

ATLAS ITk Pixel Outer Endcap CO₂ cooling system prototypes

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ATLAS new inner tracker: ITk

High-luminosity LHC phase starting in 2029

→ ATLAS detector will be upgraded with a new

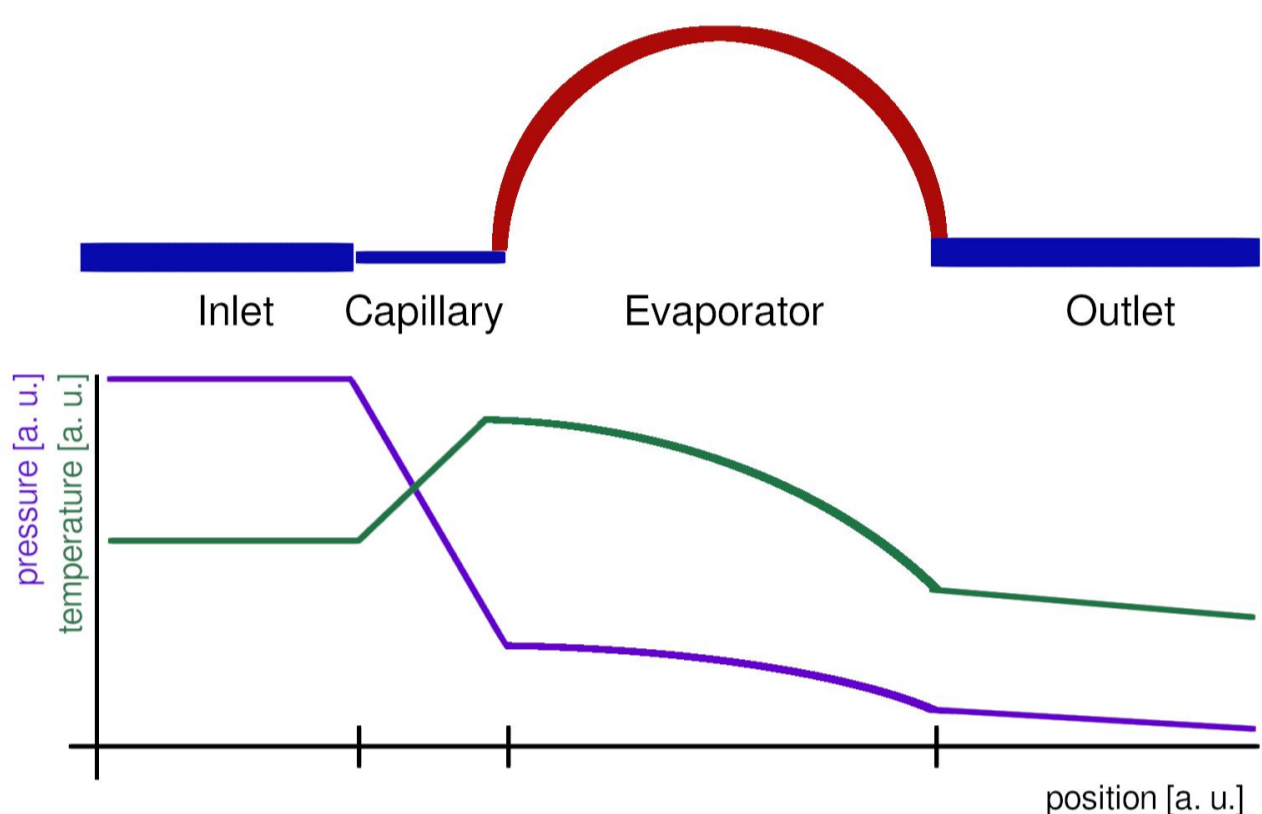
silicon inner tracker

Silicon detector cooling is critical to prevent reverse annealing, thermal runaway and control the leakage current due to radiation damage

