

The Southern H II Region Discovery Survey (SHRDS): Pilot Survey

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Abstract

The Southern H II Region Discovery Survey is a survey of the third and fourth quadrants of the Galactic plane that will detect radio recombination line (RRL) and continuum emission at cm-wavelengths from several hundred H II region candidates using the Australia Telescope Compact Array. The targets for this survey come from the WISE Catalog of Galactic H II Regions and were identified based on mid-infrared and radio continuum emission. In this pilot project, two different configurations of the Compact Array Broad Band receiver and spectrometer system were used for short test observations. The pilot surveys detected RRL emission from 36 of 53 HII region candidates, as well as seven known H II regions that were included for calibration. These 36 recombination line detections confirm that the candidates are true H II regions and allow us to estimate their distances.

Key words: Galaxy: structure - HII regions - radio lines: ISM - surveys

Supporting material: machine-readable table

1. Introduction

HII regions are zones of ionized gas surrounding young $(\sim 10 \text{ Myr old})$, massive stars. They are some of the brightest objects in the Galaxy at infrared and radio wavelengths, and so they can be detected across the entire Galactic disk (Anderson et al. 2011). H II regions are the archetypal tracers of Galactic spiral structure, and their chemical abundances provide unique and important probes of billions of years of Galactic chemical evolution (Shaver et al. 1983). They are the main tracer of ionizing photons in the Galaxy and can be used to compute global star formation rates. Unlike most tracers of high-mass star formation (e.g., far-infrared clumps), HII regions unambiguously locate sites where massive stars have recently formed. An unbiased Galaxy-wide sample of HII regions is required to understand the global properties of the Milky Way and to compare its star formation rate to those of external galaxies.

The H II Region Discovery Survey (HRDS) is a collection of radio recombination line (RRL) and continuum emission surveys between 4 and 11 GHz, designed to detect all HII regions ionized by single or multiple O-stars across the entire Galactic disk. All HRDS component surveys are targeted toward HII region candidates, selected to have spatially coincident $\sim 25 \ \mu m$ mid-infrared and $\sim 20 \ cm$ radio continuum emission, surrounded by $\sim 10 \,\mu m$ emission—a basic morphology shared by all Galactic HII regions (Anderson et al. 2014). But these criteria are not sufficiently robust to exclude all other kinds of radio and infrared sources; to confirm that they are HII regions and to measure their radial velocities, it is necessary to detect RRL emission from each candidate.

The primary instrument used for the HRDS is the Green Bank Telescope (GBT; Bania et al. 2010). Spanning $-16^{\circ} < \ell < 67^{\circ}$ and $|b| < 1^{\circ}$, the GBT HRDS detected 602 discrete recombination line components from 448 pointings. This more than doubled the number of known HII regions in this part of the Galaxy. Continuing the GBT HRDS, the Arecibo HRDS (Bania et al. 2012) discovered 37 previously unknown H II regions in the area $31^{\circ} < \ell < 66^{\circ}, |b| < 1^{\circ}$. Recently, the GBT HRDS has been extended by Anderson et al. (2015), resulting in a further 302 H II region discoveries. Together, these three northern HRDS surveys achieve a detection rate >90%, resulting in the discovery of nearly 800 H II regions-including the most distant Galactic H II regions known.

The Southern HII Region Discovery Survey (SHRDS) is a multi-year project using the Australia Telescope Compact Array (ATCA) to complement the GBT and Arecibo HRDS by extending the survey area into the southern sky ($\delta < -45^{\circ}$). This area includes the Southern end of the Galactic Bar, the Near and Far 3 kpc Arms, the Norma/Cygnus Arm, the Scutum/Crux Arm, the Sagitttarius/Carina Arm, and outside the solar circle, the Perseus Arm, and the Outer Arm. Our lists of confirmed HII regions are seriously incomplete in the third and fourth Galactic quadrants, where no large-scale H II region RRL survey has been done in nearly three decades (since the work of Caswell & Haynes 1987). Currently, three candidate HII regions exist for every confirmed HII region between $225^{\circ} < \ell < 340^{\circ}$, i.e., outside the declination range observable with the GBT.

We make use of the ATCA's compact array configurations, wide band C/X receiver and Compact Array Broadband

