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Possible outburst in neutron star LMXB SAX J1806.5-2215

Altamirano, D.; Kaur, R.; Degenaar, N.D.; Wijnands, R.; Yang, Y.; Armas-Padilla, M.; Strohmayer, T.; Markwardt, C.

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ATel #3193; *Altamirano, D.; Kaur, R.; Degenaar, N.; Wijnands, R.; Yang, Y.; Armaspadilla, M.; Strohmayer, T; Markwardt, C.*

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While scanning the galactic bulge region on February 22, 2011, RXTE detected what appears to be the first outburst of the neutron star low-mass X-ray binary (LMXB) SAX J1806.5-2215 in (at least) the last 10 years:

<http://heawww.gsfc.nasa.gov/users/craigm/galscan/html/SAXJ1806.5-2215.html>

On February 24, 2011, RXTE performed a ~3ksec pointed observation. A source is clearly detected at ~8 mCrab (2-16 keV). We found no X-ray bursts in the light curve. The power spectrum only shows ~10% variability and evidence (although not significant) of high frequency quasi-periodic oscillations.

SAX J1806.5-2215 was discovered by the BeppoSAX WFC through the detection of type I bursts; a Chandra observation has revealed several sources in the BeppoSAX WFC error circle (in't Zand et al. 1999, Nucl. Phys. B, Proc. Suppl., 69, 228). Swift observations are already planned to better constrain its position and identification. Further RXTE observations are also planned.

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R. E. Rutledge, Editor-in-Chief

rrutledge@astronomerstelegram.org

Derek Fox, Editor

dfox@astronomerstelegram.org