



TPC and ECAL cooling system: status

XV Collaboration Meeting of the MPD Experiment at NICA

April 16, 2025

Speaker: Alexander Fedotov

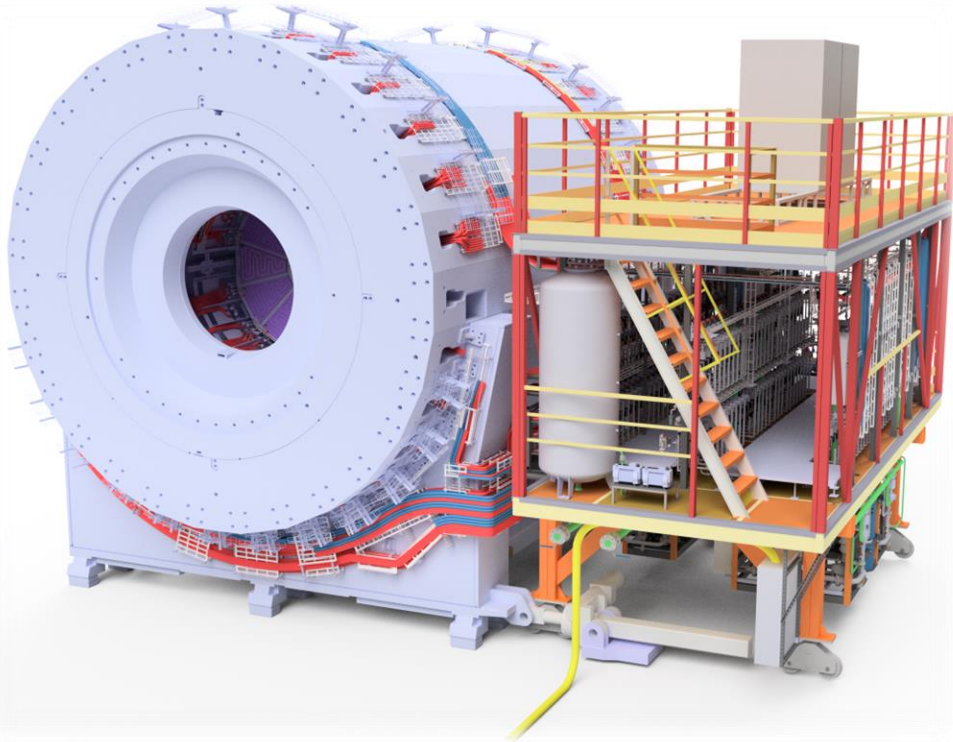
The outline

1. Installation status;
2. Test run;
3. High-precision thermometry;
4. Research stand status.

Installation status

Installation

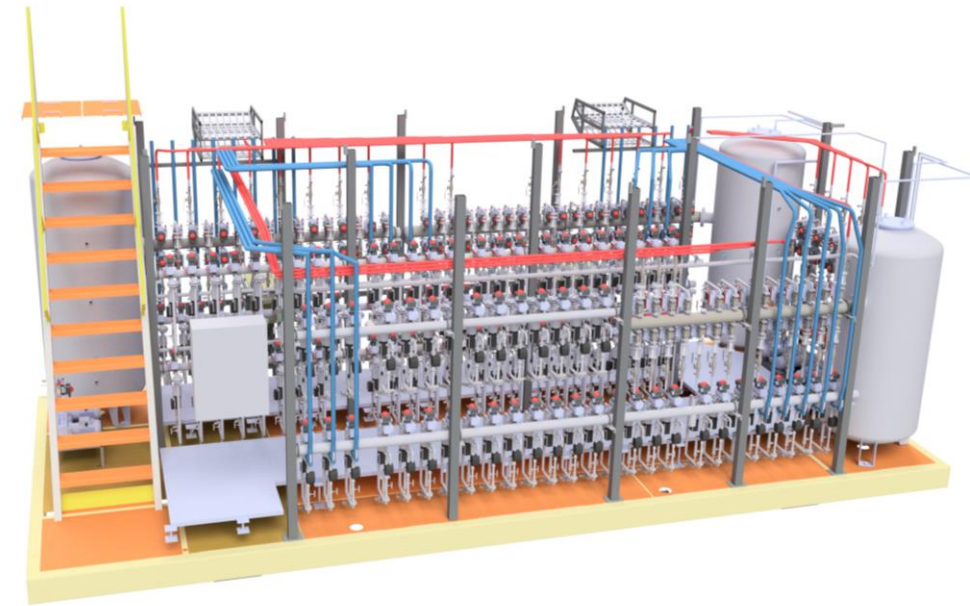
2nd Floor



MPD

Cooling system

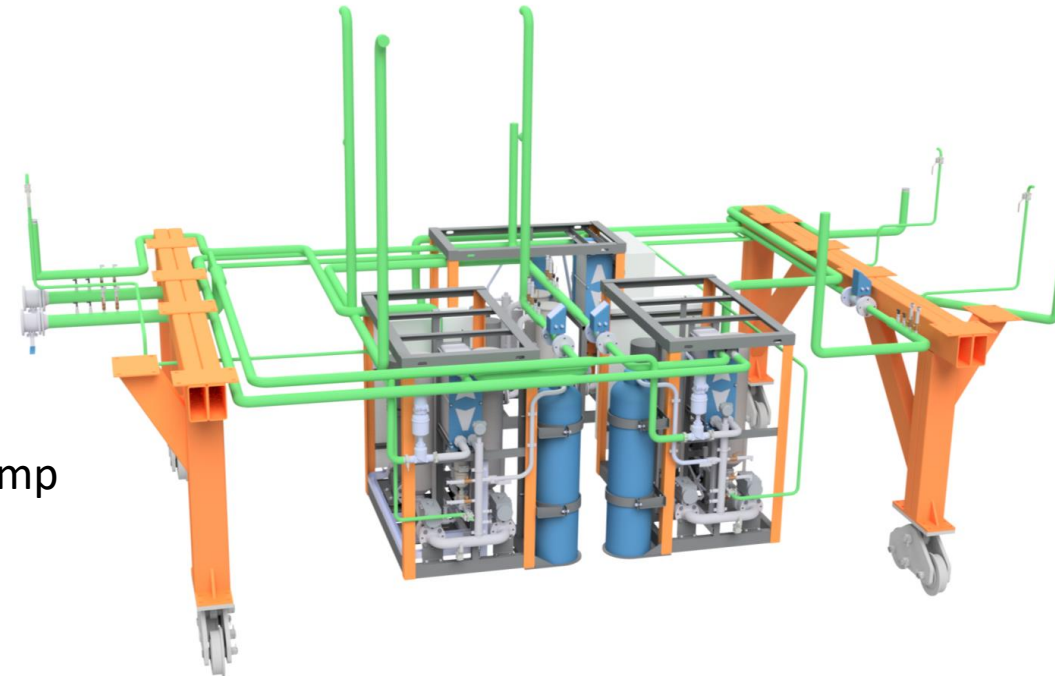
1st Floor:
manifolds, sensors,
vacuum tanks



