

# Case study: Experimental and numerical assessment of district heating supply for apartment complex



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Case study: Experimental and numerical assessment of district heating supply for apartment complex



Development industrial core energy technology

Contribute to national economic growth by developing and deploying industrial core energy technology

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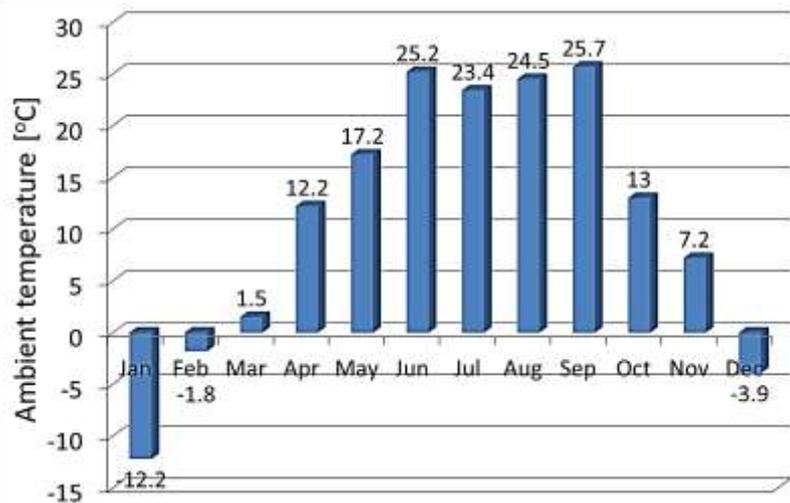


# Current status

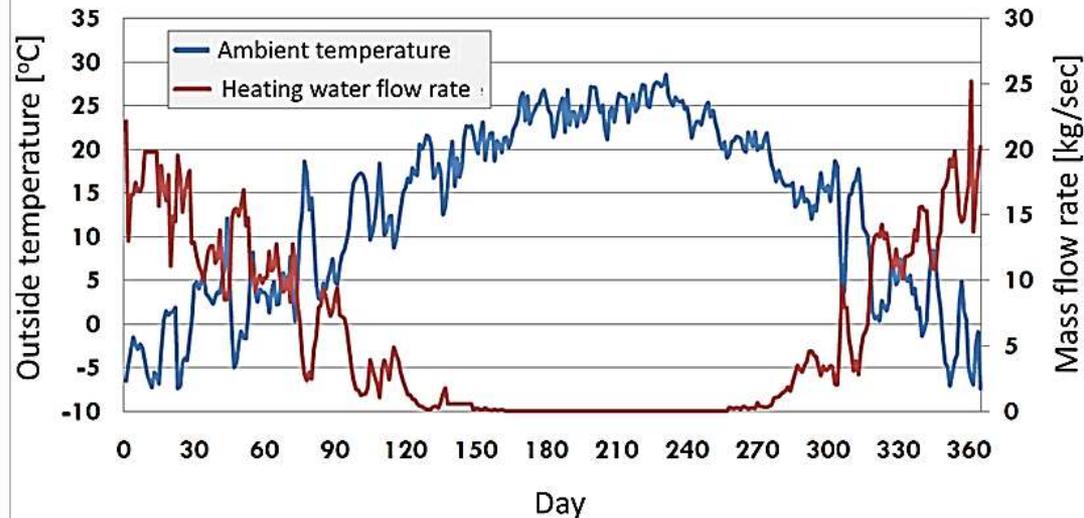


## DH circumstances in South Korea

- **High heat demand density**
  - Several thousands household in an apartment complex
  - Higher than 46 m (150 ft) average height
- **Four distinct season**
  - No heating, only hot water demand in summer



Ambient temperature in Seoul, 2010



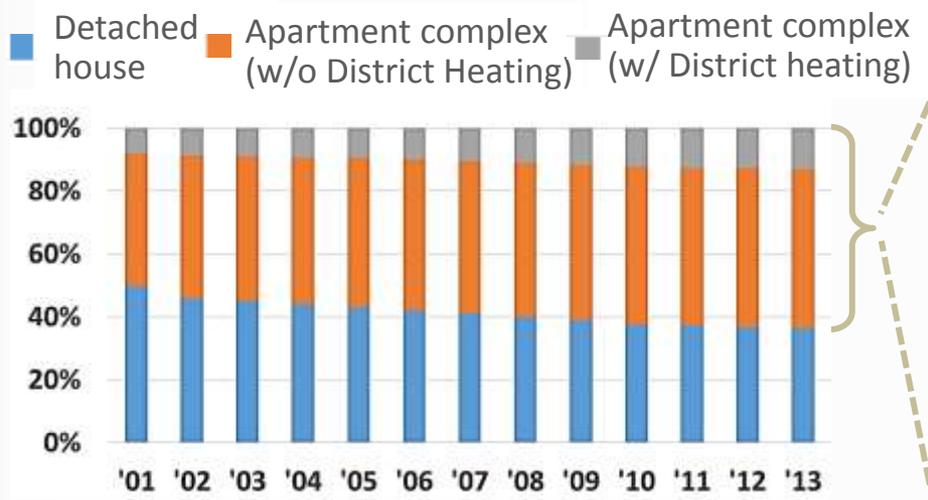
Year based heating demand in apartment complex

# Current status



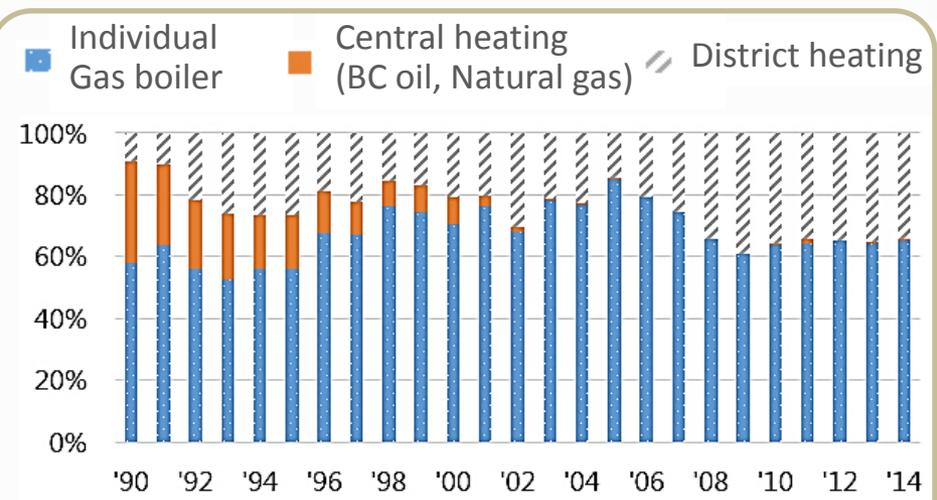
## Heat supply in South Korea

- **DH supply since 1985**
- **2.3 million households are DH served (14.8 % market share, 2013)**
- **Retrofitting demand for old facilities over 20 years**
- **Changing demand from old central heating to DH**



