

Systematic measurements of opacity dependence on temperature, density, and atomic number at stellar interior conditions

Taisuke Nagayama



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The stellar opacity collaboration involves universities, a private company, U.S. national labs, the French CEA, and the Israeli NRCN laboratories



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Nuclear Research Center Negev, Israel

Systematic study of L-shell opacities with refined analysis validates experiment reliability and suggest necessary model refinements

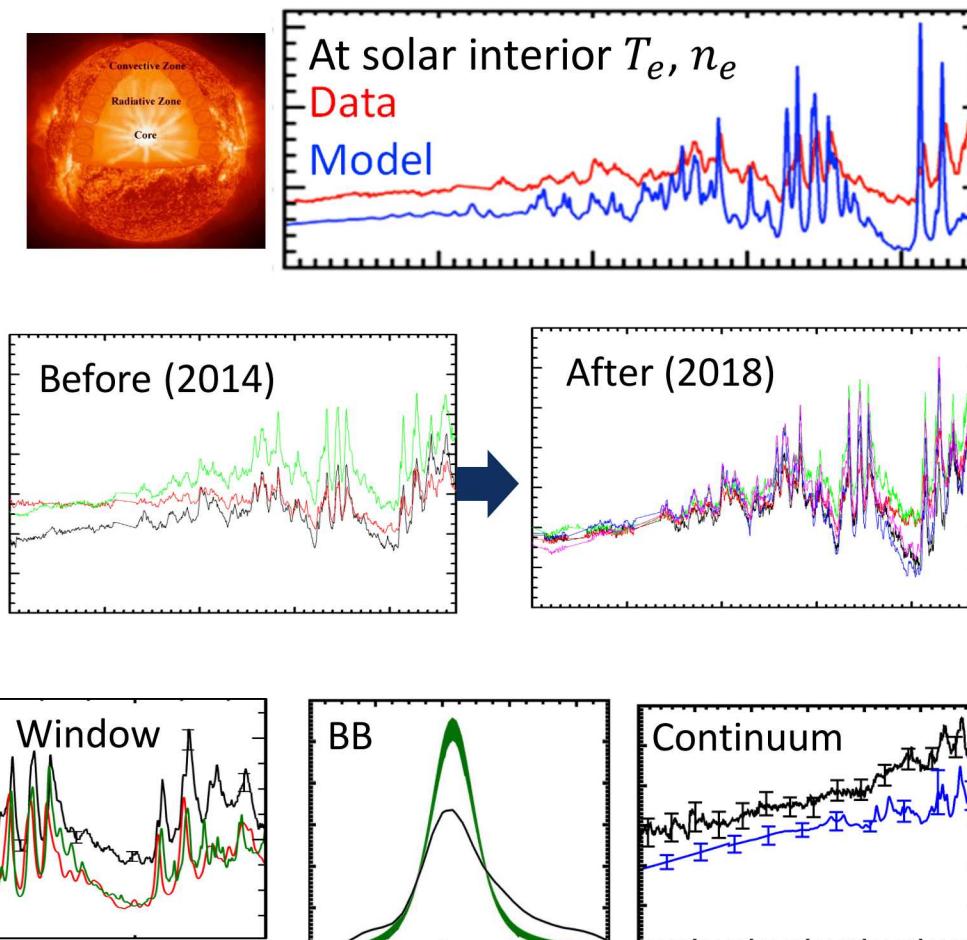
- Fe L-shell opacity is measured at solar interior conditions and revealed severe model-data discrepancy

→ Is opacity theory wrong? Is experiment flawed?

- Refined analysis improved shot-to-shot reproducibility, demonstrating opacity experiment reliability

- Systematic measurement of Cr, Fe, and Ni opacities suggests model refinements in three areas

- Window: Challenge associated with open L-shell config.
- BB: Inaccurate treatment of density effects
- Continuum: Peculiar dependence on atomic number



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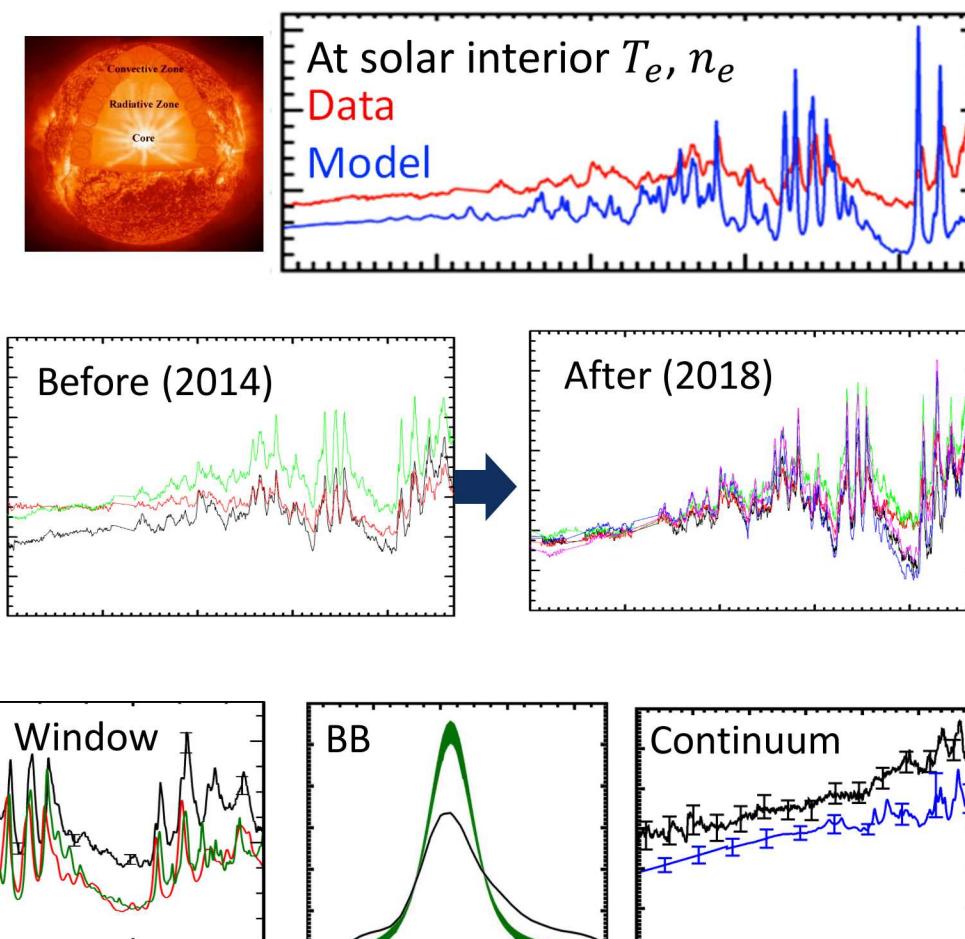
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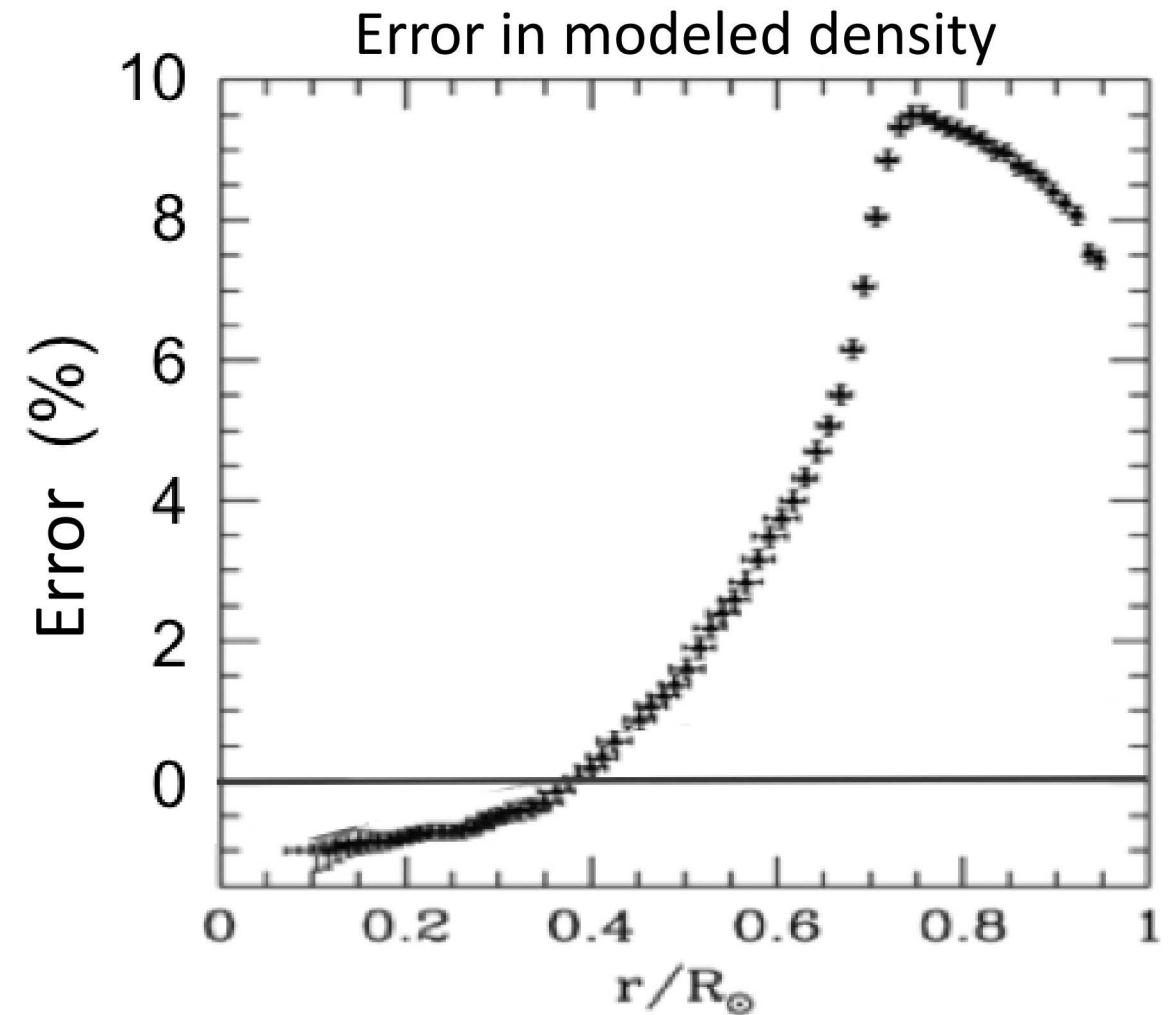
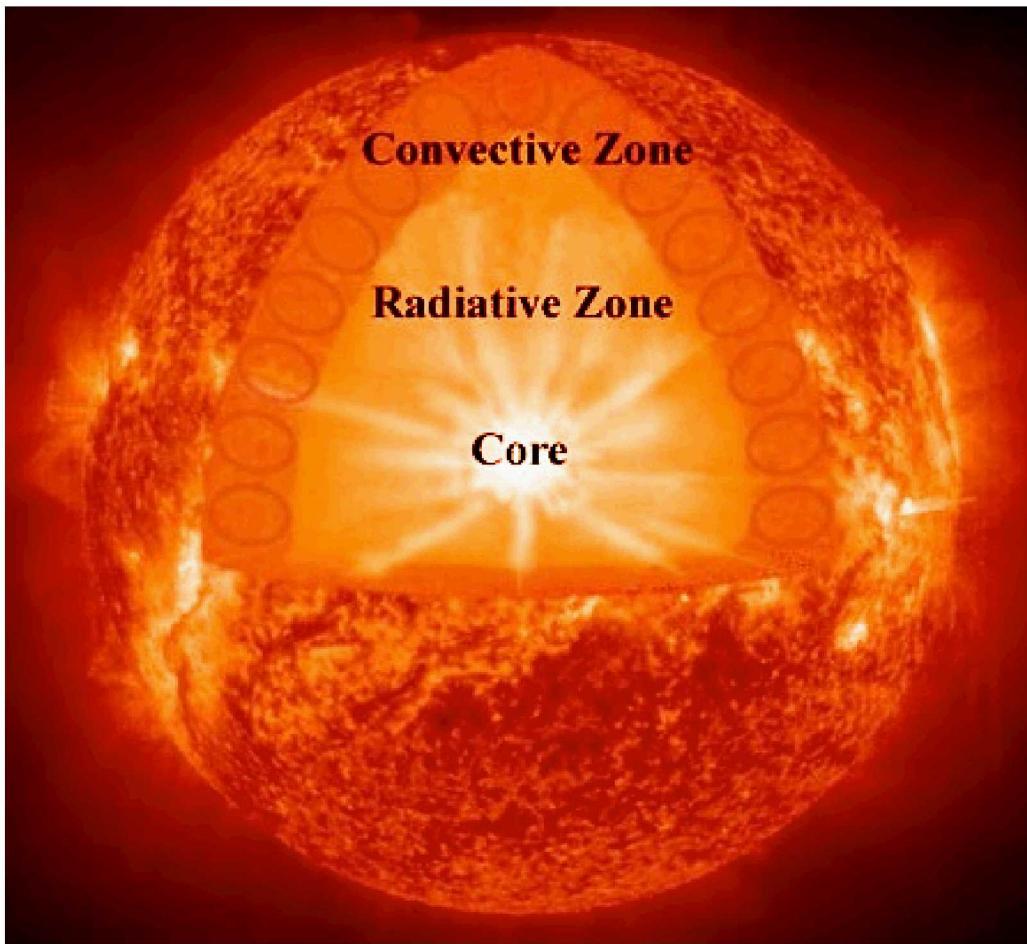
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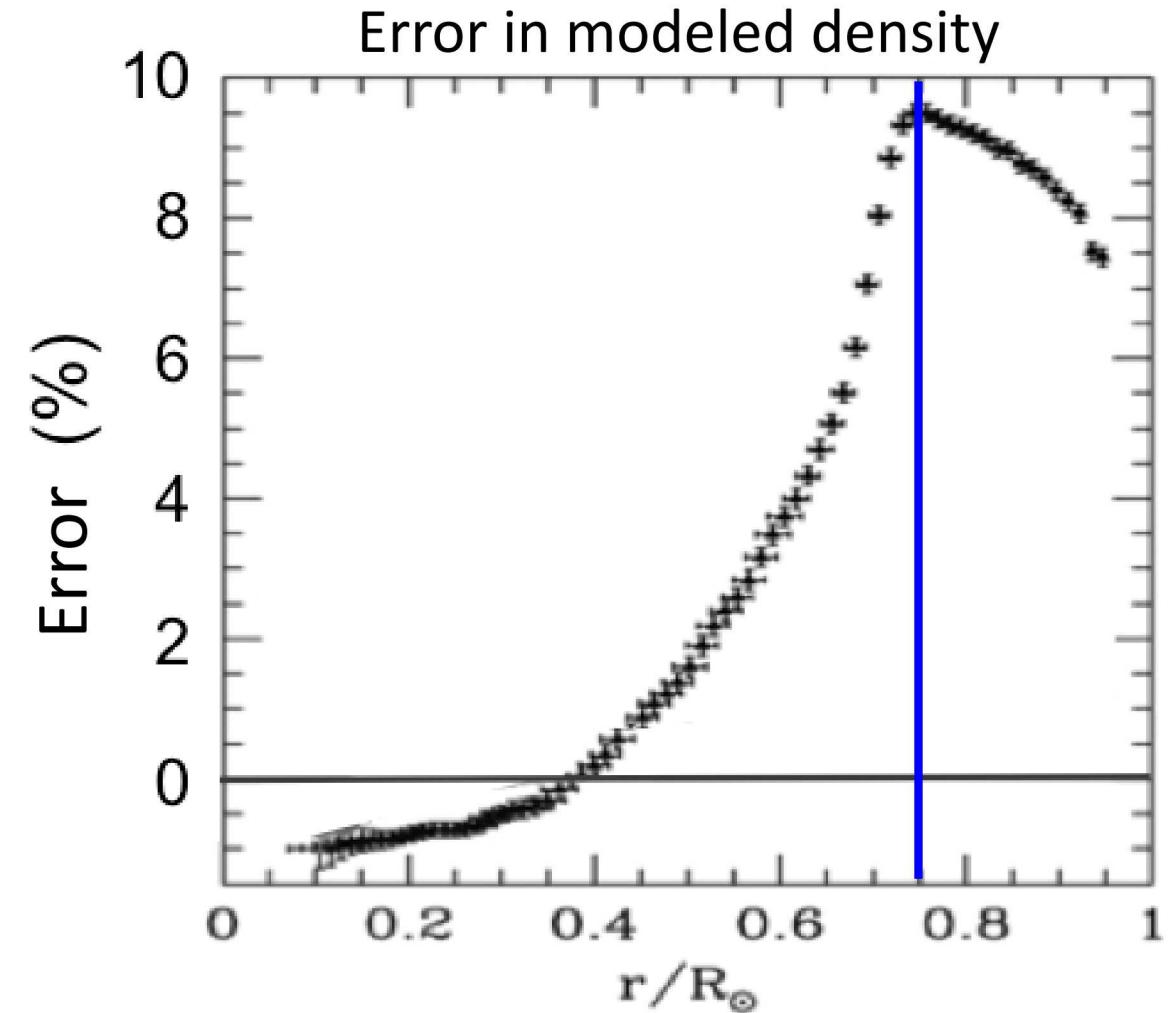
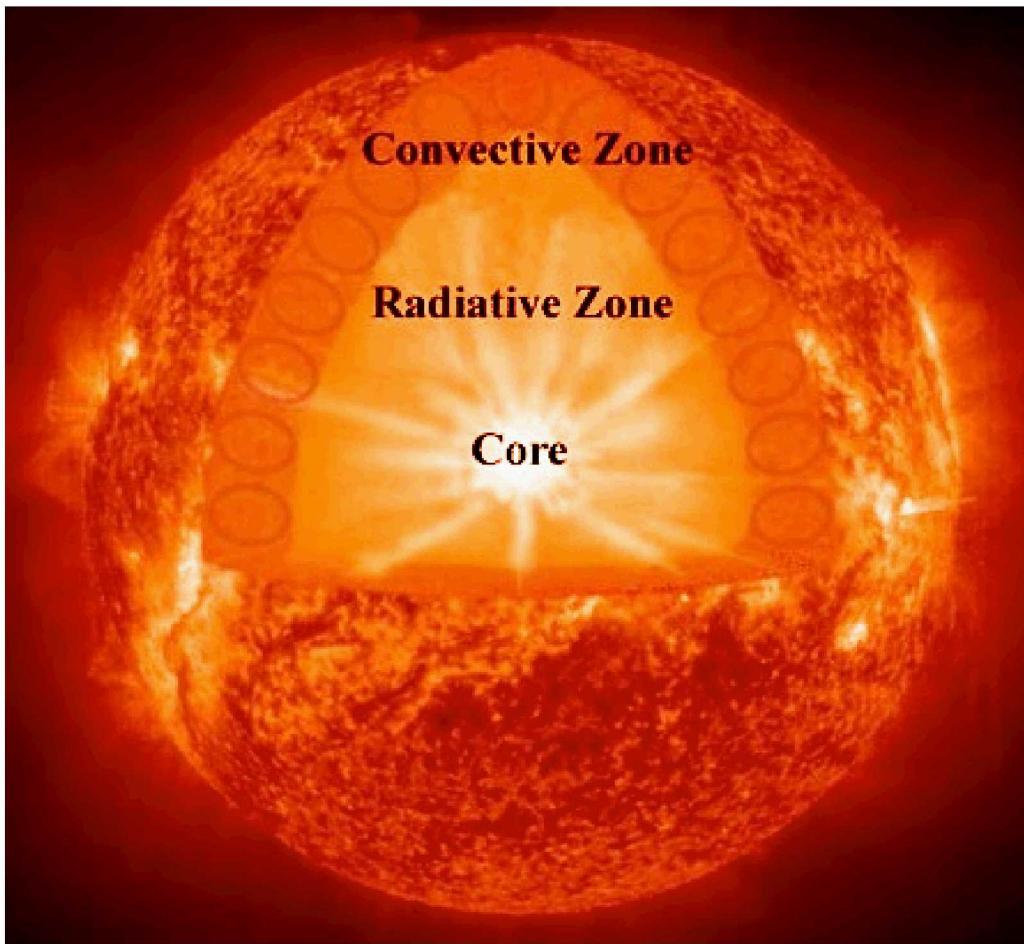


Results are improved over two years by collecting more data and refining analysis methods

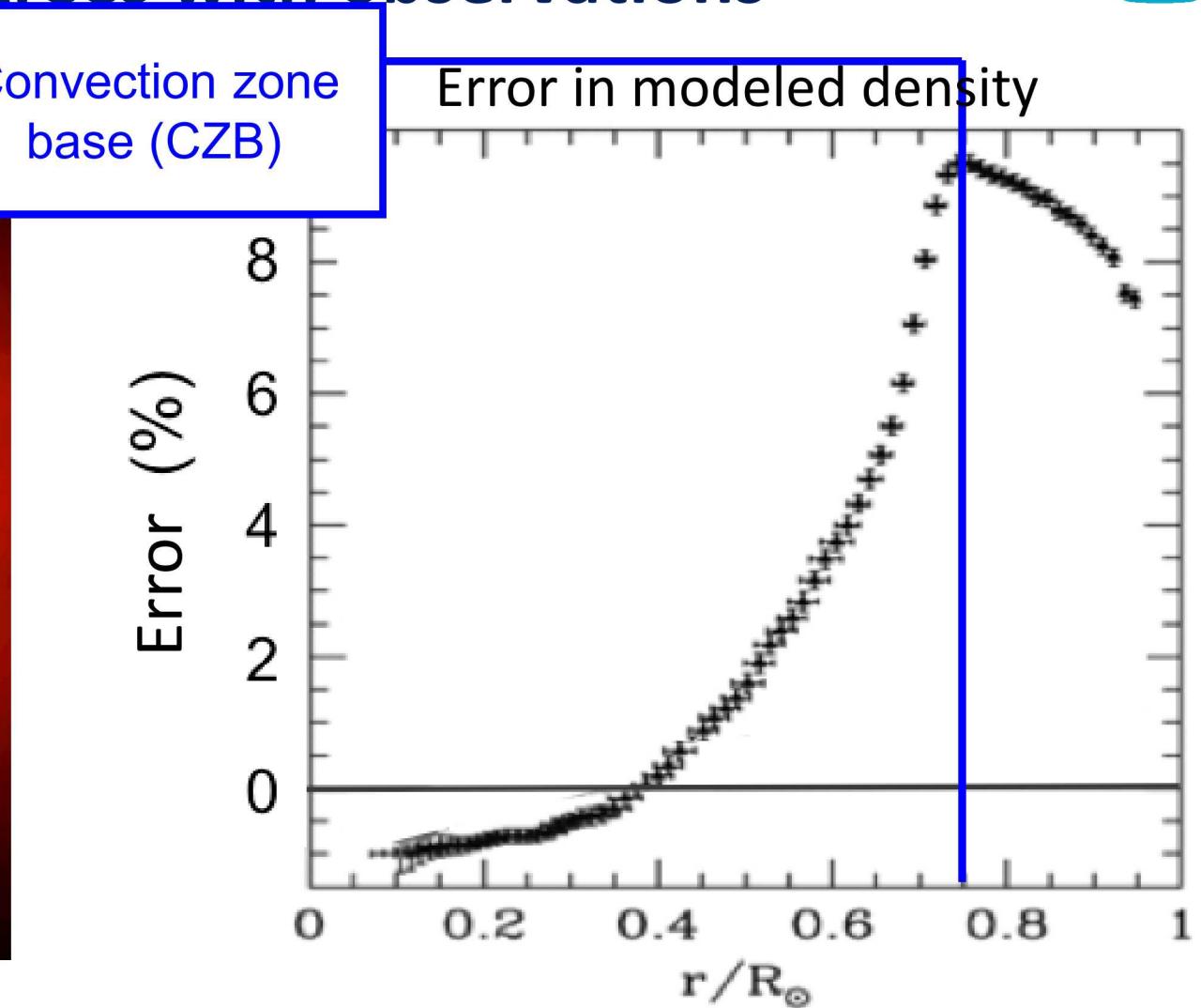
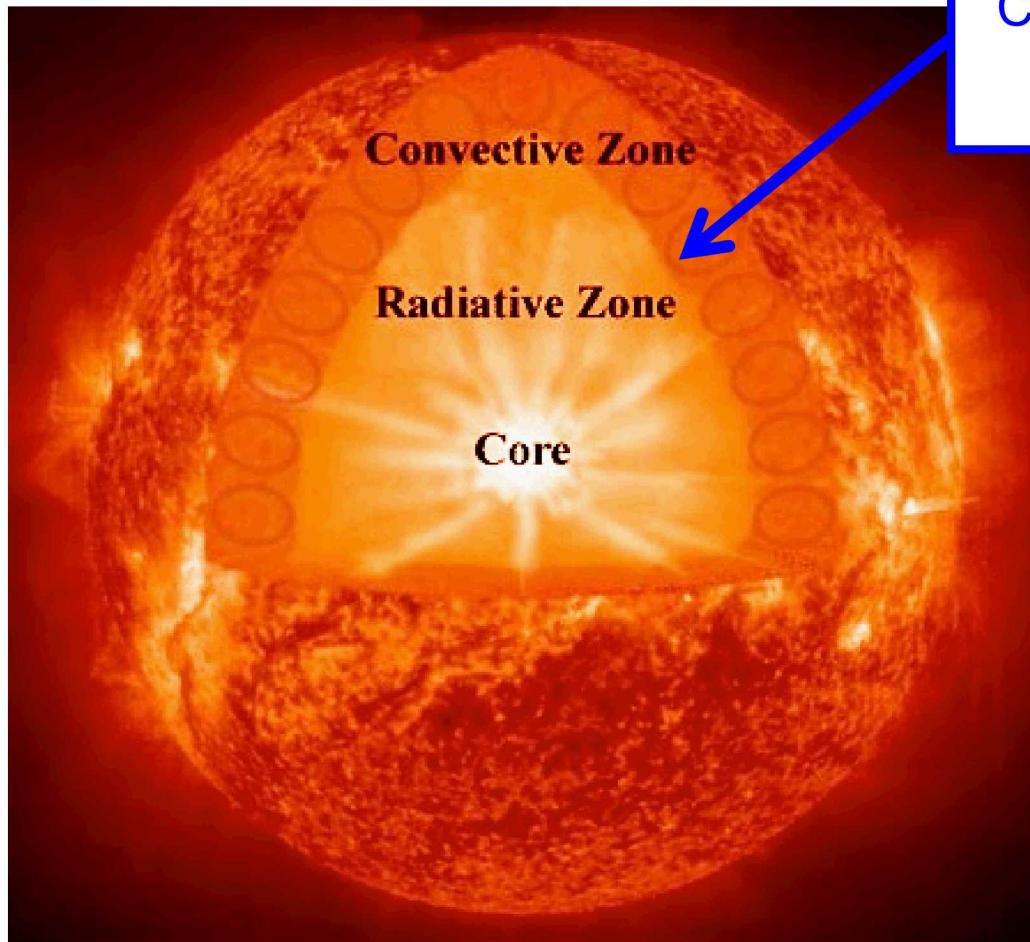
Modeled solar structure disagrees with observations



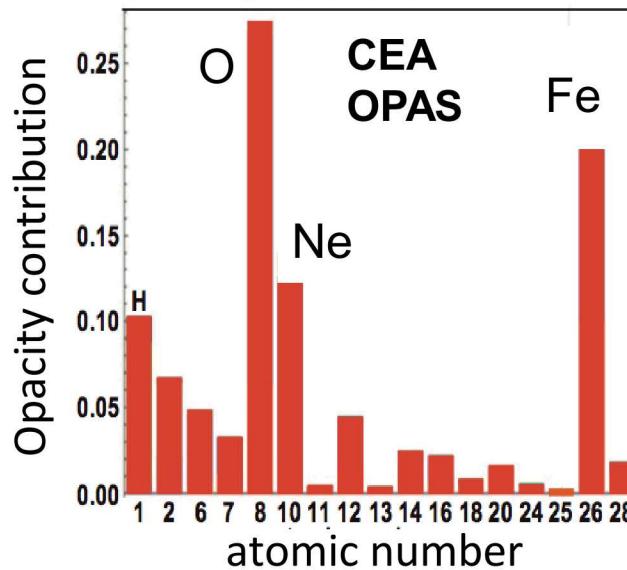
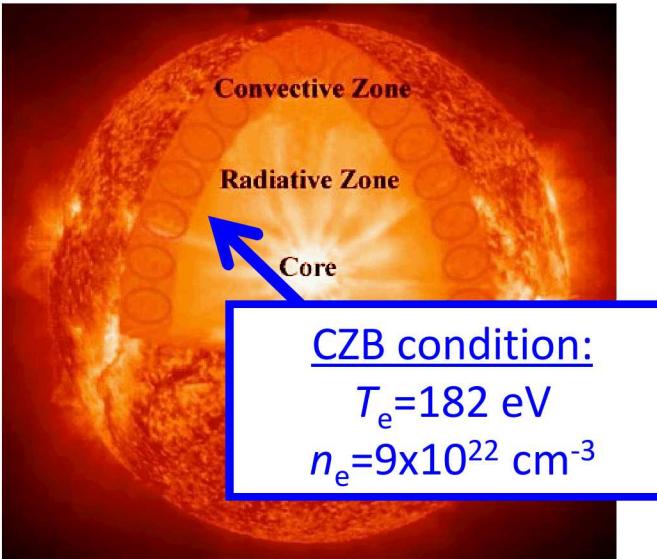
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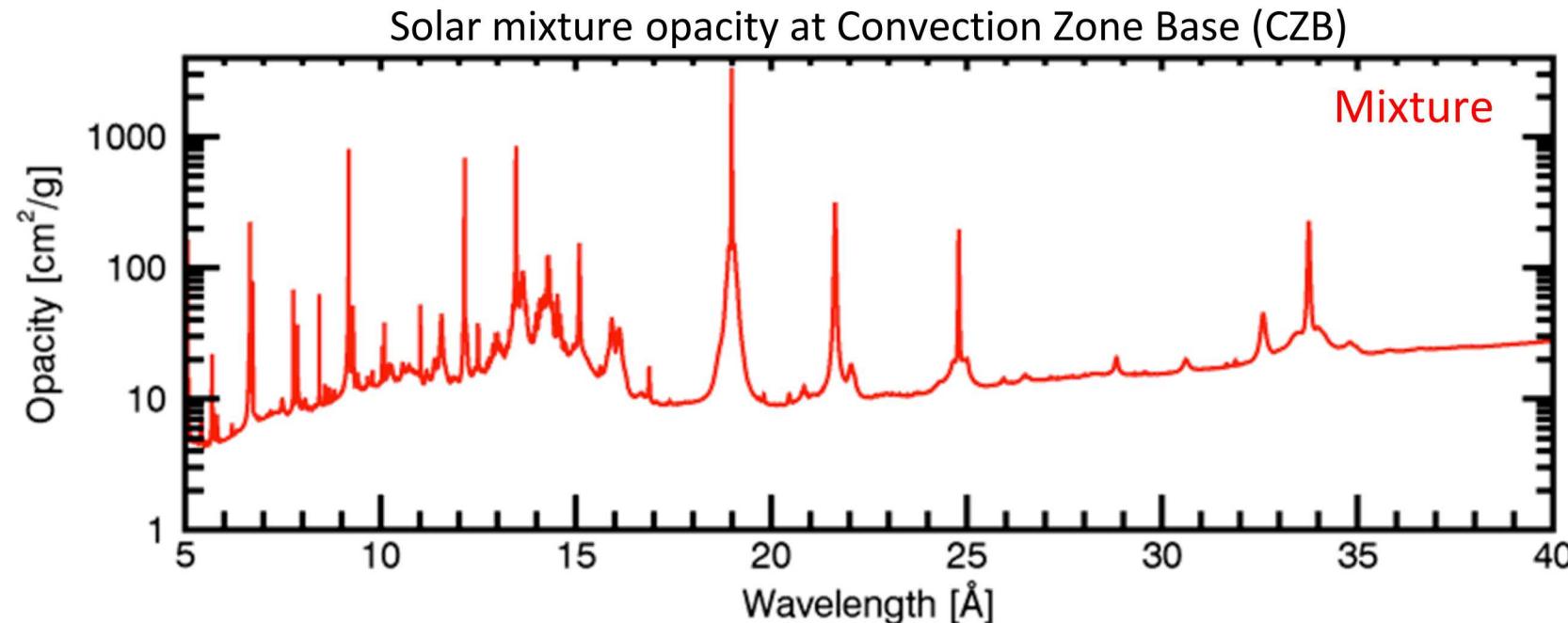


10-30% mean-opacity increase in the solar model is needed to resolve this discrepancy

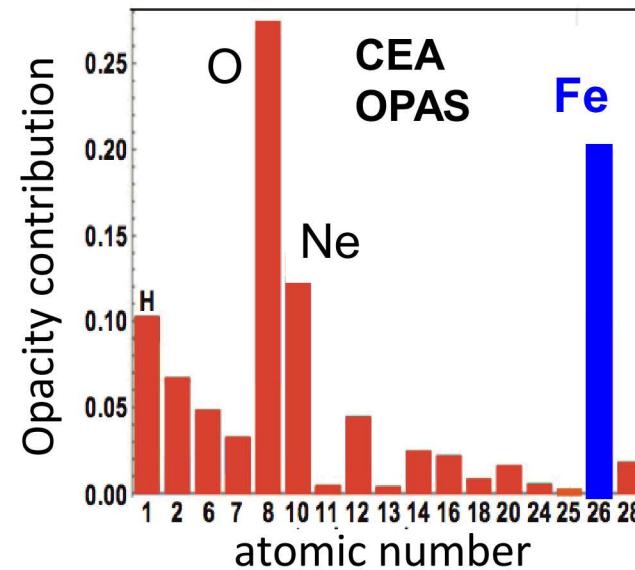
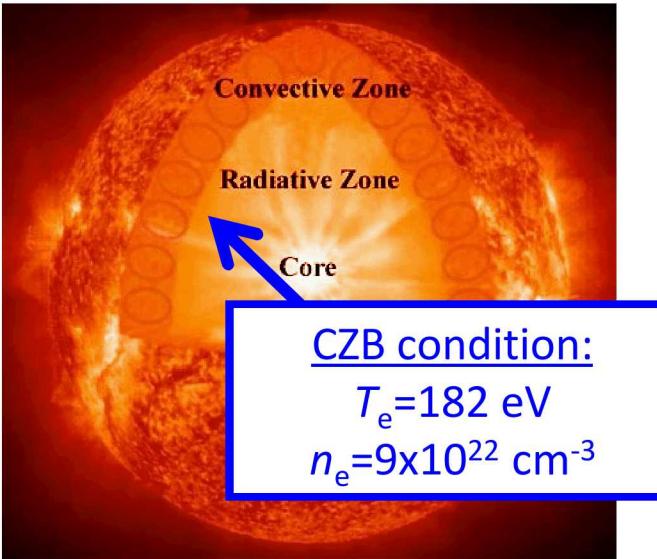


Opacity: κ_v

- Quantifies radiation absorption
- $\kappa_v(T_e, n_e)$... input for solar models
- Opacity models have never been tested



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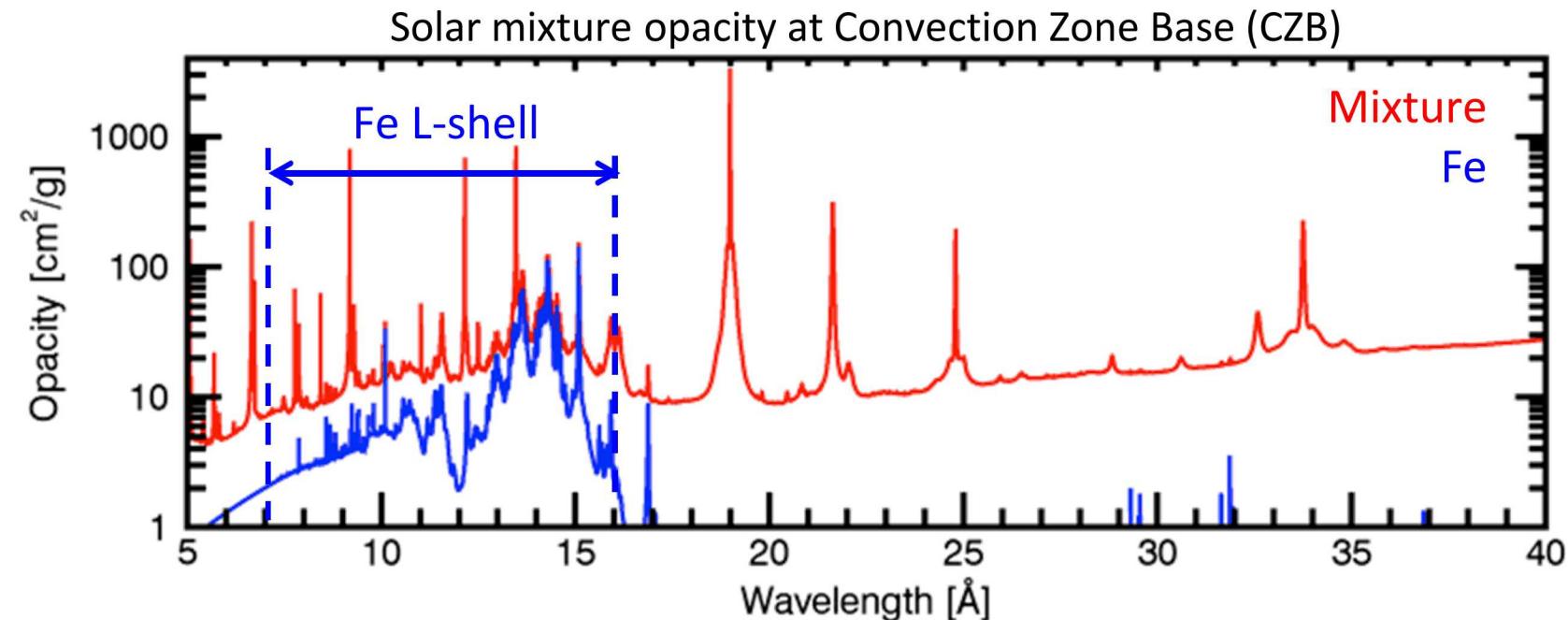


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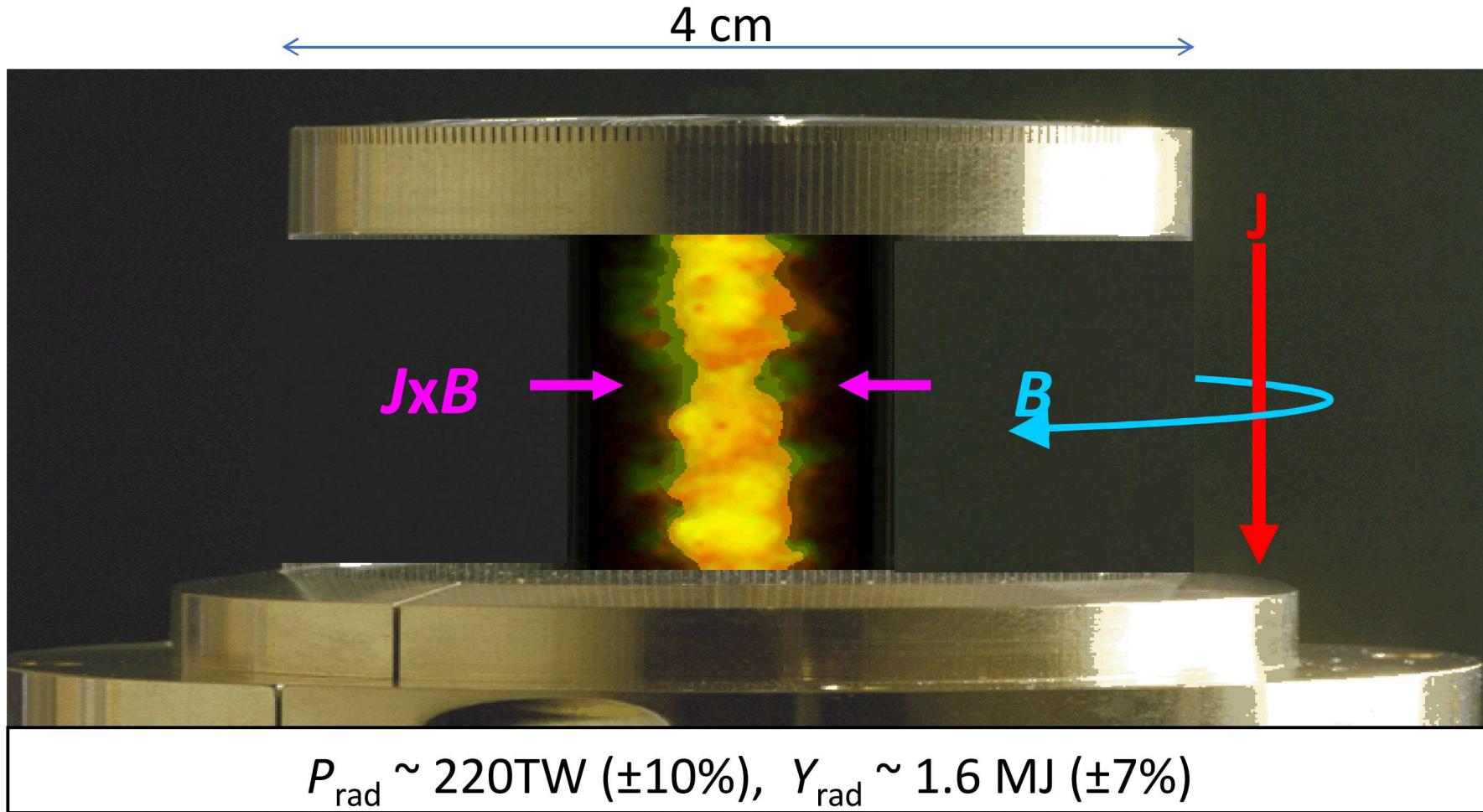
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Fe is a likely suspect:

- 2nd largest contribution
- Most difficult to model



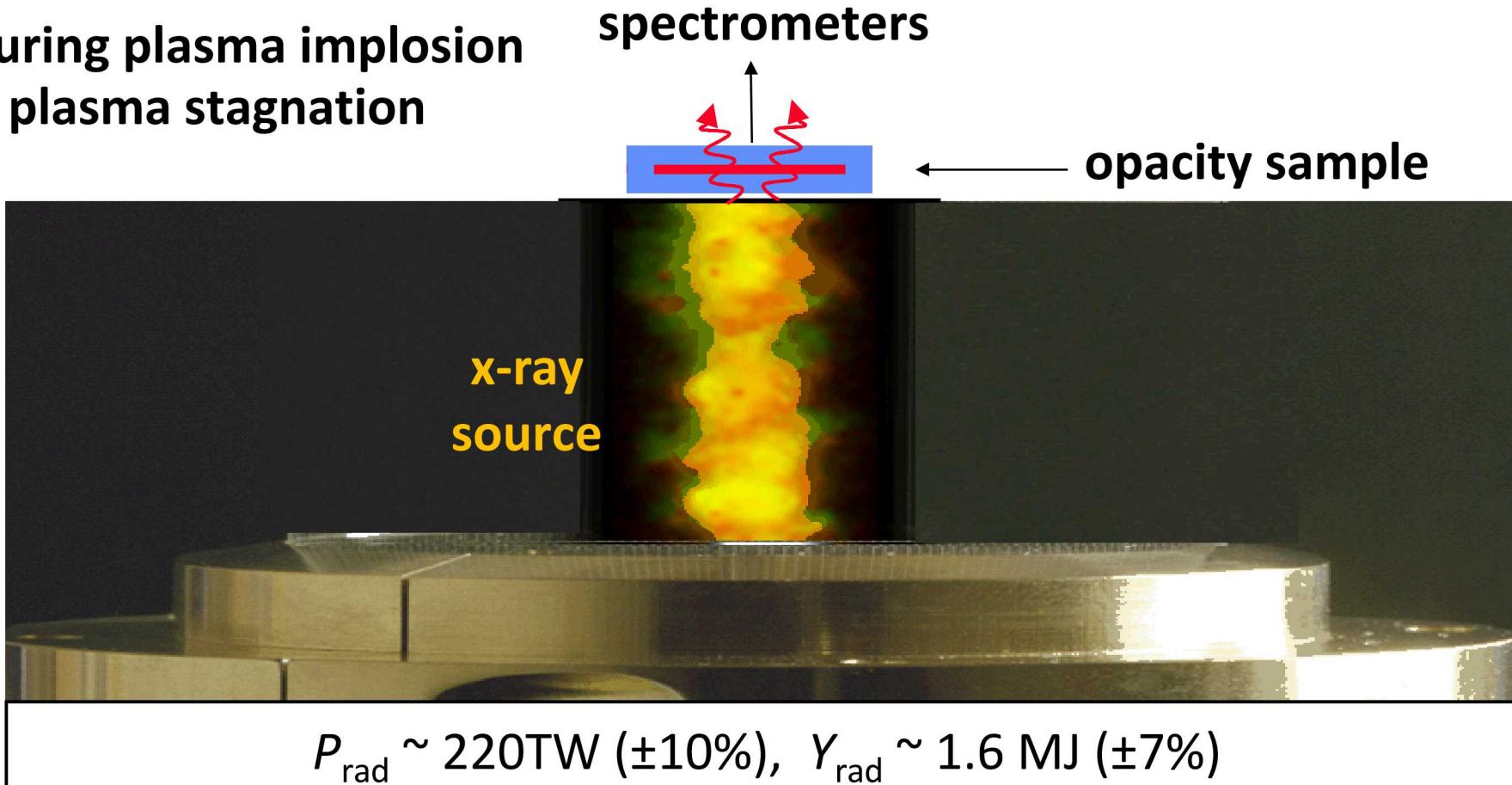
The Z machine uses 27 million Amperes to create x-rays



The Z x-ray source both heats and backlights samples to stellar interior conditions.

Sample is:

- Heated during plasma implosion
- Backlit at plasma stagnation



High-temperature Fe opacities are measured using the Z-Pinch opacity science platform

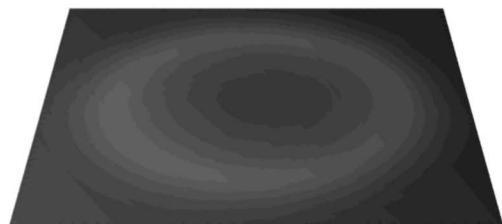
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- Uniform heating
- Mitigating self emission
- Condition measurements
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Z-pinch radiation source

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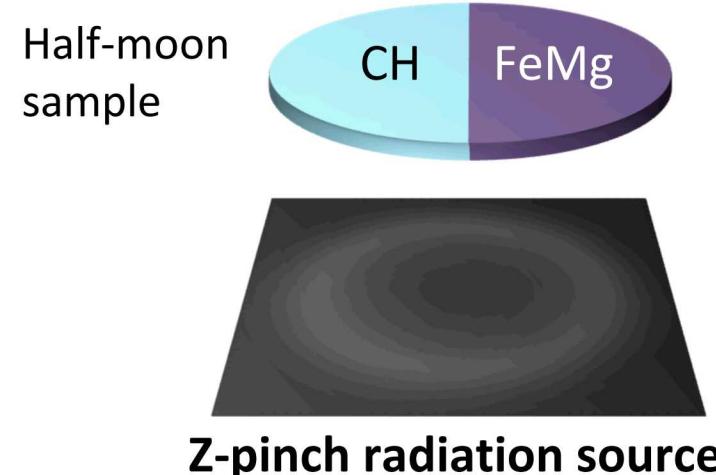


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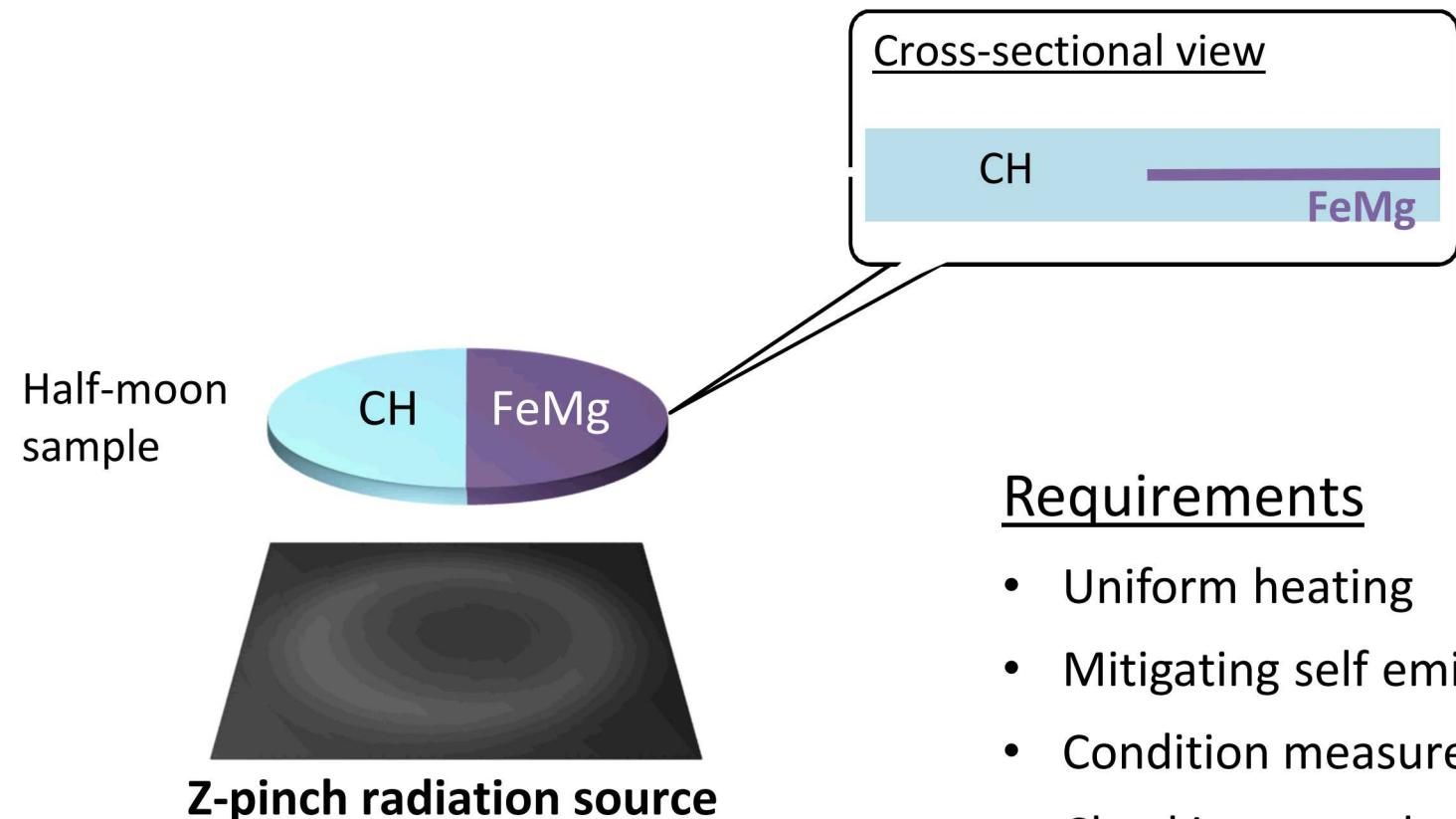
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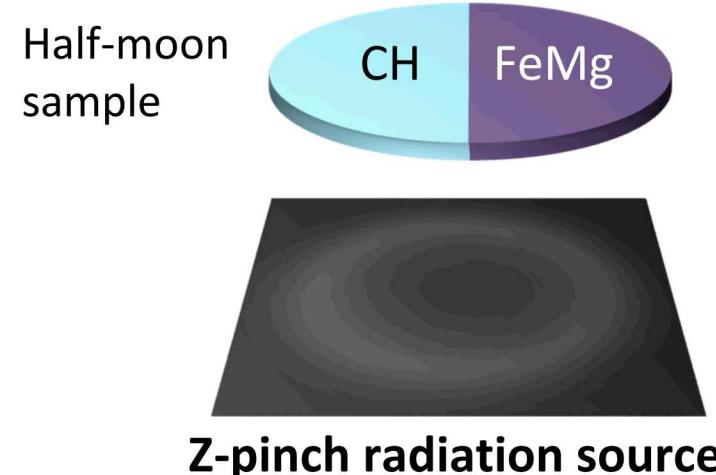
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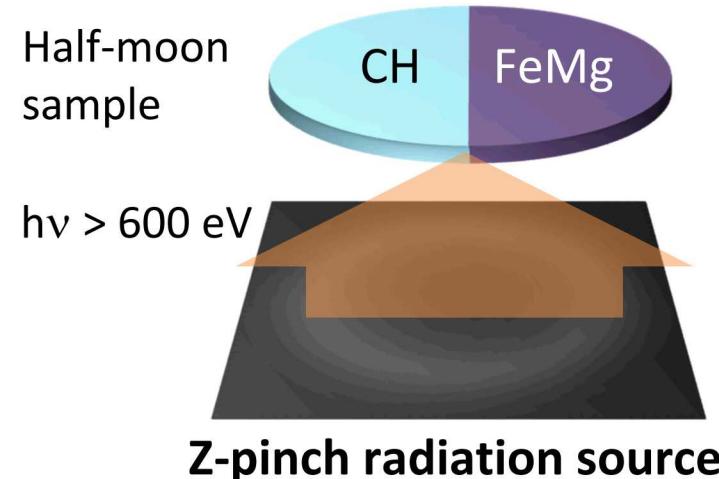
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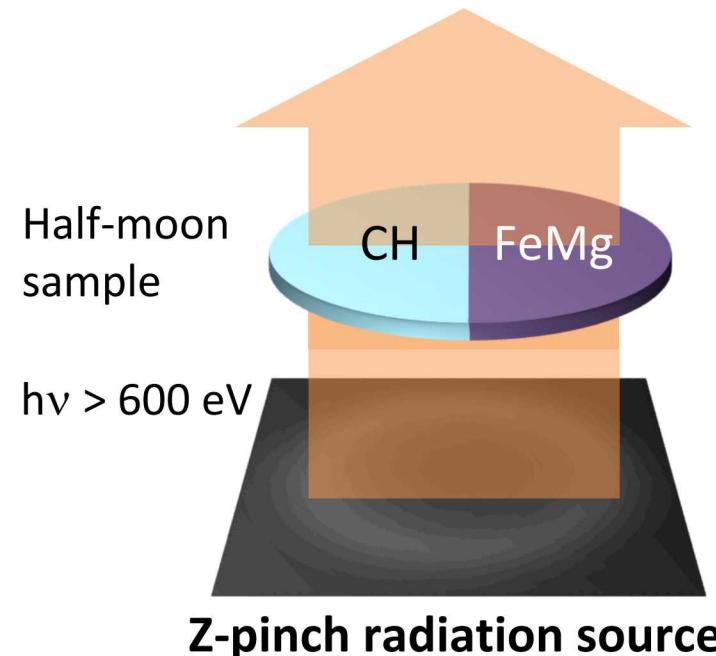
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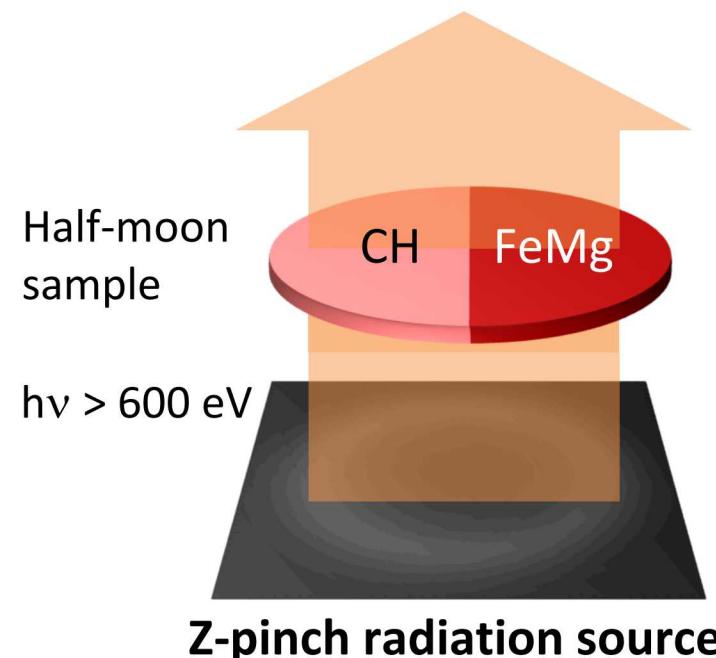
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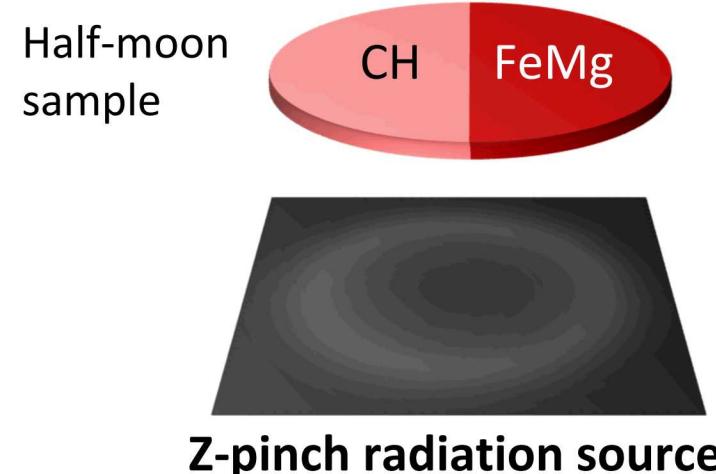
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SNL Z satisfies:

