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ABSTRACT

Cosmological simulations predict the presence of warm hot thermal gas in the cosmic filaments that connect galaxy clusters. This gas is thought to constitute an important part of the missing baryons in the Universe. In addition to the thermal gas, cosmic filaments could contain a population of relativistic particles and magnetic fields. A detection of magnetic fields in filaments can constrain early magnetogenesis in the cosmos. So far, the resulting diffuse synchrotron emission has only been indirectly detected. We present our search for thermal and non-thermal diffuse emission from intercluster regions of 106 paired galaxy clusters by stacking the 0.6–2.3 keV X-ray and 144 MHz radio data obtained with the eROSITA telescope onboard the Spectrum-Roentgen-Gamma (SRG) observatory and LOw Frequency ARray (LOFAR), respectively. The stacked data do not show the presence of X-ray and radio diffuse emission in the intercluster regions. This could be due to the sensitivity of the data sets and/or the limited number of cluster pairs used in this study. Assuming a constant radio emissivity in the filaments, we find that the mean radio emissivity is not higher than 1.2×10^{-44} erg s^{-1} cm^{-3} Hz^{-1}. Under equipartition conditions, our upper limit on the mean emissivity translates to an upper limit of ~ 75 nG for the mean magnetic field strength in the filaments, depending on the spectral index and the minimum energy cutoff. We discuss the constraint for the magnetic field strength in the context of the models for the formation of magnetic fields in cosmic filaments.

Key words: galaxies: clusters: intracluster medium – diffuse radiation – large-scale structure of Universe.

1 INTRODUCTION

Cosmological simulations predict the presence of a complex web of cosmic filaments connecting high matter density regions of galaxy clusters. Cosmic filaments are thought to contain, in addition to dark matter and galaxies, warm-hot intergalactic matter (WHIM) with temperatures of 10^5–10^7 K and low particle densities of $1 - 10$ particles m^{-3} (e.g. Dave et al. 2001).

The presence of X-ray diffuse emission in cosmic filaments has been reported by several works over the last few decades. For instance, Werner et al. (2008) reported a 5σ detection of X-ray emission in the 1.2 Mpc-wide region connecting interacting merging system of Abell 222 and Abell 223 ($z = 0.21$) with XMM-Newton 0.5–2.0 keV observations. Eckert et al. (2015) found a filamentary X-ray structure beyond the virial radius ($R_{\rm vir} = 2.1$ Mpc) of the massive ($M = 1.8 \times 10^{15} M_{\rm sun}$) galaxy cluster Abell 2744 in the XMM-Newton 0.5–1.2 keV data. Bulbul et al. (2016) detected cool (0.8–

1 keV) filamentary gas at the distance of R_{200} to the centre of Abell A1750 with *Suzaku*. There is no galaxy cluster found at the location of the filament that is interpreted as the denser, hotter phase of WHIM. Recently, Reiprich et al. (2021) reported the detection of a 15 Mpc-long region of warm-hot diffuse X-ray emission in between the cluster pair Abell 3391–Abell 3395 and multiple structures beyond R_{200} with the extended ROentgen Survey with an Imaging Telescope Array (eROSITA; Merloni et al. 2012; Predehl et al. 2021) onboard the SRG mission. Using indirect stacking technique, Tanimura et al. (2020) found a 4.2σ X-ray signal from 30 to 100 Mpc long cosmic filaments (Malavasi et al. 2020) using the 0.56–1.21 keV ROSAT data. Vernstrom et al. (2021) reported a 5σ X-ray diffuse emission in the stacked regions between pairs of luminous red galaxies (LRGs) separated by distance below 15 Mpc using the archival data obtained with the ROSAT All Sky Survey (RASS; Trümper 1993). Tanimura et al. (2022) detected excess X-ray emission with 3.8σ significance from the 463 stacked filaments with length between 30 and 100 Mpc in the 0.4–2.3 keV data obtained by eROSITA.

The X-ray emission detected in the bridges from the closely interacting systems (e.g. Abell 222—Abell 223, Abell 3391–Abell 3395, part of the LRG pairs in Vernstrom et al. 2021) might be due to

the heated thermal electrons generated during the merger interaction of the sub-clusters while the X-ray structures found in further to the outskirts of galaxy clusters (e.g. beyond R_{200}) are likely created by the interaction between the intracluster medium (ICM) and its surrounding large-scale structure (i.e. WHIM; e.g. Dolag et al. 2006; Werner et al. 2008; Planck Collaboration 2013)

In the radio band, an indirect detection of radio emission from the regions connecting pairs of LRGs that are thought to trace galaxy clusters/groups has been reported by Vernstrom et al. (2021). By stacking the GaLactic and Extragalactic All-sky Murchison Widefield Array (MWA; Wayth et al. 2015; Hurley-Walker et al. 2017) multiband (73–154 MHz) images, the authors found excess (5σ) diffuse radio emission in the regions between the LRG pairs. The separation between the LRG pairs is below 15 Mpc with a mean of 9.9 Mpc. However, a following-up analysis by Hodgson et al. (2022) using more sensitive MWA data at 118.5 MHz does not detect the synchrotron signal in between the reported pairs of LRGs. In a recent study, Vernstrom et al. (2023) reports the detection of polarized ($\geq$ 20 per cent) radio diffuse emission from the regions between the LRG pairs with the 1.4 GHz Global Magneto-Ionic Medium Survey (Wolleben et al. 2021) data and the 30 GHz Planck data (Ade et al. 2016). The LRG pairs are obtained from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS) Data Release 7 LRG Catalogue (Lopes 2007).

Despite of the absence of direct detection of diffuse radio emission from the intercluster regions, recent attempts have been made on paired clusters of different separations. A recent attempt by Locatelli et al. (2021) searches for diffuse radio emission between the intercluster regions of two pairs of galaxy clusters RXC J1659–J1702 ($\bar{z} = 0.14$) and RXC J1155–J1156 ($\bar{z} = 0.10$) separated by a distance of 14 and 25 Mpc, respectively, using the LOw Frequency ARray (LOFAR; van Haarlem et al. 2013) High Band Antenna (HBA) 8-h observations. However, no diffuse emission was detected in their 20 arcsec-resolution images that have noise levels of 160 and 260 μJy beam^{-1}. This non-detection suggests that the surface brightness (SB) of the filaments is below the sensitivity of their short observations. Similar work without detected signal was done by Brüggen et al. (2021) on the closely (3.1 Mpc) interacting paired clusters Abell 3391–Abell 3395 using the Evolutionary Map of the Universe Early Science observations (Norris et al. 2011) with the Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder (ASKAP; Johnston et al. 2007). The strongest evidence for this is the recent direct detection of diffuse radio emission from the connecting regions (namely bridge) between the pairs of clusters (or groups) in Abell 399–Abell 401 (3 Mpc Govoni et al. 2019; de Jong et al. 2022) and Abell 1785N–Abell 1785S (2 Mpc Botteon et al. 2020a), Coma (Bonafede et al. 2022) with LOFAR, and Shapley Supercluster (A3562–SC 1329–313; Venturi et al. 2022) with the ASKAP (Hotan et al. 2021) and (MeerKAT; Jonas 2009). However, these regions are still within the virial radii of these clusters (Sakelliou & Ponman 2004; Botteon et al. 2018; Bonafede et al. 2022; Venturi et al. 2022), and the ICM of the clusters or groups are in the process of interacting. The resulting shock waves and turbulence can produce diffuse emission in the connecting regions (Govoni et al. 2019; Brunetti & Vazza 2020). Still, these observations are probing further into the cluster outskirts than previously possible and are a stepping stone to directly detect synchrotron emission from cosmic filaments.

Diffuse radio emission in cosmic filaments is expected to be generated by large-scale magnetic fields permeating the source volume and relativistic electrons accelerated by accretion shocks from in-falling matter (Vazza et al. 2015). Cosmic filaments provide a promising testbed for studying magnetogenesis because the magnetic field

within cosmic filaments is expected to be less affected by magnetized outflows from galaxies or dynamo processes than magnetic fields in galaxy clusters. Hence, cosmic filaments provide a good laboratory to study magnetic field amplification by the formation of large-scale structure (e.g. Brüggen et al. 2005). A recent study by Oei et al. (2022) further predicts the radio diffuse signal from the merger- and accretion-shocked synchrotron Cosmic Web that is generated during the structure formation.

In this study, we search for diffuse radio and X-ray emission from the regions connecting pairs of galaxy clusters that are members of a large-scale structure connecting multiple clusters or groups of galaxies (aka supercluster systems; Bahcall 1999). The extremely faint nature of the intercluster filaments makes direct search challenging for the current radio telescopes. Hence, to increase the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) of the signal we perform stacking of the intercluster regions. Throughout the paper, we assume a ΛCDM (Lambda cold dark matter) cosmology with $\Omega_m = 0.3$, $\Omega_\Lambda = 0.7$, and $H_0 = 70\,\mathrm{km\,s^{-1}\,Mpc^{-1}}$.

2 THE SUPERCLUSTER SAMPLE

During the performance verification phase of eROSITA, it scans an equatorial sky area of 140 square degrees with its 0.2–10 keV energy band for an exposure duration of 2.2 ks. The observation, namely eROSITA Final Equatorial Depth Survey (eFEDS), reach the sensitivity of the eROSITA All-Sky Survey (eRASS). Detailed analysis of the data by Liu et al. (2022) shows the detection of 542 candidate galaxy clusters in the eFEDS field. Liu et al. (2022) also published the catalog of 19 superclusters with more than 4 members. In this work, we also include the other supercluster systems in the field with less number of cluster members, from 2 to 10 galaxy clusters.

We search for diffuse emission from the intercluster filaments connecting the supercluster members detected in the eFEDS field. The supercluster catalogue contains the redshifts and sky coordinates of the clusters that allows us to make a list of 162 cluster pairs. These pairs are selected based on the physical distance between the paired clusters in which the closest clusters in a supercluster system are paired together. To maximize the detection of the faint filaments, we select only the cluster pairs that (i) are located in the sensitive regions of the LOFAR observations between Dec>$-2°$ and Dec<$+5°$ and (ii) are separated with an angular distance from 20 to 120 arcmin. The final list consists of 106 pairs of galaxy clusters that are shown in Table A1. Most of these cluster pairs (80 per cent) are at redshifts below 0.5 and are separated from each other by a distance between 4 and 50 Mpc. The length of a filament is assumed to be the separation of the paired clusters minus their respective virial radii. We define the width of a filament to be two times the mean virial radii of the paired clusters. The virial radius of a cluster is calculated using the scaling relation $R_{\mathrm{vir}} = 10^{1/3} R_{500}$ (Reiprich et al. 2013). The radius R_{500} is the radius at which the enclosed mass density is 500 times the critical density of the Universe at the cluster's redshift. For the selected clusters, R_{500} is estimated in Liu et al. (2022). In Fig. 1, we show more detail on the properties of these intercluster filaments.

