

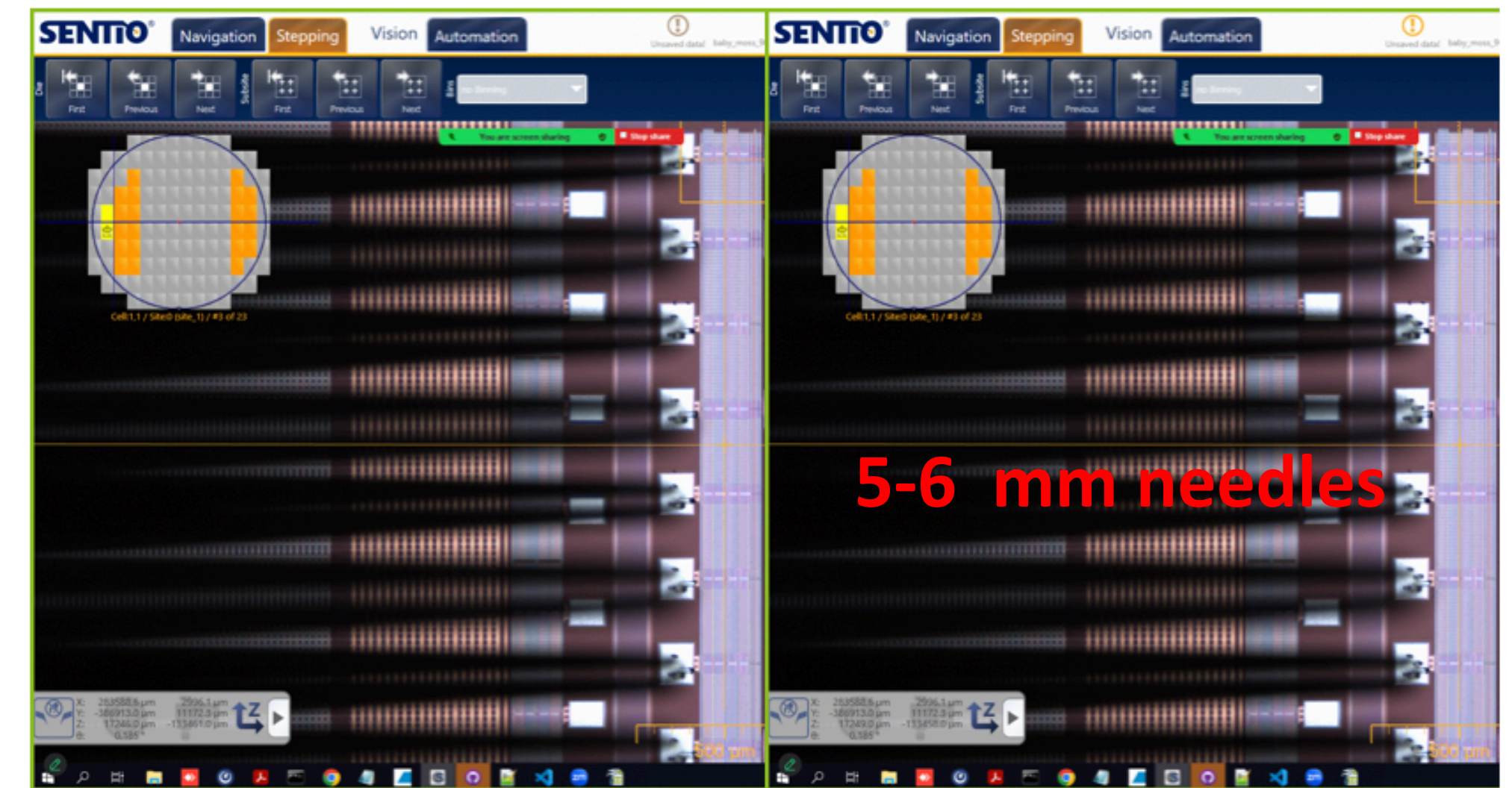


MOSAIX/LAS Wafer Probing

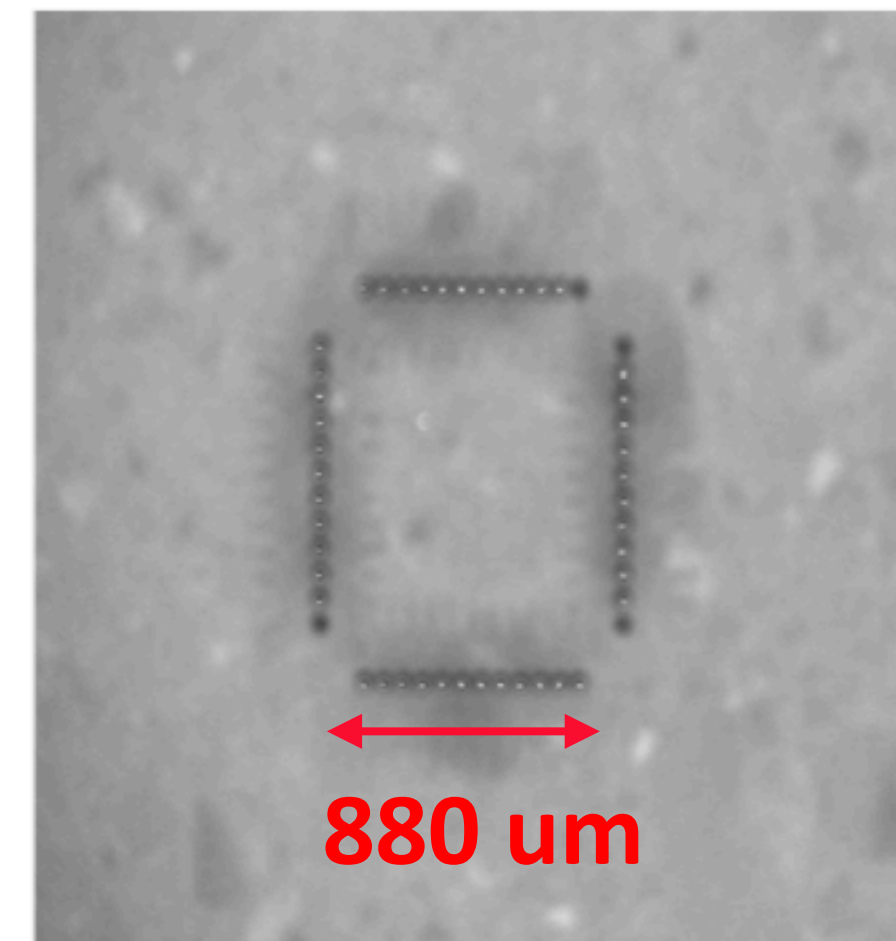
Ivan Amos Calì for the SVT WP2
SVT Working Meeting
09/07/2025

INTRODUCTION

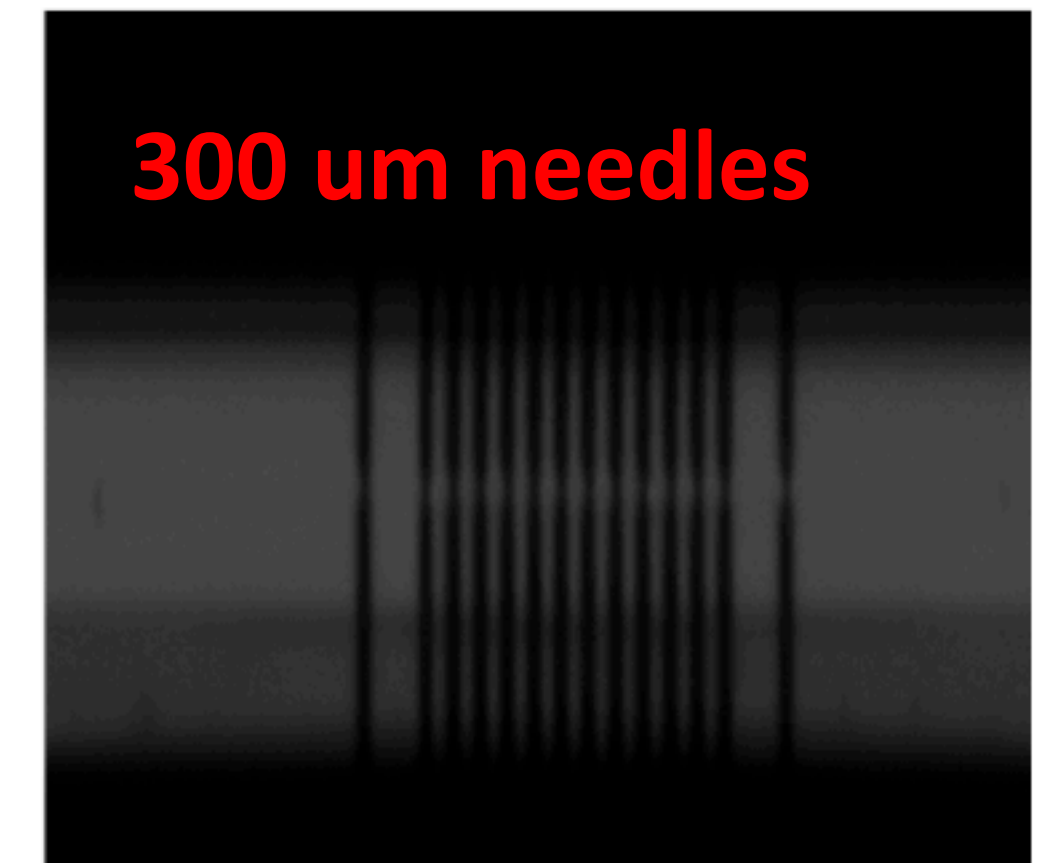
- MOSAIX and LAS will have 10.24 Gbps data links:
 - Standard cantilever probe cards **cannot** be used to **fully characterize** the sensor because limited at few hundred Mbps
 - **Vertical probing** allows operation at > 10 GHz. A prototype probe card was created to validate the technology
- SVT will need 300-400(?) wafers (considering yield and spares). Time needed for characterize 1 MOSAIX/LAS:
 - 12-24h if read out at low speed (160 Mbps)
 - 0.25-1 h if readout at high speed (10 Gbps)
- Automatization and fast readout is critical to the project
- Collective effects studies require parallel readout of multiple MOSAIX



Cantilever needles



Chuck camera view of the needles



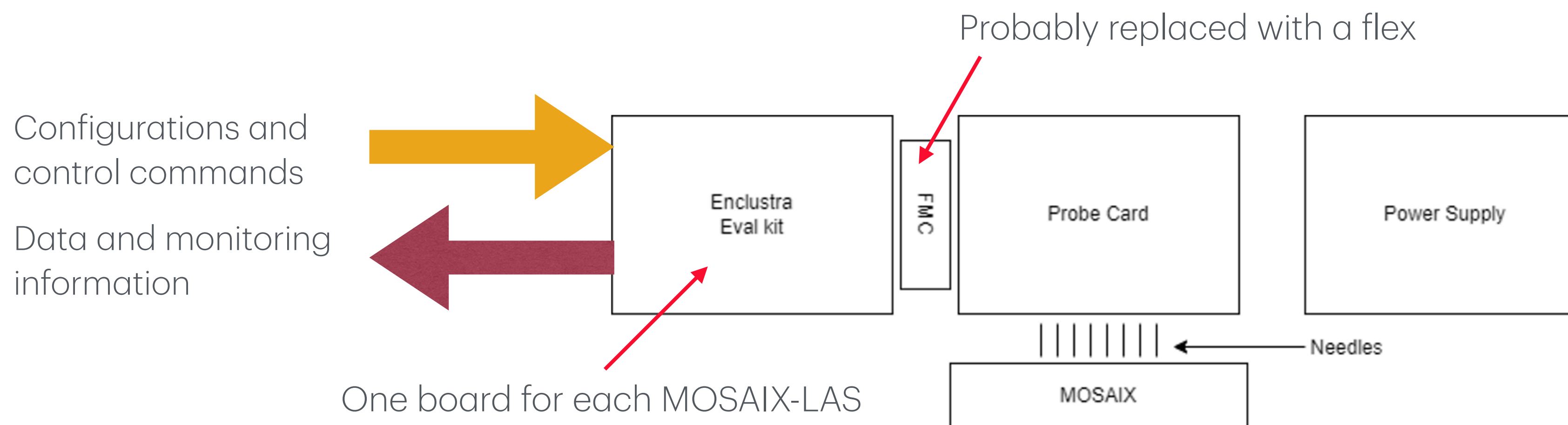
Side camera view of the needles

Cantilever needles

WAFER PROBING GENERAL APPROACH



- Develop general purpose HW that can be used in several wafer probing sites and with different level of performance:
 - **High performance:** RF Vertical probing 300 mm machines
 - **Low performance:** cantilever technology
- ITS3 is developing a probe card with cantilever technology while SVT is developing a probe card with vertical probing technology. SVT will deliver a cantilever probe card if needed.
- General Purpose readout and control hardware and software for MOSAIX
- Dedicated automated software for wafer prober MPI (CERN/MIT, Prague), Formfactor (CERN, ONRL, BNL) and ...



WAFER PROBING STATION at CERN

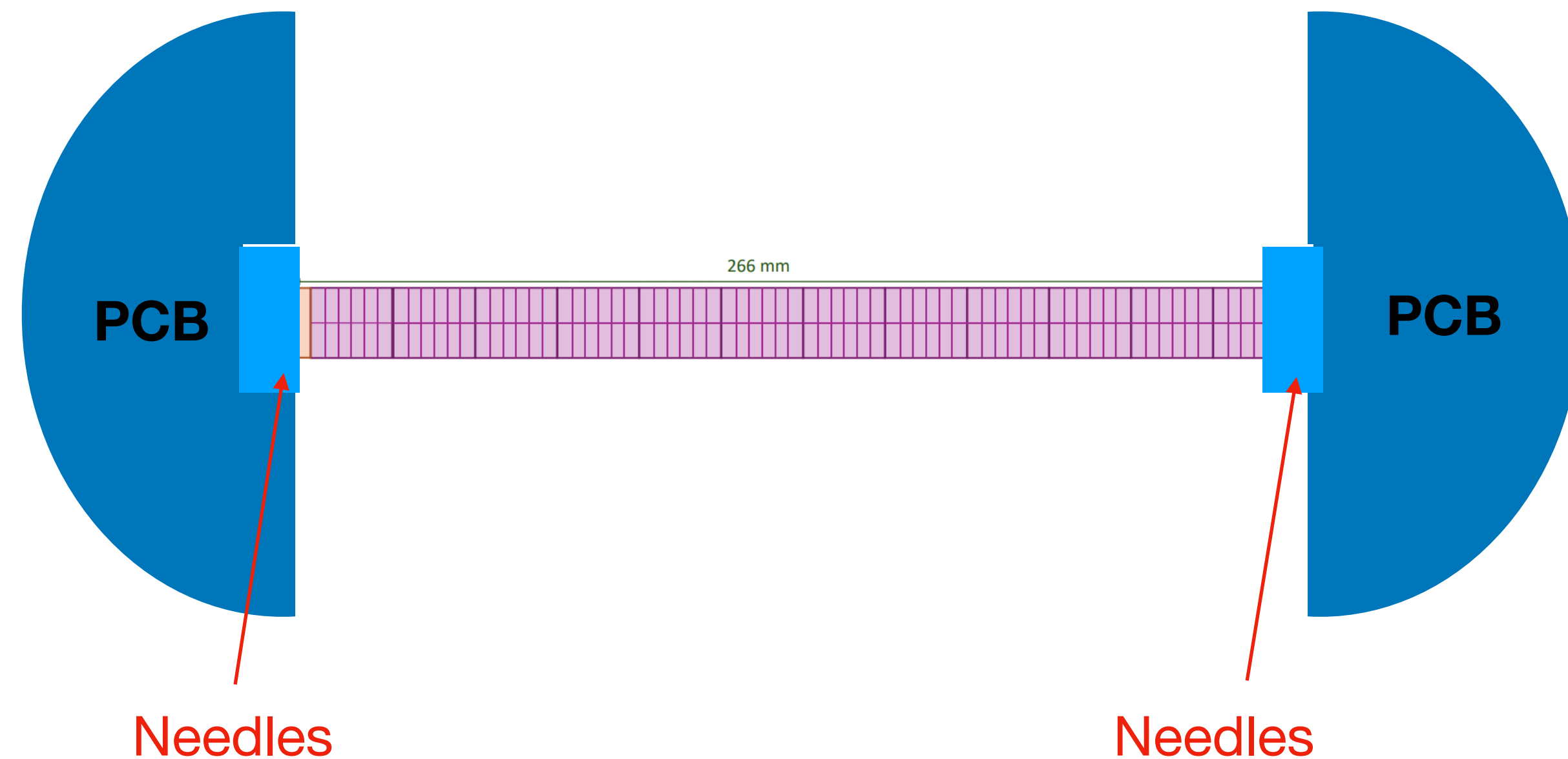


- MPI TS-3500 SE Automated test system
 - Installed at CERN in the DSF (Departmental Silicon Facility) lab
- Main specifications:
 - Designed to be able to load up to 300 mm (12") wafers
 - **Micro-holes (200 um) chuck for thin wafers handling**
 - RF setup with possibility to test up to 110GHz and beyond
 - Several cameras installed: wide, **chuck, off-axis (vertical probing)**, VCE
 - Automatic Probe To Pad Alignment compensation
 - Extended probe card holder (see later)
 - Wafer wallet could be added for fully automatized process
- Goal:
 - **Commission test setup before being distributed to the institutes**
 - Test all the ITS3 ER2 wafers + (N) SVT ER2 wafers
 - Participate in the SVT production testing



PROBE CARD concept design1

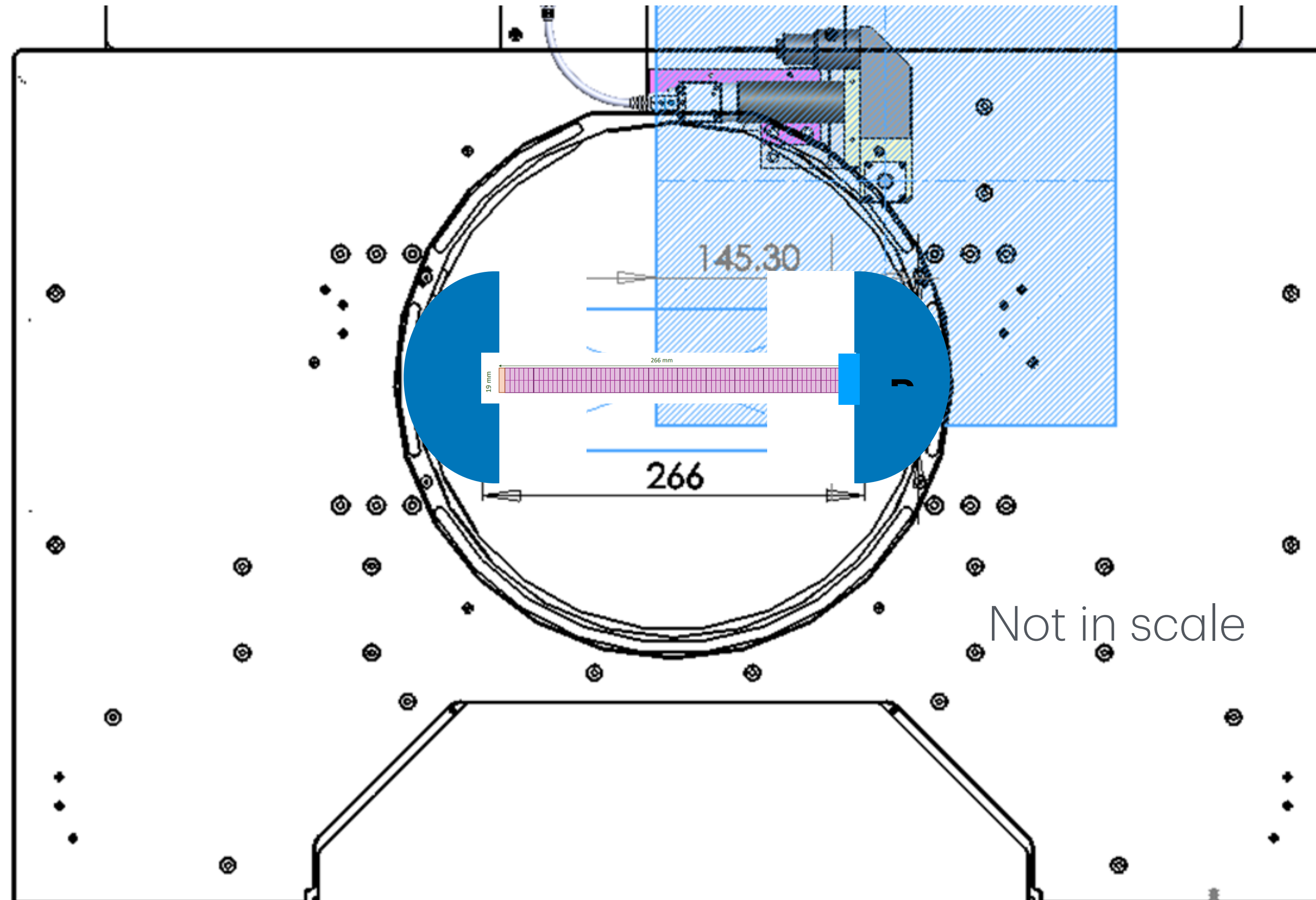
- It allows irradiation, laser and thermal camera studies
- It **can** be easily extended to multipoint only for MOSAIX but not for LAS
- Probe card extend in the space between the sensor and the top wafer prober hole
- Plan B



WAFER PROBING STATION at CERN



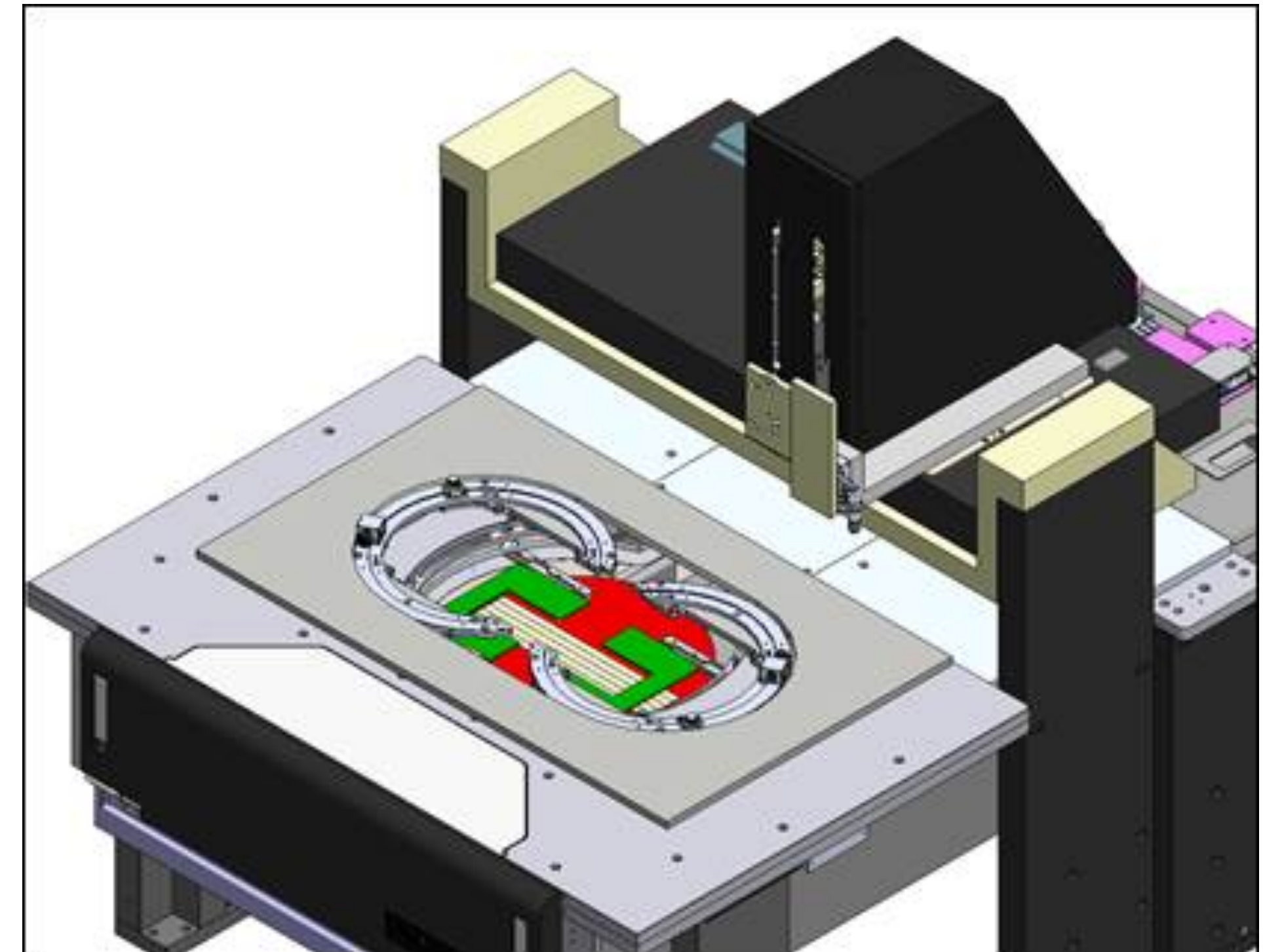
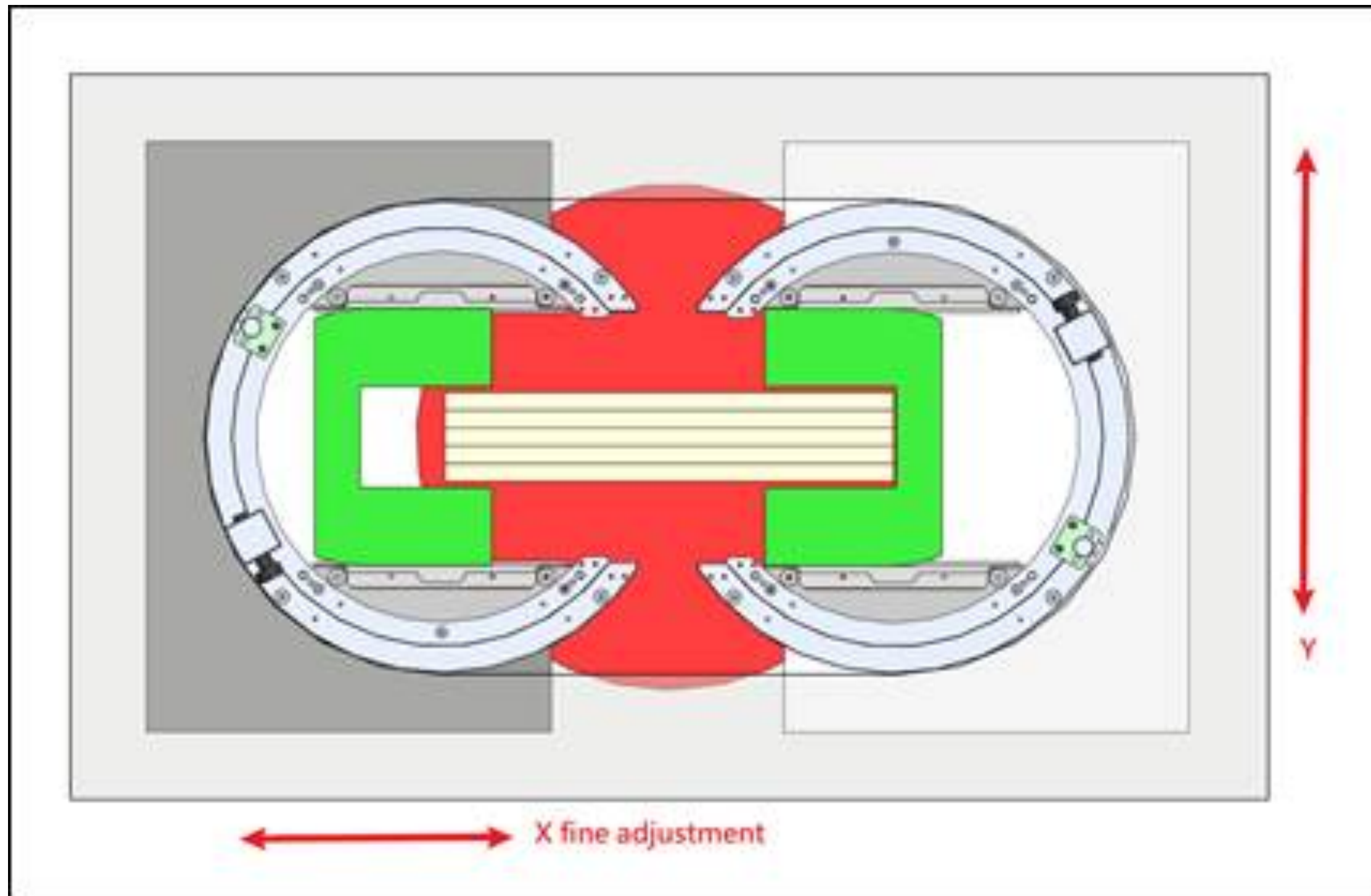
- Extended hole for probe card holder



