

Wednesday, June 6, 2011

Spectroscopic study of Al wire array stagnation on Z

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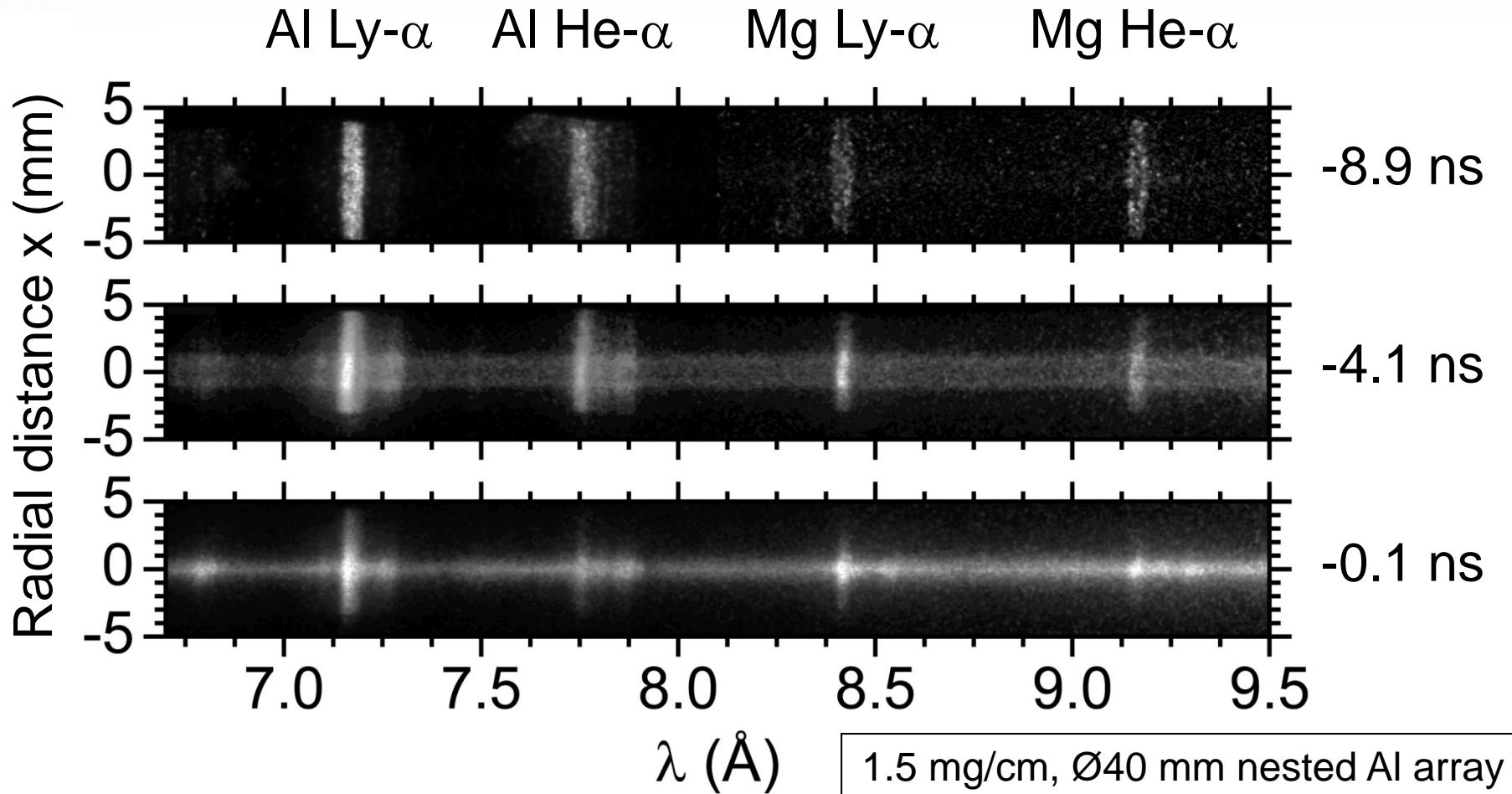
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Outline

- Spectroscopic analysis of K-shell radiators is employed to study z-pinch stagnation, coupling various interesting physics
 - Non-LTE plasma atomic physics
 - Opacity in radiation transport calculations
 - Doppler effects on line shapes
 - Gradients and 3D instability structure
- Here, we study an Al wire array implosion using a multi-shell, collisional-radiative analysis treatment to infer plasma properties
 - Electron temperature and ion density
 - Radial implosion velocity and isotropized velocity
 - Gradients and opacity
- The analysis characterizes the stagnating plasma and provides data for comparison with 3D MHD numerical modeling
 - $> 50 \text{ cm}/\mu\text{s}$ radial velocity from Doppler splitting
 - $\sim 1\%$ of initial mass at $T_e > 1 \text{ keV}$ in the core at start of stagnation

Information about plasma conditions and structure are encoded in the time-gated, radially-resolved spectra



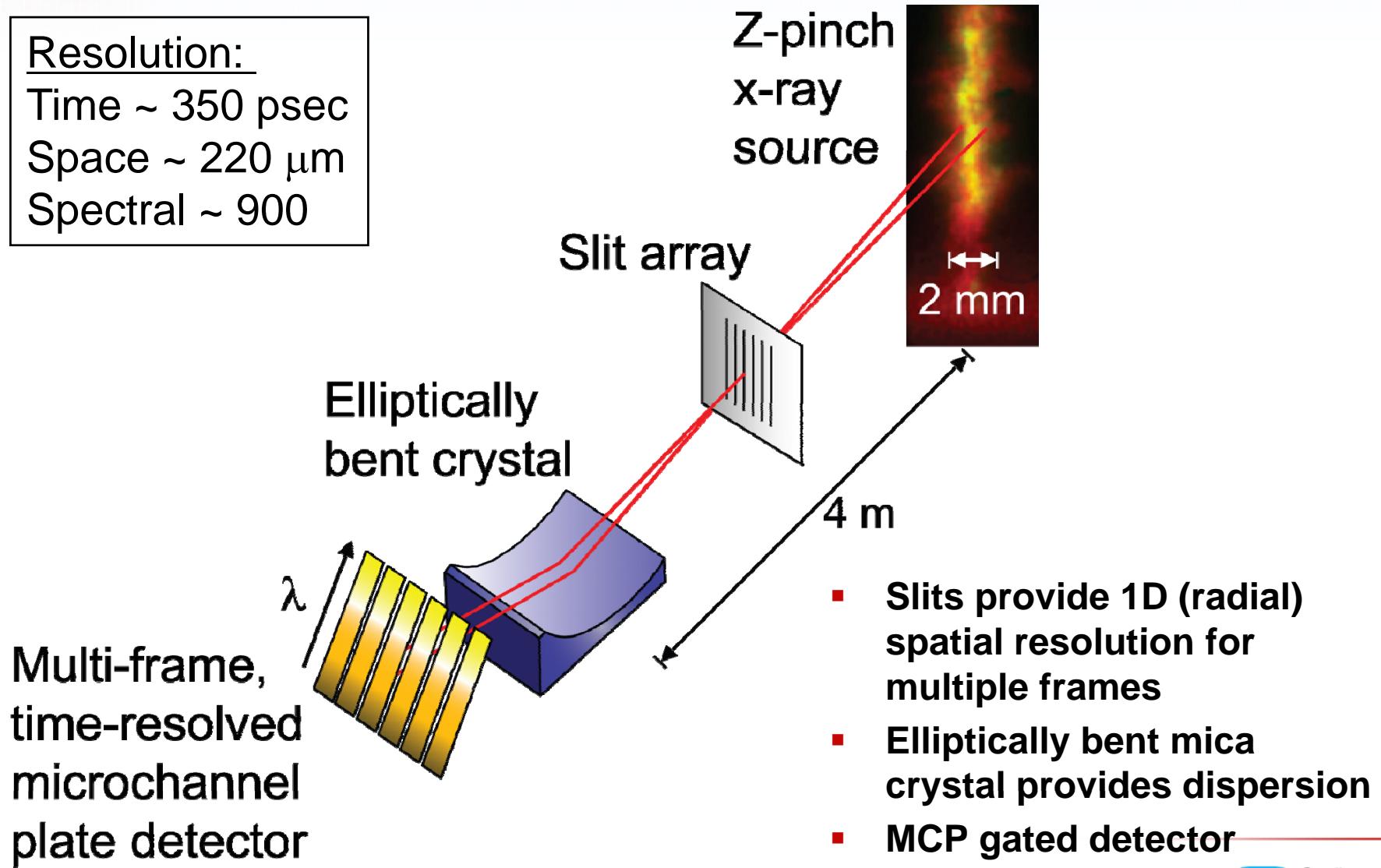
- Continuum and satellite emission on axis near time of peak x-ray power
- Line emission from large radius at all times
- Doppler effects, e.g. splitting in Mg He- α at early times

Time-resolved elliptical crystal (TREX) spectrometers measure gated radially-resolved K-shell spectra on Z



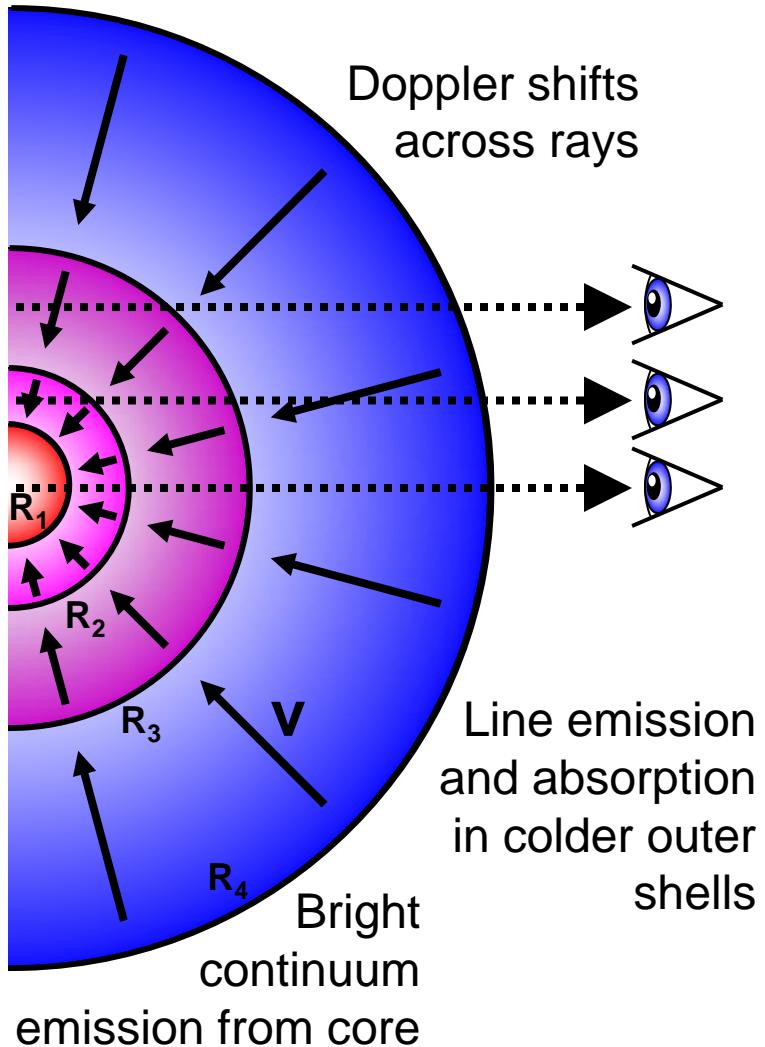
Resolution:

Time ~ 350 psec
Space ~ 220 μ m
Spectral ~ 900



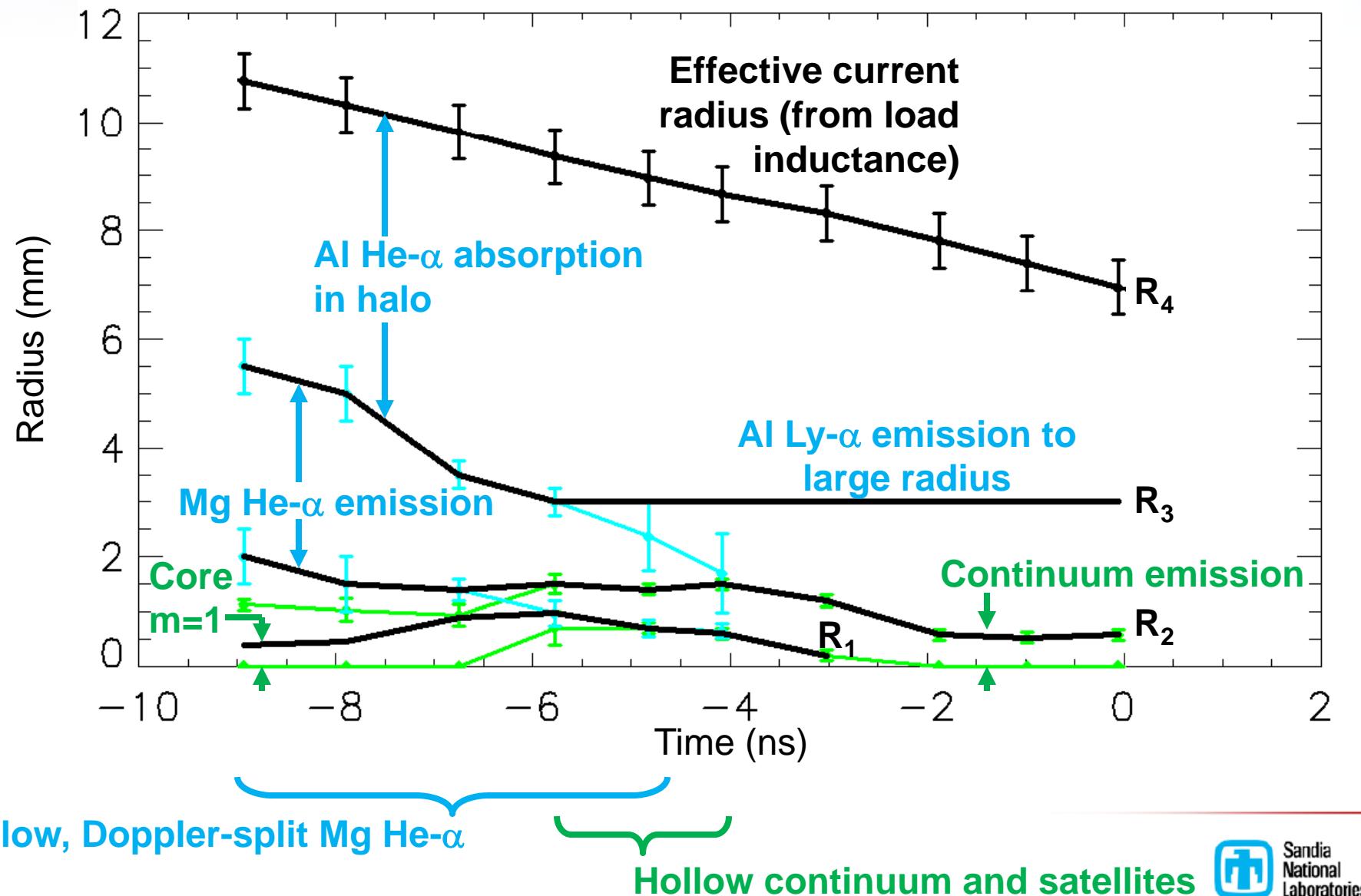
J.E. Bailey et al., PRL 92, 085002 (2004).

Analysis strategy: Match spectra and power using collisional-radiative model over several plasma zones



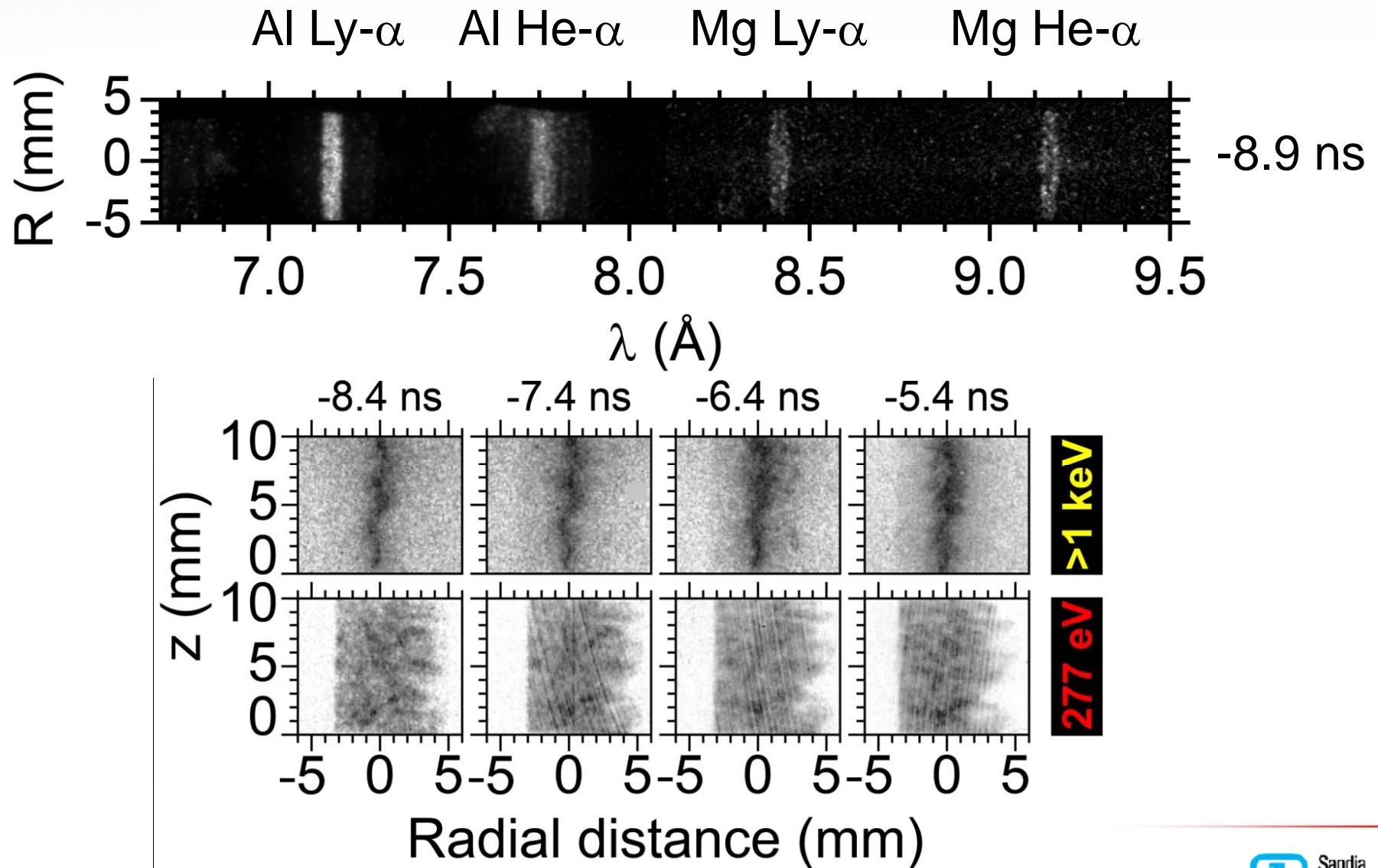
- Number of concentric shells chosen to match spectral features in experiment
 - Shell radii motivated by experimental data, e.g. radius of line or continuum emission
- Collisional-radiative model applied to each shell to constrain plasma conditions by matching data
 - Line ratios along specified line of sight (T_e)
 - Total K-shell power emitted from plasma, continuum emission (n_i)
 - Doppler effect where available (v)
 - Isotropized velocity (u_{3D}) also included in calculated line widths
- Radiation transport carried out along representative rays accounts for opacity
 - Abel inversion was avoided due to concerns with strong line opacity
 - Doppler shifts/broadening accounted for in transport modeling

Radius in each zone is chosen based on observed spectral features and motivated by data





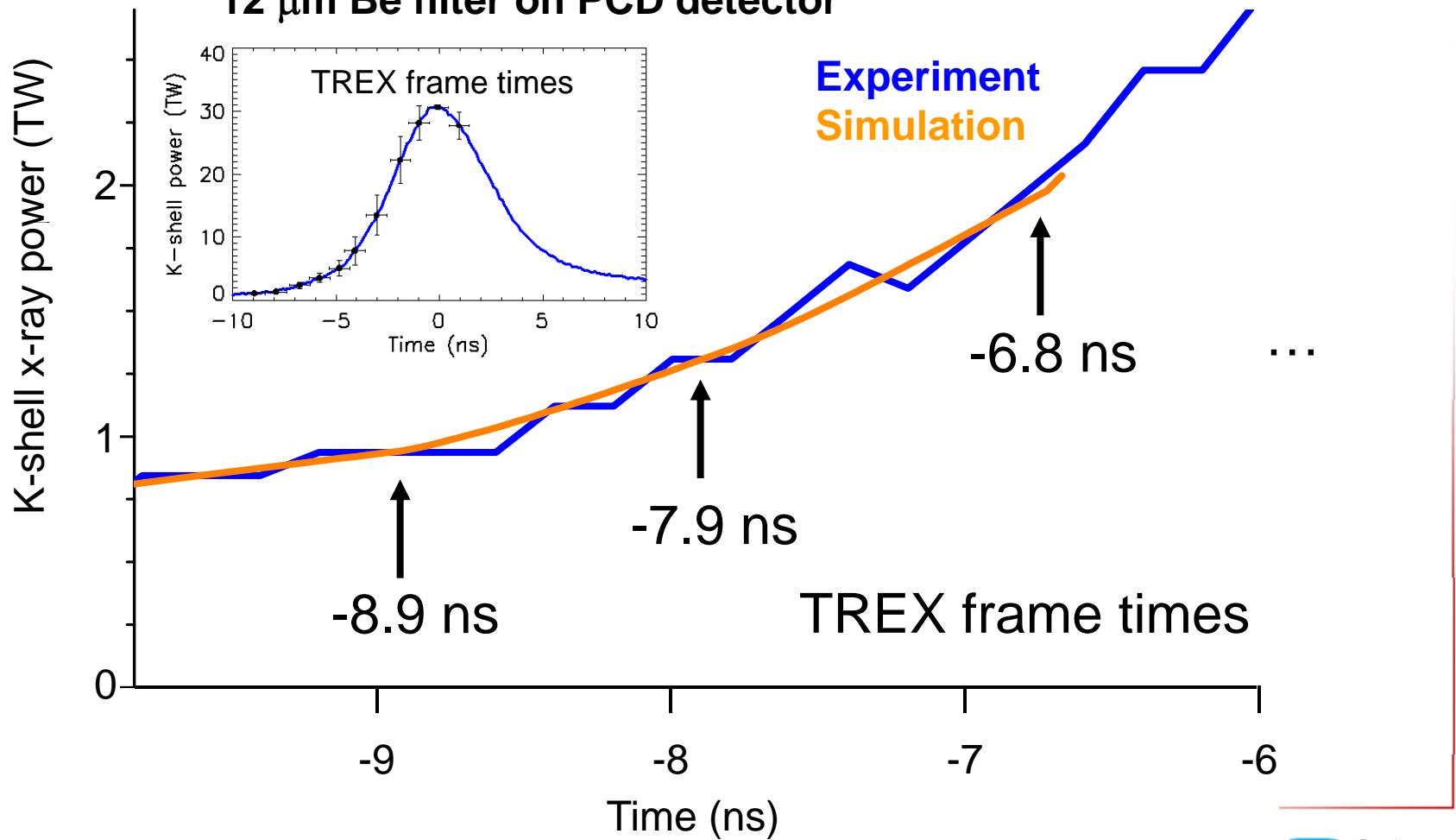
From early times, there is a core region on axis
producing >1 keV (continuum) emission



