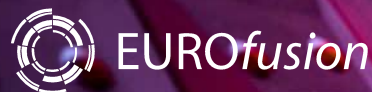
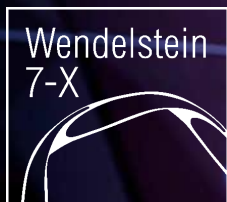




# Database Analysis of Profile and Turbulence Characteristics in NBI Experiments and Sensitivity Study for Transport Analysis



**T. Bleher, T. Romba, F. Reimold and the  
W7-X Team**



This work has been carried out within the framework of the EUROfusion Consortium, funded by the European Union via the Euratom Research and Training Programme (Grant Agreement No 101052200 — EUROfusion). Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Commission. Neither the European Union nor the European Commission can be held responsible for them.

# Outlook

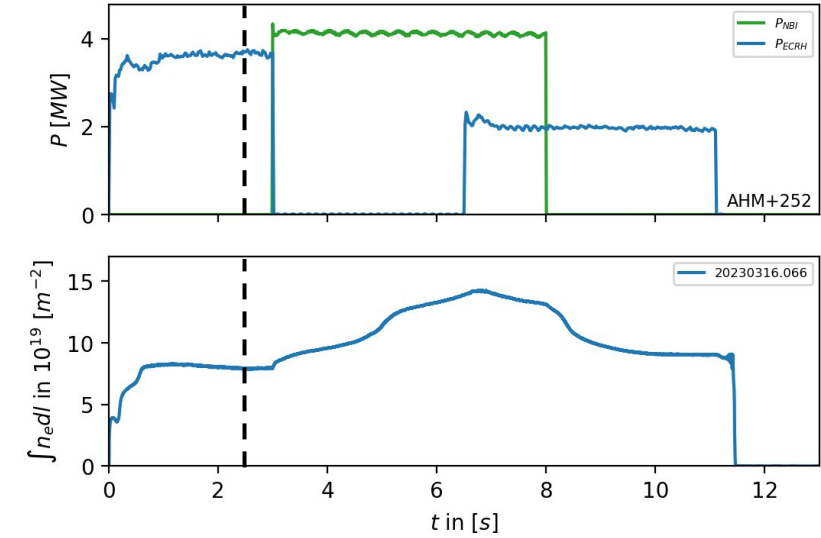
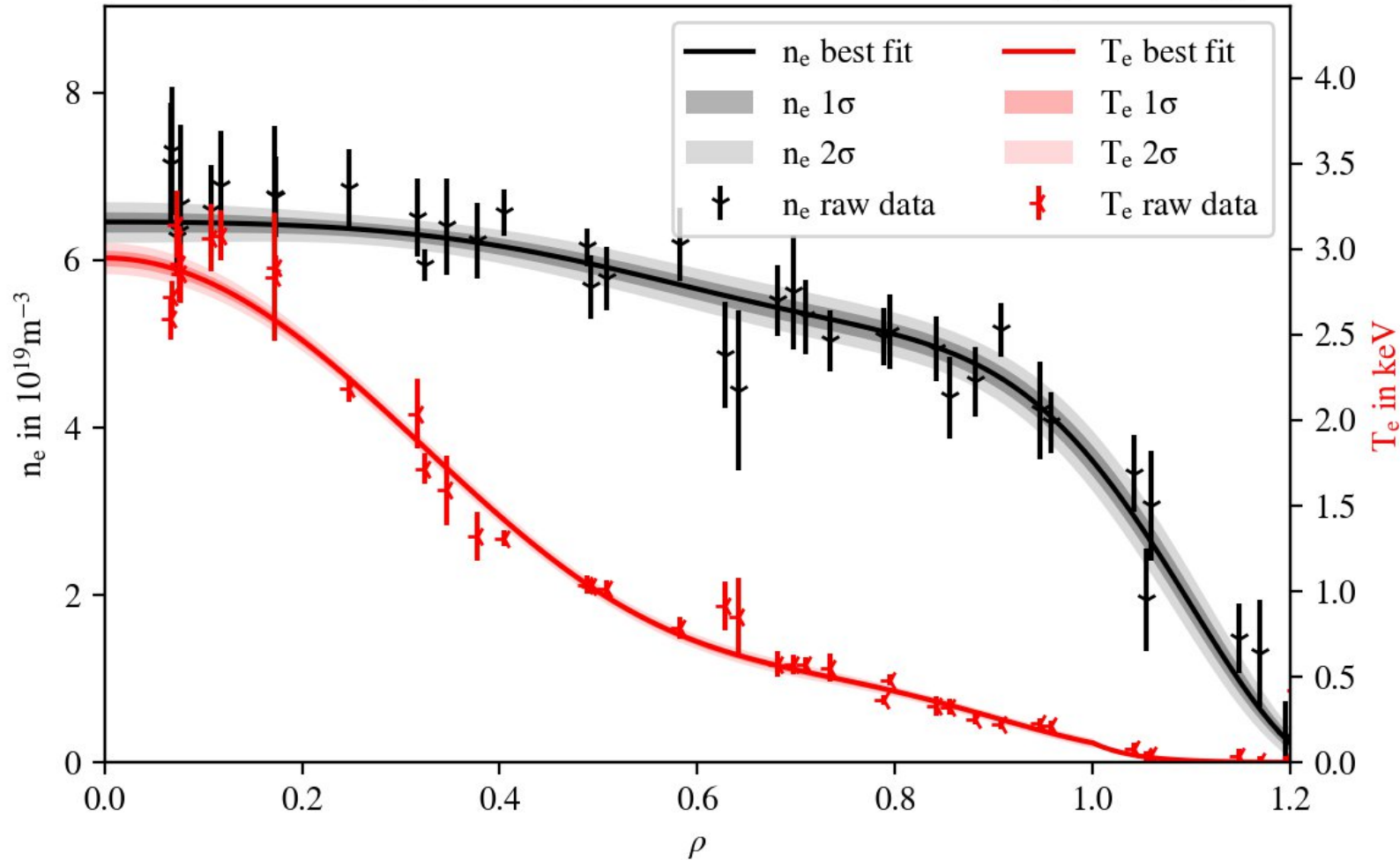
- **Main plasma species profiles**
  - Accumulation phenomena
  - Non-accumulating behavior
  - ECRH reintroduction
  - Comparison of accumulation at different magnetic configurations
  - Additional main species observations by S. Bannmann
  - Concluding observations on main species
- **Impurity profiles**
  - Impurity profile fitting method - modified double tanh
  - Accumulation phenomena
  - Non-accumulating behavior
  - ECRH reintroduction
  - Comparison of accumulation at different magnetic configurations
  - Concluding observations on impurities
- **Database approach for examining accumulation phenomena**
  - Variable heatmap and strongest correlations
  - Kink location to determine separation of anomalous and neoclassical transport
  - Transport color-coded plots
- **Remarkable observations**
- **Summary**



# Flat profiles are associated with pure ECRH heating

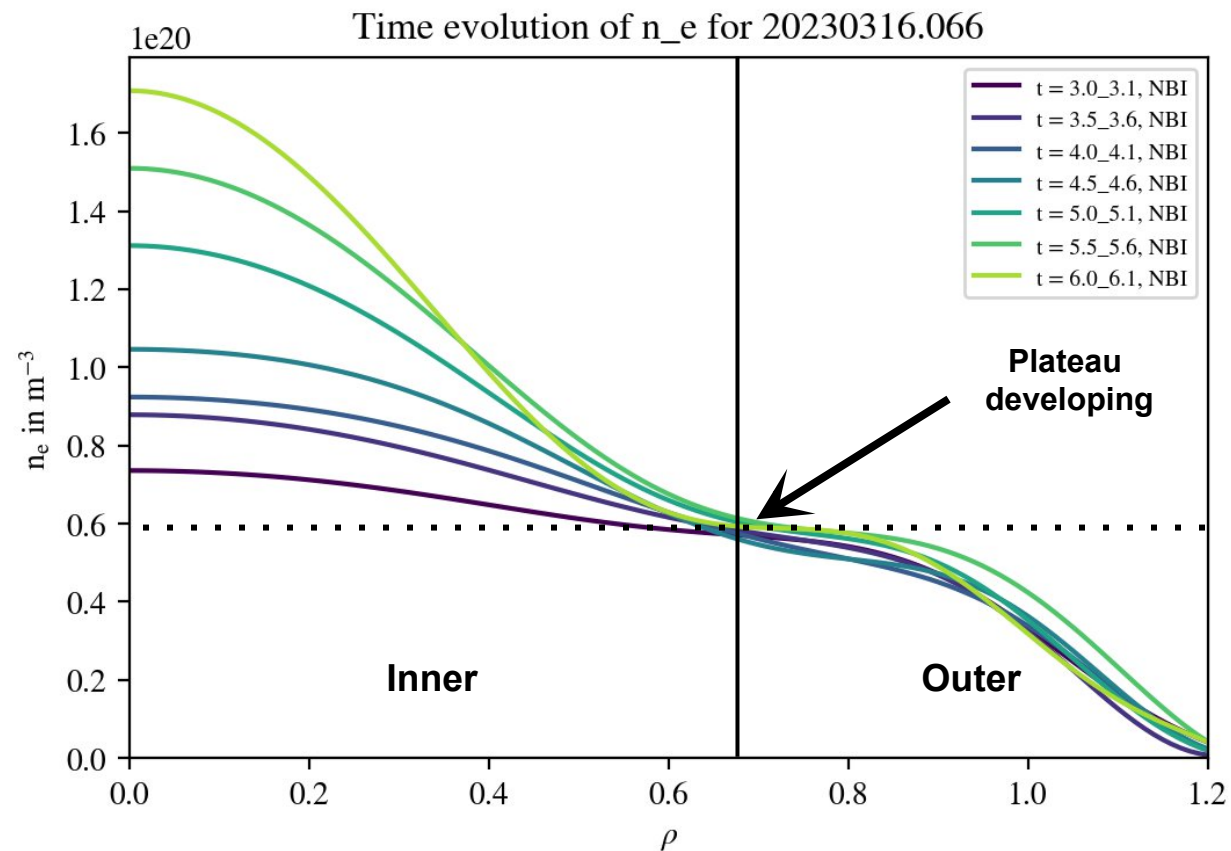
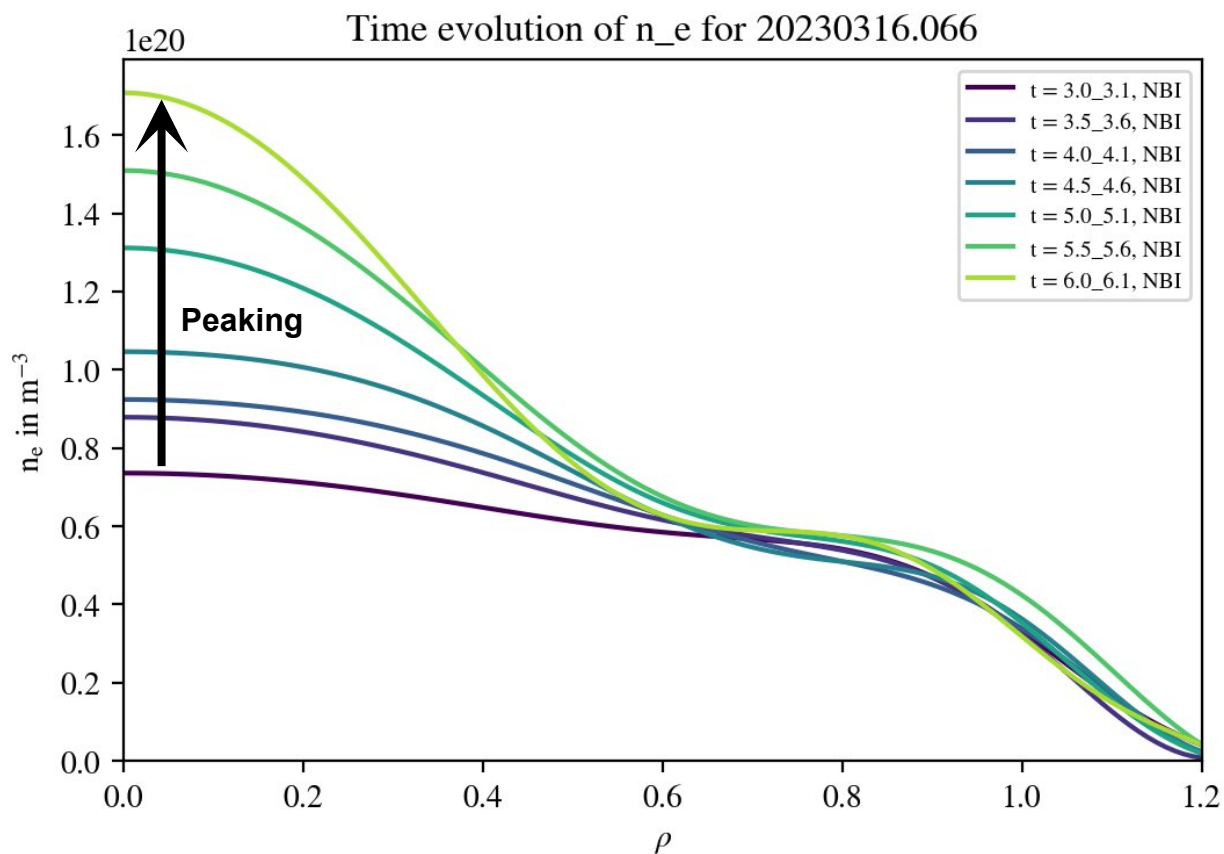
- During the ECRH heating phase, we observe flat profiles
  - This is also evident by the flat line integrated density during the ECRH heating phase

20230316.066:  $t = (2.40-2.50)$ s - Thomson based electron profiles - gp fit



# Terminology of central density accumulation phenomena

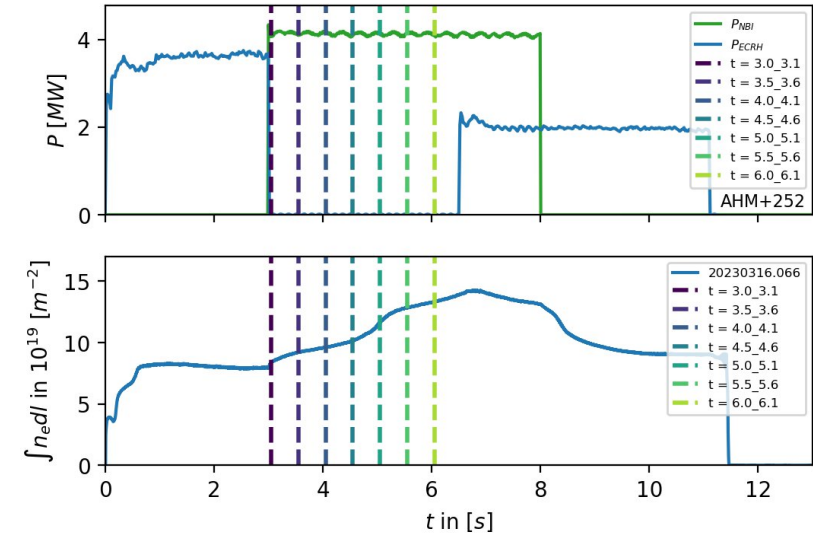
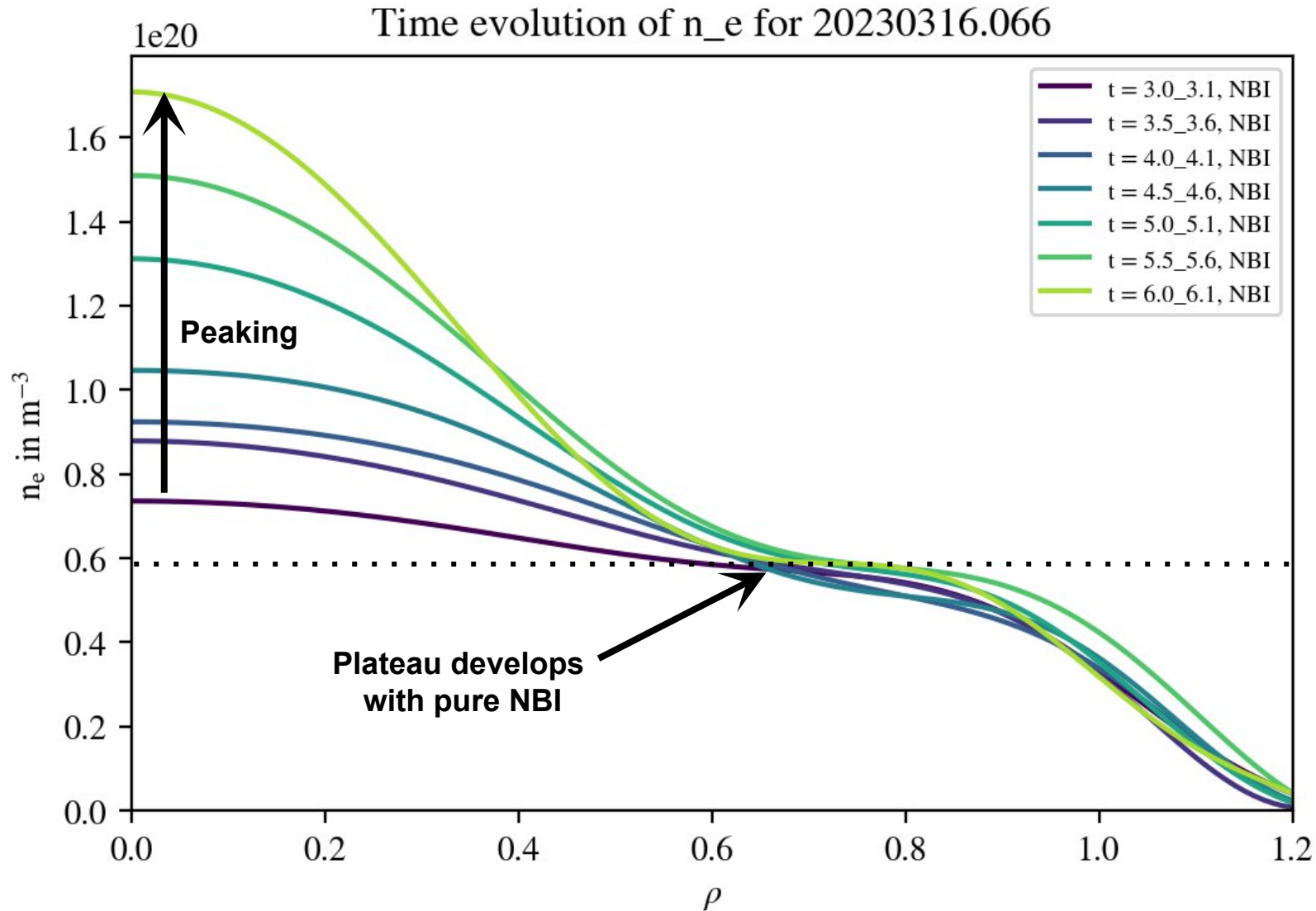
- **Peaking:** the increase in amplitude of the region close to the plasma core
- **Plateau:** the the loss in slope around mid-rho
  - The plateau separates the profiles into two regions: inner and outer



# Central density accumulation is associated with pure NBI heating

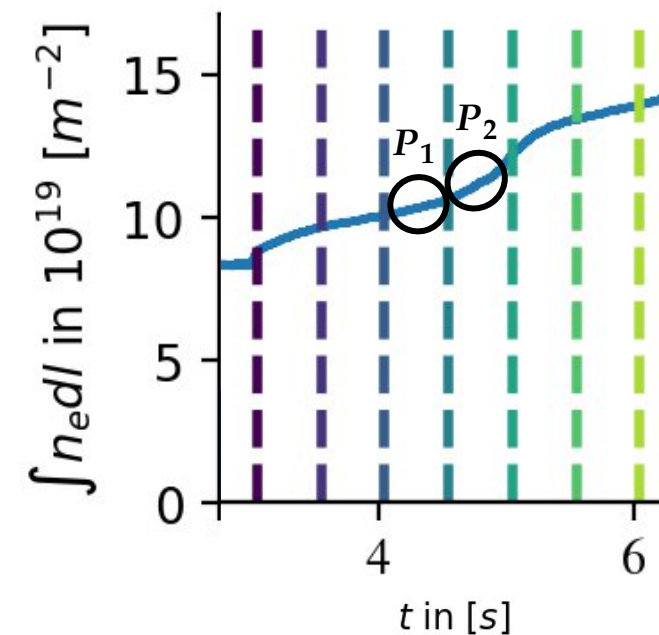
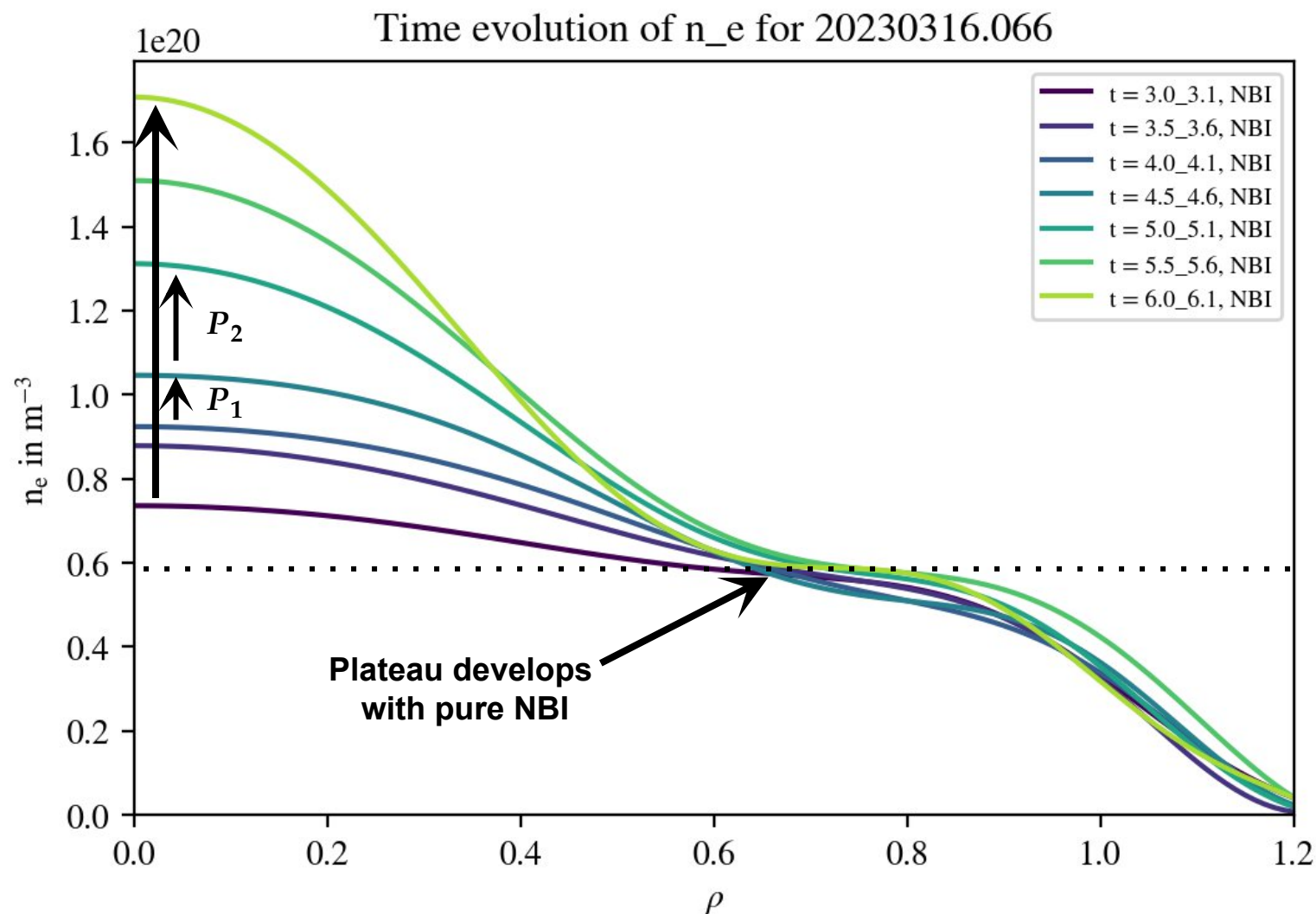


- During pure NBI heating, we see the live development of the peaking and the plateau which characterize the central density accumulation



# Central density accumulation is associated with pure NBI heating

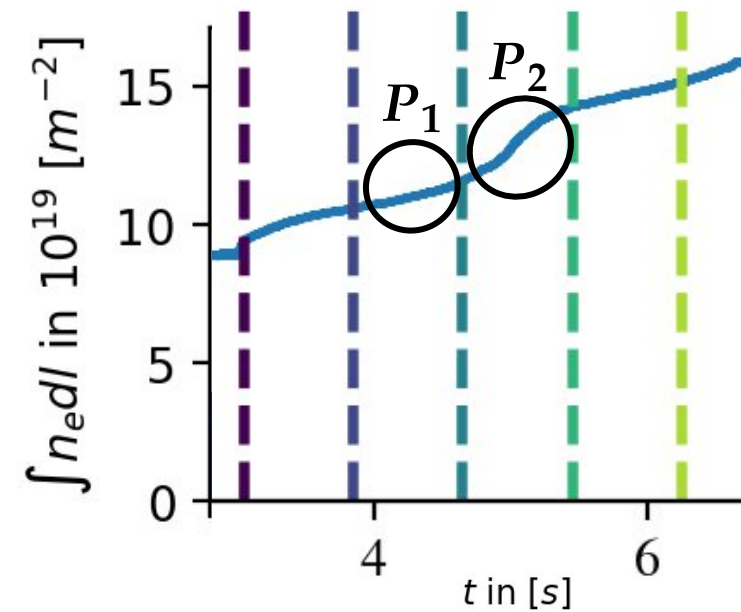
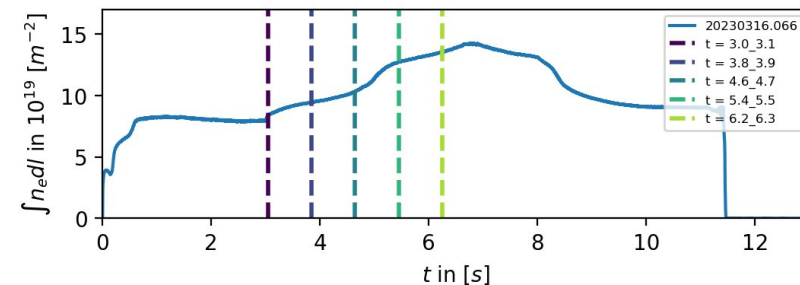
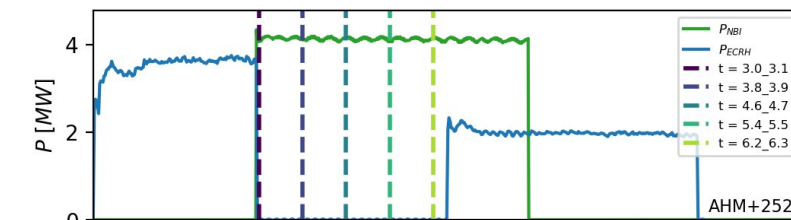
- Paying attention to the line integrated density, we observe that according to the rising slope of the line, the peaking rate momentarily accelerates such that  $P_2 > P_1$



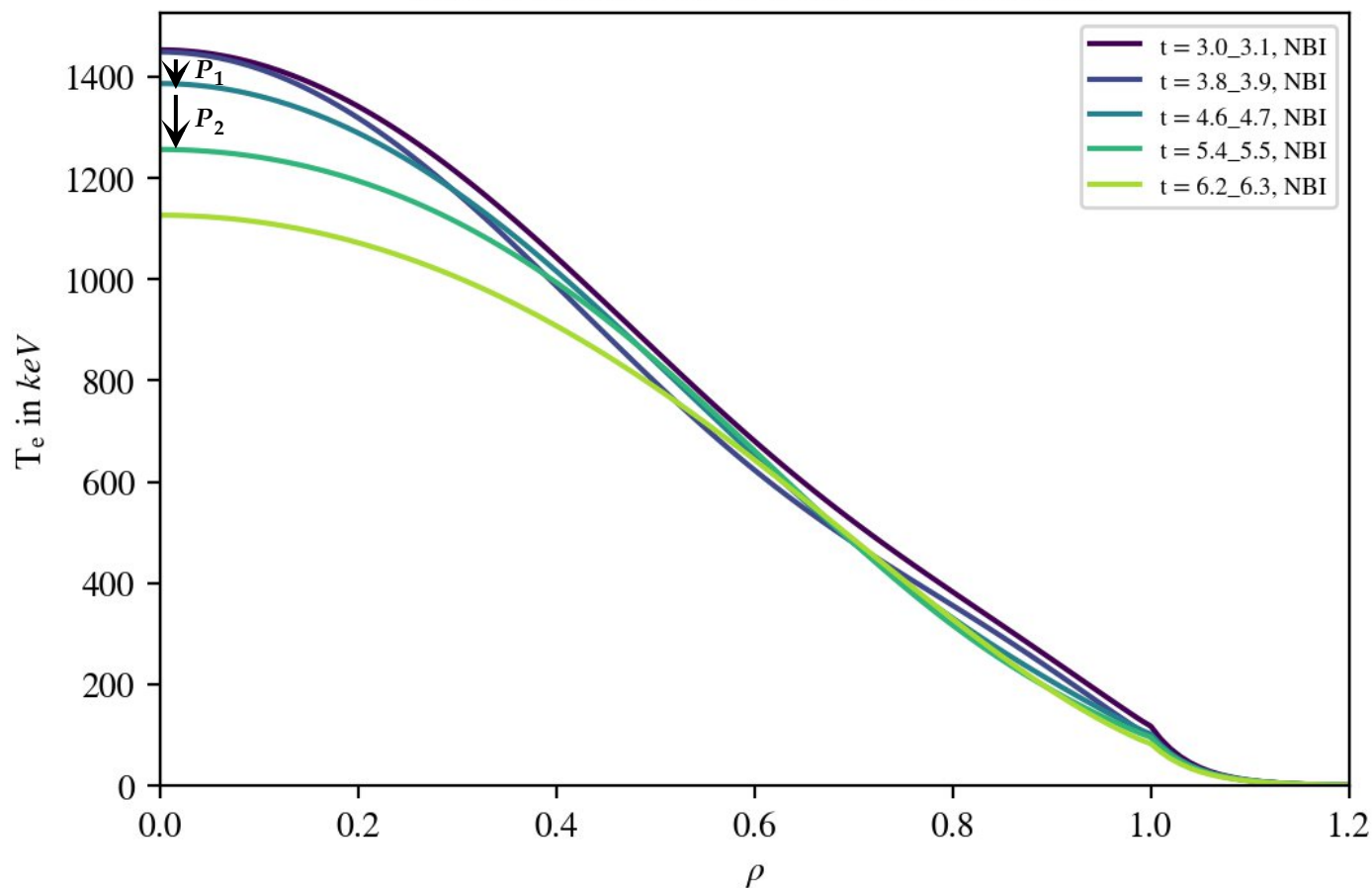


# Electron temperature time evolution in general peaking cases

- Due to the increase in particles with the NBI heating, inside  $\rho = 0.4$  the electron temperature profile plunges as the density keeps rising
  - Paying attention to the line integrated density panel, we again observe that according to the rising slope of the line, the plunging rate momentarily accelerates such that  $P_2 > P_1$

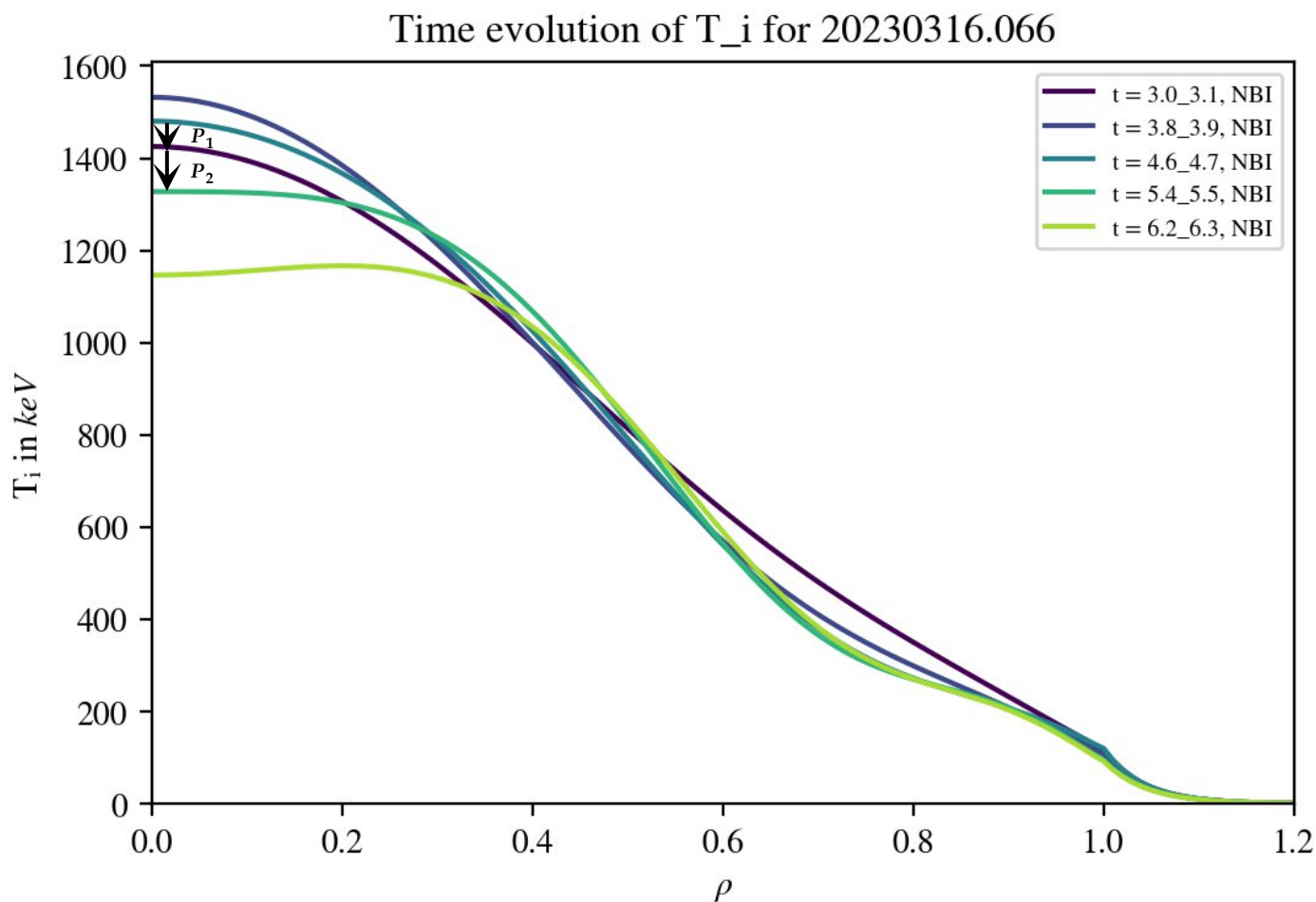
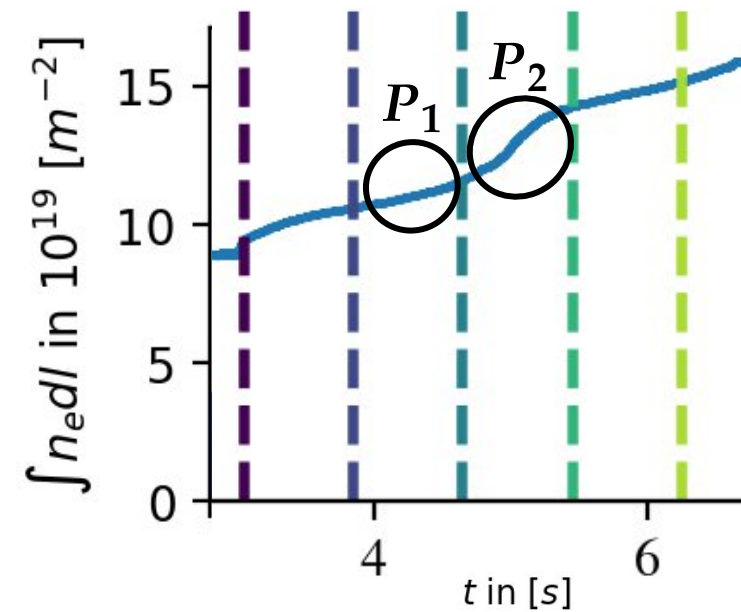
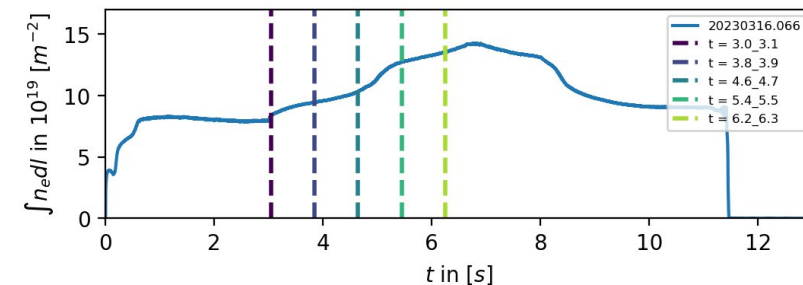
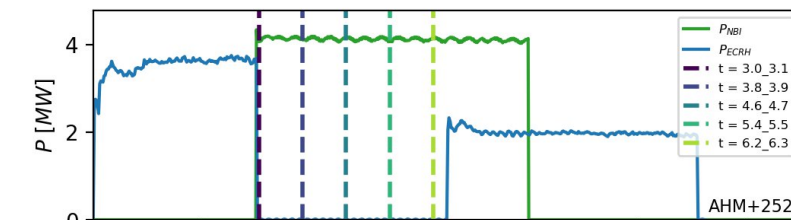


