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Universiteit Leiden



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Title: Radio galaxies at low frequencies: high spatial and spectral resolution studies with

LOFAR

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Propositions accompanying the thesis

Radio Galaxies at Low Frequencies

high spatial and spectral resolutions studies with LOFAR

- 1. Low frequency surveys provide support for orientation-based unification schemes of active galactic nuclei. (*Chapter 2*)
- 2. Sub-arcsecond imaging at 55 MHz shows that high redshift radio galaxies are analogues of their low redshift equivalents. (*Chapter 3*)
- 3. The correlation between radio spectral index and redshift can be entirely explained by inverse Compton losses from the increased magnetic field energy density at higher redshift. (*Chapter 4*)
- 4. Low-frequency carbon radio recombination lines can be observed in extragalactic sources. (*Chapter 5*)
- 5. Comparison of models with measurements of carbon radio recombination lines across a range of frequencies can be used to constrain the properties of the cold diffuse medium in extragalactic sources. (*Chapter 6*)
- 6. Bound-bound Gaunt factors can be calculated with high accuracy for arbitrarily large quantum numbers using modern computing techniques. (*Chapter 7*)
- 7. The efforts of calibration of ultra low frequency radio data will be rewarded with discoveries that will revolutionise radio astronomy.
- 8. The approach taken in calibrating data depends ultimately on the science goals of the project, and 'perfect' calibration is relative.
- The focus on quantity over quality in publishing papers in astronomy is detrimental to the field.
- 10. Specializing in one particular portion of the electromagnetic spectrum provides too narrow a view of the Universe.
- 11. No matter what your successes are, it is impossible to be truly happy unless you have passion for what you do.
- 12. Travelling alone is something that everyone should do regularly.
- 13. People are more tolerant and compassionate when they have been exposed to different cultures, ideas, and people from varied backgrounds.
- 14. Positive discrimination in hiring is necessary until there is a representative balance of women and minorities at the highest levels of any organisation.

Leah K. Morabito Leiden, 5 August 2016