 Table 1

 Pilot SHRDS Source Candidates

Source Name	Obs. Epoch	#uv Cuts	Int. (minutes)	IRAS Source	Known Velocities
	Lpoen		legion Candidates	IN IS Source	velocities
			-	When a c (105, 100) (
G214.250-02.461	2	6	25	IRAS 06425–0214	•••
G217.497-00.008	2	6	25	IRAS 06571–0359	•••
G217.640-00.057	2	6	25	IRAS 06573–0408	
G222.096-01.981	2	6	25	IRAS 06587–0859	Y
G222.159-02.163	2	6	25	 ID 4 0 07105 1520	Y
G230.354-00.597	2	7	28	IRAS 07195–1538	
G234.267-01.496	2	7	28	IRAS 07240–1930	
G234.673-00.243	2	7	28	IRAS 07295–1915	Y
G234.762-00.277	2	7	28	IRAS 07296–1921	Y
G235.696-01.243	2	7 7	28	IRAS 07279–2038	Y Y
G237.232-01.066	2	7	28	IRAS 07318–2153	Y Y
G237.257-01.281	2	7	28	IRAS 07310–2201	Y Y
G239.332-02.738	2		28	IRAS 07299–2432	
G290.012-00.867	2	7	25	IRAS 10595–6041	
G290.385-01.042	2	6	25	 DAS 11000 (010	
G290.674-00.133	2	6	25	IRAS 11069–6016	
G291.596-00.239	2	6	25	IRAS 11137–0239	
G292.722+00.157	2	7	25	IRAS 11233–6043	
G292.889-00.831	2	7	25	IRAS 11220–6142	
G293.483-00.903	2	5	25	IRAS 11265–6158	Y
G293.936-00.873	2	6	25		Y
G293.994-00.934	2	6	25		Y
G294.656-00.438	2	13	52	 IDAG 11206 (2002	
G294.988-00.538	2	12	48	IRAS 11396–6202	Y
G295.275-00.255	2	7	25	IRAS 11427–6151	
G297.248-00.754	2	7	28	IRAS 11583–6247	
G297.626-00.906	2	7	28	IRAS 12013–6300	
G298.473+00.104	2	7	28		•••
G298.669+00.064	2	7	28	IRAS 12117–6213	•••
G299.505+00.025	2	7	28		
G300.519-00.409	2	7	28	IRAS 12271–6253	
G300.972+00.994	2	7	29	IRAS 12321–6132	•••
G300.983+01.117	2	7	28	IRAS 12320–6122	Y
G313.671-00.105	1	5	51	IRAS 14183–6050	Y
G314.219+00.344	1	4	14		Y
G316.516-00.600	1	4	40	IRAS 14412–6013	Y
G317.861+00.160	1	3	10	IRAS 14482–5857	Y
G318.248+00.151	1	3	15		•••
G319.229+00.225	1	3	31		
G323.449+00.095	1	4	22	IRAS 15246–5612	Y
G323.743-00.249	1	5	31	IRAS 15278–5620	Y
G323.806+00.020	1	4	16	IRAS 15270–5604	
G323.936-00.037	1	3	19		
G324.662–00.331	1	3	10	IRAS 15335–5552	
G325.108+00.054	1	3	22	IRAS 15347–5518	•••
G325.354+00.035	1	4	16	IRAS 15392–5545	
G326.721+00.773	1	3	10	IRAS 15404–5345	Y
G326.890-00.277	1	3	10	IRAS 15457–5429	Y
G326.916-01.100	1	3	10	IRAS 15495–5505	Y
G327.401+00.484	1	3	10	IRAS 15454–5335	Y
G327.555-00.829	1	3	10		Y
G327.714+00.576	1	3	31		
G327.763-00.163	1	3	17		
		Knov	wn H II Regions		
G213.833+00.618	2	6	25	IRAS 06527-0027	Y
G290.323-02.984	2	7	25	IRAS 10545-6244	Y
G295.748-00.207	2	7	28	IRAS 11467–6155	Y
G315.312-00.273	1	4	14		Y
G313.790+00.706	1	5	14	IRAS 14170-6002	Ŷ
G323.464-00.079	1	4	40	IRAS 15254–5621	Ŷ
G327.313-00.536	1	3	11	IRAS 15492–5426	Ŷ
	-	-			•

Note. The region name, epoch of observation, number of *uv* cuts, and total observation time are listed for each source. The final column indicates that there are known velocities (e.g., stellar or molecular) probably associated with the region.

Backend (CABB, Wilson et al. 2011) to observe up to 25 α RRL transitions simultaneously. The transitions and polarizations can be averaged together in order to produce a single average $\langle Hn\alpha \rangle$ spectrum, providing roughly a factor of five improvement in sensitivity compared with a conventional single line observation. With a moderate integration time per candidate, the ATCA can improve the detection threshold of an RRL survey by nearly an order of magnitude compared to the Caswell & Haynes (1987) Parkes catalog.

The analysis of the pilot survey data was done entirely on the uv plane. The sparse uv coverage for each candidate is not sufficient to make images with good dynamic range. The full SHRDS survey will collect data with multiple telescope configurations and many hour-angle scans on each source, so that maps of the continuum and spectral line emission with good resolution and fidelity can be obtained.

This paper presents the results of two SHRDS pilot observing sessions, in 2013 and 2014, and introduces the telescope and receiver configuration used for the SHRDS. The Pilot Survey source selection, observation, and data reduction strategies are discussed in Sections 2–4. The results of the pilot observations are presented in Table 3.

2. Source Selection

The HRDS and SHRDS are not blind surveys complete over defined areas; instead, the survey observations are targeted toward HII region candidates. Candidate selection is based on infrared and radio continuum morphology, as discussed by Anderson et al. (2014). In the third and fourth Galactic quadrants, the mid-infrared data comes from the WISE catalog of Galactic H II regions, which contains roughly 2000 radioloud candidates. In addition to the WISE (Wright et al. 2010) data at 12 and 22 μ m wavelength, we also consider Spitzer GLIMPSE at 8 μ m (Benjamin et al. 2003; Churchwell et al. 2009) and Spitzer MIPSGAL at 24 μ m (Carey et al. 2009). The radio continuum data comes primarily from the SUMSS survey (Bock et al. 1999), with reference also to the MAGPIS, NVSS, and SGPS surveys (Condon et al. 1998; McClure-Griffiths et al. 2005; Helfand et al. 2006, respectively). To predict the flux density at λ 6 cm, we assumed an optically thin spectral index of $\alpha = -0.12$. The list of targets for the pilot observations is given in Table 1.

2.1. Pilot Survey Source Selection

The SHRDS pilot observations were done in two sessions. Epoch I, observed 2013 June 30, focused on candidates that were expected to show bright RRL detections, which they did. Epoch II, observed 2014 June 26 and 27, used a list of candidates with expected flux densities typical of the SHRDS catalog as a whole. The two epochs also used different longitude ranges in order to generate samples of H II regions with different Galactic radii.

2.1.1. Epoch I

For the first round of observations, we observed H II region candidates in the range $312^{\circ} < \ell < 328^{\circ}$. This section of the fourth Galactic quadrant provides lines of sight that are near the tangents to the Norma–Cygus and Scutum–Crux arms in the inner Galaxy, and are roughly perpendicular to the Scutum–Centaurus and Sagittarius Arm tangents in the outer Galaxy.

We selected twenty H II region candidates (from Anderson et al. 2014) for observations in Epoch I. In addition, four known H II regions: G315.312–00.272 and G327.300–00.548 (from Caswell & Haynes 1987), and G313.790+00.706 and G323.464–00.079 (from Misanovic et al. 2002), were included in the observation schedule. Thus, Epoch I included a total of 24 targets (Table 1). RRLs from all candidates and known regions were detected.

2.1.2. Epoch II

The observations in Epoch II covered longitude range $213^{\circ} < \ell < 301^{\circ}$. This area selects mostly H II regions with Galactocentric radii outside the solar circle. This part of the disk has been little studied in previous Galactic RRL surveys. Between $213^{\circ} < \ell < 301^{\circ}$ the ratio of known:candidate H II regions is 2:5, compared with 1:1 in the corresponding longitude range in the first and second quadrants ($59^{\circ} < \ell < 147^{\circ}$) for candidates selected according to the same criteria. Overall, the detection rate for the H II region candidates in the third quadrant, only 1 was detected, G230.354–00.597, plus the known source G213.833+00.618. In both cases, the lines are only just above the 3σ threshold.

