

DarkSide-20k Update

**Particle Physics Annual Meeting
Friday 24th May 2024**

M. Queiroga Bazetto, L. Boynton, G. Casse, H. Frandini Gatti,
T. Jones, K. Mavrokoridis, S. Ravinthiran, A. Roberts, A. Taylor, J. Taylor, J. Vossebeld

Special thanks to:

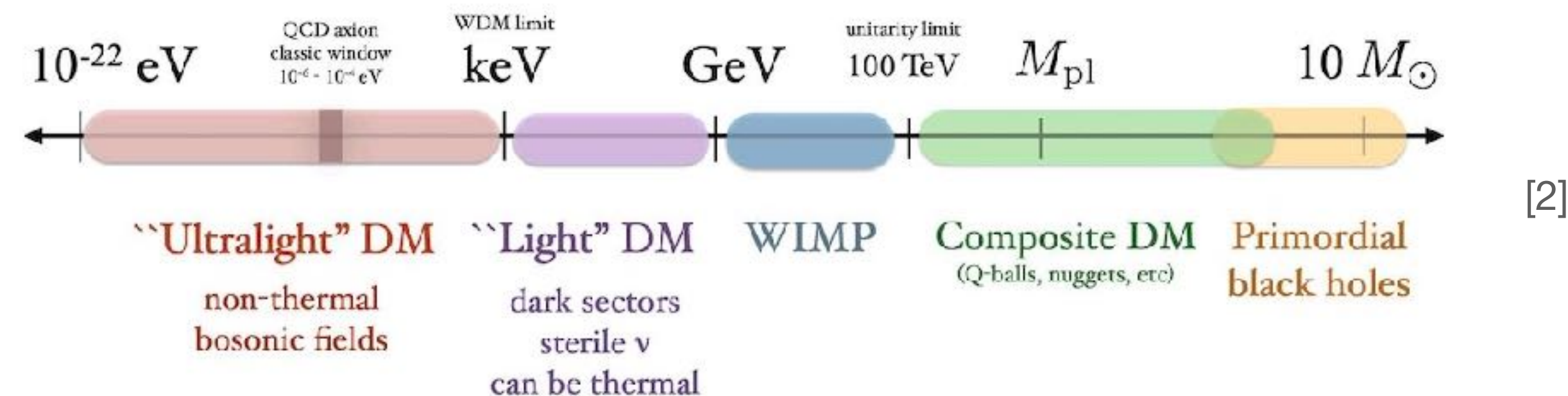
K. Bridges, A. Bukowski, M. Brown, J. Carroll, D. Hollywood, A. Kumar, K. McCormick, M. Whitley

Outline

- **Experiment overview**
- **Production status**
- **Production flow**
 - **vTile Assembly**
 - **vPDU Cold Testing**
- **Future**

Experiment overview

- **Dark Matter (DM) direct detection experiment @ LNGS [1]**
- **Liquid argon, 20 tonne fiducial volume**
- **FBK Near-UV SiPMs with wavelength shifter: 128 nm to 420 nm**
- **Primary DM candidate:**
 - **Cold dark matter: Weakly Interacting Massive Particle (WIMP)**
 - **sensitivity $1.2 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$ for WIMP mass of $\sim 1 \text{ TeV}/c^2$**



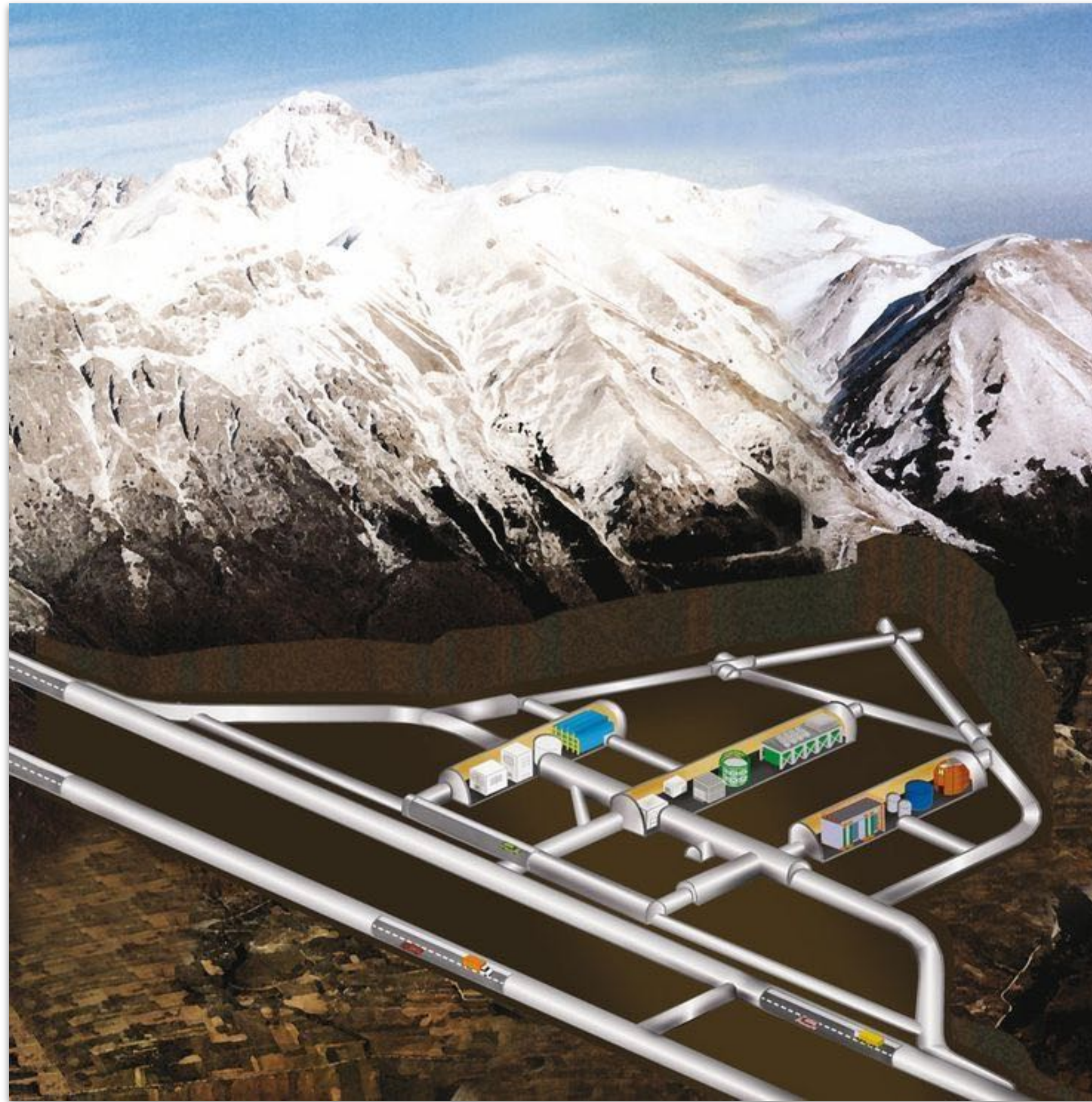
[1] Kish, A., 2021, *DarkSide-20k dual-phase argon TPC for particle dark matter detection*, <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1041835/>

[2] *The future of the DarkSide-20k Dark Matter Search*, Michela Lai, COSSURF2024,

Experiment Overview

Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso
Gran Sasso d'Italia

Experiment overview



The future of the DarkSide-20k Dark Matter Search, Michela Lai, COSSURF2024,

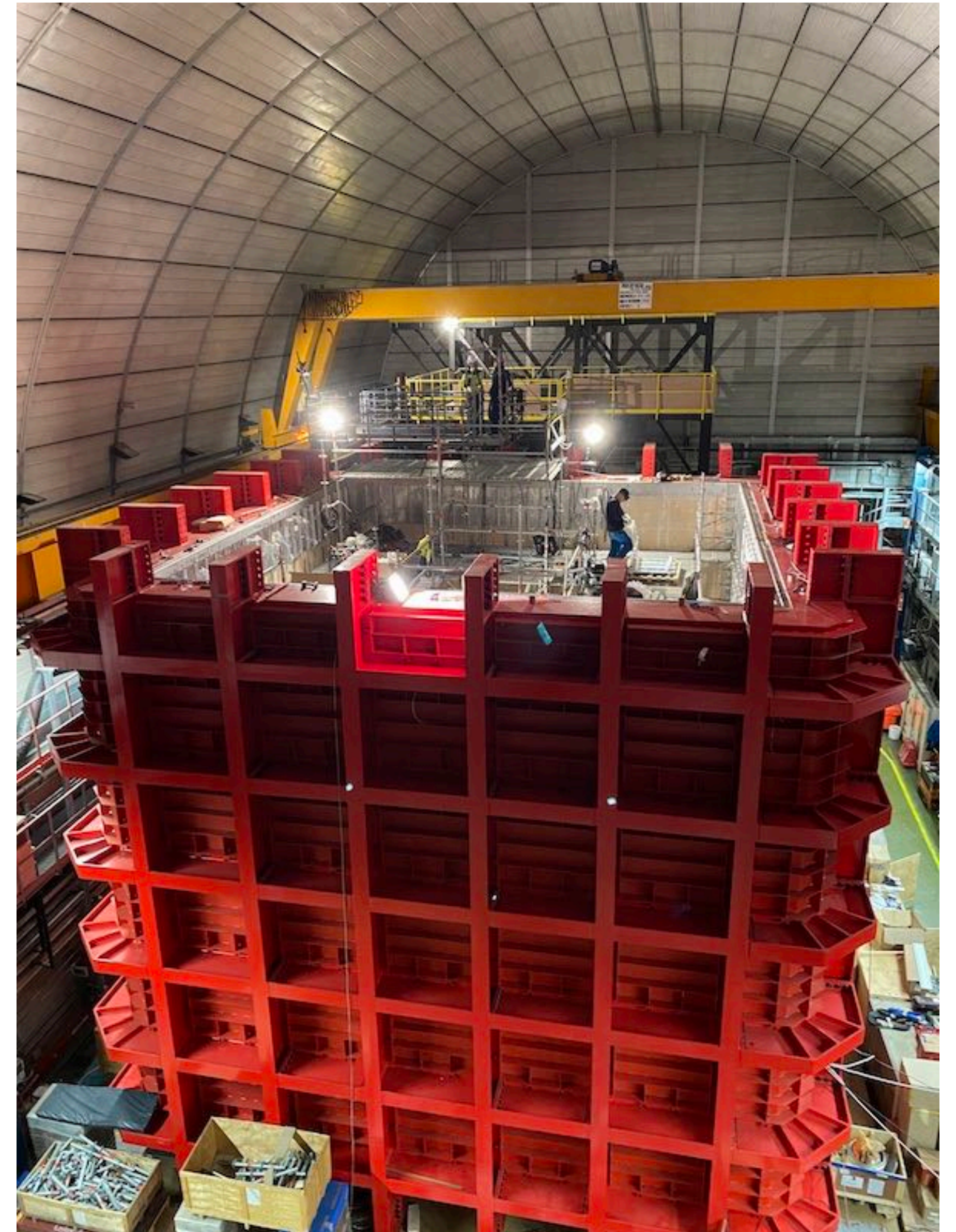
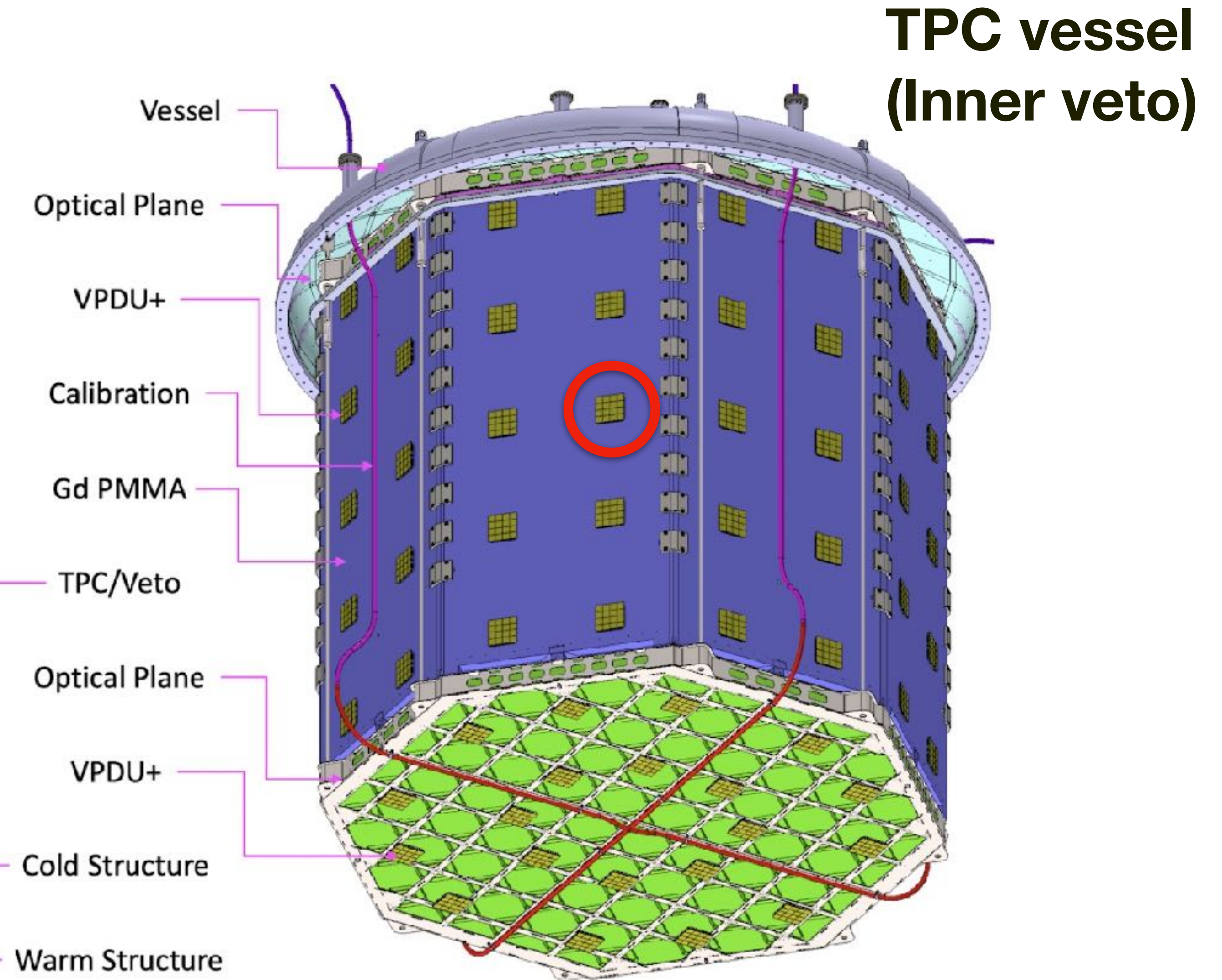
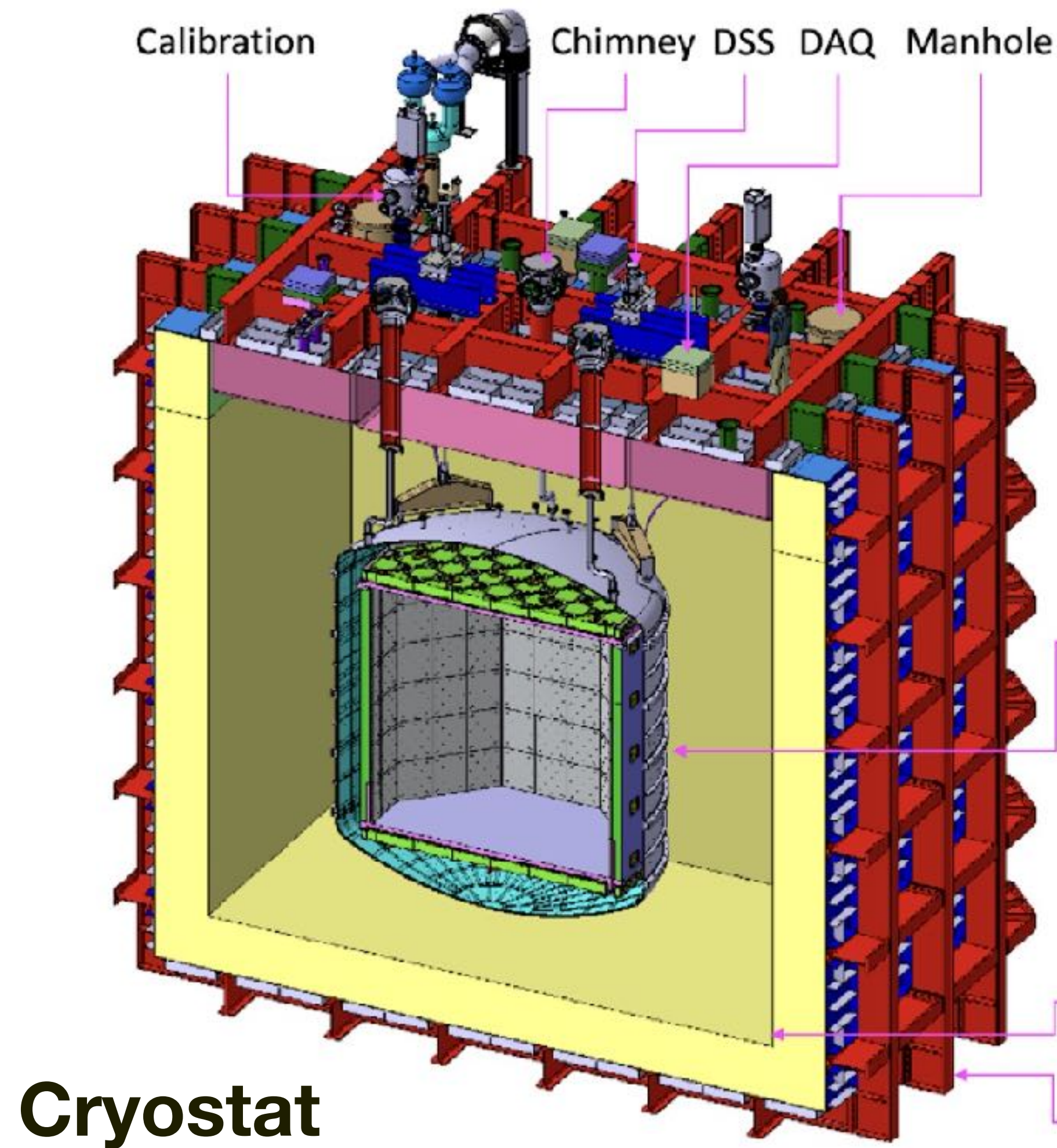


