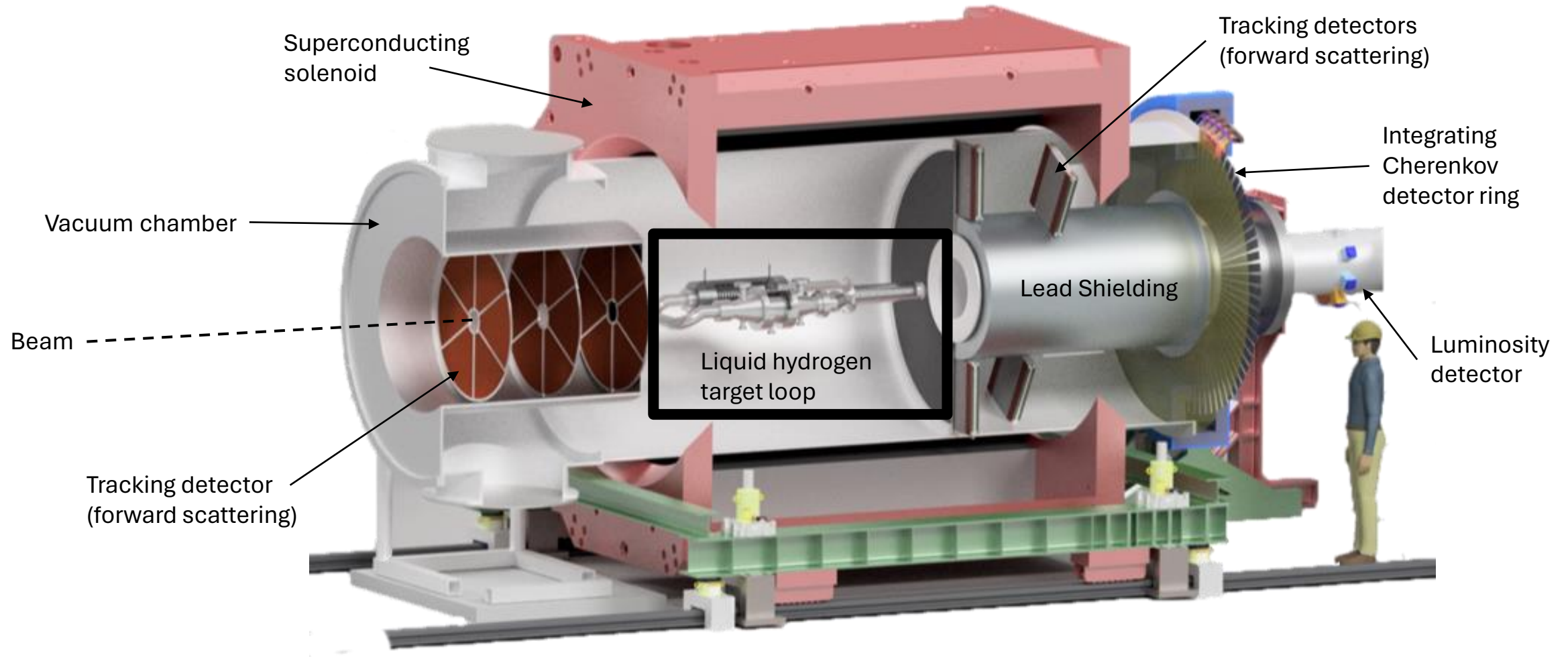


# CFD Simulation of Target Cell and Gas Supply System

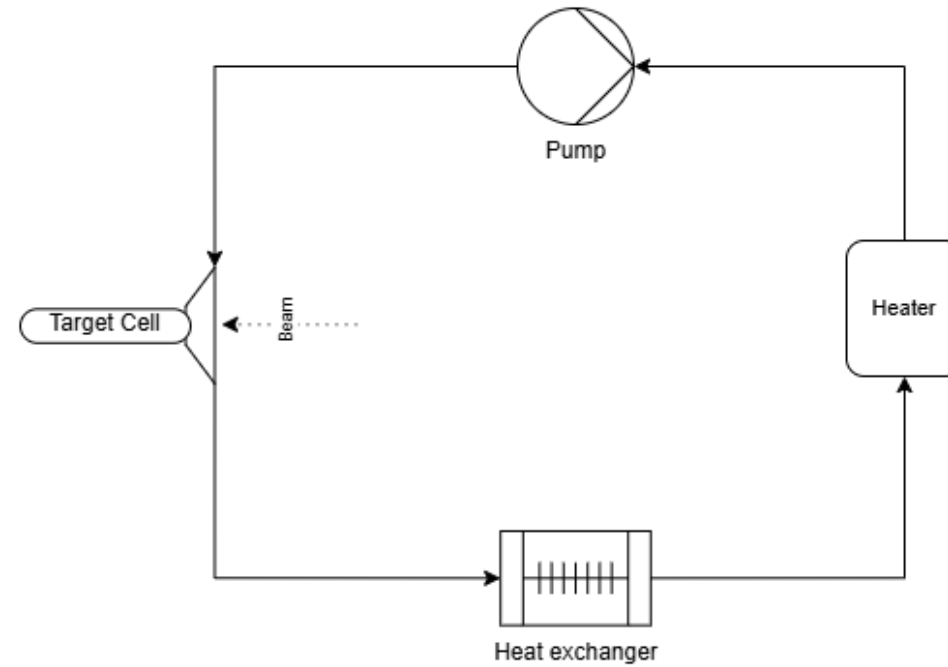
Siddharth Thakker

April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
Institute of Nuclear Physics  
Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz

# Experimental setup



# The liquid hydrogen target loop



**Fig:** Loop flow diagram

# Design requirements

- accommodate full azimuthal angle
- polar angle range between  $25^\circ$  to  $45^\circ$
- 3135W of heat deposited in target cell by the beam
- Systematic effects affecting  $A^{PV}$  uncertainty –
  - Density reduction,  $\Delta\rho/\rho$  – A static decrease in target density caused by beam-induced heating within the illuminated volume.
  - Density fluctuation,  $\delta\rho/\rho$  – Time-dependent variations in density occurring over the beam's helicity periods.

