V680 Mon – a young mercury–manganese star in an eclipsing heartbeat system

Ernst Paunzen^(a),¹* Stefan Hümmerich^(a),^{2,3} Miroslav Fedurco,⁴ Klaus Bernhard,^{2,3} Richard Komžík⁵ and Martin Vaňko⁵

¹Department of Theoretical Physics and Astrophysics, Masaryk University, Kotlářská 2, CZ-611 37 Brno, Czech Republic

²Bundesdeutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Veränderliche Sterne e.V. (BAV), Munsterdamm 90, 12169 Berlin, Germany

³American Association of Variable Star Observers (AAVSO), Cambridge, 49 Bay State Rd, MA 02138, USA

⁴Institute of Physics, Faculty of Science, P. J. Šafárik University, Park Angelinum 9, Košice 040 01, Slovak Republic

⁵Astronomical Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, 059 60 Tatranská Lomnica, Slovak Republic

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ABSTRACT

Chemically peculiar stars in eclipsing binary systems are rare objects that allow the derivation of fundamental stellar parameters and important information on evolutionary status and the origin of the observed chemical peculiarities. Here we present an investigation of the known eclipsing binary system BD+09 1467 = V680 Mon. Using spectra from the Large Sky Area Multi-Object Fiber Spectroscopic Telescope (LAMOST) and own observations, we identify the primary component of the system as a mercury–manganese (HgMn/CP3) star (spectral type kB9 hB8 HeB9 V HgMn). Furthermore, photometric time series data from the *Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS)* indicate that the system is a 'heartbeat star', a rare class of eccentric binary stars with short-period orbits that exhibit a characteristic signature near the time of periastron in their light curves due to the tidal distortion of the components. Using all available photometric observations, we present an updated ephemeris and binary system parameters as derived from a modelling of the system with the ELISA code, which indicate that the secondary star has an effective temperature of $T_{\rm eff} = 8300^{+200}_{-200}$ (spectral type \sim A4). V680 Mon is only the fifth known eclipsing CP3 star, and the first one in a heartbeat binary. Furthermore, our results indicate that the star is located on the zero-age main sequence and a possible member of the open cluster NGC 2264. As such, it lends itself perfectly for detailed studies and may turn out to be a keystone in the understanding of the development of CP3 star peculiarities.

Key words: binaries: eclipsing-stars: chemically peculiar-stars: fundamental parameters.

1 INTRODUCTION

Among the zoo of chemically peculiar (CP) stars, the mercurymanganese (HgMn/CP3) stars form a rather homogeneous group. They are traditionally identified by the presence of strong Hg II and Mn II lines in optical spectra and occupy the rather restricted spectral-type range between B6 and A0 (Preston 1974; Smith 1996; Chojnowski et al. 2020; Paunzen, Hümmerich & Bernhard 2021). In addition to strong atmospheric overabundances of Hg and Mn (up to 6 and 3 dex over solar, respectively; e.g. White et al. 1976; Smith 1996; Ghazaryan & Alecian 2016), CP3 stars exhibit numerous other peculiarities, in particular a general overabundance of heavy elements. Generally, the strength of the overabundances increases with atomic number (Castelli & Hubrig 2004; Ghazaryan & Alecian 2016). Detailed information on the chemical composition of CP3 stars has, for example, been provided by Castelli & Hubrig (2004) and Ghazaryan & Alecian (2016).

CP3 stars are slow rotators (Mathys 2004) and have a high rate of multiplicity. Multiplicity frequencies have been estimated at more than 50 per cent (Smith 1996), with values up to 67 per cent (Hubrig

& Mathys 1995) and 91 per cent (Schöller et al. 2010). CP3 stars do not show the strong magnetic fields that are observed in the Ap/CP2 and the He-peculiar stars (which are lumped together under the label 'magnetic CP stars') and are generally listed with the nonmagnetic CP stars. However, several recent studies announced the presence of weak or tangled fields (Hubrig et al. 2010, 2012) and this has remained a controversial issue (Kochukhov et al. 2013; Hubrig et al. 2020). CP3 stars show an inhomogeneous surface element distribution ('chemical spots') with obvious signs of secular evolution (e.g. Hubrig & Mathys 1995; Adelman et al. 2002; Hubrig et al. 2006; Kochukhov et al. 2007; Briquet et al. 2010; Korhonen et al. 2013).

