



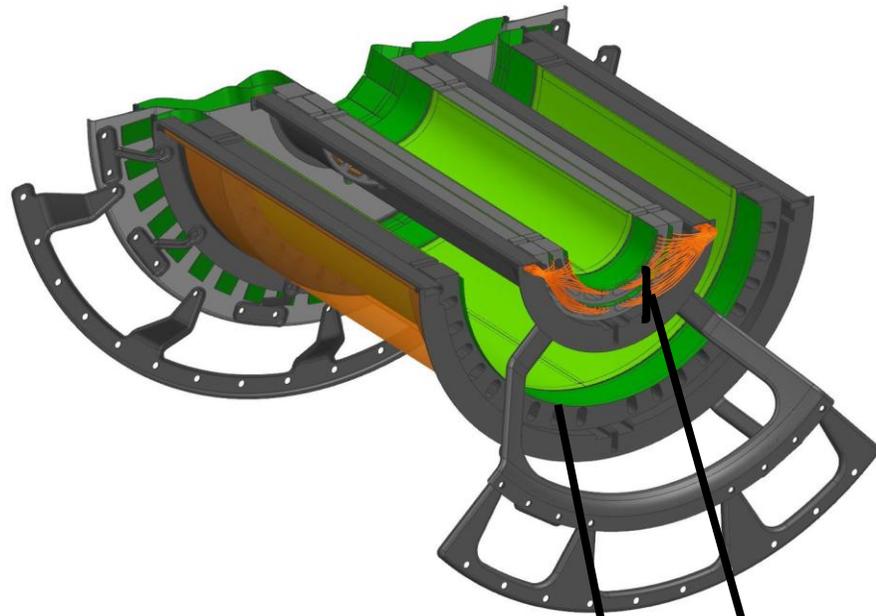
ePIC Italia

**SVT half-layer
bending/assembly**

M.T. Camerlingo on behalf of SVT DSC

(INFN Bari)

RECAP ON THE DESIGN OF INNERMOST SVT LAYERS



Different geometry



Customised
assembly/bending
procedure

Common key ingredients with ALICE ITS3:

- ❑ Wafer-scale MAPS chips
(65 nm CMOS, thickness $\leq 50 \mu\text{m}$)
- ❑ Chips bent in cylindrical shape at target radii
- ❑ Ultra-light carbon foam/fiber structures
- ❑ Air cooling

	Layer	Radii (mm)	Single sensor area (mm ²)	# of sensors for a half-layer
	L0	38	266x58.7	2
	L1	50	266x78.3	2
	L2	126	266x97.8	4

Possible assembly strategies

Independent quarter bending

Half-layer bending
could profit from ITS3
experience



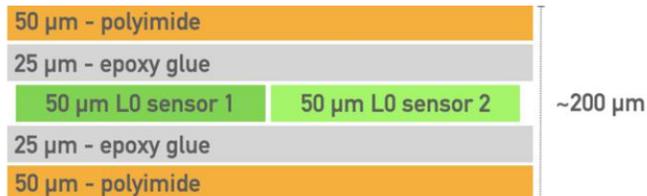
Critical points:

- Mechanical supports for the bent quarters (with low-material budget)
- Alignment of bent quarters
- New assembly tools

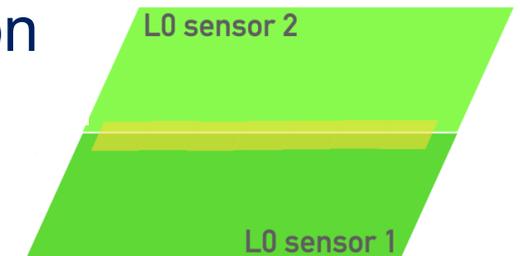
Two sensors are aligned and connected before the bending

