

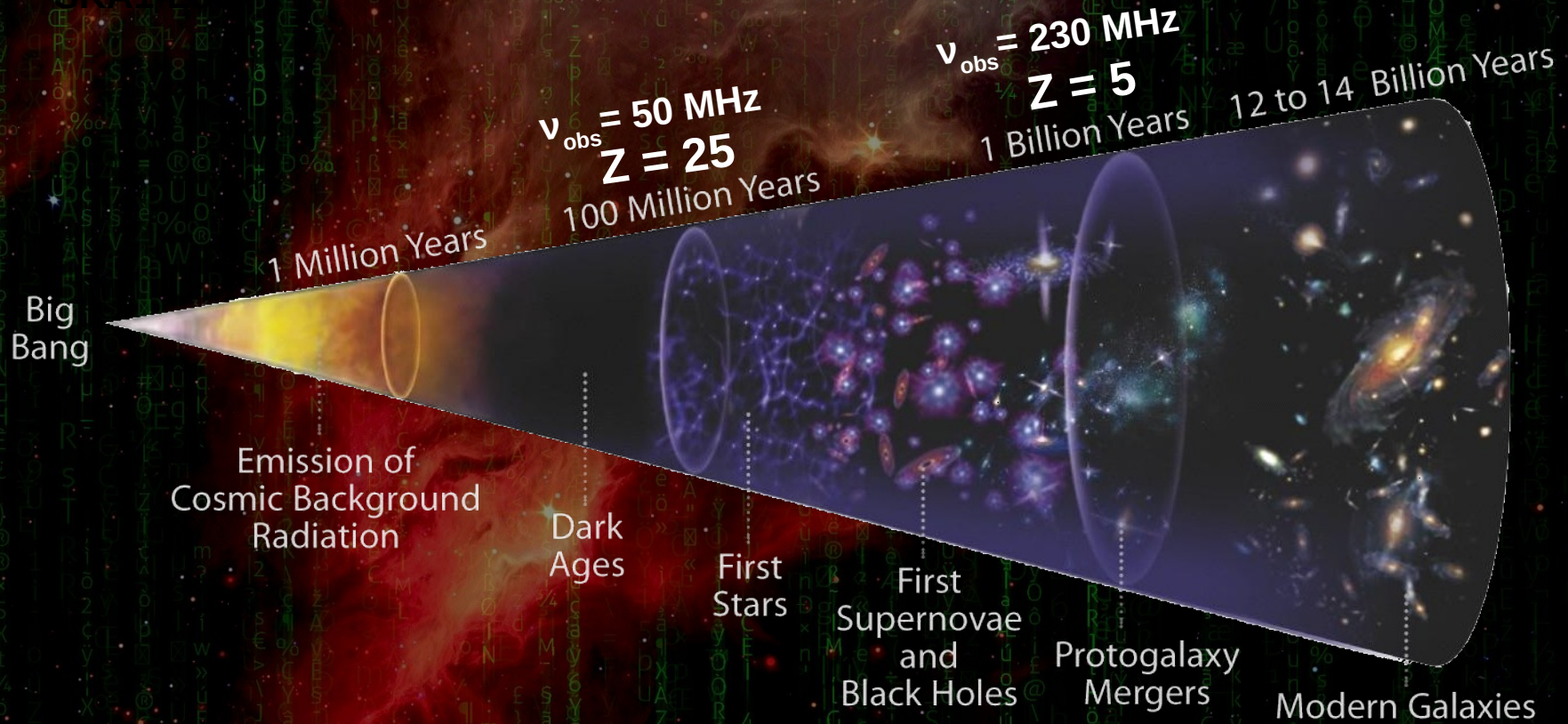
# Deep Learning approach for HI regions identification and 21-cm signal recover from SKA-Low observations

Michele Bianco

David Prelogović (SNS Pisa), Tianyue Cheng (EPFL),  
Sambit K. Giri (University Zurich), Emma Tolley (EPFL),  
Andrei Mesinger (SNS Pisa)



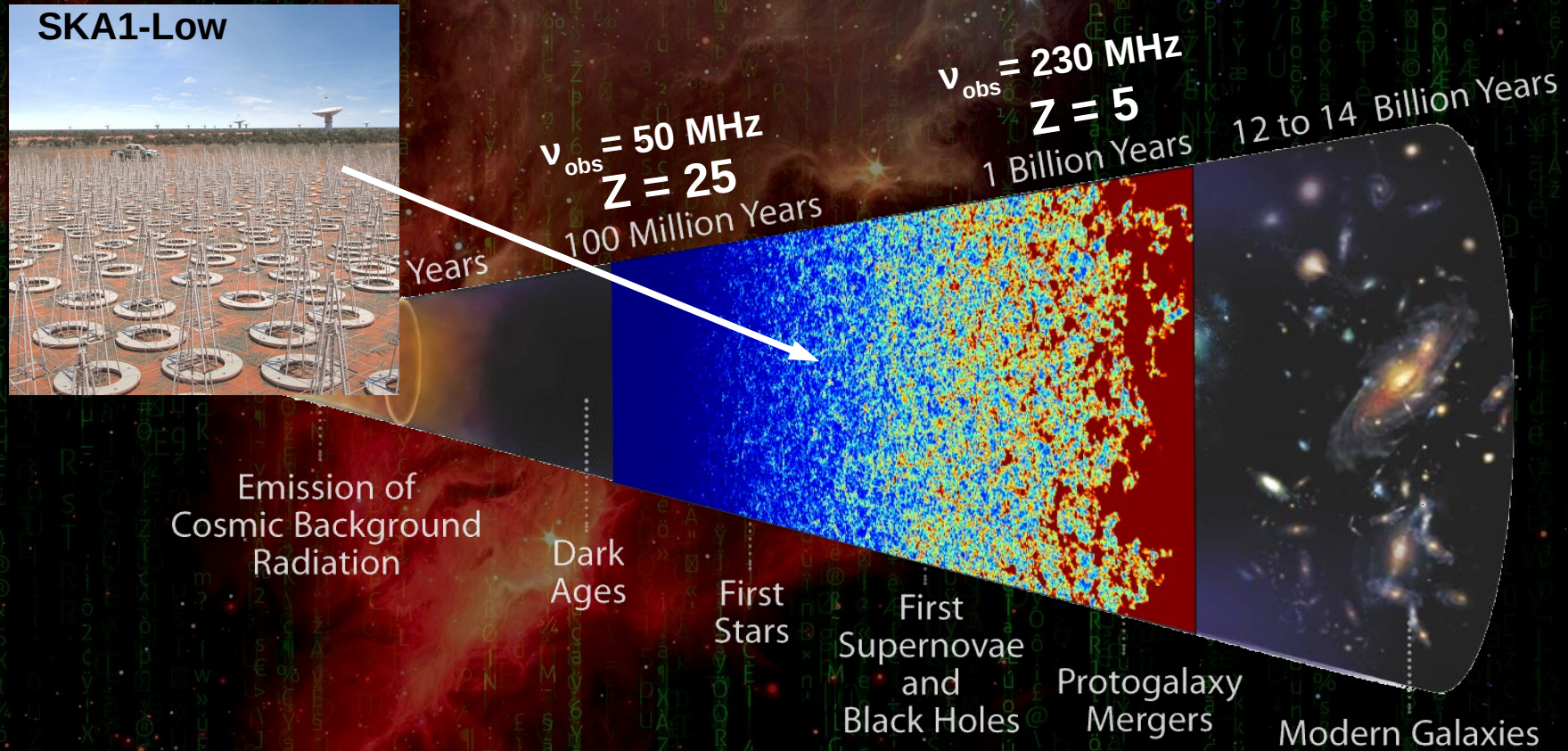
# The Epoch of Cosmic Reionisation



- Transition the Universe from a cold, neutral state to hot and ionised
- Detect 21-cm signal from hydrogen in the Intergalactic Medium (IGM)



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# Tomographic imaging of the 21-cm signal

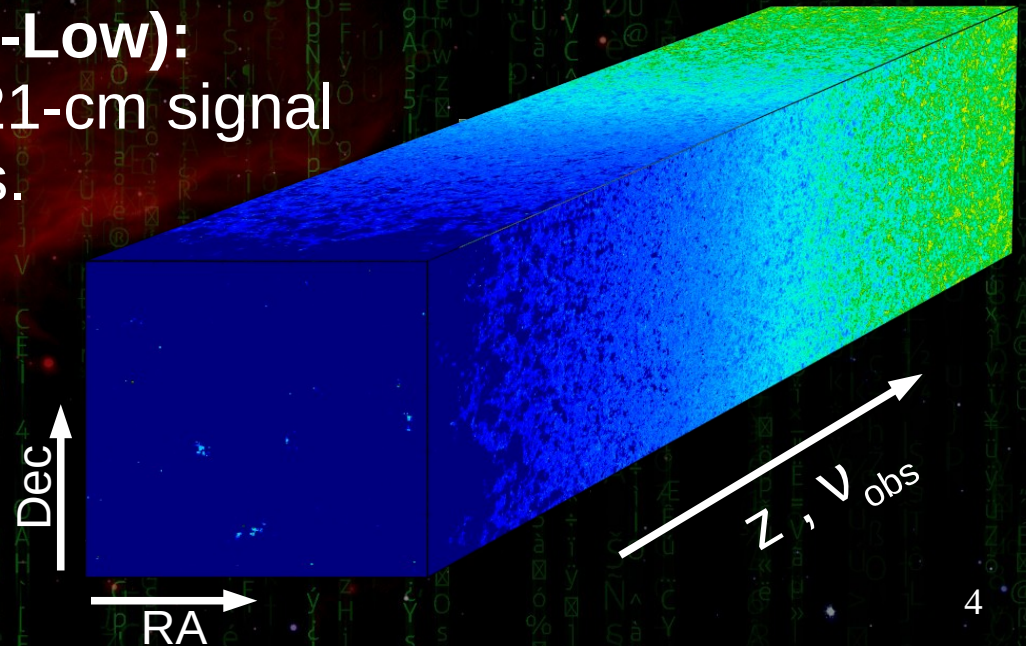
Probe reionization process by observing the redshifted 21-cm signal

$$\delta T_b(\theta, z) \propto x_{\text{HI}}(\theta, z)$$

**Square Kilometre Array (SKA1-Low):**

Images sequence of redshifted 21-cm signal at different observed frequencies.