1st Floor

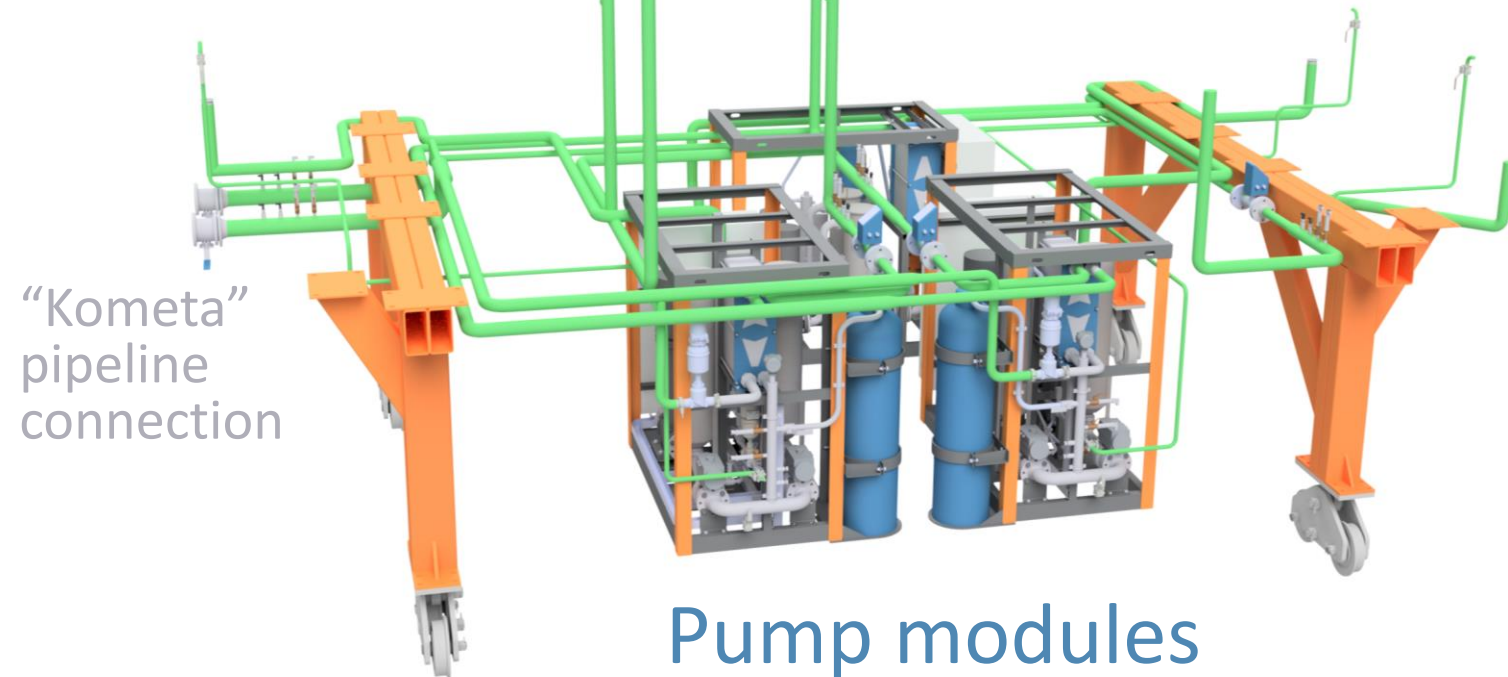
0 Floor

0 Floor: pump
modules +
“Kometa”
connection



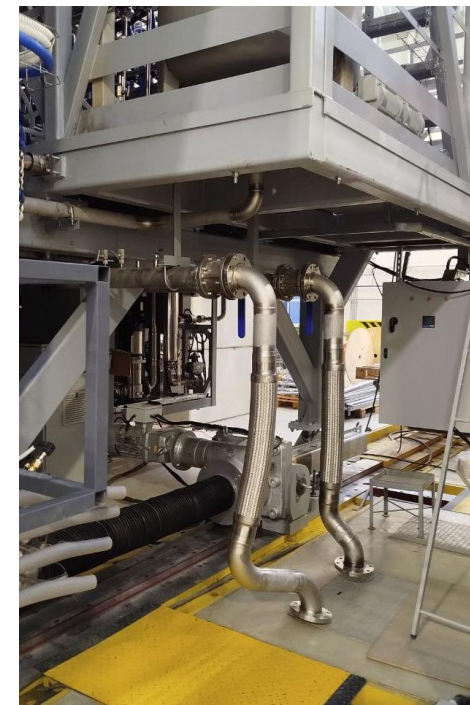
Installation 0 floor

Steel platform
pipelines



Pump modules

0 floor equipment



Kometa connection Pump module

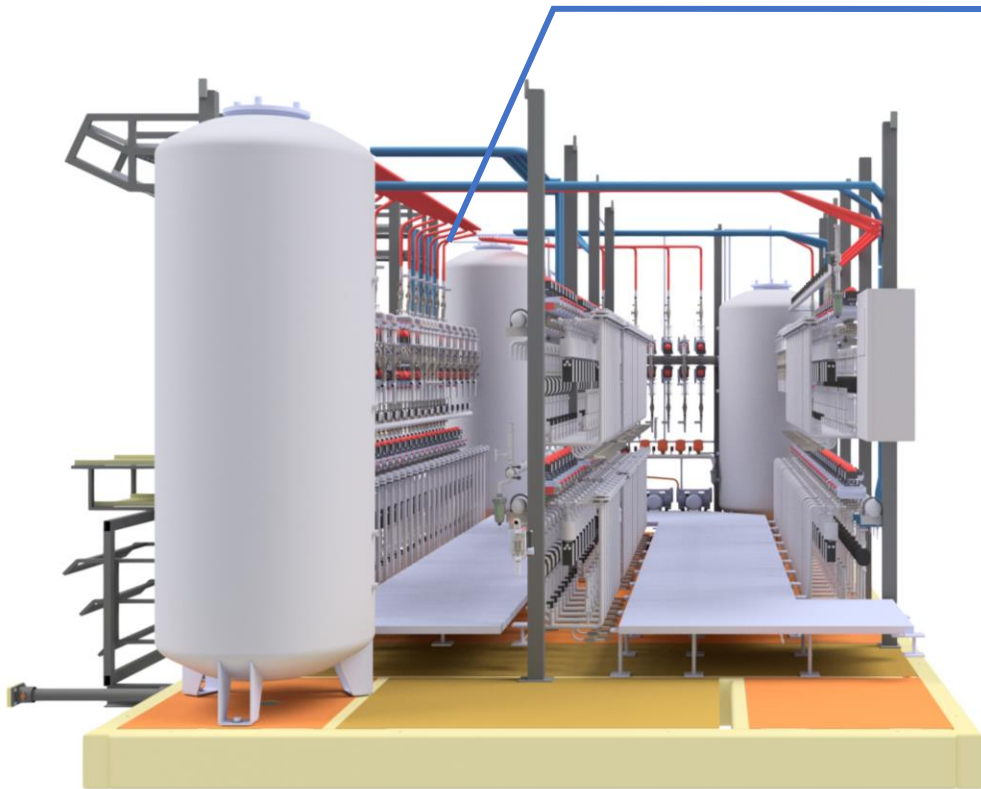


Done:

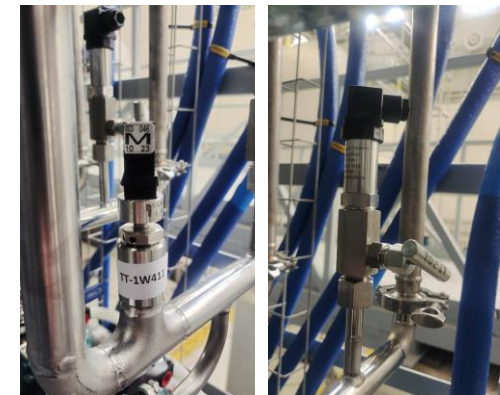
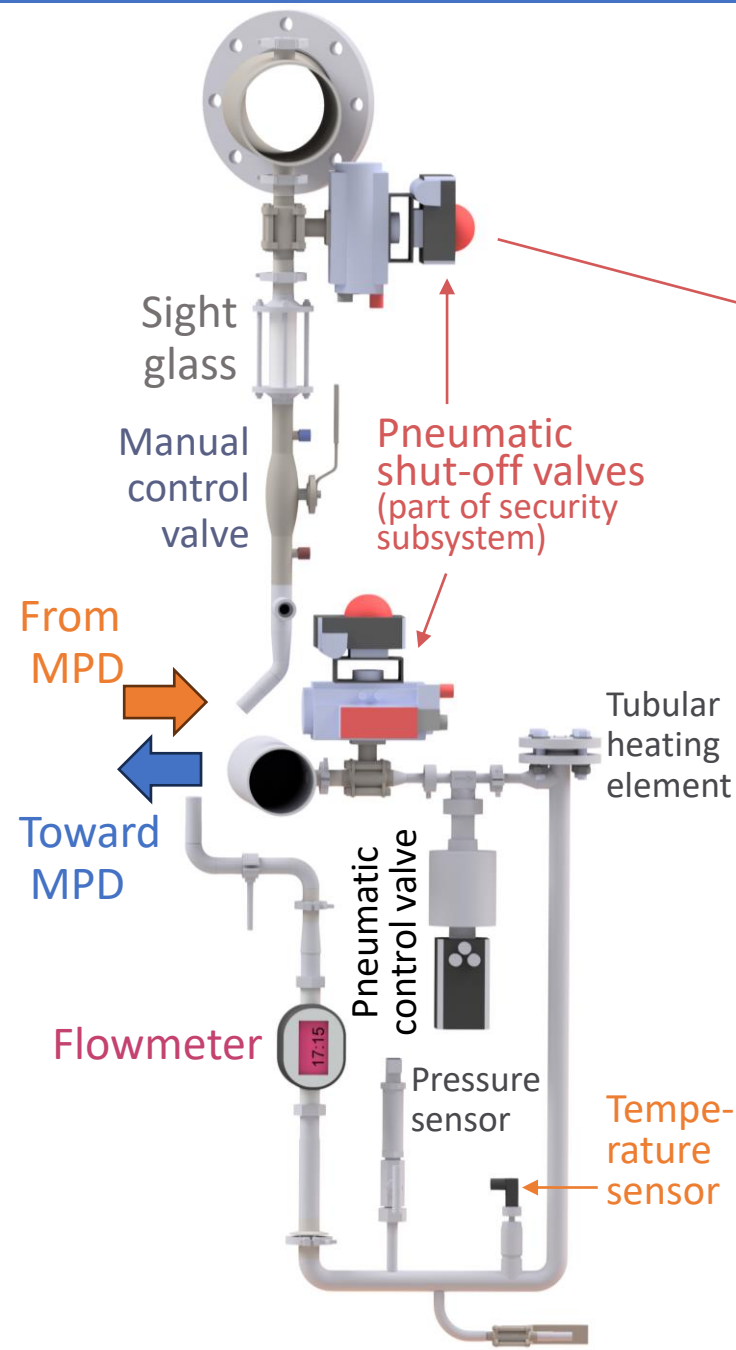
- ✓ Installation of three pump modules;
- ✓ Stainless steel pipelines “pump modules – manifolds” and “pump modules – Kometa pipeline”;
- ✓ Cables and compressed air for automation equipment.

Installation 1st floor

- 3 independent closed contours;
- **116** controlled water subcontours.



1st floor equipment



Installation 1st floor

Done:

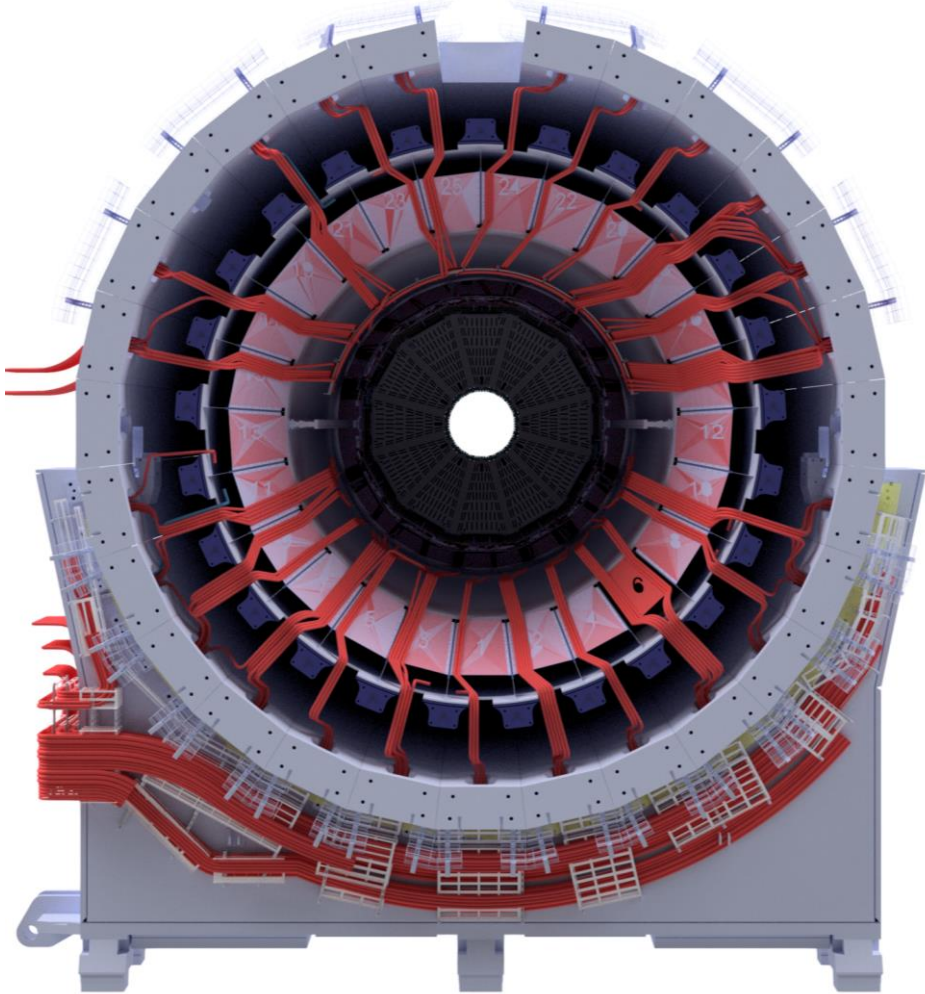
- ✓ All steel manifolds;
- ✓ All pneumatic shut-off valves;
- ✓ All steel enclosures for subcontours;
- ✓ Raised floor.
- ✓ All vacuum tanks;

To do:

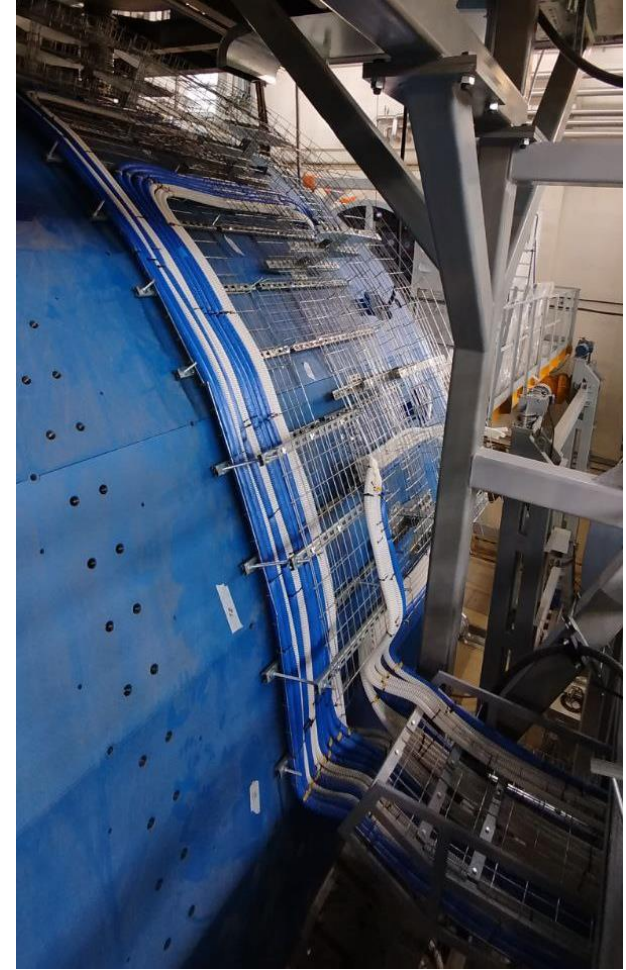
- Install electronic cabinets with cables;
- Install flow, pressure, temperature sensors;
- Install heaters;
- Install control pneumatic valves.



Installation of pipes



3D pipe routing with support trays



Done:

- ✓ 3D model of 232 pipelines;
- ✓ Installation of 90 % pipe routing from platform to MPD windows

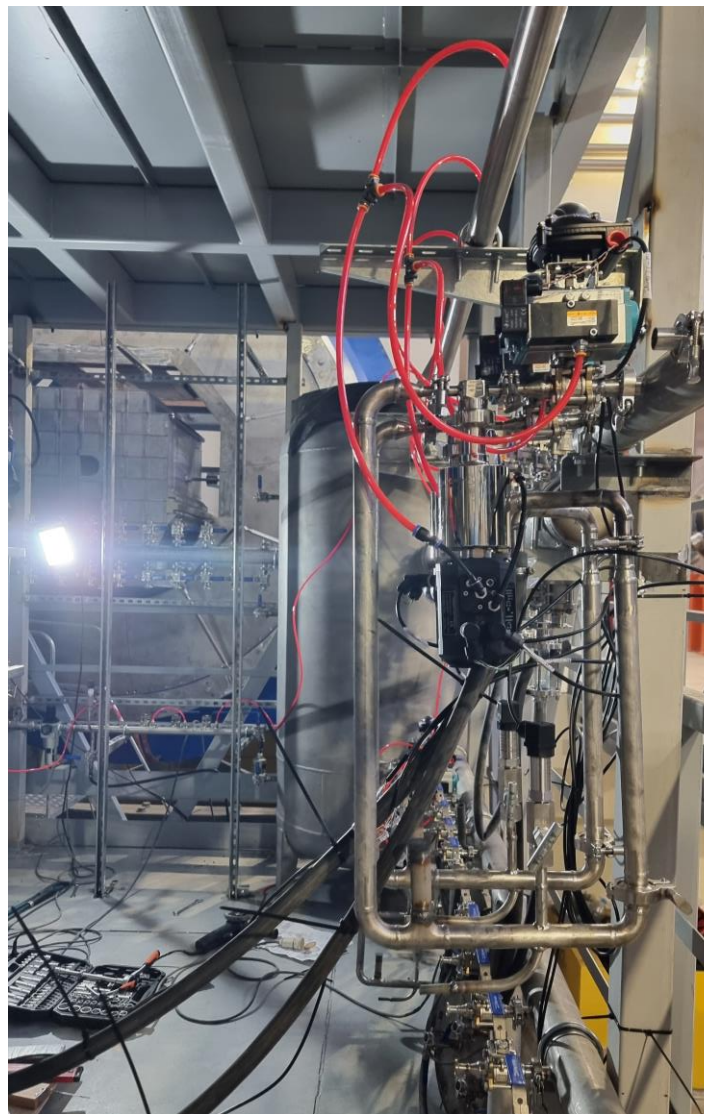
Test run

Test run

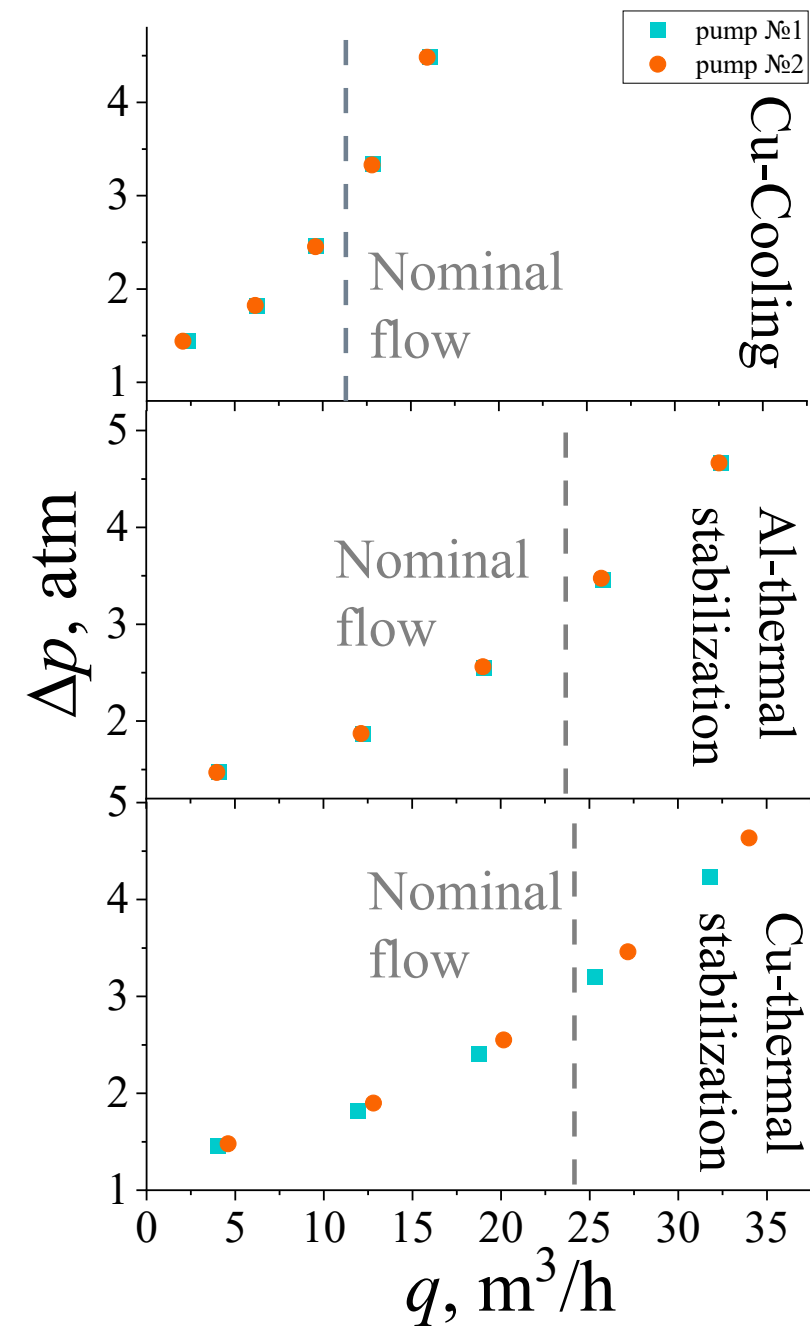
16 December 2024 –
three pump modules were
washed and **tested**

Key finds:

1. Hydraulic **losses** on platform steel **pipeline** 0,4 – 0,6 atm at nominal flow;
2. System stability at high pressure (**10 atm**): no leaks, no breaks;
3. At nominal flow contours have **1,5 atm surplus** that is enough for water supply.



Testing process: **red hoses** – air supply, **thick black hoses** – temporary water lines



High-precision thermometry

What is the problem?

TPC of STAR & ALICE: thermal stability in gas volume $\pm 0,1$ °C

But

Best GOST “AA” sensors:

$$\Delta T_{\text{Pt100}} = \pm (0,1 + 0,0017 |T|) \text{ °C} \approx \pm 0,15 \text{ °C}$$

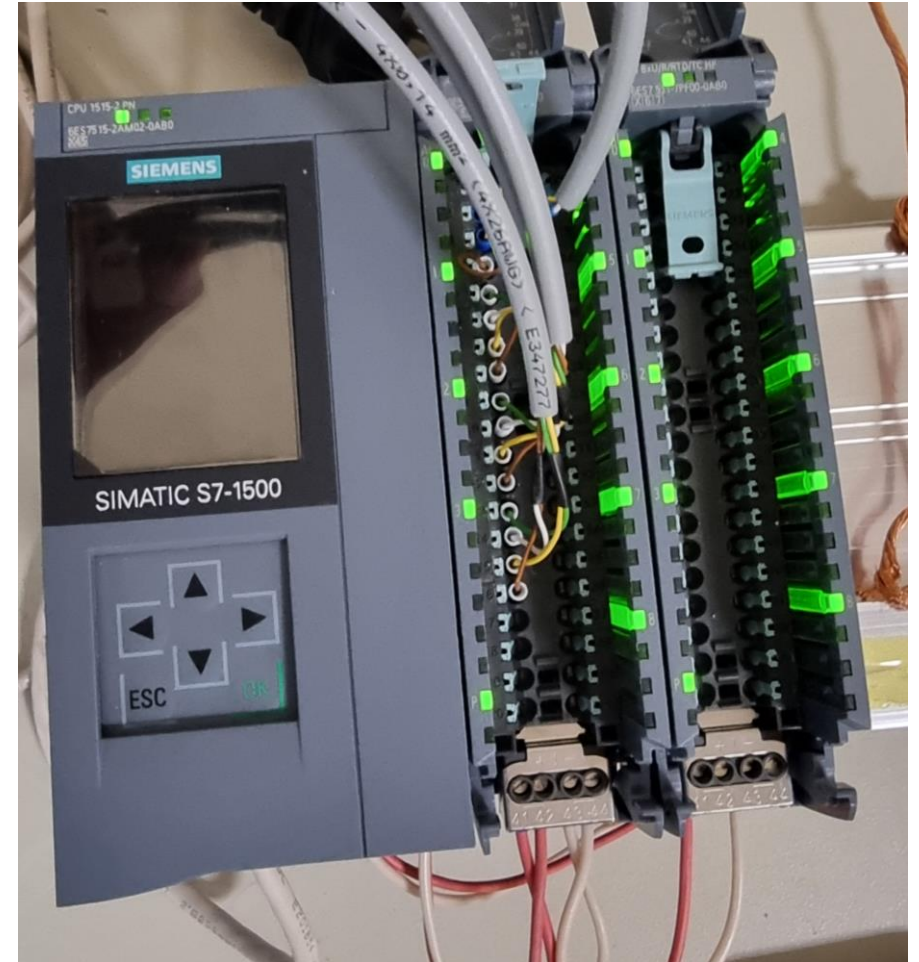
...We need 260 channels and sensors with error $\sim \pm 0,03$ °C

What should we do

HF Analog Input modules

The plan:

1. Calibrate measurement channels;
2. Calibrate sensors;
3. Develop database;
4. Introduce correction algorithm to PLC.



Siemens 1512-2

Programmable logic controller

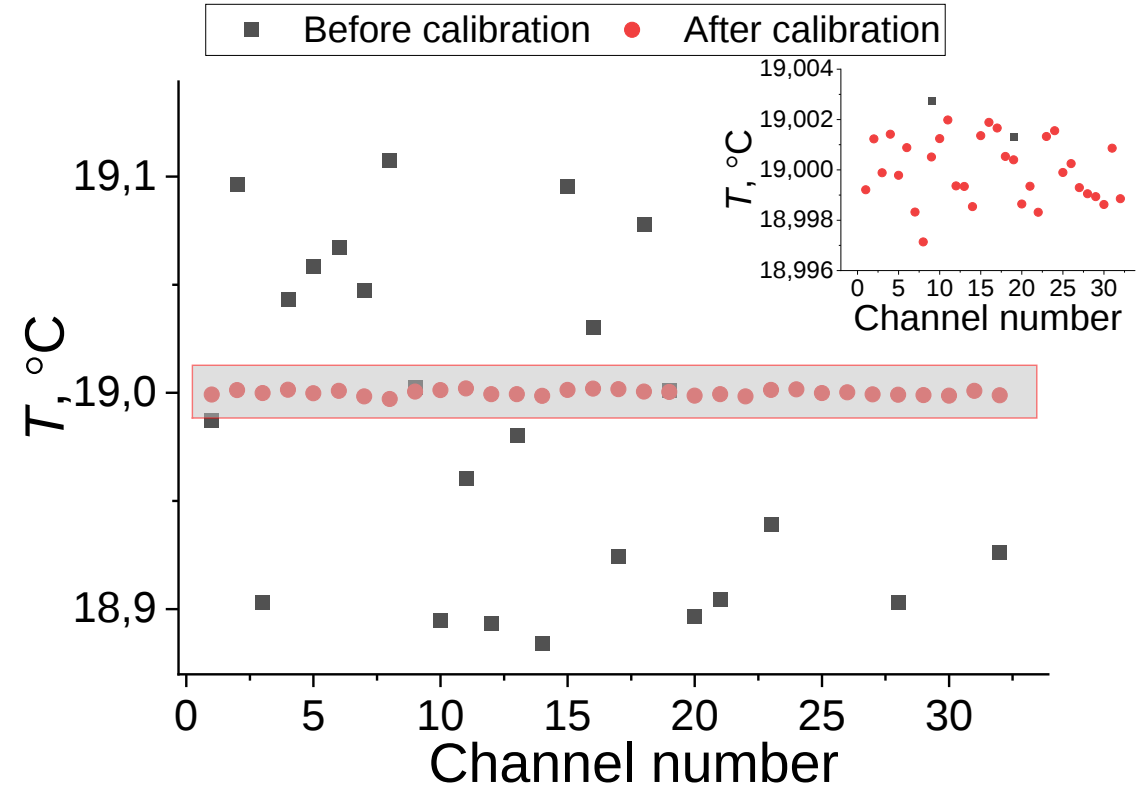
Measurement channel calibration

1. Take **very stable resistance** R_i (Yokogawa) and **validate it** (Keithley).
2. Calculate **ideal temperature** T_i if sensor Pt100 has resistance R_i ;
3. Plug resistance to Siemens AI and **find correction** between **ideal** T_i and **siemens-measured** $T_{\text{siemens-i}}$
4. Build **map of corrections** for **all channels** for **different temperatures** (correction depends on T!)

Yokogawa 2793/01
decade resistance box

0.001 Ohm precision,
2 ppm/°C stability

Sponsored by ArcoLab LLC



Keithley DMM7510
multimeter



Sensor calibration

1. Put sensors in calibrator chamber.
2. Measure raw T_{raw_i} temperature from i -th sensor at T_{etalon} temperature of calibrator sensor;
3. Build calibration functions P projecting T_{raw_i} to T_{etalon} for each i -th sensor at j -th temperature.



Calibrator Elemer TK-150-MK

Polynomial calibration function:

$$P_i(a[0]_i, a[1]_i, \dots, a[k]_i, \dots, a[n]_i, T_i) = a[0]_i + a[1]_i \cdot T_i + \dots + a[k]_i \cdot T_i^k + \dots + a[n]_i \cdot T_i^n$$

Searching coefficients a_j for each sensor by minimization

Least-squares error L^2 :

$$L^2 = \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^m \left(P_i(T_i^j) - T_{etalon}^j \right)^2}$$

OR

Chebyshev's norm L^∞ :

$$L^\infty = \max_j \left| P_i(T_i^j) - T_{etalon}^j \right|$$

Sensor calibration

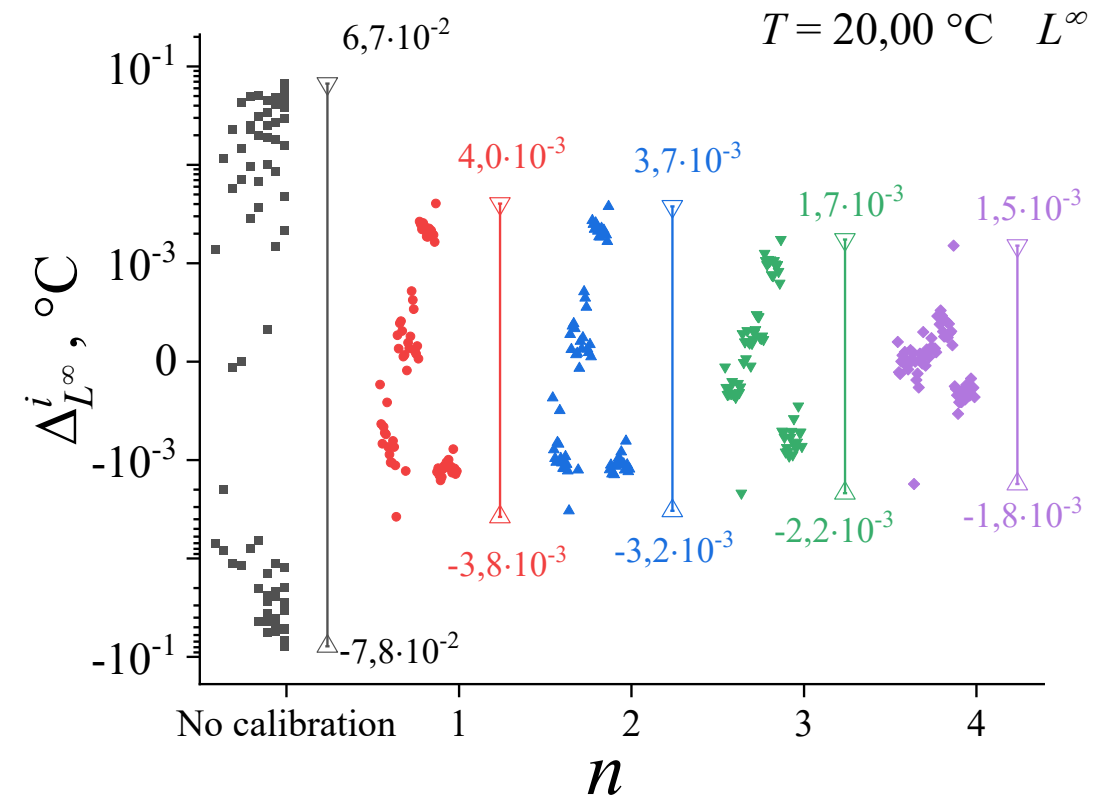
Calibration even by linear function reduces spread of sensor readings by a factor of 19 (from $0,145\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $0,0073\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$);

Error relative to mean sensor value $\approx$

$0,01\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ from sensors + $0,006\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ from channels $\approx 0,016\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

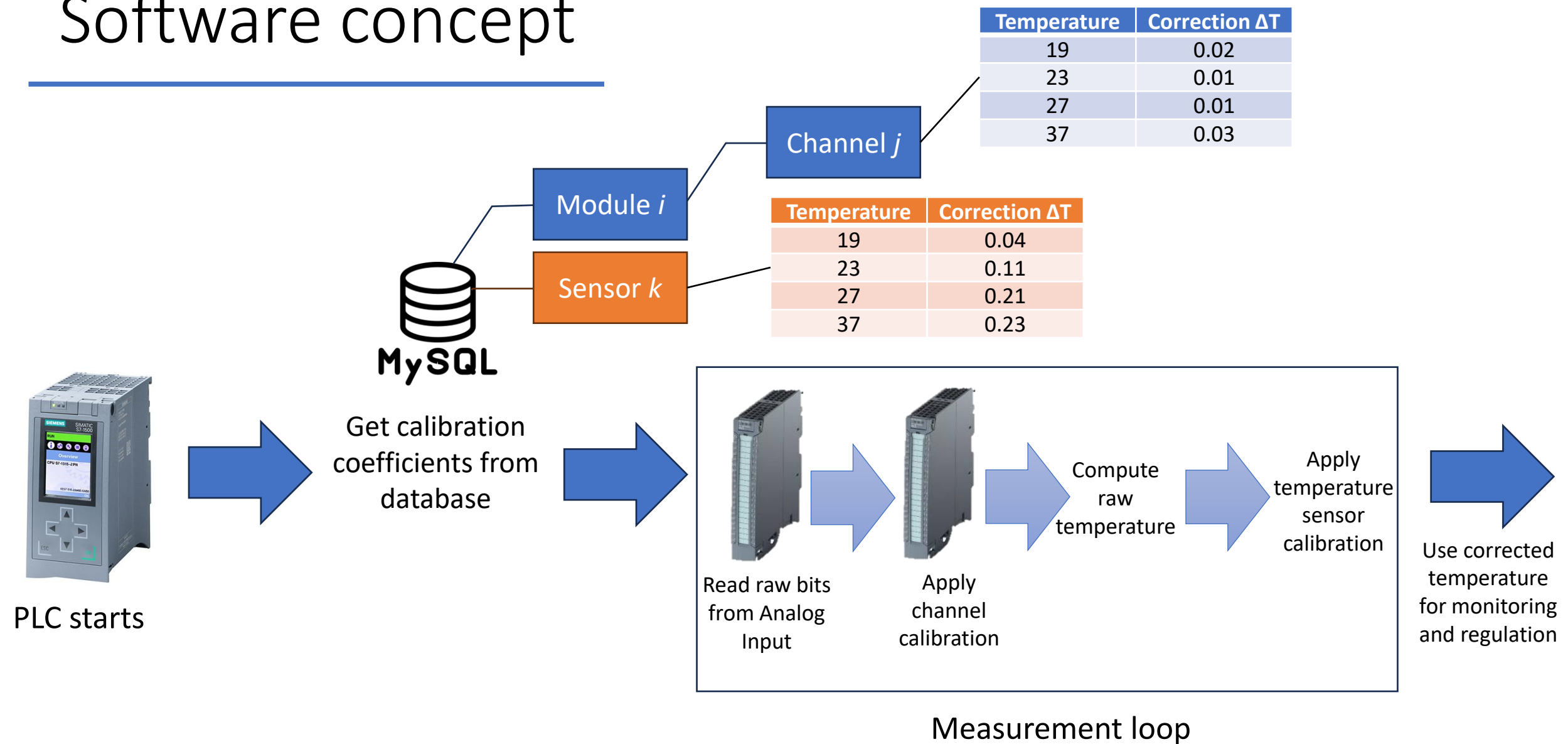
Absolute temperature error $\approx$

$0,01\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ from sensors + $0,01\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ from calibrator + $0,006\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ from channels + $0,003\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ from Keithley $\approx 0,03\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$



Spread of sensor readings Δ for calibration polynomial of order n

Software concept



Research stand status

Research stand design

Electronics setup
includes an i5 panel
computer,
Siemens S7-1500 PLC,
Siemens I/O modules

Vacuum pump Value
VE-115N

Akvabright ABF-NERZH-
20BB mechanical filter

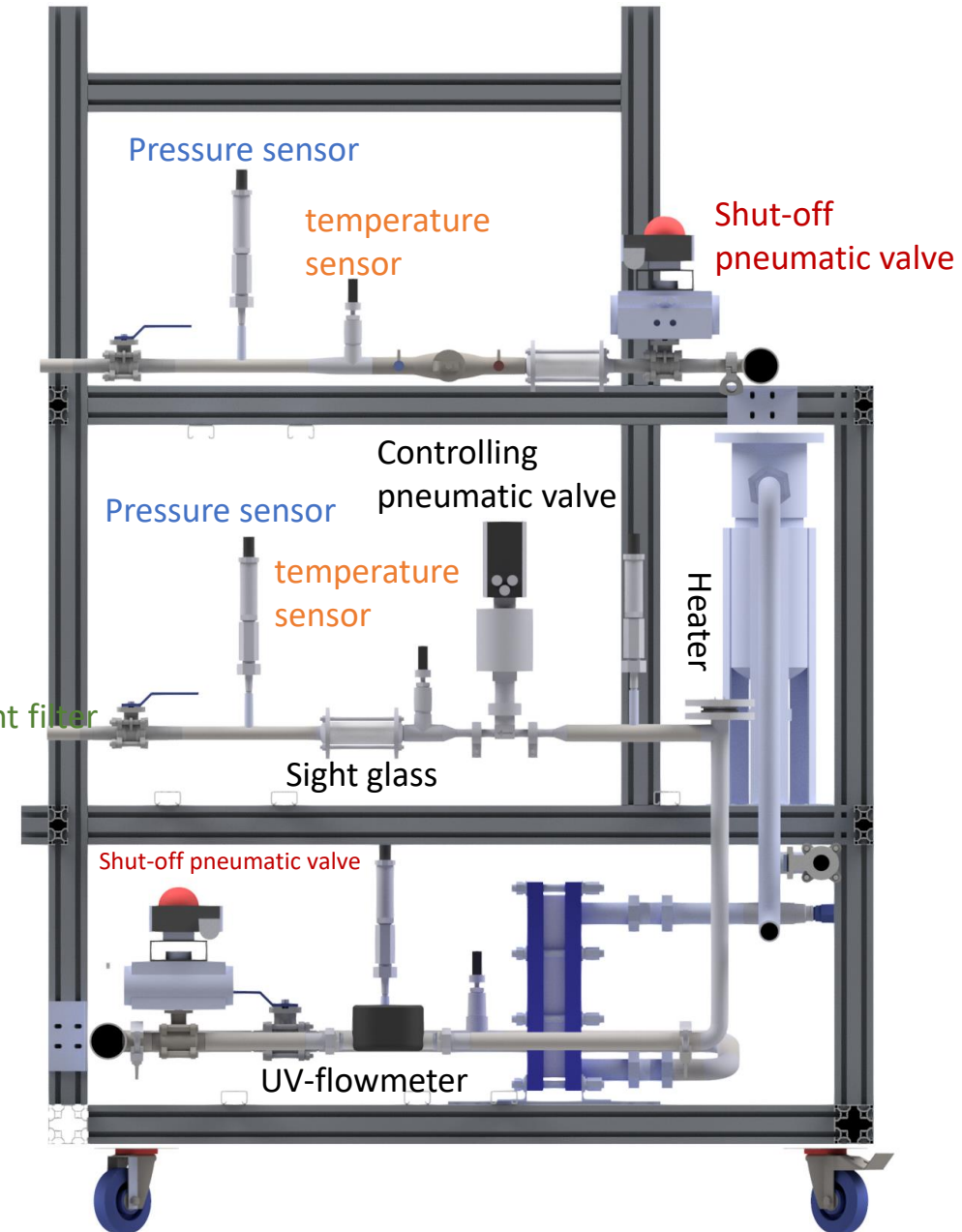
Chemical water treatment filter
FS 815

CSE-3320E
conductivity meter

Jetex VS 4/7 circulating pump
(max. 7 m³/h)

Heat exchanger ET-
002-1048452, up to 6
kW/(m·K)

Heater 150 Bт
– 2,3 kW



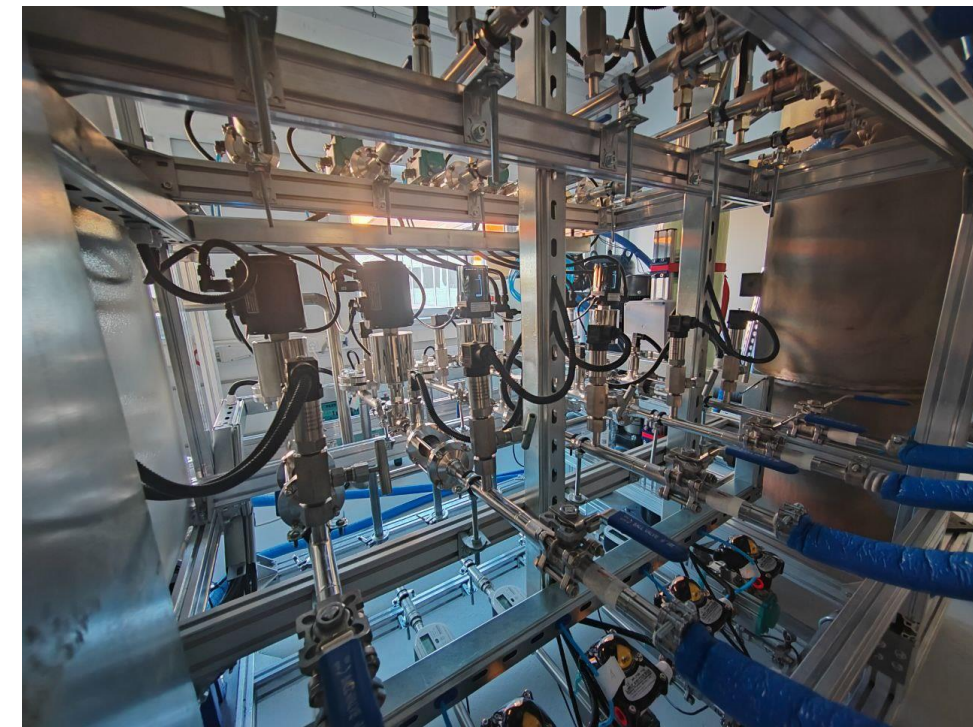
Research stand status

Planned Experiments:

- Debugging of control **algorithms for hydraulically coupled subcontours**;
- Debugging of **thermal stabilization regimes** on the operational ROC chamber;
- Development and testing of **algorithms for cavitation lock removal**;
- Hydrodynamic studies of new radiators (synchronization modules and FEC card readout controllers);



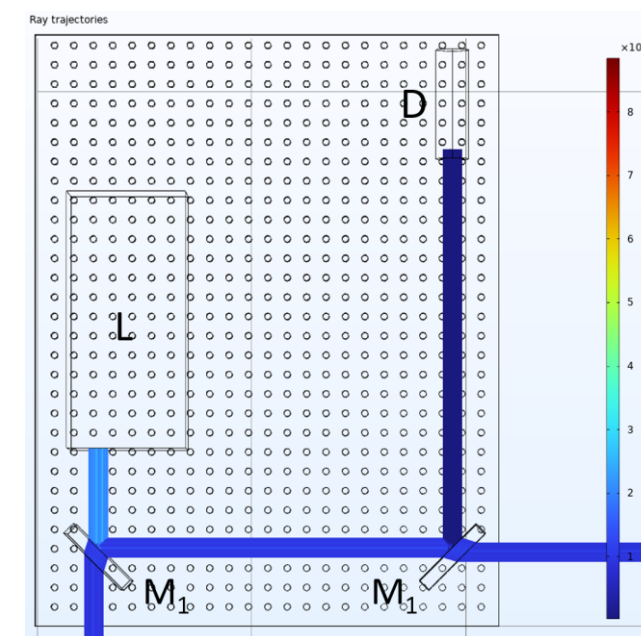
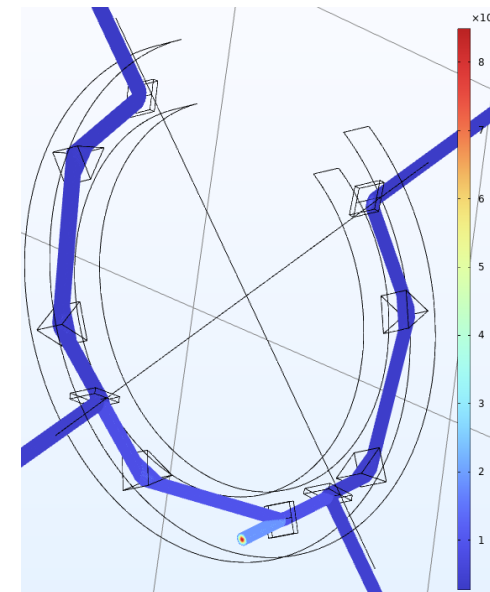
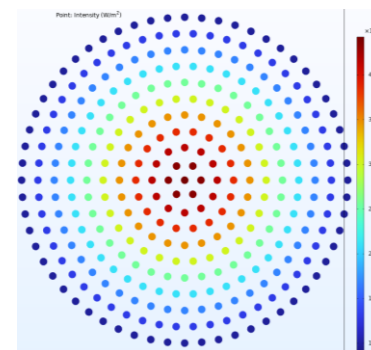
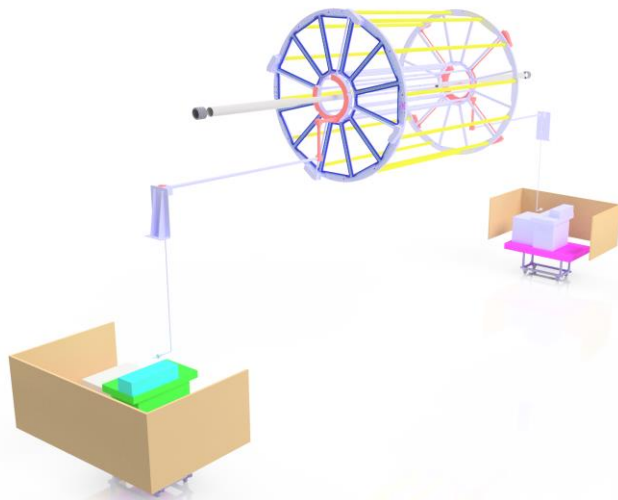
Vorticity air detector test