Volumetric heating

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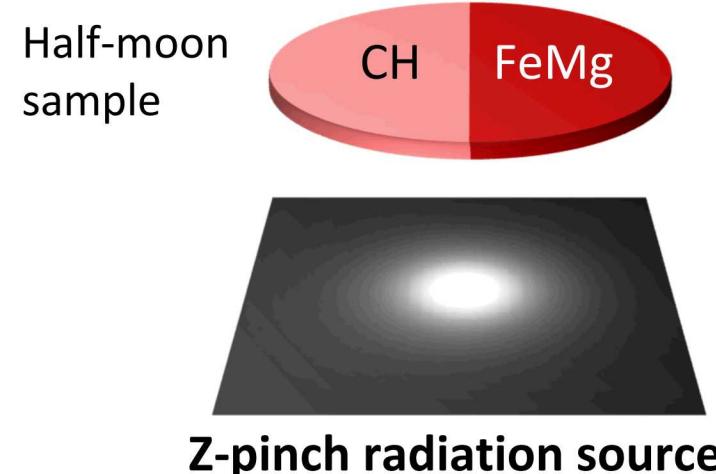
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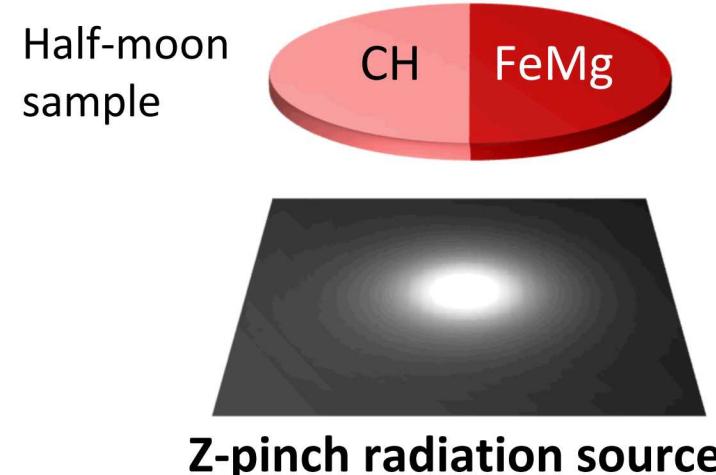
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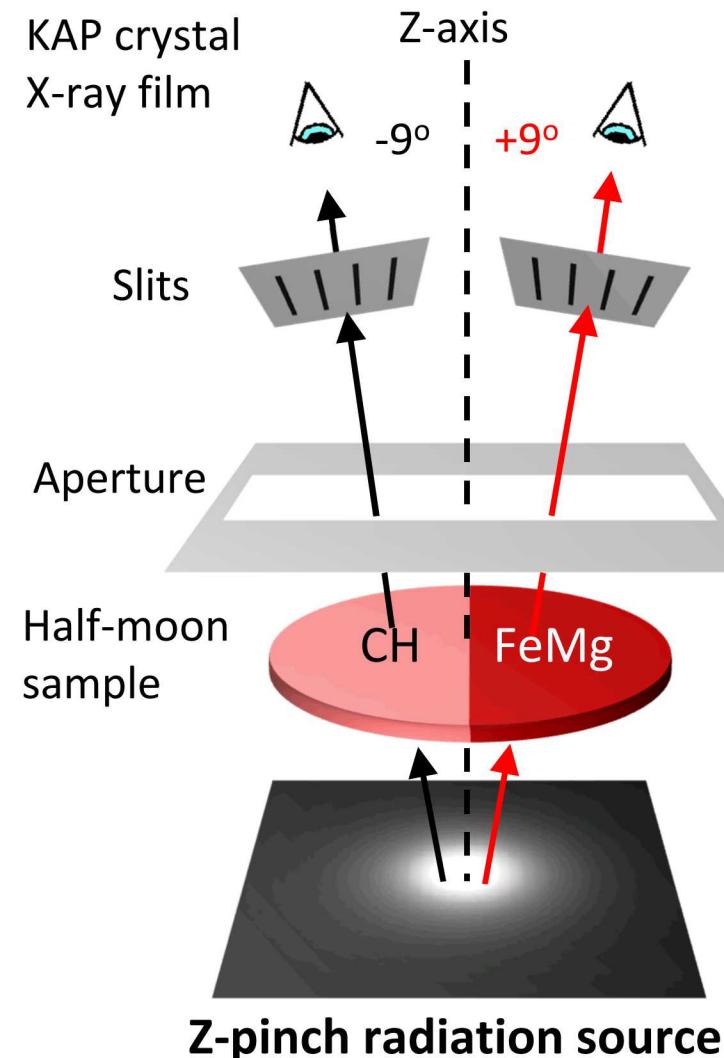
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SNL Z satisfies:

- Volumetric heating
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(> 200eV sample self-emission)

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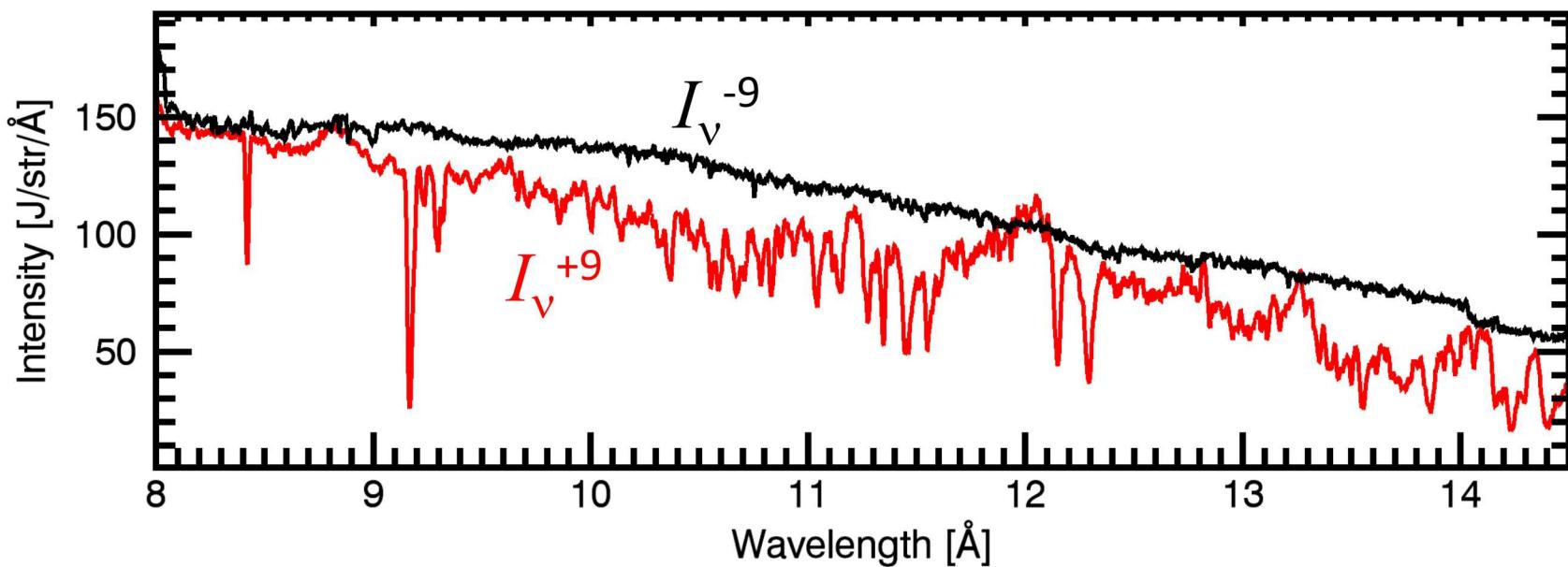
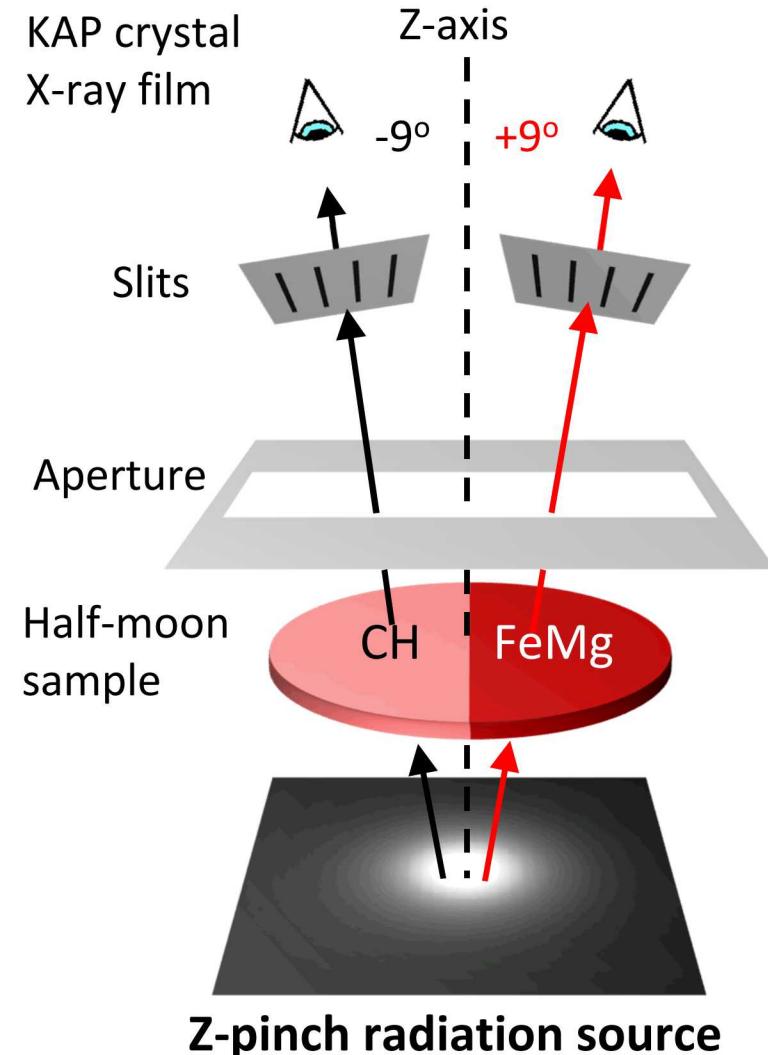
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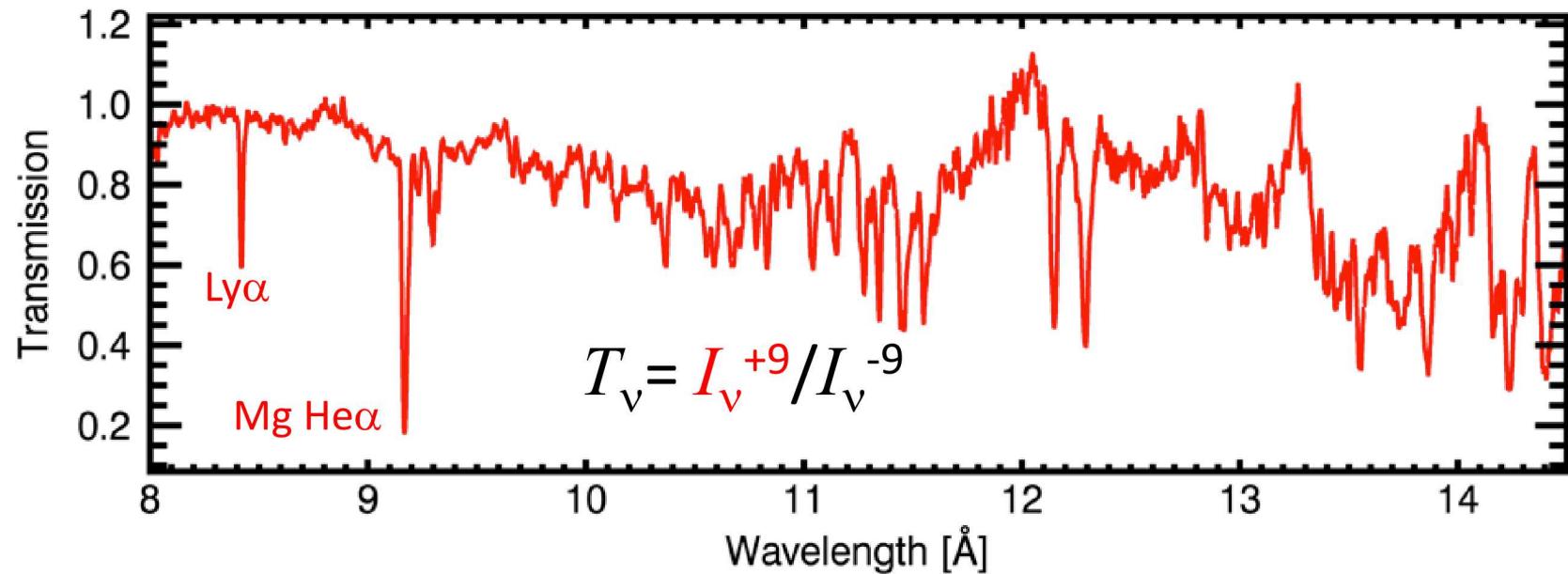
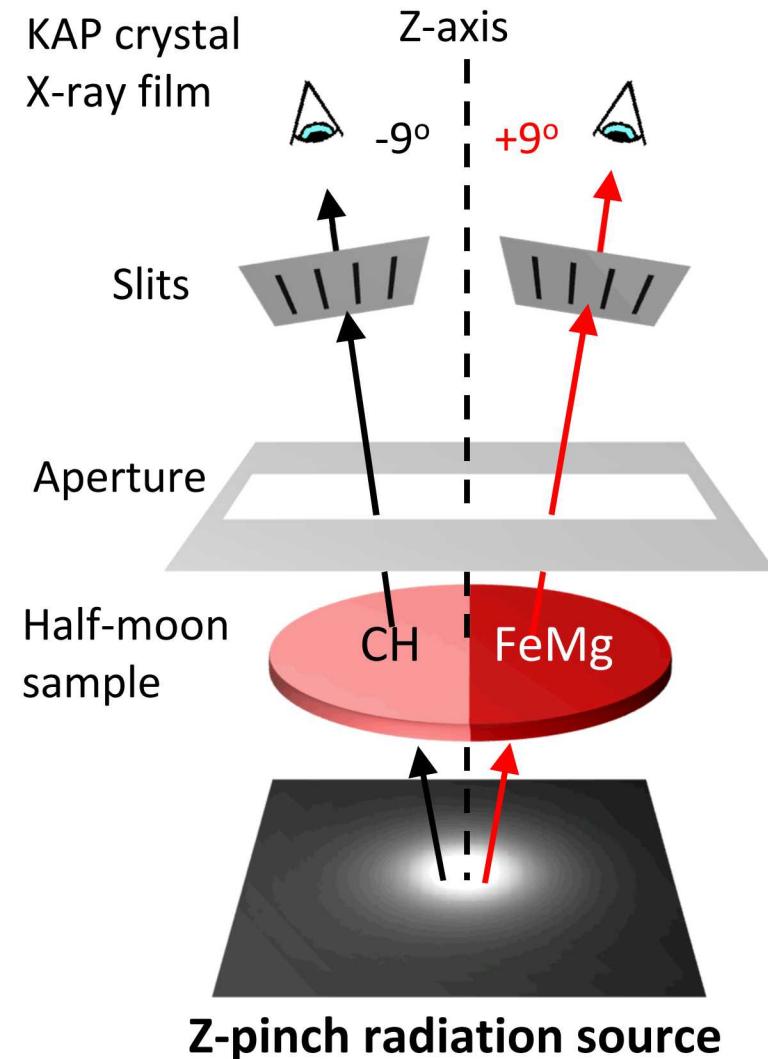
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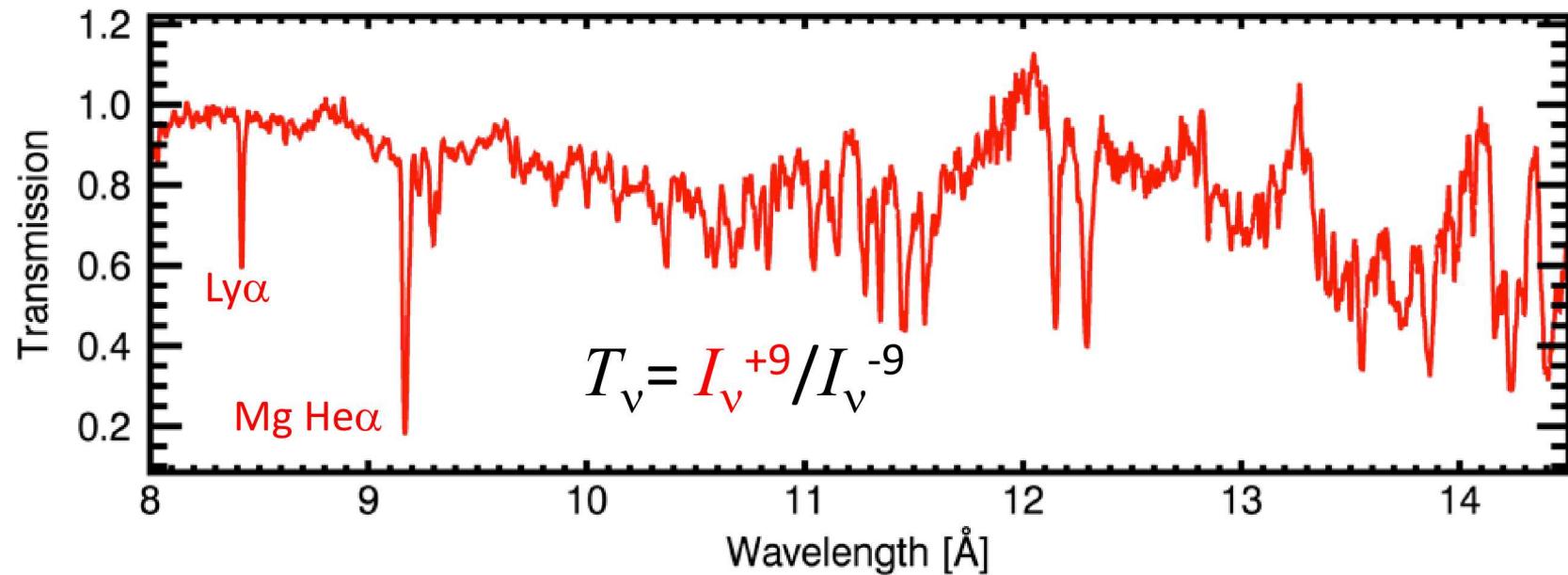
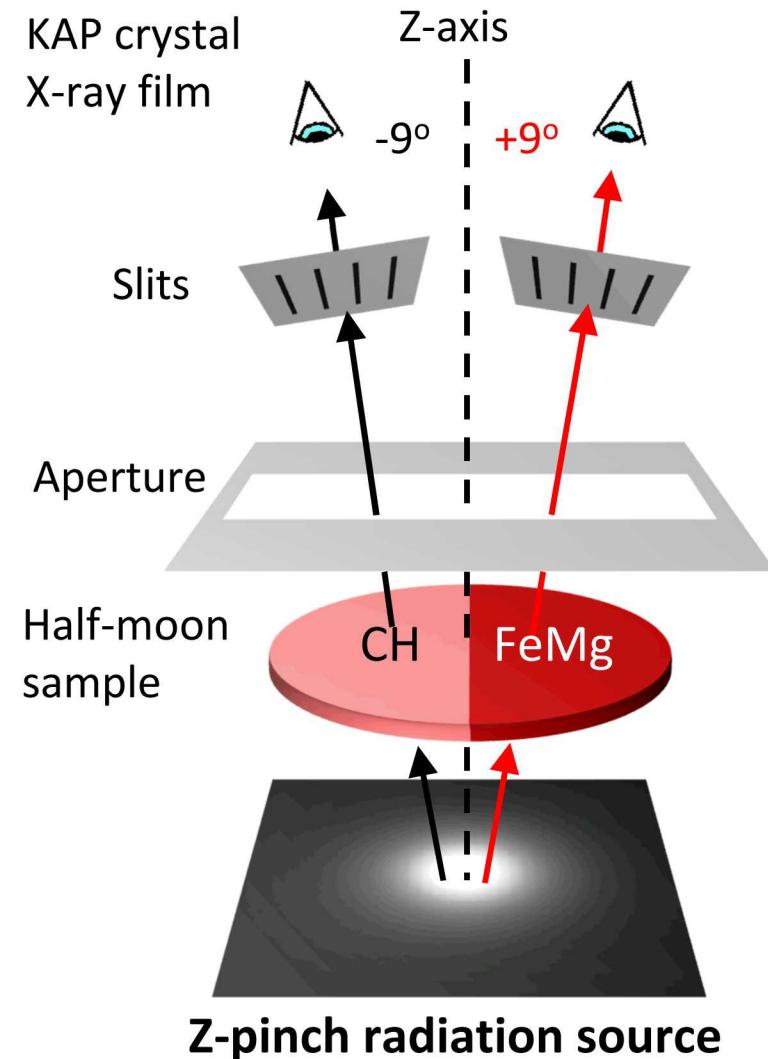
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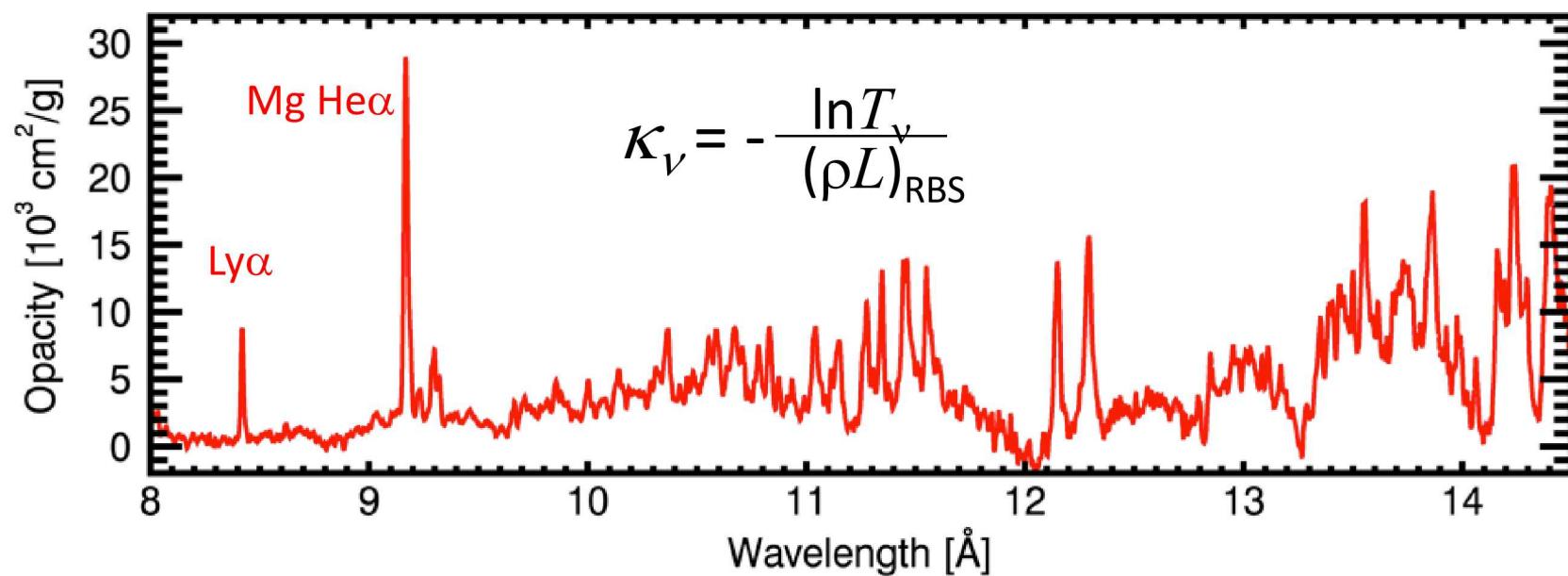
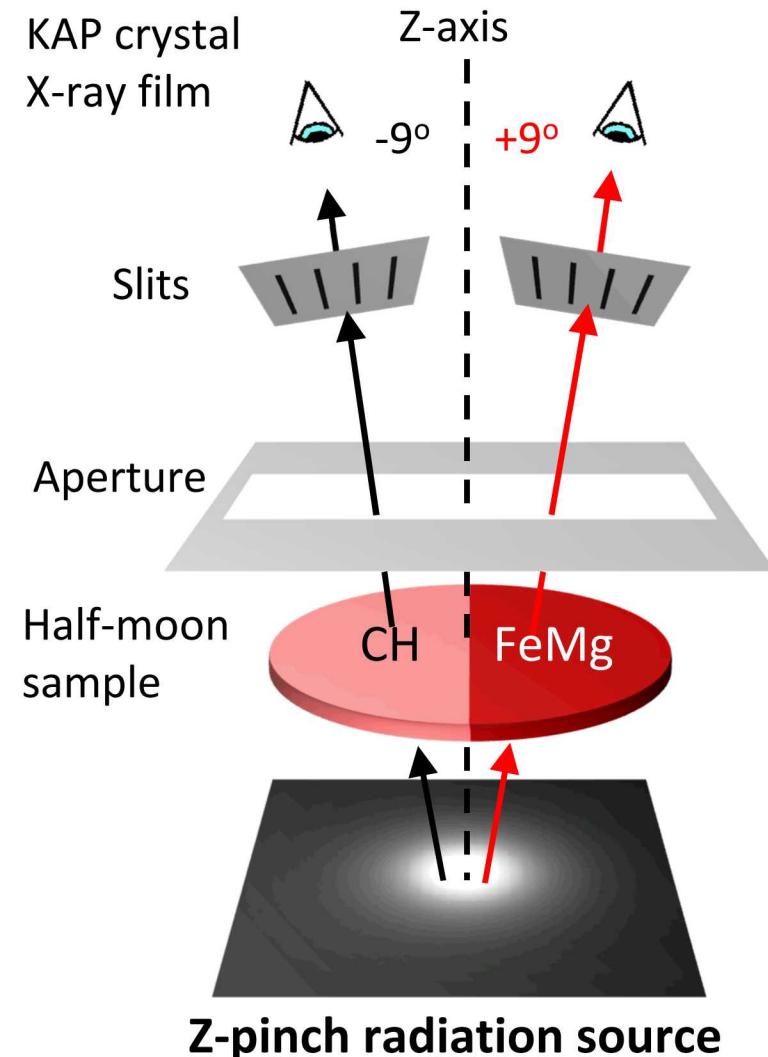
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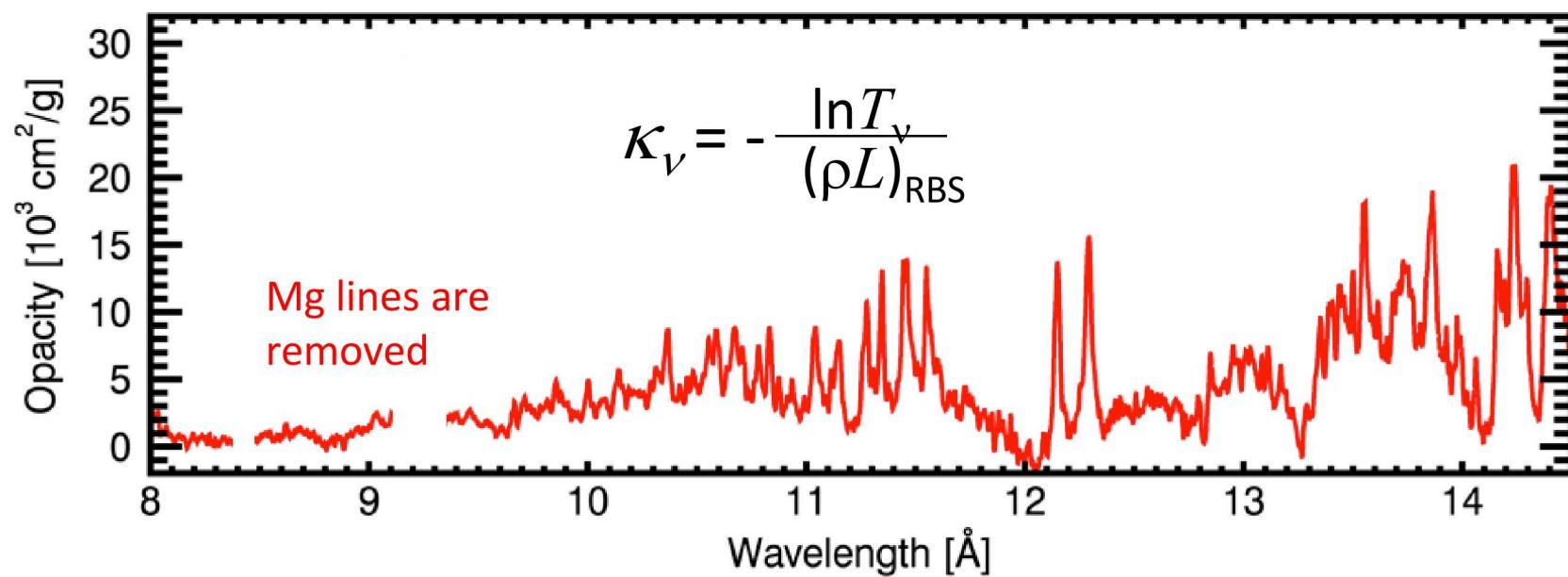
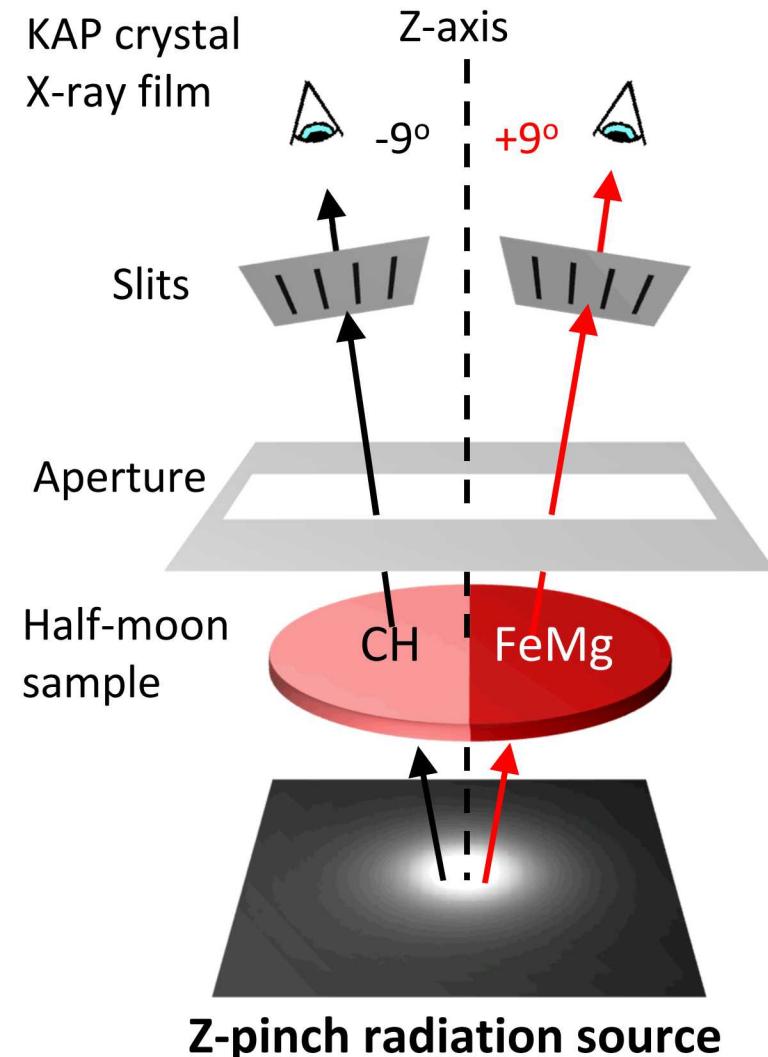
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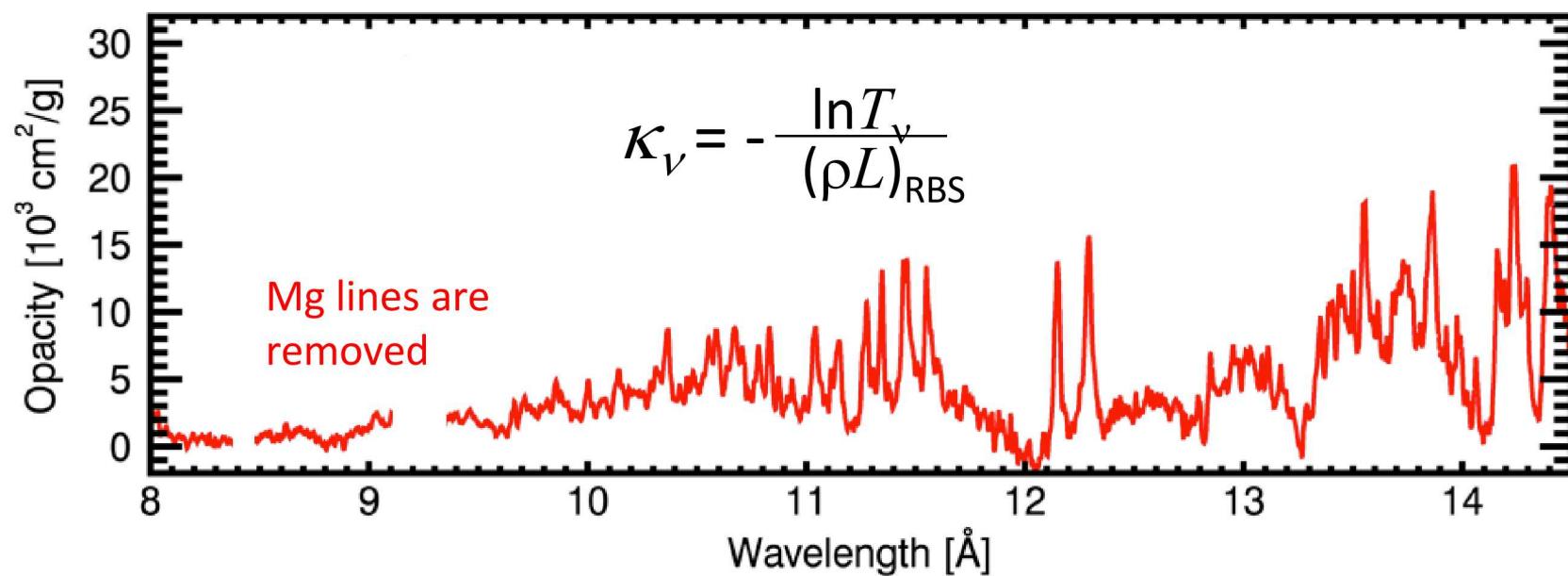
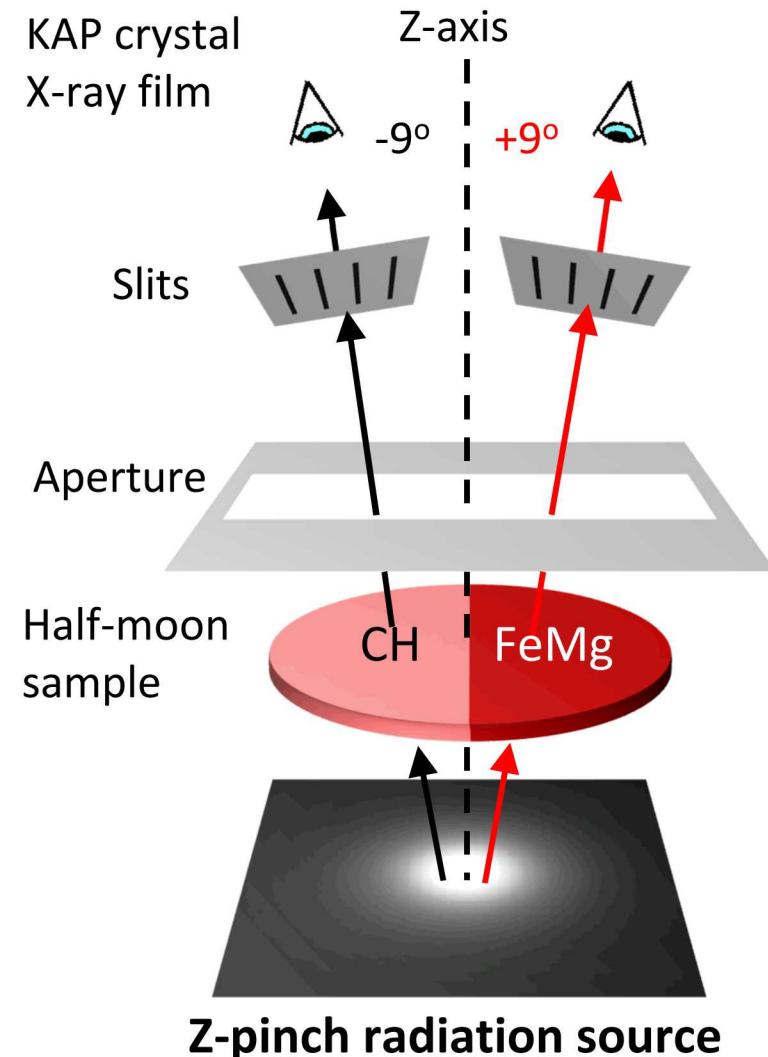
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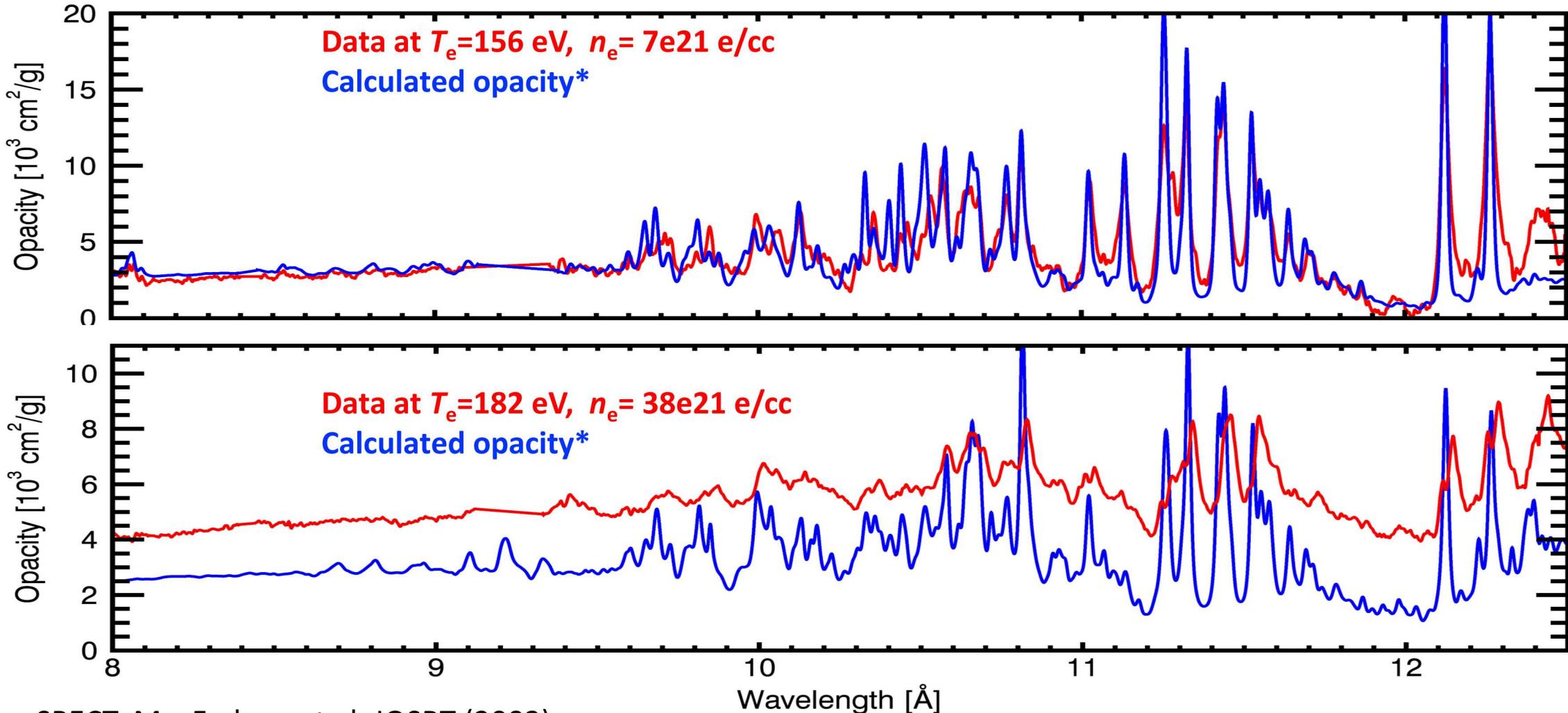
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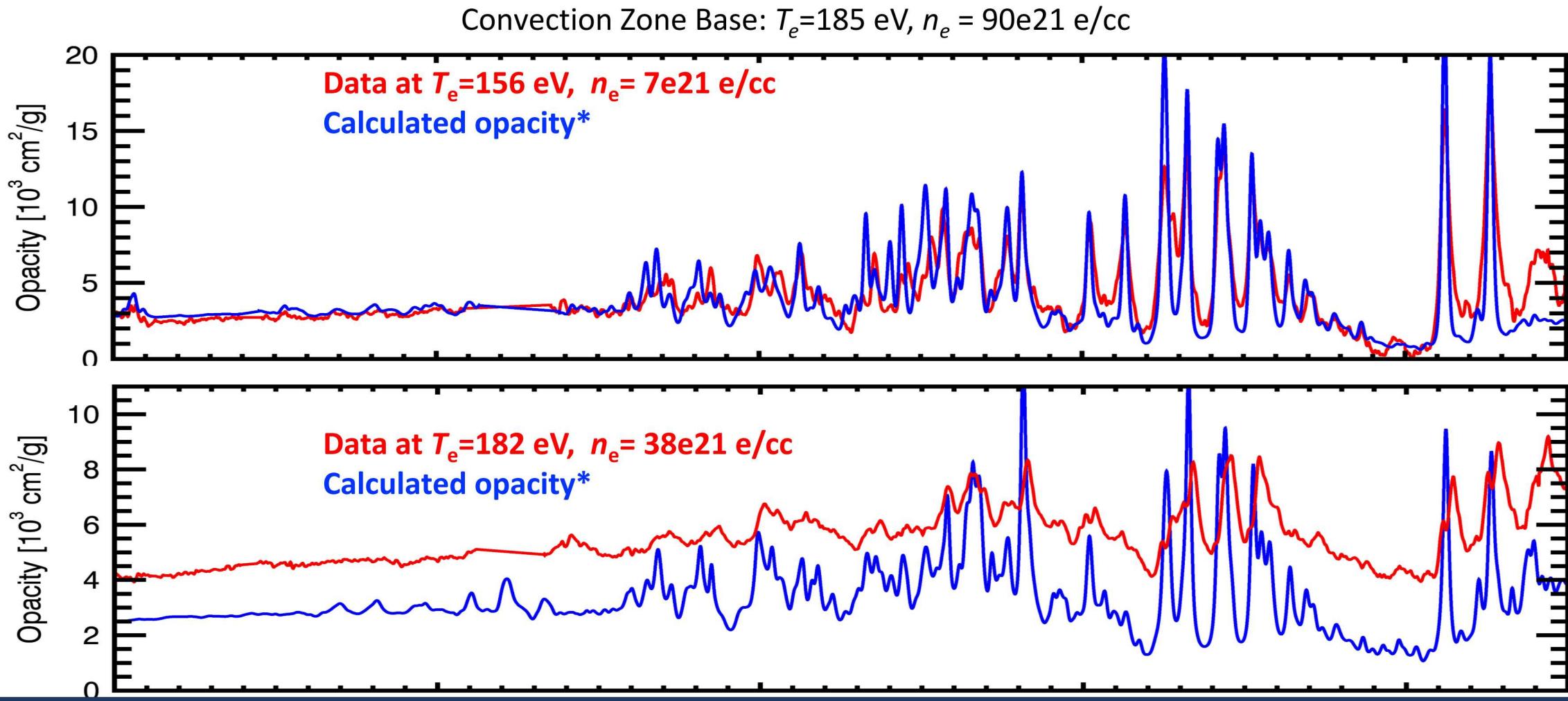
Modeled opacity shows severe disagreement as T_e and n_e approach solar interior conditions

Convection Zone Base: $T_e=185$ eV, $n_e = 90e21$ e/cc



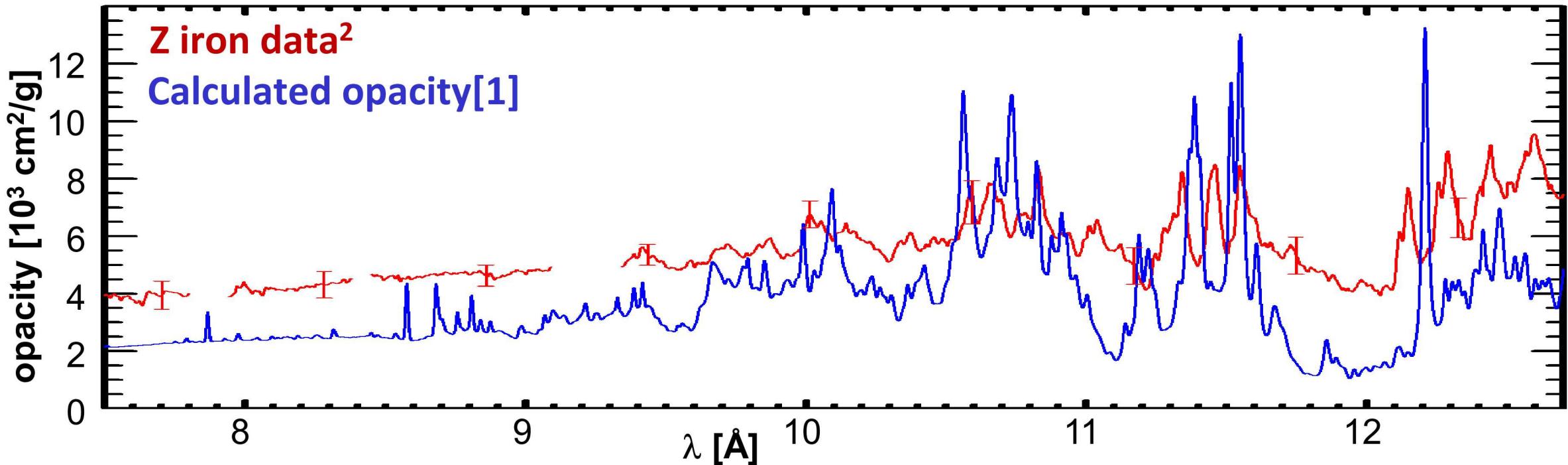
* PrismSPECT: MacFarlane et al, JQSRT (2003)

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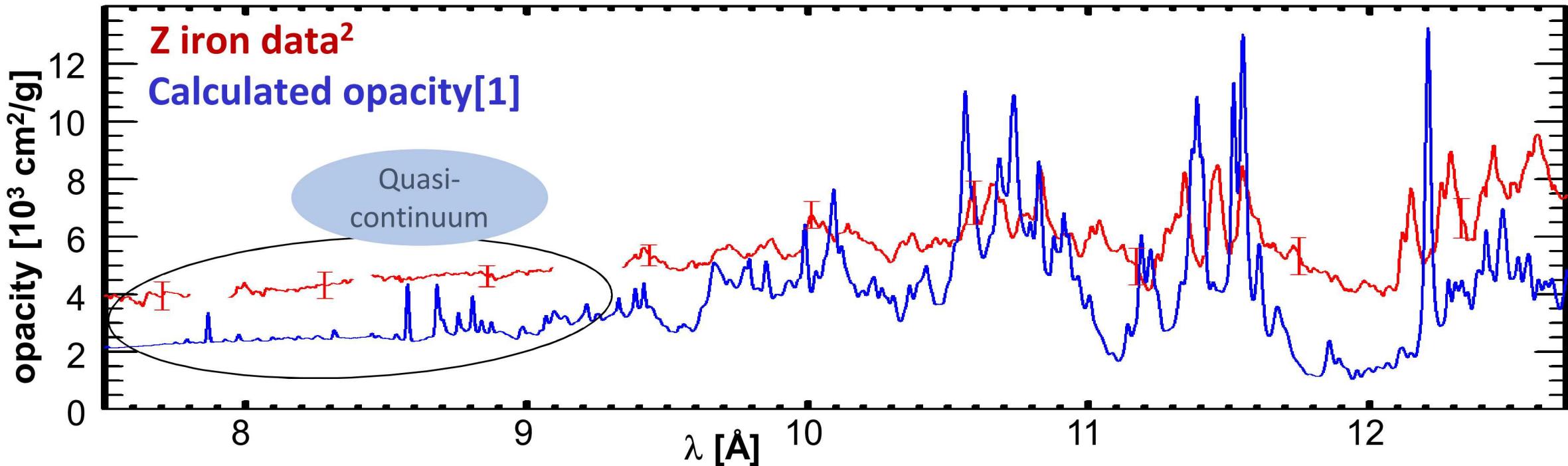


* If measured Fe opacity is correct, it would increase the solar mean opacity by $\sim 7\%$.

