

Energy Efficiency Control & Optimization System

Personal Project

[#2]



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Abstract

This project focuses on the design and implementation of an advanced ventilation system for a multifunctional facility in Stockholm, which includes multiple office spaces and a church. The existing ventilation system has led to significant energy costs due to its inability to monitor supply air conditions or manage airflow effectively across various rooms. The new system is designed to integrate with the current setup, either by overlapping or running parallel to it.

The goal is to create a smarter, more controlled ventilation solution that optimises air distribution, reduces energy consumption, and lowers operational costs. By leveraging advanced sensors and control algorithms, the new system will provide precise airflow and ultimately lower the total energy consumption

Currently, this project is in the proof-of-concept phase and has not yet been scaled across the entire facility. Testing is being conducted in a single room (Vitsippan) to evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the new system. All components of the project, including electronics and software, are homemade, ensuring full control over the system's functionality and allowing for future customization.

The results of this initial testing phase will inform the potential expansion of the system to the rest of the facility. management tailored to the unique needs of different spaces within the facility. This will result in improved energy efficiency, a more comfortable indoor environment, and substantial cost savings for the facility's operations

1. Introduction

Vaxthus1 is a facility located in Stockholm, Patron Pehrs väg 3, 141 35 Huddinge, it houses Svensk Fastighetsförmedling, Södertörnkyrkan, a sports hall, and several smaller office spaces.

The facility's energy consumption is significant, with monthly electricity bills equivalent to the annual energy costs of a typical household. Therefore the need to reduce energy demand is a high priority

The current ventilation system worsens this issue due to its lack of room-specific controls, absence of temperature feedback for supply air, and no presence sensors. As a result, the system frequently attempts to cool rooms using supply air that is warmer than the desired room temperature, causing the central fan to operate at full capacity continuously.

I eagerly took on this project because of its direct relevance to my electrical engineering studies at Chalmers. It provided an excellent opportunity to apply and deepen my theoretical knowledge in a practical setting.

Additionally, the hands-on experience was invaluable for enhancing my understanding of the concepts learned in class. Beyond the educational benefits, I found the project genuinely enjoyable, making it both a rewarding and fulfilling experience.



Fig 1. Vaxthus1 main entrance

2. Methodology

This section details the approach taken to design, implement, and test the advanced ventilation system at Vaxthus1.

2.1 Needs Assessment

The first step in the project was to conduct a thorough needs assessment to understand the limitations of the existing ventilation system and the specific requirement of the facility. This involved a detailed overview with the facility managers focusing on consumption patterns and areas of inefficiency.

This led to the findings that the existing lacked room specific controls, temperature feedback mechanisms, and smart presence sensors.

2.2 System Design

Based on the needs assessment, the new ventilation system was designed to address the identified inefficiencies. I set on the idea to have a system controlled “over-the-air” which lets me to trim and update parameters and software without having to travel to Stockholm.

The systems needs a central UI that can be accessed by the facility manager that can override the new automated feature for safety.

2.3 Hardware Development

The hardware involved the design and production of custom electronics to control and monitor the ventilation system. This is partly to lower the development cost of the overall system and partly because the needed electronics for the needs assessment is not exactly on the consumer market yet. By creating custom components, we were able to tailor the system precisely to the facility's requirements, ensuring that the sensors, controllers, and communication modules met the unique demands of the project while maintaining cost-effectiveness.

The main components used for the room-unit:

- ESP32 D1 mini microcontroller.
- LD2410C mmWave Human Presence sensor.
- SenseAir aSENSE, Co2 and Temp sensor.
- LM358AN op-amp for motor control.
- Dallas 1-wire ds18b20 temp sensors.
- Belimo Damper Actuator.

