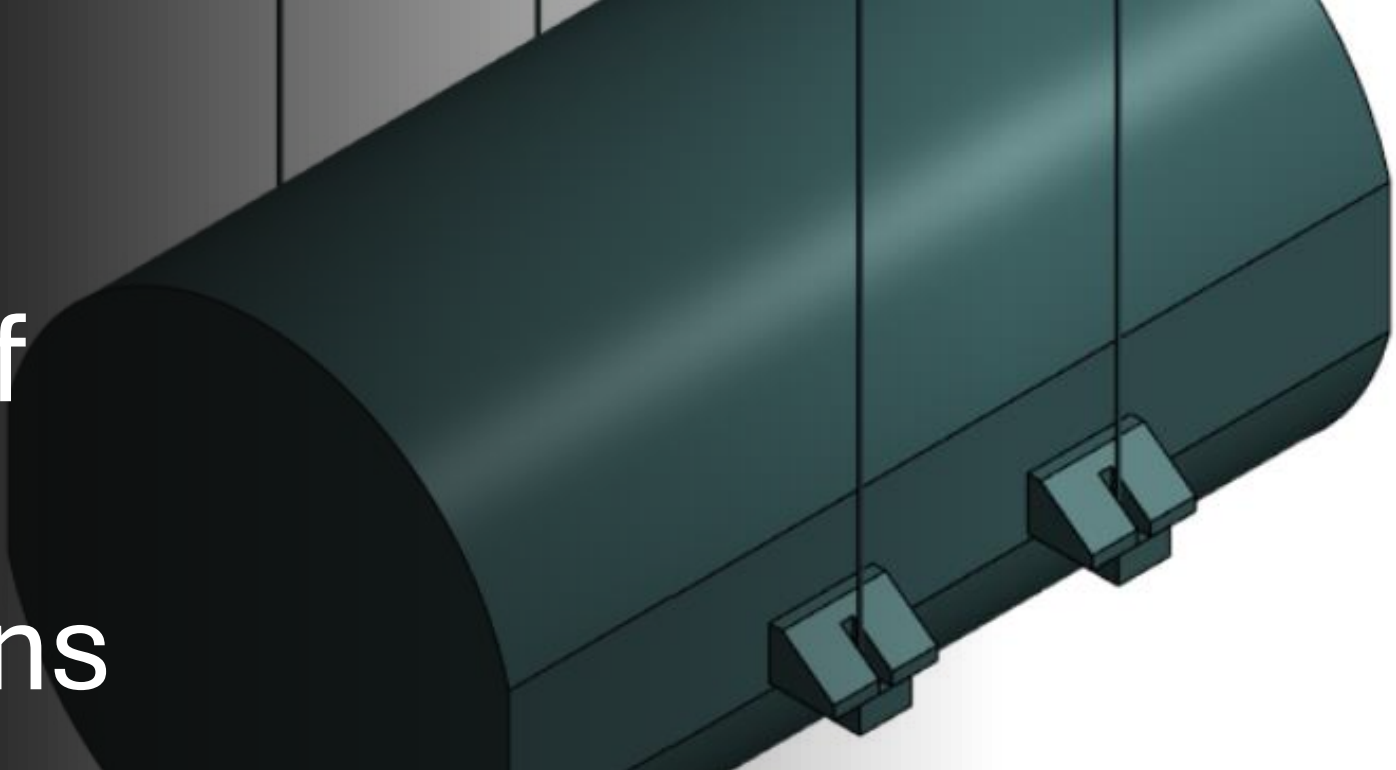


# State of the art of crystalline test mass suspensions



Flavio Travasso

*University of Camerino / INFN Perugia*

on behalf of ET – Test Mass Suspension WP

ET



# Outline



- Why crystalline TM suspension
- Projects involved in the design and test of TM Suspension
- Production
- Characterization
- Designs summary



# Why crystalline TM suspension

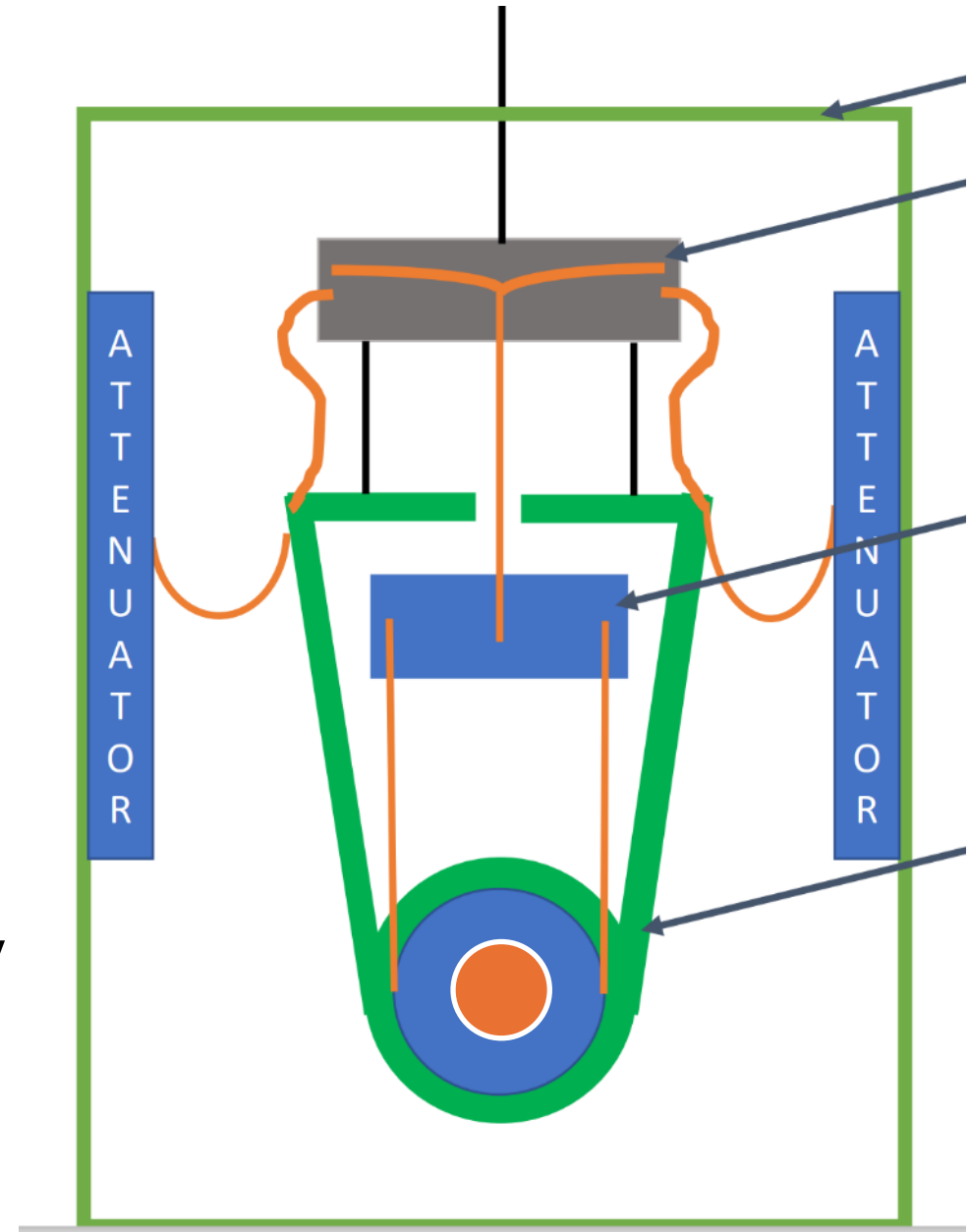
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ET will integrate cryogenic technology:

Identify **suitable materials** for both suspensions and substrates that must have:

- good thermal conductivity => no fused silica
- low thermal noise => no metals and no fused silica
- high breaking strength => exceptional surface quality

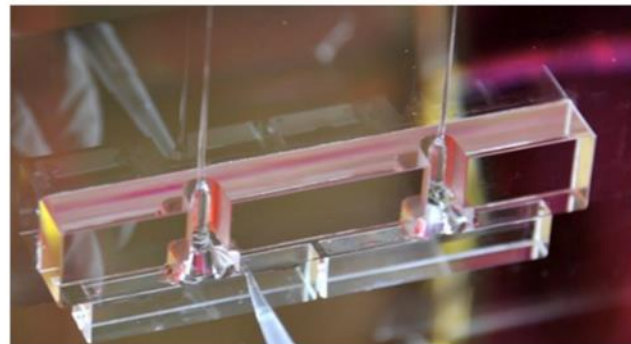
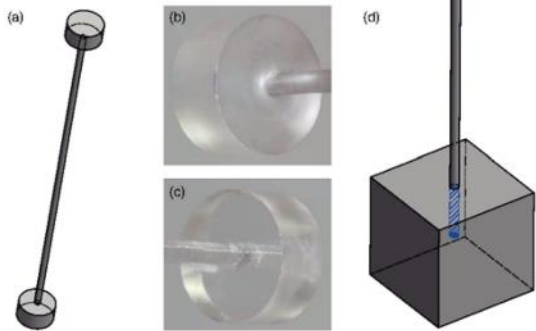
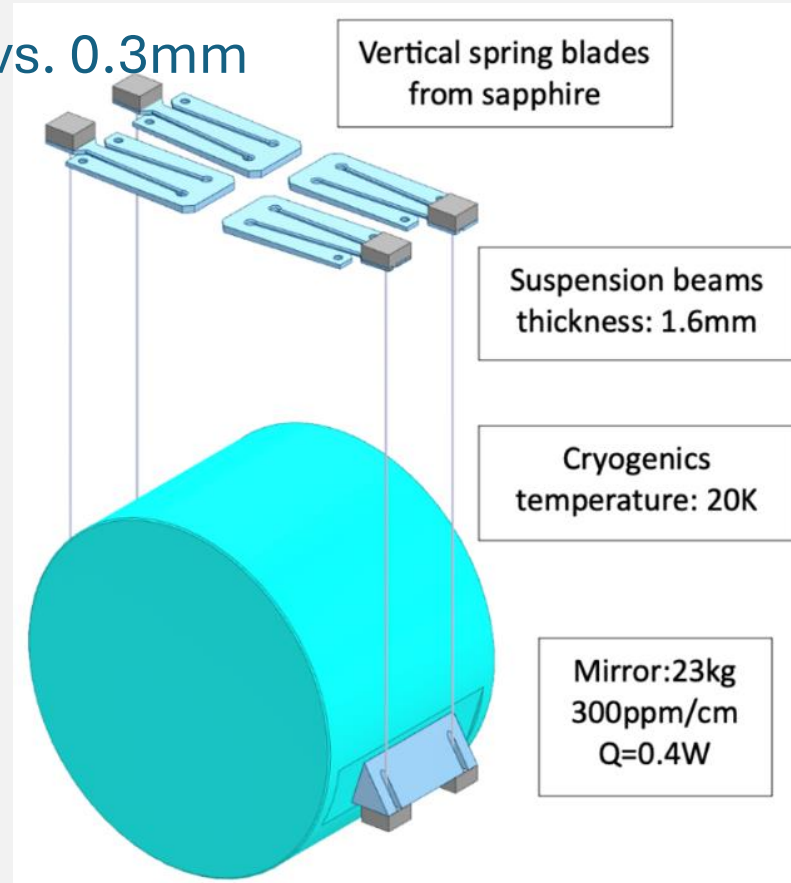
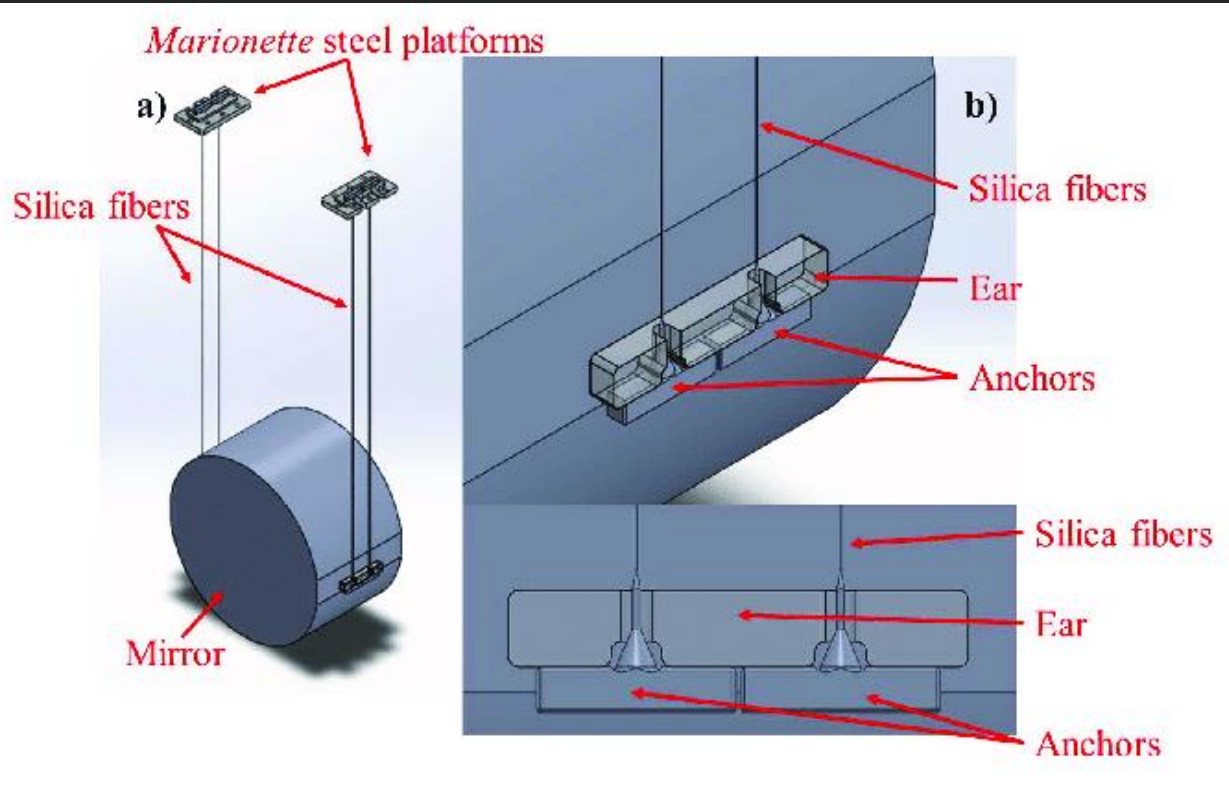
**Silicon and sapphire** emerged as interesting candidates.



# Fused silica vs. crystalline suspension

- **Melting vs. growing** => fiber and heads/anchors
- **Elasticity vs. Rigidity** => new tools and new procedure to avoid suspension breakage

- $\Phi$ : 0.2mm vs. 3mm
- $\Delta l$ : 7.5mm vs. 0.3mm



Projects

A decorative white torn paper effect runs horizontally across the bottom of the page, with a jagged, irregular edge that gives the appearance of a cut or tear in the black background.

# KAGRA



Connected to Type-A tower

Cryogenic Payload

Platform

Marionette recoil mass

Marionette

Intermediate recoil mass

# KAGRA

The KAGRA collaboration is strongly working on crystalline suspensions with great know-how on sapphire and cryogenic experiments.

I won't go into too much detail as there wouldn't be enough time, but you can find everything on the websites of the different institutions

<https://gwcenter.icrr.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/>

<https://www.nao.ac.jp/en/research/telescope/kagra.html>

Cooling bar

Mirror

Mirror recoil mass

Intermediate mass

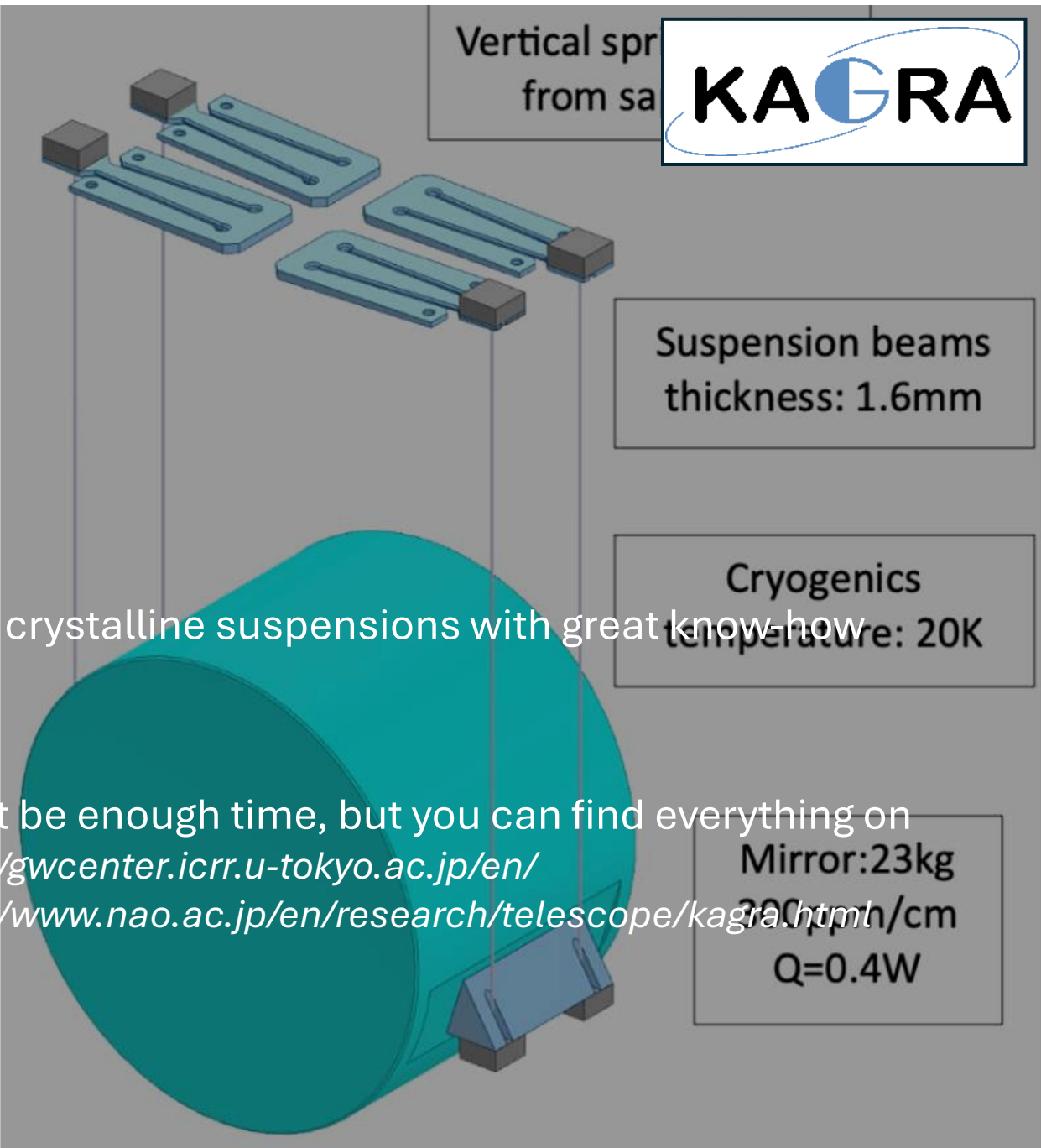
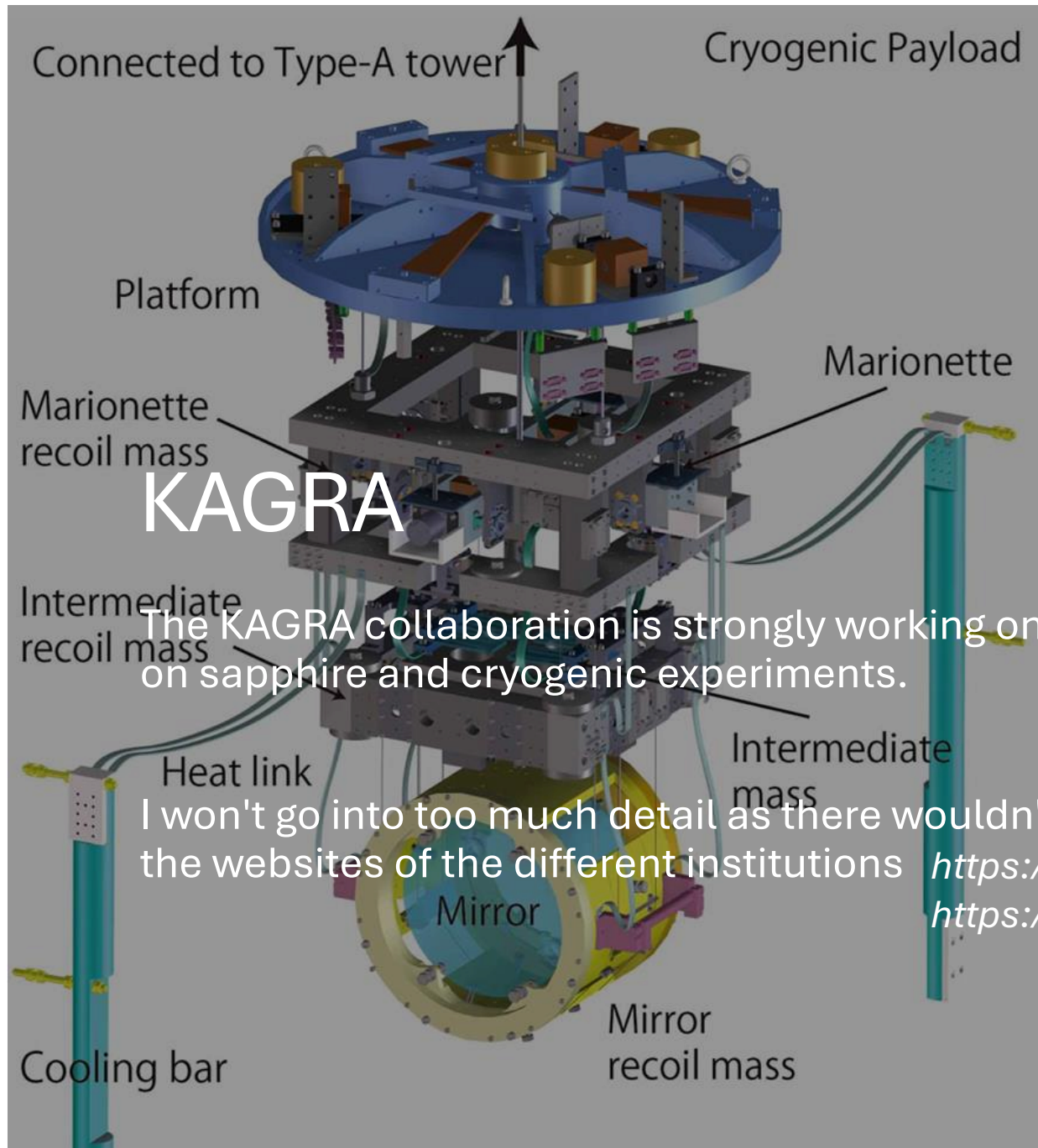
Vertical spr  
from sa