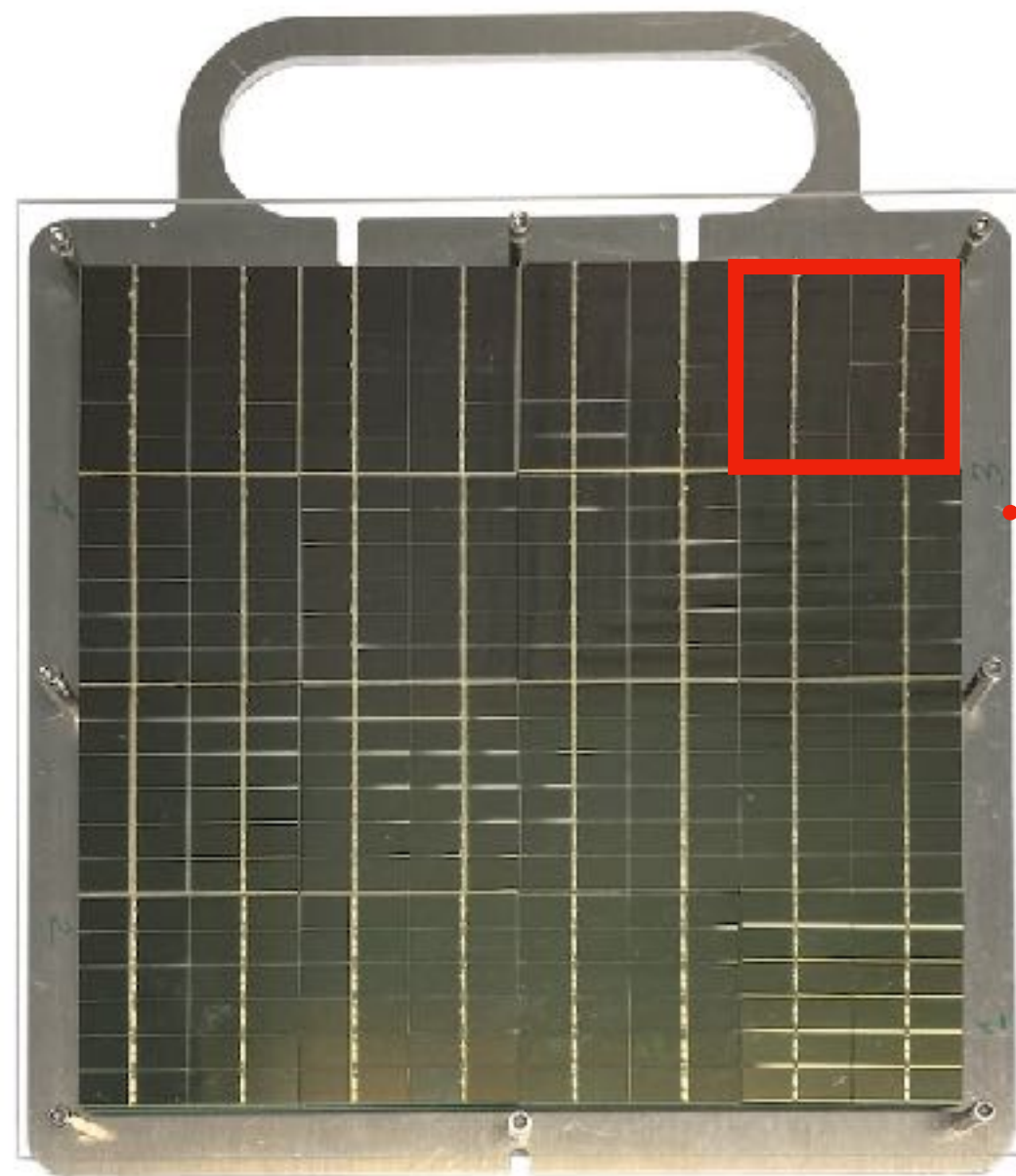
Photo: Olly Macfadyen, April 2024

Experiment Overview



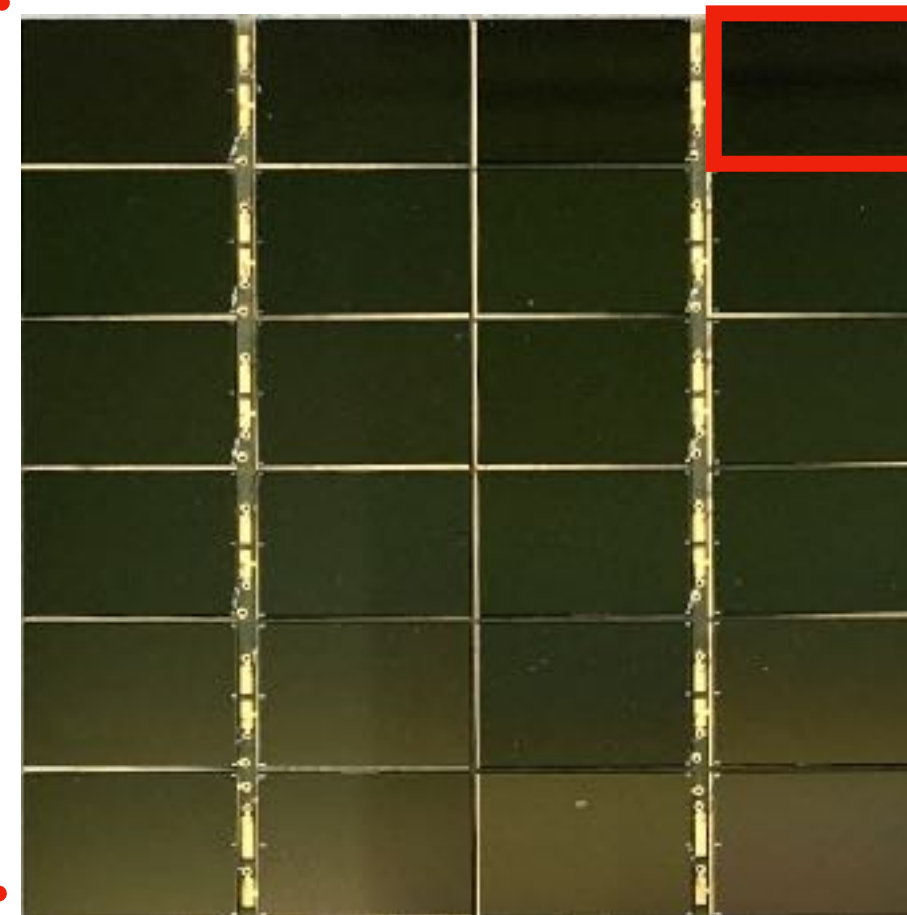
Experiment overview

vPDU
(16x vTile)



20 x 20 cm
(Liverpool: Cold test)

vTile
(24x SiPM)



5 x 5 cm
(Liverpool: Assembly)

SiPM*
(~94900 SPADS)



