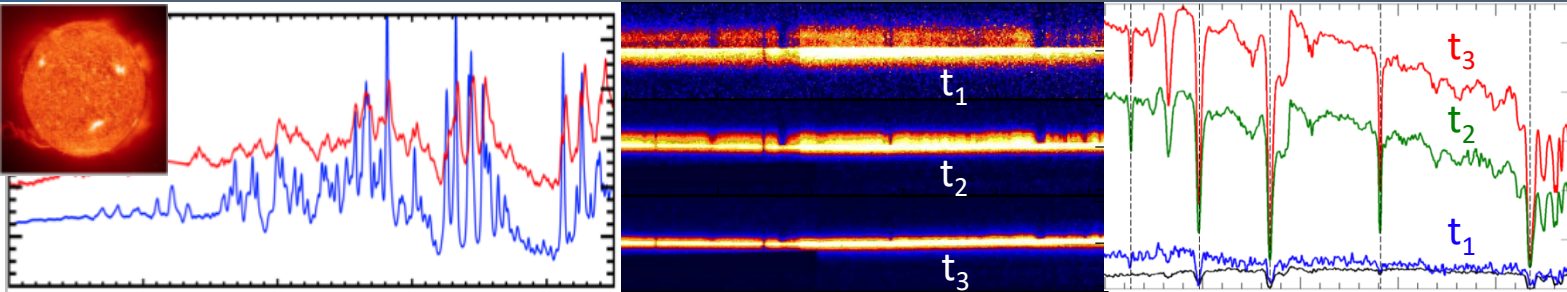
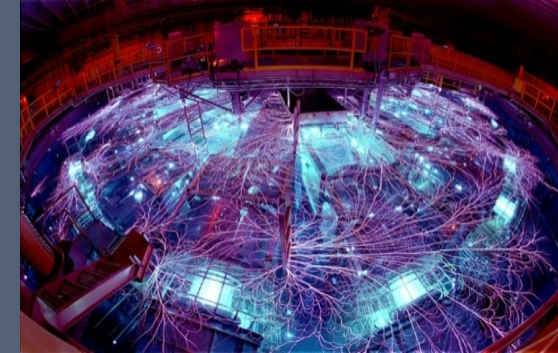




# Transforming the opacity science on Z using novel time-resolved spectroscopy



PRESENTED BY

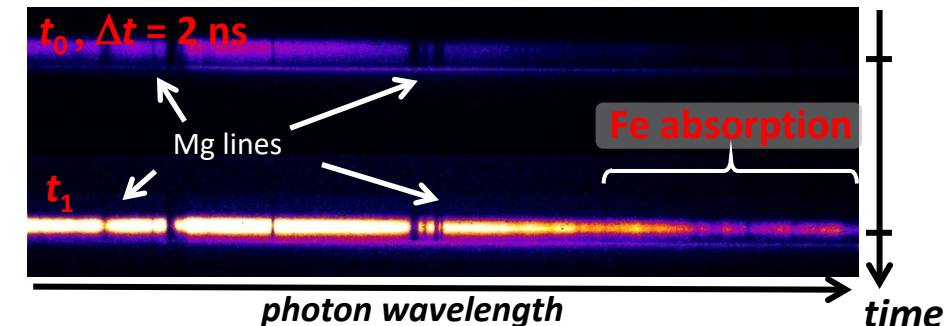
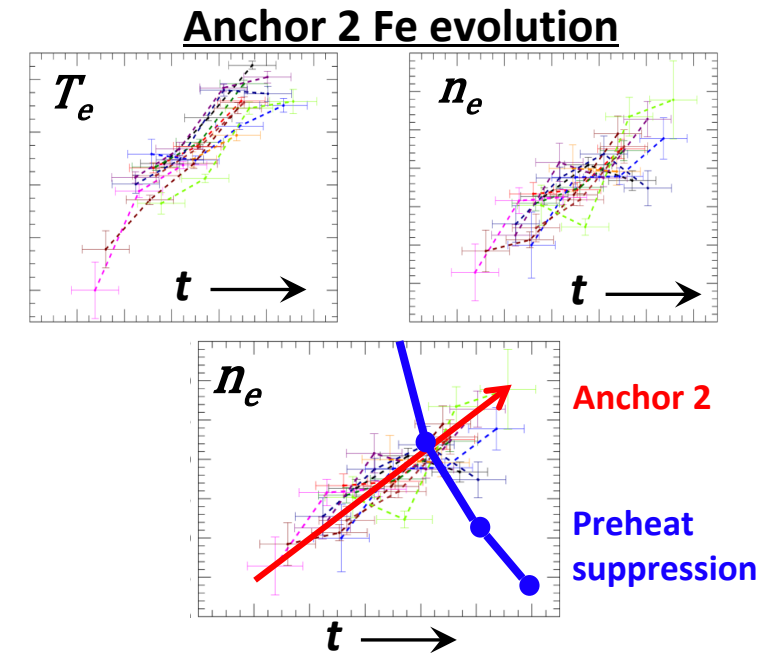
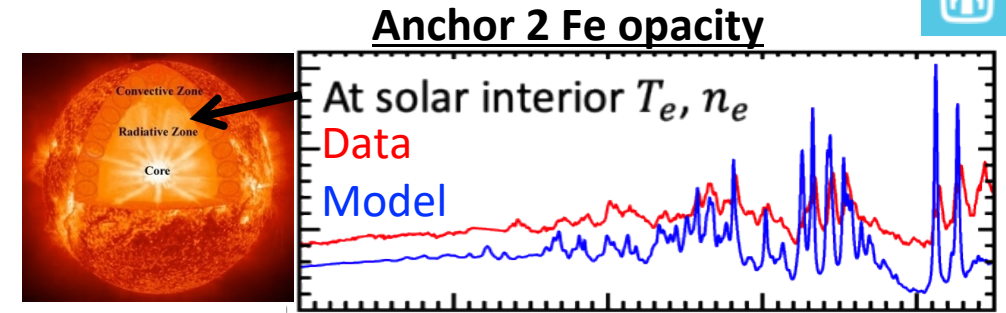
**Guillaume Loisel for the Z opacity team**

**RPHDM 2022**  
**Nov. 14-18 2022**  
**Santa Fe, NM, USA**

# Executive summary: Time-resolution transforms opacity research on Z to advance HED physics and astrophysics



- The solar problem still exists  
→ Helioseismology  $\neq$  solar models predictions
- Fe L-shell opacity was measured at solar interior conditions and revealed severe model-data discrepancy
- While theoretical refinements are studied, experimental scrutiny is underway  
→ test of time-dependent effects
- Opacity sample evolution was measured using novel UXI technology  
→ Challenge our picture of how the experiment works
- Time-resolved measurements also increase knowledge and parameter space of the Z opacity platform  
→ Preheat suppression test shows path for novel high density regime
- Temporal gradient effect are synthetically investigated
- Absolute time-resolved opacity measurements are underway



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



J.E. Bailey, T. Nagayama, G.P. Loisel, G.A. Rochau, S.B. Hansen, G.S. Dunham, R. More, T.A. Gomez  
P. D. Gard, A. P. Colombo, A. D. Edens, R. Speas, Q. Looker, M. Kimmel, J. Stahoviak, J. L. Porter  
**Sandia National Laboratories**



C. Blancard, Ph. Cossé, G. Faussurier, F. Gilleron, J.-C. Pain  
**French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA)**



C.A. Iglesias, D.A. Liedahl, B. Wilson  
**Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory**



J. Colgan, C. Fontes, D. Kilcrease, and M. Sherrill  
**Los Alamos National Laboratory**



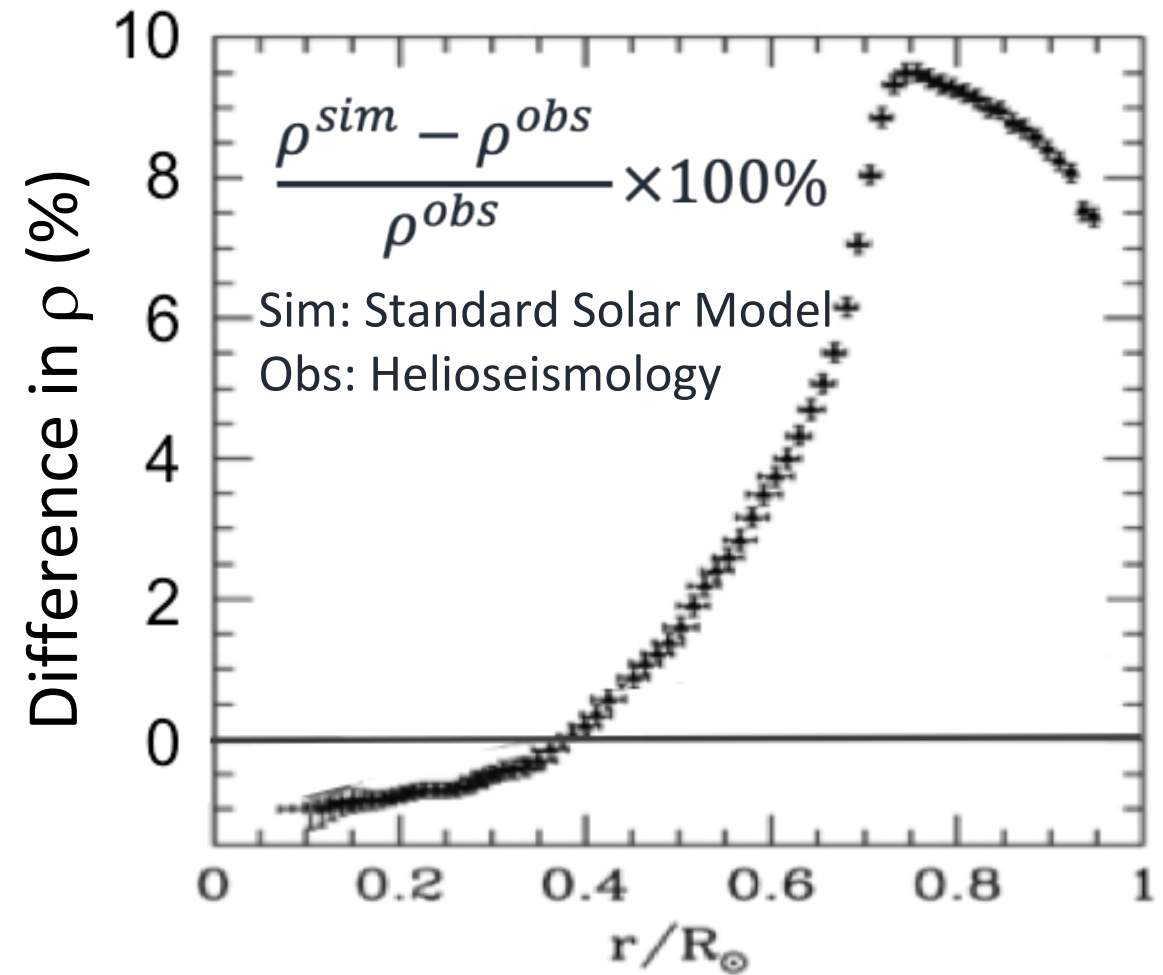
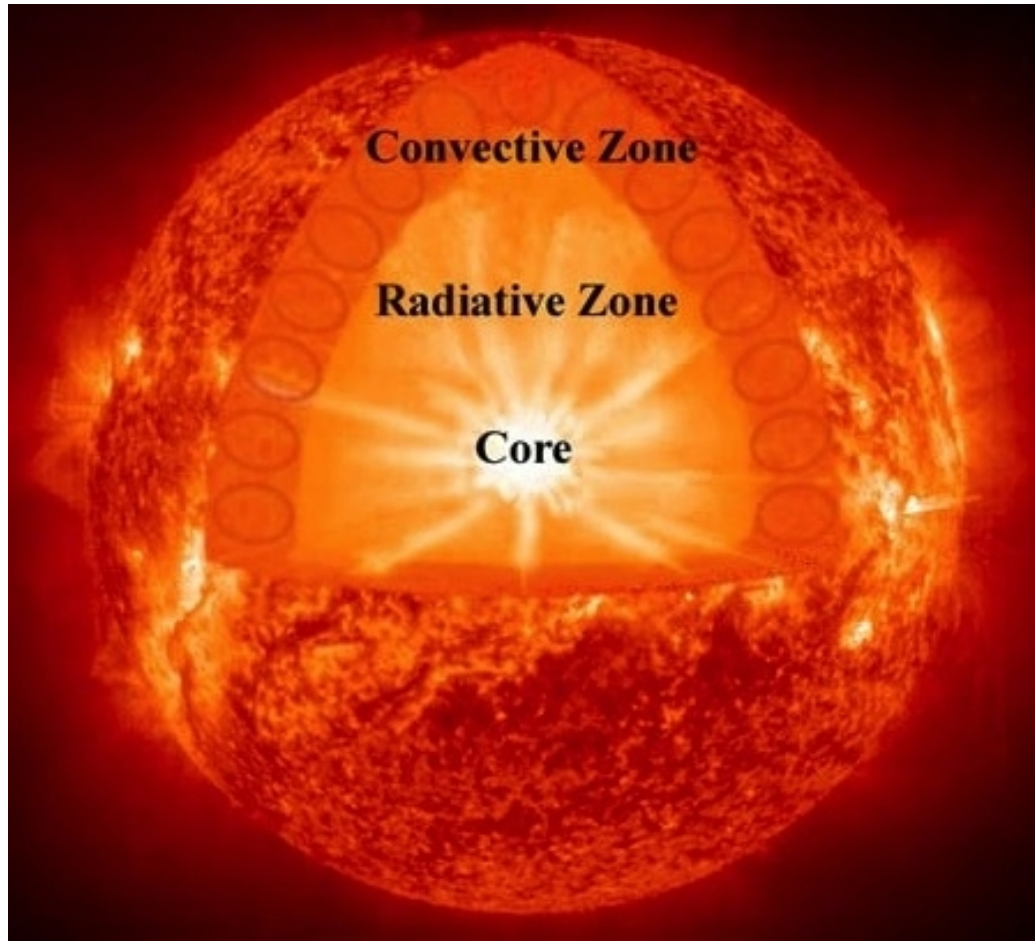
R.C. Mancini  
**University of Nevada – Reno**



J.J. MacFarlane, I.E. Golovkin  
**Prism Computational Sciences**

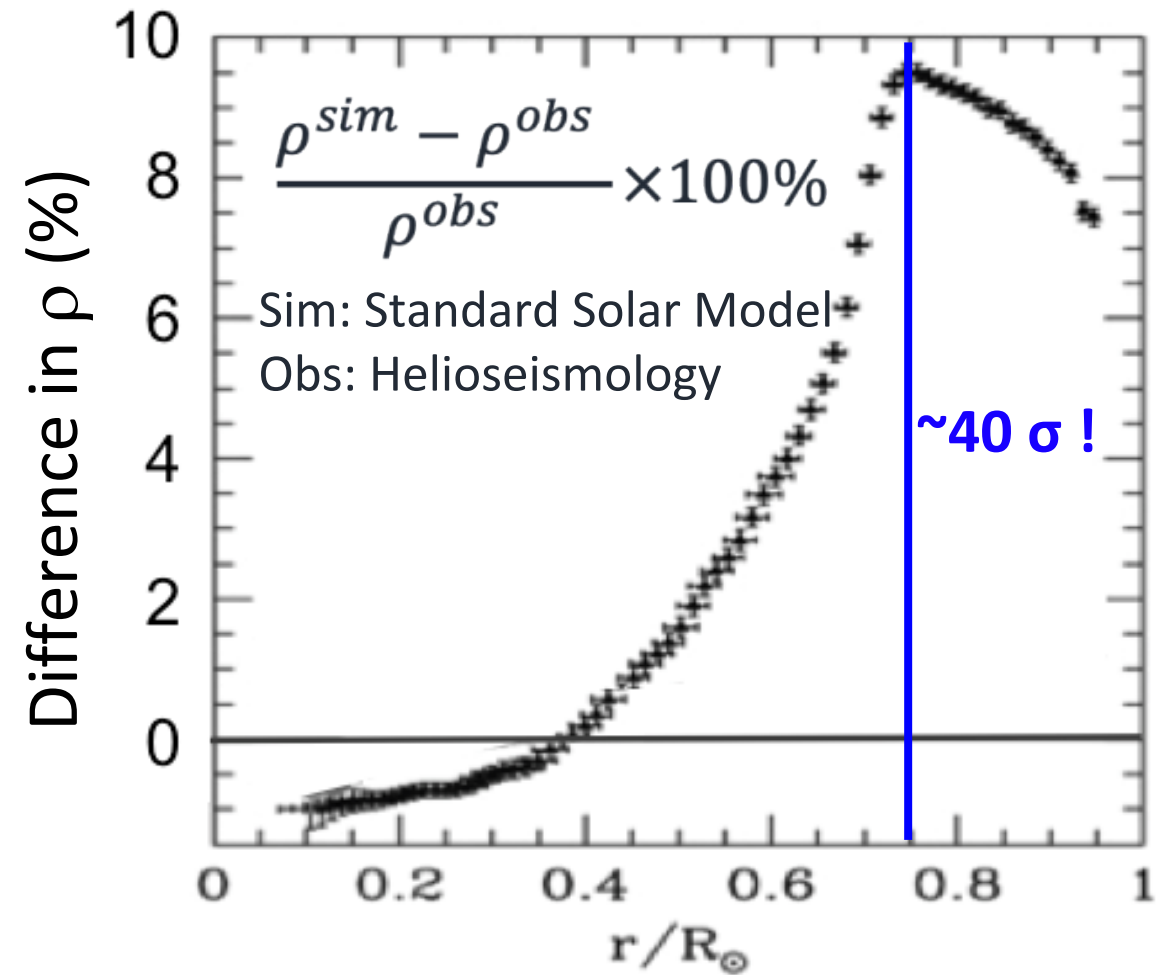
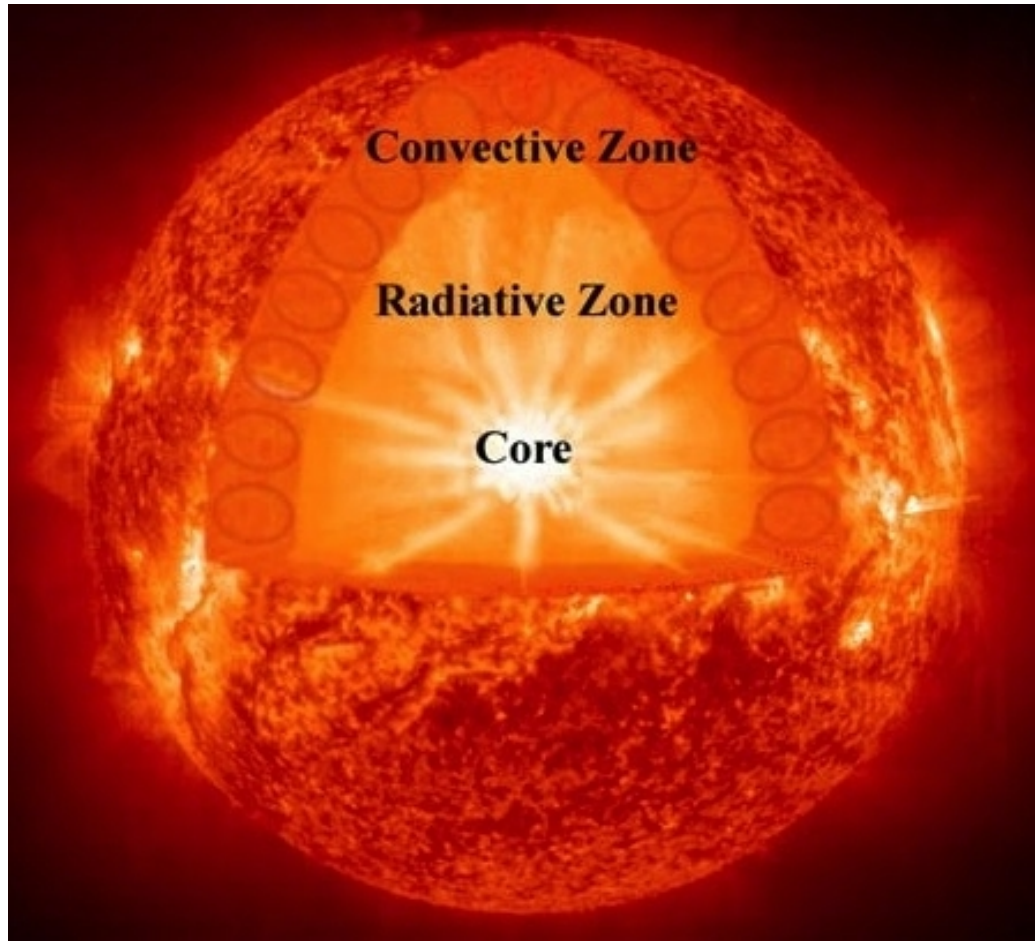
Y. Kurzweil and G. Hazak  
**Nuclear Research Center Negev, Israel**

# Solar structure simulated by Standard Solar Model disagrees with helioseismic measurements [1]

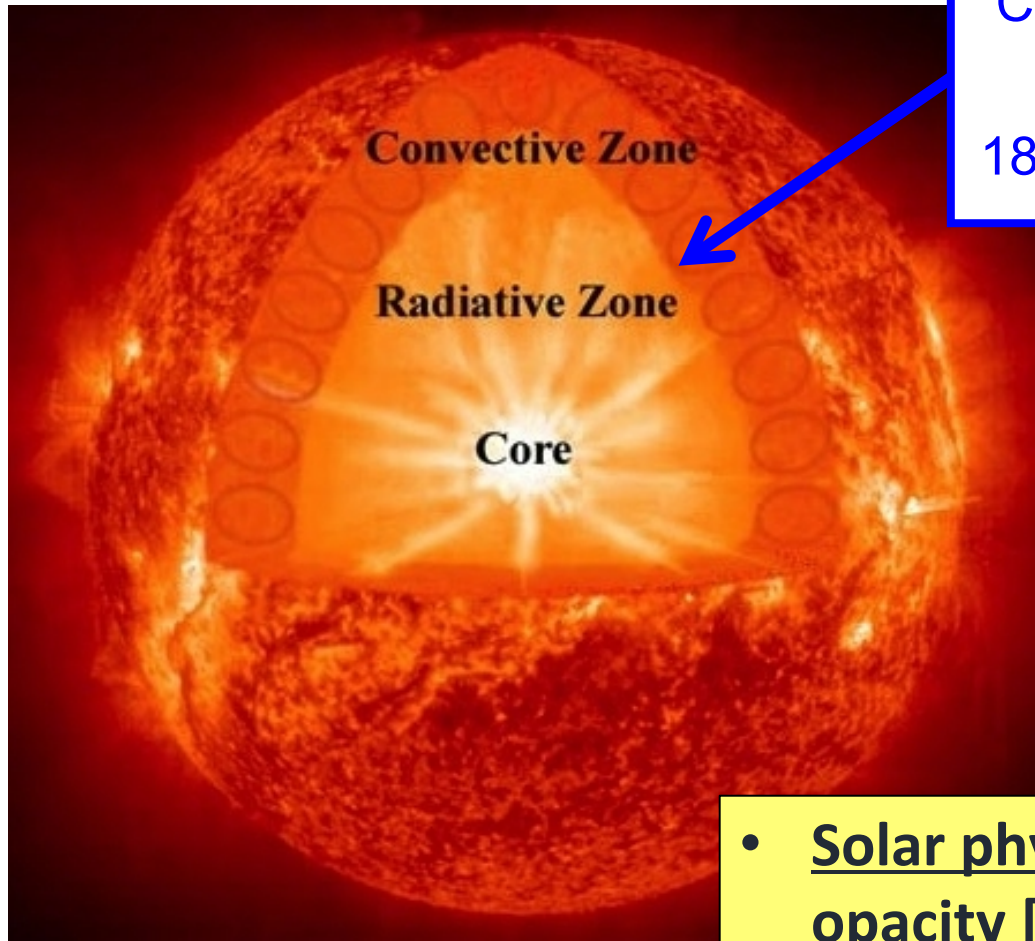




# Solar structure simulated by Standard Solar Model disagrees with helioseismic measurements [1]

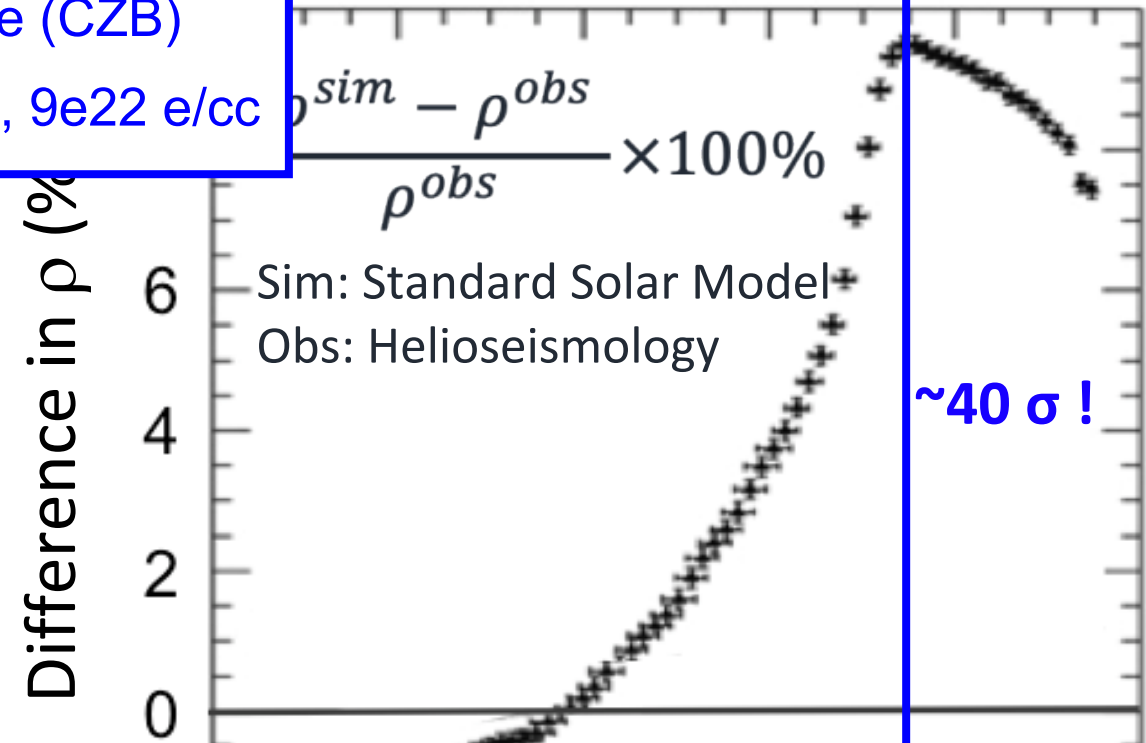


# Is the decade-old solar problem caused by inaccuracy of modeled opacity?



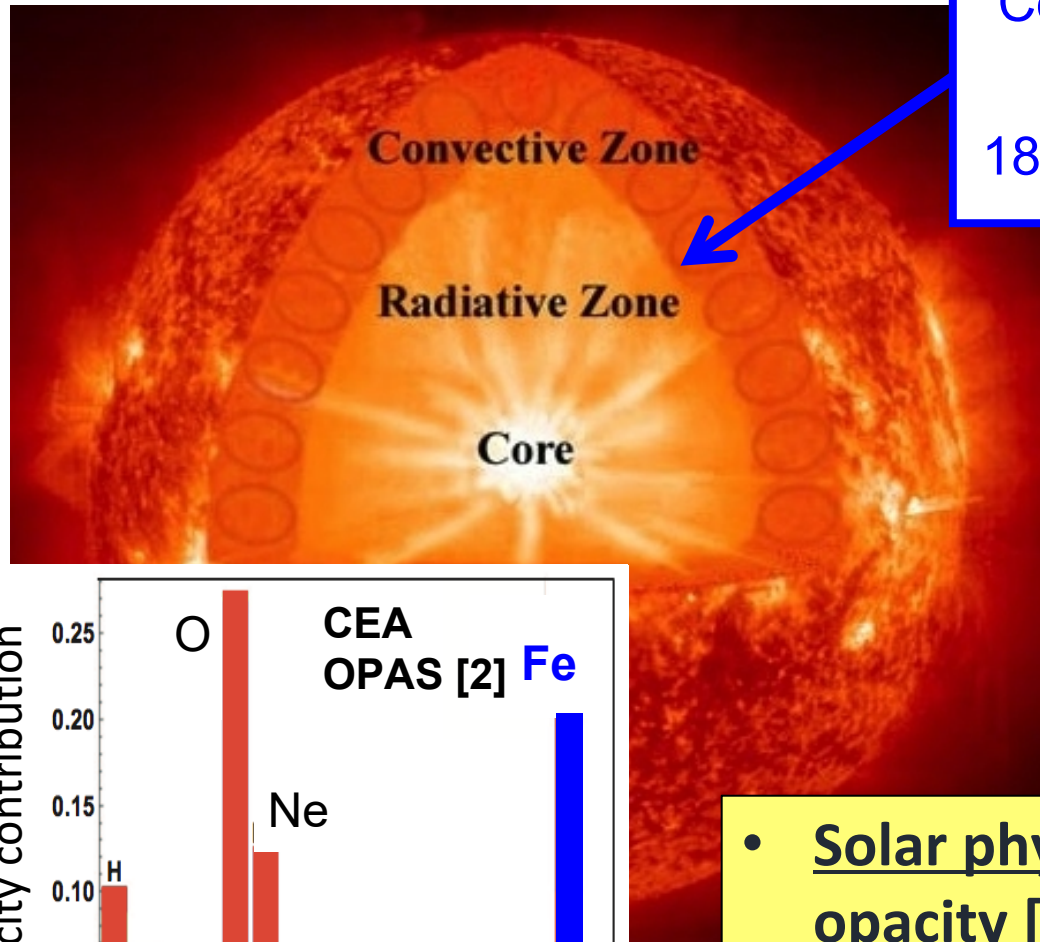
Convection zone  
base (CZB)

182 eV,  $9e22$  e/cc

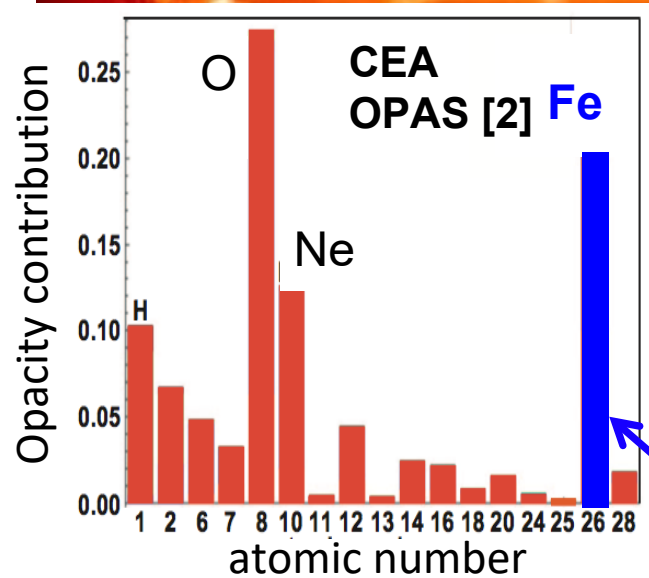
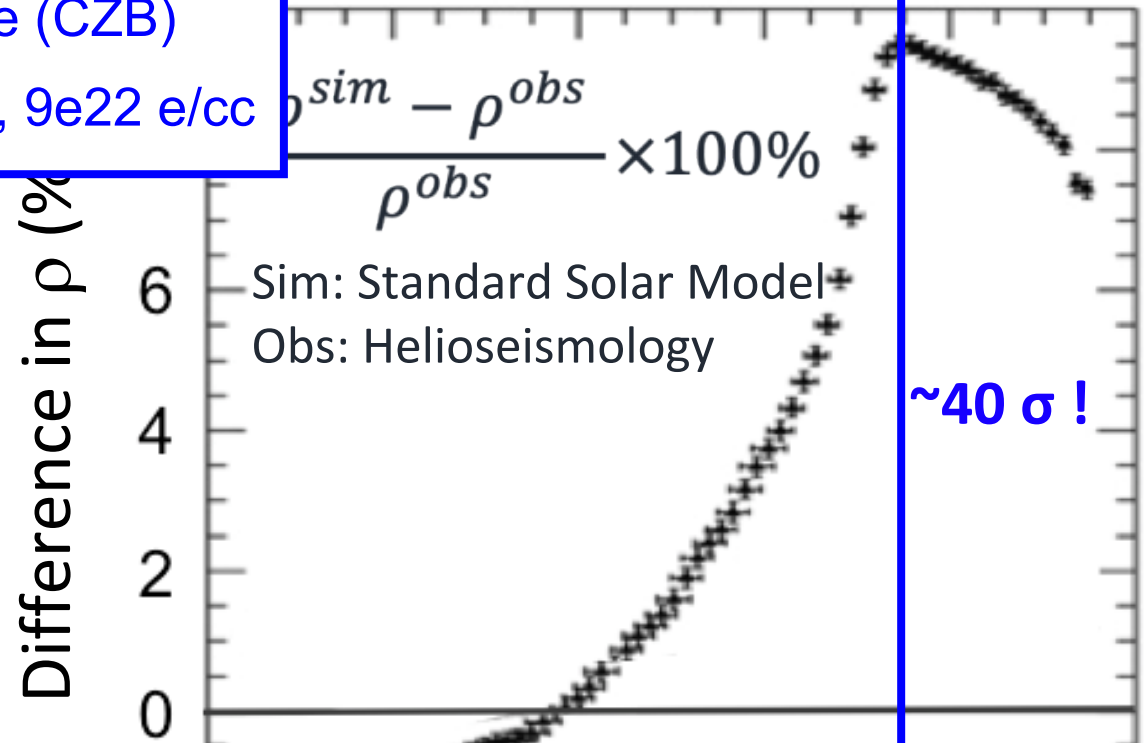


- Solar physicists: solar models need 10-30% higher mean opacity [1]
- Hypothesis: Iron opacity calculated at CZB is underestimated