Residential type and heat market

<Ref: White paper, District energy supply 2014, KEMCO>



Year by year heating supply ratio of newly built apartment

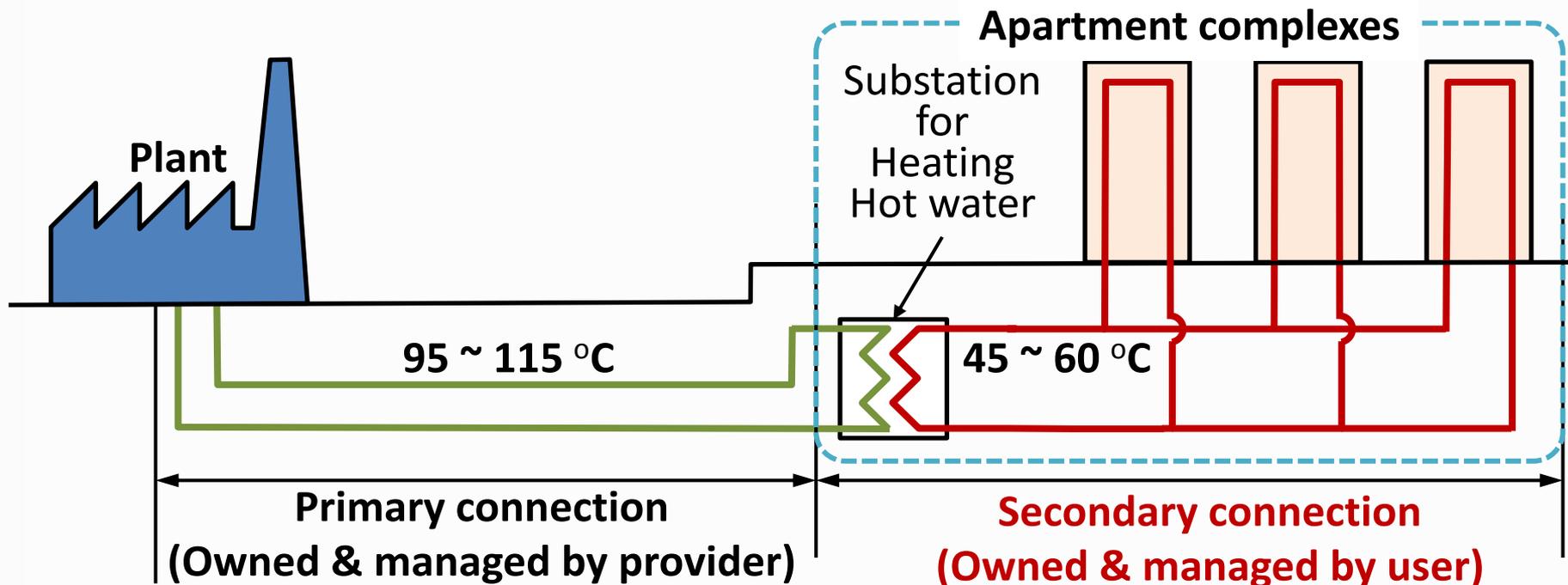
<Ref: Real estate 114>

# Current status



## Our DH supply structure

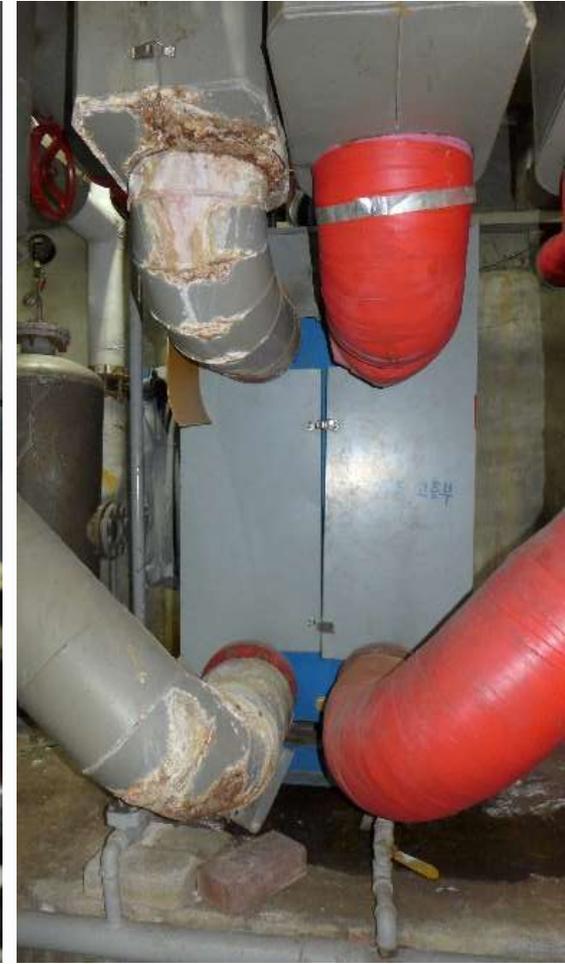
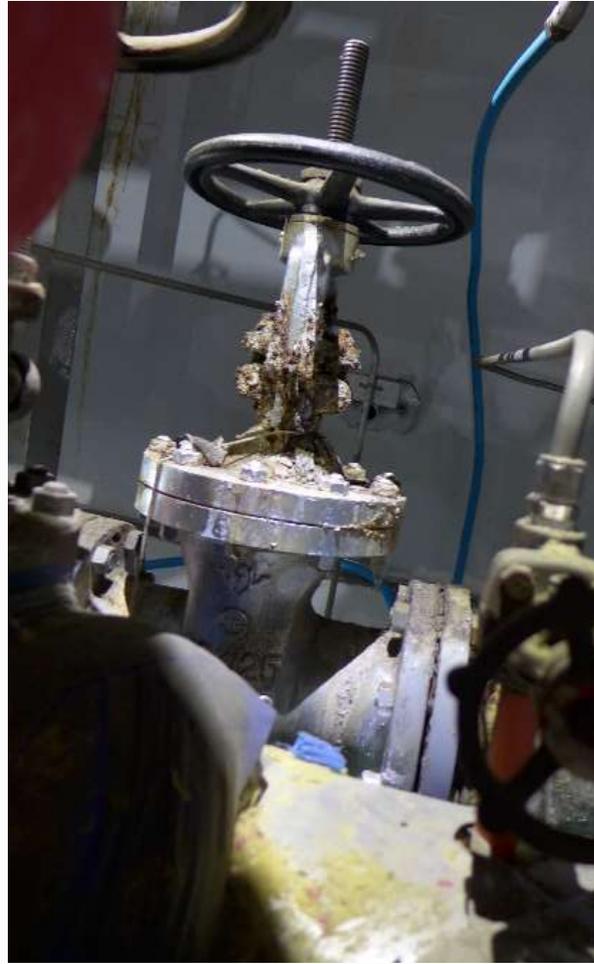
- ▣ **Primary connection: Owned by DH provider, Well managed**
  - ▣ Single digit heat loss percentage
- ▣ **Secondary connection: Owned by user, Non-systematic managed**
  - ▣ Maintenance problem, Heat loss ?



