
After the highly successful Infrared Astronomy Satellite (IRAS) mission and in view of the scheduled launch of the Infrared Space Observatory (ISO) in 1993, it was a good idea to organize an International Colloquium on *The Infrared Spectral Region of Stars* in Montpellier, France, on 16–19 October, 1990. The proceedings of this colloquium contains many excellent reviews of all aspects of the infrared spectral region of different types of stars. Furthermore, the influence of dust in the circumstellar media of stars on their infrared spectral energy distributions are discussed. Many poster papers about various new results of infrared studies were also presented and discussed. Especially for students and new-comers in the infrared field of research this proceedings is highly recommended.

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These proceedings of an Advanced Research Workshop, held in Trieste in September 1990, contain a remarkably homogeneous series of excellent papers of modern work on radiative transfer in stellar atmospheres. The first section deals with new computational algorithms, including the Accelerated Lambda Iteration (ALI) method, NLTE calculations, line formation in 1D, axisymmetric 2D and even 3D (the latter applied to the solar photosphere), reviews of numerical techniques to optimize calculation speed and memory requirements, and a list of presently used computer codes, as referred to in the workshop, with their capabilities and restrictions.

The second part is devoted to applications, aimed at physical realism. Among the subjects are NLTE work on OB stars, WR stars, planetary nebulae, time-dependent hydrodynamical calculations of radiatively driven winds, of the solar photosphere (2D), and of an accretion flow towards a neutron star. Related work on cool-star atmospheres and convection layers is also represented.

The third section of the book focuses on diagnostics based on theoretical models, again with a slight emphasis on hot stars, from subdwarfs to central stars of PN, but also modeling of late-type stars, magnetic stars and solar work are included.