Time evolution of  $T_e$  for 20230316.066

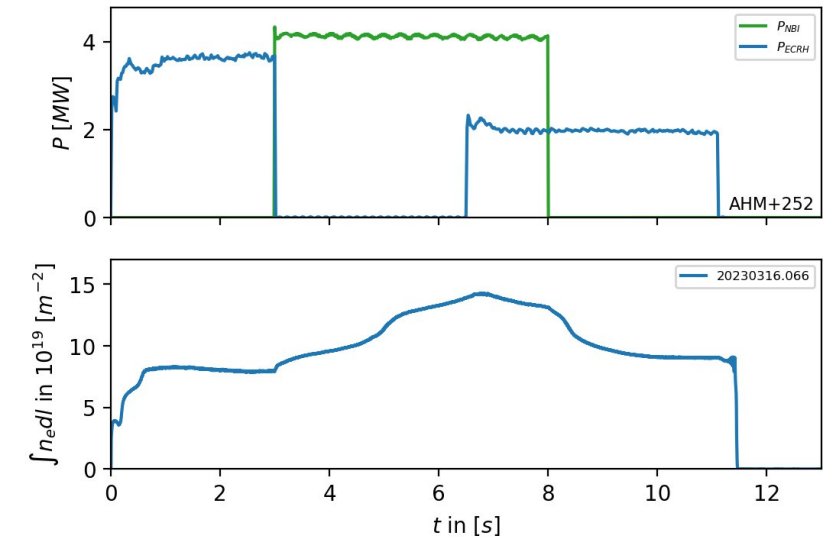
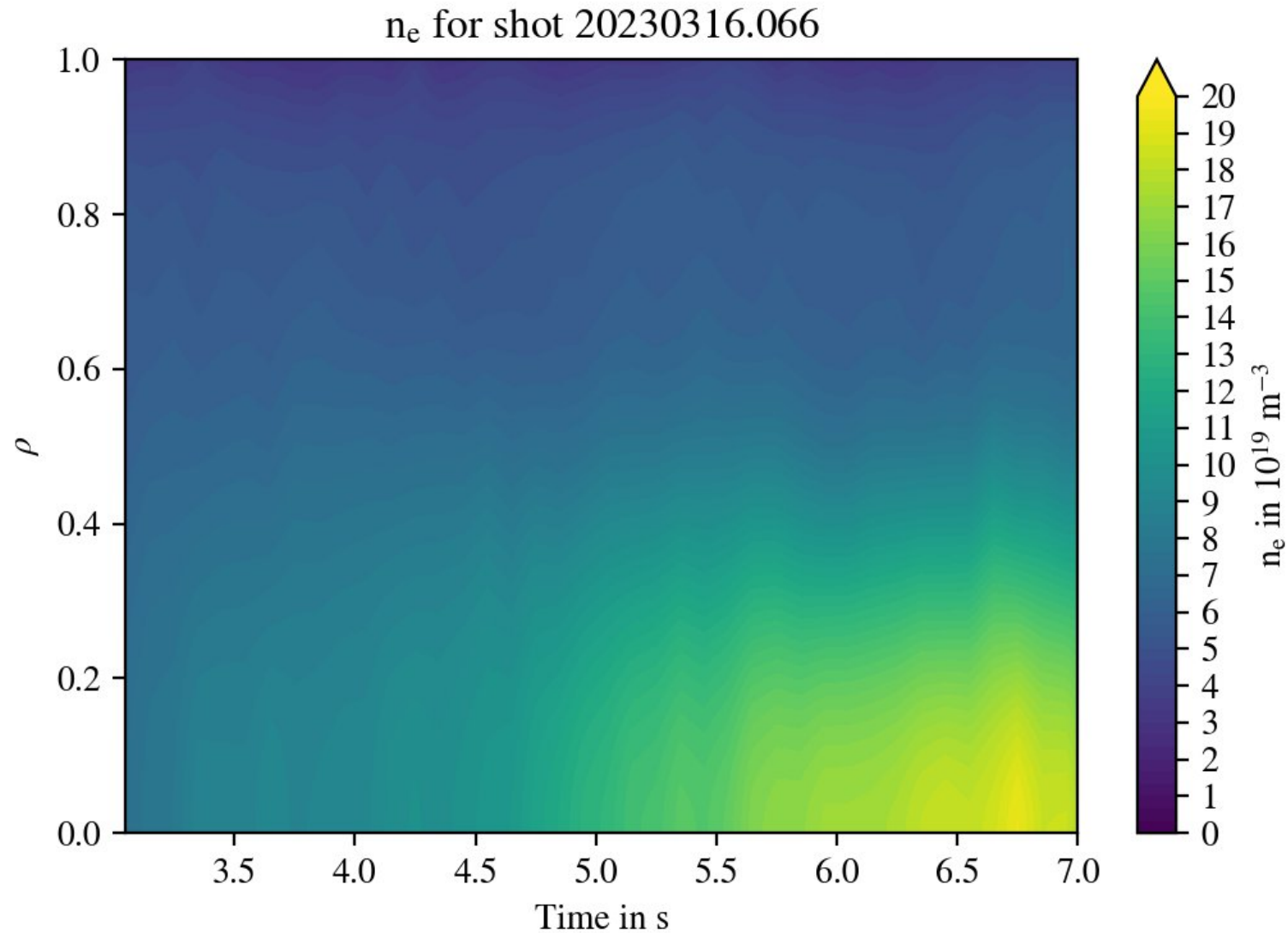
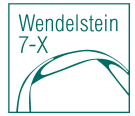


# Ion temperature time evolution in general peaking cases

- Due to the increase in particles with the NBI heating, inside  $\rho = 0.4$  the ion temperature profile plunges as the density keeps rising
  - Paying attention to the line integrated density panel, we again observe that according to the rising slope of the line, the plunging rate momentarily accelerates such that  $P_2 > P_1$

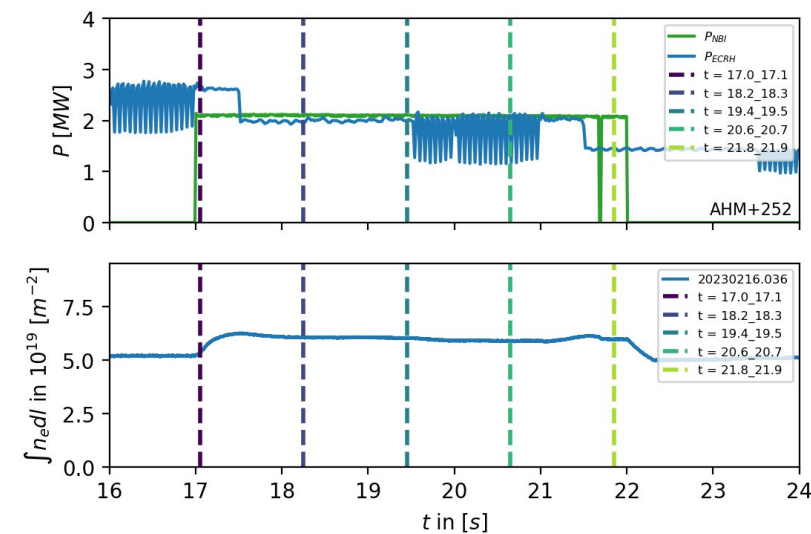
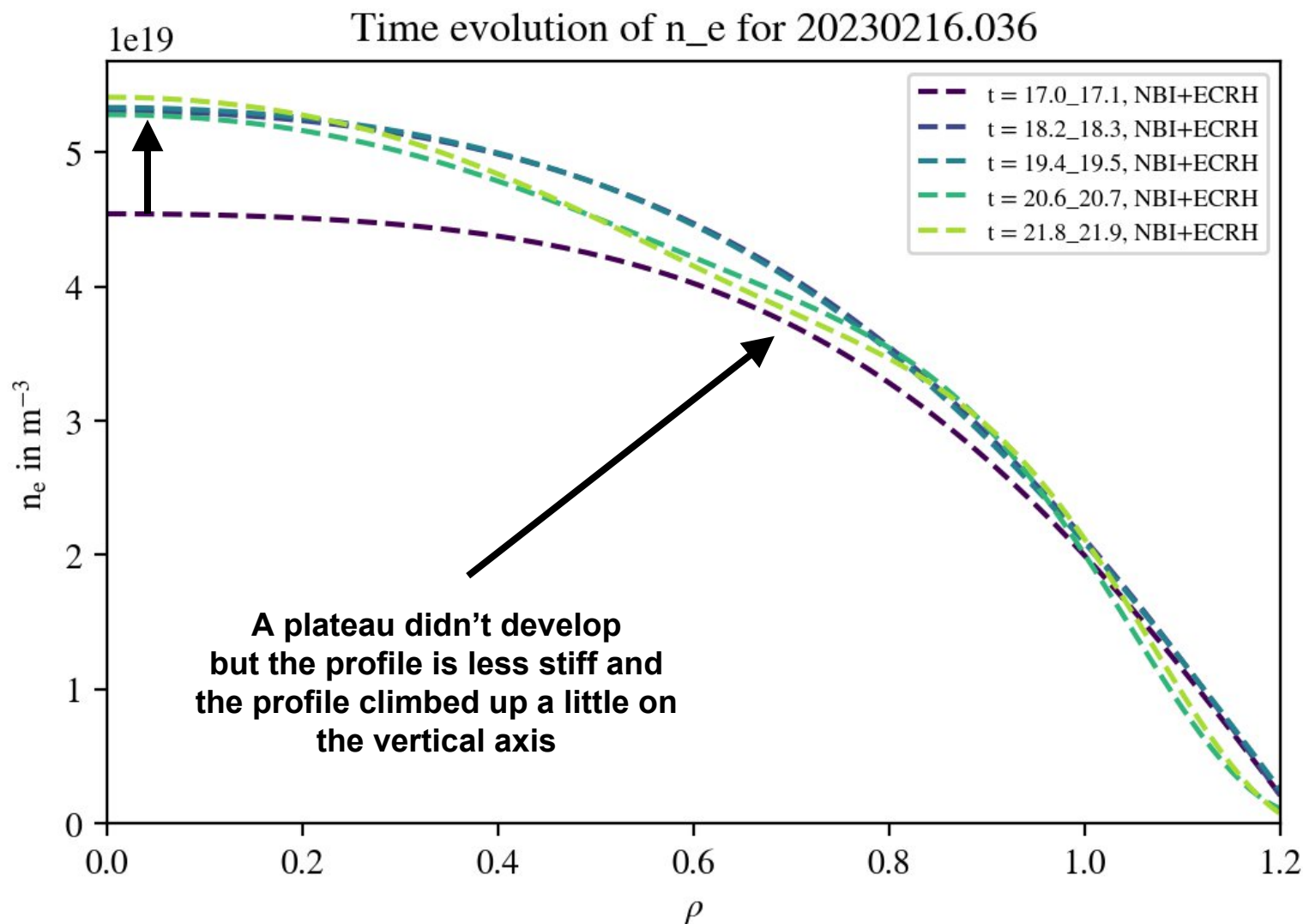


# General accumulation case - electron density color plot



# Non-peaking case 1 - continuous ECRH

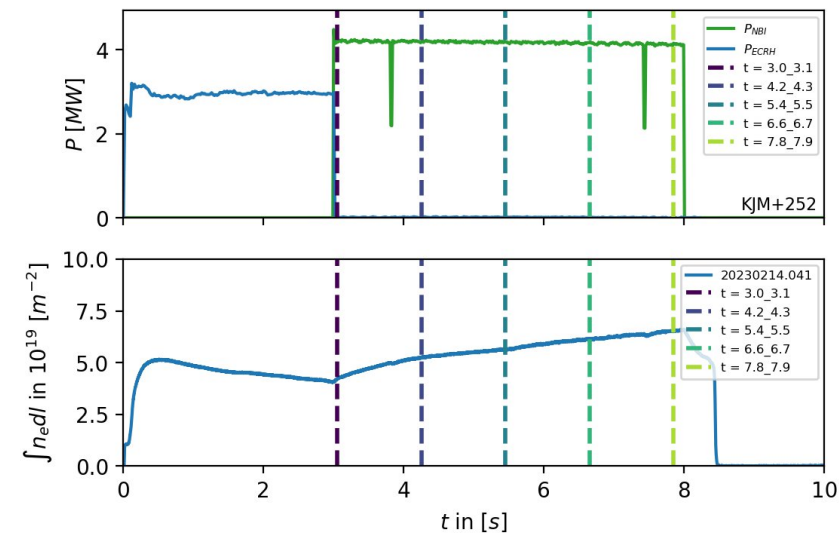
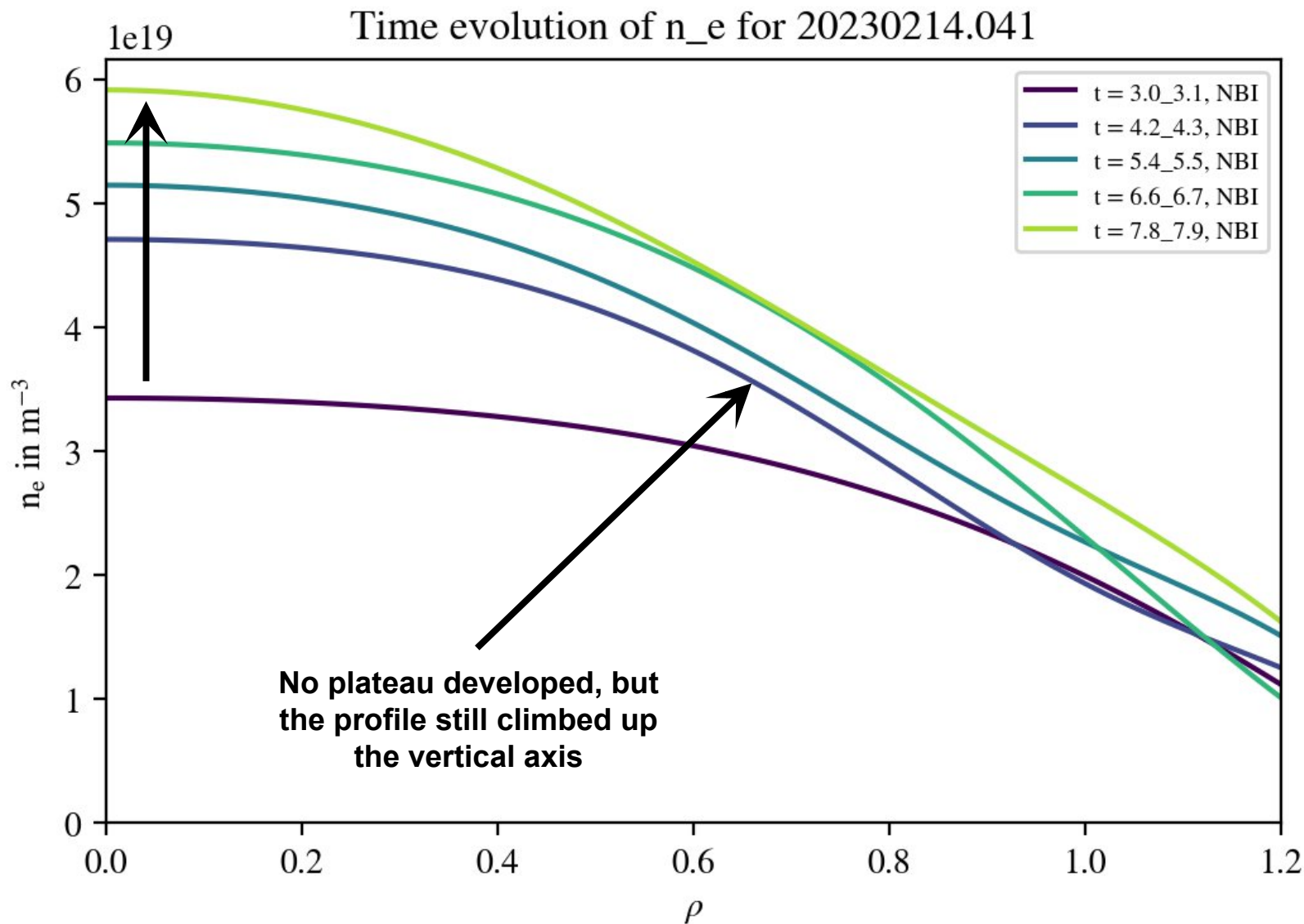
- Entering the combined heating phase does not show the development of a plateau in the electron density profile
- Still, an on-axis increase in the density is observed





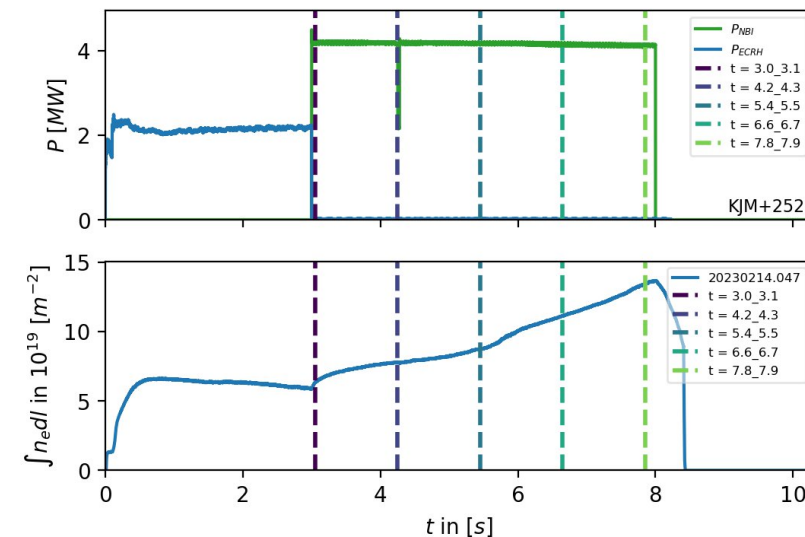
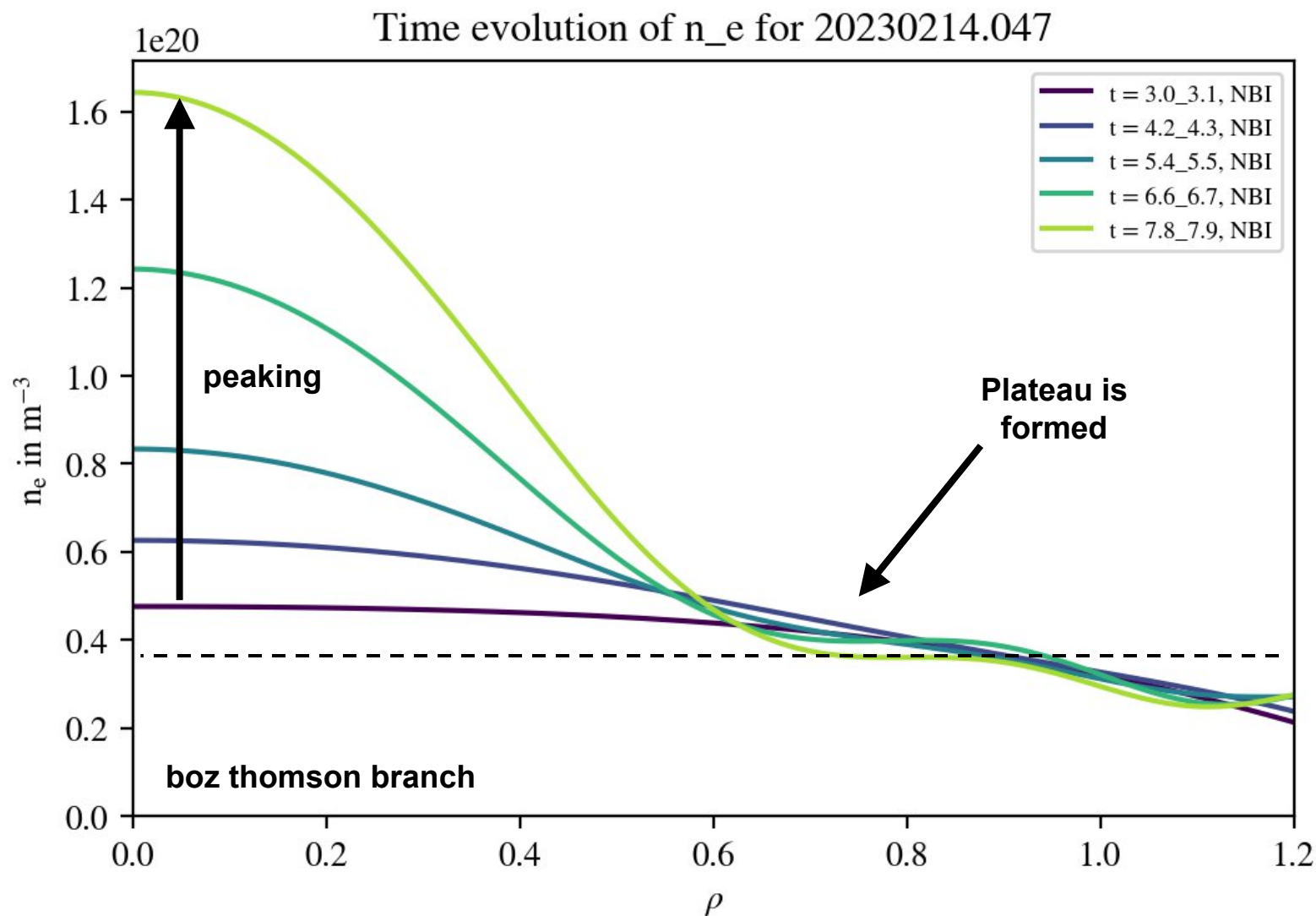
# Non-peaking case 2 - pure NBI with low initial density

- Despite entering pure NBI heating, no plateau develops
  - This could be explained by the low initial density

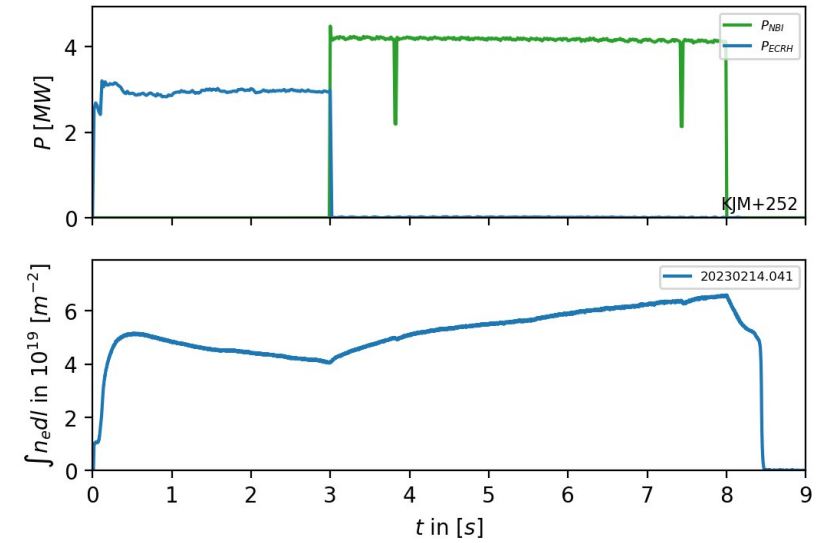
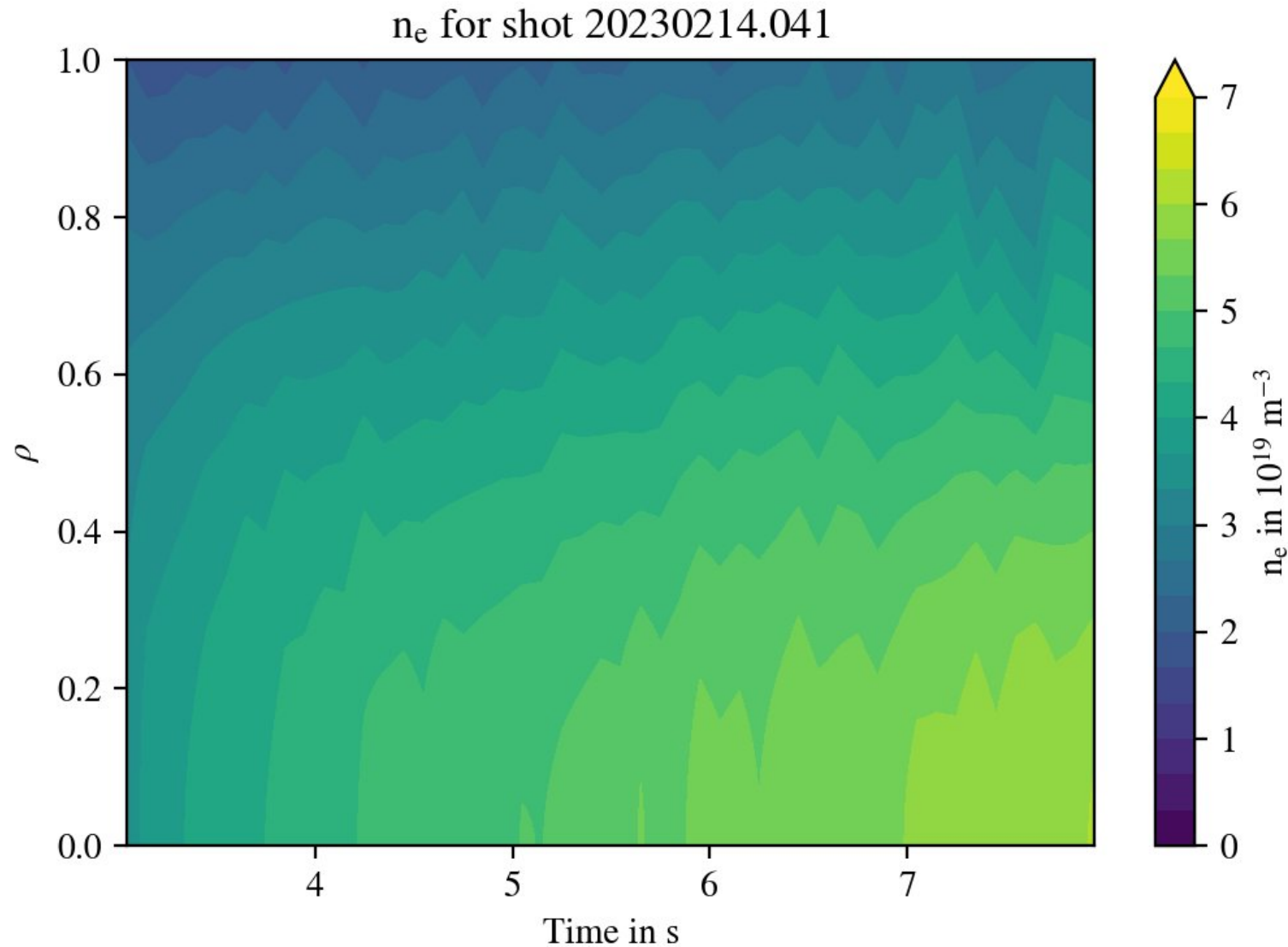
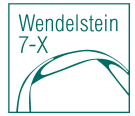


# Non-peaking case 2, but with sufficient density - pure NBI

- For a shot similar the previous, but where by contrast, the critical density is achieved, we see a central density accumulation

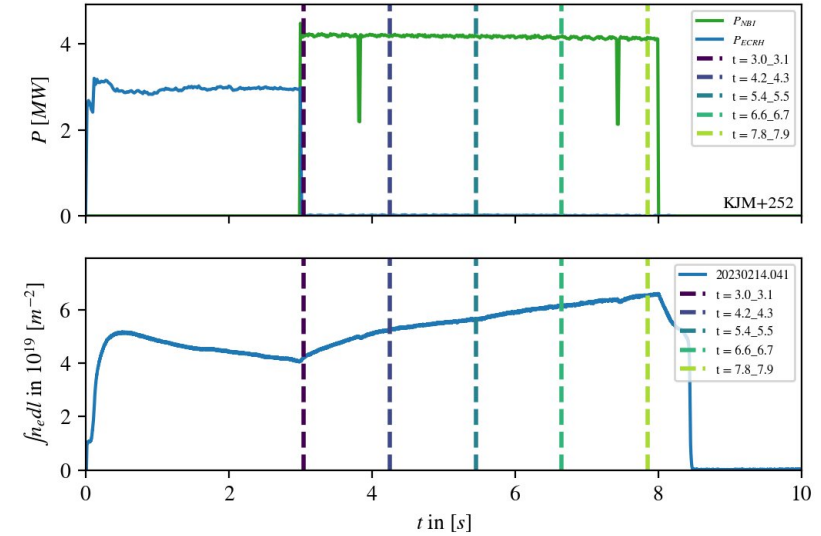
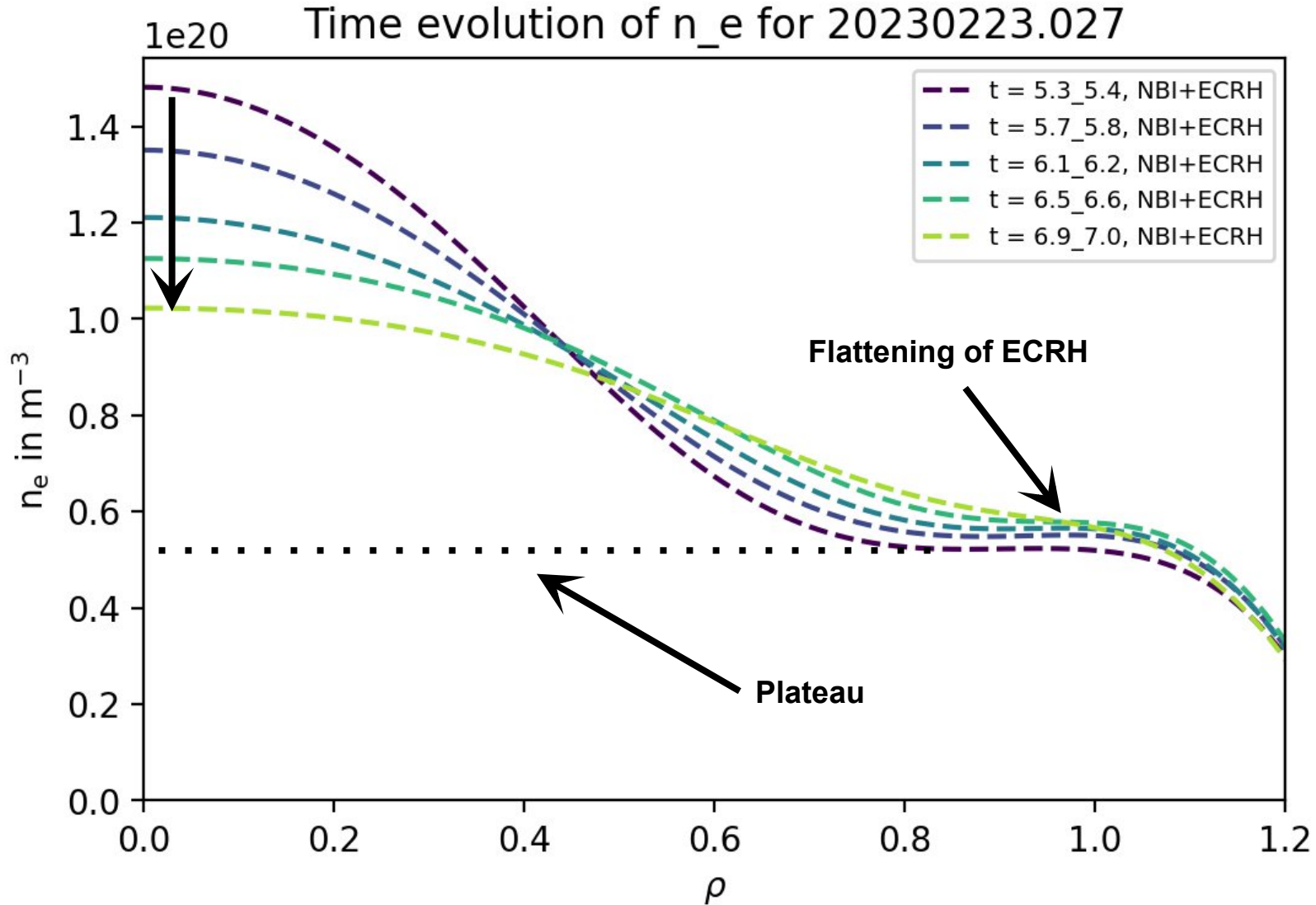


# General non-accumulation case - electron density color plot



# Combined heating phase - study case 0

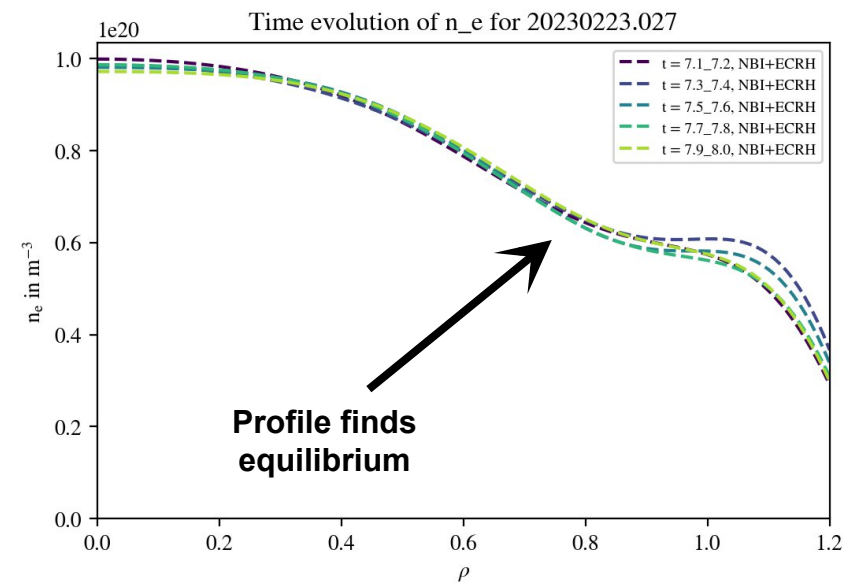
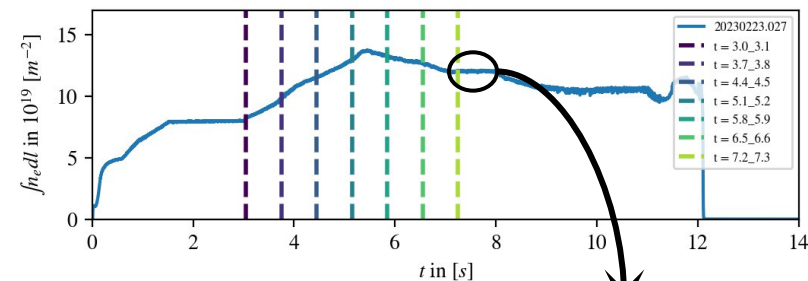
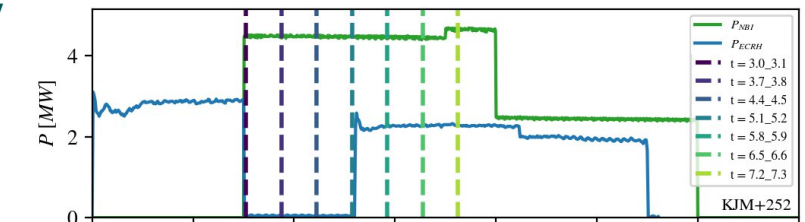
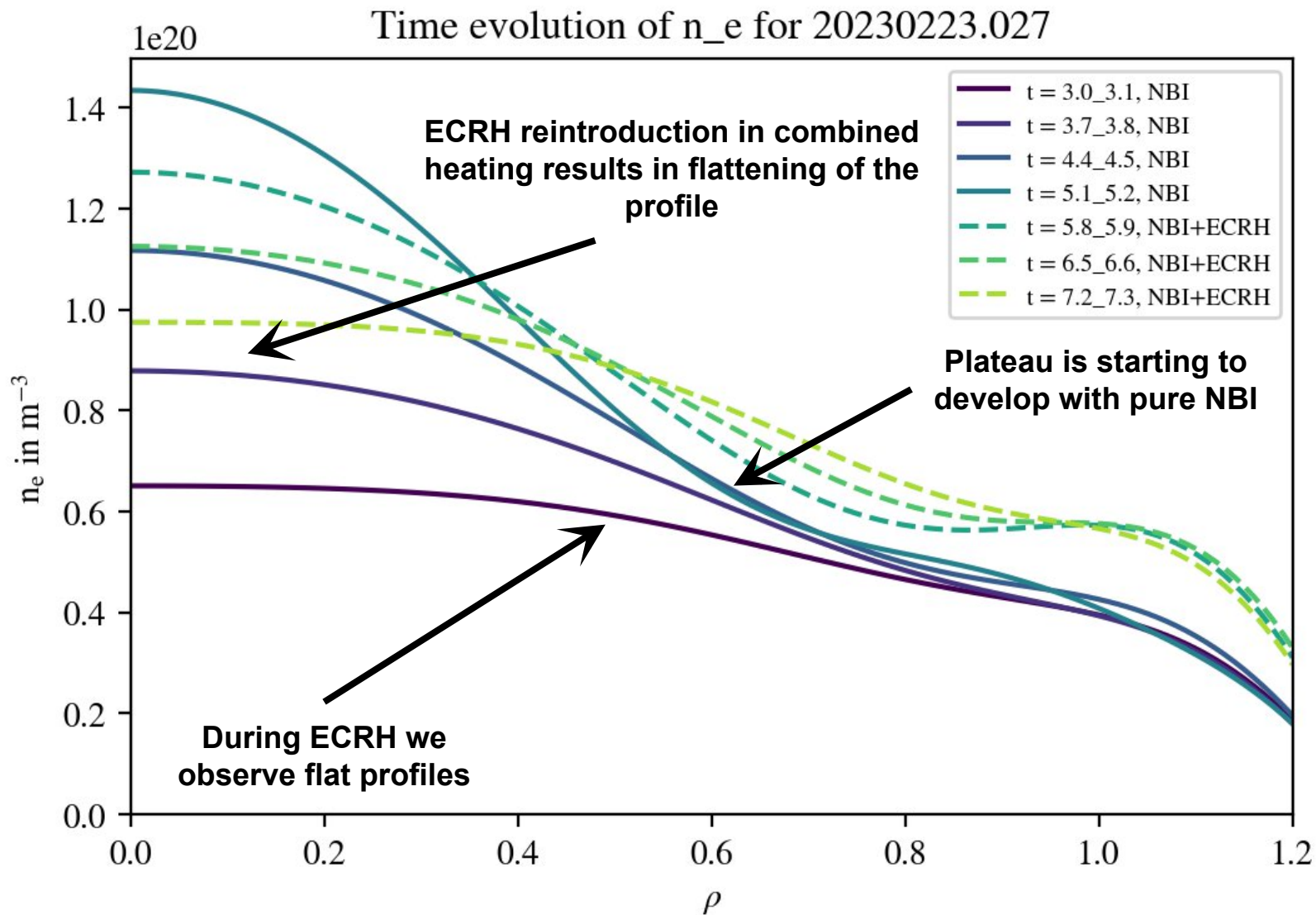
- The reintroduction of the ECRH heating acts against the central density accumulation and aims to flatten the profiles





