

## PHOTOMETRY AND SPECTROSCOPY OF GRB 030329 AND ITS ASSOCIATED SUPERNOVA 2003dh: THE FIRST TWO MONTHS

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### ABSTRACT

We present extensive optical and infrared photometry of the afterglow of gamma-ray burst (GRB) 030329 and its associated supernova (SN) 2003dh over the first two months after detection (2003 March 30–May 29 UT). Optical spectroscopy from a variety of telescopes is shown and, when combined with the photometry, allows an unambiguous separation between the afterglow and SN contributions. The optical afterglow of the GRB is initially a power-law continuum but shows significant color variations during the first week that are unrelated to the presence of an SN. The early afterglow light curve also shows deviations from the typical power-law decay. An SN spectrum is first detectable  $\sim 7$  days after the burst and dominates the light after  $\sim 11$  days. The spectral evolution and the light curve are shown to closely resemble those of SN 1998bw, a peculiar Type Ic SN associated with GRB 980425, and the time of the SN explosion is close to the observed time of the GRB. It is now clear that at least some GRBs arise from core-collapse SNe.

*Subject headings:* galaxies: distances and redshifts — gamma rays: bursts — supernovae: general —  
supernovae: individual (SN 2003dh)

*On-line material:* color figures, machine-readable table

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The mechanism that produces gamma-ray bursts (GRBs) has been the subject of considerable speculation during the four decades since their discovery (see Mészáros 2002 for a recent review of the theories of GRBs). The discovery of optical afterglows (e.g., GRB 970228; Groot et al. 1997; van Paradijs et al. 1997) opened a new window on the field (see, e.g., van Paradijs, Kouveliotou, & Wijers 2000). Subsequent studies of other bursts yielded the redshifts of several GRBs (e.g., GRB 970508; Metzger et al. 1997), providing definitive evidence for their cosmological origin. Observations at other wavelengths, especially radio, have revealed many more details about the bursts (e.g., Berger et al. 2000; Frail et al. 2003).

Models that invoked supernovae (SNe) to explain GRBs were proposed from the very beginning (e.g., Colgate 1968; Woosley 1993; Woosley & MacFadyen 1999). There have been tantalizing observational clues that also pointed to SNe as a possible mechanism for producing GRBs. The most direct was GRB 980425: no traditional GRB optical afterglow was located, but an SN, SN 1998bw, was found in the error box of the GRB (Galama et al. 1998b). The SN was classified as a Type Ic (Patat & Piemonte 1998), but it was unusual, with high expansion velocities (Patat et al. 2001). Other SNe with high expansion velocities (and usually large luminosity as well) such as SN 1997ef and SN 2002ap are sometimes referred to as “hypernovae” (see, e.g., Iwamoto et al. 1998, 2000). GRB 980425 was also unusual in the sense that the isotropic energy of the burst was  $10^{-3}$  to  $10^{-4}$  times weaker than in classical cosmological GRBs (Woosley, Eastman, & Schmidt 1999), indicating that this was not a typical burst.

Indirect evidence also relates GRBs to SNe. Core-collapse SNe are associated with massive stars (e.g., Van Dyk, Hamuy, & Filippenko 1996), and GRBs also appear to be associated with massive stars, based on their location in their host galaxies (e.g., Bloom, Kulkarni, & Djorgovski 2002a) and statistics of the types of galaxies that host GRBs (e.g., Hogg & Fruchter 1999). Chevalier & Li (2000) have shown that the afterglow properties of some GRBs are consistent with a shock moving into a stellar wind formed from a massive star.

The redshift of a typical GRB is  $z \approx 1$ , implying that an SN component underlying an optical afterglow would be difficult to detect. At  $z \approx 1$ , even a bright core-collapse event would peak at  $R > 23$  mag. Nevertheless, late-time deviations from the power-law decline typically observed for optical afterglows have been seen, and these bumps in the light curves have been interpreted as evidence for SNe (for a recent summary see Bloom 2003). Perhaps the best evidence that classical, long-duration GRBs are generated by core-collapse SNe was provided by GRB 011121. It was at  $z = 0.36$ , so the SN component would have been relatively bright. A bump in the light curve was observed both from the ground and with the Hubble Space Telescope (*HST*; Garnavich et al. 2003c; Bloom et al. 2002b). The color changes in the light curve of GRB 011121 were also consistent with an SN (designated SN 2001ke), but a spectrum obtained by Garnavich et al. (2003c) during the time that the bump was apparent did not show any features that could be definitively identified as originating from an SN. The detection of a clear spectroscopic SN signature was for the first time reported for the GRB 030329 by Matheson et al.

(2003b, 2003c), Garnavich et al. (2003a, 2003d), Chornock et al. (2003), and Stanek et al. (2003d). Hjorth et al. (2003) also presented spectroscopic data obtained with the VLT. Their analysis produced results similar to those presented here. In addition, Kawabata et al. (2003) obtained a spectrum of SN 2003dh with the Subaru telescope. The properties of the afterglow light curve have also been described by Burenin et al. (2003), Uemura et al. (2003), and Price et al. (2003).

The extremely bright GRB 030329 was detected by the French Gamma Ray Telescope, the Wide Field X-Ray Monitor, and the Soft X-Ray Camera instruments aboard the *High Energy Transient Explorer 2* at 11:37:14.67 (UT is used throughout this paper) on 2003 March 29 (Vanderspek et al. 2003). With a duration of more than 25 s, GRB 030329 is classified as a long-duration burst (Kouveliotou et al. 1993). Peterson & Price (2003) and Torii (2003) reported the discovery of a bright ( $R \approx 13$  mag), slowly fading optical transient (OT), located at  $\alpha = 10^{\text{h}}44^{\text{m}}50^{\text{s}}.0$ ,  $\delta = +21^{\circ}31'17''.8$  (J2000.0), and identified this as the GRB optical afterglow. Because of the brightness of the afterglow, observations of the OT were extensive, making it most likely the best-observed afterglow so far.

From the moment the low redshift of 0.1685 for the GRB 030329 was announced (Greiner et al. 2003), we started organizing a campaign of spectroscopic and photometric follow-up of the afterglow and later the possible associated SN. Stanek et al. (2003d) reported the first results of this campaign, namely, a clear spectroscopic detection of an SN 1998bw-like SN in the early spectra, designated SN 2003dh (Garnavich et al. 2003a). In this paper we report on our extensive data taken for GRB 030329/SN 2003dh during the first two months after the burst.

## 2. THE PHOTOMETRIC DATA

The photometric data are listed in Table 1.<sup>24</sup> Much of our  $UBVR_C$  photometry was obtained with the F. L. Whipple Observatory (FLWO) 1.2 m telescope and the “4Shooter” CCD mosaic (A. H. Szentgyorgyi et al. 2003, in preparation) with four thinned, back-side-illuminated, AR-coated Loral 2048  $\times$  2048 pixel CCDs. The camera has a pixel scale of  $0''.335$  pixel $^{-1}$  and a field of view of roughly  $11\frac{1}{2}$  on a side for each chip. The data were taken in the  $2 \times 2$  CCD binning mode. We continuously monitored the afterglow during the first night in all five bands, obtaining a total of 149 images. We also obtained multiband data each night for the next 11 nights. We then closely followed the OT in the  $R$  band with only two gaps, when the Moon was very bright or close to the object and when the 4Shooter was not on the telescope.<sup>25</sup>

Extensive early  $UBVRI$  data were also obtained using an Apogee AP7 CCD camera with the 0.76 m Katzman Automatic Imaging Telescope (KAIT; Li et al. 2000; Filippenko et al. 2001) at Lick Observatory. The Apogee camera has a

<sup>24</sup> The analysis presented here supersedes our GCN Circulars by Martini, Garnavich, & Stanek (2003), Garnavich et al. (2003d), Stanek, Martini, & Garnavich (2003c), Li et al. (2003a, 2003b), Bersier et al. (2003a), and Stanek et al. (2003b).

<sup>25</sup> All photometry and spectroscopy presented in this paper are available through anonymous ftp on cfa-ftp.harvard.edu, in the directory pub/kstanek/GRB030329, and through the World Wide Web at <http://cfa-www.harvard.edu/cfa/oir/Research/GRB>.

TABLE 1  
JOURNAL OF PHOTOMETRIC OBSERVATIONS

$\Delta T^a$	Magnitude	$\sigma_m$	Filter	Observatory <sup>b</sup>
0.6494 .....	15.296	0.020	<i>U</i>	FLWO
0.6601 .....	15.346	0.020	<i>U</i>	FLWO
0.6796 .....	15.394	0.050	<i>U</i>	KAIT
0.6841 .....	15.381	0.020	<i>U</i>	FLWO
0.6989 .....	15.369	0.010	<i>U</i>	FLWO
0.7041 .....	15.442	0.040	<i>U</i>	KAIT
0.7091 .....	15.434	0.010	<i>U</i>	FLWO
0.7191 .....	15.490	0.010	<i>U</i>	FLWO
0.7198 .....	15.458	0.050	<i>U</i>	KAIT
0.7291 .....	15.525	0.010	<i>U</i>	FLWO

NOTES.—Table 1 is published in its entirety in the electronic edition of the *Astrophysical Journal*. A portion is shown here for guidance regarding its form and content.

<sup>a</sup> Days after 2003 March 29, 4842 UT.

<sup>b</sup> FLWO: F. L. Whipple Observatory 1.2 m telescope; KAIT: 0.76 m Katzman Automatic Imaging Telescope; LCO100: Las Campanas Observatory 2.5 m telescope (du Pont); KPNO4m: Kitt Peak National Observatory 4 m telescope; Clay: Magellan Clay telescope; LCO40: Las Campanas Observatory 1 m telescope (Swope).

back-illuminated SITE 512 × 512 pixel CCD chip, which with a scale of 0".8 pixel<sup>-1</sup> yields a total field of view of 6".7 × 6".7. Thirteen *UBVRI* sets were obtained during the first night, and three sets the next night (Li et al. 2003a).

