

The Gould's Belt Very Large Array Survey II: The Serpens region

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ABSTRACT

We present deep ($\sim 17 \mu\text{Jy}$) radio continuum observations of the Serpens molecular cloud, the Serpens south cluster, and the W40 region obtained using the Very Large Array in its A configuration. We detect a total of 146 sources, 29 of which are young stellar objects (YSOs), 2 are BV stars and 5 more are associated with phenomena related to YSOs. Based on their radio variability and spectral index, we propose that about 16 of the remaining 110 unclassified sources are also YSOs. For approximately 65% of the known YSOs detected here as radio sources, the emission is most likely non-thermal, and related to stellar coronal activity. As also recently observed in Ophiuchus, our sample of YSOs with X-ray counterparts lies below the fiducial Güdel & Benz relation. Finally, we analyze the proper motions of 9 sources in the W40 region. This allows us to better constrain the membership of the radio sources in the region.

Subject headings: astrometry - magnetic fields - radiation mechanisms: non-thermal - radio continuum: stars - techniques: interferometric

1. Introduction

Radio continuum observations toward star-forming regions are relevant because they provide insights into thermal and non-thermal emission in young stellar objects (YSOs), stellar coronal activity of YSOs, and magnetic fields. Different processes are invoked to explain the origin of the radio emission in these different kinds of objects. Embedded Class I protostars have most often been detected as thermal bremsstrahlung sources, and this emission is predominantly due to collimated thermal winds or jets. In the case of more massive stars, the radio emission can also originate from optically thick or thin compact HII regions (Hughes 1988; Estalella et al. 1991; Gómez et al. 2000), or from ionized winds (Felli et al. 1998). Non-thermal (gyrosynchrotron) emission has also been detected in a number of sources. This mechanism produces radiation characterized by high brightness temperature, high variability, and often a negative spectral index and some level of circular polarization (e.g. Hughes 1991; Hughes et al. 1995; Garay et al. 1996). This non-thermal radio emission is generally present in more evolved YSOs (Class III sources), but it has also been detected in a number of Class II and even in a few Class I sources (e.g. Forbrich et al. 2007; Dzib et al. 2010; Deller et al. 2013). We note that very little has been done on the characterization of the Serpens, Serpens South and W40 regions at radio wavelengths.

The Aquila rift/Serpens complex is one of the clouds selected for observations as part of *The Gould’s Belt Distance Survey*, which is a large project designed to determine accurate distances to stars in the most often studied star-forming sites (Loinard 2013). In this paper we report on new sensitive and high angular resolution radio observations of the Serpens, Serpens South and W40 regions. This paper is the second (after that by Dzib et al. 2013 which dealt with the Ophiuchus region) in a series that will focus on the analysis of the radio emission from YSOs in the star-forming regions of the Gould’s Belt using the Karl G. Jansky Very Large Array (JVLA). The observations cover large fields of

view of the three regions: 900, 290 and 280 square arcminutes in Serpens, Serpens South and W40, respectively, i.e., considerably larger than previous observations carried out at radio wavelengths toward these regions.

The Serpens molecular cloud has been studied via multi-wavelength observations ever since it was recognized as an active star-forming region by Strom et al. (1974). The cloud belongs to a larger complex of local optically dark molecular clouds called the Aquila Rift, which, in turn, is part of the Gould’s Belt (e.g., Dame et al. 1987; Perrot & Grenier 2003). The Serpens cloud shows large scale irregular dark structures in optical images and several nebulae can be distinguished. One of the most prominent is the Serpens nebula, which is illuminated by the pre-main sequence (PMS) star SVS 2 (Strom et al. 1974, 1976, Worden & Grasdalen 1974, King et al. 1983, Warren-Smith et al. 1987, Gómez de Castro et al. 1988). The region, about 6’ across centered on the Serpens nebula, is known as the Serpens cloud core, and was described in early observations by Loren et al. (1979) as a nearly circular, high density formaldehyde (H_2CO) core. A more elongated structure extends in a North-West/South-East direction as seen, for instance, on maps of far-IR and NH_3 emission (e.g., Torrelles et al. 1989). The Serpens core is populated by more than ~ 300 objects found in many different evolutionary stages and coexisting within the central $\sim 0.5 - 0.7$ pc of the core (Eiroa et al. 2008 and references therein).

Near- and mid-infrared (IR) observations have identified a large number of Class II PMS stars, flat-spectrum sources and Class I protostars embedded in the cloud core (Eiroa & Casali 1992; Sogawa et al. 1997; Giovannetti et al. 1998; Kaas 1999; Kaas et al. 2004). Class 0 protostars and protostellar condensations have also been found by means of submillimeter, millimeter, and far-IR observations (Casali et al. 1993; Hurt & Barsony 1996; Testi & Sargent 1998). In addition, some of these YSOs have X-ray counterparts (Preibisch 1998, 2003, 2004; Giardino et al. 2007). *Spitzer*/IRAC and MIPS observations

extend to a larger region of $\sim 6 - 9$ pc (Harvey et al. 2006, 2007a, 2007b; Oliveira et al. 2010). Briefly, these most recent works identified at least two main centers of star formation, which were named Clusters A and B. Cluster A is the already described region referred to as the Serpens Core, while Cluster B, $\sim 35'$ to the south of Cluster A and also referred to as Serpens G3-G6, was not observed by us. At radio wavelengths, the Serpens Core has been observed by Eiroa et al. (2005) with the Very Large Array. A total of 22 radio continuum sources were detected, 16 of which were proposed to be associated with Class 0, Class I, flat spectrum, and Class II YSOs of the core. Scaife et al. (2012) carried out deep radio continuum observations at 1.8 cm with the Arcminute Microkelvin Imager Large Array (providing an angular resolution of ~ 30 arcsec) of the 19 protostellar cores reported in the *Spitzer* catalog of Dunham et al. (2008). They detected 8 radio sources, 6 possibly associated with deeply embedded young stellar objects.

At an angular distance of $\sim 3^\circ$ to the south of the center of the Serpens core lies the star forming region known as W40. Assuming a distance of 415 pc (see discussion below), this corresponds to a spatial distance of ~ 22 pc. Three main components are recognized in this region. First, the cold molecular cloud G28.8+3.5 (Goss & Shaver 1970) with an extent of ~ 1 deg, centered around the smaller ($\sim 20'$) dense molecular core, TGU 279–P7 (Dobashi et al. 2005). Second, there is a blister HII region (W40) of diameter $\sim 6'$ centered on J2000 coordinates $18^{\text{h}} 30^{\text{m}} 29^{\text{s}}$, $-2^\circ 05'4$, and adjacent to the molecular cloud (Westerhout 1958). Finally, the W40 region hosts an embedded OB star cluster that is the primary excitation source for the W40 HII region (Smith et al. 1985). There is evidence for on-going star formation from dense molecular material in this region, as suggested by the detection of an IRAS source, a cold ammonia core, and a number of millimeter-wave sources associated with the cluster (Molinari et al. 1996; Maury et al. 2011).

The stellar population of W40 has also been investigated through observations at

different wavelengths. Crutcher & Chu (1982) and Smith et al. (1985) found seven IR bright sources with optical counterparts behind 9–10 mag of visual extinction within the central 3' of W40. According to the spectral energy distributions (SEDs) from the IR through the millimeter obtained by Smith et al. (1985) and Vallee & MacLeod (1994), most of these bright sources are surrounded by significant amounts of circumstellar material. A cluster of near-IR sources is detected in the Two Micron All Sky Survey (2MASS) images within the central 5' (Smith et al. 1985). Recently, Rodríguez et al. (2010) observed the W40 region at 3.6 cm with the Very Large Array (VLA). They found a cluster of 20 compact sources in the central portion of the W40 IR cluster, many of which correspond to the known IR sources. The W40 cluster has also been observed with the Chandra X-Ray Observatory. These observations reveal approximately 200 sources associated with the cluster, the majority of which are thought to be low-mass YSOs (Kuhn et al. 2010). More recently, Shuping et al. (2012) determined the spectral classification and SEDs of the brightest members of the central stellar cluster in the W40 region. They identified four main sequence OB stars, two Herbig AeBe stars, and two low-mass YSOs (Class II).

Very close to W40 in projection on the plane of the sky lies an embedded cluster of IR sources referred to as Serpens South. This cluster was recently discovered by Gutermuth et al. (2008) from *Spitzer* observations of the Aquila rift region. They identified 54 sources classified as either Class I or flat SED and 37 Class II YSOs within a $14' \times 10'$ region.

Both clusters, Serpens South and W40, have been observed at $70 - 500 \mu\text{m}$ with the *Herschel* Space Telescope as part of the Gould Belt program (Bontemps et al. 2010; André et al. 2010; Könyves et al. 2010). The region observed toward the Aquila Rift is $\sim 3.3^\circ \times 3.3^\circ$ in size, with 7 YSOs safely classified as Class 0 objects, only in the reduced area of Serpens South (Bontemps et al. 2010). Additionally, around 45 (for $T_{\text{bol}}^{70-500} < 27 \text{ K}$) and 60 ($L_{\text{submm}}^{\lambda > 350} / L_{\text{bol}}^{70-500} > 0.03$) objects in the entire field of Aquila (W40, Serpens South

and the HII region Sh2-62) were proposed to be Class 0 YSOs. Maury et al. (2011) carried out a 1.2 mm dust continuum mapping of the Aquila complex with the MAMBO bolometer array on the IRAM 30m telescope. Twenty-five continuum sources were identified in the Serpens South protocluster and their evolutionary stages were estimated, resulting in 9 starless sources, 9 Class 0 and 7 Class 0/I protostars. In the W40 region, 35 sources were detected from these observations, separated into 14 starless, 8 Class 0, 4 Class 0/I and 9 Class I YSOs.

Additionally, a larger amount of YSOs have been identified in the Aquila/Serpens region by the c2d (“from Molecular Cores to Planet-Forming Disks”) and GB (“*Spitzer* Gould Belt Survey”) surveys (Dunham et al. 2013; Allen et al. in preparation). A total of 1524 YSOs with determined infrared spectral indexes and belonging to these regions are reported in their catalogs.

Early estimates of the distance to the Serpens molecular cloud seemed to converge toward a value of 260 pc (see the discussion in Eiroa et al. 2008). On the basis of radial velocity measurements from molecular line observations, Gutermuth et al. (2008) suggest that the Serpens South cluster is comoving with the Serpens Main embedded cluster 3° to the north, and, therefore, that it should be part of Serpens. They also assign a distance of 260 pc to the cluster, which corresponds to the distance to the front edge of the Aquila Rift (Straizys et al. 1996). Based on spectral types determined for a few main sequence stars in the W40 region, Shuping et al. (2012) estimated a distance to the W40 cluster of between 455 and 535 pc. Therefore, the W40 region and the Serpens South cluster (thought to be at 260 pc) are usually regarded as separate objects. On the other hand, Bontemps et al. (2010) argue that the W40 region, the Aquila Rift, and Serpens Main are parts of the same star-forming region, located at a common distance of 260 pc. However, more recently, based on a comparison of the X-ray Luminosity Function of the Serpens cluster with the

previously published Orion Nebula cluster, Winston et al. (2010) obtained a new distance for the Serpens core of 360_{-13}^{+22} pc, while Dzib et al. (2010) claimed a distance of 415 ± 5 pc to the same, based on a VLBA parallax of the embedded young AeBe star EC95. Given that the estimation of Dzib et al. (2010) is the most recent and accurate, in this paper we adopt a distance of 415 pc for the three regions in the Aquila complex, including Serpens, Serpens South, and W40.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 we present details of the JVLA observations; in Section 3 we describe the results, which are analyzed and discussed in Sections 4 and 5. Section 6 is a summary of our results.

2. Observations and data reduction

The Serpens molecular cloud, the W40 region and the Serpens South cluster were observed with the JVLA in its A configuration. Two frequency sub-bands, each 1 GHz wide, and centered at 4.5 and 7.5 GHz, respectively, were recorded simultaneously. The Serpens molecular cloud and the Serpens South cluster were observed in the same observing sessions on three different epochs (2011 June 17, July 19, and September 12 UT), using 25 and 4 pointings, respectively. The W40 region, on the other hand, was only observed on two epochs (2011 June 17 and July 16), using 13 pointings. This dual frequency strategy was chosen to enable the characterization of the spectral index of the detected sources, while the multi-epoch observations were aimed at determining the radio flux variability and helping in the identification of the emission mechanisms (thermal vs. non-thermal). The details of the observations are listed in Table 1. The 25 pointings were used to map an area of 900 (530) square arcminutes at 4.5 (7.5) GHz of the Serpens molecular cloud (see Figure 1). The covered area of the W40 region using the 13 pointings was 415 (280) square arcminutes at 4.5 (7.5) GHz. The 4 pointings used for the Serpens South cluster covered an area of

290 (110) square arcminutes at 4.5 (7.5) GHz (see Figure 1). The number of individual pointings observed toward the Serpens molecular cloud and the W40 region, as well as the spacing between them, were chosen to optimize the compromise between uniform sensitivity and inclusion of the largest possible number of known young stars.

3C 286 and J1804+010 were used as the standard flux and phase calibrator, respectively. The observations of the Serpens Molecular cloud and the Serpens South cluster were carried out in 2 hr scheduling blocks, while the observations of the W40 region in, 1 hr scheduling blocks. Each epoch consists of a 9 minute observation of the flux calibrator, followed by a series of two to four different target pointings (for 3 minutes each) bracketed by phase calibrator observations of 1 minute. Thus, three minutes were spent on each target field in each epoch. The data were edited and calibrated in a standard fashion using the Common Astronomy Software Applications package (CASA) version 3.4. Once calibrated, the data at each frequency were imaged (Stokes parameter I) using the CASA task `clean`. The 25 target pointings toward the Serpens Molecular cloud were used to construct a mosaic of 22400×20412 pixels with a pixel size of $0.09''$ at 4.5 GHz. This was done by setting the *imagermode* parameter to “mosaic” in the `clean` task. For the W40 region, the 13 target pointings were used to obtain a mosaic of 15552×18522 pixels with a pixel size of $0.09''$ at 4.5 GHz. The phase centers of the mosaics are indicated in Table 1. The 4 Serpens South cluster fields were imaged separately, using an image size of 6750 pixels in each dimension and a pixel size of $0.09''$ at 4.5 GHz. The pixel size for the images at 7.5 GHz was $0''.055$, and the number of pixels was adjusted to cover the same area as the images at 4.5 GHz. In order to take into account the non-coplanarity of the baselines far from the phase center, we set the *gridmode* parameter to “widefield” with *wprojplanes*=128 and *facets*=1. We also correct the images for the primary beam attenuation. The rms noise levels reached at each frequency and epoch are given in Table 1.

To produce images with improved sensitivity, the three or two epochs (in Serpens and W40 respectively) were combined and jointly imaged. The rms noise levels achieved after combining the epochs, as well as the synthesized beam (angular resolution) of the final maps, are also given in Table 1.

Gyrosynchrotron emission often (but not always) exhibits some level of circular polarization (Dulk 1985). To test for circular polarized radio emission, we produced images of the Stokes parameter V . The brightness distribution of the Stokes parameter V is obtained by applying the Fourier transform to the Stokes visibility function V_V , which is given by $V_V = 1/2 (V_{RR} - V_{LL})$, where V_{RR} is the correlation of the right circularly polarized responses, and V_{LL} is the correlation of those left circularly polarized.