3 DATA

3.1 LOFAR radio data

The eFEDS field was observed with LOFAR for a total duration of 184 h in multiple projects, including LC13_029, LT10_010, LT14_004, and LT5_007. The observations make use of 73–75
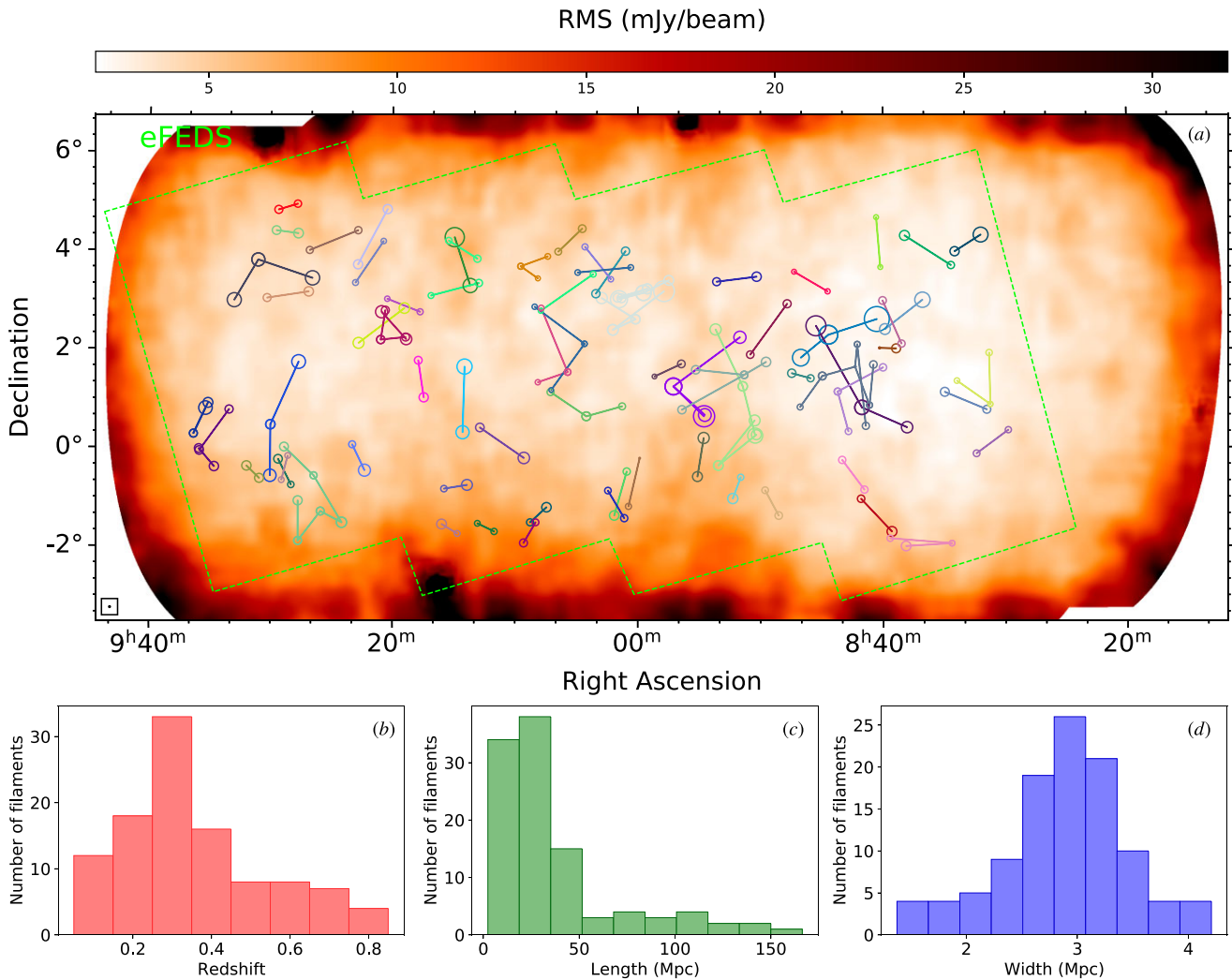
Figure 1. (a): Spatial distribution of the superclusters in the eFEDS field (green region) on the LOFAR RMS map. Members of a supercluster system are shown with the same colour. In this study, 106 pairs of galaxy clusters are selected. The sizes of the circles indicate the relative radius R_{500} of the clusters. (b, c, d): The distributions of the redshift, length and width of the selected filaments.

stations (48 split cores, 14 remotes, and 9–13 international) in full polarization mode and have a frequency coverage between 120 and 168 MHz. The data were calibrated for direction-independent and direction-dependent (DD) effects, following the standard procedures that have been developed for the LOFAR Two-metre-Sky Survey (LoTSS; Shimwell et al. 2017, 2019, 2022). The data processing pipelines used for the calibration `Prefactor`[1] (van Weeren et al. 2016; Williams et al. 2016; de Gasperin et al. 2019) and `ddf-pieline`[2] (Tasse et al. 2021) are freely available. Details of the calibration of the eFEDS data were presented in Pasini et al. (2022). In this study, we combine these calibrated data sets for the eFEDS field, except those obtained from the project LT5_007 due to its high noise level.

To enhance low SB, large-scale emission from the intercluster filaments, we create a low-resolution (2 arcmin) mosaic of the entire field. First, we remove discrete sources to avoid contamination. For each pointing, the subtraction of discrete sources from the data is done using the DD calibration solutions and the high-resolution clean-component models that are produced during the calibration steps by `ddf-pipeline`. After the subtraction, we use the DD-subtracted *uv* data to create wide-field (8° × 10°) images for each pointings using `WSClean`. We set the imaging parameters in such a way that shorter baselines are weighted more for the enhancing of large-scale emission (i.e. `Briggs'` weighting robust of 0.25, tapering of long baselines of 10 arcsec). The *uv* range is set above 45 λ, which is sensitive to diffuse emission of scales smaller than 1.55°. The deconvolution is done for the pixels above a threshold of 1.5 times the local RMS, using `auto-threshold` option. The `join-channel` deconvolution is applied to take into account the wide bandwidth of the observing frequencies (i.e. 48 MHz). The deconvolved images are corrected for the spatial attenuation of the LOFAR primary beam using the option `apply-primary-beam` in `WSClean`.

Before making low-resolution mosaics of the eFEDS field, we smooth the images for each pointing to a common resolution of 2 arcmin using `CASA`'s task (`imsmooth`). Pixels that are below 10 per cent of the LOFAR primary beam sensitivity are blanked out. The smoothed images for each pointing are combined to create a

[1]https://github.com/lofar-astron/prefactor
[2]https://github.com/mhardcastle/ddf-pipeline

mosaic in a similar procedure as done in Shimwell et al. (2022). Here the pixels in each images are weighted by the inverse-variance of the local noise (i.e. $1/\sigma_{noise}^2$) calculated from the pointing images.

The source-subtracted 2 arcmin-resolution mosaic of the eFEDS field is shown in Fig. 2a. As seen in the mosaic, a majority of the discrete sources are subtracted. However, some residuals are still clearly visible over the field due to the imperfection of the *uv* subtraction. To further remove the residuals of the discrete sources, we use the Python Blob Detector and Source Finder[3] (PyBDSF; Mohan & Rafferty 2015) to search for the $>3\sigma_{noise}$ pixels that are then fitted with Gaussian functions. To avoid the subtraction from extended emission, only models of the sources that have angular sizes smaller than three times the beam size are created and are subtracted from the mosaic. The resulting source-subtracted mosaic is shown in Fig. 2b.

3.2 eROSITA X-ray data

We use the eFEDS 0.6–2.3 keV count map and exposure map from the early data release[4] for data analysis. The detailed data reduction procedure was described in Brunner et al. (2022). The image products are rebinned to a pixel size of 16×16 arcsec^2. Extended sources in galaxy clusters and groups catalog (Liu et al. 2022) are masked using a radius of $3 \times$R_SNR_MAX. Point sources in the catalog of Brunner et al. (2022) are masked using 1.5 arcmin-radius masks. We visually inspect the source masked image and apply additional masks to bright source PSF wings that exceed the 1.5 arcmin-radius. We do not use the 0.2–0.6 keV band image because the foreground emission from Galactic halo is dominant in this band (Ponti et al. 2022), which is also the possible reason why Tanimura et al. (2022) only reported filament emission detection using the 0.6–2.3 keV images.

4 THE STACKING TECHNIQUE

Diffuse emission from cosmic filaments is expected to be faint due to its low particle density. To search for the diffuse emission from these intercluster regions, previous studies exploited the stacking technique of multiple individual images to increase the SNR of the sources (e.g. Clampitt et al. 2016; Tanimura et al. 2020; Vernstrom et al. 2021; Tanimura et al. 2022; Vernstrom et al. 2023).

4.1 Stacking of radio data

We combine the radio images round the cluster pairs, which is roughly similar to the procedure described in Clampitt et al. (2016) and Vernstrom et al. (2021). For each pair of galaxy clusters, cutout images are extracted from the 2 arcmin-resolution mosaic (see Fig. 2b). As the cluster pairs have different orientations in the sky, we rotate the cutout images to align the cluster pairs along the horizontal (X) axis of the image. The angular sizes of the cutout images in the X and Y axes are set to common angular sizes in the units of the cluster separations (d) and the mean of the virial radii ($\bar{R}_{vir} = (R_{vir,1} + R_{vir,2})/2$) of the paired clusters, respectively. The cutout images are then regridded to common pixel sizes (i.e. 1024×1024 pixel^2). The centre of each paired clusters are located on the same pixel locations in the regridded images [i.e. $(-256, 0)$ and $(+256, 0)$, here the coordinate origin is at the cutout image

centre]. The pixel sizes in X and Y axes are set to be $d/512$ and $1024/(10\bar{R}_{vir})$, respectively. When the cutout images are regridded, the images are stretched or contracted, depending on the original angular separation of the paired clusters. We convert the SB unit to Jy pixel^{-1} during this step as the SB unit of Jy beam^{-1} is not relevant. During the rotation and regridding, the flux density is conserved.

The cutout images with common pixel sizes are combined to generate a stacked image of the cluster pairs. Individual pixels are averaged and are weighted by the inverse-variance ($1/\sigma_{noise}^2$) of the noise estimated from the cutout images.

To estimate the volume emissivity of the plasma filling a filament, we assume a tube-like shape for the filament. The area of the filament cross-section is $A = \pi r^2$, where r is the radius of the cross-section of the filament. The emissivity and integrated flux density[5] for the filament are

$$\epsilon = \frac{P}{V},$$

$$S = \frac{P}{4\pi D_L^2 K(z)} = \frac{\epsilon l r^2}{4K(z) D_L^2}, \tag{1}$$

where P is the radio power, V the filament volume, l the length of the filament, and $D_L = (D_{L,a} + D_{L,b})/2$ is the luminosity distance to the pair clusters (the subscripts a and b denote the two clusters of the pair), $K(z) = (1 + z)^{(\alpha - 1)}$ is the monochromatic K-correction term for a radio source of spectral index α at redshift z. When a number of N filaments are stacked, the mean flux density for the filaments is,

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \omega_i S_i = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{\omega_i \epsilon_i l_i r_i^2}{4K(z_i) D_{L,i}^2}, \tag{2}$$

where $\omega_i = \frac{1/\sigma_{noise,i}^2}{\sum_{j=1}^{N} 1/\sigma_{noise,j}^2}$ is the inverse-variance weighting of the cutout images. Assuming that the emissivity of the filaments is constant for all filaments in the sample, we can write equation (2) as follows:

$$\epsilon_0 = \frac{S}{c}, \tag{3}$$

where $c = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{\omega_i l_i r_i^2}{4K(z_i) D_{L,i}^2}$. The mean flux density, S, is measured from the stacked image and c is calculated for N cluster pairs.