Subcontours



Thank you



Co-authorship and gratitude

Research was directly conducted by

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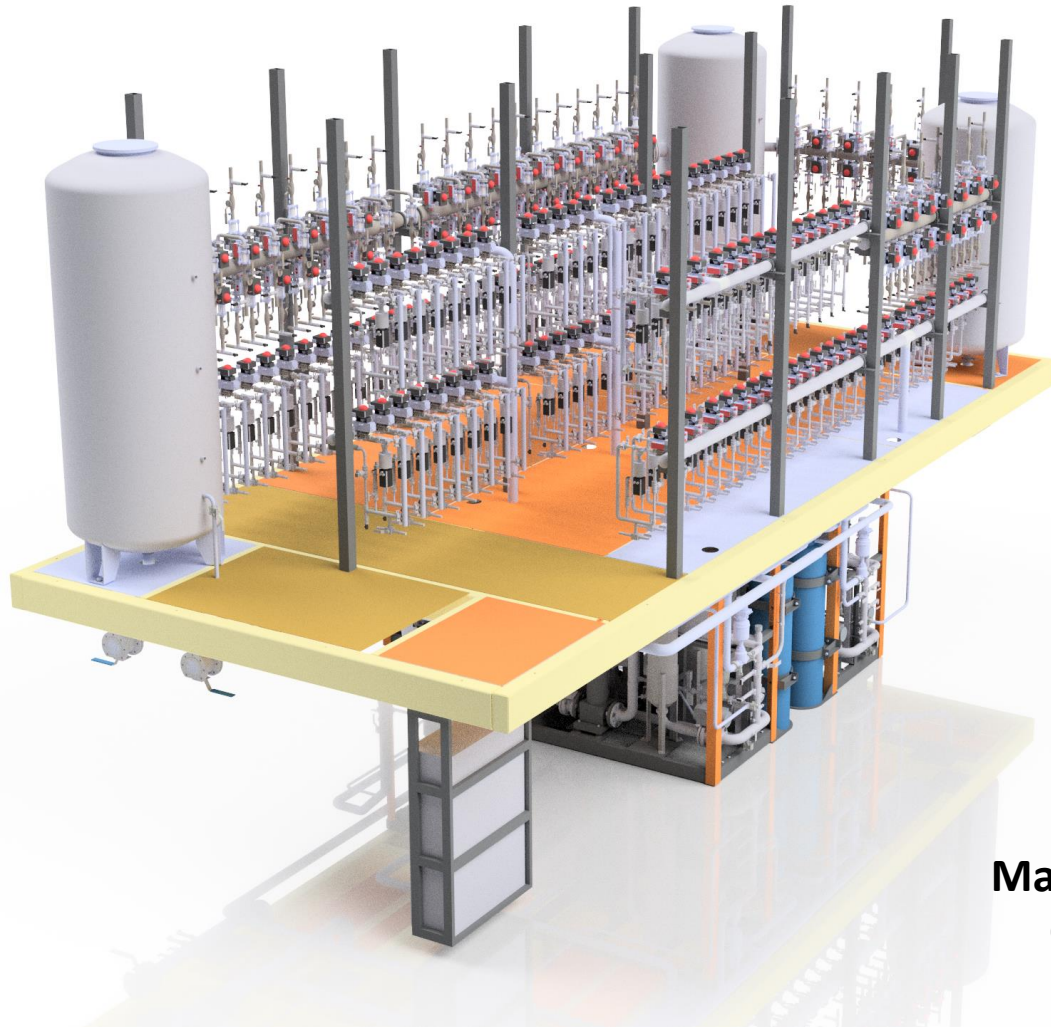
Igor Balaschov,

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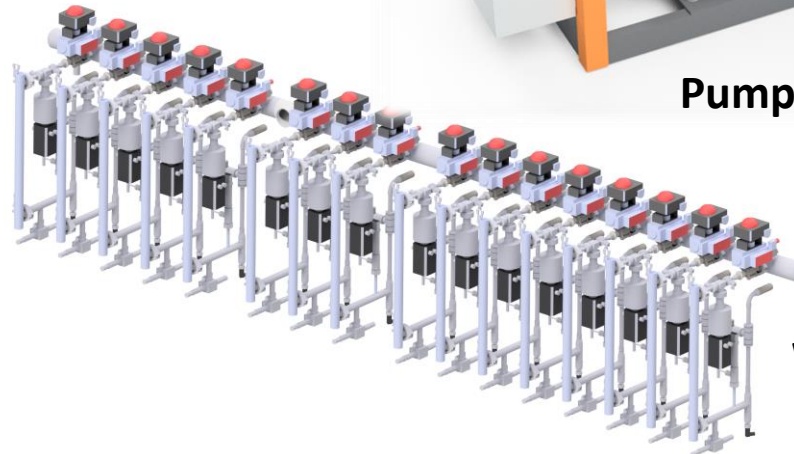
Installation of Vacuum tanks, Pump modules, Manifolds

Water plant

Assembled at platform



Pump module



Manifolds: redistributes water from the contour line to the individual sub-contours



Water Tank: An airtight reservoir that contains water below atmospheric pressure. Tested for leaks at 0.2 atm and 10 atm.

Pump modules - photos



Assembled under 1st floor of platform



Water tanks & manifolds

Heat exchanger and thermal sensor for TPC gas mixture

Thermal stabilization of TPC gas

Motivation

Thermal stabilization ± 0.1 K is needed for reliable event reconstruction in $\text{Ar}_{0.8}(\text{CO}_2)_{0.2}$

Challenges

- Measure gas temperature with accuracy better than ± 0.1 K
- Prepare gas at a specific temperature to feed into the TPC
- Minimize the influence of the environment on the gas supplied to the TPC

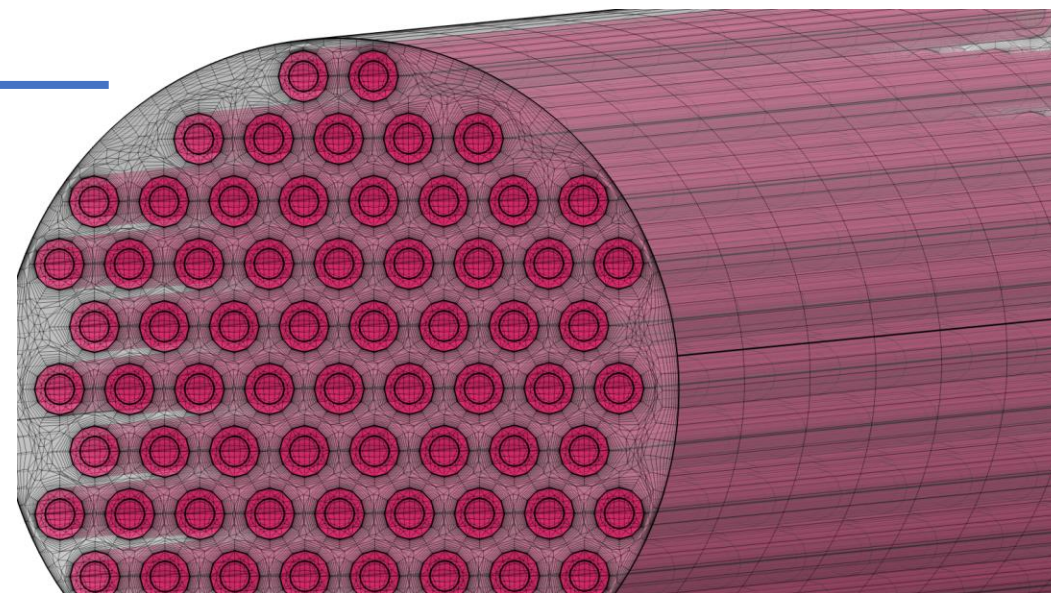
Heat exchanger

Shell-and-tube heat exchanger:

- Gas flows in small tubes with **large surface area**;
- **Water environment** outside of small tubes provides heat exchange

Stationary 3D Navier-Stokes equations for gas and water:

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \cdot \vec{u} = 0 \\ \rho_0 (\vec{u} \cdot \nabla) \vec{u} = \nabla \cdot \left[-p \mathbf{I} + \mu_0 (\nabla \vec{u} + (\nabla \vec{u})^T) \right] + \rho_0 \beta (T_0) (T - T_0) \vec{g} \\ \rho_0 C_{p0} (\vec{u} \cdot \nabla) T = \nabla \cdot \lambda_0 \nabla T \end{cases}$$



Mesh for computations

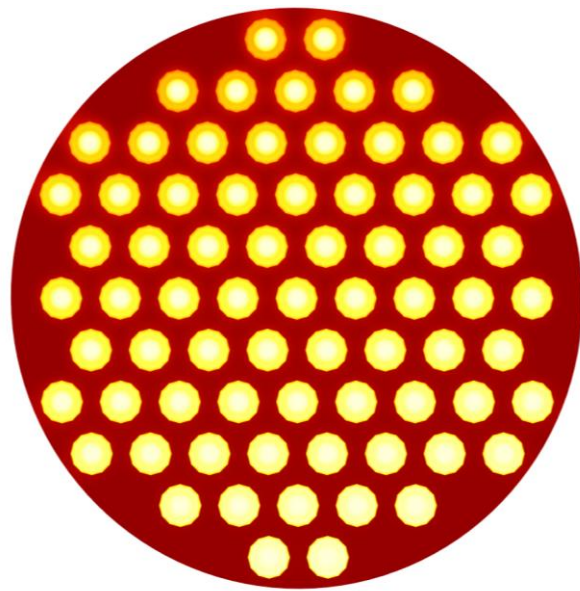
$\vec{u}$ – fluid velocity;
 μ – dynamic viscosity;
 p – pressure;
 $\mathbf{I}$ – identity matrix.
 λ_0 – heat conduction coefficient at reference temperature T_0 ;
 C_{p0} – heat capacity at reference temperature T_0 ;
 β – compressibility,
 ρ_0 – density at reference temperature T_0 .

Heat exchanger

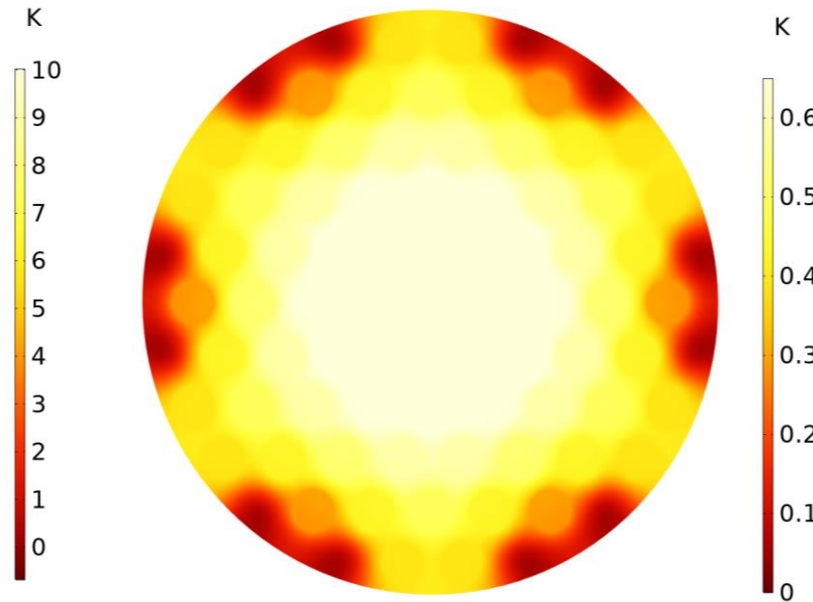
Prototype simulation parameters:

- Length 0.55 meters;
- Inlet gas is 10 K hotter than water;
- Water flow is 0.1 m³/h;
- Gas flow is 20 — 200 l/min.