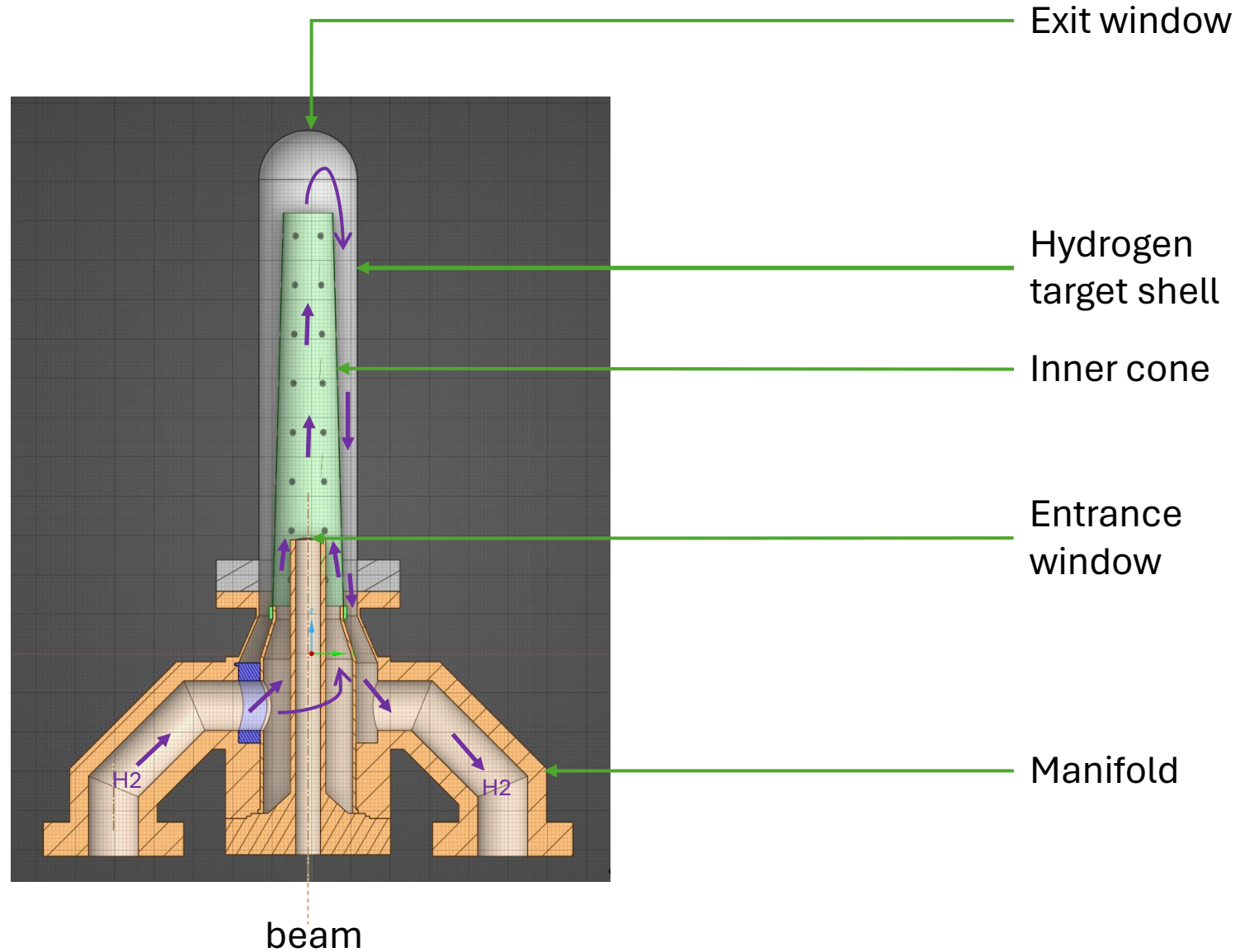
# Target cell specifications

Pressure/temperature	2.4bar / 20K
Cell length	60cm
Mass flow rate	< 2kg/s
LH2 pump head	< 0.1bar
Beam area on target	25mm <sup>2</sup>
Heat deposited	3.1kW
Target thickness	4.3g/cm <sup>2</sup>
LH2 $\Delta\rho/\rho$	<2%
LH2 $\delta\rho/\rho$ at 1 kHz	<10ppm

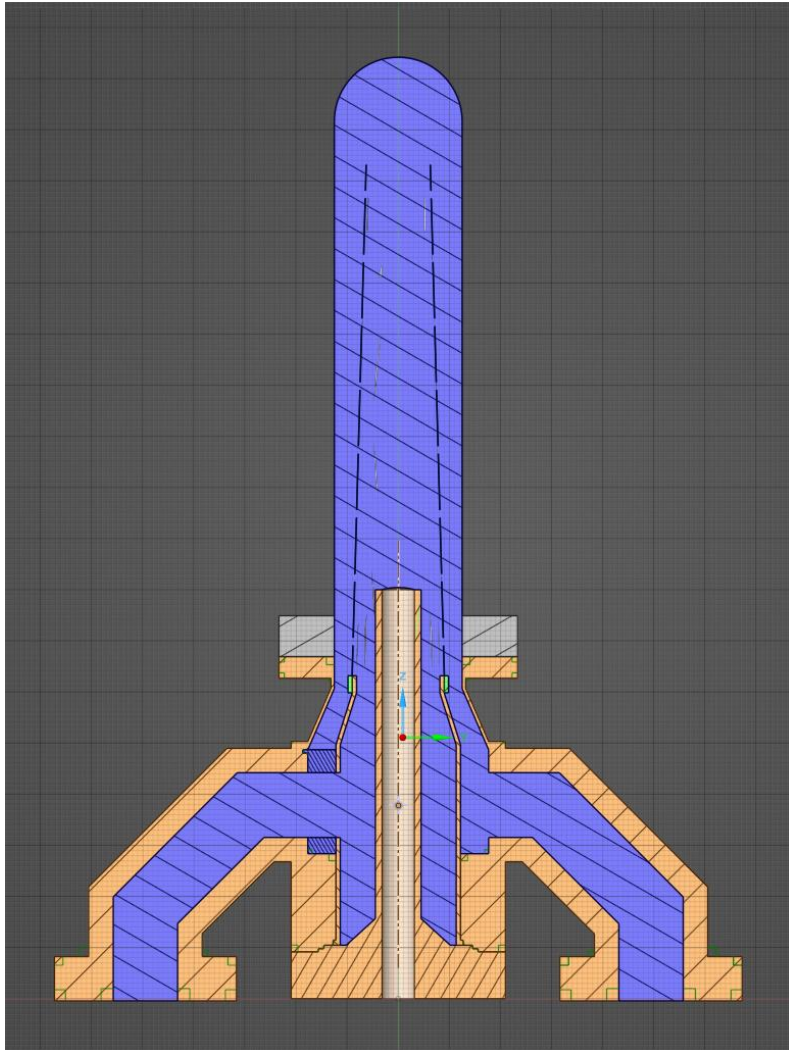
**Table:** All design parameters for target cell