We imaged the Stokes parameter V for all the 42 fields (25 of the Serpens molecular cloud, 4 of the Serpens South cluster, and 13 of the W40 region), separately at each frequency, and combined the three or two epochs. We did not apply any polarization correction in addition to the standard 6 cm continuum calibration. Also, in order to avoid beam squint (Dzib et al. 2013), only the inner quarter (in area) of the primary beam was tested, producing images of $4' \times 4'$ in size.

3. Results

3.1. Source identification

The identification of the radio sources was done through a visual inspection using the deep radio images. For the Serpens molecular cloud and the W40 region this means that we used the mosaics obtained after combining the epochs. For the Serpens South cluster we used the combined individual fields.

Once the sources were identified in those images, their fluxes as well as their positions

at 4.5 and 7.5 GHz were obtained by performing 2-dimensional Gaussian fittings, using the CASA task `imfit`. The results of these fittings are listed in Table 2. Sources are named GBS-VLA $Jhhmmss.ss - ddmms.s$, where GBS-VLA stands for Gould’s Belt Very Large Array Survey and $hhmmss.ss - ddmms.s$ are the coordinates of the source. We considered for the quoted flux densities in the table three sources of error: an error resulting from the statistical noise in the images, a systematic uncertainty of 5% from possible errors in the absolute flux calibration, and the uncertainty induced by the pointing error of the VLA primary beam, which was included following Dzib et al. (2014). Adding the three errors in quadrature, we obtained the total flux uncertainties listed in columns 3 and 5 of Table 2. When a source is detected only at one frequency, an upper limit on the flux density of that source at the other band is given. The upper limit corresponds to three times the rms noise of the area around the source position. We adopted the same criteria as Dzib et al. (2013) to consider a detection as firm. For new sources, i.e., those without reported counterparts in the literature, we considered 5σ detections, where σ is the rms noise of the area around the source. For known sources with counterparts in the literature, on the other hand, we included 4σ detections. According to these criteria, we detected 94 sources in the Serpens molecular cloud, 41 in the W40 region, and 8 in the Serpens South cluster, for a total of 143 detections. Out of the 143 sources, 69 are new detections (see Section 3.2).

In order to compare the flux density between epochs and then to estimate the flux variability on a timescale of months, we searched in the images obtained from the individual epochs the sources detected in the combined ones. The flux densities and positions of the sources in these individual images are not shown for the sake of brevity.

We investigated the number of false positives that could appear given the considerably large size of our mosaics. Assuming a Gaussian noise distribution, we estimated that the number of possible false sources with a 5σ flux level are 7 at both 4.5 and 7.5 GHz in the

Serpens mosaic. In the W40 mosaic, the number of possible false sources are 4 and 9 at 4.5 and 7.5 GHz, respectively. For a 6σ flux level, we found that the number of false sources are below 0.03 for both mosaics and at both frequencies. In Serpens, 5 sources were detected at 4.5 GHz with flux levels between $5 - 6\sigma$ and without counterparts at any other wavelengths (including counterparts at 7.5 GHz). At 7.5 GHz, only one source without counterparts (including counterparts at 4.5 GHz) was detected with a $5 - 6\sigma$ flux level. Therefore, these 6 sources could be false detections. In W40, all the sources without counterparts (including counterparts at 4.5 GHz or 7.5 GHz) were detected above 6σ , and therefore all sources reported in that region are real detections. We noted that in both mosaics, we consider a radio source to have a counterpart at either 4.5 or 7.5 GHz, only if it is detected at above 6σ .

3.2. Source counterparts

GBS-VLA source positions were compared with source positions from X-ray, optical, near-infrared, mid-infrared and radio catalogs. GBS-VLA sources were considered to have a counterpart at another wavelength when the positional coincidences were better than the combined uncertainties of the two datasets. These were about 1 arcsec for the infrared catalogs. For the X-ray and radio catalogs it depends on the instrument and its configuration. The search was done in SIMBAD, and included all the major catalogs (listed explicitly in the footnote of Table 3). We have also accessed the lists with all YSOs in the c2d-GB clouds compiled by Dunham et al. 2013 and Allen et al. (in preparation). In total, 354 c2d-GB sources lie inside the regions observed by us. In order to find their radio counterparts, we imaged regions of 64 pixels in each dimension, centered in the c2d-GB positions, and combining accordingly with each region, the three or two epochs. For this search we only used the field whose phase center was closest to the source. Three additional

radio sources were found in Serpens South in this pursuit, increasing the number of the radio detections to 146.

Out of 146 GBS-VLA sources, only 36 had previously been detected at radio wavelengths (column 7 of Table 3), while the other 110 are new radio detections from this survey. On the other hand, we found a total of 63 counterparts at X-ray, near- and mid-infrared wavelengths, some of which have known radio counterparts. In total, the number of sources that were previously known (at any frequency) is 77, while 69 of the sources in our sample are reported here for the first time.

The classification of the sources shown in column 8 of Table 3 was taken from the literature, and is based on the IR and X-ray properties of the sources. A total of 29 of the 77 sources with counterparts are firmly classified as YSOs, while HD 170634 (GBS-VLA J183024.87+011323.5) and W 40 IRS 5 (GBS-VLA J183114.82–020350.1) are typed as B7V and B1V stars, respectively. Two additional sources (GBS-VLA J183127.30–020504.5 and J183127.45–020512.0) are considered YSO candidates (Rodríguez et al. 2010). Three other sources have been associated with phenomena related to YSOs. Rodríguez et al. (2010) suggest that GBS-VLA J183128.67–020522.2 could correspond to a shock front from a thermal jet (possibly powered by GBS-VLA J183128.65–020529.8) interacting with the ambient interstellar medium. The sources GBS-VLA J183127.64–020513.5 and J183127.67–020519.7 have been considered as ultracompact HII (UCHII) region candidates, centered around young massive stars. However, Shuping et al. (2012) argue that this classification is unlikely, as the size of the unresolved radio sources at a distance of 500 pc would be less than 100 AU, much smaller than a typical UCHII region (Kurtz 2005). Instead they propose that the 3.6 cm continuum flux could be due to free-free emission from shocked gas within 100 AU of the YSO caused by a jet or outflow. We note that, out of the 15 radio sources reported by Rodríguez et al. (2010) with IR counterparts, seven were found by them

not to be time variable (sources GBS-VLA J183114.82–020350.1, J183122.32–020619.6, J183127.64–020513.5, J183127.67–020519.7, J183127.80–020521.9, J183128.01–020517.9, and J183128.65–020529.8). In our new observations, only GBS-VLA J183114.82–020350.1 and J183122.32–020619.6 are found to have high flux variability. However, when comparing our 7.5 GHz observations made in 2011 to those made at 8.3 GHz in 2003 and 2004 by Rodriguez et al. (2010), remarkably, all sources show significant variations, typically by factors of ~ 2 (see Appendix). We then conclude that the interpretation of the sources GBS-VLA J183127.64–020513.5 and J183127.67–020519.7 as steady UCHII regions (Rodriguez et al. 2010) is not correct, and that they are possibly gyrosynchrotron sources of slow time variability. If this is the case, they should be detectable as VLBI sources. The remaining 41 GBS-VLA sources with known counterparts at other wavelengths are, to our knowledge, not classified in the literature. In summary, we report a total of 110 unclassified sources, i.e., the 69 new detections plus the 41 sources that have previously been detected at other wavelengths but without a classification given in the literature.

3.3. Spectral index, variability and circular polarization

An estimation of the radio spectral index α (the flux density $S_\nu \propto \nu^\alpha$) was obtained for most of the sources using $\alpha = \log(S_\nu(4.5)/S_\nu(7.5))/\log(4.5 \text{ GHz}/7.5 \text{ GHz})$, where $S_\nu(4.5)$ and $S_\nu(7.5)$ are the flux densities at 4.5 and 7.5 GHz, respectively, and ν is the frequency of the incoming radiation. The spectral index is given in column 7 of Table 2.

The repeated observations allowed us to estimate the flux variation between the observed epochs at each frequency. Specifically, we determined the highest and lowest fluxes ($S_{\nu,\max}$ and $S_{\nu,\min}$, respectively) of the three or two epochs. The level of variability was then estimated as the ratio of the difference between these values to the highest measured flux, i.e., $\text{variability} = (S_{\nu,\max} - S_{\nu,\min})/S_{\nu,\max}$. The resulting values, expressed in percentages,

are given in columns 4 and 6 of Table 2. The quoted uncertainties in the table for the variability and spectral index were obtained, using standard error propagation theory, from the errors of the flux density (see Section 3.1). We considered as statistically significant only those variations that are above 3σ , where σ is the variability error of the source. In other words, we consider a source as variable if the normalized difference between its highest and lowest flux density is greater than zero within an error of 3σ .

Circular polarized radio emission was detected only from two sources in W40 (see Table 4). The identification of these sources was done also through a visual inspection in the Stokes V images and searching around the position of the radio sources detected in Stokes I emission. We required the signal-to-noise ratio in the Stokes V images to be greater than 5. Since the degree of circular polarization ($|V|/I$) of both sources is lower than 10%, we cannot safely associate the radio emission to gyrosynchrotron. As a consequence of the smaller size of the Stokes V images ($4' \times 4'$), only 76 sources out of 143 were tested. The rest of them lie outside of the Stokes V maps, but they could have circular polarization.

Given the existing deep X-ray, infrared, millimeter and sub-millimeter surveys carried out toward these regions, it is unlikely that a large fraction of the 110 unclassified sources are unidentified YSOs; however, we cannot rule out this possibility. In order to characterize the nature of the unclassified sources we analyze their radio properties. We find that 15 radio sources in the Serpens molecular cloud, and one source in the W40 region (Table 5) are compact, and have high levels of variability ($\gtrsim 50\%$ at a 3σ level) or a positive spectral index ($\geq +0.2$ within 1σ). Extragalactic sources do not usually show high variability on such a short timescale (e.g. Hovatta et al. 2007, 2008; Lovell et al. 2008) or have a positive spectral index, while the radio emission seen in many Class III and some youngest objects is highly variable (e.g. Feigelson & Montmerle 1985; Feigelson et al. 1998).

We propose then that these 16 unclassified sources are YSO candidates. The remaining

94 unclassified sources are then considered by us as extragalactic sources. Notice that sources with spectral indices larger than -0.1 could also be due to free-free radiation (Rodríguez et al. 1993). To firmly establish the nature of a radio continuum source we need observations of its morphology, spectral index, polarization, and time variability (Rodríguez et al. 2012).

4. Discussion

4.1. The lack of radio emission from Serpens South.

Approximately 120 YSOs from the c2d-GB catalog lie inside the region mapped by us in the Serpens South cluster. The detection of their radio counterparts is, surprisingly, very low. C2d-GB sources have only 3 radio counterparts in Serpens South (see Tables 2 and 3). These counterparts were detected with fluxes of $\lesssim 0.10$ mJy (or radio luminosities of $\lesssim 21 \times 10^{15}$ erg s $^{-1}$ Hz $^{-1}$, assuming a distance of 415 pc). Millimeter dust continuum data in combination with infrared Spitzer observations have suggested that the Serpens South cluster is very young (a few 10^5 yr; Fernández-López et al. 2014). It is then expected that the radio emission from most of the YSOs in the cluster is dominated by thermal emission from strong winds. Using equation (24) of Panagia & Felli (1975) and following Rodríguez et al. (1989), we estimated that for a spherical wind with a terminal velocity $v = 200$ km s $^{-1}$, an electron temperature $T_e = 10^4$ K and a mass-loss rate of 10^{-7} M $_{\odot}$ yr $^{-1}$, the radio flux density at a distance of 415 pc is ~ 0.34 mJy at 4.5 GHz. If the cluster is more distant, i.e. at 700 pc, the radio flux decreases to ~ 0.12 mJy at 4.5 GHz, which is just equal to the sensitivity limit of our observations toward that region ($5\sigma = 0.12$ mJy). It is then possible that we are not detecting the radio flux from the YSO population in Serpens South because the cluster is more distant than thought.

4.2. Background sources

We see from the previous section that a considerable fraction of the radio sources detected are likely extragalactic objects (67 in the Serpens cloud, 19 in W40 and 8 in Serpens South, giving a total of 94 sources). In order to estimate the number of expected background radio sources, we follow Anglada et al. (1998), who took into account the Gaussian primary-beam response of the VLA antennas. Considering that at 4.5 GHz the half-power width of the primary beam of the VLA is $\sim 10'$, we find that the number of expected radio sources in each field with a flux greater than $S_{4.5}$ at 4.5 GHz is given by

$$N_{4.5} = 1.21 \left(\frac{S_{4.5}}{\text{mJy}} \right)^{-0.75}. \quad (1)$$

The 25 pointings used to map the Serpens molecular cloud correspond to a total area of $25 \cdot \pi \cdot (10'/2)^2 = 1963.5$ square arcminutes at 4.5 GHz. However, because of the overlapping between them, the effective covered area was 900 square arcminutes at 4.5 GHz, which is equivalent to 11 fields.

Therefore, using equation 1, we find that 105 background sources with a flux $\geq 64 \mu\text{Jy}$ (5σ) at 4.5 GHz are predicted to lie within the mapped area of the Serpens molecular cloud. The same exercise gives 40 and 23 background sources expected in the W40 region and the Serpens South cluster, respectively. Hence, we have detected fewer extragalactic objects than expected by the count of Anglada et al. (1998) in the three regions, and we are statistically justified to assume that all of them are background and not associated with the region. Of course, this is subject to statistical variations.

4.3. Radio properties of the YSO population

We analyze the radio properties of the YSOs detected in our observations. A subset of the detected YSOs with radio emission have a SED classification reported in the literature

(see Table 6 and references listed in its column 7). Out of the 29 YSOs, 8 are Class I or Flat, 5 Class II and 12 Class III objects. In Figure 2 we plot the spectral index of these 25 objects as a function of evolutionary status. The mean values of each category are indicated by the large blue circles. We see that, given the large uncertainties involved, it is not possible to distinguish between different evolutionary classes based on the spectral index from flux densities at 4.5 and 7.5 GHz. We note, however, that there are two Class I stars with a very negative spectral index. This will be discussed later in section 5. Notice also that most of the Class I YSOs we have detected have flux densities below $75 \mu\text{Jy}$ (6σ). For those sources, systematic errors are important, and the spectral index and variability errors are large. For example, GBS-VLA J182957.60+011300.2 could have a positive index (+0.4) if we consider 1σ dispersion.

