

TITLE: GCN CIRCULAR
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 SUBJECT: GRB070429B: VLT observations
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L.A. Antonelli (INAF-OAR & ASDC), L. Stella (INAF-OAR), G. Tagliaferri (INAF-OABr), E. Jehin, L. Schmidtobreick (ESO), report on behalf of the MISTICI collaboration:

We observed the refined XRT error circle of the short burst GRB 070429B (Beardmore et al, GCN 6360) with VLT-UT1 (Antu) and FORS2 in two different epochs. Images were taken in both the R and B bands starting on Apr. 29 at 09:26:00 (about 5.5 hr after the burst) for a total exposure time of 900 sec in R band and 600 sec in B band. Another image of the field was taken in the R band only starting on Apr. 30 at 09:10:56 UT (about 29.5 hr after the burst) for a total exposure time of 1800 sec under better seeing conditions.

At both epochs we found two objects within the XRT error circle:

Object A is located well within the XRT error circle at:

RA = 21:52:03.7
 DEC = -38:49:42.9

Object B is located close to the border of the XRT error circle at:

RA = 21:52:03.4
 DEC = -38:49:43.1

Coordinates are J2000 and with an error of 0.2".

Object A was detected in R band at both epochs with good S/N. It appears to be extended and consistent with the revised position of the object observed by Cucchiara et al (GCN 6370); its R magnitude is 23.2 ± 0.2 , calibrated by using the USNO B1 catalogue. Object A was only marginally detected in the B band. Object B was marginally detected in the first R band observation, with a better detection during the second night at a R mag of 24.6 ± 0.3 . Also object B seems extended.

We find no evidence of a fading behaviour in either objects. Most likely one of them represents the host galaxy of GRB070429B.

We thank the ESO Paranal staff for their excellent support.

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