# KAGRA

Suspension beams  
thickness: 1.6mm

Cryogenics  
temperature: 20K

Mirror: 23kg  
300µm/cm  
Q=0.4W



# E-TEST





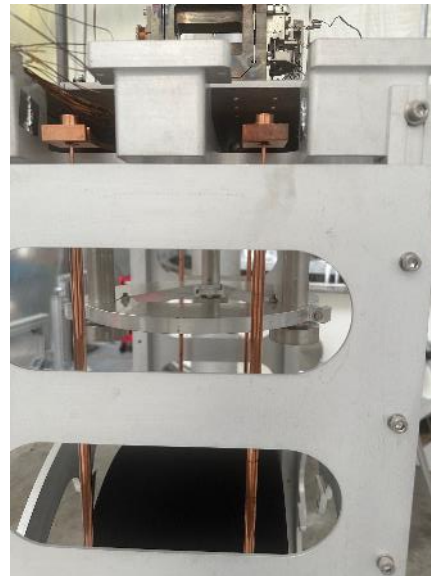
# E-TEST in a nutshell



- Large silicon mirror (100 Kg)
- Cryogenic temperature (20 K)
- Radiative cooling
- Low frequency seismic isolation (10 mHz)
- Compact hybrid suspension (4.5 m high)



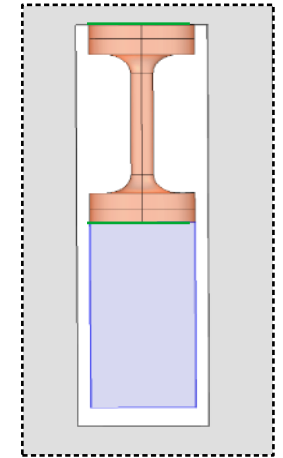
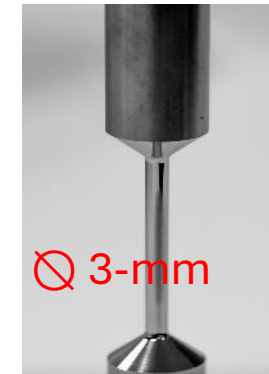
Currently, we use fibers in CuCrZr alloy



We are investigating

Improving the manufacturing process

Alternative design, based on fibers in compression



<https://arxiv.org/abs/2212.10083>

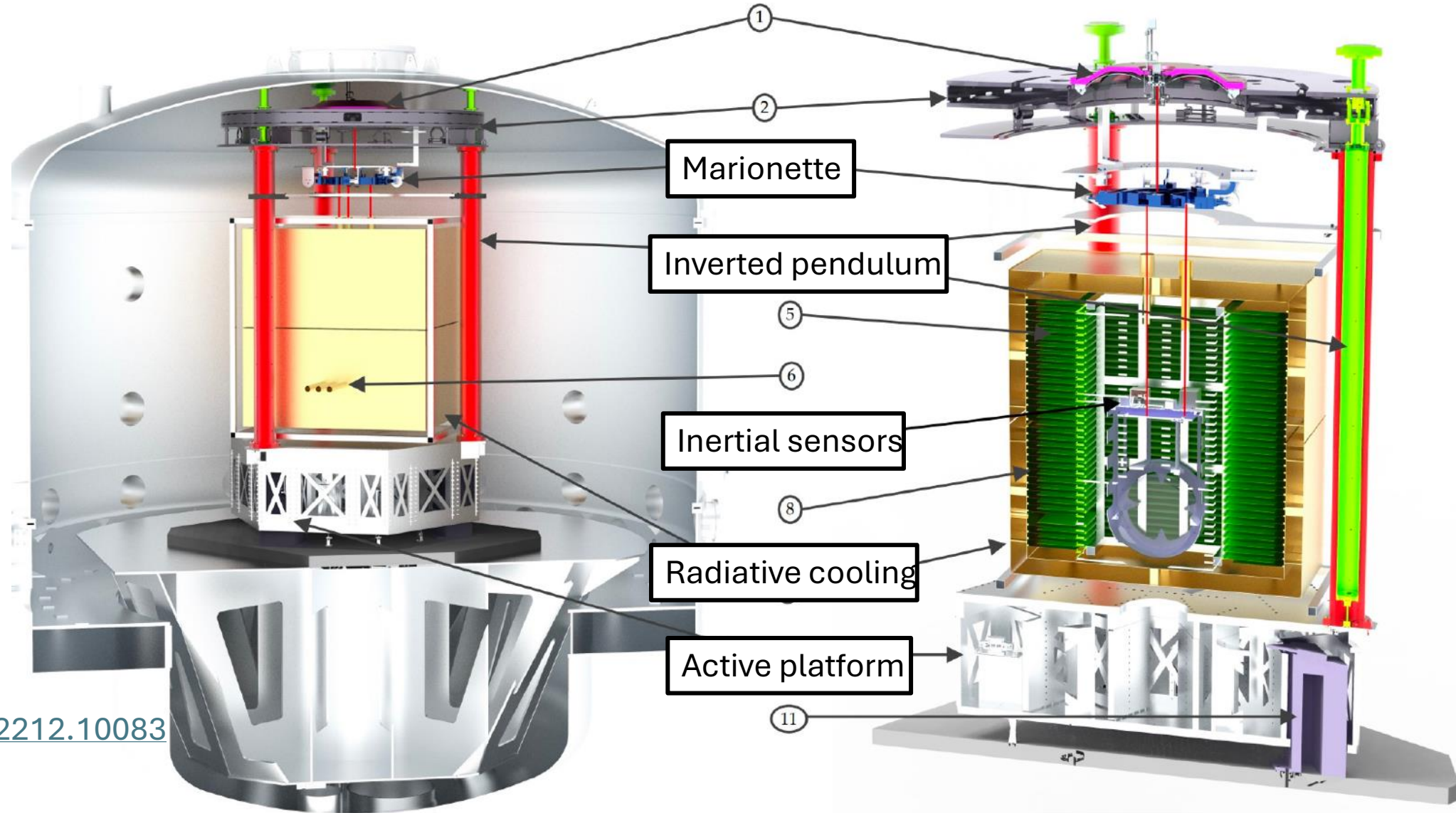
<https://www.etest-emr.eu/prototype-2/>

# Conceptual design



Submitted: 12/2021  
Revised: 03/2022

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2212.10083>



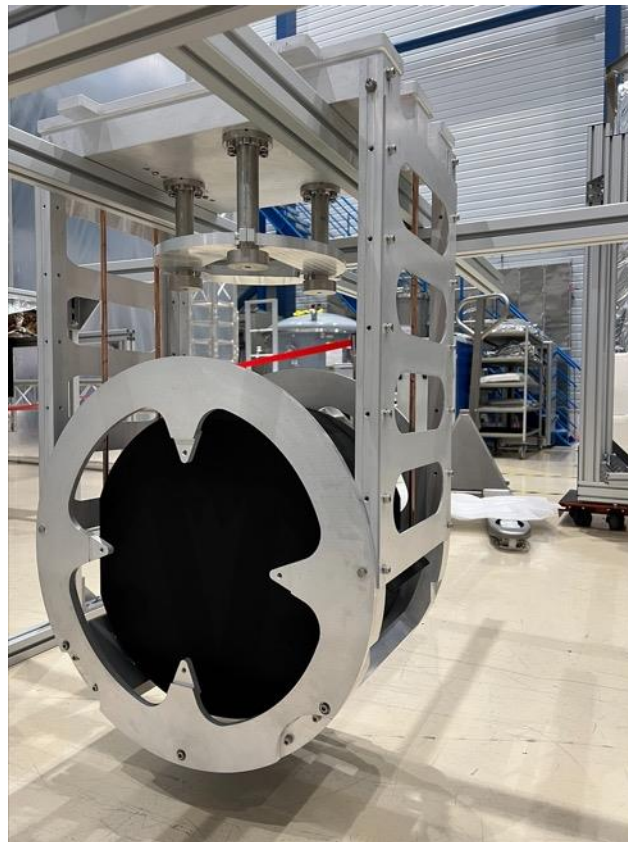
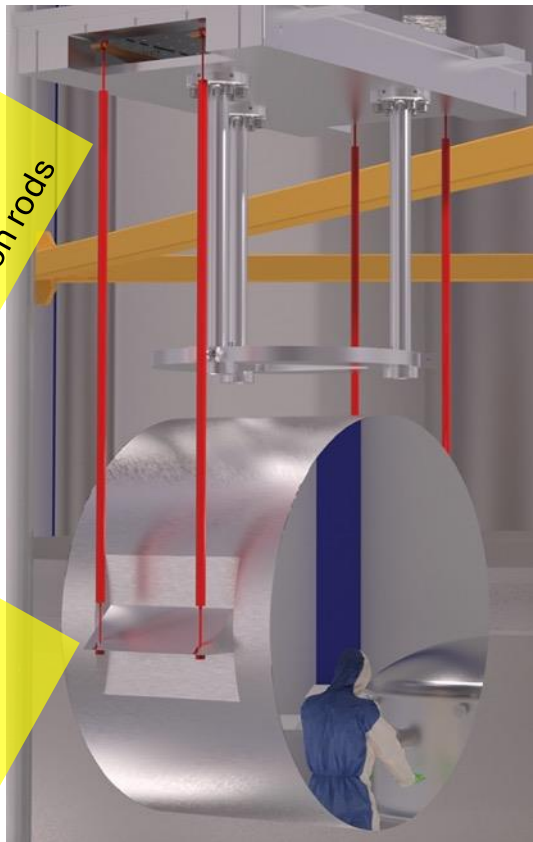
# 100 kg test mass & suspension

- Crucial technology aspect for ET: no proven solution exists
- Four **machined** samples delivered
- Silicon mirror ordered (delivery end of 2024)

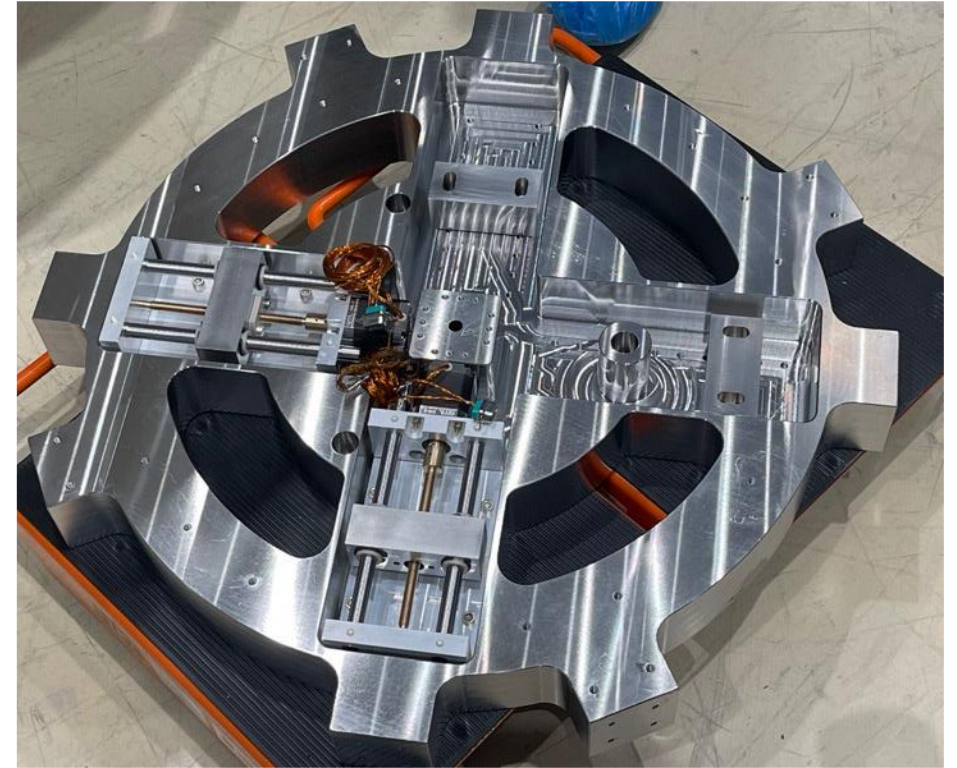


single crystal  
Si suspension rods

Al-6061 dummy  
mirror



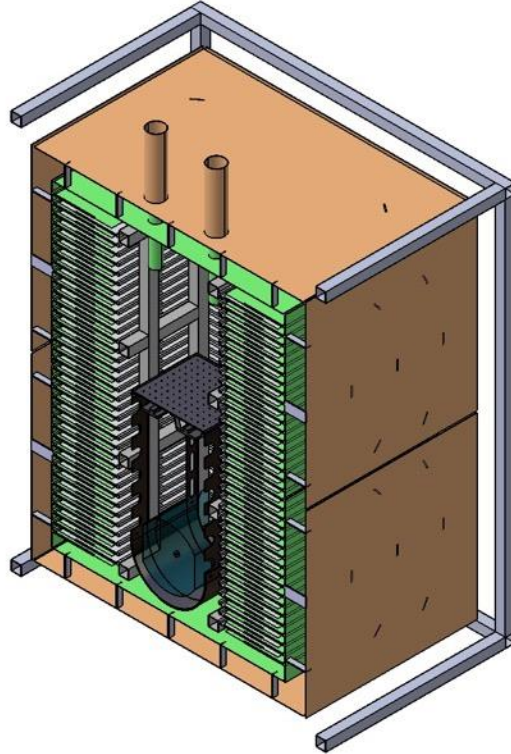
Marionette



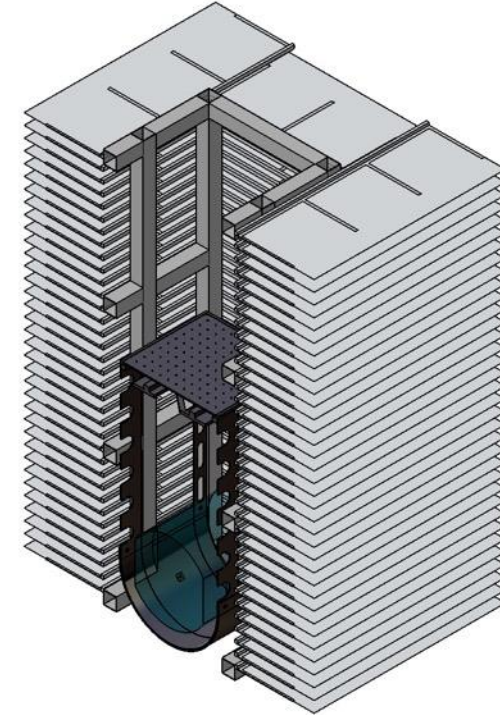
Contact: Alessandro Bertolini (Nikhef)  
alberto@nikhef.nl

# Cryostat development

- ✓ overall dimensions: 1.8 x 1.6 x 2 m<sup>3</sup>
- ✓ conventional radiator design with **horizontal fins** (25K)
- ✓ three 30-mm diameter optical feedthroughs towards the mirror



**Outer cryostat:**  
80K LN2 shield (brown)  
25K GHe panels (green)

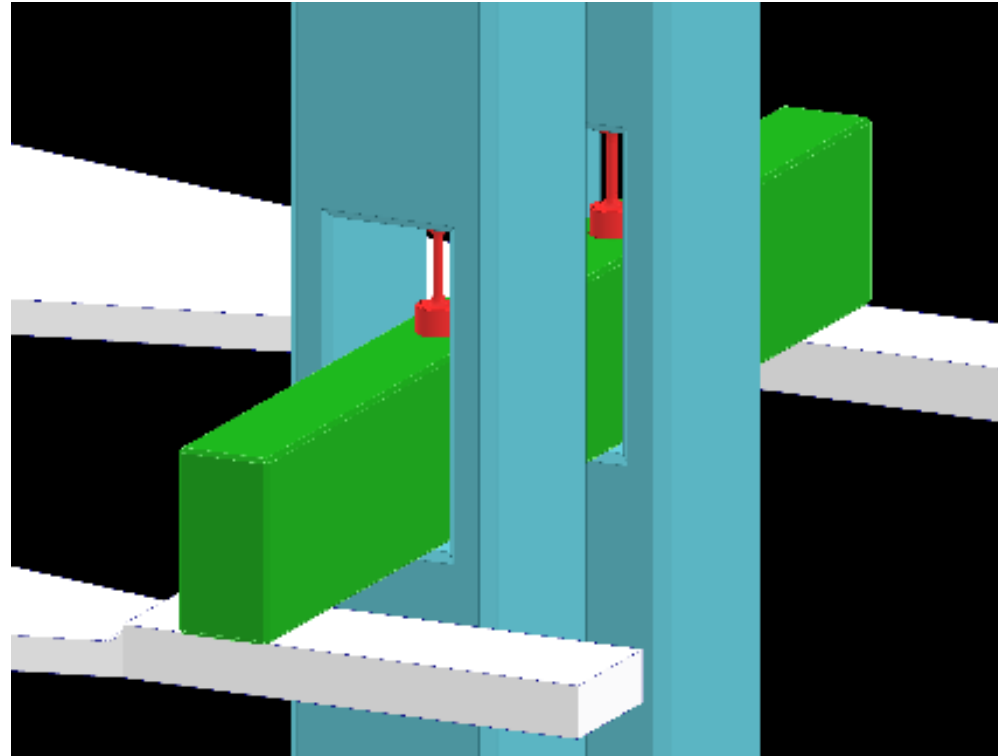


**Inner cryostat** suspended and  
conductively linked to the silicon  
mirror

Contact: Cedric Lenaerts (CSL)  
Cedric.Lenaerts@uliege.be

# Suspension in compression

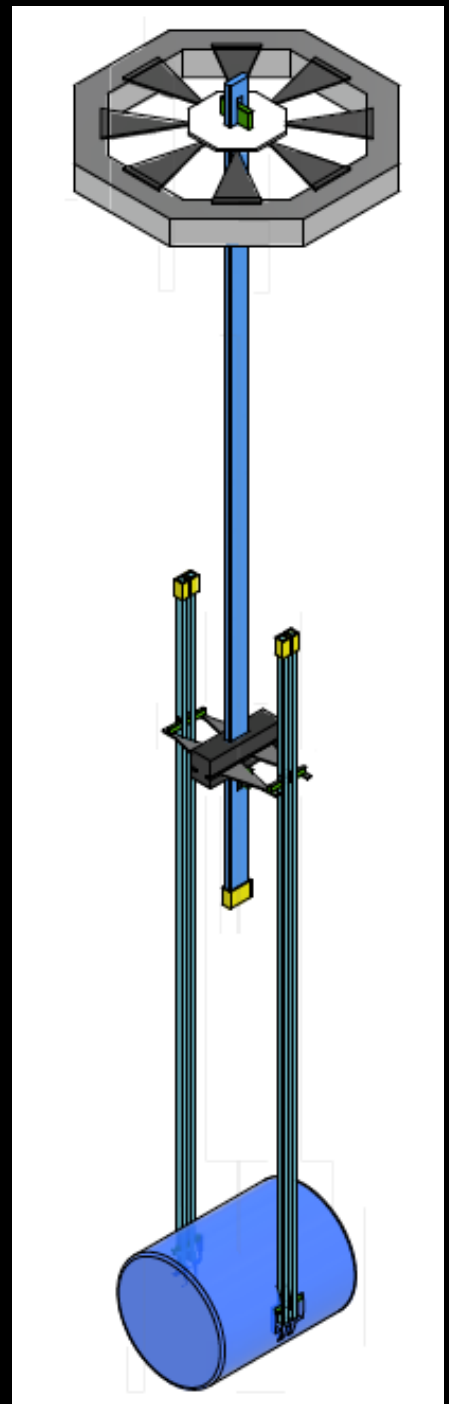
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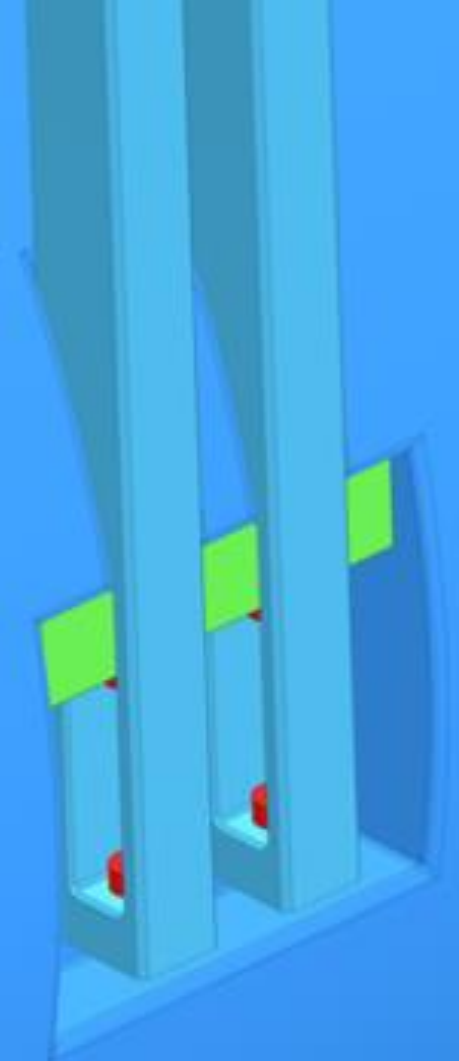
# Cryogenic suspension with flexures in compression

Fabián Peña, Nelson Leon, Leonardo González,  
Harry Themann, Riccardo DeSalvo,

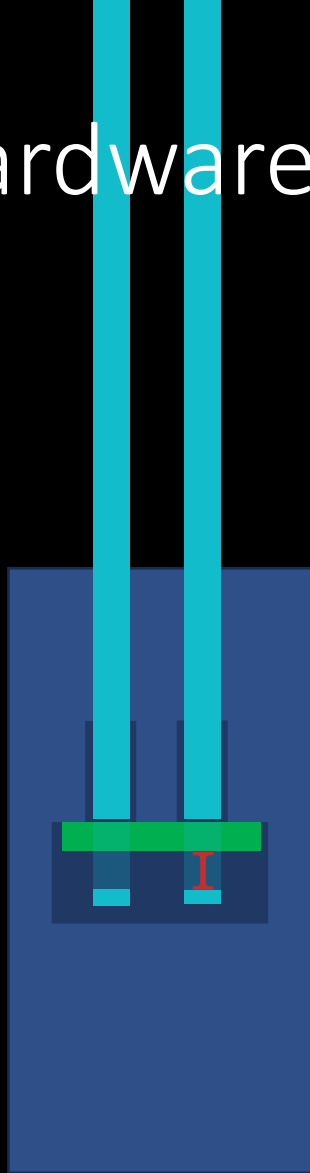
University of Guadalajara, California State University,  
University of Salerno.