# Target cell

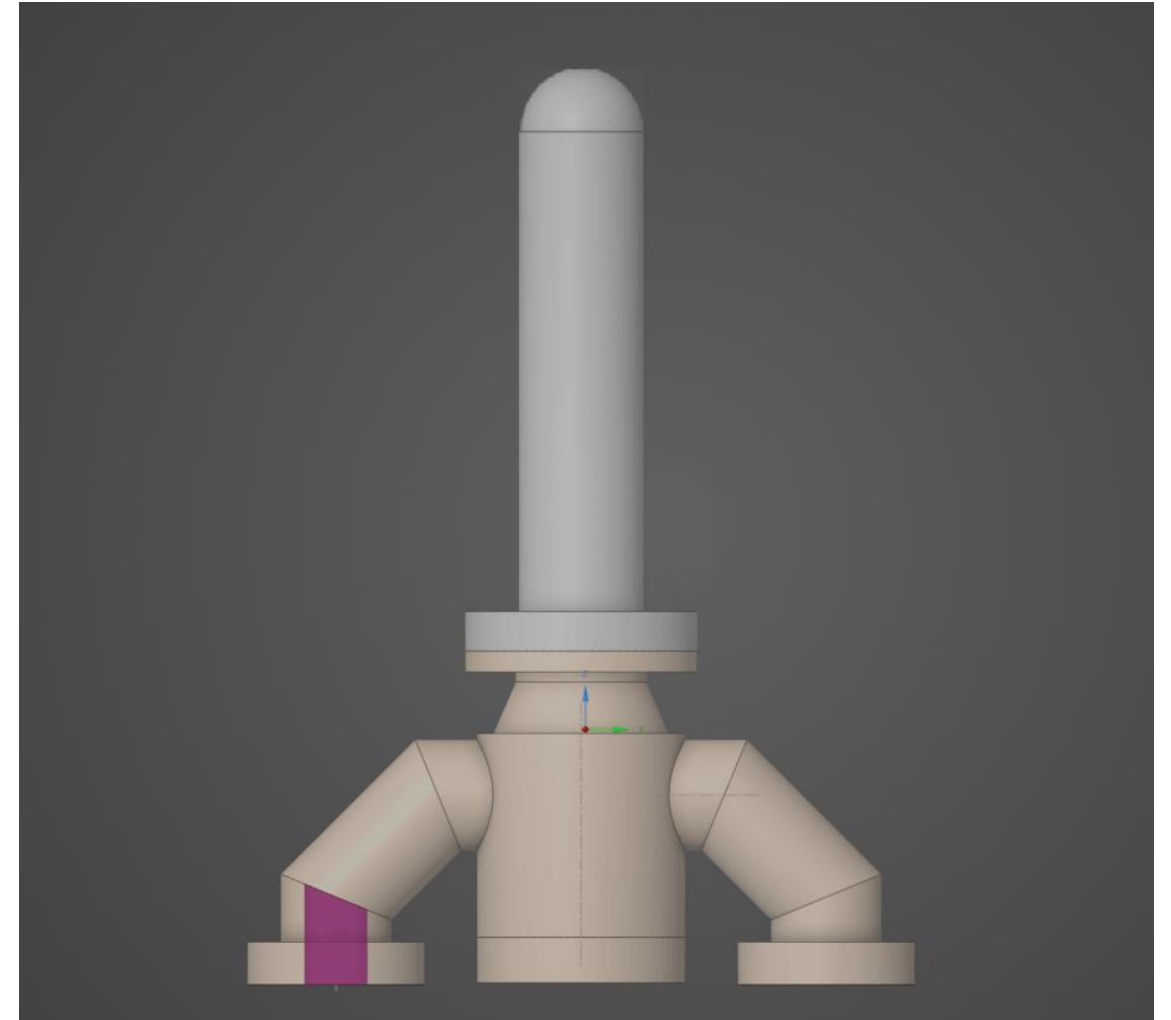
**Fig:** Target cell with manifold



P2 Target design using CFD

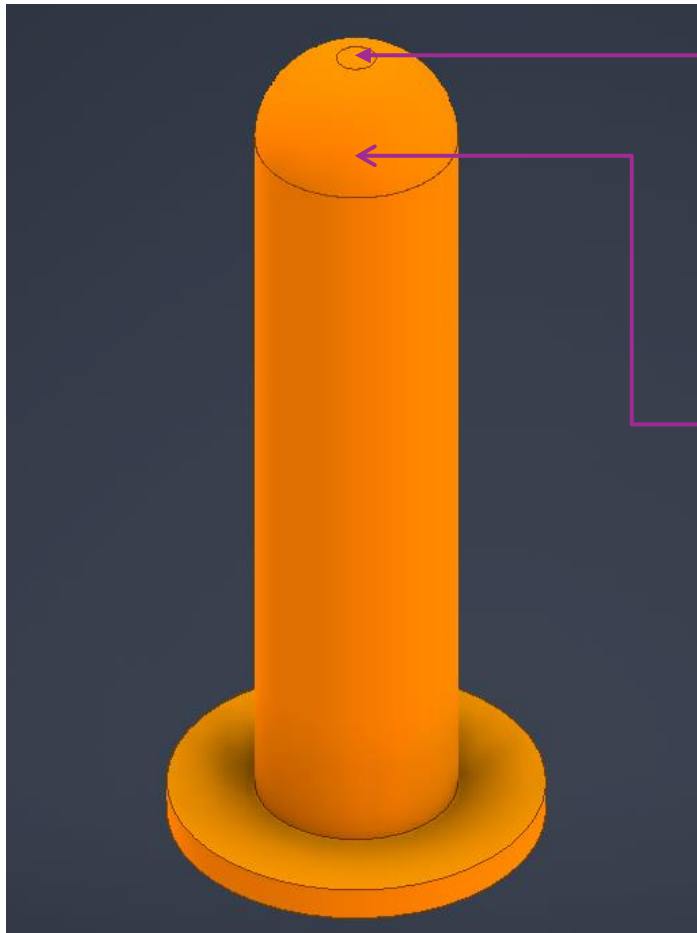


**Fig:** Target cell  
During operation



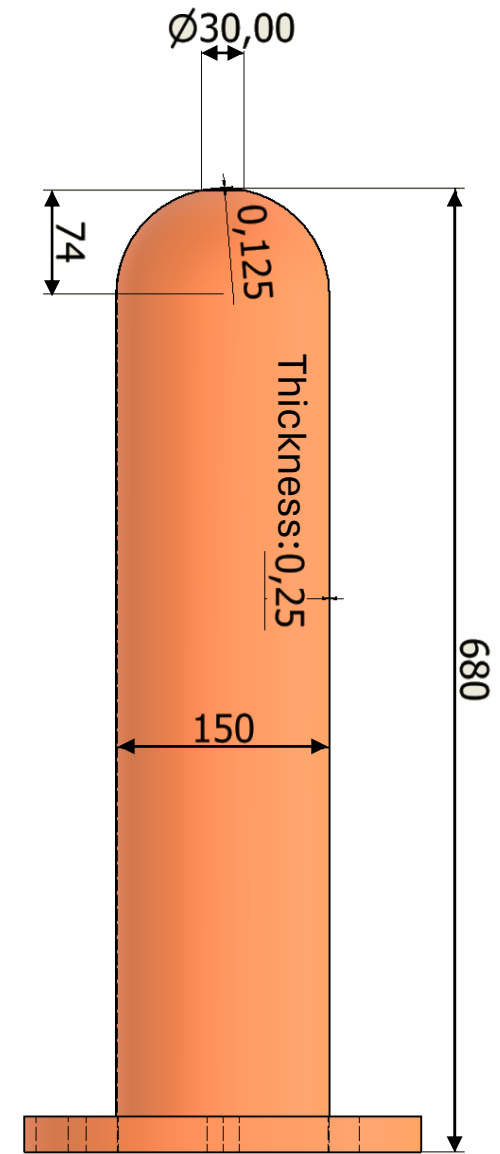
**Fig:** Target cell  
Animation of the liquid hydrogen flow

# Hydrogen target shell



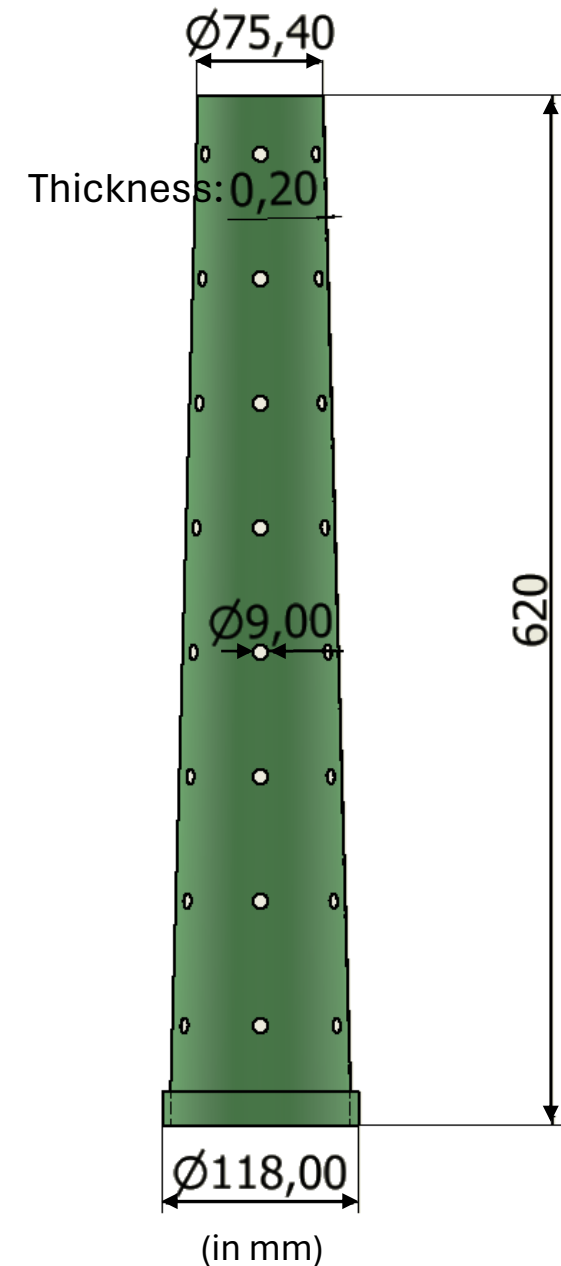
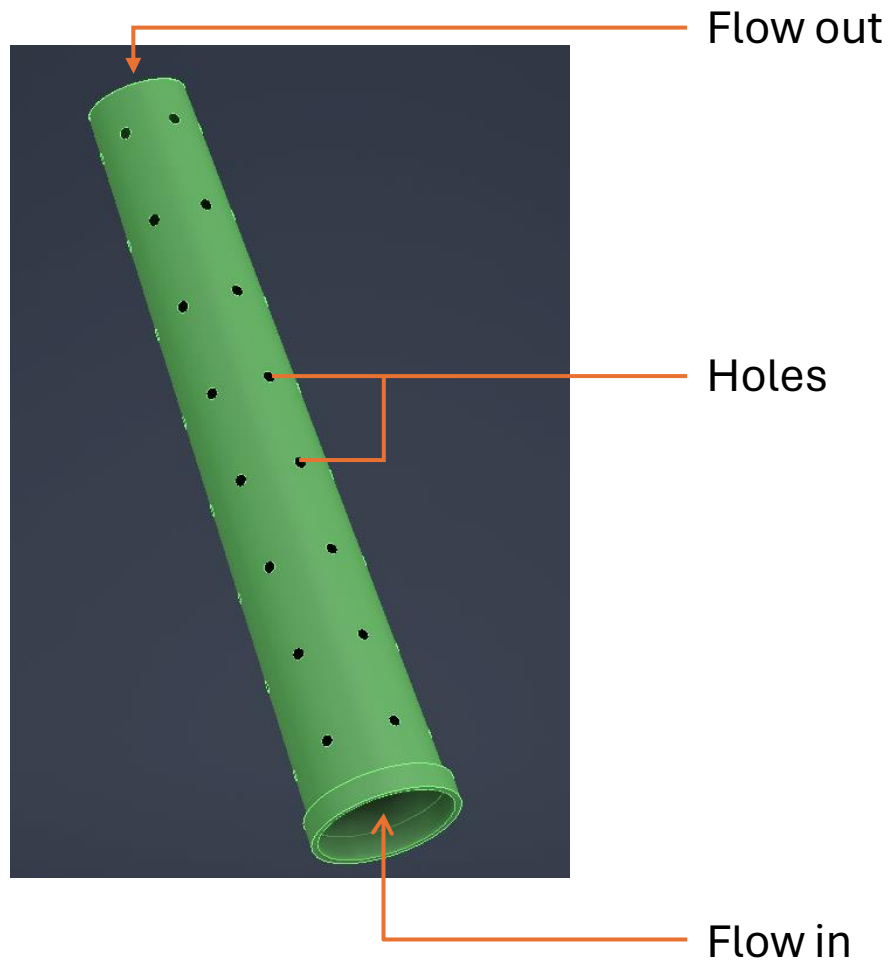
Beam exit