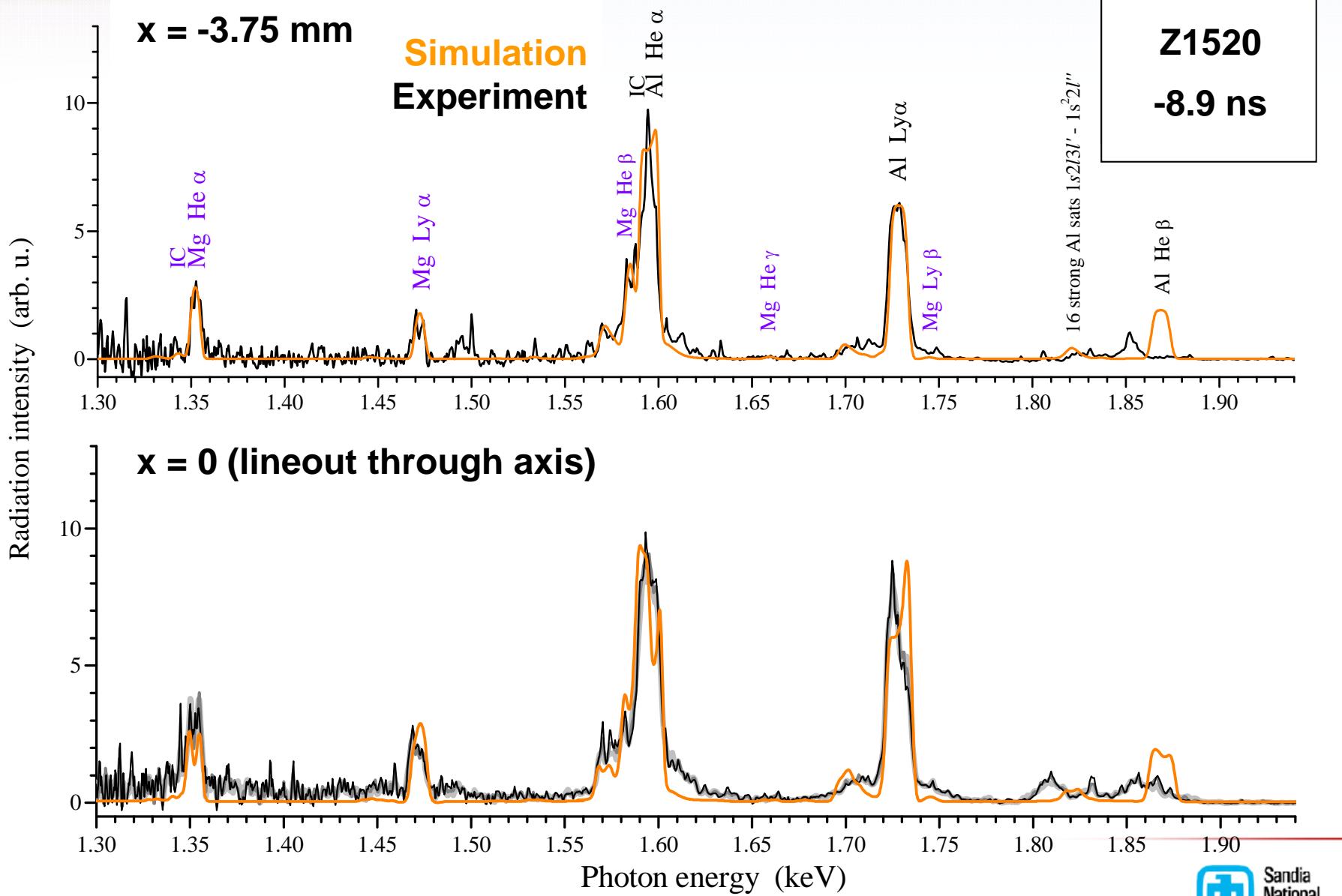
- Core size defined based on radius of core with $m=1$ structure

Time-dependent collisional-radiative kinetic modeling matches K-shell power and spectral features over a sequence of frames

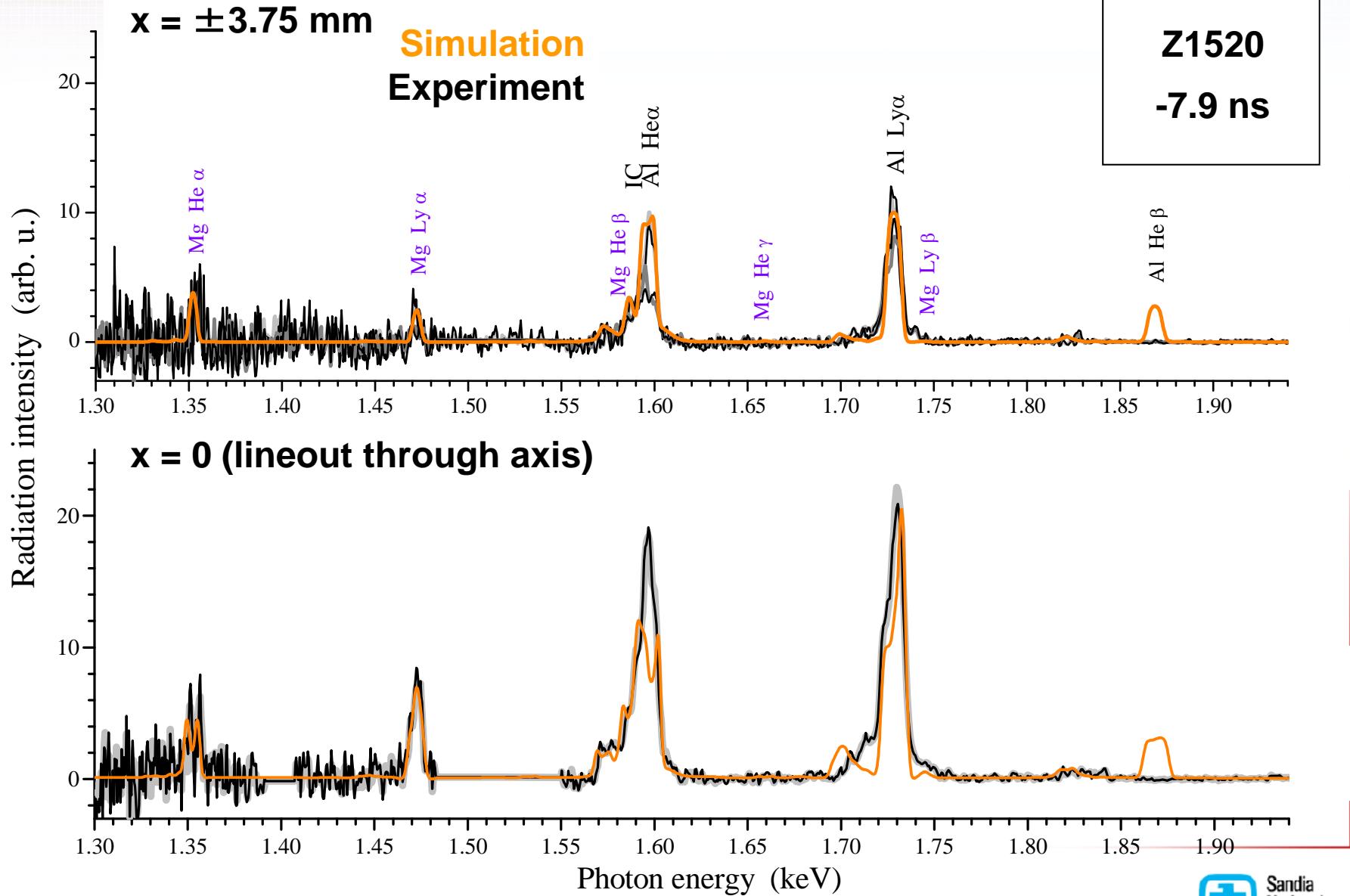
- Here we focus on spectrometer frames early in the x-ray pulse
- K-shell x-ray power is measured ($\pm 30\%$) and modeled through 12 μm Be filter on PCD detector



Conditions in each shell adjusted to match spectral lineouts at various distances from the axis



On- and off-axis spectra generated by radiation transport calculations through the plasma zones



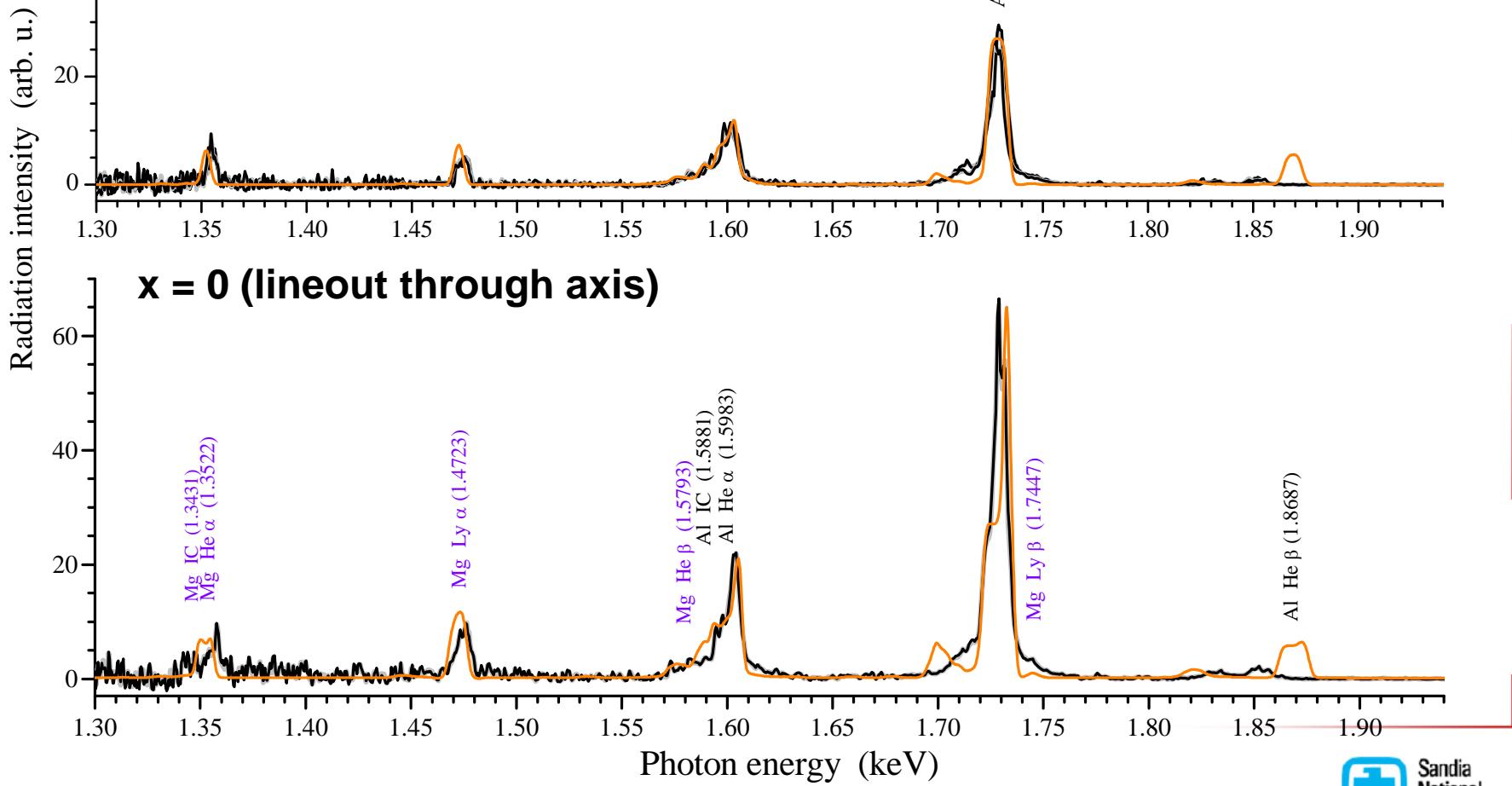
Opacity in the halo is important in determining Al He- α line shape and amplitude