11.7 x 7.9 mm

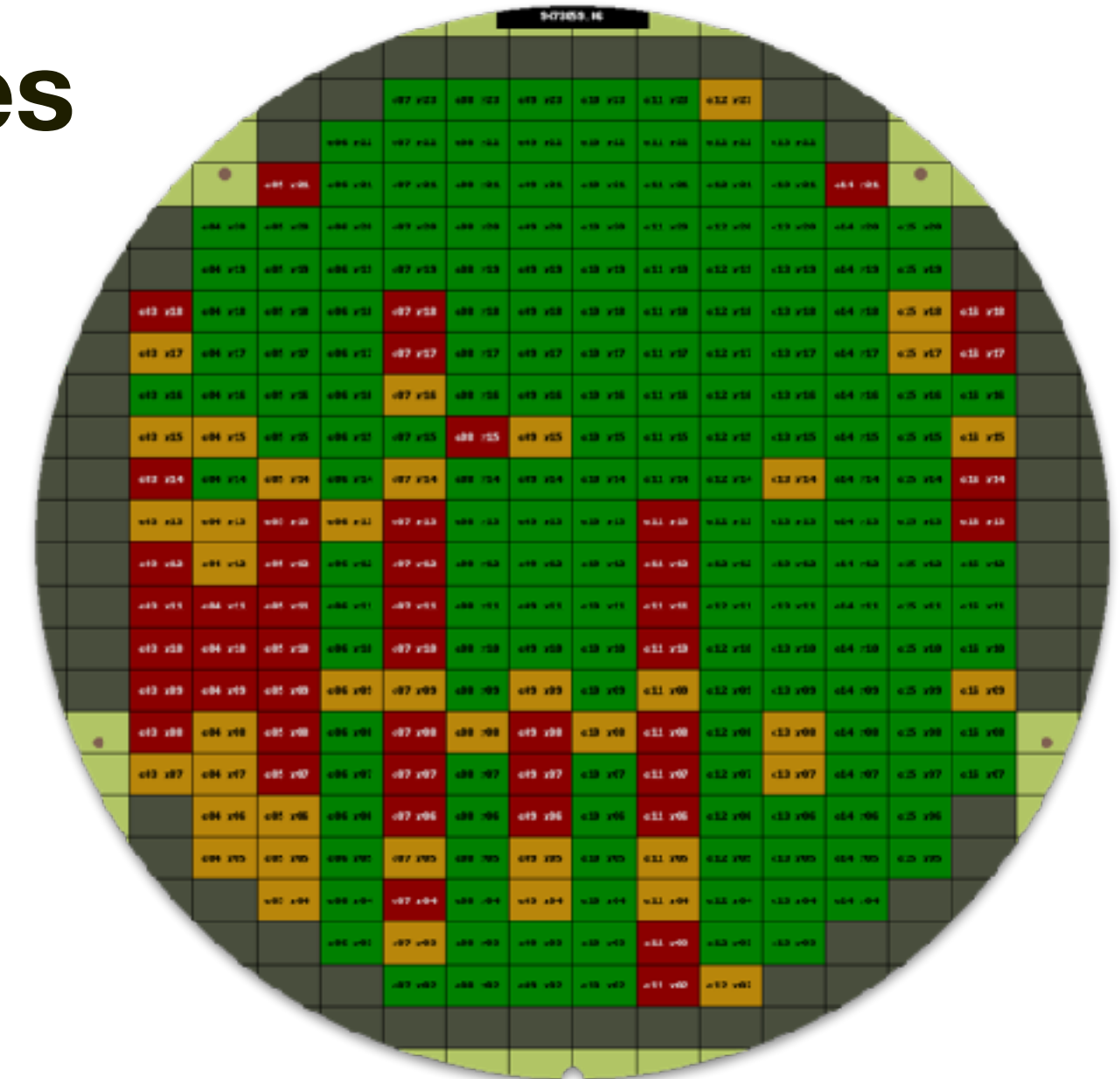
* FBK NUV-HD-Cryo triple dose SiPMs

Experiment overview

- **The 150 veto PDUs (120 inner, 30 outer) are comprised of 2400 vTiles**
- **Liverpool's contribution**
 - **Cold testing of vPDU assemblies**
 - **Production of 50% of the vTiles, n=1200**
- **STFC Interconnect will assemble the remaining 1200 vTiles**

Experiment overview (software infrastructure)

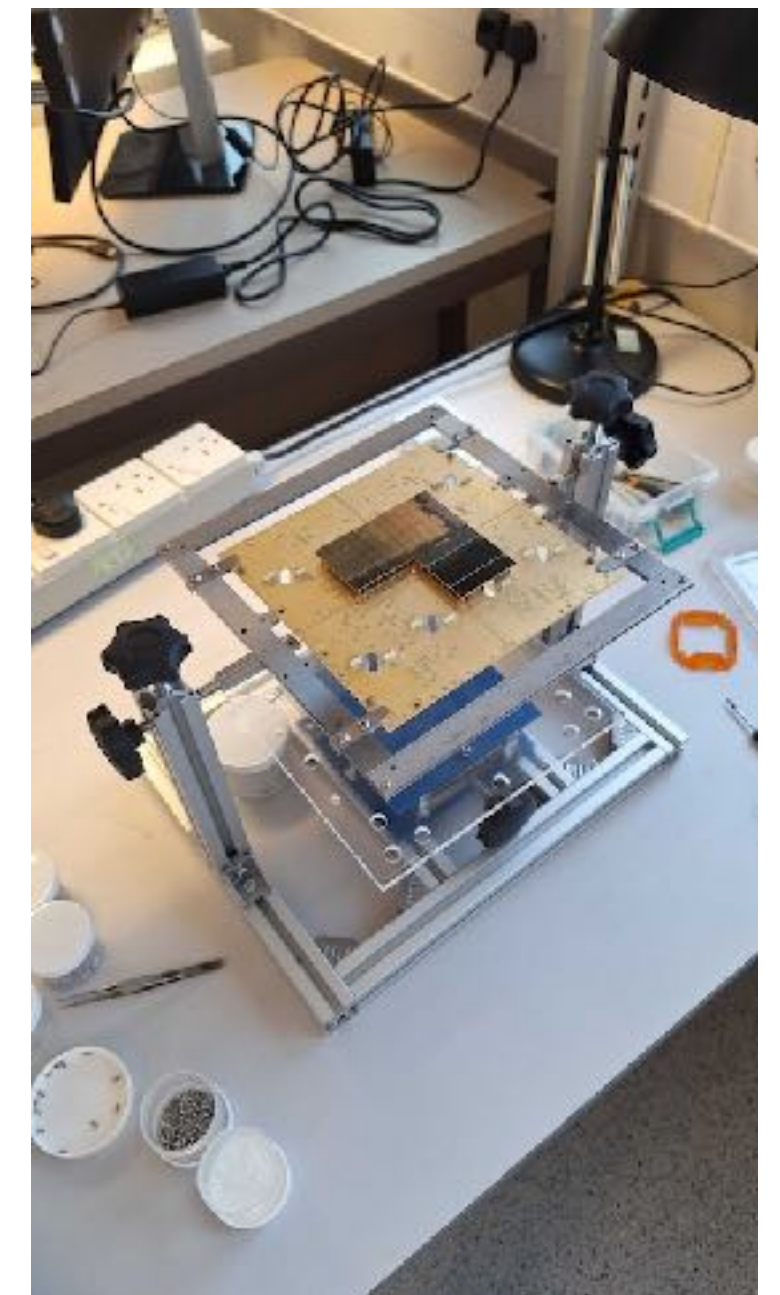
- PostgreSQL production database
 - Full traceability of ASICs and SiPMs and assemblies
- Common Python API [1]
 - Interface to the database
 - Wafer drawing
 - Cross-platform (Windows/macOS/Linux)
- Numerous automation command line scripts and GUIs
- Analysis tools
- Some performance sensitive code written in Rust



[1] <https://zenodo.org/records/10817039>

Production status (UK)

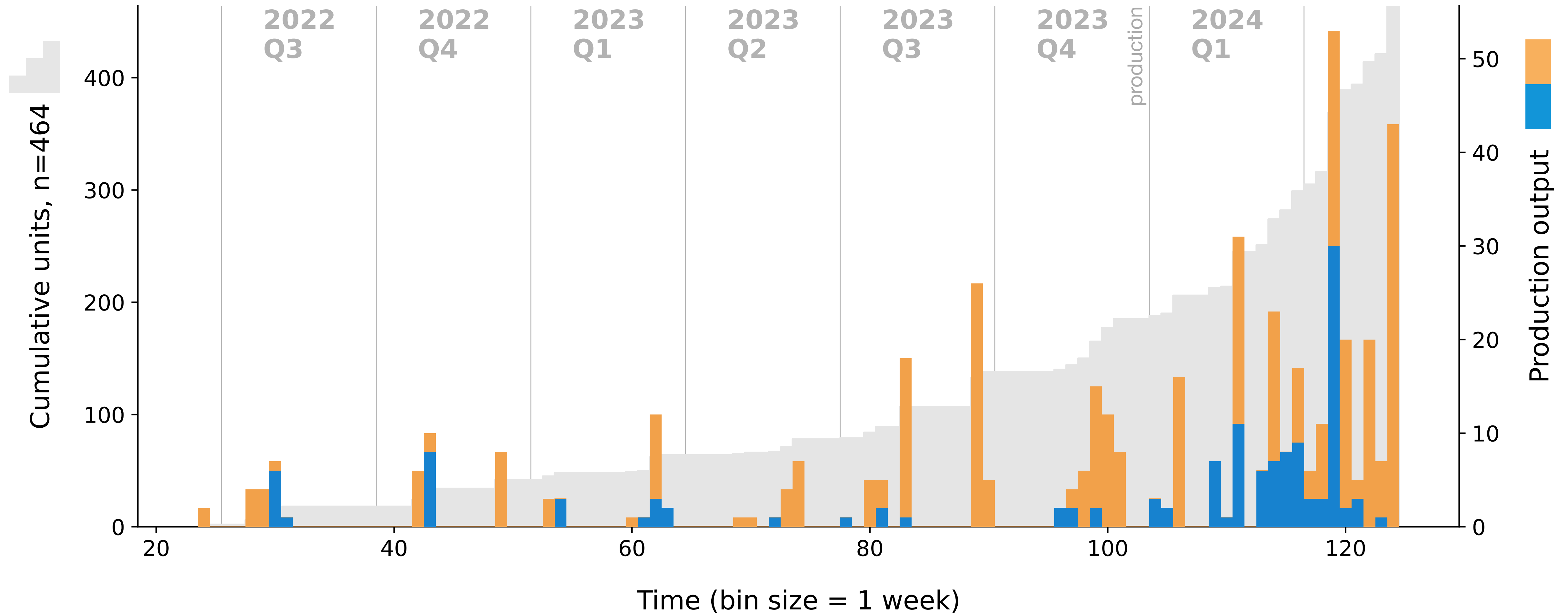
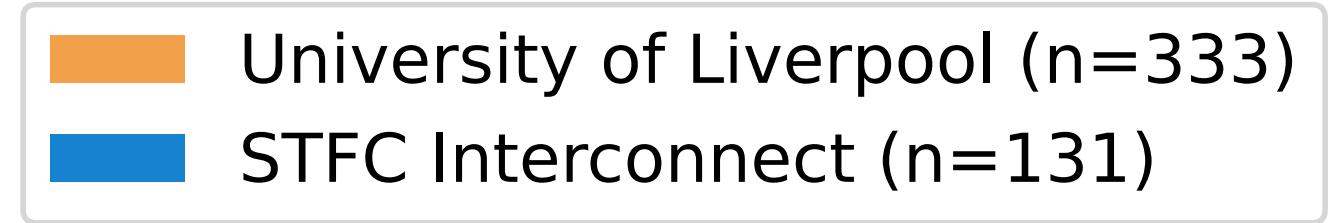
- **vPDU Cold Testing**
 - **Core capability in place, awaiting production volume**
- **vPDU Assembly**
 - **11 complete: several others in assembly**
 - **Some electronic changes to vMotherboards in progress**
- **vTile Assembly**
 - **Production commenced, volume ramp-up in progress**
 - **Goal: 65 per week**



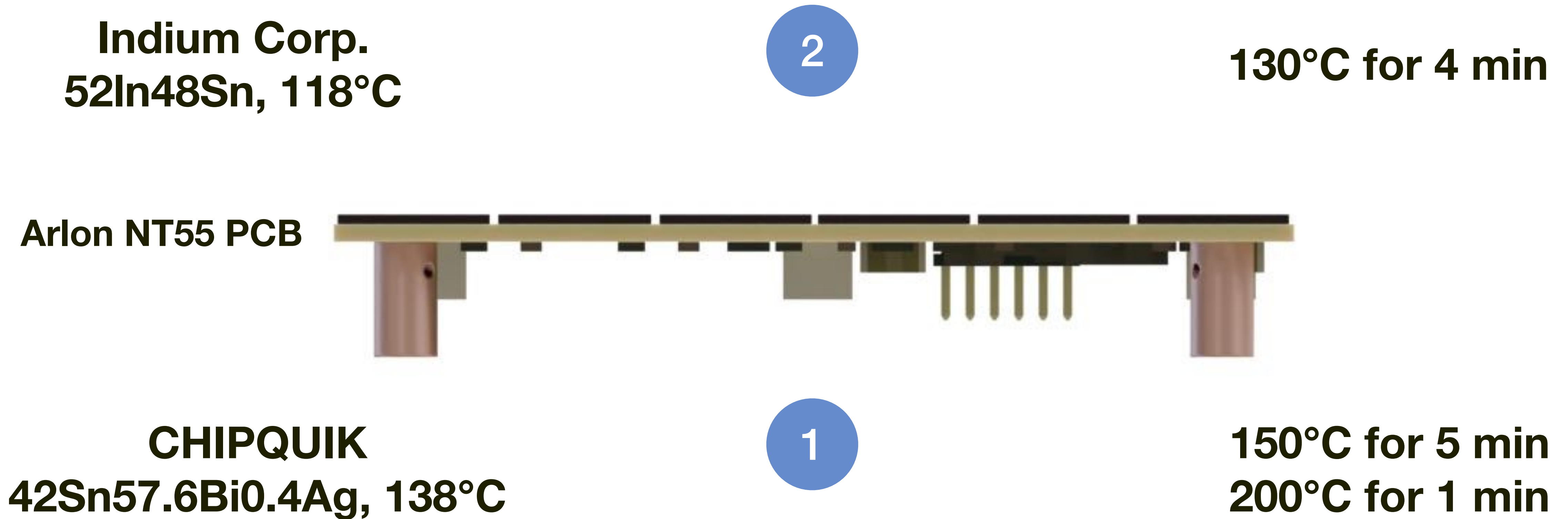
Production status (UK, vTiles)

- **Yield loss is observed to occur from:**
 - **Mechanical failures (during production, test, or vPDU integration)**
 - **Double breakdown (I-V)**
 - **High dark current rate exceeding acceptance criteria in cold test**
 - **Bad SPE shape in cold test (but without double breakdown or high dark current rate)**
- **vTile yield target > 80%, Liverpool: 82%**
 - **Last 6 vPDUs 86%**

