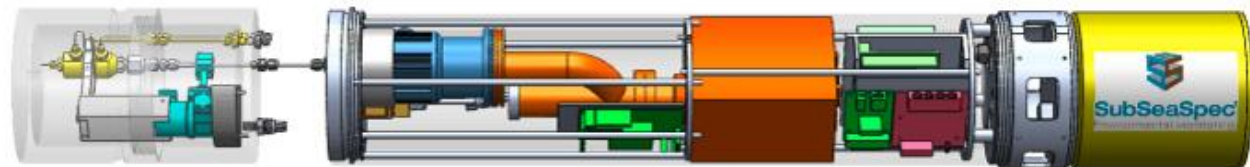


# AN OPTIMIZED MEMBRANE INLET SYSTEM (MIS) FOR UNDER WATER MASS SPECTROMETRY (UWMS)

Malte Hoehn, Christian Hamm, Justin Chaillot, Marvin Frank, Torben Gentz

Alfred-Wegener-Institute for Polar and Marine Research, Bremerhaven, Germany



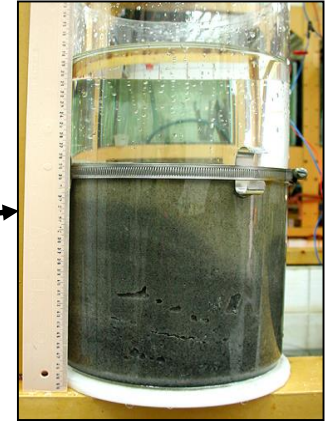
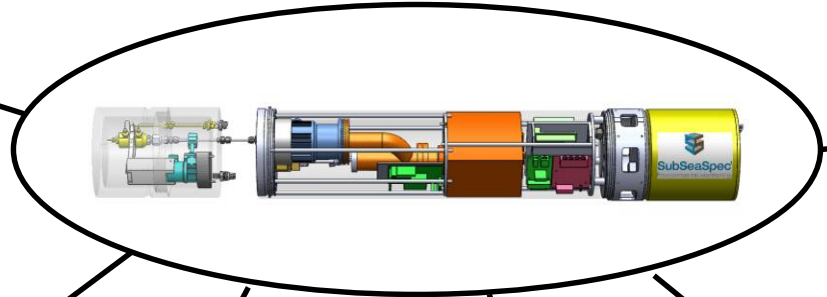
# UNDER WATER MASS SPECTROMETRY: HARSH ENVIRONMENT?