Epoch II candidates were selected to have *WISE* radii between 60" and 150" and no known radial velocity information as tabulated by Anderson et al. (2014). We selected 33 H II region candidates between $213^{\circ} < \ell < 240^{\circ}$ and $290^{\circ} < \ell < 301^{\circ}$ that fulfilled these criteria. Therefore, Epoch II observed a more representative sample from the catalog of Anderson et al. (2014) to determine detection statistics for the SHRDS full survey.

As in Epoch I, a few known H II regions were added to the observation schedule: G213.883+00.618, G290.323-02.984, and G295.748-00.207. Of these three, G295.748-00.207 was strongly detected, and G213.883+00.618 and G290.323-02.984 were detected at the 3.5σ and 5.6σ levels, respectively.

3. Observations

All pilot SHRDS observations used the ATCA in the five antenna H75 array configuration, giving a nominal maximum baseline of 75 m and a beam size of FWHM $\simeq 65''$ at 7.8 GHz depending on the declination and hour angles of the observations. As an interferometer survey, the SHRDS cannot detect emission spread smoothly over much larger angles than the shortest projected baseline, which can be as short as the dish diameter, 22 m. This largest angular scale is roughly equal to the primary beam size, FWHM = 6' at 7.8 GHz. Although the resolution is very coarse, the H75 configuration gives the best brightness temperature sensitivity, which is the critical parameter for detecting weak spectral line emission from extended sources like most HII regions. Surveys of compact and ultra-compact HII regions, like the CORNISH and SCORPIO surveys (Hoare et al. 2012; Purcell et al. 2013; Umana et al. 2015) use very different telescope configurations.

The ATCA's CABB (Wilson et al. 2011) and C/X upgrade allow for two 2 GHz spectral windows to be placed anywhere between 4.0 and 10.8 GHz. The 64M-32k observing mode used here provides for each of these two windows a coarse resolution spectrum of 32×64 MHz channels and up to 16

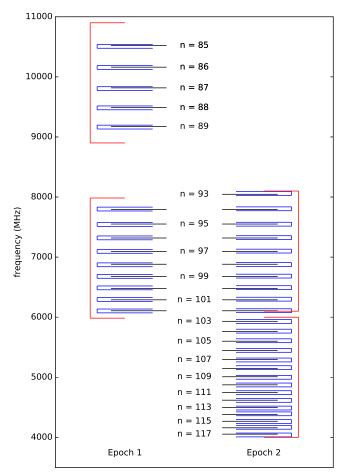


Figure 1. A schematic of CABB frequencies for Epoch I (left) and Epoch II (right). The two 2 GHz CABB bands are shown in red, the individual zoom bands are shown in blue. The frequencies of the Hn α recombination lines are shown as black horizontal lines, with the level *n* indicated.

fine resolution "zoom" bands of 2048 channels across 64 MHz, placed within each broadband 2 GHz window. The zoom bands provide very high spectral resolution, with channel separation $32 \text{ KHz} = 1.2 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ at 7.8 GHz and velocity range of nearly 2500 km s⁻¹ each. Thus, it is not necessary to center the line rest frequency in each zoom band. The center frequencies of the zoom bands are constrained to have frequency separations equal to integral multiples of half the zoom bandwidth. In practice, selection of zoom band center frequencies is facilitated by the CABB scheduler, part of the ATCA observation scheduling tool (http://www.narrabri.atnf.csiro. au/observing/sched/cabb_nopw/). After calibration and Doppler correction, the zoom bands can be aligned in LSR velocity and resampled to the same channel spacing and then averaged in order to improve the signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) for weak and marginal detections.

There are 33 Hn α RRL transitions within the frequency range of the 4 cm receiver. However, the H86 α line is spectrally compromised by higher order RRL transitions (Balser 2006), and the H90 α transition can be affected by a trapped mode in the ATCA's 6/3 cm horn. This leaves 31 individual Hn α transitions between 4.0 and 10.8 GHz. The placement of the two 2 GHz CABB bands, and, hence, the selection of which RRL transitions to observe, is complicated by interference at many frequencies, by variations in the system

 Table 2

 Recombination Lines Observed

$Hn\alpha$	ν Rest MHz	ν Central MHz	ΔV km s
n =			KIII S
	Epoch I, $\nu_1 = 698$	4, $\nu_2 = 9900 \text{ MHz}$	
85	10522.04	10,508	0.9
86	10161.30	10,156	0.9
87	9816.864	9804	1.0
88	9487.821	9484	1.0
89	9173.321	9164	1.0
94	7792.871	7800	1.2
95	7550.614	7544	1.2
96	7318.296	7320	1.3
97	7095.411	7096	1.3
98	6881.486	6872	1.4
99	6676.076	6680	1.4
100	6478.760	6488	1.4
101	6289.144	6296	1.5
102	6106.855	6104	1.5
	Epoch II, $\nu_1 = 500$	00, $\nu_2 = 7100 \text{ MHz}$	
93	8045.603	8060	1.2
94	7792.871	7804	1.2
95	7550.614	7548	1.2
96	7318.296	7324	1.3
97	7095.411	7100	1.3
98	6881.486	6876	1.4
99	6676.076	6684	1.4
100	6478.760	6492	1.4
101	6289.144	6300	1.5
102	6106.855	6108	1.5
103	5931.544	5928	1.6
104	5762.880	5768	1.6
105	5600.550	5608	1.7
106	5444.260	5448	1.7
107	5293.732	5288	1.8
108	5148.703	5160	1.8
109	5008.923	5000	1.9
110	4874.157	4872	1.9
111	4744.776	4744	2.0
112	4618.789	4616	2.0
112	4497.776	4488	2.0
114	4380.954	4392	2.1
115	4268.142	4264	2.1
116	4159.171	4168	2.2
117	4053.878	4040	2.2

Note. Hn α transitions and rest frequencies are given, with the center frequency and velocity resolution of each zoom band. The center frequencies of the 2 GHz bands (ν_1 and ν_2) are also listed. See Figure 1.

temperature of the receiver with frequency, and by the natural decrease of the line-to-continuum ratio with increasing quantum level. The two epochs of pilot observations explored two among many possible choices of CABB frequencies (see Figure 1 and Table 2).