# Is the decade-old solar problem caused by inaccuracy of modeled opacity?



Convection zone  
base (CZB)  
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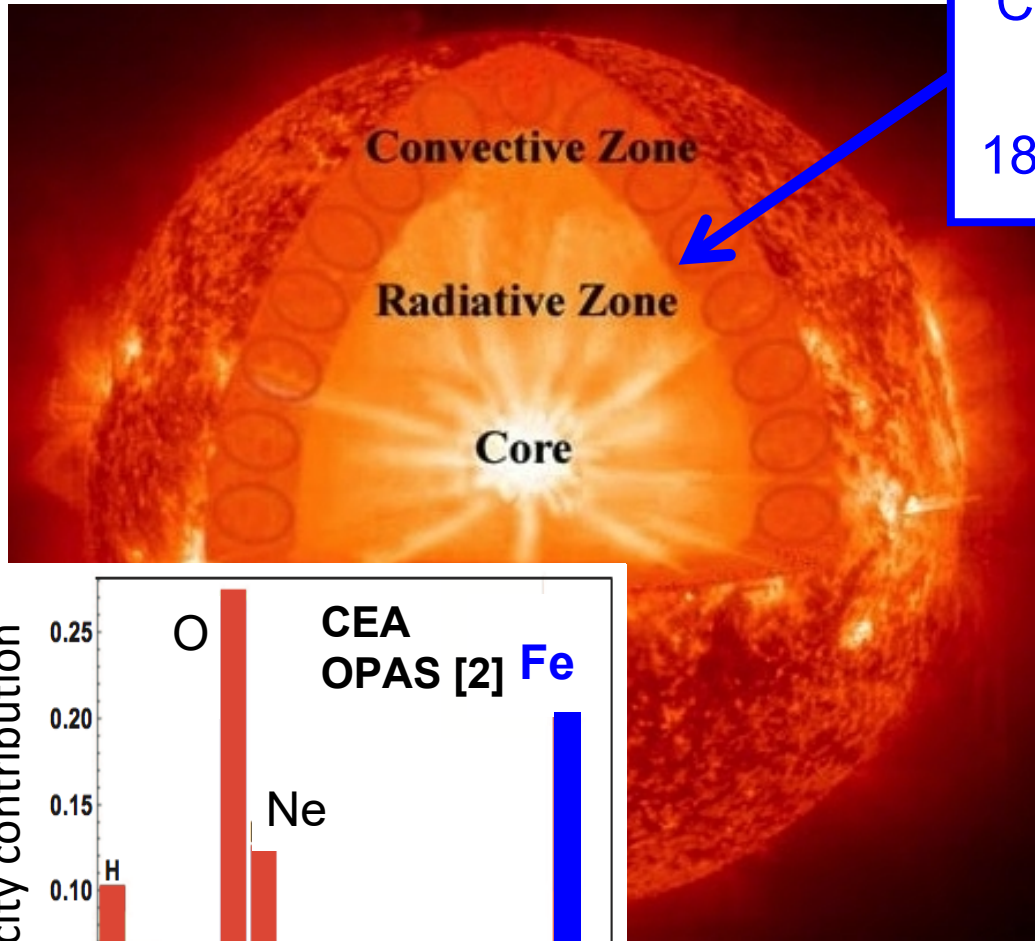


- Solar physicists: solar models need 10-30% higher mean opacity [1]
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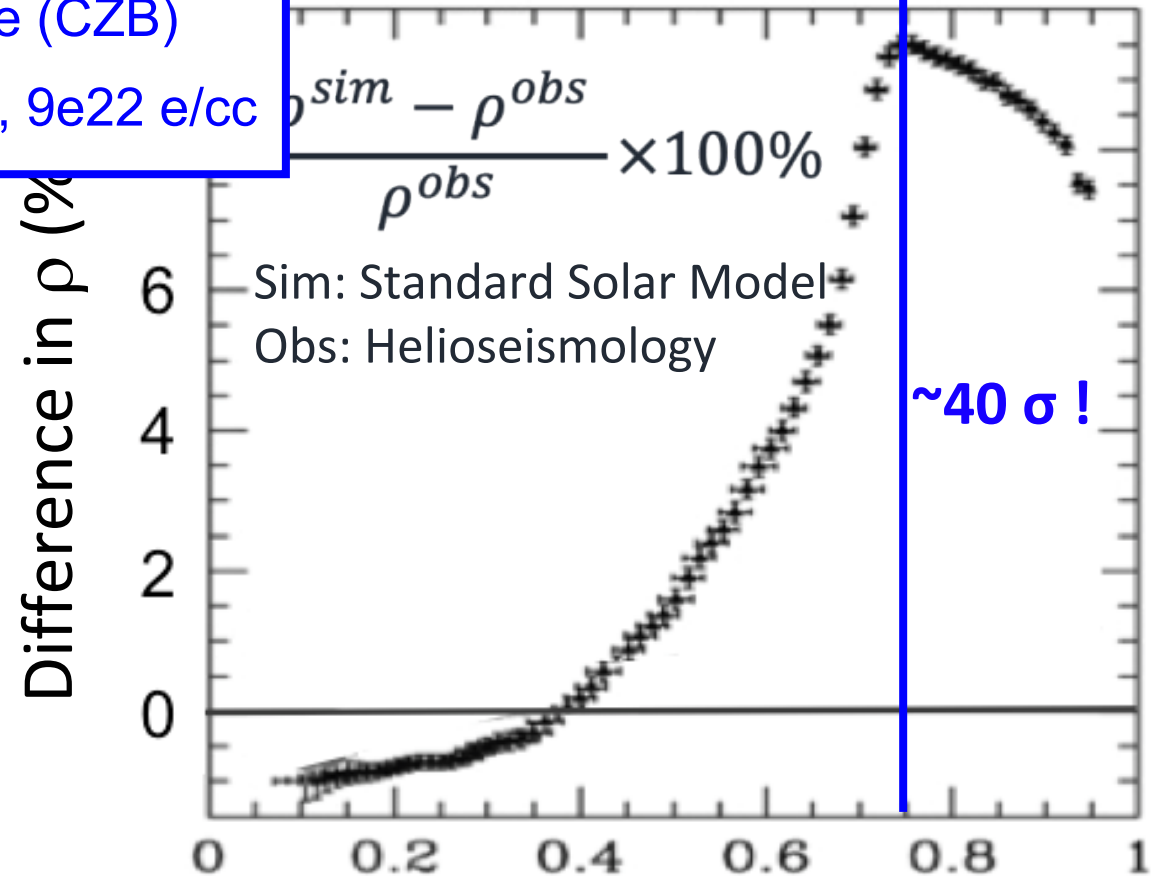
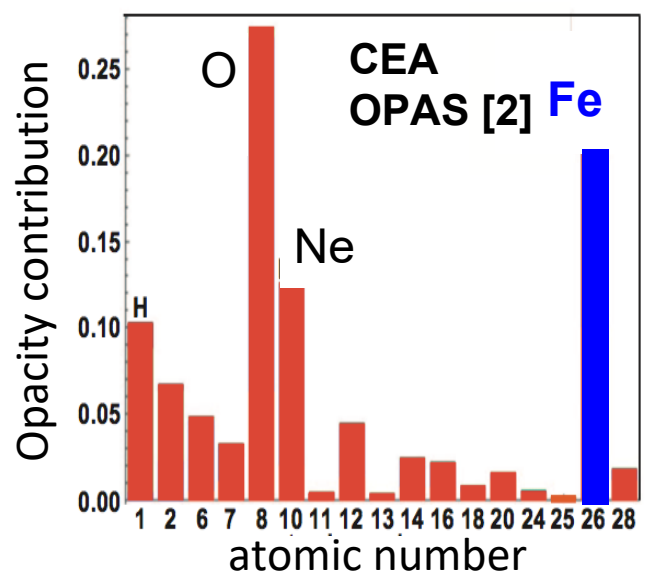
**Fe is second largest opacity source at CZB**



# Is the decade-old solar problem caused by inaccuracy of modeled opacity?



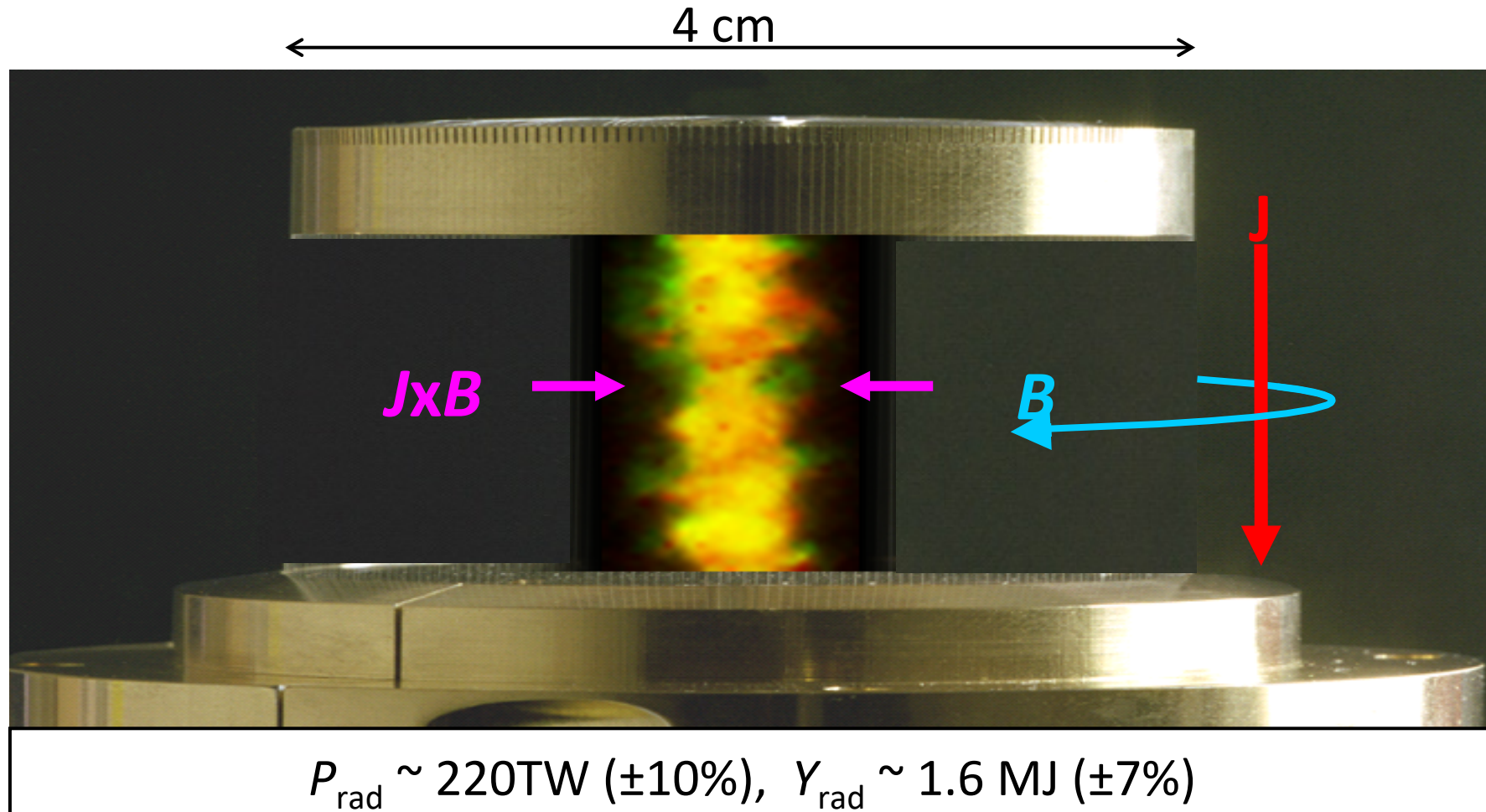
Convection zone  
base (CZB)  
182 eV,  $9e22$  e/cc



We used the most powerful x-ray generator Z to measure Fe opacity near CZB conditions



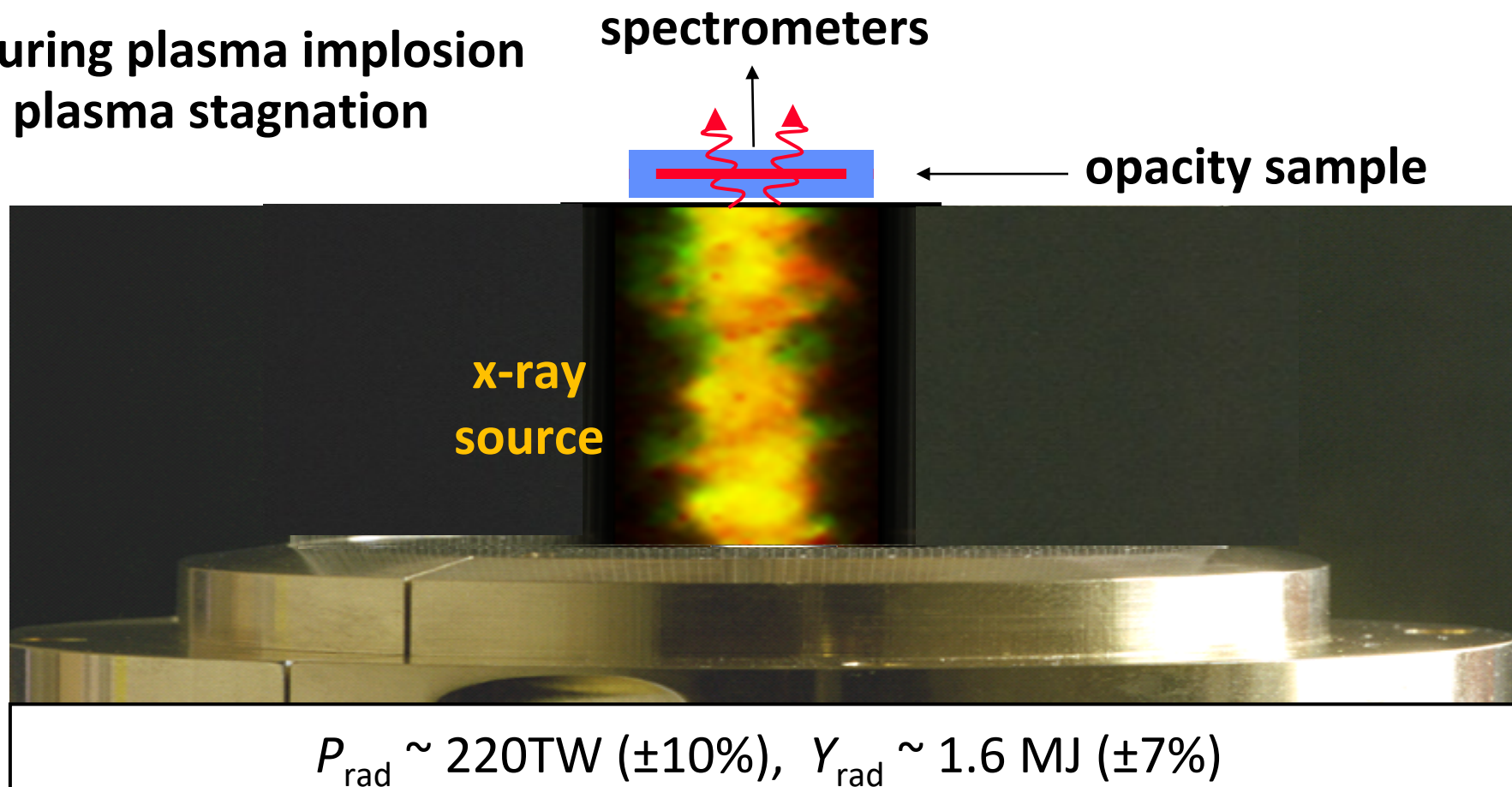
# The Z machine uses 27 million Amperes to create x-rays



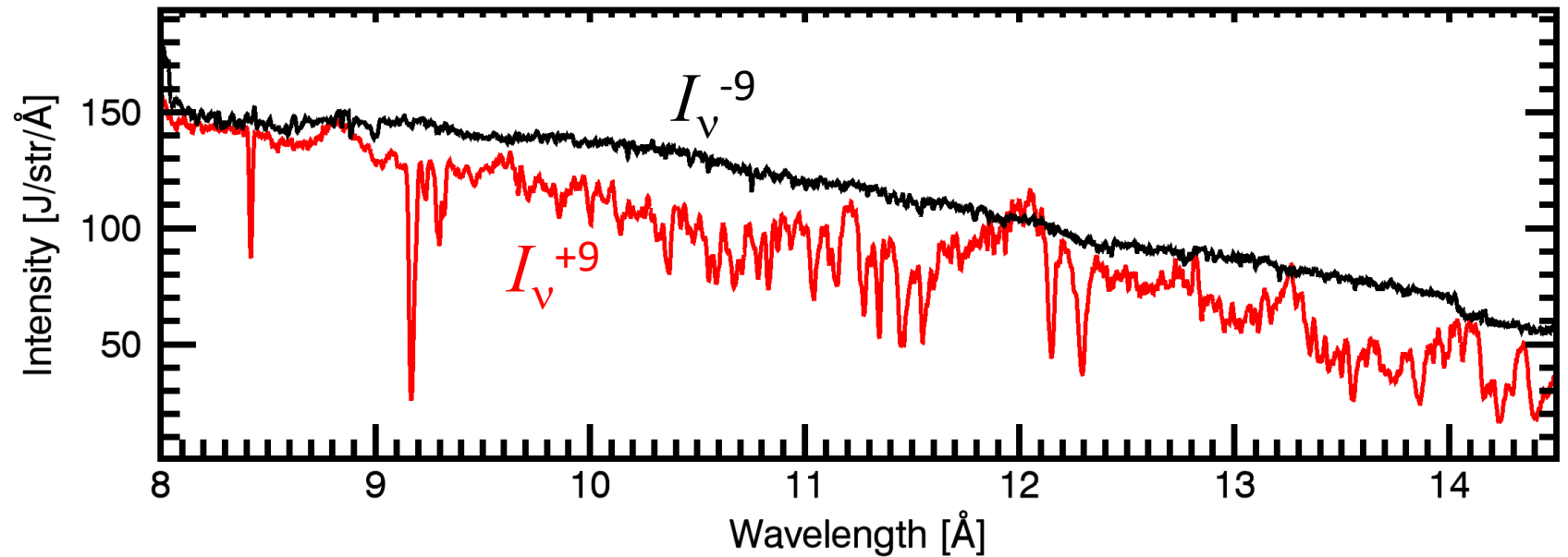
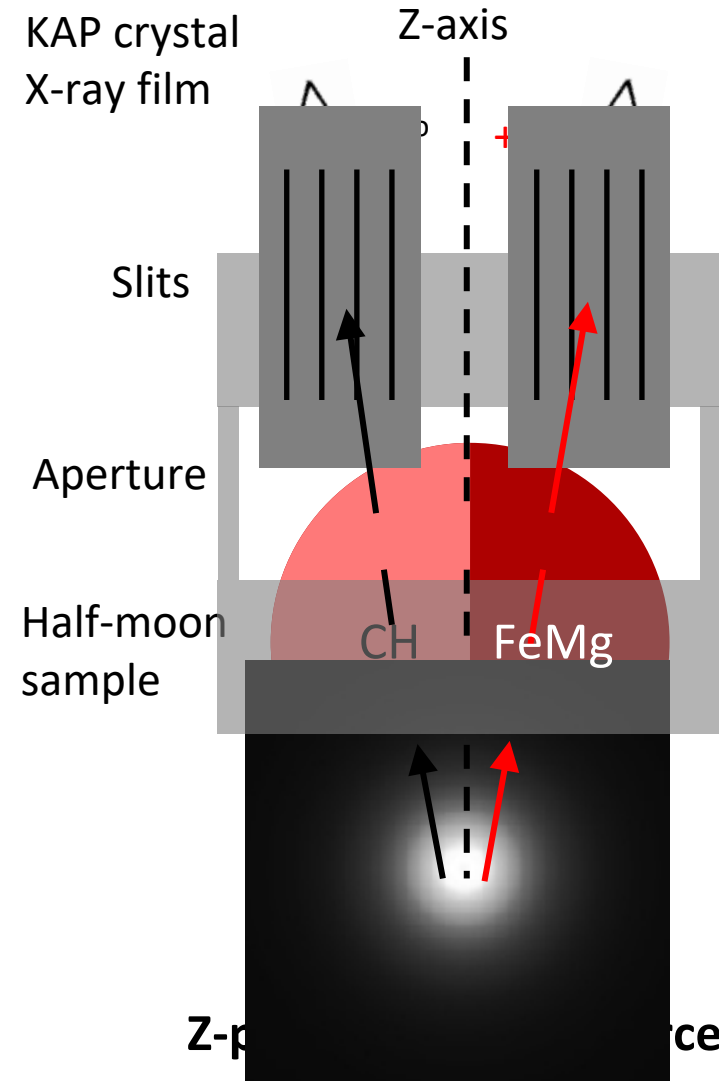
# The Z x-ray source both heats and backlights samples to stellar interior conditions

## Sample is:

- Heated during plasma implosion
- Backlit at plasma stagnation



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



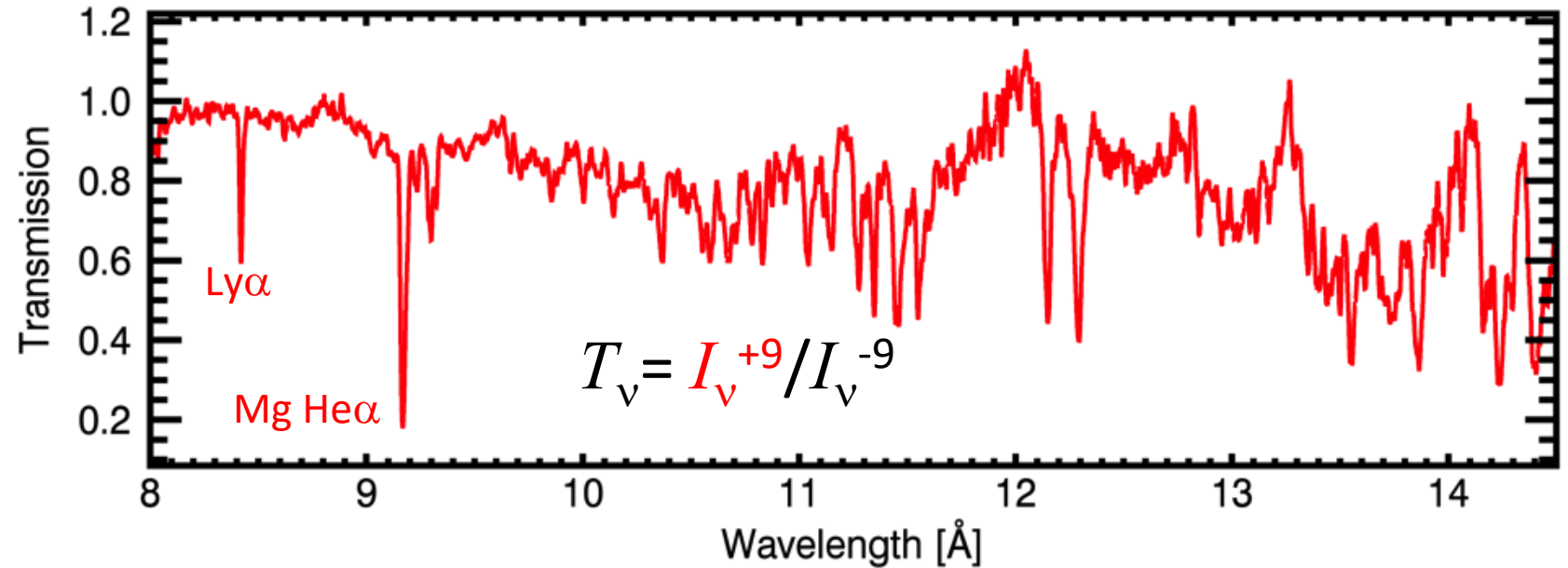
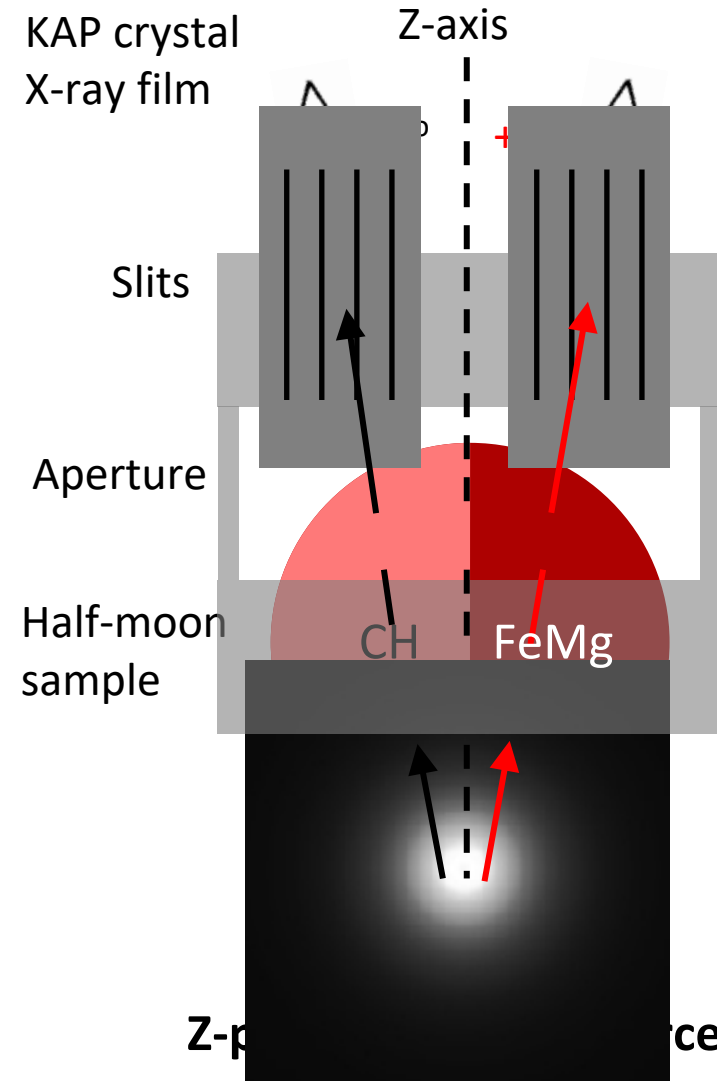
## Requirements

- Uniform heating
- Mitigating self emission
- Condition measurements
- Checking reproducibility

## SNL Z satisfies:

- Volumetric heating
- 350 eV Planckian backlight (>> 200eV sample self-emission)

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



## Requirements

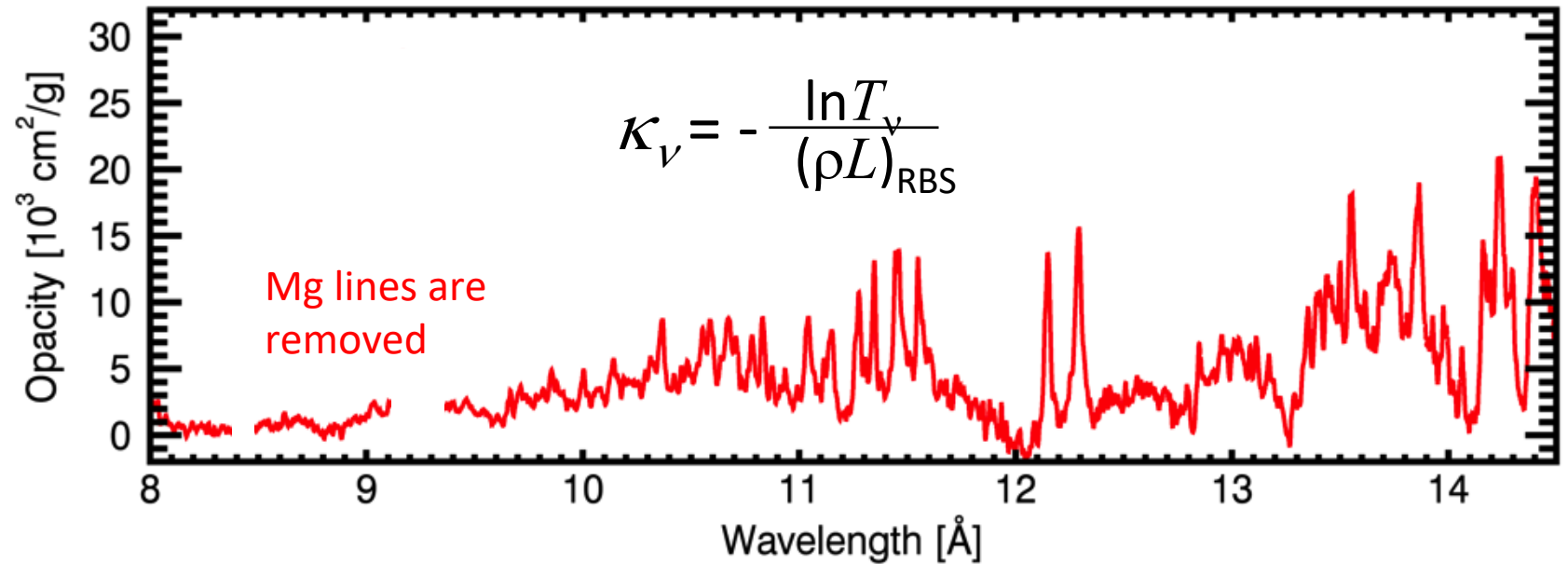
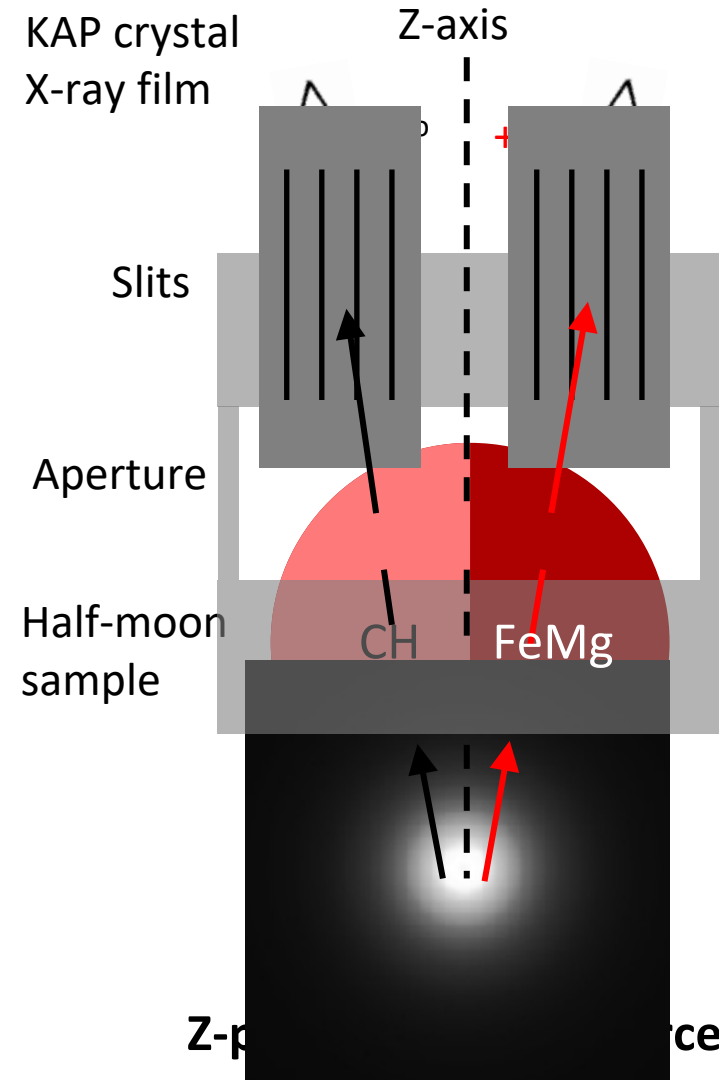
- Uniform heating → Volumetric heating
- Mitigating self emission → 350 eV Planckian backlight
- Condition measurements → Mg K-shell spectroscopy
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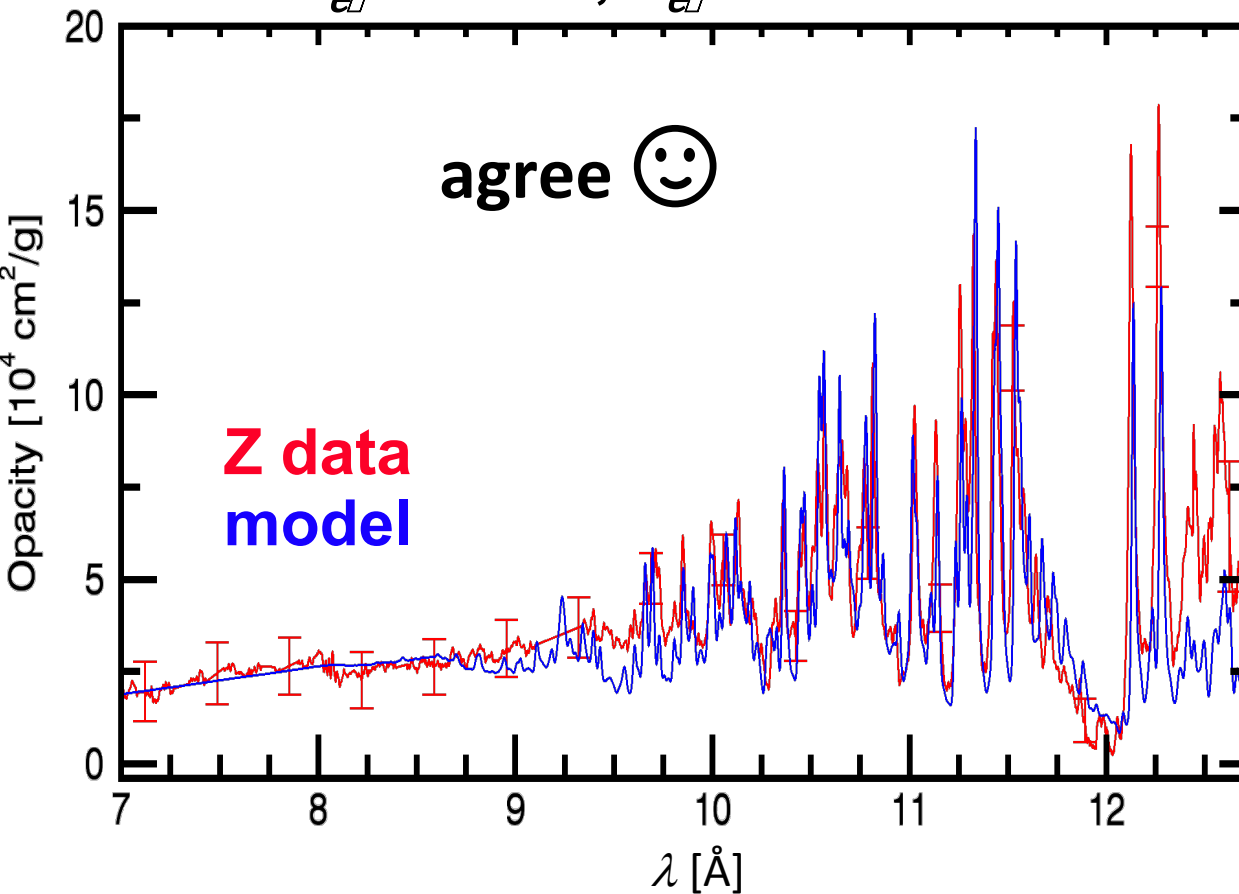
## SNL Z satisfies:

- Volumetric heating
- 350 eV Planckian backlight
- Mg K-shell spectroscopy

Modern best-effort models agree very well with the Z iron data at  
 $T_e \sim 156 \text{ eV}, n_e = 7 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

Anchor 1

$T_e = 156 \text{ eV}, n_e = 6.9 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