CP3 stars are relatively rare objects. However, recent progress has led to a substantial extension of the number of known CP3 stars (Chojnowski et al. 2020; Paunzen et al. 2021). At the time of this writing, more than 550 Galactic CP3 stars have been registered. Furthermore, with the advent of space photometry, an increasing number of CP3 stars has been found to be photometric variables (Alecian et al. 2009; Balona et al. 2011; Paunzen et al. 2013; Morel et al. 2014; Strassmeier et al. 2017; White et al. 2017; Hümmerich et al. 2018). Generally, current studies favoured rotational over pulsational modulation as the cause of the observed variability in the investigated stars (Hümmerich et al. 2018, and the discussion therein).



^{*} E-mail: epaunzen@physics.muni.cz

Given their high-multiplicity rate, the presence of a CP3 star component in a number of eclipsing binary systems would be expected. These objects, however, are exceedingly rare: the present authors are only aware of four eclipsing binaries containing a CP3 star component, viz. HD 34364 = AR Aur (Hubrig et al. 2006; Folsom et al. 2010), HD 161701 = HR 6620 (González et al. 2014), TYC 455-791-1 = HSS 348 (Strassmeier et al. 2017), and HD 10260 = V772 Cas (Kochukhov et al. 2021).

As binaries – in particular eclipsing ones – allow the derivation of fundamental stellar parameters like mass and radius, and only very few CP stars have direct determinations of these parameters (North & Debernardi 2004), the discovery of binary systems with CP star components is important. Furthermore, such systems may help to understand, and put constraints on, the processes responsible for the formation of the observed chemical peculiarities and the time-scales involved.

Here we report on the discovery of another eclipsing binary system containing a CP3 star component, viz. BD+09 1467 = V680 Mon, which is well suited to follow-up studies dealing with the solution of the system and the determination of exact stellar parameters for both components. We show that V680 Mon is a 'heartbeat' star, a rare class of eccentric binary stars with short-period orbits (1 d $\leq P_{orb} \leq 1$ yr) that exhibit a characteristic signature near the time of periastron in their light curves whose shape is reminiscent of an electrocardiogram diagram (hence the name).

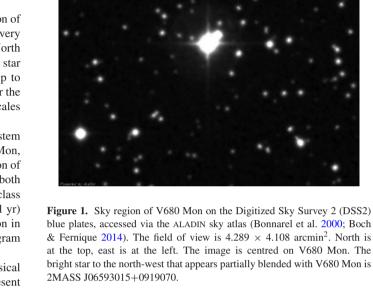
Section 2 provides information on our target star, its astrophysical parameters and location in the sky, and the observations. We present our results in Section 3 and discuss them in Section 4.

2 TARGET STAR, OBSERVATIONS, AND DATA ANALYSIS

2.1 Target star

V680 Mon = BD+09 1467 = HD 267564 (spectral type B8, Cannon & Pickering 1993; V = 10.13 mag, ESA 1997; G = 9.98 mag, Gaia Collaboration et al. 2018) was identified as a variable star by Parenago (1946), who listed it under the preliminary designation of SVS 1025 Monocerotis and suggested it to be an eclipsing binary with a range of 9.5–10.1 mag (pg). No period could be derived from the available observations. The star was included as NSV 3233 into the New Catalogue of Suspected Variable Stars (Kukarkin & Kholopov 1982) and later entered the General Catalogue of Variable Stars as V680 Mon (Kholopov et al. 1987; Samus et al. 2017).

V680 Mon has been little studied, and discrepant information is found in the literature. From an analysis of 85 photographic plates, Berthold (1983)¹ proposed V680 Mon to be an RR Lyrae star and derived first (but, in hindsight, incorrect) elements. Presumably based on this information, V680 Mon was included in the RR Lyrae star catalogues of Mennessier & Colomé (2002) and Maintz (2005). However, on the basis of the All Sky Automated Survey 3 (ASAS-3) and the Northern Sky Variability Survey (NSVS) observations, Otero et al. (2006) identified V680 Mon as an eclipsing binary star, in accordance with the initial proposition of Parenago (1946). The authors derived a period of P = 8.5381 d and a variability range of 9.93–10.31 mag (V). The system was found to be eccentric, with the secondary minimum occurring at phase $\varphi = 0.865$. In consequence, V680 Mon entered the catalogue of eclipsing binary stars with



eccentric orbits by Bulut & Demircan (2007) and new observations of minima were procured by Brat et al. (2009) and Hübscher (2011).