DESIGN WITH TWO PROBE CARD HOLDER



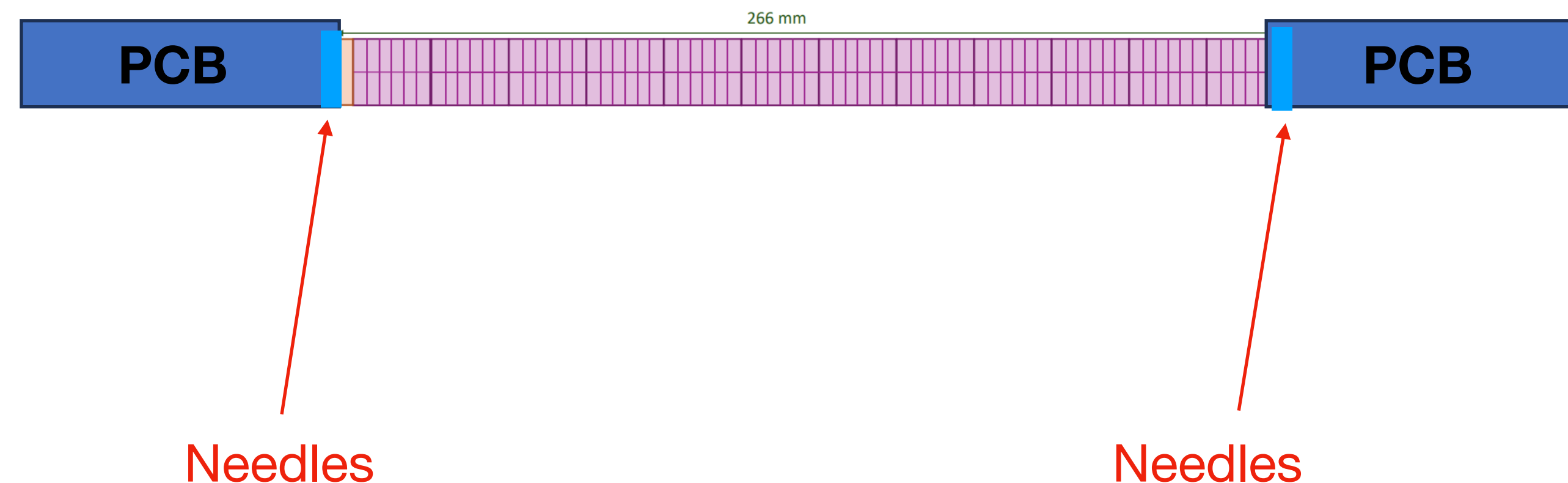
- It allows vertical probing for LEC and cantilever for REC



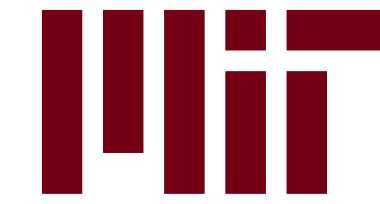
PROBE CARD concept design 2



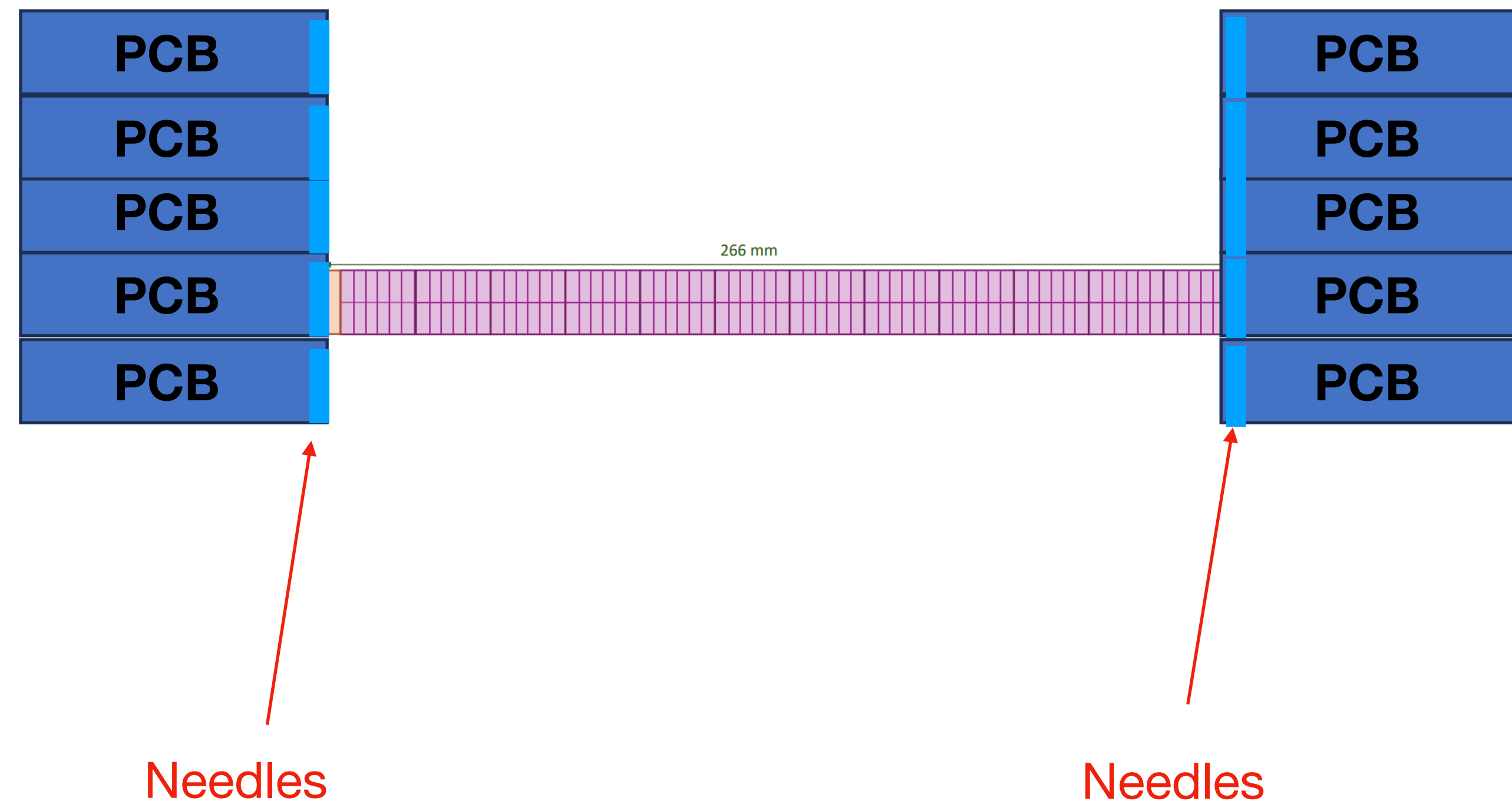
- It allows irradiation and thermal camera studies
- It can be easily extended to multipoint for MOSAIX and LAS
- Engineering challenge because of low space between the needles and the end of the PCB (400 μm)



PROBE CARD concept design 2 Multipoint



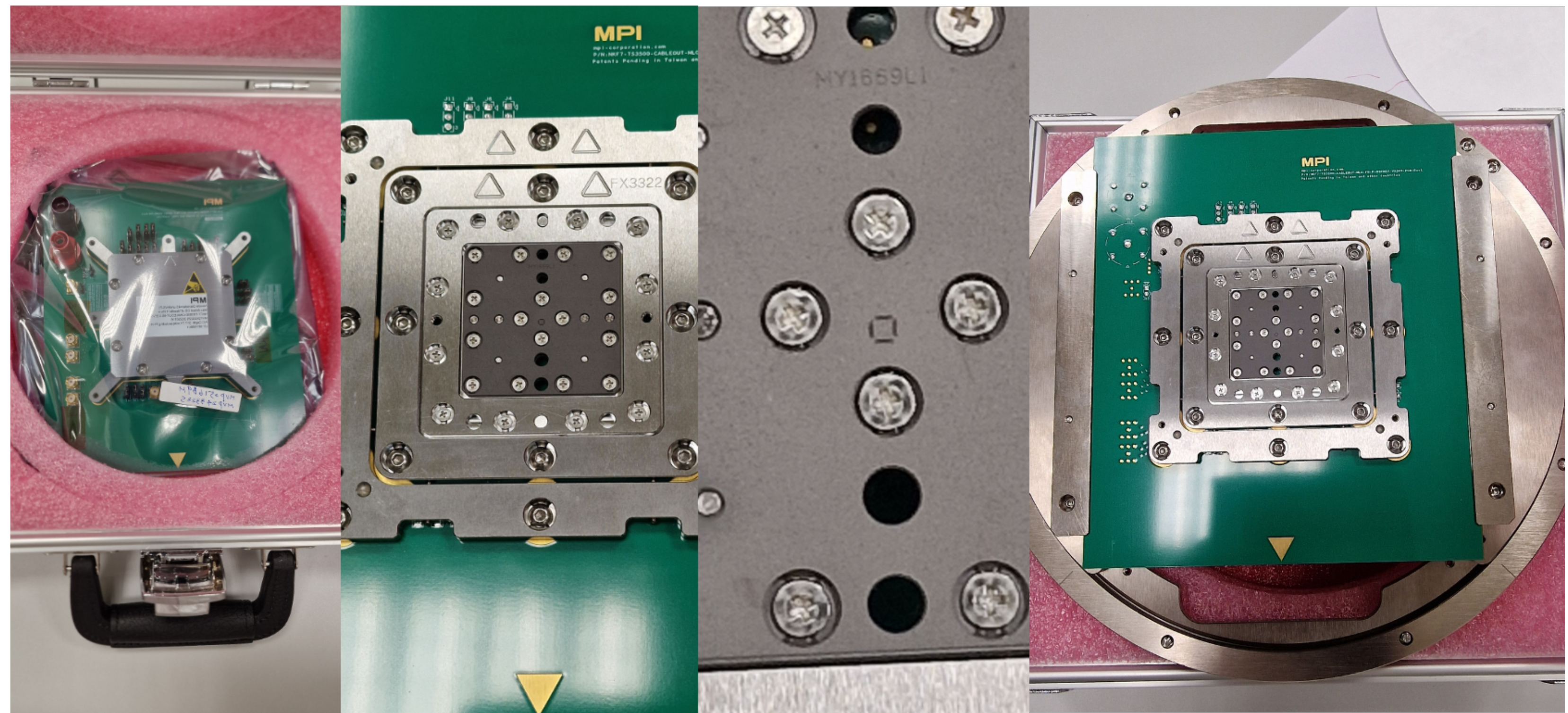
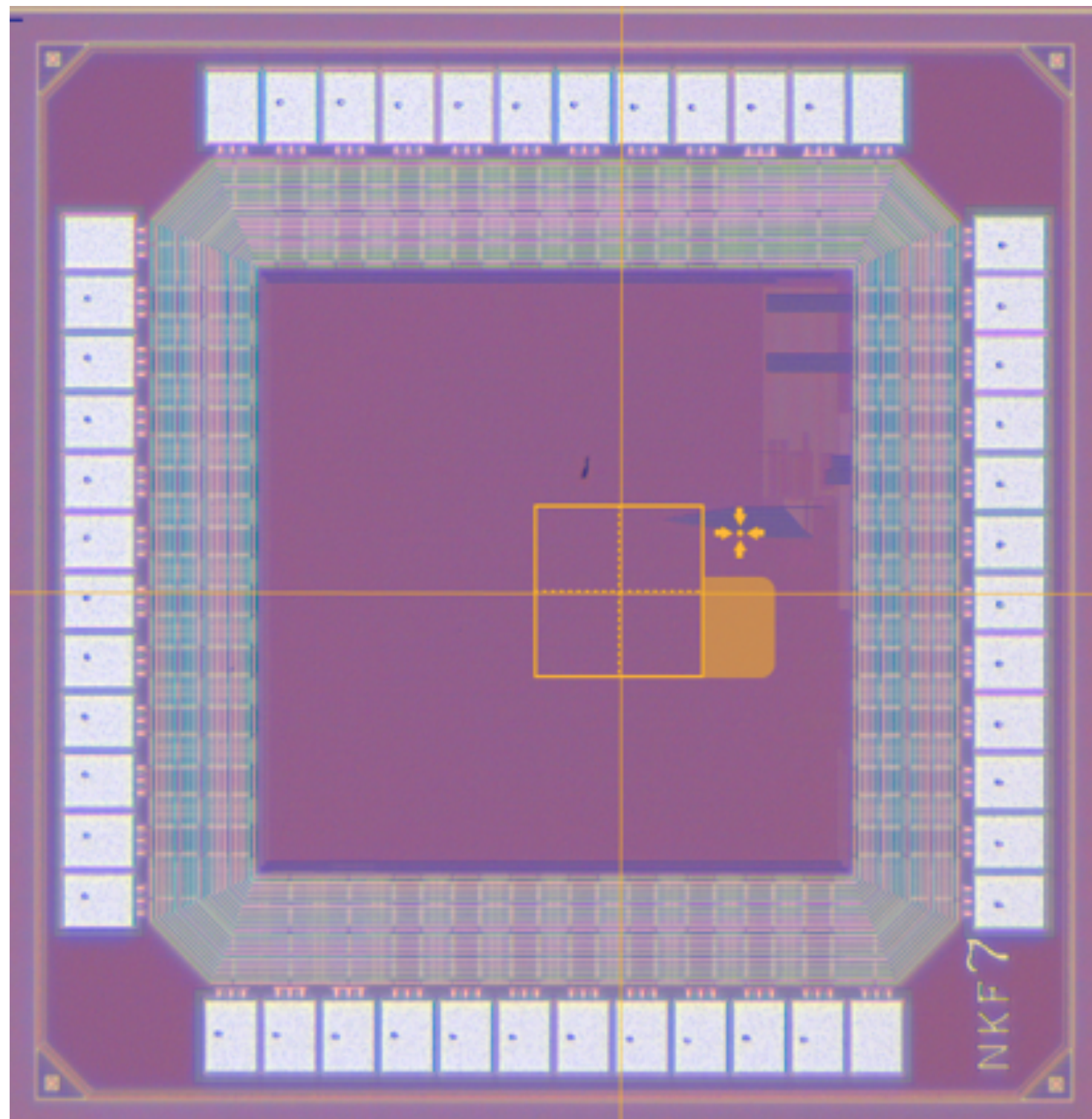
- It allows irradiation and thermal camera studies
- Extended probe card holder below wafer prober top
- Can perform multipoint for both LAS and MOSAIX



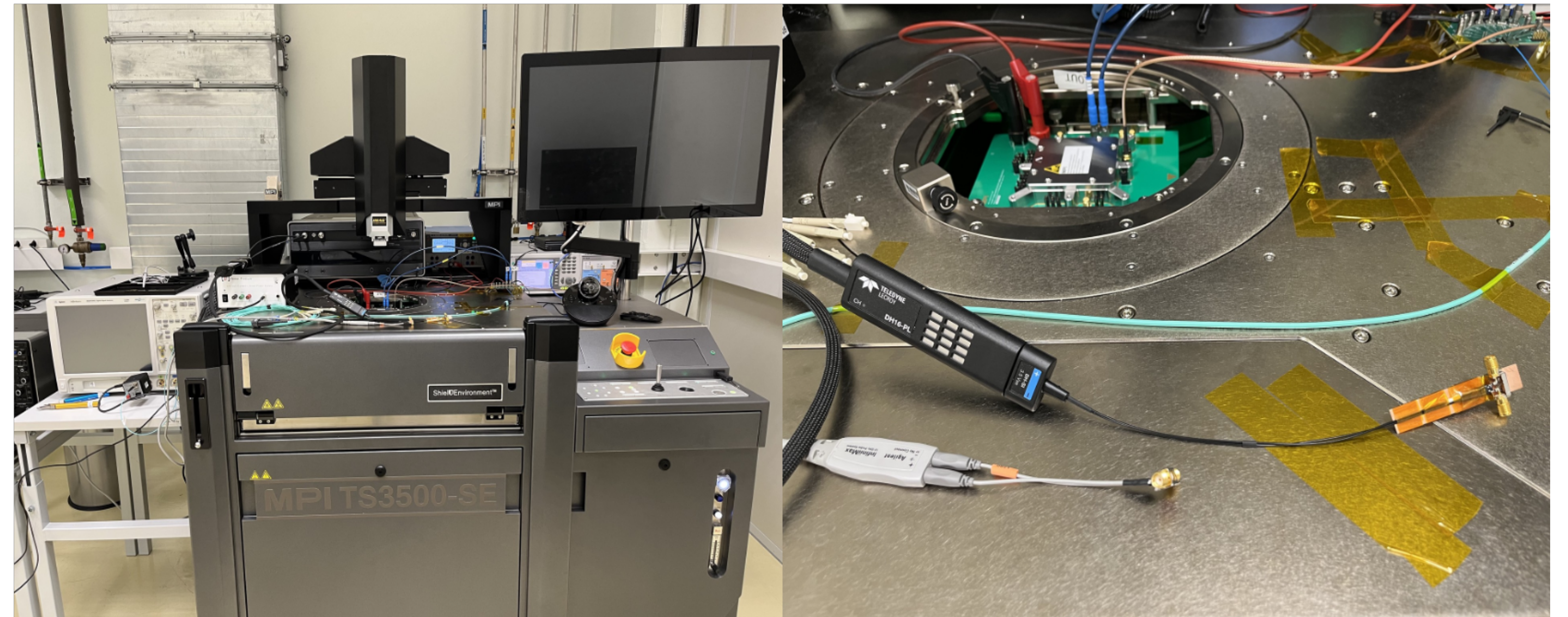
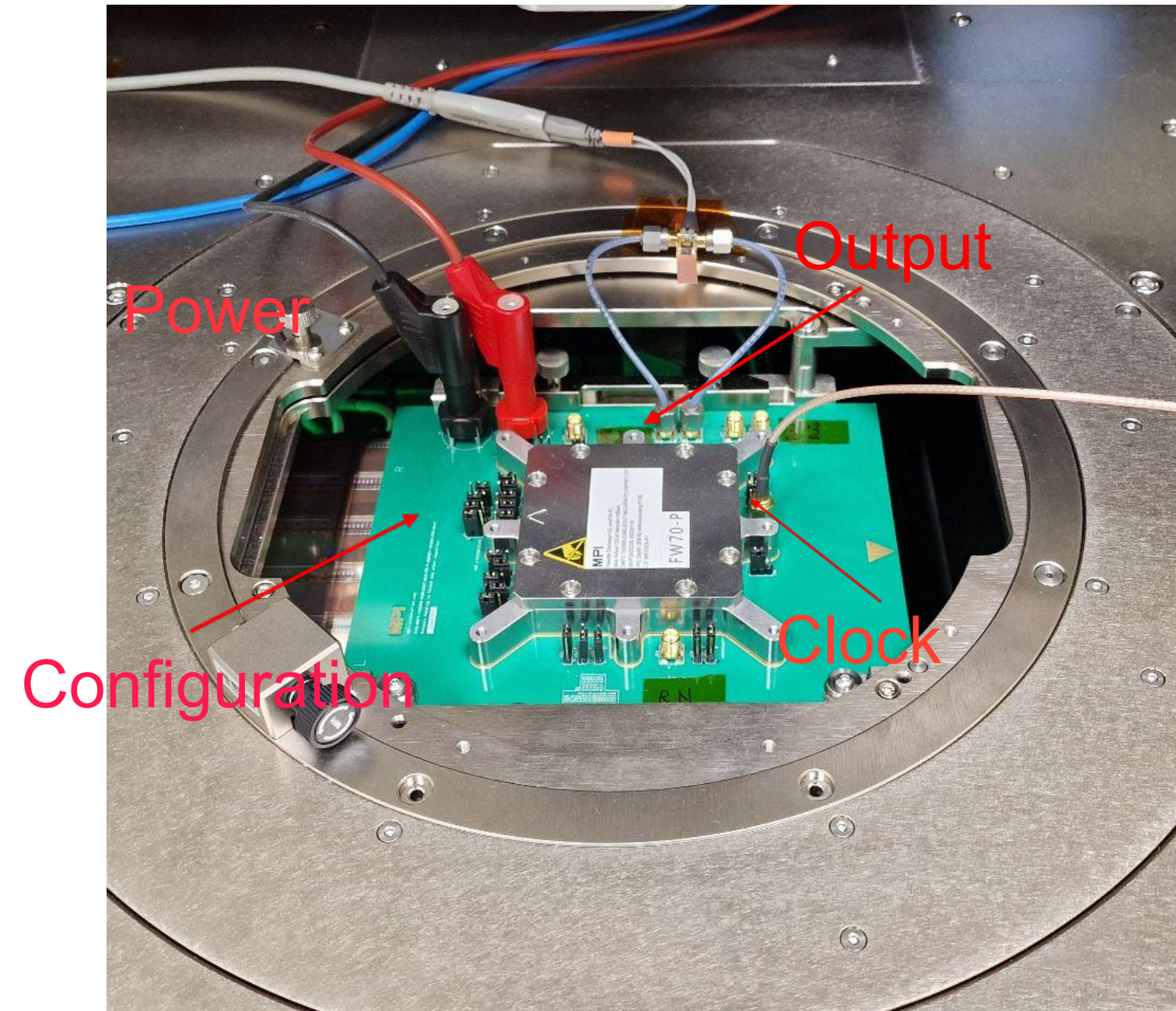
NKF7 PROBE CARD



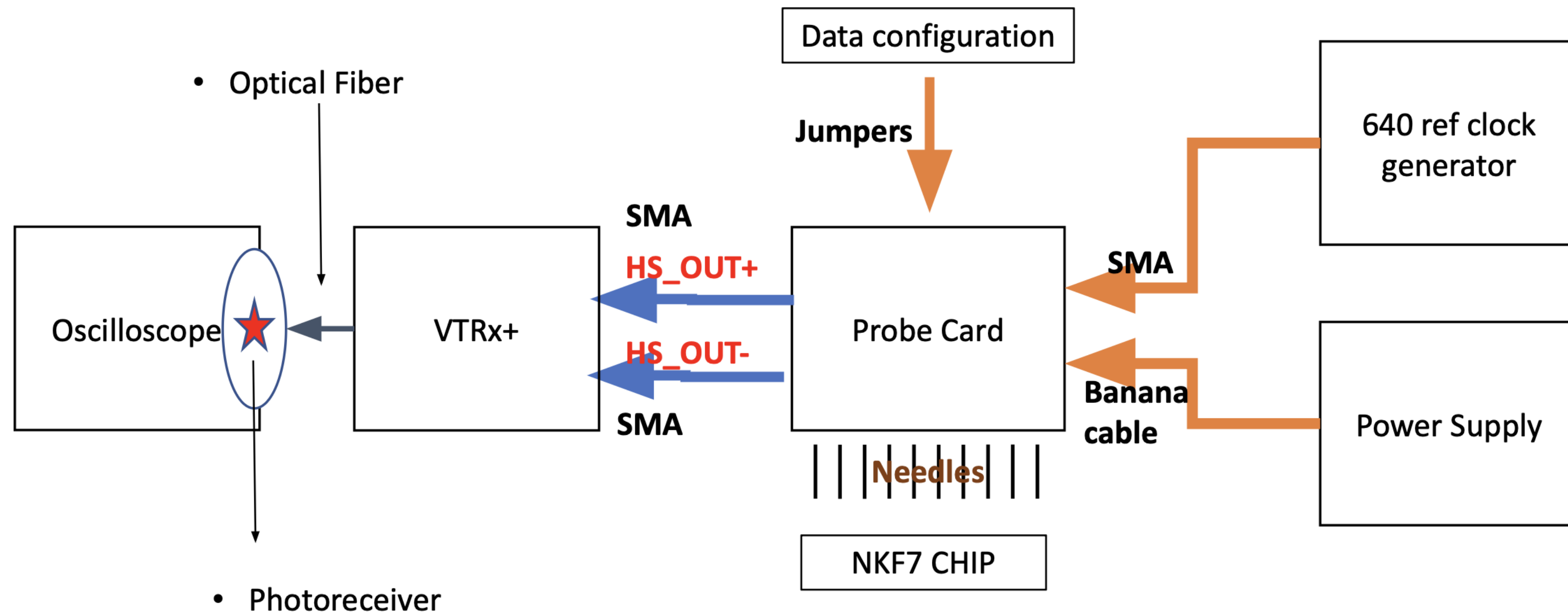
- The NKF7 is the prototype of the 10.24 Gbps link used in MOSAIX
 - It is present on the ER1 wafer as independent ASICs
 - We used it to validate the vertical probing technology and gain experience with the procedure
 - Ref clk: 640 MHz , 16 bits input