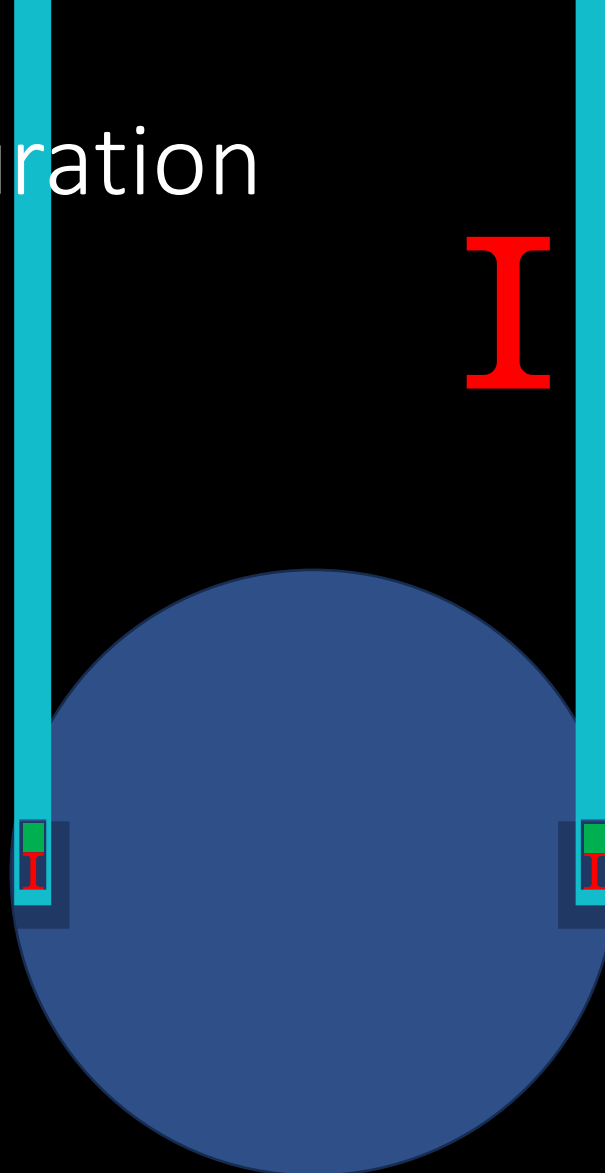
# Hardware configuration



# Hardware configuration

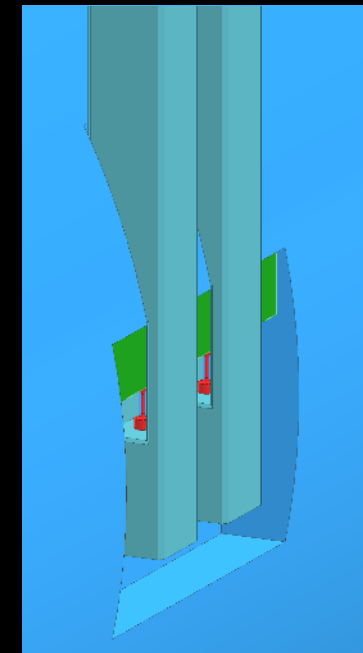


Side view



Front cross section view

- Mirror
- Side Feature
- Suspension beams
- Cross beam
- Flexures



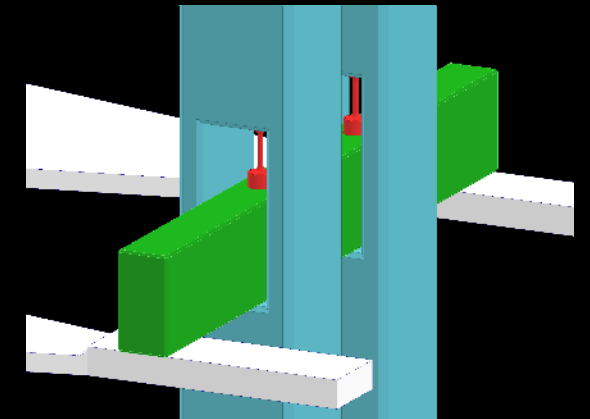
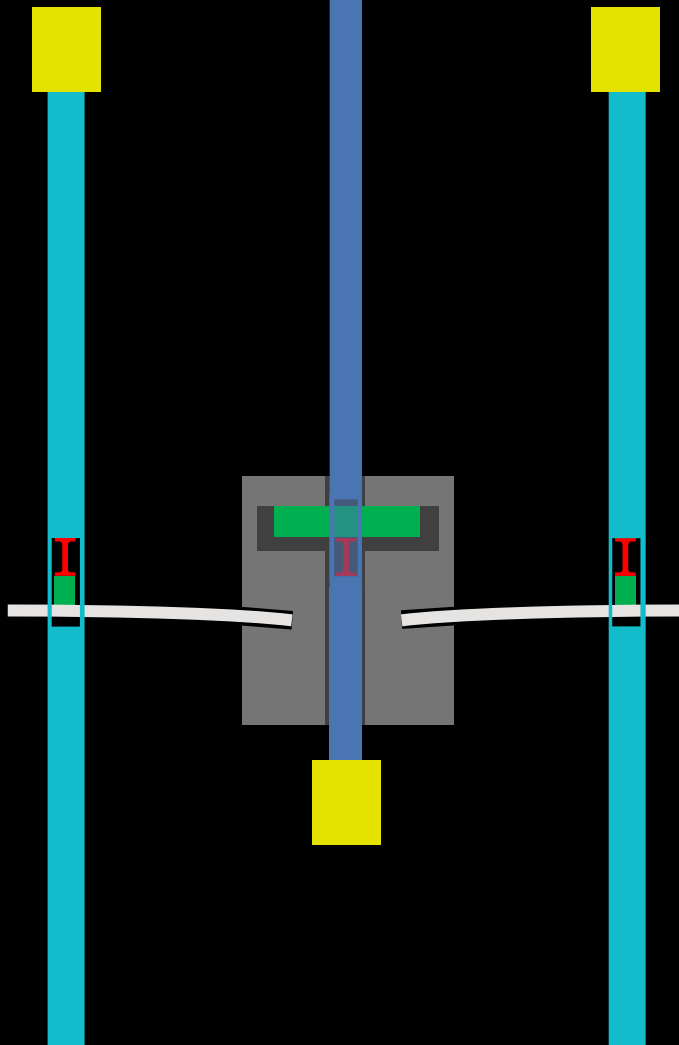
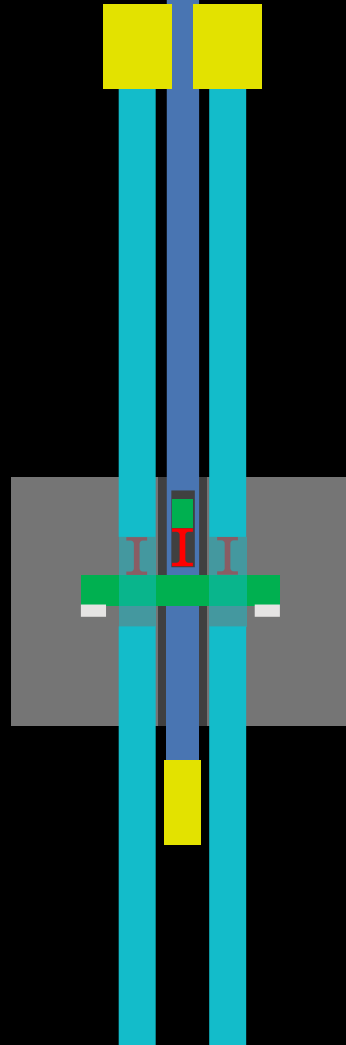
Mirror side 3D-CAD



# Hardware configuration

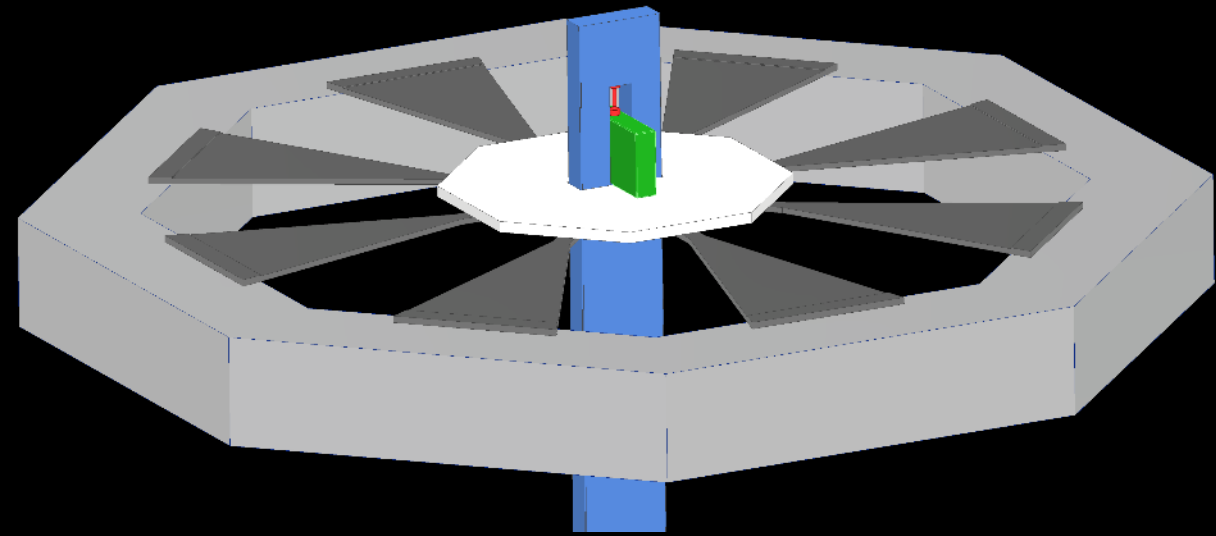
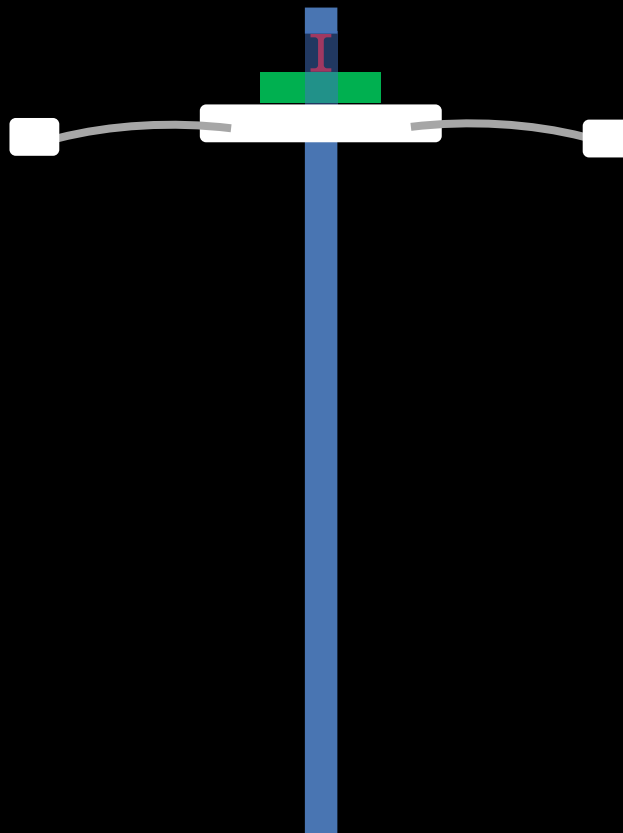
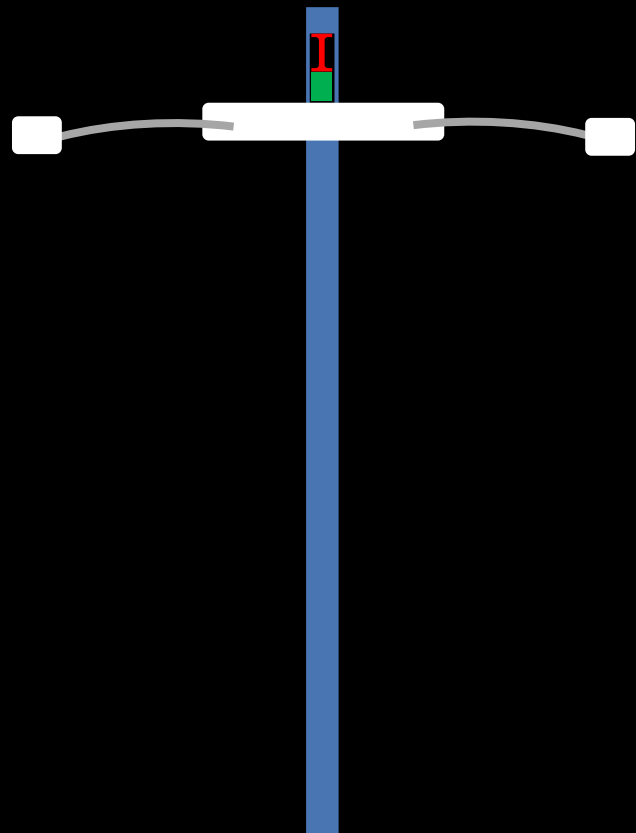
- Suspension beams
- Counterweight
- Flexures

- Cross beam
- Spring blades
- Intermediate body
- Cross beam
- Flexure
- Suspension beam
- Counterweight



3D-CAD

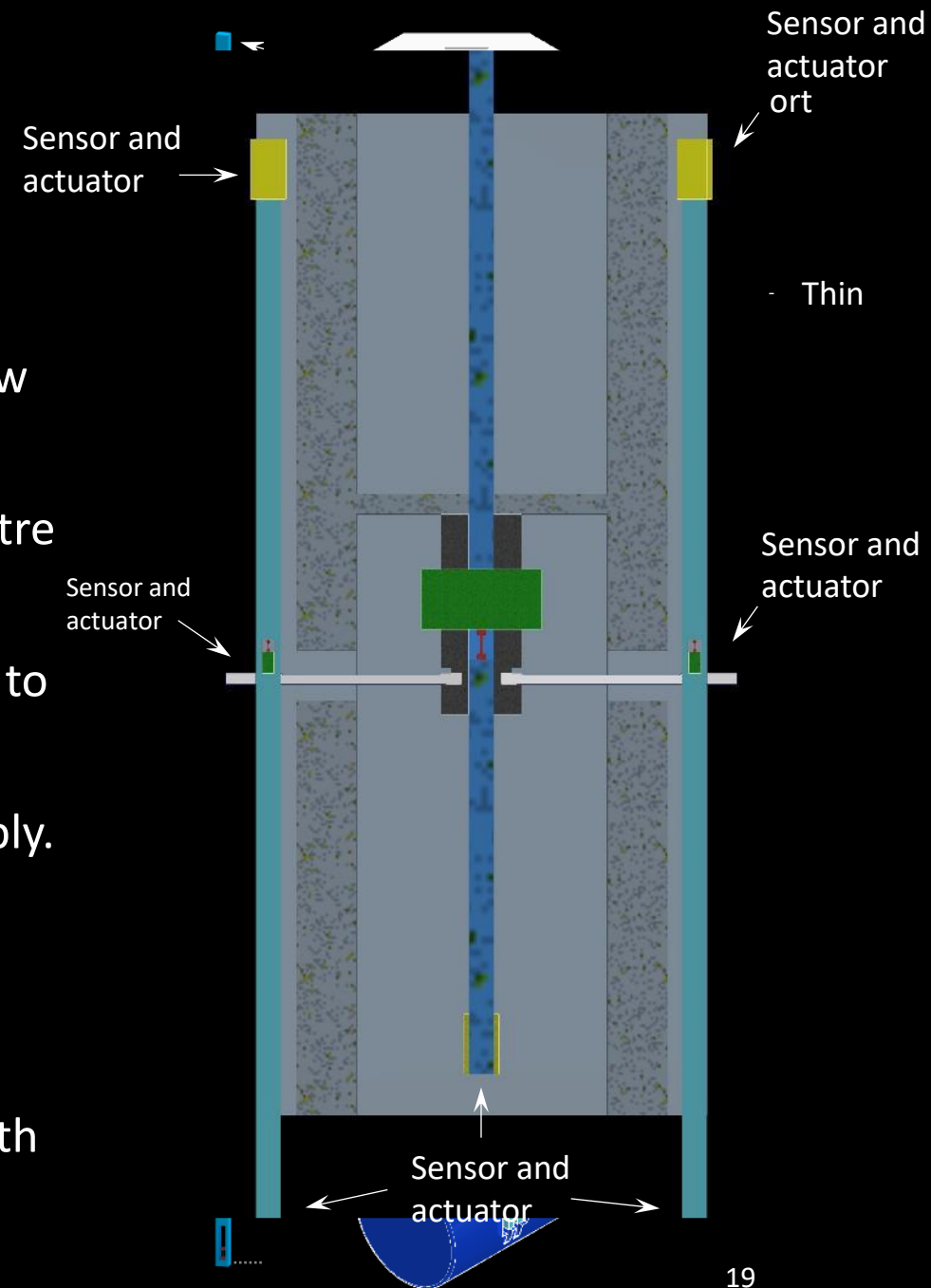
# Hardware configuration



- Suspension beam
- Flexure
- Cross beam
- Vertical filter

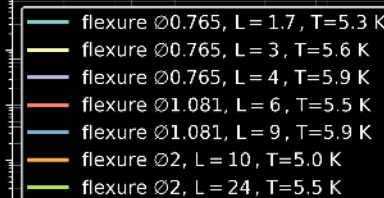
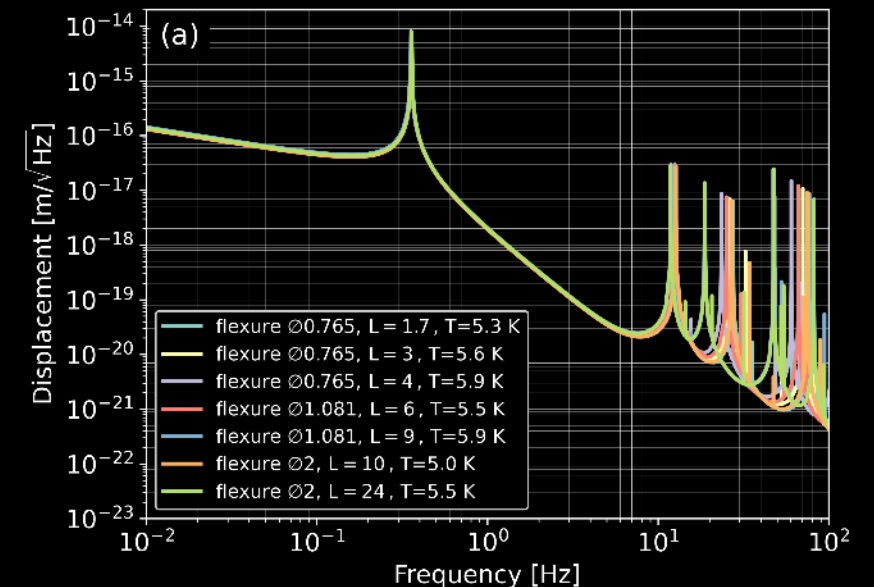
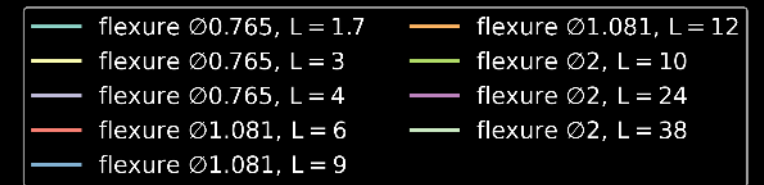
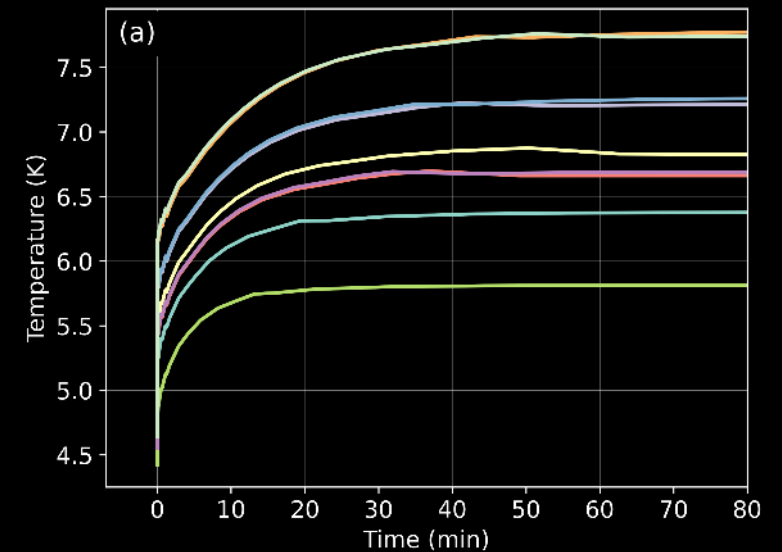
# Key element: a short and thin flexure

- Suspension is achieved with large cross-section beams:
  - Low tensional stress and low thermal resistance.
  - Hinged with soft thin flexures to produce a pendulum with a low resonant frequency.
  - With counterweights to modify mechanical behaviour (e.g. centre of percussion effect)
- Flexures work in compression to avoid silicon fragility and are short to achieve low thermal resistance.
- Joints in compression with brazing for easy assembly and disassembly.
- Active control systems can be used from an Intermediate Mass:
  - Active damping of resonant modes.
  - Lock acquisition and general control without a recoil mass.
  - Possible dynamic lowering of pendulum resonant frequency with optical springs.



# Performance

- Safety factor maintained above 6 everywhere.
- Can use  $^{28}\text{Si}$  in flexures ( $10 \times$  thermal conductivity).
- Expected working temperature around 10K.
- Fast response to beam power change due to active control system.
- Beam resonances can be actively damped down to around local sensor sensitivity.
- Thermal noise may be shifted further below GW detection threshold if optical anti-springs are successful in lowering the pendulum resonant frequency.
- So far, we have only analyzed one suspension pendulum:
  - Load Temperature: 6.6 K.
  - Displacement thermal noise:  $1 \times 10^{-19} \text{ m}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$  at 3 Hz.
  - We'll be doing calculations with the two-level payload soon.