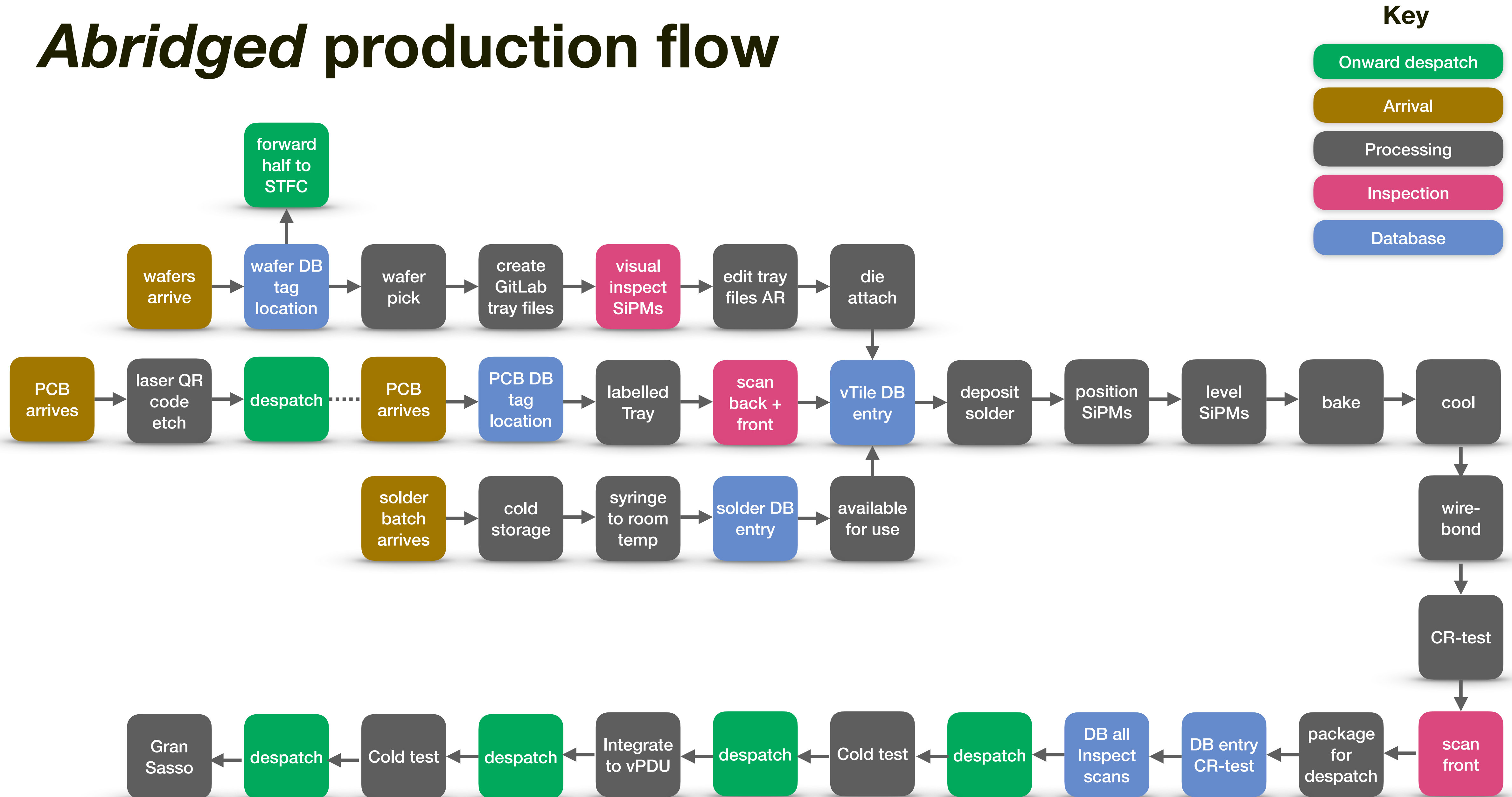
Production status (vTile)



Production flow (two-stage vTile assembly)



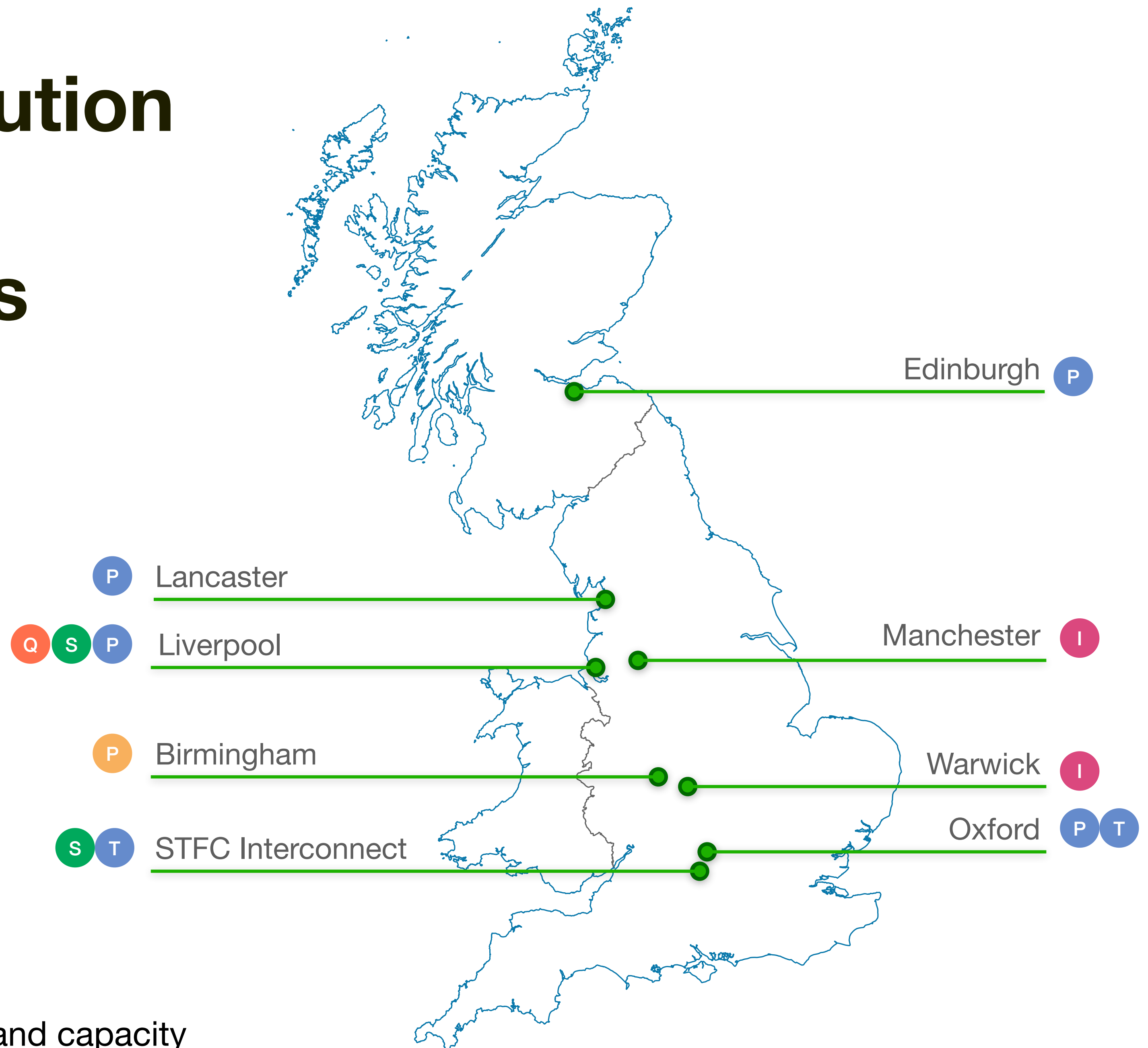
Abridged production flow



Geographical distribution of DarkSide-20k UK consortium members

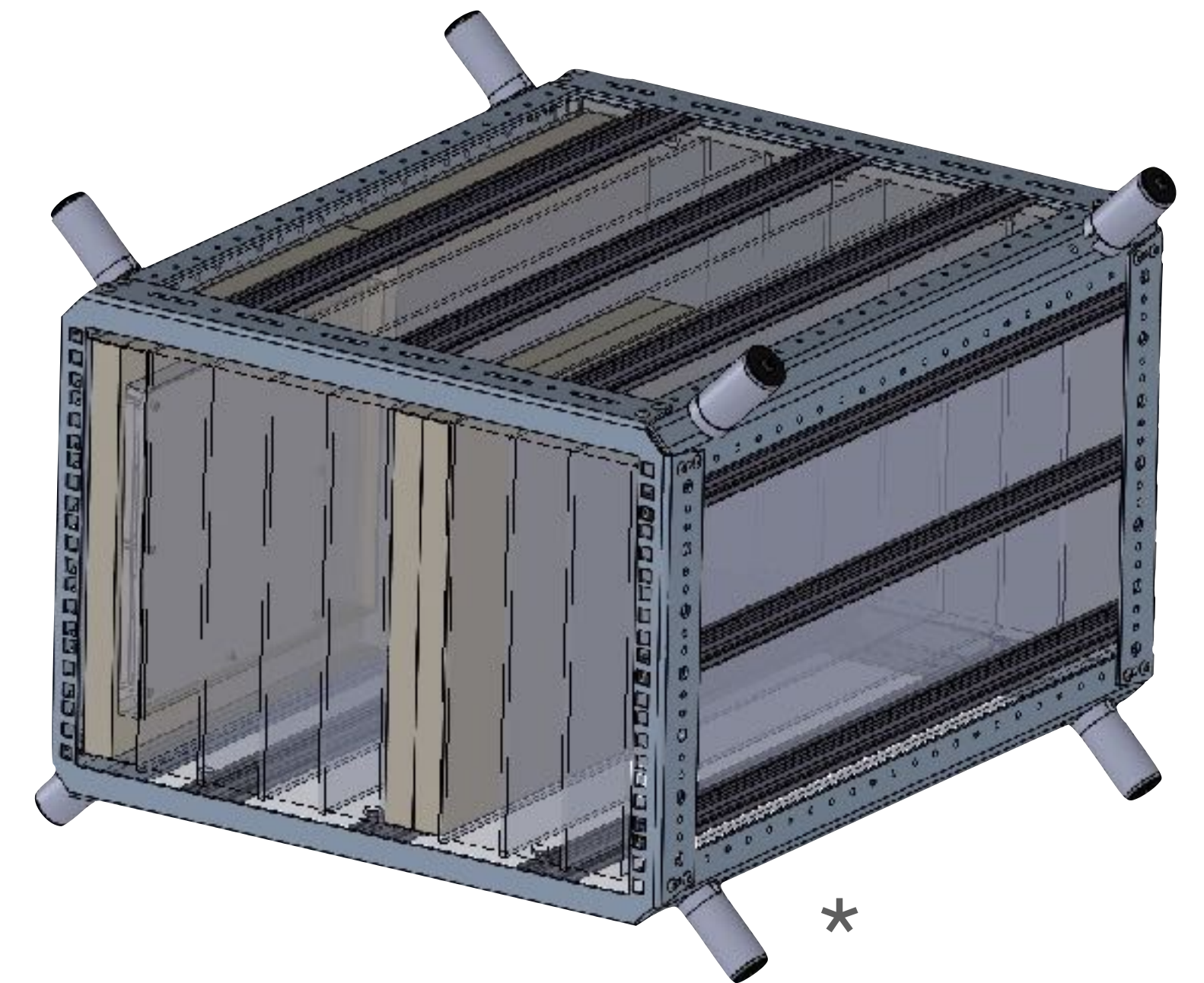
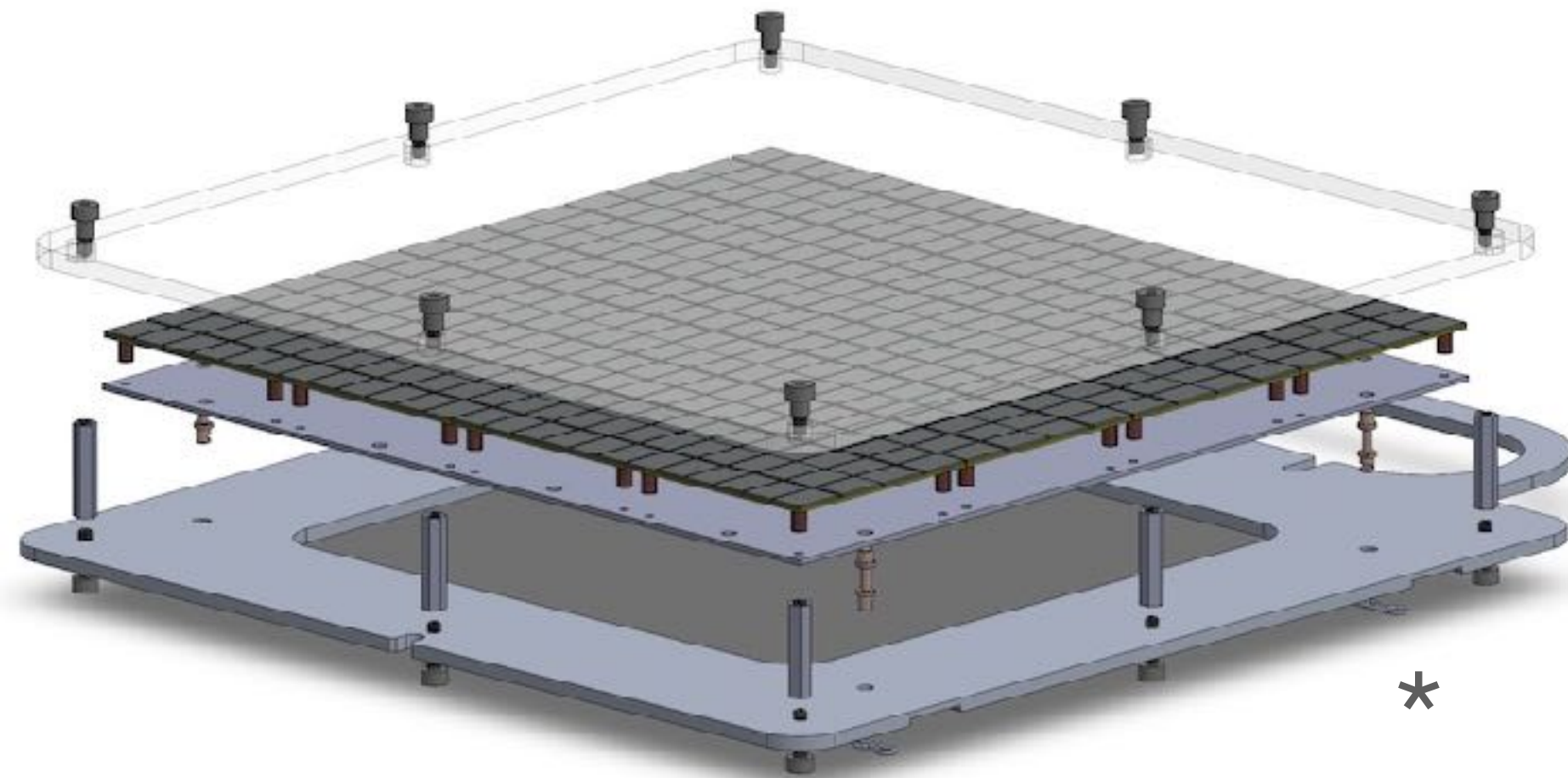
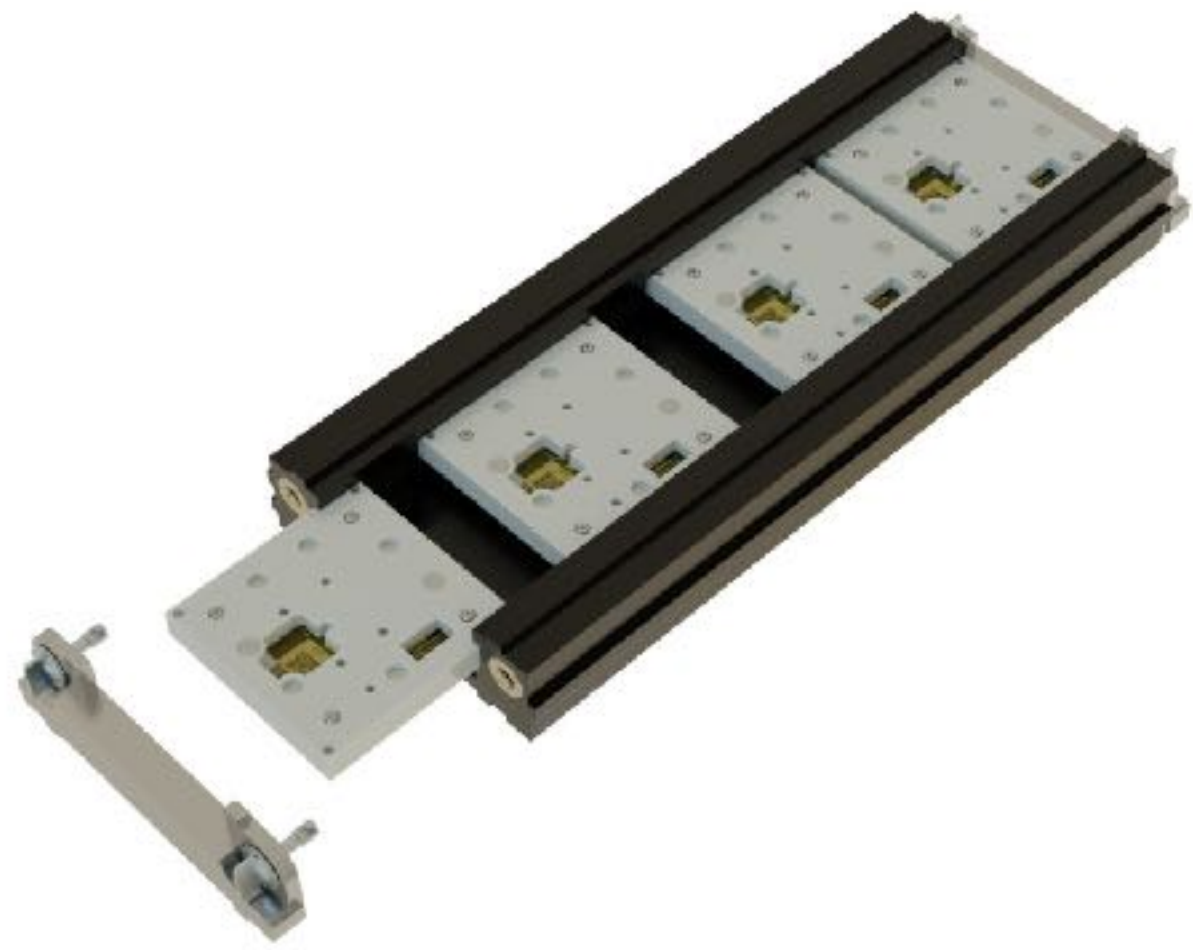
Key