S1. Sensor kaptonisation

kapton encapsulation of two sensors, acceptable increase of material budget



S2. Bare sensors + tape
connected using a kapton
tape just on one side



S1 and S2 were both tested using small-size dummies

S2. Bare sensors + tape: 1° step

Visual inspection and cleaning of the single sensors

Sensor alignment

Tape placement

Half-layer bending

Gluing of the local mechanical structure

Removal of the half-layer from the mandrel

Start of the half-barrel assembly



S2. Bare sensors + tape: 2° step

Visual inspection and cleaning of the single sensors

Sensor alignment

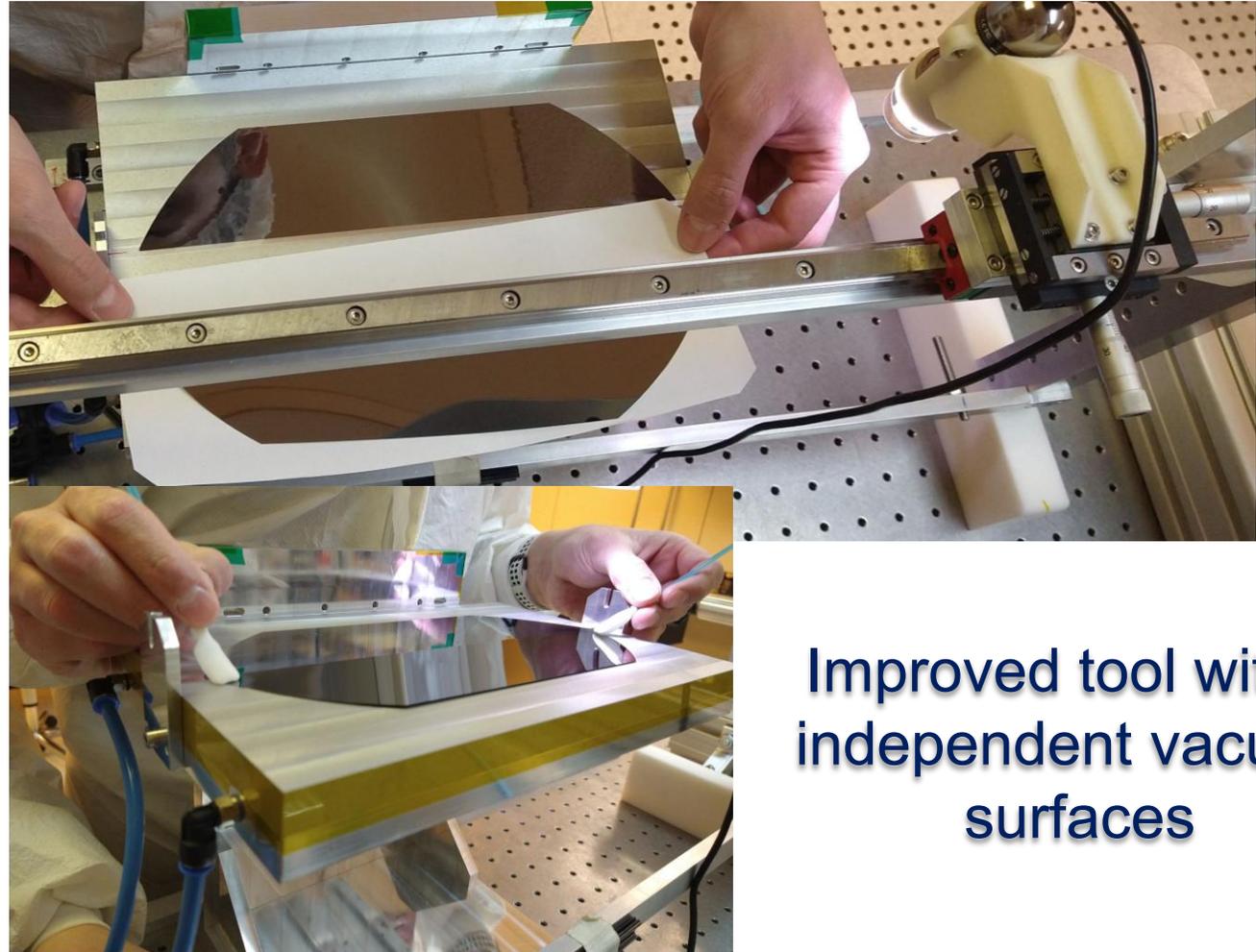
Tape placement

Half-layer bending

Gluing of the local mechanical structure

Removal of the half-layer from the mandrel

Start of the half-barrel assembly



Improved tool with 2 independent vacuum surfaces

S2. Bare sensors + tape: 3° step

S2 used for large-size dummies

Visual inspection and cleaning of the single sensors

Sensor alignment

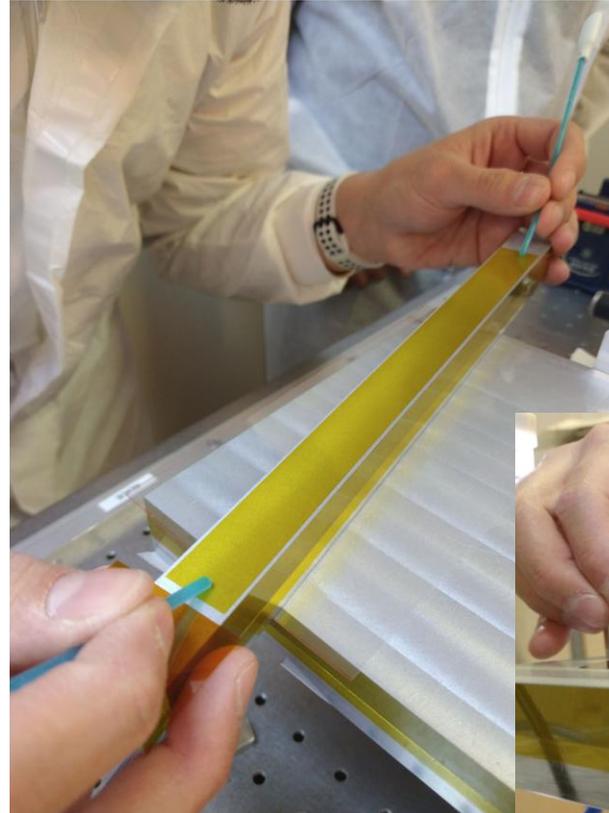
Tape placement

Half-layer bending

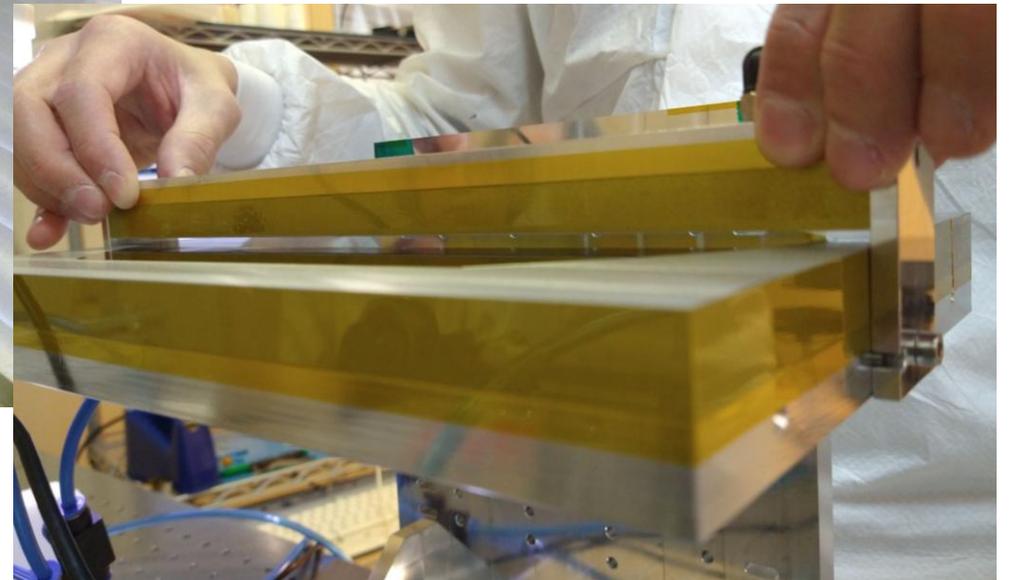
Gluing of the local mechanical structure

Removal of the half-layer from the mandrel

Start of the half-barrel assembly



Dedicated tool with vacuum and guides to place the tape



Results of the

Alignment btw sensors (flat)

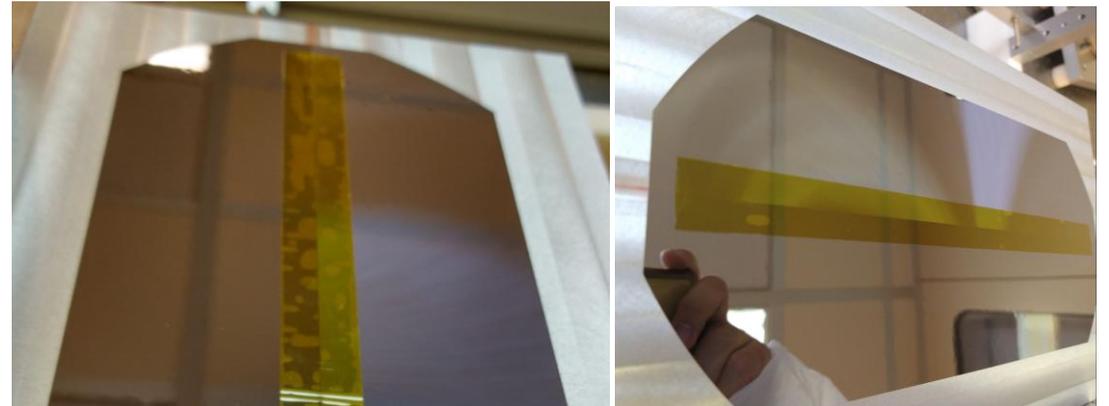
Parallelism has higher priority than pitch minimisation since a large tilt can affect the success of the bondings to FPC.

