Soft gamma repeaters and starforming galaxies

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We propose that the best sites to search for SGRs outside the Local group are galaxies with an active formation of massive stars. Different possibilities to observe SGR activity from these sites are discussed. In particular, we searched for giant flares from M82, M83, NGC 253, and NGC 4945 in the BATSE data. We present a list of potential candidates. Hyperflares similar to the one of December 27, 2004 can be observed from larger distances. From the BATSE data we select 5 candidates coincident with the galaxies Arp 299 and NGC 3256 which have a very high rate of star formation, and propose that they can be examples of hyperflares; however, this result has low statistical significance.