
The short, high-DM FRB sky in sharp view

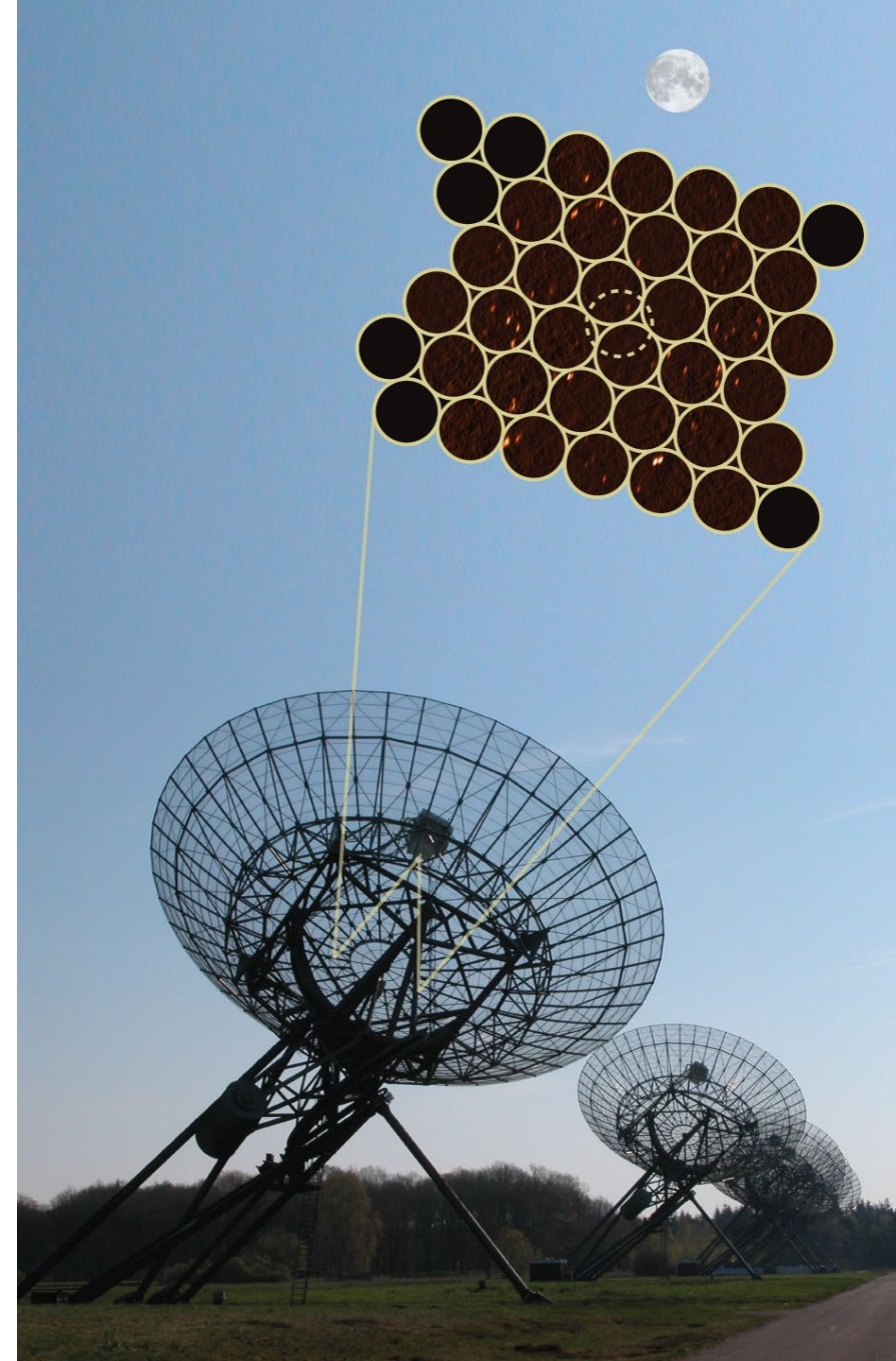
Joeri van Leeuwen

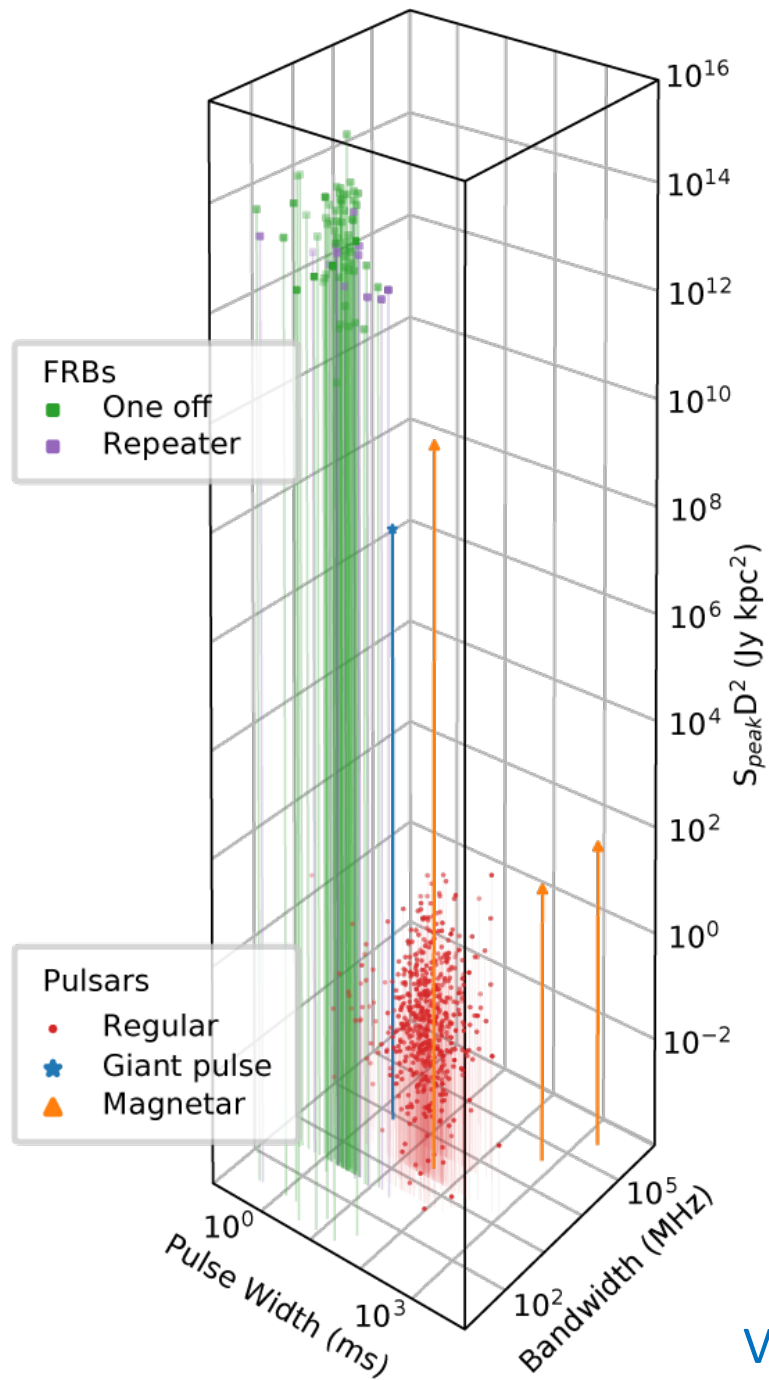
for the ALERT and ARTS teams

[arxiv:2205.12362](https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.12362)

ASTRON

Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy





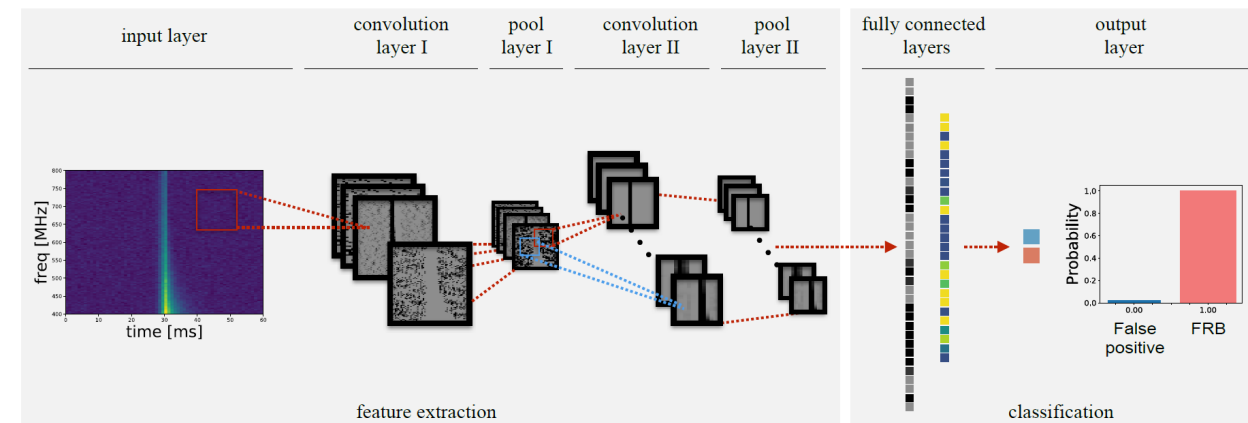
Unique to ALERT (I): ARTS backend

The Apertif Radio Transient System (ARTS) is:

Real-time system

Hybrid supercomputer of

- Two FPGA-based beam formers
- GPU cluster
- Real-time RFI excision
- AMBER search software
- Deep neural net detection