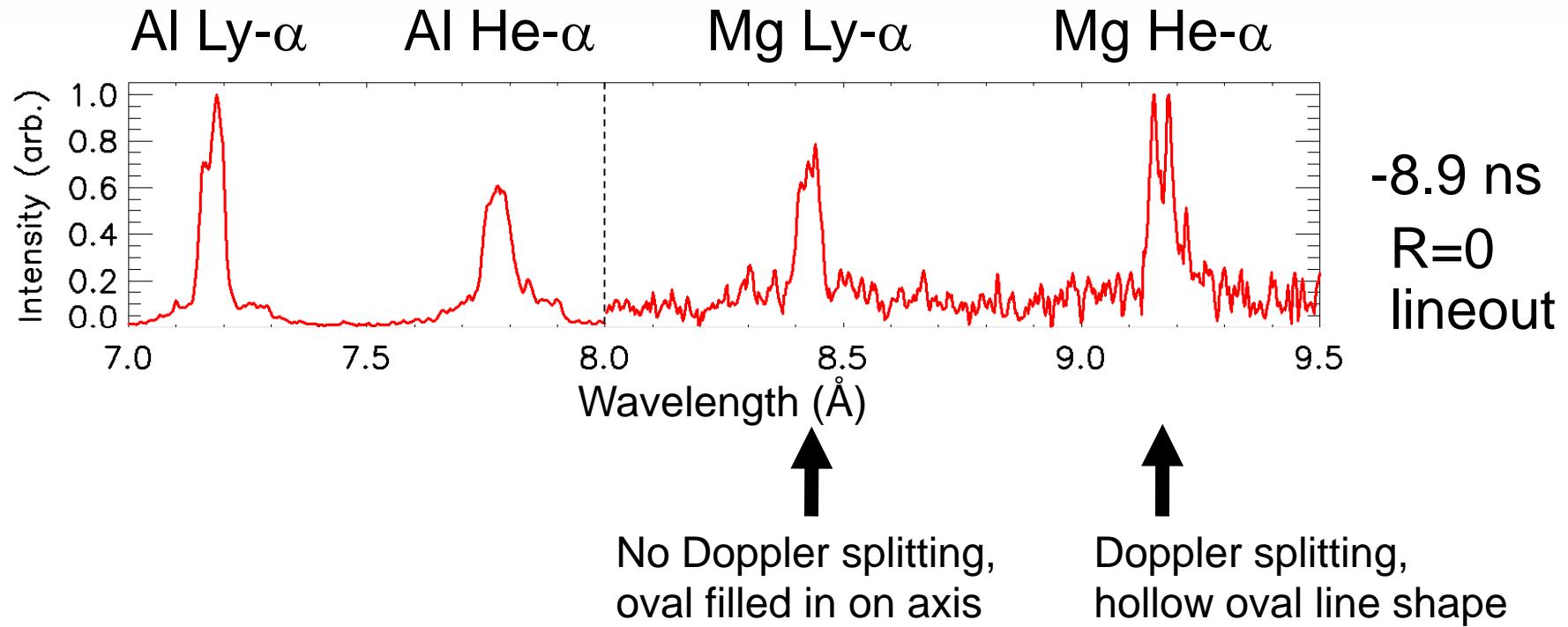
$x = \pm 2.45$ mm

Simulation
Experiment

Z1520
-6.8 ns

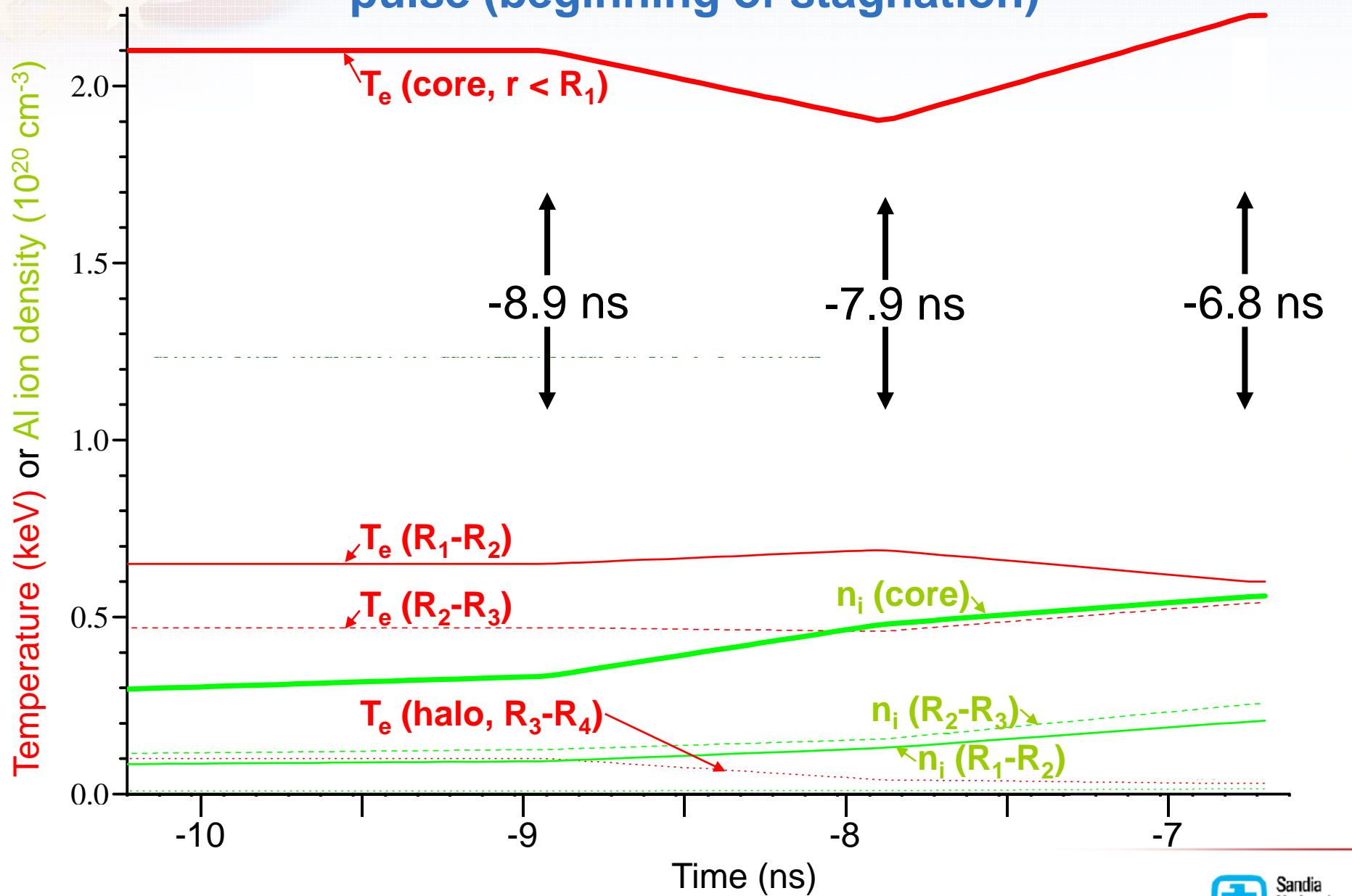


The plasma core on axis must be hot to explain line profiles given Doppler effects

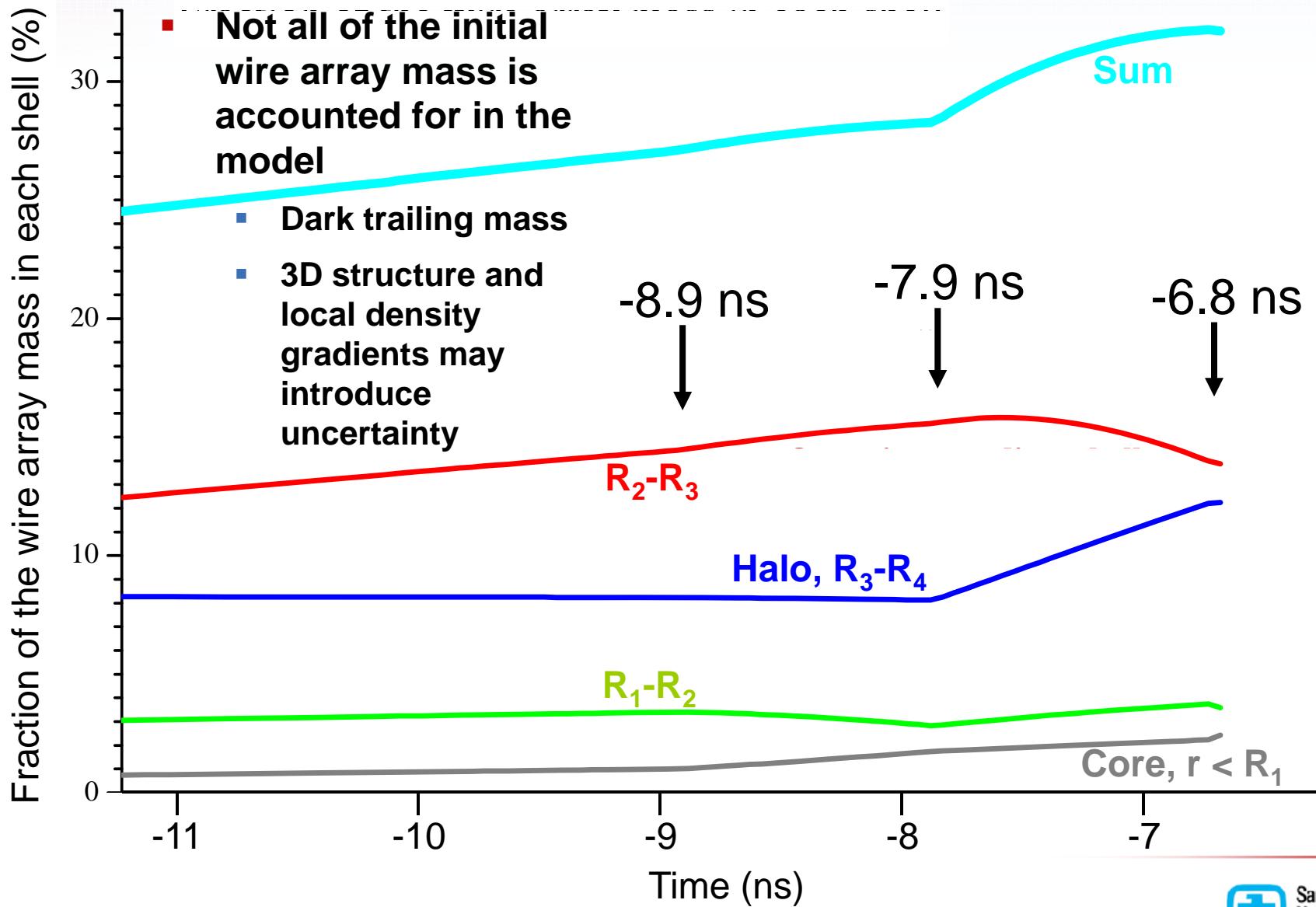


- Clear Doppler-split oval in Mg He- α suggests there is no Mg He- α emission from on axis
- Mg Ly- α emission is seen on axis (along with Al Ly- α and Al He- α)
- Therefore, there is plasma on axis and it is hot enough to have burned through He-like Mg