Despite these results, and the correct identification of the star as an eclipsing binary in the International Variable Star Index (VSX; Watson 2006) of the American Association of Variable Star Observers (AAVSO), the star has been listed as an RR Lyrae variable in the SIMBAD data base (Wenger et al. 2000) until recently, which is probably the reason why it was included into the samples of the RR Lyrae-star-based studies of Gavrilchenko et al. (2014) and Gaia Collaboration et al. (2017). On the initiative of the present authors, V680 Mon is now correctly identified in the SIMBAD data base as an eclipsing binary star.

2.2 Sky region

V680 Mon is situated in an area relatively devoid of bright stars, roughly in the midst of an imaginary triangle with Alhena (γ Gem), Procyon (α CMi), and the Rosette Nebula (NGC 2244) as its vortices. However, situated at a distance of 12 arcsec from our target star, there is the relatively bright star 2MASS J06593015+0919070 = GAIA DR2 3157882744564424704 (G = 12.52 mag; Gaia Collaboration et al. 2018). Both stars appear as a close double in the Digitized Sky Survey 2 (DSS2) images (Fig. 1). They will also be blended in the spectroscopic and photometric data that form the backbone of this investigation; hence, a more detailed investigation into this matter is necessary.

Parameters of both stars are given in Table 1. Bailer-Jones et al. (2021) list distances of, respectively, 619 pc (581–672 pc) and 2556 pc (2438–2649 pc) for V680 Mon and 2MASS J06593015+0919070 based on the *Gaia* Early Data Release 3 (EDR3; Gaia Collaboration et al. 2020). The two stars are not physically connected to each other. Considering its colour and luminosity, 2MASS J06593015+0919070 is obviously a late G-or early K-type giant. It is about 10 times (~2.5 mag) fainter

¹https://www.sternwarte-hartha.de/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Heft-18.pd f

Table 1. Basic stellar parameters of V680 Mon (2MASS J06593071+0918596) and its close companion 2MASS J06593015+0919070.

ID	Gaia DR2	α	δ	π	e_π	$G \pmod{1}$	$e_G(mag)$	$(BP - RP)_0$	$e_(BP-RP)_0$	MV_0	e_MV ₀
	3157882748862195072 3157882744564424704				0.146 0.018	9.9803 12.5163	0.0011 0.0002	0.000 1.146	0.004 0.002	1.09 0.35	0.16 0.09

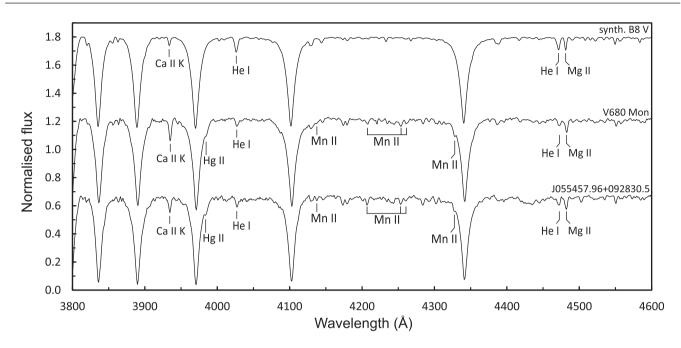


Figure 2. Comparison of the blue–violet region of (a) a synthetic spectrum corresponding to spectral type B8 V ($T_{\text{eff}} = 12500 \text{ K}$; $\log g = 4.0$; [M/H] = 0.0; $\xi = 2 \text{ km s}^{-1}$; smoothed to match the LAMOST resolution), (b) the LAMOST DR4 spectrum of V680 Mon (kB9 hB8 HeB9 V HgMn), and (c) the LAMOST DR4 spectrum of the CP3 star HD 249170 = LAMOST J055457.96+092830.5 (B8 IV HgMn; Paunzen et al. 2021). Some prominent lines of interest are identified.

than V680 Mon, and we expect no significant contamination of the here employed spectra, which do not show any traces of the signature of a late G- or early K-type giant. Furthermore, we can rule out that the eclipses observed in the combined light curve of both stars originate in 2MASS J06593015+0919070. Even its complete disappearance would not result in a 25 per cent reduction in brightness, as is observed during primary eclipse of the system. We are therefore confident that no blending issues affect our main results.