#	ID	Average pitch (μm)	Tilt angle ($^\circ$)
1	L0v1	150	± 0.021
2	L0v2	285	± 0.008
3	L0v3	144	± 0.006
4	L0v4	141	± 0.002
5	L1v1	75.5	± 0.0014
6	L0v5	51.5	$\pm 0.0004^*$

- + Offline measurements by analysing pictures
- + Design of accessories to reduce the number of attempts to reach the desired tilt and pitch.

Kapton tape

- Commercial tape: tesa® 51408 (or M3)
- Approximate length: ~250 mm (TBD)
- Tolerance: 1-2 mm of asymmetries in both the directions
- Air bubbles are minimised keeping the object rest for a night with vacuum ON



- Negligible cusps are observed after the bending

S2. Bare sensors + tape: 4° step

Visual inspection and cleaning of the single sensors

Sensor alignment

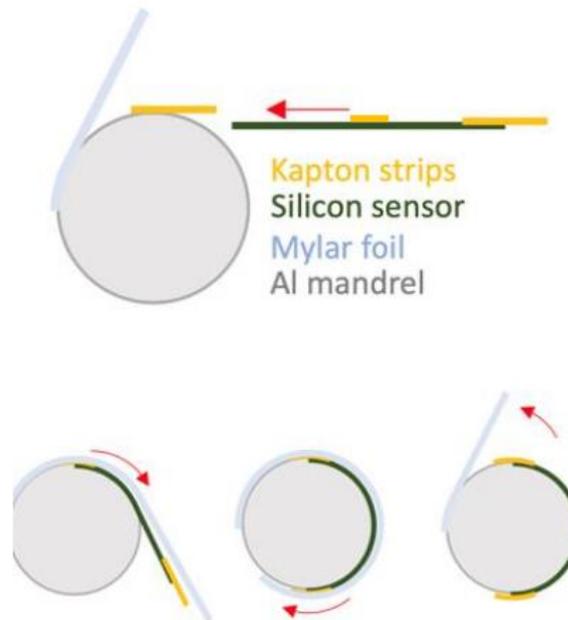
Tape placement

Half-layer bending

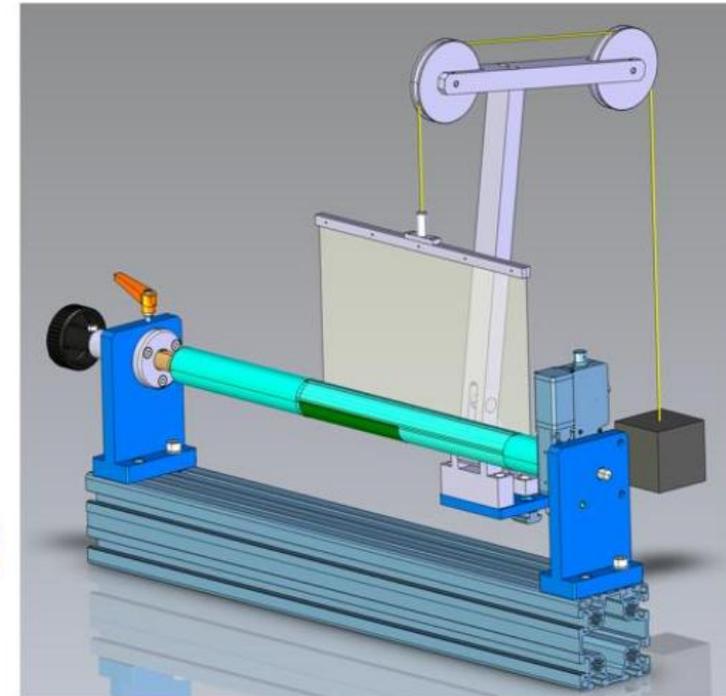
Gluing of the local mechanical structure

Removal of the half-layer from the mandrel

Start of the half-barrel assembly



From ITS3 TDR (CERN-LHCC-2024-003)



Technique developed within the ITS3 R&D

Public video: <https://cernbox.cern.ch/s/wON0J9puKAFk6IB>

S2. Bare sensors + tape: 5° step

Visual inspection and cleaning of the single sensors

Sensor alignment

Tape placement

Half-layer bending

Gluing of the local mechanical structure

Removal of the half-layer from the mandrel

Start of the half-barrel assembly



We are still optimising the gluing tools*



*the final ones have to fit with the presence of the FPC and wire bondings

S2. Bare sensors + tape: 6° step

Visual inspection and cleaning of the single sensors

Sensor alignment

Tape placement

Half-layer bending

Gluing of the local mechanical structure

Removal of the half-layer from the mandrel

Start of the half-barrel assembly



The removal step merges with half-barrel assembly for the prototypes with carbon foam/fibers supports (slide 16)

This removal procedure of single half-layer is possible for **temporary 3D-printed and plexiglass supports**



Summary table of half-layer attempts

Conditions:

- 2 half-moon shaped L0 (or L1);
- 3D-printed or plexiglass longerons and 3D-printed half-rings;
- mandrel produced on our workshop

#	Size	Dates	Outcome	Notes
1	L0	25/11/2024 26/11/2024		Breakage of the second silicon piece during the Bending
2	L0	13/01/2025 31/01/2025		
3	L0	24/03/2025 28/03/2025		A silicon piece already broken from the transport box (before tape connection)
4	L0	03/04/2025 10/04/2025		
5	L1	28/04/2025 06/05/2025		Both silicon pieces broke during the half-ring holder placement → gluing tool modifications: more stability and safety margin from the senso
6	L0	26/05/2025 03/06/2025		First usage of new gluing tools for SVT