Additional *R*-band images, including our earliest photometric data, were obtained using the Magellan telescopes at Las Campanas Observatory (LCO) with the LDSS2 imaging spectrograph (Mulchaey 2001<sup>26</sup>) in its imaging mode, with a scale of 0".378 pixel<sup>-1</sup>. We also obtained *R*-band data with the LCO Swope 1 m telescope equipped with the SITE No. 3 2048 × 3150 CCD camera, which with a scale of 0".435 pixel<sup>-1</sup> yields a total field of view of 14".8 × 22".8. Also at LCO, we obtained *BVT* images with the du Pont 2.5 m telescope equipped with the Tek No. 5 2048 × 2048 pixel CCD camera, which with a scale of 0".259 pixel<sup>-1</sup> yields a total field of view of 8".85 × 8".85.

In the *B* and *R* bands we obtained a significant number of images with the KPNO Mayall 4 m telescope equipped with the MOSAIC-1 wide-field camera. The prime focus MOSAIC-1 camera (Muller et al. 1998) has eight CCDs covering its 36' × 36' field of view. For the majority of the exposures, the telescope was pointed so that GRB 030329 and photometry reference objects were all placed on the second of the eight CCDs. The images were all processed through the reduction steps listed in version 7.01 of “The NOAO Deep Wide-Field Survey MOSAIC Data Reductions” guide through the application of a dome flat (B. T. Jannuzi et al. 2003, in preparation).<sup>27</sup> The software used for the reductions is described by Valdes (2002). All of the software is part of the MSCRED software package (ver. 4.7), which is part of IRAF.<sup>28</sup>

<sup>26</sup> Available at [http://www.ociw.edu/lco/magellan/instruments/LDSS2/ldss2\\_usersguide.html](http://www.ociw.edu/lco/magellan/instruments/LDSS2/ldss2_usersguide.html).

<sup>27</sup> See <http://www.noao.edu/noao/noodeep/ReductionOpt/frames.html>.

<sup>28</sup> IRAF is distributed by the National Optical Astronomy Observatory, which is operated by the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, Inc., under cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation.

Additional late *B*-band data were obtained with the du Pont 2.5 m telescope. We also obtained late *B*-band data with the FLWO 1.2 m telescope.

The data were reduced by several of us using different photometry packages. We used DoPHOT (Schechter, Mateo, & Saha 1993), DAOPHOT II (Stetson 1987, 1992; Stetson & Harris 1988), and in some cases the image subtraction code ISIS (Alard & Lupton 1998; Alard 2000), and we found excellent agreement among the various packages. Images were brought onto a common zero point using from 10 to greater than 100 stars per image, depending on the filter and depth of the image. We used several field stars measured by Henden (2003) to obtain calibrated magnitudes.

In addition, a KAIT calibration of the GRB 030329 field was done on 2003 May 22 UT by observing Landolt standard stars (Landolt 1992) at a large range of air masses under photometric conditions. Aperture photometry was performed on these standard-star frames in IRAF and then used to calibrate three local standard stars in the KAIT field of GRB 030329. Comparison of the KAIT and the Henden calibrations shows that they are consistent with each other (to within 0.03 mag). The KAIT data were in excellent agreement with the overlapping FLWO data, with the largest offset of only 0.03 mag in the *V* band. Such uniform data allow a great level of detail in analyzing the evolution of the OT.

In the infrared, the OT was observed with the LCO Swope 1 m telescope infrared camera equipped with Rockwell NICMOS3 HgCdTe 256 × 256 array with 0".6 pixel<sup>-1</sup> scale, yielding a 2".5 × 2".5 field of view (Persson et al. 1995<sup>29</sup>). The data were obtained from 2003 April 2 to 10, using the *J<sub>s</sub>* and *H* filters. Typically, three standard stars (Persson et al. 1998) were observed each night, one each at the beginning, middle, and end of the night. We assumed mean values of extinction appropriate at LCO: *J<sub>s</sub>* (0.10 mag per air mass) and *H* (0.04 mag per air mass). For a comparison star near the GRB, with brightness comparable to the OT, this resulted in photometry with a scatter lower than 0.04 mag, indicating accurate and stable photometry for the whole run.

### 3. THE SPECTROSCOPIC DATA

Spectra of the OT associated with GRB 030329 were obtained over many nights with the 6.5 m MMT telescope, the 1.5 m Tillinghast telescope at the F. L. Whipple Observatory (FLWO), the Magellan 6.5 m Clay and Baade telescopes at LCO, the du Pont 2.5 m telescope at LCO, the Shane 3 m telescope at Lick Observatory, and the Keck I and II 10 m telescopes.<sup>30</sup> The majority of the data discussed herein are from the MMT. The spectrographs used were the Blue Channel (Schmidt, Weymann, & Foltz 1989) at MMT, FAST (Fabricant et al. 1998) at FLWO, LDSS2 (Mulchaey 2001) with Clay, the Boller & Chivens (Phillips, Thompson, & Kunkel 2002<sup>31</sup>) with Baade, the WFCCD (Weymann et al. 1999<sup>32</sup>) with du Pont, the Kast Double Spectrograph

<sup>29</sup> Available at [http://www.ociw.edu/lco/swope/instruments/manuals/ir/C40IRC/C40IRC\\_manual.txt](http://www.ociw.edu/lco/swope/instruments/manuals/ir/C40IRC/C40IRC_manual.txt).

<sup>30</sup> The analysis presented here supersedes our GCN and IAU Circulars by Martini et al. (2003), Caldwell et al. (2003), Matheson et al. (2003b, 2003c), Garnavich et al. (2003a, 2003d), and Chornock et al. (2003).

<sup>31</sup> Available at <http://www.ociw.edu/lco/magellan/instruments/BC/manual.html>.

<sup>32</sup> Available at [http://www.ociw.edu/lco/dupont/instruments/manuals/wfcd/wfcd\\_manual.html](http://www.ociw.edu/lco/dupont/instruments/manuals/wfcd/wfcd_manual.html).

(Miller & Stone 1993) at Lick, LRIS (Oke et al. 1995) with Keck I, and ESI (Sheinis et al. 2002) with Keck II. Standard CCD processing and spectrum extraction were accomplished with IRAF. Except for the April 24 UT ESI data, all spectra were optimally extracted (Horne 1986). The wavelength scale was established with low-order polynomial fits to calibration lamp spectra taken near the times of the OT exposures. Small-scale adjustments derived from night-sky lines in the OT frames were also applied. We employed our own routines in IDL to flux-calibrate the spectra; spectrophotometric standards, along with other observational details, are listed in Table 2. We attempted to remove telluric lines using the well-exposed continua of the spectrophotometric standards (Wade & Horne 1988; Matheson et al. 2000).

The spectra were in general taken at or near the parallactic angle (Filippenko 1982) and at low air mass (with the obvious exception of observations from LCO). The relative fluxes are thus accurate to  $\sim 5\%$  over the entire wavelength range. The Blue Channel, LDSS2, and Boller & Chivens spectrographs suffer from second-order contamination with the gratings used for these observations. Through careful cross calibration with standard stars of different colors (and order-sorting filters with the Boller & Chivens), we believe that we have minimized the effects of the second-order light. For the few nights at the MMT when a broad range of standard stars of different colors was not available, we used the closest match from either the preceding or following night. Comparison with broadband photometry indicates that the overall shape of the spectra is correct.

#### 4. EARLY PHOTOMETRY AND SPECTROSCOPY: DAYS 1–12

The transition between the afterglow and the SN was gradual, so we define our “early” data based on our observations. We obtained spectroscopic data each of the 12 nights between March 30 and April 10 UT. For each of these nights, we also obtained multiband photometric data.

##### 4.1. Early Photometry

We plot our GRB 030329 *UBVRIJH* light curves in Figure 1. Within the first 24 hr, the light curve of the afterglow consisted of a broken power law typical of many well-observed bursts (Garnavich, Stanek, & Berlind 2003b). However, the optical afterglow exhibited unusual behavior over the following week that has been analyzed in numerous GCNs (e.g., Li et al. 2003b, 2003c). As it is clear that the afterglow cannot be well described with any semblance of a smooth function usually fitted to describe the OT evolution, we present and discuss here only our data. Such uniform data allow a great level of detail and confidence in analyzing the evolution of the GRB, including color changes, not usually possible when using nonhomogeneous data compiled from the GCNs and the literature.

This is another clear example of an OT changing color as it fades. A color change was also seen in the OT of GRB 021004 (Matheson et al. 2003a; Bersier et al. 2003b). The color curves of the OT of GRB 030329 are plotted in Figure 2, in which the color changes are more readily apparent (see also Zeh, Klose, & Greiner 2003). These changes are discussed in more detail below when we describe the evolution of the spectral energy distribution (SED).

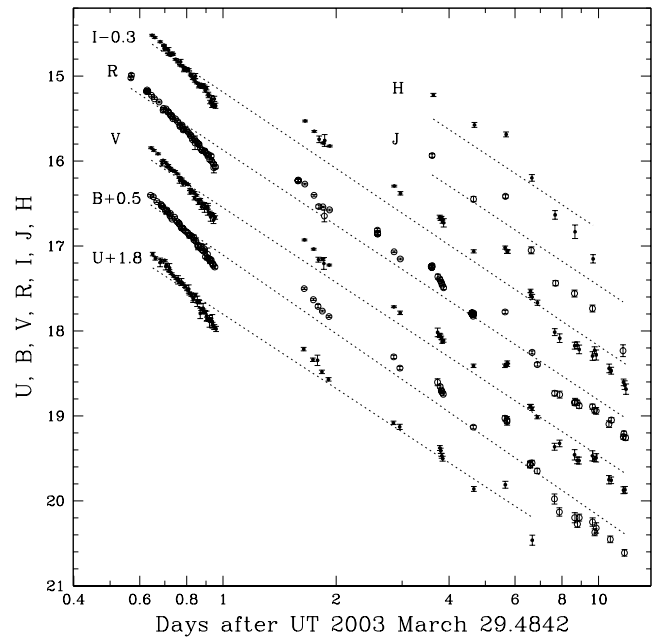


FIG. 1.—Early *UBVRIJH* light curves of GRB 030329/SN 2003dh (based on the data in Table 1). The dotted line for each band is a formal linear fit and is shown only to guide the eye (for *J* and *H*, we used the slope of the *R*-band fit). One clearly sees the bumpy character of the light curve. [See the electronic edition of the *Journal* for a color version of this figure.]

