

Observing Application

Date : Jul, 27 2011 Proposal ID : VLBA/11A-292

Legacy ID: BC199

PI: Stephen Cenko

Type : Director's Discretionary

Time - Target of Opportunity

Category: Energetic Transients and

Pulsars

Total Time: 8.0

Sw J2058+05: A Possible Second Relativistic Tidal Disruption Flare

Abstract:

The recent discovery of the transient source Sw J1644+57 (aka GRB110328A) has unveiled an entirely new class of high-energy outbursts. Like GRBs, the outburst was believed to mark the birth of a relativistic jet, generating luminous X-ray and radio emission. However, the central engine powering Sw J1644+57 was the super-massive black hole in the nucleus of an otherwise normal (i.e., non-active) galaxy. While not conclusive, the observed emission may result from the tidal disruption of a star passing too close to the central black hole. Here we request observations of a newly identified high-energy transient, Sw J2058+05, that shares many of the same properties. VLBA observations will enable us to pinpoint the location of the transient to the host galaxy nucleus (cementing the association with a super-massive black hole), and also constrain the angular size of the outflow, limiting the age of the inferred relativistic jet.

Authors:

Name	Institution	Email	Status
Stephen Cenko	California at Berkeley, University of	cenko@astro.berkeley.edu	
Geoffrey Bower	California at Berkeley, University of	gbower@astro.berkeley.edu	
Dale Frail	National Radio Astronomy Observatory	dfrail@nrao.edu	
Assaf Horesh	California Institute of Technology	assafh@astro.caltech.edu	
Shri Kulkarni	California Institute of Technology	srk@astro.caltech.edu	
Josh Bloom	California at Berkeley, University of	jbloom@astro.berkeley.edu	

Principal Investigator: Stephen Cenko Contact: Stephen Cenko Telephone: 510-508-8220

Email: cenko@astro.berkeley.edu

Related proposals:

Joint:

Not a Joint Proposal

Observing type(s):

Continuum, Single Pointing(s), Astrometry

VLBA Resources

Name	Details	Stations	Observing Parameters	Correlation Parameters
Xband	Wavelength: 3.6 cm Processor: Socorro-DiFX Observing Standard	VLBA Br Fd Hn Kp V La Mk Kp VOv Pt Sc V HSA Ar Ef GBT VLA-Y27 VLA-Y1 Geodetic	Bandwidth: 16 MHz Baseband 8 Channels Sample Rate 32 (Msample/s) Bits/Sample 2 Polarization Dual Agg. Bit Rate (Mbits/sec)	Full Polarization Pulsar Gate Correlator Passes Integration Period (sec) Spectral Points /BBC No of Fields I V
Kband	Wavelength: 1.3 cm Processor: Socorro-DiFX Observing Standard	VLBA Br Fd Hn Kp La Mk Kp Ov Pt Sc HSA Ar Ef GBT VLA-Y27 VLA-Y1 Geodetic	Bandwidth: 16 MHz Baseband 8 Channels Sample Rate 32 (Msample/s) Bits/Sample 2 Polarization Dual Agg. Bit Rate (Mbits/sec)	Full Polarization Pulsar Gate Correlator Passes Integration Period (sec) Spectral Points /BBC No of Fields 1

Sources:

Name	Position		Velocity		Group
Sw J2058+05	Coordinate System	Equatorial	Convention	Redshift	Sw J2058+05 Group
	Equinox	J2000			
	Right Ascension	20:58:19.898	Ref. Frame	LSRK	
		00:00:00.0			
	Declination	+05:13:32.25	Redshift	1.1853	
		00:00:00.0			

Sessions:

Name	Session Time (hours)	Repeat	Separation	GST minimum	GST maximum	Elevation Minimum
Sw2058	4.00	1	0 day	00:00:00	24:00:00	0
Sw2058-K	4.00	1	0 day	00:00:00	24:00:00	0

Session Constraints:

Name Constraints		Comments	

Session Source/Resource Pairs:

Session Name	Source	Resource	Time	Figure of Merit
Sw2058	Sw J2058+05	Xband	4.0 hour	0.040 mJy/bm
Sw2058-K	Sw J2058+05	Kband	4.0 hour	0.080 mJy/bm

Staff support: None

Plan of Dissertation: