

CLUSTERING MEASUREMENTS OF ACTIVE GALACTIC NUCLEI  
ENVIRONMENTS OF BL LAC AND  
FSRQ BLAZARS USING GALAXIES  
FROM THE SDSS

KYLE WILLETT  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, USA  
GARCHING BEI MÜNCHEN, JULY 2014



 @kwwillett



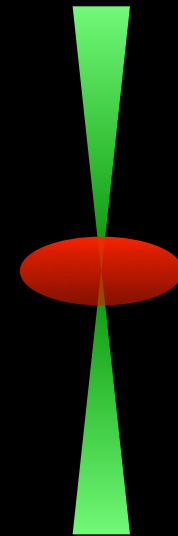
Mrk 421 (NASA/STScI)



# BLAZAR/RADIO GALAXY UNIFICATION SCENARIO

	BL LAC	FSRQ
OPTICAL SPECTRUM	no strong emission or absorption features $EW < 5 \text{ \AA}$	broad emission lines superimposed on strong continuum
RADIO JETS	high $\nu_{\text{peak}}$	low $\nu_{\text{peak}}$ , $\alpha_r < 0.5$ core-dominated morphologies
HOST GALAXY	luminous ellipticals	luminous elliptical, 1-2 mags brighter than BL Lac hosts
ENVIRONMENT	moderately rich clusters; Abell class 0 to 1	lie in regions of lower galaxy densities

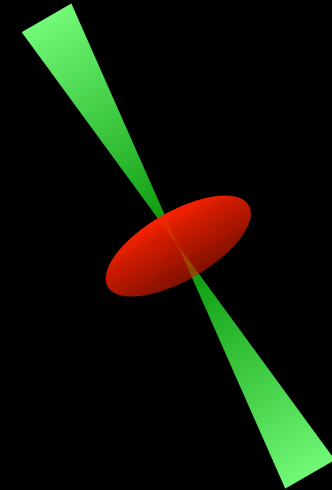
VIEWED DIRECTLY  
DOWN JET AXIS



# BLAZAR/RADIO GALAXY UNIFICATION SCENARIO

	FR I	FR II
OPTICAL SPECTRUM	weak optical emission lines (for given luminosity)	typically stronger optical emission lines
RADIO JETS	low-luminosity; intensity falls off away from nucleus	high luminosity; extended lobes and hotspots
HOST GALAXY	giant ellipticals; 10% have some deviation from profile of $r^{1/4}$	ellipticals; slightly lower average optical luminosities than FR Is
ENVIRONMENT	moderately rich clusters; often BCGs	relatively isolated, more consistent with field galaxies

VIEWED OFF-AXIS FROM RADIO JET

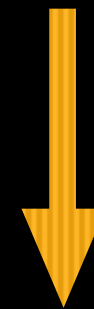


# PREVIOUS RESULTS

- Prestage+88: BL Lac environments are consistent with FR Is
- Individual studies of BL Lacs show excesses of galaxies with Abell richnesses between 0 and 1 (Falomo+96,00,Pesce+94,Fried+93,Smith+95) in agreement with FR Is (Hill+91)
- Owen+95: surveys of powerful radio sources in clusters revealed many FR Is, but no BL Lacs.
- Wurtz+93,97: BL Lacs are found in poor clusters, with richness increasing with redshift. Trends are more similar to FR II than FR I.
- Urry+00, Falomo+00, Pesce+02: enhancements in BL Lac environments over average density. High number of close companions (< 20 kpc) identified.

FR I

FR II



BL Lac

FSRQ



**MISSING: UP-TO-DATE STUDIES OF THE BLAZAR POPULATIONS WITH IMPROVED STATISTICS AND DEEPER IMAGING**

# SPATIAL COVARIANCE AMPLITUDE

- Developed by Longair & Seldner (1979)
- Measures number of neighboring galaxies in projection around a single point
- Pros: independent of magnitude limit or counting radius; can be used without full 3D positions
- Cons: statistical measurement with large error bars (~50-100%) on individual points