GRB 030329 is located at Galactic coordinates  $l = 216^{\circ}9867$ ,  $b = 60^{\circ}6997$ . To remove the effects of the Galactic interstellar extinction, we used the reddening map of Schlegel, Finkbeiner, & Davis (1998), which yields  $E(B-V) = 0.025$  mag. This corresponds to expected values of Galactic extinction ranging from  $A_H = 0.014$  to  $A_U = 0.137$  mag, using the extinction corrections of

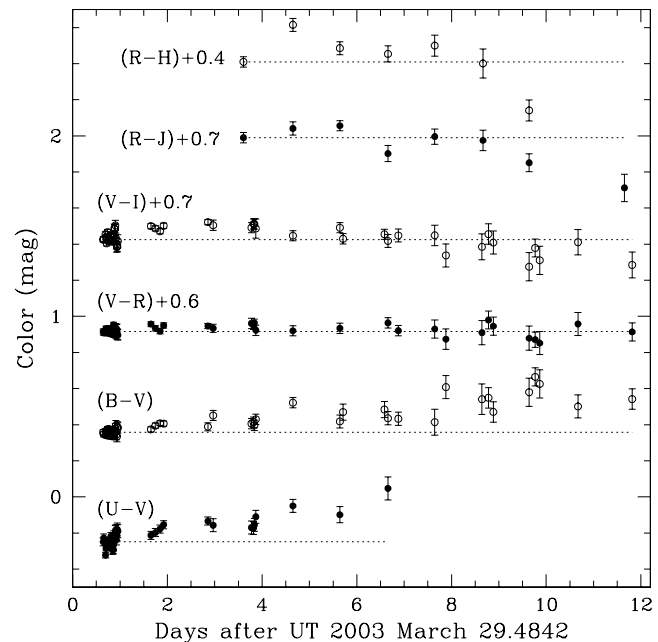


FIG. 2.—Early color evolution of the OT. Fiducial levels (dotted lines) represent the value of the first point for each color. [See the electronic edition of the *Journal* for a color version of this figure.]

TABLE 2  
JOURNAL OF SPECTROSCOPIC OBSERVATIONS

$\Delta T^a$	UT Date <sup>b</sup>	Julian Day <sup>b</sup>	Telescope <sup>c</sup>	Range <sup>d</sup> (Å)	Resolution <sup>e</sup> (Å)	P.A. <sup>f</sup> (deg)	Parallactic Angle <sup>g</sup> (deg)	Air Mass <sup>h</sup>	Flux Standard <sup>i</sup>	Seeing <sup>j</sup> (arcsec)	Slit (arcsec)	Exposure (s)
0.72	2003 Mar 30.20	2,452,728.70	FLWO	3720–7540	6.4	0.0	-40.2	1.03	F34	2	3.0	2×1200
0.75	2003 Mar 30.23	2,452,728.73	MMT	3600–8700	8.0	-16	-4.9	1.02	CygOB2/H600	4.5	1.25	4×900
1.73	2003 Mar 31.21	2,452,729.71	MMT	3600–8700	8.0	-43	-26.8	1.03	CygOB2/H600	1.5	1.25	3×600
2.66	2003 Apr 01.14	2,452,730.64	MMT	3450–8650	6.4	-65	-54.1	1.18	F34/H600	1.5	1.0	900
2.75	2003 Apr 01.23	2,452,730.73	FLWO	3720–7540	6.4	5.0	7.9	1.02	F34	2	3.0	1200
3.70	2003 Apr 02.18	2,452,731.68	MMT	3450–8650	6.4	-52	-40.6	1.06	F34/HD84	2.5	1.0	4×600
3.82	2003 Apr 02.30	2,452,731.80	FLWO	3720–7540	6.4	53	62.2	1.13	F34	2	3.0	2×1800
4.66	2003 Apr 03.14	2,452,732.64	MMT	3450–8600	6.4	-64	-52.5	1.15	F34/HD84	2.5	1.0	900
5.72	2003 Apr 04.22	2,452,733.72	D25	3800–9320	7.7	A.P. <sup>k</sup>	-40	2.16	L3218/L7379/L7987	...	1.6	2×600
5.80	2003 Apr 04.28	2,452,733.78	MMT	3450–8600	8.0	52	41.6	1.06	F34/HD84	2	1.5	900
6.60	2003 Apr 05.10	2,452,734.60	D25	3800–9320	7.7	A.P. <sup>k</sup>	-9	1.59	L7379/L7987	...	1.6	900
6.66	2003 Apr 05.14	2,452,734.64	MMT	3500–8650	6.4	-62	-61.0	1.11	F34/HD84	2	1.0	2×900
7.67	2003 Apr 06.15	2,452,735.65	MMT	3500–8650	6.4	-61	-45.6	1.08	F34/HD84	2.5	1.0	2×1200
8.78	2003 Apr 07.26	2,452,736.76	MMT	3300–8450	8.0	48	50.8	1.05	F34/HD84	3	1.25	3×900
9.63	2003 Apr 08.13	2,452,737.63	D25	3800–9320	7.7	A.P. <sup>k</sup>	6	1.58	L7379/L7987	...	1.6	2×900
9.67	2003 Apr 08.15	2,452,737.65	MMT	3250–8300	6.4	-61	-57.2	1.07	F34/HD84	3	1.0	3×900
9.86	2003 Apr 08.34	2,452,737.84	L3	3176–10400	6–15	188	54	1.21	F34/HD84	3.5	2	4×2400
10.68	2003 Apr 09.16	2,452,738.66	MMT	3200–8350	8.0	-60	-45.0	1.08	F34/HD84	3.5	1.25	3×1200
11.66	2003 Apr 10.16	2,452,739.66	Clay	3600–9000	10.4	A.P. <sup>k</sup>	-28	1.65	F67/L3218	...	0.7	2×900
11.66	2003 Apr 10.14	2,452,739.64	MMT	3200–8350	8.0	-62	-49.2	1.11	F34/HD84	3.0	1.25	3×900
25.71	2003 Apr 24.19	2,452,753.69	MMT	3700–8100	6.4	10	13.6	1.02	F34/HD84	1.5	1.0	3×1800
25.89	2003 Apr 24.37	2,452,753.87	KII	4110–9154	2.0	-99	88.62	1.1	F34	1.4	1.25	3×600
33.57	2003 May 02.05	2,452,761.55	Baade	3400–8002	10.5	182	-11.5	1.61	F66/HD84	1.2	1.0	4×1800
35.53	2003 May 04.01	2,452,763.51	Baade	3400–8002	10.5	178	2.0	1.57	F66/HD84	1.5	1.0	4×1800
36.55	2003 May 05.03	2,452,764.53	Baade	6240–9220	5.1	179	180	1.57	HD84	1.5	1.0	4×1800
55.90	2003 May 24.38	2,452,783.38	KI	3260–9280	8.0	79.9	79.4	1.80	BD28/BD17	1.3	1.5	3×900

NOTE.—Not all spectra listed in this table are shown in the paper.

<sup>a</sup> Days since 2003 March 29 4842 UT.

<sup>b</sup> Midpoint of observation(s).

<sup>c</sup> MMT: MMT 6.5 m/Blue Channel; FLWO: FLWO 1.5 m/FAST; D25: du Pont 2.5 m/WFC3; L3: Lick 3 m/Kast; Clay: Magellan 6.5 m Clay/LDSS2; KII: Keck II 10 m/ESI; Baade: Magellan 6.5 m Baade/Boller & Chivens; KI: Keck I 10 m/LRIS.

<sup>d</sup> Observed wavelength range of spectrum. In some cases, the extreme ends are noisy and are not shown in the figures.

<sup>e</sup> Approximate spectral resolution (FWHM intensity), typically estimated from night-sky emission lines.

<sup>f</sup> Approximate average position angle of the spectrograph slit.

<sup>g</sup> Optimal parallactic angle over the course of the exposures.

<sup>h</sup> Average air mass of observations.

<sup>i</sup> The standard stars are as follows: BD28 = BD +28° 4211; F34 = Feige 34; H600 = Hiltner 600 (Stone 1977; Massey & Gronwall 1990); F66 = Feige 66; F67 = Feige 67; CygOB2 = Cyg OB2 No. 9 (Massey et al. 1988); HD84 = HD 84937; BD17 = BD +47° 4708 (Oke & Gunn 1983); L3218 = LTT 3218; L7379 = LTT 7379; L7987 = LTT 7987 (Hamuy et al. 1992, 1994).

<sup>j</sup> Approximate seeing, estimated from the data and observers' records.

<sup>k</sup> At parallactic.

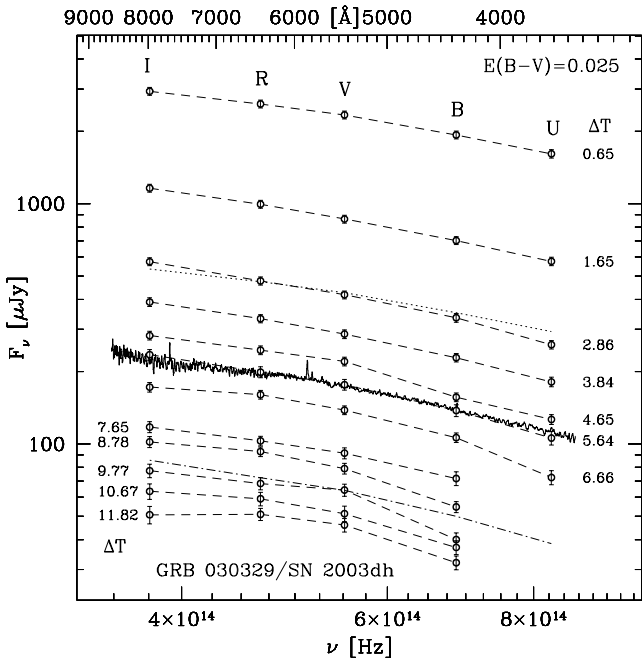


Fig. 3.—SED of the optical afterglow of GRB 030329 at various times (indicated on the right-hand side of each SED for nights 1–7 and on the left-hand side for nights 8–12). We superimposed an MMT spectrum obtained nearly simultaneously with our photometry at  $\Delta T = 5.64$  days (our fiducial spectrum). The SED from  $\Delta T = 0.65$  days is shown (dotted line) on top of the SED from  $\Delta T = 2.86$  days. The SED from  $\Delta T = 5.64$  days is shown (dot-dashed line) on top of the SED from  $\Delta T = 9.77$  days. For clarity, SEDs from  $\Delta T = 5.64, 9.77, 10.67,$  and  $11.82$  days were multiplied by 0.8. [See the electronic edition of the Journal for a color version of this figure.]

