

# FULL WAFER CONTACT BREAKTHROUGH WITH ULTRA - HIGH PIN COUNT

**ADVANTEST**<sup>®</sup>



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**Semiconductor Wafer Test Workshop**

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# Overview

- Background
- Current Technology
- VPCS (Vacuum Probe Contact System)
  - VPCS + MEMS Probe
  - Design Considerations
- Probe card Architecture
- 1TD Contact Procedure
- Results
- Summary
- Next step

# Background

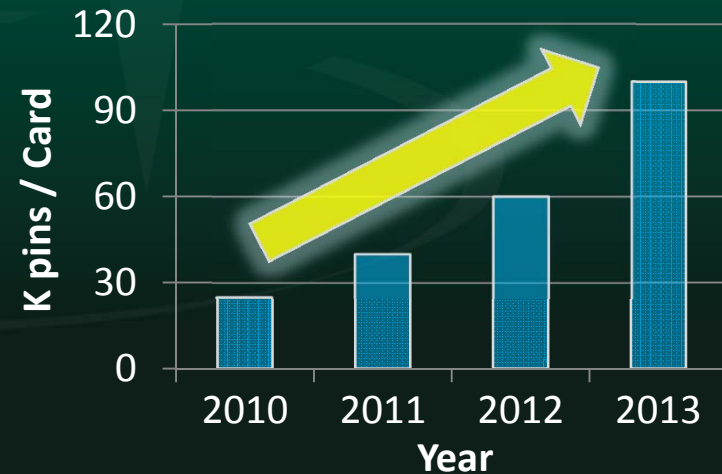
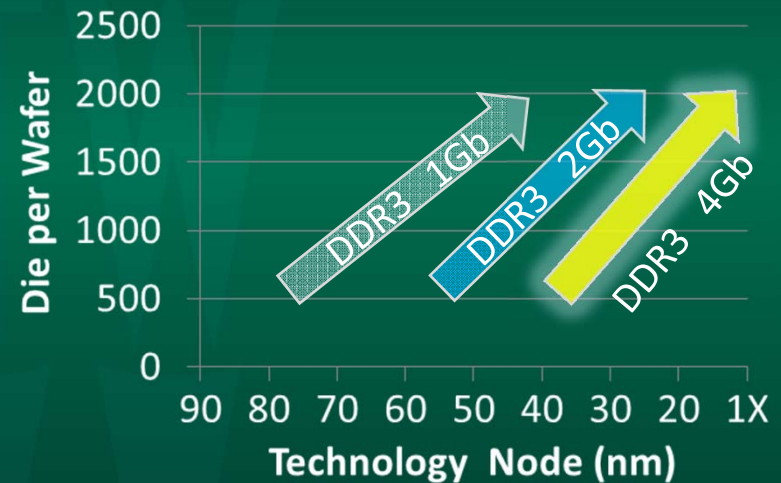
## ■ 450mm wafer is coming

- Increasing the number of die per wafer
- Strong requirement to reduce test cost

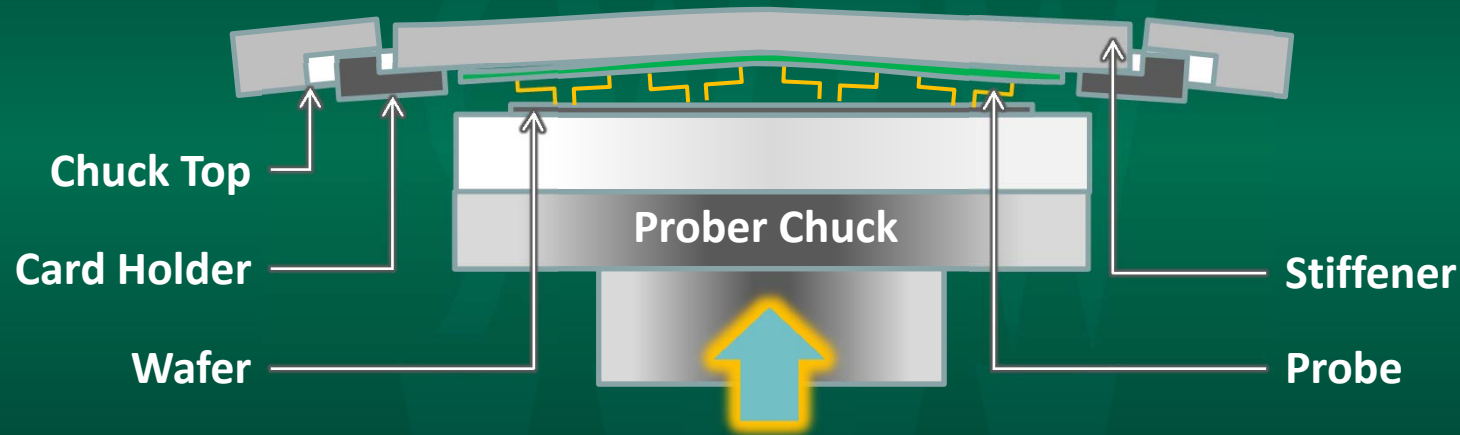
→ 1 TD test is needed

## ■ Requirement for 1TD test

- Ultra high pin count probe card & prober are needed for 450mm wafer
- Utilize current probe card technology
  - Existing contactor
  - Similar specification to contact (force, scrub, overdrive, etc...)



# Current Technology



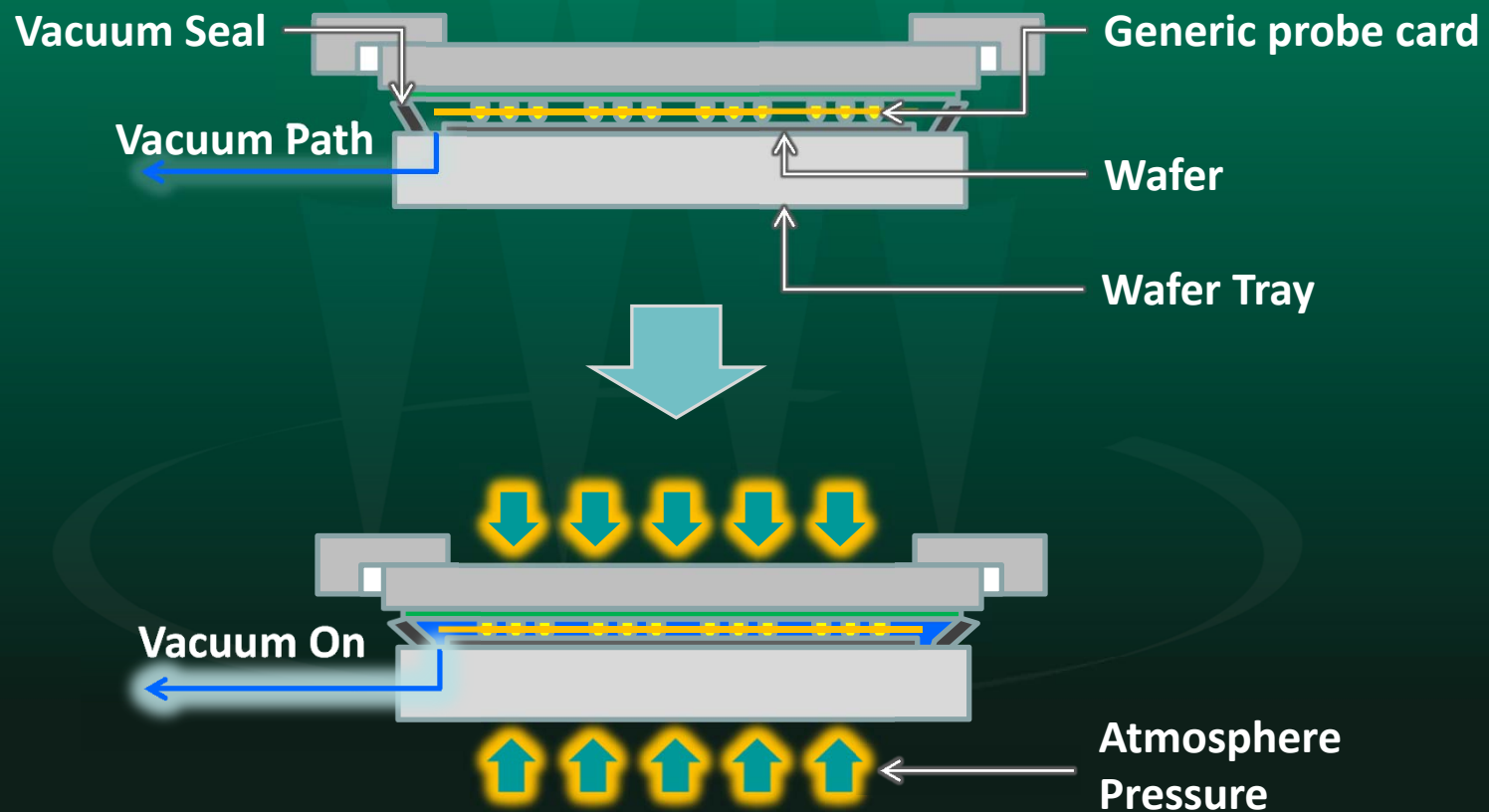
## ■ Ultra high contact force reaches as much as 1 ton

- 1 ton is needed, 5gF x 200K pins at 450mm wafer
  - High stiffness for prober and probe card would be needed
    - Prevent deformation
    - Maintain planarity

→ It would be heavier, bigger, more expensive!

