

# Towards low temperature systems



Svend Svendsen  
Technical University of Denmark  
[ss@byg.dtu.dk](mailto:ss@byg.dtu.dk) [www.byg.dtu.dk](http://www.byg.dtu.dk)  
<http://www.4dh.dk>

Technical University of Denmark



# Low temperature heat network



- **Low temperature**
- **renewable heat supply to**
- **low energy buildings by**
- **use of warm water network - 4DH**

# What was the 1, 2, 3th



4th generation district heating  
Technologies and Systems



4th Heating  
systems

## First Generation (1880-1930):

Steam as heat carrier. Is today in use in e.g. Manhattan, Paris and partly in Copenhagen.



## Second Generation (1930-1970):

Pressurised hot water as heat carrier with temperature above 100 C. Can be found today in older parts of current water-based systems.



## Third Generation (1970-present):

Pressurised water with temperatures below 100 C. Used in replacements in Central and Eastern Europe and all extensions in China, Korea, Europe, USA and Canada.



Energy 68 (2014) 1–11

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Energy

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/energy](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/energy)



Review

4th Generation District Heating (4GDH)  
Integrating smart thermal grids into future sustainable  
energy systems

Henrik Lund<sup>a,\*</sup>, Sven Werner<sup>b</sup>, Robin Wiltshire<sup>c</sup>, Svend Svendsen<sup>d</sup>, Jan Eric Thorsen<sup>e</sup>,  
Frede Hvelplund<sup>a</sup>, Brian Vad Mathiesen<sup>f</sup>

# Relevant in EU due to:

## EU Policy on energy and buildings

### EPBD recast:

All new buildings in the EU as from December 2020 (2018 for public buildings) will have to be **nearly zero energy buildings**

the ***nearly zero or very low amount of energy required should to*** a very significant level be covered by energy from **local renewable source**



# Relevant in DK due to:



## Danish Energy Plan \*

- All buildings and electricity fossil free by 2035
- Transport and industry fossil free by 2050
- Based on:
- energy savings and
- renewable energy supply

\*  
—

[http://www.ens.dk/Documents/Netboghandel%20-%20publikationer/2011/our future energy %20web.pdf](http://www.ens.dk/Documents/Netboghandel%20-%20publikationer/2011/our%20future%20energy%20web.pdf)

Technical University of Denmark



# Relevant due to:



**Overall optimization of energy system with  
Renewable energy for heating buildings**

**What are the best technologies?**

- **RE-based District heating in cities**
- **RE-based Heat pumps outside cities**

# Relevant due to:



## Optimization of fossil free energy system

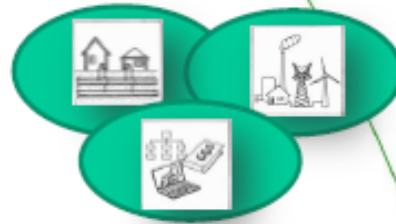
### What is the best combination of

- Energy savings in buildings
- Efficiency in distribution of heat
- Renewable energy ( waste, bio, solar, geo)

# Strategic Research Centre for 4<sup>th</sup> Generation District Heating Systems 2012 - 2017



The **Aim** is to assist in the development of 4th Generation District Heating Technologies and Systems (4GDH).



## Objectives:

- Scientific platform for research activities
- Societal understanding of the role of District Heating
- Further additional national and international projects



# 4DH

4th Generation District Heating  
Technologies and Systems

## Three pillars

### Supply:

Low temperature District heating

### Production:

Renewable Systems Integration

### Organisation:

Planning and Implementation



# 13 PhD projects

Strategic Research Centre for 4th Generation District Heating Technologies and Systems



*PhD 1.1. Heating of existing buildings by low-temperature district heating*

*PhD 1.2. Supply of domestic hot water at comfort temperatures without Legionella*

*PhD 1.3. Conversion of existing district heating grids to low-temperature operation and extension to new areas of buildings*

*PhD 1.4 Minimising losses in the DH distribution grid*

*Ph.D. 2.1: Energy Scenarios for Denmark*

*Ph.D. 2.2 Thermal storage in district heating systems*

*Ph.D. 2.3 Distributed CHP-plants optimized across more electricity markets*

*Ph.D. 2.4 Low-temperature energy sources for district heating*

*Ph.D. 2.5 The role of district heating in the Chinese energy system*

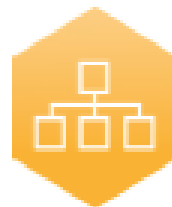


*PhD 3.1: Strategic energy planning in a municipal and legal perspective*

*PhD 3.2: Price regulation, tariff models and ownership as elements of strategic energy pl.*