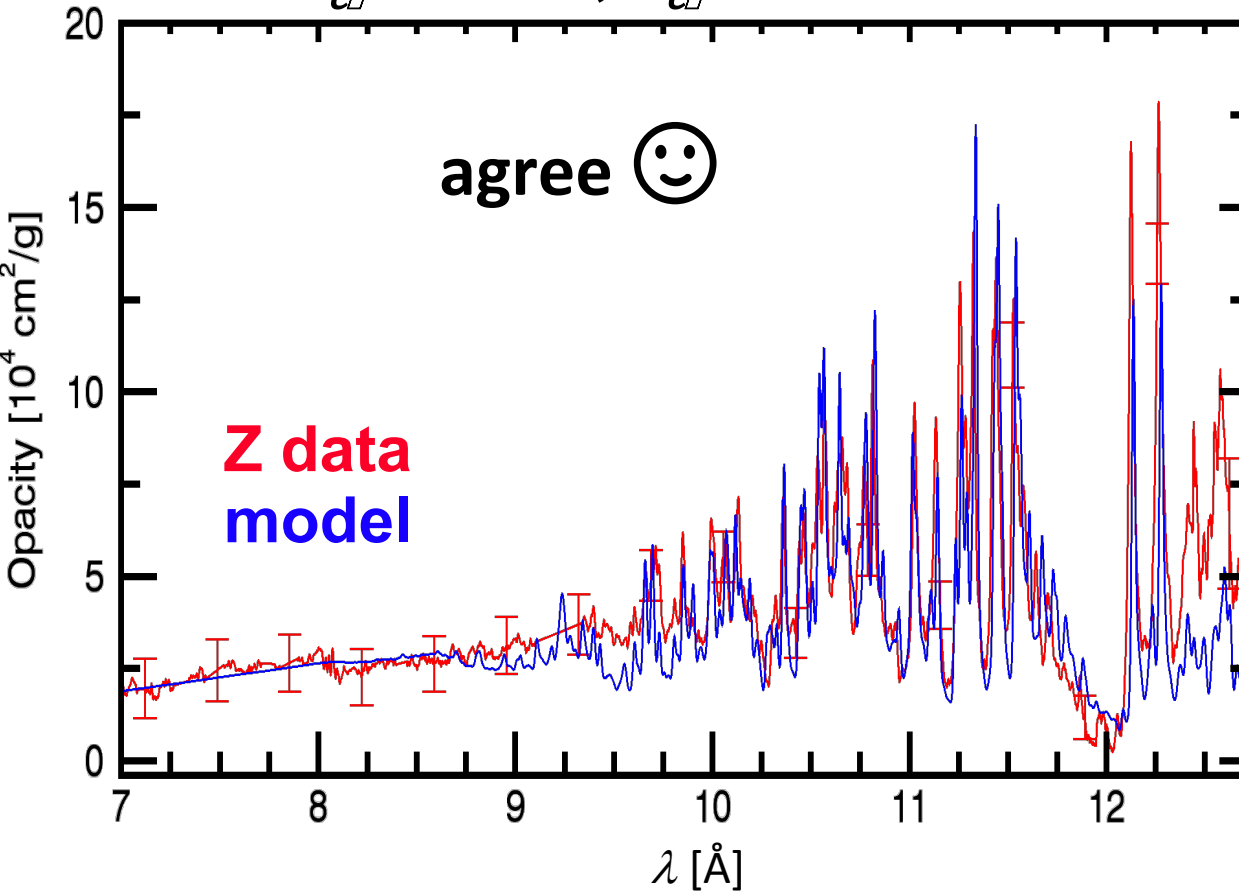


# ... but disagree at near CZB conditions



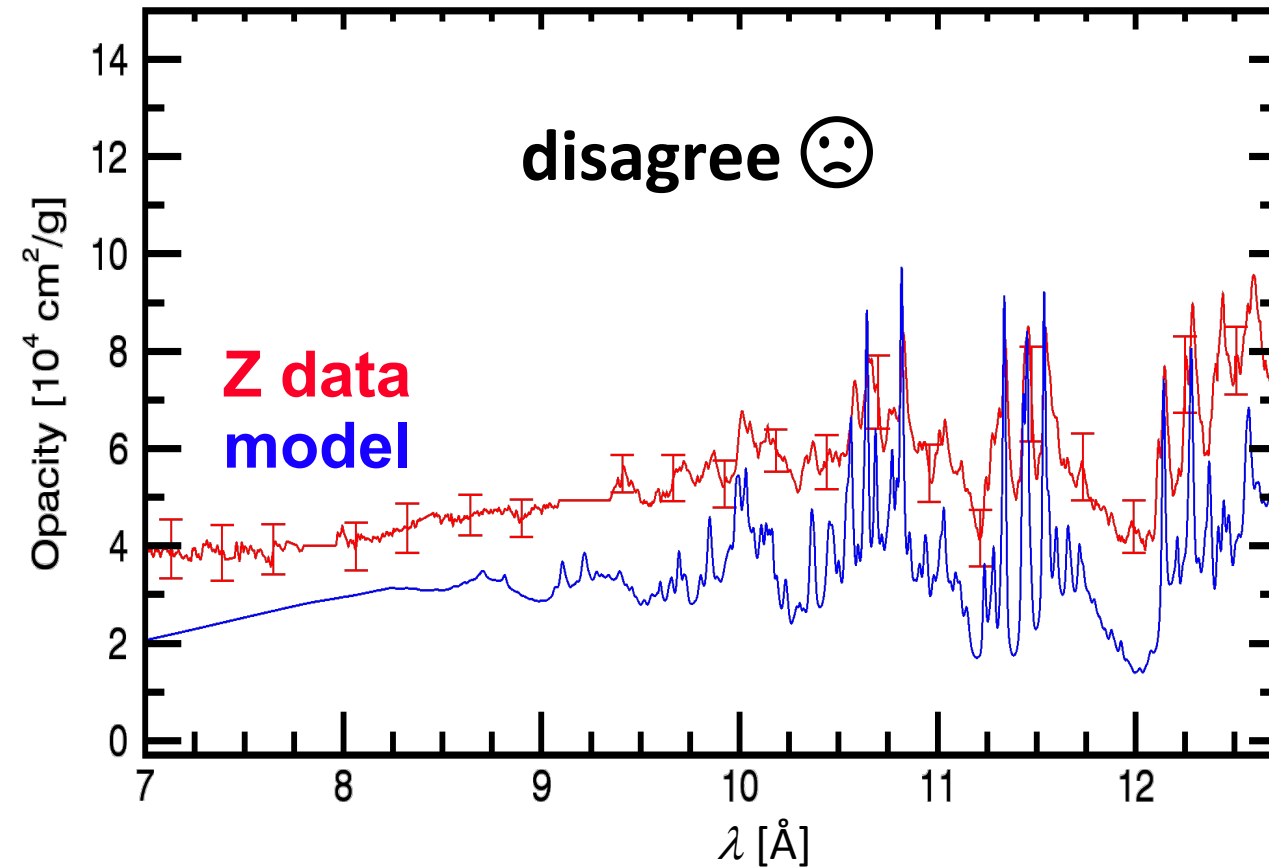
## Anchor 1

$$T_e = 156 \text{ eV}, n_e = 6.9 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$



## Anchor 2 ~ solar CZB

$$T_e = 182 \text{ eV}, n_e = 3.1 \times 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$



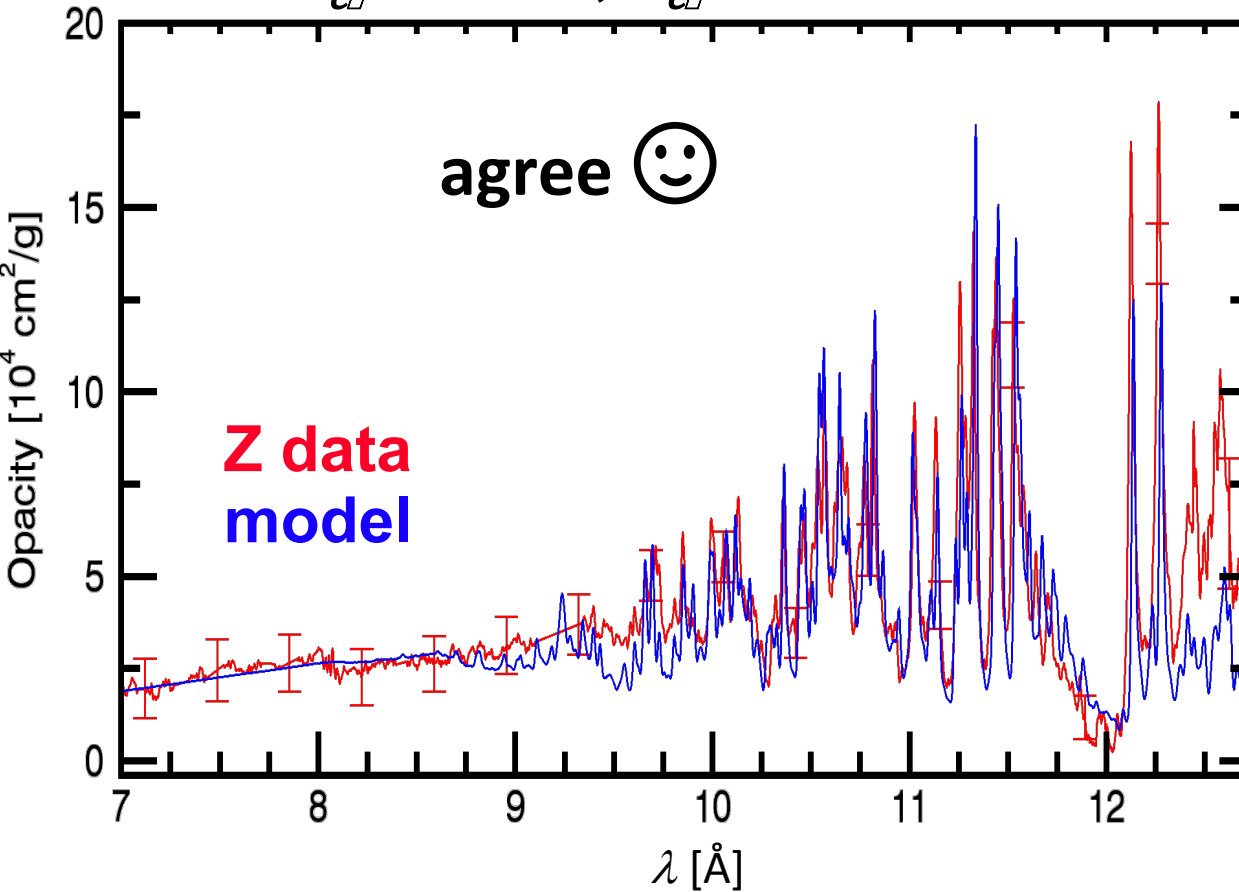
- The difference accounts for roughly half the opacity change needed to solve the solar problem
- Is opacity theory inaccurate? Is opacity experiment flawed?

# ... but disagree at near CZB conditions



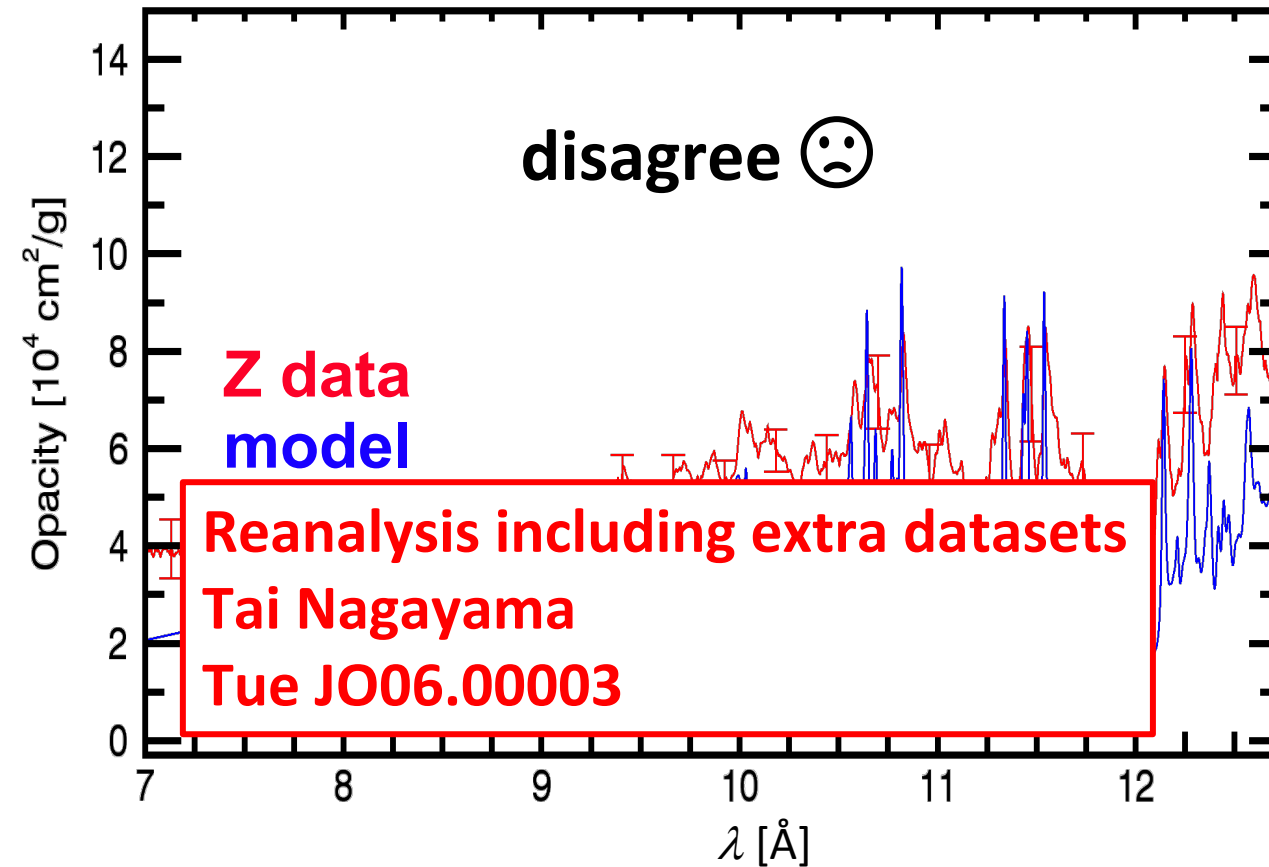
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# Time-resolved measurements can improve our opacity investigations in multiple ways



- ***Understand and refine opacity experiments by measuring  $T_e(t)$  and  $n_e(t)$*** 
  - Refine the experiments to reach higher density
  - Experimentally test the importance of time-integration effects
- ***Test accuracy of radiation-hydrodynamics simulations***
- ***Evaluate proposed model refinements that address the model-data discrepancies***
  - Line broadening
  - 2-photon absorption
  - Excited states distribution
- ***Increase efficiency of absolute opacity measurements***
  - Multiple opacity measurements over different  $T_e, n_e$  within a single experiment

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# Time-integration effects are a potential source of systematic error on opacity measurements



## Potential systematic errors<sup>1</sup>:

- Error in  $T_e$  and  $n_e$  determination
- Sample areal density error
- Sample spatial gradients
- Sample self-emission
- Background determination
- ⋮

## Time-dependent effects:

Effect 1: Transient kinetics. Excluded from high density and agreement at anchor 1

Effect 2: Temporal gradients

→ First approach: field ultra-fast detector to assess the Z opacity sample evolution

<sup>1</sup>Nagayama *et al.*, *PRE*, **95**, (2017), Nagayama *et al.*, *RSI*, **83**, (2012), H. Morris *et al.*, *PoP*, **24**, (2017)

# We used the Ultrafast X-ray Imager - UXI<sup>1</sup> to record time-gated spectral images



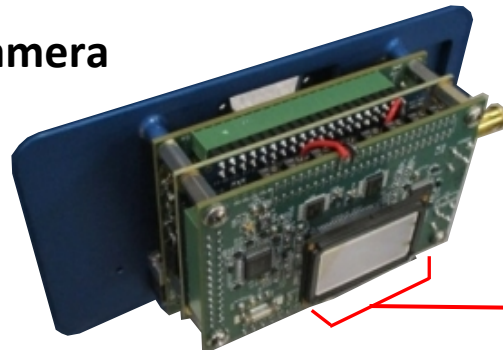
## Requirements for condition measurements

- Accurate Mg **line** transmission measured
  - high S/N spectra →
  - linear photon intensity →
  - enough spectral resolution →
  - avoid line saturation
  - reproducibility
- Multiple time-steps to observe actual evolution →
- Line transmission model

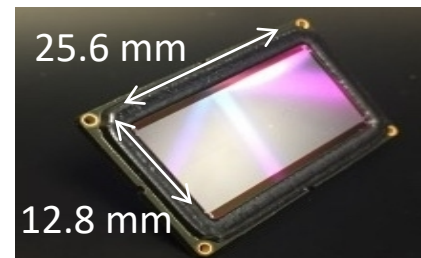
## UXI characteristics:

- High single photon, soft x-ray response. Absolutely calibrated for the slit pattern<sup>2</sup>
- Very good linearity<sup>2</sup> **<3%**
- Pixel size →  **$\lambda/\delta\lambda = 1100-1200$**  ( $\sim 7\text{m}\text{\AA}$ )
- Highly uniform response<sup>2</sup>  **$\sim 2\%$**
- Time-resolution = **1.9 ns** adequate to collect 5 or 6 frames /camera /exp

UXI camera



sensor



1024x512 25- $\mu\text{m}$  pixels

➤ Meets requirements to obtain the sample evolution

<sup>1</sup>UXI=Ultra-fast X-ray Imager: Claus *et al.*, *Proc. SPIE*, **9591**, (2015), *Proc. SPIE*, **10390**, (2017), <sup>2</sup>Looker *et al.*, *RSI*, **91**, 043502 (2020)



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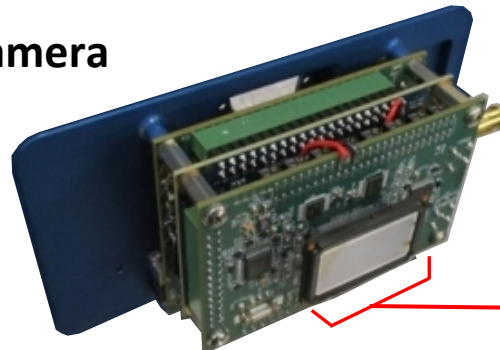
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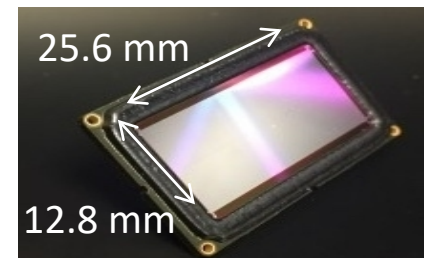
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1024x512 25- $\mu\text{m}$  pixels

**John Porter**  
**Wed Q102.00004**

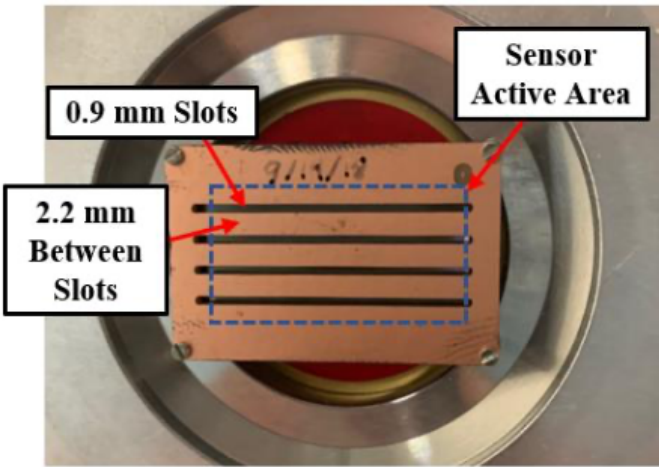
➤ **Meets requirements to obtain the sample evolution**

<sup>1</sup>UXI=Ultra-fast X-ray Imager: Claus *et al.*, *Proc. SPIE*, **9591**, (2015), *Proc. SPIE*, **10390**, (2017), <sup>2</sup>Looker *et al.*, *RSI*, **91**, 043502 (2020)

# The UXI detector was characterized in a usage regime relevant to the Z opacity experiment<sup>1</sup>

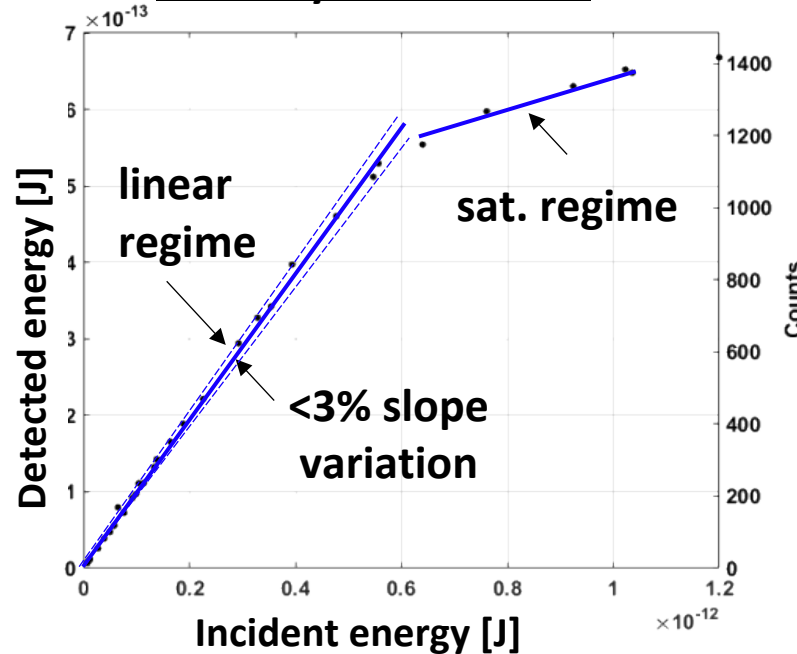


## Same slit pattern as opacity



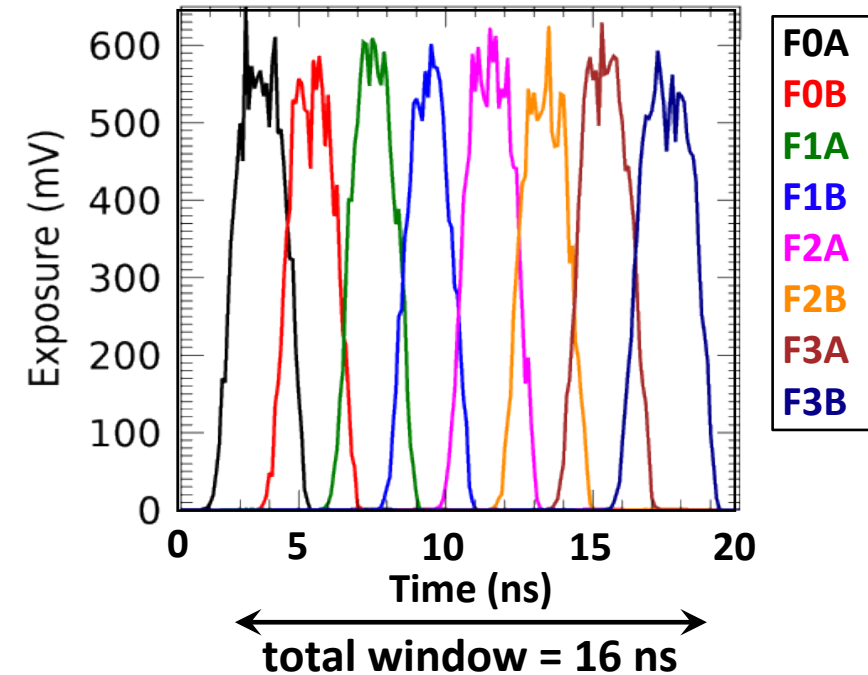
sensor size = 1in in spectral dimension  $\sim \frac{1}{4}$  of full spectrum

## Linearity & saturation



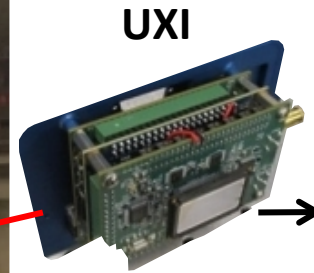
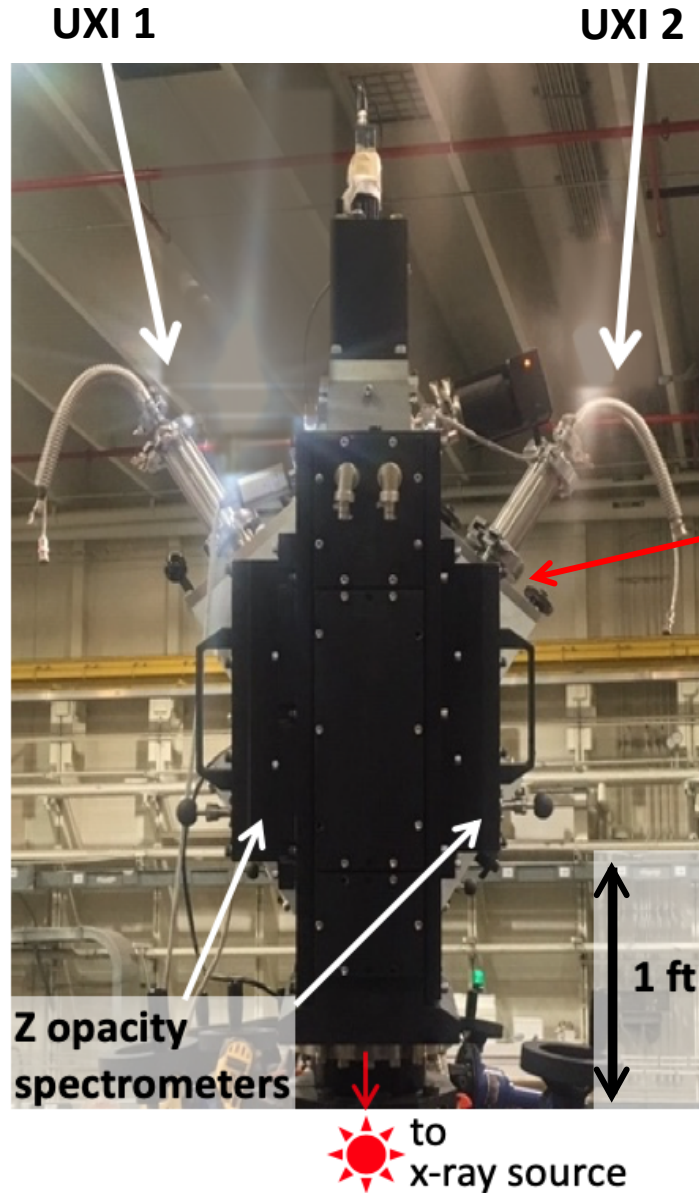
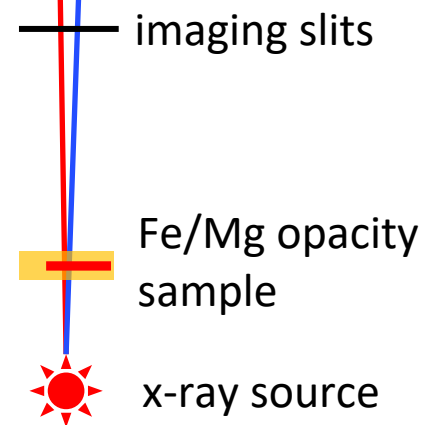
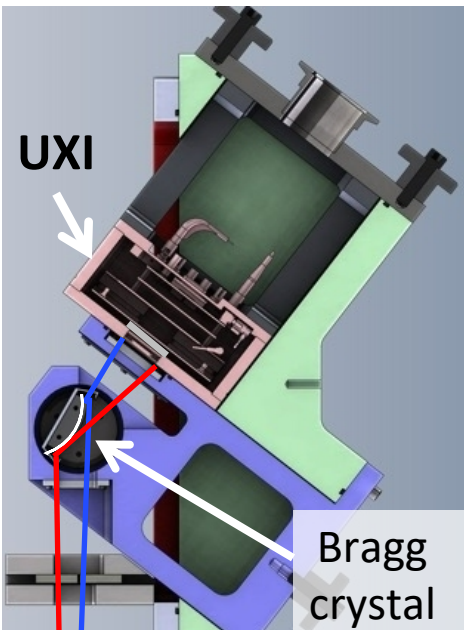
## The 8 time-gates are measured

2/2ns trigger mode, FWHM = 1.86 ns

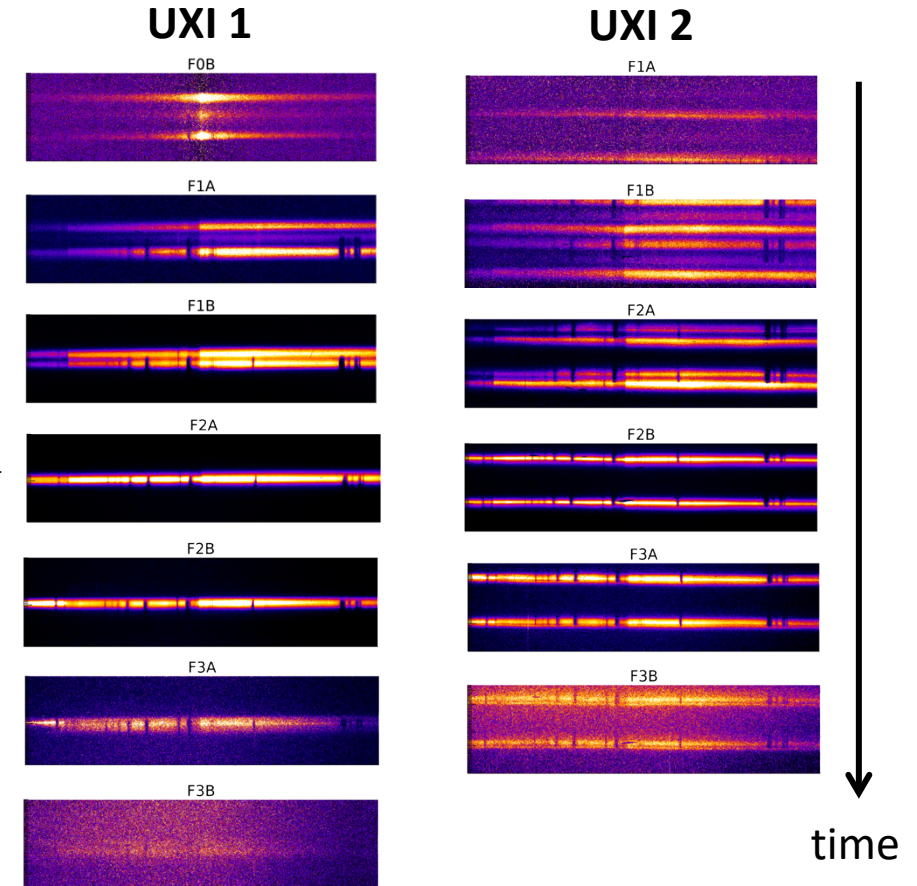


<sup>1</sup>Looker *et al.*, *RSI*, **91**, 043502 (2020)

# UXI detector successfully fielded in Z opacity spectrometers



## z3460 - Anchor 1 Fe

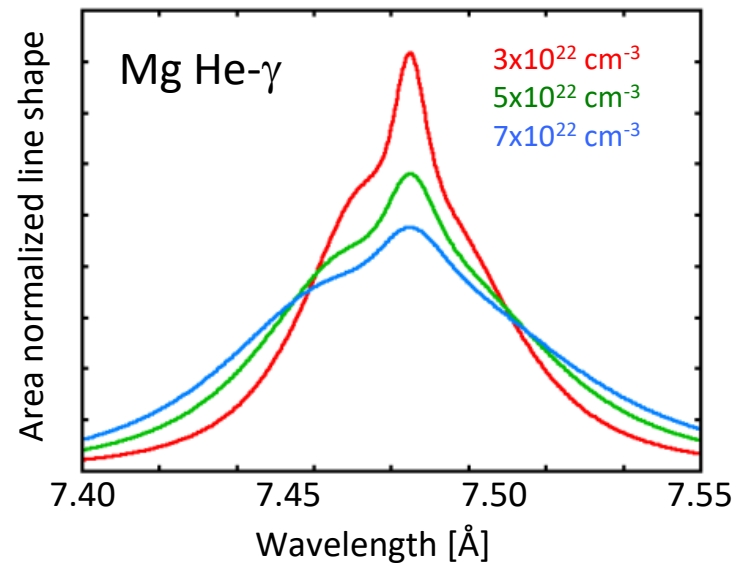


- Average of 8 frames per shot, with max of 13 frames on a single shot with 2 UXI cameras.
- March 2022: 39 images on 3 shots

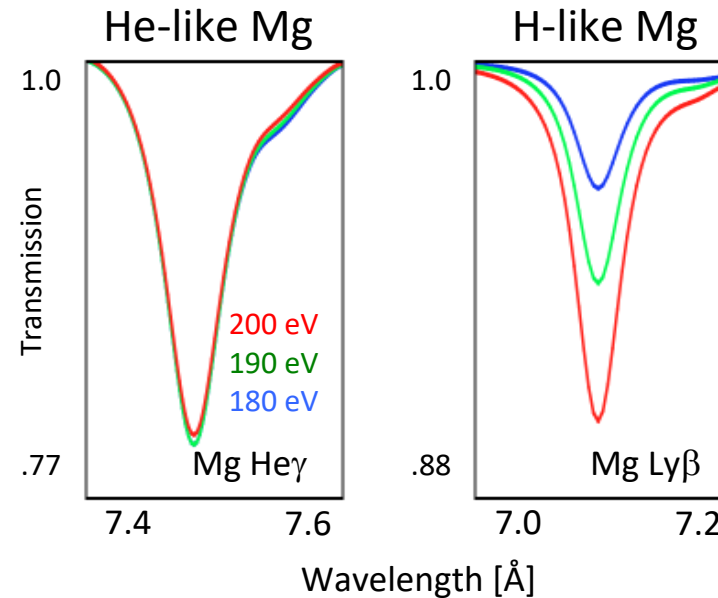
# $n_e$ and $T_e$ are inferred from measured Mg K-shell line absorption spectrum<sup>1</sup>



- Line shape: sensitive to electron density,  $n_e$



- Line ratio: sensitive to electron temperature,  $T_e$



Plasma  $T_e$  and  $n_e$  can be extracted by reproducing measured spectra with spectral models

<sup>1</sup>Bailey, et al. *RSI* **79**,3104 (2008), Nagayama et al., *PoP* **21**, 056502 (2014), Nagayama et al. *HEDP* **20**, 17 (2016), R.C. Mancini, D.P. Kilcrease, et al., *Comp. Phys. Com.* **63**, 314 (1991), C. Iglesias, H. DeWitt, et. al., *PRA* **31**, 1698 (1985).