NKF7 ELECTRICAL TEST SETUP



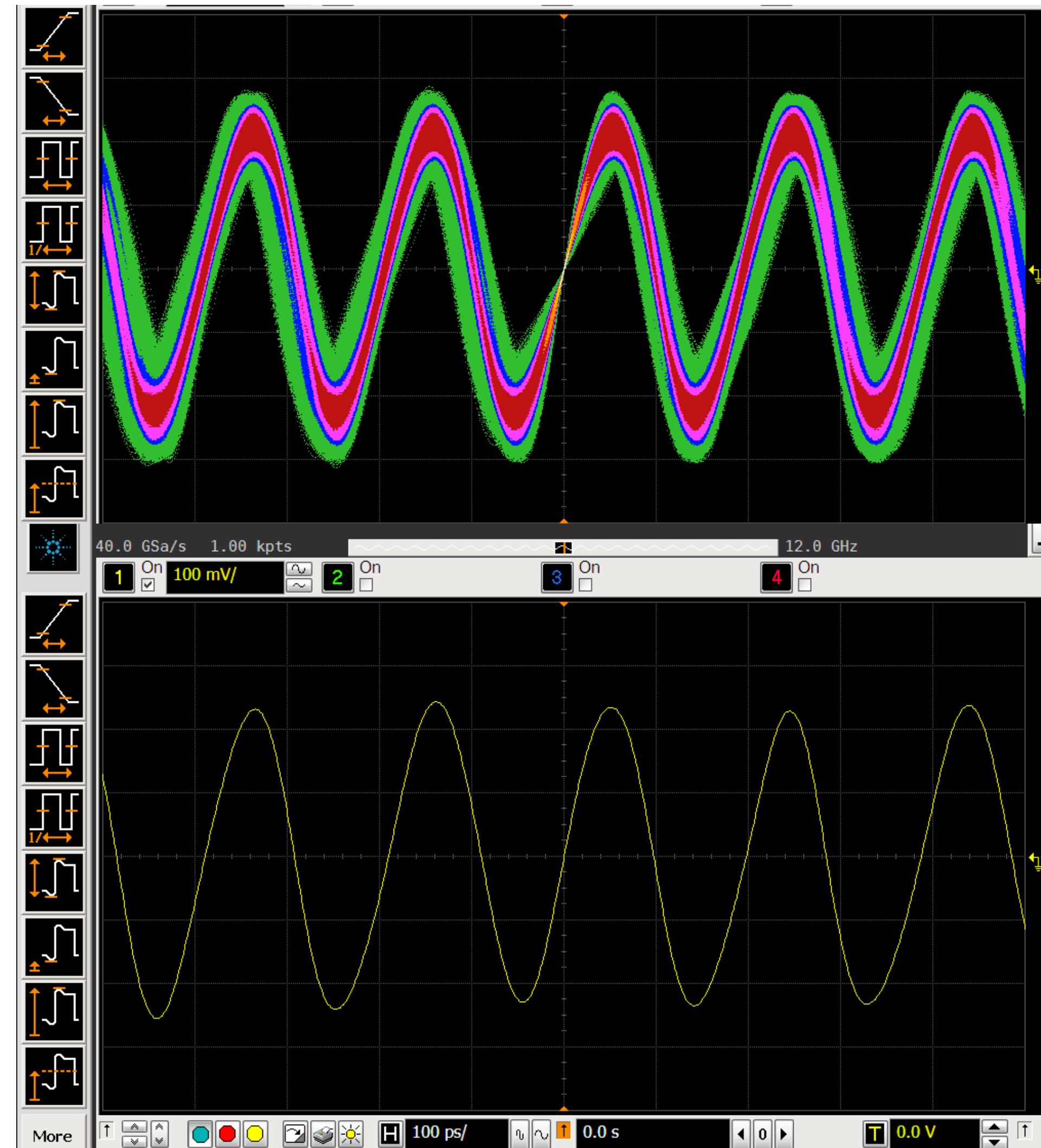
NKF7 ELECTRICAL TEST SETUP (one of many)



NKF7 ELECTRICAL TEST SETUP (one of many, 1.4 V, 25 mA)



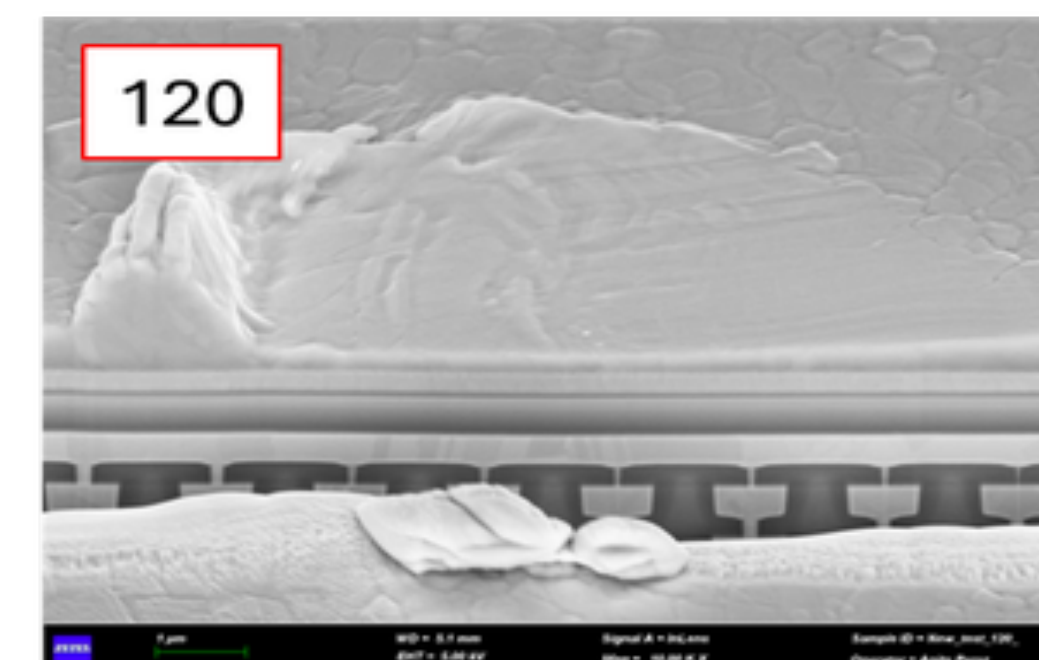
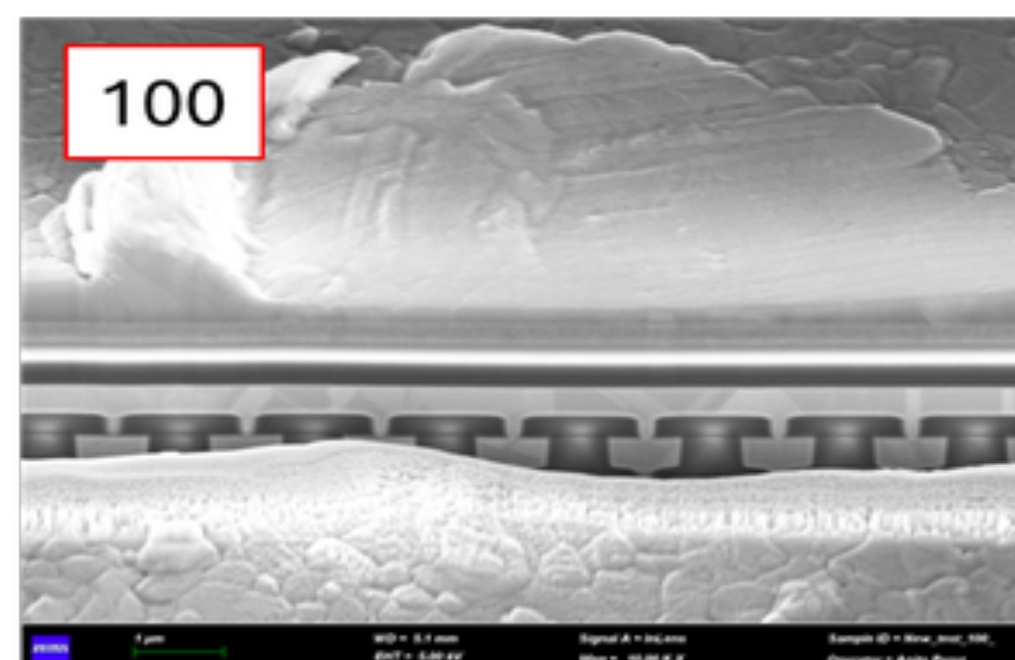
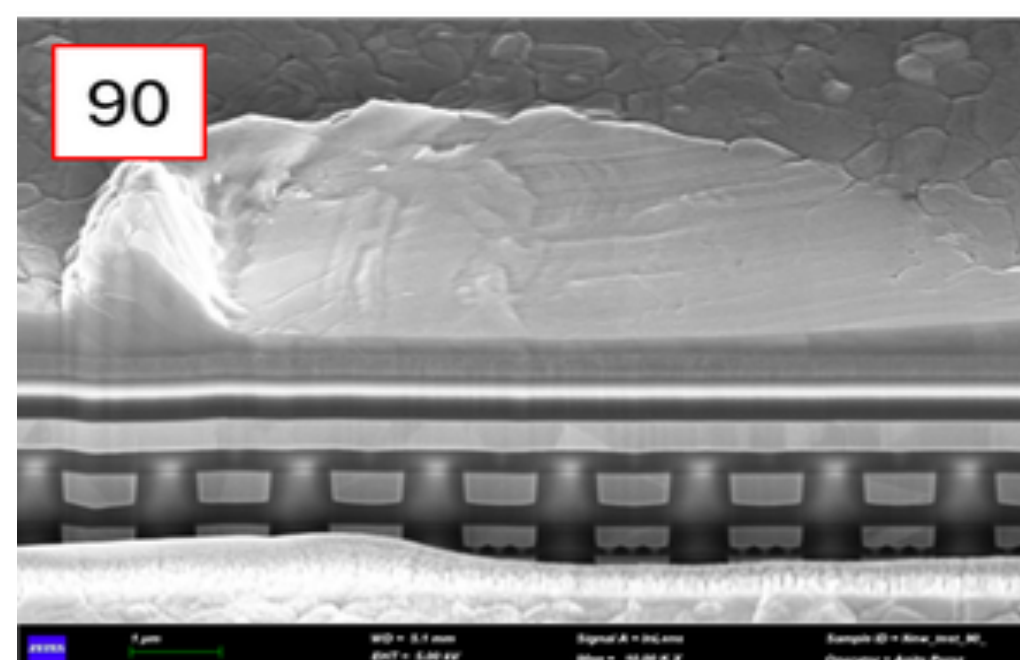
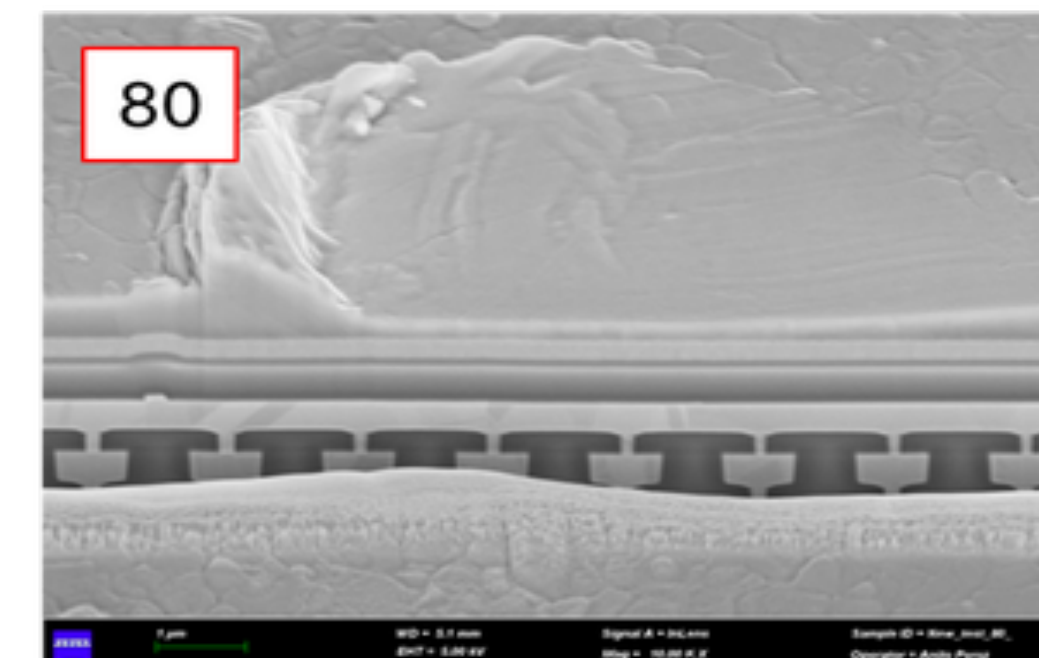
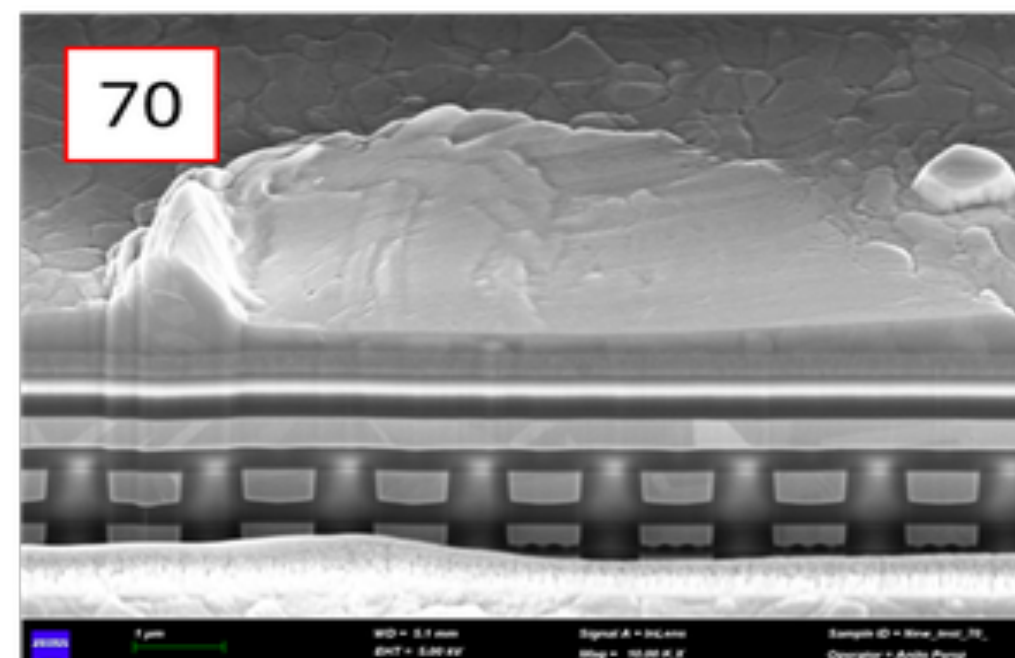
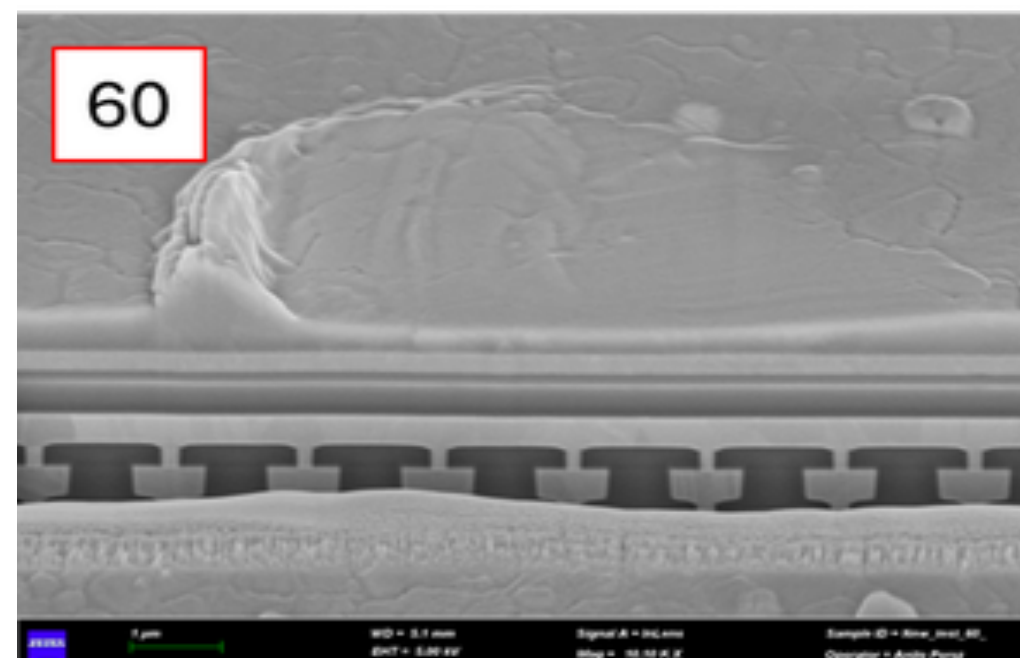
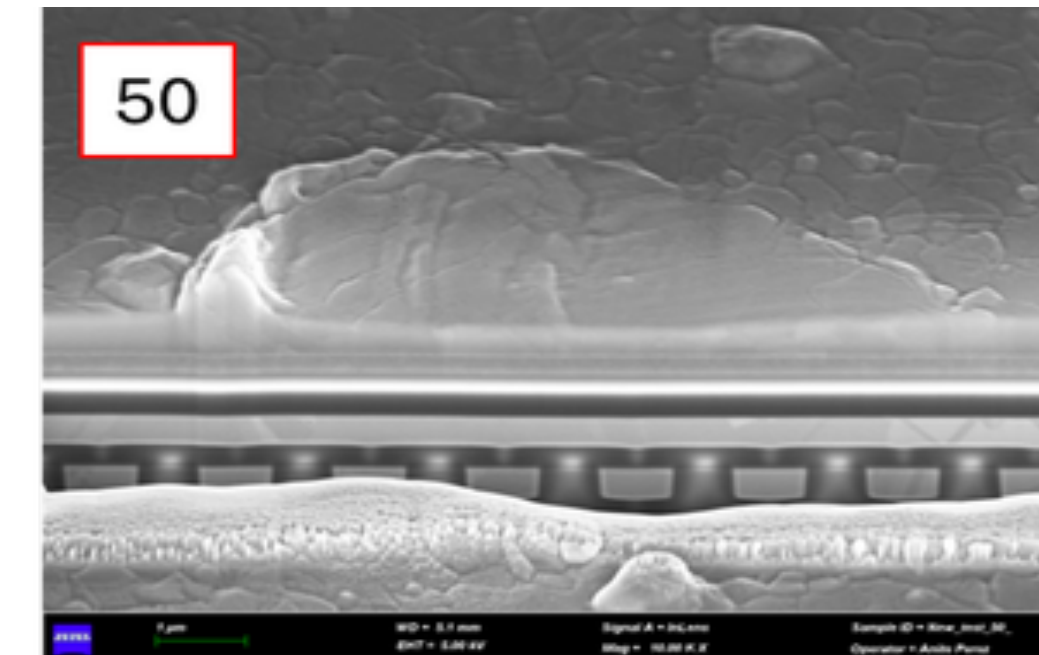
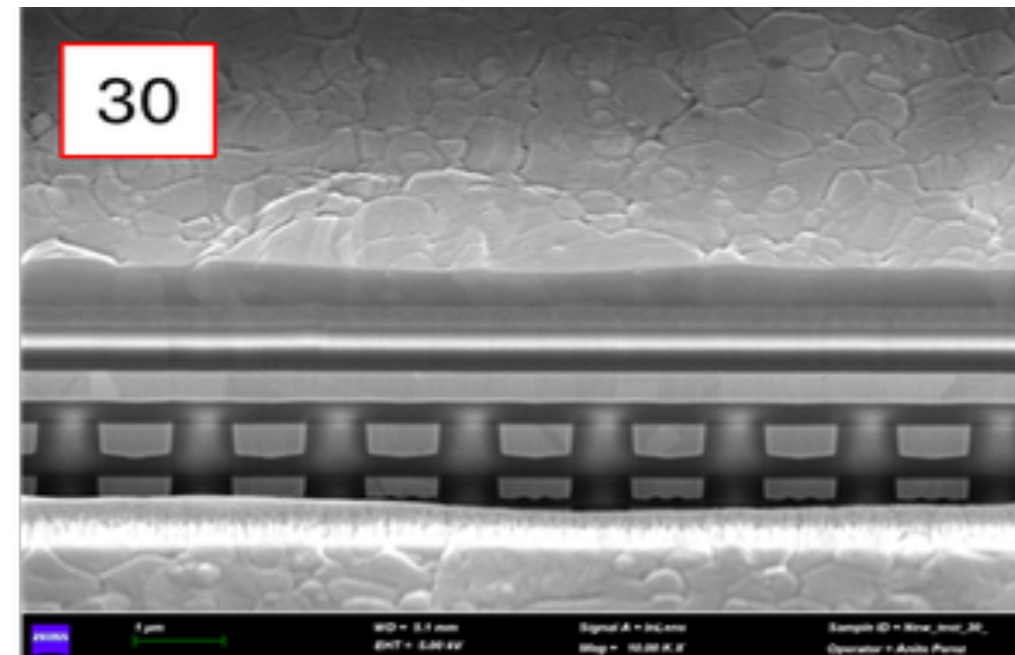
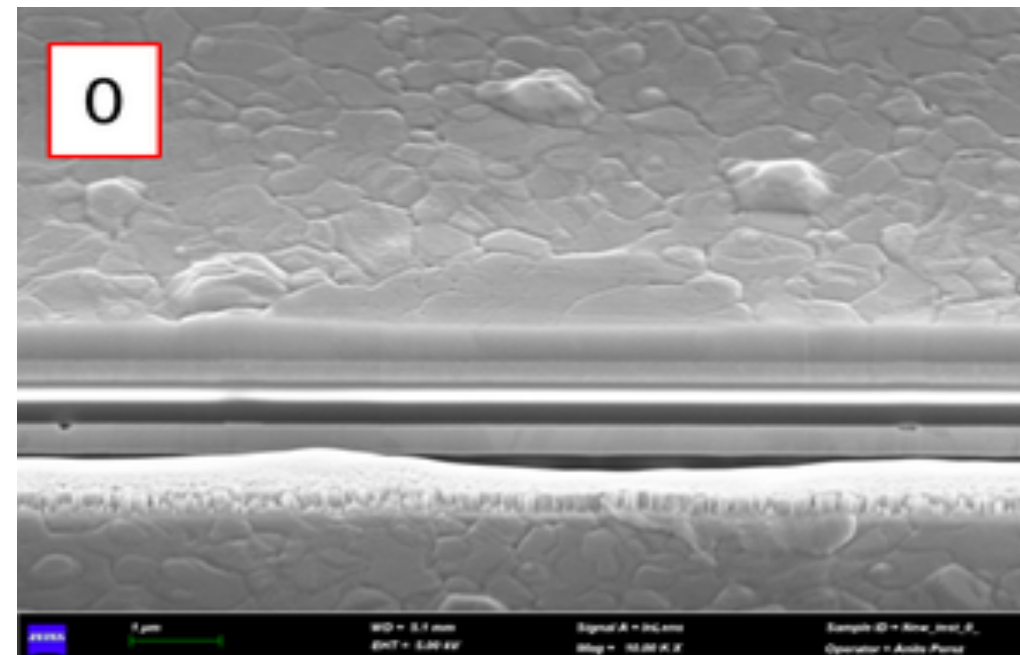
- EXAMPLE measurement!
- AGILENT 12 GHz Scope, VTRx+
- Correct amplitude observed
- Correct frequency
- Low Jitter observed



FIB-SEM IMAGES OF PAD USING EVS_80 NEEDLES



- Measured electrical characteristics at different overdrives (applied force)
 - Perfectly in specs with 70-80 OD
 - No PAD damages deformation/cracks observed



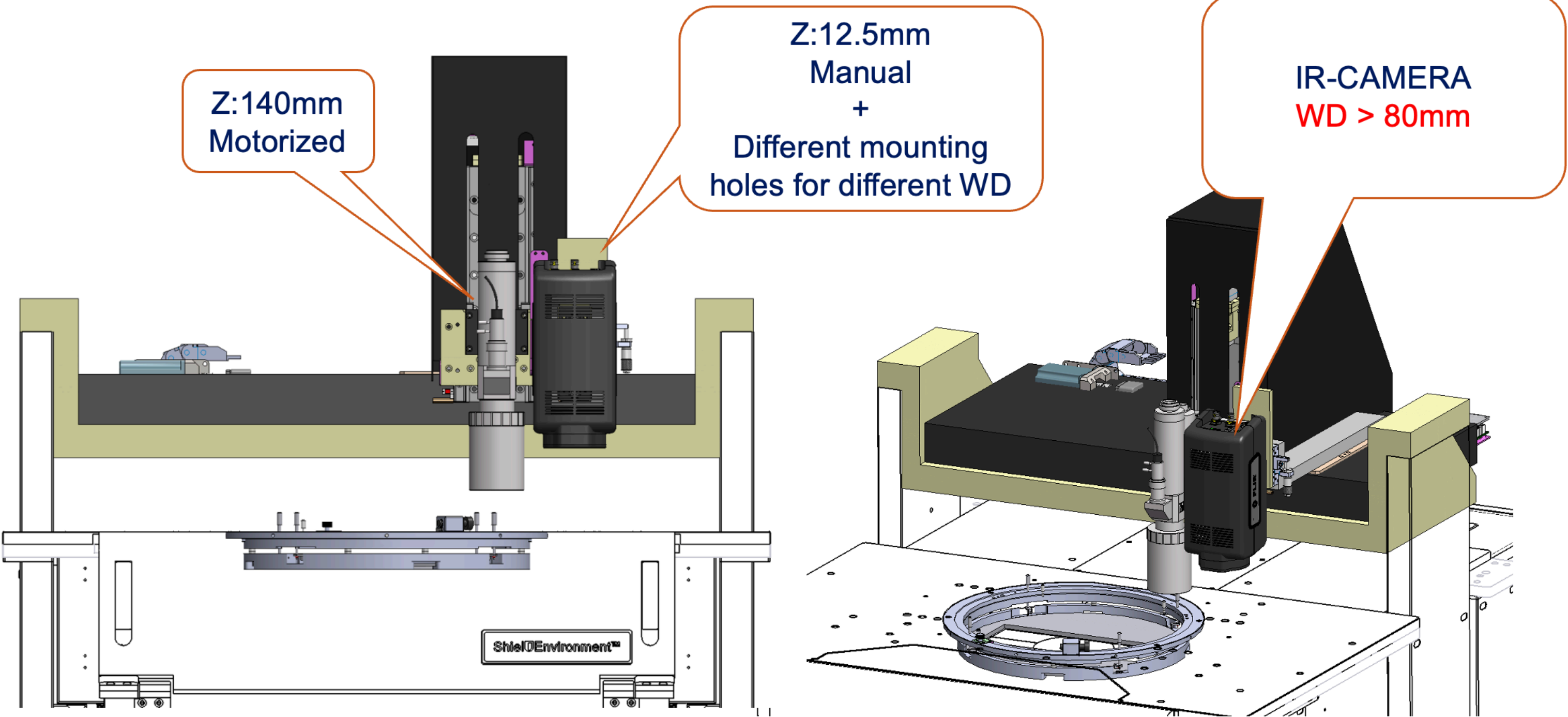
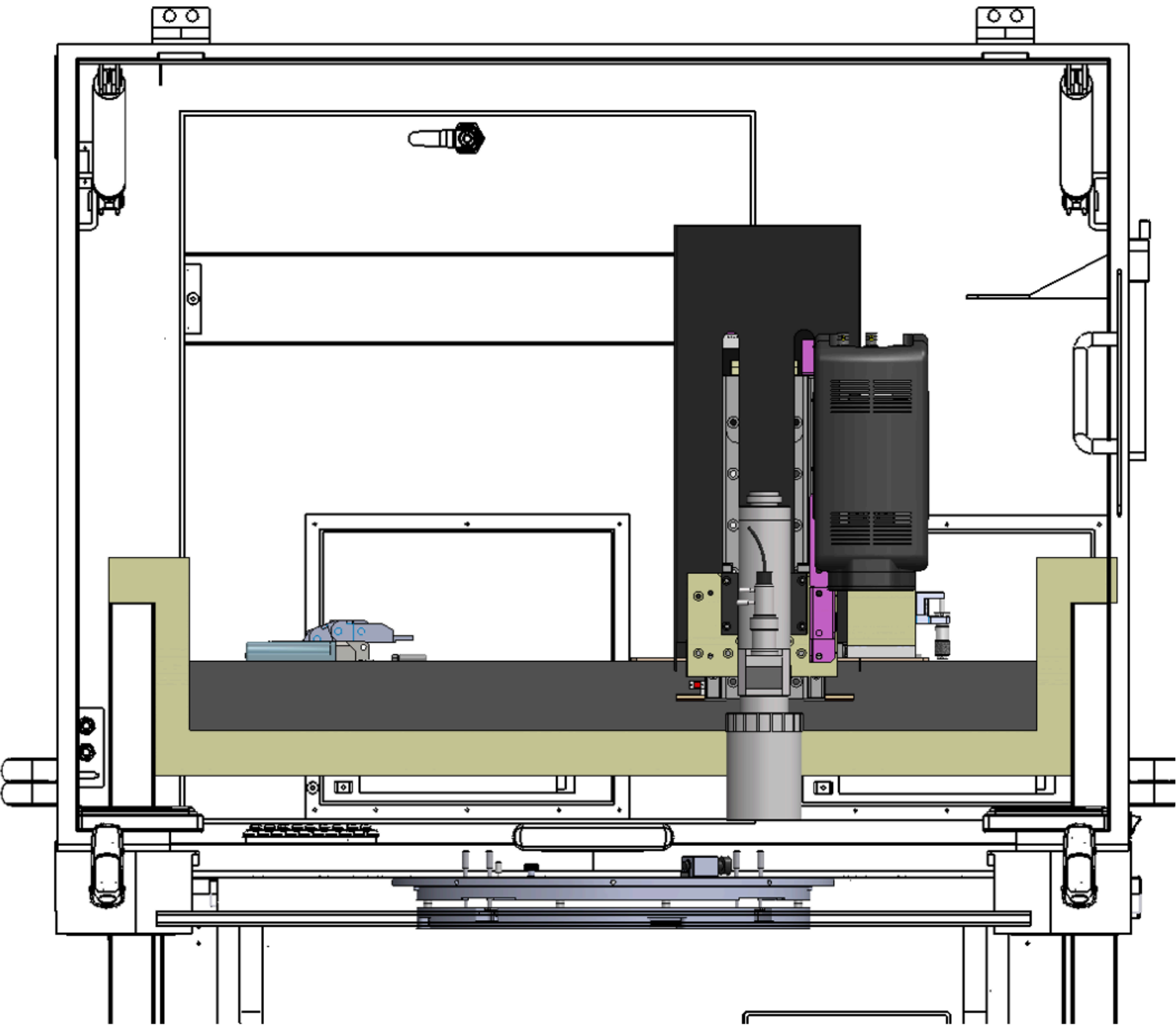
CONCLUSIONS