*PhD 3.3: Geographical representations of heat demand, efficiency and supply*

*PhD 3.4: Geographical representations of renewable energy systems*



# Concept of low temperature heat network



**Low temperature DH: Supply/return: 50C / 20C**

**Heat supply: No fossil fuels & no biomass fuels**

**Low temperature district heating necessary because:**

- **more renewable heat produced at 50C than at 80C**
- **acceptable heat loss from network (20%) for low-energy buildings**

# Heat network

## Reduce heat loss by

- **Lower temperatures:**
- Supply at end user 50C
- Return at end user 20C
  
- **Lower heat loss coefficient :**
- Twinpipes with small diameter pipes (14mm) in service pipes



Figur 12 Tværsnit af det fremstillede prototypørør 14/14/110 mm

# Heat network

## Heat loss calculation

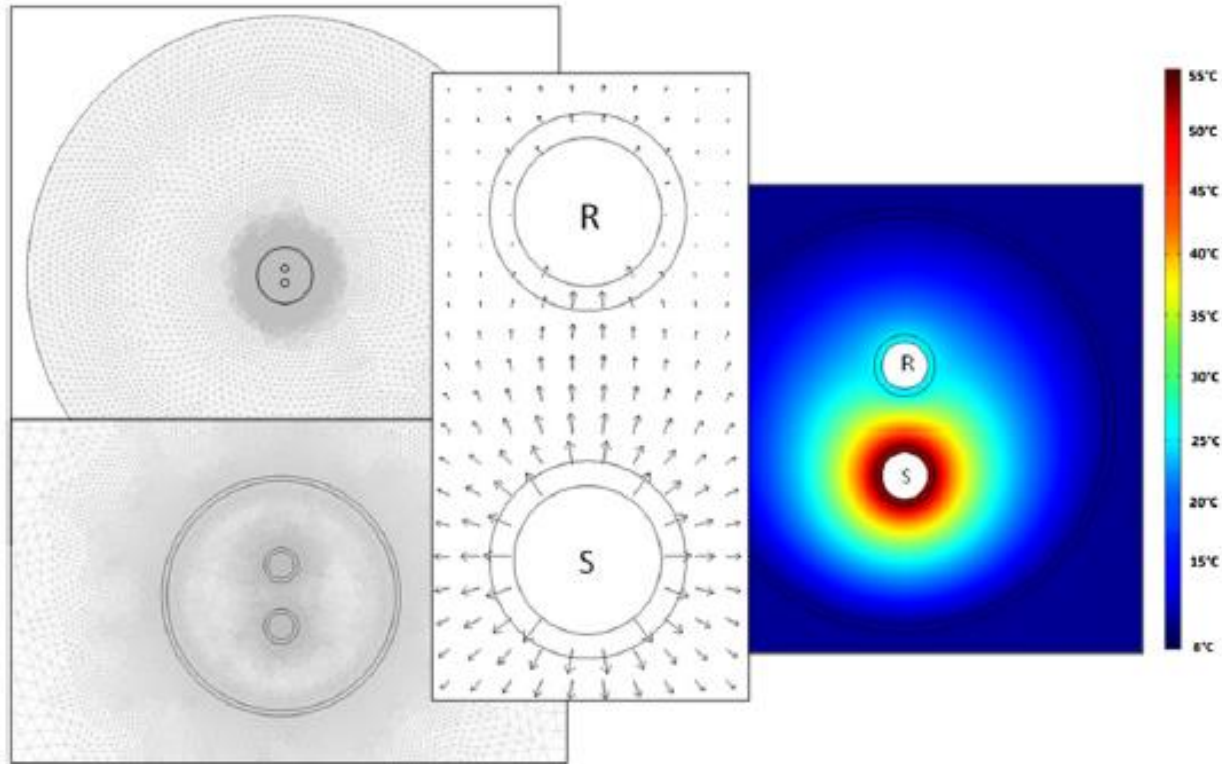


Fig. 5. Mesh model of a pre-insulated twin pipe buried in the ground (left). Heat flux between the media pipes (middle) and temperature field in Aluflex twin pipe 16–16/110 (right); temperature supply/return/ground: 55/25/8 °C.