# ETPathfinder

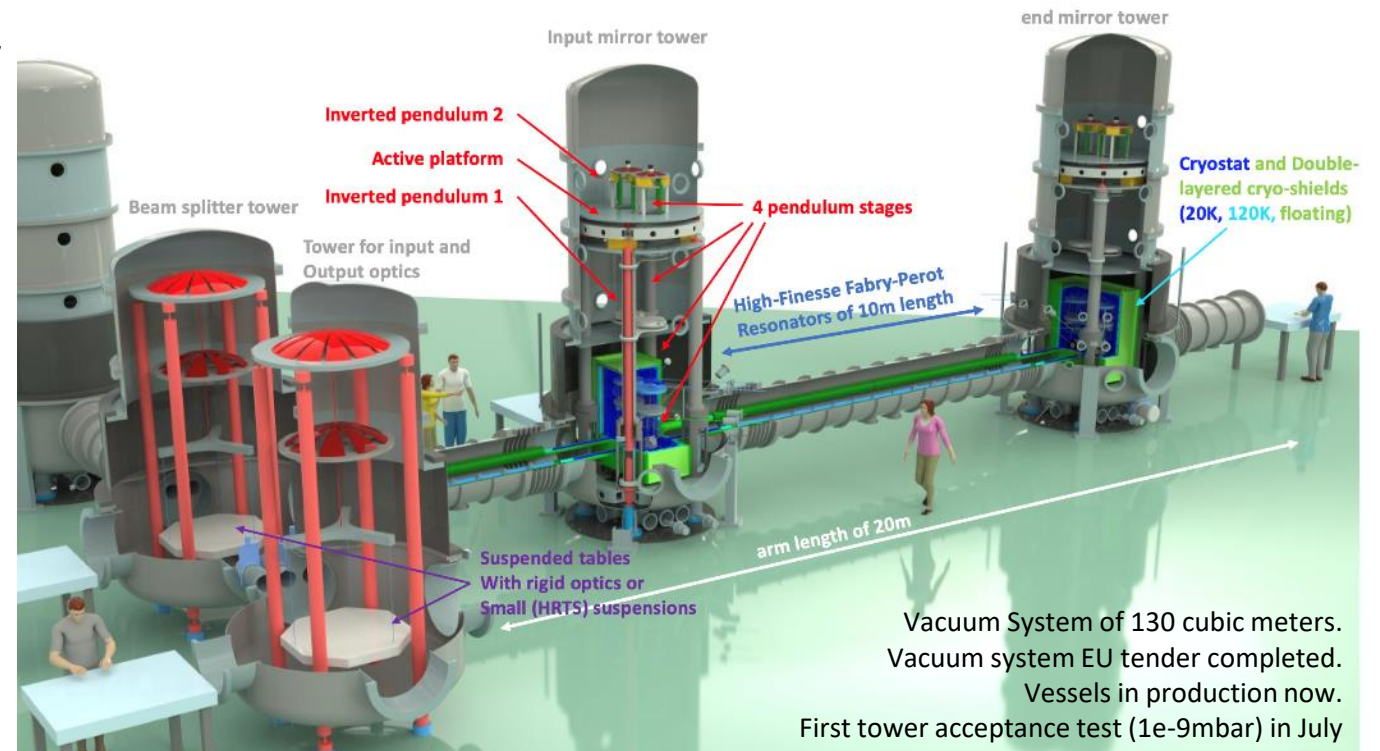
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ETpathfinder

# ETpathfinder Overview

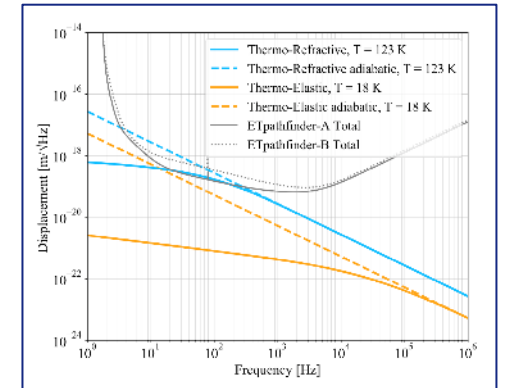
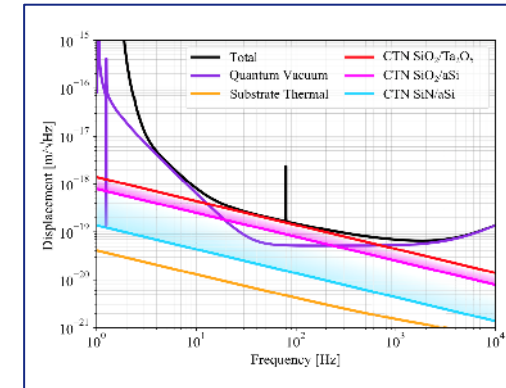
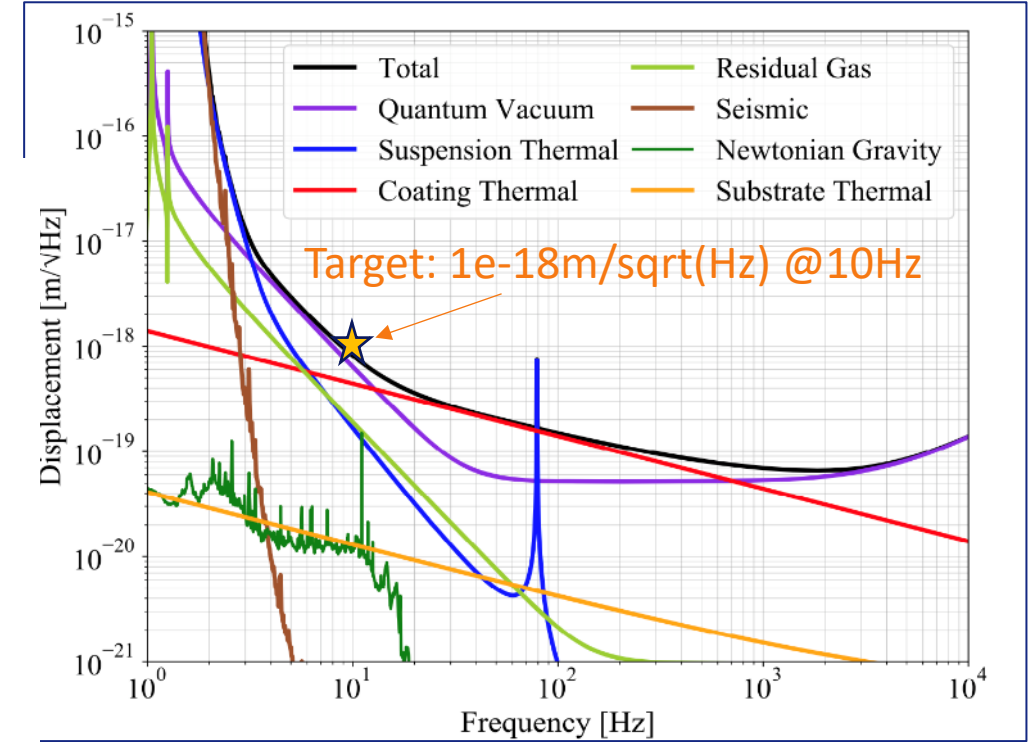
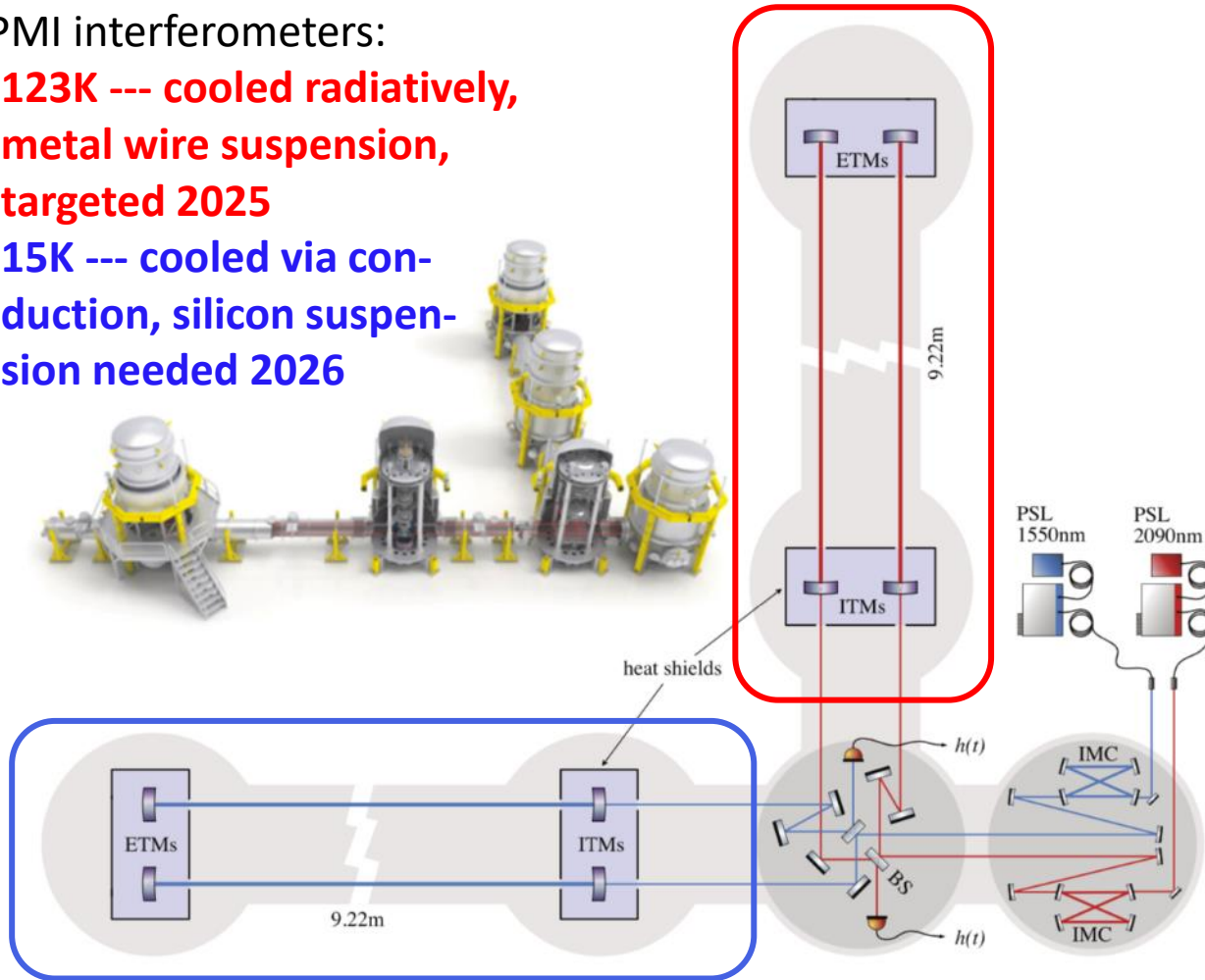
- New facility for testing ET technology in a low-noise, full-interferometer setup.
- Key aspects: **Silicon mirrors** (3 to 100+kg), **cryogenics** cryogenic liquids and sorption coolers, water/ice management), “**new**” **wavelengths** (1550 and 2090nm), coatings ...
- Start with 2 FPMI, one initially at 120K and one 15K
- 20+ partners from NL/B/G/FR/SP/UK/PL
- Initial capital funding of 14.5 MEuro.
- Detailed **Design Report** available at [apps.et-gw.eu/tds/?content=3&r=17177](https://apps.et-gw.eu/tds/?content=3&r=17177)
- Open for everyone interested to join.
- [www.etpathfinder.eu](http://www.etpathfinder.eu)



# Building 2 FPMI interferometers

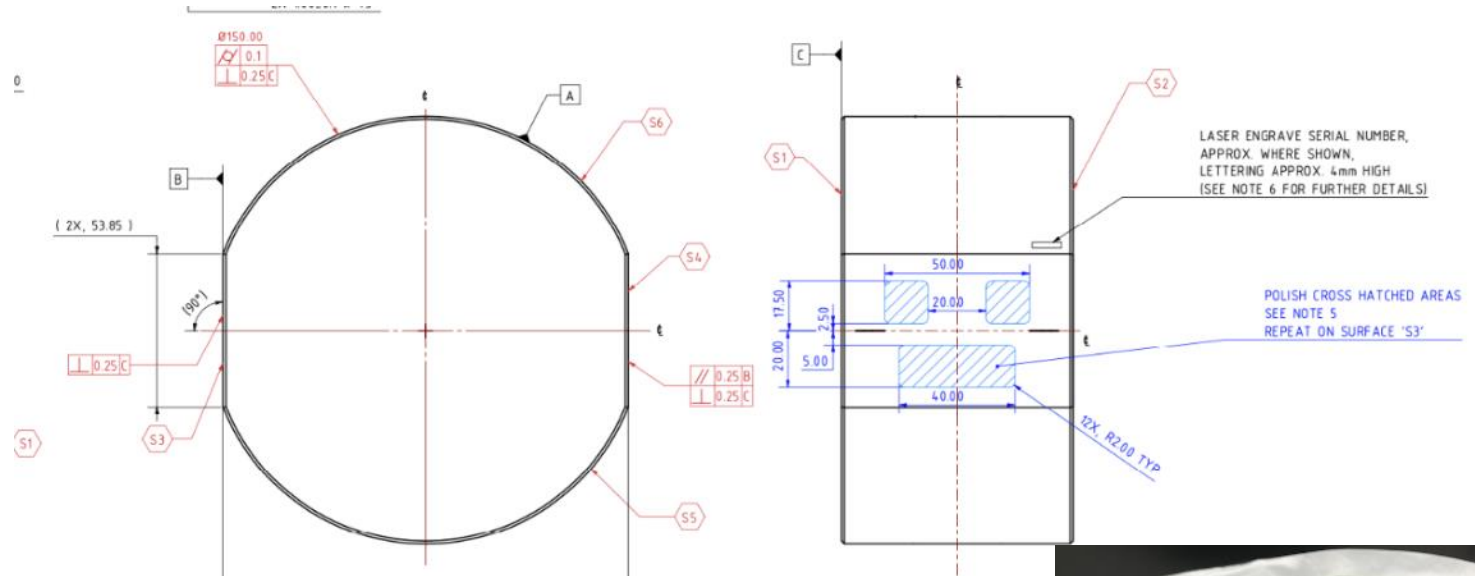
2 FPMI interferometers:

- 1) 123K --- cooled radiatively, metal wire suspension, targeted 2025
- 2) 15K --- cooled via conduction, silicon suspension needed 2026



# Need: Silicon suspension for 3kg mirrors

- Looking for a collaboration to develop silicon suspension for our pristine 3kg mirrors.
- Nikhef and UM are already overloaded with other aspects of Epathfinder (and Virgo, ET...), so we will not be able to have a large team to take the lead here.
- Can contribute 1 postdoc or phd-student (TBD) and 250k for materials.
- Mirrors (produced by Zeiss) come with polished flats offering different configurations (see blue shaded area).



Anyone interested to help?





# CAOS

---





# What can be tested/developed?

## 1. Crystalline suspension phase I: aluminum substrate with crystalline inserts and fibers

- to test the suspension assembly procedure and define the necessary tools
- to test the payload joining procedure to the SA
- to define the controls and safety structures/tools

## 2. Crystalline suspension phase II: complete crystalline suspension???

- Specifications and needs to be defined

## 3. Any other idea

- CAOS can really be a test place for any new idea and a training point for students and young researchers

<https://web.infn.it/einsteintelelescope/index.php/it/home-it-it/infrastrutture-e-labs/caos>





Finanziato  
dall'Unione europea  
NextGenerationEU



Ministero  
dell'Università  
e della Ricerca



Italiadomani  
PIANO NAZIONALE  
DI RIPRESA E RESILIENZA



# Construction statuts





## Work at ICRR

### 1. Crystalline suspension phase I: aluminum substrate and marionetta with aluminum wires

- to test the suspension assembly procedure and define the necessary tools
- to test the controls at room temperature and at cryogenic temperature

### 2. Crystalline suspension phase II: aluminum substrate and marionette with silicon inserts and silicon fibers

- Specifications and needs to be defined

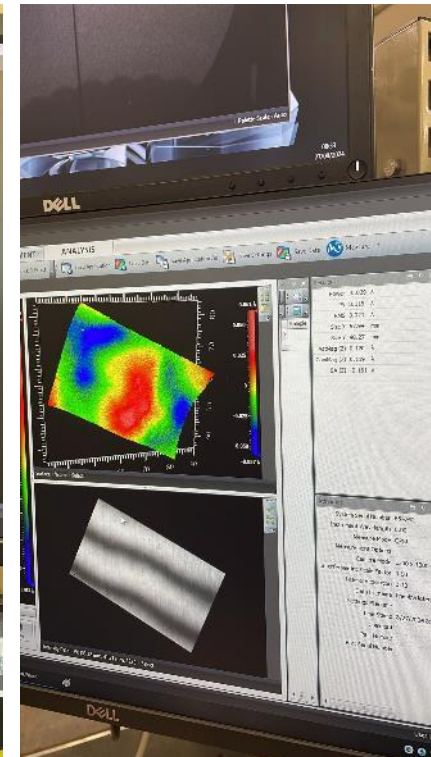
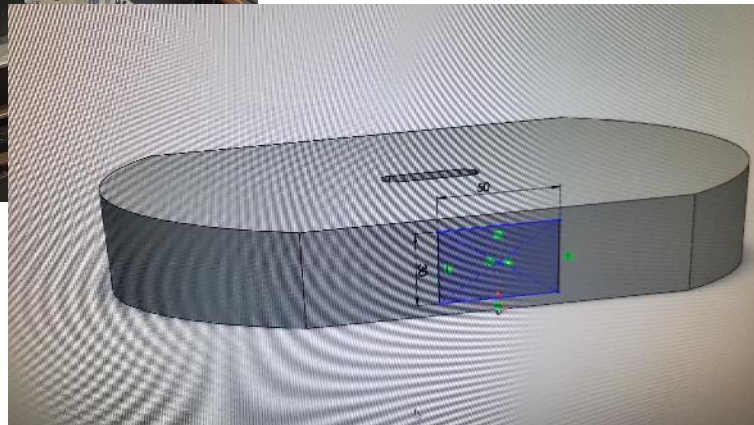
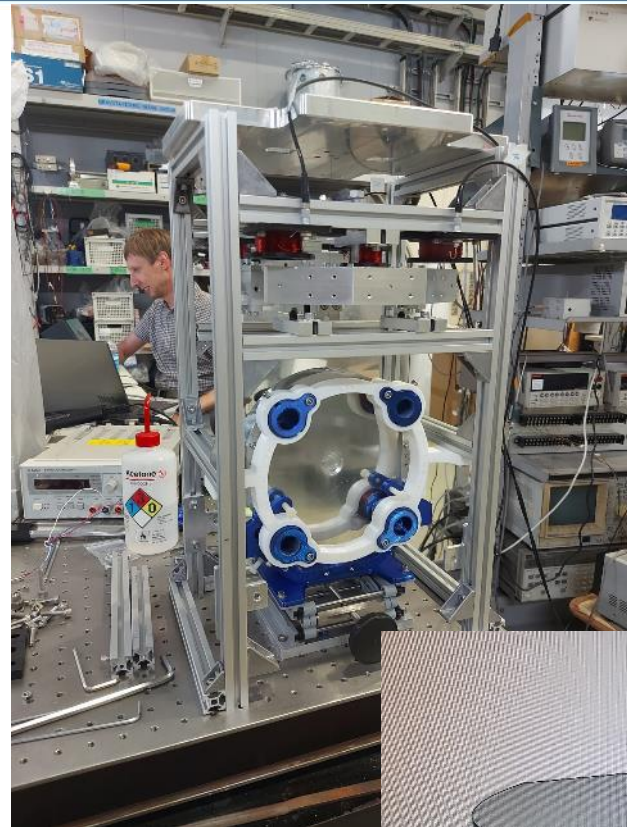




# Work at ICRR

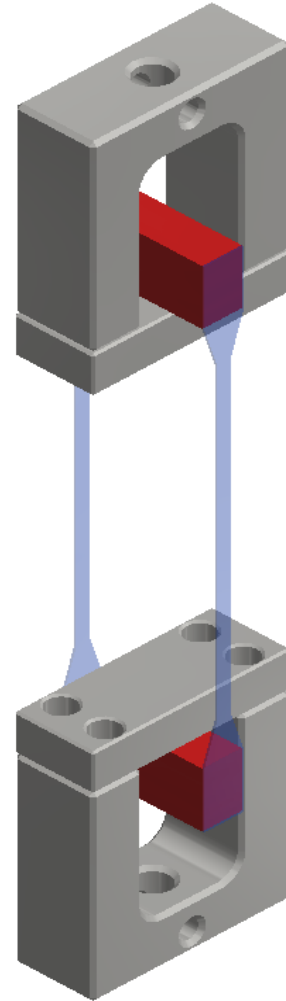
## 3. Crystalline suspension phase III: everything in silicon

- Specifications and needs to be defined



# Amaldi Research Center (ARC)

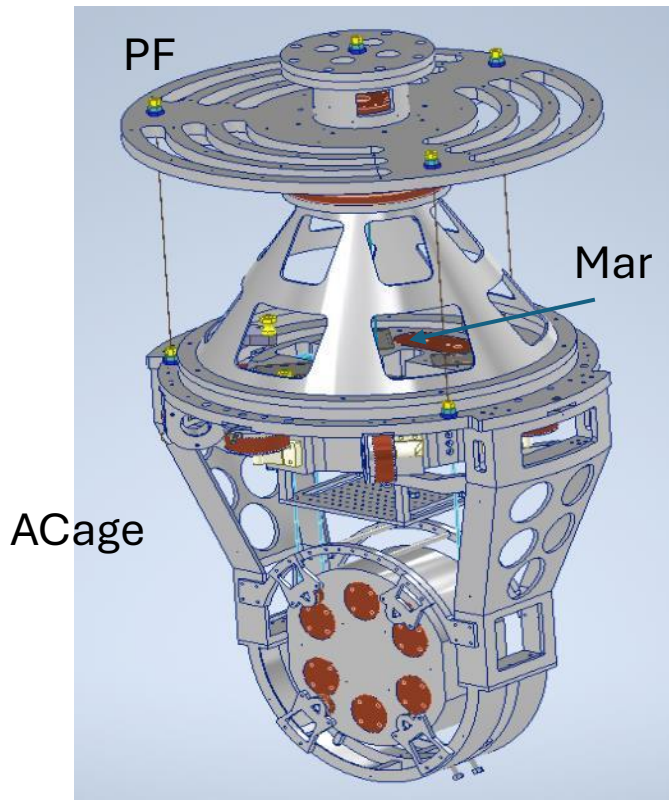
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# ARC

In ARC lab in Rome «La Sapienza»

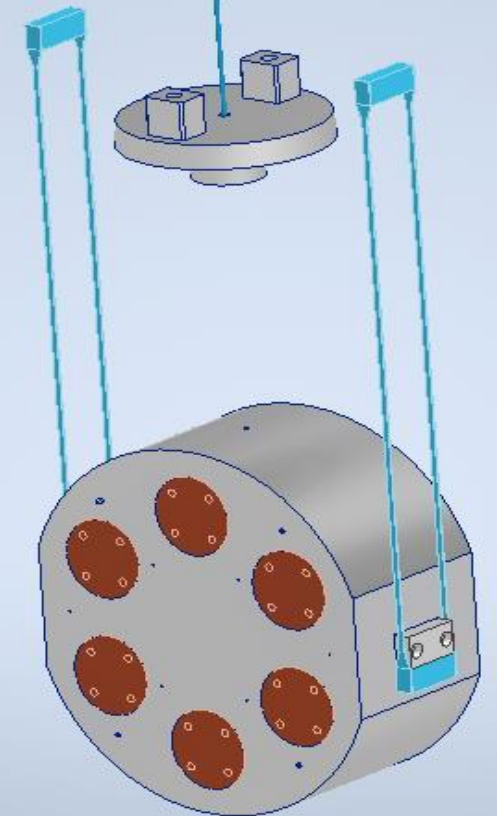
- ~1:1 payload prototype designed and currently under construction
- Uses solid conduction and soft heat links.
- No seismic isolation system, hosted in a 3m dia cryostat.
- The main focus is on sapphire, due to its favourable mechanical properties, but also Si suspensions can be adopted.