# *Temporally* resolved UXI images are *spectrally* resolved in the Mg K-shell absorption range



size of detector is limited  
to  $\sim 3 \text{ \AA}$

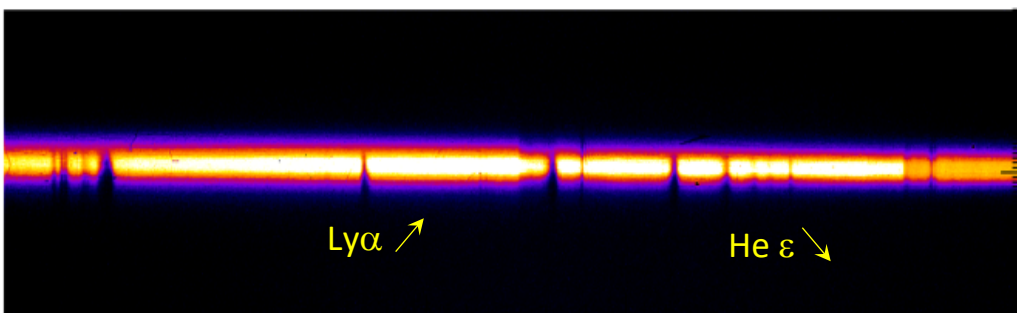
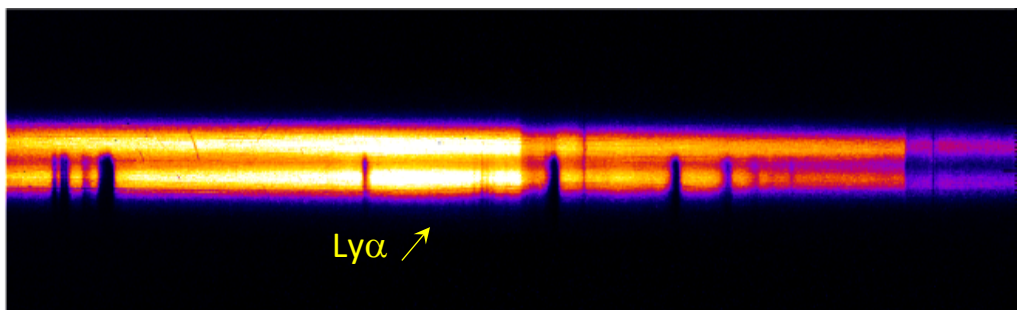
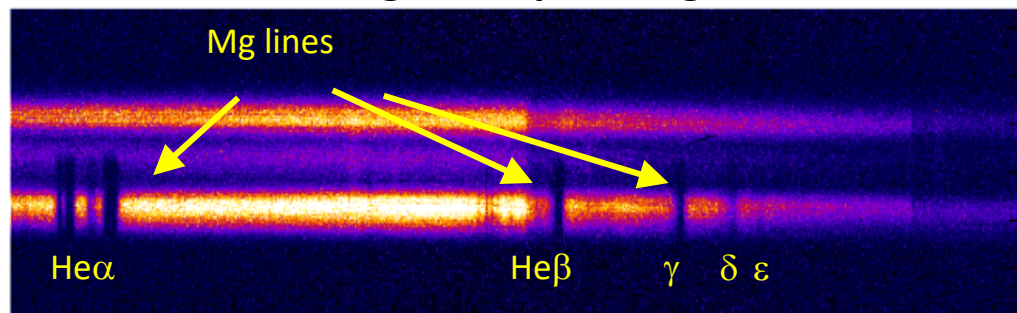
time 1  
 $\Delta t = 1.86 \text{ ns}$

time 2

time 3

$t \text{ [ns]}$

Fe/Mg example images



Photon energy

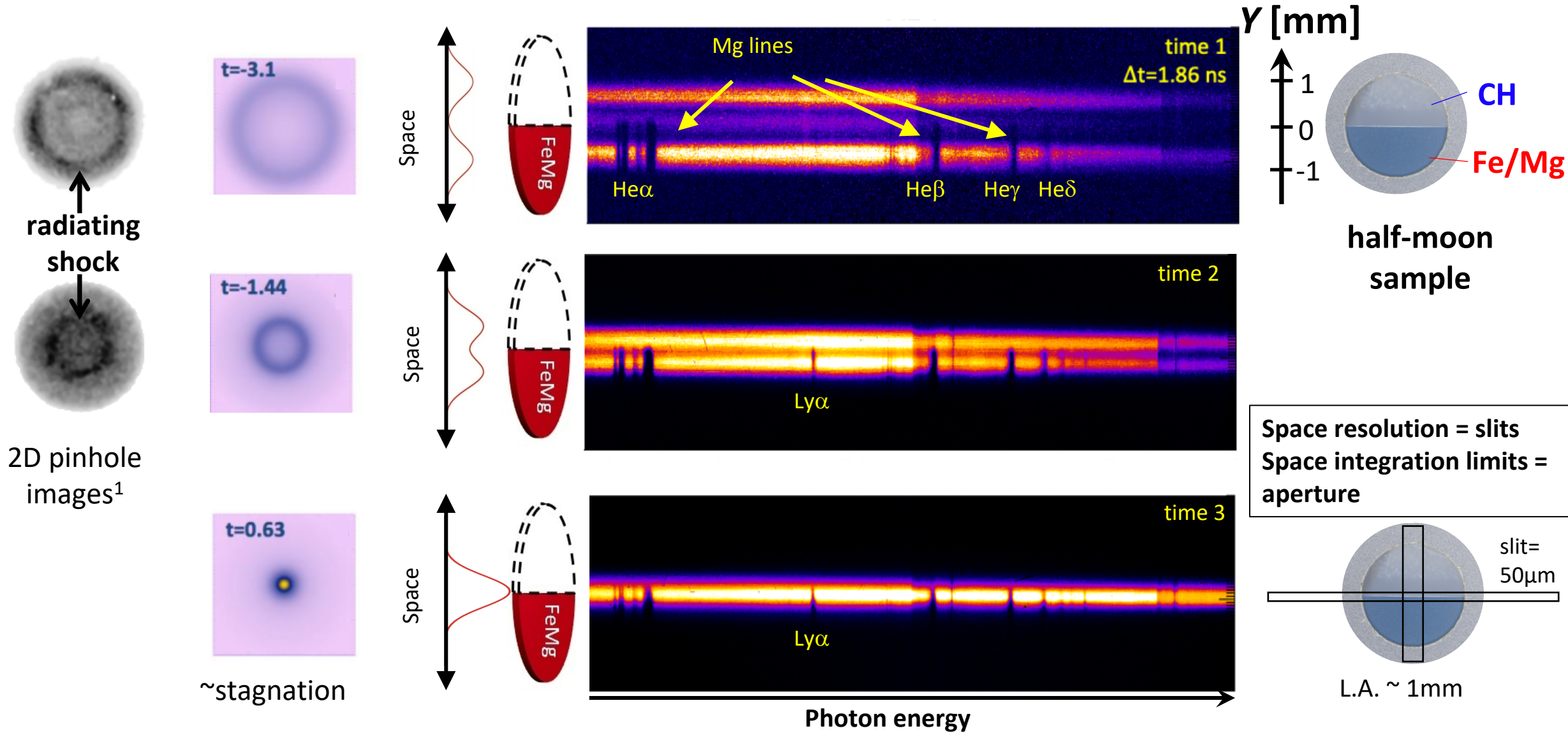
He-like = Mg +10  
 $\rightarrow \text{He}\alpha, \text{He}\beta, \text{He}\gamma \dots$

H-like = Mg +11  
 $\rightarrow \text{Ly}\alpha, \text{Ly}\beta$

temperature  
increases since  
Ly $\alpha$  line deepens



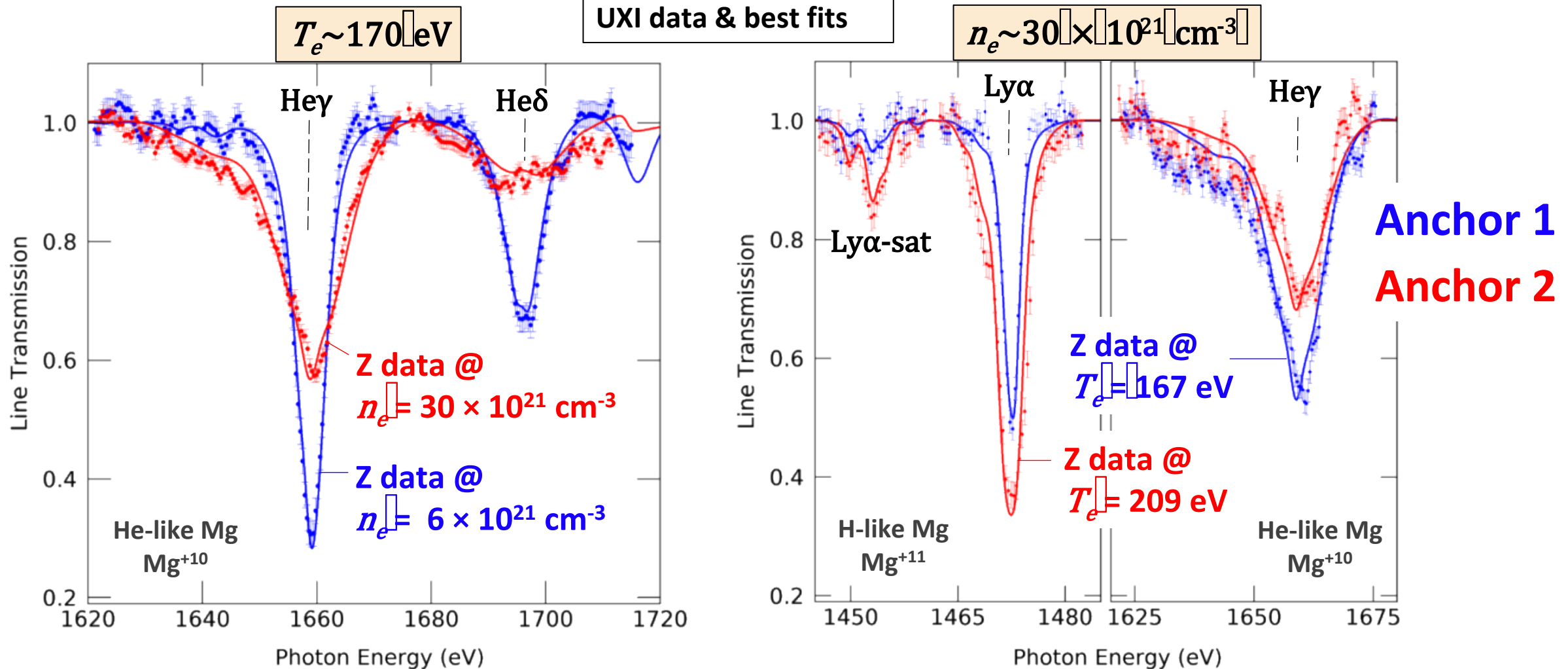
# UXI images are also *spatially* resolved → backlighter spatial profile



➤ The reproducible ( $320 \text{ km/s} \pm 8\%$ ) radiating shock is used to cross-time datasets<sup>1</sup>

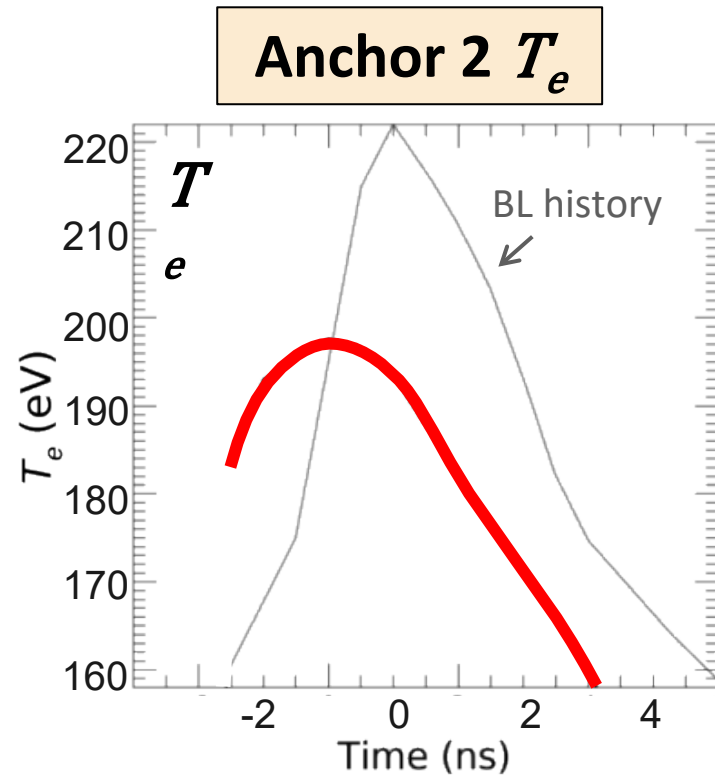
<sup>1</sup>G. Rochau *et al.*, *PRL*, **100** (2008)

# Conditions were obtained for both anchor 1 & 2 Fe

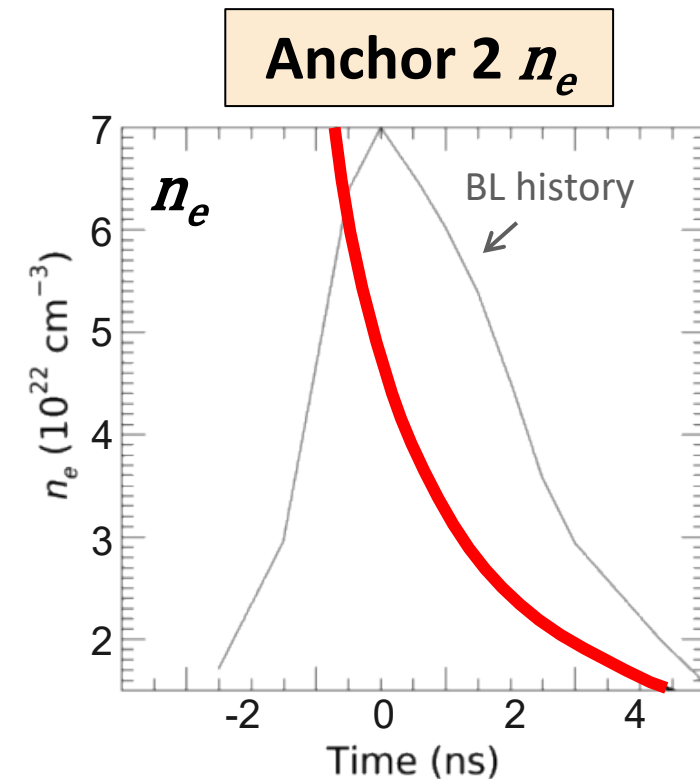


➤ One condition can be varied while the other stay the same (here on two experiments)

# Simulations\* predict $T_e$ , $n_e$ evolution for anchor 2 Fe

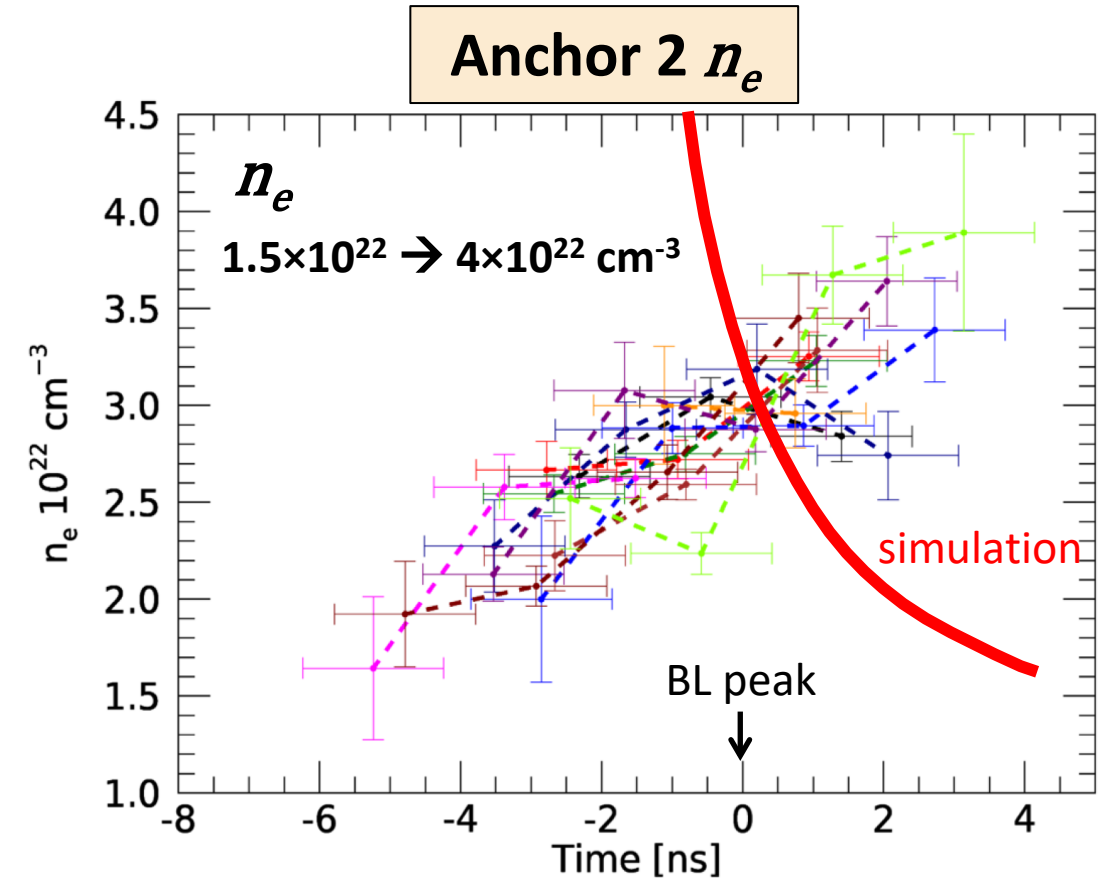
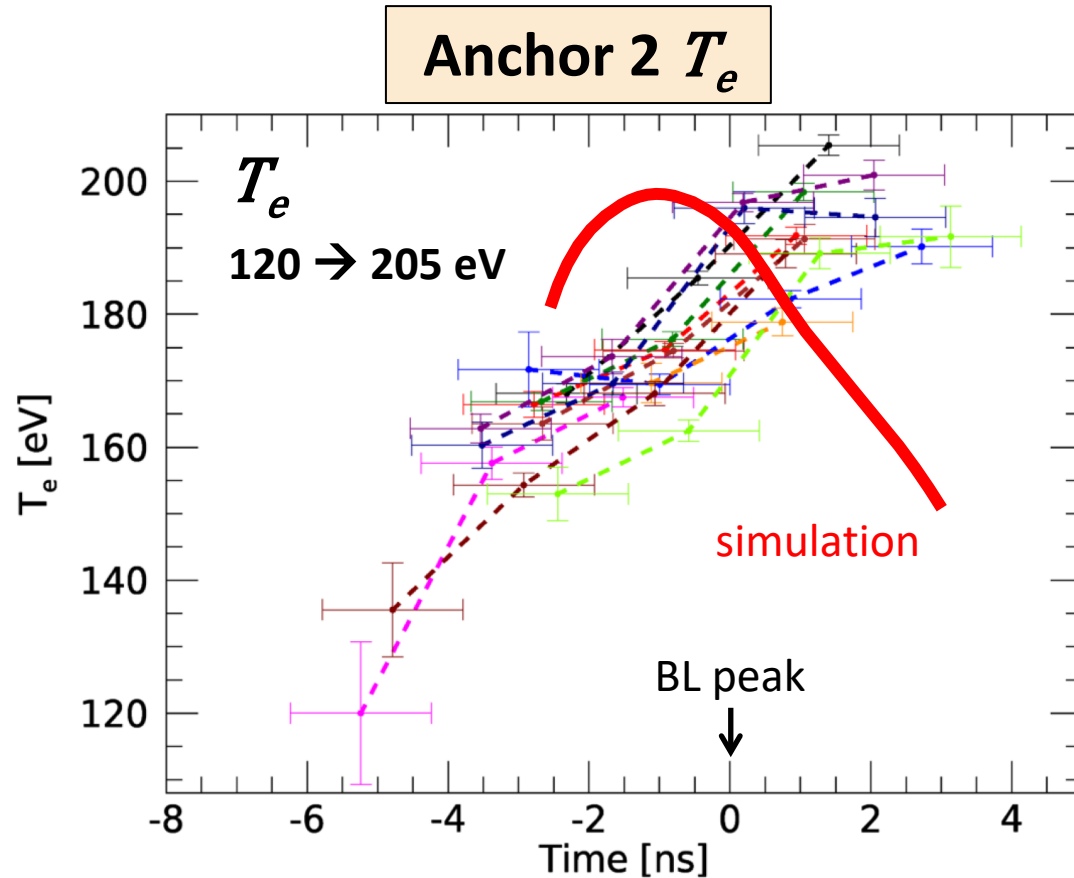


$T_e$  decrease after peak temperature 1 ns before BL peak



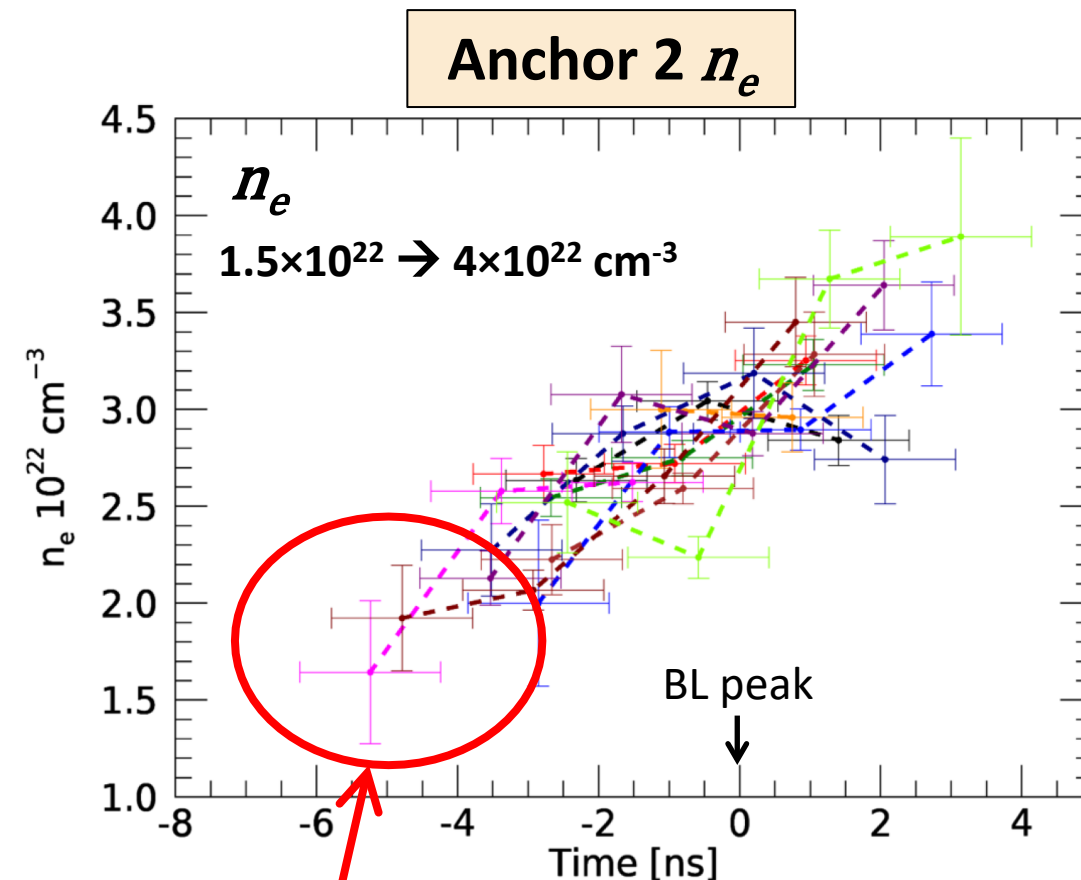
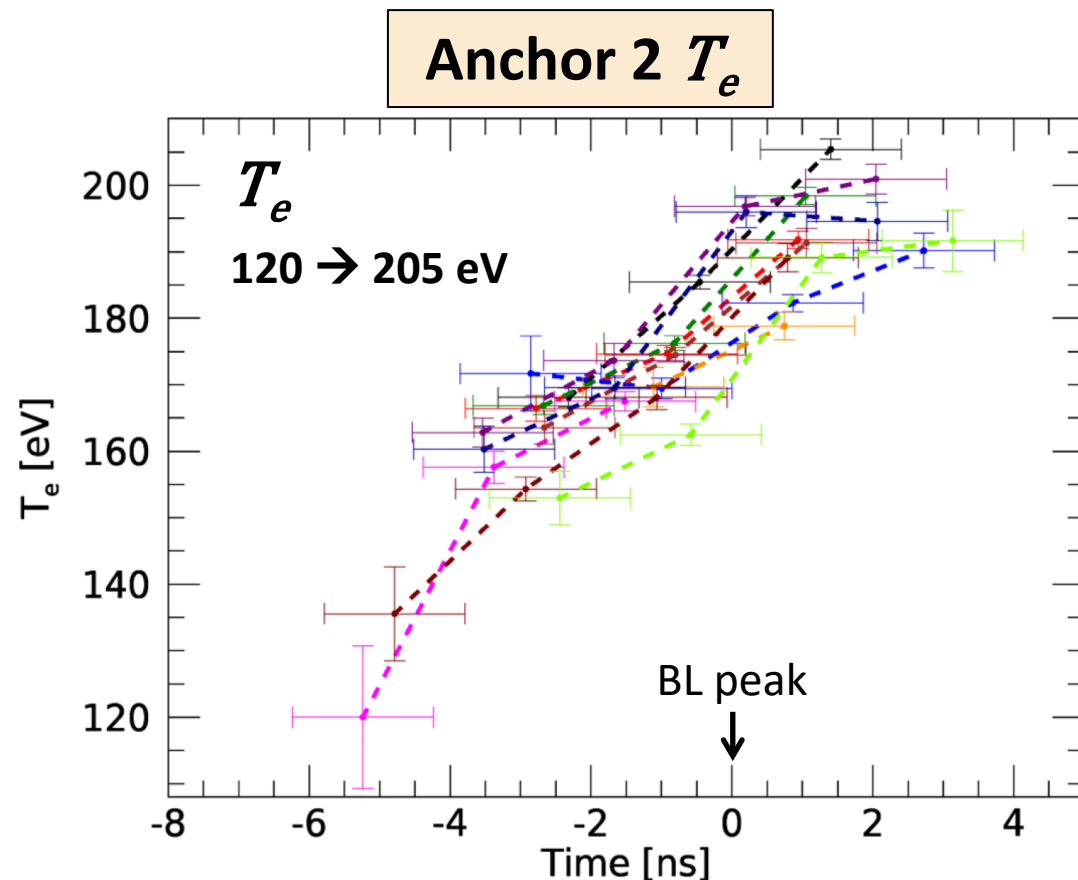
$n_e$  constant drastic decrease

# Anchor 2 Fe conditions evolution trends disagree with simulation predictions



➤ Multiple datasets (7 experiments)  $\rightarrow$  reliability of novel measurements, clearer trends

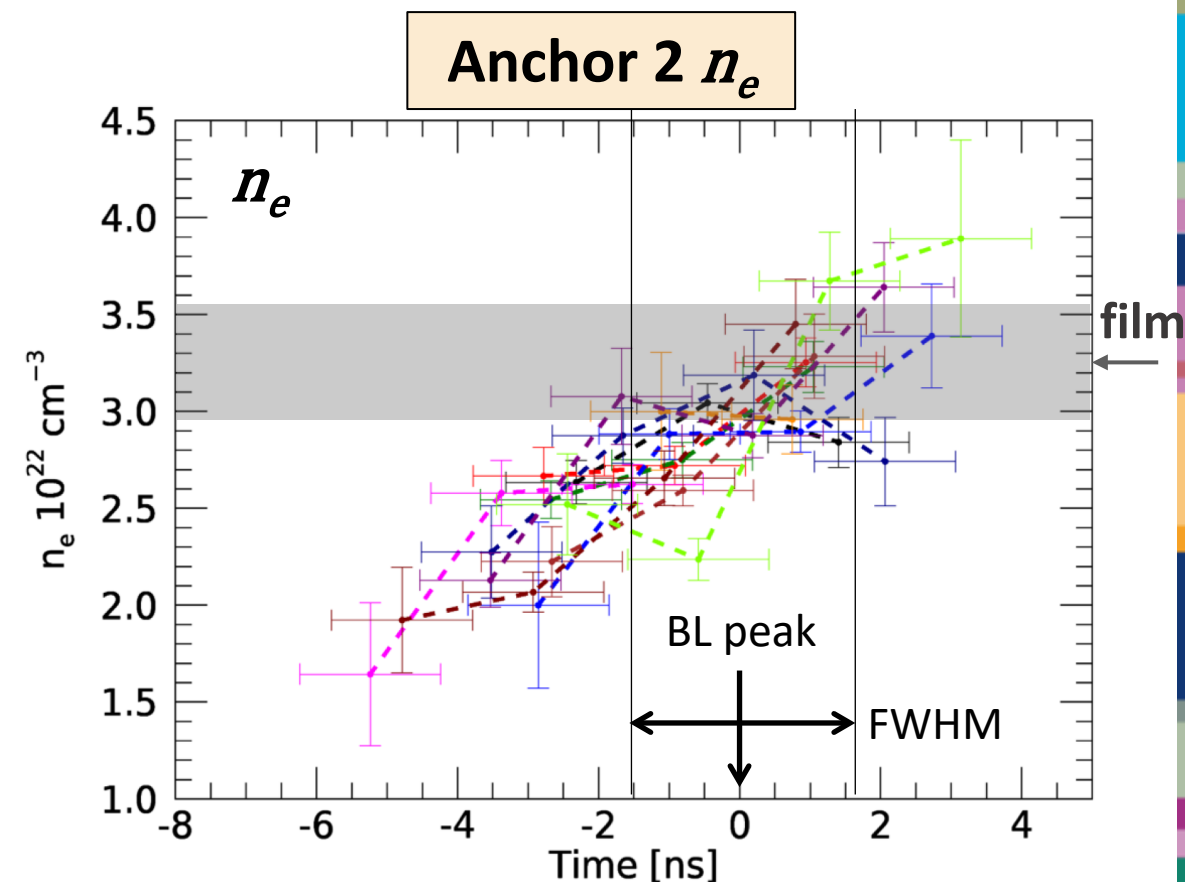
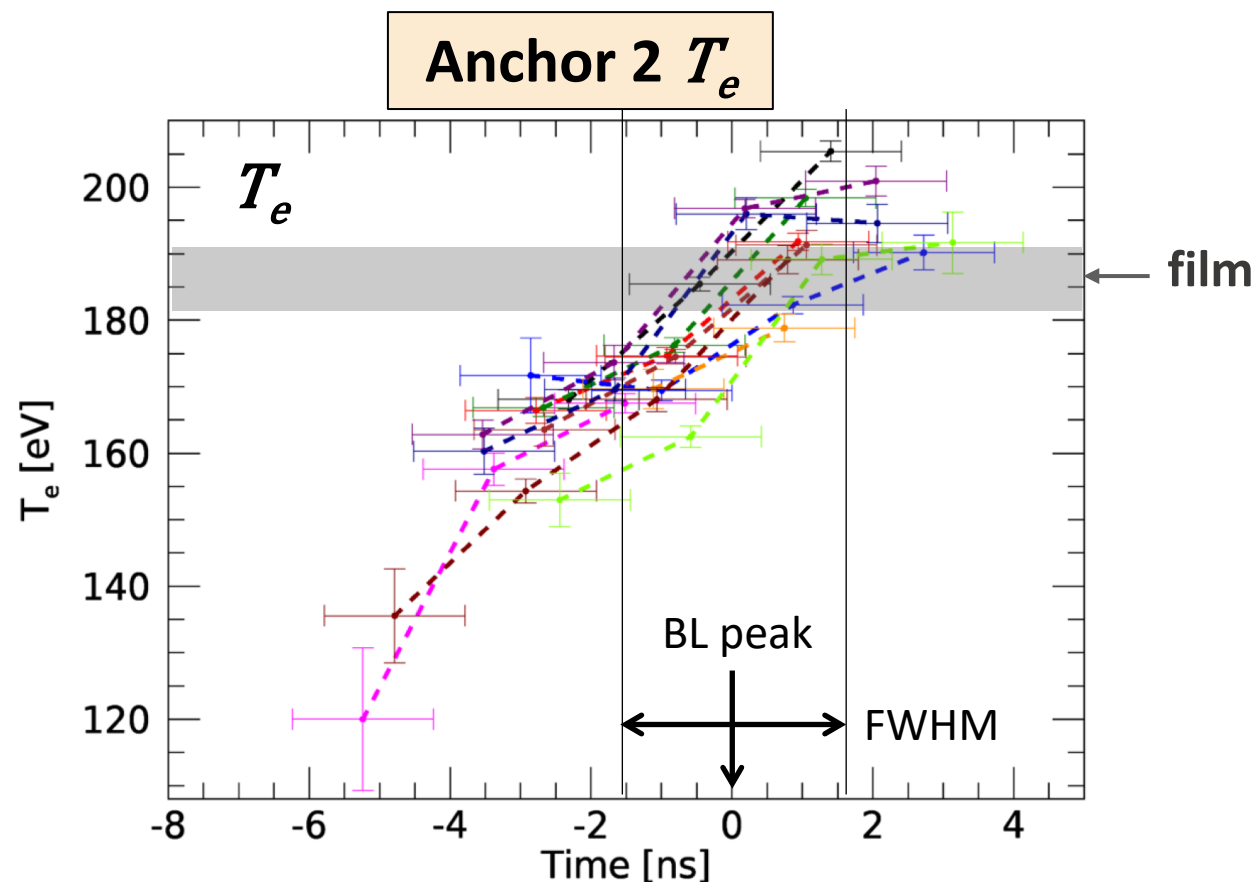
# Anchor 2 Fe conditions evolution trends disagree with simulation predictions



**Sample already expanded 10x even before BL peak!**



# Anchor 2 Fe conditions evolution trends disagree with simulation predictions



➤ Sample evolution is consistent with past conditions inferred on film-based measurements

# Time-resolved measurements can improve our opacity investigations in multiple ways

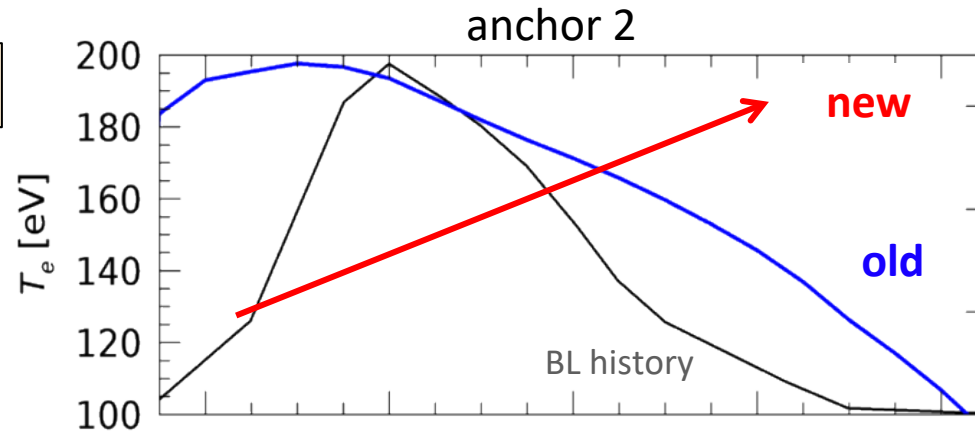


- ***Understand and refine opacity experiments by measuring  $T_e(t)$  and  $n_e(t)$*** 
  - Refine the experiments to reach higher density
  - Experimentally test the importance of time-integration effects
- ***Test accuracy of radiation-hydrodynamics simulations***
- ***Evaluate proposed model refinements that address the model-data discrepancies***
  - Line broadening
  - 2-photon absorption
  - Excited states distribution
- ***Increase efficiency of absolute opacity measurements***
  - Multiple opacity measurements over different  $T_e, n_e$  within a single experiment

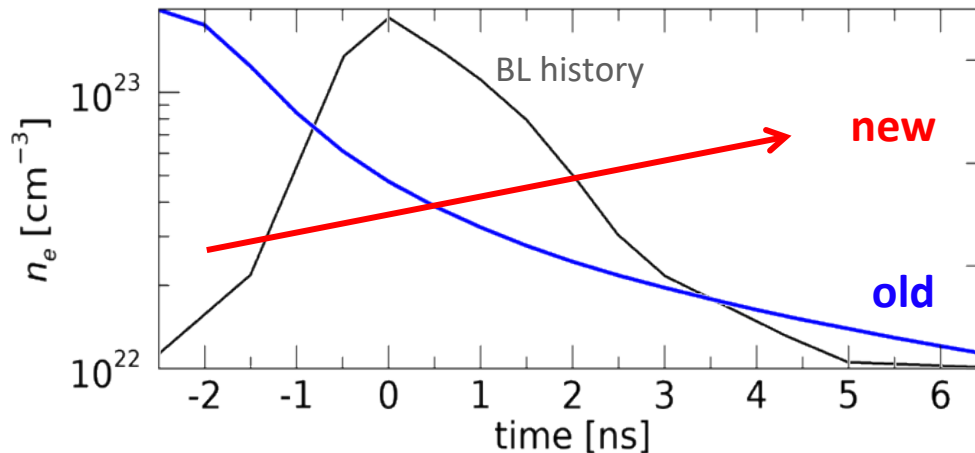
# Measured anchor 2 condition evolution challenges our picture of how the experiment works



Temperature  $T_e$



Density  $n_e$



## 1) Temperature keeps increasing:

- Is sample and source moving closer together?
- Are heating/cooling rates off?

