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# Contactors Thermal Control Features

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## Introduction

### Industry trend

- Today's semiconductor applications do have the need for tighter temperature control
- Temperature ranges expanding to meet more stringent end use condition and there is a need for better control of the temperature range and temperature accuracy
- High test side parallelisms → Test in Strip handling
- Small contact length for high frequency ranges.....



Contactor Thermal Control Features

## Introduction

### Thermal and power management

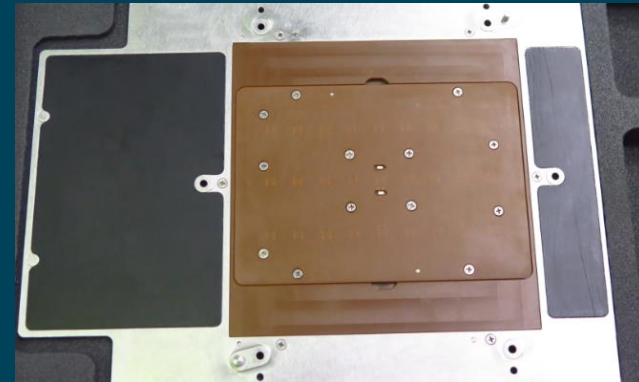
- Increasing total power across a smaller form factors → Power density increase
- Handling the heat, produced by the DUT itself drive the need of active thermal management.
- Temperature range -40° C – 160° C
- Demand for reducing calibration time when setting up a system or change to a different package
- Pre heat or soak time management → utilization of system

### Design concept for thermal performance

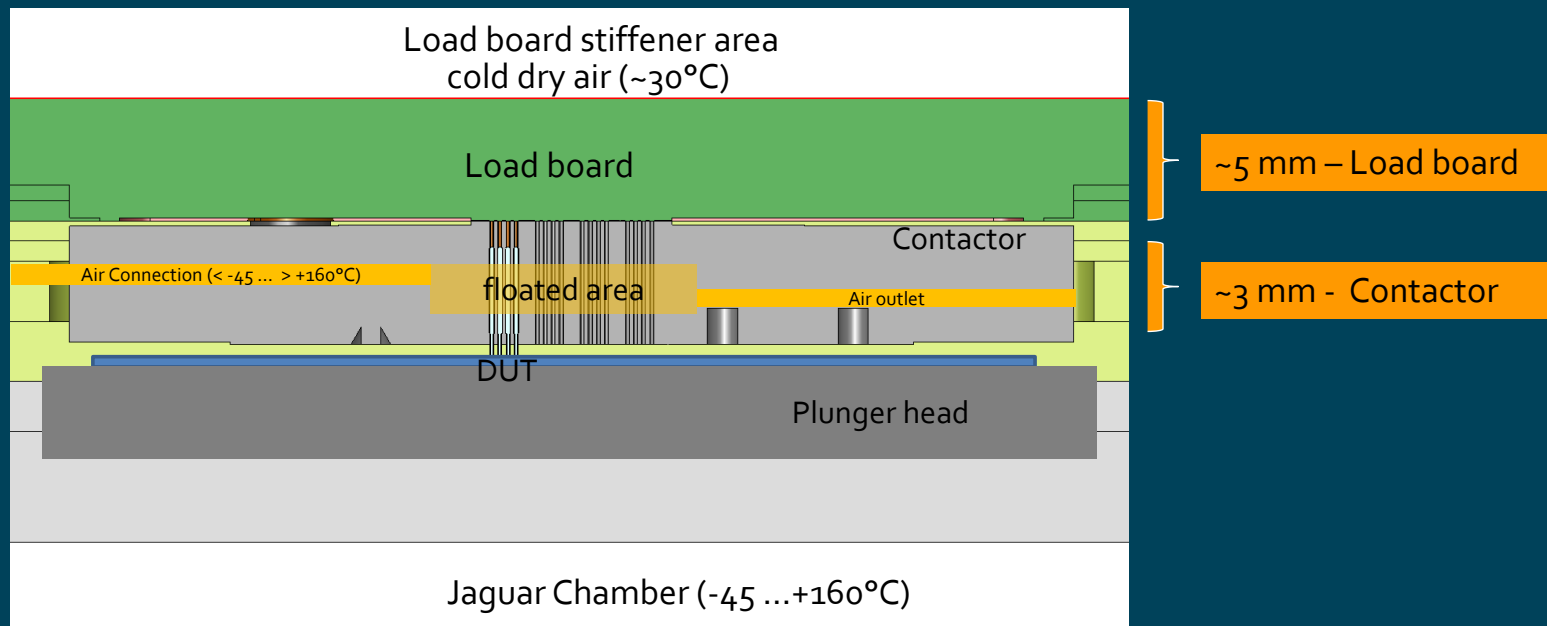
- Dealing with material / Thermal coefficient / High current demands
- DUT to chuck thermal interface
- Preheating and controlling during test.

## Project definition

- SOW:
  - Contact site parallelism: x 27
  - Calibration-less contactor: -40° C to 160° C
  - Package size: DFN 2.5 x 2.5, 10 Pin + Ground
  - Handling system: COHU Jaguar Test in Strip Handler
- Challenges:
  - +/- 2° C accuracy
  - High parallelism x 27
  - Small contact element length →
    - HF pins → 3.2 mm contact – compressed length
  - Mechanical robustness →
    - contactor array
  - Accurate sensor reading →
    - correlation to DUT

