

## Introduction to Process control.

- ✓ Chemical process  $\xrightarrow[\text{of}]{\text{consists}}$  reactor, heat exchanger, pumps, distillation, evaporator, tank etc
- ✓ Objective: Raw mat.  $\xrightarrow[\text{mical way}]{\text{Most econo-}}$  Desired products

### Requirements.

1. safety: Primary requirement for the well-being of the people in the plant & for its continued contribution to the economic development.

P, T, C — within allowable limits

Ex: pressure vessel.

How?

2. Production specifications: Plant should produce desired quantity and quality of the products.

Ex: 2000 tons of ethanol/day with 99.5 mol% purity.

How?

3. Environmental regulations: Federal and state laws

Ex (manitau): conc. of chemicals (effluent)  
SO<sub>2</sub> ejected to the atmosphere  
waste water rejected to the river

How?



## Requirements (contd..)

4. operational constraints: Equipments have constraints

Ex (satisfy) :- Distillation should not be flooded

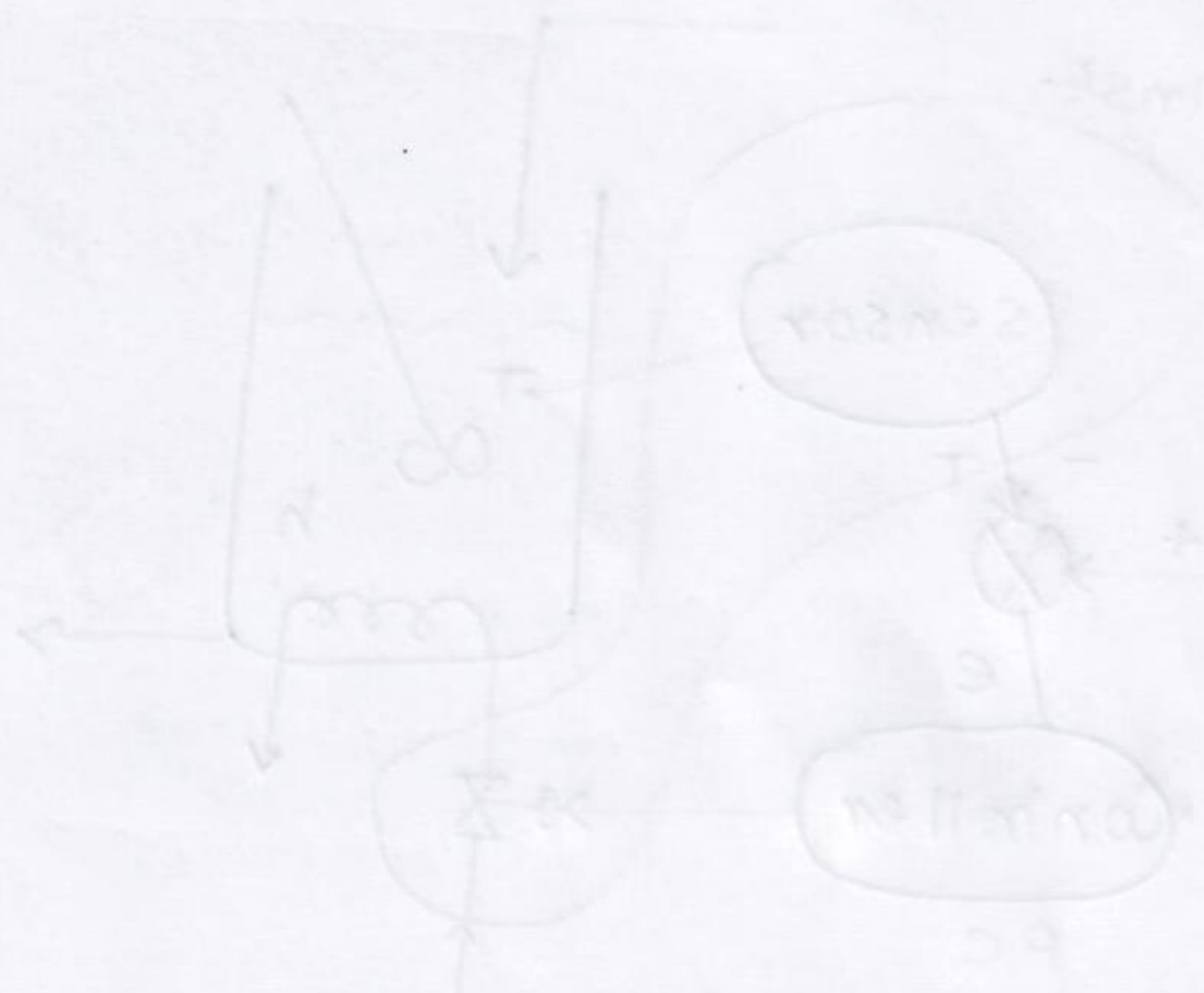
- catalytic reactor T should not exceed upper limit (catalyst destroyed).
- Tanks should not overflow or go dry
- Pumps should maintain NPSH **How?**

5. Economics: Min operating cost + Max profit.

Raw mat. + Energy + capital + human labor

**How?**

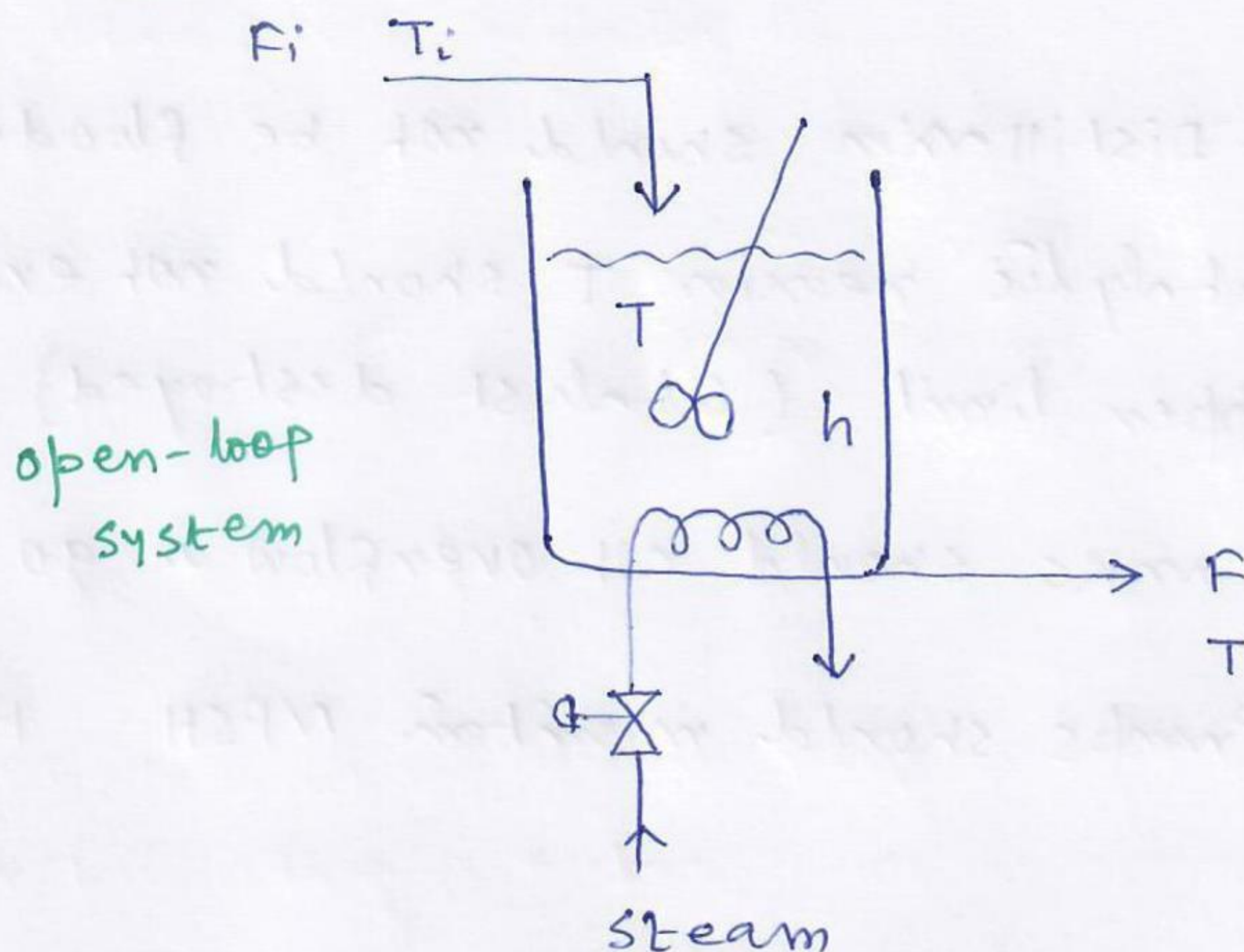
Answer: Controller.





## Controller

Ex: heating tank system.



