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NSV10848: A PROBLEMATIC STAR

Estimating the magnitudes of the variable stars in the field of M16-M17 listed in Maffei (1975), we found that the variable M150 (NSV10848) is almost always invisible. More precisely the star is visible only on two infrared plates as shown below.

Date	J.D.	m_I	m_B
1967.09.05	2439739.3384	<16.0	
1967.09.25	759.2798	14.5	
1967.10.03	767.2790	14.4	<17.4
1968.07.04	40042.4876	<15.5	

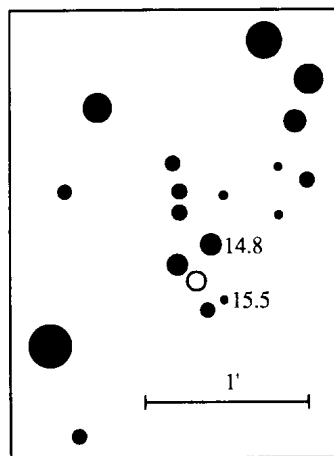


Figure 1. Finding chart

We examined 65 infrared plates (I-N hypers.+RG5) taken with the 65/90 cm Schmidt telescope at Asiago Astrophysical Observatory in the years: 1962, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1975 and 1990. The star is invisible also on an infrared UKSTU plate (IV-N+RG715) taken at the date 1984.06.03. The infrared limit magnitude of this plate is 18.0.

We enclose the finding chart, till now not published. North is at the top. The infrared magnitudes of two comparison stars are indicated.

The star might be a nova. In this case it would be very important to search for it on plates obtained near the epoch in which the star was visible during our observations. On the other side this object may be a cataclysmic star. If so, we believe that its true nature could be shown only by a deep monitoring.

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Reference:

Maffei, P., 1975, *IBVS*, No. 985