HIGH RESOLUTION VLA OBSERVATIONS OF QUASARS WITH DISTORTED RADIO STUCTURE

- J. Stocke Steward Observatory, University of Arizona
- W. Christiansen Morehead Observatory, University of North Carolina
- J. Burns University of New Mexico

ABSTRACT: Most quasars with extended radio structures have the classical linear double structure (Class II) which is also characteristic of the most luminous radio galaxies. A very small fraction of quasars do, however, show deviations from the classical double structure which are similar to the distortions observed in some low luminosity radio galaxies, e.g., bent double sources. Among radio galaxies, structural distortions seem to be associated with membership in a cluster of galaxies. Indeed, Scott and Hintzen, 1978, have suggested that such distortions might be indicators of cluster membership for quasars as well. To test this hypothesis and examine the physics of distorted quasars, we have mapped the quasars 3C 270.1 and 3C 275.1 in both I and P using the VLA A-Array at 20 cm and 6 cm. Our high resolution (0.1 arc sec at 6 cm) and high dynamic range (200:1) observations demonstrate that the displaced components reported previously for these sources are indeed connected with the quasars themselves and, therefore, the distortions are not simply projection effects. We also report the discovery of a very narrow northwesterly pointing jet in the quasar 3C 275.1.

REFERENCE

Scott, John S. and Hintzen, P. B., 1978, Ap. J. Lett., 224, L47.

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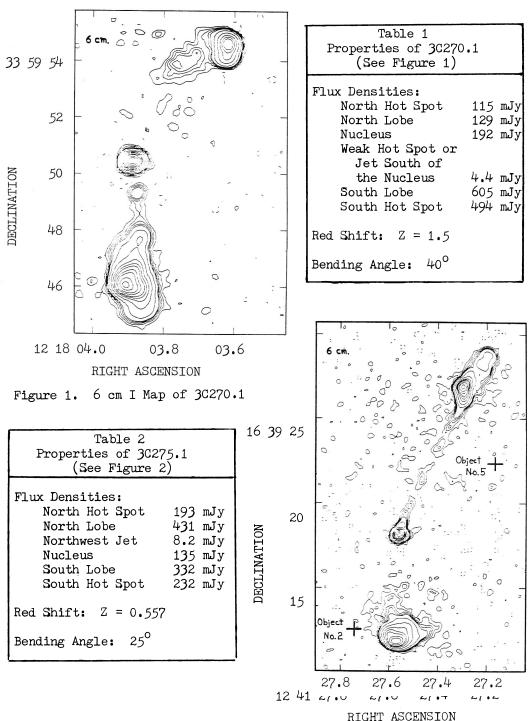


Figure 2. 6 cm I Map of 3C275.1