Cardelli, Clayton, & Mathis (1989) and O’Donnell (1994) as prescribed in Schlegel et al. (1998).

We synthesized the *UBVRI* spectrum for the first seven nights and *BVRI* spectra for later nights from our data by using our best, most closely spaced measurements for all the nights (Fig. 3). We converted the magnitudes to fluxes using the effective frequencies and normalizations of Fukugita, Shimasaku, & Ichikawa (1995). These conversions are accurate to better than 4%, so to account for the calibration errors we added a 4% error in quadrature to the statistical error in each flux measurement.

There are several evolutionary stages to be noticed in Figure 3. First, the SED gradually evolves between the first and the third night (see the dotted line in Fig. 3), with the spectrum becoming steeper (redder). The spectral index, corrected for Galactic reddening of  $E(B-V) = 0.025$  mag, changes from  $-0.71$  the first night, through  $-0.89$  the second night, to  $-0.97$  the third night. Our early shallower slope agrees well with  $-0.66$  slope measured by Burenin et al. (2003) in their earlier data taken 6–11 hr after the burst. Our data are also consistent with the dereddened spectral slope of  $-0.85$  found using SDSS photometry coinciding with our second night data (Lee et al. 2003). Then, at  $\Delta T = 4.65$  days (where  $\Delta T$  is the time since the GRB), the red part of the SED (*VRI*) remains unchanged, while the blue part of the SED (*UB*) is clearly depressed by about 0.1 mag. On the following epoch,  $\Delta T = 5.64$  days, the SED “recovers” and resembles closely the SEDs from nights 3–4. After  $\Delta T = 6.66$  days, as discussed below, the SN component starts to emerge quickly and the colors and SEDs

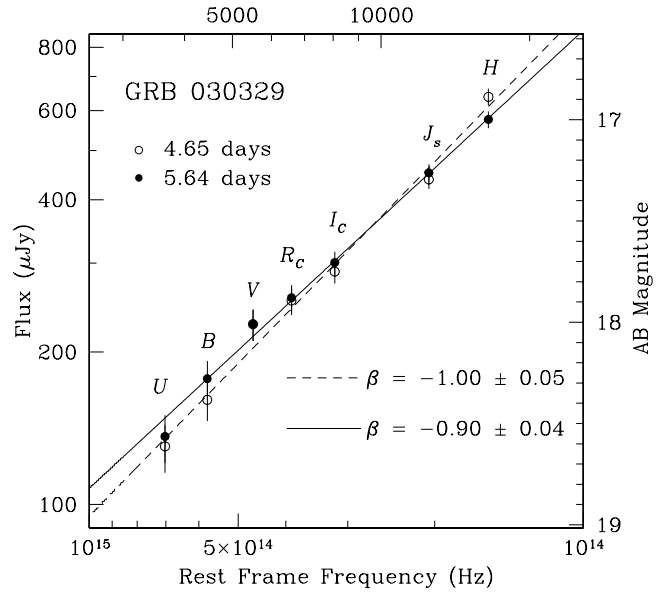


Fig. 4.—Evolution of the SED of the optical afterglow of GRB 030329 between  $\Delta T = 4.65$  (open circles) and  $5.64$  days (filled circles), the “color event” described in the text. [See the electronic edition of the Journal for a color version of this figure.]

undergo dramatic evolution: while nearly unchanged in *V–R*, the transient becomes more red in *B–V* and strongly bluer in *R–I*, *R–J*, and *R–H*. Similar color changes at early times (without *UJH*) were discussed in GCN Circulars by Bersier, Schild, & Stanek (2003a) and Henden et al. (2003). This peculiar color change is because the SN flux peaks around  $6000 \text{ \AA}$ , raising *V* and *R* nearly equally while the bands redward and blueward slope up toward the peak.

The “color event” of  $\Delta T = 4.65$  days is also present in the near-IR data, as can be seen in Figure 2. To highlight this color change, we show in Figure 4 the evolution of the SED of the optical afterglow of GRB 030329 between  $\Delta T = 4.65$  and  $5.64$  days.

#### 4.2. Early Spectroscopy

The brightness of the OT allowed us to observe the OT each of the 12 nights between March 30 and April 10 UT, mostly with the MMT 6.5 m, but also with the Magellan 6.5 m, Lick Observatory 3 m, LCO du Pont 2.5 m, and FLWO 1.5 m telescopes. This provided a unique opportunity to look for spectroscopic evolution over many nights. The early spectra of the OT of GRB 030329 (Fig. 5, top) consist of a power-law continuum typical of GRB afterglows, with narrow emission features identifiable as  $H\alpha$ ,  $[\text{O III}] \lambda\lambda 4959, 5007, H\beta$ , and  $[\text{O II}] \lambda 3727$  at  $z = 0.1685$  (Greiner et al. 2003; Caldwell et al. 2003) probably from H II regions in the host galaxy. Assuming a  $\Lambda$  cosmology with  $H_0 = 70 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$ ,  $\Omega_m = 0.3$ , and  $\Omega_\Lambda = 0.7$ , this redshift corresponds to a luminosity distance of 810 Mpc.

Beginning at  $\Delta T = 7.67$  days, our spectra deviated from the pure power-law continuum. Broad peaks in flux, characteristic of an SN, appeared. The broad bumps are seen at approximately  $5000$  and  $4200 \text{ \AA}$  (rest frame). At that time, the spectrum of GRB 030329 looked similar to that of the peculiar Type Ic SN 1998bw a week before maximum light (Patat et al. 2001) superposed on a typical afterglow continuum. Over the next few days the SN features became more

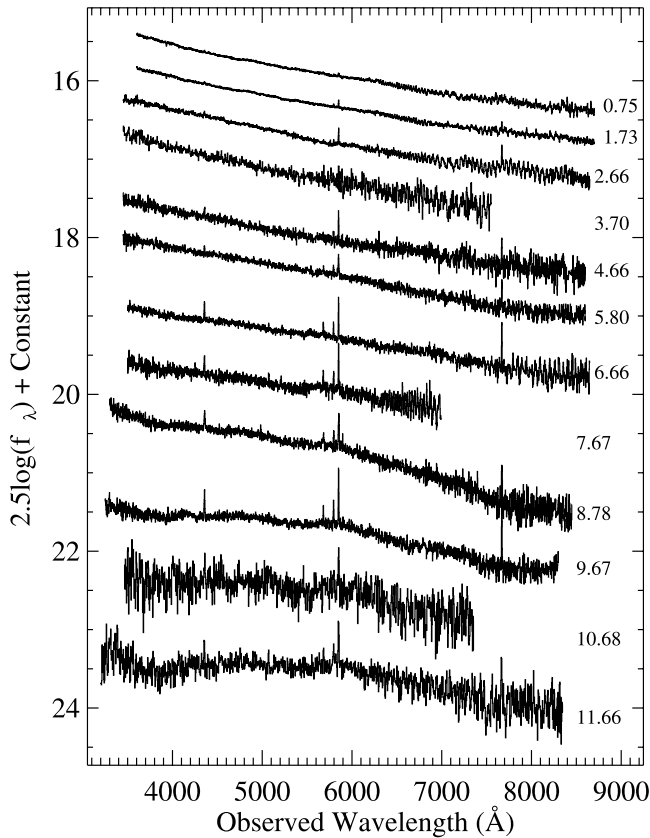


FIG. 5.—Evolution of the GRB 030329/SN 2003dh spectrum, from March 30.23 UT (0.75 days after the burst) to April 10.14 UT (11.66 days after the burst). The early spectra consist of a power-law continuum with narrow emission lines originating from H II regions in the host galaxy at  $z = 0.1685$ . Spectra taken after  $\Delta T = 6.66$  days show the development of broad peaks characteristic of an SN. In some spectra, regions of bad fringing or low S/N have been removed for clarity. Spectra from  $\Delta T = 3.70$ , 10.68, and 11.66 days have been rebinned to improve the S/N. Note that not all spectra listed in Table 2 are presented in this figure.

prominent as the afterglow faded and the SN brightened toward maximum.

## 5. LATER PHOTOMETRY AND SPECTROSCOPY: DAYS 13–61

### 5.1. Later Photometry

We continued observing the OT in the  $R$  band using mostly the FLWO 1.2 m telescope and also obtaining some data with the KPNO 4 m and the LCO Swope 1 m telescopes. In the  $B$  band, we obtained most of the later data with the KPNO 4 m and also some data with the du Pont 2.5 m and FLWO 1.2 m telescopes. The two gaps in the  $R$ -band coverage correspond to the Moon being bright or near the position of the OT and also when the CCD camera was not mounted. The results are shown in Figure 6.

