WIYN OPEN CLUSTER STUDY. XXXII. STELLAR RADIAL VELOCITIES IN THE OLD OPEN CLUSTER NGC 188

AARON M. GELLER1,4, ROBERT D. MATHIEU1, HUGH C. HARRIS2, AND ROBERT D. McCLURE3
1 Department of Astronomy, University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI 53706, USA
2 United States Naval Observatory, Flagstaff, AZ, 86001, USA
3 Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, Herzberg Institute of Astrophysics, National Research Council, 5071 W. Saanich Road, Victoria, BC V9E 2E7, Canada

Received 2008 January 22; accepted 2008 March 20; published 2008 May 13

ABSTRACT

We present the results of our ongoing radial-velocity (RV) survey of the old (7 Gyr) open cluster NGC 188. Our WIYN 3.5 m data set spans a time baseline of 11 years, a magnitude range of 12 < V < 16.5 (1.18–0.94 M☉), and a 1° diameter region on the sky. With the addition of a Domain Astrophysical Observatory data set we extend our bright limit to V = 10.8 and, for some stars, extend our time baseline to 35 years. Our magnitude limits include solar-mass main-sequence stars, subgiants, giants, and blue stragglers (BSs), and our spatial coverage extends radially to 17 pc (~13 core radii). For the WIYN data we present a detailed description of our data reduction process and a thorough analysis of our measurement precision of 0.4 km s⁻¹ for narrow-lined stars. We have measured radial velocities for 1046 stars in the direction of NGC 188, and have calculated RV membership probabilities for stars with ≥3 measurements, finding 473 to be likely cluster members. We detect 124 velocity-variable cluster members, all of which are likely to be dynamically hard-binary stars. Using our single member stars, we find an average cluster radial velocity of −42.36 ± 0.04 km s⁻¹. We use our precise RV and proper-motion membership data to greatly reduce field-star contamination in our cleaned color–magnitude diagram, from which we identify six stars of note that lie far from a standard single-star isochrone. We present a detailed study of the spatial distribution of cluster-member populations, and find the binaries to be centrally concentrated, providing evidence for the presence of mass segregation in NGC 188. We observe the BSs to populate a bimodal spatial distribution that is not centrally concentrated, suggesting that we may be observing two populations of BSs in NGC 188, including a centrally concentrated distribution as well as a halo population. Finally, we find NGC 188 to have a global RV dispersion of 0.64 ± 0.04 km s⁻¹, which may be inflated by up to 0.23 km s⁻¹ from unresolved binaries. When corrected for unresolved binaries, the NGC 188 RV dispersion has a nearly isothermal radial distribution. We use this mean-corrected velocity dispersion to derive a virial mass of 2300 ± 460 M☉.

Key words: binaries: spectroscopic – blue stragglers – open clusters and associations: individual (NGC 188)

Online-only material: machine-readable table

1. INTRODUCTION

As one of the richest old clusters in our Galaxy, NGC 188 has been extensively studied. The breadth of available data, old age, and the abundance of short-period photometrically variable stars and X-ray sources, make NGC 188 a very attractive cluster for both observational and theoretical astronomers. Moreover, the multitude of photometric surveys (Sandage 1962; Eggen & Sandage 1969; McClure 1974; McClure & Twarog 1977; Twarog 1978; von Hippel & Sarajedini 1998; Sarajedini et al. 1999; Platais et al. 2003; Stetson et al. 2004), spectroscopic studies (Harris & McClure 1985b; Hobbs et al. 1990), short-period variable star studies (Efremov et al. 1964; van ’t Veer 1984; Kaluzny & Shara 1987; Masveroni & van ’t Veer 1991; Zhang et al. 2002; Belloni et al. 1998; Kafka & Honeycutt 2003; Gondoin 2005), including both optical and X-ray photometric monitoring, proper-motion (PM) analyses (Dinescu et al. 1996; Platais et al. 2003), and the binary-population study by Mathieu et al. (2004), provide an unprecedented basis from which to study an open cluster. However, until now, the study of this cluster has lacked a critical component. This paper presents the first high-precision, comprehensive radial-velocity (RV) survey of the cluster, thereby providing the first census of the hard-binary population, measurements of the internal stellar kinematics, and improved membership information.

The recent photometric studies by von Hippel & Sarajedini (1998) and Sarajedini et al. (1999) used UBVRI CCD photometry to derive a reddening of E(B−V) = 0.09, an apparent distance modulus of (m−M)0 = 11.44 (1.9 kpc), and an age of 7 Gyr. The most recent PM study by Platais et al. (2003) (hereafter, P03) suggests that NGC 188 contains ~1500 cluster members (membership probability ⩾10%) down to a limiting magnitude of V = 21 within 17 pc in projection. We have used the P03 study to form our current cluster sample (described in Section 2).

This RV analysis of NGC 188 is part of the WIYN Open Cluster Study (WOCS; Mathieu 2000). We calculate RV membership probabilities for 848 solar-type stars with ≥3 RV measurements (Section 7.1), finding 349 single-cluster members and 124 likely member velocity-variable stars (Section 7.2). (In the following, we use the term “single” to identify stars with no significant RV variation. Certainly, many of these stars are also binaries, although generally with a lower total mass than the binaries identified in this study. We assume that the velocity variables detected in this study are binary- or multiple-star systems.) Combined with available PM data, our precise three-dimensional (3D) kinematic memberships define the most accurate sample of solar-type members of NGC 188 to date. We use
this member sample to construct a cleaned color–magnitude diagram (CMD) of the cluster (Section 8.1) from which we identify a blue-straggler (BS) population as well as six intriguing stars that lie far from a standard single-star isochrone. Finally, we investigate the spatial distribution of cluster-member populations (Section 8.2) and the cluster’s velocity dispersion (Section 8.3). The following papers will provide orbital solutions for most of the velocity variables, likely all of which will be hard-binary stars that dynamically power the cluster, as well as detailed comparisons with N-body models (e.g., Hurley et al. 2005).

2. STELLAR SAMPLE

2.1. WIYN Stellar Sample

2.1.1. Chronology

Our ongoing WIYN5 RV survey of NGC 188 began in 1996. The following section describes the development of our stellar sample over the course of these 11 years. Our observational history as well as current strategy have been dependent on the available position, photometry, and membership measurements.

Initially, we composed our stellar sample from the Dinescu et al. (1996) PM study, which contains photometry and PMs ($\sigma = 0.5$ mas yr$^{-1}$) for 1127 stars covering a $50\times 60\,^\circ$ area within the limiting magnitudes of $B = 16.2$ and $V \approx 16.5$. Dinescu et al. (1996) found 360 cluster members in their sample (probability $\geq 70\%$). These cluster members were prioritized in our observations (see Section 3).

Later, a more extensive PM study was performed by P03, complete to $V = 21$ and covering 0.75$^\circ$, centered on the J2000.0 coordinates: $\alpha = 0^h47^m12.5^s$ and $\delta = +85^\circ14'49''$. The PMs have a precision down to 0.15 mas yr$^{-1}$ per coordinate, and the coordinates are accurate to 5–10 mas on the International Celestial Reference System (ICRS). Of the 7812 objects that were detected, P03 found 1490 PM members (probability $\geq 10\%$) across all magnitudes in the study. Thus, in 2003, we chose to update our data set to include the additional stars (both PM members and non-members) from this study that lie within our magnitude limits, and to use the more accurate coordinates. Our complete stellar sample includes 1498 stars.

2.1.2. Sample

The Hydra Multi-Object Spectrograph (MOS) on the WIYN 3.5 m telescope has an effective dynamic range of approximately 4 mag and a $1^\circ$ field of view. Fortuitously, the P03 study also covers $1^\circ$ in spatial extent; we therefore did not make any spatial cut in our sample. We have set our limiting magnitude range to $12 \leq V \leq 16.5$, covering a large portion of the giant branch through the upper main sequence, including the cluster turnoff and BS stars. At $V = 16.5$, the faint end of our observations extends to $\sim 1.5$ mag below the cluster turnoff (e.g., Figure 8). Our observing setup allows us to consistently determine RVSs for stars whose ($B - V$) $\geq 0.4$; earlier-type stars are often rapidly rotating and have fewer absorption lines in our wavelength range. Since our sample includes only 30 stars blueward of this, we also observed them so as to include those that are narrow-lined. Currently, our stellar sample contains stars whose ($B - V$) color lies within the range of $0.15 \leq (B - V) \leq 1.8$. After limiting the P03 study by magnitude, we have a total stellar sample of 1498 stars, comprising a complete sample of stars within our magnitude range and within 0.5$^\circ$ (17 pc at a distance of 1.9 kpc) from the cluster center.