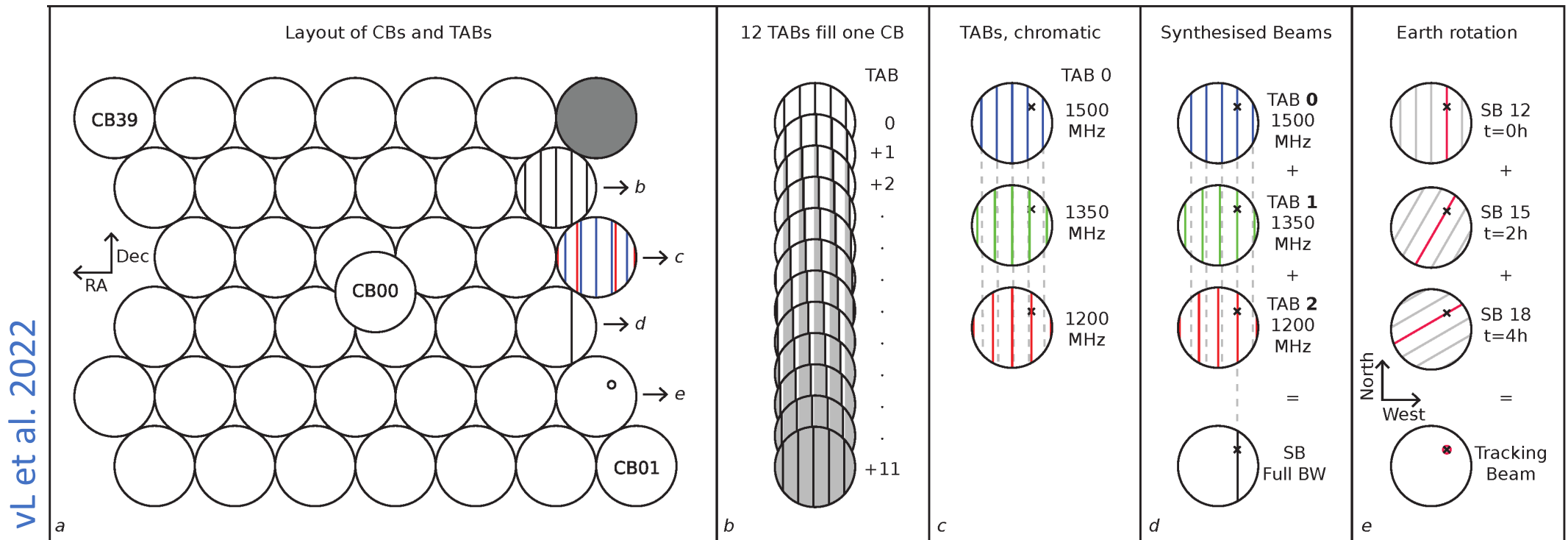


Vohl, Sclocco et al. 2016, 2020; Maan & van Leeuwen 2017, Connor & van Leeuwen 2018



Unique to ALERT (II): hierarchical beamforming

The ALERT survey employed hierarchical beamforming



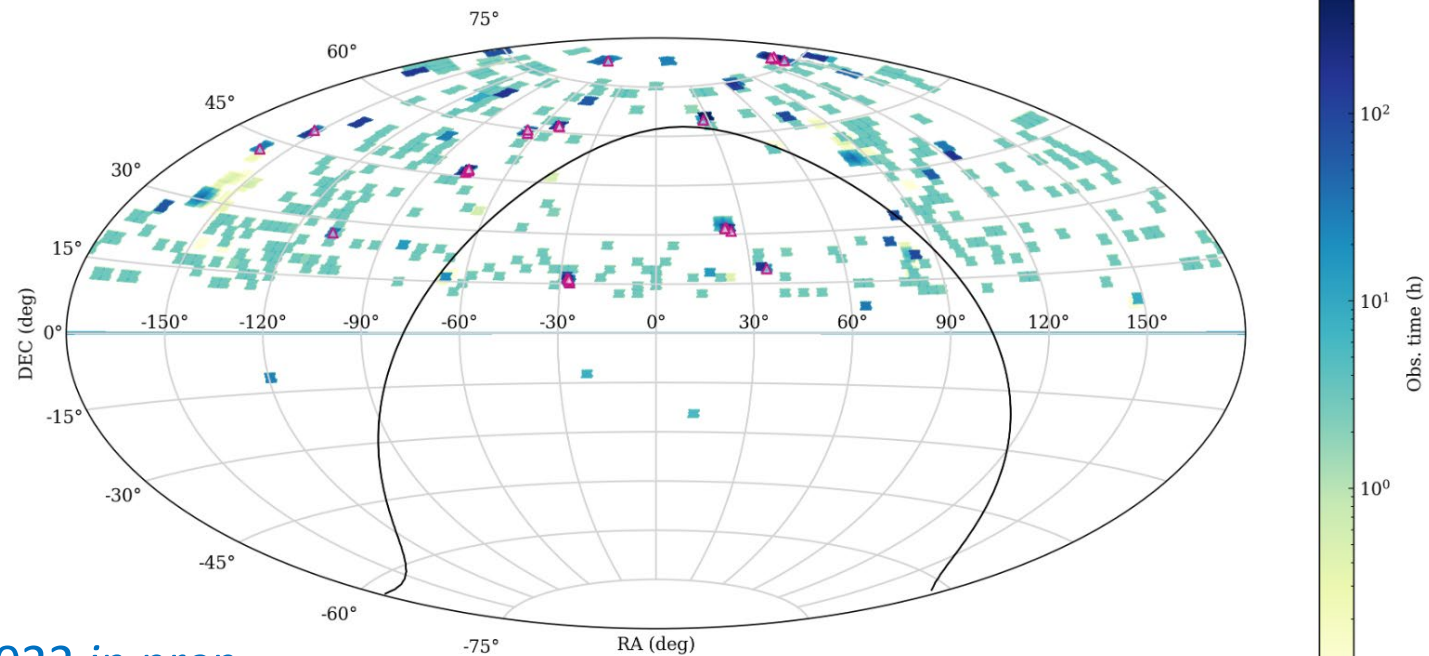
vL et al. 2022

Unique to ALERT (III): steering & pointing

Field priorities *localization – characterization – detection*

1–2 weeks on, 4 weeks off ; 3 hr pointings

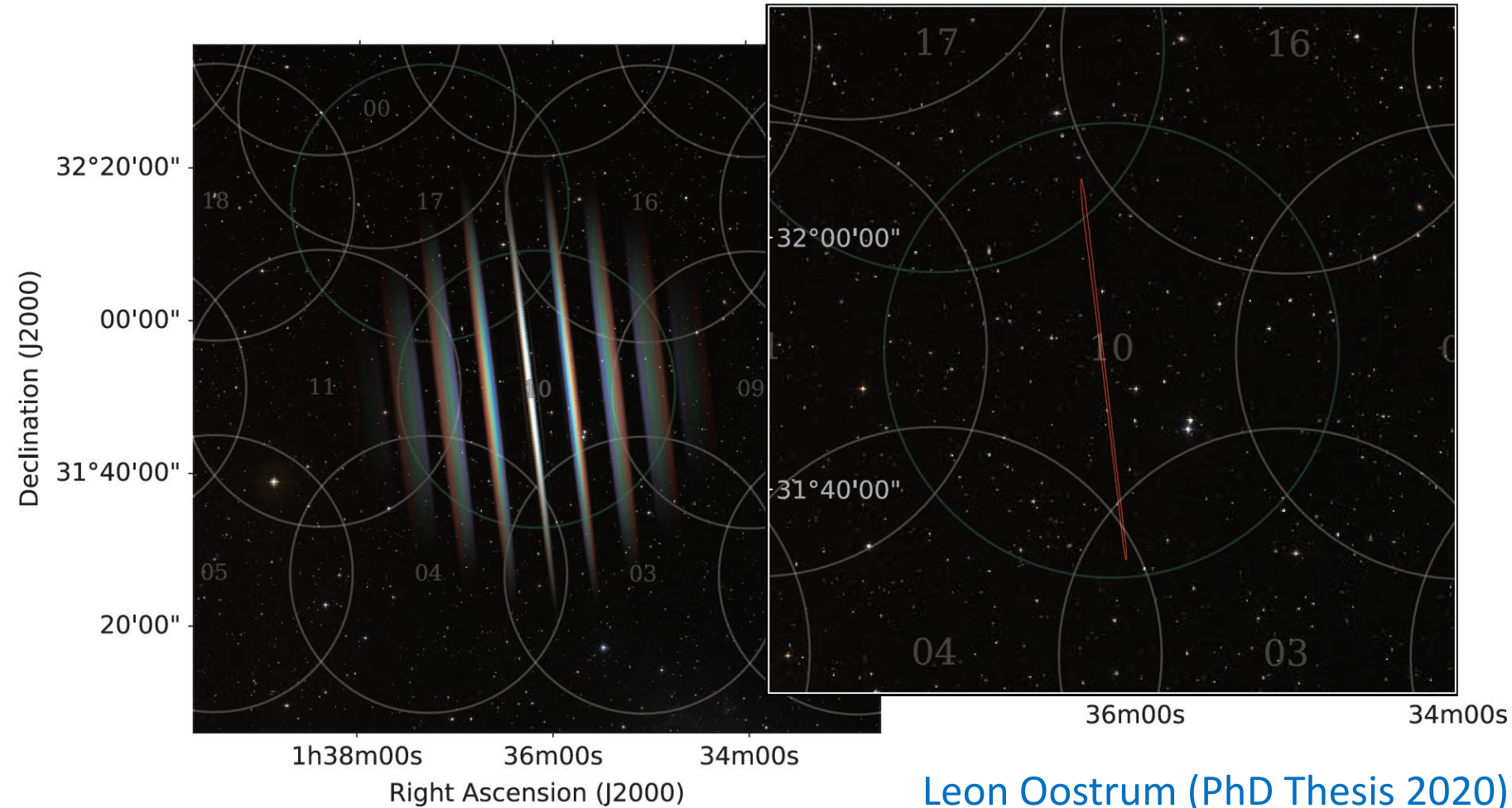
Operation 2.5 yrs, Jul 2019 .. Feb 2022.