There are several interesting features to be seen in Figure 6. Coinciding with the first detection of the SN in the spectra, both  $R$  and  $B$  light curves start to decay more slowly (this can also be seen in Fig. 1). In addition, the  $(B-R)$  color undergoes a dramatic change at later times, as can be seen in the bottom panel of Figure 6. Both of these characteristics result from the SN component, redder in  $(B-R)$  color than

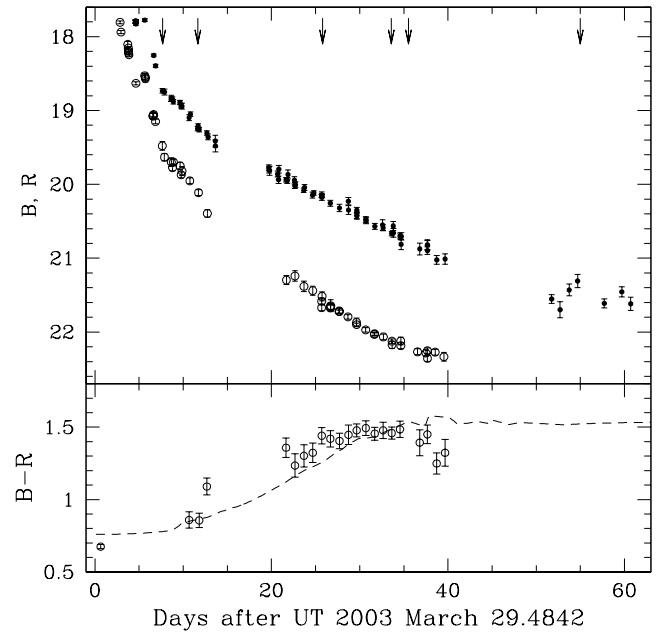


FIG. 6.—Top panel:  $B$ -band (open circles) and  $R$ -band (filled circles) photometry at later times, with the last  $R$ -band epoch at  $\Delta T = 60.7$  days after the burst. The first two arrows correspond to the first time when the SN signature could be seen in the spectra and the last spectrum in the continuous series. The remaining arrows correspond to our spectra taken after  $\Delta T = 12.0$  days. Bottom panel:  $B-R$  color evolution in later times. The solid line indicates the color expected for an afterglow with a fixed power-law spectrum plus an SN like SN 1998bw  $K$ -corrected to the redshift of GRB 030329. Contamination from the host galaxy may contribute to the  $B$ -band light at late times. [See the electronic edition of the *Journal* for a color version of this figure.]

the GRB afterglow, strongly contributing to the total light of the OT starting at  $\Delta T = 7.67$  days. The strong  $(B-R)$  color change indicates that at later times the SN component dominates the total light, as will be discussed in more detail later in the paper.

Another striking feature is the “Jitter Episode” (Stanek, Latham, & Everett 2003b; Stanek et al. 2003a; Ibrahimov et al. 2003) in the late  $R$ -band light curve observed between 51.75 and 60.7 days after the burst. The light curve is seen to vary on timescales of  $\sim 2$  days by greater than 0.3 mag, such as when the OT brightens from  $R = 21.70 \pm 0.11$  mag at  $\Delta T = 52.71$  days to  $R = 21.31 \pm 0.09$  mag at  $\Delta T = 54.69$  days, only to fade to  $R = 21.61 \pm 0.06$  mag at  $\Delta T = 57.72$  days.

We should stress that these data were obtained with exactly the same instrumentation and reduced with the same software and in the same manner as our earlier, much smoother data (see Fig. 6). This Jitter Episode is unusual when compared to the whole data set, and we strongly believe that it is real. We discuss it in more detail later in the paper.

### 5.2. Later Spectroscopy

Later spectra obtained on April 24.28, May 2.05, May 4.01, and May 24.38 continue to show the characteristics of an SN. As the power-law continuum of the GRB afterglow fades, the SN spectrum rises, becoming the dominant component of the overall spectrum (Fig. 7).

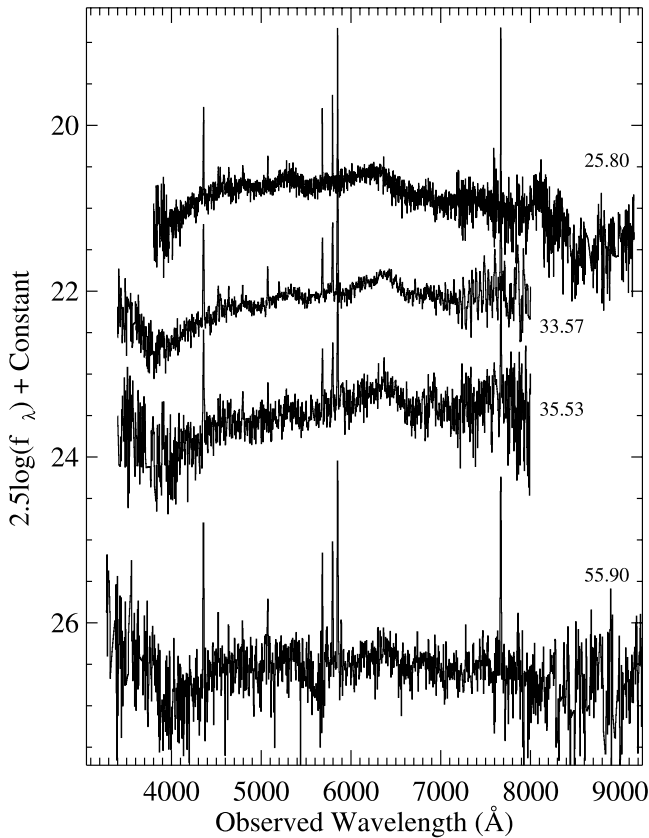


FIG. 7.—Evolution of the GRB 030329/SN 2003dh spectrum, from April 24.28 UT (25.8 days after the burst) to May 24.38 (55.9 days after the burst). The power-law contribution decreases and the spectra become more red as the SN component begins to dominate, although the upturn at blue wavelengths may still be the power law. The broad features of an SN are readily apparent, and the overall spectrum continues to resemble that of SN 1998bw several days after maximum. The  $\Delta T = 25.8$  day spectrum is a combination of the  $\Delta T = 25.71$  day MMT spectrum and the  $\Delta T = 25.89$  day ESI spectrum. The dip near  $5600 \text{ \AA}$  in the  $\Delta T = 55.90$  day spectrum is due to the dichroic used in LRIS and is not intrinsic to the OT.

## 6. ANALYSIS

### 6.1. Properties of the Host

The low redshift of this burst meant that the rest-frame optical spectrum of the host galaxy could be obtained, thus allowing the use of well-tested techniques for measuring the metallicity, reddening, and star formation rate of the host. The MMT spectra from the nights of 2003 April 4, 5, 7, and 8 UT were averaged together and a low-order fit to the continuum was subtracted, since the SN was apparent in the averaged spectrum. At a later date when the optical transient has completely faded, it will be valuable to get a spectrum showing the absorption-line component, but the present spectrum is suitable for studying the emission-line component. *HST* images and spectra (Fruchter et al. 2003) show the host to extend to about  $0''.5$ , so most of the light of the host galaxy should be contained within the MMT slit used even though the GRB was off-center. The  $H\alpha$  flux measured should thus refer to the entire galaxy, at least for those nights where the seeing was good.

Overall, the emission-line spectrum shows strong forbidden oxygen lines and hydrogen Balmer lines, but no detection of the  $[\text{N II}] \lambda\lambda 6584, 6548$  lines, with line ratios indicative of low-metallicity gas photoionized by stars.

TABLE 3  
EMISSION-LINE RATIOS

Parameter	Value
$\log([\text{O III}] \lambda 5007 / [\text{O II}] \lambda 3727)$ .....	0.2
$\log([\text{N II}] \lambda 6584 / [\text{O II}] \lambda 3727)$ .....	$< -0.9$
$\log([\text{O II}] + [\text{O III}] / H\beta)$ .....	0.9
$\log([\text{N II}] \lambda 6584 / H\alpha)$ .....	$< -1.0$
$H\alpha / H\beta$ .....	3.0
$H\gamma / H\beta$ .....	0.4
$\log([\text{N II}] \lambda 6584 / [\text{O III}] \lambda 5007)$ .....	$< -1.3$

Table 3 lists the observed ratios, measured using the IRAF *splot* routine. We first estimate the reddening using the  $H\alpha / H\beta$  line-intensity ratio as a measure of the Balmer decrement, assuming case B recombination (e.g., Osterbrock 1989) and the Whitford extinction law. The redshifted  $H\alpha$  line is affected by telluric absorption, which may have led to errors in the  $H\alpha / H\beta$  ratio, but the dominant source of error in the line ratios is simply photon counting. The reddening implied by the difference between the observed ratio and the theoretical value is in the range  $E(B-V) = 0.05-0.11$  mag. If the galactic foreground reddening is  $E(B-V) = 0.025$  (Schlegel et al. 1998), then the reddening intrinsic to the host is in the range  $0.03-0.09$  mag.

To estimate the oxygen abundance in the host, we use the  $R_{23}$  method that employs the ratios of  $[\text{O III}] / [\text{O II}]$ ,  $[\text{N II}] / [\text{O II}]$ , and  $[\text{O II}] + [\text{O III}] / H\beta$  (Pagel 1986; Kewley & Dopita 2002). Using a reddening of  $0.05$  mag to correct the line ratios and the parameterizations found in Kewley & Dopita (2002), we derive an ionization parameter  $q = 2 \times 10^7 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ , which then leads to an oxygen abundance of  $\log(\text{O}/\text{H}) + 12 = 8.5$ , or about  $0.5 Z_{\odot}$ . The lack of detectable  $[\text{N II}]$  is consistent with this moderate metallicity.

The  $H\alpha$  flux was measured from the spectrum of 2003 April 8 and, when corrected for reddening, gives an  $H\alpha$  luminosity of  $L(H\alpha) = 6.6 \times 10^{40} \text{ ergs s}^{-1}$ , for a distance of  $810 \text{ Mpc}$ . This corresponds to a current star formation rate of  $7.9 \times 10^{-42} L(H\alpha) = 0.5 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  (Kennicutt 1998). This would be a modest star formation rate in a large galaxy, but the host of GRB 030329 is probably a dwarf. Fruchter et al. (2003) estimate the magnitude of the host to be  $V = 22.7$ , meaning  $M_V = -16.9$  mag, which is similar to the luminosity of the Small Magellanic Cloud (SMC). The moderate metallicity we have calculated is in accord with the galaxy luminosity, in this case corresponding well with that of the Large Magellanic Cloud (LMC), which has a metallicity of  $\log(\text{O}/\text{H}) + 12 = 8.4$  (Russell & Dopita 1990).

Star formation rates in dwarfs can vary widely. Hunter, Hawley, & Gallagher (1993) report a range of rates from  $0.001$  to  $3 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ , the latter limit referring to starburst dwarfs such as NGC 1569. The mean value is around  $0.03 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ . A useful comparison of star formation ability in local dwarf galaxies can then be made by calculating the birthrate, the ratio of the current star formation rate to the average past rate. We estimate this quantity simply by normalizing the current rate to the galaxy blue luminosity divided by an age of  $12 \text{ Gyr}$  and assuming  $M/L = 3$ . For the host of GRB 030329, the birthrate is about  $5 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ . That can be compared to the SMC value of  $0.3 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  and the value of  $2 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  for the starburst galaxy NGC 1569 (derived from data in Hunter et al. 1993 and Kennicutt &



Hodge 1986). One is driven to the conclusion that the GRB 030329 host is also a starburst dwarf galaxy.