✓ Obj:  $T = T_{sp}$   
 $h = h_{sp}$

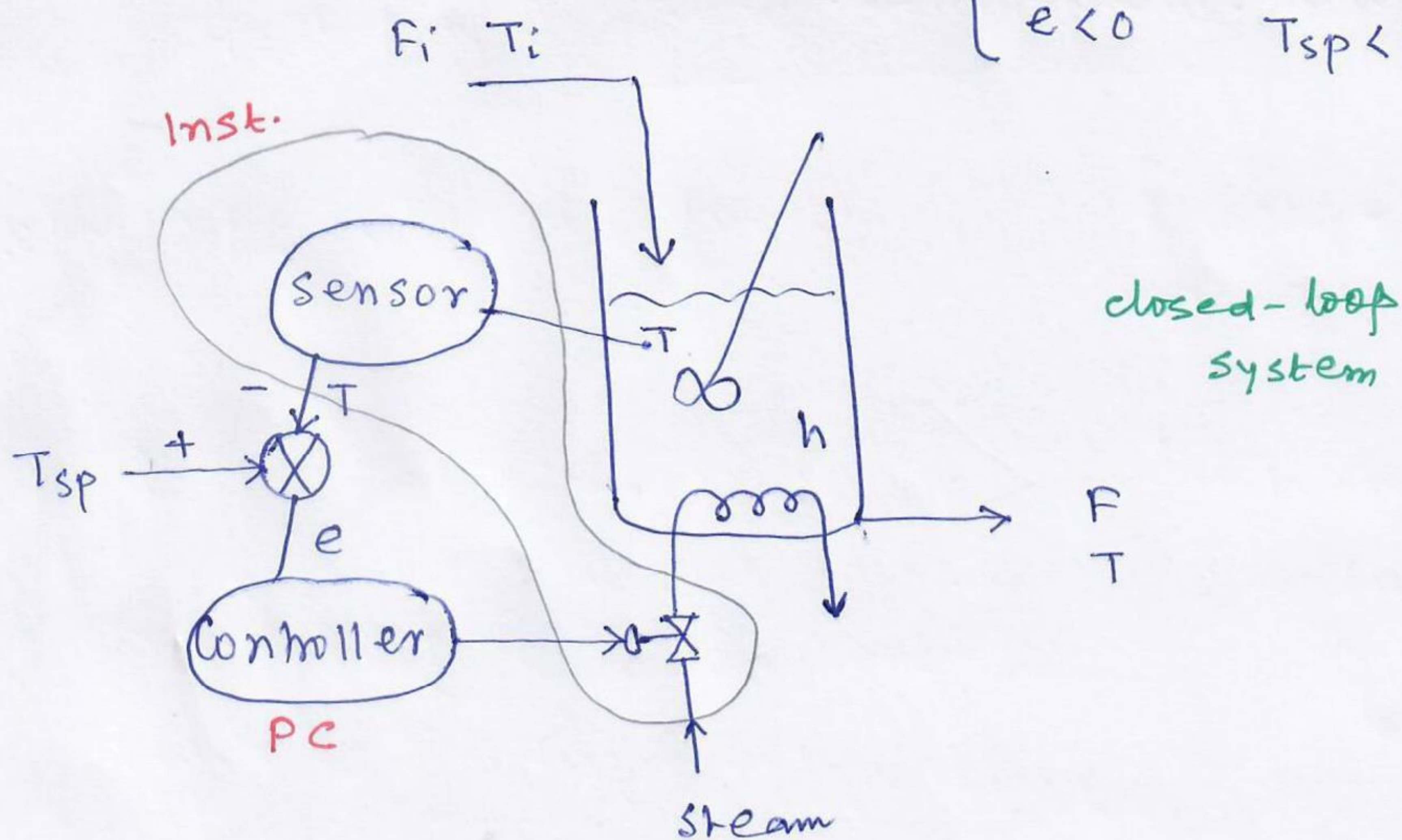
✓ startup  $\longrightarrow$  ss

employ the controller

no disturbance @ no controller

✓ concept  $e = T_{sp} - T$

$\begin{cases} e > 0 & T_{sp} > T & \text{more steam} \\ e < 0 & T_{sp} < T & \text{reduce steam} \end{cases}$





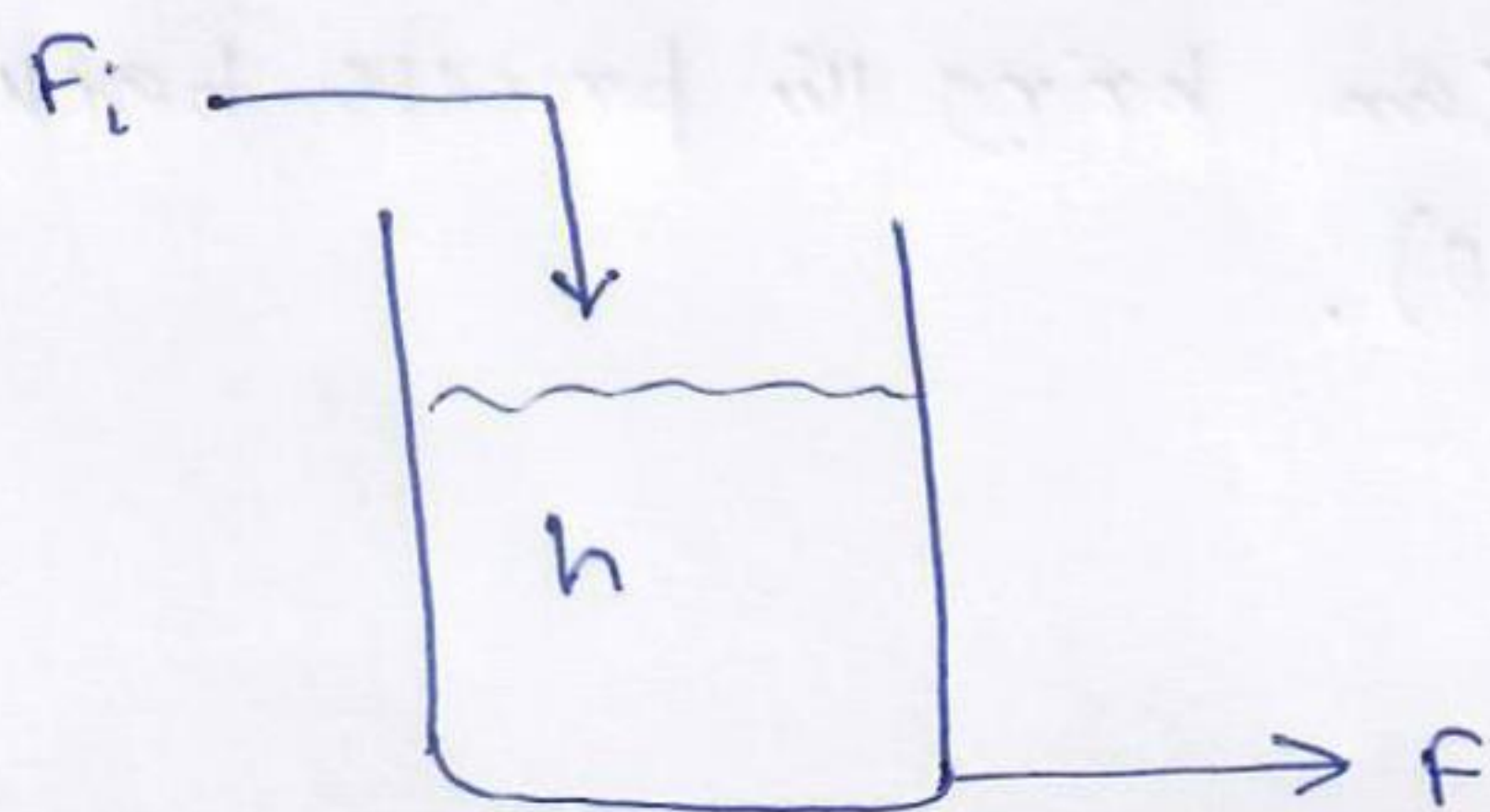
## Controller (contd..).

why controller?

- Suppressing the influence of external disturbances
- Ensuring the stability
- Optimizing the performance of a process.