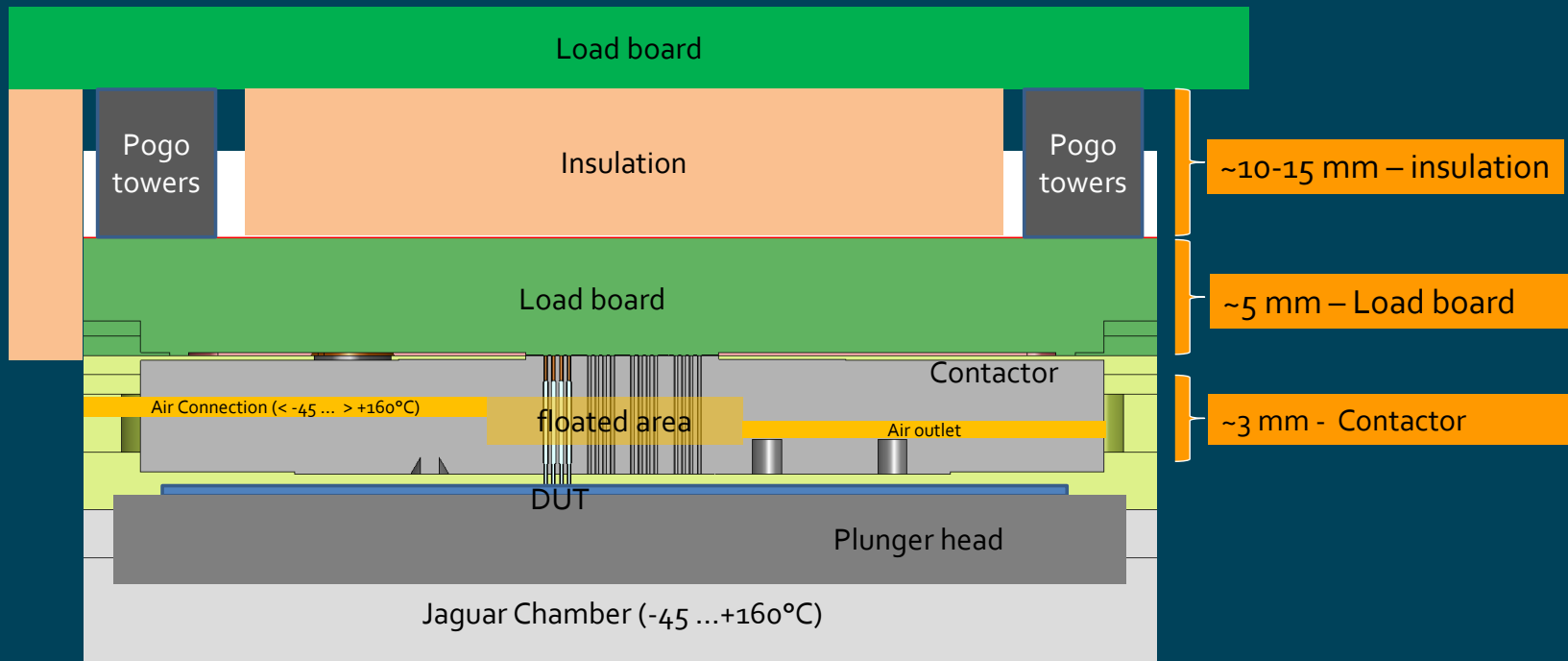


## Concept phase Direct Socket to Board V\_0.1





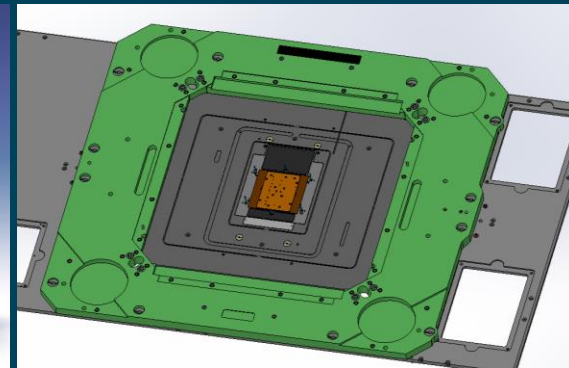
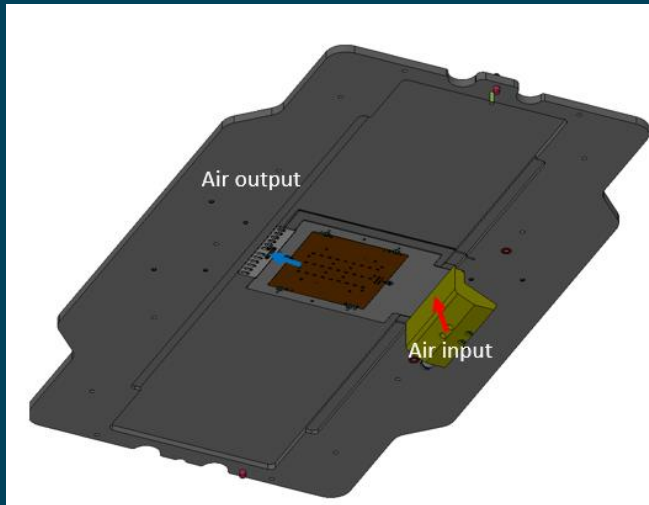
## Concept phase – Daughter Board V\_0.2



## Concept phase

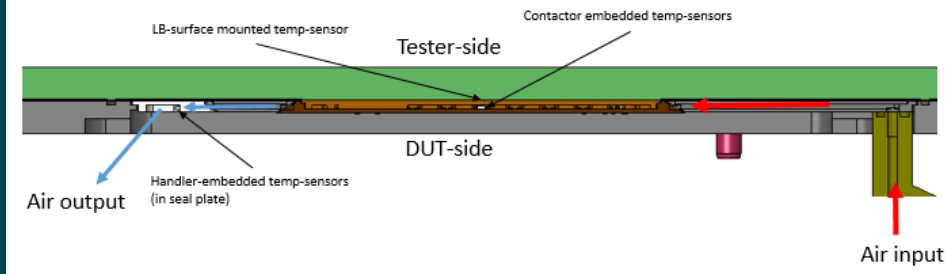
- Advantage Daughter Board:
  - Improved thermal insulation (insulation thickness)
  - Decoupling load board from temperature
  - Improved temperature stability at the device
  - Easier to integrate the thermal connection between seal plate and socket.
  - Possible to use universal load board for different configurations
- Advantage Non Pogo Tower:
  - Shorter signal length to board – signal integrity
  - Direct connection to main board
  - No additional board (reduced interfaces)