The more massive hosts of other GRBs also show large star formation rates, particularly when measured via radio or submillimeter techniques. Berger et al. (2003) calculate rates of  $100\text{--}500 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  in bolometrically luminous hosts ( $L > 10^{12} L_{\odot}$ ). However, the rates derived from an optical emission line ([O II]  $\lambda 3727$ ) for other GRB hosts are much lower,  $1\text{--}10 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  (Djorgovski et al. 2001). The discrepancy in rates is not yet understood, particularly since the extinction measured in the optical for the Djorgovski hosts is low, as we have found here. Submillimeter observations of the host of GRB 030329 would be interesting in this regard.

### 6.2. Extinction Toward the GRB in the Host

We used our  $UBVR_C I_C J_s H$  photometry from  $\Delta T = 5.64$  days after the burst to investigate whether there is any evidence for extinction in the host galaxy along the line of sight to GRB 030329/SN 2003dh. The optical and infrared magnitudes were converted to flux densities based on the AB corrections given in Fukugita et al. (1995) and Mègešsier (1995). Each data point was corrected for a small Galactic reddening of  $E(B-V) = 0.025 \pm 0.020$  mag (Schlegel et al. 1998). No corrections were applied for any reddening that may be present in the host galaxy or in intergalactic space between us and the host.

The SED was fitted by  $f_{\nu}(\nu) \propto \nu^{\beta} \times 10^{-0.4A(\nu)}$ , where  $f_{\nu}(\nu)$  is the flux density at frequency  $\nu$ ,  $\beta$  is the intrinsic spectral index, and  $A(\nu)$  is the extragalactic extinction along the line of sight to the burst. The dependence of  $A(\nu)$  on  $\nu$  has been parameterized in terms of the rest-frame  $A_B$  following the three extinction laws given by Pei (1992) for the Milky Way (MW), the LMC, and the SMC. The fit provides  $\beta$  and  $A_B$  simultaneously for each of the assumed extinction laws. The unextinguished case ( $A_B = 0$ ) was also considered.

The best fit is for an SMC extinction law with  $A_B = 0.16 \pm 0.30$  mag of extinction in the host and an intrinsic spectral slope of  $\beta = -0.80 \pm 0.20$  ( $\chi^2/\text{dof} = 0.267$ ). All three extinction laws of Pei (1992) give fits that are statistically similar ( $\chi^2/\text{dof} = 0.267\text{--}0.282$ ) and consistent with  $A_B = 0.16$  mag and  $\beta = -0.80$ . Therefore, we are unable to constrain the form of the extinction law in the host. This slope is also consistent with the no-extinction case ( $A_B = 0$  with  $\chi^2/\text{dof} = 0.273$ ). Therefore, we conclude that there is no strong evidence for extragalactic dust along the line of sight between us and GRB 030329. Figure 8 shows the SED at 5.64 days along with fits for an SMC extinction law and no extinction. To test for dust along the line of sight between us and the host, we repeated our fits allowing the redshift of the dust to be a free parameter. The best fit was for  $z = 0.00 \pm 0.09$  with  $A_B = 0.17 \pm 0.31$  mag and  $\beta = -0.81 \pm 0.18$  ( $\chi^2/\text{dof} = 0.352$ ).

The most likely distribution for the dust is an SMC extinction law with  $A_B = 0.16 \pm 0.30$  mag in the host galaxy, which corresponds to  $A_V = 0.12 \pm 0.22$  mag and  $E_{B-V} = 0.04 \pm 0.08$  mag in the rest frame of the host. Note that this is consistent with the reddening derived from line ratios in the previous section.

### 6.3. Evidence for a Cooling Break

Price et al. (2003) find that the slope of the optical decay increases from  $\alpha = -0.87 \pm 0.03$  to  $\alpha = 1.97 \pm 0.12$

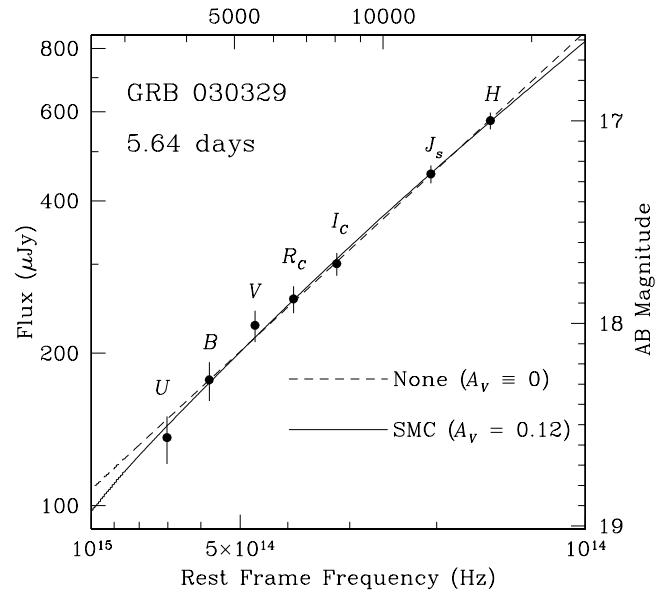


FIG. 8.—SED of the optical afterglow of GRB 030329/SN 2003dh at  $\Delta T = 5.64$  days after the burst. The filled circles represent observed photometry corrected for extinction in the Milky Way and shifted to the rest frame of the host galaxy. The lines represent the best-fitting SED, assuming an SMC extinction law (solid line) or no extinction (dashed line). If we assume that the unextinguished spectrum follows  $f_{\nu}(\nu) \propto \nu^{\beta}$ , then the best fit has  $\beta_0 = -0.80 \pm 0.20$  and  $A_B = 0.16 \pm 0.30$  mag.

approximately 0.5 days after the burst. If their interpretation of this as evidence for a jet break is correct, then the expected electron index is  $p \approx 2$  since  $\alpha = p$  after the jet break has occurred. Tiengo et al. (2003) report that *RXTE* X-ray observations yield an X-ray spectrum with a slope of  $\beta_X = -1.17_{-0.03}^{+0.04}$  and an X-ray flux decay of  $\alpha_X = -0.9 \pm 0.3$  at 0.25 days after the burst. Using the relationships of Sari, Piran, & Halpern (1999) and Chevalier & Li (1999), we can rule out the case in which the cooling frequency,  $\nu_c$ , is above the X-ray band since the observed  $\alpha_X$  and  $\beta_X$  predict different values for the electron index,  $p$ . Therefore, the cooling break must be between the lower edge of the *RXTE* X-ray band (0.2 keV) and the *R* band at this time. The optical and X-ray decay indices and the X-ray spectral index at 0.25 days are consistent with  $p = 2.2 \pm 0.1$ , which is consistent with the observed decay index after the jet break.

The spectral index computed in § 4.1 for 0.65 days after the burst predicts  $p = 1.4$  if the cooling break frequency is below the optical and  $p = 2.4$  if it is above the optical. Values for the electron index of less than 2 represent infinite energy in the electrons. This strongly suggests that  $\nu_c > \nu_R$  at this time. However, at  $1.65 \text{ days} \leq \Delta T \leq 5.64$  days the optical spectral slopes (see § 4.1) are consistent with  $\nu_c < \nu_R$  and  $p \approx 2$ . The case in which  $\nu_c > \nu_R$  at these times implies  $p \approx 3$ , which is inconsistent with the value of the electron index that was derived for  $\Delta T = 0.25$  days. Tiengo et al. (2003) used *XMM-Newton* X-ray observations to find  $\beta_X = -0.92_{-0.15}^{+0.26}$  at 37 days and  $\beta = -1.1_{-0.2}^{+0.4}$  at 61 days. Both of these are consistent with  $p \approx 2$  and  $\nu_c < \nu_R$ . Therefore, we believe that the cooling break passed through the optical, moving toward radio frequencies, between 0.65 and 1.65 days after the burst. A cooling frequency that decreases with time is the hallmark of a homogeneous interstellar

medium. However, there may be local inhomogeneities on scales that are small compared to the size of the fireball.

At X-ray frequencies interstellar absorption does not significantly affect the slope of the spectrum, so the observed slope is a good approximation of the actual slope. Combining all of the  $\beta_X$  values from Tiengo et al. (2003) yields  $p = 2.2 \pm 0.1$ . This predicts that the optical spectrum has  $\beta = -1.10 \pm 0.05$  at  $\Delta T = 5.64$  days, which is close to the observed spectrum. This agreement strengthens our conclusion in § 6.2 that there is no strong evidence for dust in the host galaxy along the line of sight to the burst.

#### 6.4. Separating the GRB from the Supernova

To explore the nature of the SN underlying the OT, we modeled the spectrum as the sum of a power-law continuum and a peculiar Type Ic SN. Specifically, we chose for comparison SN 1998bw (Patat et al. 2001), SN 1997ef (Iwamoto et al. 2000), and SN 2002ap (using our own as yet unpublished spectra; but see, e.g., Kinugasa et al. 2002; Foley et al. 2003). We had 62 spectra of these three SNe, spanning the epochs of 7 days before maximum to several weeks past. For the power-law continuum, we chose to use one of our early spectra to represent the afterglow of the GRB. The spectrum at time  $\Delta T = 5.80$  days was of high signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) and suffers from little fringing at the red end. Therefore, we smoothed this spectrum to provide the fiducial power-law continuum of the OT for our model. Other choices for the continuum did not affect our results significantly.

To find the best match with an SN spectrum, we compared each spectrum of the afterglow with the sum of the fiducial continuum and a spectrum of one of the SNe in the

sample, both scaled in flux to match the OT spectra. We performed a least-squares fit, allowing the fraction of continuum and SN to vary, finding the best combination of continuum and SN for each of the SN spectra. The minimum least-squares deviation within this set was then taken as the best SN match for that epoch of OT observation. The results of the fits for the spectra we modeled are listed in Table 4. Figure 9 shows the relative contribution to the OT spectrum by the underlying SN in the *B* and *R* bands as a function of  $\Delta T$ .