Out of the 25 detected Class I-III objects, 20 have a variability determination at either 4.5 GHz or 7.5 GHz. Figure 3 shows the level of variability as a function of the evolutionary status for these 20 objects. We see that the older class (Class III) is populated by objects with very high variable emission. In the same plot, we show the weighted average of variability for each evolutionary class. While Class I and Class II sources have weighted average variability lower than 50%, the weighted average variability of Class III is $\sim 80\%$. In order to test if variability increases with age, as is suggested by the plot, we carried out a Kolmogorov-Smirnov (K-S) test on the three YSO classes. The null hypothesis to test is that the variability distributions of different classes are drawn from the same distribution. Figure 4 shows the cumulative probability distributions. The D statistic gives the absolute maximum distance between the cumulative distributions of two samples. The D statistic is $D_{\text{I-II}} = 1.16$ for class I and II distributions, $D_{\text{I-III}} = 0.89$ for class I and III distributions, and $D_{\text{II-III}} = 0.65$ for class II and III distributions. The p -value gives the probability of obtaining the observed distributions when the null hypothesis is true. We obtained a p -value of $p_{\text{I-II}} = 0.13$ for class I and II distributions, $p_{\text{I-III}} = 0.4$ for class I and III distributions,

and $p_{II-III} = 0.79$, for class II and III distributions. Assuming that sample pairs with $p < 0.10$ are taken from different distribution functions with high significance, we cannot reject the null hypothesis. This result may be affected by the small number of YSOs in the samples, and the large uncertainties of the variability. However we are interested in test this tendency in a forthcoming paper, using the whole sample of YSOs detected toward the Ophiuchus, Orion, Perseus and Taurus-Auriga regions.

We weighted average the variability of the YSO candidates identified in our observations (Table 5). This average is shown as a horizontal line in Figure 3. Interestingly, we find that the weighted average variability ($\sim 90\%$) of the YSO candidates is closest to the averaged variability of the Class III known YSOs. This suggests that it might be a largest population of Class III sources out of our YSO candidates.

4.4. The X-ray – radio relation

For active stellar coronae, Güdel & Benz (1993) found a correlation between X-ray and radio luminosities, L_X and L_R , respectively, which holds for X-ray luminosities over six orders of magnitude. The interpretation of this empirical relation is that the mechanism responsible for accelerating the non-thermal electrons that emit in the radio continuum also heats the coronal plasma, and this gives rise to the thermal X-ray flux. Class Me dwarfs, Ke dwarfs and BY Dra stars, which typically have low luminosities, satisfy

$$\frac{L_X}{L_R} \approx 10^{15.5 \pm 1} \text{ [Hz]}. \quad (2)$$

More luminous classes (WTTS, RS CVn’s binaries, Algols and FK Com stars) are systematically less X-ray bright compared to their radio luminosity, and fulfill

$$L_X/L_R \lesssim 10^{15.5} \text{ [Hz]}. \quad (3)$$

We study the $L_X - L_R$ relation for the YSOs with X-ray counterparts in our sample.

A total of 29 radio sources have X-ray counterparts, 23 of which are YSOs. However, we consider only YSOs with high radio variability or with a negative or flat spectral index (a subset of 18 Class I-III sources), thereby excluding sources that could be not coronal. Also, we have corrected all X-ray luminosities to the distance of 415 pc adopted in this work (see the discussion in Section 1). The corrected luminosity L_0 was obtained using $L_0 = (d_0/d)^2 L$, where L is the luminosity of the source assuming a distance d , and d_0 the new adopted distance.

Following Güdel & Benz (1993), we place our subset of YSOs in the $L_X - L_R$ diagram (Figure 5), and compare with the relations already determined for stars of different classes with magnetic activity. Also plotted in Figure 5 are the YSOs detected in the Ophiuchus complex by Dzib et al. (2013). We find that the YSOs we have detected in Serpens and W40, as well as the sample of YSOs in Ophiuchus, do not follow the Güdel-Benz relation for dwarf stars (equation 2). Conversely, they fulfill $L_X/L_R \lesssim 10^{15.5}$ [Hz]. Güdel & Benz (1993) proposed that the deviation from the relation with slope equal to 1 is likely a result of the sources having larger magnetospheres, which causes longer trapping times for the radio-emitting high-energy particles.

Lower X-ray fluxes than the relation given by equation (2) could also be explained if the photons are absorbed by gas in front of the clouds. Kuhn et al. (2010) determined the visual absorption A_V toward their W40 sources from a J vs. $J-H$ diagram. Our radio sources with counterparts in the catalog of Kuhn et al. (2010) have visual absorptions ranging from 6 to 22 magnitudes. Using the standard conversion $N_H = (1.8 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-2} \times A_V$ (Predehl & Schmitt 1995), we find that the values of $A_V = 6 - 22$ imply absorbing column densities of $N(\text{H}) \sim 1 - 4 \times 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$. In the Serpens core, Giardino et al. (2007) report column densities of $N(\text{H}) \sim 0.5 - 7.4 \times 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ for our YSOs with radio emission. Another possibility for the deviation from relation (2) is a bias toward the brightest sources at the

X-ray band in the Güdel-Benz relation. According to this interpretation, the full area below the relation could be populated with fainter coronal sources. In fact, the YSOs in Serpens and Ophiuchus lie below the stars analyzed in the original study of Güdel & Benz (1993).

4.5. Proper motions of YSOs in the W40 region

Rodríguez et al. (2010) observed the W40 region at 3.6 cm with the VLA in its A and B array configurations. We use the observations obtained with the A configuration (2004 September 18) to estimate the angular displacement of the sources between then and our own observations 7 years later, in 2011. The phase calibrator J1804+010 was used in all observing runs. In total, only 9 compact sources are detected at both epochs (see Table 7). Notice that the displacement of the sources generated by their trigonometric parallax ($p'' = 1/D$ [pc]) is 2.4 mas for a distance of $D = 415$ pc, which is comparable to or even lower, by one order of magnitude, than the position errors of these sources (2 – 15 mas). Therefore, we do not consider the contribution from the parallax to the angular displacement of the sources. The proper motions in right ascension, $\mu_\alpha \cos(\delta)$, and declination, μ_δ , are given in Table 7 and plotted in Figure 6. We also see that, with the exception of GBS-VLA J183122.32-020619.6 (RRR W40-VLA 3), all the sources are moving in the same direction with a mean absolute value $\mu_{total} = 12.7$ mas yr⁻¹. The average proper motions in right ascension and declination of these 8 sources are $\mu_\alpha \cos(\delta) = -8.0$ mas yr⁻¹ and $\mu_\delta = -9.7$ mas yr⁻¹. The sources GBS-VLA J183122.32-020619.6, J183123.62-020535.8, J183126.02-020517.0, and J183128.65-020529.8 (RRR W40-VLA 3, 5, 8 and 18) are associated with YSOs and, in fact, they all have non-zero proper motions. Rodríguez et al (2010) suggested that GBS-VLA J183127.30-020504.5 (RRR W40-VLA 9) is a YSO candidate, while we propose that GBS-VLA J183127.67-020519.7 (RRR W40-VLA 14) is a gyrosynchrotron source. The movements of these sources are similar to most of the stars

reported in Table 7, confirming that both objects are Galactic. It has been posited by Rodríguez et al. (2010) that GBS-VLA J183128.67-020522.2 (RRR W40-VLA 19) is a shock front from a thermal jet (possibly powered by GBS-VLA J183128.65-020529.8). We note that this source has not been detected at infrared, optical or X-rays wavelengths, which suggests that it is not a YSO. Its proper motion is the largest of the group and this could be due to an intrinsic motion. The expected proper motions for objects in the direction toward W40 at a distance of 415 pc are $\mu_\alpha \cos(\delta) = 0.76 \text{ mas yr}^{-1}$ and $\mu_\delta = -5.61 \text{ mas yr}^{-1}$. These values are smaller than our estimations and probably this could be due to a systematic error (like an offset in the position of the phase calibrator in the archive data). However, we have investigated this possibility and do not find any offset. It is also possible that the cluster has a peculiar velocity.

5. Comments on individual sources

The source W 40 IRS 1d (GBS-VLA J183127.65–020509.7) was classified as a single source by Smith et al. (1985), but it has been recently resolved in the near-IR into a small cluster of at least 7 distinct sources by Shuping et al. (2012). The position of the X-ray source associated with it, however, comes from a high resolution ($0''.5$) X-ray image of the Chandra telescope. The source is classified as an intermediate-mass YSO ($\sim 4 M_\odot$; Kuhn et al. 2010) and coincident, within the error, with the position of the radio source. Thus, we will consider that W 40 IRS 1d is associated to this young star. Also, this source does not show K_s -band-excess (Kuhn et al. 2010), a fact that, along with its determined mass, suggests that the source may be an HAeBe star. The source W 40 IRS 5 (GBS-VLA J183114.82–020350.1) was first classified as a foreground star due to its lack of significant infrared absorption (Kuhn et al. 2010). However, more recently, Shuping et al. (2012) classified this source as a B1V star. They also obtained an extinction toward it similar to

that of other stars in the cluster. Moreover, the distance determined to this source (~ 469 pc) is coincident with that determined to three additional OB stars in the region. This strongly suggests that W 40 IRS 5 is part of the cluster and not a foreground star, as proposed by Kuhn et al. (2010).

The sources NVSS 182934+011504 and NVSS 182951+012131, from the catalog of Condon et al. (1998), are resolved into double sources in our observations (Figures 7 and 8), while NVSS 183059+012512 is resolved into a triple source (Figure 9). Given the angular separation between the GBS-VLA sources and the peak of their NVSS counterparts as well as the uncertainties in their positions, we associated NVSS 182934+011504, NVSS 182951+012131, and NVSS 183059+012512 with GBS-VLA J182935.02+011503.2, GBS-VLA J182951.22+012132.0, and GBS-VLA J183059.74+012511.7, respectively (Table 3). Three GBS-VLA sources lie inside the source DCE08-210 5 (size $\sim 1'$; Figure 7), detected by Scaife et al. (2012), and it is likely that this source includes multiple contributions, so it is difficult to attribute the 16 GHz emission conclusively to a specific GBS-VLA source. On the other hand, although DCE08-210 1 is resolved into 6 sources (Figure 10), GBS-VLA J182949.79+011520.4 is the strongest source closer to the peak of the 16 GHz emission; therefore, we associate DCE08-210 5 with GBS-VLA J182949.79+011520.4.

5.1. Non-thermal radio emission from YSOs

In Table 6 we list the radio properties of the 29 YSOs detected. As we already mentioned, non-thermal gyrosynchrotron radio emission is characterized by high radio variability, and often a negative spectral index and some level of circular polarization. Out of the 12 Class III objects detected, 8 show high levels of variability or have a negative spectral index. We thus consider these 8 objects as possible sources of non-thermal emission. Four Class II objects and, interestingly, four Class I sources could also be

non-thermal. Additionally, the Herbig AeBe star GBS-VLA J183127.80–020521.9, the proto-Herbig AeBe star (P-HAeBe) GBS-VLA J182957.89+011246.0, and the source GBS-VLA J183128.01–020517.9 are likely non-thermal radio sources. This gives us a high fraction (65%) of the YSOs detected in our observations being non-thermal radio sources. An independent clue of the nature of the emission of these objects will be provided by their detection (of lack thereof) in forthcoming VLBA observations.

The Class I objects with possible non-thermal emission are GBS-VLA J182951.17+011640.4, J182952.22+011547.4, J182959.55+011158.1, and J182959.94+011311.3. Previously, some Class I objects in different star forming regions have been reported as non-thermal emitters (Feigelson et al. 1998; Deller et al. 2013; Forbrich et al. 2007). One explanation for the detection of non-thermal radio emission from these objects (which should be absorbed by the ionized wind of the star) is a geometrical effect. According to this scenario, if the star is seen nearly pole-on or nearly edge-on, then the non-thermal radio emission originating in the corona might be less absorbed by the surrounding material and can reach the observer. Another possibility is tidal clearing of circumstellar material in a tight binary system (Dzib et al. 2010).

5.2. EC 95

EC 95 = GBS-VLA J182957.89+011246.0 is a tight binary (angular separation of ~ 15 mas) consisting of a proto-Herbig AeBe star and a possibly low-mass T-Tauri companion. Both components were detected with the VLBA and are therefore non-thermal radio sources (Dzib et al. 2010). The origin of this non-thermal emission has been proposed to be intrinsic magnetic activity in the stars. The magnetic activity in the low-mass T-Tauri companion is related to magnetic reconnection in the stellar surface. Electrons are then accelerated to mildly relativistic velocities and generate gyrosynchrotron radiation. On

the other hand, intermediate-mass stars are not expected to be magnetically active. Some processes have been suggested to explain the origin of the non-thermal radio emission in the proto-Herbig AeBe star (see Dzib et al. 2010), but still need to be tested.

We derive a spectral index for the system of 0.1 ± 0.2 , which is consistent within 1σ with an early estimation by Smith et al. (2009), who found -0.26 ± 0.26 . We determined a high variability at 4.5 and 7.5 GHz (65 % and 62 %, respectively). We note that in the VLBA observations obtained by Dzib et al. (2010) both components were found to be very variable, at levels of $\sim 94\%$, and so the variability we derive should be associated with the intrinsic variability of the stars. In conclusion, the radio properties we obtain for this system are consistent with the non-thermal nature of the sources.

6. Summary

We have carried out new radio observations of three regions in the Aquila complex of local dark molecular clouds, namely the Serpens molecular cloud, the Serpens South cluster, and the W40 region. We covered a large field of view ($\sim 0.45 \text{ deg}^2$) and, combined with high angular resolution ($\sim 0''.3$) and sensitivity ($\sim 17 \mu\text{Jy}$), our study surpasses previous observations of these regions. We have detected a total of 146 sources. Twenty-nine of them are associated with YSOs and 110 are new radio detections. The multi-epoch and dual frequency strategy allow us to speculate on the nature of the radio emission of the sources. In particular, we find that 16 of the unclassified sources have a positive spectral index or exhibit high variability. They might, hence, correspond to a small population of as-yet unidentified YSOs. What is more interesting is that approximately 65% of the identified YSOs are non-thermal sources, of which 50% are bright enough and therefore excellent targets for future astrometric observations with VLBI instruments.

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A. Appendix material

For the 14 sources of the catalog by Rodríguez et al. (2010) that are detected in our observations we carried out an independent analysis of variability. In order to compare the flux densities of our observations at 7.5 GHz with the fluxes of Rodríguez et al. (2010) at 8.3 GHz, we extrapolated using the corresponding spectral indices (see Table A1). Unfortunately, in the paper of Rodríguez et al. (2010) no errors are given for the flux densities of the sources (because the flux densities reported are the average of the two epochs observed). Assuming a typical error of 20%, we find that the flux densities of three of the 14 sources detected in both studies are consistent within $\pm 1\sigma$. The remaining 11 sources show different flux densities for the two studies. Nine of the sources show a stronger flux density in the Rodríguez et al. (2010) paper, while the remaining 2 show a stronger flux density in this paper. This diversity seems to rule out that the sources are steady and that there is a systematic calibration error in one of the two studies (because then we would expect all sources to appear as brighter in one of the two studies). Finally, it should be stressed that in the Rodríguez et al. (2010) paper, that reported observations in two different epochs separated by 0.88 yr (2003 November 3 and 2004 September 18), three of these 11 sources were already reported as time variable. Since the present paper offers a larger time baseline (about a decade), we expect the sources to exhibit even more variability between the two studies.

Table A1. W40 sources of the catalog of Rodríguez et al. (2010) detected in our observations.

