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Transport Analysis of Bat-eared T_e Profile Discharges in DIII-D,* M.E. Austin, K.W. Gentle, *Univ. of Texas*; C.C. Petty, *GA*; T.L. Rhodes, L. Schmitz, *UCLA* — In DIII-D H-mode discharges created solely with off-axis ECH, the T_e profiles often exhibit a pronounced hollow or "bat-eared" shape for a long period just after the onset of the heating. The location just inside of the off-axis T_e peaks is seen to be a region of low transport, both from a calculation of diffusivity from transport codes and from an observation of phase jumps in heat pulse propagation. This transport barrier location is also near the $q=1$ surface, as determined by the sawtooth inversion radius. The depth and width of the barrier consistent with the observed T_e measurements is investigated with a simple transport code model. Also, the differences between the bat-eared discharges and the more common discharges with heat-pinch behavior are examined.

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