## 2) Density low at early times:

- Is there significant preheat that allows for early expansion?

## 3) Anchor 2 density increasing over time:

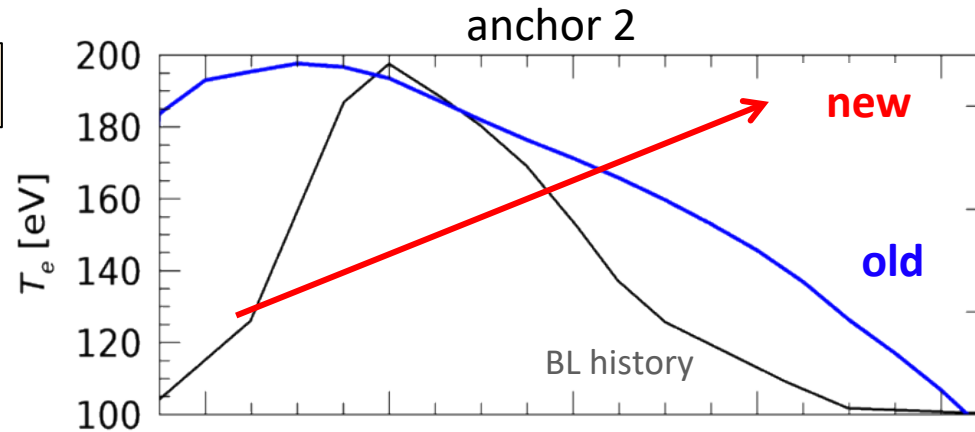
- Is source plasma pushing on sample?

Allows to form and test novel hypotheses which will increase platform knowledge

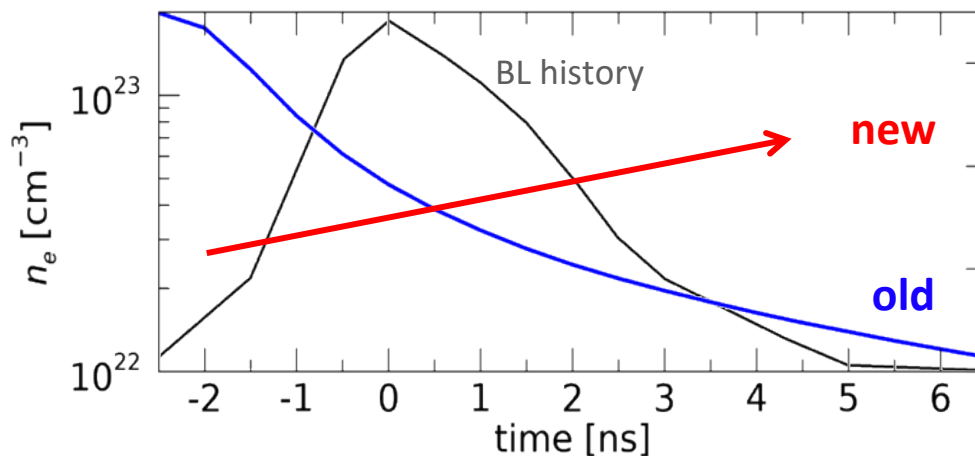
# Measured anchor 2 condition evolution challenges our picture of how the experiment works



Temperature  $T_e$



Density  $n_e$



**1) Temperature keeps increasing:**

- Is sample and source moving closer together?
- Are heating/cooling rates off?

**2) Density low at early times:**

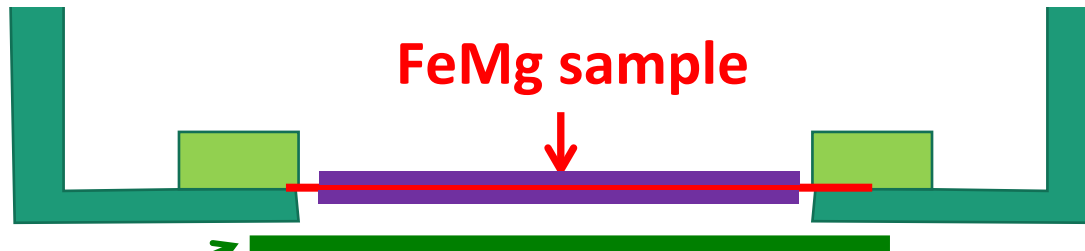
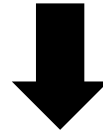
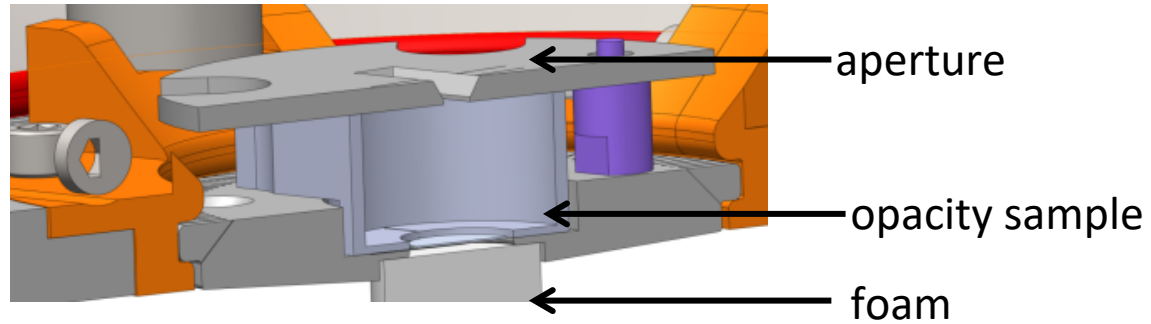
- Is there significant preheat that allows for early expansion?

**3) Anchor 2 density increasing over time:**

- Is source plasma pushing on sample?

Allows to form and test novel hypotheses which will increase platform knowledge

# We tested a preheat suppression barrier



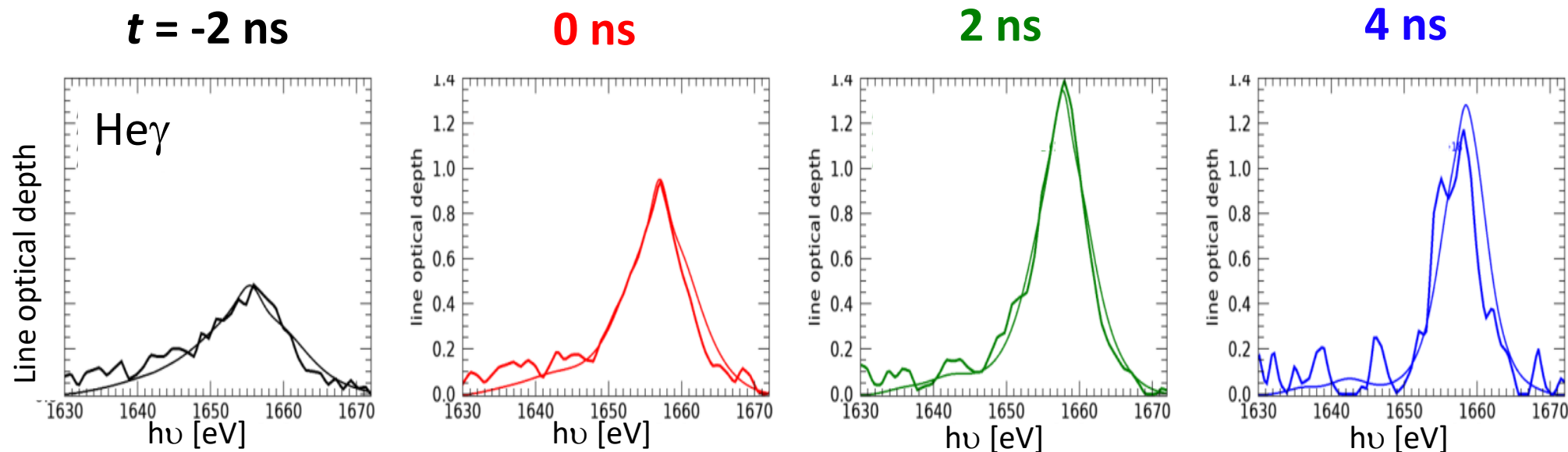
**Plastic barrier**  
(Al-8 $\mu$ m-kapton)

Foam ~ Z-pinch

➤ potentially reach higher densities  
by retarding expansion while  
keeping high temperature



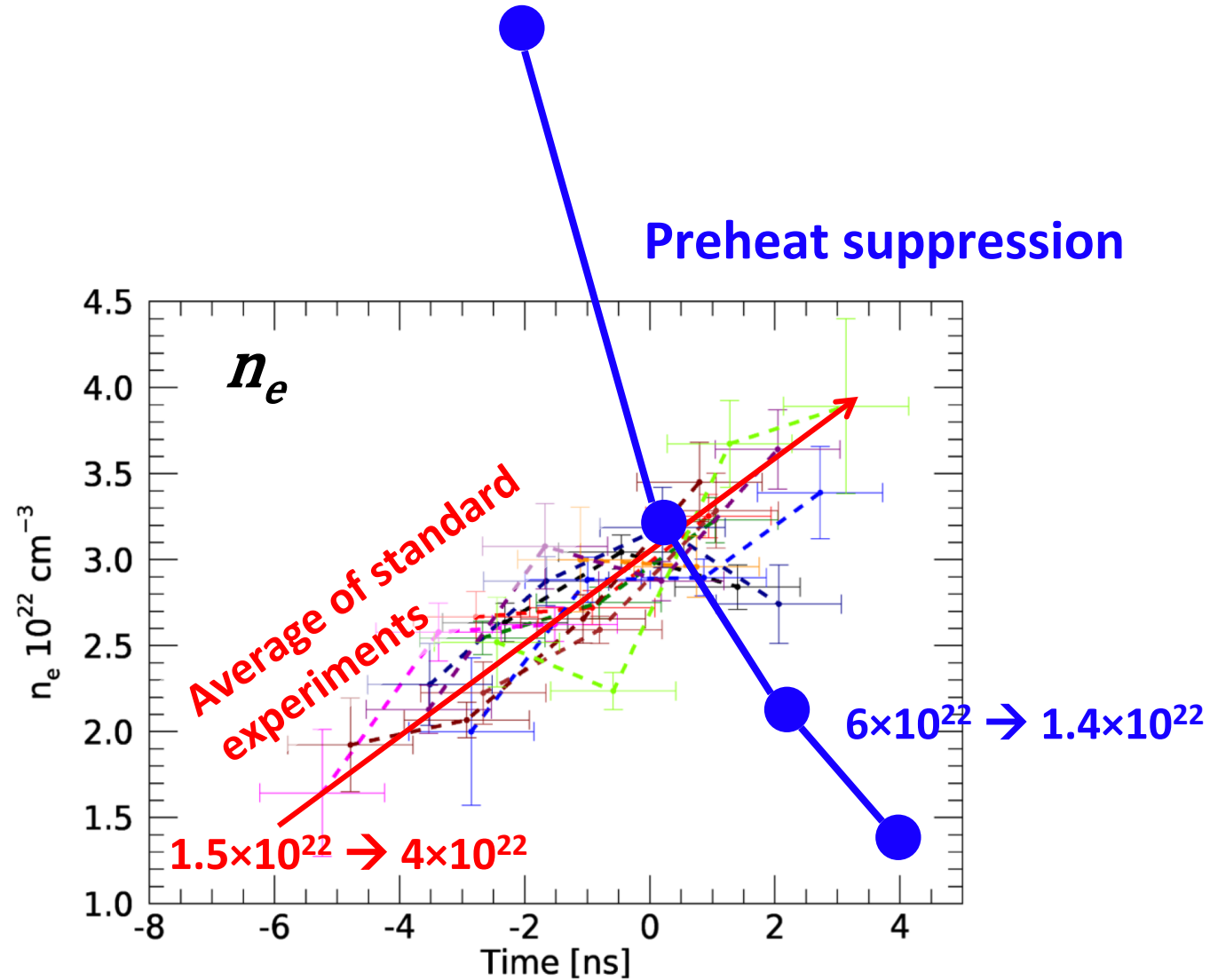
# Preheat suppression test experiment showed line widths decreasing with time



$n_e$  [e-/cc]     $6 \times 10^{22}$      $\longrightarrow$      $3.2 \times 10^{22}$      $\longrightarrow$      $2.1 \times 10^{22}$      $\longrightarrow$      $1.4 \times 10^{22}$   
 ( $T_e \sim 155$  eV)

→ Time-resolved line widths suggest electron density successfully decreases with time  
 → x2 highest density

... shows inverse trend as anchor 2 and potentially reach novel regime



Needs to be repeated with higher S/N for accurate opacity measurements

# Time-resolved measurements can improve our opacity investigations in multiple ways

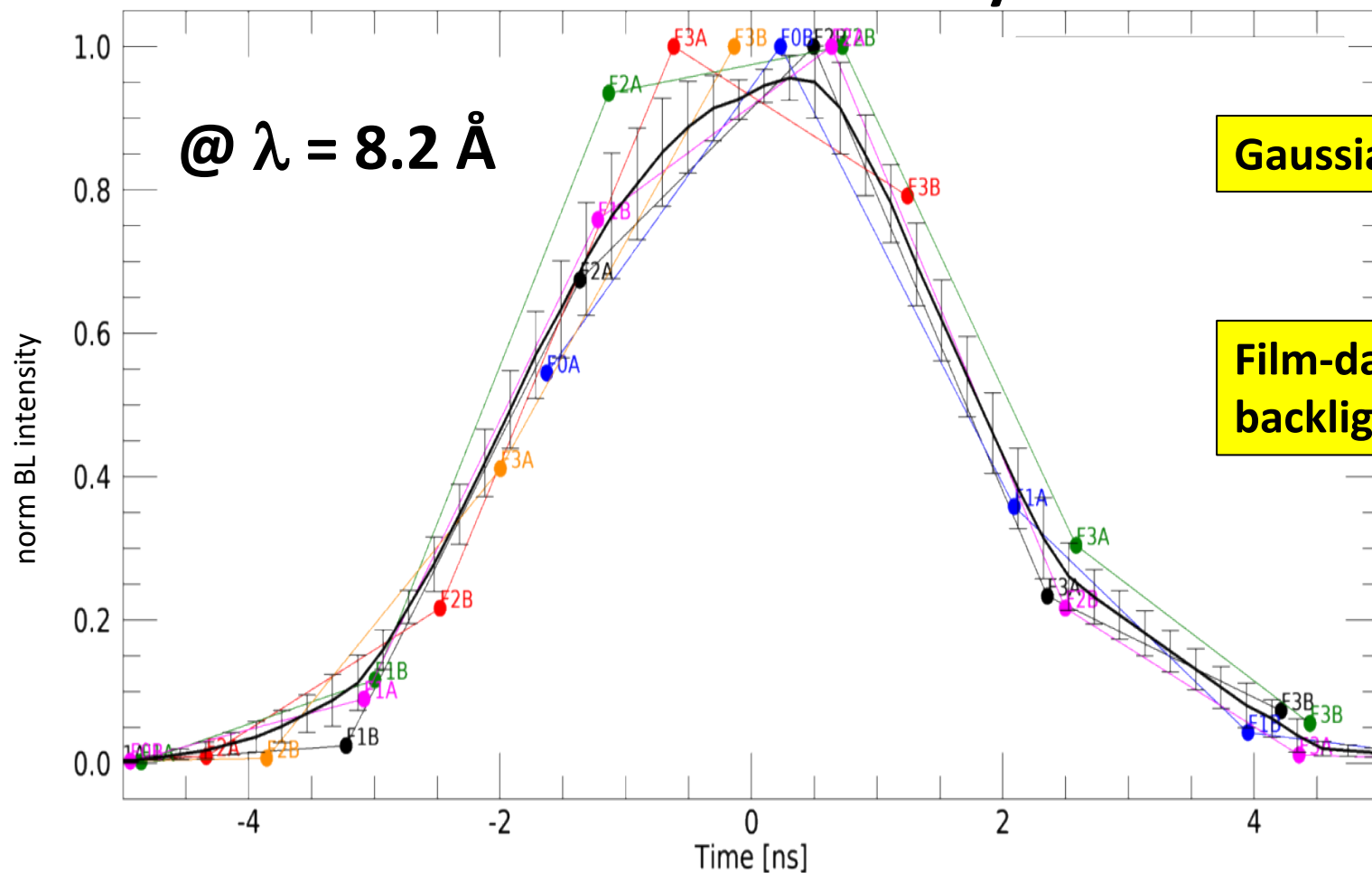


- ***Understand and refine opacity experiments by measuring  $T_e(t)$  and  $n_e(t)$*** 
  - Refine the experiments to reach higher density
  - Experimentally test the importance of time-integration effects
- ***Test accuracy of radiation-hydrodynamics simulations***
- ***Evaluate proposed model refinements that address the model-data discrepancies***
  - Line broadening
  - 2-photon absorption
  - Excited states distribution
- ***Increase efficiency of absolute opacity measurements***
  - Multiple opacity measurements over different  $T_e, n_e$  within a single experiment

# Temporal gradients could be a source of systematic error on film-integrated measurements



## Measured time-history with UXI



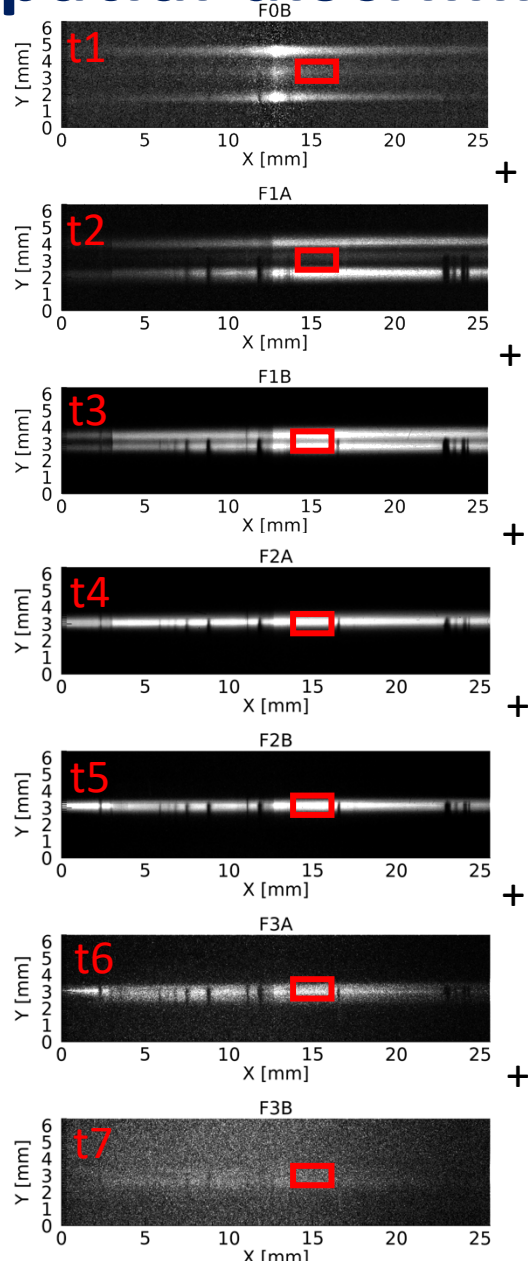
Gaussian shape with  $3.29 \pm 0.13 \text{ ns FWHM}$

Film-data is therefore limited to when the backlighter is bright enough in time.

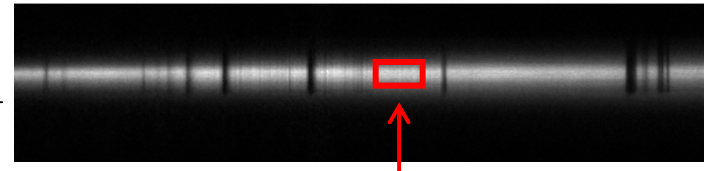
# The temporal gradient effect on film is also smaller than due to spatial discrimination



z3460 - UXI



z3460 – film data  $\simeq$  addition of UXI images



area in film-data  
analysis

Film signal is thus significant only when:

- BL is peaking in time
- BL is centered in position

Still, are temporal gradients significant?

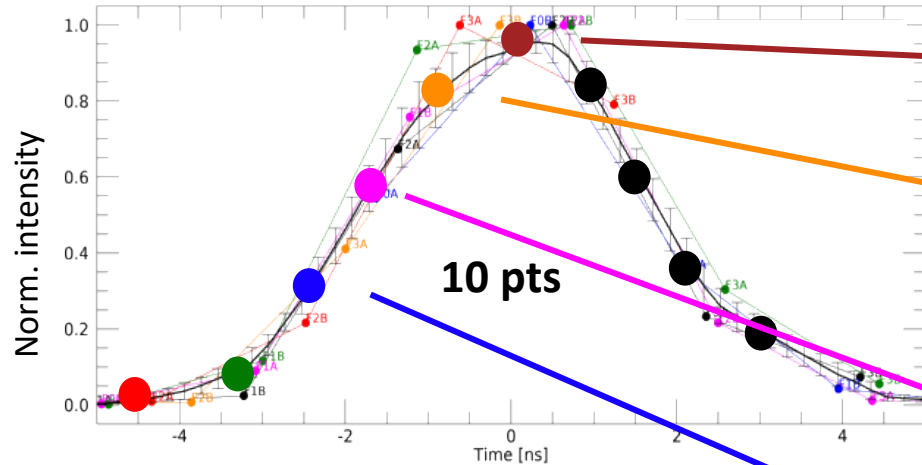


# Could the observed gradient explain the anchor 2 model-data discrepancy? Let's investigate!

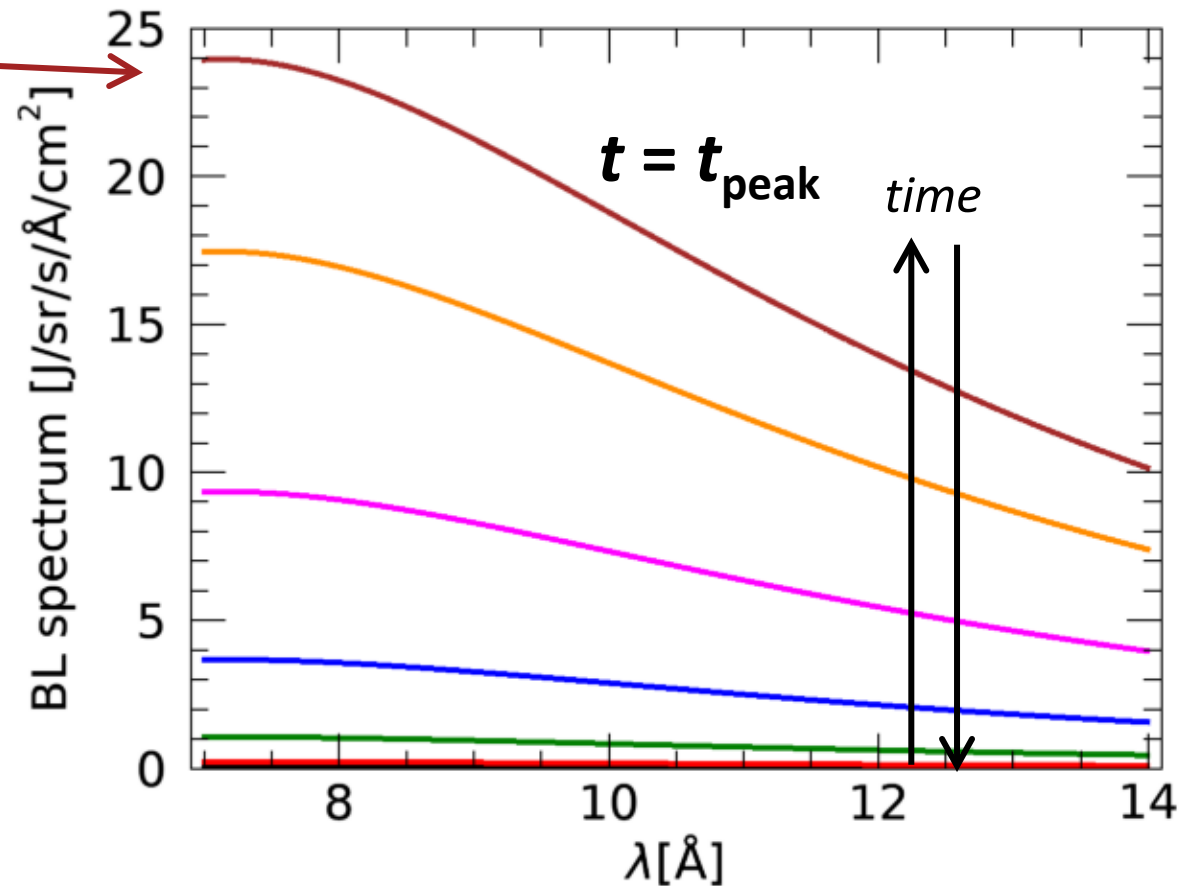


We need:

## 1) Relative BL temporal shape



## Unattenuated BL\*



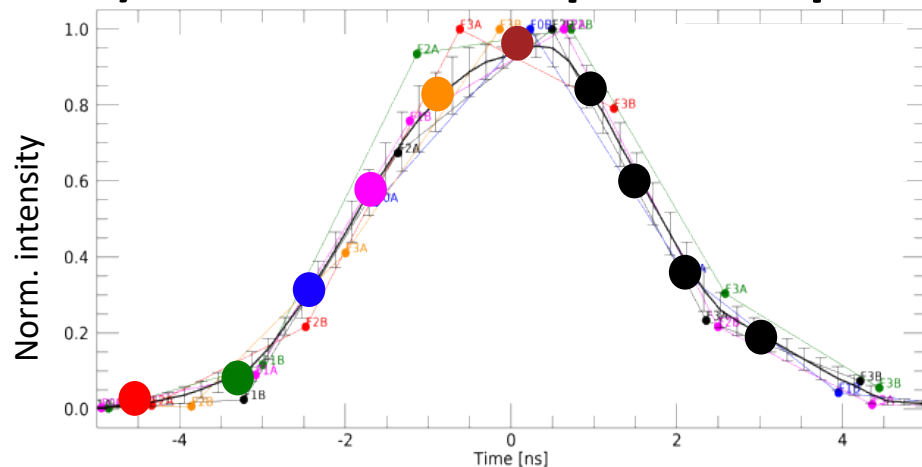
\*Planckian shape assumed ( $T_c=350$  eV)

# Could the observed gradient explain the anchor 2 model-data discrepancy? Let's investigate!

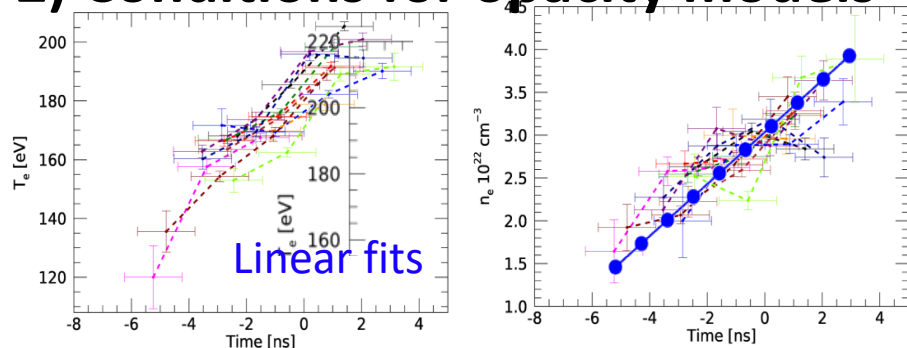


We need:

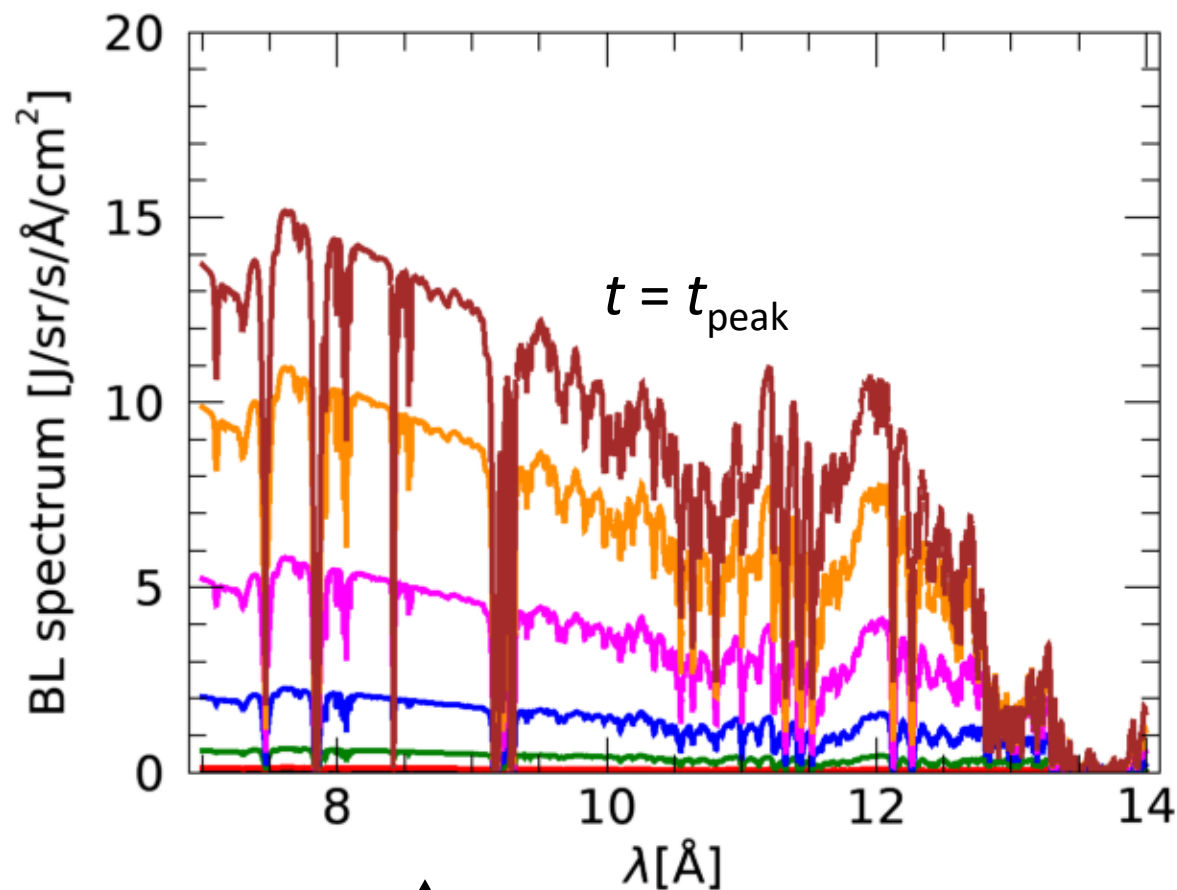
## 1) Relative BL temporal shape



## 2) Conditions for opacity models



Attenuated = BL x transmission\*\*



transmission

\*Planckian shape assumed ( $T_c=350$  eV)

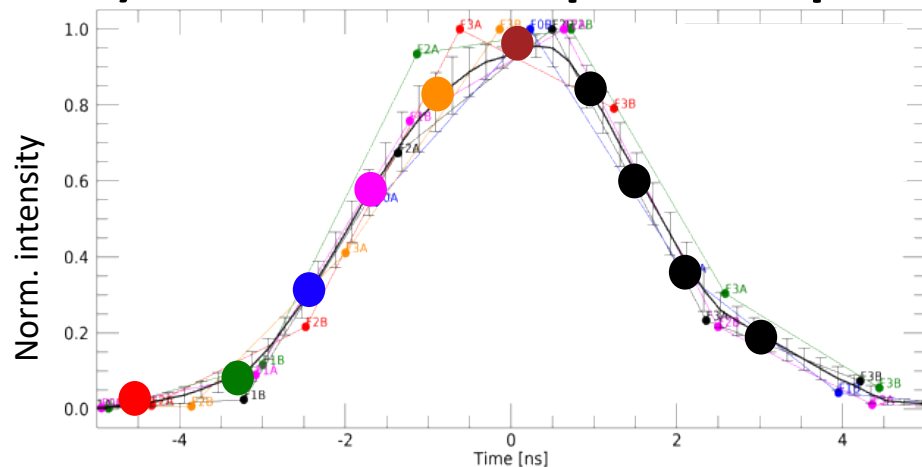
\*\***ATOMIC**: Fontes et al., *J. Phys. B* **48** (2015)

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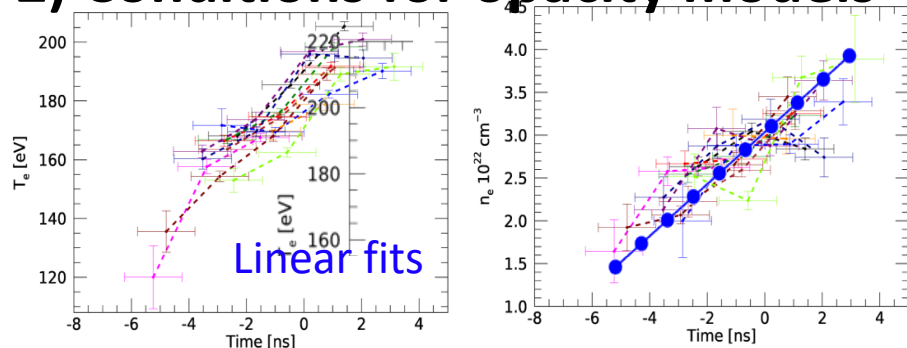


We need:

## 1) Relative BL temporal shape

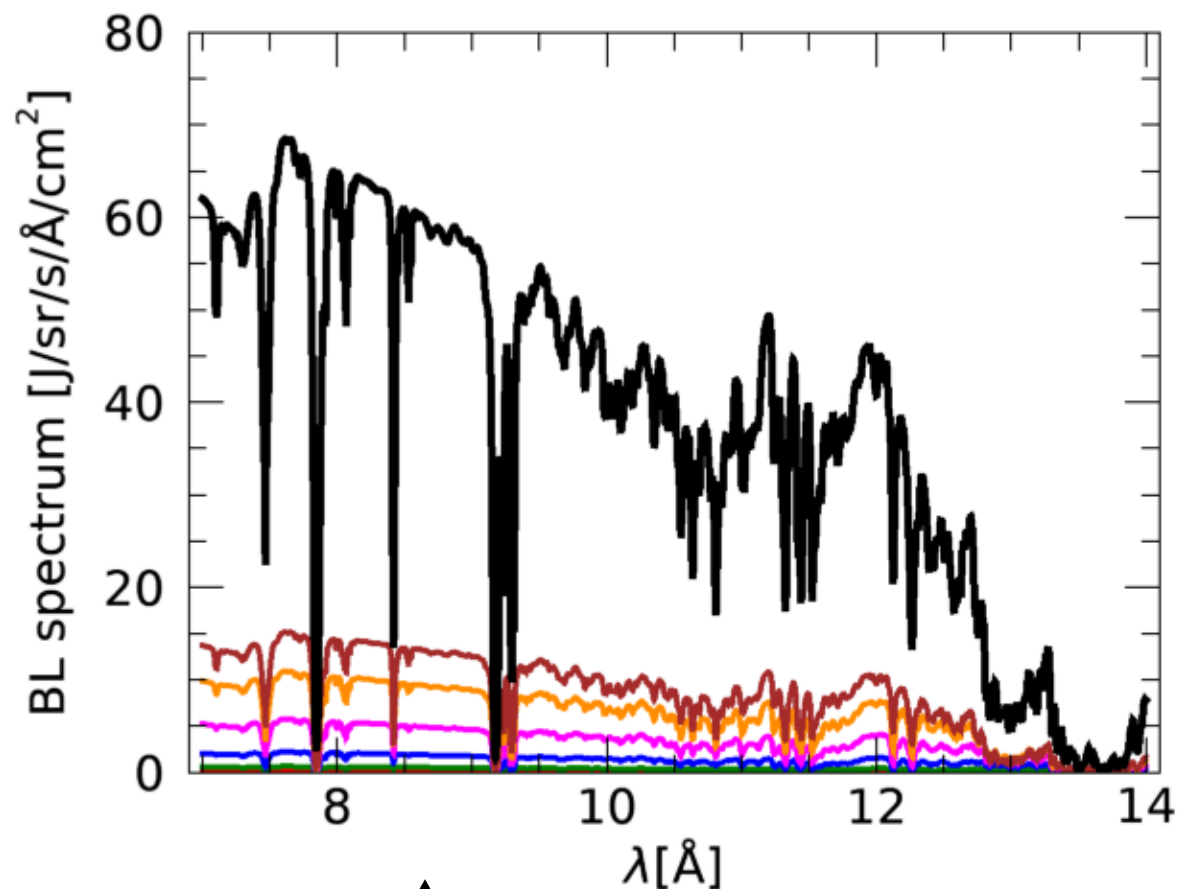


## 2) Conditions for opacity models



transmission

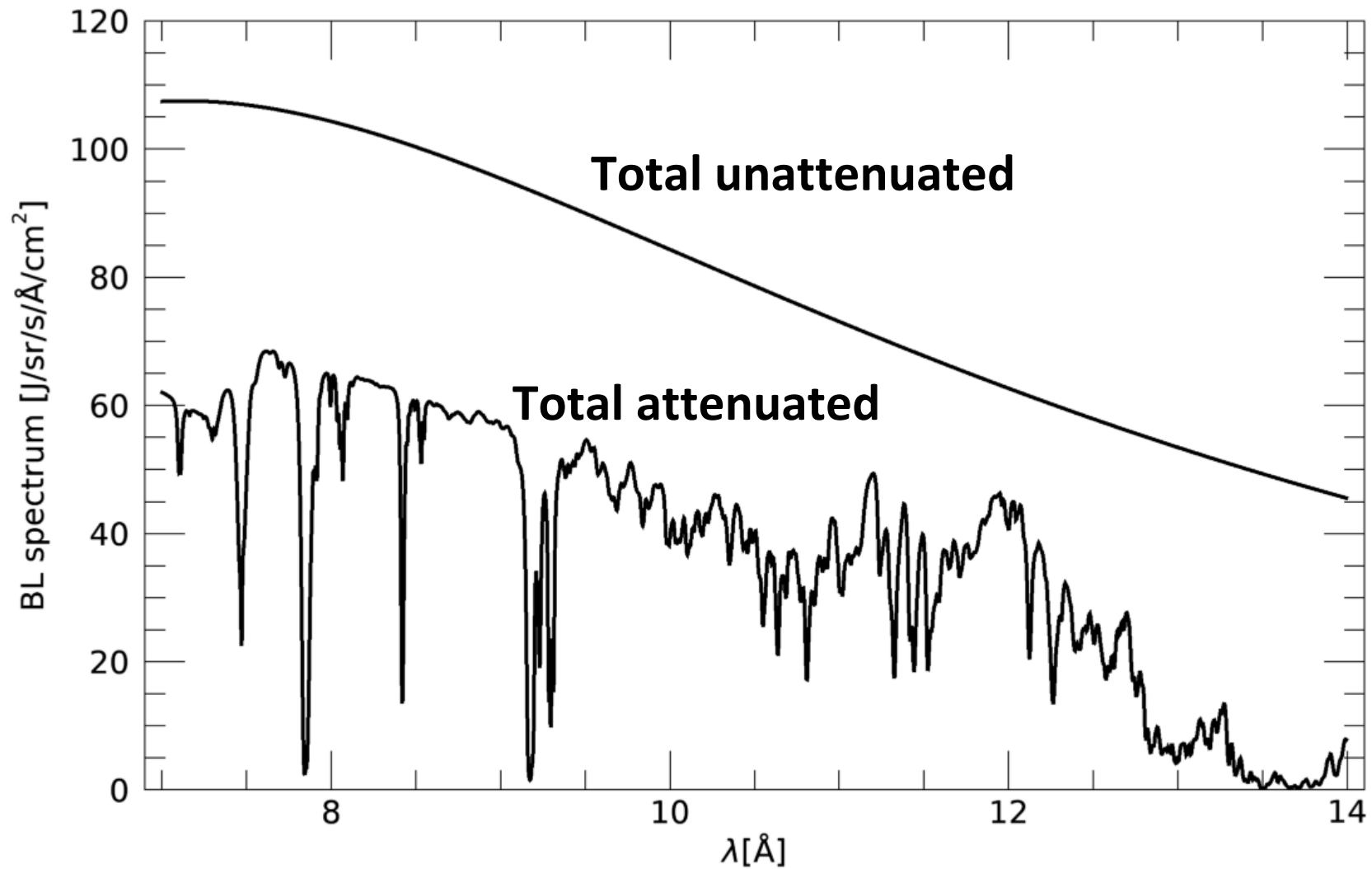
Sum = film-detected



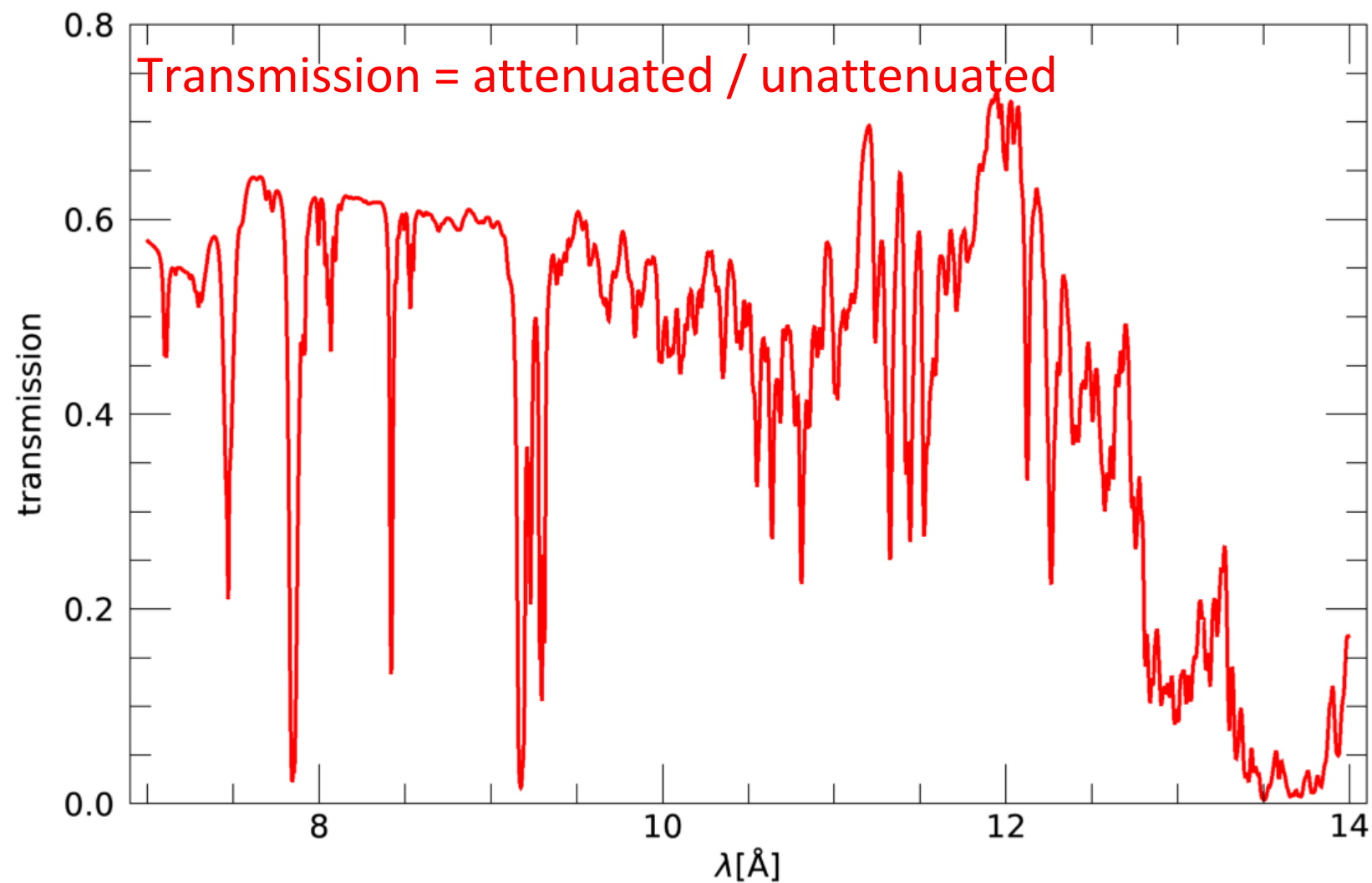
\*Planckian shape assumed ( $T_c=350$  eV)

\*\***ATOMIC**: Fontes et al., *J. Phys. B* **48** (2015)

# With the film-integrated unattenuated spectrum...

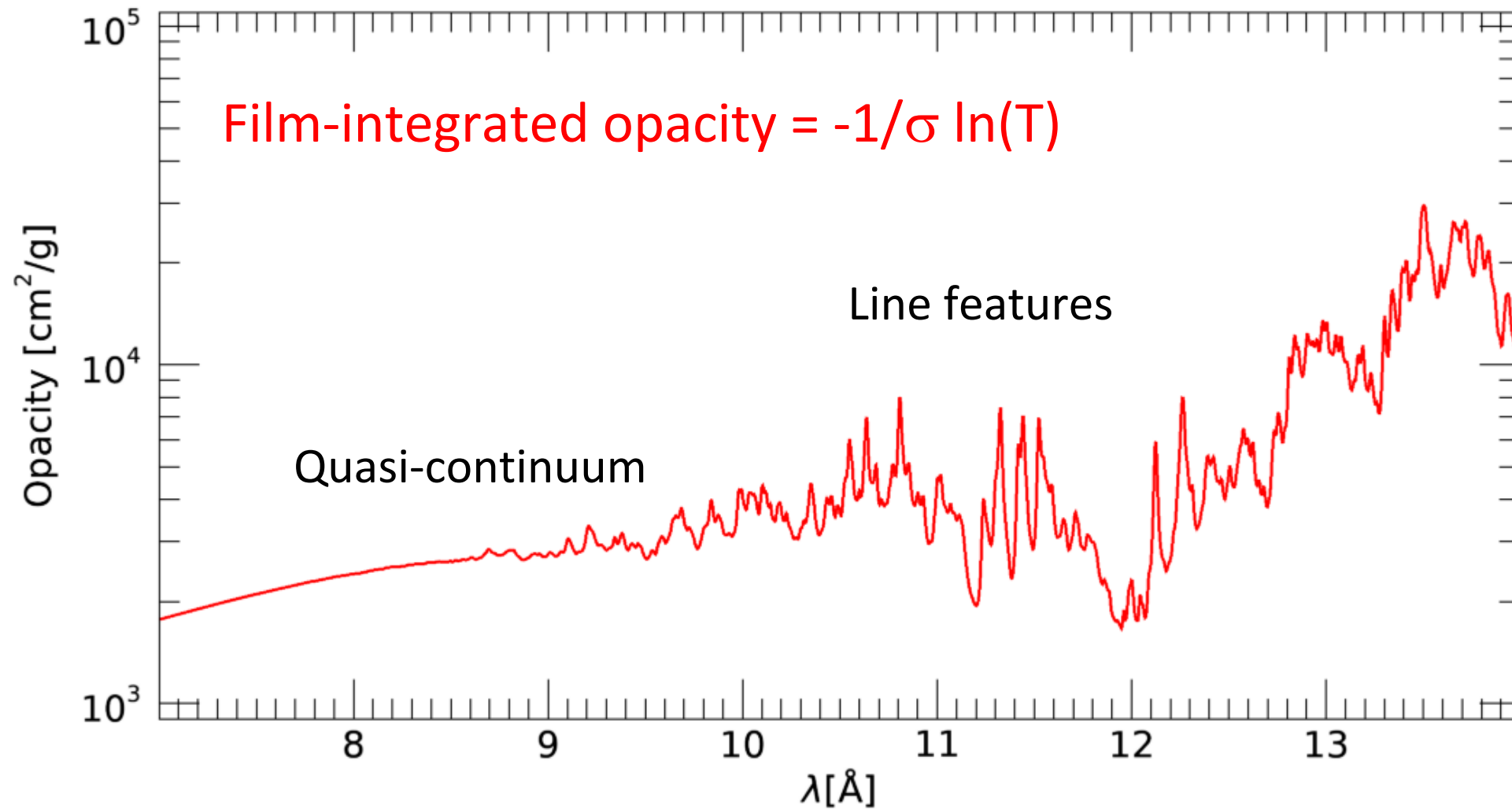


## ... we can form the film-integrated transmission

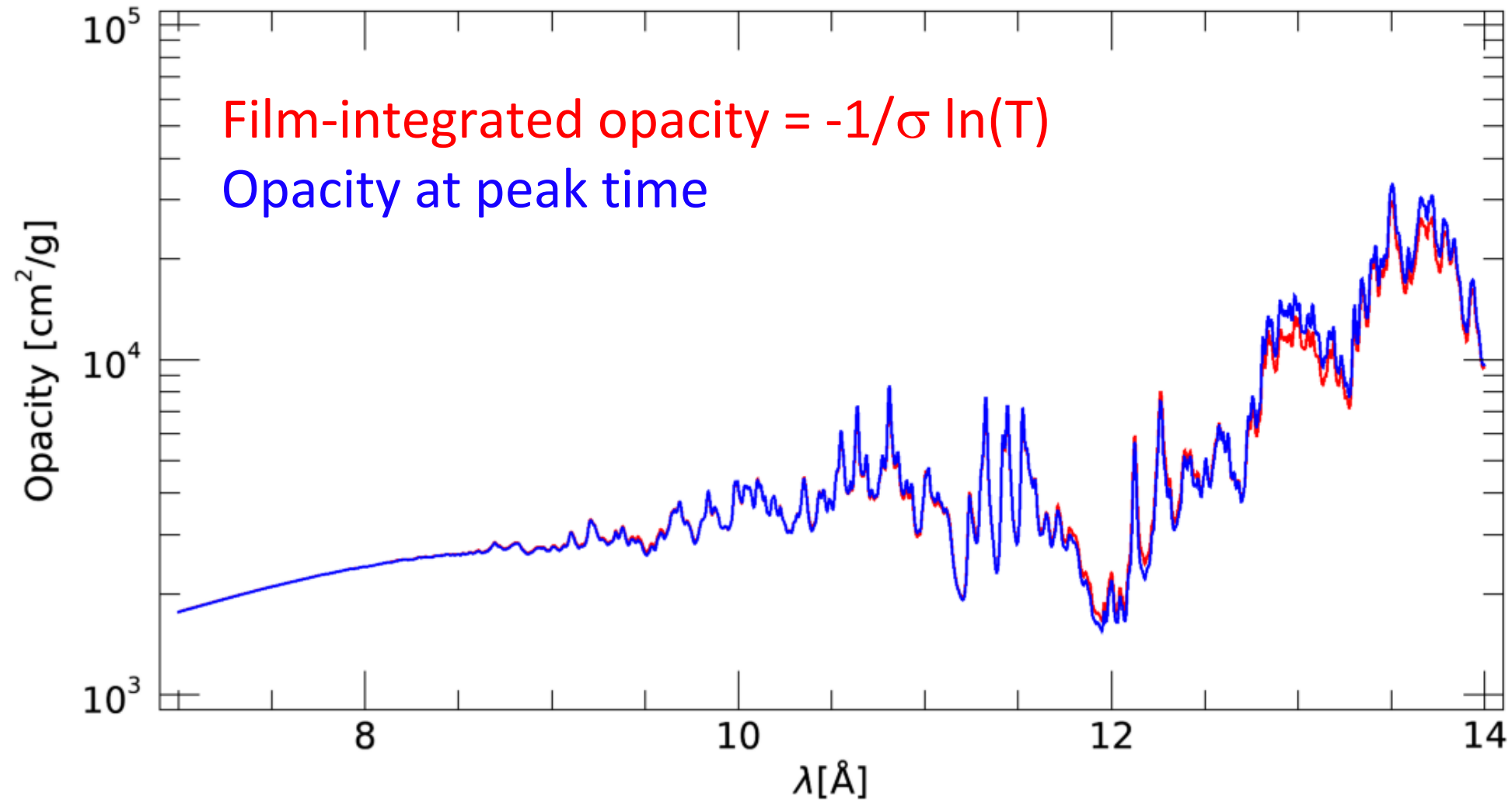




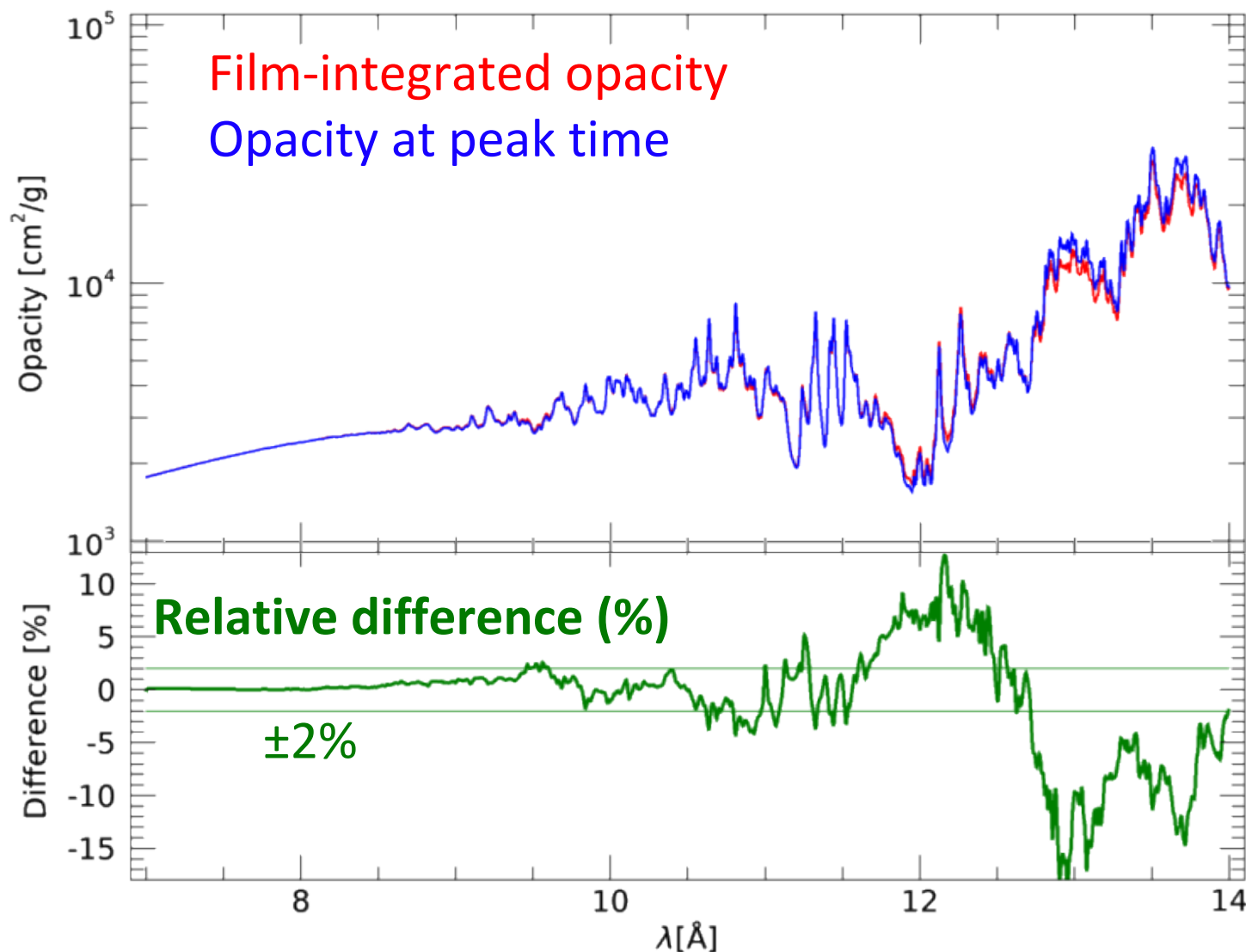
# Then converted into opacity



# And compared to single-time opacity to evaluate temporal integration effects

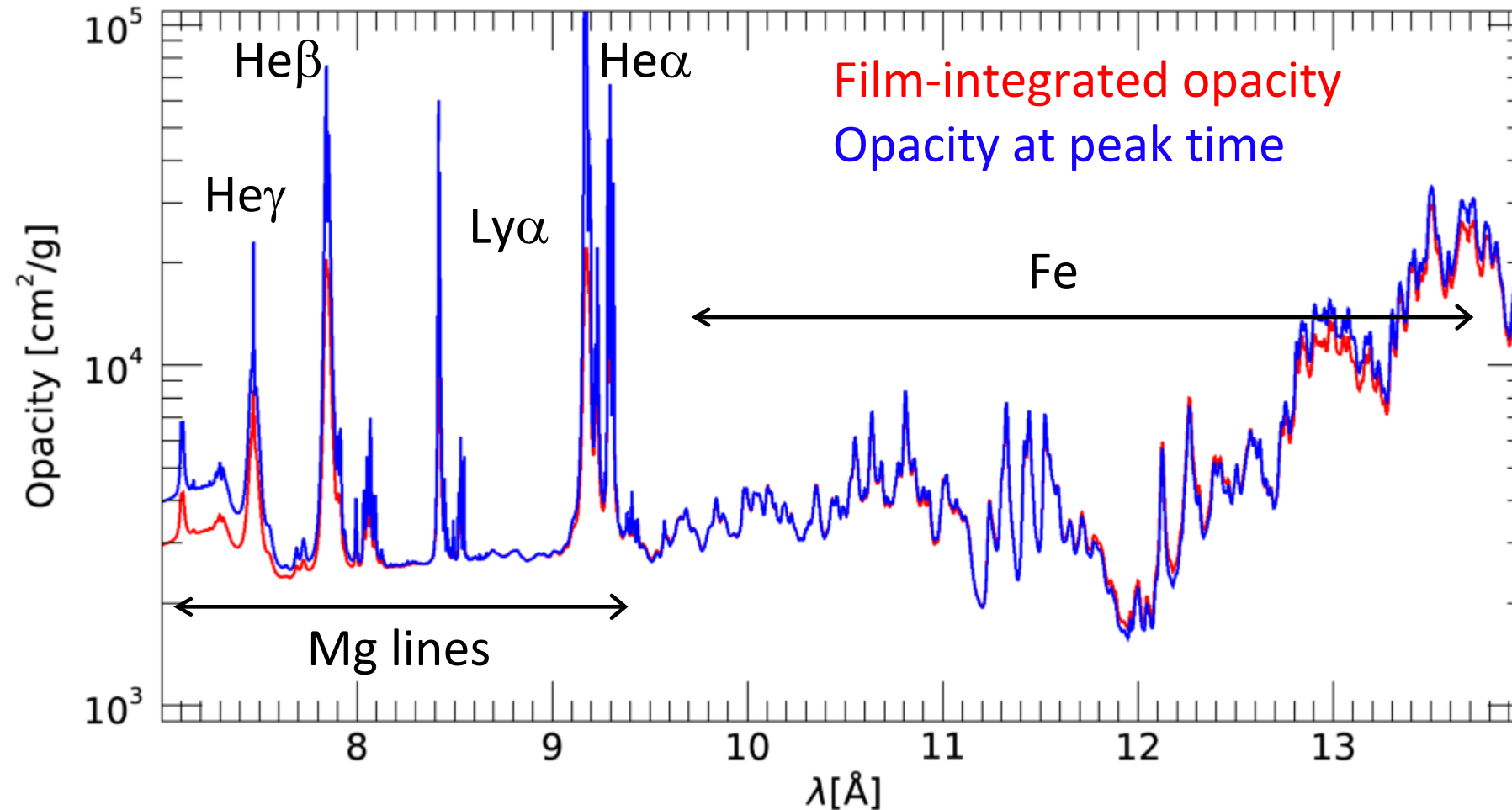


# Because of gaussian backlighter history, film-integrated opacity is close to opacity at peak time



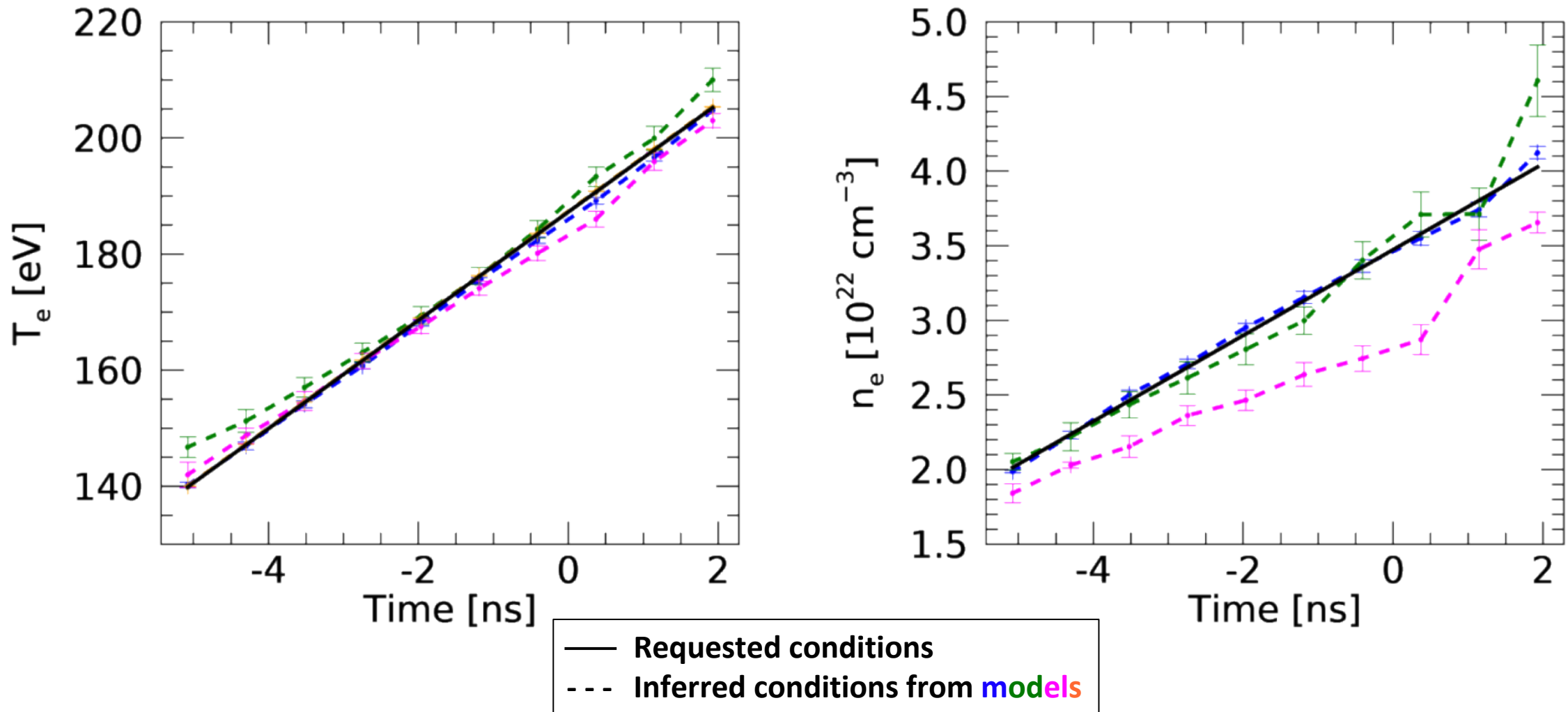
- Less than 2% difference in quasi-continuum and 10% above 11  $\text{\AA}$ .
- Need to improve this study using the measured time-dependent spectral shape (from tamper-only shots)
- We need to assess the effect with actual measurements.

# Same synthetic study can be done adding Mg absorption



What is the effect on film inferred conditions?

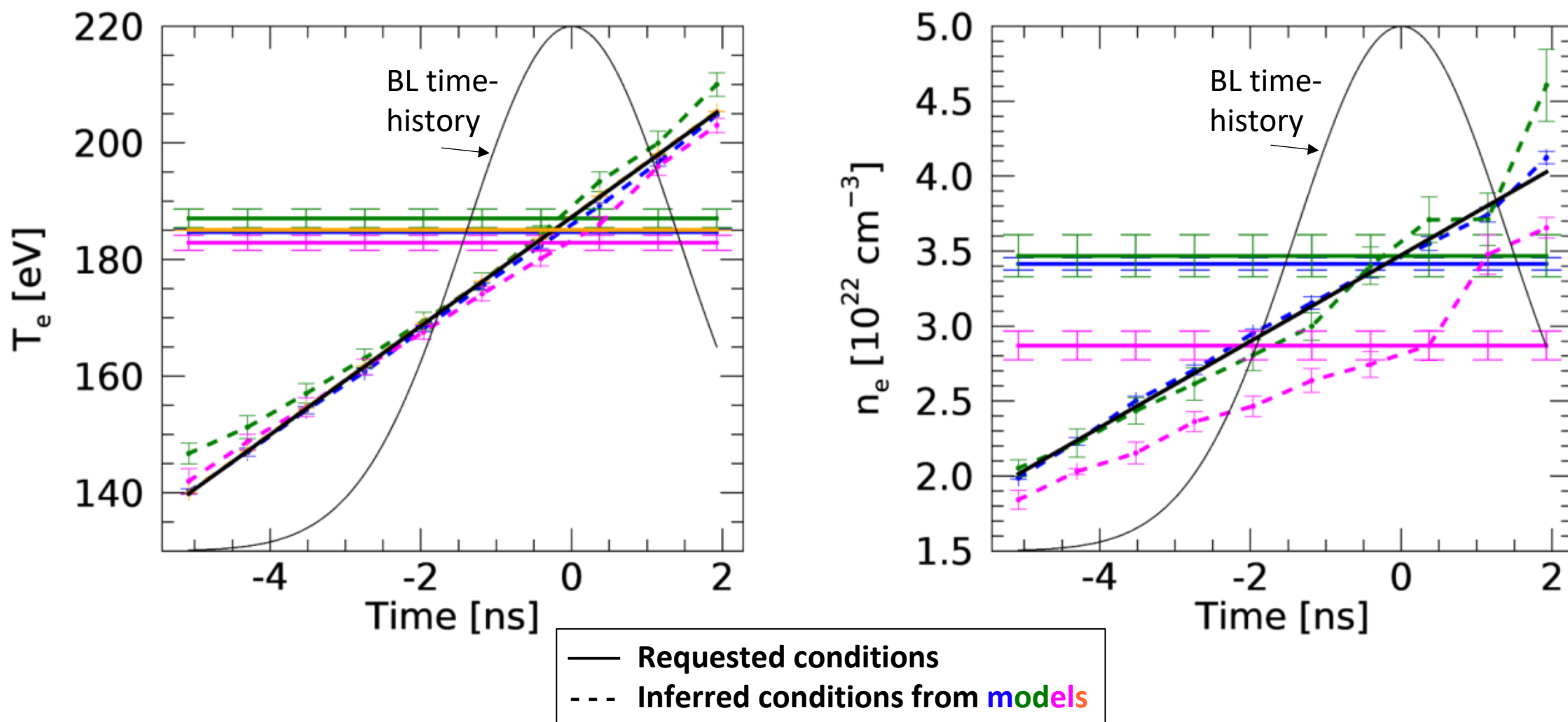
# Synthetic spectra were converted into line transmission and conditions were inferred



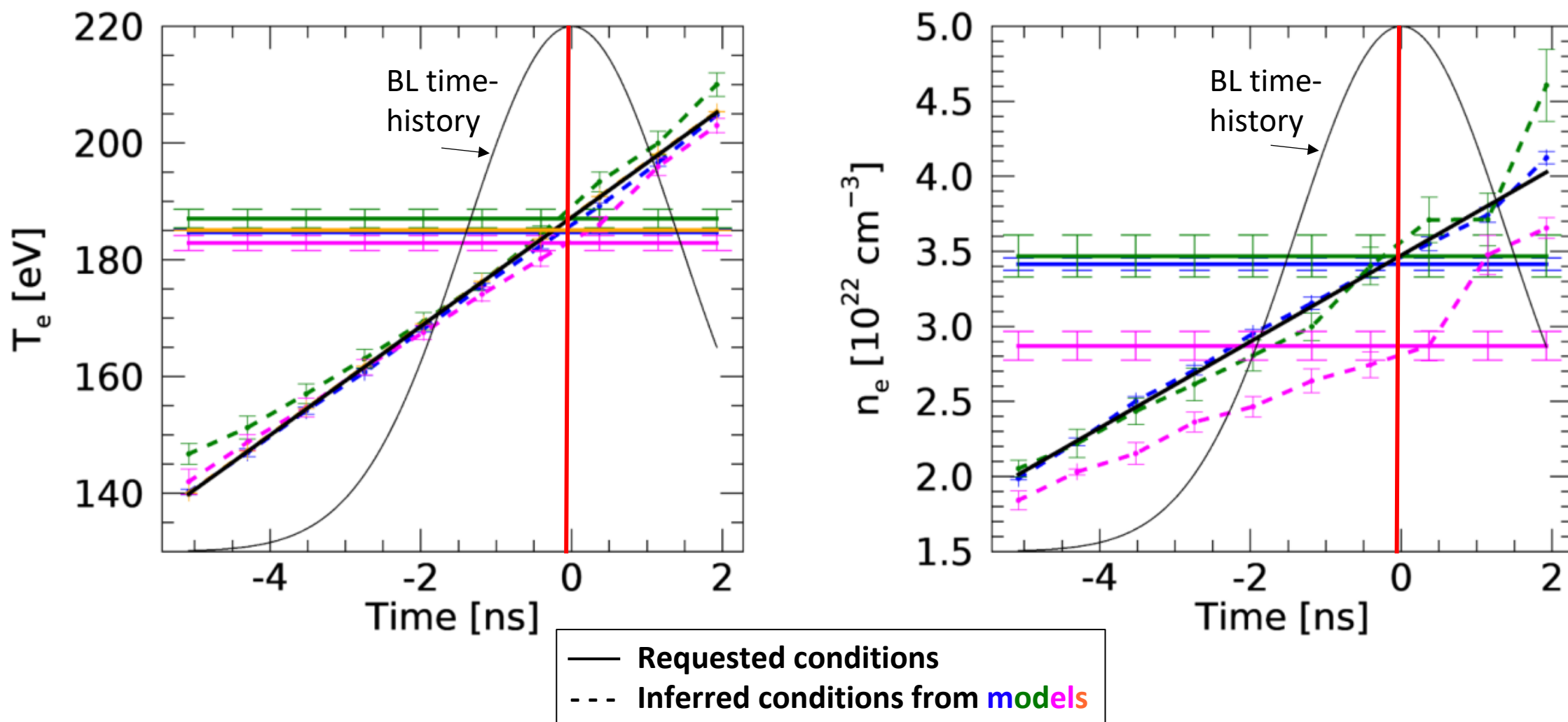
When fitting the time-resolved spectra, the codes return similar values close to the original values