# Current status



Secondary connection: Over 20 years old DH facility in apartment



# Project overview



## Retrofitting & assessment of DH supply

- Research grant was awarded by KDHC (Korea District Heating Cooperation)
- Retrofitting DH facilities of an old apartment building (since 1993)
- Extensive yearly data(Temp, flow rate, heat) records for assessment
- Small (1 bldg.) & Large (11 bldg.) scale numerical modeling and analysis



1 building, 60 households



11 buildings, 990 households

# Project overview



## Project description: Key features

- **Heat saving: Reducing the number of pipes**
- **PEX pipe: Flexible pipe installation for easy retrofitting**
- **Space saving: Compact substation hiding under the kitchen sink**
- **Remote heat metering: AMR and monitoring wall pad for every household**

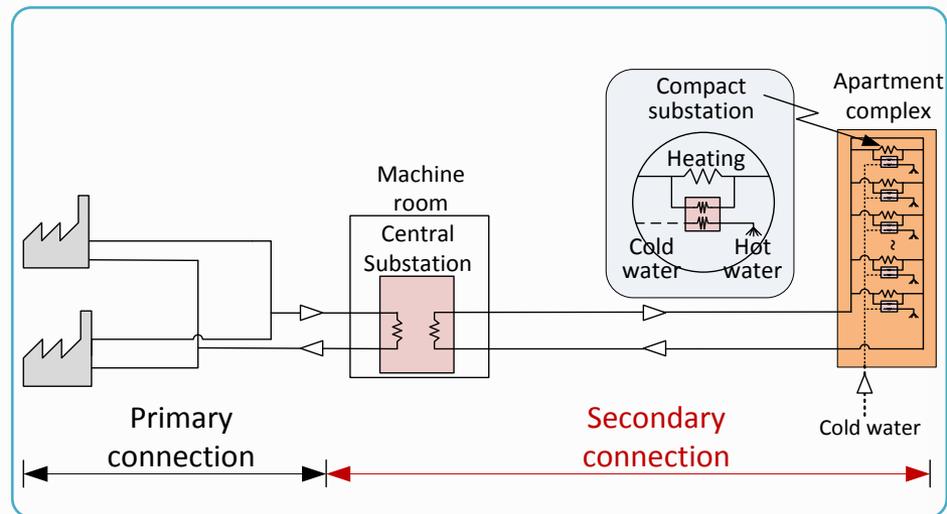
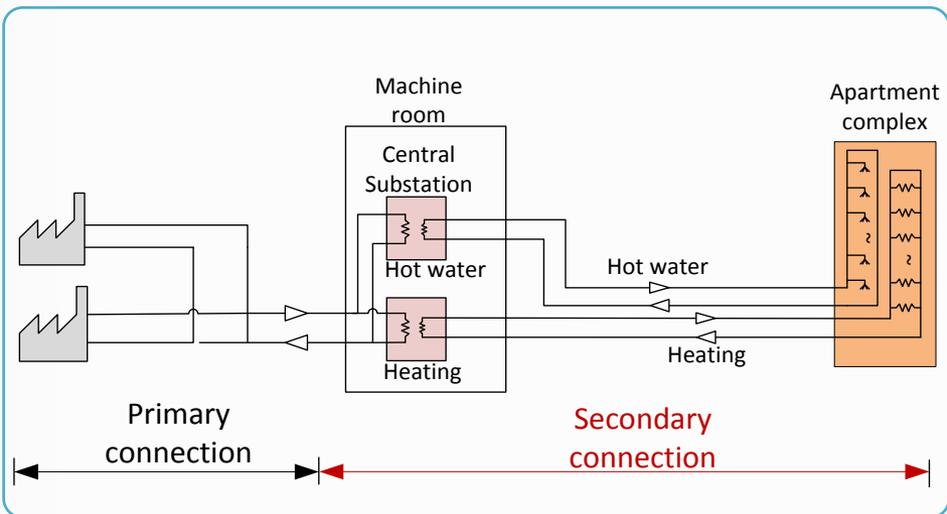


# Project overview



## System design: Reducing pipes

- **Our conventional DH piping system: 2 for heating, 2 for hot water**
- **Reducing pipes and distributed substation for hot water produce**
  - PROS: Reducing heat loss, Saving space inside building & machine room
  - CONS: Compact substation at each household, occupying space at home



OLD: 4 pipes in secondary connection (Conventional DH system)

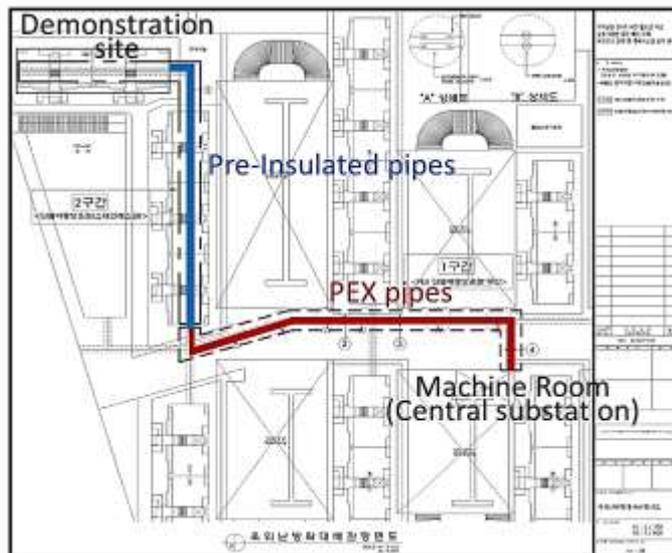
NEW: Reducing pipes & Compact substations

# Project overview

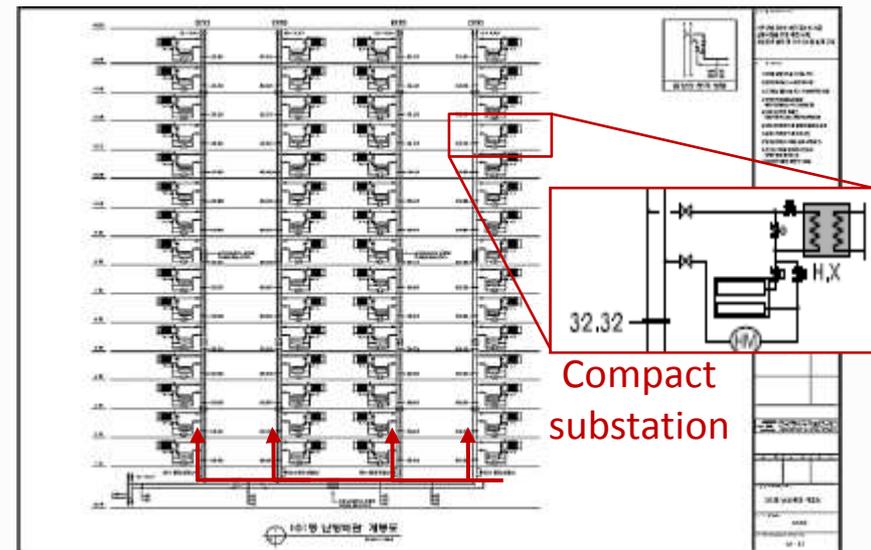


## Pipe system and substation design

- **Length of pipelines: Horizontal line 430 m (1410 ft), Vertical riser 230 m (755 ft)**
  - The most distant building from the machine room
- **Easy retrofit installation: PEX pipe**
- **Hot water produce: Cascade type compact substation at home**