# Heat loss of 3-6 W/m

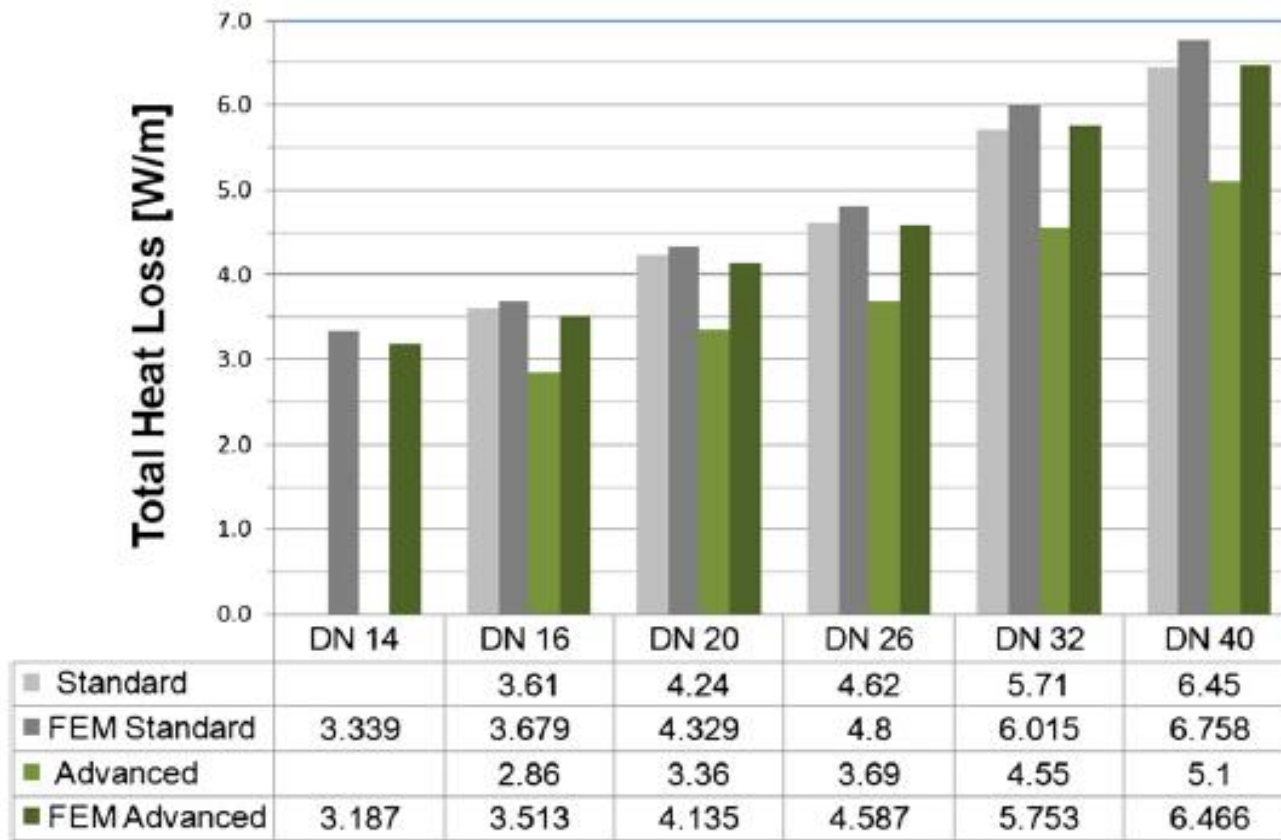


Fig. 9. Comparison of 4 different approaches for steady-state heat loss calculation. Aluflex twin pipe series 2, supply/return/ground temperatures: 55/25/8 °C.