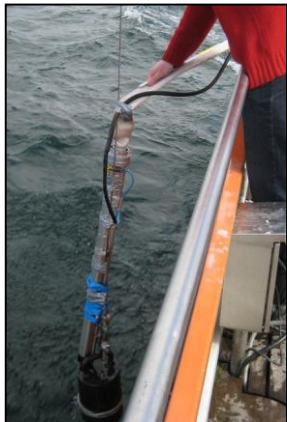
# UNDER WATER MASS SPECTROMETRY



Saab Saabertooth AUV



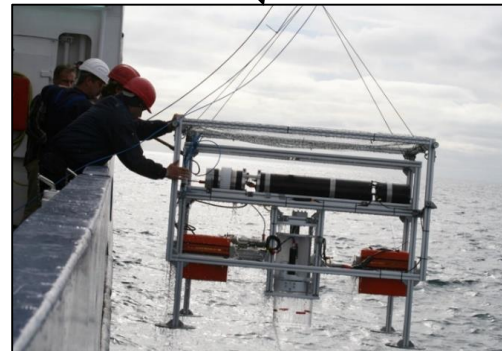
Laboratory measurements



Ex situ



AUV

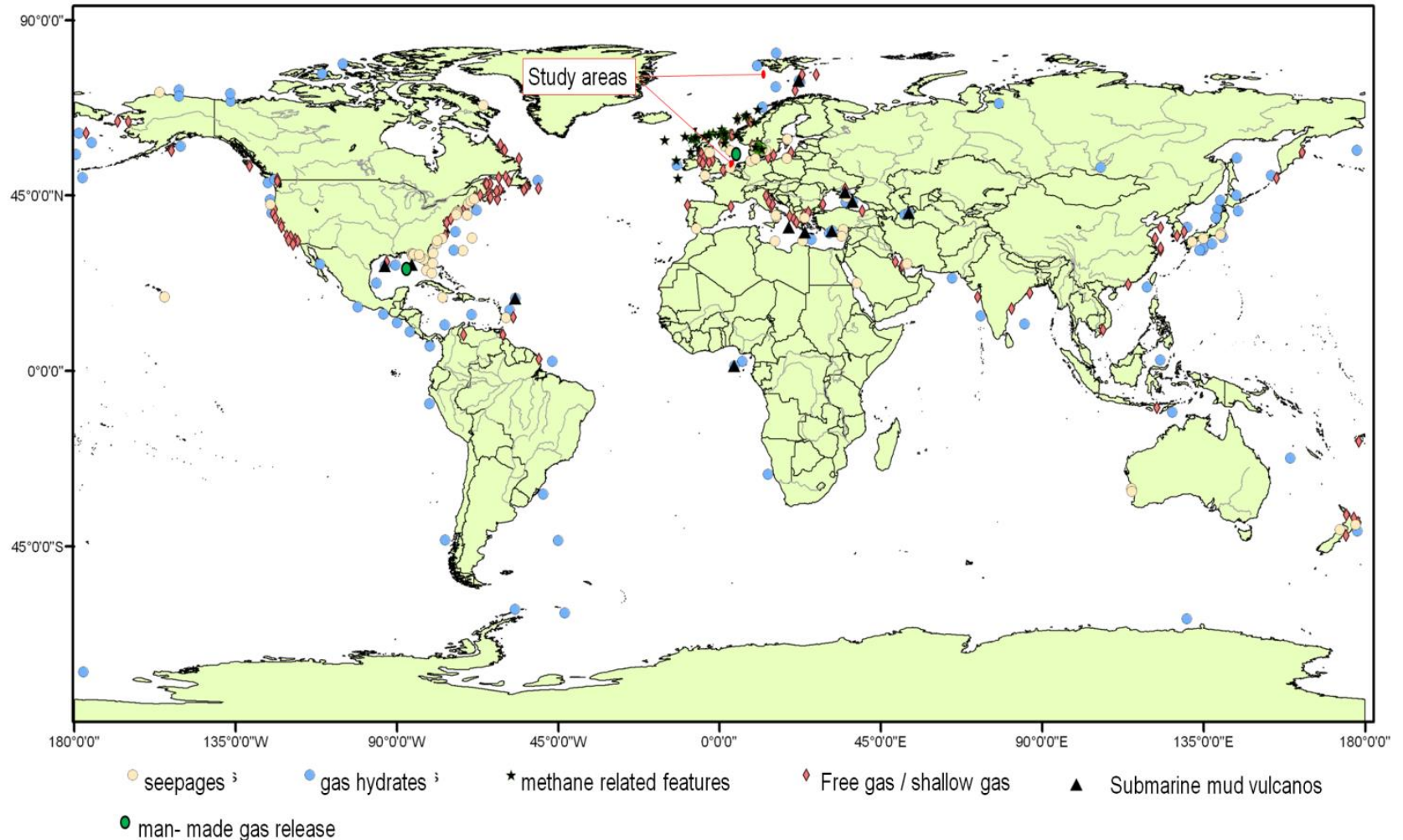


In situ in a frame including benthic chamber



In situ at sediment-water-transition-zone

# GLOBAL RELEVANCE OF METHANE IN AQUATIC SYSTEMS

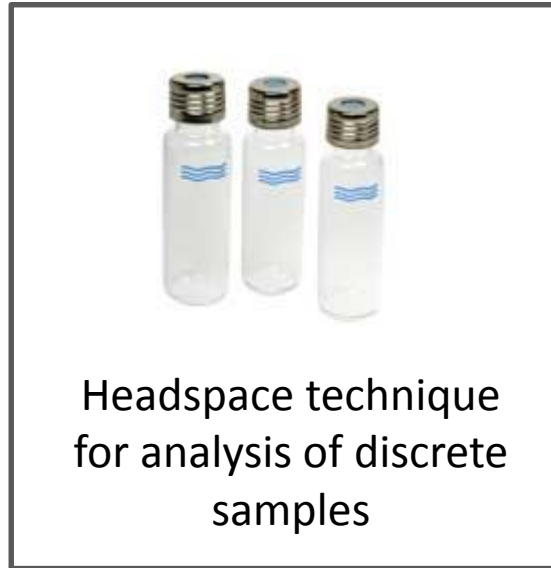


*Worldwide distribution of submarine mud volcanos (Milkov 2000), gas hydrates (Kvenvolden et al. 2001), free gas occurrence (Fleischer et al. 2001), and pockmarks (Hovland et al. 2002).*

# STATE OF THE ART

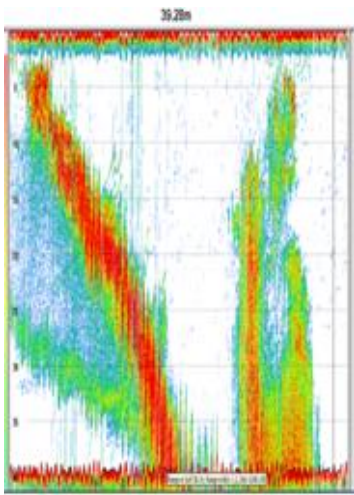


Water column sampling



Gas analysis by gas  
chromatography

Phase separation:  
gas phase from aqueous  
phase



Acoustic “image”  
of gas bubble  
plumes in the  
water column.

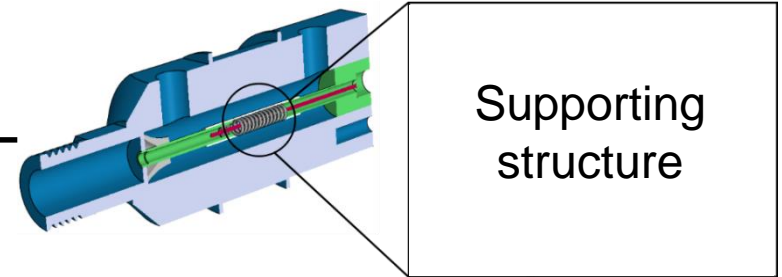
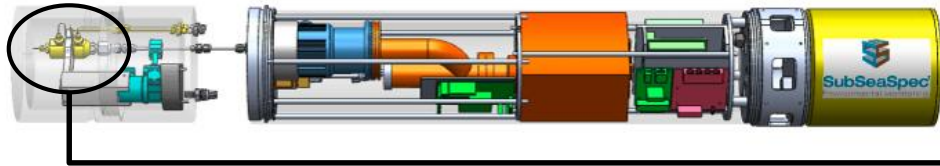


RV Heincke

# THE PRESSURE



# THE MEMBRANE INLET SYSTEM (MIS)

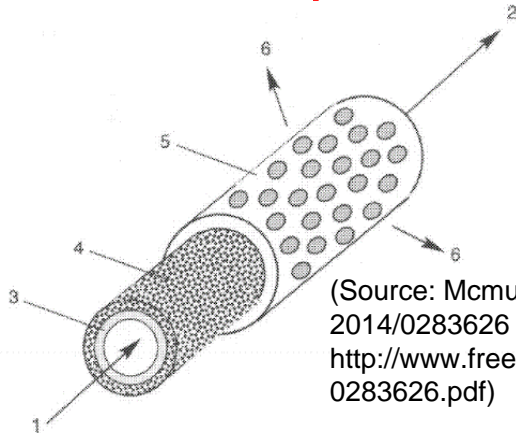


Sintered material:

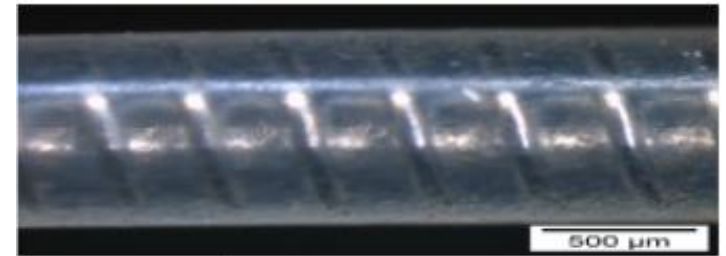
- Low porosity
- ✓ High pressure stability
- Bad reproducibility

Steel Spring:

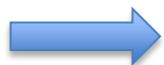
- ✓ High porosity
- Low pressure stability
- ✓ Great reproducibility



(Source: Mcurtry Patentnumber: US 2014/0283626 A1;  
<http://www.freepatentsonline.com/20140283626.pdf>)