# VPCS "Vacuum Probe Contact System"

## ■ Initial Concept and Architecture



# Advantage of VPCS + MEMS probe

## Advantages of VPCS

### ■ Easily obtained uniform and high contact force

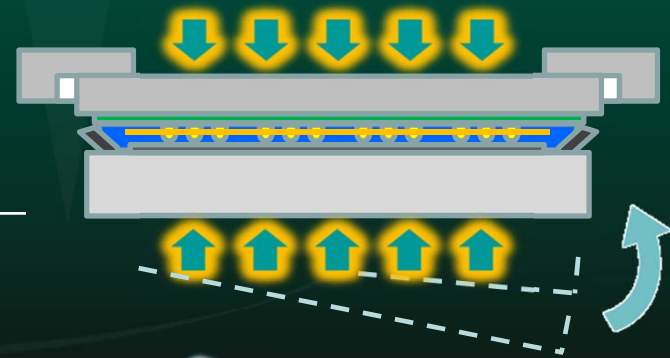
- 300mm wafer 576kgF, max 120K pin
- 450mm wafer 1,297kgF, max 260K pin
- \* -80kPa, 5gf/pin



### ■ Because pressure is uniformly distributed over the tester and the wafer sides, a high stiffness structure is not required for prober and card

### ■ Easy coplanarity control

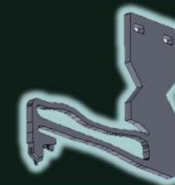
- Wafer tray fit to probe card



## Advantages of MEMS Probe

### ■ Proven technology

- High repeatability & manufacturing productivity

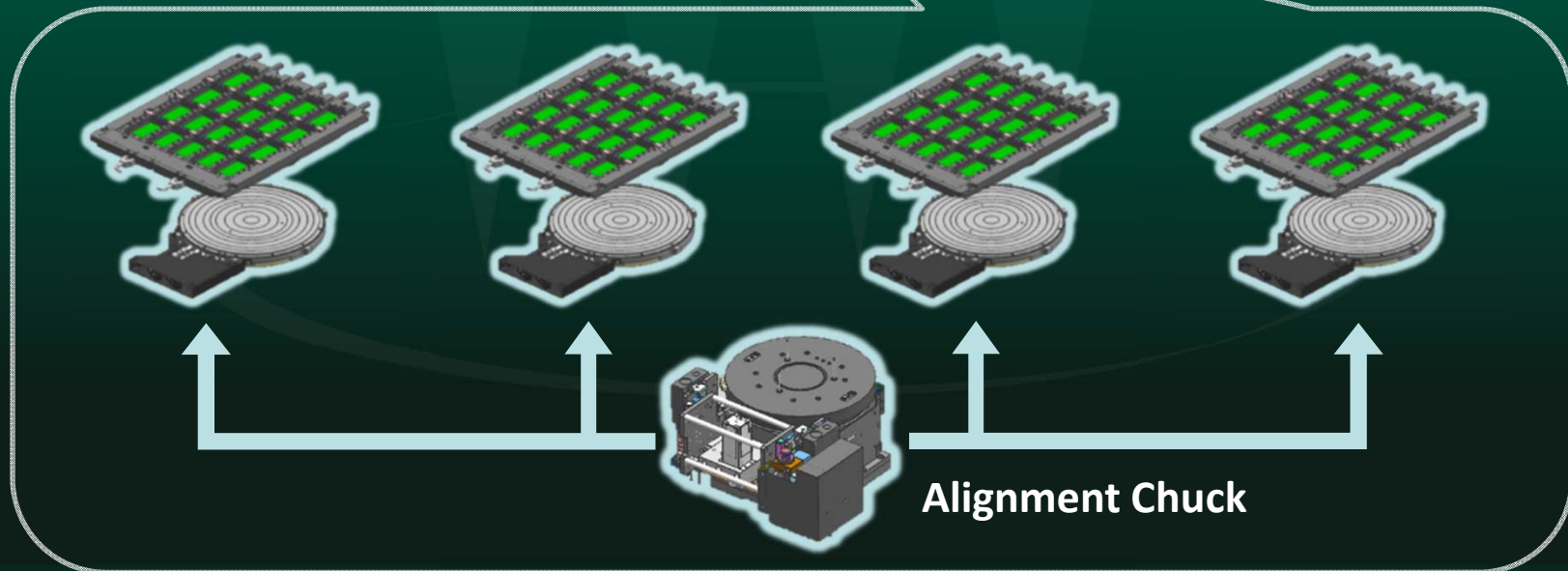


# HA5100CELL (Equipped with VPCS)



## All-in-one test solution

- Combines a tester and prober
- 4 wafer parallel test solution



# Design Considerations

## ■ Vacuum-tight Control

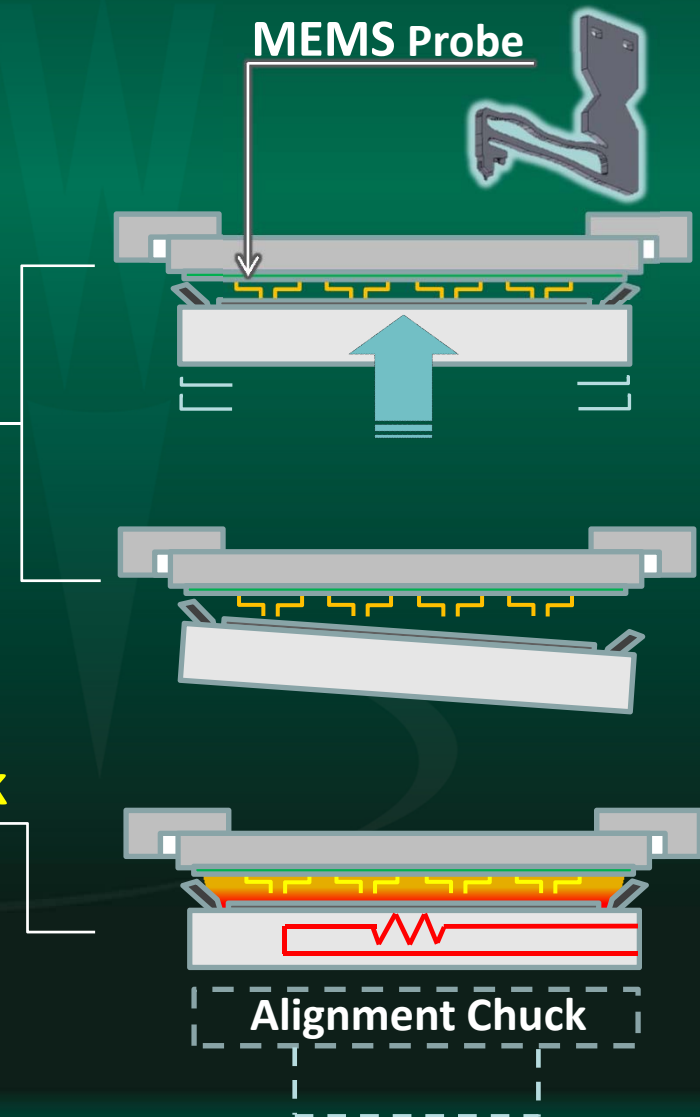
- Need structure to keep it vacuum-tight

## ■ Overdrive & Tilt Control

- MEMS probe needs OD control
- Need probe protection
- Need structure to maintain parallelism

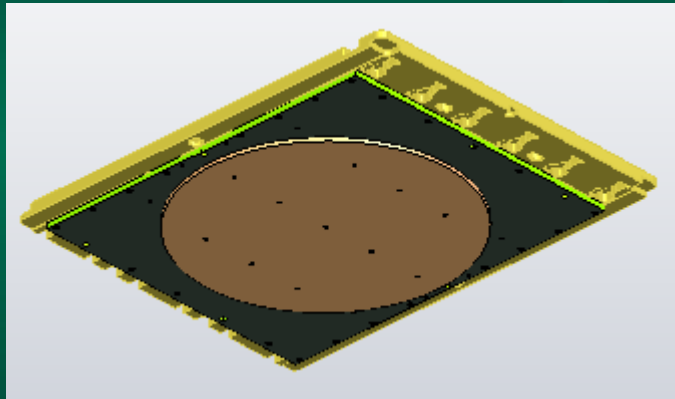
## ■ Preheat control w/o alignment chuck