Apertif – first FRB detection

FRB 190709

DM = 663 pc/cc



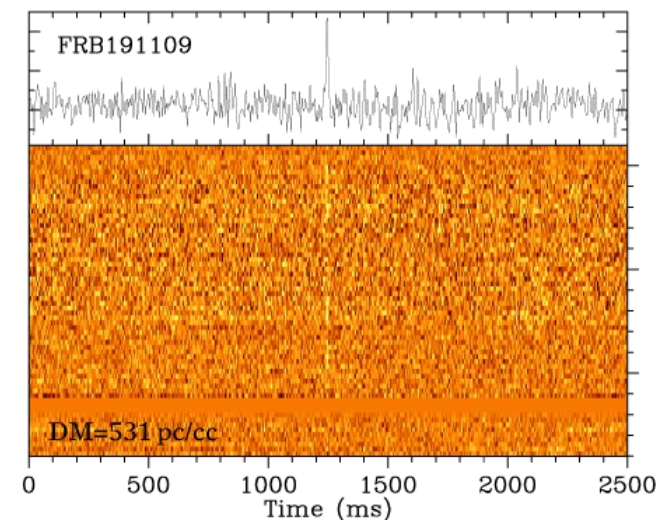
Discovered 24 new FRBs

One FRB every ~7 days of observing

One of most productive L-band surveys in the world

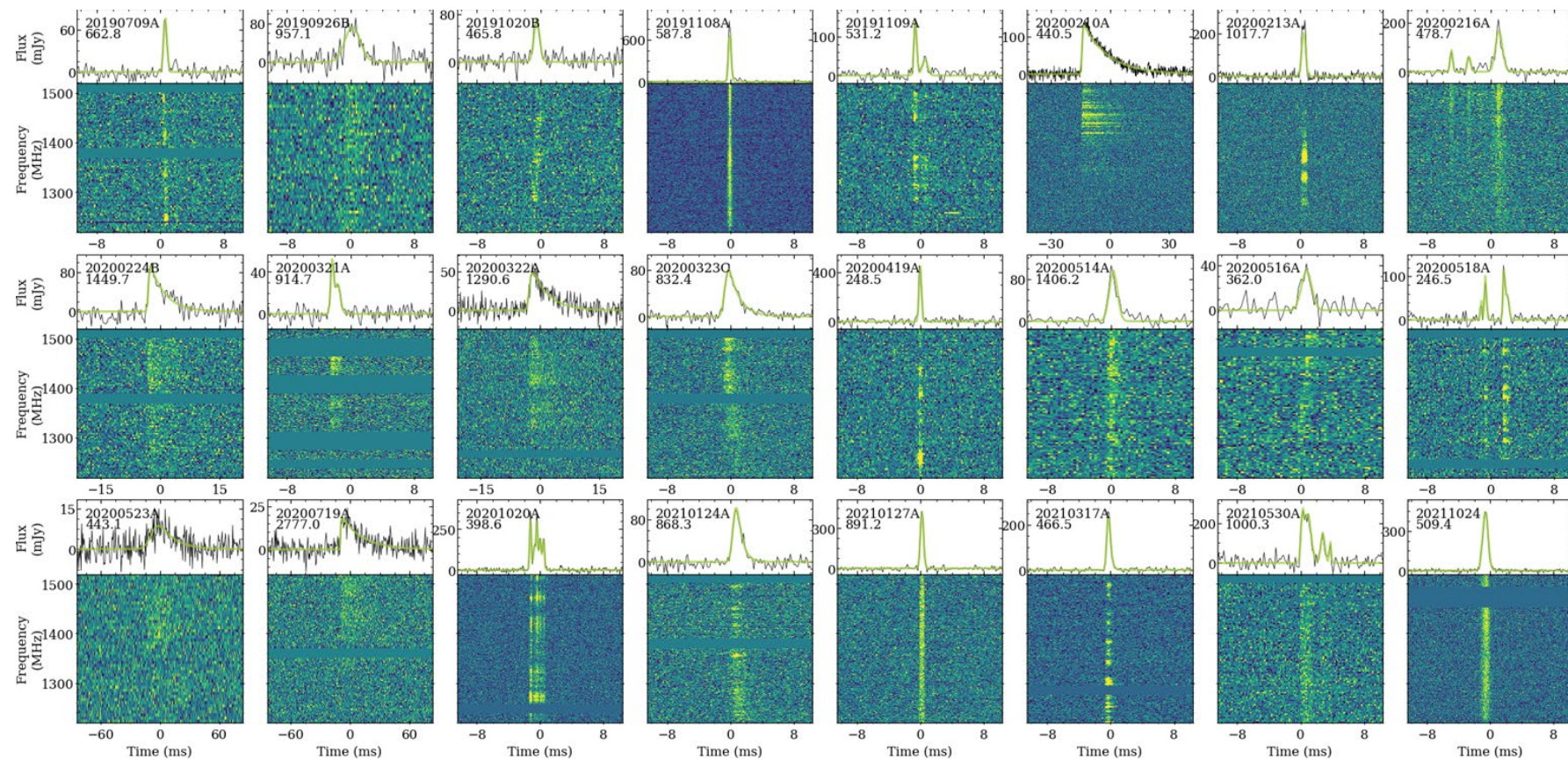
High DM, very narrow, quite broadband

Interferometric localization



Discovered 24 new FRBs

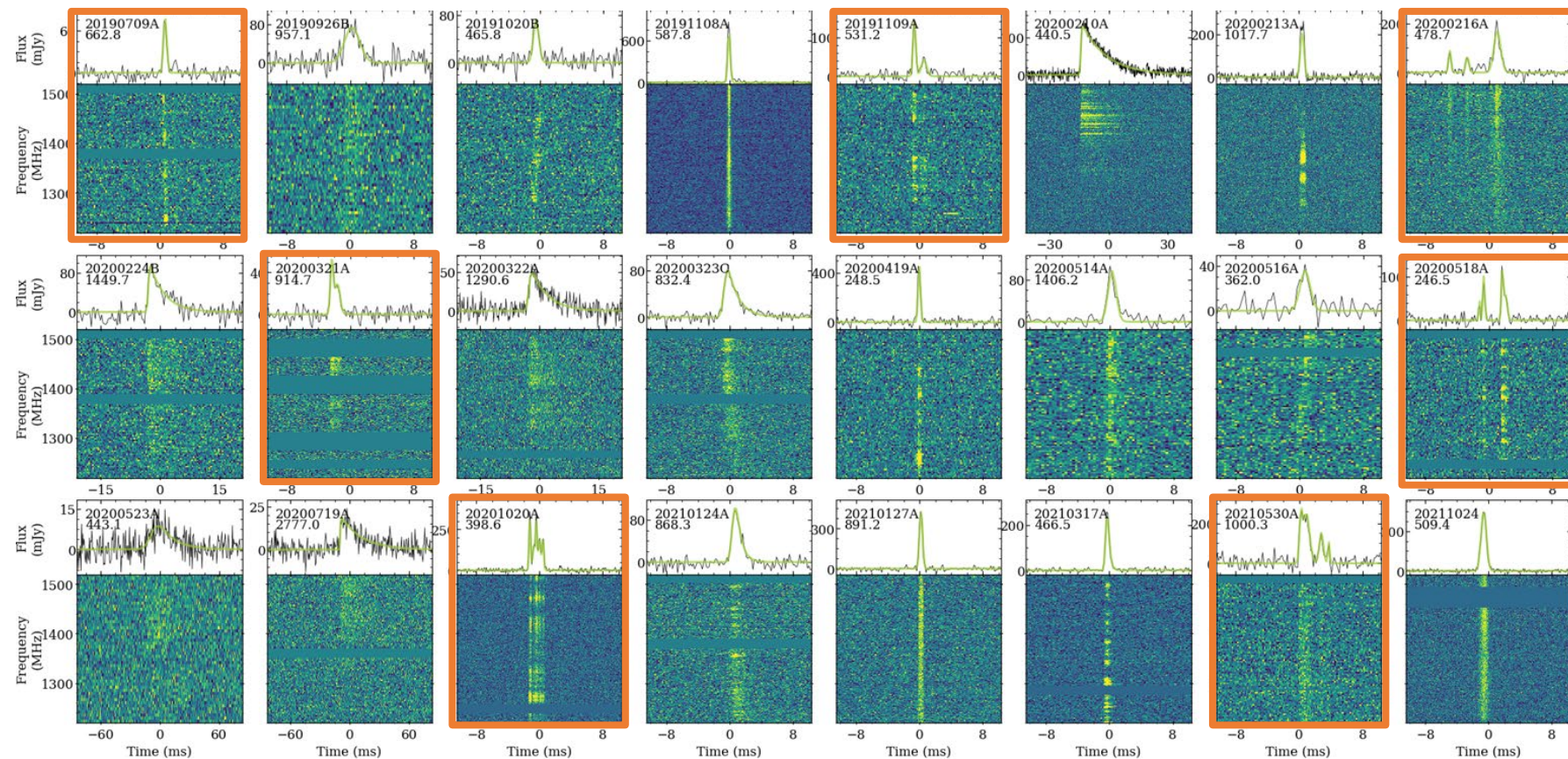
Interesting morphologies, multi-component, scattered:



vL et al. 2022
PM, vL et al. 2022

Discovered 24 new FRBs

Higher multi-component fraction than @ CHIME

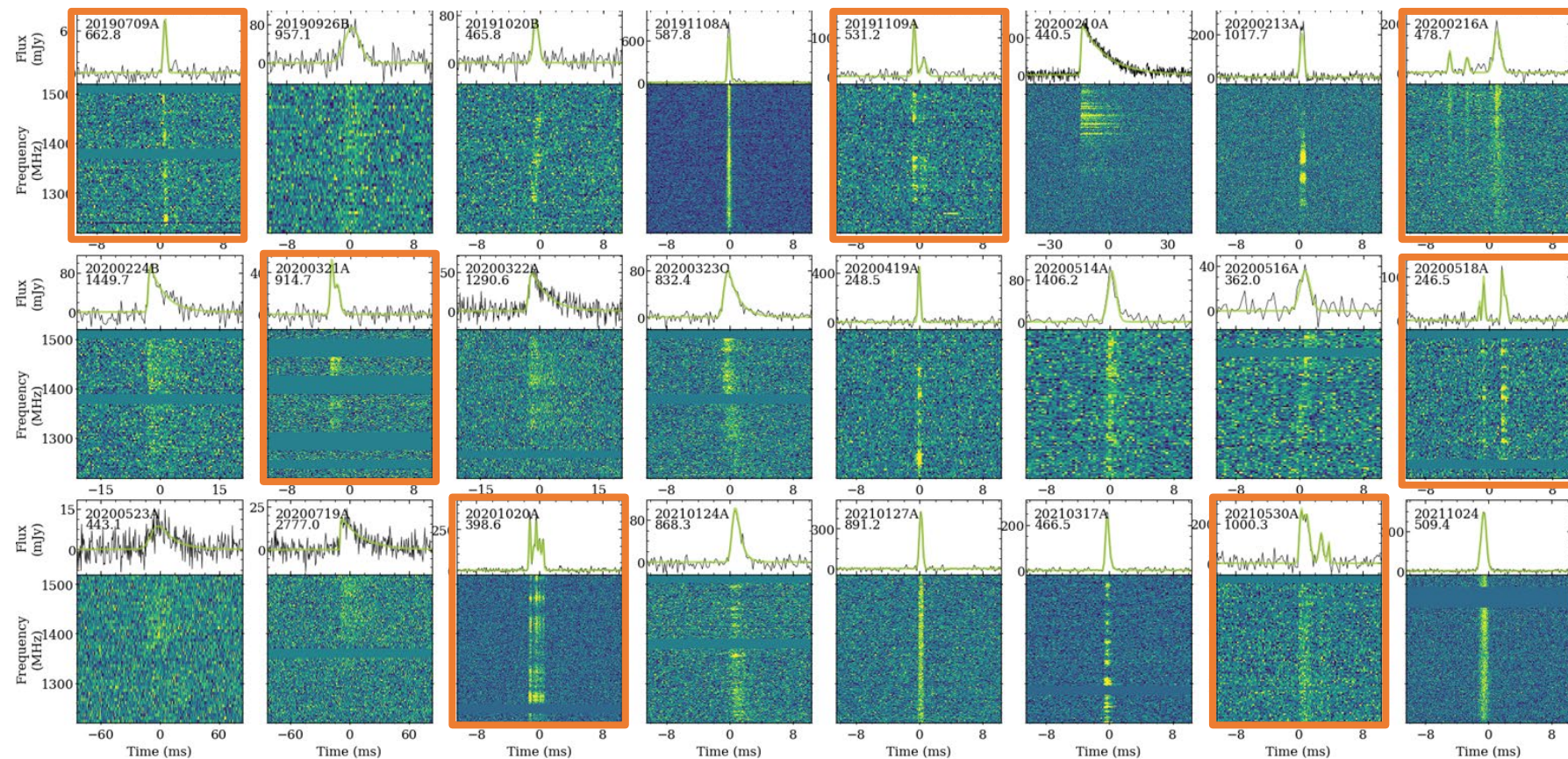


vL et al. 2022
PM, vL et al. 2022

Discovered 24 new FRBs



How can FRB morphology evolve with frequency?



vL et al. 2022
PM, vL et al. 2022

Discovered 24 new FRBs

Sub-ms pseudo-periodic structure:

5 components

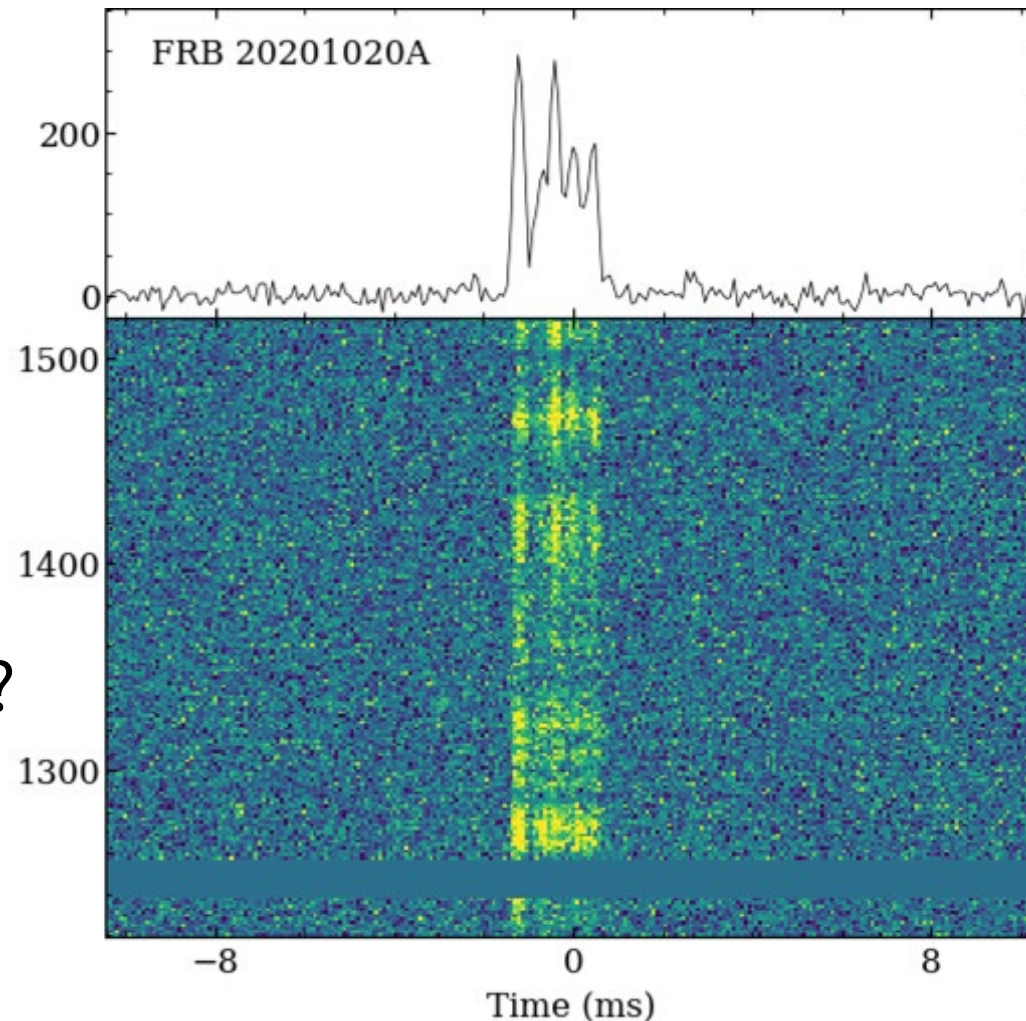
Spacing 0.415 ms \rightarrow frequency ~ 2409 Hz