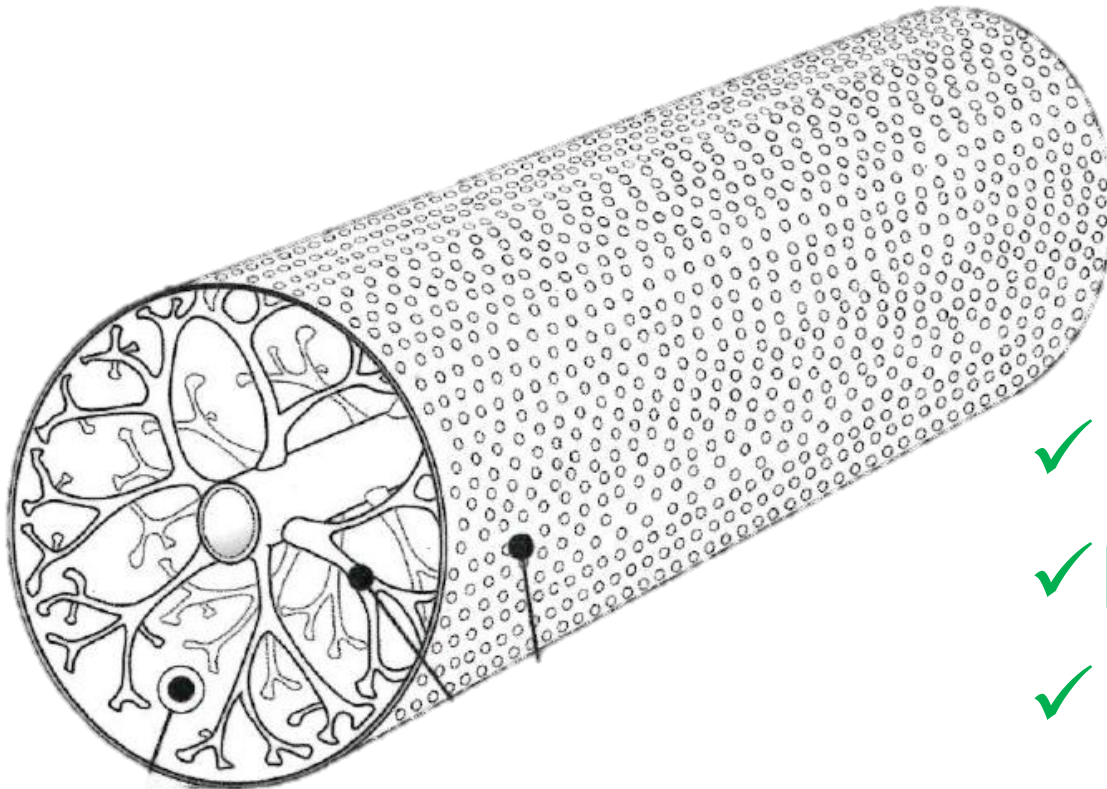
(Source: Gentz and Schlueter)



## Combine the best properties?!



- „Tree“-stabilisation inside
- Holes in the surface
- Tube in the structure for additional heating management

