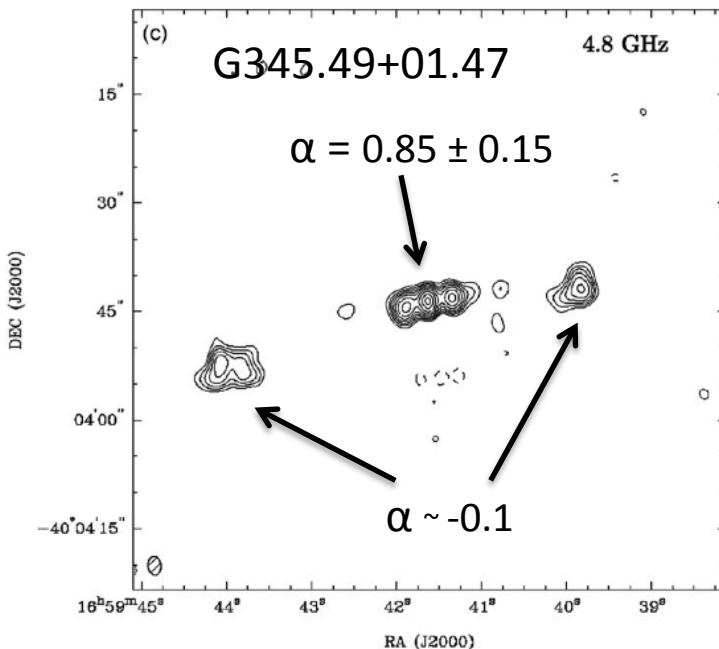
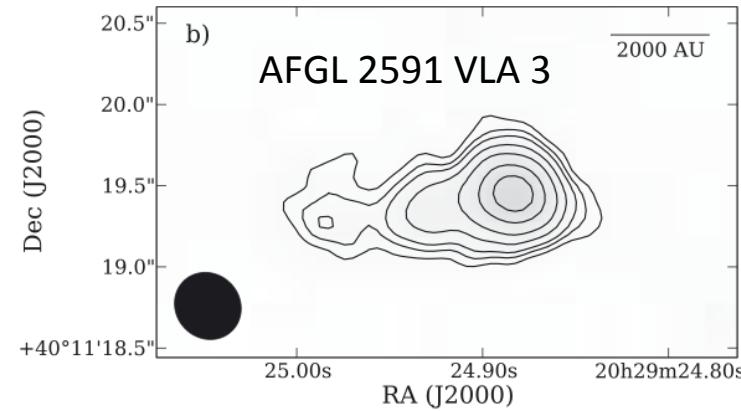
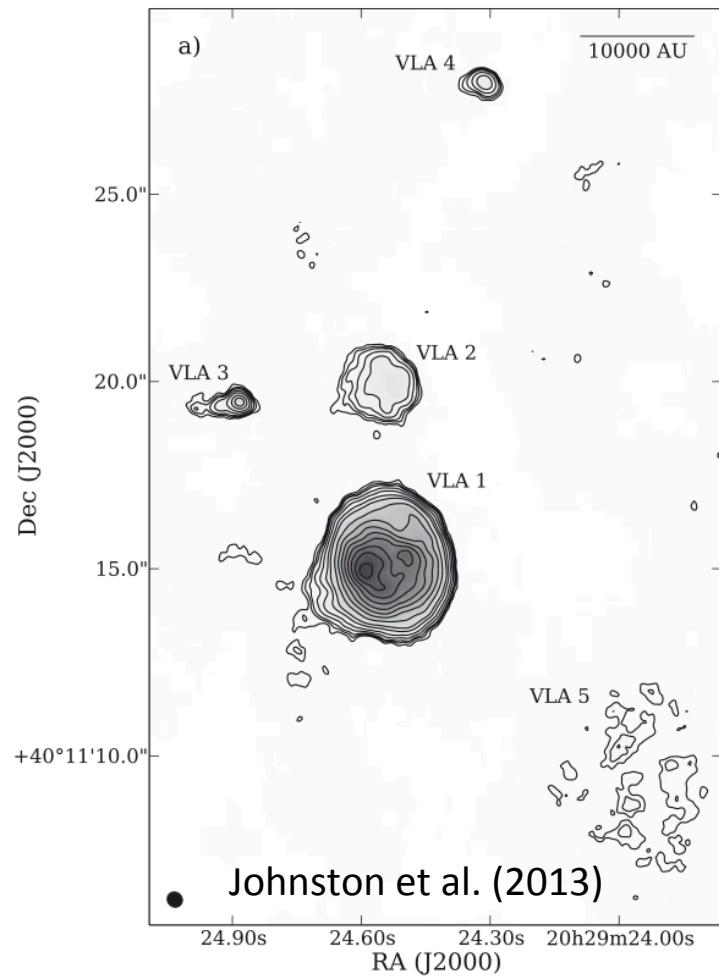
Legacy Project: “Morphology and Time Evolution of Thermal Jets Associated with Low-Mass Young Stars”