Hemispherical window



(in mm)

# Inner Cone/ Conical Flow Diverter



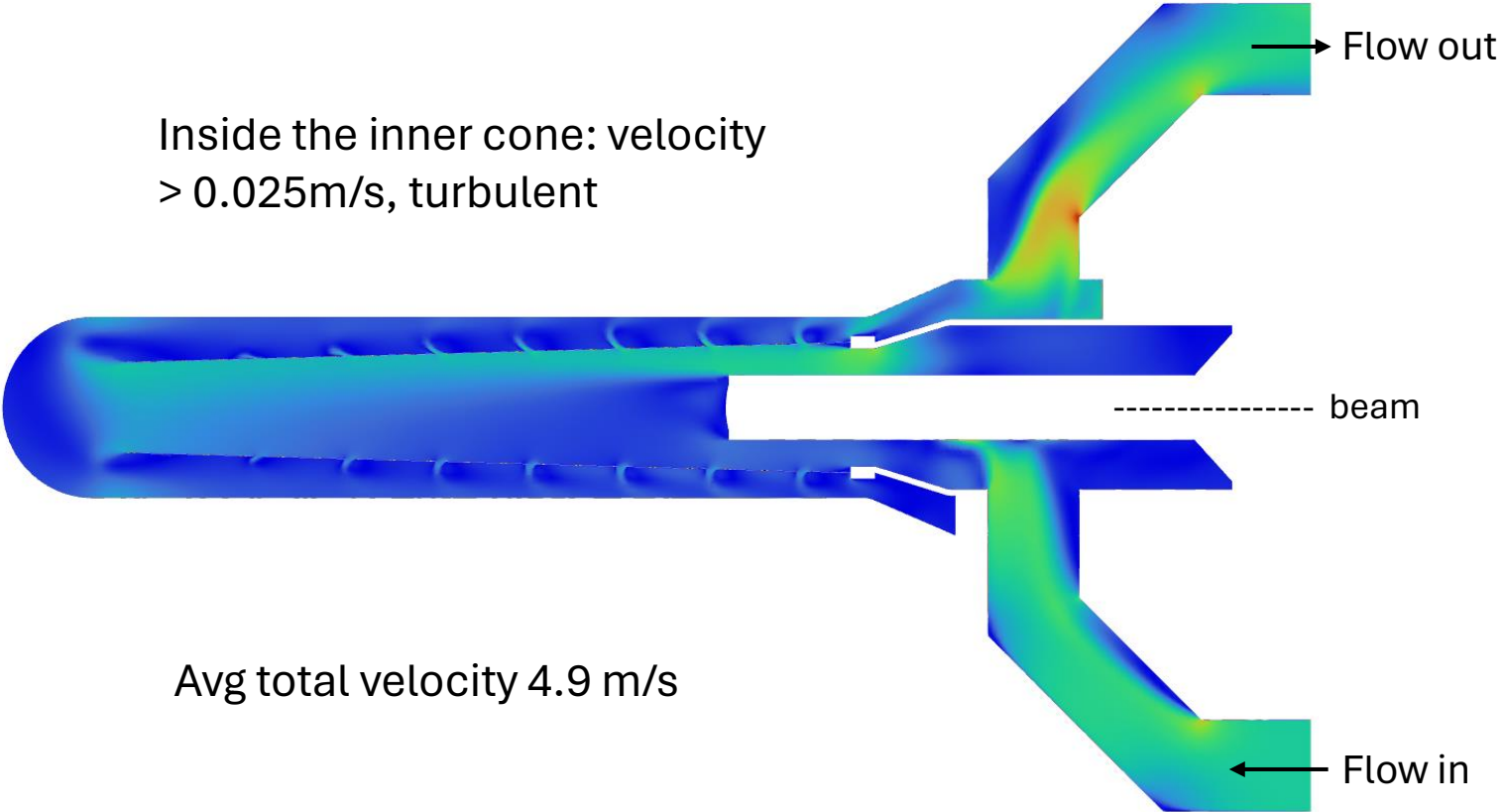
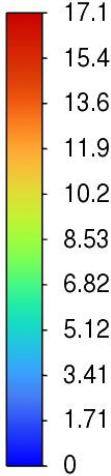
# CFD simulation of target cell

- Target cell with its manifold
- Steady state simulation
- 20K liquid H<sub>2</sub>
- Mass flow 1.9 kg/s
- Turbulence using K-epsilon viscous model
- 5x5mm rastered beam depositing 3.1kW

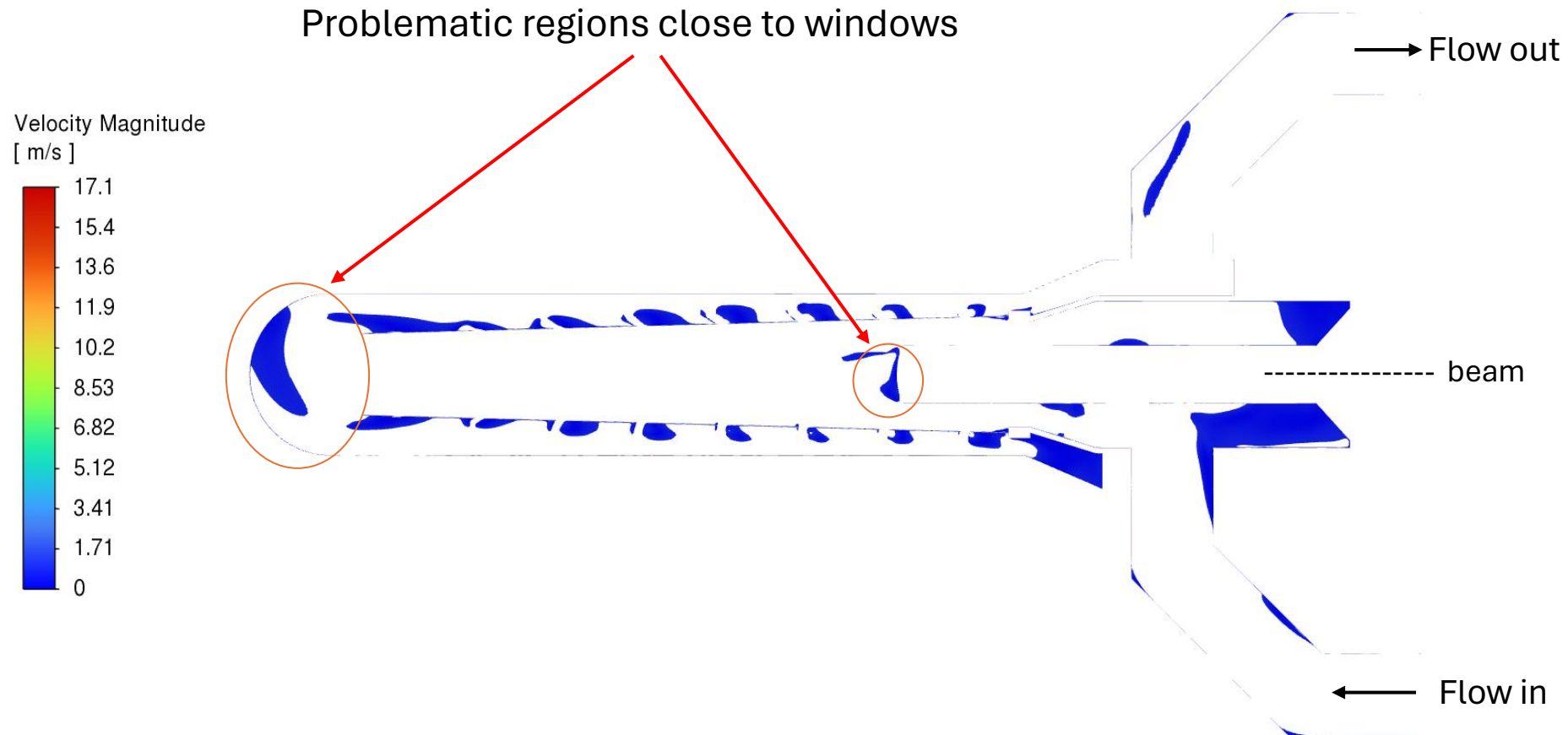
# Velocity contour

Ansys  
2025 R2

Velocity Magnitude  
[ m/s ]

