

1E 1740.7-2942 (the Great Annihilator) enters a low-intensity state

Kuulkers, E.; Ferrigno, C.; Del Santo, M.; Bazzano, A.; Alfonso-Garzon, J.; Beckmann, V.; Bird, J.; Brandt, Søren; Chenevez, Jérôme; Courvoisier, T. J.-L.; Domingo, A.; Eibsawa, K.; Jonker, P. G.; Kretschmar, P.; Markwardt, C. B.; Oosterbroek, T.; Paizis, A.; Pottschmidt, K.; Sanchez-Fernandez, C.; Wijnands, R.

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ATel #4471; [E. Kuulkers \(ESA/ESAC\)](#), [C. Ferrigno \(ISDC\)](#), [M. Del Santo](#), [A. Bazzano \(INAF/IAPS Rome\)](#), [J. Alfonso-Garzon \(CAB/INTA-CSIC\)](#), [V. Beckmann \(APC\)](#), [A. J. Bird \(U. of Southampton\)](#), [S. Brandt](#), [J. Chenevez \(DTU Space\)](#), [T. J.-L. Courvoisier \(ISDC\)](#), [A. Domingo \(CAB/INTA-CSIC\)](#), [K. Ebisawa \(JAXA/ISAS\)](#), [P. G. Jonker \(SRON/CfA/RU\)](#), [P. Kretschmar \(ESA/ESAC\)](#), [C. B. Markwardt \(NASA/GSFC\)](#), [T. Oosterbroek \(ESA/ESTEC\)](#), [A. Paizis \(INAF/IASF Milan\)](#), [K. Pottschmidt \(CRESST-UMBC/NASA-GSFC\)](#), [C. Sanchez-Fernandez \(ESA/ESAC\)](#) & [R. Wijnands \(U. of Amsterdam\)](#)

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Credential Certification: Erik Kuulkers (ekuulker@rssd.esa.int)

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INTEGRAL has been monitoring the Galactic center region since the beginning of August 2012 during the Galactic bulge (GB) monitoring program (see ATel #[438](#)), the Target of Opportunity observations of Swift J174510.8-262411 (see ATel #[4450](#)), as well as during other observing programs.

During the GB monitoring observations taken on UT 2012 October 6, 16:15-21:01, the flux of the black-hole candidate 1E 1740.7-2942, also known as the Great Annihilator, was below the GB monitoring detection limits of both ISGRI (~11 mCrab, 3 sigma, 18-40 keV) and JEM-X (~6 mCrab, 3 sigma, 3-10 keV).

Analysis of the available INTEGRAL data of the region from August 31 to October 8 shows that the intensity averaged over an INTEGRAL satellite orbit (~3 days) has been declining from 47 +/- 1 (53 +/- 2) mCrab to 14 +/- 2 (13 +/- 2) mCrab in the 20-40 (40-80) keV band. The Swift/BAT 15-50 keV Hard X-ray Transient Monitor results confirm these findings. Over the same period, the intensity in the 3-10 (10-20 keV) band declined more erratically from 13 +/- 2 (25 +/- 3) mCrab to 9 +/- 3 (4 +/- 4) mCrab. The source clearly softened over the above time period.

Such low-intensity states are not uncommon in this system, and, over the last decade, have occurred in 2002 (ATel #[94](#)), 2004 (ATel #[257](#), Del Santo et al. 2005, A&A 433, 613), 2006 and 2007 (see http://integral.esac.esa.int/BULGE/SOURCES/1E_1740.7-2942/1E_1740.7-2942.html : INTEGRAL, <http://swift.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/swift/results/transient/weak/1E1740.7-2942/> : Swift/BAT). They can last for months.

We encourage observations at all wavelengths. Swift observations have been requested and approved.