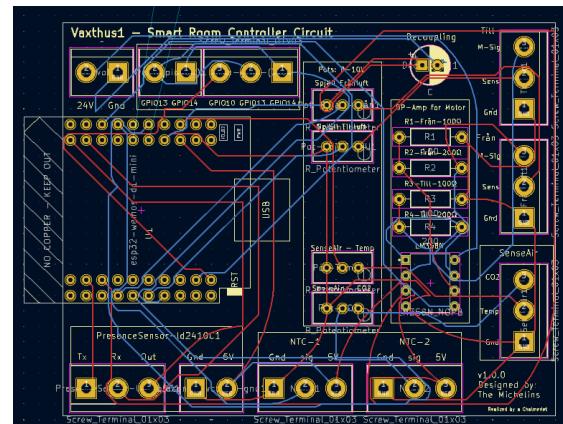


Fig 2, PCB design in KiCad 7.0,

2.4 Software Development

Parallel to the hardware development, the software that would control the ventilation system was developed. This included Control Algorithms, Microcontroller Programming and UI development. To gather data from the sensors connected to the controller units in each room, Home Assistant - an open-source home automation software - was flashed on a Linux-run laptop. This setup allows for seamless integration and real-time data collection from the various sensors.

NodeRed is running on HA (Home Assistant) to program the logic for the different rooms, this makes the project expandable and easy to run.

ZeroTier is also running on HA in which it creates a virtual network so local access can be made anywhere.

3. Discussion

This chapter presents the ongoing test in Vitsippaan, future plans, limitations and a general overview of the

3.1 General Overview

Since only one room is installed and active at the moment, more data will be needed to determine the stability and effectiveness of the system. Fig 3 shows a general overview of the connections made for one room.

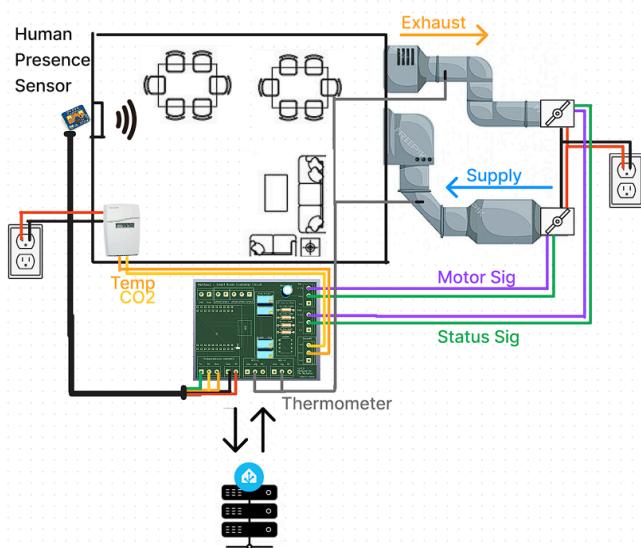


Fig 3, Simple overview of Vitsippans connections

3.2 Limitations

The project focuses on "smartifying" existing rooms that are rarely used to significantly reduce their energy consumption. Rather than opting for expensive electronics like regulators, high-end presence detectors, or PLCs, the goal was to test whether a cost-effective, homemade system could match or exceed the performance of these more expensive solutions.