2.3 Observations

The spectra employed in this study were extracted from the archive of the Large Sky Area Multi-Object Fiber Spectroscopic Telescope (LAMOST),² which is located at Xinglong Observatory in Beijing (China), and procured at Stará Lesná Observatory (SLO) and Skalnaté Pleso Observatory (SPO) in the High Tatras (Slovak Republic).

The LAMOST low-resolution spectrum boasts a resolution of $R \sim 1800$ and covers the wavelength range from 3700 to 9000 Å. More information on the LAMOST survey is provided in Zhao et al. (2012) and Cui et al. (2012). The spectra taken at SLO have a resolution between R = 11000 and 12000 and cover the spectral range from 4150 to 7600 Å, while the spectra procured at SPO have a resolution of R = 38000 and cover the interval from 4250 to 7375 Å. More information on the instrumentation of the SLO and

SPO observatories and the reduction process can be found in Pribulla et al. (2015).

The photometric observations used in this study were procured by NASA's *Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS)*, which provides ultraprecise photometry in a single passband (600–1000 nm) taken at a cadence of 2 min. More information on the *TESS* spacecraft and data products can be found in Ricker et al. (2014, 2015) and Campante et al. (2016).

3 RESULTS

3.1 Spectral classification

The spectral peculiarities of V680 Mon were discovered during our semi-automated search for new CP3 stars in the spectra from LAMOST Data Release 4 (DR4; Paunzen et al. 2021). Because it was recognized as an eclipsing binary and further studies were deemed necessary, V680 Mon was not included into the sample of Paunzen et al. (2021). More information on our search for CP stars with Richard O. Gray's MKCLASS code, a program that classifies spectra by emulating the workflow of a human classifier (Gray & Corbally 2014), can be found in Hümmerich, Paunzen & Bernhard (2020) and Paunzen et al. (2021).

Only one LAMOST spectrum is available for V680 Mon = LAM-OST J065930.88+091859.6, which was accessed via the DR4 VizieR online catalogue³ (Luo et al. 2018). The spectrum was obtained on

³http://cdsarc.u-strasbg.fr/viz-bin/cat/V/153

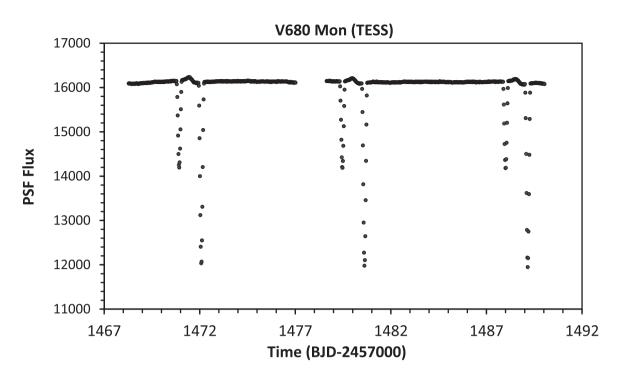


Figure 3. TESS light curve of V680 Mon, accessed via 'ELEANOR' and based on PSF flux.

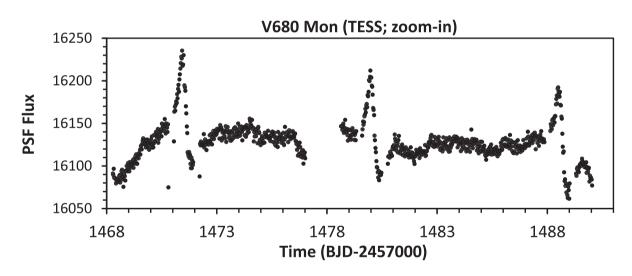


Figure 4. TESS light curve of V680 Mon, accessed via 'ELEANOR' and based on PSF flux, presenting a detailed view of the 'heartbeats'.