4.2 Stacking of X-ray data

For the X-ray data, our stacking method is similar to that of Tanimura et al. (2022). For each cluster pair, we extract the SB 1D profile from the connecting segment to $5 \times \bar{R}_{vir}$ with bin sizes of $0.5\bar{R}_{vir}$ (e.g. see fig. 2 of Tanimura et al. 2022). The SB of the ith bin is

$$SB_i = \frac{\sum_j N_{ij}}{\sum_j E_{ij} \times A_{ij}}, \tag{4}$$

where N_{ij}, E_{ij}, and A_{ij} are the count number, vignetting corrected exposure time and sky area of the j-th pixel in the i-th bin. For the 106 extracted profiles, we use a bootstrapping method to evaluate the mean and 1σ uncertainty of the combined profile. Note that the ratio between the vignetting corrected and uncorrected exposure maps is flat across eFEDS, we do not distinguish instrumental background and sky X-ray background. Instead, we will use the SB outside $\bar{R}_{vir}$ as the local background.

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[3]https://github.com/lofar-astron/PyBDSF
[4]https://erosita.mpe.mpg.de/edr/eROSITAObservations/Catalogues/liuT/eFEDS_c001_images/

[5]The synchrotron spectrum convention of $S \propto \nu^{-\alpha}$ is used in this study.
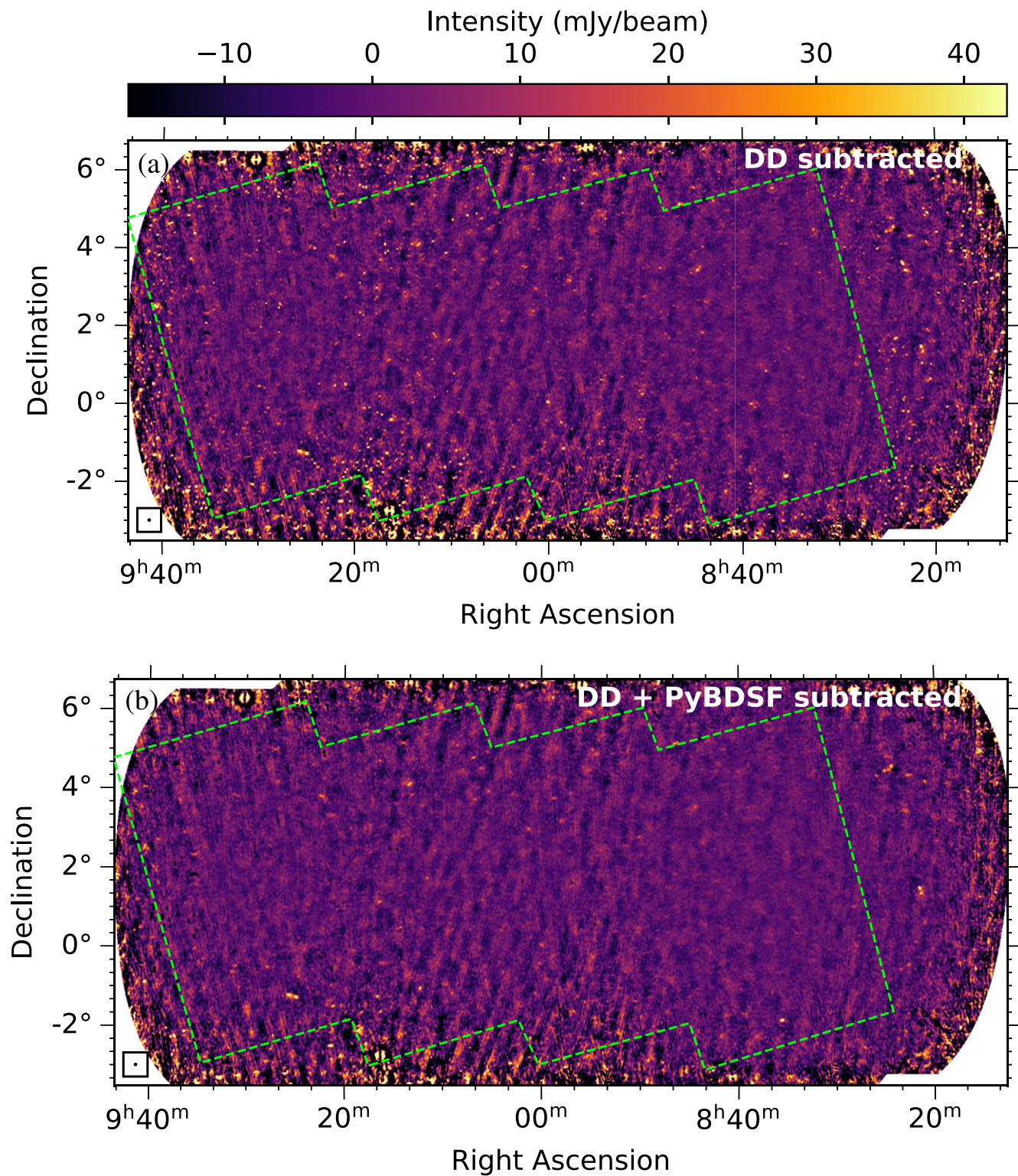
Figure 2. (a) Mosaic of the eFEDS field after the subtraction of discrete sources with DD calibration solutions. (b) The mosaic after an additional subtraction of discrete sources made with PyBDSF. Both images have the same colour range and field of view. The resolution of the mosaic is shown in the bottom-left corners.
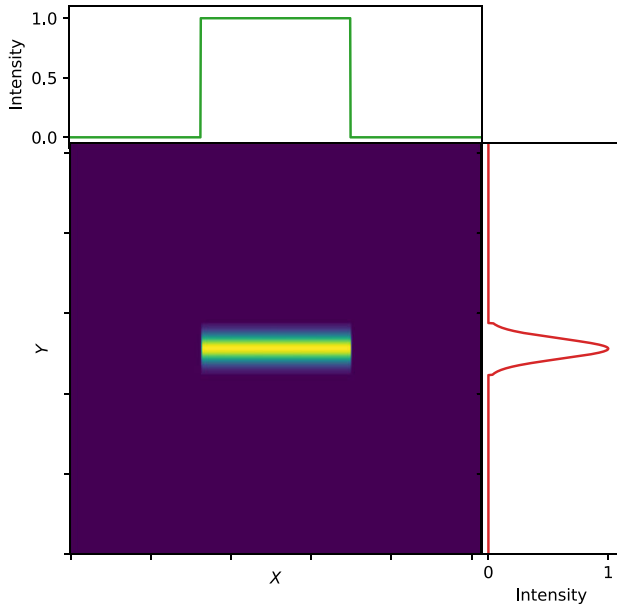
Figure 3. Filament model and its profiles across the width (right subpanel) and length (top subpanel).

5 INJECTION OF FILAMENT MODELS

Due to the missing of *uv* sampling, radio interferometric observations suffer from recovering large-scale, low-SB emission. A recent study by Bruno et al. (2023) extensively addressed this issue with LOFAR data for cluster-scale diffuse emission. They found that the LOFAR observations miss only 10 per cent of the flux density from diffuse sources of 10.5 arcmin scales. However, the missing flux density can be up to 50 per cent for 18 arcmin-scale sources. Our LOFAR observations might miss part of diffuse emission from the intercluster filaments that span a large-spatial area of the sky, up to ∼1.5 degree in size. We examine this effect in the LOFAR data by the injection of filament models and compare the flux density before and after the injection. We assume a simple tube-like 3D shape for the filaments. In projection, the width *w* and length *l* of a filament are defined as

$$w = 2\bar{R}_{\rm vir},$$
$$l = d - R_{\rm vir,1} - R_{\rm vir,2}. \tag{5}$$

The projected SB across the filament width is set to follow a Gaussian function with a standard deviation of $\sigma_{\rm Gaus.} = \bar{R}_{\rm vir}/3$. With this SB distribution, the amount of the flux density integrated over the filament width (i.e. between $-3\sigma_{\rm Gaus.}$ and $3\sigma_{\rm Gaus.}$) is 99.7 per cent. Along the length of the filaments, the projected SB is assumed to be constant. An example of a filament model is shown in Fig. 3.

For each pointings, the models of the filaments are multiplied with the corresponding LOFAR primary beam to account for the spatial sensitivity of the telescope. The primary-beam-attenuated models for the filaments are then performed Fourier transformation and are added (injected) to the DD-subtracted *uv* data in which discrete sources have been removed by the DD-calibration solutions and the `ddf-pipeline` high-resolution (∼6 arcsec) models. The injected data sets are then processed in the similar manner as done in Section 3.1 to generate a final mosaic of the eFEDS field. Due to the low SB of the mock filaments, the injected emission is not deconvolved during the imaging. To avoid the removal of the injected filaments in the `PyBDSF`-subtracted step, we use the models for the residuals which are created with the `PyBDSF` run on the original mosaic (i.e.

Fig. 2a). As mentioned in Section 3.1, we only made the models for the residuals with an angular size smaller than three times the synthesized beam to avoid the removal of the large-scale signal from intercluster filaments. We refer to this injection of the filament models in to the *uv* data as the *uv* injection.

The flux density of the filaments might be lost during the stacking due to the image processing. We also test this possibility by injecting of the filament models directly in to the cutout images, which is referred as the *image* injection. The models of the filaments are smoothed to the same 2 arcsec-resolution of the cutout images before being added to the cutout images. The model-injected cutout images are then combined to generate stacked images, following the procedure described in Section 4.

6 RESULTS

6.1 Radio stacked image

In Fig. 4, we show the stacked image for the 106 selected pairs of galaxy clusters. The sensitivity of the stacked image is $\sigma_{\rm noise} = 0.6\,\mu$Jy pixel^{-1}, where the pixel sizes along X and Y axes are in the units of $d/512$ and $1024/(10\bar{R}_{vir})$. At the locations of the paired clusters, radio emission above $2\sigma_{\rm noise}$ is seen. However, no diffuse emission in the regions connecting the paired clusters is detected. In the following subsections, we use the stacked image to constrain on the upper limits of the flux density, the emissivity, and the magnetic field strength for the filaments.

6.1.1 Flux density

We constrain the upper limit of the mean flux density for the intercluster regions to be $S < 3\Delta S$, where $\Delta S = \sqrt{N}\Delta S_{\rm sub}$ and $\Delta S_{\rm sub} = n\sigma_{\rm noise}$ are the uncertainties of the flux densities over the filament regions and independent sub-regions, respectively; N is the mean number of the independent sub-regions consisting of n pixels each. The factor of 3 here indicates that the true flux density of the filaments is below the upper limit S with a probability of 99.7 per cent. As defined in equation (5), the filament widths are equal to two times the mean of the virial radii of the paired clusters, and that the filament lengths span between the boundaries of the virial radii of the clusters. The area of the filaments ranges from 10 to 236 independent beams with a mean of 51 beams. Almost 85 per cent of the filaments have an area smaller than 80 beams. More detail on the distribution of the filament area is shown in Fig. A1 (a). When the number of independent sub-regions is taken to be the mean of the filament area in beam unit ($N = 51$), the uncertainty of the flux density in an independent sub-region of the filaments is $\Delta S_{\rm sub} = 0.9\,$mJy, here $n = 1540\,$pixels. This results in the mean flux density of the intercluster regions to be lower than $S < 19.3\,$mJy. The upper limit for the flux density is estimated here under the assumption that the SB is constant over the whole filament area. Hence, this upper limit is likely much higher than the true flux density for the filaments as the SB in the outer regions is expected to be fainter than the SB in the middle regions (along the length of the filaments).