3.3 Future Plans / Improvements

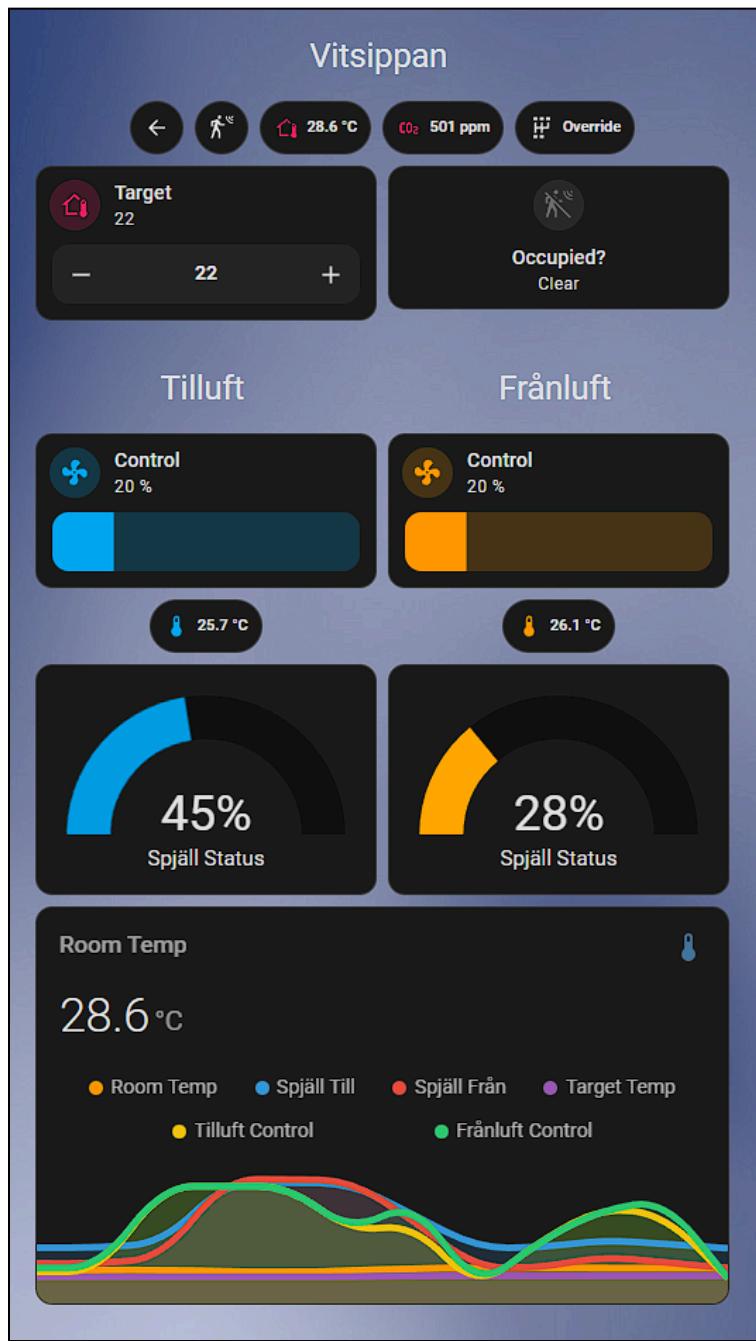
In the near future, the project will extend its scope to include additional rooms within the facility. This expansion will enable the creation of detailed heatmaps and the application of advanced algorithms to optimize air distribution and manage the varying heating and cooling needs of different spaces. By analyzing these heatmaps, the system can more effectively determine the optimal transfer and supply of air, as well as accurately assess the demand distribution across the facility.

One key goal is to implement electronic valves for each heating element, allowing for even more precise control over individual room temperatures. This setup will enable the system to preemptively adjust heating or cooling levels in anticipation of temperature fluctuations or energy price changes. By scheduling these adjustments based on real-time electricity prices, the facility can take advantage of lower rates typically available during off-peak hours, such as nighttime.

This approach could significantly reduce energy costs by leveraging the generally lower electricity prices during these periods. The system will be programmed to "prime" the facility in advance of anticipated heat or cold spikes, ensuring that the building remains comfortable while minimizing energy expenses. Overall, these enhancements are expected to improve both energy efficiency and cost-effectiveness, providing a scalable solution for managing energy use across the entire facility.