Coolant choice

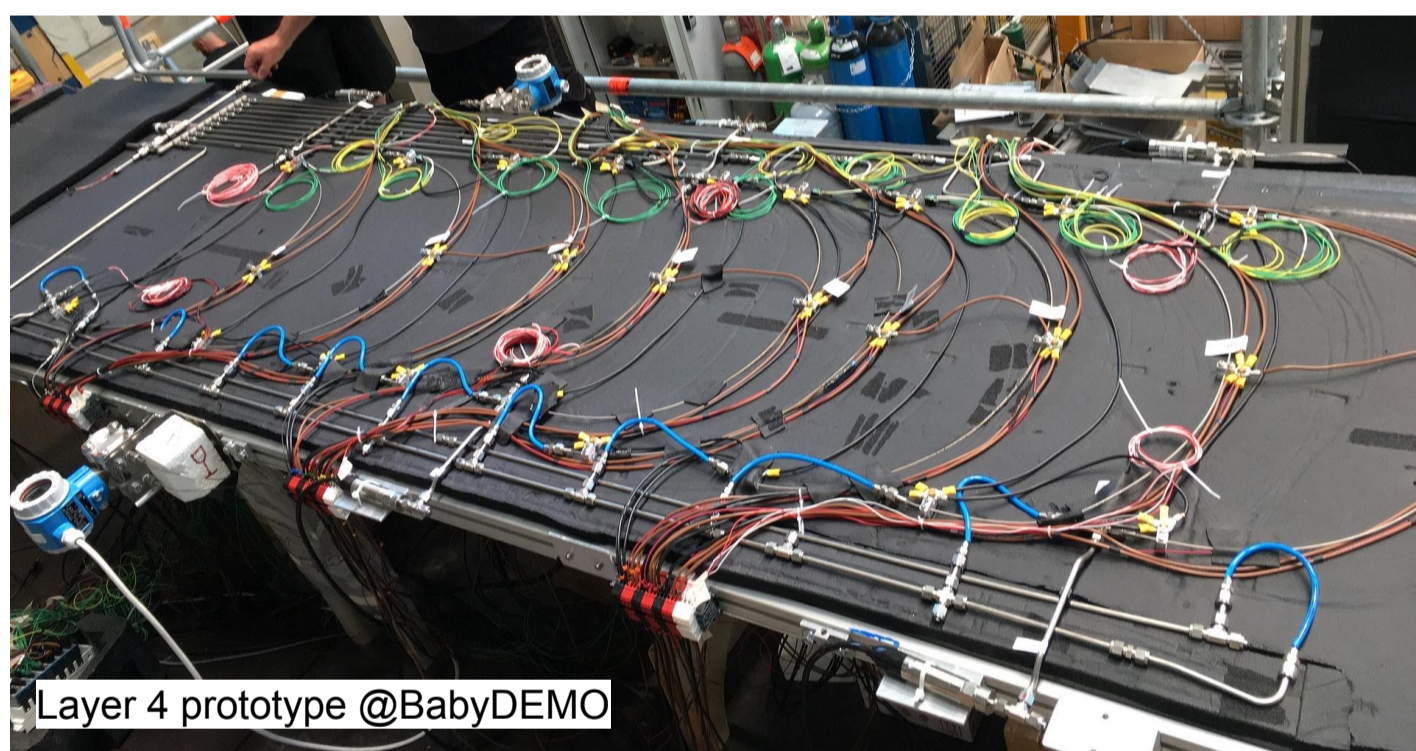
Cooling system based on CO₂ evaporative properties

- near isothermal, small temperature gradient along the rings/staves
- high heat transfer coefficient
- mass savings inside the detector due to smaller diameter tubing than conventional refrigerants
- radiation hard and environmentally safe