- Prototype probe card with vertical probe technology **fully validated**
- Design of MOSAIX probe card well advanced for single/multi point
- Design of MOSAIX/LAS probe card for multipoint still under discussion
- Probe card holder design for concept design 1 ready



BACKUP

WP UPGRADE FOR LASER/IRRADIATION/THERMAL CAMERA



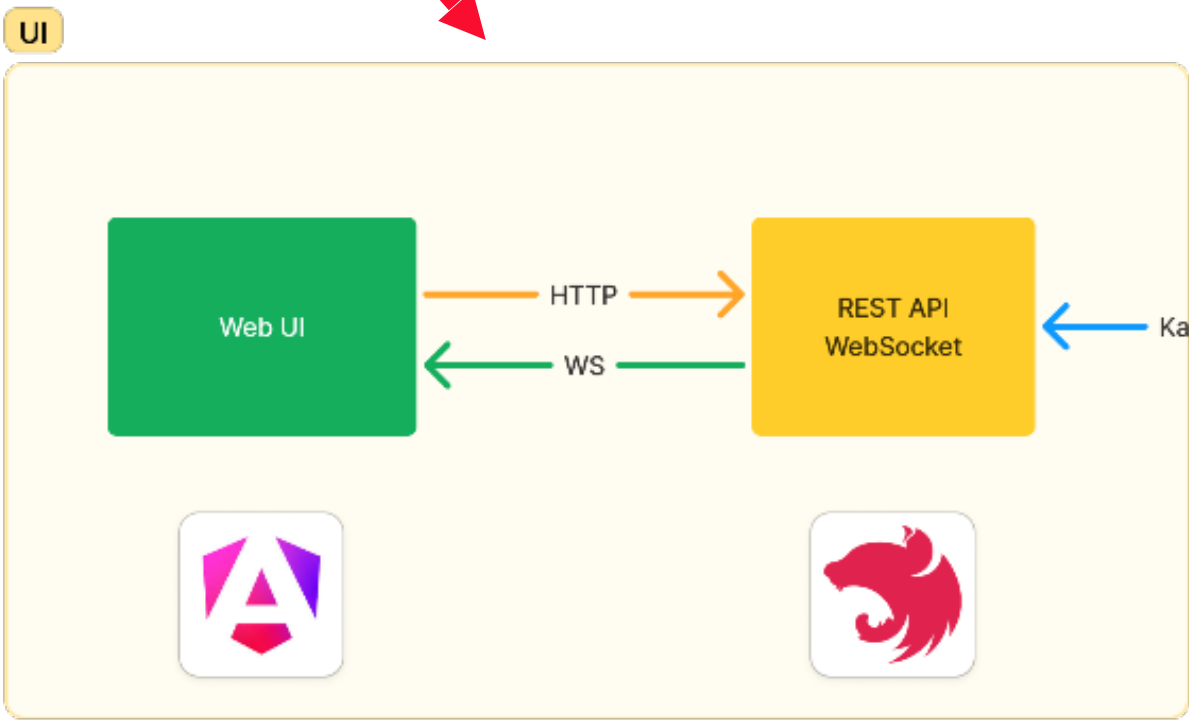
SW Block Diagram

Agents layer, **distributed**

UI produces commands and receives data to visualize. **Web Based**

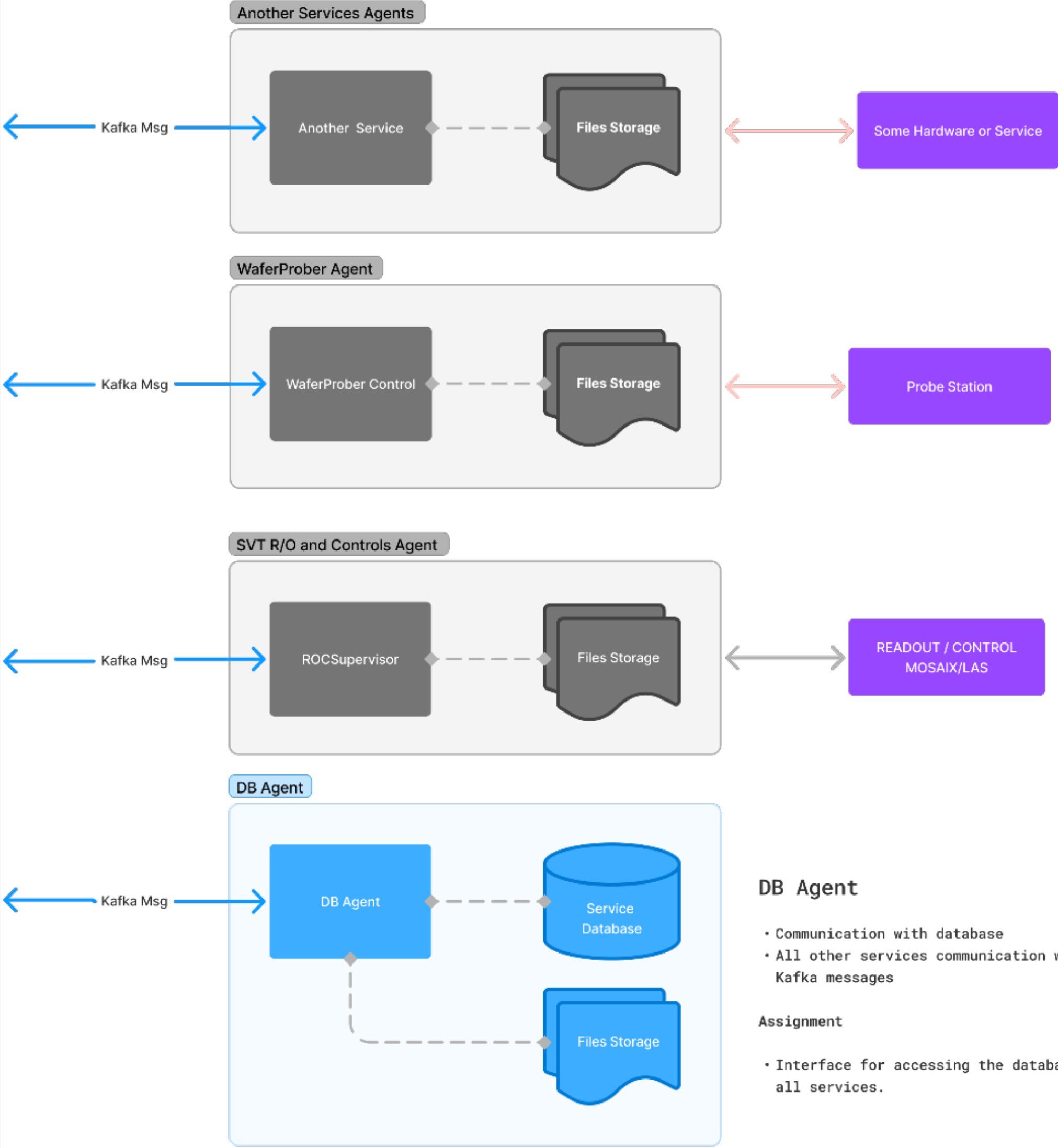
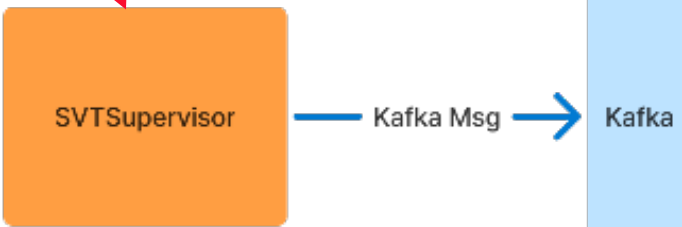
Kafka backbone, **distributed**

SVTSupervisor acts as global brain of the system. **On a dedicated server**



UI

- Web based service, consist of 2 parts:
 - Front-end
 - running in the browser
 - Back-end
 - ensure communication between other services, provides HTTP, WS, Kafka interfaces for communication
- Assignment
 - UI for start/stop operations
 - UI for data overview/analysis



DB Agent

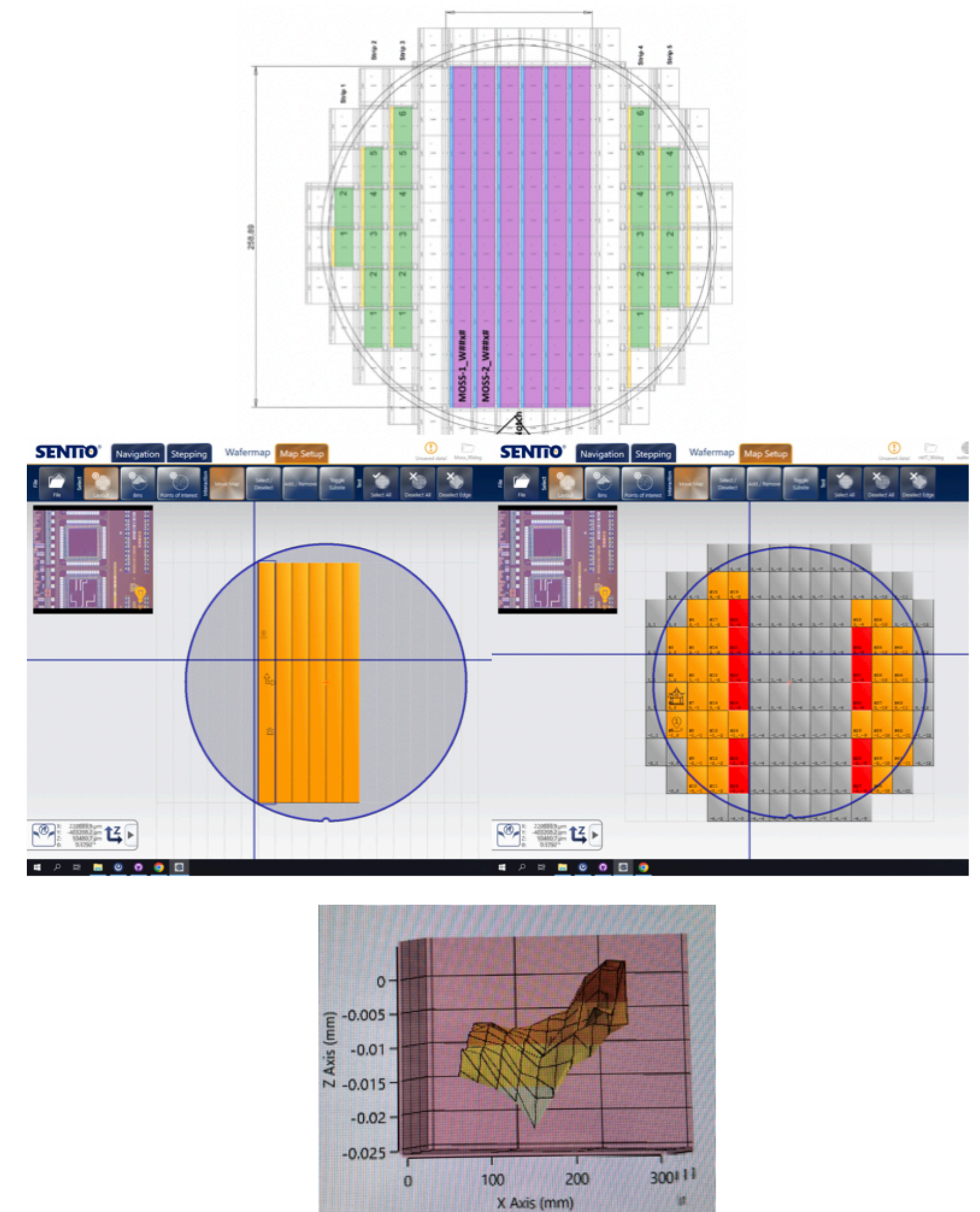
- Communication with database
- All other services communication with Kafka messages

Assignment

- Interface for accessing the database for all services.

MPI TS-3500 SE

- Probe card alignment:
 - Nickel plated steel probe platen with probe card holder
 - Two adjustments screws for z position at both sides of the
 - Inclination wheel to add a tilt
- Automatic Probe to Pad Alignment (PTPA) procedure:
 - Corrects for x, y and includes tips (z compensation)
 - Requires training of die alignment marker, pads and tips
 - Aligns needles to pad
- Wafer map automatically generated
- Topography map feature
 - Using the reflection from the light of the cameras it calculates the z differences in the wafer to ~um level



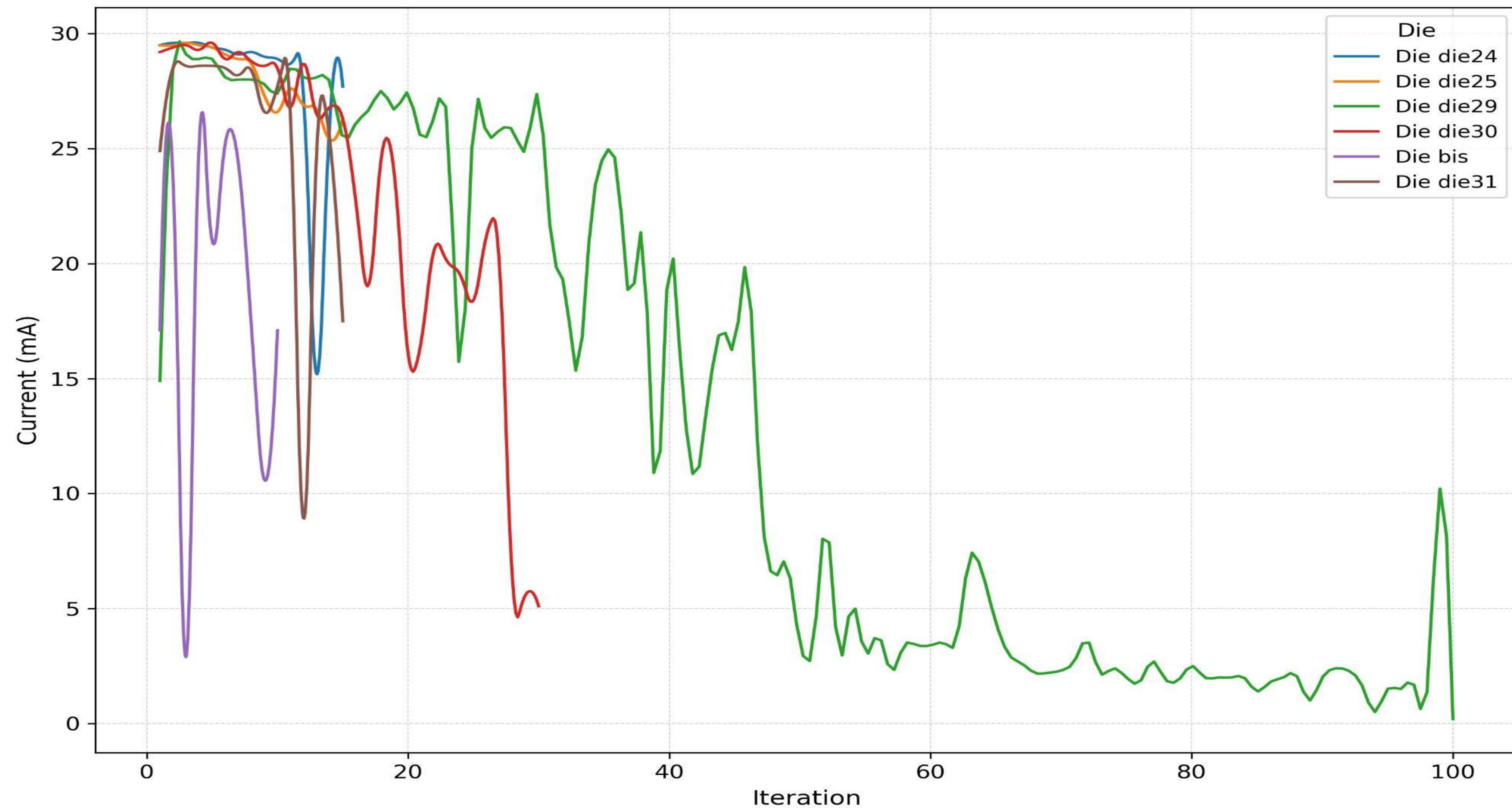
PROBE MARKS



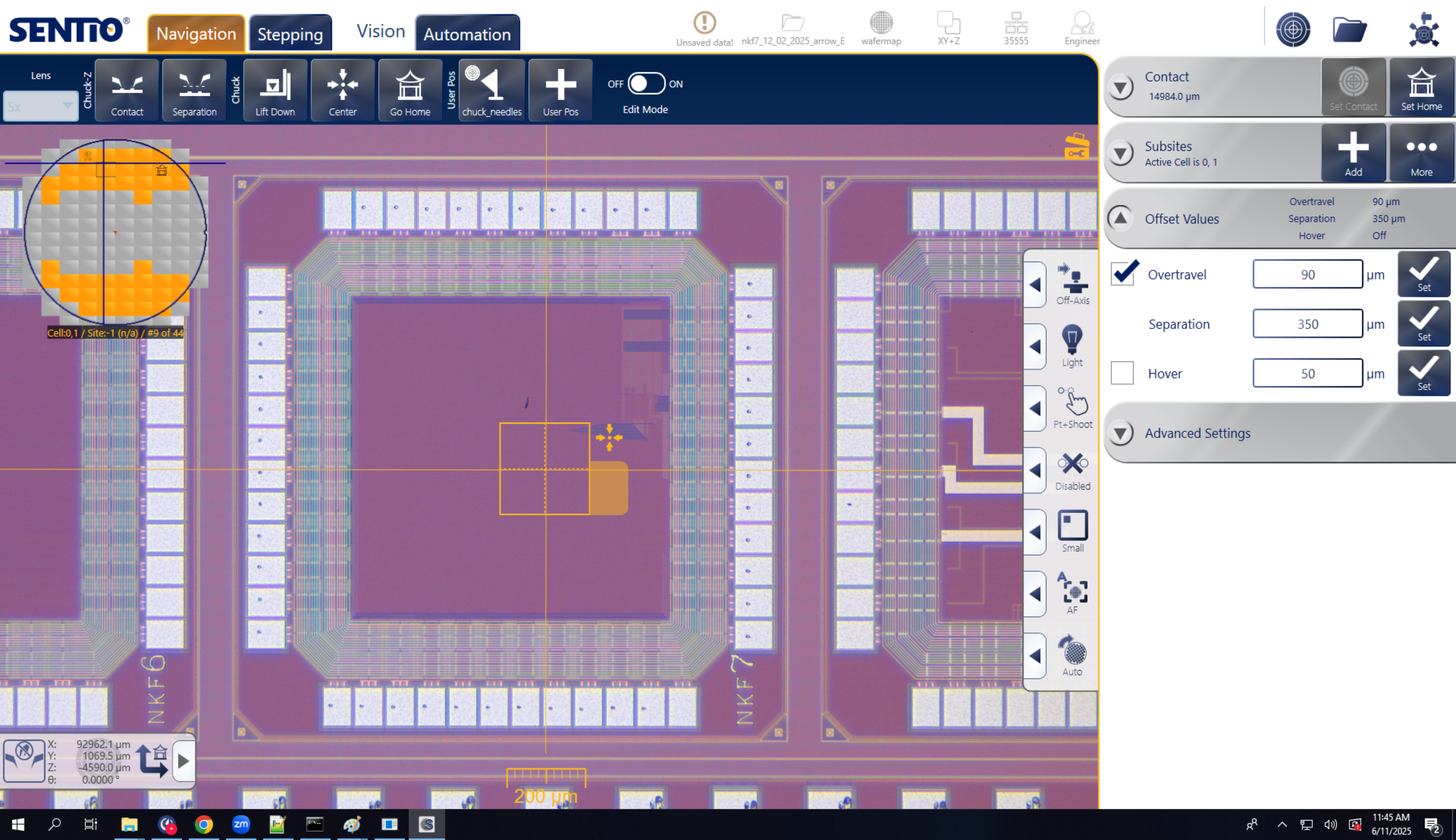
TEST2: TOUCHDOWN PERFORMANCE AT UNIQUE POSITION

- TEST description: Evaluate touchdown performance at a unique position
 - Prepared automatized script that
 1. Goes in contact in a specific die in the center of the pad
 2. Turns on HAMEG PS
 3. Waits for X s in order to get the current stabilized (capacitance ramp-up)
 4. Log of time, current, voltage and contact cycle
 5. Turns off the HAMEG PS
- Performance metric: Current > 25 mA
- Tested 5 dies:
 - Die 29: Number of touchdowns 100, waiting time for stabilization 5s
 - Die 30: Number of touchdowns 30, waiting time for stabilization 10s
 - Repeated tests day after: Number of touchdowns 10, waiting time for stabilization 15s
 - Die 31: Number of touchdowns 15, waiting time for stabilization 15s
 - Die 24: Number of touchdowns 15, waiting time for stabilization 15s
 - Die 25: Number of touchdowns 15, waiting time for stabilization 15s

STABILITY OF CONTACT CURRENT OVER REPEATED TOUCHDOWNS



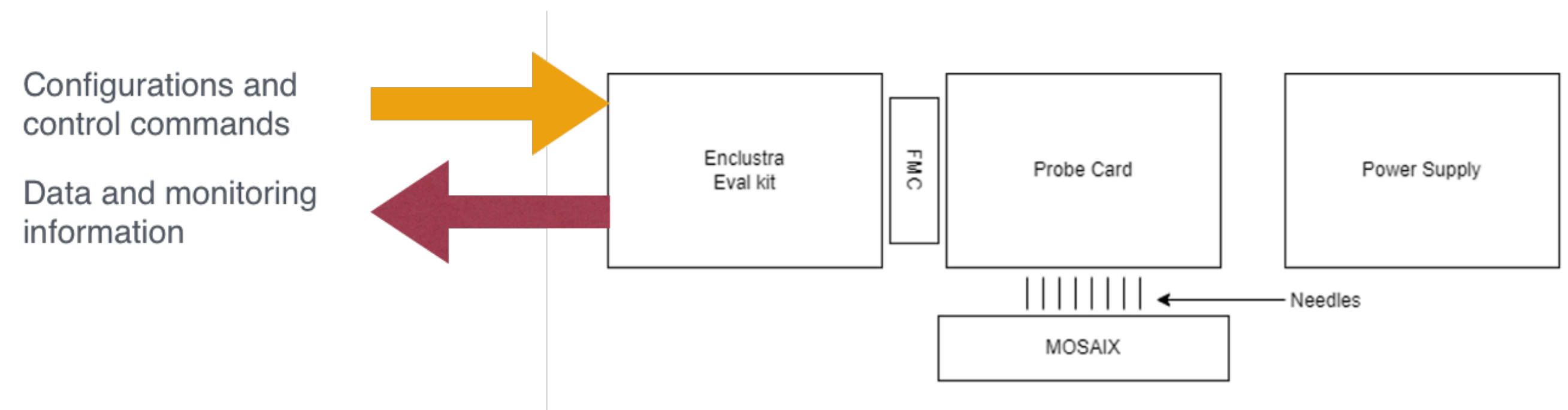
EVS_80_P NEEDLES PROBE MARK



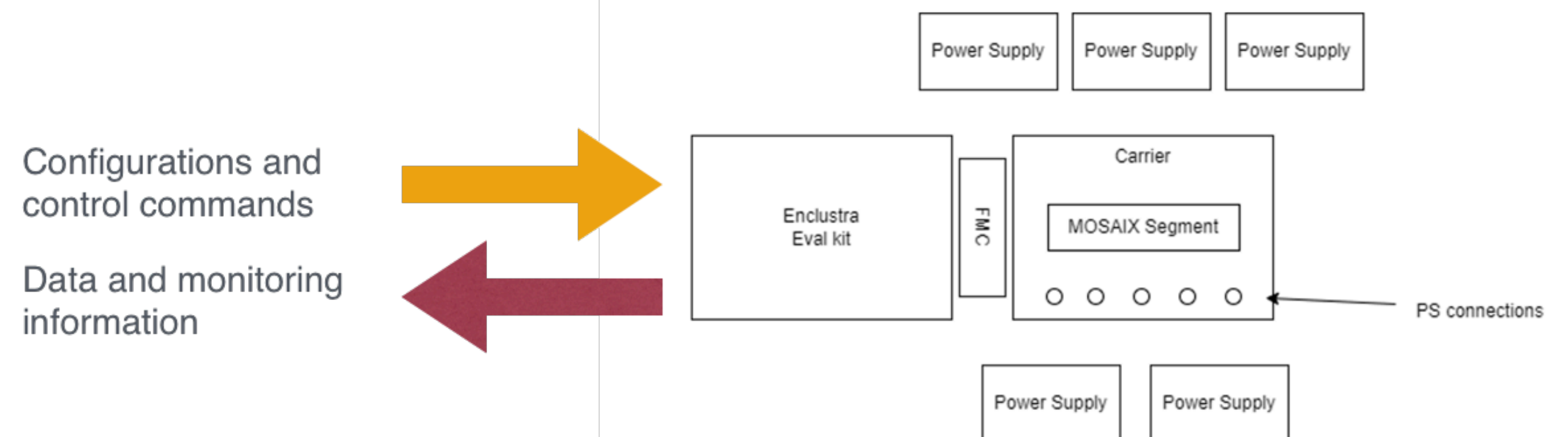
TEST SYSTEM HW CONCEPT ITS3 (MOSAIX ER2)

