GCN Report 159.1 21-Aug-08

Swift Observation of GRB 080805

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1 Introduction

BAT triggered on the long GRB 080805 at 07:41:34.7 UT (Trigger 319036) (Pagani, et al., GCN Circ. 8059), a burst with $T_{90} = 78 \pm 7$ sec. Swift slewed immediately to the burst. The XRT detected the afterglow in observations starting 63.5 sec after the trigger. The UVOT did not detect the optical afterglow (Ward, et al., GCN Circ. 8071). The optical/NIR afterglow was detected in observations by the GROND telescope (Kruehler, et al., GCN Circ. 8060), with the VLT (de Ugarte Postigo, et al., GCN Circ. 8061) and with the Faulkes Telescope South (Guidorzi, et al., GCN Circ. 8076). The spectroscopic redshift of this burst is z = 1.505, measured using the FORS2 on the ESO Very Large Telescope (Jakobsson, et al., GCN Circ. 8077).

2 BAT Observation and Analysis

Using the data set from T-240 to T+302 sec, further analysis of BAT GRB 080805 has been performed by the Swift team (Palmer, et al., GCN Circ. 8068). The BAT ground-calculated position is RA(J2000) = 314.231deg~(20h56m55.3s), $Dec(J2000) = -62.433deg~(-62d25'58.8'') \pm 1.0~arcmin$, (radius, systematic and statistical, 90% containment). The partial coding was 100%.

The mask-weighted light curve (Fig.1) shows a FRED-like peak starting at $\sim T-5$ sec, peaking at $\sim T+3$ and ending at $\sim T+140$ sec. $T_{90}(15-350keV)$ is 78 ± 7 sec (estimated error including systematics).

The time-averaged spectrum from T-6.1 to T+93.3 sec is best fitted by a simple power law model. This fit gives a photon index of 1.53 ± 0.07 . For this model the total fluence in the 15-150 keV band is $(2.5\pm0.1)\times10^{-6}$ ergs/cm², and the 1-sec peak flux measured from T+2.62 sec in the 15-150 keV band is 1.1 ± 0.1 ph/cm²/sec. All the quoted errors are at the 90% confidence level considering the statistical and usual systematic effects.

3 XRT Observation and Analysis

Using 728 sec of overlapping XRT Photon Counting mode and UVOT data for GRB 080805, we find an astrometrically corrected X-ray position (using the XRT-UVOT alignment and matching UVOT field sources to the USNO-B1 catalogue): $RA(J2000) = 314.22312deg \ (20h56m53.55s)$, $Dec(J2000) = -62.44479 \ deg \ (-62d26'41.2'') \pm 1.7 \ arcsec \ (radius, 90\% \ confidence) \ (Pagani, et al., GCN Circ. 8072)$.

The 0.3-10~keV light curve (Fig.2) shows an initial flare and a steep decay followed by a shallower phase. The decaying light curve can be fit with a broken power-law with an initial slope of 3.51 ± 0.27 , a break at $\sim T+475~sec$ and a later decay index of 0.93 ± 0.08 .

The X-ray spectrum of the first orbit of Windowed Timing mode data from T+70 sec to T+251 sec can be well fitted by an absorbed power law with spectral index 1.32 ± 0.06 . The NH column density is $(3.3^{+1.1}_{-1.0})\times10^{21}cm^{-2}$ in excess of the Galactic column density of $3.5\times10^{20}cm^{-2}$ in that direction.

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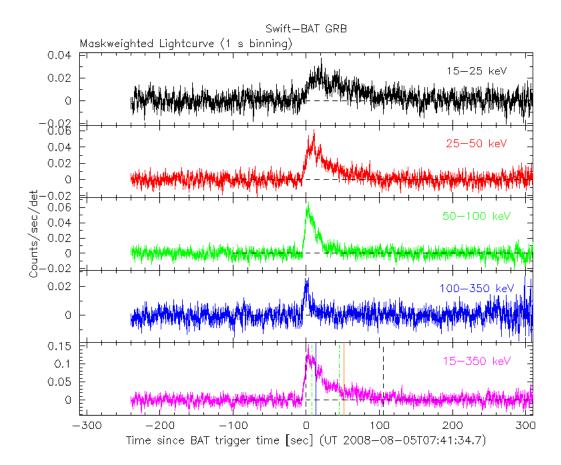


Figure 1: BAT Light curve. The mask-weighted light curve in the 4 individual plus total energy bands. The units are counts/sec/illuminated-detector and T_0 is 07:41:34.7 UT.

The average absorbed flux over 0.3-10~keV for this spectrum is $1.75\times 10^{-10}~ergs/cm^2/sec$, which corresponds to an unabsorbed flux of $1.9\times 10^{-10}~ergs/cm^2/sec$.

4 UVOT Observation and Analysis

The UVOT began observing the field of GRB 080805 74 sec after the BAT trigger (Ward et al., GCN Circ. 8071). We do not find a source in any of the UVOT observations inside the XRT error circle or at the position reported by Kruehler et al. (GCN 8060). The 3σ upper limits for detecting a source are in Table 1. These values are on the UVOT Photometric System described in Poole et al. (2008, MNRAS, 383,627). These values are not corrected for the Galactic extinction in the direction of the burst corresponding to a reddening of $E_{B-V} = 0.043$ mag (Schlegel et al., ApJ. 500:525-553, 1998).

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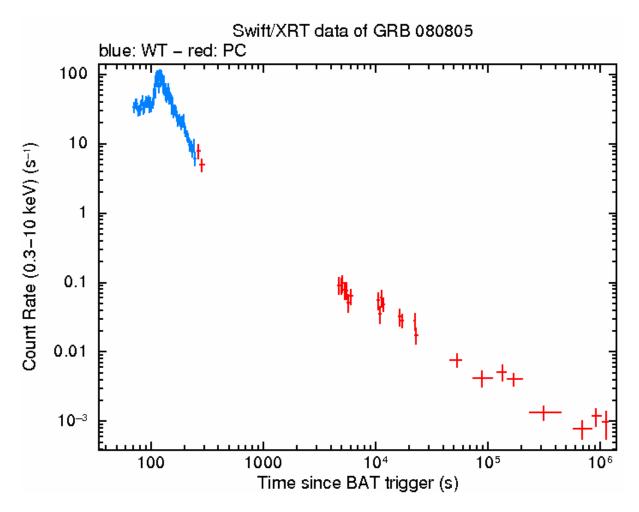


Figure 2: XRT Lightcurve. Counts/sec in the 0.3-10 keV band: Window Timing mode (blue), Photon Counting mode (red). The approximate conversion is $1 \text{ count/sec} = \sim 5.2 \times 10^{-11} \ ergs/cm^2/sec$.

Filter	T_{start}	T_{stop}	Exposure	Mag
White	76	175	98.5	> 20.70
White	5473	18024	1082	> 22.12
V	182	6083	332	> 19.81
В	5268	17112	1082	> 21.43
U	5061	5260	197	> 20.11
UVW1	4856	5055	197	> 20.0
UVM2	4650	6267	371	> 20.09
UVW2	5680	18053	219	> 20.12

Table 1: Upper limits from UVOT observations