6.1.2 Emissivity

The upper limit for the flux density of the filaments derived in the previous section is likely to be much higher than the true value that
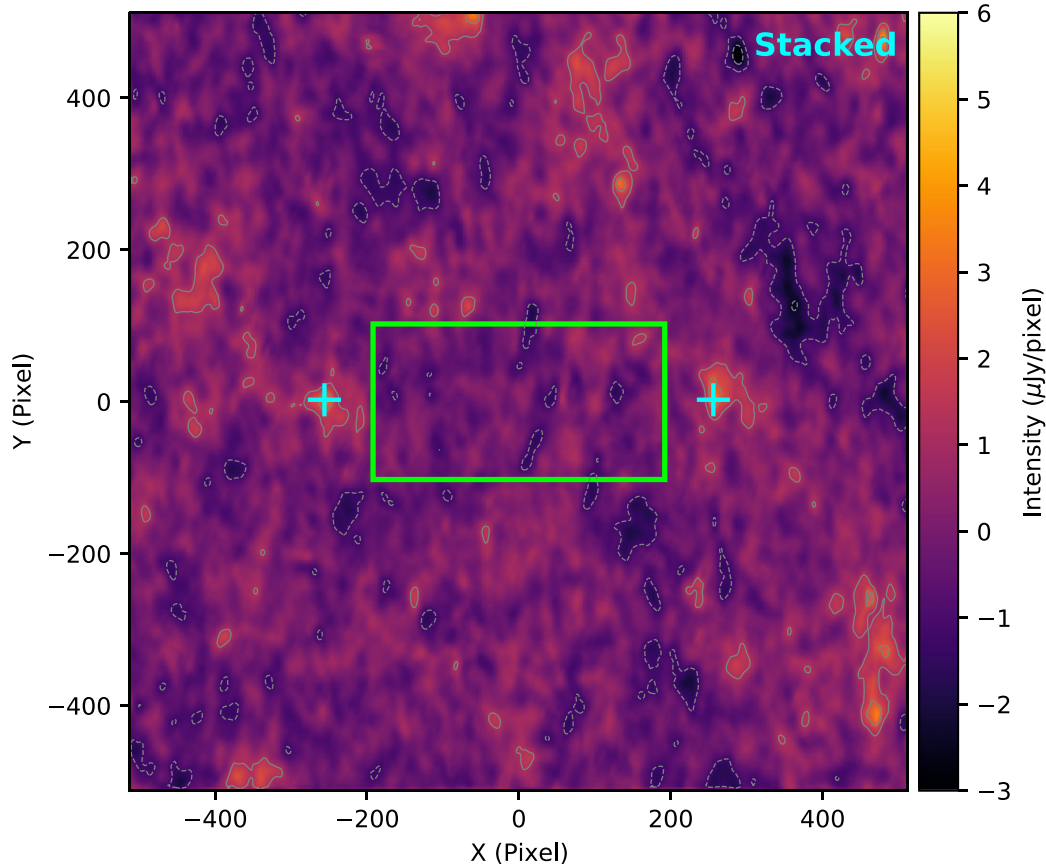
Figure 4. LOFAR 144 MHz stacked image of the 106 cluster pairs. The locations of the paired clusters are marked with plus (+) signs. The width and length of the green rectangle region is w and the mean of the filament lengths, respectively. The contours are drawn at $[\pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 6] \times \sigma_{\mathrm{noise}}$, where $\sigma_{\mathrm{noise}} = 0.6\,\mu\mathrm{Jy\,pixel^{-1}}$. Dashed lines represent negative contours.

Table 1. The statistics for the two-sample KS test for the comparison between the means of the emission in the intercluster filaments before and after the injection of filament models.

ϵ_{inj} [$10^{-44}\,\mathrm{erg\,s^{-1}\,cm^{-3}\,Hz^{-1}}$]	Statistic	p-value	Detection
1	0.4	0.08	N
1.2	0.45	0.03	Y
1.4	0.5	0.01	Y
1.6	0.55	0.004	Y
1.8	0.55	0.004	Y
2	0.6	0.001	Y
3	0.75	<0.001	Y
4	0.85	<0.001	Y
5	0.9	<0.001	Y

results in an unrealistic volume emissivity for the filaments. To have a tight estimate of the emissivity, we perform the injection of the filament models in to the *uv* data. More detail on the *uv* injection procedure is described in Section 5. To this end, we simulate the filaments as tube-like structures. We generate filament models with a range of emissivities $\epsilon_{\mathrm{inj}} = 1 - 5 \times 10^{-44}\,\mathrm{erg\,s^{-1}\,cm^{-3}\,Hz^{-1}}$ (see Table 1). For each injection, we assume a common emissivity for all the filaments in our sample. We create source-subtracted mosaics containing the filament models that are used to generate cutout images, which are subsequently stacked, following the stacking technique described in Section 4.1. In Fig. 5, we present some of

the stacked images before (a) and after (b-e) the *uv* injection of the filament models. For comparison, we also show a stacked image of the filament models in Fig. 5f.

Fig. 5b–e shows that the SB in the stacked filament regions is brighter as the injected emissivity of the models increases. For the injected emissivity of $5 \times 10^{-44}\,\mathrm{erg\,s^{-1}\,cm^{-3}\,Hz^{-1}}$, diffuse emission is well detected at $2\sigma_{\mathrm{noise}}$ over the regions connecting the paired clusters (see Fig. 5e). This feature is clearer in the normalized SB profiles across the widths of the stacked filaments in Fig. 6 (a). As the injected emissivity increases, the peaks of the normalized intensity profiles increase. The intensity for $\epsilon_{\mathrm{inj}} = 5 \times 10^{-44}\,\mathrm{erg\,s^{-1}\,cm^{-3}\,Hz^{-1}}$ is well above the background regions. We note that negative pixels are seen around the stacked filaments in Fig. 5b–e and the projected profiles in Fig. 6a (i.e. at the pixel locations of 370 and 610). These are due to the fact that the low SB of the injected emission is not deconvolved during the imaging (i.e. roundly below the noise levels).

To search for the upper limit for the emissivity of the filaments, we compare the flux density extracted in the intercluster regions before and after the injection of filament models in to the *uv* data. We select the region where the SB is brightest as shown by the white rectangle in Fig. 5e. Following Vernstrom et al. (2021, 2023), we perform a comparison using two-sample Kolmogorov–Smirnov (KS) test[6] (Hodges 1958) that compares the two extracted flux

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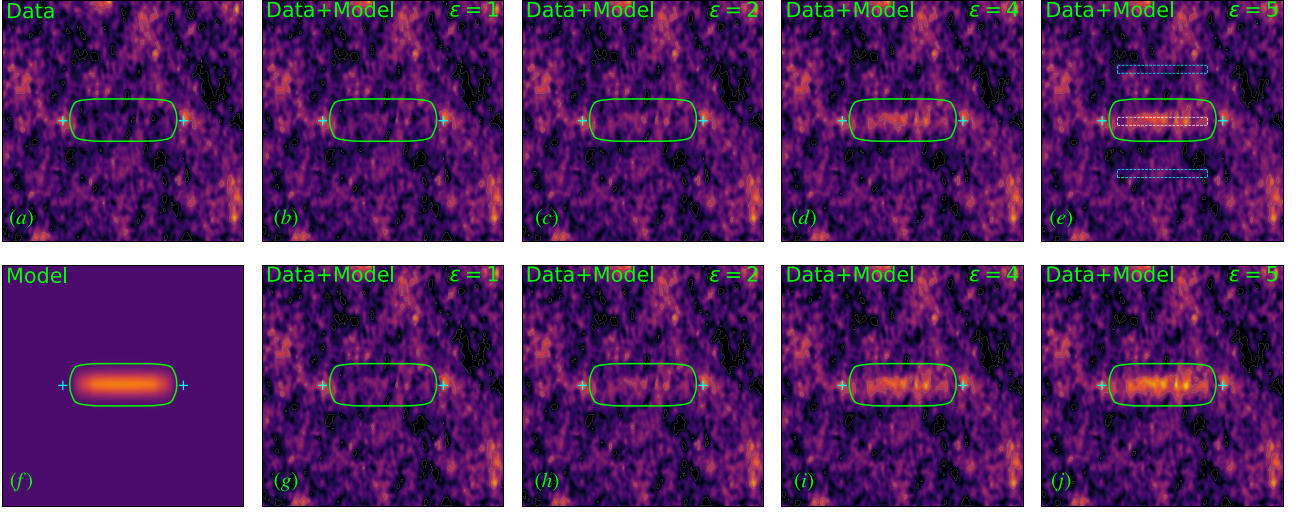[6] Available in `SciPy` package at https://scipy.org.

Figure 5. Stacked images of the cluster pairs before (a) and after (b–e, g–j) injecting mock filaments (f) into *uv* data (b–e) and image (g–j) with a range of emissivity (shown on the top right corners, in unit of 10^{-44} erg s^{-1} cm^{-3} Hz^{-1}). The original and model stacked images are shown in panels (a) and (f). The green region is where the flux density is integrated. The grey contours start at $2\sigma_{\text{noise}}$ and are spaced by a factor of 2. The negative contours are shown with dotted lines.
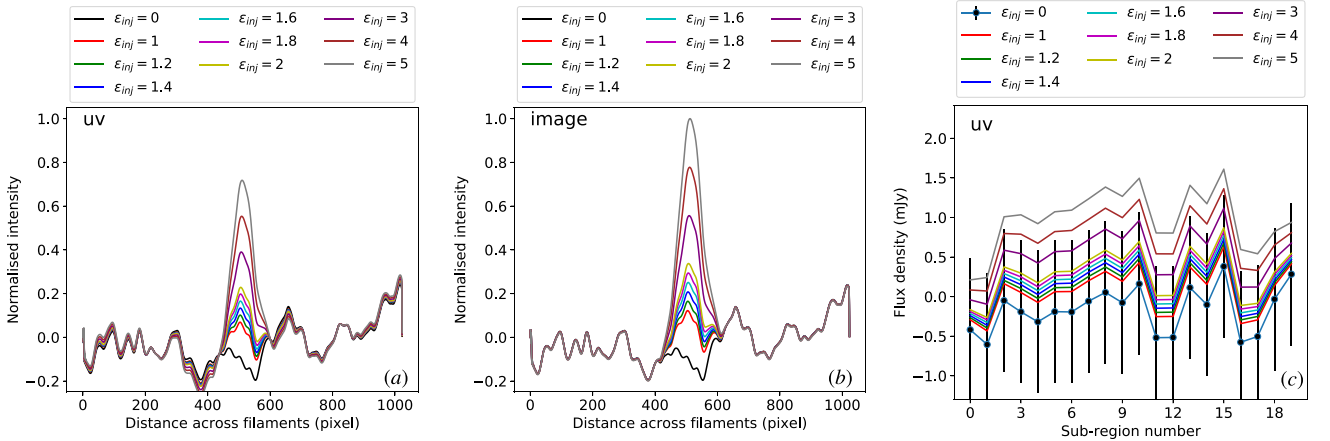