- Mar-PF CoM2CoM ~0,8m
- Mar-Mir CoM2CoM ~0,7m
- initially, no blades  
(we have just the central part, to be tested)

- Mir ~125kg (0.45m dia)
- Mar ~125kg

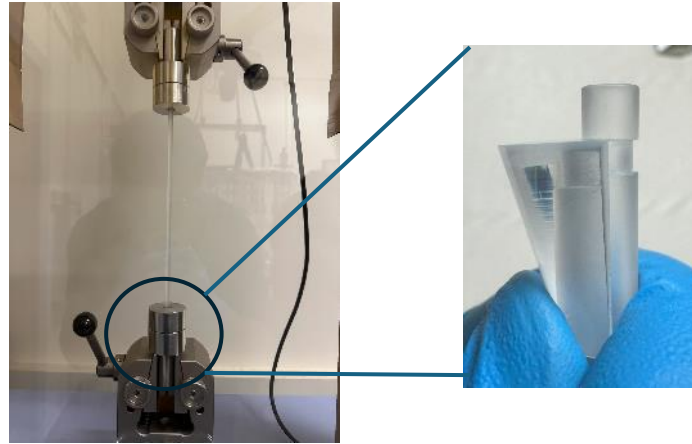
## Mirror Suspensions



# ARC

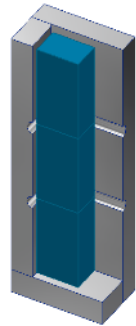
## Mirror Suspensions

Testing new mechanical lock for the marionette



We are also considering the use of glues such as Sumiceram or Stycast.

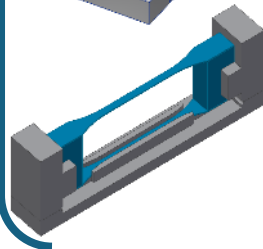
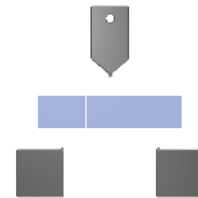
1. Bonding Phase (HCB)



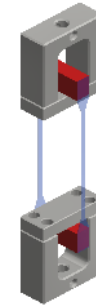
3 Blocks



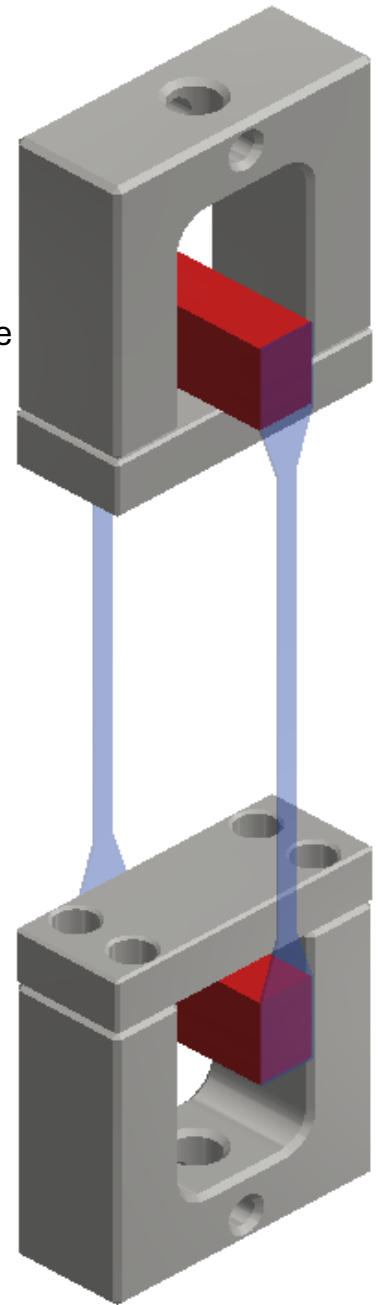
2. Testing Phase



Ribbons + blocks



Bonding phase ongoing (Glasgow collab)





Production



# Wielands UPMT

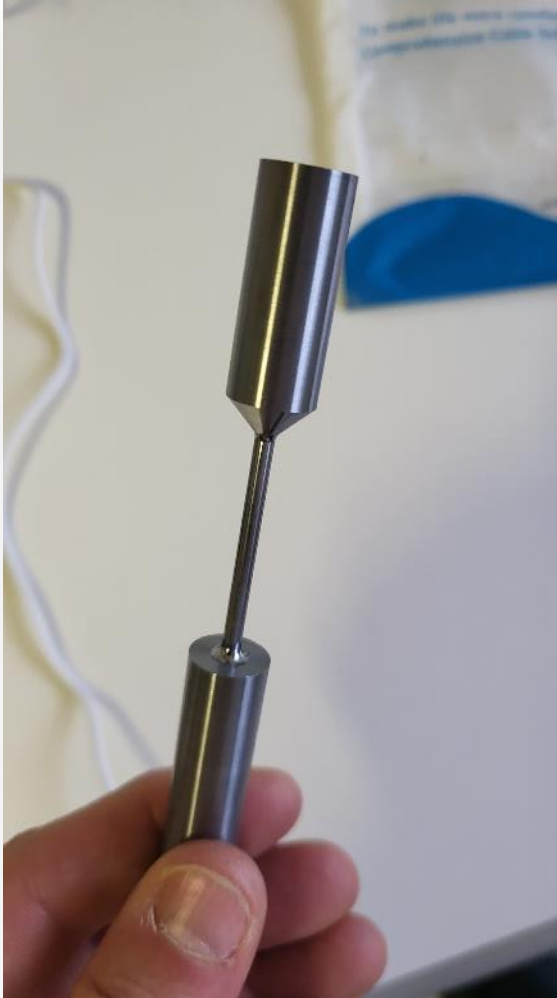
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# SILICON JOINTS

Nikhef

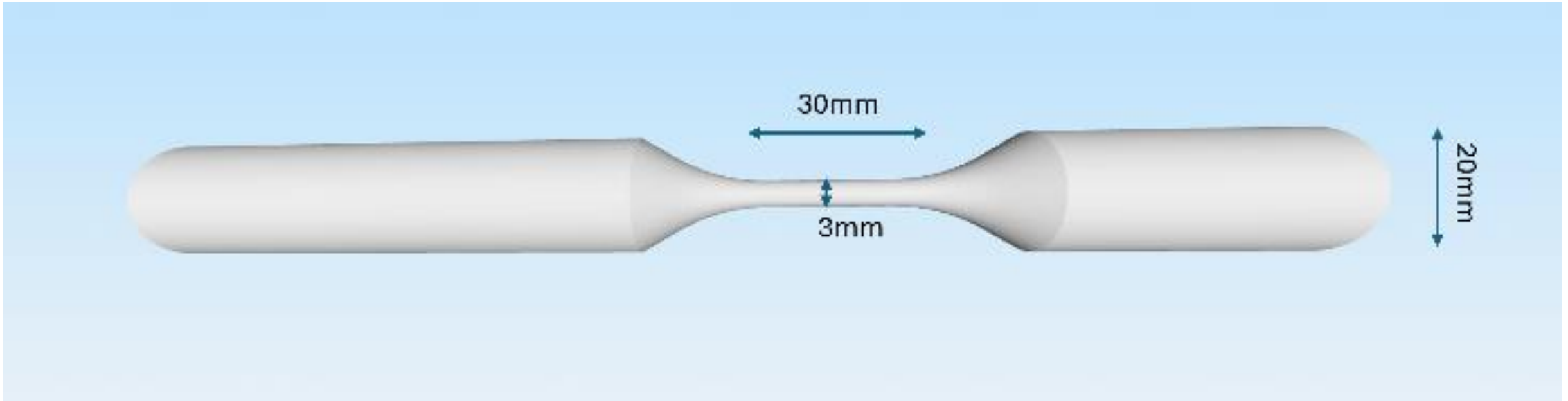
Wielandts  
upmt





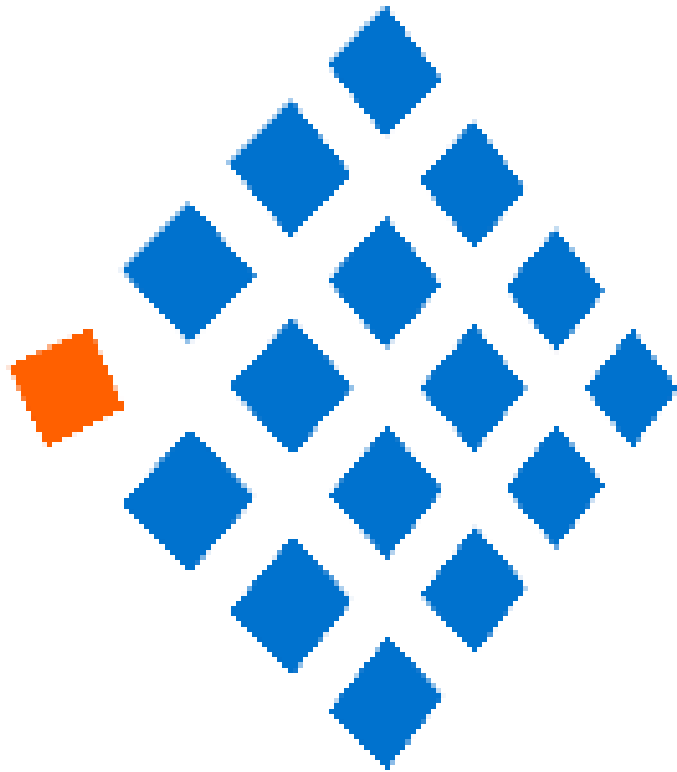
# EFIBER project

The project, aimed to produced optimized joints, has been just submitted.

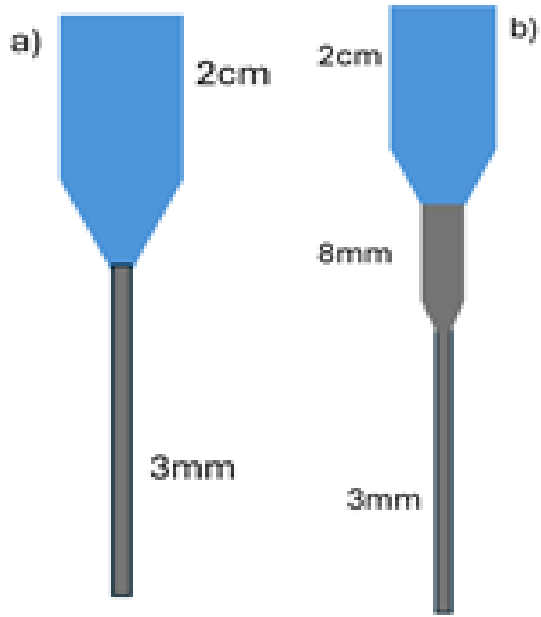


IKZ

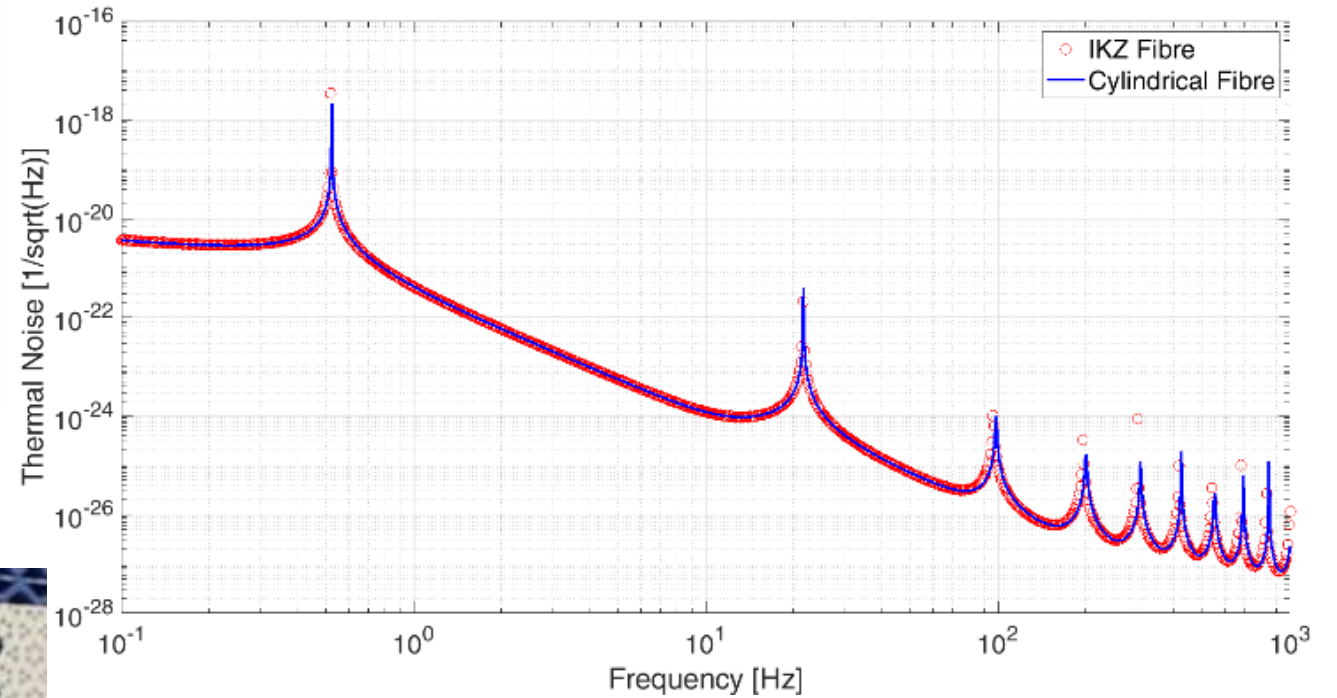
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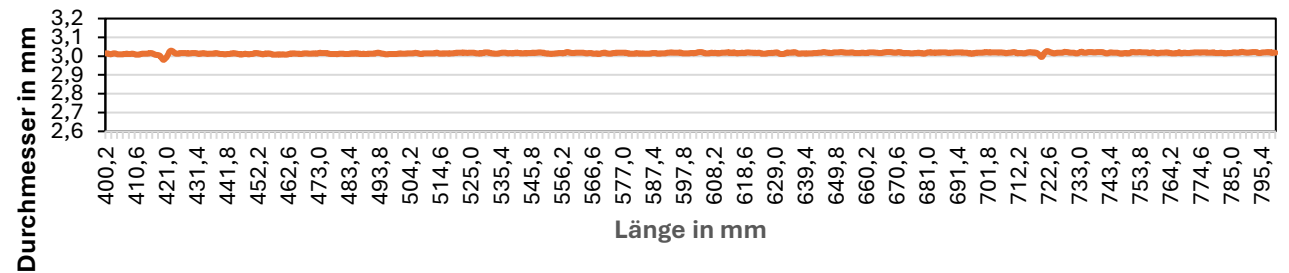
ikz



See the nice talk of Iryna Buchovska



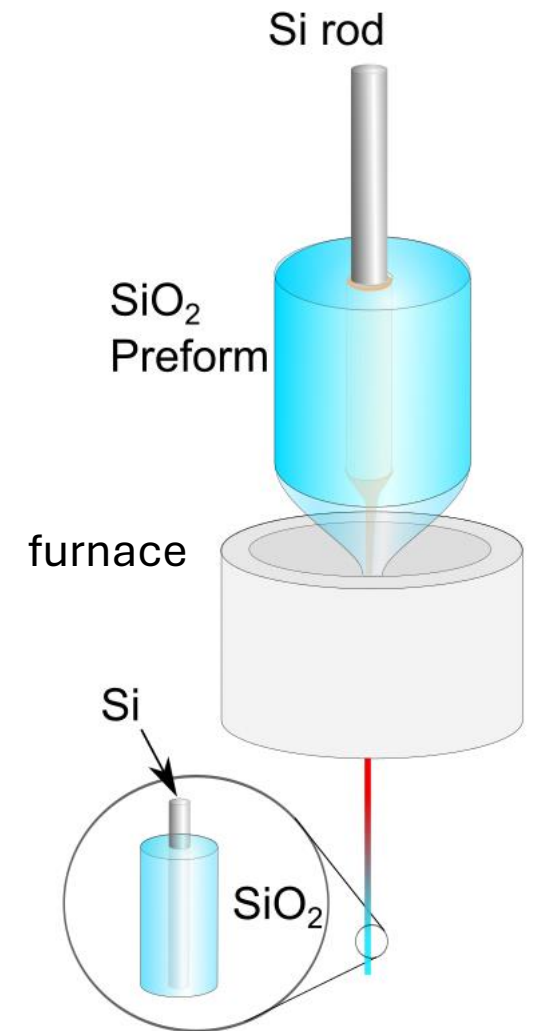
Durchmesserverlauf - Abschnitt 2 (400,2 - 800mm)



# *Clemson University*

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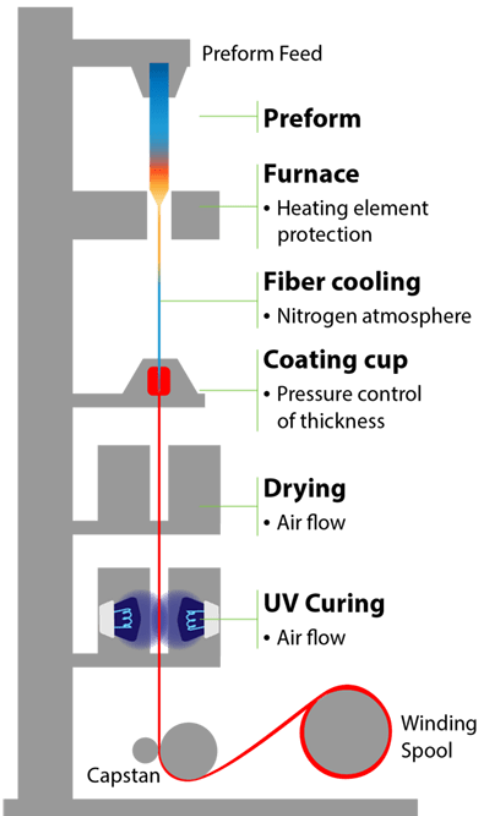
# *Dartmouth College*



# Large core Si/SiO<sub>2</sub> fiber draws

*Ursula Gibson, Dartmouth College and Clemson University*

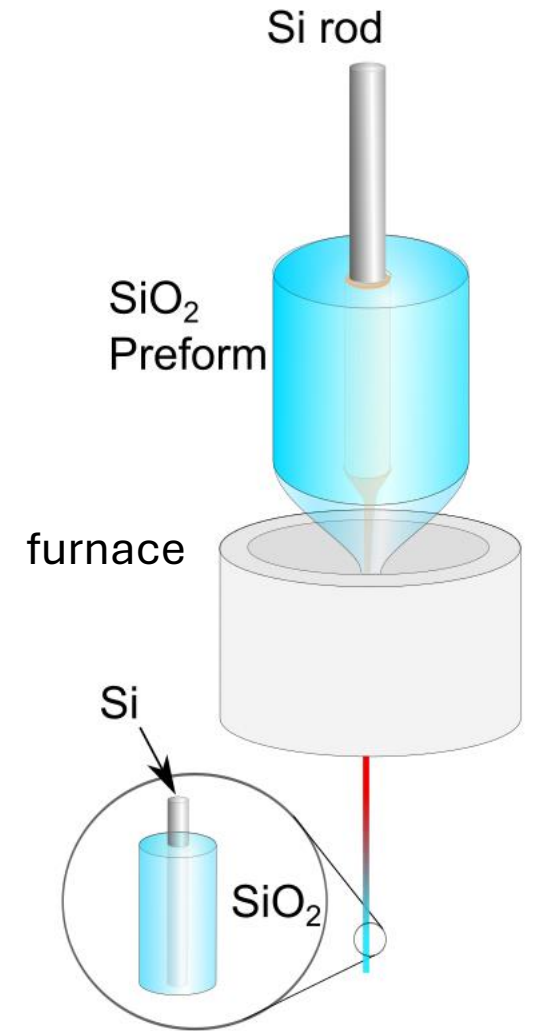
*Wade Hawkins and John Ballato, Clemson University*



Silica molds silicon, gives smooth surface  
prior work on smaller diameters:  
CO<sub>2</sub> laser annealing recrystallizes Si

Two draws

- 1) 30mm OD silica with 8 mm ID  
6 mm silicon rod  
> **1 mm core** after draw
- 2) 30 mm OD silica with 12 mm ID  
6mm silicon pieces  
>> **core size > 2 mm**

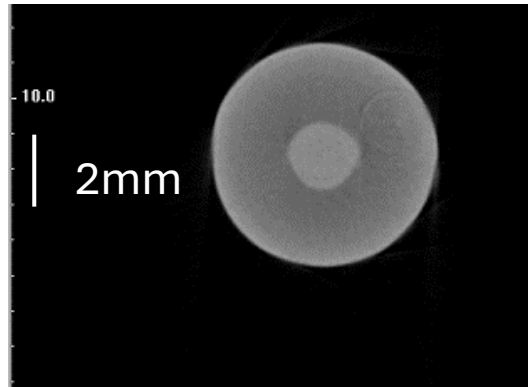




# Preliminary analysis

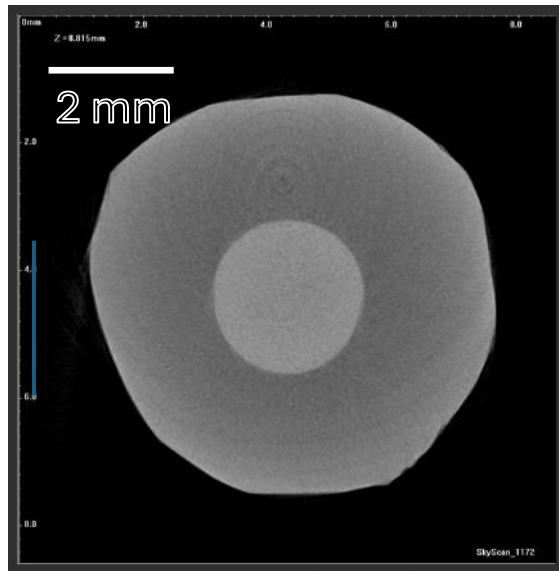
Xray computed tomography

First draw



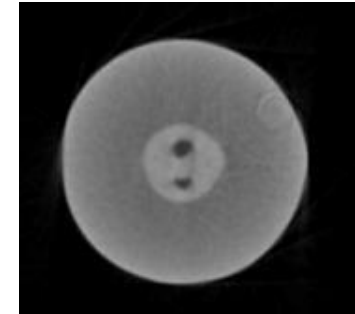
Second draw

(some glass removed to improve image contrast)