4. Appendix

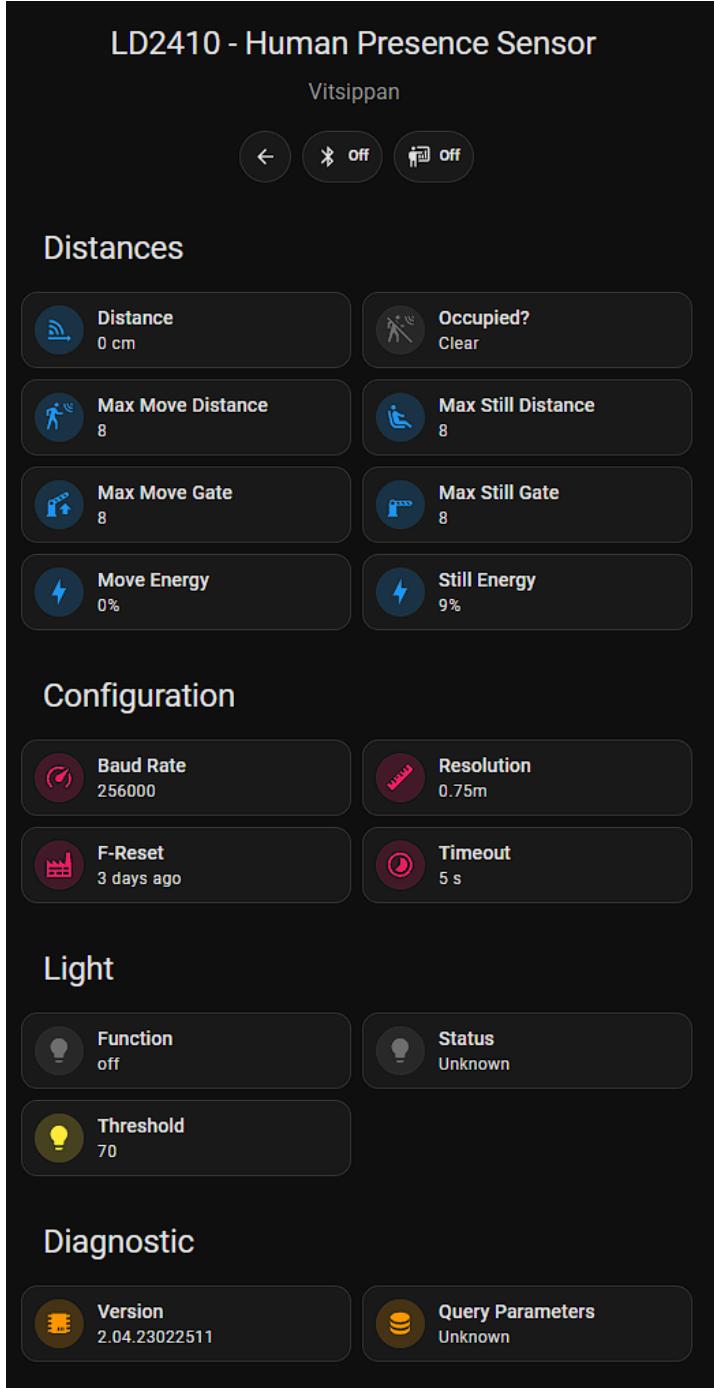
4.1 Vitsippan UI



UI - Code for Vitsippan (YAML)

```

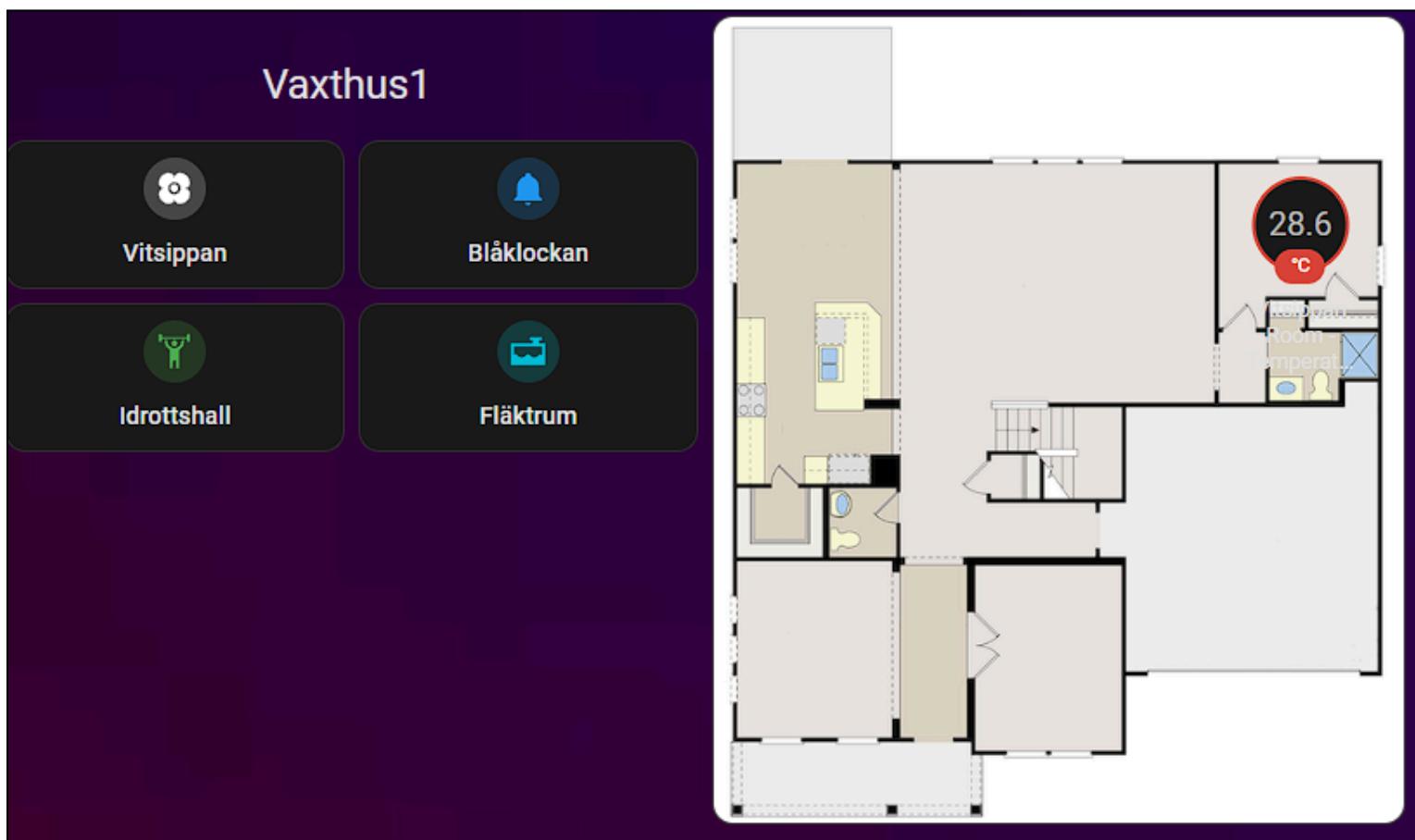
square: false
type: grid
cards:
  - type: custom:mushroom-title-card
    title: Vitsippan
    subtitle: ""
    alignment: center
  - type: custom:mushroom-chips-card
    chips:
      - type: back
      - type: action
        tap_action:
          action: navigate
          navigation_path: /dashboard-radar/0
          icon: mdi:motion-sensor
        type: entity
        entity: sensor.vitsippan_room_temperature
        icon: mdi:home-thermometer-outline
        icon_color: pink
      - type: entity
        entity: sensor.vitsippan_room_co2
        icon: mdi:molecule-co2
        icon_color: pink
      - type: entity
        entity: input_boolean.vitsippan_manual_override
        icon: mdi:car-shift-pattern
        content_info: name
        alignment: center
    square: false
    type: grid
    cards:
      - type: custom:mushroom-number-card
        name: Target
        icon: mdi:home-thermometer-outline
        icon_color: pink
        display_mode: buttons
        entity: input_number.vitsippan_target_temp
      - type: vertical-stack
        cards:
          - type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
            entity: binary_sensor.vitsippan_occupied
            name: Occupied?
            icon_color: red
            fill_container: false
            layout: vertical
