



3<sup>RD</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
**SMART ENERGY SYSTEMS AND  
4<sup>TH</sup> GENERATION DISTRICT HEATING**

COPENHAGEN, 12–13 SEPTEMBER 2017



**AALBORG UNIVERSITY**  
DENMARK

# R/R or R/S feed-in plants



**What is most important for a feed-in plant, solar thermal or any other heat source?**

- **Generate as much heat as possible?**
- **Produce useful heat, at a correct temperature?**
- **Disturb the central heat production as little as possible?**
- **Generate heat as economically as possible?**

# A Feed-in Solar Thermal plant in Ystad



**Owner – Ystad Fjärrvärme (public owned company)**

**Area – 36 collectors, 534 m<sup>2</sup> aperture area**

**Collector brand – SavoSolar**

**Contractors – 3 parts,**

**SavoSolar – all parts and all work on roof**

**Absolicon – deliver of feed-in sub-station, with control unit**

**Ystad fjärrvärme (DH) – all the rest with sub-contractors and own staff**



# Responsible for tender documents and system design

**Energianalys AB**

**Gunnar Lennermo**

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- **A feed-in plant – connected to the DH network outside the main pumps in the system**

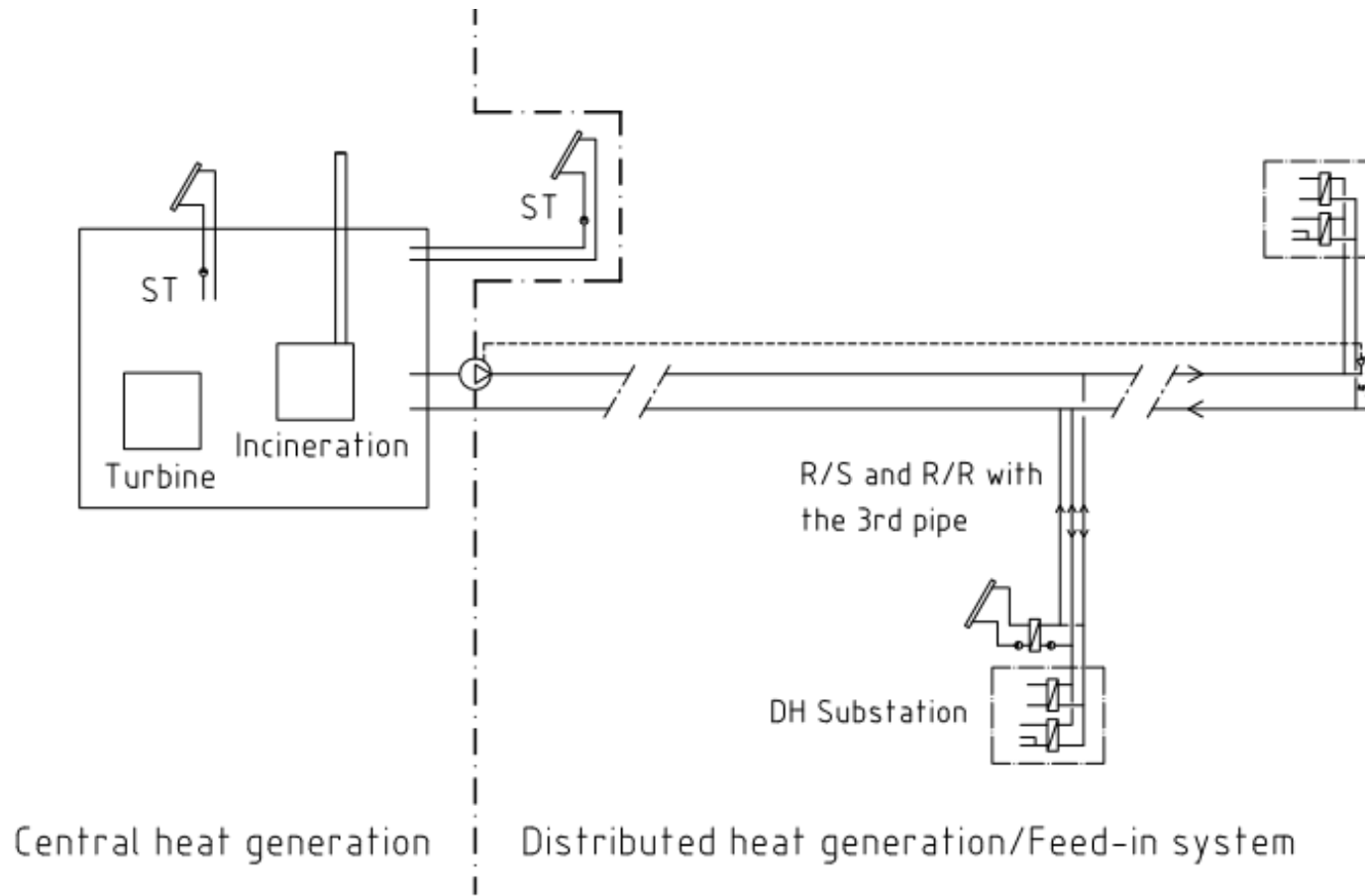




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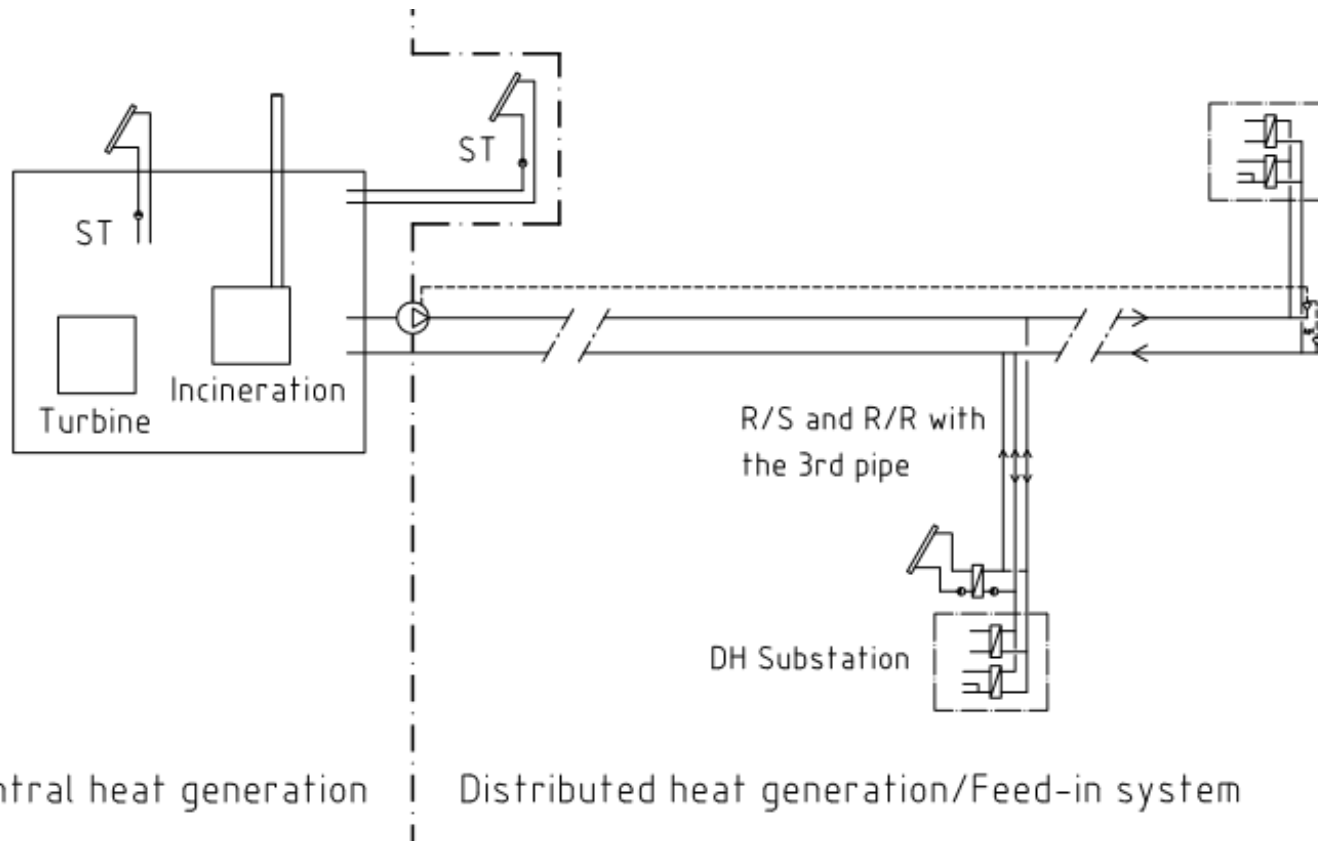
[www.4dh.eu](http://www.4dh.eu)