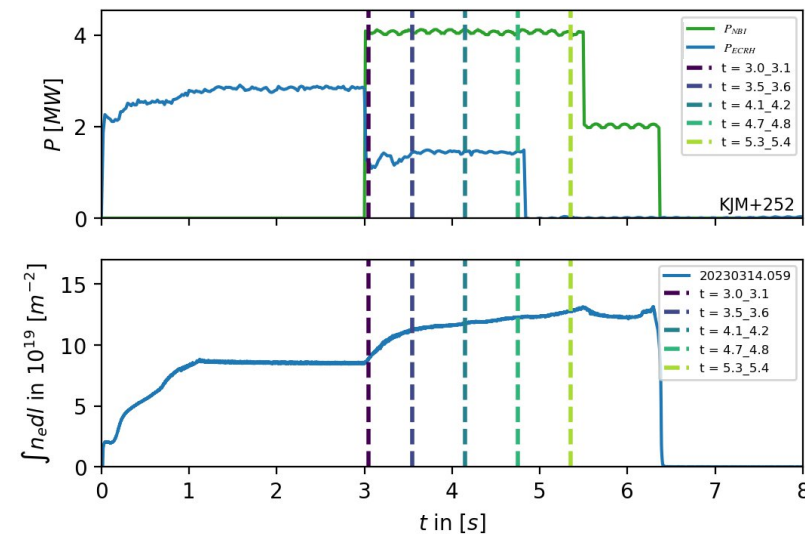
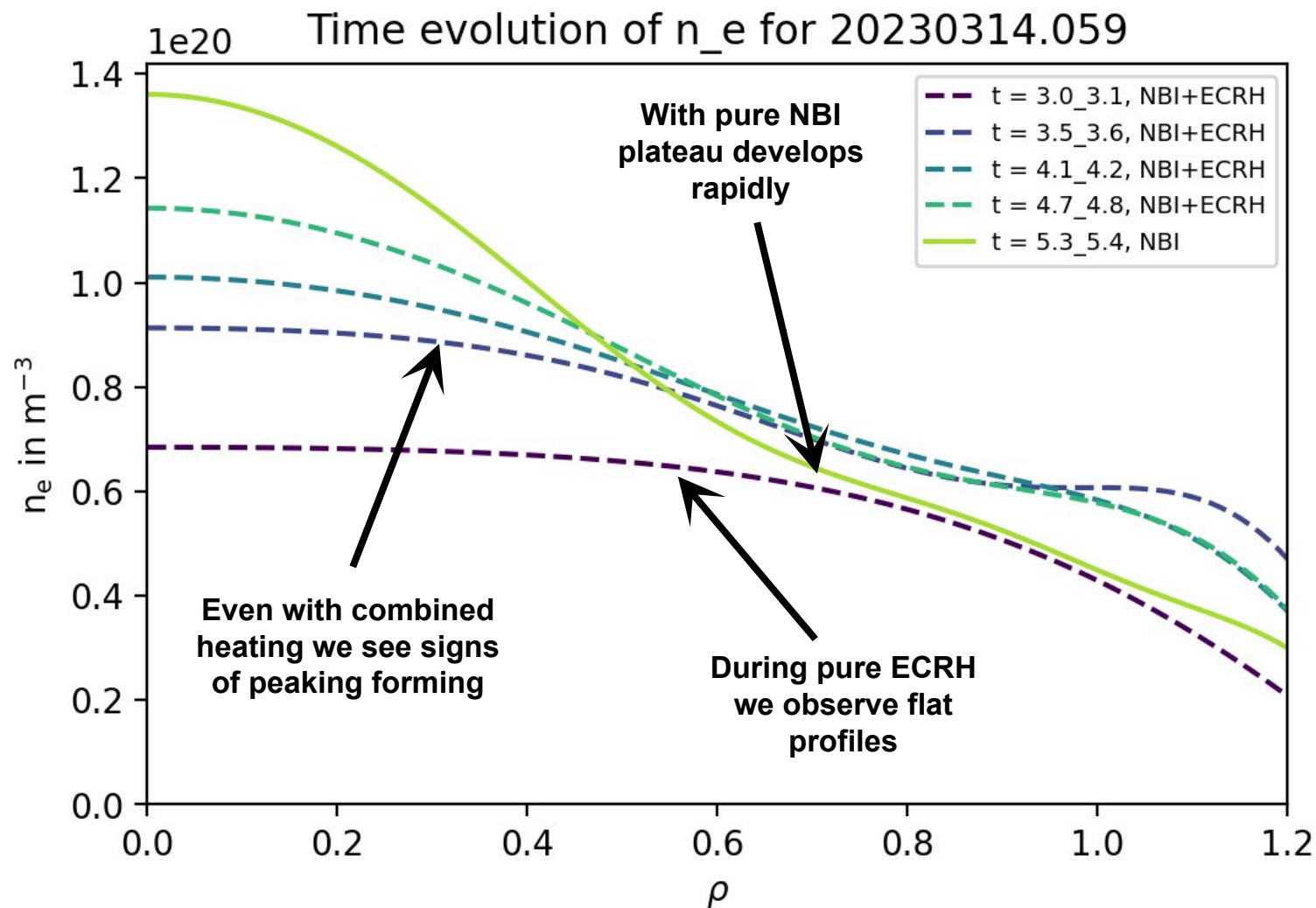
# Combined heating phase - study case 1

- The reintroduction of the ECRH heating acts against the central density accumulation and aims to flatten the profiles



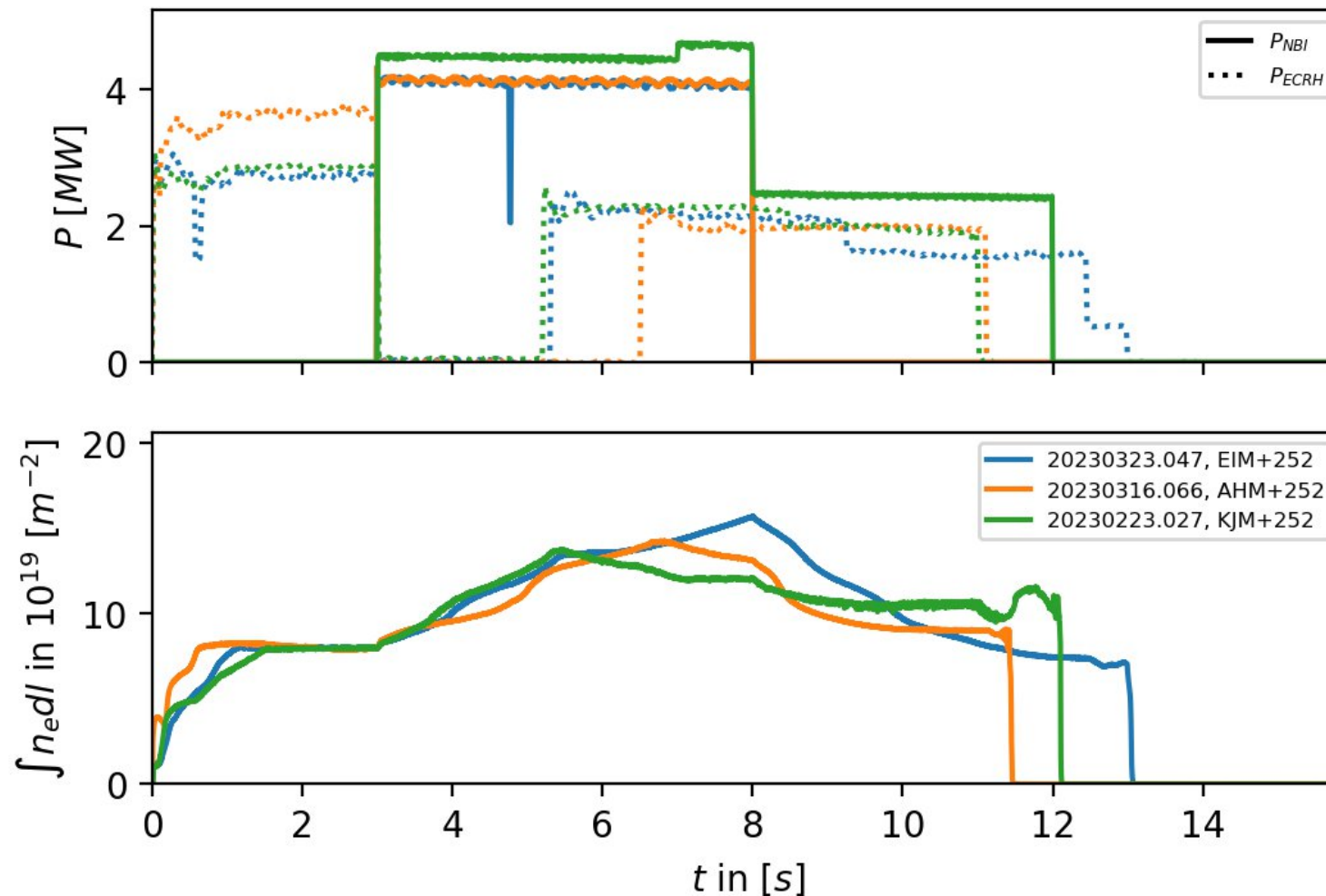
# Combined heating phase - study case 2

- Despite the reintroduction of the ECRH heating, we still see the central density accumulation forming.
  - This hints at accumulation sensitivity to ECRH power



# Comparison of accumulation in different magnetic configurations

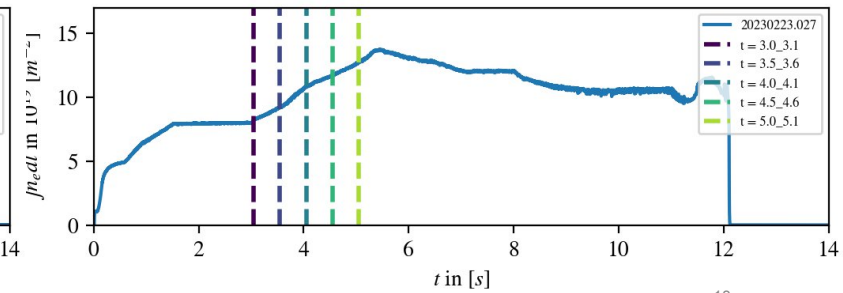
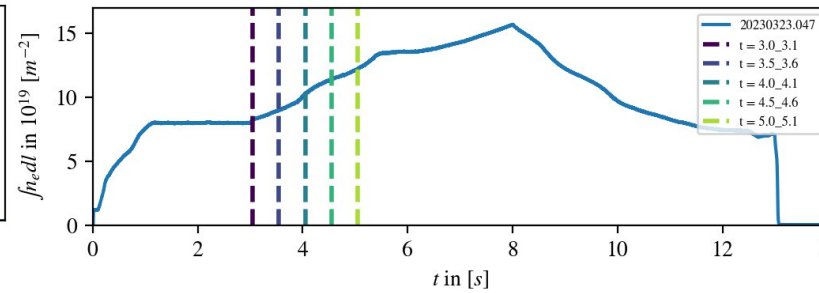
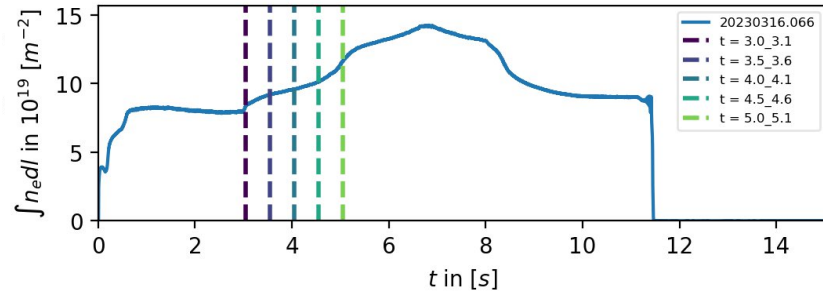
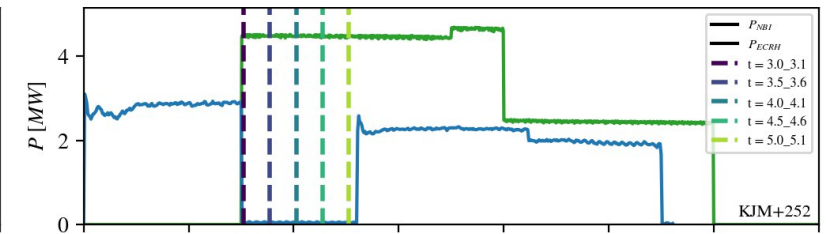
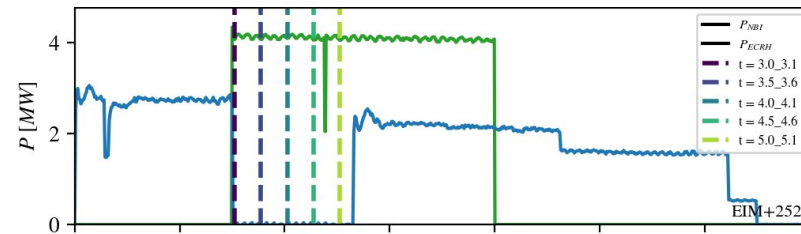
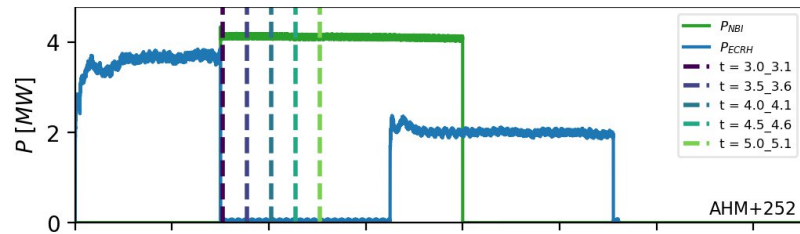
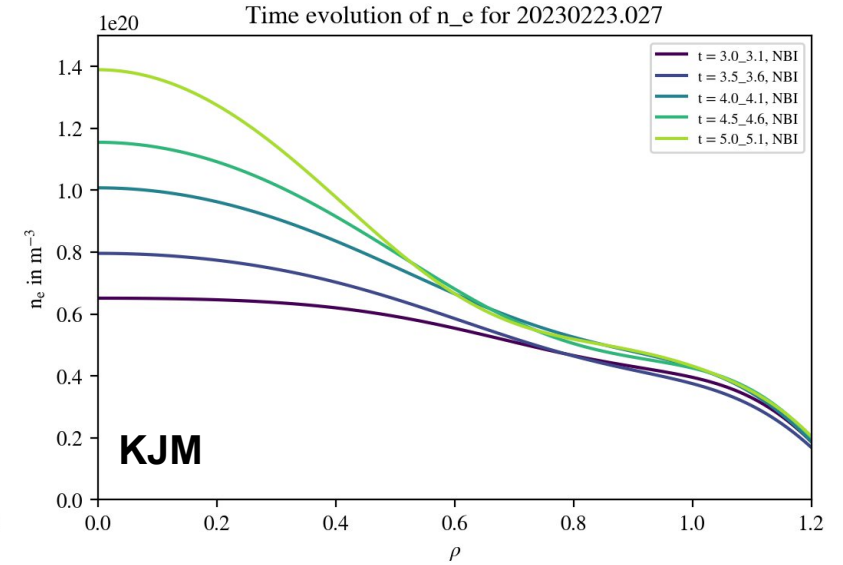
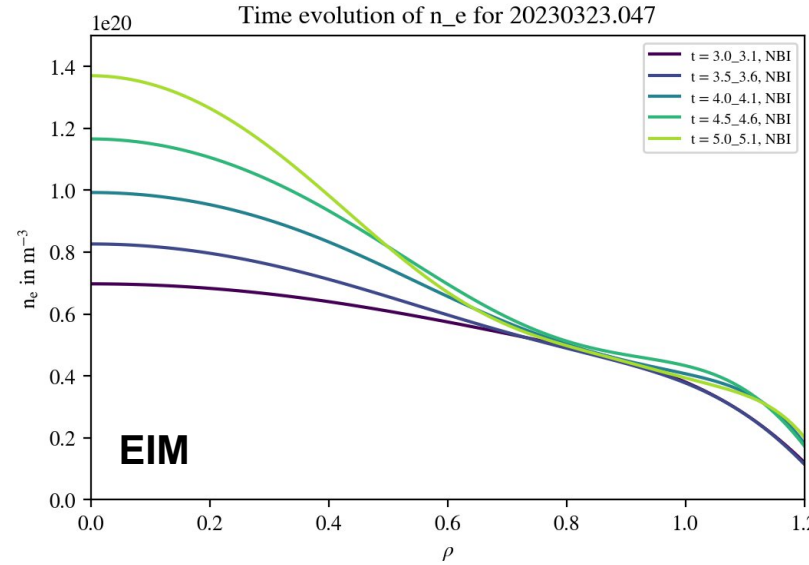
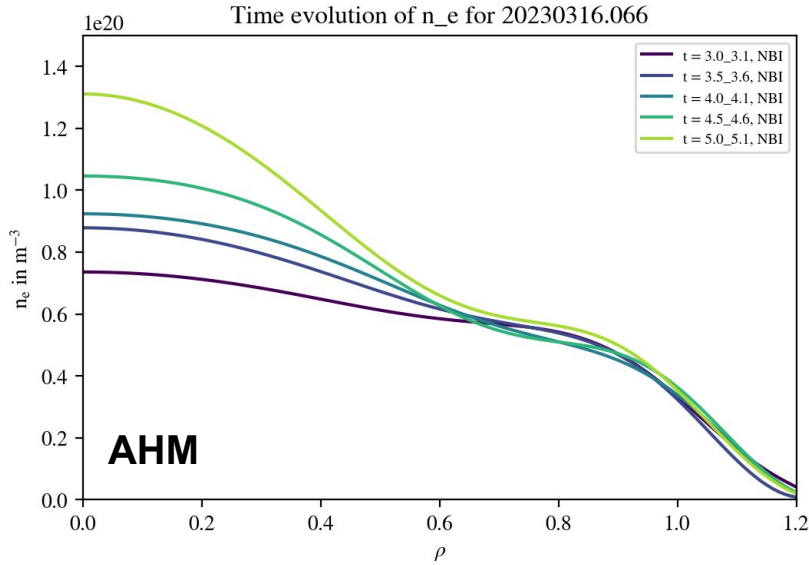
- Different magnetic configurations with similar heating patterns and power levels share similar evolution in line integrated density
  - AIM - Low Mirror; EIM - Standard; KJM - High Mirror



# Comparison of peaking in different magnetic configurations - ne



- AIM - Low Mirror; EIM - Standard; KJM - High Mirror

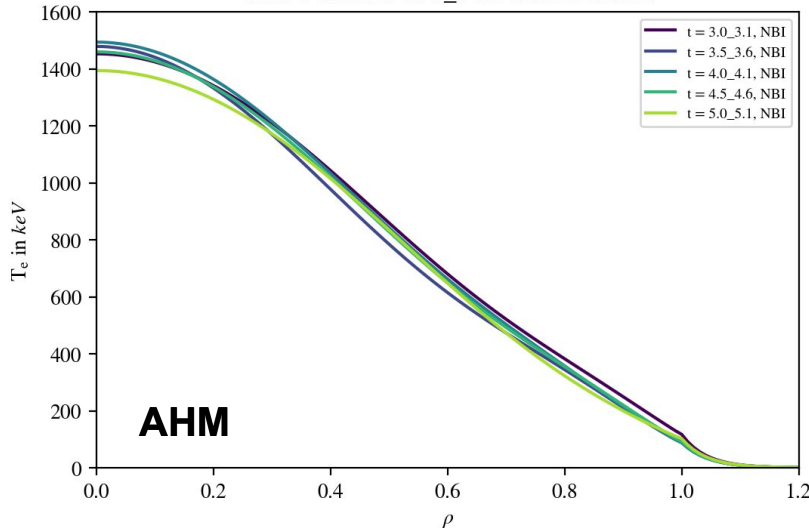




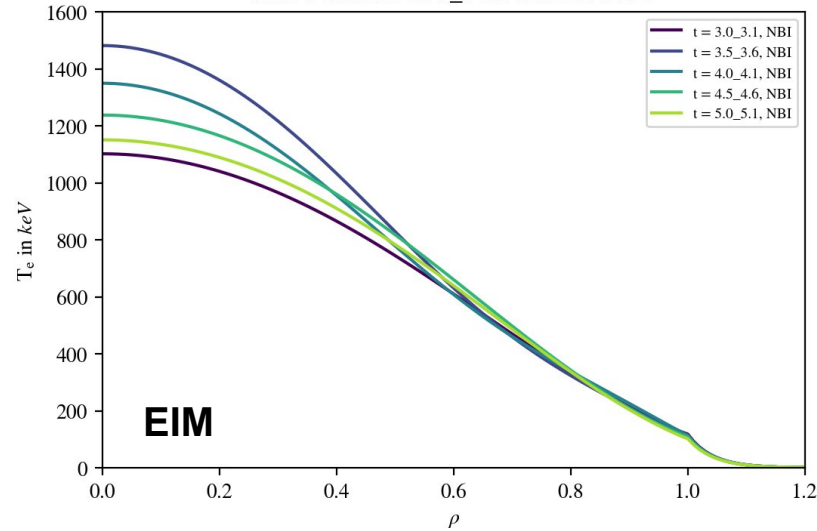
# Comparison of peaking in different magnetic configurations - Te

- AIM - Low Mirror; EIM - Standard; KJM - High Mirror

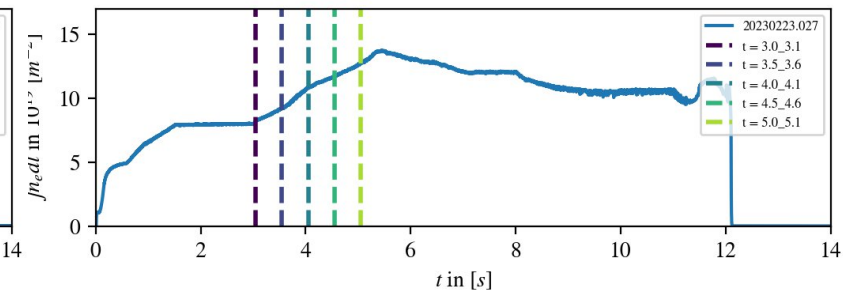
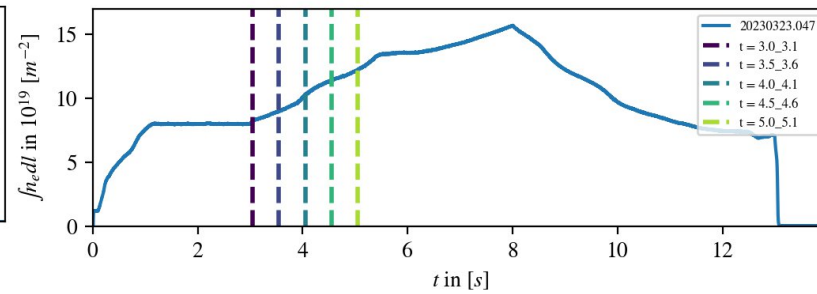
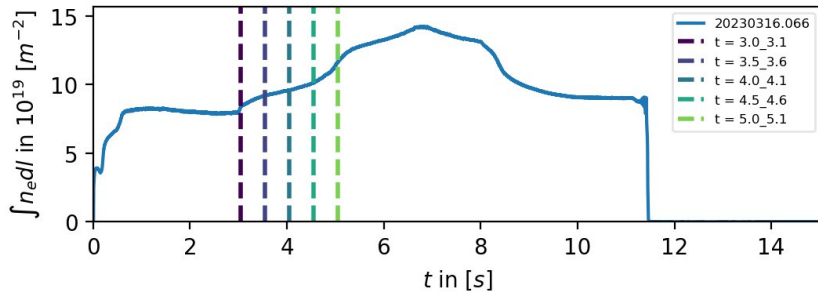
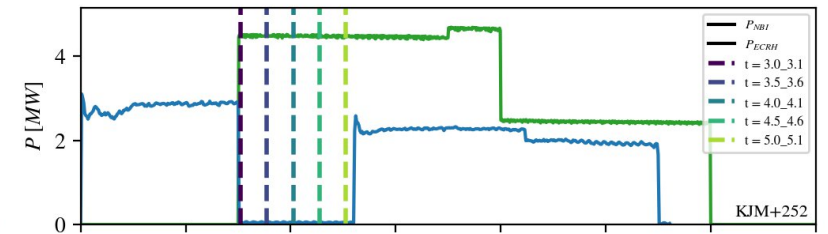
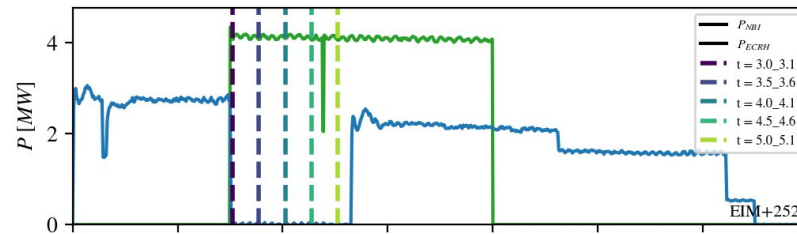
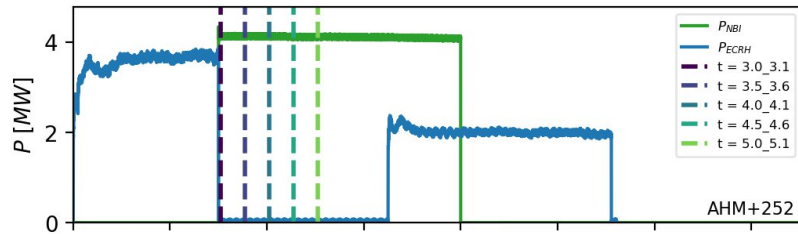
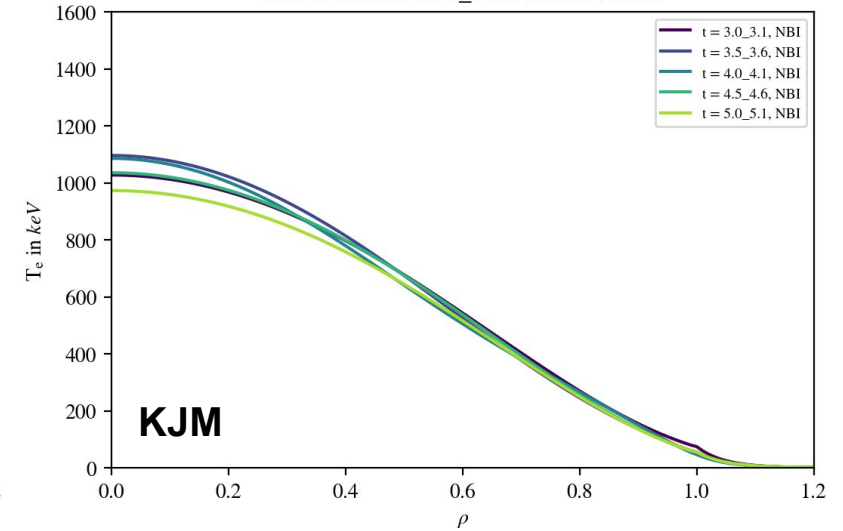
Time evolution of  $T_e$  for 20230316.066



Time evolution of  $T_e$  for 20230323.047



Time evolution of  $T_e$  for 20230223.027

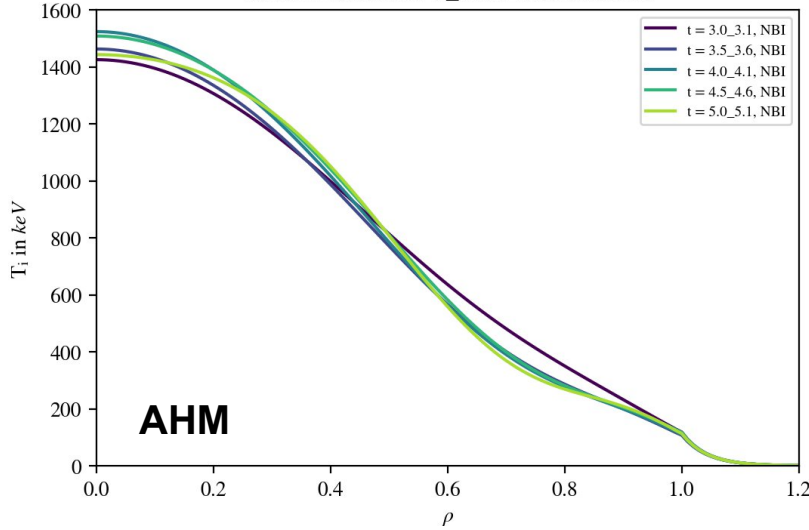


# Comparison of peaking in different magnetic configurations - Ti

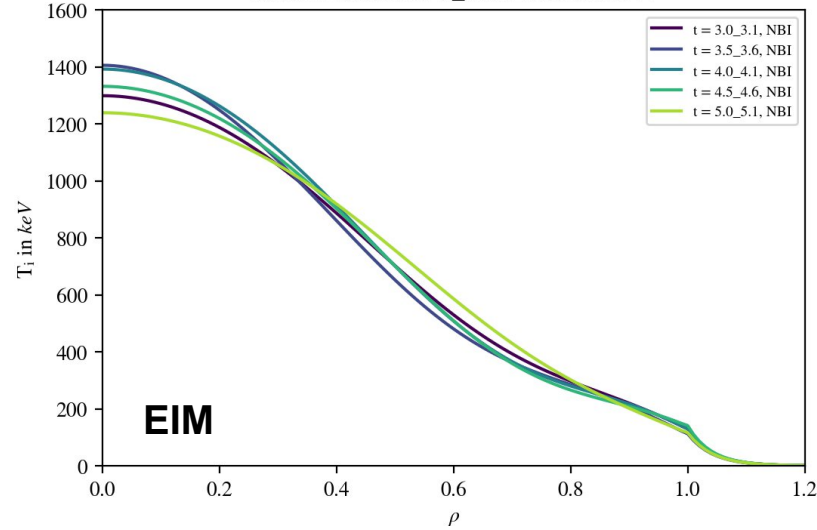


- AIM - Low Mirror; EIM - Standard; KJM - High Mirror

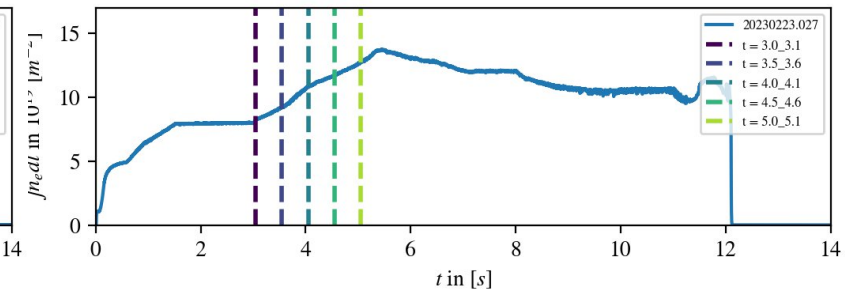
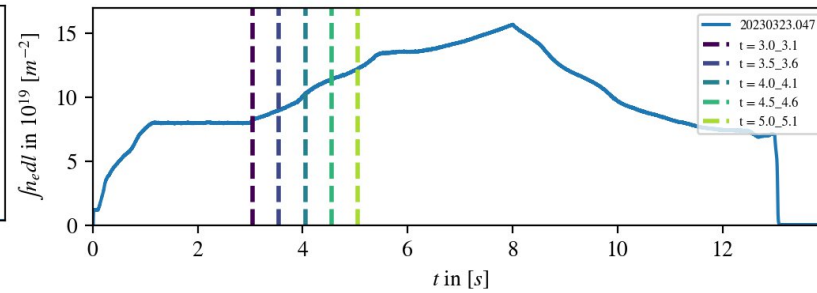
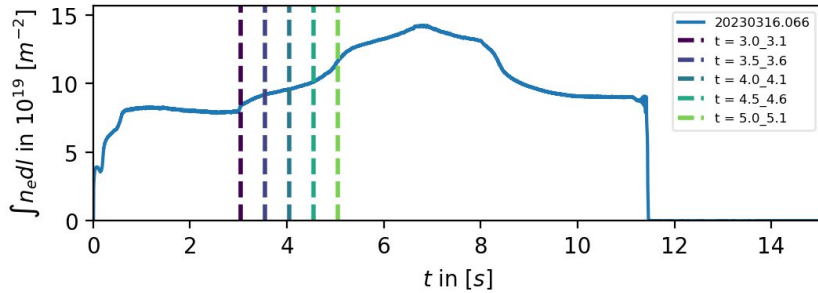
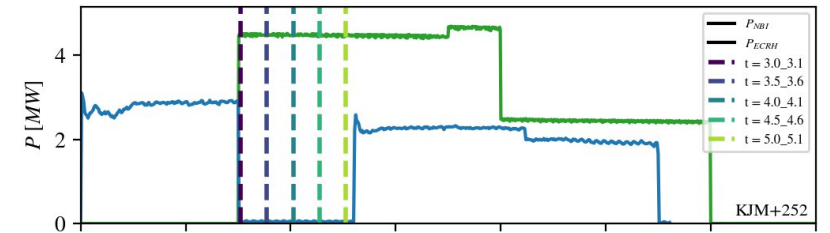
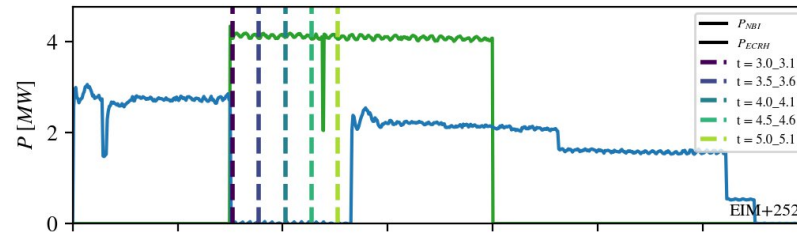
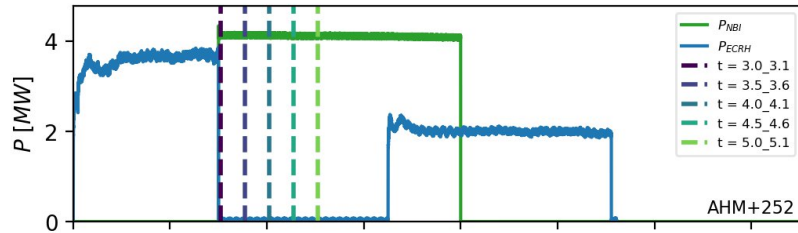
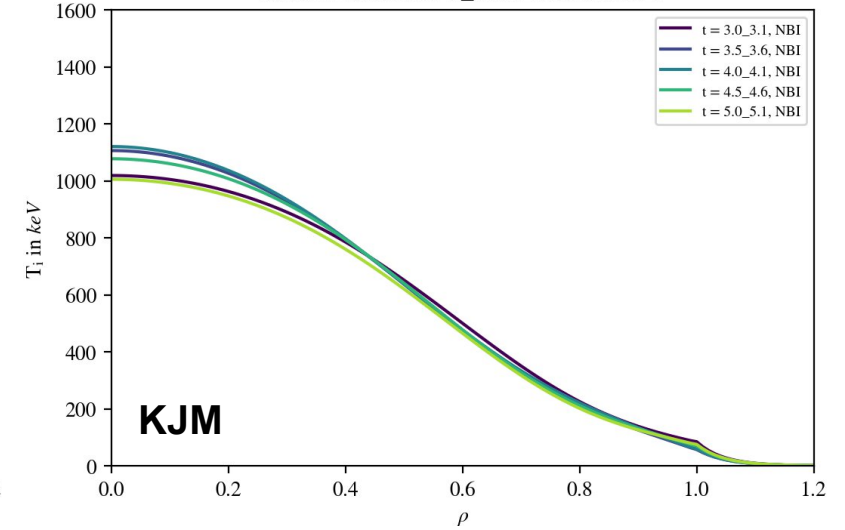
Time evolution of  $T_i$  for 20230316.066



