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THE SVS NUMBERING SERIES DISCONTINUED

Herewith we announce that the numbering series SVS ("Soviet Variable Stars") are not continued after December, 1991. The series starts with SVS 1 = NSV 06227 (J. Balanowsky, *Astron. Nachr.*, 1918, **208**, 34) and its last number is SVS 2887 (M.G. Smekhov, *Astron. Tsirk.*, 1991, No.1550). Astronomers of many now independent states of the former Soviet Union contributed to this sequence. The greatest numbers of variables were discovered in Armenia, Georgia, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, Tadjikistan. For historical reasons the group responsible for the General Catalogue of Variable Stars also attributed SVS numbers.

The majority of countries where variable stars are discovered do not have their national numbering sequences for preliminary designations of variable stars. On the contrary, many observatories have such numbering systems. We feel that the GCVS group has no right to introduce any new numbering for variables to be discovered in Russia or in the Commonwealth of Independent States; moreover, it is not clear if such a system would really be useful.

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