Horizontal pipeline  
from machine room to demonstration site



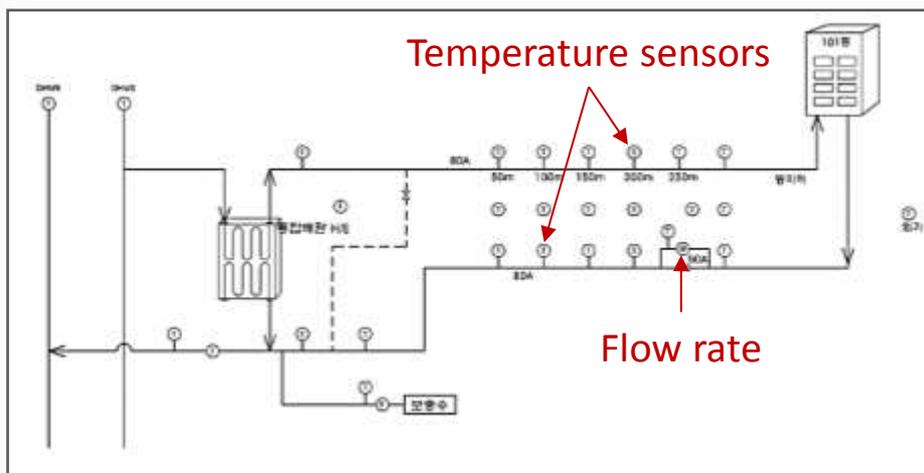
Vertical riser pipeline  
& Compact substation

# Project overview

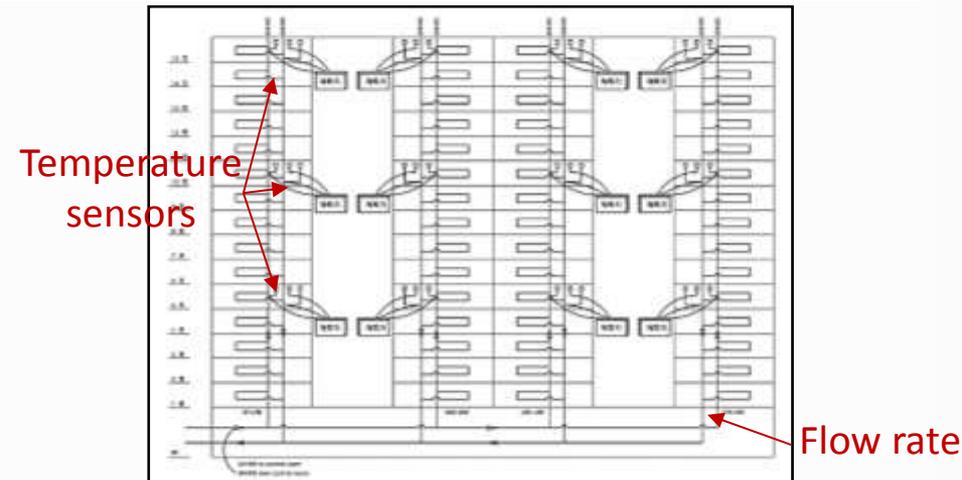


## Measurement system

- **Horizontal pipes**
  - Supply/return temp (Every 50 m) & flow rate (Primary/Secondary)
- **Vertical riser pipes**
  - Supply/return temp (High/Mid/Low location) & flow rate at each line
- **Households**
  - Heating supply/return temp. & flow rate, Hot water temp. Heat usage



Horizontal pipeline measurement



Vertical riser pipeline measurement

# Installation



Before



Horizontal pipe

Vertical riser



Central substation  
(No insulation)



Pipe utility conduit

After



Horizontal pipes



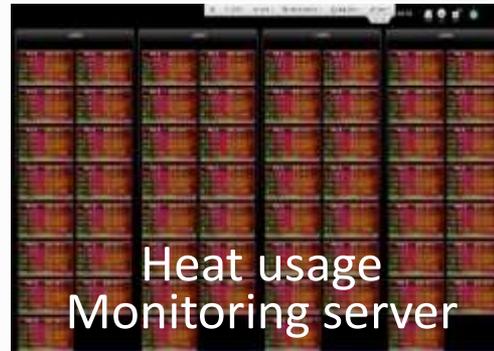
Vertical riser pipes



Compact Substation  
(Under kitchen sink)



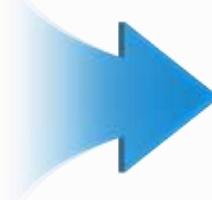
Central substation  
(Before insulation)



Heat usage Monitoring server



AMR heat meter

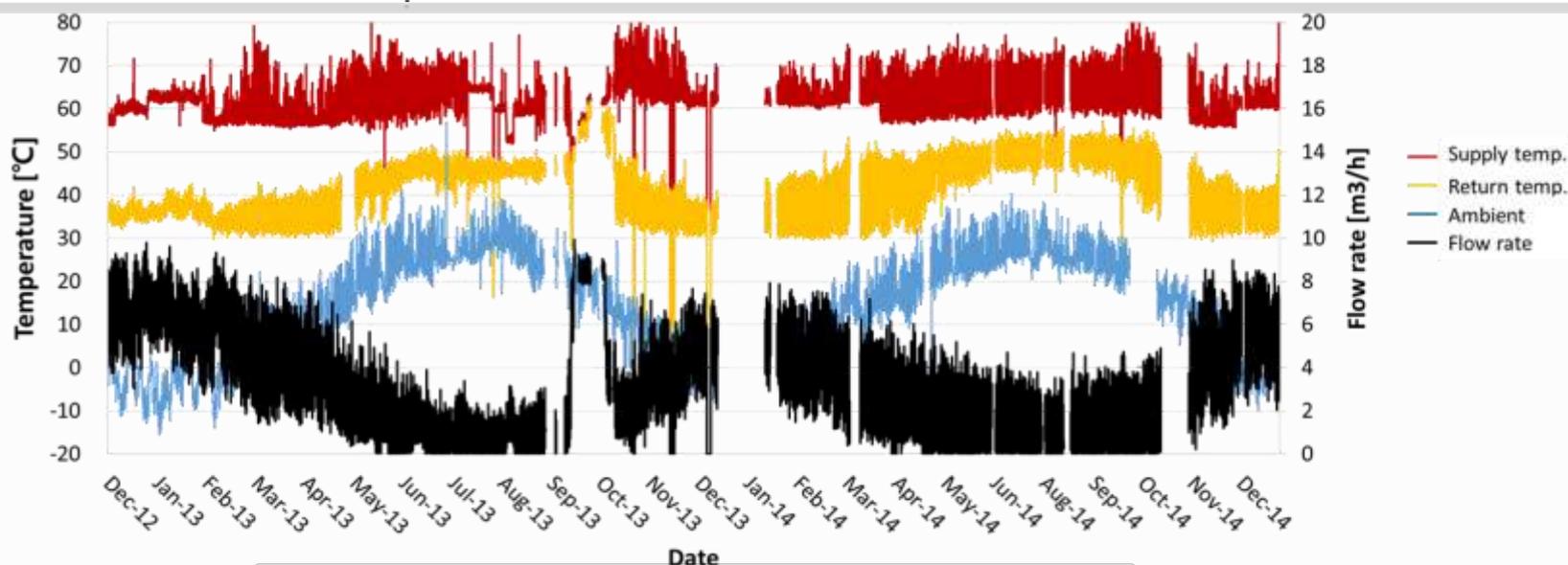


# Experimental assessment



## Data collection in machine room

- **Data collection since Dec. 2012 till present**
- **Daily/Monthly/Yearly basis trend monitoring the heat usage**
- **Various test were conducted**
  - Supply temperature optimization
  - Flow rate control optimization