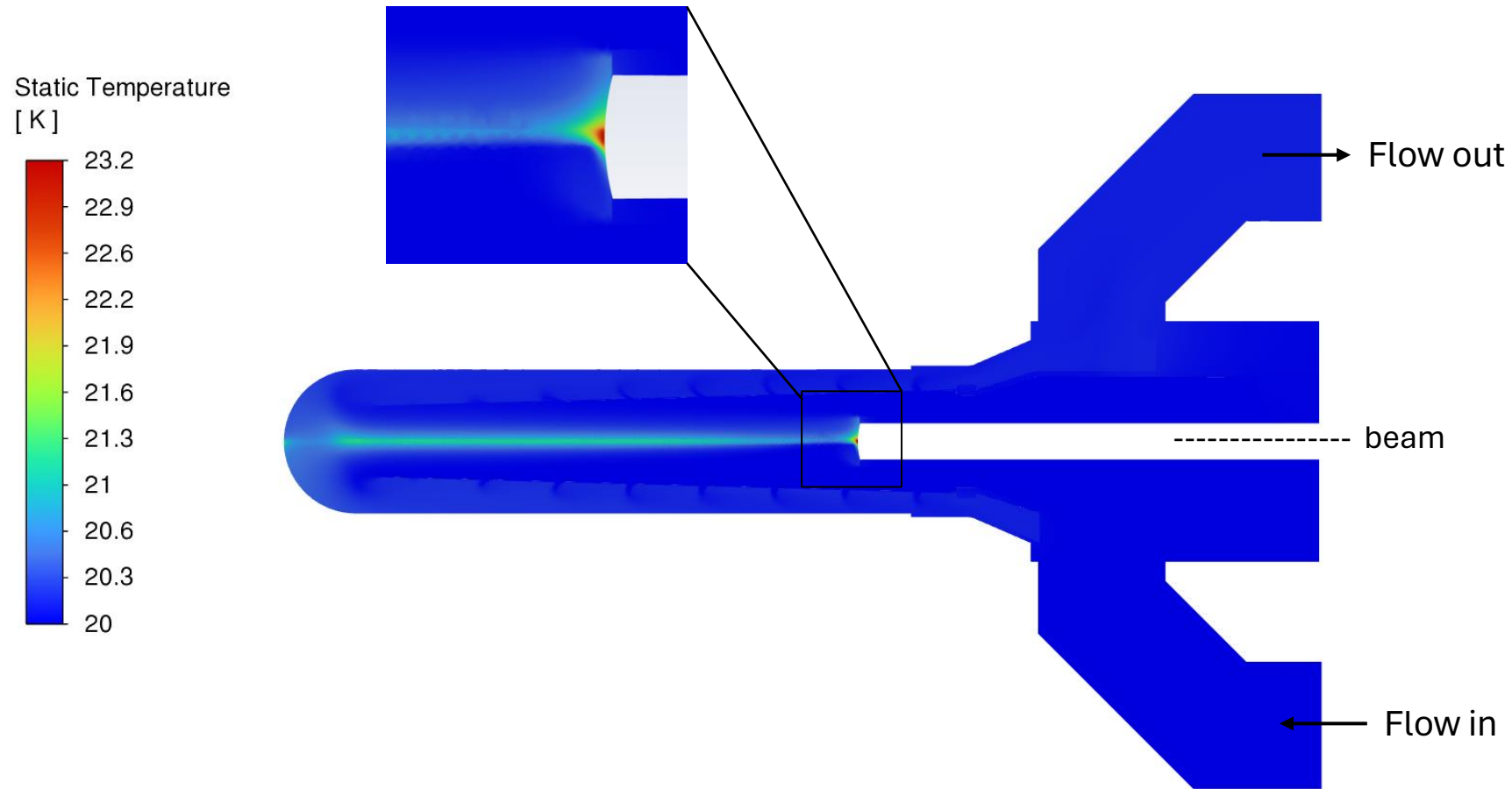


# Low velocity regions with $< 1\text{ m/s}$



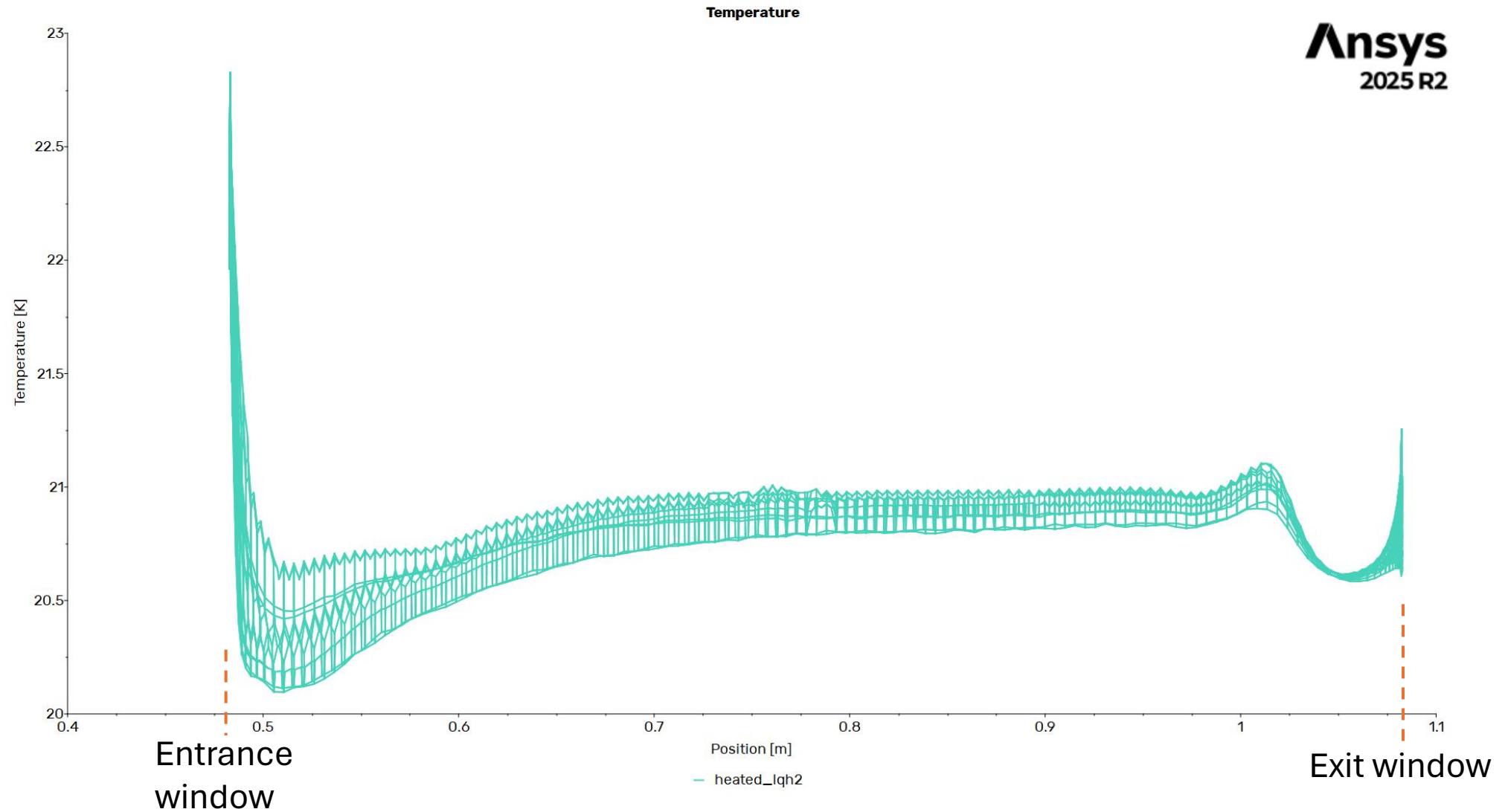
# Temperature contour

**Ansys**  
2025 R2



lq H2 is expected to boil at 23.2K

# Temperature variation at the beam



**Ansys**  
2025 R2

# Gas supply and safety

## Parts

- Active gas cabinet
- Gas Panel
- Supply lines
- Exhaust lines

## Operation

- Commencing – Vacuum in supply lines, inerting the exhaust lines, hydrogen supplied to the loop and cooled
- During the experiment – lq H2 in the loop, exhaust lines in place
- After the experiment – lq H2 slowly boils and returns to tank via check valve