## Design draft



Operator-side

Handler back-side



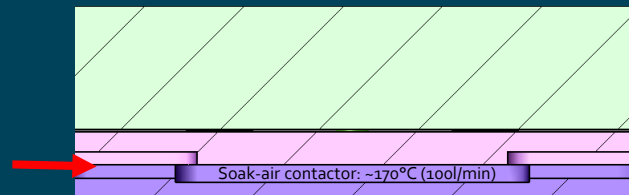
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## Feasibility study

Basic constraints:

soak-air board:  
~30° (240 l / min)

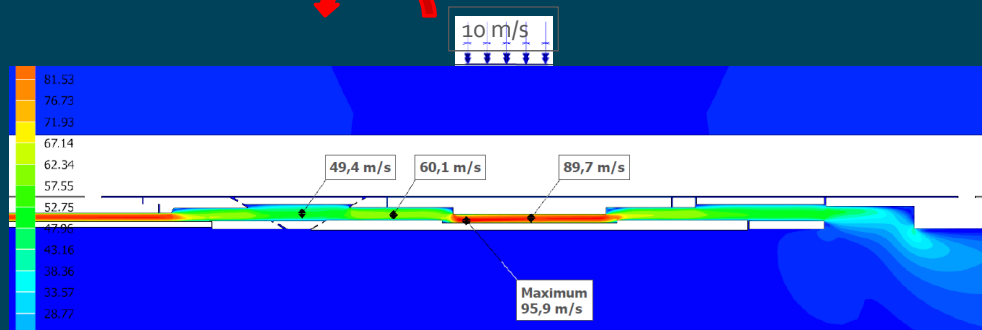
board surface: max. 80° C



Simulation without pogo pins

chamber: 160° C

Flow rates:

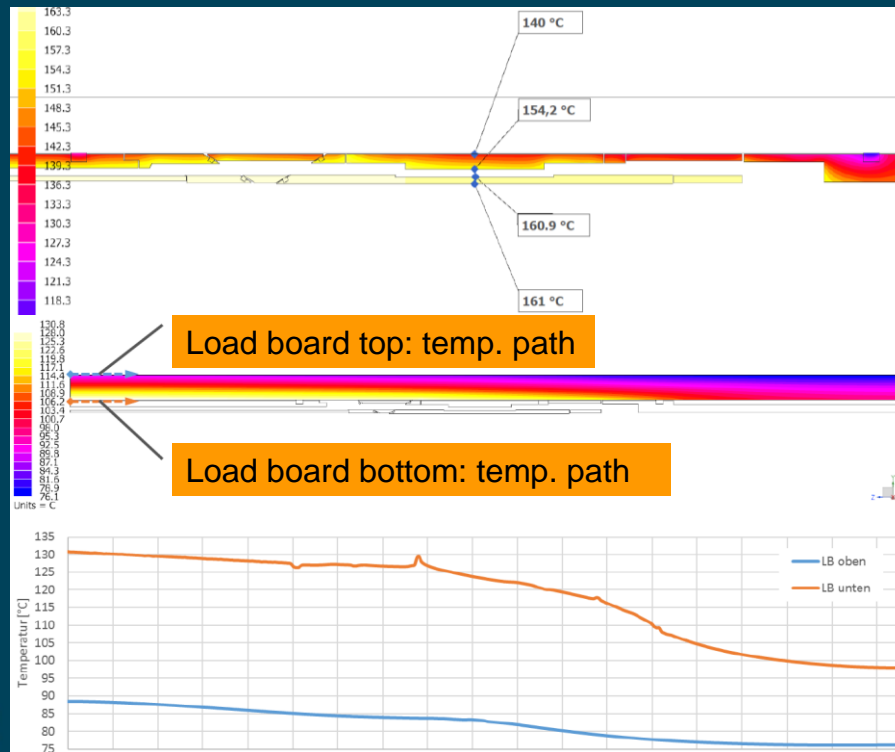


Contactur Thermal Control Features

## Appraisal

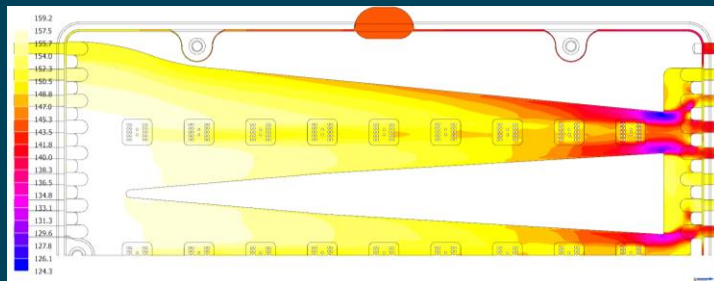
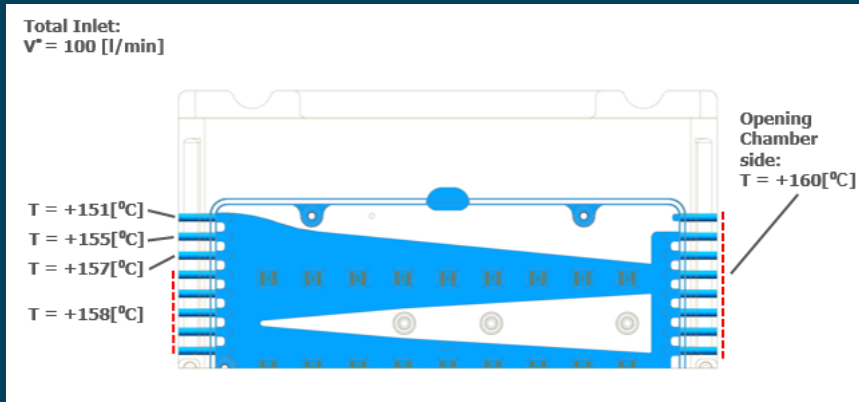
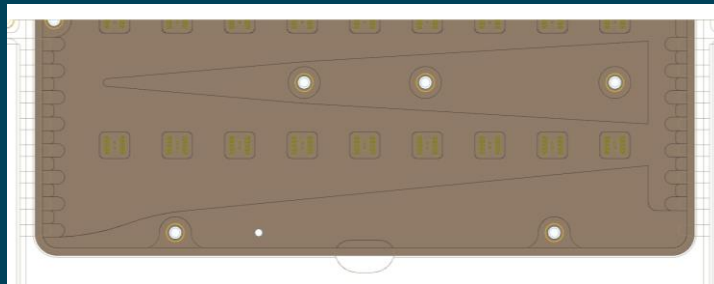
Socket temperatures