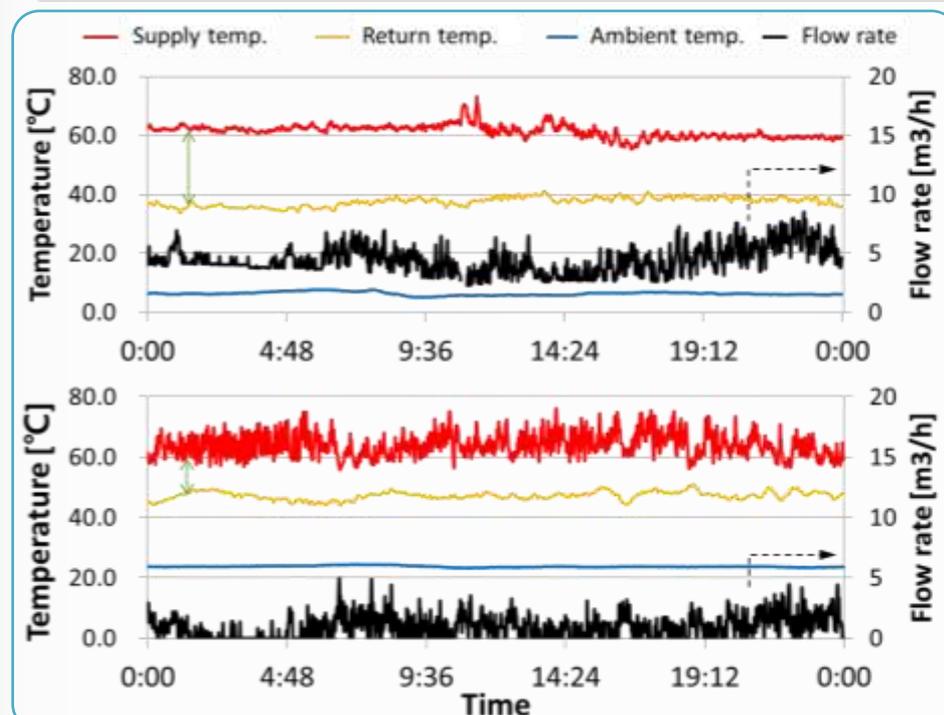
Heat usage trend for two years (minute interval)

# Experimental assessment

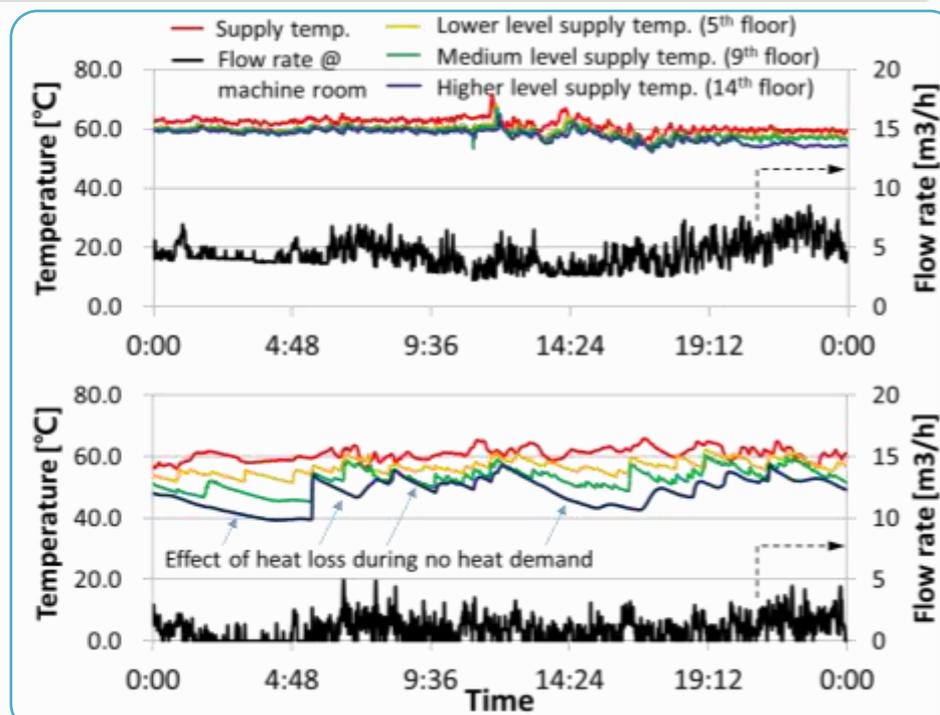


## Data collection in pipelines

- Detailed information such as temp. profile / heat demand pattern



Horizontal pipeline daily trend  
(UP: Winter, DOWN: Summer)