3D tomographic dataset or  
a.k.a. 21-cm lightcones





# Tomographic imaging of the 21-cm signal

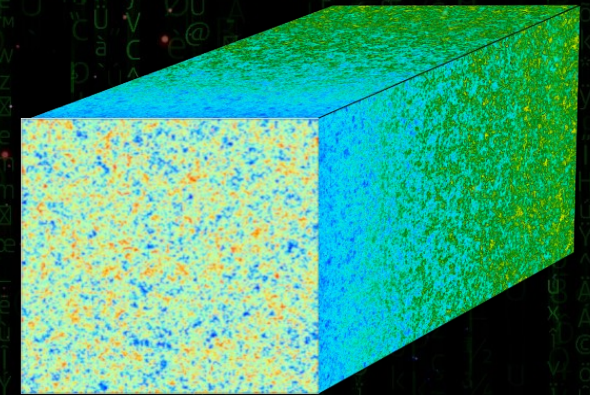
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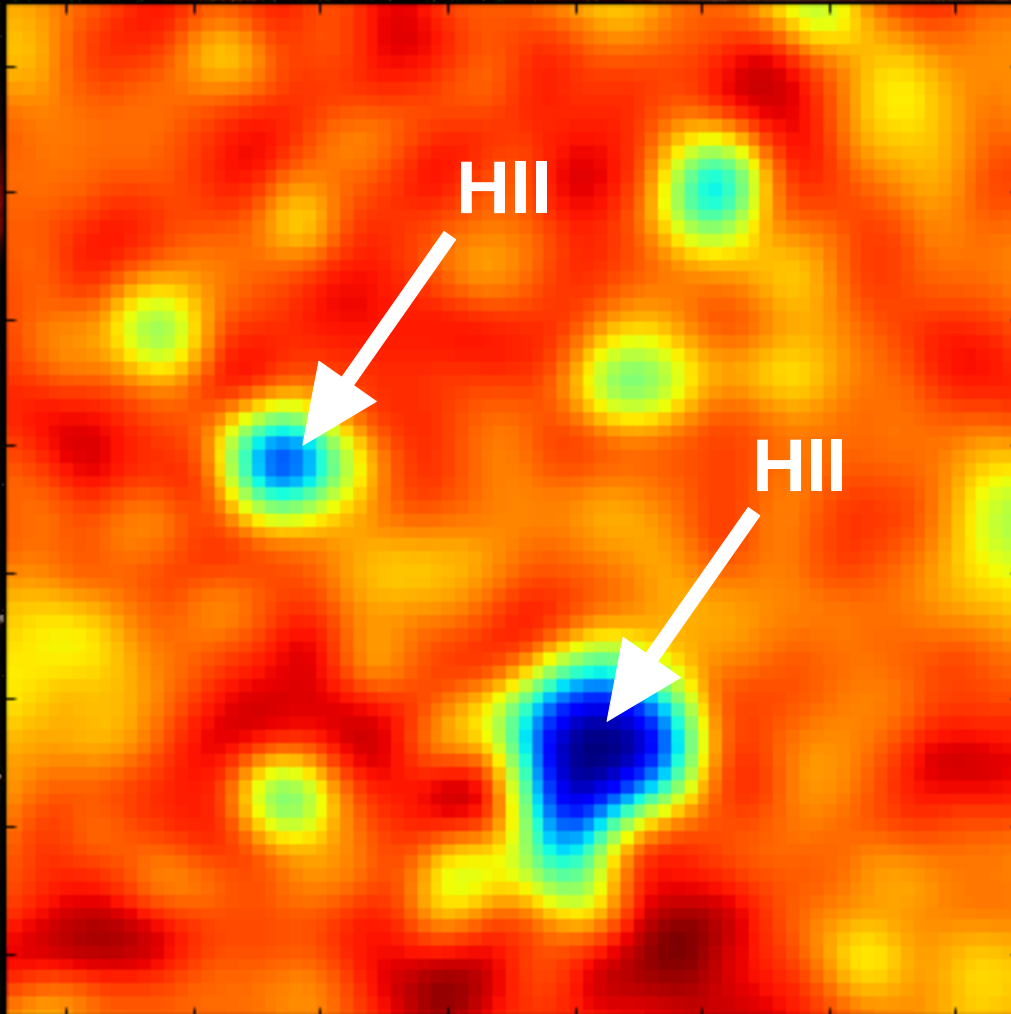


$z = 13.2$

$\nu_{\text{obs}} = 100 \text{ MHz}$



# Tomographic imaging of the 21-cm signal



simulated **SKA1-Low** 21-cm images from tomographic data:

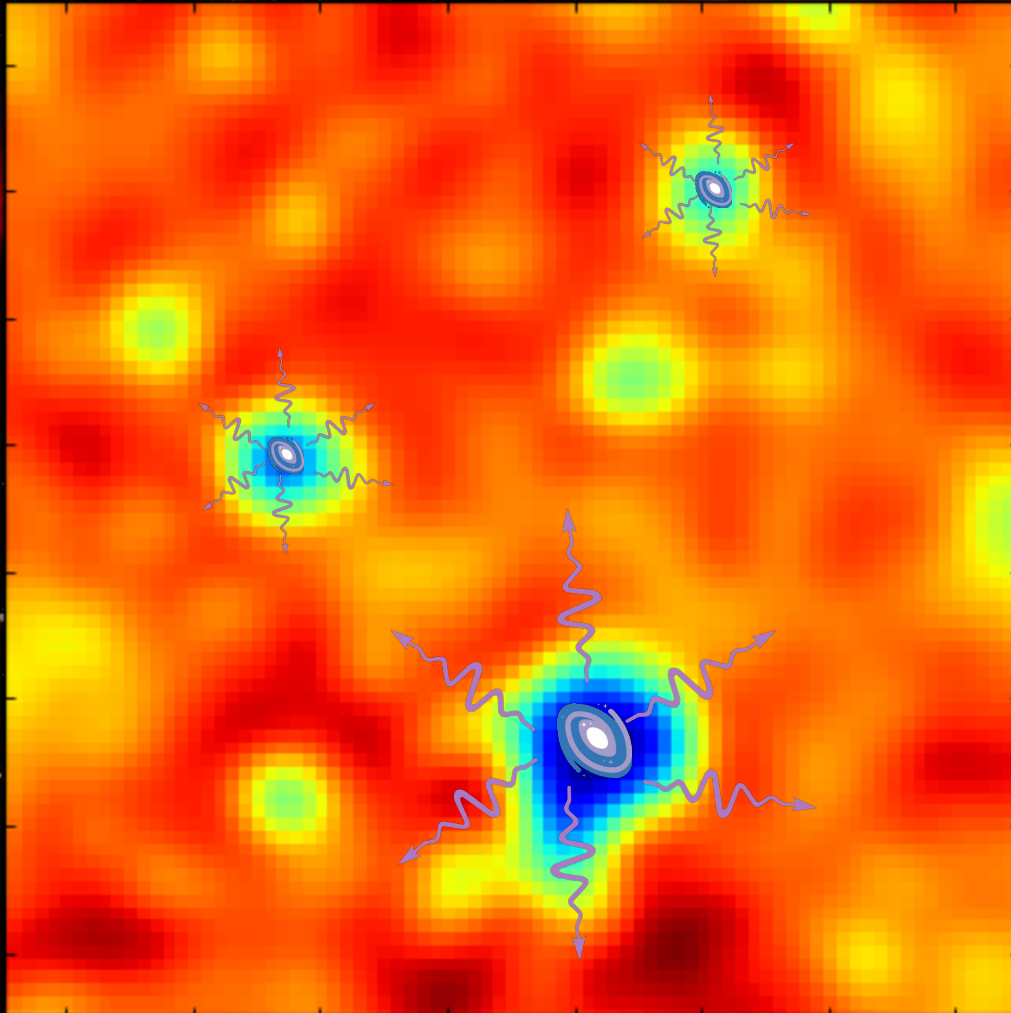
- $z = 10$  ( $\nu_{\text{obs}} = 130$  MHz)
- Field of View  $\sim 1$  deg
- Angular resolution  $\sim 42$  arcsec

Isolated Ionised regions (bubble) indicate presence of galaxy cluster and/or primordial black hole.

No differential brightness:

$$\delta T_b = 0 \text{ mK}$$

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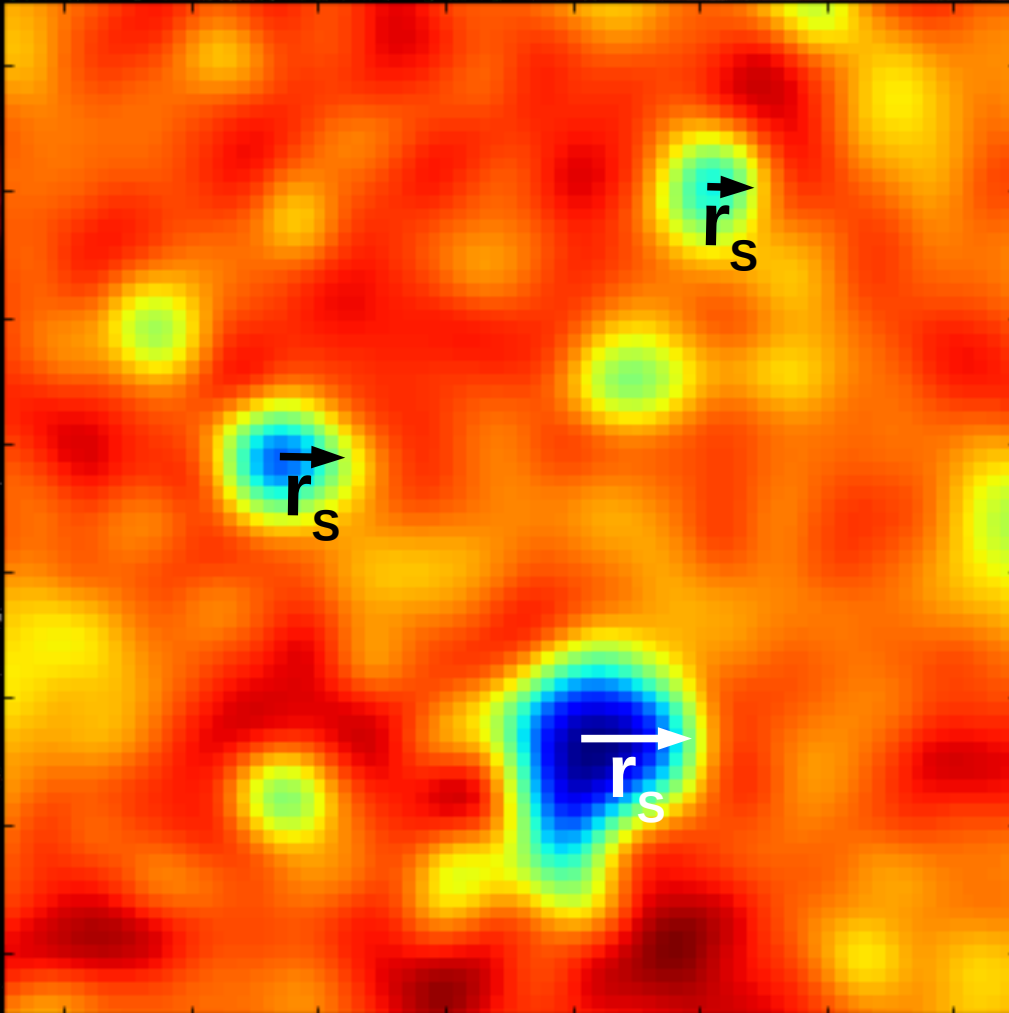
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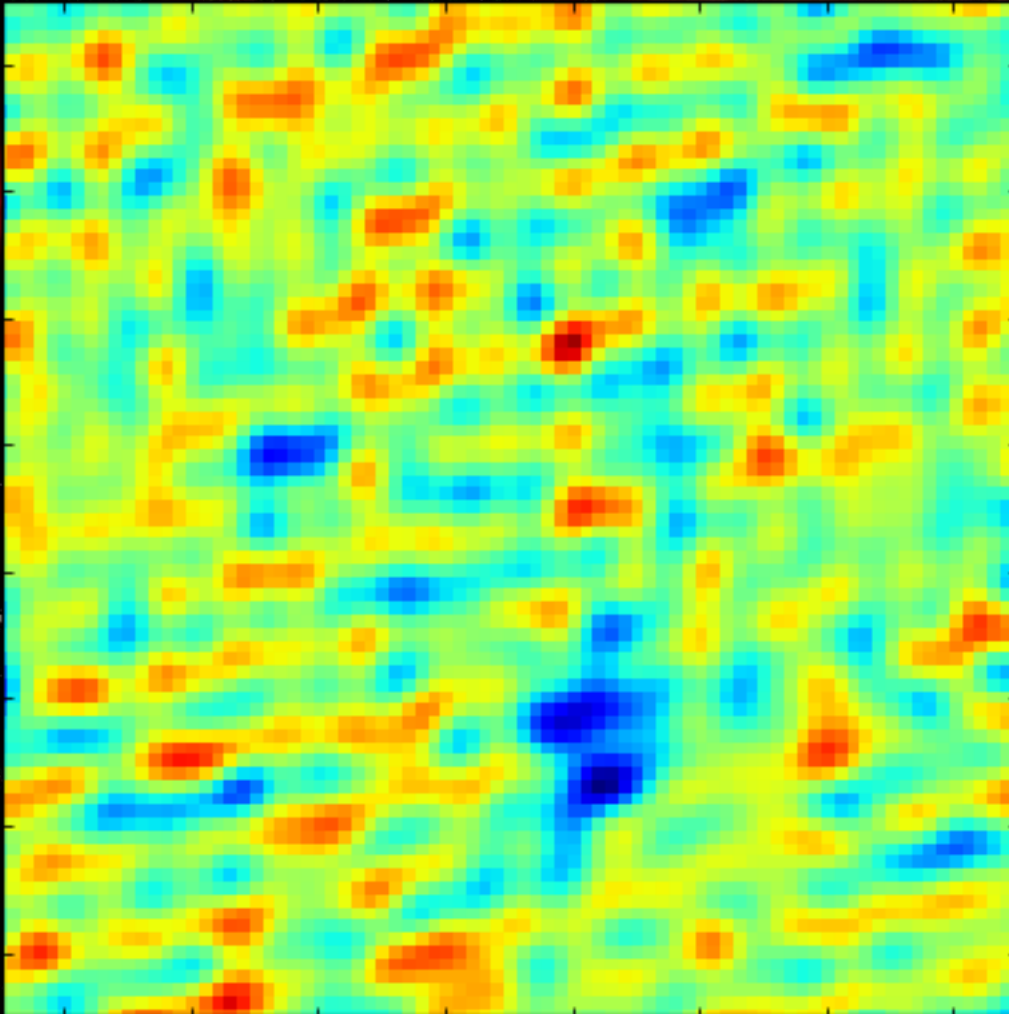
Relation between the size of the ionised volume and the sources properties

$$r_s \simeq \left( \frac{3 N_{\text{ion,tot}}}{4\pi \langle n_{\text{H}} \rangle} \right)^{1/3}$$

8



# Tomographic imaging of the 21-cm signal



simulated **systematic noise map**  
after 1000 h observation:

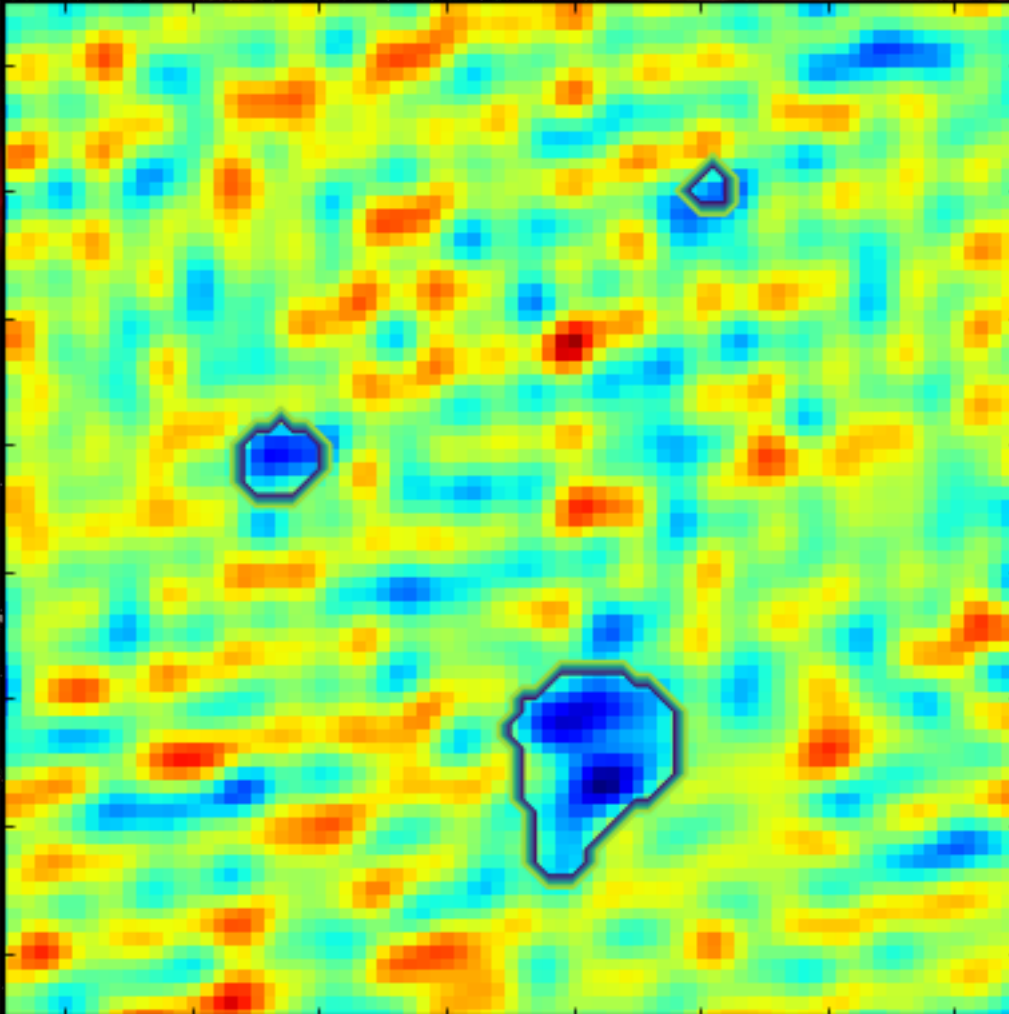
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Systematic noise corrupts the  
21-cm image and detection of  
ionised bubble becomes non trivial

Measurement of the bubble radius  
 $r_s$  becomes also non trivial



# Tomographic imaging of the 21-cm signal



simulated **systematic noise map**  
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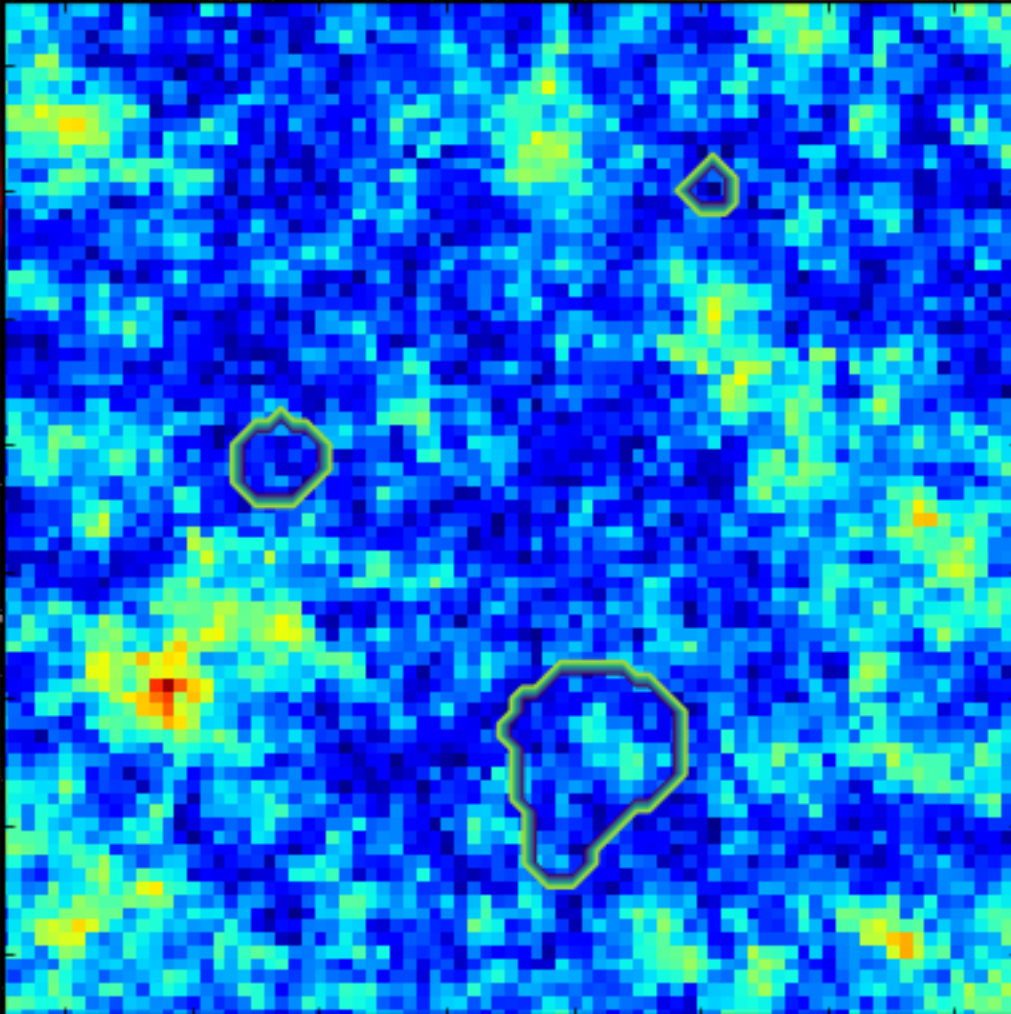
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Systematic noise corrupts the  
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# Tomographic imaging of the 21-cm signal



simulated **foreground map** for tomographic data:

- $z = 10$  ( $\nu_{\text{obs}} = 130$  MHz)
- Field of View  $\sim 1$  deg
- Angular resolution  $\sim 42$  arcsec

Contributions from the Galactic synchrotron radiation outshines the 21-cm signal of the order  $\sim 10^6$

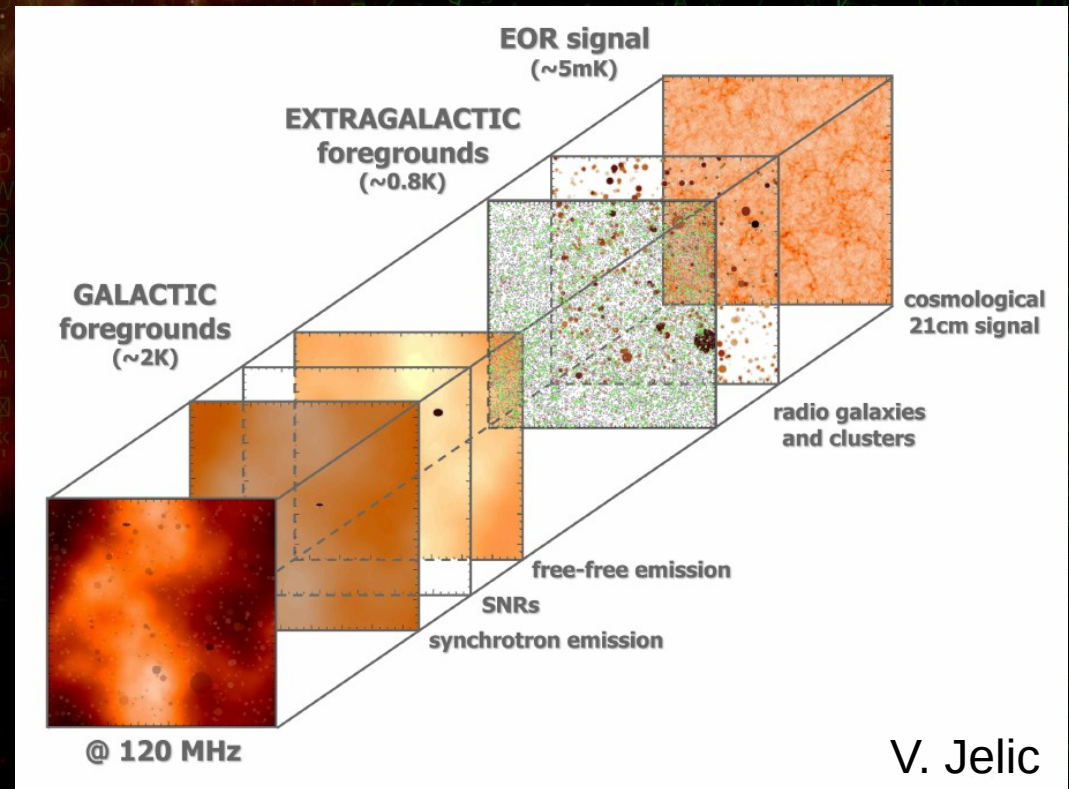
Impossible identification and measurement of bubbles radius  $r_s$



# Tomographic imaging of the 21-cm signal

**SKA1-Low** tomographic images of redshifted 21-cm signal challenges:

- Instrumental noise (signal  $\sim 5$  K)
- Foreground emission (signal  $\sim 1 - 1000$  K)
- Antennas gain errors
- Ionospheric refraction effects
- Radio frequency interference
- And more ...



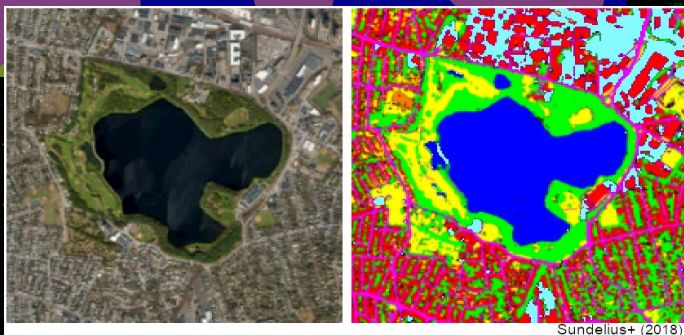
V. Jelic



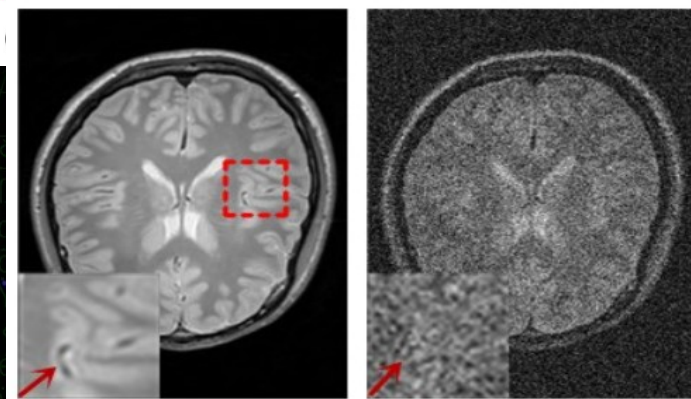
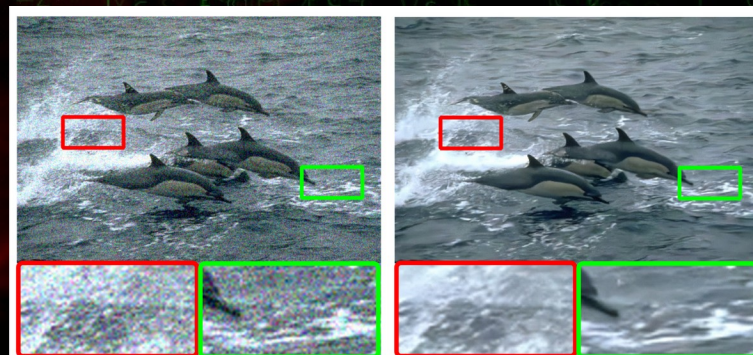
# Deep Learning algorithm with Convolutional Neural Networks

Modern Computer Vision technology based on AI and deep learning methods are able to **identify object** and/or **de-noise** images with great precision. (e.g.: self-driving cars, image satellites, medical image, etc...)

Image segmentation



de-noising images

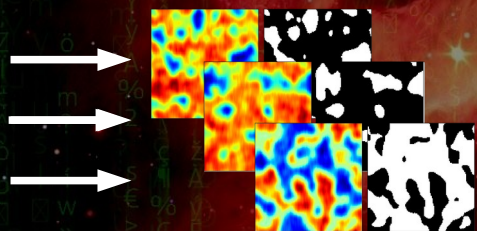
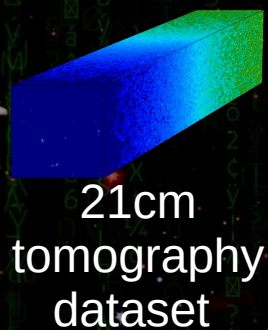
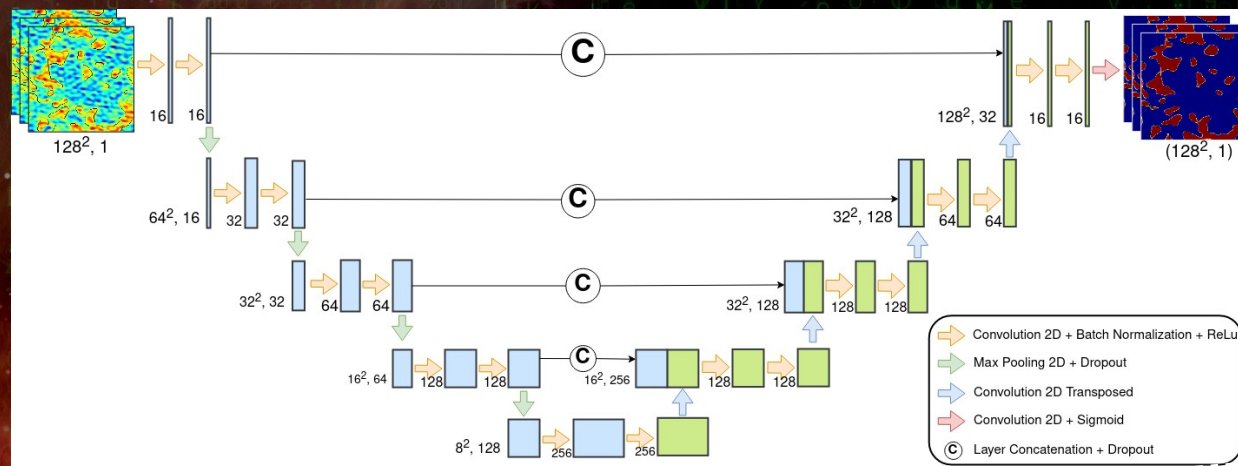




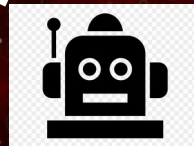
# SegU-Net: Segmentation with U-Net for EoR

(Bianco+ 2021) arXiv:2102.06713

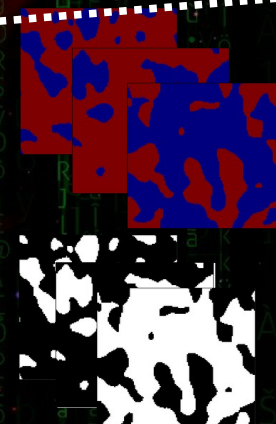
- U-Net: Network with interconnected encoder/decoder layers
- Convolutional layers on 2D slice of tomographic dataset (rolling procedure along z-axis)



21cm signal = image  
 $x_{\text{HI}}$  field = mask



SegU-Net  
(2.5M trainable params.)