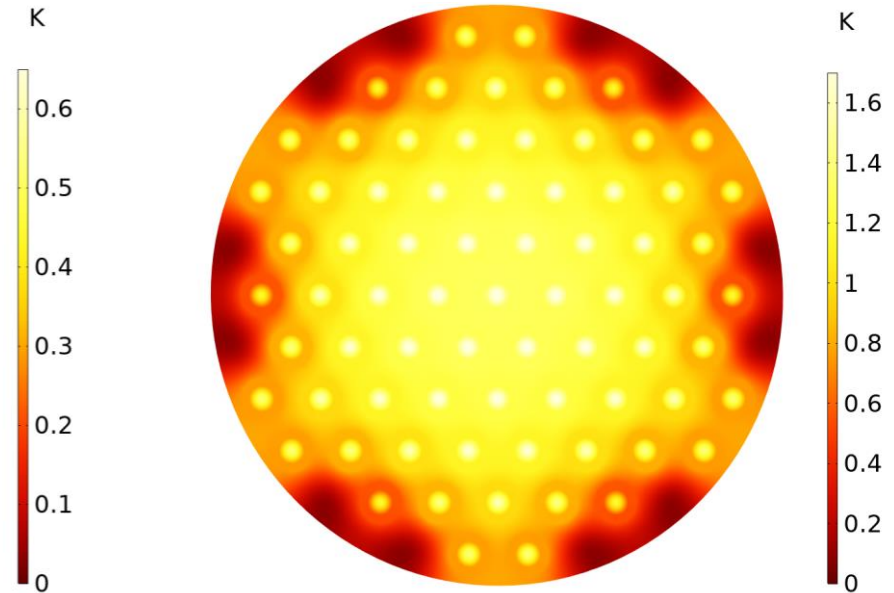
ΔT decreased by 10-15 times



At inlet



At outlet – 20 l/min

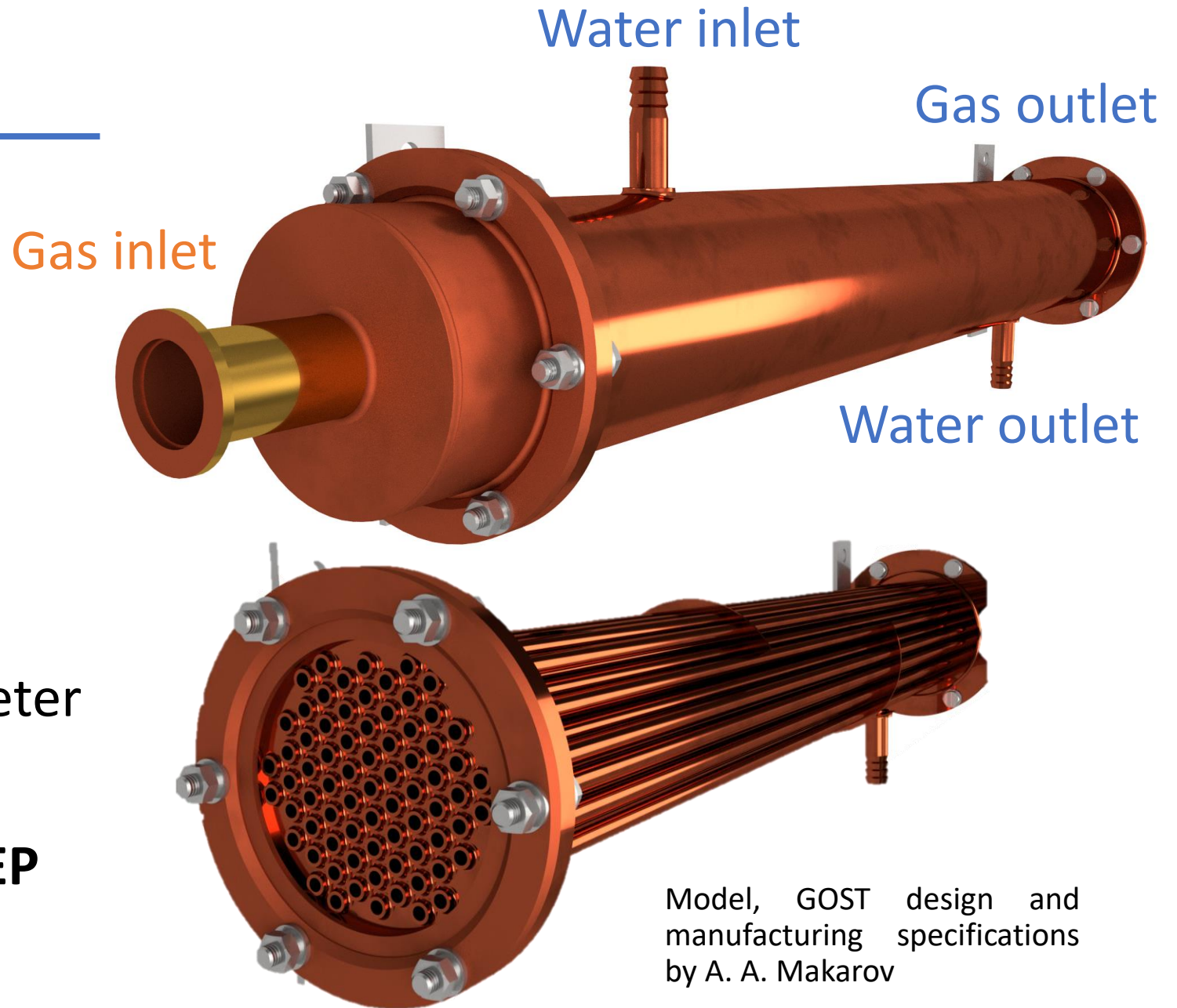


At outlet – 200 l/min

Heat exchanger

Shell-and-tube heat exchanger for gas thermal stabilization:

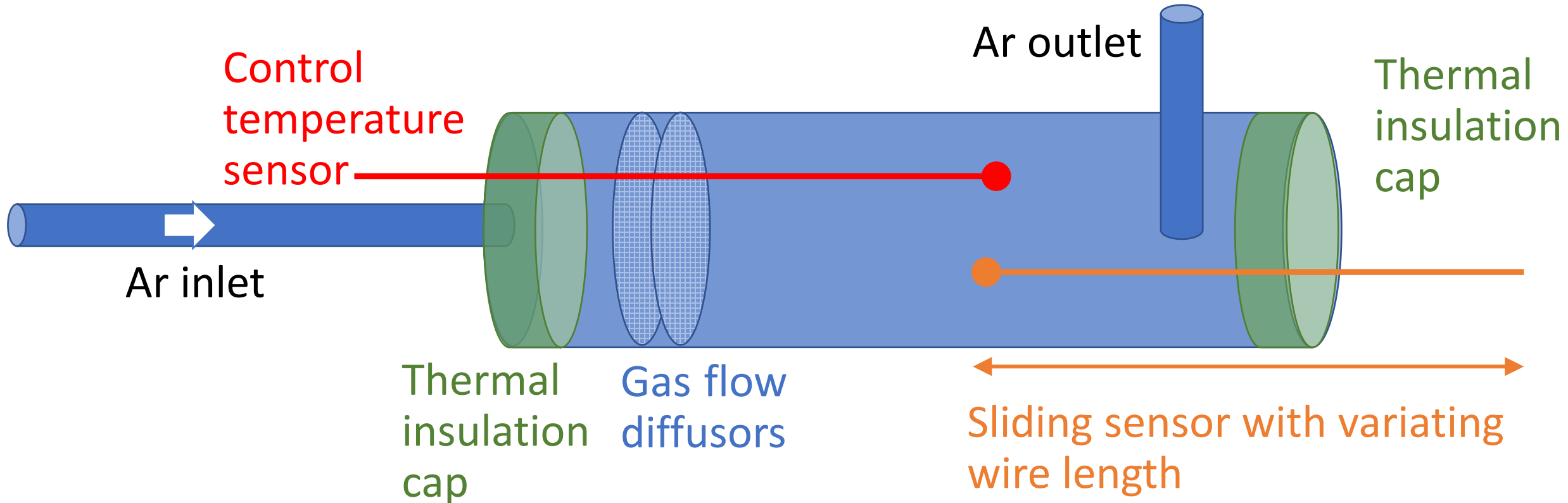
- 74 gas pipes of 6 mm diameter
- ~8 kg weight
- **Being manufactured at LHEP**



Gas temperature sensor

The gas volumetric heat capacity is 10^4 less than that of liquids and solids

To measure temperature of gas (not a wire or a wall) a sensor must be
drown deep in gas



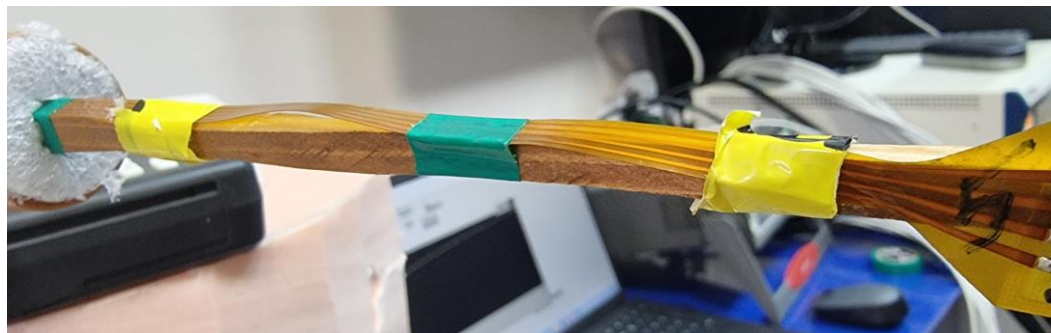
Gas temperature sensor

Experiment was motivated
by Gleb Meshcheryakov

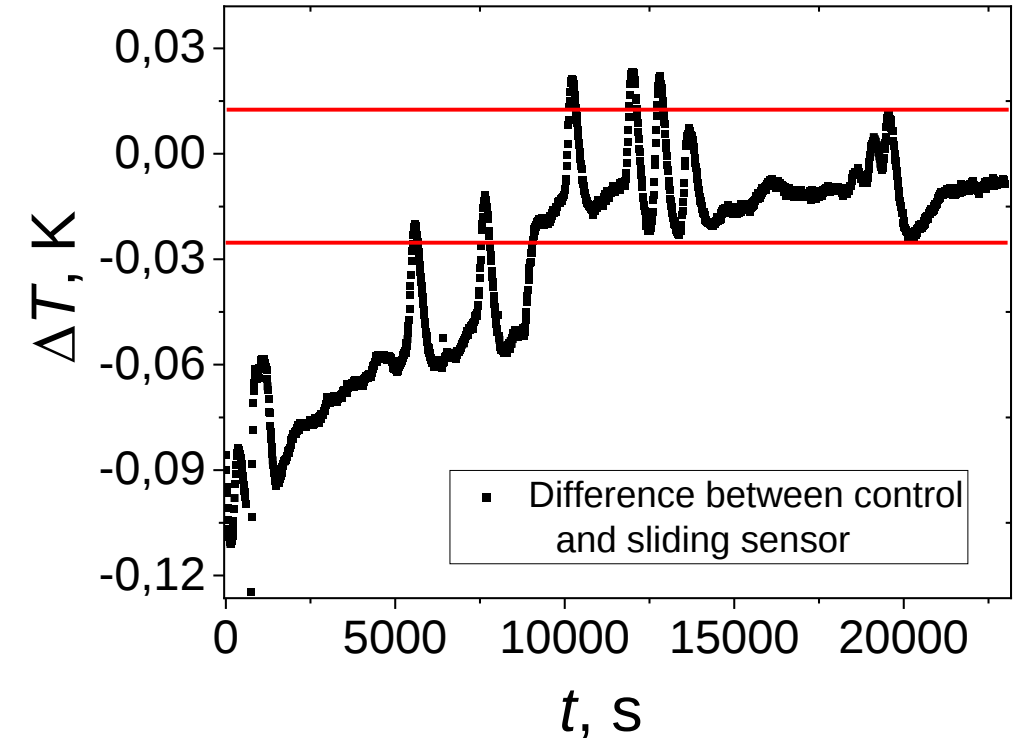
- Argon flow $\approx 800 \text{ cm}^3/\text{min}$;
- **Water jacket** is around testing tube;
- Pt100 RT + NI Controller;