- System for 1 MOSAIX
- Enclustra Evaluation Kit + FMC and Power supplies are off the shelf commercial components
 - The Enclustra Eval kit acts as control and readout system
 - The Enclustra FW is being developed by the ITS3 team in collaboration with some SVT members
- Probe Card being developed by MIT and Korea University (parallel approach)
- Carrier board is being developed by CERN ITS3 team

WAFER PROBER TEST SYSTEM

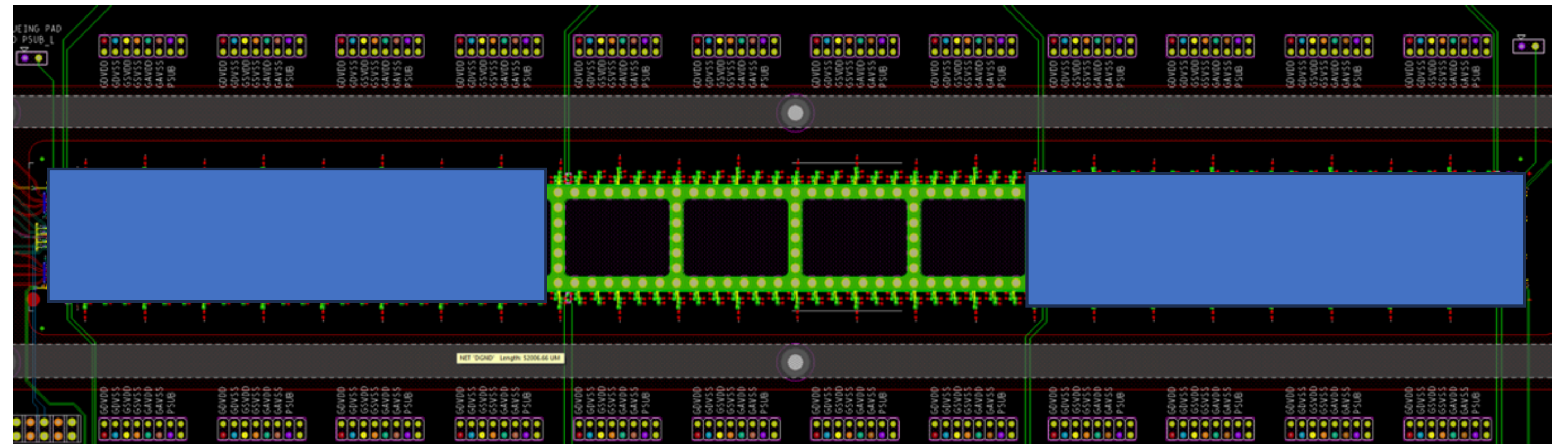


WIRE BONDED TEST SYSTEM



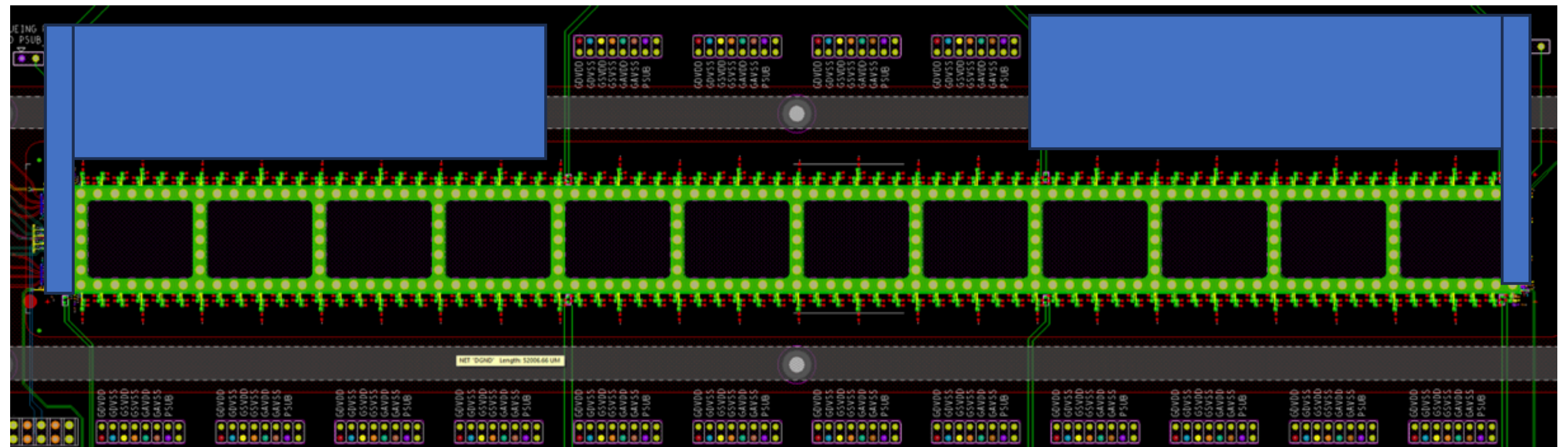
MOSAIX CARRIER BOARD DESIGN

- Compatible with all the WP with standard probe card holder
- Does not allow irradiation with source (needed for ER2 studies)
- It can be easily extended to multipoint



MOSAIX CARRIER BOARD DESIGN

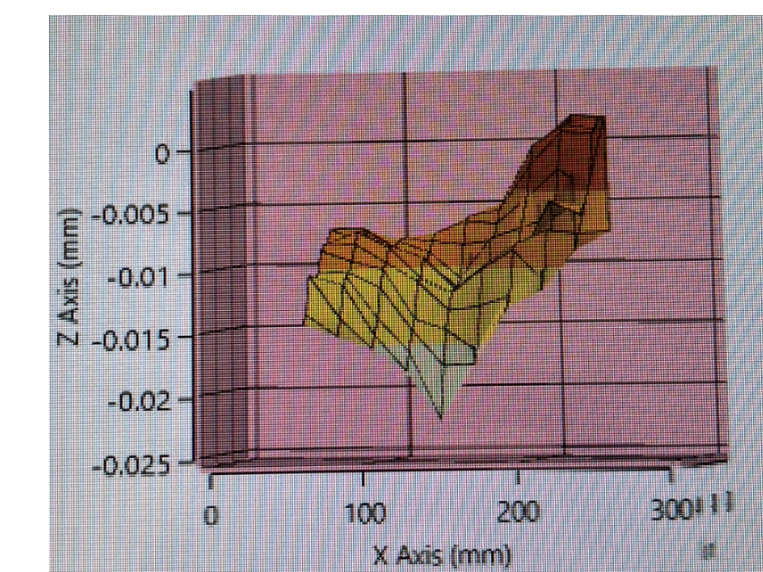
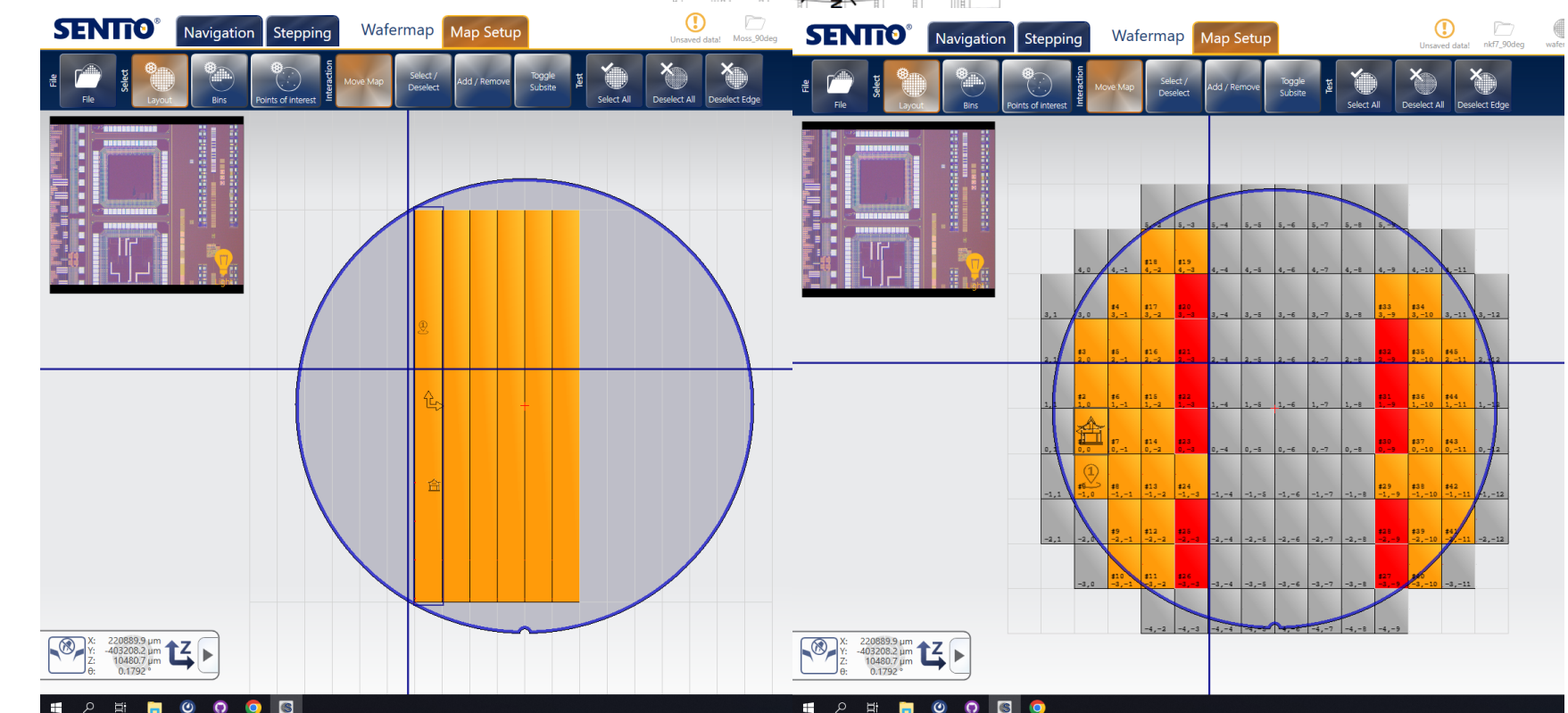
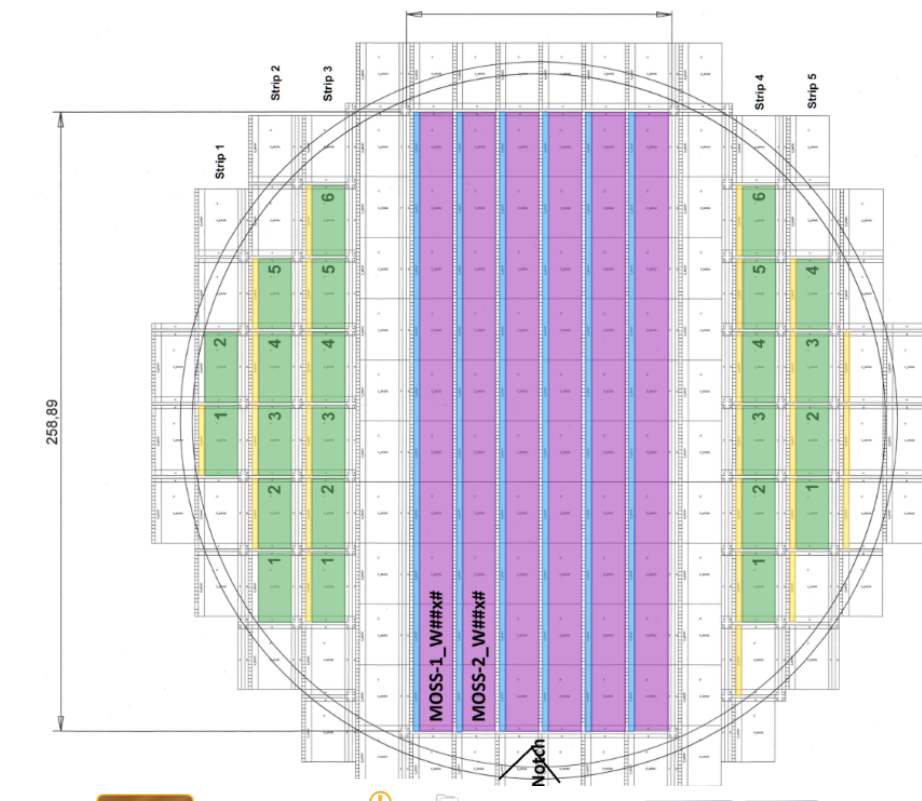
- Compatibility with wafer probers in the collaboration needs to be verified
- It allows irradiation and thermal camera studies
- It limits the re-use of the same modules for multipoint



MPI TS-3500 SE

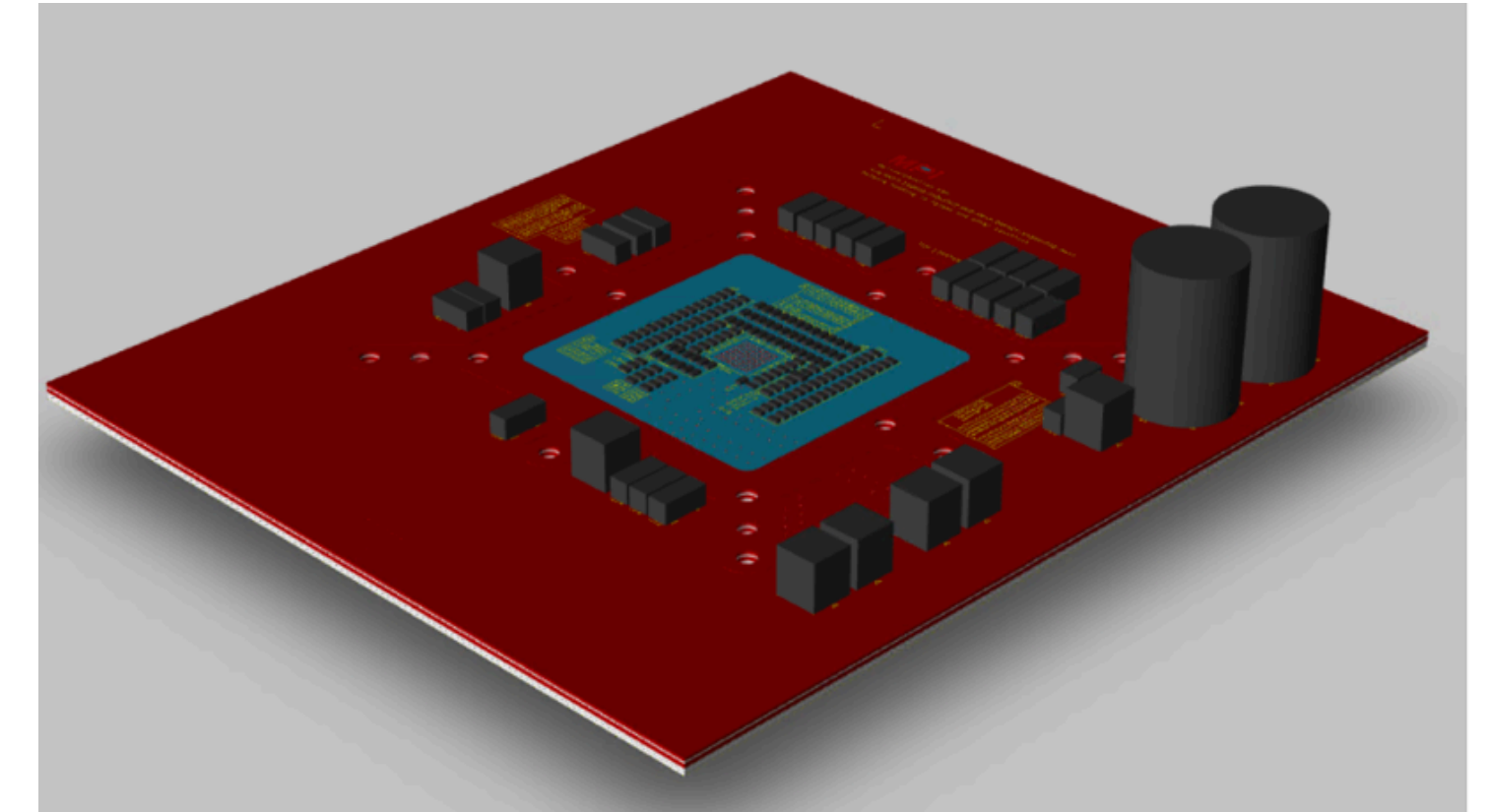


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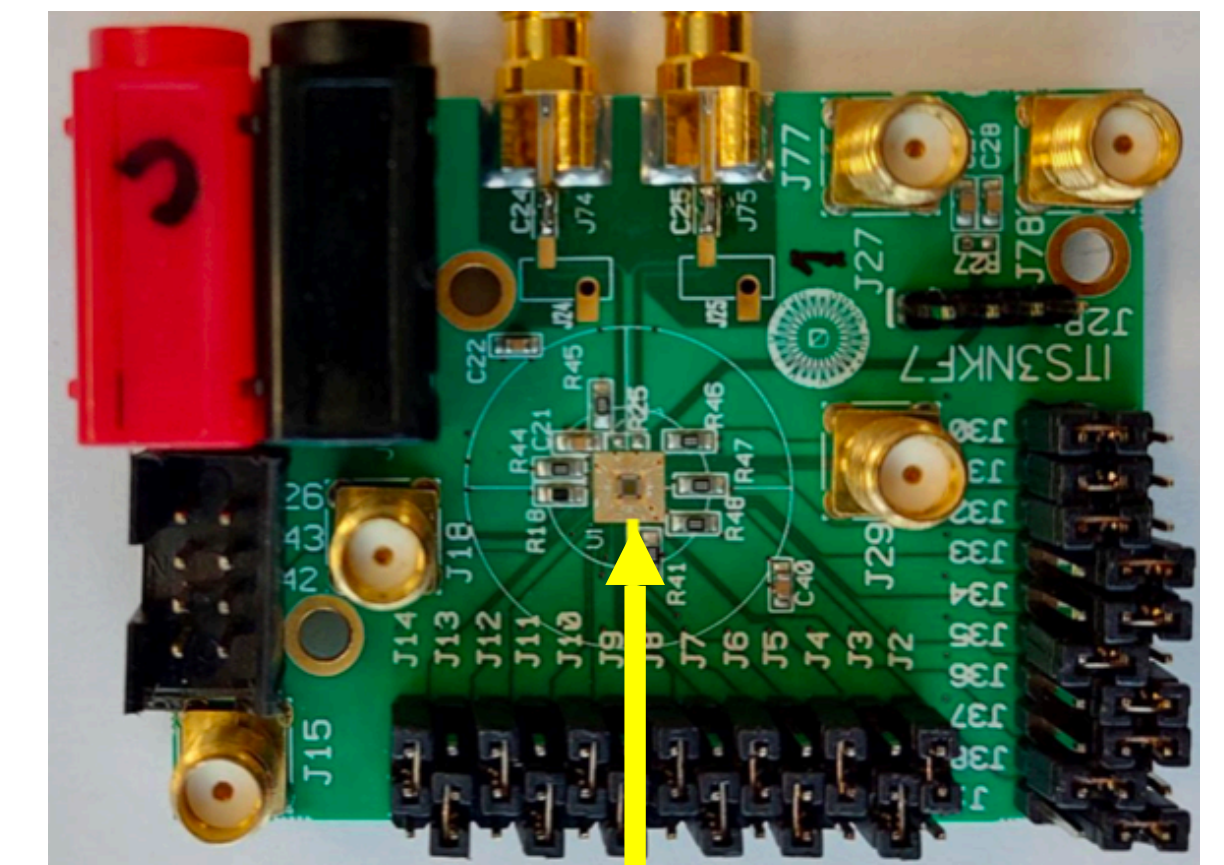


NKF7 VERTICAL PROBE CARD

- First prototype of vertical probe card
 - It will be shipped to CERN before the Chinese NY
- Design and fabrication being done together with MPI via their European vendors HTT
- Main design specifications:
 - High-speed material laminates: Megtron6
 - Careful layout of high-speed traces
 - Decoupling capacitance network and pull up and pull down resistors
 - Orientation of the MLO and probe card
 - Layer stack-up
- Goal is to use vertical probing technique to achieve a data rate of 10 Gbps



PROBE CARD 3D VIEW



NKF7

NKF7 VERTICAL PROBING STATUS

RECAP

- Vertical probing technique successfully qualified to test silicon devices operating at 10.24 Gbps
 - NKF7 serialiser chipset characterised
- Original family needles experienced difficulties in achieving reliable electrical contacts on test chips
- ER1 wafer and original vertical probe card sent to MPI in order to check needles matrix
- New needles, EVS_80_P, probe card received 06/06/25 at CERN and retested



FW_70_P

- Force @ OD 90: 3.2 g
- Tip shape: Round



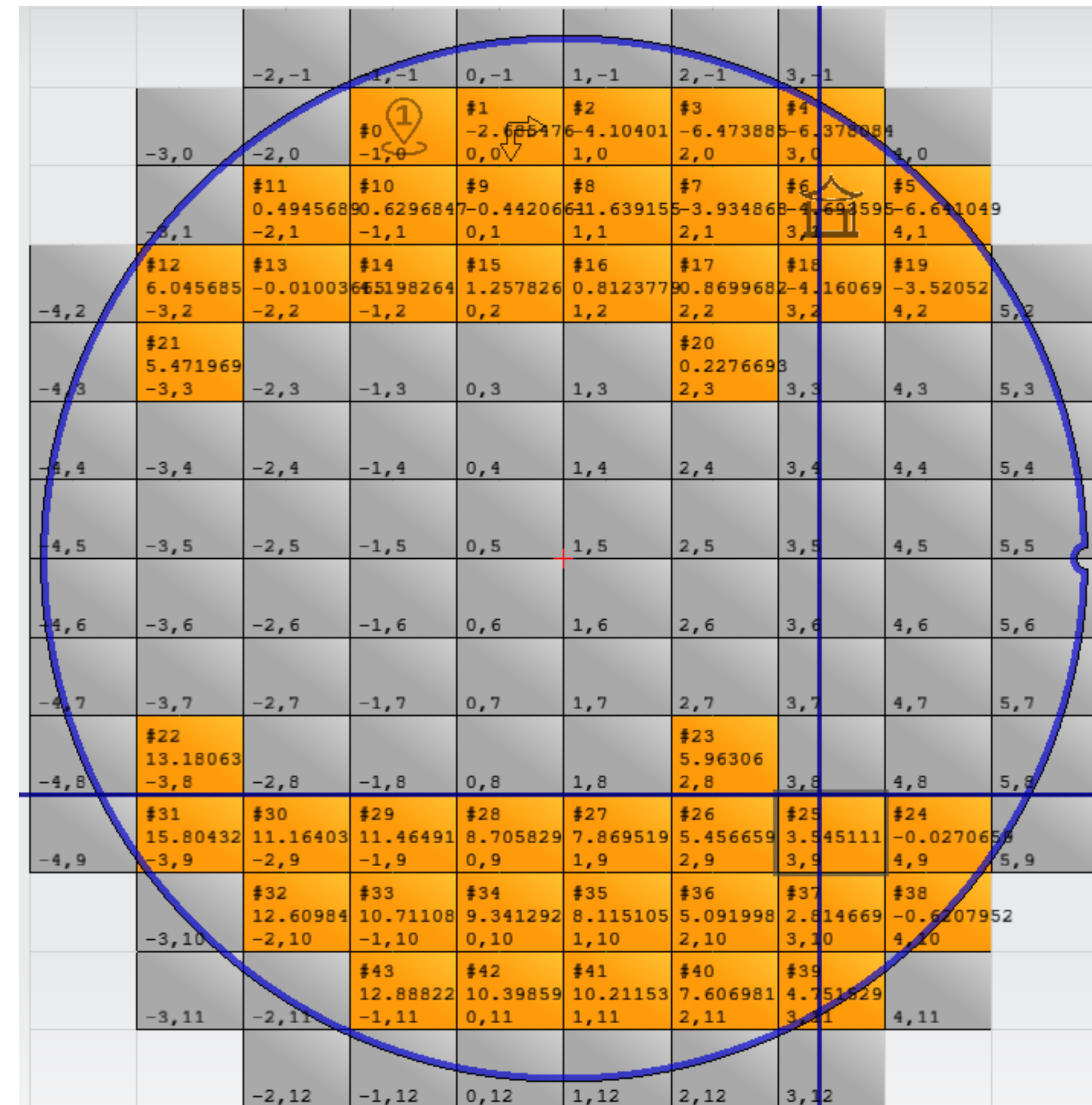
EVS_80_P

- Force @ OD 90: 4.4 g
- Tip shape: Point

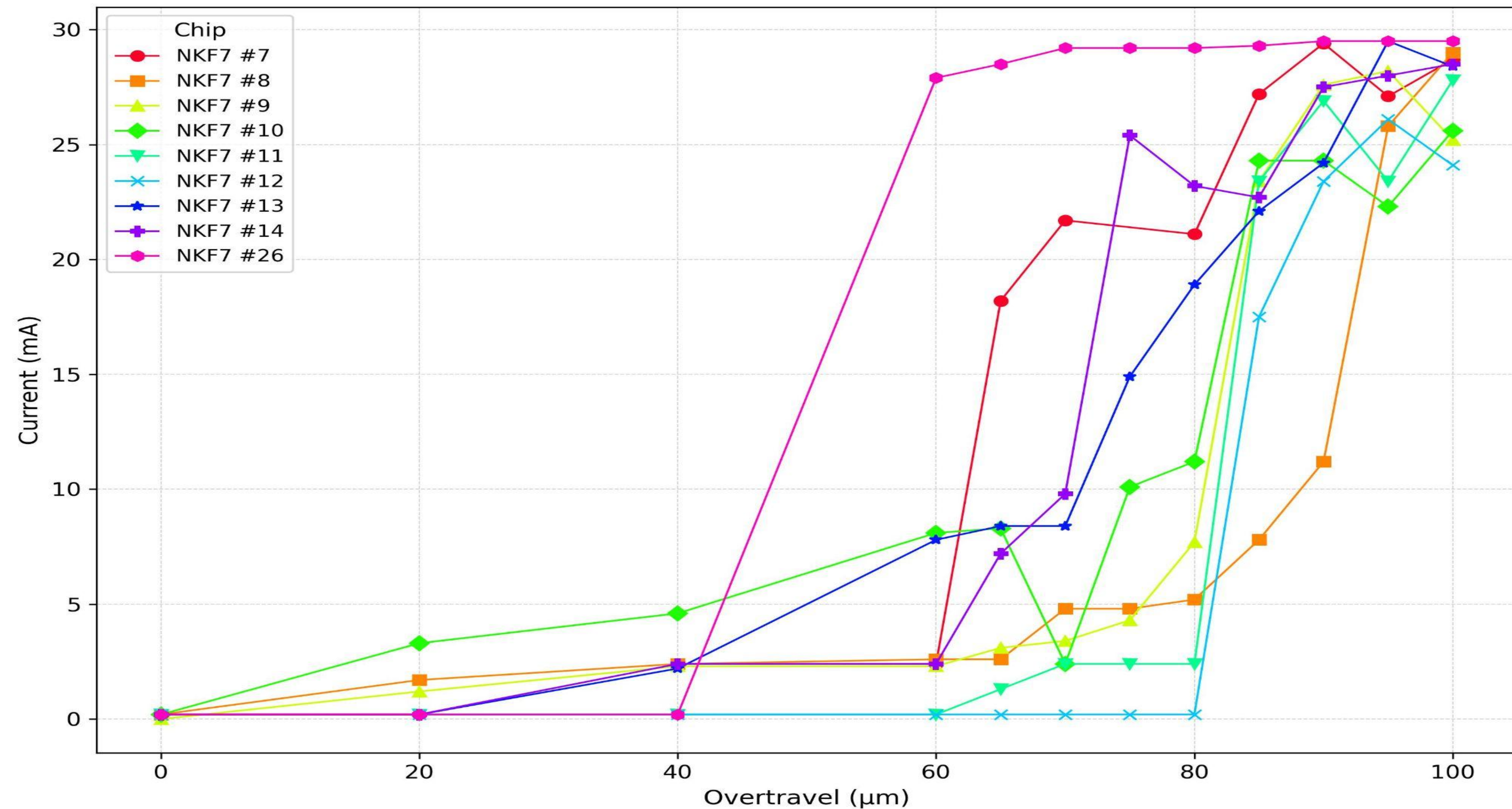


TEST1: FIND BEST CONTACT OVERDRIVE

- TEST description: Find the initial position in which a mark starts appearing and slowly increase the over drive to see when the best signal appears
- Currently statistics for 8 dies have been taken
 - Mind that most of these dies are in the top part of the wafer
 - More samples to be measured to increase the reliability of the results
- Company data for reference
 - 100 OD corresponds 4.5 g of force
 - 75 OD corresponds to 3.4 g of force