            columns: 2
      - type: grid
        cards:
          - type: vertical-stack
            cards:
              - type: custom:mushroom-title-card
                title: Tilluft
                alignment: center
                subtitle: ""
              - type: custom:mushroom-number-card
                entity: number.vitsippan_spj_ll_tilluft
                icon: mdi:fan
                icon_color: primary
                fill_container: false
                primary_info: name
                display_mode: slider
                name: Control
              - type: custom:mushroom-chips-card
                chips:
                  - type: entity
                    entity: sensor.vitsippan_temperature_tilluft
                    icon: mdi:thermometer
                    icon_color: primary
                    name: Temp
                    content_info: state
                    use_entity_picture: false
                    alignment: center
                  - type: gauge
                    entity: sensor.vitsippan_sensor_spj_ll_tilluft
                    unit: "%"
                    name: Spjäll Status
      - type: vertical-stack
        cards:
          - type: custom:mushroom-title-card
            title: Frånluft
            alignment: center
            subtitle: ""
          - type: custom:mushroom-number-card
            entity: number.vitsippan_spj_ll_fr_nluft
            icon: mdi:fan
            icon_color: accent
            fill_container: false
            primary_info: name
            display_mode: slider
            name: Control
          - type: custom:mushroom-chips-card
            chips:
              - type: entity
                entity: sensor.vitsippan_temperature_fr_nluft
                icon: mdi:thermometer
                icon_color: accent
                name: Temp
                content_info: state
                use_entity_picture: false
                alignment: center
              - type: gauge
                entity: sensor.vitsippan_sensor_spj_ll_fr_nluft
                unit: "%"
                name: Spjäll Status
                severity:
                  green: 0
                  yellow: 0
                  red: 110
            columns: 2
      - type: custom:mini-graph-card
        entities:
          - entity: sensor.vitsippan_room_temperature
            name: Room Temp
          - entity: sensor.vitsippan_sensor_spj_ll_tilluft
            name: Spjäll Till
          - entity: sensor.vitsippan_sensor_spj_ll_fr_nluft
            name: Spjäll Från
          - entity: input_number.vitsippan_target_temp
            name: Target Temp
          - entity: number.vitsippan_spj_ll_tilluft
            name: Tilluft Control
          - entity: number.vitsippan_spj_ll_fr_nluft
            name: Frånluft Control
        hours_to_show: 12
        points_per_hour: 1
        columns: 1
  