Within the uncertainties of our fit, the SN fraction is consistent with zero for the first few days after the GRB. At  $\Delta T = 7.67$  days, the SN begins to appear in the spectrum, without strong evidence for an SN component before this. Hjorth et al. (2003) report evidence for the SN spectrum in their April 3 UT data ( $\Delta T \approx 4$  days), but we do not see any sign of an SN component at this time. There is a color change near  $\Delta T \approx 5$  days as noted above (see also Fig. 3), but we attribute it to the afterglow. Our decomposition of the photometry into SN and afterglow components (see below) indicates that, at most, the SN would have contributed only a few percent of the total light at this point, making it difficult to identify indisputable features.

Note that when the fit indicates the presence of an SN, the best match is almost always SN 1998bw. The only exceptions to this are from nights when the spectrum of the OT are extremely noisy, implying that less weight should be given to those results. The least-squares deviation for the spectra that do not match SN 1998bw is also much larger (see Table 4).

Our best spectrum (i.e., with the highest S/N) from this time when the SN features begin to appear is at  $\Delta T = 9.67$  days. In Figure 10, our best fit of 74% continuum and 26%

TABLE 4  
GRB/SN FITS

$\Delta T^a$	BEST SN <sup>b</sup>	SN PERCENTAGE <sup>c</sup>	FIT RANGE (Å) <sup>d</sup>	FIT ERROR <sup>e</sup>	SN PERCENTAGE	
					<i>B</i> <sup>f</sup>	<i>R</i> <sup>f</sup>
0.75	SN 1997ef +44	5	4242–8000	0.025	2	6
1.73	SN 1997ef +44	5	4242–8000	0.025	2	6
2.66	SN 1997ef +84	2	4348–8000	0.087	1	3
3.70	SN 2002ap +28	2	4348–8000	0.570	1	2
4.66	SN 1997ef +25	6	4236–8000	0.134	2	7
5.80	SN 1997ef –11	1	4348–8000	0.056	1	1
6.66	SN 1998bw +11	8	3950–8000	0.110	4	10
7.67	SN 2002ap +6	6	4348–8000	0.853	3	8
8.78	SN 1998bw –7	13	3906–8000	0.459	11	15
9.67	SN 1998bw –6	26	3920–8000	0.135	21	30
10.68	SN 1997ef –11	19	4348–8000	2.949	14	22
11.66	SN 1998bw –3	38	4092–8000	1.067	29	43
25.80	SN 1998bw +6	61	3950–8000	0.695	46	68
33.57	SN 1998bw +13	63	3622–8000	2.154	45	72
35.53	SN 1998bw +11	86	3950–8000	3.921	76	89

<sup>a</sup> Days since 2003 March 29.4842 UT.

<sup>b</sup> SN spectrum that best matches the OT afterglow at this epoch (SN and approximate phase relative to *B*-band maximum). Note that the low SN fraction at early times ( $\Delta T = 0.75$ – $7.67$  days) makes the SN spectrum listed almost arbitrary.

<sup>c</sup> Percentage of SN component in best-fit spectrum over the fitting range listed.

<sup>d</sup> Spectral range of the overall fit.

<sup>e</sup> Least-squares deviation from fit (not a formal  $\chi^2$  statistic). Only the relative size of this number is important.

<sup>f</sup> Relative contribution of the SN in the broadband filter indicated, synthesized from the best-fit, scaled SN spectrum.

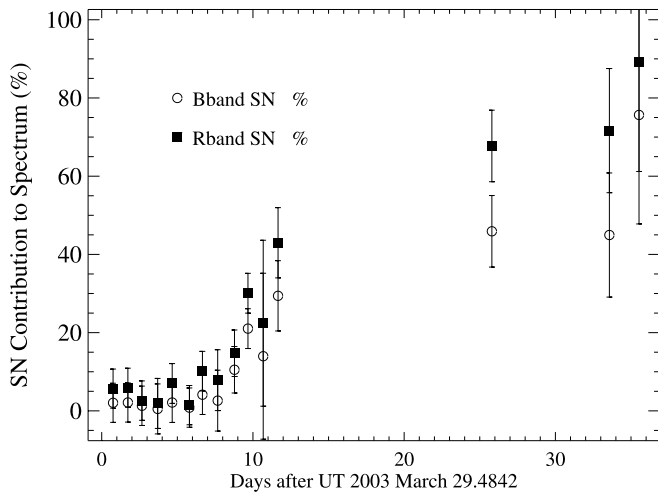


FIG. 9.—Relative contribution of an SN spectrum to the GRB 030329/SN 2003dh afterglow as a function of time in the *B* (open circles) and *R* (filled squares) bands. Using the technique described in the text, we derive a best fit to the afterglow spectrum at each epoch with the fiducial power-law continuum and the closest match from our set of peculiar SNe Ic. We then synthesize the relative *B*- and *R*-band contributions. There is some scatter for the early epochs due to noise in the spectra, but a clear deviation is evident starting at  $\Delta T = 7.67$  days, with a subsequent rapid increase in the fraction of the overall spectrum contributed by the SN. Errors are estimated from the scatter when the SN component is close to zero ( $\Delta T < 6$  days) and from the scale of the error in the least-squares minimization. [See the electronic edition of the *Journal* for a color version of this figure.]

SN 1998bw (at day  $-6$  relative to SN *B*-band maximum) is plotted over the observed spectrum from this epoch. The next-best fit is SN 1998bw at day  $-7$ . Using a different early epoch to define the reference continuum does not alter these results significantly. It causes slight changes in the relative percentages, but the same SN spectrum still produces the best fit, albeit with a larger least-squares deviation.

The SN fraction contributing to the total spectrum increases steadily with time. By  $\Delta T = 25.8$  days, the SN fraction is  $\sim 61\%$ , with the best-fit SN being SN 1998bw at day  $+6$  (Fig. 11). The SN percentage at  $\Delta T = 33.6$  days is

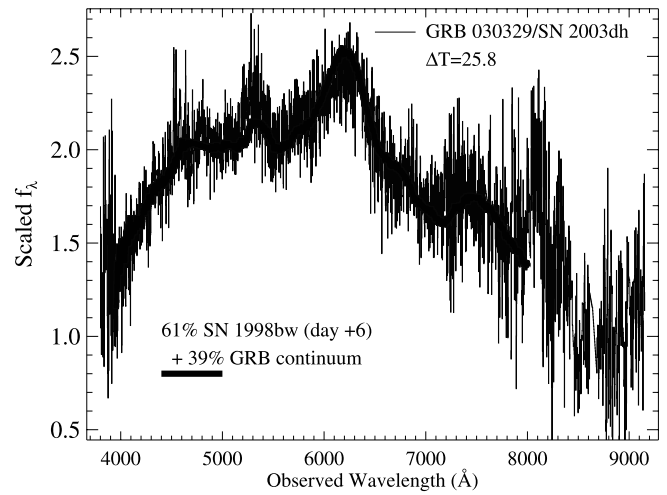


FIG. 11.—Observed spectrum (*thin line*) of the GRB 030329/SN 2003dh afterglow at  $\Delta T = 25.8$  days. The model spectrum (*thick line*) consists of 39% continuum and 61% SN 1998bw from 6 days after maximum. [See the electronic edition of the *Journal* for a color version of this figure.]

still about 63%, but the best match is now SN 1998bw at day  $+13$  (Fig. 12). The rest-frame time difference between  $\Delta T = 9.67$  and 25.8 days is 13.8 days ( $z = 0.1685$ ). For the best-fit SN spectra from those epochs, SN 1998bw at day  $-6$  and SN 1998bw at day  $+6$ , respectively, the time difference is 12 days. The rest-frame time difference between  $\Delta T = 25.8$  and 33.6 days is 6.7 days, with a time difference between the best-fit spectra for those epochs of 7 days. The spectral evolution determined from these fits indicates that SN 2003dh follows SN 1998bw closely, and it is not as similar to SN 1997ef or SN 2002ap. The analysis by Kawabata et al. (2003) of their May 10 spectrum gives a phase for the spectrum of SN 2003dh that is consistent with our dates, although they do consider SN 1997ef as a viable alternative to SN 1998bw as a match for the SN component in the afterglow.

Once the spectrum of the SN has been separated from the power-law continuum of the afterglow, one can consider

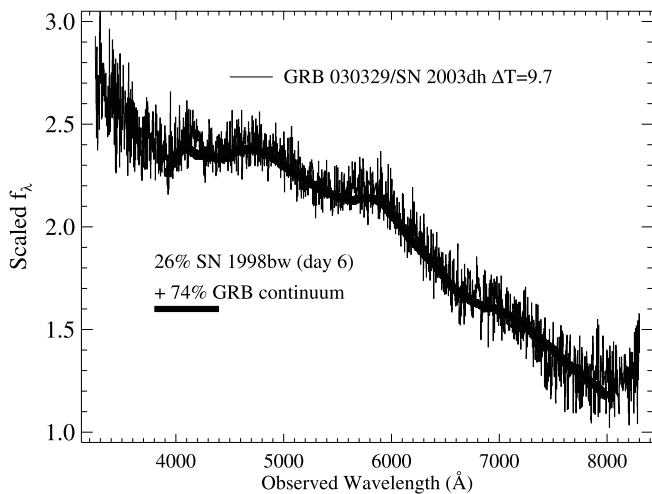


FIG. 10.—Observed spectrum (*thin line*) of the GRB 030329/SN 2003dh afterglow at  $\Delta T = 9.67$  days. The model spectrum (*thick line*) consists of 74% continuum and 26% SN 1998bw from 6 days before maximum. No other peculiar SN Ic spectrum provided as good a fit. [See the electronic edition of the *Journal* for a color version of this figure.]