GBS-VLA name	RRR W40-VLA number ^a	RRR Flux density [8.3 GHz] (mJy)	GBS Flux density [7.5 GHz] (mJy)	Spectral index	RRR extrapolated flux density [7.5 GHz] (mJy)
J183114.82-020350.1	1	0.92±0.18	0.42±0.07	+0.3±0.2	0.89±0.18
J183115.28-020415.2	2	0.90±0.18	0.44±0.07	-1.2±0.2	1.02±0.20
J183122.32-020619.6	3	0.47±0.09	1.13±0.22	+1.1±0.2	0.42±0.08
J183123.62-020535.8	5	3.97±0.79	3.32±0.45	-0.1±0.1	4.01±0.80
J183126.02-020517.0	8	3.27±0.65	0.75±0.09	-0.6±0.2	3.48±0.70
J183127.30-020504.5	9	0.99±0.20	0.45±0.07	-0.2±0.3	1.01±0.20
J183127.45-020512.0	10	0.82±0.16	3.17±0.34	+0.3±0.2	0.80±0.16
J183127.64-020513.5	12	1.64±0.33	0.65±0.11	-0.6±0.3	1.74±0.35
J183127.65-020509.7	13	0.86±0.17	0.77±0.08	+0.1±0.2	0.85±0.17
J183127.67-020519.7	14	5.78±1.16	3.49±0.40	+0.0±0.1	5.78±1.16
J183127.80-020521.9	15	1.71±0.34	1.24±0.15	-0.3±0.2	1.76±0.35
J183128.01-020517.9	16	0.94±0.19	0.50±0.07	-0.4±0.2	0.98±0.20
J183128.65-020529.8	18	11.1±2.22	4.79±0.71	-0.7±0.2	11.9±2.38
J183128.67-020522.2	19	0.20±0.04	0.25±0.04	-0.4±0.3	0.21±0.04

^aThe numbers in this column refer to the VLA source number in the catalog of Rodríguez et al. (2010).

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Table 1. JVLA observations

Region	Epoch ¹	Time ² (UTC)	Phase center J2000	Synthesized beam		rms noise ³ (μ Jy beam ⁻¹)	
				$(\theta_{\text{maj}} \times \theta_{\text{min}}; \text{P.A.})$		4.5 GHz	7.5 GHz
				4.5 GHz	7.5 GHz	4.5 GHz	7.5 GHz
Serpens cloud (mosaic)	1	Jun.17 07:59	18h30m00.0s + 01d12'37.0''	$0.42 \times 0.36; -58.8$	$0.23 \times 0.22; +100.7$	19.3	21.5
	2	Jul.19 04:25		$0.49 \times 0.38; +63.7$	$0.31 \times 0.23; +66.9$	19.9	23.9
	3	Sep.12 03:47		$0.39 \times 0.37; +58.6$	$0.25 \times 0.23; +50.4$	25.0	29.6
	C	–		$0.40 \times 0.39; +96.1$	$0.25 \times 0.23; +62.2$	12.7	14.4
W40 (mosaic)	1	Jun.17 09:30	18h31m20.0s – 02d05'00.0''	$0.45 \times 0.39; +90.4$	$0.26 \times 0.23; +54.2$	22.8	28.0
	2	Jul.16 06:35		$0.40 \times 0.39; +12.0$	$0.25 \times 0.24; +33.9$	21.3	23.1
	C	–		$0.41 \times 0.40; +75.8$	$0.25 \times 0.23; +40.5$	16.0	18.3
Serpens South (field 1)	1	Jun.17 07:59	18h30m19.9s – 02d13'42.0''	$0.46 \times 0.33; +124.0$	$0.29 \times 0.21; -56.6$	38.2	29.9
	2	Jul.19 04:25		$0.53 \times 0.39; +86.3$	$0.34 \times 0.24; +86.8$	41.5	32.4
	3	Sep.12 03:47		$0.37 \times 0.34; -13.3$	$0.23 \times 0.22; -40.0$	47.8	33.8
	C	–		$0.44 \times 0.37; -67.1$	$0.27 \times 0.23; -70.3$	24.0	18.5
Serpens South (field 2)	1	Jun.17 07:59	18h30m07.8s – 02d02'49.1''	$0.45 \times 0.33; -56.1$	$0.29 \times 0.21; +123.4$	39.1	31.0
	2	Jul.19 04:25		$0.53 \times 0.39; +89.9$	$0.33 \times 0.24; +85.3$	41.9	34.3
	3	Sep.12 03:47		$0.37 \times 0.34; -13.0$	$0.23 \times 0.22; -36.9$	48.1	36.5
	C	–		$0.44 \times 0.37; +114.2$	$0.27 \times 0.23; -70.7$	24.6	19.4
Serpens South (field 3)	1	Jun.17 07:59	18h29m49.2s – 01d49'45.0''	$0.45 \times 0.33; -57.5$	$0.23 \times 0.22; -50.7$	38.4	28.7
	2	Jul.19 04:25		$0.52 \times 0.39; +83.0$	$0.33 \times 0.24; +83.1$	37.8	31.8
	3	Sep.12 03:47		$0.35 \times 0.35; -36.5$	$0.23 \times 0.22; -52.0$	47.1	33.6
	C	–		$0.43 \times 0.37; -72.0$	$0.25 \times 0.23; +94.2$	23.3	18.1
Serpens South (field 4)	1	Jun.17 07:59	18h29m45.1s – 01d56'17.4''	$0.45 \times 0.33; +123.5$	$0.23 \times 0.22; -45.9$	39.6	29.3
	2	Jul.19 04:25		$0.51 \times 0.39; +80.4$	$0.33 \times 0.24; +82.0$	41.0	31.5

Table 1—Continued

Region	Epoch ¹	Time ² (UTC)	Phase center J2000	Synthesized beam		rms noise ³ ($\mu\text{Jy beam}^{-1}$)	
				($\theta_{\text{maj}} \times \theta_{\text{min}}$; P.A.) 4.5 GHz	7.5 GHz	4.5 GHz	7.5 GHz
	3	Sep.12 03:47		0.37×0.34 ; +2.1	0.23×0.22 ; -25.0	74.1	73.0
	C	–		0.45×0.38 ; -72.2	0.26×0.23 ; +93.9	27.1	20.9

¹C indicates parameters measured in the images after combining the epochs.

²Start time of the observing sessions. All epochs were observed in 2011.

³Measured at the center of the Stokes I image.

Table 2. Radio sources detected in Serpens

GBS-VLA Name/Position	New detection? ¹	Flux density [4.5 GHz] (mJy)	Variability [4.5 GHz] (%)	Flux density [7.5 GHz] (mJy)	Variability [7.5 GHz] (%)	Spectral Index
Detected sources in the Serpens molecular cloud:						
J182850.71+011102.7	Y	0.28 ± 0.05	38 ± 19	–	–	–
J182851.30+010908.6	N	8.77 ± 1.72	14 ± 24	–	–	–
J182851.48+010947.3	Y	0.16 ± 0.03	50 ± 17	–	–	–
J182854.44+011859.7	Y	0.18 ± 0.02	6 ± 22	0.12 ± 0.03	25 ± 31	-0.9 ± 0.3
J182854.46+011823.7	Y	3.13 ± 0.32	44 ± 9	5.72 ± 1.18	17 ± 24	1.2 ± 0.1
J182854.87+011753.0	Y	0.08 ± 0.02	$>44 \pm 19$	0.10 ± 0.03	–A–	0.4 ± 0.5
J182901.40+010434.7	N	0.45 ± 0.08	26 ± 19	–	–	–
J182903.06+012331.0	Y	0.36 ± 0.07	25 ± 21	–	–	–
J182903.13+010346.0	Y	0.06 ± 0.02	–A–	–	–	–
J182905.07+012309.0	N	0.12 ± 0.02	38 ± 20	–	–	–
J182906.84+011742.7	N	6.46 ± 0.39	8 ± 8	6.10 ± 0.53	14 ± 11	-0.1 ± 0.1
J182907.07+011801.9	Y	2.82 ± 0.18	Extended	1.67 ± 0.16	Extended	-1.1 ± 0.2
J182907.62+012125.1	N	0.10 ± 0.02	29 ± 22	<0.04	–	$<-1.9 \pm 0.3$
J182910.17+012559.5	N	1.41 ± 0.25	71 ± 8	–	–	–
J182911.94+012119.4	Y	0.35 ± 0.05	28 ± 16	0.41 ± 0.11	18 ± 31	0.3 ± 0.2
J182912.01+011415.1	Y	0.08 ± 0.01	$>14 \pm 21$	0.07 ± 0.02	$>45 \pm 25$	-0.2 ± 0.5
J182913.17+010906.4	N	0.51 ± 0.04	19 ± 12	0.60 ± 0.08	8 ± 18	0.3 ± 0.2
J182913.36+011544.3	Y	0.20 ± 0.03	19 ± 20	0.07 ± 0.02	$>40 \pm 25$	-2.1 ± 0.5
J182913.79+010738.6	N	0.06 ± 0.01	36 ± 25	0.10 ± 0.02	$>26 \pm 20$	0.9 ± 0.5
J182916.11+010437.5	N	0.21 ± 0.03	41 ± 16	0.25 ± 0.06	52 ± 19	0.4 ± 0.2
J182918.23+011757.7	N	0.38 ± 0.05	32 ± 15	0.26 ± 0.07	41 ± 24	-0.8 ± 0.2
J182926.71+012342.1	N	0.18 ± 0.02	30 ± 13	0.11 ± 0.02	34 ± 25	-1.0 ± 0.4
J182928.02+011156.5	N	0.19 ± 0.02	18 ± 18	0.09 ± 0.02	–A–	-1.5 ± 0.5
J182928.28+011205.7	N	0.21 ± 0.04	52 ± 19	<0.05	–	$<-3.1 \pm 0.4$
J182929.78+012158.1	N	0.07 ± 0.01	–A–	0.06 ± 0.02	–A–	-0.2 ± 0.6
J182930.71+010048.3	N	32.10 ± 5.60	Extended	–	–	–
J182932.21+012104.6	Y	0.10 ± 0.01	52 ± 15	0.06 ± 0.02	$>20 \pm 27$	-0.8 ± 0.5
J182933.07+011716.3	N	0.27 ± 0.03	73 ± 5	0.32 ± 0.05	74 ± 9	0.3 ± 0.2

Table 2—Continued

GBS-VLA Name/Position	New detection? ¹	Flux density [4.5 GHz] (mJy)	Variability [4.5 GHz] (%)	Flux density [7.5 GHz] (mJy)	Variability [7.5 GHz] (%)	Spectral Index
J182934.12+010810.9	Y	2.06 ± 0.17	16 ± 11	2.14 ± 0.33	20 ± 18	0.1 ± 0.1
J182934.32+011513.9	N	0.73 ± 0.13	Extended	0.12 ± 0.02	>48 ± 12	-3.7 ± 0.5
J182935.02+011503.2	N	0.35 ± 0.05	21 ± 15	0.21 ± 0.03	34 ± 18	-1.0 ± 0.3
J182935.11+011503.6	N	0.50 ± 0.07	Extended	<0.05	–	<-4.8 ± 0.3
J182936.50+012317.0	N	0.29 ± 0.04	35 ± 14	0.21 ± 0.05	39 ± 24	-0.7 ± 0.2
J182937.76+010314.6	N	0.60 ± 0.06	13 ± 16	0.33 ± 0.06	32 ± 19	-1.2 ± 0.2
J182938.87+011850.4	Y	0.15 ± 0.02	30 ± 16	0.13 ± 0.02	35 ± 23	-0.4 ± 0.3
J182939.09+011233.6	Y	0.13 ± 0.02	9 ± 24	0.05 ± 0.02	>19 ± 33	-1.9 ± 0.6
J182940.03+011051.2	Y	0.09 ± 0.01	>32 ± 15	0.09 ± 0.02	45 ± 23	0.0 ± 0.4
J182944.07+011921.1	N	4.49 ± 0.24	21 ± 6	4.64 ± 0.27	5 ± 8	0.1 ± 0.1
J182948.83+010647.4	N	0.50 ± 0.05	29 ± 13	0.76 ± 0.13	6 ± 23	0.8 ± 0.2
J182948.92+011523.8*	Y	0.06 ± 0.01	>62 ± 10	<0.04	–	<-0.5 ± 0.5
J182949.42+011526.2	Y	0.72 ± 0.09	Extended	0.28 ± 0.05	Extended	-1.9 ± 0.4
J182949.50+011955.8	Y	2.44 ± 0.16	18 ± 8	1.63 ± 0.16	7 ± 13	-0.8 ± 0.1
J182949.54+011523.8	Y	0.16 ± 0.02	76 ± 7	<0.04	–	<-2.5 ± 0.3
J182949.60+011522.9	Y	0.18 ± 0.02	71 ± 8	0.14 ± 0.03	64 ± 14	-0.5 ± 0.4
J182949.79+011520.4	N	0.88 ± 0.07	43 ± 9	0.99 ± 0.10	23 ± 13	0.2 ± 0.2
J182950.34+011515.3	Y	0.33 ± 0.04	11 ± 20	0.20 ± 0.04	>61 ± 18	-1.0 ± 0.4
J182951.04+011533.8	N	0.61 ± 0.05	41 ± 9	0.58 ± 0.07	46 ± 11	-0.1 ± 0.2
J182951.17+011640.4	N	0.09 ± 0.02	>51 ± 16	0.07 ± 0.02	>30 ± 22	-0.3 ± 0.5
J182951.17+010529.7	Y	0.09 ± 0.01	–A–	<0.04	–	<-1.7 ± 0.3
J182951.22+012132.0	N	3.80 ± 0.22	20 ± 7	2.09 ± 0.17	6 ± 11	-1.2 ± 0.2
J182951.26+012130.3	Y	2.46 ± 0.16	26 ± 8	1.56 ± 0.13	9 ± 12	-0.9 ± 0.2
J182952.22+011547.4	N	0.12 ± 0.02	16 ± 23	<0.05	–	<-1.7 ± 0.3
J182953.99+011229.5	N	0.08 ± 0.01	46 ± 19	<0.04	–	<-1.4 ± 0.3
J182954.30+012011.2	Y	0.14 ± 0.02	>75 ± 5	<0.04	–	<-2.3 ± 0.3
J182954.31+010309.6	N	0.59 ± 0.05	17 ± 14	0.60 ± 0.09	11 ± 20	0.0 ± 0.2
J182954.36+010350.4	Y	0.07 ± 0.01	>22 ± 18	<0.04	–	<-0.8 ± 0.4
J182954.86+011129.3	Y	0.10 ± 0.01	61 ± 21	0.07 ± 0.02	>22 ± 26	-0.7 ± 0.5