Board temperatures

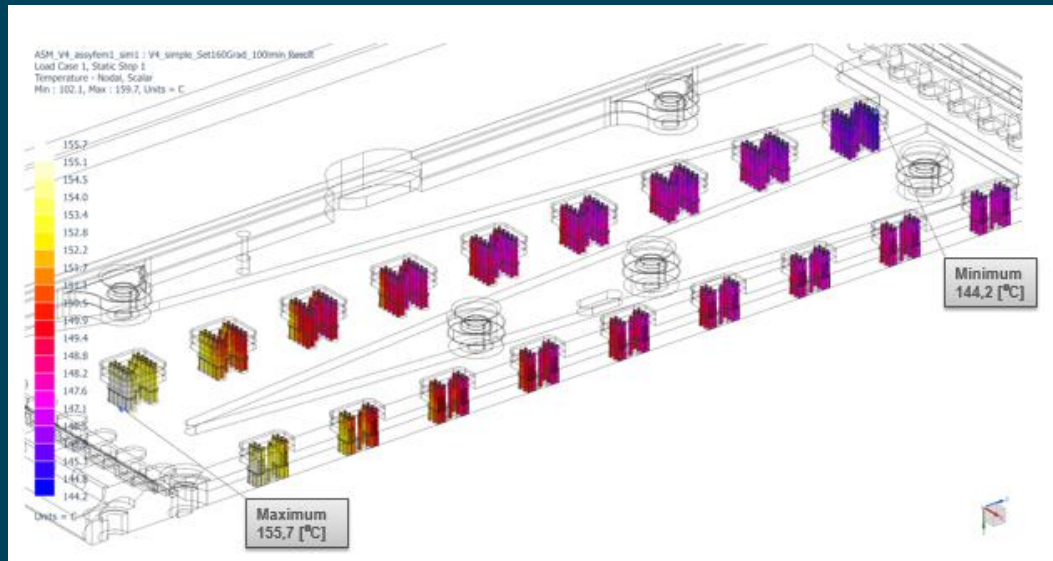


- High flow at load board necessary (240 l / min @ 30° C) to reach ~80° C
- Most critical area above contactor and air supply (~90° C)
- High influence from load board soak-air to contactor: more cooling at load board needs higher contactor air temperature

## Concept V1\_a Geometry and Simulation

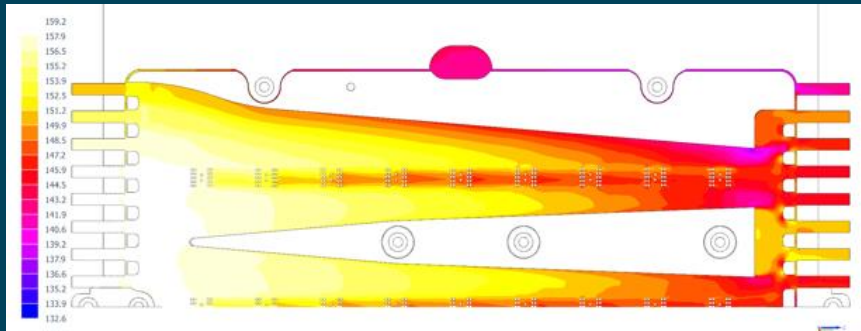
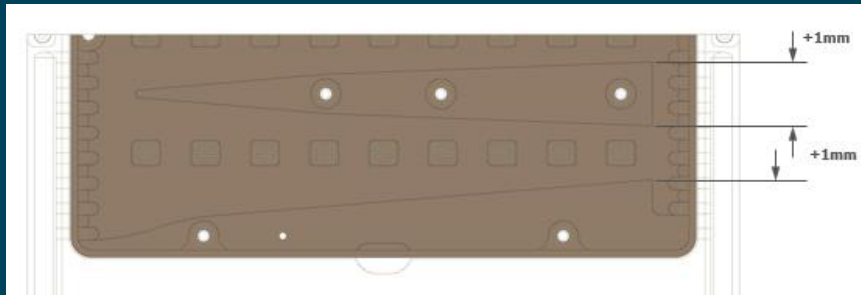


## Concept V1\_a Simulation



- Spring pin Temperatures:
  - Max: 155.7° C
  - Min: 144.2° C
  - Delta: 11.5° C
- Temperature difference between contact sites on the air entrance and outlet!

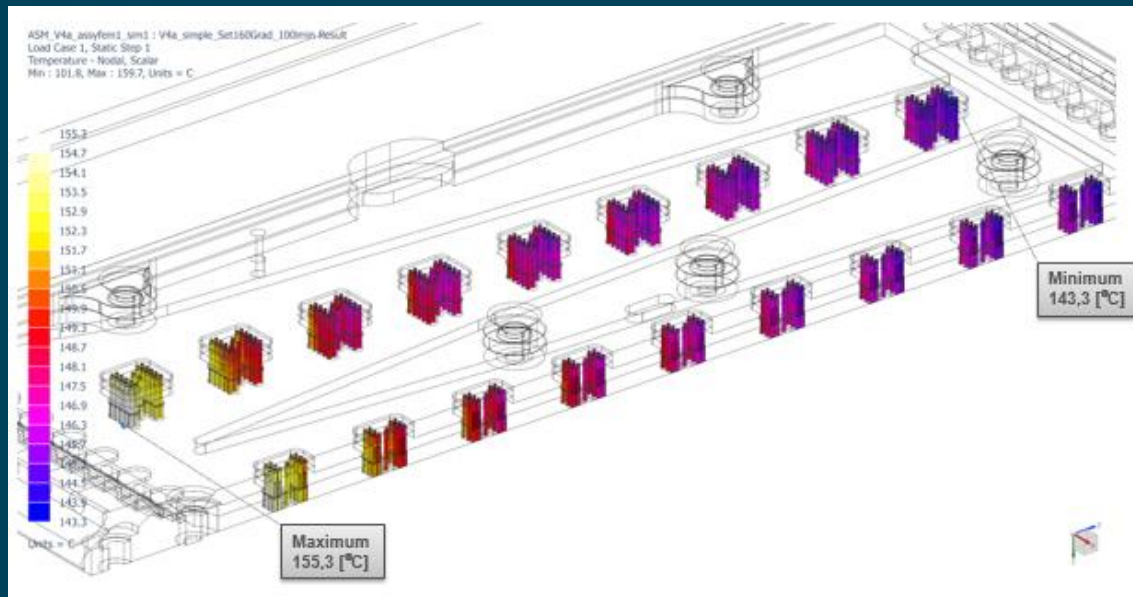
## Concept V1\_b Geometry and Simulation