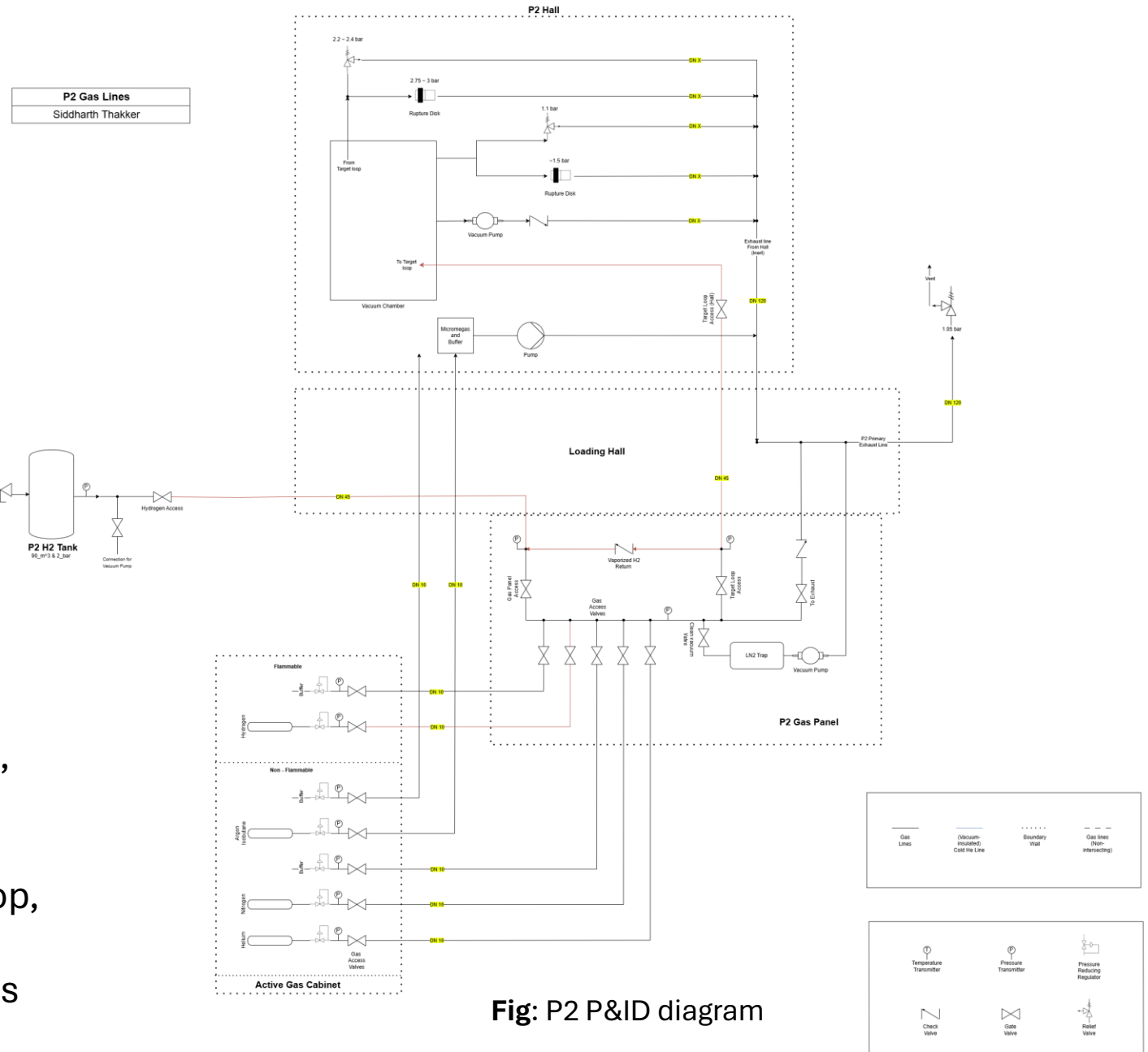
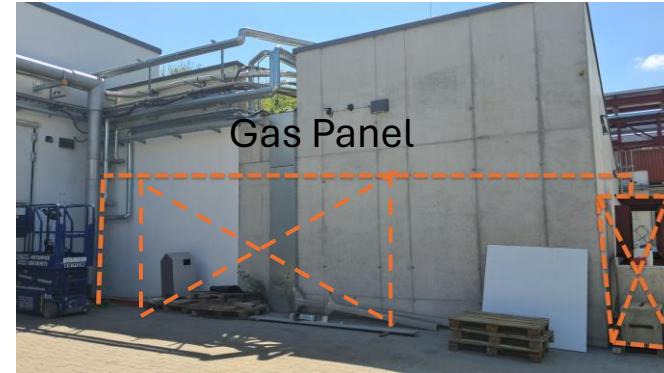


Fig: P2 P&ID diagram

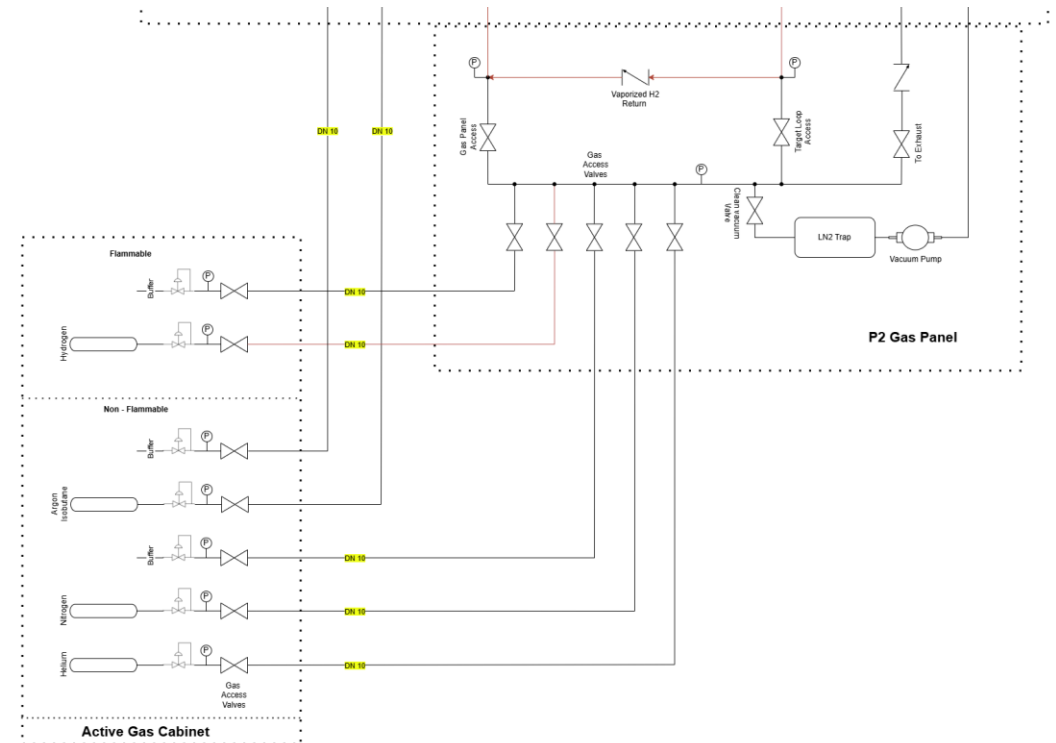
## Active Gas Cabinet: Bottle connections of

- Hydrogen
- Helium – to test leaks
- Nitrogen – to provide an inert environment in the exhaust line
- Argon isobutane