Periodicity significance 2.5σ



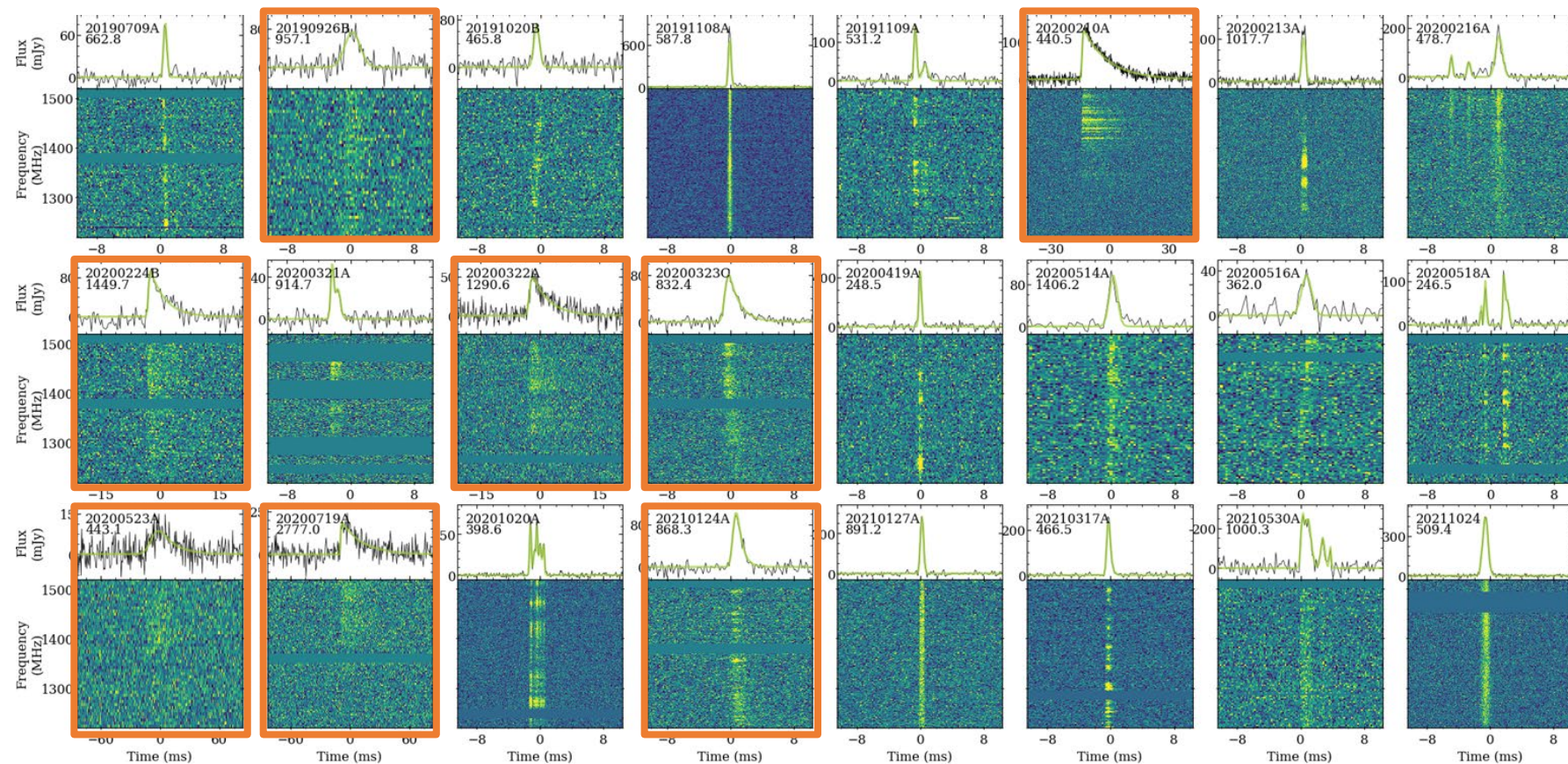
FRBs show microstructure now?

Pastor-Marazuela, vL, et al 2022 (arxiv:2202.08002)



Discovered 24 new FRBs

Scattering:



vL et al. 2022
PM, vL et al. 2022

Probing the M33 halo

3 out of first 4 FRBs skewer M33/M31 halos

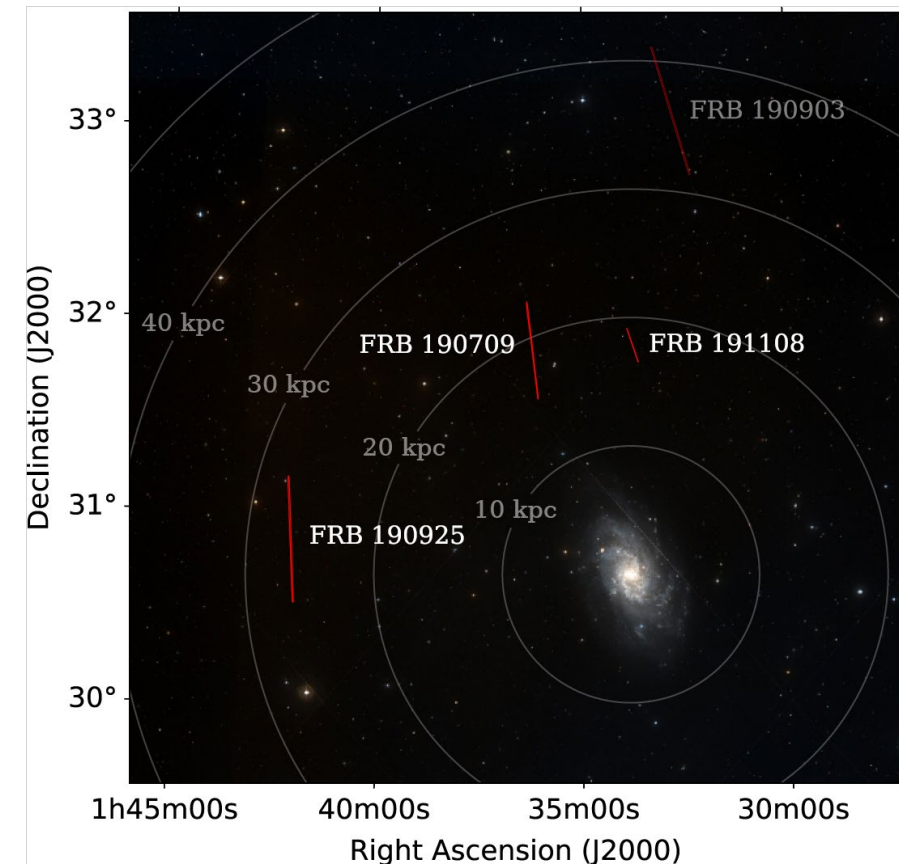
FRB 191108 is localised to $5'' \times 7'$ ellipse

Cuts within a degree (~ 18 kpc) of M33

Probes halo + circumgalactic medium

Liam Connor + Apertif Builders (2020, MNRAS 499, 4716)

Van Leeuwen et al. 2022 (arxiv:2205.12362)

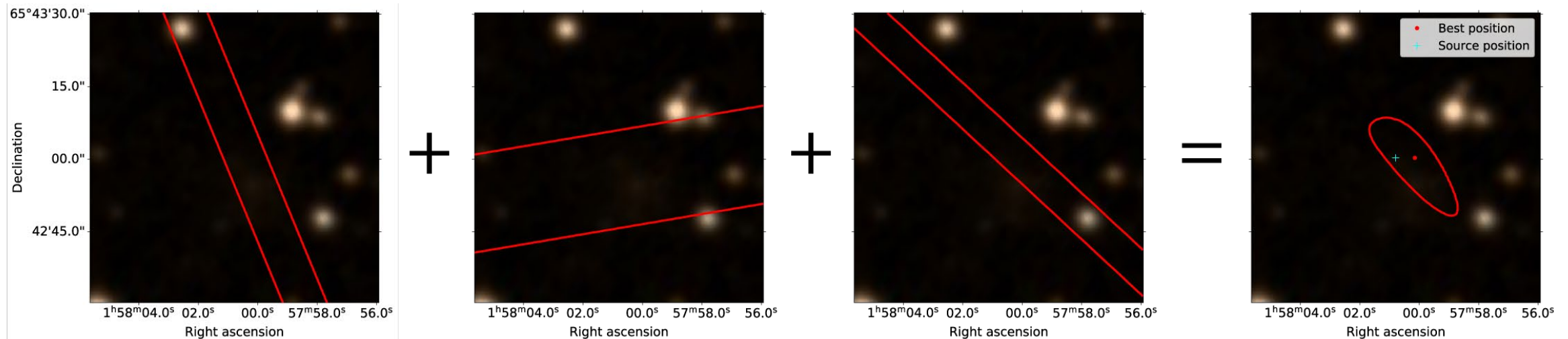


Repeater localization, study

Detecting 2 or 3 bursts from repeating FRBs
improves localization ~50x.

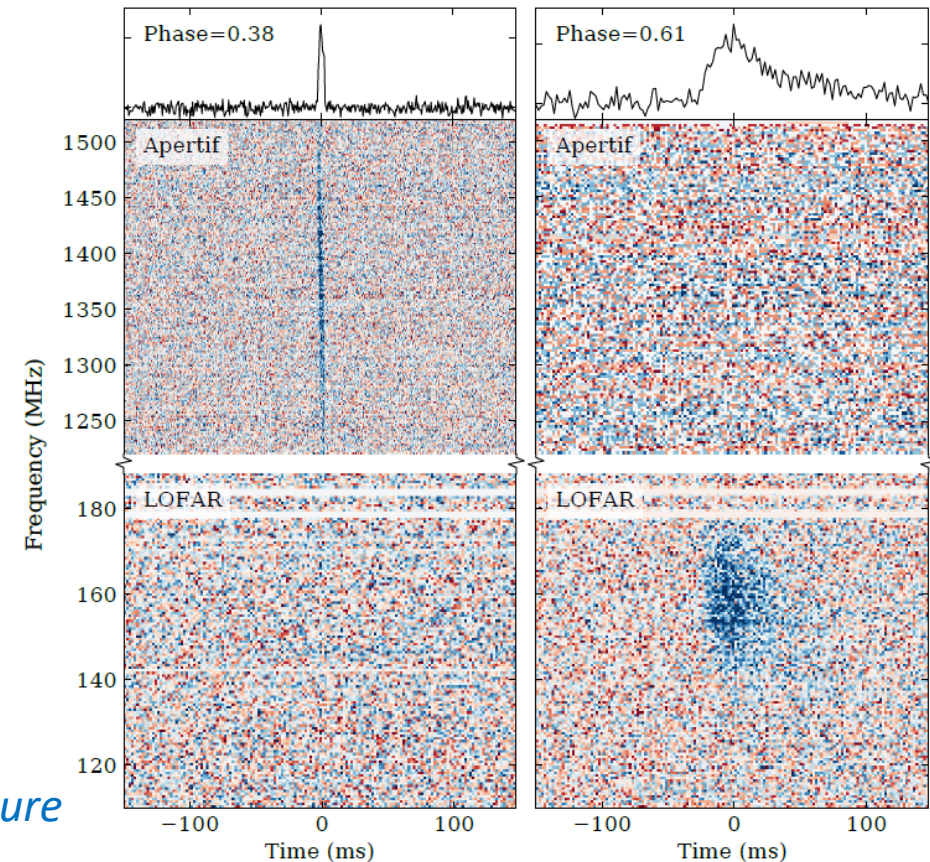
The long, 3-h tracks at WSRT are a large benefit.