## Influence of external disturbance

Ex. Liquid tank system



$F_i, F \rightarrow$  liq flow rates

$F_i \rightarrow$  disturbance variable

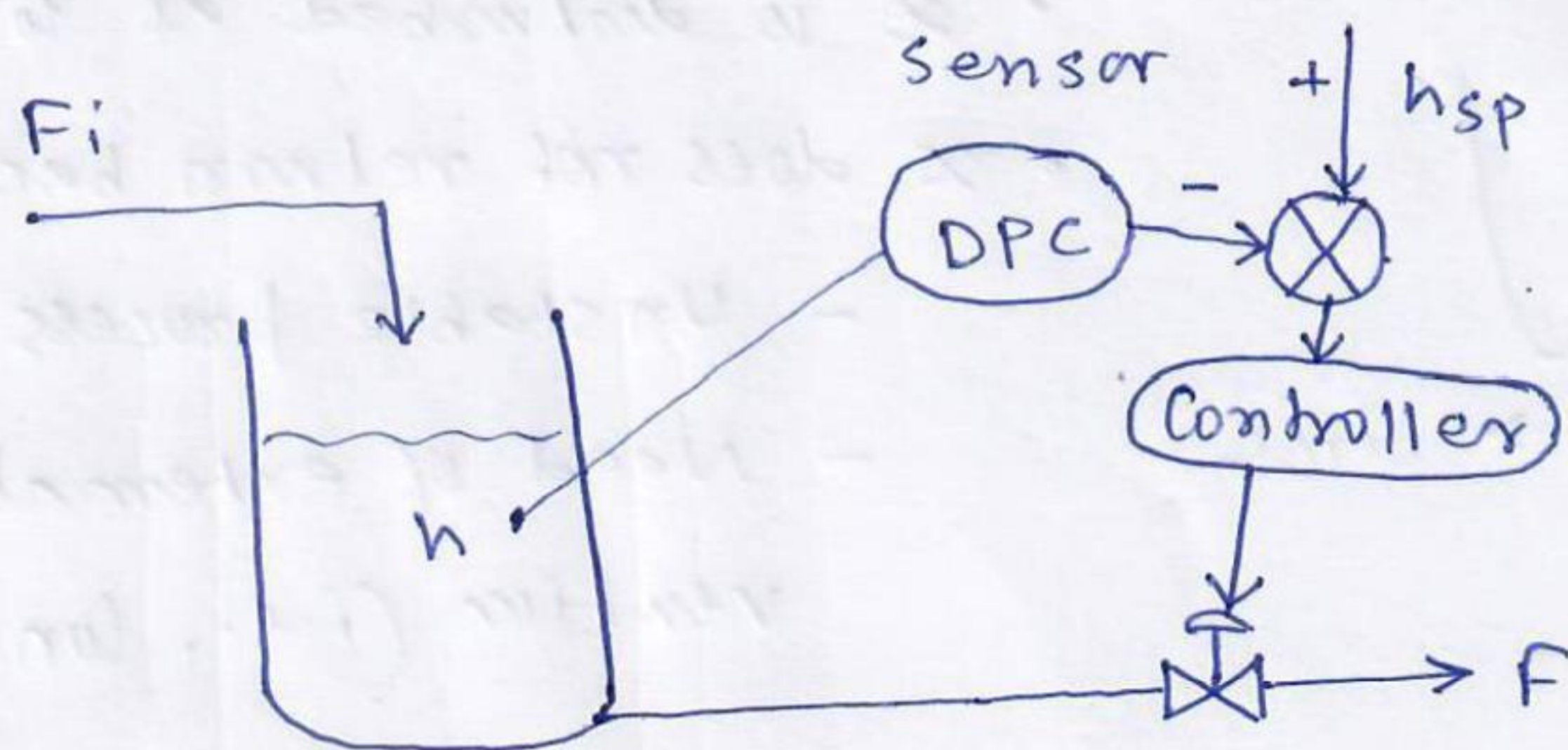
If  $F_i \uparrow$   $h \uparrow$

$F_i \downarrow$   $h \downarrow$

$h_{sp} \neq h$

$h_{sp} > h$

Undesired



If  $F_i \uparrow$   $h \uparrow$   $h_{sp} < h$

$F_i \downarrow$   $h \downarrow$   $h_{sp} > h$

$F \uparrow$  to keep  $h_{sp} = h$

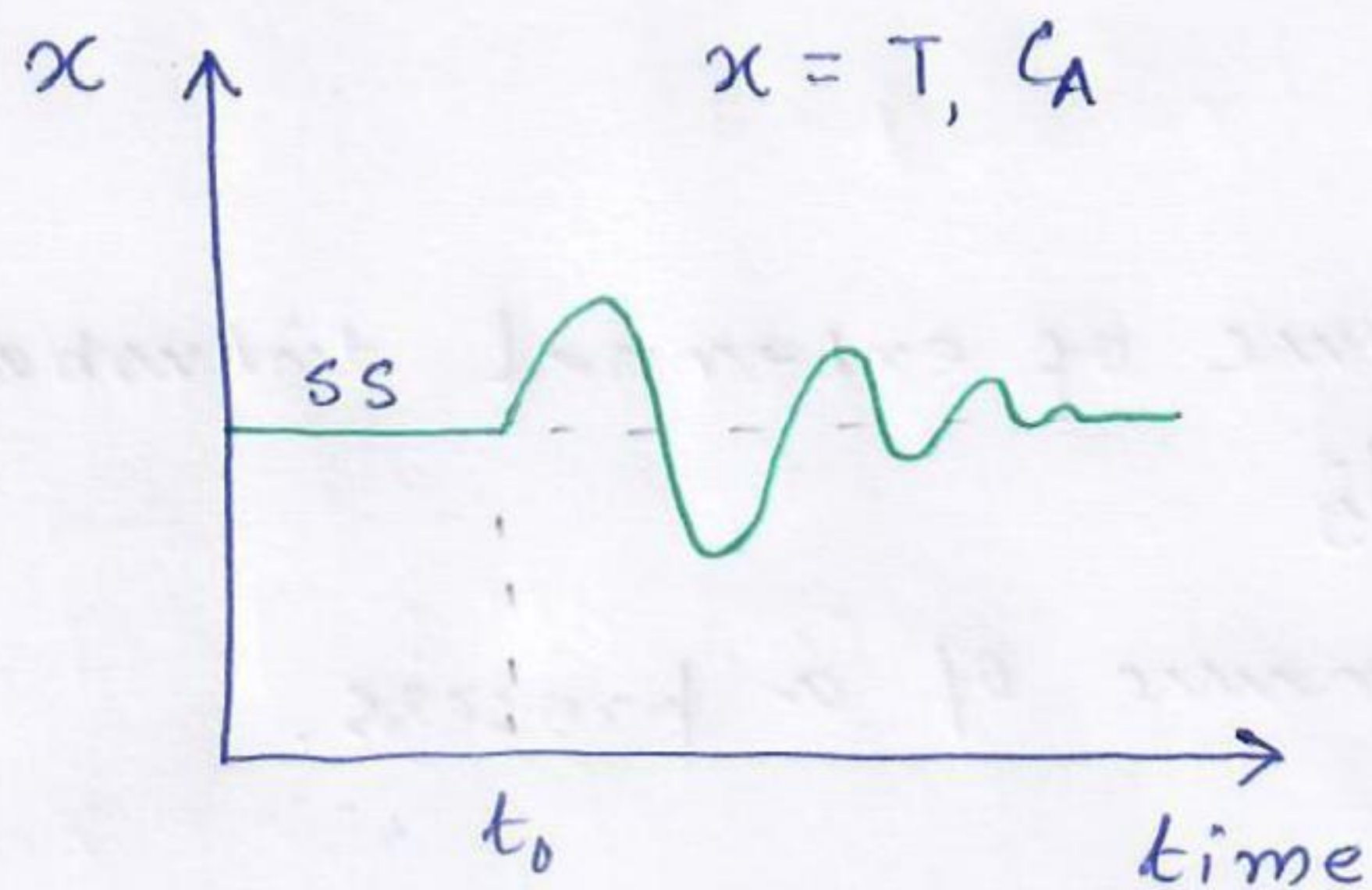
$F \downarrow$  to keep  $h_{sp} = h$

control action.