- Before probes touch, need Hi T/Lo T preheat control

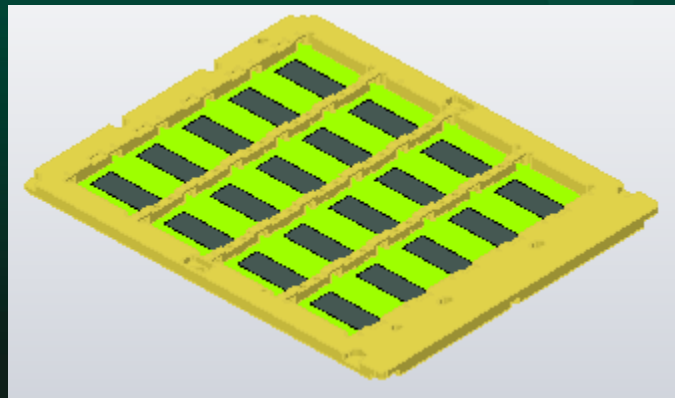




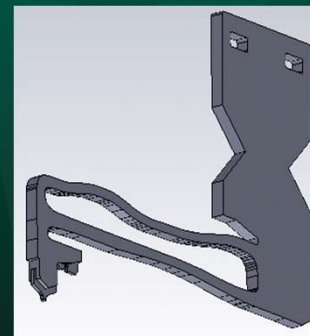
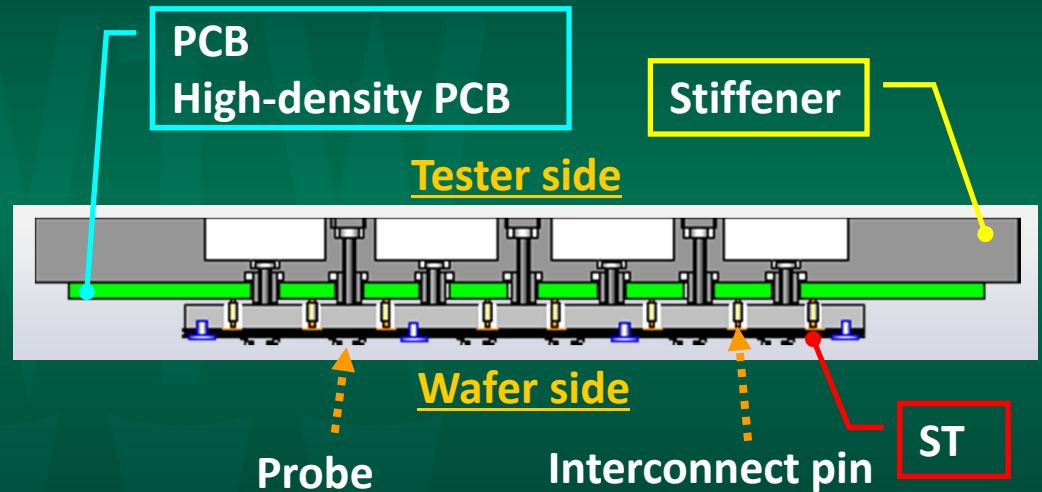
# VPCS Compliant MC\* Structure Outline



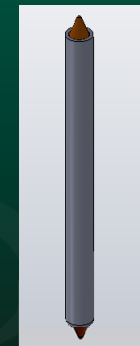
Wafer side view of probe card



Tester side view of probe card



**Probe**  
*MEMS-probe*  
*Low probe force*  
*Stable probe contact*



**IC-Pin**  
*Low load*  
*Long stroke*  
*Stable contact*

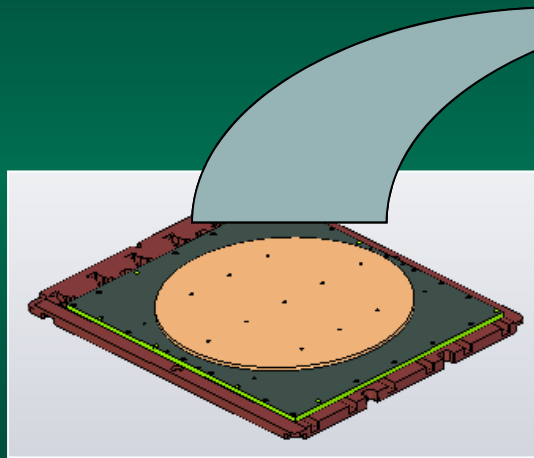
\*JEM MEMS probe card

# Wafer Tray Docking Issues

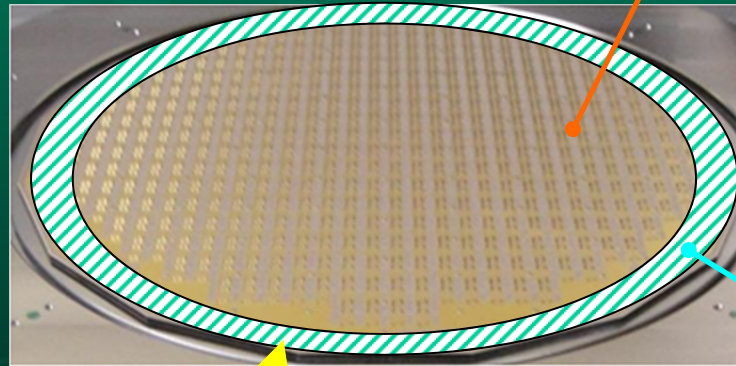
How to vacuum the wafer tray to the space transformer (ST) surface in a conventional probe card structure?

1. To maintain vacuum a wide high-precision surface is needed in the outer ST area.
2. To limit the overdrive a stopper is needed.
3. To prevent probe damage from tilt, self-leveling is needed.

# 1. Secure Vacuum Tightness on ST Surface



Wafer side view of probe card

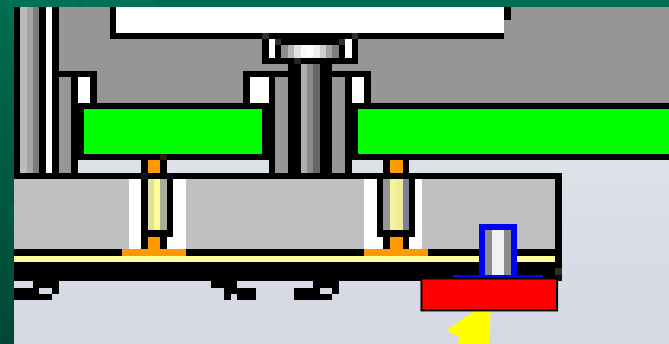
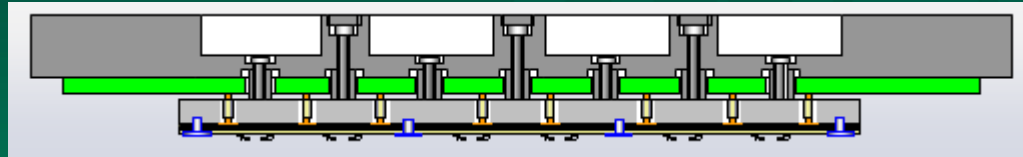


ST's probing area

Sealing area

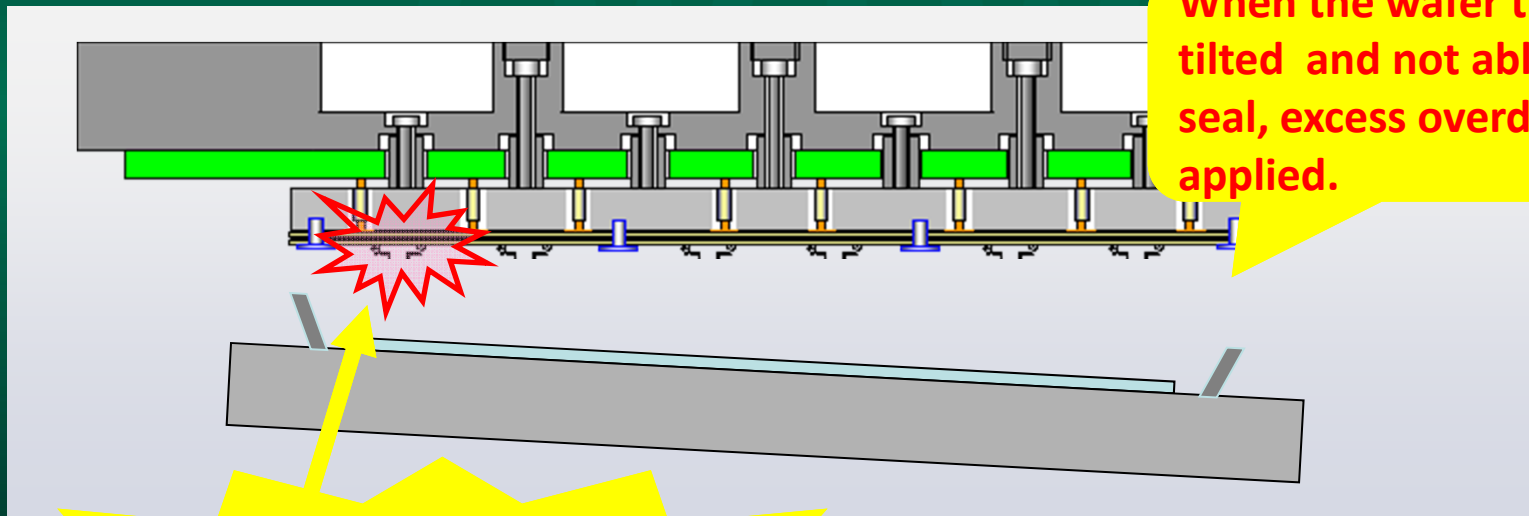
**It is difficult to have a secure wide area for vacuum tight in the outer area of the ST surface.**