2015 December 28 [MJD 57384; observation median UTC 17:38:00; *g*-band signal-to-noise ratio (S/N): 294], i.e. at an orbital phase of $\varphi = 0.705$. It was therefore obtained during maximum light and is dominated by light from the primary component of the V680 Mon system. The spectrum is illustrated in Fig. 2, together with the synthetic spectrum of a B8 V star and the LAMOST DR4 spectrum of an HgMn star from the list of Paunzen et al. (2021).

Following the workflow outlined in Paunzen et al. (2021), V680 Mon is given a final classification of B9 III–IV HgMn by the employed specialized version of the MKCLASS code. The Ca II K line strength and the relatively weak He II lines indeed suggest a spectral type of B9; the hydrogen line profile, however, is best matched by that of a B8 V standard. In general, the hydrogen-line profile is the most reliable indicator of the effective temperature in a CP star (Gray & Corbally 2009). Furthermore, CP3 stars have been shown to exhibit a large spread of He abundances, with most (usually the hotter) CP3 stars being He deficient (Smith 1996; Ghazaryan & Alecian 2016). We therefore prefer a temperature type of B8 V. While CP3 stars also show a large dispersion of Ca abundances (up to 3 dex; Ghazaryan & Alecian 2016), we suspect that there is an interstellar contribution to the strong Ca II K line in the available spectrum.

The CP3 star characteristics are clearly present in the spectrum of V680 Mon. The Hg II 3984 Å line appears merely as a 'bump' in the red wing of H ϵ , as is commonly the case at this low resolution (cf. e.g. the CP3 star spectra shown in Paunzen et al. 2021). The Mn II features at 4136 Å and, in particular, 4206 and 4152/9 Å are well

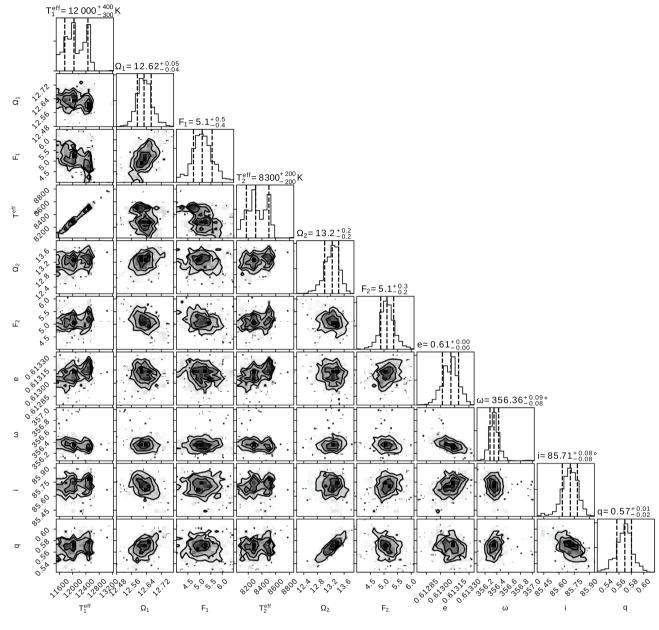


Figure 5. Posterior distribution of the samples generated by the Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) algorithm.

developed (Fig. 2). In summary, following the refined classification system of Garrison & Gray (1994), we arrive at a final classification of kB9 hB8 HeB9 V HgMn.

We analysed the high-resolution SLO and SPO spectra obtained at five different orbital phases and found no traces of the secondary component. V680 Mon, therefore, is a single-line spectroscopic binary (SB1) system. In addition to the classical classification criteria discussed above, we measured the equivalent widths of the Mn I lines at 4462.031, 4762.367, 4765.846, 4766.418, 4783.427, 4823.524, and 6021.790 Å, all of which exhibit values between 15 and 20 mÅ. This is well in line with the results obtained for the HgMn star HD 175640 ([Mn] = +2.45 dex and [Hg] = +4.72 dex as compared to the Sun; Castelli & Hubrig 2004), which has an identical effective temperature as our target star. We also investigated the weak Hg I 5460.731 Å line, which yields an equivalent width of 3 mÅ. While this is at the detection limit of our set of spectra, its presence clearly indicates a significant overabundance of Hg; for solar metallicity, the equivalent width of this line is well below 1 mÅ. In summary, our analysis of the SLO and SPO spectra corroborates the results from the blue–violet spectral region and confirms that the primary component of V680 Mon is a CP3 star.