A hot, dense core is inferred at the foot of the x-ray pulse (beginning of stagnation)



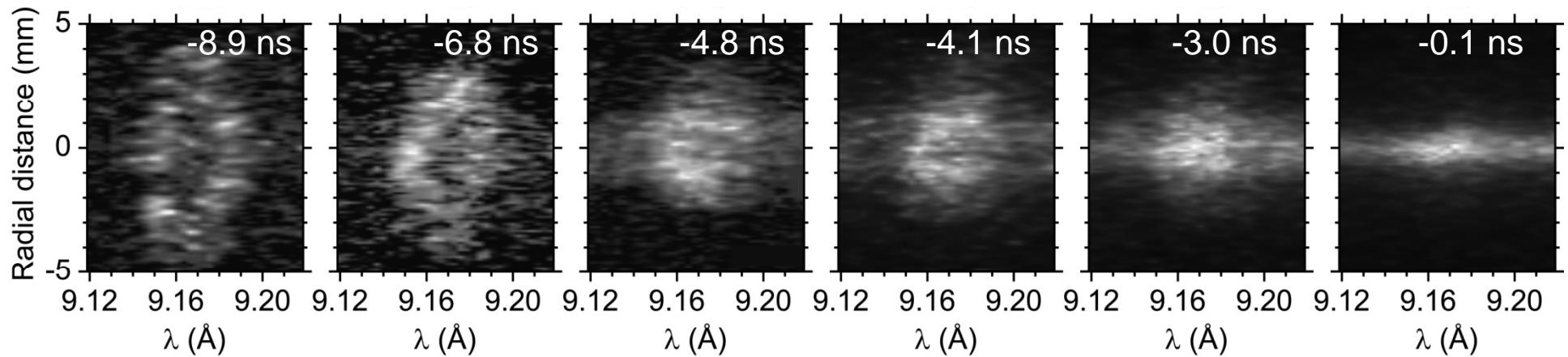
Only a small fraction of the mass is in the core at the start of stagnation (~1%)



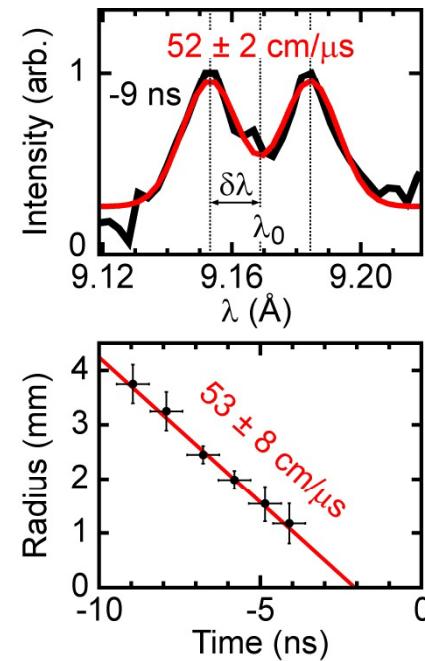
Doppler splitting in Mg He- α dopant line provides a measure of emissivity-weighted velocity



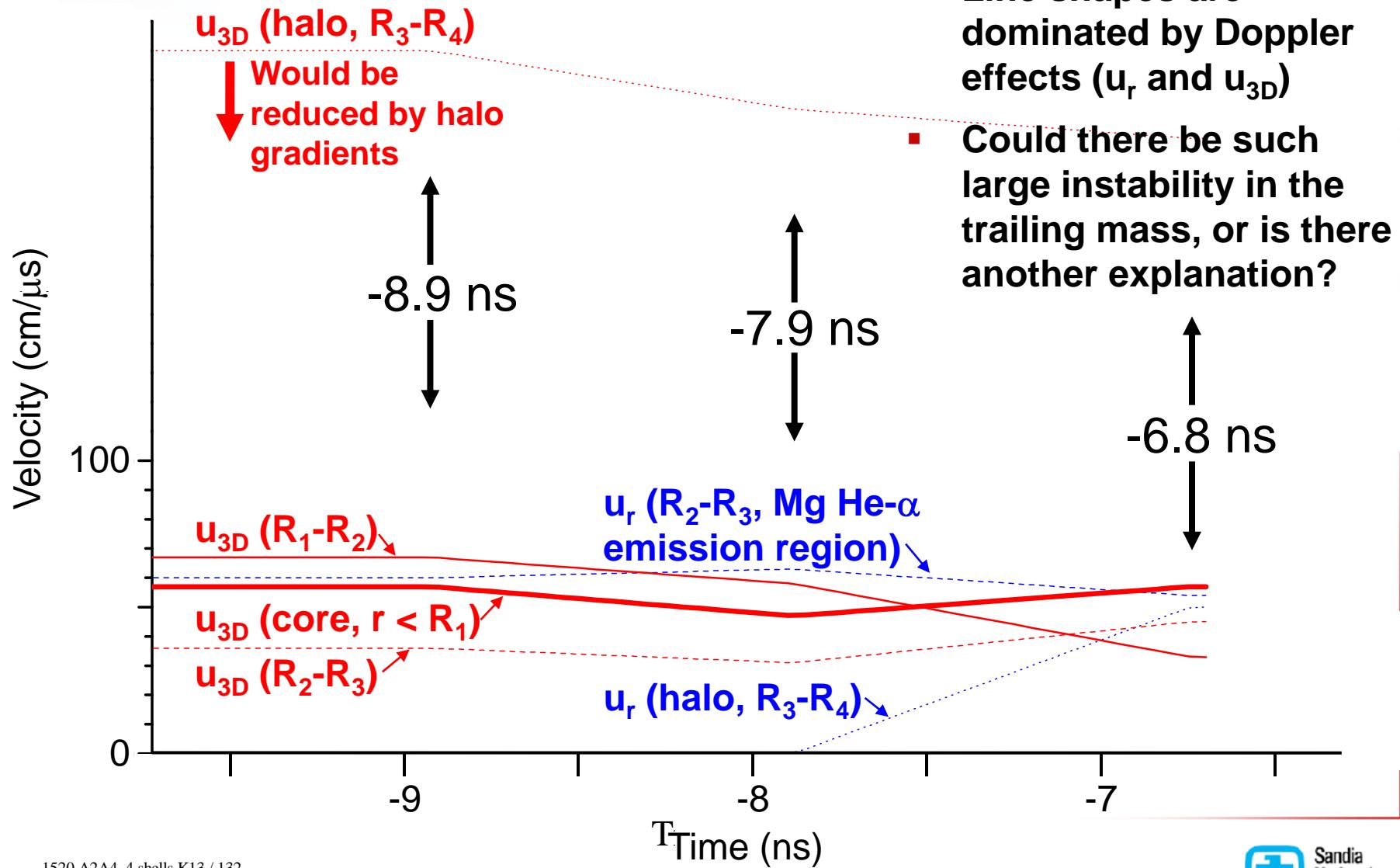
Z1520, Ø40 on 20 mm nested Al 5056 wire array, 1.5 mg/cm, Mg He- α



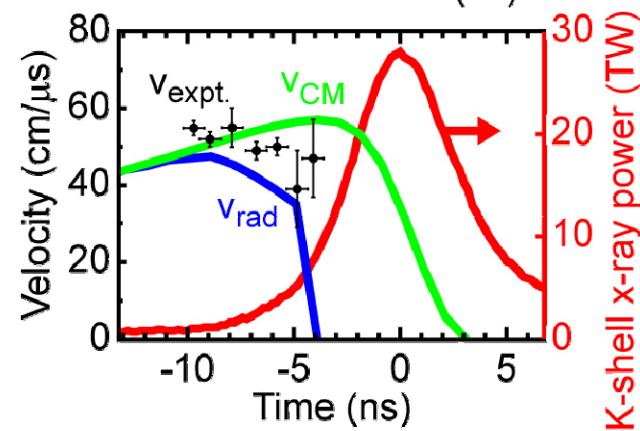
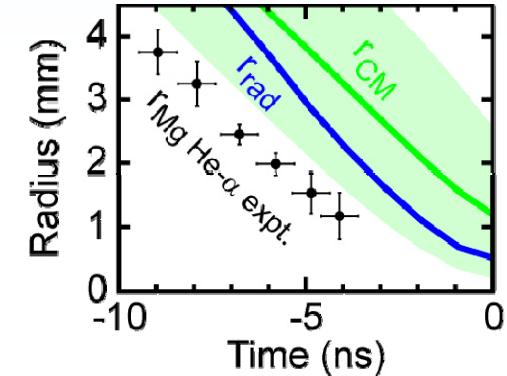
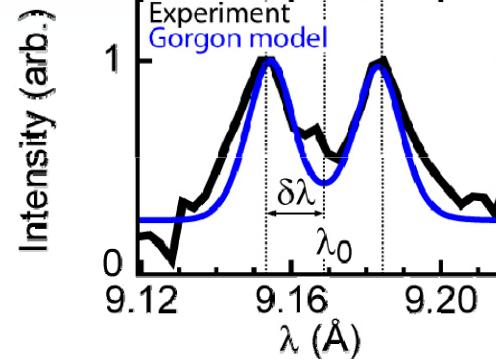
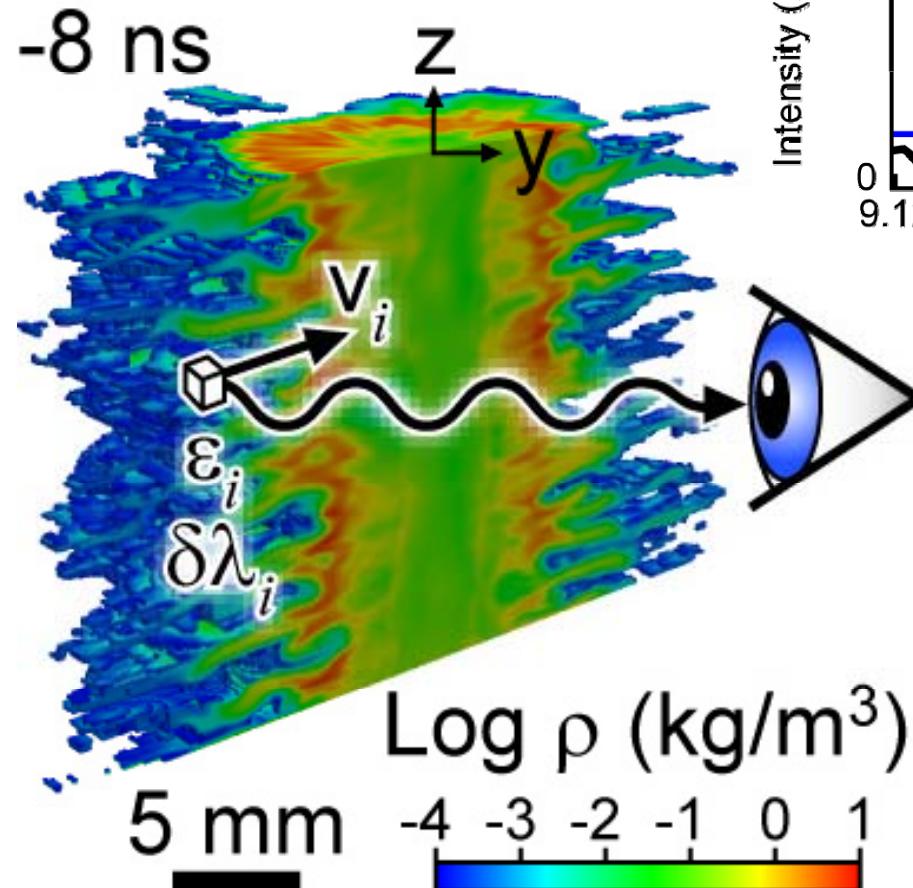
- Doppler splitting is seen at early times, providing experimental measure of velocity in region of the plasma emitting this line
- Smaller velocity error bars from single-frame, instantaneous Doppler measurement than from fitting trajectory for multiple frames
- Splitting disappears before peak x-ray power, perhaps as kinetic energy is thermalized
- Line is broad at the time of peak x-ray power