## 2. Probe Protection



**It is difficult to mount a stopper on the ST surface**

### 3. Tilt of the probe & wafer tray

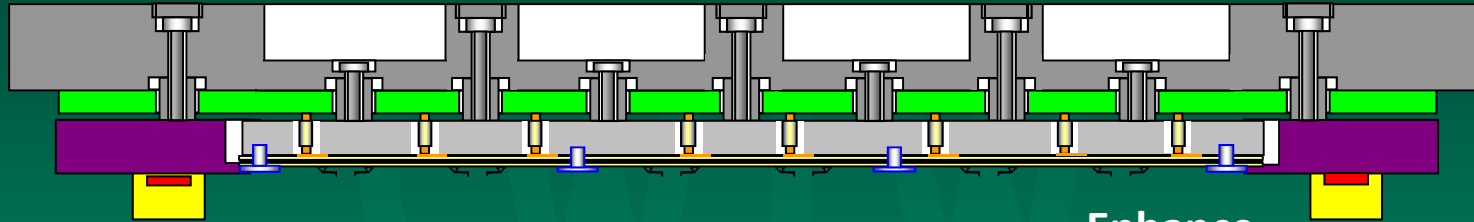


When the wafer tray is tilted and not able to seal, excess overdrive is applied.

Excess OD might damage the probe.

**How do we resolve these issues?**

# Introducing the Unit Holder



- 1. Polished fabrication on sealing area  
→ Secure vacuum tightness



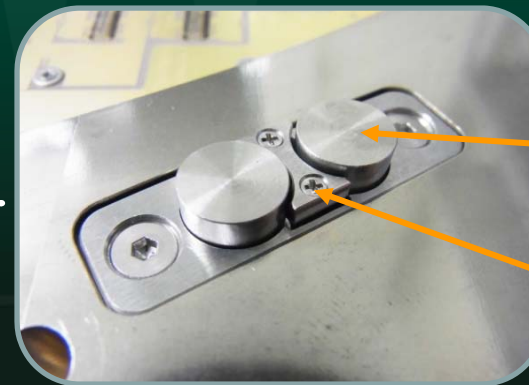
Enhance  
air seal



- 2. Mounting stopper  
→ Achieve probe protection



Flatness fabrication of the  
holder surface

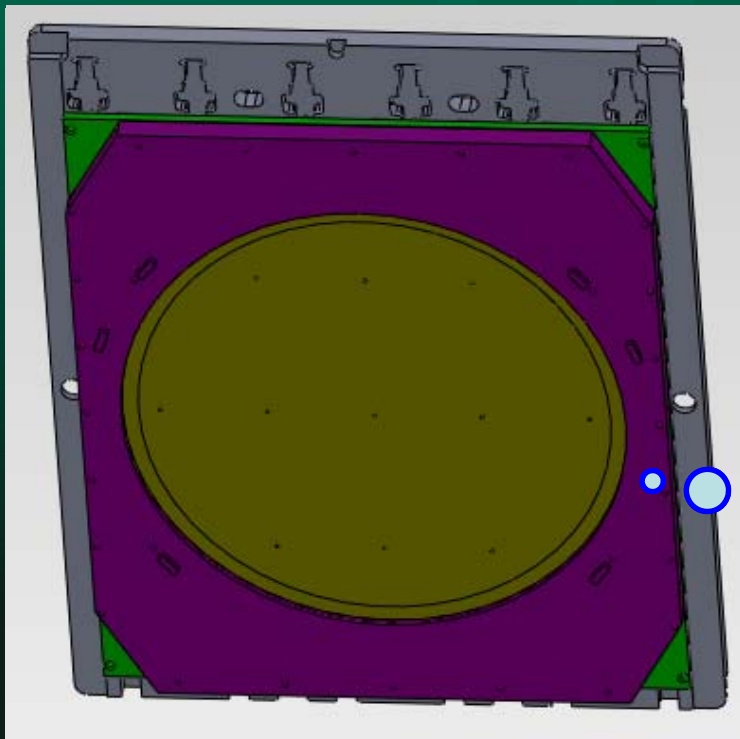
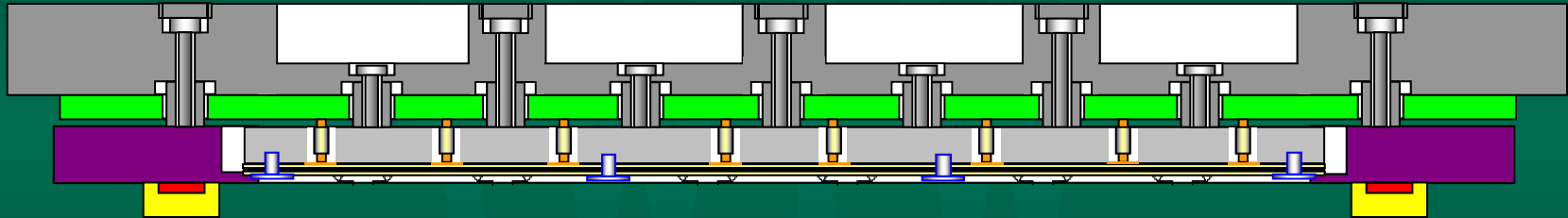


Preload  
Spring

Stopper

- 3. Mounting pre-load spring  
→ Tilt control of the card & wafer Tray  
→ Stable contact

# Probe Protection

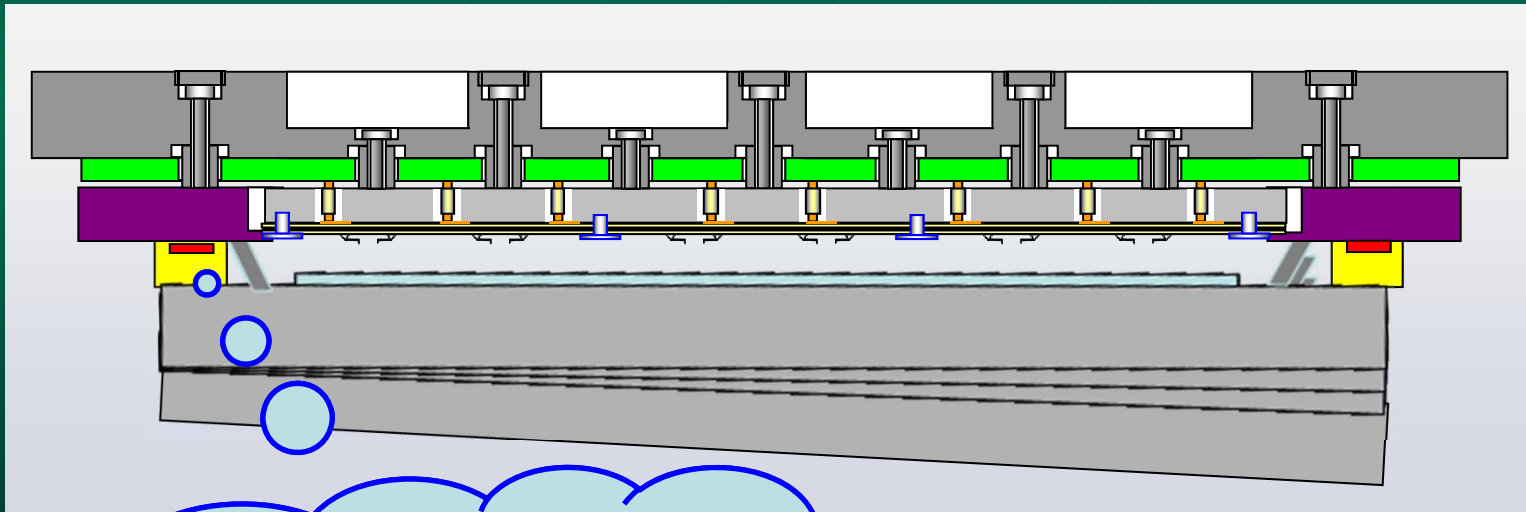


Wafer side view

Incorporate the stopper onto a unit holder which will secure the sealing area and is able to mount the stopper.