Table 2—Continued

GBS-VLA Name/Position	New detection? ¹	Flux density [4.5 GHz] (mJy)	Variability [4.5 GHz] (%)	Flux density [7.5 GHz] (mJy)	Variability [7.5 GHz] (%)	Spectral Index
J182955.76+010440.3	Y	0.14 ± 0.02	14 ± 21	0.12 ± 0.02	28 ± 26	-0.4 ± 0.3
J182956.96+011247.6	N	<0.04	–	0.08 ± 0.02	$>57 \pm 14$	$> 1.1 \pm 0.4$
J182957.60+011300.2	N	0.05 ± 0.01	47 ± 20	<0.05	–	$<-0.1 \pm 0.5$
J182957.85+011251.1	N	0.05 ± 0.01	$>43 \pm 19$	<0.08	–	$< 0.8 \pm 0.5$
J182957.89+011246.0	N	3.20 ± 0.24	65 ± 4	3.32 ± 0.41	62 ± 8	0.1 ± 0.2
J182959.55+011158.1	N	0.07 ± 0.01	$>48 \pm 12$	<0.05	–	$<-0.9 \pm 0.4$
J182959.94+011311.3	N	0.12 ± 0.02	42 ± 20	0.10 ± 0.02	18 ± 30	-0.3 ± 0.4
J183000.65+011340.0	N	0.16 ± 0.02	$>82 \pm 3$	0.10 ± 0.02	$>75 \pm 8$	-0.9 ± 0.4
J183001.24+010205.4	N	0.27 ± 0.04	Extended	<0.06	–	$<-3.1 \pm 0.3$
J183002.42+012405.6	N	0.25 ± 0.05	Extended	<0.04	–	$<-3.7 \pm 0.4$
J183002.67+012258.1	Y	0.15 ± 0.02	25 ± 18	0.16 ± 0.04	14 ± 31	0.1 ± 0.3
J183004.14+011239.7	Y	0.11 ± 0.01	28 ± 19	0.07 ± 0.02	$>18 \pm 29$	-0.8 ± 0.5
J183004.62+012234.1	N	0.97 ± 0.11	49 ± 10	1.06 ± 0.25	19 ± 27	0.2 ± 0.2
J183004.65+011353.7	Y	0.07 ± 0.01	$>43 \pm 25$	<0.04	–	$<-1.2 \pm 0.4$
J183004.98+012226.9	Y	0.30 ± 0.05	Extended	<0.04	–	$<-3.9 \pm 0.3$
J183007.29+010324.8	Y	0.12 ± 0.02	43 ± 24	0.10 ± 0.02	34 ± 25	-0.3 ± 0.4
J183008.31+011519.1	N	0.13 ± 0.02	42 ± 15	0.07 ± 0.02	$> 6 \pm 34$	-1.2 ± 0.5
J183008.69+010631.3	N	3.18 ± 0.29	11 ± 12	1.99 ± 0.35	5 ± 24	-0.9 ± 0.1
J183008.77+010257.7	Y	0.08 ± 0.01	–A–	0.06 ± 0.02	$>30 \pm 27$	-0.5 ± 0.6
J183010.31+012345.2	N	0.77 ± 0.12	48 ± 12	–	–	–
J183010.60+010320.7	N	0.19 ± 0.02	22 ± 18	0.17 ± 0.03	36 ± 22	-0.3 ± 0.3
J183012.58+011226.8	N	0.07 ± 0.01	$>51 \pm 14$	<0.04	–	$<-1.2 \pm 0.4$
J183014.25+010924.1	Y	<0.03	–	0.10 ± 0.03	$>22 \pm 29$	$> 2.1 \pm 0.6$
J183014.71+011629.6	Y	0.13 ± 0.02	40 ± 15	0.10 ± 0.02	27 ± 26	-0.6 ± 0.4
J183015.53+012203.9	Y	0.20 ± 0.02	32 ± 13	0.18 ± 0.03	43 ± 20	-0.2 ± 0.3
J183016.56+011304.3	Y	0.07 ± 0.01	$>36 \pm 15$	0.11 ± 0.02	19 ± 36	0.8 ± 0.5
J183016.74+010856.2	Y	0.27 ± 0.03	22 ± 16	0.21 ± 0.05	22 ± 28	-0.5 ± 0.2
J183018.05+011819.2	Y	<0.03	–	0.09 ± 0.03	$>43 \pm 27$	$> 2.0 \pm 0.4$
J183022.13+011738.1*	Y	0.06 ± 0.01	–A–	0.05 ± 0.02	$>32 \pm 52$	-0.2 ± 0.7

Table 2—Continued

GBS-VLA Name/Position	New detection? ¹	Flux density [4.5 GHz] (mJy)	Variability [4.5 GHz] (%)	Flux density [7.5 GHz] (mJy)	Variability [7.5 GHz] (%)	Spectral Index
J183024.87+011323.5	N	0.07 ± 0.01	$>20 \pm 23$	0.08 ± 0.02	$>43 \pm 20$	0.5 ± 0.6
J183025.10+012304.3	N	0.08 ± 0.01	37 ± 26	0.10 ± 0.02	$>59 \pm 20$	0.6 ± 0.5
J183031.05+011257.3	N	0.08 ± 0.02	43 ± 21	<0.05	–	$<-1.0 \pm 0.4$
J183052.19+011915.5	N	0.10 ± 0.02	21 ± 30	–	–	–
J183059.74+012511.7	N	0.96 ± 0.15	31 ± 16	–	–	–
J183059.83+012516.5	Y	0.16 ± 0.03	34 ± 20	–	–	–
J183059.86+012519.0	Y	0.20 ± 0.04	18 ± 24	–	–	–
J183104.32+011309.0	Y	0.25 ± 0.05	42 ± 17	–	–	–
Detected sources in the W40 region:						
J183044.11-020145.6	N	1.57 ± 0.20	9 ± 16	1.27 ± 0.32	15 ± 31	-0.4 ± 0.2
J183023.27-020731.4	Y	0.25 ± 0.06	31 ± 24	0.12 ± 0.06	36 ± 48	-1.5 ± 0.4
J183101.07-021136.8	Y	0.19 ± 0.03	6 ± 20	0.14 ± 0.03	10 ± 34	-0.6 ± 0.4
J183102.25-015658.3	Y	3.25 ± 0.37	4 ± 15	1.32 ± 0.31	0 ± 33	-1.8 ± 0.2
J183102.41-015706.2	Y	2.73 ± 0.33	Extended	0.96 ± 0.22	2 ± 32	-2.1 ± 0.2
J183102.94-015917.0	Y	0.21 ± 0.03	25 ± 16	0.26 ± 0.06	50 ± 18	0.4 ± 0.3
J183105.01-020247.6	N	0.09 ± 0.02	$>56 \pm 10$	0.09 ± 0.02	$>41 \pm 22$	-0.0 ± 0.6
J183109.41-015442.1	Y	0.22 ± 0.03	3 ± 24	0.16 ± 0.04	Extended	-0.7 ± 0.4
J183113.05-021012.1	Y	4.70 ± 0.40	Extended	1.87 ± 0.22	Extended	-1.9 ± 0.3
J183113.23-021011.1	Y	20.78 ± 1.22	Extended	11.50 ± 0.95	Extended	-1.2 ± 0.2
J183114.31-020852.1	Y	0.13 ± 0.02	45 ± 14	0.09 ± 0.02	12 ± 36	-0.7 ± 0.5
J183114.82-020350.1	N	0.36 ± 0.04	44 ± 9	0.42 ± 0.07	50 ± 13	0.3 ± 0.3
J183115.28-020415.2	N	0.80 ± 0.07	5 ± 12	0.44 ± 0.07	1 ± 22	-1.2 ± 0.2
J183118.68-015455.9	Y	0.68 ± 0.07	11 ± 14	0.50 ± 0.10	2 ± 27	-0.6 ± 0.2
J183119.86-020006.1	Y	0.19 ± 0.03	19 ± 16	0.23 ± 0.05	15 ± 25	0.3 ± 0.3
J183120.65-020943.6	N	0.09 ± 0.02	$>44 \pm 12$	0.13 ± 0.03	9 ± 33	0.7 ± 0.5
J183122.32-020619.6	N	0.67 ± 0.07	91 ± 2	1.13 ± 0.22	96 ± 5	1.1 ± 0.2
J183122.81-020930.7	N	0.09 ± 0.02	7 ± 35	0.11 ± 0.03	$>25 \pm 23$	0.4 ± 0.5
J183123.62-020535.8	N	3.52 ± 0.27	15 ± 9	3.32 ± 0.45	16 ± 16	-0.1 ± 0.1
J183124.56-020231.9	N	0.07 ± 0.02	$>21 \pm 28$	<0.06	–	$<-0.3 \pm 0.5$

Table 2—Continued

GBS-VLA Name/Position	New detection? ¹	Flux density [4.5 GHz] (mJy)	Variability [4.5 GHz] (%)	Flux density [7.5 GHz] (mJy)	Variability [7.5 GHz] (%)	Spectral Index
J183125.77-015506.7	Y	2.90 ± 0.38	27 ± 13	3.05 ± 0.83	5 ± 37	0.1 ± 0.2
J183126.02-020517.0	N	1.00 ± 0.07	52 ± 5	0.75 ± 0.09	61 ± 9	-0.6 ± 0.2
J183126.27-020630.7	Y	0.25 ± 0.06	$>39 \pm 10$	<0.11	–	$<-1.7 \pm 0.5$
J183126.85-021042.4	Y	0.22 ± 0.03	9 ± 19	0.14 ± 0.03	40 ± 25	-1.0 ± 0.4
J183127.30-020504.5	N	0.51 ± 0.05	20 ± 11	0.45 ± 0.07	36 ± 14	-0.2 ± 0.3
J183127.45-020512.0	N	2.71 ± 0.19	96 ± 1	3.17 ± 0.34	97 ± 5	0.3 ± 0.2
J183127.64-020513.5	N	0.88 ± 0.08	Extended	0.65 ± 0.11	Extended	-0.6 ± 0.3
J183127.65-020509.7	N	0.74 ± 0.05	19 ± 9	0.77 ± 0.08	13 ± 14	0.1 ± 0.2
J183127.67-020519.7	N	3.45 ± 0.24	6 ± 9	3.49 ± 0.40	6 ± 15	0.0 ± 0.2
J183127.78-020449.5	N	0.12 ± 0.02	23 ± 22	0.11 ± 0.02	5 ± 42	-0.2 ± 0.5
J183127.78-020823.0	Y	0.33 ± 0.03	6 ± 14	0.23 ± 0.02	14 ± 15	-0.7 ± 0.3
J183127.80-020521.9	N	1.47 ± 0.12	17 ± 9	1.24 ± 0.15	3 ± 17	-0.3 ± 0.2
J183128.01-020517.9	N	0.61 ± 0.06	27 ± 10	0.50 ± 0.07	18 ± 16	-0.4 ± 0.2
J183128.65-020529.8	N	6.76 ± 0.55	Extended	4.79 ± 0.71	Extended	-0.7 ± 0.2
J183128.67-020522.2	N	0.31 ± 0.04	17 ± 14	0.25 ± 0.04	3 ± 22	-0.4 ± 0.3
J183129.41-020541.1	N	0.18 ± 0.03	2 ± 31	0.12 ± 0.03	–A–	-0.8 ± 0.5
J183130.54-020530.7	N	0.26 ± 0.05	18 ± 27	<0.07	–	$<-2.8 \pm 0.4$
J183148.61-020700.7	N	0.08 ± 0.02	$>41 \pm 16$	<0.05	–	$<-0.7 \pm 0.4$
J183153.39-020959.9	N	0.13 ± 0.02	36 ± 20	0.08 ± 0.03	$> 6 \pm 44$	-0.9 ± 0.5
J183201.69-020243.2	Y	0.71 ± 0.13	4 ± 25	–	–	–
J183201.76-021012.1	Y	0.15 ± 0.03	21 ± 27	–	–	–
Detected sources in the Serpens South cluster:						
J182933.58-014530.4	Y	0.24 ± 0.06	$>32 \pm 24$	–	–	–
J182940.34-015127.9	N	<0.08	–	0.11 ± 0.03	–A–	$> 0.6 \pm 0.3$
J182952.73-015159.9	Y	0.23 ± 0.03	25 ± 25	0.21 ± 0.04	40 ± 26	-0.2 ± 0.3
J183003.72-014944.3	Y	0.12 ± 0.03	$>45 \pm 19$	–	–	–
J183004.81-020227.8	N	<0.06	–	0.08 ± 0.02	–A–	$> 0.7 \pm 0.5$
J183009.68-020032.7	Y	0.57 ± 0.06	43 ± 10	0.64 ± 0.12	19 ± 23	0.2 ± 0.2
J183018.69-020249.8	Y	0.20 ± 0.04	$>18 \pm 19$	<0.09	–	$<-1.5 \pm 0.3$

Table 2—Continued

GBS-VLA Name/Position	New detection? ¹	Flux density [4.5 GHz] (mJy)	Variability [4.5 GHz] (%)	Flux density [7.5 GHz] (mJy)	Variability [7.5 GHz] (%)	Spectral Index
J183025.24-021051.9	N	0.10 ± 0.03	–A–	<0.10	–	<-0.0 ± 0.4
J183031.68-020954.3	Y	0.25 ± 0.05	$>47 \pm 13$	–	–	–
J183037.08-021503.3	Y	1.06 ± 0.18	7 ± 23	–	–	–
J183038.25-021100.4	Y	0.26 ± 0.07	$> 8 \pm 23$	–	–	–

Note. — Flux densities are measured in the combined epochs images. The quoted flux errors comprise the statistical error provided by IMFIT, the 5% absolute flux uncertainty, and the uncertainty induced by the pointing error of the VLA primary beam. The asterisk indicates a source without reported counterparts detected with an integrated flux $< 5\sigma$, but with a peak flux $\geq 5\sigma$. The *A* annotation indicates a source not detected at three times the noise level on individual epochs, but detected on the image of the concatenated epochs.

¹Y=source without reported counterparts at any frequency. N=source with known counterpart.