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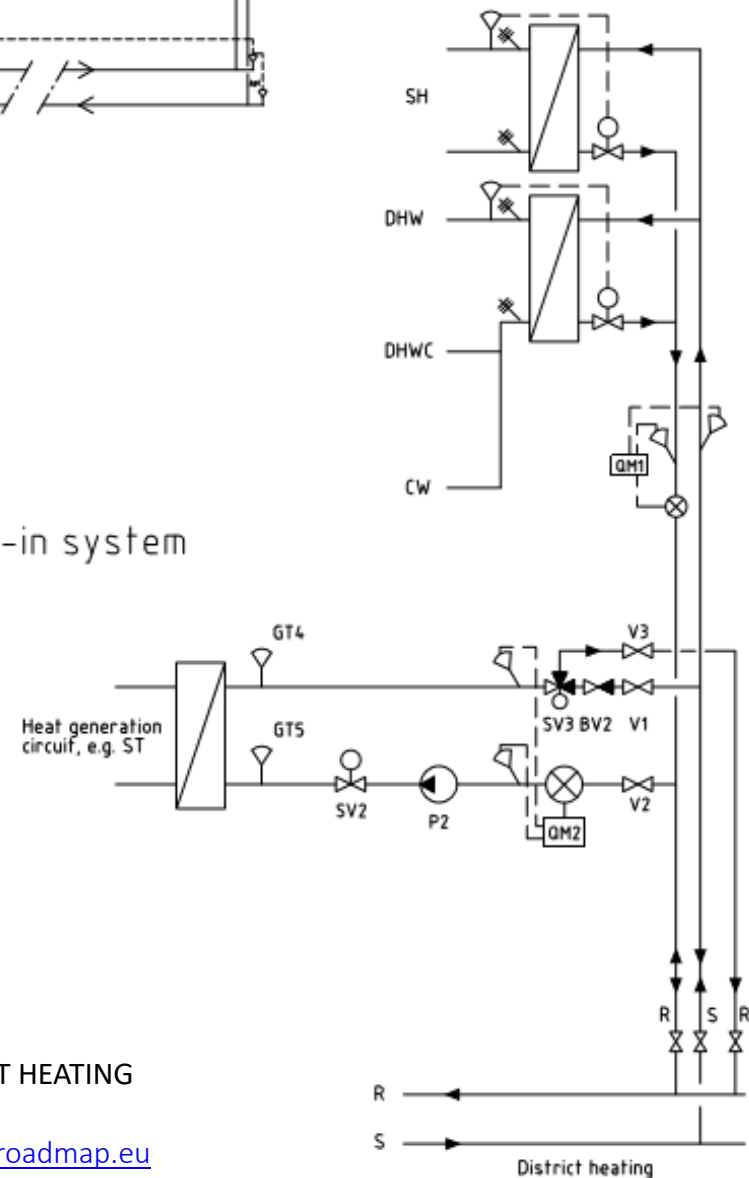
- **A feed-in plant – connected to the DH network outside the main pumps in the system**
- **A combination between Return/Return and Return/Supply feed-in**