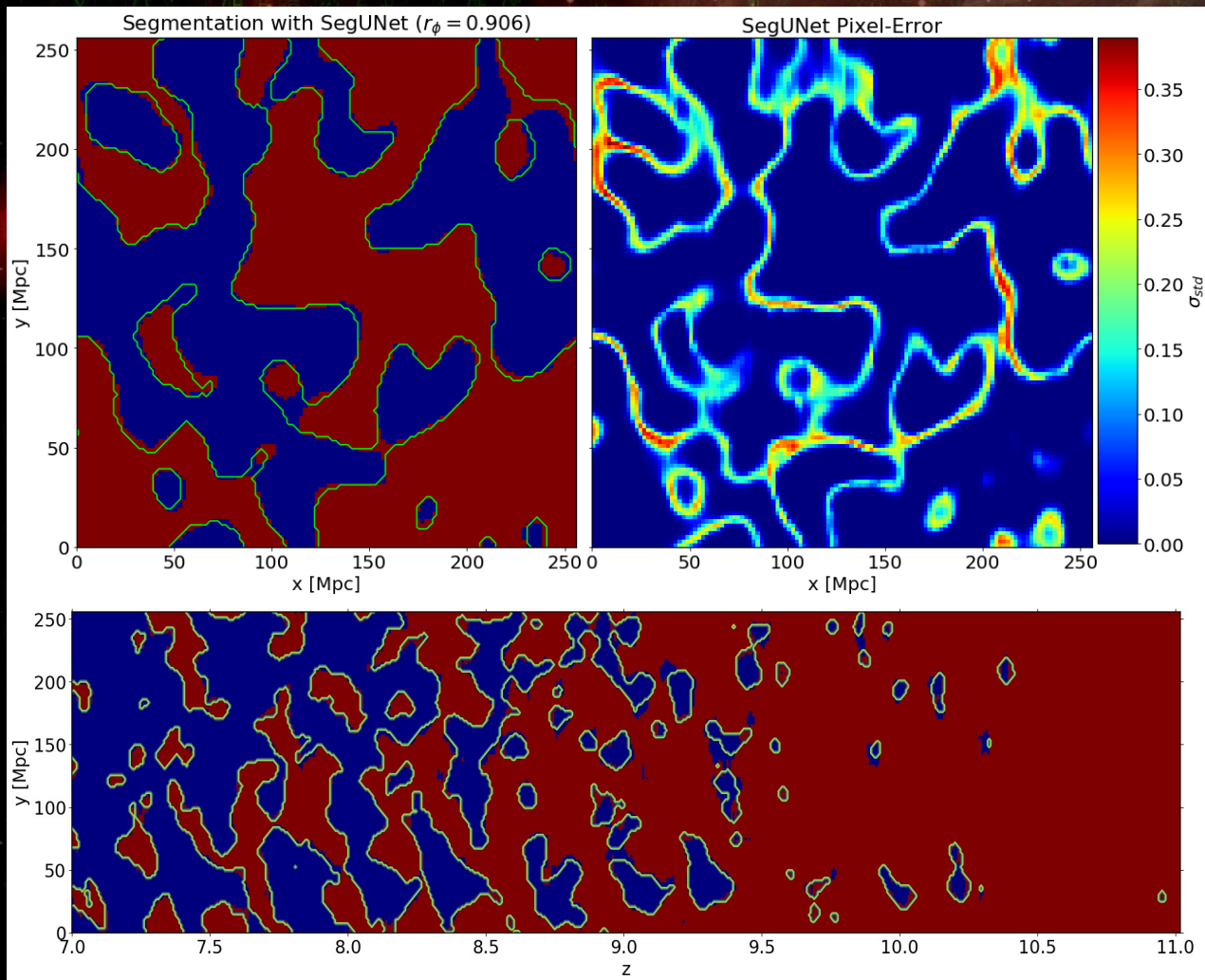


Compare with ground truth

$\mathcal{L}(y, \hat{y})$   
Calculate Loss



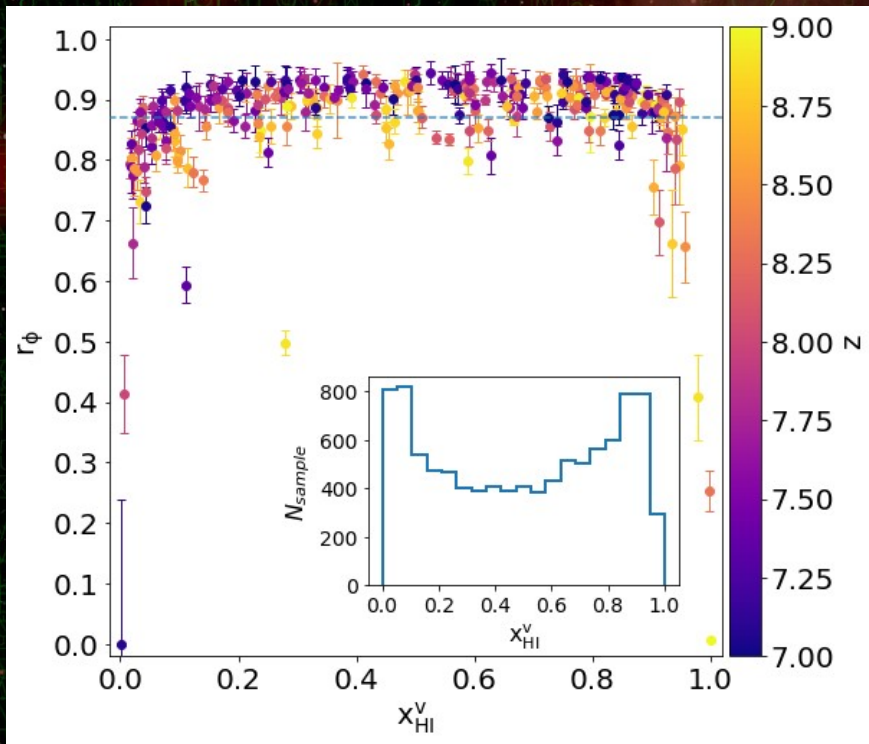
# SegU-Net Results: Visual Evaluation & Uncertainty-map



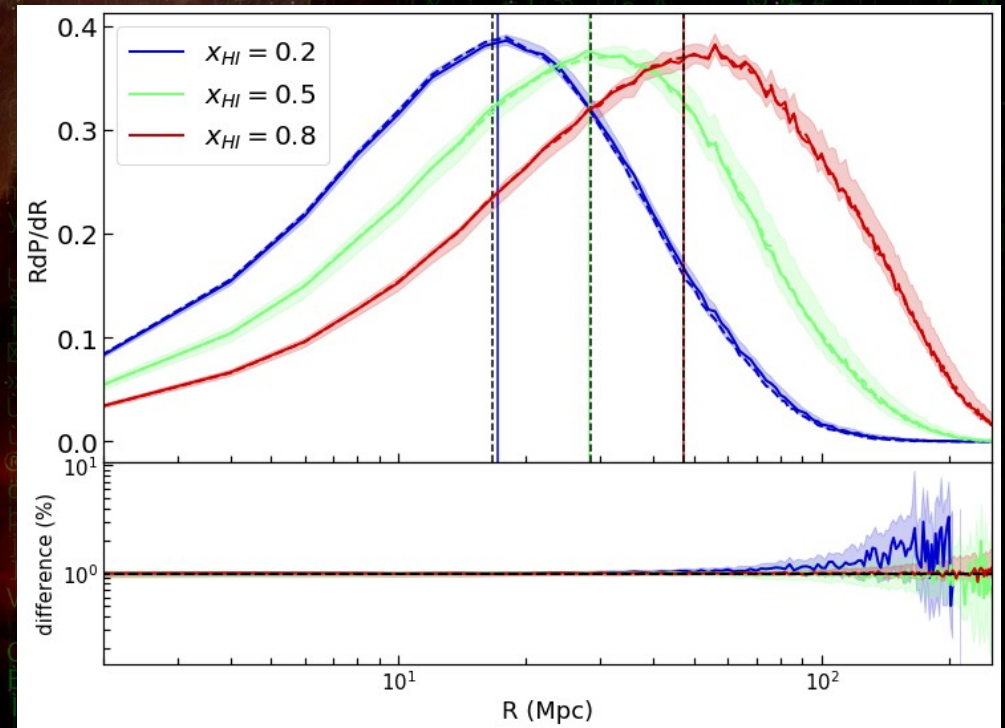
- Network binary field recovers with “confidence” large interconnected ionised/neutral regions
- Higher uncertainty at Bottleneck and regions with low-dynamic range



# SegU-Net Results : Correlation Coefficient $r_\phi$ and HI size distribution



Average accuracy: 85%  
better than state-of-the-art  
algorithm for segmentation