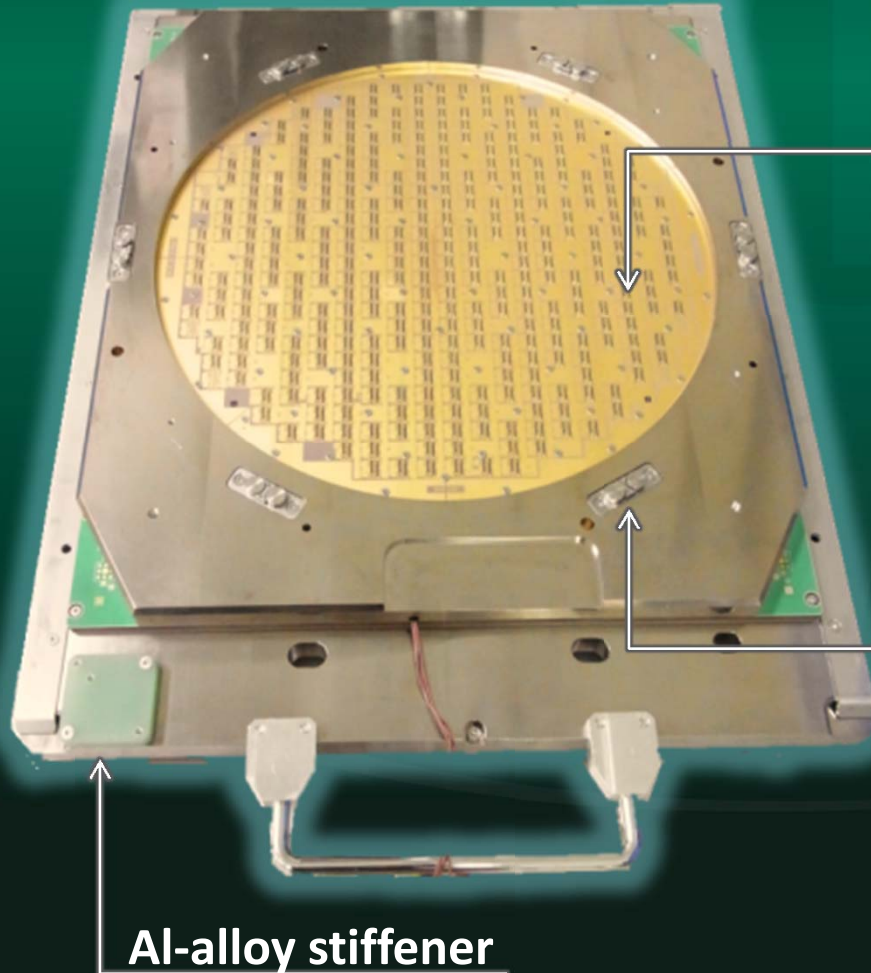
# Tilt Control



Using reaction force of the preload spring's stroke movement will correct the tilt of the wafer tray.

# Structure of MEMS Probe Card

300mm VPCS + MEMS Probe



12,000 MEMS Probes



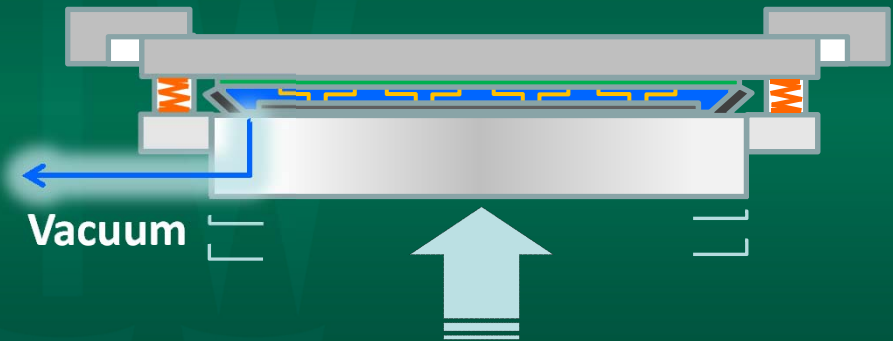
Preload Spring

Stopper

# Preheat & Overdrive Control Method

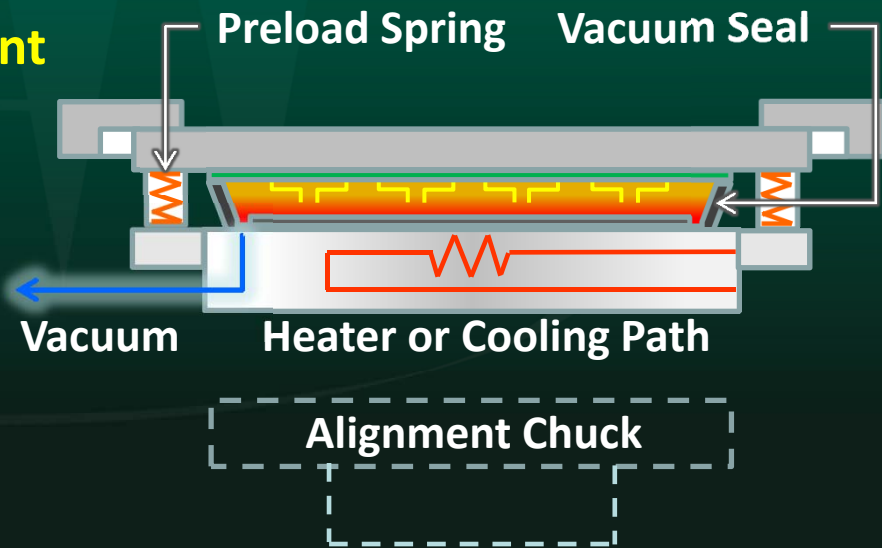
## ■ Overdrive Control

- Probe overdrive is controlled by precise vacuum pressure control



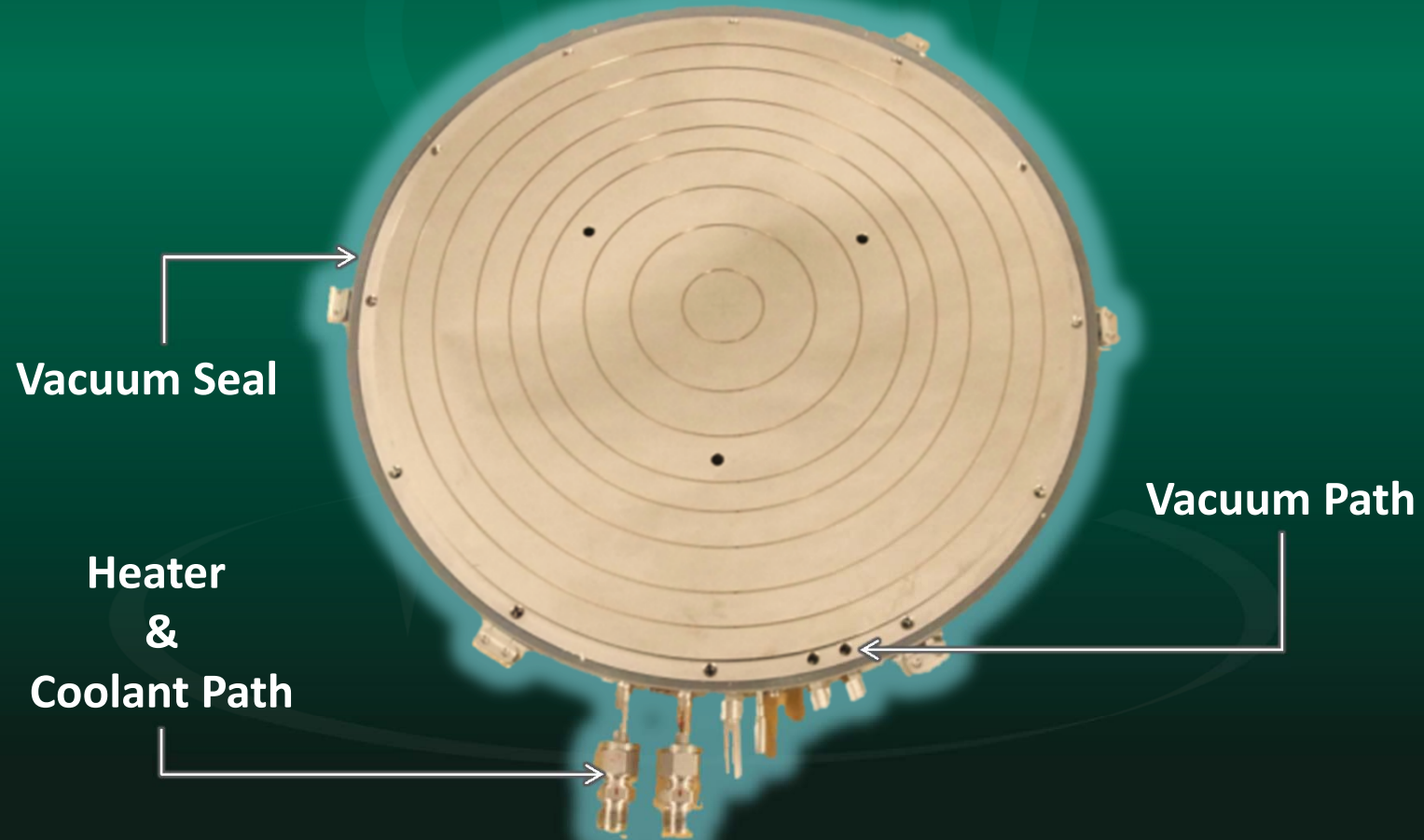
## ■ Preheat Control without an alignment chuck before probes touch