Figure 6. (a and b) Projected SB profiles across the widths of the stacked filaments with and without the injection of the models into *uv* data (a) and images (b). The profiles (a and b) are normalized by dividing by the peak value. (c) The flux density extracted from the regions along the stacked filaments before and after the injection of filament models. The extracted region is shown with the white rectangle in Fig. 5e. The injected emissivity in units of 10^{-44}erg s^{-1} cm^{-3} Hz^{-1} is shown in the top legends.

density samples. One sample is taken from the injected stacked images (Fig. 5, b–e); and the other (reference) sample is extracted from the original stacked image (Fig. 5a). The null hypothesis for the statistical test is that the flux density in the injected stacked image is not different from that in the original stacked image (i.e. the same distribution). We find that the injected emissivity of 1.2×10^{-44}erg s^{-1} cm^{-3} Hz^{-1} results in the statistically significant (*p*-value < 0.05) difference in the flux densities in the injection and original stacked images. In addition to the comparison with the filament regions prior to the injection, we use background regions as the reference sample to compare the flux density in the injected filaments with the noise. The background regions are shown with the cyan rectangles in Fig. 5e. We find that the upper limit obtained this way is consistent with the results from the previous case in which the reference sample is taken from the intercluster regions prior to the injection. More detail on the KS-test statistics is shown in Table 1.

6.1.3 Equipartition magnetic fields

Diffuse synchrotron emission was reported in the regions connecting the pairs of LRGs that are thought to connect galaxy clusters (Vernstrom et al. 2021, 2023). This implies the presence of large-scale magnetic fields in the intercluster regions. To estimate the magnetic field strength, we follow the equipartition assumption that the total energy in the magnetic field and the relativistic particles (i.e. electrons and heavy particles) is minimum. According to Pacholczyk (1970) and Govoni & Feretti (2004), the equipartition magnetic field strength in the minimum total energy condition, in which the energies in the magnetic field and relativistic particles are approximately equal, is given by

$$B_{\text{eq}} = \left(6\pi(1+k)c_{12}K_{\text{bol}}\Phi^{-1}\epsilon\right)^{2/7}, \qquad (6)$$

where k is the ratio of heavy particle (i.e. protons) energy to that in the electrons, $c_{12}(\alpha, v_1, v_2) = c_1^{1/2}c_2^{-1}\tilde{C}$ with c_1, c_2, and $\tilde{C}$ given in
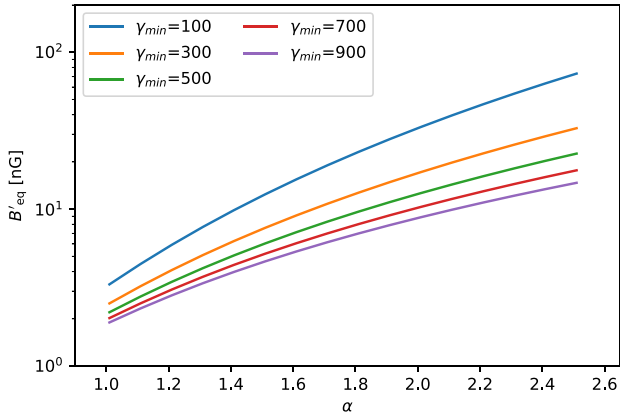
Figure 7. Magnetic field strength (revised) of cosmic filaments as a function of spectral index α and minimum particle energy cutoff $\gamma_{\min}$.

Figure 8. X-ray stacked profile. The dashed horizontal line denotes the mean SB from 1 to 5 $\bar{R}_{\rm vir}$.

equations 3 and 17 of Govoni & Feretti (2004), ν_1 and ν_2 are the frequency range in which the synchrotron luminosity is integrated, $K_{\rm bol}(z) = (1 + z)^{(3 + \alpha)}$ is the bolometric K-correction term, Φ is the volume filling factor of the synchrotron emission, and ϵ is the volume emissivity of the synchrotron emission. In the equation above, we include the emissivity $\epsilon = L_{\rm sync}/V$ and the K-correction term to the equation 22 of Govoni & Feretti (2004).

As pointed out in literature that the integration of the radio synchrotron luminosity should be taken in the electron energy space, instead of in the frequency one (Brunetti et al. 2004). This is because the radio emission from the relativistic electrons here is assumed to be in the frequency range from $\nu_1 = 10$ MHz and $\nu_2 = 10$ GHz (or 100 GHz) observable with radio telescopes on Earth which generates physical biases. The revised magnetic field strength is calculated based on the electron energy cutoff,

$$B'_{\rm eq} \approx 1.1 \gamma_{\min}^{\frac{1-2\alpha}{3+\alpha}} B_{\rm eq}^{\frac{7}{2(3+\alpha)}}, \tag{7}$$

where $\gamma_{\min}$ is the Lorentz factor of the minimum energy for the synchrotron radio emitting electrons (Brunetti et al. 2004; Govoni & Feretti 2004).

In the previous sections, we assume spectral index of 1.5 for the radio emission from the filaments although the true value for the spectral index is unknown. Here we examine the strength of magnetic field as a function of spectral index ranging between 1 and 2.5. We assume the energy in the protons is 100 times that in relativistic electrons, i.e. $k = 100$, that the emitted frequency ranges between 10 MHz and 10 GHz, and $\Phi = 1$ (e.g. Govoni & Feretti 2004). In Fig. 7, we present the dependence of the B field strength on the spectral index α and the minimum energy cutoff $\gamma_{\min}$ (assuming between 100 and 900). For our upper limit for the emissivity of $\epsilon = 1.2 \times 10^{-44} {\rm erg\ s^{-1}\ cm^{-3}\ Hz^{-1}}$, the mean of revised magnetic field strength is well below 75 nG (i.e. $\gamma_{\min} = 100$ and $\alpha = 2.5$). Our constraint on the filament magnetic field is consistent with the estimates in the literature. For instance, Vernstrom et al. (2021) report a magnetic field strength of $30 - 50$ nG using analysis of synchrotron–Inverse-Compton emission. Carretti et al. (2022) estimate a strength of $B = 32 \pm 3$ nG using Rotation Measure technique. Our upper limit for the magnetic field strength is lower than those reported in O'Sullivan et al. (2019), Locatelli et al. (2021; 250 nG), Brown et al. (2017), and Vernstrom et al. (2017; 30–200 nG) and is slightly higher than those in Vacca et al. (2018), Vernstrom et al. (2019), and Amaral, Vernstrom & Gaensler (2021; 40–50 nG).
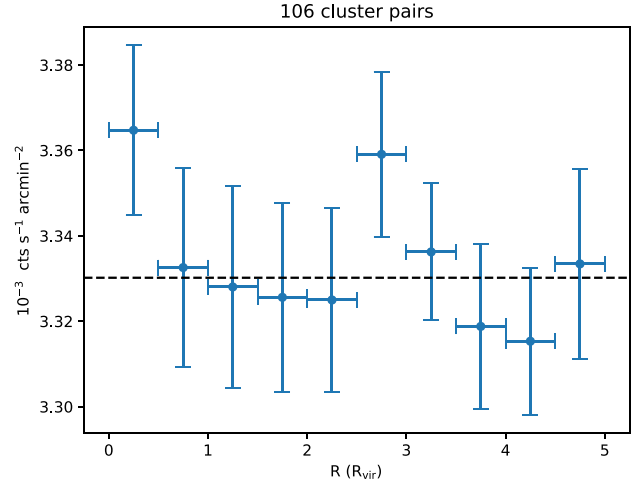
We note that the true magnetic field strength in our calculation can be much lower in the cases that the spectral index is flatter and/or the minimum energy cutoff is higher. Vernstrom et al. (2021, 2023) reported a mean spectral index of $\alpha \sim 1$ for larger samples of (390 808 and 612 025, respectively) LRG pairs. If the magnetic field strength in the filaments is at the levels of that between the LRG pairs, our data suggest an upper limit of a few nG for the B field strength, as seen in Fig. 7. However, this might not be necessary the case because of the differences (e.g. physical sizes, redshift, and mass) in the samples used in this and Vernstrom et al. (2021)'s studies. For instance, the physical separation between the LRG pairs is below 14 Mpc (mean of 10 Mpc) that is much shorter than that of below 170 Mpc (mean of 40 Mpc) in our sample. Moreover, it is still unclear whether or not the magnetic field properties in the regions between the LRG pairs are similar to those in between the members of super-clusters used in this study.

6.2 X-ray stacked profile

The mean and bootstrapping uncertainty of the radial profiles from 106 cluster pairs is plotted in Fig. 8. The dashed line is the mean value from 1 to 5 $\bar{R}_{\rm vir}$, which is used as the local background to evaluate the excess emission within $\bar{R}_{\rm vir}$. Though the SB in the first bin is marginally higher than the local background, the significance level of that bin is only 1.3 σ. Therefore, we do not detect significant excess of X-ray emission from the bridges of 106 cluster pairs.

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 Radio emission

In Fig. 9, we present the dependence of the recovered flux density of the filament emission on the injected emissivity. The flux density is directly measured from the stacked regions between the cluster pairs before and after the *uv* injection. We find that the fraction of the flux density detected with the LOFAR observations increases with the emissivity that is injected into the *uv* data (i.e. red circles in Fig. 9). It reaches to a value of $\sim$55 per cent for the injected models of an emissivity of $\epsilon_{\rm inj} = 5 \times 10^{-44} {\rm erg\ s^{-1}\ cm^{-3}\ Hz^{-1}}$. However, the trend could be biased by the non-zero emission in the intercluster regions prior to the injection. To correct for this effect, we subtract
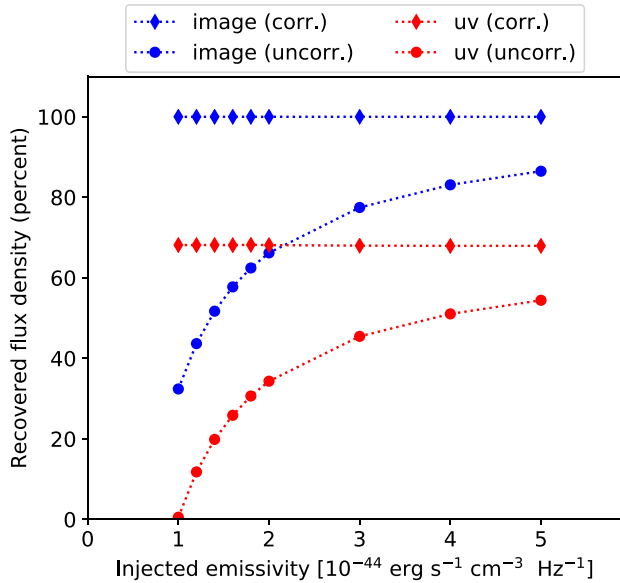
Figure 9. The flux density is recovered after the injection of the models. The diamonds and circles indicate the recovered flux density with and without the subtraction of the pre-injection flux density, respectively.

the flux density measured in the injected stacked image by the value measured in the original stacked image (i.e. without injection). After the correction, the fraction of the recovered flux density remains almost constant at ∼70 per cent and does not depend on the injected emissivity.

