

Recent Insights into R Coronae Borealis Stars from Recent UV and Visible Observations

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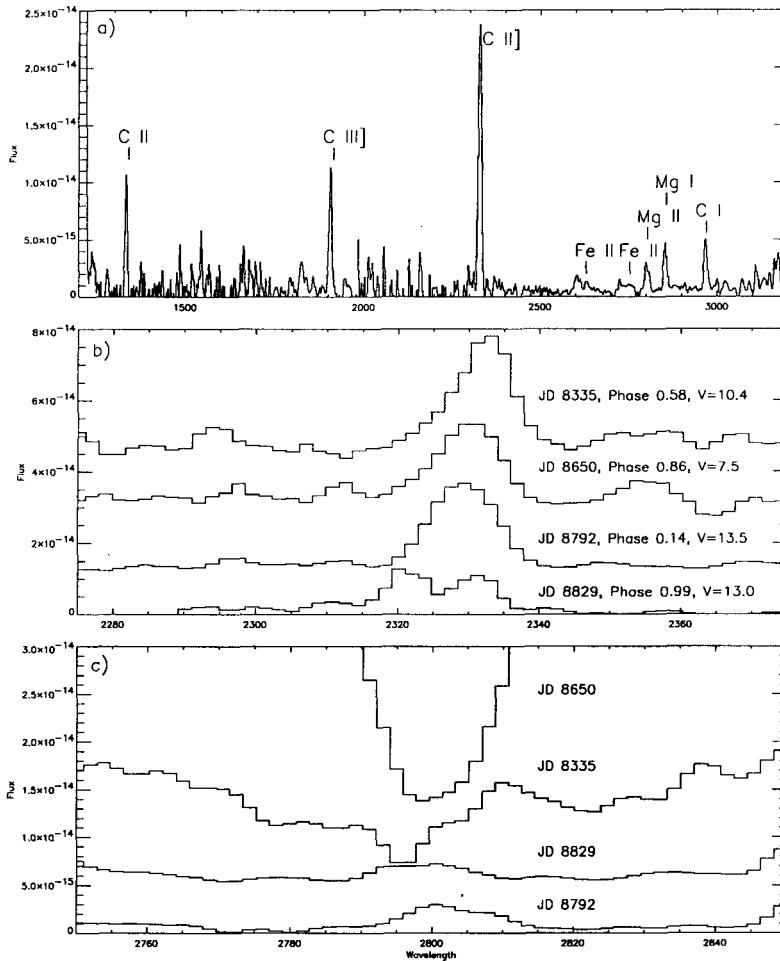


Figure 1 IUE low dispersion spectra of V854 Centauri. Panel a) shows a typical decline spectrum of this unusual R Coronae Borealis (RCB) Star. Note the strong Carbon lines. The C II] and C I lines are not seen in other RCB stars. Panels b) and c) show the spectral regions around C II] 2326 and Mg II 2800 at 4 epochs. Large variations in the line strengths and profiles are seen. These variations may be related to the pulsational phase of V854 Cen. Dust formation in this star takes place at phase 0.0 (Clayton et al. 1992a, *ApJ*, 384, L19; Whitney et al. 1992, *AJ*, 103, 1652; Clayton et al. 1992b, *ApJ*, 397, in press).