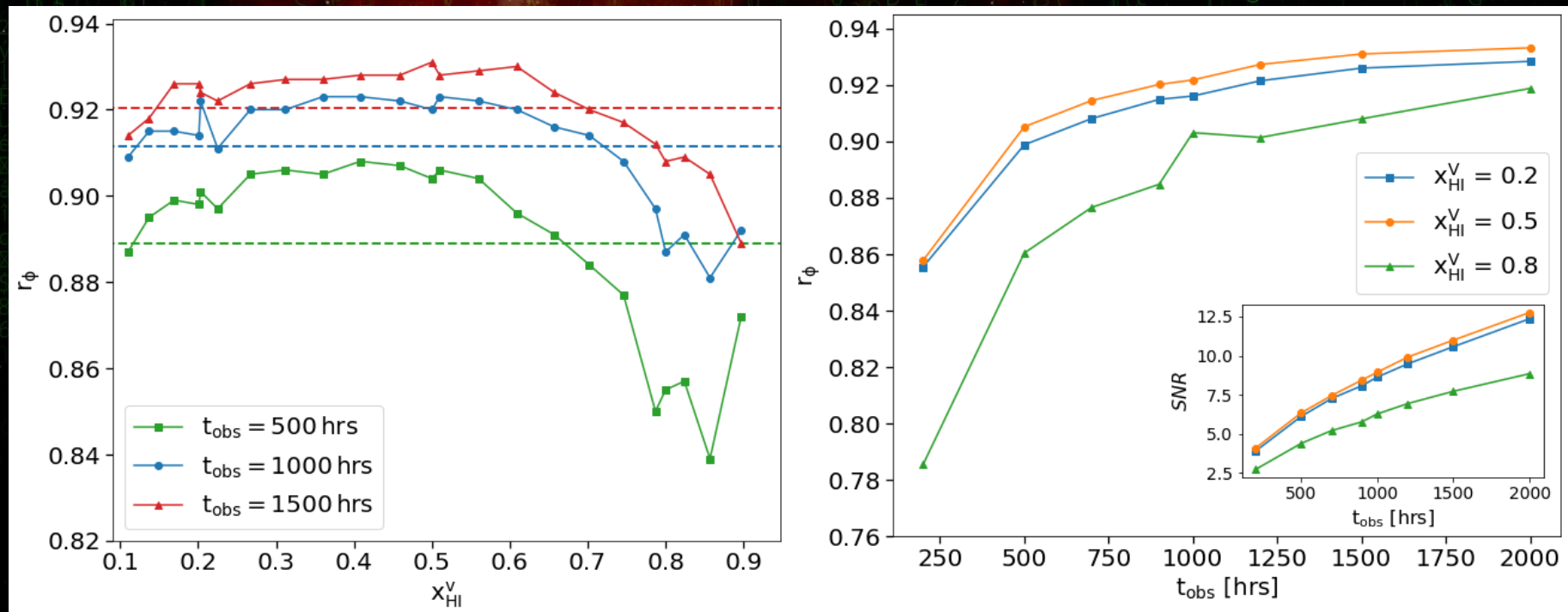
Estimations are consistent  
throughout EoR history. Difference  
to ground truth is within  $\sim 5\%$



# SegU-Net Results: Response to Noise level

Test on different instrumental noise level: under- or over-estimate

- Predictions on un-trained data with  $t_{\text{obs}} = 500 - 2000$  hrs
- $t_{\text{obs}} > 500$  hrs (SNR>3) same level of accuracy (~85%) as in the training
- Network accuracy affected by the **dynamic range** in the images



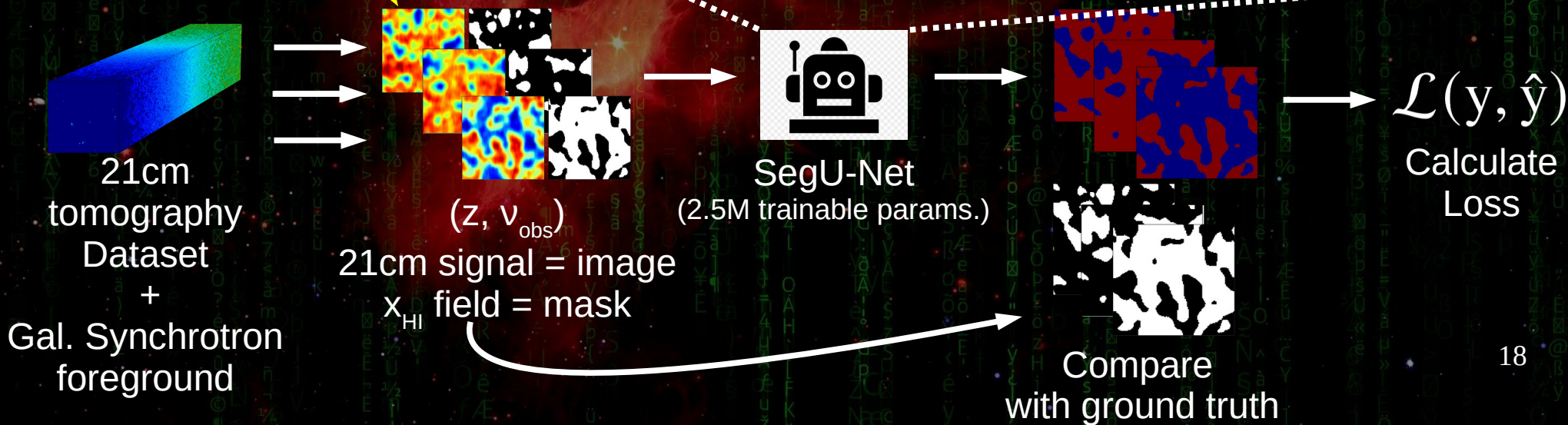
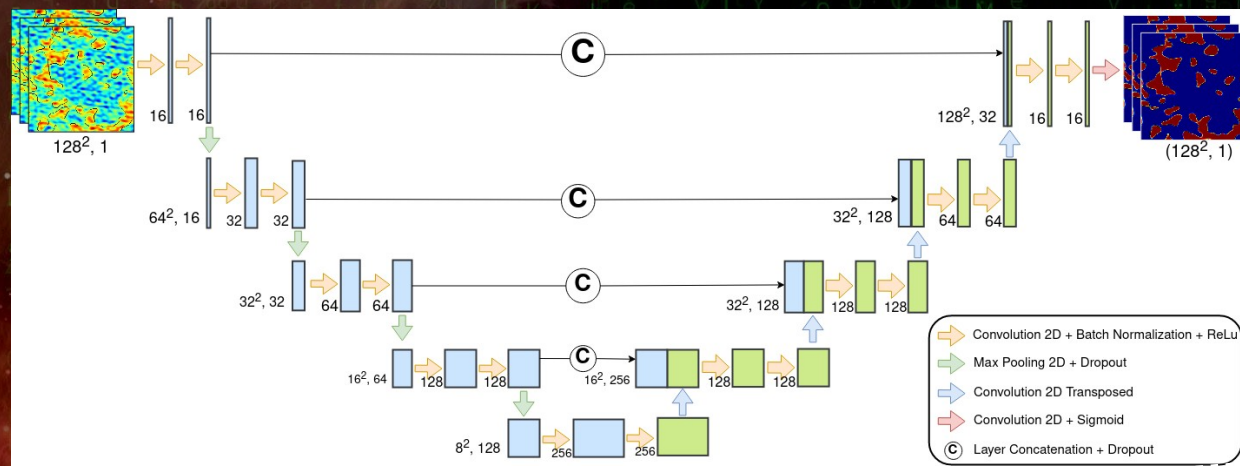


# SegU-Net v2.0: foreground contamination

(Bianco+ in prep.)

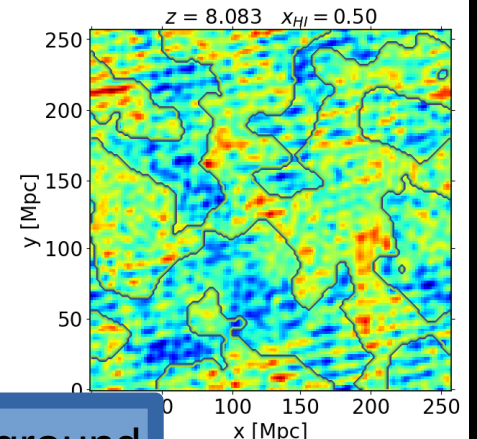
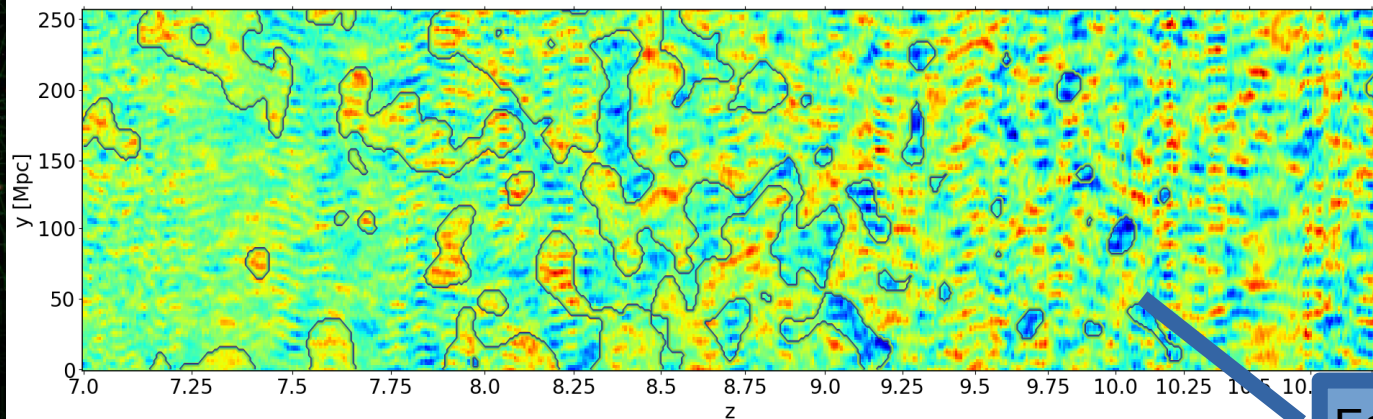
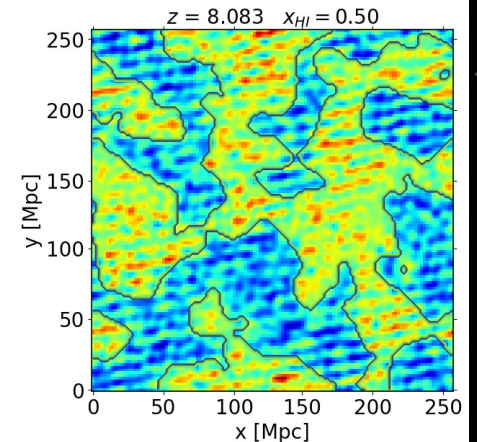
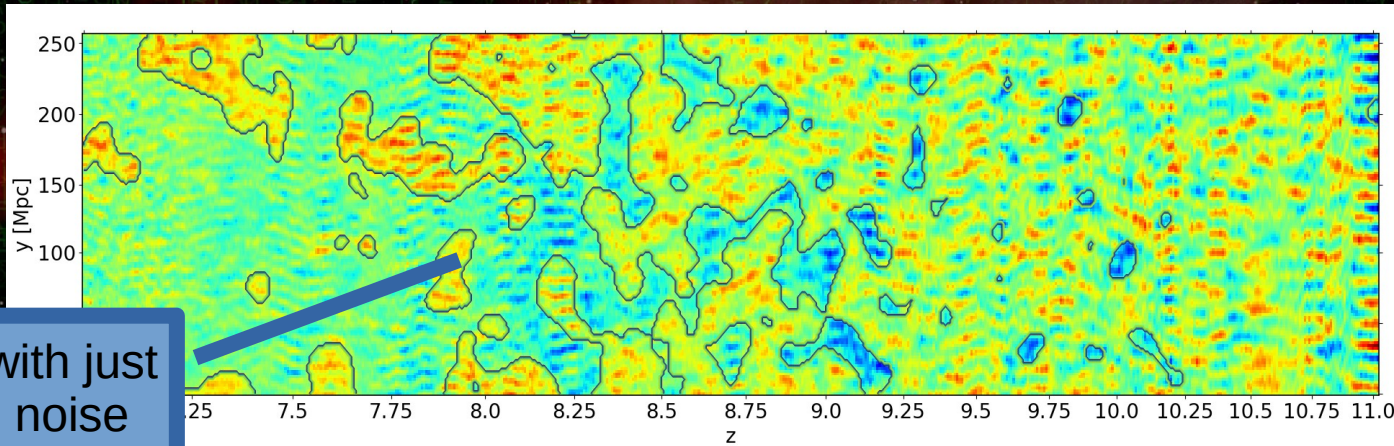
- U-Net: Network with interconnected encoder/decoder layers