Possible reasons for the missing flux density (30 per cent) could be due to (i) the post-processing of the images caused by the stacking procedure and/or (ii) the incomplete sampling of the *uv* coverage. To examine the first possibility (i), we perform the *image* injection of the filament models into the cutout images as described in Section 5. We then process the cutout images, following the stacking procedure (i.e. rotating, regridding, and averaging). Here the models with a range of emissivity are created in a similar manner as for the *uv* injection. The resulting stacked images and the flux density recovered after the injection into the cutout images are shown in Fig. 5 (g–j) and Fig. 9, respectively. We find that the uncorrected and corrected flux density through the injection into the cutout images follows similar patterns as those in the *uv* injection. After the non-zero emission correction, the flux density measured in the stacked images is almost the same (i.e. 100 per cent) as that in the stacked models (i.e. no flux density lost). Hence, the stacking procedure does not affect the missing flux density of the stacked filaments. Hence, the missing flux density after the *uv* injection is likely due to the incomplete *uv* coverage (ii) of our LOFAR observations despite of the selection of the *uv* range above 45λ that is sensitive to large-scale emission up to the scales of the filaments (i.e. 1.55°).

Applying the injection procedure, we constrain the mean emissivity of the filaments to be lower than $1.2 \times 10^{-44} \mathrm{erg \, s^{-1} \, cm^{-3} \, Hz^{-1}}$. Our constraint is a factor of 4 higher than the estimate of $3.2 \times 10^{-45} \mathrm{erg \, s^{-1} \, cm^{-3} \, Hz^{-1}}$ that is reported for a sample of 390 808 stacked LRG pairs from the MWA and LWA by Vernstrom et al. (2021). In addition, our constraint on the cosmic filaments is lower than the estimates for the intercluster regions for closer pairs of galaxy clusters reported in literature. For example, Govoni et al. (2019) determined an emissivity of $8.6 \times 10^{-43} \mathrm{erg \, s^{-1} \, cm^{-3} \, Hz^{-1}}$ at 140 MHz in the paired clusters Abell 399–Abell 401. Bot-

teon et al. (2020b) estimated a 140 MHz emissivity of $4 \times 10^{-43} \mathrm{erg \, s^{-1} \, cm^{-3} \, Hz^{-1}}$ for the radio diffuse emission, connecting the pair Abell 1758N–Abell 1758S. The emissivity of the close cluster pairs is expected to be higher than that in the cosmic filaments. This might be the results of the non-linear amplification of the magnetic field strength and the turbulent re-acceleration of relativistic electrons via second-order Fermi mechanisms in the interacting regions of close pairs of galaxy clusters (Brunetti & Vazza 2020).

According to the current models for the formation of magnetic field in cosmic filaments, the *B* field can (i) solely grow from a primordial field though magnetohydrodynamic (MHD) processes during the formation of large-scale structure (e.g. Vazza et al. 2015) and/or (ii) is seeding by astronomical sources (e.g. Arámburo-García et al. 2021). We constraint the upper limit for the magnetic field strength in the cosmic filaments to be between a few nG and 75 nG, depending on the assumed parameters such as the spectral index α, the minimum energy γ_{min} of the radio emitting relativistic electrons, and the ratio k between the heavy particle and electron energies. Due to the non-detection, we are unable to estimate the spectral index for our sample. If the spectral index is similar to the value of ∼1 reported in Vernstrom et al. (2021, 2023), our data suggest that the *B* field strength in the condition of minimum energy is not stronger than a few nG and weakly depends on γ_{min} (see Fig. 7). This is in line with the models in which the primordial magnetic field is amplified by MHD processes (e.g. Vazza et al. 2015). However, if the filaments have steep spectrum (e.g. $\alpha > 2$), the upper limit for the *B* field strength can be as high as several tens of nG. In this case, the models (i) and (ii) cannot be distinguished with our current data. Deeper radio observations will be required to constrain the formation models of the *B* field in cosmic filaments.

With the LOFAR data used in this work, the stacked image does not reach the sensitivity required for the detection of the radio diffuse emission from a small sample of 106 intercluster filaments. To detect the diffuse emission at the emissivity of $3.2 \times 10^{-45} \mathrm{erg \, s^{-1} \, cm^{-3} \, Hz^{-1}}$ that was reported by Vernstrom et al. (2021), a stacked image with higher sensitivity of at least four times the current stacked image is required. This can be done by increasing the number of cluster pairs in the sample. To find the required number of the cluster pairs for LOFAR observations of equivalent sensitivity (i.e. 3.5 mJy $\mathrm{beam}^{-1}_{2' \times 2'}$), we assume that the noise level in the stacked image decreases as the square root of the number of cluster pairs. Then, a sample of more than 1700 cluster pairs is needed for the filament search through the *uv* injection (see Section 6.1.2). Moreover, to directly detect the filament emission from the stacked image at 2σ, the noise needs to decrease by a factor of 8. Hence, a sample of at least 6800 pairs of clusters is necessary for the detection, which is a factor of 60 times less than the number of LRG pairs needed for the MWA and LWA in Vernstrom et al. (2021). However, we note that the assumption on the dependence of the noise on the number of cutout images only holds when the paired clusters are separated by the same angular distance. Hence, the cutout images are not multiplied with a scaling factor during the rescaling of the pixels when stacking. In addition, the eFEDS field is located in an equatorial region (i.e. Dec is between −2 and +5) where LOFAR has low sensitivity. The typical noise RMS of the eFEDS mosaic is a factor of 2–3 higher than that in a field of higher declination (e.g. Pasini et al. 2022; Shimwell et al. 2022). Hence, the number of required pairs of clusters can be lower by a factor of 4–9 times if the filaments are located at higher declinations.

7.2 X-ray emission

The X-ray emission in the 0.6–2.3 keV band traces the overdensity of the hot gas ($\sim 10^7$ K) in the intercluster space. The major reason that we do not detect X-ray emission from the cluster pairs could be that we only have a limited sample of 106 pairs of clusters. With this sample size, we only have a noise level of 2×10^{-5} cts s^{-1} arcmin^{-2} for a $0.5 \times \bar{R}_{\rm vir}$ width bin. The statistics from this number is not high enough for detecting X-ray excess emission. As a comparison, the imaging analysis of Tanimura et al. (2022) includes 463 filaments and merely obtained 3.8σ significance, where the excess from the filaments centre is $\sim 4 \times 10^{-5}$ cts s^{-1} arcmin^{-2}. Moreover, it is not clear whether the distribution of WHIM in the intercluster space follows the connecting axis of cluster pairs, especially for pairs with distances larger than 10 Mpc. The galaxy distribution from optical spectroscopic surveys could be a better proxy of the WHIM distribution in the cosmic web. For this reason, the stacked profile could be broaden and the detection significance could be decreased. Future study of filament stacking using the eRASS data will shed light on whether the optical defined filaments (e.g. Malavasi et al. 2020) or X-ray cluster pairs in superclusters defined using friend-to-friend algorithm (e.g. Liu et al. 2022) are the better proxy of the diffuse gas distribution in the intercluster space.

8 CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, we present a search for intercluster filaments between members of superclusters of galaxies in the eFEDS field with the LOFAR and eROSITA observations. The observations do not detect the presence of diffuse X-ray and radio emission from the intercluster regions. The non-detection is most likely due to the small number (106) of cluster pairs in our sample and/or the limited sensitivity of observations. Using the radio data, we find that the mean radio emissivity of the filaments is below 1.2×10^{-44} erg s^{-1} cm^{-3} Hz^{-1}. The mean strength for the magnetic field in the intercluster regions is weaker than 75 nG that depends on the spectral index of the radio emission and the minimum energy cutoff of the radio-emitting relativistic electrons. A tighter constraint on the magnetic field strength requires an estimate of the spectral index of the radio emission in filaments that provides more information on the origin of magnetic field in filaments (i.e. primordial or astronomical discrete sources). Future study with stacking of LOFAR and eROSITA survey data is likely to shed light on the detectabilities of the radio and X-ray emission from the intercluster filaments.

DATA AVAILABILITY

The data underlying this article will be shared on reasonable request to the corresponding author.

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APPENDIX A: THE SAMPLE OF CLUSTER PAIRS

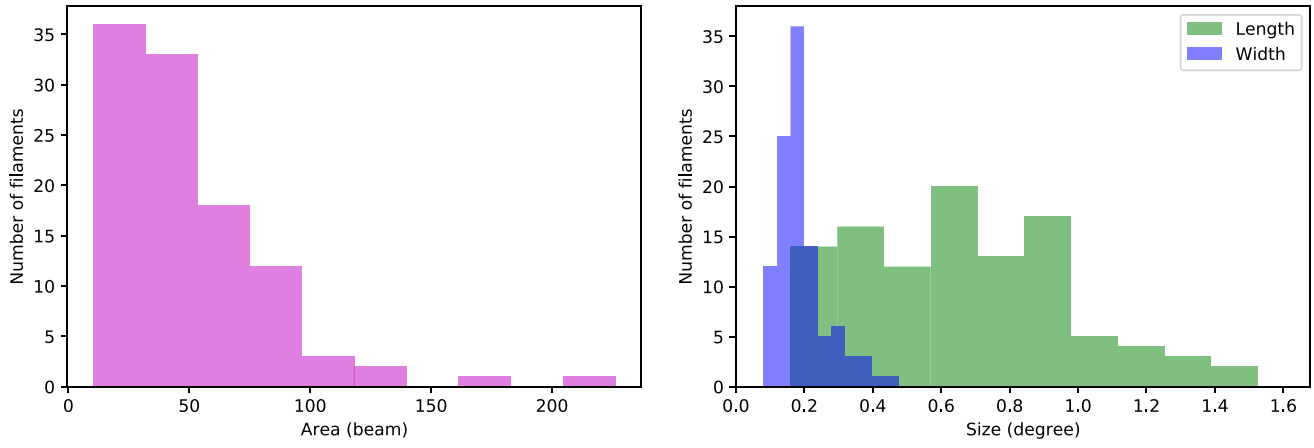In Fig. A1, we show the distribution of the area for the cosmic filaments in our sample.

Figure A1. Histogram of the area (top) and angular sizes (bottom) of the intercluster region.

Table A1. The sample of intercluster filaments.