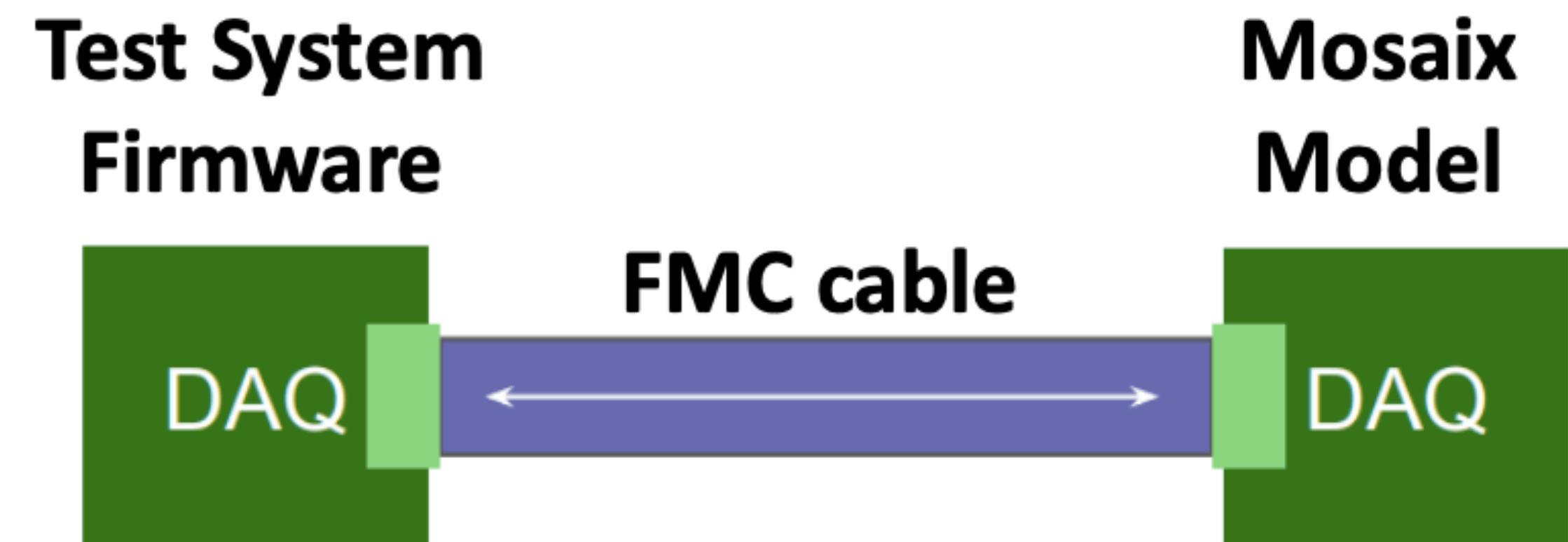


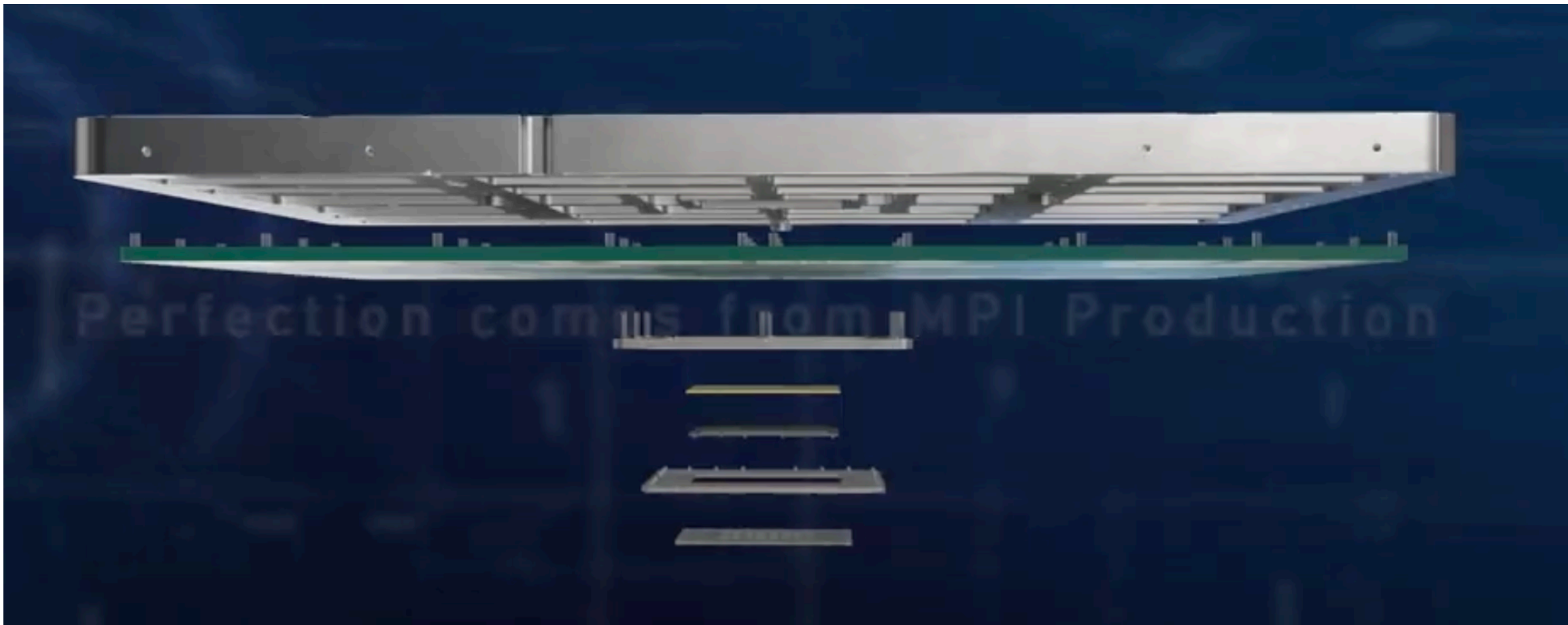
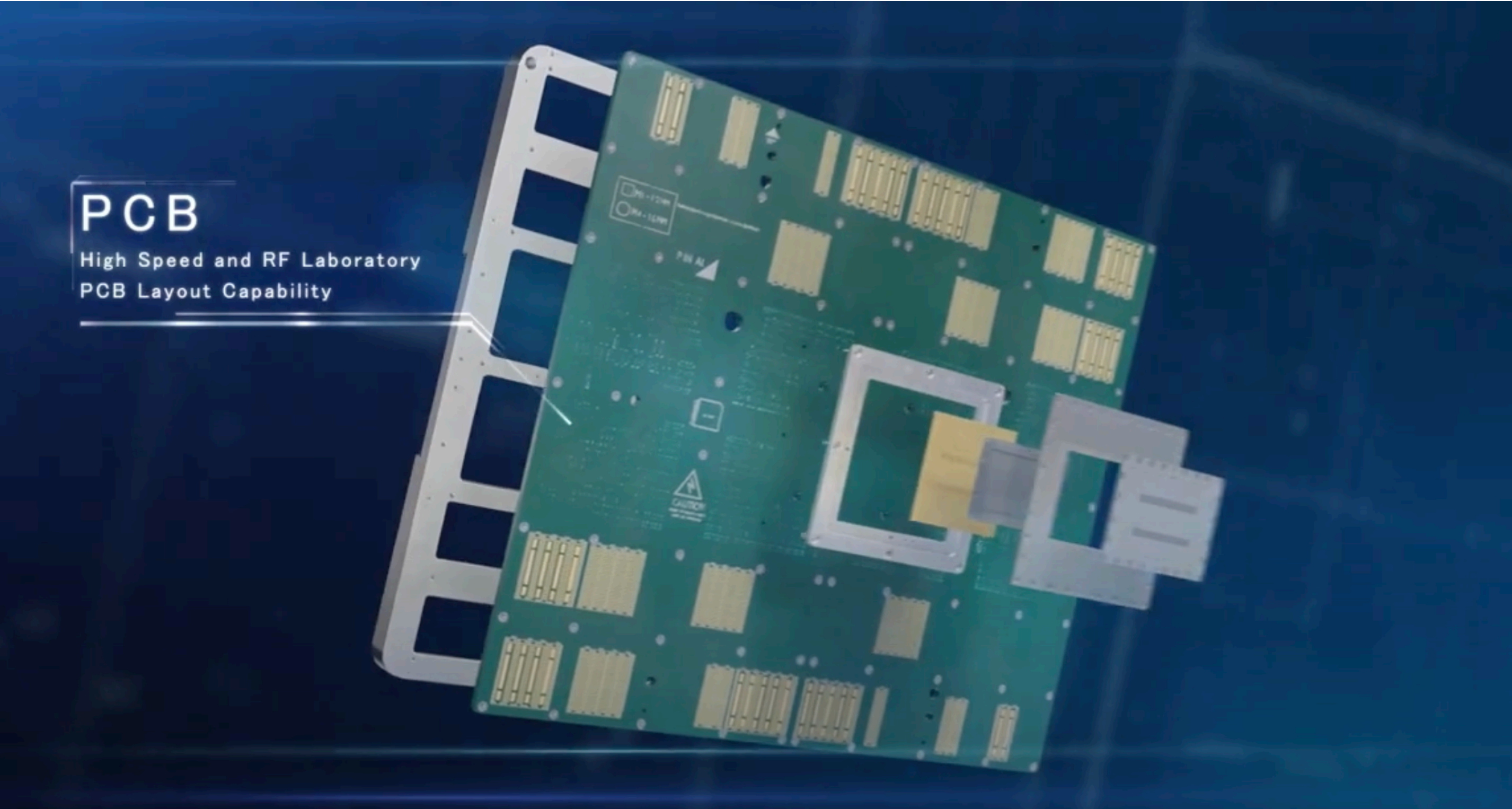
DEPENDENCE OF PROBE OVERTRAVEL ON CURRENT FOR MULTIPLE CHIPS



MOSAIX SYSTEM TESTS

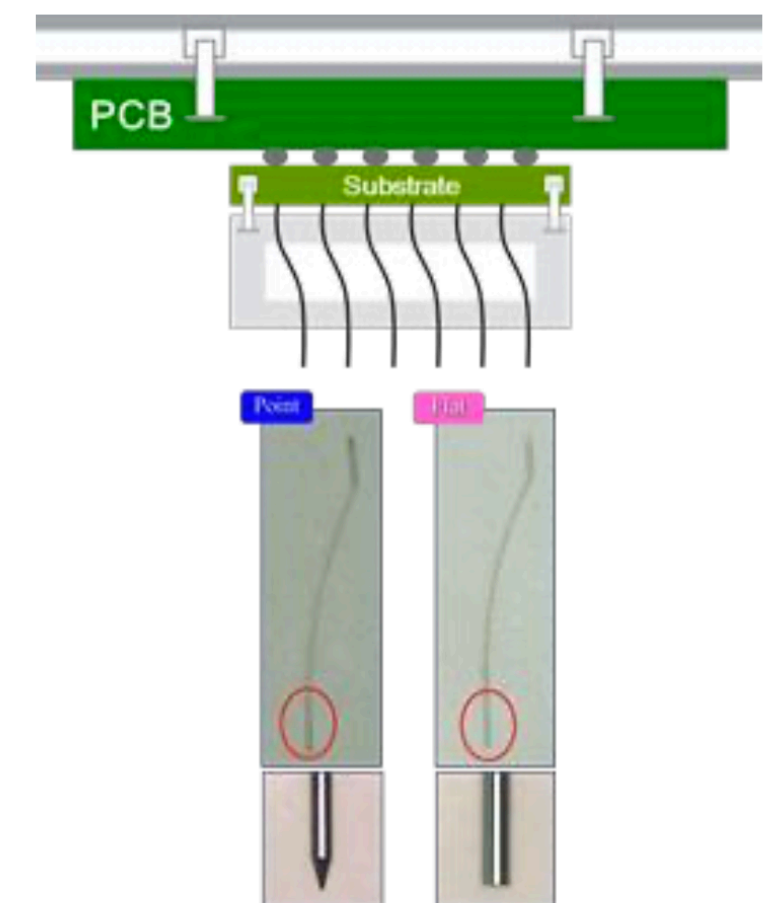
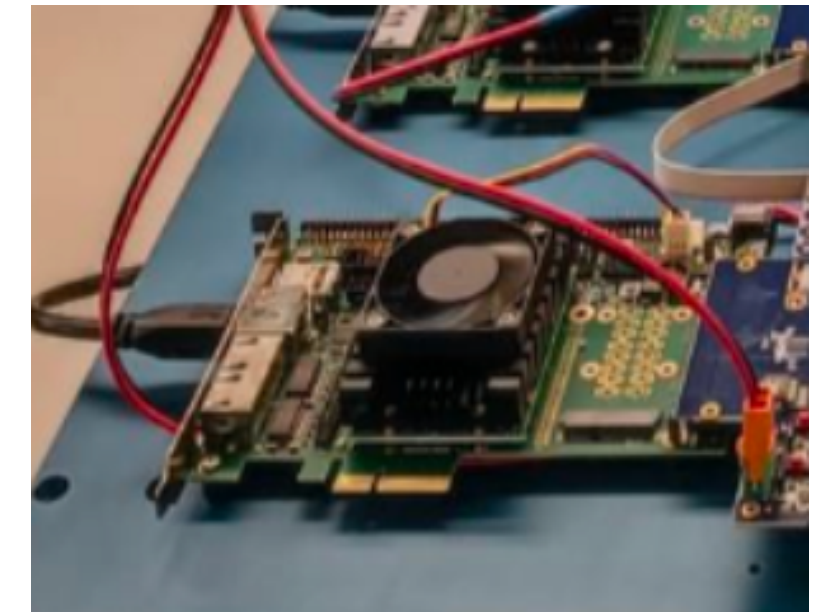
- WP2 members currently contributing to the ITS3 system tests
 - Testout readout of tiles at 160 Mbps
- Hardware used: Enclustra boards with Intel Arria 10 FPGA with the ST1+ board
- Firmware development tools
 - Quartus as design suite
 - Altec Riviera Pro used for simulation
 - Cocotb for verification (<https://docs.cocotb.org/en/stable/index.html>)
- While design is not submitted working on an emulator system that includes MAPS RTL





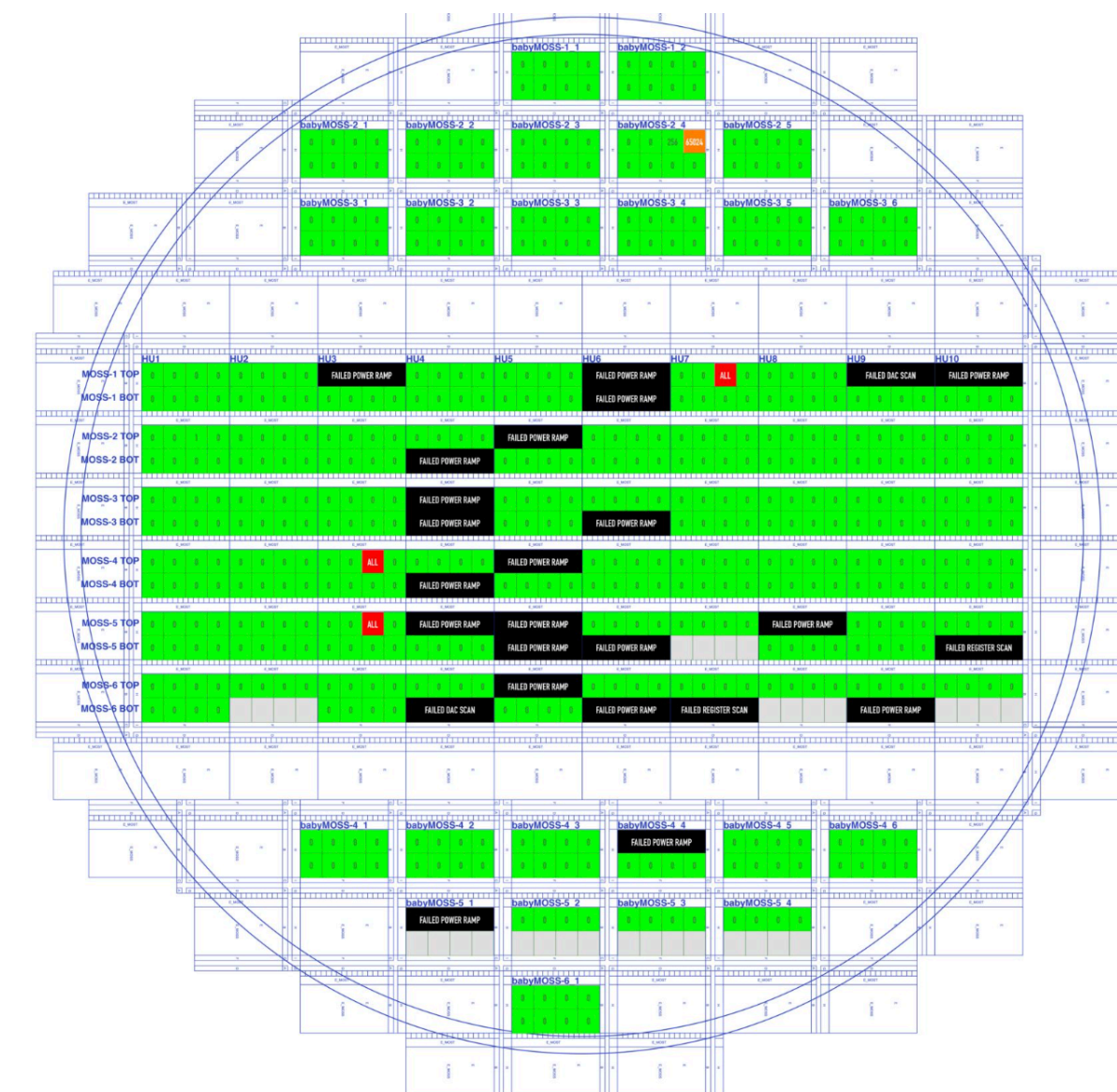
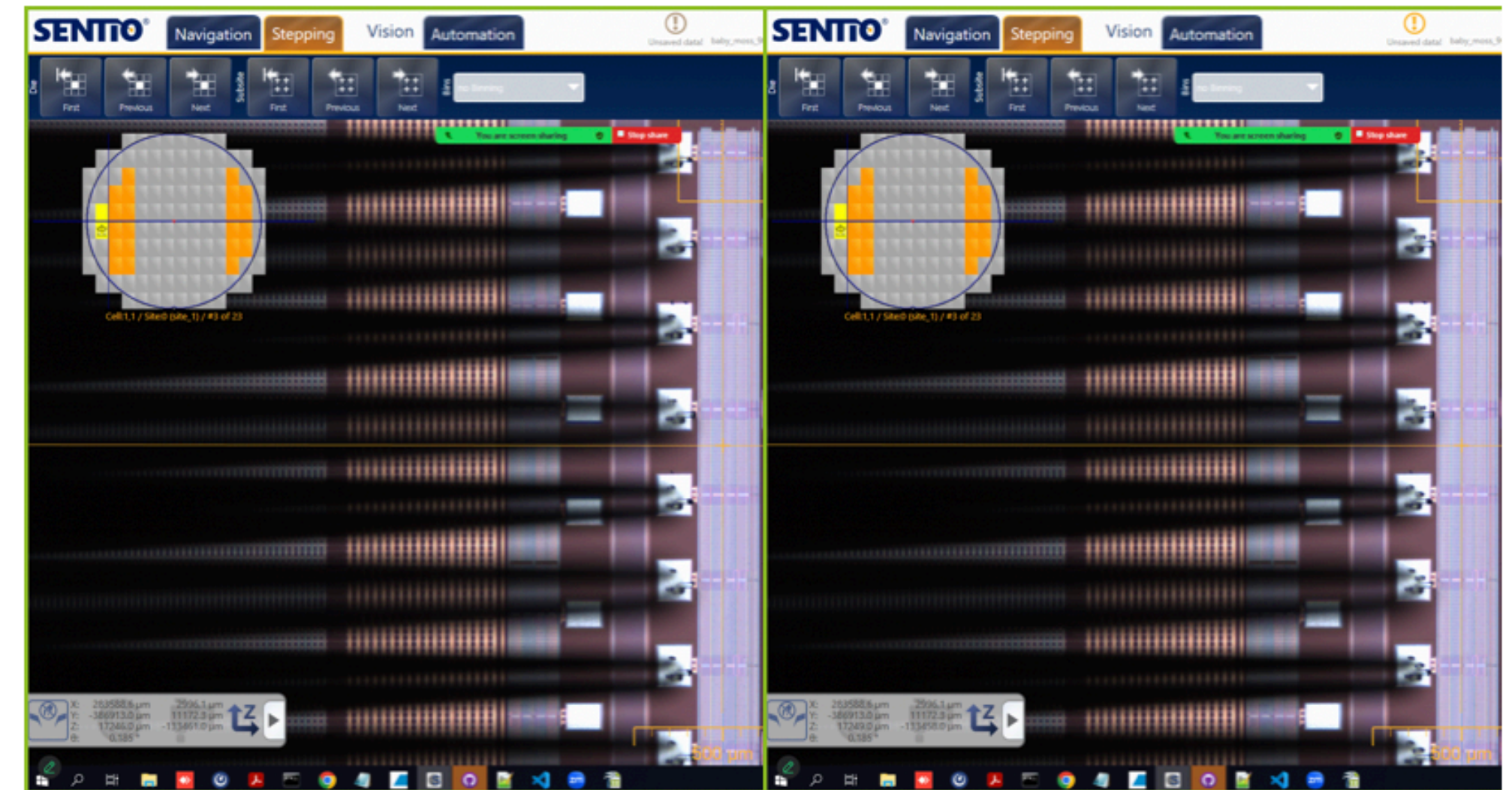
Test System HW (MOSAIX) considerations

- Similar concept/approach may be used also for SVT sensors/modules test and characterization
 - At present there is no agreement between ITS3 and SVT about sharing any HW/SW for the test and characterization system
- The HW system designed by ITS3 is mainly focused on a single MOSAIX and it may be too slow for the SVT purpose considering the significant higher number of sensors to be characterized
 - Parallel setups could result on a significantly higher cost and person-power requirements. Studies are needed by the WP2 HW team.
- Probe card status:
 - Probe card technology being identified using Enhanced Vertical Solution (EVS) to allow 10 Gbps link speed usage
 - First prototype is being designed/produced for the serializer NKF7 as a demonstrator and expected immediately after the summer
 - Mixed solution using RF probes and 160 Mbps solution are considered as backup



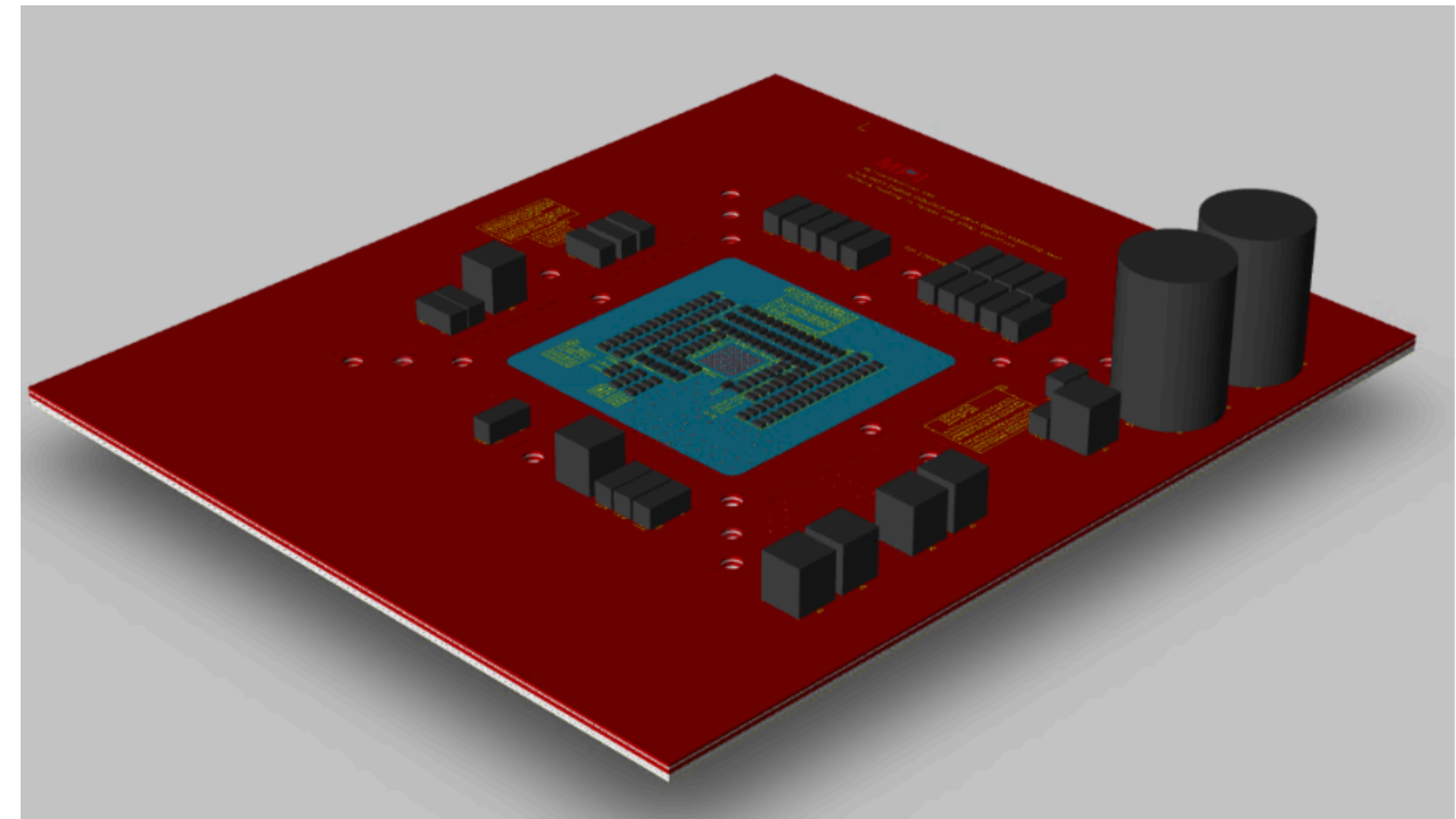
MACHINE VALIDATION WITH ALICE ITS ER1 WAFERS

- The machine validation was done following the presented workflow with ALICE ITS ER1 wafers
- Used ER1 readout system as DAQ and HW control
 - Github repo: <https://gitlab.cern.ch/alice-its3-wp3/moss-testing/sw>
- Tested all 25 babyMOSS top unit in the wafer in 25 minutes with ~identical results to ALICE
- Achieved very nice electrical contact



