It is known that radially sheared zonal flows plays a significant role in nonlinear stabilization in tokamak plasmas.  $^{1-3}$ . Through advection on the sheared zonal flows the turbulent structure in plasma gets deformed and tilted that causes an  $E \times B$  nonlinearty.  $^{2,4,5}$  Zonal flows mediate spectral energy transfer to larger radial wave vectors.  $^{6-8}$  The strength of the shearing process is the  $E \times B$  shearing rate  $\omega_{E \times B}$  which is the radial derivative of the advecting zonal flow velocity.  $^{4,9}$  The shearing rate  $\omega_{E \times B}$  is defined as

$$\omega_{\rm E\times B} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \langle \Phi \rangle}{\partial \psi^2} \tag{1}$$

where  $\langle \Phi \rangle$  is the zonal electrostatic potential and  $\psi$  the radial coordinate that labels the flux surfaces.  $^{10-12}$  It was shown that the nonlinear threshold for turbulence is directly related to shear stabilization. Often the shear stabilization is expressed in the empirical Waltz rule  $\omega_{\rm E\times B} \sim \gamma$ ,  $^{9,13}$  where  $\gamma$  is defined as the maximum linear growth rate in the unstable mode. In the discovered zonal flows, also known as  $E\times B$  staircase  $^{14}$ , exhibit amplitudes in terms of the  $E\times B$  shearing rate satisfying the stabilization criteria.  $^{10,15}$ 

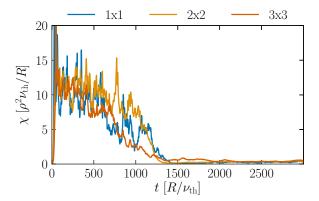


FIG. 1: Test

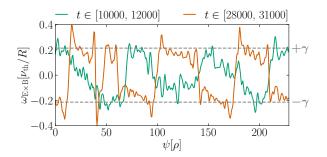


FIG. 2: Test

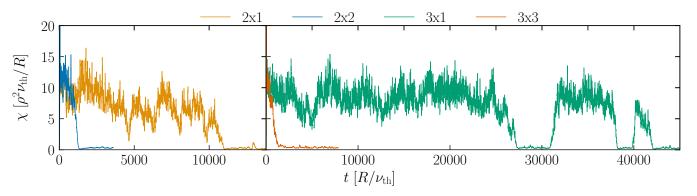


FIG. 4: Test

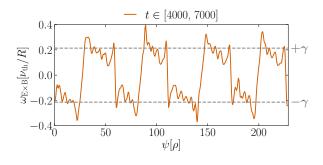


FIG. 3: Test

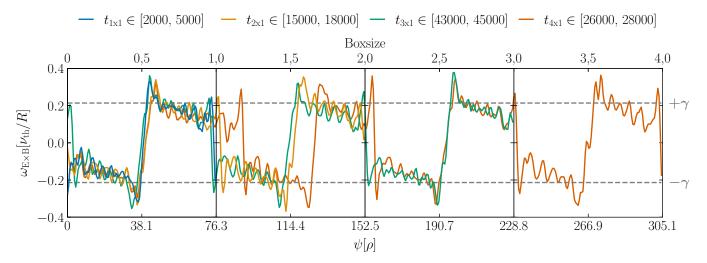
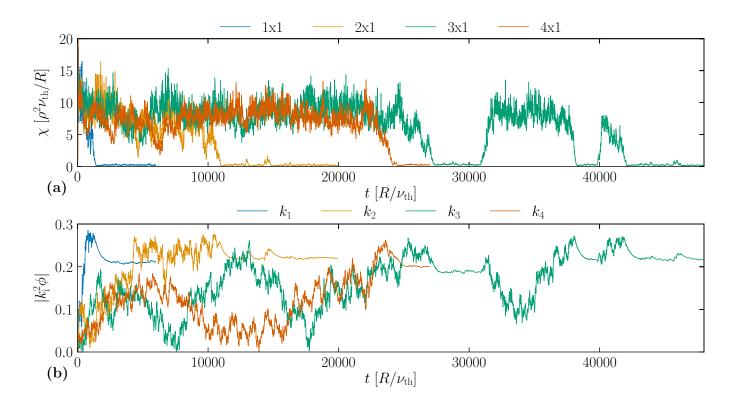


FIG. 5: Test



## **DATA AVAILABILITY**

The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

	Counter		Words	
	1 Col	2 Col	1 Col	2 Col
Words			269	
Figure	3	4	200	400
Table	0	0	13	26
Table Row	0	0	5	13
Eq Row	0	0	7	13
Pages			3	
Total			2469	
Remain			1031	

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