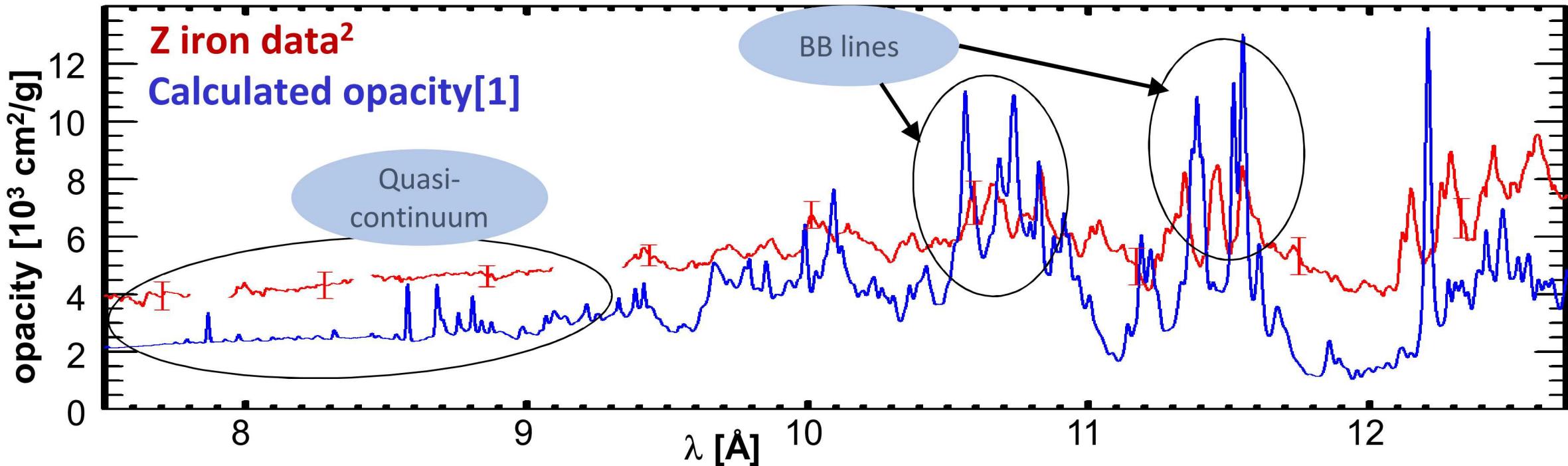
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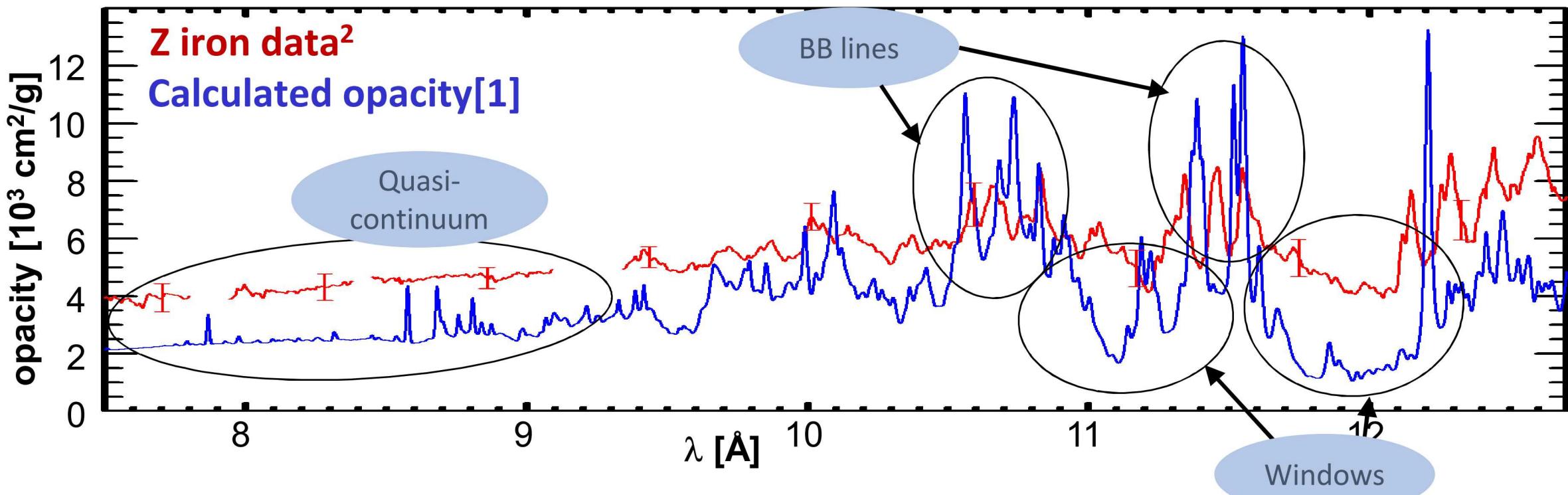
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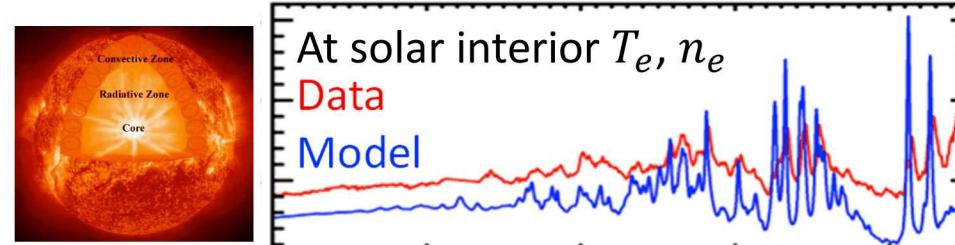


Is opacity theory inaccurate?
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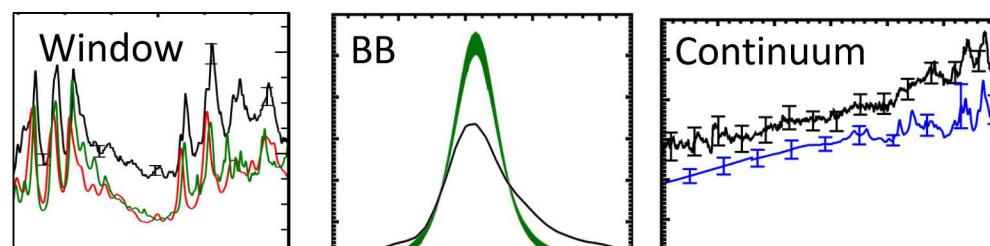
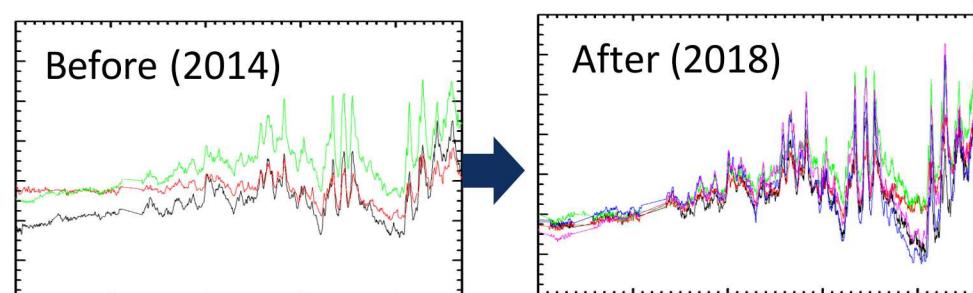
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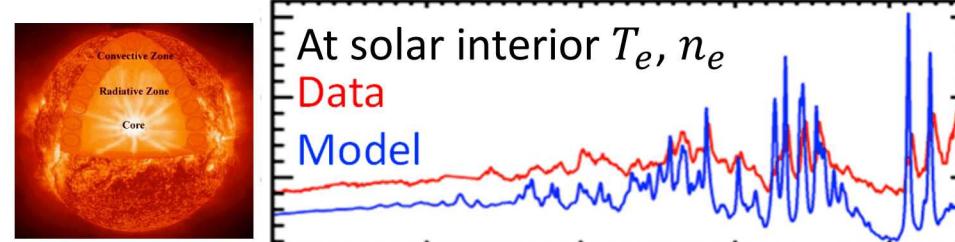
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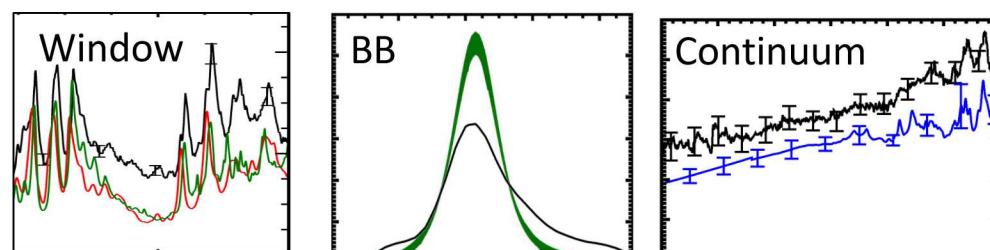
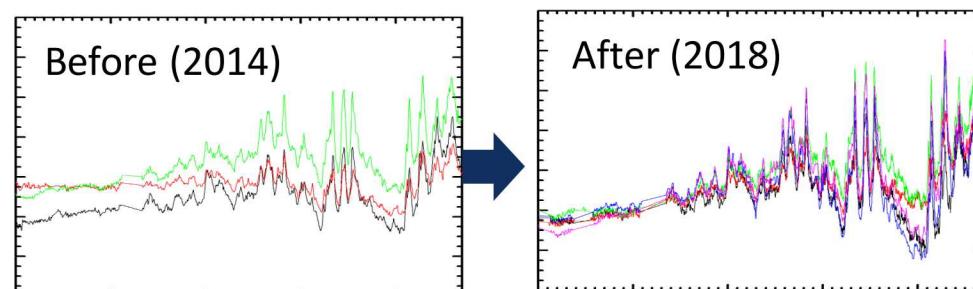
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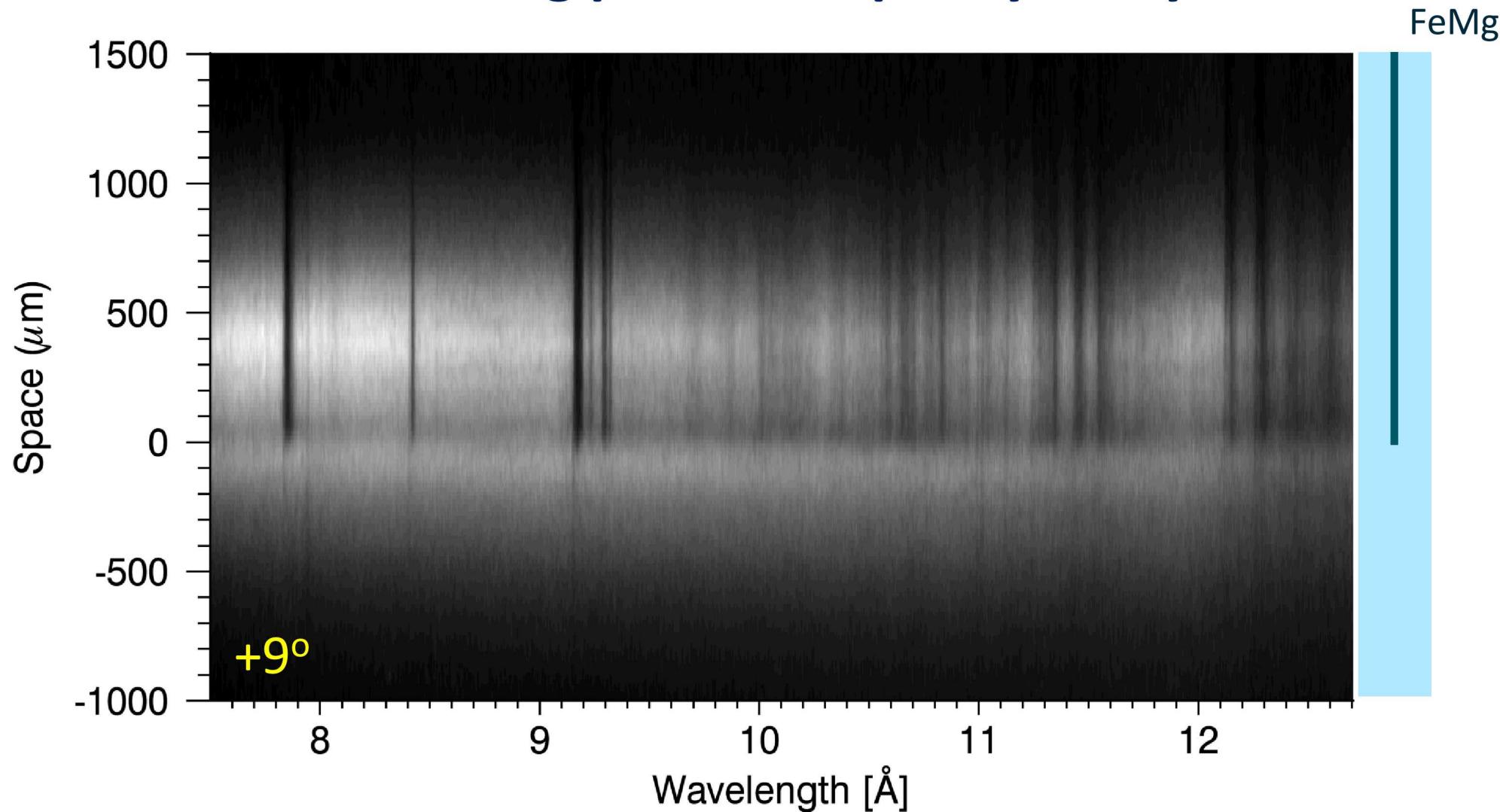
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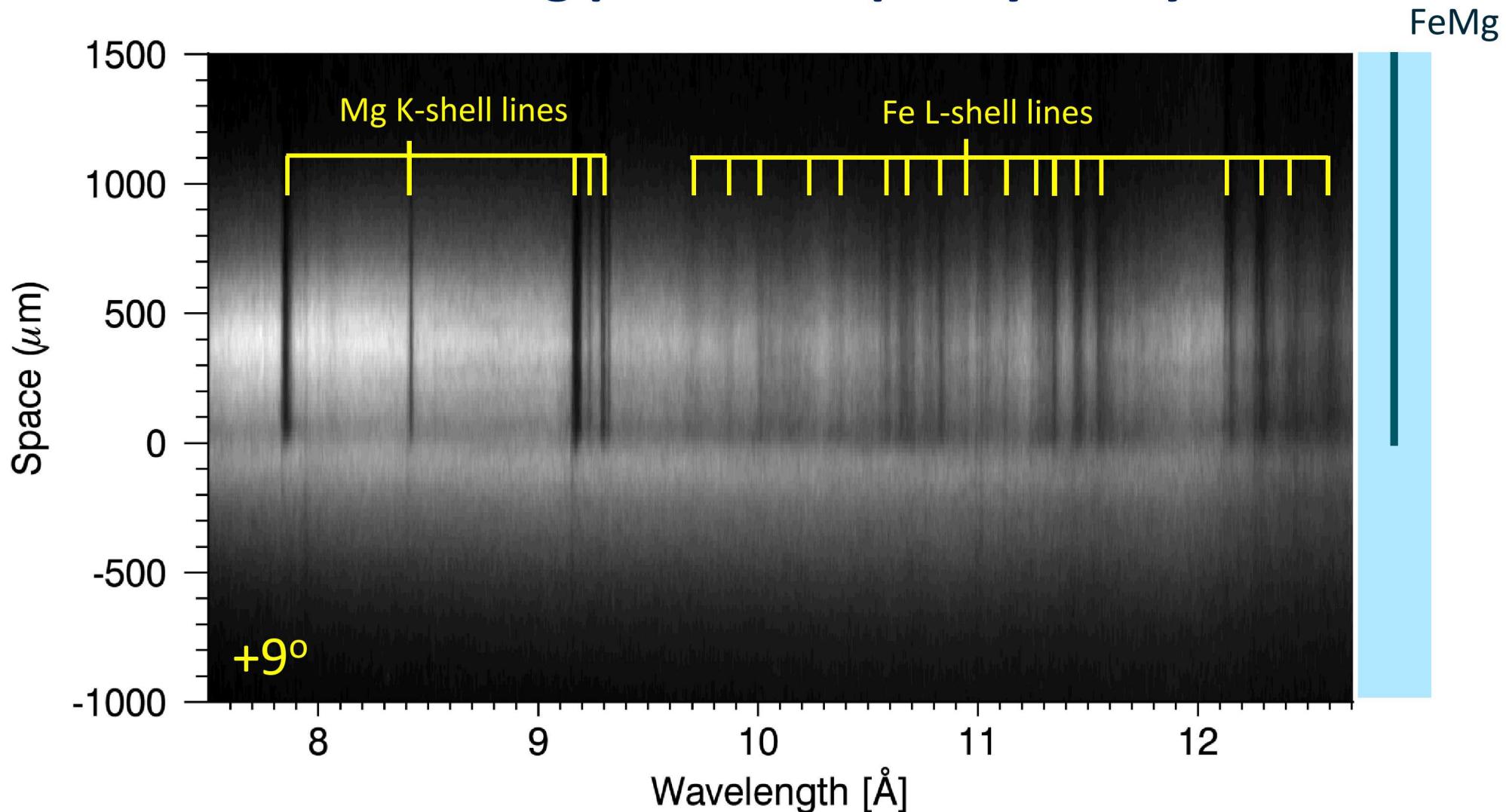


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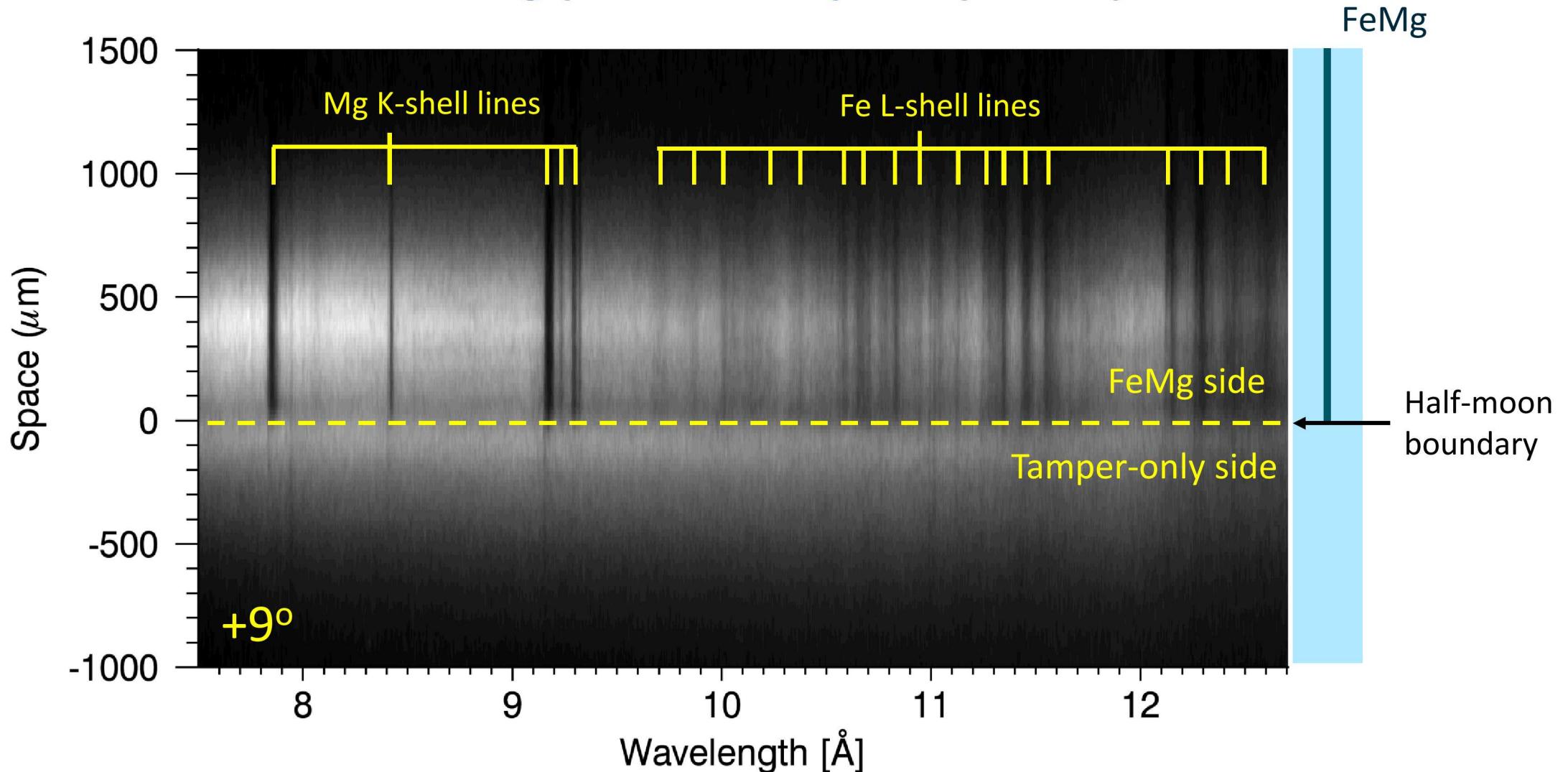
Spectral image is resolved in space and wavelengths and provides essential starting point for opacity analysis



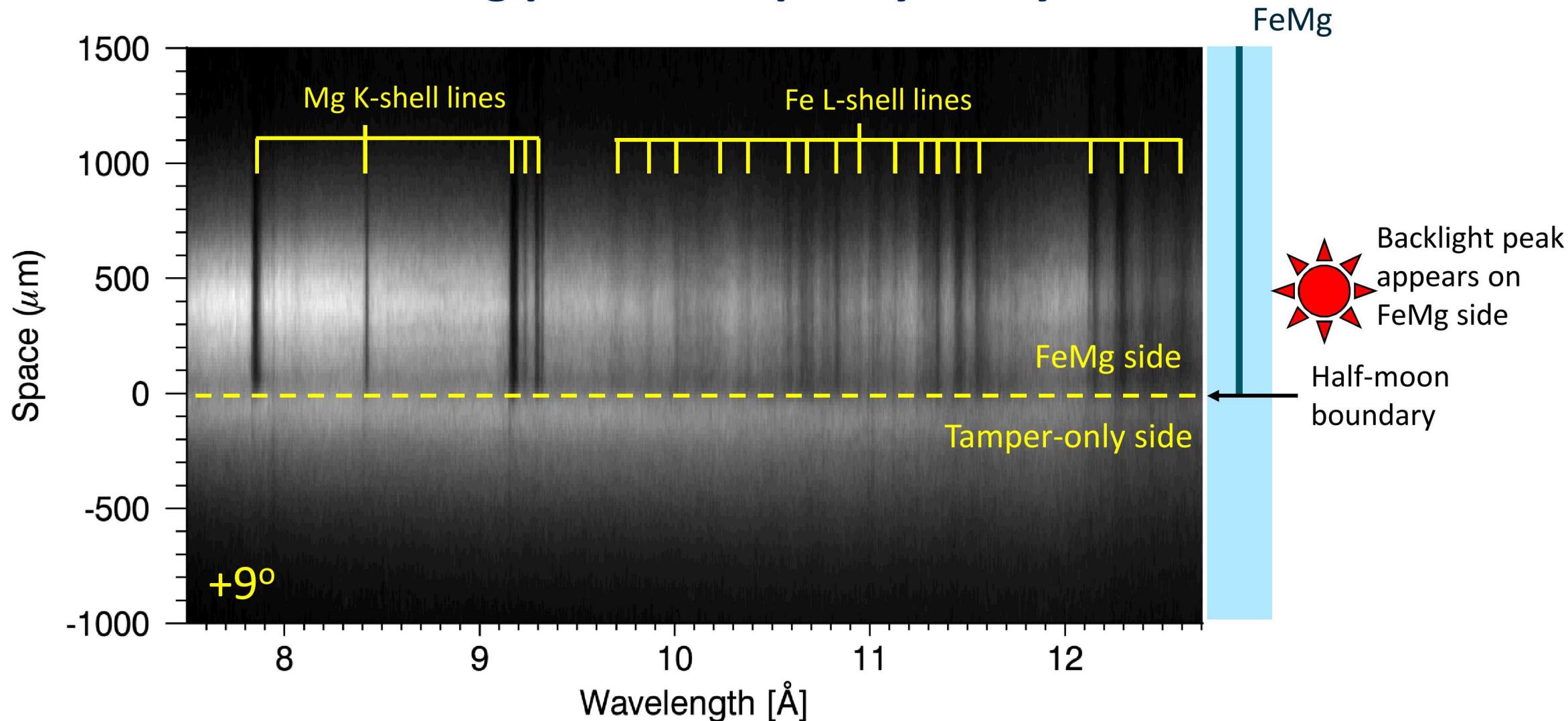
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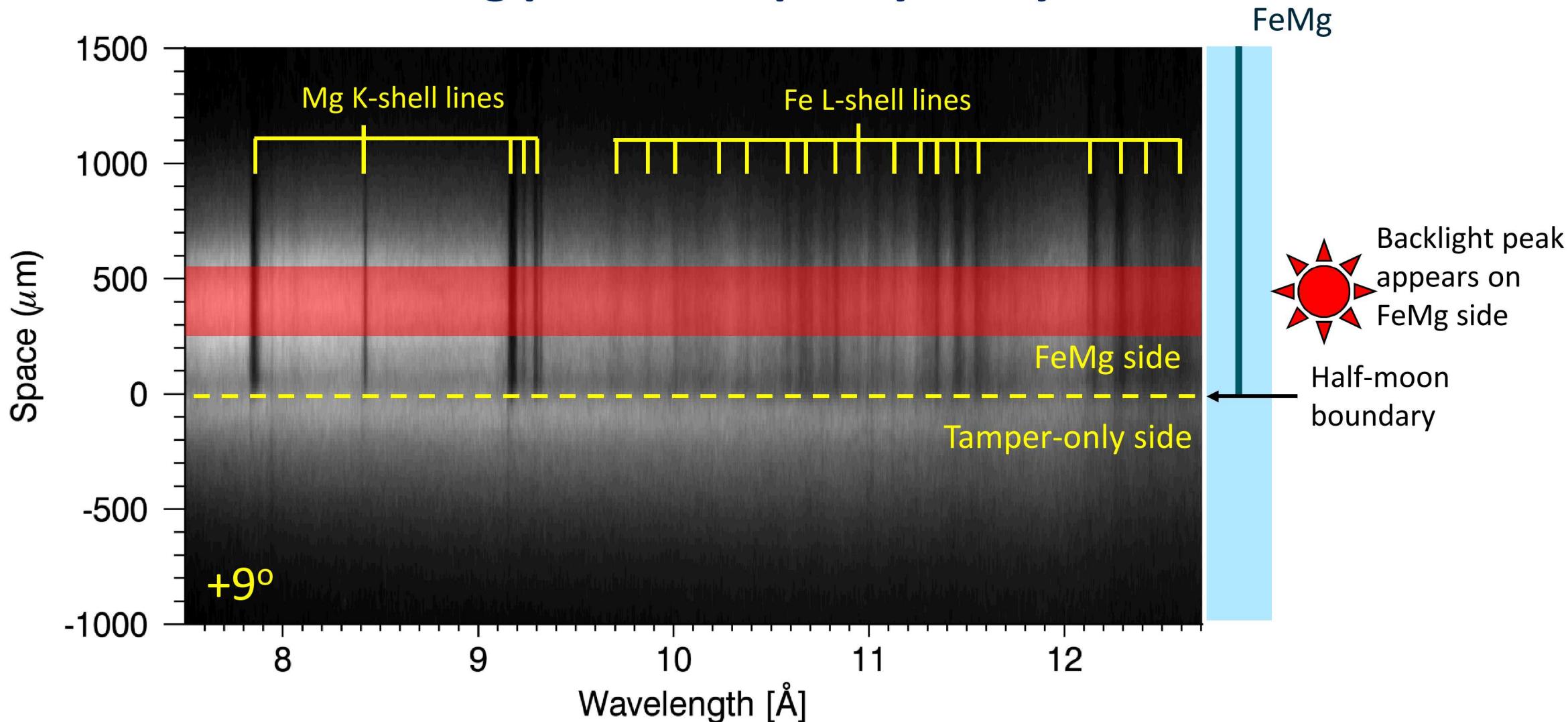
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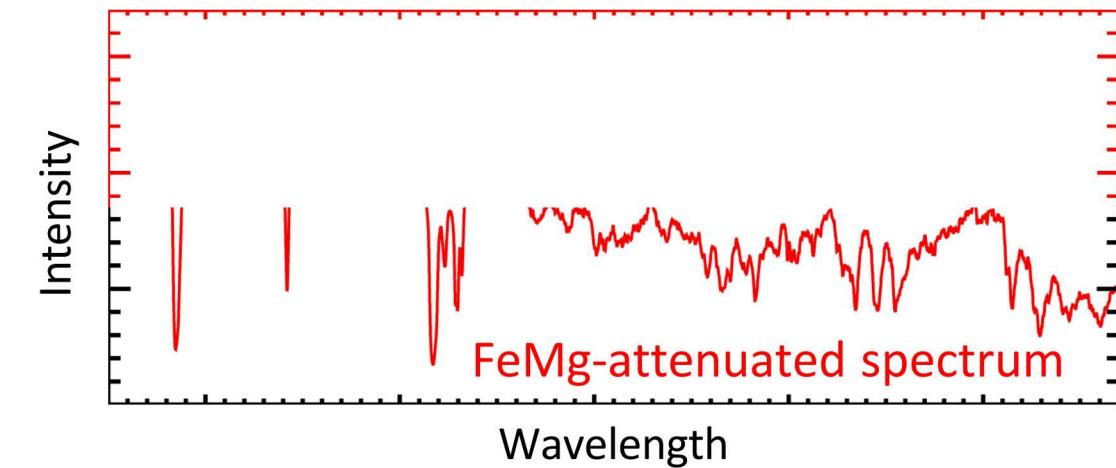
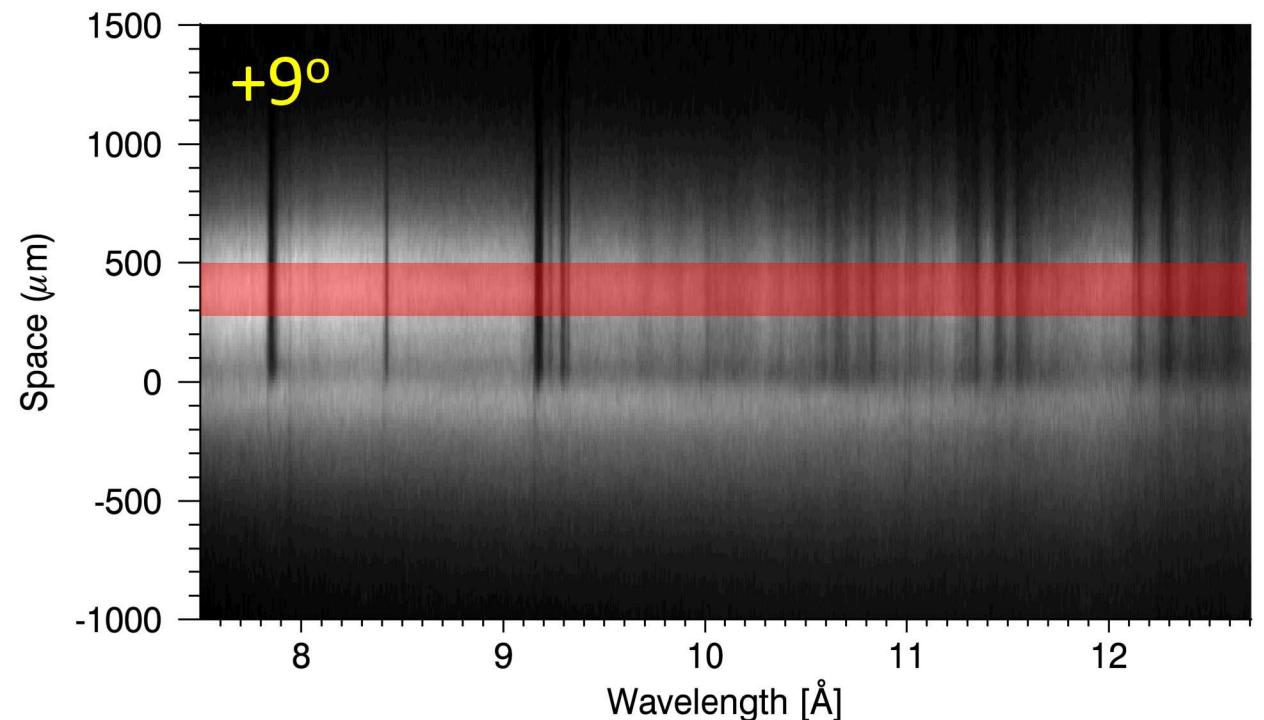
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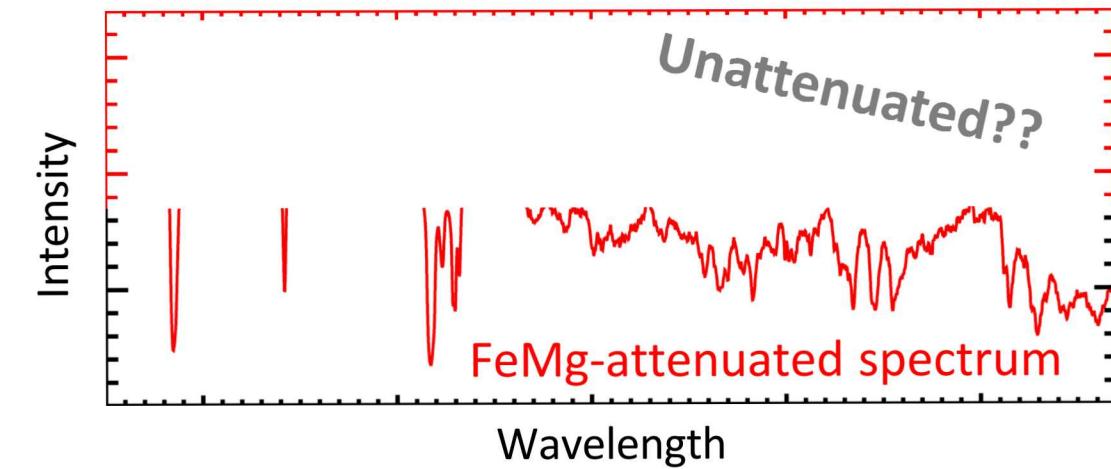
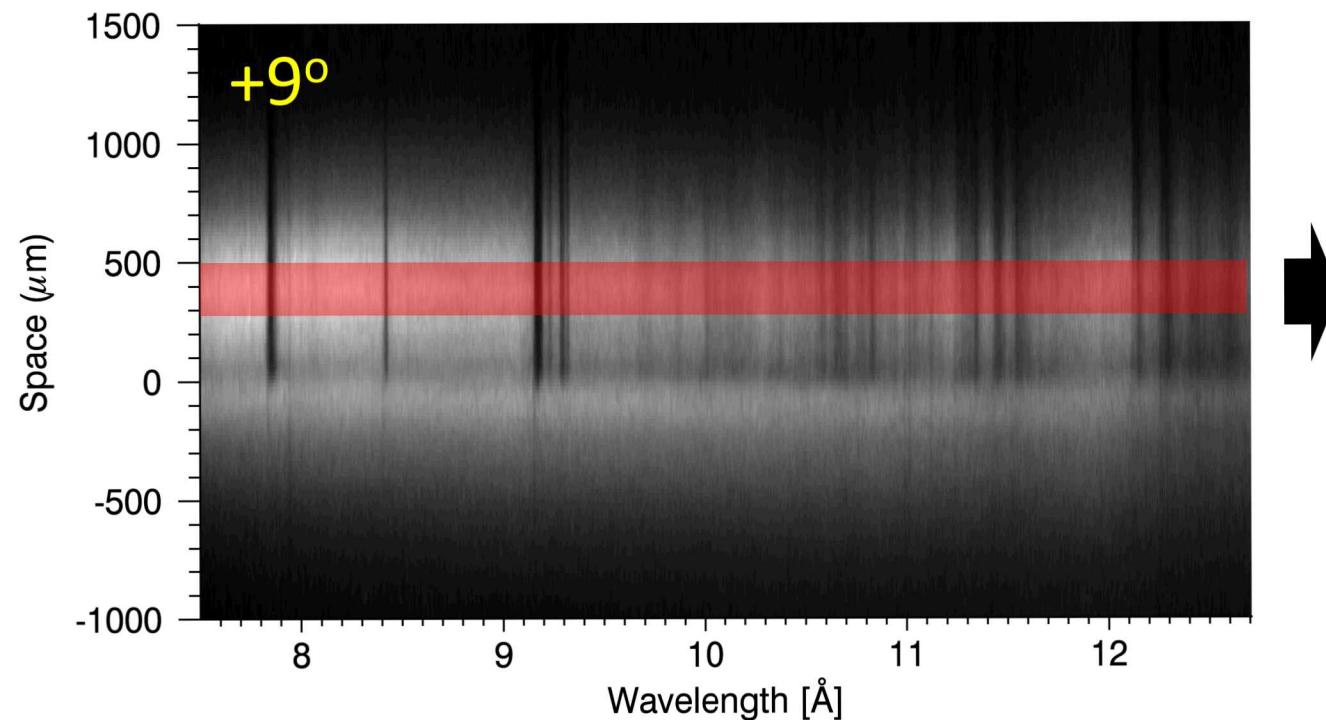
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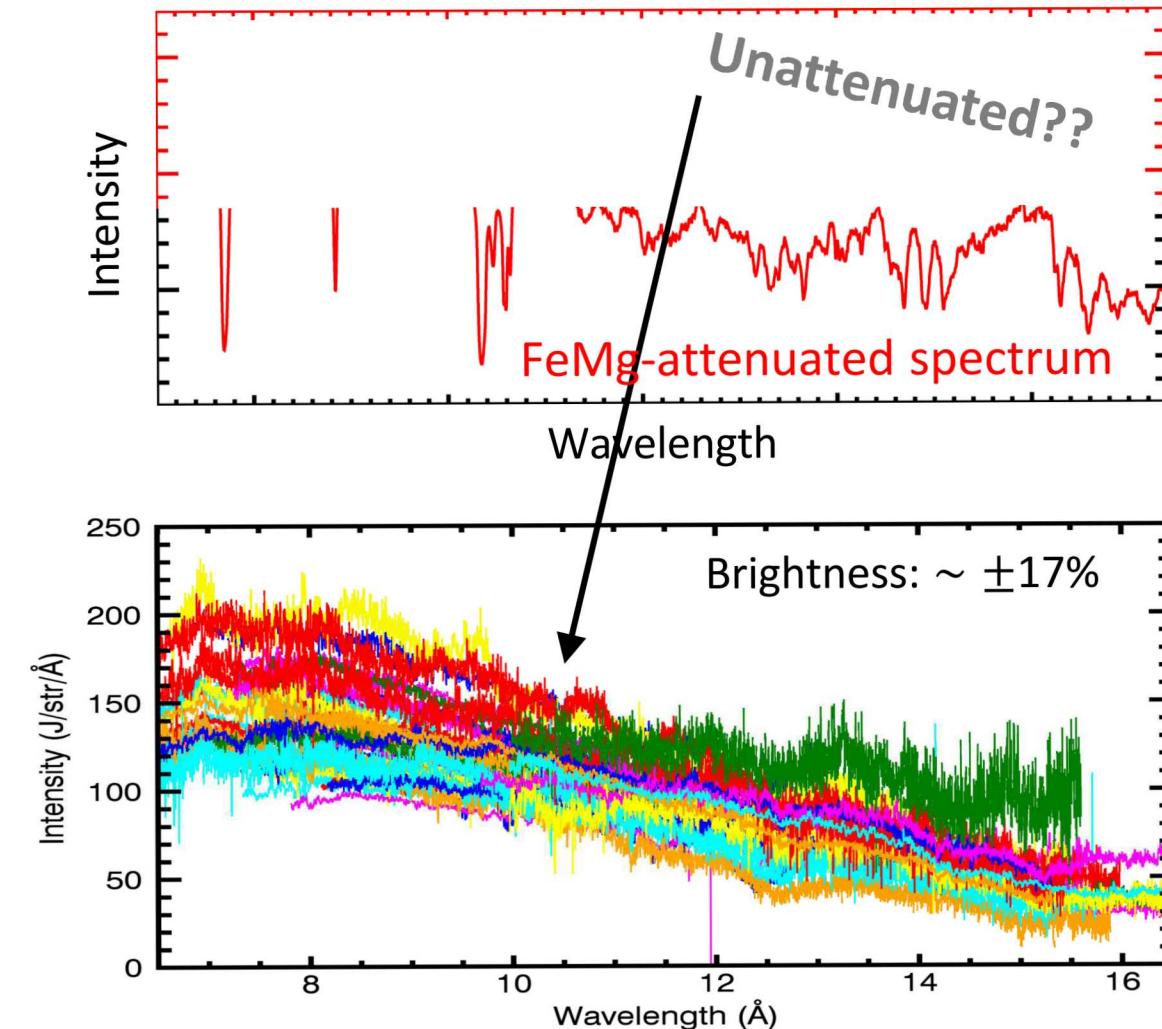
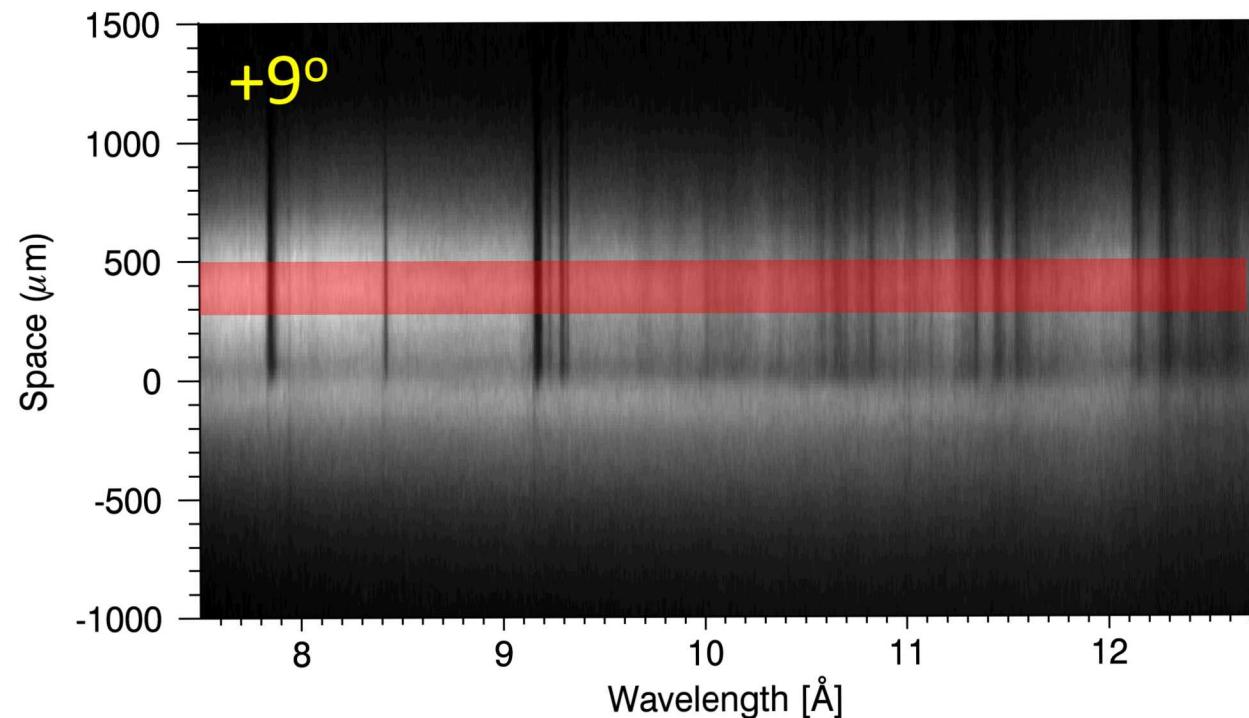
Old method: we take the spectral lineout and determine unattenuated spectrum from multiple statistics



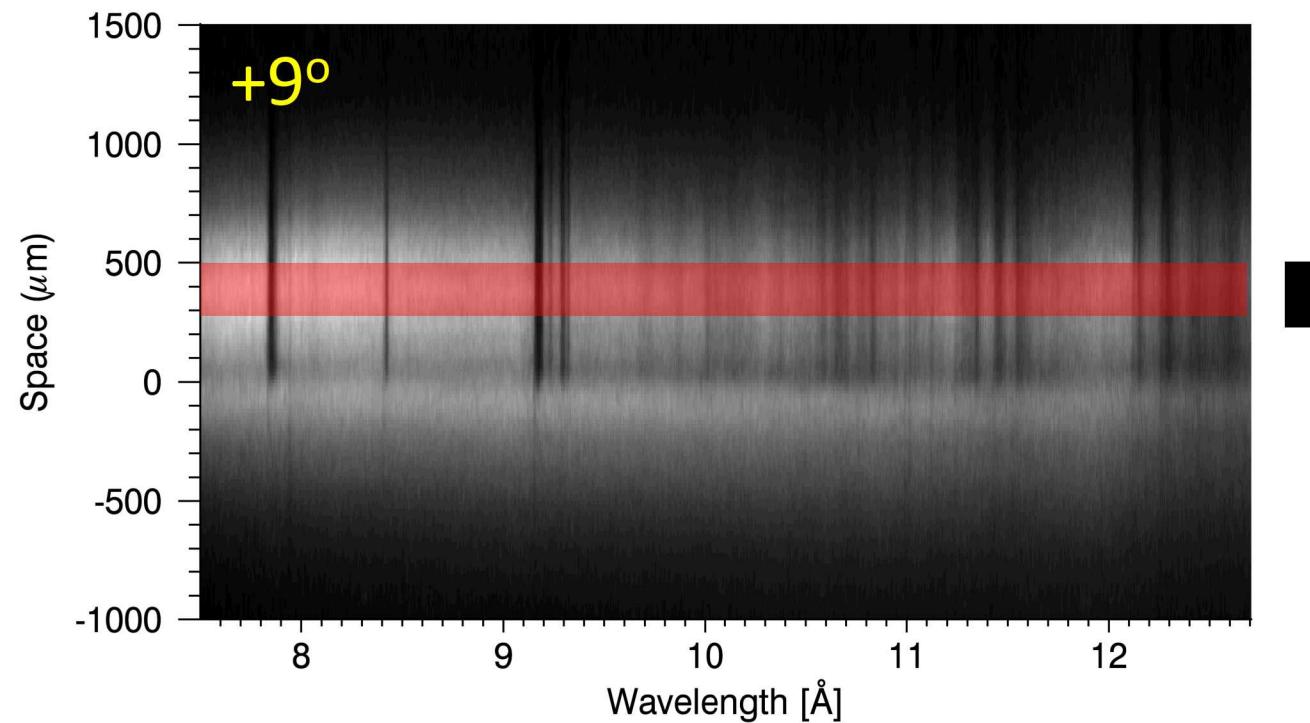
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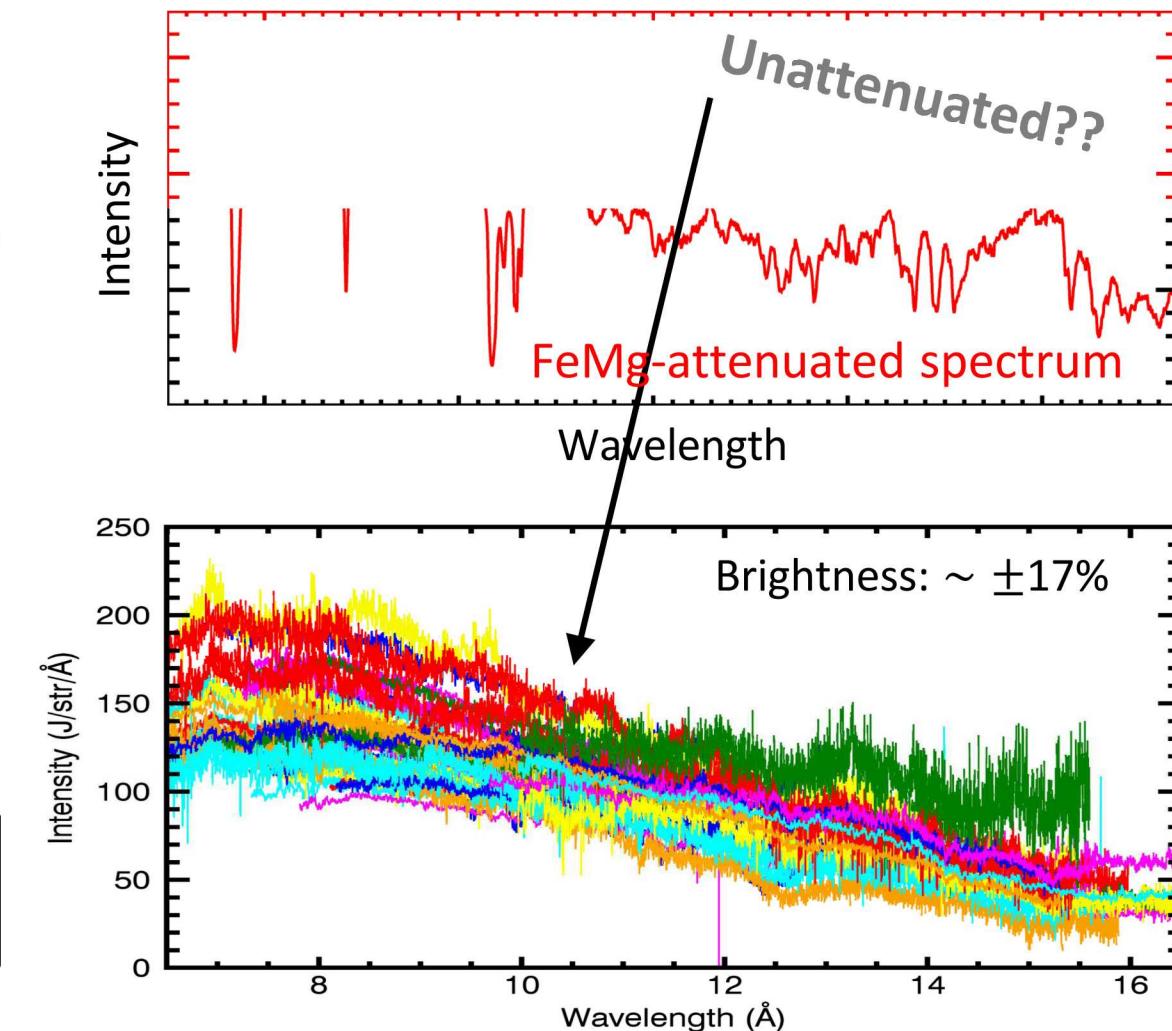
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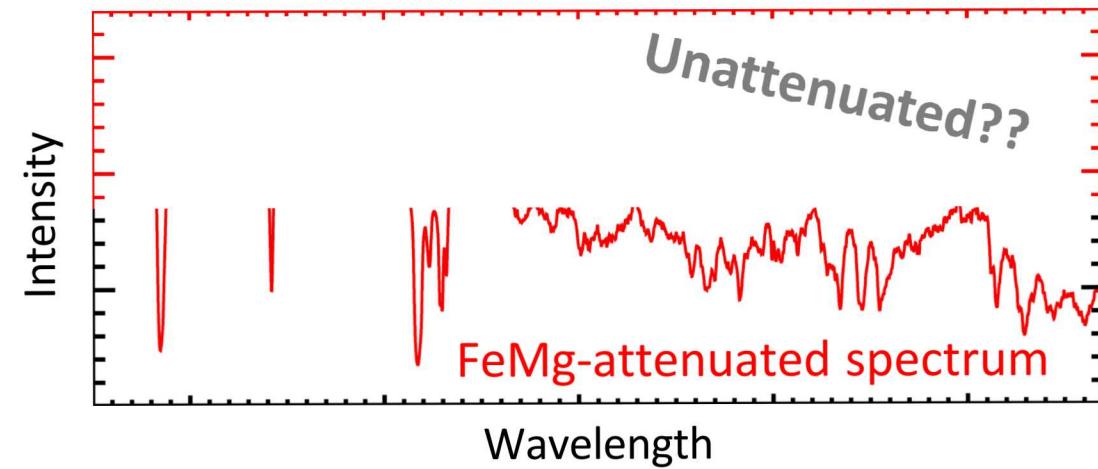
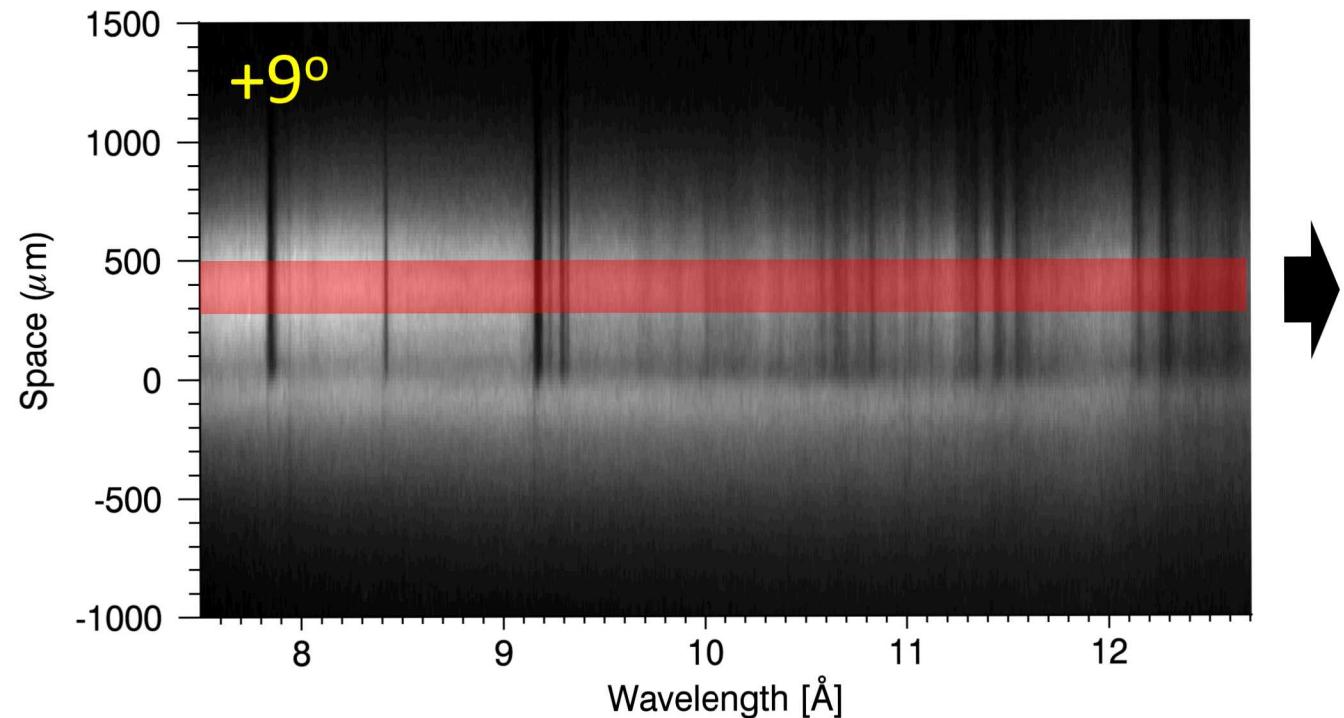
Old method: we take the spectral lineout and determine unattenuated spectrum from multiple statistics



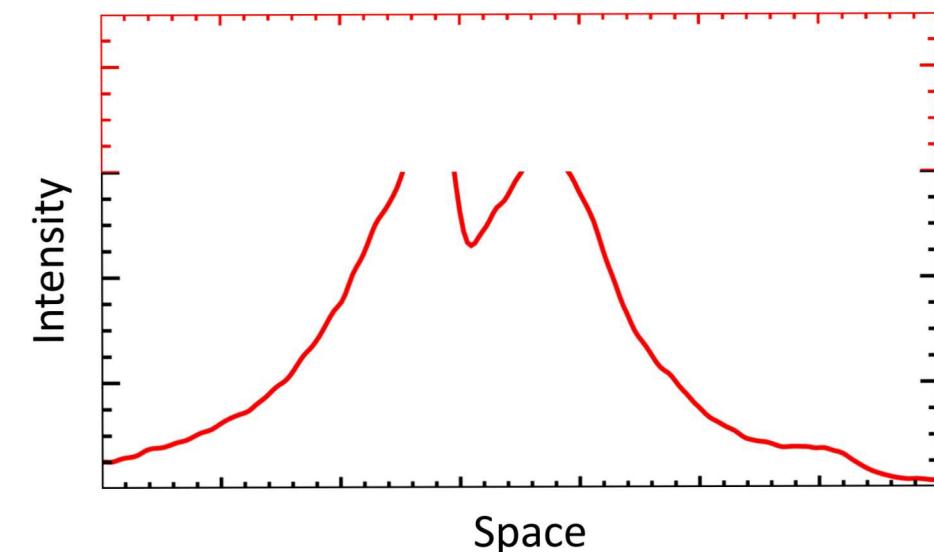
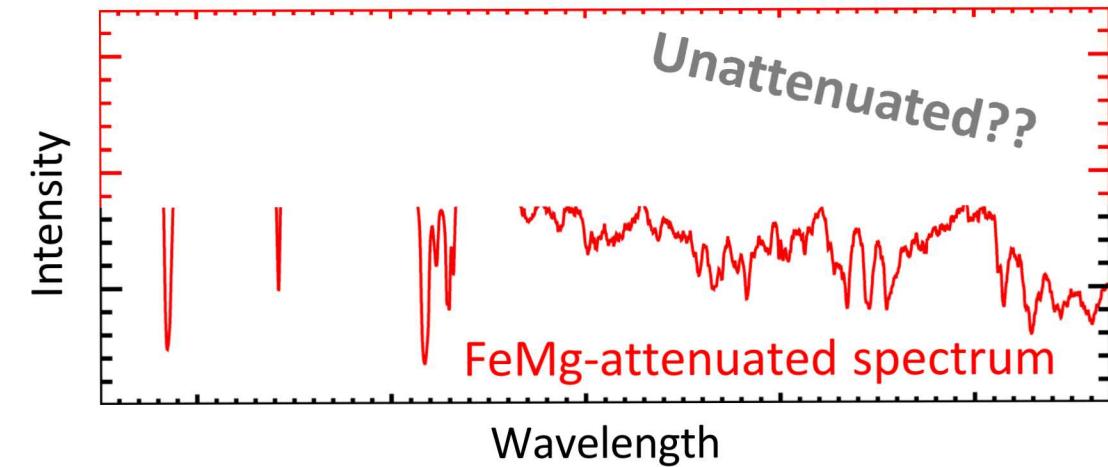
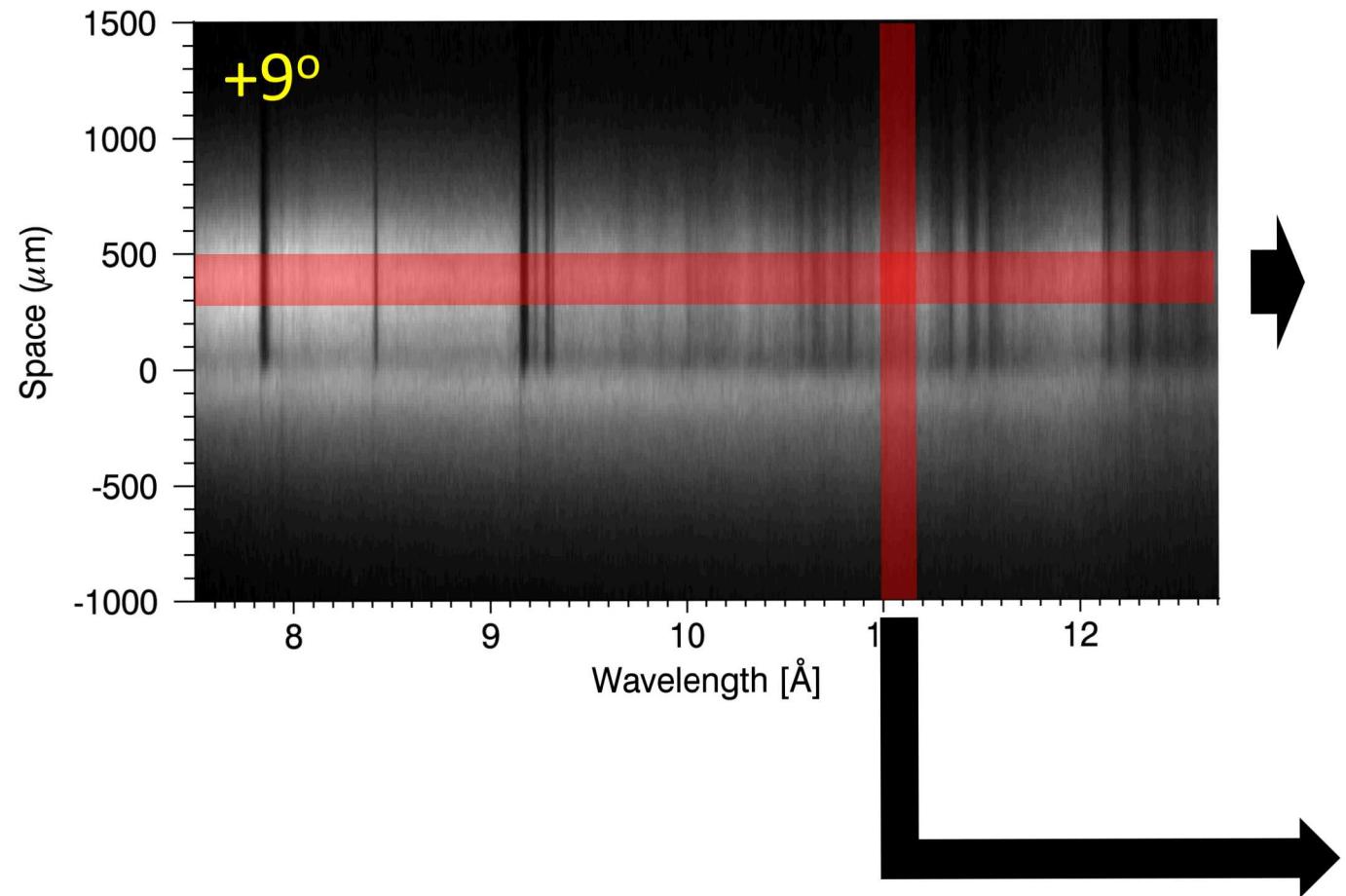
Single experiment unattenuated error is reduced to ~ 10% by combining multiple uncorrelated statistics



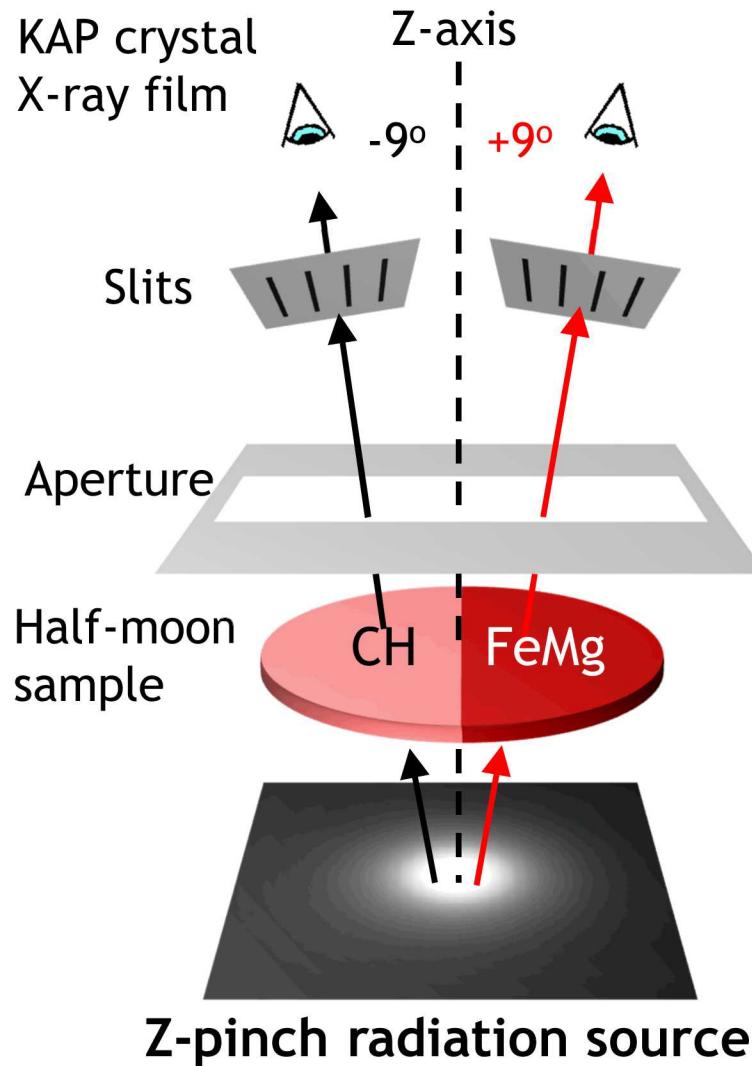
Paradigm shift: Spectral lineout → Spatial lineout