2.2. DAO Stellar Sample

The Domain Astrophysical Observatory (DAO) data set contains multiple RV measurements of 77 stars within the magnitudes of $10.8 \leq V \leq 16$ covering dates from 1973 December through 1966 November. Observations prior to 1980 were taken by Roger Griffin and James Gunn at the Palomar 5 m telescope (e.g., Griffin & Gunn 1974); later observations were made by Robert McClure, Hugh Harris and Jim Hesser at the DAO (e.g., Fletcher et al. 1982; McClure et al. 1985). All RV measurements were then converted into the DAO Radial-Velocity Spectrometer (RVS) system.

3. OBSERVATIONS

3.1. WIYN

3.1.1. The Telescope and Instrument

We have used the Hydra Multi-Object Spectrograph (MOS) on the WIYN 3.5 m telescope to conduct our ongoing WOCS RV survey of NGC 188 from 1996 to the present. The telescope combines a large aperture and wide field of view, and provides excellent image quality (0.8 arcsecond median seeing). The MOS is capable of obtaining simultaneous spectra of up to $\sim 80$ stars over the $1^\circ$ field during each configuration (or pointing). The Hydra fiber positioner executes a fiber setup in $\sim 20$ min with a precision of 0.2$''$. The isolated fiber-fed bench spectrograph is of conventional design with an all-transmission camera to avoid central obstruction of the filled beam. We use the blue fibers for our observations, each fiber having a 3.1$''$ aperture and an effective spectral window of 300–700 nm. The majority of our observations are centered on 513 nm and extend 25 nm in either direction, covering a rich array of narrow absorption lines and the Mg B triplet. We utilize the X14 filter along with the Echelle grating at 11th order, obtaining a resolution of approximately 20000 and a dispersion of 0.13 Å pixel$^{-1}$ on the CCD. A portion of our observations are centered on 640 nm (also extending 25 nm in either direction). The detector is a thinned 2048 $\times$ 2048 Tektronics CCD with 24 $\mu$m pixels and a typical resolution element of $\sim 2.5$ pixels ($\sim 19$ km s$^{-1}$).

3.1.2. Observing Procedure

During each pointing we may utilize $\sim 80$ fibers to measure simultaneous spectra. We will generally use $\sim 10$ fibers to measure the sky, and place the remaining $\sim 70$ fibers on stars. Therefore, developing a strategy for the placement of these science fibers is critical in order to optimize a limited observing time. This section discusses our chosen strategy for fiber placement as well as our general observing routine.

Prior to creating our “pointing files” for a given observing run, we perform a detailed prioritization of the stars in our sample based on our available data. In general, we place our discovered velocity-variable stars at the highest priority, followed by PM members, PM non-members, and finally, those stars that we consider finished. Based on Monte Carlo simulations, we require three epochs of RV measurements over at least a year to ensure 95% confidence that a star is either constant or variable in velocity (i.e., a single star or a binary- or a multiple-star system;
Mathieu 1983; E. K. Braden et al. 2008, in preparation). With three observations in hand we either derive secure membership probabilities for single stars and place them at the lowest priority (considering them finished), or move binaries to the highest priority in order to expedite orbital solutions.

To maximize progress toward orbital solutions, the short-period binaries are the highest priority for observation each night. Longer-period binaries are the next priority for 1–2 observations per run. All other fibers are placed on stars for completion of the survey of the entire cluster.7

During a given observing run, we produce a “faint master” and a “bright master” which will then be used to make the initial pointing files. The faint master contains all of the stars from our sample while the bright master contains only stars within the range of $12.5 \leq V \leq 15.5$ (777 object stars) to be used in the case where light cloud cover would likely prevent us from reliably deriving velocities for the fainter stars. In general, we use a total of 2 h of integration time for the faint pointings split into three 2400 s integrations. For bright pointings, we take 1 h of total integration time split into three 1200 s integrations. By splitting up our integrations, we increase our ability to remove cosmic rays that may appear in our spectra. Calibration is achieved through one 200 s flat field and two 300 s ThAr (for the 513 nm range) or CuAr (for the 640 nm range) emission line spectra for each pointing. Currently, we have observed NGC 188 using WIYN over 53 different observing runs totalling 119 separate pointings.

3.2. DAO

The DAO RVs were measured using the DAO RVS on the 1.2 m telescope. This instrument observes 43 nm of the spectrum centered at 455 nm with a resolution of 0.2 Å, scanning a mask rapidly across the stellar absorption lines. The properties of the instrument and the observing procedures can be found in Fletcher et al. (1982) and McClure et al. (1985).

4. WIYN DATA REDUCTION

The ultimate goal of our WIYN data reduction routine is to take our CCD image (the light from the ~80 fibers), extract the ~70 science spectra from this image, and obtain ~70 heliocentric RVs. We describe our WIYN data reduction procedure in some detail here as the basic reference for subsequent RV publications from this project. Information regarding the DAO RVS data reduction routine can be found in Fletcher et al. (1982) and McClure et al. (1985).

Initially, we come away from the telescope with raw FITS images of the dispersed light from our science and calibration integrations. We generally take two ThAr (or CuAr) calibration images per pointing, one before the first integration and the other after the last integration, in order to account for any potential wavelength shift that may occur during the one or two hours of total integration. We also take one dome flat per pointing.

All image processing is done within the IRAF8 data reduction environment (Tody 1993).

5 These remaining fibers are placed based on the following ranking: “candidate binaries” (twice observed stars whose measured velocities vary by $>1.5 \text{ km s}^{-1}$), followed by once-, twice-, and un-observed PM members, and finally once-, twice-, and un-observed PM non-members. Each section is then sorted by distance from the cluster center, to maximize fiber density in the crowded central field.

6 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.

7 This statement uses "the average flat-field intensity function so that when the science apertures are flat fielded later, they will be throughput corrected simultaneously.

We then determine a pixel to wavelength map using the ThAr (or CuAr) calibration spectra, first using the long (900 s) exposure taken during the day, and then the shorter (300 s) exposures related to the science images. We use the long-calibration image for our initial map, as the extracted high signal-to-noise spectra yield more precise results. After extracting the spectra from the long-calibration image, we determine a dispersion solution for each aperture by fitting a cubic-spline function to the ThAr (or CuAr) emission line wavelengths and pixel centroids. We then transfer these solutions as initial guesses onto the extracted short-calibration spectra associated with our science spectra. Our typical root-mean square (rms) residuals around the emission line wavelengths for a fit to a long-calibration spectrum vary from $\sim$0.006 to 0.009 Å, and increase slightly for the short-calibration exposures. Finally, the science spectra are extracted, flat fielded, throughput corrected, and dispersion corrected. The result is a multispectrum FITS image containing all science spectra for a given integration. The preceding steps are performed for each of a set of integrations for a given field using the associated flat fields and calibration images.

Sky Subtraction. We generally do not observe during dark time and therefore often obtain some scattered moonlight in our object spectra. In order to avoid the potential confusion due to a second spectrum of different velocity, we must remove the solar absorption lines from our spectra. This is achieved through the use of our ~10 sky fibers. We inspect each sky spectrum and then use all acceptable sky spectra from our pointing to create one averaged sky spectrum per integration. (Inclusion of a noisy, low-quality or accidental stellar spectrum will degrade our science spectra when sky subtracted.) During the averaging, the sky spectra are run through an averaged sigma-clipping algorithm in order to remove cosmic rays. Finally, this combined sky spectrum is subtracted from each object spectrum, and the procedure is repeated for all integrations.

At this point, we generally have three extracted and sky-subtracted sets of spectra for each pointing (i.e., one set of spectra for each integration of a given pointing), which we combine to produce one set of spectra per pointing. We perform a median filter combination to remove any cosmic ray contamination from our object spectra.

Cross Correlation. We then calculate RVs from these combined object spectra using the IRAF task fxcor. This task uses the Fourier transforms of two spectra (generally one science and
one template spectrum) to quickly compute the cross-correlation function (CCF) between them, and hence derive their velocity difference. We fit a Gaussian function to the CCF peak and find the centroid, obtaining the velocity offset of the object spectrum from the template. We allow IRAF to correct this velocity for the template offset and the motion of the Earth around the Sun to return a heliocentric velocity. These heliocentric velocities are the final product of our data reduction routine.

Since we are observing solar-type stars, we have chosen to correlate each object spectrum against a high signal-to-noise solar spectrum obtained from a daytime sky observation. This solar template spectrum was obtained using the same observing setup as used for our science spectra. Currently, the same template is used to reduce all of our WIYN observations. However, certainly not all of our stars have a G2V spectral type. Therefore we have investigated for a potential offset in velocity resulting from a template mismatch by binning our measured single-member (SM) star RVs as a function of \((B-V)\) color. There is no evidence for a systematic offset to the level of 0.1 km s\(^{-1}\). We are therefore confident that our choice of a G-star template has not affected the accuracy of our RV measurements.