- Spring  $F >$  Vacuum  $F$  - Wafer tray weight
- Hi T/Lo T preheat control without alignment chuck is possible

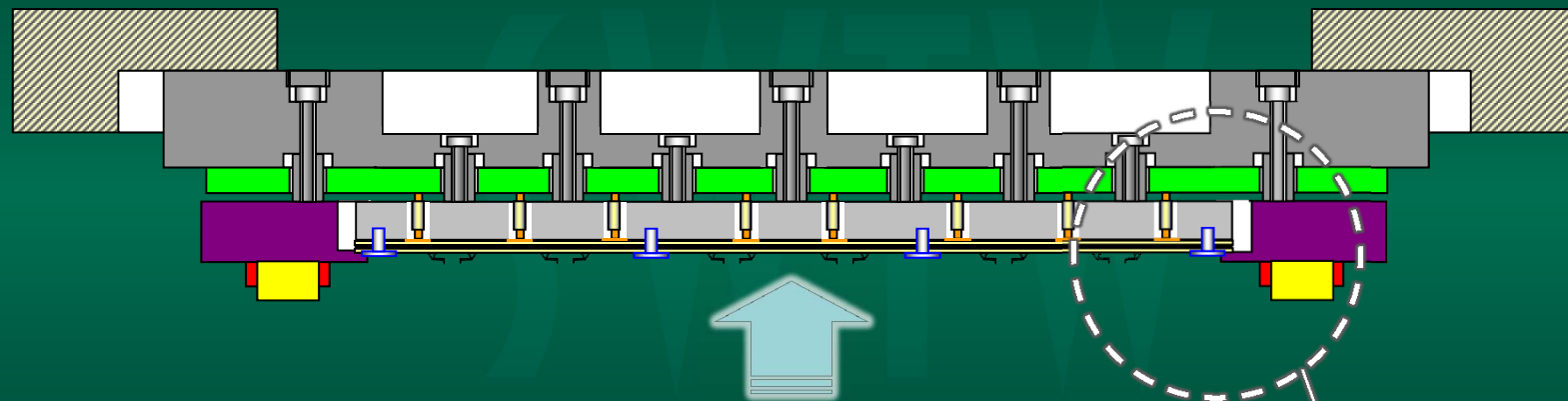


# Structure of Wafer tray

300mm VPCS + MEMS Probe



# 1TD Contact Procedure (1/4)

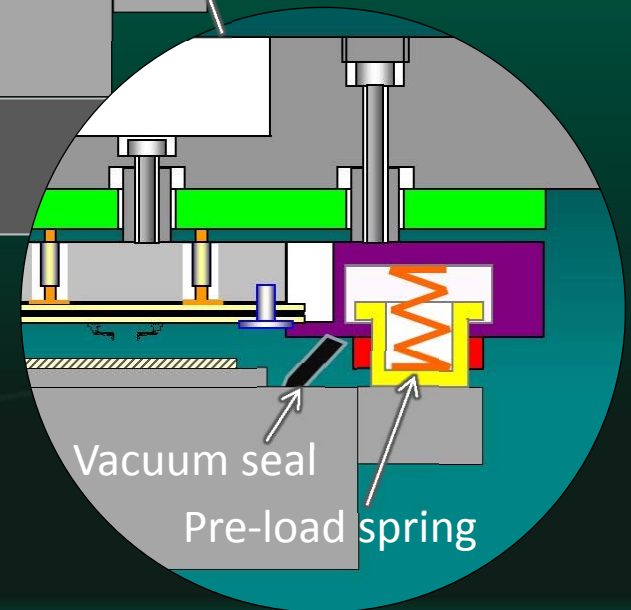


Wafer

Wafer Tray

Alignment Chuck

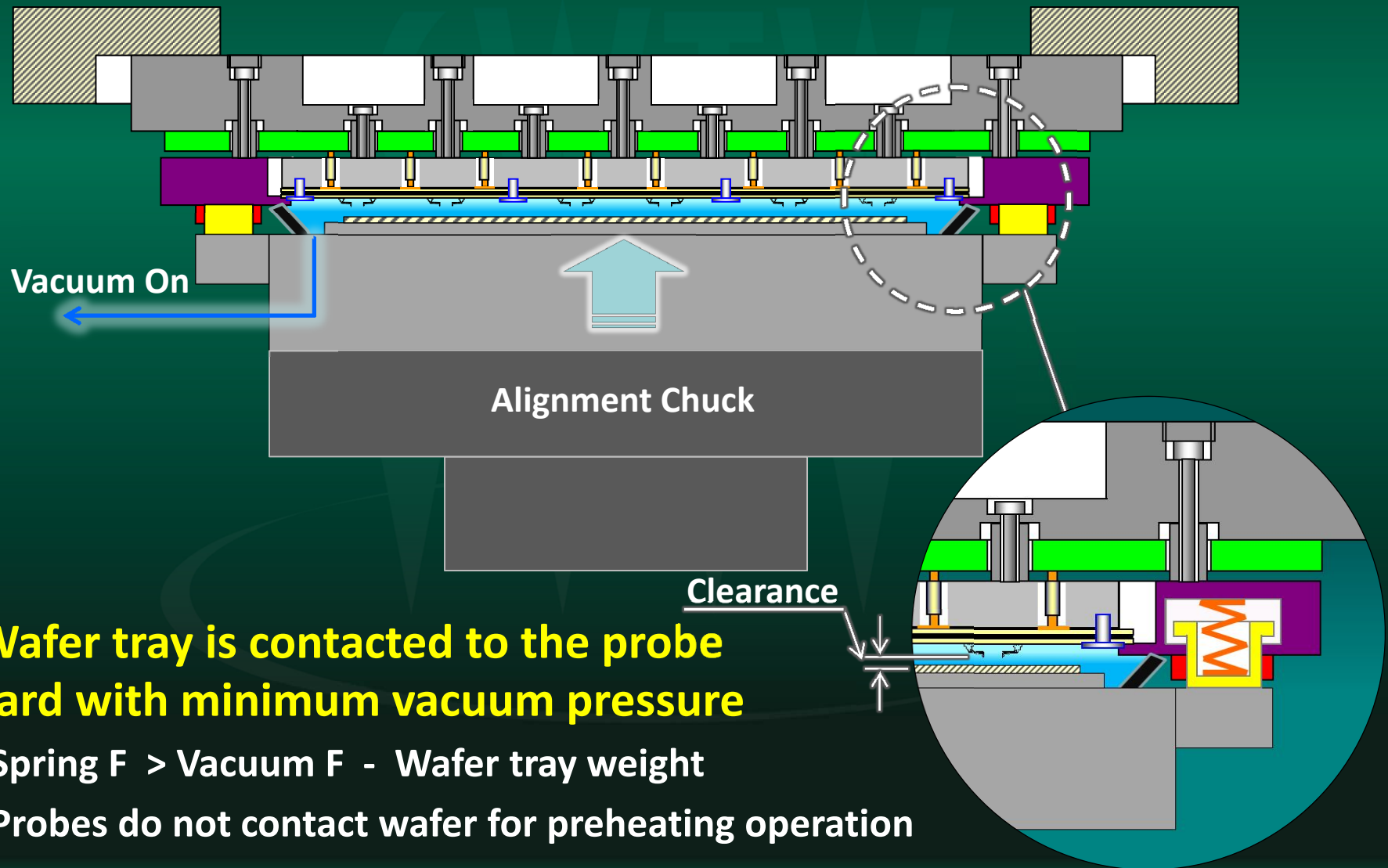
**Wafer tray is lifted until vacuum seal and preload spring contact the probe card**