add PCA pre-process step that decreases image dynamic range





# Reduce dynamic range in foreground contaminated 21-cm image with PCA



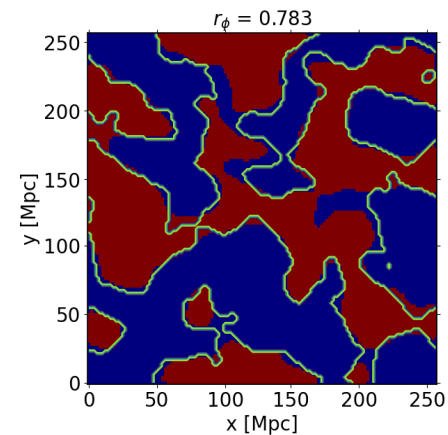
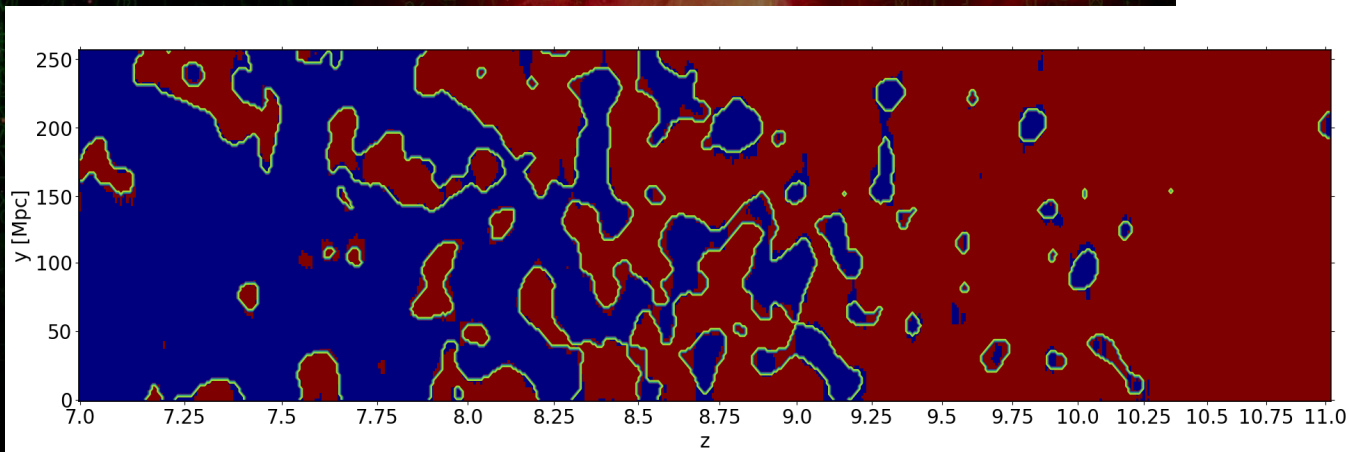
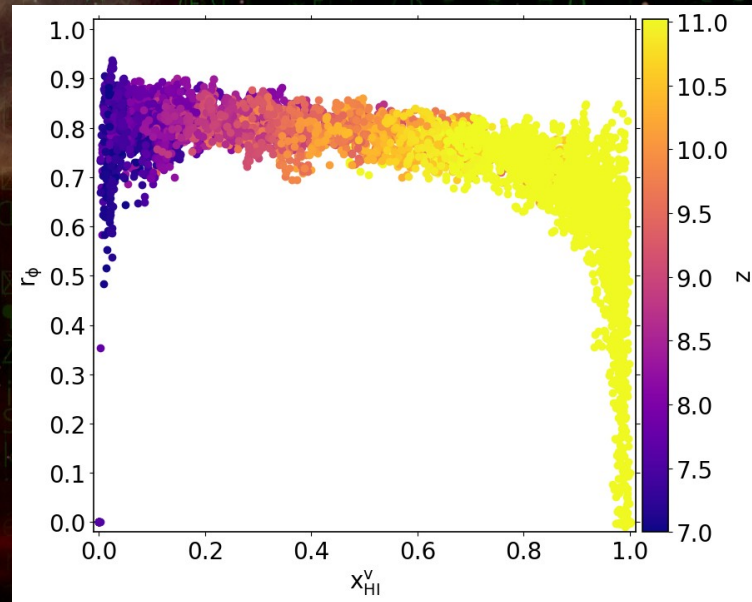
Foreground  
+ PCA



# SegU-Net v2.0 Result: segmentation with foreground contamination

PCA+SegU-Net obtains accuracy level  
on the same level of our previous work

PCA decreases the dynamic range to  
manageable levels for SegU-Net to  
recover tomographic binary data

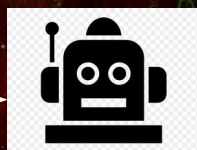
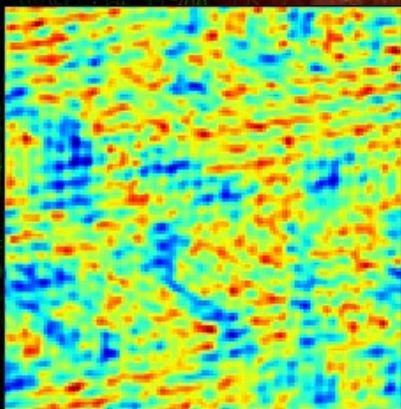




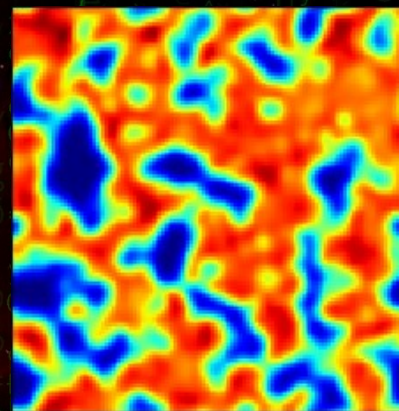
# The Next Goal of the Project

Deep learning approach for HI regions identification....  
.... and 21-cm signal recover from SKA-Low observations

Corrupted  
21cm image



Deep Learning  
Networks



simulated  
21cm image

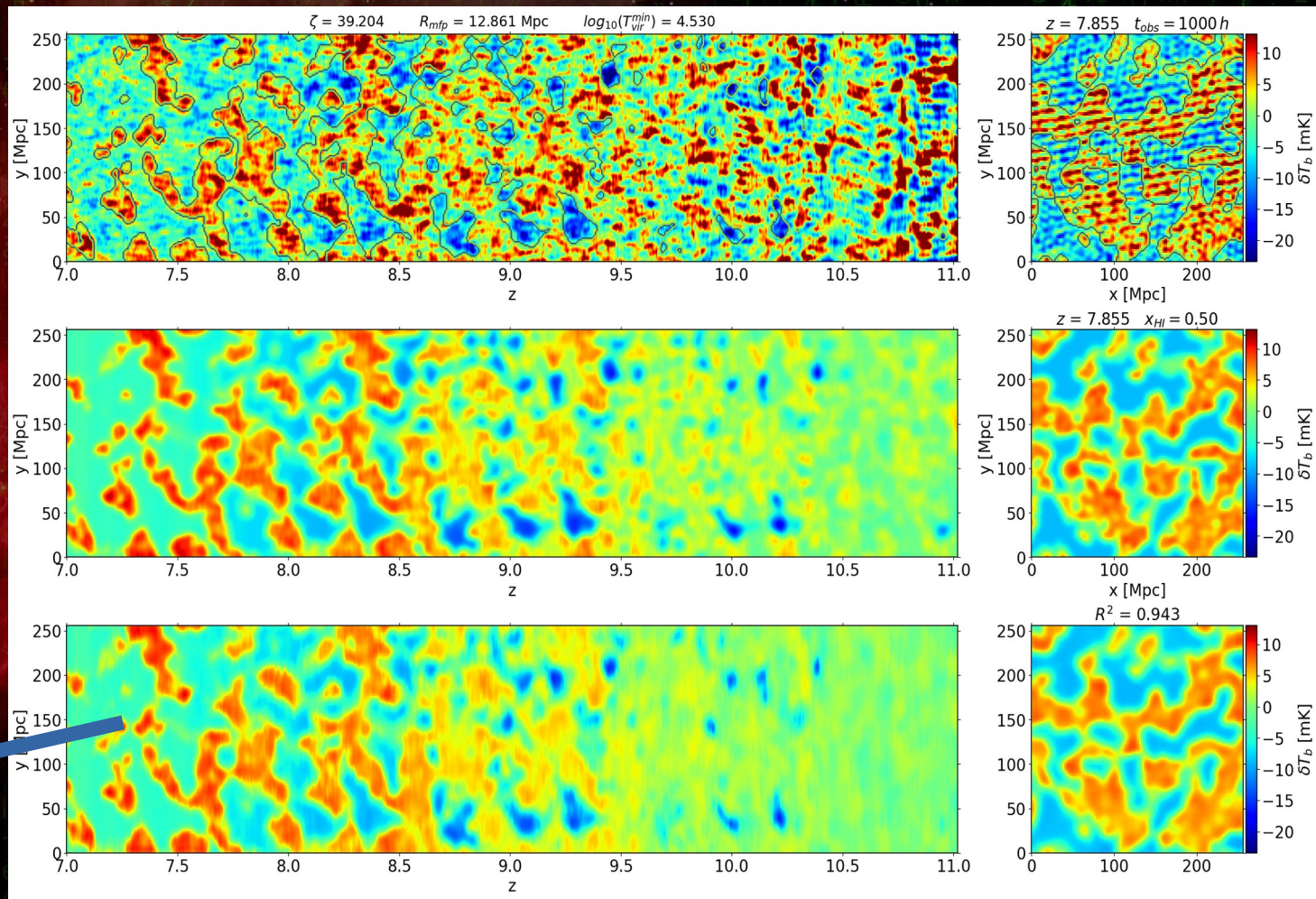
- 1) Use accurate modelling of the foreground and interferometry instrumental response (incomplete uv-coverage)
- 2) Data pre-process for foreground avoidance (wedge removal) and/or foreground mitigation techniques (PCA)
- 3) Use identified HI regions as prior information in the training process of the 21-cm recover network (RecU-Net)