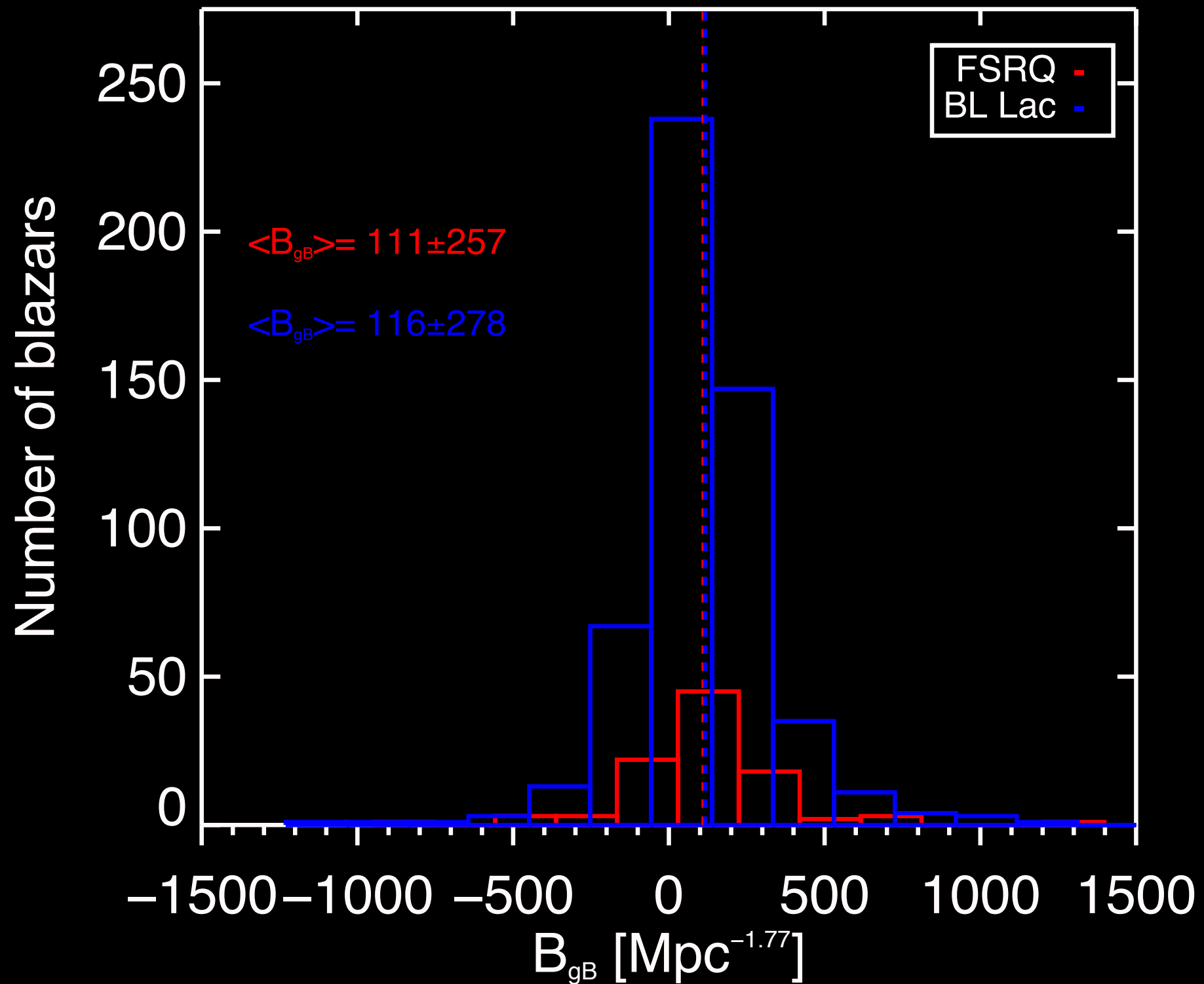
$$B = (N_t - N_{bg}) \frac{(3 - \gamma) D^{\gamma-3} \theta^{\gamma-1}}{2A_\theta I_\gamma \Psi[M(m, z)]}$$



# SAMPLE SELECTION

- Roma-BZCAT (2,728 blazars)
- Optically-selected blazars from SDSS
  - 723 BL Lacs (Plotkin et al. 2010)
  - 185 FSRQs (Chen et al. 2009)
- TeV-Cat  $\gamma$ -ray selected objects (148 blazars)