- Q QR code etching
- P PCB population
- S SiPM die attach + wire bonding
- T vTile cold test
- I Integration (vPDU) and warm test
- P vPDU cold test



Duplicated capability at various sites: redundancy and capacity

Production flow: shipping



* <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1178135/timetable/#59-shipping-transport>, Rob Chapple

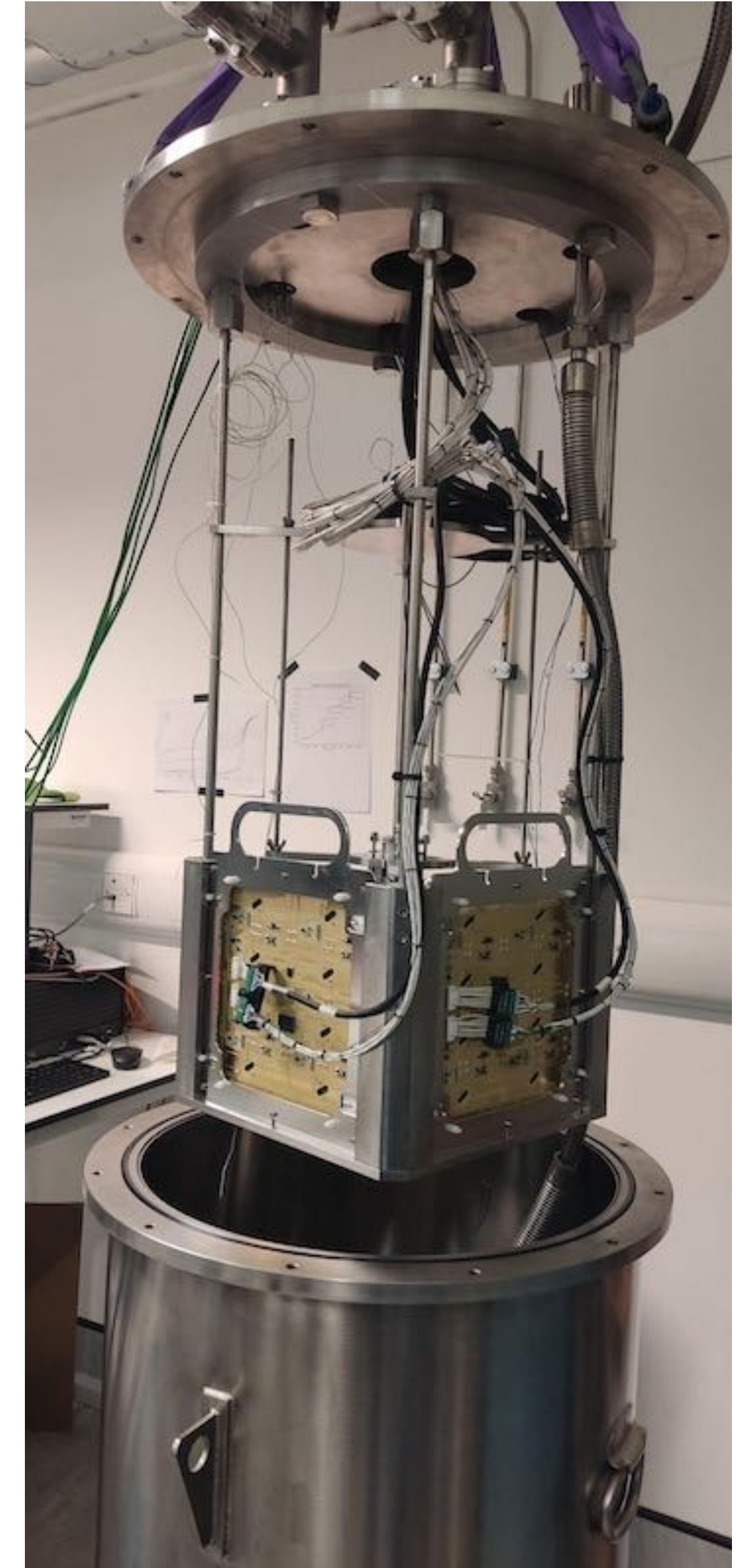
vPDU cold testing sites

- **Duplicated capability for capacity and redundancy (150 vPDUs)**

Site	Capacity
Edinburgh	4
Lancaster	4
Liverpool	16
Oxford	4
Warsaw (AstroCeNT)	5

vPDU cold testing (UK)

- Existing vPDU tests in LAr performed at Edinburgh [1]
- Test time
 - 1 vPDU : ~2 days
 - 1 day cool-down, confidence checks
 - 1 day data taking
- Core test racks, electronics, laser light source and data acquisition system and is common across all consortium test sites for reproducibility



vPDU cold testing (UK)

- **RHS: Liverpool PHAIDRA setup: awaiting production volume of vPDUs**
- **Complex flange with numerous feedthroughs**
- **Estimated test time for 16 vPDUs**
 - **~2 week cycle time**
 - **vPDU installation, cool down, test, warm up**
 - **Actual test time once cool: ~2 days**



Photo: Sudikshan Ravinthiran

vPDU cold testing (DAQ)

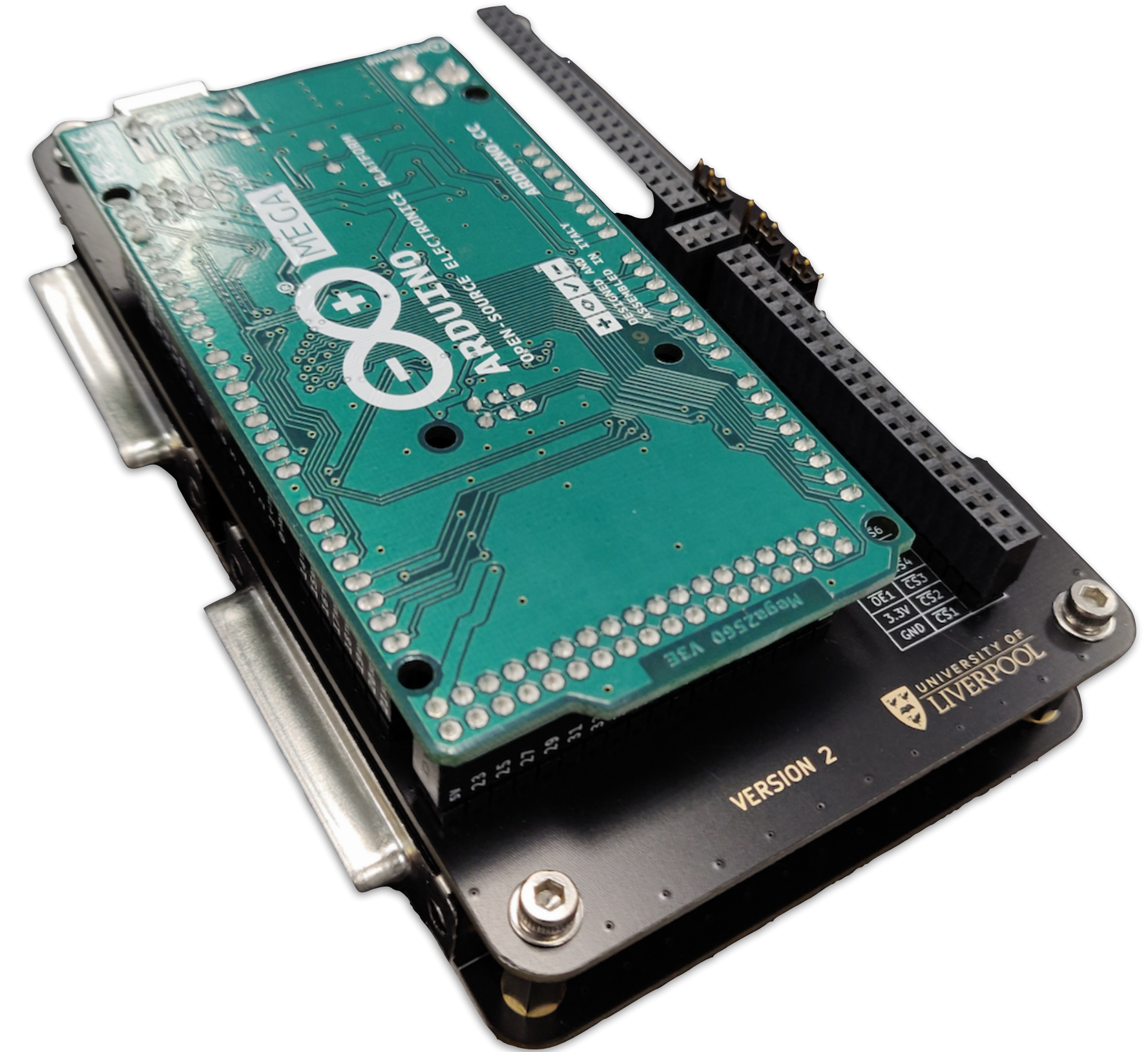
- **VX2745 digitiser board, VME80D4X rack**
- **64 channels (3 LV, 1 HV per vPDU)**
 - **3x CAEN A2551A (LV)**
 - **1x CAEN A1541LP (HV)**
- **MIDAS-based data acquisition**
- **A common MIDAS setup is used for final integration tests and the experiment itself**