- Change the Air channel geometry:
  - Increase the cross section at the last contact site to avoid the stall effect and reach a more homogeneous temperature

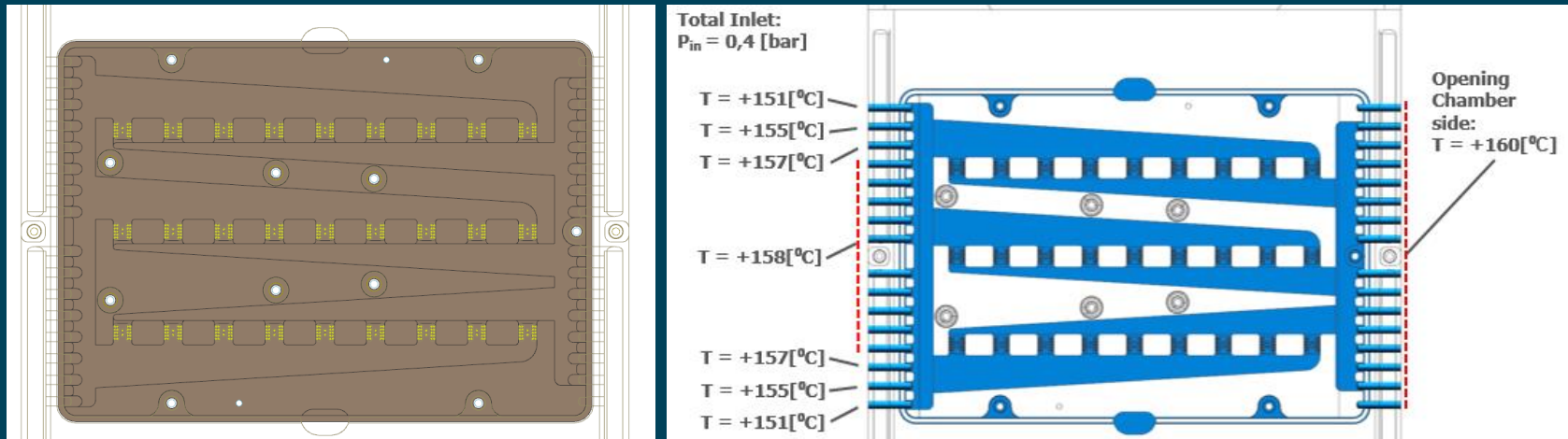


## Concept V1\_b Simulation



- Spring pin Temperatures:
  - Max: 155.3° C
  - Min: 143.3° C
  - Delta: 12° C
- Temperature difference between contact sites on the air entrance and outlet!
- No improvement!

## Concept V2\_a Geometry and Boundary

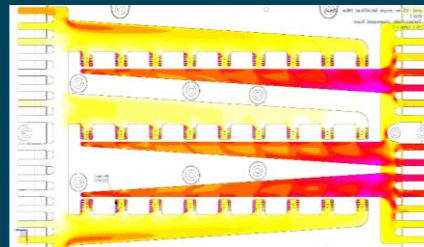


- Change the airflow concept:
  - Purpose: get the same airflow on all contact sites by designing a conical cavity and stream thru each Contact site using a throttle

## Concept V2\_a Simulation

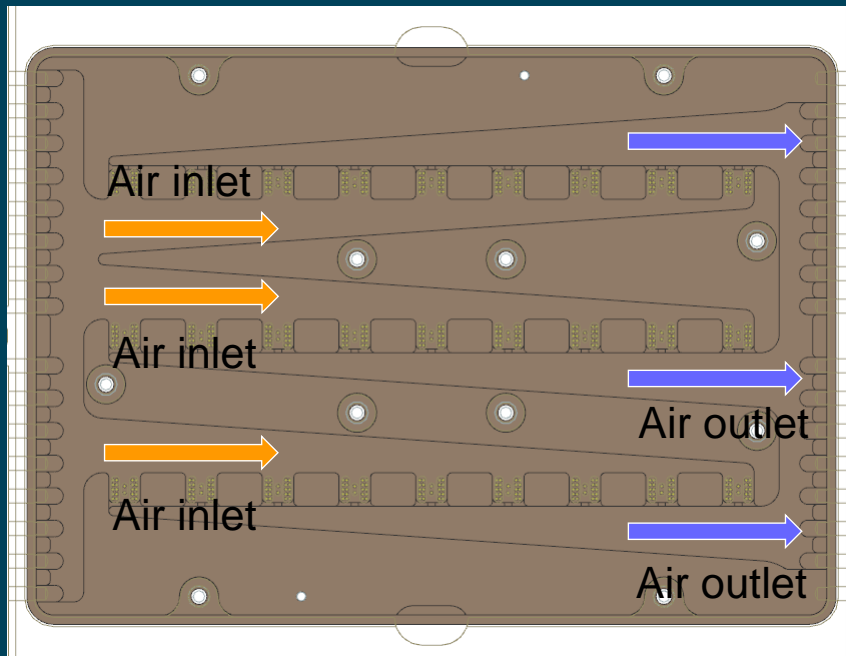


- Spring pin Temperatures:
  - Max: 148.4° C
  - Min: 128.8° C
  - Delta: 19.6° C
- We made it worse! ...?
- Temperature difference between the Pin within one contact site!
- Outer contact sites colder than inner contact sites