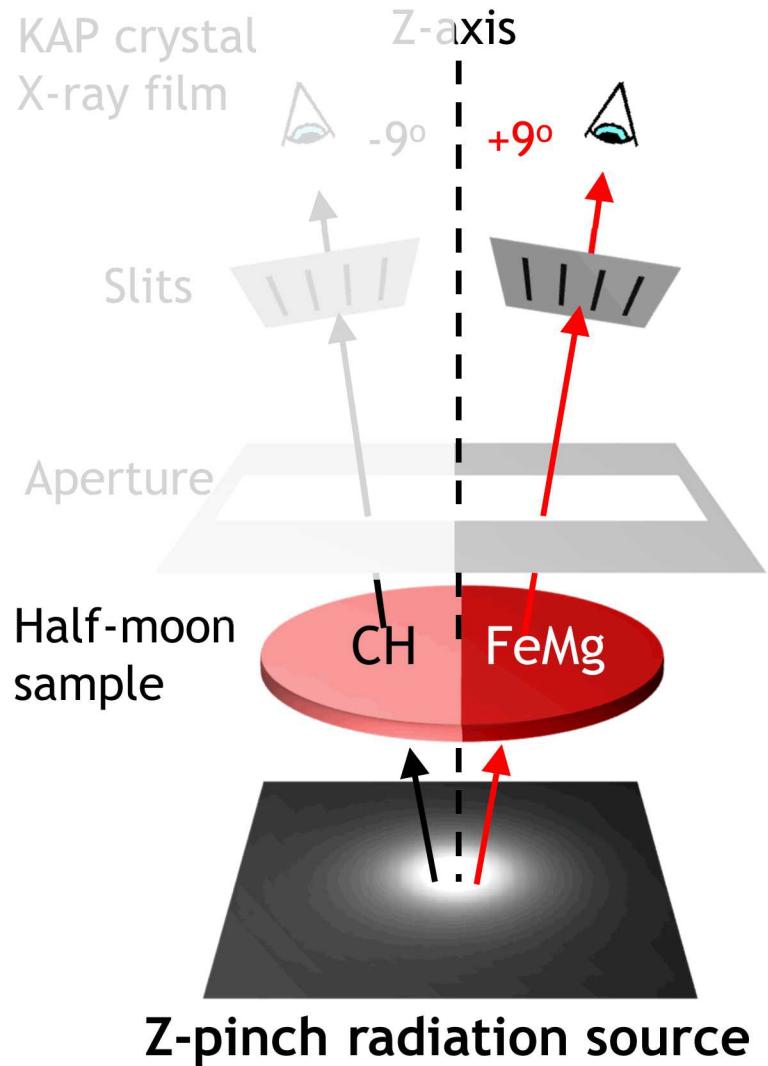
Paradigm shift: Spectral lineout → Spatial lineout



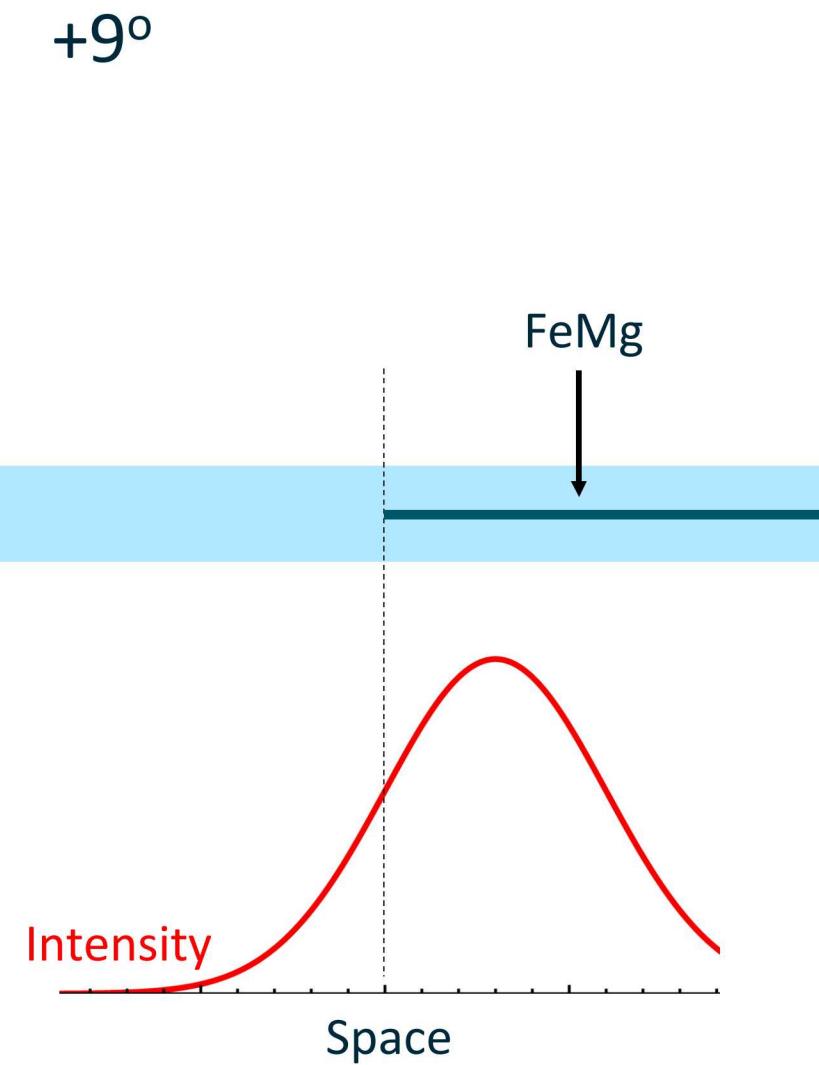
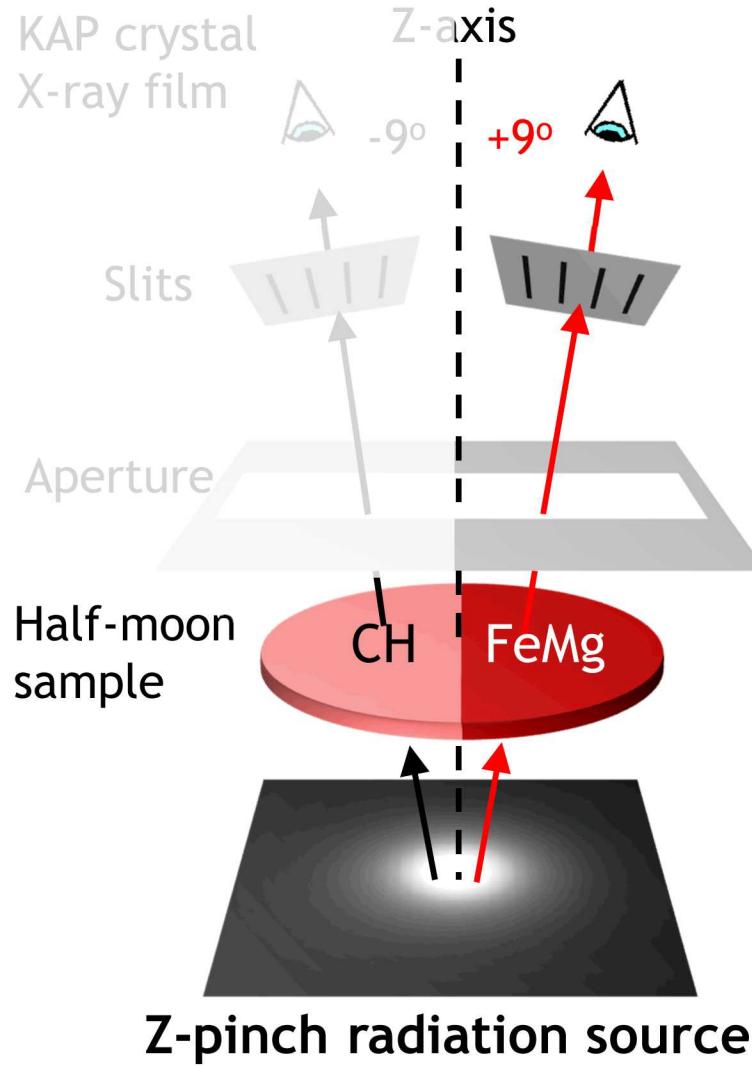
Observing finite-area backlighter through half-moon sample produces complicated spatial shape



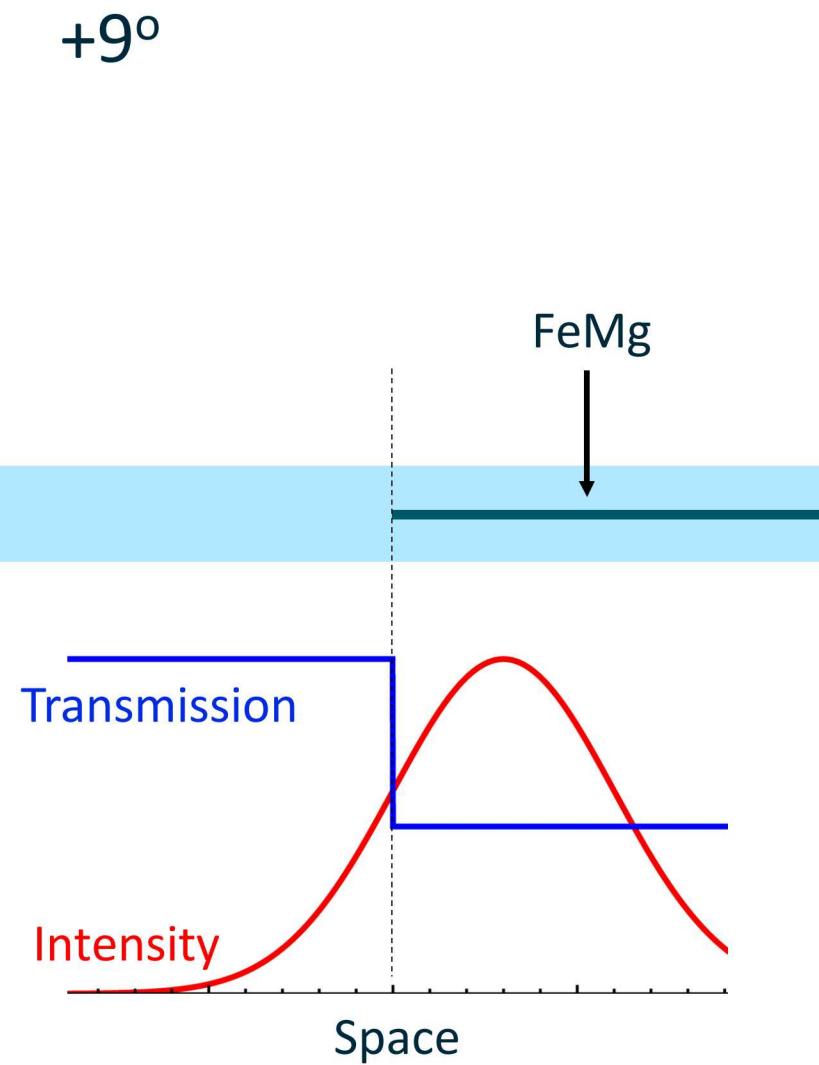
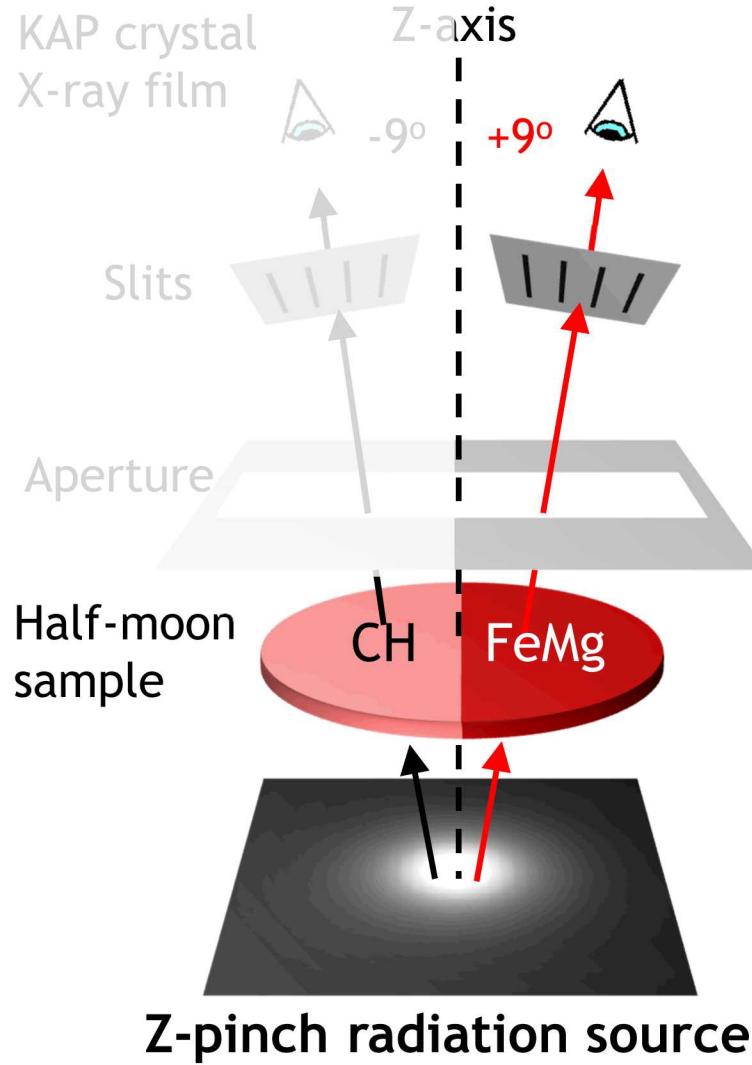
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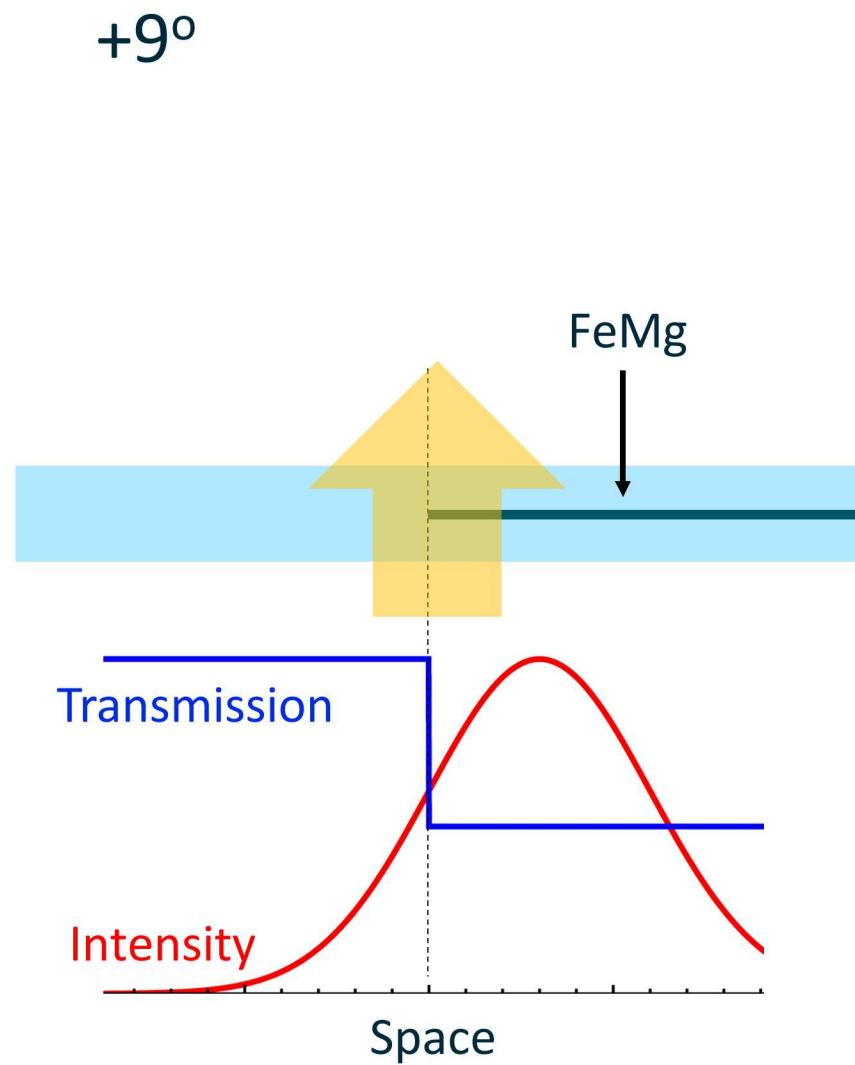
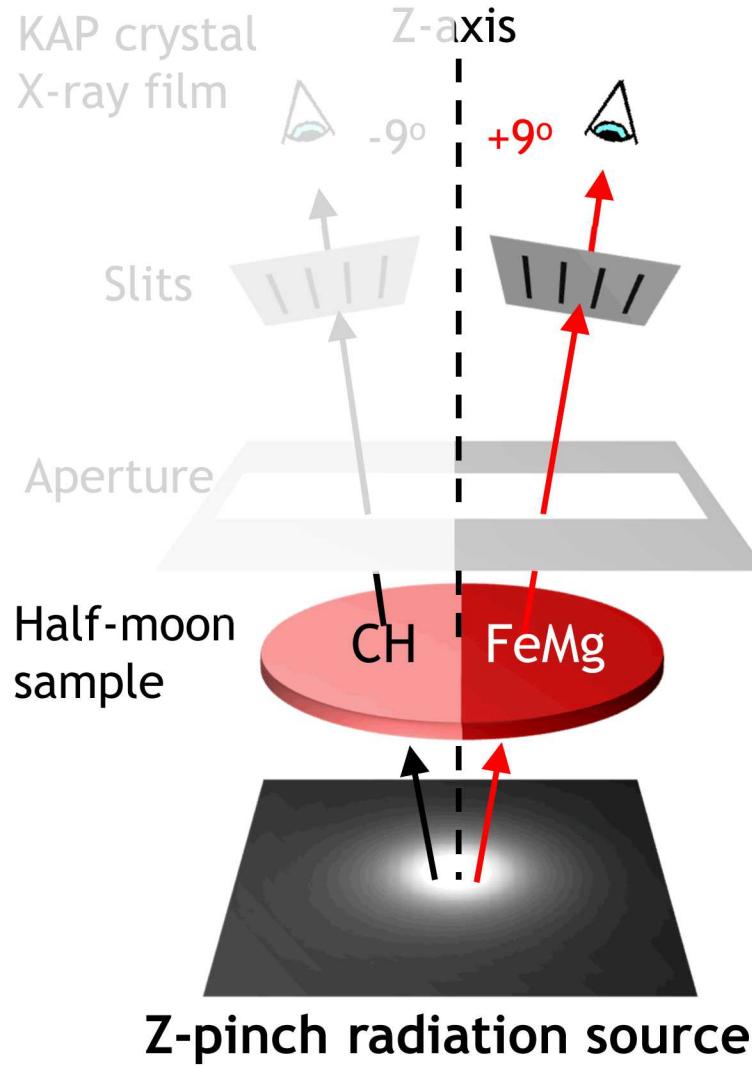
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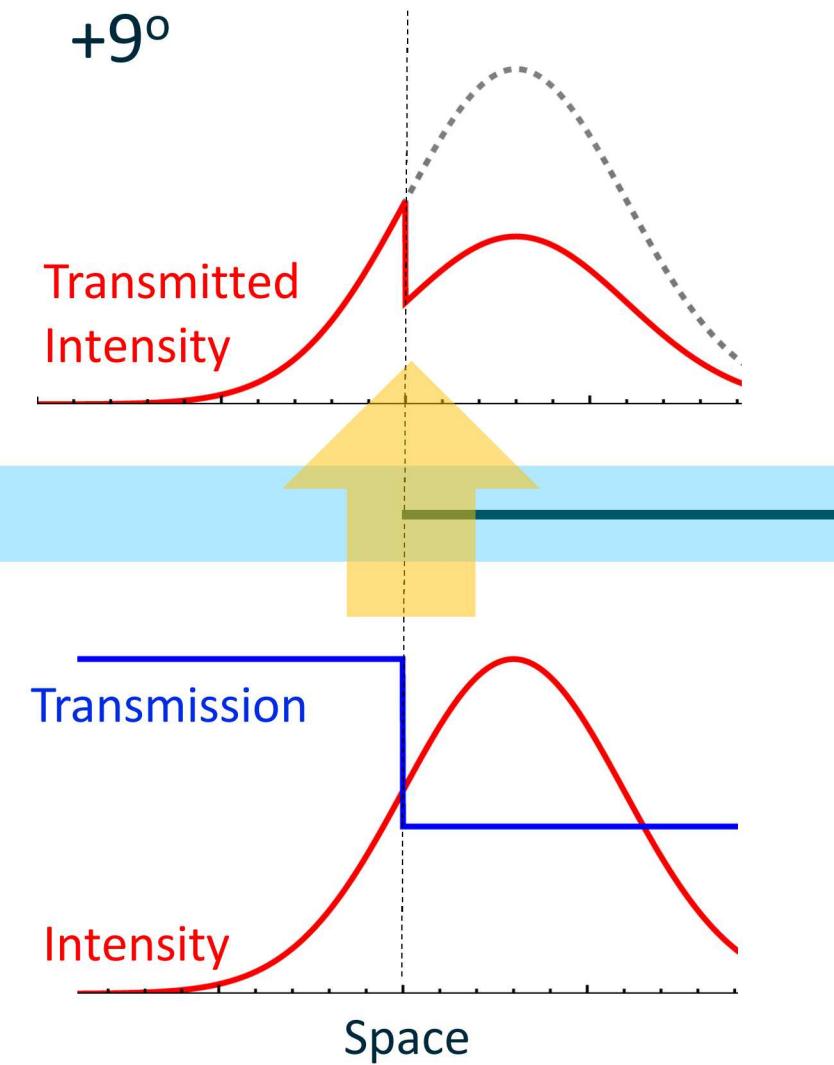
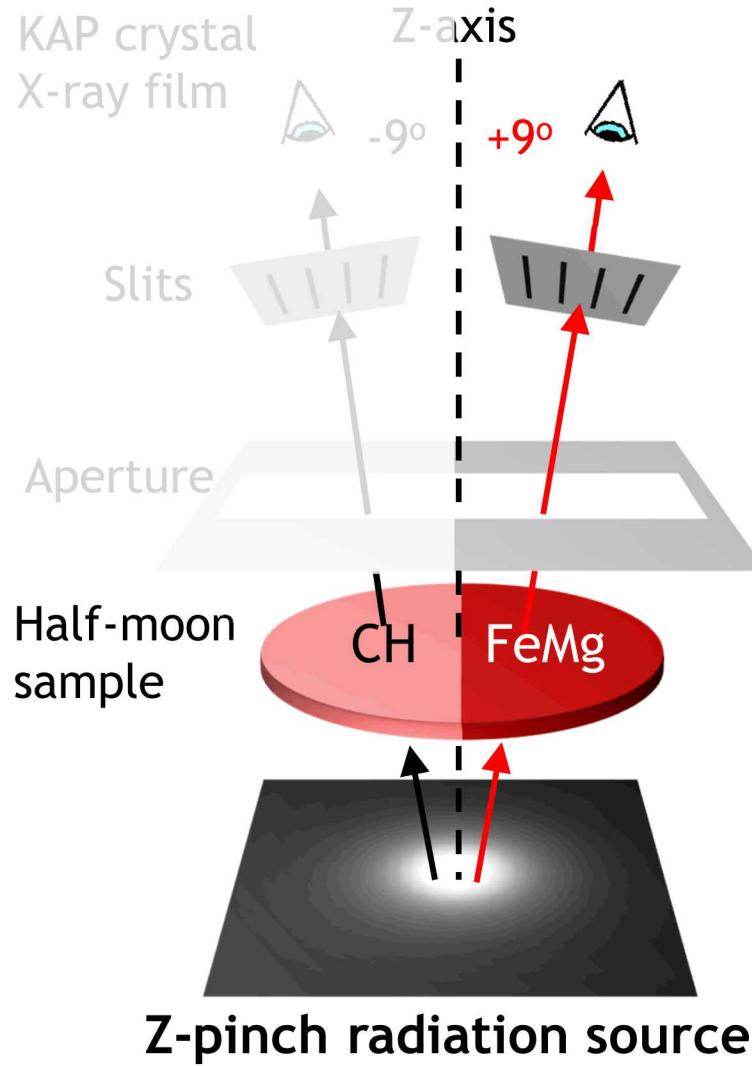
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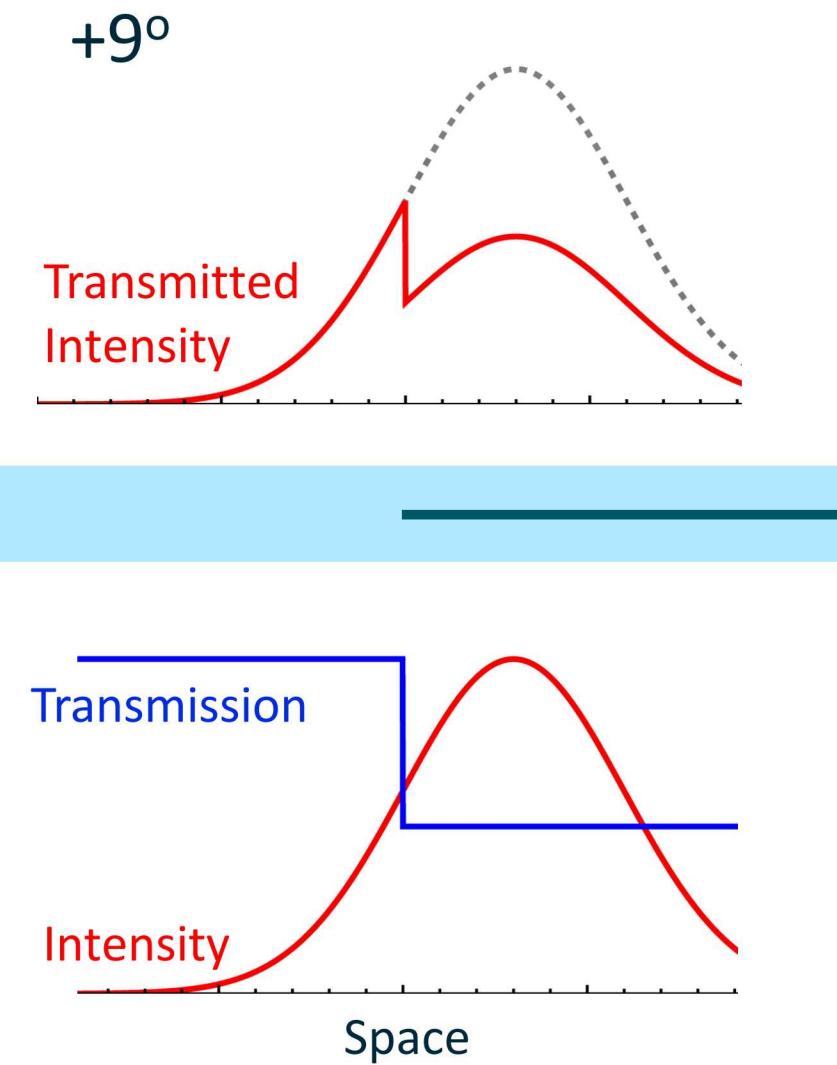
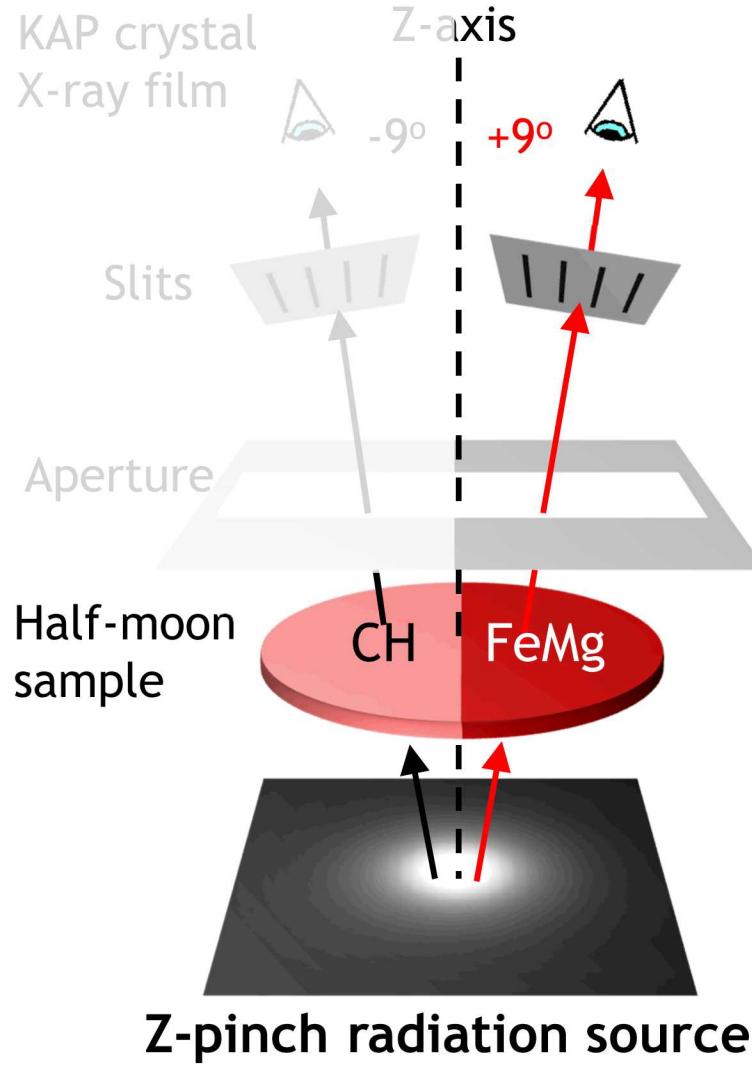
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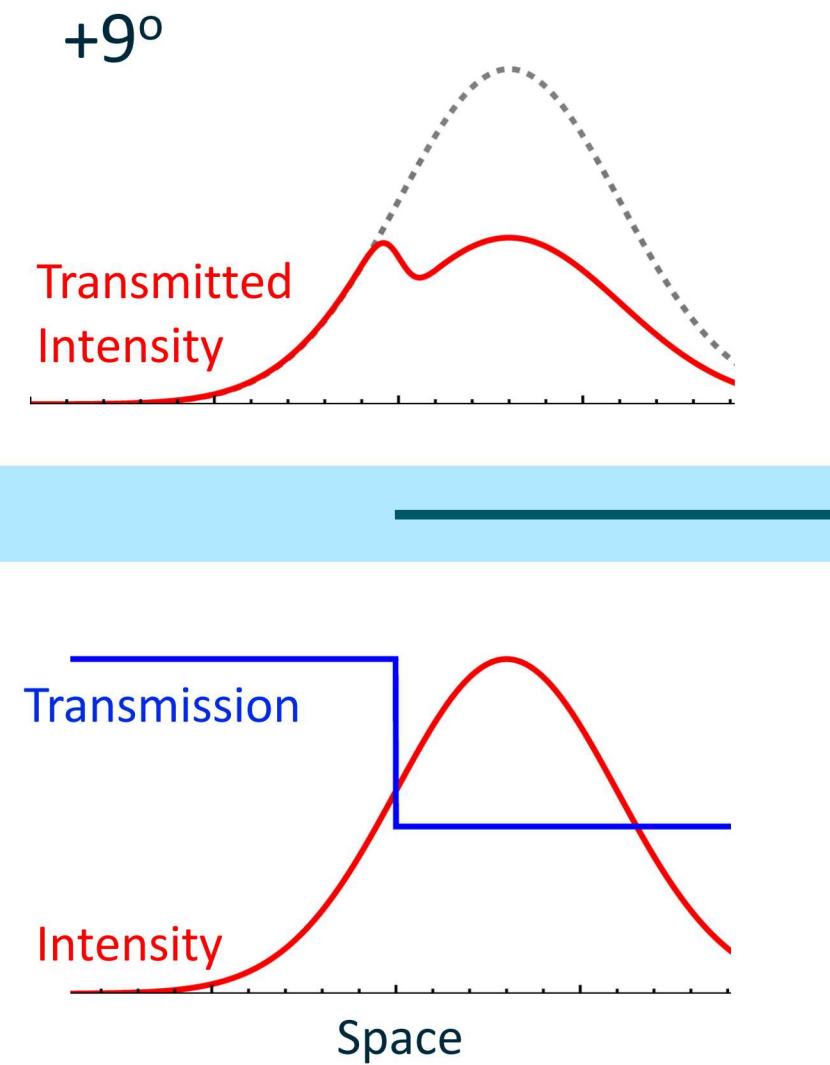
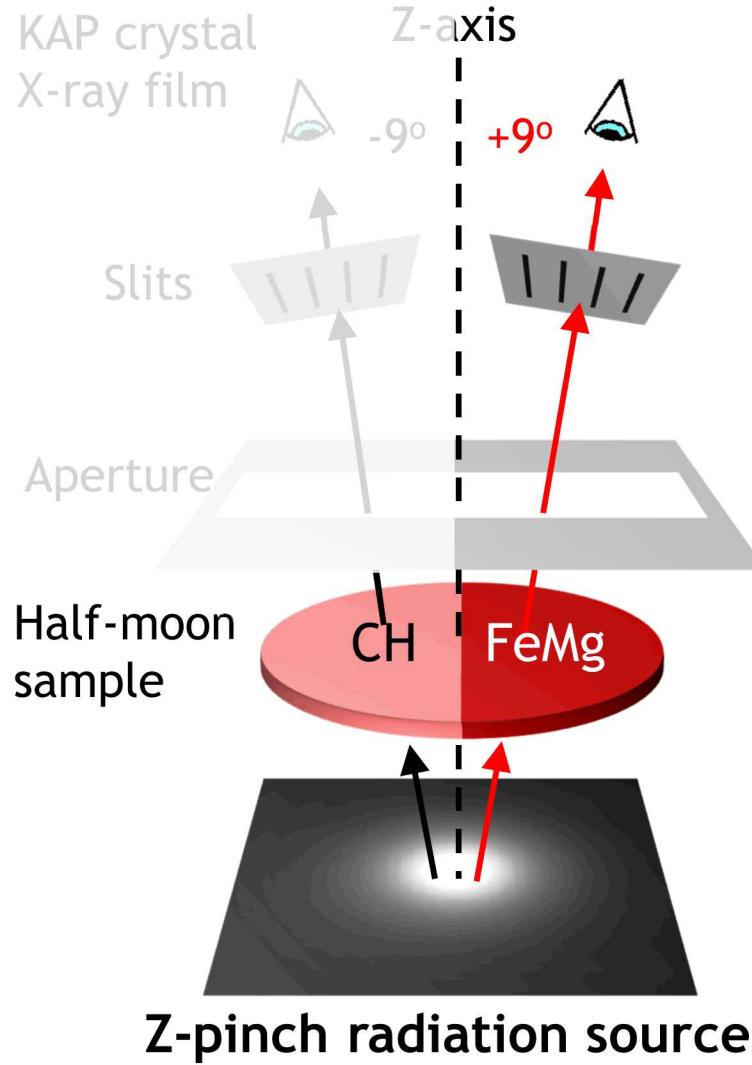
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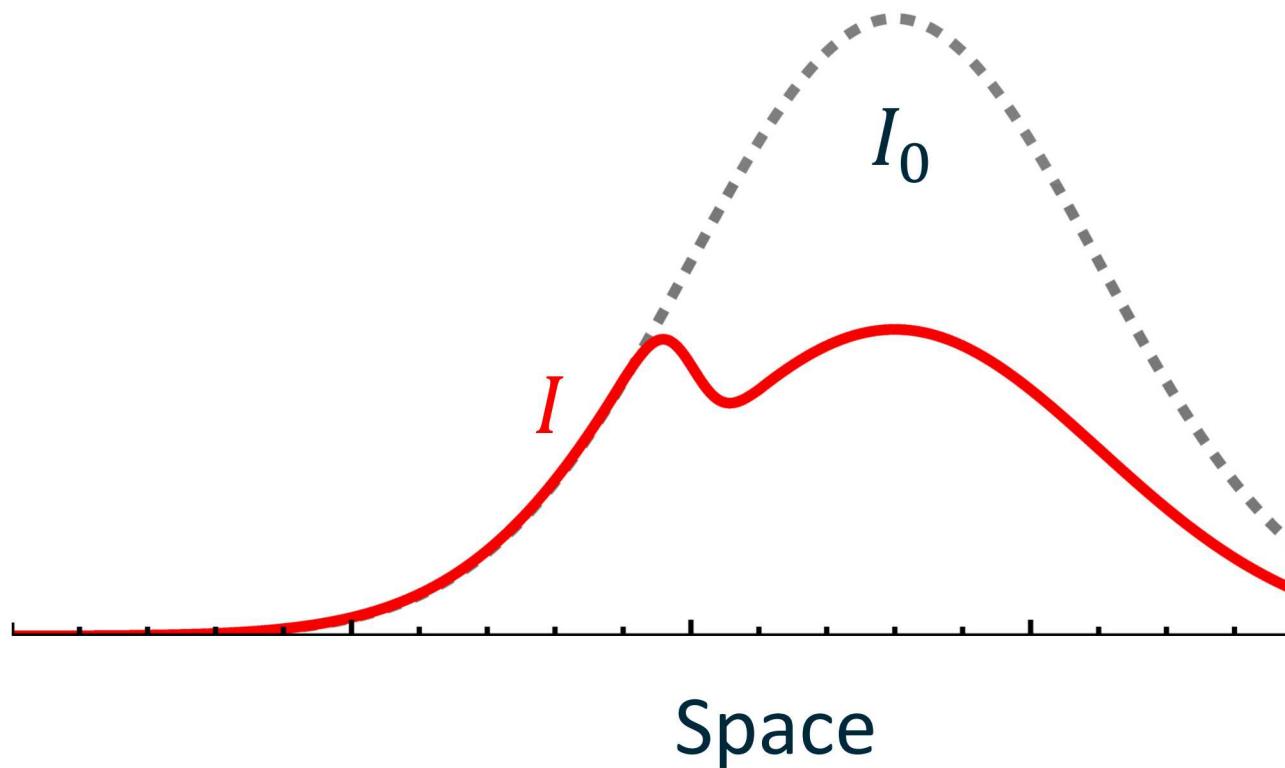


Observing finite-area backlighter through half-moon sample produces complicated spatial shape

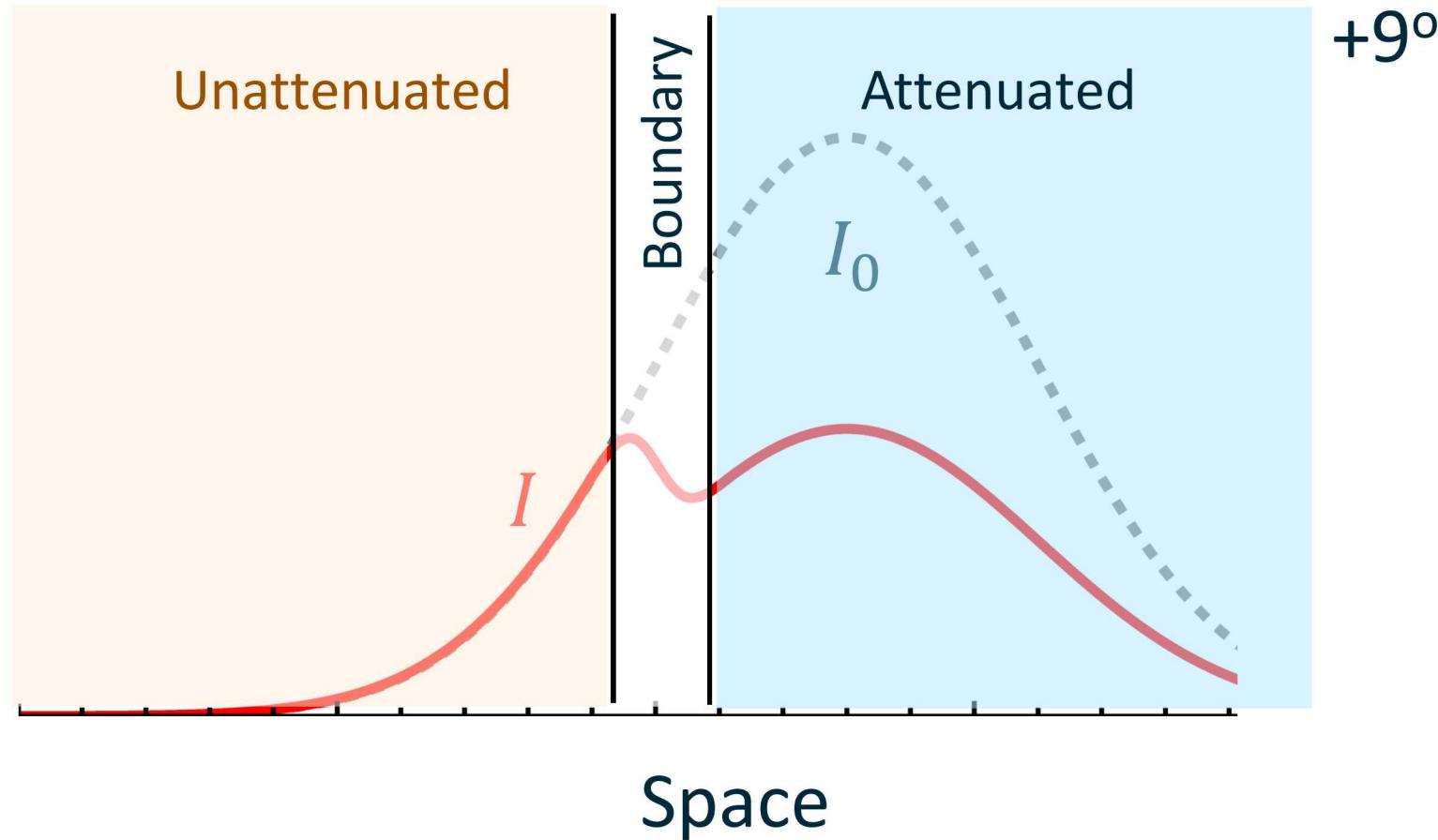


Half-moon spatial profile has both attenuated and unattenuated intensities, enabling accurate analysis

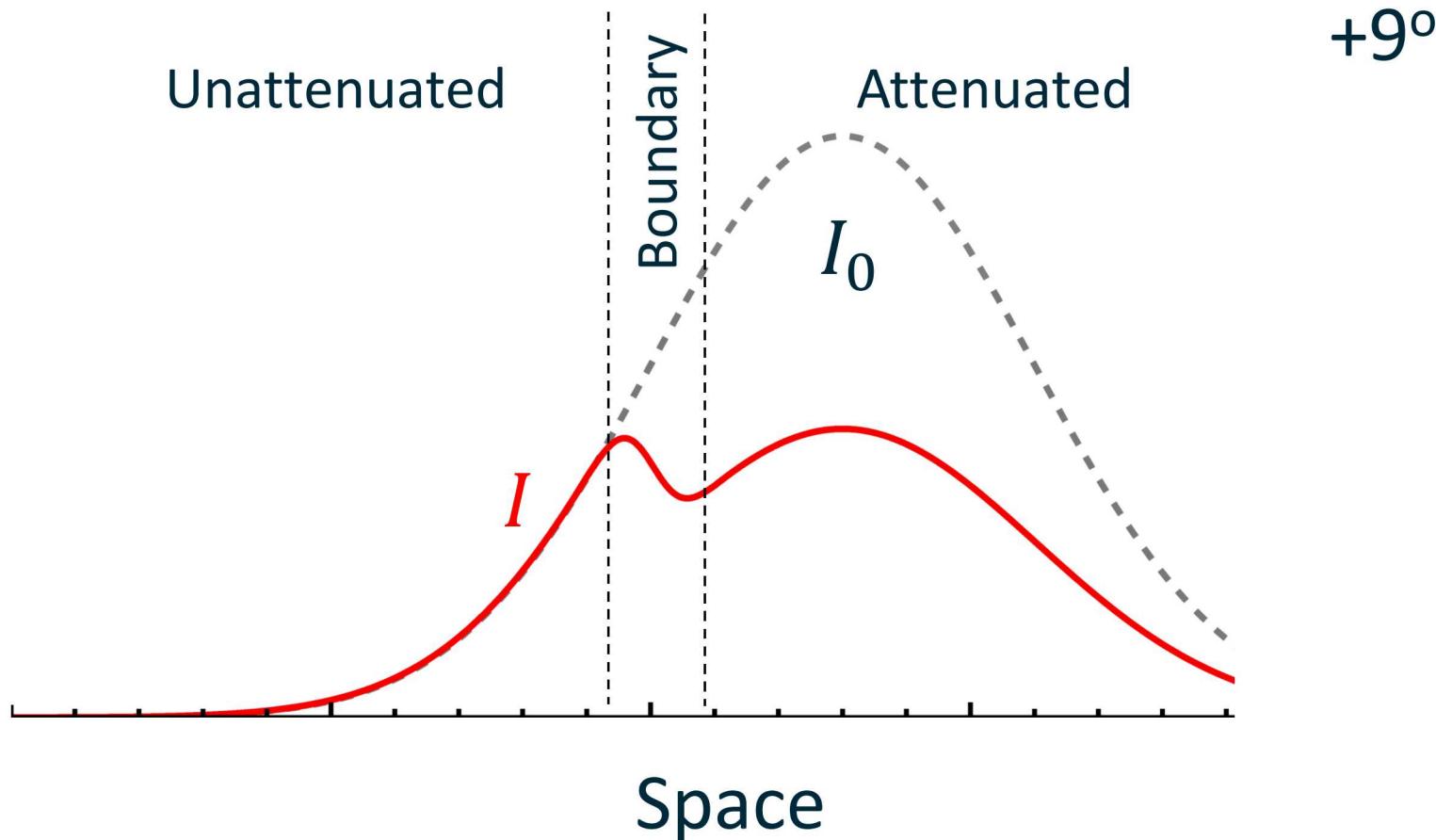
+9°



Half-moon spatial profile has both attenuated and unattenuated intensities, enabling accurate analysis

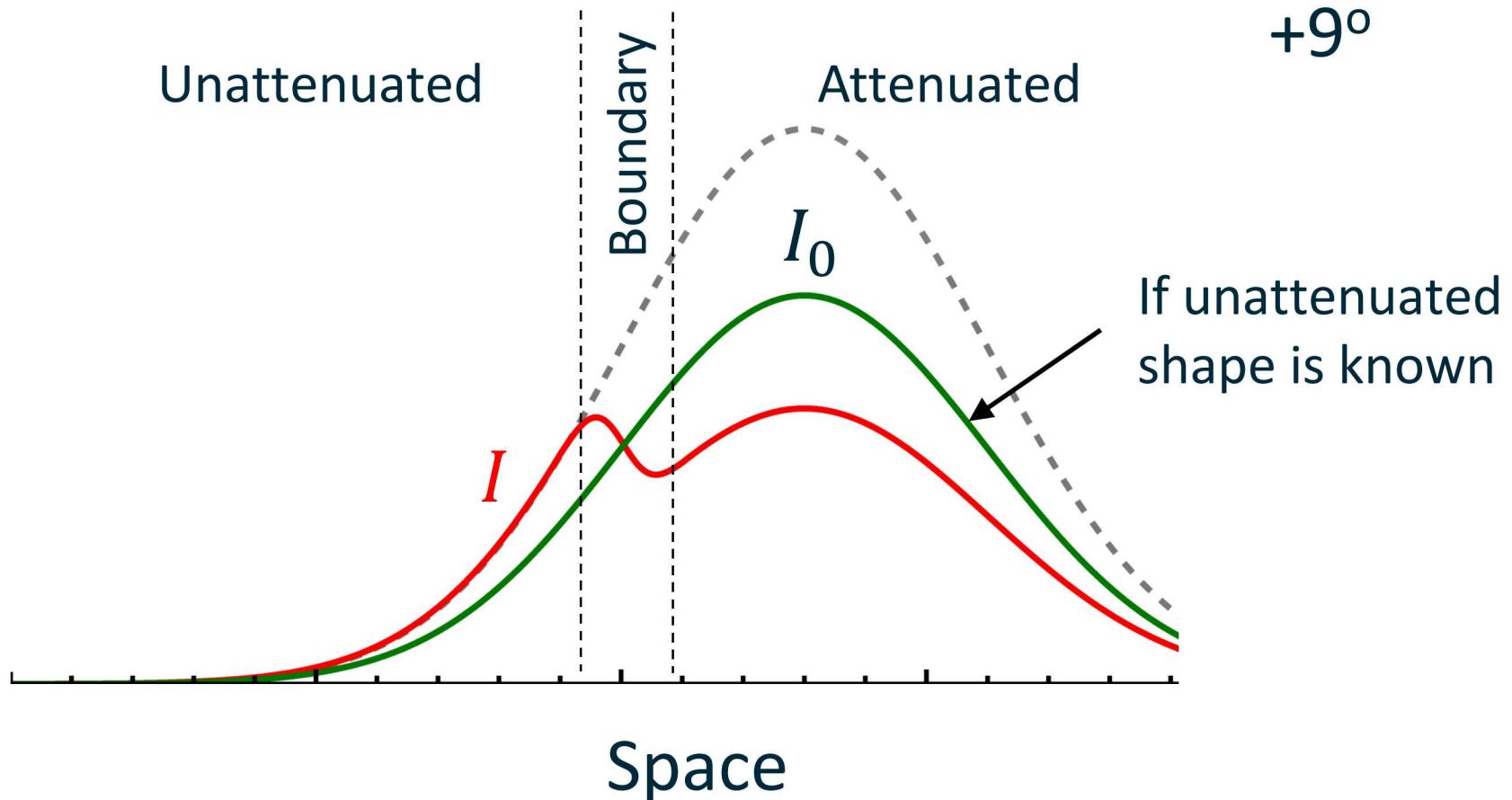


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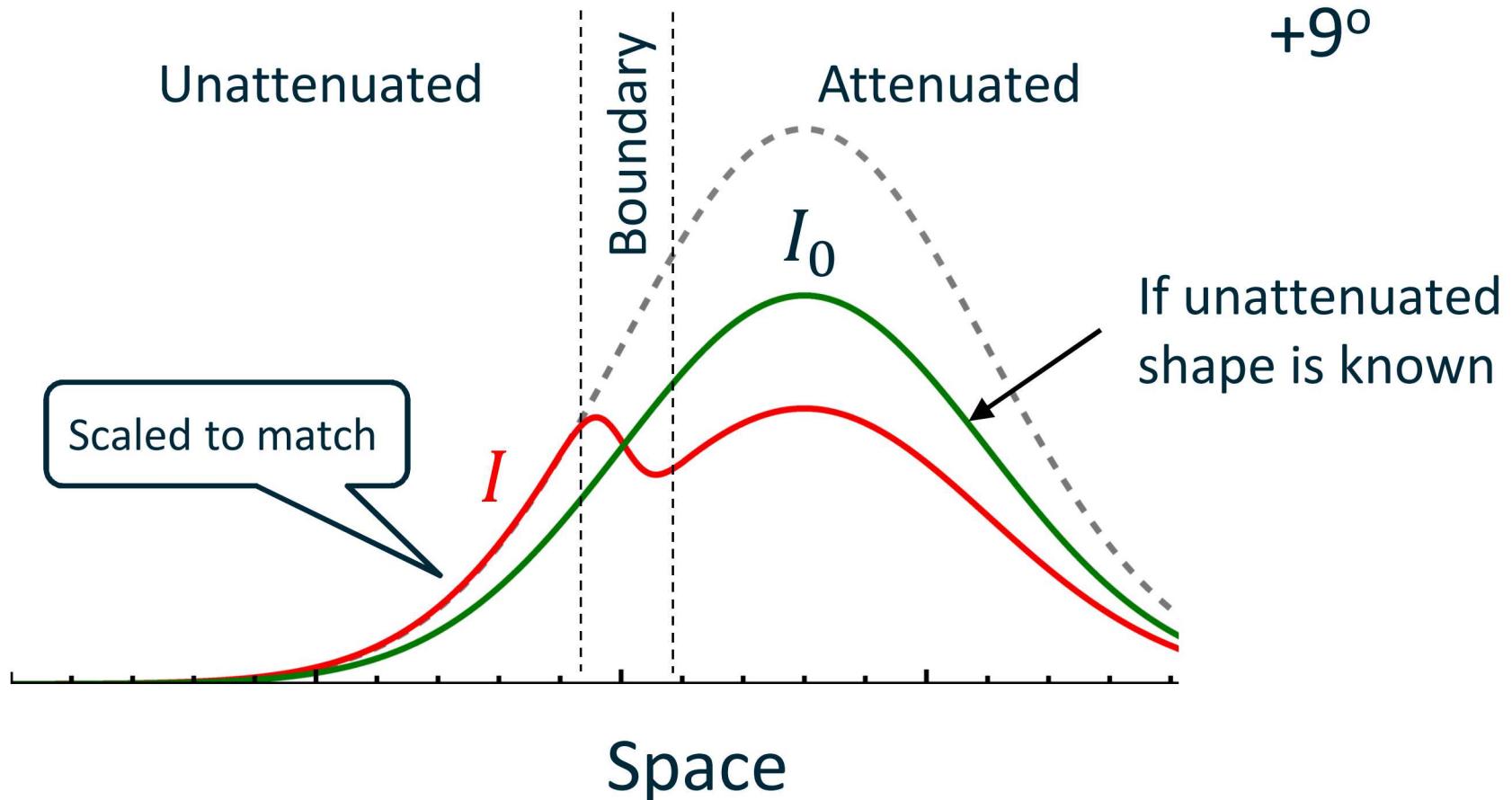
If the unattenuated shape is known, we can determine FeMg transmission accurately

Half-moon spatial profile has both attenuated and unattenuated intensities, enabling accurate analysis



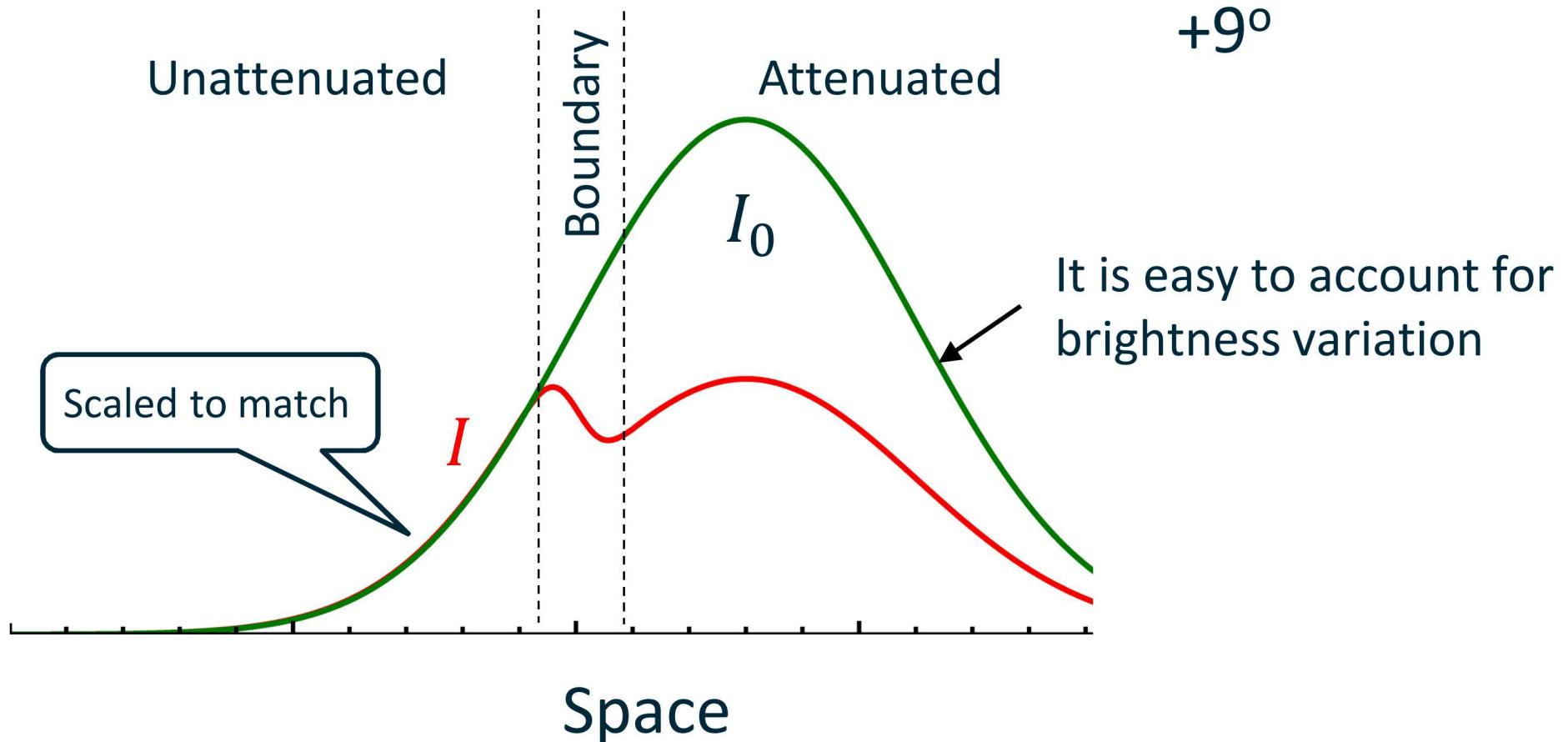
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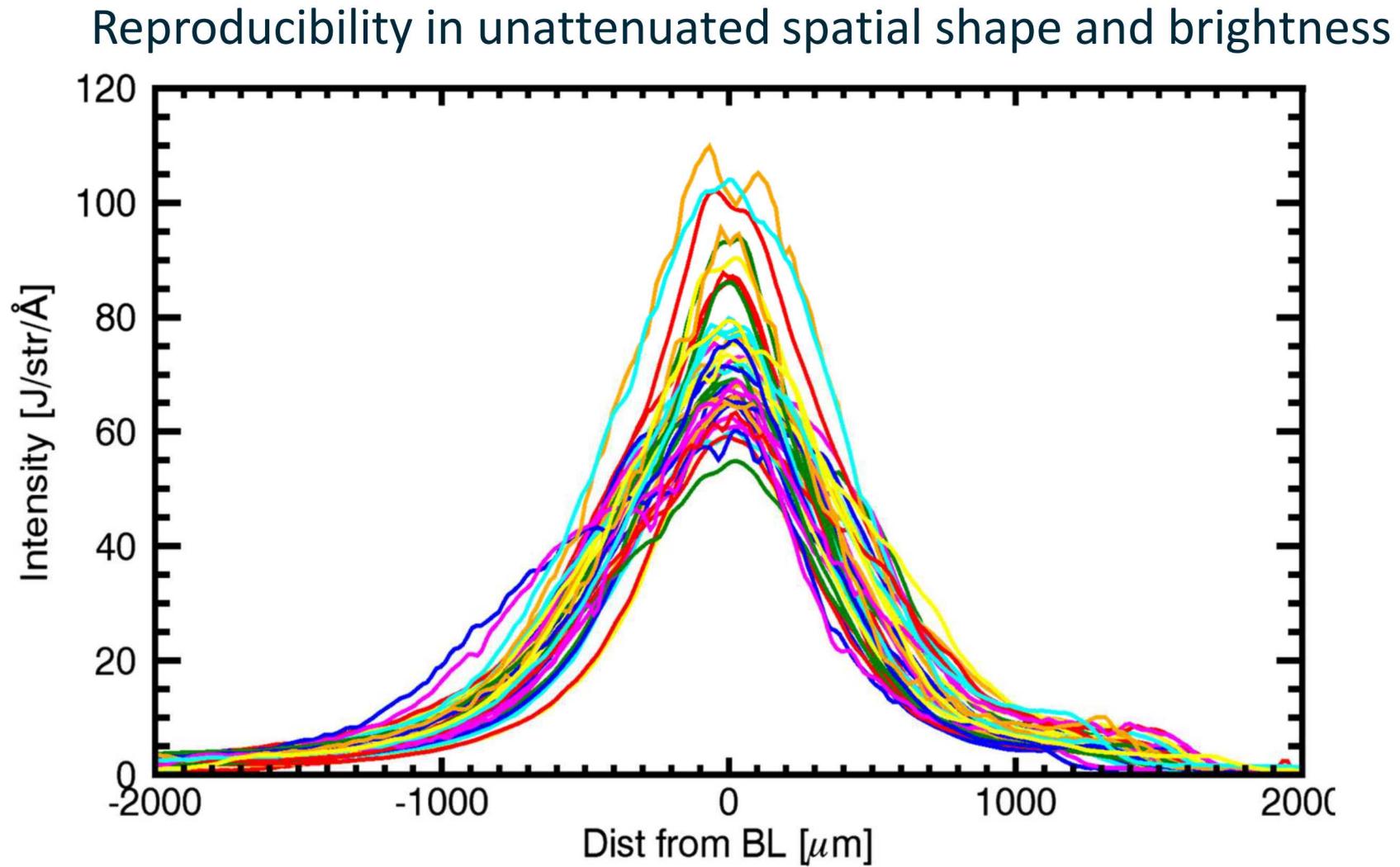
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Half-moon spatial profile has both attenuated and unattenuated intensities, enabling accurate analysis