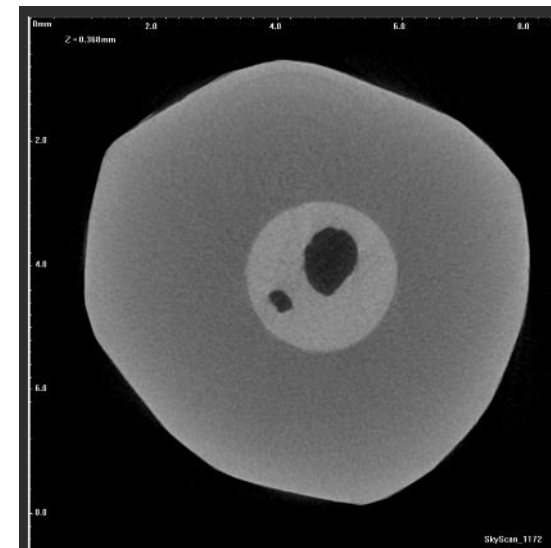


Some regions have voids –  
further study needed

First draw



Second draw

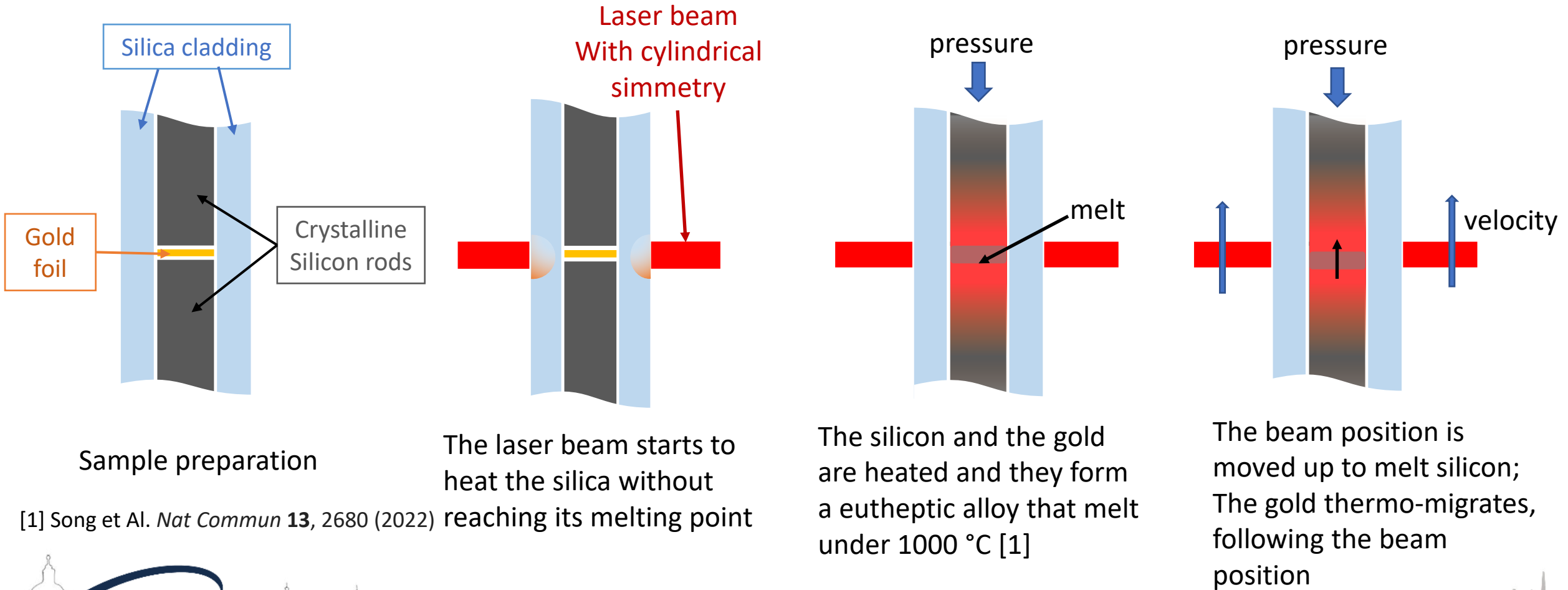


# *University of Urbino*

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# A laser based method to weld silicon using a metal-semiconductor alloy



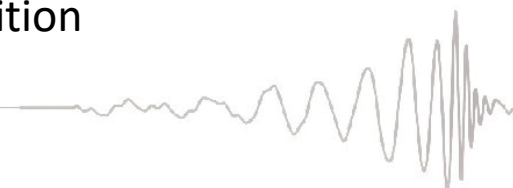
Sample preparation

The laser beam starts to heat the silica without reaching its melting point

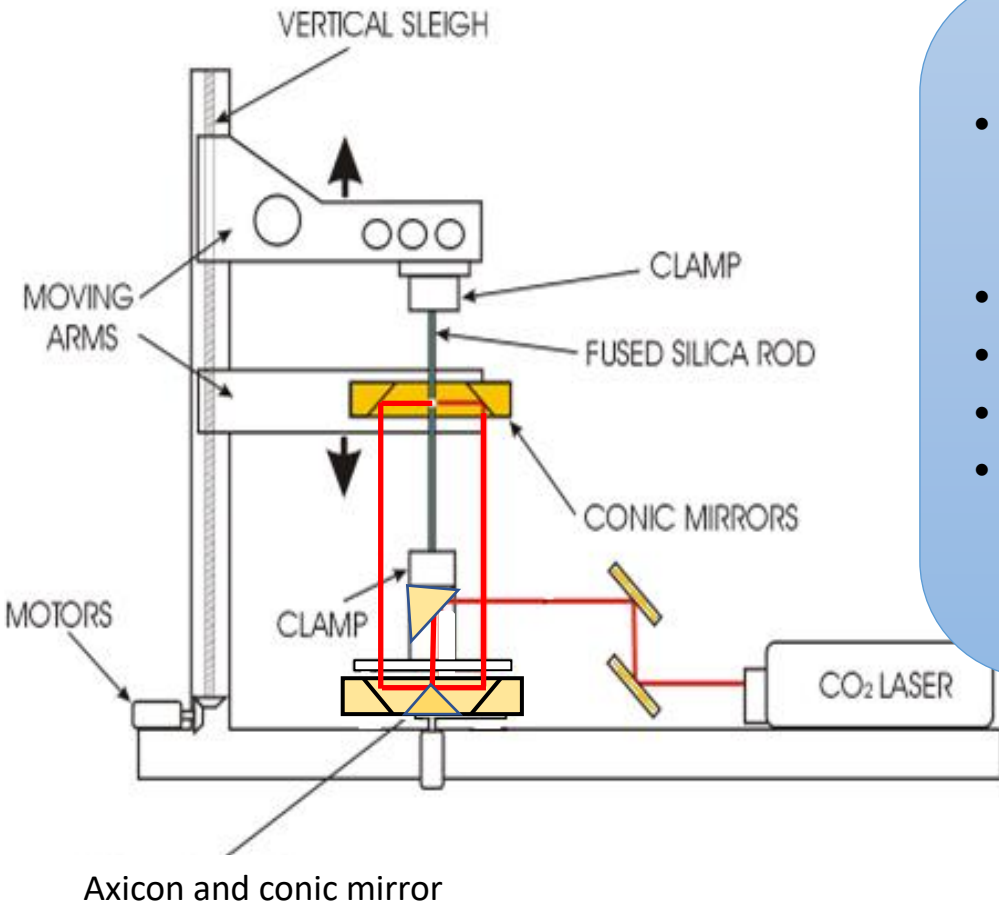
The silicon and the gold are heated and they form a eutheptic alloy that melt under 1000 °C [1]

The beam position is moved up to melt silicon; The gold thermo-migrates, following the beam position

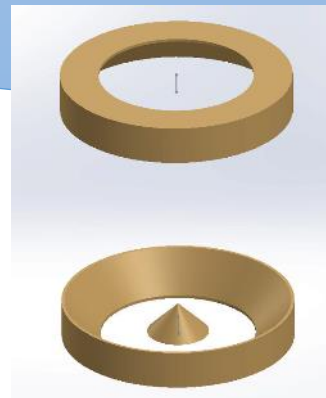
[1] Song et Al. *Nat Commun* **13**, 2680 (2022)



# Experimental set up

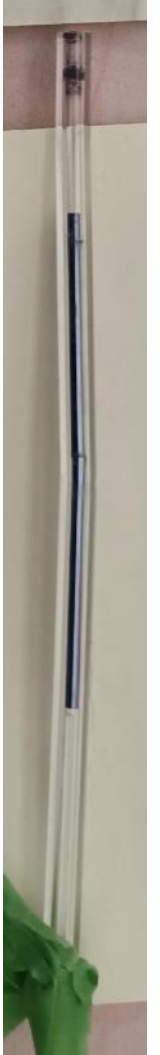
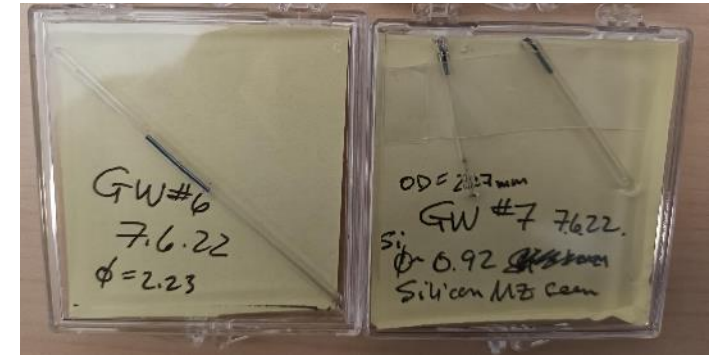


- The machine used is the Fiber pulling machine, developed @Urbino Lab for Virgo silica fibers R&D
- 200 W, CO<sub>2</sub> Laser
- Cylindrical heating system.
- Clamps for rods
- Motors to move the heating point with a low speed of  $10^{-5}$  m/s



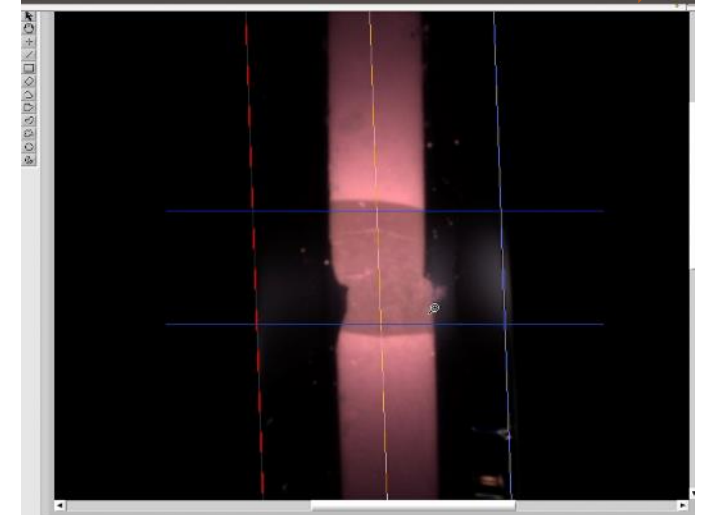
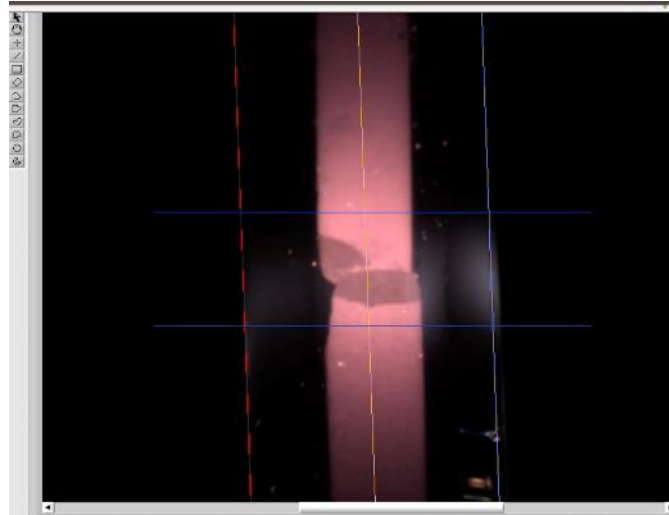
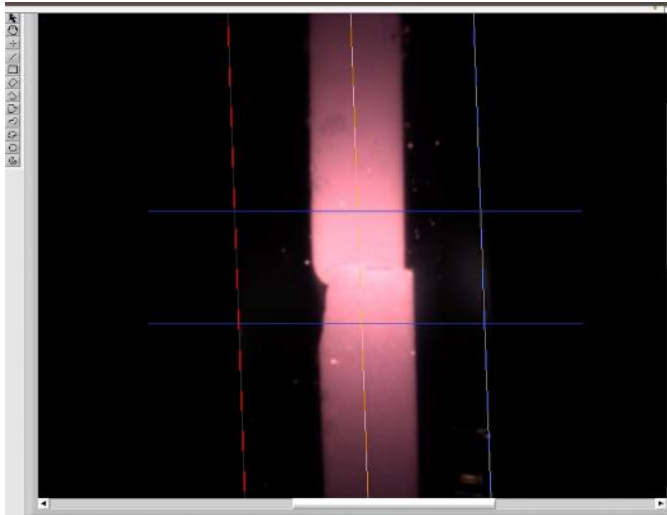
# Samples

- Ursula Gibson provided us with some ready samples to test the system:
  - some silicon rod tests that had received heat treatment at the contact point (useful for setting up the system)
  - 2 samples ready to be soldered (1 used).
- Crystalline Silicon rod diameter: 1 mm
- Silica Cladding diameter: 2.23 mm or 3,00 mm
  
- contact pressure of the 2 rods is realized with a weight made by a silica rod 3 mm thick and ~10 mm long.



# Gold-silicon alloy melting point

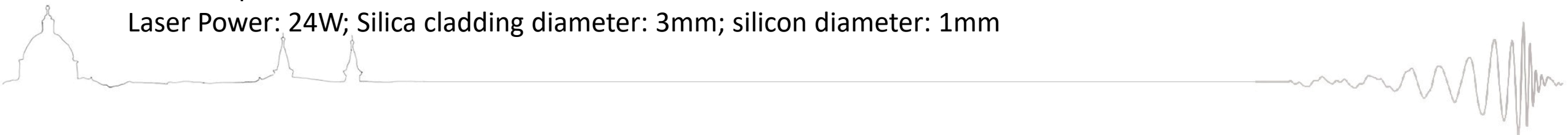
POWER INCREASING



Starting the heating process the silicon starts to emit.

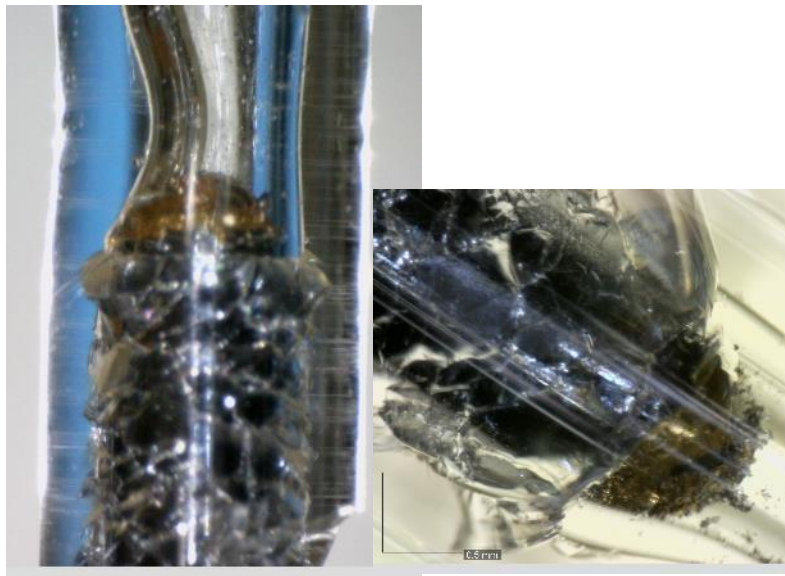
Increasing the power, a darker region is visible (state transition). The dimension of this area is related to the laser power.

Laser Power: 24W; Silica cladding diameter: 3mm; silicon diameter: 1mm

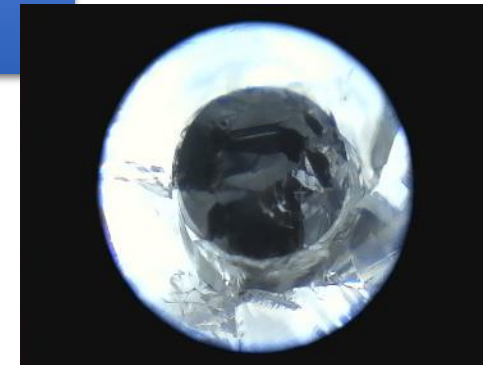
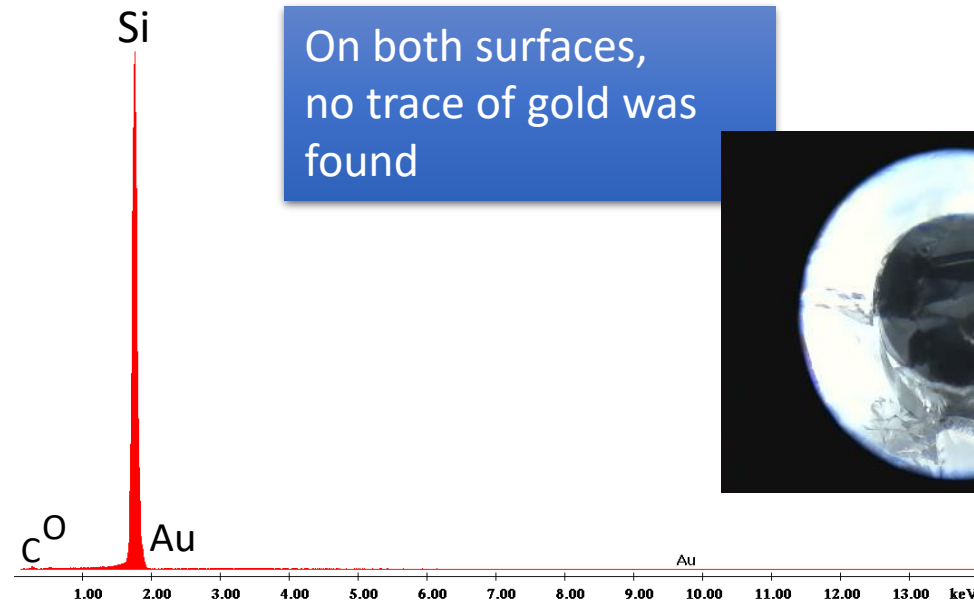


# Results

- Qualitatively, it is possible to observe the migration of gold at the end of the silicon rod



- a SEM+EDS analysis was performed on one sample to see the elements present on 2 surfaces:
  - the first close to the starting point of the weld,
  - the second a few millimeters above



IMPEX HIGH-TECH GMBH (German)

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Institute for Single Crystals, (Ukraine)

impex  
high tech





# Sapphire connection methods

Methods of connection sapphire components and their features

Testing capillary effect for sapphire melt in sapphire crystal in different configuration and size of channel

Theoretical Model of Joining Sapphire Blanks by Melt

Process of Melt Rising in a Capillary Channel

Defects in the Melted Part of the Crystal

Joining Sapphire Crystals with Different Vertical Gradients



<https://www.impex-hightech.de/>

<https://www.isc.kh.ua>

<https://scinn-eng.org.ua/ojs/index.php/ni/index>

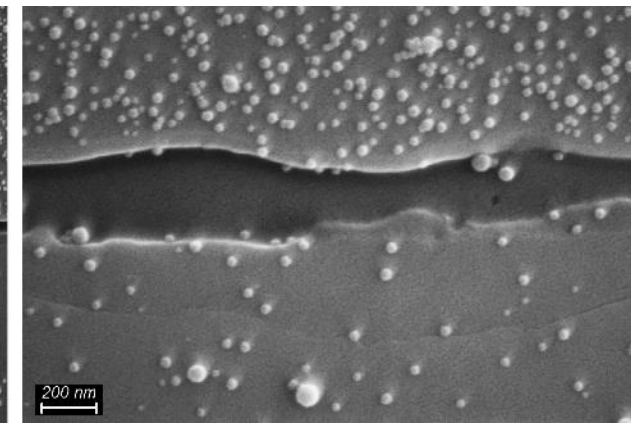
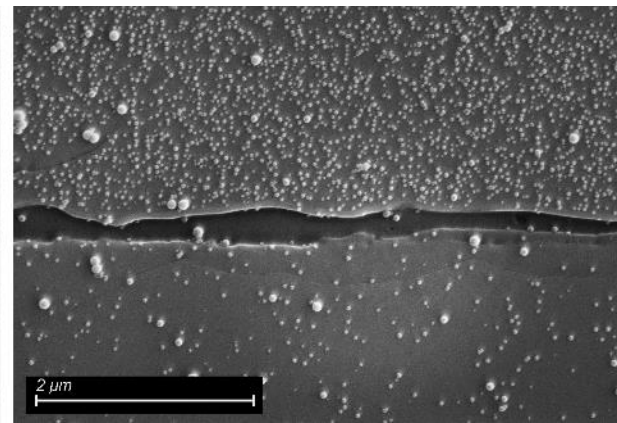
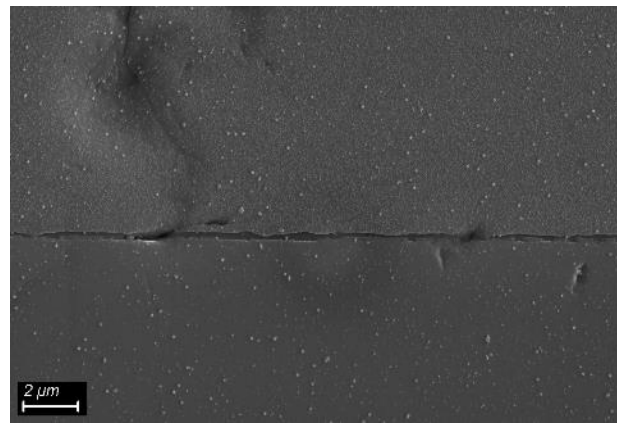
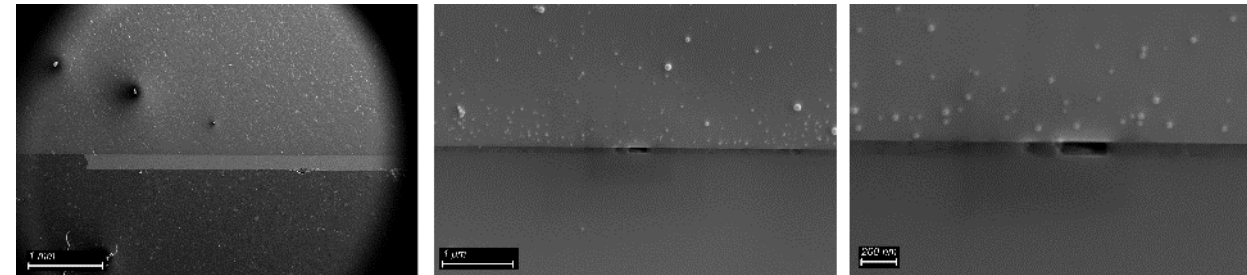
*German project with funding code EP201456*

# Testing capillary effect for sapphire melt in sapphire crystal in different configuration and size of channel

The simultaneous presence of the same substance in both solid and liquid states in the system can last for a relatively short time until equilibrium is reached.



