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Tidally trapped pulsations in a close binary star system discovered by TESS

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Selected regions of a high-resolution spectrum of HD 74423 demonstrating it to be composed of two λ Bootis stars. Top two panels: a region containing prominent metal lines of A-type stars. Lower panel: a region around a multiplet of carbon lines. The black graph is the observed spectrum, and the blue and red lines are two theoretical spectra with $T_{\rm eff} = 8000 \,\mathrm{K}$, log g = 4.0, [M/H] = -2.0 and $v \sin i = 55$ and $50 \,\mathrm{km s^{-1}}$, respectively. The spectral lines are all double, with a separation of about $150 \,\mathrm{km s^{-1}}$. The strengths of most metal lines are reasonably well reproduced with such a low overall metallicity, with the exception of carbon that has a much larger abundance. Both components of HD 74423 thus share the λ Bootis type spectral peculiarity.



Temperature perturbation at the initial pulsation phase as a function of $\cos \theta_p$. This asymmetric distribution is required to reproduce the run of the pulsation amplitude in Fig. 4 and indicates the pulsation amplitude to be trapped in one hemisphere.