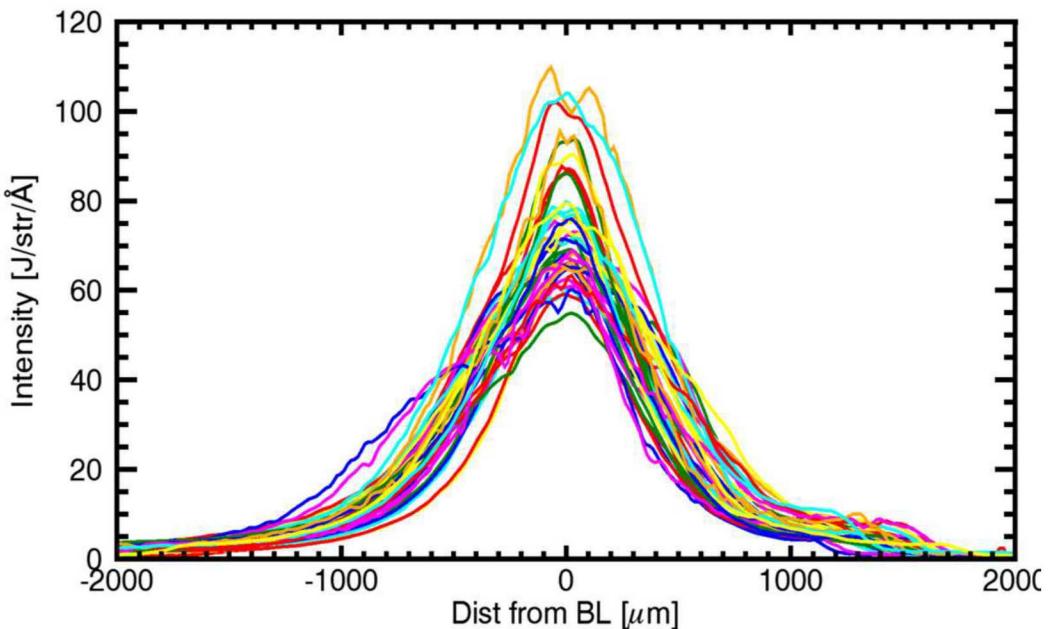
If the unattenuated shape is known, we can determine FeMg transmission accurately

Challenge comes from the fact that both shape and brightness are known to limited accuracy

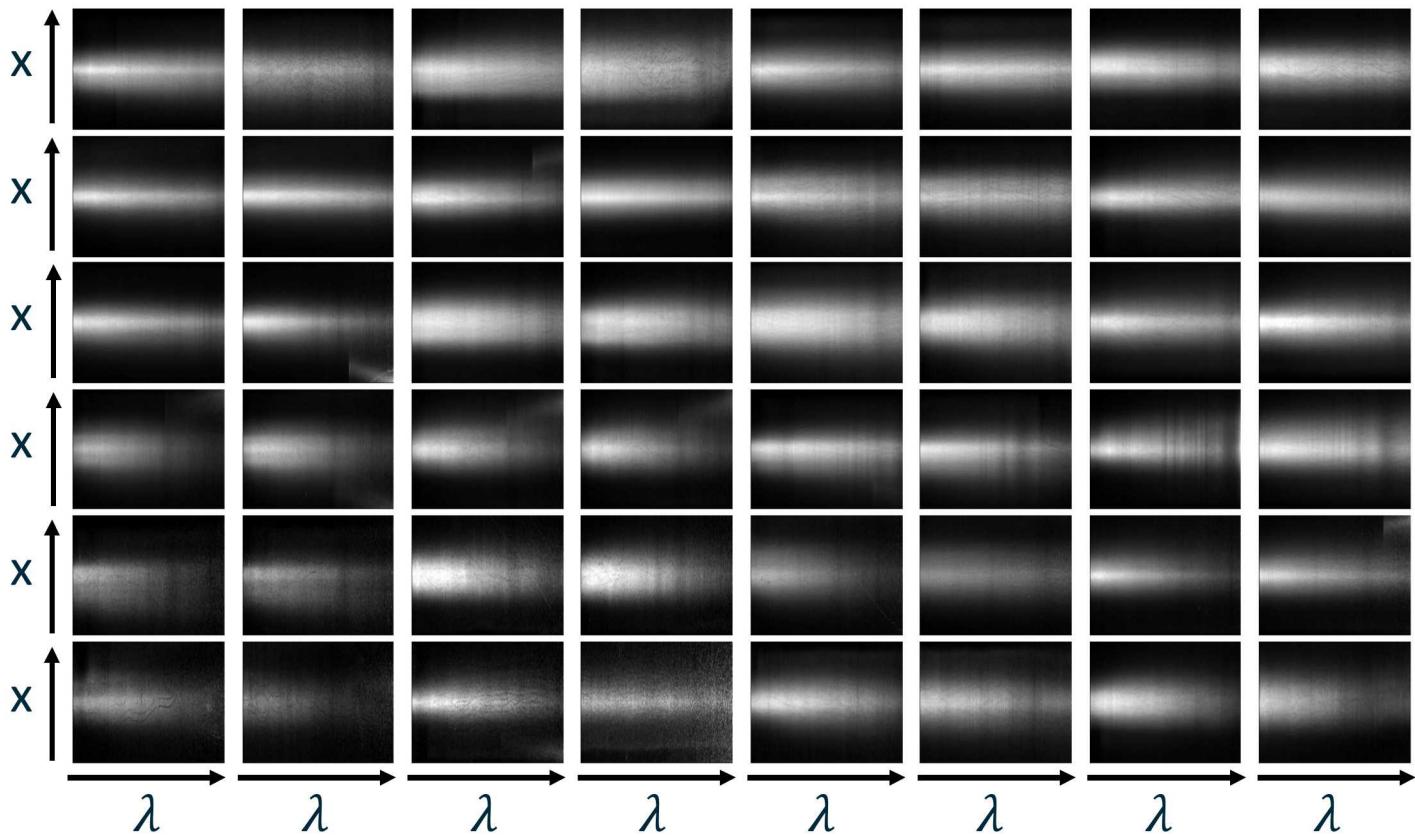


Challenge comes from the fact that both shape and brightness are known to limited accuracy

Reproducibility in unattenuated spatial shape and brightness

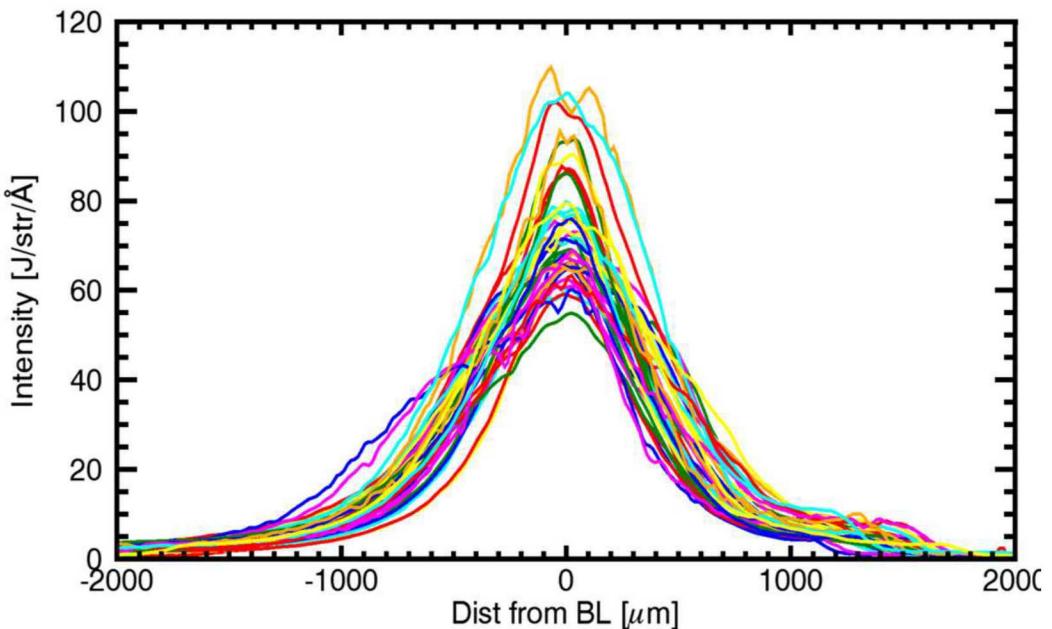


48 spectral images from 12 calibration shots collected over a decade

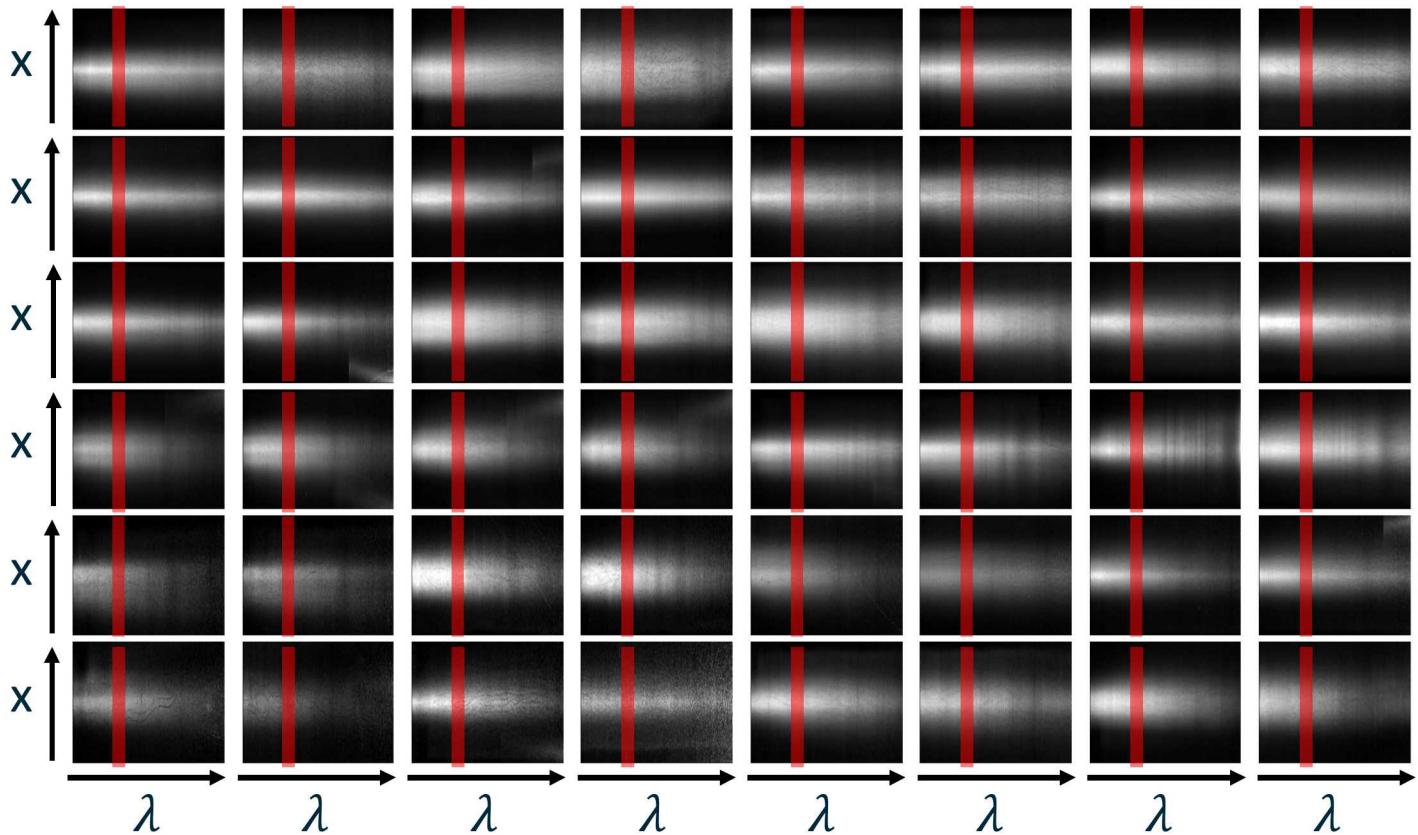


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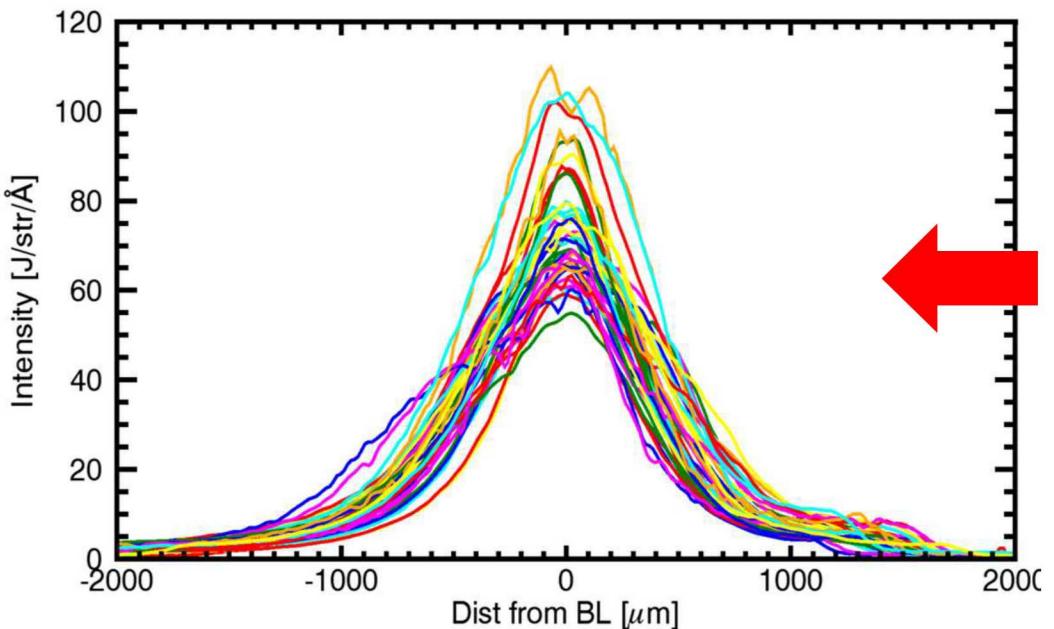


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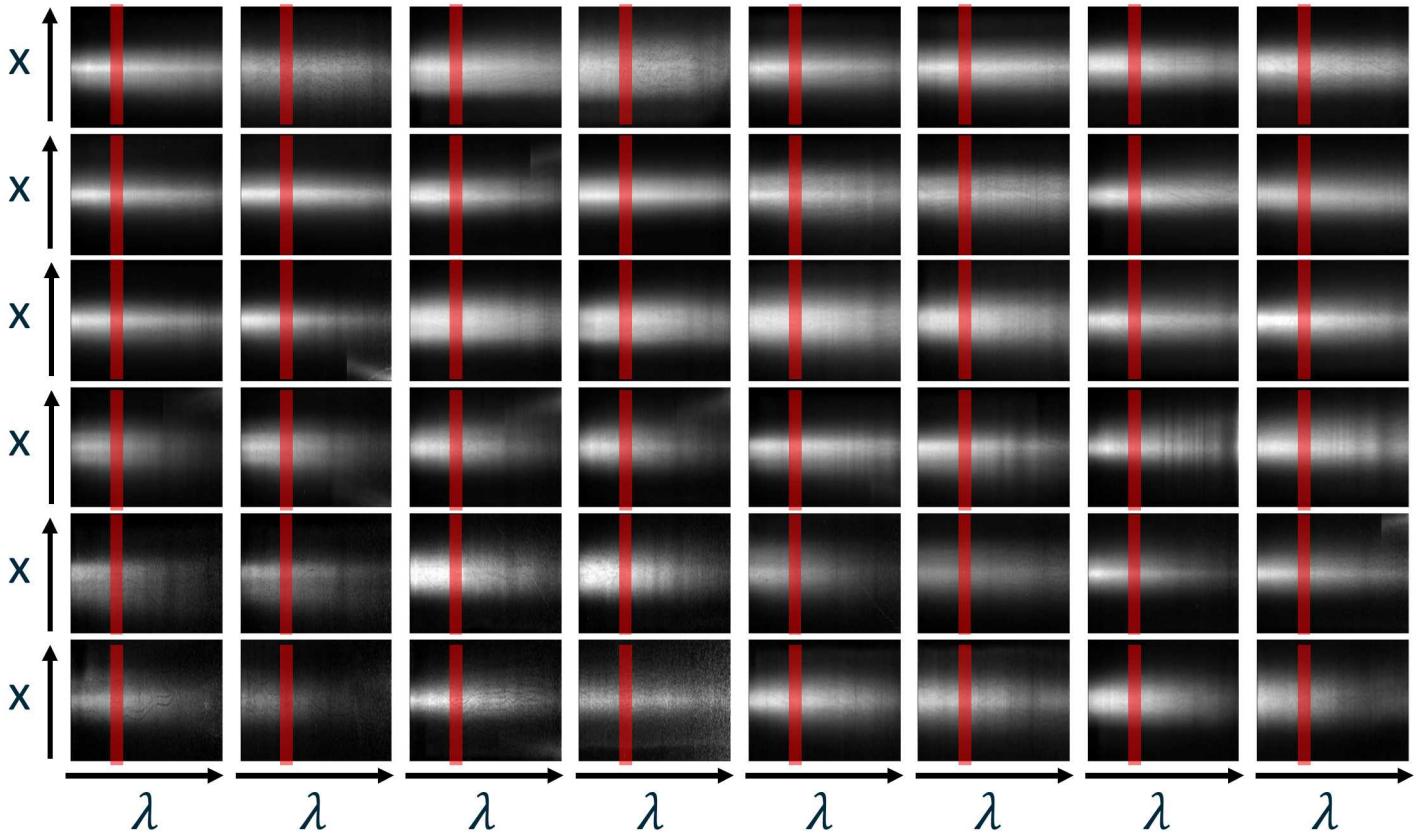


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Reproducibility in unattenuated spatial shape and brightness

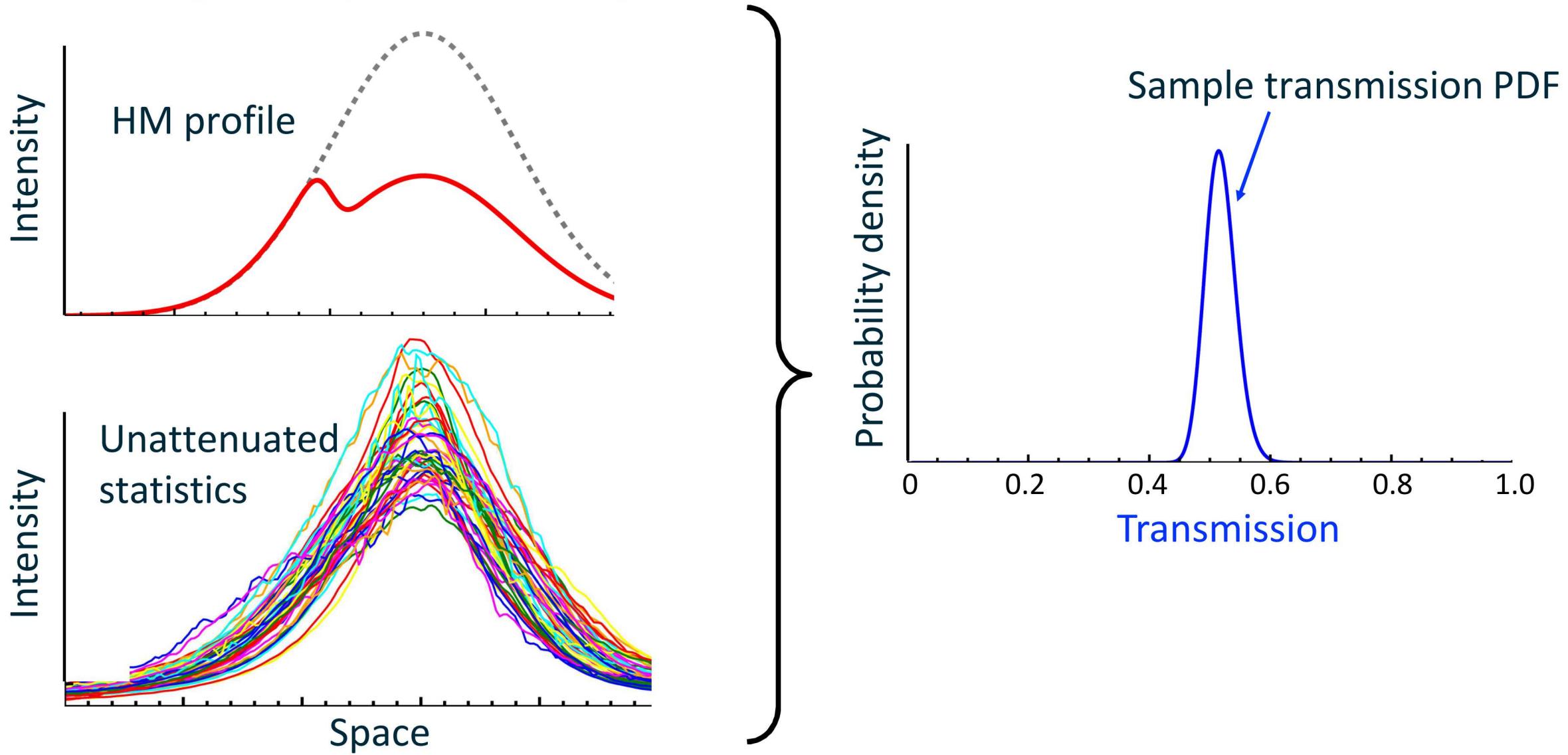


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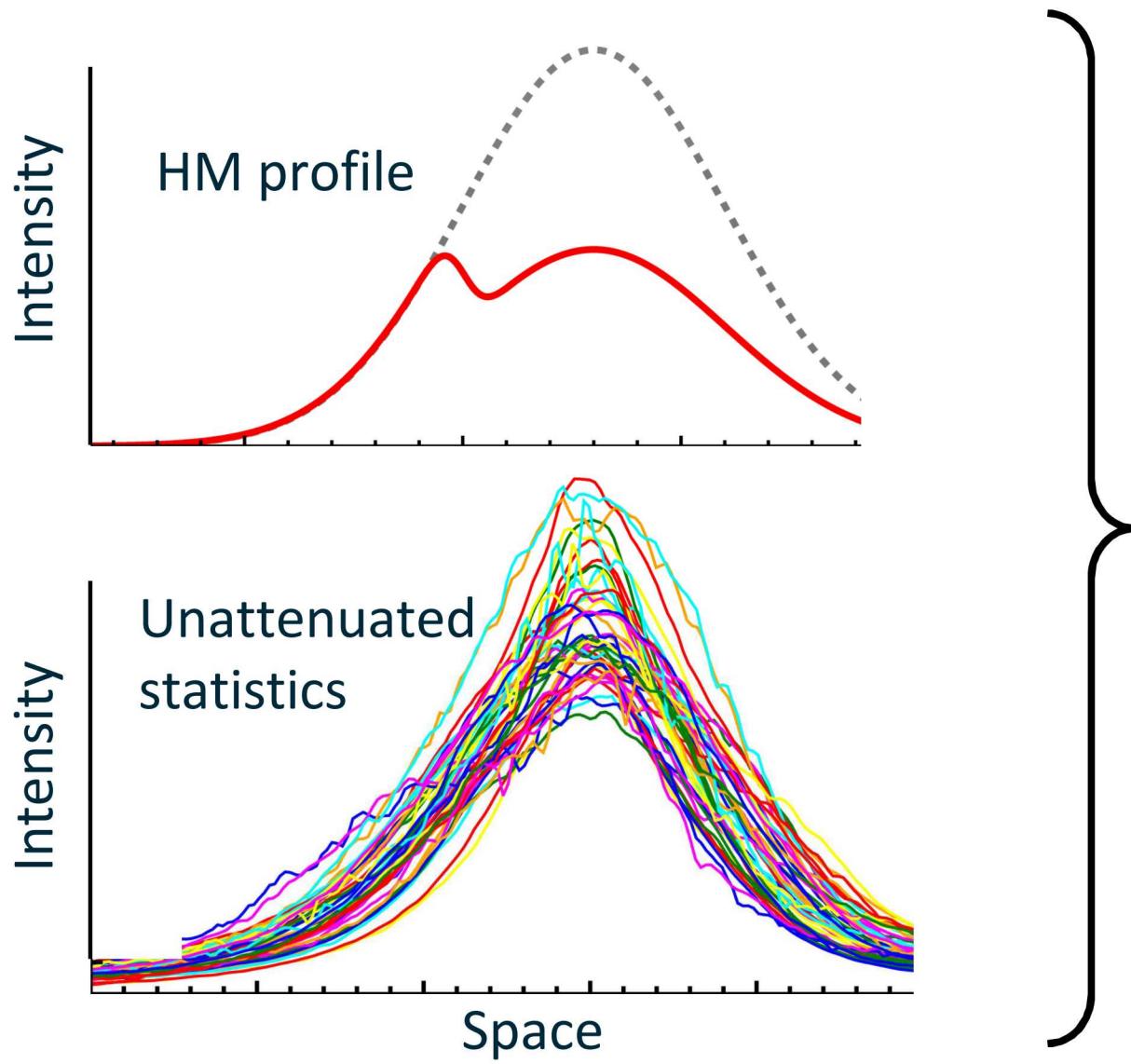


We can use this statistics to determine FeMg transmission

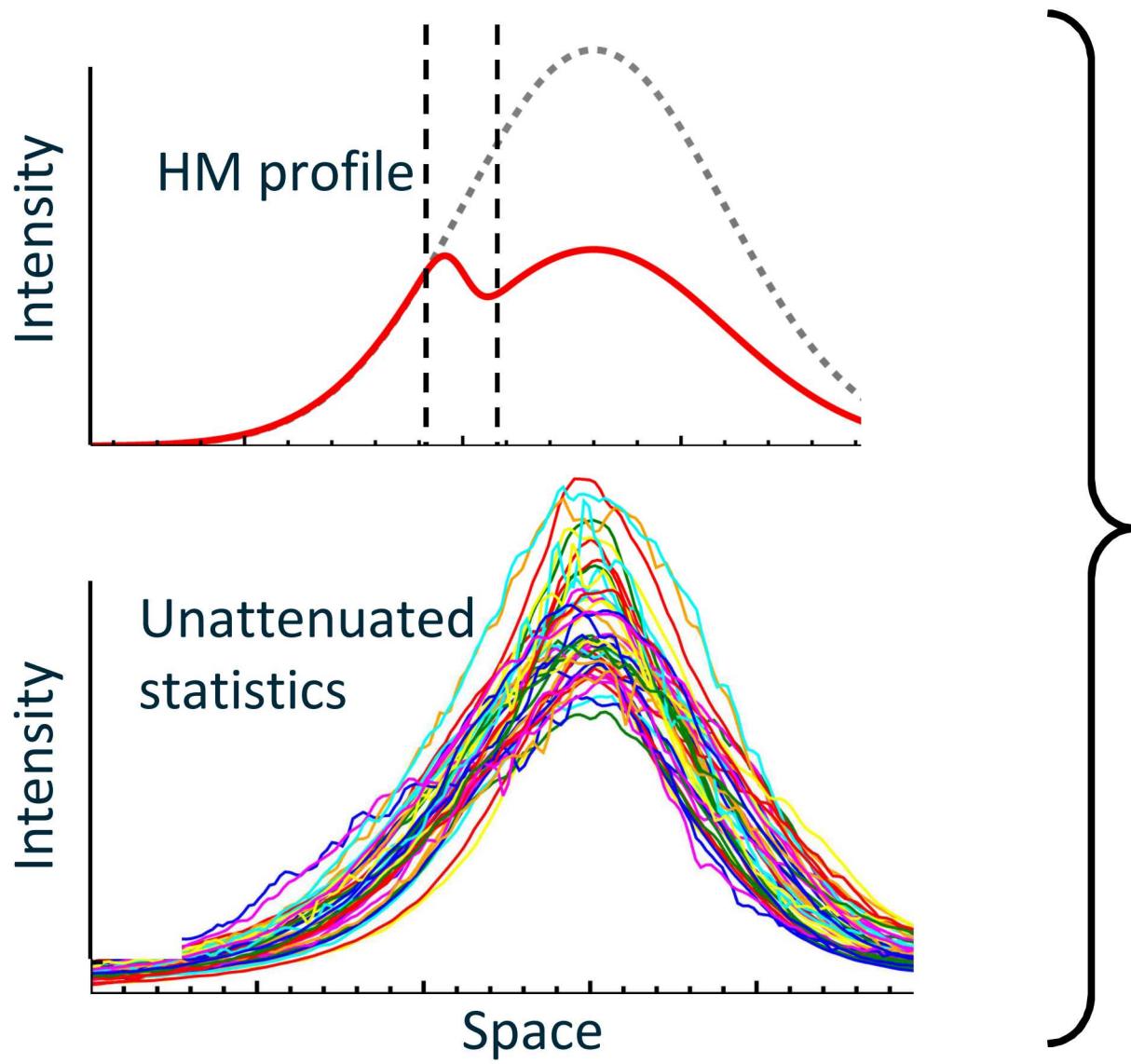
New method: sample transmission probability distribution is analytically derived spatial lineout



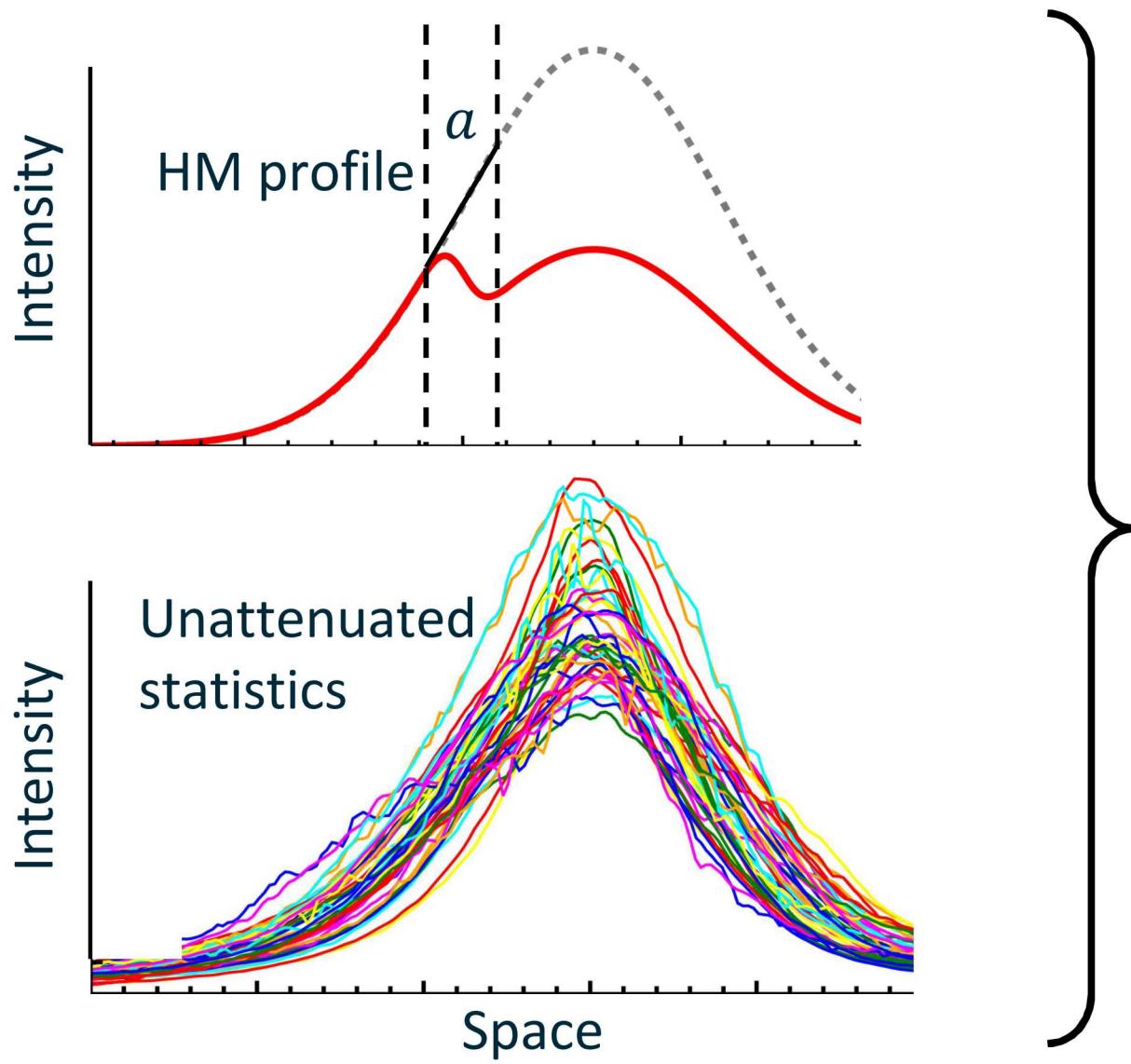
Example: transmission from boundary-slope statistics



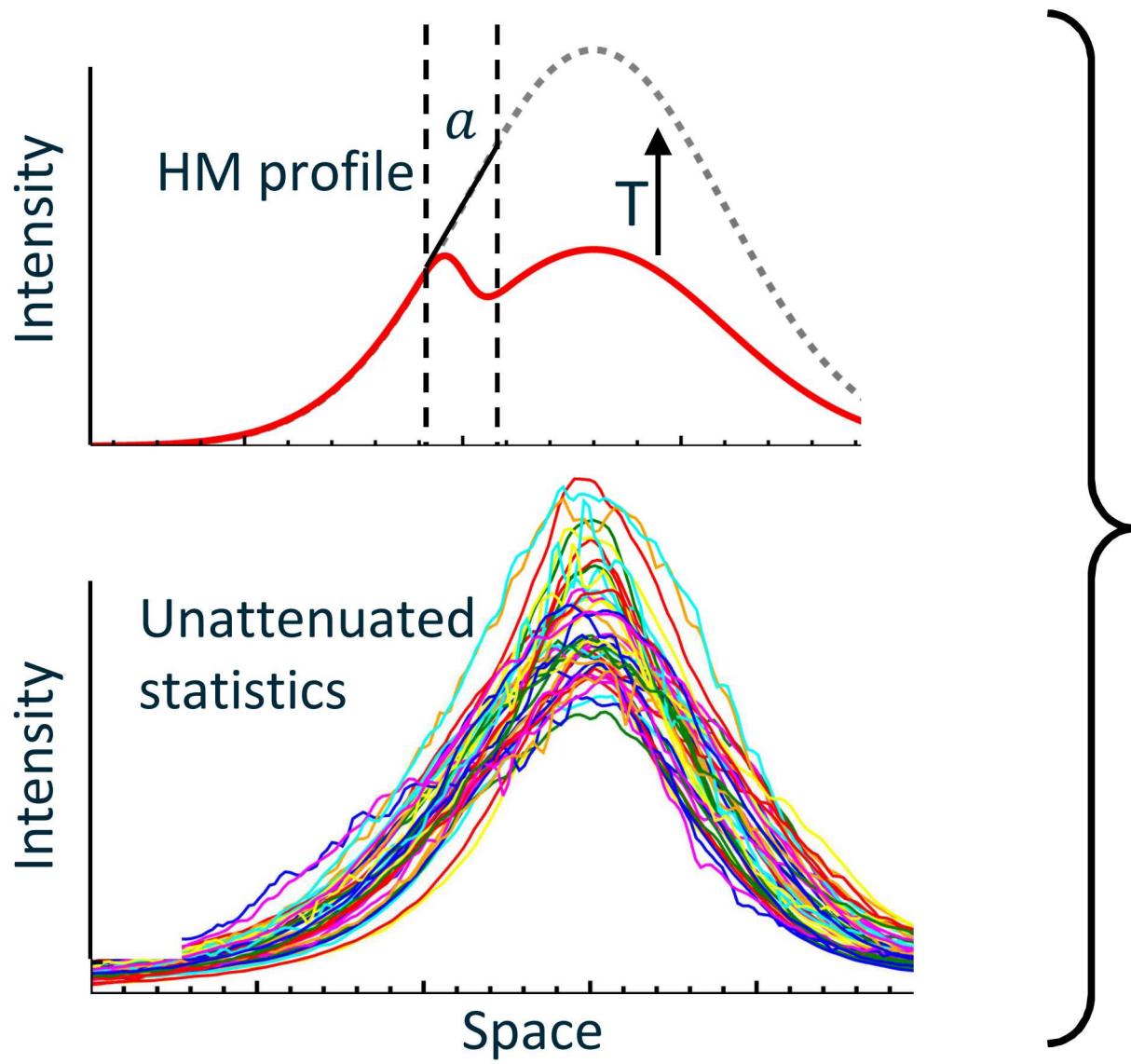
Example: transmission from boundary-slope statistics



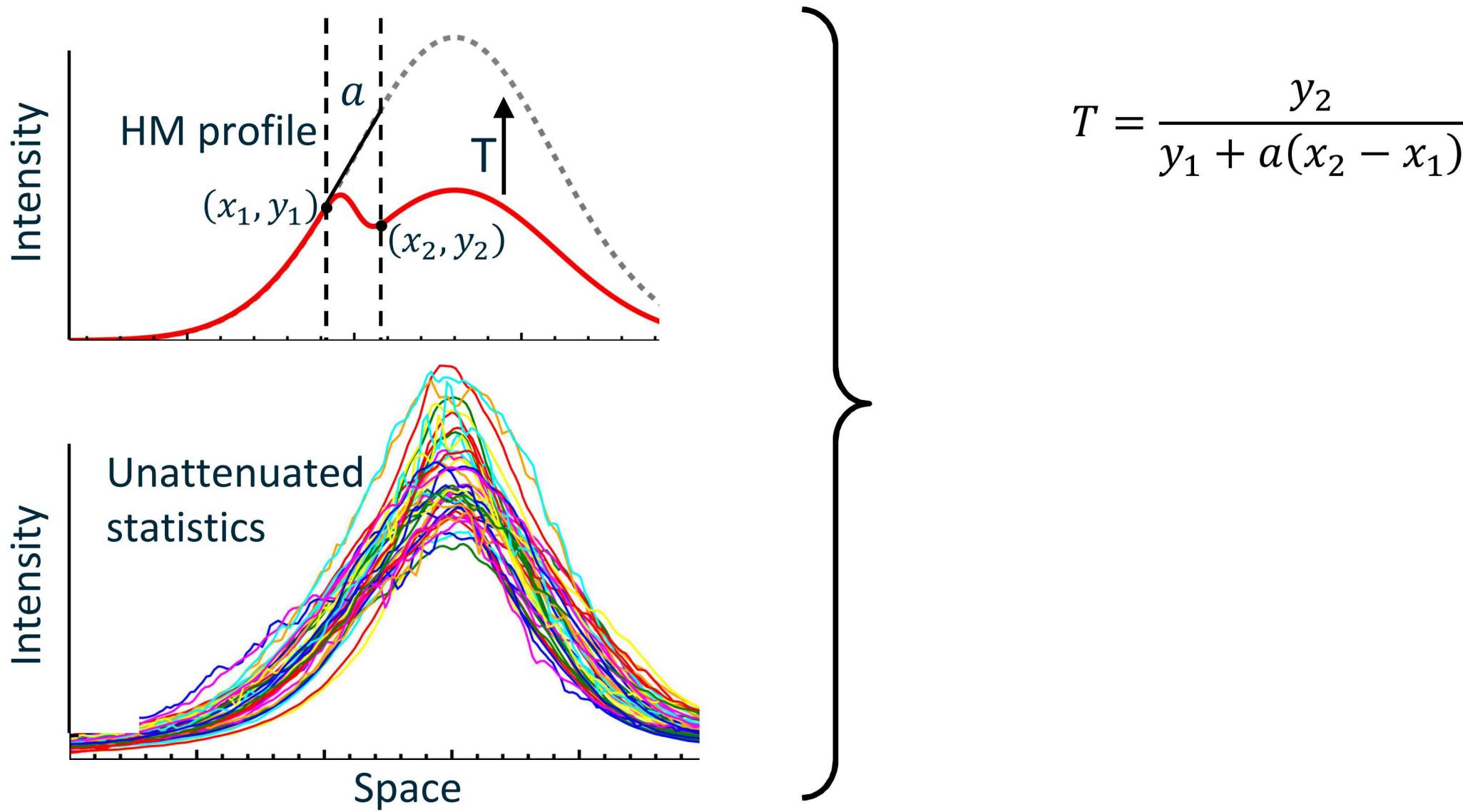
Example: transmission from boundary-slope statistics



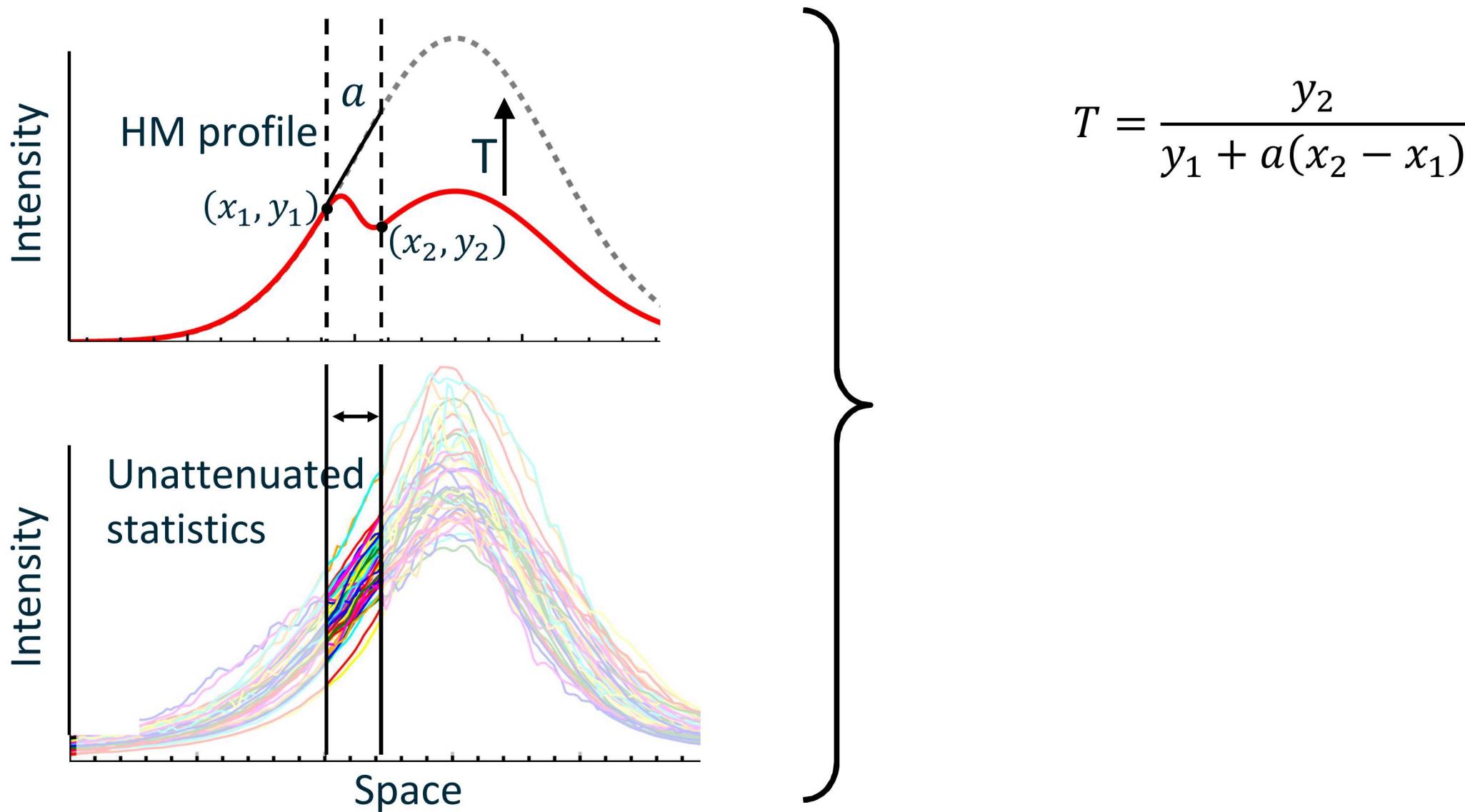
Example: transmission from boundary-slope statistics



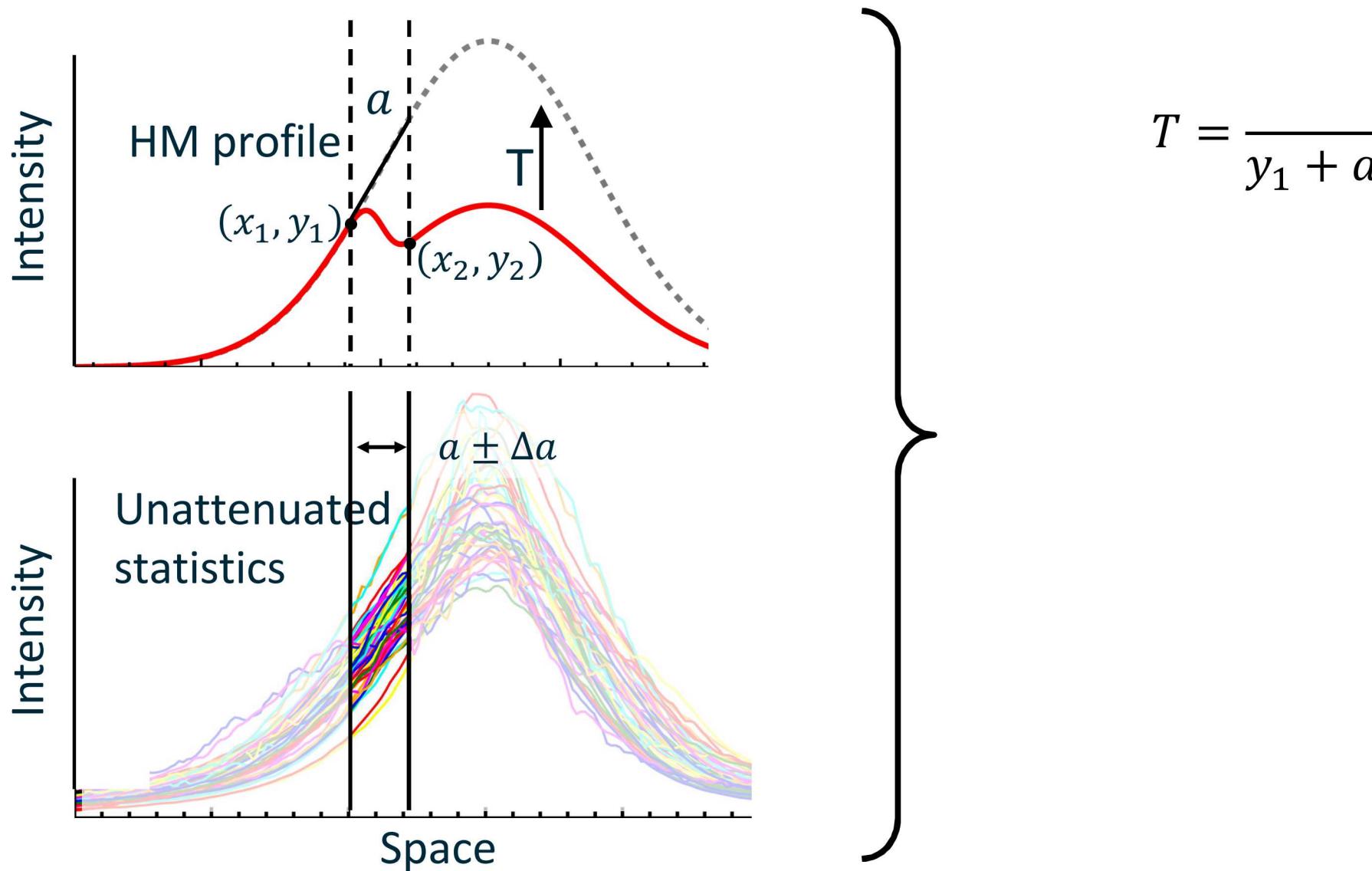
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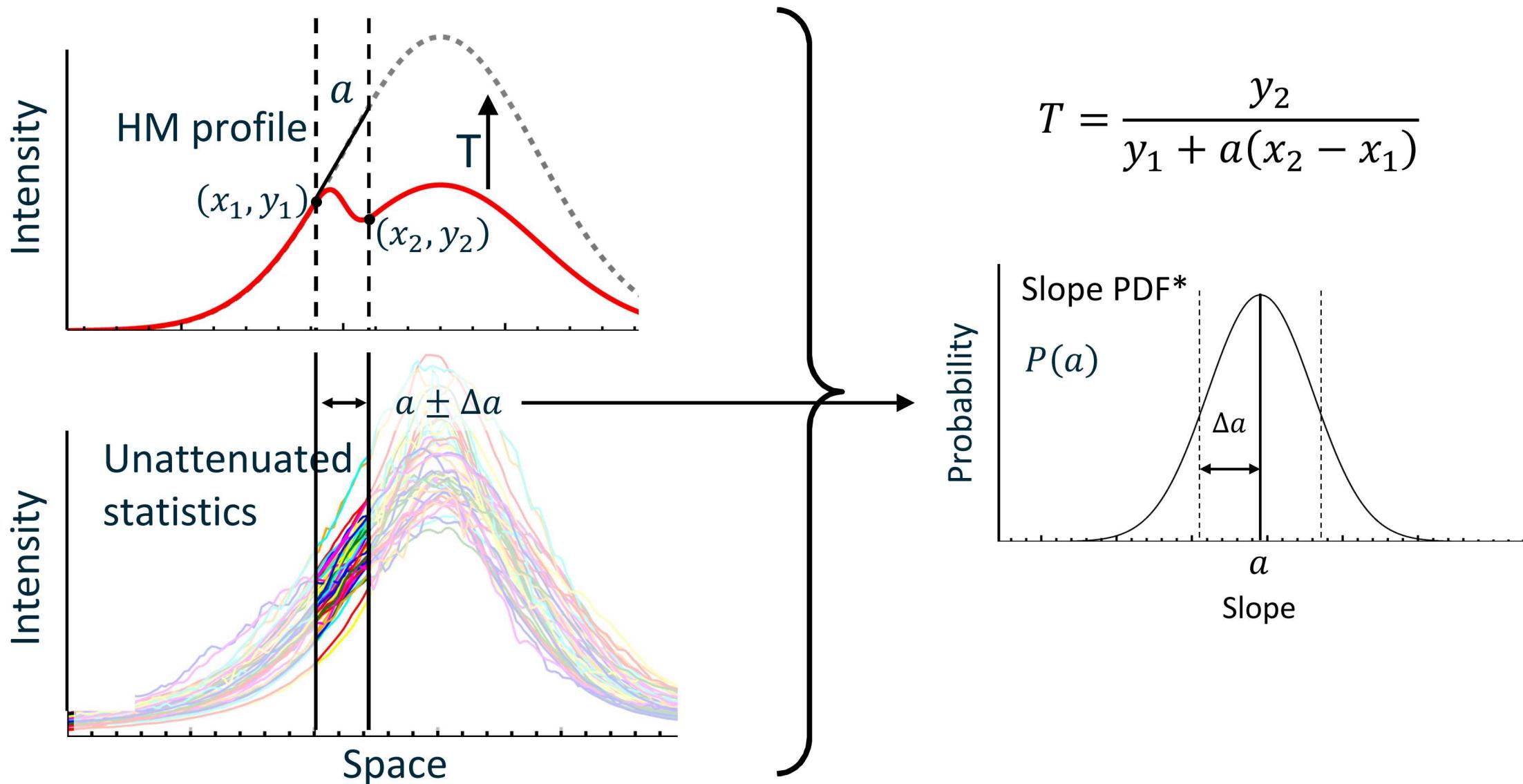


Example: transmission from boundary-slope statistics



$$T = \frac{y_2}{y_1 + a(x_2 - x_1)}$$

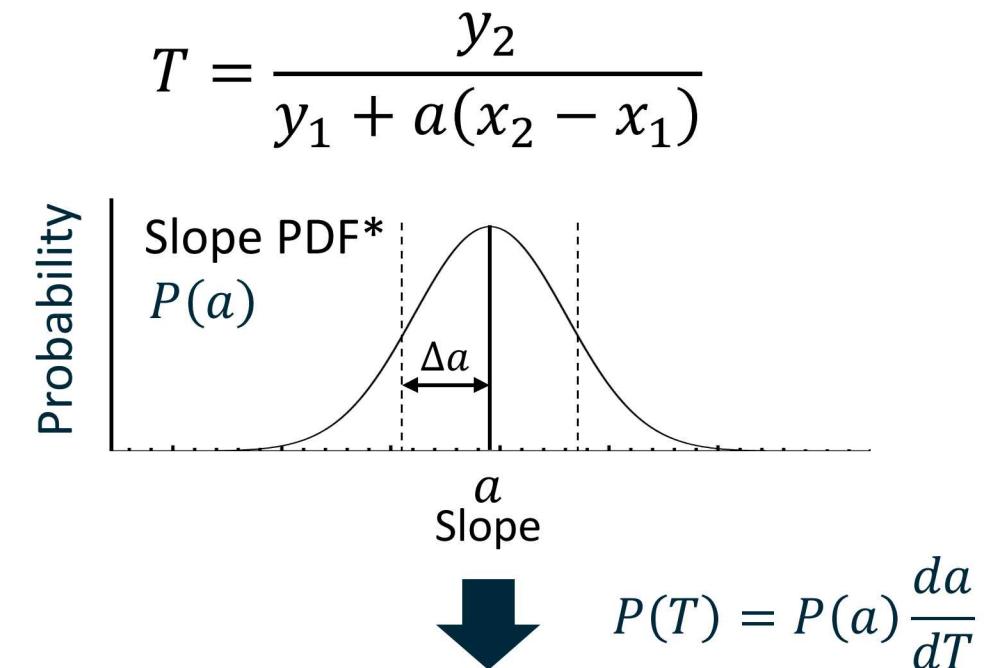
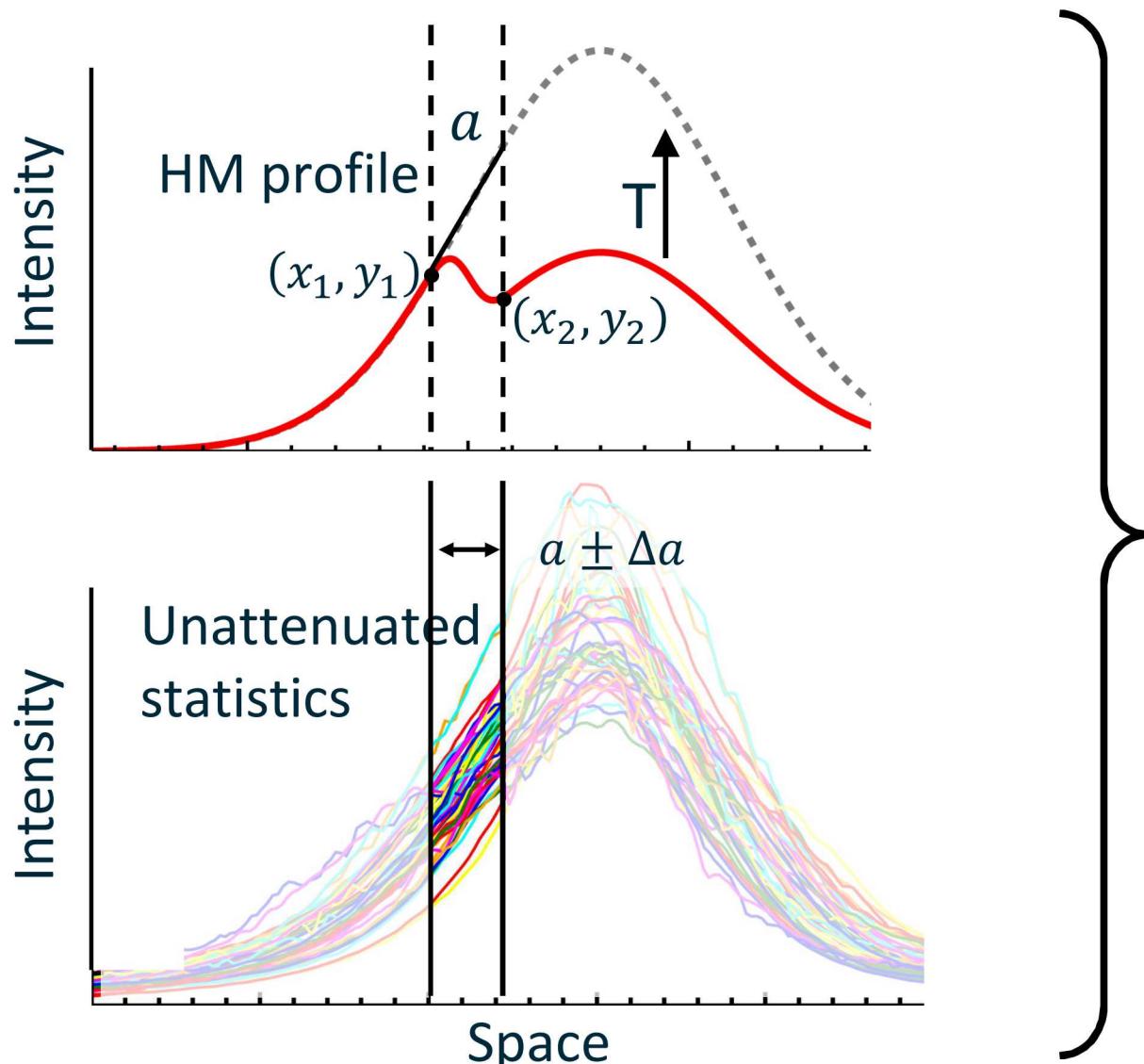
Example: transmission from boundary-slope statistics