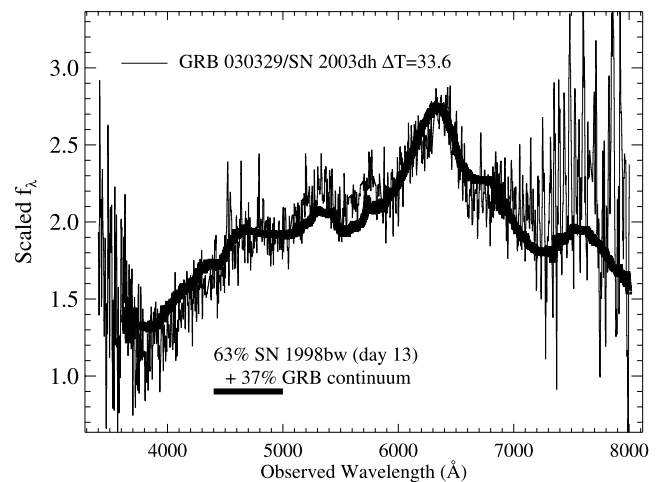


FIG. 12.—Observed spectrum (*thin line*) of the GRB 030329/SN 2003dh afterglow at  $\Delta T = 33.6$  days. The model spectrum (*thick line*) consists of 37% continuum and 63% SN 1998bw from 13 days after maximum. [See the electronic edition of the *Journal* for a color version of this figure.]

the nature of SN 2003dh itself. The spectrum does not show any sign of broad hydrogen lines, eliminating the Type II classification, nor is there the deep Si II  $\lambda 6355$  (usually blue-shifted to  $\sim 6150$  Å) feature that is the hallmark of Type Ia SNe. The optical helium line absorptions that indicate SNe of Type Ib are not apparent either. This leads to a classification of SN 2003dh as a Type Ic (see Filippenko 1997 for a review of SN classification). Given the striking correspondence with the Type Ic SN 1998bw shown above, this is a natural classification for SN 2003dh.

The spectra of SN 1998bw (and other highly energetic SNe) are not simple to interpret. The high expansion velocities resulted in many overlapping lines so that identification of specific line features is problematic for the early phases of spectral evolution (see, e.g., Iwamoto et al. 1998; Stathakis et al. 2000; Nakamura et al. 2001; Patat et al. 2001). This includes spectra up to two weeks after maximum, approximately the same epochs covered by our spectra of SN 2003dh. In fact, as Iwamoto et al. (1998) showed, the spectra at these phases do not show line features. The peaks in the spectra are due to gaps in opacity, not individual spectral lines. Detailed modeling of the spectra can reveal some aspects of the composition of the ejecta (e.g., Nakamura et al. 2001). Such a model is beyond the scope of this paper, but the spectra discussed herein and the spectrum of Kawabata et al. (2003) are being analyzed for a future paper (P. A. Mazzali et al. 2003, in preparation).

If the  $\Delta T = 9.67$  day spectrum for the afterglow does match SN 1998bw at day  $-6$ , then limits can be placed on the timing of the SN explosion relative to the GRB. The rest-frame time for  $\Delta T = 9.67$  days is 8.2 days, implying that the time of the GRB would correspond to  $\sim 14$  days before maximum for the SN. The rise times of SNe Ic are not well defined, especially for the small subset of peculiar ones. Stritzinger et al. (2002) found that the rise time of the Type Ib/c SN 1999ex was  $\sim 18$  days (in the  $B$  band), while Richmond et al. (1996) reported a rise time of  $\sim 12$  days (in the  $V$  band) for the Type Ic SN 1994I. A rise time of  $\sim 14$  days for SN 2003dh is certainly a reasonable number. It also makes it extremely unlikely that the SN exploded significantly earlier or later than the time of the GRB, most likely within  $\pm 2$  days of the GRB itself.

The totality of data contained in this paper allows us to attempt to decompose the light curve of the OT into the SN and the afterglow (power-law) component. From the spectral decomposition procedure described above, we have the fraction of light in the  $B$  and  $R$  bands for both components at various times, assuming that the spectrum of the afterglow did not evolve since  $\Delta T = 5.64$  days. As we find that the spectral evolution is remarkably close to that of SN 1998bw, we model the  $R$ -band SN component with the  $V$ -band light curve of SN 1998bw (Galama et al. 1998a, 1998b) stretched by  $(1+z) = 1.1685$  and shifted in magnitude to obtain a good fit. The afterglow component is fitted by using the early points starting at  $\Delta T = 5.64$  days with late points obtained via the spectral decomposition. This can be done in both the  $B$  and  $R$  bands and leads to consistent results, indicating that our assumption of the afterglow not evolving in color at later times is indeed valid.

The result of the decomposition of the OT  $R$ -band light curve into the SN and the power-law continuum is shown in Figure 13. The overall fit is remarkably good, given the assumptions (such as using the stretched  $V$ -band light curve of SN 1998bw as a proxy for the SN 2003dh  $R$ -band light

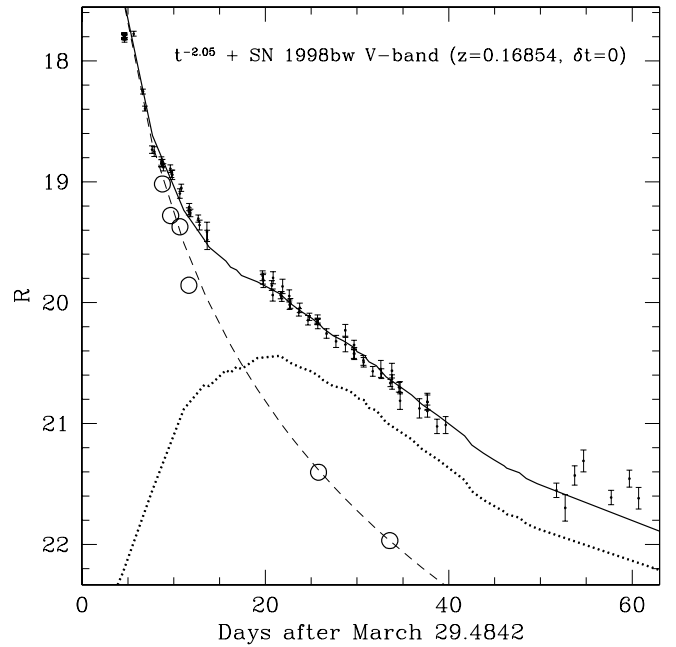


FIG. 13.—Decomposition of the OT  $R$ -band light curve into the SN (dotted line) and the power-law continuum (dashed line). As the light-curve model for the SN, we took the  $V$ -band light curve of SN 1998bw (Galama et al. 1998a, 1998b) stretched by  $(1+z) = 1.1685$  and shifted in magnitude. The resulting SN light curve peaks at an apparent magnitude of  $m_R = 20.4$ . No offset in time has been applied between the GRB and the SN. To constrain the continuum, information from the spectral decomposition was used (large open circles). See § 6.4 for discussion. [See the electronic edition of the Journal for a color version of this figure.]

curve). No time offset between the SN and the GRB was applied, and given how good the fit is, we decided not to explore time offset as an additional parameter. Introducing such an additional parameter would most likely result in a somewhat better fit (indeed, we find that to be the case for  $\delta t \approx -2$  days), but this could easily be an artifact with no physical significance, purely as a result of small differences between SN 1998bw and SN 2003dh. At this point the assumption that the GRB and the SN happened at the same time seems most natural.

### 6.5. The Jitter Episode

We also want to discuss briefly the Jitter Episode mentioned earlier (Fig. 6). Variations of greater than 30% on timescales of  $\sim 2$  days more than 50 days after the burst ( $>40$  days in the rest frame) are unlikely to be in the SN component, as such variations have never been observed in any other SN. It is much more likely that the afterglow of the GRB has exhibited another episode of rebrightening, possibly as a result of interaction with SN 1987A-like rings ejected long ago from the progenitor. Alternatively, the early afterglow had a complicated light curve, possibly as a result of refreshed shocks (Granot, Nakar, & Piran 2003), and this late Jitter Episode could be somehow related to that earlier behavior. An extrapolation of the afterglow light implies that it was more than a magnitude fainter than the SN 2 months after the burst so that the afterglow must have varied by nearly a factor of 2 in brightness. A full investigation of that phenomenon is outside the scope of the current paper, but we should note that its presence complicates the search in the late light curve for the radioactive decay

component of the SN, which could end up being masked by the afterglow component. We continue observing this fascinating event and will report future results in a paper by D. Bersier et al. (2003, in preparation).

## 7. SUMMARY

We have presented optical and infrared photometry and optical spectroscopy of GRB 030329/SN 2003dh covering the first two months of its evolution. The early photometry shows a fairly complicated light curve that cannot be simply fitted in the manner of typical optical afterglows. Color changes are apparent in the early stages of the afterglow, even before the SN component begins to make a contribution. These color changes have been seen in other afterglows (Matheson et al. 2003a; Bersier et al. 2003b), but the physical mechanism that produces them is still a mystery.

At late times, the photometry becomes dominated by the SN component, following the light curve of SN 1998bw fairly well. The colors change distinctly when the SN emerges, although from the light curves alone, there is no clear bump from the SN as has been seen in higher redshift bursts. There is the Jitter Episode near the 2 month mark, indicating that the afterglow may still contribute significantly to the observed brightness even at this late date.

The evidence from photometry alone would not be a completely convincing case for the presence of an SN. The spectra, especially the day-by-day coverage for the first 12 days of the burst, show the transition from the power-law continuum of the afterglow to the broad features characteristic of an SN. By subtracting off the continuum, the SN becomes directly apparent, and the correspondence with SN 1998bw at virtually all of the epochs for which we have spectroscopy is striking. Taking into account the cosmological time dilation, the development of SN 2003dh follows that of SN 1998bw almost exactly. Using the spectroscopic decomposition of our data, we can separate the light curve into afterglow and SN components, again showing that SN 2003dh follows SN 1998bw. The decomposition suggests that the SN explosion occurred close to the time of the gamma-ray burst.

The spectroscopy of the optical afterglow of GRB 030329, as first shown by Stanek et al. (2003d), provided direct evidence that at least some of the long-burst GRBs are related to core-collapse SNe. We have shown with a

larger set of data that the SN component is similar to SN 1998bw, an unusual Type Ic SN. It is not clear yet whether all long-burst GRBs arise from SNe. Catching another GRB at a redshift this low is unlikely, but large telescopes may be able to discern SNe in some of the relatively nearby bursts. With this one example, however, we now have solid evidence that some GRBs and SNe have the same progenitors.

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