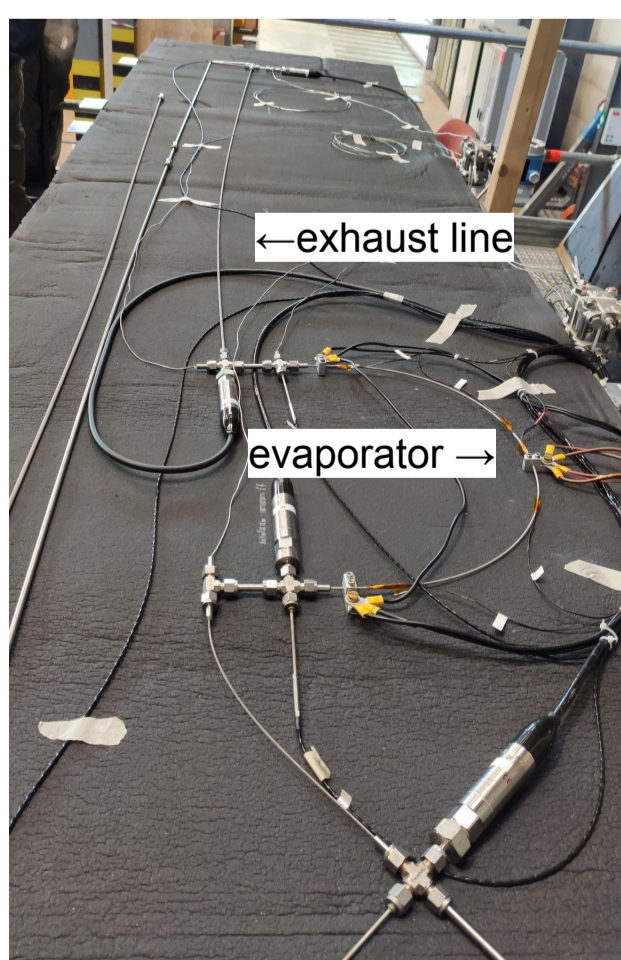
Half-shell prototype for Layer 4

Scope is to test the **functionality and stability of the cooling system** and measurement of key quantities such as temperature and pressure drop
Thermal load in normal operation conditions ~3kW