General comments and results

The full procedure takes 2.5-3 work-days for a half-layer

- 1 night : to set the kapton tape and minimise the trapped air bubble;
- 1 night : glue drying and polymerisation;
- To improve the automation of relative alignment btw two sensors (2° step):
 - At moment, it is an iterative step performed only by one technician (S. Martinadonna)
 - BEST PITCH VALUE: ~50 μm
 - Best pitch value to be established by means of tracking simulation (dead zone)
- About gluing (4° step):
 - Additional improvements on the gluing tools made after these attempts with silicon dummies and temporary supports;
 - Next validation of gluing tools at L1 radius;
 - Right amount of glue to be revised with final materials (carbon foam) of local support structures;

(Tentative) IB prototype production plan for L0-L1

JUL 2025

Prototype	Components	Goal
IBL01_P1 (half-layer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 naked silicon L1 sensors L1 local support structure (3-D printed) outer support shell (machined in PEEK) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> finalize half-layer assembly procedure
IBL01_P2 (half-barrel)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IBL01_P1 + 2 naked silicon L0 sensors L0 local support structure (3-D printed) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> finalize half-barrel assembly procedure
IBL01_P3 (half-layer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 naked silicon L1 sensors L1 local support structure (carbon foam) outer support shell (carbon fiber, to be defined) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> thermal chamber test
IBL01_P4 (half-barrel)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IBL01_P3 + 2 naked silicon L0 sensors L0 local support structure (carbon foam) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> thermal chamber test
IBL01_P5 (half-barrel)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2+2 silicon L0+L1 sensors with heaters from CERN L0+L1 local support structures (carbon foam) outer support shell (carbon fiber, to be defined) air distribution inlet et outlet (to be designed) PT1000 sensors (to be glued on heater surface) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> wind tunnel test

Table from Frascati meeting

They require **dummy silicon sensors** from DISCO; to **validate 2-sensor connection and bending**, to design local support structure, external shell etc

In addition to DISCO dummies, they require:

- carbon foam local support** (procurement and machining TBD)
- carbon fiber outer support shell TBD** (if yes, needs for design&simulation, procurement and machining)

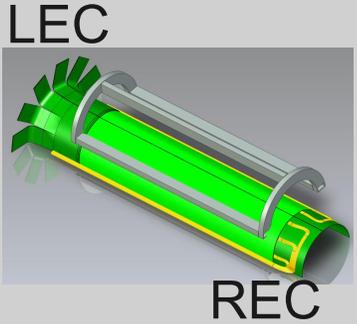
IBL01_P5 requires:

- dummy silicon sensors with heaters**
- air-cooling mechanism verification**
- Possible preliminary FPC (mechanical) prototype to check volumes, transport etc)
- transport** issues to wind tunnel facility

1st campaign on **IBL01_P3** and 2nd campaign on **IBL01_P4** of thermal tests will be performed using Pavia's climate chamber

→ In contact with the Pavia team for the transportation and test plans

Material procurement (updated)

Silicon dummy pieces	4 L0 - 4 L1	Spares under procurements
Heaters	2 L0 - 2 L1	Production completed: 4 L0 - 4 L1- 8 L2 Available in Bari
Pad sensors	[2 L0 - 2 L1 - (4 L2)] x 2	If two half-barrels (16 pad sensors = 16 wafers) → no spares
ER2 sensors	2 L0 - 2 L1 - (4 L2)	Only one half-barrel No spares
Support structure	Materials	Components
Carbon foam 	Foam procurement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allcomp K9 (standard density, 200-260 kg/m3) → Need to organise a joint purchase (maybe with ATLAS) - Carbon RVC Duocel (density 45 kg/m3, PPI 100) → Company in USA, but possible purchasing from Europe → A small amount is on delivery (thanks to Nikki-Berkley) Foam shaping: collecting the procedure details from CERN colleagues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Genova INFN → First objects with available POCOfoam - Berkley (Nikki) or U.K. (George) → Expressed availability - Local workshop → To be found and it requires material for attempts 	Half-ring on LEC Longerons and half-ring on REC
Carbon fibre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carbon fleece: wet-laid non woven carbon fibre veil (8 g/cm2) - Outer shell: carbon fibre → Type of carbon fibre to be defined (Padova) Carbon fibre production <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Producer to be identified (Padova) 	Outer shell

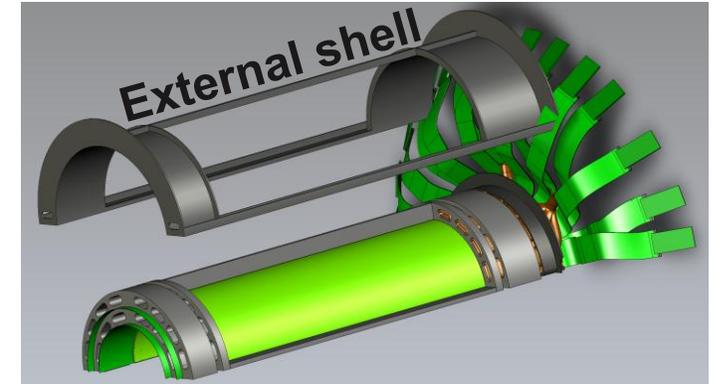
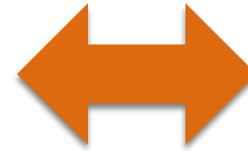
PAD and ER2 prototyping

Prototype	Components	Goal	Date
IBL012_P6/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2+2+4 ER2 pad wafer L0+L1+L2 sensors (x 2 HB?)• L0+L1+L2 local support structures• global support mechanics (advanced design)• FPCs (advanced design)• air distribution inlet & outlet (advanced design)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• first complete IB HB prototype w/o sensors• including test of wirebonding to FPCs• final test on HB support mechanics• possibly built 2 complete HBs (to allow HB mechanical support matching test)	2026/07
IBL012_P8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2+2+4 ER2 wafer L0+L1+L2 sensors• L0+L1+L2 local support structures• mechanics, FPCs, cooling (~final/advanced design)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• complete IB HB prototype w/ sensors• qualification model w/ bent sensors for cooling + powering/DAQ/DCS finalisation	2026/10