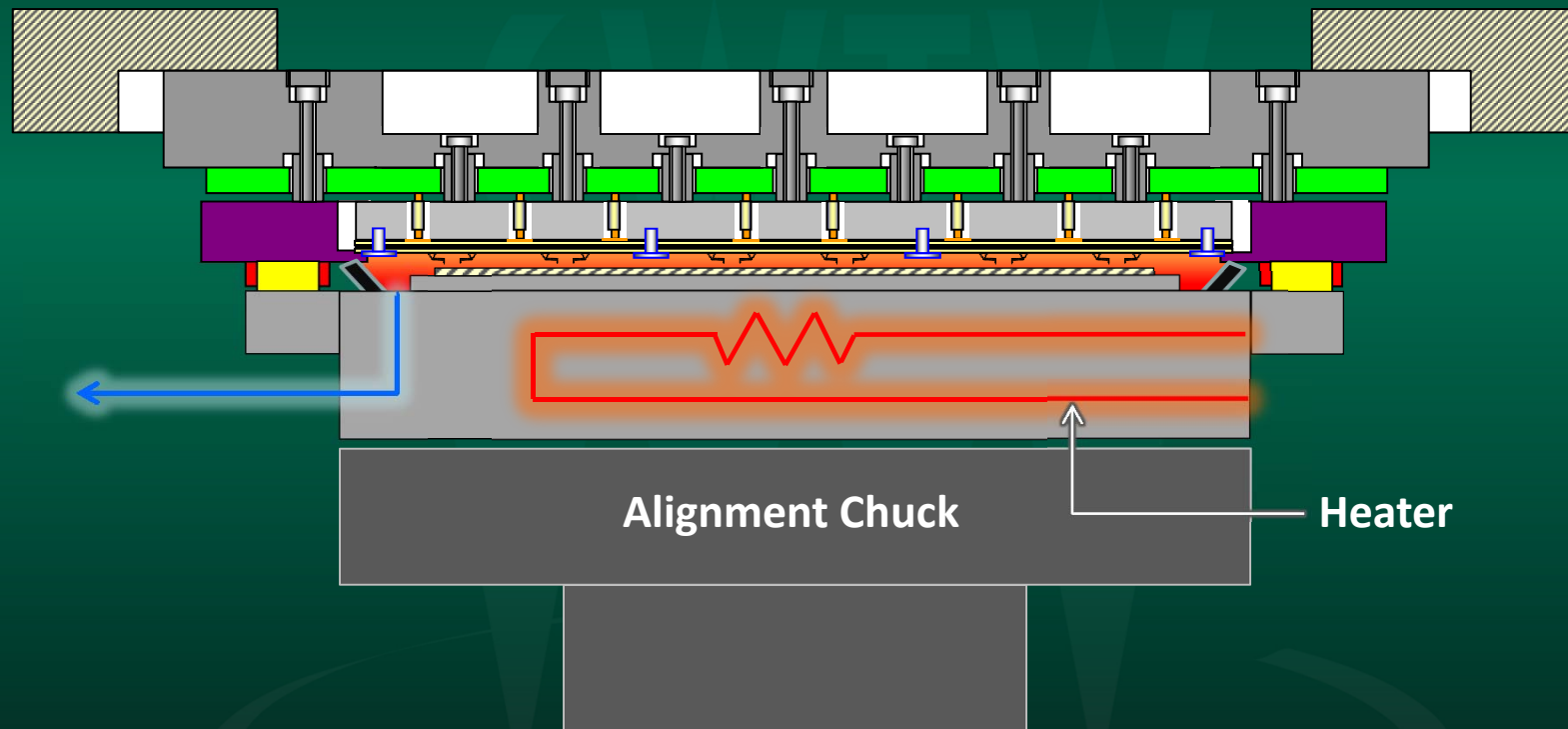
Vacuum seal

Pre-load spring

# 1TD Contact Procedure (2/4)



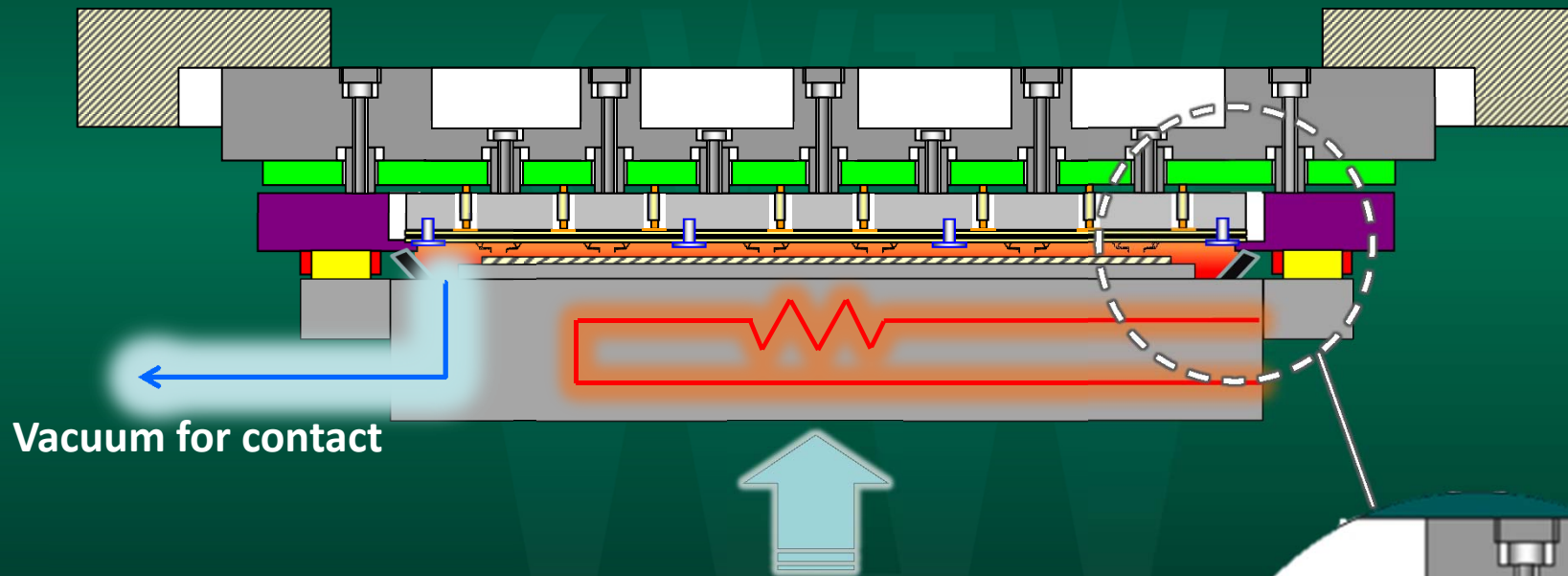
# 1TD Contact Procedure (3/4)



**Probe card is preheated by the heater installed in the wafer tray**

- Probes do not contact the wafer
- Wafer tray is contacted to the probe card with minimum vacuum pressure

# 1TD Contact Procedure (4/4)

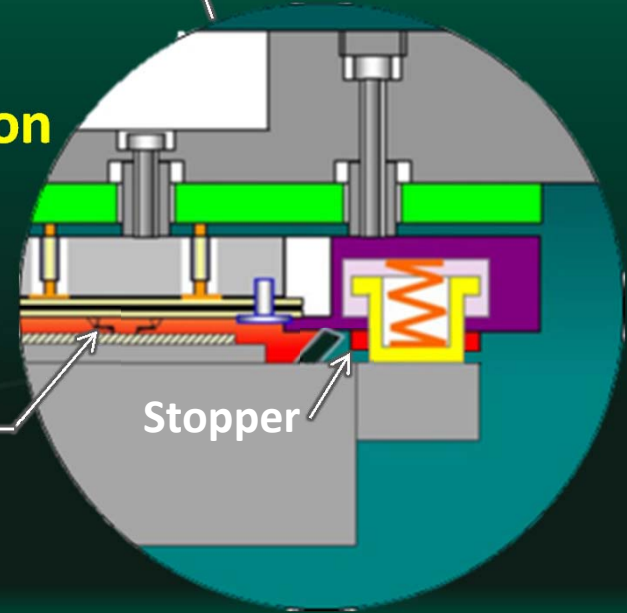


## Probes contact the wafer by further decompression

- Probes are protected by the stopper from over stroke
- Vacuum pressure is adjustable depending on probing force