5. WIYN DATA QUALITY ANALYSIS

Here we present a thorough analysis of our WIYN RV measurement precision and the various sources of dispersion in our measurements. In Section 5.1, we briefly discuss our quality control procedures. In Section 5.2 we derive our measurement precision through the use of the \(\chi^2\) function. Finally, we provide a detailed empirical study of our error budget in Section 5.3.

5.1. Quality of Measurement

Generally the highest signal-to-noise spectra result in the highest CCF peak height values. We use the peak height of the CCF fit as the measure of the quality of a given measurement in the WIYN data set. Only measurements whose fits lie above a certain cutoff value in the CCF peak height are deemed reliable. In order to determine this cutoff value, we first determine the offset of each RV measurement of a star from the mean RV of that star, using only single stars. We then plot these offsets, for all RV measurements of all single stars, against the CCF peak height. Only single stars have CCF peak heights above 0.4. Individual measurements with CCF peak heights >0.4 show small offsets from the average, while those with CCF peak heights <0.4 show a much larger scatter.

It is clear from Figure 1 that above a CCF peak height of \(\sim 0.4\) the RV offsets are quite small while those measurements whose CCF peak heights are lower than 0.4 show a very large scatter. We therefore adopt a CCF peak height cutoff value of 0.4, and present here only measurements of this quality.

In addition to our CCF peak height quality criterion, we examine the distribution of RVs for each individual star and visually inspect any measurements that are outliers in the distribution. Occasionally we remove measurements whose CCF, though having a peak height above 0.4, clearly provides a spurious measurement (e.g., inadequate sky subtraction).

5.2. Precision

In order to determine the precision of our WIYN RV measurements, we fit a \(\chi^2\) distribution to our empirical distribution of RV standard deviations (following Kirillova & Pavlovskaya 1963). The theoretical \(\chi^2\) curve models the distribution of errors on measurements of single stars. This function depends on both the precision of all measurements and the number of degrees of freedom (i.e., one less than the number of measurements). For consistency across all stars, many of which have only three measurements, here we have used only the first three measurements of each star to calculate the standard deviation of its measurements. In order to derive this precision value, we fit a \(\chi^2\) function with two degrees of freedom to the distribution of the RV standard deviations:

\[
\chi^2(\sigma_{\text{obs}}) = \left( \frac{2}{\sigma_i^2} \right) \sigma_{\text{obs}} \exp \left( -\frac{\sigma_{\text{obs}}^2}{2 \sigma_i^2} \right). \tag{1}
\]

Here, \(\sigma_{\text{obs}}\) denotes the standard deviation of the RV measurements for a star, and \(\sigma_i\) represents the overall precision of our measurements.

The empirical distribution (Figure 2) represents the combination of two populations: the single stars (with lower \(\sigma_{\text{obs}}\)) and the velocity-variable stars (with higher \(\sigma_{\text{obs}}\)). The \(\chi^2\) function is designed to fit only the single stars. For this reason, we chose a maximum \(\sigma_{\text{obs}}\) for our fit, above which the population is dominated by velocity-variable stars. We used a standard least-squares determination, varying the value \(\sigma_i\) as well as a cutoff value in \(\sigma_{\text{obs}}\), to fit the \(\chi^2\) function to our data. A maximum \(\sigma_{\text{obs}}\) cutoff of 0.7 km s\(^{-1}\) (shown by the dashed line in Figure 2) and \(\sigma_i = 0.4\) km s\(^{-1}\) produced the smallest residuals and hence the best fit to the peak at lower \(\sigma_{\text{obs}}\). Figure 2 shows the RV standard deviation histogram of all stars with \(\geq 3\) WIYN measurements along with the best-fit \(\chi^2\) distribution function. This analysis yields a nominal precision on our WIYN data of \(\sigma_i = 0.4\) km s\(^{-1}\).

Note that toward higher standard deviations, the data are populated almost entirely by binary stars. This is reflected in the departure of the data from the theoretical \(\chi^2\) curve. We can therefore use this plot to facilitate our binary identification routine by assuming that if a given star has a \(\sigma_{\text{obs}}\) that is higher than a certain value, the star is a velocity variable. By inspection

\(^9\) We have investigated the use of the Keeping (1962) small-number statistical formulae to calculate these standard deviation values, and find that these formulae suggest only a small (\(\sim 10\%\) for three measurements) correction to standard deviations measured using the traditional formula. Therefore we have decided to use the traditional formula to calculate our standard deviation values, and note that we derive the same global precision on our measurements using either method.
of Figure 2 we note that the theoretical curve drops to very near zero at >3 times \( \sigma \). We therefore define our velocity-variable stars as those stars whose RV standard deviations (by convention, we use \( e \) in place of \( \sigma_{\text{obs}} \)) are greater than 4 times our quoted precision (by convention, we use \( i \) in place of \( \sigma_i \)), or \( e/i > 4 \). We plot this value of \( e/i = 4 \) as the dotted line in Figure 2, and we discuss our velocity variables in further detail in Section 7.2.

Although we have calculated a single value for our WIYN precision, the dispersion of our measurements is affected by photon error, and is thus a function of \( V \) magnitude. Figure 3 shows \( \chi^2 \) calculated values of \( \sigma_i \) as functions of CCF peak height and \( V \) magnitude. For fit quality, our precision ranges from 0.22 km s\(^{-1} \) for the highest quality RVs and degrades to 0.80 km s\(^{-1} \) toward our CCF peak height cutoff value of 0.4. We see a similar range when looking at the precision as a function of \( V \) magnitude; the brightest stars are measured to a precision of 0.25 km s\(^{-1} \) while the measurement precision on our faintest stars is reduced to 0.55 km s\(^{-1} \).

The range in \( \chi^2 \)-fit values for our precision agrees very well with that derived from our error budget analysis in Section 5.3. We are therefore confident in quoting our overall precision to be \( \sigma_i = 0.4 \) km s\(^{-1} \), which can then be used to identify our binary stars and to evaluate the velocity dispersion of the cluster.

5.3. Empirical Error Budget Analysis

In this section, we present a thorough empirical analysis of the error sources contributing to our measurement precision; a preliminary report can be found in Meibom et al. (2001). Our internal measurement errors have both systematic and random components that include fiber-to-fiber variations (\( \sigma_{f-f} \)), photon error (\( \sigma_{\text{ph}}(V) \)), and pointing-to-pointing variations (\( \sigma_{p-p} \)), each of which we discuss and quantify here.

5.3.1. Systematic Fiber-to-Fiber Variations (\( \sigma_{f-f} \))

Sky flats demonstrate the existence of fiber-to-fiber variations of unknown origin. During our 11 years of monitoring the stars in NGC 188, different configurations of the Hydra MOS result in the same star being measured through different fibers. Thus fiber-to-fiber variations represent a source of internal error on the set of measurements for a star. Fortunately this error is systematic and can be corrected.

During each observing run, we take at least one sky flat as a calibration measure, with all fibers arranged in a circle in the focal plane. When corrected for the Earth’s rotational and orbital motions, all fibers should provide RVs of 0 km s\(^{-1} \). In reality, it has become clear that each fiber has a unique and consistent offset of <1 km s\(^{-1} \). Specifically, for each sky flat we derive a mean velocity across all of the fibers, and then measure the velocity offset from this mean for each fiber. We take the means of these velocity offsets over ~10 years of observing NGC 188 for each of the two observed wavelength ranges, and the results are plotted in Figure 4. The offsets for the 513 nm region range from 0.00 km s\(^{-1} \) to 0.70 km s\(^{-1} \). The mean of the standard deviations on each mean offset measurement is 0.13 km s\(^{-1} \). Analysis of the 640 nm range results in similar values. We assume that the derived offset for a given fiber is independent of the position of the fiber on the focal plane. Our RV measurements are corrected for these offsets on a fiber-by-fiber basis.

5.3.2. Random Photon Errors (\( \sigma_{\text{ph}}(V) \))

As described in Section 3, each RV measurement derives from three combined sequential integrations obtained in the same fiber configuration. Since these three integrations are almost contemporaneous and are made through the same fibers for any given star, the standard deviations of the three velocities measured from each of the three integrations must arise from photon error alone. Figure 5(a) shows the distribution of such standard deviations as a function of \( V \) magnitude, and provides a direct measurement of our photon error. It is clear that the photon error is a function of \( V \) magnitude, as expected. (Here we have only included 2400 s integrations.) Indeed, if we bin the data shown in Figure 5(a) by intensity (\( I \)), the trend is well fitted by \( I^{-1/2} \).