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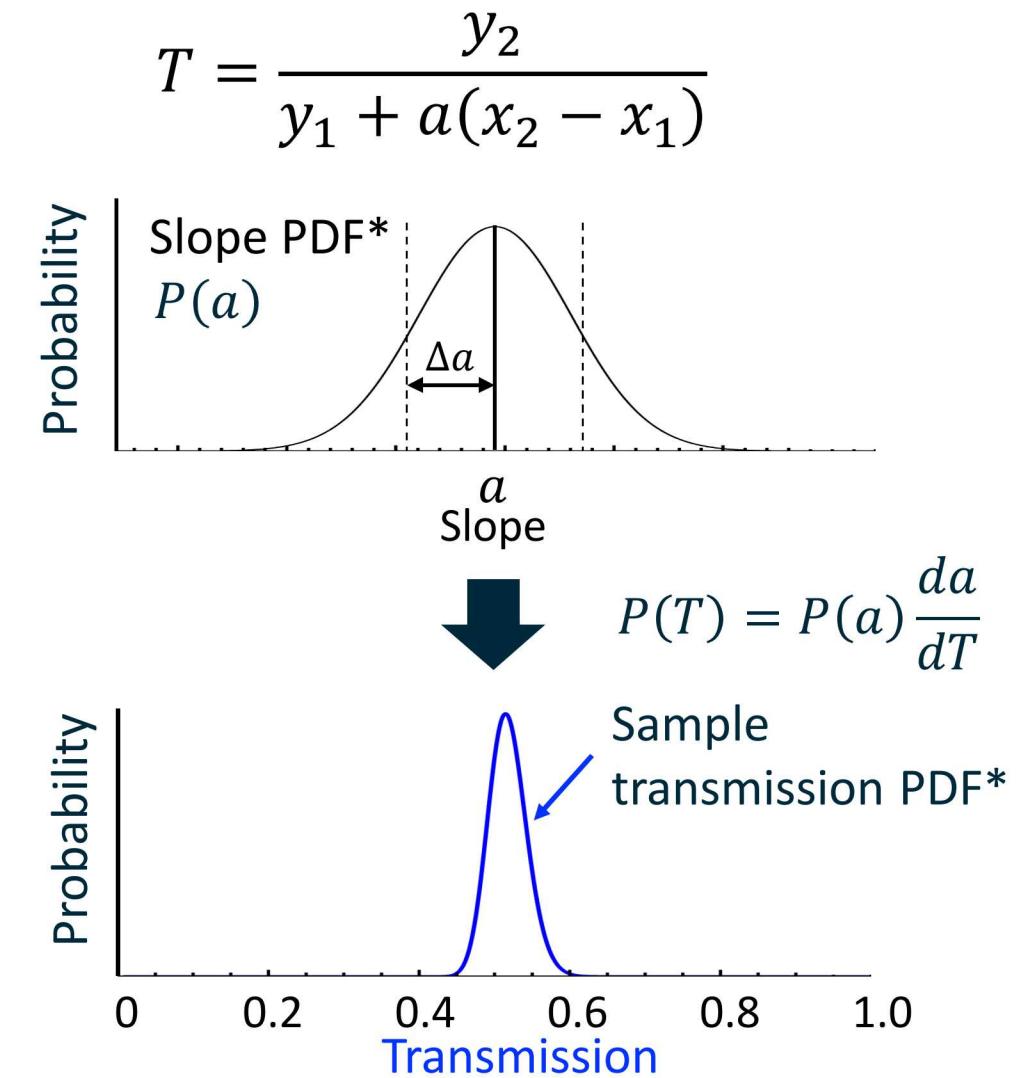
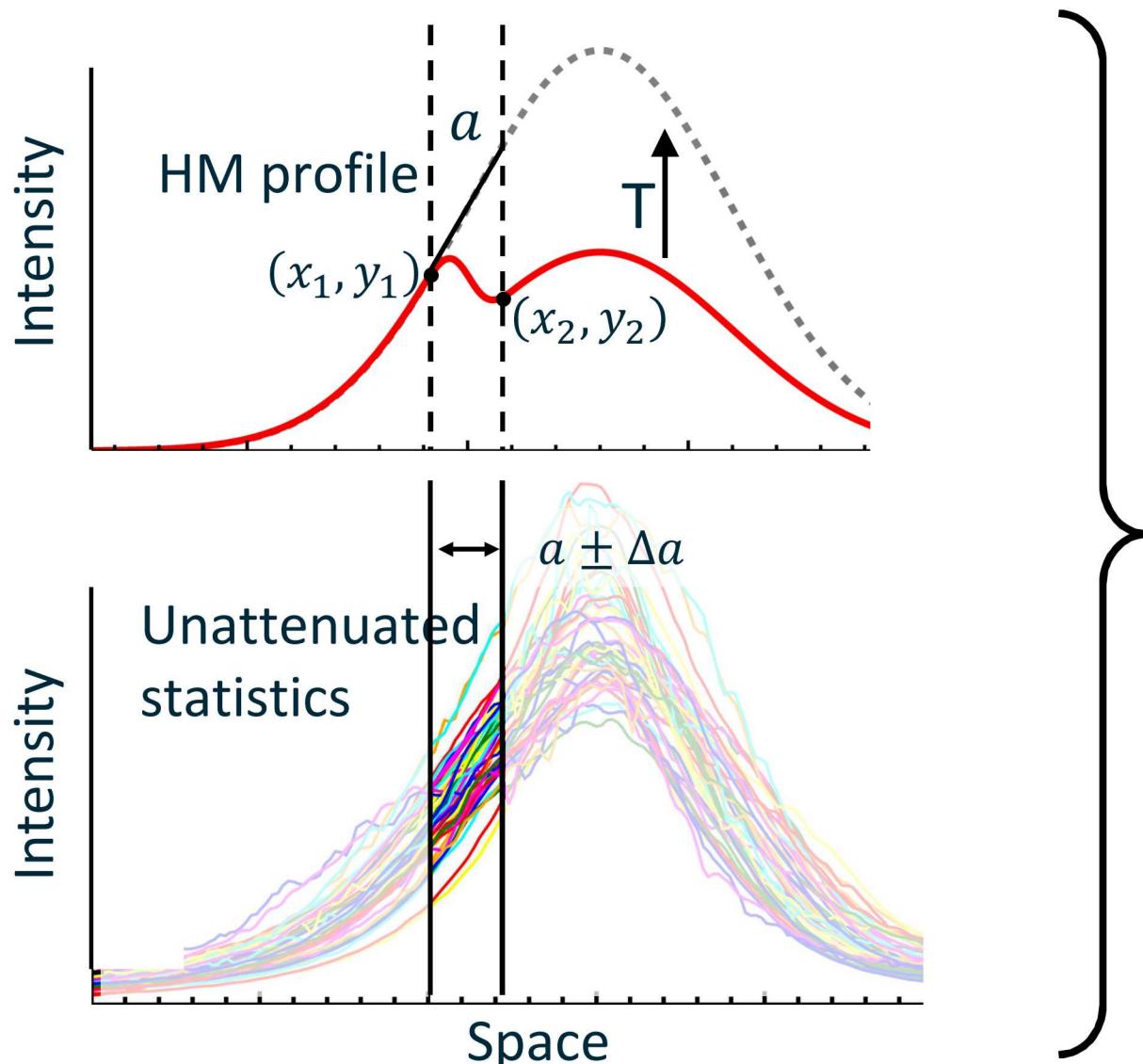
*PDF = Probability distribution function

Example: transmission from boundary-slope statistics



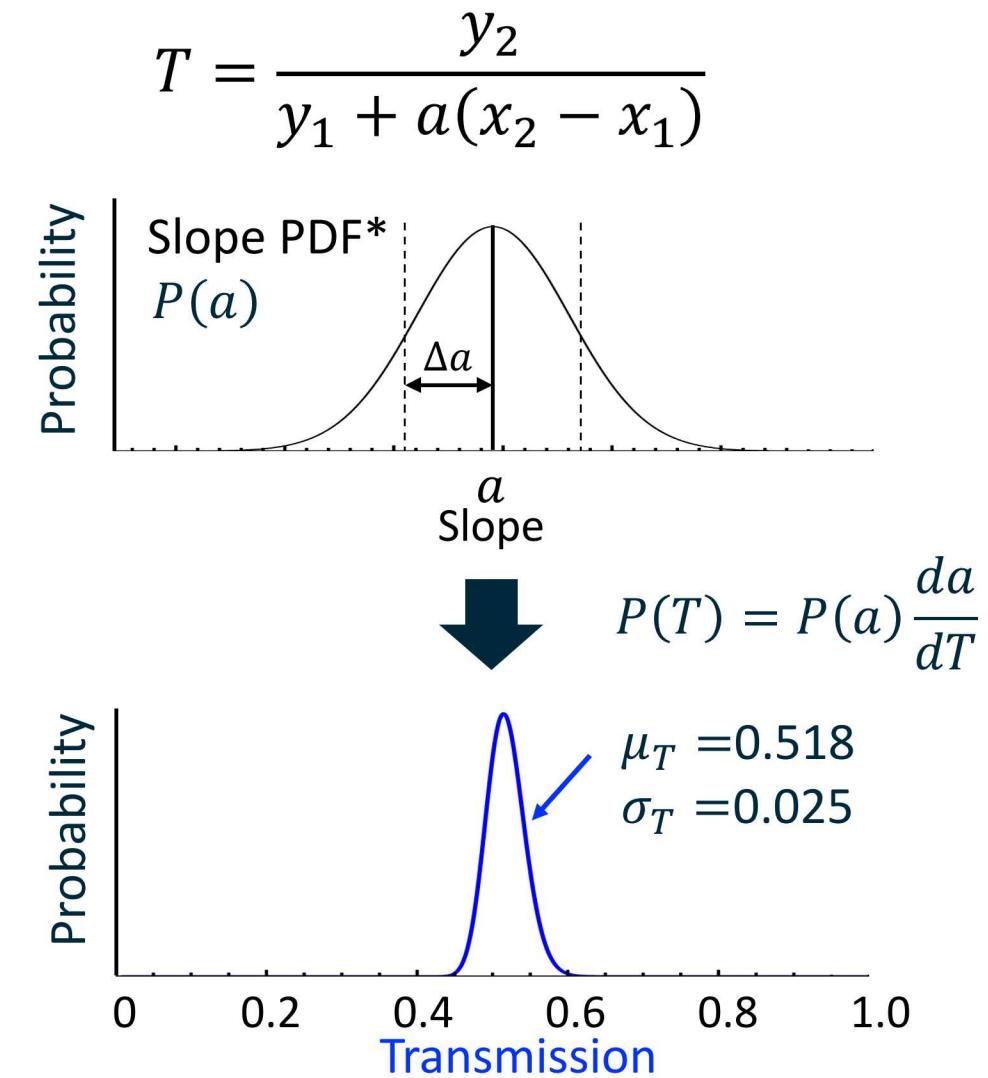
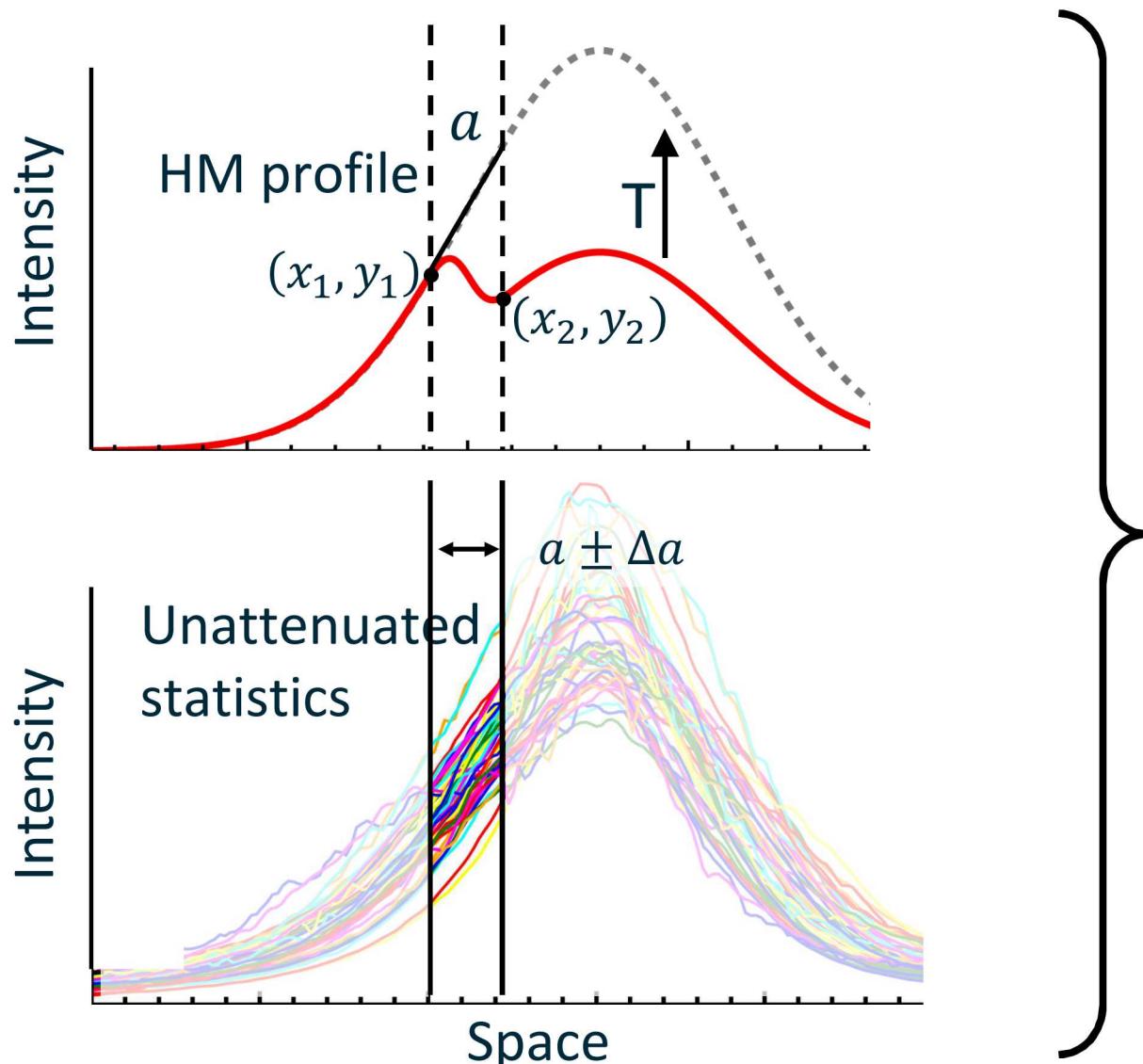
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Example: transmission from boundary-slope statistics



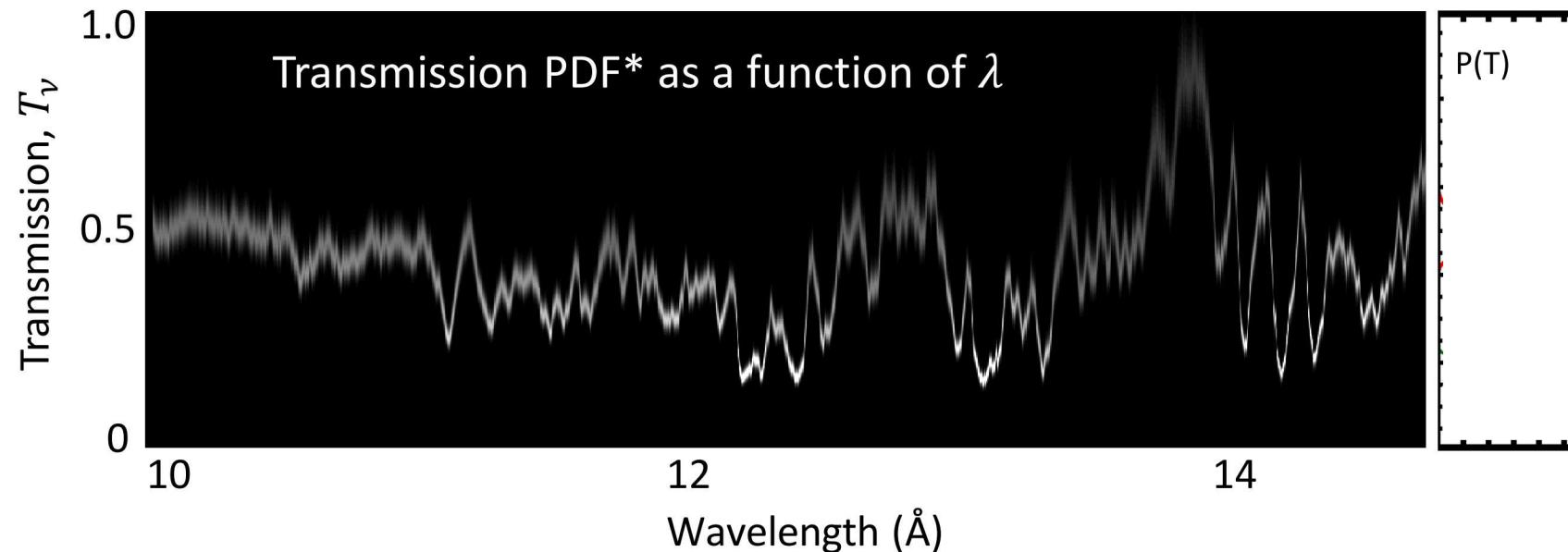
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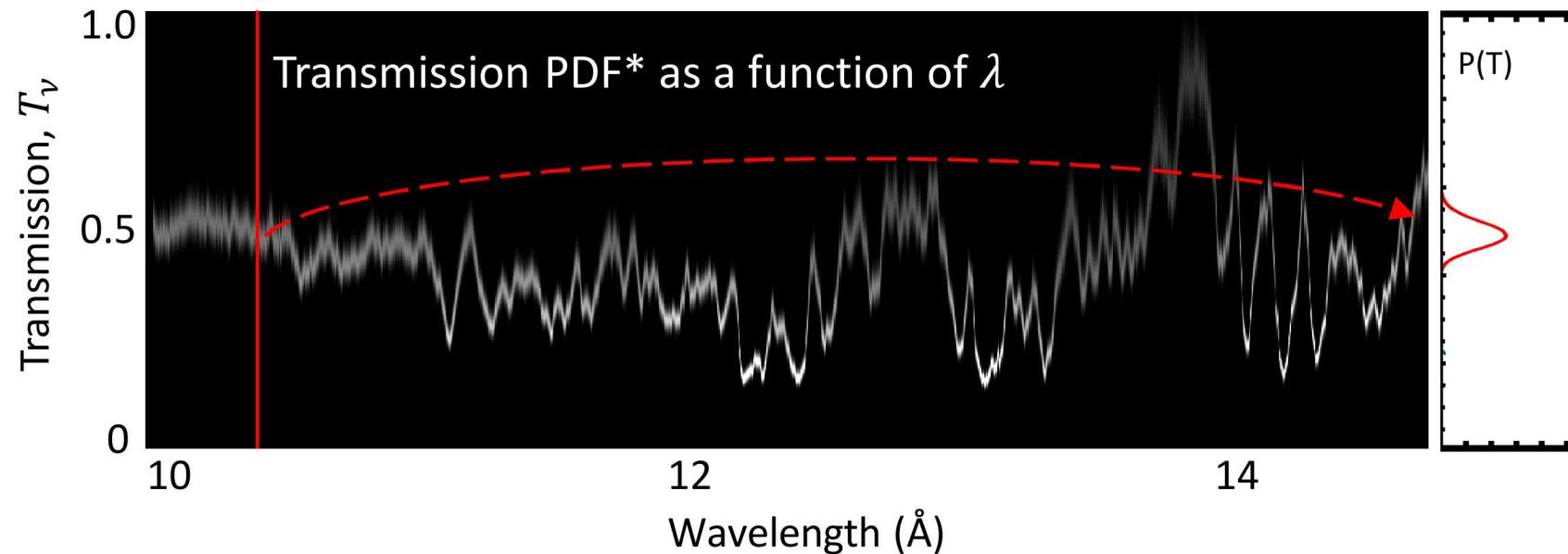


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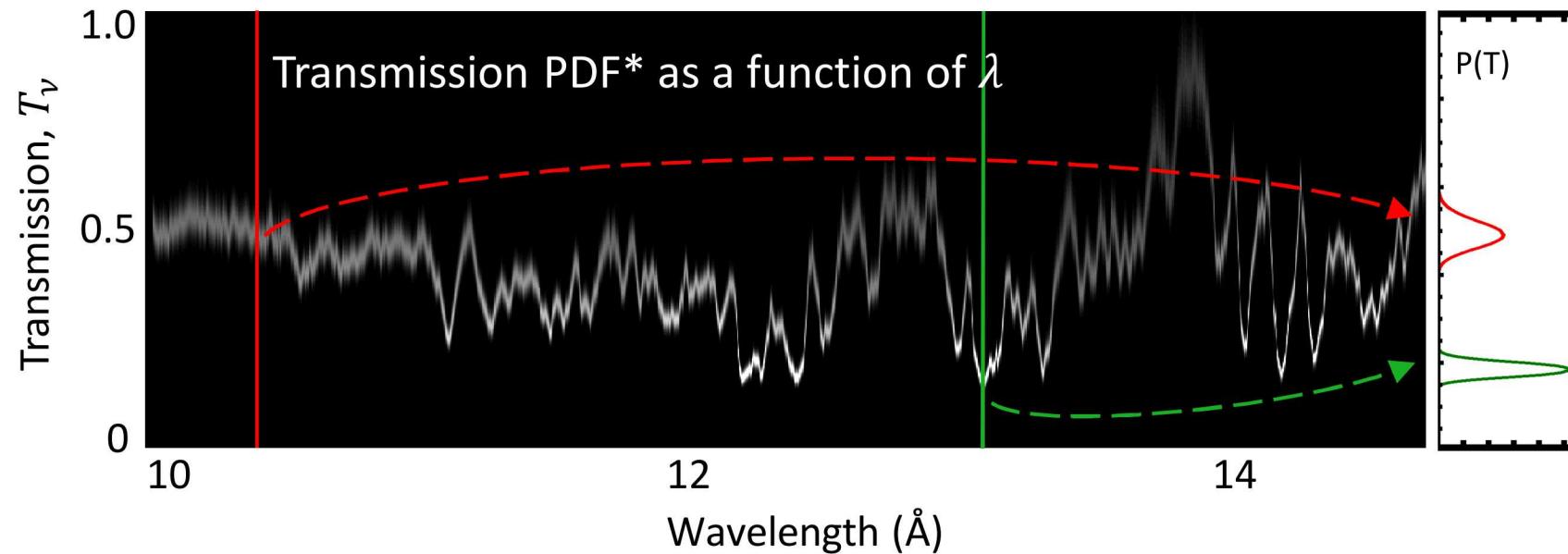
Transmission PDF as a function of λ is determined by repeating HM-spatial-profile analysis at multiple wavelengths



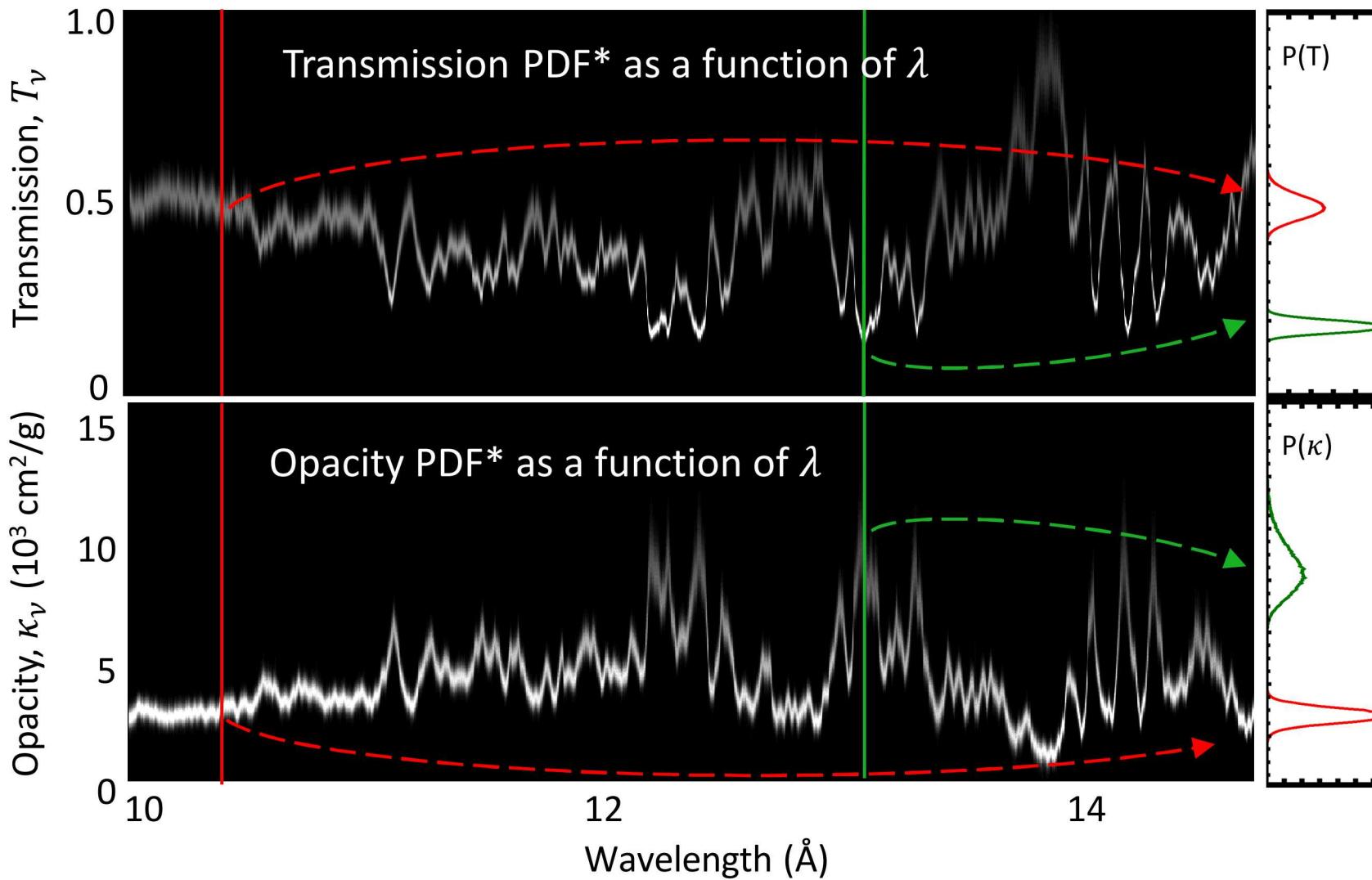
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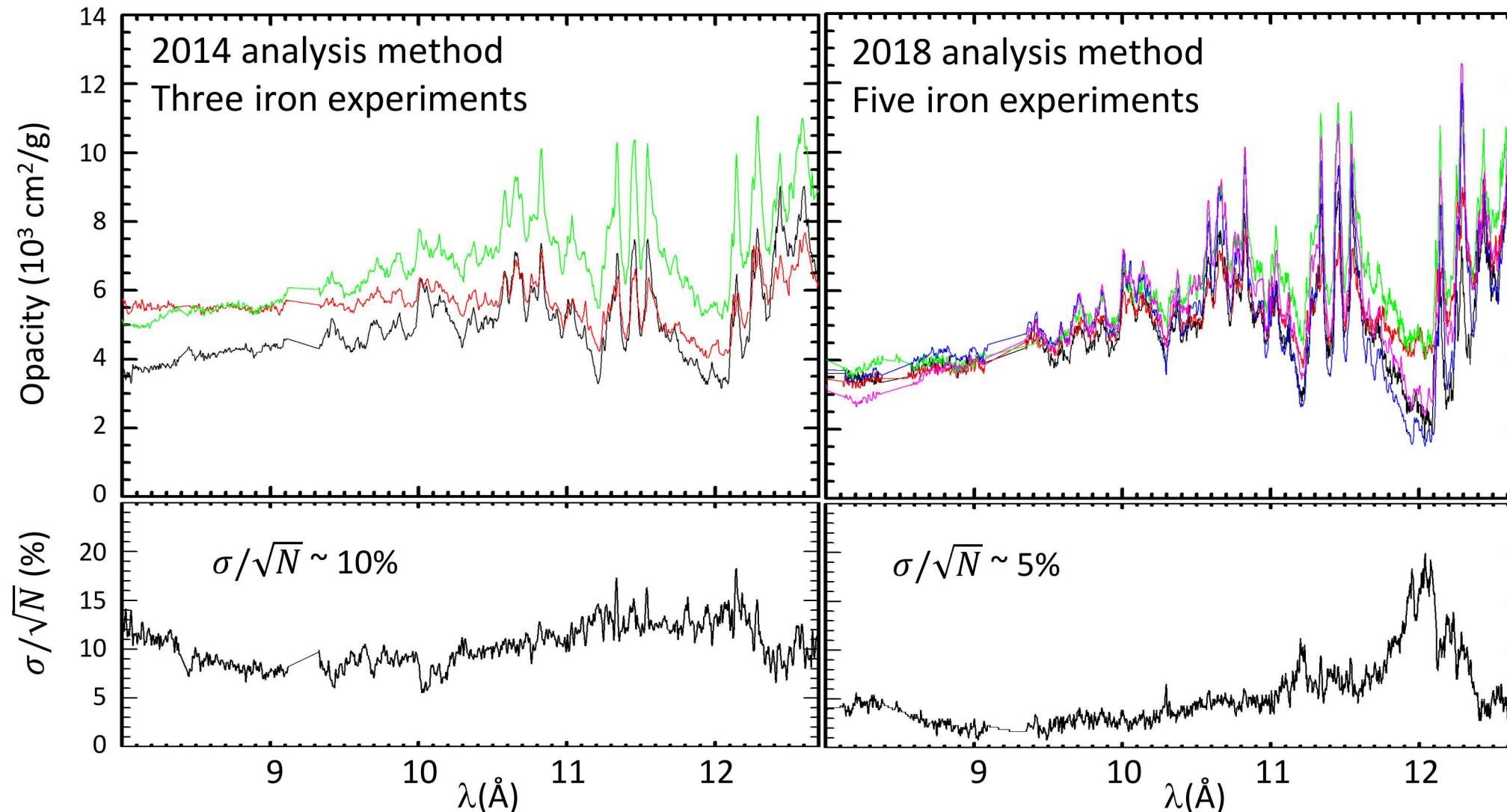
Transmission PDF is converted to opacity PDF using Monte-Carlo technique, propagating various uncertainties



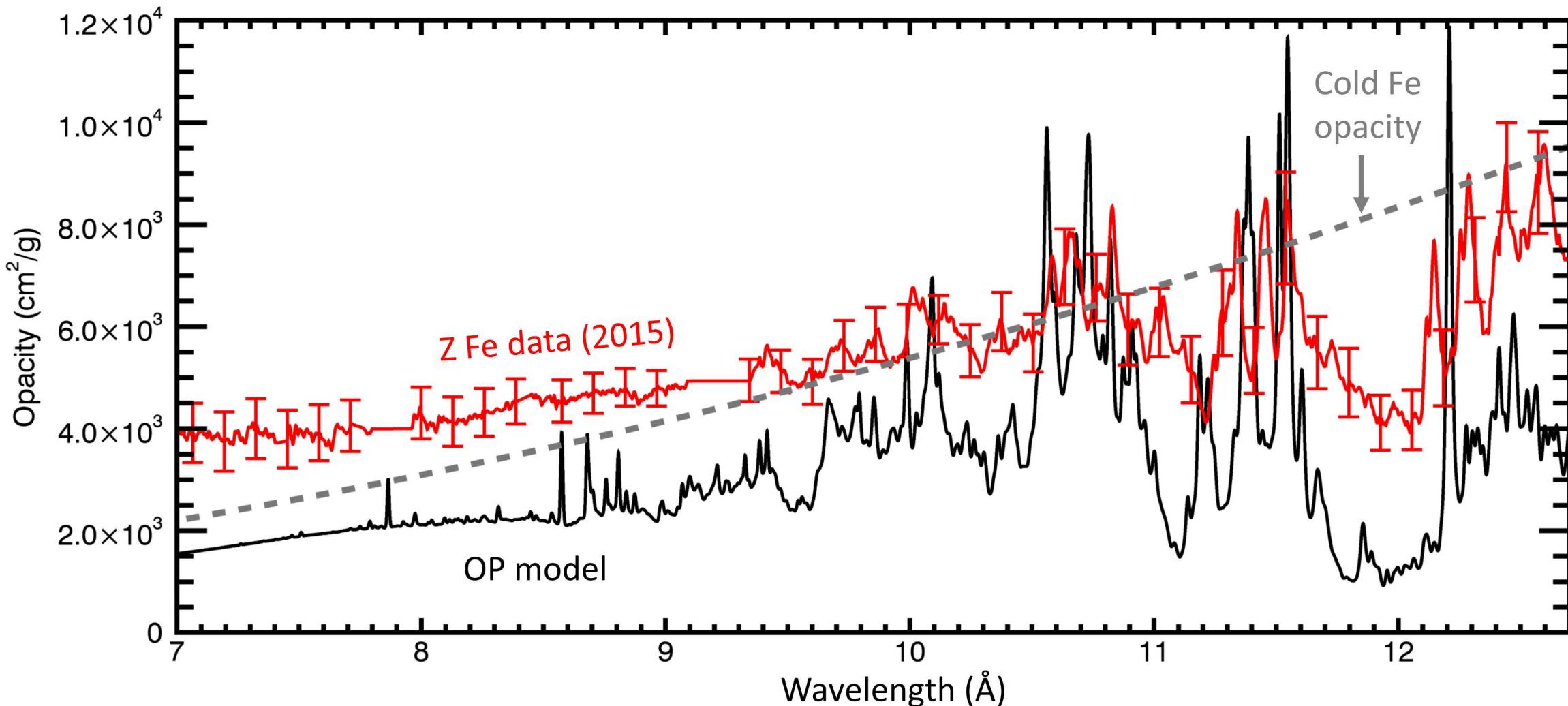
Monte-Carlo to propagate errors:

- Transmission error
- Background subtraction error
- Areal density error

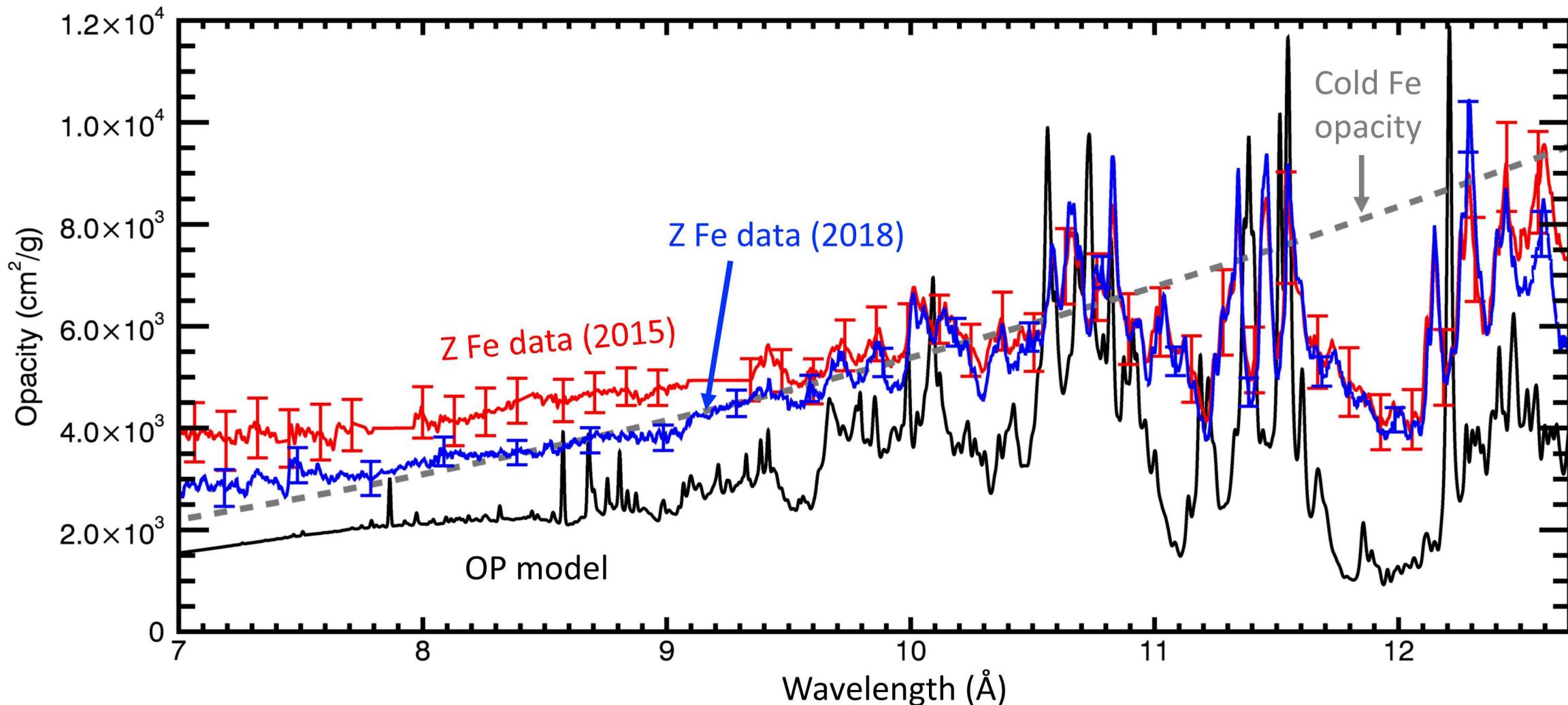
Both refined analysis and more experiments helped to improve shot-to-shot agreement on Anchor2 Fe



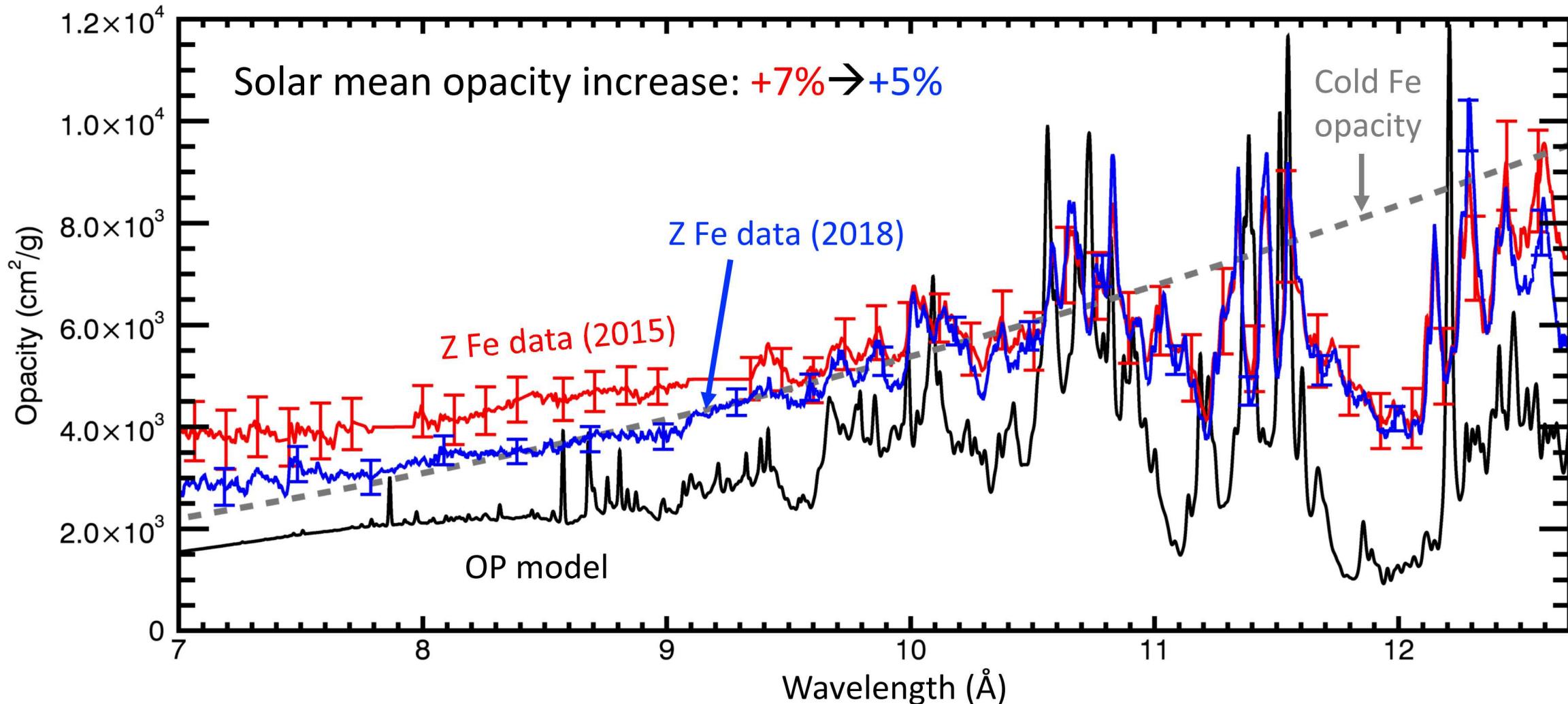
Analysis from 2015 showed 2x higher quasi-continuum opacity than astrophysical opacity-model prediction



New analysis reduced the quasi-continuum disagreement from 2.0x to 1.6x, approaching to cold Fe opacity limit

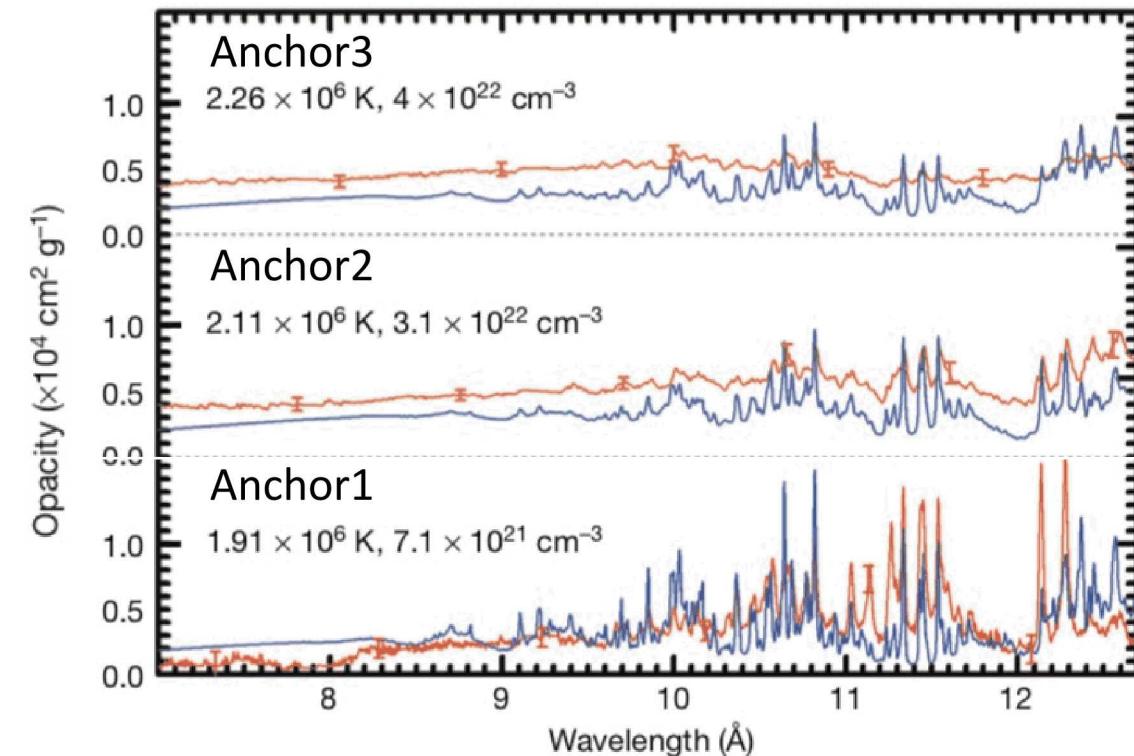


New analysis reduced the quasi-continuum disagreement from 2.0x to 1.6x, approaching to cold Fe opacity limit



Revised Fe results still show statistically significant disagreement; More work needed to update Fe results

- Anchor2:
 - Mode-data disagreement is statistically significant
 $4\sigma \rightarrow 4\sigma$ (for OP*)
 - Very little change in BB and Windows
 - Impact on solar mean is still important
 - More data to be included
- Anchor3:
 - Biggest model-data discrepancy
→ Need to be reanalyzed.
 - We acquire more data
- Anchor1:
 - It helps to rule out various hypothesis for experiment flaws
(e.g., LTE, temporal gradient, areal density errors, etc)



Bailey, Nagayama, et al, Nature (2015)

The systematic study of Cr, Fe, and Ni provides a holistic view on the complicated model-data discrepancy

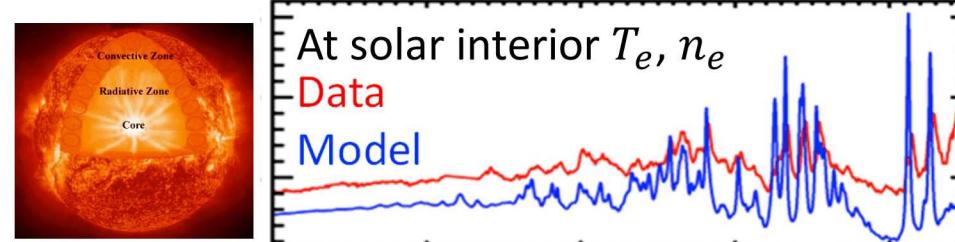
* OP: Astrophysics opacity code by Seaton et al., *MNRAS* (1994)

Systematic study of L-shell opacities with refined analysis validates experiment reliability and suggest necessary model refinements



- Fe L-shell opacity is measured at solar interior conditions and revealed severe model-data discrepancy

→ Is opacity theory wrong? Is experiment flawed?

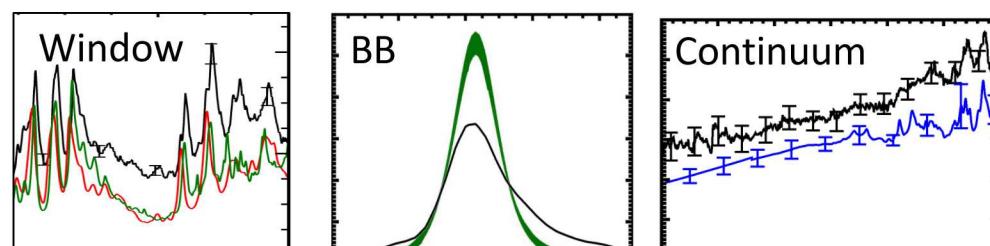
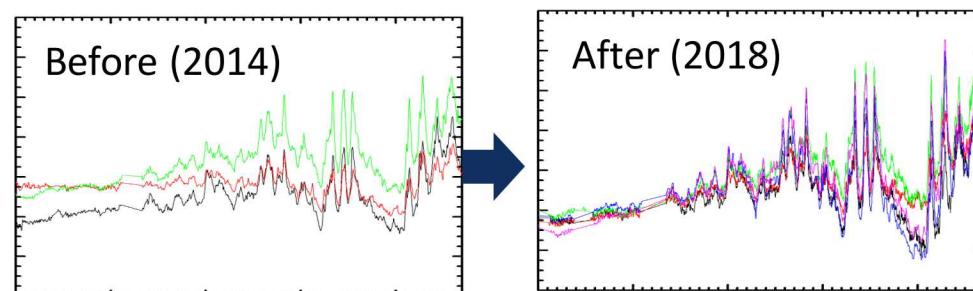


- Refined analysis improved shot-to-shot reproducibility, demonstrating opacity experiment reliability

- Systematic measurement of Cr, Fe, and Ni opacities

suggests model refinements in three areas

- Window: Challenge associated with open L-shell config.
- BB: Inaccurate treatment of density effects
- Continuum: Peculiar dependence on atomic number

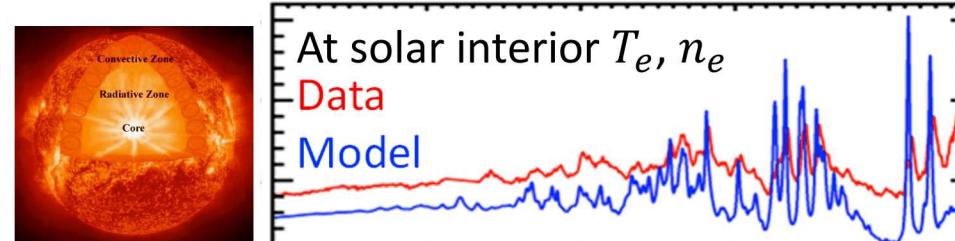


High reproducibility demonstrates unprecedented benchmark capability of SNL opacity platform

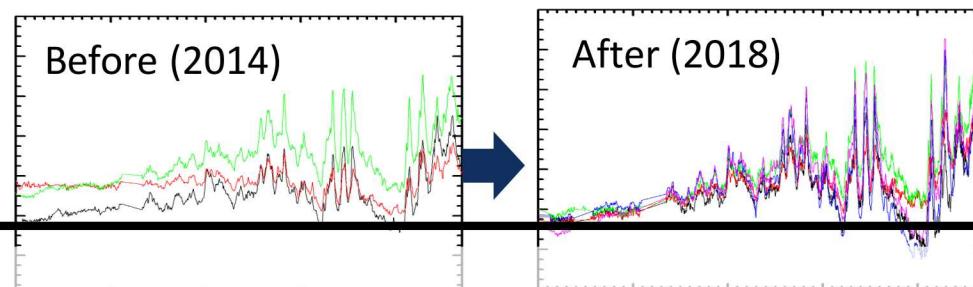
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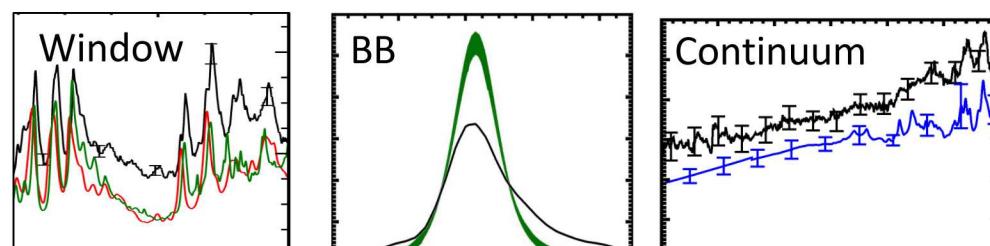


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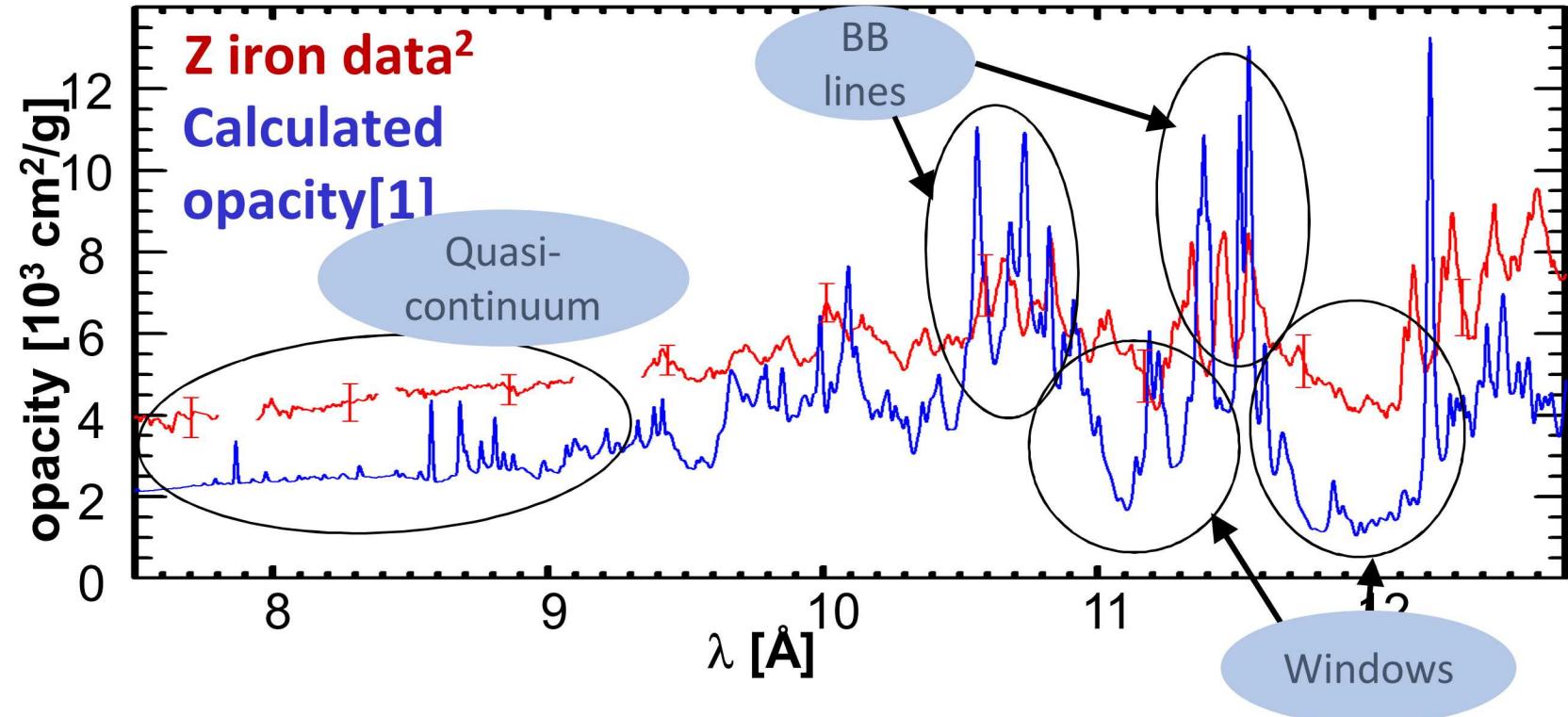
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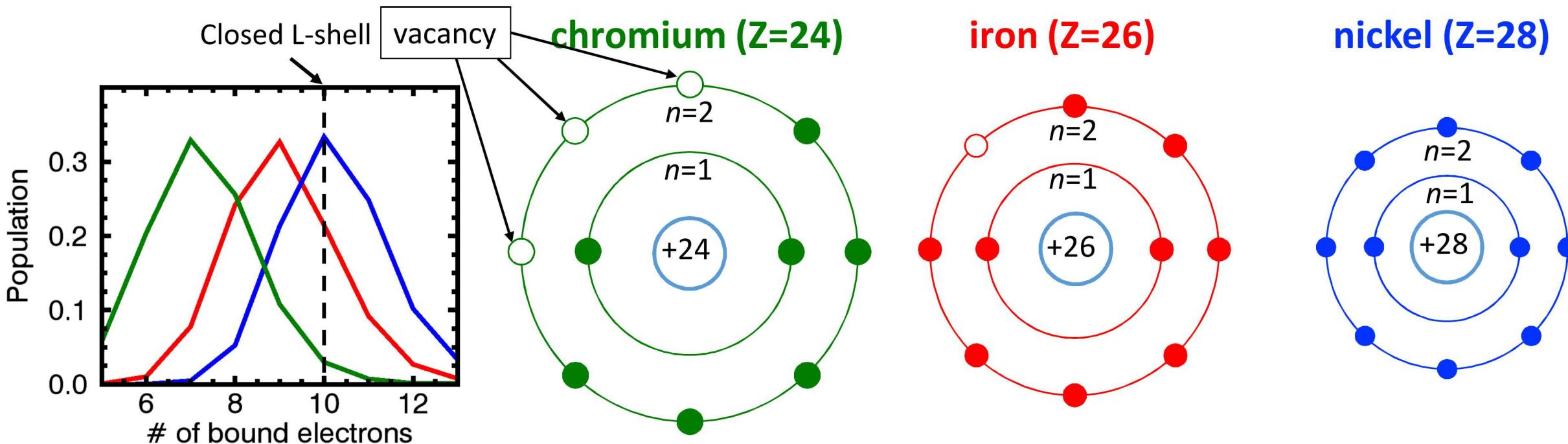
High reproducibility demonstrates unprecedented benchmark capability of SNL opacity platform

If opacity theory is wrong, which part of calculations is wrong?