✓ Influence of disturbance is reduced



## Ensuring stability



stable process

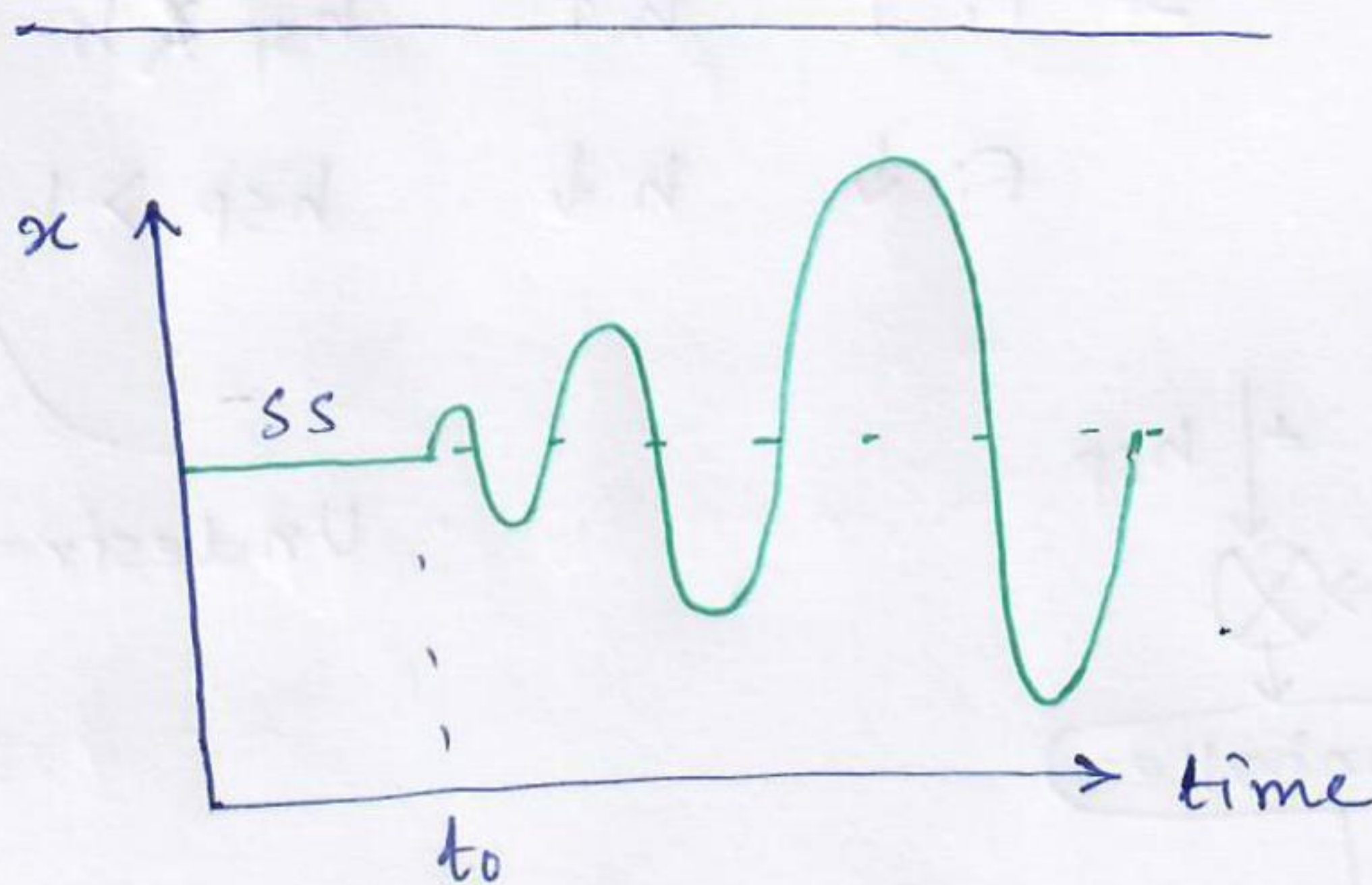
### Stable process

- $x$  is disturbed at  $t_0$
- $x$  returns automatically to SS
  - stable/self-regulating process
  - no need of any external intervention (i.e., controller) if stability is the sole concern.

### Any role of controller?



- controller leads to reach the process to SS with a shorter time
- If  $x$  reaches a new SS ( $e \neq 0$ ), controller can bring the process back to SS (old) ( $e = 0$ ).



Unstable process

### Unstable process

- $x$  is disturbed at  $t_0$
- $x$  does not return back to SS
  - Unstable process
  - Need of external intervention (i.e., controller).



## Optimizing the performance

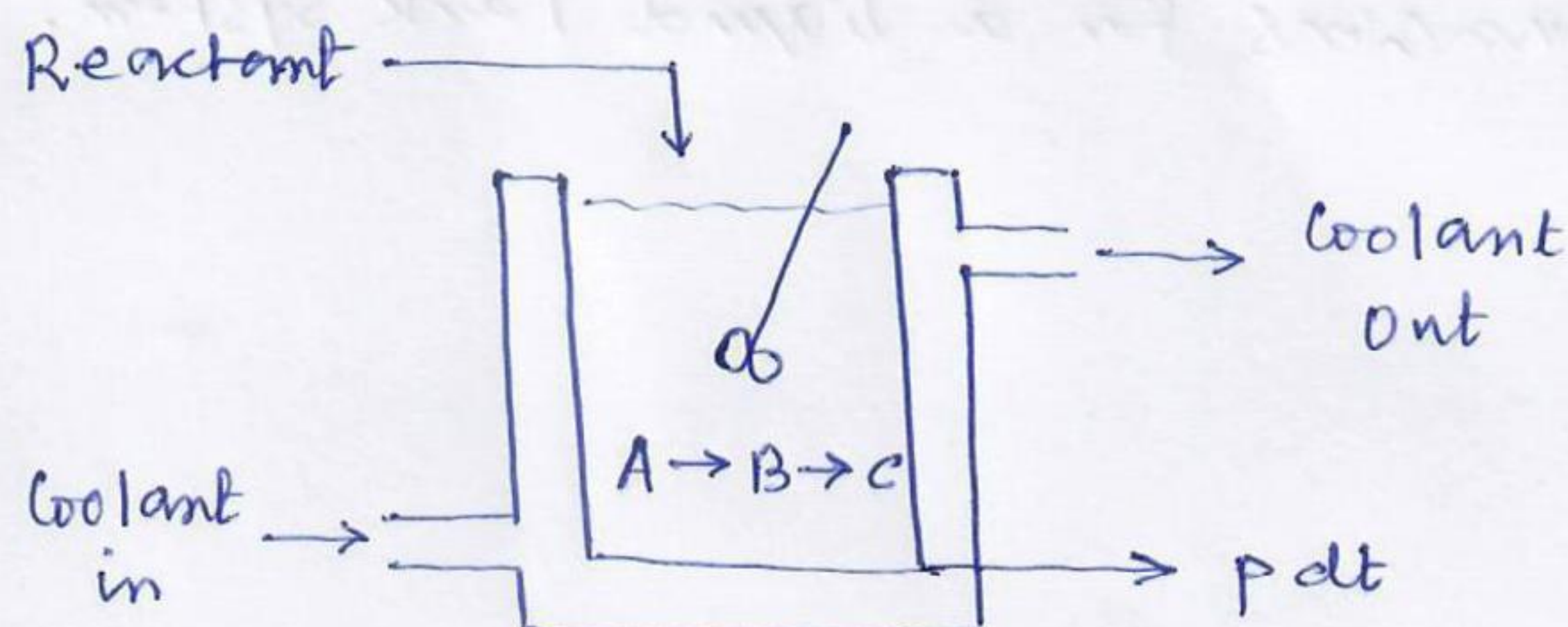
- safety
- Production specification

Main requirements

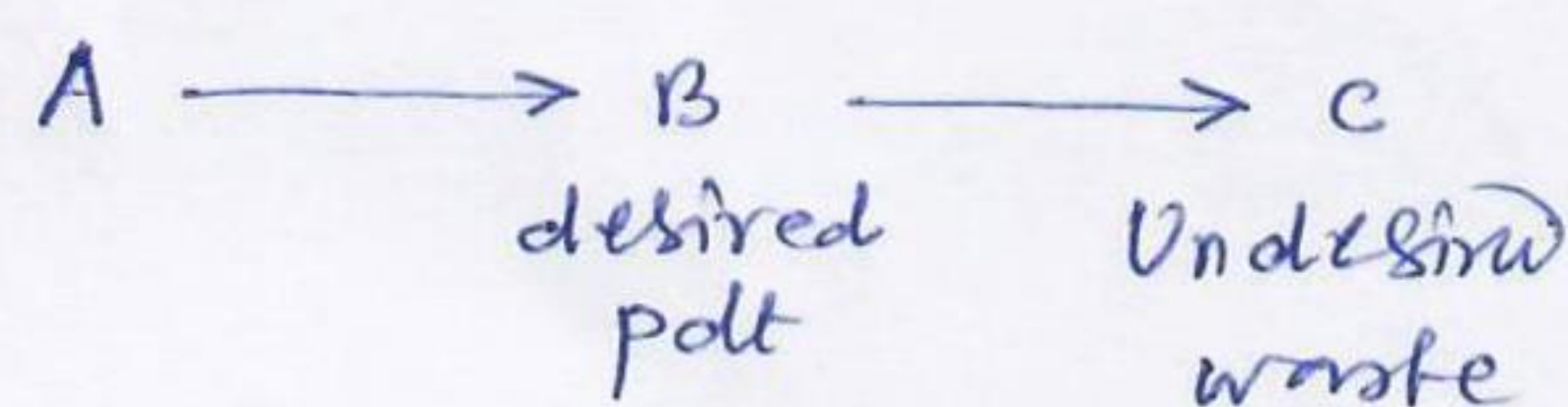


Next goal is to make the op<sup>n</sup> more profitable.

