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Early LOFAR Imaging Results

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LOFAR is growing rapidly, with more than 21 stations operating in the field, including 3 German stations, and the correlator routinely providing high quality interferometric data from those stations. The commissioning of the telescope is underway. During the past several months, the Imaging Pipeline has been undergoing exhaustive testing and development. I will describe our most recent challenges and successes in imaging the low-frequency sky at sub-arcminute resolution over many square degrees. Our progress will be described with a strong emphasis on some highlighted science topics that these images will enable (namely, all-sky surveys and cosmic magnetism). Finally, I will discuss some 'lessons learned' that can be applied to the first phases of the SKA.

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