- **Acquired data stored in the Grid for analysis**



vPDU cold testing (DAQ)

- **Liverpool made steering control module for signal routing**
 - **SPI selection of vPDU functions**
 - **Multiplexes to multiple vPDUs**
- **Used across all test sites, and for the final experiment for > 600 TPC PDUs**



Future

- All of the core parts of the pipeline are in place: tested, operational
- Integration of the Nordson glue robot into the production pipeline
- Production ramp-up about to commence
- Veto production paper being readied for review
- Experiment operational startup estimated for Q4 2026

- Knowledge exchange with our colleagues at LNGS
 - Outreach, UK/Italy collaboration

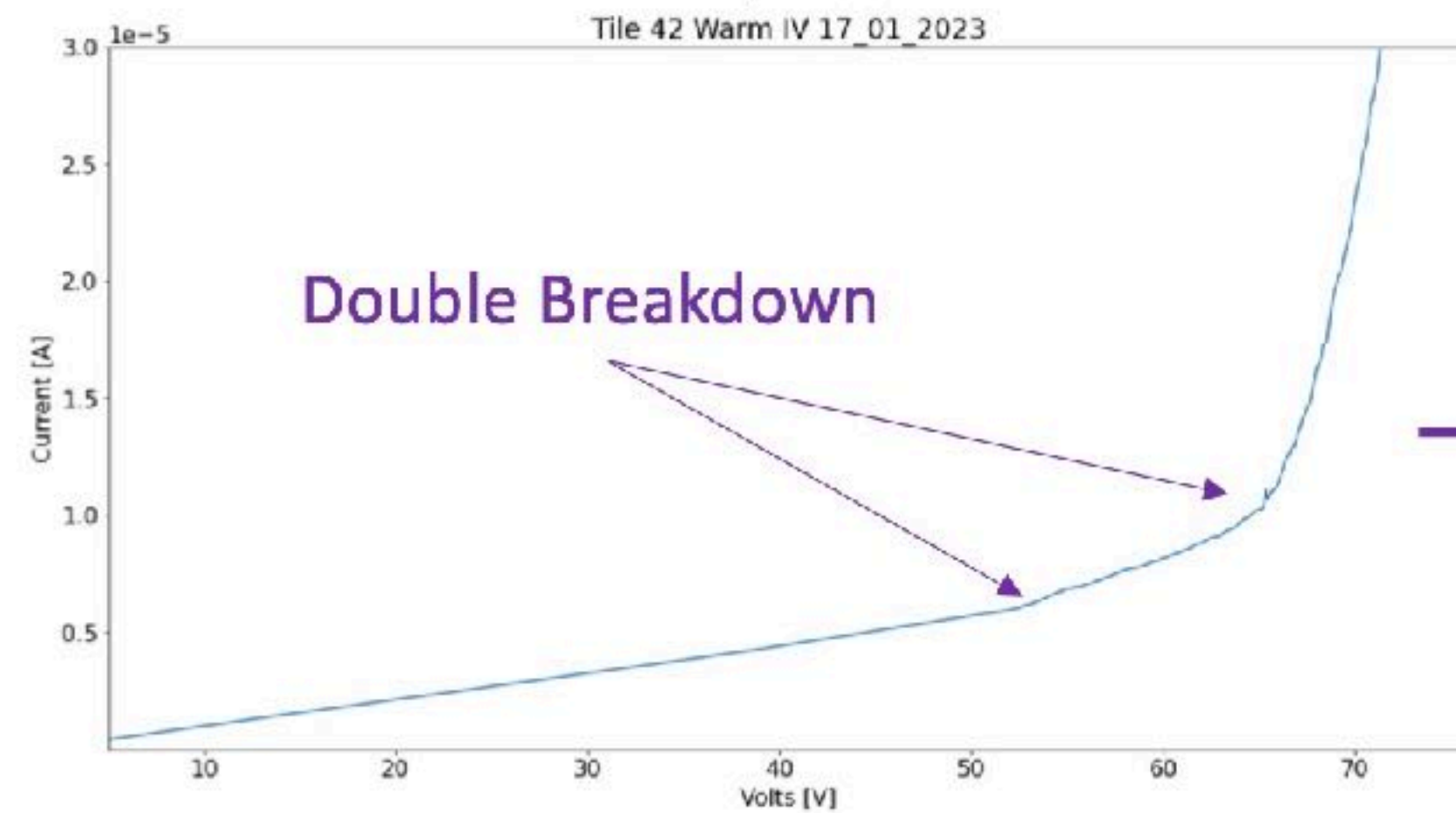
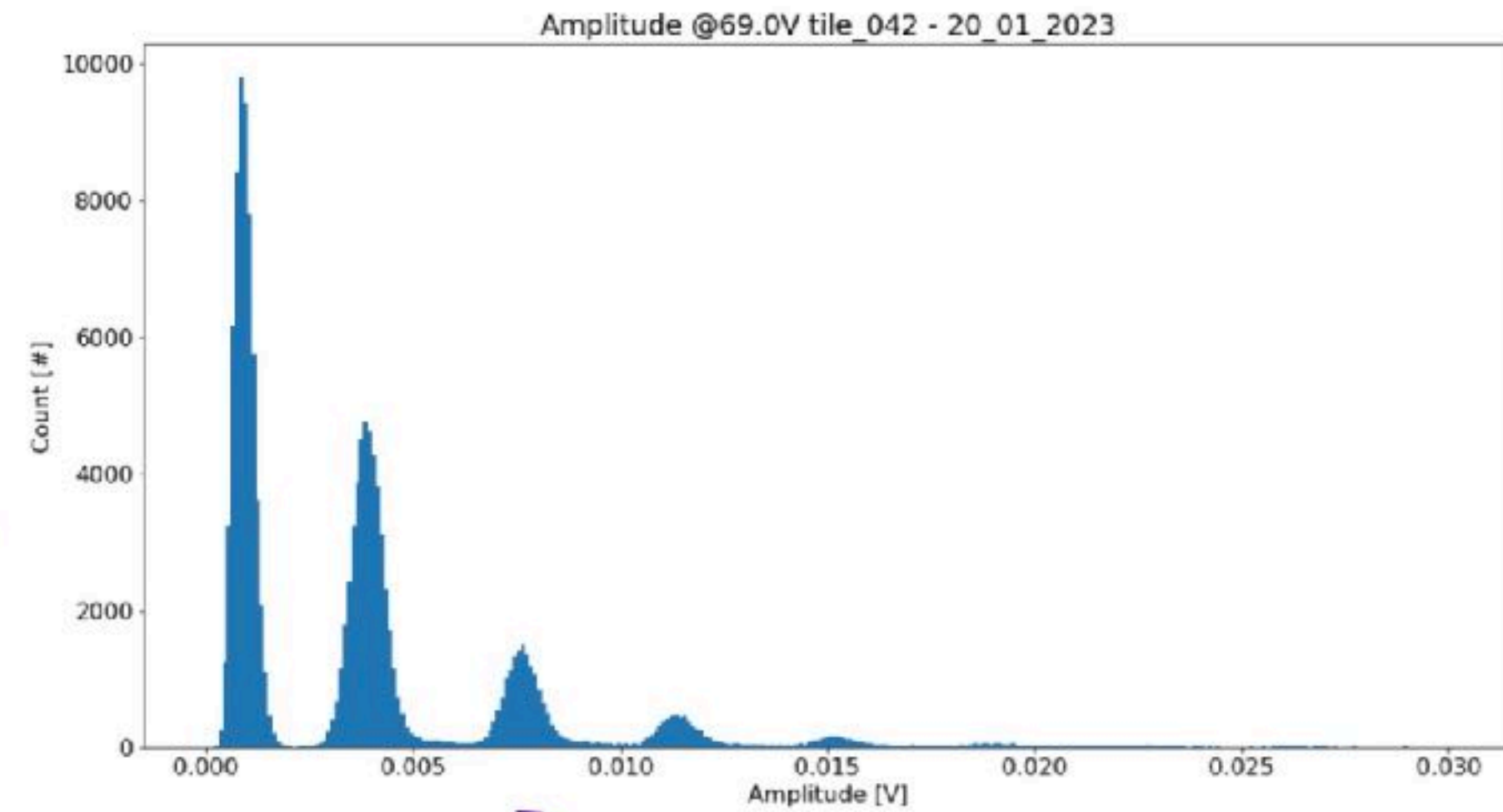
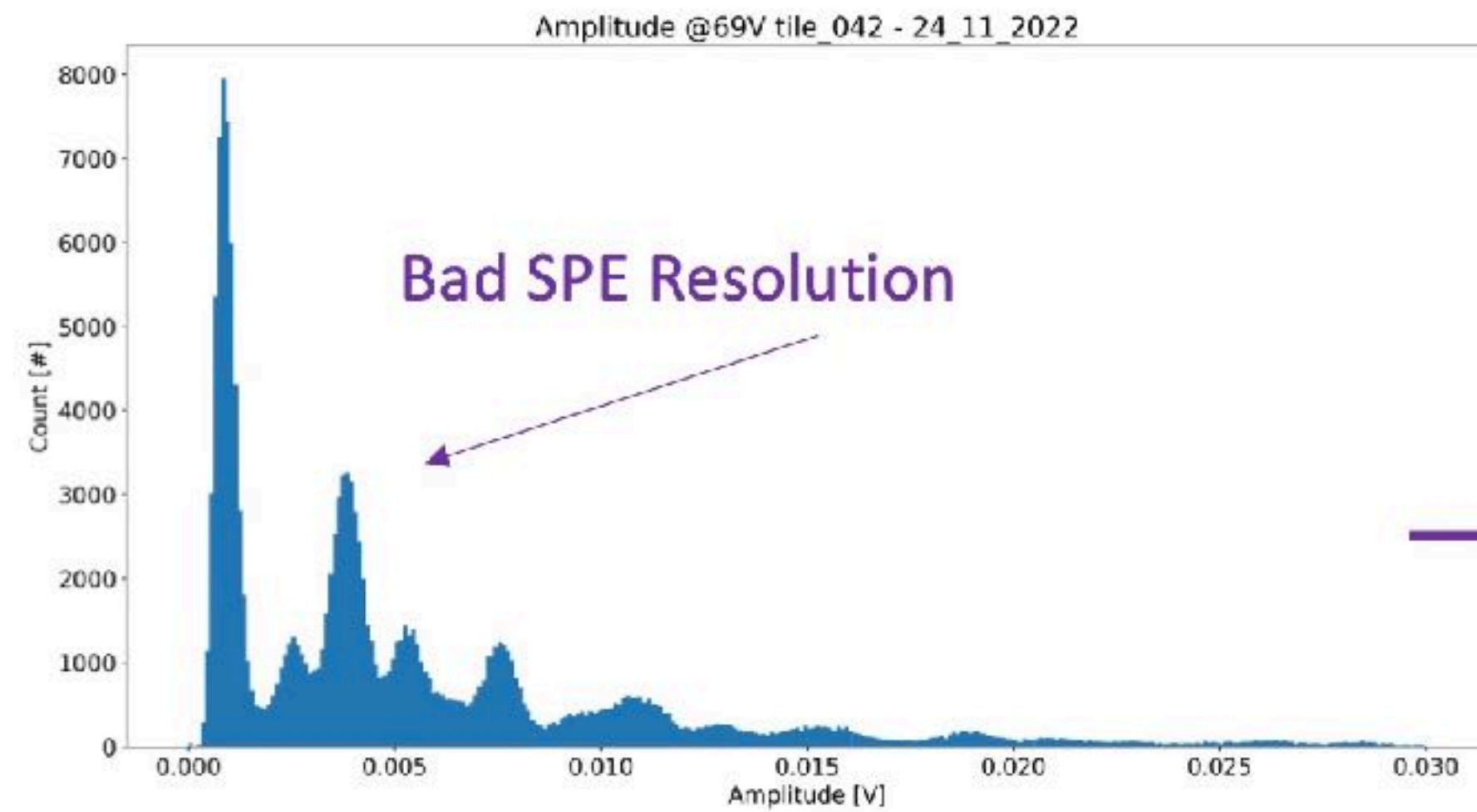