Epoch I (project C2842) was observed over 12 hours on 2013 July 1. The frequency placement of the various bands for Epoch I was chosen to emulate the GBT HRDS observations. Centering the 2 GHz CABB bands at 7000 and 9900 MHz, allows thirteen Hn α RRLs to be observed simultaneously. This frequency range includes 3 of the RRLs observed by the GBT HRDS and an additional 10 Hn α transitions (see Figure 1). A

 Table 3

 Detected RRL Gaussian Parameters

Source	$\mathrm{Hn}\alpha$	VLSR	FWHM	S_c	rms	S_L	T_e	S/N
Name	<i>(n)</i>	$({\rm km}~{\rm s}^{-1})$	$({\rm km}~{\rm s}^{-1})$	(mJy)	(mJy)	(mJy)	(K)	σ
G213.833+00.618	S	53.2 ± 20.2	33.5 ± 20.9	N/A	1.4	1.9 ± 2.3	N/A	3.5
G230.354-00.597	S	69.0 ± 16.1	35.0 ± 16.7	N/A	1.5	2.1 ± 2.0	N/A	3.7
G290.012-00.867	S	14.7 ± 8.3	24.9 ± 8.6	N/A	1.8	3.6 ± 2.5	N/A	4.5
G290.323-02.984	S	-17.7 ± 8.0	28.3 ± 8.3	N/A	1.5	3.5 ± 2.1	N/A	5.6
G290.385-01.042	S	9.91 ± 4.6	13.2 ± 4.7	N/A	1.9	4.0 ± 2.9	N/A	3.4
G290.674-00.133	S	19.3 ± 5.2	23.2 ± 5.3	N/A	1.4	5.2 ± 2.4	N/A	8.0
G291.596-00.239	S	11.4 ± 5.1	44.2 ± 5.4	N/A	2.5	15.3 ± 3.7	8300 ± 1200	18.
G292.889-00.831	S	21.8 ± 7.1	30.0 ± 7.3	N/A	1.4	4.8 ± 2.3	N/A	8.4
G293.936-00.873	S	36.6 ± 1.4	22.3 ± 1.5	N/A	2.0	16.4 ± 2.2	9400 ± 400	17
G293.994-00.934	S	46.5 ± 1.7	25.6 ± 1.8	N/A	1.3	18.6 ± 2.6	9600 ± 400	32
G294.988-00.538	S	39.8 ± 1.9	27.4 ± 2.0	N/A	1.2	9.7 ± 1.4	10000 ± 400	19
G295.275-00.255	S	30.1 ± 6.2	30.6 ± 6.3	N/A	1.6	5.6 ± 2.3	7900 ± 4500	8.7
G295.748-00.207	S	23.3 ± 3.5	23.9 ± 3.5	N/A	1.6	7.2 ± 2.1	7300 ± 1800	9.8
G297.248-00.754	S	22.6 ± 1.5	24.4 ± 1.6	N/A	1.9	22.6 ± 2.9	7200 ± 400	26
	107	24.4 ± 2.7	23.1 ± 2.8	369	7.2	22.0 ± 5.0	7700 ± 3200	3.1
	106	22.0 ± 2.8	27.6 ± 2.8	365	7.0	21.0 ± 4.0	6900 ± 2300	3.0
	105	22.3 ± 2.6	25.8 ± 2.7	359	6.9	20.0 ± 4.0	7700 ± 2700	3.0
	104	20.4 ± 2.3	26.0 ± 2.3	356	8.3	25.0 ± 4.0	6500 ± 1900	3.1
	103	22.3 ± 2.8	25.3 ± 2.9	350	7.0	21.0 ± 4.0	7700 ± 3000	3.1
G297.626-00.906	S	31.3 ± 2.1	28.4 ± 2.2	N/A	1.5	16.1 ± 2.5	7900 ± 400	26
G298.473+00.104	S	32.9 ± 2.0	23.5 ± 2.1	N/A	2.0	12.2 ± 2.2	7900 ± 400	13
G298.669+00.064	S	24.1 ± 2.4	14.1 ± 2.4	N/A	2.2	11.4 ± 3.9	11000 ± 3800	8.7
G300.972+00.994	S	-34.5 ± 7.2	39.1 ± 7.5	N/A	1.7	3.8 ± 1.4	5600 ± 2600	6.3
G300.983+01.117	S	-42.0 ± 0.4	26.5 ± 0.4	N/A	3.3	83.8 ± 2.8	6000 ± 880	26.0
	107	-42.4 ± 0.8	25.6 ± 0.9	1360	12.3	86.0 ± 5.0	6700 ± 650	7.0
	106	-43.0 ± 0.9	25.2 ± 0.9	1330	12.6	86.0 ± 6.0	6800 ± 690	6.8
	105	-42.7 ± 0.8	27.2 ± 0.8	1290	13.2	91.0 ± 5.0	6100 ± 530	6.9