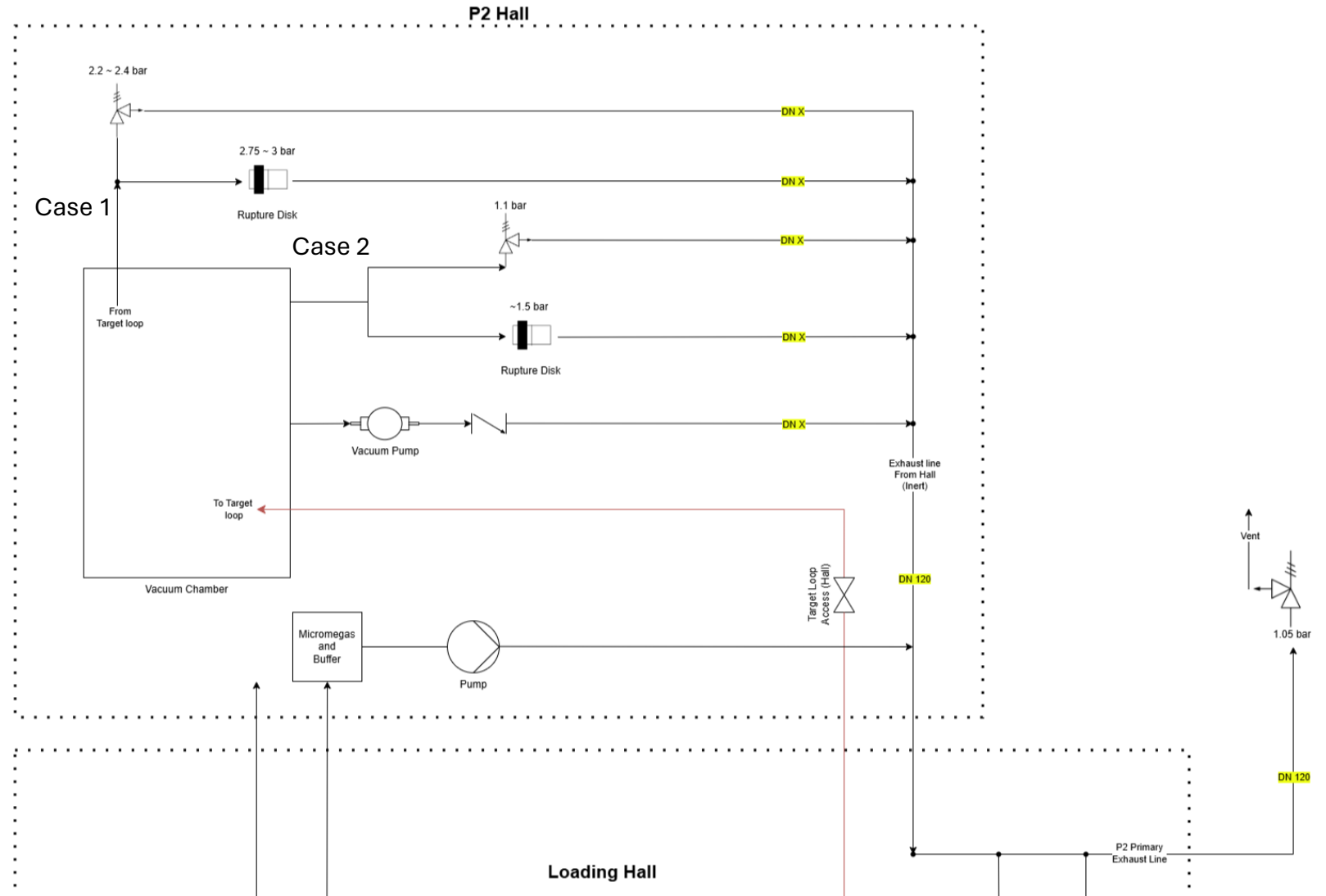
## Gas Panel

- The gas panel is the main control station
- Connections to/from AGC, hydrogen tank, Target loop and exhaust lines
- Vacuum pump venting out to exhaust lines through LN2 trap



# Exhaust and emergency relief

- A primary exhaust line, where all other lines connect
- Exhaust for vacuum chamber
- Emergency case 1 – high pressure in the gas lines
- Emergency case 2 – Explosion of the target cell



# Summary and next steps

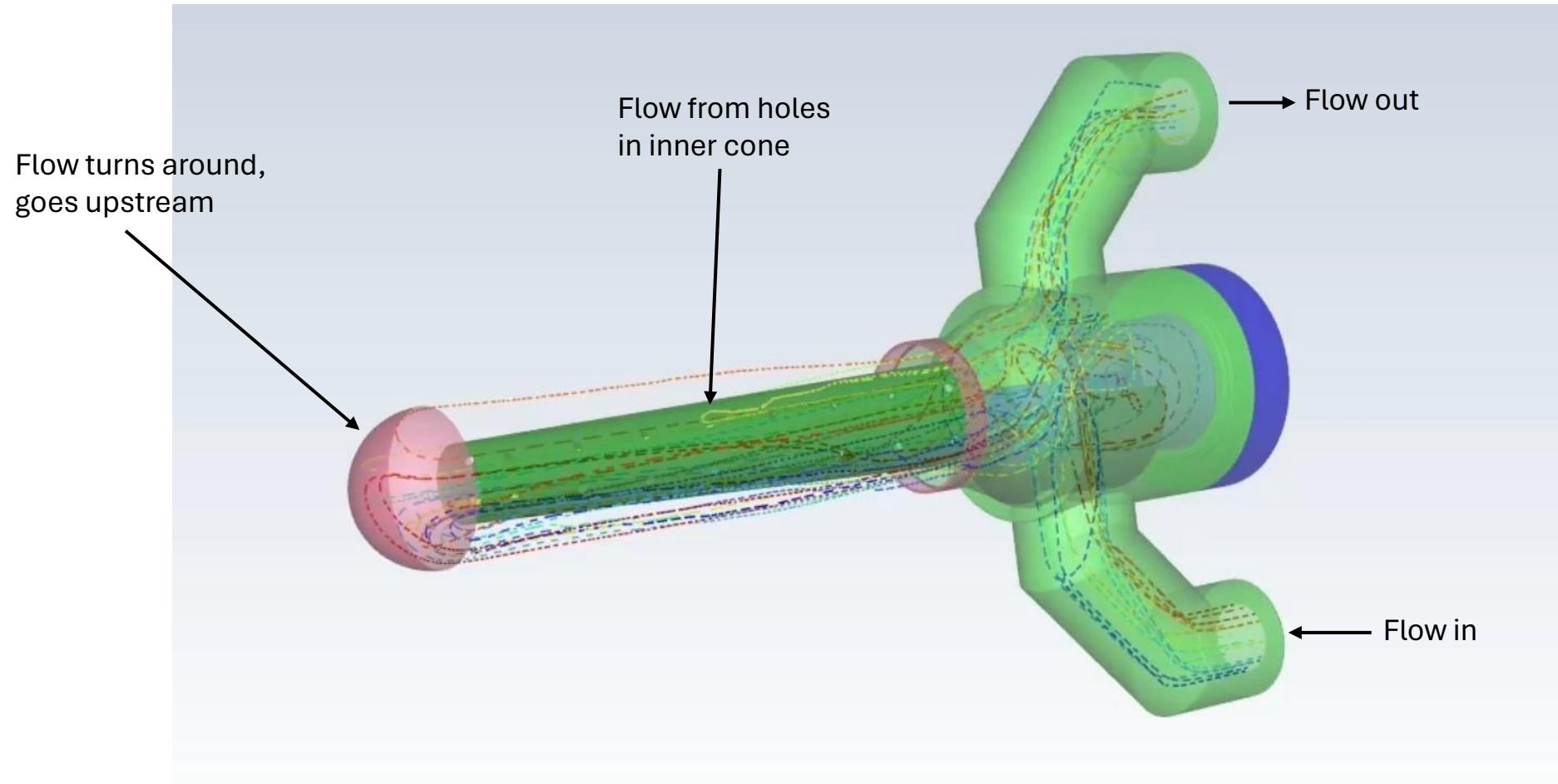
- Lq H2 target cell design
- CFD simulation of the target cell
- Problem identification in the geometry
- Gas supply and safety
- Next steps
  - Advancing simulation with added multiphase and transient state
  - Extraction of required values of density fluctuation and reduction
  - Modification in the geometry to satisfy all requirements