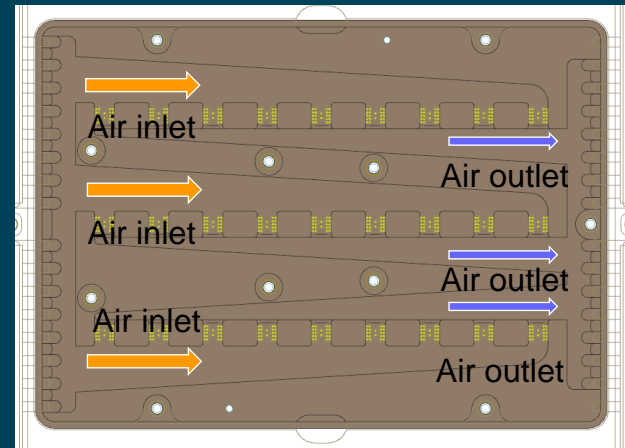
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## Concept V2\_b Geometry



- Change the airflow direction:  
Using the exhaust air to isolate the outer contact sites

Before:



## Concept V2\_b Simulation



- Spring pin Temperatures:
  - Max: 151.8° C
  - Min: 141.9° C
  - Delta: 9.9° C
- Improved temperature spread over all contact sites

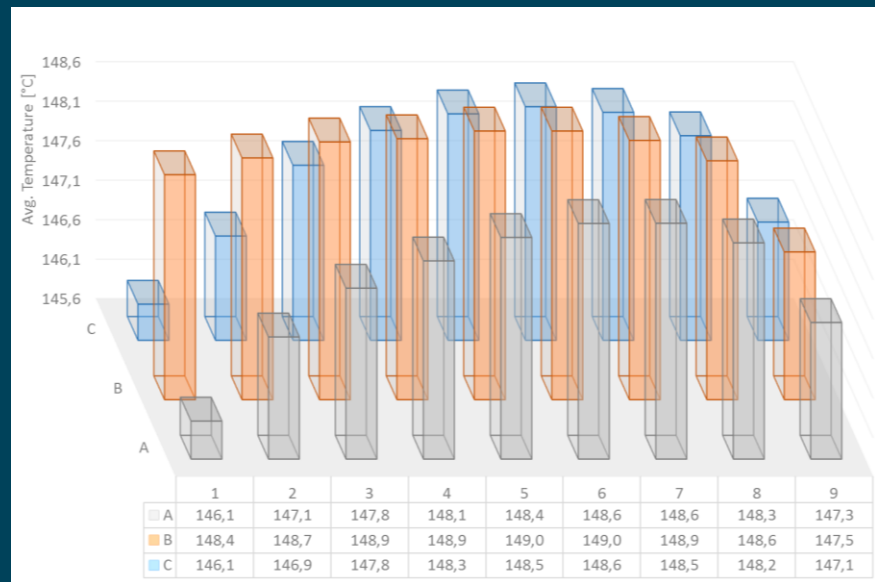
## Concept V2\_b Results

- Contact site mapping:



- Spring pin temperatures:
  - Max: 149.0° C
  - Min: 146.1° C
  - Delta: 2.9° C

- Average contact site temperature

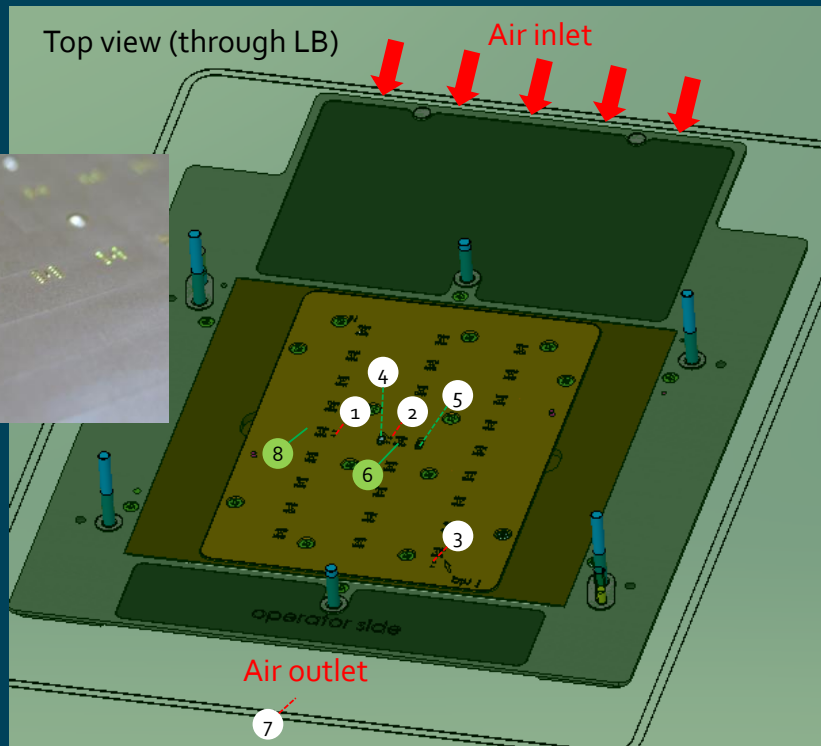
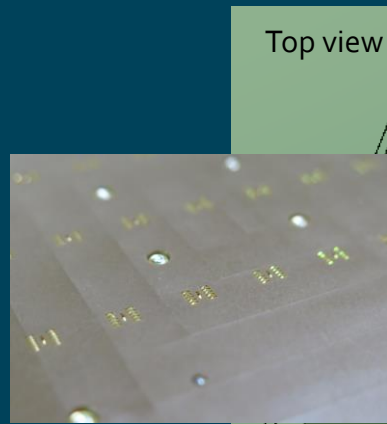


## Conclusion - Simulation

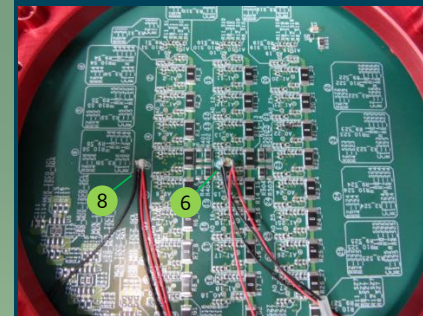
- Simulation results show homogenous temperature over all contact sites:
  - Does it correlate with the reality?
  - Simulation is within  $\pm 2^{\circ}$  C average per contact site
  - What is the DUT reading?
  - Is it possible to calibrate the System to the simulated values? (Power – system)
  - One channel to control the contactor air system... is it enough?
  - Where is the right position of the sensor for controlling ( $\rightarrow$ DUT reading)
    - The sensor need to be part of the handler temperature control loop
  - Do we need additional sensors for monitoring?