# RecU-Net Results: 21-cm Visual comparison

A first test:

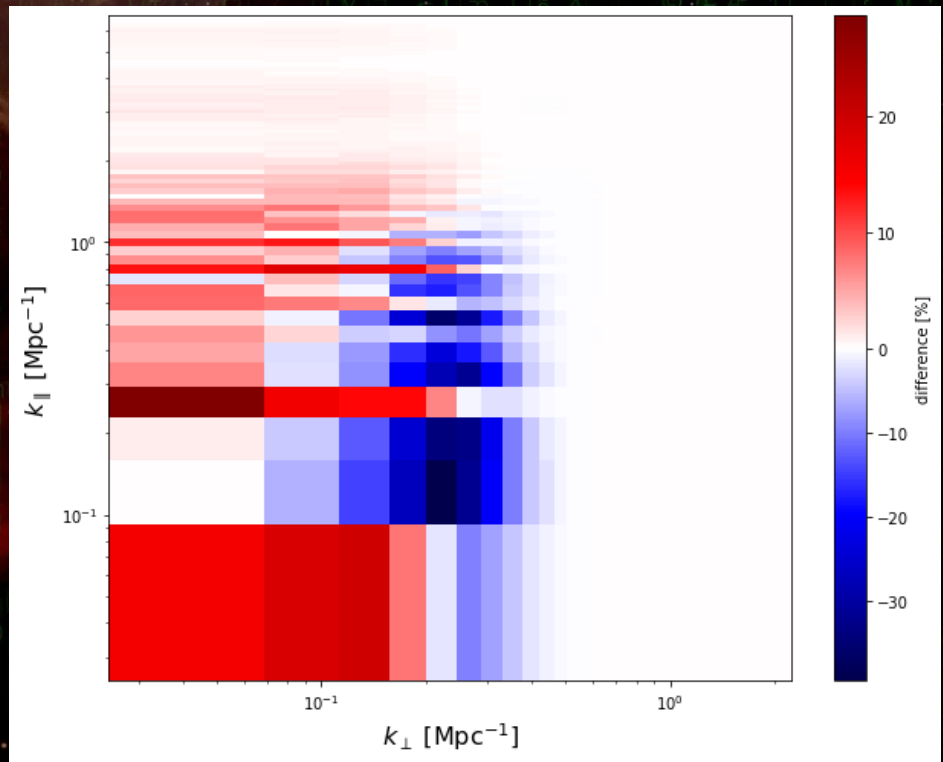
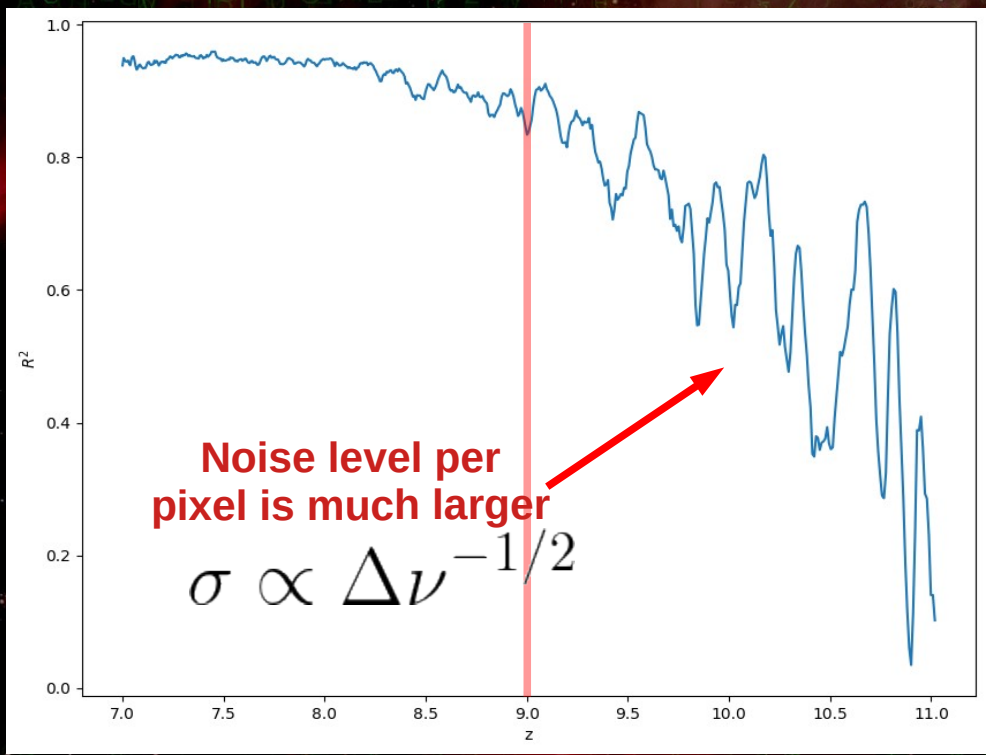
- RecU-Net  $\approx$  SegU-Net
  - 1) final activation
  - 2) changed target
  - 3) different loss
- Recover 21cm signal from images with SKA-Low instrumental noise



This is RecU-Net prediction



# RecU-Net Results: $r_\phi$ and $x_{\text{HI}}$ on entire Tomographic data



RecU-Net is extremely accurate ( $R^2 \sim 92\%$ ) redshift range  $7 < z < 9$

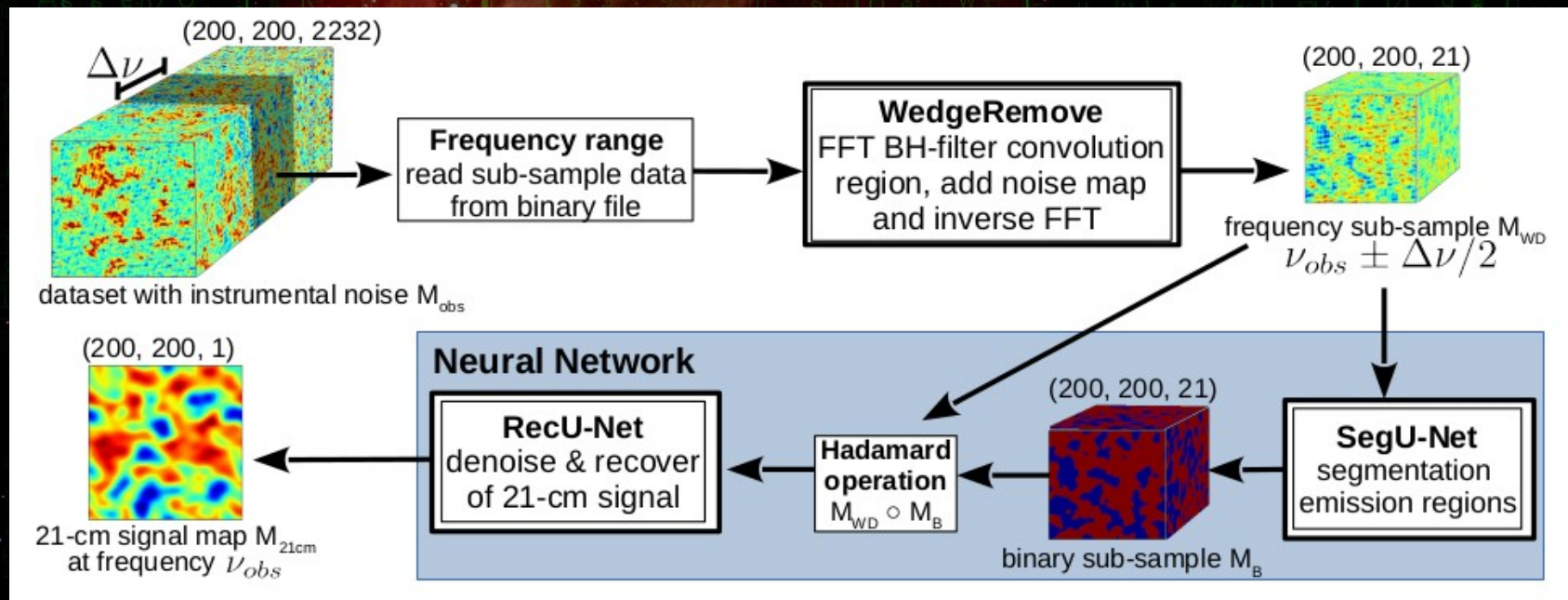
21-cm Power spectra (top) recover within  $\sim 5\%$  small scale correlation,  $k > 0.2 \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$  and redshift  $z < 9$



# SERENet

## Segmentation and Regression Network

Combine the prediction of SegU-Net as additional input in RecU-Net training step in order to include prior in the network training.



Proposal accepted for SKACH large HPC allocation projects at Pitz Daint @ CSCS (started 1th of August)



# Summary & Future Work

## Work done so far:

- SegU-Net is a powerful tools for segmentation on noisy 21-cm images.
- Existing technique can be employed to pre-process data before training. to reduce the dynamic range of foreground contamination.
- SegU-Net v2.0 can also be use on foreground contaminated images
- UNets can be employed to recover 21-cm signal from noisy data.

## Open challenges list:

- Employ OSKAR simulation for radio interferometry effects.
- Feed prior information in training (combination of Seg and RecU-Net).
- Impact of the foreground pre-process step on the training and prediction.
- Study a combination of foreground subtraction algorithm (PCA, Wedge,...
- Strategise training bias of SegU-Net v2.0
- Publish paper on SegU-Net v2.0