Ex. Jacketed CSTR



Consecutive Exo Reaction



✓ Economic objective

$$\text{Maximize } \phi = \int_0^{t_R} [\text{revenue from the sales of pdt B} - \text{cost of raw mat (A)} - \text{other op. cost}] dt$$

↑  
Coolant, labor, etc

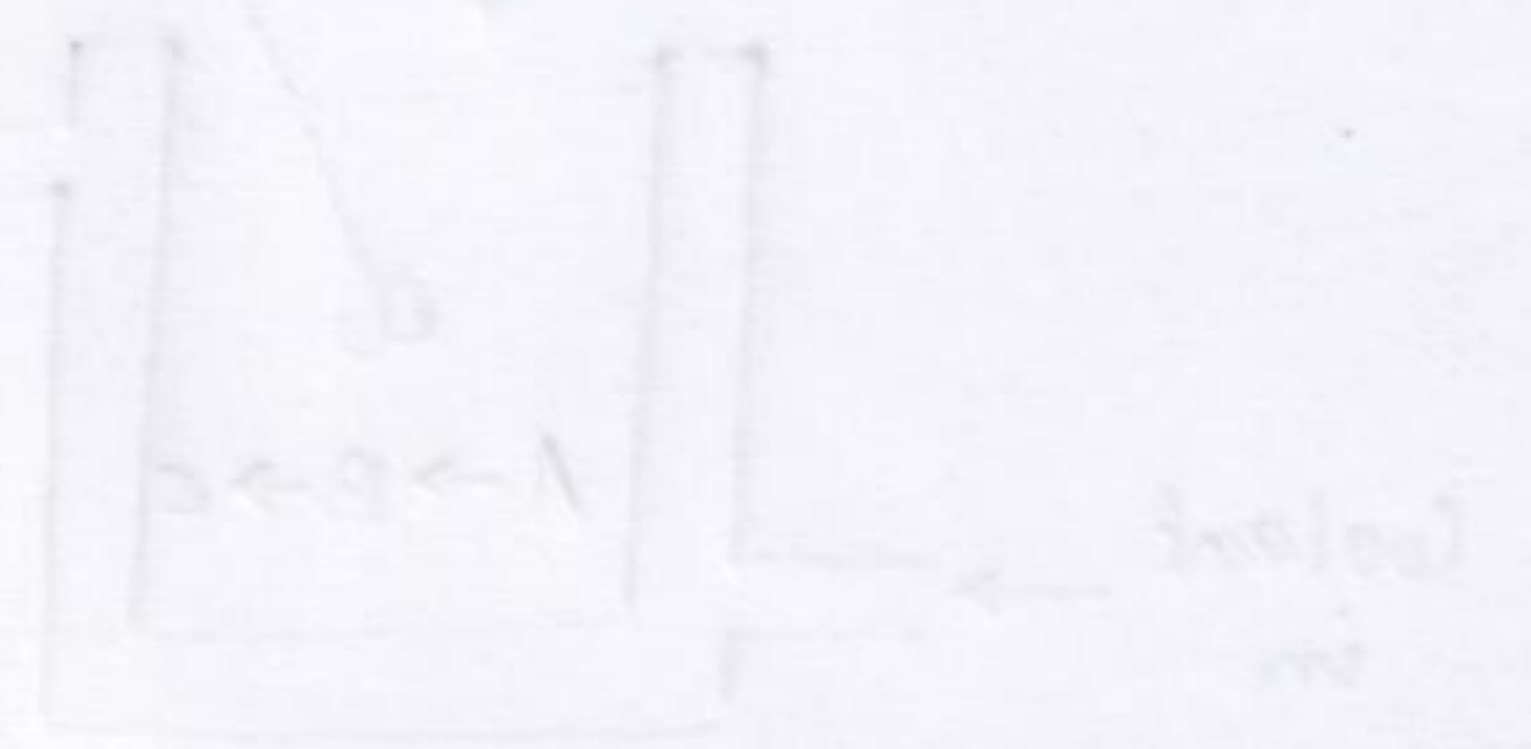
$t_R$  = run time.

Maximize profit



## Questions.

1. What are the various requirements a plant must satisfy?
2. Why and when we need a controller? Discuss with examples.
3. Develop control configurations for a liquid tank system.



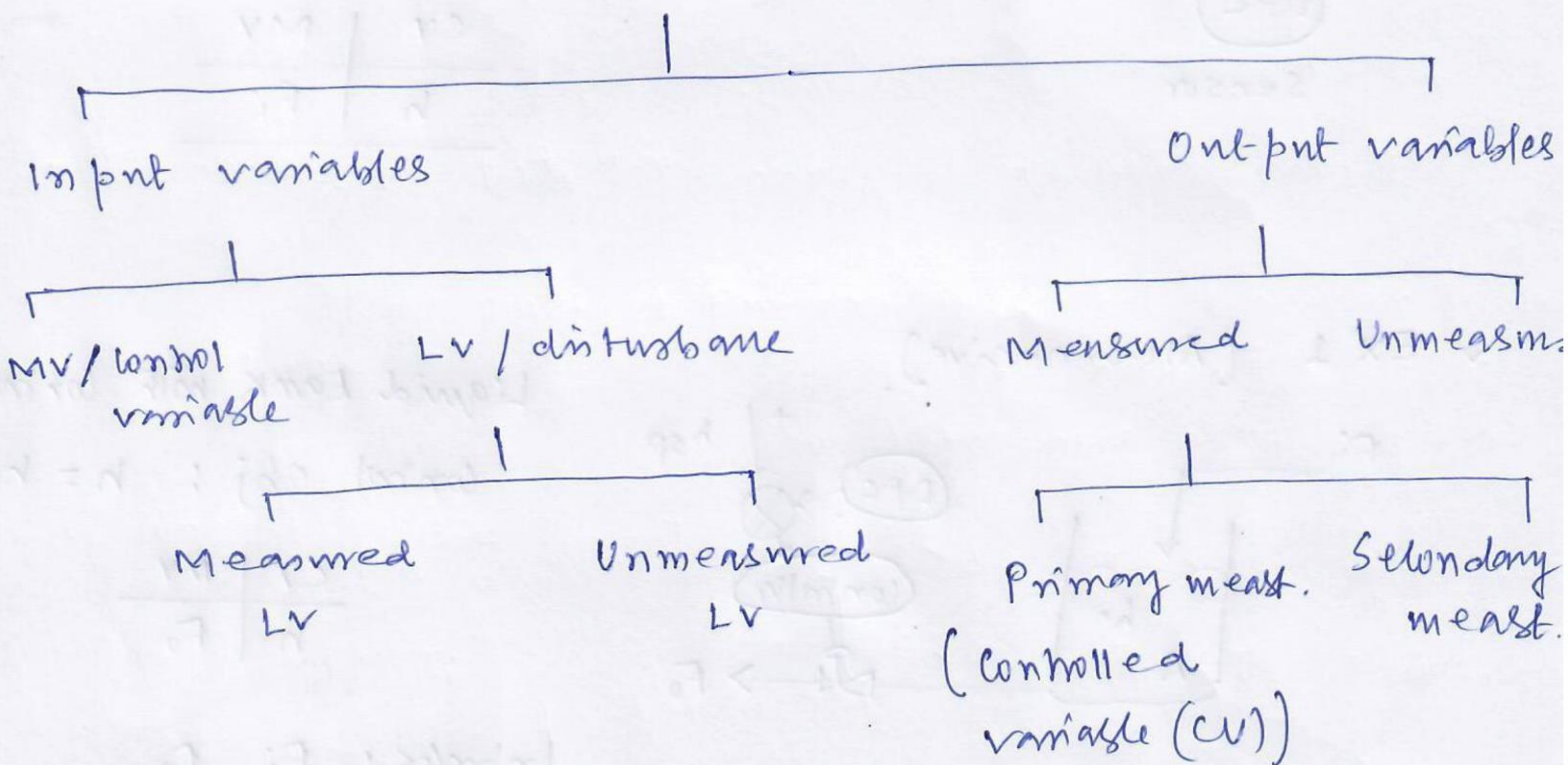


## Controller

why controller ?

- Suppressing its influence of external disturbances
- Ensuring its stability
- optimizing its performance of a process.