	104 103	$-41.9 \pm 1.0 \\ -42.0 \pm 1.0$	$26.2 \pm 1.0 \\ 25.7 \pm 1.0$	1260 1220	13.3 12.6	$83.0 \pm 6.0 \\ 85.0 \pm 6.0$	$6900 \pm 780 \\ 6800 \pm 770$	6.3 6.8
	103 96	-42.0 ± 1.0 -42.2 ± 1.0	25.7 ± 1.0 26.0 ± 1.0	879	22.5	83.0 ± 0.0 81.0 ± 6.0	6500 ± 720	0.8 3.6
	90 94	-42.2 ± 1.0 -41.2 ± 1.0	20.0 ± 1.0 24.9 ± 1.0	809	22.5	75.0 ± 6.0	7100 ± 850	3.8
	93	-40.6 ± 1.1	26.6 ± 1.1	750	17.7	73.0 ± 6.0	6600 ± 810	4.2
G313.671-00.104	S	-54.6 ± 1.4	24.6 ± 1.5	N/A	1.6	12.0 ± 1.4	6700 ± 400	17
G313.790+00.706	S	-57.2 ± 0.9	22.6 ± 0.9	N/A	2.6	38.7 ± 3.0	7000 ± 450	32
	101	-57.6 ± 1.9	20.2 ± 1.9	436	11.1	41.0 ± 8.0	6800 ± 2200	3.7
	97	-56.7 ± 1.8	20.6 ± 1.8	399	11.2	38.0 ± 6.0	7300 ± 2100	3.5
	96	-56.8 ± 2.6	26.9 ± 2.6	396	11.8	35.0 ± 6.0	6400 ± 2100	3.0
	95	-55.0 ± 2.2	26.4 ± 2.3	386	11.7	35.0 ± 6.0	6600 ± 1800	3.1
	94	-58.5 ± 1.6	20.7 ± 1.6	372	12.8	41.0 ± 6.0	7100 ± 1700	3.2
	89	-55.7 ± 1.7	21.7 ± 1.8	330	11.9	39.0 ± 6.0	7400 ± 1900	3.3
	87	-57.0 ± 1.8	21.3 ± 1.9	306	11.9	40.0 ± 7.0	7500 ± 2200	3.4
	85	-56.2 ± 1.7	22.2 ± 1.8	294	13.8	42.0 ± 6.0	7100 ± 1800	3.1
G314.219+00.344	S	-62.5 ± 0.4	20.0 ± 0.5	N/A	3.5	66.4 ± 3.1	6500 ± 640	38
	101	-63.0 ± 1.0	21.0 ± 1.0	706	12.8	81.0 ± 7.0	5600 ± 780	6.3
	97 97	-62.7 ± 0.9	18.1 ± 0.9	534	12.3	71.0 ± 7.0	6200 ± 940	5.8
	96 05	-61.7 ± 1.4	20.6 ± 1.4	495	12.2	55.0 ± 7.0	6700 ± 1400	4.6
	95 94	-63.1 ± 1.2	18.4 ± 1.2	468	12.1	63.0 ± 8.0	6500 ± 1300	5.2
		-62.1 ± 1.2	21.8 ± 1.2	438	12.9	59.0 ± 6.0	5700 ± 990	4.6
	89 87	-61.6 ± 1.2 62.7 ± 1.0	$21.2 \pm 1.2 \\ 18.6 \pm 1.0$	401 389	12.5 13.0	57.0 ± 6.0 67.0 ± 7.0	6500 ± 1100 6700 ± 1100	4.6 5.1
	87	$-62.7 \pm 1.0 \\ -62.5 \pm 1.5$	18.0 ± 1.0 20.1 ± 1.6	360	15.3	$67.0 \pm 7.0 \\ 65.0 \pm 10.0$	$6700 \pm 1100 \\ 6400 \pm 1600$	4.3
G315.312-00.273	S	-62.5 ± 1.5 14.2 ± 1.4	20.1 ± 1.0 24.0 ± 1.4	N/A	3.6	30.0 ± 3.6	7700 ± 400	18
0515.512 00.275	101	10.7 ± 2.1	18.1 ± 2.2	414	11.5	37.0 ± 9.0	7800 ± 3300	3.3
	97	10.7 ± 2.1 14.1 ± 2.4	13.1 ± 2.2 22.4 ± 2.4	377	11.9	37.0 ± 9.0 36.0 ± 7.0	6900 ± 2500	3.1
	85	14.1 ± 2.4 15.2 ± 4.5	33.4 ± 4.7	240	14.9	22.0 ± 6.0	7400 ± 3900	1.5
G316.516-00.600	S	-45.6 ± 0.9	19.9 ± 0.9	N/A	1.7	19.0 ± 1.7	5900 ± 400	22
	97	-46.2 ± 2.0	18.1 ± 2.0	142	6.1	20.0 ± 4.0	5900 ± 2300	3.3
	96	-45.4 ± 2.0	19.4 ± 2.0	140	6.5	20.0 ± 4.0	5500 ± 2000	3.2
	94	-46.2 ± 1.8	18.2 ± 1.9	135	6.6	21.0 ± 4.0	5900 ± 2100	3.2
	89	-42.7 ± 1.8	19.8 ± 1.8	115	6.7	21.0 ± 3.0	5600 ± 1700	3.2
	87	-45.8 ± 1.9	20.3 ± 1.9	106	6.9	21.0 ± 4.0	5300 ± 1700	3.2
	S	1.53 ± 0.9	22.9 ± 0.9	N/A	2.7	55.6 ± 4.6	7600 ± 430	44