Time evolution of  $T_i$  for 20230323.047



Time evolution of  $T_i$  for 20230223.027



# Key observations of accumulation phenomena in main species

- **Central density accumulation—which includes peaking and plateau development—in main species is observed during the pure NBI heating phase at high density**
- **Due to high collisionality, ion and electron temperatures are coupled relatively strongly as evidenced by their temperatures and similar profile evolutions;**
- **Accumulation occurs only for high-density discharges, a critical density ( $\sim 8.5 - 9.0 \cdot 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-2}$ ) has to be achieved for the peaking to occur**
- **In combined NBI and ECRH heating of high density, the accumulation depends on the power ratios such that the ECRH heating could either weaken the accumulation or disable it entirely**
  - **Low-power ECRH ( $< \sim 1 \text{ MW}$ ) is observed to weaken accumulation**
  - **High-power ECRH ( $< \sim 2 \text{ MW}$ ) is observed to prevent onset of accumulation**
- **No strong dependence of accumulation on different magnetic configurations is observed - smaller differences e.g. in increased-slope location**

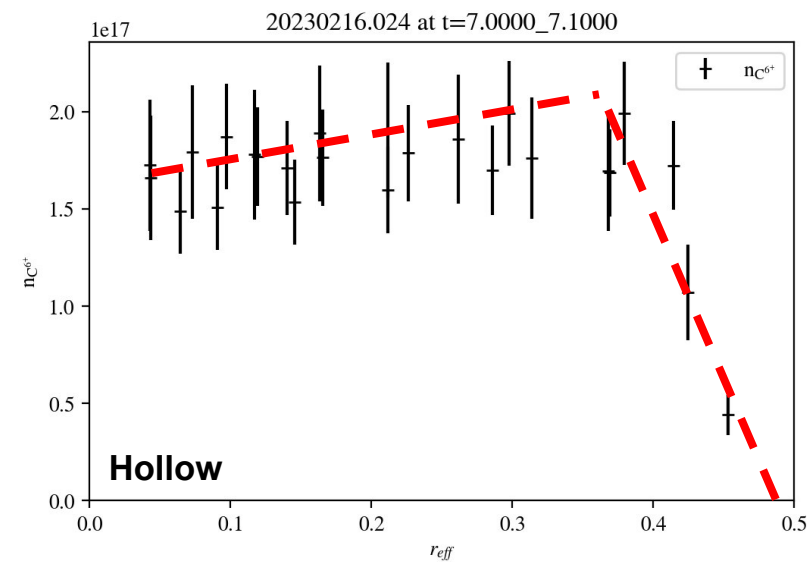
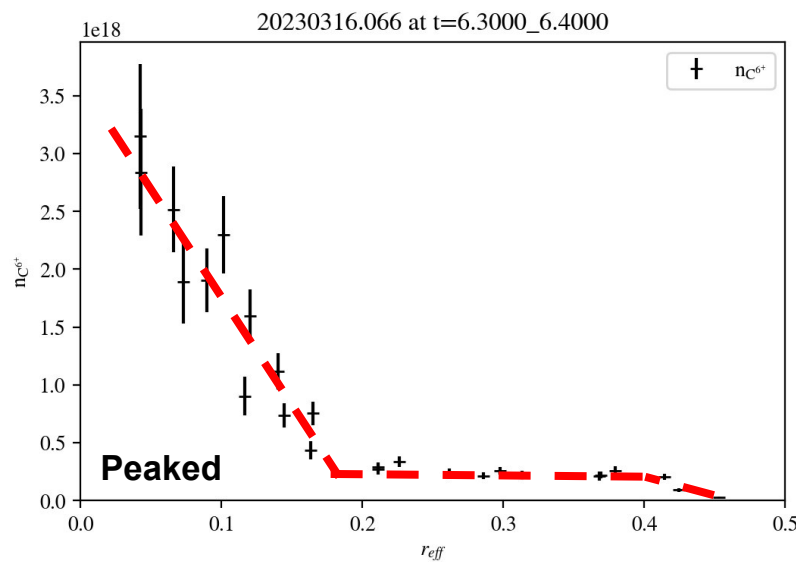
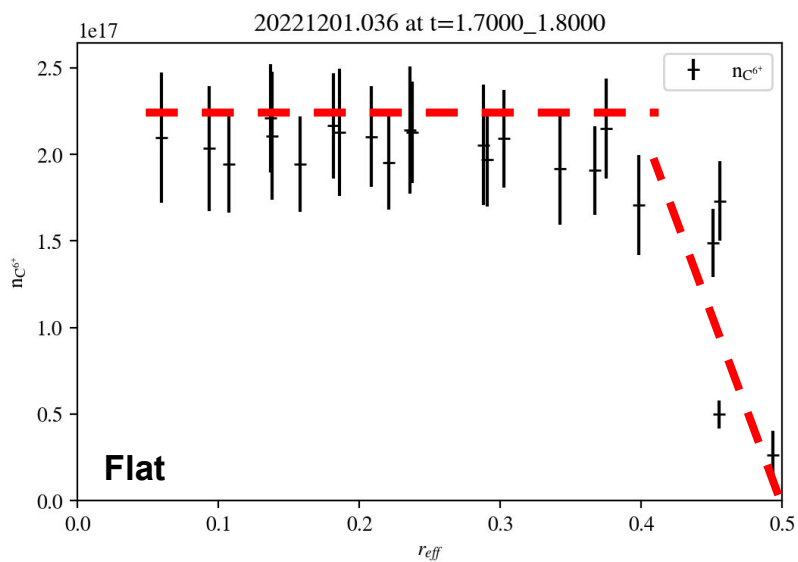
# Outlook

- Main plasma species profiles
  - Accumulation phenomena
  - Non-accumulating behavior
  - ECRH reintroduction
  - Comparison of accumulation at different magnetic configurations
  - Additional main species observations by S. Bannmann
  - Concluding observations on main species
- **Impurity profiles**
  - **Impurity profile fitting method - modified double tanh**
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  - **Concluding observations on impurities**
- Database approach for examining accumulation phenomena
  - Variable heatmap and strongest correlations
  - Kink location to determine separation of anomalous and neoclassical transport
  - Transport color-coded plots
- Remarkable observations
- Summary

# Data fitting function must be able to fit the different cases

And transition between the in-between states of the main scenarios:

- Peaked profiles characterized by developed peaking and plateau
- Flat profiles characterized by no central density accumulation
- Hollow profiles characterized by plunging density towards the core





# Impurity fitting function - modified hyperbolic tangent

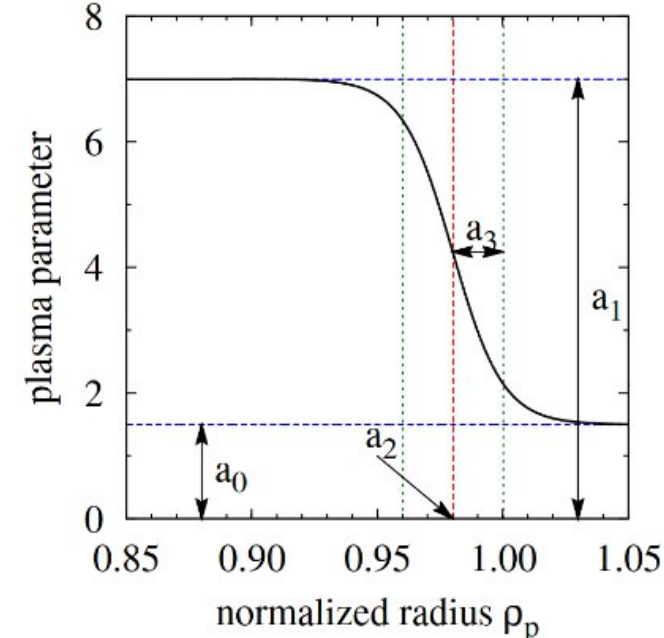
- Modified tanh function allows for hollow profiles and offers quantification of accumulation parameters which can be inferred from mtanh's parameter values

$$f_{mtanh}(x) = \frac{a_0 + a_1}{2} + \frac{a_1 - a_0}{2} \cdot \frac{(1 + a_4x + a_5x^2 + a_6x^3)e^z - (1 + a_7x + a_8x^2 + a_9x^3)e^{-z}}{e^z + e^{-z}}$$

$$z = \frac{a_2 - x}{a_3}$$

$a_0$	SOL value or offset
$a_1$	pedestal top value
$a_2$	symmetry radius
$a_3$	half width
$a_4$ - $a_6$	core polynomial
$a_7$ - $a_9$	edge polynomial

Adapted from [Schneider Philip's thesis](#)



# Database fitting function - modified hyperbolic tangent

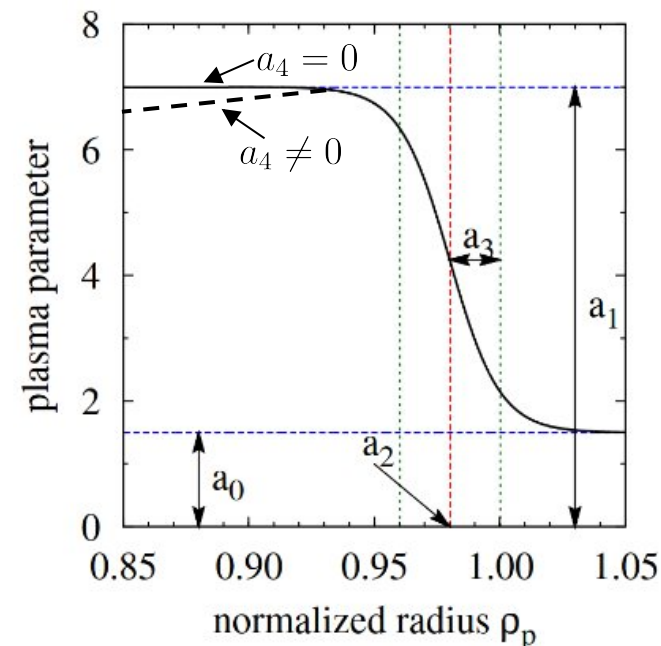
- Modified tanh is customized further to match our needs
  - Quadratic and cubic terms are removed to prevent overfitting
- $a_4$  term allows for hollowness in profiles
- $a_0$  term is set to zero to match experimental observations

$$f_{\text{mtanh}}(x) = \frac{a_0 + a_1}{2} + \frac{a_1 - a_0}{2} \cdot \frac{(1 + a_4 \rho + \cancel{a_5 \rho^2} + \cancel{a_6 \rho^3})e^z - (1 + \cancel{a_7 \rho} + \cancel{a_8 \rho^2} + \cancel{a_9 \rho^3})e^{-z}}{e^z + e^{-z}}$$

$$z = \frac{a_2 - \rho}{a_3}$$

$a_0$	SOL value or offset
$a_1$	pedestal top value
$a_2$	symmetry radius
$a_3$	half width
$a_4$ - $a_6$	core polynomial
$a_7$ - $a_9$	edge polynomial

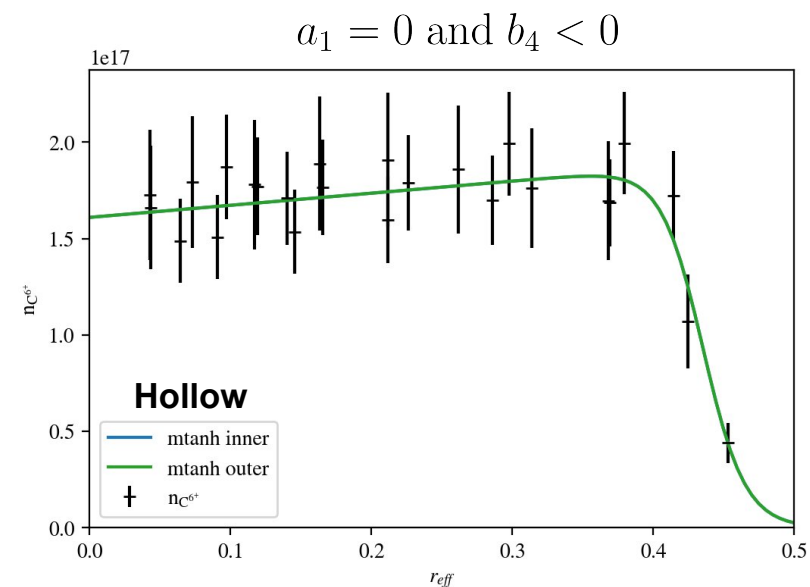
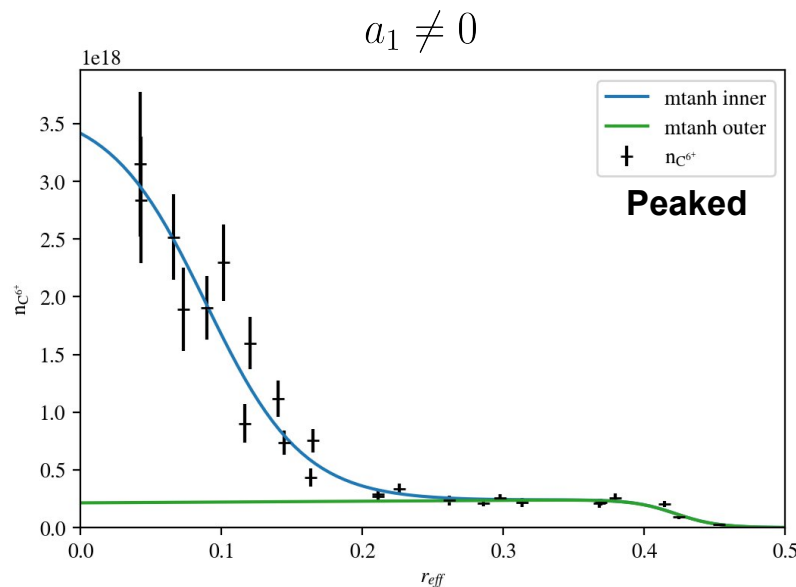
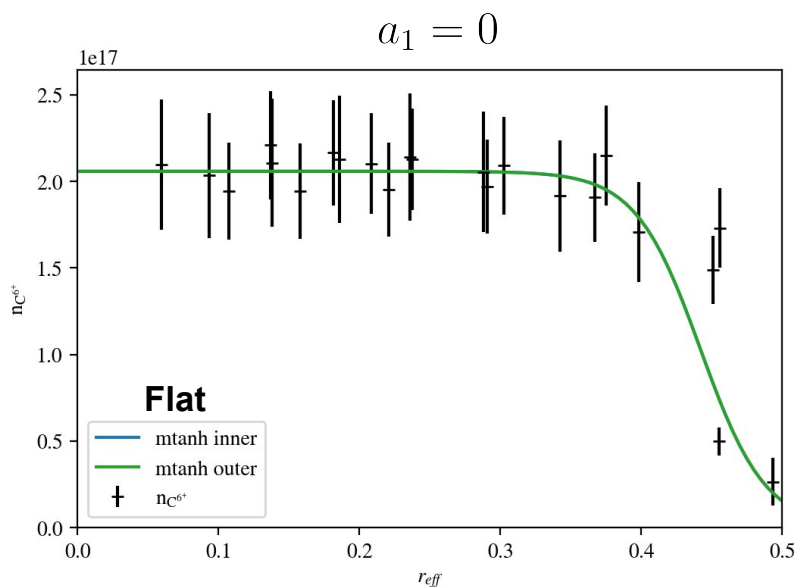
Adapted from [Schneider Philip's thesis](#)



# Database fitting function - double modified hyperbolic tangent

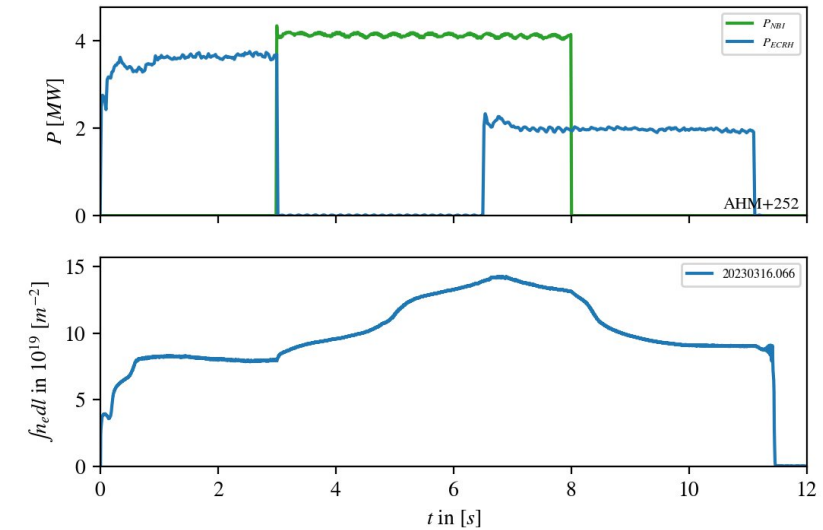
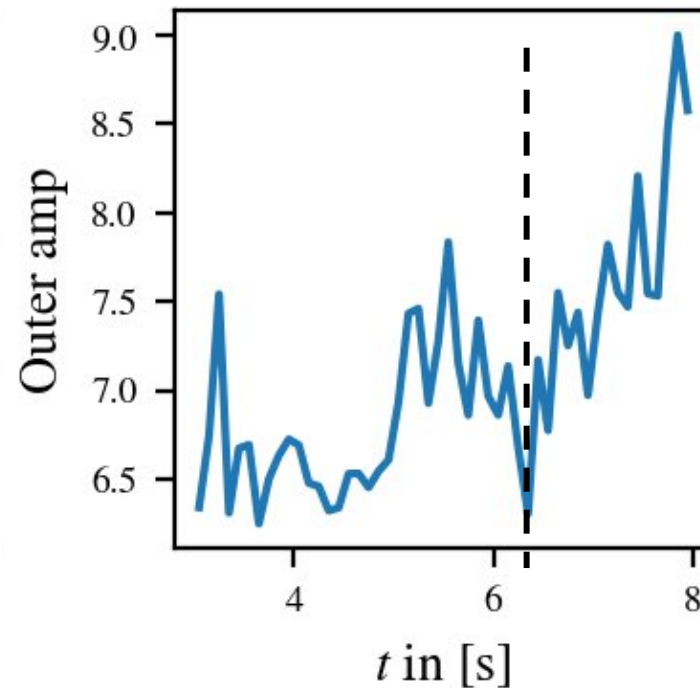
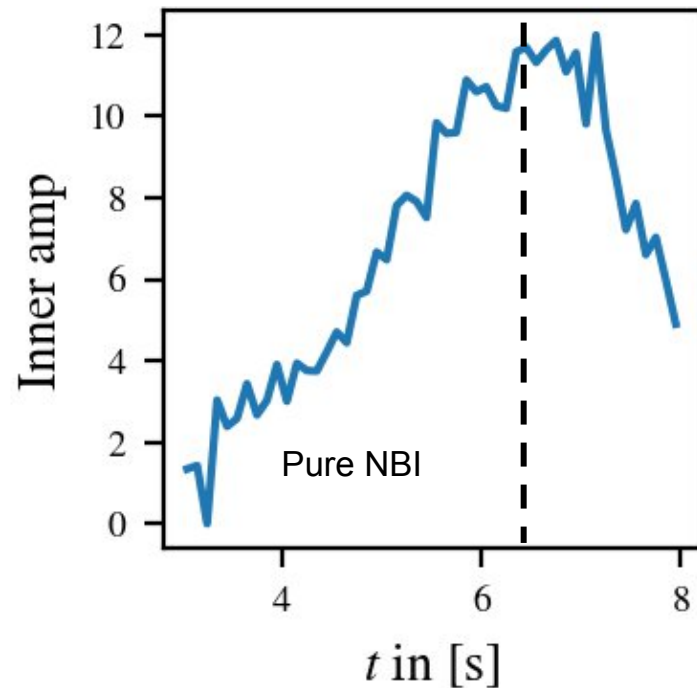
- By combining two modified tanh functions we get a function that can characterize the profile evolution

$$f \text{ double mtanh } (x) = \underbrace{\frac{a_1}{2} + \frac{a_1}{2} \cdot \frac{e^z - e^{-z}}{e^z + e^{-z}}}_{\text{Inner tanh}} + \underbrace{\frac{b_1}{2} + \frac{b_1}{2} \cdot \frac{(1 + b_4 \rho)e^w - e^{-w}}{e^w + e^{-w}}}_{\text{Outer tanh}}$$



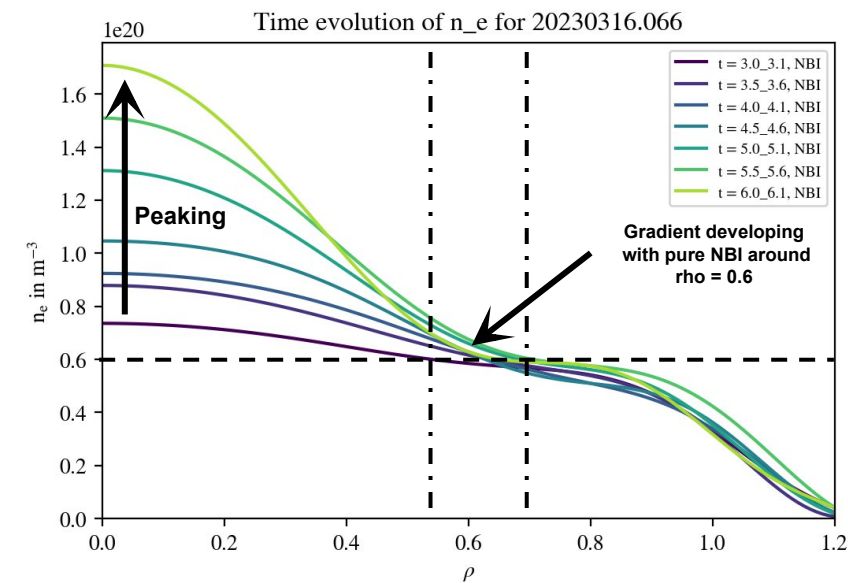
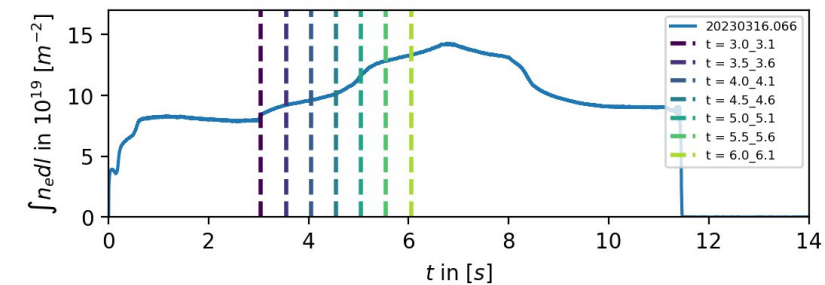
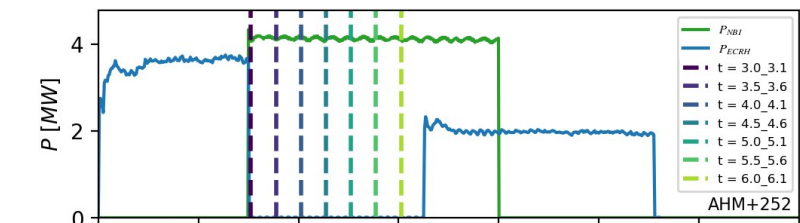
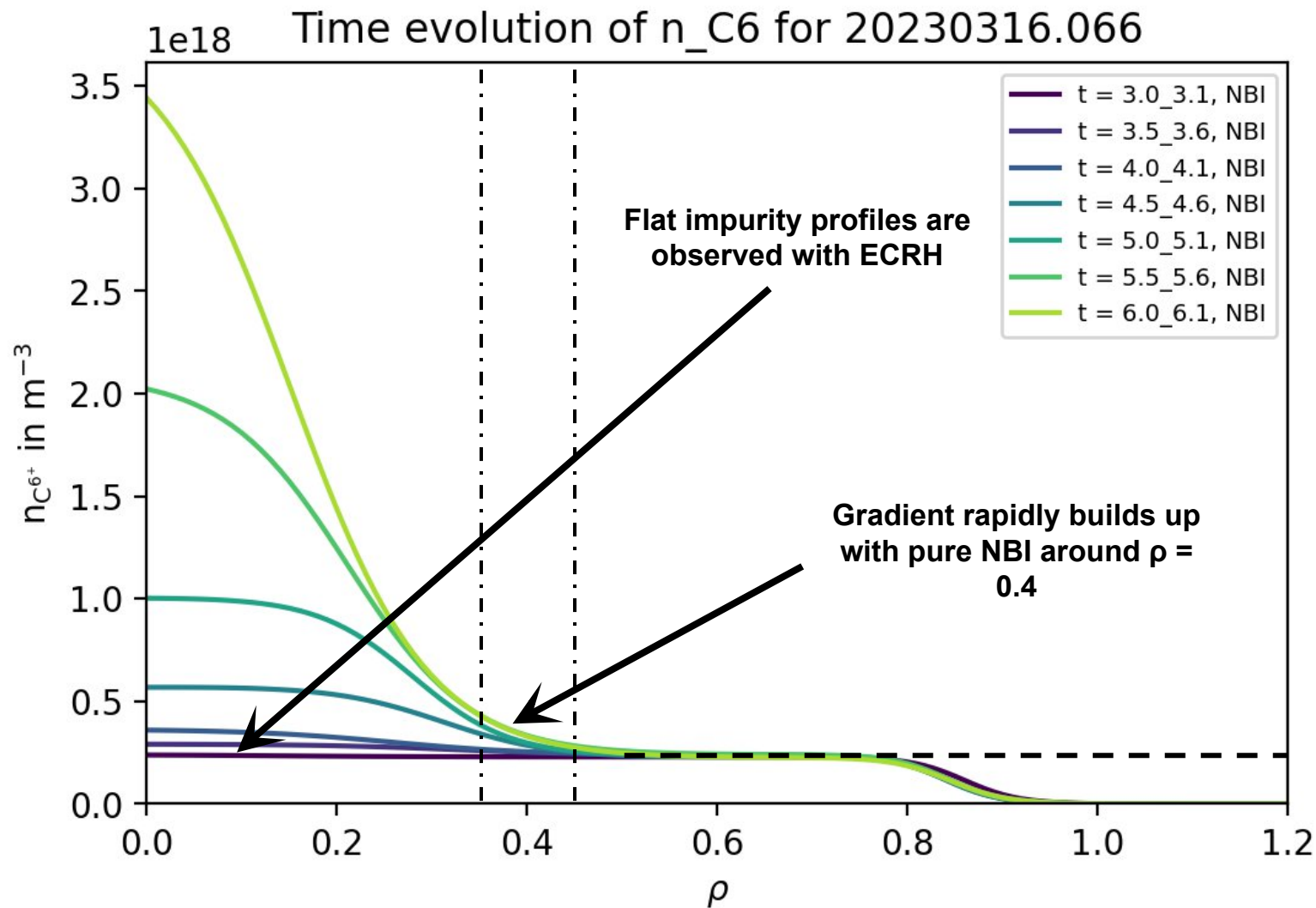
# Modified double tanh parameter-time plots for main species

- Accumulation behavior present in fitting: inner amplitude parameter increases with pure NBI and decreases with high-power ECRH



# Accumulation in impurity profiles is associated with NBI

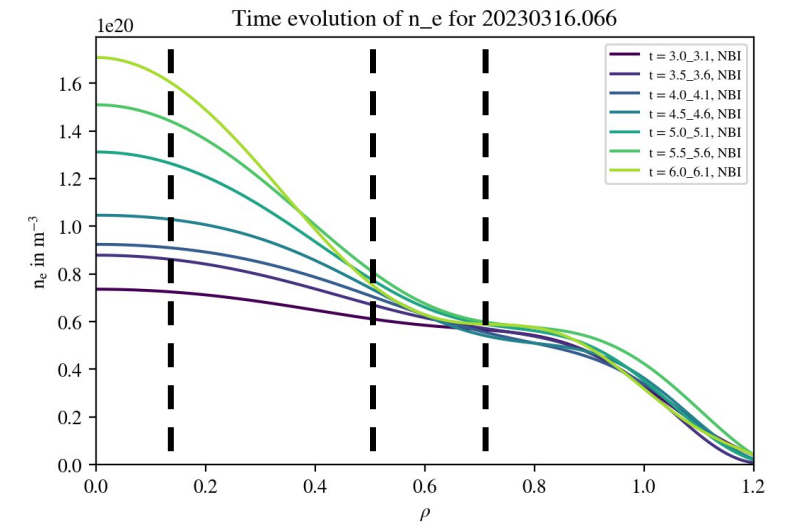
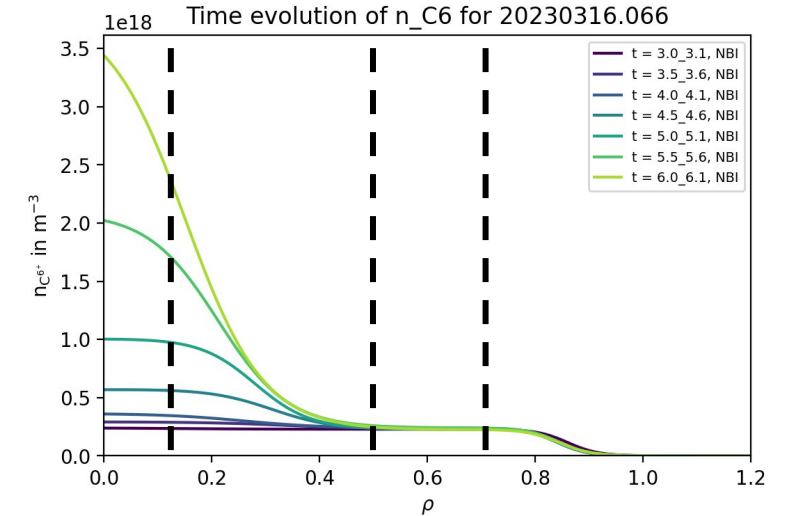
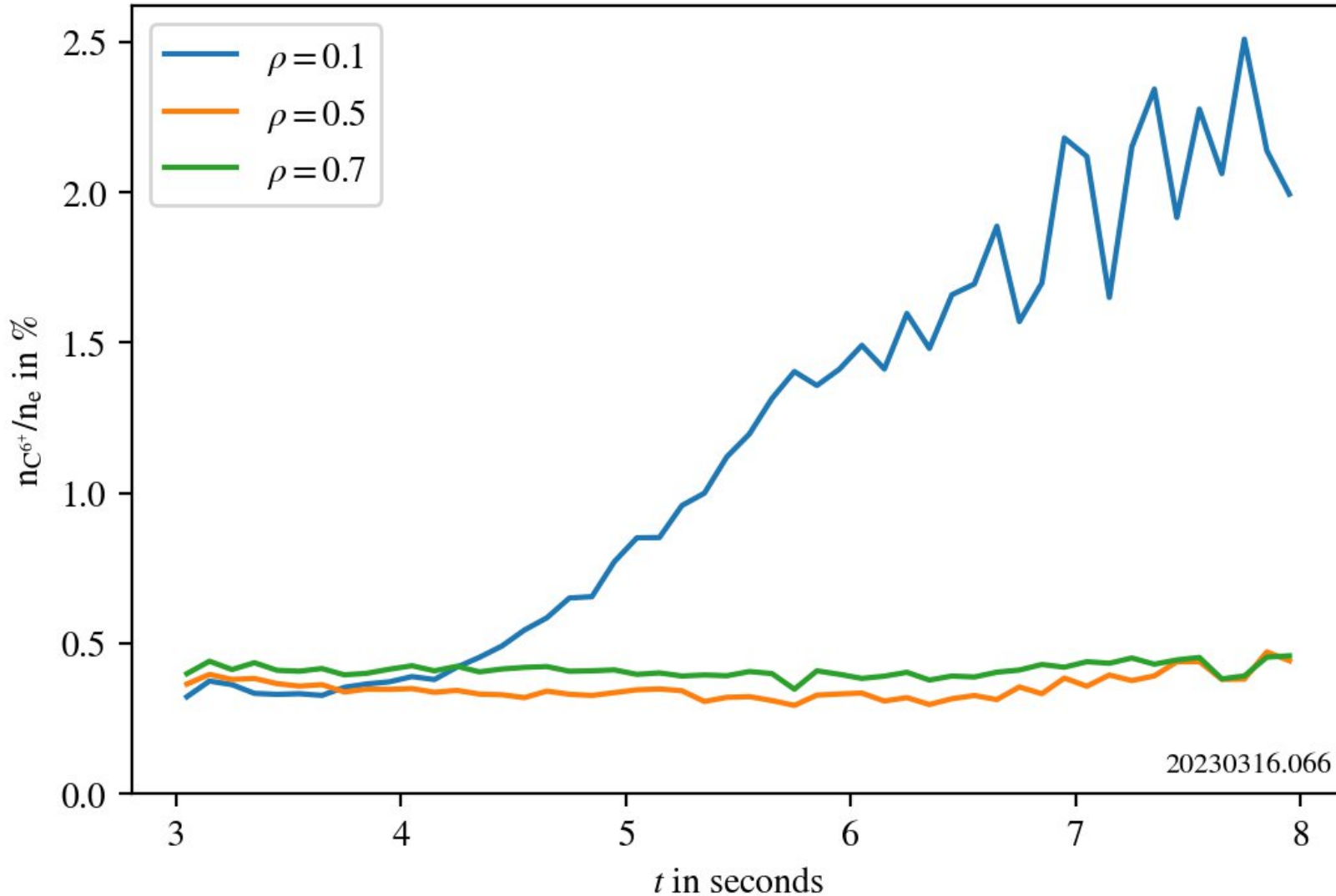
- Impurity profiles peak stronger than the main species
  - While electron density profiles develop a plateau around  $\rho \cong 0.6$ , impurity profiles develop a plateau in  $\rho \cong 0.4$