5.3.3. Pointing-to-Pointing Variations (\( \sigma_{p-p} \))

In Figure 5(b), we plot the standard deviations of the RV measurements for each single star as a function of \( V \) magnitude. For \( V \gtrsim 14 \), the morphologies of Figures 5(a) and 5(b) are nearly identical. For these fainter stars, the dispersion on our
measurements is dominated by photon error. However, at $V \lesssim 14$, the values in Figure 5(a) drop below those in Figure 5(b). Here, the photon error is lower than our empirical precision. Indeed, at $V < 14$, we observe a constant dispersion with an average value of $\sim 0.3$ km s$^{-1}$ while our average photon error in Figure 5(a) is only $\sim 0.2$ km s$^{-1}$. We must therefore identify a second component to our random error. We conjecture that this component is due to systematic offsets in each pointing that are randomly distributed in time. We label this component the pointing-to-pointing variation: $\sigma_{p-p}$.

Thus, we define our internal sources of random error as

$$
\sigma_i(V)^2 = \sigma_{ph}(V)^2 + \sigma_{p-p}^2.
$$

Because we do not have multiple observations of identical pointing configurations, we need to determine $\sigma_{p-p}$ via a statistical approach. We begin by defining the quantity $\sigma_{mp}$, the dispersion of the mean RVs of all pointings. Specifically, for each pointing we take the mean RV of the single-cluster members, which we call the pointing velocity. Then $\sigma_{mp}$ is the standard deviation of all of these pointing velocities.

Note that $\sigma_{mp}$ is not simply $\sigma_{p-p}$, because each pointing velocity derives from a different sample of single-cluster members. The dispersion among pointing velocities is thus a consequence of the pointing-to-pointing variations, the photon errors, and the true motions of the stars. We digress here briefly to discuss the last.

Stars in a gravitationally bound cluster will orbit the center of mass of the system. The orbital motions around the cluster center-of-mass is typically characterized by a velocity dispersion ($\sigma_c$). In addition, orbital motions introduced by a binary companion will offset the individual RV measurements of a given star from the binary system’s center-of-mass motion. When a binary orbital solution is available the true center-of-mass motion is known. However, there are certainly binaries that we cannot detect spectroscopically (e.g., long-period binaries), and are thus included as single (constant-velocity) stars. These undetected binaries add to the dispersion on our measurements. We characterize the distribution of undetected binary motions as a Gaussian with dispersion $\sigma_b$. Therefore, we call the combination of the cluster motions and undetected binary motions the combined velocity dispersion:

$$
\sigma_{cb}^2 = \sigma_c^2 + \sigma_b^2.
$$

Thus, we define the measured pointing variation as

$$
\sigma_{mp}^2 = \frac{[\sigma_{cb}^2 + \sigma_{mp}(V)^2]}{N} + \sigma_{p-p}^2,
$$

where $N$ corresponds to the average number of single-cluster-member stars in a given pointing (within the desired magnitude range).

---

Figure 4. RV offsets for each Hydra MOS fiber. These offsets were calculated using sky flats spanning $\sim 10$ years. Plot (a) shows fiber offsets for the 513 nm range, and (b) shows offsets for the 640 nm range. The error bars represent the rms error on the mean of each data point. (Errors are larger for the 640 nm region simply because we have fewer observations at this wavelength range.)

Figure 5. (a) Standard deviations of three sequential 2400 s RV measurements as a function of apparent $V$ magnitude. These standard deviations derive only from photon error. (b) Standard deviations of all RV measurements for single stars as a function of apparent $V$ magnitude.
Using Equation (2), the apparent dispersion of the RV measurements for a set of stars can be written as

$$\sigma_{\text{obs}}^2 = \sigma_{\text{ph}}^2 + \sigma_i^2 = [\sigma_{\text{ch}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{ph}}(V)^2] + \sigma_{p-p}^2,$$  \hspace{1cm} (5)

where \(\sigma_{\text{obs}}\) is the standard deviation of all single stars’ mean velocities (in the appropriate magnitude domain).

Combining Equations (4) and (5) allows us to eliminate the bracketed values and recover the pointing-to-pointing dispersion:

$$\sigma_{p-p}^2 = \frac{N}{N-1} \left( \sigma_{\text{mp}}^2 - \sigma_{\text{obs}}^2 \right).$$  \hspace{1cm} (6)

5.3.4. Calculating the Empirical Internal Error (\(\sigma_i(V)\))

Since the photon error is magnitude dependent, we have chosen to divide our calculation into two magnitude ranges: (1) \(12 \leq V < 14\) and (2) \(15 < V \leq 16.5\).

We can calculate values for \(\sigma_{\text{ph}}\) directly from the analysis that leads to Figure 5(a). Next, in domain (1) we find \(\sigma_{\text{mp}} = 0.33 \text{ km s}^{-1}\), while in domain (2) we find \(\sigma_{\text{mp}} = 0.36 \text{ km s}^{-1}\). Note that it is just fortuitous that both of these values are so close, as the larger photon error at \(V > 15\) is offset by the larger number of stars in this magnitude range. Using these values, we find a \(\sigma_{p-p}\) equal to 0.26 km s\(^{-1}\) in domain (1) and 0.33 km s\(^{-1}\) in domain (2). The closeness of these values leads us to suspect that not magnitude dependent. We proceed to combine our error budgets to compute our internal error in our two magnitude domains. Table 1 summarizes our results for the error budgets and the internal error as a function of magnitude.

| \(N\) (stars per pointing) | \(12 \leq V < 14\) | \(15 < V \leq 16.5\) |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| \(\sigma_{\text{obs}}\) (km s\(^{-1}\)) | 0.70 | 0.33 |
| \(\sigma_{\text{mp}}\) (km s\(^{-1}\)) | 0.76 | 0.36 |
| \(\sigma_{p-p}\) (km s\(^{-1}\)) | 0.26 | 0.33 |
| \(\sigma_{\text{ph}}\) (km s\(^{-1}\)) | 0.20 | 0.51 |
| \(\sigma_i\) (km s\(^{-1}\)) | 0.33 | 0.61 |

6. THE COMBINED WIYN AND DAO DATA SET

In our database, we currently have a total of 8252 RVs of 1046 stars from our NGC 188 cluster sample. Of those, 544 RVs of 77 stars were measured at the DAO (or at the Palomar 5 m telescope for those prior to 1980); the remaining data were measured at the WIYN 3.5 m telescope. Before combining these two data sets, we searched for a potential zero-point offset and for differences in precision.

6.1. Zero Point and Precision

In order to check for a potential zero-point offset between the two data sets, we compared 24 single stars with \(\geq 3\) observations in each data set. A star is defined as single if the standard deviation of its measurements is less than four times our measurement precision of 0.4 km s\(^{-1}\) (see Sections 5.2 and 7.2). We find a mean offset of 0.03 ± 0.1 km s\(^{-1}\). We therefore conclude that there is no measurable systematic RV offset between the WIYN and DAO data at this level.

We then investigated the precision of each data set, employing a \(\chi^2\)-fitting algorithm as described by Kirillova & Pavlovskaya (1963) and discussed in Section 5.2. Using this method, we find the precision of the WIYN data set to be 0.4 km s\(^{-1}\) and of the DAO data set to be 1.0 km s\(^{-1}\). The DAO RV errors found here are larger than the typical errors of 0.4 km s\(^{-1}\) normally seen with this instrument (Fletcher et al. 1982). We believe these increased errors are due to photon statistics, as the stars in NGC 188 are faint enough to require long exposure times for this relatively small telescope. We have therefore noted the number of WIYN and DAO observations for each star in our master data table. We have also accounted for this difference in precision when calculating our average RVs and \(e/i\) measurements for stars observed at both observatories (as explained in Sections 7.1 and Section 7.2).

The WIYN and DAO RV measurements were thus integrated without modification into a single data set. We note that the combination of the data sets extends our maximum time baseline up to 35 years for some stars.

6.2. Completeness

The basis for our stellar sample is the P03 PM study of NGC 188, which we take to be complete within our magnitude limits. We note that 28 of these 1498 stars lack PM measurements.

As mentioned in Section 2, our original cluster sample was composed of the PM members from the Dinescu et al. (1996) study, and, as such, our observations are most complete within this sample. We have \(\geq 3\) observations of 99% of the Dinescu et al. (1996) sample with PM membership probabilities \(> 70\%\). The Dinescu et al. PM members (\(P_{\text{PM}} > 70\%\)) comprise 27% of their entire sample. We have also observed 47% of the remainder of the Dinescu et al. sample \(\geq 3\) times, and 65% at least once.

Our current stellar sample consists of 1498 stars, including 624 with non-zero PM membership probabilities, taken from the P03 study. We have \(\geq 3\) observations of 96% of these non-zero PM members, and at least one observation of \(> 99\%\) of these members. We have also observed 27% of the remainder of the Platais et al. sample \(\geq 3\) times, and 46% at least once. We have at least one observation of 69% of our entire stellar sample.