Central heat generation

Distributed heat generation/Feed-in system





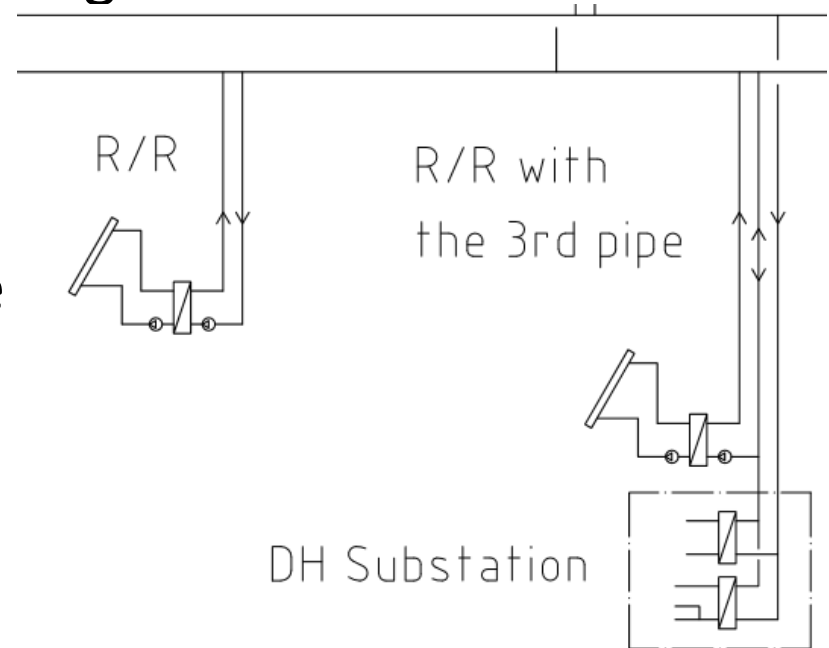


- **A feed-in plant – connected to the DH network outside the main pumps in the system**
- **A combination between Return/Return and Return/Supply feed-in**
- **Use a Flow controlled R/S-feed in system**
- **Have main control options regarding**
  - **Flow control in the solar circuit**
  - **Feed-in flow control, temperature or flow**
  - **Feed-in pump and control valve for flow adjustment**

# R/R – water is withdrawn from the return pipe and feed back to the return pipe



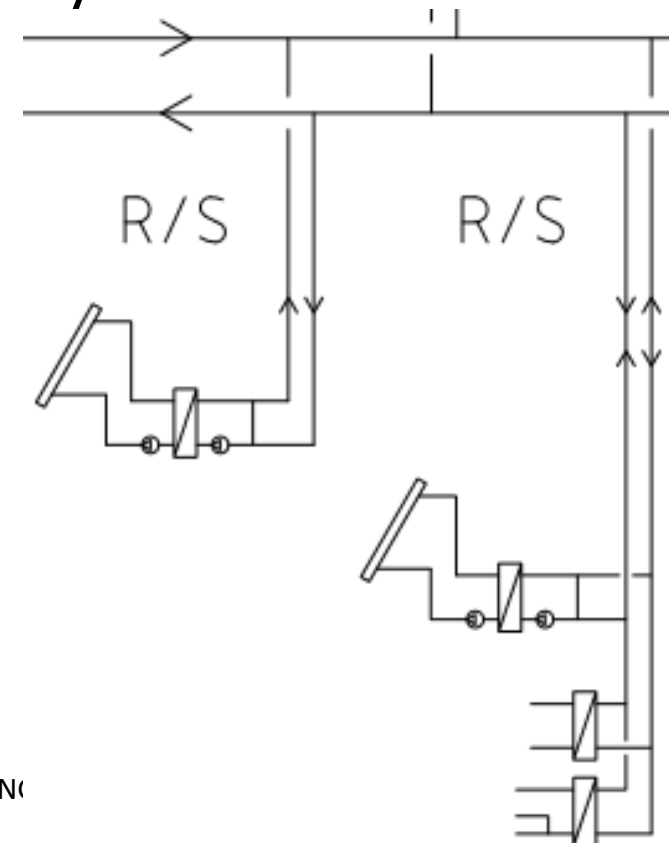
- Need a third pipe when installed together with a sub-station
- Do not need to feed-in at given lowest temperature
- Increase the return temperature in DH network
- Need very little pump pressure head to give correct flow
- A very simple control function
- Can not create a flow in the main DH-network