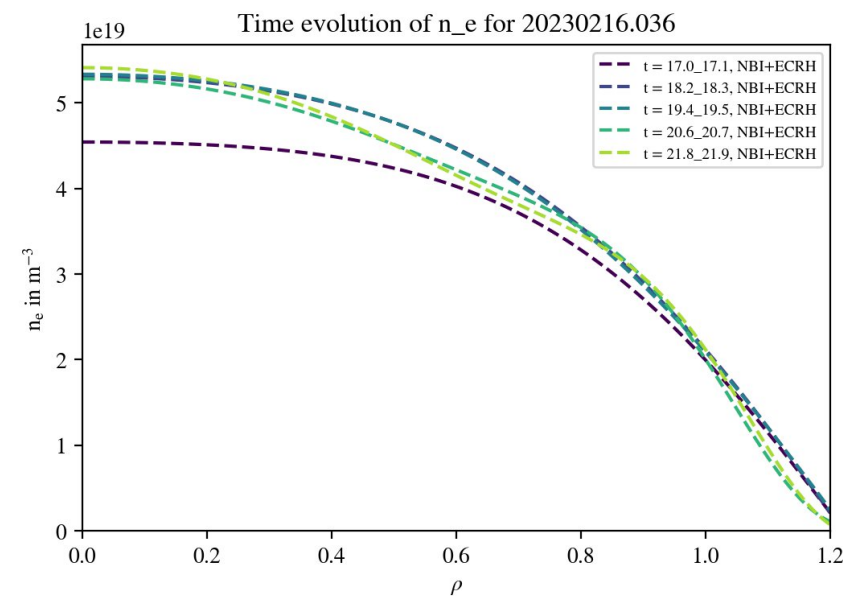
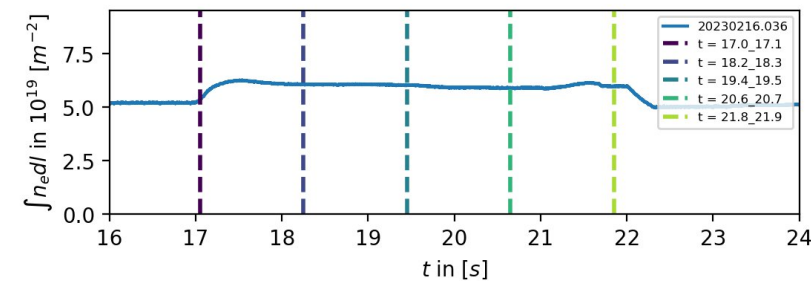
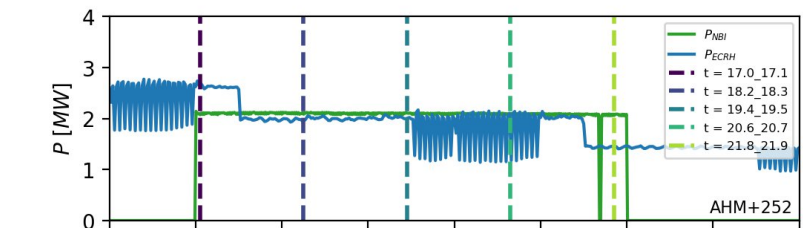
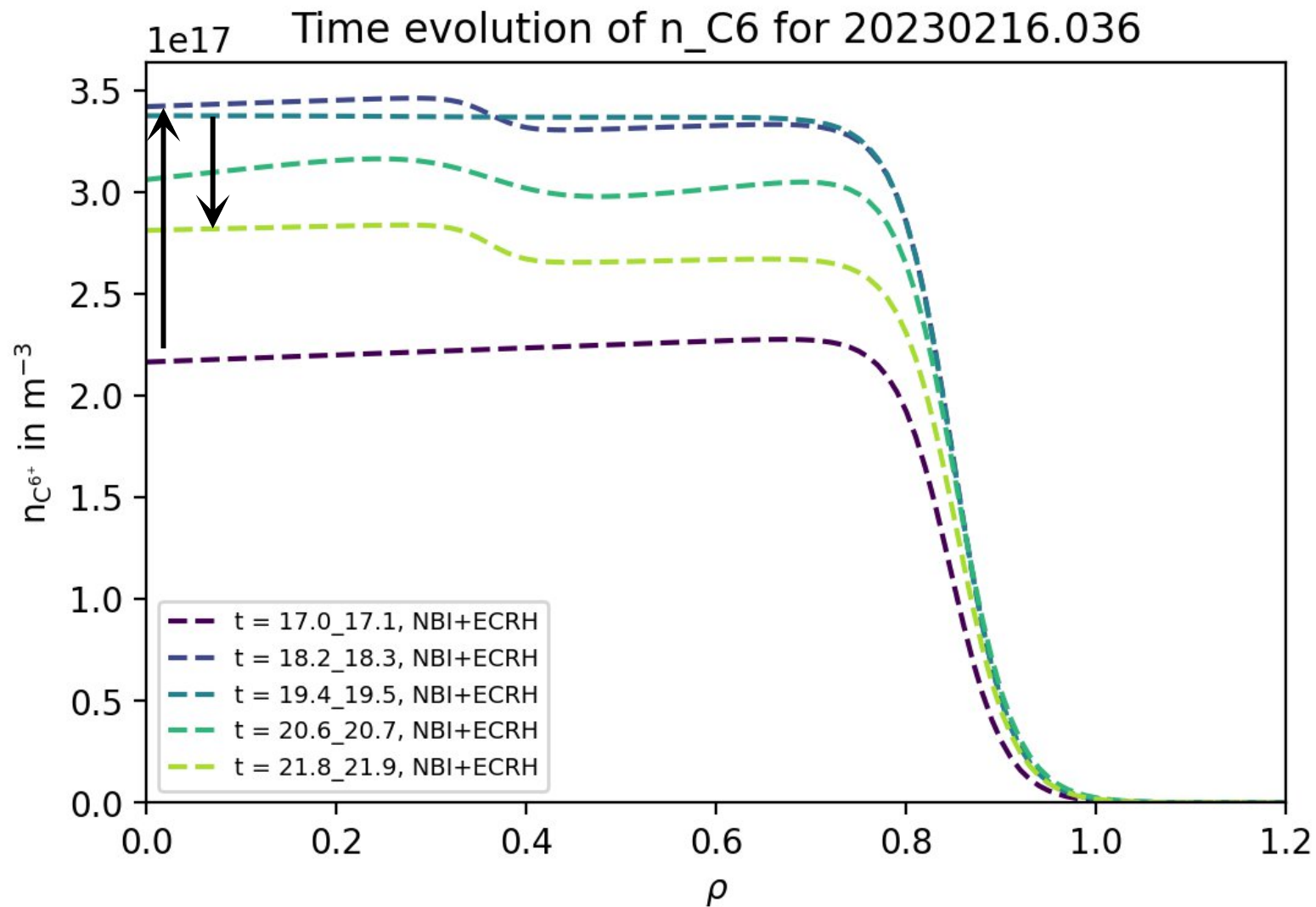
# Peaking in impurities is stronger than in the main species

- To compare the peaking between the main species and the impurities, we plot the concentration percentage with respect to time



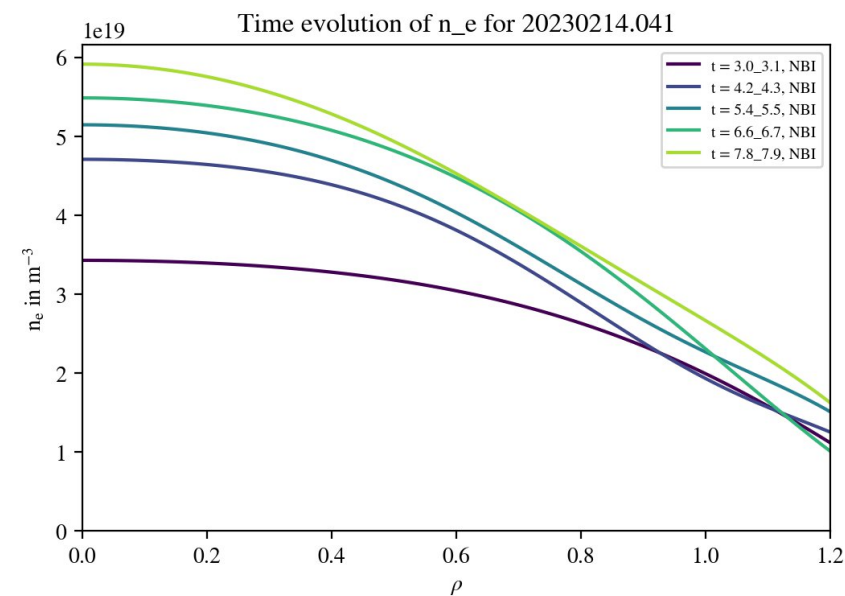
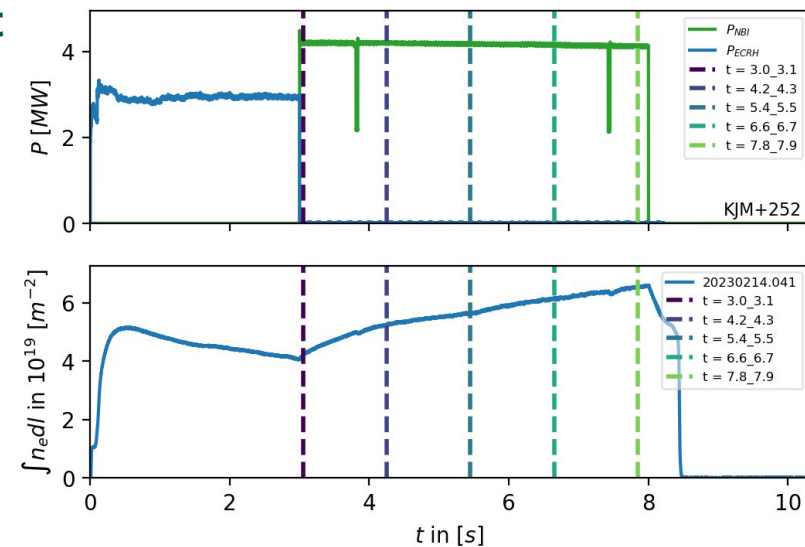
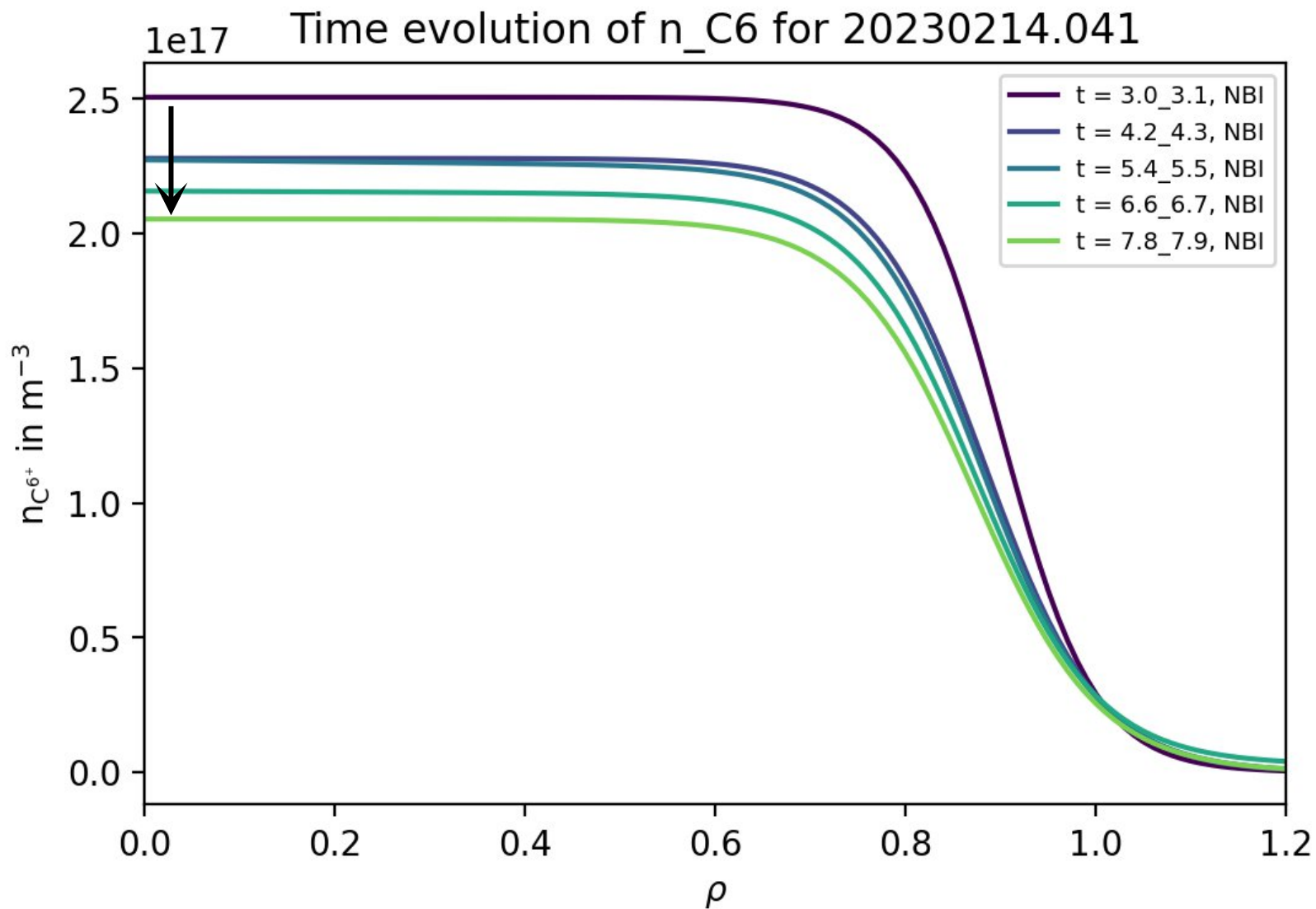
# Non-peaking impurity profiles case 1 - continuous ECRH

- ECRH heating is present throughout the shot, entering the combined heating phase does not change the shape of the profile, but only the amplitude



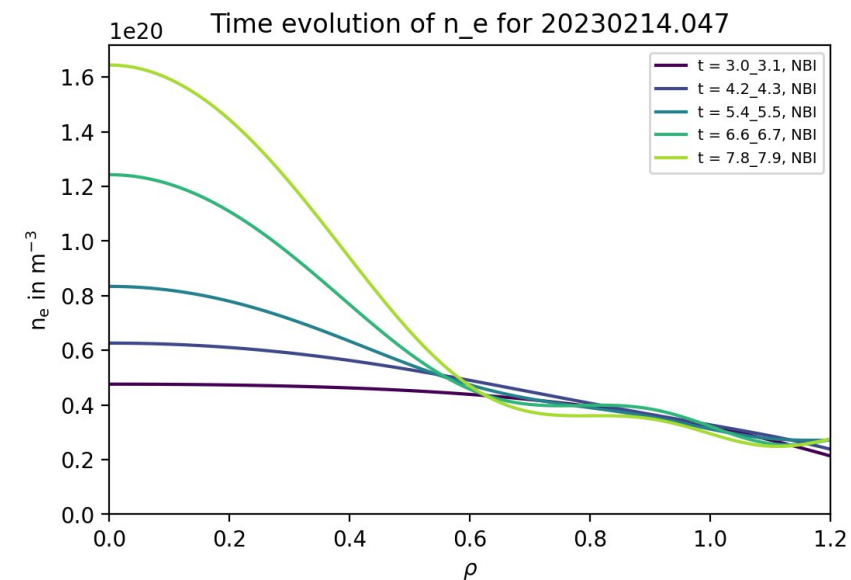
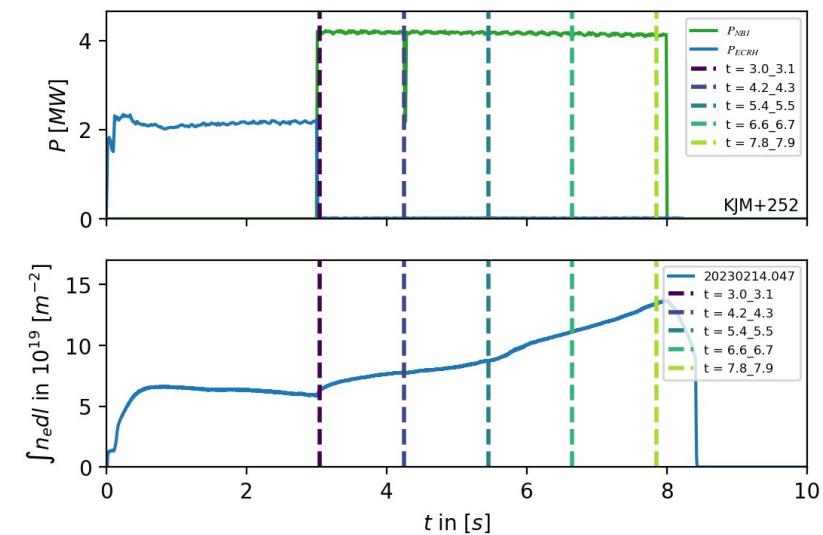
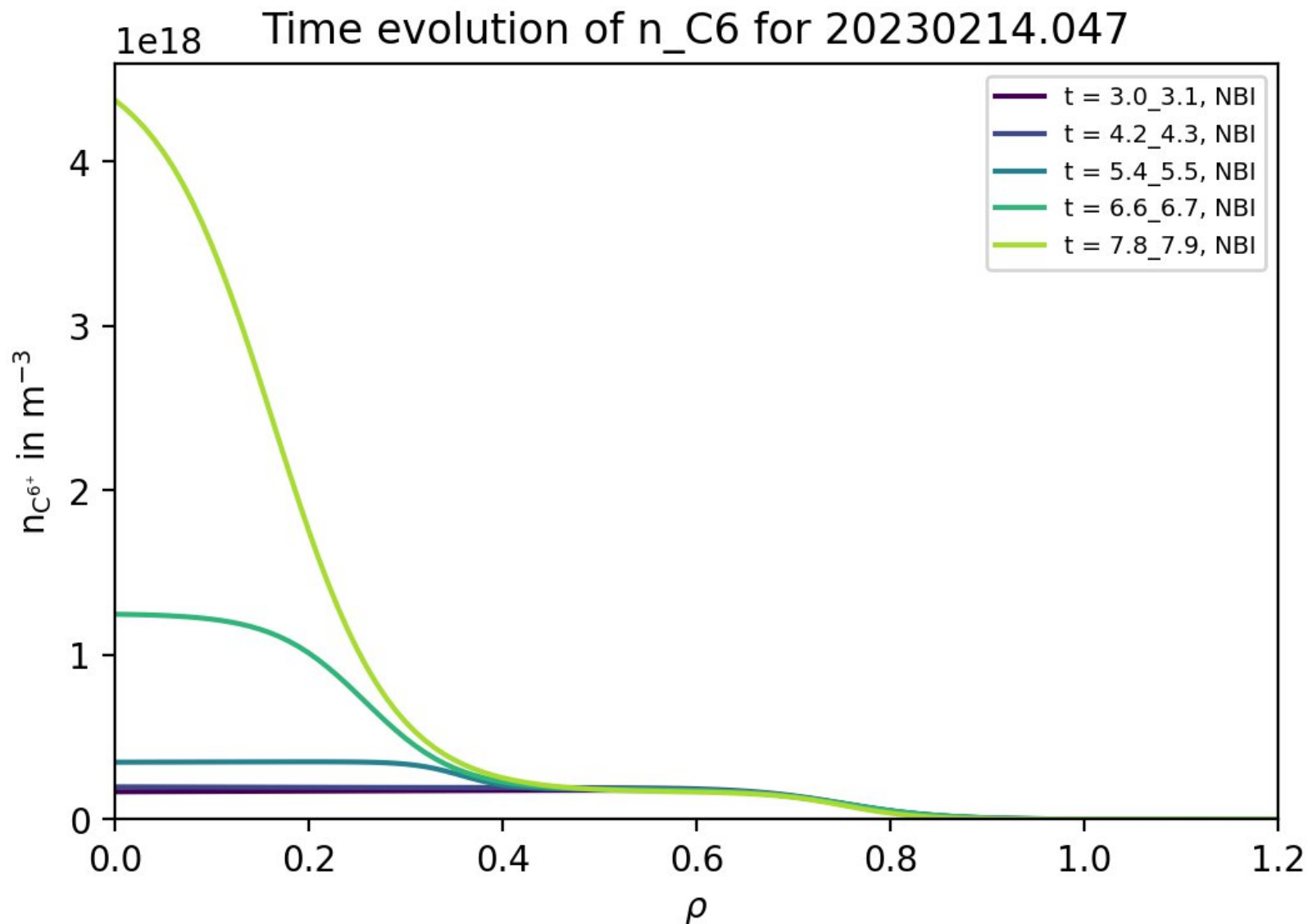
# Non-peaking impurity profiles case 2 - pure NBI

- While there is a slight decrease in density, the pure NBI phase does not change the shape of the profile



# Non-peaking case 2, but with sufficient density

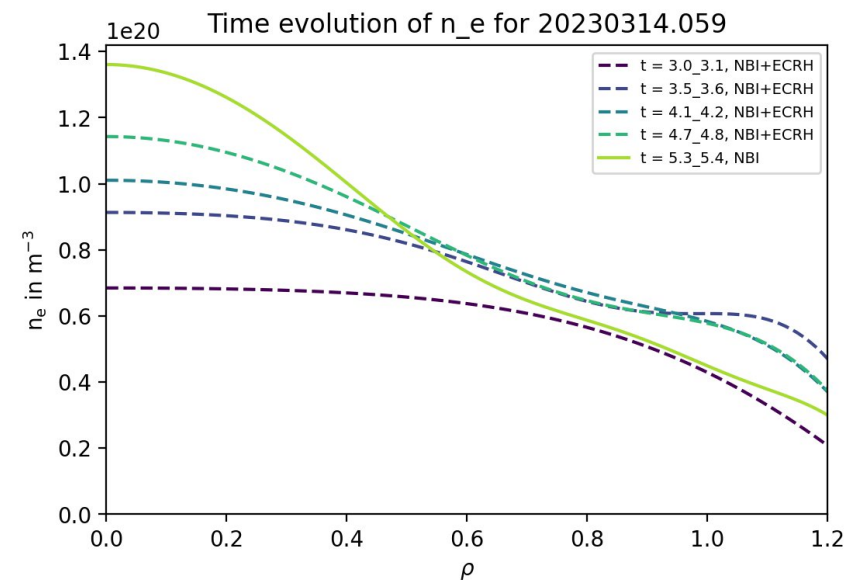
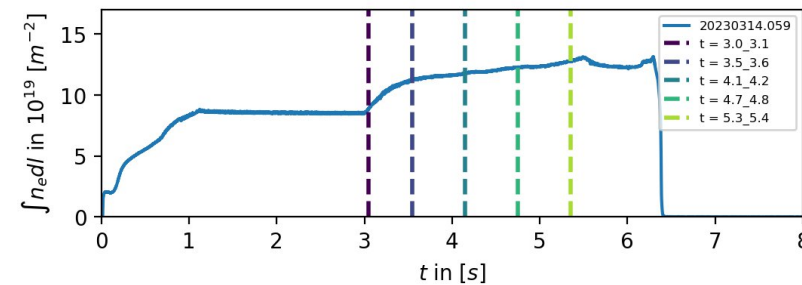
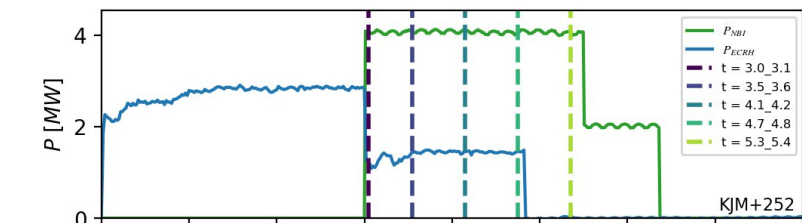
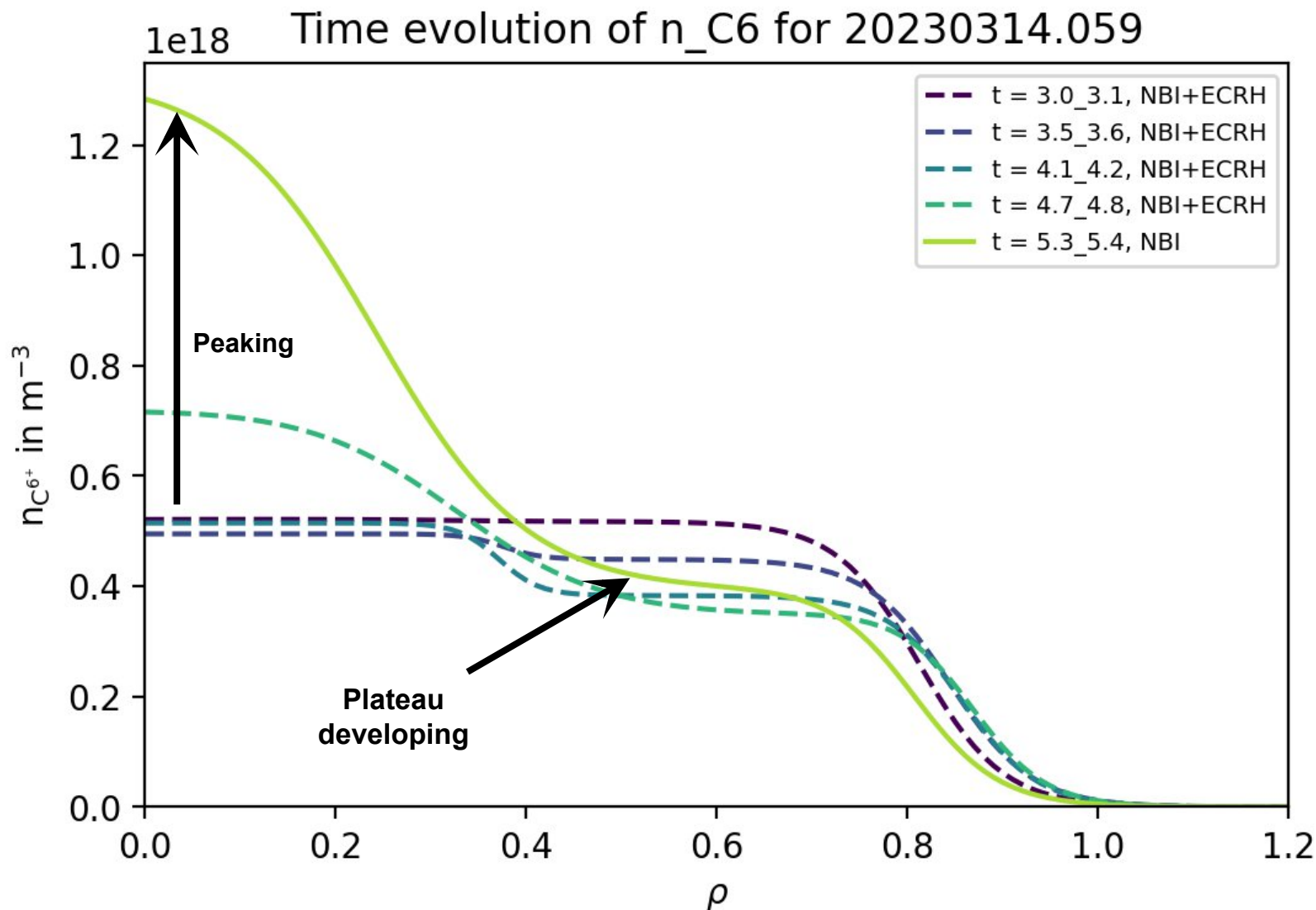
- For a shot similar to the previous, but where by contrast, the critical density is achieved, we see a central density accumulation





# Peaking impurity profiles for non-peaking main species

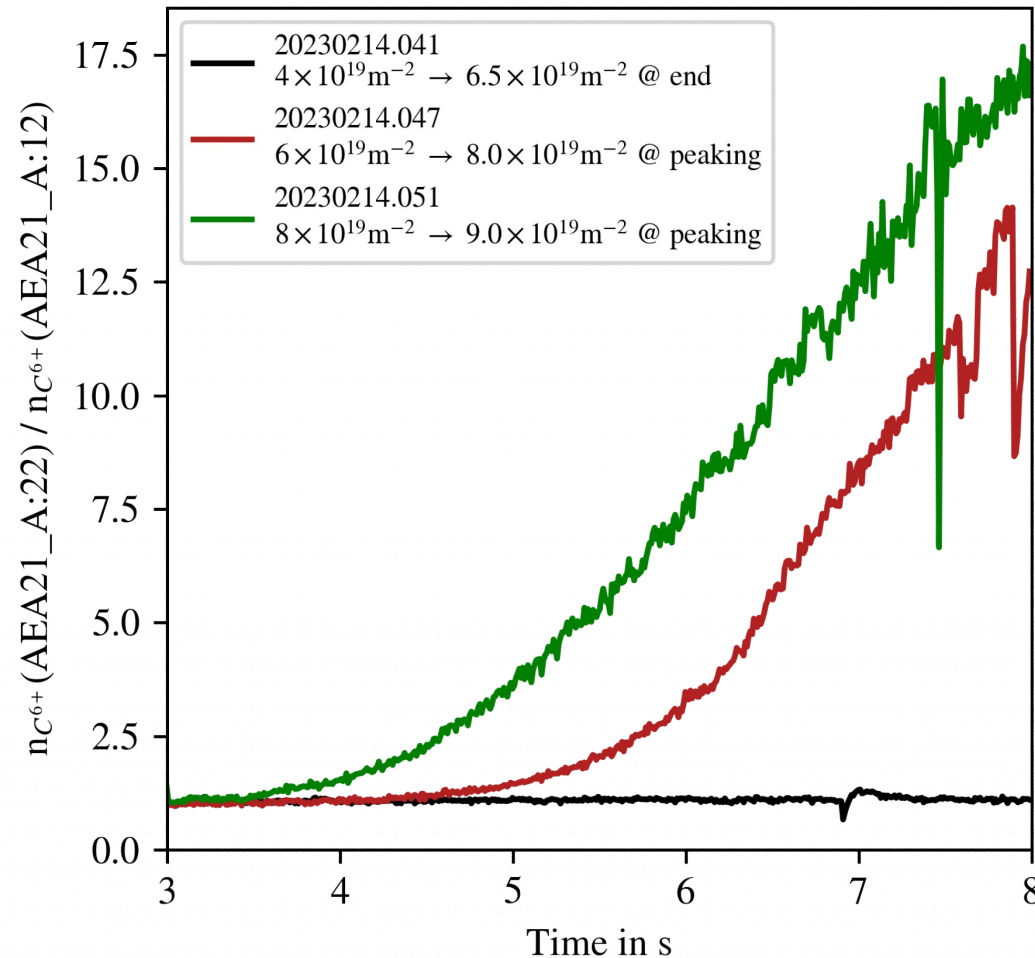
- While the low-power ECRH heating phase weakens the accumulation, entering the pure NBI allows the accumulation to fully develop





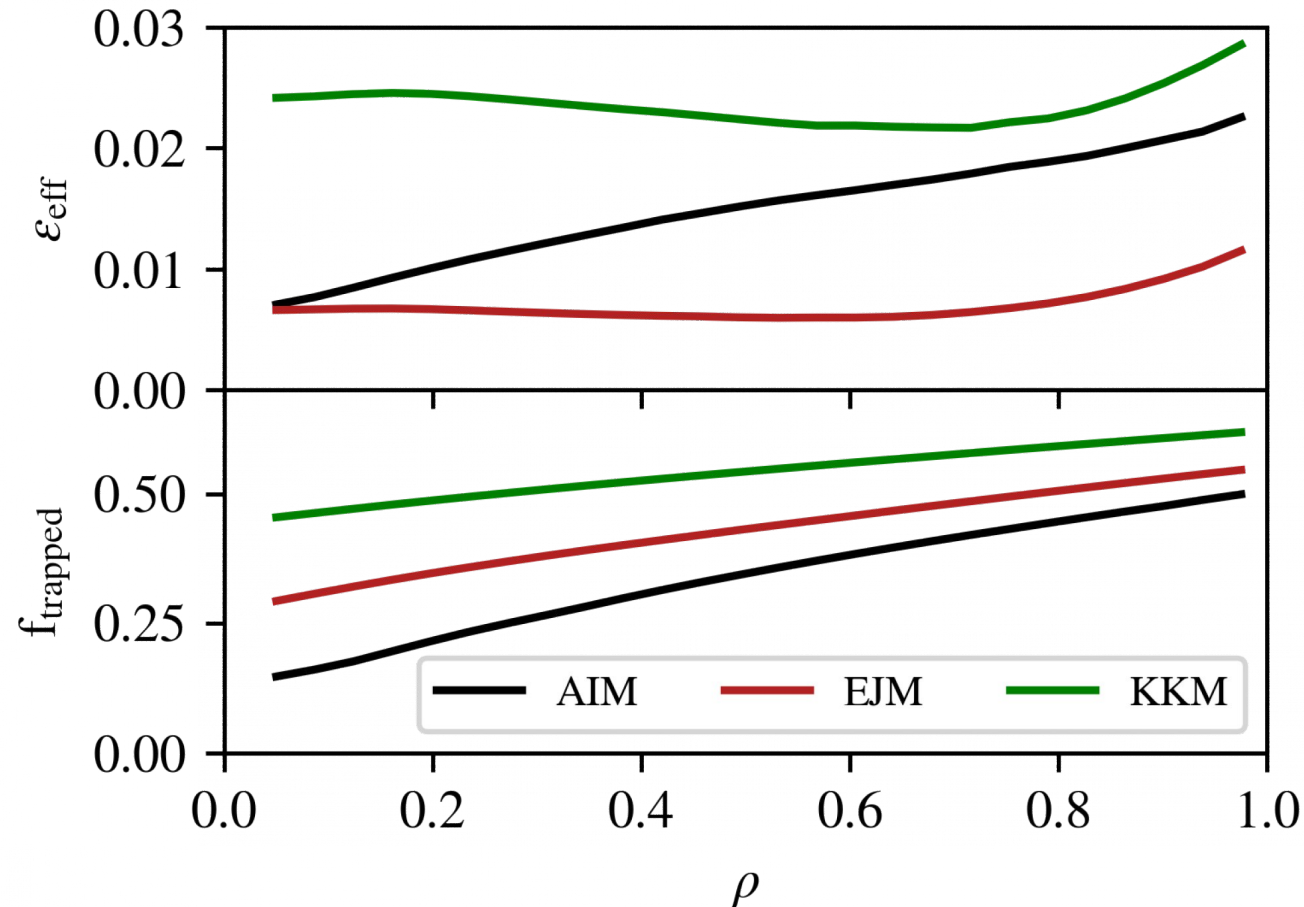
# Peaking in impurity profiles occurs only for high densities

- While the red and green lines peak, the black line does not peak
  - The difference between the shots is the initial density. This further solidifies that there is a critical density threshold required for peaking



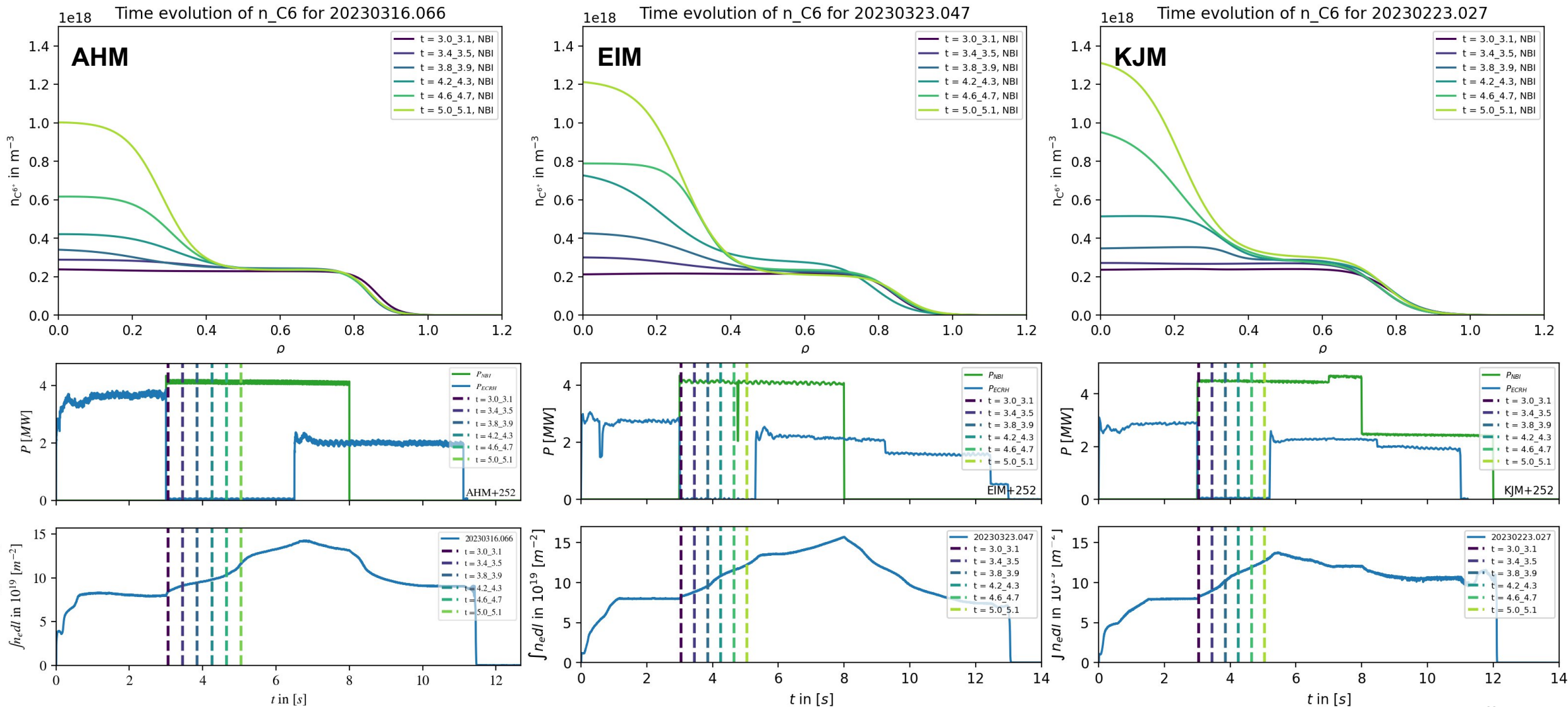
# Impurity peaking dependance on magnetic configuration

- Initial assumption: peaked profiles are dominated by neoclassics
- Epsilon differs for different magnetic configurations thus we expect changes in neoclassical transport and different impurity transport across different magnetic configurations