3.2 Photometric variability

On the basis of ASAS-3 and NSVS observations, Otero et al. (2006) identified V680 Mon as an eclipsing binary star (cf. Section 2.1). They derived a period of P = 8.5381 d (epoch of primary minimum: HJD 245 2990.717), a total range of light variability of 9.93–10.31 mag (*V*) and found the system to be eccentric, with the secondary minimum occurring at phase $\varphi = 0.865$. With these data, the star was included into the VSX.

V680 Mon was observed by *TESS* during orbits 19 and 20 (*TESS* Observation Sector 6). The corresponding data were accessed via

 Table 2. Parameters of the V680 Mon system as obtained from the

 Least-Squares Trust Region Reflective Algorithm ('Least Squares')

 and subsequent error estimation using the Markov chain Monte Carlo

 (MCMC) sampler. The components' radii are given in semimajor axis

 units (SMA).

Parameter	Va	Status		
System				
q	0.57	Variable		
i (°)	85.71	Variable		
е	0.6131	Variable		
ω (°)	356.3	Variable		
<i>P</i> (d)	8.53	Fixed		
T_0 (d)	245 84	Fixed		
Component	Primary	Secondary		
Ω	$12.62_{-0.04}^{+0.04}$	$13.2_{-0.2}^{+0.2}$	Variable	
F	$5.1^{+0.5}_{-0.4}$	$5.1^{+0.3}_{-0.2}$	Variable	
r _{eq}	$0.0836^{+0.0002}_{-0.0002}$	$0.0474^{+0.005}_{-0.004}$	Derived	
Atmospheric p	arameters			
$T^{\rm eff}$ (K)	12000^{+400}_{-300}	8300^{+200}_{-200}	Variable	
β	$0.86^{+0.04}_{-0.05}$	$0.89\substack{+0.03\\-0.04}$	Variable	
Α	$0.73^{+0.07}_{-0.07}$	$0.64^{+0.04}_{-0.04}$	Variable	
M/H	0.0	0.0	Fixed	
Radii at perias	tron			
r _{pole}	$0.0827\substack{+0.0003\\-0.0003}$	$0.0472\substack{+0.0005\\-0.0004}$	Derived	
r _{back}	$0.0844\substack{+0.0002\\-0.0002}$	$0.0476\substack{+0.0005\\-0.0004}$	Derived	
rside	$0.0837^{+0.0002}_{-0.0002}$	$0.0474^{+0.0005}_{-0.0004}$	Derived	
r _{forward}	$0.0846^{+0.0002}_{-0.0002}$	$0.0476^{+0.0005}_{-0.0004}$	Derived	

^{*}ELEANOR', which is an open-source PYTHON framework for downloading, analysing, and visualizing data from the *TESS* Full Frame Images (Feinstein et al. 2019).⁴ In the direct vicinity of our target star, there is the relatively bright star 2MASS J06593015+0919070 (G = 12.52 mag), which is separated from V680 Mon by a distance of approximately 12 arcsec (cf. Section 2.2). Since the *TESS* pixel size is relatively large (21 arcsec), the *TESS* light curve is a blending of light from both stars. However, as discussed in Section 2.2, the light contribution from 2MASS J06593015+0919070 is negligible and cannot account for the observed eclipses. Apart from its close neighbour, V680 Mon is rather isolated from other bright stars. We tried both the principal component analysis (PCA) and point spread function (PSF) reductions and found that the PSF-modelled light curve is superior. For the final analysis, PSF modelling using a field of 7 × 7 pixels was employed.

The *TESS* light curve of V680 Mon is illustrated in Fig. 3. Although the covered time span is short, the ultraprecise *TESS* data reveal for the first time that V680 Mon is a heartbeat system. A detailed view of the heartbeats near periastron, whose shape is due to the combined effects of tidal distortion, reflection, and Doppler beaming (Hambleton et al. 2013, 2018; Fuller 2017), is presented in Fig. 4. The presence of chemical peculiarities in the component of a binary of 'heartbeat configuration' is an interesting find that is further discussed in Section 4.