About 90% of *new* FRBs are from *repeater* fields.



Repeater FRB 20180916B at Apertif + LOFAR

We detected repeating FRB 20180916B
at both telescopes; but never at the
same time.

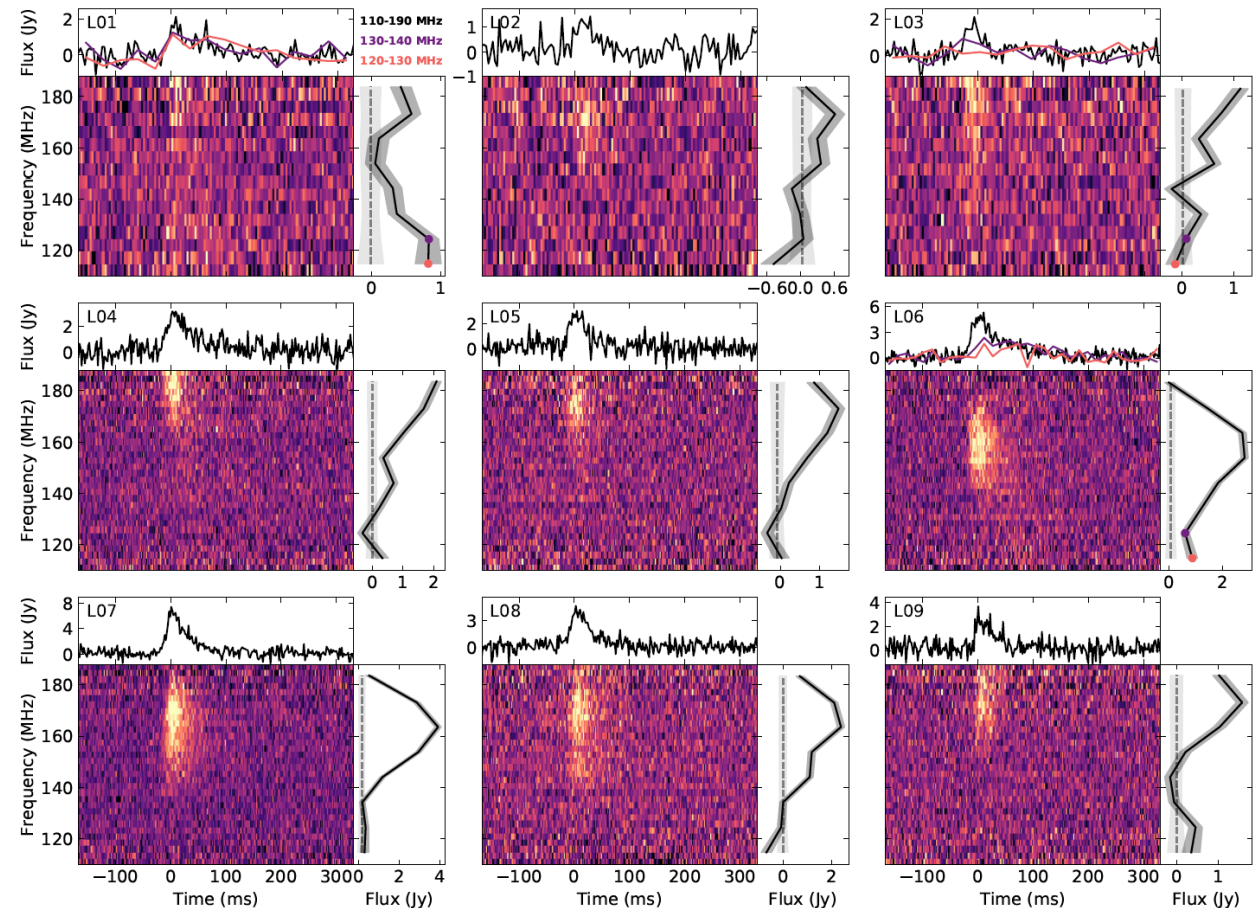




Repeater FRB 20180916B at Apertif + LOFAR

First FRB ever seen with LOFAR.

Low-frequency FRB emission escapes local medium – clean environment, important for cosmology applications.



Repeater FRB 20180916B at Apertif + LOFAR

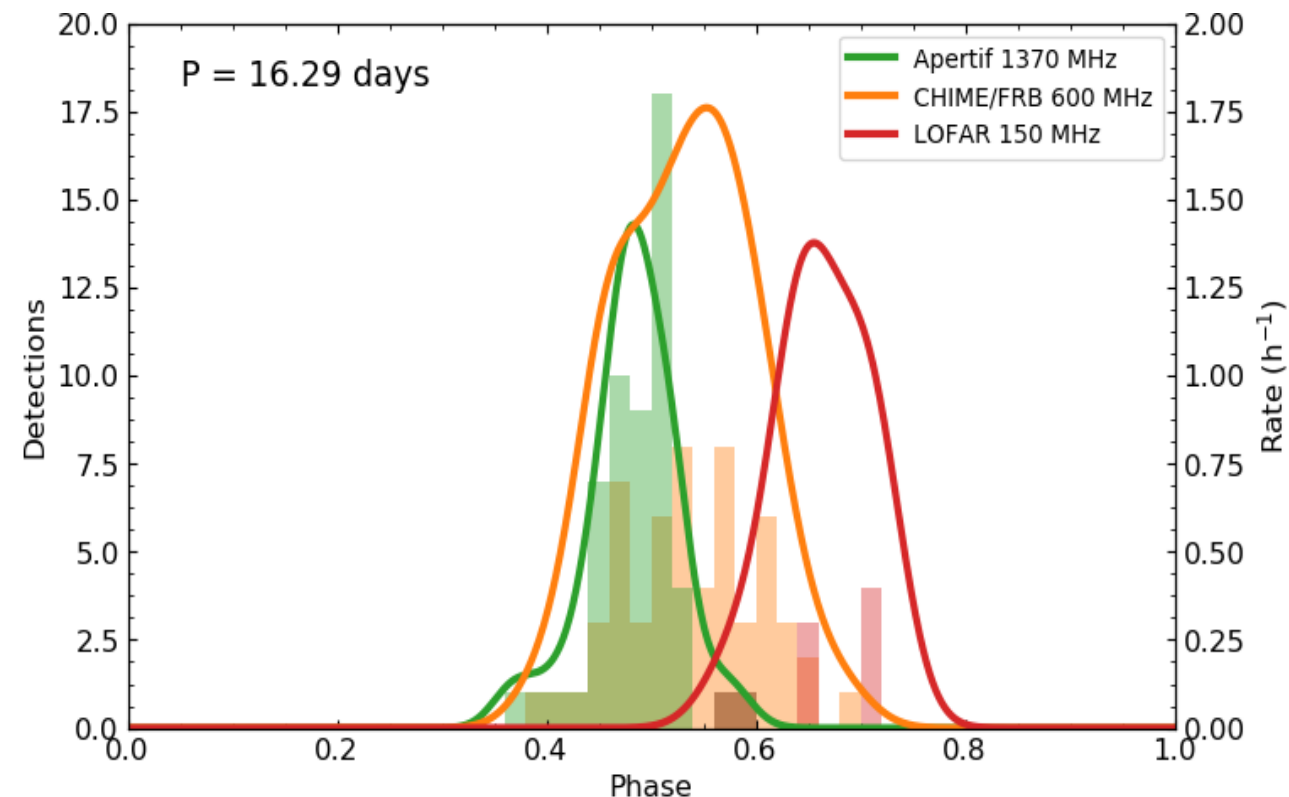
Activity *peaks earlier* and *is narrower* at higher frequencies than at lower frequencies.

R3 lives in a clean environment
Opposite to binary wind models
Ultra-long period magnetars work