No choice, we have to try it!

## Design and manufacturing V2\_b



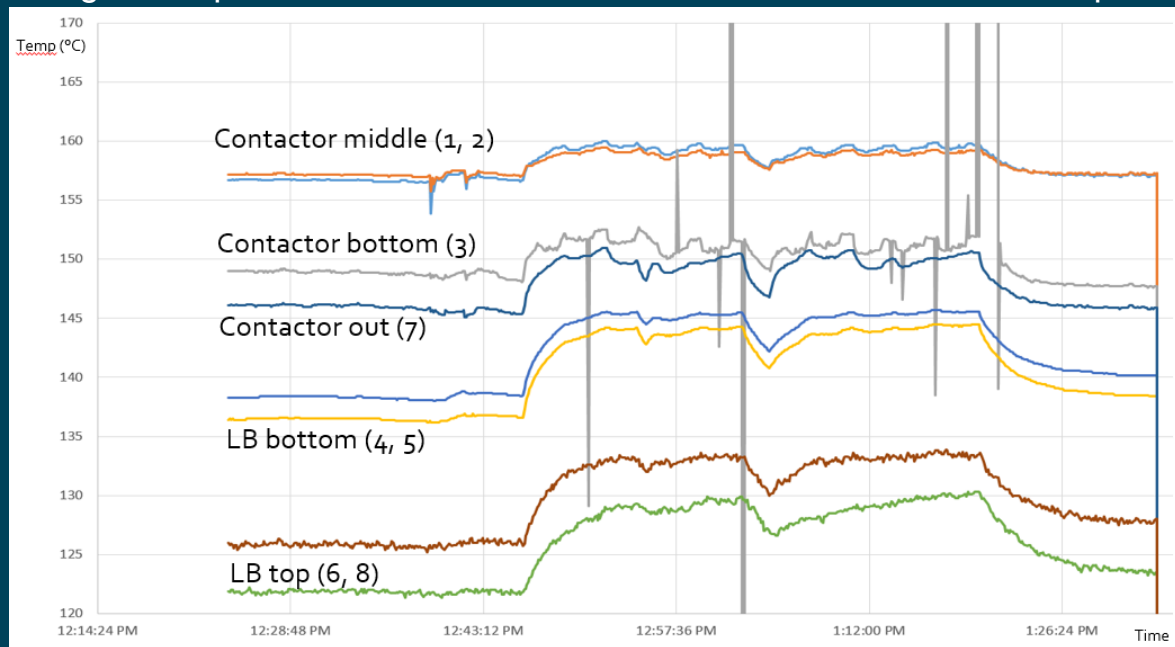
- 1) Contactor left
- 2) Contactor middle (left)
- 3) Contactor bottom right
- 4) LB bottom left
- 5) LB bottom right
- 6) LB top middle
- 7) Contactor outlet air
- 8) LB top left



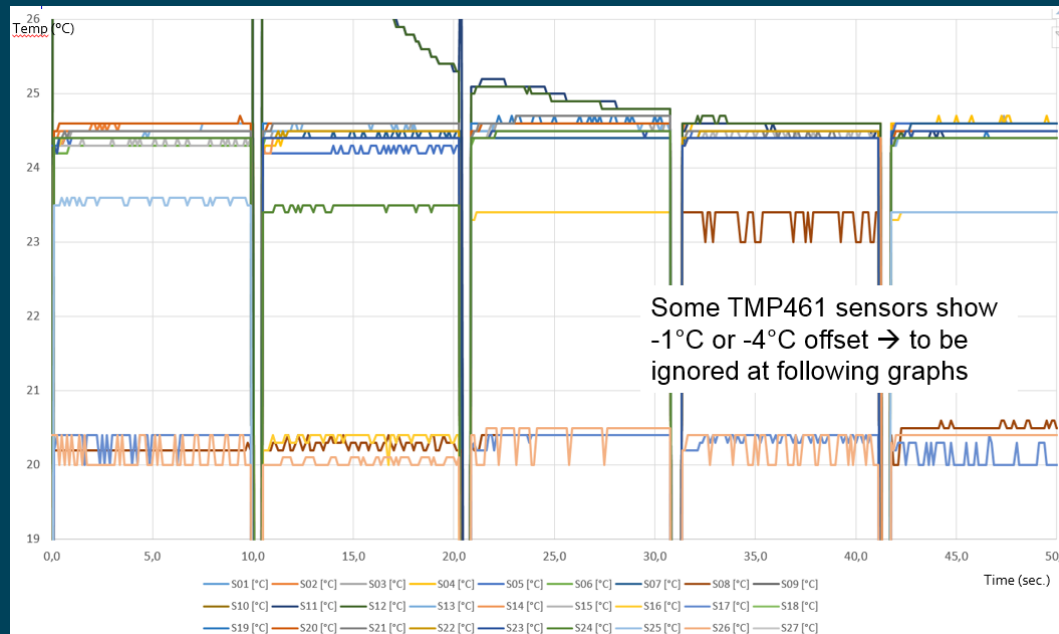


## Measurements - Sensor

- Sensor reading @ set point 160° C → which one is the best to control the temperature?