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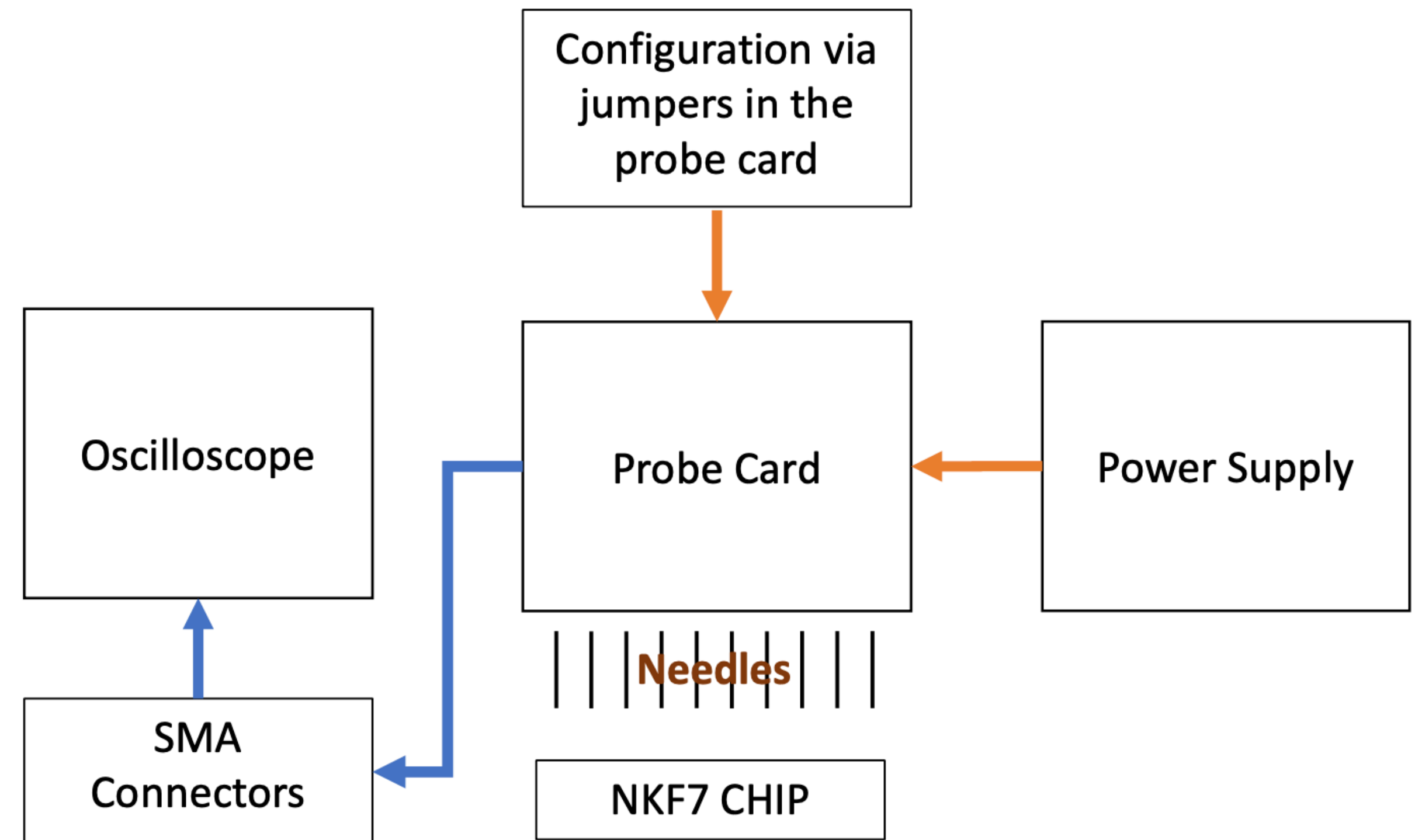
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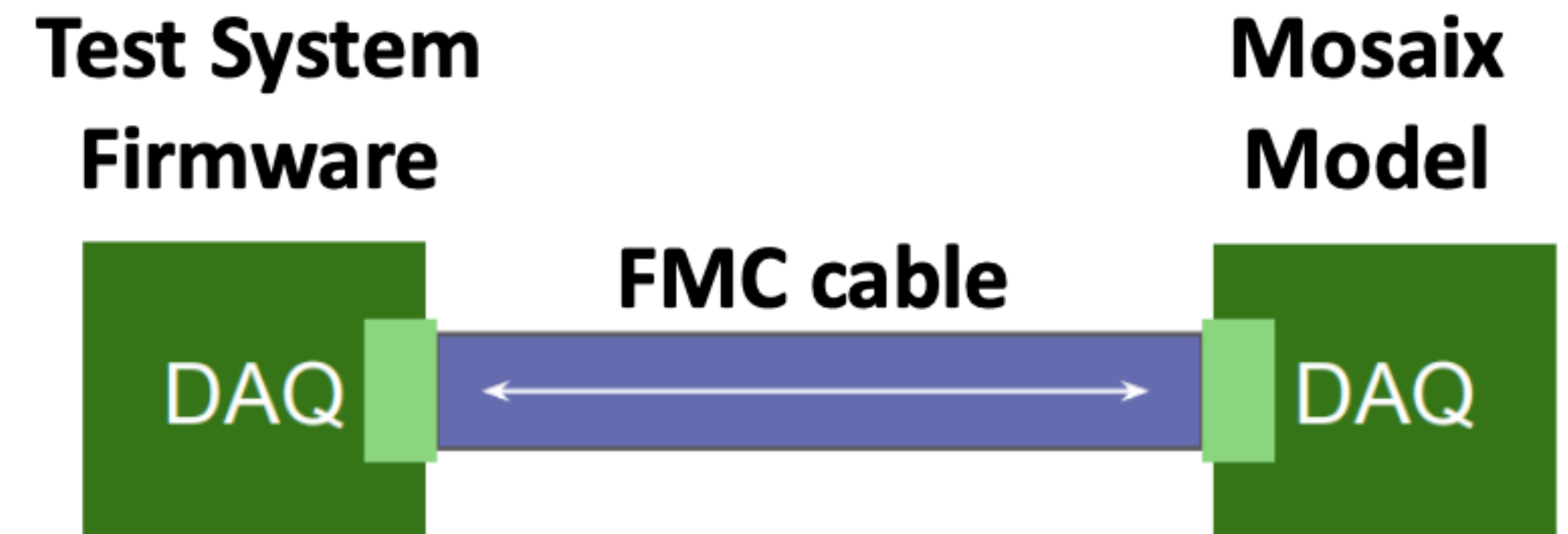
NKF7 TESTING SETUP

- NKF7 testing does not require of an FPGA for the data acquisition system
- Check that pattern sent via jumpers is received in the scope
- This project will be used to benchmark the system and getting ready to test the Mosaix and LAS in the future
- Vertical probing automatization
- High-speed data taking from needles



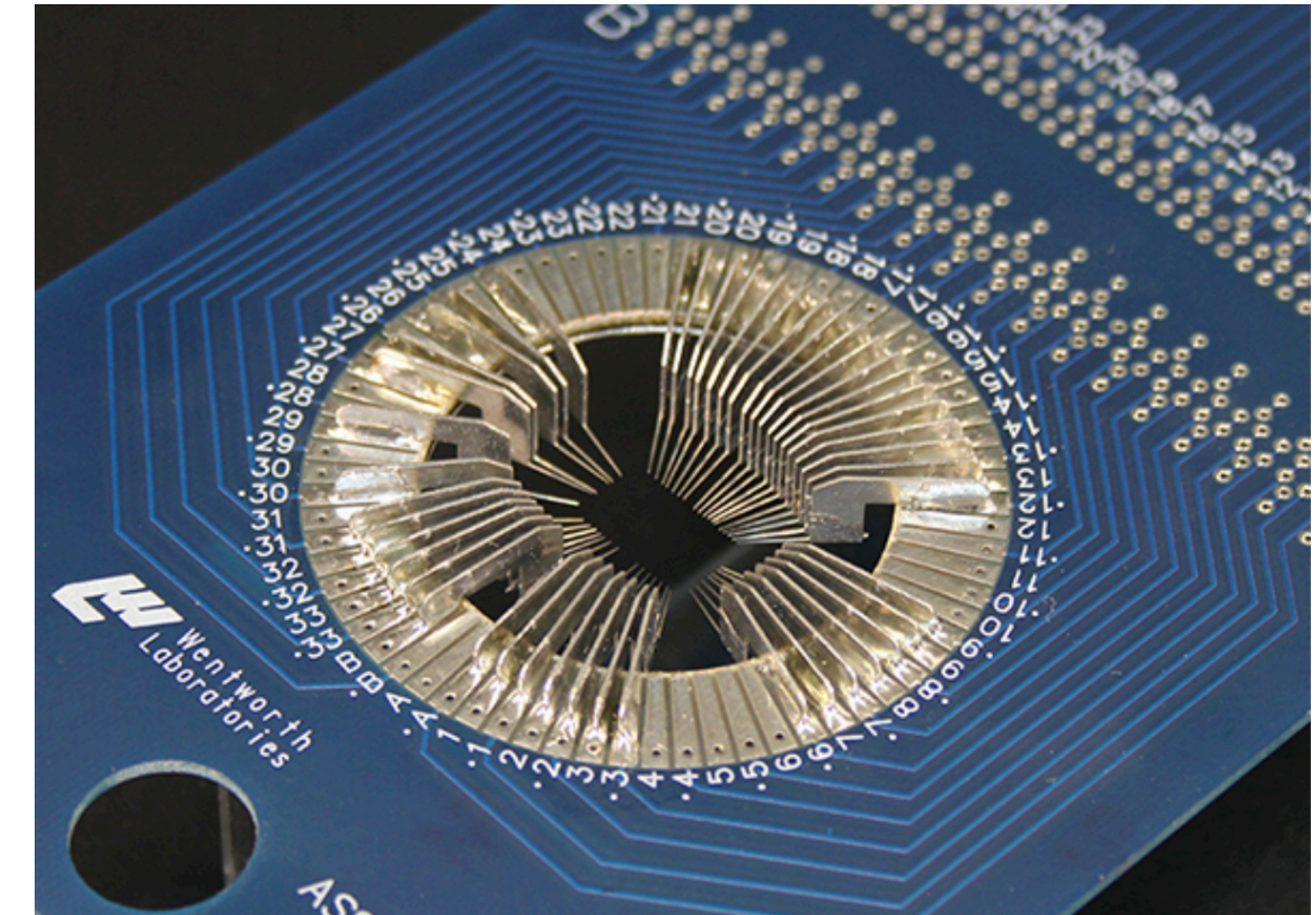
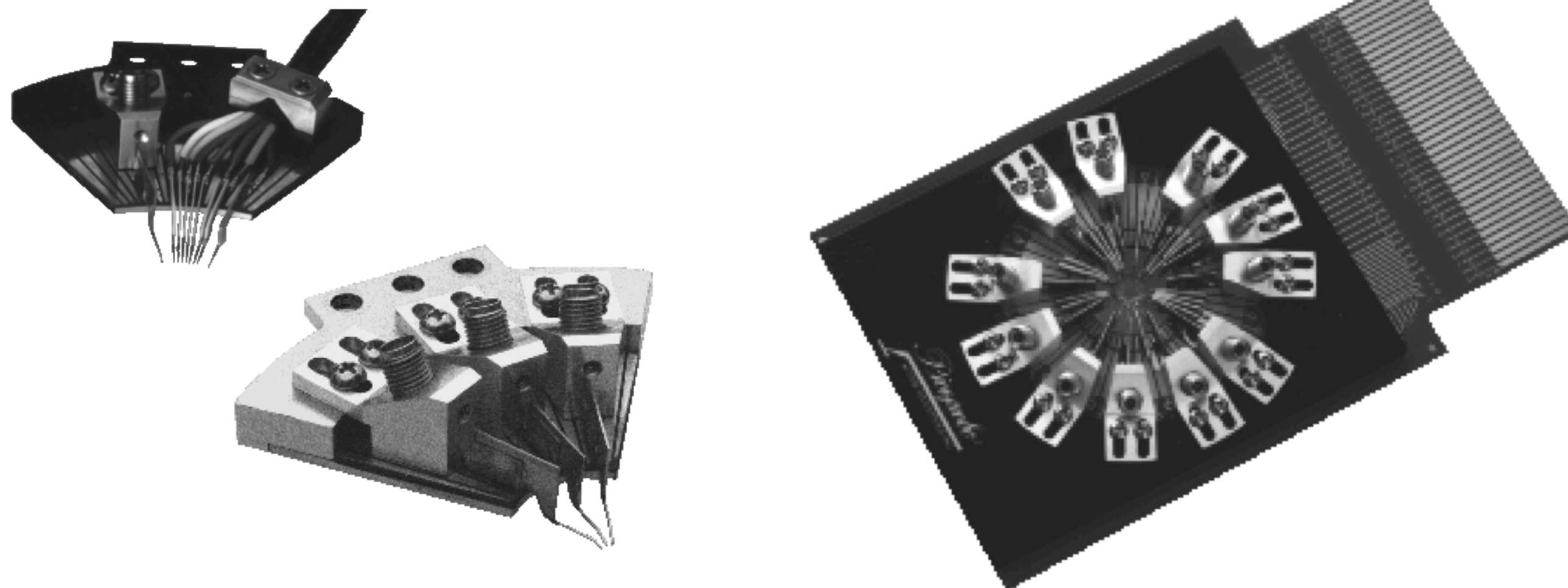
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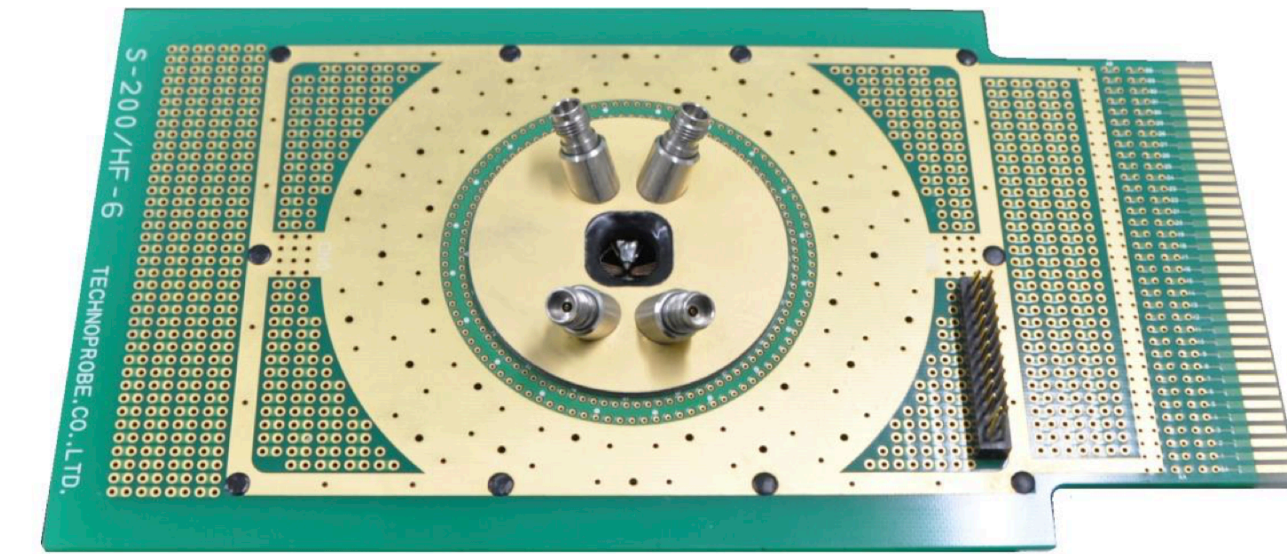
Options for probing

- Standard cantilever probe card are generally designed for ~300 MHz
 - 4-5 GHz with shielded needles
- RF-probes can be used to probe 2-4 pins at very high frequency > 80 GHz



Options for probing

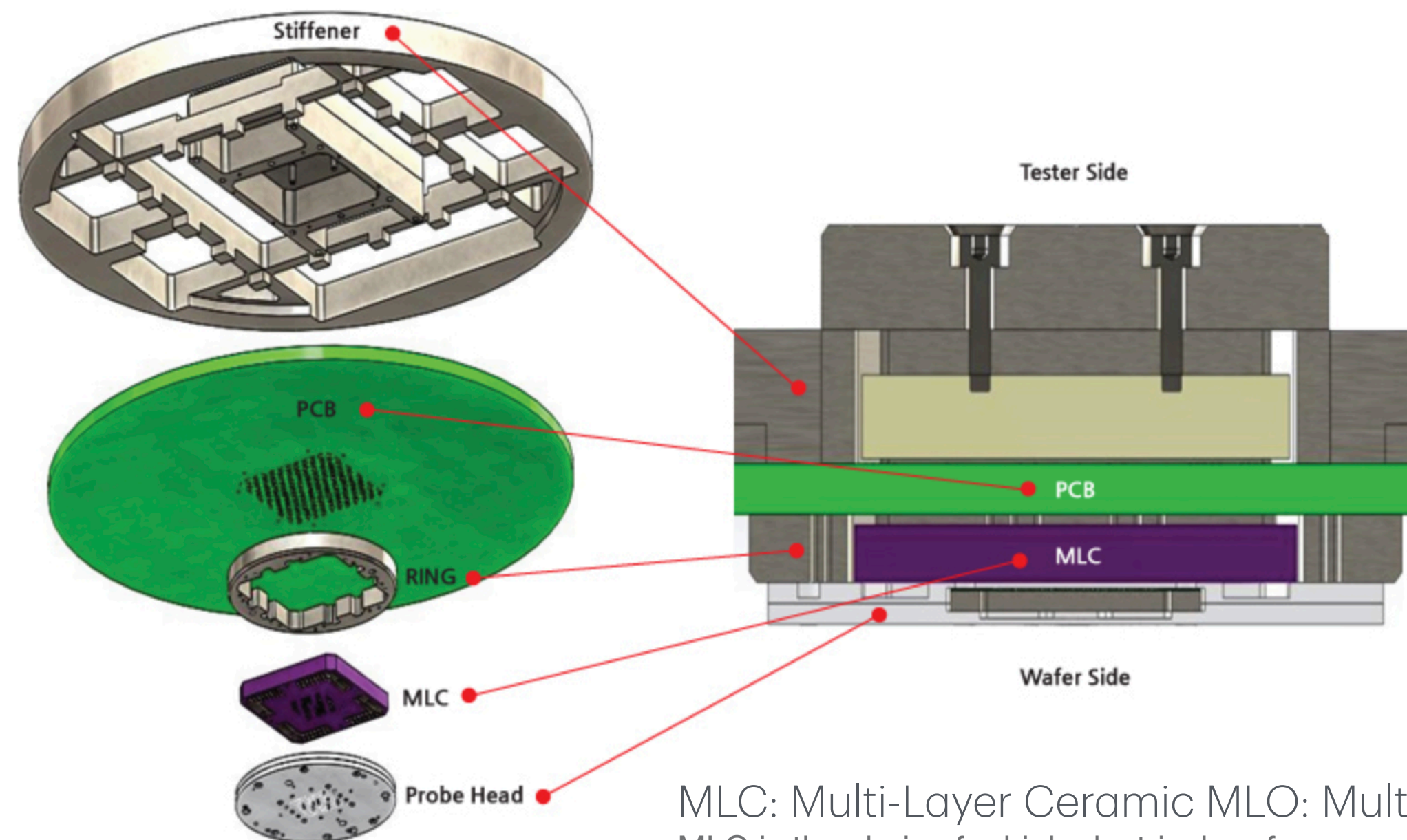
- Mixed cantilever-RF probe technology
- Vertical probing allows construction of probe cards with > 80 GHz range



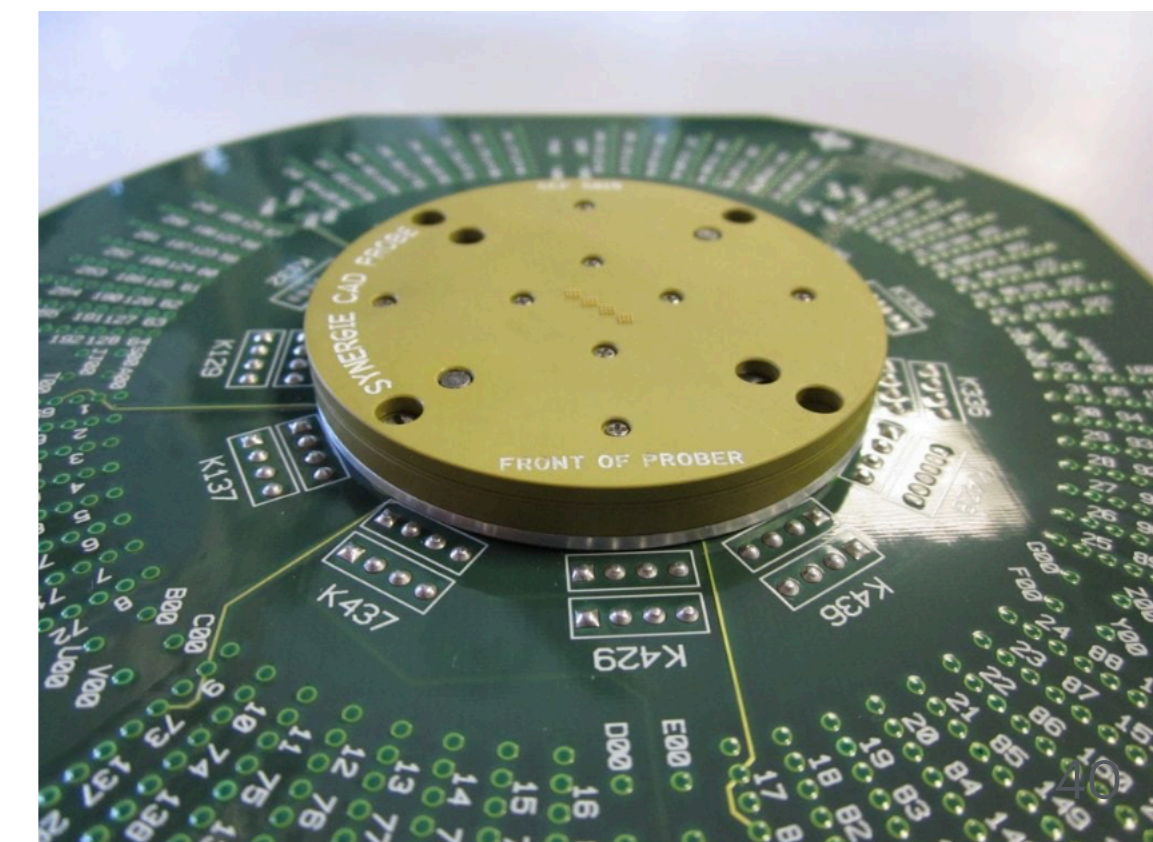
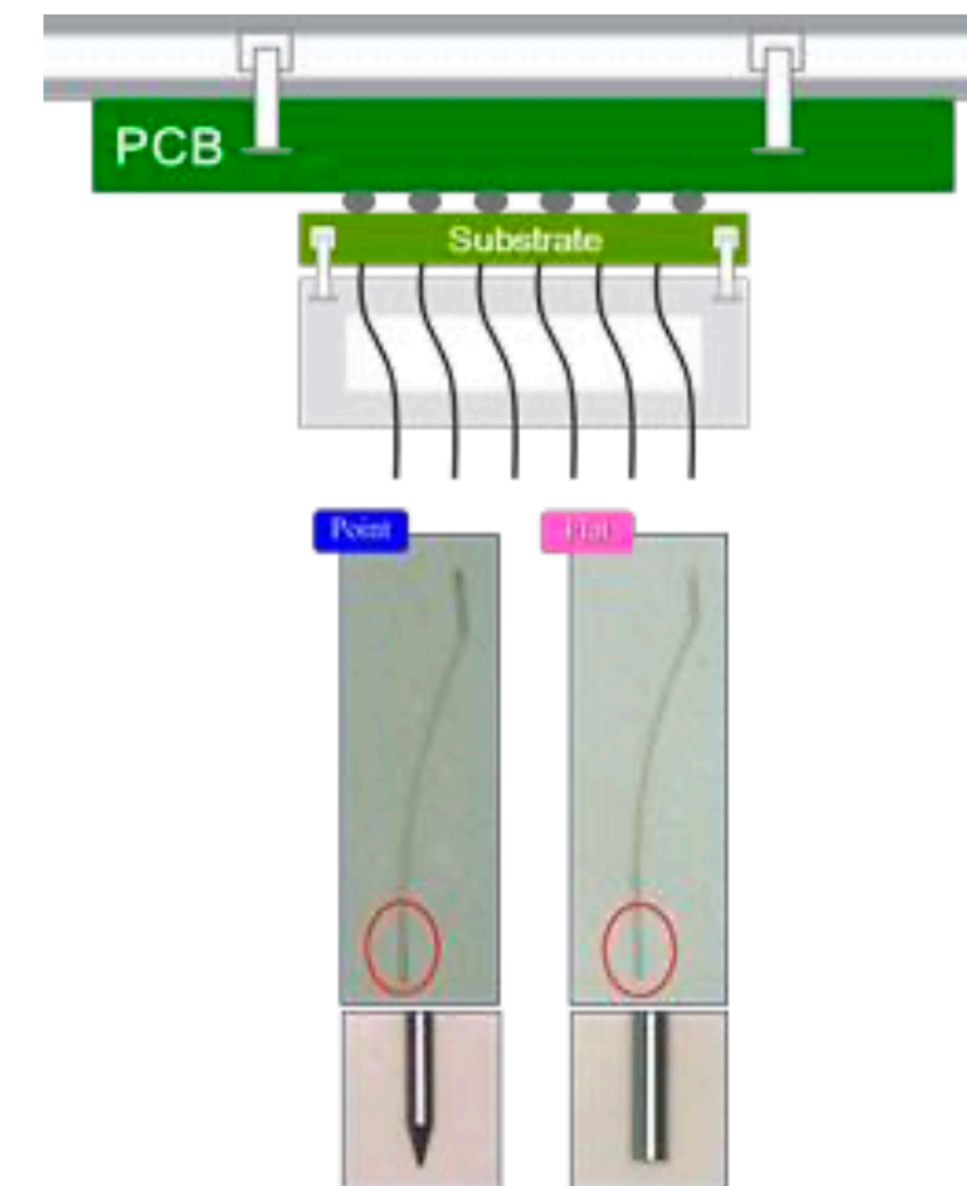
Maximum Pin Count

RF: 16 (TBD)

DC: 120 (TBD)