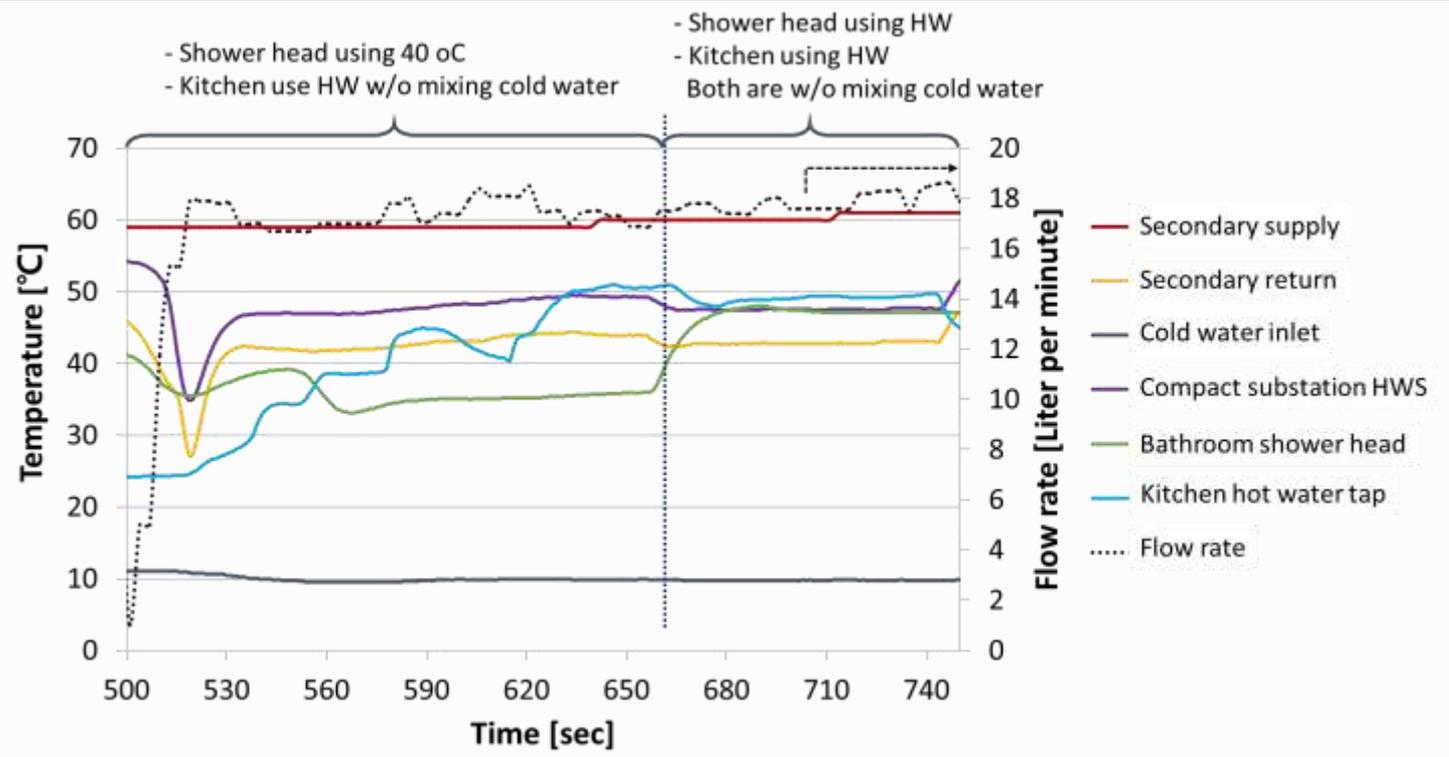
Vertical pipeline daily trend  
(UP: Winter, DOWN: Summer)



# Experimental assessment

## Data collection in households

- **Detailed information from household heat usage** (Permitted measurement for householders)
  - Data gathering from AMR heat meter system & compact substation



Dynamic behavior of household Hot water usage

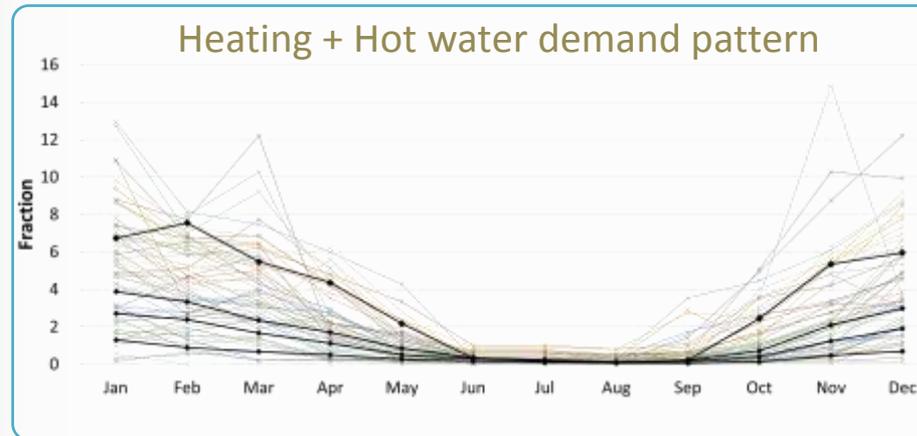
# Numerical assessment



## DH system modeling: Heat demand pattern

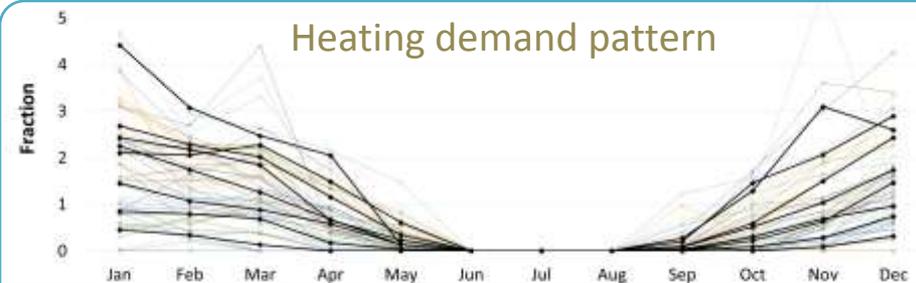
- **From heat usage data collection, heat demand patterns were produced**
  - AMR heat meter data collection from experiment
  - Previous heating bill analysis