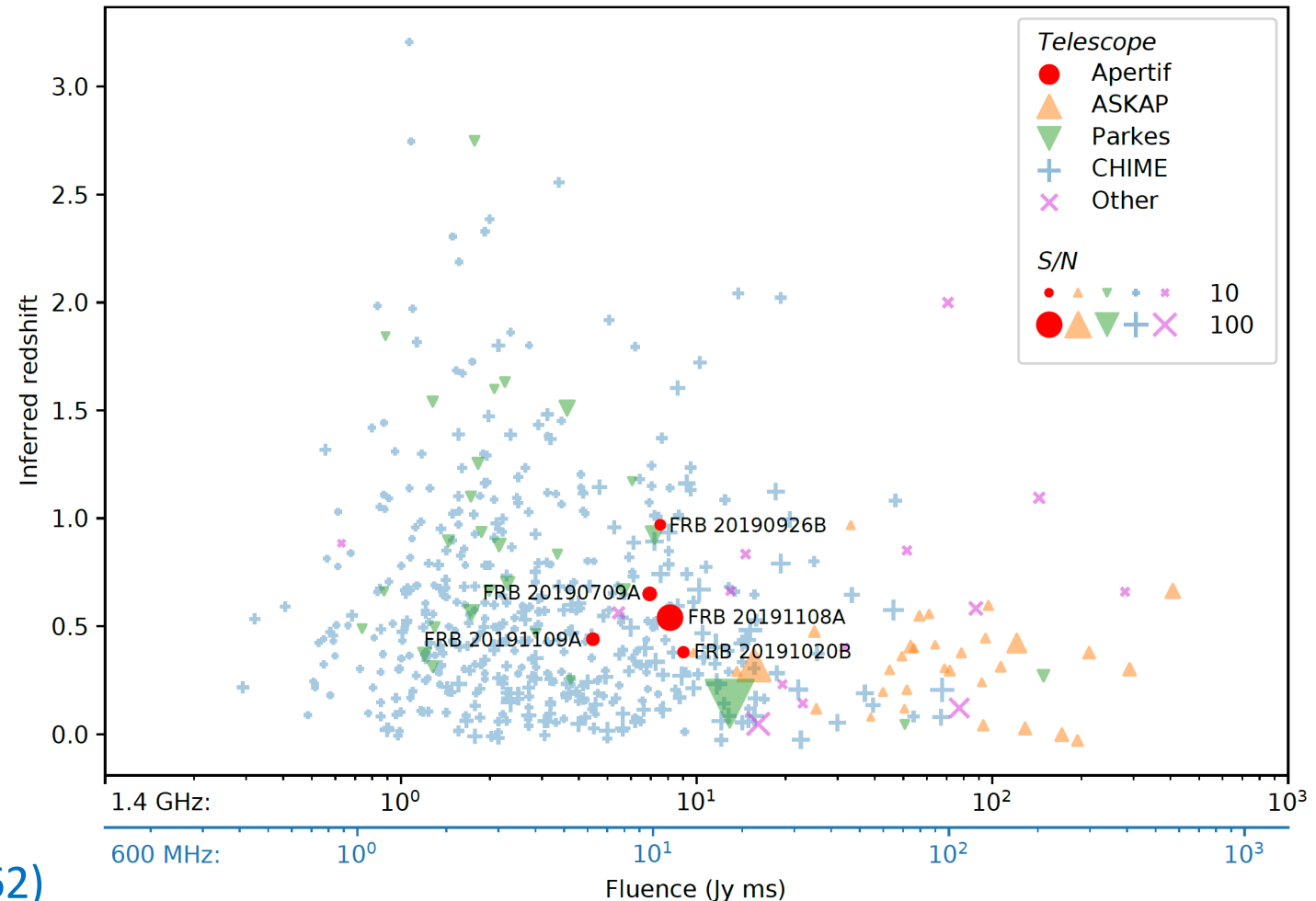
Chromatic FRBs

Inés Pastor-Marazuela et al. 2021, *Nature*
Pleunis et al. 2021 supports this trend



Characteristics of the discovered sample

Fluences of the Apertif-discovered bursts are around the median of the known fluence distribution

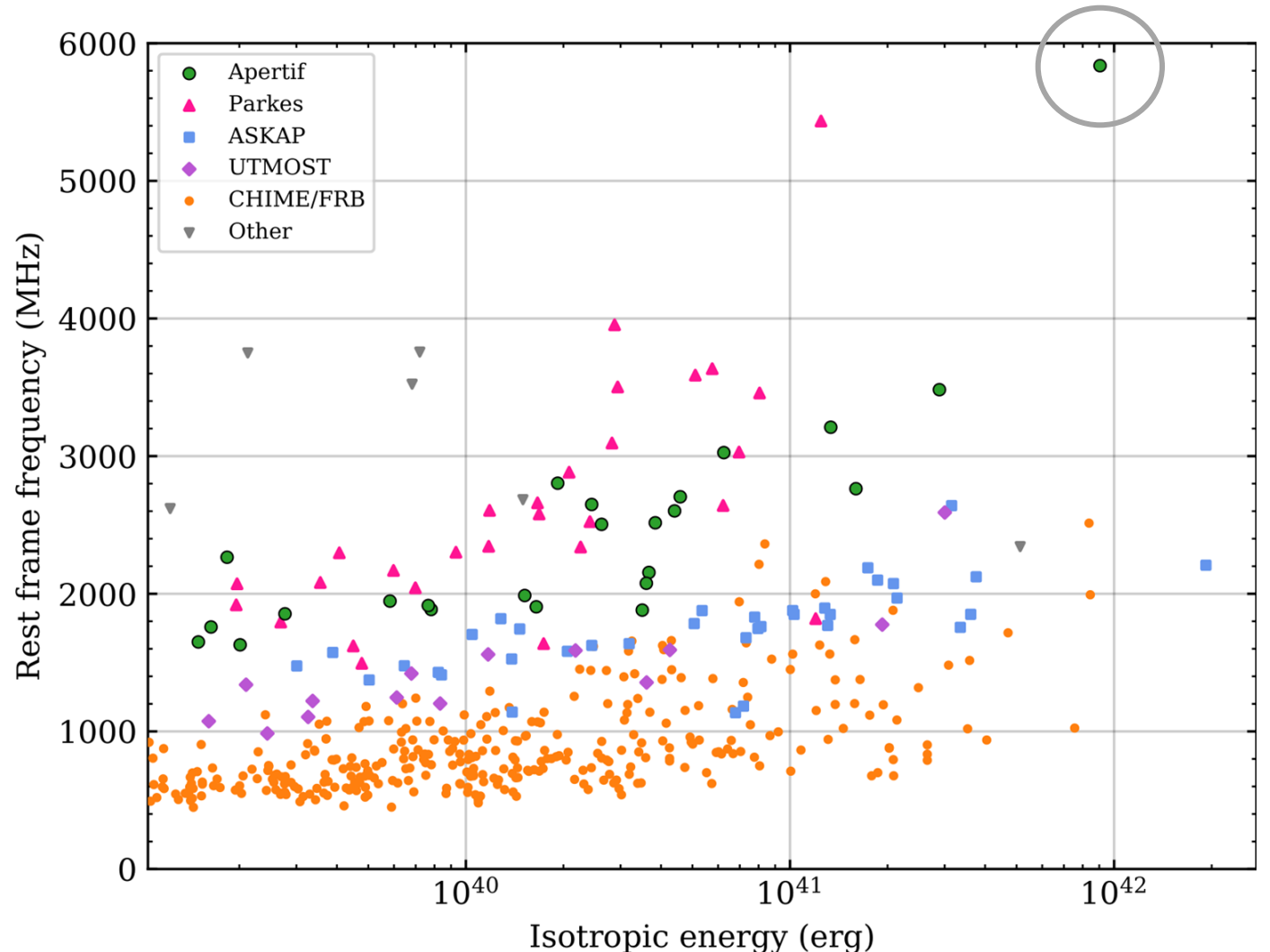


Characteristics of the discovered sample

FRB 20200719A is the 3rd most dispersed FRB known to date, and its rest frame shows FRB emission frequencies reach 6 GHz.

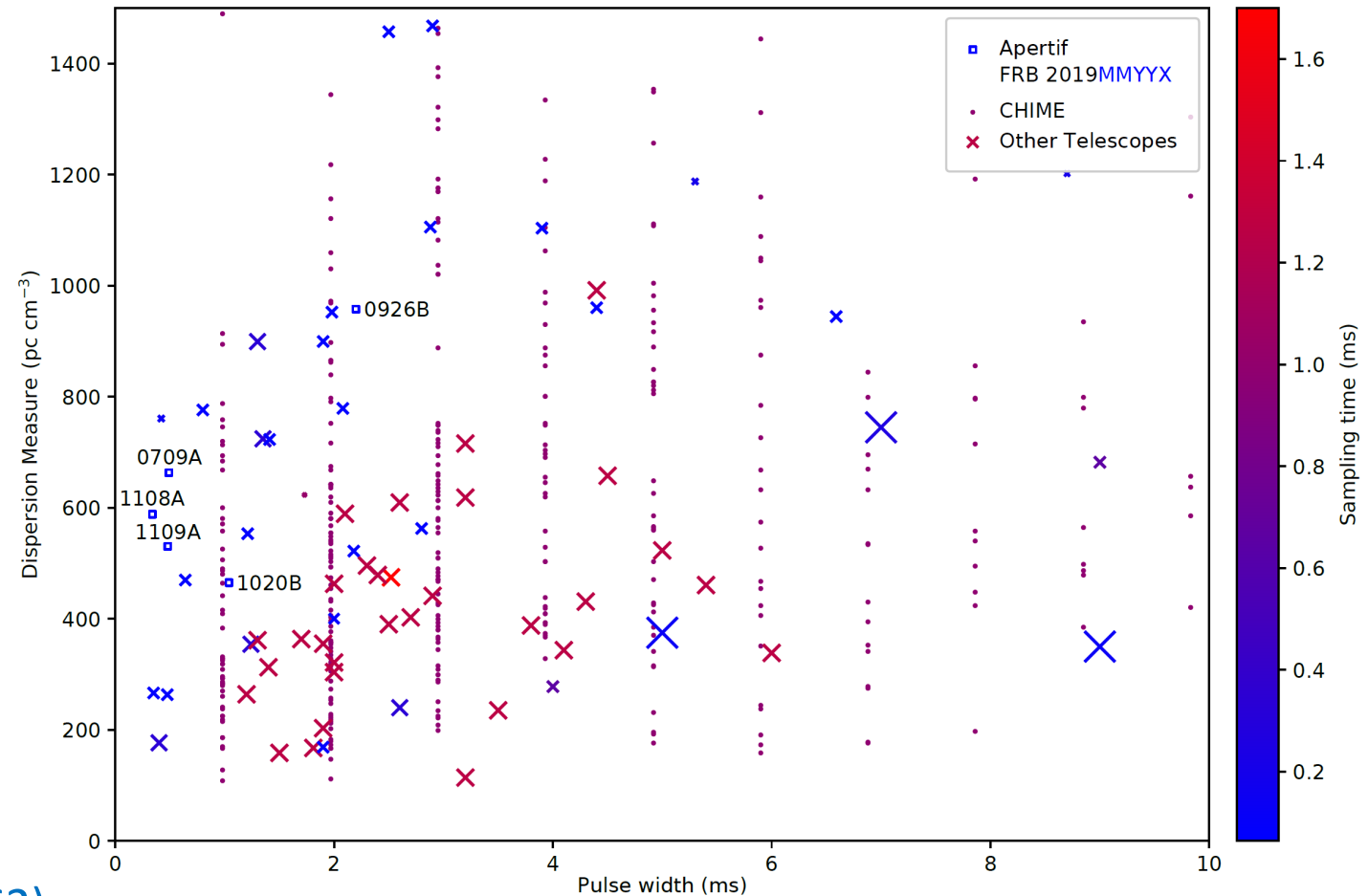


High-freq. FRB models, searches?