Ionized jets from young massive stars



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AFGL 2591



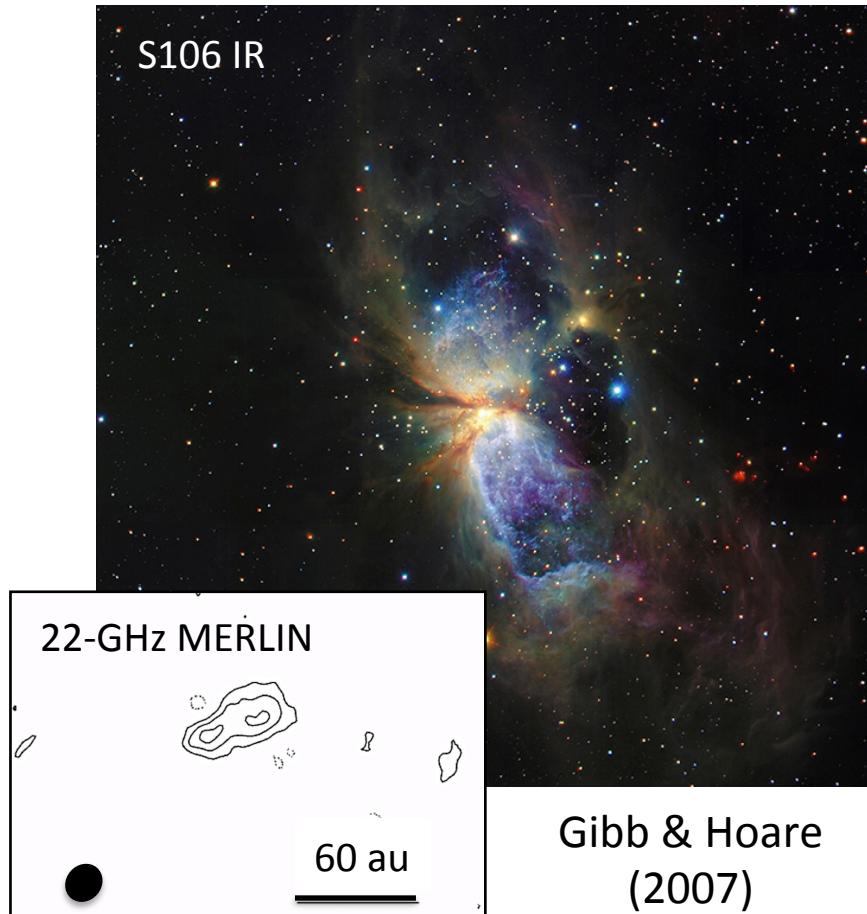
See also ATCA survey by Purser et al. (2016)