Large isotropized velocity is required in halo model in order to attenuate Al He- α to the level seen in experiment

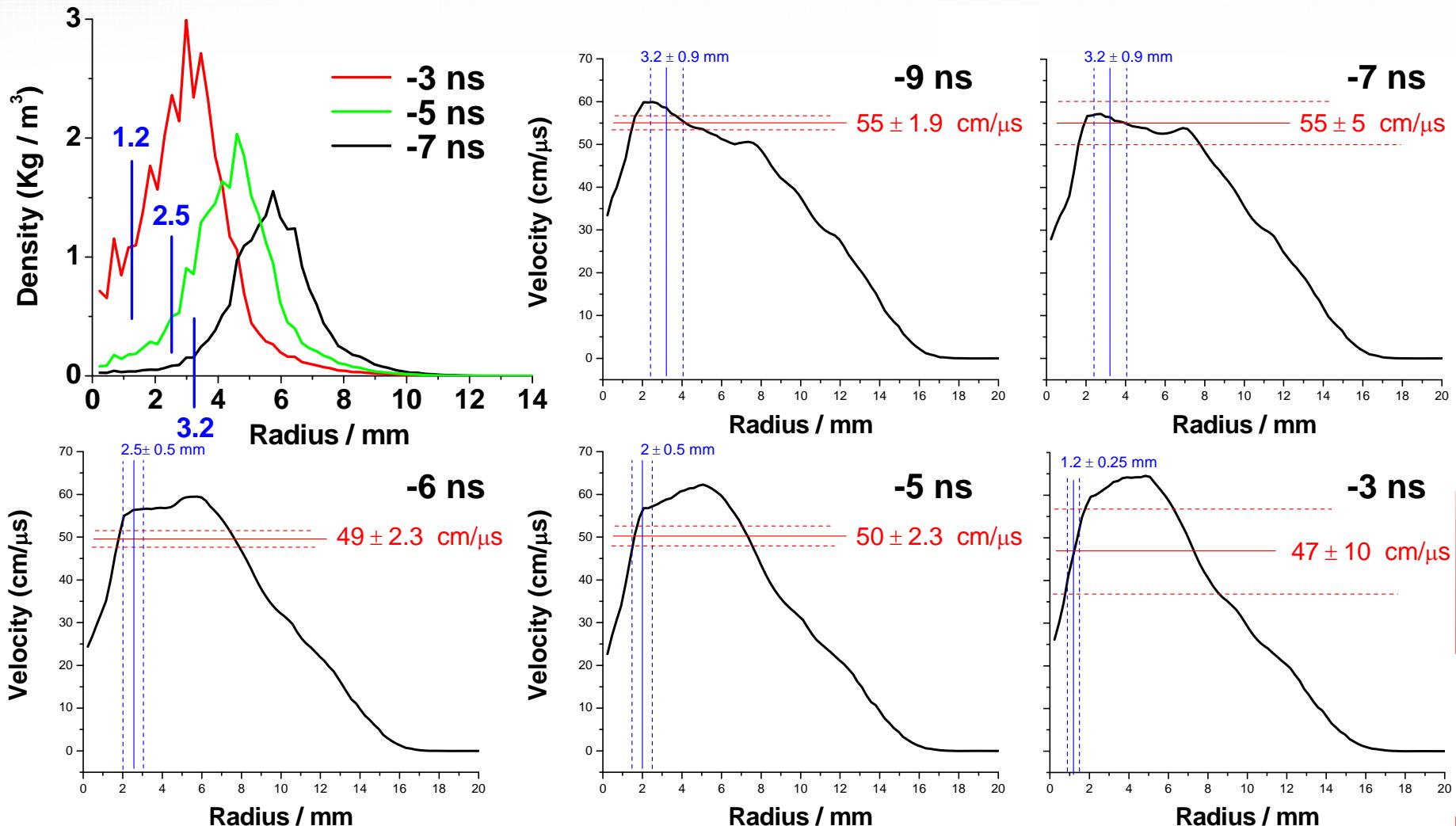


Doppler velocity inferred from Gorgon 3D MHD simulations agrees reasonably with experiment



- Emission region leads center of mass, and slows down on axis first. Future work: model Mg He- α instead of total emissivity
- Emissivity from each cell contributes at wavelength $\frac{\delta\lambda}{\lambda_0} = \frac{\vec{v}_i \cdot \hat{y}}{c}$
- Line shape smoothed for instrumental resolution $\lambda/\Delta\lambda=900$

Emission is from the leading edge of the dense imploding shell in Gorgon 3D MHD model

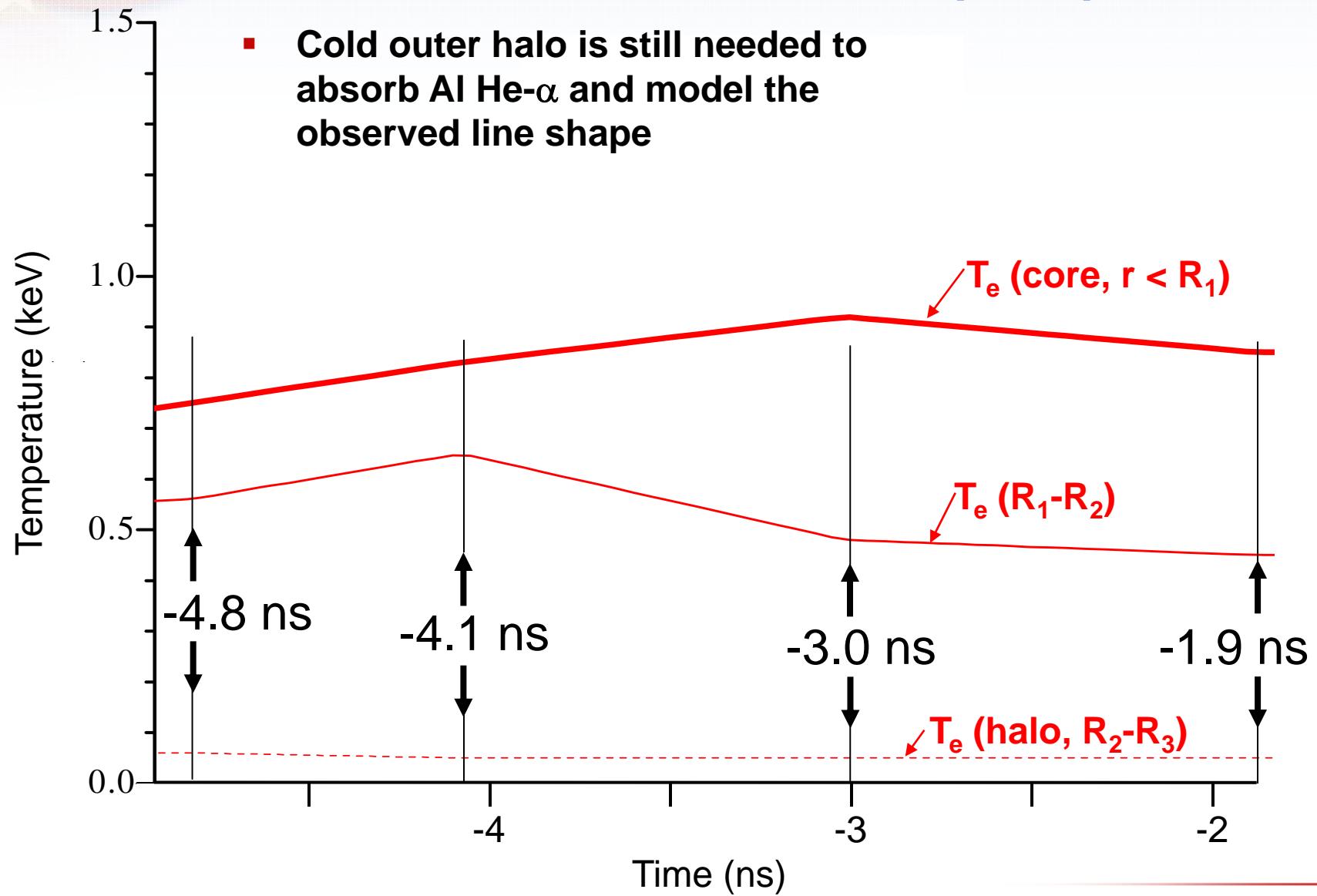


- Reasonable agreement with measured Doppler velocities (red) at positions of Mg He- α emission (blue)

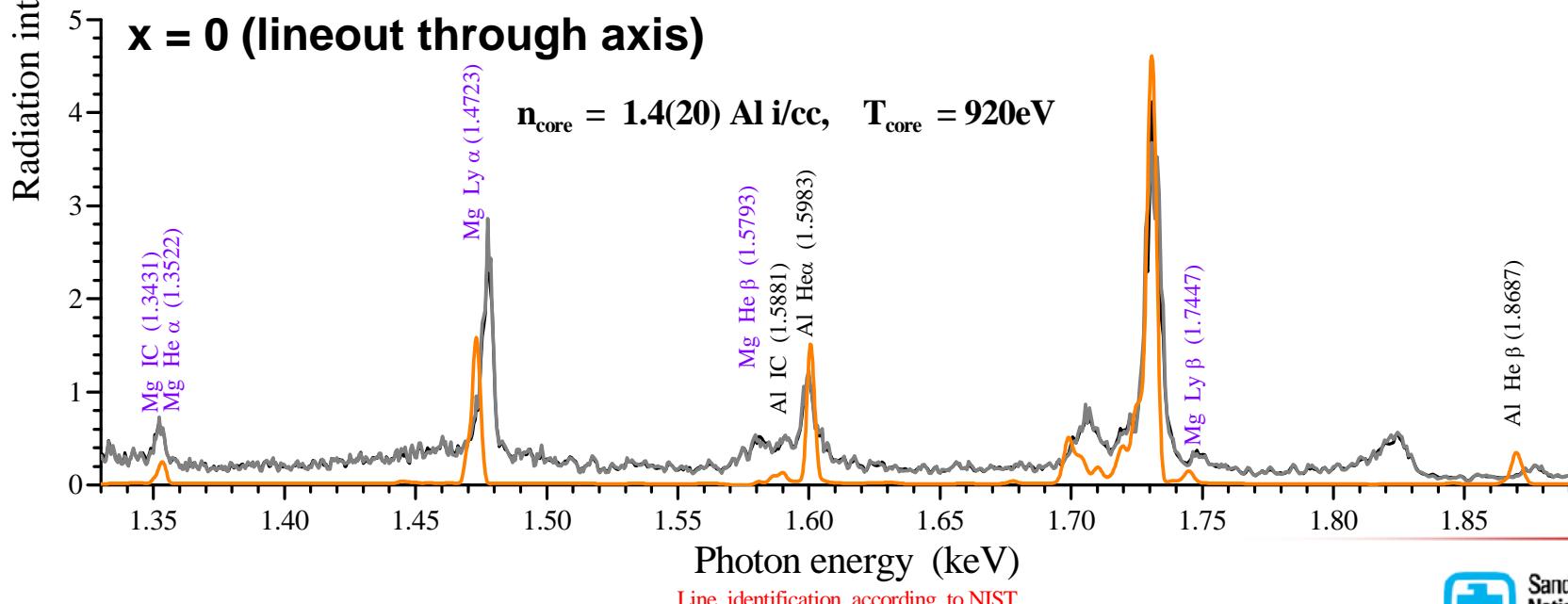
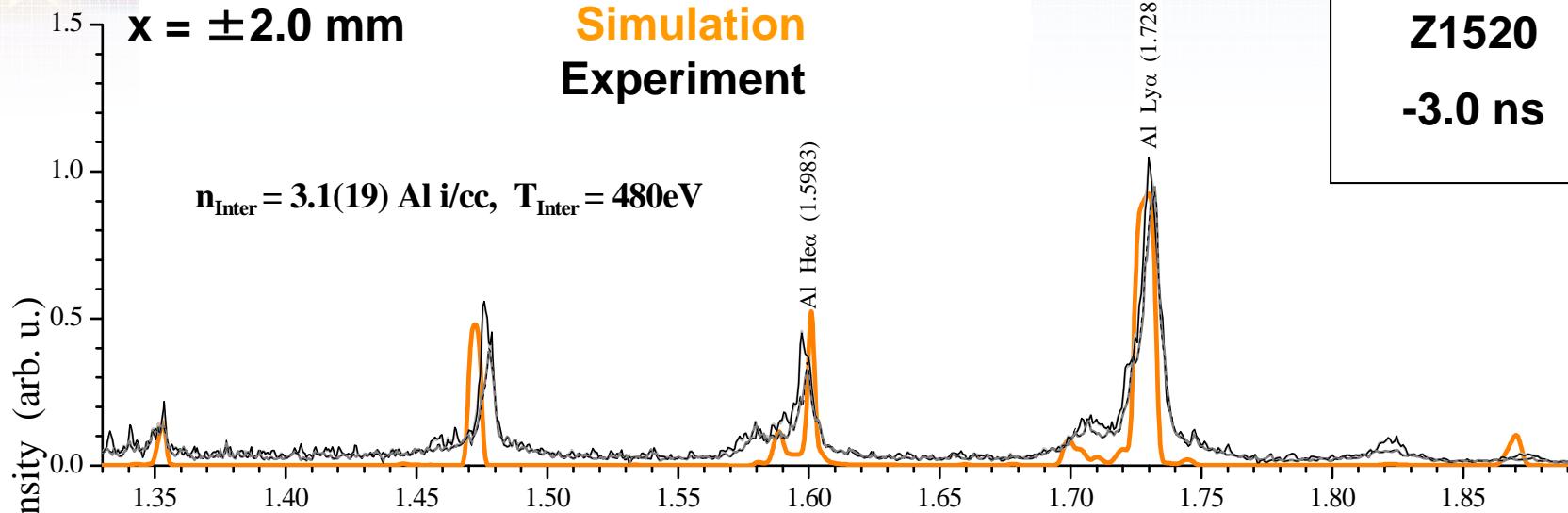
High temperature in core is needed to explain the observed K-shell line emission near peak power