Heating + Hot water demand pattern

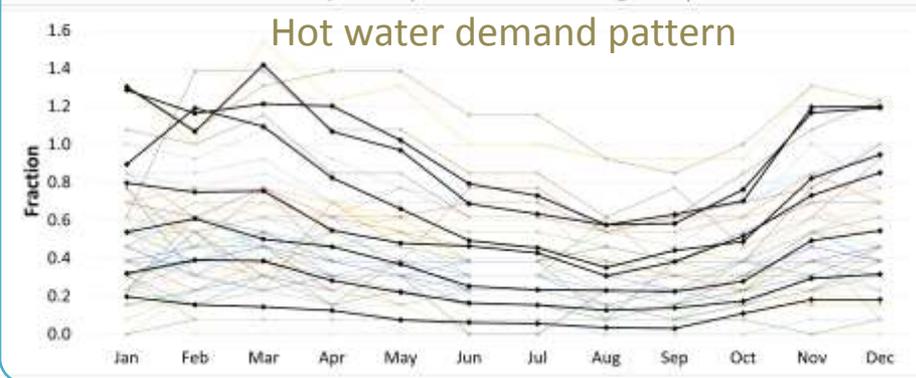


2 pipeline modeling

Heating demand pattern



Hot water demand pattern



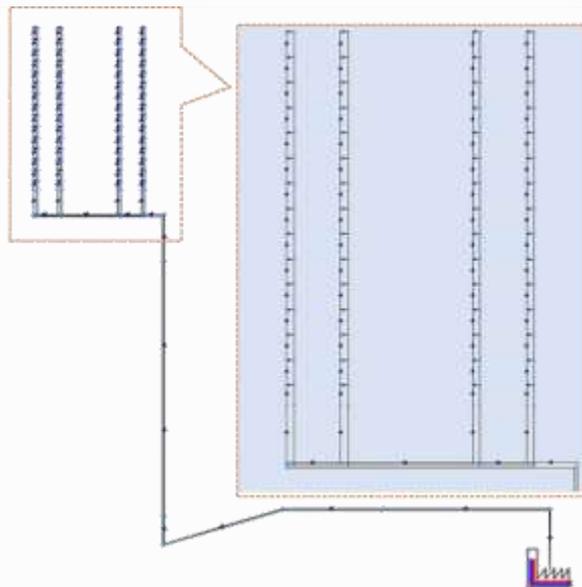
4 pipeline modeling

# Numerical assessment

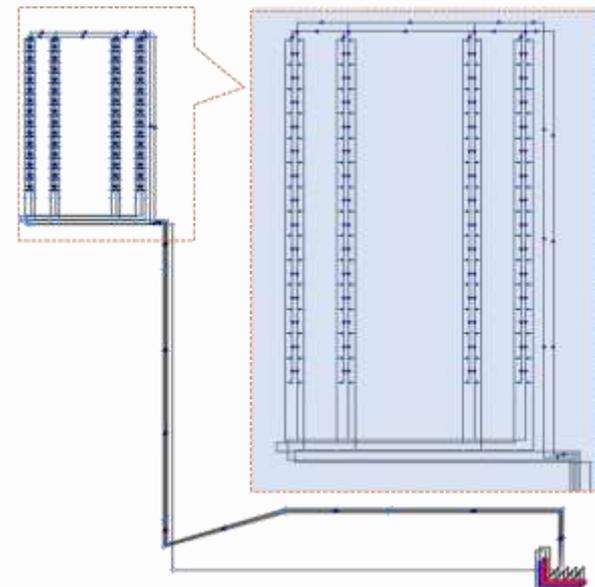


## DH system modeling: Network design

- Network structure modeling by TERMIS (Schneider Electric)
- 2 pipeline (after retrofitting) & 4 pipeline (before retrofitting) were designed
- Boundary conditions: Dimensions & Experimental values
  - Pipe dimension, Material properties, Heat demand, Ambient condition



2 pipeline modeling for an apartment



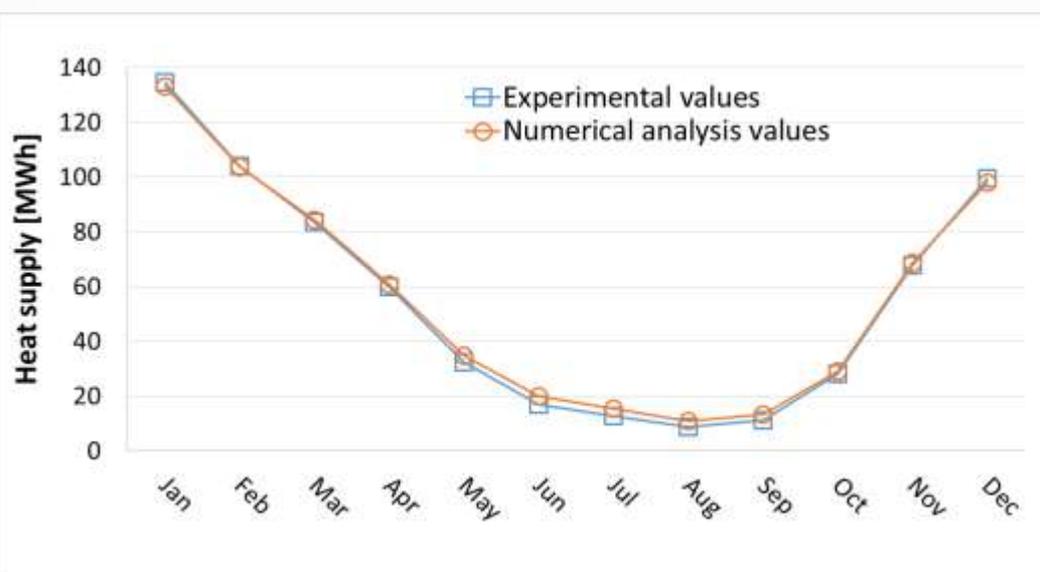
4 pipeline modeling for an apartment

# Numerical assessment

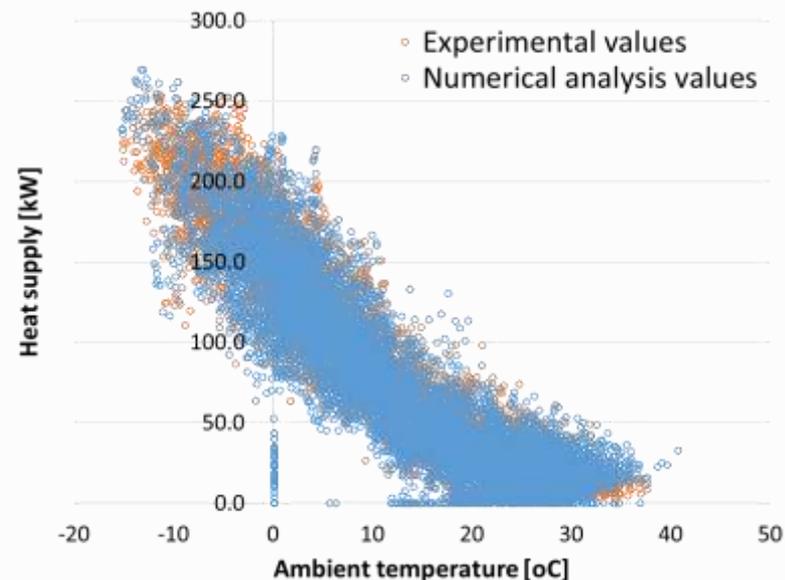


## Data comparison between experiment and numerical analysis

- Numerical simulation shows good match with measurement
- Various analysis and optimal estimation can be made based on these model
  - Optimal supply temperature for heat loss reduction
  - Various parameters: Changing circumstances, Pipe parameters, Aging effect..



Heat supply comparison



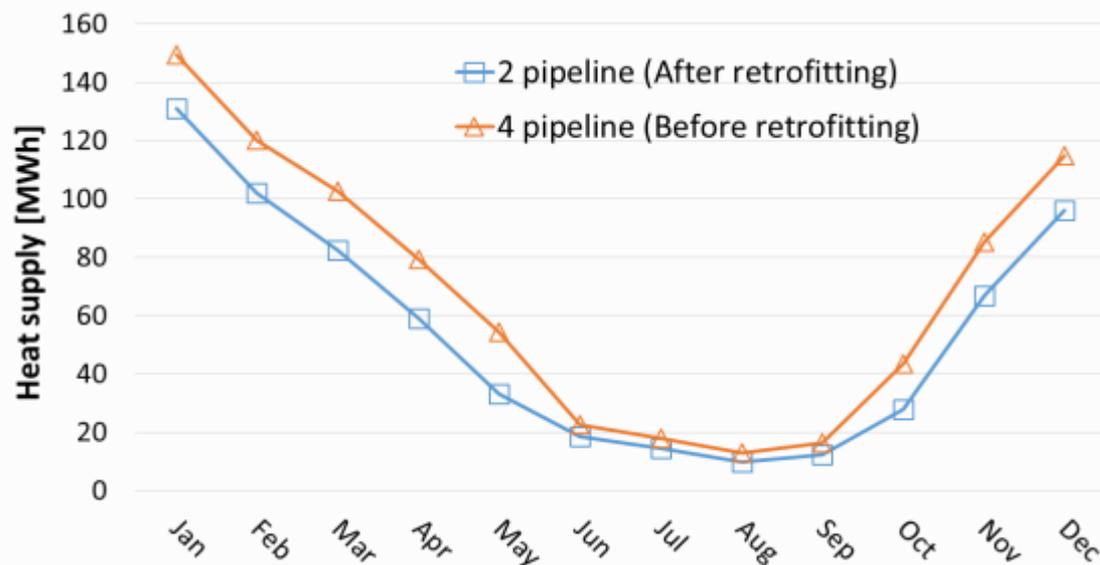
Heat supply to ambient temp. dependency

# Numerical assessment



## Effect on retrofitting

- Heat saving effect was investigated
- 4 pipeline model is still under construction
- Retrofitting to 2 pipeline system expects over 25% heat saving
  - When supply temperature decrease 5 °C, over 10 % heat saving is expected



