



# Discovery of the infrared counterpart of CXOU J174437.3-323222 in the field of IGR J17448-3232: a blazar candidate viewed through the Galactic centre?

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We present our near infrared ESO-NTT Ks band observations of the field of IGR J17448-3232 which show no extended emission consistent with the SNR but in which we identify a new counterpart, also visible in Spitzer images up to 24  $\mu\text{m}$ , at the position of the X-ray point source, CXOUJ174437.3-323222. Multi-wavelength spectral modelling shows that the data are consistent with a reddened and absorbed single power law over five orders of magnitude in frequency. This implies non-thermal, possibly synchrotron emission that renders the previous identification of this source as a possible pulsar, and its association to the SNR, unlikely; we instead propose that the emission may be due to a blazar viewed through the plane of the Galaxy.

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