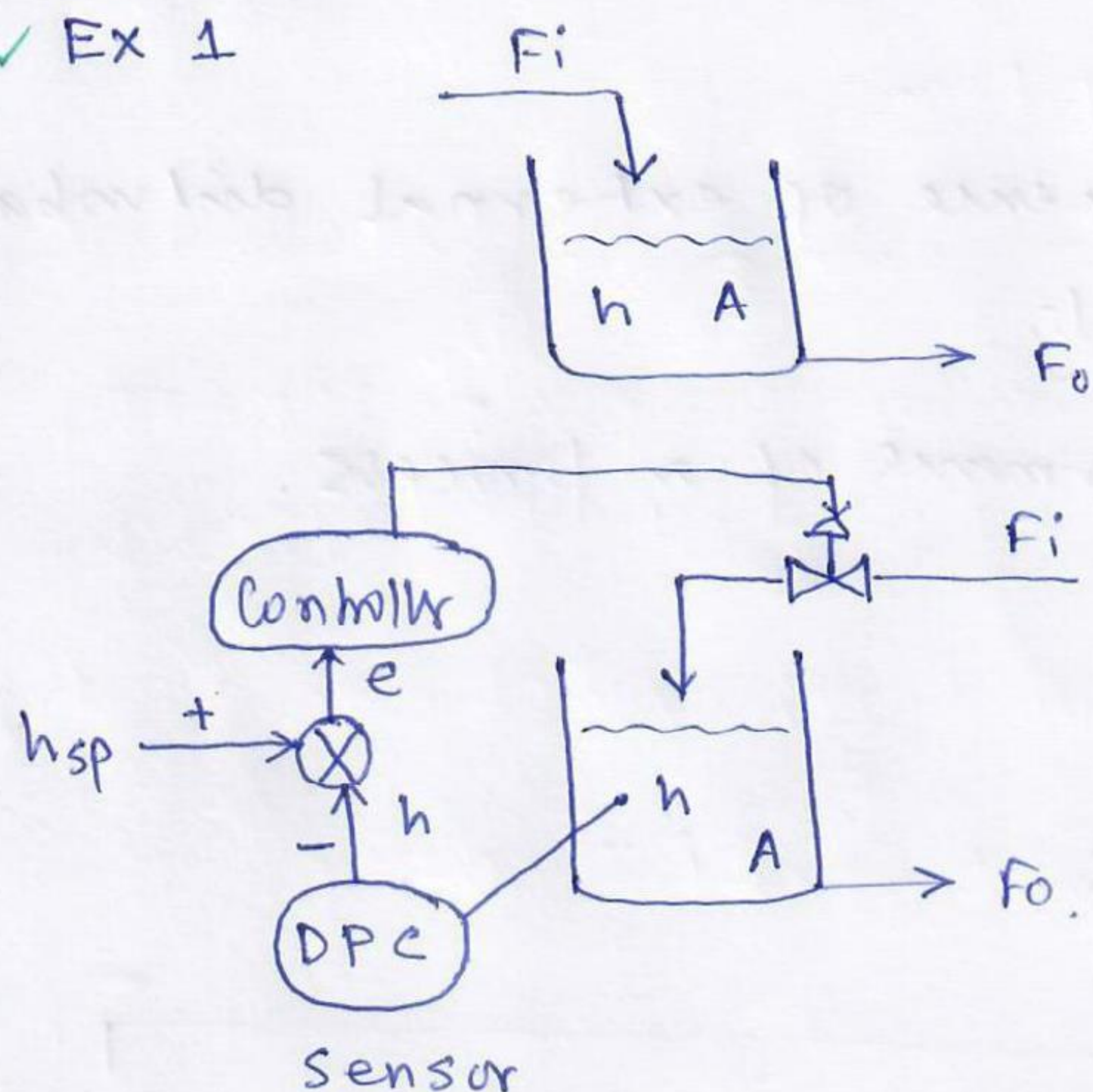
## Variables





# variables (contd...).

✓ Ex 1



Liquid tank system

Inputs:  $F_i$

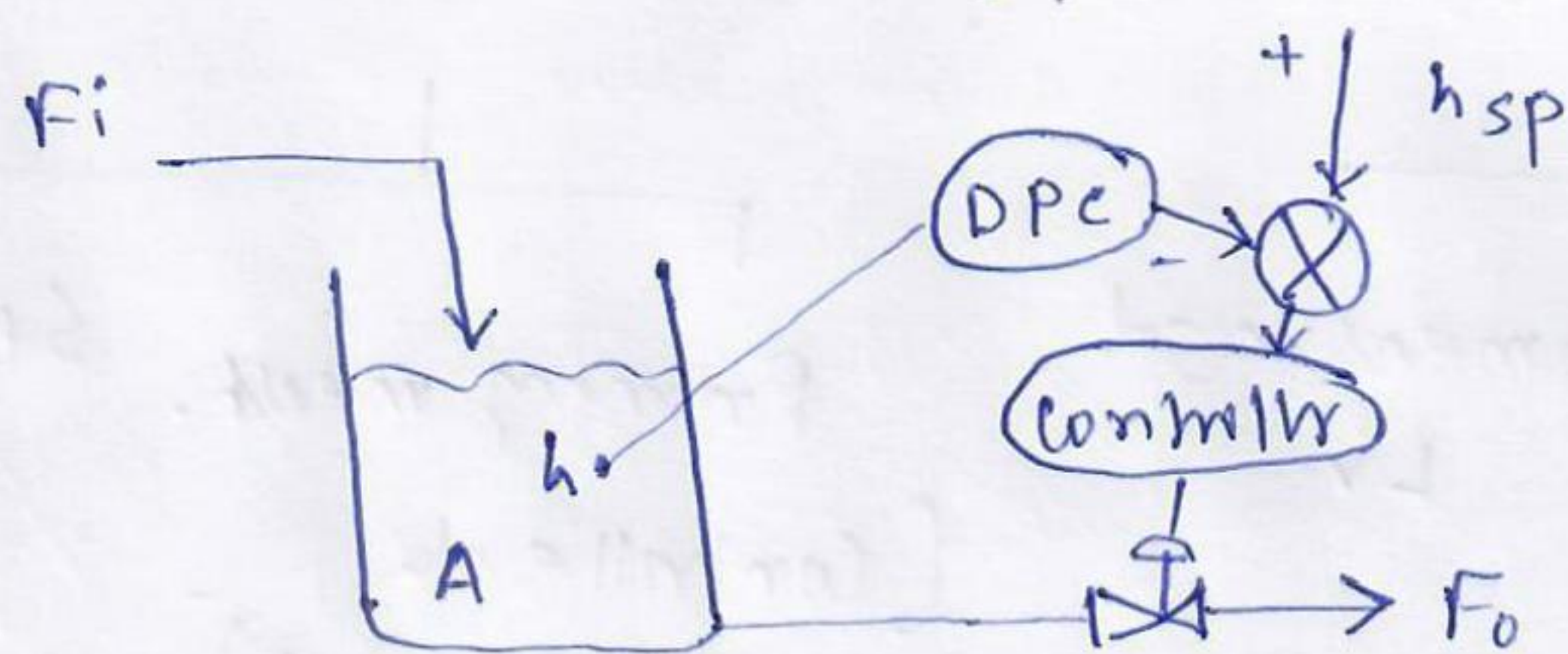
Outputs:  $h, F_o$

Liquid tank with controller

control obj:  $h = h_{sp}$ .

CV	MV
$h$	$F_i$

✓ Ex 1 (Alternative).



Liquid tank with controller

control obj:  $h = h_{sp}$

CV	MV
$h$	$F_o$

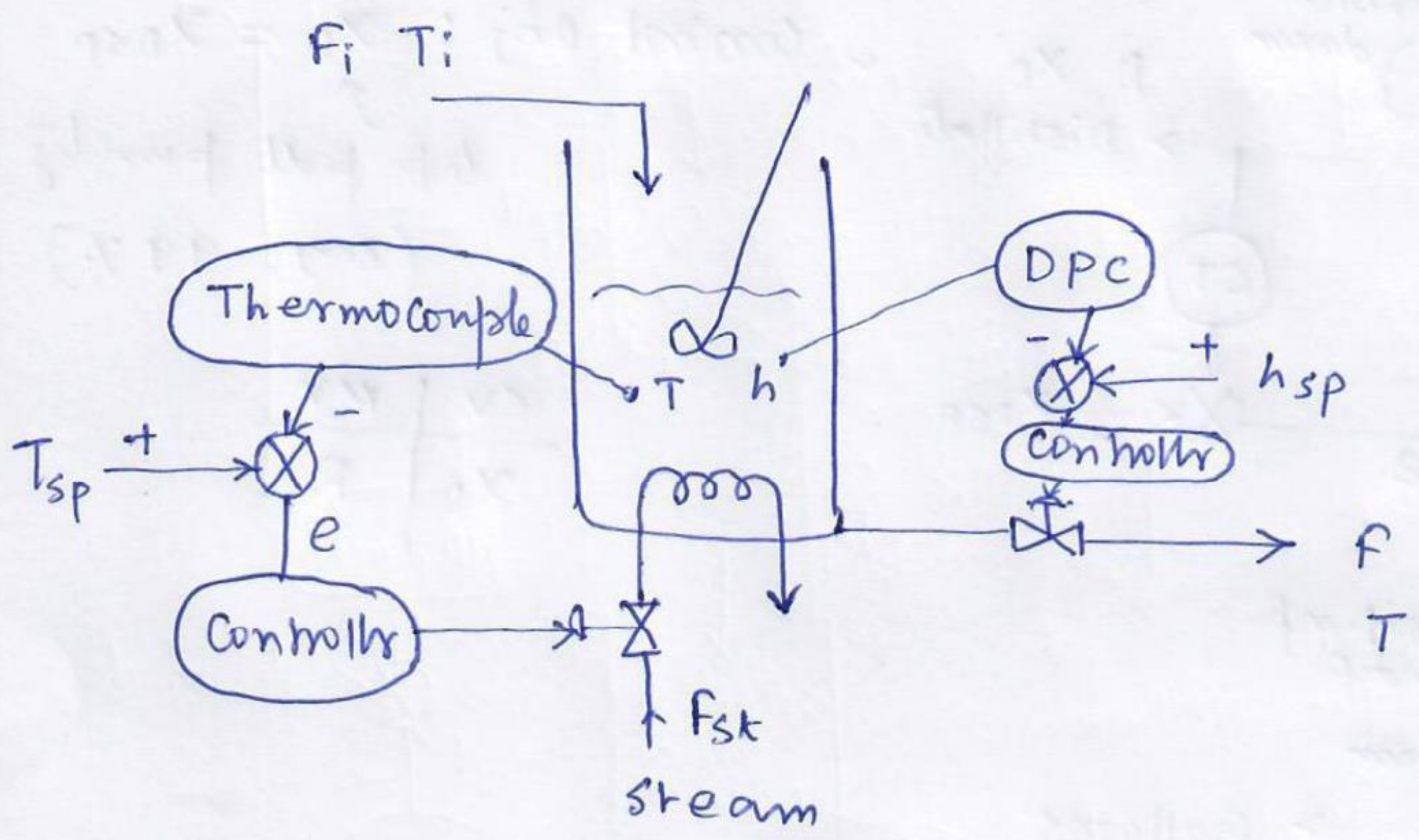
Inputs:  $F_i, F_o$

Outputs:  $h$ .