# Optimization of network



## Requirements:

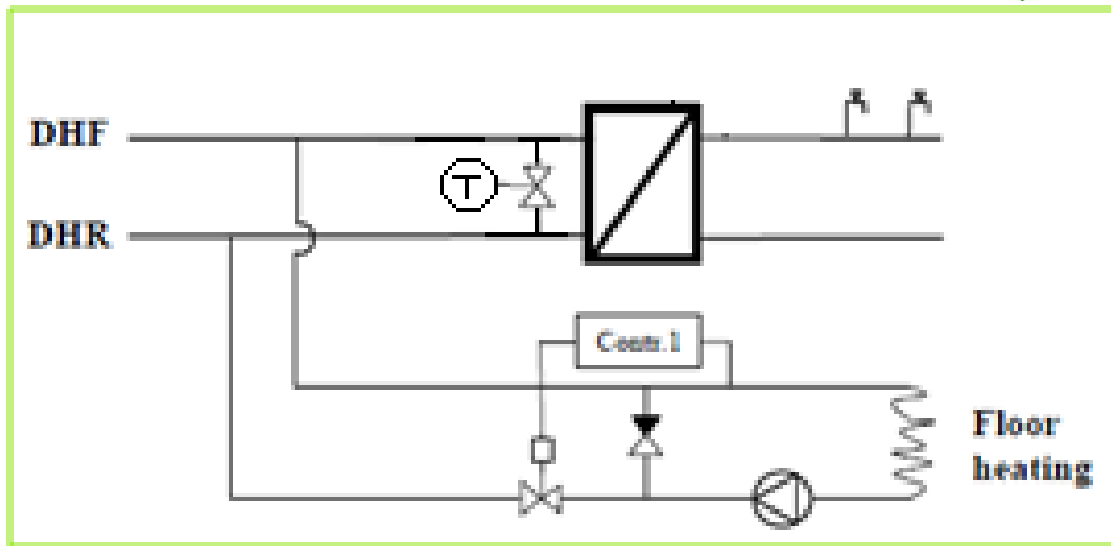
- Minimize heat loss
- Supply of DHW at 40C within 10 sec at tap
- Return in DH at 20C

## Possible solutions:

- Minimize pipe diameter
- DH supply circulation in loop
- No bypass from supply to return

# Substations Heat exchanger for DHW

High efficiency –  
Supply temp. district heating: 50 C  
DHW : 45 C





# Substations

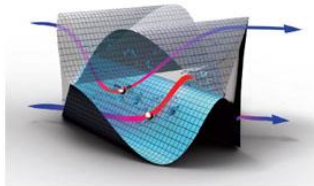
## Heat exchanger for DHW

- Micro Plate Heat Exchanger from Danfoss (right)
- Heat exchanger for DHW:
- 13L/min 32kW 10C/45C - 50C/19C
- Temperature differences of 5 C

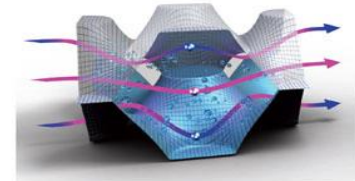
– [www.mphe.danfoss.com](http://www.mphe.danfoss.com)



Brazed plate heat exchangers only have a narrow brazing surface where the two 'peaks' of the plates touch.



Micro Plate Heat Exchangers have a broad, flat brazing surface which adds stability to the construction.



# Demonstration projects

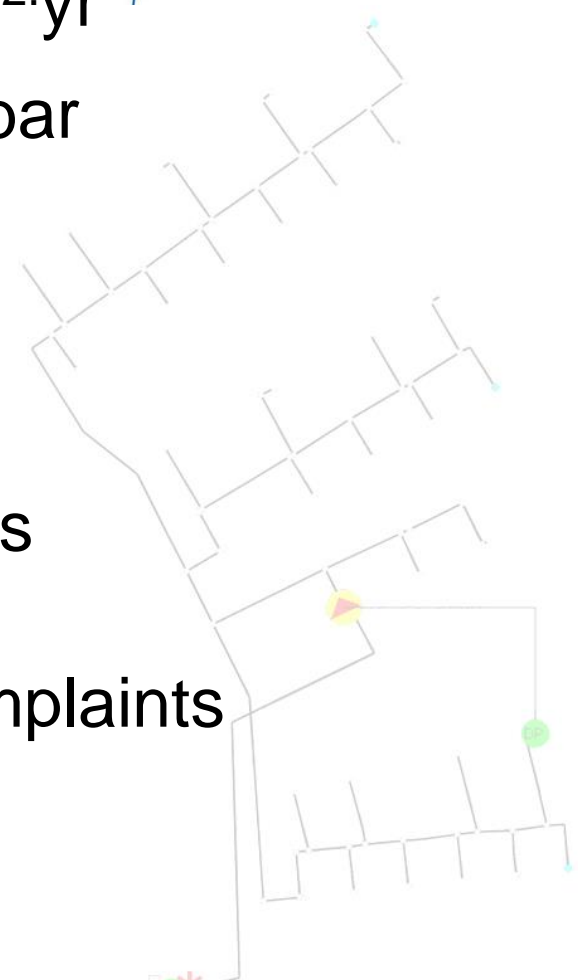


- **2001-2004:** EFP-2001: District heating supply to low-energy areas
- **2006-2009:** EFP-2007: Development and demonstration of low-energy district heating for low energy buildings
- **2008-2011:** EUDP 2008-II: CO<sub>2</sub> reductions in low-energy buildings and communities by implementation of low-temperature district heating systems. Demonstration cases in EnergyFlexHouse and Boligforeningen Ringgården
- **2011-2014 (expected completion):** EUDP 2010-II: Full-scale demonstration of the future low-temperature district heating in existing settlements. The project is ongoing.
- **2011 – 2014 (expected completion):** EUDP – Heat Pumps in District Heating (HPinDH)