Titanium additive manufacturing for the manifold by LAMA laboratory

One loop prototypes

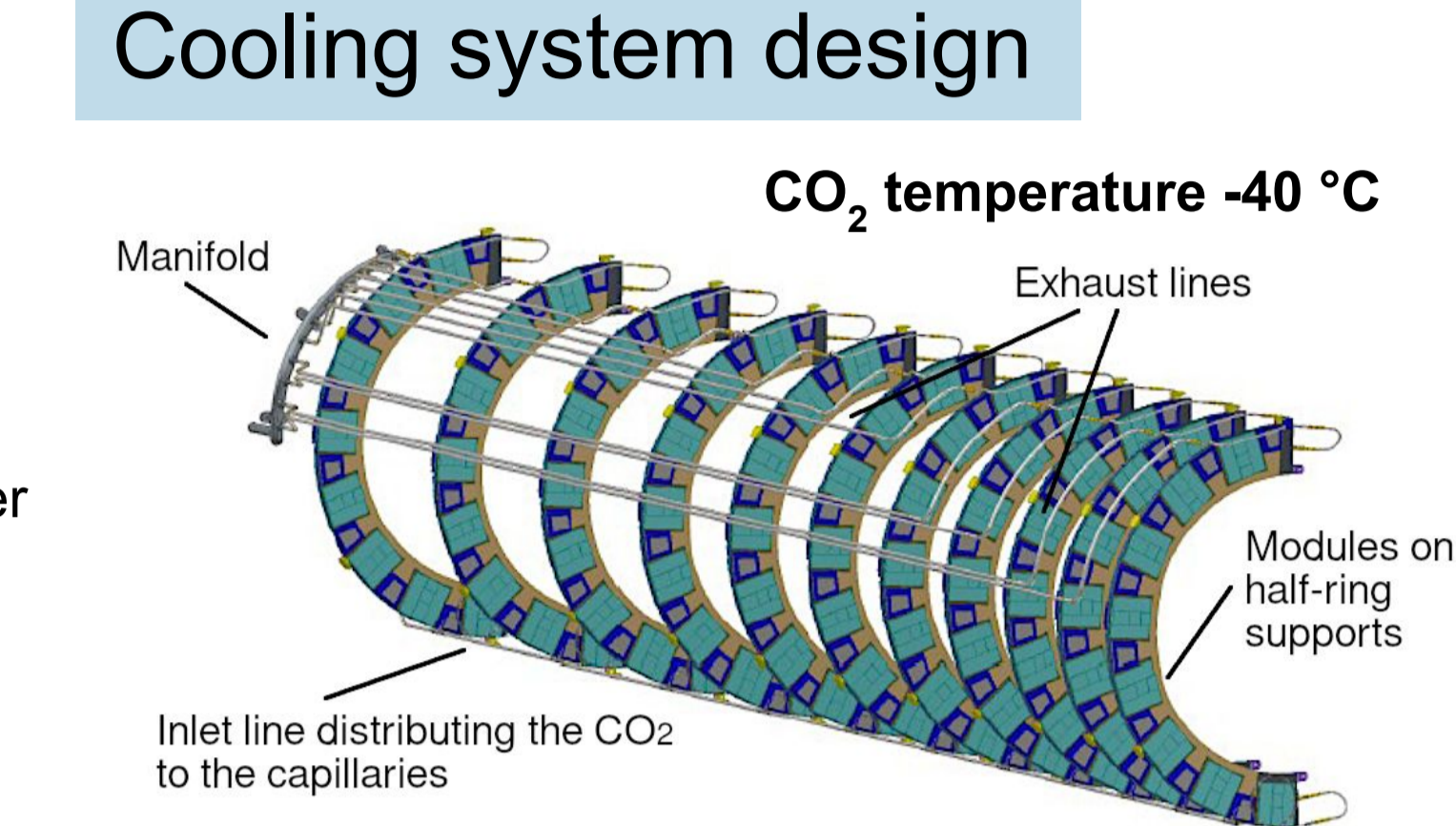


Flat prototypes of **one loop for Layer 2 and 3:** capillary, evaporator, and exhaust line