Ionized equatorial disc winds

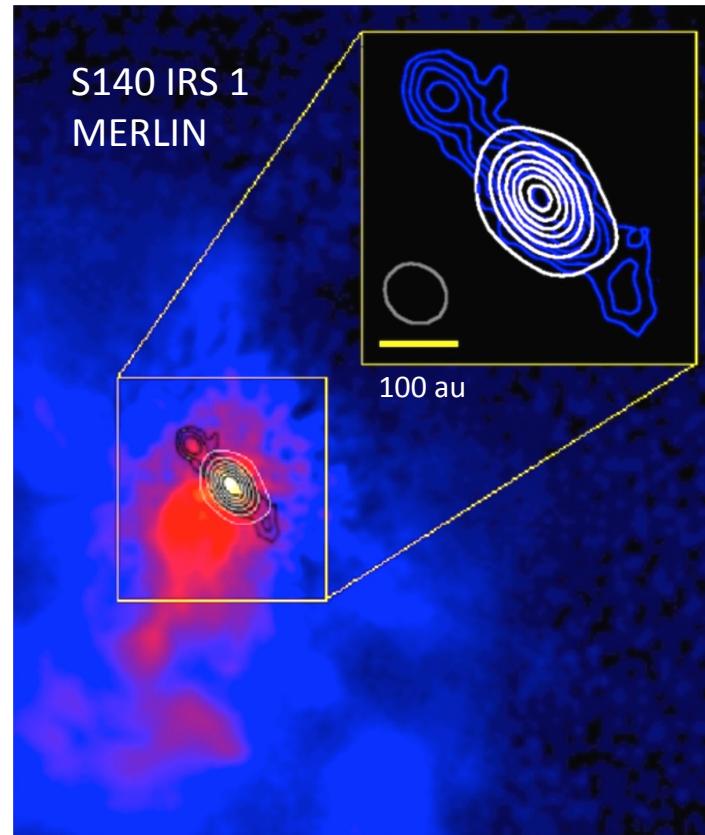


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Radiatively-driven equatorial disc wind sources



Theoretical modelling: Drew et al. 1998, Douglas et al. in prep



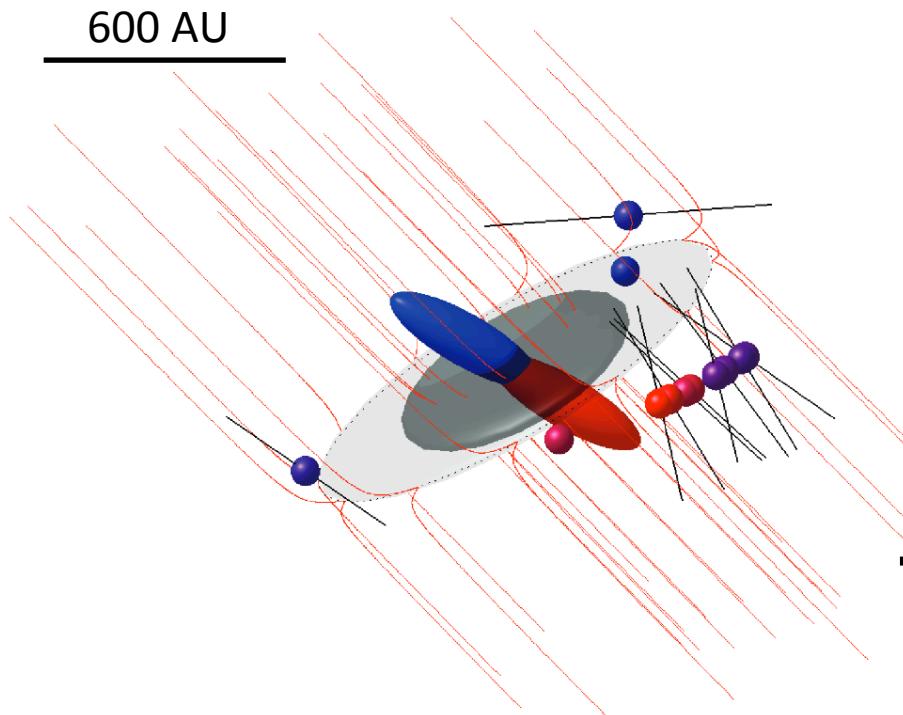
Black/blue contours: MERLIN 5 GHz emission from ionized disc wind
White contours: compact dust disc
Colourscale: near-IR reflection nebula

Maud et al. (2013)

Magnetic fields in massive star formation



Cepheus A HW2



Vlemmings et al. (2010)

Full polarisation of CH_3OH and OH masers

→ Direction of magnetic field in
the plane of the sky

Polarisation fraction + maser modelling

→ Magnetic field angle compared
to the line of sight

→ **Magnetic field 3-D morphology**

For bright sources:
total magnetic field strength
from Zeeman observations



Feedback in Massive Star Formation Legacy Project

PIs: M. Hoare & W. Vlemmings

- 1) Test evolutionary models of massive star formation:**
to determine, as a function of stellar mass, when MHD-driven jets turn on and when they give way to HII regions or radiatively driven equatorial disc winds
- 2) To test the physics of the feedback mechanisms:**
to map the 3D magnetic field structure in a number of sources through methanol and excited OH maser polarization to test current models of MHD driven jets