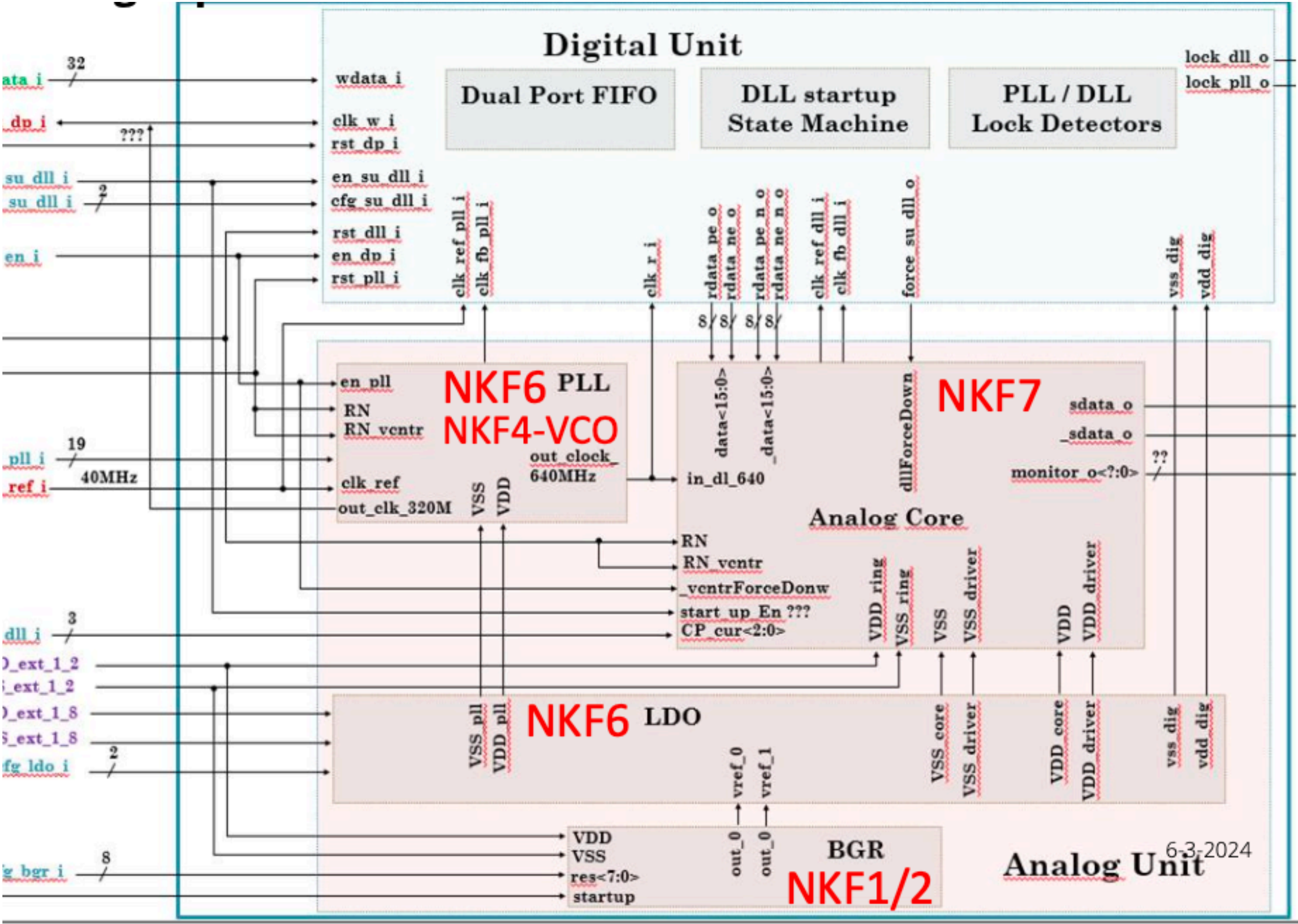
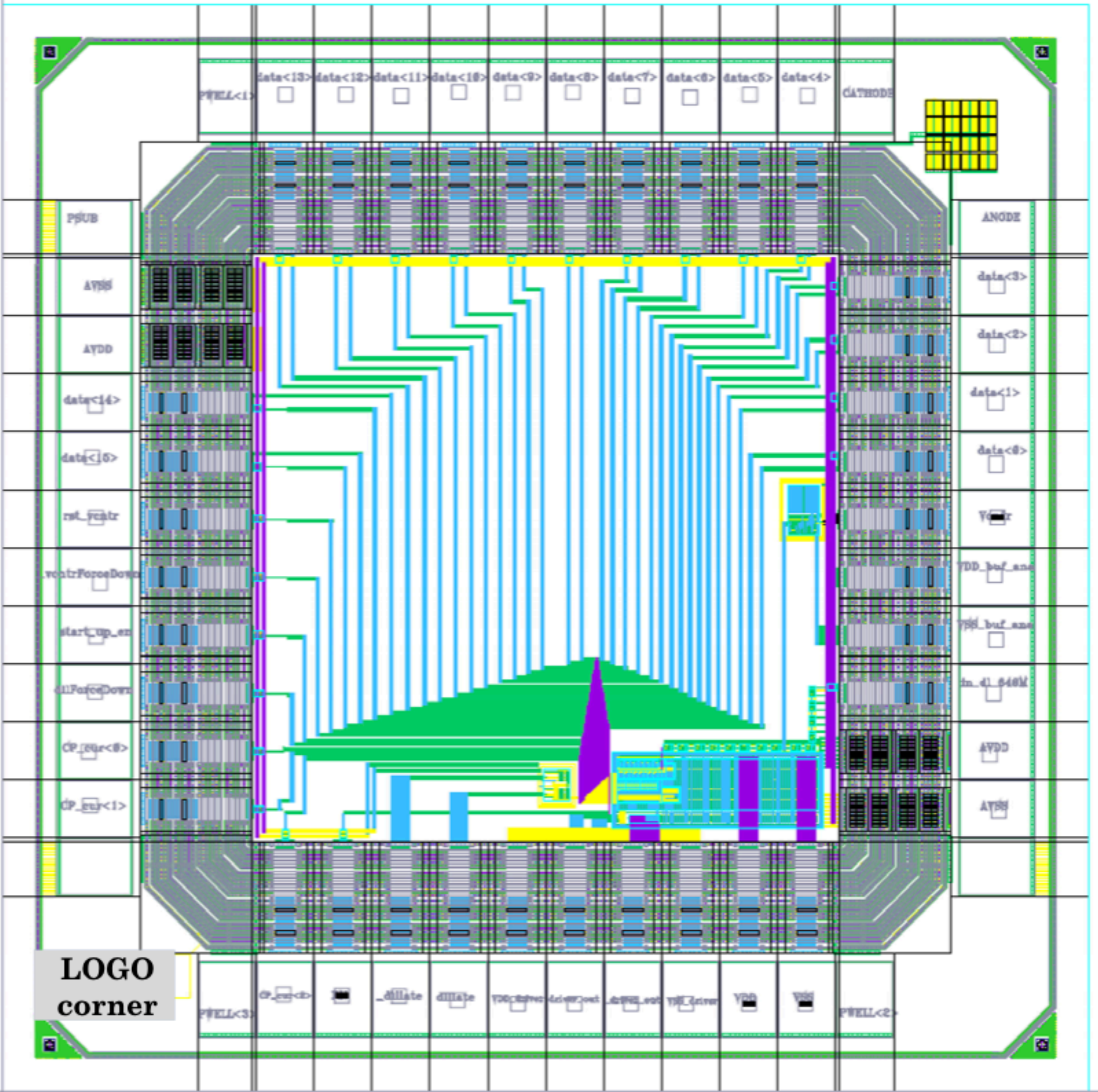


MLC: Multi-Layer Ceramic MLO: Multi-Layer Organic
MLO is the choice for high electrical performance while MLC is classic for precise alignment.



NKF7 serializer

- Ref clk: 642 MHz , 16 bits input, output 10.27 Gbps



NKF7 serializer

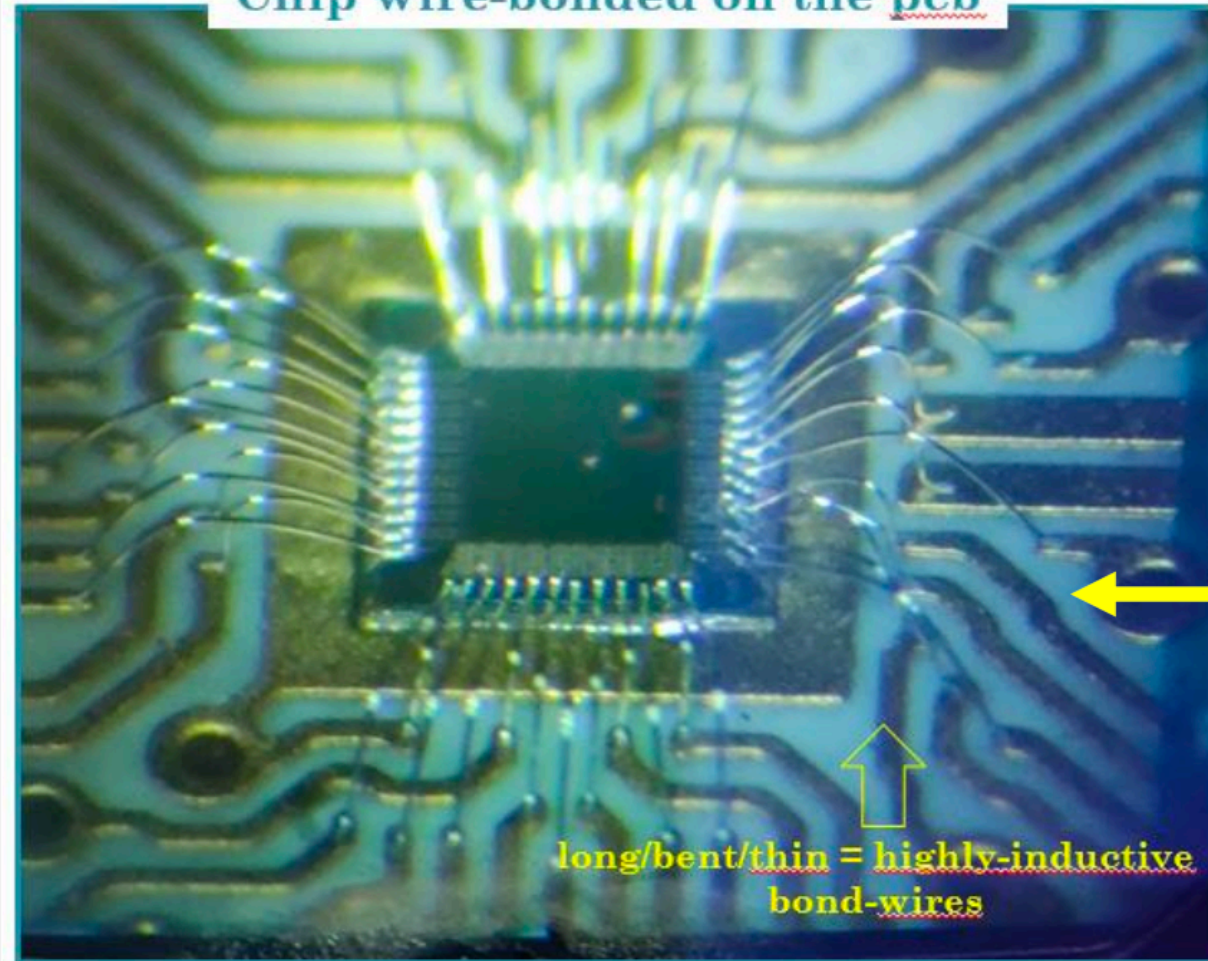
Full presentation: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/v41zz5ib4ghk3xi9tsjrc/h?rlkey=32vxzrr5msu39nudo5n1khg0j&dl=0>

Fixed pattern measurements

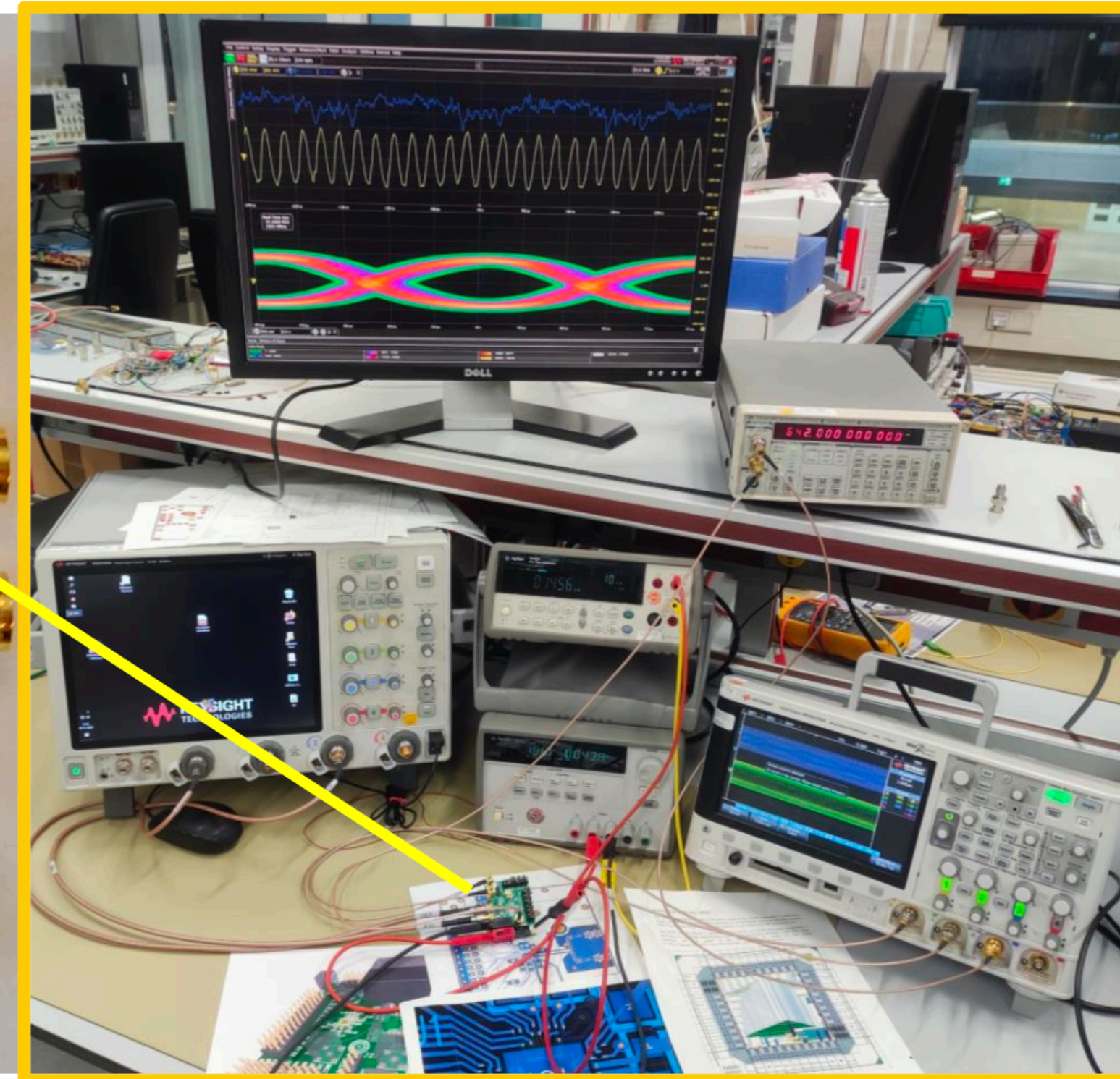
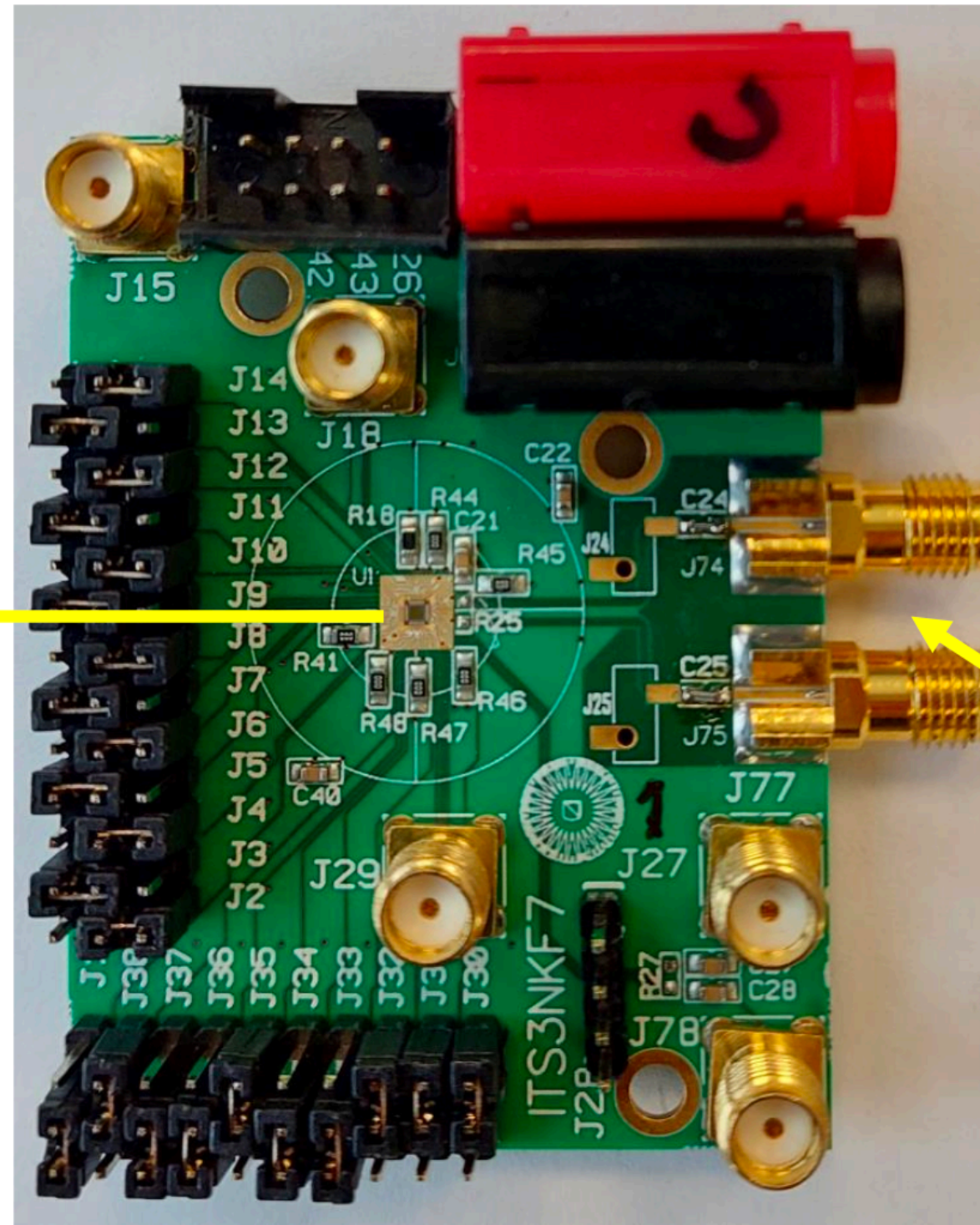
Carrier

- Edge mount SMA for high speed links
- Fixed pattern set by jumpers (v2 also has dipswitches)
- 4 layer board, Rogers material

Chip wire-bonded on the pcb



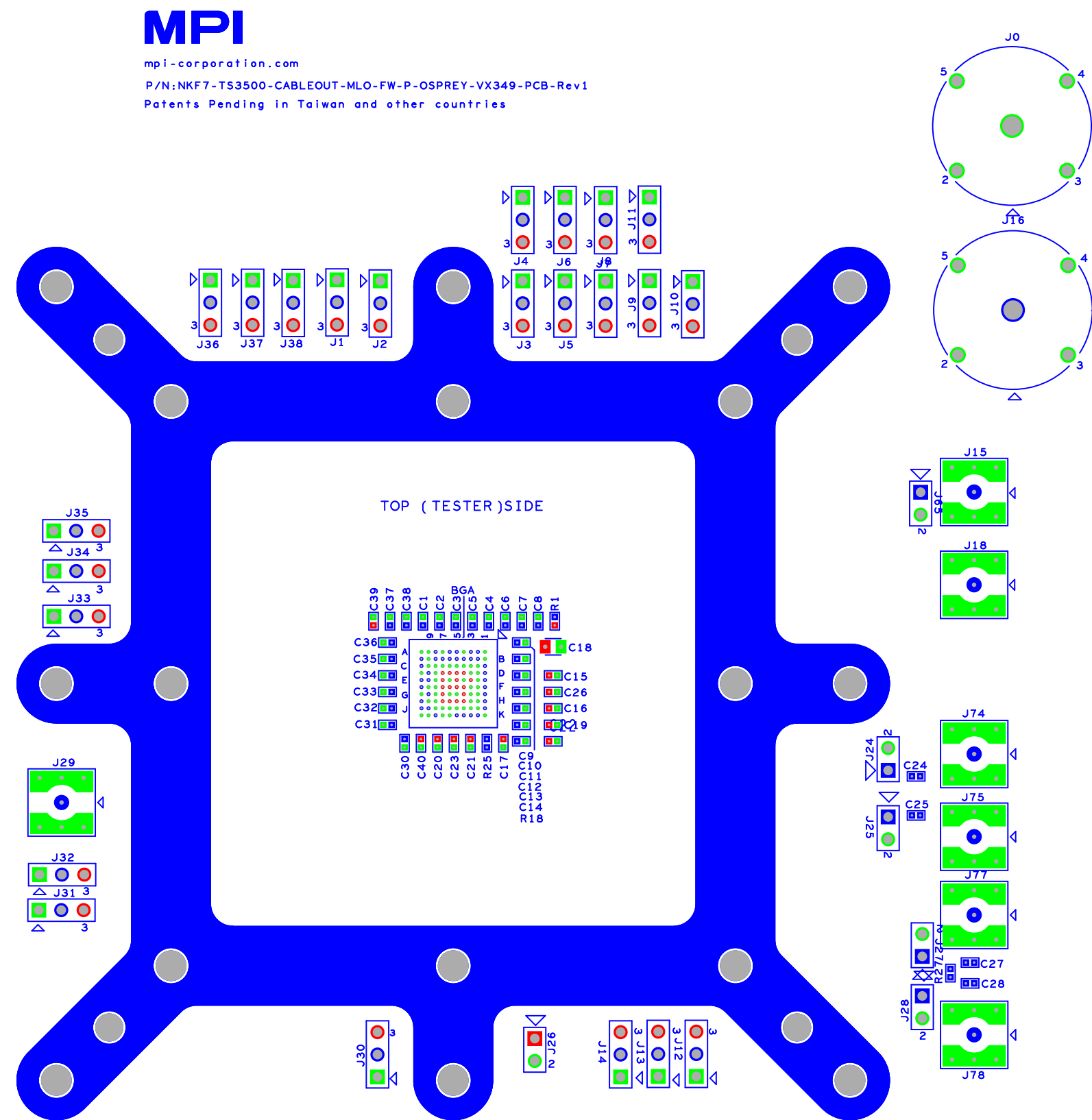
long/bent/thin = highly-inductive bond-wires



First results reported last TWEPP

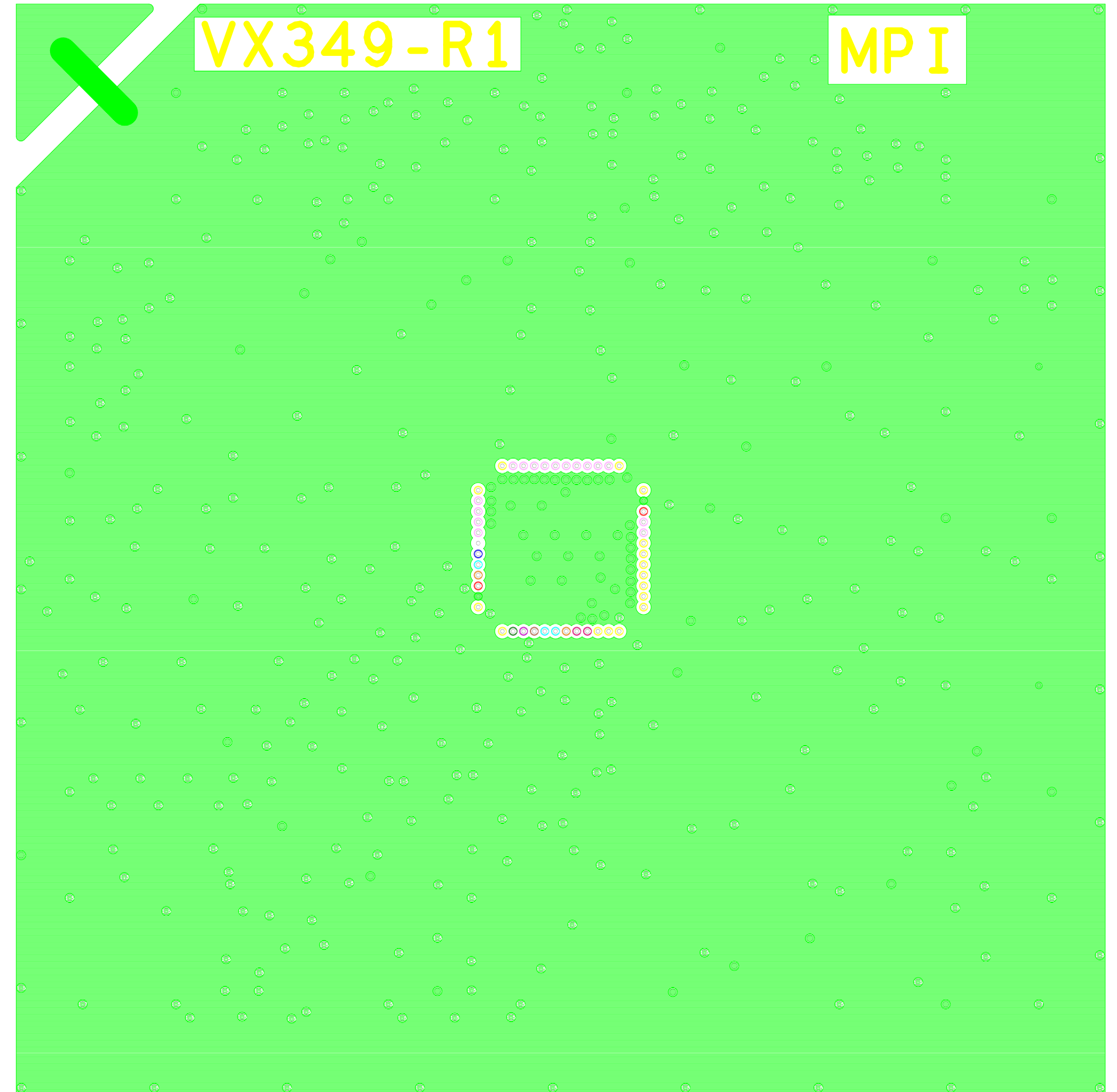
- Good output signals at 5Gbps
- At 10 Gbps some distortion
- Simulations suggest distortion from bondwire inductance

NKF7 probe card PCB and MLO



MPI CONFIDENTIAL C

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SILK_TOP ( TESTER )
  L01_TOP( TESTER )SIDE( 01/10 )
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MOSAIX SYSTEM TESTS