- Atomic data?
- Population?
- Density effects?
- Missing physics?

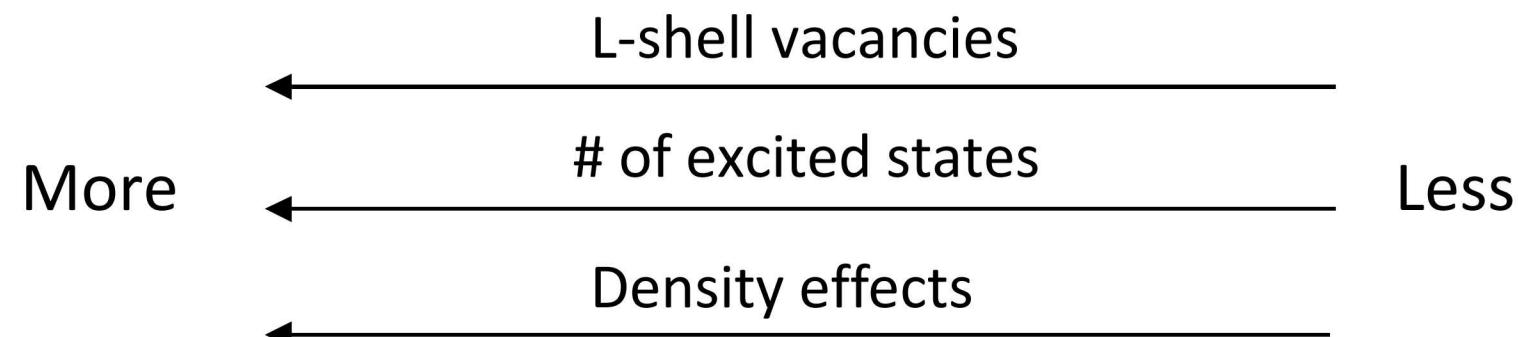


Different elements interact with plasma differently, providing unprecedented constraints for testing theory and experiments

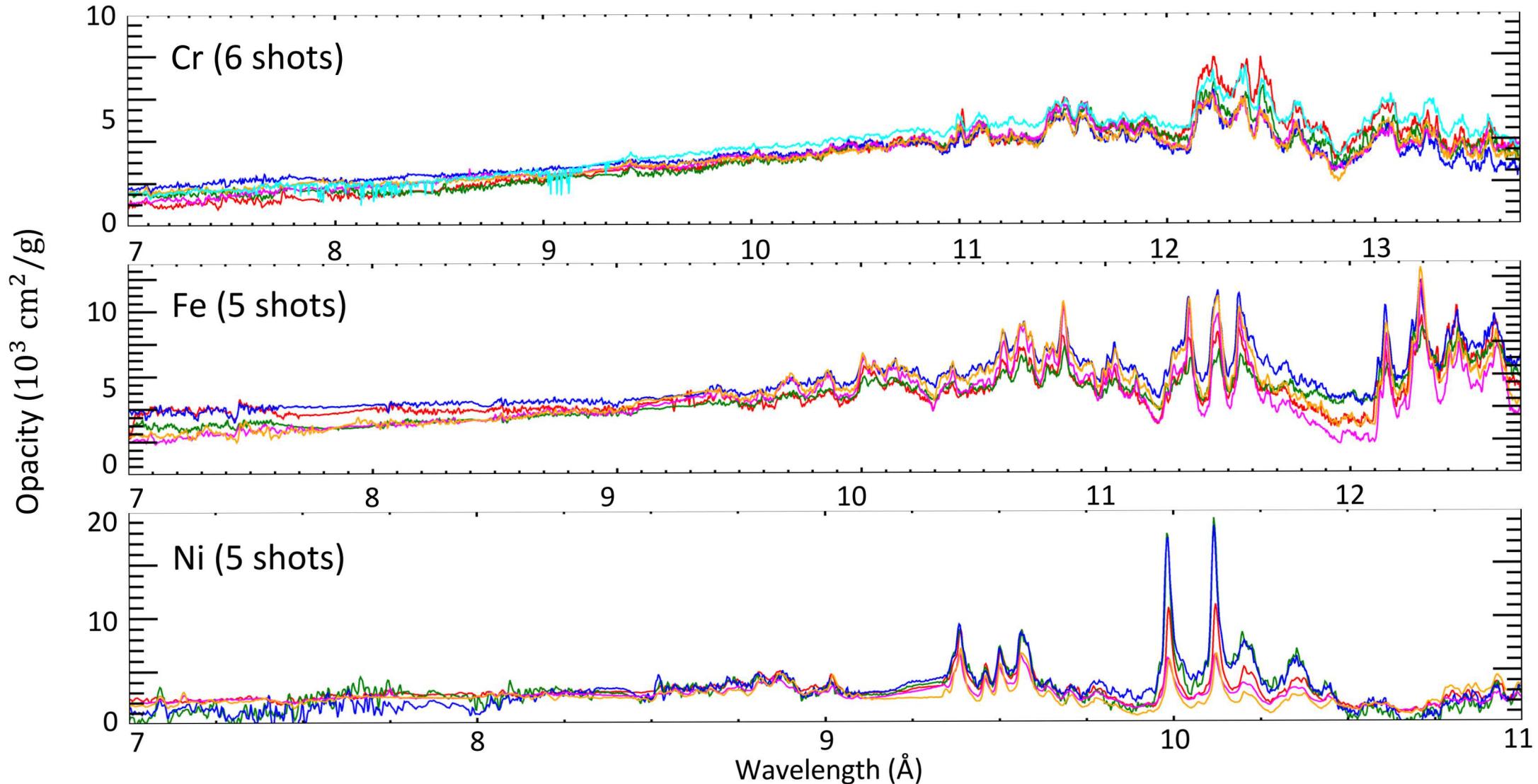


Questioning Theory:

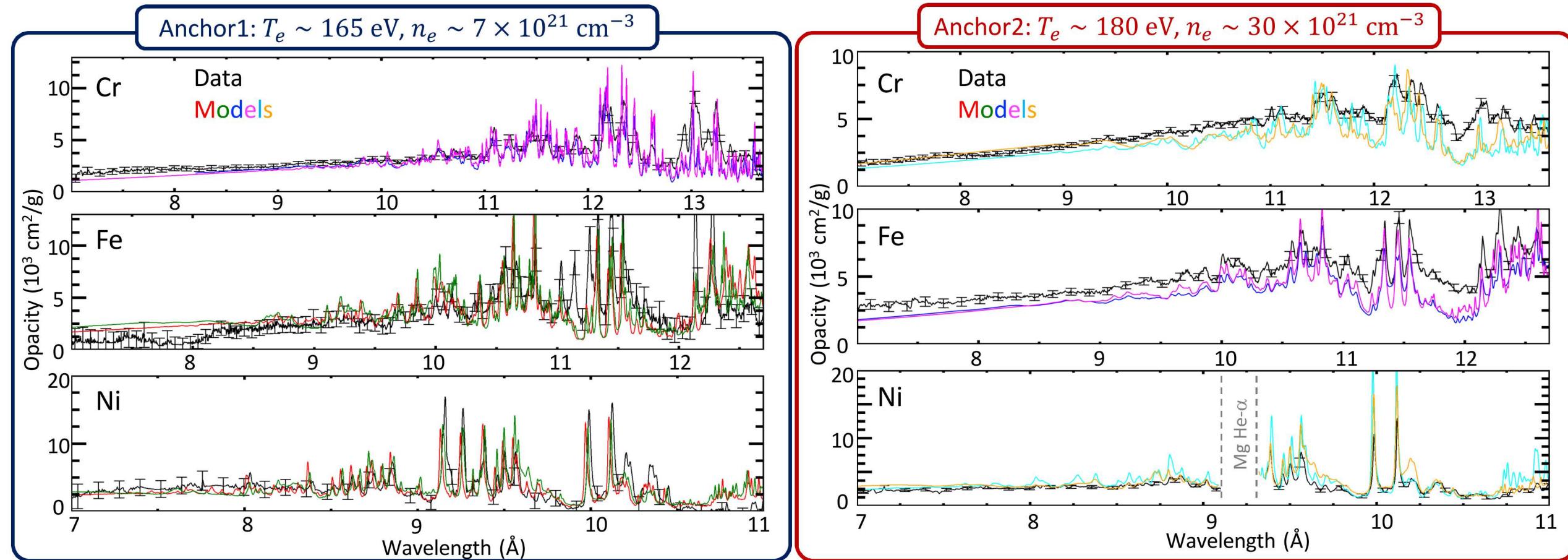
- Atomic data?
- Population?
- Density effects?
- Missing physics?



Excellent reproducibility is confirmed from all three elements, demonstrating experiment/analysis reliability



First systematic study of high-temperature L-shell opacities were performed for Cr, Fe, and Ni at two conditions

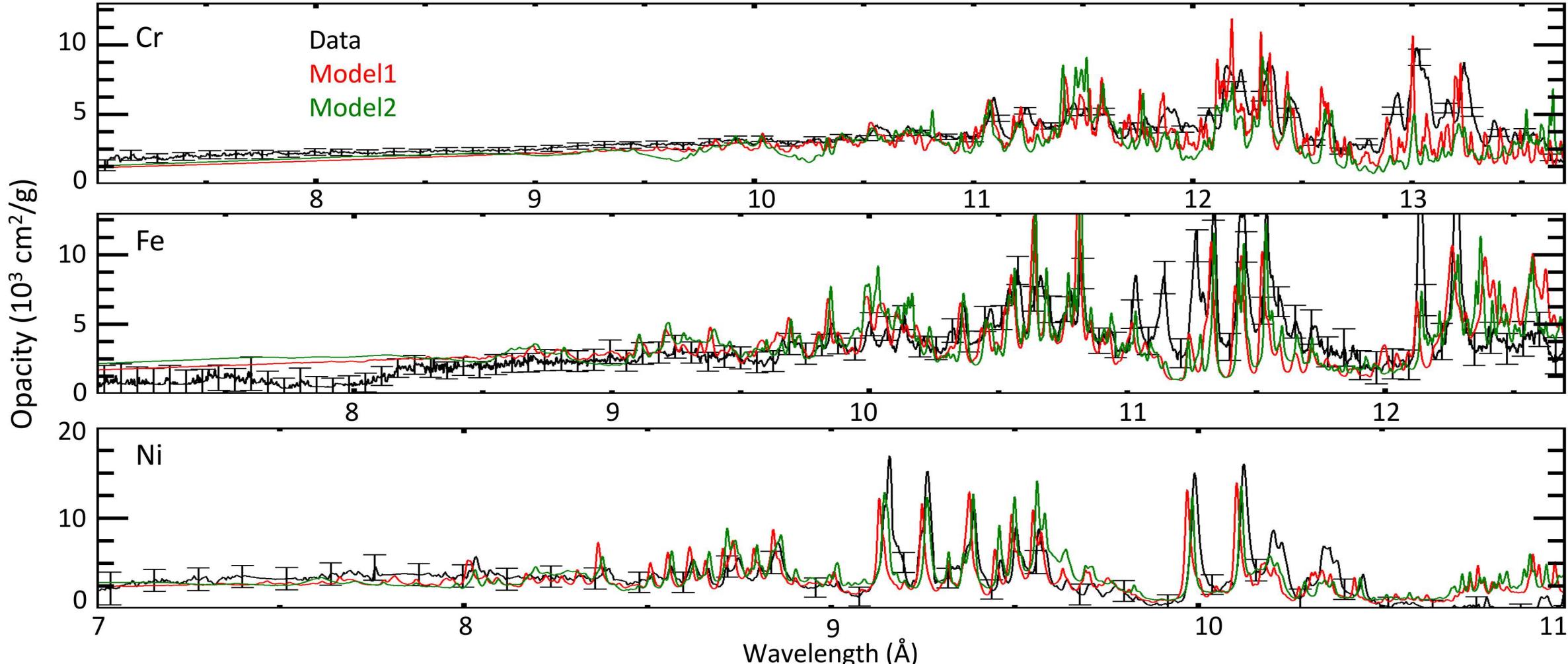


- Opacities are measured at $T_e > 150 \text{ eV}$
- T_e and n_e are diagnosed independently
- Reproducibility is confirmed

Systematically performed for Cr, Fe, Ni at two conditions

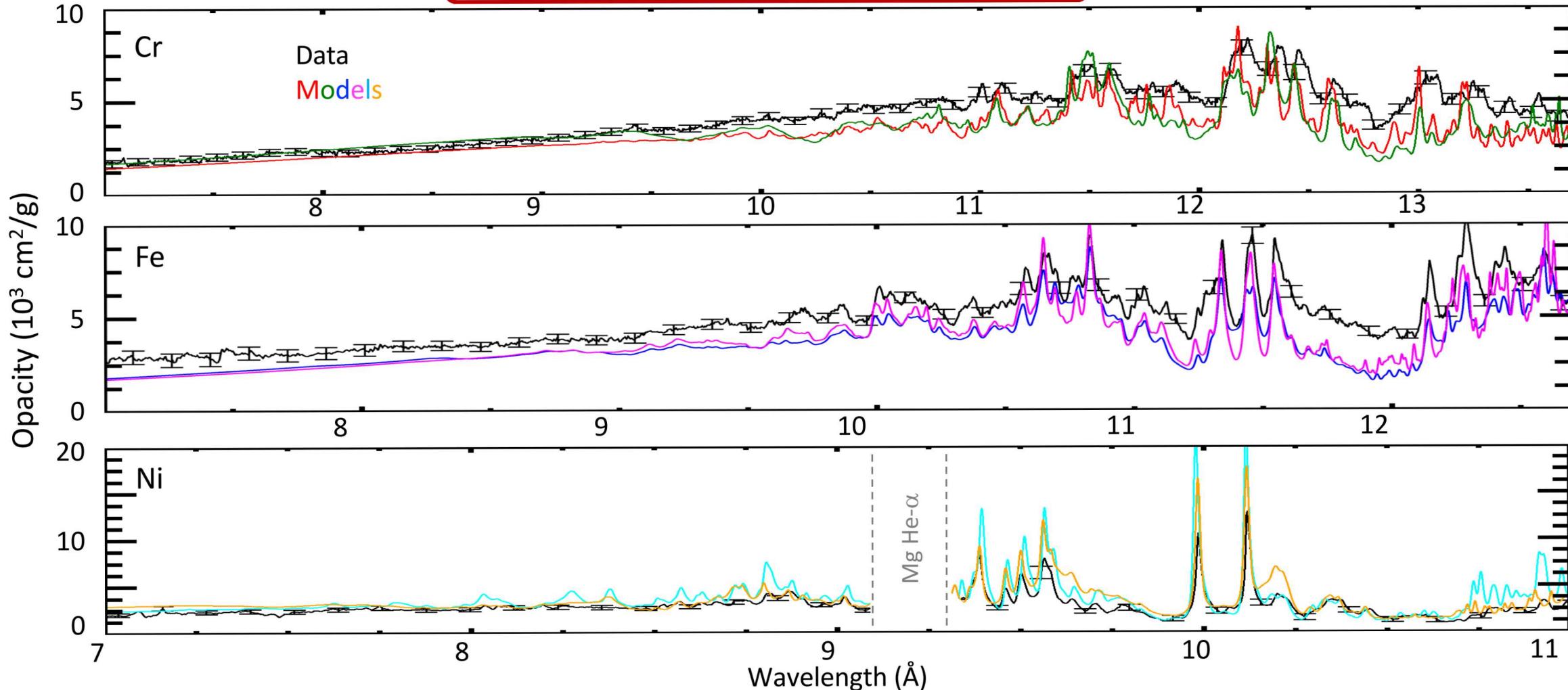
Anchor1: Modeled and measured opacities agree reasonably well at lower temperature and density

$T_e \sim 165 \text{ eV}, n_e \sim 7 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

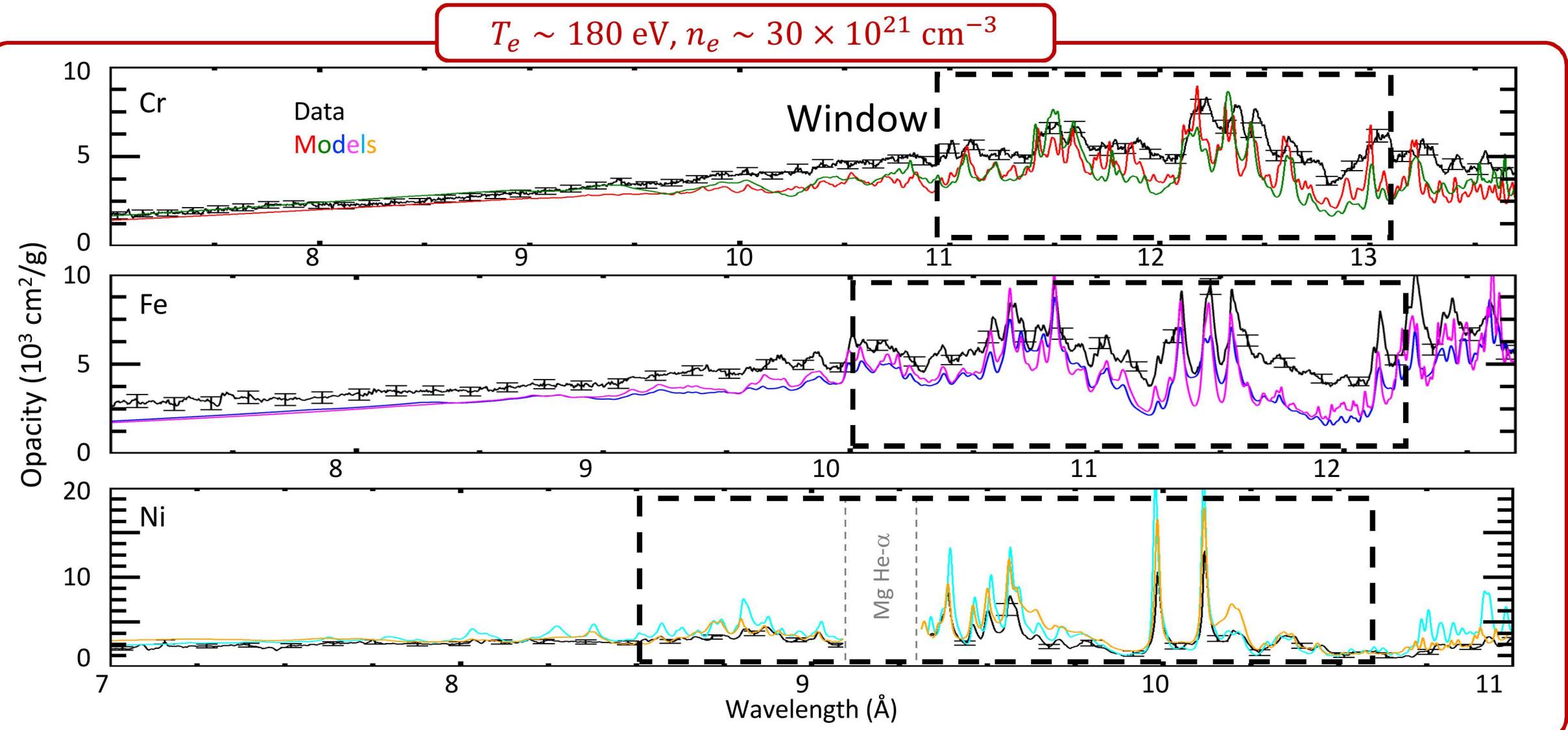


Anchor2: Interesting element-dependent disagreement appears as approaching to stellar interior conditions

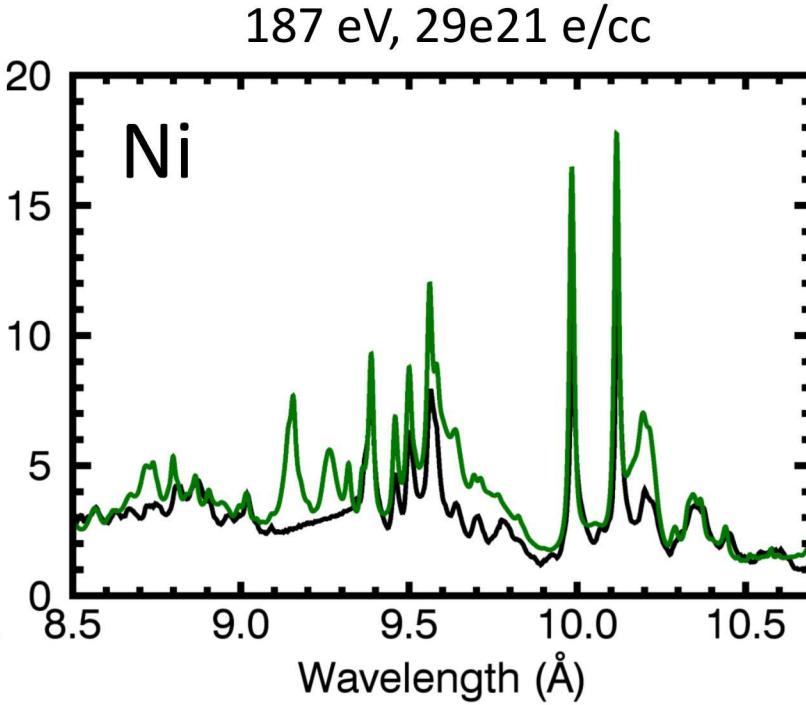
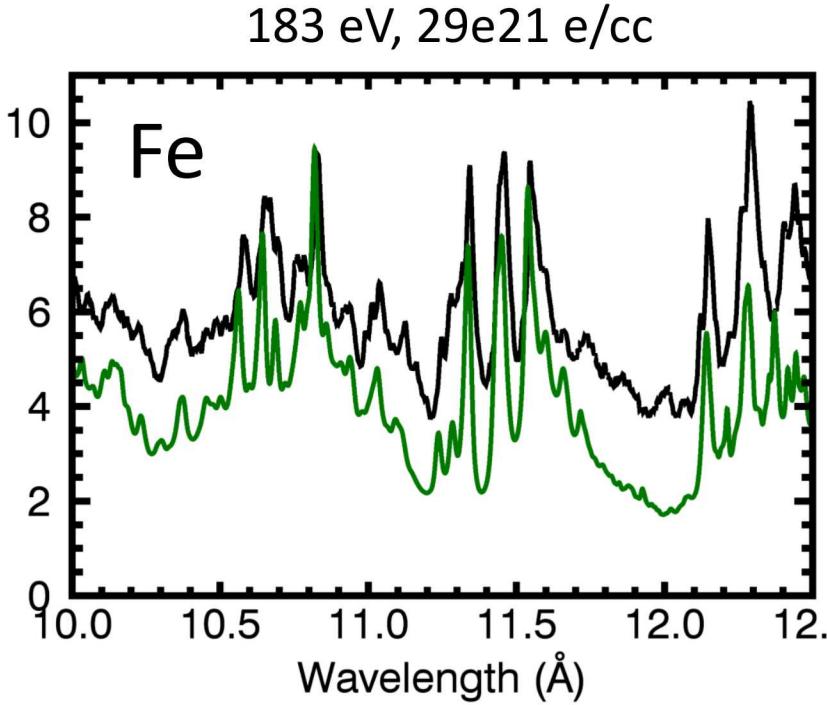
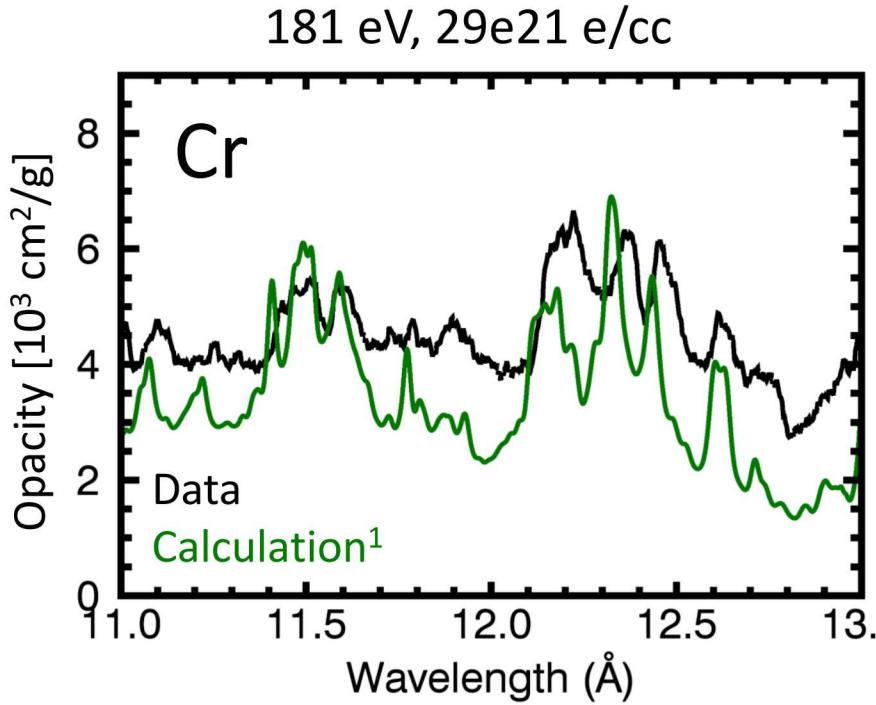
$T_e \sim 180 \text{ eV}, n_e \sim 30 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$



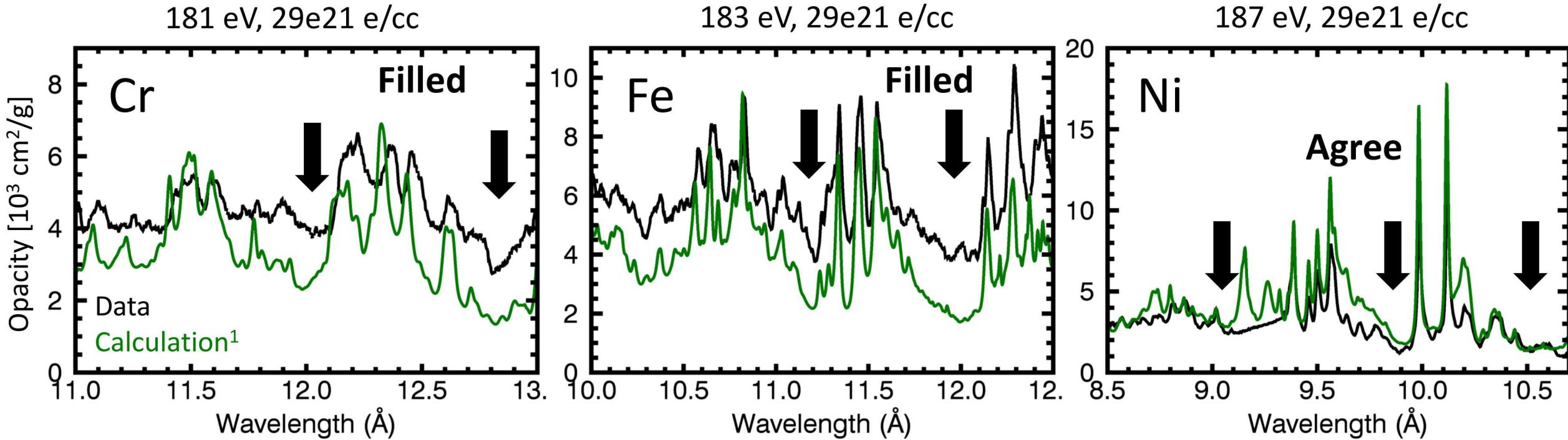
Anchor2: Interesting element-dependent disagreement appears as approaching to stellar interior conditions



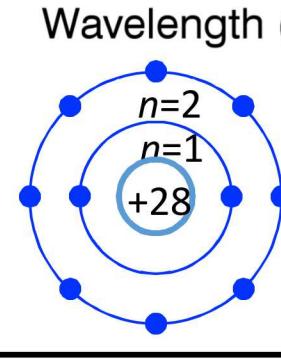
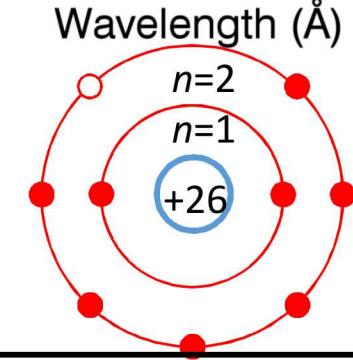
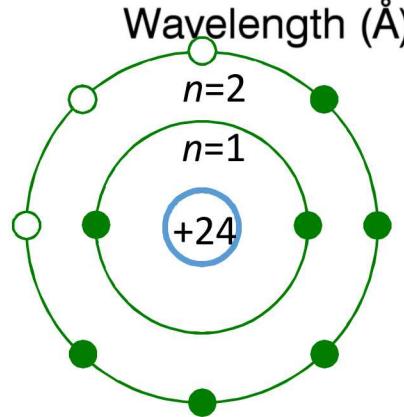
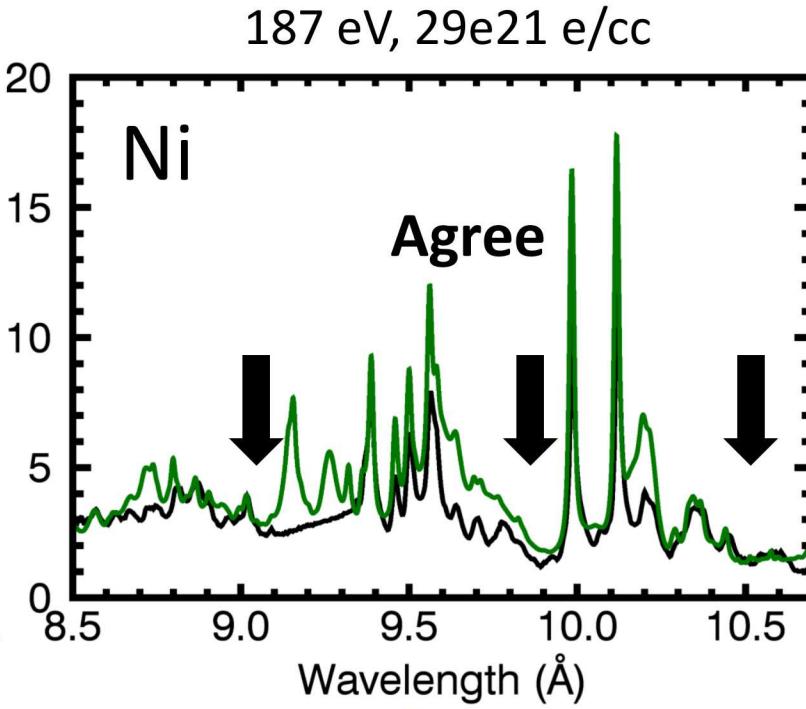
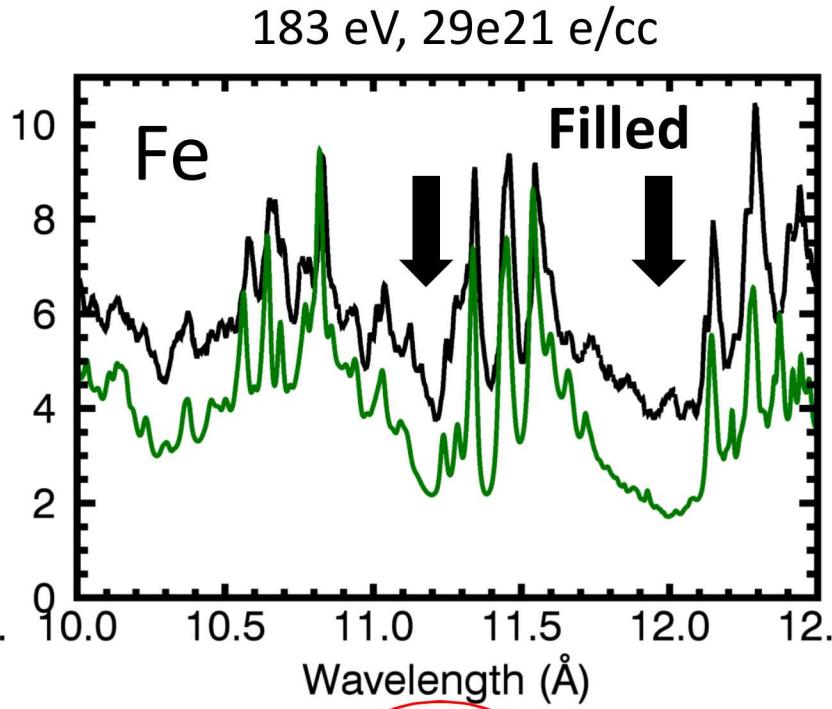
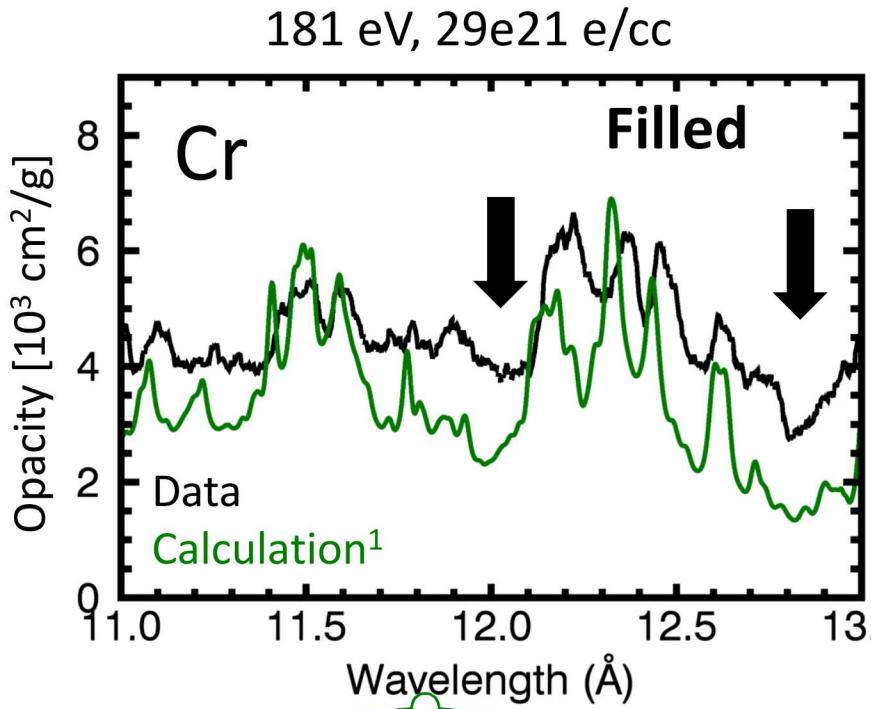
Window: Filled window observed from Cr and Fe, but not Ni



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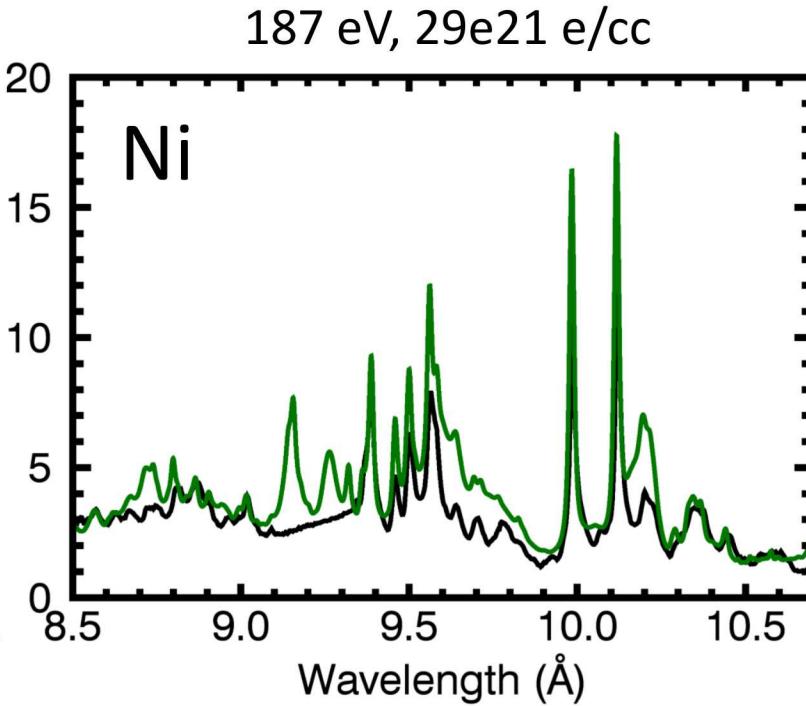
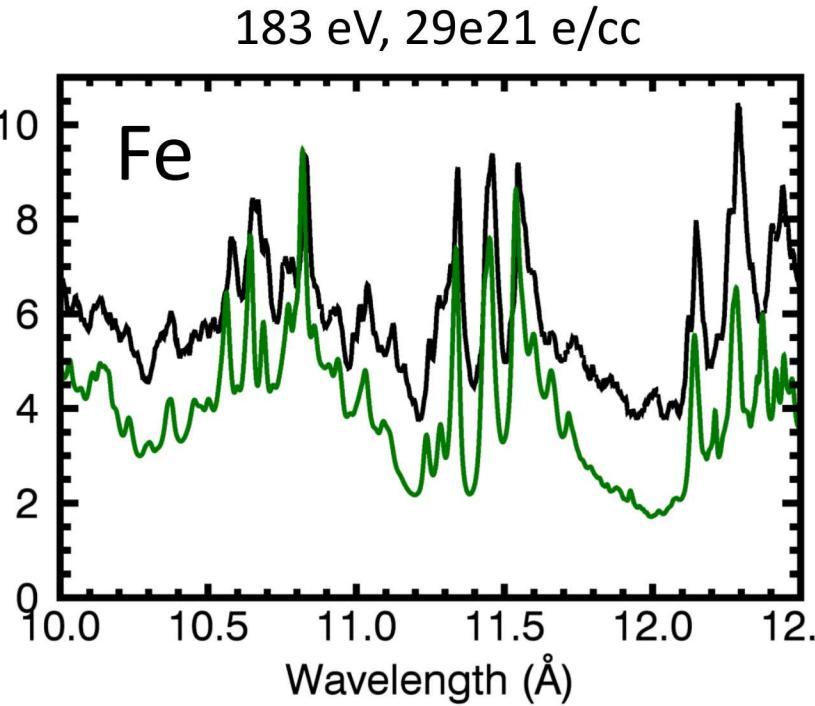
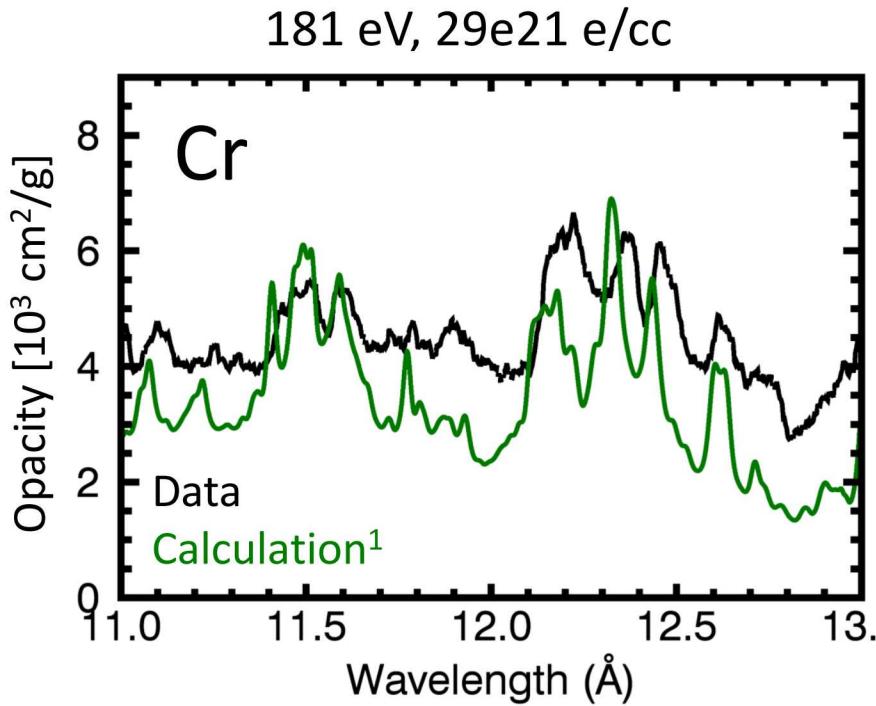


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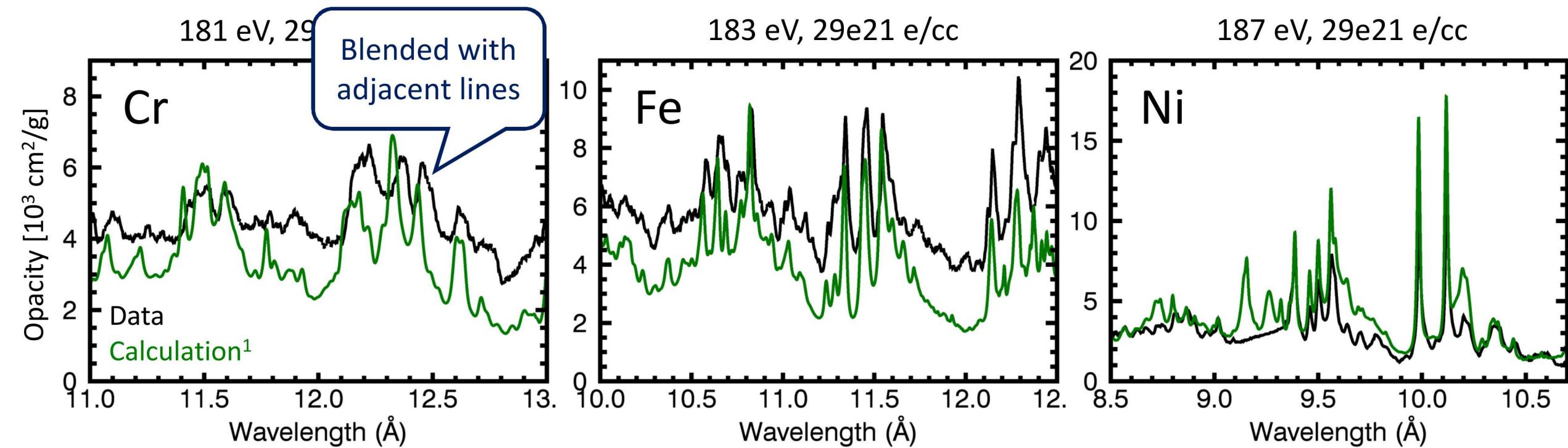


Hypothesis: Challenge associated with open L-shell configuration

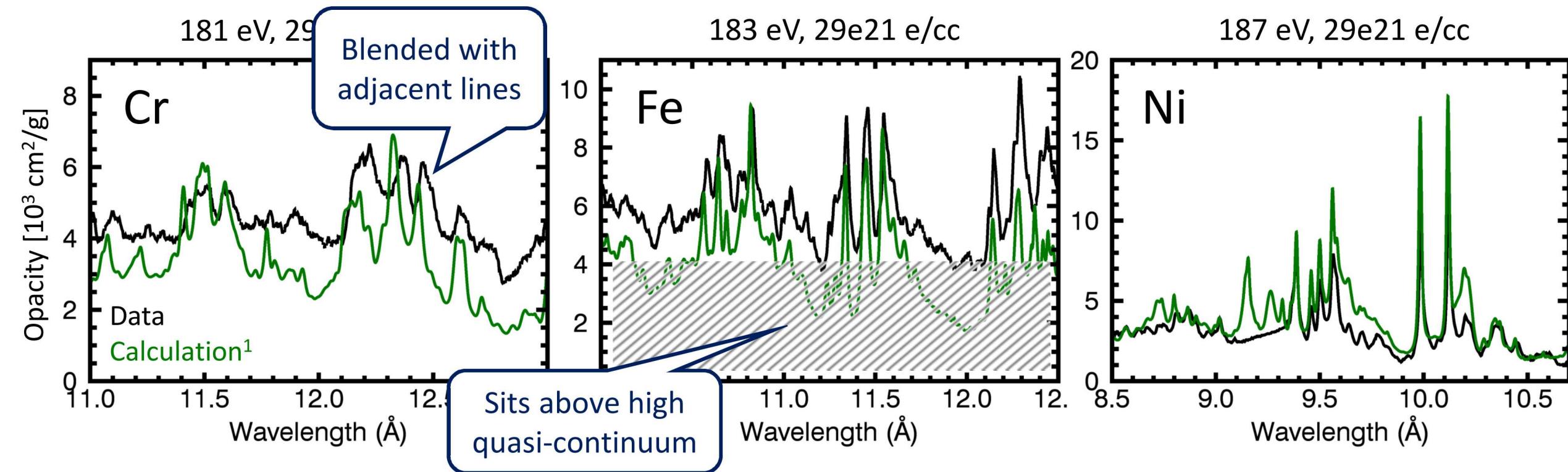
Can we check accuracy of modeled line shapes?



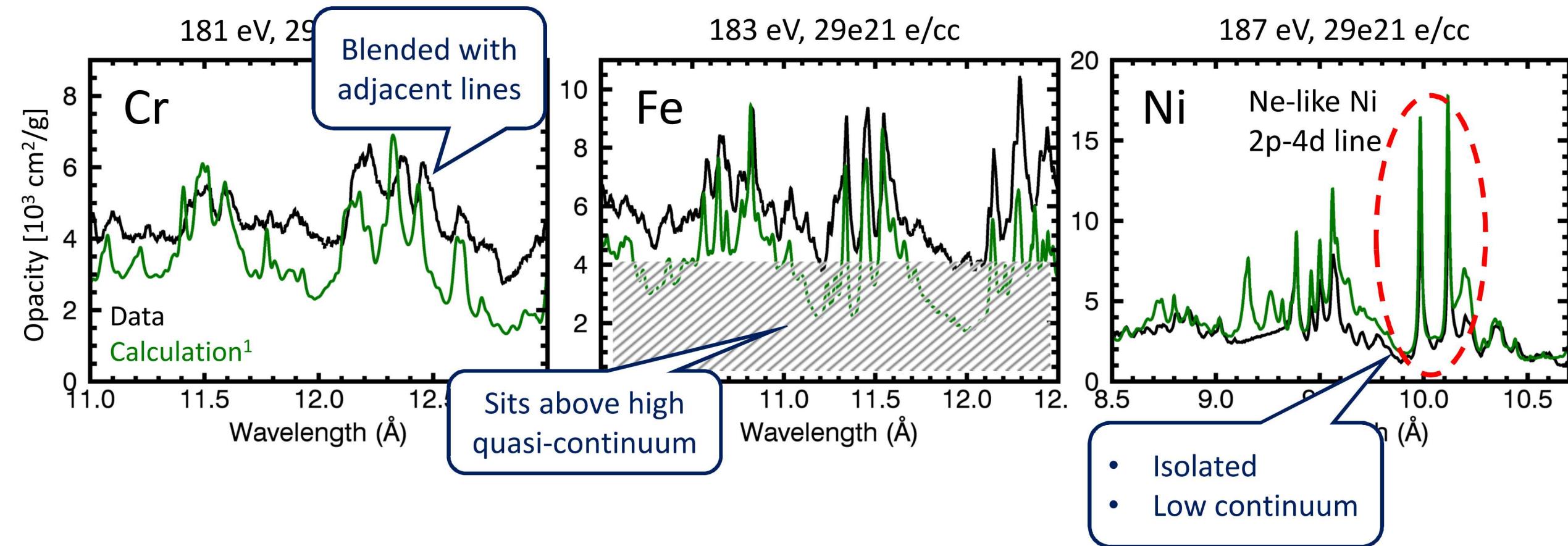
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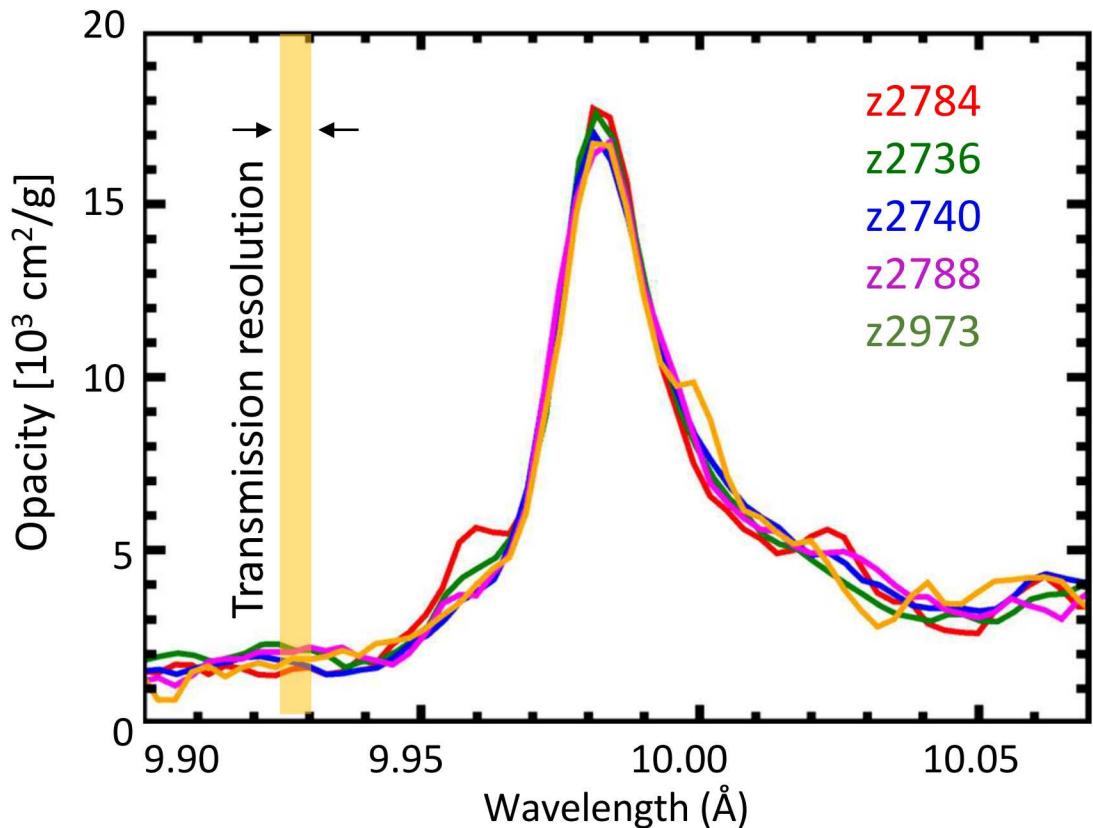


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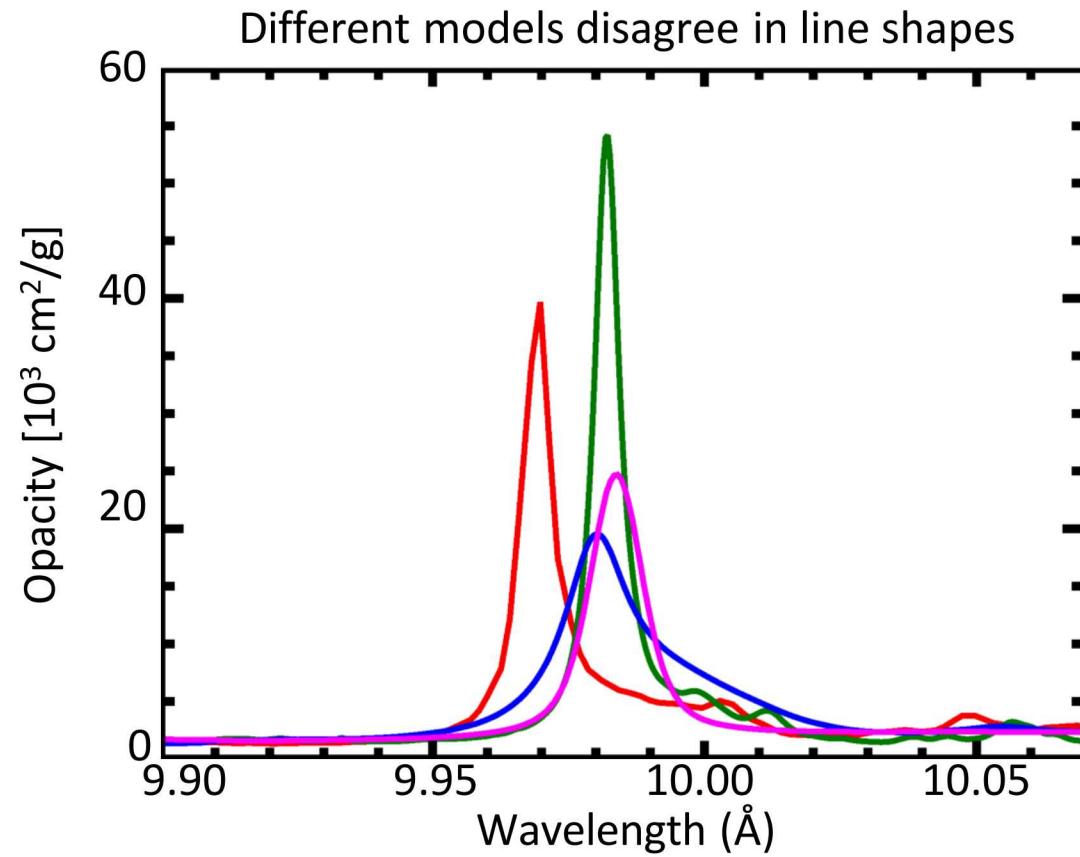
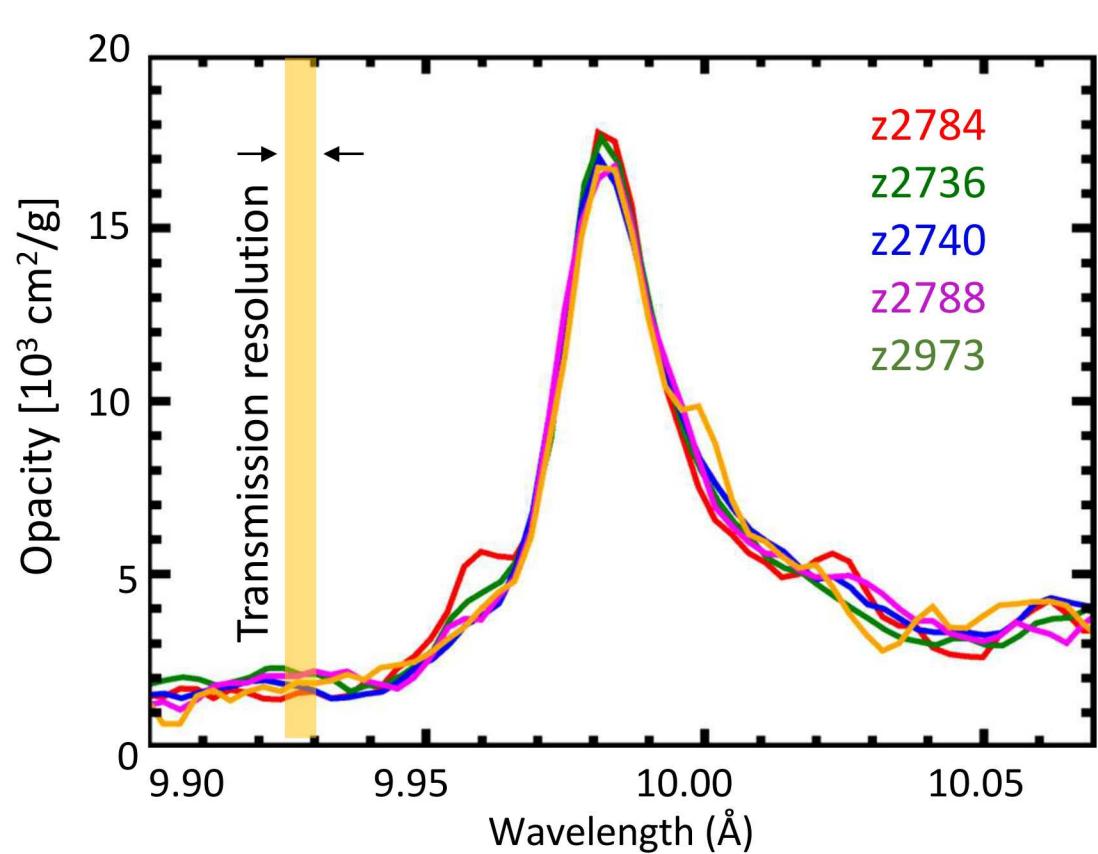
We use $n=2 \rightarrow 4$ lines from Ne-like Ni to assess the accuracy of calculated line shape