Table 3 (Continued)

$ \begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	(Continued)								
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									$_{\sigma}^{\mathrm{S/N}}$
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									4.2
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									4.2
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$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									4.0
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		87			466	14.8		7800 ± 1800	3.5
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		85	-0.447 ± 2.4		431		49.0 ± 8.0	6800 ± 1900	3.0
$ \begin{array}{rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr$	8.248 + 00.151	S	-39.9 ± 2.0			2.8		5900 ± 740	12
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									3.2
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									14
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$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	3.464-00.079				,				45
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$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									4.0
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		95		27.3 ± 2.1	661	6.5	24.0 ± 3.0	14000 ± 3400	3.8
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$			-69.3 ± 1.9	30.7 ± 1.9			27.0 ± 3.0	12000 ± 2200	3.9
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									4.6
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$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	5.745-00.249								20 3.2
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									3.2
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									3.2
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									3.8
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		87	-47.6 ± 1.6	21.7 ± 1.7	141	7.3	26.0 ± 4.0	5400 ± 1400	3.6
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									3.3
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	3.806+00.021				,				24
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									3.5
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$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									3.0
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	3.936-00.037								12.7
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									20
$ \begin{array}{ccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	5.108 + 00.054	S			,	3.2		6700 ± 1600	7.3
$ \begin{array}{ccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	5.354-00.035	S	-63.8 ± 0.6	34.4 ± 1.5	N/A	1.4	15 ± 1.5	6800 ± 800	26
$ \begin{array}{ccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		102	-63.3 ± 1.4	25.2 ± 3.4	251		17 ± 2.0	7232 ± 970	8.7
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									7.7
97 -61.4 ± 2.4 37.9 ± 6.0 228 5.5 19 ± 2.1 4934 ± 800									8.9
									8.4
-60.2 ± 1.5 17.4 ± 5.4 222 0.0 24 ± 5.2 7142 ± 1500									9.2 7.7
95 -62.5 ± 2.0 27.4 ± 4.7 217 5.6 16 ± 2.4 7574 ± 1400									6.7
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									8.7
$89 \qquad -63.8 \pm 2.1 \qquad 31.3 \pm 5.1 \qquad 183 \qquad 4.6 \qquad 13 \pm 1.8 \qquad 8501 \pm 1400$		89						8501 ± 1400	7.1
$88 \qquad -60.6 \pm 1.6 \qquad 28.9 \pm 3.7 \qquad 178 \qquad 4.6 \qquad 17 \pm 1.9 \qquad 7130 \pm 910$		88	-60.6 ± 1.6	28.9 ± 3.7	178	4.6	17 ± 1.9	7130 ± 910	9.0
87 -60.9 ± 1.3 30.1 ± 3.1 172 4.6 22 ± 1.9 5746 ± 570									11.4
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									7.0
$85 -59.8 \pm 1.3 21.7 \pm 3.1 162 5.2 21 \pm 2.5 8035 \pm 1140$	6 721 + 00 772								8.2
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	3.721+00.773				,				20 3.6
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									3.5
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									3.5
$95 -40.3 \pm 2.2 22.0 \pm 2.2 466 15.7 46.0 \pm 9.0 7200 \pm 2400$									3.0
$ G326.890-00.277 \qquad S \qquad -44.2 \pm 0.7 \qquad 19.1 \pm 0.7 \qquad N/A \qquad 3.5 \qquad 63.2 \pm 4.5 \qquad 6200 \pm 440 \qquad $	5.890-00.277	S							35
101 -45.4 ± 1.8 19.4 ± 1.8 48713.049.0 ± 9.0 6700 ± 2000		101	-45.4 ± 1.8	19.4 ± 1.8			49.0 ± 9.0	6700 ± 2000	3.8
97 -43.7 ± 1.2 18.1 ± 1.2 465 13.4 65.0 ± 8.0 6000 ± 1200									4.9
96 -45.0 ± 1.8 22.6 ± 1.9 456 13.8 53.0 ± 8.0 5900 ± 1600									3.9
95 -45.3 ± 1.6 22.2 ± 1.7 450 13.6 54.0 ± 8.0 6000 ± 1400		95	-45.3 ± 1.6	22.2 ± 1.7	450	13.6	54.0 ± 8.0	6000 ± 1400	4.0

			(Co	ontinued)				
Source Name	$ \text{Hn}\alpha $ (n)	$\frac{\text{VLSR}}{(\text{km s}^{-1})}$	FWHM (km s ⁻¹)	S _c (mJy)	rms (mJy)	S _L (mJy)	<i>Т</i> _е (К)	$\sigma^{\mathrm{S/N}}$
	94	-43.4 ± 1.2	18.3 ± 1.2	445	15.7	62.0 ± 8.0	6500 ± 1300	4.0
	89	-43.7 ± 0.9	18.7 ± 0.9	415	13.9	75.0 ± 7.0	6000 ± 880	5.4
	87	-44.3 ± 0.9	20.5 ± 1.0	408	14.3	77.0 ± 7.0	5600 ± 800	5.5
	85	-43.7 ± 0.8	17.9 ± 0.8	396	15.1	80.0 ± 7.0	6400 ± 900	5.3
G326.916-01.100	S	-49.8 ± 1.8	21.0 ± 1.9	N/A	4.4	18.9 ± 3.4	6800 ± 450	8.8
G327.313-00.536	S	-48.5 ± 0.2	28.1 ± 0.3	N/A	33.1	2280.0 ± 41.7	6100 ± 890	163
	102	-48.8 ± 0.4	28.8 ± 0.4	26600	200.0	2020.0 ± 56.0	5900 ± 400	10.0
	101	-48.9 ± 0.3	28.5 ± 0.3	27000	211.0	2128.0 ± 47.0	5900 ± 400	10.0
	97	-48.7 ± 0.3	28.0 ± 0.3	25100	239.0	2226.0 ± 46.0	6100 ± 400	9.3
	96	-48.7 ± 0.3	28.0 ± 0.3	24600	238.0	2293.0 ± 48.0	6000 ± 400	9.6
	95	-48.6 ± 0.3	28.2 ± 0.3	24100	234.0	2289.0 ± 50.0	6100 ± 400	9.8
	94	-48.5 ± 0.3	27.6 ± 0.3	23500	303.0	2315.0 ± 53.0	6200 ± 400	7.6
	89	-48.6 ± 0.3	28.1 ± 0.3	20300	270.0	2420.0 ± 50.0	6000 ± 400	9.0
	87	-48.3 ± 0.3	27.6 ± 0.3	19100	282.0	2479.0 ± 53.0	6100 ± 400	8.8
	85	-47.9 ± 0.3	27.3 ± 0.3	18000	290.0	2471.0 ± 53.0	6200 ± 400	8.5
G327.401+00.484	S	-76.3 ± 1.7	17.7 ± 1.7	N/A	2.6	31.5 ± 6.1	6000 ± 570	23
	97	-77.1 ± 1.6	17.0 ± 1.7	229	13.7	47.0 ± 9.0	4500 ± 1500	3.5
G327.555-00.829	S	-41.7 ± 2.6	24.8 ± 2.6	N/A	4.0	16.5 ± 3.5	7500 ± 950	9.2
G327.714+00.577	S	-47.4 ± 2.4	21.9 ± 2.5	N/A	2.1	12.0 ± 2.7	6600 ± 1000	12
G327.763+00.163	S	-92.8 ± 1.2	21.6 ± 1.2	N/A	2.6	30.1 ± 3.4	6800 ± 400	24
	97	-93.5 ± 2.1	19.8 ± 2.1	297	10.3	33.0 ± 7.0	6700 ± 2500	3.3
	94	-93.5 ± 1.8	21.2 ± 1.8	265	10.7	37.0 ± 6.0	5700 ± 1600	3.5
	87	-92.9 ± 2.0	19.2 ± 2.0	191	10.8	35.0 ± 7.0	6100 ± 2300	3.3

 Table 3

 (Continued)

(This table is available in machine-readable form.)

single phase calibrator, PKS B1421–490, was used for all Epoch I observations. Both epochs used PKS 1934–63 as a flux calibrator, and phase calibration was done every \sim 20 minutes. Each source was observed at several-hour angles to improve the sampling on the *uv* plane.