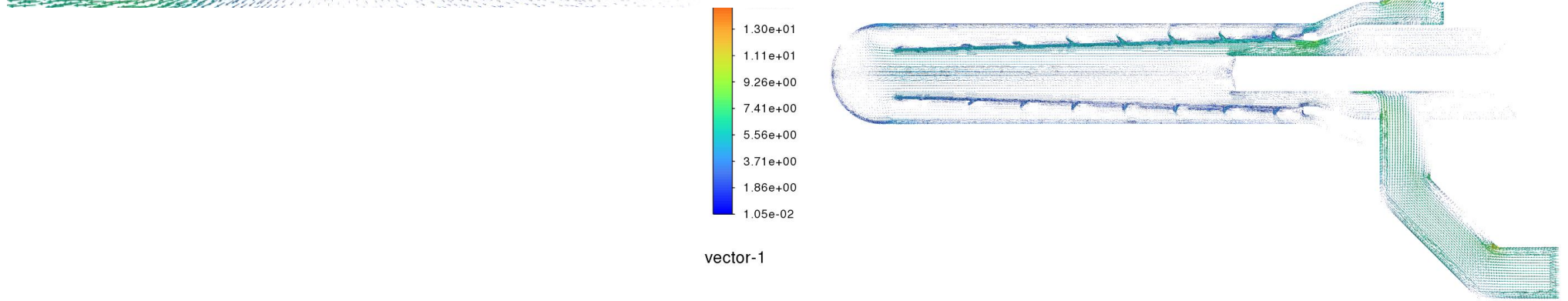
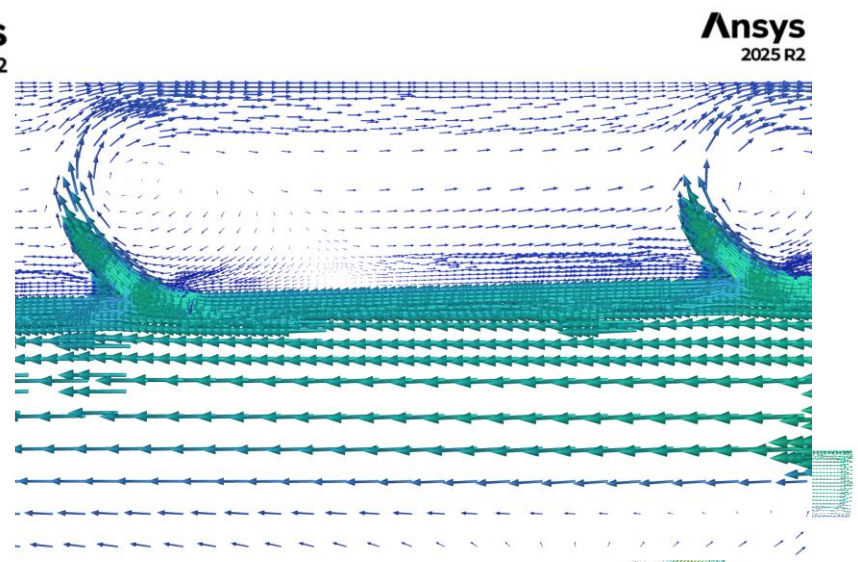
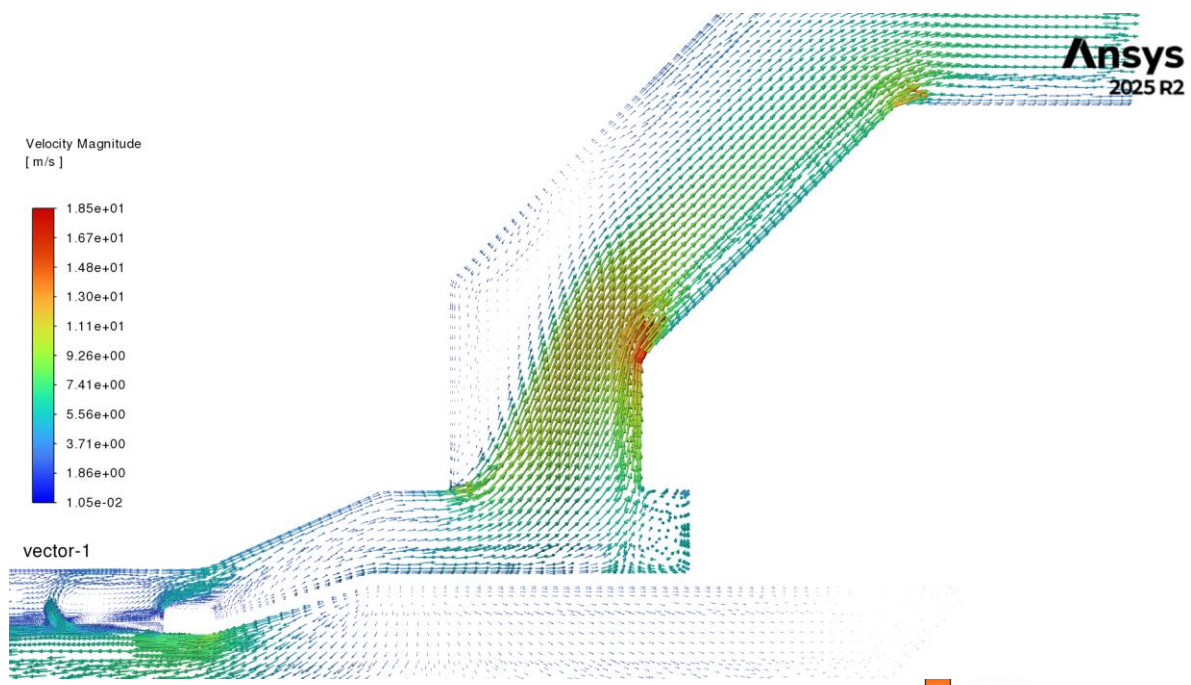
---

Thank you

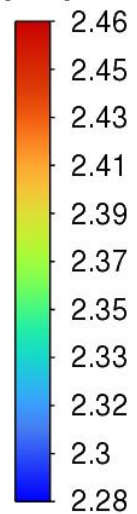
# Extra slides

# Pathlines





Absolute Pressure  
[ bar ]



contour-1



# Heat exchanger

- Used to remove the heat load from the target loop using He gas coolant
- Will be modeled after the Qweak Counter flow heat exchanger with copper finned tube
- The mass flow needed can be calculated:

$$\dot{m} = P/\Delta H$$

P is the total cooling power

$\Delta H$  is the He enthalpy bw He inlet and outlet

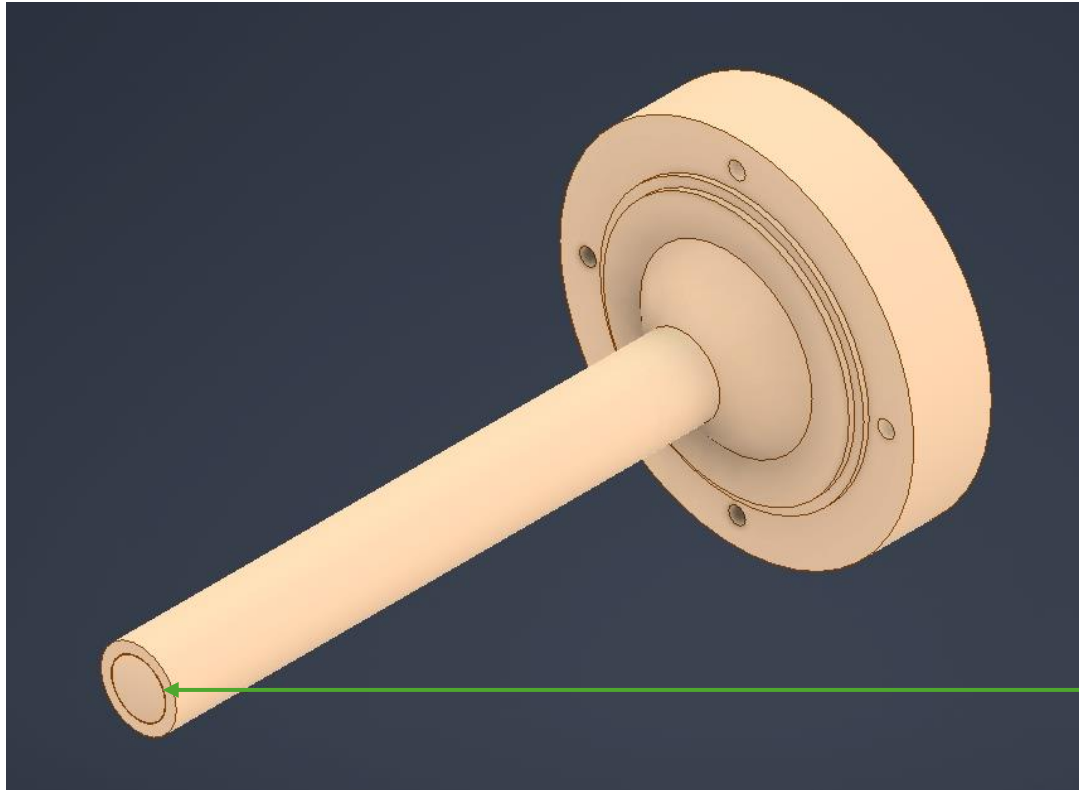
- For ex, He inlet – 10 atm and 14K, Outlet – 3 atm 20K, then 101g/s He flow is required
- The HX design will be assessed with CFD

# High power heater (HPH)

- Used to mitigate LH2 density variations and relaxation time when the beam trips
- HPH works in a feedback loop with the read-back of a temperature sensor in the Lq H2
- Ensures that the target is operated at constant heat load and regulate the temperature
- The qweak like heater is designed to have eight layers of Nichrome wire wrapped around crossed G10 boards.

# Beam guide

Thickness at entrance window: 0,125



Entrance  
window