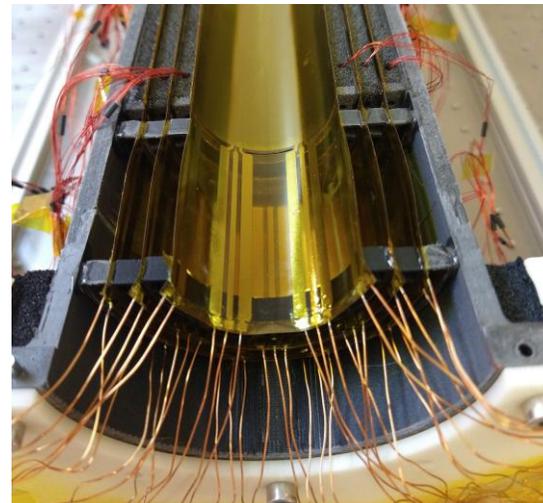
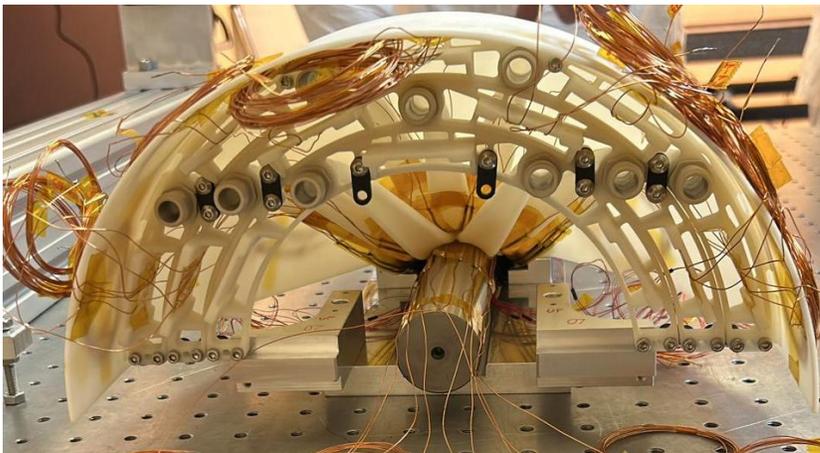
Start of the half-barrel assembly

Half-layer with ultra-light supports is not self-standing mechanical configuration

- **Shell external** to the half-barrel;
- The removal from the mandrel and half-barrel assembly are merged.



The procedure is the same developed for ITS3 and used in Bari to assembly ITS3 prototypes [ITS3 TDR](#)



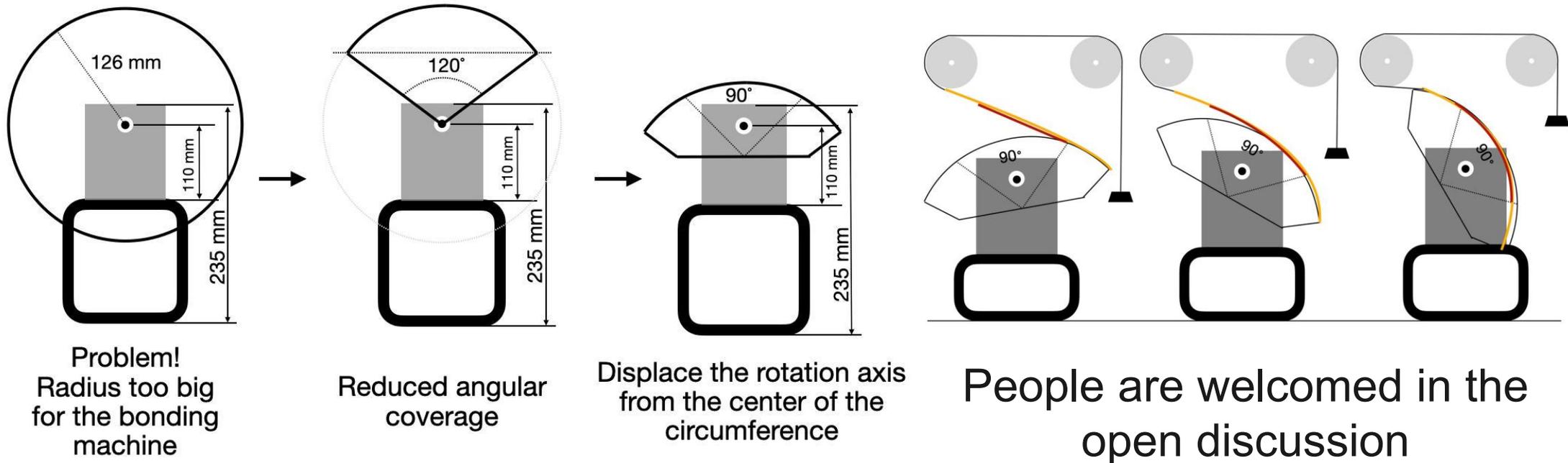
Half-barrel assembly procedure steps:

- 1) L1 half-layer assembly (seen before);
- 2) **External shell** gluing on L1;
- 3) {shell+L1} removal from mandrel;
- 4) L0 half-layer assembly;
- 5) {shell+L1} gluing on L0;
- 6) {shell+L1+L0} removal from mandrel

Proof of concept for a Quarter-Layer 2 bending

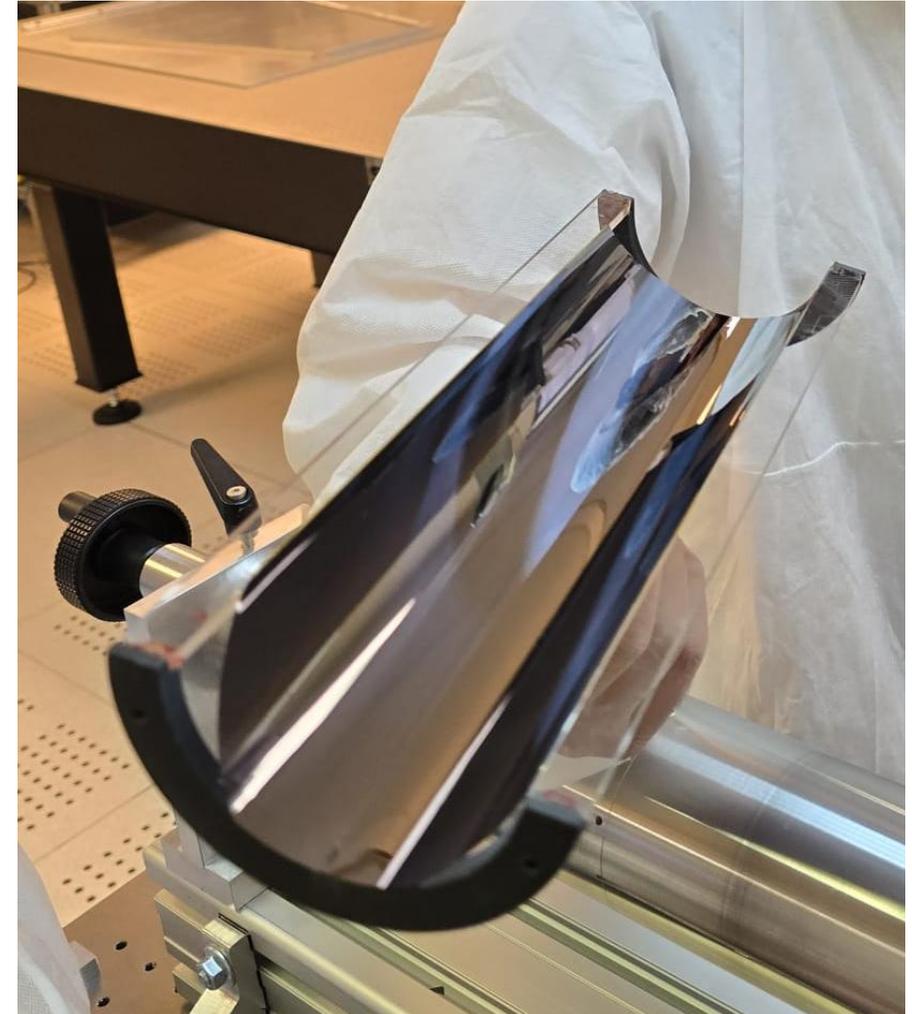
L2 radius (126 mm) → half-layer is covered by 4 sensors