Table 3. Radio sources with known counterparts

GBS-VLA name	Other names	X-ray ^a	Infrared ^b			Radio ^c	Object type
			SST	2M	WISE		
Counterparts of the Serpens molecular cloud sources:							
J182851.30+010908.6	–	–	–	–	–	NVSS 182851+010908	–
J182901.40+010434.7	–	–	–	–	–	NVSS 182901+010436	–
J182905.07+012309.0	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J182906.84+011742.7	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J182907.62+012125.1	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J182910.17+012559.5	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J182913.17+010906.4	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J182913.79+010738.6	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J182916.11+010437.5	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J182918.23+011757.7	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J182926.71+012342.1	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J182928.02+011156.5	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J182928.28+011205.7	–	–	–	–	–	NVSS 182928+011203	–
J182929.78+012158.1	–	GFM 6	–	–	–	–	YSO
J182930.71+010048.3	PMN J1829+0101	–	–	–	–	NVSS 182930+010048	–
J182933.07+011716.3	SVS76 Ser 14	GFM 11	Y	Y	Y	–	YSO
J182934.32+011513.9	–	–	Y	–	–	DCE08-210 5	–
J182935.02+011503.2	DCE08-210 5	–	Y	–	–	NVSS 182934+011504	–
J182935.11+011503.6	–	–	–	–	–	DCE08-210 5	–
J182936.50+012317.0	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J182937.76+010314.6	–	–	–	–	–	NVSS 182937+010316	–
J182944.07+011921.1	DCE08-210 6	–	–	–	–	NVSS 182944+011920	–
J182948.83+010647.4	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J182949.79+011520.4	SERPENS SMM 1a	–	–	–	–	DCE08-210 1	–
J182951.04+011533.8	–	–	–	–	–	ETC 8	–
J182951.17+011640.4	V371 Ser	GFM 30	Y	–	Y	ETC 9	YSO
J182951.22+012132.0	–	–	–	–	–	NVSS 182951+012131	–
J182952.22+011547.4	Serpens SMM 10 IR	–	Y	–	Y	ETC 10	YSO
J182953.99+011229.5	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–

Table 3—Continued

GBS-VLA name	Other names	X-ray ^a	Infrared ^b			Radio ^c	Object type
			SST	2M	WISE		
J182954.31+010309.6	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J182956.96+011247.6	EC92 84	GFM 44	Y	Y	–	ETC 14	YSO
J182957.60+011300.2	EES2009 Ser-emb 22	GFM 46	Y	Y	–	ETC 15	YSO
J182957.85+011251.1	EES2009 Ser-emb 23	GFM 53	Y	Y	–	ETC 17	YSO
J182957.89+011246.0	EC92 95	GFM 54	Y	Y	–	DCE08-215 8	YSO
J182959.55+011158.1	EES2009 Ser-emb 24	GFM 60	Y	Y	–	–	YSO
J182959.94+011311.3	EES2009 Ser-emb 19	–	Y	–	Y	–	YSO
J183000.65+011340.0	CK 6	GFM 65	Y	Y	Y	ETC 20	YSO
J183001.24+010205.4	–	–	–	–	–	NVSS 183001+010204	–
J183002.42+012405.6	–	–	Y	–	Y	–	–
J183004.62+012234.1	P2003 J183004.7+012232	GFM 70	–	–	–	–	–
J183008.31+011519.1	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J183008.69+010631.3	–	–	–	–	–	NVSS 183008+010634	–
J183010.31+012345.2	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J183010.60+010320.7	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J183012.58+011226.8	–	GFM 81	Y	–	–	–	–
J183024.87+011323.5	HD 170634	–	Y	Y	Y	–	B7V
J183025.10+012304.3	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J183031.05+011257.3	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J183052.19+011915.5	–	–	Y	–	–	–	–
J183059.74+012511.7	–	–	–	–	–	NVSS 183059+012512	–
Counterparts of the W40 region sources:							
J183044.11-020145.6	–	–	–	Y	–	–	–
J183105.01-020247.6	CXOW40 J183105.02-020247.5	KGF 18	–	Y	–	–	YSO
J183114.82-020350.1	W 40 IRS 5	KGF 36	–	Y	–	RRR W40-VLA 1	B1V
J183115.28-020415.2	CXOW40 J183115.30-020415.2	KGF 38	–	–	–	RRR W40-VLA 2	–
J183120.65-020943.6	CXOW40 J183120.65-020944.1	KGF 71	–	Y	–	–	YSO
J183122.32-020619.6	CXOW40 J183122.32-020619.5	KGF 82	–	Y	–	RRR W40-VLA 3	YSO
J183122.81-020930.7	CXOW40 J183122.82-020930.5	KGF 88	–	Y	–	–	YSO
J183123.62-020535.8	CXOW40 J183123.62-020535.7	KGF 97	–	Y	–	RRR W40-VLA 5	YSO

Table 3—Continued

GBS-VLA name	Other names	X-ray ^a	Infrared ^b			Radio ^c	Object type
			SST	2M	WISE		
J183124.56-020231.9	CXOW40 J183124.57-020231.9	KGF 102	–	Y	–	–	YSO
J183126.02-020517.0	W 40 IRS 1c	KGF 122	–	Y	Y	RRR W40-VLA 8	YSO
J183127.30-020504.5	–	–	–	Y	–	RRR W40-VLA 9	YSO?
J183127.45-020512.0	CXOW40 J183127.46-020511.9	KGF 133	–	Y	–	RRR W40-VLA 10	YSO?
J183127.64-020513.5	CXOW40 J183127.64-020513.5	KGF 136	–	Y	–	RRR W40-VLA 12	gyrosynchrotron source?
J183127.65-020509.7	W 40 IRS 1d	KGF 138	–	Y	–	RRR W40-VLA 13	YSO
J183127.67-020519.7	–	–	–	Y	–	RRR W40-VLA 14	gyrosynchrotron source?
J183127.78-020449.5	CXOW40 J183127.78-020449.5	KGF 139	–	Y	–	–	YSO
J183127.80-020521.9	W 40 IRS 1a N	–	–	Y	–	RRR W40-VLA 15	YSO
J183128.01-020517.9	CXOW40 J183128.01-020517.1	KGF 144	–	Y	–	RRR W40-VLA 16	YSO
J183128.65-020529.8	W 40 IRS 1b	KGF 145	–	Y	–	RRR W40-VLA 18	YSO
J183128.67-020522.2	–	–	–	–	–	RRR W40-VLA 19	shock front?
J183129.41-020541.1	CXOW40 J183129.45-020541.2	KGF 153	–	Y	–	–	YSO
J183130.54-020530.7	CXOW40 J183130.56-020530.6	KGF 162	–	Y	–	–	YSO
J183148.61-020700.7	CXOW40 J183148.64-020755.5	KGF 220	–	Y	Y	–	YSO
J183153.39-020959.9	–	–	–	Y	Y	–	–
Counterparts of the Serpens South sources:							
J182940.34-015127.9	–	–	Y	–	–	–	YSO
J183004.81-020227.8	–	–	Y	–	–	–	YSO
J183025.24-021051.9	–	–	Y	–	–	–	YSO

^aGFM = Giardino et al. (2007); KGF = Kuhn et al. (2010)

^bSST = Evans et al. (2009), c2d-GB clouds catalog (Dunham et al. 2013 and Allen et al. (in preparation)) ; 2M = Cutri et al. (2003) and WISE = Cutri et al (2012).

^cETC = Eiroa et al. (2005); NVSS = Condon et al. (1998); DCE08 = Scaife et al. (2012); RRR = Rodríguez et al. (2010).

Table 4. Sources detected in circular polarization

GBS-VLA name	Degree of circular polarization	
	4.5 GHz (%)	7.5 GHz (%)
J183113.23-021011.1	1 (L)	1 (R)
J183123.62-020535.8	5 (R)	8 (R)

Note. — The letters indicate left (L) or right (R) circular polarization.

Table 5. Young stellar object candidates based just on their radio properties

GBS-VLA name	Variability [4.5 GHz] (%)	Variability [7.5 GHz] (%)	Spectral index
YSO candidates in the Serpens Molecular cloud			
J182854.46+011823.7	44 ± 9	17 ± 24	1.2 ± 0.1
J182910.17+012559.5	71 ± 8	–	–
J182913.79+010738.6	36 ± 25	$>26 \pm 20$	0.9 ± 0.5
J182916.11+010437.5	41 ± 16	52 ± 19	0.4 ± 0.2
J182932.21+012104.6	52 ± 15	$>20 \pm 27$	-0.8 ± 0.5
J182948.83+010647.4	29 ± 13	6 ± 23	0.8 ± 0.2
J182948.92+011523.8	$>62 \pm 10$	–	$<-0.5 \pm 0.5$
J182949.54+011523.8	76 ± 7	–	$<-2.5 \pm 0.3$
J182949.60+011522.9	71 ± 8	64 ± 14	-0.5 ± 0.4
J182950.34+011515.3	11 ± 20	$>61 \pm 18$	-1.0 ± 0.4
J182954.30+012011.2	$>75 \pm 5$	–	$<-2.3 \pm 0.3$
J183012.58+011226.8	$>51 \pm 14$	–	$<-1.2 \pm 0.4$
J183014.25+010924.1	–	$>22 \pm 29$	$> 2.1 \pm 0.6$
J183016.56+011304.3	$>36 \pm 15$	19 ± 36	0.8 ± 0.5
J183018.05+011819.2	–	$>43 \pm 27$	$> 2.0 \pm 0.4$
YSO candidates in the W40 region			
J183127.45-020512.0	96 ± 1	97 ± 5	0.3 ± 0.2

Table 6. Young stellar objects detected in the radio observations

GBS-VLA name	Spectral type	SED classification ^a	High ^b variability	α^b	X-ray	Reference ^c
YSOs in the Serpens molecular cloud						
J182929.78+012158.1	–	Class II	–	N	Y	1
J182933.07+011716.3	G2.5	Class III	Y	P	Y	1, 5
J182951.17+011640.4	–	Class I	Y	N	Y	1, 7
J182952.22+011547.4	–	Class I	N	N	N	2, 7
J182956.96+011247.6	M3.0	Class II	Y	P	Y	1, 5
J182957.60+011300.2	–	Class I	N	F	Y	2, 7
J182957.85+011251.1	–	Class I	N	P	Y	2, 7
J182957.89+011246.0	K1.0	P-HAeBe	Y	F	Y	6
J182959.55+011158.1	–	Class I	N	N	Y	2, 7
J182959.94+011311.3	–	Class I	N	N	N	2, 7
J183000.65+011340.0	M0.5	Class III	Y	N	Y	1, 5
YSOs in the W40 region						
J183105.01–020247.6	–	Class III	Y	F	Y	3
J183120.65–020943.6	–	Class III	N	P	Y	3
J183122.32–020619.6	–	Class III	Y	P	Y	3
J183122.81–020930.7	–	Class III	N	P	Y	3
J183123.62–020535.8	–	Class III	N	F	Y	3
J183124.56–020231.9	–	Class III	N	N	Y	3
J183126.02–020517.0	–	Class II	Y	N	Y	4
J183127.65–020509.7	–	HAeBe? ^d	N	F	Y	3
J183127.78–020449.5	–	Class III	N	F	Y	3
J183127.80–020521.9	–	HAeBe	N	N	N	4
J183128.01–020517.9	–	–	N	N	Y	3
J183128.65–020529.8	–	Class II	Extended	N	Y	4
J183129.41–020541.1	–	Class III	N	N	Y	3

Table 6—Continued

GBS-VLA name	Spectral type	SED classification ^a	High ^b variability	α^b	X-ray	Reference ^c
J183130.54–020530.7	–	Class III	N	N	Y	3
J183148.61–020700.7	–	Class III	N	N	Y	3
YSOs in Serpens South						
J182940.34–015127.9	–	Flat	–	P	N	7
J183004.81–020227.8	–	Class I	–	P	N	7
J183025.24–021051.9	–	Class II	–	F	N	7

^aThis classification was taken from the literature; references are given in column 7.

^bHigh variability = Y when the flux variability is $\geq 50\%$ at a 3σ level in at least one frequency; N when the variability is $< 50\%$ at both frequencies. α refers to the spectral index, and is given as P (for positive) when it is higher than 0.2; F (for flat) when it is between -0.2 and $+0.2$; and N (for negative) when it is lower than -0.2 . X-ray = Y when there is an X-ray flux reported in literature, N when it is not.

^c1 = Giardino et al. (2007); 2 = Enoch et al. (2009); 3 = Kuhn et al. (2010); 4 = Shuping et al. (2012); 5 = Winston et al. (2010); 6 = Preibisch (1999); (7) = c2d-GB clouds catalog (Dunham et al. 2013 and Allen et al. (in preparation))

^dThis source has a mass of $\sim 4 M_{\odot}$ and no K_s -band-excess. We therefore consider it as an HAeBe candidate.

Table 7. Proper motions of some radio sources in W40

GBS-VLA name	RRR W40-VLA number ^a	$\mu_\alpha \cos(\delta)$ (mas yr ⁻¹)	μ_δ (mas yr ⁻¹)	μ_{total} (mas yr ⁻¹)
J183122.32-020619.6	3	5.13 ± 1.99	-12.1 ± 2.15	13.14
J183123.62-020535.8	5	-2.43 ± 0.4	-6.83 ± 0.42	7.25
J183126.02-020517.0	8	-7.58 ± 2.41	-12.27 ± 2.59	14.43
J183127.30-020504.5	9	-7.54 ± 3.96	-10.32 ± 4.22	12.78
J183127.67-020519.7	14	-9.17 ± 0.64	-7.77 ± 0.67	12.02
J183127.80-020521.9	15	-6.94 ± 1.0	-9.95 ± 1.06	12.13
J183128.01-020517.9	16	-6.79 ± 2.28	-7.56 ± 2.43	10.16
J183128.65-020529.8	18	-8.29 ± 2.04	-12.24 ± 2.14	14.78
J183128.67-020522.2	19	-14.97 ± 3.8	-10.38 ± 4.14	18.22

^aThe labels in this column refer to the VLA source number in the catalog of Rodríguez et al. (2010).

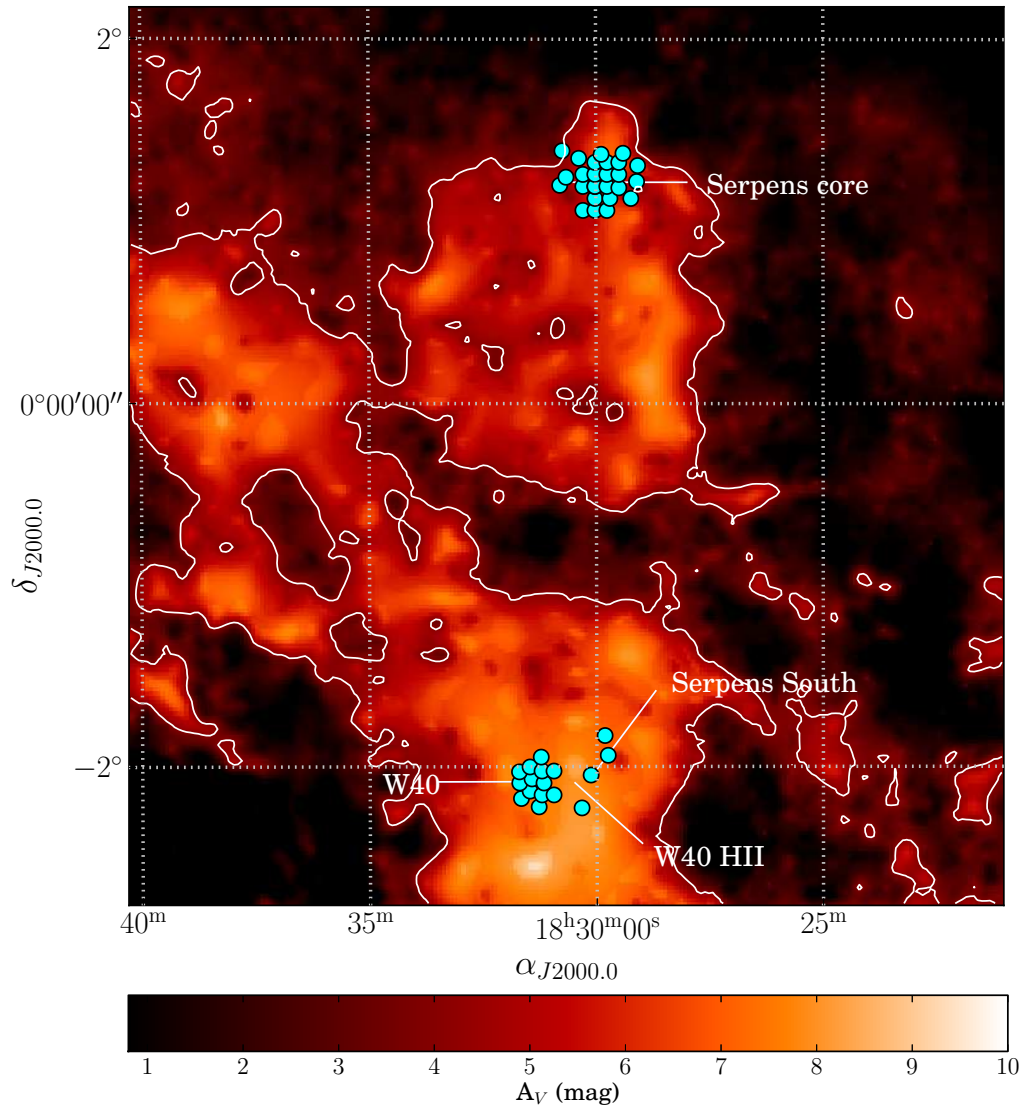


Fig. 1.— Extinction map of the Serpens star-forming region obtained as part of the COMPLETE project, based on the STScI Digitized Sky Survey data (Cambr esy 1999). The small cyan circles represent the size at 7.5 GHz of the fields observed in each region.