## And similarly on the film-integrated spectrum



## And similarly on the film-integrated spectrum



**Time-integrated values roughly match the time-resolved at time of peak**

# Time-resolved measurements can improve our opacity investigations in multiple ways



- *Understand and refine opacity experiments by measuring  $T_e(t)$  and  $n_e(t)$* 
  - *Refine the experiments to reach higher density*
  - *Experimentally test the importance of time-integration effects*
- *Test accuracy of radiation-hydrodynamics simulations*
- *Evaluate proposed model refinements that address the model-data discrepancies*
  - Line broadening
  - 2-photon absorption
  - Excited states distribution
- *Increase efficiency of absolute opacity measurements*
  - Multiple opacity measurements over different  $T_e, n_e$  within a single experiment

**Absolute opacity measurements**

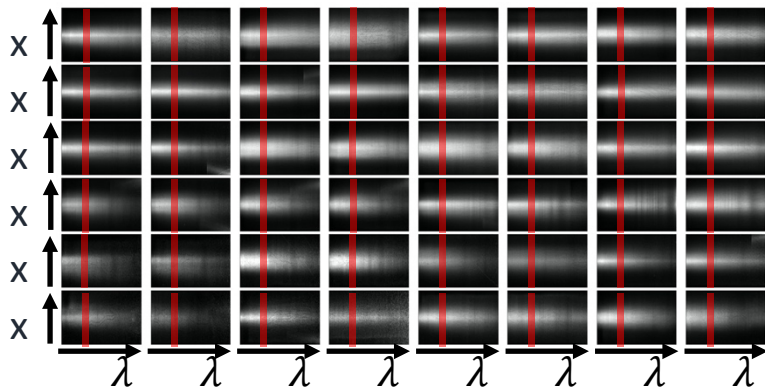
# The requirements are more stringent for measuring time-resolved opacity $\kappa_\nu(t)$ than sample conditions $n_e(t)$ , $T_e(t)$



## opacity $\kappa_\nu(t)$ requirements

- Typical requirements for opacity measurement:  
Bailey *et al.*, *PoP*, **16** (2009)
  - uniformity
  - freedom from self-emission, background
  - multiple areal densities
  - measured plasma conditions
  - reproducibility demonstrated
  - ...
- Accurate **absolute** transmission measurements  
→ *requires tamper-only statistics for accurate analysis*

48 spectral images from 12 calibration shots → unatt. statistics



→ Evaluate how many to repeat due to spatial-distribution temporal variation

## $n_e(t)$ , $T_e(t)$ requirements

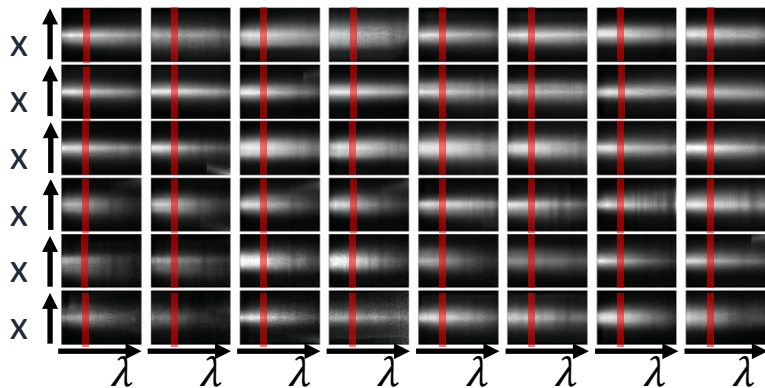
- Accurate Mg **line** transmission measured
  - high S/N absorption spectrum
  - linear photon intensity
  - avoiding line saturation
  - reproducibility demonstrated
- Multiple time-steps to observe actual evolution
- Inference using fitting techniques to line transmission

# The requirements are more stringent for measuring time-resolved opacity $\kappa_\nu(t)$ than sample conditions $n_e(t)$ , $T_e(t)$



## opacity $\kappa_\nu(t)$ requirements

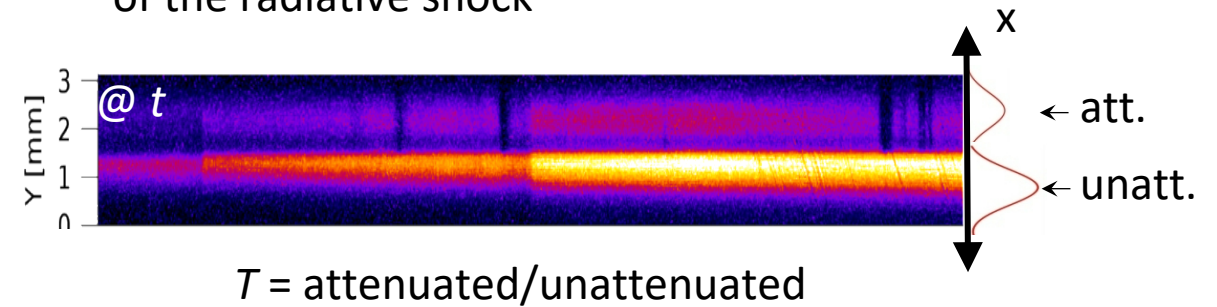
- Typical requirements for opacity measurement:  
Bailey *et al.*, *PoP*, **16** (2009)
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    - freedom from self-emission, background
    - multiple areal densities
    - measured plasma conditions
    - reproducibility demonstrated
    - ...
  - Accurate **absolute** transmission measurements  
→ *requires tamper-only statistics for accurate analysis*
- 48 spectral images from 12 calibration shots → unatt. statistics



- Evaluate how many to repeat due to spatial-distribution temporal variation

## Preliminary analysis strategy:

- 1) Use quantified symmetry of the unatt. vs att. sides of the radiative shock



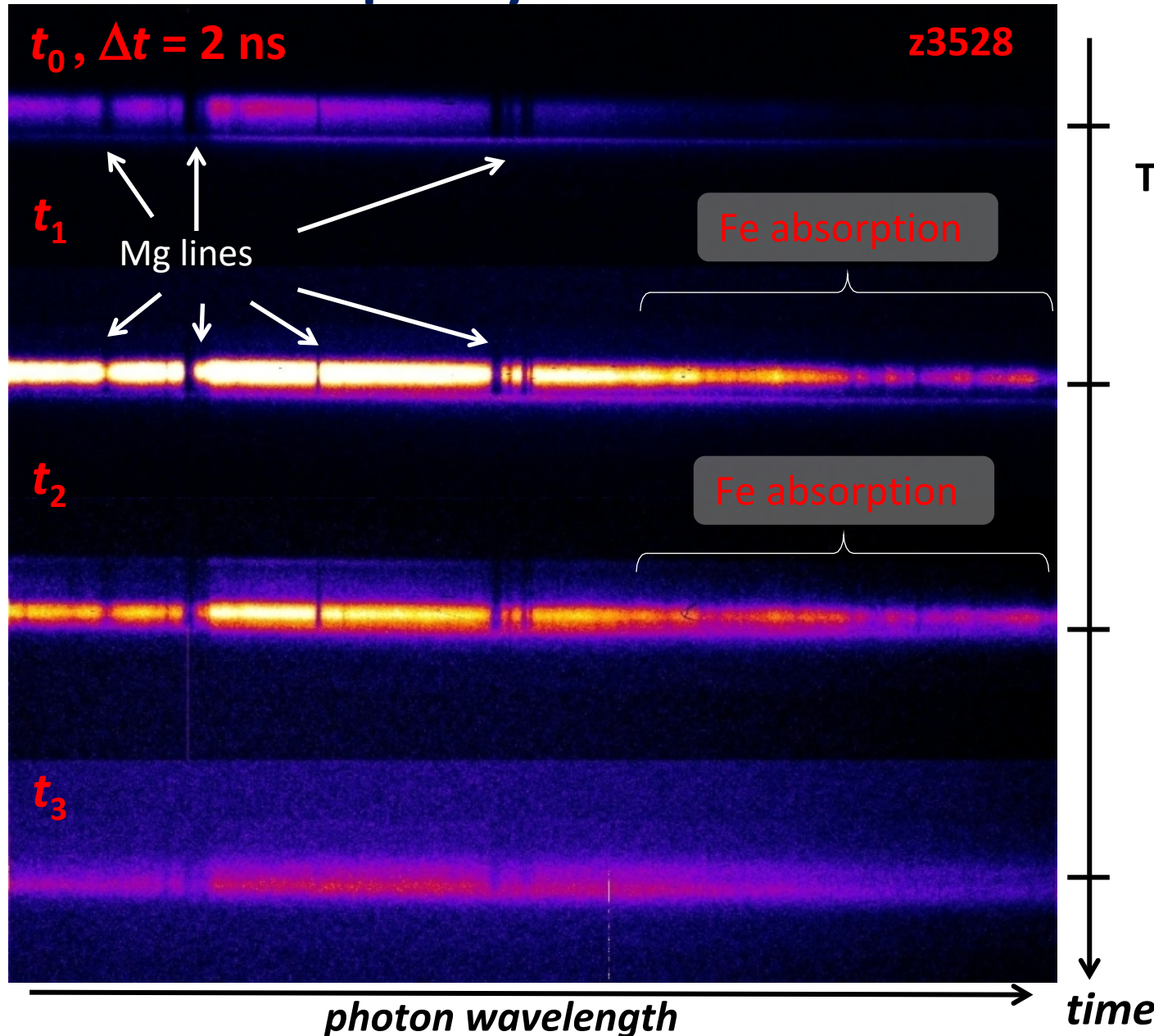
**But how asymmetric is the backlighter spatial distribution between the attenuated and unattenuated sides?**

- 2) Collect calibration shots to obtain symmetry statistics

**→ Measuring absolute opacity requires calibration shots (BL) at enough time-steps**



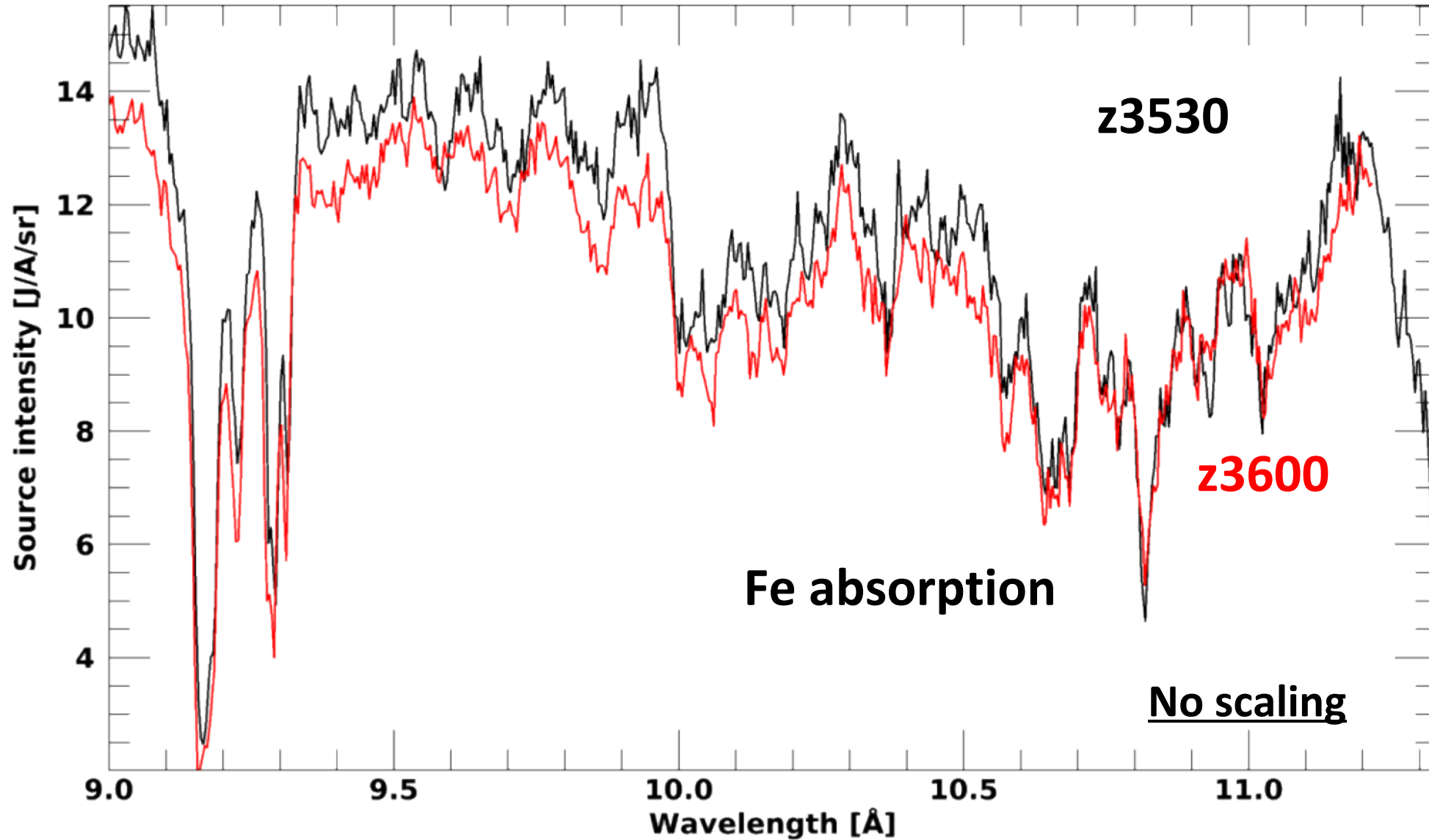
# We have started to measure data for time-dependent absolute opacity measurements



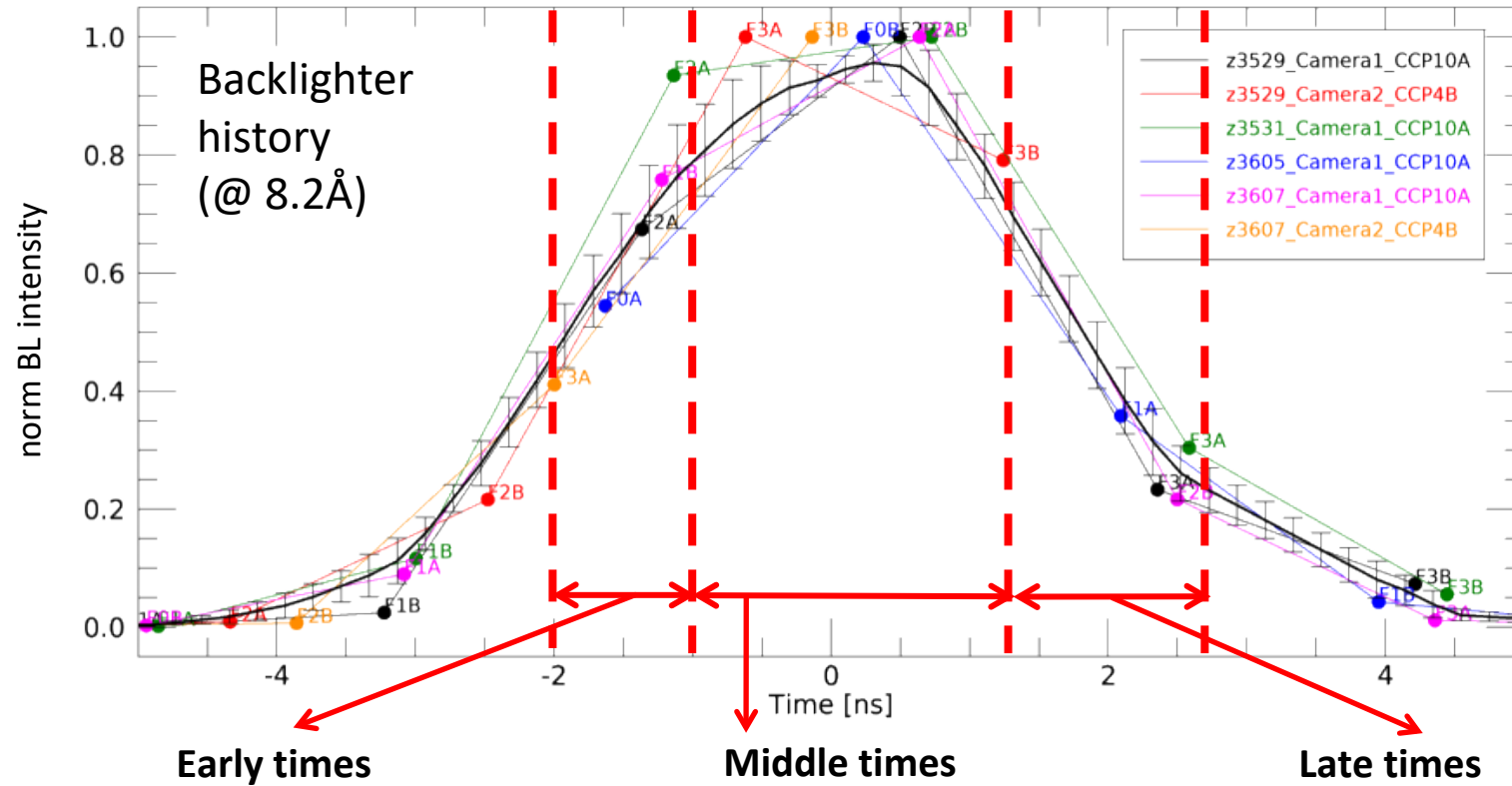
## Technical obstacles:

- EMP issues, electronics failure, timing
- debris amount in -9° instruments

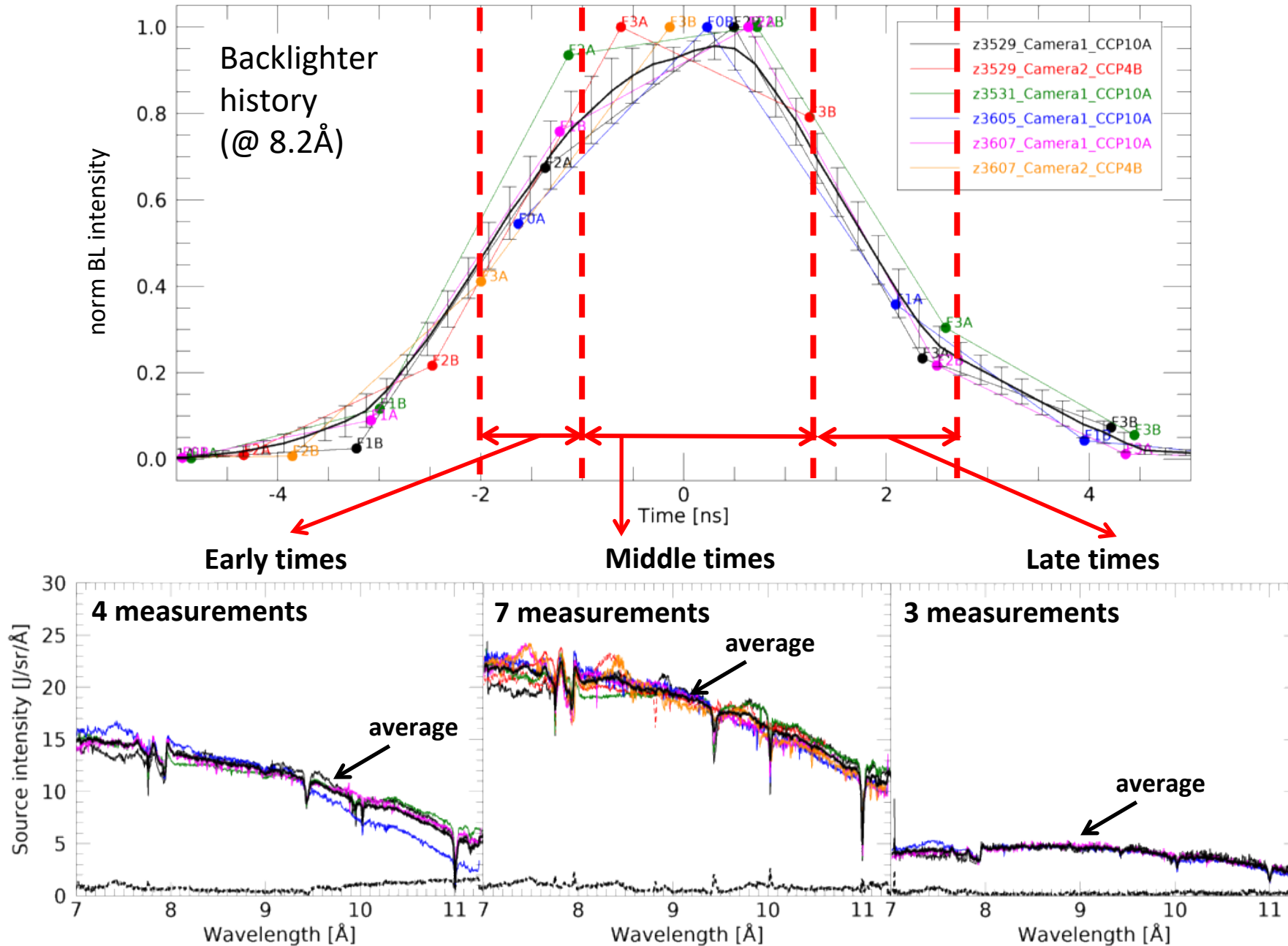
# Initial reproducibility has been observed and is encouraging



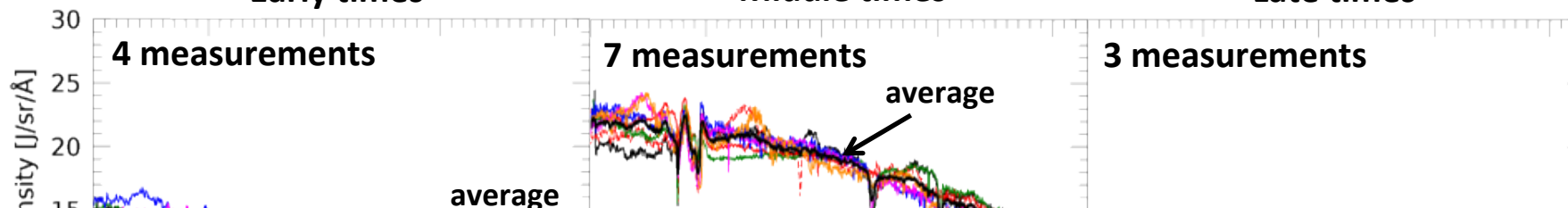
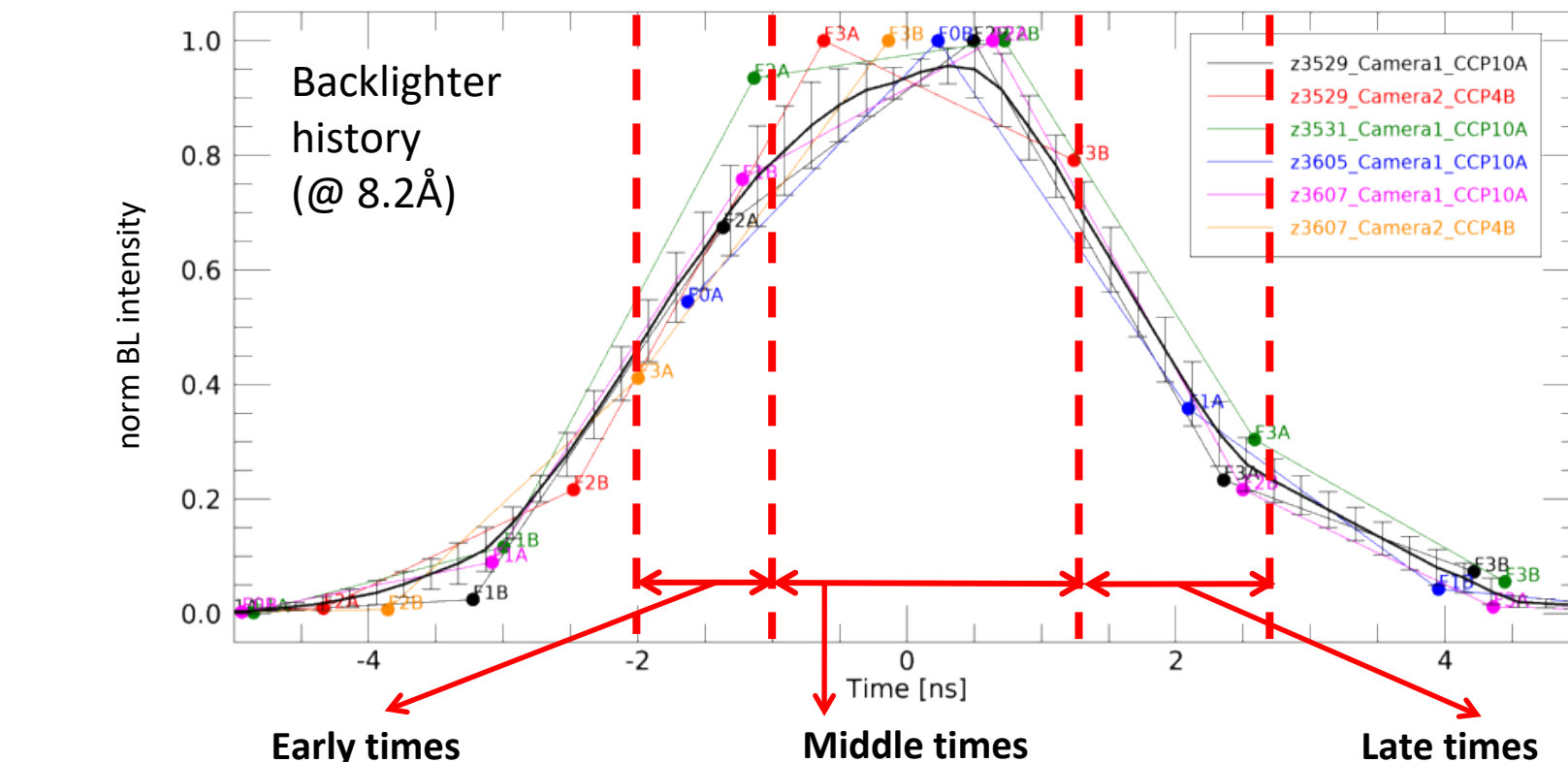
# We are assessing the evolution of the backlighter spectra



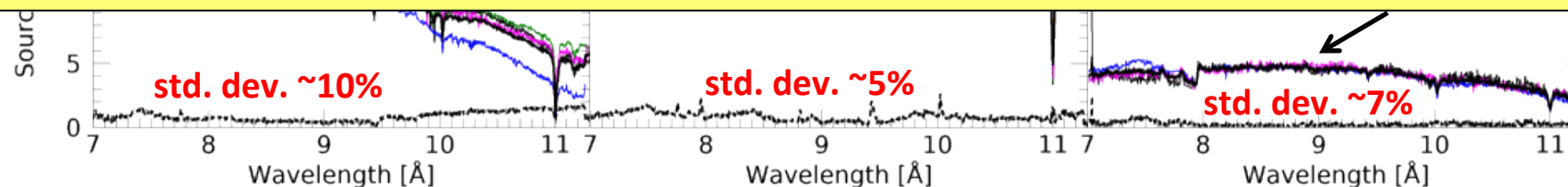
# We are assessing the evolution of the backlighter spectra



# We are assessing the evolution of the backlighter spectra

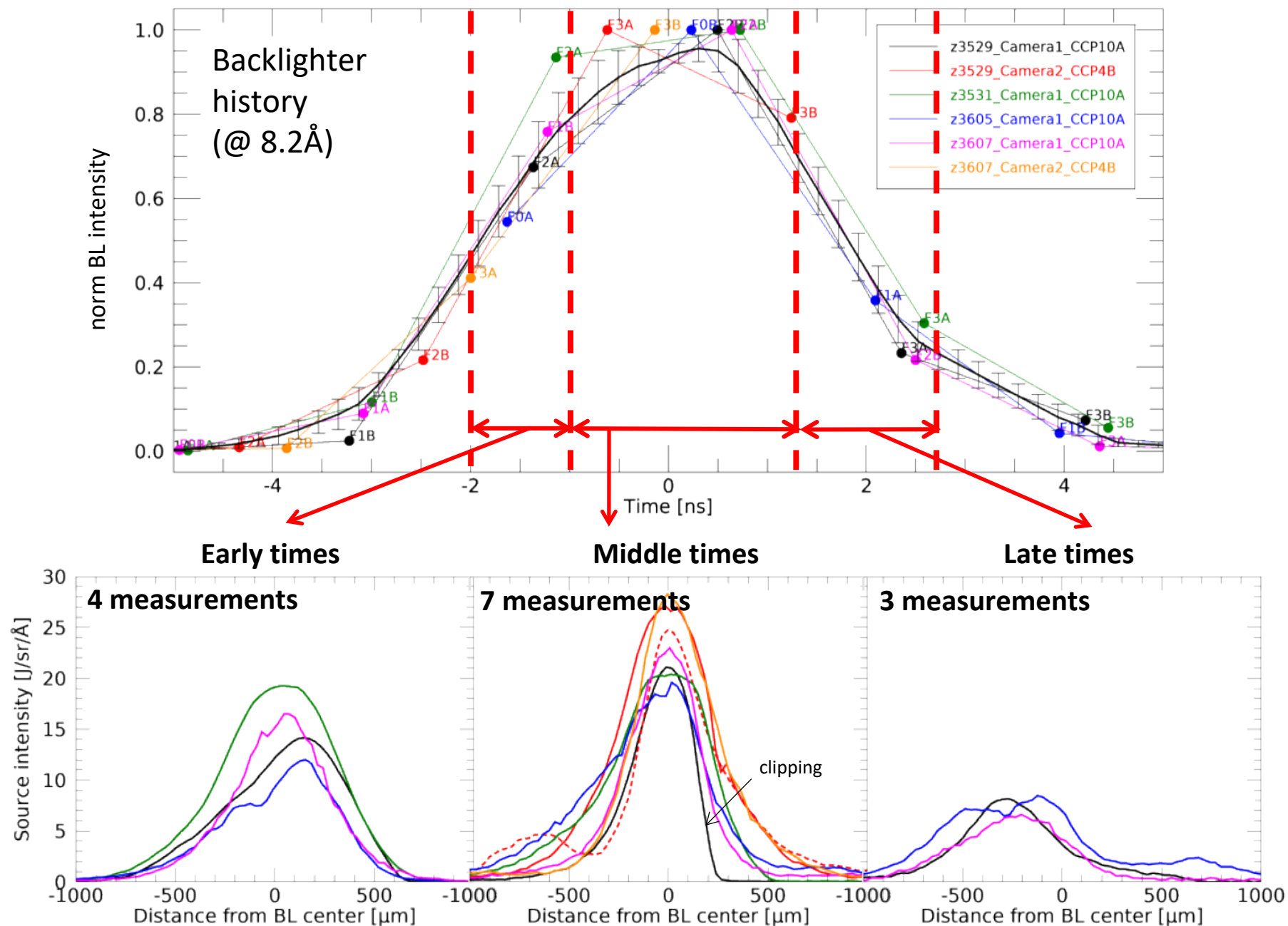


➤ 5-10% reproducibility on relative shape at different time intervals (early, peak and late)

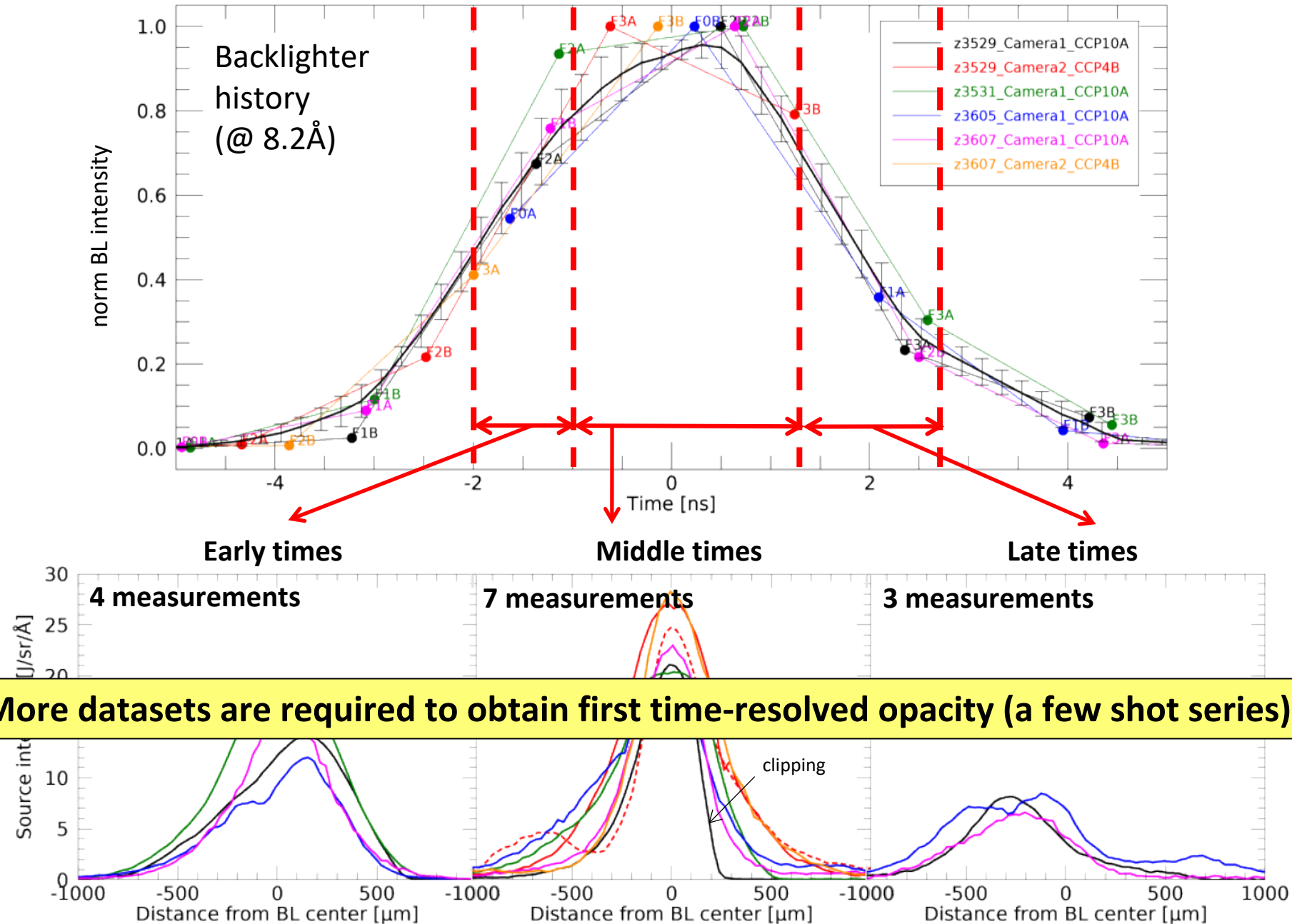




# ... and assessing backlighter spatial distribution vs time



# ... and assessing backlighter spatial distribution vs time



# The Z opacity research presents future exciting opportunities



## Fe opacity from film-based measurements

- Update statistical analysis techniques and report
- Include additional ~20 datasets