# variables (contd..)

## Ex 2. Heating tank system (revisited)



Control obj :  $T = T_{sp}$   
 $h = h_{sp}$

CV	MV
h	F
T	Fst

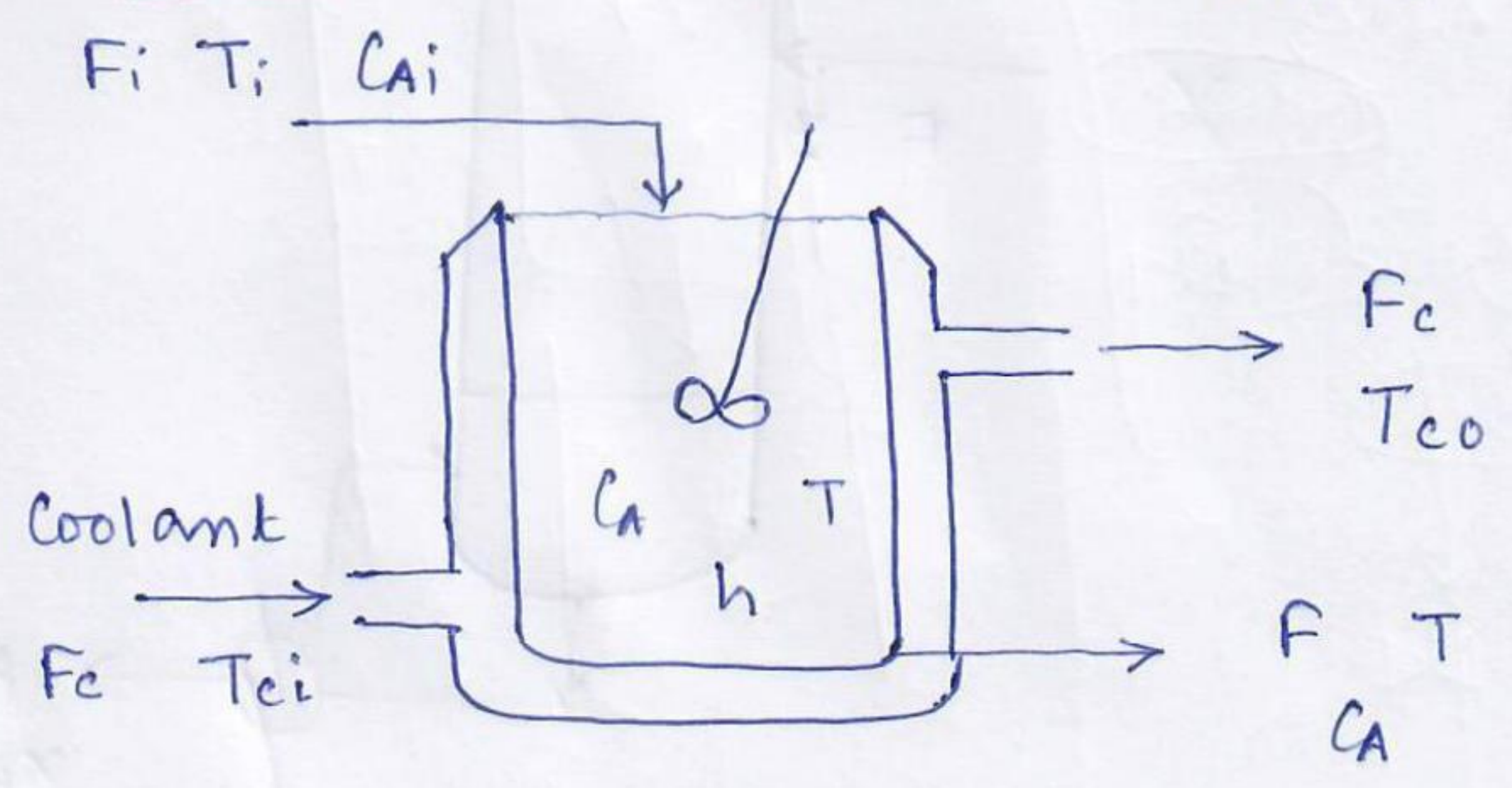
closed-loop

Inputs :  $F_i, T_i, F, F_{st}$   
Outputs :  $T, h$

open-loop

Inputs :  $F_i, T_i, F_{st}$   
Outputs :  $F, T, h$

## Ex 3. Jacketted CSTR (exothermic reaction)



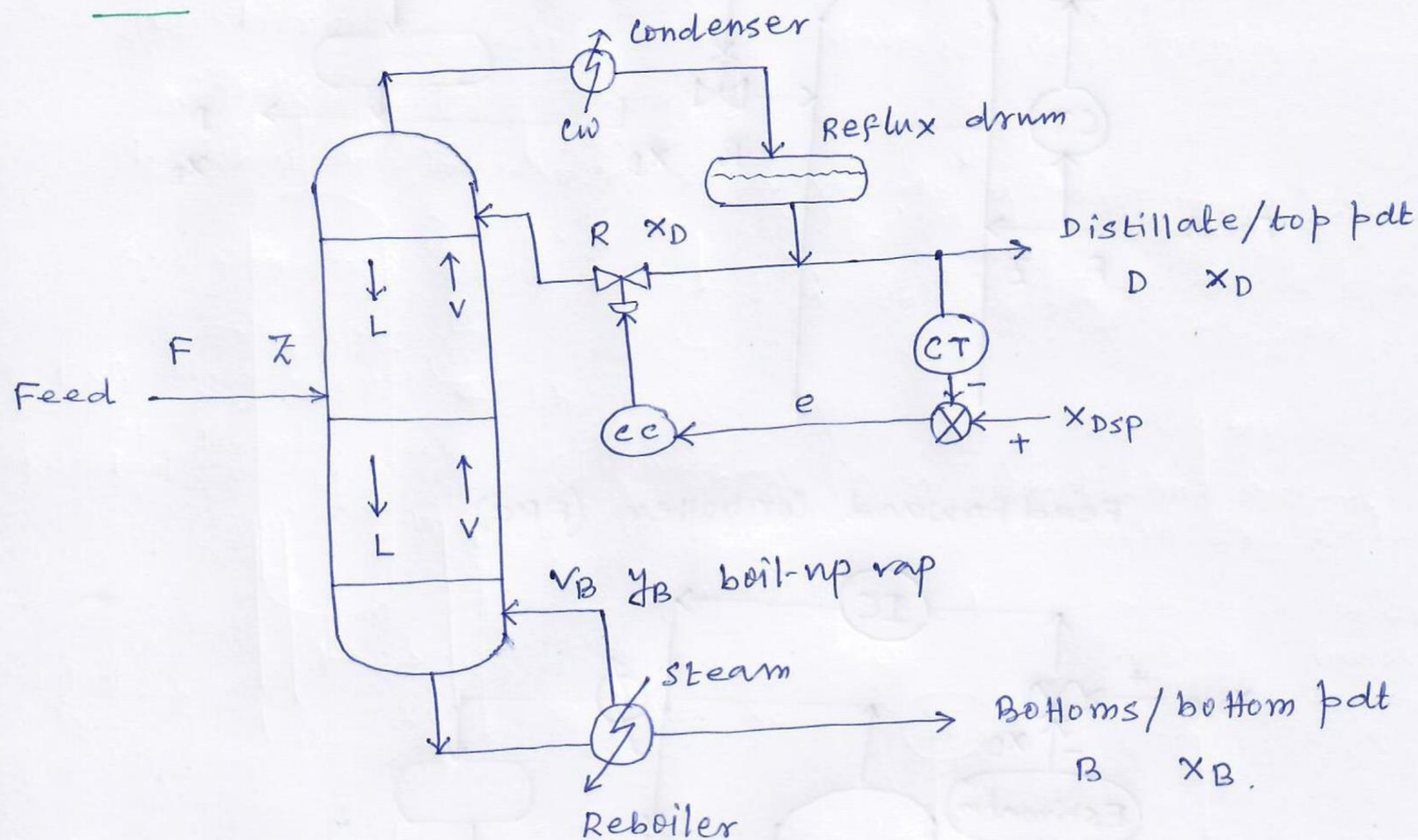
Control obj :  $T = T_{sp}$   
 $h = h_{sp}$

CV	MV
T (or $C_A$ )	$F_c$
h	$F_i$ (or F)