An exact scaled copy of actual bending setup for L2 is not compatible with bonding machine in Bari, but...



CONCLUSIONS

- Updates on:
 - L0-half-layer assembly → **well-mastered 😊**
 - L1-half-layer assembly → **to be verified soon using new gluing tools**
 - Procurements of the materials and final tools → **ongoing**
- Half-barrel assembly (to start) → **ITS3-like procedure**

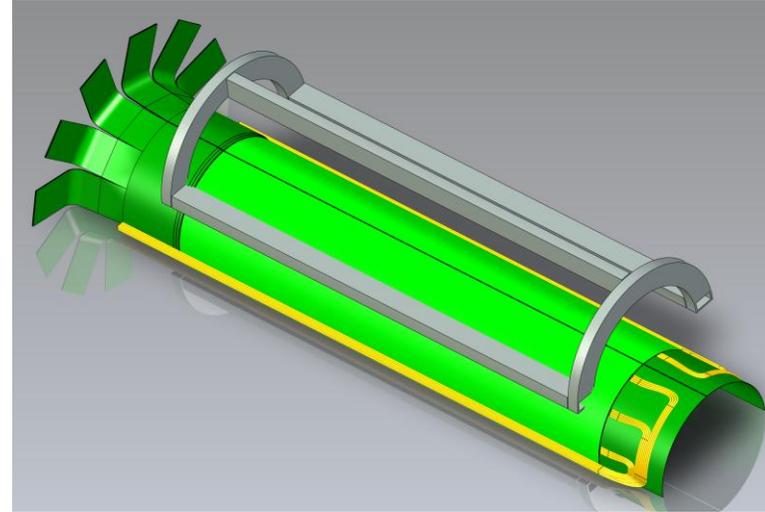


Back-up

Local support structures

Single light support structures:

- able to self-supporting the sensors of a single half-layer → Required to avoid a shell externally to L1 (needs still to be verified for cooling)
- obtained by gluing two half-rings and three longerons
- made of combination of carbon foam (for half-rings) and carbon fiber (for longerons)



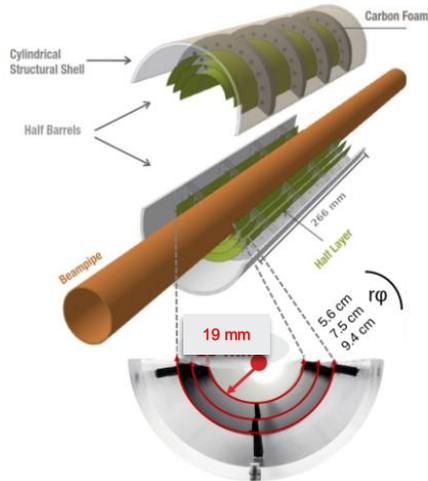
Last attempts have plexiglass longerons



A 3D-printed epoxy copy made @Bari

From ALICE ITS3 to ePIC SVT IB layout

ALICE ITS3 detector as basis concept.

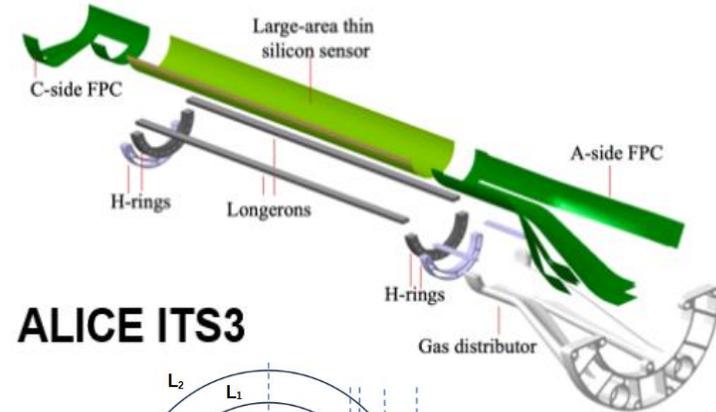
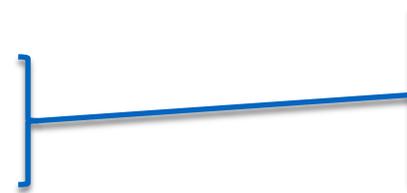


Common key ingredients:

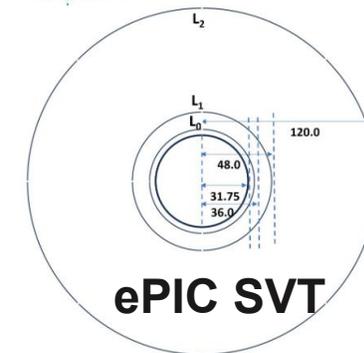
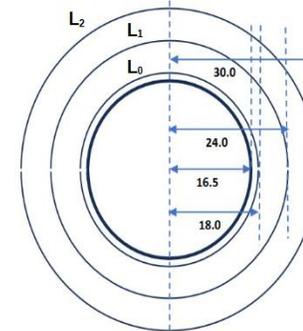
- ❑ Wafer-scale MAPS chips (65 nm CMOS, thickness $\leq 50 \mu\text{m}$)
- ❑ Chips bent in cylindrical shape at target radii
- ❑ Ultra-light carbon foam structures
- ❑ Air cooling

Need to adapt it to the ePIC SVT geometry:

- Z sensor length (mm): 266
- L0 radius (mm): 38
- L1 radius (mm): 50
- L2 radius (mm): 126