To derive an updated ephemeris, we combined the available photometric time series data from *TESS*, ASAS-3 (Pojmanski 2002),

and the Kamogata/Kiso/Kyoto Wide-field Survey (KWS; Maehara 2014) and derived the elements presented in equations (1) and (2):

$$Min I = HJD \ 245 \ 8472.088(1) + 8.53797(2) E, \tag{1}$$

$$Min II = HJD \ 245 \ 8470.929(2) + 8.53797(2) E.$$
(2)

3.3 Binary system modelling

Because of the significantly lower quality of the ASAS-3 and KWS photometry, binary system parameters were inferred using only detrended *TESS* photometry. The light curve was analysed with the PYTHON package ELISA,⁵ which contains tools for modelling light curves of close eclipsing binaries utilizing Roche geometry and methods for solving an inverse problem.

As a first step, the Least-Squares Trust Region Reflective Algorithm ('Least Squares' hereafter) was used to search for a local minimum around a manually selected starting point based on the general shape of the light curve. Initial runs were performed with seven free parameters: photometric mass ratio q; inclination i; eccentricity e; argument of periastron ω ; surface potentials Ω_1 , Ω_2 ; and effective temperature of the secondary component T_2^{eff} . The effective temperature of the primary component T_1^{eff} was fixed to 12 500 K, as inferred from the spectral classification (cf. Section 3.1). Albedos A_1, A_2 and gravity darkening factors β_1, β_2 were set to 1.0 since both components were expected to have radiative envelopes due to their effective temperatures being well above 7000 K (Zeipel 1924). We adopted a square-root law for limb darkening. The corresponding coefficients were interpolated from the pre-calculated tables of Claret (2017), and atmospheric models from Castelli & Kurucz (2003) were used for the calculation of the integrated passband flux. Finally, the synchronicity factors F_1, F_2 were set to assume synchronous rotation of the components at periastron (Hut 1981).

After the initial solution was found, the effective temperature of the primary component T_1^{eff} , synchronicity parameters F, gravity darkening factors β , and albedos A were set variable to allow for the model to relax into the local minimum. T_1^{eff} was allowed to vary ± 1000 K. Using the approach described above, the Least Squares algorithm arrived at a solution with a coefficient of determination of $R^2 = 0.9990$.

The vicinity of the obtained solution was sampled using the Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) algorithm with 200 walkers, 200 steps, and uniform prior sampling. After discarding the thermalization phase of the chain, the confidence intervals of the parameters were inferred from the posterior distribution displayed in Fig. 5 in the form of a corner plot. The resulting system parameters are listed in Table 2 and the corresponding fit is illustrated in Fig. 6.

The achieved solution points to an eccentric orbit with eccentricity e = 0.61 and a relatively short orbital period. The tidal forces during the periastron passage result in a deformation of both components with an amplitude of ~ 1 per cent (ratio between forward and equivalent radius). The synchronicity parameters for both components remained within errors around the predicted value of 5.27, which suggests that the rotation of the components is synchronized with the orbital motion during the periastron. Fig. 5 shows the double Gaussian distribution for both effective temperatures that indicates two solutions with similar qualities of fit. However, since their spacing is similar to the standard deviations of each peak, we decided to regard them as a single solution. No additional double Gaussian distributions were detected for any other variable parameters. We

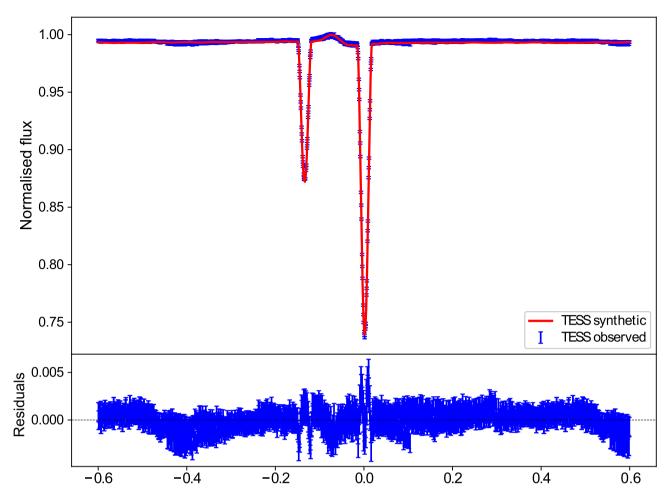


Figure 6. The upper panel illustrates the fit between observed and synthetic flux in the *TESS* passband based on the best-fitting model presented in Table 2. The fitting residuals are shown in the lower panel.

note that the fitting process based on information obtained in a single passband has a limited capacity to recover information about the effective temperature of the components.