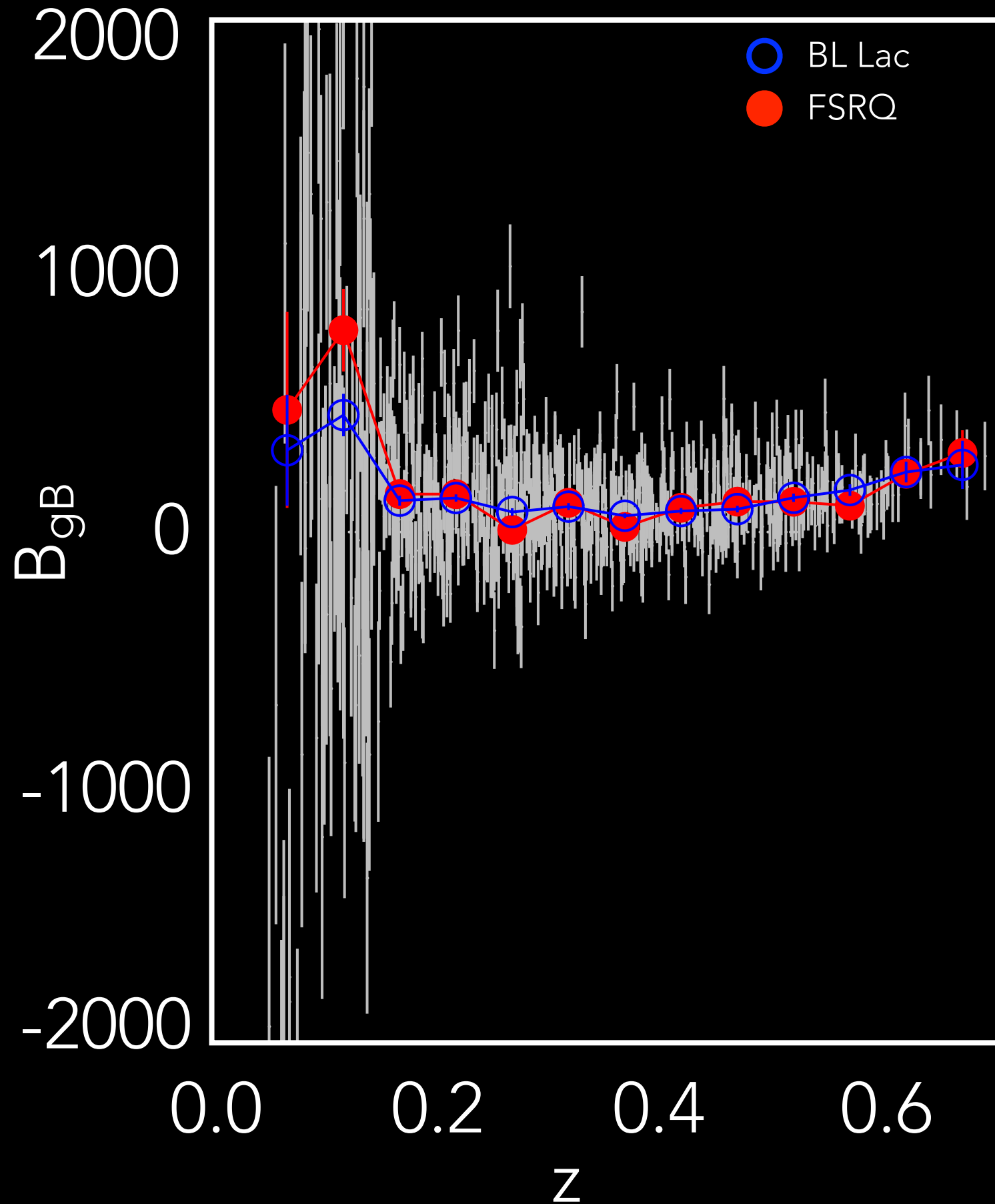
# DISTRIBUTION OF BLAZAR SPATIAL CORRELATION AMPLITUDES