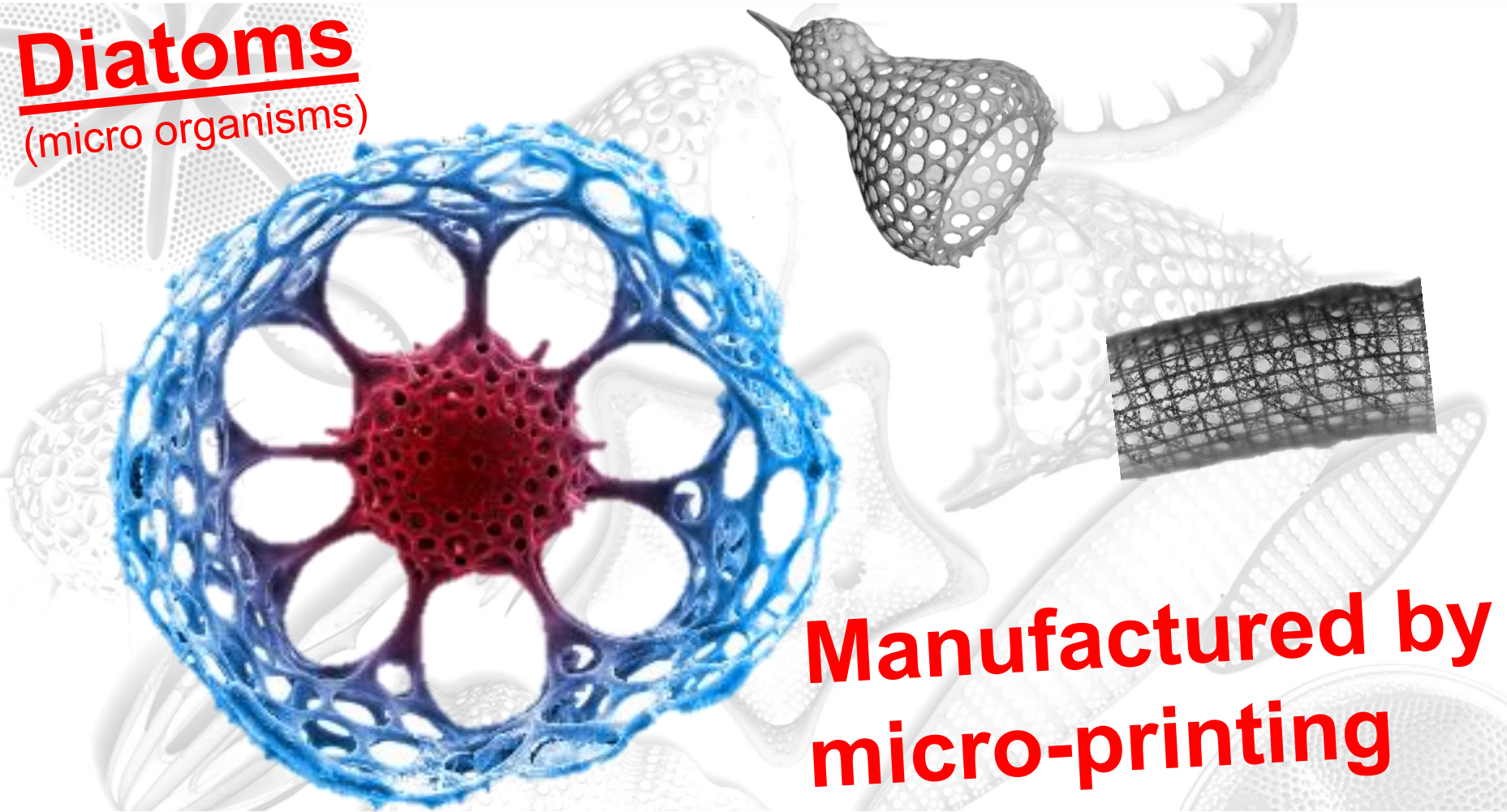


- ✓ Reproducibility
- ✓ High porosity
- ✓ Depth up to 4000 m





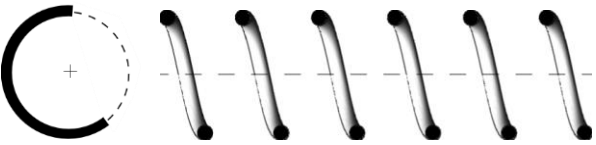




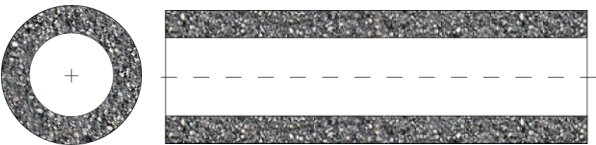




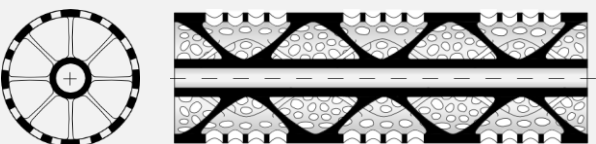



## **Diatoms** (micro organisms)



**Manufactured by  
micro-printing**

Adapt structures from micro organisms out of harsh environmental surroundings

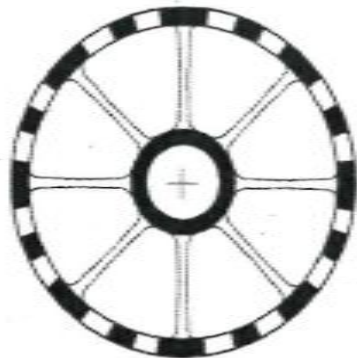
## Advantages / disadvantages

	Supporting structure	Pressure stability	Permeability	Reproducibility	Heating
Steel spring					
Sintered					
Developed					opt.

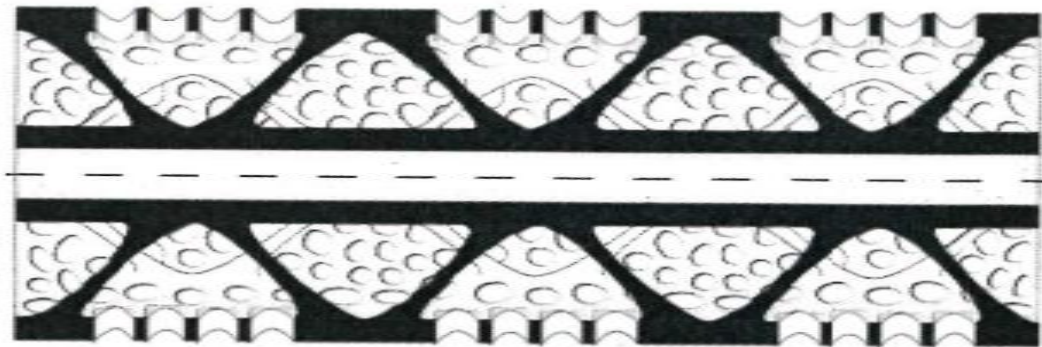
# THE STRUCTURE

- Additive 3D-microprinting of steel
  - Precision up to  $50\ \mu\text{m}$
  - Complex structures possible
- Membrane material is limiting the porosity

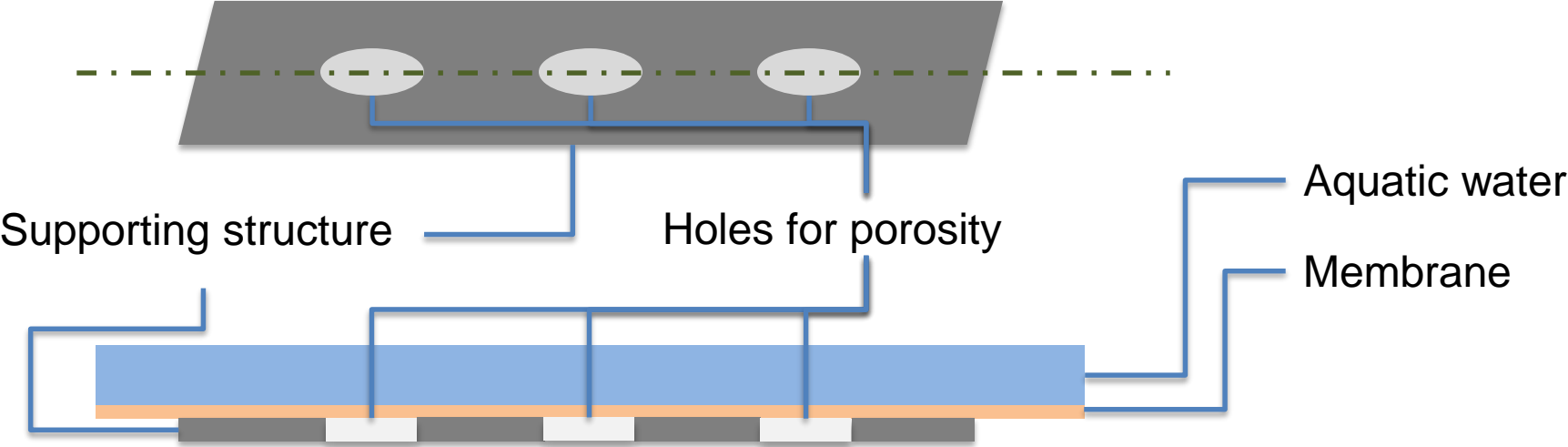
$\sim 1/8''$  (3mm)