4 DISCUSSION

The evolutionary stages of the four known eclipsing binary systems containing a CP3 star component are widely different (González et al. 2014; Kochukhov et al. 2021), ranging from close to the zero-age main sequence (HD 34364 and TYC 455-791-1) to the middle of the main sequence (HD 161701) and close to the terminal-age main sequence (HD 10260).

To evaluate the evolutionary status of V680 Mon, we investigated its position in the Hertzsprung–Russell diagram. As first step, the absolute magnitude listed in Table 1 was corrected for the contribution of the secondary component as shown in fig. 9 of Paunzen et al. (2021). For the given *q* value (Table 2), this correction amounts to 0.15 mag only. The bolometric correction for CP stars (Netopil et al. 2008) yields a value of -0.559 mag and thus a luminosity of log $L/L_{\odot} = 1.628(64)$. For the calibration of the age, we used the stellar isochrone fitting tool⁶ and the isochrone grid by Bressan et al. (2012) for solar metallicity.

⁶https://github.com/Johaney-s/StIFT

Our results indicate that V680 Mon is located on the zero-age main sequence with an age between 5 and 6 Myr. This result is not dependent on the choice of the isochrone metallicity because the use of overabundant isochrones would result in an even larger luminosity for the same effective temperature. In such grids, our target star would be situated significantly below the zero-age main sequence.

Several CP3 stars belong to open clusters (e.g. Hubrig et al. 2012), which puts further constraints on the age determination. We searched for a possible host cluster within 3σ of the position, diameter, proper motion, distance, and their errors of the star cluster lists from Dias et al. (2002) and Cantat-Gaudin & Anders (2020). Because V680 Mon is quite close (about 620 pc from the Sun), we expect these lists to be complete. The closest aggregate is NGC 2264, which is located about 4?6 or 50 pc away. In this young open cluster, star formation is still going on (Nony et al. 2021) and many young stellar objects are present (Buckner et al. 2020). If we accept V680 Mon as a member of NGC 2264, the derived ages are in excellent agreement. Incidentally, another HgMn star, HD 47553, was reported as a member of NGC 2264 (Pyatkes 1993); unfortunately, besides this reference, no other analysis of this star was found in the literature.

V680 Mon is only the fifth known eclipsing CP3 star, and it is the first one recognized as member of a heartbeat binary. Our results indicate that the V680 Mon system is composed of a CP3 star primary component ($T_{\rm eff} = 12\,000^{+400}_{-300}$ K; spectral type kB9 hB8 HeB9 V HgMn) and a secondary component of spectral type A4 ($T_{\rm eff} = 8300^{+200}_{-200}$; cf. Section 3.3). The unique combination of a very young and relatively bright chemically peculiar star in such a system opens up intriguing possibilities. In particular, theory needs to explain the development of CP3 star features in such a young object and under the conditions (tidally induced effects) of a heartbeat binary. Our modelling attempts indicate a significant deformation of both components by about 1 per cent (ratio between forward and equivalent radius) during periastron passage.

In this respect, it is interesting to note that there is a high rate of occurrence of very eccentric short-period binary systems among the CP1 stars (Debernardi 2000), which some studies have proposed as lower temperature counterparts of the CP3 stars (Adelman, Adelman & Pintado 2003). Obviously, the tidally induced effects do not interfere with the development of CP1 star abundance patterns in these systems. CP2, CP3, and CP4 stars, on the other hand, show a rather different eccentricity versus orbital period distribution with an apparent upper envelope (Carrier et al. 2002). Interestingly, V680 Mon is located well above this proposed upper envelope (cf. fig. 8 of Carrier et al. 2002).

In summary, V680 Mon lends itself perfectly for detailed followup studies and may prove to be a keystone in the understanding of the development of CP3 star peculiarities.

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DATA AVAILABILITY

The data underlying this paper will be shared on reasonable request to the corresponding author.

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