Inputs :  $F_i, T_i, C_{ai}, F_c, T_{ei}$  (F)  
Outputs :  $F, T, C_A, T_{co}, h$



# EX 4. Distillation column



## Feedback controller (FBC)

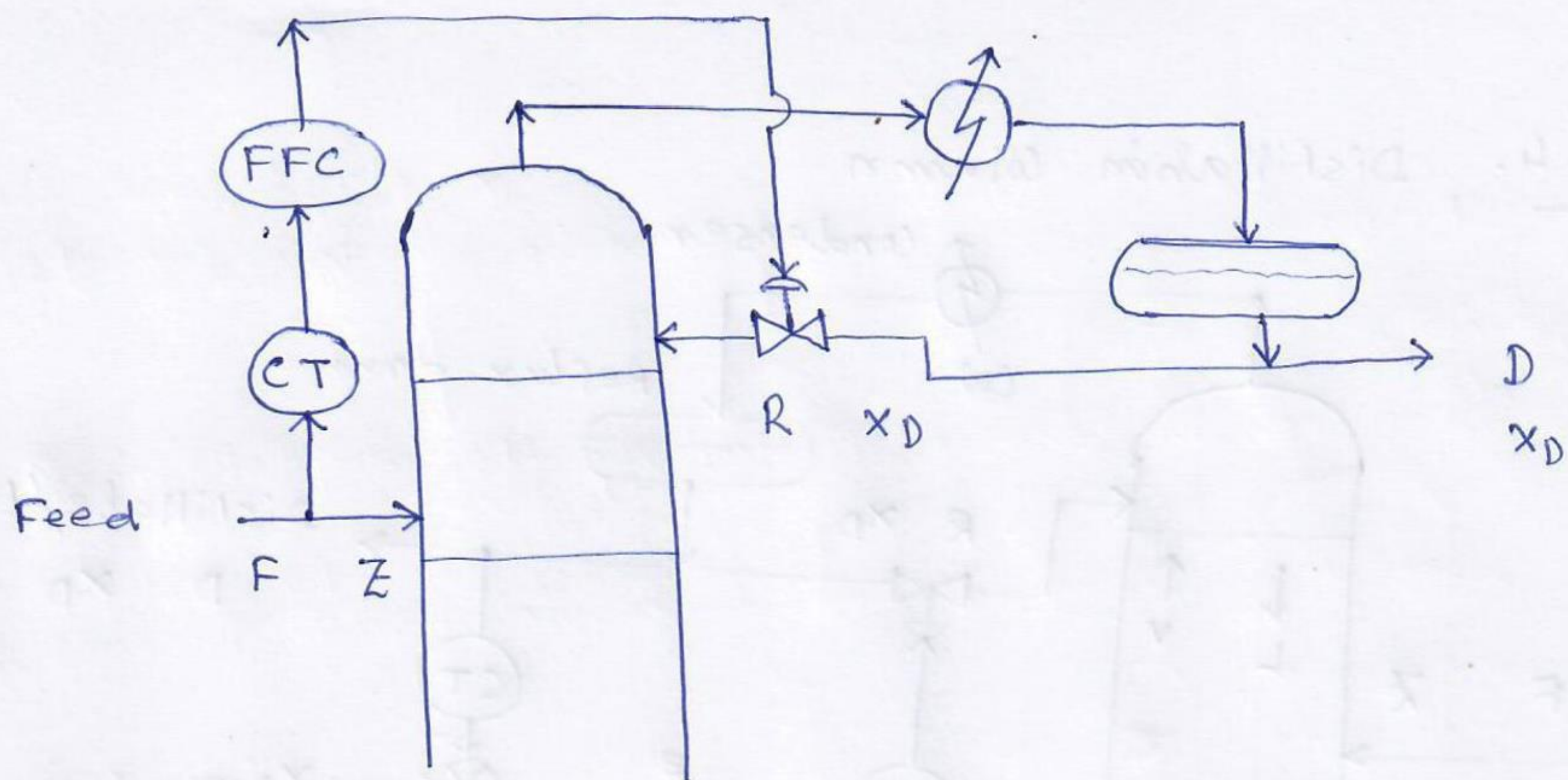
Notation :  $x, y, z \rightarrow$  composition (mol. fract.)

$F, D, B, R, V_B, L, V \rightarrow$  flow rate

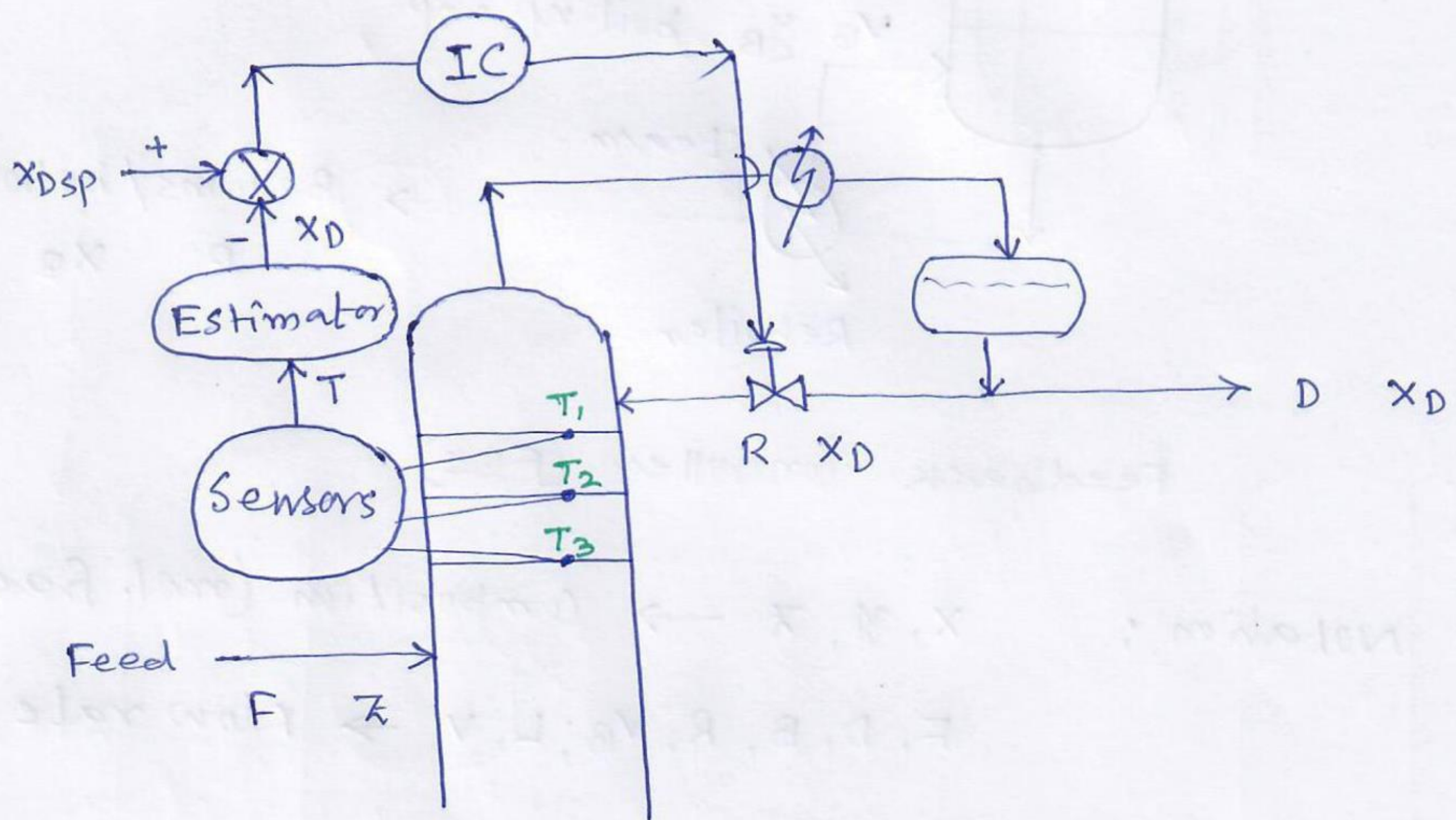
Control Obj :  $x_D = x_{Dsp} \equiv 99\% \text{ purity}$

CV	MV
$x_D$	$R$
$x_B$	$V_B$





Feed forward Controller (FFC)



Inferential Controller (IC).

- ✓ Estimator:  $x_D = f(T_i)$   $i \rightarrow$  tray index
- ✓ Measurements:  $x_D =$  primary meas. (cv)
- $T =$  secondary meas.
- $\equiv$  measured and used to infer  $x_D$   
(hence inferential controller)



## Questions

1. Develop the FB and FF control configurations for
  - a heat exchanger
  - distillation bottom section
2. In the inferential control of a distillation column,  $x_D$  is considered primary measurement. why it is called so when no continuous measurement is shown for  $x_D$ ?
3. Develop the inferential control configuration for a jacketed CSTR, in which, an ~~exo~~ endothermic reaction occurs.