In total, we have calculated RV membership probabilities for 848 stars (each having \(\geq 3\) RV measurements).

We have plotted our completeness as a function of radius on the left panel of Figure 6 and as a function of \(V\) magnitude on the right panel of Figure 6. The top plots display our completeness in the stars with non-zero P03 PM membership probabilities. Our observations near completeness in both radius and magnitude for this sample. There is a slight bias toward the cluster center as a result of having prioritized these stars in our observations. Our completeness drops for magnitudes brighter than \(V = 12\) as we have not observed these stars at the WIYN 3.5 m; the data for these stars comes from the DAO. There are only six stars with \(10.5 < V < 12\) and non-zero P03 PM membership probabilities. Additionally our completeness amongst stars observed \(\geq 3\) times begins to drop at \(V \geq 16\). These stars are more difficult to observe, as they require clear skies and large separations from the moon. The bottom plots display our completeness for our entire stellar sample. The drop in completeness toward larger radii is due to a similar decrease in frequency of PM members at increasing radius from the cluster center. The incompleteness in
Figure 6. Completeness histograms as a function of radius (left) and apparent V magnitude (right) for our NGC 188 sample. In the left panels, we show radius on both arcminutes and core radii, assuming a core radius of 1.3 pc (Bonatto et al. 2005) at a distance of 1.9 kpc. Our percentage of stars observed $\geq$1 time is plotted with the solid line, while our percentage of stars observed $\geq$3 times is plotted with the dotted line. The top panels show our completeness for the P03 non-zero PM membership stars, and the bottom panels show our completeness for all stars in our sample.

Table 2
Radial Velocity Data Table

| ID_W | ID_SA | ID_D | ID_ST | R.A. | Decl. | V | $R - V$ | N_W | N_D | RV | P_PM | P_RV | e/i | Class | Comment |
|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|---|-------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|-------|---------|
| 52   | 501   | 00:24:48.705 | 85:34:14.36 | 16.370 | 0.661 | 1 | 0 | 12.33 | 31 | U |
| 91   | 857   | 00:26:49.002 | 85:27:19.11 | 16.120 | 0.789 | 5 | 0 | 23.86 | 57 | ... | 6.16 | BU | SB1 |
| 96   | 1924  | 1158 | 00:27:33.157 | 85:34:59.40 | 13.908 | 0.706 | 13 | 0 | -29.22 | 0 | ... | 39.97 | BU | SB1 |
| 117  | 1916  | 1379 | 00:28:39.664 | 85:30:37.77 | 14.078 | 1.117 | 9 | 0 | -50.65 | 0 | 0 | 0.48 | SN |
| 125  | 1938  | 973  | 00:27:09.762 | 85:29:30.67 | 15.598 | 0.787 | 3 | 0 | -84.44 | 0 | 0 | 2.74 | SN |
| 136  | 1691  | 1229 | 00:28:19.530 | 85:28:08.38 | 14.856 | 0.928 | 3 | 0 | -94.02 | 0 | 0 | 2.61 | SN |
| 142  | 1188  | 00:28:13.319 | 85:27:24.98 | 16.000 | 1.030 | 3 | 0 | -12.46 | 0 | 0 | 3.60 | SN |
| 149  | 1790  | 00:29:39.550 | 85:40:28.12 | 14.156 | 0.214 | 1 | 0 | 5.11 | ... | U |
| 160  | 1929  | 1916 | 00:30:20.571 | 85:38:31.55 | 13.531 | 0.663 | 3 | 0 | -39.95 | 0 | 21 | 3.50 | SN |
| 200  | 1964  | 00:30:57.379 | 85:31:14.40 | 16.111 | 0.790 | 7 | 0 | -63.76 | 43 | ... | 13.17 | BLN | SB1 |

(This table is available in its entirety in a machine-readable form in the online journal. A portion is shown here for guidance regarding its form and content)

V > 12 within our full stellar sample is again due to a decreasing frequency of PM members among fainter stars.

7. RESULTS

We have compiled a table of all observed stars within our survey and show the first ten lines in Table 2, while the entire table is provided electronically. For each star, we have included the WOCS (P03) ID (ID_W), Sandage (1962) ID (ID_SA), Dinescu et al. (1996) ID (ID_D), and Stetson et al. (2004) ID (ID_ST). We also include the P03 R.A., decl., V, and $(B-V)$. Next we show the number of WIYN ($N_W$) and DAO ($N_D$) observations, average RV (RV), P03 PM membership ($P_{PM}$), RV membership ($P_{RV}$), $e/i$ measurement, class (described in Section 7.1), and a comment. We use a weighted average to calculate the mean RV and $e/i$ measurements. In the comment field, we use G for giant stars, BS for blue stragglers, SB1 and SB2 for single- and double-lined spectroscopic binaries, respectively, and RR for rapid rotators. We define the rapid rotators as those stars whose CCF FWHM is $>60$ km s$^{-1}$ and are not observed to be an SB2 binary. (Our mean FWHM for non-RR stars is 35 km s$^{-1}$.) We have also included the relevant IDs from the photometric and X-ray studies of the cluster (with prefix “V” from Zhang et al. (2002), “VV” from Kafka & Honeycutt (2003), “X” from Belloni et al. (1998), and “GX” from Gondoin (2005), as well as certain short-period variable classifications from Zhang et al. (2002)). We caution the reader that the variability of cases where, for example, $e/i < 5$ and only a few observations are available should be considered uncertain.

7.1. Membership

In order to calculate a given star’s RV membership probability, we first fit separate Gaussian functions for both the cluster and field-star populations to a histogram of the RV measurements for all single stars. We then define the membership probability of a given star by the usual equation:

$$P_{RV}(v) = \frac{F_{cluster}(v)}{F_{field}(v) + F_{cluster}(v)}$$

where $F_{cluster}(v)$ is the cluster-fitted value for RV v, and $F_{field}(v)$ is the field-fitted value for the same RV (Vasilevskis et al. 1958). We use only single stars in computing the cluster and field fits; we then re-normalized the Gaussians to the full sample size including velocity-variable stars. Figure 7(a) shows the RV histogram as well as the fits to the field and cluster stars used in Equation (7). The cluster is best fitted by a Gaussian centered on $-42.43$ km s$^{-1}$ with $\sigma = 0.76$ km s$^{-1}$. The cluster fit indicates a total of 485 stars integrated over the Gaussian fit. The field is best fitted by a Gaussian centered on $-35.51$ km s$^{-1}$ with $\sigma = 38.01$ km s$^{-1}$ and indicates a total of 314 stars.

As mentioned above, Monte Carlo simulations have indicated that we require three observations covering a baseline of at least one year in order to be 95% confident that a star is either constant or variable in velocity (i.e., a single star or a binary- or multiple-star system). If this criterion is not met, we classify the star’s membership as unknown (U). We have calculated RV membership probabilities for the 848 stars that
to define our RV members as those with a non-zero $P_{RV}$ as cluster members. In addition to our RV membership probabilities, we classify single stars as either SMs or single non-members (SNs), based on the RV membership probability. Binary stars with orbit solutions are classified as either binary members (BMs) or binary non-members (BNs), based on the RV membership probability derived using their center-of-mass velocity (A. M. Geller et al. 2008, in preparation). For velocity-variable stars without orbit solutions, our RV membership probabilities are less certain; therefore we simply provide the classification as a distinction. Velocity-variable stars without orbit solutions are classified as binary likely members (BLM) if $P_{RV}(\overline{RV}) > 0\%$ (where $\overline{RV}$ is the star’s average RV), binary unknown (BU) if the range in RV measurements includes the cluster mean velocity but $P_{RV}(\overline{RV}) = 0\%$, or BLN if all RV measurements fall outside of the cluster distribution. In addition to our stars that have been observed $<3$ times, we also classify certain stars as unknown (U) that do not have sufficient measurements to yield a reliable class (e.g., rapid rotators with few observations). Note that in Table 2, we have only included our $P_{RV}$ measurements for the SM, SN, BM, and BN stars, as the RV memberships derived for the remaining classes of stars are uncertain. Table 3 displays the number of stars within each classification.

We define our sample of cluster members as the SM, BM and BLM stars; in total, we find 473 likely member stars. Including only the SM and BM cluster members, we find a mean cluster RV of $-42.36 \pm 0.04$ km s$^{-1}$, with a standard deviation about the mean of 0.64 km s$^{-1}$.