Scope was to finalized design choice for exhaust line pipe

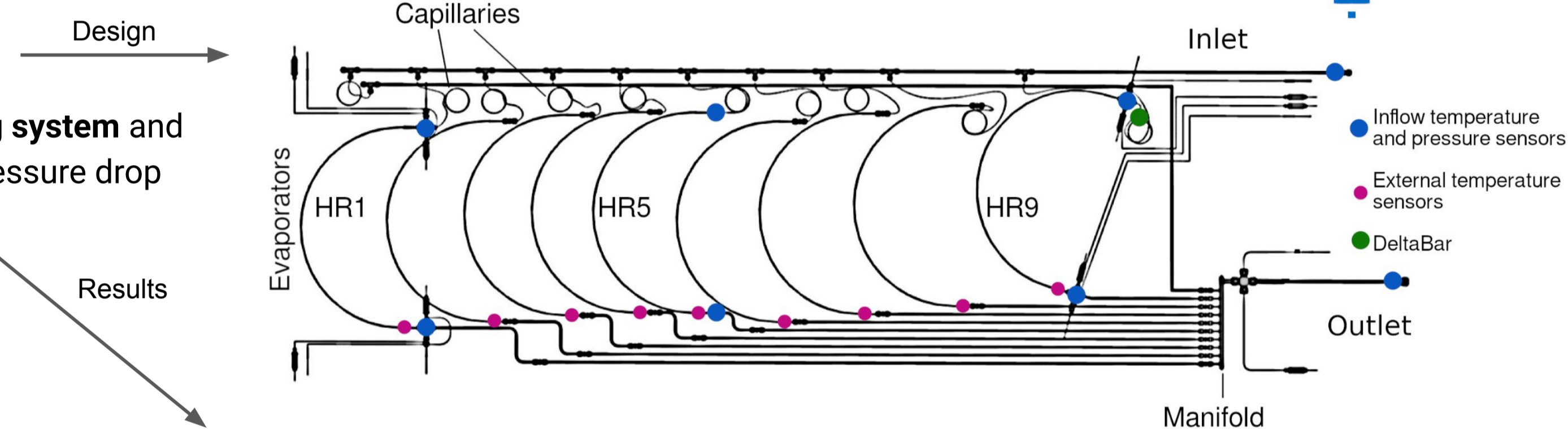
Tested at BabyDEMO plant

Cooling system design

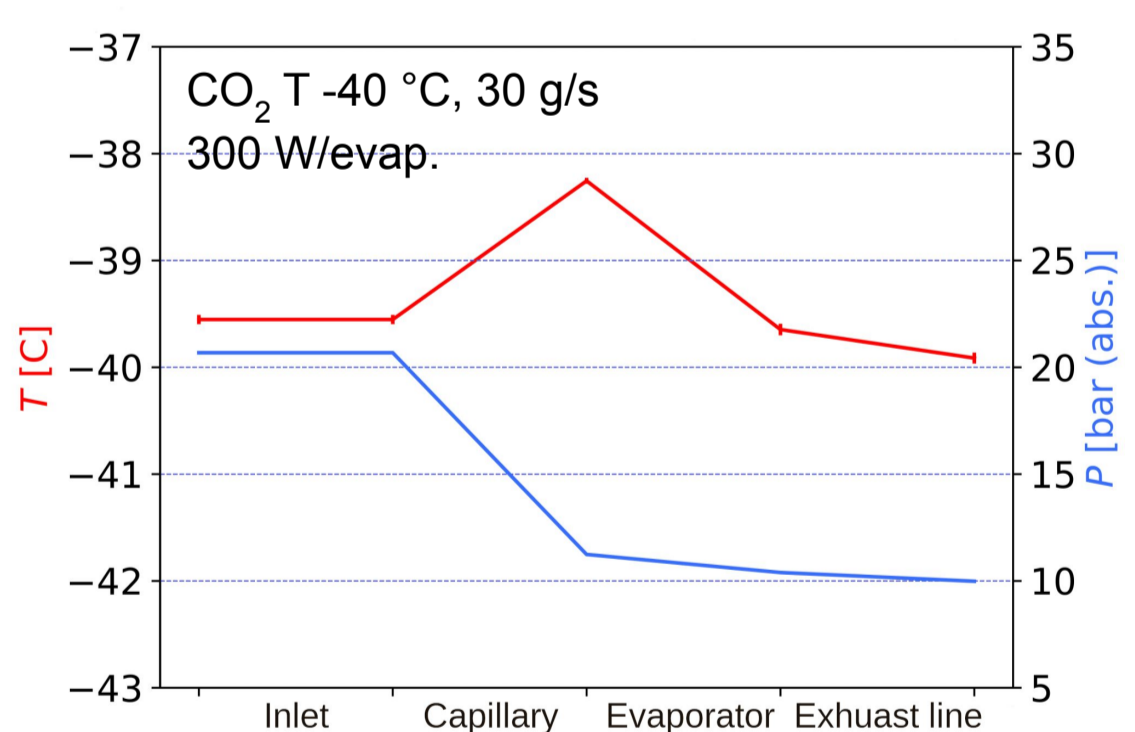


Specification:

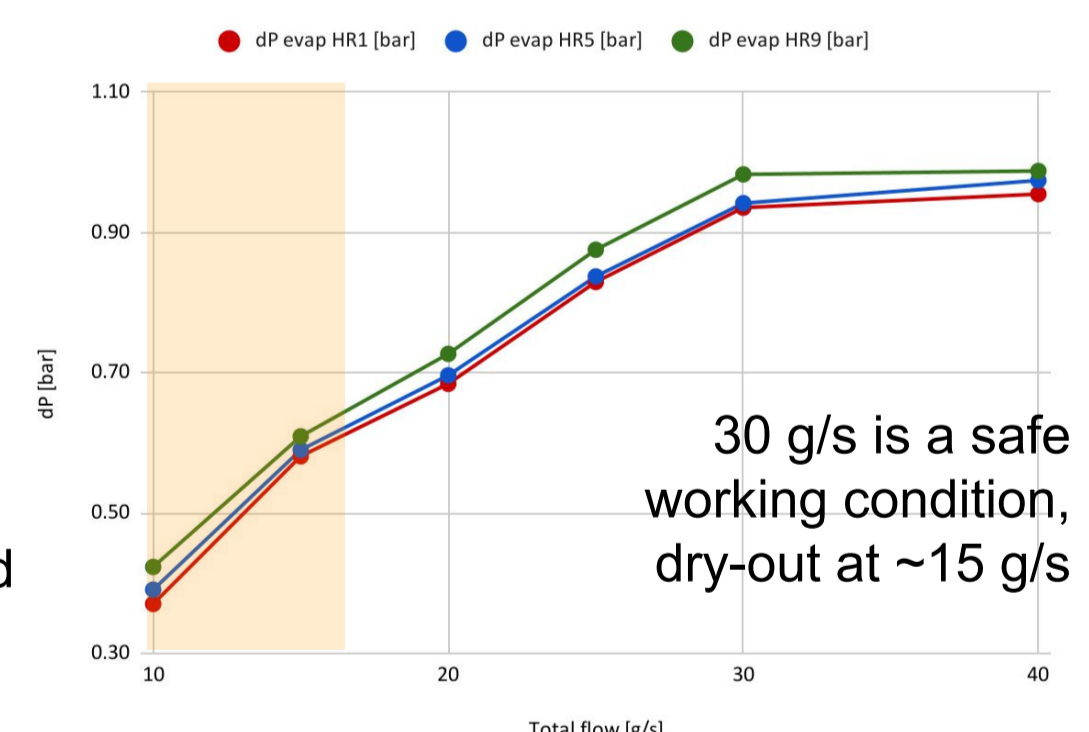
- **temperature variation within 5 °C** in evaporator + return lines, corresponding to **pressure drop of 2 bar**
- **Total pressure drop of 10 bar**, with 8 bar in the capillaries to equalize the flow and trigger the evaporation



