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Abstract 6

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District heating networks (DHN) are generally considered as a convenient, economic and environmental-friendly way to supply heat to a large amount 8 of buildings. Some modelling methods are required to consider the dynamic 9 behaviour of district heating networks to design them correctly, spare the 10 investment costs and limit the heat losses related to the use of a too high 11 operating temperatures. For the same reasons, the DHN control or retrofit 12 of installations also requires the assessment of the DHN dynamic behaviour. 13 To achieve this, the heat transport in DHN, which is one of the key issues 14 in the behaviour of a whole centralized heating system, has to be correctly 15 modelled. Previous work evidenced current limitations of one dimensional 16 finite volume method to model heat transport in pipes and proposed an 17 alternative method considering the thermal losses and the inertia of the pipes. 18 The present contribution intends to experimentally validate this model on a 19 test rig available at the Thermodynamics laboratory of the University of 20 Liège (ULg, Belgium) and on an existing district heating network. For both 21 experimental facilities, the current model shows good agreement between 22 the experimental data and the simulation results for a large range of water 23 velocities. Moreover, it is shown that the thermal inertia of the pipe has a 24 significant influence on the outlet pipe temperature profile. 25

Keywords: District Heating Network, DHN, pipe, dynamic simulation, 26 heat transport, experimental validation.

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1. Introduction 28

District heating networks (DHN) appeared in Europe since the 14th cen-29 tury (in France) [1] and they have been developed since 1950 [2]. Nowadays, 30

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