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Swift confirmation and localization of the new Transient MAXI J1621-501

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on 19 Oct 2017; 22:38 UT

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Subjects: X-ray, Binary, Neutron Star

Referred to by ATel #: [10876](#), [11067](#), [11272](#)

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Following report of a new transient by MAXI (ATel #[10869](#)), we observed the MAXI error region with a set of 7-tile Swift/XRT observations in PC mode. We detect a new bright source with enhanced coordinates RA=245.09171, Dec=-50.01989 (J2000), which translate to:

RA: 16:20:22.01
Dec: -50:01:11.6

With radial uncertainty of 3.4". This is not consistent with any previously identified X-ray source.

We extract a spectrum (and correct for pile up) from the observation and fit it with both absorbed disk blackbody and absorbed powerlaw. The absorbed diskbb provide a slightly superior fit with a reduced chi-squared of 0.94 for 17 degrees of freedom (compared to red. chi2 of 1.12 for the absorbed powerlaw, with the same number of d.o.f). The diskbb fit indicates a hydrogen column density of $N_{\text{H}}=9(-2/+3)e^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, inner disk temperature of $T_{\text{in}} = 2.1(-0.5/+0.7) \text{ keV}$ and an unabsorbed flux of $2.1(-0.3/+0.5)e^{-9} \text{ erg/s/cm}^2$ in the 0.5-10 keV band.

Swift monitoring of this source is planned. Multi-wavelength observations are encouraged. We thank the Swift team for rapidly scheduling our observations.

Related

- [11317](#) Identification of AX J1620.1-5002 with MAXI J1621-501
- [11272](#) MAXI J1621-501 distance inferred from type-I X-ray bursts detected by JEM-X
- [11252](#) INTEGRAL detection of X-ray transient source AX J1620.1-5002
- [11067](#) Detection of Type-I X-ray bursts from MAXI J1621-501
- [10969](#) Brightening of MAXI J1621-501 as seen with Swift/XRT
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