Testing tube with sensor fully in



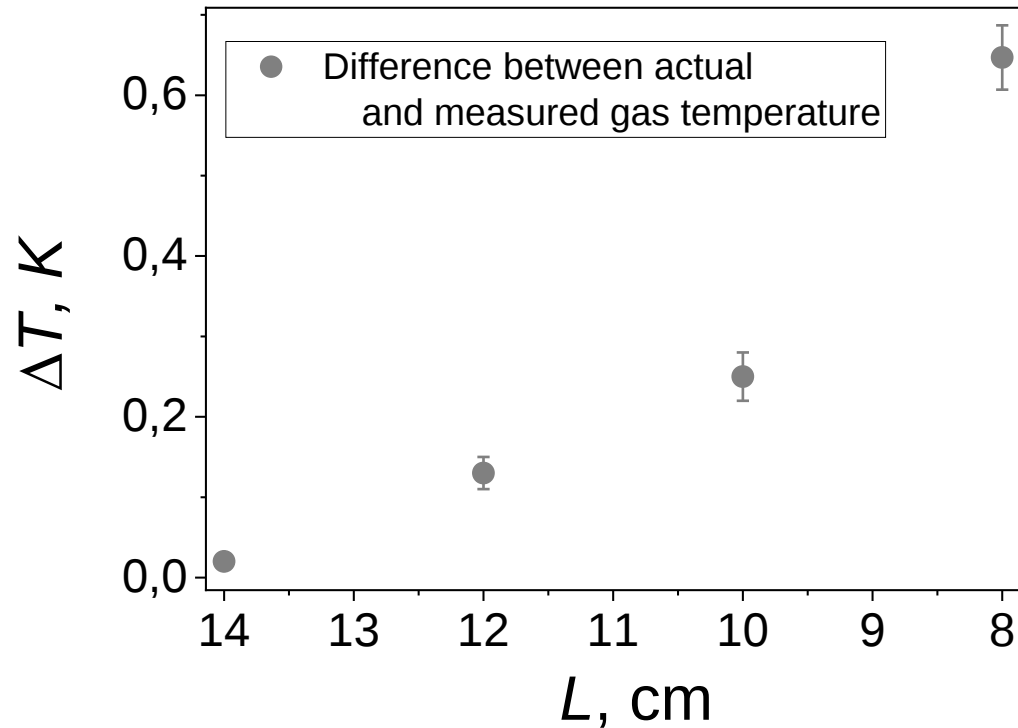
Sliding sensor almost out of tube



Time dependence of ΔT between the control and the full-drawn sliding sensor

$<0.03 \text{ K}$ gradient is achieved inside the testing tube with gas about 15°C and room temperature 21°C

Gas temperature sensor



Difference between control and sliding sensor temperature on the length of wires inside gas



Prototype of gas temperature sensors with swagelok and wire support

Conclusions

- Pumping modules, vacuum tanks, and collectors have been delivered and installed on the platform;
- A shell-and-tube heat exchanger for the thermal stabilization of the flowing gas has been developed. The prototype is being manufactured in the LHEP workshops;
- Prototypes of temperature sensors for the flowing gas have been proposed and manufactured, with an expected measurement accuracy of 0.03 K;
- Experiments conducted have shown the necessity of thermal stabilization of the gas line using a water jacket.

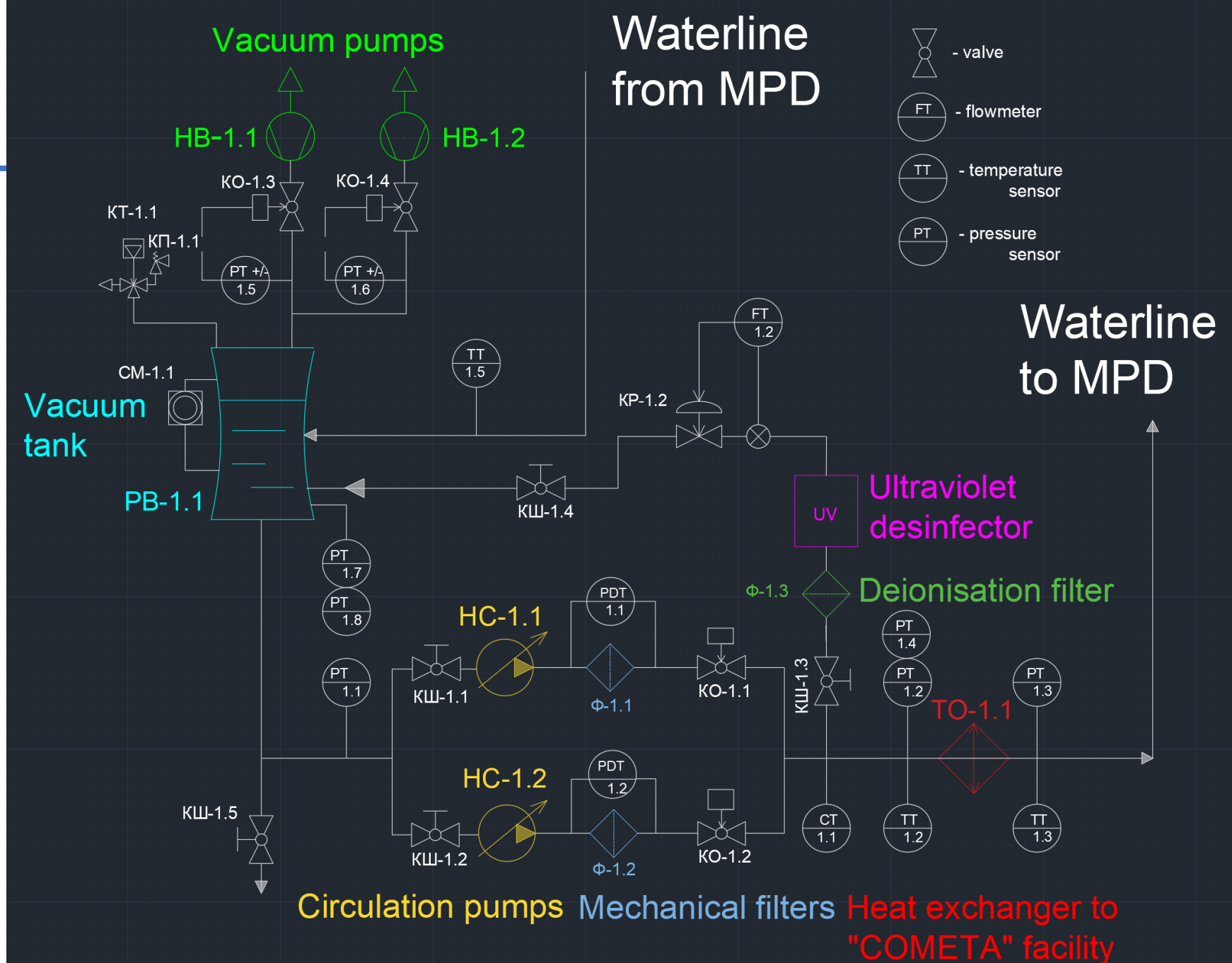
Event	Date
Finalizing of platform pipes installation for MPD cooling system	November 2024
Assembling of temporary scheme for pipe washing and testing	November 2024
Connecting of pump modules for testing	November 2024
Continuation of assembling	December 2024

Scheme

The pump module & vacuum tank

- provides circulation,
- maintains low pressure,
- filters,
- thermally stabilizes water before entering MPD

Principal scheme of water plant:



Pump module – main equipment



aquaPro UV- 12GPM-HT
ultraviolet sterilizer 



Heat exchanger "Ridan"
XB95BR 
removes heat to "COMETA"



Jetex V-VS 32-03
circulation pumps x2



Filter MVN- 07-02
removes $> 20 \mu\text{m}$
particles x2



Ion-exchange CWO
filter FSD1315
removes charged
impurities



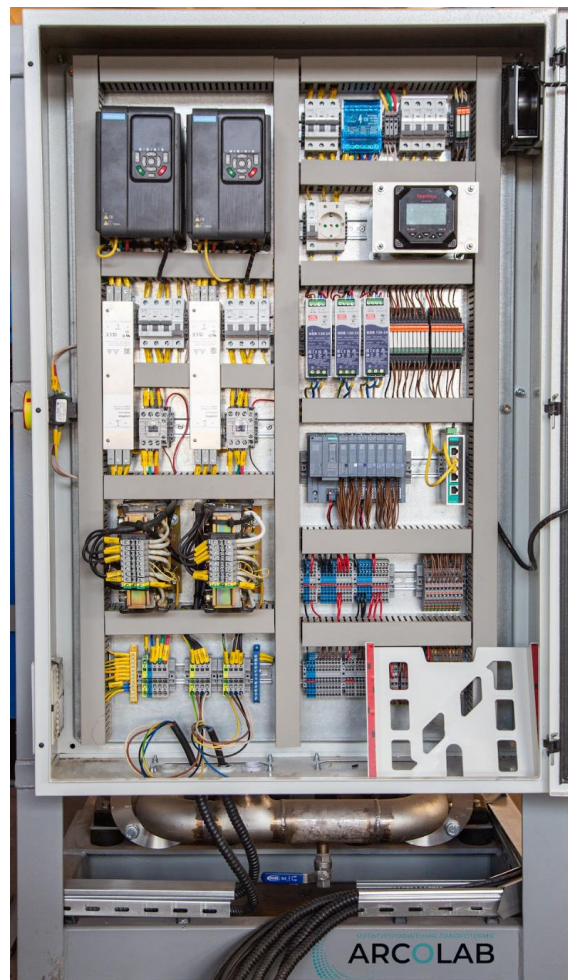
Pump module – control equipment

Frequency
converter

EMC
input filter

Automatic
switches

N Bus zero



Automation cabinet



PLC Siemens
I/O modules

Read from sensors,
Control valves



Temgy DN 20 flowmeter
flow measurement 



Bürkert 2702 & 2301
pneumatic control valves
controls flow, smoothens
transitions 



CCT-8930 conductometer
controls ion concentration 



Pt-100-B 
thermometer



Aplisens pressure sensors
Pressure control  

Схема Cu-TS замкнутого контура