Comparison before and after retrofitting

# Numerical assessment

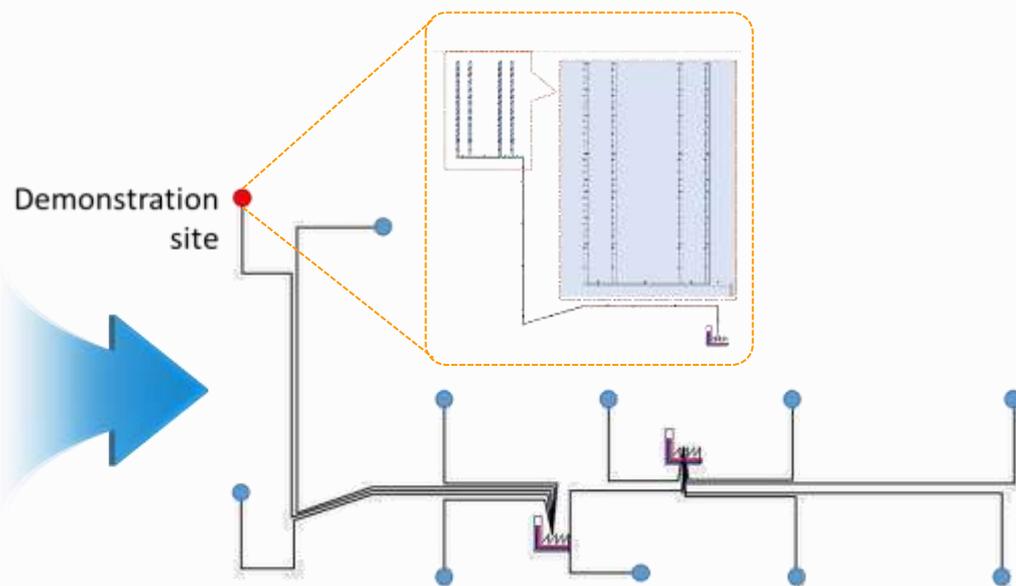


## Expanded DH system modeling

- Expanded modeling for apartment complex (11 buildings, 990 households)
- Whole retrofitting was assumed for estimating heat saving
- A building was simplified as a single node



GIS layout for apartment complex



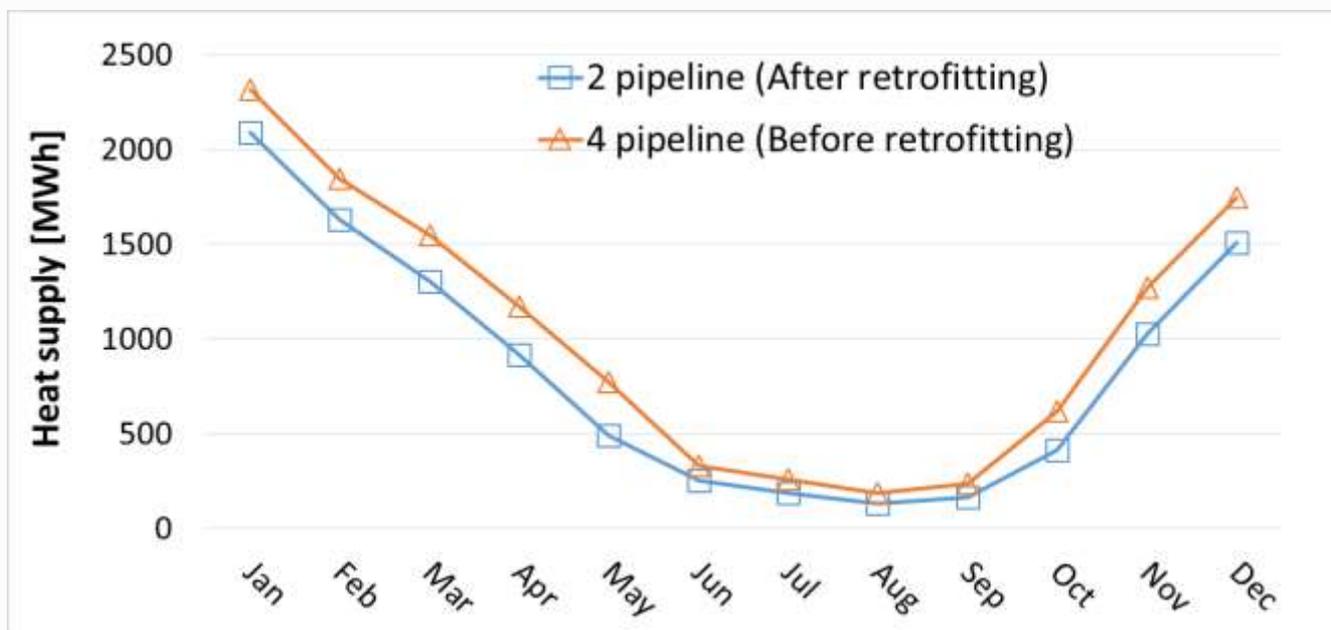
Extended network model for apartment complex (11 buildings, 990 households)

# Numerical assessment



## Expanded DH system modeling

- Expanded modeling for an apartment complex (11 buildings, 990 households)
- Retrofitting to 2 pipeline system expects over 16% heat saving
- Modeling and considerations are improving



Expanded modeling result before and after retrofitting

# Summary



## Experimental and numerical assessment for DH

- **Retrofitting DH facilities of an old apartment building**
  - Heat saving: Reducing the number of pipes
  - PEX pipe: Flexible pipe installation for easy retrofitting
  - Space saving: Compact substation hiding under the kitchen sink
  - Remote heat metering: AMR and monitoring wall pad for every household
  
- **Extensive yearly data (Temp, flow rate, heat usage) record for assessment**
  - Temperature, Flow rate, Heat usage measurement
  - Data collection in machine room, pipelines, households per minutes
  - Heat demand patterns were produced
  
- **Small (1 bldg.) & Large (11 bldg.) scale numerical modeling and analysis**
  - 2 pipeline & 4 pipeline model are constructed
  - Various heat saving effects were investigated



# Acknowledgement

**This work was conducted under the framework of Research and Development Program of the Korea Institute of Energy Research(KIER) (B5-2412, B5-2409)**

תודה

Dankie Gracias

Спасибо

شكراً

Merci Takk

Köszönjük

Terima kasih

Grazie Dziękujemy Děkojame

Ďakujeme Vielen Dank Paldies

Kiitos

Tänname teid

谢谢

# Thank You

Tak

感謝您

Obrigado

Teşekkür Ederiz

Σας Ευχαριστούμ

감사합니다

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Bedankt

Děkujeme vám

ありがとうございます

Tack

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K T E R  
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