ID	ID_sc	Name	RA_1	Dec_1	z_1	RA_2	Dec_2	z_2	RA_mean	Dec_mean	z_mean	Length	Width
1	1	eFEDS J084034.5+023638−eFEDS J084430.8 + 021736	130.1441	2.6108	0.049	131.1285	2.2935	0.050	130.6363	2.4521	0.050	5.92	1.66
2	1	eFEDS J084430.8+021736−eFEDS J084645.6 + 014947	131.1285	2.2935	0.050	131.6902	1.8298	0.051	131.4094	2.0616	0.051	2.34	1.38
3	2	eFEDS J084531.6+022831−eFEDS J084148.1 + 004911	131.3818	2.4753	0.076	130.4507	0.8198	0.078	130.9163	1.6476	0.077	12.71	1.97
4	2	eFEDS J084148.1+004911−eFEDS J083807.6 + 002501	130.4507	0.8198	0.078	129.5321	0.4171	0.080	129.9914	0.6184	0.079	10.10	1.50
5	3	eFEDS J092629.3+032614−eFEDS J093056.9 + 034825	141.6225	3.4374	0.088	142.7372	3.8072	0.090	142.1799	3.6223	0.089	10.63	1.78
6	3	eFEDS J093056.9+034825−eFEDS J093253.8 + 025917	142.7372	3.8072	0.090	143.2243	2.9882	0.093	142.9808	3.3977	0.092	14.76	1.82
7	4	eFEDS J085436.6+003835−eFEDS J085705.9 + 011453	133.6526	0.6431	0.106	134.2749	1.2482	0.106	133.9637	0.9456	0.106	4.54	2.89
8	4	eFEDS J085141.9+021438−eFEDS J085705.9 + 011453	132.9248	2.2440	0.107	134.2749	1.2482	0.106	133.5999	1.7461	0.106	12.67	2.21
9	4	eFEDS J085433.0+004009−eFEDS J085705.9 + 011453	133.6376	0.6693	0.109	134.2749	1.2482	0.106	133.9563	0.9587	0.108	16.30	2.28
10	5	eFEDS J091336.6+031723−eFEDS J091453.6 + 041613	138.4026	3.2899	0.142	138.7235	4.2704	0.143	138.5630	3.7801	0.142	10.29	3.29
11	6	eFEDS J092955.8-003403−eFEDS J092953.5 + 002801	142.4829	−0.5676	0.150	142.4733	0.4670	0.147	142.4781	−0.0503	0.148	16.58	2.21
12	6	eFEDS J092953.5+002801−eFEDS J092735.3 + 014423	142.4733	0.4670	0.147	141.8974	1.7399	0.149	142.1853	1.1035	0.148	16.47	2.34
13	8	eFEDS J091412.6+001856−eFEDS J091403.3 + 013846	138.5528	0.3158	0.165	138.5140	1.6464	0.168	138.5334	0.9811	0.166	21.87	3.16
14	10	eFEDS J085438.5 + 001211−eFEDS J085508.9-003445	133.6608	0.2032	0.178	133.7874	−0.5793	0.174	133.7241	−0.1881	0.176	18.81	2.45
15	12	eFEDS J083651.3+030002−eFEDS J083955.0 + 022425	129.2138	3.0006	0.192	129.9793	2.4071	0.189	129.5966	2.7039	0.191	19.83	3.25
16	13	eFEDS J085030.5 + 003330−eFEDS J085327.2-002117	132.6272	0.5584	0.192	133.3634	−0.3549	0.193	132.9953	0.1018	0.192	17.13	2.56
17	13	eFEDS J085327.2-002117−eFEDS J085022.2 + 001607	133.3634	−0.3549	0.193	132.5927	0.2687	0.196	132.9780	−0.0431	0.194	21.58	2.46
18	13	eFEDS J085340.5+022411−eFEDS J085128.4 + 011501	133.4191	2.4032	0.196	132.8685	1.2505	0.197	133.1438	1.8268	0.197	19.52	2.60
19	13	eFEDS J085027.8+001503−eFEDS J085128.4 + 011501	132.6160	0.2509	0.197	132.8685	1.2505	0.197	132.7423	0.7507	0.197	14.54	3.11
20	14	eFEDS J090137.7+030253−eFEDS J085913.1 + 031334	135.4072	3.0483	0.188	134.8048	3.2263	0.189	135.1060	3.1373	0.189	10.43	2.33
21	14	eFEDS J085913.1+031334−eFEDS J090119.0 + 030204	134.8048	3.2263	0.189	135.3294	3.0345	0.193	135.0671	3.1304	0.191	17.14	2.32
22	14	eFEDS J090131.1+030056−eFEDS J085931.9 + 030839	135.3800	3.0157	0.193	134.8830	3.1443	0.196	135.1315	3.0800	0.195	12.69	4.10
23	14	eFEDS J085931.9+030839−eFEDS J085728.3 + 032354	134.8830	3.1443	0.196	134.3680	3.3984	0.196	134.6255	3.2713	0.198	19.79	3.21
24	14	eFEDS J090255.2+030220−eFEDS J090010.4 + 023631	135.7300	3.0389	0.200	135.0435	2.6086	0.200	135.3867	2.8238	0.200	11.32	2.64
25	14	eFEDS J090010.4+023631−eFEDS J090200.5 + 022339	135.0435	2.6086	0.200	135.5024	2.3943	0.200	135.2729	2.5015	0.201	9.99	2.57
26	14	eFEDS J085751.6+031039−eFEDS J090200.5 + 022339	134.4653	3.1775	0.201	135.5024	2.3943	0.202	134.9839	2.7859	0.201	19.96	4.07
27	15	eFEDS J092241.9+020719−eFEDS J091858.0 + 024946	140.6749	2.1222	0.198	139.7418	2.8295	0.202	140.2084	2.4759	0.200	17.74	2.76
28	16	eFEDS J083204.4+041907−eFEDS J083412.7 + 035856	128.0185	4.3188	0.197	128.5529	3.9825	0.199	128.2857	4.1507	0.198	23.01	3.09
29	17	eFEDS J083431.0+034208−eFEDS J083817.4 + 041821	128.6296	3.7023	0.215	129.5727	4.3060	0.211	129.1011	4.0042	0.213	26.05	2.34
30	19	eFEDS J093012.0+030202−eFEDS J092647.5 + 030946	142.5503	3.0340	0.223	141.6981	3.1630	0.226	142.1242	3.0985	0.224	18.21	2.45
31	21	eFEDS J090723.8-011210−eFEDS J090843.9-013034	136.8494	−1.2029	0.251	137.1831	−1.5095	0.255	137.0163	−1.3562	0.253	22.65	2.53
32	22	eFEDS J084751.7+025522−eFEDS J085051.8 + 015331	131.9657	2.9230	0.269	132.7161	1.8921	0.268	132.3409	2.4076	0.269	28.41	2.50
33	23	eFEDS J092022.8+045012−eFEDS J092246.2 + 034251	140.0954	4.8369	0.270	140.6928	3.7143	0.269	140.3941	4.2756	0.269	28.84	2.95
34	24	eFEDS J084151.9-010156−eFEDS J083921.0-014149	130.4665	−1.0323	0.270	129.8377	−1.6970	0.269	130.1521	−1.3647	0.269	19.80	2.79
35	26	eFEDS J092740.1+042038−eFEDS J092928.3 + 042411	141.9173	4.3440	0.275	142.3679	4.4032	0.278	142.1426	4.3736	0.277	18.78	3.02
36	28	eFEDS J092031.3+024710−eFEDS J092053.4 + 021125	140.1306	2.7863	0.278	140.2228	2.1905	0.280	140.1767	2.4884	0.279	16.67	2.68
37	28	eFEDS J092053.4+021125−eFEDS J091851.7 + 021432	140.2228	2.1905	0.280	139.7155	2.2423	0.283	139.9692	2.2164	0.282	17.74	2.69
38	28	eFEDS J091849.0+021204−eFEDS J092049.5 + 024513	139.7042	2.2013	0.283	140.2063	2.7538	0.284	139.9553	2.4776	0.283	15.24	3.95
39	30	eFEDS J085335.2+032214−eFEDS J085020.4 + 032819	133.3967	3.3708	0.295	132.5851	3.4722	0.294	132.9909	3.4215	0.294	19.06	2.98
40	31	eFEDS J083137.9+004632−eFEDS J083503.2 + 010756	127.9081	0.7758	0.293	128.7636	1.1325	0.294	128.3359	0.9541	0.294	27.12	2.88
41	32	eFEDS J090053.0-002837−eFEDS J090153.9-012209	135.2212	−0.4772	0.295	135.4747	−1.3694	0.296	135.3480	−0.9233	0.295	21.79	2.87
42	33	eFEDS J091543.5-004944−eFEDS J091351.1-004507	138.9316	−0.8291	0.296	138.4632	−0.7520	0.295	138.6974	−0.7905	0.295	13.09	2.98
43	34	eFEDS J091248.2 + 002446−eFEDS J090913.8-001214	138.2011	0.4130	0.308	137.3078	−0.2040	0.310	137.7545	0.1045	0.309	29.05	3.57
44	35	eFEDS J090115.3+005040−eFEDS J090409.7 + 003831	135.3140	0.8445	0.312	136.0404	0.6421	0.311	135.6772	0.7433	0.312	18.97	2.79
45	35	eFEDS J090703.9+010756−eFEDS J090409.7 + 003831	136.7663	1.1323	0.307	136.0404	0.6421	0.311	136.4034	0.8872	0.309	31.17	2.80
46	38	eFEDS J092813.0-004508−eFEDS J092915.7-001357	142.0544	−0.7524	0.318	142.3158	−0.2327	0.322	142.1851	−0.4926	0.320	26.87	2.74
47	39	eFEDS J092312.0-002731−eFEDS J092312.0 + 000355	140.5503	−0.4586	0.321	140.8003	0.0655	0.321	140.6753	−0.1966	0.321	14.01	3.47
48	40	eFEDS J085517.2+013508−eFEDS J085121.2 + 012856	133.8219	1.5857	0.324	132.8384	1.4825	0.327	133.3302	1.5341	0.325	31.79	2.90
49	40	eFEDS J085624.3-004632−eFEDS J085121.2 + 012856	134.1016	0.7757	0.319	132.8384	1.4825	0.327	133.4700	1.1291	0.323	59.26	2.85