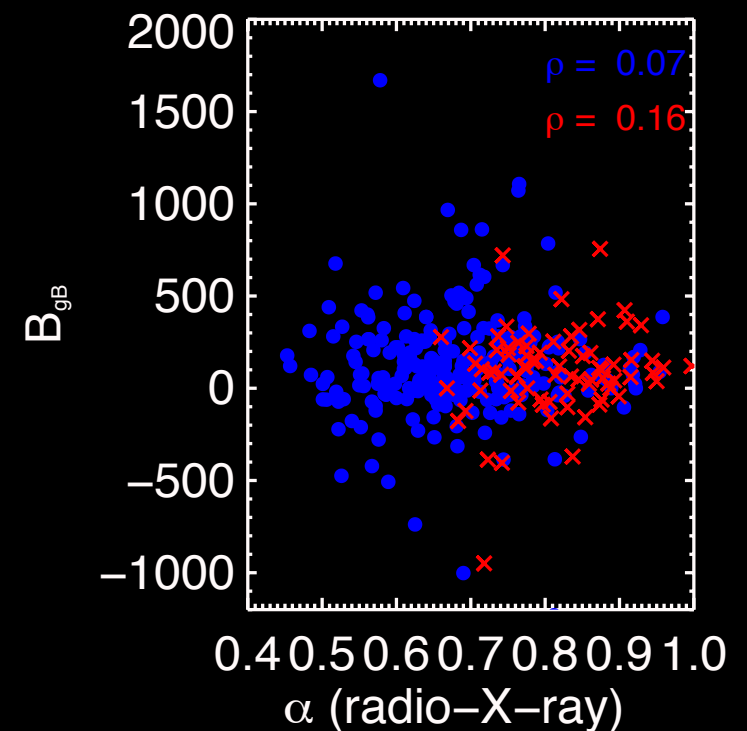
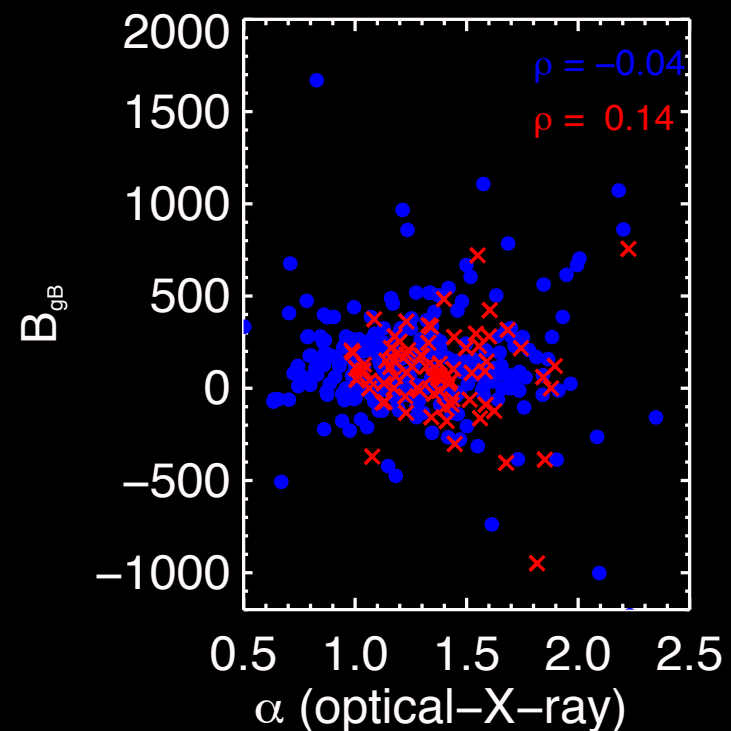
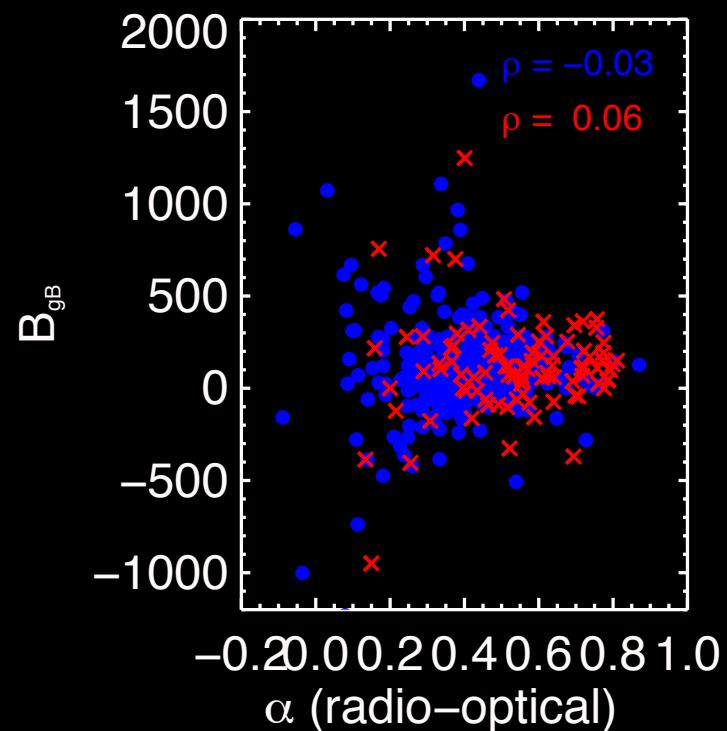