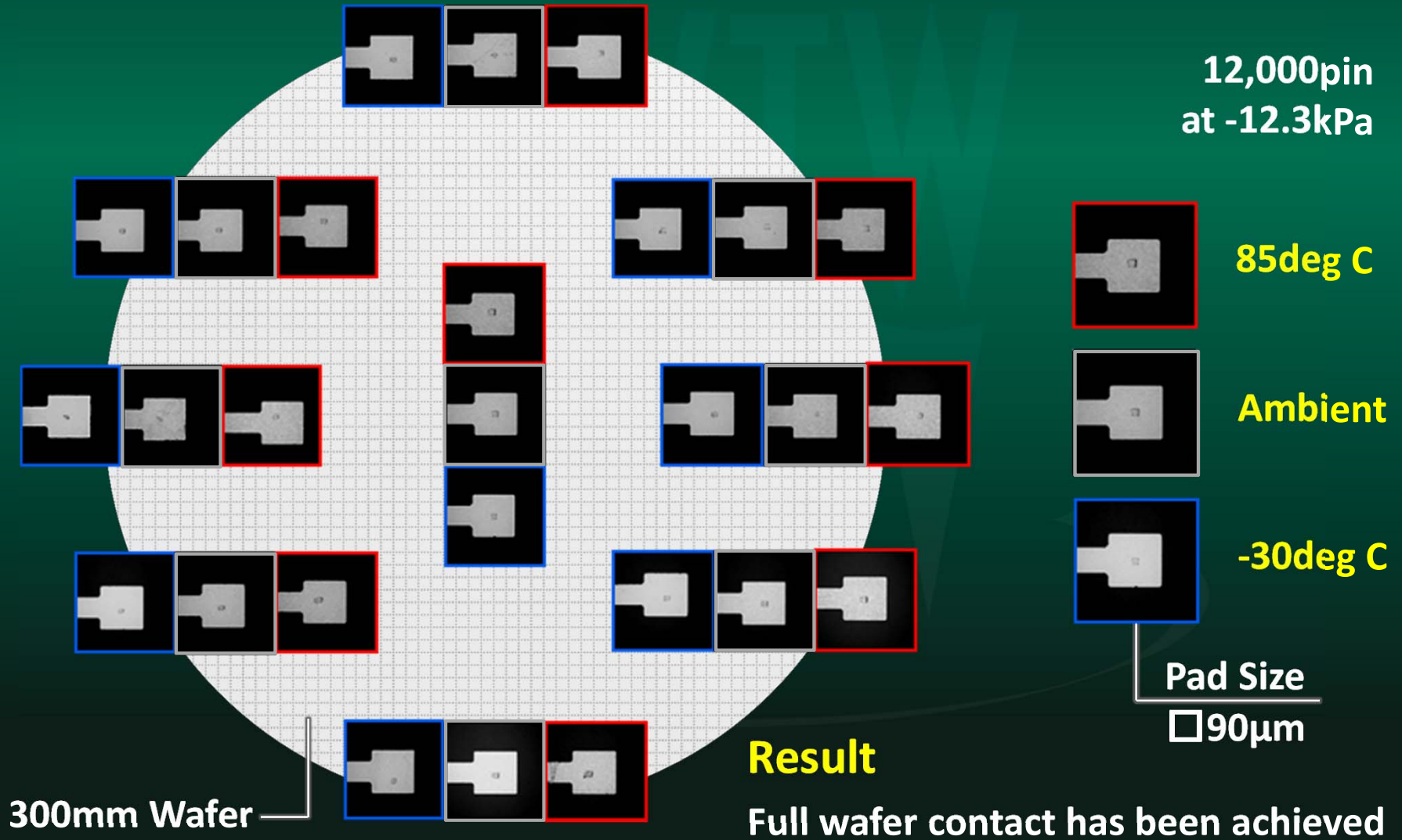
Probe Contact

Stopper





# Scrub Mark



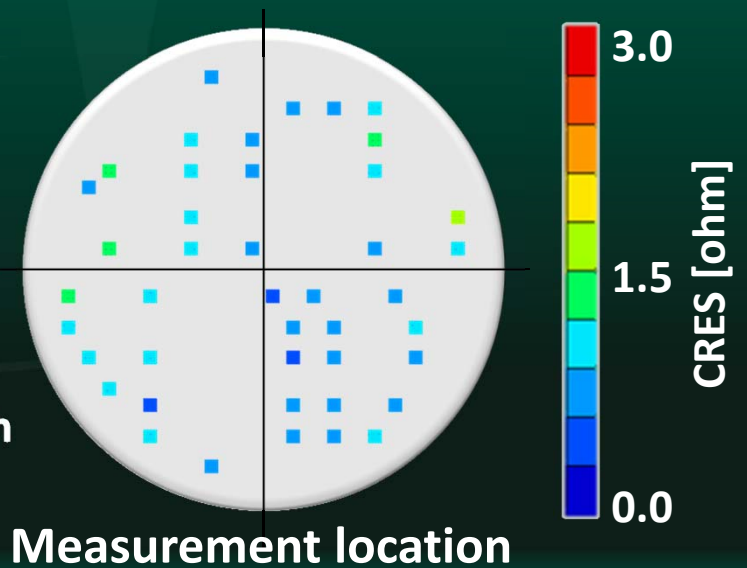
# Overdrive Control & CRES (Ambient)

OD	20 $\mu$ m (-5.5kpa)	40 $\mu$ m (-7.2kPa)	60 $\mu$ m (-8.9kPa)	80 $\mu$ m (-10.6kPa)	100 $\mu$ m (-12.3kPa)
VPCS					
Prober					










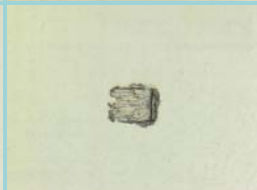
## Results

- Proved that the same OD control as a prober is possible with VPCS
- CRES < 1.8 ohm

\*Cres is the path resistance including connection from interposer to the probe tip



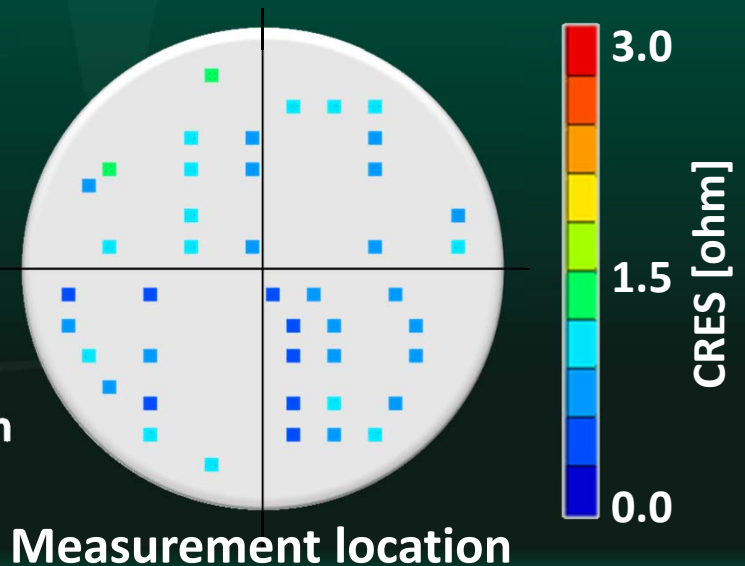
# Overdrive Control & CRES (85deg C)

OD \	20μm (-5.5kpa)	40μm (-7.2kPa)	60μm (-8.9kPa)	80μm (-10.6kPa)	100μm (-12.3kPa)
VPCS					
Prober					

## Results

- Proved that the same OD control as a prober is possible with VPCS
- CRES < 1.3 ohm

\*Cres is the path resistance including connection from interposer to the probe tip



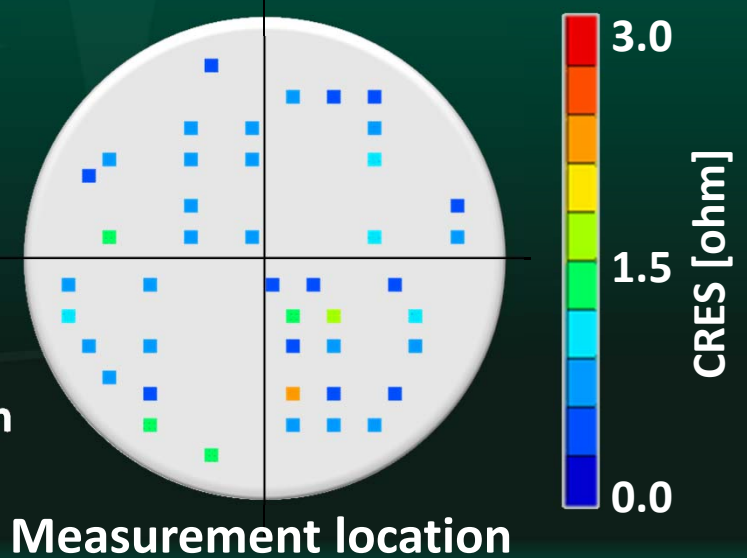
# Overdrive Control & CRES (-30deg C)

OD \	20μm (-5.5kpa)	40μm (-7.2kPa)	60μm (-8.9kPa)	80μm (-10.6kPa)	100μm (-12.3kPa)
VPCS					
Prober					

## Results

- Proved that the same OD control as a prober is possible with VPCS
- CRES < 2.3 ohm

\*Cres is the path resistance including connection from interposer to the probe tip



# Summary

## ■ Easily obtained uniform and high contact force

- 300mm wafer 576kgF, max 120K pin
- 450mm wafer 1,297kgF, max 260K pin  
\*-80kPa, 5gf/pin

## ■ Because pressure is uniformly distributed over the tester and the wafer sides, a high stiffness structure is not required for prober and card

## ■ Realized full wafer contact by VPCS + Existing MEMS probe

- Achieve Probe overdrive control by VPCS
- Proved using existing MEMS which is advantageous on reliability and cost

**VPCS + MEMS is a powerful solution  
for 450mm wafer 1TD test**

# Next step

## ■ 450mm Full wafer contact

- Over 1ton contact force for ultra high pin count
- Enhancement of resolution and precision of vacuum is required for finer overdrive control
- Minimum deformation needed to have uniform scrub mark
- To what extent can the board stiffener be eliminated or shrunk