# R/S – water is withdrawn from the return pipe and feed back to the supply pipe



- Can be installed separate and together with a substation without any extra piping
- Do not affect the temperature in the DH system
- Need much more feed-in pressure head to overcome the differential pressure than a R/R system
- Must feed in a given temperature or at least higher than a given temperature
- More advanced control system
- Can create its own flow in the DH network



## Two basic R/S control systems

- Temperature controlled – with a short circuit

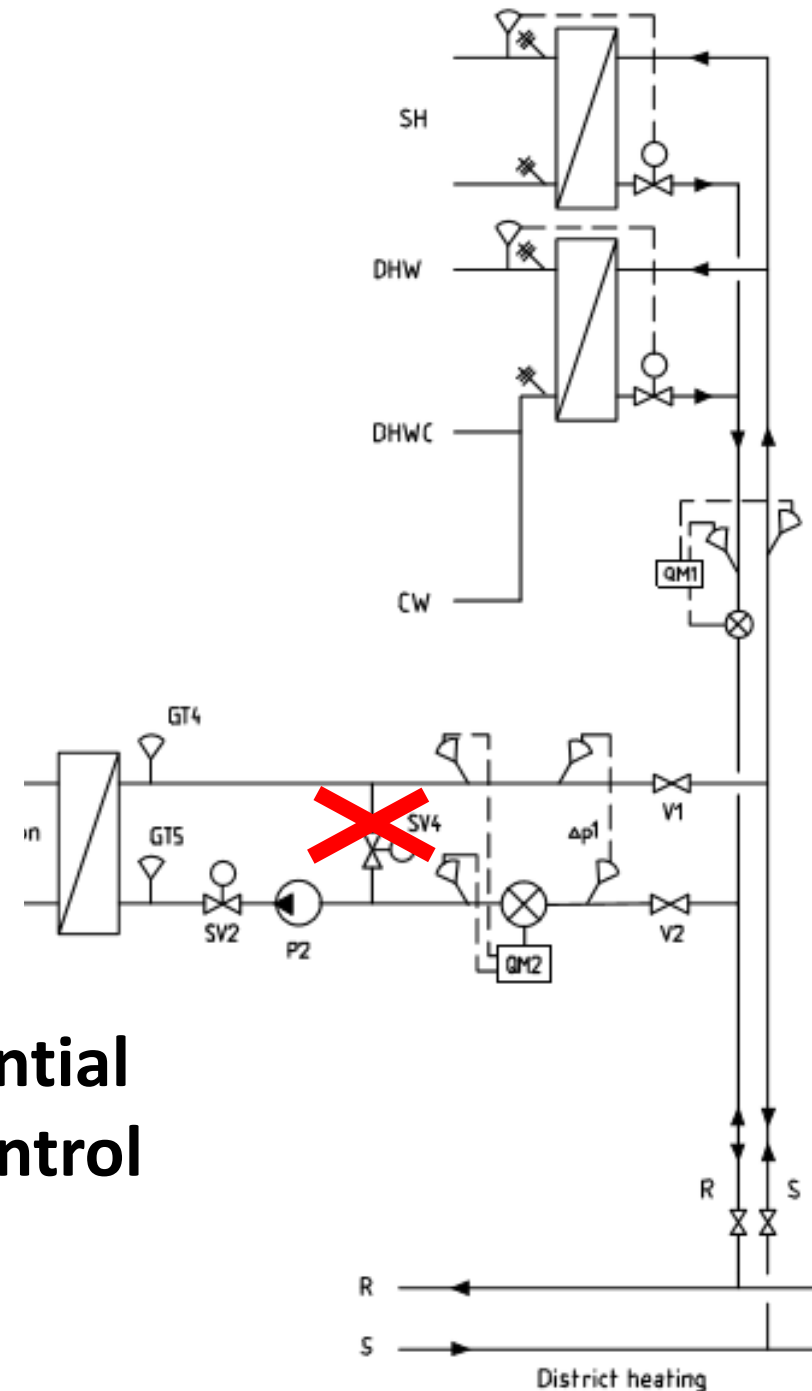
SV4 is never allowed to close to 100 %.