Backup slides

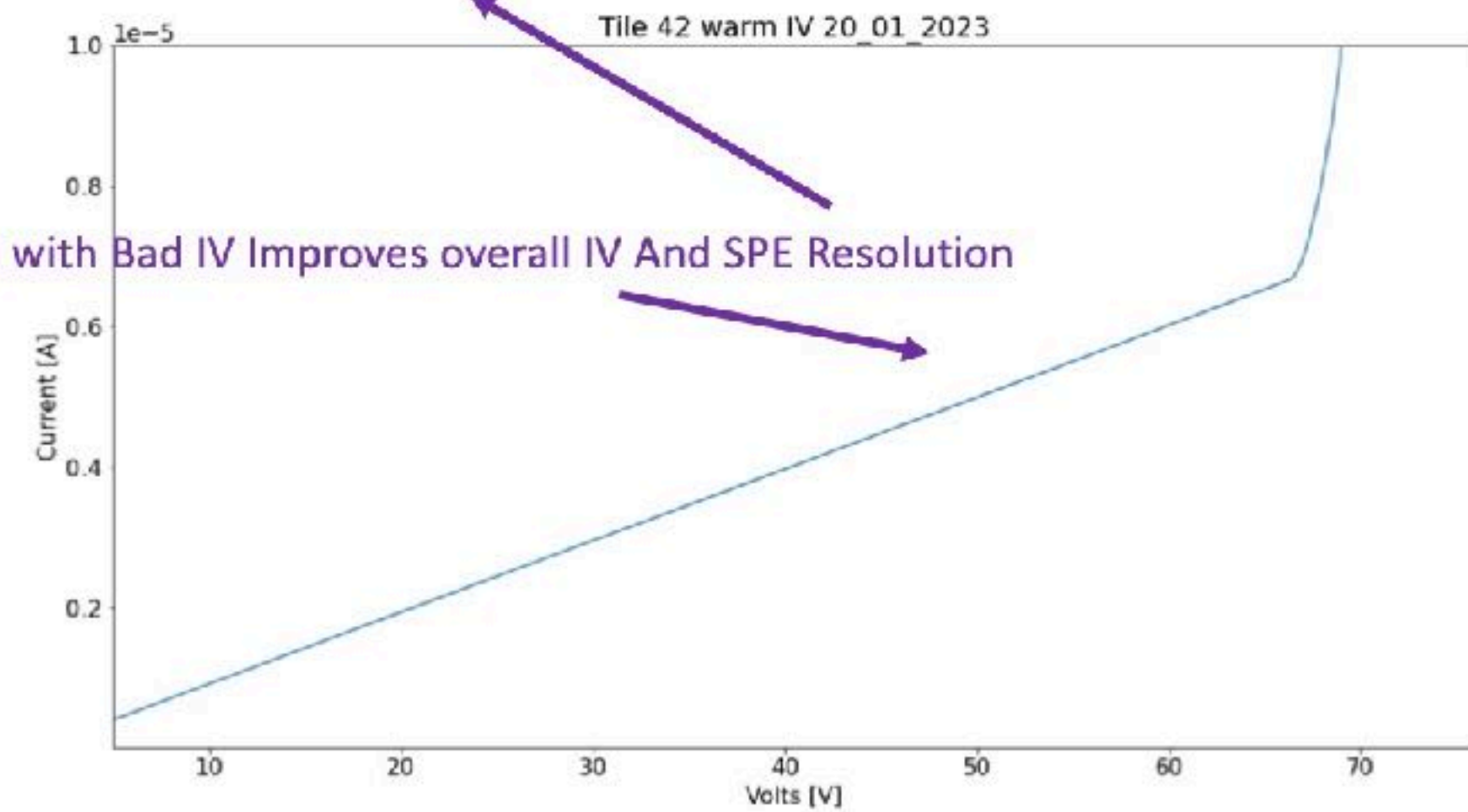
People: Liverpool

- **Research staff/academics:**
- Gianluigi Casse, Tim Jones, Kostas Mavrokoridis, Adam Roberts, Jon Taylor, Joost Vossebeld
- **Technical staff:**
- Maria Cecilia Queiroga Bazetto, Liam Boynton, Heriques Frandini Gatti
- **PhD students:**
- Sudikshan Ravinthiran, Alan Taylor

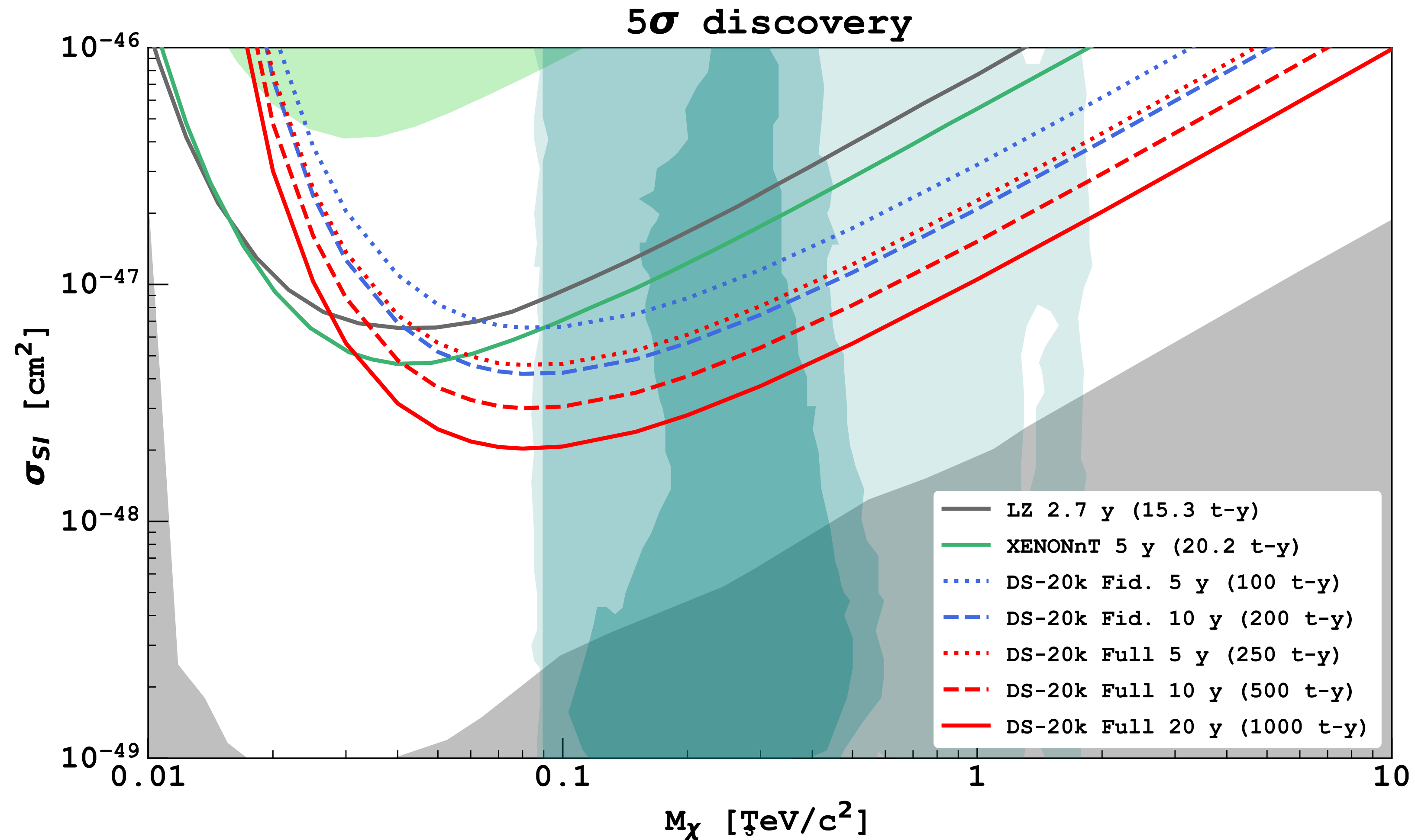
vTile double breakdown



Removing SiPM with Bad IV Improves overall IV And SPE Resolution



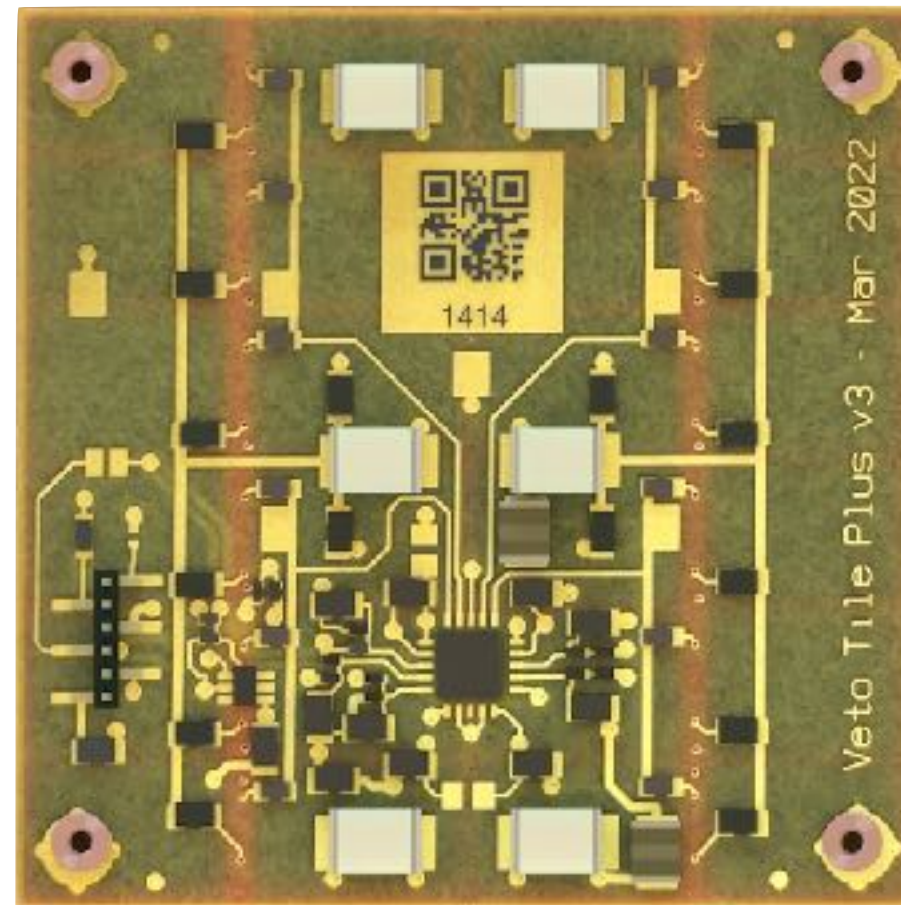
DarkSide-20k sensitivity [1]



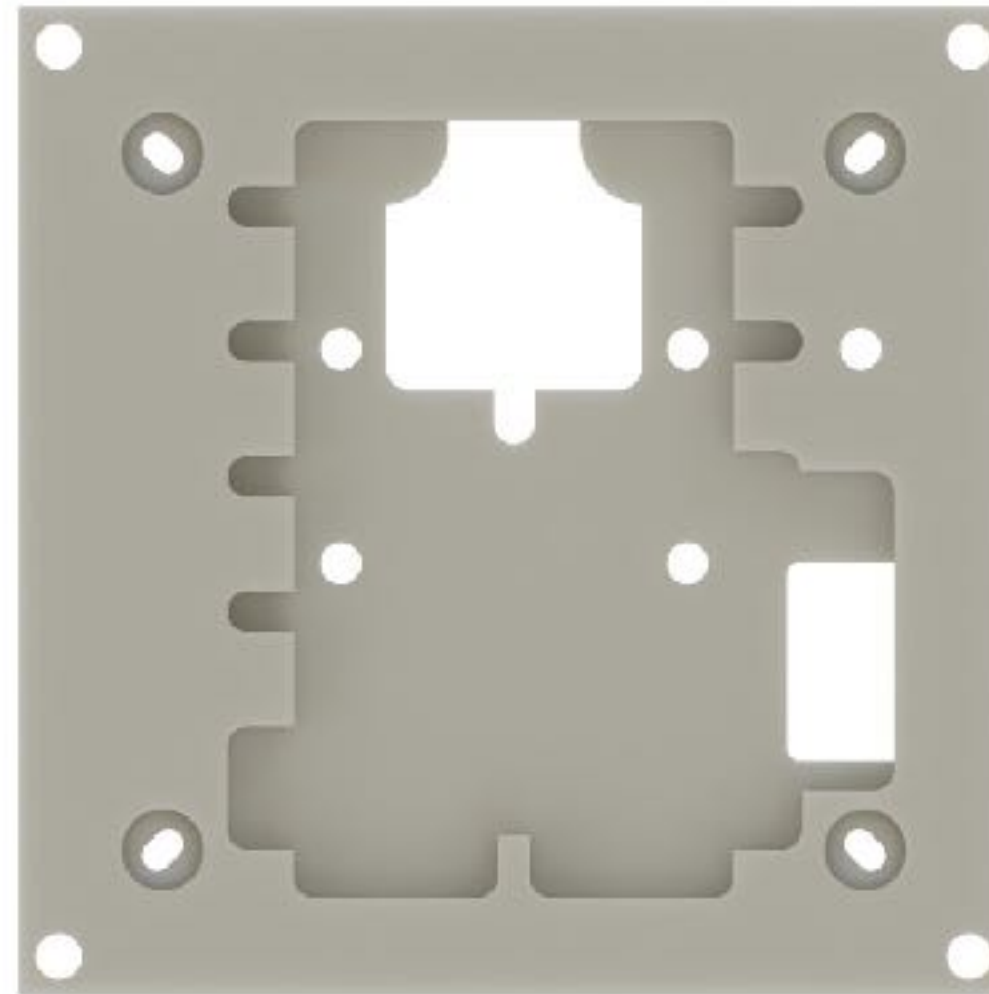
[1] Cristiano Galbiati. Overview of DS-20K: High level overview of DS-20K structure: technical, budget, schedule, management. Darkside TDR Re- view: Forti Committee Meeting. June 27, 2022. url: <https://agenda.infn.it/event/31679/contributions/173234/attachments/92596/126642/Galbiati%20LNGS%20Forti%20Committee%20Meeting%20Jun%202026%202022.pdf> (requires login)