Table A1 – *continued*

ID	ID_sc	Name	RA.1	Dec.1	z.1	RA.2	Dec.2	z.2	RA_mean	Dec_mean	z_mean	Length	Width
50	40	eFEDS J085121.2+012856–eFEDS J084934.9+014437	132.8384	1.4825	0.327	132.3958	1.7438	0.325	132.6171	1.6131	0.326	14.82	3.09
51	42	eFEDS J084135.7-005048–eFEDS J084324.2-001438	130.3988	-0.8468	0.328	130.8511	-0.2441	0.330	130.6250	-0.5454	0.329	23.99	2.68
52	43	eFEDS J090817.2-013034–eFEDS J090916.0-015540	137.0717	-1.5096	0.331	137.3168	-1.9280	0.326	137.1942	-1.7188	0.329	30.23	2.73
53	44	eFEDS J093151.3-002212–eFEDS J093049.2-003714	142.9638	-0.3701	0.336	142.7052	-0.6207	0.334	142.8345	-0.4954	0.335	10.97	3.44
54	45	eFEDS J092739.7-010427–eFEDS J092740.7-015320	141.9158	-1.0743	0.329	141.9196	-1.8889	0.332	141.9177	-1.4816	0.331	24.72	3.14
55	45	eFEDS J092548.9-011725–eFEDS J092548.9-011725	141.9196	-1.8889	0.332	141.4539	-1.2903	0.337	141.6867	-1.5896	0.334	35.41	2.94
56	45	eFEDS J092548.9-011725–eFEDS J092405.0-013059	141.4539	-1.2903	0.337	141.0211	-1.5165	0.337	141.2375	-1.4034	0.337	12.15	3.43
57	45	eFEDS J092405.0-013059–eFEDS J092621.3-003356	141.0211	-1.5165	0.337	141.5890	-0.5657	0.340	141.3050	-1.0411	0.339	35.89	3.27
58	45	eFEDS J092621.3-003356–eFEDS J092846.5+000056	141.5890	-0.5657	0.340	142.1940	0.0157	0.344	141.8915	-0.2750	0.342	33.24	3.00
59	46	eFEDS J092253.7+002006–eFEDS J084346.2+010833	130.7238	0.3350	0.345	130.9425	1.1425	0.342	130.8331	0.7388	0.343	29.68	2.56
60	46	eFEDS J084346.2+010833–eFEDS J084004.8+013751	130.9425	1.1425	0.342	130.0203	1.6309	0.342	130.4814	1.3867	0.342	30.23	2.71
61	47	eFEDS J093431.3-002309–eFEDS J093546.3-000115	143.6304	-0.3860	0.342	143.9433	-0.0211	0.339	143.7868	-0.2035	0.341	18.51	3.40
62	47	eFEDS J093316.6+004619–eFEDS J093544.2-000339	143.3195	0.7721	0.347	143.9342	-0.0609	0.347	143.6269	0.3556	0.347	30.11	3.19
63	48	eFEDS J092246.4+042424–eFEDS J092644.0+040010	140.6936	4.4067	0.346	141.6834	4.0029	0.347	141.1885	4.2048	0.347	31.77	2.73
64	49	eFEDS J084558.1+012443–eFEDS J084729.7+013053	131.4924	1.4120	0.350	131.8740	1.5149	0.351	131.6832	1.4635	0.350	11.72	2.98
65	50	eFEDS J092744.6+045630–eFEDS J092918.3+044925	141.9360	4.9418	0.355	142.3266	4.8237	0.352	142.1313	4.8828	0.354	18.24	2.97
66	51	eFEDS J091749.4+014621–eFEDS J091722.4+010118	139.4360	1.7728	0.355	139.3435	1.0218	0.359	139.3997	1.3973	0.357	33.38	3.31
67	52	eFEDS J093500.7+005417–eFEDS J093612.7+001650	143.7532	0.9048	0.361	144.0529	0.2807	0.358	143.9031	0.5927	0.360	24.96	3.49
68	52	eFEDS J093612.7+001650–eFEDS J093513.0+004757	144.0529	0.2807	0.358	143.8046	0.7994	0.356	143.9287	0.5400	0.357	19.81	4.21
69	53	eFEDS J084021.6+020132–eFEDS J083900.6+020057	130.0903	2.0256	0.357	129.7527	2.0159	0.359	129.9215	2.0208	0.358	11.80	2.12
70	54	eFEDS J090224.4-005150–eFEDS J090105.2-012525	135.6020	-0.8641	0.409	135.2718	-1.4237	0.405	135.4369	-1.1439	0.407	35.53	2.92
71	55	eFEDS J090059.3+035925–eFEDS J090323.7+030738	135.2471	3.9905	0.412	135.8489	3.1273	0.407	135.5480	3.5589	0.410	46.46	3.51
72	56	eFEDS J084051.7+014122–eFEDS J084110.8+005200	130.2156	1.6895	0.411	130.2953	0.8668	0.415	130.2554	1.2782	0.413	38.11	2.87
73	56	eFEDS J084110.8+005200–eFEDS J084220.9+013844	130.2953	0.8668	0.415	130.5875	1.6457	0.421	130.4414	1.2563	0.418	46.29	1.63
74	56	eFEDS J084649.0+004946–eFEDS J084501.0+012728	131.7045	0.8295	0.416	131.2542	1.4578	0.420	131.4794	1.1437	0.418	37.63	2.95
75	56	eFEDS J084501.0+012728–eFEDS J084220.9+013844	131.2542	1.4578	0.420	130.5875	1.6457	0.421	130.9209	1.5518	0.420	25.88	2.04
76	56	eFEDS J084220.9+013844–eFEDS J084210.5+020558	130.5875	1.6457	0.421	130.5439	2.0997	0.421	130.5657	1.8727	0.421	17.12	1.61
77	56	eFEDS J084210.5+020558–eFEDS J084129.0+002645	130.5439	2.0997	0.421	130.3708	0.4460	0.402	130.4574	1.2728	0.412	136.07	2.75
78	58	eFEDS J083228.0-000656–eFEDS J082952.7+002139	128.1169	-0.1157	0.421	127.4697	0.3611	0.420	127.7933	0.1227	0.421	30.92	2.79
79	59	eFEDS J085950.1-001221–eFEDS J090044.6-011104	134.9590	-0.2058	0.427	135.1862	-1.1845	0.430	135.0726	-0.6951	0.428	44.46	1.68
80	61	eFEDS J091302.1+035000–eFEDS J091522.5+041201	138.2590	3.8336	0.455	138.8438	4.2003	0.460	138.5514	4.0169	0.457	44.97	3.08
81	62	eFEDS J084006.1+025913–eFEDS J083834.1+020643	130.0258	2.9871	0.456	129.6425	2.1121	0.457	129.8341	2.5496	0.457	39.18	3.37
82	63	eFEDS J085217.0-010131–eFEDS J085138.2-003537	133.0709	-1.0254	0.460	132.9095	-0.5938	0.458	132.9902	-0.8096	0.459	20.30	3.74
83	64	eFEDS J090627.5+035846–eFEDS J090430.7+042648	136.6148	3.9795	0.463	136.1282	4.4468	0.457	136.3715	4.2132	0.460	51.06	3.27
84	65	eFEDS J092022.0-030106–eFEDS J091741.1+024518	140.0918	3.0186	0.481	139.4215	2.7551	0.486	139.7567	2.8868	0.483	47.37	2.67
85	66	eFEDS J091555.6-013248–eFEDS J091439.5-014416	138.9819	-1.5468	0.490	138.6648	-1.7380	0.484	138.8234	-1.6424	0.487	38.87	3.68
86	67	eFEDS J092828.3-000955–eFEDS J092900.0-003920	142.1180	-0.1653	0.509	142.2502	-0.6557	0.503	142.1841	-0.4105	0.506	44.12	2.72
87	69	eFEDS J090210.6-032513–eFEDS J090417.0+040439	135.5445	3.4204	0.535	136.0712	4.0776	0.536	135.8079	3.7490	0.535	43.23	2.80
88	71	eFEDS J083811.8-015934–eFEDS J083427.0-015612	129.5496	-1.9930	0.560	128.6129	-1.9369	0.573	129.0812	-1.9649	0.566	101.35	3.85
89	71	eFEDS J083427.0-015612–eFEDS J083929.6-015005	128.6129	-1.9369	0.573	129.8736	-1.8348	0.575	129.2432	-1.8859	0.574	72.12	3.02
90	73	eFEDS J092041.1+041117–eFEDS J092258.2+032041	140.1716	4.1883	0.580	140.7426	3.3449	0.575	140.4571	3.7666	0.577	66.17	2.88
91	74	eFEDS J091139.3-014144–eFEDS J091300.9-013152	137.9141	-1.6958	0.589	138.2538	-1.5311	0.592	138.0840	-1.6135	0.590	24.77	3.08
92	75	eFEDS J091254.4-032028–eFEDS J091648.1+030506	138.2270	3.3414	0.619	139.2007	3.0851	0.620	138.7138	3.2132	0.620	61.16	3.46
93	75	eFEDS J090336.7-033124–eFEDS J090751.9+024647	135.9033	3.5235	0.617	136.9666	2.7797	0.618	136.4350	3.1516	0.618	79.88	2.87
94	76	eFEDS J084939.6-005126–eFEDS J084833.2-012216	132.4151	-0.8573	0.613	132.1385	-1.3712	0.629	132.2768	-1.1142	0.621	113.36	3.77
95	77	eFEDS J090750.1+025006–eFEDS J090540.7+013219	136.9591	2.8351	0.648	136.4199	1.5388	0.644	136.6895	2.1869	0.646	94.65	3.31
96	77	eFEDS J090805.9+011952–eFEDS J090540.7+013219	137.0250	1.3314	0.659	136.4199	1.5388	0.644	136.7224	1.4351	0.651	114.04	3.20
97	78	eFEDS J083403.7+012131–eFEDS J083120.5+005257	128.5155	1.3588	0.671	127.8354	0.8825	0.664	128.1755	1.1206	0.667	74.89	2.89
98	78	eFEDS J083125.9+015533–eFEDS J083120.5+005257	127.8580	1.9259	0.684	127.8354	0.8825	0.664	127.8467	1.4042	0.674	166.36	3.13
99	79	eFEDS J084434.3+031026–eFEDS J084717.7+033421	131.1430	3.1739	0.724	131.8241	3.5725	0.716	131.4835	3.3732	0.720	82.29	2.81
100	80	eFEDS J085627.2+014217–eFEDS J085837.9+012657	134.1134	1.7050	0.732	134.6581	1.4494	0.750	134.3857	1.5772	0.741	144.20	3.50

Table A1 – *continued*

ID	ID_sc	Name	RA_1	Dec_1	z_1	RA_2	Dec_2	z_2	RA_mean	Dec_mean	z_mean	Length	Width
101	81	eFEDS J090806.4+032613–eFEDS J090930.6 + 034055	137.0270	3.4370	0.740	137.3775	3.6822	0.740	137.2023	3.5596	0.740	30.90	3.09
102	81	eFEDS J090930.6+034055–eFEDS J090718.6 + 035258	137.3775	3.6822	0.740	136.8278	3.8829	0.729	137.1026	3.7825	0.734	93.22	3.29
103	83	eFEDS J090700.7+011032–eFEDS J090418.6 + 020642	136.7531	1.1757	0.799	136.0778	2.1117	0.808	136.4155	1.6437	0.804	122.73	2.92
104	83	eFEDS J090418.6+020642–eFEDS J090821.9 + 025141	136.0778	2.1117	0.808	137.0912	2.8615	0.812	136.5845	2.4866	0.810	112.98	3.13
105	83	eFEDS J090452.4+033326–eFEDS J090033.7 + 033932	136.2187	3.5574	0.808	135.1408	3.6591	0.809	135.6797	3.6082	0.809	92.87	3.28
106	84	eFEDS J084035.8+044036–eFEDS J084016.6 + 033951	130.1493	4.6768	0.793	130.0695	3.6644	0.805	130.1094	4.1706	0.799	124.43	2.80

Column 1: filament ID. Column 2: ID of the super clusters. Columns 3, 4, and 5: RA, Dec of a paired cluster (in degrees) and its redshift. Column 6, 7, and 8: RA, Dec of the other paired cluster (in degrees) and its redshift. Column 9, 10, and 11: RA, Dec of the intercluster filament (in degrees) and its redshift. Column 12 and 13: length (i.e. distance between the cluster centre minus their virial radii) and width (i.e. the mean of the virial radii of the paired clusters) of the filament (in Mpc).

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