P2 guarantees a feed-in flow but SV4 control it.

- Flow controlled – without short circuit

SV4 do not exist

The feed-in flow is controlled by P2 and/or SV2



**A small plant and a high differential pressure gives a more severe control**

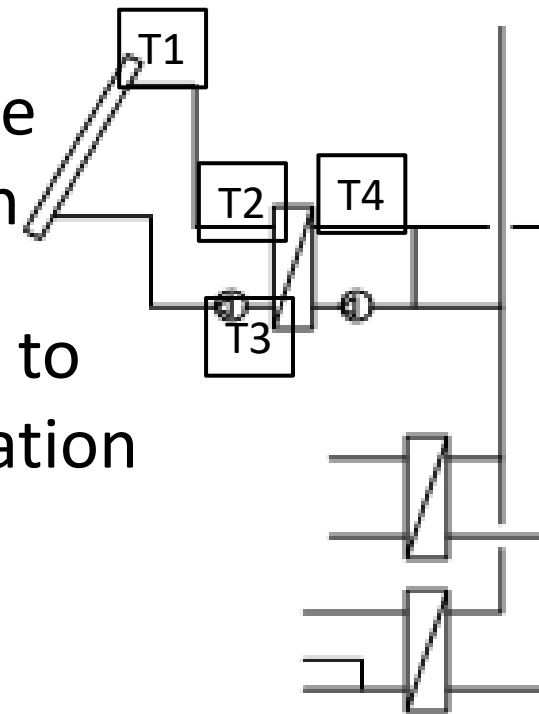
# Solar circuit control at R/S mode

The desire is to have a stable temperature at T2 independent of the radiation, 2 to 3 degrees higher than feed-in set-point, T4.

Variable flow can provide a very long response time.



- Adjust the ST-pump speed to have a stable temperature at T1 (= T2 + 2°C)
- Adjust the ST-pump speed relative to the radiation with help of the solar equation
- Fixed ST-pump speed variate T3 relative to the radiation with help of the solar equation



Laminar or turbulent flow in the absorber??

# Feed-in circuit control at R/S mode

The desire is to ?????

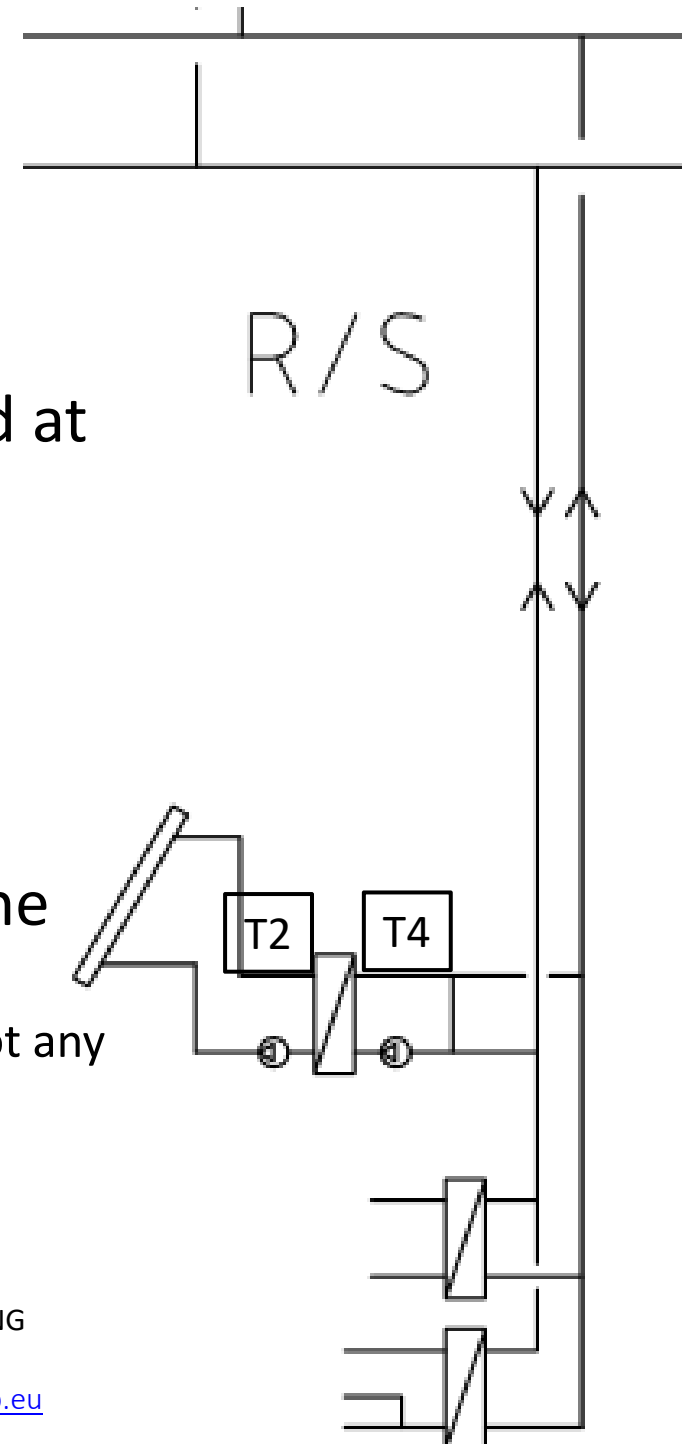
- Adjust feed-in-pump speed so that the temperature setpoint can be maintained at T4