### 7.1.1. Comparison of RV and PM Memberships

We find good agreement between our RV membership probabilities and the P03 PM membership probabilities. There are 452 stars within our magnitude limits for which P03 calculates a $P_{PM} \geq 80\%$. We have secure membership probabilities for 384 of these stars (meaning either $\geq 3$ observations on a single star or an orbit solution for a binary star). Of these, we find 356 (92\%) to have a $P_{RV} \geq 80\%$ and 365 (95\%) to have $P_{RV} > 0\%$. Of the 19 PM member stars for which we find zero RV membership probability, five lie far from a single star isochrone.

In total, we find 358 single stars with $P_{RV} \geq 80\%$. Of these stars, 289 (81\%) have $P_{PM} \geq 80\%$ and 340 (94\%) have $P_{PM} > 0\%$. We also find 80 binary stars with orbit solutions to have $P_{RV} \geq 80\%$ (A. M. Geller et al. 2008, in preparation). Of these, 70 (88\%) have a $P_{PM} \geq 80\%$, and 77 (96\%) have a non-zero $P_{PM}$. There are 25 single stars and binary stars with orbit solutions for which we find $P_{RV} > 0\%$ that P03 find zero PM membership probability. Of these stars, four lie far from a single star isochrone. As stated above, we expect a $\sim 6\%$ contamination of field stars within our $>0\%$ RV membership.

---

**Figure 7.** (a) RV distribution of single stars in the direction of NGC 188. The cluster and field are both fitted with the Gaussian function which are used in calculating the RV membership probabilities. The boxed region in the bottom center of the figure is expanded to the upper right in order to highlight the region where our cluster members RVs correspond most closely to the field-star RVs. (b) Histogram of the RV membership probabilities of the 848 stars that have been observed $\geq 3$ times. We choose to define our RV members as those stars with $P_{RV} > 0\%$.

**Table 3**

| Class | $N$ stars |
|-------|-----------|
| SM    | 349       |
| SN    | 291       |
| BM    | 78        |
| BN    | 15        |
| BLM   | 46        |
| BU    | 28        |
| BLN   | 35        |
| U     | 204       |

---

| Class | $N$ stars |
|-------|-----------|
| SM    | 349       |
| SN    | 291       |
| BM    | 78        |
| BN    | 15        |
| BLM   | 46        |
| BU    | 28        |
| BLN   | 35        |
| U     | 204       |

---

**Figure 7.** (a) RV Average $= -42.36 \pm 0.03$ km s$^{-1}$

- **Histogram (a):** RV distribution of single stars in the direction of NGC 188. The cluster and field are both fitted with the Gaussian function which are used in calculating the RV membership probabilities. The boxed region in the bottom center of the figure is expanded to the upper right in order to highlight the region where our cluster members RVs correspond most closely to the field-star RVs.
- **Histogram (b):** Histogram of the RV membership probabilities of the 848 stars that have been observed $\geq 3$ times. We choose to define our RV members as those stars with $P_{RV} > 0\%$.

---

**Table 3**

| Number of Stars Within Each Classification |
|-------------------------------------------|
| **Class** | **$N$ stars** |
| SM         | 349          |
| SN         | 291          |
| BM         | 78           |
| BN         | 15           |
| BLM        | 46           |
| BU         | 28           |
| BLN        | 35           |
| U          | 204          |
cut. Indeed, out of our 453 single stars and binary stars with orbit solutions for which we find \( P_{\text{RV}} > 0 \)%, we would expect to find \( \sim 25 \) field stars.

In order to reduce this contamination, we use both the RV and PM membership information to identify cluster members. Specifically, we have chosen to define our 3D members as those stars that have a non-zero P03 PM membership probability and non-zero RV membership probability. These 473 stars are used in the subsequent analyses.

### 7.2. Velocity-Variable Stars

RV variable stars are evident from the standard deviations of their measurements. As described in Section 5.2 and shown in Figure 2, we have chosen a cutoff value of 4 times our precision \( (e/i > 4) \) to distinguish single stars from velocity-variable stars. For stars with both WIYN and DAO measurements, we take a weighted average of the two \( e/i \) measurements resulting from the different precision values.⁴ If a star should have multiple observations from one observatory and only one observation from the other, we exclude that single observation and use the other observations with the appropriate precision value in calculating the \( e/i \) measurement. Note that we have not included \( e/i \) measurements in Table 2 for RR stars or SB2 binaries, as the uncertainties on these measurements are not well defined. In total, we find 124 velocity-variable cluster members. We assume that our velocity variables are binary- or multiple-star systems, and seek to derive orbit solutions for all of our detected binaries. To date, we have determined orbit solutions for 93 binaries, 78 and seek to derive orbit solutions for all of our detected binaries.

#### 8. DISCUSSION

### 8.1. Color–Magnitude Diagram

Without any membership selection, the CMD of NGC 188, within our magnitude range and spatial coverage, reveals little more than a poorly defined main sequence. Plot (a) of Figure 8 shows the locations on a CMD of each of the 1498 stars within our sample of NGC 188. Plot (b) shows only our RV member stars. The power of our combined RV and PM kinematic membership selection is clearly shown in plot (c), which displays our cleaned CMD plotting only our 473 3D kinematic member stars \( (P_{\text{PM}} > 0 \% \) and \( P_{\text{RV}} > 0 \% \)), and highlighting our 124 velocity-variable member stars. The main sequence is clearly visible in Figure 8(c) along with the

---

⁴ This 85% PM membership probability is taken from the Dinescu et al. (1996) study. The star has a nearby image (within \( \sim 5'' \)) in the P03 study, and therefore Platais et al. cannot reliably quote a PM membership. Platais et al. recommend using the Dinescu et al. (1996) PM membership.
main-sequence turnoff at about $V \sim 14.9$ and a well-defined giant branch.

We have defined our BS stars as being bluer than the dashed line drawn in Figure 8(c) and having a non-zero PM and RV membership probability. These stars are both bluer and brighter than the main sequence and main-sequence turnoff. We have excluded stars near the turnoff so as to be sure not to include equal-brightness main-sequence binaries. The blue straggler stars are noted as BS in the comment field of Table 2. We have identified 21 BS stars, 16 of which are velocity variables with $e/i > 4$. Two of our BS stars (1366 and 8104) are fainter than the traditional BS region and are noted below. All but two of our BS stars were identified by P03; star 1947 has $P_{\text{PM}} = 2\%$, and star 1366 has $P_{\text{PM}} = 3\%$.

Interestingly, we note the very large frequency of detected binaries amongst the BS stars (16 out of 21). We will discuss these binaries in detail in our next paper (A. M. Geller et al. 2008, in preparation). Here we simply note that this large frequency is secure as we have derived reliable orbit solutions for all but three of our BS velocity variables; two of these remaining BLM stars have preliminary orbit solutions and are certainly binary stars.

We find 66 red-giant stars, 16 of which are velocity variables. We also note the large scatter amongst the giant branch stars in our cleaned CMD. Indeed, the NGC 188 giant branch is much broader and less well defined than that of M67, a similarly aged old open cluster (4.5 Gyr) (e.g., Janes & Smith 1984). This scatter in the NGC 188 giant branch was previously noted in the photometric studies by McClure (1974), McClure & Twarog (1977), and Twarog (1978), and is confirmed after our careful membership selection. The origin is still uncertain.

### 8.1.1. Stars of Note

In this section we provide details on the stars of note that we have boxed in Figure 8(c). The reader is reminded that we expect ~6% contamination from field stars within our sample of stars with $P_{\text{RV}} > 0\%$. We have attempted to reduce this contamination by excluding stars with $P_{\text{PM}} = 0\%$. However, there may still be field stars within our cluster-member sample. We note that all of these stars are located in the outer regions of the cluster. This may be an important clue to their formation mechanisms as well as their subsequent dynamical evolution.

However, it may also increase the likelihood that they are field stars. For most of these stars, the $P_{\text{PM}}$ and $P_{\text{RV}}$ provide strong evidence for cluster membership.

#### 3271

Star 3271 is much bluer than its companions on the giant branch. Indeed, this star is too blue to reside on the horizontal branch or the lower asymptotic giant branch (AGB) (as compared to a 7 Gyr solar-metallicity Padova isochrone from Girardi et al. 2000). This star is located at a distance of 15.1 arcmin (6.4 core radii) from the cluster center, and has a $P_{\text{PM}} = 94\%$ and a $P_{\text{RV}} = 98\%$. We do not detect it as a velocity variable, with an $e/i = 0.54$, and 17 RV measurements. However, this star may indeed be a long-period or low-amplitude binary that lies outside of our detection limits. No combination of two stars from the main sequence through the giant branch can account for this star’s position on the CMD. We suggest that this star may be a wide red giant–BS binary system.

#### 1141

Star 1141 has a $P_{\text{PM}} = 88\%$, a $P_{\text{RV}} = 98\%$, an $e/i$ measurement of 0.59, and is located at a radius of 17.7 arcmin (7.5 core radii). This star is redder than its counterparts on the giant branch, and we are unable to reproduce its color by the addition of an undetected binary companion. This star is particularly intriguing, as it is also detected as an X-ray source (X5) by Belloni et al. (1998).