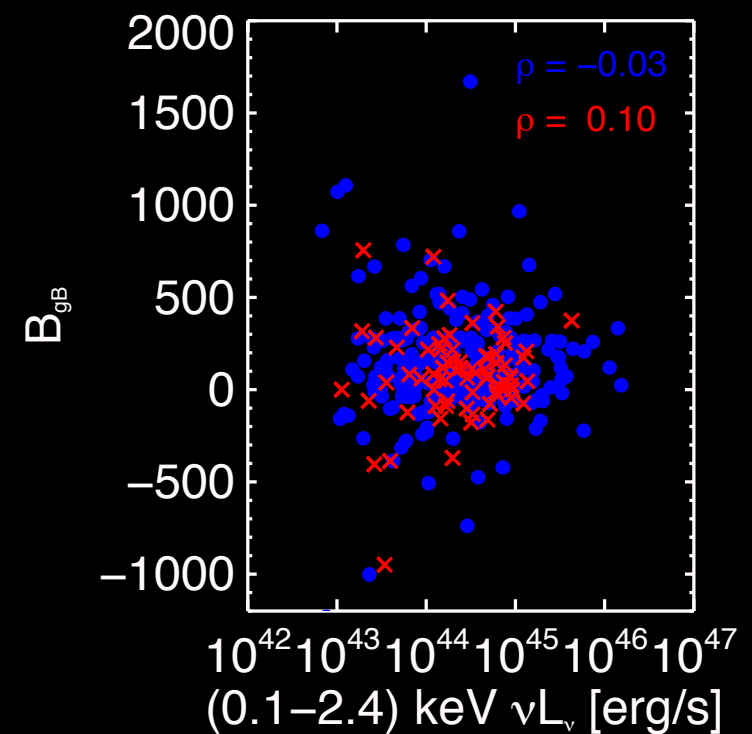
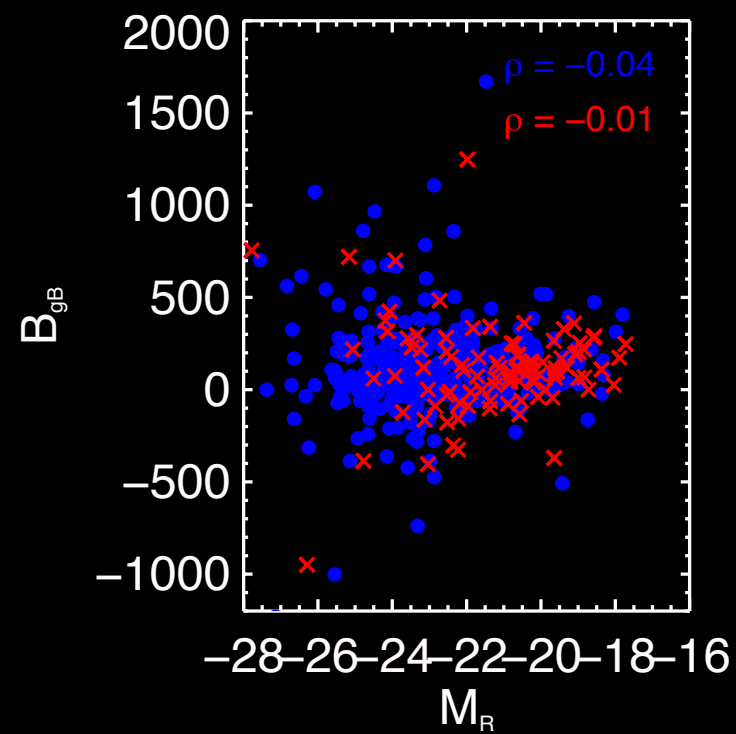
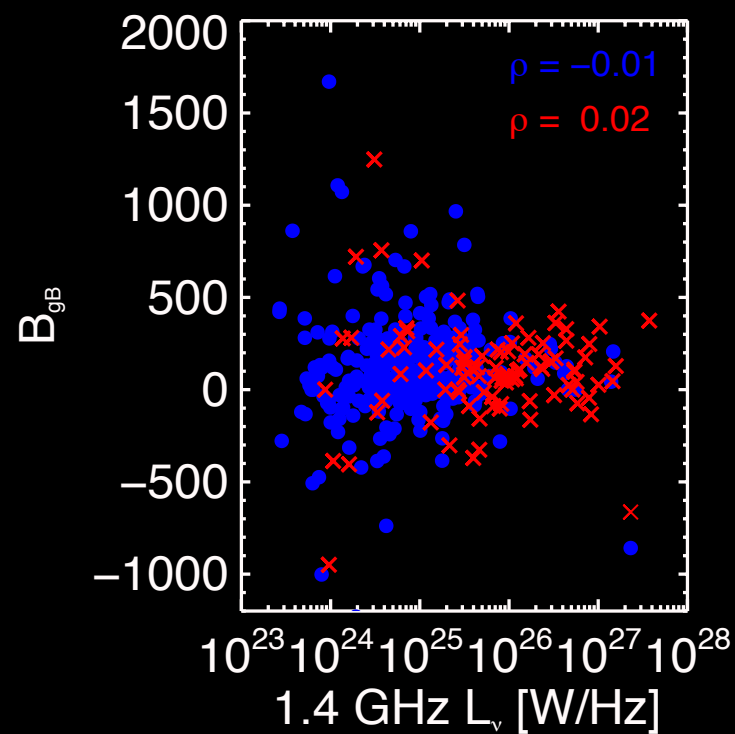