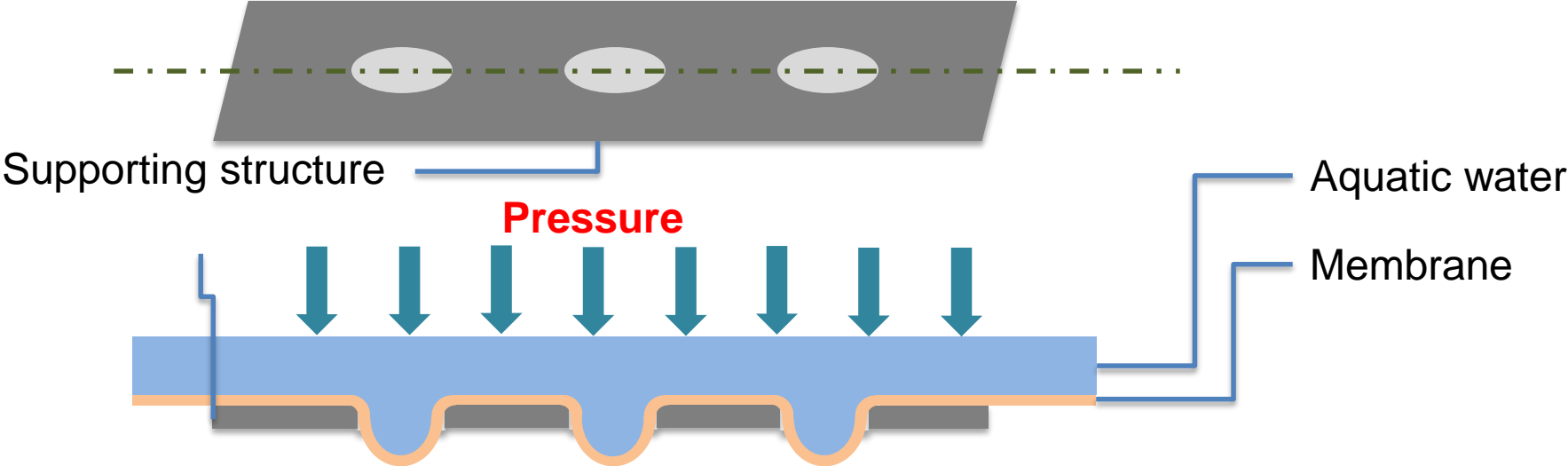
$\sim \frac{1}{2}''$  (13mm)



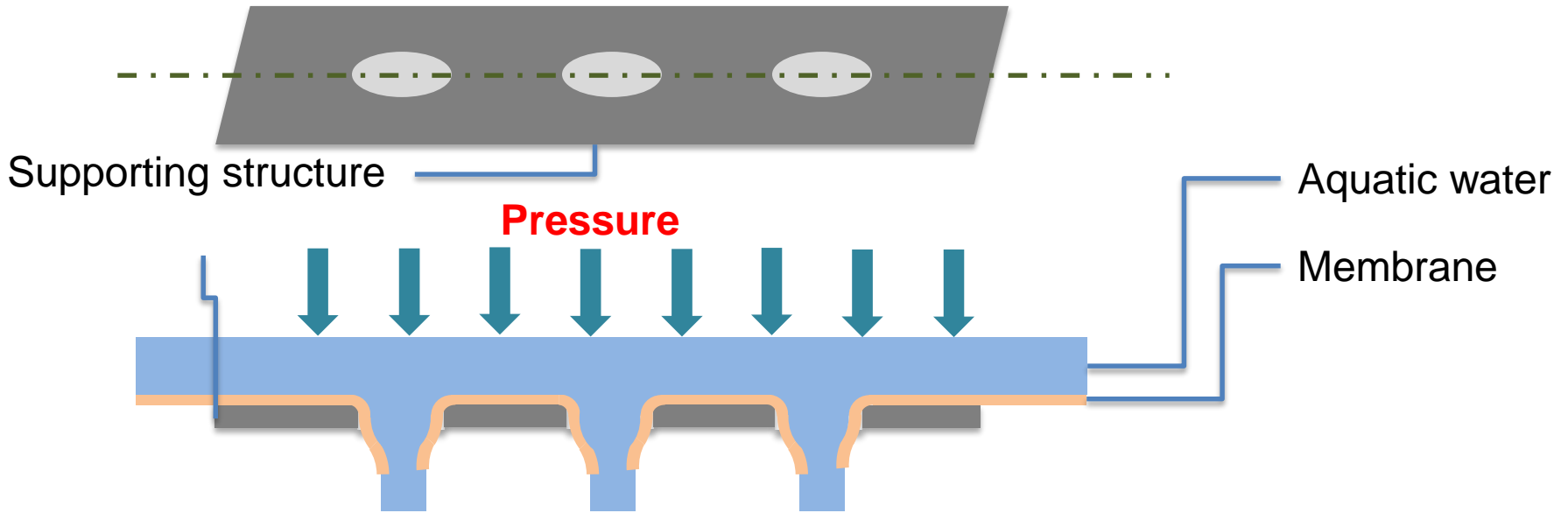
# THE STRUCTURE



# THE STRUCTURE



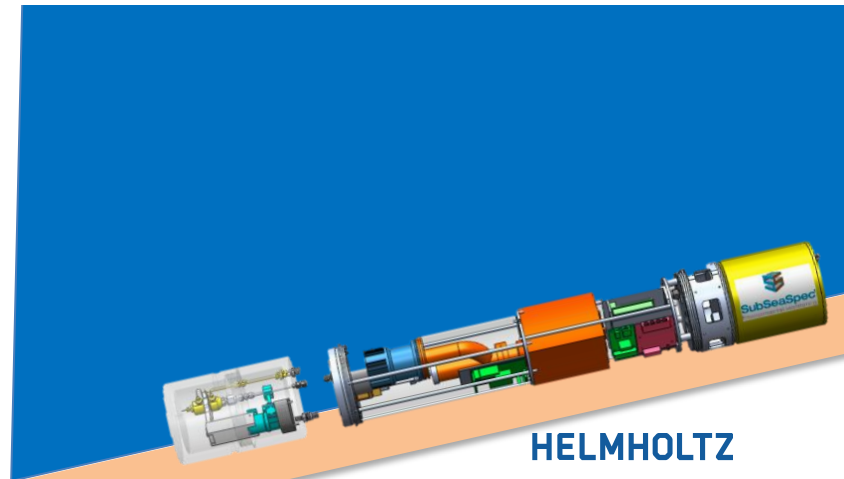
# THE STRUCTURE



**Too high pressure / oversized holes**



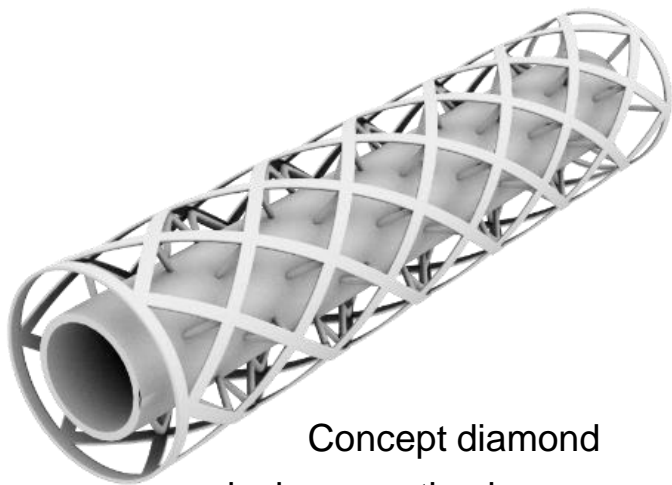
**Damaged System - Cut rope and leave at the ground**



