

THE PROBLEMATIC MODELLING OF RCrB ATMOSPHERES

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The attempts to model RCrB star atmospheres with contemporary LTE blanketed models are discussed critically. The dominance of carbon as opacity AND electron donor makes it possible to use CI lines as a sharp test on the adequacy of the models. This test fails. Different ways to explain this result, which casts doubts also on standard model atmospheres for other types of stars, are discussed.