Selected targets

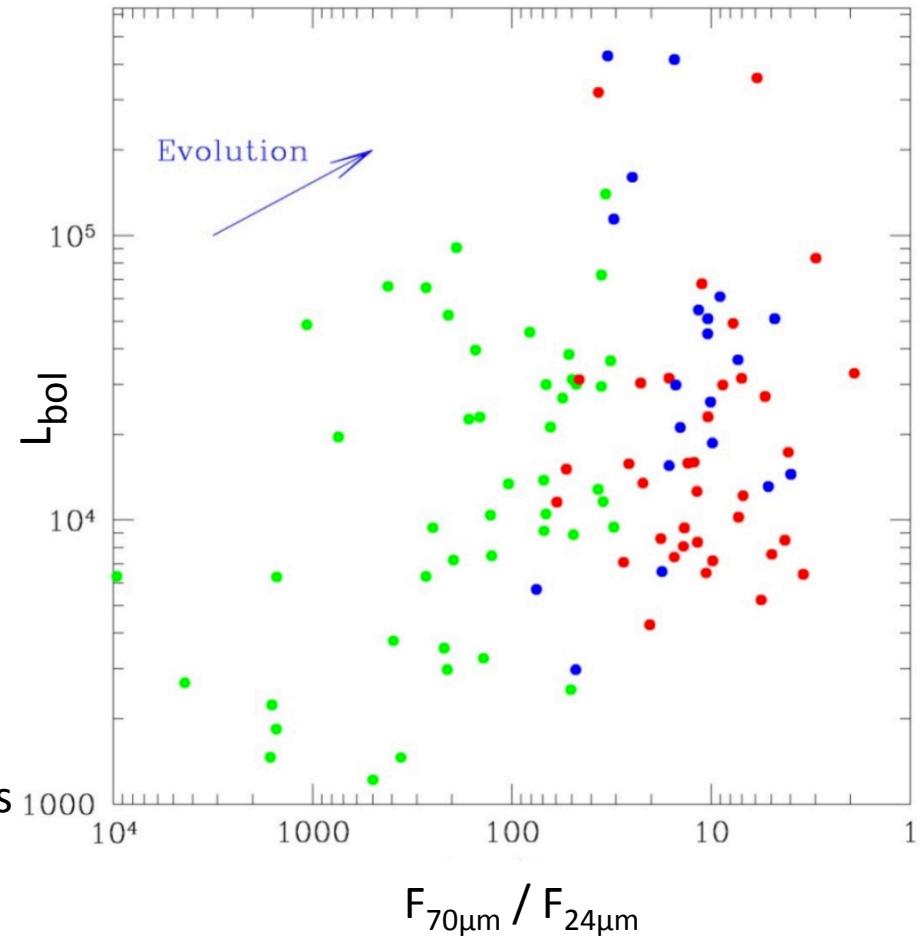


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75 sources at different evolutionary stages
(IRDCs and MYSOs):

$L > 2000 L_\odot$ (B3V and earlier)
 $d < 7 \text{ kpc}$

- IRDCs: Infrared Dark Cloud sources
- MYSOs: Massive Young Stellar Objects
- Ultracompact HII regions