Line-shape of Ne-like Ni 2p-4d is accurately measured and appropriate to test approximations used in models

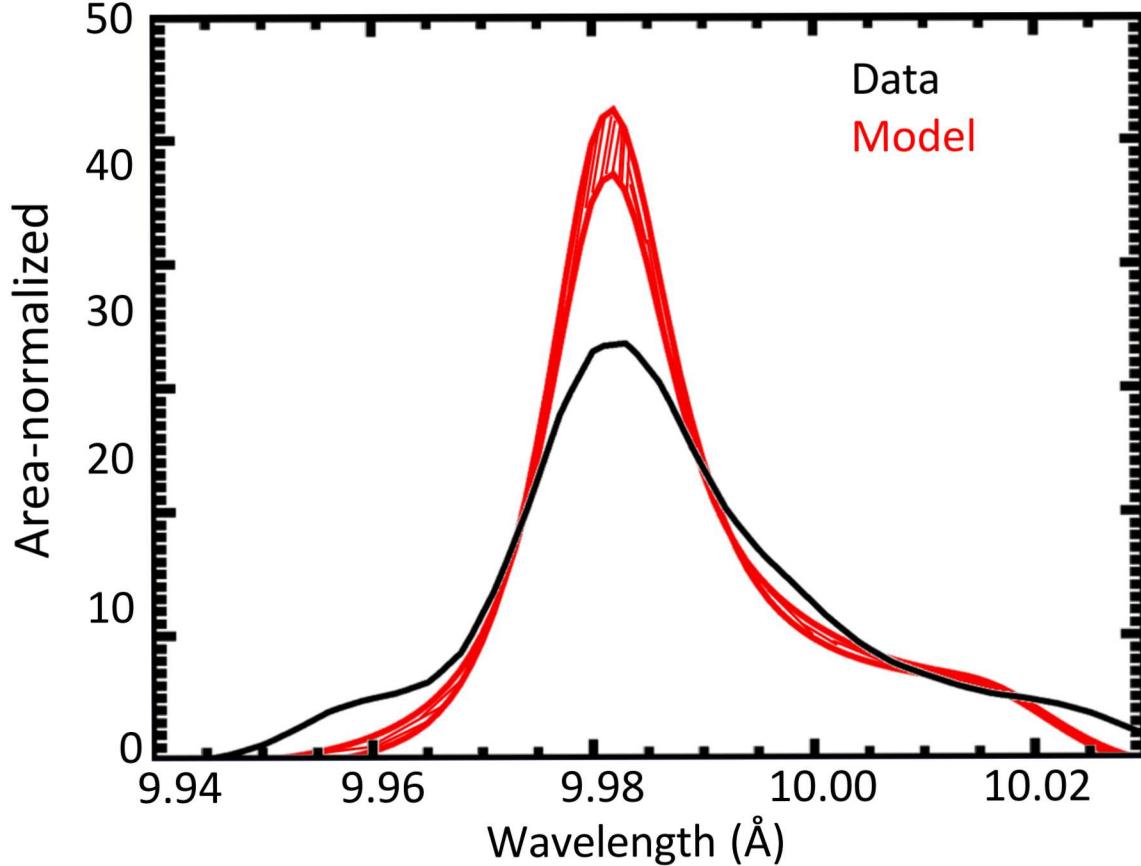


- This line-shape is reproduced by five experiments
- Models employ simple approximations for L-shell line shapes, which are not tested.
 - Electron broadening
 - Static ion broadening
 - Satellite contributions

Line-shape of Ne-like Ni 2p-4d is accurately measured and appropriate to test approximations used in models

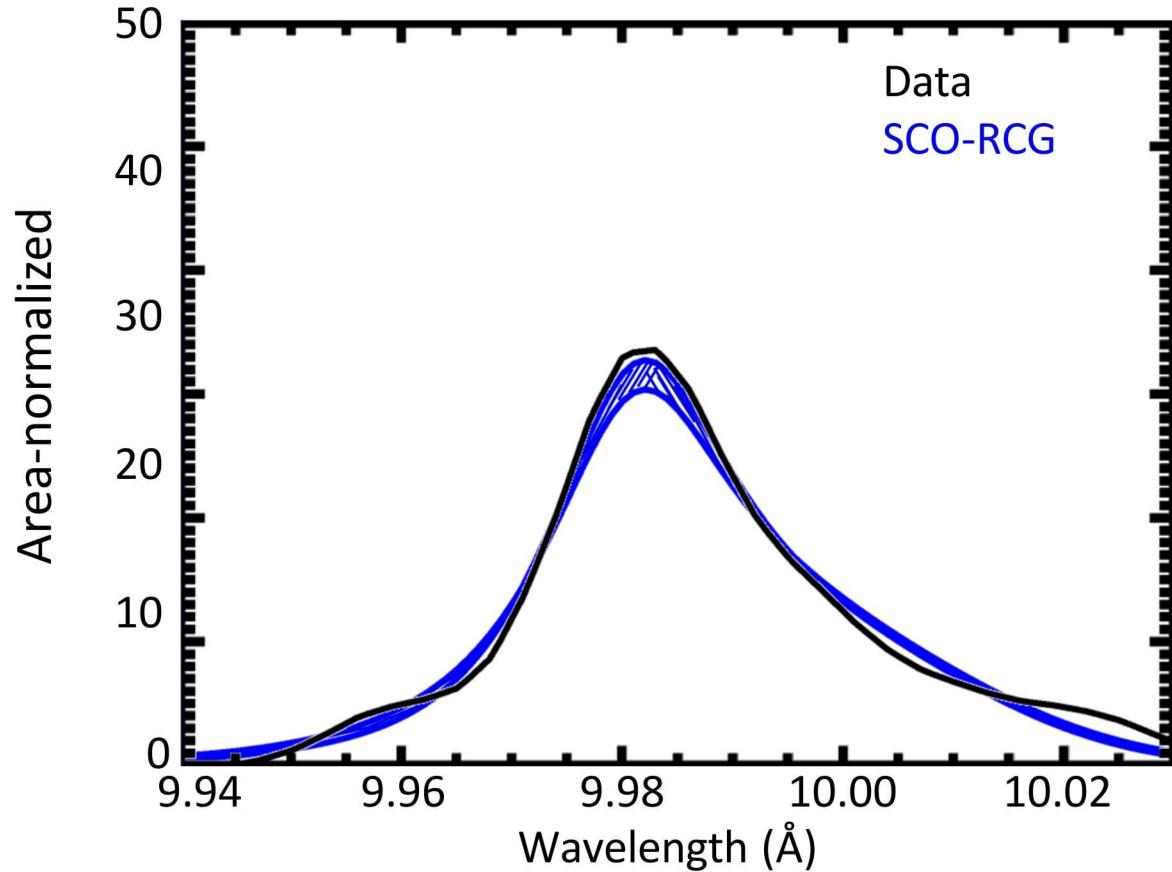
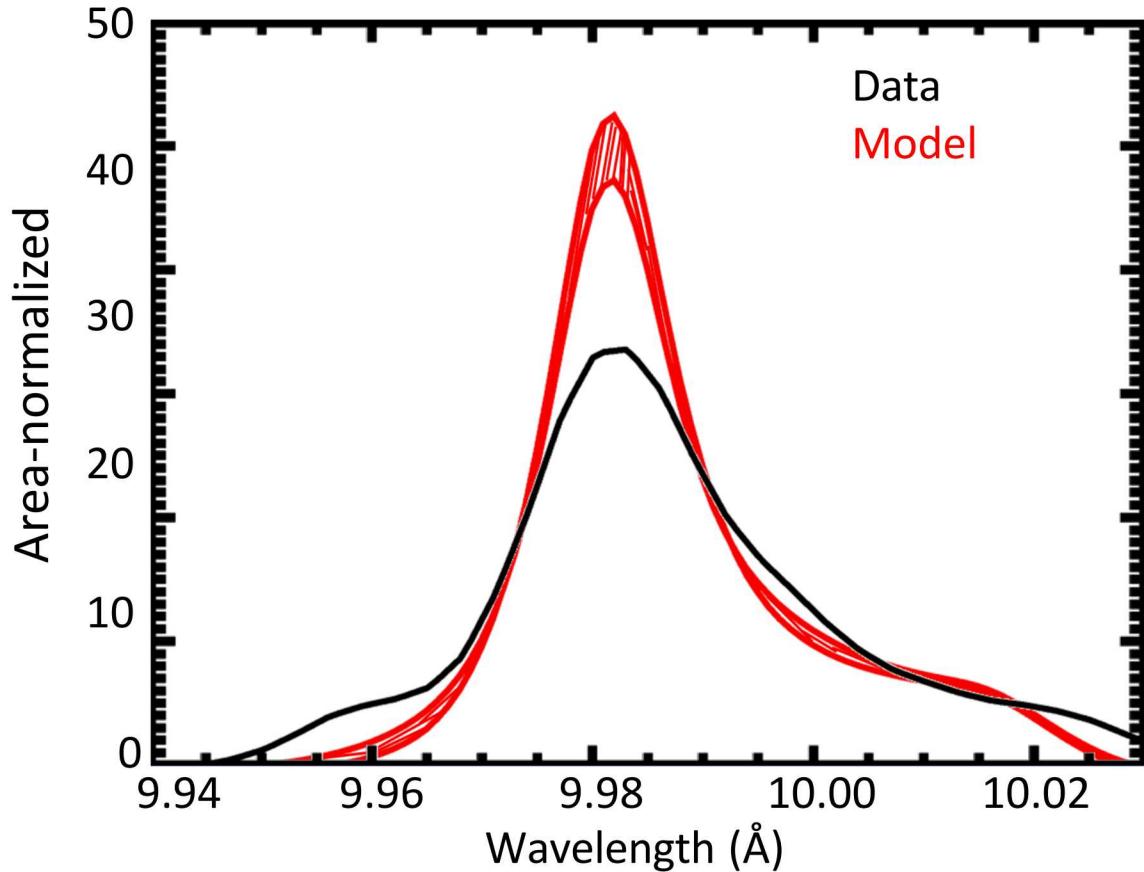


Most models underestimate the L-shell line widths



Models need to refine treatment of atomic interaction with plasma and excited states.

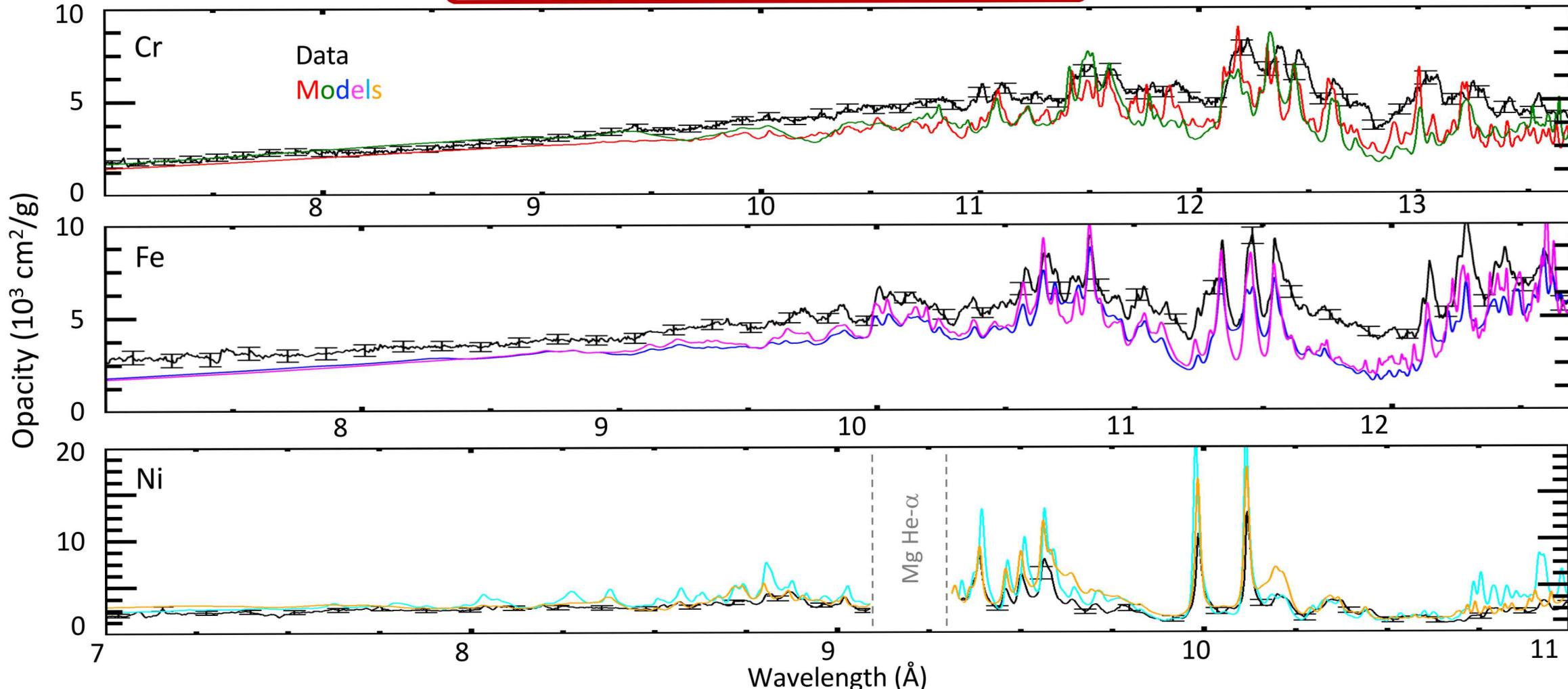
SCO-RCG model predicted the measured L-shell line width reasonably well



Models need to refine treatment of atomic interaction with plasma and excited states.

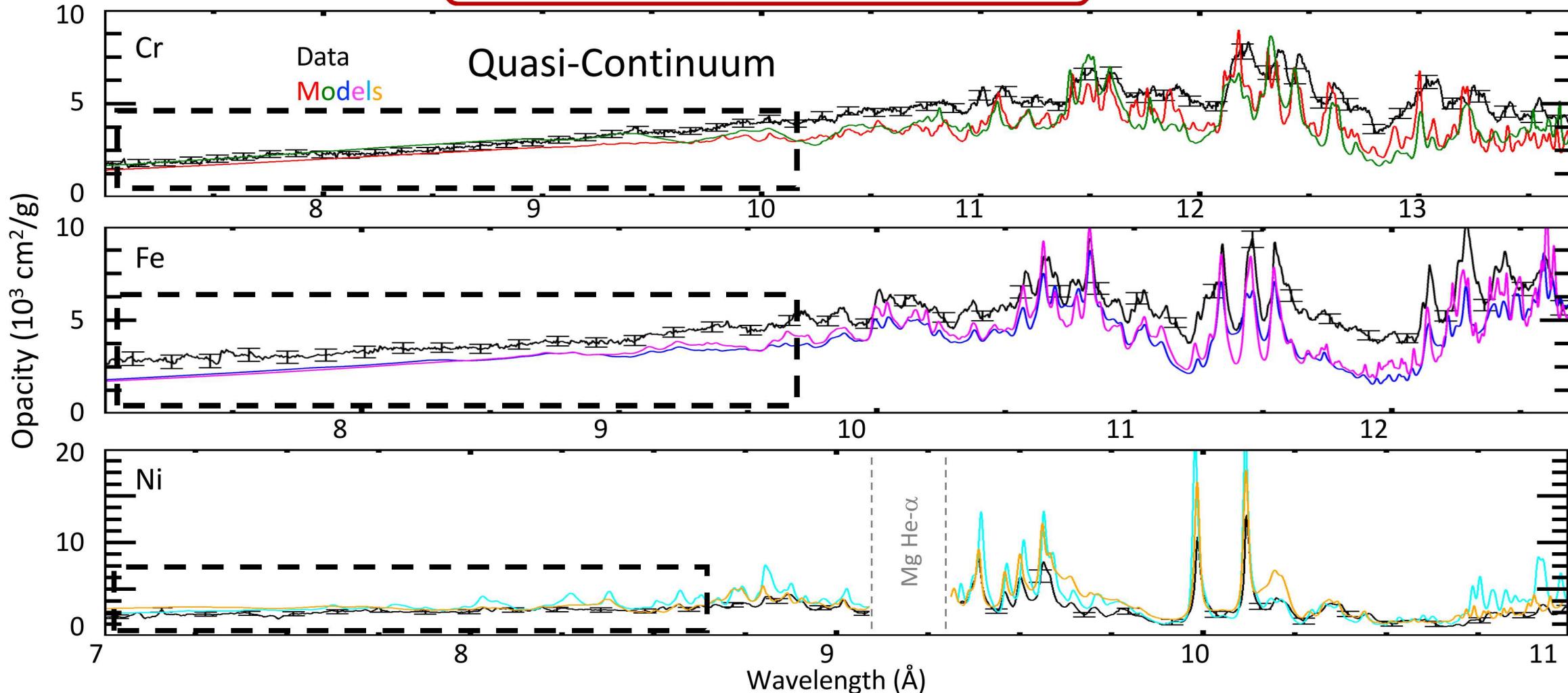
Anchor2: Interesting element-dependent disagreement appears as approaching to stellar interior conditions

$T_e \sim 180 \text{ eV}, n_e \sim 30 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

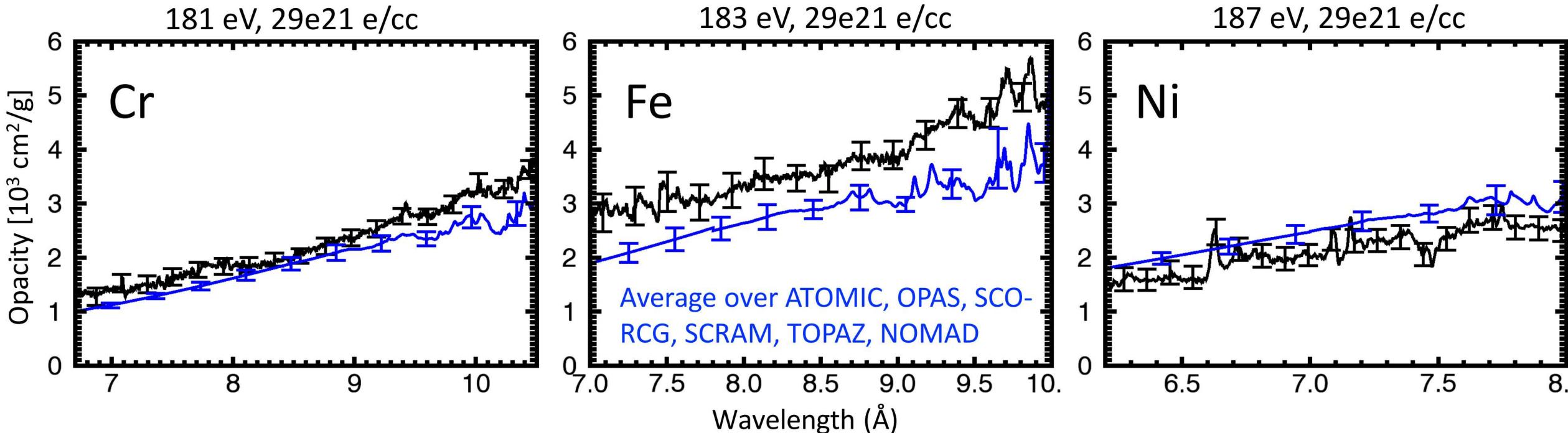


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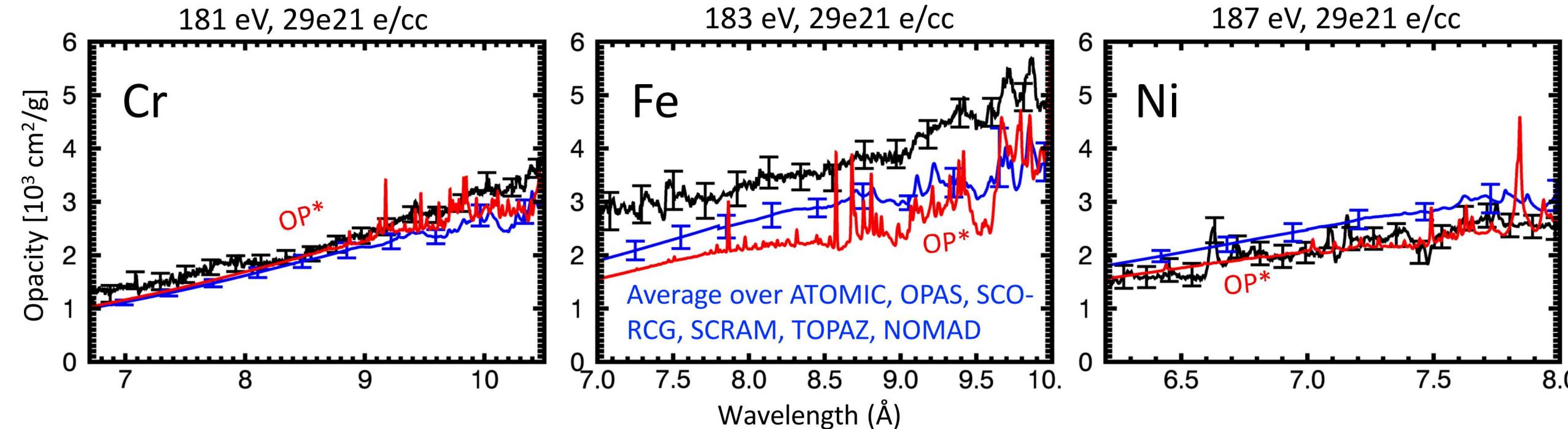
Refined analysis on Fe does not fully remove the reported quasi-continuum disagreement



- Reanalysis on Fe reduced data/<model> from +60% to +30%, still statistically significant
- Excellent reproducibility in all three elements suggests the Fe discrepancy is real

Any hypothesis has to explain not only Fe discrepancy but also better agreement in Cr and Ni

Refined analysis on Fe does not fully remove the reported quasi-continuum disagreement



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Any hypothesis has to explain not only Fe discrepancy but also better agreement in Cr and Ni

* OP: Astrophysics opacity code by Seaton et al., *MNRAS* (1994)

Future work: exciting new investigations and further scrutiny are on the horizon

New investigations:

- Opacity at higher T_e and n_e :
 - Higher T_e :
 - Window disagreement
 - Higher n_e
 - Line-shape disagreement
 - Closer to solar CZB conditions
- O opacity for solar problem
- Time-resolved measurement (UXI*)
 - Comparable S/N to x-ray film
 - Potentially, T_e and n_e points from single experiment

Further scrutiny:

- Fe quasi-continuum puzzle
 - Anchor2
 - Anchor3
- Revisiting errors
 - Areal density
 - Background

Systematic study of L-shell opacities with refined analysis validates experiment reliability and suggest necessary model refinements

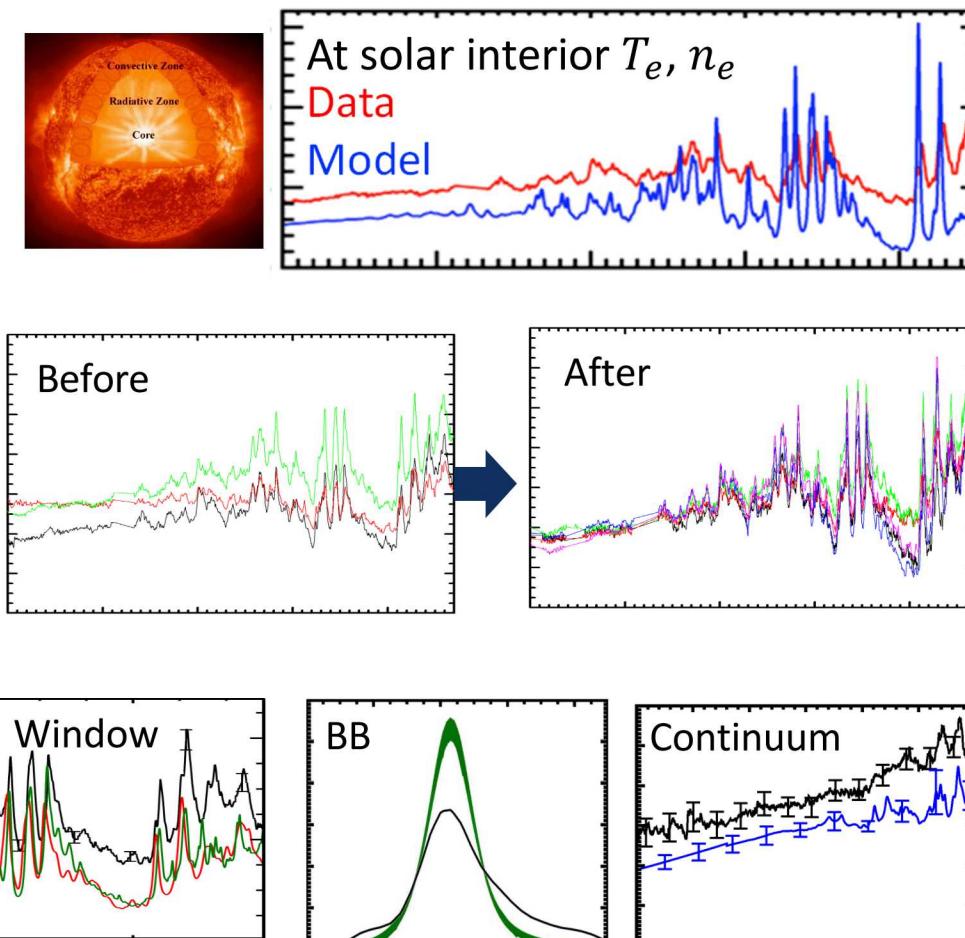
- Fe L-shell opacity is measured at solar interior conditions and revealed severe model-data discrepancy

→ Is opacity theory wrong? Is experiment flawed?

- Refined analysis improved shot-to-shot reproducibility, demonstrating opacity experiment reliability

- Systematic measurement of Cr, Fe, and Ni opacities suggests model refinements in three areas

- Window: Challenge associated with open L-shell config.
- BB: Inaccurate treatment of density effects
- Continuum: Peculiar dependence on atomic number

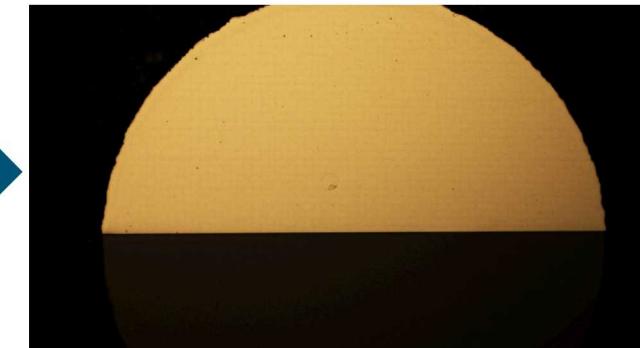
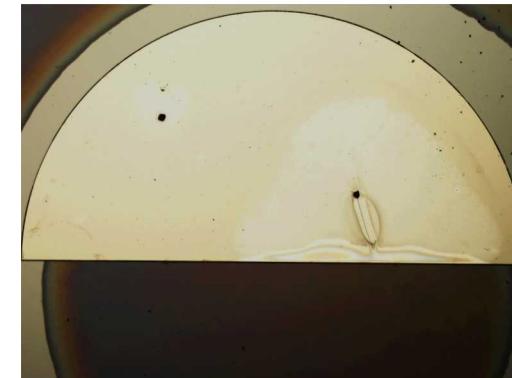


GA has developed and kept refining fabrication and metrology techniques to deliver us high-quality foam and opacity samples

CH foam

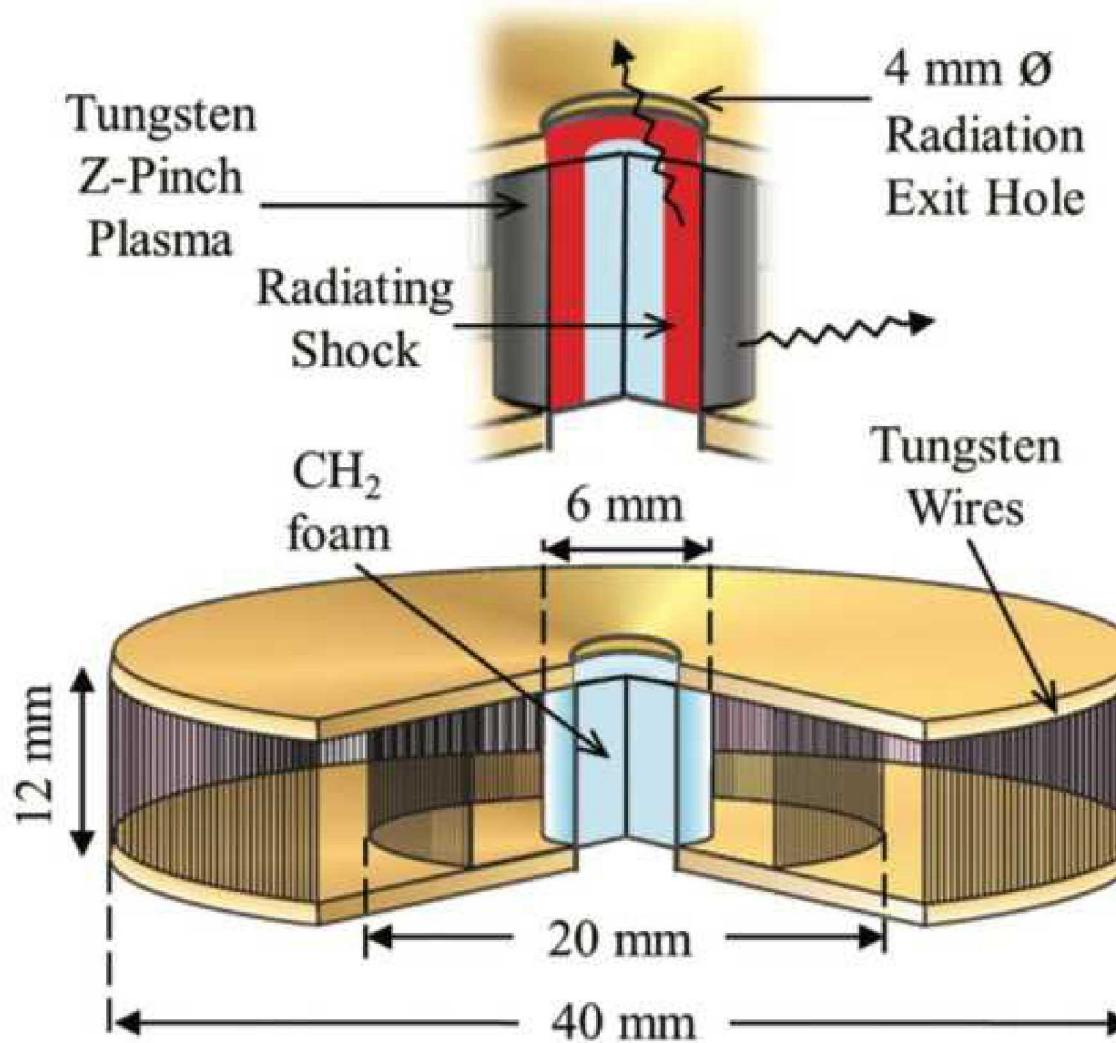


Opacity sample



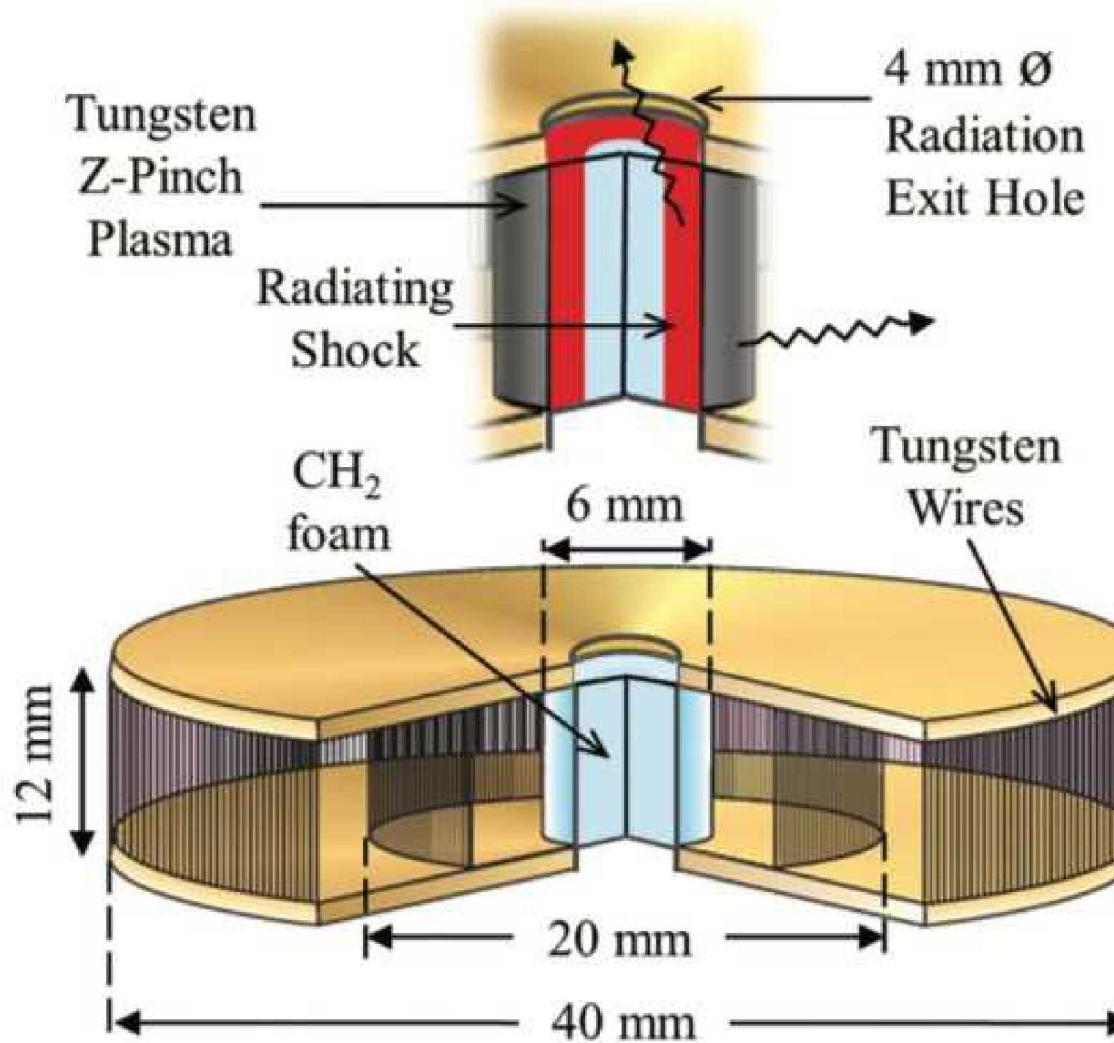
The high-quality targets enabled us to perform high-quality HED opacity benchmark experiments

High quality CH foam is necessary for high radiation output and good reproducibility



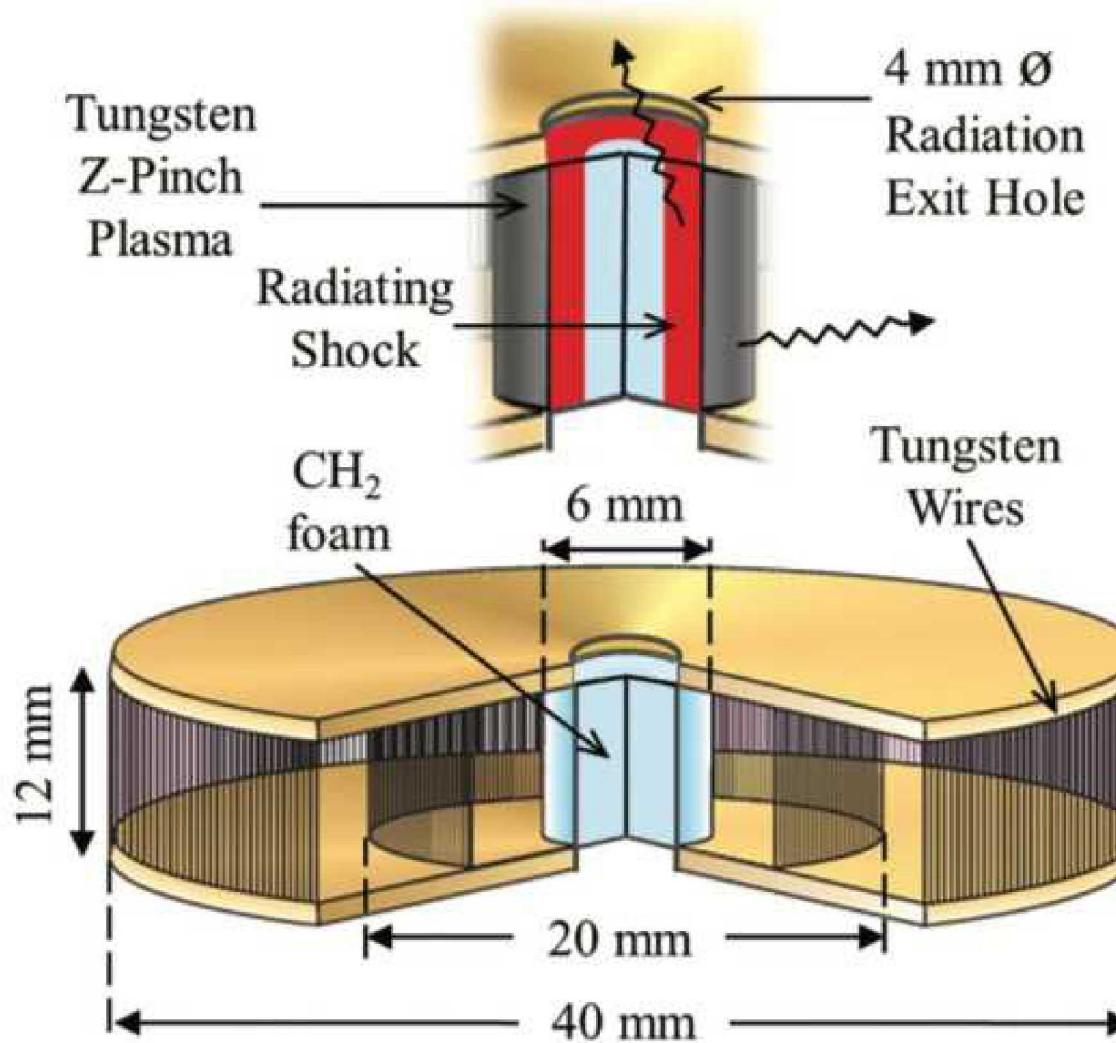
- Z-pinch hohlraum radiation is produced by W wires imploding on to the CH foam and the generating radiative shock
- Criteria for CH foam
 - Density
 - Composition
 - Cosmetic defects/void/pore
 - Morphism

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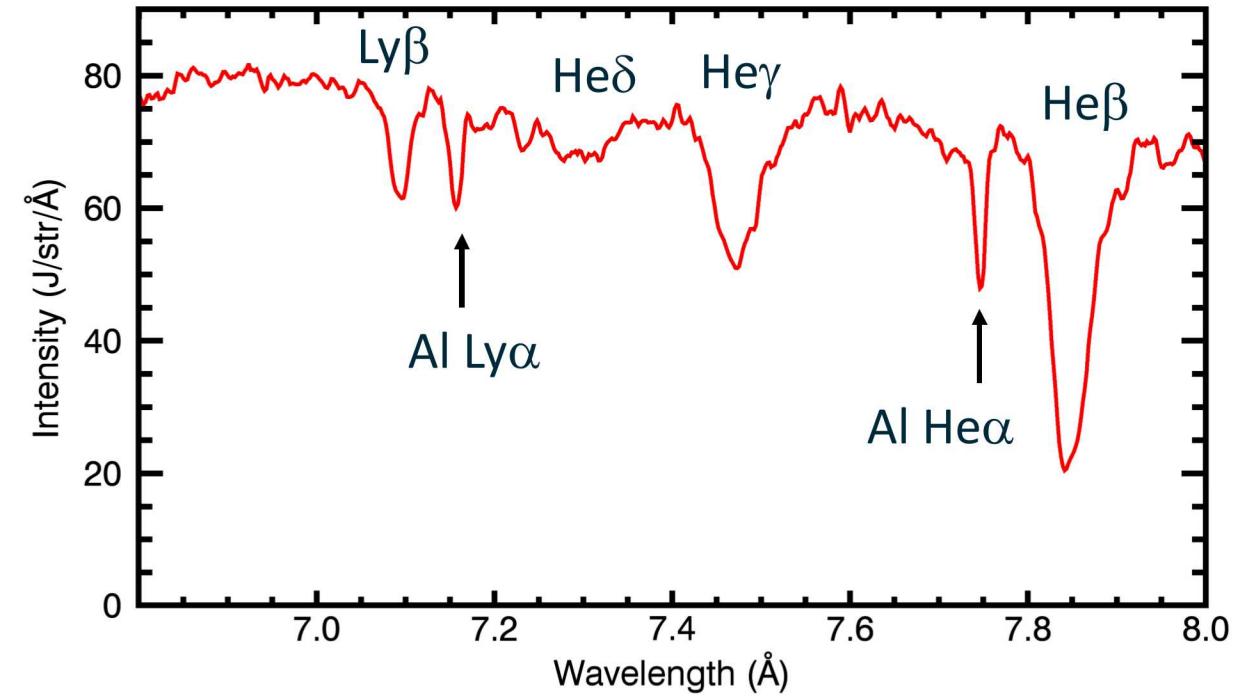
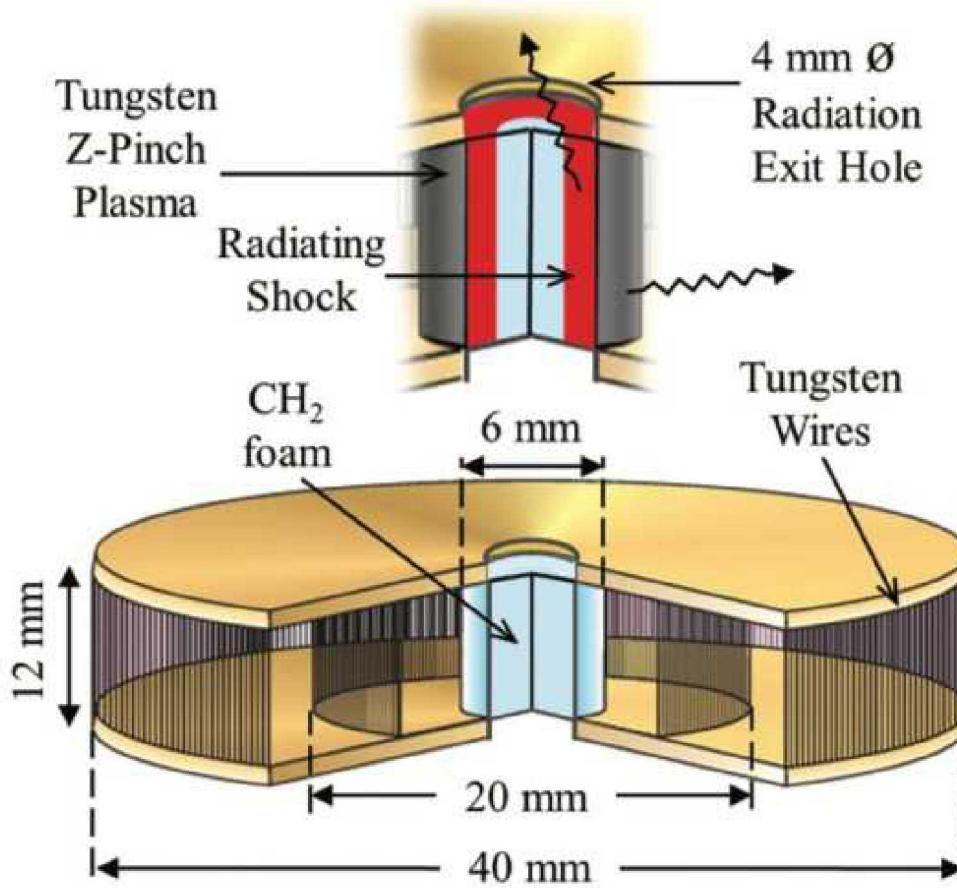
- Z-pinch hohlraum radiation is produced by W wires imploding on to the CH foam and the generating radiative shock
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 - **Density** ← Affect radiation yield
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Unexpected contamination can affect the source radiation yield



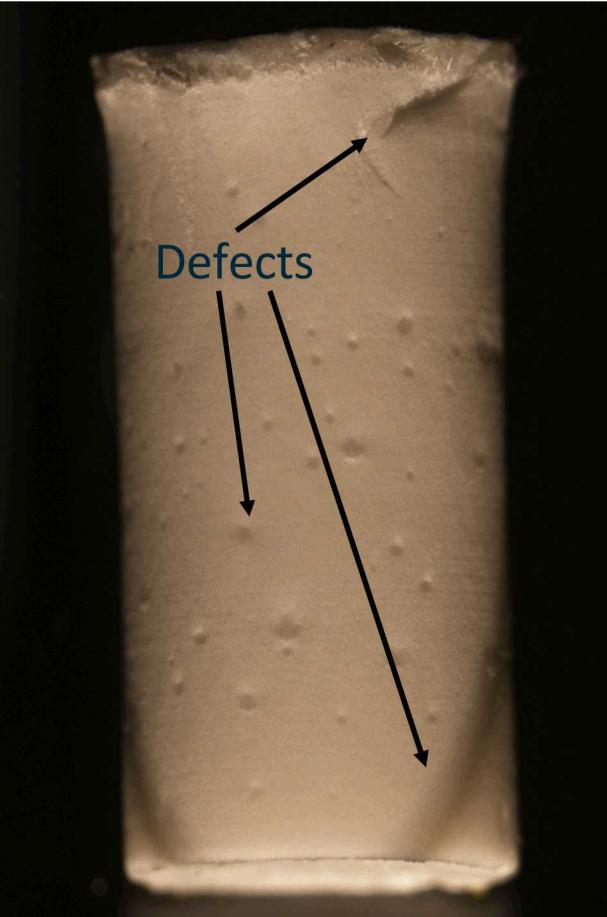
Where Al lines comes from? → CH foam contamination

Concern1: Change in radiation output

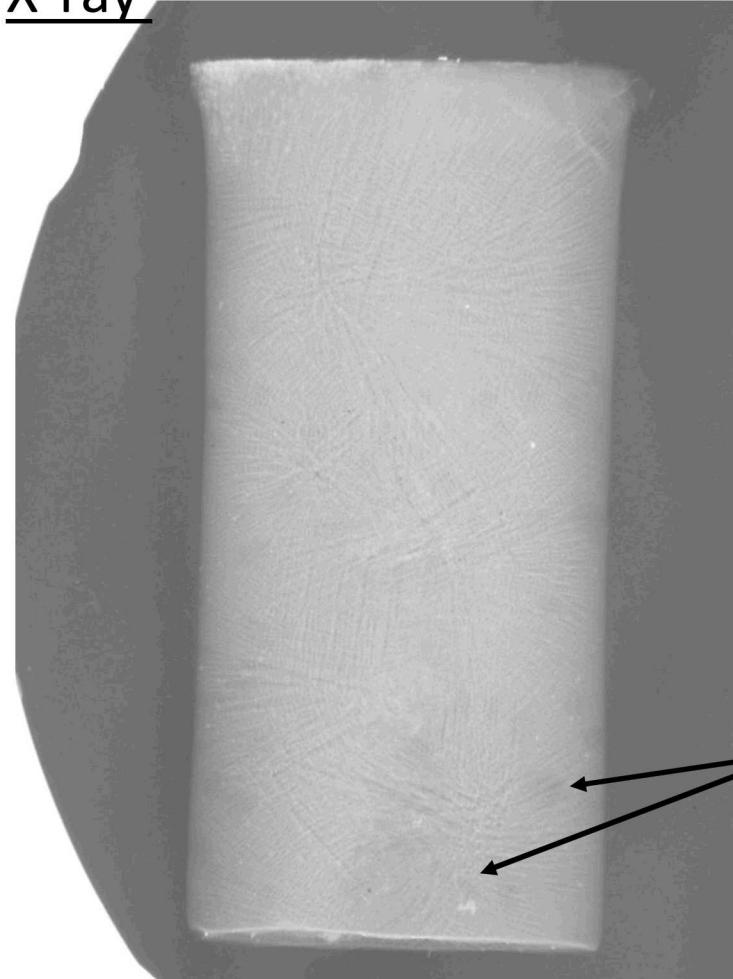
Concern2: Potential impact on Mg line analysis

Cosmetic defects/void/pore may affect implosion dynamics

Optical



X-ray



Voids or density gradients

Diameter and foam straightness are important to insert CH foam to the hardware and to perform symmetric implosion

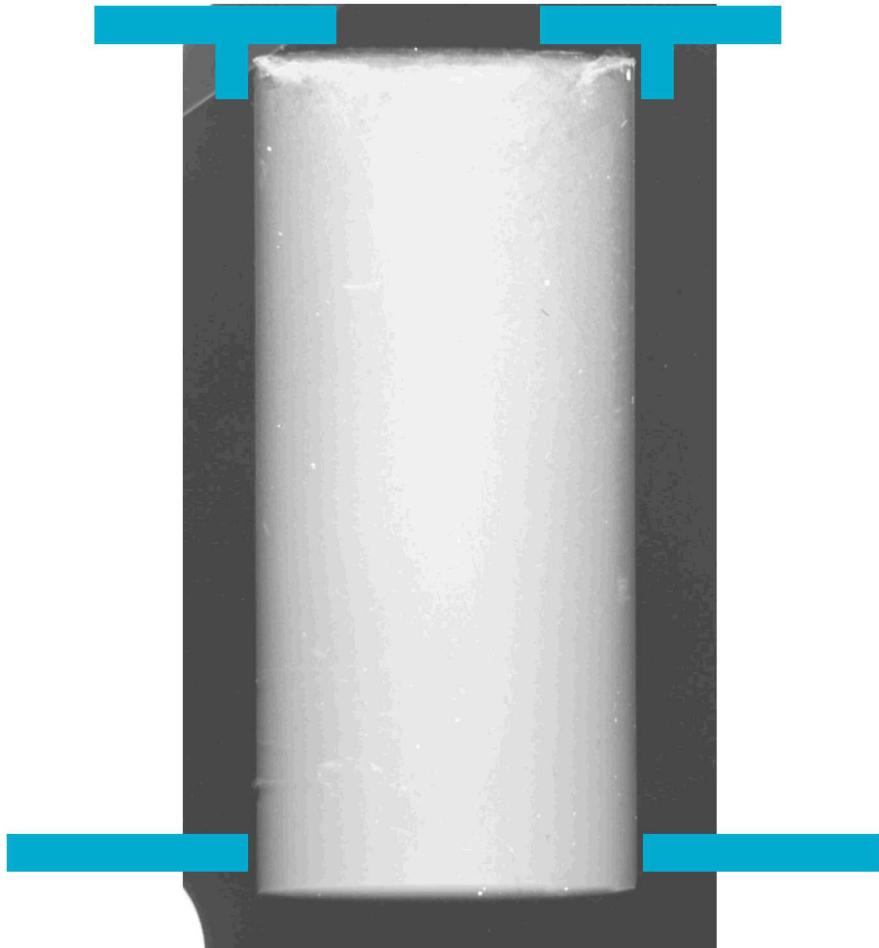
Hardware



- Diameter needs to be within the specified tolerance
 - If larger, it won't fit
 - If smaller, radiation could be lower
- The top surface and the body needs to be perpendicular
 - If not perpendicular, it can introduce asymmetry into the implosion

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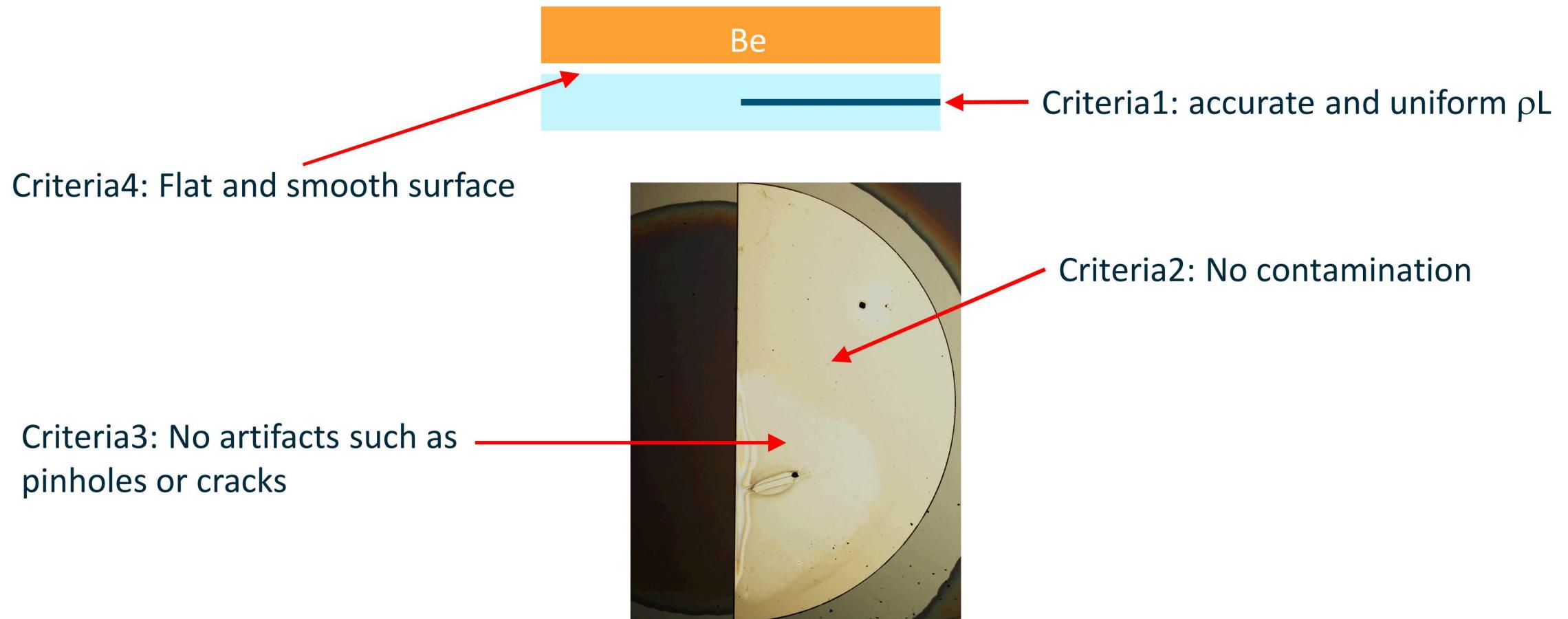
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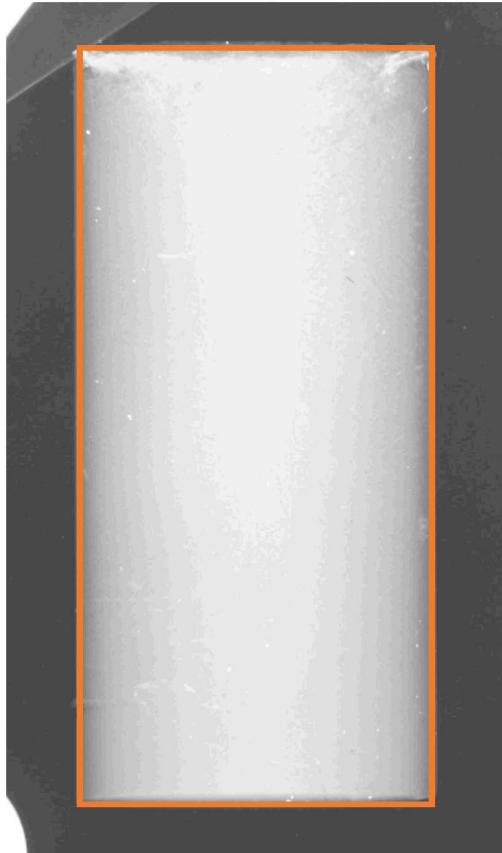
Well-characterized high-quality opacity sample are essential for accurate opacity measurements

Opacity sample

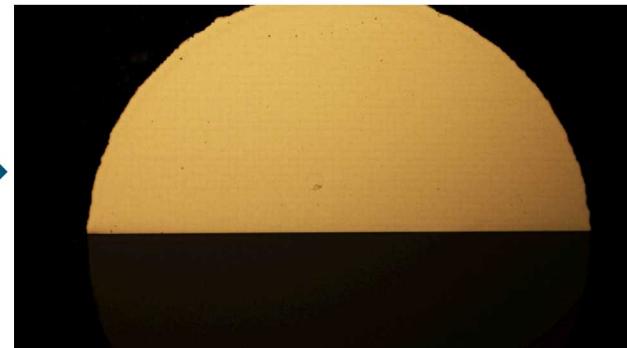
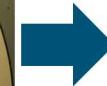
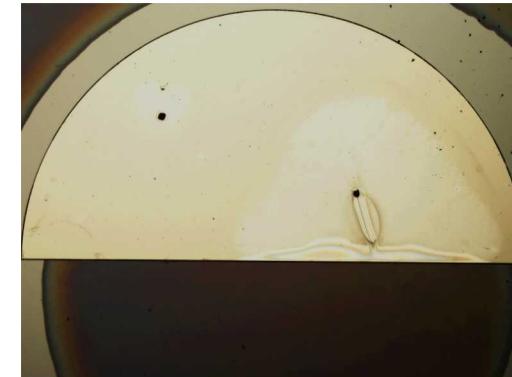


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