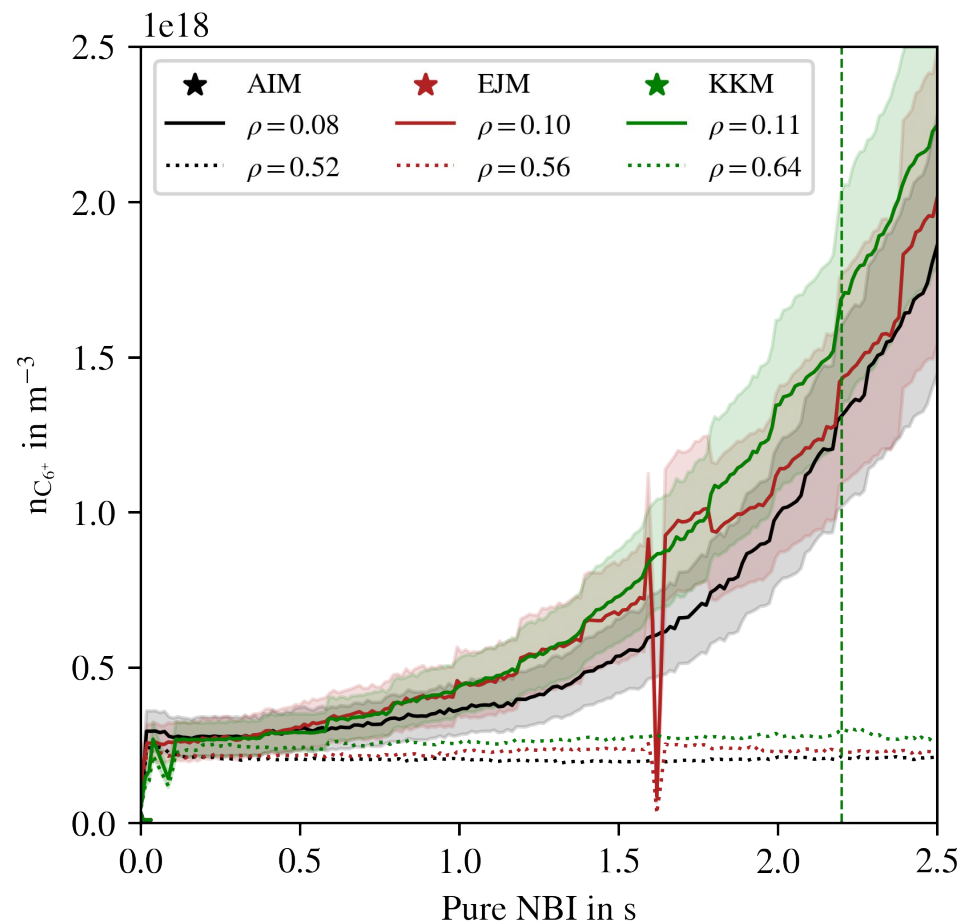
# Comparison of peaking in different magnetic configurations

- AIM - Low Mirror; EIM - Standard; KJM - High Mirror



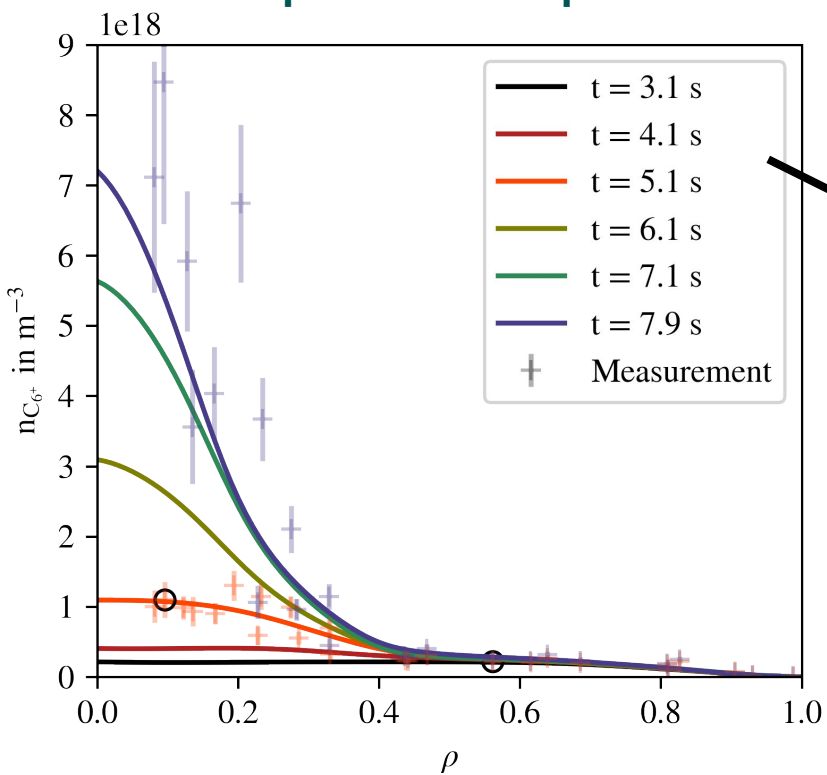
# Impurity peaking dependance on magnetic configuration

- Plotting the near-core Carbon density for the different magnetic configurations, we were not able to observe a significant dependance on magnetic configuration

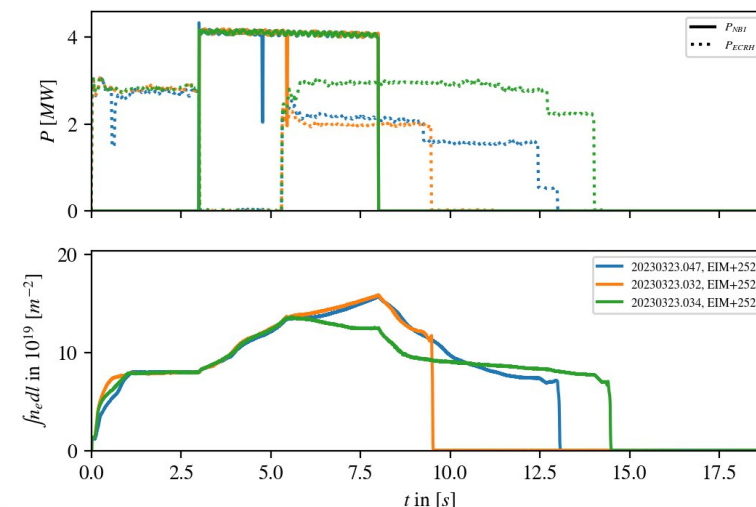
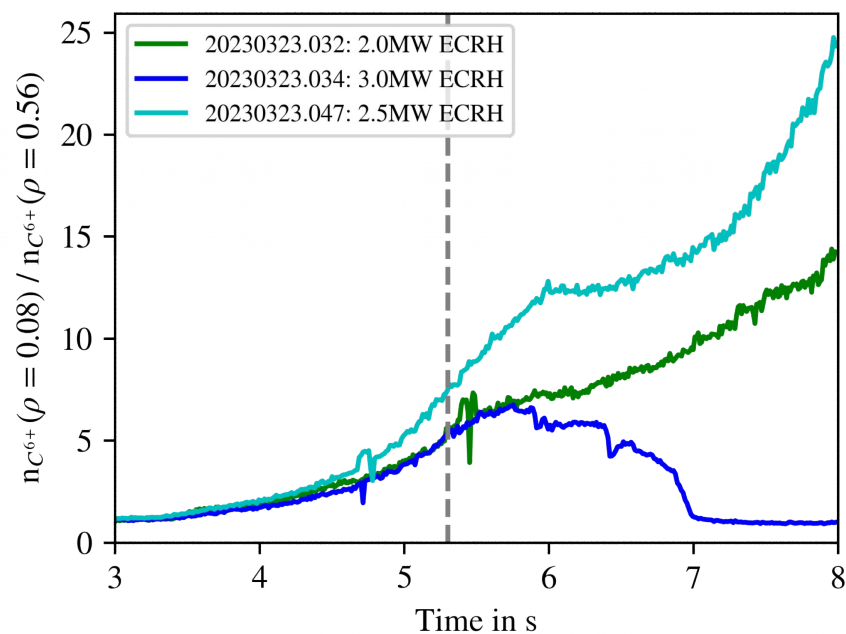


# Peaking sensitivity to ECRH power - change colors

- Peaking in impurity profiles is sensitive to ECRH power
  - While we still see weakened peaking for 2.5 MW and 2 MW ECRH, for 3 MW the high-power ECRH prevents the accumulation entirely



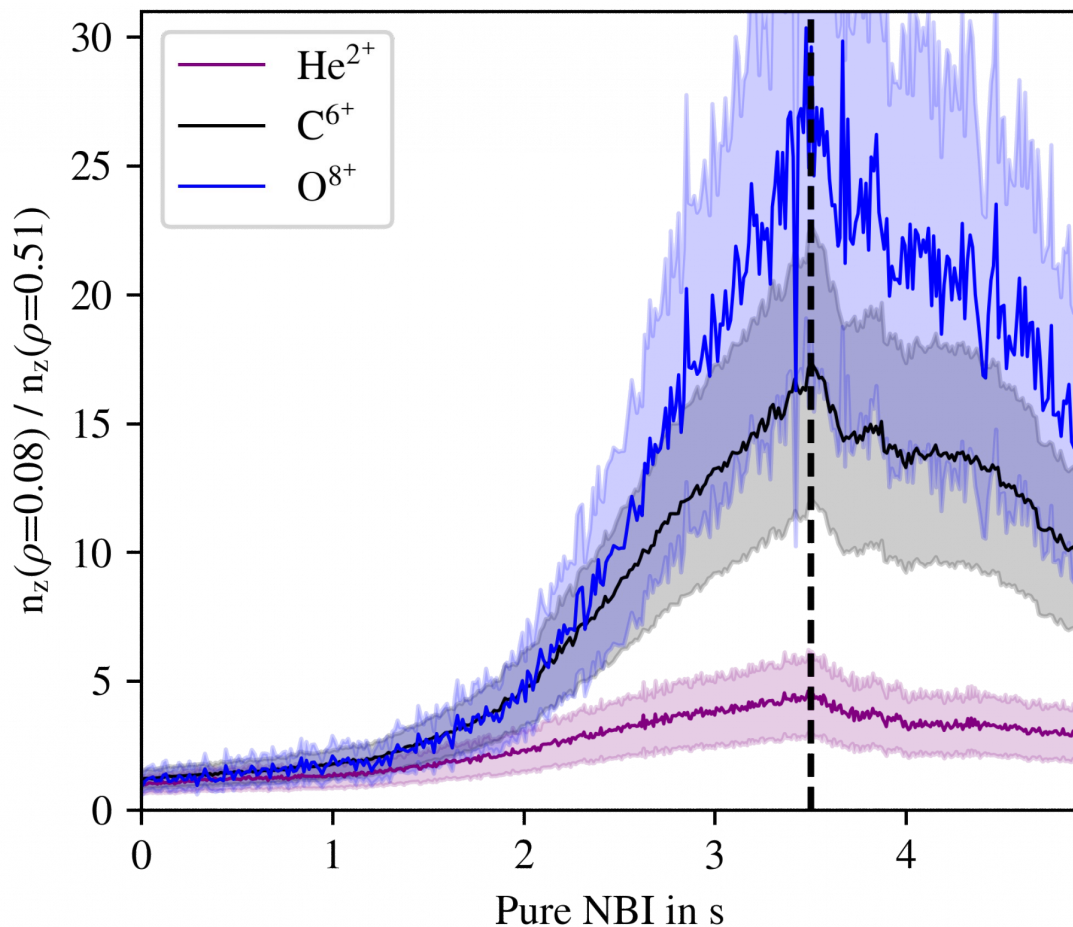
The ratio between the encircled measurements is plotted





# Additional peaking behavior observations

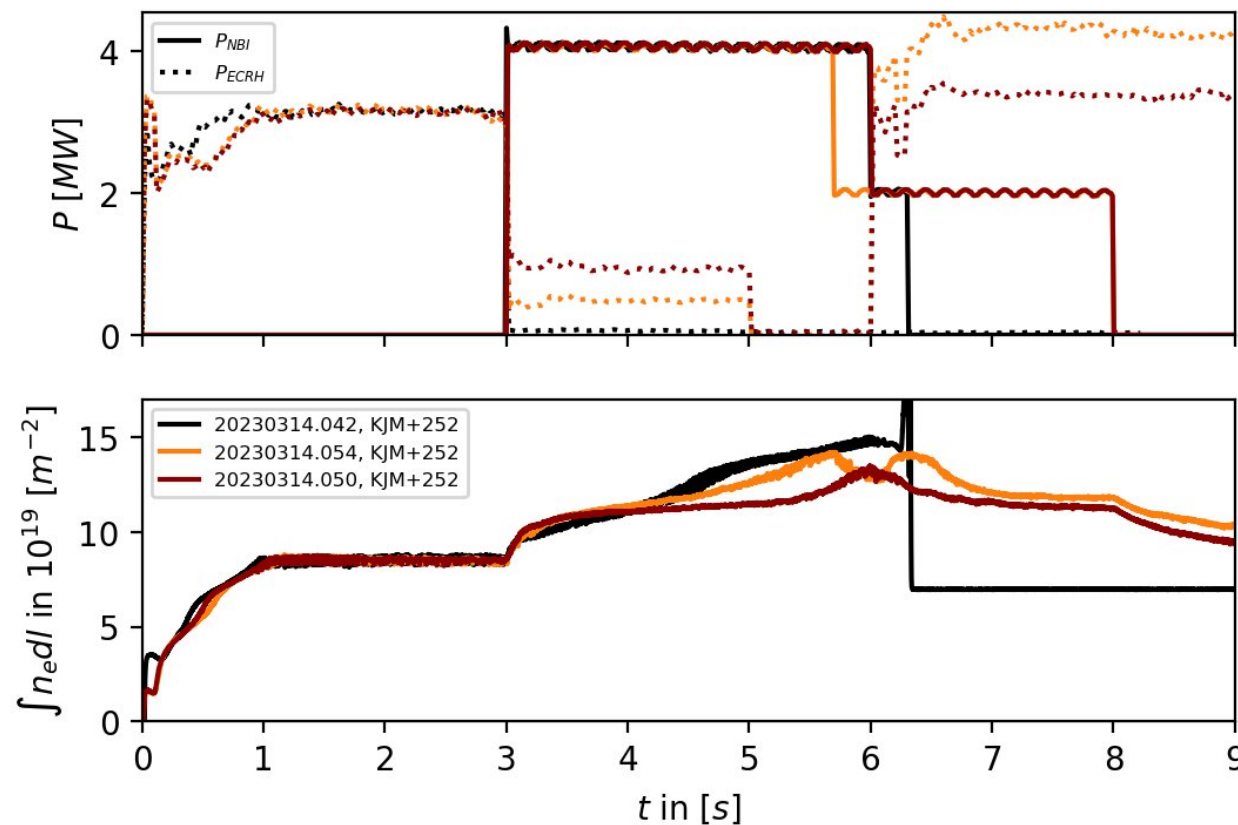
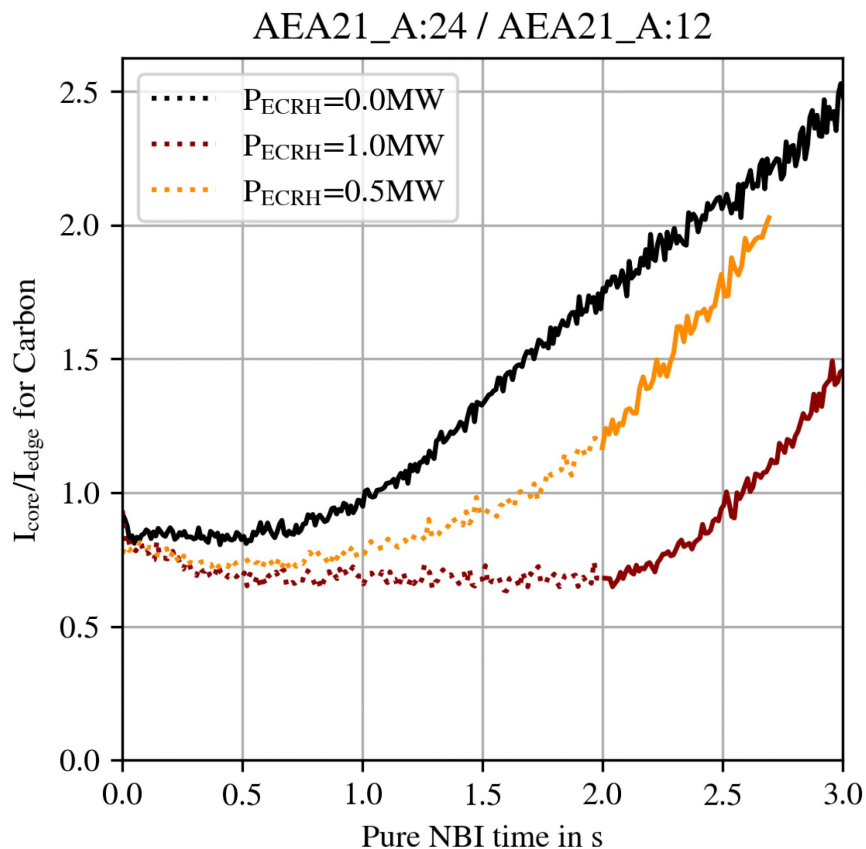
- Central peaking accumulation is consistent across various impurities, but is more dominant for higher-Z impurities



$$\langle \Gamma^\alpha \cdot \nabla r \rangle = -L_{11}^\alpha \frac{dn^\alpha}{dr} + n^\alpha + \left\{ L_{11}^\alpha \frac{q^\alpha E_r}{T^\alpha} - \left( L_{12}^\alpha - \frac{3}{2} L_{11}^\alpha \right) \frac{1}{T^\alpha} \frac{dT^\alpha}{dr} \right\}$$

# Accumulation development time for different ECRH powers

- **Black line** - at zero ECRH power we see peaking around 0.5 s into the pure NBI
- **Orange line** - at 0.5 MW ECRH power we see parking around 1 s into the combined heating
- **Red line** - at 1.0 MW ECRH power we see peaking around 2 s into the combined heating



# Key observations of accumulation phenomena in impurities

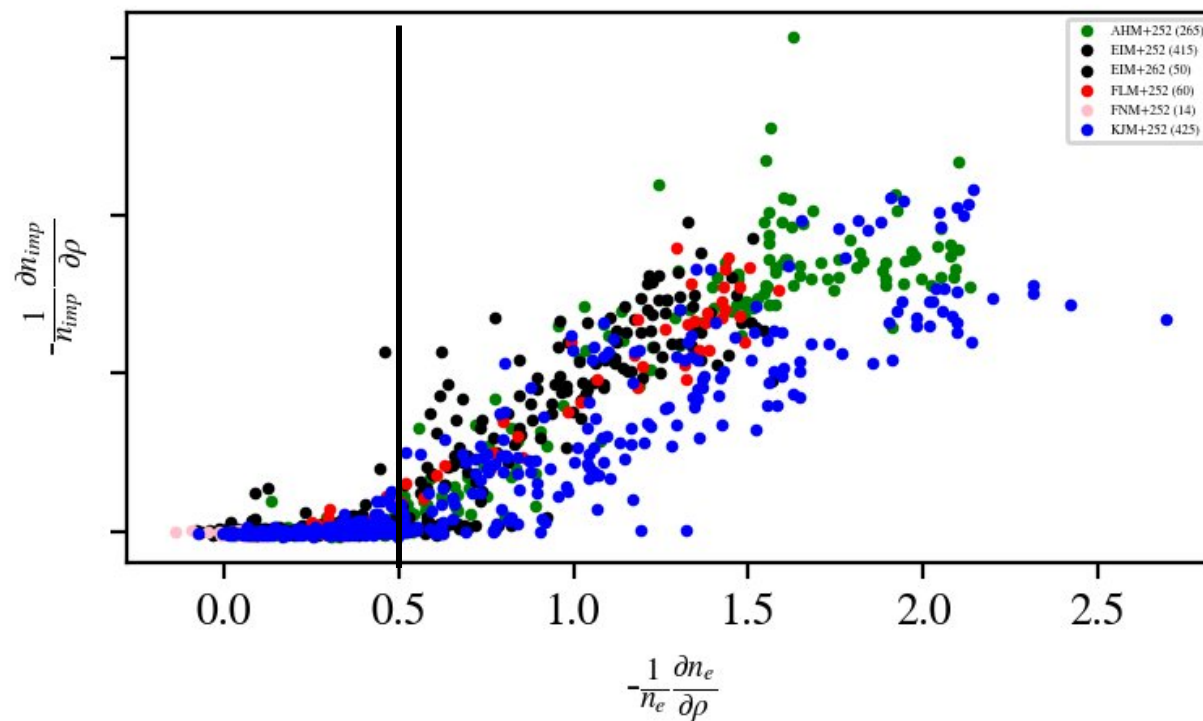
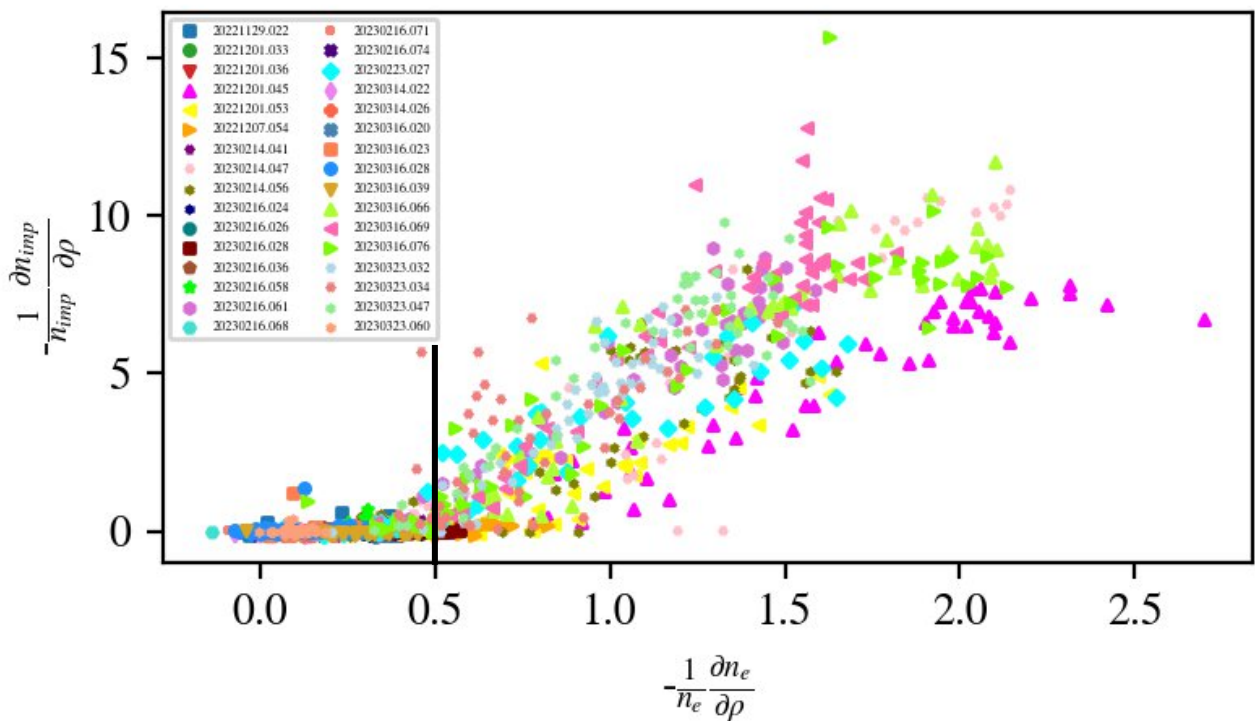
- **Central density accumulation in impurity profiles is stronger than in main species**
- **Central density accumulation for impurities is observed for pure NBI heating at high density**
  - **In the combined heating phase for impurities at high densities, the ECRH is observed to either weaken or prevent the accumulation for low and high power respectively**
- **While the density gradient for the electrons develops around  $\rho = 0.6$ , the density gradient for Carbon develops around  $\rho = 0.4$**
- **For the impurities, central density accumulation is not observed to have strong dependence on magnetic configuration**
- **Accumulation is stronger for higher-Z impurities due to their larger carried charge**
- **Although only Carbon was analyzed, accumulation is universal for all impurities**

# Outlook

- Main plasma species profiles
  - Accumulation phenomena
  - Non-accumulating behavior
  - ECRH reintroduction
  - Comparison of accumulation at different magnetic configurations
  - Additional main species observations by S. Bannmann
  - Concluding observations on main species
- Impurity profiles
  - Impurity profile fitting method - modified double tanh
  - Accumulation phenomena
  - Non-accumulating behavior
  - ECRH reintroduction
  - Comparison of accumulation at different magnetic configurations
  - Concluding observations on impurities
- **Database approach for examining accumulation phenomena**
  - **Variable heatmap and strongest correlations**
  - **Kink location to determine separation of anomalous and neoclassical transport**
  - **Transport color-coded plots**
- Remarkable observations
- Summary

# Impurity transport database approach

- Data is observed to be separated into two distinct groups:
  - Pre-kink (left to splitter) data shows flat distribution associated with flat profiles. This in turn implies at  $V/D \ll 1$  and anomalous transport respectively
  - Post-kink (right to splitter) data shows a clear relationship associated with peaking scenarios. This implies at  $V/D \gg 1$  and neoclassical transport respectively
- Further indication of no significant dependence on the magnetic configuration





# Database correlations

- Variable correlations are plotted in a 'heatmap' from which we can easily extract the strongest correlation parameters

Filtering for absolute correlations above 0.7 we are left with the strongest correlations:

## Positive Correlations:

$$-\frac{1}{n_e} \frac{dn_e}{d\rho}, -\frac{1}{n_{imp}} \frac{dn_{imp}}{d\rho} : 0.9$$

$$-\frac{1}{n_{imp}} \frac{dn_{imp}}{d\rho}, \text{density peaking ratio} : 0.88$$

$$n_e, -\frac{1}{n_{imp}} \frac{dn_{imp}}{d\rho} : 0.82$$

$$-\frac{1}{n_e} \frac{dn_e}{d\rho}, \text{density peaking ratio} : 0.78$$

$$n_e, \text{density peaking ratio} : 0.76$$

$$-\frac{1}{n_{imp}} \frac{dn_{imp}}{d\rho}, \text{density peaking ratio} : 0.76$$

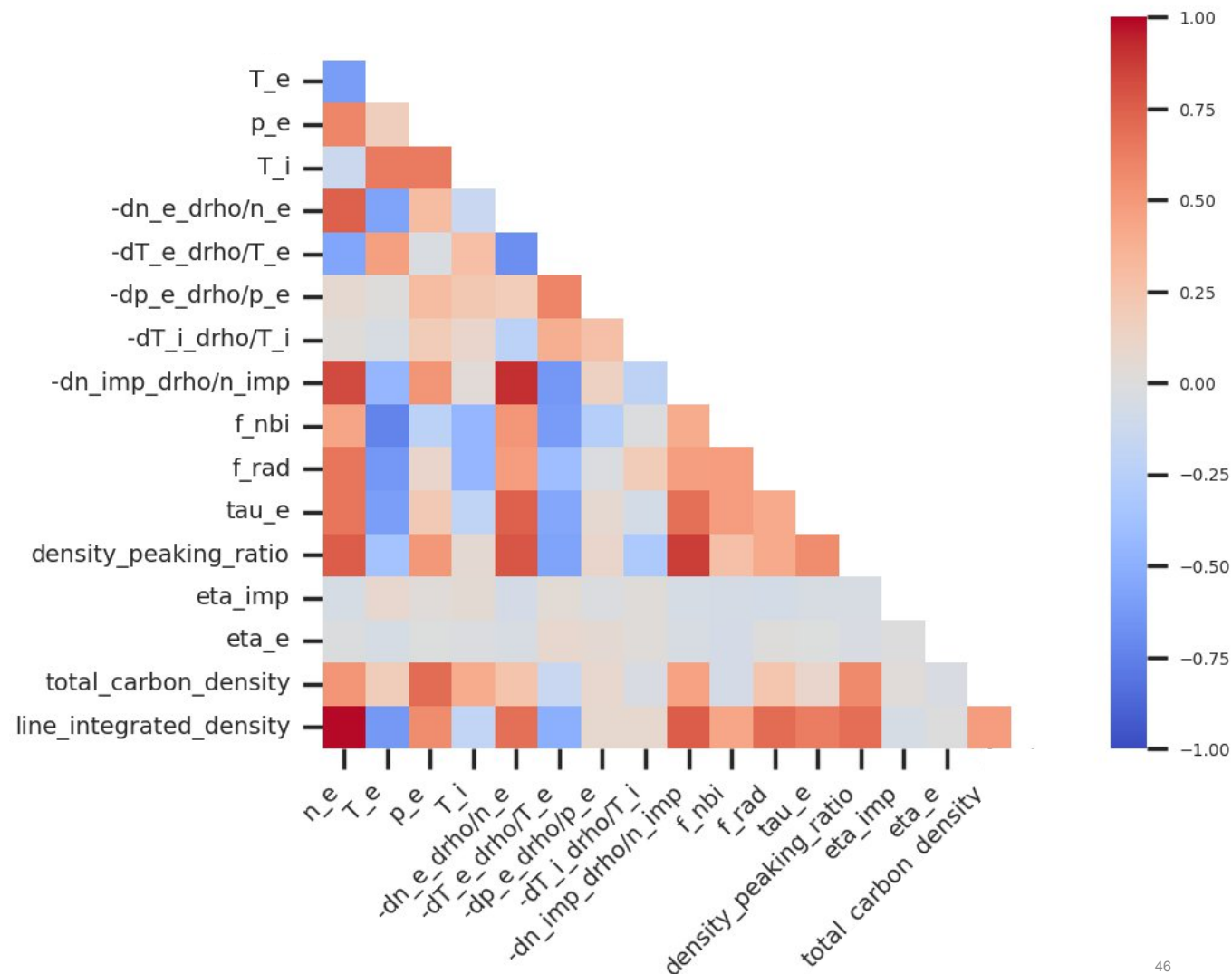
$$n_e, -\frac{1}{n_e} \frac{dn_e}{d\rho} : 0.744$$

$$-\frac{1}{n_e} \frac{dn_e}{d\rho}, \tau_e : 0.742$$

$$p_e, \text{total carbon density} : 0.7$$

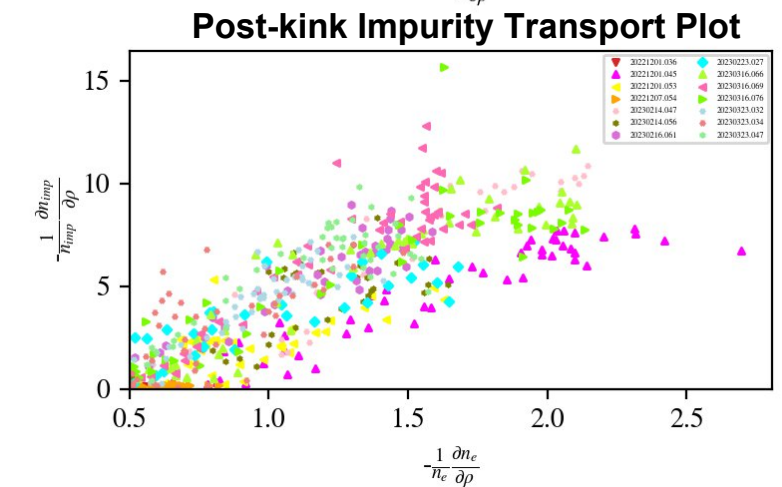
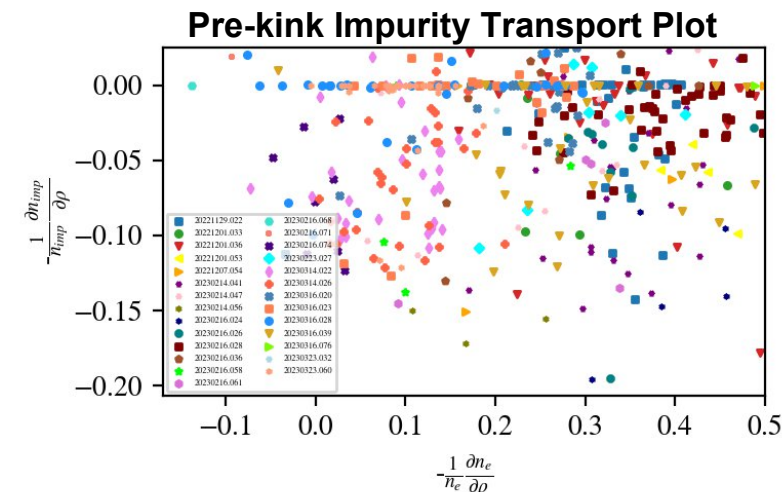
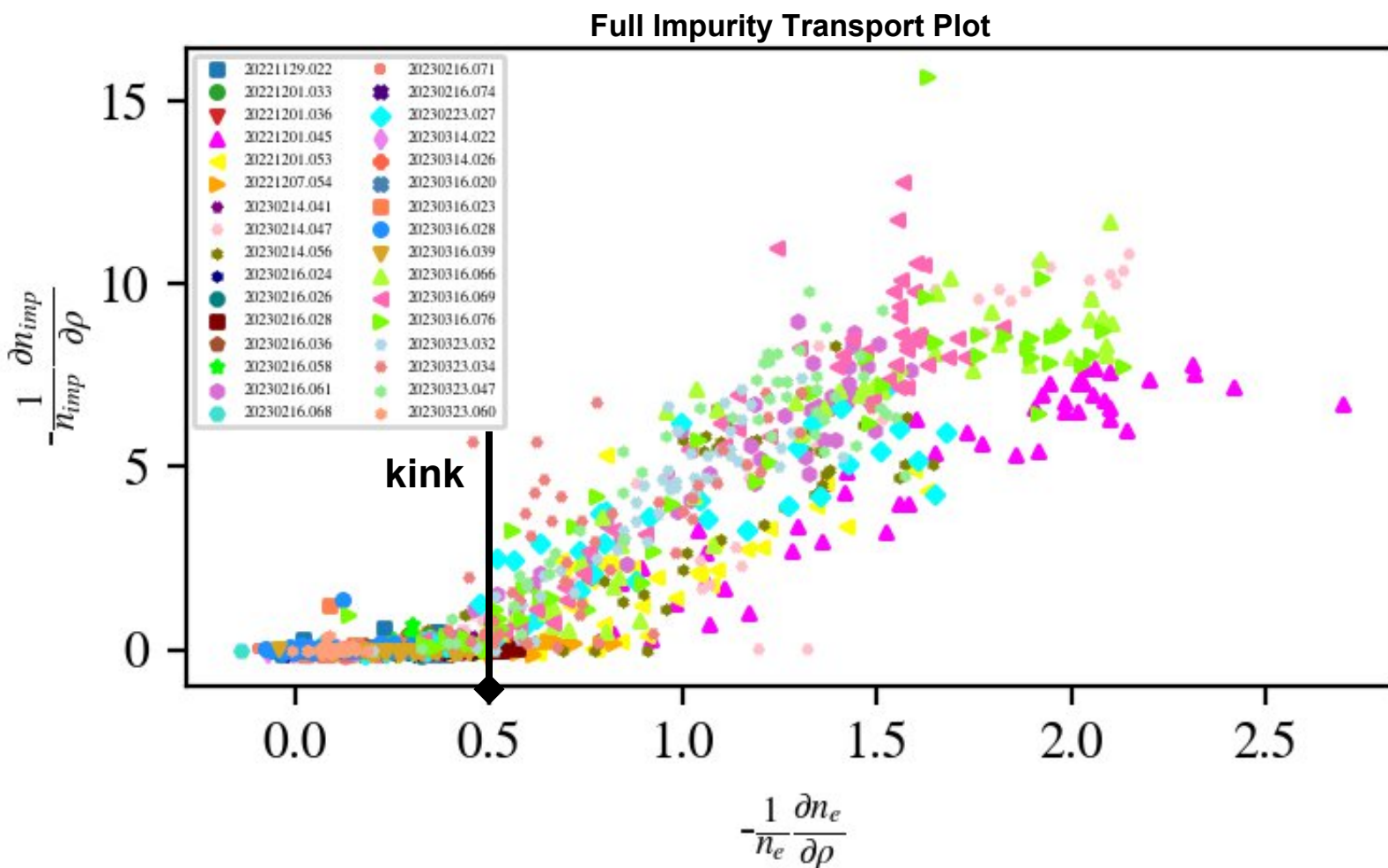
## Negative Correlations:

$$T_e, f_{nbi} : -0.74$$



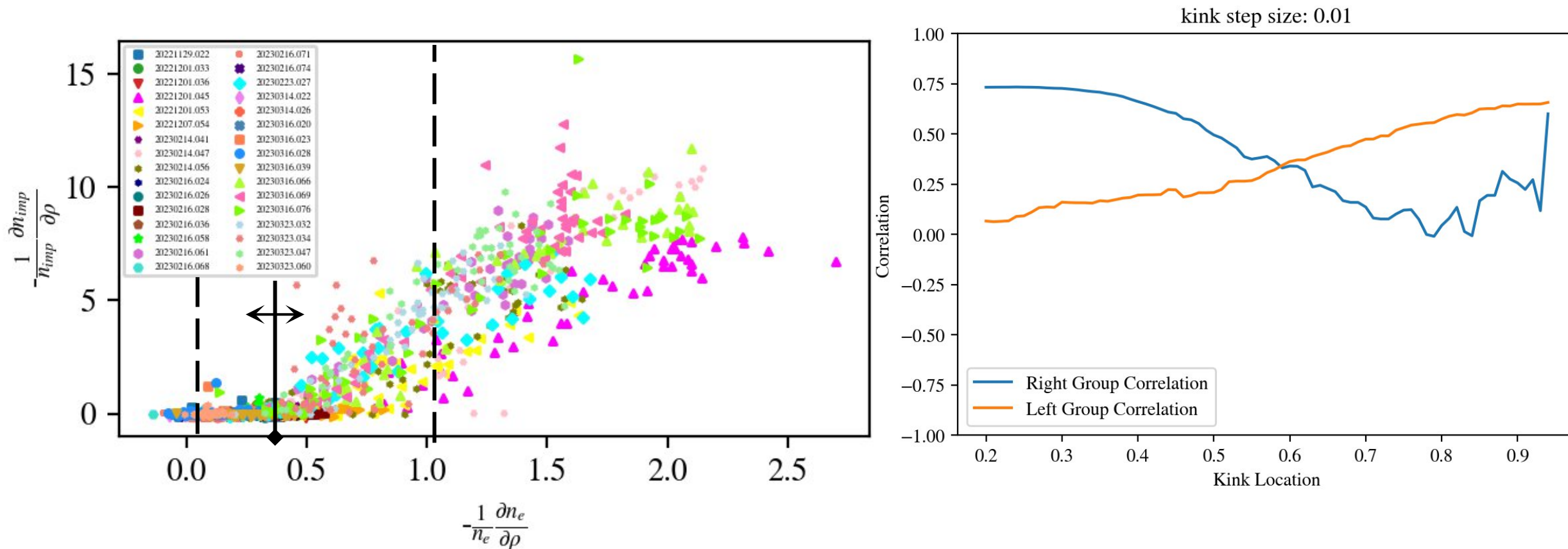
# Impurity transport database - kink separation