Tai Nagayama  
Tue JO06.00003

## Time-resolved opacity

- Finalize condition analysis using new algorithm
- Evaluate importance of time-dependent effects on previously reported data
- Finalize dataset collection for first absolute opacity measurements time-resolved
- Request support for shorter duration measurements (~1ns) - Daedalus

## Oxygen opacity

- Finalize oxygen measurements for accurate O opacity
- Finalize oxygen platform condition analysis
- Time-resolved measurements

Dan Mayes  
Tue JO06.00004

## High-density opacity

- Optimize preheat suppression idea to reach highest density ever  $\sim 10^{23} \text{ e}^-/\text{cc}$  (CZB)
  - most anticipated stress on models

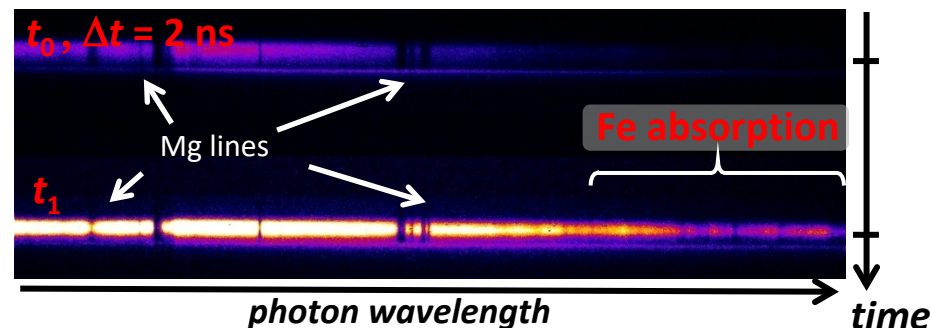
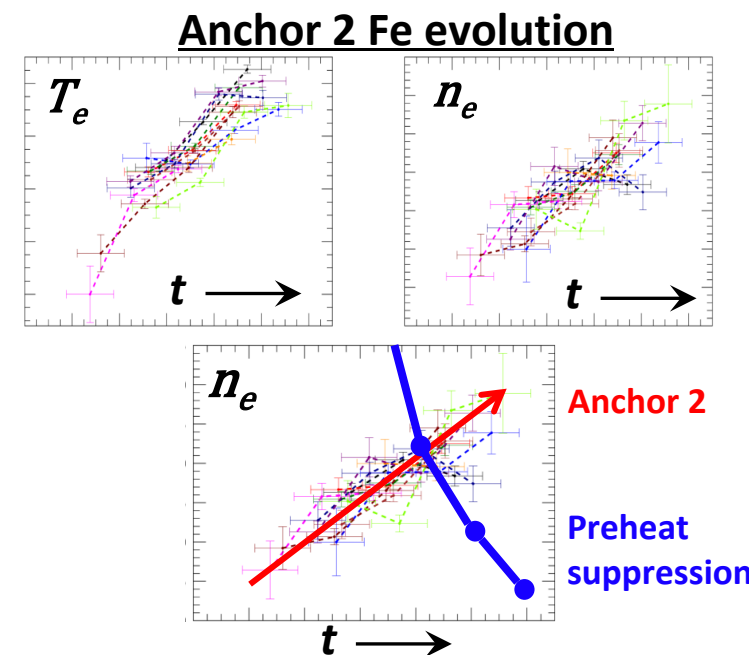
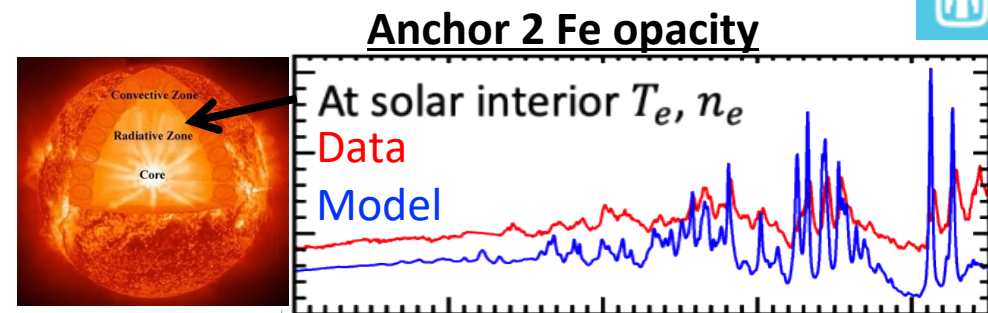
## Cross-comparison effort with NIF opacity

- Fe opacity, define comparison technique
- Anchor 0 (150eV ,  $3 \times 10^{23} \text{ e}^-/\text{cc}$ ) opacity
- Oxygen opacity, time-resolved

Ted Perry  
Mo CO06.00004  
Heather Jones  
Mo CO06.00003

# Executive summary: Time-resolution transforms opacity research on Z to advance HED physics and astrophysics

- The solar problem still exists  
→ Helioseismology  $\neq$  solar models predictions
- Fe L-shell opacity was measured at solar interior conditions and revealed severe model-data discrepancy
- While theoretical refinements are studied, experimental scrutiny is underway  
→ test of time-dependent effects
- Opacity sample evolution was measured using novel UXI technology  
→ Challenge our picture of how the experiment works
- Time-resolved measurements also increase knowledge and parameter space of the Z opacity platform  
→ Preheat suppression test shows path for novel high density regime
- Temporal gradient effects are synthetically investigated
- Absolute time-resolved opacity measurements are underway





# BACK-UP SLIDES

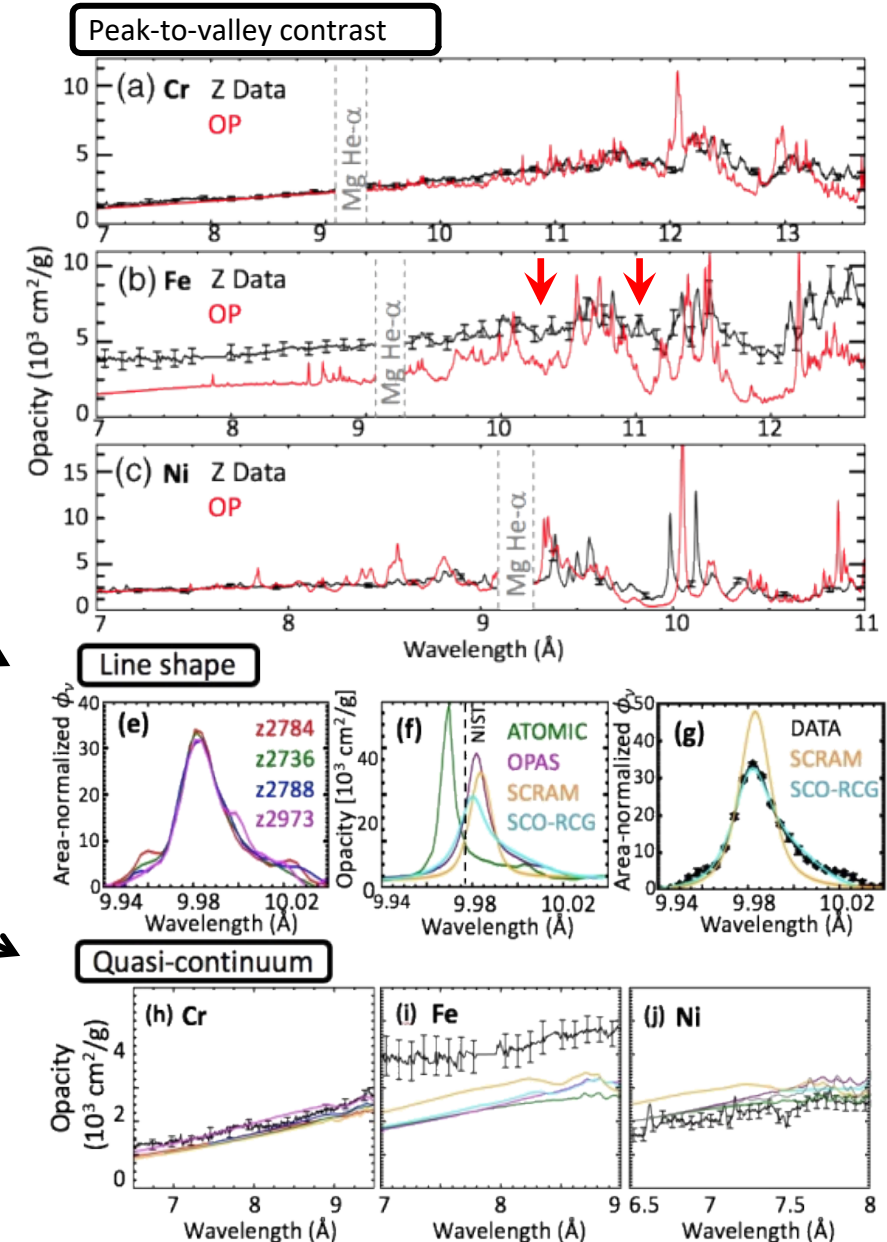
# We are now poised to measure time-dependent absolute opacity

Why is it important?

We could test

- peak-to-valley contrast in Fe opacity
- line shapes discrepancies
- quasi-continuum?

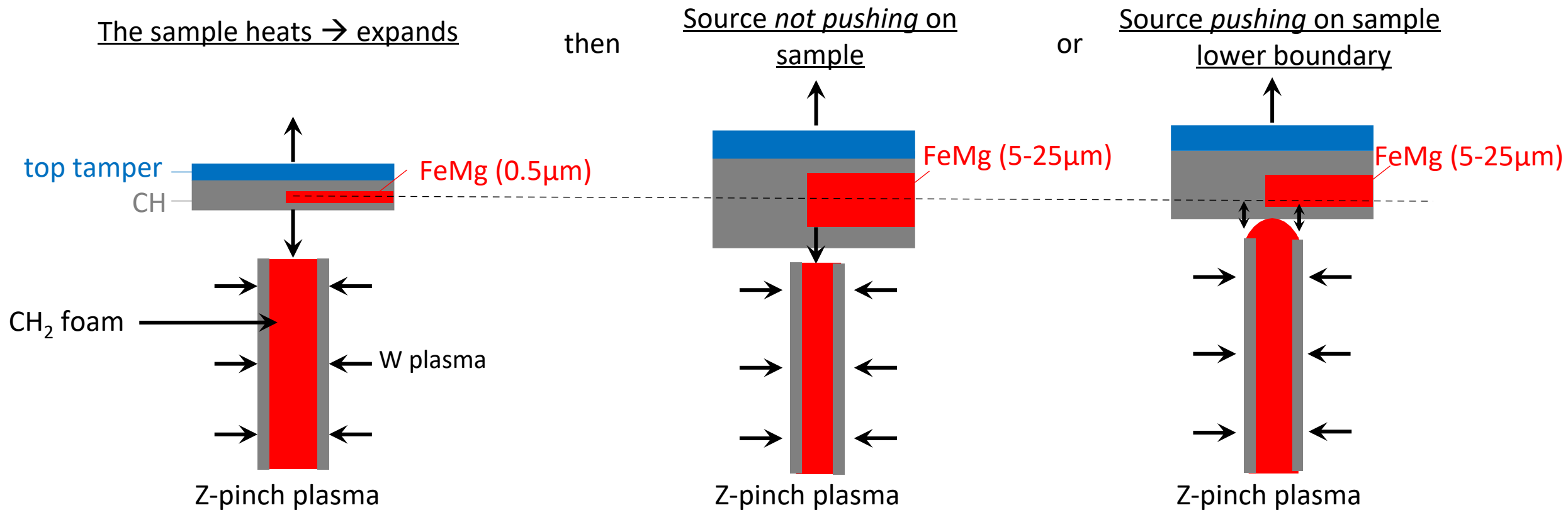
The time-dependence on how the opacity forms will be very informative even if existing puzzles are not solved through time-gated measurements.





# The tamper mass controls sample expansion and density

67

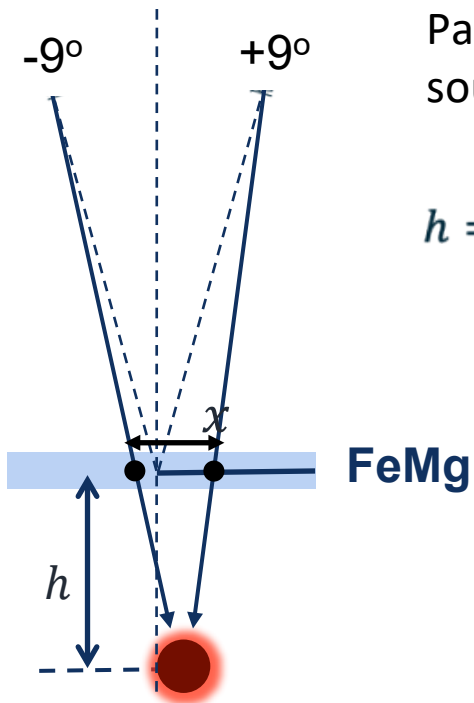


*not to scale*

Expansion, therefore density, at backlighter peak depends on:

- top tamper thickness
- bottom plasma pressure
- potential preheat

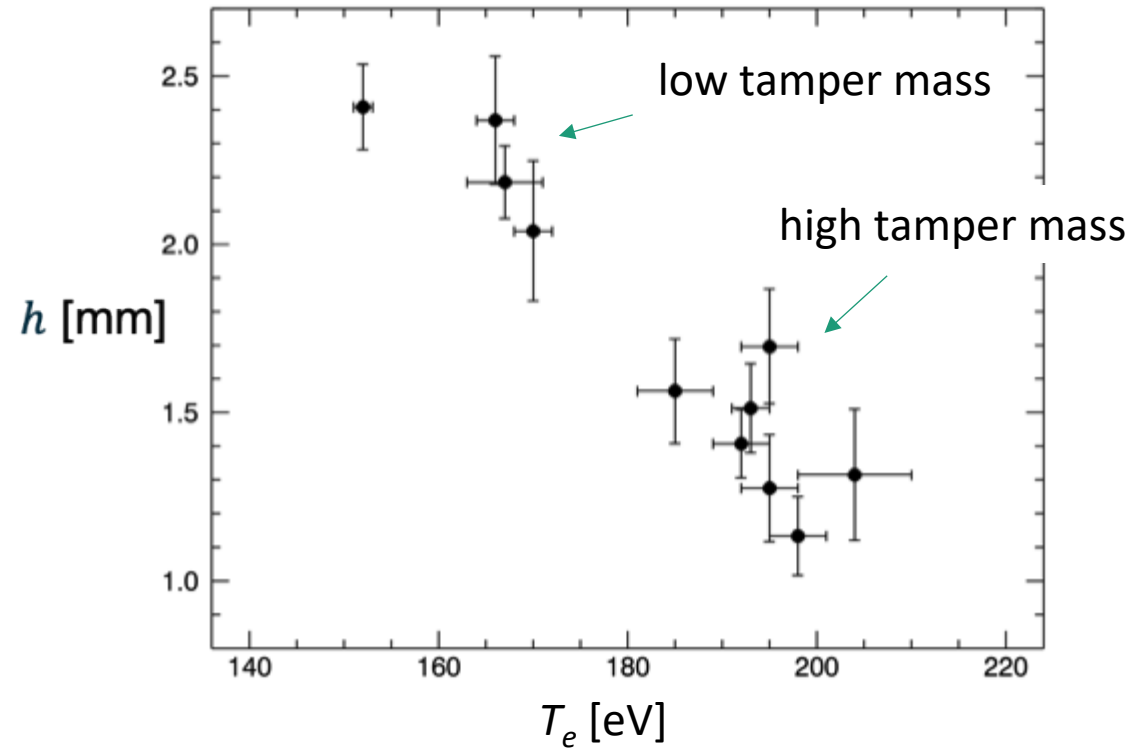
# Note: Parallax measurements reveal sample temperature is closely related to source-to-sample distance



Parallax determines  
source-to-sample distance:

$$h = \frac{x}{2 \tan 9^\circ}$$

Sample gets hotter as it gets closer to  
the radiation source

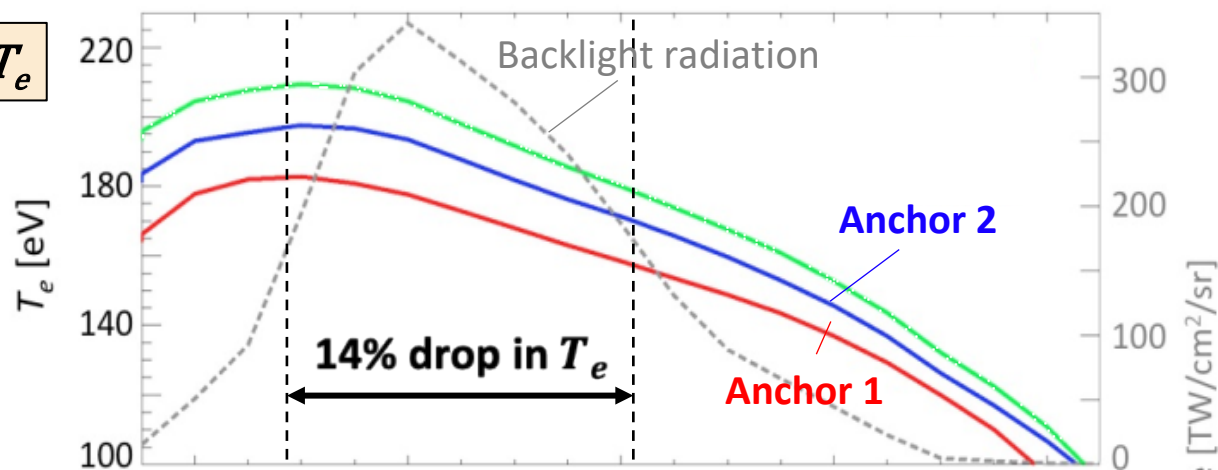


This suggests that the sample is moving upward and the amount of motion is controlled by higher tamper mass

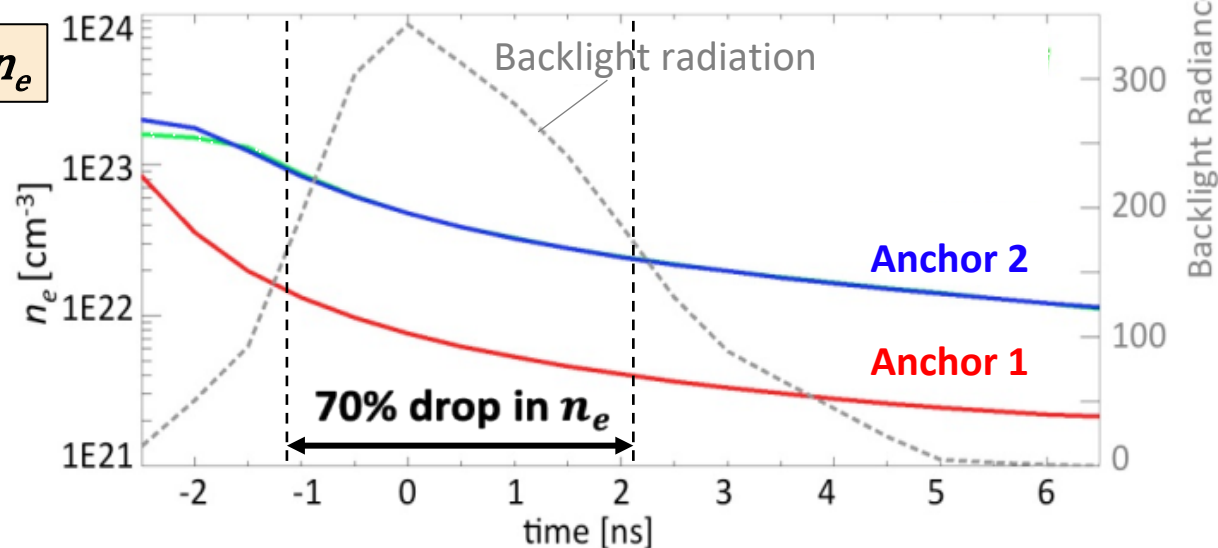
# Simulations results build our picture of the sample evolution



Temperature  $T_e$



Density  $n_e$

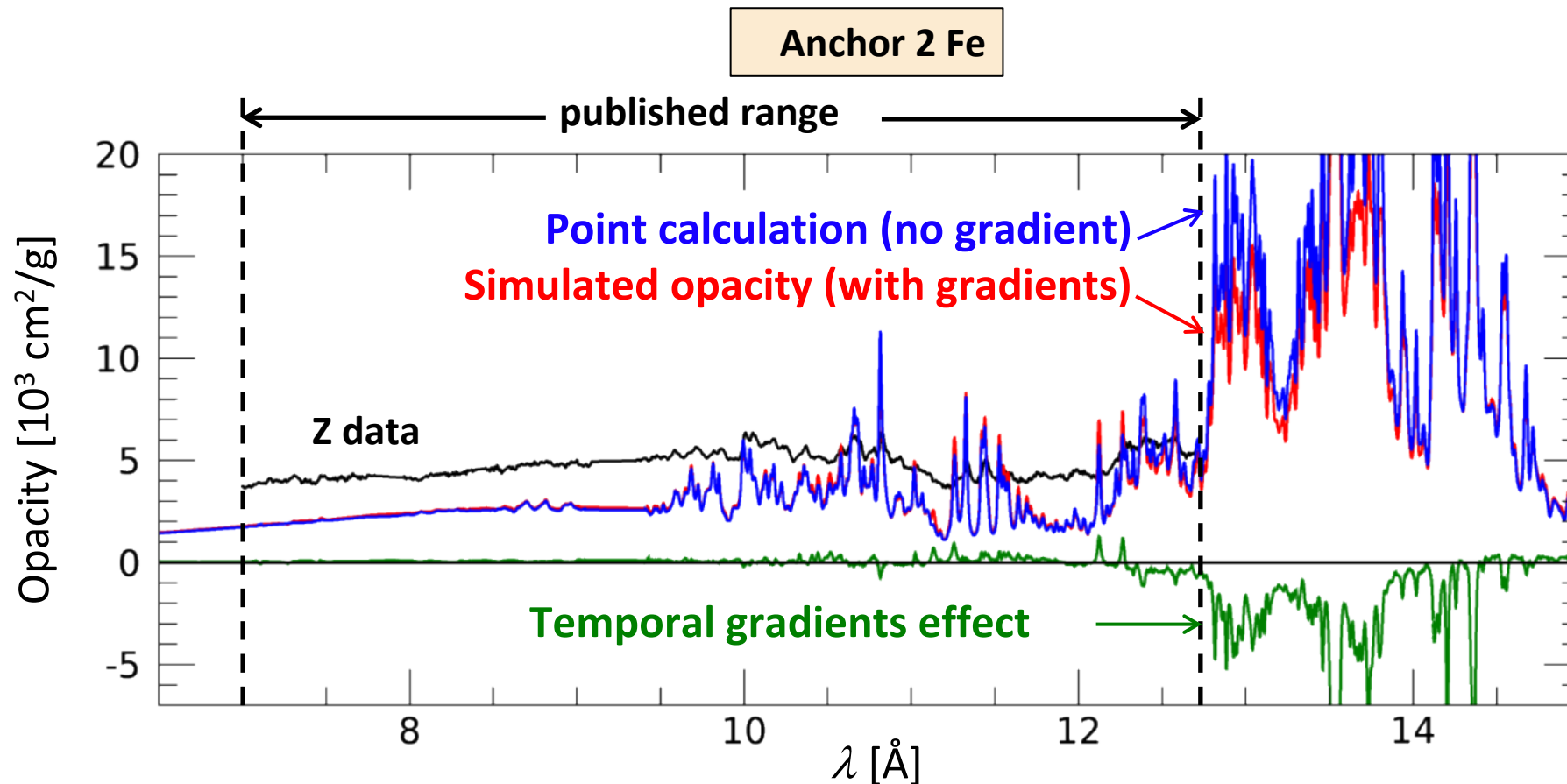


## Our current sample evolution picture:

1. Temperature drops because of upward sample motion
  2. Density continuously drops due to sample expansion
- These effects are modulated by the tamper thickness

➤ Predicted temporal gradients in  $T_e$ ,  $n_e$  over the backlight duration are concerning.

# Yet, post-processed simulations predict spectrum is unaffected<sup>1</sup>



- But are the simulations accurate?  
Circular argument: simulations use calculated opacity, the same quantity being experimentally tested here.
- Temporal gradients cannot be precluded without experimental evidence.

<sup>1</sup>Nagayama et al., PRE, 95 (2017), MacFarlane et al., HEDP, 3 (2007)

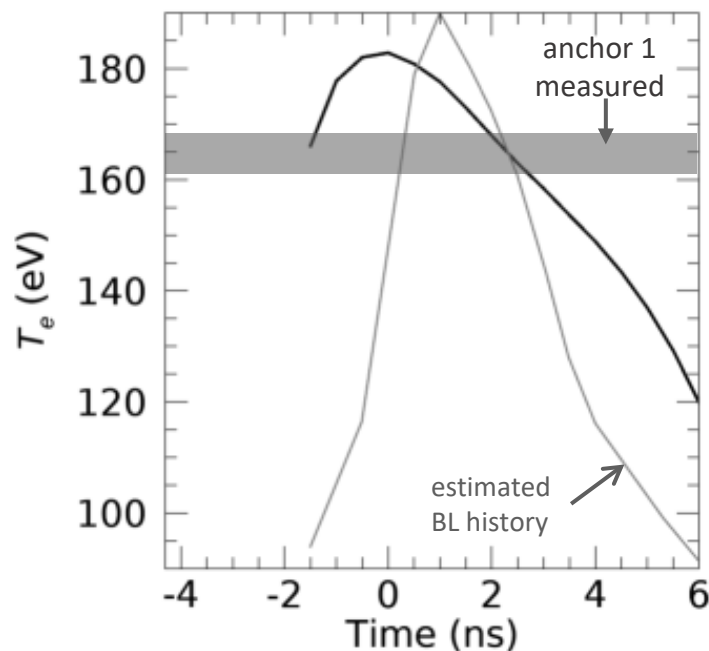
# Simulations predict $T_e$ , $n_e$ evolution trends for anchor 1 Fe



Temperature  $T_e$

Z data

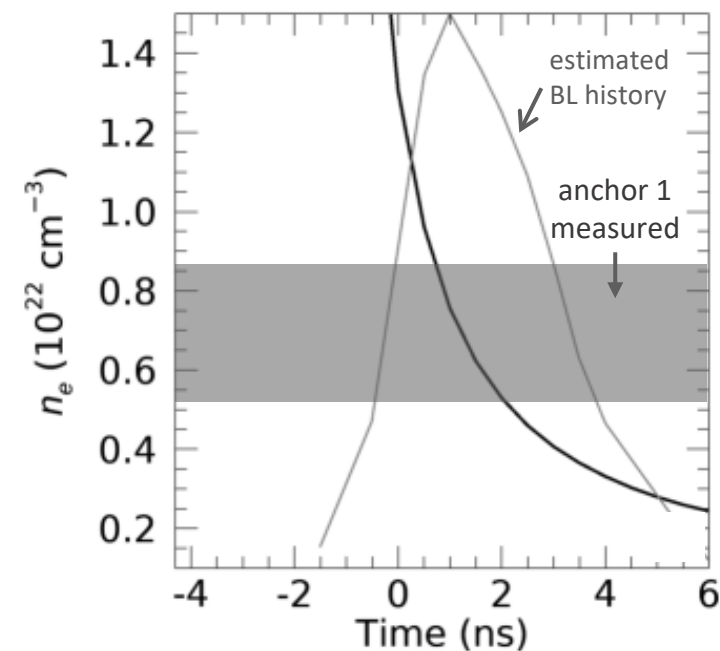
simulation\*



Density  $n_e$

Z data

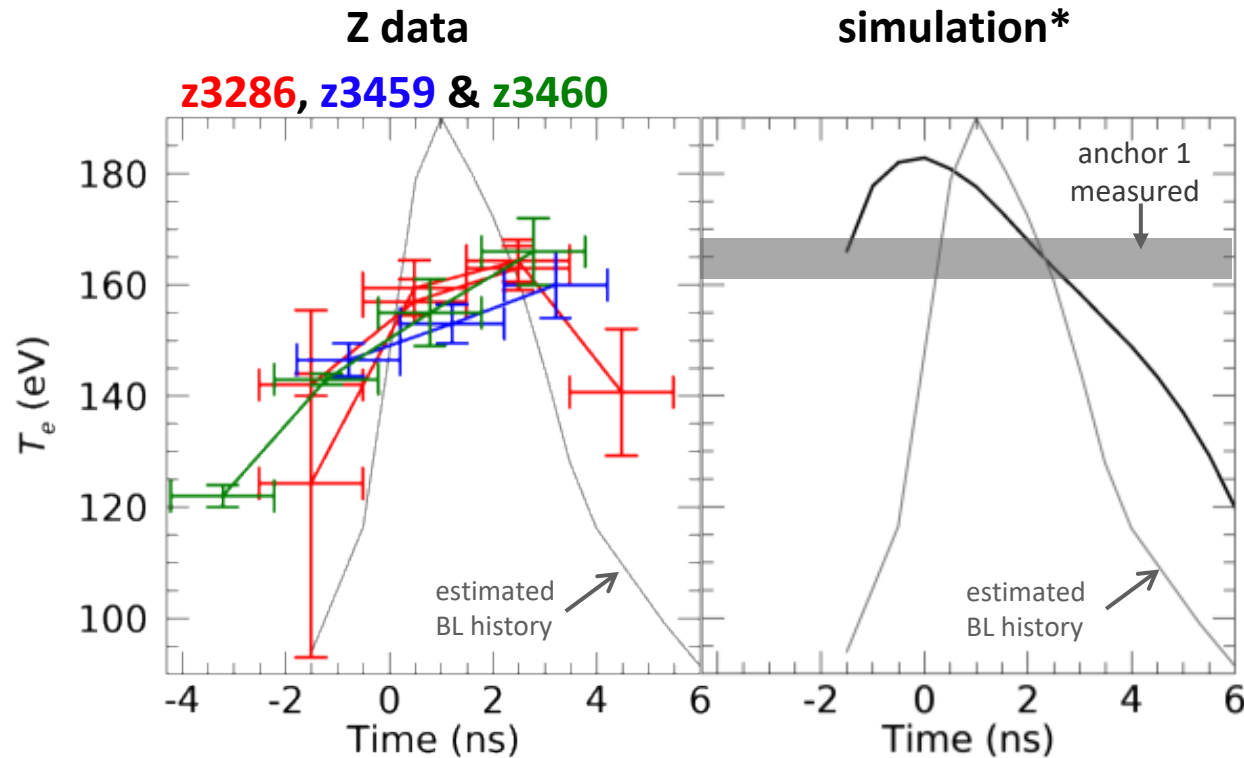
simulation\*



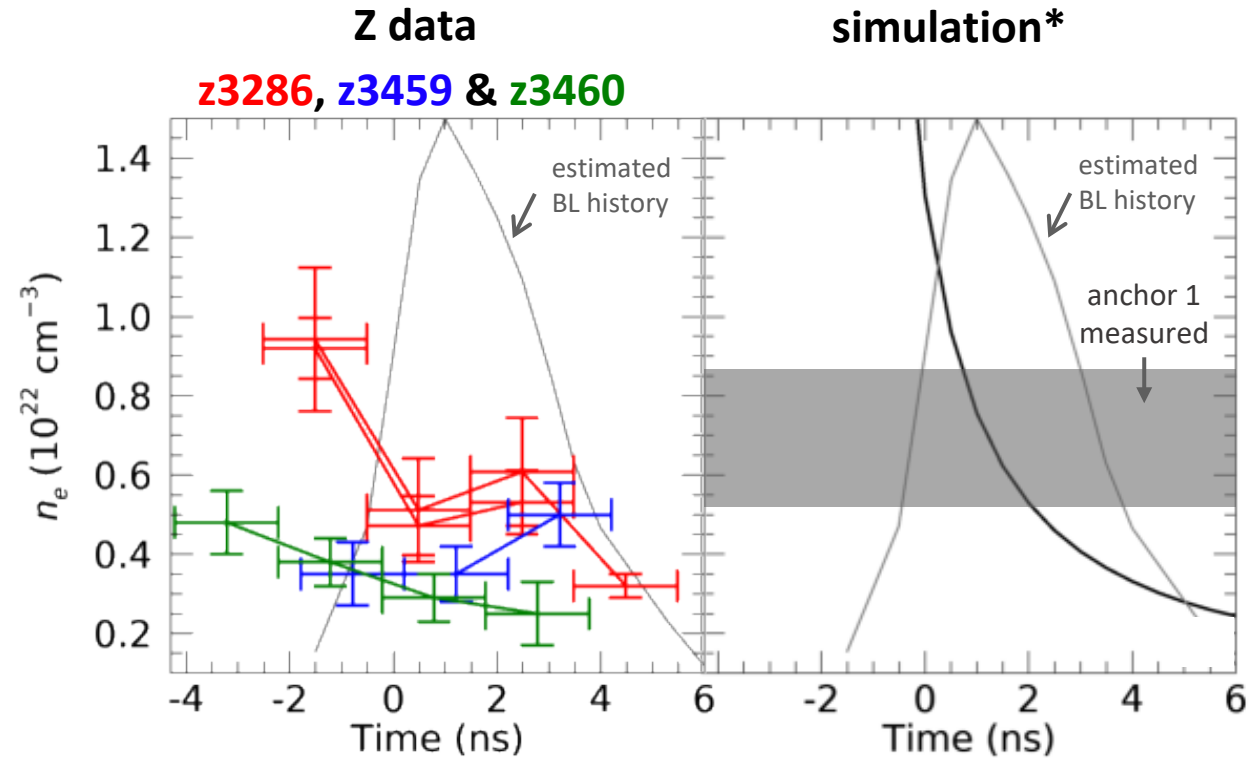
# Anchor 1 Fe evolution shows consistent trends with predictions



Temperature  $T_e$



Density  $n_e$



➤ Convolve simulation results with the UXI gates and backlighter history for better comparison