## Measurements DUT 24.5° C

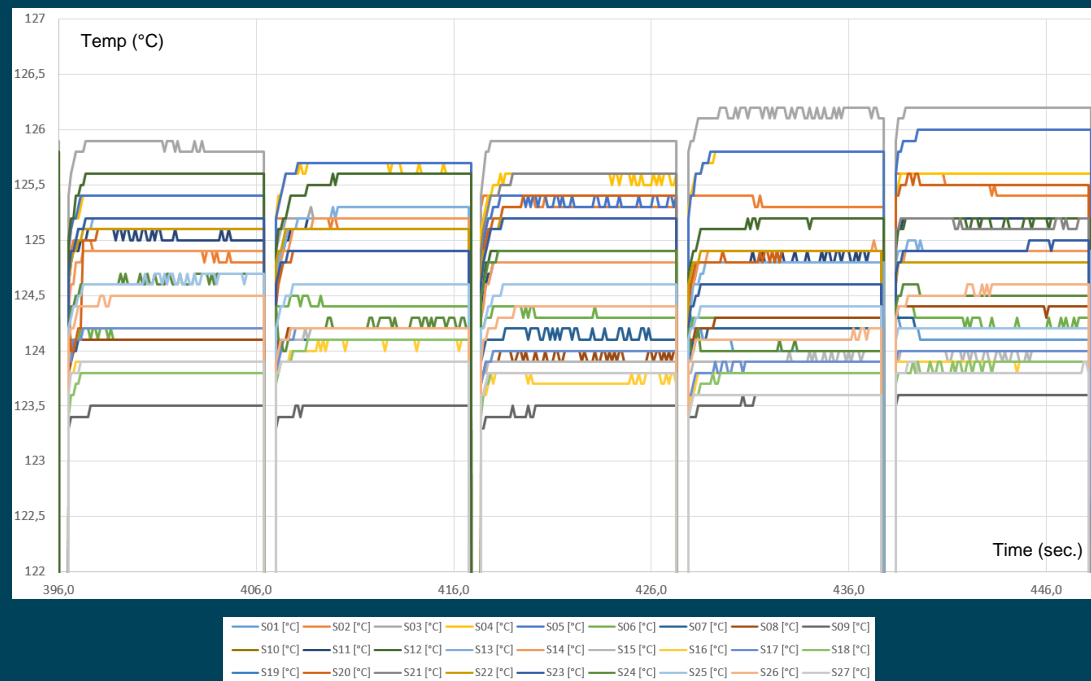


For all temperature test the same condition:

- Docking installed
- Purge air cover installed to simulate tester purge air (40l/min)
- 10s test time
- Contactor center sensor (2) for feedback-control

## Measurements DUT 125° C

- Soak-time 60 s (Strip – Chamber)
- 125° C set point – base calibrated, contactor w/o calibration
- Within +/-2° C



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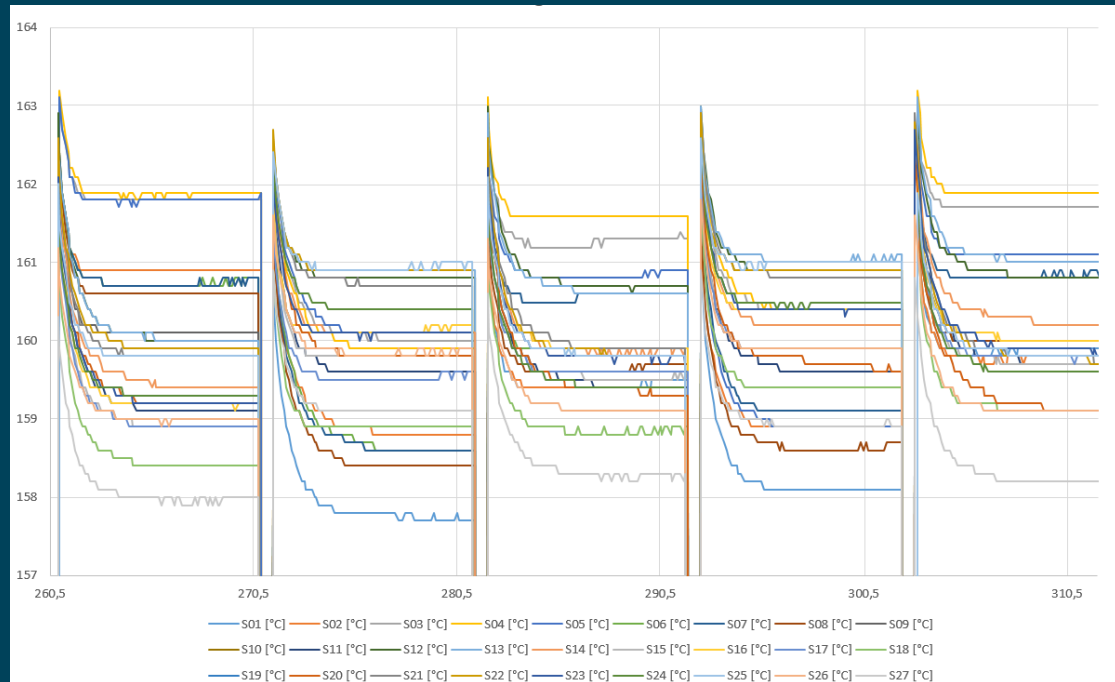
## Measurements - 40°C

- Soak-time 120 s (Strip – Chamber)
- -40° C set point - base calibrated, contactor w/o calibration
- Within +/-2° C



## Measurements +160° C

- Soak-time 120s (Strip – Chamber)
- 160° C set point – base calibrated, contactor w/o calibration
- Within +/-2.5° C (including drift)



## Conclusion and next steps

### Accomplishment:

- No settling or change during 24h temperature run
- Calibration-less contactor for -40 to 160° C (constant offset for contactor temperature required to achieve best results in drift = depending on internal contactor sensor location)
- High parallelism (x 27) RF-contactor running within +/-2.5° C from -40 to 160° C over complete strip with 2500 devices

### Next steps:

- Setup a project to bring calibration-less concept into serial status
  - Integrate the sensor routing into the socket – interface definition
  - Prove of concept for different applications (packages and contact site parallelism)
  - Concept integration in other high parallel handlings concepts → P&P.....