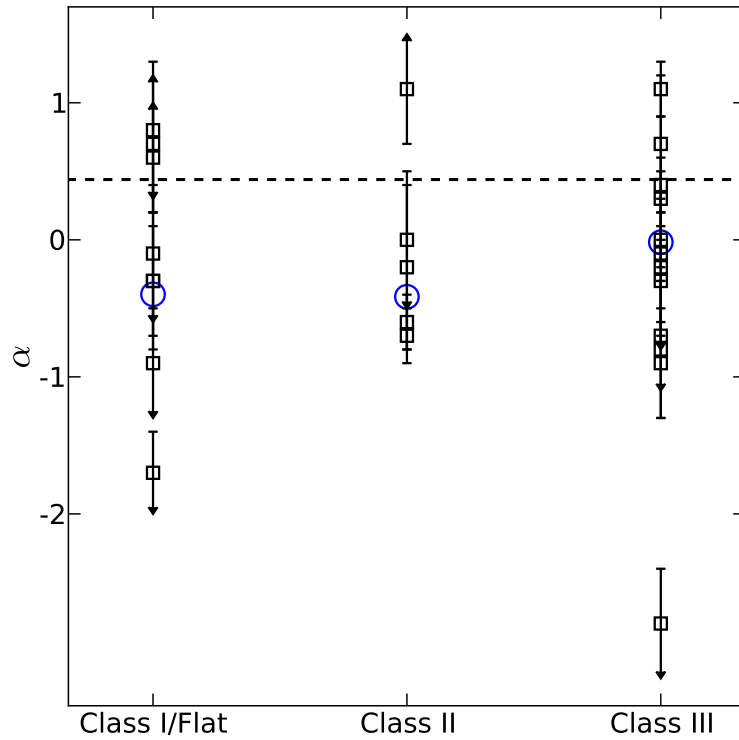


Fig. 2.— Spectral Index as a function of evolutionary status of the 25 detected Class I-III YSOs. Values for the individual sources are shown with squares, and weighted mean values with circles. The arrows indicate upper and lower limits. The horizontal dashed line marks the weighted average spectral index of the YSO candidates listed in Table 5.

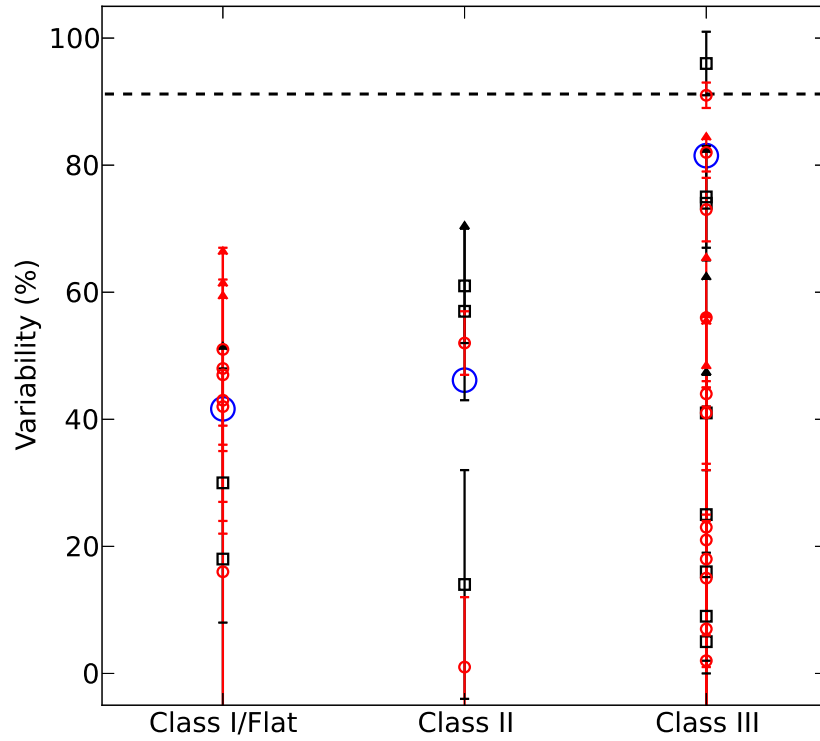


Fig. 3.— Variability as a function of the evolutionary status of 20 Class I-III YSOs. Values for the individual sources are shown with red circles (variability at 4.5 GHz) and black squares (variability at 7.5 GHz). Some sources have a variability determination at both frequencies. The blue circles are the weighted average for each class. The arrows indicate lower limits. The horizontal line marks the weighted average variability at both frequencies of the YSO candidates listed in Table 5.

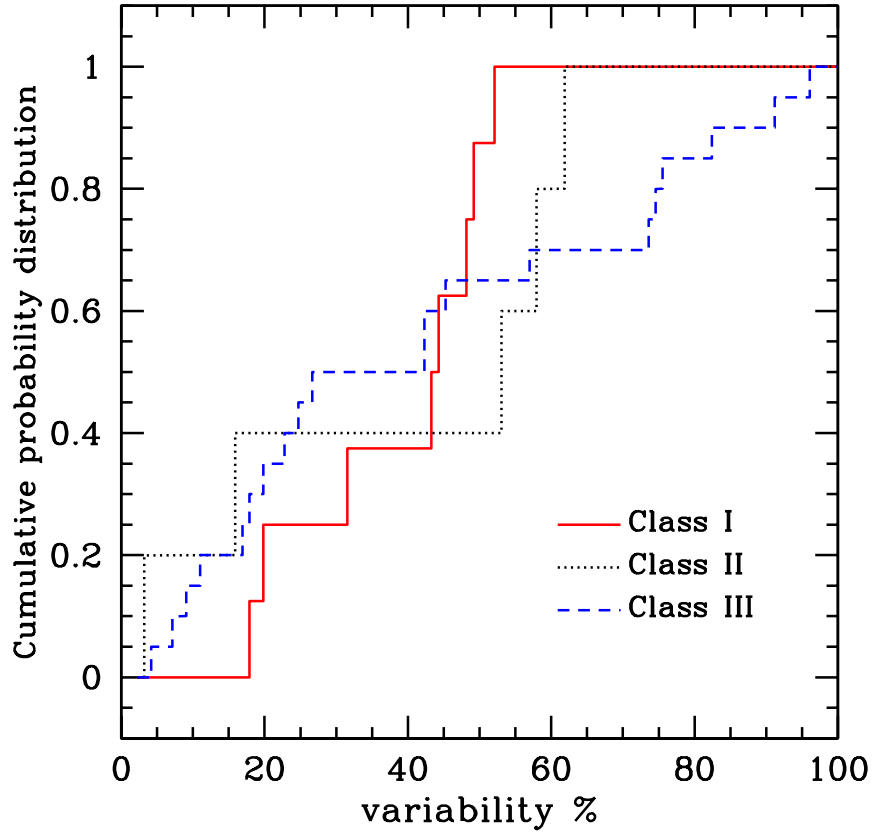


Fig. 4.— K-S test: cumulative probability distributions of variability in the three classes of YSOs. Red solid line: Class I; black dotted line: Class II; blue dashed line: Class III.

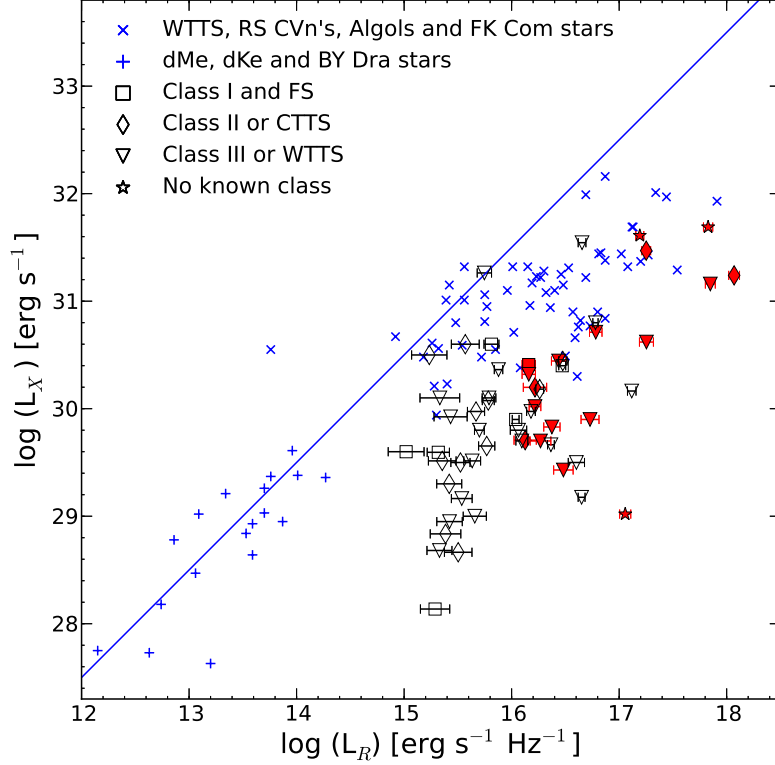


Fig. 5.— L_X-L_R relation for stars following Güdel & Benz (1993). Symbols indicate different classes of stars as explained at the top left of the diagram. Radio and X-ray luminosities of active stellar coronae represented by blue vertical and diagonal crosses were taken from Güdel et al. (1993) and Drake et al. (1989). The solid line with slope 1 is the fit obtained by Güdel & Benz (1993) for the dM(e), dK(e) and BY Dra stars (blue vertical crosses), which occupy the lower left portion of the diagram. Open symbols correspond to YSOs detected in the Ophiuchus complex (Dzib et al. 2013). The YSOs detected by us in the Serpens and W40 regions with X-ray counterparts and with possible coronal radio emission are shown as red filled symbols. The radio luminosity used for GBS-VLA sources is the average of the luminosities at 4.5 and 7.5 GHz.

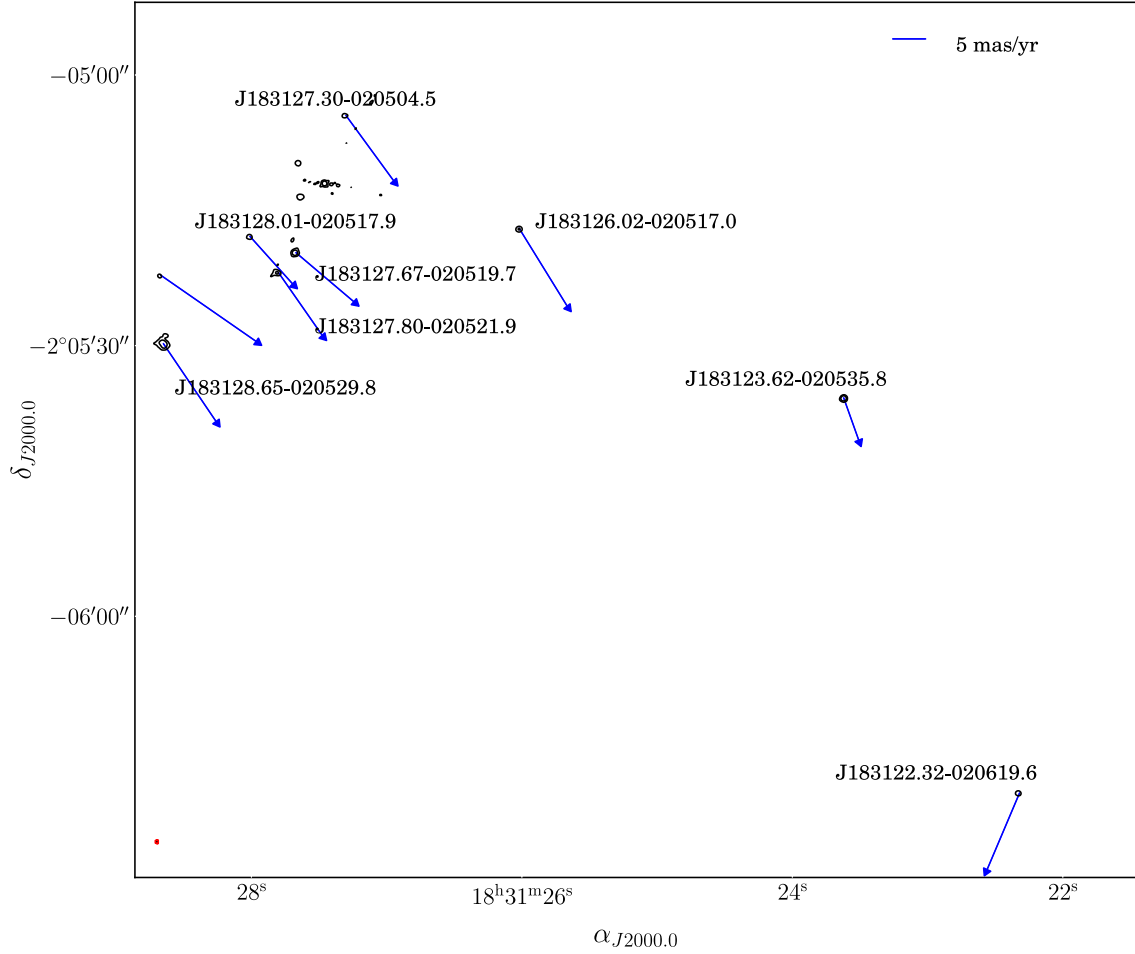


Fig. 6.— 6-cm radio continuum images of the W40 region. The arrows indicate the direction and length of the total proper motion of radio sources in the cluster, detected by us and by Rodríguez et al. (2010). The $\theta_{\text{maj}} \times \theta_{\text{min}} = 0''.41 \times 0''.40$, P.A. = $+75.8^\circ$ synthesized beam is shown in the bottom left of the map. Contours are 5, and 25 times $32 \mu\text{Jy beam}^{-1}$, the rms noise of the image.