Production flow: shipping

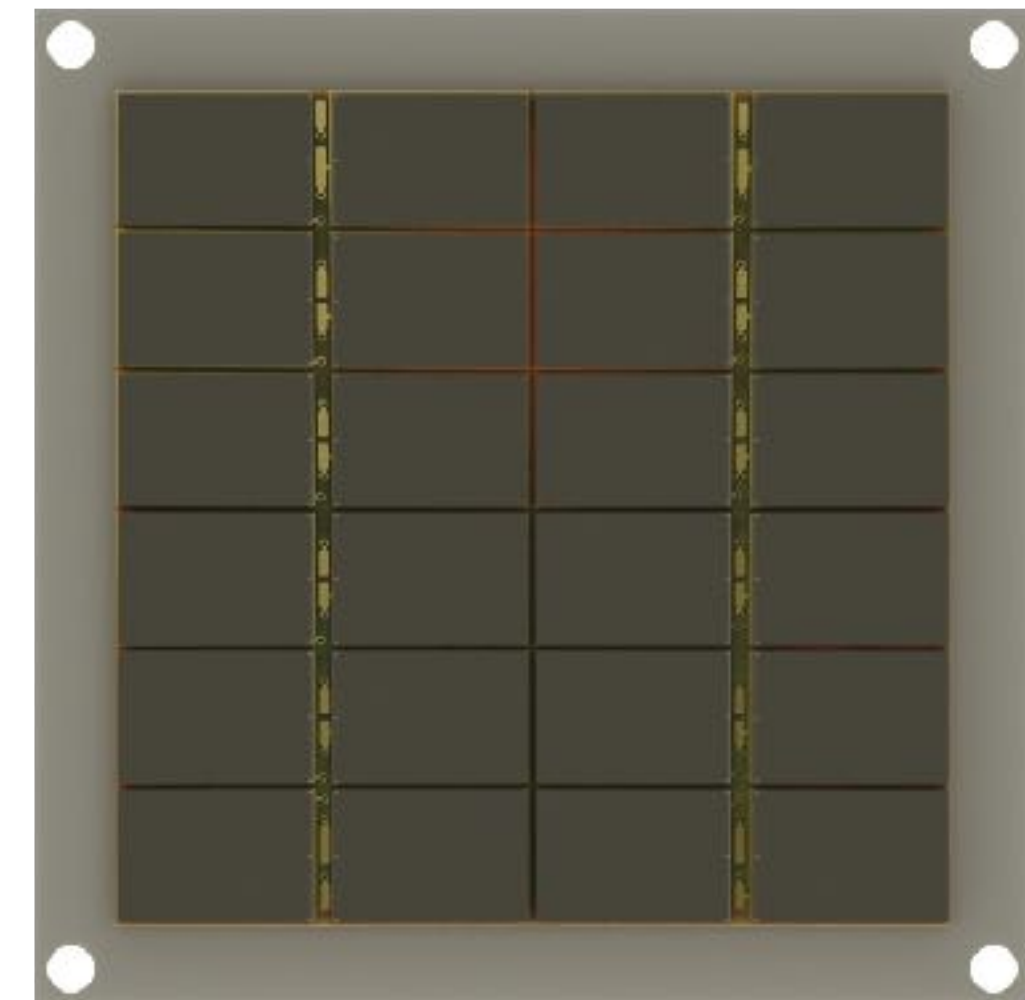
vTile



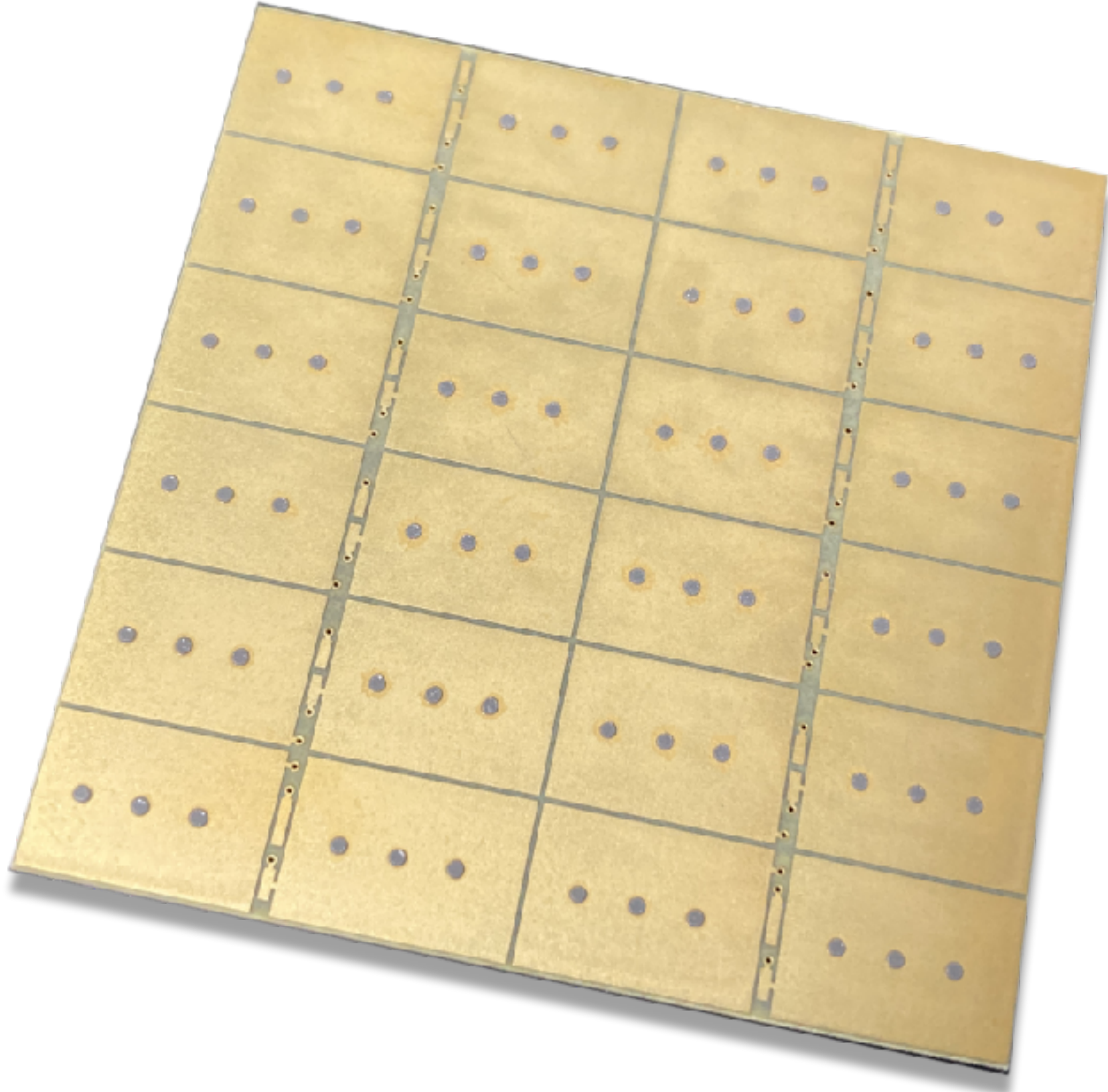
STFC
Process carrier



Assembly



vTile PCB

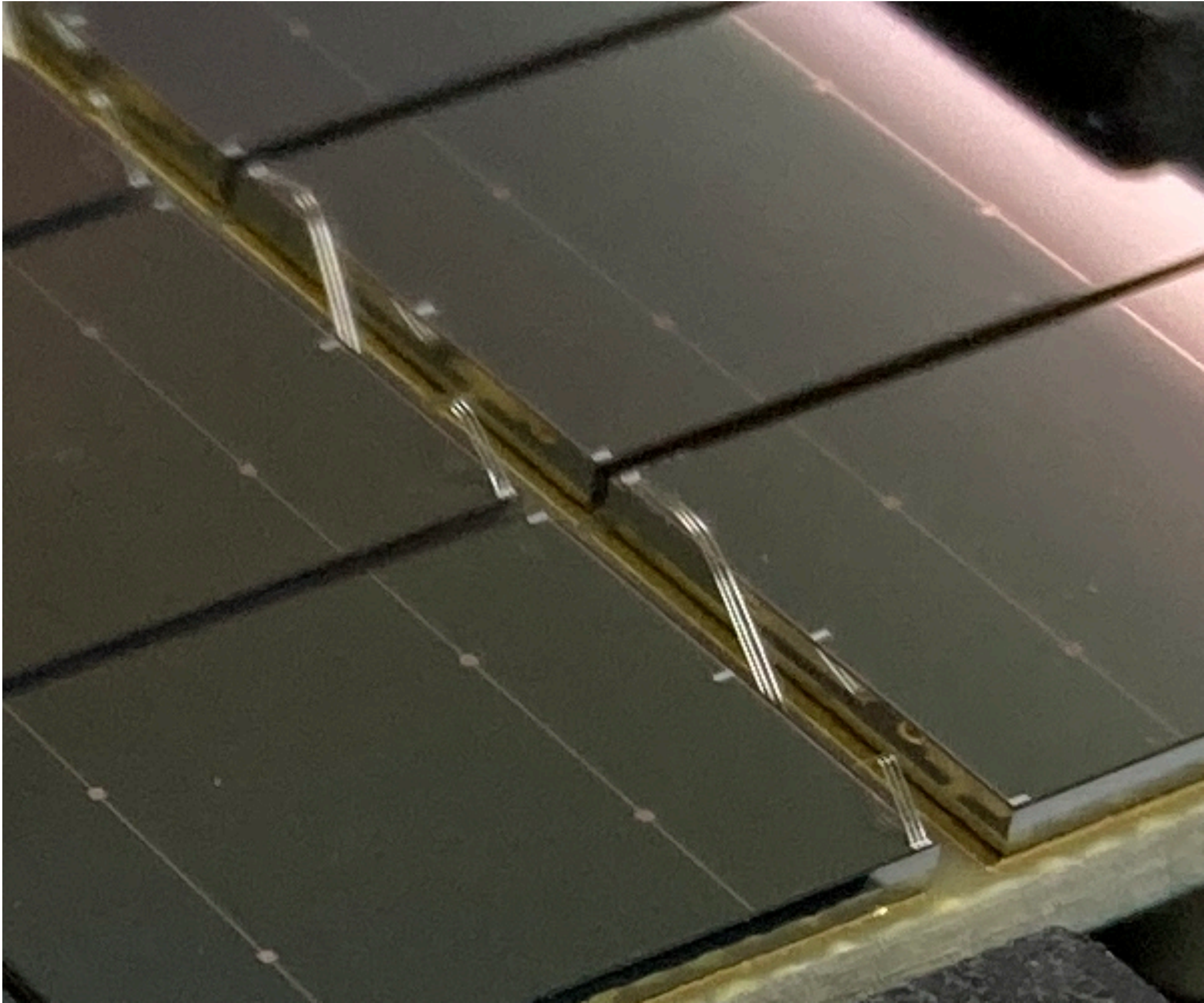
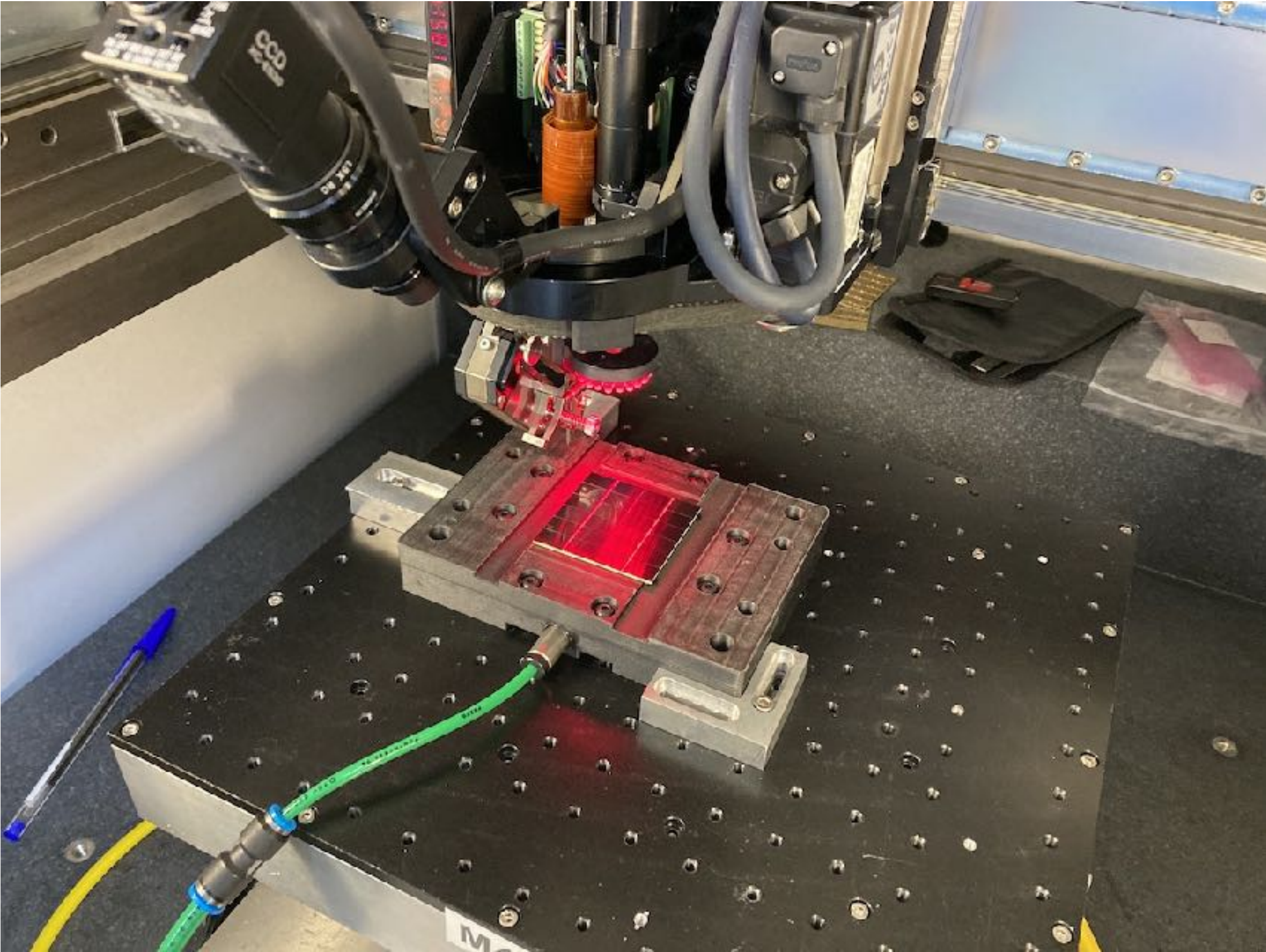


**Indium solder paste deposition
(front-side)**



**SiPM alignment stencil
(chemically etched)**

Wirebonding



Veto schematic