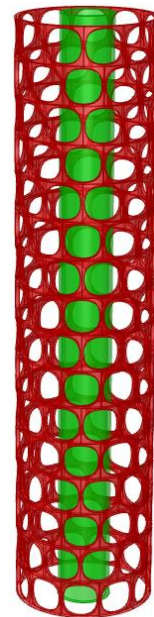
# THE STRUCTURE

## Design concepts

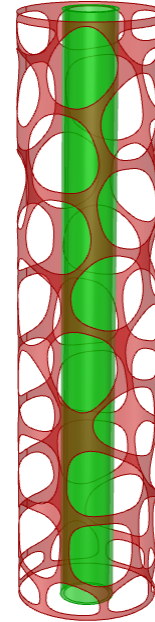
- Adapt functions
- Solve requirements
- Production-oriented design



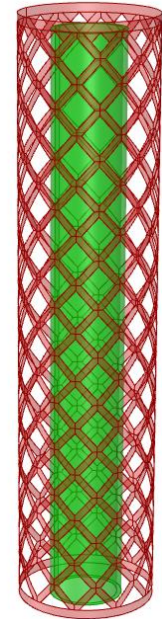
Concept diamond  
incl. supporting beams



Concept  
ellipse



Concept  
comb



Concept  
diamond



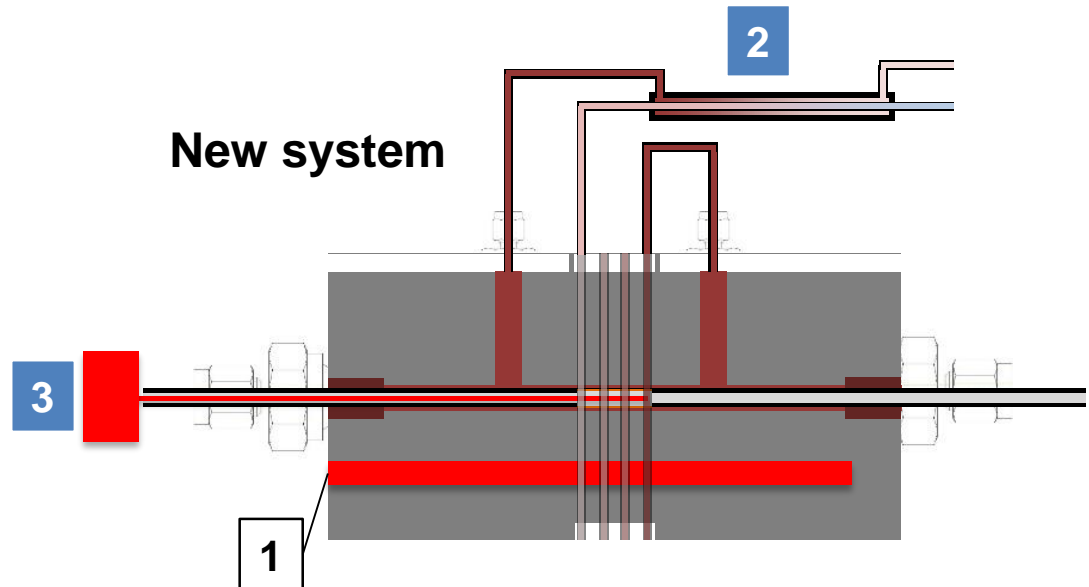
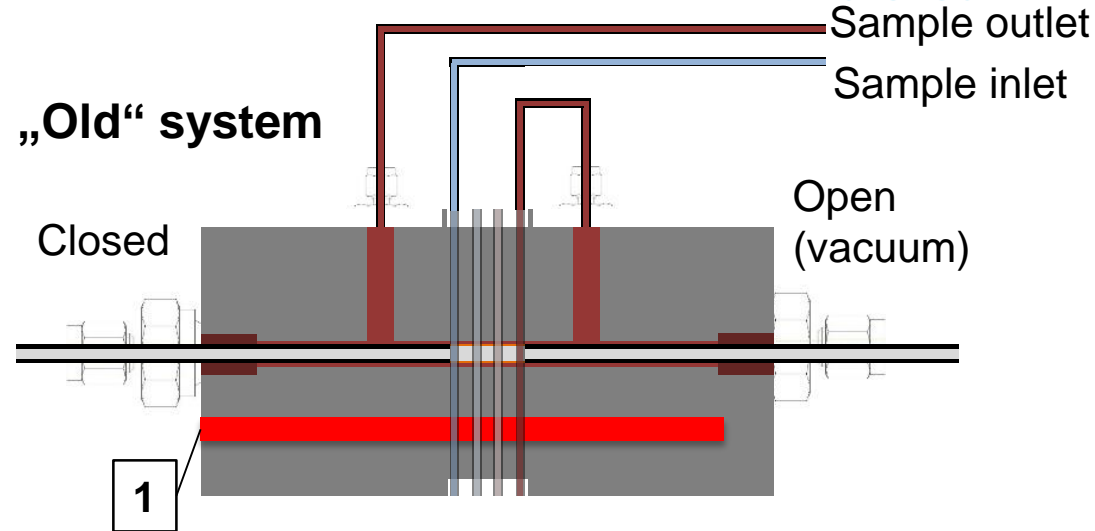
Not suitable  
for production