ALICE ITS3



ePIC SVT

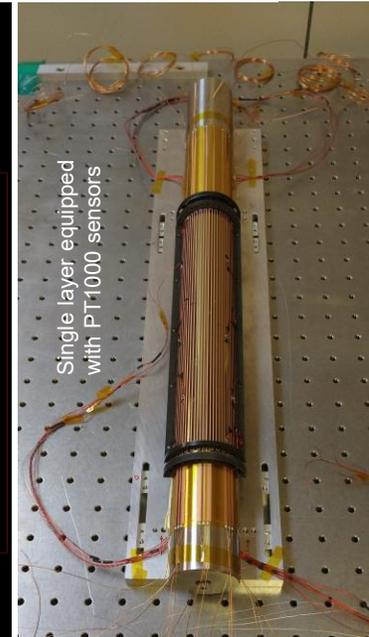
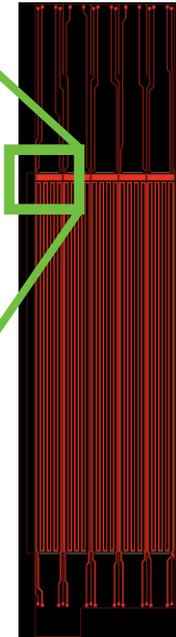
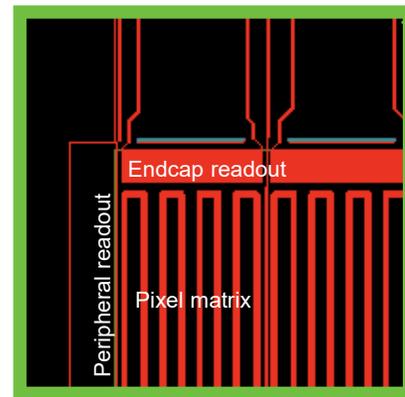
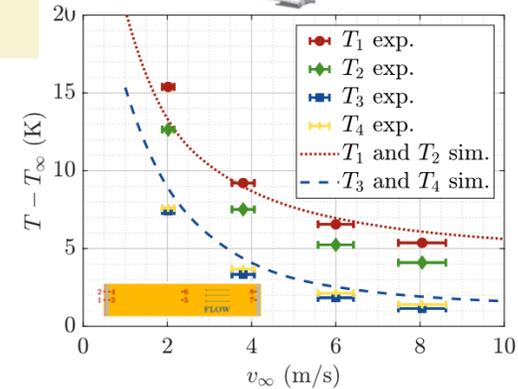
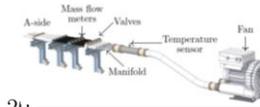
Preparation for the mechanical characterization

3rd campaign on IBL01_P5: «Air-based cooling performance study using a wind tunnel»

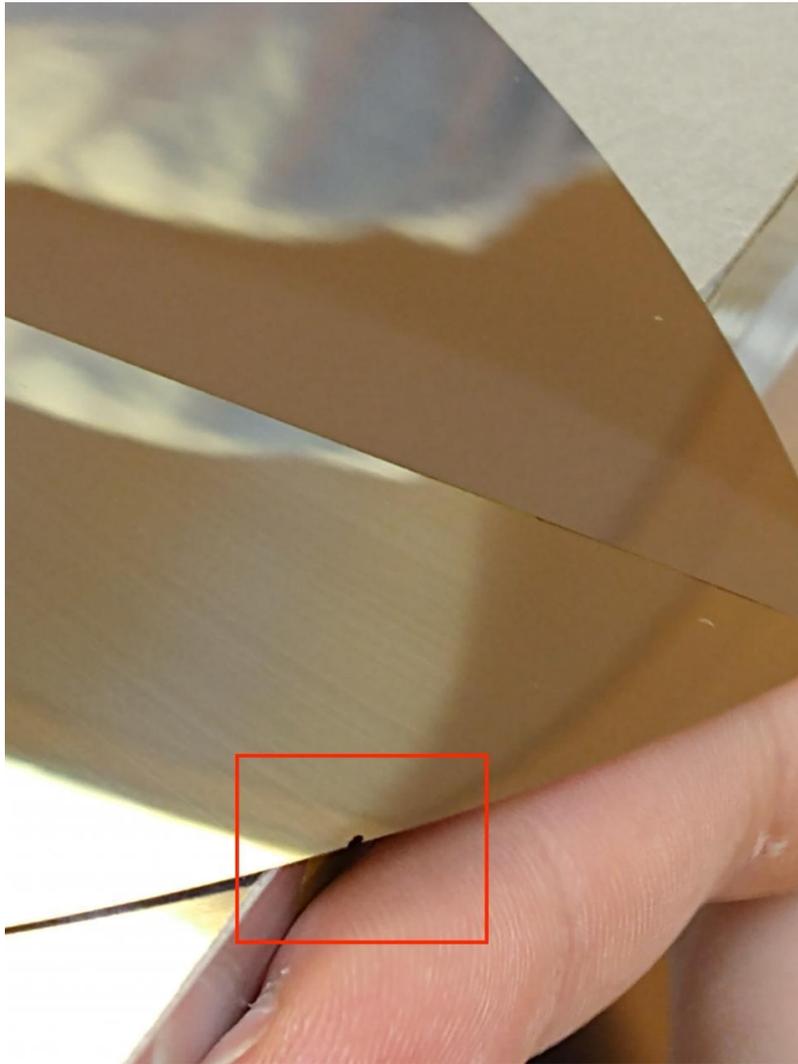
- Preliminary studies by ALICE ITS3:
 - done in ITS3 with BBM3 model
→ Results reported in the [ITS3 TDR](#)
 - ongoing on the new advanced model (ITS3-BBM6):

- More precise sensor powering values
- Air distribution closest to the final one
- More precise temperature measurements (PT1000)

