

# Chemical Fingerprints of Mass Transfer in Open Clusters

ANDREW C. NINE

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-WHITEWATER

ROBERT D. MATHIEU, SIMON C. SCHULER, KATLEYN E. MILLIMAN



![](_page_2_Figure_0.jpeg)

Courtesy of R. D. Mathieu

![](_page_3_Figure_0.jpeg)

B-V

![](_page_4_Figure_0.jpeg)

B-V

![](_page_5_Figure_0.jpeg)

B-V

![](_page_6_Figure_0.jpeg)

6

![](_page_7_Figure_0.jpeg)

Courtesy of R. D. Mathieu

See Nine et al. (2023)

![](_page_8_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_8_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Figure_0.jpeg)

# Blue Stragglers and Mass Transfer

	Case B	Case C	Wind MT	Wind RLOF
Participant Stars	RGB-MS	AGB-MS	AGB-MS	AGB-MS
Remnant	He WD	COWD	COWD	COWD
Mechanism	Classical Roche lobe overflow	Classical Roche lobe overflow	Accretion in outflow	Focused stream through L <sub>1</sub>
Final Orbital Period	~100 days	~1000 days	≳10 <sup>4</sup> days	≳10 <sup>4</sup> days

## Hints of Case C: M67 and NGC 188

M67 (4 Gyr)

![](_page_12_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Figure_3.jpeg)

# Hints of Case C: M67 and NGC 188

M67 (4 Gyr)

![](_page_13_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Figure_3.jpeg)

Mathieu & Geller 2009

![](_page_14_Figure_1.jpeg)

Geller & Mathieu 2011

![](_page_15_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Barium as a Tracer of AGB Mass Transfer

- Most barium in the Universe is produced in the interiors of AGB stars through the s-process
- Ba is then brought up to the surface of the star during third dredge-up (TDU) in the final stages of AGB evolution
- If mass transfer occurs during TDU in the AGB star, the accreting star may become enriched in Ba
- ▶ Models of AGB evolution predict that AGB stars < 1.3  $M_{\odot}$  do not undergo TDU and do not bring Ba up to their surfaces
  - Cristallo et al. (2016)
- Ba enrichment may then be used as a tracer of mass transfer from a thermally-pulsing AGB star

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

NGC 6819: 2.5 Gyr

Milliman+ 2015

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

Milliman+ 2015

11 12 13  $\geq$ 14 15 16 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0 1.2 1.4 1.6 (B-V)

NGC 188: 7 Gyr

Milliman 2016

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

Milliman 2016

# Filling In the Gaps: NGC 7789 and M67

- We observed the BSSs of NGC 7789 (1.6 Gyr) and M67 (4 Gyr) with the Hydra Multi-Object Spectrograph on the WIYN 3.5m telescope, focusing on Ba II 5853.7 Å
- We conducted simultaneous observations of single MS members as control
  - BSS IDs and MS members for NGC 7789 were drawn from Nine et al. (2020); for M67, Geller et al. (2015)
- Our spectra have resolutions of R~17,000 and a typical SNR of >100

# NGC 7789: Abundance Results

![](_page_22_Figure_2.jpeg)

## NGC 7789: Abundance Results

![](_page_23_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Figure_0.jpeg)

WOCS 36011: P<sub>inner</sub> < 100 d, P<sub>outer</sub> > 4000 d

## M67: Abundance Results

![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### M67: Abundance Results

![](_page_30_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Figure_0.jpeg)

MIST: Choi et al. 2016; Escorza et al. 2017

![](_page_34_Figure_0.jpeg)

Nine et al. 2024

![](_page_35_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Figure_0.jpeg)

Less Conservative Mass Transfer More Conservative Mass Transfer

![](_page_37_Picture_0.jpeg)

There is an anticorrelation between cluster age and Ba enrichment

There is an anticorrelation between cluster age and Ba enrichment

The distribution of all BSSs with respect to the MSTO hints at a trend of less massive AGB stars experiencing more conservative MT

There is an anticorrelation between cluster age and Ba enrichment

The distribution of all BSSs with respect to the MSTO hints at a trend of less massive AGB stars experiencing more conservative MT

The lack of Ba enrichment in NGC 188 is consistent with predictions that AGB stars < 1.3  $M_{\odot}$  do not undergo TDU

# The majority of Ba-enriched BSSs are apparently single!

# The majority of Ba-enriched BSSs are apparently single!

#### We detect 40±16% of Ba-enriched BSSs with $P_{orb}$ < 10,000 days

# The majority of Ba-enriched BSSs are apparently single!

#### We detect 40±16% of Ba-enriched BSSs with $P_{orb}$ < 10,000 days

Why does this pattern occur?

1.8 1.6 data +1.4 А ΔN/Δlog<sub>10</sub>(P/days) 1.2 D - - - - -1 0.8 . 0.6 . . . 0.4 0.2 0 + + + + + 10<sup>2</sup> 10<sup>3</sup> 10<sup>5</sup> 10<sup>6</sup> 10<sup>4</sup> Period/days

Abate et al. 2013

1.8 1.6 data +1.4 А ΔN/Δlog<sub>10</sub>(P/days) D 1.2 - - - - -۱ ۱ 1 0.8 1,1 0.6 . 0.4 0.2 0 + ++ + ·<u>/</u>+ 10<sup>2</sup> 10<sup>5</sup> 10<sup>3</sup> 10<sup>6</sup> 10<sup>4</sup> Period/days Abate et al. 2013 Our RV detection limit

## Summary

We conducted a survey of Ba abundances in the BSSs of 4 open clusters with ages spanning ~10 Gyr 46

- We find an anticorrelation between cluster age and the degree to which BSSs are enhanced in Ba
- We find that  $40\pm16\%$  of Ba-enriched BSSs are in RV binaries with  $P_{orb} < 10,000$  days
- ▶ The Ba enrichments trace various mechanisms of AGB mass transfer
- AGB mass transfer may be the dominant contributor to the formation of classical BSSs in open clusters older than ~1 Gyr, even among apparently single stars.

Contact me: ninea@uww.edu