# BLAZAR CLUSTERING AS FUNCTION OF REDSHIFT

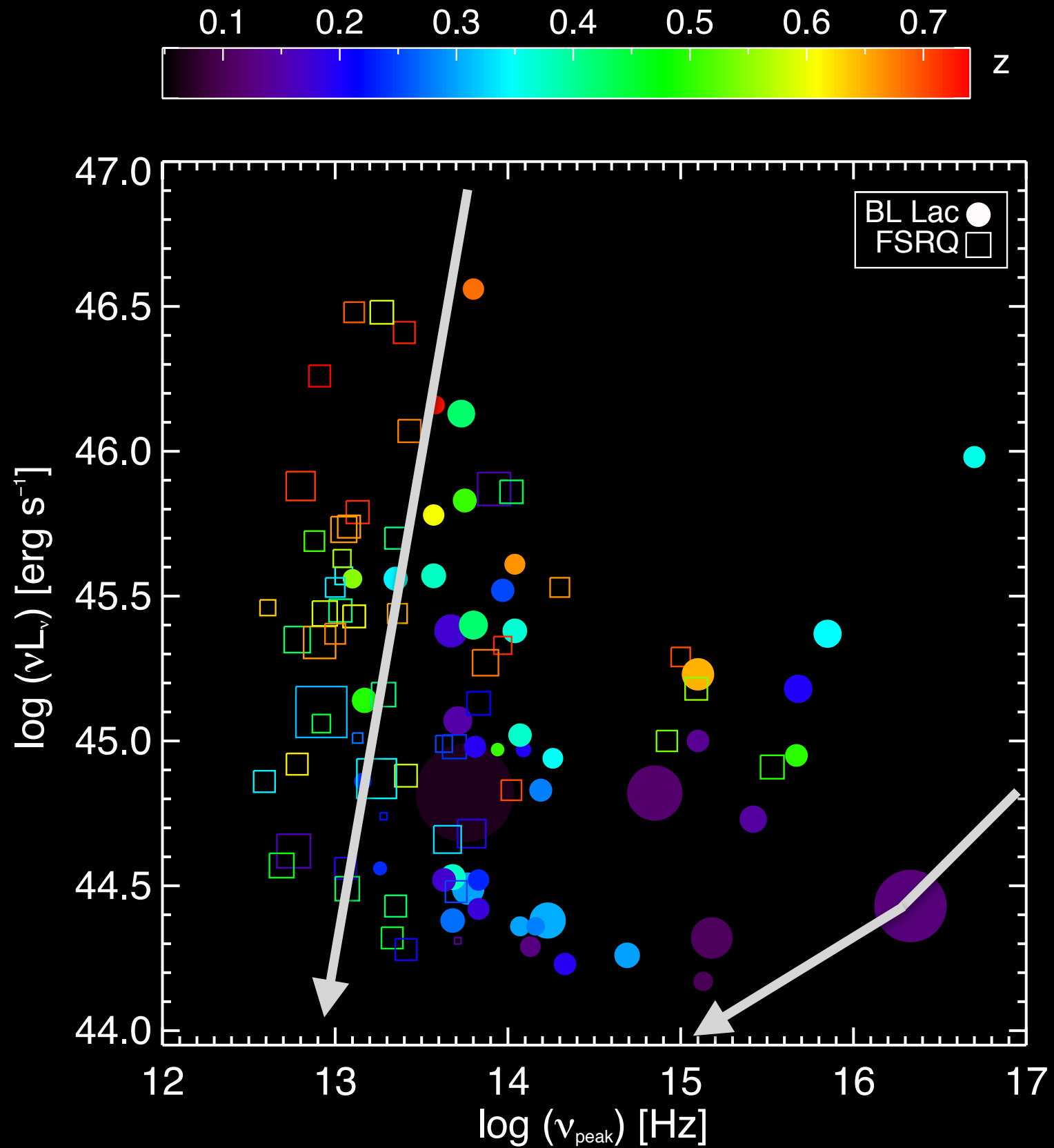
- 757 blazars have measurable  $B_{gB}$  values from SDSS data
- Richer clusters are found at  $z > 0.5$ , increasing by a factor of 2-3
- Trend is the same for both BL Lacs and FSRQs