Epoch II (project C2963) was observed over two 12-hour blocks on 2014 July 26 and 27. The centers of the two broadband IFs were moved to 5000 and 7100 MHz in order to increase the number of simultaneously observed Hn α transitions from 13 to 25. In addition to PKS 1934–638, secondary bandpass calibrators (PKS0823–500 and PKS0537–441) were also observed in Epoch II. As the Epoch II targets fell into two longitude groups ($\ell \approx 220^{\circ}$ and $\ell \approx 295^{\circ}$), two phase calibration sources were chosen for each day: PKS0723–008 and PMS J1131–58 for July 26, and PKS0727–115 and PKS1148 –671 for July 27.

The lower frequency band centers selected in Epoch II did not give good results, even though they cover more RRL α transitions. There is more artificial interference at frequencies below 5 GHz, and several of the zoom bands had to be discarded entirely. The conclusion for the subsequent SHRDS survey is that the best frequency placement is a compromise between the two shown in Figure 1. For the full survey, we chose to center our broad bands at 5.505 and 8.540 GHz. In this configuration, the SHRDS can observe 18 RRL α transitions simultaneously.

4. Data Processing and Analysis

Bandpass calibration, flux density calibration, and flagging were carried out with standard MIRIAD reduction techniques (Sault et al. 1995). After calibration, the zoom bands can be aligned in velocity and resampled to the same channel spacing

and then averaged in order to improve the S/N. For Epoch I, we set the common channel spacing to $\Delta V = 2.5 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, and in Epoch II we use 2.3 km s⁻¹ (Table 2). The resampling was done with the MIRIAD task UVAVER, which uses Fourier extension to change the channel step size. We average uv spectra weighting by the continuum flux density of each baseline and each band. Longer baselines generally give weaker continuums, as most H II regions are partially resolved even with the H75 array. Any individual transitions that were polluted by RFI or had bad baseline ripples due to calibration problems were not included in the final average spectra.

Working with *uv* plane data can blend together spectra from multiple objects within the primary beam. To separate individual sources or source components in a crowded field requires imaging. This analysis will follow when the full SHRDS survey data are available.

A Gaussian fit was made to the line profile in the average spectrum for each candidate. For lines with S/N > 3, the Gaussian parameters are given in Table 3 and illustrated in Figures 2 and 3. Table 3 gives for each detected source, the source name in column 1. Column 2 has an S (for "Source Average") if the detection was made in the average of all RRL transitions or the Hn α number for sources bright enough to be detected in individual transitions. The following columns give the line center velocity (VLSR), line width (FWHM), continuum flux density (S_C), spectral rms noise, peak line flux density (S_L), electron temperature estimated from the line-to-continuum ratios (T_e), and the S/N. The S/N is computed as (e.g., Lenz & Ayres 1992):

$$S/N = 0.7 \left(\frac{S_L}{rms}\right) \sqrt{\frac{FWHM}{\Delta V}}$$
 (1)

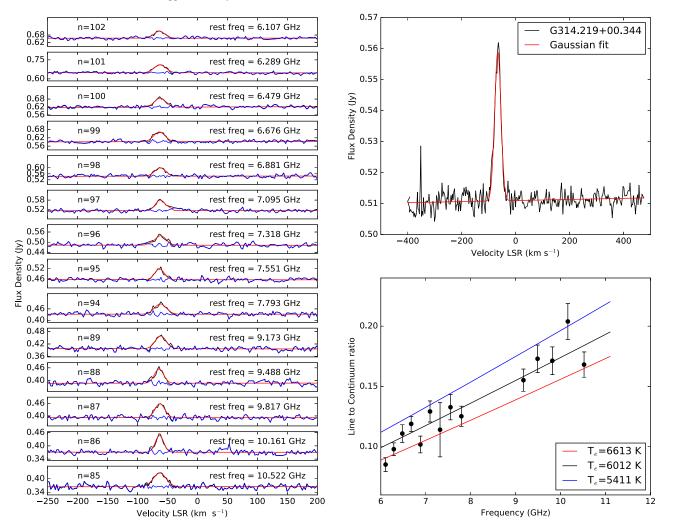


Figure 2. Spectra from a bright but previously unknown source. This figure shows the spectra for G314.219+00.344, which is a moderate to strong source, not previously detected in RRL emission. Individual RRL transitions are shown on the left panel, the overall average with Gaussian fit is shown on the upper right. The lower-right panel shows the line-to-continuum ratio for each RRL transition vs. frequency. Fitting these data with the assumption that both the line and continuum emission are optically thin gives an electron temperature $T_e \simeq 6000$ K (black line). The red and blue lines correspond to increase and decrease by 10% of the best fit T_e , as indicated.

If a line was detected with S/N greater than ~ 15 in the average spectrum, then each individual Hn α transition was considered separately, again weighting the different baselines by their continuum flux. Gaussians were fitted to the average line profile for each transition. The results are listed as separate entries under each source name in Table 3. For these lines, the S/N is simply the peak line flux divided by its error.

For lines sufficiently strong enough that their peak can be determined fairly accurately for each transition separately, it is possible to estimate the electron temperature, under the assumption that both the spectral line and continuum emission are optically thin. Whether or not this assumption holds depends on the emission measure. Typically for diffuse H II regions, the continuum is optically thin for frequencies above 3-5 GHz, but for ultra-compact and hyper-compact H II regions, the continuum can be optically thick up to frequencies much higher than the C/X band observed here (4–11 GHz). If the line and continuum are both optically thin and the level populations are in thermodynamic equilibrium with the electron kinetic temperature, T_e , then the line-to-continuum

ratio, S_L/S_C , is

$$\frac{S_L}{S_C} = 7 \times 10^3 \left(\frac{\Delta V_{\rm FWHM}}{\rm km \ s^{-1}}\right)^{-1} \left(\frac{\nu}{\rm GHz}\right)^{1.1} \\ \times \left(\frac{T_e}{\rm K}\right)^{-1.15} \left(1 + \frac{N(\rm He^+)}{N(\rm H^+)}\right)^{-1}$$
(2)

where ΔV_{FWHM} is the line width (full width to half maximum, or 2.35 times σ_{ν}), ν is the line rest frequency, and the ratio of column densities of He⁺ to H⁺ is taken as 0.09, making the final term 1.09 (Quireza et al. 2006).

