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Summary: In addition to the bright sources LMC X-1 - X-4 and A0538-66 fifteen EINSTEIN X-ray sources in the field of the LMC appear to be non-extended and have been accurately positioned with the HRI to make optical follow-up studies feasible. At least twelve of these are not associated with the LMC, including one Seyfert galaxy at redshift 0.076 and eleven late-type galactic foreground stars, some showing photometric variability typical for RS CVn and BY Dra stars.

The sources 1E 0524.5-7013 and 0543.8-6823 are identified with variable faint blue stellar objects, the latter has been observed to exhibit variable He II and Balmer emission lines being reminiscent of the low mass X-ray binary IMC X-2. The optical counterpart of IMC X-1 is a highly reddened (V=14.5, E(B-V)=0.61) 0 7-9 type giant with variable He II and N III emission. The IPC source 1E 0501.6-7037 is probably associated with the IMC OB emission line star SK-70 36 which shows ellipsoidal light variations with a period of 6.94 days.

Further possible identifications of IPC sources with stellar objects and globular clusters in the LMC are discussed. The results indicate that only a small fraction of the non-extended X-ray sources are associated with the LMC and that a gap in the X-ray binary luminosity function exists between 10^{36} and 10^{38} erg/s.

A full account of this work will be published elsewhere.

J.

Based on observations collected at the European Southern Observatory, La Silla, Chile.

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