Observational setup



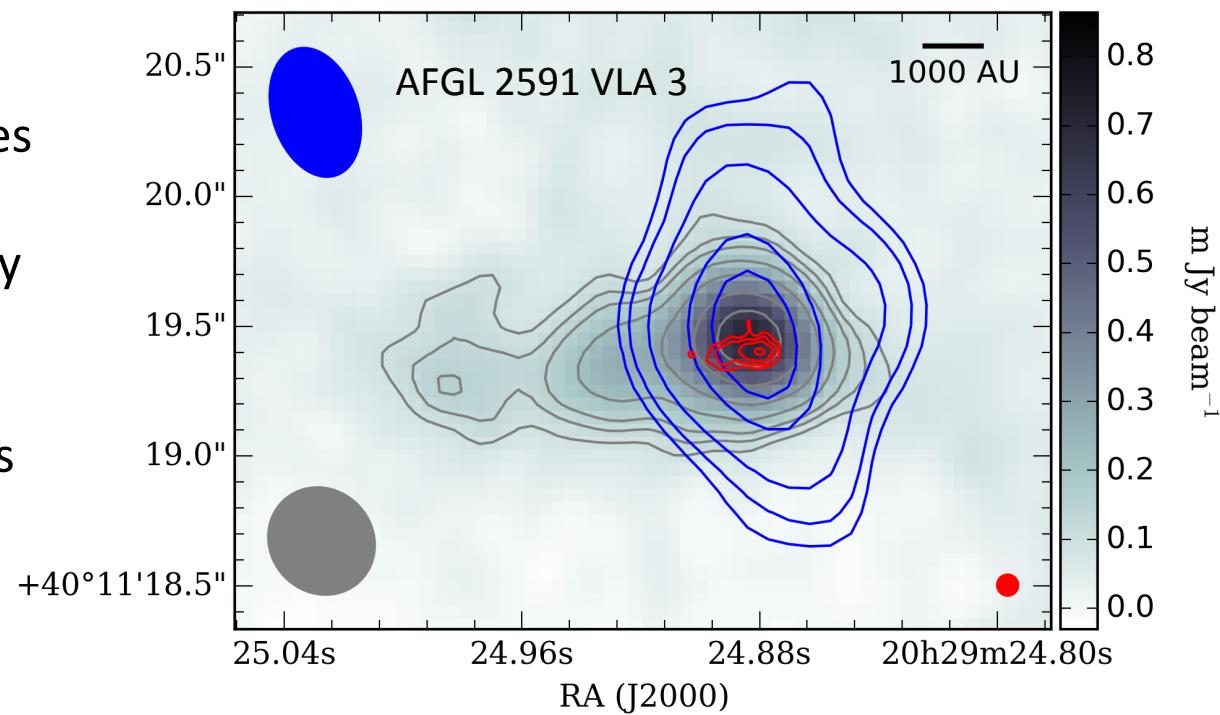
- **450 hr Legacy Programme**
- **Continuum at 5-7 GHz (1.8 GHz BW)**
- **Spatial resolution:** ~0.05"
(350 au at 7 kpc)
- **Expected noise:** ~2 μ Jy/beam
(with Lovell)
- **Class II methanol maser** at 6.668 GHz
- **OH maser** at 6.035 GHz
- **Bandwidth and channel width:** 83 and <0.1 km s^{-1}
- **Maser sensitivity:** 22 and 11 mJy/beam (methanol / OH)
- **Full polarization**



Status: Several test sources recently observed with 512 MHz bandwidth

AFGL 2591 VLA 3:

Jet is collimated on scales of a few hundred au
→ indicates magnetically controlled driving and collimating mechanism similar to low-mass YSOs

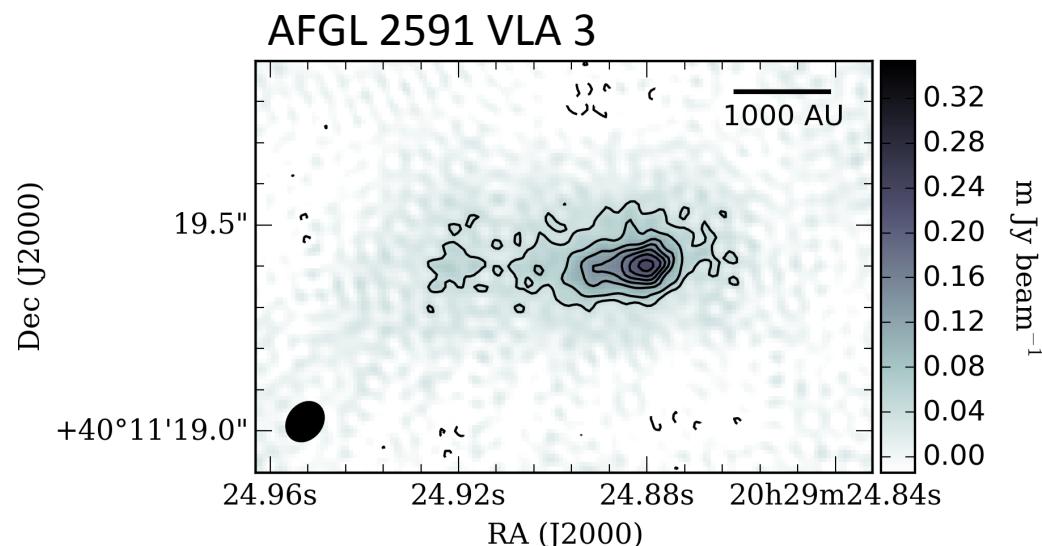


Grey: VLA 8.4 GHz continuum, Blue: PdBI 203.4 GHz continuum (Wang+12), Red: e-MERLIN C band