An interferometer telescope is particularly well suited to the measurement of T_e , because each baseline at each frequency measures S_L and S_C through the same spatial filter or fringe pattern. Although different baselines measure different continuum flux values, depending on the angular size and structure of the source and the projected baseline length, there is no need to determine a zero-level or overall offset to the continuum flux, as there is for single-dish surveys. In principal, every Hn α transition provides a separate measurement of T_e by

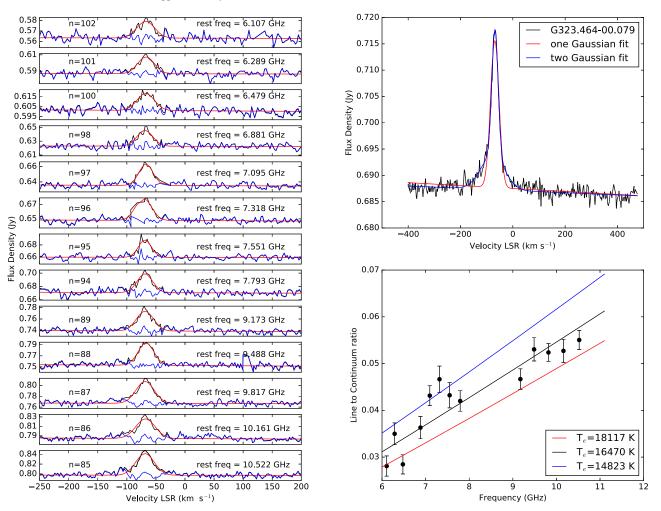


Figure 3. Spectra for a bright source that shows multiple line widths. This figure shows the spectra for G323.464-00.079, which is a strong source, previously detected by Murphy et al. (2010), with panel layout the same as in Figure 2. This hyper-compact H II region has a broad line profile that is not adequately fitted by a single Gaussian. This may indicate that there are two ionized regions with very different kinetic temperatures in the same H II region complex. The results of the two-Gaussian fit are given in Table 3 and indicated by "S2" in column 2.

Equation (2) (column 8 in Table 3). A better estimate is given by fitting the line-to-continuum ratios for all lines to a single T_e value. This is shown for the two sample sources on the lowerright panels of Figures 2 and 3.

The second example, G323.464–00.079, is a hyper-compact H II region that violates the condition of being optically thin in the continuum (Murphy et al. 2010). Unlike most of our detections, including G314.219+00.344 shown in Figure 2, the continuum flux of G323.464–00.079 increases rapidly with increasing frequency across the entire range of these observations. In this case, the electron temperature derived from the line-to-continuum ratios is an overestimate. Further study of this source using maps of the RRL emission may reveal whether the two Gaussian components correspond to separate regions of ionized gas.

Accurate values of the continuum and spectral line flux densities will require mapping and cleaning of the interferometer data. The full SHRDS survey achieves much better coverage of the uv plane, as it uses two different array configurations and longer integrations at more and different hour angles. Thus, the values in columns 5 and 7 of Table 3 will be revised when better data become available. But the line to continuum ratios, and, hence, the electron temperatures, can

be determined quickly from the uv data alone, as is shown in the lower-right panels of Figures 2 and 3.

5. Summary and Conclusions

The SHRDS Pilot Study discovered 36 HII regions with RRLs, a detection rate of about 66%. All known H II regions included in the observing schedule were also successfully redetected. More than one-third (15 out of 35) of the newly discovered HII regions are located in the outer Galaxy where existing catalogs of H II regions are not very complete. For the sources with RRL detections in the literature, the line strengths, center velocities, and line widths are in good agreement with published values. The rms of the differences in center velocities divided by their errors is 1.1, and the rms of the differences in FWHM divided by their errors is 1.4. The only velocity parameter that differs from its corresponding value in the literature by more than 2σ is the FWHM of the line in G295.748–00.207, which we find as 23.9 \pm 3.5 km s⁻ versus Caswell & Haynes (1987)'s value of 35 km s⁻¹. Caswell & Haynes (1987) do not give an error in the FWHM, but their channel spacing is 2.3 km s^{-1} .

A surprising result of these pilot observations is the low detection rate for candidate H II regions in the third quadrant

compared with those in the fourth quadrant of the Galaxy. This may be caused in part by a selection bias against sources with large angular sizes. The interferometer is not sensitive to brightness that is smoothly spread over angular sizes larger than about 6', as noted in Section 3, paragraph 1. Thus, nearby regions with large radii will show lower flux densities for the interferometer than they would to a single-dish telescope.

The main goal of these pilot experiments was to demonstrate the efficiency and sensitivity of the ATCA for detecting RRL emission from Galactic H II regions using the CABB system. The secondary objective was to determine the best placement for the CABB zoom bands, given the varying system temperature and interference environment of the ATCA and the typical emission spectra of a sample of H II region candidates. The result of the two epochs of observations indicates that the SHRDS should concentrate on the higher frequencies available with the 4 cm (C/X-band) receiver. These are generally easier to calibrate, more sensitive to RRLs from typical H II region candidates, and the resolution is better at shorter wavelengths.

The observing strategy for the SHRDS was also a subject of experimentation in the pilot project. For candidates near the detection threshold, an efficient strategy is to make many short observations at widely spaced hour angles, so as to get the best coverage of the uv plane. These three- or four-minute integrations are not long enough to detect RRLs, but with 5–10 such "snapshots", a continuum map with fair to good dynamic range can be made. Based on the strength of the source(s) found on the continuum map, we can accurately estimate the expected RRL line strength. The total telescope time available can then be apportioned among the candidates so as to optimize the line detection rate.

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Software: ATCA observation scheduling tool (http://www.narrabri.atnf.csiro.au/observing/sched/cabb_nopw/), miriad (Sault et al. 1995), matplotlib (Hunter 2007).

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