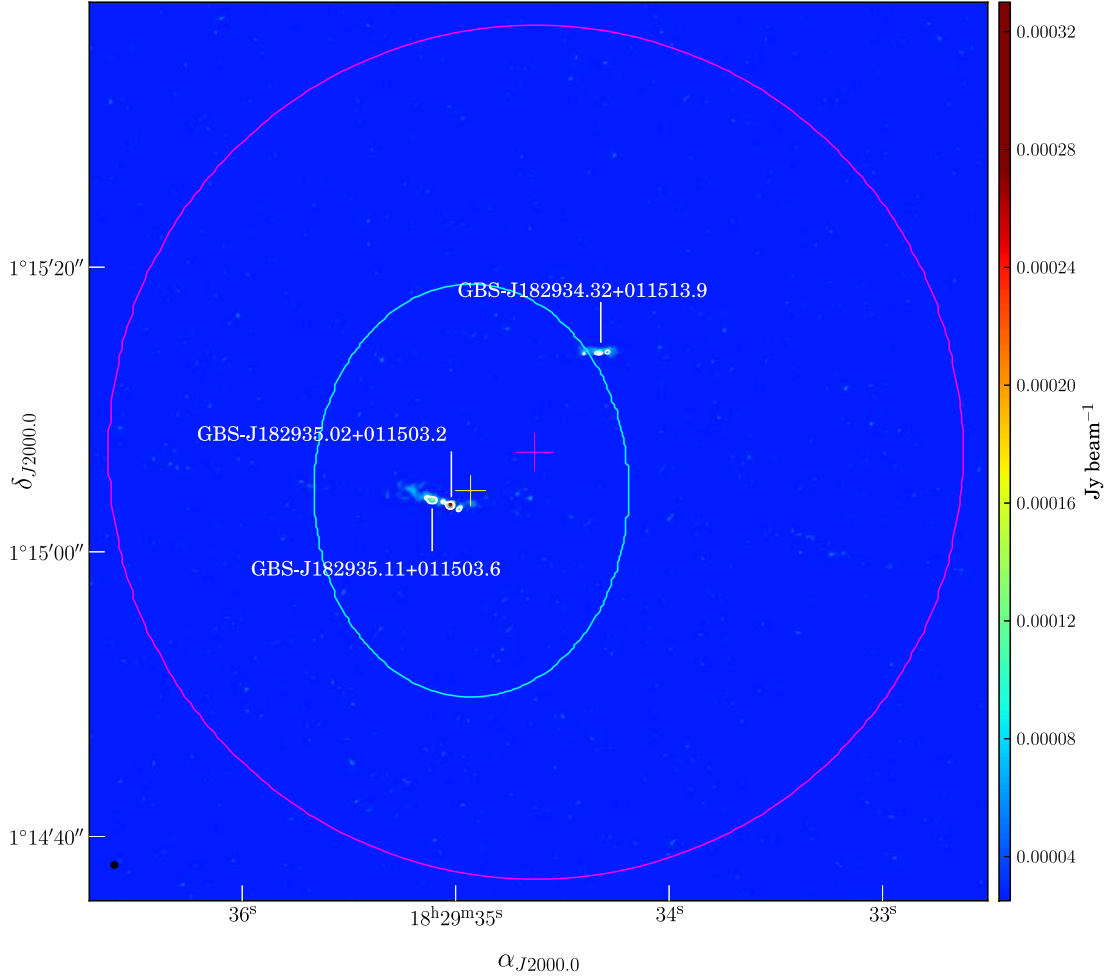


Fig. 7.— 6-cm radio continuum image of three GBS-VLA sources in the Serpens molecular cloud. The $\theta_{\text{maj}} \times \theta_{\text{min}} = 0''.40 \times 0''.39$, P.A. = $+96.1^\circ$ synthesized beam is shown in the bottom left of the map. Contours are 5 and 6 times $15 \mu\text{Jy beam}^{-1}$, the rms noise of the image. The cyan ellipse indicates the size of the source NVSS 182934+011504 ($29''.0 \times 22''.1$), from the catalog of Condon et al. (1998). The yellow cross marks, with error bars, the position of the NVSS source. The magenta circle indicates the size ($\sim 1'$) of the source DCE08-210 5, detected in the observations of Scaife et al. (2012) at 1.8 cm. The magenta cross marks, with error bars, the position of the 1.8-cm source.

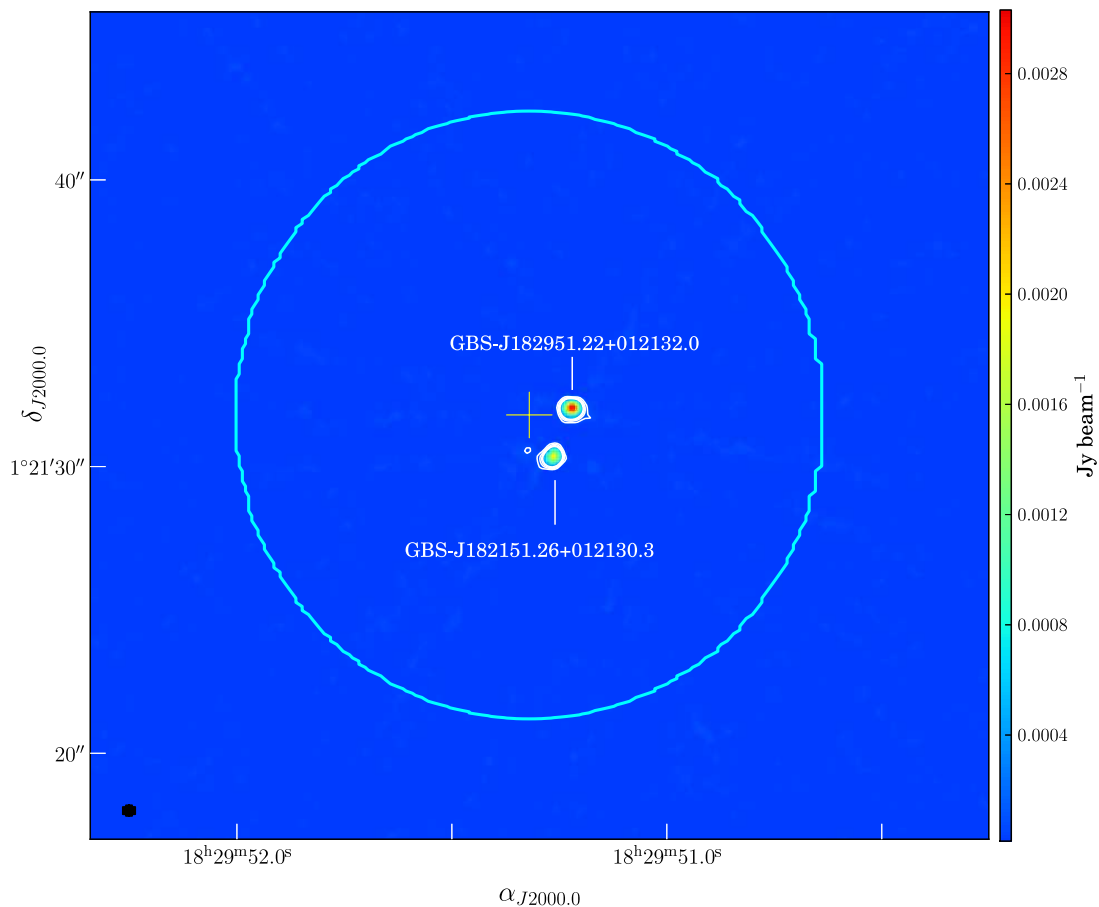


Fig. 8.— 6-cm radio continuum image of two GBS-VLA sources in the Serpens molecular cloud. The $\theta_{\text{maj}} \times \theta_{\text{min}} = 0''.40 \times 0''.39$, P.A. = $+96.1^\circ$ synthesized beam is shown in the bottom left of the map. Contours are 5, 10, 15 and 20 times $19 \mu\text{Jy beam}^{-1}$, the rms noise of the image. The cyan ellipse indicates the size of the source NVSS 182951+012131 ($21''.2 \times 20''.5$), from the catalog of Condon et al. (1998). The yellow cross marks, with error bars, the position of the NVSS source.

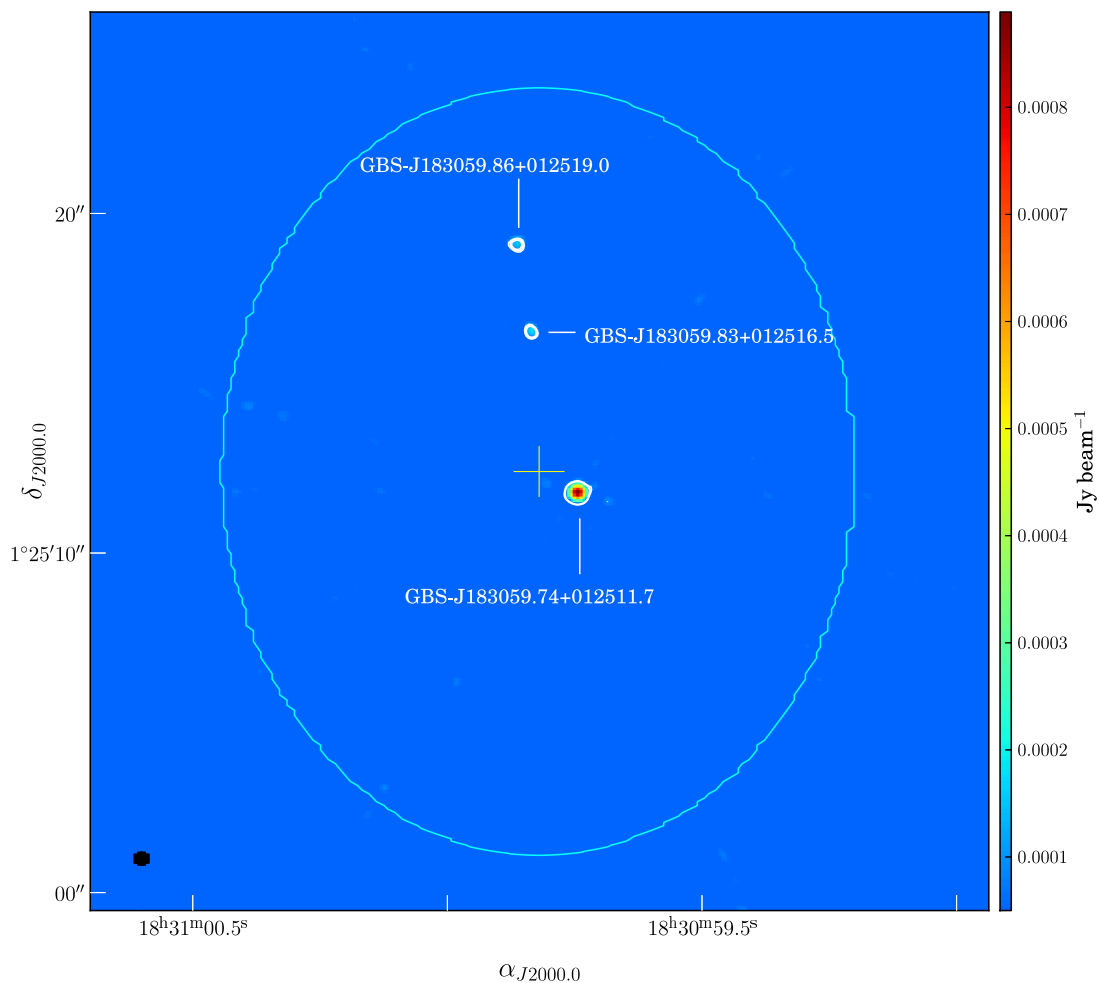


Fig. 9.— 6-cm radio continuum image of three GBS-VLA sources in the Serpens molecular cloud. The $\theta_{\text{maj}} \times \theta_{\text{min}} = 0''.40 \times 0''.39$, P.A. = $+96.1^\circ$ synthesized beam is shown in the bottom left of the map. Contours are 5, 6 and 7 times $17 \mu\text{Jy beam}^{-1}$, the rms noise of the image. The cyan ellipse indicates the size of the source NVSS 183059+012512 ($22''.6 \times 18''.6$), from the catalog of Condon et al. (1998). The yellow cross marks, with error bars, the position of the NVSS source.

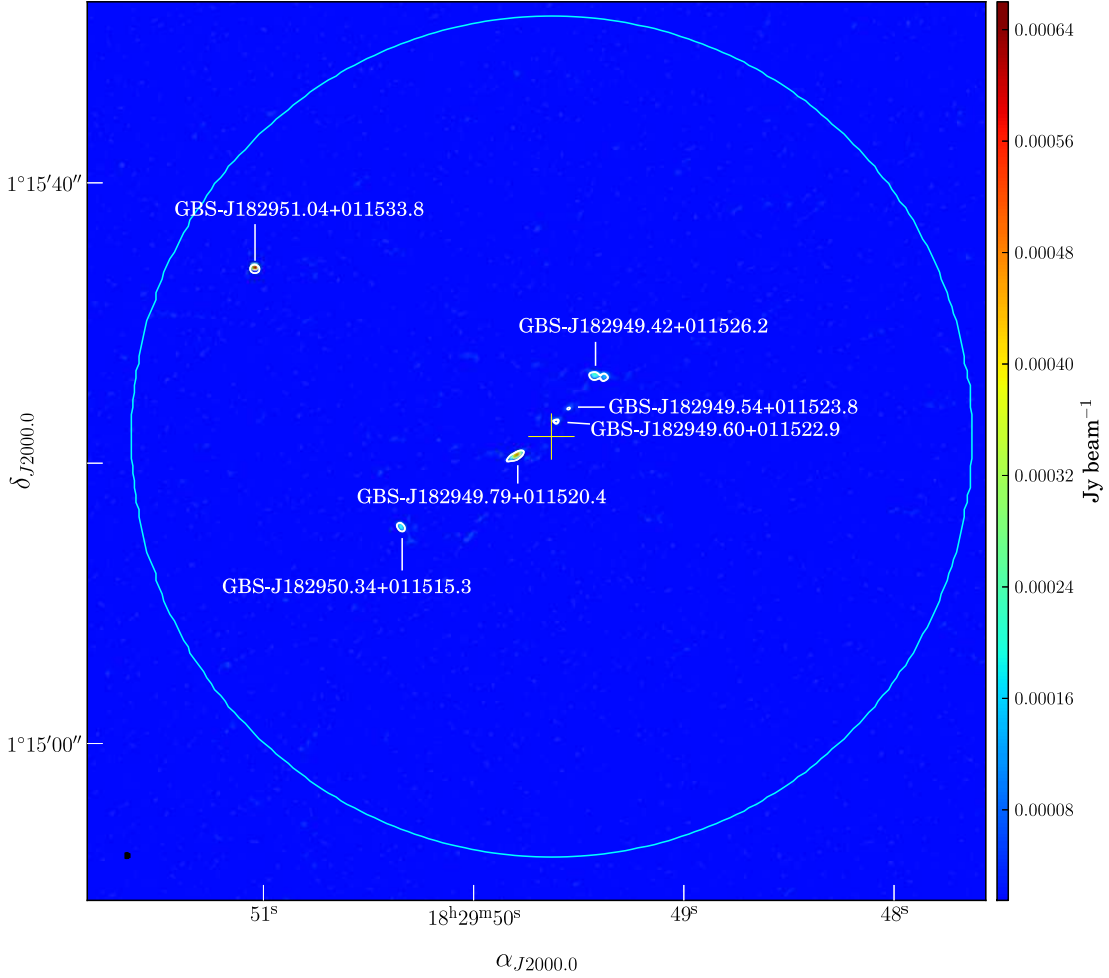


Fig. 10.— 6-cm radio continuum image of six GBS-VLA sources in the Serpens molecular cloud. The $\theta_{\text{maj}} \times \theta_{\text{min}} = 0''.40 \times 0''.39$, P.A. = $+96.1^\circ$ synthesized beam is shown in the bottom left of the map. Contours are 5 and 6 times $16 \mu\text{Jy beam}^{-1}$, the rms noise of the image. The cyan circle indicates the size ($\sim 1'$) of the source DCE08-210 1, detected in the observations of Scaife et al. (2012) at 1.8 cm. The yellow cross marks, with error bars, the position of the 1.8-cm source.