Characteristics of the discovered sample

The Apertif FRBs are among the narrowest known, and have high dispersion measure.



Intrinsic FRB Characteristics

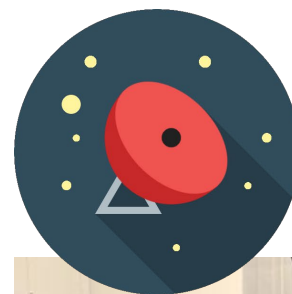
Order-of-magnitude speedup of
frbpoppy

+

National supercomputer “Snellius”

=

Full MCMC



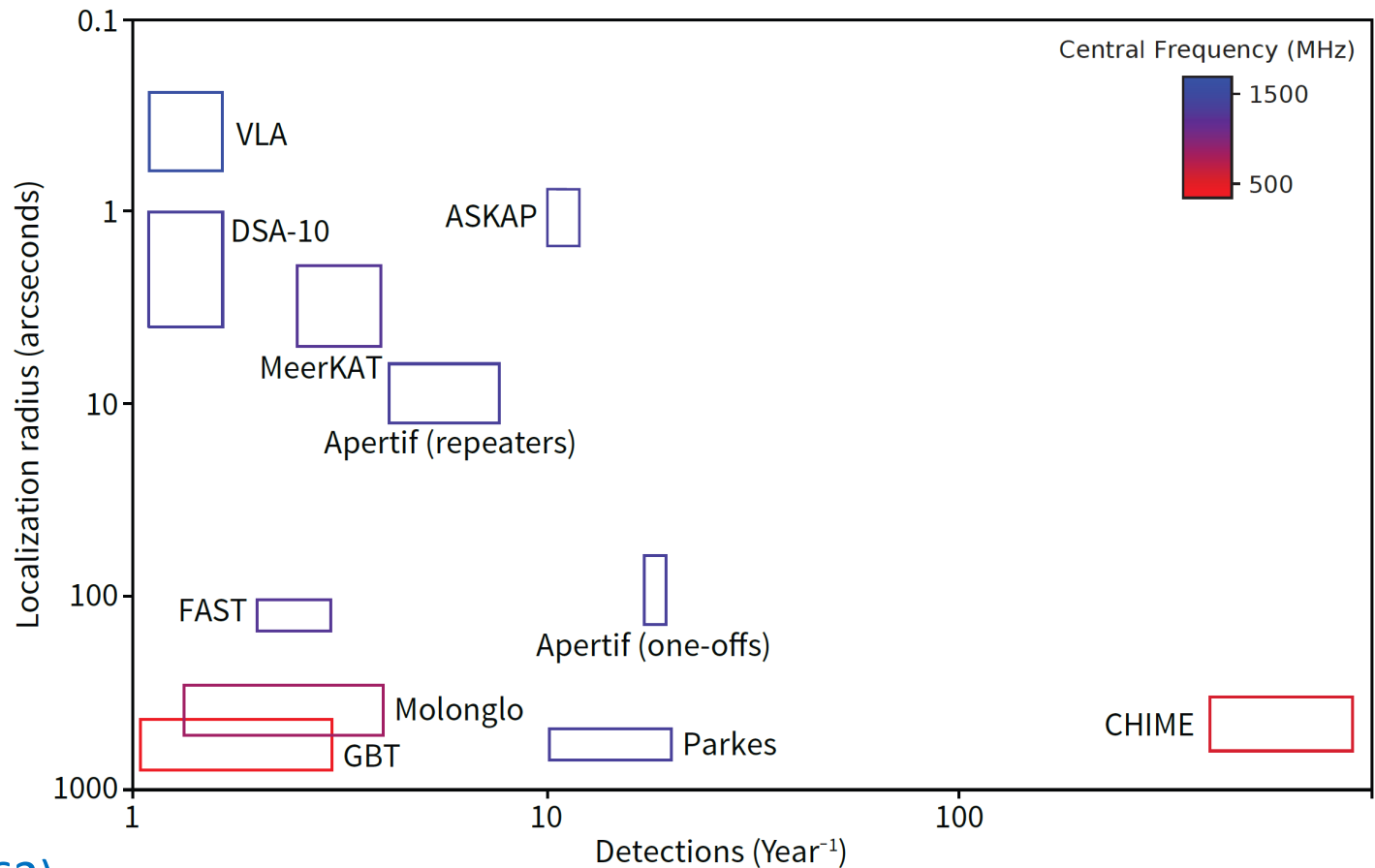
frbpoppy



Gardenier & van Leeuwen 2021
Yuyang Wang, vL, et al. *in prep*

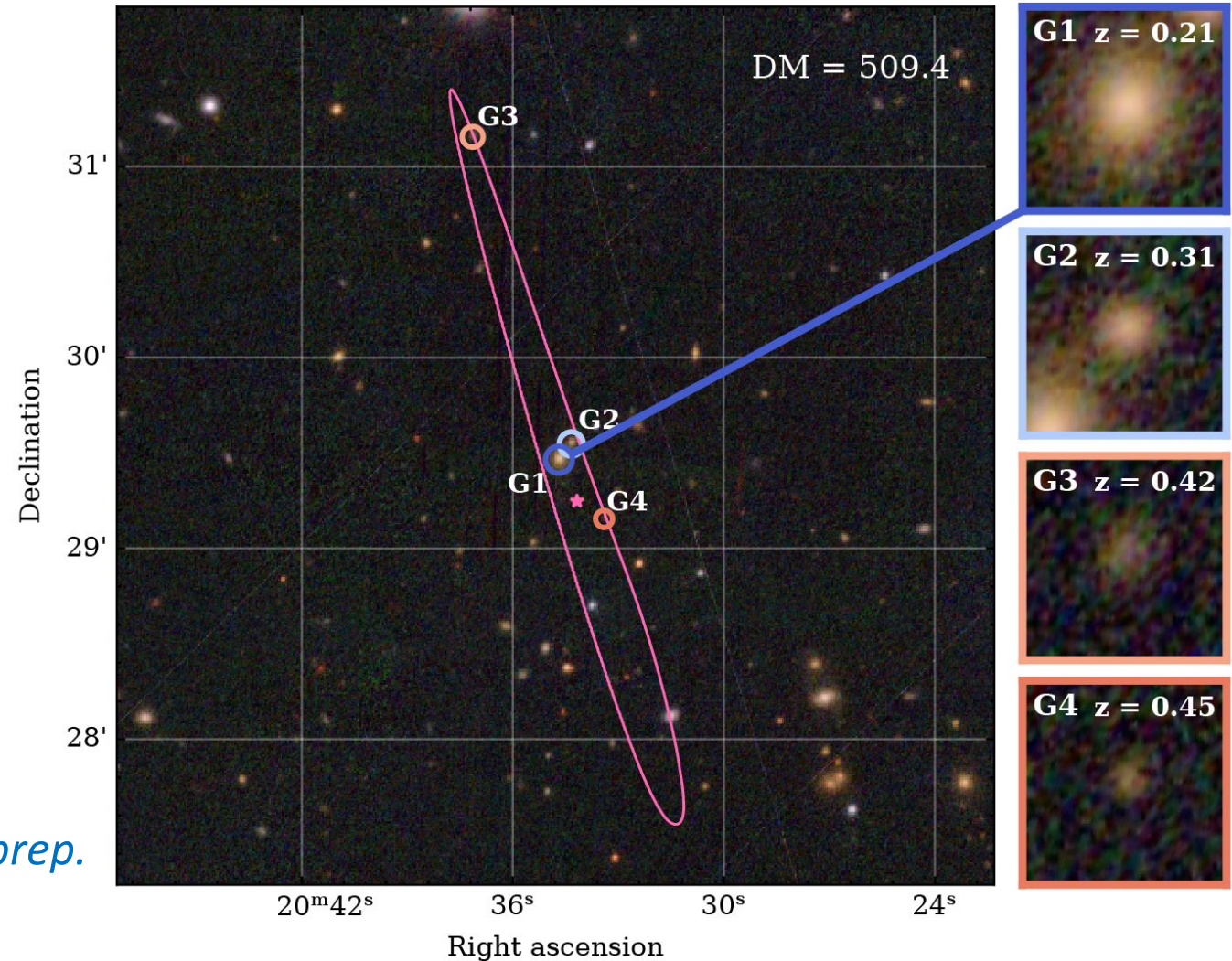
Survey detection rate and localisation

ASKAP, CHIME and Apertif each have their own trade off between rate and localisation accuracy, with Apertif providing both.



Survey detection rate and localisation

Interferometric host
detection to $z = 0.21$:



Pastor-Marazuela, vL, et al. 2022 *in prep.*



Conclusions

The Era of Interferometers

Full coherent-addition sensitivity over entire Apertif field of the view.

Detecting 1 FRB every 7 days of observing.

We discovered 24 one-off FRBs, with good localization.

We found pseudo-periodic structure, from a magnetar magnetosphere?

Combination of solid rates + mapping magneto-ionic material along well-defined lines of sight.



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Future ?

The Era of Interferometers – Continued

Farewell Apertif Surveys 1.0. Stopped operations in March 2022.

What next, for WSRT2023+ ?



Extend array to 2D, with baseband buffer system ?
Real-time AI w/ slaved connection to LOFAR ?

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