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Michael C. Laskowski* (mc1@math.umd.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742. *Seeking dividing lines for classes of atomic models*. Preliminary report.

We begin an investigation of the model theory of the class \mathbf{At}_T of atomic models of a countable, complete first-order theory T . We introduce the notion of *pseudo-algebraic closure* which is the appropriate generalization of algebraic closure for this context and identify two countably infinite configurations in terms of this notion. We prove two dual theorems: On one hand, if \mathbf{At}_T admits either of these two configurations, then there are 2^{\aleph_1} non-isomorphic atomic models of size \aleph_1 . On the other hand, if \mathbf{At}_T forbids both of these configurations, then \mathbf{At}_T has a model of size continuum.

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