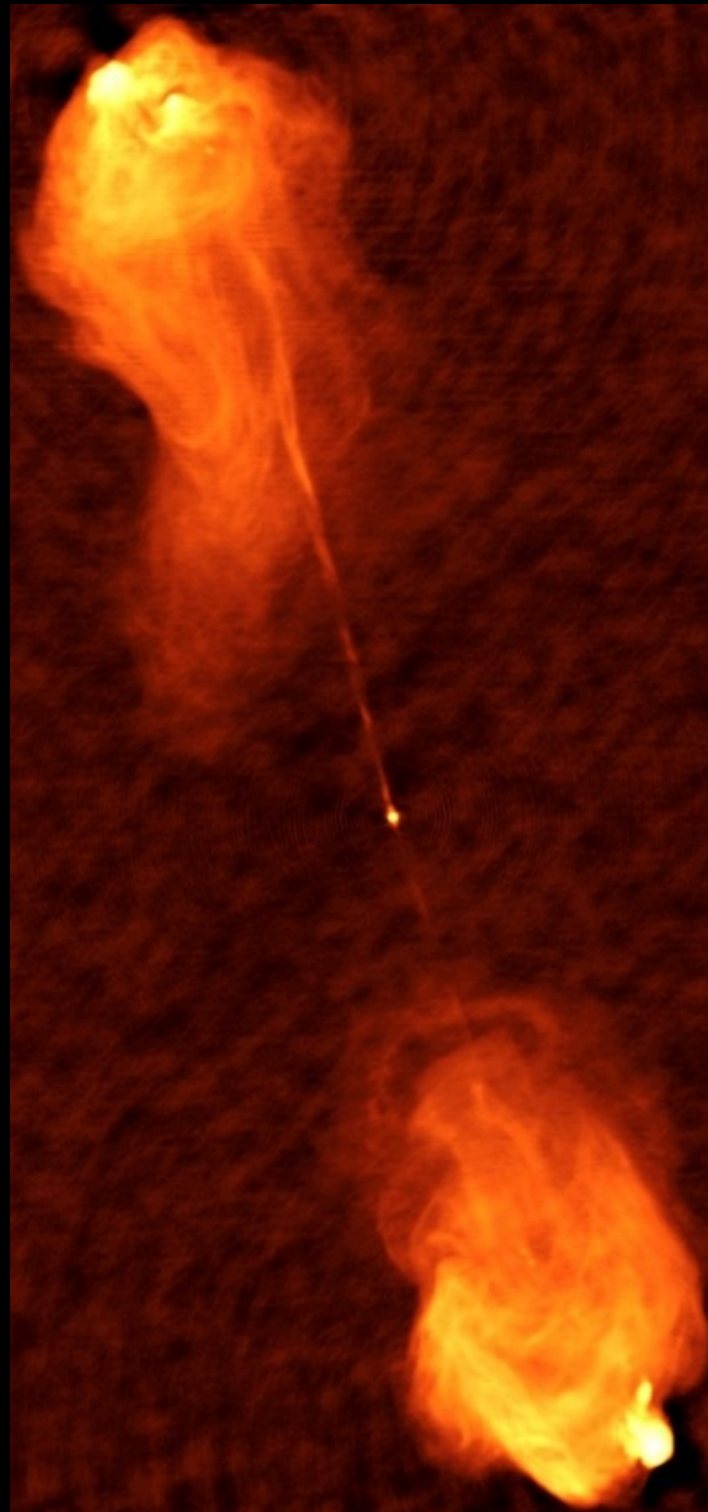
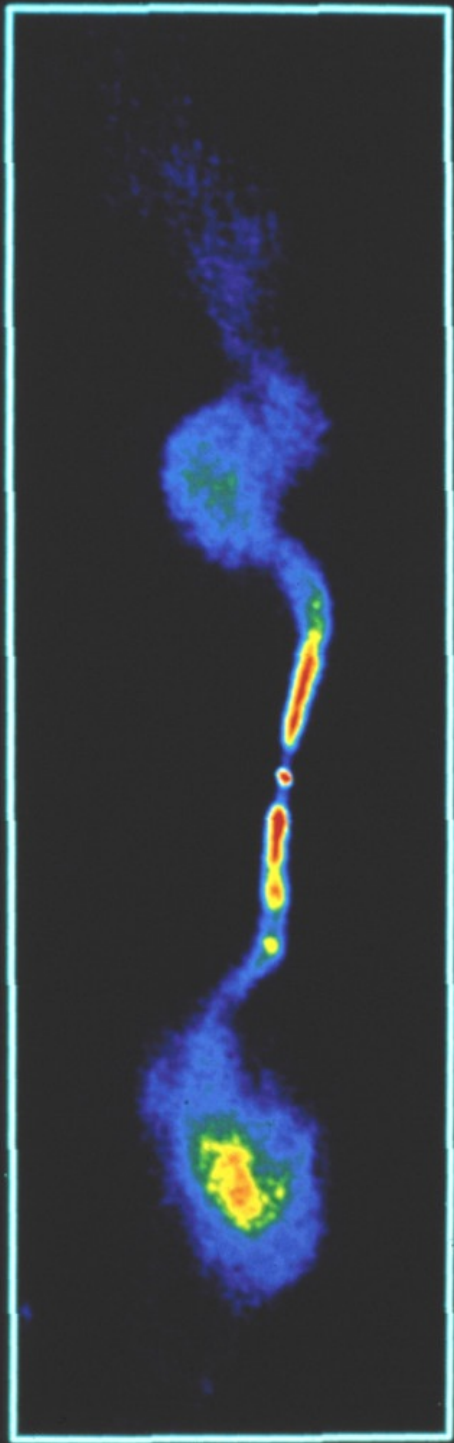
# CLUSTERING VALUES AS FUNCTION OF MULTI WAVELENGTH PROPERTIES