Status: Several test sources recently observed with 512 MHz bandwidth

AFGL 2591 VLA 3:

Jet is collimated on scales of a few hundred au
→ indicates magnetically controlled driving and collimating mechanism similar to low-mass YSOs



Noise: 13.7 microJy/beam (ROBUST=2.5)

Grey: VLA 8.4 GHz continuum, **Blue**: PdBI 203.4 GHz continuum (Wang+12), **Red**: e-MERLIN C band

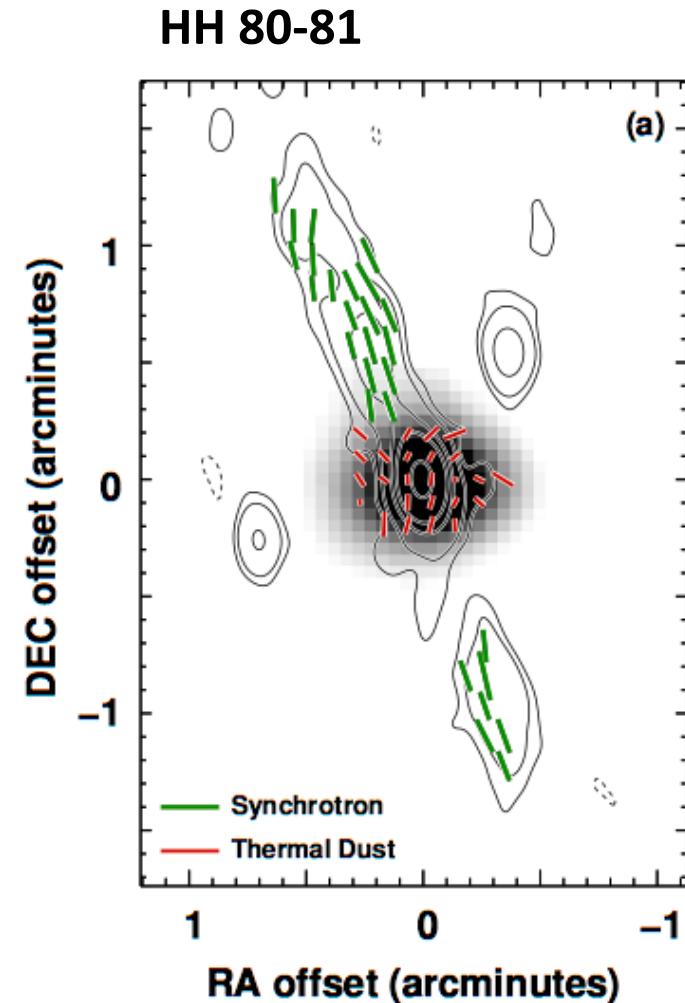
e-MERLIN and SKA1-mid

- Use SKA/e-MERLIN band 5 for free-free continuum due to positive spectral index of many ionized jets/winds
- SKA1: 0.04" resolution at 14 GHz
(matched to e-MERLIN at 6 GHz)
- SKA1: at 9 GHz 20min integration:
 $\text{RMS} = 2.4 \mu\text{Jy}/\text{beam}$
- Can survey all massive young stars in Galaxy and their jets efficiently



e-MERLIN and SKA1/2

- Spectral index maps
- Polarization
- Zeeman-splitting of masers
- Recombination Lines
- Proper motion studies



Carrasco-González et al. 2010

Take away points



- Massive star formation feedback legacy programme with e-MERLIN at C band
- Determining evolutionary sequence and magnetic fields in massive star formation
- Pilot sources observed with 512 MHz BW
- Future is bright (e.g. polarisation, RRLs and proper motion studies) with upgraded e-MERLIN and SKA