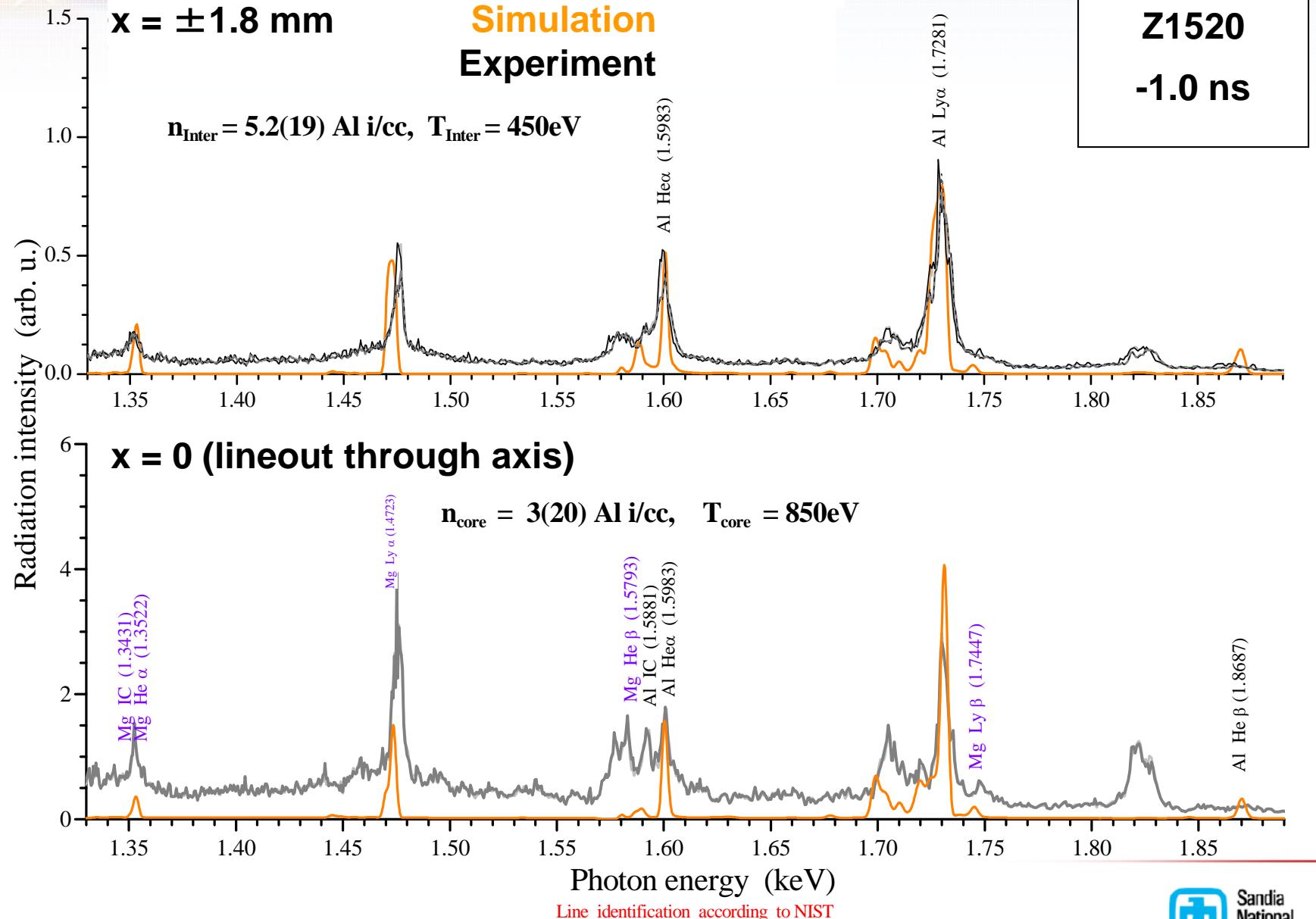
- Cold outer halo is still needed to absorb Al He- α and model the observed line shape



Al and Mg resonance lines are reasonably explained

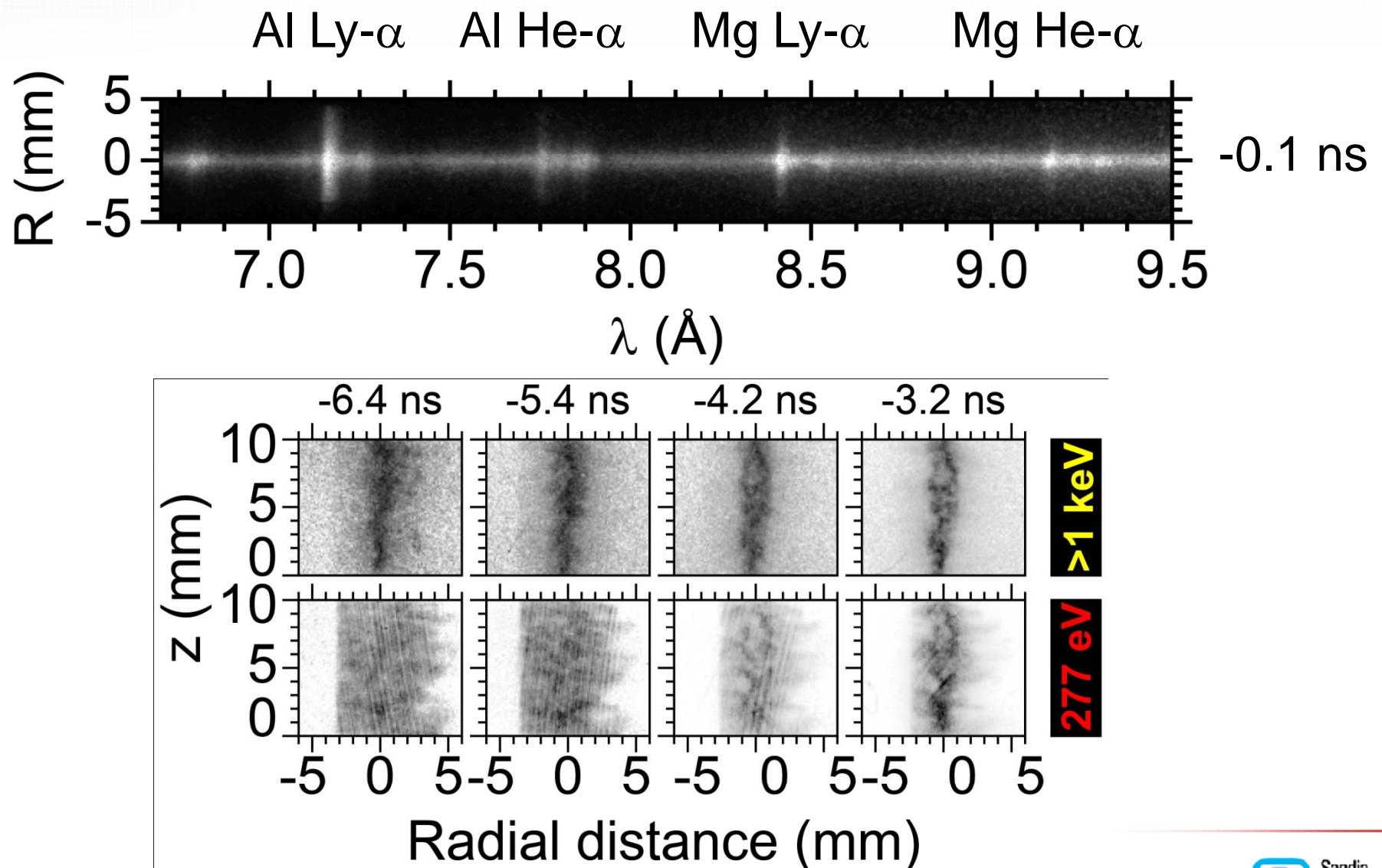


Continuum emission and satellites become quite strong in the experiment

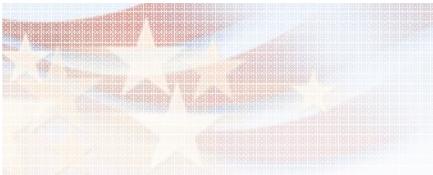




Strong continuum emission between K lines likely due to evolving structure in the core