Need an extra function if T2 is too low, adjusted set-value  
“Might” need a shorter response-time than a standard temperature sensor can give

- Adjust feed-in-pump speed relative to the flow in the solar circuit

Do not guarantee a correct feed-in temperature at T4 if not any extra control functions is used

Need a “high” flow resolution??

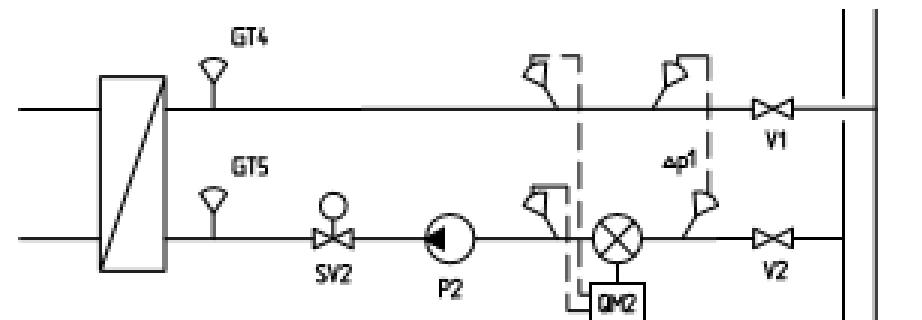


# Feed-in circuit control at R/S mode, flow controlled layout



How can a correct feed-in flow be created?

- Only with the feed-in pump, P2
- ~~Only with the control valve SV2~~
- A combination between the feed-in pump, P2, and a control valve, SV2
  - First SV2 then P2 ( $\Delta p1$ )
  - First P2 then SV2