The experiment was conducted in a thermal zone at a temperature below the melting point, where superheated melt was introduced to contact the crystalline blanks



# UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

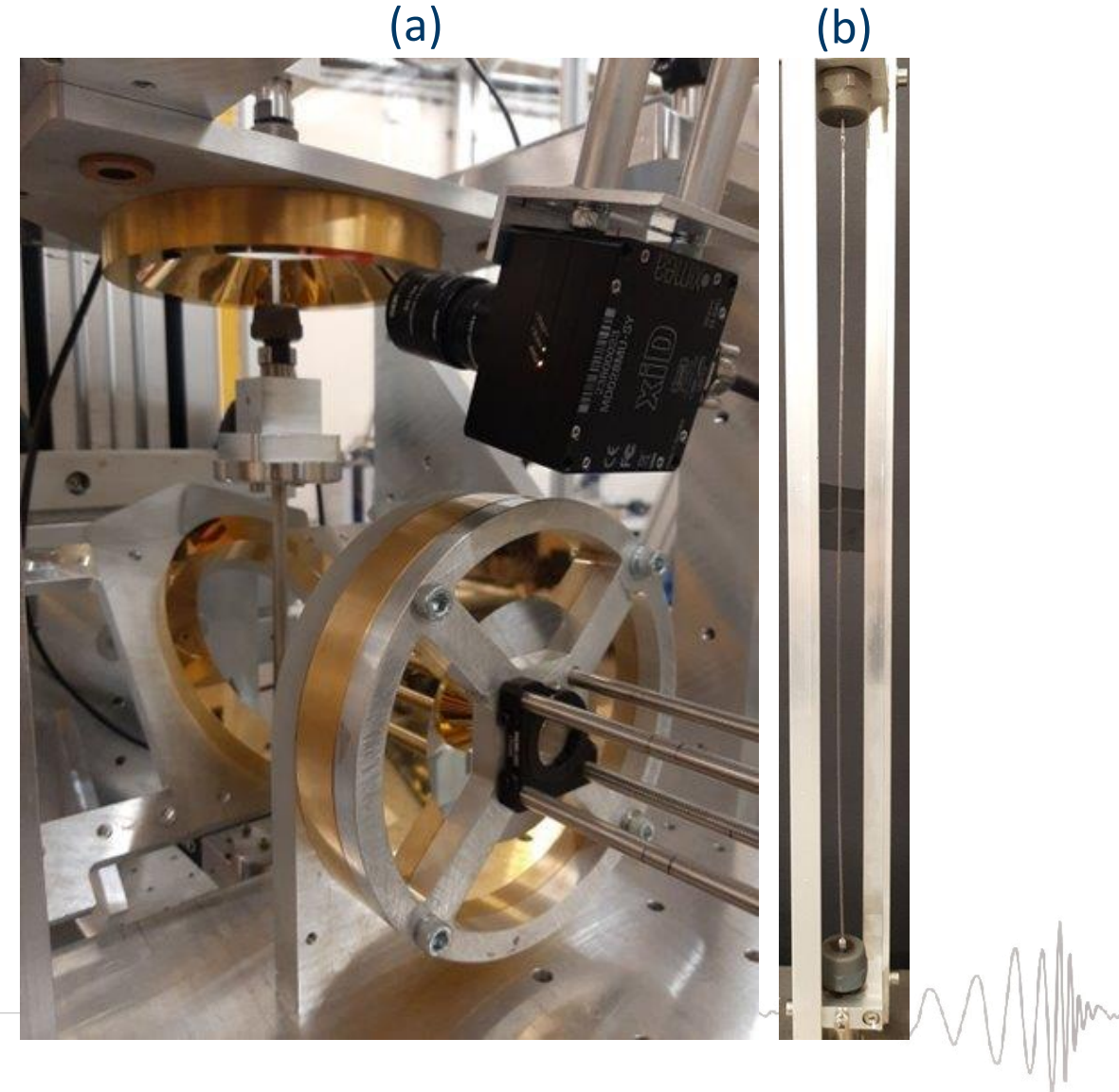
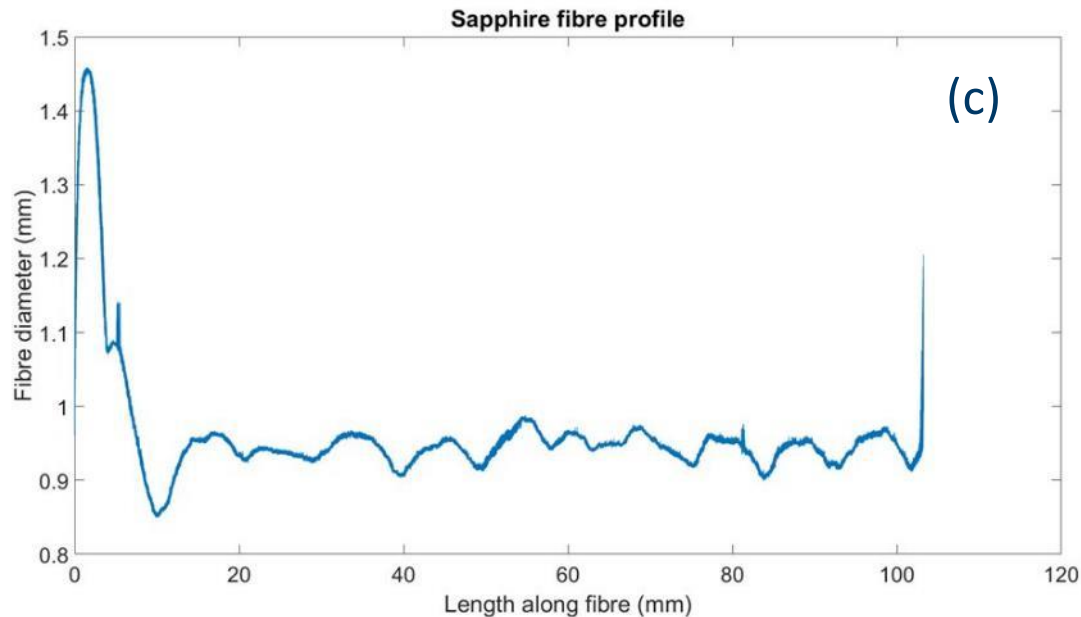
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University  
*of* Glasgow

# Sapphire Fibres

- Sapphire fibres produced (a) by laser heated pedestal growth method (b). Capability to produce:
- 1mm diameter, low diameter variation (c),
  - up to 350mm long,
  - **peak stress of 792MPa** almost double typical quoted value of 440MPa,
  - Indicates good surface quality.



## Work on Sapphire

### Sapphire Laser Welding



- Successfully welded sapphire to sapphire fibres of varying millimetre diameters
- Characterisation work ongoing:
  - Mechanical loss
  - Thermal conductivity
  - Tensile strength
  - Crystallography

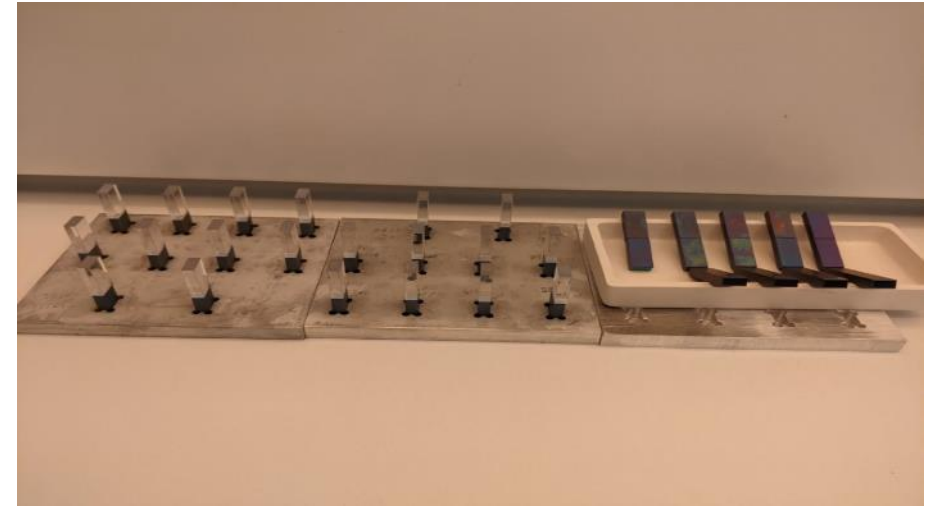
#### Contacts:

- Jennifer Docherty
- Alan Cumming



## Work on bonding

- Direct bonding (DB) and Hydroxide catalysis bonding (HCB) of sapphire-silicon and silicon-silicon
- Cutting and polishing of bonded samples
- Thermal treatment (annealing and/or cryogenic)
- Strength testing
- Mechanical loss of bonds

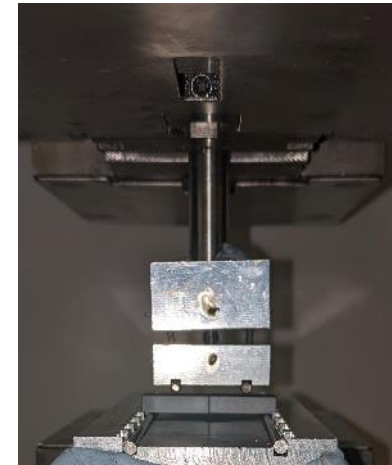


Sets of Sa-Si and Si-Si bonds for 4-point bending



← *Direct bonded Si-Si sample after polishing*

*Samples cycled in liquid nitrogen* →



*4 point bending of bonded sample*

# Characterization

A decorative white torn paper effect runs horizontally across the bottom of the slide, with a jagged, irregular edge that gives the appearance of a piece of paper being torn away from a black background.

# UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

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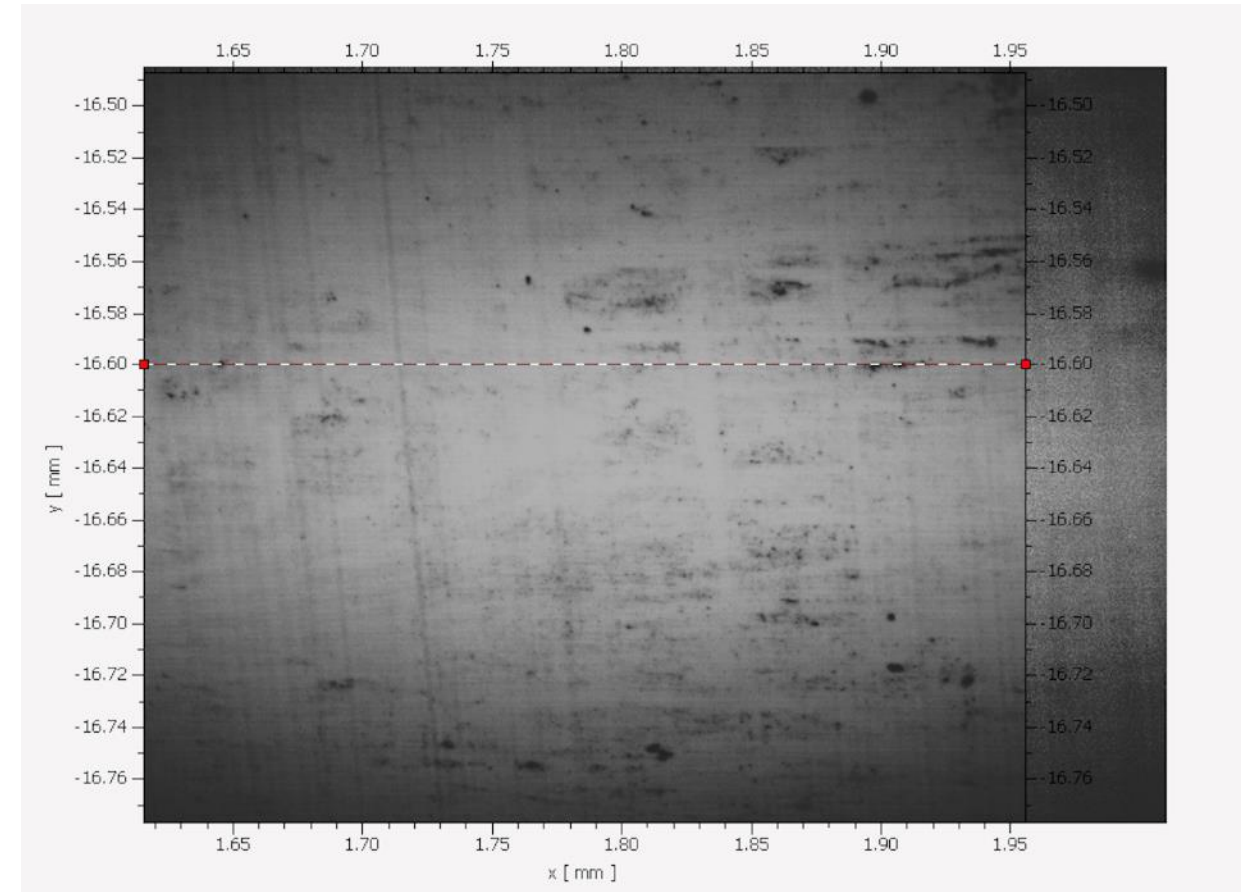
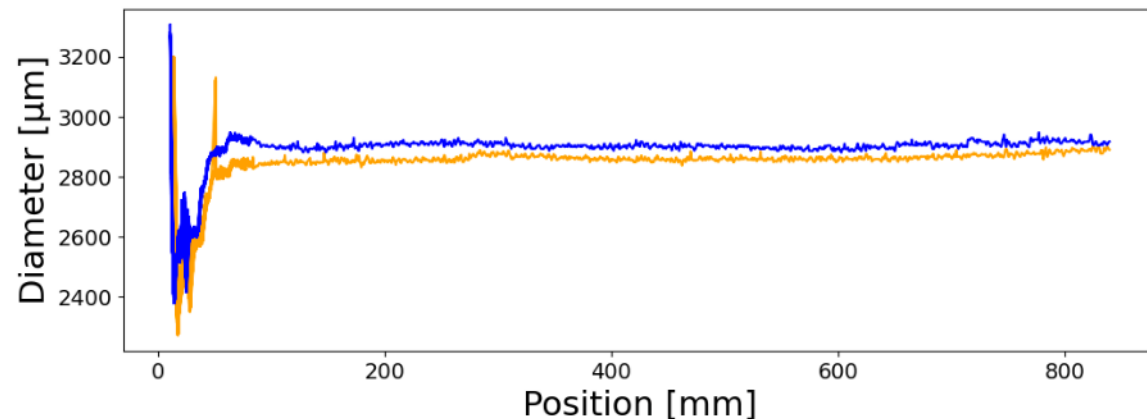
University  
*of* Glasgow



# Silicon fibres

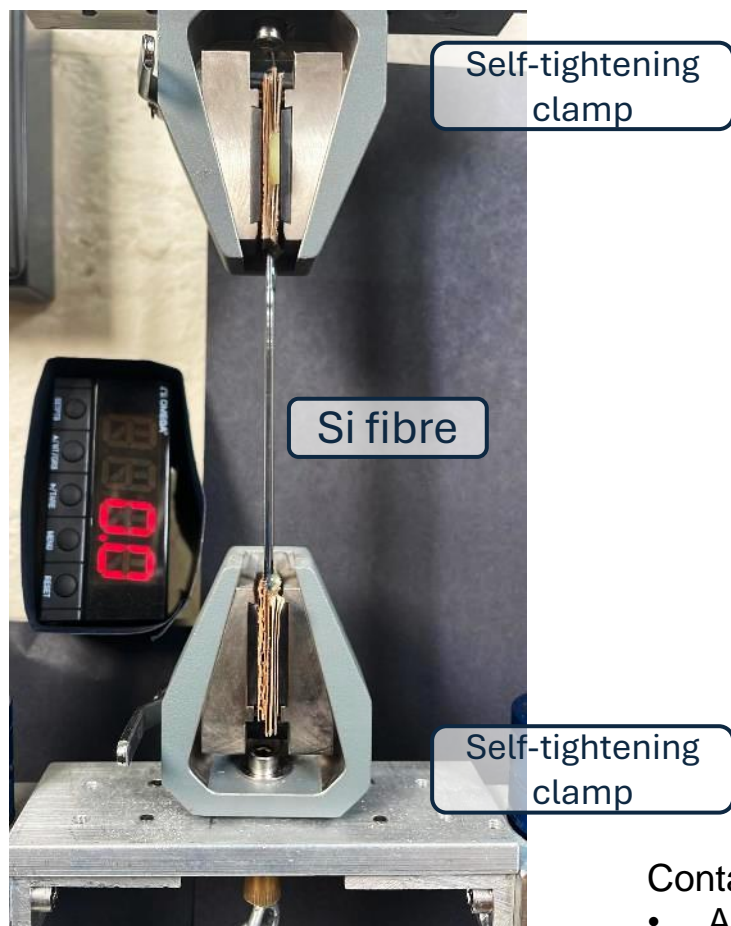
- 11 fibres of length from 64cm to 116cm are currently being characterized at Glasgow
- Lowest diameter variation: **4.1%**
- Surface quality overall good, with minor chips and indentations

Profile of the fibre

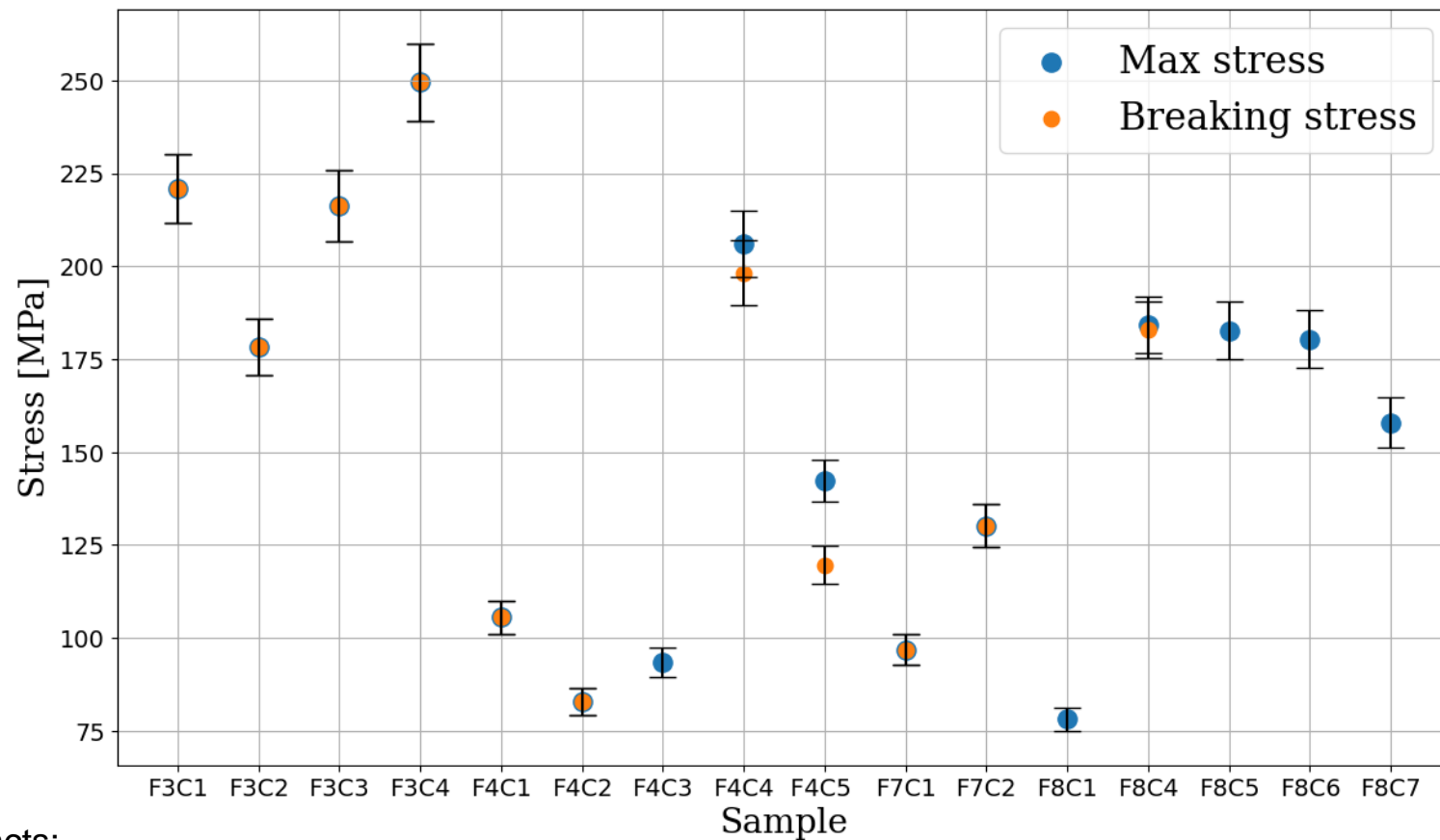


Close-up images taken on a Polytec microscope

Setup



Tensile stress results



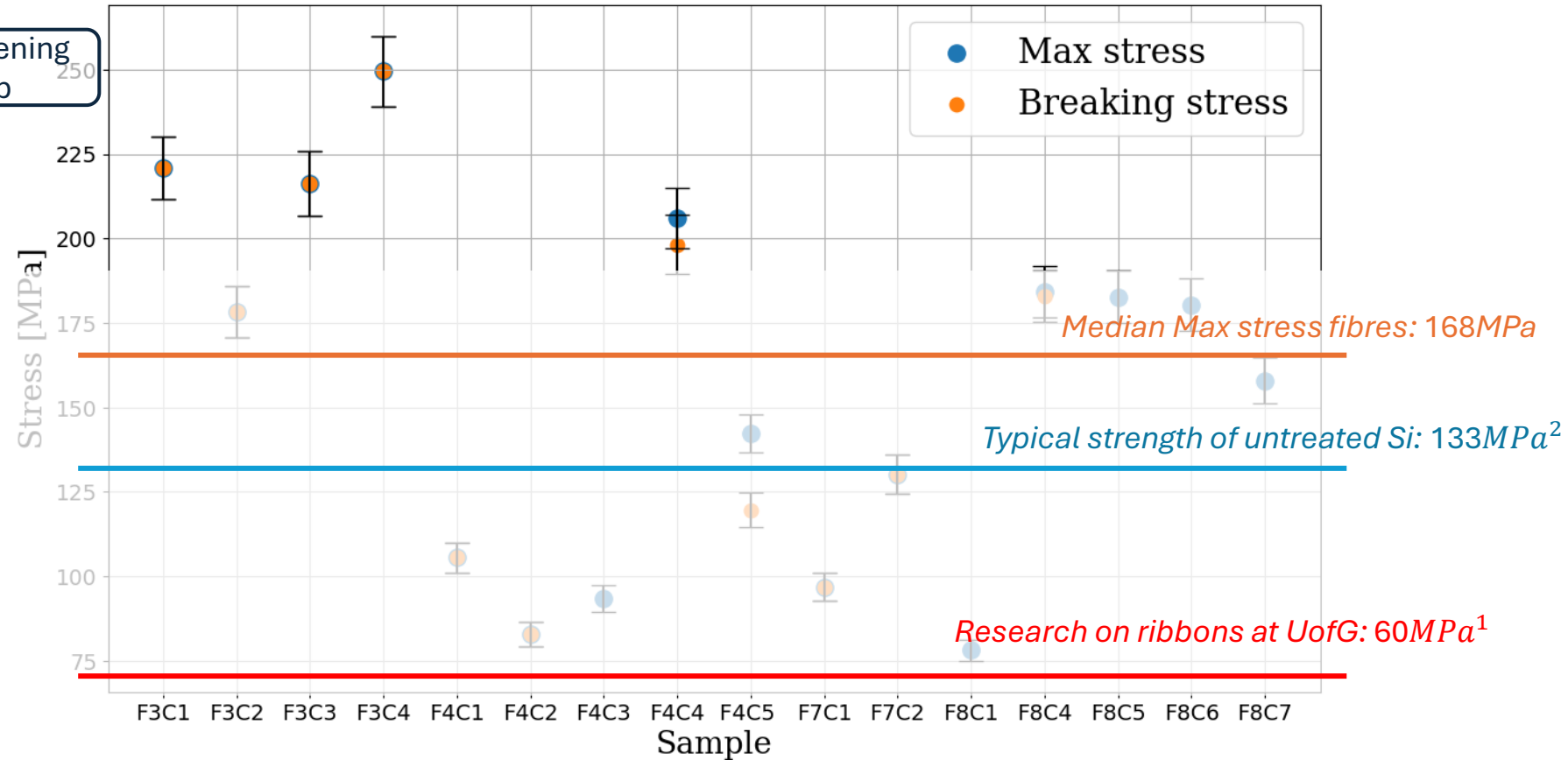
Contacts:

- Ardiana Nela
- Karl Tholand

Setup



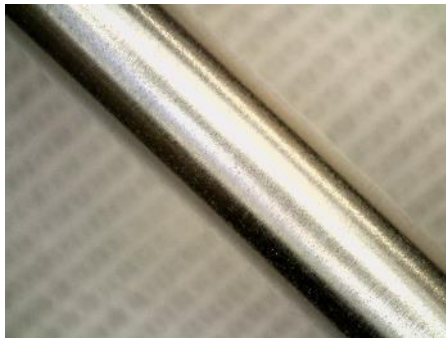
Tensile stress results



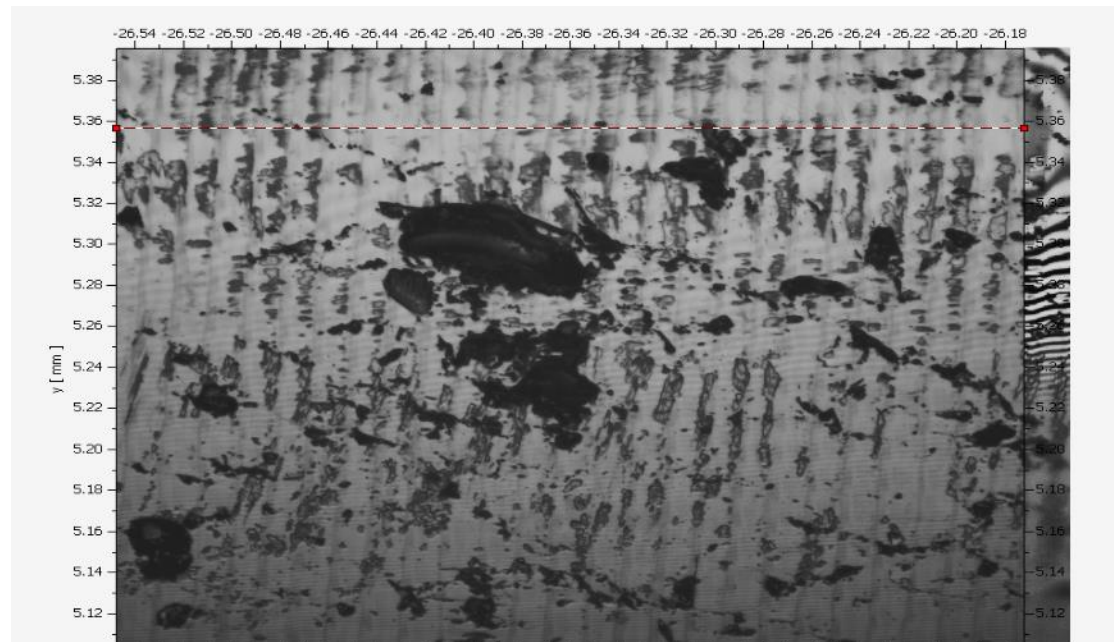
Measured breaking stress is a lower limit due to alignment challenges

1. Graeme Eddols: LIGO-G2101011-v1
2. A V Cumming et al 2014 Class. Quantum Grav. 31 025017

## Ground Si fibre

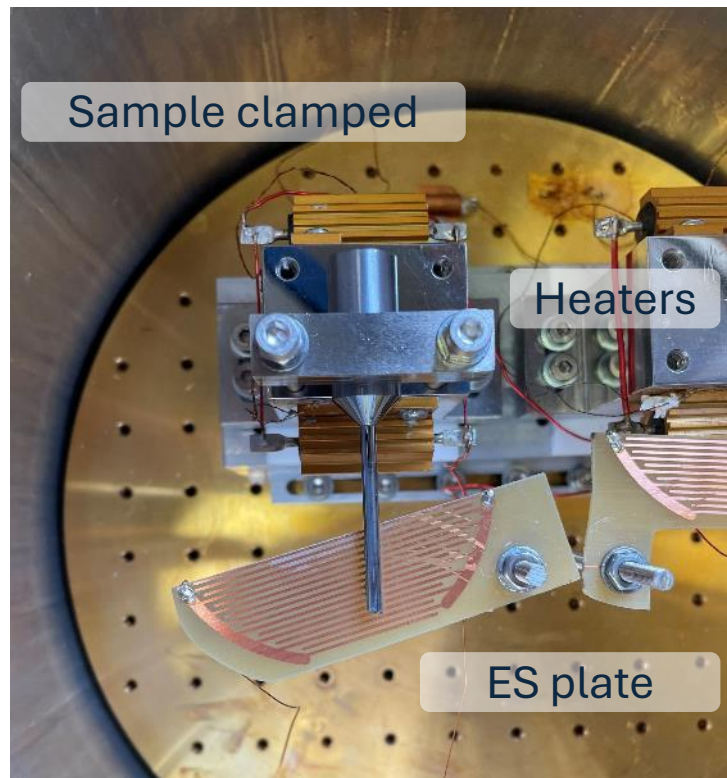


- 3mm diameter, monocrystalline, ground fibre cut out of a 13.7mm diameter stock
- Surface quality: Multiple indentations, chips
- Visible defects on the surface from the grinding process: lines every 0.01mm, 0.08mm wide indentations



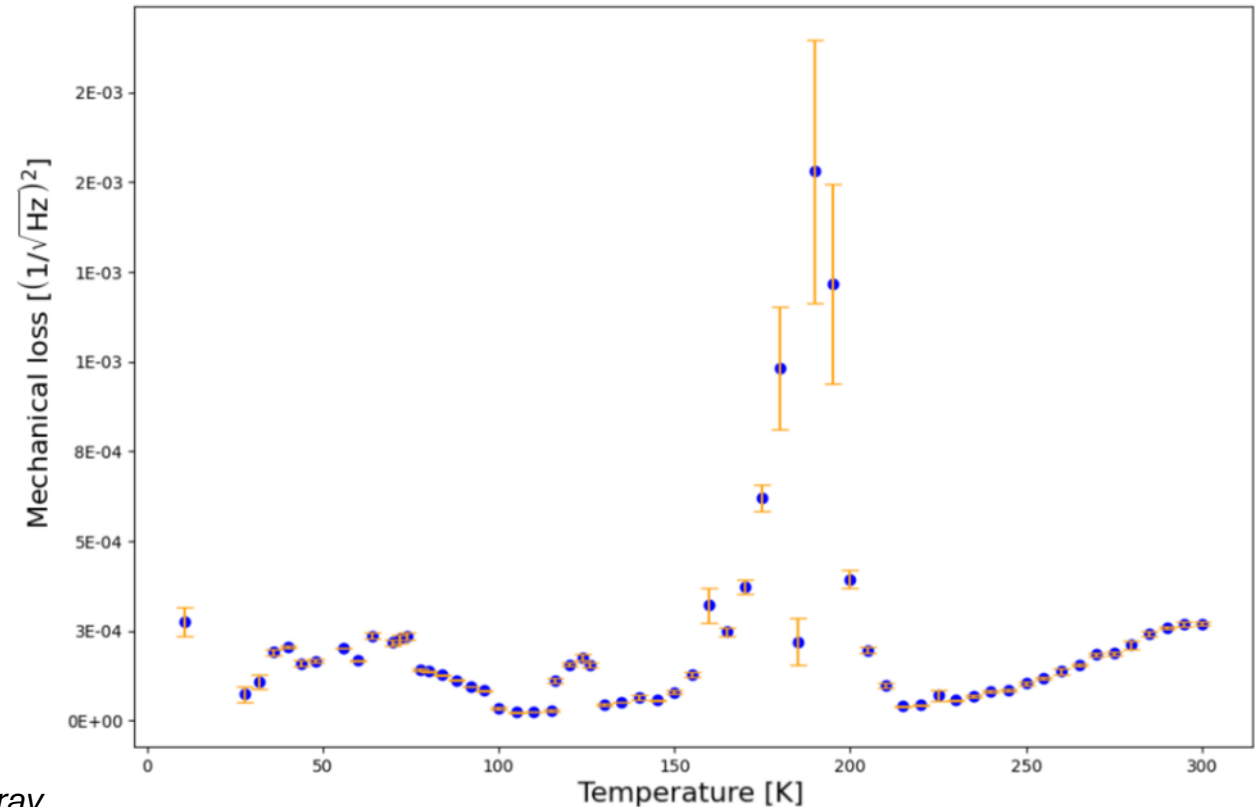
# Mechanical loss measurements of ground fibre

## Setup



Research conducted by *Ardiana Nela* and *Dr. Peter Murray*

## Mechanical loss results on first mode at 2.45kHz



Min loss:  $2.3 \times 10^{-5}$  at 105K

KARLSRUHER INSTITUT FÜR TECHNOLOGY



Karlsruher Institut für Technologie

# GRAVITHELIUM

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Test facility for payload suspension studies

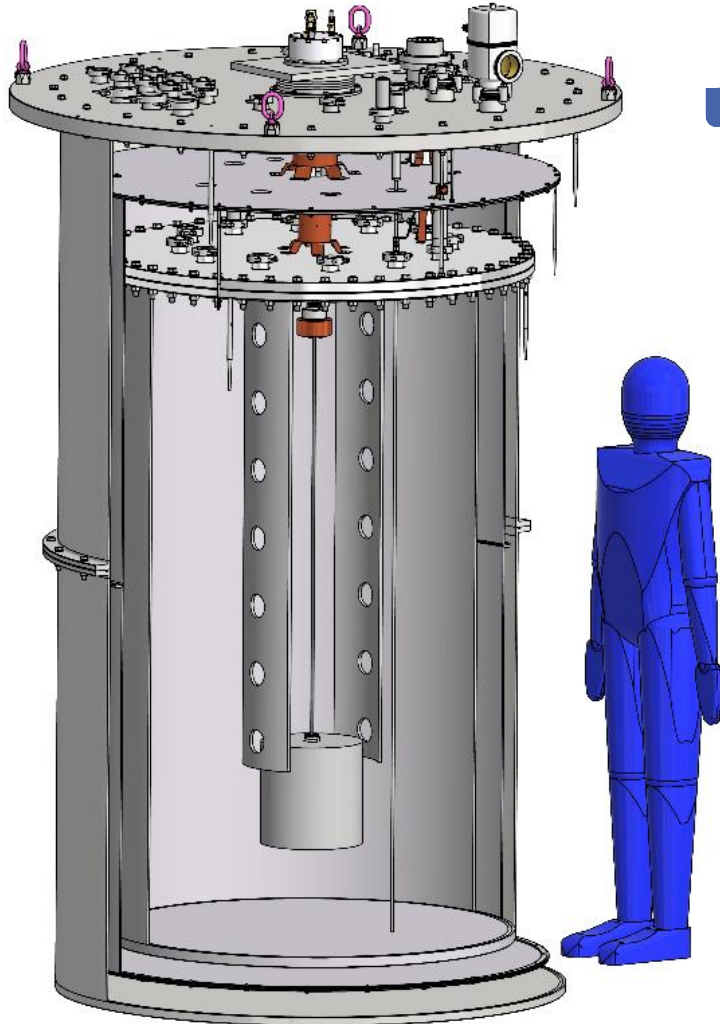


**GRAVITHELIUM**

Gravitational wave detectors  
cooled with superfluid helium

**S Grohmann et al.**

# GRAVITHELIUM



Publication Publication



## ■ $Q$ measurement test facility:

- Full-size monolithic suspension fibers/rods and titanium tubes
- Investigation of loss contributions in suspensions
- He-II integration in  $Q$  measurements
- Proof of concept for He-II based payload cooling for ET-LF

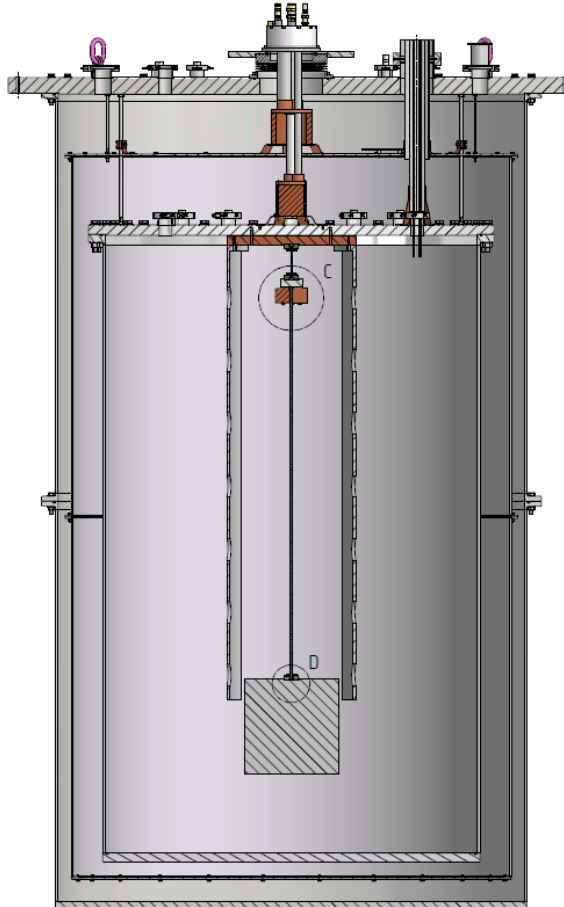
Monocrystalline rods

Empty tubes

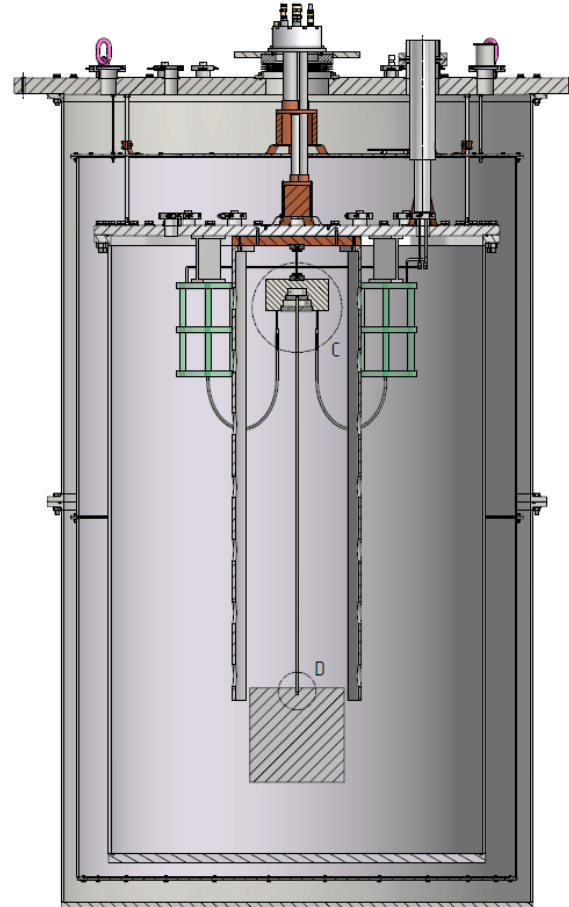
He-II-filled tube



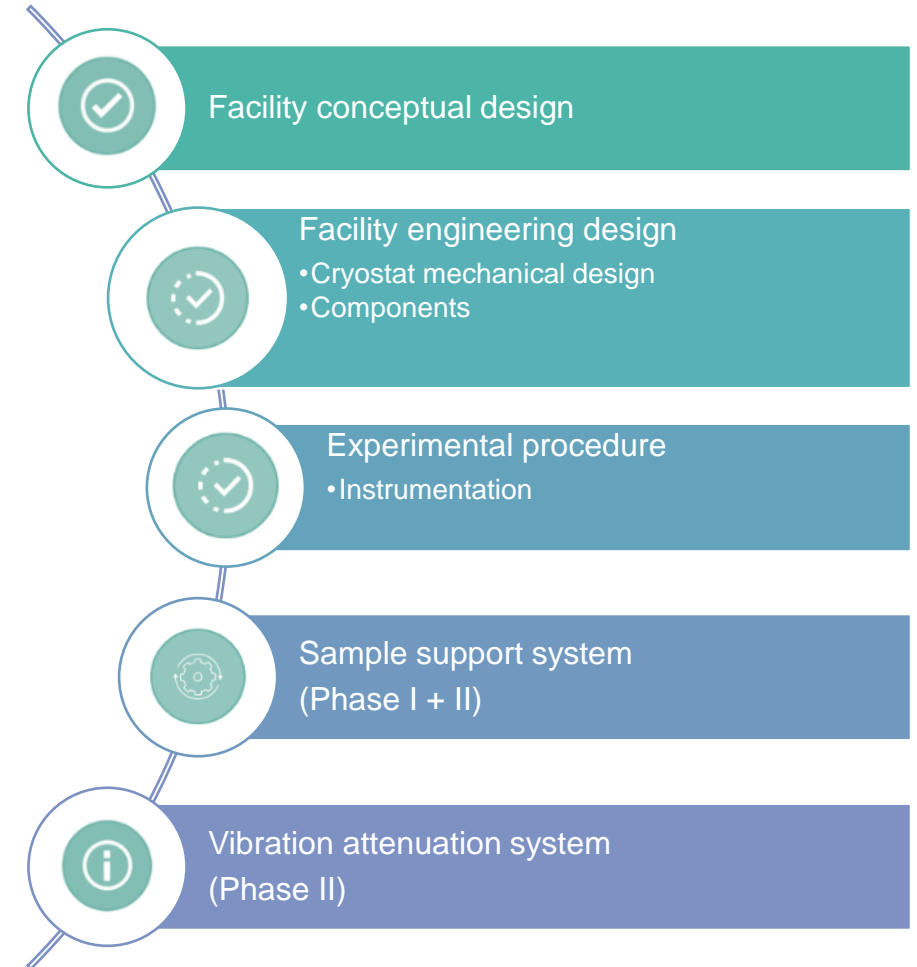
# Design status of the GRAVITHELIUM cryostat



**Phase 1:**  
**He-II free campaigns**



**Phase 2:**  
**He-II filled tube campaigns**



# Cryogenic Material Tests Karlsruhe (CryoMaK)

- Comprehensive Si/Sapphire suspensions testing possibilities, including
  - Mechanical properties (4.2 K to 300 K)
    - tensile,
    - fracture,
    - fatigue,
    - ...
  - Physical properties (2 K to 400 K)
    - thermal expansion,
    - heat capacity,
    - thermal conductivity,
    - ...

→ We would be looking forward to analyse suspension samples - contact us!

Exemplary publication  
DOI: [10.12776/ams.v21i4.650](https://doi.org/10.12776/ams.v21i4.650)

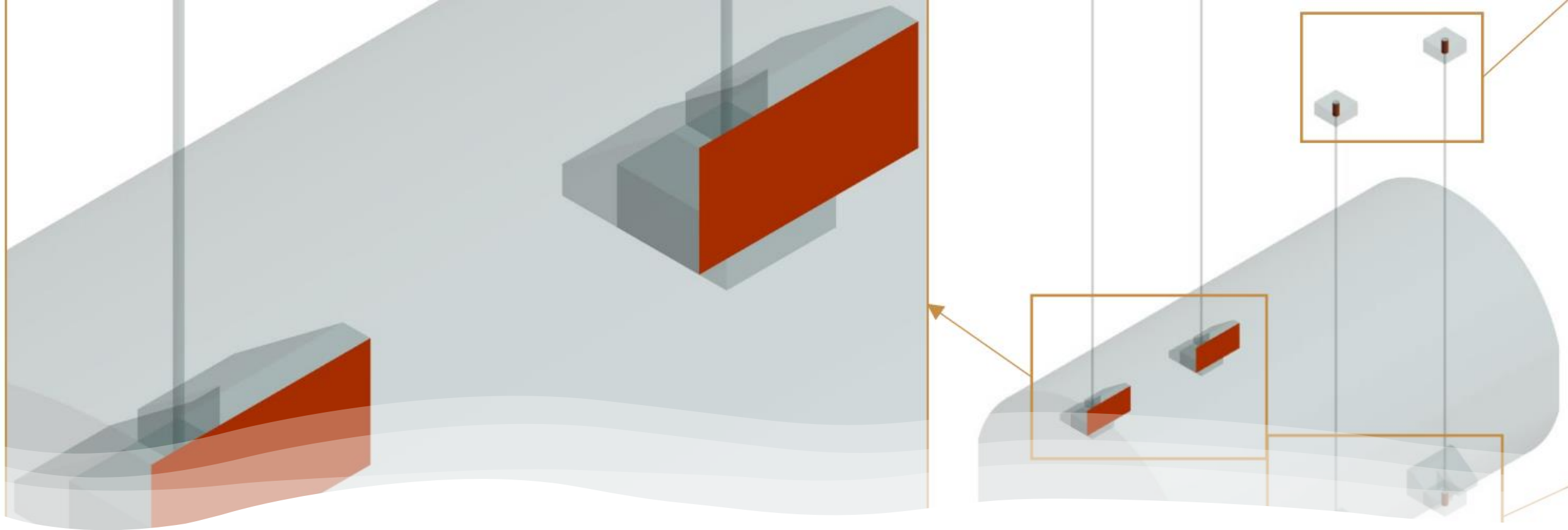


Image: <https://www.itep.kit.edu/english/CryoMaK.php>

# PERUGIA/CAMERINO

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## Perugia/Camerino labs

- Involved in the design of the samples (IKZ, UMPT, Impex, ...)
- Mechanical test and structural analysis of crystalline samples
- HCB bonding
- Mechanical simulation
- ....



# The End

That's all folks!!

A white, torn-paper-like border runs along the bottom edge of the slide, starting from the left and extending towards the right, with a jagged, irregular edge.