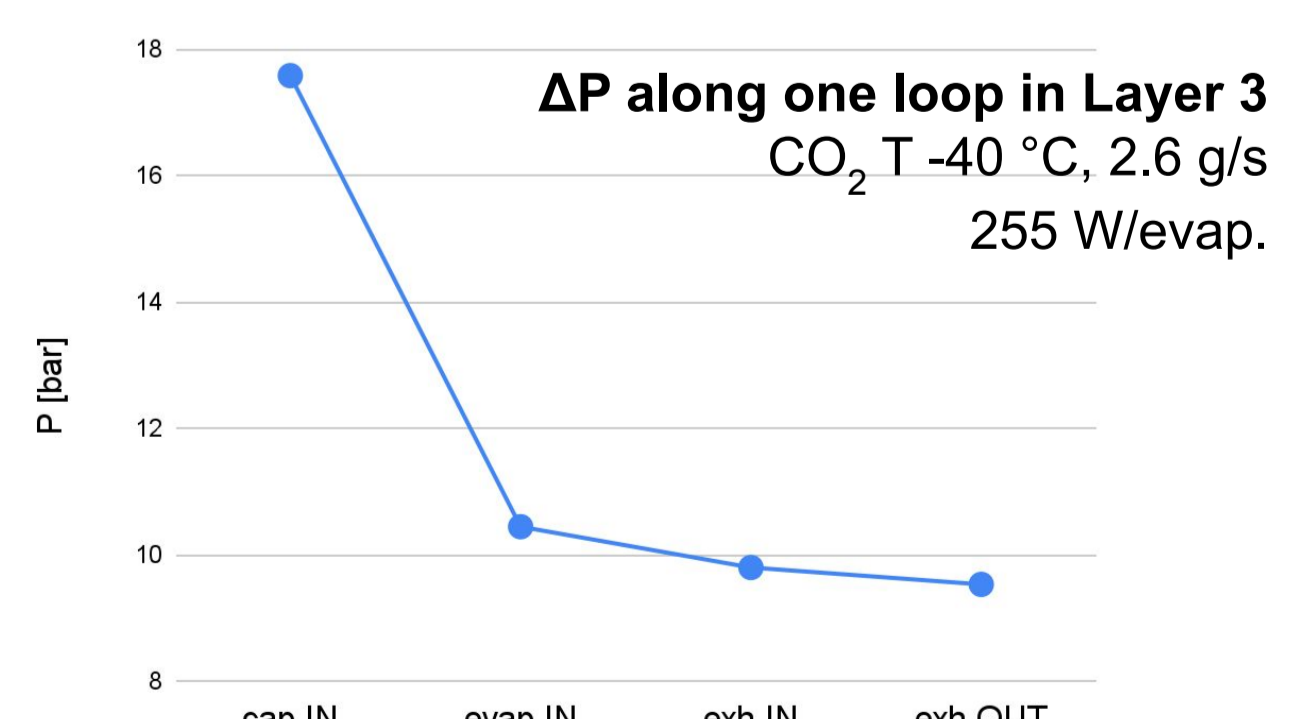
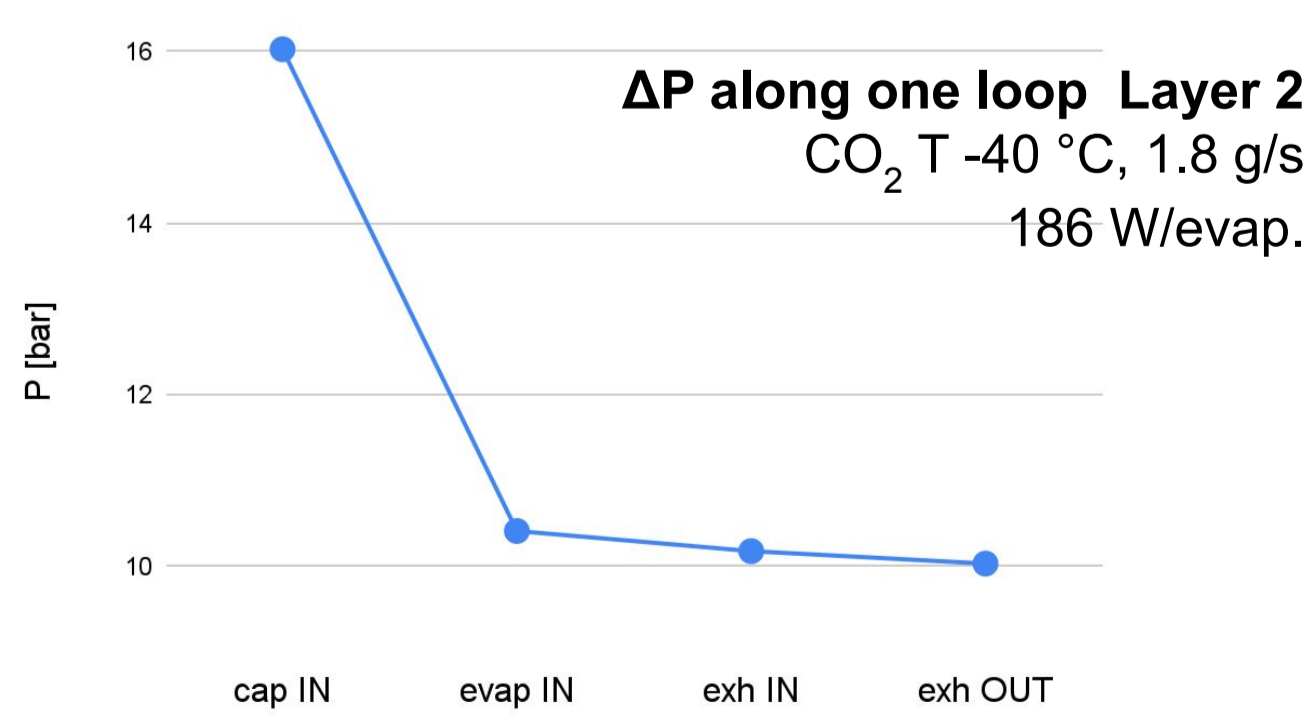
T and ΔP along one loop in normal operation conditions