# HEATING MANAGEMENT



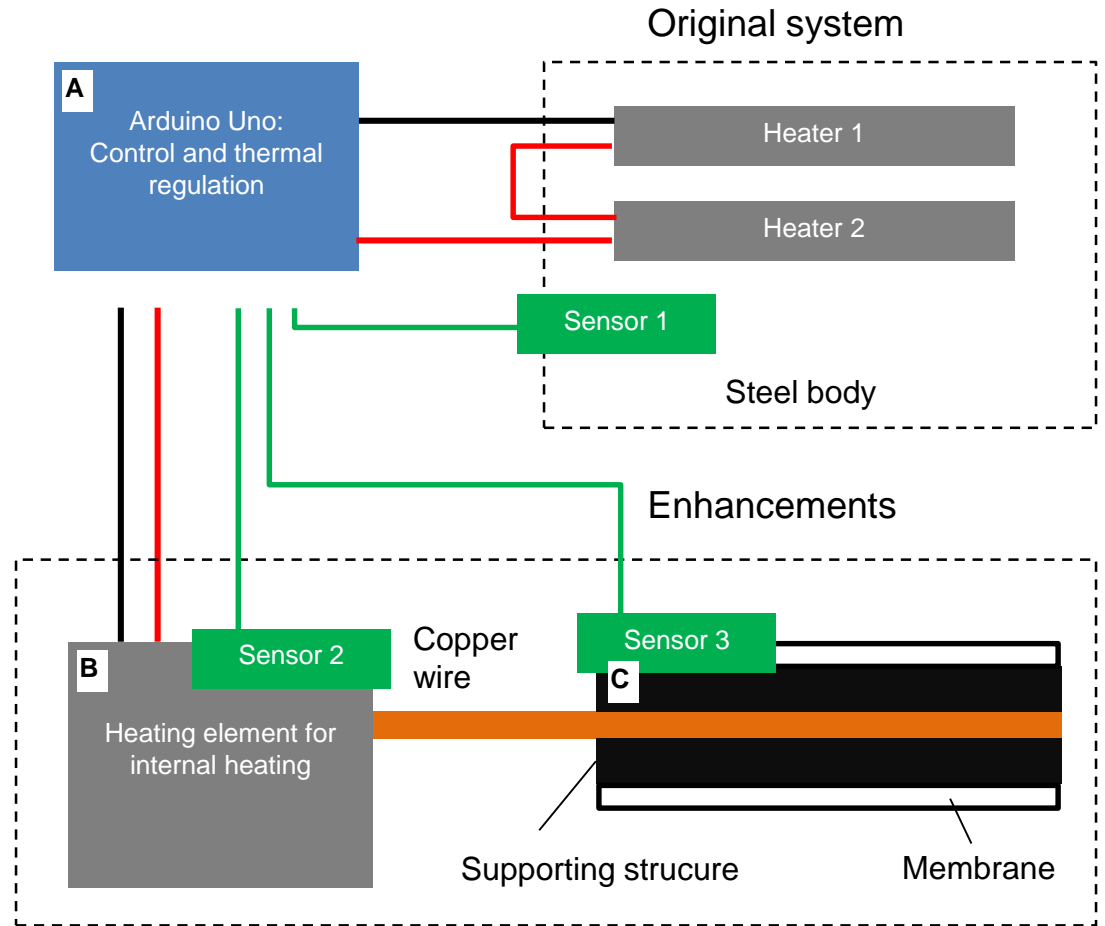
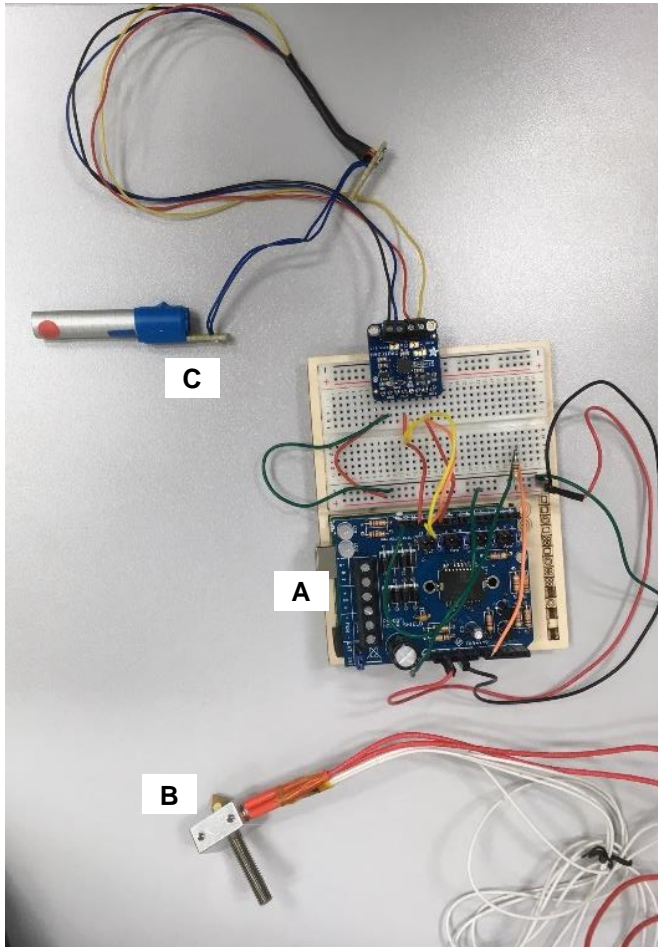
Three integrated modules for the heating management:

1. Heating of the steal body with cartridge heaters
  - Heating of the twisted tubes
2. Heat exchanger
  - from 1 heated water heats the inflowing
3. Internal membrane heating





# HEATING MANAGEMENT

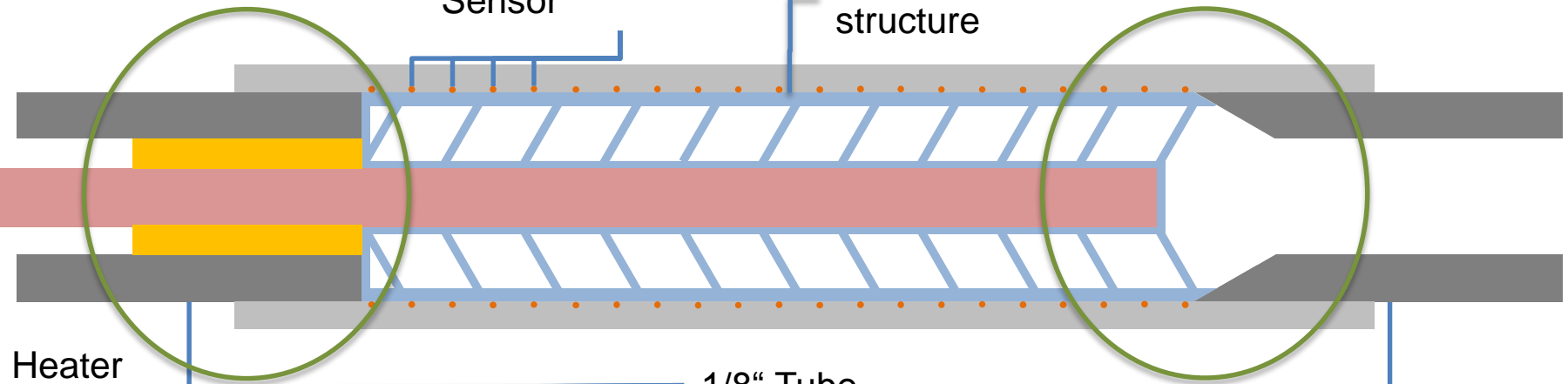


## External heating of a thermal element

Centering with conus and heating element (epoxy)