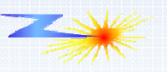


- Corresponding bright regions in core at 277 eV and >1 keV



Summary

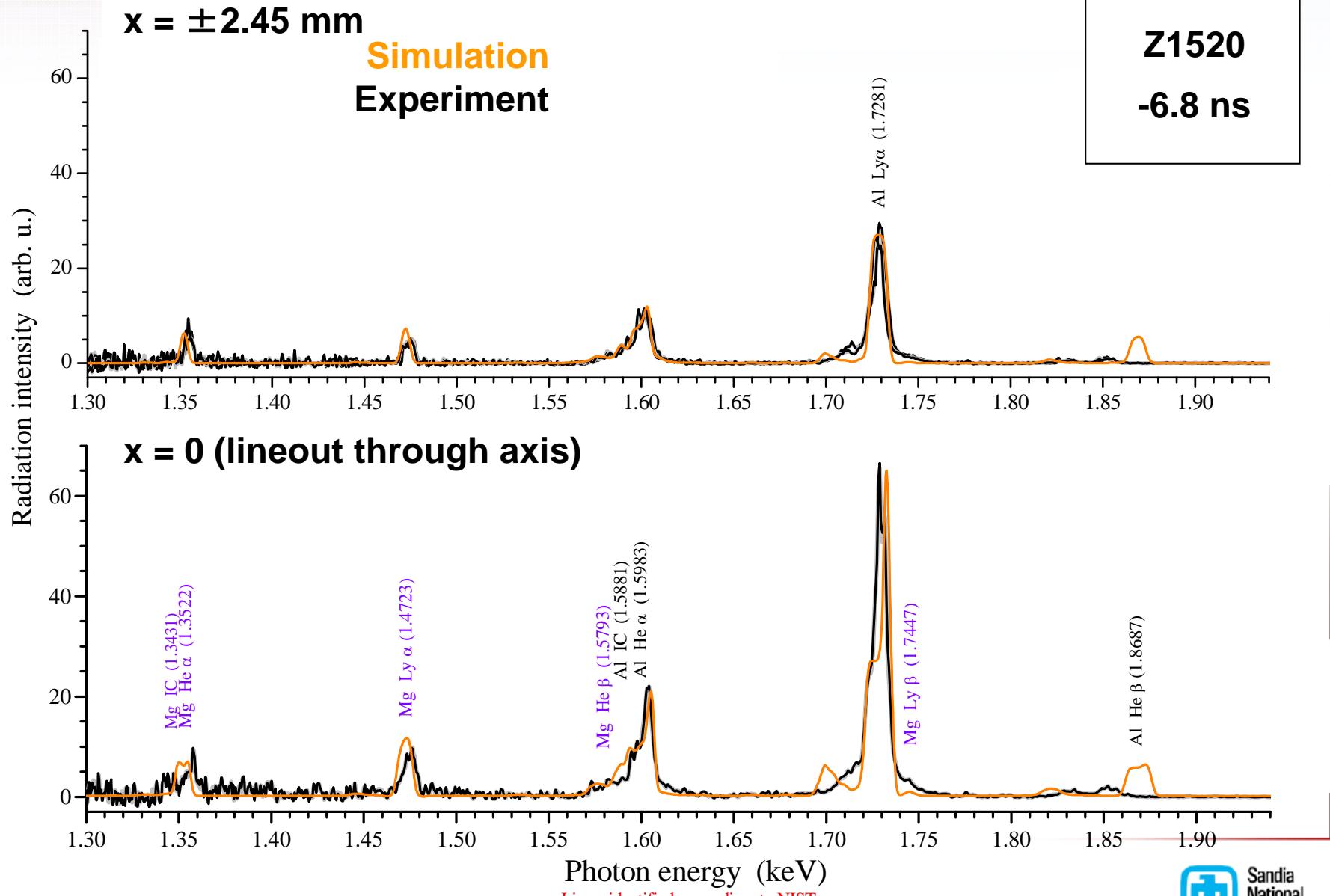
- **Intense K-shell x-ray source studies on Z provide an opportunity for spectroscopic study of z-pinch plasma stagnation**
- **Line ratios, shapes, and K-shell power together constrain the inferred plasma conditions in a multi-shell model**
- **Doppler splitting of K-shell emission lines, or Doppler shifted absorption, provide a method to measure implosion velocity**
 - Reasonable agreement seen with velocities predicted through 3D MHD Gorgon numerical modeling
 - Doppler effects, opacity, and plasma gradients determine line shapes
- **A hot, dense core forms on axis early in the x-ray pulse, containing initially only ~1% of the total array mass but emitting brightly**
- **A cold, outer halo is required to attenuate Al He- α line emission,**
 - **Puzzle:** Large inferred isotropized velocity in this trailing material
- **Structure in the core may explain both line and continuum emission seen in the experiment (future work)**



Backup

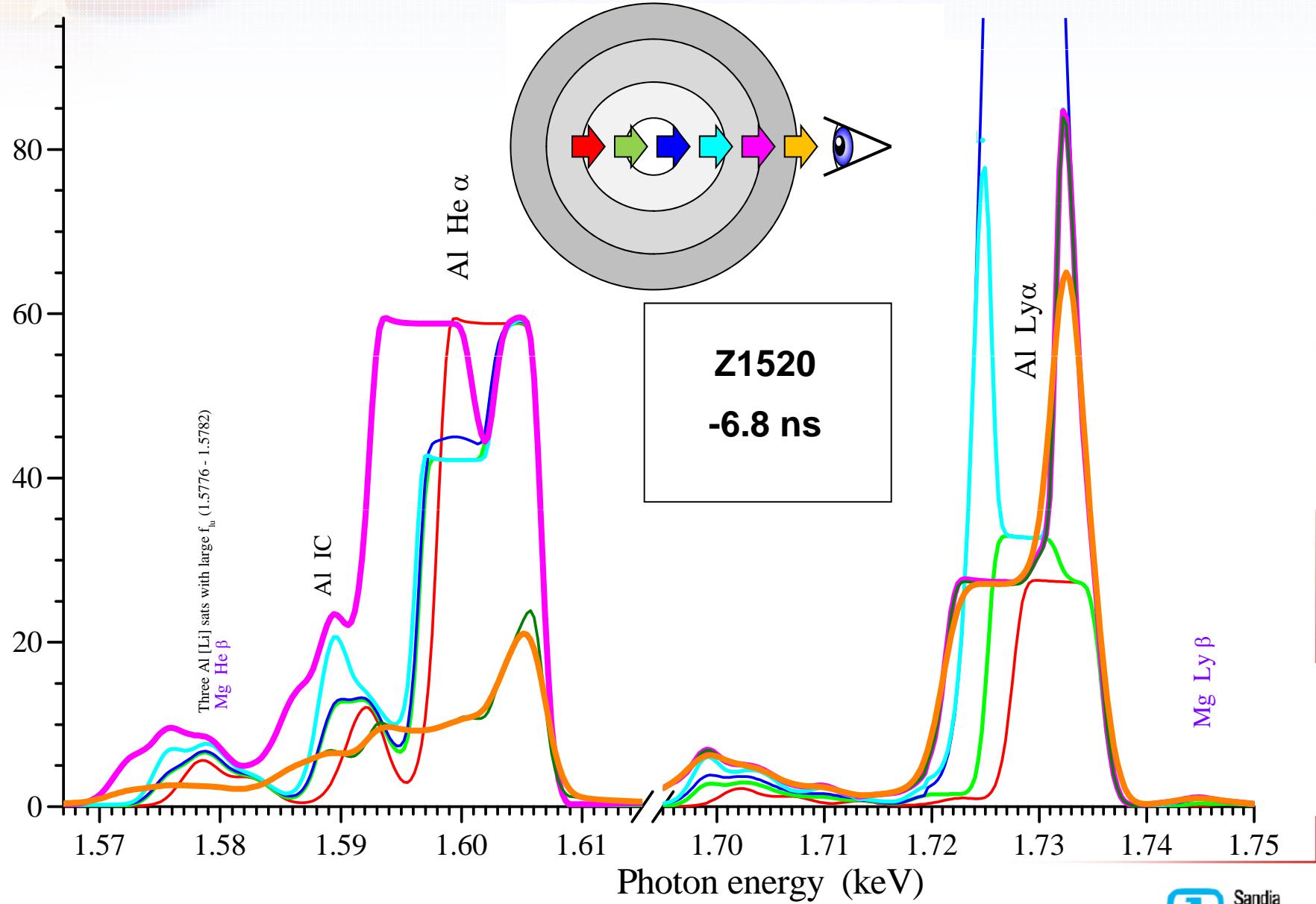
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Opacity in the halo is important in determining Al He- α line shape and amplitude



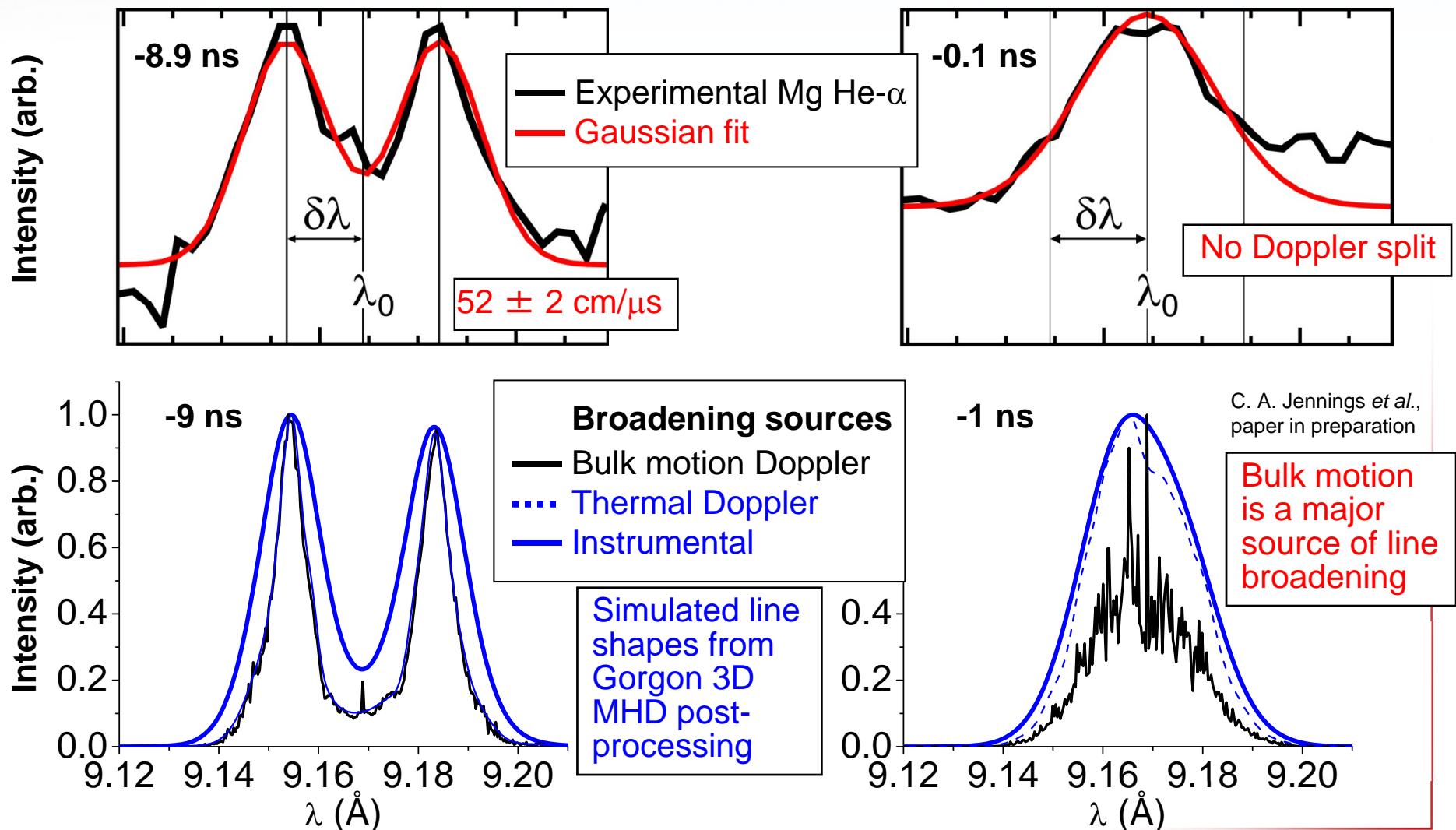


Radiation on 6 interfaces along central LOS





Doppler broadening due to residual bulk motion as well as ion temperature contributes to line widths



- **Tabulated SCRAM/SC total emissivities**
- **Simulated line shapes do not include opacity, satellites**

S.B. Hansen *et al.*, HEDP 3, 109 (2007).
H.A. Scott and S.B. Hansen, HEDP 6, 29 (2010).