#### 3118

Star 3118 is also redder than its counterparts on the giant branch, and has a high $P_{\text{RV}}$ at 88%, but only a marginal $P_{\text{PM}}$ at 34%. The system is located at a radius of 18.8 arcmin (8.0 core radii) from the cluster center. We detect this star as an SB2 binary and have derived a preliminary orbit with a period of 12 days and a near circular eccentricity (A. M. Geller et al. 2008, in preparation). Additionally, this binary is observed as an X-ray source (X34) by Belloni et al. (1998).

#### 8104

Stars 1366 and 8104 are bluer than the main sequence yet fainter than the more “traditional” BS population. Star 1366 has a $P_{\text{PM}} = 23\%$, a $P_{\text{RV}} = 96\%$ and an $e/i$ measurement of 1.67 with three observations. This star is located at a radius of 29.6 arcmin (12.6 core radii) from the cluster center. Star 8104 has a $P_{\text{PM}} = 91\%$ and an $e/i$ measurement of 8.90 with seven observations. This system is located at a radius of 14.1 arcmin (6.0 core radii) from the cluster center. We require more observations to derive a reliable RV membership probability, but we have classified this star as a BLM. BS formation theories that include main-sequence mergers predict BS stars to populate this region of the CMD in addition to the more traditional brighter region (e.g., Bailer 1995; Stryker 1993). These stars may in fact be main-sequence

---

| Table 5: Previously Studied X-ray Stars |
|----------------------------------------|
| X-ray source | ID$_{\text{X}}$ | $P_{\text{RV}}$ (%) | $P_{\text{PM}}$ (%) | $e/i$ | Class | Comment |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|------|-------|---------|
| X1           | 1278          | ...             | 0               | ...  | BLN   | RR      |
| X5           | 1141          | 98              | 88              | 0.59 | SM    | G       |
| X11          | 483           | ...             | 0               | ...  | BU    | SB2    |
| X21          | 5258          | ...             | 92              | ...  | U     | RR      |
| X26, G1      | 5629          | 0               | 0               | ...  | BN    | SB2, RR secondary, RS CVn, photometric variable (V8) |
| X29          | 5027          | 98              | 96              | 1.51 | SM    | G, FK Comae-like star (l-I; Harris & McClure 1985b) |
| X34          | 3118          | 88              | 34              | ...  | BM    | SB2, G |
| GX18         | 4705          | 98              | 98              | ...  | BM    | SB2, G, photometric variable (V11) |
| GX20         | 4508          | ...             | 98              | 30.30| BU    | SB1, photometric variable (V11) |
| GX27         | 4230          | ...             | 93              | ...  | BU    | SB1, RR |
| GX28         | 4289          | 98              | 98              | 71.16| BM    | SB1, G |

Notes.

* Star 3118 was not originally matched in the Belloni et al. (1998) study. However we find X34 to lie within <1 arcsec of star 3118.

Thus we have identified the two sources as the same object.

---

11 Here, red giants are defined as having $(B-V) \geq 0.95$. 

---

The origin is still uncertain.
merger products that now appear bluer than their main-sequence counterparts.

3259. Star 3259 is found redward of the main sequence and below the subgiant branch. This star has a PM = 71% and an e/i measurement of 17.52 with six observations. We require more observations to derive a reliable RV membership probability, but we have classified this star as a BLM. 3259 is located at a radius of 15.6 arcmin (6.6 core radii) from the cluster center. Stars found in this region of the CMD are hard to explain through traditional theories of stellar evolution. No simple photometric combination of cluster members can account for this star’s position on the CMD. Though not displayed on Figure 8(c), star 4989 (V = 16.10, B − V = 0.97) is a 95% PM member and is located at a radius of 1.8 arcmin (0.8 core radii) from the cluster center. This star is identified as a W UMa (V5) by Zhang et al. (2002). We are unable to derive reliable RVs for this star from our seven observations (the CCF peak heights fall below our 0.4 cutoff). However, a visual inspection of the spectra suggests that star 4989 is likely a RR. These stars may be analogous to the sub-subgiants discovered in M67 by Mathieu et al. (2003).

8.2. Spatial Distribution and Mass Segregation

The currently accepted model predicts that as two-body interactions lead toward equipartition of kinetic energy, we should, in a relaxed cluster, expect the more massive stars and star systems to have fallen to the center of the cluster potential dominated by the less massive stars. Mass segregation has been observed in relaxed clusters of a variety of ages, from the young open clusters Pleiades (100 Myr; Raboud & Mermilliod 1998a) and Praesepe (800 Myr; Raboud & Mermilliod 1998b) to the old open cluster M67 (4.5 Gyr; Mathieu & Latham 1986). Harris & McClure (1985a) derived a relaxation time for NGC 188 of ~108 years, which suggests that NGC 188 may have lived through at least tens of relaxation times. Thus we would expect NGC 188 to be mass segregated. Indeed Sarajedini et al. (1999) found evidence for mass segregation in their photometric study of NGC 188. In addition, a study by Kafka & Honeycutt (2003) found their NGC 188 photometric variable star sample to be centrally concentrated, affirming the presence of mass segregation if their photometric variables are binary stars. Conversely Dinescu et al. (1996) did not find their BS population to show significantly more central concentration than the giant stars. If we assume that BS stars are formed through mergers of two (or more) stars (e.g., Bailyn 1995; Stryker 1993), we would expect the BS stars to be more massive than the giants. Hence this finding suggests a lack of mass segregation amongst the BS population, which would appear to disagree with Sarajedini et al. (1999) and Kafka & Honeycutt (2003). Therefore, we reanalyze NGC 188 for the presence of mass segregation in light of the precise membership determination presented in this paper. We compare the spatial distributions of the giant, velocity variable, and BS stars to that of the single stars (i.e., stars with constant velocity) within our NGC 188 sample, and plot the results in Figure 9.

We first investigate the velocity variables by comparing their spatial distribution to the single stars. A Kolmogorov–Smirnov (K-S) test shows that the velocity variables are derived from a different parent spatial distribution than the single stars with 92% confidence. Presuming that the velocity variables are binary- or multiple-star systems, then the central concentration of the more massive binary-star population offers further evidence for the presence of mass segregation in NGC 188.

Next, we investigate the spatial distribution of the NGC 188 BS population by again comparing to the single-star population. A K-S test shows a low distinction of 63% between the two populations. We therefore do not find the full population of BS stars to be centrally concentrated with respect to the single stars, agreeing with Dinescu et al. (1996). The majority of our
BS stars are found in binary systems; additionally, as stated above, the formation of BS stars is likely the result of mergers of two (or more) stars. Hence their combined mass is likely much greater than that of a single star in our sample. As such, this lack of central concentration is surprising and may provide a significant insight into the formation mechanisms and subsequent dynamical evolution of the NGC 188 BS stars.

Interestingly, in the similarly aged open cluster M67 (4.5 Gyr), Mathieu & Latham (1986) find secure evidence for mass segregation of the BS population. Perhaps importantly, their sample only extended to \( \sim 5 \) core radii,\(^{12}\) whereas our NGC 188 sample extends to \( \sim 13 \) core radii. If we limit our NGC 188 sample to five core radii and again compare the spatial distribution of the BS and single-star populations, we find 95% distinction between the two populations. Thus, this restricted population of BS stars does show evidence for central concentration.

We also note the seemingly bimodal spatial distribution amongst the NGC 188 BS stars. We suggest that we may be observing two populations of BS stars, with a centrally concentrated population, within \( \sim 5 \) core radii, and a halo population extending to the edge of the cluster. Similar bimodal BS spatial distributions have been observed in some globular clusters (e.g., M55, Lanzoni et al. 2007; 47 Tuc, Ferraro et al. 2004; NGC 6752, Sabbi et al. 2004; and M3, Ferraro et al. 1997). These bimodal spatial distributions are likely the result of the formation mechanism(s) and dynamical evolution of the BS populations. Scattering experiments performed by Leonard & Linnell (1992) suggest that BS stars formed through collisions within a population of primarily short-period binaries may be given enough momentum to achieve long radial orbits, spending the majority of their time in the outer cluster regions where the relaxation time is longer. Thus these halo BS stars may not attain significant central concentration. This result agrees with Sigurdsson et al. (1994) who suggest that the BS stars are likely formed in the core and ejected to varying cluster radii depending on the recoil of the dynamical interaction. BS stars that are only ejected to a few core radii quickly fall back to the cluster center through dynamical friction and mass-segregation processes, while those ejected farther may remain as a halo population. Conversely Ferraro et al. (1997, 2004) suggest that such a bimodal distribution is the result of two BS formation mechanisms, with the outer BS stars formed through mass transfer in primordial binaries, and the inner BS stars formed from stellar interactions which lead to mergers.

