# A strong recollimation shock far from the core of the radiogalaxy 3C120.

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# AGN (Active Galactic Nuclei)

A special class of galaxies that show unusual amount of emission.

supermassive black holes (with masses ~  $10^6 - 10^9 \text{ M}\odot$ ), located at the center of these galaxies





# Radio quiet / Radio loud AGNs

Lradio(5GHz) R =Loptical(440nm)

[0-00] - RADIO LOUD: eliptical galaxies, extended jets (Radiogalaxies, Steep Spectrum Radio Quasars, Blazars)

[0. ] - ] - RADIO QUIET: spiral and eliptical, no large jets (Radio Quiet Quasars, Seyferts)

### The Unified Model (Urry&Padovani, 1995)



# **Relativistic jets in AGN**

## Open question:

- \* production mechanism of the jets
- \* particles that forms the plasma
- \* mechanism for the collimation of the jets
- \* role and morphology of the magnetic field
- \* etc...

Synchrotron emission: electrons that spiral around the magnetic field lines

### Common features: Core + Stationary or sub/superluminal knots

\* the nature of the **core** is still unclear

transition region between optically thick and optically thin emission

stationary recollimation shock caused by differences in pressure between the jet and the external medium





\* production mechanism of the stationary knots

jet bending that increases the doppler factor

**recollimation shock** where the particles are accelerated and the magnetic field is compressed and amplified leading to enhanced emission.





Image:Gemini Observatory



#### McKinney & Blandford (2009)

M87- Hubble Space Telescope







HST WFPC2 Visible

# The radiogalaxy 3C 20

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- blazarlike one-sided superluminal radio jet
- peculiar component located at 140 pc from the core (C80/A80) (Roca-Sogorb et al., 2010; Gómez et al., 2011)
- hight brightness temperature (~ 600 larger than expected at such distance)





**Doppler Boosting:** relativistic effect that increase the emission of the jet pointing toward us and a decrease in the emission of the counter jet.

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![](_page_9_Figure_9.jpeg)

(Roca-Sogorb et al. 2010)

## Faraday Rotation screen

**Faraday Rotation:** when an electromagnetic wave pass thought a magnetized plasma the polarization plane rotates

![](_page_10_Figure_2.jpeg)

Component C80/A80 has a small rotation measure of 20 ± 2  $rad \cdot m^{-2}$ , leading to a Faraday rotation in the EVPAs at our longest observing wavelength of 6 cm (5 GHz) of 4 degrees, within the estimated error in our absolute calibration of the EVPAs.

### our EVPA maps of C80/A80 are not affected by Faraday rotation.

![](_page_10_Picture_5.jpeg)

magnetic field along the line of sight

# Results

### The arc structure ~80 mas from the core

 $\checkmark$  a bubble-like extended emission region larger than ~20 mas along the jet axis and ~20 mas across the jet axis;

 $\sqrt{10}$  emission in C80/A80 shows a very peculiar structure in arc;

 $\checkmark$  hight temperature brightness (~ 600 larger than expected at such distance), as in Roca-Sogorb et al., 2010;

√ The orientation of the EVPAs in C80/A80 remain perpendicular to the arc structure;

![](_page_11_Picture_7.jpeg)

magnetic field compressed in a direction that closely follows the structure in arc seen in total intensity, as would be expected in the case of a *stationary shock*.

### Kinematics of B80-100 region

 $\checkmark$  A new bright and compact jet region located ~ 99 mas from the core (C99)

✓ C80 has remained stationary (Roca-Sogorb et al., 2010; Gomez et al., 2011), but downstream of its position component C90 and C99 reveal superluminal proper motion  $v_{C90} = 3.4 \pm 1.0c$  and  $v_{C99} = 3.0 \pm 1.1c$ ).

### Agudo I., Go mez J. L., Casadio C., Cawthorne T. V., Roca-Sogorb M., The Astrophysical Journal, 752, 92 (2012)

![](_page_11_Picture_14.jpeg)

# C80/A80, as a strong recollimation shock?

- Unusually high Tb;
- Stationarity ;
- Features moving at superluminal speed dowstream C80/A80 ;
- Peculiar structure in arc of the magnetic field;

![](_page_12_Picture_5.jpeg)

Our simulations based on the synchrotron emission from a conical shock, as described by Cawthorne (2006), reproduce quite closely the observed total and linearly polarized emission structure, the electric vector distribution, and the increased brightness temperature of C80/A80, allowing constraints on the values of the jet flow in 3C 120 and the geometry of the conical shock at ~ 80 mas from the core.

• C80, well described by numerical simulation of a conical recollimation shock with a cone angle of 10 degrees, a viewing angle of 16 degrees, and the upstream Lorentz factor  $\gamma_u = 8.4$ 

![](_page_12_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Picture_9.jpeg)

## A similar case in the nearest radiogalaxy: the recollimation shock in M87

![](_page_13_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **M87**

- nearby galaxy (D = 16Mpc),
- massive BH (6.4 x  $10^9 M_{sun}$ ),
- bright and resolved jet
- well studied at all wavelengths from radio to gamma

#### HST-1

- ~70pc from the core
- it emits at different frequencies
- at high resolution, composed by superluminal components

![](_page_13_Figure_11.jpeg)

HST- 1 is in the location where the jet of M87 changes from a parabolic to a conical shape. (Asada & Nakamura 2012)

#### Giroletti M. et al., Astronomy & Asrophysics (2012)

VLBA at 1.7 GHz + e-EVN at 5 GHz between June 2009 and October 2011

### <u>comp 1-2</u>

quite variable in flux and morphology superluminal speed ~ 4c

#### <u>comp 3</u>

superluminal speed ~ 6c appears only from 2010.45

Possible hypothesis: the third faint component is part of a weaker stationary emission located in the upstream that start to bright only when a new component pass trough it. (recollimation shock)

![](_page_14_Picture_0.jpeg)