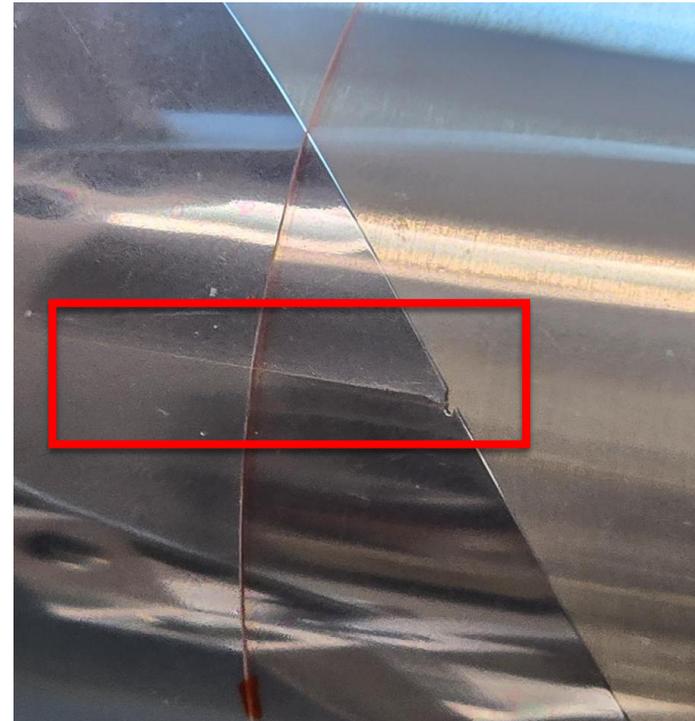
- **ITS3-BBM6** was assembled in Bari (experience acquired)
- **Similar model as and studies foreseen for the SVT**
 - Heaters under production by R. Oliveira



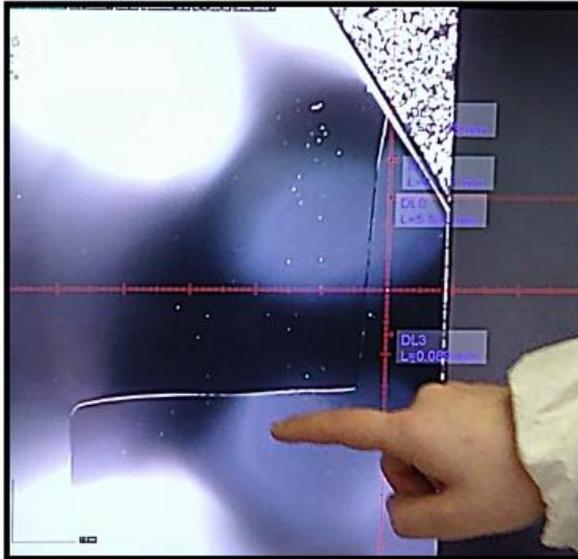
Break during the bending



The edge defect caused the break during the bending

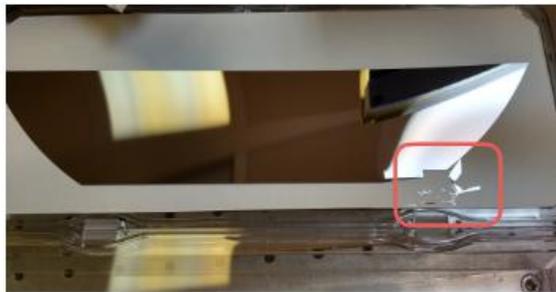


SVT-L0 Half-layer attempt n° 3: pictures



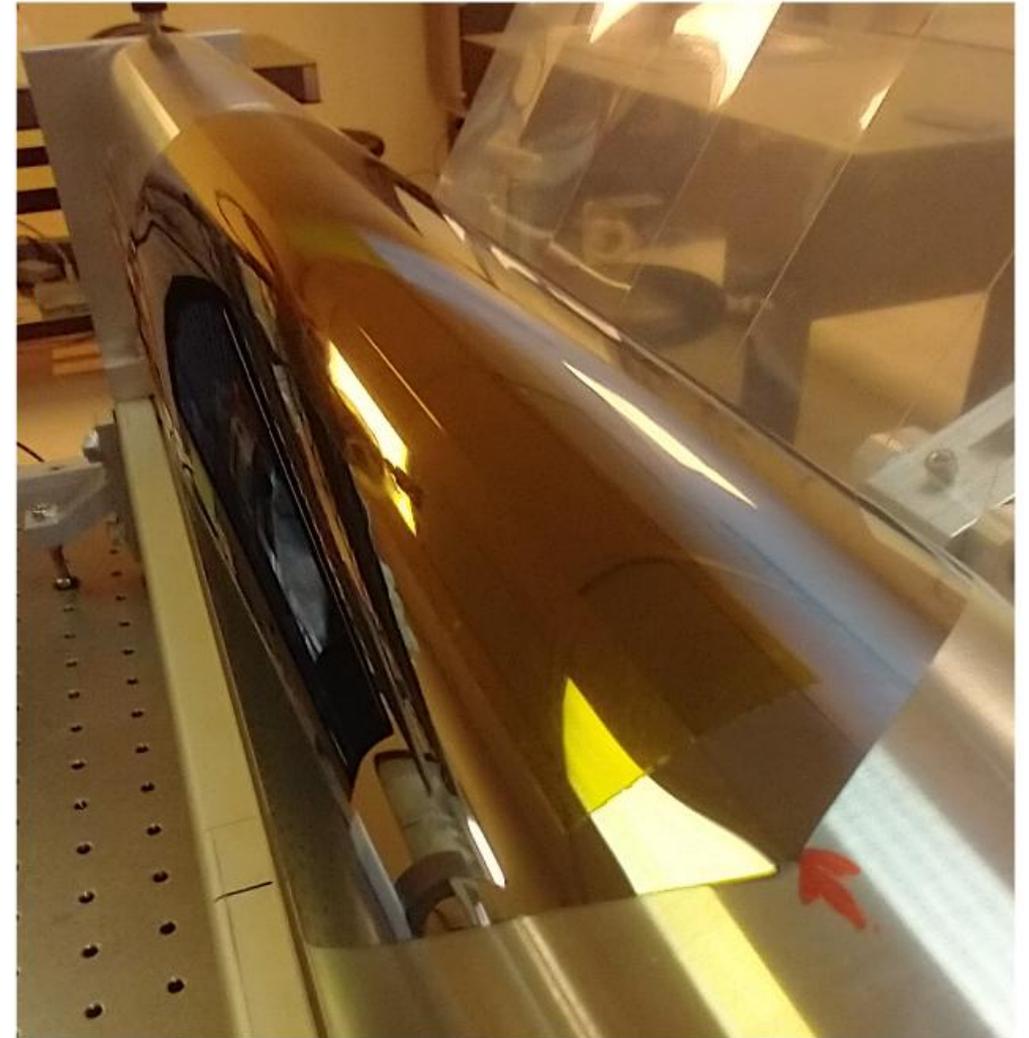
Discovered fracture was covered by extra kapton tape

Crack stopped during bending procedures using microscope (not easily visible by eye).



Broken silicon pipe found in the same box

- Don't stack many silicons in the same box
- Visual inspection before each assembly



SVT-L0 Half-layer attempt n° 3: pictures

Extra tape was not sufficient. We suspect that the discovered fracture was the source of the successive break in the picture (see detail in red box)