# Demonstration in new LE-buildings - Lystrup <sup>[1,2]</sup>



- Research projects (2007, 2008, 2010)
- 40 low energy row-houses 37 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>·yr
- DH design parameters: 50/25°C, 10 bar
- District heating network
  - AluFlex Twin pipes (insulation series 2 )
  - reduced pipe sizes -> higher pressure drop
  - annual distribution heat loss approx. 20%
- Development of substations concepts
  - no problem with Legionella and comfort
- System runs already 2 years , no complaints



# Demonstration In new LE-buildings- Lystrup

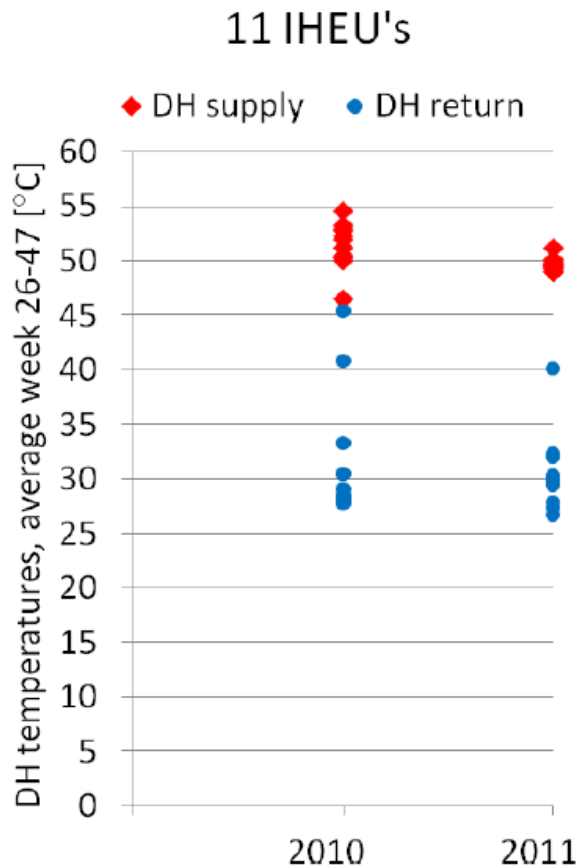


Table 5: Investment costs

Item	Costs (2010)		Total [€]
	[€/m]	[€/unit]	
Pipes*	120		65,000
Pipe fittings*	32		17,000
Pipe laying**	131		100,500
DHSU substation*		3,700	41,000
IHEU substation*		2,600	78,000
Substation installation**		1,000	41,000
Pump + frequency controller*		2,400+2,000	4,400
<b>Total Cost</b>			<b>346,900</b>
<b>Cost per house</b>			<b>8,460</b>

Figure 9: Supply and return temperatures for 11 IHEU's average of week 26-47, 2010/2011.

# Demonstration In existing buildings



- How much we can reduce the supply temperature?
- Which renovation measures (if any) should be performed?
- Simulation of typical single-family house from 70s
  - radiators originally designed 70/40/20
  - influence of windows renovation

Case	windows properties	Energy demand for SH [MWh/year]	Peak power for SH [kW]	Supply temperature needed in radiators for:		
				T <sub>out</sub> =-21°C	T <sub>out</sub> =0°C <b>HIGH</b>	T <sub>out</sub> =0°C <b>LOW</b>
no renovation	U-value: 2,5 W/m <sup>2</sup> K g-value: 0,43	10 .49	5,8	65/43/20	60/29/20	50/34/20
new glazing	U- value: 1,4 W/m <sup>2</sup> K g- value: 0,43	8.3	5,0	65/35/20	60/26/20	50/29/20
new windows	U- value: 0,9 W/m <sup>2</sup> K g- value: 0,35	7.55	4,5	65/32/20	52/25/20	50/26/20

# Demonstration In existing buildings 75 houses i DK gets low temperature DH to reduce loss from grid



# Implementation plans - conclusions



## Detailed investigations needed

- Based on new 4GDH technologies
- Based on an optimised energy system
  - Fossil free
  - No imported biomass for fuels

## Optimal solutions

## Political implementation needed