# CLUSTERING AND THE BLAZAR SEQUENCE/ENVELOPE



# ENVIRONMENTS OF POWERFUL RADIO GALAXIES



- Measured  $B_{gg}$  for 239 morphologically-classified radio galaxies in the SDSS footprint
- Radio galaxies have similar spatial correlation amplitudes to both types of blazars
  - FR I:  $150 \pm 533 \text{ Mpc}^{-1.77}$
  - FR II:  $175 \pm 364 \text{ Mpc}^{-1.77}$
- FR I galaxies exist in similar environments to FR II galaxies
- No strong evolution in  $B_{gg}$  as a function of redshift

EXPANDING THE SAMPLE SIZE

# RADIO GALAXY ZOO

CLASSIFY

SCIENCE

TEAM

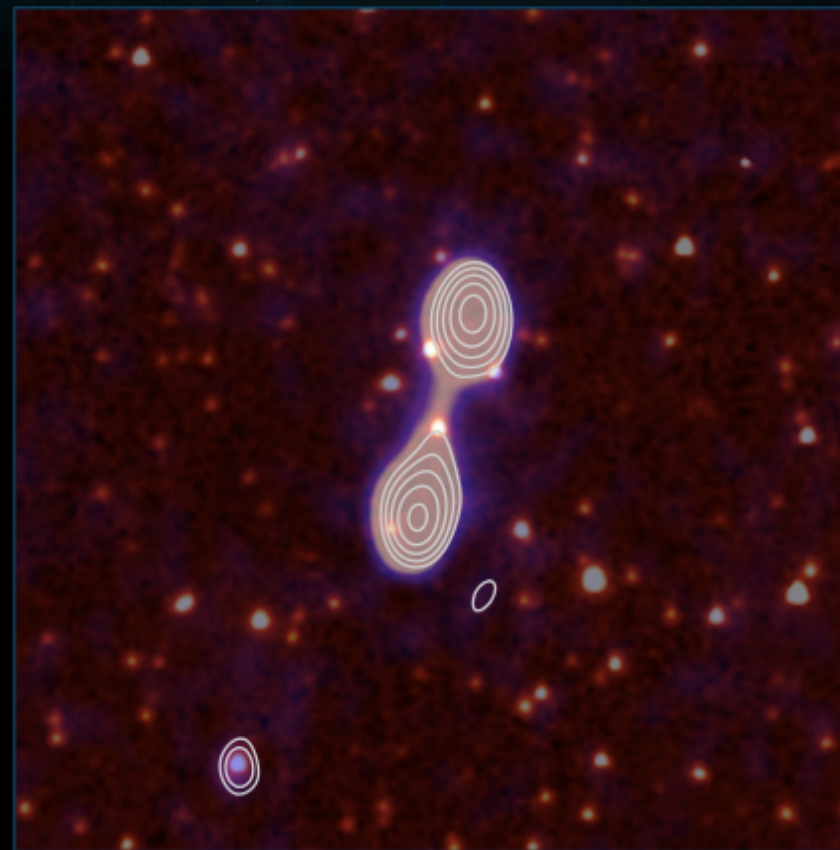


PROFILE

DISCUSS

BLOG

Spotter's Guide



Radio



IR

Click on any radio contour or pair of jets

Cancel

Reset All

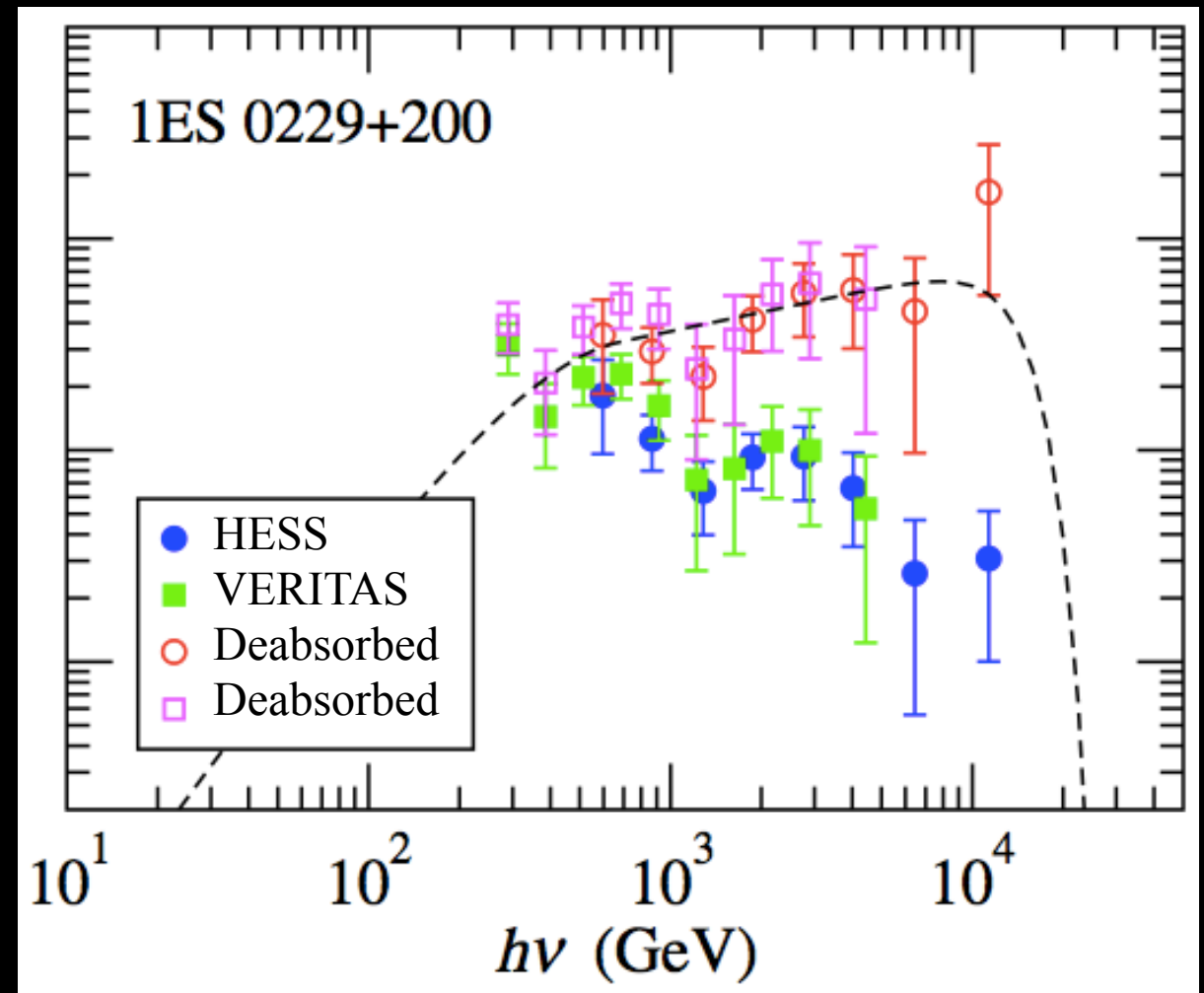
No Contours

Done



# VARIABILITY AS FUNCTION OF ENVIRONMENT

- Galaxies with UHECR emission can only show it if magnetic fields are not isotropized by nearby companions
- Emission caused by UHECR should not rapidly vary in flux, since the source size is large.
  - Prediction: low variability TeV blazars should live in low-density environments.
- Of the two known TeV blazars in SDSS with low variability, one is in an underdense and the other in a moderately overdense cluster



Razzaque+12

	$z$	$B$
1ES 0229+200	0.14	$-299 \pm 259$
RGB J0152+017	0.08	$316 \pm 366$

# PHYSICAL MECHANISMS FOR DIFFERENT BLAZAR CLUSTERING STRENGTHS

- Rapidly changing gas density or galaxy-galaxy interaction rate causes cause AGN in rich clusters to fade. This would transform more quasars into BL Lacs.
- FR II sources are less likely to be in high-density environments; increased external gas pressure in ICM suppresses collimated jet with advancing hot spot
- Inflow of gas/dust from nearby neighbors/ICM changes the accretion efficiency of the BH

# CONCLUSIONS

- The unification paradigm of blazars with radio galaxies can be indirectly probed by examining their Mpc-scale environments
- 757 blazars + clustering galaxies from SDSS is the largest sample so far constructed
- Blazars exist in moderately overdense regions, but there is no significant difference between companions of the BL Lac and FSRQ populations

$$B_{gB} =$$