- Data is observed to be split into two distinct groups:
  - Pre-kink (left to splitter) data shows flat distribution associated with flat profiles
  - Post-kink (right to splitter) data show a clear relationship associated with peaked profiles

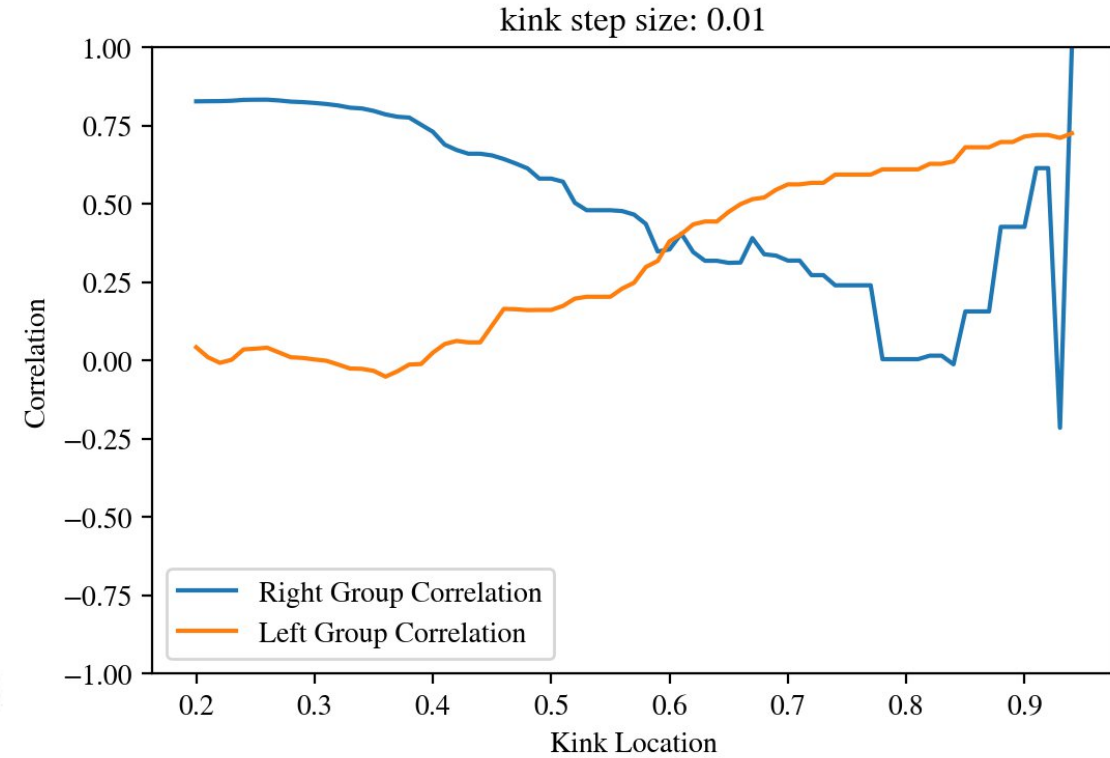
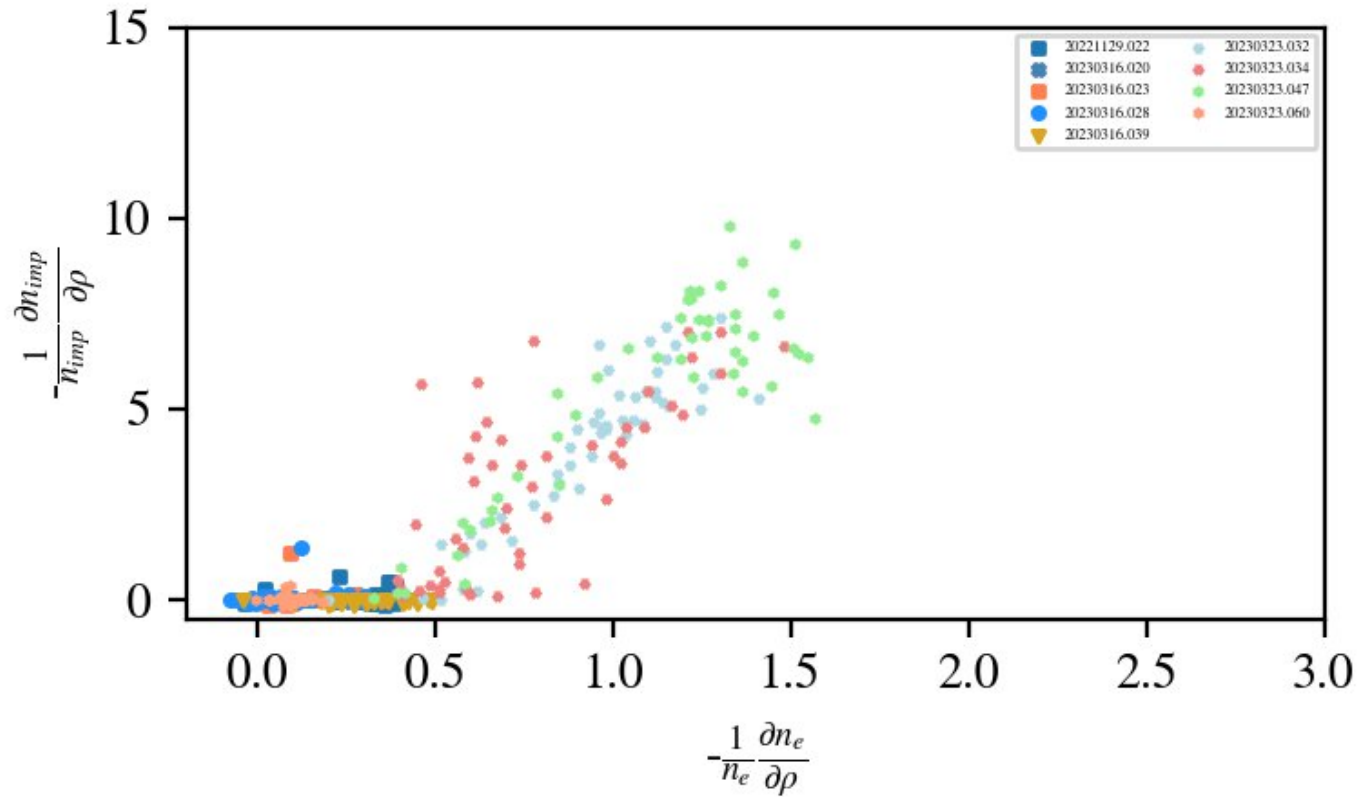
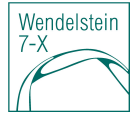


# Where should the kink be?

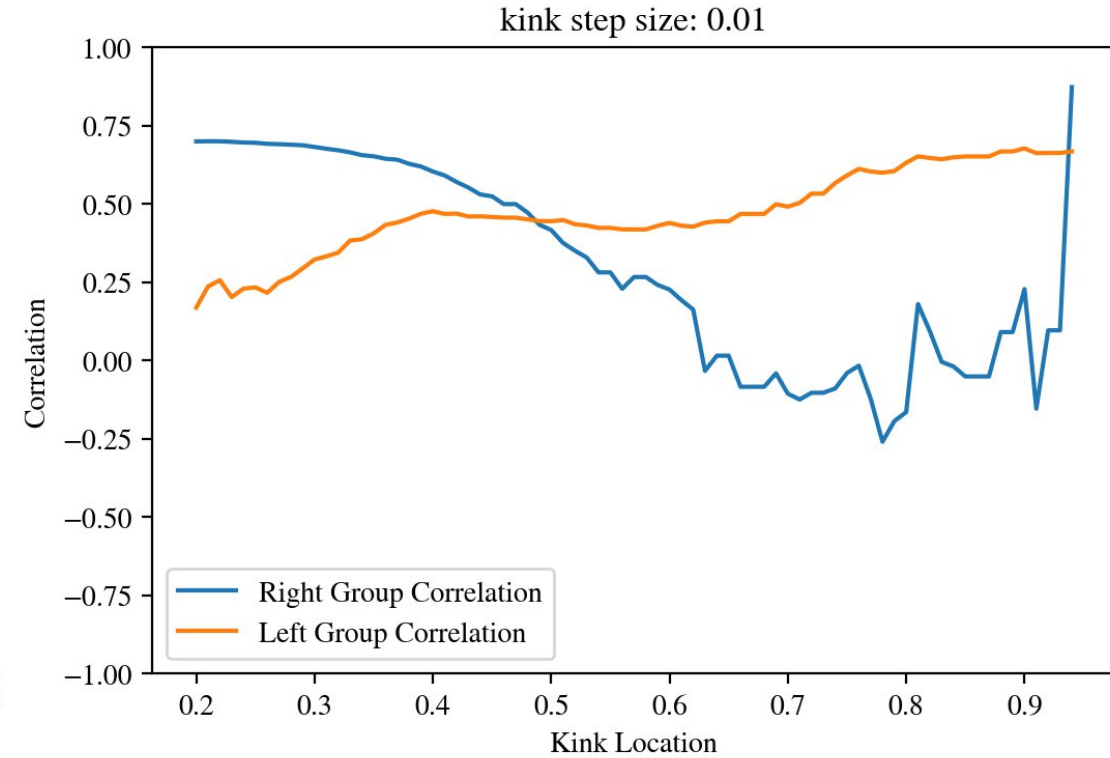
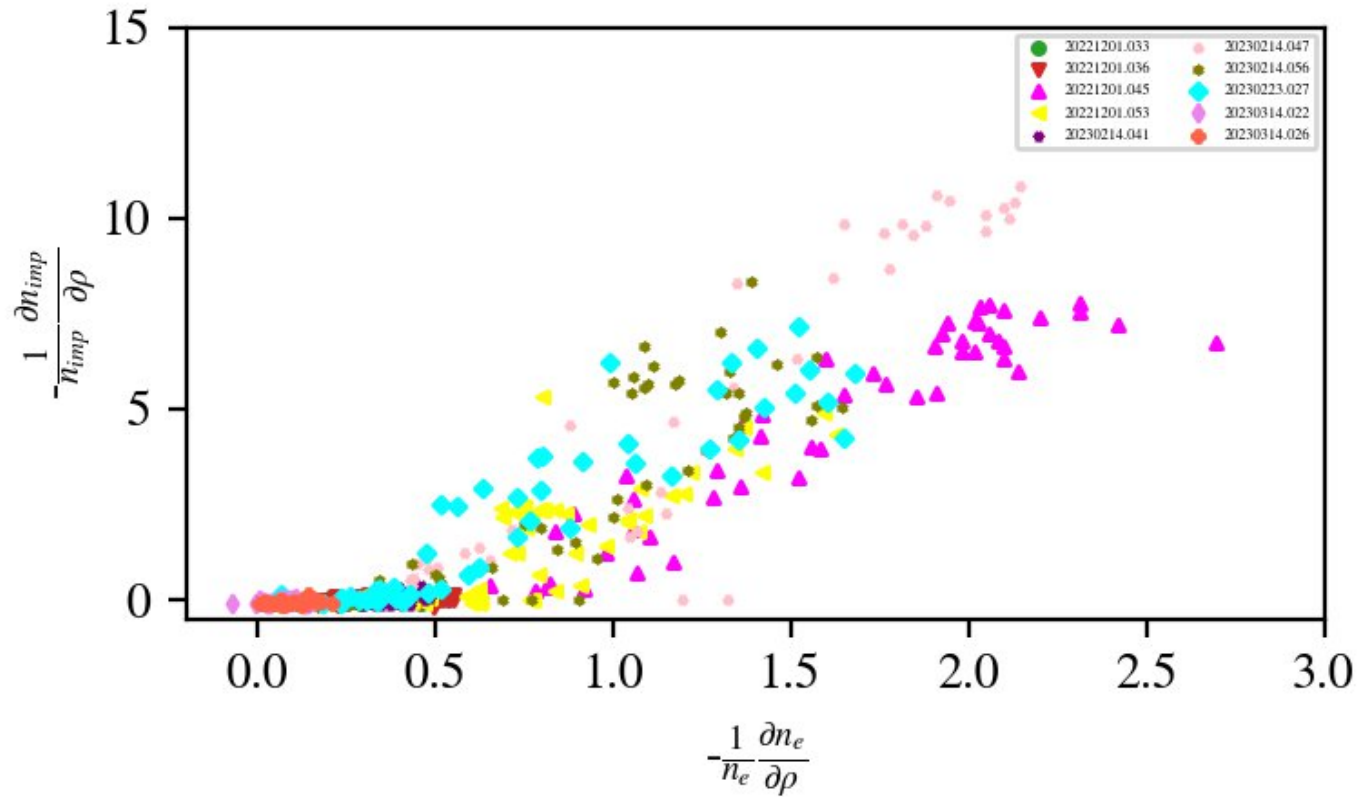
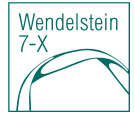
- To solidify understanding of the border between anomalous and neoclassical transport, kink location varies and correlations are measured to produce a correlation vs location plot
  - Pre-kink is desired to be close to zero, indicating a flat distribution with a weak correlation
  - Post-kink is desired to be close to one, indicating a strong correlation



# Kink-correlation plot for shots in EIM magnetic configuration

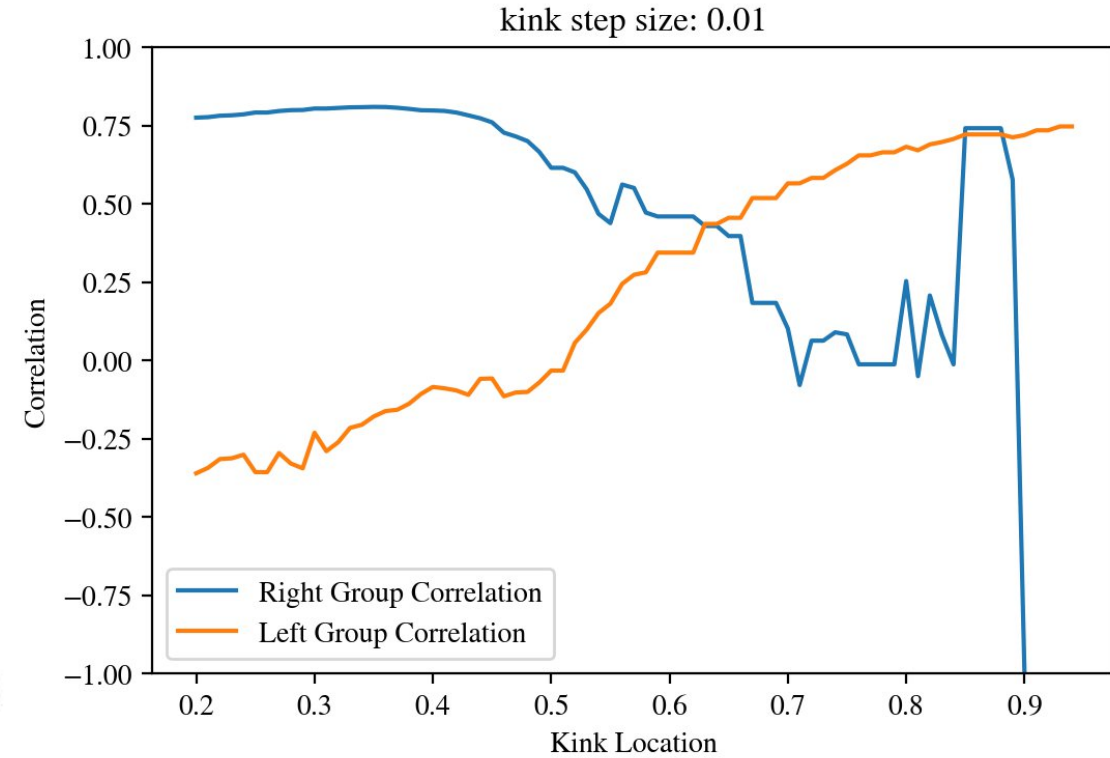
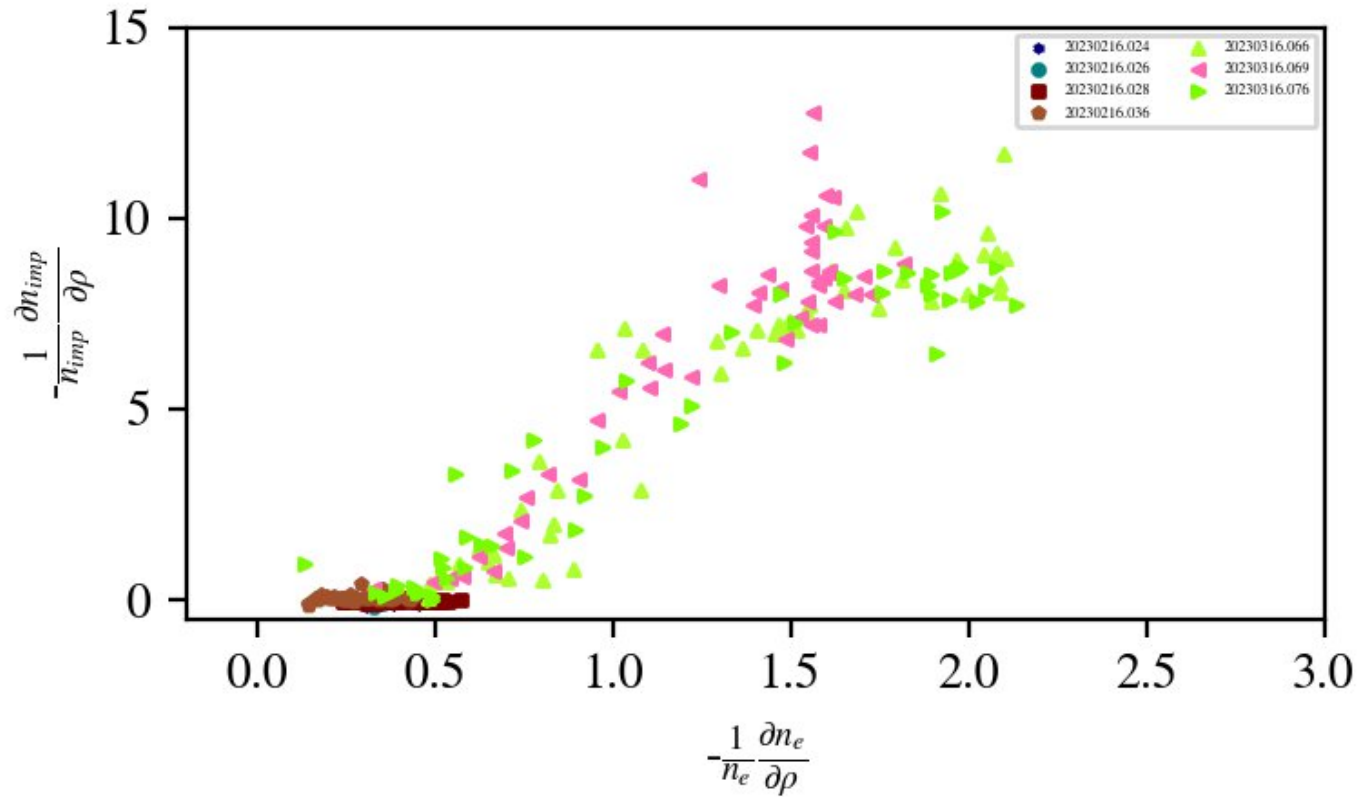


# Kink-correlation plot for shots in KJM magnetic configuration

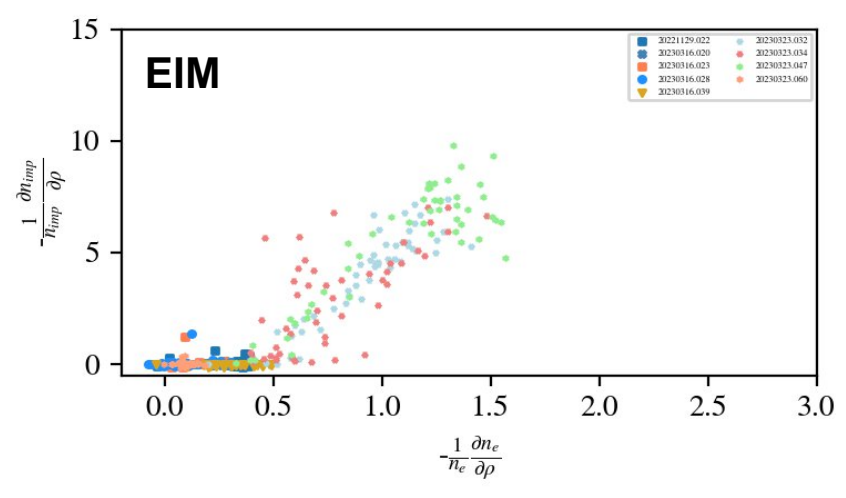
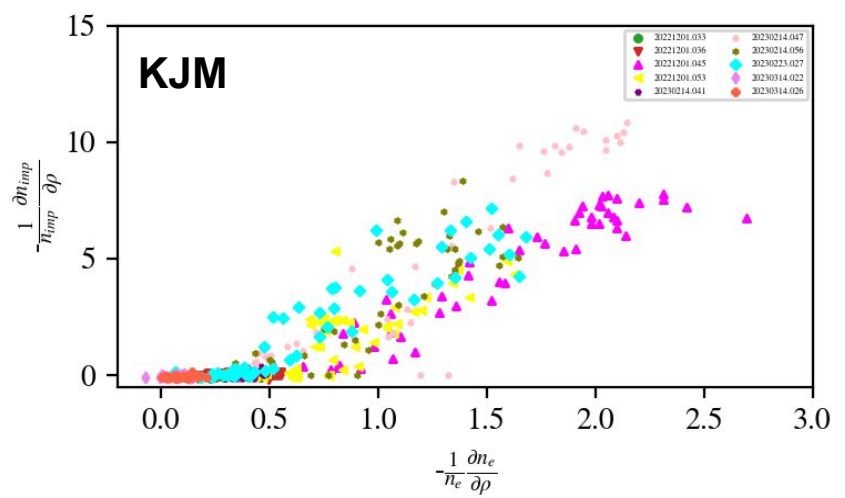
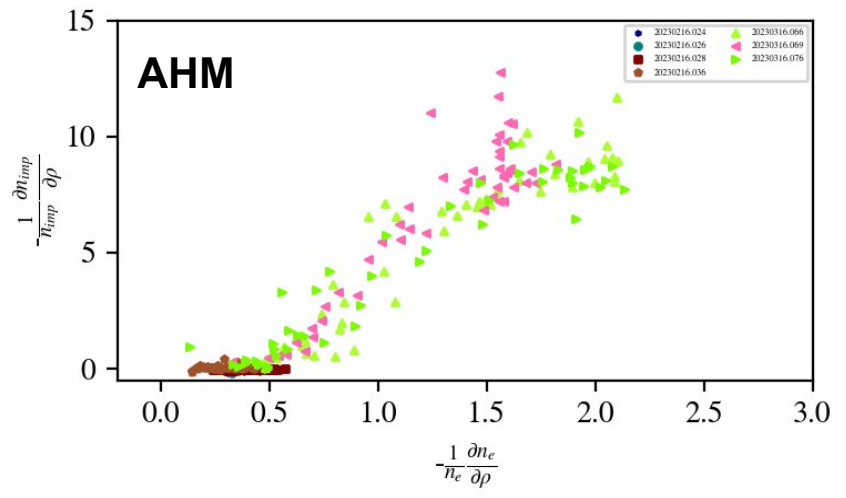
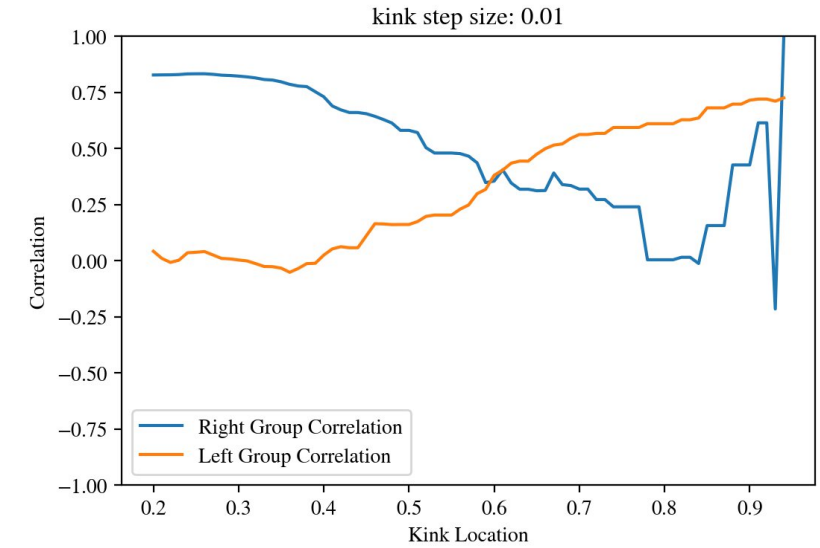
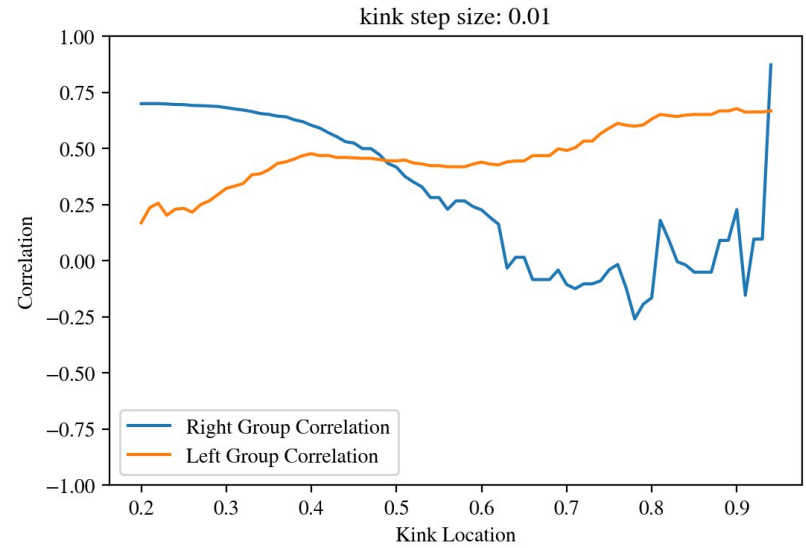
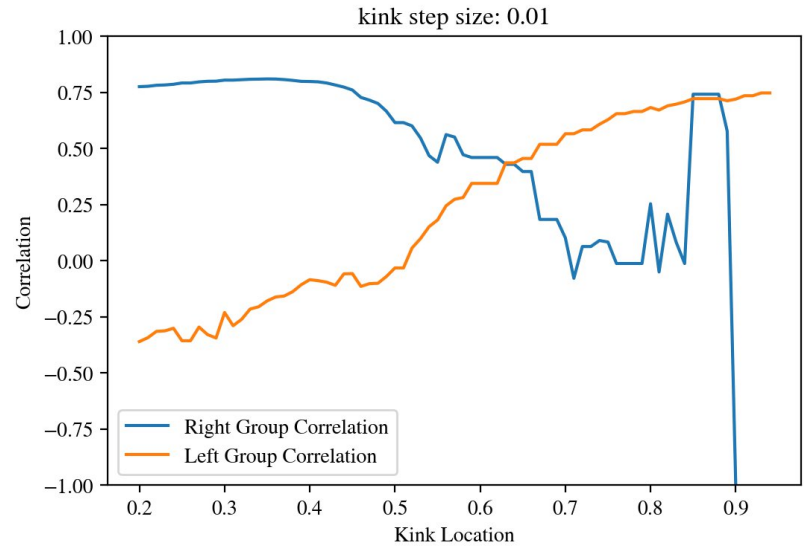




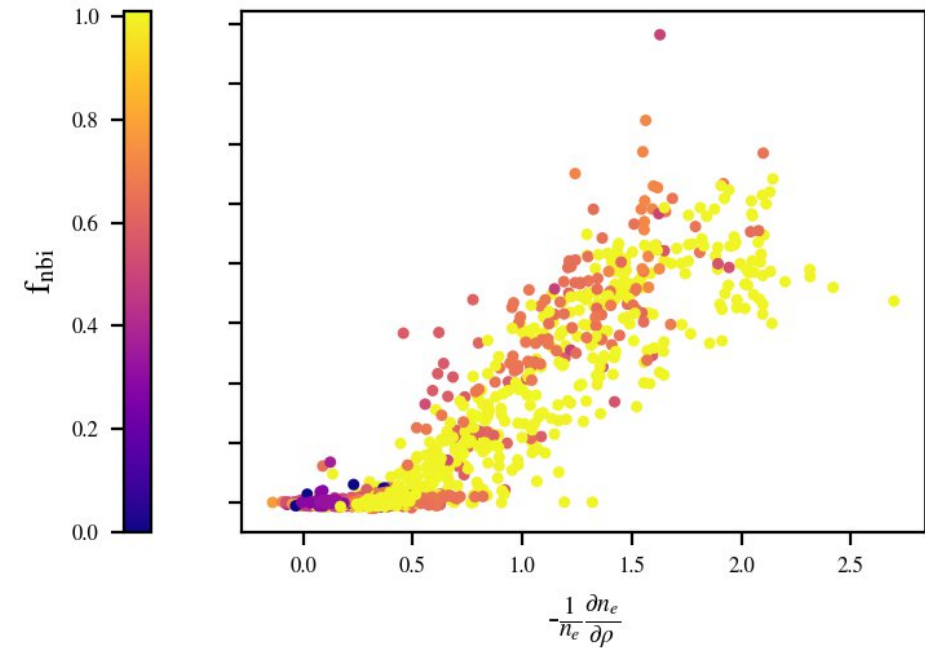
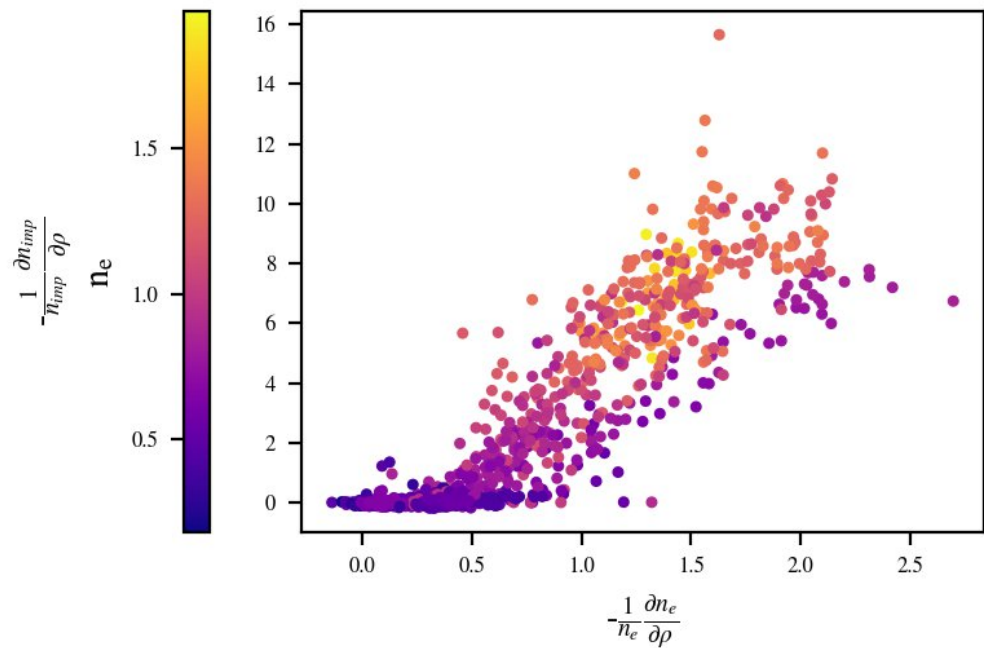
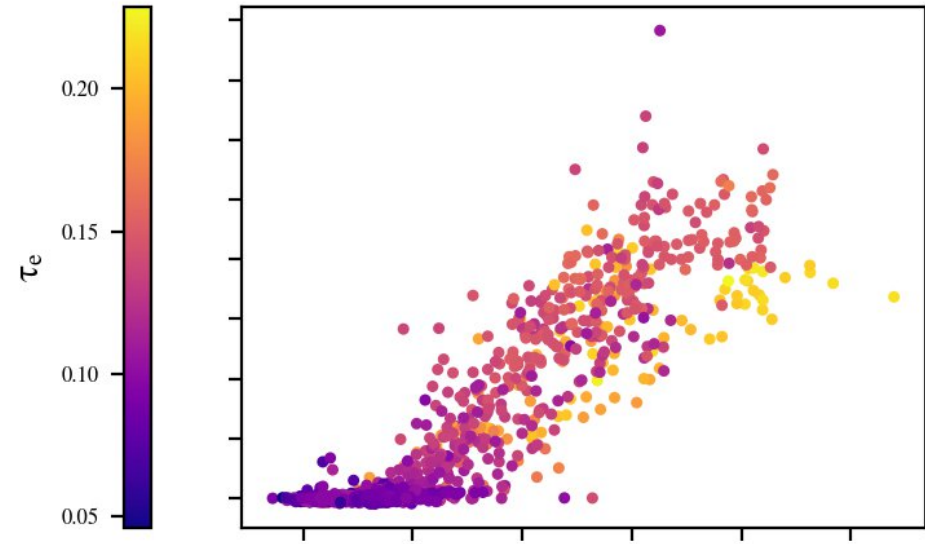
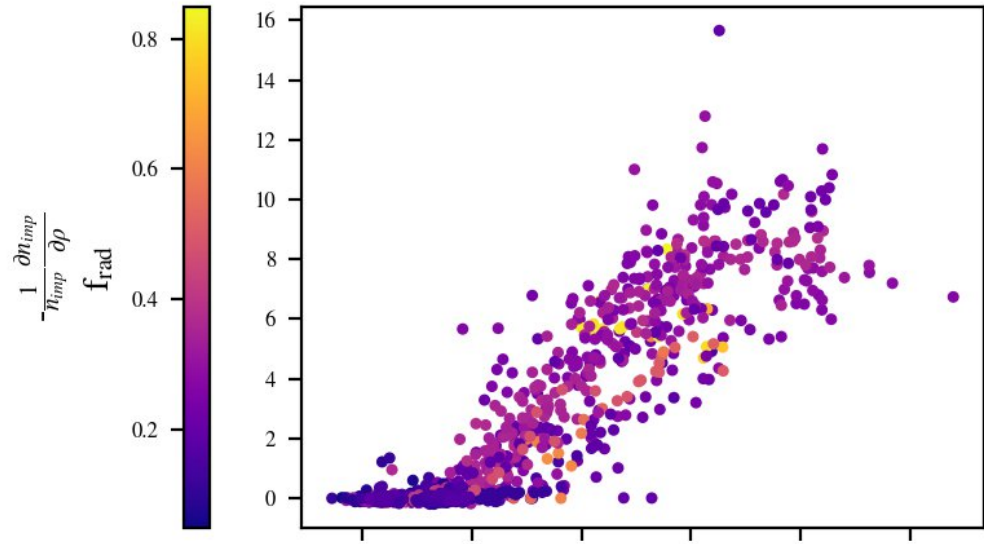
# Kink-correlation plot for shots in AHM magnetic configuration