8.3. Cluster Radial-Velocity Dispersion

We can use Equation (5) and our detailed analysis of the precision of our measurements to solve for the combined RV dispersion of NGC 188: \( \sigma^2_{\text{cb}} = \sigma^2_{\text{h}} + \sigma^2_{\text{ob}} = \sigma^2_{\text{ob}} - \sigma^2_{\text{h}} \). Using the average values derived above, the resulting global value of the combined velocity dispersion is \( \sigma_{\text{cb}} = 0.64 \pm 0.04 \) km s\(^{-1}\). This value is likely inflated due to the presence of undetected binaries; we attempt to evaluate this overestimate below.

Mathieu (1983, 1985) studied the effect of such undetected binaries in the old open cluster M67 through a Monte Carlo analysis. This cluster has a similar observed binary frequency and combined velocity dispersion to NGC 188. The Monte Carlo simulations used an Abt & Levy (1976) binary distribution. The results from that study suggest that for a combined velocity dispersion of 0.5 km s\(^{-1}\) and a total binary fraction of 50%, one would expect the combined velocity dispersion to be inflated by 0.23 km s\(^{-1}\). Given our observed hard-binary (\( P < 10^4 \) days) fraction of roughly 30%, we expect a contribution from undetected binaries to be similar to the values derived by Mathieu (1983, 1985).

Given the mean velocity dispersion, we can estimate the virial mass of NGC 188. We use the equation given by Spitzer (1987), in projection:

\[
M = \frac{10(\sigma^2_{\text{h}}R_h)}{G},
\]

where \( \sigma_h \) is the line-of-sight (radial) velocity dispersion, and \( R_h \) is the projected half-mass radius. We use the P03 PM members (i.e., stars with \( P_{\text{PM}} > 0\% \)) to derive \( R_h = 5.8 \pm 0.3 \) pc. We estimate \( \sigma_h = 0.41 \pm 0.04 \) km s\(^{-1}\), using the correction value derived by Mathieu (1983, 1985) to recover \( \sigma_h \) from our derived \( \sigma_{\text{cb}} \) given above, and assuming an error equal to that of \( \sigma_h \). The resulting virial mass is 2300 ± 460 \( M_\odot \). This value agrees well with the total mass one gets by counting the P03 PM members; if we assume a mass-to-light relationship of \( M \propto L^{1.5/2} \) and use the proper bolometric correction factors, we find a total mass of 2250 \( M_\odot \). Our mass estimate also lies within the 90% confidence range of 230 to 2600 \( M_\odot \) derived by Harris & McClure (1985) with an isotropic King model fit (King 1966). Additionally, our mass estimate agrees with the total mass of 3800 ± 1600 \( M_\odot \) derived by Bonatto et al. (2005) from integrating an extrapolated mass function.

We have also looked for a variation in the combined RV dispersion with the radial distance from the cluster center, again using only our SM stars (\( P_{\text{RV}} > 0\% \), \( P_{\text{PM}} > 0\% \) and \( e/i < 4 \)). We have chosen to plot the upper limits on the combined RV dispersion without attempting to correct for undetected binaries, and have binned the data in equal steps in log radius. We only use the WIYN RV data for this analysis to avoid unnecessary complications from the difference in precision of the two data sets. The results are shown in Figure 10. The combined RV dispersion ranges from \( \sim 0.8 \) km s\(^{-1}\) in the radial bins closest to the cluster center to \( \sim 0.6 \) km s\(^{-1}\) in the bins farthest away from the cluster center. We note that the central rise in combined RV dispersion is likely inflated due to undetected binaries, as the binaries are centrally concentrated in NGC 188 (see Section 8.2). Indeed, applying the correction described above to the central bins would lower these values to approximately that
of our farthest bins, where we would expect the least inflation by undetected binaries. Moreover, this correction results in an RV dispersion distribution that is indistinguishable from an isothermal distribution.

Harris & McClure (1985a) also performed a study of the radial dependence of the combined RV dispersion of NGC 188, though with a smaller sample size than our study. They found a higher combined dispersion in the inner cluster region of 1.16 (with a range of 0.88–1.81) km s\(^{-1}\), but the values in their remaining radial bins, of 0.51 (0.22–1.06) km s\(^{-1}\) at 5.6–13 arcmin and 0.20 (0.12–0.40) km s\(^{-1}\) at 13–20 arcmin, are similar to the values we have obtained here. Undoubtedly, the combined dispersion measured by Harris & McClure in the inner bin was inflated due to undetected binaries, as that paper also concluded based on Monte Carlo models of observations of binaries.

9. SUMMARY
We have presented a detailed discussion of our RV study of the rich old open cluster NGC 188. As the first paper in a series of WIYN Open Cluster Study papers presenting precise stellar RV surveys, we have provided an in-depth description of our data reduction process and paid particular care in establishing our measurement precision of 0.4 km s\(^{-1}\). For the first time, full 3D kinematic membership probabilities have been used to study the cluster. We have thus been highly successful in eliminating field-star contamination within our sample, finding 473 probable member stars. Importantly, 124 of these are velocity-variable stars, providing an extensive population of dynamically hard binaries to be studied.

We have used our secure member stars to produce a cleaned CMD that displays our population of BS stars, 76% of which are binaries. We also note the large scatter within the giant branch. In addition, we have discussed six stars of note that lie far from a standard single-star isochrone. Stars 3271, 1141, and 3118 are located near the giant branch. Stars 1366 and 8104 are BS stars that lie below the traditional brighter BS region. Star 3259 may be analogous to the sub-subgiants of M67 (Mathieu et al. 2003).

We have also investigated the spatial distribution of the stellar populations within the cluster. We find the binary stars in our sample to be central concentrated with 92% confidence, providing further evidence for the presence of mass segregation within NGC 188. The BS spatial distribution appears to be bimodal, and we find no statistical evidence that the full BS population is centrally concentrated. This finding is surprising and may suggest that we are observing two populations of BS stars in NGC 188, including a centrally concentrated distribution as well as a halo BS population. Further study is necessary to determine whether this bimodal distribution is a sign of two distinct formation mechanisms, or a result of dynamical scattering during the BS formation.

Our comprehensive error analysis has allowed us to study the RV dispersion of the cluster, and we find an upper limit on our mean-combined RV dispersion of 0.64 ± 0.04 km s\(^{-1}\). The results from Mathieu (1983, 1985) suggest that this velocity dispersion may be inflated by as much as 0.23 km s\(^{-1}\) from undetected binaries. We have used this corrected velocity dispersion to estimate a mass of 2300 ± 460 M\(_\odot\) in NGC 188, which agrees well with the value derived by counting the mass in P03 PM members, as well as other NGC 188 mass estimates from the literature. The combined RV dispersion decreases with increasing cluster radius; however the dispersion values in the central bins are likely inflated due to undetected binaries. Correcting the central bins for undetected binaries yields an RV dispersion distribution that is indistinguishable from an isothermal distribution.

The WIYN Open Cluster Study will continue its survey of NGC 188 in order to provide membership data on all stars in our complete sample. We are currently in the process of analyzing our binary population for orbit solutions, and seek to identify all RV variables in the cluster within our observational constraints. With these orbit solutions, we will study the binary distribution in period, eccentricity, and mass ratio, and our identified RV variables will allow us to constrain the cluster binary fraction. As one of the oldest and most widely studied open clusters, NGC 188 holds the key to understanding the long-term evolution of binary systems, merger products, blue stragglers, and stellar dynamics in clusters with rich binary populations.

The authors would like to express their gratitude to the staff of the WIYN Observatory without whom we would not have been able to acquire these thousands of superb stellar spectra. Many thanks to Sydney Barnes and Soren Meibom who both played a significant part in the development of our error budget analysis in Section 5.3. We also want to thank the many undergraduate and graduate students who have obtained spectra over the years at WIYN for this project. We would also like to acknowledge R. F. Griffin and J. E. Gunn for contributing their NGC 188 RVs to our project. In turn, they wish to express their thanks to the Palomar Observatory for the use of the 5 m telescope. Thanks to Murray Fletcher for his expertise in developing the DAO RVS instrument. We also thank Jim Hesser who acquired a portion of the DAO NGC 188 data. Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to the referee Ted von Hippel for his many insightful comments. This work was funded by the National Science Foundation grant AST-0406615 and the Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium.

**Facilities:** WIYN 3.5 m, DAO 1.2 m, Palomar 5 m

**REFERENCES**

Abt, H. A., & Levy, S. G. 1976, ApJS, 30, 273
Bailyn, C. D. 1995, ARA&A, 33, 133