```



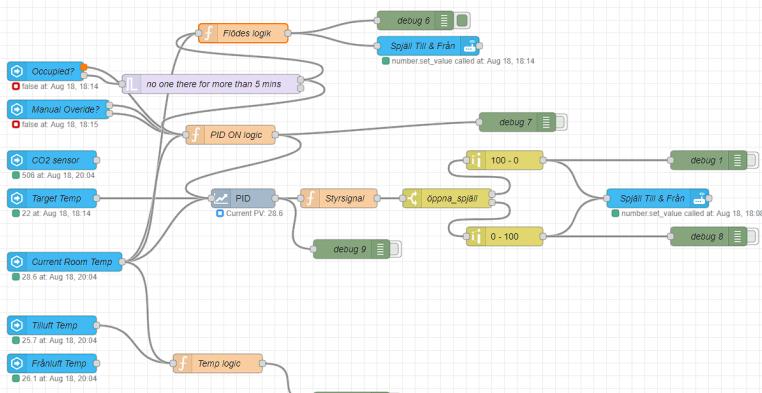
Human Precense Sensor - Parameters UI - Code (YAML)

```
state: false
type: grid
cards:
- type: custom:mushroom-title-card
  title: LD2410 - Human Presence Sensor
  alignment: center
  subtitle: Vitsippa
- type: horizontal-stack
  cards:
    - type: custom:mushroom-chips-card
      chips:
        - type: back
        - type: entity
          entity: switch.vitsippa_control_bluetooth
          name: Bluetooth
          icon_color: primary
        - type: entity
          entity: switch.vitsippa_engineering_mode
          icon_color: yellow
          name: Engineering Mode
          alignment: center
- square: false
type: grid
cards:
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: sensor.vitsippa_detection_distance
  name: Detection Distance
  icon: mdi:signal-distance-variant
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: binary_sensor.vitsippa_occupied
  name: Occupied?
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: number.vitsippa_max_move_distance_gate
  name: Max Move Gate
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: number.vitsippa_max_still_distance_gate
  name: Max Still Distance
  icon: mdi:seat-recline-extra
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: number.vitsippa_max_move_distance_gate
  name: Max Move Gate
  icon: mdi:move-down
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: number.vitsippa_max_still_distance_gate
  name: Max Still Gate
  icon: mdi:boomerang
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: sensor.vitsippa_move_energy
  icon: mdi:lightning-bolt
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: sensor.vitsippa_still_energy
  icon: mdi:lightning-bolt
  name: Still Energy
columns: 2
title: Distances
- square: false
type: grid
cards:
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: select.vitsippa_baud_rate
  name: Baud Rate
  icon: mdi:speedometer
  icon_color: pink
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: select.vitsippa_distance_resolution
  name: Resolution
  icon_color: pink
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: button.vitsippa_factory_reset
  icon: mdi:factory
  name: F-Reset
  icon_color: pink
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: number.vitsippa_timeout
  name: Timeout
  icon_color: pink
columns: 2
title: Configuration
- square: false
type: grid
cards:
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: select.vitsippa_light_function
  name: Function
  icon_color: yellow
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: sensor.vitsippa_light
  name: Light
  icon_color: yellow
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: number.vitsippa_light_threshold
  name: Threshold
  icon_color: yellow
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: Light
  columns: 2
- square: false
type: grid
cards:
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: sensor.vitsippa_firmware_version
  name: Version
  icon_color: accent
- type: custom:mushroom-entity-card
  entity: button.vitsippa_query_params
  name: Query Parameters
  icon_color: accent
title: Diagnostic
columns: 2
columns: 1
```

4.2 Main Tab



4.3 NodeRed Code



4.4 ESP code

Code for the esp32 flashed with the esphome software

```

esphome:
  name: vitsippan
  friendly_name: Vitsippan

esp32:
  board: esp32dev
  framework:
    type: arduino

  enable_logging
  logger:
    baud_rate: 0
  enable Home Assistant API
  spi:
    encryption:
      key: "6c05PgRMpFRbORTqdrligLsK3LU+w0/dhlrUlX9Kbw"

  ota:
    platform: esphome
    password: "0a1320e54fd86d5a58ac6741fe33f5af"

  wifi:
    ssid: !secret wifi_ssid
    password: !secret wifi_password
    use_address: 10.100.4.48

    # Enable fallback hotspot (captive portal) in case wifi connection fails
    ap:
      ssid: "Vitsippan Fallback Hotspot"
      password: "0n742JWx067Q"

  captive_portal:
    id: ld2410_radar

  ld2410:
    id: ld2410_uart

  usart:
    id: ld2410_uart
    tx_pin: GPIO1
    rx_pin: GPIO3
    baud_rate: 256000
    parity: NONE
    stop_bits: 1

  # DAC output configuration
  output:
    - platform: esp32_dac
      id: dac_output_franluft
      pin: GPIO25

    - platform: esp32_dac
      id: dac_output_tilluft
      pin: GPIO26

  # Numbers for Configuration
  number:
    # DAC Spjäll motor Frånluft
    - platform: template
      name: "Spjäll - Frånluft"
      min_value: 0
      max_value: 100
      unit_of_measurement: "%"
      mode: SLIDER
      step: 0.5
      optimistic: true
      set_action:
        - output.set_level:
            id: dac_output_franluft
            level: !lambda 'return x / 100.0;'

    - platform: template
      name: "Spjäll - Tilluft"
      min_value: 0
      max_value: 100
      unit_of_measurement: "%"
      mode: SLIDER
      step: 0.5
      optimistic: true
      set_action:
        - output.set_level:
            id: dac_output_tilluft
            level: !lambda 'return x / 100.0;'

  - platform: ld2410
    timeout:
      name: timeout
      light_threshold:
        name: light threshold
      max_move_distance_gate:
        name: max move distance gate
      max_still_distance_gate:
        name: max still distance gate

  external_components:
    - source: github://nrandell/dallasng

  # Spjäll temperature

  one_wire:
    platform: gpio
    pin: GPIO32

  sensor:
    # Spjäll sensor reading
    - platform: adc
      pin: GPIO35