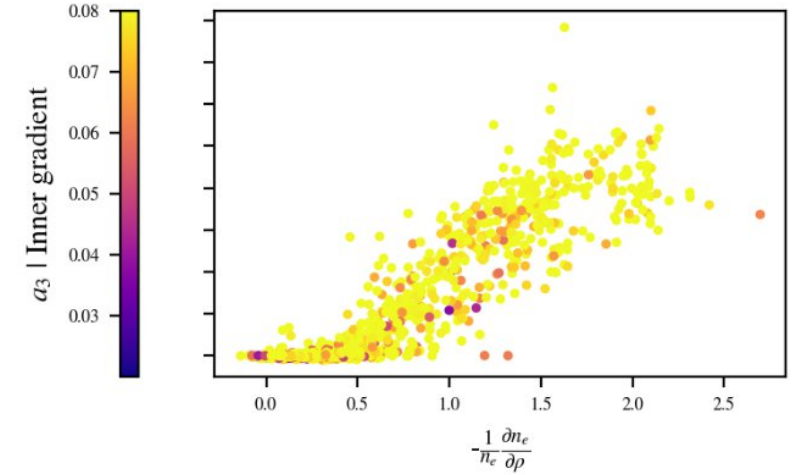
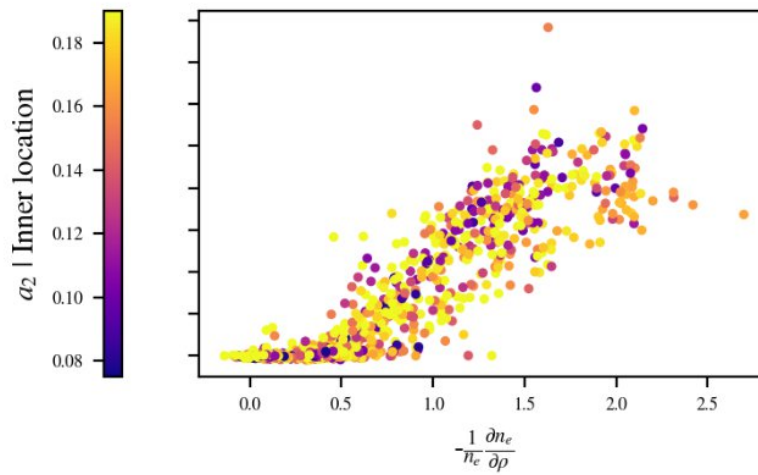
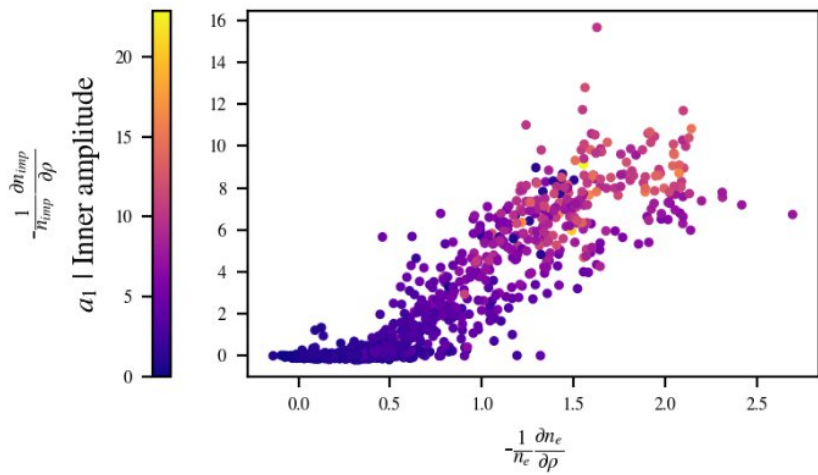
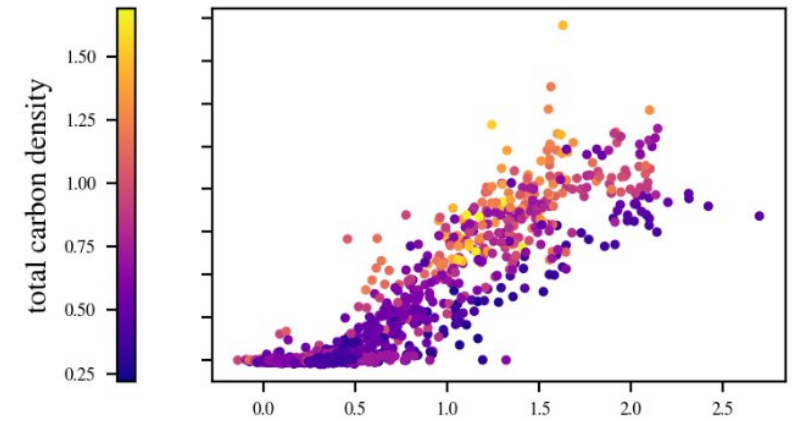
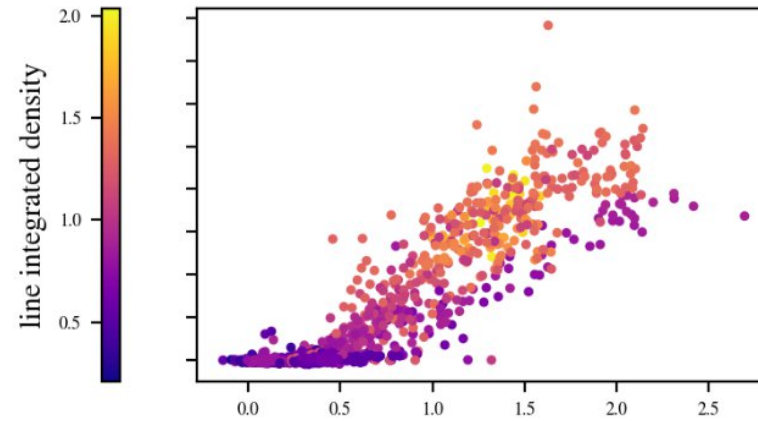
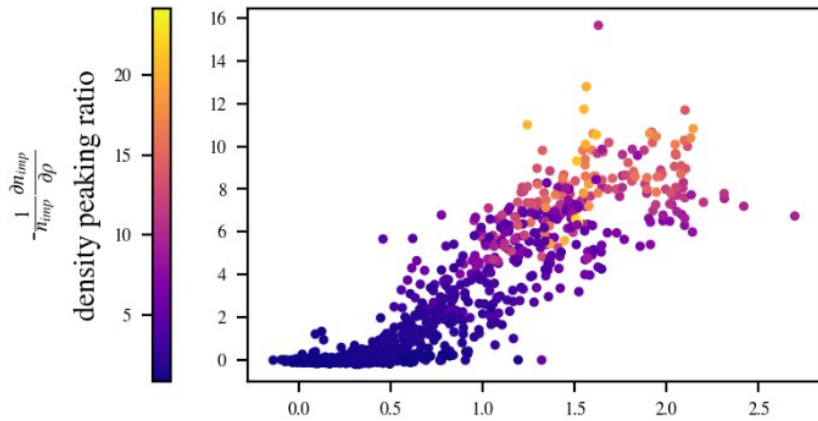
# Kink-correlation plots for different magnetic configurations



# Color coded transport plots



# Color coded transport plots



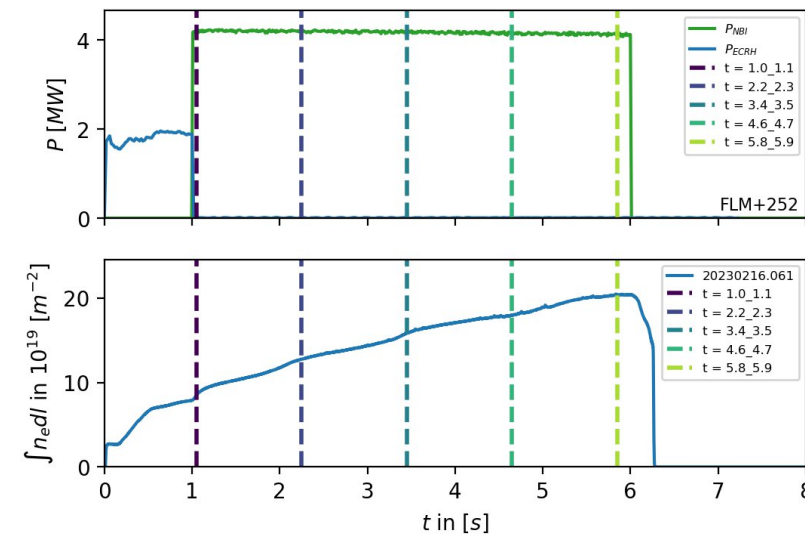
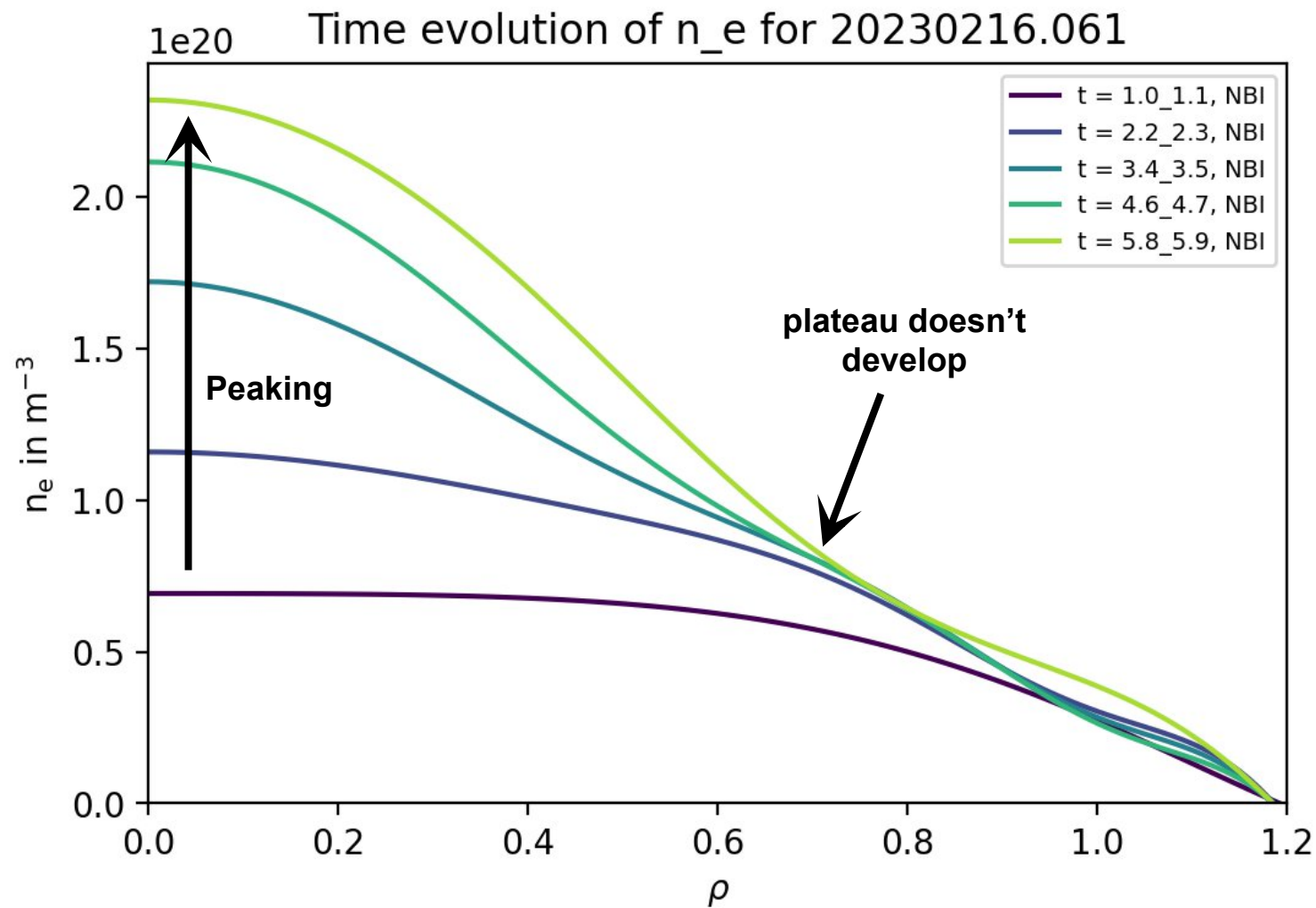
## Key observations of accumulation phenomena in database

- Database populated with over 30 shots, solidifies consistent evidence of neoclassical transport domination in pure NBI heating scenarios
  - Anomalous transport is observed to be dominated for non-accumulating scenarios
- Kink location does not vary significantly for different magnetic configurations



# Remarkable observations - peaking without plateau

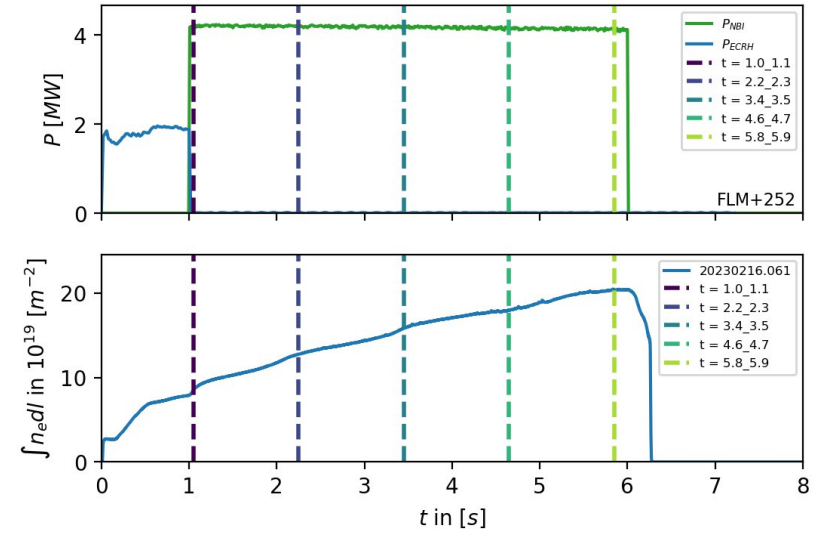
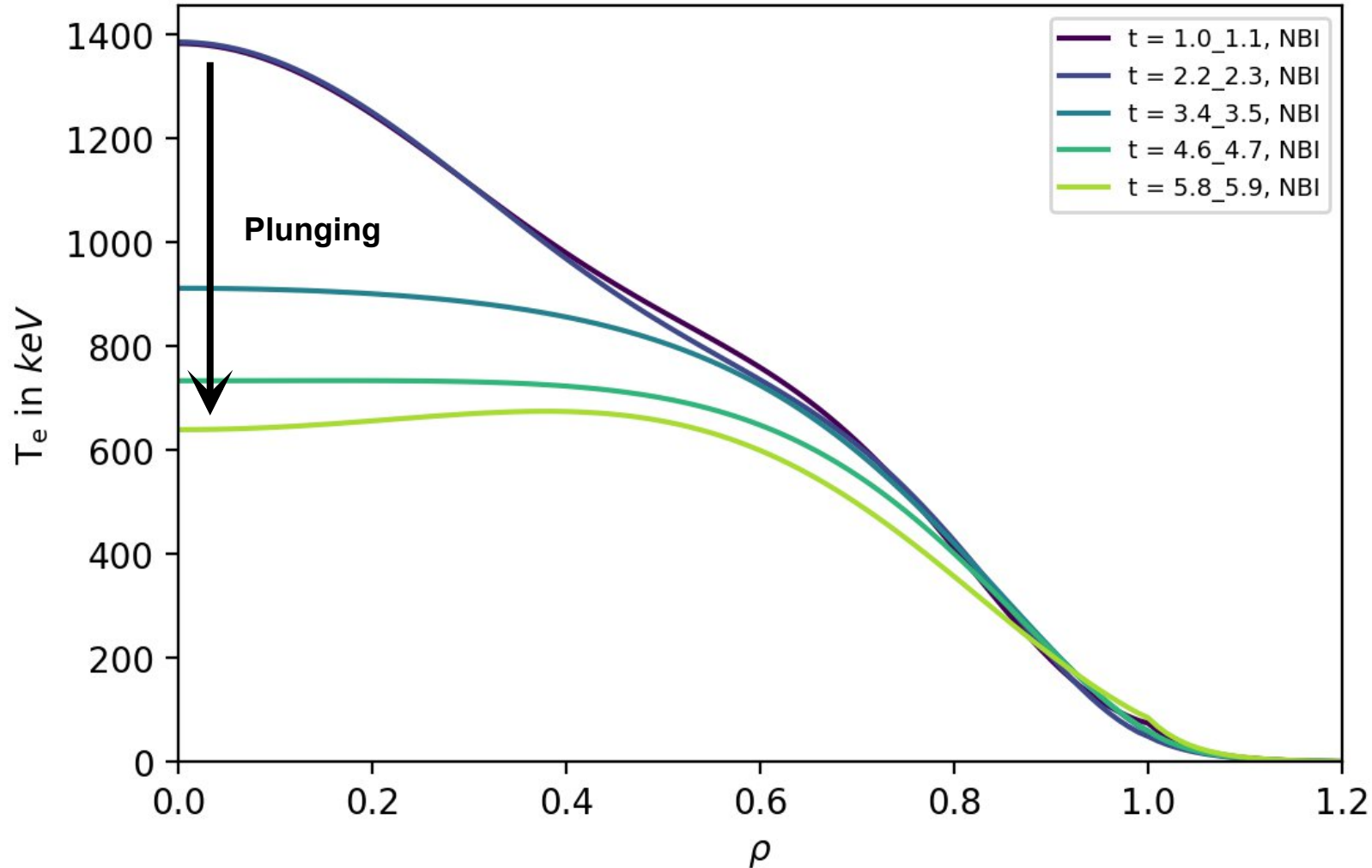
- In the FLM magnetic configuration, the plateau does not fully develop
  - Still, the profile is peaking



# Remarkable observations - peaking without plateau

- Due to the increase in particles with the NBI, inside  $\rho = 0.4$  the electron temperature profile plunges as the density keeps rising

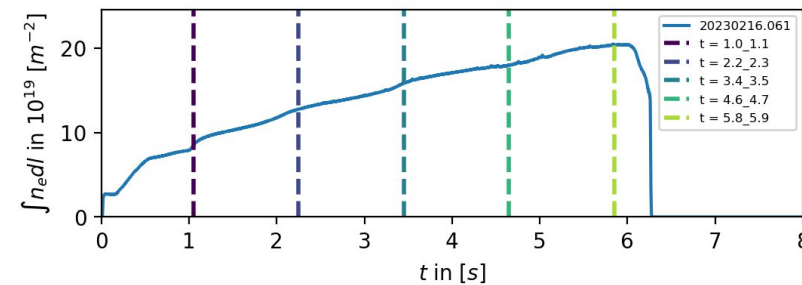
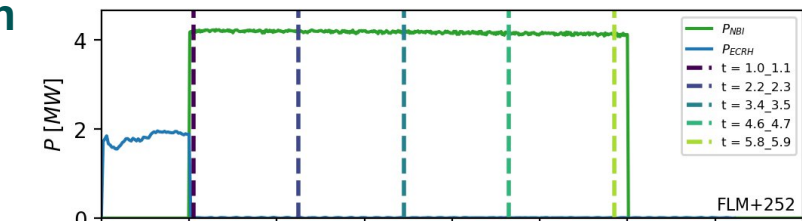
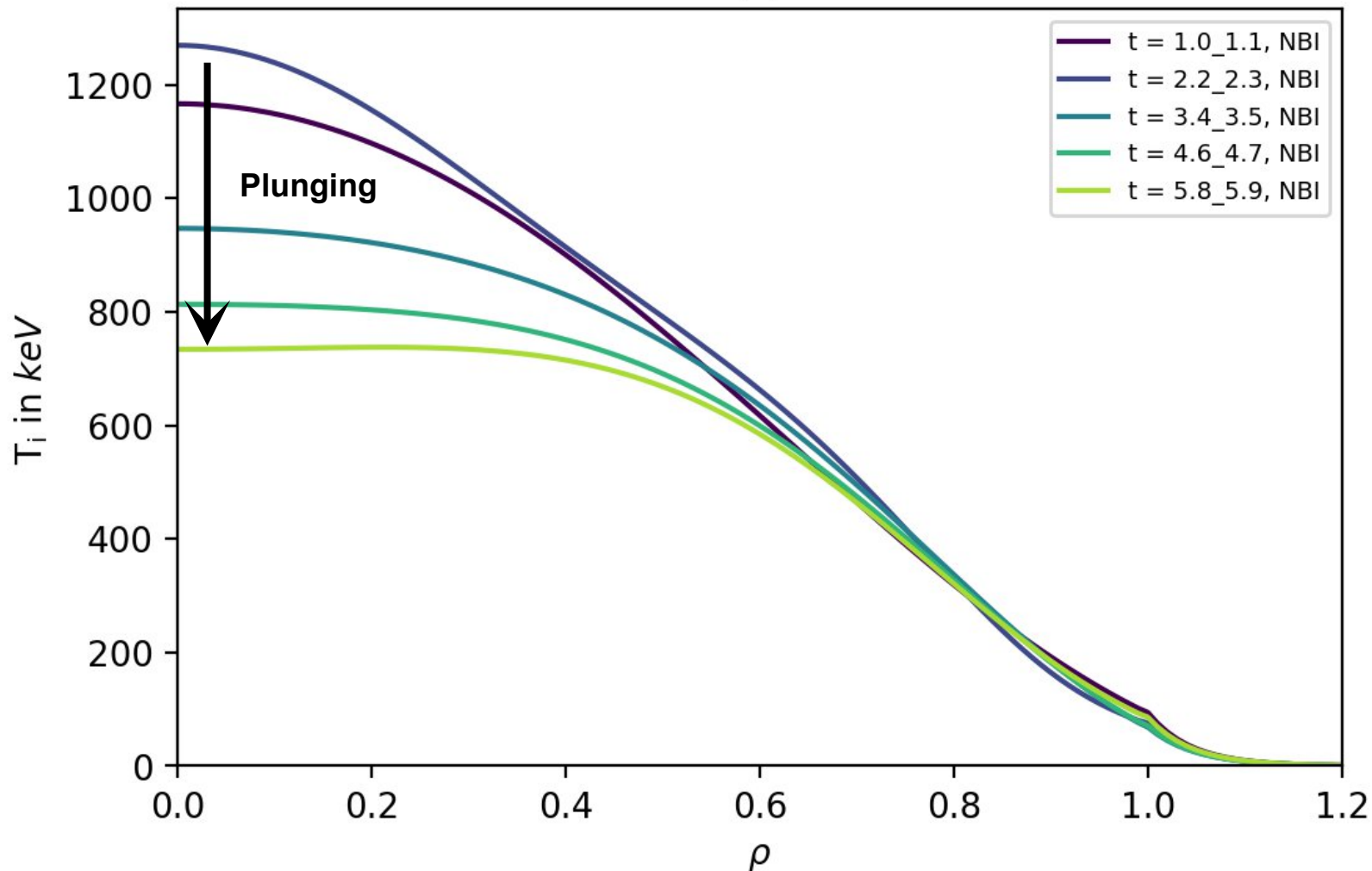
Time evolution of  $T_e$  for 20230216.061



# Remarkable observations - peaking without plateau

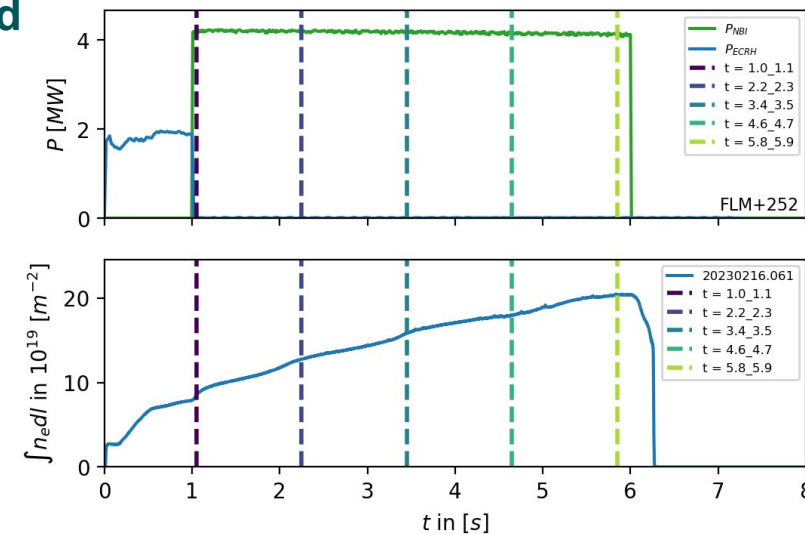
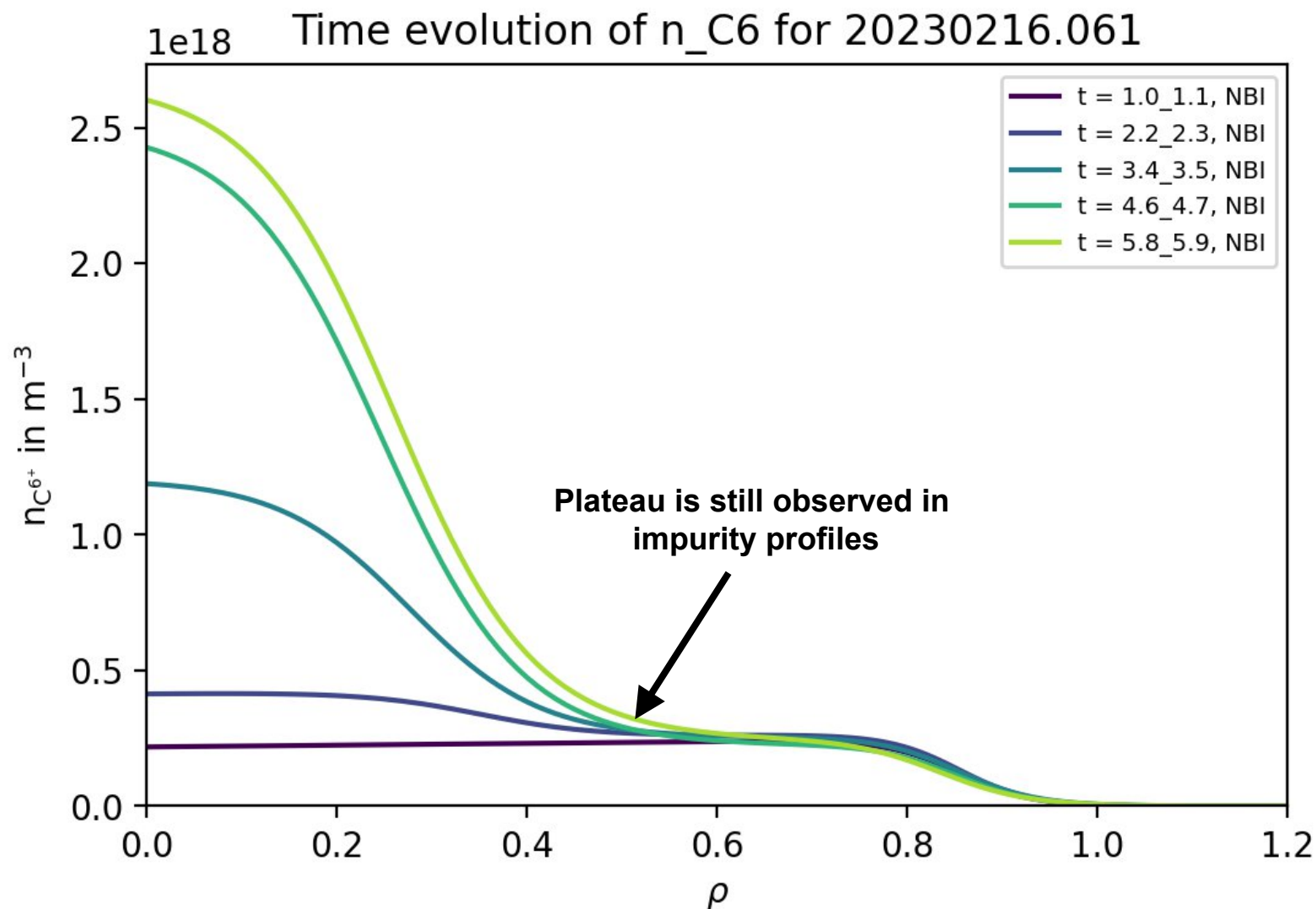
- Due to the increase in particles with the NBI, inside  $\rho = 0.4$  the electron temperature profile plunges as the density keeps rising

Time evolution of  $T_i$  for 20230216.061



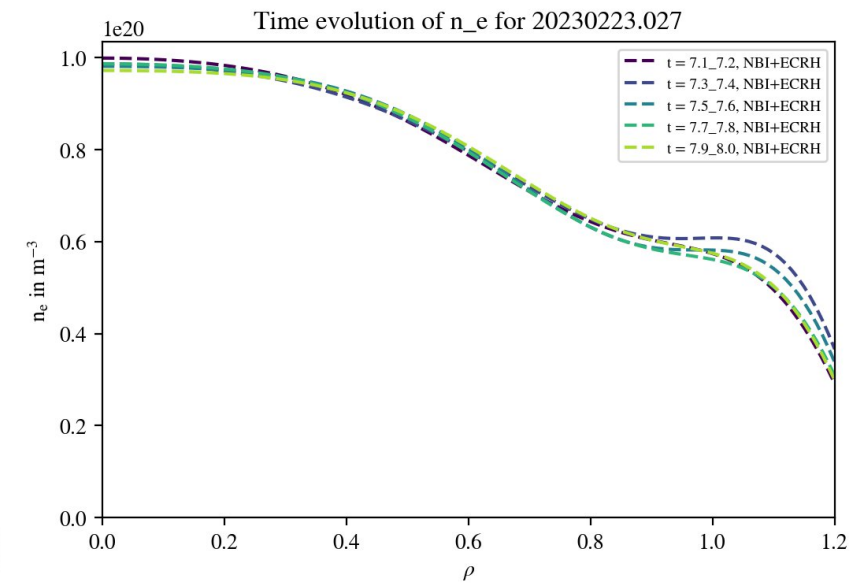
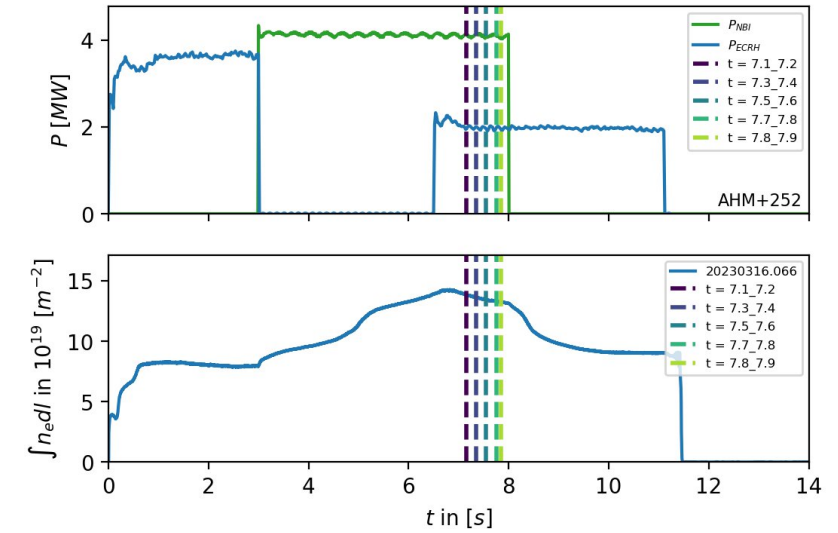
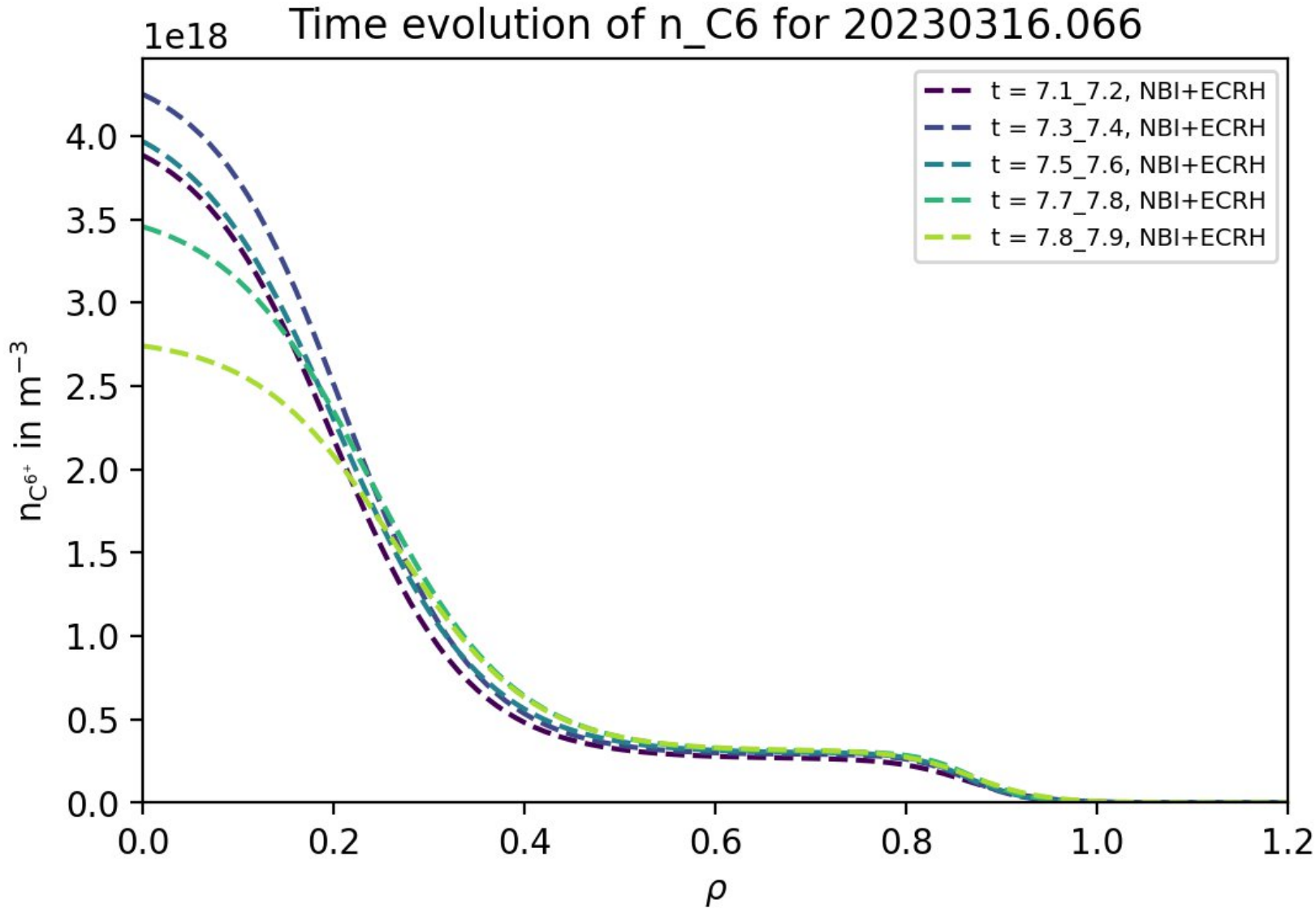
# Remarkable observations - peaking without plateau

- The impurity profile is still peaking dominantly with a flat slope around  $\rho = 0.4$



# Combined heating for low power ECRH

- While electron density finds equilibrium, impurity continues to peak





# Summary



- **Central density accumulation—which includes peaking and plateau development—is observed during the pure NBI heating phase at high density**
  - **For both the main species and the impurities, combined NBI and ECRH heating can either weaken the accumulation or disable it entirely**
- **In main species and impurities evolution, as well as the database, no strong dependence on main magnetic configurations is observed**
- **Accumulation occurs only for high-density discharges, a critical density ( $\sim 8.5 - 9.0 \cdot 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-2}$ ) has to be achieved for the peaking to occur**
- **Gradient development region changes between main species and impurities**
- **Accumulation is stronger for higher-Z impurities**
- **Database approach reveals clear relationship between the impurity and electron gradients, verifying neoclassical transport dominance during pure NBI heating**
  - **High ECRH powered or low density discharges verify anomalous transport dominance for flat (non-accumulating) profile**
- **Kink location does not vary significantly for different magnetic configurations**

## Future steps

- **Implementation of neotransp and pystrahl on experimental profiles to solidify assumptions with transport simulation codes**
- **Improvement of data fitting with modified double tanh**
  - **Further adjustment to ranges for the double modified tanh parameters**
- **Filtering of database by manual examination using the ‘filter\_data\_by\_figures’ function**
- **Parameterization and quantification of accumulation in main plasma species**
- **Database population with multiple impurity species, and validation of universal accumulation behavior for impurities**
- **Investigation of hollowness in profiles in the database**
- **Examination of ICRH heating effect on profile evolution**