ΔP in the evaporators for decreasing CO₂ flow



Data will be used to size the capillaries to reach the desired 10 bar total ΔP



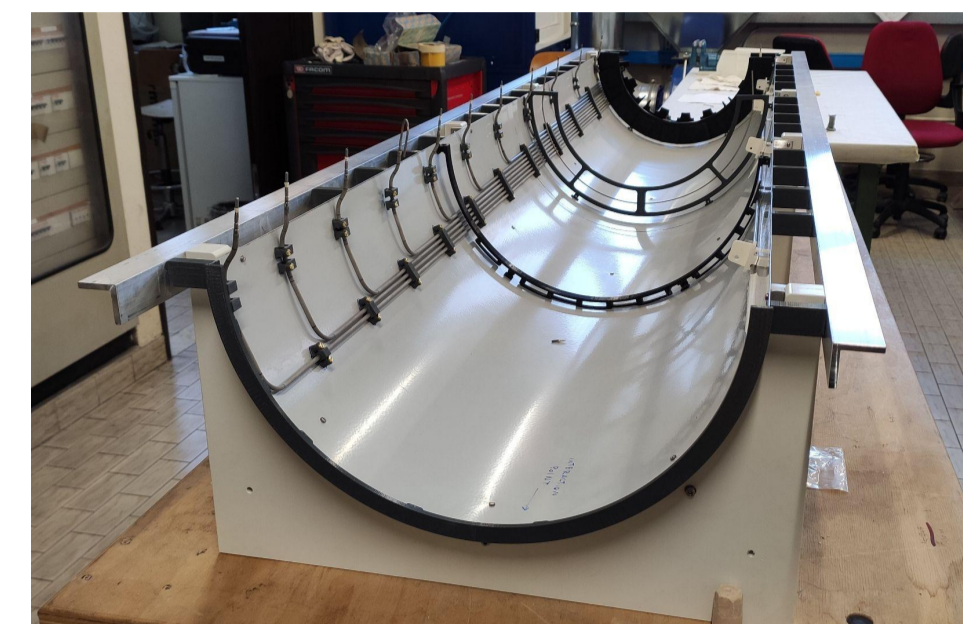
ΔP in evaporator and exhaust within the specification both in Layer 2 and 3

Manufacturing and testing

Manufacturing of prototypes and detector cooling system in the **Milan INFN Workshop**

Pipes for prototypes and detector cooling system in titanium

→ detector cooling system will be fully **welded**

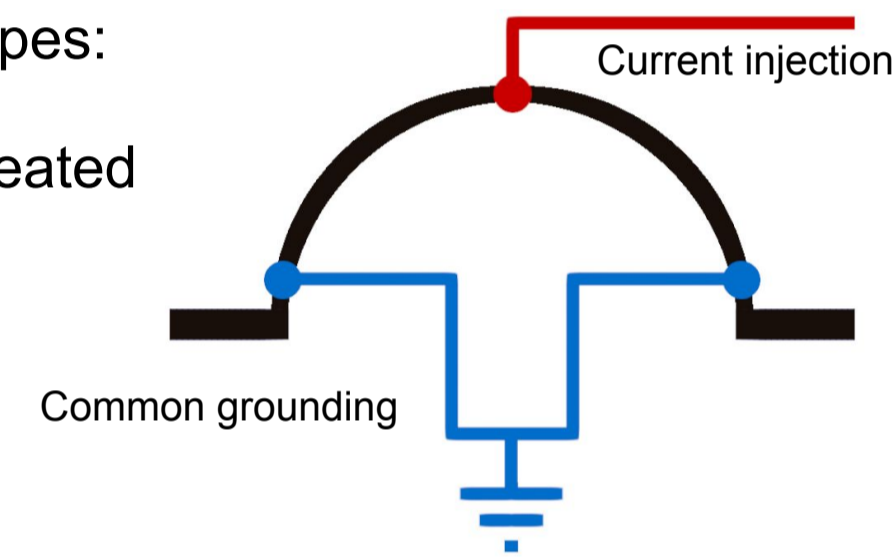


Testing at the BabyDEMO cooling plant @CERN: facility is able to provide

a CO₂ flow of 150 g/s with a temperature as low as -45 °C

Simulation of the **detector thermal load** in the prototypes:

evaporator treated as resistor



Conclusions

- Systems were proved to be stable under all the conditions tested
- Use of additive manufacturing parts has been proved
- Total pressure drops were consistent with the requirements of the system specification