```

```

attenuation: 12db
accuracy_decimals: 0
unit_of_measurement: "%"
filters:
  - offset: -0.70
    - multiply: 42.5 # Skala upp värdet till att representera 0-100%
      - exponential_moving_average:
          alpha: 0.3
          send_every: 2
    name: "Sensor-Spjäll-Frånluft"
    update_interval: 2s

  - platform: adc
    pin: GPIO34
    attenuation: 12db
    accuracy_decimals: 0
    unit_of_measurement: "%"
    filters:
      - offset: -0.10
        - multiply: 33.3 # Skala upp värdet till att representera 0-100%
          - exponential_moving_average:
              alpha: 0.3
              send_every: 2
        name: "Sensor-Spjäll-Tilluft"
        update_interval: 2s

  # CO2 sensor reading
  - platform: adc
    pin: GPIO39
    unit_of_measurement: "ppm"
    attenuation: 12db
    filters:
      - multiply: 606.06 # 2000/3.33 --> Skala upp värdet till att representera ppm
    name: "Room - CO2"
    update_interval: 10s
    accuracy_decimals: 0

  # Temperature sensor reading
  - platform: adc
    pin: GPIO36
    unit_of_measurement: "°C"
    attenuation: 12db
    filters:
      - multiply: 15.15 # 50/3.33 --> Skala upp värdet till att representera Celcius
    name: "Room - Temperatur"
    update_interval: 10s
    accuracy_decimals: 1

  # Temperature sensor reading - DG18B20
  - platform: dallas_temp
    address: 0xc1c0c1e07c6cf828
    update_interval: 5sec
    unit_of_measurement: "°C"
    name: "Temperature - Tilluft"

  - platform: dallas_temp
    address: 0x1f3c0c1e07c6cac28
    update_interval: 5sec
    unit_of_measurement: "°C"
    name: "Temperature - Frånluft"

  # - platform: adc
  #   pin: GPIO33
  #   attenuation: 12db
  #   filters:
  #     - multiply: 15.15 # Skala upp värdet till att representera Celcius
  #     name: "Temperature - Tilluft"
  #   update_interval: 1s

  - platform: ld2410
    light:
      name: light
      moving_distance:
        name: Moving Distance
      still_distance:
        name: Still Distance
      moving_energy:
        name: Move Energy
      still_energy:
        name: Still Energy
      detection_distance:
        name: Detection Distance

  button:
    - platform: ld2410
      factory_reset:
        name: "factory reset"
      restart:
        name: "restart"
      query_params:
        name: query params

  switch:
    - platform: ld2410
      engineering_mode:
        name: Engineering Mode
      bluetooth:
        name: Control Bluetooth

  select:
    - platform: ld2410
      distance_resolution:
        name: "distance resolution"
      baud_rate:
        name: "baud rate"
      light_function:
        name: light function

  text_sensor:
    - platform: ld2410
      version:
        name: "firmware version"

  binary_sensor:
    - platform: gpio
      pin: GPIO13
      name: "Occupied"
      device_class: motion

```

4.5 KiCad smart control room-unit