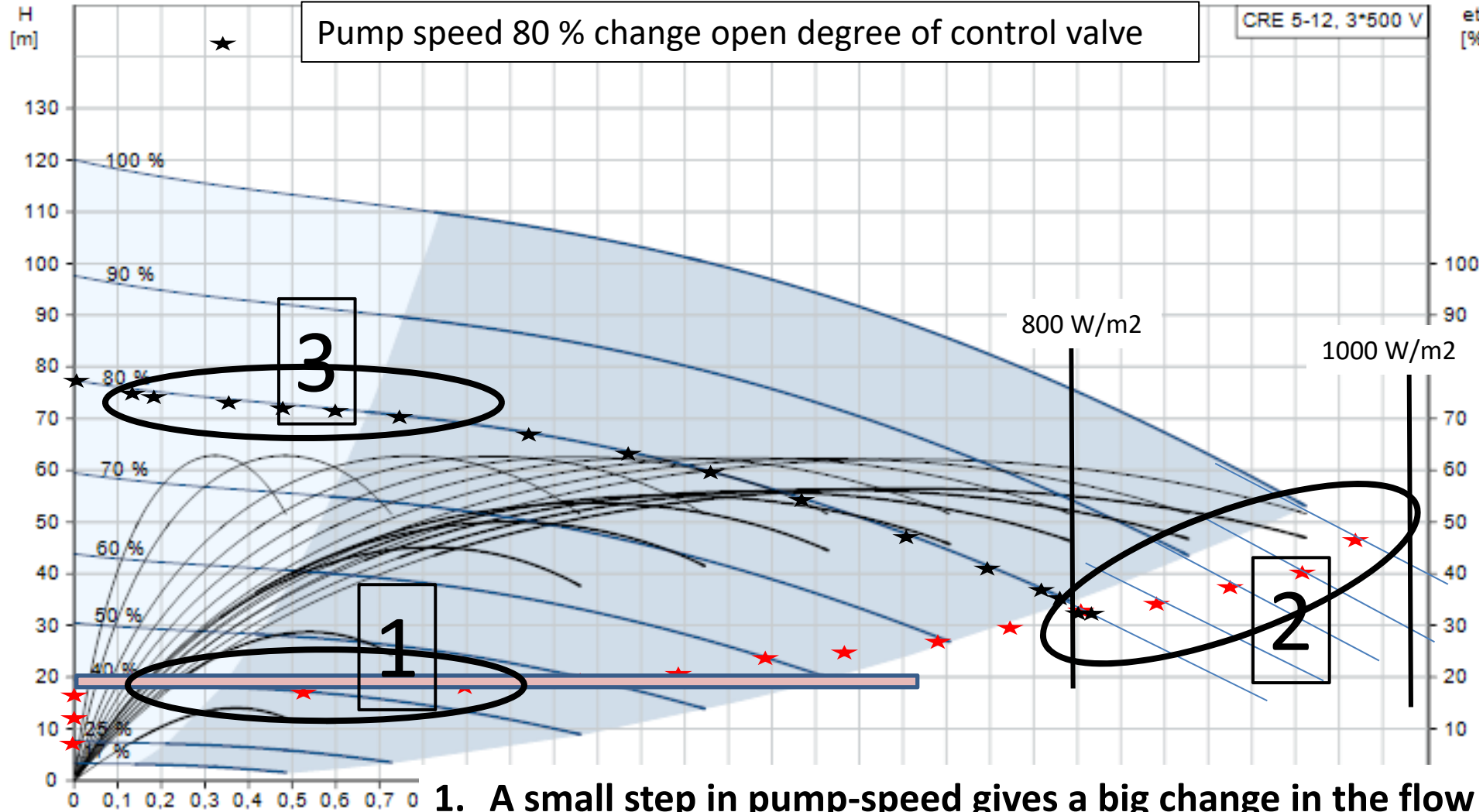
**First - kind of control system, flow or temperature**  
**Second - equipment used to gain correct temperature**



— Differential pressure 1,8 – 2,1 bar

★ Change of pump speed and control valve open to 100 %

★ Pump speed 80 % change open degree of control valve



1. A small step in pump-speed gives a big change in the flow
2. Flow below recommended work area, risk for cavitation
3. It is easier to create a proper low flow with the SV2



# Experience so far, focus on R/S feed-in

- Vacuum degassing works, perhaps not necessary but strongly recommended
- It is easier to get a proper flow or temperature using a flow sensor, both in the ST circuit and at the feed-in, than using a temperature sensor
- A pump-speed related to differential pressure and flow control with a control valve is best at small flows, and pump-speed flow control at large flows
- The change between R/R and R/S, and revers, requires careful control planning



# Return/Supply feed-in – demands from DH

Need a discussion (some requirements are listed below)

- Temperature tolerance, +/- X°C or only + X°C
- The cold plug at start, all at once, towards S or R
- Risk of fatigue, varying temperatures, cycles a day
- Change in feed-in heat-power, kW/minute
- Change in feed-in flow, l/s per minute
- Risk for water hammers, fast change in flow
- Maximum feed-in heat-power in relation to the current DH heat-power requirement



**Plants with  
R/R+R/S need  
more rules**



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# Thank you

# Questions



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