Platinum wire T-Sensor

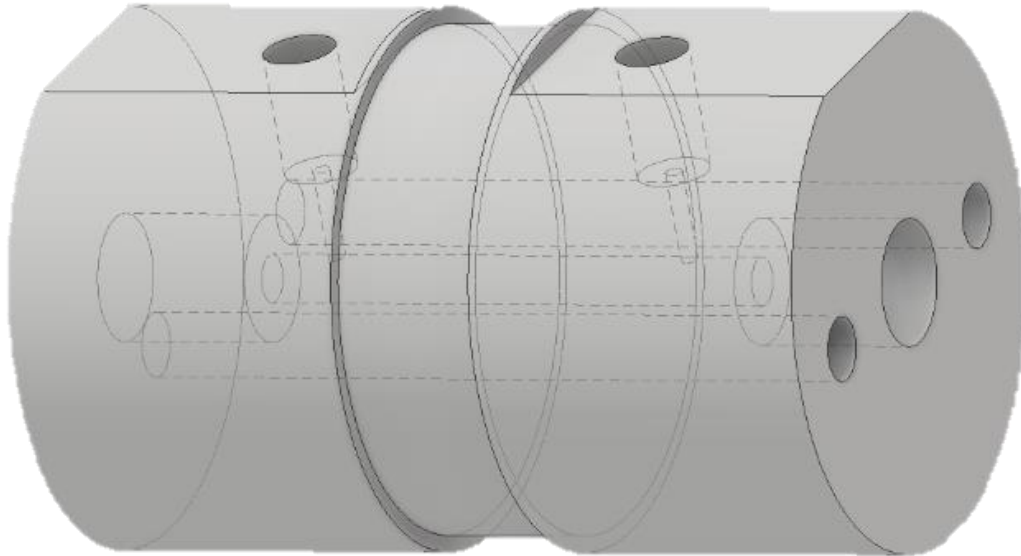
Supporting structure



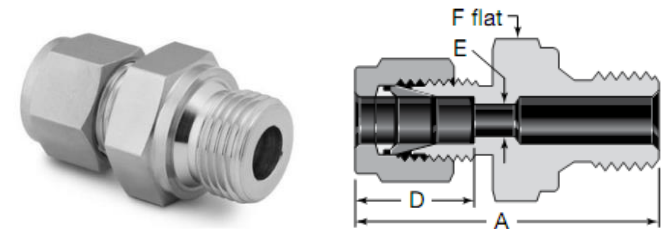
Heater

1/8" Tube

Fitting



- More stable steel body
  - 5cm diameter
  - New design
- Fittings
  - Other seals
  - Other fixation of the tubes

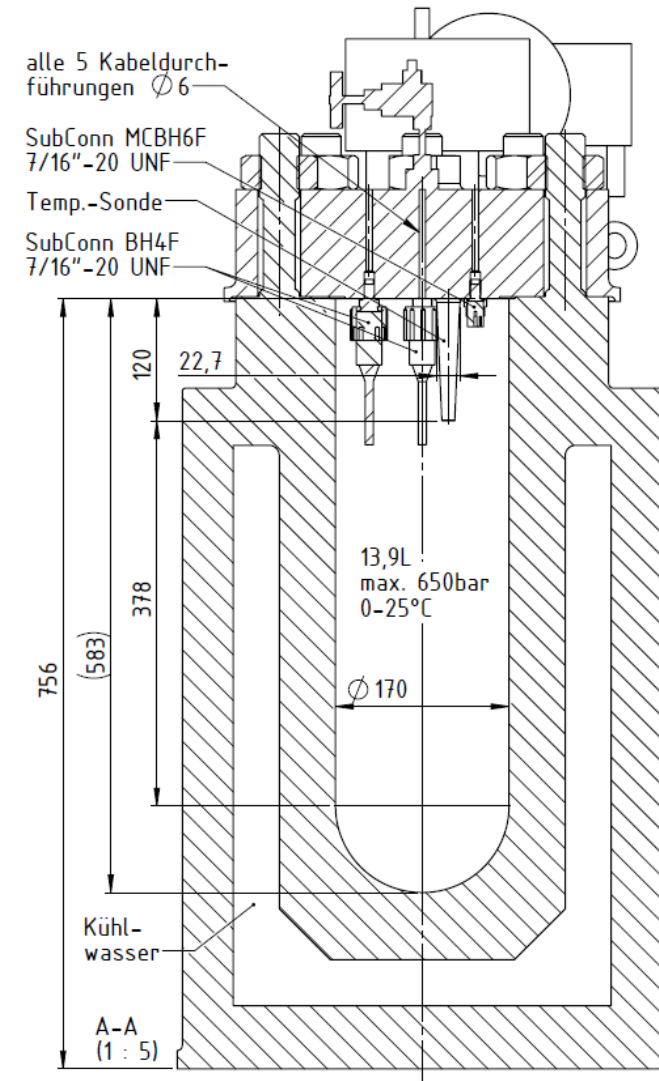


(Source: swagelok.com)

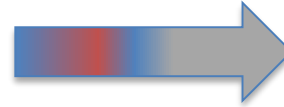
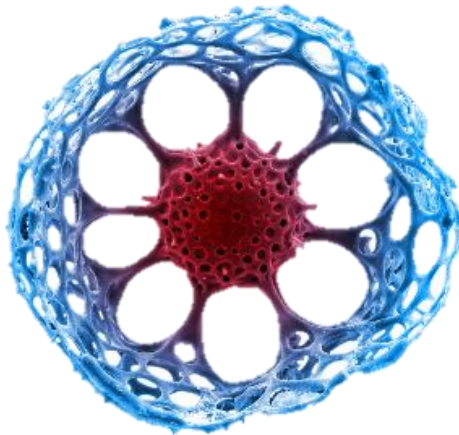
# TEST OF THE DEVELOPED SYSTEM



- AWI pressure tank for tests
  - Up to 650 bar
  - Component groups
    - Supporting structure & membrane
    - Fittings & tubes
    - MIS steel body
- HPLC-pump
- Final expedition



# Thank you for your attention!



- ✓ High porosity
- ✓ High pressure stability
- ✓ High reproducibility

[www.awi.de](http://www.awi.de)  
[Malte.Hoehn@awi.de](mailto:Malte.Hoehn@awi.de)